CS:5810 Formal Methods in Software Engineering

Reasoning about Programs with Arrays in Dafny

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Arrays are references

Arrays are references

```
Type of a is
var a := new string[20];
a[7] := "hello";
                                 array<string>
var b := a;
assert b[7] == "hello";
b[7] := "hi";
a[8] := "greetings";
assert a[7] == "hi" && b[8] == "greetings";
b := new string[8];
b[7] := "long time, no see";
assert a[7] == "hi";
assert a.Length == 20 && b.Length == 8;
```

Multi-dimensional arrays

Sequences

Arrays are mutable and are reference types

Sequences are immutable and are value types, like bool and int

To declare a sequence we use type constructor seq, e.g., seq<bool>, seq<int>

Examples:

Sequences

```
var s := [6, 28, 496];
assert s[2] == 496;
assert |s| == 3; // length function
assert s + [8128] == [6, 28, 496, 8128];
var p := [1, 5, 12, 22, 35]
assert p[2..4] == [12, 22];
assert p[..2] == [1, 5];
assert p[2..] == [12, 22, 35];
a := new int[3];
a[0], a[1], a[2] := 6, 28, 496;
s, p := a[..], a[..2];
assert s == [6, 28, 496] \&\& p == [6, 28];
```

```
method LinearSearch<T>(a: array<T>, P: T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length
  ensures n == a.Length | P(a[n])</pre>
Predicate on T
```

```
method LinearSearch<T>(a: array<T>, P: T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length
  ensures n == a.Length || P(a[n])
{
  n := 0;
  while n != a.Length
   invariant 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
```

```
method LinearSearch<T>(a: array<T>, P: T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length
  ensures n == a.Length | P(a[n])
 n := 0;
  while n != a.Length
    invariant 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
    if P(a[n])
      { return; } return jumps to end of
    n := n + 1; method, and we need to
                     prove the postcondition
```

Alternative implementation

```
method LinearSearch1<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length
  ensures n == a.Length || P(a[n])
{
  n := a.Length;
}</pre>
```

Alternative implementation

```
method LinearSearch1<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length
  ensures n == a.Length || P(a[n])
{
  n := a.Length;
}</pre>
```

To specify that no elements satisfy P, when n == a.Length we need to quantify over the elements of a.

We can achieve the same effect by quantifying over the array positions instead:

```
forall i :: 0 <= i < a.Length ==> !P(a[i])
```

Strengthening the contract

```
method LinearSearch1<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
  ensures n == a.Length  P(a[n])
  ensures n == a.Length ==>
             forall i :: 0 <= i < a.Length ==> !P(a[i])
                    can leave off i's type
                    since it can be inferred
```

Strengthening the contract

```
method LinearSearch1<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
  ensures n == a.Length | P(a[n])
  ensures n == a.Length ==>
             forall i :: 0 <= i < a.Length ==> !P(a[i])
We use the "replace a constant by a variable"
loop design technique 6.1:
  invariant forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> !P(a[i])
```

```
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n + 1 ==> ! P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i]) }
```

```
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n || i == n ==> !P(a[i]) }
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n + 1 ==> ! P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i]) }
```

```
forall x :: A | B ==> C
   = (forall x :: A ==> C) && (forall x :: B ==> C)
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i])) &&
  (forall i :: i == n ==> ! P(a[i]))
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n || i == n ==> !P(a[i]) }
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n + 1 ==> ! P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i]) }
```

```
(forall x :: x == E ==> A) = A[x\E] (one-point rule)
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> !P(a[i])) && !P(a[n]) }
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i])) &&
  (forall i :: i == n ==> ! P(a[i]))
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n || i == n ==> !P(a[i]) }
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n + 1 ==> ! P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i]) }
```

```
holds due to invariant
```

```
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> !P(a[i])) && !P(a[n]) }
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i])) &&
        (forall i :: i == n ==> ! P(a[i]))
}
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n || i == n ==> !P(a[i]) }
forall i :: 0 <= i < n + 1 ==> ! P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i]) }
```

holds after if (P(a[n])) { return; }

```
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> !P(a[i])) && !P(a[n]) }
{ (forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i])) &&
        (forall i :: i == n ==> ! P(a[i]))
}
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n || i == n ==> !P(a[i]) }
forall i :: 0 <= i < n + 1 ==> ! P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
{ forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> ! P(a[i]) }
```

Loop body for LinearSearch works here

Full program

```
method LinearSearch1<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
  ensures n == a.Length | P(a[n])
  ensures n == a.Length ==>
            forall i :: 0 <= i < a.Length ==> !P(a[i])
  n := 0;
  while n != a.Length
    invariant 0 <= n <= a.Length</pre>
    invariant forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> !P(a[i])
    if P(a[n]) { return; }
    n := n + 1;
```

Finding the first element

```
method LinearSearch2<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  ensures 0 <= n <= a.Length
  ensures n == a.Length || P(a[n])
  ensures forall i :: 0 <= i < n ==> !P(a[i])
```

The second and third postconditions imply that n is the *smallest index* such that a[n] satisfies P

The loop specification and body of LinearSearch1 satisfy this contract too

Knowing it's there

If we can assume that at least one element of a satisfies P we can simplify the contract to

```
method LinearSearch3<T>(a: array<T>, P:T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  requires exists i :: 0 <= i < a.Length && P(a[i])
ensures 0 <= n < a.Length && P(a[n])</pre>
```

An invariant that says where to look

The element we are looking for is at index n or higher

```
invariant exists i ::
                n \leftarrow i \leftarrow a.Length \&\& P(a[i])
holds after
if (P(a[n])
                               holds due to invariant
  { return; }
                               on entry to loop
{ !P(a[n]) && exists i ::
                  n <= i < a.Length && P(a[i]) }</pre>
{ exists i :: n + 1 <= i < a.Length && P(a[i]) }
n := n + 1;
{ exists i :: n <= i < a.Length && P(a[i]) }
```

Implementation of LinearSearch3

```
method LinearSearch3<T>(a: array<T>, P: T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
  requires exists i :: 0 <= i < a.Length && P(a[i])
  ensures 0 <= n < a.Length && P(a[n])
  n := 0;
                                             simplified since n never
  while true ◀
                                             reaches a. Length
    invariant 0 <= n < a.Length <</pre>
    invariant exists i :: n <= i < a.Length && P(a[i])</pre>
    decreases a.Length - n
    if P(a[n]) { return; }
    n := n + 1;
```

Exercises

1. Write a linear-search specification for the method

```
method LinearSearch4<T>(a: array<T>, P: T -> bool)
returns (n: int)
```

that always returns a value strictly less than a.Length and uses a negative value (instead of a.Length) to signal that no element satisfies P.

Implement the specification.