Invited talk: Gerard Holzmann

Gerard Holzmann is a Fellow and Senior Research Scientist at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), and a Faculty Associate in Computer Science at the California Institute of Technology. He obtained his Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1976 and a PhD in Technical Sciences in 1979, both from the Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands. From 1979 until 2003 he was with the Computing Science Research Centre of Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey. In 2003 he joined JPL to start its new Laboratory for Reliable Software. Holzmann is a member of the US National Academy of Engineering. He was awarded the 2001 ACM Software Systems Award for the design and development of the Spin model checker. Recently, Holzmann was one of the investigators commissioned by the U.S. Department of Transportation and NASA to study the possibility of software triggers for unintended acceleration events in Toyota vehicles.

Gerald’s talk is titled: Reliable software development: analysis-aware design

Abstract: The application of formal methods in software development does not have to be an all-or-nothing proposition. Progress can be made with the introduction of relatively unobtrusive techniques that simplify analysis. This approach is meant to replace traditional analysis-agnostic coding with an analysis-aware style of software development.

Invited talk: Andrew W. Appel

Andrew W. Appel is the current department chair of Computer Science at Princeton University. He has been an assistant, associate, and then full professor in this department since 1986; he was a member of the Technical Staff at Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, NJ, during the Summer of 1984 and a consultant from 1983 to 2001. Andrew received an A.B. with summa cum laude in Physics from Princeton University in 1981 and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Carnegie-Mellon University in 1985. His research is in programming languages and compilers, automated theorem proving, computer security, and technology policy. Andrew received a Kusaka Memorial Prize in Physics, Princeton University, in 1981, National Science Foundation Graduate Student Fellowship from 1981-1984. He became an ACM Fellow in 1998. H won the Other Prize in the Programming Contest of the ACM International Conference on Functional Programming in 1998. He was awarded the ACM SIGPLAN Distinguished Service Award in 2002. ACM SIGPLAN selected “Real-time Concurrent Collection on Stock Multiprocessors” (Appel, Ellis, Li 1988) as one of the 50 most influential papers in 20 years of the PLDI conference in 2002.

The message Andrew wants to convey: The state of art and engineering in the specification and verification of programming languages, compilers, memory models, program logics, and static analyzers is now sufficiently advanced that we can connect together a whole chain of formally specified, machine verified analysis and compilation tools.

Title of Andrew’s talk: Verified Software Toolchain

Discover the Café Rotunda

Nobody has, yet, discovered the coziest ETAPS Café, Café Rotunda! We set out a prize for brave discoverers. The first three will get a free cup of coffee. All the followers will have to consume coffee left over from the first three, but also for free.

Menu A:
breaded pork cutlet with sauce, side dish, seasonal salad and dessert

Menu B:
Goulash of mushrooms and bell pepper, side dish, seasonal salad and dessert

Free Flow:
- Low fat: Ragout of chicken in white wine sauce
- Potato dish with uncooked vegetables
- Crisp coalfish with chive and mustard sauce

Lunch options on Wednesday
The German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, DFKI

Völklinger Hütte at night

Social event: “Völklinger Hütte”

2,500 years ago Saarland: together with Luxembourg, Lorraine, Rhineland-Palatinate and Wallonia in Belgium, form an important European centre. Celts live here. Their princes are much feared as warriors. They lay the foundations for a new culture, the Latène culture. Their smiths have the skills required to forge iron into terrifying weapons and innovative tools. For the first time the exhibition presents a comprehensive insight into a forgotten chapter of our culture. More than 150 groups of exhibits bring of Celtic innovation, culture and power to life in the 6,000m² of the blower hall.

Walk through the exhibition “The Celts: Druids, Princes, Warriors.”

The World Heritage Site “Völklinger Hütte” is a gigantic ironworks from the iron industry’s heyday and definitely one of the more unusual of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

It was closed down in 1986 and became a listed building. “Völklinger Hütte”, founded in 1873, is now the worldwide only remaining ironworks from the iron and steel industry’s heyday. An exciting cultural destination of the 21st century that is not only of interest for industrial history buffs!

something serious: The Australian Government is carrying out a ranking of international Journals and Conferences. You might have heard of this as the CORE.EDU.AU ranking, which is currently gaining considerable momentum.

Below is the rank they currently assign to the ETAPS conferences:

CC, ESOP, TACAS: rank A
FASE: rank B
FOSSACS: rank C

A is best, C is worst. Interestingly, the ranking is not based on bibliometrics but on the outlets’ reputation, from opinions and reports of researchers. The consultation on this ranking is open until 8:00 am (AEST), 4 April 2011. If you, as someone with ETAPS insight, happen to disagree on the above, you have the opportunity to make a submission by registering on https://roci.arc.gov.au. After registering, choose the “search ranked outlets” tab.

Vladimiro Sassone,
ETAPS Steering Committee Chair

Direct link to FASE: https://roci.arc.gov.au/Outlet/Details/5598
Direct link to FOSSACS: https://roci.arc.gov.au/Outlet/Details/14908

CORE impact on core ETAPS

Tool Demos from Absint

Our Silver Sponsor, Absint, is offering demonstrations of the various tools they develop. On the ground floor of E1.3, any time.