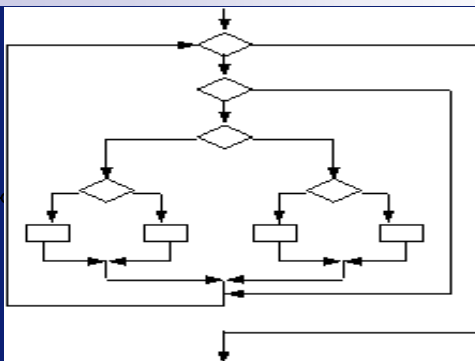


# Program correctness

## Arrays



*Marcello Bonsangue*



# Array Types and Array Syntax

- Let  $a[1 \dots n]$  denote an array with as **index** an integer between 1 and  $n$  (included)
- Then  $a[e]$  denotes the element at position  $i$  in the array  $a$  if the evaluation of the expression  $e$  is the integer  $i$  with  $1 \leq i \leq n$
- And  $|a|$  denote the length of the array  $a$ ,
  - i.e.  $|a| = n$



# Meaning of array assignments

- Let  $a$ ,  $b$  be two array variables. Then:
  - $a:=b$  assigns the value of array  $a$  to the array variable  $b$
  - $a[e]:=e'$  assigns the value of  $e'$  to position  $e$  in the array  $a$
  - but  $a[e]:=e'$  fails, or 'goes wrong', if  $e \leq 0$  or  $e < |a|$
- In partial correctness, we do not need to take array boundaries into account
  - For example,  $\{\text{true}\} a[|a|+1] \{\text{true}\}$  is valid



# Array assignments and aliasing

- Simple assignments remain simple:

$$\{\psi[b/a]\} a:=b \{\psi\}$$

is valid (partial correctness)

- But what about  $a[e]:=e'$  ?
- How can we substitute  $a[e]$  by  $e'$  ?
- Moreover,  $a[e]$  may have aliases:  
 $a[3]$ ,  $a[1+2]$ ,  $a[5-2]$ , etc. all denote the same location



# Arrays as functions

- An array  $a[1 \dots |a|]$  of values can be seen as a function  $a$  from the index values to the element values

update:  $a[e] := e'$  is the same as  $a := a[e'/e]$

reading:  $a[e]$  is the same as  $a(e)$

- Recall that  $a[e'/e](i) = \begin{cases} e' & \text{if } e=i \\ a(i) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



# The solution: function substitution

- Since an array is just a variable whose type happens to be “function”, we can simply replace the entire function
- $a[i] := e$  is the same as  $a := a[e/i]$  thus along the lines of the ordinary assignment axiom we have

$$\{\psi[a[e'/e]/a]\} a[e] := e' \{\psi\}$$



# Weakest precondition of array updates

- The formula  $\psi[a[e'/e]/a]$  is **not** the weakest precondition of  $\psi$  w.r.t. an array update  $a[e] := e'$

Why?

Because the value  $e$  may fall outside that of the array  $a$ , so update may also fail! For total correctness we have to prove that assignment doesn't fail.

- $\text{wp}(a[e] := e', \psi) = \psi[a[e'/e]/a] \wedge 0 < e \leq |a|$



# Example I

- $\{ \text{true} \} a[3] := 5 \{ a[3] = 5 \}$

We get:

$$(a[3] = 5)[a[5/3]/a] \Leftrightarrow a[5/3][3] = 5$$

Clearly,  $\text{true} \Rightarrow a[5/3][3] = 5$





# Example II

- $\{a[j] = 4\} a[i] := a[j]+1 \{a[i] = 5\}$

$$(a[i] = 5)[a[a[j]+1/i]/a]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a[a[j]+1/i][i] = 5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a[j]+1 = 5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a[j] = 4$$



# Example 3

- $\{|b|>2\}$   $a:=b$ ;  $a[1]:=3$ ;  $a[1]:= a[1]+1$ ;  $b:=a$   $\{b[1]=4\}$



# Example 4

$$\{ a[i] = i \} a[a[i]] := i \{ a[i] = i \}$$

$$(a[i] = i)[(a[i/a[i]])/a]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a[i/a[i]](i) = i$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a[i] = i \wedge i = i) \vee (a[i] \neq i \wedge a[i] = i)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a[i] = i$$

