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Application and Theory of Petri Nets 1996

17th International Conference
Osaka, Japan, June 24-28, 1996
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Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the 17th International Conference on Application and Theory of Petri Nets. The aim of the Petri net conference is to create a forum for the dissemination of the latest results in the application and theory of Petri nets. Typically the conferences have 150-200 participants and usually one third of these come from industry while the rest are from universities and research institutions. The conferences always take place in the last week of June.

The previous conferences (1980-1995) were held in Strasbourg (France), Bad Honnef (Germany), Varenna (Italy), Toulouse (France), Aarhus (Denmark), Espoo (Finland), Oxford (UK), Zaragoza (Spain), Venice (Italy), Bonn (Germany), Paris (France), Aarhus (Denmark), Sheffield (UK), Chicago (USA), Zaragoza (Spain), and Turin (Italy).

The conferences and a number of other activities are coordinated by a steering committee with the following members: G. Balbo (Italy), J. Billington (Australia), G. De Michelis (Italy), C. Girault (France), K. Jensen (Denmark), T. Murata (USA), C.A. Petri (Germany; honorary member), W. Reisig (Germany), G. Roucairol (France), G. Rozenberg (The Netherlands; chairman), M. Silva (Spain).

We are delighted that the 17th conference has been organized for the first time in Asia, and on this occasion in Osaka, Japan. In addition to the traditional conference, a smorgasbord of other activities provided includes: an exhibition and presentation of Petri net tools; extensive introductory tutorials for those commencing in the field; two advanced tutorials, one on scheduling and the other on distributed algorithms; and two workshops held during the first two days: Object-Oriented Programming and Models of Concurrency; and Manufacturing and Petri Nets. The tutorial notes, tool presentations, and proceedings of the workshops are not published in this proceedings but limited copies are available from the organizers.

We have received 78 submissions from 19 countries covering five continents (still none from Antarctica where you would expect there to be fascinating research into Petri net models of the mating habits of emperor penguins!) and 26 have been accepted for presentation. Invited lectures are given by G. Agha (USA), A. Valmari (Finland), and T. Murata (USA).

The submitted papers were evaluated by a program committee (PC) with the following members: P. Azéma (France), J. Billington (Australia; co-chair), S. Christensen (Denmark), J.-M. Colom (Spain), F. De Cindio (Italy), J. Esparza (Germany), G. Franczeschinis (Italy), J. Kleijn (Netherlands), S. Kodama (Japan), M. Koutny (UK), C. Lakos (Australia), T. Murata (USA), L. Ojala (Finland), K. Onaga (Japan), L. Petrucci-Dauchy (France), W. Reisig (Germany; co-chair), D. Simpson (UK), D. Stotts (USA), M. Woodside (Canada). The program committee meeting took place at the Humboldt-University of Berlin in Germany and by email link to Adelaide Australia, the first step towards distributed PC meetings over the internet.

We should like to express our gratitude to all authors of submitted papers, to the members of the program committee, and to the referees who assisted them. The names of the referees are listed on the following page. For the local organization of the conference, we greatly appreciate the enormous efforts of the organizing committee: S. Kumagai (Chair), K. Hasagawa, M. Yamamoto, I. Shirakawa, S. Shinoda, T. Matsumoto, T. Ushio, K. Takahashi, H. Hasegawa, K. Hiraishi, K. Tsuji, T. Miyamoto. The support of The Commemorative Association for the Japan World Exposition is gratefully acknowledged.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge excellent cooperation with Alfred Hofmann of Springer-Verlag in the preparation of this volume.

Adelaide, Australia
Berlin, Germany

Jonathan Billington
Wolfgang Reisig

April 1996

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