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NITheCS Colloquium
Monday, 7 November 2021, 16h00 – 17h00
Prof Fritz Solms (S-PLANE Automation / SU)

"Some Thoughts on Software Architecture"

ABSTRACT

Software Architecture is a young discipline and we still do not have full agreement on what software architecture is. The talk will first focus on a definition of software architecture that is consistent with the concept of Architecture in other, more established, domains. The definition can be generalised to apply across organisational, systems and software architecture. This facilitates a cohesive framework for optimising architecture across these domain to consistently address quality requirements across levels of refinement.

As an example, we consider a novel architecture facilitating the growth of ambient intelligence across society within an Open Inference Network (OIN). The vision of an OIN as a platform for ambient intelligence is discussed as well as the concept of an OIN application and how traditional software systems can be integrated within an OIN. Finally we consider architectural and standards requirements for an OIN.

BIOGRAPHY

Fritz Solms has a PhD in Theoretical Physics and has lectured for several years in Applied Mathematics at RAU (now UJ). Subsequently he was the lead designer and developer of a pricing and risk analysis framework at Standard Corporate and Merchant Bank.

During the following decade, he focused on Solms Training and Consulting, which provided training and consulting services around software architecture, design and development for the software development industry.

Having remained active in research, he joined the Computer Science Department at the University of Pretoria where he formed a research group in Software Architecture and Software Engineering.

Currently he is the lead software architect for S-PLANE Automation, whilst still supervising postgraduate students through the University of Stellenbosch.

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