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Advances in Spatial and Temporal Databases

8th International Symposium, SSTD 2003
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Preface

On behalf of the Program Committee, it was our pleasure to welcome the participants to the beautiful Greek island of Santorini and, in particular, to the Eighth International Symposium on Spatial and Temporal Databases, SSTD 2003. The SSTD series represents some of the most exciting research in the field of spatial and temporal databases and this volume contains 30 excellent papers, 28 accepted through peer review to the conference and two invited keynote papers.

Interest in the field of spatio-temporal databases continues to grow. Significantly, of the papers submitted, many have ceased to deal with just one or other of spatial and temporal databases, choosing instead to focus on the rich confluence of these areas to deal with spatio-temporal semantics and systems. This was a trend foreshadowed in the renaming of the conference in 1999 and is to be welcomed.

Following an international call for papers, 105 papers were submitted and reviewed thoroughly by an international panel of experts in the field. The number of papers submitted represents a record number for the conference and shows a vibrant and growing interest in the theory and applications of the area. Of the submitted papers, 28 were accepted (giving an acceptance rate of 27%) and the final papers, modified in the light of the comments from the referees, appear in this volume.

Two invited papers were also presented: the first from Prof. Christian Jensen of Aalborg University in Denmark and the second from Dr. John Herring of Oracle Corporation. Two tutorials were also held with the conference, one on Location Management and Moving Objects Databases by Ouri Wolfson and another on Spatio-Temporal Data Mining by Sanjay Chawla.

We would like to thank the Program Committee for giving of their time and expertise so freely. Following the refereeing itself, as is often the case, there was substantial discussion on various aspects of some papers to ensure that the papers presented were the best available. This takes time and effort and we appreciate the efforts of those involved.

The organizing team at the Computer Technology Institute deserve much credit for their essential contribution. Vasilis Delis and Dieter Pfoser arranged technical and publicity issues, Lena Gourdoupi and Aggeliki Stamatopoulou managed the registration process. Furthermore we would like to thank Antonis Sidiropoulos at the University of Thessaloniki for managing the Web-based paper reviewing system and the local teams at Magma-Heliotopos Conferences and the Nomikos Conference Center in Santorini for their excellent services in preparing and hosting the event.

The symposium was sponsored by Microsoft Hellas and Marathon Data Systems, and it was held in cooperation with the Computer Technology Institute and the University of Piraeus. We thank these organizations for their support.

July 2003

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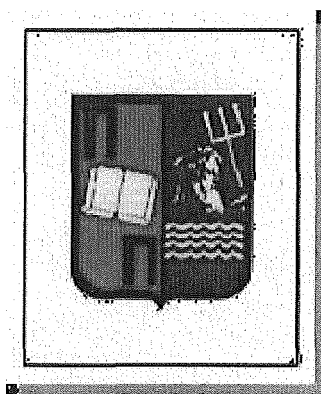
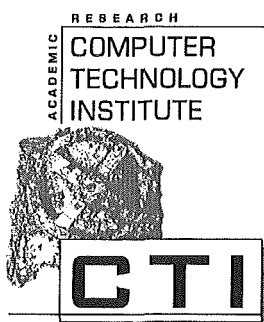


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