

## SoSyM at 7 years

Robert France · Bernhard Rumpe · Martin Schindler

Published online: 20 November 2008  
© Springer-Verlag 2008

Over its 7 years in circulation, SoSyM, the International Journal on Software and Systems Modeling, has received a reputation for publishing quality research and experience papers on building and using models in the development of software-based systems. During that time, we have witnessed a growing body of experience related to the use of modeling techniques in practice. The insights gained have led to the development of better solutions, but, more importantly, they have led to (1) a deeper understanding of some of the more critical problems that practitioners face when applying current modeling technologies, and (2) a broader vision of model-driven engineering (MDE) that encompasses not only development, but also software operation. Papers published in SoSyM, and in a number of related conferences and workshops that have contributed to special SoSyM issues, have made significant contributions to this growing body of experience and research on modeling software-based systems. Given the growing maturity of SoSyM, we decided to seek inclusion in the Thomson ISI Science Citation Index. We are happy to tell you that SoSyM has been part of this index since 2007. Our inclusion in the Science Citation Index allows us to better track the impact that SoSyM has on the modeling community and will further increase the number of high quality papers that we will see in the future.

As we have done on previous anniversaries, we take this opportunity to give a “state of the journal” report and to acknowledge the reviewers, editors, and publication staff that

have contributed to another very good year of publication. We thank these dedicated persons who have contributed to the success of the journal, as well as you the readers.

### The 2008 “State of the Journal” Report

At the beginning of 2008, the electronic version of SoSyM was included in the Google index. As a result the online access increased significantly from roughly 900 downloads/month to more than 1,500 downloads/month.

We continue to have a stable number of new manuscripts submitted to the journal. This has kept the load of the editors at a high level, and we thank them for willingly accepting the assignments every year. The average number of days from submission to a first decision over the last four years is approximately 3 months. The final decision is made after 6 months in average which also includes the time the authors need to prepare a revision taking changes recommended by the editor and reviewers into account. We thank our editors and reviewers for their effort in this respect. We understand how difficult it is to balance review responsibilities with other responsibilities and greatly appreciate your effort to complete reviews in a timely manner.

In the past year, we were able to extend the editorial board with the following editors:

- Bernhard Schätz, TU München, Germany
- Thomas Kühne, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- Jürgen Dingel, Queen’s University, Canada
- Joanne Atlee, University of Waterloo, Canada
- Krzysztof Czarnecki, University of Waterloo, Canada
- Jeff Gray, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA
- Gabor Karsai, Vanderbilt University, USA

---

R. France  
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

B. Rumpe (✉) · M. Schindler  
Software Systems Engineering,  
Technische Universität Braunschweig,  
Mühlenpfordtstr. 23, 38106 Braunschweig, Germany  
e-mail: Bernhard.Rumpe@sosym.org

Seventy three (73) special issue papers and fifty one (51) regular papers have been published thus far in SoSyM. A total of three hundred and thirty five (335) authors have papers published in SoSyM.

The good reputation that the journal enjoys is a direct result of the effort and expertise of the editors and reviewers. Below we list the reviewers who reviewed one or more papers for the journal in the last year. A complete list of reviewers can be found on our website <http://www.sosym.org/>.

Pär Ågerfalk, Wolfgang Ahrendt, D. H. Akehurst, Pascal André, Giuliano Antoniol, Sven Apel, Joao Araujo, Colin Atkinson, Thomas Baar, Jean-Philippe Babau, Olivier Barais, Benoit Baudry, Nelly Bencomo, Jean Bezivin, Lianne Bodenstaff, Kirill Bogdanov, Andrea Bondavalli, Behzad Bordbar, Oliver Bringmann, Bob Busser, Michael Butler, Jordi Cabot, Richard Carver, María Victoria Cengarle, Patrice Chalin, Michel Chaudron, Yoonsik Cheon, Dan Chiorean, Michael Chonoles, Antonio Cicchetti, Curt Clifton, Thomas Cottenier, Michelle-L. Crane, Krzysztof Czarnecki, Juan de Lara, Josh Dehlinger, Serge Demeyer, Miguel A. de-Miguel, Davide Di Riscio, Juergen Dingel, Trung T. Dinh-Trong, Thorsten Dollmann, Stephane Donikian, Marlon Dumas, Alexander Egyed, Gregor Engels, Huascar Espinoza, Andy Evans, Jean-Marie Favre, Peter Feiler, Massimo Felici, Eduardo-Buglioni Fernandez, Robby Findler, Franck Fleurey, Ulrich Frank, Harald Gall, Marella Genero, Geri Georg, Stephen Gilmore, Michael Goedicke, Martin Gogolla, Aniruddha Gokhale, Cesar Gonzalez-Perez, Jeff Gray, Martin Große-Rhode, Radu Grosu, Giancarlo Guizzardi, Moritz Hammer, Torben Hansen, David Harel, Robert Hirschfeld, Seongsoo Hong, John Gordon Hosking, Heinrich Hussmann, Michel Ingham, Clemente Izurieta, Daniel Jackson, David N. Jansen, Matthias Jarke, Ralph Jeffords, Thierry Jeron, Manfred Jeusfeld, Jean Marc Jezequel, Einar Brich Johnsen, Chris Johnson, Bernhard Josko, Frédéric Jouault, Roland Kaschek, Joost Pieter Katoen, Ferhat Khendek, Dae-Kyoo Kim, Ekkart Kindler, Anneke Kleppe, Alexander Knapp, Guenter Kniesel, Cris Kobryn, Sascha Konrad, Hillel Kugler, Thomas Kühne, Ivan Kurtev, Marcel Kyas, Kevin Lano, Phillip Laplante, Peter-Gorm Larsen, Michael Lawley, Gary T. Leavens, Akos Ledeczki, Katrina Leyking, Heiko Ludwig, Mass Soldal Lund, Radu Marinescu, Julio Luis Medina, Tom Mens, Andreas Metzger, Hafedh Mili, Mark Minas, Raffaella Mirandola, Parastoo Mohagheghi, Pierre-Alain Muller, Dirk Muthig, Hans Natvig, Clementine Nebut, Elisabeth Nguyen, Ileana Ober, Jeff Offutt, Jon Oldevik, Andreas L Opdahl, Richard Paige, Francesco Parisi-Prsicce, Ioannis Parissis, Vicente Pelechano, Olivier Perrin, Dorian Petit, Dorina C. Petriu, Alfonso Pierantonio, Geert Poels, Alexander Pretschner, Corrado Priami, C. Pronk, Lucia Rapanotti, Arnab Ray, Bjorn Regnell, Mark Richters, Dirk Riehle, Nicolas Rouquettes, Ragnhild Kobro Runde, Jean-Guy Schneider, Andy Schürr, Christel Seguin, Shane Sendall,

Bikram Sengupta, Christian Seybold, Vibhu Saujanya Sharma, Wuwei Shen, Devon Simmonds, Anthony Simons, Arnor Solberg, Mirosław Staron, Jim Steel, Jean-Bernard Stefani, Friedrich Steimann, Dominik Stein, Perdita Stevens, Harald Störrle, Gabriele Taentzer, Ernest Teniente, Bernhard Thalheim, Laurence Tratt, Francky Trichet, Shmuel Tyszerowicz, Sebastian Uchitel, Adelinde Uhrmacher, Dániel Varró, R. Venkatesh, Marek Vokac, Frank Weil, Michael Weiss, Brian Willard, Andreas Winter, Petia Wohed, Murray Woodside, Abbas Zaidi, Emmanuele Zambon, Fiala Zoltan, Steffen Zschaler, and Albert Zündorf.

We also thank our publishing staff at Springer, namely:

Hermann Engesser, Gabriele Stjepanovic, and Dorothea Glaunsinger. They all provided significant assistance during the year. In particular, Hermann Engesser continuously provided us with indispensable assistance on all matters related to the management of the journal.

Last but not least, we thank our assistant editors, namely Geri Georg who handles new submissions and monitors the review of regular papers, and Martin Schindler who handles special section, theme sections, expert papers, prepares all the statistical data, including the data presented in this editorial, and manages the publication process for all accepted papers.

The journal's reputation and quality is a direct result of the outstanding support provided by authors, reviewers, editors, and the publishing staff. The publishers and editors have given every indication that they are committed to ensuring quality. Finally, we, the editors-in-chief, are committed to ensuring that the journal continues to play an important role in the dissemination of knowledge in the software-based system modeling community. We are grateful to have strong community support for the journal.

## Contents in this issue

In the previous issue, we published selected papers from MODELS 2006. This issue includes the final two papers selected from MODELS'06.

This issue also contains an Expert's Voice article titled "*Adherence Preserving Refinement of Trace-set Properties in STAIRS—Exemplified for Information Flow Properties and Policies*" by Ketil Stølen, Fredrik Seehusen, and Bjørnar Solhaug. In this paper, STAIRS is introduced. STAIRS is a formal approach based on UML 2 sequence diagrams. The article discusses how properties are preserved under refinement in STAIRS in which properties remain invariant under refinement.

The issue also contains three regular papers. In the regular paper "*Object-Oriented Design: A Goal-Driven and Pattern-Based Approach*" the authors Nien-Lin Hsueh, Jong-Yih Kuo, and Ching-Chiuan Lin define a new method for (re)using OO design patterns. The paper emphasizes requirements

engineering techniques that rigorously guide the production of coarse-grained architectures from existing design patterns.

The regular paper “*A Compositional Semantics of UML-RSDS*” by *Kevin Lano* describes UML-RSDS (“Reactive System Development Support”). The UML-based language described in the paper emphasizes behavior over structure. The paper also provides a precisely defined semantics that resolves UML ambiguities and other semantic problems.

The regular paper “*XTraQue: Traceability for Product Line Systems*” by the authors *Andrea Zisman* and *Waraporn Jirapanthong* presents a rule-based approach for the automatic generation of traceability relations for software product lines.

In the regular paper “*A Reconfiguration Pattern for Distributed Embedded Systems*” the authors *Roman Gumzej*,

*Matjaz Colnaric*, and *Wolfgang Halang* define a reconfiguration pattern for UML-based embedded systems, which enables the setup of a hardware/software configuration, and the specification of conditions and methods for dynamic reconfiguration.

We hope you enjoy reading the articles in this issue. We also hope you enjoyed reading all the papers that were published in SoSyM this year.

Robert France, Bernhard Rumpe  
Editors in Chief

Martin Schindler  
Assistant Editor