

# Verified Compilation of IMP to Linear IMP

## Initial Bachelor Seminar Talk

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## Previous Work



Glynn Winskel

*The formal semantics of programming languages*

MIT Press, 1993



Benjamin C. Pierce, Chris Casinghino, Marco Gaboardi, Michael Greenberg, Catalin Hritcu, Vilhelm Sjöberg, and Brent Yorgey.

*Software Foundations*

Electronic textbook, 2015



Tobias Nipkow, Gerwin Klein

*Concrete semantics*

Springer, 2014



Sigurd Schneider, Gert Smolka, Sebastian Hack

*A First-Order Functional Intermediate Language for Verified Compilers*

CoRR, [abs/1503.08665](https://arxiv.org/abs/1503.08665), 2015

# Motivation

## Example

```
if  $x < 0$  then  $x ::= -x$  else SKIP ;  
while  $n > 1$  do  
     $n ::= n - 1$  ;  
     $x ::= x \cdot x$ 
```

$c, d ::= x ::= e \mid c ; d \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } c \mid \text{SKIP}$   
where  $e \in \text{AExp}$ ,  $b \in \text{BExp}$

- The (terminating) execution of the program changes the state

# IMP

## Example

```
if  $x < 0$  then  $x ::= -x$  else SKIP ;  
while  $n > 0$  do  
   $n ::= n - 1$  ;  
   $x ::= x \cdot x$ 
```

## Example

```
if  $b_{x < 0}$  then  $a_{(x ::= -x)}$  else  $a_{\text{SKIP}}$  ;  
while  $b_{n > 0}$  do  
   $a_{(n ::= n - 1)}$  ;  
   $a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)}$ 
```

IMP:  $c, d ::= a \mid c ; d \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } c$

$\Sigma = \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathbb{V} \quad a : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma \quad b : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$

- **SKIP** can be treated as an action that leaves the state unchanged
- Neither arithmetic nor boolean expressions have to be specified

# Big-Step Semantics

- relates initial and final state of an execution
- $BS\ c\ \sigma\ \tau$  := the execution of  $c$  in state  $\sigma$  terminates in state  $\tau$

$$\frac{a\ \sigma = \tau}{BS\ a\ \sigma\ \tau}$$

$$\frac{BS\ c\ \sigma_1\ \sigma_2 \quad BS\ d\ \sigma_2\ \sigma_3}{BS\ (c ; d)\ \sigma_1\ \sigma_3}$$

$$\frac{b\ \sigma = true \quad BS\ c\ \sigma\ \tau}{BS\ (if\ b\ then\ c\ else\ d)\ \sigma\ \tau}$$

$$\frac{b\ \sigma = false \quad BS\ d\ \sigma\ \tau}{BS\ (if\ b\ then\ c\ else\ d)\ \sigma\ \tau}$$

$$\frac{b\ \sigma = false}{BS\ (while\ b\ do\ c)\ \sigma\ \sigma}$$

$$\frac{b\ \sigma = true \quad BS\ c\ \sigma_1\ \sigma_2 \quad BS\ (while\ b\ do\ c)\ \sigma_2\ \sigma_3}{BS\ (while\ b\ do\ c)\ \sigma_1\ \sigma_3}$$

# Step-Indexed Semantics

- Motivation: executable evaluation function for IMP
- Problem: Possible divergence of programs leads to divergence of the evaluation function
- Solution: decreasing index
  - ▶ guarantees termination
  - ▶ denotes the depth limit of the recursion tree
- $SI : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow IMP \rightarrow \Sigma \rightarrow \text{option } \Sigma$
- $SI\ n\ c\ \sigma = \lceil \tau \rceil :=$  at recursion depth of at most  $n$  the execution of  $c$  in  $\sigma$  terminates in  $\tau$
- $SI\ n\ c\ \sigma = \perp :=$  the execution of  $c$  in  $\sigma$  does not terminate in  $n$  steps
- Relation between Big-Step Semantics and Step-Indexed Semantics :

$$BS\ c\ \sigma\ \tau \Leftrightarrow \exists n. SI\ n\ c\ \sigma = \lceil \tau \rceil$$

# Weakest Precondition Semantics

- Motivation: Observation of partial assignments instead of whole states
- Conditions = predicates on states:  $\Sigma \rightarrow Prop$
- Does the execution of  $p$  in  $\sigma$  terminates in a state  $\tau$  that satisfies  $\lambda\tau.\tau x = 8$ ?
- Characterization by a predicate:  
WP  $c \sigma Q :=$  the execution of  $c$  in state  $\sigma$  terminates in a state that satisfies  $Q$



## Weakest Precondition Semantics

$$\frac{a \sigma = \tau \quad Q(\tau)}{\text{WP } a \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{\text{WP } c \sigma P \quad \text{WP } d \sigma Q}{\text{WP } (c ; d) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{b \sigma = \text{true} \quad \text{WP } c \sigma Q}{\text{WP } (\text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{b \sigma = \text{false} \quad \text{WP } d \sigma Q}{\text{WP } (\text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{b \sigma = \text{true} \quad \text{WP } c \sigma P \quad \text{WP } (\text{while } b \text{ do } c) P Q}{\text{WP } (\text{while } b \text{ do } c) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{b \sigma = \text{false} \quad Q(\sigma)}{\text{WP } (\text{while } b \text{ do } c) \sigma Q}$$

$$\text{WP } c P Q := \forall \sigma, P(\sigma) \rightarrow \text{WP } c \sigma Q$$

## Weakest Preconditions

- Subsumption of all states  $\sigma$  satisfying  $WP\ c\ \sigma\ Q$  as the weakest precondition of  $c$  and  $Q$ :

$$wp(c, Q) := \lambda\sigma. WP\ c\ \sigma\ Q$$

- Definition of weakest preconditions via BS :

$$wp_C(c, Q) := \lambda\sigma. \exists\tau, BS\ c\ \sigma\ \tau \wedge Q\ \tau$$

- Coincidence of Big-Step and Weakest Precondition Semantics:

$$\begin{aligned} WP\ c\ \sigma\ Q &\leftrightarrow wp_C(c, Q)\ \sigma \\ BS\ c\ \sigma\ \tau &\leftrightarrow WP\ c\ \sigma\ (\lambda\tau'. \tau = \tau') \end{aligned}$$

# LIMP

- IMP not linear due to sequences and while-loops (needs a stack)
- Goal of compilation: Translation of IMP to a register transfer language
  - ▶ Sequences have to be linearized (no nesting)
  - ▶ While-loops have to be translated to blocks and calls

## Example

```
while  $b_{n>1}$  do  
   $a_{(n ::= n-1)}$  ;  
   $a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)}$ 
```

## Example

```
block  $l$  : if  $b_{n>1}$  then  $a_{(n ::= n-1)}$  ; ( $a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)}$  ; call  $l$ )  
  else halt ;  
call  $l$ 
```

# LIMP

Alternative syntax for blocks and calls:

## Example

```
while  $b_{n>1}$  do  
   $a_{(n ::= n-1)}$  ;  
   $a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)}$ 
```

## Example

```
fix  $l$ . if  $b_{n>1}$  then  $a_{(n ::= n-1)}$  ;  $a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)}$  ;  $l$   
else halt
```

$s, t ::= \text{halt} \mid a; s \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d \mid \text{fix } l. s \mid l = s; t \mid l$

Construct for non-recursive blocks helps to linearize conditionals  
(omittable)

## Example (p)

```

if  $b_{x < 0}$  then  $a_{(x ::= -x)}$  else  $a_{\text{SKIP}}$  ;
while  $b_{n > 1}$  do
     $a_{(n ::= n-1)}$  ;
     $a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)}$ 

```

## Example

```

 $k = \text{fix } l. \text{if } b_{n > 1} \text{ then } a_{(n ::= n-1)} ; a_{(x ::= x \cdot x)} ; l$ 
    else halt ;
if  $b_{x < 0}$  then  $a_{(x ::= -x)}$  ;  $k$  else  $k$ 

```

## Weakest Precondition Semantics

$$\frac{Q(\sigma)}{\text{WP halt } \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{a \sigma = \tau \quad \text{WP } s \sigma Q}{\text{WP } (a; s) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{b \sigma = \text{true} \quad \text{WP } s \sigma Q}{\text{WP (if } b \text{ then } s \text{ else } t) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{b \sigma = \text{false} \quad \text{WP } t \sigma Q}{\text{WP (if } b \text{ then } s \text{ else } t) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{\text{WP } s_{\text{fix } x. s}^x \sigma Q}{\text{WP (fix } x. s) \sigma Q}$$

$$\frac{\text{WP } t_s^x \sigma Q}{\text{WP } (x = s; t) \sigma Q}$$

- At most one recursive premise per rule
- No interpolants are needed
- Substitution semantics for fix and remember makes it unnecessary to keep track of introduced blocks

# Compiler

- Problem: IMP-commands cannot be translated isolatedly as there is no sequence operator in LIMP to compose them

## Example

$\mathcal{C}(a_1) \rightsquigarrow a_1; \text{halt}$      $\mathcal{C}(a_2) \rightsquigarrow a_2; \text{halt}$      $\mathcal{C}(a_1 ; a_2) \rightsquigarrow?$

- Solution: Translation of IMP-commands with respect to a continuation

$\mathcal{C}(\_, \_) : \text{IMP} \rightarrow \text{LIMP} \rightarrow \text{LIMP}$

$\mathcal{C}(a, s) = a ; s$

$\mathcal{C}(c ; d, s) = \mathcal{C}(c, \mathcal{C}(d, s))$

$\mathcal{C}(\text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d, s) = x = s ; \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, x) \text{ else } \mathcal{C}(d, x) \quad x \text{ fresh}$

$\mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, s) = \text{fix } x. \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, x) \text{ else } s \quad x \text{ fresh}$

## Compiler in practice

- More convenient to use De Bruijn indices instead of names
- Makes it unnecessary to carry a counter as third argument

$s, t ::= \text{halt} \mid a; s \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d \mid \text{fix } s \mid \text{rem } s; t \mid /$

$\mathcal{C}(\_, \_) : \text{IMP} \rightarrow \text{LIMP} \rightarrow \text{LIMP}$

$\mathcal{C}(a, s) = a; s$

$\mathcal{C}(c; d, s) = \mathcal{C}(c, \mathcal{C}(d, s))$

$\mathcal{C}(\text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d, s) = \text{rem } s; \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, 0) \text{ else } \mathcal{C}(d, 0)$

$\mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, s) = \text{fix if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, 0) \text{ else } s \uparrow^1$

shift-operation  $s \uparrow^1$  increases indices in  $s$  by 1 and prevents missreferencing



## Compiler Correctness

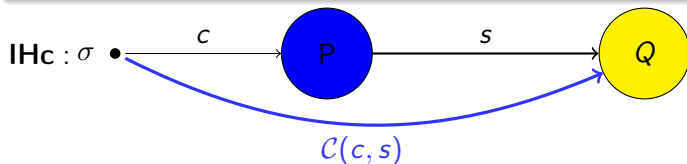
Goal: show correspondence of IMP-command  $c$  and LIMP-command  $\mathcal{C}(c, \text{halt})$  with respect to weakest precondition semantics:

$$\text{WP } c \sigma Q \leftrightarrow \text{WP } \mathcal{C}(c, \text{halt}) \sigma Q$$

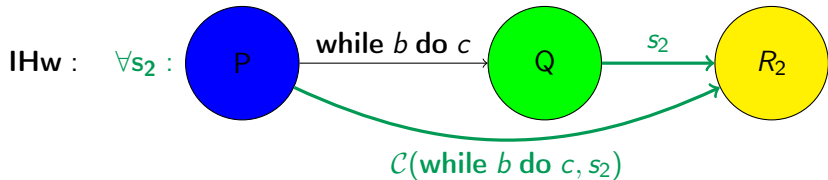
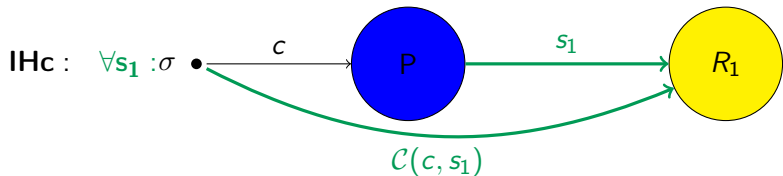
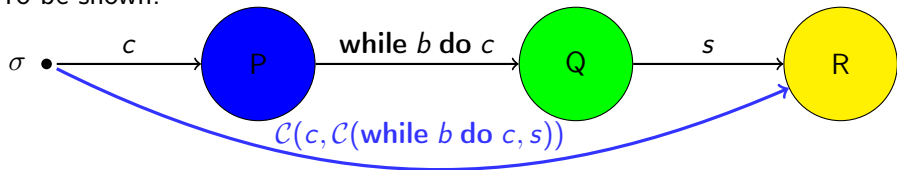
If-part:

- Generalization of the lemma for arbitrary continuations
- Effect of the continuation has to be taken into account
- Idea:  $\mathcal{C}(c, s)$  first executes  $c$  and then continues with  $s$

$$\text{WP } c \sigma P \rightarrow (\forall \sigma. P(\sigma) \rightarrow \text{WP } s \sigma Q) \rightarrow \text{WP } \mathcal{C}(c, s) \sigma Q$$



To be shown:



# Compiler Correctness

$$b \sigma = \text{true} \rightarrow \\ \text{WP} (\mathcal{C}(c, \mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, s))) \sigma R \leftrightarrow \text{WP} (\mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, s)) \sigma R$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{WP} (\mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, s)) \sigma R \\ \xleftrightarrow{\text{Def.C}} & \text{WP} (\text{fix } x. \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, x) \text{ else } s) \sigma R \\ \xleftrightarrow{\text{subst.}} & \text{WP} (\text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, \text{fix } x. \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, x) \text{ else } s) \text{ else } s) \sigma R \\ \xleftrightarrow{b \sigma = \text{true}} & \text{WP} (\mathcal{C}(c, \text{fix } x. \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, s) \text{ else } s)) \sigma R \\ \xleftrightarrow{\text{Def.C}} & \text{WP} (\mathcal{C}(c, \mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } s, s))) \sigma R \end{aligned}$$

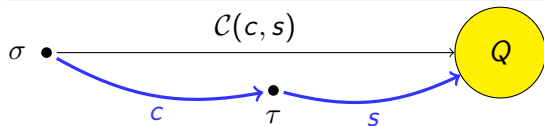
Substitution Lemma

$$\mathcal{C}(c, s)_t^x = \mathcal{C}(c, s_t^x)$$

# Compiler Correctness

Idea: split up the execution of  $\mathcal{C}(c, s)$  into the executions of  $c$  and  $s$

$$\text{WP } \mathcal{C}(c, s) \sigma Q \rightarrow \exists \tau, \text{WP } c \sigma (\tau) \wedge \text{WP } s \tau Q$$



Proof by induction on  $c$ .

Problem: Inductive hypothesis in the while-true-case too weak.

# Outlook

- Adding system calls to IMP and LIMP
  - ▶ Weakest Precondition Semantics with traces
  - ▶ Allows to compare non-terminating programs
- Weakest Precondition Semantics for functional IL

## 5 Appendix

## Step-indexed Semantics

$$\text{SI} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{IMP} \rightarrow \Sigma \rightarrow \text{option } \sigma$$
$$\text{SI } 0 \text{ } c \text{ } \sigma = \perp$$
$$\text{SI } n \text{ } (a) \text{ } \sigma = \lceil a \sigma \rceil$$
$$\text{SI } n \text{ } (c ; d) \text{ } \sigma = \text{SI}' (n - 1) \text{ } d \text{ } (\text{SI } (n - 1) \text{ } c \text{ } \sigma)$$
$$\text{SI } n \text{ } (\text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } d) \text{ } \sigma = \text{if } (b \sigma) \text{ then } \text{SI } (n - 1) \text{ } c \text{ } \sigma \text{ else } \text{SI } (n - 1) \text{ } d \text{ } \sigma$$
$$\text{SI } n \text{ } (\text{while } b \text{ do } c) \text{ } \sigma = \text{if } (b \sigma) \text{ then}$$
$$\text{SI}' (n - 1) \text{ } (\text{while } b \text{ do } c) \text{ } (\text{SI } (n - 1) \text{ } c \text{ } \sigma) \\ \text{else } \lceil \sigma \rceil$$
$$\text{SI}' : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{IMP} \rightarrow \text{option } \Sigma \rightarrow \text{option } \Sigma$$
$$\text{SI}' \text{ } n \text{ } c \text{ } \lceil \sigma \rceil = \text{SI } n \text{ } c \text{ } \sigma$$
$$\text{SI}' \text{ } n \text{ } c \text{ } \perp = \perp$$

## Nested While-loop

### Example

$\mathcal{C}(\text{while } b_1 \text{ do } (\text{while } b_2 \text{ do } a), \text{halt})$   
=  $\text{fix } (\text{if } b_1 \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(\text{while } b_2 \text{ do } a, 0) \text{ else } \text{halt } \uparrow^1)$   
=  $\text{fix } (\text{if } b_1 \text{ then } \text{fix } (\text{if } b_2 \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(a, 0) \text{ else } 0 \uparrow^1) \text{ else } \text{halt})$   
=  $\text{fix } (\text{if } b_1 \text{ then } \text{fix } (\text{if } b_2 \text{ then } a ; 0 \text{ else } 1) \text{ else } \text{halt})$



## Compiler Correctness

- Idea: split up the execution of  $\mathcal{C}(c, s)$  in the execution of  $c$  and  $s$
- $\tau$  denotes the state after the execution of  $c$  in  $\sigma$

$$\text{WP } \mathcal{C}(c, s) \sigma Q \rightarrow \exists \tau, \text{WP } c \sigma (\tau) \wedge \text{WP } s \tau Q$$

- we try to prove by induction on  $c$ , but fail in the while-case:

$$\text{IH}_c : \text{WP } \mathcal{C}(c, s) \sigma Q \rightarrow \exists \tau, \text{WP } c \sigma (\tau) \wedge \text{WP } s \tau Q$$

$$\mathbf{A} : \text{WP } (\text{fix } x. \text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, x) \text{ else } s) \sigma Q$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{subst.}} \text{WP } (\text{if } b \text{ then } \mathcal{C}(c, \mathcal{C}(\text{while } b \text{ do } c, s)) \text{ else } s) \sigma Q$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{IH}_c} \exists \tau, \text{WP } c \sigma \tau \wedge \text{WP } \mathcal{C}(\text{while } c \text{ do } d, s) \tau Q$$

⚡ *Inductive hypothesis for while would be needed*

- Solution: Introduction a new step-indexed predicate for WP that keeps track of the number of substitutions in the fix-case
- Nested induction on the substitution depth in the while-case

# Compiler Correctness

$$WP\ c\ \sigma\ P \rightarrow (\forall\sigma.P(\sigma) \rightarrow WP\ s\ \sigma\ Q) \rightarrow WP\ \mathcal{C}(c, s)\ \sigma\ Q$$

Proof by induction on  $WP\ c\ \sigma\ P$ :

Proof.

Case: **while**  $b$  **do**  $c$  (true):

$$\mathbf{A}_1 : WP\ c\ \sigma\ P \quad \mathbf{A}_2 : WP\ (\mathbf{while}\ b\ \mathbf{do}\ c)\ P\ Q \quad \mathbf{A}_3 : WP\ s\ Q\ R$$

$$\mathbf{IH}_c : WP\ s'\ P\ Q' \rightarrow WP\ (\mathcal{C}(c, s'))\ \sigma\ Q'$$

$$\mathbf{IH}_w : WP\ s'\ Q\ Q' \rightarrow WP\ (\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{while}\ b\ \mathbf{do}\ c, s'))\ P\ Q'$$

$$\mathbf{A}_3 : WP\ s\ Q\ R$$

$$\xRightarrow{\mathbf{IH}_w} WP\ (\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{while}\ b\ \mathbf{do}\ c, s))\ P\ R$$

$$\xRightarrow{\mathbf{IH}_c} WP\ (\mathcal{C}(c, \mathcal{C}(\mathbf{while}\ b\ \mathbf{do}\ c, s)))\ \sigma\ R$$

