Separation of concerns is one of the main tenets of software engineering – allowing developers to reason about software systems in sensible portions, regardless which phase of the lifecycle they are working in. Many researchers in software engineering are actually in the field of aspect-orientation without realizing it.

Aspect-oriented software development (AOSD) is a novel approach to the separation of concerns for complex software systems. As an extension to other software development paradigms, in particular object-orientation, it provides developers with a means to capture and modularize concerns that crosscut a software system in constructs called aspects. Aspects are constructs that can be identified and manipulated throughout the development process.

Automation plays an important role in current AOSD research. With the growing acceptance of AOSD as a software development technique, dedicated support for analysis of aspectual artifacts is needed at the various stages of software development. Developers need to be able to specify, verify, visualize, understand and test aspect-oriented requirements, architectures, designs and programs to make it an industrially viable technology. Tool support is further needed for the identification of latent (non-modularized) crosscutting concerns in legacy software and for their subsequent refactoring into aspects.

The aim of this workshop is to bring the discourse on AOSD research to Asia, to foster collaboration and to encourage AOSD research in Asia. We believe this can be accomplished by building ties to researchers from other regions of the world, and also by helping to bring together Asian researchers who are tackling the problems of advanced separation of concerns, but who are not yet connected to this growing, thriving community. The workshop targets both newcomers, who are interested in an introduction to AOSD and to understand how it fits in with their research, and experts, who are looking for a platform to present and discuss their latest research.

This workshop was based on the success of the 1st AOAsia workshop, which was co-located with 12th Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference (APSEC) held in December 2005 in Taipei, Taiwan. The workshop stimulated a lot of constructive dialogue between the speaker and the audience, and thus successfully made AOSD research issues aware to many SE professionals.

For this year, the organizing team received 17 submissions from research groups in academia and industry in 9 different countries. The organizing committee, with the help of external expert reviewers, carefully evaluated all submissions and selected outstanding papers to be included in the workshop proceedings.

The workshop had three lively parts: an instructional session, including the keynote address by Gregor Kiczales from the University of British Columbia, which provided newcomers with a background on AOP, presentation of the selected papers, and interactive discussion about AOSD with leading researchers in the field.