



Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment

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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

We are pleased to introduce the first issue of Volume 20 of PVLDB – the Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment. PVLDB continues to publish original, high-quality research advancing the broad field of data and information management, processing, and analytics. Our scope encompasses foundational theory, novel data models, forward-looking system architectures, new techniques and applications, as well as the comprehensive assessment of real-world deployments at scale. In the research track, PVLDB welcomes contributions in four equally important categories: (a) regular research papers, (b) scalable data science (SDS), (c) experiment, analysis and benchmark (EA&B), and (d) vision papers.

Following the lead of PVLDB volume 19 (which introduced several extensions such as a self-assessment of relevance, author-nominated reviewers, and monthly paper submission caps per author), we made further extensions to address the major challenge of substantially increasing numbers of submissions. The key extensions were (1) a yearly submission cap of 12 papers per author in order to decentralize the selection of high-quality papers to the individual research groups, (2) a requirement that EA&B papers have to submit the full reproducibility package on initial submission to allow reviewers to double-check the artifacts if needed and ensure the availability of the artifacts and experiments, (3) mandatory abstract submission by the 25th of the previous month to enable bidding by associate editors (AEs) and reviewers and thus improve the assignment of submissions to reviewers, as well as (4) AI/LLM-related policies (e.g., paper submission AI/LLM usage disclosure and related reviewer guidelines). Besides these changes, we also modernized and revised the call for contributions, including the topics of interest. Overall, our data management community benefits from additional measures that promote a focus on data management as well as quality over quantity.

PVLDB remains committed to a rigorous, fair, and constructive review process. Every submission is screened for format violations, out-of-scope topics, plagiarism, and potential conflicts of interest before being assigned to AEs and reviewers. Each paper is evaluated by at least three experienced reviewers under the coordination of an AE. After the initial reviewing, there is a two week discussion phase which yields the overall recommendation and is materialized into a meta review by the assigned AE. PVLDB volume 20 also continues the Shadow PC effort for educating the next generation of reviewers. As part of our seven-wave reviewer invitation process, we also promoted a subset of Shadow PC members from volume 19 (who reliably provided high-quality reviews) to regular PVLDB reviewers, which worked out very well. Additionally, we introduced different categories of reviewers in order to accommodate different constraints on the reviewing load: besides the regular reviewers, we introduced light-load-3, light-load-6, and light-load-9 reviewers who review, over the entire volume, up to 3, 6, and 9 papers respectively, and are listed with these contributions on the website. Similar to the past, some paper submissions may proceed to a revision phase, in which authors are given up to 2.5 months to address feedback. Accepted papers are published in PVLDB and will also be presented at the upcoming VLDB conference. PVLDB employs CMT for workflow management, TPMS for reviewer identification, CLOSET for conflict-of-interest detection, and iThenticate for plagiarism screening.

PVLDB also continues to encourage artifact availability to support transparency and reproducibility. AEs assess artifact accessibility during the meta-review, and accepted papers whose artifacts satisfy established availability requirements receive the official ACM badge.

The first issue of PVLDB volume 20 features five papers on timely topics, including (1) core DBMS internals, (2) machine learning for DB, and (3) applying data management concepts and principles such as declarative specification, query optimization, as well as provenance and robustness to modern agentic systems, semantic operators, and vector databases.

We like to express our sincere appreciation to our AEs and reviewers, proceedings chairs, as well as our website chairs whose efforts are instrumental to the operation and success of PVLDB.

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Program Chairs for VLDB 2027