

Editor's note

Internet has now become the main place of IT technology and business innovations, from Web 2.0, social network, mobile Internet, cloud computing, to Internet of Things and big data. To embrace these innovations as well as to cope with the extremely open and dynamic natures of Internet, software systems have to be autonomous, cooperative, situational, evolvable, emergent, and trustworthy. To systematically support the development and deployment of software systems with these characteristics, a new generation of software paradigm, known as “Internetware”, is needed. A software paradigm (also called a programming paradigm) describes a software model and its construction from the perspective of software engineers or programmers, usually including four main concerns, namely What-to-Be, How-to-Do, How-to-Run and How-Well. Encouraging results are emerging in this active research field and the general software engineering community's interest in Internetware is ever increasing.

This special focus includes 11 papers, each having been rigorously reviewed by leading experts in the Internetware field, and having gone through minor or major revisions based on the reviewers' comments. It covers the state-of-the-art theory and practice of the Internetware paradigm, from runtime adaptation and evolution with the help of requirement models, architecture models, configuration models, context models, correlation models and propagation models, to collaborative requirements modeling, automated service composition and open source development with various socio-technical considerations.

We hope that the reader may benefit from this special focus and find it useful in gaining the latest progress of Internetware. Finally, we thank all authors for submitting and revising their interesting and valuable papers, and all reviewers for evaluating the submitted and revised papers timely and insightfully.

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