

Preface

This volume constitutes the proceedings of the Eighth European Conference on Object-Oriented Programming, ECOOP, held in Bologna, Italy, on July 4 to 8, 1994. Previous ECOOP conferences were held in Paris (France), Oslo (Norway), Nottingham (England), Ottawa (Canada, jointly with OOPSLA), Geneva (Switzerland), Utrecht (the Netherlands), and Kaiserslautern (Germany).

The past ten years have seen object-oriented technology making a major impact on the software industry; it is not going too far to say that nowadays the notion of object orientation is revolutionizing all aspects of the software lifecycle. Success on the practical side has gone in parallel with continuous scientific growth, so that the field, far from having settled into quiescence, is still characterized by a tumultuous vitality of novel directions and developments.

The technical programme of ECOOP'94 testifies this well. We selected 25 papers from 161 which were submitted. The papers were selected based only on their quality. The selection was a very hard task, and many good papers had to be rejected because of space limitations. As a result, the selected papers cover a wide range of topics such as programming language issues, databases, analysis, design, and reuse, in the form both of research contributions and of experience reports. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the authors of submitted papers, the programme committee members, and the other reviewers of papers.

We organized two invited talks (whose papers are included in this volume) and two panels. The invited talks and panels provide further insight into the state of the art of object-oriented technology by pointing the way to future evolution and by allowing cross-fertilization of ideas with related disciplines.

Apart from the technical program, ECOOP'94 also offers tutorials, workshops, exhibition, and demonstrations. Thus, we trust researchers and practitioners of object-oriented technology will find a great many opportunities in the ECOOP'94 conference.

Finally, we would like to thank the Dipartimento di Elettronica, Informatica e Sistemistica (DEIS) of the University of Bologna, and AITO (Association Internationale pour les Technologies Objets) for their organization, ACM/SIGPLAN and AICA (Associazione Italiana per il Calcolo Automatico) for their cooperation, many sponsors for their support, and the executive committee members for their untiring devotion. Many thanks go to the participants at the conference who really make this conference enthusiastic. Lastly, we would like to thank Ichiro Satoh for his help in editing this volume.

April 1994

Mario Tokoro and Remo Pareschi
ECOOP'94 Programme Committee Co-Chairs