Preface

In this Web-age, international collaboration and exchange are even more important and interesting than before for information management research and development. In June 2000, the first WAIM conference was held in Shanghai, China, to promote such collaboration and exchange. It was a success and attracted more than 100 participants from 16 countries. WAIM 2001 continued this tradition, providing researchers and practitioners with a forum to share their experiences in tackling problems in managing and using data, information, and knowledge in the age of the Internet and Web and to identify new issues and directions for research and development work in the new millennium.

Like the inaugural conference in the year 2000, WAIM 2001 attracted submissions from researchers of many countries and regions, including Australia, Austria, Canada, China, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Malaysia, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, The Netherlands, UK, and USA. Twenty-one regular research papers and twelve short research papers, contained in these proceedings, were presented at the conference. These papers cover a wide range of topics, including multimedia databases, information retrieval, data warehousing, information management in e-commerce, semistructured data management, data mining, data integration and filtering, and workflow. Also presented at the conference, and contained in these proceedings, were four research experience papers. This reflects our efforts to extend the conference to also become a forum for promoting and exchanging good information management practices.

The preparation of a successful conference requires a lot of efforts from many people. In addition to the standard program committee work like reviewing and selecting papers, efforts are required that range from publicity to conference logistics. We appreciate the work of the people in our WAIM 2001 organization committees. We would also like to thank Northwestern Polytechnic University, China, for organizing the conference, and to thank Mr. Like Gao for maintaining the conference paper submission and reviewing website.

July 2001   X. Sean Wang, Ge Yu
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