

Welcome to the Main Conferences

The European Joint Conferences on Theory and Practice of Software (ETAPS) is the primary European forum for academic and industrial researchers working on topics related to Software Science. ETAPS'06 is the ninth joint conference in this series. We would like to thank again the ETAPS Steering Committee chaired by Perdita Stevens, the Austrian Computer Society (OCG), Christiane Tronigger from NetHotels Vienna, and all other organizers and committee members, as well as authors, for preparing an excellent program for ETAPS'06.

EASST General Assembly

All EASST members are invited to attend the EASST General Assembly meeting from 6:05 PM to 6:50 PM in room EI 8.

Interview with Peter O'Hearn

ETAPS caught up with Peter O'Hearn, keynote speaker of CMCS'06. After his talk "Local Action" we asked him some probing questions on the style of his talk, how his work supports programmers, and about the relevance of his work to popular programming languages.



ETAPS: In your lecture you used a concrete board and an abstract board. Was this something you only did for this talk?

POH: Yes. I thought it was right for the CMCS audience. They are concerned with the mathematical structure of systems and I wanted to describe the essence of the separation logic model in abstract terms. But I also wanted to connect to the concrete reality of our RAM model.

ETAPS: Session chair John Power introduced you with a remark on a shift in your research interests. Where did it all start?

POH: I started in semantics of programming languages but lately I've been moving into logic, mechanical verification, and program analysis.

ETAPS: Why did your interests shift?

POH: Because we had invented a new logic, separation logic. It lets us talk about data structures in a very succinct way. The heap causes great trouble in verification and analysis. So it was natural to try and see what we can do.

ETAPS: How can your work assist programmers in writing better code?

POH: In the short term we will have tools that find difficult bugs in code, such as memory faults, data races in concurrent programs, and even termination bugs. Over the longer term I hope that programmers will write their own assertions more and more as tools to exploit them become available.

Nowadays it is about reporting bugs and documenting interfaces or the architecture of a program. But the time of software verification is now; we are just at the beginning.

ETAPS: With separation logic well specified programs are faultless. Can you see this being incorporated into a programming language?

POH: Yes. As we gain tools that can statically check assertions, they can be seen by the programmer like types are [seen] now. That is, they document intentions and constrain how the program can be written.

ETAPS: Do you think this can lead to a deeper understanding of the program?

POH: Yes, because assertions say more about the program as do types.

ETAPS: From your perspective: which popular languages are unsuitable for your approach?

POH: I think that theory researchers have too often run away from the problems of real languages. To my way of thinking, a good theory should be applicable to any of the popular languages. It might suggest new language designs, and this would be a good thing, but I think it is a mistake to exclude real languages. Java, C – I don't care.

ETAPS Interviewer: M. Schordan

Reception

The mayor of Vienna invites all ETAPS participants to a reception in the Rathaus (Vienna City Hall). The neo-Gothic City Hall was built in 1872-83. It is the seat of the mayor, and the municipal and regional government.

How to get to the Reception Location

The fastest way to get to the Rathaus (City Hall) is by public transportation. From Karlsplatz take Underground U2 (direction Schottentor) to station Rathaus.

Alternatively you can take tram line D: from tram stop Gußhausstraße (direction Nußdorf) to tram stop Rathaus/Burgtheater.

Another option is to walk to Ring Boulevard, and start at the tram stop Staatsoper. Take tram lines 2 or D (direction Nußdorf) to tram stop Rathaus/Burgtheater.

If you **want to be guided** to the reception location there are two options at your disposal





1. Public transportation: Meeting place is 6:45 PM in front of the registration desk. You will be guided to tram line D.
2. Walk: Meeting place is 6:30 PM in front of the registration desk. You will get a scenic

tour through Vienna. The walk will take about 40 minutes to the Vienna City Hall.

Books on Display

Today books from Springer and Elsevier are on display in front of lecture room EI 7.

Weather Forecast

Today	Tue	Wed	Thu
			
Showers	Light Rain	Cloudy	Cloudy
Low 8°C	Low 7°C	Low 6°C	Low 6°C
High 19°C	High 13°C	High 11°C	High 12°C

Last Minute Changes

FASE: To address the need for a larger number of participants the FASE session from 10:30 to 12:00 has been moved from room EI 8 to room EI 9. The other sessions of FASE remain unchanged and are in room EI 8.

08:45	ESOP – invited talk EI 7 <i>Sophia Drossopoulou: Types for Hierarchic Shapes</i> Chair: Peter Sestoft			08:45
10:00	Coffee			10:00
10:30	ESOP EI 7 <i>Types for Implementations</i> Chair: Peter Sestoft	FASE EI 9 <i>Distributed Systems</i> Chair: Reiko Heckel		10:30
12:00	Lunch (see p. 61 in ETAPS programme for restaurant guide)			12:00
14:00	ESOP EI 10 <i>Proofs and Types</i> Chair: Didier Remy	FASE EI 8 <i>Orthogonal Process Activities</i> Chair: Tetsuo Tamai	TACAS EI 7 <i>Parametrization and Slicing</i> Chair: Holger Hermanns	14:00
16:00	Coffee			16:00
16:30	ESOP EI 10 <i>Verification and Reasoning</i> Chair: Peter O’Hearn	FASE EI 8 <i>Behavioral Models and State Machines</i> Chair: Alan Hartman	TACAS EI 7 <i>Symbolic Techniques</i> Chair: Jaco van de Pol	16:30
18:00				18:00
...				...
19:30	Reception			19:30