REFSQ 2024: Joint Proceedings of Workshops, Doctoral Symposium, Posters & Tools Track, and Education and Training Track—Preface

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Abstract

This document is the preface of the Joint Proceedings of Workshops, Doctoral Symposium, Posters & Tools Track, and Education and Training Track of the 30th International Working Conference on Requirement Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality (REFSQ 2024), 8th—11th April 2024, held in Winterthur, Switzerland.

Keywords

Requirements Engineering, Proceedings

1. Preface

The 30th International Working Conference on Requirement Engineering: Foundation for Software Quality (REFSQ 2024) took place from the 8th to the 11th of April 2024. The conference was held as a live, in-person event in Winterthur, Switzerland. REFSQ Working Conferences aim to provide a forum for discussing new and innovative ideas and approaches to successful Requirements Engineering (RE) and for exchange between researchers and practitioners.

2. Theme

The special theme of REFSQ'24 was "Out of the Lab, into the Wild!" aiming to answer questions such as:

- What are domain-specific problems and challenges relevant to Requirements Engineering in practice?

- What are solutions (methodologies and technologies) that guide professionals when handling requirements in real-world environments?
- What different interpretations and manifestations can Requirements Engineering take in practical settings?
- How do we evidently demonstrate that the methods, techniques, and tools we develop solve problems relevant to practice?
- How can we foster fruitful academia-industry collaborations?
- What are insights, experiences, and lessons learnt that emerge from our investigations of how RE is applied in practice?
- How can we ensure reproducibility and transparency in our research artifacts?

3. Workshops

The six workshops at REFSQ 2024 were carefully selected based on their quality, attractiveness, and potential to attract attendants. The selection process was led by our co-chairs Jennifer Horkoff and and Thorsten Weyer. This resulted in the following workshops:

- **RE4AI**: 5th International Workshop on Requirements Engineering for Artificial Intelligence (https://sites.google.com/view/re4ai/), organized by Renata Guizzardi, Khan Mohammad Habibullah, Anna Perini and Angelo Susi. RE4AI emphasizes the role of RE in enabling AI systems to realize their full potential while enhancing robustness and safety through error reduction and ethical considerations.
- **NLP4RE**: 7th Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Requirements Engineering (https://nlp4re.github.io/2024/), organized by Sallam Abualhaija, Chetan Arora, Davide Dell'Anna, Alessio Ferrari and Sepideh Ghanavati. The goal of NLP4RE is to serve as a community-building platform for researchers using NLP technologies to address RE challenges and support RE activities.
- **AgileRE**: the AgileRE Workshop (https://agilere-workshop.github.io/), organized by Fabiano Dalpiaz and Jan-Philipp Steghöfer. AgileRE brings together industry and academia offering hands-on tutorials; participants will explore agile development's impact on requirements management, scaling in agile RE, and the future of RE in agile settings.
- **VIVA RE**: Virtues and Values in Requirements Engineering 2024 Workshop (VIVA RE'24) (https://sites.google.com/view/vivarerefsq24/startseite), organized by Alexander Rachmann and Jens Gulden. VIVA RE focuses on collecting methods for integrating values into system development, exploring how software tools can support ethical reasoning. Two approaches will be examined: Square of Values (SoV) and Software Sustainability Assessment (SoSA).
- **Green Digital Design**: Green Digital Design - How can modern RE of digital products contribute to more sustainability? (https://events.maibornwolff.de/workshop-green-digital-design/), organized by Andrea Müller, Martina Beck and Dominik Birkmeier. Digital designers and requirements engineers are accountable for the functionality, quality, and impact of digital products. Ensuring sustainability requires expanding our perspective within RE to address unintended side effects.

- **CreaRE**: 11th International Workshop on Creativity in Requirements Engineering (https://creare.iese.de/), organized by Andrea Herrmann, Maya Daneva, Patrick Mennig and Kurt Schneider. CreaRE offers a platform for exploring creativity in RE, fostering discussions, and sharing innovative approaches. Participants will gain insights and potentially apply creativity techniques in practical scenarios.

4. Other Tracks

The proceedings also contain the content of the following tracks:

- **Doctoral Symposium**: The goal of the Doctoral Symposium (organized by Maya Daneva and Michael Unterkalmsteiner) is to provide Ph.D. students with an opportunity to present and discuss their work in early as well as advanced stages of their doctoral research, to provide all participant students with advice and suggestions from a panel of senior researchers, and to facilitate interaction among all participants.
- **Posters and Tools Track**: The Posters and Tools Track (organized by Nelly Condori-Fernández and Oscar Dieste) is a forum to present posters and demonstrate tools covering any aspect of RE. It gives researchers the chance to present their most recent work and obtain early feedback on ongoing research.
- **Education and Training Track**: The Education and Training Track (organized by Stan Bühne, Jennifer Hehn, and Birgit Penzenstadler) aims to provide a forum where industry practitioners, academic researchers, and education professionals can exchange best practices, tools, and insights, to foster open discussions about challenges and opportunities.

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