

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Opinions and Viewpoints

Starting from this issue, the Data Engineering Bulletin will feature opinions and viewpoints from distinguished researchers in the database community and beyond. The landscape of data management has changed dramatically since the Internet, the explosion of big data, and the rise of machine learning. It is important to ponder on the state of database research, its impact on industrial practice, and new initiatives the database community should undertake. For this reason, we bring in thought leaders to help stimulate the discussions and move the field forward.

In this issue, we asked two renowned experts in the field, David Lomet and Alon Halevy, to share their thoughts about some history and future trends of data management. David contemplates on the role of caching in the past and future. His analysis provides deep insights into why data caching systems continue to dominate the market and how to achieve higher performance that does not rely on simply increasing main memory cache size. Alon considers aspects of data that are important to decision making but are traditionally ignored by our research community. His pieces covers the management of subjective data, building unbiased presentations of data that are tailored to the subjective world-view of the recipient, and the subjective nature of human decision making.

The Current Special Issue

Philippe Bonnet put together an exciting issue on the inter-operations among applications, database systems, operating system, and hardware. The six articles in the issue illustrate various forms of cross-layer support.

Haixun Wang
WeWork Corporation