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Thursday 3 November 1988

Dear Professor Pomberger,

this letter will reach you via my co-author, to whom I shall send all the documents for a second proof-reading.

- I was horrified —and understandably so— to see that all dashes had been replaced by minuscule minus-signs. Note that "space dash" is used as an opening parenthesis and "dash space" as a closing one. Please see to it is corrected in this article and that, in the future, the typesetter is properly instructed.

- the \wedge and the \vee don't match! The \vee has a right angle (and that is what I like: it distinguishes it from the letters v and V), the \wedge has a sharper angle! Please see to it that each \wedge is printed correctly

- all internal spacing of formulae has been ignored! I have indicated with | where extra space should be inserted as a visual aid to parsing. The same applies to the additional spaces that should separate identifiers and formulae from the surrounding text when they occur embedded in sentences.
- I think it slightly crazy to print formulae, proofs, and programs in smaller print: they are precisely those parts of the text where every character counts!
- Since they have omitted the character $\|$ - on page 6- , I don't know how they will print it; please see to it that it is done in a way that sets a standard.

* * *

You are going to regret having agreed to edit a journal that prints its material in two columns per page: the columns are too narrow to be adequate for programs. With the additional spacing I expect you to run into problems, for instance, with the Partial Program on page 6. Even if you allot separate lines to the assertions it may still be tight. But don't blame me! Blame that stupid two-column convention instead. Good luck!

With my greetings and best wishes,
yours ever,

Edsger W. Dijkstra