



# Separation Logic: A Hoare Logic for Pointer Programs

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# Overview

- The Language
- Natural Semantics
- Separation Logic
- Hoare Logic
- Example: In-Place List Reversal



# Stores, Heaps, States

**typedecI loc**

**types**

val = nat

addr = nat

store = loc  $\Rightarrow$  val

heap = addr  $\rightsquigarrow$  val

state = (store  $\times$  heap) option

aexp = store  $\Rightarrow$  val

bexp = store  $\Rightarrow$  bool





# The Language: IMP ...

- SKIP skip
- Assign loc aexp  $x := a$
- Semi com com  $c_1; c_2$
- Cond bexp com com if  $b$  then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$
- While bexp com while  $b$  do  $c$

# ... with Pointers

- ListAlloc loc aexprlist  $x ::= \text{list as}$
- ArrAlloc loc aexpr  $x ::= \text{alloc } n$
- Lookup loc aexpr  $x ::= @a$
- Mutate aexpr aexpr  $@a ::= v$
- Dealloc aexpr dispose a



# Natural Semantics: ListAlloc

## ■ ListAlloc:

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket \text{heap-isfree } h a (\text{length } as); vs = \text{map } (\lambda e. e s) as \rrbracket \\ \implies & \langle x ::= \text{list } as, \text{Some } (s, h) \rangle \\ \longrightarrow_c & \text{Some } (s[x \mapsto a], \text{heap-update } h a vs) \end{aligned}$$

## ■ ListAllocFail:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a. \neg \text{heap-isfree } h a (\text{length } as) \implies \\ \langle x ::= \text{list } as, \text{Some } (s, h) \rangle \longrightarrow_c \text{None} \end{aligned}$$


# Natural Semantics: ArrAlloc

## ■ ArrAlloc:

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket \text{heap-isfree } h a (n s); \text{length } vs = n s \rrbracket \\ \implies & \langle x := \text{alloc } n, \text{Some } (s, h) \rangle \\ \longrightarrow_c & \text{Some } (s[x \mapsto a], \text{heap-update } h a vs) \end{aligned}$$

## ■ ArrAllocFail:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a. \neg \text{heap-isfree } h a (n s) \implies \\ \langle x := \text{alloc } n, \text{Some } (s, h) \rangle \longrightarrow_c \text{None} \end{aligned}$$


# Natural Semantics: Lookup

## ■ Lookup:

$$a s \in \text{dom } h \implies$$
$$\langle x ::= @a, \text{Some} (s, h) \rangle$$
$$\longrightarrow_c \text{Some} (s[x \mapsto \text{heap-lookup } h (a s)], h)$$

## ■ LookupFail:

$$a s \notin \text{dom } h \implies \langle x ::= @a, \text{Some} (s, h) \rangle \longrightarrow_c \text{None}$$


# Natural Semantics: Mutate

## ■ Mutate:

$$a s \in \text{dom } h \implies$$
$$\langle @a := v, \text{Some}(s, h) \rangle$$
$$\longrightarrow_c \text{Some}(s, \text{heap-update } h(a s) [v s])$$

## ■ MutateFail:

$$a s \notin \text{dom } h \implies \langle @a := v, \text{Some}(s, h) \rangle \longrightarrow_c \text{None}$$

# Natural Semantics: Dealloc

## ■ Dealloc:

$$a s \in \text{dom } h \implies$$

$$\langle \text{dispose } a, \text{Some } (s, h) \rangle \longrightarrow_c \text{Some } (s, \text{heap-remove } h (a s))$$

## ■ DeallocFail:

$$a s \notin \text{dom } h \implies \langle \text{dispose } a, \text{Some } (s, h) \rangle \longrightarrow_c \text{None}$$

# Separation Logic

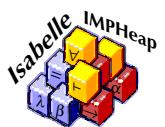
- $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \rightarrow, \dots$

- Separating conjunction:

$$(P \wedge^* Q) h \equiv \exists h' h''. h' \bowtie h'' \wedge h' ++ h'' = h \wedge P h' \wedge Q h''$$

- Separating implication:

$$(P \rightarrow^* Q) h \equiv \forall h'. h' \bowtie h \wedge P h' \rightarrow Q (h ++ h')$$



# Assertions

- $\text{emp } h \equiv \text{dom } h = \{\}$
- $(a \mapsto v) \ h \equiv \text{dom } h = \{a\} \wedge \text{heap-lookup } h \ a = v$
- $(a \mapsto -) \ h \equiv \exists v. \ (a \mapsto v) \ h$
- $a \hookrightarrow v \equiv a \mapsto v \wedge * \text{ true}$

# Properties of $\wedge*$

- $P \wedge* (Q \wedge* R) = P \wedge* Q \wedge* R$
- $P \wedge* Q = Q \wedge* P$
- $emp \wedge* P = P$
- $P \wedge* emp = P$

# Properties of $\wedge*$ , cntd.

- $((\lambda h. P h \vee Q h) \wedge* R) h = (P \wedge* R) h \vee (Q \wedge* R) h$
- $((\lambda h. P h \wedge Q h) \wedge* R) h \longrightarrow (P \wedge* R) h \wedge (Q \wedge* R) h$
- $((\lambda h. \exists x. P x h) \wedge* Q) h = (\exists x. (P x \wedge* Q) h)$
- $((\lambda h. \forall x. P x h) \wedge* Q) h \longrightarrow (\forall x. (P x \wedge* Q) h)$

# Pure Assertions

- $\text{pure } P \equiv \forall h h'. P h = P h'$
- $\llbracket \text{pure } P; \text{pure } Q \rrbracket \implies (P h \wedge Q h) = (P \wedge^* Q) h$
- $\llbracket \text{pure } P; \text{pure } Q \rrbracket \implies (P \longrightarrow^* Q) h = (P h \longrightarrow Q h)$



# Intuitionistic Assertions

- *intuitionistic P*  $\equiv \forall h h'. Ph \longrightarrow h \subseteq_m h' \longrightarrow Ph'$
- *intuitionistic P*  $\implies (P \wedge* \text{true}) h \longrightarrow Ph$
- *intuitionistic P*  $\implies Ph \longrightarrow (\text{true} \longrightarrow^* P) h$

# Domain-Exact Assertions

- *domain-exact P*  $\equiv \forall h h'. Ph \longrightarrow Ph' \longrightarrow \text{dom } h = \text{dom } h'$
- *domain-exact R*  $\implies$   
 $(P \wedge^* R) h \wedge (Q \wedge^* R) h \longrightarrow ((\lambda h. Ph \wedge Q h) \wedge^* R) h$
- *domain-exact Q*  $\implies$   
 $(\forall x. (Px \wedge^* Q) h) \longrightarrow ((\lambda h. \forall x. Px h) \wedge^* Q) h$

# Hoare Logic

- $\models \{P\} c \{Q\} \equiv$   
 $\forall s h. (P s h \longrightarrow (\text{Some}(s, h), \text{None}) \notin C c) \wedge$   
 $(\forall s' h'. (\text{Some}(s, h), \text{Some}(s', h')) \in C c \longrightarrow P s h$   
 $\longrightarrow Q s' h')$
- No error state reachable
- Partial correctness

# Hoare Rules

## ■ ListAlloc:

$$\vdash \{ \lambda s h. (\exists a. \text{heap-isfree } h a (\text{length } as)) \wedge \\ (\forall a. (a[\mapsto] \text{map } (\lambda e. e s) as \longrightarrow^* P (s[x \mapsto a])) h) \} \\ x ::= \text{list as } \{P\}$$

## ■ ArrAlloc:

$$\vdash \{ \lambda s h. (\exists a. \text{heap-isfree } h a (n s)) \wedge \\ (\forall a vs. \text{length } vs = n s \longrightarrow (a[\mapsto] vs \longrightarrow^* P (s[x \mapsto a])) h) \} \\ x ::= \text{alloc } n \{P\}$$


# Hoare Rules, cntd.

## ■ Lookup:

$$\vdash \{\lambda s. h. \exists v. (a \ s \hookrightarrow v) \ h \wedge P(s[x \mapsto v]) \ h\} \ x := @a \{P\}$$

## ■ Mutate:

$$\vdash \{\lambda s. a \ s \mapsto - \wedge^* (a \ s \mapsto v \ s \longrightarrow^* P \ s)\} \ @a := v \ {P\}$$

## ■ Dealloc:

$$\vdash \{\lambda s. a \ s \mapsto - \wedge^* P \ s\} \ dispose \ a \ {P\}$$





# Soundness and Completeness

- Soundness:

$$|- \{P\} c \{Q\} \implies |= \{P\} c \{Q\}$$

- Relative completeness:

$$|= \{P\} c \{Q\} \implies |- \{P\} c \{Q\}$$

- Weakest precondition:

$$|- \{wp c Q\} c \{Q\}$$



# Example: In-place List Reversal

```
reverse :: loc ⇒ loc ⇒ loc ⇒ com
reverse i j k == (j := (λs. 0));
                  while (λs. s i ≠ 0) do
                    (
                      (((k := @(\s. Suc (s i)));
                        (@(\s. Suc (s i)) := (λs. s j)));
                        (j := (λs. s i)));
                        (i := (λs. s k)))
                    )
```

# In-place List Reversal, ctd.

**theorem** reverse-correct:

$$\begin{aligned} & \vdash \{ \lambda s h. \text{heap-list } vs (s i) h \wedge i \neq j \wedge i \neq k \wedge j \neq k \} \\ & \quad \text{reverse } i j k \\ & \quad \{ \lambda s h. \text{heap-list } (\text{rev } vs) (s j) h \} \end{aligned}$$

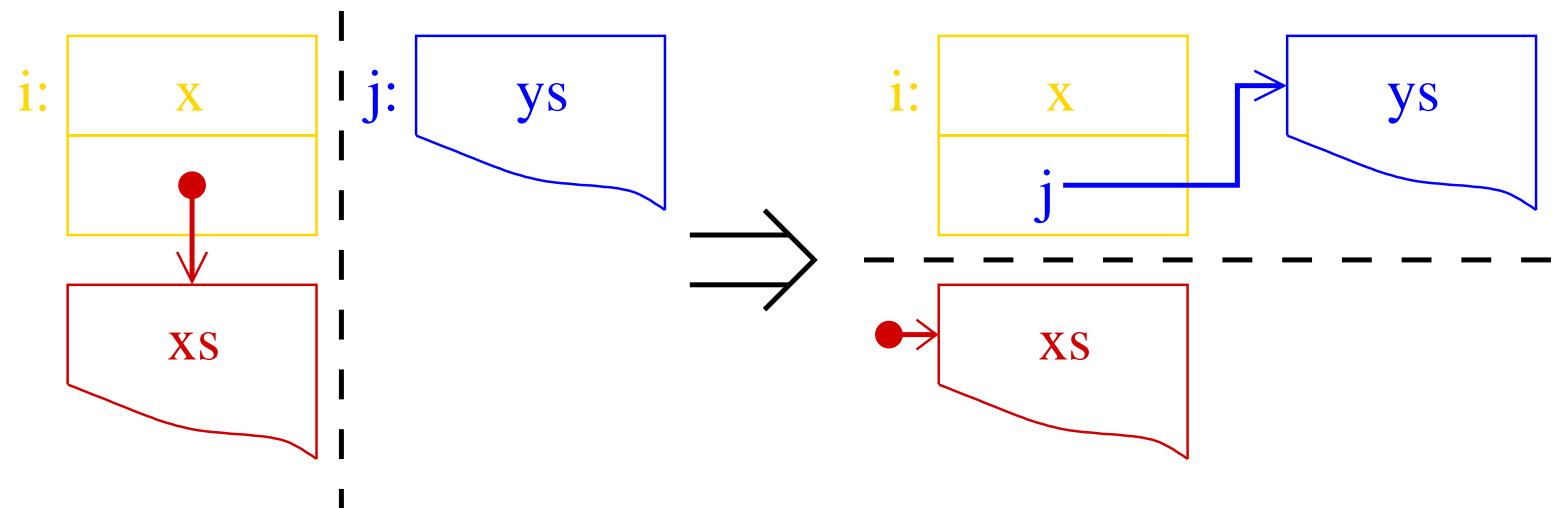
■ Loop invariant:

$$\begin{aligned} & \lambda s h. (\exists xs ys. \\ & \quad (\text{heap-list } xs (s i) \wedge * \text{heap-list } ys (s j)) h \wedge \\ & \quad \text{rev } vs = \text{rev } xs @ ys) \wedge \\ & \quad i \neq j \wedge i \neq k \wedge j \neq k \end{aligned}$$



# List Reversal: The Proof

- $(\text{heap-list } ys \ j \wedge * \ \text{heap-list} \ (x \ # \ xs) \ i) \ h \implies$   
 $(\text{heap-list } xs \ (\text{heap-lookup } h \ (\text{Suc } i)) \wedge * \ \text{heap-list} \ (x \ # \ ys) \ i)$   
 $(\text{heap-update } h \ (\text{Suc } i) \ [j])$



# Conclusions and Future Work

- No complete axiom scheme for  $\wedge^*$  and  $\longrightarrow^*$
- Frame rule
- Syntactic sugar
- Annotations, Verification Condition Generator
- Total correctness, procedures, concurrency, . . .





# Discussion

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