Differential Privacy Beyond Global Sensitivity - verification

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Differential privacy

Definition

Given $\varepsilon, \delta \ge 0$, a probabilistic query Q: Xⁿ \rightarrow R is (ε, δ)-differentially private iff for all adjacent database b₁, b₂ and for every S \subseteq R: Pr[Q(b₁) \in S] $\le \exp(\varepsilon)Pr[Q(b_2) \in S] + \delta$

(ε, δ) -Differential Privacy

This corresponds to a privacy loss of the form:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{M}}^{D \to D'}(r) = \ln \left(\frac{\Pr[\mathcal{M}(D) = r|E]}{\Pr[\mathcal{M}(D') = r|E']} \right)$$

The (ϵ, δ) -differential privacy requirement corresponds to requiring that for every r and every adjacent D, D' we have:

$$\Pr\left[\left|\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{M}}^{D \to D'}(r)\right| \le \epsilon\right] \ge 1 - \delta$$

Not exactly!

Bounding the moments

A random variable can be described using its moments.

$$\mu_n = \mathbb{E}[X^n]$$

Here we consider central moments. For instance, the first central moment is the mean, the second is the variance, the third is the skewness, etc.

Can we bound the moments of the privacy loss?

Moment generating function

The probability distribution of a random variable X can be described by its moment generating function:

$$\mathbf{m}_X(\alpha) = \mathbb{E}[e^{\alpha X}]$$

This function can be used to compute, or give upper bounds on the moments of the random variable X.

$$m_X(\alpha) = 1 + \alpha \mu_1 + \frac{\alpha^2 \mu_2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{\alpha^n \mu_n}{n!} + \dots$$

Can we do better than the global sensitivity?

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Global Sensitivity

Definition 1.8 (Global sensitivity). The global sensitivity of a function $q: \mathcal{X}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ is:

$$\Delta q = \max\left\{ |q(D) - q(D')| \mid D \sim_1 D' \in \mathcal{X}^n \right\}$$

Laplace Mechanism

Algorithm 2 Pseudo-code for the Laplace Mechanism

- 1: function LAPMECH (D, q, ϵ)
- 2: $Y \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \operatorname{Lap}(\frac{\Delta q}{\epsilon})(0)$
- 3: return q(D) + Y
- 4: end function



Laplace Mechanism

Accuracy Theorem: let $r = \text{LapMech}(D, q, \epsilon)$ $\Pr\left[|q(D) - r| \ge \left(\frac{\Delta q}{\epsilon}\right) \ln\left(\frac{1}{\beta}\right)\right] = \beta$

Local sensitivity

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Definition 1.14 (Local sensitivity). The *local sensitivity* of a function $q: \mathcal{X}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ at $D \in \mathcal{X}^n$ is:

 $\ell \Delta q(D) = \max\left\{ |q(D) - q(D')| \mid D \sim_1 D', D' \in \mathcal{X}^n \right\}$

Calibrating noise to the local sensitivity

We may add noise proportional to the local sensitivity (LS).

Unfortunately, this does not guarantee privacy.

Suppose that for a given D we have LS(D)=0 but that we also have $D\sim D'$ with $LS(D')=10^9$.

Calibrating noise to the local sensitivity

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Unfortunately, this does not guarantee privacy.

Suppose that for a given D we have LS(D)=0 but that we also have $D\sim D'$ with $LS(D')=10^9$.

We will see that we can do anyway better than GS.

Smooth Sensitivity

Definition 2.2 (Smooth sensitivity). For $\beta > 0$, the β -smooth sensitivity of f is

$$S_{f,\beta}^*(x) = \max_{y \in D^n} \left(LS_f(y) \cdot e^{-\beta d(x,y)} \right).$$

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith '06]

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Definition 2.1 (A Smooth Bound on *LS*). For $\beta > 0$, a function $S : D^n \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is a β -smooth upper bound on the local sensitivity of f if it satisfies the following requirements:

$$\forall x \in D^n : \qquad S(x) \ge LS_f(x) ; \tag{1}$$

$$\forall x, y \in D^n, d(x, y) = 1: \qquad S(x) \le e^\beta \cdot S(y) . \tag{2}$$

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith '06]

smooth sensitivity

Lemma 2.6. Let h be an (α, β) -admissible noise probability density function, and let Z be a fresh random variable sampled according to h. For a function $f: D^n \to \mathbb{R}^d$, let $S: D^n \to \mathbb{R}$ be a β -smooth upper bound on the local sensitivity of f. Then algorithm $\mathcal{A}(x) = f(x) + \frac{S(x)}{\alpha} \cdot Z$ is (ϵ, δ) -differentially private.

For two neighbor databases x and y, the output distribution $\mathcal{A}(y)$ is a shifted and scaled version of $\mathcal{A}(x)$. The sliding and dilation properties ensure that $\Pr[\mathcal{A}(x) \in S]$ and $\Pr[\mathcal{A}(y) \in S]$ are close for all sets S of outputs.



[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith '06]

Admissible Noise

Adding noise $O(SS_q^{\varepsilon}(x)/\varepsilon)$ (according to a Cauchy distribution) is sufficient for ε -differential privacy.



Laplace and Gauss give (ϵ, δ)-DP

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith '06]

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Admissible Noise

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Laplace and Gauss give (ϵ, δ)-DP

Computing the Smooth Sensitivity can be intractable.

[Nissim, Raskhodnikova, Smith '06]

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Accuracy revisited

Accuracy Theorem (smooth sensitivity using Laplace):

$$||q(D) - r||_{\infty} \in O\left(\frac{S(D)}{\epsilon}\right)$$

Where

$$\left|\left|\overrightarrow{v}\right|\right|_{\infty} = \max_{i=0} \left|v_{i}\right|$$

Propose Test Release

Propose-test-release Given $q: \mathcal{X}^n \to \mathbb{R}, \epsilon, \delta, \beta \ge 0$

- 1. Propose a target bound β on local sensitivity.
- 2. Let $\hat{d} = d(x, \{x' : LS_q(x') > \beta\}) + Lap(1/\varepsilon)$, where d denotes Hamming distance.
- 3. If $\hat{d} \leq \ln(1/\delta)/\varepsilon$, output \perp .
- 4. If $\hat{d} > \ln(1/\delta)/\varepsilon$, output $q(x) + \operatorname{Lap}(\beta/\varepsilon)$.

Stability-based algorithms¹⁷

Releasing stable values Given $q: \mathcal{X}^n \to \mathbb{R}, \epsilon, \delta \geq 0$

- 1. Let $\hat{d} = d(x, \{x' : q(x') \neq q(x)\}) + \operatorname{Lap}(1/\varepsilon)$, where d denotes Hamming distance.
- 2. If $\hat{d} \leq 1 + \ln(1/\delta)/\varepsilon$, output \perp .
- 3. Otherwise output q(x).

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Proposition 3.3 (releasing stable values). For every query $q : \mathfrak{X}^n \to \mathfrak{Y}$ and $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$, the above algorithm is (ε, δ) -differentially private.

Stability-based algorithms ¹⁸

Stability-based algorithms

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Consider, for example, the *mode* function $q : \mathfrak{X}^n \to \mathfrak{X}$, where q(x) is defined to be the most frequently occurring data item in x (breaking ties arbitrarily). Then $d(x, \{x' : q(x') \neq q(x)\})$ equals half of the gap in the number of occurrences between the mode and the second-most frequently occurring item (rounded up). So we have:

Proposition 3.4 (stability-based mode). For every data universe \mathfrak{X} , $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\varepsilon, \delta \geq 0$, there is an (ε, δ) -differentially private algorithm $\mathfrak{M} : \mathfrak{X}^n \to \mathfrak{X}$ such that for every dataset $x \in \mathfrak{X}^n$ where the difference between the number of occurrences of the mode and the 2nd most frequently occurring item is larger than $4\lceil \ln(1/\delta)/\varepsilon \rceil$, $\mathfrak{M}(x)$ outputs the mode of x with probability at least $1 - \delta$.

Stability-based Histogram

1. For every point $y \in \mathfrak{X}$:

(a) If
$$q_y(x) = 0$$
, then set $a_y = 0$.
(b) If $q_y(x) > 0$, then:
i. Set $a_y \leftarrow q_y(x) + \operatorname{Lap}(2/\varepsilon n)$.
ii. If $a_y < 2\ln(2/\delta)/\varepsilon n + 1/n$, then set $a_y \leftarrow 0$.

2. Output $(a_y)_{y \in \mathfrak{X}}$.

Stability-based Histogram

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- ii. If $a_y < 2\ln(2/\delta)/\varepsilon n + 1/n$, then set $a_y \leftarrow 0$.
- 2. Output $(a_y)_{y \in \mathfrak{X}}$.

Stability-based Histogram²⁰

Utility: The algorithm gives exact answers for queries q_y where $q_y(x) = 0$. There are at most n queries q_y with $q_y(x) > 0$ (namely, ones where $y \in \{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$). By the tails of the Laplace distribution and a union bound, with high probability all of the noisy answers $q_y(x)$ +Lap $(2/\varepsilon n)$ computed in Step 1(b)i have error at most $O((\log n)/\varepsilon n) \leq O(\log(1/\delta)/\varepsilon n)$. Truncating the small values to zero in Step 1(b)ii introduces an additional error of up to $2\ln(1/\delta)/\varepsilon n + 1/n = O(\log(1/\delta)/\varepsilon n)$.

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Accuracy with the standard histogram DP algorithm: $|q_h(D) - r_h| \le O\left(\frac{log(|\mathcal{X}|)}{n}\right)$

Accuracy with the stable histogram DP algorithm: $|q_h(D) - r_h| \le O\left(\frac{\log(1/\delta)}{n}\right)$ How can we make this reasoning mathematically precise?

We need to assign a formal meaning to the different components:

Precondition

Program

Postcondition

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An example

```
FastExponentiation(n, k : Nat) : Nat
 n':= n; k':= k; r := 1;
 if k' > 0 then
  while k' > 1 do
     if even(k') then
      n' := n' * n';
      k' := k'/2;
    else
      r := n' * r;
      n' := n' * n';
      k' := (k' - 1)/2;
   r := n' * r;
 (* result is r *)
```

Programming Language



- x, y, z, ... program variables
- e_1 , e_2 , ... expressions
- C_1 , C_2 , ... commands

Expressions

We want to be able to write complex programs with our language.

Where f can be any arbitrary operator.

Some expression examples

x+5 x mod k x[i] (x[i+1] mod 4)+5
Memories

We can formalize a memory as a map m from variables to values.

$$m = [x_1 \longmapsto v_1, \dots, x_n \longmapsto v_n]$$

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We want to read the value associated to a particular variable:

m(x)

We want to update the value associated to a particular variable:

This is defined as

$$m[x \leftarrow v](y) = \begin{cases} v & \text{If } x = y \\ m(y) & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Semantics of Expressions

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Semantics of Commands What is the meaning of the following command?

k:=2; $z:=x \mod k;$ if z=0 then r:=1 else r:=2

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Semantics of Commands

This is defined on the structure of commands:

 $\{abort\}_m = \bot$ $\{skip\}_m = m$ $\{x := e\}_m = m [x \leftarrow \{e\}_m]$ $\{ C; C' \}_{m} = \{ C' \}_{m'}$ If $\{ C \}_{m} = m'$ $\{C; C'\}_m = \bot$ If $\{C\}_m = \bot$ {if e then c_t else $c_f\}_m = \{c_t\}_m$ If $\{e\}_m$ =true {if e then c_t else $c_f\}_m = \{c_f\}_m$ If $\{e\}_m = false$ $\{\text{while e do c}\}_{m} = \sup_{n \in Nat} \{\text{while}_{n} e do c\}_{m}$ where while $n \in do c = while n \in do c$; if e then abort else skip and

Semantics of Commands

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```
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     \{skip\}_m = m
     \{x := e\}_m = m [x \leftarrow \{e\}_m]
                          If \{c\}_m = m'
     \{C; C'\}_{m} = \{C'\}_{m'}
     \{C; C'\}_m = \bot
                           If \{C\}_m = \bot
{if e then c_t else c_f\}_m = \{c_t\}_m If \{e\}_m=true
{if e then c_t else c_f\}_m = \{c_f\}_m If \{e\}_m = false
\{\text{while e do c}\}_{m} = \sup_{n \in Nat} \{\text{while}_{n} e do c\}_{m}
where
while c = while e do c; if e then abort else skip
and
   while<sup>0</sup> e do c = skip
  while<sup>n+1</sup> e do c = if e then (c; while<sup>n</sup> e do c) else skip
```

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Precondition

Program

Postcondition

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Program

Postcondition (a logical formula)

i:=0; r:=1; while(i≤k)do r:=r * n; i:=i + 1 Precondition

$$: \{0 < k\} \Rightarrow \{r = n^k\}$$

Postcondition

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Postcondition

- $m_{in} = [k = 1, n = 2, i = 0, r = 0]$
- $m_{out} = [k = 1, n = 2, i = 2, r = 4]$

Precondition

$$: \{ 0 \le k \} \Rightarrow \{ r = n^k \}$$

Postcondition

Precondition

$$: \{ 0 \le k \} \Rightarrow \{ r = n^k \}$$

Postcondition

Precondition

$$: \{ 0 \le k \} \Rightarrow \{ r = n^i \}$$

Postcondition

Is it a good specification?

i:=0; r:=1; while(i≤k)do r:=r * n; i:=i + 1

Precondition

$$: \{ 0 \le k \} \Rightarrow \{ r = n^i \}$$

Postcondition

How do we determine the validity of an Hoare triple?

Validity of Hoare triple

Precondition (a logical formula)

 $c: P \Rightarrow$

Postcondition (a logical formula)

 \boldsymbol{O}

Program

Validity of Hoare triple

Precondition (a logical formula)

 $c: P \Rightarrow$

We are interested only in inputs that meets P and we want to have outputs satisfying Q.

| Program

Postcondition (a logical formula)

Validity of Hoare triple

Precondition (a logical formula)

We are interested only in inputs that meets P and we want to have outputs satisfying Q.

 $c: P \Rightarrow$

How shall we formalize this intuition?

Program

Postcondition (a logical formula)

Validity of Hoare triple We say that the triple c:P⇒Q is valid if and only if for every memory m such that P(m) and memory m' such that $\{c\}_{m}=m'$ we have Q(m').

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we have Q(m').

Is this condition easy to check?

Rules of Hoare Logic: $\vdash x := e : P[e/x] \Rightarrow P$ ⊢skip: P⇒P $\vdash c: P \Rightarrow R \vdash c': R \Rightarrow Q$ $P \Rightarrow S \vdash c: S \Rightarrow R R \Rightarrow Q$ ⊢c: P⇒Q $\vdash C; C' : P \Rightarrow O$

⊢if e then c_1 else c_2 : P⇒Q ⊢c : e ∧ P ⇒ P ⊢while e do c : P ⇒ P ∧ ¬e

Rules of Hoare Logic: $\vdash x := e : P[e/x] \Rightarrow P$ ⊢skip: P⇒P $\vdash c: P \Rightarrow R \vdash c': R \Rightarrow Q P \Rightarrow S \vdash c: S \Rightarrow R R \Rightarrow Q$ ⊢c: P⇒Q ⊢c;c′: P⇒O $\vdash c_1 : e \land P \Rightarrow Q$ \vdash if e then c_1 else c_2 : $P \Rightarrow Q$ $\vdash c : e \land P \Rightarrow P$ $\vdash while e do c : P \Rightarrow P \land \neg e$

Rules of Hoare Logic: $\vdash x := e : P[e/x] \Rightarrow P$ ⊢skip: P⇒P $\vdash c: P \Rightarrow R \vdash c': R \Rightarrow Q P \Rightarrow S \vdash c: S \Rightarrow R R \Rightarrow Q$ ⊢c: P⇒Q $\vdash C; C' : P \Rightarrow O$ $\vdash c_1:e \land P \Rightarrow Q \qquad \vdash c_2:\neg e \land P \Rightarrow Q$ $\vdash \text{if e then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \text{ : } P \Rightarrow O$ $\vdash c : e \land P \Rightarrow P$ $\vdash while e do c : P \Rightarrow P \land \neg e$

$\vdash x := z * 2; z := x * 2$ $: \{z * 4 = 8\} \Rightarrow \{z = 8\}$

Is this a valid triple?

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Can we prove it with the rules that we have?

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Can we prove it with the rules that we have?

 $\vdash x := z * 2 \{ (z * 2) * 2 = 8 \} \Rightarrow \{ x * 2 = 8 \}$

 $\{z * 4 = 8\} \Rightarrow \{(z * 2) * 2 = 8\}$

 $\vdash x := z * 2: \{z * 4 = 8\} \Rightarrow \{x * 2 = 8\} \quad \vdash z := x * 2: \{x * 2 = 8\} \Rightarrow \{z = 8\}$

 $\vdash x := z * 2; z := x * 2: \{z * 4 = 8\} \Rightarrow \{z = 8\}$
Soundness

If we can derive $\vdash_{C} : P \Rightarrow Q$ through the rules of the logic, then the triple $C : P \Rightarrow Q$ is valid.

Relative Completeness $P \Rightarrow S$ $\vdash c: S \Rightarrow R$ $R \Rightarrow Q$ $\vdash c: P \Rightarrow Q$

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If a triple C: Pre \Rightarrow Post is valid, and we

have an oracle to derive all the true statements

of the form $P \Rightarrow S$ and of the form $R \Rightarrow Q$, which

we can use in applications of the conseq rule, then we can derive \vdash_{C} : Pre \Rightarrow Post through the rules of the logic. A logic for information flow control

Private vs Public

We want to distinguish confidential information that need to be kept secret from nonconfidential information that can be accessed by everyone.

We assume that every variable is tagged with one either public or private.

x:public x:private

Information Flow Control

We want to guarantee that confidential information do not flow in what is considered nonconfidential.

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x:private y:public y:=x; y:=5





x:private y:public if $y \mod 3 = 0$ then x:=1 else x := 0

x:private y:public if $y \mod 3 = 0$ then x := 1else x := 0



x:private y:public if $x \mod 3 = 0$ then y:=1 else V := 0

x:private y:public if $x \mod 3 = 0$ then y:=1 else V := 0



How can we formulate a policy that forbids flows from private to public?

Low equivalence

Two memories m₁ and m₂ are low equivalent if and only if they coincide in the value that they assign to public variables.

In symbols: m₁ ~_{low} m₂









mⁱⁿ1=[x=n1,y=k]

mⁱⁿ1=[x=n1,y=k]

mⁱⁿ2=[x=n2,y=k]

 $m^{in}{}_{1}=[x=n_{1},y=k] \qquad m^{in}{}_{2}=[x=n_{2},y=k]$ $m^{out}{}_{1}=[x=k,y=k] \qquad m^{out}{}_{2}=[x=k,y=k]$



x:private y: public $\Lambda := X$

No

No

 $m^{in_1}=[x=n_1,y=k]$

mⁱⁿ1=[x=n1,y=k]

mⁱⁿ2=[x=n2,y=k]

 $\begin{array}{ll} m^{in} = [x = n_1, y = k] & m^{in} = [x = n_2, y = k] \\ m^{out} = [x = n_1, y = n_1] & m^{out} = [x = n_2, y = n_2] \end{array}$





Yes



mⁱⁿ1=[x=n1,y=k]



mⁱⁿ1=[x=n1,y=k]

mⁱⁿ2=[x=n2,y=k]



 $m^{in_1}=[x=n_1,y=k]$

mⁱⁿ₂=[x=n₂,y=k]

m^{out}₂=[x=n₂,y=5]

m^{out}1=[x=n1,y=5]

Does this program






Yes

 $m^{in_1}=[x=n_1,y=6]$



 $m^{in_1}=[x=n_1,y=6]$

mⁱⁿ₂=[x=n₂,y=6]



 $m^{in}_1 = [x = n_1, y = 6]$ $m^{out}_1 = [x = 1, y = 6]$ mⁱⁿ₂=[x=n₂,y=6]

m^{out}₂=[x=1,y=6]







 $m^{in}_1 = [x=6, y=k]$



mⁱⁿ1=[x=6,y=k]

mⁱⁿ₂=[x=5,y=k]



 $m^{in}_1 = [x=6, y=k]$

 $m^{out_1}=[x=6,y=1]$

mⁱⁿ₂=[x=5,y=k]

m^{out}₂=[x=5,y=0]

```
s1:public
s2:private
r:private
i:public
proc Compare (s1:list[n] bool,s2:list[n] bool)
i:=0;
r:=0;
while i<n /\ r=0 do
 if not(s1[i]=s2[i]) then
    r:=1
 i:=i+1
```

```
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```



How can we prove our programs noninterferent?

Can we use the tool we studied so far? Precondition (a logical formula) Precondition Program $c: P \Rightarrow$ Postcondition

Program

Postcondition (a logical formula)

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and memory m' such that $\{c\}_m = m'$ we have Q(m').

> Validity talks only about one memory. How can we manage two memories?

 $\begin{array}{l} Relational \ Property \\ \mbox{In symbols, c is noninterferent if and only if for} \\ every \ m_1 \ \sim_{low} \ m_2, \ \{c\}_{m1} = m_1' \ and \ \{c\}_{m2} = m_2' \\ \mbox{implies } \ m_1' \ \sim_{low} \ m_2' \end{array}$

Relational Property In symbols, c is noninterferent if and only if for every $m_1 \sim_{low} m_2$, {c}_{m1}=m₁' and {c}_{m2}=m₂' implies $m_1' \sim_{low} m_2'$















Relational Assertions $c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$

Need to talk about variables of the two memories

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 $c_1 \sim c_2 : x\langle 1 \rangle \le x\langle 2 \rangle \Rightarrow x\langle 1 \rangle \ge x\langle 2 \rangle$

Relational Assertions $c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$

Need to talk about variables of the two memories

$$c_1 \sim c_2 : x\langle 1_{\uparrow} \rangle \le x\langle 2_{\uparrow} \rangle \Rightarrow x\langle 1 \rangle \ge x\langle 2 \rangle$$

Tags describing which memory we are referring to.

Rules of Relational Hoare Logic Skip

⊢skip~skip:P⇒P

Rules of Relational Hoare Logic Composition

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow R \qquad \vdash c_1' \sim c_2' : R \Rightarrow S$$

 $\vdash c_1; c_1' \sim c_2; c_2' : P \Rightarrow S$

Rules of Relational Hoare Logic Consequence

$$P \Rightarrow S \qquad \vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : S \Rightarrow R \qquad R \Rightarrow Q$$

$$\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$

We can weaken P, i.e. replace it by something that is implied by P. In this case S.

We can strengthen Q, i.e. replace it by something that implies Q. In this case R.

Rules of Relational Hoare Logic Assignment

 $F_{1}:=e_{1} \sim x_{2}:=e_{2}:$ $P[e_{1}<1>/x_{1}<1>,e_{2}<2>/x_{2}<2>] \Rightarrow P$

Rules of Relational Hoare Logic If then else



Rules of Relational Hoare Logic If then else - left



if e then c₁ else c₁' - ~ :P⇒Q C2

Rules of Relational Hoare Logic If then else - left



 C_1 : P⇒O if e then c_2 else c_2'

Soundness

If we can derive $\vdash_{C_1} \sim_{C_2} : P \Rightarrow Q$ through the rules of the logic, then the quadruple $C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$ is valid.

Relative Completeness

If a quadruple $c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$ is valid, and we have an oracle to derive all the true statements of the form $P \Rightarrow S$ and of the form $R \Rightarrow Q$, then we can derive $\vdash c_1 \sim c_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$ through the rules of the logic.

Soundness and completeness with respect to Hoare Logic

$$\vdash_{\text{RHL}} C_1 \sim C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$
iff
$$\vdash_{\text{HL}} C_1; C_2 : P \Rightarrow Q$$
Soundness and completeness with respect to Hoare Logic

Under the assumption that we can partition the memory adequately, and that we have termination.

Questions?