

# Lecture Notes in Computer Science

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

Advisory Board: W. Brauer D. Gries J. Stoer

Raymond Marie   Brigitte Plateau  
Maria Calzarossa   Gerardo Rubino   (Eds.)

# Computer Performance Evaluation

## Modelling Techniques and Tools

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## Series Editors

Gerhard Goos, Karlsruhe University, Germany  
Juris Hartmanis, Cornell University, NY, USA  
Jan van Leeuwen, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

## Volume Editors

Raymond Marie  
IRISA/Université de Rennes 1  
Campus de Beaulieu, F-35042 Rennes Cédex, France  
E-mail: marie@irisa.fr

Brigitte Plateau  
LMC, Institut Fourier  
100, rue des Mathématiques, BP 53X, F-38041 Grenoble Cédex 9, France  
E-mail: plateau@imag.fr

Maria Calzarossa  
DIS, Università di Pavia  
via Abbiategrasso 209, I-27100 Pavia, Italy  
E-mail: mcc@alice.unipv.it

Gerardo Rubino  
IRISA/ENSTB  
IRISA, Campus de Beaulieu, F-35042 Rennes Cédex, France  
E-mail: rubino@irisa.fr

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## Preface

Since the beginning of the series of International Conferences on Modeling Techniques and Tools for Computer Performance Evaluation, new challenges have arisen. Systems have evolved and we are faced with new problems due to, for example, fully distributed systems or statistical multiplexing of high speed networks. During the last decade, we have also noticed the implication of the concept of dependability on performance studies. On top of that, with the change in the systems came the change in the attitudes. An increasing number of system designers want to consider as a whole the qualitative and quantitative specifications of computing and communication systems. These designers believe increasingly that performance and dependability play a key role in the success of a new product. Moreover, they will trust the performance predictions more if these results are deduced directly from the original specifications.

However, real systems are so complex that often these requirements are not met. Automation of such performance evaluation processes needs the use of very powerful tools. Power here means that we should be able to use them for coping with a large variety of sophisticated systems. An evolution from specific approaches (with maybe more analytical results) to systematic solutions (using more hybrid techniques mixing numerical and simulation solutions) is thus emerging.

We believe that the 17 papers selected by the program committee, in addition to the 2 invited papers, are representative of the work done and the progress achieved in these directions. In addition a special focus was put on tool exhibitions: the tool fair includes 21 presentations. This ninth conference of the series comes after its predecessors:

1984 Paris	1991 Torino
1985 Sophia Antipolis	1992 Edinburgh
1987 Paris	1994 Wien
1989 Palma	1995 Heidelberg

We would like to express our thanks to all those persons and institutions which have contributed to this conference. In particular, we thank the program committee members for their work in refereeing and selecting the papers, the authors of the submitted papers, the invited speakers who accepted to share their experiences with us, the local organizing committee, and the sponsoring and supporting organizations.

Raymond Marie  
*General Chair*  
*IRISA Rennes*  
*France*

Brigitte Plateau  
*General Vice-Chair*  
*IMAG-LGI Grenoble*  
*France*

Maria Calzarossa  
*PC Chair*  
*University of Pavia*  
*Italy*

Gerardo Rubino  
*PC Chair*  
*IRISA/ENSTB*  
*France*

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- The IFIP W.G. 6.3 (Performance of Communication Systems)
- The IFIP W.G. 7.3 (Computer System Modelling)

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