



# ETAPS Daily

Number 8

Saturday, April 5 -

Sunday, April 6



March 29-April 6, 2008, Budapest, Hungary

## IMPORTANT

If you leave on Monday, please be aware that public transport personnel will go on strike, which may cause heavy traffic jams. Therefore we suggest ordering a taxi/shuttle bus to the airport well in advance.

## POST CONFERENCE DINNER

The post conference dinner is held in Hotel Gellért near the Danube (on the Buda side). It is located at the foot of Gellért Hill which offers one of the most picturesque viewpoints to the city. Do not forget to take your camera with you.



Buses will take you there starting 18:45 from the conference hotels. If you would like to enroll for additional tickets, please contact us at the registration desk. On the way back, buses will take everyone back to his or her own hotel. Please contact us with your hotel name if you have not done so at registration.

## INTERVIEW

The last invited talk of the main conferences was given on Friday by Michael Schwartzbach on *Design Choices in a Compiler Course - or - How to Make Undergraduates Love Formal Notation* where he presented his experience and framework used at the University of Aarhus to teach compiler techniques.

**ETAPS Daily:** So, how to make undergraduates love formal notations?

**Michael Schwartzbach:** The basic trick is to give them a situation where they need to use it for something, because that makes much more sense. If they see that it is a useful tool, they like it.

We make them implement a compiler for a large subset of Java and the language specification given in the book is very hard to read, very incomprehensible for students. To help them understand it, we give them formal specifications so they will be able to use

that as a basis for their code. So they have a comparison of lengthy specifications and a few lines of formal notations which directly translate to code.

**E.D.:** What kind of design patterns do they learn?



**M.S.:** Their work builds on the Sable CC framework, which generates classes implementing variations of the Visitor pattern so they certainly learn that. One probably could fit in patterns for testing purposes as well.

**E.D.:** What do you use aspect-orientation for?

**M.S.:** We use a very small but useful part of AspectJ to avoid editing the auto-generated code produced by Sable CC, which one should never do. Furthermore, students only need to upload a single file as homework assignment, which is easier for them and also for us.

**E.D.:** The homework testing framework shown in your talk must have required a huge amount of work from teaching assistants. What is their typical workload?

**M.S.:** For a course with 100 people I have a norm of 5 TAs (who are our PhD students) working 150 hours each. So for 100 students I have 750 hours of work which is quite a generous norm.

**E.D.:** What kind of cheating did you experience and how do you fight against it?

**M.S.:** There are two kinds of cheating. The active one is to acquire code from someone else. Programs are developed in our framework which involves a lot of unit testing and feedback so we can catch the act of cheating. You behave differently if a completely working solution suddenly appears than if you can see how it got developed from scratch – the files get bigger and bigger and the errors become fewer and fewer...

A different way of cheating is if someone is a passive member of a group and lets other group members do his work. We try to catch them at the multiple choice exam. But we cannot completely prevent that.

**E.D.:** How much effort do students typically invest in the course?

**M.S.:** Formally they are supposed to spend one third of their time during that semester. But I think they spend more than that. They generally do not start the course with the expectation that they get 100% but as they can see the results and that makes them try harder to get those last few percents also. They work a lot, partly because they get ambitious as the course runs.

## WEATHER FORECAST

Saturday: Cloudy. 11°C (52F) / 5°C (41 F)

Sunday: Partly Cloudy. 15°C(59F) / 6°C (43 F)

## CULTURE & SIGHTSEEING

Museum of Fine Arts: [szepmuveszeti.hu](http://szepmuveszeti.hu)

Hall of Art: [mucsarnok.hu](http://mucsarnok.hu)

Palace of Arts (concerts): [www.mupa.hu](http://www.mupa.hu)

Hungarian National Gallery (in the Castle District): [www.mng.hu](http://www.mng.hu)

National Museum: [www.hnm.hu](http://www.hnm.hu)

Parliament Building (free entrance for EU citizens): [www.mkogy.hu](http://www.mkogy.hu)

Opera House (guided tours offered) : [www.opera.hu](http://www.opera.hu)

For sightseeing tips please have a look on the 1<sup>st</sup> number of ETAPS Daily 2008 (available online) or at the [www.budapestinfo.hu](http://www.budapestinfo.hu) site. You also might find useful the list of restaurants & pubs on the ETAPS 2008 homepage.

## QUIZ

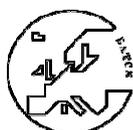
Answer to Friday's quiz: *lighter* is the "odd one", since all others were invented or further developed by

## PROGRAMME

		April 5th, Saturday										April 6th, Sunday			
Room		Toboz I (Thermal)	Béla (Grand)	Magnolia (Thermal)	Room III (Grand)	Room X (Grand)	Toboz 2 (Thermal)	Ybi (Grand)	Jázmin II (Thermal)	Room I (Grand)	Room IV (Grand)	Room	Magnolia (Thermal)	Toboz II (Thermal)	
9:00	Session 1		Bytecode	CMCS	COCV	FIT	GALOP	LDTA	MOMPES	SLA++P	WGT	9:00	Session 1		
9:30												9:30		CMCS	
10:00												10:00		GALOP	
10:30		Coffee										10:30		Coffee	
11:00	Session 2		Bytecode	CMCS	COCV	FIT	GALOP	LDTA	MOMPES	SLA++P	WGT	11:00	Session 2	CMCS	
11:30												11:30		GALOP	
12:00												12:00			
12:30	Lunch											12:30	Lunch		
13:00		Lunch (included)										13:00		Lunch (included)	
13:30												13:30			
14:00	Session 3	Stat Anal	Bytecode	CMCS	COCV	FIT	GALOP	LDTA	MOMPES	SLA++P	WGT	14:00	Session 3		
14:30												14:30		GALOP	
15:00												15:00			
15:30												15:30			
16:00		Coffee										16:00		Coffee	
16:30	Session 4	Stat Anal		CMCS	COCV	FIT	GALOP	LDTA	MOMPES	SLA++P	WGT	16:30	Session 4		
17:00												17:00		GALOP	
17:30												17:30			
18:00												18:00			
18:30	Evening											18:30	Evening		
19:00		Buses leave at 18:45										19:00			
19:30		Post Conference Dinner													

Please refer to signs and displays in the lobbies for the latest information.

Wireless Internet Connection is available at the venue for free all day.



Hungarians. (Lighter was invented by *Johann Wolfgang Döbereiner*).

*Ballpoint pen*: László Biró

*Safety match*: János Irinyi

*Carburetor*: Donát Bánki

*Dynamo*: Ányos Jedlik

*Railway electrification system*: Kálmán Kandó

*Hologram*: Dénes Gábor

(From wikipedia.)

Finally, some *tongue-twisters* to practice Hungarian (could be used as "wine-o-meter" as well :-).

Introductory level:

Sárga bögre, görbe bögre ("Yellow mug, bent mug").

Advanced:

Fekete bikapata kopog a pepita patika köveken.

("The heel of a black bull knocking on the black-and-white-checked floor tiles of a pharmacy.")

Jobb egy lúdnyak két tyúknyaknál.

("A goose-neck is better than two hen-necks.")

Két pék két szép kék képet kér.

("Two bakers are asking for two nice blue pictures.")