

MESSAGE FROM THE VLDB 2012 GENERAL PROGRAM CHAIR

On behalf of everybody who worked very hard for more than a year to make the VLDB 2012 technical program possible, I am pleased to welcome you to VLDB 2012 in beautiful Istanbul. We have a very exciting and full technical program.

This year VLDB has three keynote talks from Christian S. Jensen of Aarhus University, Denmark, Brenda Dietrich of IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, USA, and Kenan Şahin of TIAX, USA. We are very happy that they were able to join us at the conference and will give their insights, views and experiences on data-driven research, technologies and applications.

VLDB 2012 is the second year of the PVLDB experiment in paper submission, paper reviewing and conference presentations, adopted by the VLDB Endowment. Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment, PVLDB, is an online journal which publishes papers accepted as a result of a journal-style reviewing process from research papers submitted to VLDB via monthly, year-around submission cycles. In addition to the research track, this year, paper submissions to the experiments and analysis track also adopted PVLDB style, with monthly submissions and journal style reviewing. The full set of papers that are in the research track and the experiments and analysis track of this year's conference are published in the first eleven monthly issues PVLDB Volume 5, from September 2011 to July 2012. We are grateful to the reviewers, program co-chairs, and proceedings chairs who worked year-around to make this experiment work, and to manage the extra overhead due to the monthly submissions, reviews, revisions, and publishing year-around with tight deadlines.

VLDB 2012 received 659 submissions to the research track, of which 134 papers (20%) were accepted. We received 380 submissions (58%) in the first eleven months, spread from April 1, 2011 to February 1, 2012, with an average of 35 papers per month, and received 279 papers (42%) for the March 1, 2012 deadline. Last year's numbers for the first 11 months' and the last month's submissions were 54% and 46%, respectively. While this distribution of monthly submissions is slightly better, as compared to that of last year, there is still a big burst of submissions in the last month. Another statistics that may be interesting to the community is that the total number of submissions to the research track for the first ten monthly submissions deadlines (April 2011 to January 2012) was 247, of which 80 papers (32%) were accepted. The total number of submissions to the research track during the last two monthly submissions (February and March 2012) was 312, of which 54 papers (17.3%) were accepted. We hope that, as the PVLDB experiment matures, such differences between monthly submissions will fade away.

The experiments and analysis track of VLDB 2012 received 23 submissions, of which 8 papers (34.7%) were accepted. The industrial track received 62 submissions, of which 16 papers (25.8%) were accepted. The demonstrations track received 101 submissions, of which 34 (33.6%) were accepted. Following the tradition of previous years, VLDB 2012 also includes technical papers from the industrial track, a strong set of pre- and post-conference workshops, tutorials, panels and demos.

The VLDB 2012 Ten-Year Best Paper Award paper is given to "Approximate Frequency Counts over Data Streams" by Gurmeet Singh Manku and Rajeev Motwani, which appeared in Proceedings of VLDB 2002 on pages 346-357. The paper "Dense Subgraph Maintenance under Streaming Edge Weight Updates for Real-time Story Identification" by Albert Angel, Nick Koudas, Nikos Sarkas, and Divesh Srivastava, which appeared in PVLDB Volume 5, No. 6, pp. 574-585 is selected as the best paper of VLDB 2012. We are grateful to the Ten-Year Best Paper Award selection committee consisting of Karl Aberer, Masaru Kitsuregawa, David Lomet, Kyu-Young Whang, and the committee chair Richard Snodgrass; and the Best Paper Award selection committee consisting of Beng Chin Ooi, Christian S. Jensen, Yannis Ioannidis, Philip Yu, Gerhard Weikum, and the committee chair Surajit Chaudhuri for their contributions.

We thank all colleagues who submitted papers, who volunteered to be reviewers, PC members, and to serve as conference officers, committee members, to make VLDB 2012 and PVLDB Vol. 5 possible. I have my deepest gratitude for the research track PC co-chairs, Hank Korth, Uğur Çetintemel, Nilesh Dalvi, Anthony Tung; and the proceedings co-chairs Ahmet Saçan and Nesime Tatbul, who performed an admirable priceless service of handling

the submissions, decisions, and publications of papers year around, and endured a very heavy workload. I acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the experiment and analysis track PC co-chairs, Gustavo Alonso and Juliana Freire, for handling the year around submissions for the experiments and analysis track; Fatma Özcan, Alon Halevy, and Vivek Narasayya for handling the industrial and applications track; Ken Salem, Chung-Chin Wan and Buğra Gedik for handling the tutorials program; K. Selçuk Candan, Panos K. Chrysanthis, and Daniel A. Keim for handling the panels program; and Özgür Ulusoy, Lukasz Golab, and Evaggelia Pitoura for handling the demonstrations program.

My special thanks to General Chairs Adnan Yazıcı and Ling Liu, and Honorary Chair Tamer Özsu for their unwavering support throughout the year. I also thank VLDB 2011 General Chair, Paul Larson, General Program Chairs Joe Hellerstein and Jose Blakely, Research PC co-chairs, Sunita Sarawagi, Wolfgang Lehner, and Nick Koudas for all their helpful suggestions and sharing their experiences; PVLDB founding Editor-in-Chief, H.V. Jagadish, and VLDB Endowment Webmaster, David Jiang, for their coordination in handling rolling publication of PVLDB issues. I am also grateful to Surajit Chaudhuri, Vivek Narasayya, and Microsoft's Conference Management Toolkit (CMT) staff, for their constant support and improvements on CMT to make it more functional for handling VLDB conference submissions using PVLDB style of monthly submissions, reviewing and revisions.

I welcome you to Istanbul, and sincerely hope that you will enjoy the conference.

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