

Preface

The Database and Expert Systems Applications (DEXA) conferences are thought as a platform for the exchange of ideas, experiences and opinions among theoreticians and practitioners and for defining requirements for the future systems in the areas of database and artificial intelligence technologies.

The scope of the papers covers the most recent and relevant topics of database and AI-systems. The sessions are primarily devoted to active and object-oriented databases, object-oriented modelling, data engineering, information retrieval, workflow and cooperative systems, spatial and temporal aspects, document management, adaption and view updates, genetic algorithms, cooperative and distributed environments, interaction and communication, transactions, partitioning and fragmentation, database queries, data warehouses, knowledge discovery and data mining, knowledge extraction, and methods. More than 200 papers have been submitted from over 36 different countries in all continents, 81 of which have been accepted.

DEXA '98 is the 9th annual conference after Vienna, Berlin, Valencia, Prague, Athens, London, Zurich and Toulouse. So this year marks the return of DEXA to its place of birth, Vienna, where it was started in 1990.

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