CS:5810 Formal Methods in Software Engineering

Reasoning about Programs with Objects in Dafny

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Checksums

An *object* is an instance of a *class*, and like arrays, have a *reference type*.

```
class ChecksumMachine {
   var data: string
                                     string is shorthand
   constructor ()
                                     for seq<char>
      ensures data == ""
   method Append(d: string)
      modifies this
      ensures data == old(data) + d
   function method Checksum(): int
      reads this
      ensures Checksum() == Hash(data)
```

Checksums

```
function method Hash(s: string): int {
   SumChars(s) % 137
function method SumChars(s: string): int {
   if |s| == 0 then 0 else
      var last := |s| - 1;
      SumChars(s[..last]) + s[last] as int
                              converts char to int
```

Test client

```
method Main() {
   var m := new ChecksumMachine();
   m.Append("green");
   m.Append("grass");
   var c := m.Checksum();
   print "Checksum is ", c, "\n";
}
```

A method is allowed to allocate new arrays and objects and change their state (that is, the elements of the arrays and the fields of the objects) without mentioning these arrays and objects in the modifies clause

Invariant

To write efficient implementation, want to keep track of checksum so far:

```
var cs: int
```

We want to use data in specifications, but not in compiled program:

If a function accesses the fields of an object o, its specification must include reads o

Invariant

```
class ChecksumMachine {
   ghost var data: string
   predicate Valid()
       reads this
   constructor ()
      ensures Valid() && data == ""
   method Append(d: string)
       requires Valid()
       modifies this
      ensures Valid() && data == old(data) + d
   function method Checksum(): int
       requires Valid()
       reads this
      ensures Checksum() == Hash(data) }
```

Implementation

```
constructor ()
  ensures Valid() && data == ""
{ data, cs := "", 0; }
```

A constructor is allowed to assign to the fields of the object being constructed, this, without mentioning this in the modifies clause

```
function method Checksum(): int
    requires Valid()
    reads this
    ensures CheckSum() == Hash(data)
{ cs }
```

Implementation

```
method Append(d: string)
    requires Valid()
    modifies this
    ensures Valid() && data == old(data) + d
    var i := 0;
    while i != |d|
        invariant 0 <= i <= |d|
        invariant Valid()
        invariant data == old(data) + d[..i]
        cs := (cs + d[i] as int) \% 137;
        data := data + [d[i]];
        i := i + 1;
```

Coffee maker components

```
class Grinder {
   var HasBeans: bool
   predicate Valid()
      reads this
   constructor ()
      ensures Valid()
   method AddBeans()
      requires Valid()
      modifies this
      ensures Valid() && HasBeans
   method Grind()
      requires Valid() && HasBeans
      modifies this
      ensures Valid() }
```

Coffee maker components

```
class WaterTank {
  var Level: nat
  predicate Valid()
      reads this
  constructor ()
      ensures Valid()
  method Fill()
      requires Valid()
      modifies this
      ensures Valid() && Level == 10
  method Use()
      requires Valid() && Level != 0
      modifies this
      ensures Valid() && Level == old(Level) - 1 }
```

Coffee maker components

```
class WaterTank {
  var Level: nat
                              class Cup {
  predicate Valid()
      reads this
                                  constructor ()
  constructor ()
      ensures Valid()
  method Fill()
      requires Valid()
      modifies this
      ensures Valid() && Level == 10
  method Use()
      requires Valid() && Level != 0
      modifies this
      ensures Valid() && Level == old(Level) - 1 }
```

```
class CoffeeMaker {
  predicate Valid() reads this
  constructor () ensures Valid()
  predicate method Ready()
     requires Valid()
     reads this
  method Restock()
     requires Valid()
     modifies this
     ensures Valid() && Ready()
  method Dispense(double: bool) returns (c: Cup)
     requires Valid() && Ready()
     modifies this
     ensures Valid()
```

State:

var g: Grinder

var w: WaterTank

```
State:
   var g: Grinder
   var w: WaterTank
   predicate Valid()
      reads this
   { g.Valid() && w.Valid() } // error: insufficient reads clause
Require:
    predicate Valid()
```

Similar change also needed for reads of Ready() and modifies clauses of Restock and Dispense.

reads this, g, w

Representation sets

The expanded modifies and reads clauses violate the principles of information hiding.

Therefore, we abstract the state of an object to a representation set.

For this implementation of the coffee maker, the representation set is

{o, o.g, o.w}

but the coffee maker may also be implemented in terms of different objects.

Add new variable to state:

ghost var Repr: set<object>

Change modifies clauses of Restock and Dispense to modifies Repr

Change read clauses of Valid and Ready to reads Repr

Add the following to the body of Valid

this in Repr && g in Repr && g.Valid() && w in Repr && w.Valid() Typically specify lower bound on objects in Repr.

```
In Valid: reads Repr // error: insufficient reads clause
```

This is because this is not in Repr unless Valid's predicate holds (and Valid may return true or false).

```
We require:

predicate Valid()

reads this, Repr

{

this in Repr &&

g in Repr && g.Valid() &&

w in Repr && w.Valid()

}
```

Class implementation

```
constructor ()
   ensures Valid()
   g := new Grinder();
   w := new WaterTank();
   Repr := {this, g, w};
predicate method Ready()
   requires Valid()
   reads Repr
   g.HasBeans && 2 <= w.Level
```

Class implementation

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && Ready()
{ g.AddBeans(); w.Fill(); }
method Dispense(double: bool) returns (c: Cup)
   requires Valid() && Ready()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid()
   g.Grind();
   if double { w.Use(); w.Use(); } else { w.Use(); }
   c := new Cup(); }
```

Test harness

```
method CoffeeTestHarness() {
   var cm := new CoffeeMaker();
   cm.Restock(); // modifies clause violated
   var c := cm.Dispense(true); // modifies clause violated }
```

The test harness has no modifies clause and so is only allowed to modify the fields of fresh objects.

Our specification of the coffee maker didn't specify that created objects were fresh.

Add to constructor: ensures fresh(Repr)

This removes error with Restock, but not Dispense.

Add to Restock and Dispense:

ensures Repr == old(Repr)

Alternatively, make Repr *immutable* by declaring it as ghost const Repr: set<object>

Changing Repr

What if implementation needs to change Repr, e.g., a method of the coffee maker needs to change the grinder?

Third (and preferred) alternative for ensures clauses of methods which mutate Repr:

ensures fresh(Repr - old(Repr))

That is, any new objects added to Repr are fresh.

Less common situations

```
method ChangeGrinder()
    requires Valid()
    modifies Repr
    ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr))
{
        g := new Grinder();
        Repr := Repr + {g};
}
```

Old grinder is still in Repr, but is no longer referenced.

The run-time system will eventually reclaim the storage for this object.

Less common situations

```
method InstallCustomGrinder(grinder: Grinder)
    requires Valid() && grinder.Valid()
    modifies Repr
    ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr) - {grinder})
{
    g := grinder;
    Repr := Repr + {g};
}
```

Less common situations

```
method InstallCustomGrinder(grinder: Grinder)
    requires Valid() && grinder.Valid()
    modifies Repr
    ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr) - {grinder})
{
    g := grinder;
    Repr := Repr + {g};
}
```

Since Repr can dynamically change, this approach to specification is referred to as *dynamic frames*.

Dafny is a permutation of certain letters in Dynamic frames.

Grinder as an aggregate

```
class Grinder {
   var HasBeans: bool
   ghost var Repr: set<object>
   predicate Valid() reads this, Repr
   constructor () ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr)
   method AddBeans()
      requires Valid()
      modifies Repr
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && HasBeans
   method Grind()
      requires Valid() && HasBeans
      modifies Repr
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr))
```

WaterTank as an aggregate

```
class WaterTank {
  var Level: nat
  ghost var Repr: set<object>
  predicate Valid() reads this, Repr
  constructor () ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr)
  method Fill()
      requires Valid()
      modifies Repr
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Level == 10
  method Use()
      requires Valid() && Level != 0
      modifies Repr
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr))
                       && Level == old(Level) - 1 }
```

Coffee Maker

```
Invariant (in Valid):
   this in Repr &&
   g in Repr && g.Repr <= Repr && g.Valid() &&
   w in Repr && w.Repr <= Repr && w.Valid()
Constructor:
   constructor ()
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr)
      g := new Grinder();
      w := new WaterTank();
      Repr := \{this, g, w\} + g.Repr + w.Repr;
   } // illegal first-phase use of fields
```

Constructor

First phase set objects fields and define immutable values

- objects are still being constructed
- so, this.g.Repr is not allowed for example

```
Avoid use of uninitialised fields:

var gg := new Grinder();

var ww := new WaterTank();

g, w := gg, ww;

Repr := {this, g, w} + gg.Repr + ww.Repr;
```

Update Repr in second phase:

```
g := new Grinder(); w := new WaterTank();
new;
Repr := {this, g, w} + g.Repr + w.Repr;
```

```
method Restock()
    requires Valid()
    modifies Repr
    ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
{
     g.AddBeans();
     w.Fill(); // precondition violation; modifies violation
} // postcondition violation
```

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
   g.AddBeans();
   assert w.Valid(); // assertion violation
   w.Fill(); // modifies violation
                                       Precondition of
} // postcondition violation
                                       w.Fill() not violated
                                       if w.Valid() holds.
```

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
                            Call to AddBeans
   assert w.Valid();
                            affects w.Valid().
   g.AddBeans();
   assert w.Valid(); // assertion violation
   w.Fill(); // modifies violation
} // postcondition violation
```

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
                           Call to AddBeans
   assert w.Valid();
                           affects w.Valid().
   g.AddBeans();
   assert w.Valid(); // assertion violation
   w.Fill(); // modifies violation
} // postcondition violation
 g.AddBeans only modifies g.Repr, and w.Valid only reads
 w.Repr. So this suggests there is an overlap between
```

g.Repr and w.Repr.

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
   assert w.Valid();
   assert g.Repr!! w.Repr; // assertion violation
   g.AddBeans();
   assert w.Valid(); // assertion violation
   w.Fill(); // modifies violation
} // postcondition violation
```

!! says its argument sets are disjoint.

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
   assert this !in g.Repr; // assertion violation
   assert g in g.Repr; // assertion violation
   assert w !in g.Repr; // assertion violation
   assert w.Valid();
   assert g.Repr!! w.Repr; // assertion violation
   g.AddBeans();
   assert w.Valid(); // assertion violation
   w.Fill(); // modifies violation
} // postcondition violation
```

Coffee Maker invariant

```
Valid:
    this in Repr &&
    g in Repr && g.Repr <= Repr &&
    this !in g.Repr && g.Valid() &&
    w in Repr && w.Repr <= Repr &&
    this !in w.Repr && w.Valid() && g.Repr !! w.Repr</pre>
```

If body of Valid() is hidden from clients then they can't see this in Repr. Hence, update postcondition of *all* validity predicates as below.

```
predicate Valid()
    reads this, Repr
    ensures Valid() ==> this in Repr
```

Back to Restock

```
method Restock()
    requires Valid()
    modifies Repr
    ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
{
     g.AddBeans();
     w.Fill();
} // postcondition violation
```

Calls to AddBeans and Fill may expand g.Repr and w.Repr.

Back to Restock

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
   g.AddBeans();
   w.Fill();
   Repr := Repr + g.Repr + w.Repr;
```

Back to Restock

```
method Restock()
   requires Valid()
   modifies Repr
   ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr)) && Ready()
   g.AddBeans();
   w.Fill();
   Repr := Repr + g.Repr + w.Repr;
```

The work we did on the relationships between frames holds for Dispense too. Just need to add Repr := Repr + g.Repr + w.Repr; to Dispense for it to verify.

Summary

```
Representation set:
   ghost var Repr: set<object>
Invariant:
   predicate Valid()
      reads this, Repr
                                         a, a0, a1 are objects
      ensures Valid() ==> this in Repr
                                         with simple frames
  { this in Repr && ... }
                                         b, b0, b1 are objects
  a in Repr && a.Valid()
  b in Repr && b.Repr <= Repr && this !in b.Repr && b.Valid()
  a0 != a1 &&
  {a0, a1} !! b0.Repr !! b1.Repr
```

Summary

```
Constructor:
   constructor ()
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr)
   { ... new; Repr := {this, a, b} + b.Repr; }
Functions:
   function F(x: X): Y
      requires Valid()
      reads Repr
(Mutating) method:
   method M(x: X) returns (y: Y)
      requires Valid()
      modifies Repr
      ensures Valid() && fresh(Repr - old(Repr))
```