Milner’s POPL Papers

• Michael J. C. Gordon, Robin Milner, L. Morris, Malcolm C. Newey, Christopher P. Wadsworth (1978) *A Metalanguage for Interactive Proof in LCF.*

• Luís Damas, Robin Milner (1982) *Principal Type-Schemes for Functional Programs.*

• Dave Berry, Robin Milner, David N. Turner (1992) *A Semantics for ML Concurrency Primitives.*


I think we are in a terrific tension between (a) finding a small set of primitives and (b) modelling the real world accurately.

We are trying to find fundamentals. We should always be open to different applications, in case they can help us focus on a better fundamental notion.

Eventually people want, or I want them to want, to be able to talk about a process in the same way that they talk about a function. That’s why I’m not interested in short-term gains!