Preface

At the time of writing (mid-October 1998) we can look back at what has been a very successful ECOOP'98. Despite the time of the year – in the middle of what is traditionally regarded as a holiday period – ECOOP'98 was a record breaker in terms of number of participants. Over 700 persons found their way to the campus of the Brussels Free University to participate in a wide range of activities.

This 3rd ECOOP workshop reader reports on many of these activities. It contains a careful selection of the input and a cautious summary of the outcome for the numerous discussions that happened during the workshops, demonstrations and posters. As such, this book serves as an excellent snapshot of the state of the art in the field of object-oriented programming.

About the diversity of the submissions

A workshop reader is, by its very nature, quite diverse in the topics covered as well as in the form of its contributions. This reader is not an exception to this rule: as editors we have given the respective organizers much freedom in their choice of presentation because we feel form follows content. This explains the diversity in the types of reports as well as in their lay out.

Acknowledgments

An incredible number of people have been involved in creating this book, in particular all authors and all the individual editors of each chapter. As editors of the workshop reader itself, we merely combined their contributions and we hereby express our gratitude to everyone who has been involved. It was hard work to get everything printed in the same calendar year as the ECOOP conference itself, but thanks to everybody's willing efforts we have met our deadlines.

Enjoy reading !

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