The 9th International Workshop on Object-oriented Real-Time Dependable Systems (WORDS 2003 Fall) continues the successful tradition that started in 1994. As its predecessors, the focus is on the technology that enables the realization of object-oriented real-time computing systems with emphasis on the dependability and quality-of-service (QoS) aspects. The interest on this technology continues to grow fast due to its applicability to a wide range of computing systems, from complex real-time systems to distributed embedded systems.


The beautiful scenery offered by the island of Capri in Italy together with its friendly and relaxing environment created the right atmosphere for researchers and professionals to discuss the important topics addressed in the paper presentations and to exchange technical thoughts. In particular, the panel on “Research Challenges for the ORDS Community in the Coming Years” tackled a number of issues that the research community and industry practitioners have to address to enable the technology’s full potential.

We are pleased that WORDS 2003F created the proper forum for researchers and industry practitioners to discuss these important topics related to the ORDS technology. Our expectation is that the workshop papers presented in these proceedings will further catalyze the research and development on this exciting area and that the readers will benefit from this collection of papers.

WORDS 2003F was dedicated to the honor of late Prof. Edsger W. Dijkstra who made so many invaluable contributions to the development of the computer science field.

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