

The South African Institute of Computer Science and Information Technology

> The 1997 National Research and Development Conference

> > Riverside Sun Vanderbijlpark 13 & 14 November

> > > Hosted by



Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir Christelike Hoër Onderwys

The Department of Computer Science and Information Systems Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education Vaal Triangle Campus

PROCEEDINGS

Edited by L.M. Venter & R.R. Lombard

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The South African Institute of Computer Science and Information Technology

Proceedings

of the

The 1997 National Research and Development Conference

Towards 2000

Riverside Sun Vanderbijlpark 13 & 14 November

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ISBN 1-86822-300-0

Printed and Binded by Xerox Printers, Potchefstroom

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Foreword

This book contains a collection of papers presented at a Research and Development conference of the South African Institute of Computer Scientists and Information Technologists (SAICSIT). The conference was held on 13 & 14 November 1997 at the Riverside Sun, Vanderbijlpark. Most of the organization for the conference was done by the Department of Computer Science and Information Technology of the Vaal Triangle Campus, Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education.

The programming committee accepted a wide selection of papers for the conference. The papers range from detailed technical research work to reports of work in progress. The papers originate mainly from Academia, but also describe work done in and for Industry. It is hoped that the papers give a true reflection of the current research scene in Computer Science and Information Technology in South Africa. Since one of the aims of the conference is Research development, the papers were not subjected to a refereeing process.

A number of people spent numerous hours helping with the organization of this conference. In this regard, we wish to thank the members of the Organizing committee, and the Programming committee who had very little time to screen the abstracts and compile the program. A special thanks goes to the secretary of the department, Mrs Helei Jooste, whose very able work was interrupted by the birth of her first child.

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Table of Contents

Foreword	i
Organizing Committee	ii
List of Contributors	vii
Software Objects Change : Problems and Solution S.A. Ajila	1
Liming-like Curve Constructions M.L.Baart and R. McLeod	26
A Model for Evaluating Information Security L. Barnard and R. von Solms	27
Integrating Spatial Data Management and Object Store Technology S. Berman, S. Buffler and E. Voges	31
Metamodelling in Automated Software Engineering S. Berman and R. Figueira	32
Using Multimedia Technology for Social Upliftment in Deprived Communities of Southern Africa L. Bester and E. de Preez	33
Extending the Client-Server Model for Web-based Execution of Applications L. Botha, J.M. Bishop and N.B. Serbedzija	36
Access Control Needs in an Electronic Workflow Environment R.A. Botha	45
The Use of the Internet in an Academic Environment to Commercially Supply and Support Software Products B. Braude and A.J. Walker	51
Explanation Facilities in Expert Systems Using Hypertext Technology T. Breetzke and T. Thomas	. 63
Theoretical Computer Science: What is it all about, and is it of any relevance to us? C. Brink	75
Representing Quadrics on a Computer M.A. Coetzee and M.L. Baart	76

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.

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.

The Generation of Pre-Interpretations for Detecting Unsolvable Planning Problems D.A. de Waal, M. Denecker, M. Bruynooghe and M. Thielscher	77
The Emerging Role of the Chief Information Officer in South Africa B. Dekenah	87
A Java-Implemented Remote Respiratory Disease Diagnosis System on a High Bandwidth Network A. Foster	88
Early Results of a Comparative Evaluation of ISO 9001 and ISO/IEC 15504 Assessment Methods Applied to a Software Project C. Gee and A.J. Walker	89
A Neural Network Model of a Fluidised Bed M. Hajek	99
The Effects of Virtual Banking on the South African Banking Industry M.L. Hart and M. Dunley-Owen	100
Linear Response Surface Analysis and Some Applications J.M. Hattingh	118
Model Checking Software with Symbolic Trajectory Evaluation A. Hazelhurst	120
A Risk Model to Allocate Resources to Different Computerized Systems H.A. Kruger and J.M. Hattingh	137
Returns on the Stock Exchange J.W. Kruger	144
Cardinality Constrained 0-1 Knapsack Problems M.F. Kruger, J.M. Hattingh and T. Steyn	150
An Investigation in Software Process Improvement in the Software Development of a large Electricity Utility M. Lang and A.J. Walker	151
Design and Implementation of a C++ Package for Two-Dimensional Numerical Integration D.P. Laurie, L Pluym and Ronald Cools	162
Algebraic Factorization of Integers Using BDE's H. Messerschmidt and J. Robertson	169

/

•

Global Optimization of Routes after the Process of Recovery M. Mphahlele and J.Roos	176
Using a Lattice to Enhance Adaptation Guided Retrieval in Example Based Machine Translation G.D. Oosthuizen and S.L. Serutla	177
Information Systems Development and Multi Criteria Decision Making / Systems Thinking D. Petkov, O. Petkova	192
The Development of a Tutoring System to Assist Students to Develop Answering Techniques N Pillay	193
Combining Rule-Based Artificial Intelligence with Geographic Information Systems to Plan the Physical Layer of Wireless Networks in Greenfield Areas K. Prag, P. Premjeeth and K. Sandrasegaran	194
A Distributed Approach to the Scheduling Problem V. Ram and P. Warren	202
More readings than I thought : Quantifier Interaction in Analysing the Temporal Structure of Repeated Eventualities S. Rock	203
Ray Guarding Configuration of Adjacent Rectangles I. Sanders, D. Lubinsky and M. Sears	221
Developing Soft Skills in Computer Students C Schröder, T. Thomas	239
Information Security Awareness, a Must for Every Organization M. Thomson and R. von Solms	250
Pla Va: A Lightweight Persistent Java Virtual Machine S Tjasink and S. Berman	253
Beliefs on Resource-Bounded Agent E. Viljoen	267
<i>Object-Orientated Business Modelling and Re-engineering</i> M. Watzenboeck	268

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.

On Indexing in Case Based Reasoning Applied to Pre-Transportation Decision Making for Hazardous Waste Handling K.L. Wortmann, D. Petkov and E.Senior

Author Index

270

269

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Representing quadrics on a computer

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In our research on transfinite interpolation with quadric patches, we needed to draw the part of some quadratic surface that lies between two given planes. In this talk, we discuss a way to parameterize a quadric patch that is based on Bezier curve theory, and which made it possible to draw the appropriate part of the surface. One of our biggest problems was that there is two possible patches that can be drawn, one on each side of the two planes. With this parametrization, this problem is also solved.