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Preface

This volume collects the papers presented at the 10th International Conference on Database Theory, ICDT 2005, held during January 5–7, 2005, in Edinburgh, UK.

ICDT (<http://alpha.luc.ac.be/~lucp1080/icdt/>) has now a long tradition of international conferences, providing a biennial scientific forum for the communication of high-quality and innovative research results on theoretical aspects of all forms of database systems and database technology. The conference usually takes place in Europe, and has been held in Rome (1986), Bruges (1988), Paris (1990), Berlin (1992), Prague (1995), Delphi (1997), Jerusalem (1999), London (2001), and Siena (2003) so far. ICDT has merged with the Symposium on Mathematical Fundamentals of Database Systems (MFDBS), initiated in Dresden in 1987, and continued in Visegrad in 1989 and Rostock in 1991.

ICDT had a two-stage submission process. First, 103 abstracts were submitted, which were followed a week later by 84 paper submissions. From these 84 submissions, the ICDT Program Committee selected 24 papers for presentation at the conference. Most of these papers were “extended abstracts” and preliminary reports on work in progress. It is anticipated that most of these papers will appear in a more polished form in scientific journals.

The proceedings also contain three invited papers by David Maier, Michael Schwartzbach, and Moshe Vardi. The Best Newcomer Award, for the best submission written solely by authors who had never published in earlier ICDT proceedings, was given by the program committee to Albert Atserias for his paper “*Conjunctive Query Evaluation by Search Tree Revisited.*”

We would like to thank a number of people who made ICDT 2005 a successful event. First of all, the authors who submitted papers, the members of the program committee for their efforts in reviewing and selecting the papers, the external referees for their help, and, importantly, Andrei Voronkov for supplying his marvelous PC Expert conference submission management system. A great thanks is owed to Peter Buneman and his organizing committee for hosting the conference, and to Marcelo Arenas and Wenfei Fan for running the conference website. Last but not least, we are very grateful to the sponsors, the United Kingdom National e-Science Centre and the Digital Curation Centre, for their support.

January 2005

Thomas Eiter
Leonid Libkin

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