

Call for Papers

2nd International Workshop on Visualisation in Software Product Line Engineering (ViSPLE 2008)

held in conjunction with the

12th International Software Product Line Conference (SPLC 2008)

September 8-12, 2008, Limerick, Ireland

Workshop Description

Product line engineering has emerged as a viable and important approach to software development during the last few years. To leverage explicit and extensive reuse of shared software artefacts, many companies use a product line approach to build different variants of their products for use within a variety of systems. Product lines can be large and could easily incorporate thousands of elements like variation points and configuration parameters together with diverse dependencies between those elements. This makes product line management and systematic product derivation extremely difficult.

This workshop aims at elaborating the idea of using information and software visualisation techniques to achieve the economies of scale required to support variability management and product derivation in industrial product lines. Visualisation techniques have been proven effective to improve both the human understanding and effective use of computer software. They have also been used to amplify the cognition about large and complex data sets. Exploring the potential of visual representations such as trees and graphs combined with the effective use of human interaction techniques such as dynamic queries, direct manipulation, and details-on-demand when applied in a software product line context is a novel and challenging research direction in software product line engineering.

The workshop aims at bringing together researchers and practitioners to discuss problems and potential solutions related to using visualisation and interaction approaches, techniques and tools to improve the effectiveness of variability management and product derivation. We aim to attract and bring together members from the information visualisation, software visualisation, and software product line engineering communities.

Topics

The topics of interest for this workshop focus on visualisation and interaction techniques and tools for managing software product lines. We particularly encourage research papers based on industrial experiences and empirical studies. Workshop topics include but are not limited to:

- *Understanding large software product lines:* Visualisation techniques and tools to support the understanding of large and complex software product lines
- *Variability representation:* Visualisation techniques and tools for coping with large numbers of variation points in software product lines
- *Visualisation of large data sets:* General software visualisation techniques and tools for managing large data sets and their potential applicability in a software product line context
- *Representation of features:* Visualisation techniques and tools for representing software product line features and requirements and dependencies among them
- *Representation of software architecture:* Visualisation techniques and tools for representing software product line architectures
- *Product derivation support:* Visualisation and interaction techniques and tools to support product development/derivation in software product line engineering

- *Product line evolution*: Visualisation and interaction techniques and tools to support the understanding of evolutionary aspects in software product lines
- *Industrial case studies*: Industrial examples and experience reports related to managing complex software product lines

Submissions

We are seeking for research papers and experience reports not exceeding 10 pages. We also encourage the submission of papers presenting visualisation tools. Additionally, we are interested in position papers not exceeding 6 pages. Submissions should explain how the (proposed) research or solution contributes to the effective management of complex software product lines, especially in the context of industrial size product lines with a high number of development artefacts, variation points, and dependencies among them.

Submissions are selected based on originality, novelty, and relevance to the workshop topics, as well as on their suitability for triggering discussions.

Papers should be sent in Microsoft Word or PDF format electronically to visple2008@lero.ie. Submitted papers must be unpublished and should not be under review elsewhere. The papers must conform to the [IEEE proceedings 8.5 x 11", two-column format](#). Accepted submissions will be published as a Special Technical Report in a second volume of the SPLC 2008 proceedings with a separate ISBN.

Presented papers are collected in a special volume of the SPLC 2008 conference proceedings.

Important Dates

Deadline for submission:	June 23, 2008
Notification of acceptance:	July 14, 2008
Final papers due:	July 31, 2008

Program Committee

Peter Eades, NICTA, University of Sydney, Australia
 Olly Gotel, Pace University, New York, USA
 Patrick Healy, Lero, University of Limerick, Ireland
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 Mike Mannion, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK
 Liam O'Brien, NICTA, Canberra, Australia
 Aaron Quigley, Lero, University College Dublin, Ireland
 Ernst Sikora, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Workshop Organisation

Rick Rabiser, CDL ASE, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria
 Patrick Healy, Lero, University of Limerick, Ireland
 Daren Nestor, Lero, University of Limerick, Ireland
 David Sellier, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK
 Mike Mannion, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK

For more information please visit: <http://www.lero.ie/visple2008> or <http://www.lero.ie/SPLC2008>.



JOHANNES KEPLER
UNIVERSITY LINZ | JKU

