

*L3 Mention Informatique  
Parcours Informatique et MIAAGE*

# Génie Logiciel Avancé - Advanced Software Engineering

## Deductive Verification II

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# Recall: The role of formal proof

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- formal proofs are another technique for program verification
  - based on a model of the underlying programming language, the conformance of a concrete program to its specification can be established

FOR ALL INPUT DATA AND ALL INITIAL STATES !!!

- formal proofs as verification technique can:
  - verify that a more concrete design-model “fits” to a more abstract design model (construction by formal refinement)
  - verify that a program “fits” to a concrete design model.

# Recall: Hoare - Logic

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- A means to reason over **all** input and **all** states: Is there

## A Logic for Programs ???

- We consider the Hoare-Logic, technically an inference system  $PL + E + A + \text{Hoare}$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- ❑ Basis: The mini-language „IMP“,  
(following Glenn Wymskell's Book)
  
  - ❑ We have the following commands (*cmd*)
    - the empty command                      SKIP
    - the assignment                               $x ::= E \quad (x \in V)$
    - the sequential compos.                       $c_1 ; c_2$
    - the conditional                              IF cond THEN  $c_1$  ELSE  $c_2$
    - the loop                                      WHILE cond DO  $c$
- where  $c, c_1, c_2$ , are cmd's,  $V$  variables,  
 $E$  an arithmetic expression, and cond a boolean expression.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## ❑ Core Concept: A Hoare Triple consisting ...

- of a pre-condition  $P$
- a post-condition  $Q$
- and a piece of program  $cmd$
- the triple  $(P, cmd, Q)$  is written:

$$\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}$$

- $P$  and  $Q$  are formulas over the variables  $V$ , so they can be seen as set of possible states.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- ❑ Idea: We consider the specification (precond, postcond) and the program together
- ❑ The Hoare-Triple says : The program “is conform” to the specification
- ❑ More precisely:

$$\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}$$

If a program *cmd* starts in a state admitted by *P* if it terminates, that the program must reach a state that satisfies *P*.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- PL + E + A + Hoare (simplified binding) at a glance:

$$\overline{\vdash \{P\} \text{ SKIP } \{P\}}$$

$$\overline{\vdash \{P[x \mapsto E]\} x ::= E \{P\}}$$

$$\frac{\vdash \{P \wedge \text{cond}\} c \{Q\} \quad \vdash \{P \wedge \neg \text{cond}\} d \{Q\}}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ IF } \text{cond} \text{ THEN } c \text{ ELSE } d \{Q\}}$$

$$\frac{\vdash \{P\} c \{Q\} \quad \vdash \{Q\} d \{R\}}{\vdash \{P\} c; d \{R\}}$$

$$\frac{\vdash \{P \wedge \text{cond}\} c \{P\}}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ WHILE } \text{cond} \text{ DO } c \{P \wedge \neg \text{cond}\}}$$

$$\frac{P \rightarrow P' \quad \vdash \{P'\} \text{ cmd } \{Q'\} \quad Q' \rightarrow Q}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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Let's consider it one by one ...

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **SKIP**-rule for the empty statement:

$$\overline{\vdash \{P\} \text{ SKIP } \{P\}}$$

well, states do not change ...

Therefore, valid states remain valid.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **assignment** rule:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{P[x \mapsto E]\} x ::= E \{P\}}$$

- Example (1):

$$\vdash \{1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 10\} x ::= x+2 \{3 \leq x \wedge x \leq 12\}$$

- Is this really an *instance* of the assignment rule ? We calculate:

$$\begin{aligned} & (3 \leq x \wedge x \leq 12) [x \mapsto x+2] \\ & \equiv 3 \leq (x+2) \wedge (x+2) \leq 12 \\ & \equiv 1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 10 \end{aligned}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **assignment** rule:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{P[x \mapsto E]\} \ x ::= E \{P\}}$$

- Example (2):

$$\vdash \{\text{true}\} \ x ::= 2 \ \{x=2\}$$

- Is this really an *instance* of the assignment rule ? We calculate:

$$(x=2) [x \mapsto 2]$$

$$\equiv 2=2 \equiv \text{true}$$

(reflexivity...)

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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The **conditional**-rule:

$$\frac{\vdash \{P \wedge cond\} c \{Q\} \quad \vdash \{P \wedge \neg cond\} d \{Q\}}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ IF } cond \text{ THEN } c \text{ ELSE } d \{Q\}}$$

Example (3):

$$\vdash \{true\} \text{ IF } 0 \leq x \text{ THEN SKIP ELSE } x ::= -x \{0 \leq x\}$$

This can be extended to the formal proof:

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# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **conditional**-rule:

$$\frac{\vdash \{P \wedge cond\} c \{Q\} \quad \vdash \{P \wedge \neg cond\} d \{Q\}}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ IF } cond \text{ THEN } c \text{ ELSE } d \{Q\}}$$

Example (3):

$$\frac{\vdash \{true \wedge 0 \leq x\} \text{ SKIP } \{0 \leq x\} \quad \overline{\vdash \{true \wedge \neg(0 \leq x)\} x ::= -x \{0 \leq x\}} \quad \dots}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ IF } 0 \leq x \text{ THEN SKIP ELSE } x ::= -x \{0 \leq x\}}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **sequence** rule:

$$\frac{\vdash \{P\} \ c \ \{Q\} \quad \vdash \{Q\} \ d \ \{R\}}{\vdash \{P\} \ c; \ d \ \{R\}}$$

- essentially a relational composition on state sets.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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The rule for the sequence.

Example (4):

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$$\vdash \{true\} \text{ tm } ::= 1; (\text{sum } ::= 1; i ::= 0) \{tm = 1 \wedge sum = 1 \wedge i = 0\}$$

This can be extended to the formal proof:

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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The rule for the sequence.

Example (4):

$$\frac{\frac{}{\vdash \{true\} tm ::= 1 \{tm = 1\}} \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \{tm = 1\} sum ::= 1 \{B\}} \quad \frac{}{\vdash \{B\} i ::= 0 \{A\}}}{\vdash \{tm = 1\} sum ::= 1; i ::= 0 \{A\}}}{\vdash \{true\} tm ::= 1; (sum ::= 1; i ::= 0) \{tm = 1 \wedge sum = 1 \wedge i = 0\}}$$

where  $A = tm = 1 \wedge sum = 1 \wedge i = 0$  and where  $B = tm = 1 \wedge sum = 1$ .

**It is often practical to introduce abbreviations.**

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **while**-rule.

$$\frac{\vdash \{P \wedge \text{cond}\} \ c \ \{P\}}{\vdash \{P\} \ \text{WHILE } \text{cond} \ \text{DO } c \ \{P \wedge \neg \text{cond}\}}$$

- This works like an induction: if some  $P$  is true after  $n$  traversals of the loop and remain true for the  $n+1$  traversal, it must be always true.
- When exiting the loop, the condition  $\text{cond}$  can no longer hold.
- The predicate  $P$  is called an **invariant**. Note that an invariant can be maintained even if the concrete state changes ! See:

$$\vdash \{1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 10\} \ \text{WHILE } x < 10 \ \text{DO } x := x + 1 \ \{\neg (x < 10) \wedge 1 \leq x \wedge x \leq 10\}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- The **consequence**-rule:

$$\frac{P \rightarrow P' \quad \vdash \{P'\} \text{ cmd } \{Q'\} \quad Q' \rightarrow Q}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}}$$

Reflects the intuition that  $P'$  is a subset of legal states  $P$  and  $Q$  is a subset of legal states  $Q'$ .

This is the only rule that is not determined by the syntax of the program; it can be applied anywhere in the (Hoare-) proof.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ The **consequence**-rule:

$$\frac{P \rightarrow P' \quad \vdash \{P'\} \text{ cmd } \{Q'\} \quad Q' \rightarrow Q}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}}$$

Example (5) (the continuation of Example (3)):

$$\frac{\text{true} \wedge \neg(0 \leq x) \rightarrow (0 \leq -x) \quad \overline{\vdash \{(0 \leq x)[x \mapsto -x]\} x := -x \{0 \leq x\}} \quad 0 \leq x \rightarrow 0 \leq x}{\vdash \{\text{true} \wedge \neg(0 \leq x)\} x := -x \{0 \leq x\}}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- ❑ The Hoare calculus has a number of implicit consequences, i.e. rules that can be derived from the other ones.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- A handy **derived** rule, the **False**-rule:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{false\} \text{ cmd } \{false\}}$$

- **Proof:** by induction over *cmd* ! (At the Blackboard)
- A very handy corollary of the False-rule and the consequence-rule is the **FalseE**-rule:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{false\} \text{ cmd } \{P\}}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- Another handy corollary of the False-rule:

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{P \wedge \neg cond\} \text{ WHILE } cond \text{ DO } c \{P \wedge \neg cond\}}$$

**Proof:**

by consequence-rule, while-rule,  
P and cond-negation,  
False-rule.

This means: If we can not enter into the WHILE-loop, it behaves like a SKIP.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- Yet another handy corollary of the consequence rule:

$$\frac{P = P' \quad \vdash \{P'\} \text{ cmd } \{Q'\} \quad Q' = Q}{\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}}$$

## **Proof:**

by consequence rule and the fact that  $P = P'$  (ou  $P \equiv P'$ ) infers  $P \rightarrow P'$

- *Note: We will allow to apply this rule implicitly, thus leveraging local “logical massage” of pre- and post-conditions.*

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (6):

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } true \text{ DO } SKIP \{x = 42\}}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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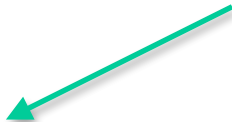
□ Example (6):

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } true \text{ DO SKIP } \{x = 42\}}$$

Proof (bottom up):

$$\frac{\begin{array}{ccc} true \rightarrow true^{\checkmark} & \vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } true \text{ DO SKIP } \{false\} & false \rightarrow x = 42^{\checkmark} \end{array}}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } true \text{ DO SKIP } \{x = 42\}}$$

$true \wedge \neg true \equiv false$



# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (6):

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } true \text{ DO } SKIP \{x = 42\}}$$

### Note:

Hoare-Logic is a calculus for  
**partial correctness**; for non-terminating  
programs, it is possible to prove *anything*!

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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- Example (7):

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{2 \leq x\}}$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (7):

Proof (bottom up):

$$\frac{\text{true} \rightarrow I \quad \vdash \{I\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{I \wedge \neg(x < 2)\} \quad I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x}{\vdash \{\text{true}\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{2 \leq x\}}$$

We can't apply the WHILE-rule directly — the only other choice is the consequence rule. Instantiating the invariant variable  $P$  by a fresh variable  $I$  allows us to bring the triple into a shape that we can apply the WHILE rule later

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (7):

Proof (bottom up):

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{true} \rightarrow I \quad \overline{\vdash \{I\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{I \wedge \neg(x < 2)\}} \quad I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x \end{array}}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{2 \leq x\}}$$

Now we can apply the while rule.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (7):

Proof (bottom up):

$$\frac{\frac{}{\vdash \{I \wedge x < 2\} \ x := x + 1 \ \{I\}}}{\vdash \{I\} \ \text{WHILE } x < 2 \ \text{DO } x := x + 1 \ \{I \wedge \neg(x < 2)\}} \quad I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x}{\vdash \{true\} \ \text{WHILE } x < 2 \ \text{DO } x := x + 1 \ \{2 \leq x\}}$$

To be sure (entering the while loop) we apply again the consequence rule. For the missing bit, we instantiate  $I''$ .

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (7):

Proof (bottom up):

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{I \wedge x < 2 \rightarrow I'' \quad \vdash \{I''\} x ::= x + 1 \{I'\} \quad I' \rightarrow I}{\vdash \{I \wedge x < 2\} x ::= x + 1 \{I\}}}{\frac{true \rightarrow I \quad \vdash \{I\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{I \wedge \neg(x < 2)\} \quad I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{2 \leq x\}}}$$

Now, in order to make the assignment rule “fit”, we must have

$$I'' \equiv I[x \mapsto x+1].$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

## □ Example (7):

Proof (bottom up):

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{I \wedge x < 2 \rightarrow I''}{\vdash \{I''\} x ::= x + 1 \{I'\}} \quad I' \rightarrow I}{\vdash \{I \wedge x < 2\} x ::= x + 1 \{I\}}}{\frac{true \rightarrow I \quad \vdash \{I\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{I \wedge \neg(x < 2)\}}{I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x}}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{2 \leq x\}}$$

Additionally, in order that this constitutes a Hoare-Proof, we must have all the implications.

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (7):

$$\frac{}{\vdash \{true\} \text{ WHILE } x < 2 \text{ DO } x ::= x + 1 \{2 \leq x\}}$$

So, we have a Hoare Proof iff we have a solution to the following list of constraints:

$$I' \equiv I[x \mapsto x+1]$$

$$A \equiv true \rightarrow I$$

$$B \equiv I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x$$

$$C \equiv I \wedge x < 2 \rightarrow I'[x \mapsto x+1]$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Example (7):

Proof:

$$I' \equiv I[x \mapsto x+1]$$

$$A \equiv \text{true} \rightarrow I$$

$$B \equiv I \wedge \neg(x < 2) \rightarrow 2 \leq x$$

$$C \equiv I \wedge x < 2 \rightarrow I[x \mapsto x+1]$$

$$D = I' \rightarrow I$$

- $I$  must be *true*, this solves  $A, B, D$
- we are fairly free for a solution for  $I'$ ;  
e.g.  $x \leq 2$  or  $x \leq 5$  would do the trick !

# Hoare - Logic: Some facts.

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Assume that we have a reasonably well-defined “compiler function” that maps a program to a relation from input to output states:

$$C : \text{cmd} \rightarrow (\sigma \times \sigma) \text{Set}$$

(See Winskell’s Book)

Then we can define the “validity” of a specification:

$$\models \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\} \equiv \forall \sigma, \sigma'. (\sigma, \sigma') \in C(\text{cmd}) \rightarrow P(\sigma) \rightarrow Q(\sigma')$$

# Hoare - Logic: A Proof System for Programs

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## □ Remarks:

This proof rises the idea of particular construction method of Hoare-Proofs, which can be automated:

- apply bottom-up all rules following the cmd-syntax;  
introduce fresh variables for the wholes where necessary
- apply the consequence rule only at entry  
points of loops (this is deterministic!)
- extract the implications used in these consequence rule
- try to find solutions for these implications  
(worst case: ask the user ...)
- Essence of all: again, we reduced a program verification problem  
to a constraint resolution problem of formulas ...
- ... provided we have solutions for the invariants.

# Hoare - Logic: Some facts.

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Theorem: Correctness of the Hoare-Calculus:

$$\vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\} \rightarrow \models \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}$$

... so, whenever there is a proof, it is also valid wrt. C.

# Hoare - Logic: Some facts.

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Theorem: Relative Completeness of the Hoare-Calculus

$$\models \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\} \rightarrow \vdash \{P\} \text{ cmd } \{Q\}$$

Amazingly, this holds also the other way round:  
whenever a specification is valid, (and we can solve  
all the implications on arithmetics), there is a Hoare-  
Proof.

# Hoare - Logic: Summary

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- ... in the essence, the Hoare Calculus is an entirely syntactic game that constructs a **labelling** of the program with assertions ...

# Hoare-Logic : Summary

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- Note: Validity is a « partial correctness notion »

proof under condition that the program terminates.  
For non-terminating programs, the calculus allows  
to prove anything

- The Deductive Proof-Method is therefore two-staged:
  - verify termination (find measures for loops and recursive calls that strictly decrease for each iteration)
  - prove partial correctness of the spec for the program via a Hoare-Calculus (or an alternative such as the wp-calculus)



***total correctness = partial correctness + termination ...***

# Hoare - Logic: Summary

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## Formal Proof

- Can be very hard - up to infeasible  
(nobody will probably ever prove the correctness of MS Word!)
- But still, the proof-task can be automated to a large extent.