

# Lambda-Calculus Conferences in the 1970s

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Perhaps there were informal meetings in the 1930s devoted to  $\lambda$ -calculus and related topics, but the series of meetings known to this writer began in the 1970s. From these meetings, and others in the 1980s, developed the current series of conferences **TLCA** (“Typed Lambda-Calculus and Applications”), from 1993 onwards.

## 1971, 26–30 July, in Varik, Netherlands.

The first  $\lambda$ -meeting known to this writer was organised by *Henk Barendregt*. He simply invited *Gerd Mitschke* and myself to spend a few days with him in the windmill in which he was then living. Discussion was informal. (To see a photo of a windmill in Varik, google “windmill Varik”.)

## 1973, 20–25 August, in Darmstadt, Germany.

The second of these  $\lambda$ -meetings was organised by *Gerd Mitschke*, and was also informal. The other participants were *Henk Barendregt*, *Gordon Plotkin*, *Chris Wadsworth* and myself.

## 1974, 8–13 September, in Swansea University, Wales.

**Mini-conference on  $\lambda$ -calculus.** Sponsored by I.B.M., British Council, and the British Logic Colloquium.

Participants (20):

<i>Barendregt, Henk</i> (Utrecht Univ.)	<i>Hindley, Roger</i> (Swansea)
<i>Ben-Yelles, Choukri-Bey</i> (Swansea)	<i>Lévy, Jean-Jacques</i> (I.N.R.I.A.)
<i>Bird, Malcolm</i> (Swansea)	<i>Longo, Giuseppe</i> (Pisa)
<i>Böhm, Corrado</i> (Turin)	<i>Maass, Wolfgang</i> (Munich)
<i>Bridge, Jane</i> (Oxford)	<i>Mitschke, Gerd</i> (Darmstadt)
<i>Chauvin, André</i> (Algiers)	<i>Plotkin, Gordon</i> (Edinburgh)
<i>Curry, Haskell</i> (Penn State)	<i>Prini, Gianfranco</i> (Pisa)
<i>van Daalen, Diederik</i> (Eindhoven)	<i>Statman, Richard</i> (Cambridge)
<i>Dezani-Ciancaglini, Mariangiola</i> (Turin)	<i>Troelstra, Anne</i> (Amsterdam)
	<i>de Vrijer, Roel</i> (Eindhoven)
	<i>Welch, Peter</i> (Kent).

Talks (17):

- H. P. Barendregt: (1) “Curry’s paradox and Löb’s theorem”,  
 (2) “The  $\omega$ -rule”.
- C. Böhm: “Convertibility as program equivalence”.
- A. Chauvin: “Theory of objects”.
- D. van Daalen: (1) “Introduction to Automath”,  
 (2) “Strong normalization in the  $\lambda$ -typed  $\lambda$ -calculus”.
- M. Dezani-Ciancaglini: “Characterization of normal forms having  
 inverses in the  $\beta$ - $\eta$ -calculus”.
- J. R. Hindley: “The Church-Rosser problem for  $\lambda$ - $\beta$  plus  $dXX \triangleright X$ ”.
- J.-J. Lévy: “A proof of Welch’s conjecture”.
- G. Longo: “A modified kind of Strong-Wagner-style models”.
- W. Maass: “The Church-Rosser theorem for infinite  $\lambda$ -terms”.
- G. D. Plotkin: (1) “The  $\omega$ -rule, a counterexample”,  
 (2) “A power-domain construction”,  
 (3) “A counterexample to the upside-down Church-Rosser theorem”.
- G. Prini: “Why computer-scientists need  $\lambda$ -calculus”.
- R. de Vrijer: “The Big Tree theorem”.
- P. Welch: “A syntactical model of the  $\lambda$ -calculus”.

**1975, 25–27 March, in Rome.**

**Symposium on  $\lambda$ -calculus and Computer Science Theory.**<sup>1</sup> Sponsored by E.A.T.C.S., C.N.R., Assoc. Italiana per il Calcolo Automatico. Organised by *Corrado Böhm*, *Mariangiola Dezani-Ciancaglini* and *Marisa Venturini-Zilli*.

Proceedings published in 1975 by Springer-Verlag: Lecture Notes in Computer Science No. 37,  *$\lambda$ -Calculus and Computer Science Theory* (editor C. Böhm).

**1975, 17–18 May, in Pennsylvania State University.**

**$\lambda$ -Calculus Weekend.** Organised by *Haskell Curry* and *Roger Hindley*.

Participants (19):

<i>Abdali, S. Kemal</i> (Rensselaer, N.Y.)	<i>Johnstone, Henry</i> (Penn State)
<i>Ben-Yelles, Choukri-Bey</i> (Swansea)	<i>Kearns, John</i> (Buffalo, N.Y.)
<i>Brinkema, John</i> (Syracuse, N.Y.)	<i>Lercher, Bruce</i> (Binghamton, N.Y.)
<i>Curry, Haskell</i> (Penn State)	<i>McCracken, Nancy</i> (Syracuse)
<i>Downey, Peter</i> (Penn State)	<i>Mouradian, George</i> (Syracuse)
<i>Fitch, Frederic</i> (Yale)	<i>Price, Robert</i> (Penn State)
<i>Gilmore, Paul</i> (I.B.M.)	<i>Sanchis, Luis</i> (Syracuse, N.Y.)
<i>Hindley, Roger</i> (Swansea)	<i>Seldin, Jonathan</i> (Carbondale, Ill.)
<i>Hiž, Henry</i> (Philadelphia)	<i>Sethi, Ravi</i> (Penn State)
	<i>Wadsworth, Chris</i> (Syracuse, N.Y.)

Talks were given by some, but not all, participants.

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<sup>1</sup>The present writer was unable to attend the Rome meeting due to a conflicting commitment.

**1978, in La Châtre, France.**

**Sixième Ecole de printemps d'Informatique théorique.** Organised by *Maurice Nivat* and *Bernard Robinet*.

Proceedings published in 1979 by L.I.T.P. (Laboratoire d'informatique théorique et programmation, Université Paris) and E.N.S.T.A., Paris: *Actes de la Sixième Ecole de Printemps d'Informatique Théorique, La Châtre, 1978.*

**1979, 16–22 September, in Swansea University.**

**Lambda-calculus Conference.** Sponsored by the British Council and the British Logic Colloquium.

Participants (35):

<i>Aczel, Peter</i> (Manchester Univ.)	<i>Nait-Abdallah, Areski</i> (Paris)
<i>Barendregt, Henk</i> (Utrecht)	<i>Nederpelt, Robert</i> (Eindhoven)
<i>Ben-Yelles, Choukri-Bey</i> (Swansea)	<i>Niño, Jaime</i> (Tulane, U.S.A.)
<i>Berry, Gérard</i> (Sophia Antipolis)	<i>Obtulowicz, Adam</i> (Warsaw)
<i>Böhm, Corrado</i> (Rome)	<i>Plotkin, Gordon</i> (Edinburgh)
<i>Cardelli, Luca</i> (Pistoia)	<i>van der Poel, Willem L.</i> (Delft)
<i>Chauvin André</i> (Metz)	<i>Raoult, Jean-Claude</i> (Orsay, Paris)
<i>Coppo, Mario</i> and <i>Gena</i> (Turin)	<i>Ressouche, Annie</i> (Paris)
<i>van Daalen, Diederik</i> (Delft)	<i>Révész, György</i> (Budapest)
<i>Dezani-Ciancaglino,</i>	<i>Rezus, Adrian</i> (Geneva)
<i>Mariangiola</i> (Turin)	<i>von Rimscha, Michael</i> (Stuttgart)
<i>Fehr, Elfriede</i> (Aachen)	<i>Ronchi Della Rocca,</i>
<i>Hindley, Roger</i> (Swansea)	<i>Simonetta</i> (Turin)
<i>Koymans, Karst</i> (Utrecht)	<i>Sallé, Patrick</i> (Toulouse)
<i>Lévy, Jean-Jacques</i> (Le Chesnay)	<i>Scott, Dana</i> (Oxford)
<i>Longo, Giuseppe</i> (Pisa)	<i>Seldin, Jonathan</i> (Oxford)
<i>Meredith, David</i> (Merrimack,	<i>Venneri, Betti</i> (Turin)
N.H., U.S.A.)	<i>Venturini-Zilli, Marisa</i> (Rome)
<i>Mitschke, Gerd</i> (Siemens, Munich)	<i>Visser, Albert</i> (Utrecht) <sup>2</sup>

Abstracts of talks: published in *Bulletin of the European Association for Theoretical Computer Science* 11 (June 1980), pp. 118–144.

List of open problems: published in *Bulletin of the European Association for Theoretical Computer Science* 10 (January 1980), pp. 136–140.

(A current list of open problems on  $\lambda$ -calculus and related topics can be found at the following URL.)

<http://tlca.di.unito.it/opltlca/>

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<sup>2</sup>For a correction to an earlier draft of this list, I thank Adrian Rezus.