
FOREWORD

Special Section on Formal Approach

Formal methods and techniques play a key role in the design and development of highly reliable information systems, including both hardware and software. The last decades have seen new techniques and profound theoretical results using formal methods in remarkably many fields such as modeling, requirements analysis, specification, code generation, testing, verification, maintenance, reuse, and security.

The Special Section on Formal Approach aims at stimulating research on all aspects of a formal approach, ranging from fundamental theory to case studies in practical systems. In response to the Call for Papers, ten papers were submitted, three of them from countries overseas. In addition, four papers were authored or coauthored by editorial committee members; these papers were reviewed and evaluated by excluding the (co)authors from the editorial committee. After a thorough and deliberate review process, the editorial committee selected seven papers of exceptional quality which prove the strength of formal approach research in the authors' countries.

On behalf of the editorial committee of the Special Section, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all who submitted their valuable papers. I am also grateful to all the members of the editorial committee and to the external reviewers for their valuable and punctual help.

Editorial Committee Members:

Takahito Aoto (Tohoku University)
Masahiro Fujita (The University of Tokyo)
Kiyoharu Hamaguchi (Osaka University)
Yasunori Ishihara (Osaka University)
Yukiyoshi Kameyama (University of Tsukuba)
Yoshinobu Kawabe (Aichi Institute of Technology)
Masahito Kurihara (Hokkaido University)
Shin-ya Nishizaki (Tokyo Institute of Technology)
Kazuhiro Ogata (JAIST)
Yasuyuki Tsukada (NTT)
Tomohiro Yoneda (National Institute of Informatics)
Shoji Yuen (Nagoya University)

Hiroyuki Seki, Guest Editor

Hiroyuki Seki (*Member*) received the Ph.D. degree in information and computer sciences from Osaka University in 1987. He was with Osaka University as an Assistant Professor in 1990–1992 and an Associate Professor in 1992–1994. In 1994, He joined the faculty of Nara Institute of Science and Technology, where he has been a Professor since 1996. His current research interests include formal language theory and formal approach to software development.

