1 Description

Traditionally, diagrams play an important role in many disciplines from electrical engineering (e.g. Karnaugh diagrams), civil and mechanical engineering (construction plans), geography (maps), and so on. In Software Engineering, diagrammatic languages like IDEF, UML or ARIS are commonplace today. With the rise of model driven development and domain specific languages, such languages will be even more widespread in the future. All in all, diagrams play an important role in the communication among engineers.

Given the visual nature of diagrams, it is obvious that the quality of diagram layout greatly contributes to the quality of communication based on these diagrams. However, creating task-adequate layouts is surprisingly hard, and the cognitive factors involved are not very well understood. Also, tool support of all kinds is mainly an open problem (e.g. consider the sorry state of automatic layout support in UML tools).

Contributions to LED were sought in the following areas: Layout algorithms, guidelines and patterns; Visual language theory; Quality attributes related to layout; Layout styles and modeling purposes; Surveys of layouts in specific areas; Diagrammatic reasoning; Visualisation constraints, algorithms, and tools; Cognitive aspects of diagram layout; Knowledge representation and diagram layout; Empirical research on layouts.

LED ’08 is the second workshop of its kind: last year, the first Workshop on the Layout of (Software) Engineering Diagrams (LED ’07) was held in conjunction with VL/HCC ’07 (see http://www.cmis.brighton.ac.uk/led2007/ for details). The feedback we received for this event was excellent, prompting us to organize a second workshop and set up LED as a series. We hope that this year the contributions and environment are as stimulating as last year, and that this will firmly establish the LED community for the future.

The idea of this workshop is to bring together scientists and professionals dealing with the layout of diagrams, and we expect a large potential for exchange and cross-fertilization between practical software engineering and the academic SE community. We also hope to attract participants and contributors with a more traditional engineering background, or with a background in graphic design or (cognitive) psychology.

2 Organizers and Program Committee

This workshop is organized by Andrew Fish, University of Brighton, and Harald Störrle, University of Innsbruck.

The international program committee consists of academic and engineering professionals:

- Phil Cox, Dalhousie University
- Holger Eichelberger, University of Hildesheim
- Wolfgang Glock, mgm technology partners GmbH
- Ulrike Gröttrup, Bayerische Landesbank
- Corin Gurr, University of Reading
- Florian Hacklinger, Zühlke Engineering
- John Hosking, University of Auckland
- Chris Hundhausen, Washington State University
- Alexander Knapp, University of Munich
- Eileen Kraemer, University of Georgia
- Kim Marriott, Monash University
- Mark Minas, Universität der Bundeswehr München
- Nikolaus Müssigmann, FH des Saarlandes
- Barbara Paech, University of Heidelberg
- Helen Purchase, University of Glasgow
- Peter Rodgers, University of Kent
- Gabriele Taentzer, Philipps-Universität Marburg
- Thomas Tensi, sd&m

Dr. Andrew Fish is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Brighton, UK, and has wide ranging research interests in diagrammatic systems from formalisation through to evaluation.

Prof. Dr. Harald Störrle is a software and methodology consultant based in Munich, with research interests focussed on modeling languages, methodology, software processes and process improvement, and interaction design.