FACULDADE DE
CIÊNCIAS E TECNOLOGIA
DEPARTAMENTO DE INFORMÁTICA

Course Administrivia

lecture 01 (2025-03-10)

Master in Computer Science and Engineering

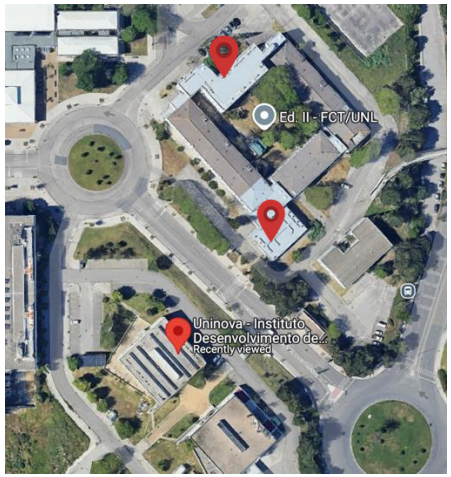
— Concurrency and Parallelism / 2024-25 —

João Lourenço <joao.lourenco@fct.unl.pt>

Basic Info

- Lectures and Labs
  - João Lourenço <joao.lourenco@fct.unl.pt>

- Office location @ CS Dept
  - **Office:** Dep. Informática • Building II • Room P2/9
  - **Extension:** 10740



- Office location @UNINOVA
  - **Office:** Building 1 • Room 1.1.1
  - **Office hours:** Thursdays 14:00 – 16:00

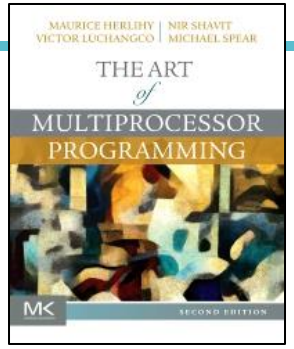
Schedule

	2ª	3ª	4ª	5ª
8:00 9:00				
9:00 10:00			**CP** p.2 Ed 2: Lab 121/Ed.II	
10:00 11:00				
11:00 12:00	**CP** t.1 Ed 2: 128/Ed.II		**CP** p.3 Ed 2: Lab 116/Ed.II	
12:00 13:00				
13:00 14:00				
14:00 15:00				Office hours @UNINOVA
15:00 16:00				
16:00 17:00				
17:00 18:00				

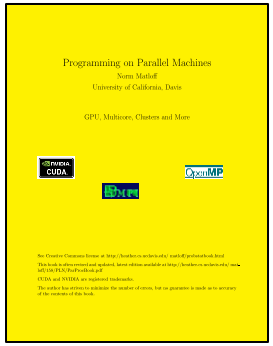
(*) Remote office hours by appoitment!

Main Bibliography

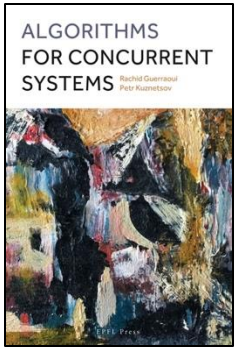
- Herlihy M., Shavit N., Luchangco V., Spear M.;
  The Art of Multiprocessor Programming;
  Morgan Kaufmann (2020); ISBN: 978-0-12-415950-1



- Matloff N.;
  Programming on Parallel Machines;
  http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/~matloff/158/PLN/ParProcBook.pdf

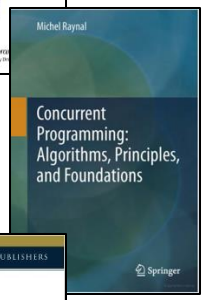


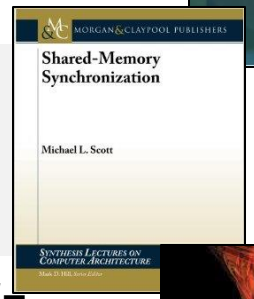
- Guerraoui R., Kuznetsov P.;
  Algorithms for Concurrent Systems;
  EPFL Press English Imprint(2013); ISBN: 978-2-88-915283-4

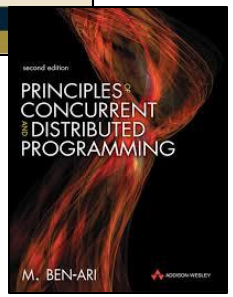


Additional Bibliography

- Suhramaniam V.;
  Programming Concurrency on the JVM: Mastering Synchronizatio STM, and Actors;
  The Pragmatic Bookshelf (2011); ISBN-13: 978-1-934356-76-0
- Raynal M.;
  Concurrent Programming: Algorithms, Principles, and Foundations; Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg (2013); ISBN: 978-3-642-32026-2
- Michael L. S.;
  Shared-Memory Synchronization;
  Morgan & Claypool (2013); ISBN: 978-1-608-45956-8
- Ben-Ari M.;
  Principles of Concurrent and Distributed Programming, 2/E;
  Pearson (2006); ISBN: 978-0-321-31283-9

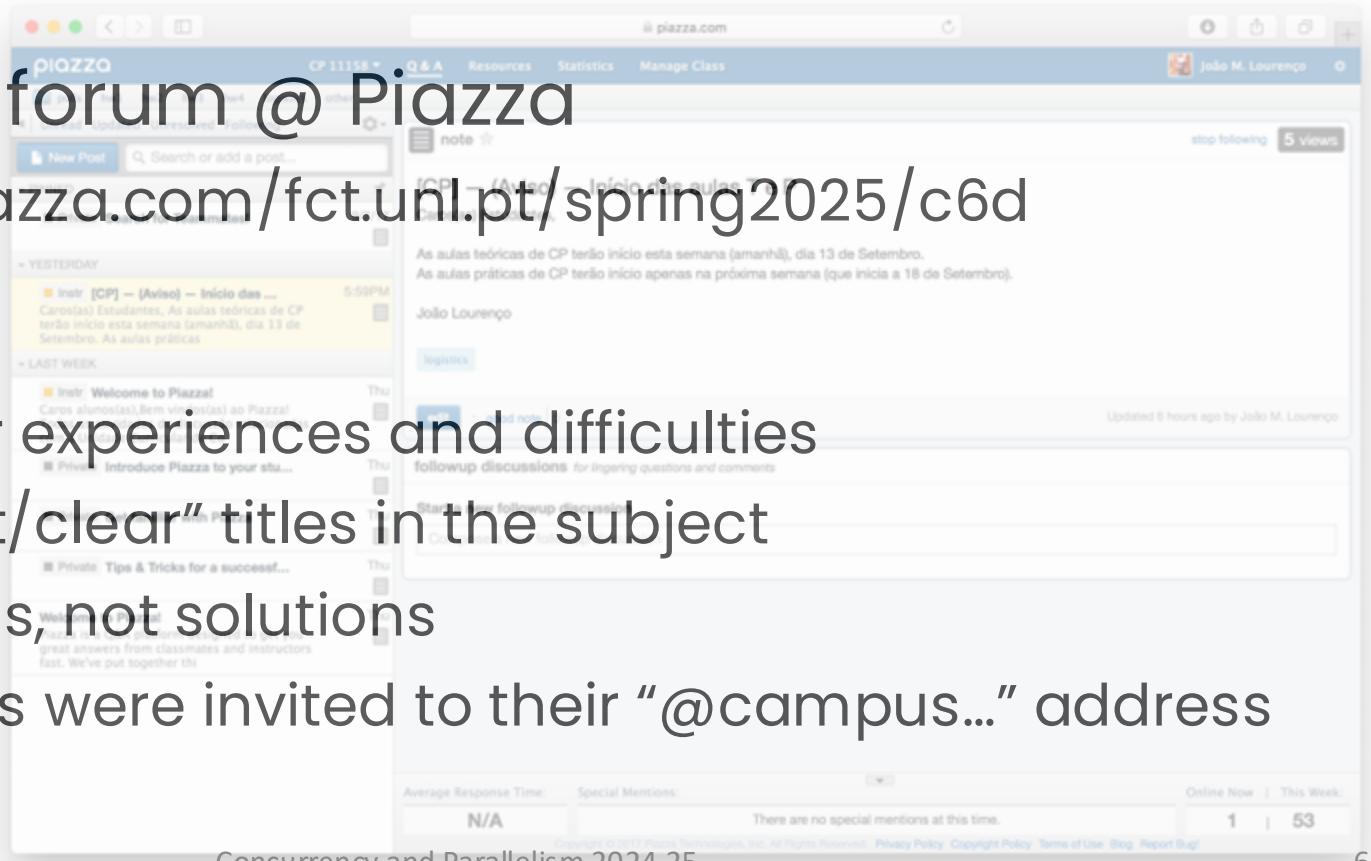






Additional Information

- Class web page @ CLIP
  - All assignments, handouts, [lecture notes]
- Discussion forum @ Piazza
  - https://piazza.com/fct.unl.pt/spring2025/c6d
- Rules
  - Share your experiences and difficulties
  - Use “smart/clear” titles in the subject
  - Share ideas, not solutions
  - All students were invited to their “@campus…” address



Course Goals: Knowledge

- To understand the concepts of **concurrency** and **parallelism**, and how they can be explored when designing software;
- To identify the **models** used for problem solving in multiprocessor systems;
- To know the **paradigms** used to develop algorithms on multiprocessor systems;
- To know the **languages, libraries and tools** used in the development of concurrent programs;
- To understand the **correctness properties** of concurrent systems;
- Be able to **evaluate the use of synchronization primitives** used in concurrent data structures;
- Be familiar with **common concurrency problems**, and **how to mitigate or avoid them**.

Course Goals: Application

- Be able to **identify and exploit opportunities for concurrency** within a software system;
- Be able to **partition a problem** into multiple tasks to be executed in a concurrent system;
- Be able to **reason about the behavior** of concurrent programs;
- Be able to **build correct and efficient** concurrent algorithms;
- Be able to **use the Java/C-like programming languages and libraries** to develop concurrent software systems;
- Be able to **use programming tools** in the development of concurrent applications, including the design, implementation, debugging and deployment stages;
- Be able to **predict, measure, and evaluate** the performance characteristics of a parallel system.

Syllabus

1. **Introduction to concurrency** and its challenges.
2. **Mutual exclusion:** Time; Critical Sections; Locks; Fairness.
3. **Concurrent objects:** Correctness; Progress; Sequential Objects; Quiescent and sequential Consistency; Linearizability.
4. **Foundations of shared memory:** Registers; Register Constructions; Atomic Snapshots.
5. **Primitive synchronization operations:** Monitors and Conditions; Spin-Locks, Readers–Writers Locks; Semaphores.
6. **Universality of consensus:** Universality; Lock-Free Universal Constructions.
7. **Spin locks and contention:** Test-And-Set Locks Spin Locks; Exponential Backoff; Queue and hierarchical Locks.
8. **Lock-free data structures:** Lists; Queues; the ABA Problem.
9. **Transaction memory:** Transactions and Atomicity; Software TM; Hardware TM.
10. **Work management:** Parallelism; Multiprocessor scheduling; Work distribution; Futures; Work-stealing dequeues.
11. **Concurrency without shared data:** Message passing, Actors, and Active objects.

Lab classes

- In the class
  - Design and implement concurrent and parallel (multiprocessor) programs
- One Homework / Project
  - Addressing concurrency and parallelism
- Rules for grouping
  - Group members may be enrolled in different lab classes
  - Groups of 3 students
    - **All exceptions** require explicit authorization
    - Non-authorized individual projects **will not** be graded
  - Group registration until March 21 at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1W_iMDxqgge5ewv8tQuQp14lOLe63sVFtb7tA-_2ZqEQ/edit?usp=sharing

Evaluation

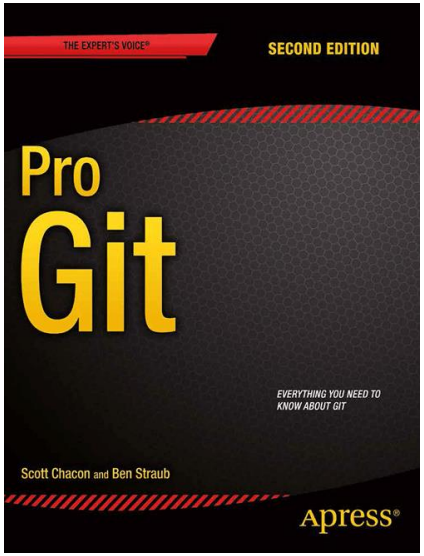
- [80%] two tests (individual, online)
  [average ≥ 8.5 points]
- [20%] one HW/project (groups of 3 students)
  [grade ≥ 8.5 points]
- [2.5%] participation in class' life cycle
  (includes lectures, labs, piazza, etc)
  (please notice that "**participation ≠ being there**")

The tests and exam will contain questions about the lab exercises and home project

Project development

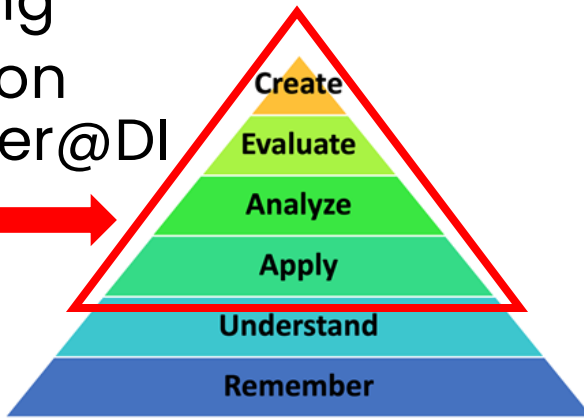
- We will use GIT extensively
- One **private** git repository per group.
  - Rep name: cp_2024_25_Gnn (where "nn" is the group number)
- **Each group member** will **commit regularly** his/her individual contributions to the group repository
  - Commit logs/messages must clearly state the contributions
- Individual project grade will consider individual contributions to the GIT repository
- *Project submission is just a Commit ID*
- ***Learn GIT now!!!!***

https://git-scm.com/book/en/v2



Project schedule

- Assignment will be published by mid April
- It will comprise four phases
  - Shared memory multicore programming
  - Performance assessment and evaluation w/ multicore computers from the Cluster@DI
  - Writing a (small but relevant) report
  - Peer review of the submitted reports



- Final submission by the mid/end of May
- Discussions (random) in early June

Project report

- I don’t care who does what in the project, as long as everybody does technically relevant / meaningful work for the project
- **Work division** (what and percentage) **must be reported** in the project report
  - Must be supported by the individual commit logs

Any attempt of fraud => all groups' members will fail the course immediately

Project methodology

- Feel free to ask questions in/out classes
  - Teacher, colleagues, Piazza
    - *Please make use of Piazza!*
- Fell free to answer questions from colleagues
  - Helping finding a solution ≠ giving the solution for free

- Cite any source that inspired your work
  - If you cite what/who you used, then it is not cheating
  - Worst case I will deduce some points if it undermines the assignment

Project evaluat.

- Project report
  - If possible/feasible
    - will be graded using peer review
  - Otherwise
    - will be graded by me

- Project's code
  - Will be graded by me

What about the use of AI-based tools?

- Permitted for code that is not directly related with the subject under evaluation
  - Specifically, cannot be used in the domains of code synchronization and parallelization
- Any use must be explicitly reported in the project's report

Remember…

- Clip is the official source of information for the course.
- Confirm @Clip all the administrivia related topics.
  - **In case of contradiction, the information in Clip prevails**
- If yours is a special case where the rules are unclear or do not apply, please let me know (*so that we can handle it appropriately*)!

The END