Foreword

Entity resolution has attracted significant attention from many researchers in computer science during the last three decades. Entity resolution can play an important role in data cleaning and integration in many real-world applications (e.g., e-commerce, healthcare information managing, Web information management, and CRM). Therefore, many techniques for entity resolution have been proposed from the database and machine-learning communities, such as similarity join, blocking, and graph approximate matching.

This book covers many aspects of entity resolution including all of basic concepts, algorithms, and applications. It presents the latest research and application results in entity resolution.

This book is the first one that covers a wide spectrum of entity resolution issues. As I am also working on entity resolution from the database perspective, I found this book contains a lot of useful information including entity resolution algorithms for several data models, a complete reference list for new results in entity resolution, and applications of entity resolution. In current textbooks of database management, entity resolution has not received much attention. This book provides supplementary material for database courses.

In a nutshell, it will appeal to various kinds of readers, including researchers, students, and developers, and have a global view of entity resolution.

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Guoliang Li is an Associate Professor of Department of Computer Science, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. He received his PhD degree in Computer Science from Tsinghua University in 2009, and his Bachelor degree in Computer Science from Harbin Institute of Technology in 2004. His research interests include data cleaning and integration and crowdsourcing. He has published more than 60 papers in premier conferences and journals, such as SIGMOD, VLDB, ICDE, TODS, VLDB Journal, and TKDE. He is a PC co-chair of the 14th International Conference on Web-Age Information Management (WAIM 2014) and 17th International Workshop on the Web and Databases (WebDB 2014, in conjunction with SIGMOD). He has served on the program committees of many premier conferences, such as SIGMOD, VLDB, KDD, ICDE, and IJCAI. His papers have been cited more than 1400 times. He received New Century Excellent Talents in University Award, Beijing Excellent Doctoral Dissertation Award, Nomination Award of National Excellent Doctoral Dissertation, and SCOPUS National Youth Science Star Award.