

COMP4161: Advanced Topics in Software Verification

$P \parallel Q$

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# Content



- Intro & motivation, getting started [1]
  
- Foundations & Principles
  - Lambda Calculus, natural deduction [1,2]
  - Higher Order Logic [3<sup>a</sup>]
  - Term rewriting [4]
  
- Proof & Specification Techniques
  - Inductively defined sets, rule induction [5]
  - Datatypes, recursion, induction [6, 7]
  - Hoare logic, proofs about programs, invariants [8<sup>b</sup>, 9]
  - (mid-semester break)
  - C verification [10]
  - CakeML, Isar [11<sup>c</sup>]
  - Concurrency [12]

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<sup>a</sup>a1 due; <sup>b</sup>a2 due; <sup>c</sup>a3 due

# Program verification so far



If the following true?

$\{x = 0\}$

$y := x;$

$x := x + 1;$

$\{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$

**YES!**

# Program verification with concurrency



Is it still true?

$$\begin{array}{l} \{x = 0\} \\ y := x; \\ x := x + 1; \\ \{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\} \end{array} \quad || \quad x := 4$$

**NO!**

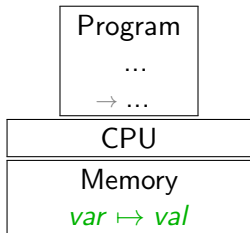
# Program verification so far



So far we have assumed **sequential execution**

$\{x = 0\}$	$x \mapsto 0$	$y \mapsto -$
$y := x;$	$x \mapsto 0$	$y \mapsto 0$
$x := x + 1;$	$x \mapsto 1$	$y \mapsto 0$
$\{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$		

i.e. a single thread of execution accessing the memory state

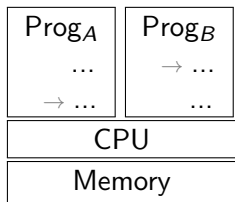


**This is not always the case!**

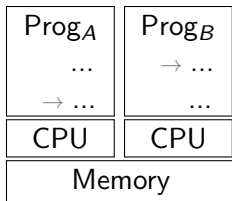
# Types of concurrency



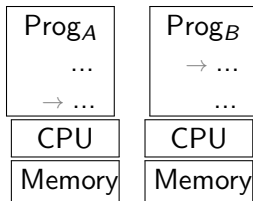
## Multithreading



## Multicore



## Distributed



*All need communication and synchronisation mechanisms*

Shared memory  
Interleaved execution

Shared memory  
Parallel execution

Message passing

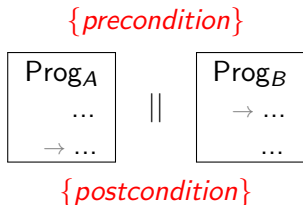
**Here:** we'll look at shared-memory concurrency

(and we'll ignore further complications such as caches, weak memory...)

# Goal



We want to be able to reason about parallel composition of programs:



**2 kinds of properties:**

**Safety:**

*“something bad does not happen”*  
(no bad state can be reached)  
e.g.  $\{x = 0\}$

**Liveness:**

*“something good must happen”*  
(specific states must be reached)  
e.g. the program terminates

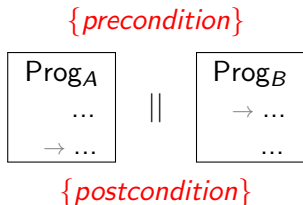
**With concurrency: much harder!**

**With concurrency: new problems!**

# Goal



We want to be able to reason about parallel composition of programs:



Here:

- We focus on **safety** properties: postcondition holds **if reached**
- We will define parallel composition ( $||$ ) as non-deterministic interleaving
- We go back to our minimal IMP language (forget about C and monads)

`datatype com = SKIP`



# Program verification so far



If the following true?

$\{x = 0\}$

$y := x;$

$x := x + 1;$

$\{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$

**YES!**

# Program verification with concurrency



Is it still true?

```
{x = 0}
y := x;           ||   x := 4
x := x + 1;
{x = 1 ∧ y = 0}
```

**NO!**

What is going wrong?

What do we need to change?

- to make sure we don't prove wrong statements!
- to allow us to prove true statements about concurrent programs

# Program verification so far



How would we have proved this?

$$\{x = 0\} \implies \{x + 1 = 1 \wedge x = 0\}$$
$$y := x; \{x + 1 = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$$
$$x := x + 1;$$
$$\{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$$

Using Hoare logic rules!

$$\frac{\vdash \{P\} c_1 \{R\} \quad \vdash \{R\} c_2 \{Q\}}{\vdash \{P\} c_1; c_2 \{Q\}}$$
$$\frac{}{\vdash \{P[x \mapsto e]\} \quad x := e \quad \{P\}}$$

Why does this make it true? What does it mean that it's true?

It means:

*If the program "y := x; x := x + 1" is executed from a state satisfying {x = 0} then, if it terminates, the resulting state satisfied {x = 1 ∧ y = 0}*

# Program verification so far



How would we have proved this?

$\{x = 0\} \implies \{x + 1 = 1 \wedge x = 0\}$   
 $y := x; \{x + 1 = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$   
 $x := x + 1;$   
 $\{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$

Using Hoare logic rules!

$$\frac{\vdash \{P\} c_1 \{R\} \quad \vdash \{R\} c_2 \{Q\}}{\vdash \{P\} c_1; c_2 \{Q\}}$$
$$\frac{}{\vdash \{P[x \mapsto e]\} x := e \{P\}}$$

Why does this make it true? What does it mean that it's true?

It means:

$$\langle y := x; x := x + 1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma' \wedge x \sigma = 0 \longrightarrow x \sigma' = 1 \wedge y \sigma' = 0$$

Where:

$$\frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma' \quad \langle c_2, \sigma' \rangle \rightarrow \sigma''}{\langle c_1; c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma''} \quad \frac{e \sigma = v}{\langle x := e, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma[x \mapsto v]}$$

# Program verification with concurrency



$\{x = 0\}$   
 ~~$y := x; \{x + 1 = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$~~  ||  $x := 4$   
 $x := x + 1;$   
 $\{x = 1 \wedge y = 0\}$

- Execution is interleaved; Intermediate assertions can be interfered with
- Need a new reasoning framework!
- New syntax, new semantics, new proof rules (proved sound w.r.t semantics), new VCG
- (1969: Hoare Logic (Tony Hoare))
- 1976: Owicki-Gries (Susan Owicki and David Gries)
- 1981: Rely-Guarantee (Cliff Jones)

# Owicki-Gries framework



Intuition:

- Syntax: our IMP language + Parallel operator + Await operator
- Semantics:
  - ▶  $P \parallel Q$ : pick one program and execute its current instruction
  - ▶  $AWAIT\ b\ DO\ c\ OD$ : if guard is true execute  $c$  atomically
- Proof rules:
  - ▶ you prove *local correctness* (as before)
  - ▶ you prove *interference-freedom* (assertions not interfered with)

$\{is\_even\ x\}$

$x := x + 1; \{is\_even\ x + 1\} \parallel x := x + 2$

$x := x + 1;$

$\{is\_even\ x\}$

→ Needs a fully annotated program!

→ Needs a “small-step semantics”  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c', \sigma' \rangle$

# Owicki-Gries framework



Formally:

- Syntax: our IMP language + Parallel operator + Await operator
- Semantics:

$$\frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c'_1, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1 || c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c'_1 || c_2, \sigma' \rangle} \quad \frac{\langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}{\langle c_1 || c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c_1 || c'_2, \sigma' \rangle}$$

- Hoare rules:

$$\frac{\{P_1\} c_1 \{Q_1\} \quad \{P_2\} c_2 \{Q_2\} \quad \textit{interfree} c_1 c_2 \quad \textit{interfree} c_2 c_1}{\{P_1 \wedge P_2\} c_1 || c_2 \{Q_1 \wedge Q_2\}}$$

Where

$\textit{interfree} c_1 c_2 \equiv$

$\forall p \in (\textit{assertions } c_1). \forall (a, c) \in (\textit{atomics } c_2). \{p \wedge a\}c\{p\}$

# Owicki-Gries framework



- Quadratic explosion of proof obligations! (verification conditions)
- Not compositional
- Not complete: sometimes need auxiliary/ghost variables

$$\begin{array}{c} \{x = 0\} \\ x := x + 1; \parallel x := x + 1 \\ \{x = 2\} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \{x = 0 \wedge a_1 = 0 \wedge a_2 = 0\} \\ \wedge a_1 = 0 \quad \parallel \quad \wedge a_2 = 0 \\ \{a_2 = 0 \wedge x = 0 \vee a_2 = 1 \wedge x = 1\} \quad \{a_1 = 0 \wedge x = 0 \vee a_1 = 1 \wedge x = 1\} \\ \langle x := x + 1; a_1 := 1 \rangle \quad \langle x := x + 1; a_2 := 1 \rangle \\ \{a_2 = 0 \wedge x = 1 \vee a_2 = 1 \wedge x = 2\} \quad \{a_1 = 0 \wedge x = 1 \vee a_1 = 1 \wedge x = 2\} \\ \wedge a_1 = 1 \quad \parallel \quad \wedge a_2 = 1 \end{array}$$



A background pattern of white hexagons on a dark teal background, arranged in a staggered grid.

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# Demo

# Rely-Guarantee?



Intuition:

- Syntax, semantics: as before (but no need for assertions)
- Proof rules:
  - ▶ each program is specified in isolation, **assuming a behavior of the “environment”** (other programs in parallel)
  - ▶ each program has: precondition, postcondition, **rely and guarantee**
  - ▶ rely and guarantee are **relations between 2 states**
  - ▶ **rely** expresses the maximum behavior of the environment (the interference that the program can tolerate)
  - ▶ **guarantee** expresses a maximum behavior promised to the environment

$$\begin{array}{c} c \\ \{P, R, G, Q\} \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{c} c' \\ \{P', R', G', Q'\} \end{array}$$

$$\sigma_0 \xrightarrow{c} \sigma_1 \xrightarrow{c} \sigma_2 \xrightarrow{c'} \sigma_3 \xrightarrow{c} \sigma_4 \xrightarrow{c'} \sigma_5 \xrightarrow{c'} \sigma_6 \xrightarrow{c} \sigma_7$$

# Rely-Guarantee?



Formally:

- Syntax, semantics: as before (but no need for assertions)
- Proof rules (examples):

$$\frac{P \subseteq \{s. f \ s \in Q\} \quad \{(s, t). P \ s \wedge (t = f \ s \vee t = s)\} \subseteq G \quad \text{stable } P \ R \quad \text{stable } Q}{\text{Basic } f\{P, R, G, Q\}}$$

$$\frac{c_1\{P_1, R_1, G_1, Q_1\} \quad c_2\{P_2, R_2, G_2, Q_2\} \quad G_1 \subseteq R_2 \quad G_2 \subseteq R_1}{c_1 || c_2\{P_1 \cap P_2, R_1 \cap R_2, G_1 \cup G_2, Q_1 \cap Q_2\}}$$

Where  $\text{stable } P \ R = \forall \sigma \ \sigma'. (P\sigma \wedge R(\sigma, \sigma')) \rightarrow P\sigma'$   
(doing an environment step before or after  $P$  should not make  $P$  invalid)

Intuition: the guarantee of one program is the rely of the other program

A background pattern of white hexagons on a teal background, arranged in a staggered grid.

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# Demo

# We have seen today ...



- Need for new reasoning framework for parallel/concurrent programs
- Owicki-Gries
- Rely-Guarantee