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Second International Workshop, RIDS '95
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Preface

This book is the proceedings of the Second International Workshop on Rules in Database Systems (RIDS '95) held at Athens in September 1995. Rules have been a major focus of research interest in database systems for more than a decade, the initial focus on deductive rules and integrity constraints being augmented by recent research into active rules. The aim of this workshop, which was the second after a very successful first workshop in Edinburgh (Scotland) in September 1993, was to bring together researchers working on both theoretical and practical aspects of rules in database systems, to examine the current state of the art, to explore relationships between different categories of rule systems, and to identify complementary areas for further development, as well as interesting applications.

The workshop was organized by the members of ACT-NET, a "Human Capital and Mobility" network of universities and research institutes funded by the European Union in order to foster collaboration on research in the area of active database systems. The network currently includes Aberdeen, Athens, Darmstadt, Heriot-Watt, Karlsruhe, Linköping, Pais Vasco, Skovde, Versailles, and Zurich.

In response to the call for papers for RIDS '95, the program committee received 47 submissions indicating strong interest in the area. Each submission was reviewed by 3 members of the program committee, and comments were returned to the authors. After a thorough evaluation, 22 papers were selected for inclusion in the proceedings and presentation in the workshop. These papers covered several aspects, including:

- Semantics for active database systems
- Active behaviour
- Rule base organization and modeling
- Rule analysis
- Deductive databases
- Implementation and benchmarking of active database systems
- Cooperative system support.

In addition, there were two panel discussions, one addressing the "The Active Database Management Systems Manifesto", which is an attempt to set the scene on what an active database management system should be, and a second one on implementation and application experiences.

We wish to express our appreciation to all the authors of submitted papers, to the program committee members and their referees, and to the organizers of the panels.

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M. Bouzeghoub (Univ. de Versailles, France)
 A. Buchmann (TH Darmstadt, Germany)
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