

Preface

ECOOP is the premier forum in Europe for bringing together practitioners, researchers, and students to share their ideas and experiences in a broad range of disciplines woven with the common thread of object technology. It is a collage of events, including outstanding invited speakers, carefully refereed technical papers, practitioner reports reflecting real-world experience, panels, topic-focused workshops, demonstrations, and an interactive posters session.

The 18th ECOOP 2004 conference held during June 14–18, 2004 in Oslo, Norway represented another year of continued success in object-oriented programming, both as a topic of academic study and as a vehicle for industrial software development. Object-oriented technology has come of age; it is now the commonly established method for most software projects. However, an expanding field of applications and new technological challenges provide a strong demand for research in foundations, design and programming methods, as well as implementation techniques. There is also an increasing interest in the integration of object-orientation with other software development techniques. We anticipate therefore that object-oriented programming will be a fruitful subject of research for many years to come.

This year, the program committee received 132 submissions, of which 25 were accepted for publication after a thorough reviewing process. Every paper received at least 4 reviews. Papers were evaluated based on relevance, significance, clarity, originality, and correctness. The topics covered include: programming concepts, program analysis, software engineering, aspects and components, middleware, verification, systems and implementation techniques. These were complemented by two invited talks, from Matthias Felleisen and Tom Henzinger. Their titles and abstracts are also included in these proceedings.

The success of a major conference such as ECOOP is due to the dedication of many people. I would like to thank the authors for submitting a high number of quality papers; selecting a subset of papers to be published from these was not easy. I would also like to thank the 22 members of the program committee for producing careful reviews, and for sometimes lengthy discussions during the program committee meeting, which was held February 5th and 6th in Lausanne. I thank the general chair of the conference, Birger Møller-Pedersen, and the local organizer, Arne Maus, for productive collaborations in planning the conference and for helping on a number of logistical issues. The AITO Executive Board gave useful guidance. Richard van de Stadt provided invaluable computer-assisted support for the electronic reviewing process, the PC meeting, as well as the production of these proceedings. Finally, Yvette Dubuis at EPFL provided administrative and logistic assistance for running the PC meeting.

Organization

ECOOOP 2004 was organized by the University of Oslo, the Norwegian Computing Center and Sintef, under the auspices of AITO (Association Internationale pour les Technologies Objets), and in cooperation with ACM SIGPLAN.



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