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# Computer Supported Cooperative Work in Design II

9th International Conference, CSCWD 2005  
Coventry, UK, May 24-26, 2005  
Revised Selected Papers



Springer

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## Preface

The design of complex artifacts and systems requires the cooperation of multidisciplinary design teams using multiple commercial and non-commercial engineering tools such as CAD tools, modeling, simulation and optimization software, engineering databases, and knowledge-based systems. Individuals or individual groups of multidisciplinary design teams usually work in parallel and separately with various engineering tools, which are located at different sites. In addition, individual members may be working on different versions of a design or viewing the design from various perspectives, at different levels of detail.

In order to accomplish the work, it is necessary to have effective and efficient collaborative design environments. Such environments should not only automate individual tasks, in the manner of traditional computer-aided engineering tools, but also enable individual members to share information, collaborate and coordinate their activities within the context of a design project. CSCW (computer-supported cooperative work) in design is concerned with the development of such environments.

A series of international workshops and conferences on CSCW in design started in 1996. The primary goal of the workshops/conferences is to provide a forum for the latest ideas and results on the theories and applications of CSCW in design, research on multi-agent systems, Grid-/Internet-/Web-based applications (including Semantic Web and Web services), electronic commerce and other related topics. It also aims at promoting international scientific information exchange among scholars, experts, researchers and developers in the field. The major topics of CSCWD workshops/conferences include:

- Techniques, methods, and tools for CSCW in design
- Social organization of the computer-supported cooperative process
- Knowledge-intensive cooperative design
- Intelligent agents and multi-agent systems for cooperative design
- Workflows for cooperative design
- VR technologies for cooperative design
- Internet/Web and CSCW in design
- Grids, Web services and Semantic Web for CSCW in design
- CSCW in design and manufacturing
- Cooperation in virtual enterprises and e-businesses
- Distance learning/training related to design
- Applications and testbeds

The First International Workshop on CSCW in design (CSCWD 1996) was held on May 8-11, 1996, in Beijing, China and the second one (CSCWD 1997) was held on November 26-28, 1997, in Bangkok, Thailand. After the two successful workshops, an international working group on CSCW in Design was created and an International Steering Committee was formed in 1998 (<http://www.cscwid.org>). The Steering Committee then coordinated two workshops (CSCWD 1998 on July 15-18, 1998, in

Tokyo, Japan and CSCWD 1999 on September 29 to October 1, 1999, in Compiègne, France). During the annual Steering Committee meeting held at CSCWD 1999, the International Steering Committee decided to change the name from the “International Workshop on CSCW in Design” to the “International Conference on CSCW in Design”. The 5th International Conference on CSCW in Design (CSCWD 2000) was then held on November 29 to December 1, 2000, in Hong Kong, China, followed by CSCWD 2001 on July 12-14, 2001, in London, Ontario, Canada; CSCWD 2002 on September 25-27, 2002, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; CSCWD 2004 on May 26-28, 2004, in Xiamen, China.

The 9th International Conference on CSCW in Design (CSCWD 2005) was held on May 24-26, 2005 in Coventry, UK. Two volumes of conference proceedings were published with 212 papers. The present book includes 65 articles that are the expanded versions of papers presented at CSCWD 2005 and is organized in topical sections on CSCW techniques and methods, Grids and Web services, agents and multi-agent systems, ontology and knowledge management, collaborative design and manufacturing, enterprise collaboration, workflows, and other related approaches and applications.

Many people contributed to the preparation and organization of CSCWD 2005. We would like to thank all Program Committee members for their efforts in promoting the conference and carefully reviewing the submitted papers, as well as the authors who contributed to the conference. We would also like to thank the chairs and members of the Organizing Committee for taking care of all the details that made CSCWD 2005 successful, particularly members of the Distributed Systems and Modeling Research Group at Coventry University.

January 2006

Weiming Shen  
Kuo-Ming Chao  
Zongkai Lin  
Jean-Paul Barthès  
Anne James

# Table of Contents

Creating a Team Building Toolkit for Distributed Teams <i>Weigang Wang, Stephen Mogan</i> .....	1
A Model for Interaction Rules to Define Governance Policies in Collaborative Environments <i>Luiz Camolesi Jr., Luiz Eduardo G. Martins</i> .....	11
Perception of Centers of Interest <i>Cesar Augusto Tacla, Fabrício Enembreck</i> .....	21
Analytic Evaluation of Groupware Design <i>Pedro Antunes, Marcos R.S. Borges, Jose A. Pino, Luis Carriço</i> .....	31
<i>DynG</i> : A Protocol-Based Prototype for Non-monolithic Electronic Collaboration <i>Willy Picard, Thomas Huriaux</i> .....	41
Towards an Optimistic Management of Concurrency: A Probabilistic Study of the Pilgrim Protocol <i>Eric Garcia, Hervé Guyennet, Julien Henriet, Jean-Christophe Lapayre</i> .....	51
A Conflict Resolution Methodology in a Large-Scale CSCD System <i>Hongwei Jia, Weiqing Tang, Fei Kong, Tao He</i> .....	61
The Role of Sketches in Supporting Near-Synchronous Remote Communication in Computer Supported Collaborative Design <i>Phebe Mann, Steve Garner</i> .....	72
A Dynamic Scalable Video Conference System Based on SIP <i>Zhen Yang, Huadong Ma, Ji Zhang</i> .....	82
Recommendation as a Mechanism to Induce Participation in Communities of Practice <i>Maria Teresa A. Gouvêa, Claudia L.R. Motta, Flávia Maria Santoro</i> .....	92
Cooperative Template Mechanism for Cooperative Design <i>Xiao-ping Liu, Hui Shi, Zheng-qiang Mao, Li-ping Zheng</i> .....	102

Supporting Social Organization Modelling in Cooperative Work Using Patterns	
<i>José Luis Isla Montes, Francisco Luis Gutiérrez Vela, Miguel Gea Megías</i> .....	112
Case Study of Breakdown Analysis on Identification of Remote Team Communication Problems	
<i>Lai-Chung Lee, Whei-Jane Wei</i> .....	122
On-Demand Collaborative Work Environments Based on Grid Technologies for Virtual Projects	
<i>Oscar Ardaiz-Villanueva</i> .....	131
Research and Implementation of E-Government Information Portal Based on Grid Technology	
<i>Xiufen Fu, Ding Peng, Haishui Xu, Yansheng Lu, Yinwei Zhan</i> .....	141
Global Scheduling in Learning Assessment Grid	
<i>Shengwen Yang, Meilin Shi</i> .....	151
Quality Assignments for WSDL-Based Services	
<i>Vincent Ng, Boris Chan</i> .....	163
SWSAIF: A Semantic Application Integration Framework to Support Collaborative Design	
<i>Kangkang Zhang, Qingzhong Li</i> .....	174
Automated Outsourcing Partnership Management Using Semantic Web Services	
<i>Woongsup Kim, Moon-Jung Chung, John Lloyd</i> .....	184
A Collaborated Computing System by Web Services Based P2P Architecture	
<i>Min-Jen Tsai, Chen-Sheng Wang, Po-Yu Yang, Chien-Yu Yang</i> ....	194
Using Web Services to Control Remote Instruments for Online Experiment Systems	
<i>Yuhong Yan, Yong Liang, Xinge Du, Hamadou Saliah, Ali Ghorbani</i> .....	205
A Web-Service Based Approach for Software Sharing	
<i>Yu Xiong, Daizhong Su</i> .....	215
A Web Service for Exchanging Procedural CAD Models Between Heterogeneous CAD Systems	
<i>Xiang Chen, Min Li, Shuming Gao</i> .....	225

A Solution for Resource Sharing in Manufacturing Grid <i>Xiangru Meng, Yexin Tong, Bin Gong, Shijun Liu, Lei Wu</i> . . . . .	235
Using Agents to Detect Opportunities for Collaboration <i>Adriana S. Vivacqua, Melfry Moreno, Jano M. de Souza</i> . . . . .	244
Carrying on Automatic Service Recommendation by Agents <i>Tiantian Zhang, Junzhou Luo, Weining Kong</i> . . . . .	254
Development of an e-Engineering Framework for Automotive Module Design <i>Seong-Whan Park, Jai-Kyung Lee, Je-Sung Bang, Byung-Chun Shin</i> . . . . .	264
Towards a Systematic Conflict Resolution Policy in Multi-agent System: A Conceptual Framework <i>Yi Jiao, Baifeng Wu, Kun Zhu, Qiang Yu</i> . . . . .	274
Agent-Based Personal Assistance in Collaborative Design Environments <i>Yue Zhang, Hamada Ghenniwa, Weiming Shen</i> . . . . .	284
A Distributed Collaborative Design Framework for Multidisciplinary Design Optimization <i>Dongcai Shi, Jianwei Yin, Wenyu Zhang, Jinxiang Dong, Dandan Xiong</i> . . . . .	294
Using a Middleware Agent to Bridge Standalone CAD Systems for Distributed and Collaborative Applications <i>Bin Liao, Fazhi He, Jun Chen, Yong Ma</i> . . . . .	304
Distributed Intelligent Network Management Model for the Large-Scale Computer Network <i>Junzhou Luo, Wei Li, Bo Liu</i> . . . . .	313
Content-Oriented Knowledge Modeling for Automated Parts Library Ontology Merging <i>Joonmyun Cho, Hyun Kim, Soonhung Han</i> . . . . .	324
An Ontology-Based Functional Modeling Approach for Multi-agent Distributed Design on the Semantic Web <i>Wenyu Zhang, Lanfen Lin, Jiong Qiu, Ruofeng Tong, Jinxiang Dong</i> . . . . .	334
A Computational Approach to Stimulating Creativity in Design <i>Hong Liu, Xiyu Liu</i> . . . . .	344



Modelling Framework of a Traceability System to Improve Knowledge Sharing and Collaborative Design <i>Farouk Belkadi, Eric Bonjour, Maryvonne Dulmet</i> .....	355
Recommendation for Team and Virtual Community Formations Based on Competence Mining <i>Sérgio Rodrigues, Jonice Oliveira, Jano M. de Souza</i> .....	365
Screen-Sharing Technology for Cooperative CAPP System in a Networked Manufacturing Environment <i>Zhaomin Xu, Ming Cai, Lanfen Lin, Jinxiang Dong</i> .....	375
Web Based Cooperative Virtual Product Design Environment Shared by Designers and Customers <i>Lianguan Shen, Mujun Li, Wei Zhao, Ziqiang Zhou, You Li, Mei Wu, Jinjin Zheng</i> .....	384
Research on Internet-Based System Architecture for Collaborative Product Development <i>Xiaozhen Mi, Weiming Shen, Wenzhong Zhao</i> .....	394
Distributed Product Design and Manufacturing Based on KBE <i>Iñigo Mendikoa, Mikel Sorli, Jose I. Barbero, Ana Carrillo</i> .....	404
Integration, Management and Communication of Heterogeneous Design Resources with WWW Technologies <i>Shuyan Ji, Daizhong Su, Jiansheng Li</i> .....	414
An Effective Approach to Compression and Transmission of Feature-Based Models <i>Rong-Qin Chen, Min Tang, Jin-Xiang Dong, Shang-Ching Chou</i> .....	424
FBD: A Function Block Designer for Distributed and Collaborative Process Planning <i>Lihui Wang, Yijun Song, Weiming Shen</i> .....	434
Research on Collaborative Editing Environment for Conceptual Design of 3D Object <i>Dongxing Teng, CuiXia Ma, Mingjun Zhou, Hongan Wang, Guozhong Dai, Xinghui Dong, Huiyue Wu</i> .....	445
Distributed Cooperative Design of Embedded Systems <i>Sikun Li, Zhihui Xiong, Tiejun Li</i> .....	455

A Study on an Application Integrated Model Supporting Inter-enterprise Collaboration <i>Hong Guo, Xing Lin</i> .....	463
Research on Collaborative Application Portal of Mould and Hard Disk Drive Industry <i>Minbo Li, Yoke San Wong, Yinsheng Li</i> .....	473
Collaborative Design and Manufacture Supported by Multiple Web/Internet Techniques <i>Daizhong Su, Jiansheng Li, Yu Xiong, Yongjun Zheng</i> .....	483
An Approach of Virtual Prototyping Modeling in Collaborative Product Design <i>Xiaoxi Zheng, Guozheng Sun, Shaomei Wang</i> .....	493
Workflow-Centric Distributed Collaboration in Heterogeneous Computing Environments <i>Jinqiao Yu, Y.V. Ramana Reddy, Vijayanand Bharadwaj, Sumitra Reddy, Srinivas Kankanahalli</i> .....	504
Internet-Based E-Learning Workflow Process <i>Jianming Yong</i> .....	516
Flexible Workflow Incorporated with RBAC <i>Yuqing Sun, Xiangxu Meng, Shijun Liu, Peng Pan</i> .....	525
Extending Cova Functionality to Support Business Processes <i>Jinlei Jiang, Meilin Shi</i> .....	535
Workflow Analysis Based on Fuzzy Temporal Workflow Nets <i>Yan Pan, Yong Tang, Hui Ma, Na Tang</i> .....	545
Towards a Collaborative Urban Planning Environment <i>Jialiang Yao, Terrence Fernando, Hissam Tawfik, Richard Armitage, Iona Billing</i> .....	554
Collaborative Virtual Learning Model for Web Intelligence <i>Jinan A.W. Fiaidhi, Sabah M.A. Mohammed</i> .....	563
Solving Consensus Measure of Ambiguous GDM Problems Using Vague Sets – An Application of Risk Assessment <i>Chi-Chun Lo, Ping Wang, Kuo-Ming Chao</i> .....	573

Deployment of an Intelligent Dynamic Local Power Dispatch System  
Using LAN and Wireless Technology  
*Ching-Lung Lin, Lin-Song Weng, Hong-Tzer Yang* ..... 586

Study on Unified Metamodeling Framework Based on Down-Up  
Mechanism  
*Qingguo Lan, Shufen Liu, Bing Li, Lu Han* ..... 596

A Flexible Development Platform Supporting Zero-Time Enterprise  
Applications  
*Wen-An Tan, Jian-Ming Zhao, Qi Hao* ..... 606

Process Data Management for the Shortening of the Whole Product  
Creation Process  
*Veit Rueckel, Alexander Koch, Klaus Feldmann,  
Harald Meerkamm* ..... 616

Real-Time Rain Simulation  
*Zhong-Xin Feng, Min Tang, Jin-Xiang Dong,  
Shang-Ching Chou* ..... 626

Reduce SW/HW Migration Efforts by a RTOS in Multi-FPGA Systems  
*Bo Zhou, Yonghui Chen, Weidong Qiu, Yan Chen,  
Chenglian Peng* ..... 636

An AHP/DEA Methodology for 3PL Vendor Selection in 4PL  
*He Zhang, Xiu Li, Wenhuan Liu* ..... 646

**Author Index** ..... 657