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Formal Techniques for Distributed Objects, Components, and Systems

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Formal Techniques for Distributed Objects, Components, and Systems

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Foreword

The 15th International Federated Conference on Distributed Computing Techniques (DisCoTec 2020) took place during June 15–19, 2020. It was organized by the Department of Computer Science at the University of Malta, but was held online due to the abnormal circumstances worldwide affecting physical travel.

The DisCoTec series is one of the major events sponsored by the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP). It comprises three conferences:

- The IFIP WG 6.1 22nd International Conference on Coordination Models and Languages (COORDINATION 2020)
- The IFIP WG 6.1 20th International Conference on Distributed Applications and Interoperable Systems (DAIS 2020)
- The IFIP WG 6.1 40th International Conference on Formal Techniques for Distributed Objects, Components and Systems (FORTE 2020)

Together, these conferences cover a broad spectrum of distributed computing subjects, ranging from theoretical foundations and formal description techniques to systems research issues. As is customary, the event also included several plenary sessions in addition to the individual sessions of each conference, that gathered attendants from the three conferences. These included joint invited speaker sessions and a joint session for the best papers from the respective three conferences.

Associated with the federated event, two satellite events took place:

- The 13th International Workshop on Interaction and Concurrency Experience (ICE 2020)
- The First International Workshop on Foundations of Consensus and Distributed Ledgers (FOCODILE 2020)

I would like to thank the Program Committee chairs of the different events for their help and cooperation during the preparation of the conference, and the Steering Committee and Advisory Boards of DisCoTec and their conferences for their guidance and support. The organization of DisCoTec 2020 was only possible thanks to the dedicated work of the Organizing Committee, including Davide Basile and Francisco “Kiko” Fernández Reyes (publicity chairs), Antonis Achilleos, Duncan Paul Attard, and Ornela Dardha (workshop chairs), Lucienne Bugeja (logistics and finances), as well as all the students and colleagues who volunteered their time to help. Finally, I would like to thank IFIP WG 6.1 for sponsoring this event, Springer’s *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* team for their support and sponsorship, EasyChair for providing the reviewing framework, and the University of Malta for providing the support and infrastructure to host the event.

Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 40th IFIP WG 6.1 International Conference on Formal Techniques for Distributed Objects, Components, and Systems (FORTE 2020), held as one of three main conferences of the 15th International Federated Conference on Distributed Computing Techniques (DisCoTec 2020), during June 15–19, 2020, online due to the coronavirus pandemic.

FORTE is a well-established forum for fundamental research on theory, models, tools, and applications for distributed systems, with special interest in:

- Software quality, reliability, availability, and safety
- Security, privacy, and trust in distributed and/or communicating systems
- Service-oriented, ubiquitous, and cloud computing systems
- Component- and model-based design
- Object technology, modularity, and software adaptation
- Self-stabilization and self-healing/organizing
- Verification, validation, formal analysis, and testing of the above

The Program Committee received a total of 25 submissions, written by authors from 18 different countries. Of these, 11 papers were selected for inclusion in the scientific program. Each submission was reviewed by at least three Program Committee members with the help of 10 external reviewers in selected cases. The selection of accepted submissions was based on electronic discussions via the EasyChair conference management system.

As program chairs, we actively contributed to the selection of the keynote speakers of DisCoTec 2020 (which due to the conference being held online are not all confirmed at the time of writing).

This year DisCoTec also includes a Tutorial Day of six invited tutorials. This volume includes the following tutorial papers:

- Parameterised Verification with Byzantine Model Checker
- Typechecking Java Protocols with [St] Mungo

We wish to thank all the authors of submitted papers, all the members of the Program Committee for their thorough evaluations of the submissions, and the external reviewers who assisted the evaluation process. We are also indebted to the Steering Committee of FORTE for their advice and suggestions. Last but not least, we thank the DisCoTec general chair, Adrian Francalanza, and his organization team for their hard, effective work in providing an excellent environment for FORTE 2020 and all other conferences and workshops, despite of the pandemic troubles.

June 2020

Alexey Gotsman
Ana Sokolova

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