

Short biography of M. Crowe



Malcolm Crowe was born in Dublin 13 January 1948. His first and only employment was at Paisley College in 1972, where he still is: it is now the University of the West of Scotland. He received his D.Phil from Oxford University in 1978 with a thesis entitled “The Connective k -theory of the Infinite Symmetric Group”. Computing rather than Mathematics is his real passion. During the 1980s and 1990s he worked on several ESPRIT projects and co-authored several books on CSCW, Information Systems, and Interdisciplinary Research.

Since 2006 he has been developing new ideas for how to improve the implementation of relational DBMS, where he regards the maintenance of the transaction log as the only guarantee of accountability and transactional behaviour. He developed a strongly typed optimistic RDBMS called Pyrrho (www.pyrrhodb.com) to try out several technical additions to relational technology including role-based namespaces and semantic and distributed databases. In 2016 Malcolm began to focus on “Big Live Data” (Virtual Data Warehousing), and his collaborators on this concept include Fritz Laux who presented a paper on this concept at DBKDA 2017.

Crucially the DBMS support for Big Live Data should allow queries to obtain up-to-date results from the global data set without pre-programming each one. Malcolm’s contribution at DBKDA 2018 will include details of a practical implementation and a realistic example of the concept in action.