

Program Verification

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What kind of programs will we consider?

We will look at:

- ▶ Assignment statements
- ▶ Sequences of statements
- ▶ Conditional statements (If B then S1 else S2)
- ▶ iteration statements (while loops)

Hoare Triples, Assignments, and Sequences

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If p is true for initial state of code S , and S terminates,
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Sequencing of statements:

$p\{S_1\}q$

$q\{S_2\}r$

$p\{S_1; S_2\}r$

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This is called an *invariant condition* (or just an invariant)

Branches

If-then:

$$(p \wedge B)\{S\}q$$

$$(p \wedge \neg B) \rightarrow q$$

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Example:

Let $x = 7$, and consider code:

{if $y < x$ then $y \leftarrow x$ }

Show $y \geq 7$.

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We call p a loop invariant.

Note that the correctness of this inference rule technically requires a mathematical induction.

Example: $n!$

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Find a loop invariant for the following program, and prove the program computes $n!$

$i \leftarrow 1;$

$f \leftarrow 1;$

while $i < n$ do

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