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IFAC NEWSLETTER

**International Federation
of Automatic Control**

IFAC Publications Program: A brief introduction

The International Federation of Automatic Control has three primary publications foci: the IFAC Journal—*Automatica*, special projects such as monographs, and symposium (congress, workshop and conference) preprints and proceedings. All these activities are under the authority of the IFAC Executive Council and are delegated to three main executive groups, the IFAC Honorary Editors, the IFAC Publications Managing Board and the *Automatica* Editorial Board. This document concerns the symposium preprints and proceedings activities. For more detailed information, see *Advice to IFAC Symposium Editors* and *Advice to Organizers of IFAC Sponsored Symposia*, available from the IFAC Secretariat.

Symposium organizers are required to handle their symposium preprints and proceedings through the official IFAC publisher, Pergamon Press Ltd. Pergamon Press has been under contract with IFAC since 1976 to publish proceedings of all IFAC Symposia and certain selected Workshops. They also are involved in other IFAC publications projects. The arrangements are managed by the IFAC Publications Managing Board which consists of IFAC and Pergamon representatives.

By using this service symposium organizers are not obligated to pay for symposium proceedings and are charged at a special low rate for symposium preprints but only at the conclusion of the symposium. All production and technical details of printing can be handled by Pergamon although, at the organizers' request, Pergamon will use any reasonable printer suggested by the organizers. The important thing to note is that the IFAC Publisher is *the publisher* and retains responsibility for production. Of course, IFAC holds the copyright of published materials. Such copyright may be released to the authors or, at their request, to other publishers.

Because of a special financing arrangement preprint costs to organizers are extraordinarily low since much of the production cost is attributed to the proceedings and diverted from the preprints. Profits from the sale of proceedings accrue to IFAC. There are many reasons why this plan is beneficial to IFAC and the general scientific community, not the least of which is to provide a source of revenue to IFAC which will provide relief to its National Member Organizations. The Symposium Editor is the key symposium officer for these publications issues.

Criteria for selecting appropriate technologies under different cultural, technical and social conditions

The IFAC Symposium has taken place in Bari, Italy,

21–23 May 1979.
More than a hundred participants have gathered from Italy and from industrialized as well as from developing countries. The professional background of the participants was quite various: university professors, managers of industrial companies, of engineering and consultancy firms, officers from international (UNESCO, ILO, UNCTAD) and Italian development agencies, organization managements, etc.
This broad spectrum of fields and disciplines has really allowed a multidisciplinary discussion on the topics of the Symposium. This multidisciplinary character was already apparent in the list of invited and contributed technical papers, which append contributions on the problem of appropriateness of technology in general, and of automation in particular, from quite different viewpoints.

Many papers described real experiences of transferring and adapting technologies to the needs and conditions of developing countries, specially African and South American. These papers, and also the general and methodological papers, pointed out that the problem of selecting and adapting technology, can be tackled correctly only by having in mind all the interrelations among the variables (economic, sociological, cultural, psychological, etc.) which have influence on the process of "development". This means the need of a very wide approach, not restricted to "pure" economic and technical considerations (specially if divided by the models of industrialized countries) and of using the methodologies used for analysing and designing complex, multivariable systems.

Most of these aspects were emphasized in the Round Table discussion, which concluded the Symposium and was chaired by E. Luoto and carried out by R. S. Al Thiga, H. Chestnut, S. A. Kader, U. Pellegrini, J. E. Rijnsdorp. This Round Table discussion confirmed what was apparent from the works of the Symposium: (i) there are many themes within the area of appropriate technology and automation; (ii) the ways these themes are treated and the barriers found while dealing on a multidisciplinary approach, reflect not only different technical background and languages, but also ideological viewpoints, concerning the relationship between man, technology and development; (iii) IFAC can play a special role in pursuing these themes, as it can be the meeting and integrating point of different disciplines and approaches.

NON IFAC ACTIVITIES

Third International Symposium on Simulation '80, (Interlaken, Switzerland, 25–27 June 1980)

Sponsored by: The International Association of Science

and Technology for Development (IASTED).

Supported by: The Swiss Association for Operations Research (SVOR) and the International Association for Mathematics and Computers in Simulation (IMACS).

Scope: Covers all aspects of the theory and applications of modelling and simulation (continuous and discrete, lumped and distributed) and includes: modelling, languages, hardware, methodology, packages, numerical methods, distributed parameter systems, hybrid systems, parallel data processing (hardware and software), interactive simulation, real time simulation, statistical aspects of simulation, simulation credibility (error analysis, testing, etc.), simulation using microcomputers.

Applications: Simulation of computers, energy, chemical and nuclear systems, power generation and distribution, electrical and mechanical systems, transportation, control systems, corporate modelling, scenarios, cross-impact analysis, banking and finance, management and behavioural sciences, marketing, economics and operations research, social sciences, urban and regional modelling, water resources, reservoir modelling, hydrology, environmental systems, soil sciences, large scale systems, education and training.

Abstracts: A 200 word abstract should be submitted to the Secretary latest by 15 November 1979 and indication made to the area of the abstract. Notification and special forms for the preparation of the manuscript will be mailed by 31 December 1979. Final acceptance is based on the papers which are due 1 April 1980. For correspondence, submission of abstracts and to be placed on the mailing list write to:

Simulation '80, P.O. Box 354, CH-8053, Zürich, Switzerland, Tel. (01) 211 29 15, Telex: 812 656 or Simulation '80, P.O. Box 2481, Anaheim, CA 92804, U.S.A. Tel. (714) 774-6144, Telex: 181 660.

Third IMA Conference on Control Theory,
(Sheffield, U.K., 9—11 September 1980).

Contributed papers of up to 30 min presentation time are invited. Papers for presentation at the Conference will be accepted on the basis of an extended abstract (of 3 double spaced A4 pages) which is to include main results (possible of a preliminary nature) and references. The detailed form for the design and layout of the extended abstracts will be available to intending authors from the IMA from August onwards. The final date for receipt of abstracts is 15 February 1980. Abstracts should be sent to Miss Jane Foster, The Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, Maitland House, Warrior Square, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 2JY.

Full papers, for publication, in the Proceedings after refereeing and editing, must be submitted at least one week before the Conference. The following list of topics are of obvious relevance to the Conference, but papers with a strong control content not embraced by this list will be welcome: algebraic systems, large systems and hierarchical systems, optimal control, identification, stochastic control and estimation, filtering theory, stability, sensitivity analysis, multivariable control, self-tuning regulators, polynomic and biliear systems, time-delay and distributed parameter systems. Papers concerning applications with a strong theoretical content will be particularly welcome.

9th Symposium of the IMEKO Technical Committee on PHOTON-DETECTORS — TC2,
(Budapest, Hungary, 9—12 September 1980)

Topics: Photon-detectors for conversion of optical signals to electrical signals, conversion of optical images to electrical signals, conversion of optical images to optical images and conversion of optical energy to electrical energy. Properties of photodetectors: responsivity, quantum efficiency, detectivity, spectral response, noise, lag, stability, fatigue, etc. Application of photon-detectors in measurement technology, in optoelectronics, integrated optics and optical communication.

Deadline for lecture applications and abstracts: 31 December 1979. Working language: English.

For further information turn to the

IMEKO Secretariat,   Phone: /36-1/ 324116,
H-1371 Budapest,   Telex: 225792 metesz h.
POB. 457, Hungary

Sixth Symposium on Microprocessing and Microprogramming, EUROMICRO 80,
(London, U.K., 16—18 September 1980)

EUROMICRO 80 is the sixth annual symposium organized by the European Association for microprocessing and microprogramming (EUROMICRO).

Symposium Structure: The structure of the programme will consist of three types of sessions: scientific sessions, which will accommodate invited and submitted papers reporting on significant developments in the Symposium areas; short-notes sessions, allowing for very up-to-date, brief, presentations of significant results and applications; industrial sessions, co-ordinated with Industrial Exhibits and presenting the most recent industrial development and production activities.

Deadlines and publication policy differ for the three classes of papers and are detailed below. English is the official language of the Symposium.

Full papers: authors should submit six complete copies of their papers to the Programme Chairman, no later than 31 January 1980. The papers, (no longer than 16,000 words) should include a 200 word abstract and authors' names and mailing addresses. Authors will be notified of acceptance by 1 May 1980. Final camera-ready papers will be due on 1 June 1980. Preprints of the Proceedings will be available at the time of the Symposium; the final Proceedings will be published later.

Short notes: authors should submit four copies of a 1000 word summary to the Deputy Programme Chairman before 15 May 1980. They will be notified of acceptance by 30 June 1980. Final short-notes will be published in a Special Issue of the EUROMICRO Journal; camera-ready papers will be due at the Symposium. Papers in areas not explicitly stated but of relevance will be considered.

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