

# Semantics and Verification of Software

## Lecture 9: Axiomatic Semantics of WHILE I (Introduction)

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Lehrstuhl für Informatik 2  
(Software Modeling and Verification)



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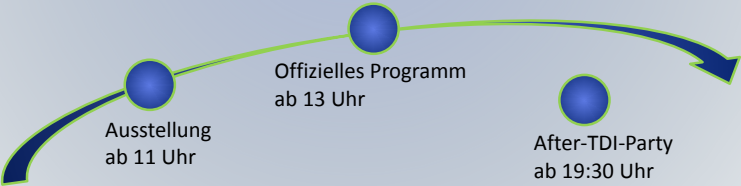
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Winter Semester 2011/12

**2. Dezember 2011**  
**Informatik-Zentrum**  
**Ahornstraße 55**  
**Aula 2 / Foyer**



# Tag der Informatik 2011



Ausstellung  
ab 11 Uhr

Offizielles Programm  
ab 13 Uhr

After-TDI-Party  
ab 19:30 Uhr

- 1 The Axiomatic Approach
- 2 The Assertion Language
- 3 Semantics of Assertions
- 4 Partial Correctness Properties
- 5 A Valid Partial Correctness Property

## Example 9.1

- Let  $c \in \text{Cmd}$  be given by  
 $s:=0; n:=1; \text{ while } \neg(n>N) \text{ do } (s:=s+n; n:=n+1)$

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- “Running”  $c$  according to the operational semantics is insufficient: every change of  $\sigma(N)$  requires a **new proof**
- Wanted: a more abstract, “**symbolic**” way of reasoning

## Example 9.1 (continued)

Obviously  $c$  satisfies the following **assertions** (after execution of the respective statement):

```
s:=0;  
{s = 0}  
n:=1;  
{s = 0 ∧ n = 1}  
while ¬(n>N) do (s:=s+n; n:=n+1)  
{s =  $\sum_{k=1}^N k \wedge n > N$ }
```

where, e.g., “ $s = 0$ ” means “ $\sigma(s) = 0$  in the current state  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ”



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- Interpretation:

## Validity of partial correctness property

$\{A\} c \{B\}$  is **valid** iff for all states  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  which satisfy  $A$ :  
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- “**Partial**” means that nothing is said about  $c$  if it fails to terminate
- In particular,

$\{\text{true}\} \text{while true do skip} \{\text{false}\}$

is a **valid** property



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**Assertions** = Boolean expressions + **logical variables**  
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**Syntactic categories:**

Category	Domain	Meta variable(s)
Logical variables	<i>LVar</i>	<i>i</i>
Arithmetic expressions with log. var.	<i>LExp</i>	<i>a</i>
Assertions	<i>Assn</i>	<i>A, B, C</i>

## Definition 9.2 (Syntax of assertions)

The **syntax of *Assn*** is defined by the following context-free grammar:

$$\begin{aligned} a &::= z \mid x \mid i \mid a_1 + a_2 \mid a_1 - a_2 \mid a_1 * a_2 \in LExp \\ A &::= t \mid a_1 = a_2 \mid a_1 > a_2 \mid \neg A \mid A_1 \wedge A_2 \mid A_1 \vee A_2 \mid \forall i. A \in Assn \end{aligned}$$

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## Abbreviations:

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 \implies A_2 &:= \neg A_1 \vee A_2 \\ \exists i. A &:= \neg(\forall i. \neg A) \\ a_1 \geq a_2 &:= a_1 > a_2 \vee a_1 = a_2 \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

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The semantics now additionally depends on values of logical variables:

## Definition 9.3 (Semantics of $LExp$ )

An **interpretation** is an element of the set

$$Int := \{I \mid I : LVar \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

The **value of an arithmetic expressions with logical variables** is given by the functional

$$\mathcal{L}[\![\cdot]\!] : LExp \rightarrow (Int \rightarrow (\Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}))$$

where

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{L}[\![z]\!] / \sigma := z & \mathcal{L}[\![a_1 + a_2]\!] / \sigma := \mathcal{L}[\![a_1]\!] / \sigma + \mathcal{L}[\![a_2]\!] / \sigma \\ \mathcal{L}[\![x]\!] / \sigma := \sigma(x) & \mathcal{L}[\![a_1 - a_2]\!] / \sigma := \mathcal{L}[\![a_1]\!] / \sigma - \mathcal{L}[\![a_2]\!] / \sigma \\ \mathcal{L}[\![i]\!] / \sigma := I(i) & \mathcal{L}[\![a_1 * a_2]\!] / \sigma := \mathcal{L}[\![a_1]\!] / \sigma * \mathcal{L}[\![a_2]\!] / \sigma \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{L}[z]/\sigma := z & \mathcal{L}[a_1 + a_2]/\sigma := \mathcal{L}[a_1]/\sigma + \mathcal{L}[a_2]/\sigma \\ \mathcal{L}[x]/\sigma := \sigma(x) & \mathcal{L}[a_1 - a_2]/\sigma := \mathcal{L}[a_1]/\sigma - \mathcal{L}[a_2]/\sigma \\ \mathcal{L}[i]/\sigma := I(i) & \mathcal{L}[a_1 * a_2]/\sigma := \mathcal{L}[a_1]/\sigma * \mathcal{L}[a_2]/\sigma \end{array}$$

Def. 5.1 (denotational semantics of arithmetic expressions) implies:

## Corollary 9.4

For every  $a \in AExp$  (without logical variables),  $I \in Int$ , and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ :

$$\mathcal{L}[a]/\sigma = \mathcal{A}[a].$$



- Formalized by a **satisfaction relation** of the form

$$\sigma \models A$$

(where  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and  $A \in Assn$ )

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$$\Sigma_{\perp} := \Sigma \cup \{\perp\}$$

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- Modification of interpretations** (in analogy to program states):

$$I[i \mapsto z](j) := \begin{cases} z & \text{if } j = i \\ I(j) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Semantics of Assertions II

**Reminder:**  $A ::= t \mid a_1 = a_2 \mid a_1 > a_2 \mid \neg A \mid A_1 \wedge A_2 \mid A_1 \vee A_2 \mid \forall i. A \in \text{Assn}$

## Definition 9.5 (Semantics of assertions)

Let  $A \in \text{Assn}$ ,  $\sigma \in \Sigma_{\perp}$ , and  $I \in \text{Int}$ . The relation “ $\sigma$  satisfies  $A$  in  $I$ ” (notation:  $\sigma \models^I A$ ) is inductively defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &\models^I \text{true} \\ \sigma &\models^I a_1 = a_2 && \text{if } \mathcal{L}[a_1]/\sigma = \mathcal{L}[a_2]/\sigma \\ \sigma &\models^I a_1 > a_2 && \text{if } \mathcal{L}[a_1]/\sigma > \mathcal{L}[a_2]/\sigma \\ \sigma &\models^I \neg A && \text{if not } \sigma \models^I A \\ \sigma &\models^I A_1 \wedge A_2 && \text{if } \sigma \models^I A_1 \text{ and } \sigma \models^I A_2 \\ \sigma &\models^I A_1 \vee A_2 && \text{if } \sigma \models^I A_1 \text{ or } \sigma \models^I A_2 \\ \sigma &\models^I \forall i. A && \text{if } \sigma \models^{I[i \mapsto z]} A \text{ for every } z \in \mathbb{Z} \\ \perp &\models^I A \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore  $\sigma$  satisfies  $A$  ( $\sigma \models A$ ) if  $\sigma \models^I A$  for every interpretation  $I \in \text{Int}$ , and  $A$  is called **valid** ( $\models A$ ) if  $\sigma \models A$  for every state  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

## Example 9.6

The following assertion expresses that, in the current state  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ,  $\sigma(y)$  is the greatest divisor of  $\sigma(x)$ :

$$(\exists i. i > 1 \wedge i * y = x) \wedge \forall j. \forall k. (j > 1 \wedge j * k = x \implies k \leq y)$$

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In analogy to Corollary 9.4, Def. 5.2 (denotational semantics of Boolean expressions) yields:

## Corollary 9.7

For every  $b \in BExp$  (without logical variables),  $l \in Int$ , and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ :

$$\sigma \models^l b \iff \mathfrak{B}[[b]]\sigma = \text{true}.$$

## Definition 9.8 (Extension)

Let  $A \in Assn$  and  $I \in Int$ . The **extension** of  $A$  with respect to  $I$  is given by

$$A' := \{\sigma \in \Sigma_{\perp} \mid \sigma \models' A\}.$$

Note that, for every  $A \in Assn$  and  $I \in Int$ ,  $\perp \in A'$ .

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## Example 9.9

For  $A := (\exists i. i * i = x)$  and every  $I \in \text{Int}$ ,

$$A' = \{\perp\} \cup \{\sigma \in \Sigma \mid \sigma(x) \in \{0, 1, 4, 9, \dots\}\}$$



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## Definition 9.10 (Partial correctness properties)

Let  $A, B \in Assn$  and  $c \in Cmd$ .

- An expression of the form  $\{A\} c \{B\}$  is called a **partial correctness property** with **precondition**  $A$  and **postcondition**  $B$ .

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$$\sigma \models^I \{A\} c \{B\}$$

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