



# CALL-FOR-PAPERS

## AST 2012

7th IEEE/ACM International Workshop on Automation of Software Test

<http://ast2012.org>

At ICSE 2012 (<http://www.ifi.uzh.ch/icse2012/>)

Zurich, Switzerland, 2-3 June 2012

### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### Submission deadline:

February 17, 2012

#### Notification of acceptance:

March 19, 2012

#### Camera-Ready version:

March 29, 2012

#### Workshop dates:

June 2 - 3 2012

### ORGANIZERS:

#### Workshop PC Co-Chairs

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#### Prof. Eric Wong

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#### Dr. Steve Masticola

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Please see workshop website for more details and the workshop Program Committee.

In software development practice, testing accounts for as much as 50% of the total development effort. It is therefore imperative to reduce the cost and improve the effectiveness of software testing by automating the testing process. In the past decades, a great amount of research effort has been spent on automatic test case generation, automatic test oracles, etc. Test automation is also becoming an important part of software testing practice.

The workshop is the 7th edition of the successful AST workshops held at ICSE 2006-2011. It will provide researchers and practitioners with a forum for exchanging ideas, experiences, understanding of the problems, visions for the future, and promising solutions to the problems. The workshop will also provide a platform for researchers and developers of testing tools to work together to identify the problems in the theory and practice of software test automation and to set an agenda and lay the foundation for future development.

### TOPICS OF INTEREST

The workshop focuses on bridging the gap between the theory and practice of software test automation. The topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

1) *Methodology*: Software test automation in the context of various software development methodologies, such as model-driven, component-based, agile, test-driven, product lines, service-oriented, agent-oriented, and aspect-oriented methodologies, and in evolutionary development.

2) *Technology*: Automation of test techniques and methods used in test-related activities, support for software testing methods, and applications to specific types of software in different application domains.

3) *Software testing tools and environments*: Issues in the development, operation, maintenance and evolution of software testing tools and environments.

4) *Experiments, empirical studies and experience reports and vision of the future of software test automation*. The AST 2012 workshop focuses on a special topic on *the Automation of Security Testing*. Submissions on this topic are especially encouraged, but papers on other topics are also welcome.

### CHARENTE DISCUSSIONS

The workshop continues the successful charette discussions of previous years. This year, the charette discussion sessions will focus on the topic of *automation of security testing*.

### INDUSTRIAL CASE STUDIES

There will also be an *Industrial Case Studies* session at the workshop, with presentations reporting the real state of the practice in automation of software testing. Test practitioners are especially encouraged to contribute their experiences and insights on test automation. Topics for this session include, but are not limited to, the following: new tools, new best practices, process innovations related to test automation, gaps in existing vendor toolsets, ideas and visions for near-term research work.

### SUBMISSIONS

Two types of submissions are invited: *regular* papers and *industrial case study* papers. The former presents research in the area of software test automation, while the latter presents practical applications of test automation. Both types of papers are limited to 7 pages in IEEE Conference Proceedings Format. Please indicate clearly to which category your submission belongs.

All papers submitted to the workshop must be unpublished original work and must not be simultaneously under review or submitted elsewhere. All submissions must be in English and in either PDF or postscript format through online upload to the workshop submission website at the following URL:

<http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=AST2012>

All submissions will be reviewed by at least three PC members. Regular papers will be judged on the basis of their clarity, relevance, originality, and contribution. Case study papers will be judged on the basis of their clarity, relevance, and interest to the workshop participants.

### PUBLICATION OF PAPERS

The accepted workshop papers including both regular and case study papers will be published in the AST 2012 Proceedings and included in the IEEE Digital Libraries. Workshop attendees will receive a memory stick with both ICSE 2012 and AST 2012 proceedings on it. The presentations slides will be published on the AST 2012 website. Authors of accepted papers are required to register for the workshop and present the paper at the workshop in order for the paper to be included in the proceedings and Digital Libraries.

A journal special issue to publish revised and extended versions of selected best papers is pending.