

# 1 Project 5

**Due Date:** 5/17 before midnight. **No late submissions**

**Important Reminder:** As per the course [Academic Honesty Statement](#), cheating of any kind will minimally result in your letter grade for the entire course being reduced by one level.

## 1.1 Aims of This Project

The aims of this project are as follows:

- To give you an introduction to programming in Erlang.
- To expose you to concurrent programming.

## 1.2 Project Specification

Update your github repository with a directory `submit/prj5-sol` to contain the following files:

**fn\_server.erl** This file should implement code for a **fn\_server** Erlang module which supports evaluating a fixed function with arbitrary arguments. Specifically, it should export the following functions:

**fn\_server:start(Fn)** Start an Erlang server to compute function **Fn** and return its PID. The server should maintain **Fn** as part of its state.

**fn\_server:compute(ServerPid, Args)** Use the server identified by PID **ServerPid** to compute and return the value of applying the associated function **Fn** to the arguments specified by the list **Args**.

**fn\_server:stop(ServerPid)** Stop the server identified by PID **ServerPid**.

**rand.erl** This file should implement code for a **rand** Erlang module which supports the generation of random integers. Specifically, it should export the following functions:

**rand:start(Seed)** Start an Erlang server to generate random integers and return its PID. The server should maintain the current **Seed** as part of its state.

**rand:rand(ServerPid)** Use the server identified by PID **ServerPid** to generate and return the next random number using the provided **next\_rand()** function. The **Seed** stored in the server should be set to the returned value.

**rand:stop(ServerPid)** Stop the server identified by PID **ServerPid**.

The file `LOG` provides an annotated sample log of the operation of these functions.

### 1.3 Provided Files

The `prj5-sol` directory contains the following:

`fn_server.erl` A starting point for the `fn-server.erl` you are required to complete.

`rand.erl` A starting point for the `rand.erl` you are required to complete. This file provides the `next_rand()` function which can be used to generate the next random number.

`fns.erl` Functions which can be used for testing the function server.

`README` A template README; replace the `XXX` with your name, B-number and email. You may add any other information you believe is relevant to your project submission. In particular, you should document the data-structure used for your word-store.

### 1.4 Hints

- The amount of code you need to write for this project is well under 50 lines.
- The function server is very similar to the data server covered in the lab.
- To apply a function `Fn` to some list of arguments `Args`, use Erlang's `apply(Fn, Args)`.
- The random number generation server needs to maintain the **current** seed as part of its state. This can easily be achieved by having the current seed as an argument to the server function.
- Use `io:format()` when debugging.