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VII

Introduction to the Theme

Introduction au thème

Einführung zum Thema

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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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