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Acupuncture is widely practised in the 21st century in scientifically developed countries for a wide range of ailments ranging from chronic pain, giddiness and high blood pressure to gastrointestinal disorders and sexual dysfunction. Yet the reasons for its vaunted efficacy remain a matter of controversy. In traditional Chinese medical theory, the mechanism of action in acupuncture was understood in terms of the flow of qi and the balance of yin and yang through the body's meridians, a complex network painstaking charted but never found. Modern medical researchers have examined old and new needling points, and some view them as "trigger points" that stimulate physiological responses in the body. There is also clear evidence of strong placebo effects, although it has not been conclusively established that that this is either the main or the only significant effect. This volume contains twelve articles covering the latest scientific explanations of the mechanism of acupuncture and critical reviews of clinical trials on its efficacy by leading scholars, including Edzard Ernst at Exeter, Lixing Lao at the University of Maryland, PC Leung at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Thomas Lundeberg at Karolinska Institute. Hong Hai is Senior Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies and Adjunct Professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and Director of the Renhai Clinic. Contents:Scientific Explanations for Acupuncture:Mechanisms of Acupuncture in Pain: A Physiological Perspective in a Clinical Context (Thomas Lundeberg)Explanatory Nature, Models, Needs and Requirements for Testing Them (Stephen Birch)The Ontological Status of Meridians (Hong Hai)Modern Scientific Explanation of Traditional Acupuncture Theory (Ching-Liang Hsieh)Cognitive Neuroscience, Acupuncture and Pain Treatment. Does a Sting Always Hurt? (K Theodoratou)Clinical Trials and Placebo Effects:Frequent Weaknesses in Acupuncture Trials (Edzard Ernst)The Complexities Inherent in Placebo-Controlled Acupuncture Studies (Lixing Lao, Lizhen Wang and Ruixin Zhang)Research Methodology in Acupuncture (Tat-Leang Lee and Zhen Zheng)The Use of Placebos in Acupuncture Trials (Dylan Evans)Improving the Quality of Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) in Acupuncture (Zhaoxiang Bian, Chungwah Cheng, Linda Chan, Mandy Cheung, Min Li and Zhixiu Lin)Acupuncture Treatment for Addiction (Ping-Chung Leung, Ellie S Y Pang, Lang Zhang and Eliza L Y Wong)Dense Cranial Electroacupuncture Stimulation for Neuropsychiatric Disorders: Rationale and Clinical Application (Zhang-Jin Zhang and Sui-Cheung Man) Readership: Medical professionals, both Western medical doctors and TCM practitioners, acupuncturists, researchers and students. Also, libraries of TCM professional associations and teaching institutes. Keywords:Acupuncture;Clinical Trials;Meridians;Trigger Points;Yin and YangKey Features:This book presents the latest clinical trials and theories on acupuncture, offering information and insights not easily available elsewhereContains chapters written by some of the world's leading thinkers and researchers in this fieldAn important addition to the scientific literature on acupuncture and a valuable resource for students, teachers, researchers and practitioners of this important treatment modality in modern medicine

Using clear language, this book shows you how to build in, evaluate, and demonstrate reliability and availability of components, equipment, and systems. It presents the state of the art in theory and practice, and is based on the author's 30 years' experience, half in industry and half as professor of reliability engineering at the ETH, Zurich. In this extended edition, new models and considerations have been added for reliability data analysis and fault tolerant reconfigurable repairable systems including reward and frequency / duration aspects. New design rules for imperfect switching, incomplete coverage, items with more than 2 states, and phased-mission systems, as well as a Monte Carlo approach useful for rare events are given. Trends in quality management are outlined. Methods and tools are given in such a way that they

can be tailored to cover different reliability requirement levels and be used to investigate safety as well. The book contains a large number of tables, figures, and examples to support the practical aspects.

This book provides an explanation of whole-system structures and relationships rather than isolated circuits or devices. It is committed to showing how the devices of modern electronics are applied in realistic industrial applications, and makes every effort to help you reach the skill level needed for carrying out your job responsibilities. It thoroughly examines a wide variety of systems—from PLCs to industrial robots—and includes a wealth of background information regarding the economic importance and/or environmental impact of the production process involved in the system. A book for the Industrial Electronics Technician or Engineering Technologist who want current information showing how the devices of modern electronics are applied in realistic industrial applications.

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SIMATIC S7-300 has been specially designed for innovative system solutions in the manufacturing industry, and with a diverse range of controllers it offers the optimal solution for applications in centralized and distributed configurations. Alongside standard automation safety technology and motion control can also be integrated. The TIA Portal user interface is tuned to intuitive operation and encompasses all the requirements of automation within its range of functions: from configuring the controller, through programming in the different languages, all the way to the program test and simulation. For beginners engineering is easy to learn and for professionals it is fast and efficient. This book describes the configuration of devices and network for the S7-300 components inside the new engineering framework TIA Portal. With STEP 7 Professional V12, configuring and programming of all SIMATIC controllers will be possible in a simple and efficient way; in addition to various technology functions the block library also contains a PID control. As reader of the book you learn how a control program is formulated and tested with the programming languages LAD, FBD, STL and SCL. Descriptions of configuring the distributed I/O with PROFIBUS DP and PROFINET IO using SIMATIC S7-300 and exchanging data via Industrial Ethernet round out the book.

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