A Denotational Engineering of Programming Languages

Part 10: Lingua-2V Program-construction rules (Section 8.5 of the book)

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The role of declarations

The derivation of a correct metaprogram

pre prc: dec; sin post poc

can be split into the derivation of two metaprograms:



Declaration-oriented conditions implicite in data-oriented conditions

```
pre prc:
    dec; skip-i
post poc-dec and prc
x is number and x > 0 ⇔ x > 0
because
x > 0 ⇒ x is number
but ≡ does not hold, e.g. if x is word
x is number and x > 0 may be replaced by x > 0
in:
```

- pre- and post conditions,
- assertions.

The case of structured instructions

Rules concerning pre- and post conditions

Rule 8.5.2-1 Strengthening precondition



Rule 8.5.2-2 Weakening postcondition

```
pre prc : sin post poc
poc ⇒ poc-1
pre prc : sin post poc-1
```

Assignment

Rule 8.5.2-1 Assignment

pre ide:=dae @ con:
 ide := dae
post con

Proof follows directly from the semantics of algorithmic conditions.



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Sequential composition

Rule 8.5.2-6 Sequential composition of a metaprogram with an instruction



(3) – "usual" mathematical proof (by proof checker)

mathematically not very sophisticated but may include many variables

Conditional branching



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While loop



pre prc: while dae do sin od post poc

The application of this rule requires:

- 1. proving three metaimplications,
- 2. constructing a correct metaprogram; inventing an invariant
- 3. proving halting property; <u>inventing</u> a wellfounded set and a corresponding function

An example of a while-program derivation

```
pre m, n \ge 0 and x=n and k=1:
                                        - precondition prc
                                        - data expression dae
   while x≠0
   do
    k := k*m ;
                                        - the beginning of sin
                                        — the end of sin
    x := x-1;
   od ;
                                                              The values of n
                                        - postcondition poc
   post k=m^n
                                                               and m remain
                                                               constant.
Let inv be: k=m^ (n-x)
(1) pre k=m^{(n-x)} and x\neq 0: k:=k^{m}; x:=x-1 post k=m^{(n-x)}
(2) asr x \neq 0 rsa; k:=k*m; x:=x-1 limited-replicability in k=m^ (n-x)
(3) n, m\geq 0 and x=n and k=1 \Rightarrow k=m^(n-x)
                                                    well-founded set:
(4) k=m^(n-x)
                 ⇔ x=0 or x≠0
                                                    (non-negative integers, >)
(5) k=m^{(n-x)} and x=0 \qquad \Rightarrow k=m^{n}
```

To derive our program we have to derive or prove, (1), and prove (2) - (5).

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K.sta = Sde.[x].sta

The case of imperative procedures

Procedures





A step-by-step construction



What should we assume about the future programming context of the call to make the call executable? prc-call ⇒ DoIt proc-with ipd prc-call ⇒ conformant(fop-v, fop-r, acp-v, acp-r) call-time state

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A step-by-step construction (cont.)

What should we assume about the properties of body

```
pre prc-body:
   body
post poc-body
to make the call correct?
prc-call ⇒ prc-body[fop-v/acp-v, fop-r/acp-r]
poc-body ⇒ poc-call[acp-r/fop-r]
```

Imperative procedures

As a conclusion of our analysis we have the following rule:

Rule 8.5.3-1 Building a declaration of an imperative procedure

```
(1) pre prc-bod: body post poc-bod
(2) prc-call ⇒ DoIt proc-with ipd
(3) prc-call ⇒ conformant(fop-v, fop-r, acp-v, acp-r)
(4) prc-call ⇒ prc-bod[fop-v/acp-v, fop-r/acp-r]
(5) poc-bod ⇒ poc-call[acp-r/fop-r]
 (6)pre prc-call
    call DoIt (val acp-v ref acp-r)
    post poc-call
```

If DoIt is a recursive procedure then we cannot prove (1) independently of (6)

Example of body derivation

GOAL: Derive a declaration of procedure Power such that:





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The case of recursion

Recursion – a new pattern of validation

NO RECURSION:

given (hypothesis)		prove (conclusion)
<pre>pre prc-bod: body</pre>	implies	<pre>pre prc-call call DoIt (val acp-v ref acp-r)</pre>
post poc-bod		<pre>post poc-call</pre>

RECURSION:

Prove that both are correct!

preprc-bod:preprc-callbodyandcall DoIt (val acp-v ref acp-r)post poc-bodpost poc-call

In the case of recursion we can't avoid a correctness proof!

Simple nondetermnistic recursion (a repetition)

If T is the least solution of X = HXT | E then for any A, B $\subseteq S$

```
Rule 7.6.2-3
```

```
there exists a family of preconditions \{A_i \mid i \ge 0\}
and a family of postconditions \{B_i \mid i \ge 0\} such that
(\forall i \ge 0) A_i \subseteq (H^i ET^i) B_i - i recursive calls
A \subseteq U\{A_i \mid i \ge 0\}
(\forall i \ge 0) B_i \subseteq B
```

A ⊆ RB

An example of a correctness proof for simple recursion

Goal: construct a procedure declaration of RecPow to make this call correct

```
pre RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint :
```

```
call RecPow(val a,b ref c)
post c=a^b
```

```
A candidate for declaration (ipd):
```

```
proc RecPow(val m,n nnint ref k nnint)
  let x be number tel;
  x:=n; k:=1;
  if x≠0
    then x:=x-1 ; call RecPow(val m,x ref k); k:=k*m
    else skip-i
  fi
end-proc
```

A mathematical task: prove the correctness of the call.

An example (cont.)

An inductive version of the hypothesis; induction on N (a concrete number).

```
pre RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint and b=N:
 call RecPow(val a, b ref c)
post c=a^N
First step: N = 0 and formal parameters replaced by actual parameters
pre RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint and b=0:
  let x be nnint tel;
  x:=0; c:=1;
  if x≠0
      then x:=x-1 ; call RecPow(val a, x ref c); c:=c*a
     else skip-i
  fi
post RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint and b=0 and c=a^b
Equivalent to:
pre RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint and b=0:
  let x be nnint tel;
  x:=0; c:=1
post RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint and b=0 and c=1
```

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An example (cont.)

```
Inductive step: let b = N+1 for N \ge 0
pre RecPow proc-with ipd and a,b,c is nnint and b=N+1:
 let x be nnint tel;
 x:=N+1; c:=1;
 if x≠0
   then x := x - 1;
   asr RecPow proc-with ipd and a, b, c is nnint and x=N rsa;
    call RecPow(val a, N ref c);
   asr RecPow proc-with ipd and a, b, c is nnint and b=N and c=a^N rsa;
   c:=c*a;
                                                     inductive hypothesis
   else skip-i
 fi
post c=a^ (N+1)
```

A research problem:

Formalize and prove correctness rules for recursive procedures.

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The case of functional procedures

Functional procedures

An example

```
fun RecPowerFun(m,n)
  let k is nnint tel
  call RecPower(val m,n ref k)
  return 3*k+1
endfun
```

Two forms of correctness statements:





Properties of expressions described by yokes:

pre con
 dae means con ⇒ exp □ yok
post-yoke yok

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Functional procedures

New operator of conditions

```
[exp □ yok].sta =
is-error.sta  → error.sta
Sde.[exp].sta = ? → ?
let
val = Sde.[exp].sta
val : Error  → val
let
(com, yok-v)= val
y-val = Syoe.[yok].com
true  → y-val
```

Composite of the value of exp satisfies yok.

Invariants versus assertions

Invariant of an instruction (condition):

 $\{con\} \bullet Sin.[ins] \subseteq \{con\}$ partial invariant

 $\{con\} \subseteq Sin.[ins] \bullet \{con\}$ total invariant

Invariant of a while-loop (condition):

```
prc ⇒ inv
inv ⇒ (dae or (not dae))
inv and (not dae) ⇒ poc
pre inv and dae: sin post inv
if dae then sin fi limited-replicability in inv
```

```
pre prc:
  while dae do sin od
  post poc
```

Assertion (instruction):

asr con rsa

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