

Nov 1959

ALGOL conference in Paris.

ISOLATED QUESTIONS.

x 1. Use * for multiplication.

Suggestion: Do not change reference language. Hardware languages are free.

✓ 2. Non-synonymous expressions.

We agree.

Sub 3. Precedence of logical operators.

We prefer not to order them.

✓ 4. Parentheses for arithmetic relations (Boolean).

Perhaps leave out brackets completely?

? ✓ 5. Dummy statement.

We agree with Rutishauser's proposal.

[6. Meaning of $a := b/c$; integer (a);

We agree with Rutishauser: implies round-off.

✓ 7. Dynamic succession to stop.

We prefer to allow it.

\$ 8. Replace STOP by RETURN.

We prefer to keep them both.

✓ 9. Only output parameters, not input parameters, may be changed by a procedure.

We agree.

Sub 10. Dynamic effect of having the same real variable both as input and output var.

~~We suggest: the original input variable will be kept all through the work of the procedure.~~

11. Are switches allowed as real output parameters?

We suggest yes, but do not insist.

Sub ✓ 12. Symbolism for ~~output~~ labels as output parameters.

We want special symbolism. Prefer colon, but do not insist.

13. Compatible declarations.

We are in favour, but won't have both the old system and the van Wijngaarden-Dijkstra system side by side. Either one or the other.

✓ 14. Constant declaration.

Agree with Rutishauser's definition (i.e. that CONSTANT may imply an array declaration).

✓ 15. Length of procedure declaration.

We are not in favour.

16. Dummy declaration

Is not necessary. A complete procedure may be written.

17. Negative subscripts in array declarations.

Should be permitted.

✓ 18. Function declaration: Write function.

We agree.

19. Programs, and headings 7.24, 7.38, 7.42

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COMPLEX QUESTIONS.

✓ 1. FOR- statement.

New delimiters in reference language.

Remove statement character, (this makes a detailed explanation of notational consequences necessary!).

Allow E(E)E, E, E, E(E)E ...

New definition in terms of more elementary statement forms. (let a(1)b, b<a cause skip).

✓ 2. IF- and alternative statements.

Remove statement character (detailed explanation necessary).

Redefinition.

New delimiters.

✓ 3. The identifiers of subscripted variables, functions, and procedures.

Procedures as input to procedures, formalism? 7.11

Alphabet of assignment statements.

"REQUIRE" quotes only identifiers I?

EQUIVALENCE quotes what?

✓ 4. Status of declarations.

Dynamic array declarations.

Declarations as prefixes to statements.

Declarations operative for following program.

Empty declaration.

5. Generalization of basic operations.

Logical operations. 4.16, 5.11

Vector- matrix- list- arithmetics 7.35

✓ String handling. 7.46

8. Auxiliary information
4.13, 5.8

✓ 6. New types of program sections. 7.30

Old, new declaration

Auxiliary declaration

Dummy declaration.

✓ 9. Input output.

7. Procedure headings.

REQUIRE

Built-in library functions. 7.39

EQUIVALENCE, desirability and operational meaning.

Library declaration. 5.13.3

Array declarations 7.17

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FROM THE GROUP AT REGNECENTRALEN?

Real and type declared input and output variables.

We suggest the following addition to the Zürich report:

If the formal input variable of a procedure is type-declared, the reaction of the program on the insertion of a type declared in the corresponding parameter position in a procedure statement should be the following:

declaration of formal var.	not declared	integer	Boolean
decl. of not decl.	OK	round-off	error alarm
real variable integer	OK	OK	error alarm
Boolean	OK	OK	OK

Library procedures (as distinct from library functions, abs(), sin(), etc.)
should not be permitted.