TABLE OF CONTENTS

AUGMENTED IDEAS

As every knowledgeable researcher understands, inspired ideas published in a Journal are meant for a wider dissemination But how should we treat the dissemination and the reuse of algorithms and programs? And how should we cope with ideas that are traceable, that are well-known among practitioners, but that have not yet been published? Although these questions are still difficult to answer, it seems that there is a tendency to deal with them in a manner which is different from that of ten years ago

Indeed, the question on publications is not so difficult Obviously, when drawing on ideas from published articles appropriate references should be made to the source Such behaviour should also be the case when the ideas are not published, but nevertheless traceable Sometimes this is done by personal communication, sometimes by simply giving credit in the text, and nowadays we see references to home pages and Internet addresses Of course, such reference behaviour presupposes a thorough knowledge of the research field and a tempered ambition There is a grey area between what is permitted, and what is plagiarism Sometimes, the problem of the grey area is resolved through the originator publishing his/her ideas

The Editorial Board is therefore pleased with Bob Hyatt's contribution So far, the ideas behind Dynamic Tree Splitting (DTS) have not been published in such a lucid way The ideas have been around since Hyatt's Ph D thesis in 1988 Meanwhile, they have been augmented and are now presented forthrightly with new experiments, showing their merit and the power of shared-memory computers This might solve a particular question on publications It does not solve all the questions above and, in particular, it does not give any clue to the other problems The best we can do is to make these problems explicit

In the previous issue Chrilly Donninger embarked upon the algorithmic question by challenging the ICCA tournament rules He referred to the discussion of entering a cloned program into the 1989 World Microcomputer Chess Championship At that time, entering a cloned program was absolutely not permitted However, today we have Donninger's contribution to the computer-chess community, called NIMZO-3, containing tools which allow the user to modify substantially NIMZO-3's search process, its opening book and its knowledge base (e g , the heuristics used) So, can one buy NIMZO-3, change it at home, and enter any tournament? "Yes", Donninger said, – he even encouraged such behaviour – "as long as such a user does not deny the NIMZO roots "

The question posed above theoretically has been partially answered in recent practice In the 14th WMCC (Jakarta, 1996), the Indonesian program GUNDA-1 participated, and in the 16th Open Dutch Computer-Chess Championship (Leiden, 1996) the program RAJAH was entered Both programs were based on Hyatt's world-wide available code of the program CRAFTY Since both teams gave due credit to CRAFTY as their original source, it is comparable to using ideas from articles while giving appropriate reference Nevertheless, the question remains to what extent can we prolong the similarity of publications and programs For articles, we do not allow plagiarism For algorithms and programs I believe we are in a state of flux Yet, the researcher who is the originator of the ideas should always be given pride of place

In these particular cases it is peculiar that Bob Hyatt plays a role in both However, there is no reason for him to complain The ideas on EPVS and DTS are always credited to him and now they are in the open His merits for CRAFTY are recognized by his end users and by the ICCA through the Novag Award

To conclude, we shift to a closely-related topic, viz the considerable acceleration of the dissemination of information, algorithms and programs by Internet access Technical, financial and scientific problems are encountered when an Association starts communicating with its members via Internet The ICCA is currently investigating how to deal with these problems There are many ideas, many solutions, but we are searching for a good solution in which the ICCA and its Journal will flourish

Jaap van den Herik

ICCA Journal readers may be interested to know that information on our publications is now available on the Internet Our homepage can be reached by http //www cs unimaas nl/icca/iccainfo htm

A complete list of all articles, notes and literature reviews published in the *ICCA Journal* is available on the Internet at http //www cs unimaas nl/uiterwyk/icca_j toc htm

---

Dr Herschberg's rejoinder to the laudatory tributes in the March issue will be published in the next issue under the title A Brief History of the Future ICCA