



Contributing Authors

Yiping Cheng was born in August 1970 in Zhejiang province, China. He received his bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Science and Technology of China in 1992, master's degree in nuclear engineering from Tsinghua University in 1999, and doctor's degree in control science from Tsinghua University in 2003. He is currently a lecturer at the School of Electronic and Information Engineering, Beijing Jiaotong University. His major area of research is the timing of discrete event systems, particularly max-plus and min-max systems.



Professor Da-Zhong Zheng received the diploma in automatic control from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China in 1959. Since 1959, he has been with the Department of Automatic Control at Tsinghua University, where he is a professor in control theory and control engineering. He was a visiting scholar in Department of Electrical Engineering, State University of New York at Stony Brook, during 1981–1983 and April–November, 1993. His research interests include linear systems, robustness of control systems, discrete event dynamic systems, and power systems. He has published over 100 journal papers and 5 books. He is presently a vice-chairman of control theory technical committee for Chinese Association of Automation (CAA), a deputy editor-in-chief of *Acta Automatica Sinica*, Beijing and an editor of *Asian Journal of Control* (AJC), Taipei. He also served as a vice president for Asian Control Professors' Association (ACPA) during 1999–2000 and a member of standing council of Chinese Association of Automation (CAA) during 1997–2002.



Kurt Rohloff received the Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1999, the Master of Electrical Engineering: Systems and the Ph.D. of Electrical Engineering: Systems in 2001 and 2004 respectively from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. While at the University of Michigan he was partially sponsored by a GAANN fellowship from the Department of Education. During the summer of 2003 Dr. Rohloff held a visiting appointment at the Center for Mathematics and Computation (CWI) in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Since 2004 Dr. Rohloff has been a post-doctoral research associate at the Coordinated Science Laboratory at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His research interests include discrete-event systems.



Stéphane Lafortune received the B. Eng. degree from École Polytechnique de Montréal in 1980, the M. Eng. degree from McGill University in 1982, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1986, all in electrical engineering. Since September 1986, he has been with the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he is a Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He was invited Professor at École Polytechnique de Montréal in 1993. Dr. Lafortune is a Fellow of the IEEE. He received the Presidential Young Investigator Award from the National Science Foundation in 1990 and the George S. Axelby Outstanding Paper Award from the Control Systems Society of the IEEE in 1994 (for a paper co-authored with S. L. Chung and F. Lin) and in 2001 (for a paper co-authored with G. Barrett). He was on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Discrete Event Dynamic Systems: Theory and Applications* from 1993–2000 and served as Associate Editor (1993–1996) and Associate Editor at Large (1996–1999) of the *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*. His research interests are in discrete event systems. Dr. Lafortune is co-author, with C. Cassandras, of the textbook *Introduction to Discrete Event Systems* (Kluwer, 1999). Recent publications are available at the Web site www.eecs.umich.edu/umdes.



Xi-Ren Cao received the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University, in 1981 and 1984, respectively, where he was a research fellow from 1984 to 1986. He then worked as a principal and consultant engineer/engineering manager at Digital Equipment Corporation, U.S.A., until October 1993. Since then, he is a Professor of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), Hong Kong, China. He is the director of the Center for Networking at HKUST. Dr. Cao owns three patents in data and tele-communications and published two books: “Realization Probabilities—The Dynamics of Queuing Systems,” Springer Verlag, 1994, and “Perturbation Analysis of Discrete-Event Dynamic Systems,” Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1991 (co-authored with Y. C. Ho). He received the Outstanding Transactions Paper Award from the IEEE Control System Society in 1987 and the Outstanding Publication Award from the Institution of Management Science in 1990. He is a Fellow of IEEE, Associate Editor at Large of *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, and he is/was on Board of Governors of IEEE Control Systems Society, associate editor of a number of international journals and chairman of a few technical committees of international professional societies. His current research areas include discrete event dynamic systems, optimisation theory, performance analysis of communication systems, and signal processing.

