

Preface

Database systems of the next generation are likely to be inherently very complex due to the diversity of requirements placed on them. Incorporating active, real-time, and temporal virtues in one database system is an arduous effort but is also a commendable one.

This book presents the proceedings of the Second International Workshop on Active, Real-Time, and Temporal Database Systems (ARTDB-97), held in Como, Milan, in September 1997. The aim of the workshop was to bring researchers together from the active and real-time research communities, and to examine the current state of the art in active, real-time, and temporal database systems.

This book offers a collection of papers presented at the ARTDB-97 workshop. The papers, many of them representing proficient and tenable results, illuminate the feasibility of building database system supporting reactive behavior, while enforcing timeliness and predictability. The book contains nine papers carefully reviewed and accepted by the program committee, three invited papers written by prominent researchers in the field, and two summaries of the panel discussions held at the workshop. The program committee received seventeen submissions, where each submission was reviewed by at least three program committee members. The two panel sessions focused on predictability issues and on practical experience of active, real-time, and temporal database systems.

The ARTDB-97 workshop was held in cooperation with the IEEE Technical Committees on Real-Time Systems and Complexity in Computing, and the ACM Special Interest Group on Manipulation of Data.

We wish to express our appreciation to all the authors of submitted papers, to the program committee members and their additional referees, to the invited speakers, and to the organizers of the panels. Special thanks are due to Joakim Eriksson and Johan Lundström for documenting the panel sessions. We would also like to thank Lars-Erik Johansson, Vice-Chancellor, and Stig Emanuelsson, Head of Department of Computer Science, both at the University of Skövde, for their financial and moral support.

Skövde, December 1998

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