

Preface

This book represents the result of a community effort and cooperation to create and develop modeling methods and languages, based on the OMiLAB¹ Collaborative Environment.

It aims to increase the visibility of domain-specific conceptual modeling by presenting work of thought leaders who designed and deployed a specific modeling method. Furthermore it provides a hands-on guidance on how to build models in a particular domain, such as requirements in engineering, business process modeling or enterprise architecture. Not only the results are presented, but also the ideas for future developments are communicated.

All this is enriched with any exercises, case studies, papers and updated information the authors deem important. All domain-specific methods described in this volume have also a tool implementation within the OMiLAB. This opens up possibilities to involve a wide community of further developers and users.

The Open Models Laboratory (OMiLAB) is a dedicated research and experimentation space for modeling method engineering. Being both a physical and virtual place, it is equipped with tools to explore method creation and design, experiment with method engineering and deploy software tools for modeling. The laboratory offers also a portal, through which the scientific community can bring in their ideas related to conceptual modeling issues and engage in their exploration process.

We are confident that this book will benefit experts and practitioners from academia and industry, members of the conceptual modeling community as well as lecturers and students.

A large scientific community was involved in creating this book and we would like to extend our gratitude to each and everyone for their contribution. First of all, we thank all the authors who submitted their work and provided their expertise in

¹www.omilab.org

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We highly appreciate the efforts from all of those involved!

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Dimitris Karagiannis
Heinrich C. Mayr
John Mylopoulos

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Concepts, Methods and Tools

Karagiannis, D.; Mayr, H.C.; Mylopoulos, J. (Eds.)

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