Preface

While multimedia is becoming a focal area of computer science in both business and research, the development of customized multimedia software remains difficult, expensive, and unpredictable. Corresponding tools, methods, and standards are still immature.

Among the software development aids needed to improve this situation, support for program composition is of particular importance since multimedia software often integrates a considerable number of known functional entities.

Distributed Multimedia Applications (DMMA) are considered to raise more serious research issues and more long-term potential for enterprise use than stand-alone multimedia-PC applications.

MMSD'96 is addressing these issues with both research contributions from leading experts in the field and on-site discussions. The program committee, consisting of some of the most distinguished researchers in the field, helped to assure a high standard of the papers selected.

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