



Proceedings of the
Eighth International Workshop on
Software Clones
(IWSC 2014)

Preface

3 pages

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Software clones are often a result of copying and pasting as an act of ad-hoc reuse by programmers and can occur at many levels, from simple statement sequences to blocks, methods, classes, source files, subsystems, models, architectures and entire designs, and in all software artifacts (code, models, requirements or architecture documentation, etc.). Software clone research is of high relevance for software engineering research and practice today.

Many alternative techniques have been proposed for detecting clones. There are also lines of research that evaluate these approaches, reason about ways to remove clones, assess the effect of clones on maintainability, track their evolution, and investigate root causes of clones. Today, research in software clones is an established field with hundreds of publications in various conferences and journals, including CSMR, WCRE, ICSE and TSE.

The purpose of the *International Workshop on Software Clones (IWSC)* is to provide a common forum for this important research area as it continues to grow in application breadth and technical depth. The goal is to bring together researchers and practitioners to evaluate the current state of research, discuss common problems and emerging directions (such as clone detection in software models, clone analysis in re-engineering for reuse, clone analysis in software evolution, and clone detection in copyright and plagiarism), to exchange ideas and discover new opportunities for collaboration, to explore and envision new applications and areas of research, and to present and discuss new empirical results, new insights and new approaches in clone analysis and detection. In particular, we expect the in-depth analysis of use cases and experiences of clone management in practice to further shape our research.

The eight instance of this workshop was held as part of the *Software Evolution Week* in Antwerp, Belgium, where the two well established conferences *Working Conference on Software Reengineering* and *Conference on Software Maintenance and Reengineering* held their first joint meeting. IWSC took place on February 3rd, 2014. The continued interest in IWSC has manifested again in the large number of participants during the workshop. With more than 40 participants, IWSC was the largest workshop among all workshops at the Software Evolution Week.

As in previous years, we aimed at a combination of full research papers and position papers. Full research papers were expected to present novel research ideas and open issues, significant empirical studies, or important viewpoints on the field or report on industrial experiences and use cases. Position papers raise new thought-provoking ideas and issues emphasizing originality and potential to stimulate active discussion at the workshop.

All types of papers were formally reviewed by at least three members of the program committee, and final decisions were discussed by the PC as a whole. We received 12 full papers and 7 position papers out of which we accepted 7 as full papers and 7 as position papers. The papers covered various important ongoing research topics, namely, changes to clones, detection of clones, and clone management.

To encourage and acknowledge good presentations, we let the audience vote for the best presentation of each paper track. In the category of position papers, the award went to the paper “Investigating Intentional Clone Refactoring” authored by Wei Wang and Michael W. Godfrey and presented by Wei Wang. In the category of full papers, we had a tie of two papers. The award went to both papers, namely to the paper “Studying Late Propagations in Code Clone Evolution



Using Software Repository Mining” authored by Hsiao Hui Mui, Andy Zaidman, and Martin Pinzger and presented by Andy Zaidman and to the paper entitled “Robust Parsing of Cloned Token Sequences” authored by Ole Jan Lars Riemann and Rainer Koschke and presented by Rainer Koschke.

Rainer Koschke, Nils Göde, Yoshiki Higo
IWSC 2014 Organizing Committee

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