

Lecture Notes in Computer Science

2844

Edited by G. Goos, J. Hartmanis, and J. van Leeuwen

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Joaquim A. Jorge Nuno Jardim Nunes
João Falcão e Cunha (Eds.)

Interactive Systems

Design, Specification, and Verification

10th International Workshop, DSV-IS 2003
Funchal, Madeira Island, Portugal, June 11-13, 2003
Revised Papers



Springer

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Joaquim A. Jorge
Departamento de Engenharia Informática, Instituto Superior Técnico
Av. Rovisco Pais, 1049-001 Lisboa, Portugal
E-mail: jorgej@acm.org

Nuno Jardim Nunes
Universidade da Madeira, Departamento de Matemática e Engenharias
9000 Funchal, Portugal
E-mail: njn@uma.pt

João Falcão e Cunha
Universidade do Porto, Faculdade de Engenharia
Departamento de Engenharia Mecânica e Gestão Industrial, Porto, Portugal
E-mail: jfcunha@fe.up.pt

Cataloging-in-Publication Data applied for

A catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress.

Bibliographic information published by Die Deutsche Bibliothek
Die Deutsche Bibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie;
detailed bibliographic data is available in the Internet at <<http://dnb.ddb.de>>.

CR Subject Classification (1998): H.5.2, H.5, I.3, D.2, F.3

ISSN 0302-9743

ISBN 3-540-20159-9 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York

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Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York
a member of BertelsmannSpringer Science+Business Media GmbH

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Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by Boller Mediendesign
Printed on acid-free paper SPIN: 10960059 06/3142 5 4 3 2 1 0

Preface

The present book contains the proceedings of DSV-IS 2003, the tenth International Workshop on the Design, Specification and Verification of Interactive Systems, which was held in Funchal, Madeira in June 2003. The workshop series started in Italy in 1994 under the leadership of Fabio Paternò. Throughout its existence this event has played a significant role at the crossroads of the disciplines of user interfaces and software engineering, arguing the case for balancing user and system considerations on an equal footing. The last decade has seen the broader emergence of user-centered concerns as a major driving force, a mainstay permeating the major changes the field of computing has endured in recent years.

While formal specifications and verification of interactive systems seem to suffer from a “double ghetto” effect in that the exercise may seem alien to both the software engineering and user interface design communities, the steady flow of contributions to this venue bears witness to a healthy interest in such a convergence. The relatively large number of submissions (47) to DSV-IS 2003 attests to the strong interest in the field. Unfortunately this has meant that we could not accommodate all the papers submitted to a single-track three-day event, so that all attendees could listen to and discuss all the presentations. We struck a compromise by having long and short paper tracks. The papers were reviewed by at least three researchers actively involved in many aspects of user interface and software engineering disciplines in a doubly-blind fashion. Out of this process, capped by a lively online program committee meeting, we were able to select 26 contributions for oral presentation, representing a 55% acceptance rate. The texts included in these proceedings were submitted to an additional review cycle after the workshop to ensure a higher degree of quality not only in terms of content, clarity of exposition and written English, but also to reflect the rich comments and discussions at the workshop.

This workshop owes its realization to many dedicated people. Besides the program committee members and reviewers, we would like to thank Angel Puerta for making the conference reviewing system available to support online submission and reviewing of submissions. Angel has endured a seemingly endless flow of requests from authors and program chairs. The local organizing committee has worked tirelessly in making the arrangements for this meeting. Our heartfelt thanks goes to the invited speakers, Larry Constantine, Henry Lieberman and Dave Roberts, who, with their excellent presentations helped us shape an outstanding program. DSV-IS 2003 was only possible due to the kind support from the sponsors and cooperating institutions. We would like to thank CARE-Technologies Lda., the Luso-American Foundation for Development and the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, for their financial support of this event. We would also like to thank the many institutions that offered “in cooperation” status to DSV-IS 2003, namely the main professional organizations in our field: the Eurographics Association, the Portuguese IEEE Section, ACM SIGCHI and SIGSOFT, IFIP TC13 and the British HCI Group. Finally a special word of thanks goes to Paula Centeno and Frederico

Figueiredo for their helping hand in preparing both the final workshop and preliminary online proceedings.

July 2003

Joaquim Jorge
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