

# Jifeng He at Oxford and Beyond: An Appreciation

---

---

EST 1892  
**LSBU**

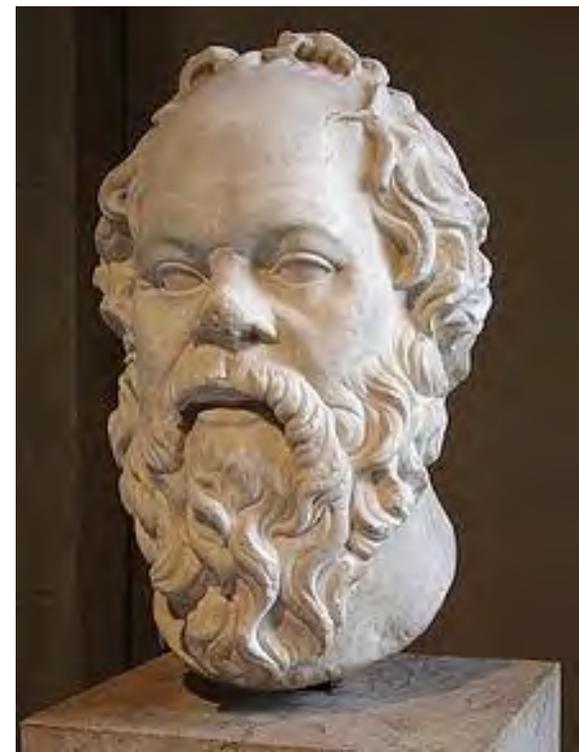


**華東師範大學**  
EAST CHINA NORMAL UNIVERSITY



# Socrates – Σωκράτης

未经审视的生活对于一个人来说是不值得过的



# Jifeng He



# Fudan University



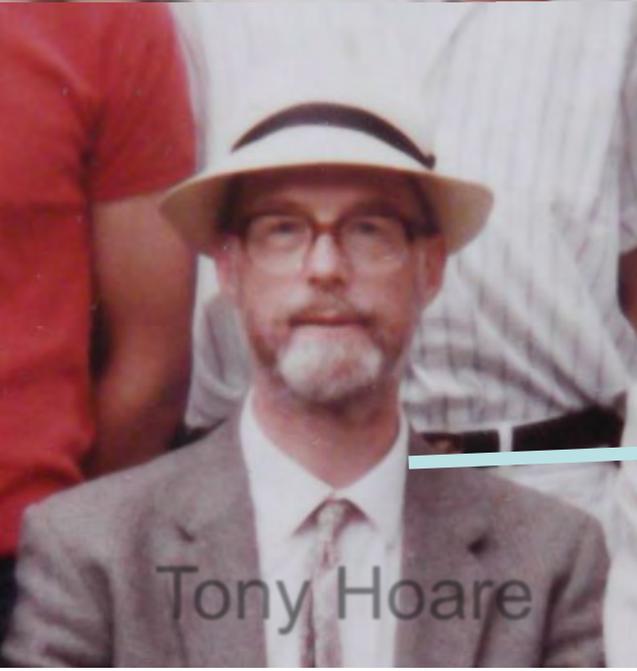
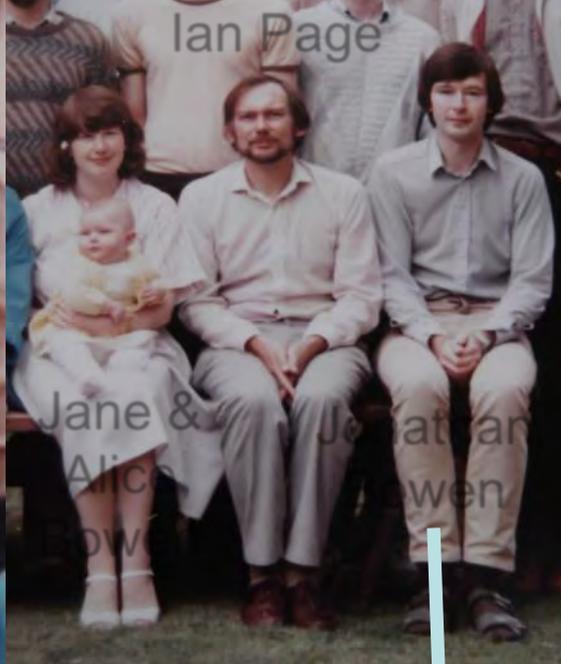
# East China Normal University



# East China Normal University

# Oxford University Computing Laboratory (1983–1998)





Bernard Sufrin

Jim Woodcock

He Jifeng

Bill Roscoe

Ian Page

Jeff Sanders

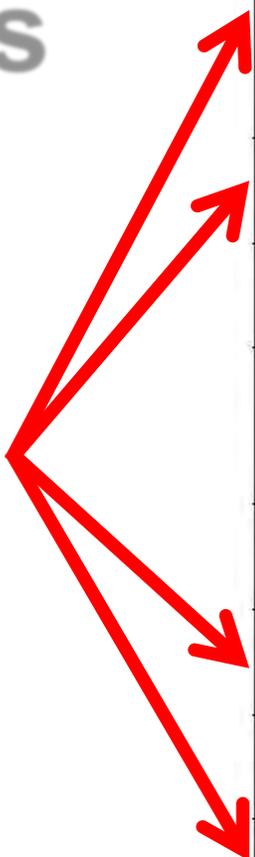
Jane & Alice  
at an  
wen

Tony Hoare



# Top ten papers on Scopus

No.	Title	Authors	Year
1.	Laws of programming	Tony Hoare, Ian Hayes, Jifeng He, Carroll Morgan, Bill Roscoe, Jeff Sanders, Ib Holm Sørensen, Michael Spivey, and Bernard Sufrin	1987
2.	Data refinement refined – Resume	Jifeng He, Tony Hoare, and Jeff Sanders	1986
3.	Probabilistic models for the Guarded Command Language	Jifeng He, Karen Seidel, and Annabelle McIver	1997
4.	The rely-guarantee method for verifying shared variable concurrent programs	Qiwen Xu, Willem-Paul de Roever, and Jifeng He	1997
5.	rCOS: A refinement calculus of object systems	Jifeng He, Xiaoshan Li, and Zhiming Liu	2006
6.	Prespecification in data refinement	Tony Hoare, Jifeng He, and Jeff Sanders	1987
7.	A formal semantics of UML sequence diagram	Xiaoshan Li, Zhiming Liu, and Jifeng He	2004
8.	The weakest prespecification	Tony Hoare and Jifeng He	1987
9.	Normal form approach to compiler design	Tony Hoare, Jifeng He, and Augusto Sampaio	1993
10.	A process algebraic framework for specification and validation of real-time systems	Adnan Sherif, Ana Cavalcanti, Jifeng He, and Augusto Sampaio	2010





# Esprit '90

## Conference Proceedings

*An Algebraic Approach to Verifiable Compiling Specification and Prototyping of the ProCoS Level 0 Programming Language*, C.A.R. Hoare, Jifeng He, Jonathan Bowen and Paritosh Pandya. In *ESPRIT '90 Conference Proceedings*, Brussels, Belgium, 12–15 November 1990, Kluwer Academic Publishers, pages 804–818, 1990.

KLUWER ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS

for the

Commission of the European Communities

DG XIII: Telecommunications, Information Industries and Innovation

Project no. 3104 BRA ProCoS project: Provably Correct Systems

### AN ALGEBRAIC APPROACH TO VERIFIABLE COMPILING SPECIFICATION AND PROTOTYPING OF THE PROCOS LEVEL 0 PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE

C.A.R. Hoare He Jifeng Jonathan Bowen Paritosh Pandya

*Oxford University Computing Laboratory  
Programming Research Group*

*Oxford OX1 3QD  
England*

*Phone: +44-865-273838 Fax: +44-865-273839  
E-mail: procos@prg.oxford.ac.uk*



**SUMMARY.** A compiler is specified by a description of how each construct of the source language is translated into a sequence of object code instructions. The meaning of the object code can be defined by an interpreter written in the source language itself. A proof that the compiler is correct must show that interpretation of the object code is at least good (for any relevant purpose) as the corresponding source program. The proof is conducted using standard techniques of data refinement. All the calculations are based on algebraic laws governing the source language. The theorems are expressed in a form close to a logic program, which may be used as a compiler prototype, or a check on the results of a particular compilation. A subset of the *occam* programming language and the *transputer* instruction set are used to illustrate the approach. An advantage of the method is that it is possible to add new programming constructs without affecting existing development work.

#### 1. Introduction

Compilation is specified as a relation between a source program  $p$  and the corresponding object code  $c$ . Further details of compilation are given by a symbol table  $\Psi$ , mapping the global identifiers of  $p$  to storage locations of the target machine. This compilation relation will be abbreviated as a predicate

$$Cpc\Psi$$

The internal structure of  $p$ ,  $c$  and  $\Psi$  will be elaborated as the need arises.

Improvement is a relation between a product  $q$  and a product  $p$  that holds whenever for any purpose the observable behaviour of  $q$  is as good as or better than that of  $p$ . Precisely, if  $q$  satisfies every specification satisfied by  $p$ , and maybe more. For example,

# Time Interval Semantics and Implementation of a Real-Time Programming Language

He Jifeng  
Jonathan Bowen

Oxford University Computing Laboratory  
Programming Research Group  
11 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3QD, UK



Jifeng.He@comlab.ox.ac.uk  
Jonathan.Bowen@comlab.ox.ac.uk

Thanks to ESPRIT BRA 3104 **ProCoS** project  
and UK IED SafEMOS project (IED3/1/1036).

# The Acropolis, Athens, 1992



# Hardware compilation

Lecture Notes in  
Computer Science

683

George J. Milne Laurence Pierre (Eds.)

Correct Hardware Design  
and Verification Methods

IFIP WG10.2 Advanced Research Working Conference, CHARME '93  
Arles, France, May 1993  
Proceedings



Springer-Verlag



## Towards a Provably Correct Hardware Implementation of Occam

He Jifeng\*, Ian Page and Jonathan Bowen\*\*

Oxford University Computing Laboratory, Programming Research Group  
11 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3QD, England  
Email: {Jifeng.He,Ian.Page,Jonathan.Bowen}@comlab.ox.ac.uk

**Abstract.** This paper shows how to compile a program written in a subset of **occam** into a *normal form* suitable for further processing into a netlist of components which may be loaded into a *Field-Programmable Gate Array* (FPGA). A simple state-machine model is adopted for specifying the behaviour of a synchronous circuit where the observable includes the state of the control path and the data path of the circuit. We identify the behaviour of a circuit with a program consisting of a very restricted subset of **occam**. Algebraic laws are used to facilitate the transformation from a program into a normal form. The compiling specification is presented as a set of theorems that must be proved correct with respect to these laws. A rapid prototype compiler in the form of a logic program may be implemented from these theorems.

■ PROVABLY CORRECT ■  
SYSTEMS

Modelling of Communication Languages  
and Design of Optimized Compilers

---

HE JIFENG



THE MCGRAW-HILL  
INTERNATIONAL  
SERIES IN SOFTWARE  
ENGINEERING ■





# ProCoS Working Group



# *Unifying Theories of Programming* (1998)

---

Tony Hoare: *“I must emphasise that all the effective research was conducted by Jifeng, who formalized the definitions, postulated the axioms, and proved the theorems. I enjoyed discussing the goal of research with him, and I wrote much of the English prose. But all of the new results were due to him.”*



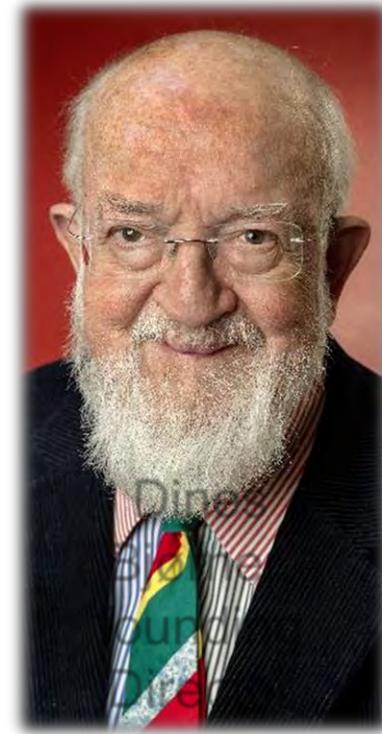
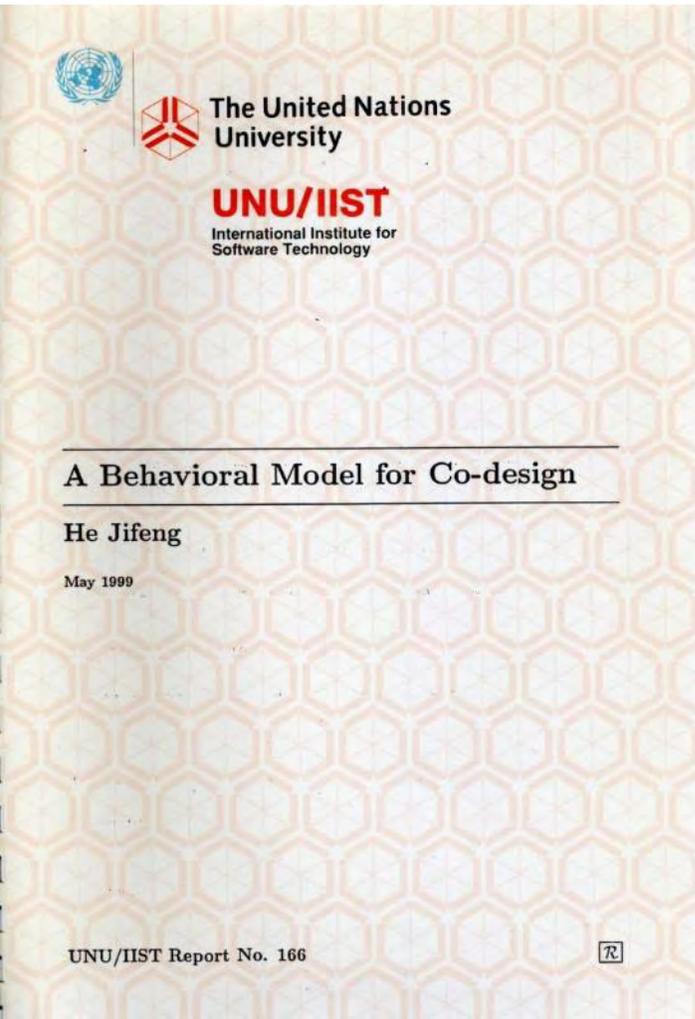
Prentice Hall Series in Computer Science

## Unifying Theories of Programming

C.A.R. Hoare  
He Jifeng

Series Editors  
C.A.R. Hoare and Richard Bird

# UNU/IIST, Macau (1998–2005)



# Jifeng He





# Shanghai, 2013

## Poster in a public walkway



上海好儿女

我和名师有个约会 教师节专题

“He is the first [Chinese] academician in the field of computer science in Shanghai, has initiated an international school of software theory, and is acknowledged as a leader in Asian software theory. At the age of 70, he always cares about students, promotes the reform of undergraduate education and teaching, manages to organize awards and grants for students, teaches with a scientific attitude, and educates people with care.”

何积丰

中国科学院院士、华东师范大学教授

第三届上海市教育功臣

他是上海高校第一位计算机领域的院士，

开创了软件理论的国际学派，被誉为亚洲软件理论第一人。

70岁的他始终心系学生，

推动本科生教育教学改革，为学生四处

奔走设立奖助学金，以科学的态度教书，以

温润的情怀育人。

第三届  
上海市教育功臣

庆祝  
第29届教师节



# 70th birthday Festschrift, 2013



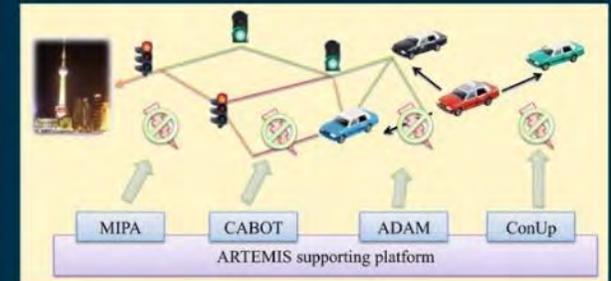
Festschrift

LNCS 8051

Zhiming Liu  
Jim Woodcock  
Huibiao Zhu (Eds.)

## Theories of Programming and Formal Methods

Essays Dedicated to Jifeng He  
on the Occasion of His 70th Birthday



# *Unifying Theories of Programming* symposia

Jonathan P. Bowen  
Huibiao Zhu (Eds.)

LNCS 10134

## Unifying Theories of Programming

6th International Symposium, UTP 2016  
Reykjavik, Iceland, June 4–5, 2016  
Revised Selected Papers

---

He, Jifeng (2016), *A New Roadmap for  
Linking Theories of Programming*. In UTP  
2016, Springer, LNCS 10134, pp. 26–43.

 Springer

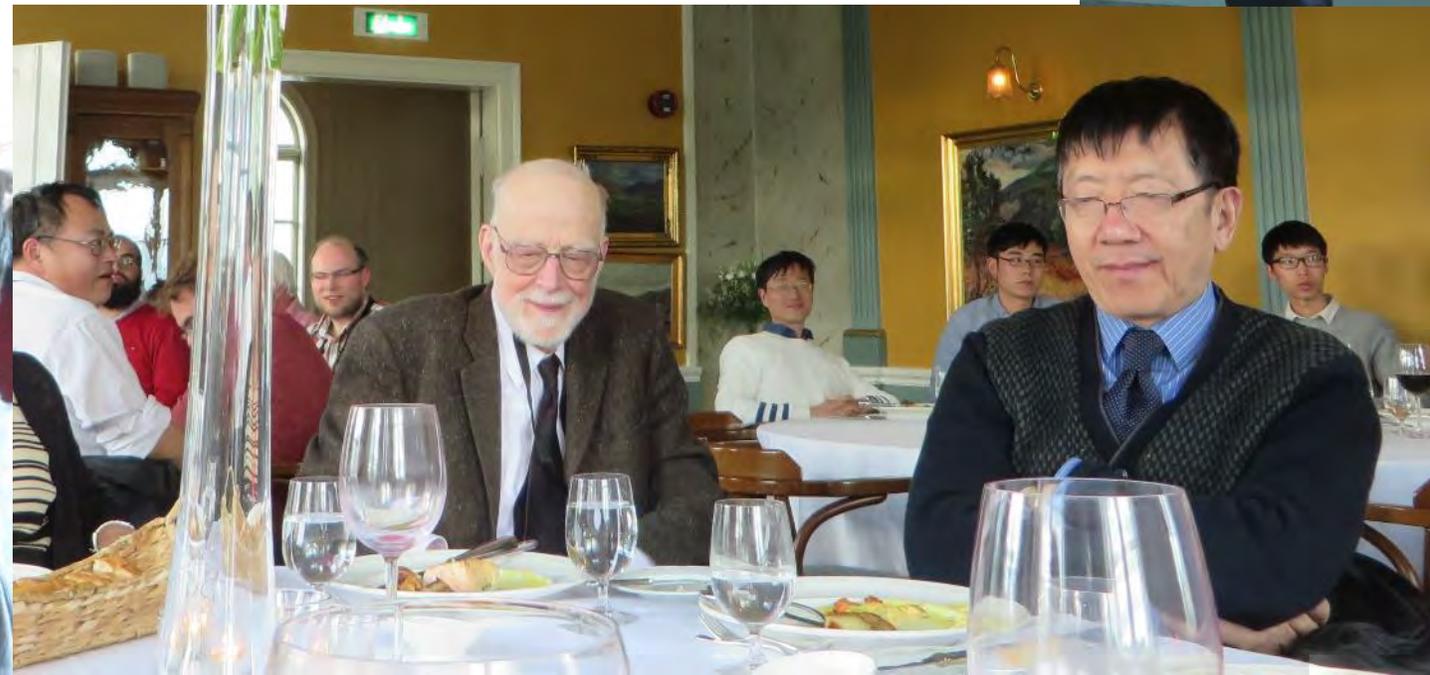
# UTP 2016, Reykjavik – photographic memories



# UTP 2016, Reykjavik – photographic memories



# UTP 2016, Reykjavik – photographic memories



# BCS-FACS, London, 2018

Invited talk by Jifeng He  
Commentary by Tony Hoare



# Artificial Intelligence

---

Speaking at the World AI Conference  
(WAIC) held in Shanghai, Sept. 2022.  
(Photograph supplied by Kelly He.)



**Jifeng He**



# Jifeng He

何  
积  
丰  
||  
||  
||  
||  
||  
胡  
锦  
涛



## 国家自然科学奖 证书

为表彰国家自然科学奖获得者，特  
颁发此证书。

项目名称：设计严格安全软件的完备演算系统

奖励等级：二等

获 奖 者：何积丰(华东师范大学)



证书号：2002-Z-107-2-03-01

# Jifeng He

UNIVERSITY OF YORK



The Honorary Degree of

Doctor of the University

was conferred upon

**Professor He Jifeng**

on the seventeenth day of April 2010

  
David Johnson  
Rector and Senate

  
Peter Carter  
Vice-Chancellor



# Jifeng He



# Jifeng He



# 80th birthday Festschrift, 2023



Festschrift

LNCS 14080

## Theories of Programming and Formal Methods

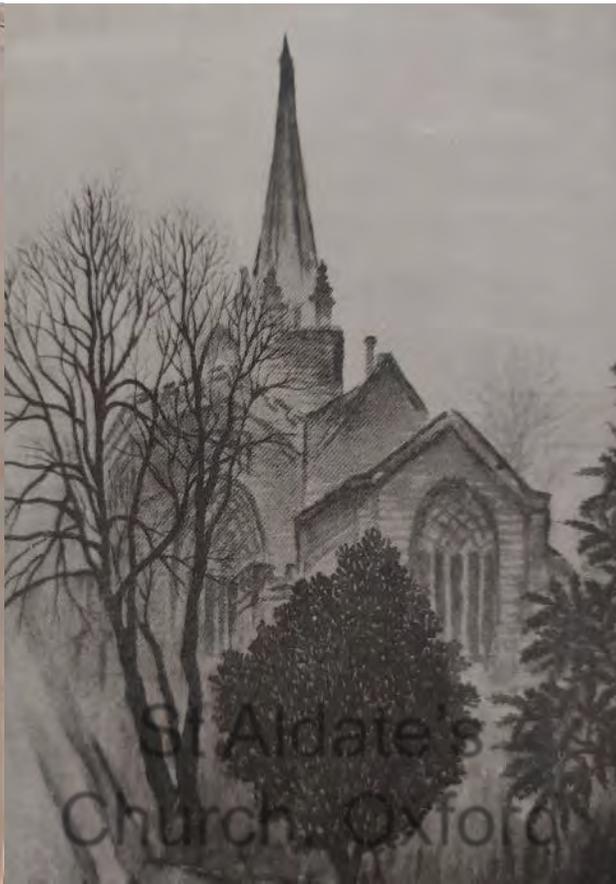
Essays Dedicated to Jifeng He  
on the Occasion of His 80th Birthday



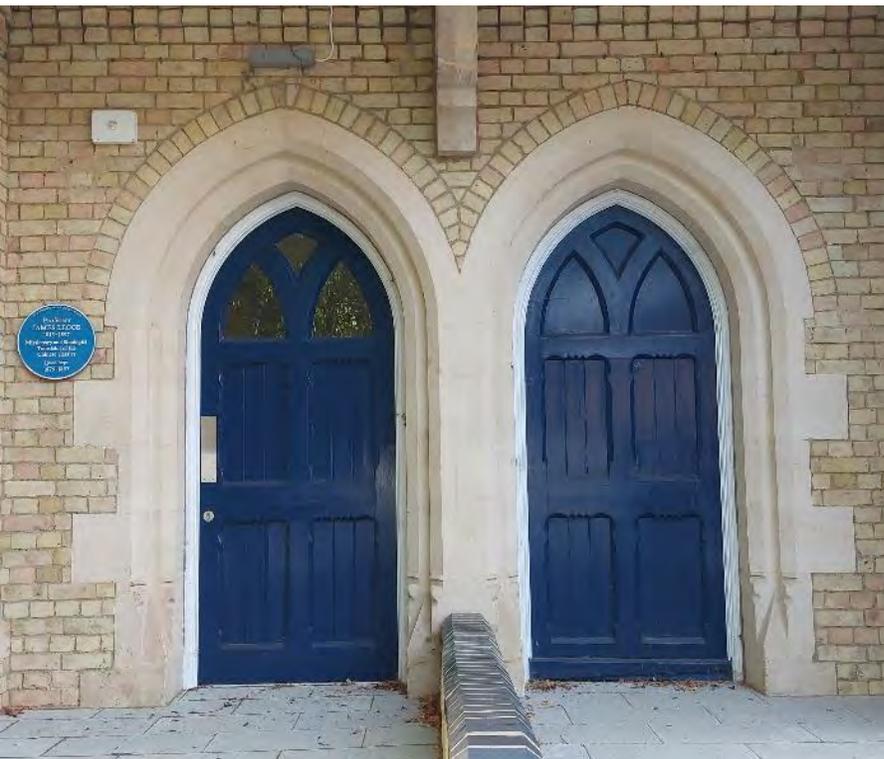
 Springer

# Commemorative Blue Plaques (Oxford)

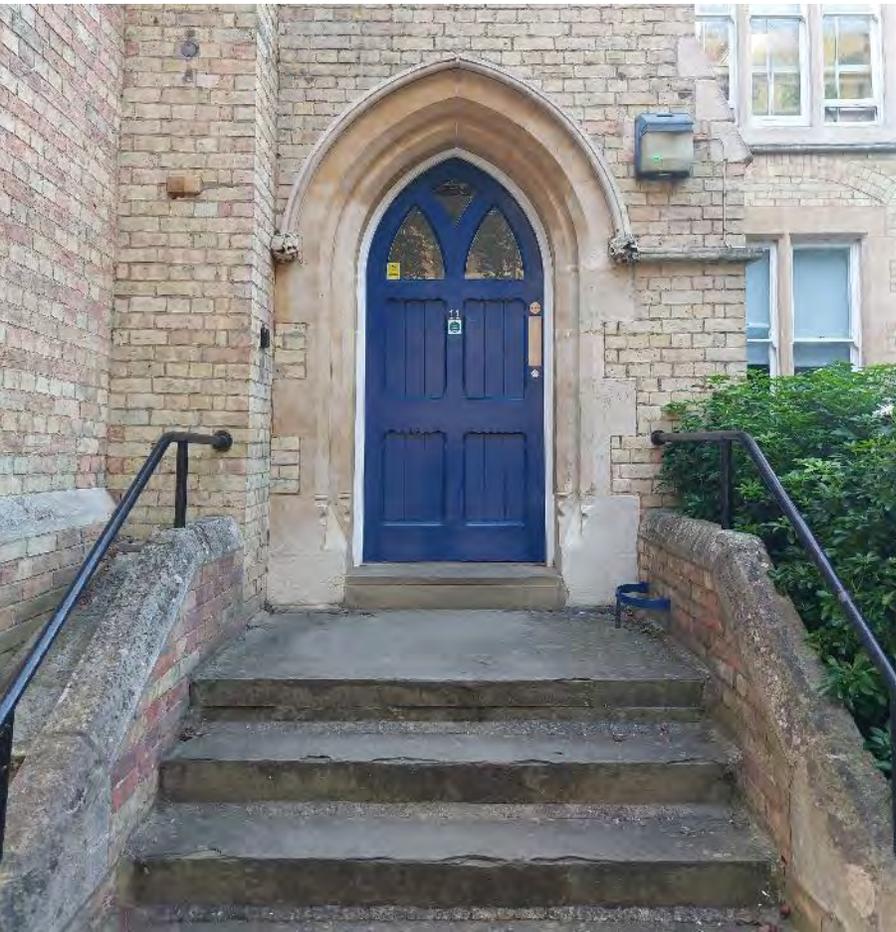
蒋彝



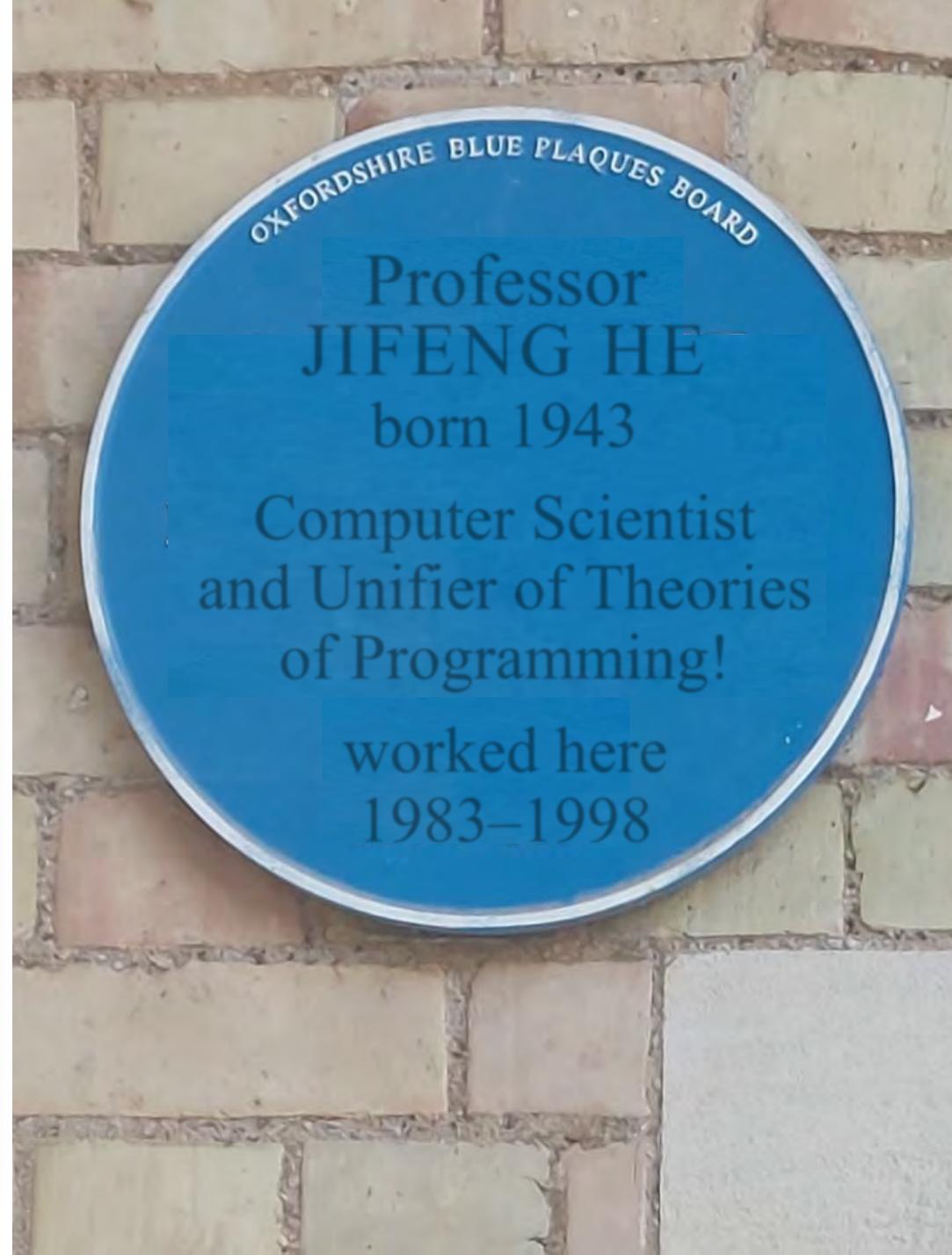
# 3 Keble Road, Oxford



# Oxford University Computing Laboratory (11 Keble Road)



# Oxford University Computing Laboratory (11 Keble Road)





Jifeng He (何积丰)



Happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday!



# Jifeng He at Oxford and Beyond: An Appreciation

---

---

EST 1892  
**LSBU**



**華東師範大學**  
EAST CHINA NORMAL UNIVERSITY