

PREFACE

This book is a collection of peer-reviewed research papers focusing on various aspects of software engineering and fault tolerance. The growing importance of this area is recognised by many researchers and practitioners, and is due to an urgent need to support building fault tolerant systems in a disciplined and rigorous fashion, ensuring proper integration of fault tolerance concerns from the earliest steps of system development. The challenge here arises from the fact that this area sits on the borderline between several well-established research domains, such as *software engineering*, *dependability* and *formal methods*. The book is intended as a major step toward a future time when these communities will have established long-term close cooperation. It is clearly only a beginning of and an indication of the huge potentials in the fruitful cooperation between them.

In addition to the nine high-quality technical papers selected through a thorough peer-revision process, we decided to include an introductory chapter to give our personal view of the area and explain the motivation which has driven the book. Its preparation started after a successful workshop on the same subject organised in Luxembourg in June 2006. This 1.5 day workshop consisted of 6 selected technical talks, 2 invited talks and a tool demonstration followed by two discussion sessions, and attracted more than 25 participants from all over the world. After the workshop we invited all workshop contributors and a number of external researchers with a strong background in related topics to submit their papers. Nine papers were finally selected for inclusion.

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