

*Oh Dear,
this was not my fault!*

Acknowledgments

MANY persons have contributed to this work. It would never have come into existence without their initiative, their help and their patience. In 1997 Matthias Rösslein from EMPA, co-editor and member of the EURACHEM working group, asked Walter Gander of the Institute of Scientific Computing at ETH (IWR) for a problem of measurement uncertainty. Walter Gander handed the task over to me and it thus became my thesis. I am thankful and greatly indebted to both of them for initiating the project, offering me the possibility to work on it as I liked, introducing me to many interesting people and for pushing me gently towards a reasonable piece of work. I also thank Bruno Wampfler from EMPA and Walter Gander for supporting me on their budgets during the last years. Furthermore, this project was labeled by Eureka Project E!1910 MUSAC. And I thank the Kommission für Industrie und Technologie (KTI) for financial support in this project.

Whilst implementing the MUSAC-system many problems from a wide range of complexity revealed themselves. Some of them were easily solved, the solutions to others were not so obvious. Several questions were downright hard to understand at all. Once such questions were cleared, however, their solutions were often amazingly clear, too. Long-winded discussions with “non-computer scientists” taught me that the same concept can have more than one name. And it is sometimes even hard to recognize an accepted and agreed on concept in a foreign terminology.

Uncountable discussions with Matthias Rösslein, Rolf Strebler and Oscar Chinellato, both from IWR, were the source of ideas implemented in the presented MUSAC-system. Guys, it was fun and I enjoyed very much arguing with you. I thank you for letting me reject some of your ideas, and I thank you even more for letting me use and implement ideas that sometimes were clearly not mine. I would also like to include my colleagues at IWR Oliver Bröker, Leonhard Jaschke and Roman Geus into this round of thanks for the

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The MUSAC-implementation described in this text is only half of the story, the other half is the user interface. It was implemented and designed by people at *creasoft ag*. I thank Stefan Matt, Marco Wolf and Martin Müller for giving an attractive look and feel to my dry machinery and for their fruitful and seamless cooperation. Especially, I congratulate Martin Müller from TU München for his successful diploma thesis on "Drawing Cause and Effect Diagrams".

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