

Message from the Workshop Chairs

FormaliSE 2016

Welcome to the 4th FME Workshop on Formal Methods in Software Engineering!

FormaliSE is a yearly workshop on Formal Methods in Software Engineering. FormaliSE is organised by FME (Formal Methods Europe) and is co-located with ICSE (International Conference on Software Engineering).

The software industry has a long-standing and well-earned reputation for failing to deliver on its promises and it is clear that still nowadays, the success of software projects with the current technologies cannot be assured. For large complex projects, many approaches have proven inadequate to assure the correct behaviour of the delivered software, despite the efforts of the (often very skilled) software engineers involved. The lack of formalization in key places makes software engineering overly sensitive to the weaknesses that are inevitable in the complex activities behind software creation. It is an increasingly complex task to develop large software systems because the systems are huge, with very complex behaviour, and many algorithms employed today are "pushing the limits" of what people can comprehend. This is where formal methods (FMs) have a huge opportunity.

The main goal of the workshop is to foster integration between the formal methods and the software engineering communities. This need to achieve dialogue between the fairly small formal methods community and the (much larger) community of software scientists and practitioners forms the principal motivation holding for our workshop, and for our desire to hold it at ICSE.

We have received 17 paper submissions coming from 14 different countries around the world. After being reviewed by at least 3 members of the program committee, 6 papers have been accepted as full papers and 2 for a short presentation, giving an acceptance rate of 35%.

In addition to the paper presentations, the workshop program includes two keynote speakers. We are grateful to Don Batory, University of Texas at Austin, USA, and Pamela Zave, AT&T Research, USA, for accepting our invitation to address the workshop with two inspiring talks.

The program has been organized dividing the presentation of the accepted papers in four sections, the first and the third one including the keynote. At the end of the workshop a panel is organized with the purpose of stimulating a discussion on the workshop's main themes.

We would like to thank the Program Committee members for their help in selecting the papers. We also would like to thank the members of the ICSE Workshop Organizing Committee. Particular thanks go to the Workshops Chairs, Marija Mikic and Mauro Pezzè.

Stefania Gnesi and Nico Plat
FormaliSE 2016 Program Committee Co-Chairs