Abstract:
Literate programming involves the use of program development techniques designed to design the program code and its documentation simultaneously and understandably. This approach to software design requires a system specifically designed to produce cosmetically pleasing, polished results. The programs published through literate systems are also expected to match exactly the input that produced the executed program. A true literate system also produces cross references and tables of contents automatically. Unfortunately, most literate programming is being done with systems designed for one particular purpose. No programmers have yet written a literate program using an existing literate programming system. For this reason, the Literate Programming column may be discontinued.