

Preface

The Eighth International Conference on Extending Database Technology, EDBT 2002, was held in Prague, Czech Republic, March 25–27, 2002. It marks the 50th anniversary of Charles University's Faculty of Mathematics and Physics and is the most recent in a series of conferences dedicated to the dissemination and exchange of the latest advances in data management. Previous conferences occurred in Konstanz, Valencia, Avignon, Cambridge, Vienna, and Venice.

The topical theme of this year's conference is *Data Management in the New Millennium*, which encourages the community to see beyond the management of massive databases by conventional database management systems and to extend database technology to support new services and application areas. The intention is to spur greater interest in more integrated solutions to user problems, which often implies the consideration of data management issues in entire information systems infrastructures. There is data (almost) everywhere, and data access is needed (almost) always and everywhere. New technologies, services, and applications that involve the broader notion of data management are emerging more rapidly than ever, and the database community has much to offer.

The call for papers attracted numerous submissions, including 207 research papers, which is a new record for EDBT. The program committee selected 36 research papers, 6 industrial and applications papers, 13 software demos, and 6 tutorials for presentation at the conference. In addition, the conference program includes three keynote speeches, by Jari Ahola, Ian Horrocks, and Hans-Jörg Schek, and a panel.

This volume presents all research papers, industrial and applications papers, and software demos presented at the conference, in addition to an invited paper. Many of the papers pursue the general direction indicated by the conference theme, and together, the papers cover a range of active areas of data management research. These areas include XML and Internet data management and the management of distributed data, sensor data, and moving-object data, as well as data mining and more traditional, advanced query processing. We hope that these proceedings will serve as a valuable reference to data management researchers and developers.

Putting together EDBT 2002 was a team effort. Special thanks go to the members of the program committee, and the external reviewers they enlisted, for their hard and diligent work. We would also like to thank the local organizers at Charles University and Action M Agency, in particular Martin Beran, Julius Stuller, Lucie Vachova, and Milena Zeithamlova. Finally, Alfred Hofmann, Antje Endemann, and Karin Henzold at Springer-Verlag offered invaluable help during the preparation of these proceedings.

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Christian S. Jensen, Keith G. Jeffery
Jaroslav Pokorný, Simonas Šaltenis
Elisa Bertino, Klemens Böhm, Matthias Jarke

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