

482 Let a , b , and c be number variables. Using concurrency, write a program to sort the values of these variables so that $a' \leq b' \leq c'$, and $(a'; b'; c')$ is a permutation of $(a; b; c)$.

After trying the question, scroll down to the solution.

§ The formal specification is

$$a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm$$

where *perm* is defined as

$$perm = a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c \vee a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b \vee a'=b \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=c \\ \vee a'=b \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=a \vee a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b \vee a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$$

Here's one way to refine it.

$$a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm$$

← **if $a \leq b$ then *ok* else $a := b \parallel b := a$ fi.**
if $a \leq c$ then *ok* else $a := c \parallel c := a$ fi.
if $b \leq c$ then *ok* else $b := c \parallel c := b$ fi

Proof: starting with the right side,

if $a \leq b$ then *ok* else $a := b \parallel b := a$ fi.

if $a \leq c$ then *ok* else $a := c \parallel c := a$ fi.

if $b \leq c$ then *ok* else $b := c \parallel c := b$ fi

In this line, expand *ok* and $b := c \parallel c := b$

= **if $a \leq b$ then *ok* else $a := b \parallel b := a$ fi.**

if $a \leq c$ then *ok* else $a := c \parallel c := a$ fi.

if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$ else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi

distribute last line into middle line

= **if $a \leq b$ then *ok* else $a := b \parallel b := a$ fi.**

if $a \leq c$ then *ok*. if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$ else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi

else $(a := c \parallel c := a)$. if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$ else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi fi

ok is identity, and substitution law

= **if $a \leq b$ then *ok* else $a := b \parallel b := a$ fi.**

if $a \leq c$ then if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$ else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi

else if $b \leq a$ then $a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$ else $a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$ fi fi

distribute last two lines into first line

= **if $a \leq b$ then *ok*. if $a \leq c$ then if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$**

else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi

else if $b \leq a$ then $a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$

else $a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$ fi fi

else $(a := b \parallel b := a)$. if $a \leq c$ then if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$

else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi

else if $b \leq a$ then $a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$

else $a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$ fi fi fi

ok is identity, and substitution law

= **if $a \leq b$ then if $a \leq c$ then if $b \leq c$ then $a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$**

else $a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$ fi

else if $b \leq a$ then $a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$

else $a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$ fi fi

else if $b \leq c$ then if $a \leq c$ then $a'=b \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=c$

else $a'=b \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=a$ fi

else if $a \leq b$ then $a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$

else $a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$ fi fi fi

= $a \leq b \wedge a \leq c \wedge b \leq c \wedge a'=a \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=c$

$\vee a \leq b \wedge a \leq c \wedge c < b \wedge a'=a \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=b$

$\vee a \leq b \wedge c < a \wedge b \leq a \wedge a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$

$\vee a \leq b \wedge c < a \wedge a < b \wedge a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$

$\vee b < a \wedge b \leq c \wedge a \leq c \wedge a'=b \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=c$

$\vee b < a \wedge b \leq c \wedge c < a \wedge a'=b \wedge b'=c \wedge c'=a$

$\vee b < a \wedge c < b \wedge a \leq b \wedge a'=c \wedge b'=a \wedge c'=b$

$\vee b < a \wedge c < b \wedge b < a \wedge a'=c \wedge b'=b \wedge c'=a$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Rightarrow a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&= a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm
\end{aligned}$$

Here's another way to refine it.

$$\begin{aligned}
&a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
\Leftarrow &\text{if } a \leq b \text{ then if } b \leq c \text{ then ok} \\
&\quad \text{else if } a \leq c \text{ then } b := c \parallel c := b \\
&\quad \quad \text{else } a := c \parallel b := a \parallel c := b \text{ fi fi} \\
&\text{else if } b \leq c \text{ then if } a \leq c \text{ then } a := b \parallel b := a \\
&\quad \quad \text{else } a := b \parallel b := c \parallel c := a \text{ fi} \\
&\quad \text{else } a := c \parallel c := a \text{ fi fi}
\end{aligned}$$

Proof, stating with the right side:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{if } a \leq b \text{ then if } b \leq c \text{ then ok} \\
&\quad \text{else if } a \leq c \text{ then } b := c \parallel c := b \\
&\quad \quad \text{else } a := c \parallel b := a \parallel c := b \text{ fi fi} \\
&\text{else if } b \leq c \text{ then if } a \leq c \text{ then } a := b \parallel b := a \\
&\quad \quad \text{else } a := b \parallel b := c \parallel c := a \text{ fi} \\
&\quad \text{else } a := c \parallel c := a \text{ fi fi} \\
= &a \leq b \wedge b \leq c \wedge a' = a \wedge b' = b \wedge c' = c \\
&\vee a \leq b \wedge c < b \wedge a \leq c \wedge a' = a \wedge b' = c \wedge c' = b \\
&\vee a \leq b \wedge c < b \wedge c < a \wedge a' = c \wedge b' = a \wedge c' = b \\
&\vee b < a \wedge b \leq c \wedge a \leq c \wedge a' = b \wedge b' = a \wedge c' = c \\
&\vee b < a \wedge b < c \wedge c < a \wedge a' = b \wedge b' = c \wedge c' = a \\
&\vee b < a \wedge c \leq b \wedge a' = c \wedge b' = b \wedge c' = a \\
\Rightarrow &a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
&\vee a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm \\
= &a' \leq b' \leq c' \wedge perm
\end{aligned}$$