

# Array Element Assignments

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### A. Why?

- Array assignments aren't like assignments to plain variables because the actual item to change can't be determined until runtime. We can handle this by extending our notion of assignment and/or substitution.

### B. Outcomes

After this class, you should

- Know how to perform textual substitution to replace an array element.
- Know how to calculate the  $wp$  of an array element assignment.

### C. Array Element Assignments

- An array assignment  $b[e_0] := e_1$  (where  $e_0$  and  $e_1$  are expressions) is different from a plain variable assignment because the exact element being changed may not be known at program annotation time. E.g., compare these two triples:
  - **Valid:**  $\{T\} x := y; y := y + 1 \{x < y\}$
  - **Invalid:**  $\{T\} b[k] := b[j]; b[j] := b[j] + 1 \{b[k] < b[j]\}$
- The problem is what happens if  $k = j$  at runtime: What is  $wp(b[j] := b[j] + 1, b[k] < b[j])$ ?
- The answer should be something like "If  $k \neq j$  then  $b[k] < b[j] + 1$  else  $b[j] + 1 < b[j] + 1$ ". (Note the else clause is false.)
- There are two alternatives for handling array assignments. The one we'll use involves defining the  $wp$  of an array assignment using an extended notion of textual substitution:
 
$$wp(b[e_0] := e_1, p) \equiv p[e_1 / b[e_0]] \text{ and } \{p[e_1 / b[e_0]]\} b[e_0] := e_1 \{p\}$$
- Of course, we need to figure out what syntactic substitution for an array indexing expression means:  $(predicate)[expression / b[e_0]]$
- Side note: The other way to handle array assignments, the Dijkstra / Gries technique, is to introduce a new kind of expression and view the array assignment  $b[e_0] := e_1$  as short for  $b :=$  this new kind of expression.

### D. Substitution for Array Elements

- We'll need to substitute into expressions and predicates. We'll tackle expressions first; below.

- If  $b$  and  $d$  are different arrays, then a substitution like  $(b[m])[6/d[2]]$  should simply  $\equiv b[m]$ . The situation can be more complicated: The substitution  $(b[e])[6/d[2]]$  has to recursively look for substitutions to do inside  $e$ .
  - $(b[e_2])[e_0/d[e_1]] \equiv b[e_2']$  where  $e_2' \equiv (e_2)[e_0/d[e_1]]$ . [2023-04-03]
- When the the array names match, as in  $(b[k])[e_0/b[e_1]]$ , we have to check the indexes  $k$  and  $e_0$  for equality at runtime; to do that, we can use a conditional expression.
- **Definition (Substitution for an Array Element) — Simpler situation**
  - At runtime, if  $k = e_1$ , then  $(b[k])[e_0/b[e_1]] = e_0$ . If  $k \neq e_1$ , then  $(b[k])[e_0/b[e_1]] = b[k]$ . (The sense of “=” here is that the two expressions evaluate to the same value.)
    - Textually,  $(b[k])[e_0/b[e_1]] \equiv \text{if } k = e_1 \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi}$ .
- **Example 1:**  $(b[k])[5/b[0]] \equiv (\text{if } k = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi})$ .
- **Example 2:**  $(b[k])[e_0/b[j]] \equiv (\text{if } k = j \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi})$ .
- **Example 3:**  $(b[k])[b[j] + 1/b[j]] \equiv (\text{if } k = j \text{ then } b[j] + 1 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi})$ .
  - Note: In  $(b[k])[e_0/b[e_1]]$ , we don't substitute into  $e_0$ , even if it involves  $b$ .
- **Example 4:**  $(b[k])[b[i]/b[j]] \equiv (\text{if } k = j \text{ then } b[i] \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi})$ .

### The General Case for Array Element Substitution

- When  $e_2$  is not just a simple variable or constant, then in  $(b[e_2])[e_0/b[e_1]]$ , we have to check  $e_2$  for uses of  $b[...]$  and substitute for them also.
- **Definition (Substitution for an Array Element) — General Case**

$$(b[e_2])[e_0/b[e_1]] \equiv \text{if } e_2' = e_1 \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[e_2'] \text{ fi}$$
 where  $e_2' \equiv (e_2)[e_0/b[e_1]]$ .
- This subsumes the earlier case, since if  $e_2 \equiv k$  then  $e_2' \equiv k[e_0/b[e_1]] \equiv k$ . We get
 
$$(b[k])[e_0/b[e_1]] \equiv \text{if } k = e_1 \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi}$$

### Example 5

- Consider  $(b[b[k]])[5/b[0]]$  — how should it behave? The inner, nested  $b[k]$  should behave like 5 if  $k = 0$ , otherwise it should behave like  $b[k]$  as usual. The outer  $b[...]$  should behave like 5 if its index behaves like 0, otherwise it should behave as  $b[...]$ .
- Following the definition above, we get
 
$$(b[b[k]])[5/b[0]] \equiv \text{if } e_2' = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[e_2'] \text{ fi}$$
 where  $e_2' \equiv (b[k])[5/b[0]] \equiv (\text{if } k = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi})$
- Substituting the (textual) value of  $e_2'$  gives us
 
$$(b[b[k]])[5/b[0]] \equiv \text{if } (\text{if } k = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi}) = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[\text{if } k = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi}] \text{ fi}$$
- After optimization, this is equivalent to  $\text{if } k = 0 \text{ then } b[5] \text{ else if } b[k] = 0 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else } b[b[k]] \text{ fi fi}$ .

## E. Optimization of Static Cases

- Because  $e[b[e_1]]$  can result in a complicated piece of text, it can be useful to shorten it using various optimizations, similarly to how compilers can optimize code.
- All the optimizations below are intended to be done “statically” (at compile time) — we inspect the text of an expression before the code ever runs.
- For the easiest examples, if we know whether or not  $k = e_1$ , the index of  $b$  we're looking for, then we can optimize **if**  $k = e_0$  **then**  $e_1$  **else**  $e_2$  **fi** to just the true branch or the false branch.
- **Notation:**  $e_1 \mapsto e_2$  (“ $e_1$  optimizes to  $e_2$ ”) means we can replace expression  $e_1$  with  $e_2$ .

### General Principle (Static Optimizations)

- (Restricted case): For  $(b[k])[e_0 / b[e_1]]$ 
  - If<sup>1</sup>  $k = e_1$ , then  $(b[k])[e_0 / b[e_1]] \mapsto e_0$ .
  - If  $k \neq e_1$ , then  $(b[k])[e_0 / b[e_1]] \mapsto b[k]$ .
- (General case): For  $(b[e_2])[e_0 / b[e_1]]$ , let  $e_2' \equiv (e_2)[e_0 / b[e_1]]$ 
  - If  $e_2' = e_1$ , then  $(b[e_2])[e_0 / b[e_1]] \mapsto e_0$ .
  - If  $e_2' \neq e_1$ , then  $(b[e_2])[e_0 / b[e_1]] \mapsto b[k]$ .
- **Example 6:**  $(b[0])[e_1 / b[2]] \equiv \text{if } 0 = 2 \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } b[0] \text{ fi} \mapsto b[0]$ .
- **Example 7:**  $(b[2])[e_1 / b[2]] \equiv \text{if } 2 = 2 \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } b[2] \text{ fi} \mapsto e_1$ .
- **Example 8:**
  - $(b[0])[e_0 / b[1]] \equiv \text{if } 0 = 1 \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[0] \text{ fi} \mapsto b[0]$ .
  - $(b[1])[e_0 / b[1]] \equiv \text{if } 1 = 1 \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[1] \text{ fi} \mapsto e_0$ .
  - $(b[1])[3 / b[2]] \equiv \text{if } 1 = 2 \text{ then } 3 \text{ else } b[1] \text{ fi} \mapsto b[1]$ .
  - $(b[x])[e_0 / b[x]] \equiv \text{if } x = x \text{ then } e_0 \text{ else } b[x] \text{ fi} \mapsto e_0$ .

## F. Rules for Simplifying Conditional Expressions

- Let's identify some general rules for simplifying conditional expressions and predicates involving them. This will let us simplify calculation of  $wp$  for array assignments.
  - $(\text{if } T \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \mapsto e_1$ .
  - $(\text{if } F \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \mapsto e_2$ .
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } e \text{ else } e \text{ fi}) \mapsto e$ .
  - If  $(B \rightarrow e_1 = e_2)$ , then  $(\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \mapsto e_2$ .
  - If  $(\neg B \rightarrow e_1 = e_2)$ , then  $(\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \mapsto e_1$ .

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<sup>1</sup> The fuller version is “If we know that ... then ...  $\mapsto$  ...”

- Let  $\ominus$  be a unary operator or relation and  $\oplus$  be a binary operation or relation
  - $\ominus(\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \mapsto (\text{if } B \text{ then } \ominus e_1 \text{ else } \ominus e_2 \text{ fi})$
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \oplus e_3 \mapsto (\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \oplus e_3 \text{ else } e_2 \oplus e_3 \text{ fi})$
  - $b[\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}] \mapsto \text{if } B \text{ then } b[e_1] \text{ else } b[e_2] \text{ fi}$
  - For any function  $f(\dots)$ ,  $f(\text{if } B \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}) \mapsto \text{if } B \text{ then } f(e_1) \text{ else } f(e_2) \text{ fi}$
- If  $B$ ,  $B_1$ , and  $B_2$  are boolean expressions, then
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } B_1 \text{ else } F \text{ fi}) \Leftrightarrow (B \wedge B_1)$
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } F \text{ else } B_2 \text{ fi}) \Leftrightarrow (\neg B \wedge B_2)$
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } B_1 \text{ else } T \text{ fi}) \Leftrightarrow (B \rightarrow B_1) \Leftrightarrow (\neg B \vee B_1)$
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } T \text{ else } B_2 \text{ fi}) \Leftrightarrow (\neg B \rightarrow B_2) \Leftrightarrow (B \vee B_2)$
  - $(\text{if } B \text{ then } B_1 \text{ else } B_2 \text{ fi}) \Leftrightarrow ((B \rightarrow B_1) \wedge (\neg B \rightarrow B_2)) \Leftrightarrow ((B \wedge B_1) \vee (\neg B \wedge B_2)).$
- We can also do reordering of *if-else-if* chains. E.g.,
  - if*  $B_1$  *then*  $e_1$  *else if*  $B_2$  *then*  $e_2$  *else*  $e_3$  *fi* evaluates  $e_1$  if  $B_1$  (regardless of  $B_2$ ); it evaluates  $e_2$  if  $\neg B_1 \wedge B_2$ ; and it evaluates  $e_3$  if  $\neg B_1 \wedge \neg B_2$ .
  - So we (for example) swap  $e_2$  and  $e_3$  by changing the test slightly:
    - if*  $B_1$  *then*  $e_1$  *else if*  $B_2$  *then*  $e_2$  *else*  $e_3$  *fi*  
 $\mapsto \text{if } B_1 \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else if } \neg B_2 \text{ then } e_3 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi}$
    - or  
 $\mapsto \text{if } \neg B_1 \wedge B_2 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else if } B_1 \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_3 \text{ fi}$
    - and so on.
- Similarly, we can move an inner *if-else* from the true branch of an outer *if-else* to the false branch of the outer *if-else*, in order to make an *if-else-if* chain. For example,
  - if*  $B_1$  *then if*  $B_2$  *then*  $e_1$  *else*  $e_2$  *fi* *else*  $e_3$  *fi*  
 $\mapsto \text{if } \neg B_1 \text{ then } e_3 \text{ else if } B_2 \text{ then } e_1 \text{ else } e_2 \text{ fi fi}$

• **Example 9:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & wp(b[j] := b[j] + 1, b[k] < b[j]) \\
 & \equiv (b[k] < b[j])[b[j] + 1 / b[j]] \\
 & \equiv (b[k])[b[j] + 1 / b[j]] < (b[j])[b[j] + 1 / b[j]] \\
 & \equiv \text{if } k=j \text{ then } b[j] + 1 \text{ else } b[k] \text{ fi} < b[j] + 1 \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \text{if } k=j \text{ then } b[j] + 1 < b[j] + 1 \text{ else } b[k] < b[j] + 1 \text{ fi} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow \text{if } k=j \text{ then } F \text{ else } b[k] < b[j] + 1 \text{ fi} \\
 & \Leftrightarrow k \neq j \wedge b[k] < b[j] + 1
 \end{aligned}$$

This gives us the following correctness triple:

$$\{k \neq j \wedge b[k] < b[j] + 1\} b[j] := b[j] + 1 \{b[k] < b[j]\}$$

## G. Swapping Array Elements

- To illustrate the use of array references, let's look at the problem of swapping array elements.
- To swap simple variables  $x$  and  $y$  using a temporary variable  $u$ , we can use logical variables  $c$  and  $d$  and prove

$$\{x = c \wedge y = d\} u := x; x := y; y := u \{x = d \wedge y = c\}$$

- We can prove this program correct by expanding to a full proof outline; here we're using  $wp$ .

$$\{x = c \wedge y = d\}$$

$$\{y = d \wedge x = c\} u := x;$$

$$\{y = d \wedge u = c\} x := y;$$

$$\{x = d \wedge u = c\} y := u$$

$$\{x = d \wedge y = c\}$$

- **Example 10:** For swapping  $b[m]$  and  $b[n]$ , we want to prove

$$\{b[m] = c \wedge b[n] = d\} u := b[m]; b[m] := b[n]; b[n] := u \{b[m] = d \wedge b[n] = c\}$$

As with simple variables, we can prove this holds by using  $wp$  to expand to the full proof outline.

Let  $p \equiv b[m] = c \wedge b[n] = d$  and  $q \equiv b[m] = d \wedge b[n] = c$ , then we can prove

$$\{p\} \{q_3\} u := b[m]; \{q_2\} b[m] := b[n]; \{q_1\} b[n] := u \{q\}$$

by using

- $q_1 \equiv wp(b[n] := u, q) \equiv q[u / b[n]]$ ,
- $q_2 \equiv wp(b[m] := b[n], q_1) \equiv q_1[b[n] / b[m]]$
- $q_3 \equiv wp(u := b[m], q_2) \equiv q_2[b[m] / u]$
- (and hopefully)  $p \rightarrow q_3$

We'll do this in steps.

- $q_1 \equiv q[u / b[n]]$   
 $\equiv (b[m] = d \wedge b[n] = c)[u / b[n]]$   
 $\equiv (b[m] = d)[u / b[n]] \wedge (b[n] = c)[u / b[n]]$   
 $\equiv (b[m])[u / b[n]] = d \wedge (b[n])[u / b[n]] = c$   
 $\equiv (\text{if } m = n \text{ then } u \text{ else } b[m] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge u = c \quad // \text{ Stop here for a purely syntactic result}$
- $q_2 \equiv q_1[b[n] / b[m]]$   
 $\equiv ((\text{if } m = n \text{ then } u \text{ else } b[m] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge u = c)[b[n] / b[m]]$   
 $\equiv (\text{if } m = n \text{ then } u \text{ else } (b[m])[b[n] / b[m]] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge u = c$   
 $\equiv (\text{if } m = n \text{ then } u \text{ else } b[n] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge u = c$
- $q_3 \equiv q_2[b[m] / u]$   
 $\equiv ((\text{if } m = n \text{ then } u \text{ else } b[n] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge u = c)[b[m] / u]$   
 $\equiv (\text{if } m = n \text{ then } b[m] \text{ else } b[n] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge b[m] = c$   
 $// \text{ Continuing with logical manipulation}$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\text{if } m = n \text{ then } b[n] \text{ else } b[n] \text{ fi}) = d \wedge b[m] = c$$

// Because if  $m = n$  then  $b[m] = b[n]$

$$\Leftrightarrow b[n] = d \wedge b[m] = c.$$

- Since  $p \equiv b[m] = c \wedge b[n] = d$ , we get  $p \rightarrow q_3$ . (End of Example 10)