

An algorithm must be accompanied by a driver program incorporating it, test data and test results. Moreover the tests must be carefully explained on a separate sheet, and all test documentation submitted in duplicate. Test documentation may be in a dialect of the language applicable to a particular computer and have been prepared on the editing equipment of that computer. It may be necessary to ask for paper tape or card source decks in order to check the test documentation independently, but this should not be sent in the first instance.

The Author's Note should include theory of the method, with references, and also explain any tests used to verify the algorithm.

The algorithm which follows the Note should have an opening comment section which briefly defines the parameters used. Comments should be used wherever it is appropriate to clarify the logic. The algorithm must be syntactically correct, produce the results claimed and use computer time and space as efficiently as possible. Avoid constructions whose results may depend on the compiler used (e.g.  $y := x + f(x)$  where  $f(b)$  is a function which alters the value of  $b$ ). Cases of failure should be clearly anticipated by the use of appropriate label exits, and commented. Approximate numerical constants must be written as constants and given correct to 15 decimal digits.

Algorithms may be submitted which are translations of published material, but all conditions above must otherwise be met with. The original Author's permission must be obtained in writing and submitted to the Editor, along with the written permission of the copyright holder. Test documentation in such cases must include the original algorithm tests.

Every effort is made to see that published algorithms are completely reliable. In particular all algorithms are submitted to independent

referees and extensively checked, so that certifications are not required. However Notes or Correspondence which point out defects in or suggest improvements to previously published algorithms are welcomed. To help in preventing printing mistakes, galley proofs will be sent to authors wherever possible.

Whilst every effort is made to publish correct algorithms, no liability is assumed by any contributor, the Editor or *The Computer Journal* in connection therewith.

The copyright of all published algorithms remains with *The Computer Journal*. Nevertheless the reproduction of algorithms is explicitly permitted without charge provided that where the algorithm is used in another publication, reference is made to the author and to *The Computer Journal*.

In the event of the formation of a National Algorithm Library, all algorithms which have appeared in *The Computer Journal* will be made available to this Library.

#### References

- (1) PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE ALGOL, ISO/R/1538.
  - (2) REPORT ON THE ALGORITHMIC LANGUAGE ALGOL 68, *Numerische Mathematik* 14 (1969) pp 79-218.
  - (3) PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE FORTRAN, ISO/R/1539.
  - (4) PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE COBOL, ISO/R/1989.
- Documents 1, 2 and 4 above may be obtained from: British Standards Institution, Sales Branch, 101 Pentonville Road, London, N.1.

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## Operational Research Society Annual Conference: Torquay November 13-16 1973

### Changes resulting from Developments in Telecommunications

The Society's conference this year is being held in Torbay and will be centred on a group of hotels instead of a university. In addition to more than 80 contributed papers from members of the ORS, which will be presented at a number of parallel sessions where the attendance will be strictly limited to provide the right environment for the stimulation, generation and absorption of ideas on the widest possible range of OR topics, this years organising committee had decided to organise a one-day seminar in conjunction with the conference.

Technological developments in telecommunications are presenting managements with new and unfamiliar situations. During the next decade, this rapidly developing technology will have important effects on management decisions, control systems and business opportunities. It is essential that those providing management services do so with a clear perspective of the likely changes and their implications. In parallel with these business developments, there is the growing community

use of new media.

A number of experts in the field have been invited to present papers at the seminar and there will also be time for discussion. The seminar is entitled: *Telecommunications: Technological Change and its impact on Society, the firm and the individual*.

Although the organisers hope most participants in the conference will be able to attend for the full period, it is possible to attend the one-day seminar only.

It is anticipated that a number of participants will combine the conference with a few days' holiday in the area and a full ladies' programme has also been arranged, including visits to Plymouth, Buckfast Abbey and the area around Torbay, a dance at one of Torbay's top hotels and a theatre visit.

Details may be obtained from the Secretary, Operational Research Society, 6th Floor, Neville House, Waterloo Street, Birmingham B2 5TX (021-643 0236).