



Tutorial for Program Verification Exercise Sheet 17

In this exercise sheet, we work with the strongest postcondition sp and its dual, the *weakest precondition* wp . These functions are also known as *predicate transformers*.

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Exercise 1: Strongest Postcondition for the Conditional Statement 2 Points

In the lecture we have seen that the strongest postcondition of a sequential composition or a **while**-loop can be expressed in terms of the strongest postconditions of the sub-statements. In this exercise, you should give a similar formulation for the strongest postcondition of an conditional statement.

Specifically, let st be the statement **if** ($expr$) { st_1 } **else** { st_2 }. Let $S \subseteq S_{V,\mu}$ be a set of states. Express the strongest postcondition $sp(S, st)$ using only the strongest postcondition of st_1 , st_2 and of simple statements (**havoc**, assignments or **assume**) for suitable sets of states.

You do not have to prove the correctness of your result.

Exercise 2: Distributivity of sp 4 Points

In this exercise we examine distributivity properties of the strongest postcondition. Let S, S_1, S_2 be arbitrary sets of states, and let st be a statement. Furthermore, let φ_1 and φ_2 be formulas.

For each of the following equalities, either prove its correctness or give a counterexample.

- (a) $sp(S_1 \cup S_2, st) = sp(S_1, st) \cup sp(S_2, st)$
- (b) $sp(S_1 \cap S_2, st) = sp(S_1, st) \cap sp(S_2, st)$
- (c) $sp(S, \text{assume } \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2) = sp(S, \text{assume } \varphi_1) \cup sp(S, \text{assume } \varphi_2)$
- (d) $sp(S, \text{assume } \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) = sp(S, \text{assume } \varphi_1) \cap sp(S, \text{assume } \varphi_2)$

Exercise 3: Strongest Postcondition 2 Points

Consider the following program P .

```
1 assume x > y;  
2 x := x - y;  
3 havoc z;  
4 assume z > 0;  
5 x := x * z;
```

Compute the strongest postcondition $sp(S, P)$ where S is $\{y > 0\}$.

Exercise 4: Weakest Precondition

3 Points

Analogously to the strongest postcondition we define the weakest precondition for a given set of states and a given statement st as follows.

$$\text{wp}(S, st) = \{s \in S_{V,\mu} \mid \text{forall } s' \in S_{V,\mu} \ (s, s') \in \llbracket st \rrbracket \text{ implies } s' \in S\}$$

Intuitively, the weakest precondition is the set of states such that if we can execute st and st terminates then we are in some state of S .

Let us assume that the set S is given by a formula ψ , i.e., $S = \{\psi\}$. Give a formula φ such that $\text{wp}(S, st) = \{\varphi\}$ for the cases where

- (a) st is an assignment statement of the form `x := expr`,
- (b) st is an assume statement of the form `assume expr`, and
- (c) st is a havoc statement of the form `havoc x`.