The UCSD Pascal Handbook
A Reference and Guidebook for Programmers
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Before adding another book to the plethora of books about Pascal, we had to convince ourselves that it was worth the effort, that we were not reinventing the wheel. In our own work, for a long time, both of us have needed a complete and unified description of UCSD Pascal. Until now, there has been none.

This Handbook addresses virtually all users of UCSD Pascal—from the programmer who would learn Pascal, and the beginner who needs a reference, to the expert.

We have not tried to teach programming. That would require a radically different organization. The motivations to write a UCSD Pascal reference were, to us at least, more immediate.

UCSD Pascal is a language we have enjoyed using. Its embodiment of the concepts of structured programming makes it simple and useful. We believe in well-structured program development, and our comments and advice will make that clear. But we have no interest in being doctrinaire; we don’t want programmers to follow dogma; we want them to write correct and viable programs. Neither Pascal nor structured programming is a culmination of the programmer’s art; in time we expect to see still more powerful developments. But it will be a very long time before the full potential on Pascal is explored, and the techniques of its use fully mastered.

With those attitudes in mind, we hope that the present volume will be a useful tool for many users, for many years.