

18th International Conference on Database Theory

ICDT'15, March 23–27, 2015, Brussels, Belgium

Edited by

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Contents

Preface	vii
ICDT 2015 Test of Time Award	ix
Organization	xi
External Reviewers	xiii
List of Authors	xv

Invited Talks

The Confounding Problem of Private Data Release <i>Graham Cormode</i>	1
Using Locality for Efficient Query Evaluation in Various Computation Models <i>Nicole Schweikardt</i>	13
Large-Scale Similarity Joins With Guarantees <i>Rasmus Pagh</i>	15

Awards Session

A Declarative Framework for Linking Entities <i>Douglas Burdick, Ronald Fagin, Phokion G. Kolaitis, Lucian Popa, and Wang-Chiew Tan</i>	25
Asymptotic Determinacy of Path Queries using Union-of-Paths Views <i>Nadime Francis</i>	44

(Regular Paper)	
Games for Active XML Revisited <i>Martin Schuster and Thomas Schwentick</i>	60

Query Evaluation

Answering Conjunctive Queries with Inequalities <i>Paraschos Koutris, Tova Milo, Sudeepa Roy, and Dan Suciu</i>	76
SQL's Three-Valued Logic and Certain Answers <i>Leonid Libkin</i>	94
A Trichotomy in the Complexity of Counting Answers to Conjunctive Queries <i>Hubie Chen and Stefan Mengel</i>	110

Data Examples and Learning

Learning Tree Patterns from Example Graphs <i>Sara Cohen and Yaakov Y. Weiss</i>	127
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Characterizing XML Twig Queries with Examples
Slawek Staworko and Piotr Wieczorek 144

The Product Homomorphism Problem and Applications
Balder ten Cate and Victor Dalmau 161

Graph Databases and Semantic Web

Regular Queries on Graph Databases
Juan L. Reutter, Miguel Romero, and Moshe Y. Vardi 177

Complexity and Expressiveness of ShEx for RDF
*Slawek Staworko, Iovka Boneva, Jose E. Labra Gayo, Samuel Hym,
 Eric G. Prud'hommeaux, and Harold Solbrig* 195

CONSTRUCT Queries in SPARQL
Egor V. Kostylev, Juan L. Reutter, and Martín Ugarte 212

Separability by Short Subsequences and Subwords
Piotr Hofman and Wim Martens 230

Algorithms and Workflows

Process-Centric Views of Data-Driven Business Artifacts
Adrien Koutsos and Victor Vianu 247

On The I/O Complexity of Dynamic Distinct Counting
Xiaocheng Hu, Yufei Tao, Yi Yang, Shengyu Zhang, and Shuigeng Zhou 265

Shared-Constraint Range Reporting
Sudip Biswas, Manish Patil, Rahul Shah, and Sharma V. Thankachan 277

Distributed Query Processing

Optimal Broadcasting Strategies for Conjunctive Queries over Distributed Data
Bas Ketsman and Frank Neven 291

Datalog Queries Distributing over Components
Tom Ameloot, Bas Ketsman, Frank Neven, and Daniel Zinn 308

Distributed Streaming with Finite Memory
Frank Neven, Nicole Schweikardt, Frédéric Servais, and Tony Tan 324

Consistency and Repairs

From Causes for Database Queries to Repairs and Model-Based Diagnosis and Back
Babak Salimi and Leopoldo Bertossi 342

On the Relationship between Consistent Query Answering and Constraint Satisfaction
 Problems
Carsten Lutz and Frank Wolter 363

On the Data Complexity of Consistent Query Answering over Graph Databases
Pablo Barceló and Gaëlle Fontaine 380

Preface

The 18th International Conference on Database Theory (ICDT 2015) was held in Brussels, Belgium, March 23–27, 2015. Originally biennial, the ICDT conference has been held annually and jointly with EDBT (“Extending Database Technology”) since 2009.

The proceedings of ICDT 2015 include a paper by Graham Cormode (University of Warwick) based on the keynote address by him, a paper by Rasmus Pagh (IT University of Copenhagen) based on the keynote address by him, an overview of an invited lecture by Nicole Schweikardt (Humboldt University of Berlin), a laudation concerning the ICDT 2015 Test of Time Award, and 22 research papers that were selected by the Program Committee from 50 submissions.

Out of the 22 accepted papers, the Program Committee selected the paper *A Declarative Framework for Linking Entities* by Douglas Burdick, Ronald Fagin, Phokion G. Kolaitis, Lucian Popa and Wang-Chiew Tan for the ICDT 2015 Best Paper Award. Furthermore, the Program Committee selected the paper *Asymptotic Determinacy of Path Queries using Union-of-Paths Views* by Nadime Francis for the ICDT 2015 Best Student Paper Award. The ICDT 2015 Test of Time Award is given to the paper *Efficient Computation of Frequent and Top- k Elements in Data Streams* by Ahmed Metwally, Divyakant Agrawal, and Amr El Abbadi, which originally appeared in the proceedings of ICDT 2005. Warmest congratulations to the authors of these award winning papers!

I thank all authors who submitted papers to ICDT 2015. I would also like to thank all members of the Program Committee, and the external reviewers, for the enormous amount of work they have done. The Program Committee did not meet in person, but carried out extensive discussions during the electronic PC meeting. I thank Andrei Voronkov for his EasyChair system, which made it easy to manage and coordinate the discussion.

I thank the ICDT Council members for their help in selecting the Program Committee and their advice on issues of policy during the conference. Special thanks also go to Martín Ugarte, the Proceedings Chair of EDBT/ICDT 2015. I thank many colleagues involved in the organisation of the conference for fruitful collaboration, in particular, Floris Geerts (EDBT/ICDT 2015 Conference Chair).

Marcelo Arenas
January 2015

■ ICDT 2015 Test of Time Award

In 2013, the International Conference on Database Theory (ICDT) began awarding the ICDT test-of-time award, with the goal of recognising one paper, or a small number of papers, presented at ICDT a decade earlier that have best met the “test of time”. In 2015, the award will recognise a paper from the ICDT 2005 proceedings that has had the most impact in terms of research, methodology, conceptual contribution, or transfer to practise over the past decade. The award will be presented during the EDBT/ICDT 2015 Joint Conference, March 23–27, 2015 in Brussels, Belgium.

The committee consisting of Serge Abiteboul, Sudeepa Roy, and chaired by Leonid Libkin (2005 PC co-chair) has chosen the following recipient of the 2015 ICDT Test of Time Award:

“Efficient Computation of Frequent and Top-k Elements in Data Streams”

by Ahmed Metwally, Divyakant Agrawal, and Amr El Abbadi

The paper studies the problem of finding items which occur most frequently in a data stream. This is a basic algorithmic problem of great practical importance. The paper proposed a SpaceSaving algorithm which was shown to both provide theoretical guarantees and to perform significantly better than others in practical scenarios. Since its publication, the paper has made impact in both algorithms research and practical implementations of streaming algorithms. Several implementations of the algorithm have been made available, and they are used both in industry and as benchmarks to compare against other streaming algorithms. The paper has been highly cited: many papers have made use of the data structure, either directly, or to solve new problems. The algorithm itself is easy to motivate and state, and consequently it is taught in a number of algorithms courses.



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