



QEST '09

Quantitative
Evaluation of
Sys-
Tems '09

CALL
FOR
PAPERS

**6th International Conference on Quantitative Evaluation of SysTems
September 13-16, 2009, Budapest, Hungary.
Co-located with FORMATS 2009, the 7th International Conference on
Formal Modelling and Analysis of Timed Systems.
Immediately followed by PMMCCS-9, the 9th International Workshop
on Performability Modeling of Computer and Communication
Systems, 17th-18th September, 2009, Eger, Hungary.**

Scope and Topics

The International Conference on Quantitative Evaluation of SysTems (QEST) is the leading forum on evaluation and verification of computer systems and networks, through stochastic models and measurements. QEST has a broad range of interest — the common thread is that the evaluation be quantitative. The range of performance metrics of interest spans classical measures involving performance and reliability, as well as quantification of properties that are classically qualitative, such as safety, correctness, and security. QEST welcomes measurement-based studies as well as analytic studies. QEST welcomes diversity in the model formalisms and methodologies employed, as well as development of new formalisms and methodologies such as quantitative planning for infrastructures. QEST is keenly interested in case studies that highlight the role of quantitative evaluation in the design of "systems", where the notion of system is broad. Systems of interest include computer hardware and software architectures, communication systems, embedded systems and biological systems. Moreover, tools for supporting the practical application of research results in all of the above areas are of special interest, and therefore tool papers are sought. In short, QEST aims to create a sound methodological basis for assessing and designing systems using quantitative means.

Evaluation of Papers

All submitted papers will be thoroughly judged by at least three reviewers on the basis of their originality, technical quality, scientific or practical contribution to the state of the art, methodology, clarity, and adequacy of references.

QEST considers five types of papers with additional reviewing criteria (in no particular order):

1. Theoretical: advance our understanding, apply to non-trivial problems and be mathematically rigorous.
2. Methodological and technical: describe situations that require the development and proposal of new analysis processes and techniques. Process structure and the individual steps should be clearly described. If the methodology has already been evaluated with applications, a brief description of the lessons learned would be very helpful.
3. Application: describe a non-trivial application, and provide a comparison with previous results, if previously analyzed.
4. Tools: should motivate the development of the new tools and the formalisms they support. Tool papers need not discuss the theoretical properties of the formalisms they are based on, nor details of the algorithms used. Instead, they should focus on the architecture of the software and discuss its practical capabilities with particular reference to the size and type of model it can handle within reasonable time and space limits.
5. Tool demonstration: 2-page papers that describe a relevant tool, as well as its features, evaluation, or any other information that may demonstrate the merits of the tool.

Submissions

We invite submissions of original papers related to the topics of the conference. Submissions must be in English, IEEE double-column format, and must indicate the above paper type. Electronic submission instructions may be found at www.qest.org. Submitted papers should not exceed 10 pages (2 for tool demonstrations). Additional material for the aid of the reviewers (e.g., proofs) can be sent in a clearly marked appendix. Papers must be unpublished and must not be submitted for publication elsewhere. All accepted papers (including tool demonstrations) will appear in the Conference Proceedings, and must be presented at the conference by one of the authors. A best-paper award will be presented at the conference. Selected papers will appear in a special issue of a major journal. Submissions will be handled by the EasyChair system (go to EasyChair/QEST2009).

Tool presentations

Sessions will be arranged to present and demonstrate tools relevant to any conference topic. Accepted tool descriptions will appear in the conference proceedings.

Tutorials

There will be one day of tutorials at the start of the conference. Tutorial proposals (up to 4 pages IEEE double-column format) should be sent to the Tutorial Chair. The proposal has to indicate motivation, detailed outline, length (90 or 180 minutes) and the proposer's related expertise. A one page summary of the tutorial will be published in the proceedings.

Deadlines

Abstract submission: 30 March, 2009 (extended)
Paper and tool submission: 6 April, 2009 (extended)
Tutorial submission: 27 April, 2009
Author notification: 25 May, 2009
Camera ready version: 15 June, 2009



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