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Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of FORTE 2006, the 26$^{\text{th}}$ IFIP WG 6.1 International Conference on Formal Methods for Networked and Distributed Systems, which took place in Paris, September 26-29, 2006. FORTE denotes a series of international working conferences on formal description techniques applied to computer networks and distributed systems. The conference series started in 1981 under the name PSTV. In 1988 a second series under the name FORTE was set up. Both series were united to FORTE / PSTV in 1996. Five years ago the conference changed the name to its current form.

FORTE was held in Taiwan in 2005, in Madrid in 2004, in Berlin in 2003, in Houston in 2002, etc. The 2006 edition took place in Paris in the buildings of the CNAM (Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers), which is a Public Scientific, Cultural and Professional Institution. FORTE 2006 was organized by CEDRIC, the computer science research laboratory of the CNAM, and by the Parisian multi-laboratories research group MeFoSyLoMa (Méthodes Formelles pour les Systèmes Logiciels et Matériels). The conference comprised a three-day technical program, during which papers contained in these proceedings were presented. The technical program was preceded by a tutorial day.

FORTE is dedicated to formal description techniques and their application to distributed systems and cooperating applications. The focus of FORTE 2006 was on the construction of middleware and services using formalized and verified approaches. In addition to the classic protocol specification, verification and testing problems, FORTE 2006 addressed the issues of composition of protocol functions and of algorithms for distributed systems.

In total 99 abstracts and 78 full papers were submitted covering the special focus of FORTE 2006 and also more usual topics such as testing, slicing, and verification techniques; highlighting different formalisms among them one can cite Petri Nets, processes algebra or unified modelling languages. Out of the submissions, 26 full papers and 4 shorts papers were selected by the Program Committee for presentation. We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the authors of all submitted papers, to the Program Committee and to external reviewers who did an outstanding job in selecting the best papers for presentation (more than 300 referee reports were completed before closing the selection phase). In addition to the submitted contributions, there were three invited lectures: one by Daniel Krob (Ecole Polytechnique, France), who gave his vision of complex systems in a talk entitled "Modelling of Complex Software Systems: A Reasoned Overview"; one by Leslie Lamport (Microsoft, USA), who presented a new way to describe algorithms with his talk entitled "The $^{+}$CAL Algorithm Language"; and one by Martin Wirsing (Institut fur Informatikr, Ludwig-Maximilians-Uníversität München, Germany), who presented the SENSORIA project in a talk entitled "Semantic-Based Service-Oriented Software

Development." We thank them for the quality of their talks and of their papers. Two very interesting tutorials were given on the first day, one by Rüdiger Valk (Univ. Hamburg, Germany) on the use of Petri Nets for modelling and verifying concurrent systems and one by Dominique Méry (Université Henri Poincaré Nancy & LORIA, France) on the event B method. We thank them for their help in disseminating knowledge in formal methods for system design.

We would like to thank the CNAM technical and organizational support, Philippe Auger, Joel Berthelin, Frederic Lemoine, Gilles Lepage and Stephen Robert. Special thanks to Kristina and Gabriele Santini (KSW), who designed the FORTE 2006 Web site (http://forte2006.cnam.fr). We are also grateful to Christine Choppy, who organized tutorials, Kirill Bogdanov for his work as Publicity Chair, and to the Steering Committee members for their advice. We thank also Joyce El Haddad, Sami Evangelista, Irfan Hamid, Christophe Pajault, Isabelle Perseil, Pierre Rousseau, and Emmanuel Paviot-Adet for all their work before and during the conference.

Last, but not least, we would like to express our appreciation to speakers and to all the participants who helped in achieving the goal of the conference: providing a forum for researchers and practitioners for the exchange of information and ideas about formal methods for modelling, testing and verifying protocols and distributed systems.

July 2006

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