

## EXERCISE 5F-2: VCGEN FOR LET

We choose the first option:

`doInv c while b` with postcondition  $P$  and invariant  $Inv$  true before each evaluation of  $b$ .

We need to define the backward verification condition  $VC(\text{doInv } c \text{ while } b, P)$  without referring to  $VC(\text{while } \dots)$ .

The goal is to ensure:

1. The first execution of  $c$  establishes the invariant.
2. The invariant is preserved across loop iterations when  $b$  holds.
3. The postcondition  $P$  holds when the loop exits ( $\neg b$ ).

Hence the formula is:

$$\begin{aligned} VC(\text{doInv } c \text{ while } b, P) = & \\ & VC(c, Inv) \\ & \wedge (Inv \wedge b \Rightarrow VC(c, Inv)) \\ & \wedge (Inv \wedge \neg b \Rightarrow P) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

- $VC(c, Inv)$ : the first run of  $c$  must establish the invariant  $Inv$
- $Inv \wedge b \Rightarrow VC(c, Inv)$ : if the loop continues, executing  $c$  must reestablish  $Inv$
- $Inv \wedge \neg b \Rightarrow P$ : when the loop exits,  $P$  must follow from  $Inv$  and  $\neg b$

This captures the backward VC for `doInv c while b`, ensuring total correctness without relying on  $VC(\text{while } \dots)$ .

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## EXERCISE 5F-3: VCGEN MISTAKES

We choose the following two incomplete rules to analyze:

**Rule 1: stark**

**Rule Definition:**

$$\frac{\{X \wedge b\} c \{X\}}{\{X\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \{X\}}$$

**Counterexample:**

1. **Rule name:** stark
2. **A (Precondition):** `true`
3. **B (Postcondition):** `x > 10`
4.  **$\sigma$  (initial state):** `x = 5`
5.  **$\sigma'$  (final state):** `x = 11`
6. **c:** `while x ≤ 10 do x := x + 1`
7. **Execution:** `x` increases from 5 to 11, so  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'$
8.  **$\sigma \models A$ :** `true` holds
9.  **$\sigma' \models B$ :** `x = 11`  $\Rightarrow$  `x > 10` ✓
10. **But cannot derive**  $\{A\} c \{B\}$  using stark:

Try `X = true`. Then:

$$\{X \wedge b\} c \{X\} \text{ becomes } \{x \leq 10\} x := x + 1 \{true\} — \text{valid}$$

But rule only lets us derive  $\{true\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \{true\}$ . This does not imply `x > 10`, which is our target postcondition. No stronger `X` is preserved by `x := x + 1`. So the rule cannot derive the true postcondition. Incomplete.

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## Rule 2: targaryen

### Rule Definition:

$$\frac{\{X\} c \{X\}}{\{X\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \{X \wedge \neg b\}}$$

### Counterexample:

1. **Rule name:** targaryen
2. **A (Precondition):** true
3. **B (Postcondition):**  $x > 10$
4.  **$\sigma$  (initial state):**  $x = 5$
5.  **$\sigma'$  (final state):**  $x = 11$
6. **c:** while  $x \leq 10$  do  $x := x + 1$
7. **Execution:** loop runs until  $x = 11$ , so  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'$
8.  **$\sigma \models A$ :** true holds
9.  **$\sigma' \models B$ :**  $x = 11 \Rightarrow x > 10 \checkmark$
10. **But cannot derive**  $\{A\} c \{B\}$  using targaryen:

Try  $X = \text{true}$ . Then:

$$\{X\} x := x + 1 \{X\} \text{ becomes } \{\text{true}\} x := x + 1 \{\text{true}\} — \text{valid}$$

So we get:  $\{\text{true}\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \{\text{true} \wedge \neg(x \leq 10)\} \Rightarrow \{x > 10\}$ .

This works here, but only because the postcondition happens to match  $X \wedge \neg b$ .

Now modify the goal to  $B = x = 11$ . Still:

- $\{\text{true}\} x := x + 1 \{\text{true}\}$  holds
- But  $\{\text{true}\} \text{ while } x \leq 10 \text{ do } x := x + 1 \{x = 11\}$  cannot be proven

No  $X$  such that  $\{X\} x := x + 1 \{X\}$  holds and  $X \wedge \neg b \Rightarrow x = 11$ . So rule is incomplete: true postcondition, not provable.

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**Conclusion:** both stark and targaryen fail to derive  $\{A\} \vdash \{B\}$  in cases where the execution does produce B, confirming incompleteness by example.