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Preface

This volume collects the papers selected for presentation at the Eighteenth Italian Symposium on Advanced Database Systems (SEBD 2010), held in Rimini, Italy, from the 20th to the 23rd of June 2010.

SEBD is the major annual event of the Italian database research community. The symposium is conceived as a gathering forum for the discussion and exchange of ideas and experiences among researchers and experts from the academy and industry, about all aspects of database systems and their applications.

SEBD is back in Rimini after sixteen years, and it is interesting to observe how the landscape of the Italian database research community has changed. In 1994 twenty-one papers were accepted, now the number has more than doubled, meaning that the community has been steadily growing. Most of the topics considered in 1994 are still around, even if the language, the formalisms and the reference applications have changed. The Web was e-mail, FTP, Usenet, a small amount of HTML pages here and there, and little more, now it is the pervasive engine of information dissemination and search. The Web is so powerful that a series of brand new ideas and applications have arisen from it, due to a mix of possibility and necessity. Social systems across the Web, mobility, and heterogeneity were not conceivable in the early 1990s. Semantic web, data mining and warehousing, streaming techniques, large scale integration are necessary to deal with the growing amount of data and information.

The SEBD 2010 program reflects the current interests of the Italian database researchers and covers most of the topics considered by the international research community. Sixty papers were submitted to SEBD 2010, of which twenty-two were research papers, two were software demonstrations, and thirty-four were extended abstracts, i.e., papers containing descriptions of on-going projects or presenting results already published. Fifty-one papers were accepted for presentation, of which seventeen were research papers, two were software demonstrations, and thirty-two were extended abstracts.

Besides paper presentations, the program includes a tutorial by Divesh Srivastava (AT&T Labs-Research) and two invited talks, the first by Hector Garcia-Molina (Stanford University, CA) and the second by Amr El Abbadi (University of California, CA).

We would like to thank all the authors who submitted papers and all symposium participants. We are grateful to the members of the Program Committee and the external referees for their thorough work in reviewing submissions with expertise and patience, and to the members of the SEBD Steering Committee for their support in the organization of SEBD 2010. Special thanks are due to the members of the Organizing Committee and to the University of Bologna, Polo di Rimini, which made this event possible. Finally, we gratefully thank all cooperating institutions.

Rimini, June 2010

Sonia Bergamaschi Stefano Lodi
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