

CPSC 416 Distributed Systems

Winter 2023 Term 1 (September 19, 2023)

Tony Mason (fsgeek@cs.ubc.ca), Lecturer



Logistics



Teaching Assistants

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Office Hours

Remember: Use Piazza for **all** official course-related communications

- Not on Piazza? Not official.
- Canvas “comments/messages” **are not monitored**



Office Hours:

Who	When	Where
Tony	Monday 14:00-15:00 Wednesday 16:00-17:00	Discord
Andy	Thursday 19:00-20:30	Discord
Hamid	Friday 16:30-18:00	Kaiser 4075
Jonas	Thursday 11:00-12:30	X150, Table 1&2
Cathy	Friday 09:00-10:30 (Starting Sep. 22)	X237

Self-Assessment

This week

- Note: No self-assessment for guest lecture
- Self-Assessment for Chapter 5 & 7 due 2023/09/21 @ 17:00.
- Chapter 8: Next two lectures (split)



Note:

- You are strongly encouraged to collaborate with others on this
- You should use tools at your disposal to answer these questions
 - Share your prompts on Piazza (Discord #chatgpt channel)
 - Chat with ChatGPT on Discord (Discord #chat-with-chatgpt channel)
 - Your teddy bear (or another stuffed animal.) Great listeners.
- As previously noted, you get full credit if you submit. **Do not forget to submit it.**

Today's Failure



Types of Failures

[Robert Vitillo's Blog](#) (How distributed systems fail)



Single point of failure

- Non-replicated configuration database
- HTTPS
 - Manually renewed certificate = nobody can connect

Slow networks

- How long should we wait?
- What happens if we *don't* wait?

Slow Processes

- TCP connection exhaustion

Types of Failures

Demand spikes

- Failover = load spike
- Increased load = slow/no response
 - How long does a client wait?

Cascading failures

- Load spike
- Failed node resumes operation
- Working node collapses
- Repeat cycle





*Act as if
It Is
IMPOSSIBLE
To FAIL,
& It will be.*



Learning Goals



Learning Goals (Modeling & Formal Verification)

Goals for this conversation:

- Understand what modeling is
- Understand how we validate models



Ask yourself:

How can I use modeling and formal verification to build robust distributed systems?

Finn Hackett – Guest Lecturer



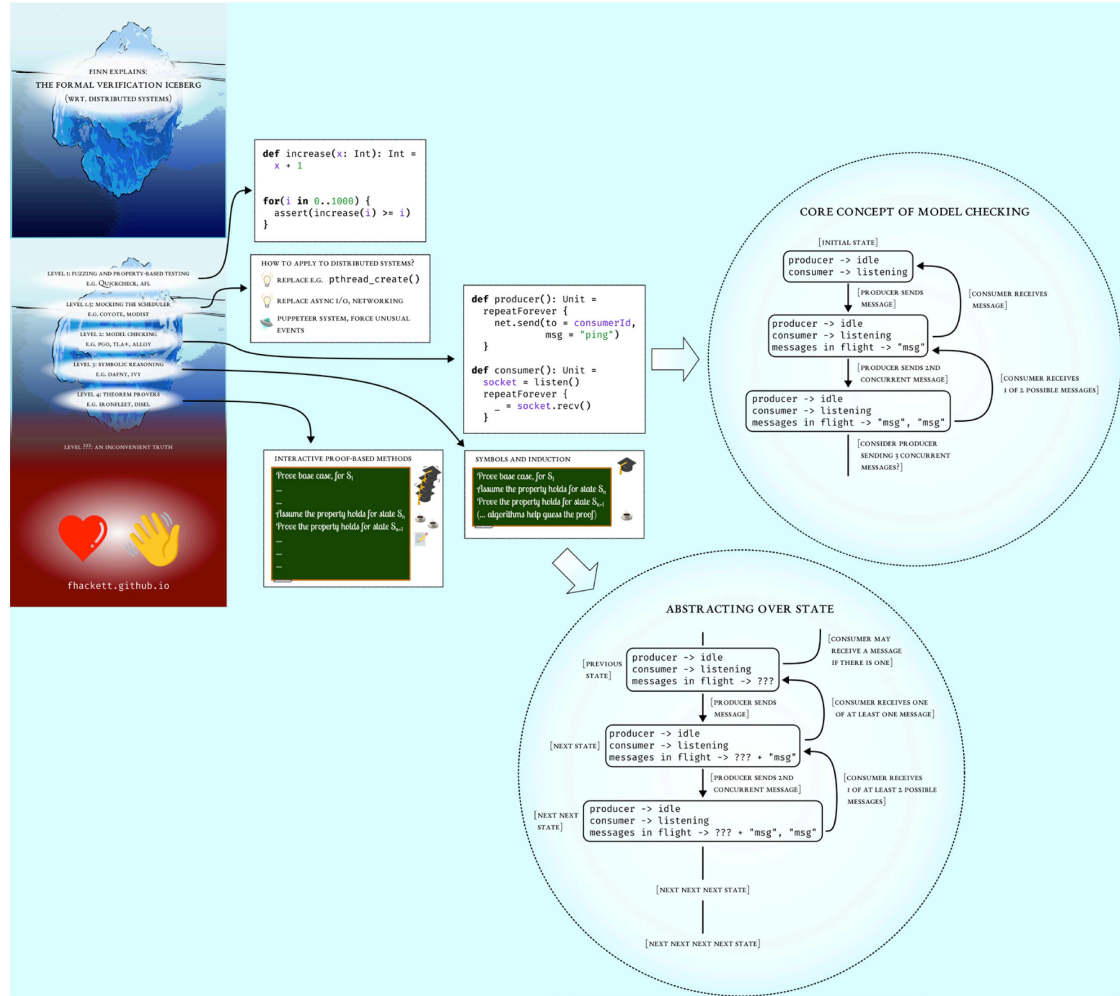
An iceberg floating in the ocean. The tip of the iceberg is above the water surface, and the much larger part of the iceberg is submerged below the surface. The text is overlaid on the white part of the iceberg.

FINN EXPLAINS:

THE FORMAL VERIFICATION ICEBERG

(WRT. DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS)

Discussion



Questions?





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