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Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of SSDBM 2009, the 21st International Conference on Scientific and Statistical Database Management. SSDBM 2009 took place during June 2–4, 2009, at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, USA. The SSDBM conference series brings together scientific domain experts, database researchers, practitioners, and developers for the presentation and exchange of current research concepts, tools, and techniques for scientific and statistical database applications. SSDBM organizers strive to provide a stimulating environment to encourage discussion, fellowship, and exchange of ideas in all aspects of research related to scientific and statistical databases, including both original research contributions and insights from practical system design, implementation, and evaluation.

SSDBM 2009 received 76 submissions from 18 countries. Each submission was reviewed by three Program Committee members, leading to the acceptance of 29 long papers and 12 short papers. The short papers include a mix of demonstrations, poster papers, and traditional conference presentations. This year we had the goal of increasing our acceptance rate while maintaining or increasing the quality of our papers; to this end, 17 of our accepted papers were shepherded.

This year we also benefitted from three invited talks. Our keynote presentation was from Kate Keahey of Argonne National Laboratory, who talked about scientific computing on cloud platforms. Bertram Ludaescher from the University of California Davis explained what makes scientific workflows scientific, and Arie Shoshani gave an overview of new technology developed at the Scientific Data Management Center at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for exploring scientific datasets.

Organizing SSDBM 2009 was a team effort that involved many people. I thank our General Chairs Mahdi Abdelguerfi and Shengru Tu for their careful attention to so many details, and the SSDBM Steering Committee for their guidance. The Program Committee and our external referees did an excellent job with their timely review and careful discussion of all our submissions. I thank our 17 shepherds for their extra effort to ensure that SSDBM remains a premier forum. I also appreciate EasyChair's great facilities for assembling the camera-ready version of the proceedings, and Ragib Hasan's help in assembling the proceedings. We are also grateful to our conference sponsors, who provided financial support for SSDBM 2009: Louisiana Technology Group (LATG), Diamond Data Systems (DDS), Sun Microsystems, NOVACES, and the Department of Computer Science at the University of New Orleans.

I hope that you enjoy the proceedings!

April 2009 Marianne Winslett

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