30.11.2010

Report on DBTech EXT* Dissemination at the ADBIS 2010 conference

ADBIS 2010 was the 14th annual Conference on Advances in Databases and Information Systems. Held in September 20-24, 2010 at the Novi Sad University in Novi Sad, Serbia, the event and attracted database academics and researchers from Central and East European countries, and the rest of the world. A selection of the papers presented at ADBIS 2010 (including the keynote presentations) are published with the Springer Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS[1]). For more information, please refer to the conference web site at: http://www.adbis2010.org/.

For DBTech EXT, the ADBIS conference comprised a major event attracting European database researchers and teachers, an opportunity to achieve visibility of the project deliverables to the target audience in question. The following text, copied from the conference web site[2], explains why the event was rated to be highly important for disseminating information on the DBTech EXT project:

> "*The main objective of the ADBIS series of conferences is to provide a forum for the dissemination of research accomplishments and to promote interaction and collaboration between the database and information systems research communities from Central and East European countries and the rest of the world. The ADBIS conferences provide an international platform for the presentation of research on database theory, development of advanced DBMS technologies, and their advanced applications.*
>
> *The Conference continues the ADBIS conferences held in St. Petersburg (1997), Poznan (1998), Maribor (1999), Prague (2000), Vilnius (2001), Bratislava (2002), Dresden (2003), Budapest (2004), Tallinn (2005), Thessaloniki (2006), Varna (2007), Pori (2008) and Riga (2009). The conference will consist of regular sessions with technical contributions reviewed and selected by an international program committee, as well as of invited talks and tutorials presented by leading scientists. The official language of the conference will be English.*"

* *The DBTech EXT project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author(s), and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein*

1 http://www.springerlink.com/content/978-3-642-15575-8/

2 http://perun.pmf.uns.ac.rs/adbis2010/aims.php

Serbia is not an LLP country, however it can be seen in the above that the majority of the past ADBIS conferences have taken place in LLP countries, successfully targeting the same audience of European academics and researchers. An initial invitation was addressed to DBTech EXT to participate in ADBIS 2009 which was held in Riga, Latvia. Unfortunately, the days of the conference (7-10 September 2009) overlapped with the days of the second DBTech EXT workshop and general meetings, held in Thessaloniki, Greece from 8 to 11 September 2009.

Commenting further on the relation the ADBIS audience have to LLP countries, it is noted that next year's conference ADBIS 2011 will take place in Wien, Austria. Furthermore, the ADBIS Steering Committee membership involves members from many LLP countries such as Austria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland[3]. The ADBIS 2010 list of participants[4] includes academics, researchers, and IT professionals from Europe and beyond.

Based on a recommendation made by the ADBIS steering committee member Prof. Boris Novikov from St Petersburg University, Prof. Dimitris Dervos from ATEI applied for a DBTech EXT dissemination event at ADBIS 2010. As a result, the ADBIS 2010 organizong committee invited DBTech EXT to give an 1-hour key note presentation at the conference. It also became possible to have a DBTech EXT stand operate during the days of the conference. In this respect, two (2) large and a number of smaller (A3) posters were printed at ATEI, and some 150 leaflets were printed at HAAGA-HELIA. The conference organizers provided WiFi access to the Internet, plus they kindly made available a number of hardware items to be used at the DBTech EXT stand: a multi-port power outlet, tables, chairs, a large silver projector screen, a 22-inch TFT computer monitor, and a USB keyboard. The DBTech EXT team of (four) conference participants contributed with their own laptops, a portable projector (HAAGA-HELIA), and a portable loudspeaker (ATEI). The pictures shown in Figures 1a and 1b have captured and display instances showing the ADBIS 2010 DBTech EXT stand at work.

3 http://perun.pmf.uns.ac.rs/adbis2010/organization.php
4 http://perun.pmf.uns.ac.rs/adbis2010/download/adbis2010participants.pdf

Figure 1a. The ADBIS 2010 DBTech EXT stand at autrium of the conference hall

Figure 1b. Visitors at the stand, discussing with the DBTech EXT delegation

The keynote paper "*DBTech EXT: Education and Hands-On Training for the Database Professional*", co-authored by Martti Laiho, Dimitris Dervos, José Aldana and Fritz Laux is included in the Springer LNCS conference proceedings (ISBN 978-3-642-15575-8)[5].

The keynote presentation at ADBIS 2010 was organized as follows:

1. DBTech EXT project, presented by Dimitris Dervos
2. The live and virtual workshops of DBTech EXT, presented by Fritz Laux
3. Concurrency Lab, prepared by Martti Laiho and Kari Silpiö, presented by Kari Silpiö
4. KDD Virtual Workshop, presented by Dimitris Dervos
5. Video presentation on the theme of the upcoming (Helsinki, November 2010) DBTech EXT workshop on Distributed and Replicated Databases, prepared by Cesar Gomez of the University of Malaga
6. Video presentation of the DBTech EXT HE Survey (workpackage 5), prepared by Ismael Navas-Delgado of the University of Malaga

The keynote presentation took place in the central hall/auditorium of the ADBIS 2010 conference (Figures 2 and 3)

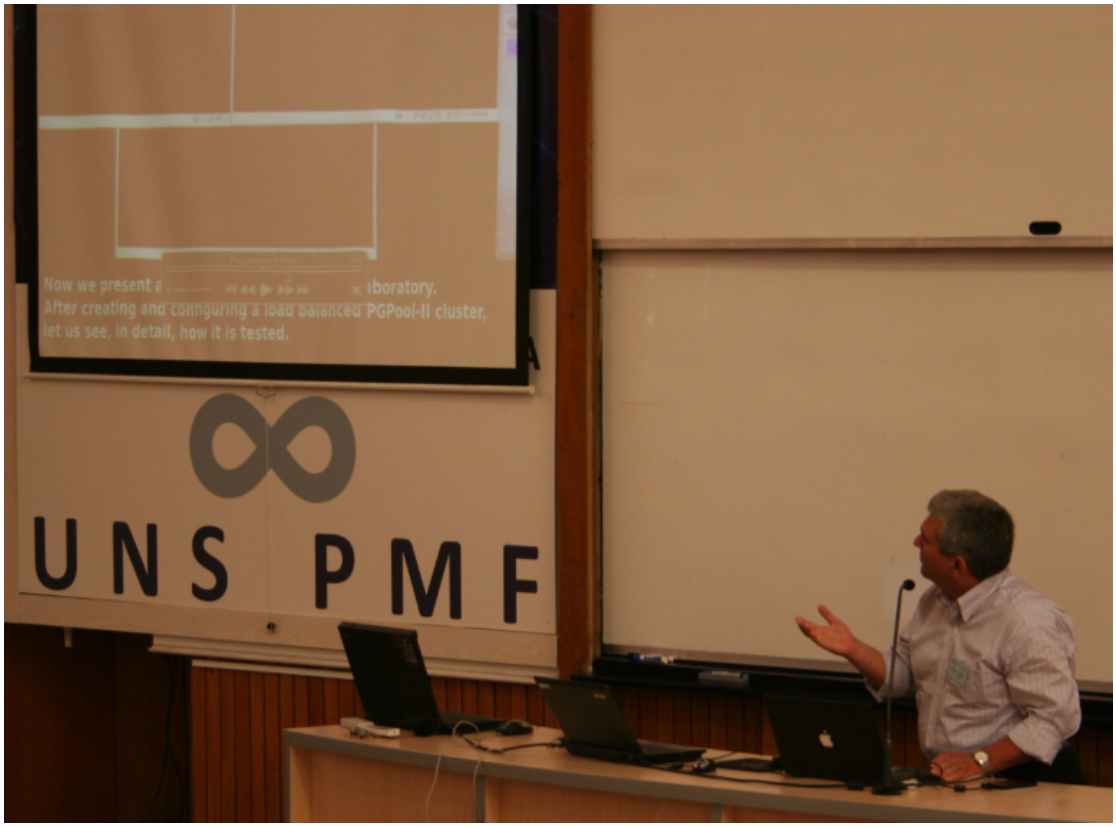

Figure 2 Prof. Dimitris Dervos presenting the Distributed and Replicated Databases video

5 http://www.springerlink.com/content/k2p4517547383p05/

Figure 3 A view of the audience who attended the DBTech EXT keynote presentation

Figure 4. ADBIS 2010 audience at the central hall/auditorium of the conference

A number of most useful contacts and discussions were made/held during and after the days of the ADBIS 2010 conference. For the purpose of disseminating information on the DBTech EXT project deliverables, and for receiving invaluable feedback with comments for the improvemet of the latter, the project's presence at the conference is considered to be successful.

More specifically:

1. The conference chair, Prof. Mirjana Ivanovic expressed her interest to establish a collaboration with DBTech EXT on e-learning. She suggested that DBTech EXT compile an invited paper for the *Computer Science and Information Systems*[6] journal for which she acts as the editor-in-chief. It was agreed that the paper in question is to be prepared following the DBTech EXT project completion in December 2010. In addition, Prof. Ivanovic was granted access to the DBTech portal[7], enrolled as a participant in the virtual laboratory workshop on Knowledge Discovery from Databases (KDD VLW), and expressed the interest to establish a working collaboration with the ATEI of Thessaloniki. The latter will focus on organization and offering a LLL course on database technology, targetting student and IT professional audiences in the Balkan region: a possibility to be considered along the lines of the recently established ATEI LLL institute.
2. Prof. Ajantha Dahanayake of the Georgia College and State University expressed her interest to obtain furthet information on DBTech EXT and the project deliverables. She was granted access to the DBTech portal environment.
3. Dr. Stephen Hegner of Umeå University in Sweden provided invaluble feedback and comments on the DBTech EXT HE Survey outline and content. His suggestions were given immediate and serious consideration, and they (to some considerable extend) have shaped the current version of the HE survey's web form[8]. Following the ADBIS 2010 conference days, Dr. Hegner participated inDBTech EXT KDD VLW offering. He also attended the DBTech EXT Symposium at HAAGA-HELIA on November 26, 2010. Dr. Hegner has made some most useful comments on the current functionality and user-friendliness of the DBTech portal. The new (HTML-, as opposed to PDF-based) version of the latter is soon to become operational and it is attributed to Dr. Hegner's comments that will be included in the WP6 (Dissemination) final report.
4. Dr. Sonja Ristić of the University of Novi Sad, has expressed her interest in the DBTech EXT VLWs. Beginning in late December 2010, she will have a number of her students enroll in the KDD VLW for the purpose of gradually incorporating the VLW content into the curriculum of the courses she teaches at the University of Novi Sad. In this respect, she has been granted access to the DBTech portal, and she has enrolled in the KDD VLW.
5. Assistant Professor Sergio Ilarri of the University of Zaragoza has contacted DBTech EXT, expressing his interest in the project's virtual laboratory workshops. Dr. Ilarri, a member of the Spanish Excellence Network on Databases[9], is an active participant of the current offering of the KDD VLW, having participated in the VLW's web meeting held on November 15. 2010. He contributes invaluable feedback and comments for the improvement of the VLW content, and its teaching/training methodology.

<<< >>>

6 http://www.comsis.org/
7 http://dbtech.uom.gr
8 http://www.webropol.com/P.aspx?id=437312&cid=57827217
9 http://www.redbd.es/