

Assignment

1. Read *Caching Function Calls Using Precise Dependencies* by Heydon et al.; you may leave out Section 4. The paper appeared in the Proceedings of the 2000 Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation, one of the top-tier conferences in systems research.

I encourage you to read papers in small groups or to discuss them after you have read them on your own.

2. Prepare a one-page document that summarizes the paper. You should devote about half of your document to the summary of the paper *in your own words*. The rest you can use to judge the paper's strengths and weaknesses, and to offer some opinion.

Here are some generic questions that you might want to answer in your summary:

- (a) What is the problem being solved or discussed?
- (b) What are the main ideas or concepts presented? In particular, what are new ideas with respect to the papers that we have read?
- (c) Do you find the paper convincing? What are the main claims of the author and does he provide evidence for them?

Note all questions about the paper that you cannot answer yourself; we will try to answer them in class.

All writing assignments may be completed in German or English. You will receive extra credit for writing in a foreign language.

Your summary is always due on the Tuesday before the next meeting, 11:30 am at my office (307/45). Please provide me with a printout of your summary and don't forget to put your name on it.

3. If you are curious about the Vesta system, you can visit www.vestasys.org. *The Vesta Approach to Software Configuration Management* by Heydon et al. is the first paper in section Publications and gives an overview.
4. In general, I do not accept submissions by email. However, if you cannot stop by my office and therefore decide to send me an email with your submission, send it as a PDF or plain text file.