



Report on the State of the SoSyM Journal end of 2022

Stéphanie Challita¹ · Benoit Combemale¹ · Huseyin Ergin² · Jeff Gray³ · Bernhard Rumpe⁴ · Martin Schindler⁴

Published online: 2 February 2023
© Springer-Verlag GmbH Germany, part of Springer Nature 2023

SoSyM continued to expand in many ways over the past year. Modeling remains a challenging topic, in terms of both research investigations and practical applications. While a growing number of industrial projects are collecting important experiences about the application of models in various forms, they are also identifying new and challenging questions that need to be addressed and solved. This holds for models applied to traditional software development, models that assist in the design of cyber physical systems, and models that offer support for systems modeling, in general. A completely new chapter has been opened with the use of models not only for system development, but also for the investigation of their accompanying digital twins, as addressed in a recent editorial.

1 New changes at SoSyM!

Because new and challenging topics are emerging that drive the expansion of SoSyM, we have also expanded the Editors-in-Chief team! With this issue, we formally welcome Benoit Combemale, a long-time SoSyM Editor and author of several

SoSyM publications, as our third Editor-in-Chief. A personal note from Benoit follows:

I'm very glad to have been invited by Bernhard, Jeff and Springer to become a new Editor-in-Chief for SoSyM. I'm thankful for their confidence, and eager to maintain, and even expand, the scientific value of the journal. SoSyM has been personally highly influential, not only being my main reading, but also the premier venue to publish my own main contributions. I'm engaged in maintaining SoSyM as a premier venue for systems and software modeling contributions, and to offer the community the high-quality journal it deserves. Finally, I can not introduce myself into SoSyM without mentioning the role of Prof. Robert B. France, co-founder of SoSyM, but above all a role model, a mentor and a friend. Robert passed away too early, but offered the community the foundations it needed to grow and be impactful: various fundamental and ground-breaking scientific contributions, a unified and friendly community, and... this journal! I am now very proud to continue along his path at SoSyM, and to perpetuate what he initiated. This has been influential to me in becoming a new Editor-in-Chief for SoSyM! Contact me at benoit.combemale@sosym.org and you can read more about me at <http://combemale.fr>

✉ Martin Schindler
martin.schindler@sosym.org

Stéphanie Challita
stephanie.challita@sosym.org

Benoit Combemale
benoit.combemale@sosym.org

Huseyin Ergin
huseyin.ergin@sosym.org

Jeff Gray
jeff.gray@sosym.org

Bernhard Rumpe
bernhard.rumpe@sosym.org

¹ University of Rennes, Rennes, France

² Ball State University, Muncie, USA

³ University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA

⁴ RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany



Benoit Combemale

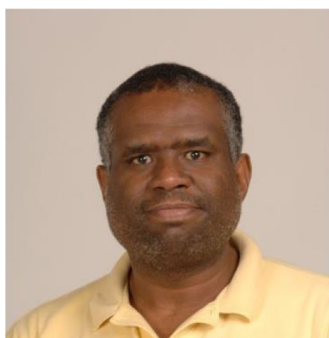


Stéphanie Challita

Together with Benoit Combemale, a third Assistant Editor, Stéphanie Challita, also joins the team. Both Stéphanie and Benoit will build a strong team to handle incoming submissions in a timely manner together with the already existing team of Jeff and Huseyin, as well as Bernhard and Martin. As before, Martin and Bernhard will remain responsible for the Theme and Special Section organization and the Expert Voices. Together with our Associate Editors-in-Chiefs, namely Marsha Chechik, Martin Gogolla, and

Jean-Marc Jezequel, and our Regional Ambassadors Tao Yue (China) and Vinay Vulkarni (India), we will work hard for the software and systems modeling community to further the opportunities provided by SoSyM.

With the growing need for additional expertise, we are also very happy to welcome five new Editors to the SoSyM team. We look forward to working with Peter Clarke, Sudipto Ghosh, Holger Giese, Houari Sahraoui, and Barbara Weber in the future years!



Peter Clarke



Sudipto Ghosh



Holger Giese



Houari Sahraoui



Barbara Weber

Without our authors and reviewers, SoSyM would not exist. We deeply thank all of the authors and reviewers (a complete list can be found below) for their work in 2022. We invite all authors to continue submitting their contributions to SoSyM and we are always available to correspond regarding questions about the suitability of an idea or potential submission.

2 A thank you to our retiring editors

We are grateful for the many years of service offered to SoSyM by Gordon Blair and Perdita Stevens. They retired from the Editorial Board over the past year.

3 2022 summary statistics

The six SoSyM issues published in 2022 contained 34 Regular papers, 19 Special Section papers, 32 Theme Section papers, 1 Overview paper, 6 Expert Voices, 9 Guest Editorials, and 1 Erratum. This represents a collection of 101 papers (2,553 pages) published in volume 21. This is a 16% increase in terms of pages compared to the previous year and continues to represent the commitment by our publisher (Springer) in reducing the time to publication by processing papers expeditiously after acceptance. We are grateful to Elizabeth Dziubela, our Springer liaison, for her helpful efforts in assisting us with the expansion.

We are happy to report that the two-year Impact Factor (IF) for SoSyM increased for the second year in a row to 2.211 (previously at 1.876 in 2020 and 1.910 in 2021) and is getting closer to the record (2.66) from 2019. The five-year IF increased to 2.423 (from 2.074 last year), which is the highest score in the history of SoSyM. Furthermore, the h-5 Google Scholar ranking places SoSyM at #14 among all conferences and journals related to software engineering and programming languages. Further rankings can be found at <https://www.sosym.org/>.

Over the past year, SoSyM received 374 submissions—a slight decrease when compared to the 420 in 2021, which was the largest number of submissions in SoSyM history. The number of downloads continued to increase over the last 5 years. At the end of 2022, there were 273,171 downloaded SoSyM articles during the calendar year (compared to 197,730 in 2021).

The acceptance rate in 2022 was atypically high at 37.6%, which suggests that we received many high quality papers last year. The average time from submission to the final decision (accept or reject) has slightly decreased to 162 days (170 days in 2021).

4 SoSyM's ten-year most influential paper awards

The modeling research community has matured in several aspects. It is interesting to take a look back into the 10-year history of SoSyM to observe what contributions had the most impact and what topics emerged as most prominent over the decade. Our continuing collaboration with the MODELS conference series has also provided SoSyM an opportunity in 2022 to honor the authors of the most influential papers. We have again identified the two papers (from the Regular and Theme Section areas) that had the most impact over the past decade since their publication. The selection is based on the ISI citation index among papers published in SoSyM since 2012. The following two papers were presented at MODELS 2022 and each author received an award certificate. We congratulate the authors for these "Most Influential" papers of SoSyM over the past decade.

The SoSyM 2022 "Ten-year most influential Regular paper award" was given to:

Shaukat Ali, Lionel C. Briand, and Hadi Hemmati, "Modeling robustness behavior using aspect-oriented modeling to support robustness testing of industrial systems", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 11, Issue 4, pp. 633–670, Springer, October 2012. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-011-0206-z>

The SoSyM 2022 "Ten-year most influential Theme Section paper award" was given to:

Jim Steel, Robin Drogemuller, and Bianca Toth, "Model interoperability in building information modelling", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 11, Issue 1, pp. 99–109, Springer, February 2012. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-010-0178-4>

More information about the awards can be found at: <https://www.sosym.org/awards/>.

5 SoSyM's Journal-First Papers at MODELS 2022

The collaboration between SoSyM and the MODELS conference continued in 2022 with the organization of the SoSyM "Journal-First" option. This collaboration enables all authors of recent SoSyM papers (which were not affiliated with any past conference) to present their work across the core conference sessions at MODELS. Through this collaboration, SoSyM authors have the opportunity to reach a broader audience to present their work. At MODELS 2022, a new

Journal-First Papers Chair was introduced in the Organizing Committee of the conference. The collaboration between the Journal-First Papers Chair and the SoSyM Editors-in-Chief led to 24 “SoSyM First” papers presented during the conference. This was a slight decrease from the potentially COVID-induced record of 30 SoSyM First papers in 2021. We are very thankful to the MODELS 2022 General Chairs (Houari Sahraoui and Eugene Syriani), Conference Chair (Sébastien Mosser), PC Chairs (Nelly Bencomo and Manuel Wimmer), and Journal-First Papers Chair (Benoit Combe-male), for their help in the integration of the SoSyM First papers into the general MODELS 2022 schedule. The SoSyM First papers presented at MODELS 2022 were the following (note: some of the papers are available online but have not yet received an assignment to an issue; some of the papers listed below also appear in this issue):

- Alessio Bucaioni, Antonio Cicchetti, and Federico Ciccozzi, "Modelling in low-code development: a multi-vocal systematic review", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 5, pp. 1959–1981, Springer, October 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00964-0>
- MohammadHadi Dehghani, Shekoufeh Kolahdouz-Rahimi, Massimo Tisi, and Dalila Tamzalit, "Facilitating the migration to the microservice architecture via model-driven reverse engineering and reinforcement learning", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 3, pp. 1115–1133, Springer, June 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00977-3>
- Juri Di Rocco, Davide Di Ruscio, Claudio Di Sipio, Phuong T. Nguyen, and Alfonso Pierantonio, "MemoRec: a recommender system for assisting modelers in specifying metamodels", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Springer, in this issue, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00994-2>
- Mohamed El-Attar, "Are models better read on paper or on screen? A comparative study", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 4, pp. 1531–1550, Springer, August 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00966-y>
- Mohamed El-Attar, "Evaluating the accessibility of a PoN-enabled misuse case notation by the red–green colorblind community", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Springer, in this issue, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00992-4>
- Tobias Franz, Christoph Seidl, Philipp M. Fischer, and Andreas Gerndt, "Utilizing multi-level concepts for multi-phase modeling—Context-awareness and process-based constraints to enable model evolution", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 4, pp. 1665–1683, Springer, August 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00963-1>
- Katharina Großer, Volker Riediger, and Jan Jürjens, "Requirements document relations—A reuse perspective on traceability through standards", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 6, pp. 2133–2170, Springer, December 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00958-y>
- Georg Hinkel, Antonio Garcia-Dominguez, René Schöne, Artur Boronat, Massimo Tisi, Théo Le Calvar, Frederic Jouault, József Marton, Tamás Nyíri, János Benjamin Antal, Márton Elekes, and Gábor Szárnyas, "A cross-technology benchmark for incremental graph queries", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 2, pp. 755–804, Springer, April 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00927-5>
- Jörg Holtmann, Julien Deantoni, and Markus Fockel, "Early timing analysis based on scenario requirements and platform models", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 6, pp. 2171–2211, Springer, December 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-01002-3>
- Onur Kilincceker, Ercument Turk, Fevzi Belli, and Mohararam Challenger, "Model-based ideal testing of hardware description language (HDL) programs", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 3, pp. 1209–1240, Springer, June 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00934-6>
- José Antonio Hernández López, Javier Luis Cánovas Izquierdo, and Jesús Sánchez Cuadrado, "ModelSet: a dataset for machine learning in model-driven engineering", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 3, pp. 967–986, Springer, June 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00929-3>
- Ana C. Marcén, Francisca Pérez, Óscar Pastor, and Carlos Cetina, "Enhancing software model encoding for feature location approaches based on machine learning techniques", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 1, pp. 399–433, Springer, February 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00920-y>
- Luciano Marchezan, Roland Kretschmer, Wesley K. G. Assunção, Alexander Reder, and Alexander Egyed, "Generating repairs for inconsistent models", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Springer, in this issue, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00996-0>
- Hana Mkaouar, Dominique Blouin, and Etienne Borde, "A benchmark of incremental model transformation tools based on an industrial case study with AADL", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Springer, in this issue, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00989-z>
- Chihab eddine Mokaddem, Houari Sahraoui, and Eugene Syriani, "A generic approach to detect design patterns

- in model transformations using a string-matching algorithm", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 3, pp. 1241–1269, Springer, June 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00936-4>
- Bernd Neumayr and Michael Schrefl, "Domain object hierarchies inducing multi-level models", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 2, pp. 587–621, Springer, April 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00973-7>
 - Juan Marcelo Parra-Ullauri, Antonio García-Domínguez, Nelly Bencomo, Changgang Zheng, Chen Zhen, Juan Boubeta-Puig, Guadalupe Ortiz, and Shufan Yang, "Event-driven temporal models for explanations—ETeMoX: explaining reinforcement learning", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 3, pp. 1091–1113, Springer, June 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00952-4>
 - Paola Y. Reyes-Delgado, Hector A. Duran-Limon, Manuel Mora, and Laura C. Rodriguez-Martinez, "SOCAM: a service-oriented computing architecture modeling method", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 4, pp. 1551–1581, Springer, August 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00946-2>
 - Jörn Guy Süß, Samantha Swift, and Eban Escott, "Using DevOps toolchains in Agile model-driven engineering", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 4, pp. 1495–1510, Springer, August 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-01003-2>
 - Dimitri Van Landuyt and Wouter Joosen, "A descriptive study of assumptions in STRIDE security threat modeling", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 6, pp. 2311–2328, Springer, December 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00941-7>
 - Alfonso de la Vega and Dimitris Kolovos, "An efficient line-based approach for resolving merge conflicts in XMI-based models", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 6, pp. 2461–2487, Springer, December 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00976-4>
 - Martin Weyssow, Houari Sahraoui, and Eugene Syriani, "Recommending metamodel concepts during modeling activities with pre-trained language models", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 3, pp. 1071–1089, Springer, June 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-00975-5>
 - Kangfeng Ye, Ana Cavalcanti, Simon Foster, Alvaro Miyazawa, and Jim Woodcock, "Probabilistic modelling and verification using RoboChart and PRISM", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Volume 21, Issue 2, pp. 667–716, Springer, April 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-021-00916-8>
 - Istvan David, Malvina Latifaj, Jakob Pietron, Weixing Zhang, Federico Ciccozzi, Ivano Malavolta, Alexander Raschke, Jan-Philipp Steghöfer, and Regina Hebig, "Blended modeling in commercial and open-source model-driven software engineering tools: A systematic study", In: *Journal on Software and Systems Modeling (SoSyM)*, Springer, in this issue, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10270-022-01010-3>

6 Reviewers in 2022

A strong research community depends on the efforts of volunteers who help serve as reviewers. The software and systems modeling community has always risen to the request for help from SoSyM. We appreciate all of the assistance that the reviewers provided in service to the modeling community! We would also like to offer special recognition to the following reviewers, who were recommended as the SoSyM Best Reviewers of 2022, based on the technical depth and feedback provided to authors over the past year—congratulations! Each of the following reviewers received a certificate of recognition:

Dominik Bork, Erwan Bousse, Istvan David, Nicolas Hili, Tsutomu Kobayashi, Emmanuel Letier, Mieke Massink, Jose Proenca, Marcela Ruiz, Pablo Sanchez, Maxime Savary-Leblanc, Guttorm Sindre, and Nick van Beest.

Below is a list of those who reviewed one or more papers for the journal in the last year. The complete list of reviewers can also be found on our website <https://www.sosym.org/reviewers/>. Thanks a lot for reviewing. We appreciate your service to the SoSyM community!

Abdelhafid Abouaissa, Yamine Ait Ameur, Georgios Alexandridis, Hessa Alfraihi, Joao Paulo Almeida, Dalal Alrajeh, Steven Alter, Vasco Amaral, Isaac Amundson, Daniel Amyot, Sofia Ananieva, Amal Anda, Björn Annighöfer, Said Assar, Adriano Augusto, Kyungmin Bae, Georgios Bakirtzis, Mira Balaban, Arosha Bandara, Luis Barbosa, Luciano Baresi, Jiri Barnat, Samik Basu, David Benavides, Christian Berger, Guillaume O. Berger, Simona Bernardi, Maicon Bernardino, Lorenzo Bettini, Elizabeth Bjarnason, Dominique Blouin, Francis Bordeleau, Dominik Bork, Artur Boronat, Erwan Bousse, Mohamed-El-Amine Brahmia, Sjaak Brinkkemper, Giovanna Broccia, Hugo Bruneliere, Alessio Bucaioni, Robert Buchmann, Erik Burger, Lola Burgueño, Cristina Cabanillas, Pablo Cañizares, Javier Luis Canovas Izquierdo, Rafael Capilla, Gustavo Carvalho, Carlos Cetina,

Moharram Challenger, Antonio Cicchetti, Federico Cicciozzi, Matteo Cimini, Rolland Colette, Christian Colombo, Iacopo Colonnelli, Benoit Combemale, Riccardo Coppola, Dolors Costal, Ivica Crnkovic, Jesús Sánchez Cuadrado, Andrea D'Ambrogio, Marian Daun, Istvan David, Nancy Day, Juan de Lara, Pierre De Saqui-Sannes, Julien DeAntoni, Thomas Degueule, Joachim Denil, Byron DeVries, Xavier Devroey, Juri Di Rocco, Davide Di Ruscio, Claudio Di Sipio, Vasiliki Diamantopoulou, Nicolas Emilio Diaz Ferreyra, Juergen Dingel, Johann Eder, Gregor Engels, Mahdi Fahmideh, Michael Fellmann, Nicolas Ferry, Hans-Georg Fill, Germain Forestier, Marc Frappier, Antonio García-Domínguez, Carlos Gavidia-Calderon, Christopher Gerking, Sepideh Ghanavati, Mohamad Gharib, Ana-Maria Ghiran, Holger Giese, Mario Gleirscher, Arda Goknil, Cláudio Gomes, Luis Gomes, Cesar Gonzalez-Perez, Prosanta Gope, Jānis Grabis, Paul Grace, Eva Graversen, Paul Grefen, Heerko Groefsema, Alicia Grubb, Roberto Guanciale, Esther Guerra, Giancarlo Guizzardi, Renata Guizzardi, Jens Gulden, Anne Gutschmidt, Simon Hacks, Abdelwahab Hamou-Lhadj, Oystein Haugen, Xiao He, Regina Hebig, Maritta Heisel, Loic Helouet, Martin Henkel, José Antonio Hernández López, Nicolas Hili, Knut Hinkelmann, Stijn Hoppenbrouwers, José Miguel Horcas, Jennifer Horkoff, Marianne Huchard, Alfredo Ibias, Ludovico Iovino, Mubashar Iqbal, Fuyuki Ishikawa, Amin Jalali, Reyhaneh Kalantari, Anna Kalenkova, Jānis Kampars, Pinar Karagoz, Gabor Karsai, Timo Kehrler, Jeroen Keiren, Hourieh Khalajzadeh, Joerg Kienzle, Marite Kirikova, Alexander Kittelmann, Jil Klünder, Tsutomu Kobayashi, Hasan Koç, Sahar Kokaly, Dimitris Kolovos, Marco Konersmann, Agnes Koschmider, Thomas Kuehn, Alfons Laarman, Leen Lambers, Ivan Lanese, Kevin Lano, Mark Lawford, Edward Lee, Sander Leemans, Timothy Lethbridge, Emmanuel Letier, Grischa Liebel, Yinling Liu, Malte Lochau, Roberto Lopez-Herrejon, Roman Lukyanenko, Mass Soldal Lund, Nuno Macedo, Felix Mannhardt, Shahrar Maoz, Jakobs Marie-Christine, Paolo Masci, Mieke Massink, Raimundas Matulevicius, Graham McLeod, Jan Mendling, Claudio Menghi, Marjan Mernik, Jose Merseguer, Gergely Mezei, Claudio Antares Mezzina, Pedro Molina, Damien Morard, Haralambos Mouratidis, Mohammad Mousavi, Hans Mulder, Peter Müller, Paula Muñoz, Gunter Mussbacher, Sadaf Mustafiz, Bernd Neumayr, Phu Nguyen, Tim Oates, Ileana Ober, Thomas Olsson, Fernando Orejas, Xavier Oriol, Samir Ouchani, Richard Freeman Paige, Óscar Pastor López, Oscar Pastor, Emmanuel Paviot-Adet, Alfonso Pierantonio, Rūta Pirta-Dreimane, Elena Planas, Detlef

Plump, Geert Poels, Ivan Polasek, Andrea Polini, Ehsan Poorhadi, Saheed Popoola, Pasqualina Potena, Juan Carlos Preciado, Alexander Pretschner, Andreas Prinz, Jose Proenca, Henderik Proper, Elisa Quintarelli, Hajo Reijers, Emmanuel Renaux, Fabrizio Riguzzi, Stefanie Rinderle-Ma, Jan Oliver Ringert, José Raúl Romero Salguero, Kristina Rosenthal, Alireza Rouhi, Ivan Ruchkin, Marcela Ruiz, Ragnhild Runde, Adrian Rutle, Mehrdad Saadatmand, Mattia Salnitri, Jesús Sánchez Cuadrado, Pablo Sánchez, Kurt Sandkuhl, Marco Santorum, Clemens Sauerwein, Maxime Savary-Leblanc, Alceste Scalas, Philipp Schlehuber-Caissier, Benjamin Schleich, Markus Schnappinger, Pierre-Yves Schobbens, Stefan Schöning, Oszkár Semeráth, Mohammadreza Sharbaf, Nikolay Shilov, Seung Yeob Shin, Samira Si-Said Cherfi, Guttorm Sindre, Marjan Sirjani, Eriks Sneiders, Monique Snoeck, Diana Sola, Jacopo Soldani, Hui Song, Gautam Srivastava, Stefan Stecker, Friedrich Steimann, Perdita Stevens, Janis Stirna, Dariusz Strasunskas, Markus Stumptner, Arnon Sturm, Jianwen Su, Allison Sullivan, Eugene Syriani, Damian Tamburri, Dalila Tamzalit, Thomas Thüm, Chouki Tibermacine, Matthias Tichy, Ulyana Tikhonova, Juha-Pekka Tolvanen, Damiano Torre, Victoria Torres, Javier Troya, Zoltán Ujhelyi, Antonio Vallecillo, Nick R. T. P. van Beest, Mark van den Brand, Han van der Aa, Tijs van der Storm, Irene Vanderfeesten, Hans Vangheluwe, Juan Manuel Vara, Michael Vierhauser, Eugenio Villar, Andreas Vogelsang, Jos Warmer, Andrzej Wasowski, Yves Wautelet, Barbara Weber, Ingo Weber, Thomas Weber, Marco Wehrmeister, Ran Wei, Nils Weidmann, Hans Weigand, Mathias Weske, Bernhard Westfechtel, Danny Weyns, Carson Woo, Andreas Wortmann, Moe T. Wynn, Wenhua Yang, Sobhan Yassipour Tehrani, Neil Yorke-Smith, Tao Yue, Anna Zamansky, Philipp Zech, Jiliang Zhang, Haiyan Zhao, Xin Zhao, and Athanasios Zolotas.

7 Content of this issue

The content of this issue is as follows:

1. EMMSAD 2021 special section

Guest editors: Iris Reinhartz-Berger, Jelena Zdravkovic, and Asif Gill

2. Regular papers

- "A benchmark of incremental model transformation tools based on an industrial case study with AADL" by Hana Mkaouer, Dominique Blouin, and Etienne Borde

- "MemoRec: a recommender system for assisting modelers in specifying metamodels" by Juri Di Rocco, Davide Di Ruscio, Claudio Di Sipio, Phuong Nguyen, and Alfonso Pierantonio
- "Formal reconfiguration model for cloud resources" by Aida Lahouij, Lazhar Hamel, and Mohamed Graiet
- "Evaluating the accessibility of a PoN-enabled misuse case notation by the red–green colorblind community" by Mohamed El-Attar
- "Checking security compliance between models and code" by Katja Tuma, Sven Peldszus, Daniel Strüber, Riccardo Scandariato, and Jan Juerjens
- "Generating repairs for inconsistent models" by Luciano Marchezan, Roland Kretschmer, Wesley K. G. Assuncao, Alexander Reder, and Alexander Egyed
- "Extracting LPL privacy policy purposes from annotated web service source code" by Kalle Hjerpe, Jukka Ruohonen, and Ville Leppänen
- "Discovering architecture-aware and sound process models of multi-agent systems: a compositional approach" by Roman Nesterov, Luca Bernardinello, Irina Lomazova, and Lucia Pomello
- "Empirical analysis of the tool support for software product lines" by José Miguel Horcas, Monica Pinto, and Lidia Fuentes
- "Blended modeling in commercial and open-source model-driven software engineering tools: A systematic study" by Istvan David, Malvina Latifaj, Jakob Pietron, Weixing Zhang, Federico Ciccozzi, Ivano Malavolta, Alexander Raschke, Jan-Philipp Steghöfer, and Regina Hebig

We wish you a Happy New Year with the hope that you enjoy reading the papers in this issue and all other forthcoming papers for 2023. We also invite you to look over previously published SoSyM papers, which include over 20 years or archived scientific contributions!

Stéphanie Challita, Benoit Combemale, Huseyin Ergin, Jeff Gray, Bernhard Rumpe, and Martin Schindler.

Open Access This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons licence, and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons licence, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons licence and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Funding Open Access funding enabled and organized by Projekt DEAL.

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.