



PSC 2021/22 (375AA, 9CFU)

Principles for Software Composition

Roberto Bruni

<http://www.di.unipi.it/~bruni/>

<http://didawiki.di.unipi.it/doku.php/magistraleinformatica/psc/start>

01 - Introduction

English vs Italian



Classes

Every

Monday: 11:00-13:00, M1

Tuesday: 14:00-16:00, M1

Thursday: 14:00-16:00, M1



+



Classes, typically

no break (unless requested)

Monday: 11:00-12:30, M1

Tuesday: 14:15-15:45, M1

Thursday: 14:15-15:45, M1



+



To join lectures:

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Teams interface. On the left, a sidebar displays the team name '375AA 21/22 - PRINCIPLES FOR ...' and a list of channels: 'Blocco appunti per la classe', 'Attività', 'Voti', 'Insights', 'Canali', 'Generale', and 'Lectures'. The 'Lectures' channel is selected. The main area shows a post from Roberto Bruni (RB) at 09:22, stating 'Ha pianificato una riunione'. Below the post is a blue banner for 'Lecture #1 (Feb 14)' on 'lunedì 14 febbraio 2022 @ 11:00'. A 'Nuova conversazione' button is visible at the bottom of the post area. In the top right corner, there is a button labeled 'Avvia riunione'.

select the “Lectures” channel
then click on the planned meeting

Who am I?



<http://www.di.unipi.it/~bruni>



bruni@di.unipi.it



Office hours: by appointment
preferably



Tuesday 16:00-18:00

Research topics (theses?)

False alarm detection in Abstract Interpretation

Formal approaches to code obfuscation

Quantum Computation and concurrency models

Modelling and analysis of biological systems

Graphical specification languages

Algebraic approaches to structured graphs

Rewrite rules for reversible languages



Who are you?



First Name:

Last Name:

Enrollment number:

email:

Bachelor degree:

MSc course of enrollment:

Subjects of interest:

Please, send your data to bruni@di.unipi.it
with object "PSC21-22"

Who are you?



First Name:

John

Last Name:

Smith

Enrollment number

123456

email:

john.smith@email.com

Bachelor degree:

Comp. Sci., Pisa, IT

MSc course of enrollment:

Comp. Sci. - SW

Subjects of interest:

verification, concurrency

Please, send your data to bruni@di.unipi.it
with object "PSC21-22"

The Course

Some quotes

Computer science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes

- Edsger W. Dijkstra

Studying programming languages without formal semantics would be like studying physics without math

- from the web

All models are wrong, but some are useful

- George Box

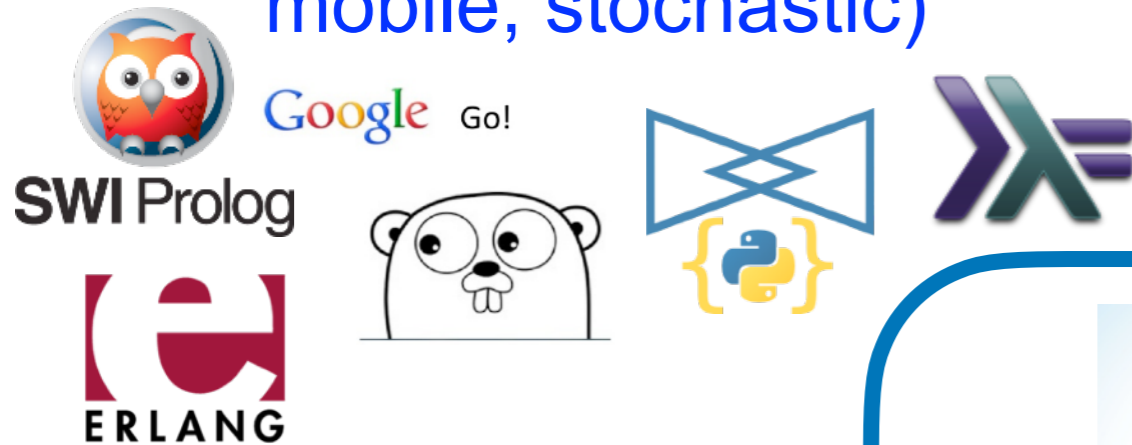
Subjects are divided in two categories:

- 1) too difficult matters, that CANNOT be studied*
- 2) easy matters, that DO NOT NEED to be studied*

- back of a t-shirt

Objectives

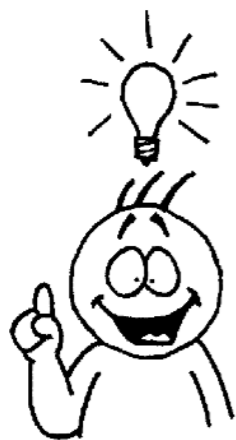
Programming paradigms
(imperative, declarative,
higher order, concurrent,
mobile, stochastic)



Mathematical frameworks
(concrete & abstract)
(domains, inference rules, transition
systems, λ -calculus, process algebras)



Understand
(recursion, semantics,
compositionality)



Reason
(induction, modal and
temporal logics,
behavioural and
logical equivalences)

Explain
(correctness,
compliance,
performance)



The approach

(in their simplest form,
still Turing equivalent)

programming
paradigms

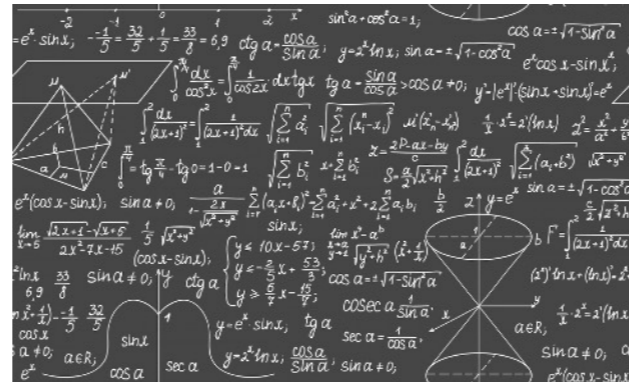
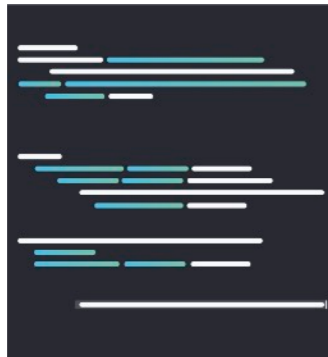


mathematical
frameworks



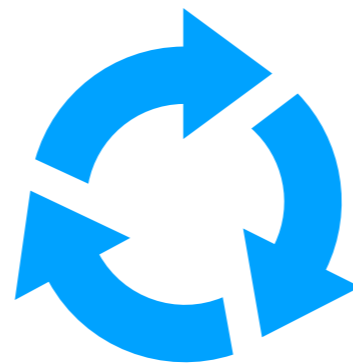
meta-properties
+
proof techniques

(for all programs
or just
some classes of programs)

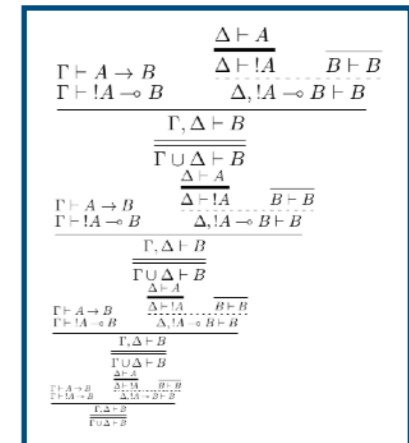


models

programs



specifications

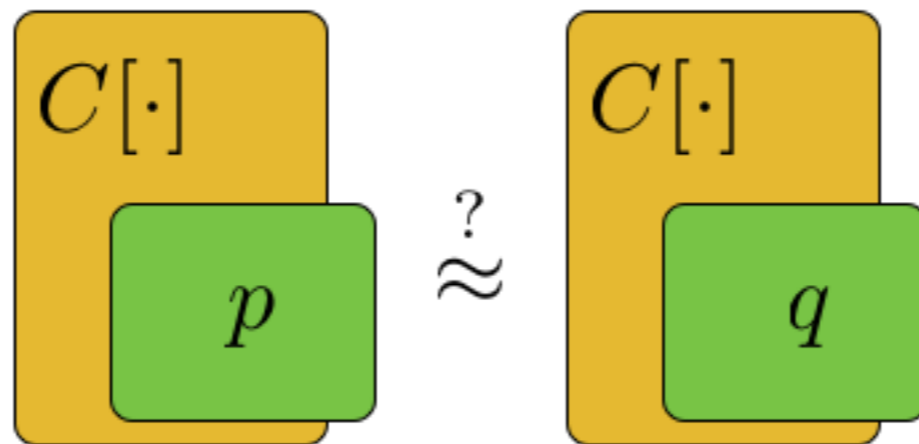


Key question

Given two programs p and q :

Do they behave the same?

Is it safe to replace one with the other in any context?



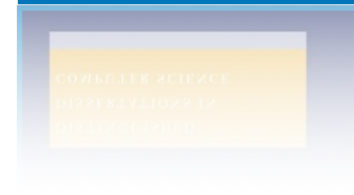
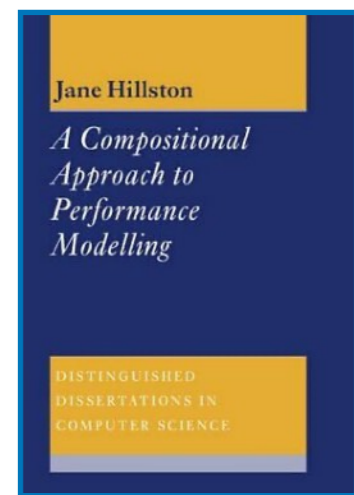
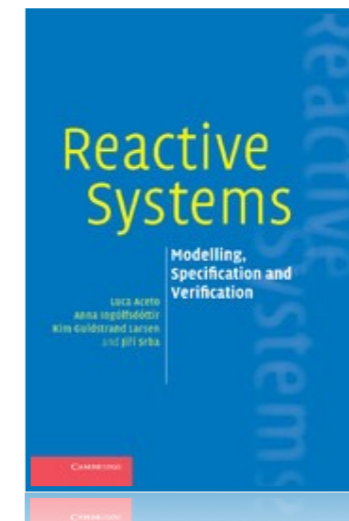
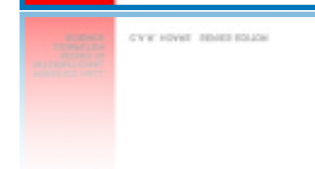
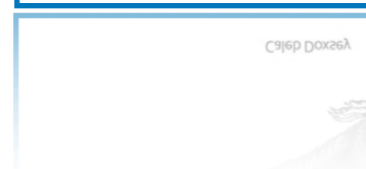
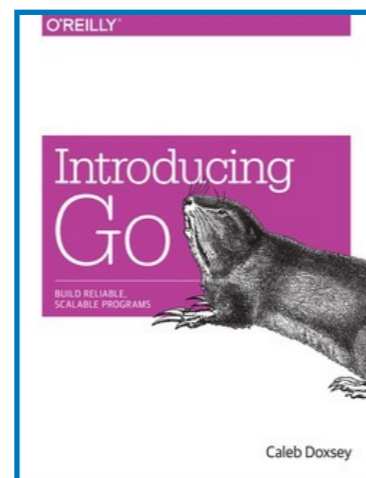
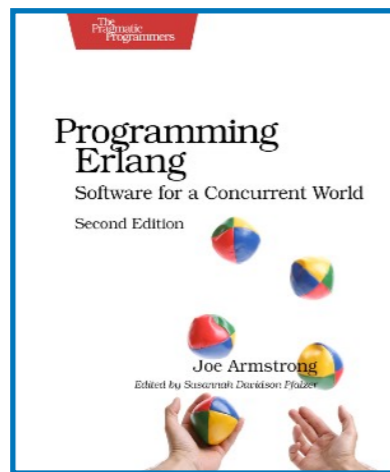
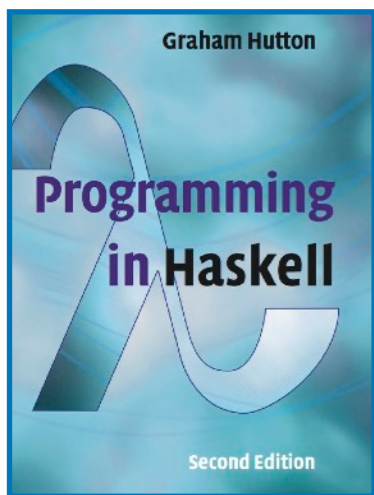
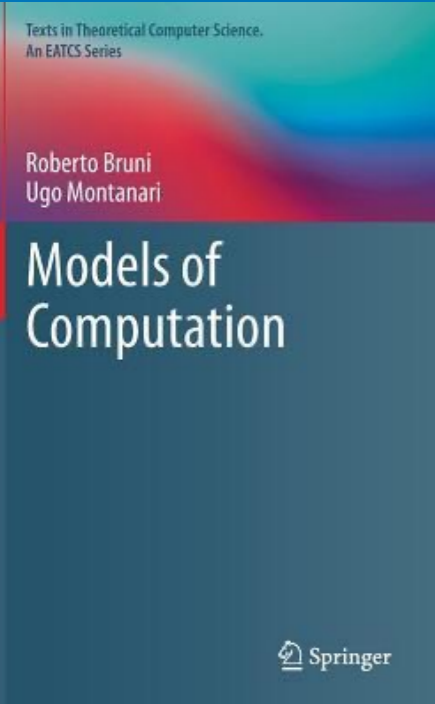
Textbooks



Roberto Bruni and Ugo Montanari
Models of Computation

Texts in Theoretical Computer Science (an EATCS series)

<https://www.springer.com/book/9783319428987>

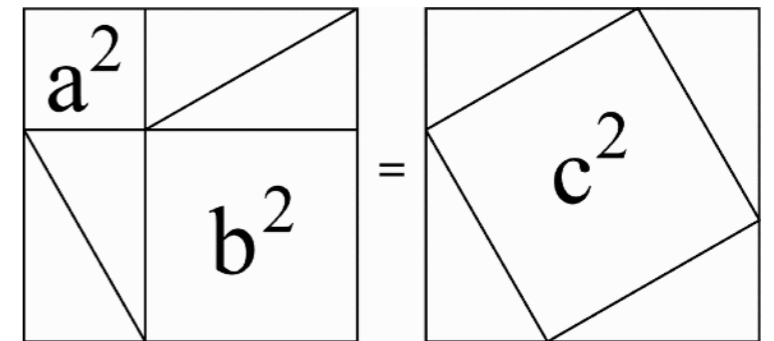


Course activities



attend virtual
classrooms:
ask questions!
(sleep quietly)

learn theorems:
(drink many coffees)



do some thinking:
solve ALL your
homework
(at least try to)

give the exam:
time for a party!



Be proactive!

Let's spell out definitions together

```
% find the least (non-unitary) divisor  $p$  of  $n > 0$ 

$p := 0;$ 
 $x := 2;$ 
while (.....) do {
  if (  $n \% x == 0$  ) then {
     $p := x;$ 
  } else {
     $x := x + 1;$ 
  }
}


```

Be proactive!

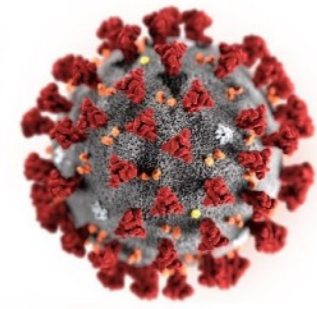
Correct me if I'm wrong

```
% find the index of the last occurrence of n in a  
i := length(a)-1;  
while ( i>0 && n!=a[i] ) do {  
    i := i-1;  
}
```

Exam

In past years, the evaluation was based on written and oral exams.

Due to the covid-19 emergency, for the current period, the evaluation will be solely based on a final oral exam.



Registration to exams is mandatory:

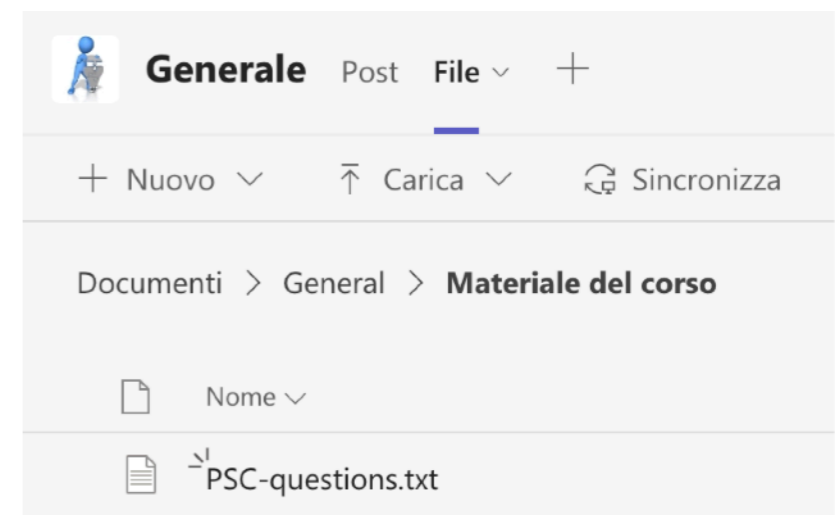
<https://esami.unipi.it/esami>

The exam will typically consist of:

1. three to four preliminary questions
2. one exercise (analogous to past written exams)
3. redoing one of the proofs seen in the course
4. some additional questions

The list of preliminary questions is available on Microsoft Teams, in the File tab

([PSC-questions.txt](#))



A sample exam

What is a complete partial order?

What are the rules of the type system of HOFL?

How is iteration achieved in CCS?

Why only positive normal forms are considered in the mu-calculus?

Consider the HOFL term

$$t \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{rec} \ f. \ \lambda x. \ \mathbf{if} \ x \ \mathbf{then} \ (x, \mathbf{fst}(f \ x)) \ \mathbf{else} \ (\mathbf{snd}(f \ x), x)$$

1. Find the principal type of t .
2. Find the denotational semantics of t .

Prove the Switch Lemma

Given the initial state distribution and a DTMC,
how do we compute the state distribution at time 3?

Badges

No mid-terms

No self-evaluation tests

During the course: some “badge” exercises

Submit your solutions by email to earn
bronze / silver / gold badges
(no extra scores, but be proud of yourselves)



Prerequisites

Basic set theory

 \emptyset $A \cap B$ $A \cup B$ $A \setminus B$ \overline{A} $a \in A$ $A \subset B$ $A \subseteq B$ $A \times B$ $a \notin A$ $A \not\subset B$ $A \cap B = \emptyset$ \mathbb{N} \mathbb{Z} \mathbb{Q} \mathbb{R} \mathbb{B} $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ $\mathbb{N} \in \wp(\mathbb{N})$ $S \subseteq \wp(\mathbb{N})$

Prerequisites

Basic set theory: functions, relations

$$f : A \rightarrow B$$

$$R \subseteq A \times B$$

functions as relations

$$R_f \triangleq \{(a, f(a)) \mid a \in A\}$$

sets as functions
(characteristic function)

$$f_N : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$$

$$f_N(n) \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & n \in N \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$N = \{n \mid f_N(n) = 1\}$$

Prerequisites

Strings and context-free grammars

$$\text{Alphabet } A \quad A^n \triangleq \underbrace{A \times \cdots \times A}_n \quad A^* \triangleq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A^n$$

$$\mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\mathbb{B}^0 = \{\epsilon\}$$

$$\mathbb{B}^1 = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\mathbb{B}^2 = \{00, 01, 10, 11\}$$

$$\mathbb{B}^3 = \{000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101, 110, 111\}$$

...

$$\mathbb{B}^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, \dots\}$$

Prerequisites

Strings and context-free grammars

Alphabet A $A^n \triangleq \underbrace{A \times \cdots \times A}_n$ $A^* \triangleq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A^n$

$$\mathbb{B}^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, \dots\}$$

$$A ::= \epsilon \mid 0A \mid 1B$$

$$B ::= 0B \mid 1A$$

$$\underbrace{A}_{\rightarrow} \underbrace{0A}_{\rightarrow} \underbrace{01B}_{\rightarrow} \underbrace{011A}_{\rightarrow} \underbrace{011\epsilon}_{=} = 011$$

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = ?$$

$$\mathcal{L}(B) = ?$$

Prerequisites

Inductive and recursive definitions

$$\begin{aligned} 0! &\triangleq 1 \\ (n+1)! &\triangleq n! \cdot (n+1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A^0 &\triangleq \{\epsilon\} \\ A^{(n+1)} &\triangleq A \times A^n \end{aligned}$$

$$f(n) \triangleq \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ f(n/2) & \text{if } n > 1 \wedge n \% 2 = 0 \\ f(3n+1) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f(12) = f(6) = f(3) = f(10) = f(5) = f(16) = f(8) = f(4) = f(2) = f(1) = 1$$

Prerequisites

Conjectures vs theorems

a natural number p is **prime**

if it cannot be written as the product of two smaller numbers

n	Is n prime?	$2^n - 1$	Is $2^n - 1$ prime?
2	yes	3	yes
3	yes	7	yes
4	no: $4 = 2 \cdot 2$	15	no: $15 = 3 \cdot 5$
5	yes	31	yes
6	no: $6 = 2 \cdot 3$	63	no: $63 = 7 \cdot 9$
7	yes	127	yes
8	no: $8 = 2 \cdot 4$	255	no: $255 = 15 \cdot 17$
9	no: $9 = 3 \cdot 3$	511	no: $511 = 7 \cdot 73$
10	no: $10 = 2 \cdot 5$	1023	no: $1023 = 31 \cdot 33$

Prerequisites

Conjectures vs theorems

if p is prime
then $2^p - 1$ is prime

if $n > 1$ is not prime
then $2^n - 1$ is not prime



Use any mean to prove or disprove the above conjectures

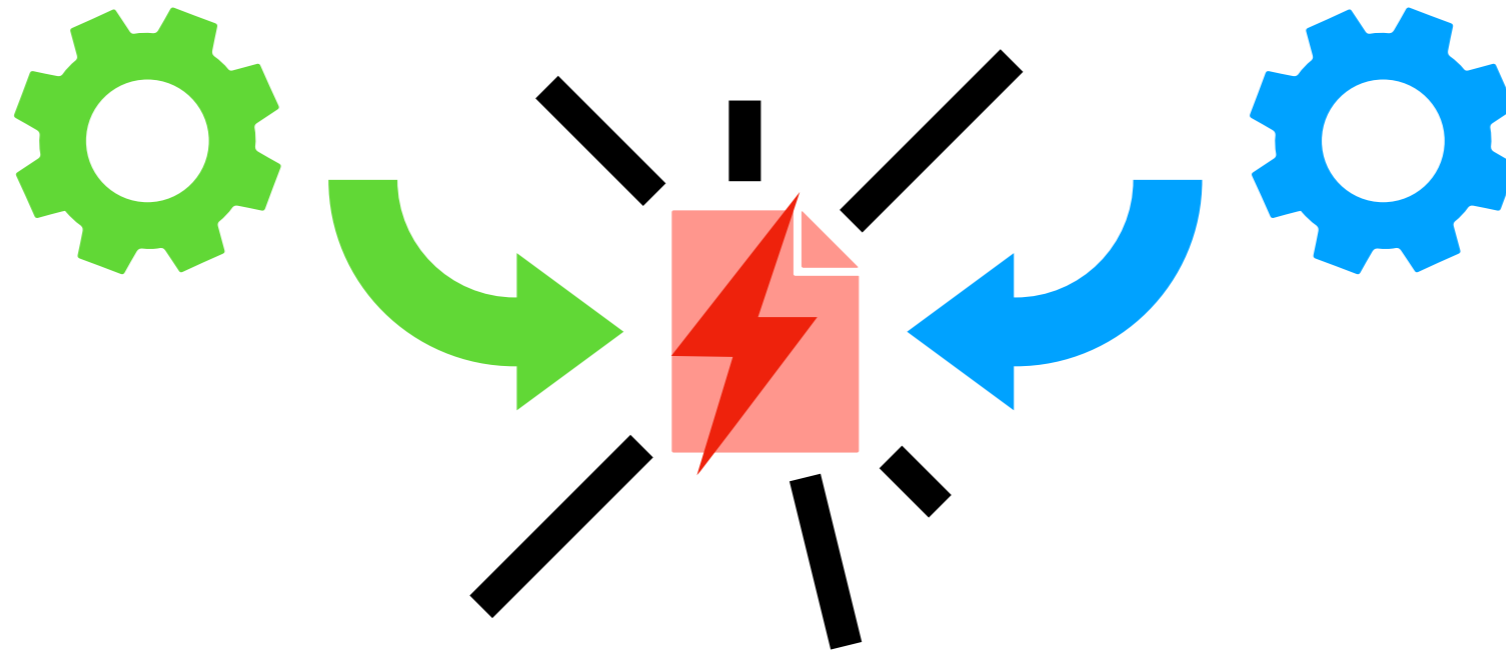
Your background?

Please fill the form about “Familiar subjects”

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Teams channel interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with a team icon (a blue stick figure) and the text 'Tutti i team'. Below this, the channel name '375AA 21/22 - PRINCIP...' is visible, along with a list of items: 'Blocco appunti per la classe', 'Attività', 'Voti', and 'Insights'. Under the 'Canali' section, 'Generale' is selected and highlighted, with 'Lectures' listed below it. The main content area has a top bar with 'Generale', 'Post', 'Familiar subjects (PSC...)', and 'File'. A button 'Avvia riunione' is in the top right. The main content area features a blue header with the title 'Familiar subjects (PSC 21-22)' and the instruction 'Please rate you familiarity with any of the following subjects'. Below this, a message reads: 'Ciao, Roberto. Quando invii questo modulo, il proprietario vedrà il tuo nome e indirizzo email.' followed by '* Obbligatoria'. The first item is '1. Structural recursion *', which is followed by five empty star icons for rating.

An Appetiser

The problem



Two concurrent processes share a single-use resource

They can communicate using shared memory

We want to guarantee that there are no conflicts
when the processes access the resource

No strict alternation of naive turn taking is imposed

Peterson's mutual exclusion algorithm (1981)

```
% Two processes P1, P2
% Two boolean variables b1, b2 (both initially false)
% when Pi wants to enter the critical section, then it sets bi to true
% An integer variable k, taking values in {1,2}
% (initial value is arbitrary)
% the process Pk has priority over the other process
%
% Process P1 in pseudocode
while (true) {
    ...                % non critical section
    b1 := true ;      % P1 wants to enter the critical section
    k := 2 ;          % P1 gives priority to the other process
    while (b2 && k==2) skip ; % P1 waits its turn
    ...                % P1 enters the critical section
    b1 := false      % P1 leaves the critical section
}

% Process P2 is analogous to P1
```

Which question?

Does Peterson's algorithm work?

What does it mean that "it works"? What do we expect?

(Progress)

If the resource is available, no process is forced to wait

(Bounded Waiting)

No process will wait forever for the resource
(otherwise the easiest solution is no one gets in)

(Mutual Exclusion)

P1 and P2 are never in the critical section at the same time

Hyman's mutual exclusion algorithm (1966)

```
% Two processes H1, H2
% Two boolean variables b1, b2 (both initially false)
% when Hi wants to enter the critical section, then it sets bi to true
% An integer variable k, taking values in {1,2}
% (initial value is arbitrary)
% the process Hk has priority over the other process
%
% Process H1 in pseudocode
while (true) {
    ...                               % non critical section
    b1 := true ;                       % H1 wants to enter the critical section
    while (k==2) {                     % while H2 has priority
        while (b2) skip ;              % H1 waits
        k := 1;                         % H1 sets priority to itself
    }
    ...                               % H1 enters the critical section
    b1 := false                         % H1 leaves the critical section
}

% Process H2 is analogous to H1
```

The question

Does Peterson's algorithm satisfy mutual exclusion?

Does Hyman's algorithm satisfy mutual exclusion?

For the answers be patient and wait early-May lectures