
Message from the Program Committee Chair

Welcome to the 3rd IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster Computing and the Grid (CCGrid 2003), being held in Tokyo, May 12-15, 2003, right near the center of Japan, the Imperial Palace. We bring you its proceedings, which not only include the papers of the main technical tracks, but also a collection of papers from all 6 workshops.

Despite recent difficult times, there were a healthy number of technical track paper submissions — 114 submitted in total from all around the globe, and all the papers were reviewed with very high academic acceptance criteria. In fact the reviews were done more carefully than previous years — with the help from my co-chair, Prof. Yutaka Ishikawa, there were 4 reviewers assigned to each paper, and steps were taken to insure that there were at least 3 reviews per paper, even in cases when some reviewers could not meet the review deadline. For any papers where a PC member was involved as one of the authors, the number was increased to 5 reviewers and at least 4 reviews, respectively. Following the review process an on-line program committee was held for two weeks, upon which the “champion pattern”[1] was employed to perform a thorough overview of the entire paper sets, and identify the papers that the entire committee can agree to accept. In the end the committee decided to accept 39 papers for publication as well as presentation at the conference.

An on-line program committee program called CyberChair[2] was employed during the entire review process, with extensive help from its creator Richard van de Stadt, to enable round-the-globe discussion process going smoothly. In fact CyberChair was first created by Richard when I was a program chair of another conference in 1997, and have helped its evolution through its employment in a few other conferences I have chaired. I hereby express my deepest appreciation to Richard for his dedication and work, not only for this conference but also the services he has provided to other academic conferences as well. As a matter of fact Richard is a very dedicated man, staying up very late or waking up early to synchronize time so that we communicate smoothly between Japan and the Netherlands.

One note is that, although in principle the workshop papers have also been peer-reviewed, they were separately submitted to each workshop, reviewed by separate committees of respective workshops, and have no direct relationships with the main CCGrid 2003 technical paper submission & reviewing process. As such any bibliographical references to workshop papers should not be made directly as “CCGrid 2003” papers, but rather the referent should qualify them as a “CCGrid 2003 XXX Workshop” papers, in order to avoid confusion.

Finally, please enjoy CCGrid 2003 in May, the best season of the year to visit Tokyo.

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[1] Oscar Nierstrasz, "Identify the Champion", Pattern Languages of Program Design, N. Harrison, B. Foote, H. Rohnert (Ed.), Addison-Wesley, vol. 4, 2000, pp 539-556. Also available at <http://www.iam.unibe.ch/~oscar/Champion/>.

[2] <http://www.borbala.com/>