2001 Paper 6 Question 5

Comparative Programming Languages

- (a) Briefly explain the concept of coroutines as used in BCPL and outline the effect of the library functions createco(f, size), deleteco(ctpr), callco(cptr, val) and cowait(val). [10 marks]
- (b) Outline how you would design a coroutine to merge, in increasing order, two infinite streams of increasing integers supplied by two other coroutines.

[5 marks]

(c) Briefly outline how you would implement an analogous merging mechanism in an object-oriented language, such as Java, that does not provide a coroutine mechanism. [5 marks]