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Software Composition

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Preface

Research in software composition investigates models and techniques to build systems from predefined, pretested, reusable components instead of building them from scratch. In recent years, this idea has largely been adopted by industry. In the shape of service-oriented architecture, software composition has become an influential design paradigm, especially for the (re-)organization of the IT infrastructure of organizations. On the technical level, the standardization of Web services and other composition technologies has further matured.

Current research in software composition aims at (further) developing composition models and techniques. The aspect-oriented programming and design paradigm, for instance, has gained interest in the research community as a composition (support) model. Other current research questions concern the specification of component contracts, in particular making explicit its observable behavior, and methods of correct components composition. The International Symposium on Software Composition provides a premier forum for discussing these kinds of research questions and presenting original research results.

This LNCS volume contains the proceedings of the 5th International Symposium on Software Composition, which was held as a satellite event of the European Joint Conferences on Theory and Practice of Software (ETAPS) in Vienna, Austria, March, 25-26 2006. The symposium started with a keynote on "Semantically Enabled Service-Oriented Architectures" given by Dieter Fensel, Director of the Digital Research Institute. The main program consisted of presentations of research papers on software compositions. These proceedings contain the revised versions of the papers presented at SC 2006.

We selected 21 technical papers out of 60 submissions. Each paper went through a thorough revision processes and was reviewed by three to five reviewers followed by an electronic Program Committee discussion. We would like to thank the Program Committee members and the external reviewers for selecting a set of diverse and excellent papers and making SC 2006 a success.

We would like to express our gratitude to the European Network of Excellence on Aspect-Oriented Software Development (AOSD-Europe) and to the International Federation for Information Processing, Technical Committee on Software: Theory and Practice (IFIP, TC 2) for sponsoring this event. Finally, we would like to thank the organizers of ETAPS 2006 for hosting and providing an excellent organizational framework for SC 2006.

June 2006

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Table of Contents

Automatic Checking of Component Protocols in Component-Based Systems 1
Wolf Zimmermann, Michael Schaarschmidt

Checking Component Composability 18
Christian Attiogbé, Pascal André, Gilles Ardourel

Static Verification of Indirect Data Sharing in Loosely-coupled Component Systems 34
Lieven Desmet, Frank Piessens, Wouter Joosen, Pierre Verbaeten

Enforcing Different Contracts in Hierarchical Component-Based Systems 50
Philippe Collet, Alain Ozanne, Nicolas Rivierre

Automated Pattern-Based Pointcut Generation 66
Mathieu Braem, Kris Gybels, Andy Kellens, Wim Vanderperren

An Aspect-Oriented Approach for Developing Self-Adaptive Fractal Components 82
Pierre-Charles David, Thomas Ledoux

Aspects of Composition in the Reflex AOP Kernel 98
Éric Tanter

A Component-Based Approach to Compose Transaction Standards 114
Romain Rouvoy, Patricia Serrano-Alvarado, Philippe Merle

A Class-Based Object Calculus of Dynamic Binding: Reduction and Properties 131
Paweł T. Wojciechowski

Tracechecks: Defining Semantic Interfaces with Temporal Logic 147
Eric Bodden, Volker Stolz

Service Composition with Directories 163
Ion Constantinescu, Walter Binder, Boi Faltings

Modeling Composition in Dynamic Programming Environments with Model Transformations 178
Uwe Zdun, Mark Strembeck

General Composition of Software Artifacts 194
William Harrison, Harold Ossher, Peri Tarr

Dimensions of Composition Models for Supporting Software Evolution ... 211
In-Gyu Kim, Tegegne Marew, Doo-Hwan Bae, Jang-Eui Hong, Sang-Yoon Min

Context-Aware Aspects ... 227
Éric Tanter, Kris Gybels, Marcus Denker, Alexandre Bergel

Understanding Design Patterns Density with Aspects ... 243
Simon Denier, Pierre Cointe

A Model for Developing Component-Based and Aspect-Oriented Systems ... 259
Nicolas Pessemier, Lionel Seinturier, Thierry Coupaye, Laurence Duchien

FROGi: Fractal Components Deployment over OSGi ... 275
Mikael Desertot, Humberto Cervantes, Didier Donsez

Modular Design of Man-Machine Interfaces with Larissa ... 291
Karine Altisen, Florence Maraninchi, David Stauch

On the Integration of Classboxes into C# ... 307
Markus Lumpe, Jean-Guy Schneider

Automatic Control Flow Generation from Software Architectures ... 323
Kung-Kiu Lau, Vladyslav Ukis

Author Index ... 339