

Q3. Show that any of the following modifications to Peterson's algorithm makes it incorrect:

- a. A process in Peterson's algorithm sets the turn variable to itself instead of setting it to the other process. The remaining algorithm stays the same

In this scenario, a thread setting itself to have its turn would end allow it to skip the busy wait period of the algorithm, allowing for a case in which this thread enters a critical section while the other thread is accessing the critical section, creating a race condition, and violating the mutual exclusion aspect of Petersons algorithm.

- b. A process sets the turn variable before setting the wantCS variable

In this scenario, Thread i setting the wantCS variable before the turn variable could cause Thread j to misinterpret the state of the system, and act as if it has the right to access the critical section, leading to a race condition. This also violates the Peterson algorithms ability to satisfy mutual exclusion, making the algorithm incorrect.

Q4. Prove that Petersons Algorithm is starvation free.

Proof by contradiction:

Assuming Code and functions from this implementation of Petersons from the book:

```
1  class PetersonAlgorithm implements Lock {
2      boolean wantCS[] = {false, false};
3      int turn = 1;
4      public void requestCS(int i) {
5          int j = 1 - i;
6          wantCS[i] = true;
7          turn = j;
8          while (wantCS[j] && (turn == j)) ;
9      }
10     public void releaseCS(int i) {
11         wantCS[i] = false;
12     }
13 }
```

Figure 2.6: Peterson's algorithm for mutual exclusion

Suppose for contradiction's sake that thread i waits forever in the `requestCS()` method. Specifically that it runs in the `while()` loop forever waiting for either `wantCS[j]` to be false or `turn` to be equal to j . If thread J also got stuck in its `while()` loop, then it must have read J from `turn`. But since `turn` cannot be both i and J , this is a contradiction, and the hypothesis that thread J also got stuck in its `requestCS()` method is impossible. Thus, thread J must be able to enter its critical section, finish, and call the `releaseCS()` method. This will result in `wantCS[j]` becoming false, triggering Thread i to enter its own critical section. Hence, thread i must not wait forever at its `while()` loop, proving that Peterson's Algorithm is Starvation free.