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Prof. Paris Avgeriou, David Shepherd
Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Systems and Software

11th October, 2018

Dear editors,

Thank you very much for providing us with the opportunity to revise our research paper entitled "Model Based System Assurance Using the Structured Assurance Case Metamodel" by Dr. Ran Wei, Professor Tim Kelly and Dr. Richard Hawkins for consideration for publication in the special issue on Model Driven Engineering and Reverse Engineering, of the Journal of Systems and Software.

We appreciate the precious time and effort that you and the reviewers have spent on this paper. Therefore, we have thoroughly been through the comments made by the reviewers and clarified all the concerns raised, with adequate explanations. We have also addressed all the suggestions made by the reviewers. The details of changes can be found in our response to the reviewers. We have been through the paper several times to ensure that the paper is structurally sound and is free from errors.

As the originators of the Goal Structuring Notation (GSN), and the principal contributor of the Structured Assurance Case Metamodel (SACM), we realise the importance of model-based assurance case approach, the advantages of using SACM over using existing assurance case approaches, and the huge potential of SACM in assuring systems at runtime. We think that the revised manuscript clearly states our vision and sufficiently explains the intended usage of SACM. We therefore think that the revised manuscript meets the expectations of the reviewers and is appropriate for publication.

We confirm that the work presented in the manuscript is original and is not under review elsewhere or published elsewhere. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Ran Wei, PhD
Research Associate, Department of Computer Science,
University of York