

Modelling and Validation of Concurrent System

António Ravara

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How can we (coders) make programs go right?

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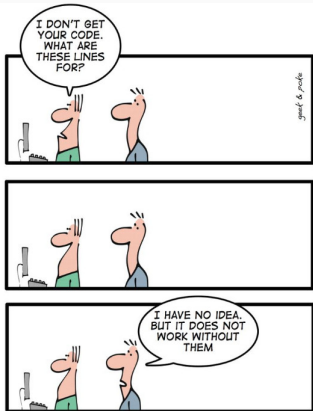
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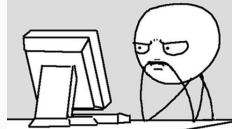
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99 little bugs in the code,
99 little bugs.



Take one down, patch it around...
127 little bugs in the code!



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In short:

no room to failures!

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- How to keep them safe?
Are they hackable?

Modelling challenges

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Modelling and validating (large) software systems

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Viable approach

Mathematical tools:

- represent rigorously the intended behaviour
- allow to formally verify correctness.



Dijkstra –'72 Turing award:
“The humble programmer”

“Program testing can be used to show the presence of bugs, but never to show their absence!”

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One striking example

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How to avoid these kind of problems:

Hacker-Proof Coding:

<https://www.wired.com/2016/09/>

[computer-scientists-close-perfect-hack-proof-code/](https://www.wired.com/2016/09/computer-scientists-close-perfect-hack-proof-code/)

<https://cacm.acm.org/magazines/2017/8/>

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Pentium 5 bug (1994): rounding error

Correct value:

$$\frac{4,195,835}{3,145,727} = 1.333820449136241002$$

Value returned by a faulty Pentium processor:

$$\frac{4,195,835}{3,145,727} = 1.333739068902037589$$

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentium_FDIV_bug

Success stories

- Hardware verification at Intel

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`https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/`

`hardware/ff552806\(v=vs.85\).aspx`

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hardware/ff552806\(v=vs.85\).aspx](https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/hardware/ff552806(v=vs.85).aspx)
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184701-how-amazon-web-services-uses-formal-methods/
fulltext](http://cacm.acm.org/magazines/2015/4/184701-how-amazon-web-services-uses-formal-methods/fulltext)
- Code verification at Facebook
<http://fbinfer.com>

Today: concurrent reactive systems

- requirements to model concurrent reactive systems
- the calculus of communicating systems (CCS)

Plan of the course

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Friday (optional): Research problems

Bibliography and resources

- R. Milner: Communication and concurrency. Prentice Hall 1989
- R. Milner: Communicating and mobile systems - the Pi-calculus. Cambridge University Press 1999
- L. Aceto, A. Ingólfssdóttir, K. Larsen, J. Srba: Reactive systems: modelling, specification and verification. Cambridge University Press 2007
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Slides and exercises

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