

A. Pirotte C. Delobel G. Gottlob (Eds.)

Advances in Database Technology – EDBT '92

3rd International Conference
on Extending Database Technology
Vienna, Austria, March 23-27, 1992
Proceedings

Springer-Verlag

Berlin Heidelberg New York
London Paris Tokyo
Hong Kong Barcelona
Budapest

Lecture Notes in Computer Science

580

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CR Subject Classification (1991): D.3.3, E.2, F.4.1, H.2, H.5.1, I.2.1, I.2.4

ISBN 3-540-55270-7 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York
ISBN 0-387-55270-7 Springer-Verlag New York Berlin Heidelberg

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Printed in Germany

Typesetting: Camera ready by author
Printing and binding: Druckhaus Beltz, Hemsbach/Bergstr.
45/3140-543210 - Printed on acid-free paper

Foreword

These are the proceedings of the third EDBT conference, held in Vienna after the 1988 and 1990 conferences which both took place in Venice. The success of the 1988 and 1990 conferences suggested that there is room for a bi-annual major international database conference in Europe that aims to provide an international forum for presentation of new results in research, development and applications extending the state of the art in database technology.

Judging only from the number of papers submitted (220 from more than 30 countries), the 1992 EDBT conference has attracted a lot of interest. The program committee had the difficult task of selecting the 33 papers included in these proceedings. In addition, in accordance with the policy of the EDBT Foundation to encourage students and young researchers, we are issuing, with our congratulations, best paper awards to Martin Frank, co-author of the paper "Adaptive and automated index selection in RDBMS", and to Philippe Pucheral and Jean-Marie Thévenin, authors of the paper "Pipelined query processing in the DBGraph storage model". This year's conference also features two distinguished scientists as invited speakers: François Bancilhon shares his experience on understanding object databases and Ray Reiter introduces some of his recent ideas on the specification of database updates.

We are grateful to all the people who have helped organize the 1992 EDBT conference: the organizing committee and the conference secretariat run by Brigitte Haberstroh, the program committee members, Esteban Zimanyi for his invaluable help in running the program committee, and also all the reviewers whose names appear in these proceedings.

Vienna, March 1992

Alain Pirotte, Claude Delobel, Georg Gottlob

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