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Annual IFAC Meetings in Zürich

The IFAC Council, Boards and Committee meetings were held in the world famous "Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule" (ETH) in conjunction with the 4th IFAC/IFORS Symposium on Large Scale Systems: Theory and Applications.

Before the Council Meeting on August 31, the following IFAC bodies held their sessions:

- Technical Committees on APCOM, DECOM, EDCOM, MOC, AEROSPACE, SECOM, TERM&STAND, the International Programme Committee of the 1987 IFAC World Congress;
- Policy, Publications and Finance Committees;
- Publications Managing Board, Automatica Editorial Board, Technical Board and Executive Board.

The preparations for the Munich World Congress went into their final stage. The IPC meeting was in the focus of attention and the organizers' report again confirmed that our next World Congress is certainly going to be a success. We will come back to the decision of the IPC meeting and to the scientific programme in one of the next issues of the Newsletter.

The reports of the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Technical Board Chairman and the Executive Board Chairman were unanimously accepted at the Council Meeting together with IFAC's budget for 1987. The President highlighted the sound finances of IFAC due to publications income and stated that no increase in membership fees seemed to be required for the moment. The Council accepted a proposal of the Policy Committee Chairman on definitions and award procedures of new IFAC Prizes such as Applications Paper Prize, Young Author Prize and IFAC Control Engineering Textbook Prize.

Concerning IFAC Symposia and Workshops the Technical Board took measures to improve the quality of the technical meetings. As regards to the number of meetings, it was proposed that no restriction be made but that the scope of events should be narrowed.

ctd. p. 2
The problem of no-show authors was also raised by both the Executive and Technical Board chairman. After a lively discussion the Council decided to collect statistics from the organizers, specifying no-show authors by countries with and without explanations so that the President can advise the Council and General Assembly on how to proceed in such cases.

The organizers of the forthcoming IFAC World Congress informed the Council about the preparations. The IPC chairman of the Tallinn (SU) Congress will be Professor V. Utkin and the date was fixed with August 12—19, 1990. In 1993 the World Congress will be held in Sydney (AUS) with Prof. G. Goodwin as IPC chairman.

In the last round before the decision two NMOs presented two beautiful towns to compete for the 1996 IFAC World Congress, i.e. Spain (Barcelona) and USA (San Francisco). Both of them had done a good job of preparing everything necessary for a successful organisation of this highlight of IFAC.

The Council faced a difficult decision. Finally, as a result of a secret ballot, the US NMO invitation was accepted with a simple majority. The President thanked the Spanish NMO for their excellent preparatory work.

The IFAC Council established a Committee for the Support of Control Engineering Education in Developing Countries chaired by the EDCOM Chairman. For further details please refer to the article on page 5.

The IFAC Council discussed the liaison and cooperation with FIACC members (sister federations) UNESCO, UITA and ISCU. IFAC will seek consultative status with UNIDO as a non-governmental organization.

Past President T. Vamos (H) prepared a draft proposal concerning responsibilities of engineers as individuals and of engineering associations. The Council members were asked to send him their comments. It was proposed to seek cooperation with other international federations in this matter.

The issues regarding the future of IFAC were discussed, and the IFAC Council members will have a meeting in Munich on long-range strategies.

The next Council and related meetings will be held in conjunction with the Munich World Congress, in July 1987. In 1988, it is intended to hold the Council and related meetings in Finland in conjunction with the MMS Symposium scheduled for June 14—16, combining this meeting with a visit to the future congress site in Tallinn.

Please Note:

At the last Technical Board Meeting on August 30, 1986 in Zurich, Switzerland, the Technical Committee on SPACE was re-named Technical Committee on AEROSPACE.

IFAC Congratulates

Karl Johan Aström

who received the Rufus Oldenburger Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

Pieter Eykhoff

who was awarded the honorary professorship at the Beijing University, PRC, by Vice-President Dai Jingchen.

New Publications:

Adaptive Control of Chemical Processes

Proceedings of the IFAC Workshop Frankfurt/Main, FRG, 21—22 Oct. 1985
Editor: G. Unbehauen

Presents reports on recent industrial applications, experiences and advances in the use of adaptive and self-tuning control in chemical and related processes. Material covered includes new practically orientated adaptive control algorithms as well as the control of various chemical plants such as distillation columns, chemical reactors, drying and bleaching plants, plastic extruders and wastewater neutralization plants.

Digital Computer Applications to Process Control

Proceedings of the 7th IFAC/IFIP/IMACS Conference Vienna, Austria, 17—20 September, 1985
Editor: M. Paul

Considers the application of modern control engineering on digital computers with a view to improving productivity and product quality, easing supervision of industrial processes and reducing energy consumption and pollution. The topics covered may be divided into two main subject areas: (1) applications of digital control — in the chemical and oil industries, in water turbines, energy and power systems, robotics and manufacturing, cement, metallurgical processes, traffic control, heating and cooling; (2) systems theoretical aspects of digital control — adaptive systems, control aspects, multivariable systems, optimization and reliability, modelling and identification, real-time software and languages, distributed systems and data networks. Of particular interest to systems analysts and computer scientists, control engineers, electrical and electronic engineers, industrial engineers and operational research scientists.

Control Applications of Nonlinear Programming and Optimization

Proceedings of the 5th IFAC Workshop Capri, Italy, 11—14 June, 1985
Editor: G. di Pillo

Provides a valuable overview of the modern application and optimization of nonlinear programming techniques and software to real-world control problems. Topics covered include: Practical applications to control of real processes: Flight Mechanics and Control, optimal design, structural mechanics, optimal control in chemical engineering systems, railway vehicles, automobiles and robotics. Also covered are nonlinear programming algorithms and software for: Robust direct and indirect optimal control techniques, automatic treatment of state variable constraints, medium to large scale control problems and lumped parameter or distributed parameter systems. Of particular interest to systems analysts, chemical, structural and aeronautics engineers, control engineers and operational research scientists.

Real-Time Programming

Proceedings of the 13th IFAC/IFIP Workshop West Lafayette, Indiana, USA, 6—8 Oct. 1985
Editors: G. M. Bull and T. J. Williams

Examines the entire field of real-time programming, with emphasis on the most recent developments in industrial control and the design of process control systems. The topics covered include programming of statistical quality control applications, graphical languages for real-time programming, programming of personal computers and workstations for real-time applications. Essential reading for control, mechanical and industrial engineers, systems analysts and computer scientists.

Available from:
Pergamon Press Ltd., Headington Hill Hall, Oxford OX3 0BW, UK.
**Support of Developing Countries**

The IFAC Council at its annual meeting in Zürich established the Committee for Support of Control Engineering Education in Developing Countries which consists of the EDCOM Chairman as the chairman of the Committee, the DECOM Chairman and the UNESCO Liaison Officers of IFAC as members.

**Scope:**
Decision on the use of grants from UNESCO, the Royal Society (UK) and others, which the Committee can obtain for the following purposes:
- Support of authors from developing countries at IFAC events;
- Support of short courses in control engineering in developing countries;
- Support of IFAC events in developing countries.

**Operation:**
1. Every announcement of the IFAC events should state that IFAC has limited funds to help a few authors of accepted papers from developing countries. Authors who believe they are eligible should request application forms from the EDCOM Chairman of IFAC.

The completed application form must reach the EDCOM Chairman at least four months before the respective meeting.

2. The IFAC NMOs can apply to the above address for support of a course in their country at least six months before the suggested date of the course. The application forms are available from the same address. The NMO should send a report about the course not later than one month after the event. Only travel expenses of the lecturers can be supported.

3. The NMO of a developing country can apply for a grant to support an IFAC event in its own country immediately after it has taken place by submitting the financial report to the address given above.

The Committee for Support of Control Engineering Education in Developing Countries reports annually to the Administrative and Finance Committee of IFAC.

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**Real-Time Programming**

14th IFAC/IFIP Workshop
Balatonfüred, Lake Balaton,
Hungary, May 26—28, 1986

The 1986 IFAC/IFIP Workshop on Real-Time Programming represented the 14th Meeting in this series since it was first organized in 1971. This was the second time that the Workshop was held in Hungary and for this occasion a venue on the shores of Lake Balaton was chosen.

The International Program Committee planned the program of this Workshop including sessions on real-time environments and executives, software development tools and languages, and on special real-time applications. A "general papers" session was also included in the program. The attendees participated actively; the presentations of 40—45 minutes each were followed by discussions lasting 10—15 minutes, all of which were lively as well as interesting. From this point of view the meeting was certainly a real "workshop".

A total of 15 papers were accepted and 13 of the original 20 abstracts/papers submitted were presented. 47 attendees from 15 countries participated in the Workshop compared to the planned 50.

Preprints were prepared for the Workshop itself and the papers will be included in the Workshop Proceedings to be published by Pergamon Press.

Chairman of the International Program Committee was Prof. Theodore J. Williams of Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA.

Finally, it was proposed that the 15th IFAC/IFIP Workshop on Real-Time Programming be held in Valencia, Spain, in 1988.

János Szlángó
NOC Chairman

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**Automation for Safety in Shipping and Offshore Petroleum Operations**

ASSOPO '85
IFIP/IFAC Symposium
Trondheim — Norway, June 25—27, 1985

ASSOPO '85, an IFIP/IFAC symposium, was organized by the Norwegian Society of Automatic Control (NFA). It was attended by 218 participants coming from 10 countries.

The main topic of the symposium was recent advances in automation techniques and their applications to offshore systems. Current offshore developments and experience gained in today's offshore operations were reported aiming at improvements to be made in the future to gain higher performance in offshore and related activities. The scientific program was composed of 1 Keynote Paper, 3 Survey Papers, 3 Panel Sessions and 71 Technical Papers. Technical visits were arranged to the SINTEF GROUPS' Two Phase Flow Laboratory and the Ocean Basin Laboratory, and to the Ship Maneuvering Simulator. In addition a small technical exhibition related to the symposium topics was arranged.

The keynote paper focused on the current degree of automation and its impact on the safety offshore, and pointed out areas which needed further improvements. The survey sessions provided an outline of the art and direction of future developments towards more economic offshore operations, especially emphasizing subsea production systems.

Risk analysis and risk management were the key topics in several of the technical sessions and showed that much research is conducted in these areas both by the oil and the engineering companies.

Another interesting topic was the current research and development in the area of fibre optics, both on fibre optic sensors and on fibre optic cables. Fibre optics applications in offshore communication and control systems were reported in several papers, and it was predicted that fibre optics will play an important role in future offshore automation systems including subsea applications. Enhanced protection systems and intelligent instrumentation systems were reported as a key to safer offshore operations.

Two sessions dealt with offshore operation and its safety in hostile environments, like the Arctic region and other regions of extreme environments. Problems due to icing and methods to prevent and handle icing were specially mentioned.

The importance of human reliability and operator training by use of simulators was discussed both in technical sessions and in panel sessions.

ASSOPO '85 was the third conference of the series devoted to automation for safety in shipping and offshore petroleum operations all hosted by the Norwegian Society of Automatic Control (NFA). The number of participants showed that the symposium still holds a strong attraction to people dealing with automation and safety at different levels in organizations and companies and related both to offshore and other activities. The participants expressed the opinion that this series should be continued. Other member organizations are welcome to host a future successor.

Aage Jostein Thunem
General Secretary NOC
News from NMOs

Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovak scientists were among the charter members of IFAC, having contributed by their work to its development particularly in its first stage of activities.

Czechoslovak scientists participate in activities of International IFAC bodies as well as in those of its Technical Committees. At this point, the active contributions of Vladimír Strejček, a member of the Publications Committee of IFAC as well as those of lecturer professor Jiří Beneš, DrSc., one of the IFAC Advisors — should be emphasized.

The Czechoslovak IFAC NMO organized the first IFAC Symposium “Identification in Automatic Control Systems” in 1967 as well as the second IFAC Symposium “Identification in Automatic Parameter Estimation”, both held in Prague, and significantly influenced further IFAC activities in the field of identification, thus having contributed to the stabilization of regular symposiums and conferences.

Commendable traditions of the Czechoslovak IFAC NMO activities have found their continuation in the First International Symposium “Lignoautomatica ’86” related to automatic measurements and control in the wood processing industry. This Symposium will be held in Bratislava from November 17—21, 1986.

The principal aim of the Czechoslovak NMO is to prepare and organize the participation of Czechoslovak experts in international undertakings sponsored by IFAC. The Czechoslovak delegation was one of the more numerous ones at the past World Congresses, being also adequately represented with respect to papers presented. 14 experts were present at the 6th World Congress of IFAC in Kyoto in 1981, whereas the 9th World Congress of IFAC in Budapest in 1984 was attended by 87 experts, with 19 scientific papers delivered. Presently, preparations are under way for the 10th World Congress in Munich.

These successful activities are being provided, in terms of organization, by the Czechoslovak NMO of IFAC for Automation headed by its Chairman, Prof. Juraj Bizík, DrSc., head of the Department of Automated Control Systems, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, and by its Vice-Chairman, associate professor techn. Jiří Beneš, DrSc., of the Institute of Information Theory and Automation of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Prague. The Secretariat resides at the Institute of Technical Cybernetics of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava.

Impressum:
Medieninhaber und Herausgeber:
International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), Genf
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Dipl.-Ing. Gustav Horsay
Schildgassplatz 12, A-2091 Laufenburg
Hersteller:
Artur Schlick & Sohn
Kolbergergasse 7; A-1030 Wien

WHO IS WHO IN IFAC

Prof. Dr.-Ing. R. Isermann
IFAC-Chairman of the 1987 World Congress

Rolf Isermann was born in Stuttgart, Germany. He took the Dipl.-Ing. degree in mechanical engineering in 1962 at the Technical University of Stuttgart and his Dr.-Ing. degree in 1965. In 1968 he became “Privatdozent” for automatic control at the University of Stuttgart and since 1972 “ausserplanmässiger Professor”. July—October 1971 he was a visiting professor at Purdue-University, Lafayette, USA. Since 1977 he has been Professor at the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt and head of the Fachgebiet (Laboratory) “Regel- systemtechnik und Prozesslenkung” in the “Institut für Regelungstechnik”. 1981/82 he served as Dean of the faculty.


Several papers have appeared on the dynamics and control of heat exchangers and steam generators, on process modelling, process identification, parameter estimation, computer aided digital control system design, adaptive control, steady-state optimization and process failure detection and diagnosis. A special aim has always been to develop advanced methods in automatic control in connection with the application first in pilot processes and later on in large scale processes. The close cooperation with several industrial companies gives a valuable feedback for the research activities.

From 1976—78 R. Isermann served as vice-president of the VDI/VDE-Gesellschaft Mess- und Regelungstechnik and since 1979 he has chaired the section “operation of automation systems”. Since 1973 he was member and from 1975—78 he served as chairman of the IFAC-Technical Committee on Applications. From 1981 onwards he has been vice-chairman of the IFAC-Policy Committee. Since 1975 he has served as Associate Editor for IFAC-Automatica. In 1979 he organized the 6th IFAC-Symposium on Identification and System Parameter Estimation in Darmstadt. He chaired the International Program Committee of the 6th IFAC/FIP-Conference on Digital Computer Applications to Process Control 1980 in Düsseldorf. Presently he is acting as Chairman of the International Program Committee for the 10th IFAC World Congress in Munich, 1987.
## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 1986

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Deadlines</th>
<th>Further Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IFAC Workshop Distributed Computer Control Systems — DCCS 86</td>
<td>Mayschoss- Bad Neuenahr, FRG</td>
<td>October 13—15</td>
<td>Mr. H. Wiefels VDI/VDE GMR Postfach 1139 D-4000 Düsseldorf, FRG</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC/EWICS Workshop Safety of Computer Control Systems — SAFECOMP ’86</td>
<td>Serlat, F</td>
<td>October 14—17</td>
<td>Mr. J. M. A. Rata Chargé de Mission EDF Service IMA 1, Ave. du Général de Gaulle F-92141 Clamart, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAC Workshop Mass Spectrometry in Biotecnological Process Analysis and Control</td>
<td>Graz, A</td>
<td>October 23—24</td>
<td>Prof. E. Heinzle Institute for Environmental Research Elisabethstrasse 11 A-8010 Graz, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th IFAC/IFIP/IMEKO Conference Instrumentation and Automation in the Paper, Rubber, Plastics and Polymerization Industries</td>
<td>Akron, OH, USA</td>
<td>October 27—29</td>
<td>Prof. A. Kaya The University of Akron Dept. of Mech. Engrg. Akron, OH 44325, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Components, Instruments and Techniques for Low Cost Automation and Applications</td>
<td>Valencia, E</td>
<td>November 27—29</td>
<td>Prof. Pedro Alberto Politecnical University of Valencia P.O. Box 22012 Valencia, Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC/IFIP/IMACS Symposium Theory of Robots</td>
<td>Vienna A</td>
<td>December 3—5</td>
<td>Dr. P. Kopacek Technical University of Vienna Karlsplatz 13 A-1040 Vienna, Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Control of Distillation Columns and Chemical Reactors</td>
<td>Bournemouth, UK</td>
<td>December 8—10</td>
<td>Ms. Rosamund da Gama UK Automatic Control Council c/o The Institute of Measurement and Control 87 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AA, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Automation and Instrumentation for Power Plants</td>
<td>Bangalore, IND</td>
<td>December 15—17</td>
<td>Dr. M. Ramamooty Central Power Research Institute P.O.B. 1242 Bangalore 560 012, India</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Workshop Electrostatic Charges and Discharges and Cosmic Ray Interaction in Satellites</td>
<td>Paris F</td>
<td>December 15—17</td>
<td>Prof. M. Péliegrin Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches de Toulouse B.P. 4025, 31055 Toulouse Cedex, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMEKO/IFAC Conference Advances in Biomedical Measurement</td>
<td>Bratislava, CSSR</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Dr. P. Kneppo Inst. of Measurement and Measuring Technique Electro-Physical Research Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences Dubravska cesta 9 842 19 Bratislava, CSSR</td>
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<tr>
<td>X. IFAC WORLD CONGRESS</td>
<td>Munich FRG</td>
<td>July 27—31</td>
<td>Eng. H. Wiefels VDI/VDE Gesellschaft Meß- und Regelungstechnik GMR Postfach 1139 D-4000 Düsseldorf 1, FRG</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Intl. IFIP/IFAC Conference</td>
<td>Winnipeg</td>
<td>August 11-14</td>
<td>Prof. A. Kusiak</td>
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<td>Advances in Production Management Systems (APMS '87)</td>
<td>Manitoba</td>
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<td>Dept. of Mechanical &amp; Industrial Engrg, University of Manitoba</td>
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<td>2nd IFIP/IFAC Conference</td>
<td>Stuttgart</td>
<td>Sept 1-4</td>
<td>INTERACT: 87 Secretary c/o IAO/IFA</td>
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<td>Human Computer Interaction - INTERACT '87</td>
<td>FRG</td>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>Nobelstraße 12, D-7000 Stuttgart, FRG</td>
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<td>IMACS/IFAC Int. Symposium Modelling and Simulation of Distributed Parameter Systems</td>
<td>Hiroshima</td>
<td>Oct 6-9</td>
<td>Dr. T. Futagami</td>
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<td>Dec. 1, 1986</td>
<td>Dept. of Civil Engineering</td>
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<td>Hiroshima Inst. of Technology</td>
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<td>Hiroshima, 731-51, Japan</td>
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<td>IFAC/IFIP Symposium</td>
<td>Johannesburg</td>
<td>April 26-28</td>
<td>Prof. I. M. Macleod</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software for Computer Control - SOCCO '88</td>
<td>ZA</td>
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<td>Dept. of Electrical Engineering, University of Witwatersand</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC/IFIP/IEA/IFORS Conference Analysis, Design and Evaluation of Man-Machine Systems (MMS '88)</td>
<td>Oulu</td>
<td>June 14-16</td>
<td>B. Wehlström</td>
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<td>IFAC Symposium</td>
<td>Cardiff</td>
<td>July 20-22</td>
<td>Ms. Rosamund da Gama</td>
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<td>Trends in Control and Measurement Education</td>
<td>UK</td>
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<td>The Institute of Measurement and Control</td>
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<td>IFAC Workshop</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
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<td>Prof. G. C. Goodwin</td>
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<td>Robust Adaptive Control</td>
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<td>Dept. of Electrical &amp; Computer Engrg. University of Newcastle, N.S.W. 2308, Australia</td>
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<td>4th IFAC Symposium</td>
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<td>August 23-25</td>
<td>Prof. Chen Zhen-Yu</td>
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<td>Computer Aided Design in Control and Engineering Systems</td>
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<td>CADCS '88 Secretariat Application Committee of the Chinese Association of Automation</td>
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<td>IFAC/IFORS Symposium Identification and System Parameter Estimation</td>
<td>Beijing</td>
<td>August 27-31</td>
<td>Prof. Chen Han-Fu</td>
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<td>August 1, 1987</td>
<td>Institute of Systems Science Academy-Sinica</td>
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<td>IFAC Symposium</td>
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<td>Brussels</td>
<td>J. Debeille</td>
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<td>Modelling and Control Applications for Power Systems Operation</td>
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<td>Vice President of IBRA</td>
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<td>IFAC Symposium</td>
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