

Preface

The NASA Formal Methods (NFM) Symposium is a forum to foster collaboration between theoreticians and practitioners from NASA, academia, and industry, with the goal of identifying challenges and providing solutions to achieving assurance in mission- and safety-critical systems. Examples of such systems include advanced separation assurance algorithms for aircraft, next-generation air transportation, autonomous rendezvous and docking for spacecraft, autonomous on-board software for unmanned aerial systems (UAS), UAS traffic management, autonomous robots, and systems for fault detection, diagnosis, and prognostics. The topics covered by the NASA Formal Methods Symposia include: model checking, theorem proving, SAT and SMT solving, symbolic execution, automated testing and verification, static and dynamic analysis, model-based development, runtime verification, software and system testing, safety assurance, fault tolerance, compositional verification, security and intrusion detection, design for verification and correct-by-design techniques, techniques for scaling formal methods, formal methods for multi-core GPU-based implementations, generation, specification, and validation of requirements, human-machine interaction analysis, certification, and applications of formal methods in systems development.

This volume contains the papers presented at NFM 2017, the 9th NASA Formal Methods Symposium, held at the NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA, during May 16–18, 2017. Previous symposia were held in Minneapolis, MN (2016), Pasadena, CA (2015), Houston, TX (2014), Moffett Field, CA (2013), Norfolk, VA (2012), Pasadena, CA (2011), Washington, DC (2010), and Moffett Field, CA (2009). The series started as the Langley Formal Methods Workshop, and was held under that name in 1990, 1992, 1995, 1997, 2000, and 2008. Papers were solicited for NFM 2017 under two categories: regular papers describing fully developed work and complete results, and short papers describing tools, experience reports, or work in progress with preliminary results. The symposium received 77 submissions for review (60 regular papers and 17 short papers) out of which 31 were accepted for publication (23 regular papers and eight short papers). These submissions went through a rigorous reviewing process, where each paper was first independently reviewed by at least three reviewers and then subsequently discussed by the Program Committee.

In addition to the refereed papers, the symposium featured five invited presentations: “Formal Methods for the Informal World,” by Michael Wagner, Senior Commercialization Specialist at the Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA; “Agile Aerospace at Planet,” by Ben Haldeman, Technologist and Program Manager at Planet, San Francisco, CA; “Moving Fast with High Reliability: Static Analysis at Uber,” by Manu Sridharan, Senior Software Engineer at Uber, Palo Alto, CA; “Challenges in Designing for the Next Era of Human Space Exploration,” by Jason Crusan, Director of the Advanced Exploration Systems Division within the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate at NASA, Washington, DC; and “A Tour of Formal Methods in Support of Aerospace Products Development,” by

Alexandre Arnold, Research Engineer at Airbus. The symposium also featured a panel that discussed how to make more real problems and case studies from NASA and the aerospace industry available to researchers.

The organizers are grateful to the authors for submitting their work to NFM 2017 and to the invited speakers for sharing their insights. NFM 2017 would not have been possible without the collaboration of the outstanding Program Committee and additional reviewers, the support of the Steering Committee, the efforts of the staff at the NASA Ames Research Center, and the general support of the NASA Formal Methods community. The NFM 2017 website can be found at: <https://ti.arc.nasa.gov/events/nfm-2017>.

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Clark Barrett
Misty Davies
Temesghen Kahsai

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Barrett, C.; Davies, M.; Kahsai, T. (Eds.)

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