Leslie Lamport's Properties and Actions

(Abstract)

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Since the 1970s, Leslie Lamport has done substantial work on specification and verification methods. This work might be regarded as complementary to his other celebrated research on concurrency and distributed computing, perhaps sometimes even as secondary. However, this work is excellent in its own right. It introduces (or distills) many original and useful ideas. These include the important definitions of safety and liveness properties, and later the insightful conception of a temporal logic of actions.

This talk will describe some of Lamport's ideas and results on specification and verification methods. It will touch on the impact of some of those ideas on the speaker (who collaborated closely with Lamport for several years) and on the field.