Editor's Notes

Welcome to the June 2010 issue of the ACM SIGMOD Record.

The issue starts with the 2010 SIGMOD/PODS awards: the SIGMOD Edward F. Codd innovation award, the SIGMOD contribution award, the SIGMOD and PODS test-of-time Awards, the SIGMOD and PODS best paper awards, the SIGMOD Jim Gray dissertation awards, and the SIGMOD undegraduate posters award.

The issue features two regular research articles. The article by Bellahsene, Benbernou, Jaudouin, Pinet, Pivert and Toumani describes FORUM, a data integration project tailored at mediation in large and dynamic environments. The article by Cho, Lee, Hwang, Han and Lee focuses on the efficient implementation of the dominance relationship between tuples, by exploiting data-level parallelism in SIMD architectures. The resulting efficient operation can be used to enhance the performance of any skyline algorithm.

In the Database Principles column, Deutsch and Milo focus on probabilistic processes, commonly used to model business processes, e-commerce and Web application etc. They revisit the model for probabilistic processes established in their prior work, describe its expressivity and complexity, and provide a detailed comparison with other models proposed in this area.

The survey by Grabova, Darmont, Chauchat and Zolotaryova considers the needs for decision support tools within small and medium enterprises, for which the costs associating to the ownership and maintenance of a traditional OLAP architecture are prohibitive. The authors analyze and compare several classes of software (and in particular Web-based open source software) which could be used for decision support in this setting.

The Distinguished Profiles column is represented in this issue by an interview with Professor Elisa Bertino, speaking out on her co-authors and students, research work and funding in Italy, Europe more generally, and the United States, her favorite research results, the research that she would have liked to do, and more.

Our issue closes with two reports associated to the 2010 SIGMOD conference. Tao summarizes his experience as the Chair of the SIGMOD 2010 demonstration track, and reports on selecting and setting up the demo, and picking the best demonstrations at the conference. Genzmer, Hudlet, Park, Schall and Senellart report on organizing and running the SIGMOD 2010 programming contest, whose topic this year involved building an efficient distributed data management engine.

From our side on the SIGMOD Record editorial board (http://www.sigmod.org/publications/sigmod-record/editors) we have several news to announce to the community. First, we welcome two new associate editors: Chee Yong Chan, and Denilson Barbosa (also in charge of the Web edition).
Second, as promised in the last issue, we have devised an ***editorial policy for the SIGMOD Record***, outlined below.

<u>General policy</u> *SIGMOD Record publishes content that provides substantial value to the global database community and that is not appropriate for the community's conferences and regular journals.*
We list below the main categories of welcomed contributions, and our policy for processing them.

Announcements The Record is the newsletter of the ACM's SIGMOD chapter, and as such, one of its main missions is to disseminate interesting information to the community. Announcements of interest for the SIGMOD Record include calls for papers and calls for participation to workshops and conferences (especially, but not limited to, ACM or SIGMOD-related ones), book announcements, announcements of new initiatives, contests or competitions within or related to the international database research community etc.

Workshop reports Organizers of workshops on topics of interest to the database community in the large may want to alert the community to new trends and new research opportunities. We encourage workshop reports to be relatively concise (4 pages is an upper limit, whereas 2 pages is typically sufficient). Potential authors of workshop reports are strongly encouraged to perform a synthesis over the individual workshop contributions, possibly listing ideas not included, or not obvious, in any of the workshop contributions considered in isolation. A workshop reports too close to a table of contents is not more informative than the workshop's Web page, and therefore will not be accepted.

Research centers The goal of this column is to publicize academic and industrial research groups working on data and information management issues. An ideal article for this column depicts the anatomy of a group (or a few closely-tied groups), including a brief discussion of the group's history, its primary investigators, and recent activities along with collaborators and sources of funding. While most articles are invited by the research center editor, direct submissions are also solicited and encouraged.

Database Principles and Distinguished Profiles in Databases These columns are under the care of their respective editors, and contributions appear here only by invitation from the editor.

Surveys State-of-the-art surveys have a long successful tradition in the SIGMOD Record. We welcome short surveys (of up to 10 pages) on topics of interest for the database community. The size constraint should not, however, lead to incomplete or partial snapshots of the state of the art in a given area. Instead, we encourage a sharp and focused writing style, which may sacrifice detail or extensive examples for breadth and comprehensiveness.

Systems and prototypes The SIGMOD Record welcomes short papers (up to 6 pages) describing innovative systems and prototypes. Such papers may (but do not need to) be developed versions of papers describing system demonstrations in a conference. However, demo papers are not acceptable as such. We encourage authors to omit details on GUIs (unless user interaction is the main topic of the system), demonstration scenario and such, and instead provide more insight into how the system is built, what are its internal modules, and why it has been done this way.

Regular articles The Record welcomes short research articles (of up to 6 pages), subject to the usual novelty and technical soundness requirements of mainstream conferences and workshops. By its nature, the Record cannot and will not, however, serve as an alternative for regular publication venues such as conferences, journals, or workshops. Regular articles welcome to the Record should fit broadly in one of these three categories:
- **Vision papers**, outlining new ideas or lines of research, not necessarily well-explored at the time of the writing, if they are deemed original, compelling, and of interest to the community at large
- **Regular papers**, structured and organized the way conference and workshop papers are, but whose natural length (when all the necessary ingredients of the work have been well presented) is of at most 6 pages. This page limit is (much) shorter than for regular conference papers, and set on purpose to materialize the different type of contributions that we expect in the Record.
- **Project reports**, describing a (typically large) R&D project carried on within one or several institutions, over a period of one to a few years. Such reports are welcome provided that they

describe innovative work, and are strictly more informative than "the sum of all the projects' parts".

Other contributions As the (database) world evolves, we expect to host other categories of content, following suggestions and interesting ideas from the community. Please contact Ioana Manolescu (Ioana.Manolescu@inria.fr) if you have a proposal that does not fit any of the above.

Duplicate submissions Workshop reports, surveys, system and prototype papers, and regular papers should not be published, or under consideration in any other formal publication venue during the time period when they are under consideration for the SIGMOD record. A significant overlap (more than 25% of the SIGMOD Record submission and 1 common author) with such a previous or concurrent submission is not allowed either. Violation of the duplicate submission policy will typically result in outright rejecting the SIGMOD Record submission. Prospective authors are encouraged to signal any previous or concurrent publication closely related to the SIGMOD Record submission, in the Cover Letter form of the Web based submission tool (http://db.cs.pitt.edu/recess/), and explain there why the submission does not violate the duplicate submission policy.

How to submit Submissions should be made electronically via the RECESS tool (http://db.cs.pitt.edu/recess/). Authors must ensure that their submission is properly formatted according to the guidelines (http://www.sigmod.org/publications/sigmod-record/authors).

Processing submissions Submissions to the SIGMOD Record are processed as follows.
- *Announcements* are processed by one editor, which accepts or rejects them, and may request modifications before accepting them.
- *Workshop reports* are processed by the reports editor, who may ask for modifications to be made in revised versions.
- *Surveys*, and *system and prototype papers*, are processed by the respective editor, who may solicit the opinions of external reviewers. The survey editor may then recommend acceptance with or without revision, or rejection.
- *Regular articles* are assigned by the editor-in-chief to an associate editor, who may solicit the opinion of external reviewers, recommend acceptance with or without revision, or rejection.

Ioana Manolescu

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Past SIGMOD Record Editors:

Harrison R. Morse (1969)
Daniel O'Connell (1971 – 1973)
Randall Rustin (1975)
Thomas J. Cook (1981 – 1983)
Jon D. Clark (1984 – 1985)
Margaret H. Dunham (1986 – 1988)
Arie Segev (1989 – 1995)
Jennifer Widom (1995 – 1996)
Michael Franklin (1996 – 2000)
Ling Liu (2000 – 2004)
Mario Nascimento (2005 – 2007)
Alexandros Labrinidis (2007 – 2009)