Editor’s Notes

Welcome to the June 2022 issue of the ACM SIGMOD Record!

This issue starts with the Database Principles column featuring an article by Khamis, Ngo, Pichler, Suciu, and Wang. The authors present Datalog°, a recursive language that combines the elegance of Datalog with the power of semiring abstraction. This combination allows Datalog° to express iterative computations prevalent in modern data analytics, yet retain the declarative fixpoint semantics of Datalog. The authors also present novel optimization techniques, report experimental results, and outline open problems for future research.

The Surveys column presents an article by Dave, Celestino, Varde, and Anu. The authors focus on missed user requirements, also known as implicit requirements (IMRs), which are a major contributor to failures in software projects. The article presents a background of IMR data along with a detailed taxonomy of terms, definitions, and examples associated with this paradigm, provides novel insights for the data-science community, and outlines directions of future work.

The Research column features two articles. The first article, by Psallidas and colleagues, shares with the community the key findings resulting from amassing and analyzing approximately 40M data-science projects, both publicly available and internal to Microsoft. The authors provide actionable interpretations, share how the analysis has been used internally at Microsoft, and detail how the analysis is pragmatically useful to better inform investments by both practitioners and systems builders. The second article, by Ghosh, Gupta, Mehrotra, and Sharma, introduces EnrichDB – a system for supporting data enrichment within data-management systems. EnrichDB is based on a powerful enrichment data model and provides tools for making application programming very simple for developers.

It is a pleasure to reintroduce the column containing reminiscences on influential papers. This column used to be run in SIGMOD Record by Richard Snodgrass and Ken Ross, and is now being managed by Pinar Tözün. The first issue of the column presents contributions by M. Tamer Özsu, Alberto Lerner, and Tianzheng Wang.

The Advice to Mid-Career Researchers column features a contribution by David Maier entitled “Deciding what not to do.” The article details the author’s perspective on considerations that you could use to decide to accept or decline offers of professional service and activities.

The Future of Data(base) Education column presents two articles. The first article, by de Waal and Echeverri, discusses a recent effort called OpenDS4All, whose goal is to accelerate the creation of data-science curricula by providing a “starter set” of open-source training materials in data science, including PowerPoint slide decks and Jupyter Notebooks with Python code. The second article, by Fekete and Röhm, presents a process for making pedagogical decisions on constructing data-management classes in the presence of the wealth of content that can be included.

The DBrainstorming column, whose goal is to discuss new and potentially controversial ideas that might be of interest and potentially of benefit to the research community, features in this issue an article by Appuswamy making a case for passive, migration-free, standardized, long-term database archival. The author overviews the current challenges in archiving culturally significant historical data in databases, and presents potential solutions that could make low-cost, migration-free data archival feasible.
The Research Centers column presents an article by Cheng and colleagues that introduces the Social Technology and Research (STAR) Laboratory in the University of Hong Kong. The article describes the STAR team, details its focus and goals, and provides an overview of the team's efforts and achievements along the axes of research, technology, synergy, teaching, and impact.

The Reports column features two articles. The first article, by Amer-Yahia and colleagues, presents the diversity and inclusion initiative in database conferences, D&I@DB, and discusses the latest achievements in this space with a focus on specific conferences that took place in 2021. The authors also present D&I tools and outline the planned efforts going forward. The second article, by Athanassoulis and colleagues, summarizes the discussion of a panel held during VLDB 2021 titled "Artifacts, Availability & Reproducibility," detail the recent efforts in this space, and outline the goals and a roadmap for the future.

On behalf of the SIGMOD Record Editorial board, I hope that you enjoy reading the June 2022 issue of the SIGMOD Record!

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https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/sigmodrecord

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https://sigmodrecord.org/sigmod-record-editorial-policy/

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