

Book Review Column

by Karl Aberer,
Swiss Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland
karl.aberer@epfl.ch

In the last issue of SIGMOD RECORD we have introduced the new book review column. I am glad to say that in the meanwhile the call for book reviews has found very positive response and that we will be able to present three new reviews in this issue (and more are to come).

Databases and Transaction Processing: An Application-Oriented Approach by Philip M. Lewis, Arthur Bernstein, and Michael Kifer. Review by *Alfons Kemper*. A new textbook on transaction processing that puts the emphasis on application-orientation. In that way it provides a nice complement to the more formally oriented book by Weikum and Vossen that has been reviewed in the last issue.

Data Mining: Practical Machine Learning Tools and Techniques with Java Implementations by Ian H. Witten and Eibe Frank. Review by *James Geller*. This is a textbook on data mining that has been a valuable support for the reviewer's course on data mining. An interesting feature of the book is an accompanying data mining software library made available over the Web.

What Will Be by Michael Dertouzos. Review by *Paul Grefen*. It reflects Michael Dertouzos' view on the role of information processing in tomorrow's world developed around the notion of information marketplace: a visionary contribution by a great personality in computer science who unfortunately passed away last year.

For the next issue I plan to include in the special topic section recent books in the area of data management and the Web in particular. I will list here newly proposed books only. The complete list of books proposed for reviews, including those from previous issues, can be found at the book review column Web page <http://www.acm.org/sigmod/record/bookre>

[views.html](#). There you also find book review guidelines.

If you are interested in submitting a book review contact me by E-mail (karl.aberer@epfl.ch). I will try to obtain a copy of a book from the publisher, if needed. You may consider reviewing a book you have selected on your own or select one from the list of books I will propose with every issue. Reviews for the forthcoming June 2002 issue should be submitted by March 1st, 2002. The length of a book review should not exceed 2 pages.

If you would like to contribute to this column, to propose other books for review or to express your opinion on this column in general, please don't hesitate to contact me. I invite all readers of SIGMOD RECORD to contribute to this column in one of the future issues, in order to follow up its promising start.

Karl Aberer,
Associate Editor.

New books proposed for the next issue:

DATABASE TEXTBOOKS

Fundamentals of Database Systems, with E-book, 3/e, by Ramez Elmasri and Shamkant Navathe, Addison Wesley, 2002.

SPECIAL DATABASE TOPICS

Data on the Web: From Relations to Semistructured Data and XML, by Serge Abiteboul, Peter Buneman, and Dan Suciu, Morgan Kaufmann, 1999.

Web Caching and Replication by Michael Rabinovich and Oliver Spatscheck, Addison-Wesley, 2001.

GENERAL INTEREST

Information Rules, by Carl Shapiro and Hal R. Varian, Harvard Business School Press, 1999.