

# Preface

This volume constitutes the proceedings of REFLECTION 2001, the Third International Conference on Metalevel Architectures and Separation of Crosscutting Concerns, which was held in Kyoto, September 25-28, 2001.

Metalevel architectures and reflection have drawn the attention of researchers and practitioners throughout computer science. Reflective and metalevel techniques are being used to address real-world problems in such areas as: programming languages, operating systems, databases, distributed computing, expert systems and web computing.

Separation of concerns has been a guiding principle of software engineering for nearly 30 years, but its known benefits are seldom fully achieved in practice. This is primarily because traditional mechanisms are not powerful enough to handle many kinds of concerns that occur in practice. Over the last 10 years, to overcome the limitations of traditional frameworks, many researchers, including several from the reflection community, have proposed new approaches.

For the first time, papers on advanced approaches to separation of concerns were explicitly solicited. Following the success of previous conferences such as IMSA'92 in Tokyo, Reflection'96 in San Francisco, and Reflection'99 in Saint Malo, we hope that the conference provided an excellent forum for researchers with a broad range of interests in metalevel architectures, reflective techniques, and separation of concerns in general.

Given such a background in paper solicitation, 44 papers were submitted from throughout the world. There was a good mixture of papers on reflection, papers on SOC issues, and those at the crossroads of the two. Through a strict review process including a program committee meeting (of nearly 20 attendees) held in Paris in early May, 11 long papers and 7 short papers were accepted. In order to spur discussion in a technically tight community, the program committee also elected to solicit posters, of which 8 were accepted and whose abstracts are being presented in the proceedings as well.

Kyoto is well-known as an ancient capital in Japan, with numerous historical landmarks. We hope that the concentrated four-day efforts there also played a decisive role in establishing a good intermixture of the reflection and SOC communities, which will lead to the construction of more effective software frameworks.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of the organizing committee, the program committee, and especially Hirotaka Ogawa who carried out more than several administrative tasks including the maintenance of the conference web site and the overview of the electronic paper submission system. We would also like to thank the technical contributors to the conference without whom the conference would not have happened.

July 2001

Akinori Yonezawa  
Satoshi Matsuoka

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REFLECTION 2001 was organized by the following committees under the auspices of AITO (Association Internationale pour les Technologies Objets).

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