

Luca Cardelli

Principal Researcher

Luca Cardelli is a Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research Cambridge. He heads the Programming Principles and Tools Group and his main interests are in type theory and operational semantics, mostly for applications to language design and distributed computing. Currently he is working in Computational Systems Biology.



Background

Luca implemented the first compiler for ML (the most popular typed functional language) and one of the earliest direct-manipulation user-interface editors. He was a member of the Modula-3 design committee and has designed a few experimental languages, of which the latest are Obliq, a distributed higher-order scripting language, and Polyphonic C#, an object-oriented language with modern concurrency abstractions. His more protracted research activity has been in establishing the semantic and type-theoretic foundations of object-oriented languages.

Luca was born in Montecatini Terme, Italy, studied at the University of Pisa until 1978 and has a Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Edinburgh (1982). He worked at Bell Labs, Murray Hill, from 1982 to 1985 and at Digital Equipment Corporation, Systems Research Center in Palo Alto, from 1985 to 1997 before assuming his current position at Microsoft Research in Cambridge.

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