Preface

The 9th International KRDB Workshop continues the tradition of annual international workshops devoted to facilitate cross-fertilization between the fields of knowledge representation (KR) and databases (DB), started in 1994. The home page of the KRDB workshop series is at:
http://sunsite.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/Societies/KRDB.

Researchers in the two areas of knowledge representation (KR) and databases (DB) develop techniques for the same fundamental problem, namely, to define in a declarative way representations of relevant aspects of an application domain, to provide methods to query such representations, and to support their evolution. KRDB is a forum for exchanging ideas between DB and KR researchers. Research in KR originally concentrated around formalisms that are typically tuned to deal with relatively small knowledge bases, but provide powerful reasoning services, and are highly expressive. In contrast, DB research mainly dealt with efficient storage, retrieval, and sharing large amounts of data. However, data representation and query languages were relatively simple, and reasoning played only a minor role. This distinction between the requirements in KR and DB is vanishing rapidly. On the one hand, to be useful in realistic applications, a modern KR system must be able to handle large data sets. This suggests that techniques developed in the DB area could be useful for knowledge bases. On the other hand, the information stored in DBs is becoming more complex, thus requiring more intelligent retrieval and reasoning techniques.

Previous workshops were held in conjunction with various AI or database conferences: KRDB'94, Saarbruecken, Germany; KRDB'95, Bielefeld, Germany; KRDB'96, Budapest, Hungary (in conjunction with ECAI'96); KRDB'97, Athens, Greece (in conjunction with VLDB'97); KRDB'98, Seattle, WA, USA (in conjunction with SIGMOD/PODS'98), KRDB'99, Linkoeping, Sweden (affiliate event of IJCAI'99), and KRDB 2000, Berlin, Germany (in conjunction with ECAI-2000); KRDB'01, Roma, Italy (in conjunction with VLDB'01).
The 9th edition focuses on *Modeling, Querying and Managing Incomplete Information*. Its is an affiliate event of KR 2002 (8th International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning) and has a joint session with DL 2002 (15th International Workshop on Description Logics).

The Program Committee selected 7 papers out of 12 submissions. The two Organizing Committees of KRDB 2002 and DL 2002 agreed for a joint invited speaker, namely, Maurizio Lenzerini (University of Roma "La Sapienza"), and a joint session made of two papers selected by the Program Committee of KRDB 2002 and two papers selected by the Program Committee of DL 2002, which are included in these proceedings. We hope that this collection of papers will be useful to the readers interested in Databases and Knowledge Representation.

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