

## PREFACE

Ten years have passed since the FGCS project was launched with the support of the Japanese government. As soon as the FGCS project was announced it had a profound effect not only on computer scientists but also on the computer industry. Many countries recognized the importance of the FGCS project and some of them began their own similar national projects.

The FGCS project was initially planned as a ten-year project and this final fourth FGCS conference, therefore, has a historical meaning. For this reason the conference includes an ICOT session. The first volume contains a plenary session and the ICOT session. The plenary session is composed of many reports on the FGCS project with three invited lectures and a panel discussion.

In the ICOT session, the logic-based approach and parallel processing will be emphasized through concrete discussions. In addition to these, many demonstration programs have been prepared by ICOT at the conference site, the participants are invited to visit and discuss these exhibitions. Through the ICOT session and the exhibitions, the participants will understand clearly the aim and results of the FGCS project and receive a solid image of FGCS.

The second volume is devoted to the technical session which consists of three invited papers and technical papers submitted to this conference. Due to the time and space limitation of the conference, only 82 papers out of 256 submissions were selected by the program committee after careful and long discussion of many of the high quality papers submitted.

It is our hope that the conference program will prove to be both worthwhile and enjoyable. As a program chairperson, it is my great pleasure to acknowledge the support of a number of people. First of all, I would like to give my sincere thanks to the program committee members who put a lot of effort into making the program attractive. I owe much to the three program vice-chairpersons, Professor Makoto Amamiya, Dr. Shigeki Goto and Professor Fumio Mizoguchi. Many ICOT members, including Dr. Kazunori Ueda, Ken Satoh, Keiji Hirata, and Hideki Yasukawa have worked as key persons to organize the program. Dr. Koichi Furukawa, in particular, has played an indispensable role in overcoming many problems. I would also like to thank the many referees from many countries who replied quickly to the referees sheets.

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Hozumi Tanaka  
*Program Chairperson*

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- Abadi, Martin  
 Abramson, Harvey  
 Agha, Gul A.  
 Aiba, Akira  
 Aida, Hitoshi  
 Akama, Kiyoshi  
 Ali, Khayri A. M.  
 Alkalaj, Leon  
 Amamiya, Makoto  
 Amano, Hideharu  
 Amano, Shinya  
 America, Pierre  
 Anzai, Yuichiro  
 Aoyagi, Tatsuya  
 Apt, Krzysztof R.  
 Arikawa, Masatoshi  
 Arikawa, Setsuo  
 Arima, Jun  
 Arvind  
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 Babaguchi, Noboru  
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 Bancilhon, François  
 Bansal, Arvind K.  
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 Buntine, Wray L.  
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 Culler, David E.  
 Dahl, Veronica  
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 de Bakker, Jaco W.  
 de Maindreville, Christophe  
 Debray, Saumya K.  
 Deen, S. M.  
 DeGroot, Doug  
 del Cerro, Luis Farinas  
 Demolombe, Robert  
 Denecker, Marc  
 Deransart, Pierre  
 Dinbas, Mehmet  
 Drabent, Włodzimierz  
 Duncan, Timothy Jon  
 Dutra, Ines  
 Fahlman, Scott E.  
 Falaschi, Moreno  
 Faudemay, Pascal  
 Feigenbaum, Edward  
 Fitting, Melvin C.  
 Forbus, Kenneth D.  
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 Fujita, Hiroshi  
 Fujita, Masayuki  
 Fukunaga, Koichi  
 Furukawa, Koichi  
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 Gaines, Brian R.  
 Gardenfors, Peter  
 Gaudiot, Jean-Luc  
 Gazdar, Gerald  
 Gelfond, Michael  
 Gero, John S.  
 Giacobazzi, Roberto  
 Goebel, Randy G.  
 Goodwin, Scott D.  
 Goto, Atsuhiko  
 Goto, Satoshi  
 Goto, Shigeki  
 Grama, Ananth  
 Gregory, Steve  
 Gunji, Takao  
 Gupta, Anoop  
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 Hagiya, Masami  
 Han, Jiawei  
 Hanks, Steve  
 Hara, Hirohiko  
 Harada, Taku  
 Haraguchi, Makoto  
 Haridi, Seif  
 Harland, James  
 Hasegawa, Ryuzo  
 Hasida, Kôiti  
 Hawley, David J.  
 Hayamizu, Satoru  
 Hayashi, Hiromu  
 Henry, Dana S.  
 Henschen, Lawrence J.  
 Herath, Jayantha  
 Hewitt, Carl E.  
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 Higashida, Masanobu  
 Hiraga, Yuzuru  
 Hirata, Keiji  
 Hobbs, Jerry R.  
 Hogger, Christopher J.  
 Hong, Se June  
 Honiden, Shinichi  
 Hori, Koichi  
 Horita, Eiichi  
 Horiuchi, Kenji  
 Hsiang, Jieh  
 Iannucci, Robert A.  
 Ichikawa, Itaru

- Oyanagi, Shigeru  
 Palamidessi, Catuscia  
 Panangaden, Prakash  
 Pearl, Judea  
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 Pereira, Luís Moníz  
 Petrie, Charles J.  
 Plaisted, David A.  
 Plümer, Lutz  
 Poole, David  
 Popowich, Fred P.  
 Porto, António  
 Przymusinski, Teodor C.  
 Raina, Sanjay  
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 Rao, Anand S.  
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 Schweppe, Heinz  
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 Shibayama, Kiyoshi  
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 Shimada, Kentaro  
 Shin, Dongwook  
 Shinohara, Takeshi  
 Shintani, Toramatsu  
 Shoham, Yoav  
 Simonis, Helmut  
 Sirai, Hidetosi  
 Smith, Jan Magnus  
 Smolka, Gert  
 Sterling, Leon S.  
 Stickel, Mark E.  
 Stolfo, Salvatore. J.  
 Subrahmanian, V. S.  
 Sugano, Hiroyasu  
 Sugie, Mamoru  
 Sugiyama, Masahide  
 Sundararajan, Renga  
 Suwa, Masaki  
 Suzuki, Hiroyuki  
 Suzuki, Norihisa  
 Takagi, Toshihisa  
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 Takayama, Yukihide  
 Takeda, Masayuki  
 Takeuchi, Akikazu  
 Takeuchi, Ikuro  
 Taki, Kazuo  
 Tamai, Tetsuo  
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 Tanaka, Hozumi  
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 Tanaka, Yuzuru  
 Taniguchi, Rin-ichiro  
 Tatemura, Jun'ichi  
 Tatsuta, Makoto  
 Terano, Takao  
 Tick, Evan M.  
 Toda, Mitsuhiko  
 Togashi, Atsushi  
 Tojo, Satoshi  
 Tokunaga, Takenobu  
 Tomabeche, Hideto  
 Tomita, Shinji  
 Tomiyama, Tetsuo  
 Touretzky, David S.  
 Toyama, Yoshihito  
 Tsuda, Hiroshi  
 Tsur, Shalom  
 Tutiya, Syun  
 Uchihira, Naoshi  
 Ueda, Kazuñori  
 Uehara, Kuniaki  
 Ueno, Haruki  
 van de Riet, Reinder P.  
 van Emden, Maarten H.  
 Van Hentenryck, Pascal  
 Van Roy, Peter L.  
 Vanneschi, Marco  
 Wada, Koichi  
 Wah, Benjamin W.  
 Walinsky, Clifford  
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 Warren, David H. D.  
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 Watanabe, Takao  
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 Weyhrauch, Richard W.  
 Wilk, Paul F.  
 Wolper, Pierre  
 Yamaguchi, Takahira  
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 Yamanaka, Kenjiroh  
 Yang, Rong  
 Yap, Roland  
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 Yoo, Namhoon  
 Yoon, Dae-Kyun  
 Yoshida, Hiroyuki  
 Yoshida, Kaoru  
 Yoshida, Kenichi  
 Yoshida, Norihiko  
 Yoshikawa, Masatoshi  
 Zerubia, Josiane B.

- Ichiyoshi, Nobuyuki  
 Ida, Tetsuo  
 Ikeuchi, Katsushi  
 Inoue, Katsumi  
 Ishida, Toru  
 Ishizuka, Mitsuru  
 Iwasaki, Yumi  
 Iwayama, Makoto  
 Jaffar, Joxan  
 Jayaraman, Bharat  
 Kahn, Gilles  
 Kahn, Kenneth M.  
 Kakas, Antonios C.  
 Kameyama, Yuki-yoshi  
 Kanade, Takeo  
 Kanamori, Tadashi  
 Kaneda, Yukio  
 Kaneko, Hiroshi  
 Kanellakis, Paris  
 Kaplan, Ronald M.  
 Kasahara, Hironori  
 Katagiri, Yasuhiro  
 Katsuno, Hirofumi  
 Kautz, Henry A.  
 Kawada, Tsutomu  
 Kawamura, Tadashi  
 Kawano, Hiroshi  
 Keller, Robert  
 Kemp, David  
 Kifer, Michael  
 Kim, Chinyun  
 Kim, Hiecheol  
 Kim, WooYoung  
 Kimura, Yasunori  
 Kinoshita, Yoshiki  
 Kitsuregawa, Masaru  
 Kiyoki, Yasushi  
 Kluge, Werner E.  
 Kobayashi, Shigenobu  
 Kodratoff, Yves  
 Kohda, Youji  
 Koike, Hanpei  
 Komorowski, Jan  
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 Kono, Shinji  
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 Korsloot, Mark  
 Koseki, Yoshiyuki  
 Kraus, Sarit  
 Kumar, Vipin  
 Kunen, Kenneth  
 Kunifuji, Susumu  
 Kurita, Shohei  
 Kurokawa, Toshiaki  
 Kusalik, Anthony J.  
 Laird, Philip D.  
 Lassez, Catherine  
 Leblanc, Tom  
 Lescanne, Pierre  
 Leung, Ho-Fung  
 Levesque, Hector J.  
 Levi, Giorgio  
 Levy, Jean-Jacques  
 Lieberman, Henry A.  
 Lindstrom, Gary  
 Lloyd, John W.  
 Lusk, Ewing L.  
 Lytinen, Steven L.  
 Maher, Michael J.  
 Makinouchi, Akifumi  
 Manthey, Rainer  
 Marek, Victor  
 Marriott, Kim  
 Martelli, Maurizio  
 Maruoka, Akira  
 Maruyama, Fumihiko  
 Maruyama, Tsutomu  
 Masunaga, Yoshifumi  
 Matsubara, Hitoshi  
 Matsuda, Hideo  
 Matsumoto, Yuji  
 Matsuoka, Satoshi  
 McCune, William, W.  
 Memmi, Daniel  
 Mendelzon, Alberto O.  
 Menju, Satoshi  
 Meseguer, Jose  
 Michalski, Richard S.  
 Michie, Donald  
 Miller, Dale A.  
 Millroth, Håkan  
 Minami, Toshiro  
 Minker, Jack  
 Miyake, Nobuhisa  
 Miyano, Satoru  
 Miyazaki, Nobuyoshi  
 Miyazaki, Toshihiko  
 Mizoguchi, Furnio  
 Mizoguchi, Riichiro  
 Mori, Tatsunori  
 Morishita, Shinichi  
 Morita, Yukihiro  
 Motoda, Hiroshi  
 Mowteshi, Dawilo  
 Mukai, Kuniaki  
 Mukouchi, Yasuhiro  
 Murakami, Kazuaki  
 Murakami, Masaki  
 Muraki, Kazunori  
 Muraoka, Yoichi  
 Nadathur, Gopalan  
 Naganuma, Jiro  
 Nagashima, Shigeo  
 Nakagawa, Hiroshi  
 Nakagawa, Takayuki  
 Nakajima, Katsuto  
 Nakamura, Junichi  
 Nakano, Miyuki  
 Nakano, Ryohei  
 Nakashima, Hideyuki  
 Nakashima, Hiroshi  
 Nakata, Toshiyuki  
 Nakayama, Masaya  
 Naqvi, Shamim A.  
 Natarajan, Venkat  
 Nikhil, Rishiyur, S.  
 Nilsson, Jørgen Fischer  
 Nilsson, Martin  
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 Numaoka, Chisato  
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 Ohwada, Hayato  
 Oka, Natsuki  
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 Ono, Hiroakira  
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