

## Outline of Dijkstra on GOTO:

### I. Introduction

- A. Use of gotos inversely proportional to quality of programs
- B. Goto statements have disastrous effects and should be abolished

### II. Remarks

- A. Dynamic behavior of a process has to satisfy specifications
- B. Dynamic behavior differs from static process or writing code and is out of programmers control
- C. Humans are better able to understand static behavior
- D. Static and dynamic behavior need to be lined up as best we can

### III. Characterization of the dynamic process

- A. Need independent coordinates: dynamic chain of IPs
- B. Assignment statements and if-then-else only need IP
- C. Procedures need dynamic chain
- D. Iteration can be viewed as recursive procedure

### IV. Unbridled use of goto

- A. Hard to find meaningful coordinate to describe process
- B. Counting number of actions works but is not helpful

### V. Goto

- A. Too primitive
- B. Invitation to make a mess
- C. Bridled use would be better
- D. With programmer independent coordinates that describe process in a helpful and meaningful way

### VI. Concluding remarks

- A. Other people agree with me
- B. Goto is superfluous anyway