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Euro-Par'97 Parallel Processing

Third International Euro-Par Conference
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Preface

Euro-Par

Euro-Par is the annual European Conference on Parallel Processing. Its purpose is to gather people interested in any aspects of parallel computing and parallel architectures. Euro-Par emerged in 1995 from the former CONPAR-VAPP and PARLE conference series. Euro-Par'95 was held in Stockholm and Euro-Par'96, in the new workshops format, in Lyon.

Euro-Par'97 consists of a large panel of workshops on all aspects of parallel processing, from theory to practice and from academia to industry. These workshops are expected to present the latest advances in their respective domains and are chaired by leading researchers in the field.

The workshop format of Euro-Par was inceptioned in 1996. As explained in the proceedings of Euro-Par'96, the idea behind it is to attract more tightly knit interest groups, so that the attendees of this large, general-purpose conference can be sure to meet people with similar technical background and interest.

Each workshop is headed by a small programme committee (usually of four people). One member of this committee, the global chair, is responsible for fleshing out the workshop topic in the call for papers, and for attracting high-quality submissions. Another member, the local chair, is the interface to the local organization team and, possibly, to related workshops of Euro-Par. Typically, the local chair represents the workshop at the programme committee meeting. The other members help in the collection of reviews and in the advertising of the workshop. Thus, each submission to a Euro-Par conference is (or, at least, should be) judged by four different peers.

The workshop papers are divided into three categories. The category determines the length of the paper and of the presentation; a few extra pages (but no extra time) can be purchased:

<i>category</i>	<i>page limit</i>	<i>extra pages</i>	<i>presentation time</i>
distinguished	12	3	30 min.
regular	8	2	30 min.
short	4	1	15 min.

The conference commences with a day of three-hour high-level tutorials whose aim is to expose the audience to practical topics of wide interest in parallel processing. The workshops follow, framed by one-hour invited talks which should summarize recent developments in research.

Euro-Par'97

Twenty workshops called for papers for Euro-Par'97. New this year are the topics *Object-Oriented Programming*, *Programming Models and Methods* and *Real-Time Systems and Constraints*. We added also a separate workshop on

ESPRIT projects. After several merges, 16 workshops remained, which were distributed across 6 parallel tracks over four half days, the other two half days remaining for the 6 centrally presented invited talks.

As in the year before, submissions were almost exclusively electronic (except for 3 papers); reviewing was exclusively electronic. We received 297 submissions for the 20 regular workshops, and we collected 1101 reviews. That is an average of 3.7 reviews per submission. Accepted and appearing in this proceedings are 154 papers in all: 9 papers in the distinguished category (5.9%), 94 papers in the regular category (61%), and 51 papers in the short category (33.1%). Distinguished papers are indicated in the table of contents with a superscribed asterisk behind the title, short papers with a superscribed dagger.

It is Euro-Par policy that members of the programme committee should exercise restraint in submitting papers. We received 10 submissions (3.4%), of which 6 were accepted as regular and 1 as short.

Four papers ended up in a different workshop than the one they were submitted to.

Submissions were received from 43 different countries; 28 countries are represented in the conference. The three leading countries with almost equally many accepted papers are Germany (24), the UK (23) and France (22). The U.S. have a similar count.¹ The submission count of all other countries is in the single digits.

Acknowledgements

A conference composed of 20 workshops depends on the help and good will of a lot of people.

First, we would like to thank our helpers at the University of Passau: the Euro-Par'97 secretary, Ulrike Peiker, and the secretary of the Chair for Programming, Johanna Bucur, who handled the correspondence and some of the local arrangements. Much of the programming and electronic data management was carried out by student assistants: Sven Anders designed our Web pages and implemented them together with Andreas Dischinger and Oliver Nyderle. Michael Erl was our "grip", and filled this rôle with energy and reliability. A special *thank you* goes to our colleagues Ulrike Lechner for preventing a catastrophe by a successful restore of accidentally deleted data, and Nils Ellmenreich for helping instantly every time it was necessary, not only in system management. Klaus Schießl and Detlef Menzel, the technicians of our department, gave advice and assistance in the set-up and maintenance of projection devices and computer equipment during the conference.

Of essential help were the experience and connections of Hildegard Buchhart and Joan Maria Brown from the Events Office of the University of Passau (HA5). Without this office, we would not have bid for Euro-Par'97.

¹ This count is harder to determine, since the Euro-Par statistics software sorts by the email suffix of the submitter, and there is no suffix for the U.S.

Next, we would like to thank the Euro-Par'97 programme committee, composed of 86 members, especially the local and global chairs who identified with the idea of their workshops and of Euro-Par and who kept on soliciting submissions and pushing for reviews, or doing them themselves—and the 415 reviewers, who are not members of the programme committee and who helped us attain an exceptional average number of reviews per paper.

Of the Euro-Par steering committee, Ron Perrott was tireless in helping to make policy decisions as the planning of Euro-Par'97 progressed. He also helped in representing Euro-Par'97 at the EC. The team of Euro-Par'96 at the LIP of ENS Lyon, Luc Bougé, Pierre Fraigniaud, Anne Mignotte, and Yves Robert, gave us detailed advice, based on their experience. Also, crucial to the success of our management was the Euro-Par software for handling submissions and reviews, which originated at KTH in 1995 and was rewritten and extended to the workshop format by Luc Bougé.

We would also like to thank the sponsors. The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and the European Commission (EC) granted us a generous amount. Springer-Verlag gave us a good deal on the proceedings. The University of Passau supported us with money and advice. Commercial sponsors include NAG, the Parsys Group, Visual Numerics, Oberösterreichisches Bankhaus Passau, Pustet University Bookstore, Sparkasse Passau, and Sun Microsystems.

Finally, we would like to welcome the attendants of the meeting on “HPCN in Developing Countries”, whose papers are not part of this proceedings, to Euro-Par'97.

Passau, June 1997

Christian Lengauer, Martin Griebel and Sergei Gorbachev

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