Lecture Notes in Computer Science

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Foreword

This is the second EDBT conference. The first took place in March 1988 in Venice and was such a success that it was decided to create a biannual event and hold the second also in Venice. The intent in creating the conferences has been to provide an international forum appropriate for the exchange of results in research, development and applications which *extend* the scope of database technology. The conferences are designed to facilitate and extend communication among researchers and between academia and industry. They are also intended to be international level European conferences providing a high quality forum for the European database research community.

The program committee received 175 papers. These came from 28 different countries, the largest contributors being the USA, West Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom. A wide range of topics was covered, the most popular being object-oriented systems, database and AI, logic and databases, data structures and query processing. From these 175 papers, we had the difficult task of selecting 27 papers. We also selected an invited speaker, Carlo Zaniolo who addresses the issue of deductive databases and their transition from the technology development phase to the system implementation phase.

Two panels were chosen to address some of the most burning issues of the field, the impact of theory on systems in the past and in the future, chaired by David Maier, and the two "competing" fields of object-oriented databases and of deductive databases, chaired by Michele Missikoff.

We are extremely grateful to all the people who helped organize the conference: all the members of the organization committee, all the program committee members, Florence Deshors and Pauline Turcaud for their help in organizing the paper selection and program committee work, Philippe Richard and Paris Kanellakis who helped in the paper handling process.

François Bancilhon
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