

Preface

Requirements Engineering (RE) is now a well-established discipline of research and practice in software and systems development. The importance of developing and following effective RE practices has long been recognized by researchers and practitioners alike. In the Asia-Pacific region, RE is also receiving more and more attention due to the increasing reliance on software-intensive systems.

The Asia-Pacific Requirements Engineering Symposium (APRES) is a focused intellectual forum for in-depth discussion of all issues related to RE. It aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from industry, academia, and government to share the state of the art and practice in RE and explore emerging challenges in RE innovation. It also aims to foster collaboration among the RE community of researchers and practitioners in Asia and Oceania. Following the success of APRES 2014 in New Zealand, APRES 2015 in China, and APRES 2016 in Japan, the fourth edition of APRES (APRES 2017) took place in Malaysia, specifically in Melaka the historical city of Malaysia.

Responding to the growing trend toward interconnectivity, the discussion at APRES 2017 addressed the changing work practices and challenges of RE in response to the Internet of Things (IoT). This year, we accepted 11 full papers and five short papers. All papers were carefully reviewed by at least three Program Committee members and detailed constructive feedback was provided to the authors. We also had participants and presentations from Australia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan and Korea.

APRES 2017 was held for two days during November 9–10, 2017. The symposium hosted two keynote speakers who each presented a topic relevant to the current development of RE. The first speaker, Professor Didar Zowghi from Australia, highlighted the sociotechnical perspectives in RE, while the second speaker, Professor Madhusudan Singh from Korea, discussed Blockchain Technology in RE. Both topics are relevant to the changing work practice and research in RE.

The paper presentations at APRES 2017 were organized into five main topics, i.e., big data, cyber security, crowd-sourcing, automation, and requirements challenges. APRES 2017 also attracted a good number of participants and enriched the overall offering of the conference for the discussions of real-world problems and sharing of industry experiences and practices in RE.

Our greatest thanks go to the authors and presenters whose contributions made APRES 2017 a success. We are grateful to the Program Committee members for their thorough and timely reviews of the submissions. We thank the Steering Committee for their valuable guidance.

Our thanks also go to Springer, publisher of the APRES proceedings, for their continuous support. Finally, thanks to EasyChair for making the conference management such an efficient task.

We hope you all enjoy the APRES 2017 proceedings.

November 2017

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Requirements Engineering for Internet of Things
4th Asia-Pacific Symposium, APRES 2017, Melaka,
Malaysia, November 9-10, 2017, Proceedings
Kamalrudin, M.; Ahmad, S.; Ikram, N. (Eds.)
2018, XIV, 205 p. 72 illus., Softcover
ISBN: 978-981-10-7795-1