Special Issue Semantics and Computation

Message from the Guest Editors

This special issue explores the philosophical and conceptual foundations of programming languages, focusing on how their meaning is defined semantically. We examine the complementary nature of denotational and operational semantics, addressing questions about the appropriateness of semantic models (sets, categories, games), the implications of decidability, and the treatment of expressions that seem to refer to nothing. The issue also explores the relationship between semantic theories and actual implementations, non-determinism, parallelism, and the challenges of applying semantics to modern programming paradigms like machine learning. We invite contributions that engage with these fundamental issues.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Philosophies searches for the syntheses of philosophical and scientific inquiries. It promotes philosophical work that is derived from the experience of diverse scientific disciplines and cultures. Multiple philosophies already exist—those of logic, information, computation, natural and artificial life, natural or artificial intelligence, complexity, technology, etc. Our mission is not to abandon philosophical roots and traditions of inquiry, but to promote the development of philosophical foundations and effective methodologies derived from diverse scientific explorations, and intended to enhance these explorations as to generate deeper and more holistic knowledge. Innovation may also be achieved through the cultural dimension. Other cultures can offer from their heritage a diversity of resources for exploration; these resources can also contribute to the emergent synthesis of philosophical inquiry.

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