



**In memory of Yahiko Kambayashi  
(1943–2004)**

It is with great sorrow that we received the sad news of the sudden and untimely passing of Prof. Yahiko Kambayashi, just before sending this proceedings out for printing.

Prof. Kambayashi was an IEEE fellow, a trustee of the VLDB Endowment (1991–1996), and a winner of the 1995 ACM/SIGMOD contribution award. All of us know how much he meant to the database community, especially to the database researchers in the Asia-Pacific region. His sudden leave is not only a tragic loss to his family but also a great loss to the whole international database community.

Despite his busy schedule, Prof. Kambayashi served as a program committee member for this conference. Together with all the members of the organization and program committees, we would like to use this place to express our heartfelt condolences and our deepest sympathy to his family.

February 6, 2004      Hongjun Lu, Yanchun Zhang, Jeffrey X. Yu, Xuemin Lin

## Preface

The Asia-Pacific region has emerged in recent years as one of the fastest growing regions in the world in the use of Web technologies as well as in making significant contributions to WWW research and development. Since the first Asia-Pacific Web conference in 1998, APWeb has continued to provide a forum for researchers, professionals, and industrial practitioners from around the world to share their rapidly evolving knowledge and to report new advances in WWW technologies and applications.

APWeb 2004 received an overwhelming 386 full-paper submissions, including 375 research papers and 11 industrial papers from 20 countries and regions: Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, UK, USA, and Vietnam. Each submission was carefully reviewed by three members of the program committee. Among the 386 submitted papers, 60 regular papers, 24 short papers, 15 poster papers, and 3 industrial papers were selected to be included in the proceedings. The selected papers cover a wide range of topics including Web services, Web intelligence, Web personalization, Web query processing, Web caching, Web mining, text mining, data mining and knowledge discovery, XML database and query processing, workflow management, E-commerce, data warehousing, P2P systems and applications, Grid computing, and networking. The paper entitled “Towards Adaptive Probabilistic Search in Unstructured P2P Systems”, co-authored by Linhao Xu, Chenyun Dai, Wenyan Cai, Shuigeng Zhou, and Aoying Zhou, was awarded the best APWeb 2004 student paper. The proceedings also includes 3 keynote papers by three high-profile researchers, Philip S. Yu (IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, USA), Maria E. Orlowska (University of Queensland, Australia), and Arun Sharma (National ICT Australia), and three invited talks by Hui-I Hsiao (IBM Almaden Research Center, USA), Xiaofang Zhou (University of Queensland, Australia), and Wei-Ying Ma (Microsoft Research Asia).

The conference received financial support from the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Microsoft, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of New South Wales, Australia, and the National ICT Australia.

We are grateful to the program committee members who helped tremendously in reviewing a large number of submissions in a short period of time, in particular during the Christmas season. We appreciate the work by the members of the APWeb 2004 organizing committees, and by Zheng Liu in setting up and managing the Web site and paper submission/review system. We would like to thank Fudan University and Zhejiang University for organizing the conference.

February 2004

Jeffrey Xu Yu  
Xuemin Lin  
Hongjun Lu  
Yanchun Zhang

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