FORMAL TECHNIQUES FOR NETWORKED AND DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS

IFIP - The International Federation for Information Processing

IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the First World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year. An umbrella organization for societies working in information processing, IFIP's aim is two-fold: to support information processing within its member countries and to encourage technology transfer to developing nations. As its mission statement clearly states,

IFIP's mission is to be the leading, truly international, apolitical organization which encourages and assists in the development, exploitation and application of information technology for the benefit of all people.

IFIP is a non-profitmaking organization, run almost solely by 2500 volunteers. It operates through a number of technical committees, which organize events and publications. IFIP's events range from an international congress to local seminars, but the most important are:

- The IFIP World Computer Congress, held every second year;
- open conferences;
- working conferences.

The flagship event is the IFIP World Computer Congress, at which both invited and contributed papers are presented. Contributed papers are rigorously refereed and the rejection rate is high.

As with the Congress, participation in the open conferences is open to all and papers may be invited or submitted. Again, submitted papers are stringently refereed.

The working conferences are structured differently. They are usually run by a working group and attendance is small and by invitation only. Their purpose is to create an atmosphere conducive to innovation and development. Refereeing is less rigorous and papers are subjected to extensive group discussion.

Publications arising from IFIP events vary. The papers presented at the IFIP World Computer Congress and at open conferences are published as conference proceedings, while the results of the working conferences are often published as collections of selected and edited papers.

Any national society whose primary activity is in information may apply to become a full member of IFIP, although full membership is restricted to one society per country. Full members are entitled to vote at the annual General Assembly, National societies preferring a less committed involvement may apply for associate or corresponding membership. Associate members enjoy the same benefits as full members, but without voting rights. Corresponding members are not represented in IFIP bodies. Affiliated membership is open to non-national societies, and individual and honorary membership schemes are also offered.

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FORTE 2001

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Contents

Preface

FORTE 2001, formerly FORTE/PSTV conference, is a combined conference of FORTE (Formal Description Techniques for Distributed Systems and Communication Protocols) and PSTV (Protocol Specification, Testing and Verification) conferences. This year the conference has a new name FORTE (Formal Techniques for Networked and Distributed Systems). The previous FORTE began in 1989 and the PSTV conference in 1981. Therefore the new FORTE conference actually has a long history of 21 years.

The purpose of this conference is to introduce theories and formal techniques applicable to various engineering stages of networked and distributed systems and to share applications and experiences of them. This FORTE 2001 conference proceedings contains 24 refereed papers and 4 invited papers on the subjects. We regret that many good papers submitted could not be published in this volume due to the lack of space.

FORTE 2001 was organized under the auspices of IFIP WG 6.1 by Information and Communications University of Korea. It was financially supported by Ministry of Information and Communication of Korea.

We would like to thank every author who submitted a paper to FORTE 2001 and thank the reviewers who generously spent their time on reviewing. Special thanks are due to the reviewers who kindly conducted additional reviews for rigorous review process within a very short time frame. We would like to thank Prof. Guy Leduc, the chairman of IFIP WG 6.1, who made valuable suggestions and shared his experiences for conference organization.

This year we have seen exceptionally concerted efforts of the program committee to make FORTE 2001 a successful conference. We thank each one of the program committee for their contribution and cooperation. The enthusiasm and dedication the program committee showed has made us believe that FORTE will remain a prestigious conference with quality and distinction for a long time in the future.

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