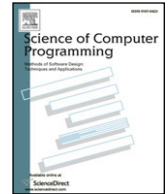


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Editorial

SCP special issue on the grand challenge – Preface

Sir Tony Hoare proposed the verifying compiler – a grand challenge for computing research on the 50th anniversary of the Journal of the ACM (JACM) in 2003. Since then, many research groups have been actively working towards realizing Hoare's vision. Various workshops were organized and aimed to report the current status of the verification challenge. At the 12th IEEE International Conference on Engineering of Complex Computer Systems (ICECCS'07, Auckland) in July 2007, such a special themed workshop was organized and nine excellent research papers that related to the verification challenge were included in the proceedings. As program co-chairs of ICECCS'07, we planned to form a special issue of selected papers (with substantial extensions). After a thorough review process (each paper was extensively reviewed by three additional referees with at least two rounds of reviews), we are happy to finally include four papers in this special issue, on the grand challenge, of the Science of Computer Programming (SCP) journal, with the following titles:

- * Refinement and verification in component-based model driven design.
- * Verifying the CICS file control API with Z/Eves: an experiment in the verified software repository.
- * Mechanizing a formal model of flash memory.
- * POSIX file store in Z/Eves: an experiment in the verified software repository.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the reviewers, authors, workshop organizers, editors and publishers for their expertise, commitment and hard work in achieving the quality publication of the special issue.

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