

Editor's Notes

I am very pleased to present you the September issue. This issue includes several special feature articles, some of which are not part of our regular columns, a special section of ten articles on Peer to Peer data management, a distinguished database profile featuring an interview with Rakesh Agrawal, two short articles in the column of Reminiscences on Influential Papers, an interesting article on Standard activities for databases on the Grid, one book review, and one workshop report.

This issue starts with a set of special feature articles. The first article features Dr. Don Chamberlin's speech upon receiving an SIGMOD Innovations Award this year at SIGMOD 2003 in San Diego. I am sure that many database researchers will enjoy reading this article and the insightful comments that Don has made on database research as I do. The second article by Mario Nascimento and his colleagues presents us an interesting analysis of Co-Authorship graph on papers appeared in SIGMOD proceedings. The third article contributed by Rick Snodgrass, the editor in chief of ACM TODS, shares with us his view and insights on a number of common concerns about journal publications, including turnaround time, end-to-end time, reference age comparing with CiteSeer, and selectivity. The next two special feature articles are on database education. The first article by Alon Halevy, shares with us his experience in incorporating data integration research issues and projects into the first undergraduate database course at the University of Washington. The second article contributed by Anastassia Ailamaki and Joe Hellerstein, describes their collaboration experience with designing and running a parallel editions of an undergraduate database course. I trust that many of you will enjoy reading these two articles and benefit from the educational experiences that Alon, Natasa, and Joe have shared with us.

The Special Section on Peer to Peer Data Management is guest-edited by Karl Aberer. This section consists of ten papers, covering several topics in peer-to-peer data management, including lookup techniques in unstructured Gnutella like P2P networks and structured Distributed Hash Table based P2P networks, trust issues, a scheme-based approach to P2P queries, P2P approach to data integration, relational data sharing, information retrieval, information dissemination, and metadata based service mapping.

This rest of the issue contains contributions from regular sections - Distinguished DB Profiles, Influential Papers, Book Reviews, Reports, and Standards. Some highlights include:

- The {em Distinguished Database Profiles} section editor Marianne Winslett describes an interesting interview with Dr. Rakesh Agrawal. Rakesh told us his point of view and his insights on a number of issues, including where the data mining field is going, its origin, and how to choose research problems that can open up new fields, what industry owes to Academia, Importance of increasing the impact of DB technology on our society, and more.

- Andrew Eisenberg and Jim Melton, the co-editors of the *Standards* section present us with a contribution jointly with Susan Malaika of IBM Silicon Valley Lab, San Jose, which introduces the Grid and discusses how the databases can be used on Grid applications. Specifically, the article describes the Global Grid Forum and its technical specification, aiming at making relational database and XML databases to be located, accessed and replicated in a global grid environment.

This issue ends with an article contributed by Dr. Bjorn Jonsson in memoroy of Dr. Gisli Hjaltason, a faculty member of University of Waterloo, who recently passed away.

I would like to close the editor note with thanks to the guest editor and the authors for their hard work in putting together an excellent special section on Peer to Peer Data Management, and to the contributing associate editors, and all authors for their high quality work. I hope you will enjoy reading this issue as much as I do.

Ling Liu

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