Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Formal Engineering Methods: ICFEM 2002. The conference was held in Shanghai, China, from 21 to 25 October 2002.

Formal methods for software development have been extensively researched and their use in industry is increasing. Recent applications to the development of safety-critical, security-critical, and mission-critical systems have significantly increased trustworthiness, without increasing overall development costs. ICFEM encourages the exchange of ideas on recent advances in formal methods and software engineering.

The conference received 108 papers submitted from 24 different countries and regions. A total of 43 regular and 16 short papers were accepted. All papers were reviewed by three or four members of the program committee or other reviewers. The conference would not have been possible without their voluntary and dedicated work.

The conference had a number of excellent keynote speakers: Prof. Ralph-Johan Back of Abo Akademi University, Finland, Dr. Mark A. Hale of Interwoven Inc., USA, Dr. Richard Jüllig of CommerceNet Consortium, USA, Prof. Shaoying Liu of Hosei University, Japan, and Prof. Jim Woodcock of the University of Kent, UK. They provided a balanced view of advanced formal methods and software engineering from their research programs and experience.

We are pleased to have successfully organized this conference. However, it could not have been successful without the hard work and efforts of the members of our program committee and organizing committee, reviewers, authors, and support from different countries and regions. We would particularly like to thank Xiang Jugu for handling the finances, Qing Wei for handling local arrangements, Liu Jing for handling paper reviews, Chen Yihai for taking care of our publicity, and Sandy Lee for her help in preparing these proceedings. Finally, our thanks to Springer-Verlag for their help with the publication.

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ICFEM 2002 coincided with the 10th Anniversary of UNU/IIST, which has been promoting formal engineering methods since 1992. We wish it every success in the future.

October 2002   Chris George
                                                                           Miao Huaikou

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