

Zeitschrift: IABSE congress report = Rapport du congrès AIPC = IVBH
Kongressbericht

Band: 11 (1980)

Artikel: Introduction to the theme

Autor: Fanelli, M.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-11204>

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VII

Introduction to the Theme

Introduction au thème

Einführung zum Thema

M. FANELLI

Prof. Dr.

ENEL

Milan, Italy

Two half day sessions have been scheduled for the theme "Computer Design and Structural Analysis: Synthesis or Antithesis?"

In addition to the Introductory Reports VIIa and VIIb, it seems appropriate to describe the themes for both sessions:

A. Hardware and software systems evaluation and qualification problems

Choice and organization of hardware and software in relation to structural design objectives and requirements; "quality control" of programs; standardization of input, output; software classification, indexing, information retrieval and maintenance. Danger of diffusion of uncontrolled-quality programs, especially with dissemination of minis.

B. Compatibility of computer applications (in structural analysis) with design practice

- Adaptation of educative programmes (teaching how to use correctly c.s.a., both in engineering schools and in recycling courses for professionals)
- Adaptation of communication structures (dissemination of information about hardware and software possibilities and limits, communication with and between computers (computer networks); telephone mass service to users; communication with people: graphics, intermediate and final written documents, etc.
- Adaptation of legislative structure, e.g. interaction with building codes; legal liabilities for errors or misuse of programs; proprietary rights etc.
- Adaptation of economic structure: costs, cost/benefit analysis, rates and tariff structure for users etc.
- Adaptation (integration) with earlier and subsequent phases of "design": e.g. with planning and fabrication.

Intending authors are invited to submit papers along this line.

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