

BUGS, ETC

Note: this talk is off the record.
I may find it necessary to disavow
any remarks that may be attributed to me.

ESTIMATED FREQUENCY OF BUGS

1 PER 50 LINES
(early phase)

1 PER 1000 LINES
(after intensive effort)

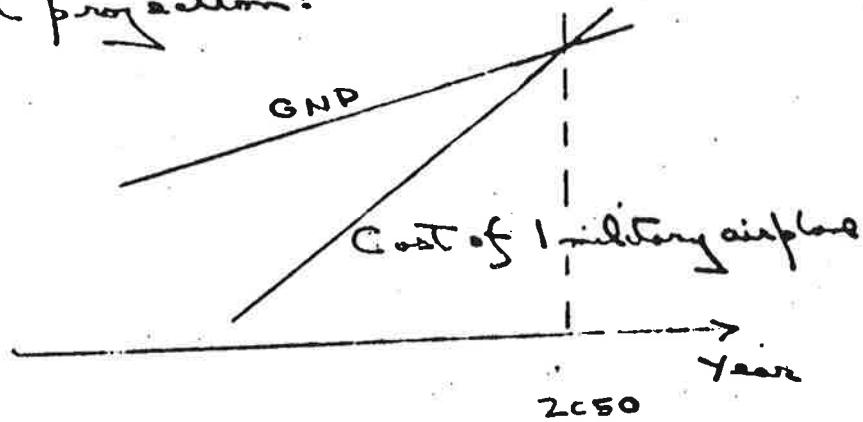
THEOREM

IF THE code has more than 5000 lines
it gives the WRONG ANSWER
with PROBABILITY ONE

PRESSURES FOR
COMPLEXITY

COMPLEXITY IN AIRCRAFT

Cost projection:



GNP will be sufficient for 1 airplane in 2050

Pressures for complexity:

- 1). DOD has departments to generate requirements
It can be estimated that the number of requirements
will be roughly proportional to the number of people
employed to think of them.
- 2). 2000 sub-contractors each have an interest
in introducing more complex subsystems.
- 3). A design staff of 1000 have to occupy
themselves somehow (35 designed the Mirage 3)

COMPLEXITY IN COMPUTER PROGRAMS

Is there a danger that 1 computer program will require the GNP say by the year 2100?

Pressures for complexity:

- 1) One might imagine that the purpose of computers is to replace HUMAN effort by MACHINE effort.
The GOAL of numerical analysts is precisely THE OPPOSITE!
- 2). The objective of professors and research scientists is generally to show how clever they are.
This objective is not realized by a SIMPLE SOLUTION — that merely suggests that the problem was easy.
- 3). A solution terminates funding
— The secret of funding is
THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

CASE HISTORIES
OF BUGS

BUGS

CRANKED WING

FLO22

1976 - 1983

SWEPT FORWARD WING

FLO27

1977

6 weeks

EXTENDED WING TIP

FLO57

1981 - 1982

MISSING TAILPLANE

FLO59

1983

(MULTIGRID)

WRONG CALLING SEQUENCE

FLO52

April 1981

- February 1983

MISSING DO STATEMENT

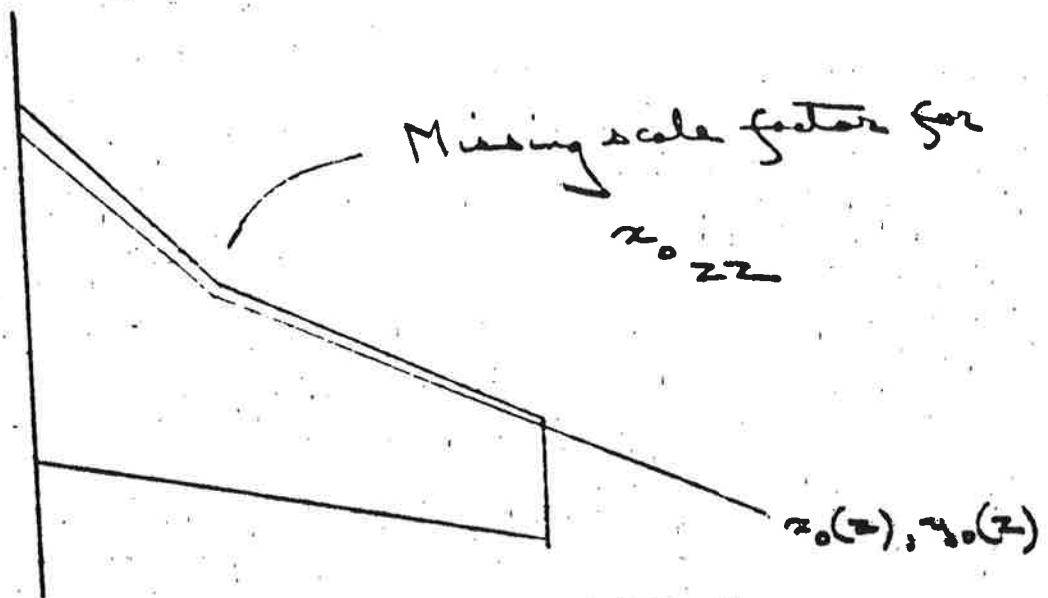
FLO57

1983

3 months

CRANKED WING BUG

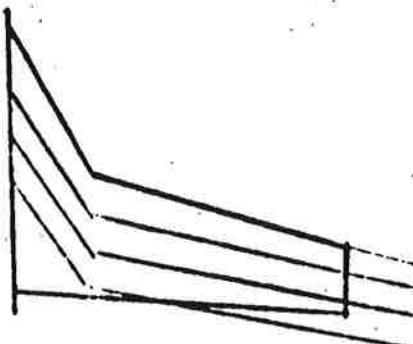
FL022 1776-1983



Found by I Chung Cheng / D Caughey

THE CRANKED WING FAILURE

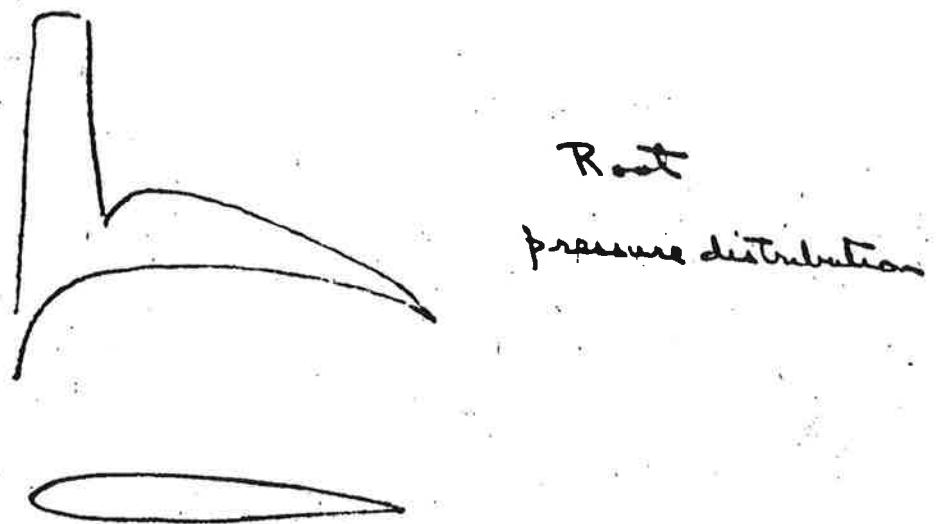
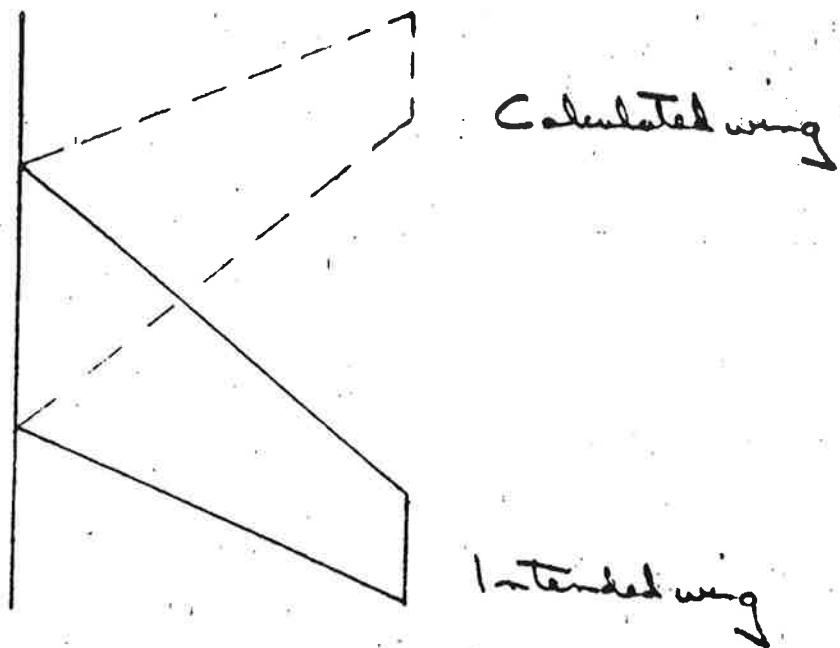
- 1) I tried a change of scale (Good),
but I did it with a straight leading edge
(BAD - not exercising all the OPTIONS)
- 2) I expected FAILURE
- I assumed a KINK would invalidate
the assumptions of the coordinate transformation
- 3) I attributed bad results for TACT wing to
 - (1) Singularity in the transformation
 - (2) Sparse mesh on outer wing



These were WRONG PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATIONS

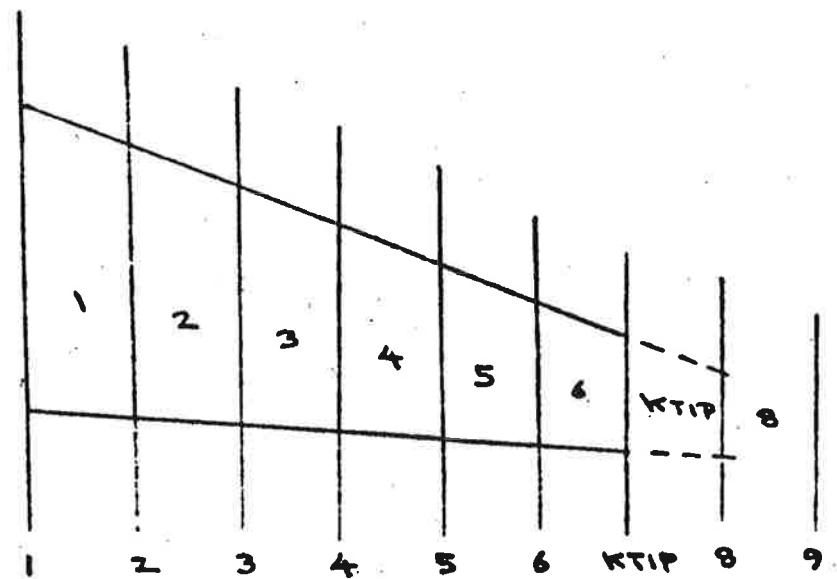
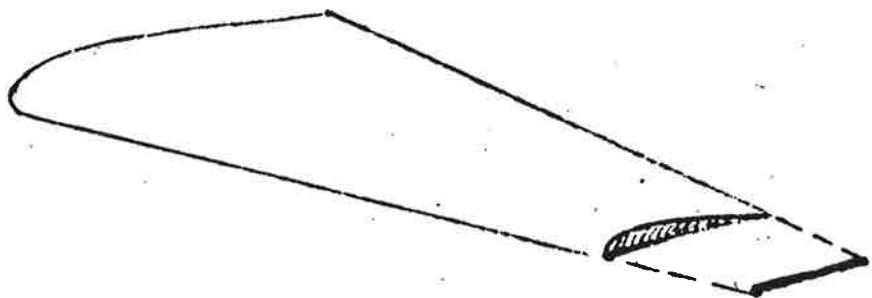
SWEPT FORWARD WING

FLO 27 1977



EXTENDED WING TIP

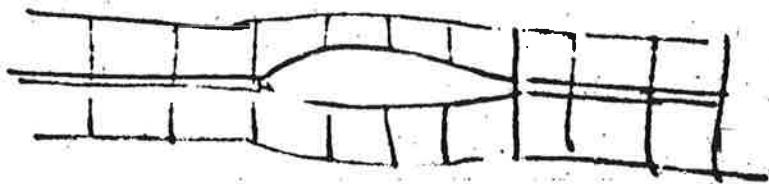
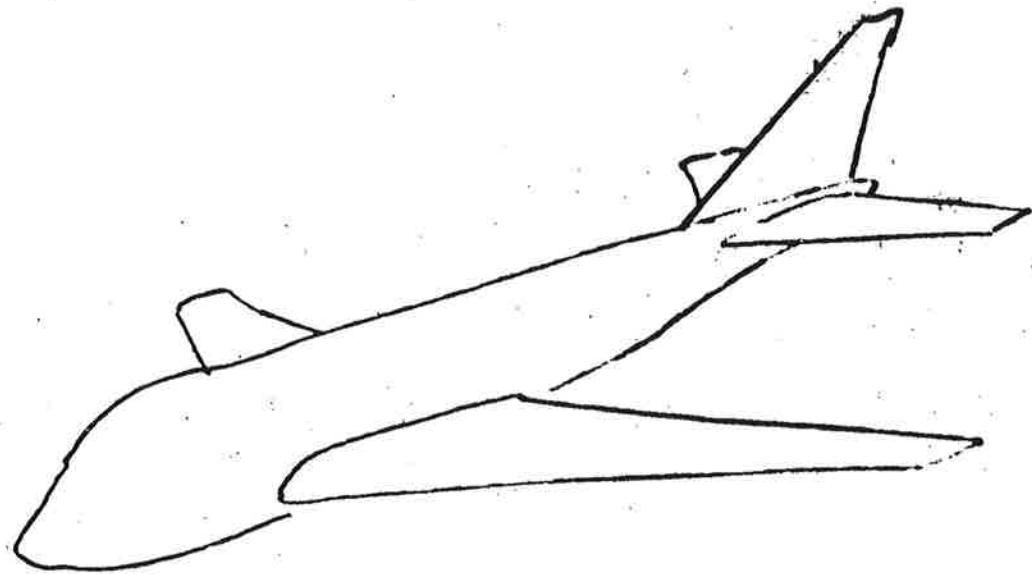
FLO57 1981 - 1982



On the wing $1F(K, LT, KTIP)$
not $1F(K, LE, KTIP)$

MISSING TAIL PLANE

FLO 59 1983



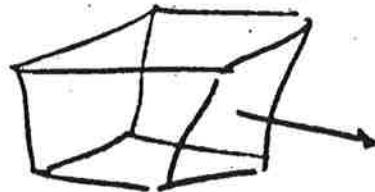
Fluxes recalculated for tailplane cells

Δt not transmitted to this subroutine

INSIDE OUT PROBLEM

FL057, FL059

What is sign of projected face area
(surface normal)

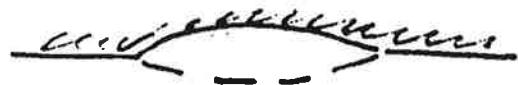


Wrong sign on all faces

April 1981 24 hours

Inside out tail

1983 6 months



THE SIGN PROBLEM

KORN'S LEMMA

The sign is either POSITIVE,
or else IT IS NEGATIVE.

When in doubt TRY BOTH

DEBUGS (1)

(Frequently not performed by me)
when they should have been

CONSISTENCY CHECKS

Double the scale of the profile

Insert uniform flow

Check symmetry with symmetric flow

Check convergence with decreasing mesh size

PROGRAMMING CHECKS

Exercise all options

Set core to indefinite

DEBUGS (2)

EXTERNAL CHECKS

Check against known exact solutions

Check plausibility of result

Check against experimental data

Plot everything

ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERY

When coding new versions

By third parties

— release pilot code

to carefully selected friendly users

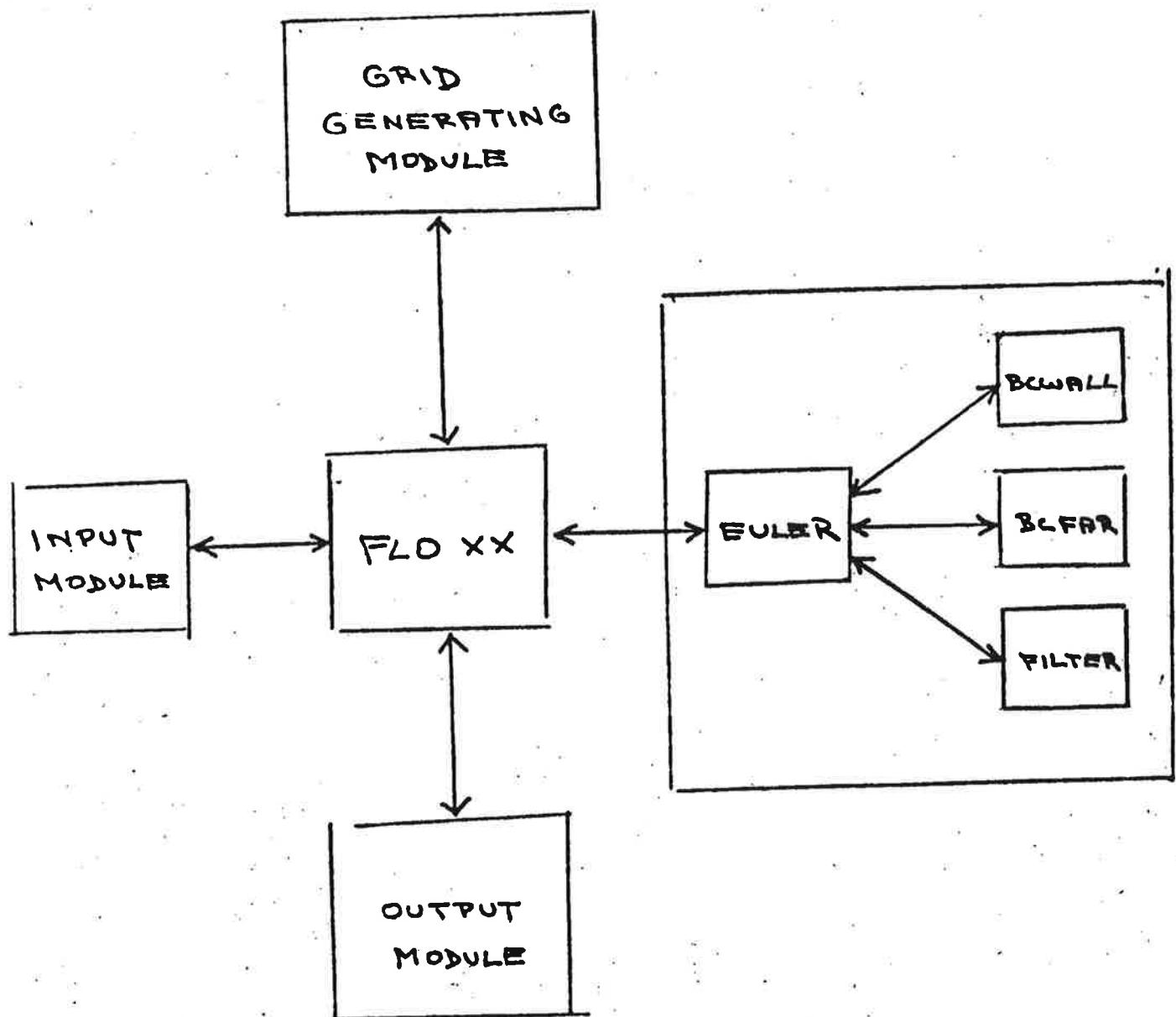
By concentrated thinking

— it pays to carry the whole code
in your head

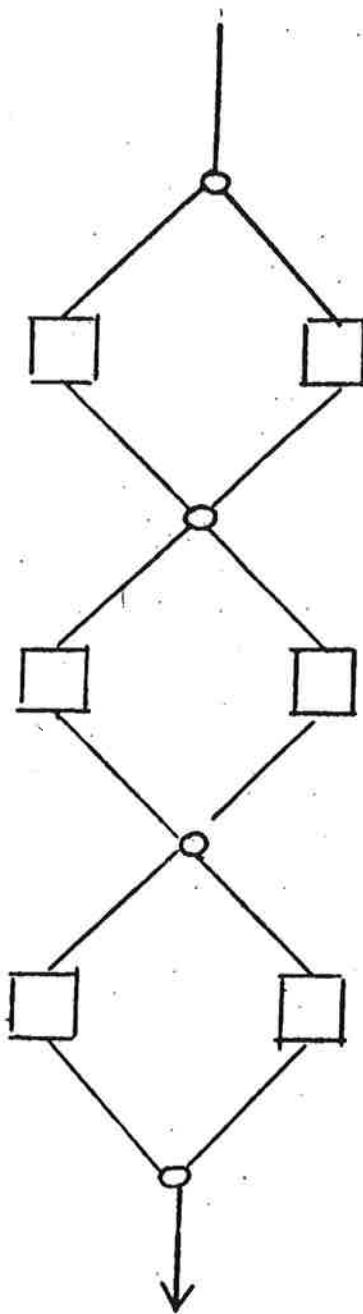
DEFENSIVE PROGRAMMING

- 1) MODULAR STRUCTURE
 - change one thing at a time
- 2) DUAL PATH PROGRAMMING
 - interchangeable subroutines in each segment
- 3) SIMPLICITY: avoid
 - (1) AICS
(acquired if contamination syndrome)
 - (2) RSNS
(random statement number syndrome)
- 4) RIGID PROTOCOL

MODULAR PROGRAMMING

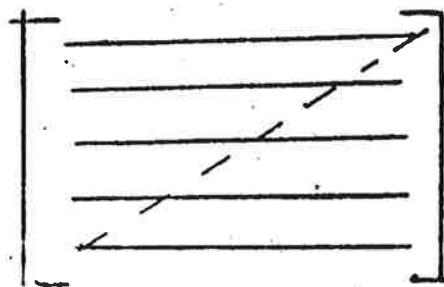


DUAL PATH PROGRAMMING

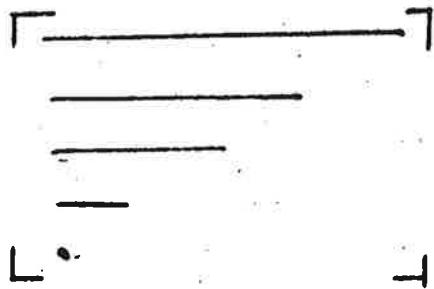


EFFICIENCY SIMPLICITY TRADE-OFF

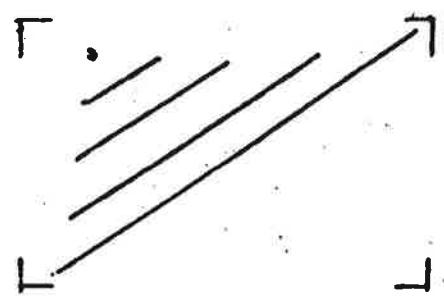
Example: SYMMETRIC MATRICES



Complete storage



Reduced storage
(1)



Reduced storage
(2)

One certain result: schemes (1) and (2) lead to

INCOMPREHENSIBLE CODE