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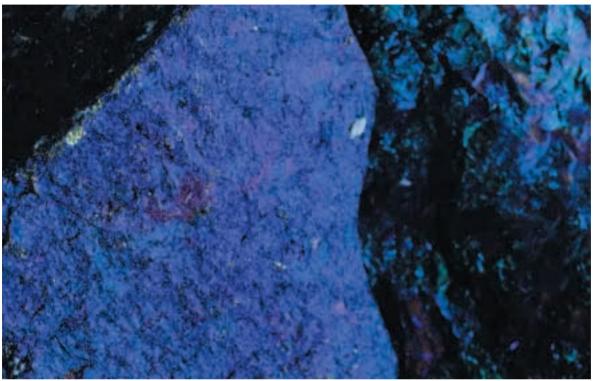
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Computer Supported Cooperative Work

Edited by Michel Beaudouin-Lafon

Computer Supported Co-operative Work (CSCW) reflects a dramatic change in the role of computer, from a personal tool to a new medium for human communication. This book takes a closer look at various aspects of software systems, tools, and techniques for CSCW.

Each section analyzes the latest research in the design, implementation and evaluation of software that enables and supports cooperative activities. This includes groupware tools such as workflow systems that help groups and organizations to coordinate their actions, shared editors that support several users producing and editing documents and media-spaces that allow participants to communicate through audio and video links. The book also covers the design and implementation of these groupware systems, including groupware toolkits, software architectures and infrastructures and the role of formal methods.

Building CSCW systems offers several challenges: these systems are by nature distributed; they often require near real-time response times and high-bandwidth communication (e.g. for video) over wide-area heterogeneous environments. Many traditional approaches break down under such constraints, and this book offers solutions to these problems. In addition, from a social stand-point, CSCW raises new questions about the role and power of computers in daily life. The book explains that groupware is more about people than about computers, and describes how to apply a truly user-centered approach to the design of CSCW systems.

Book Listing

High-Integrity System Specification and Design
J.P. Bowen and M.G. Hinchey
Springer-Verlag, April 1999
ISBN 3-540-76226-4
£65

XML in Plain English
Sandra E. Eddy
IDG Books Worldwide, Inc., 1999
ISBN 0-7645-7006-4
$24.99

Conceptual Modeling for User Interface Development
David Benyon, Thomas Green and Diana Bental
Springer, 1999
ISBN 1-85233-009-0
£29.50

The History of Human Factors and Ergonomics
David Meister
Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, May 1999
ISBN 0-8058-2768-4
$79.95

Information Visalisation and Virtual Environments
Chaomei Chen
Springer, July 1999
ISBN 1-85233-136-4
£49.50

User-Centred Design of Systems
Jan Noyes and Chris Baber
Springer, 1999
ISBN 3-540-76007-5
£19.50