

Correspondence

New While Loop

Dear Sir,

With reference to 'The Semantics of New While Loop', Vol. 29, (1986), p. 33: I am afraid that the new while loop, in spite of its appeal (see the author's remark 3), is not definable and therefore has no meaning.

What does 'at any point inside S ' mean – what is a point? – is it a statement, or just an assignment statement?

Please consider the following assignment

statement under the nwhile loop:

$$a = x(y(b)).$$

Should the condition B be tested after each statement within X ? A positive answer means there is an implicit parameter B in this call. It is not clear to me at what cost such a definition is implementable. A negative answer implies that a sequence of statements within S is not

equivalent to a procedure call to a parallel sequence. Both implications are, to my mind, undesirable. Further, if Y makes B false, is X to be called or not?

Yours sincerely,

J. ROSENNE

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Announcements

23–27 MARCH 1987

SPIEs first annual symposium on semiconductors and semiconductor structures; Marriott's Bay Point Resort, Bay Point, Florida USA, on the Gulf Coast near Panama City.

- Advanced processing of semiconductors and semiconductor structures
- Characterization of very high speed semiconductor devices and integrated circuits: critical review of technology
- Growth of compound semiconductors
- Modern optical characterisation techniques for semiconductors and semiconductor devices
- Quantum well and superlattice physics
- Ultrafast lasers probe phenomena in bulk and microstructure semiconductors

For information contact

SPIE, avenue de la Tanche 2, B-1160 Brussels, Belgium. Telephone: 2/660 45 11; Telex 25387 AVVAL B.

1–3 APRIL 1987

Radiology '87, the 45th Annual Congress of the British Institute of Radiology, incorporates the joint spring meeting of the Institute with the Royal College of Radiologists and Radiology Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. For participants from the USA, application has been made for CME accreditation. The spoken language is English and the venue is Boldrewood Conference Centre, University of Southampton, Southampton, England.

Scientific programme

The meeting is organised by the British Institute of Radiology with the collaboration of the following societies in preparation of the scientific programme: Royal College of Radiologists; Royal Society of Medicine (Radiology Section); American College of Radiology; British Association for Cancer research; British Computer Society; British Medical Ultrasound Society; British Nuclear Medicine Society; British Pattern Recognition Associa-

tion; College of Radiographers; Institute of Physical Sciences in Medicine; Society for Radiation Protection. It will cover all aspects of the radiological sciences with a wide-ranging programme which will be of interest not only to radiologists, radiotherapists, radiographers and physicists but also to many others who are involved in or connected with radiology.

Special Lectures

Presidential Address: Professor R. J. Berry, *The Institute at 90*. Mackenzie Davidson Memorial Lecture: Professor M. J. Peckham, *The clinical biology of testicular germ cell tumours*. Mayneord Lecture (sponsored by 3M UK plc): Dr Frances Fry, *Chernobyl reactor accident – the impact on the United Kingdom*. RCR George Simon Lecture: Dr J. C. Batten.

Proffered Papers and Posters

The poster exhibition will be linked with chaired discussion sessions; oral papers of 10 minutes duration will be delivered at chaired sessions.

Updates and Teach-ins

All-day seminar on Nuclear reactor accidents: preparedness and medical consequences.

Sessions on

- Specification of X-ray equipment and tendering procedures
- Quality assurance
- Use of computers in the management of departments
- Therapeutic uses of ultrasound
- History of radiology

Technical Exhibition

Open to registrants and non-registrants throughout the Congress; adjacent to the lecture theatres.

Practicalities

Registration. To obtain a registration form, contact the programme office (details below).

Accommodation. Either in university halls of residence or in local hotels, with a shuttle service provided. Details will be in the second notice.

Social programme. A reception for early registrants at Boldrewood on the evening of 31 March, a civic reception on 1 April and the Annual Dinner of the Institute on 2 April (dinner jacket or dark suit).

Accompanying Persons Programme. Full programme for accompanying persons to explore the beauties of Wessex.

For further information please contact:

Programme Office, The British Institute of Radiology, 36 Portland Place, London W1N 3DG (tel: 01-580 4085).

To ensure that you receive details for **Radiology '87** leave your name, address and day telephone number with the Programme Office. A registration form will then be mailed to you immediately it is ready. Members of the BIR, RCR, RSM (Radiology Section), BACR, BCS, BMUS, BNMS, BPRA, IPSM and SRP will receive a registration form through their society.

27–28 APRIL 1987

Advances in Computer Chess 5. The 1987 conference on 'Advances in Computer Chess' will be held near Leiden, Holland. It is the fifth in a series of international conferences specifically about Computer Chess that have been held at three-year intervals.

Contributions are invited from authors who have new results, or ongoing work, to report on any aspect of Computer Chess or related theory.

Selected papers from the conference will appear as a special issue of *AI Journal*. The language of the conference will be English.

Papers (3 copies) should be submitted to: Don Beal (programme chairman) Department of Computer Science and Statistics, Queen Mary College, University of London, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS, United Kingdom, to arrive by 15 January 1987 (late submission may be acceptable).