Cloud computing is a normal evolution of distributed computing combined with Service-oriented architecture, leveraging most of the GRID features and Virtualization merits. The technology foundations for cloud computing led to a new approach of reusing what was achieved in GRID computing with support from virtualization.

The Third International Conference on Cloud Computing, GRIDs, and Virtualization (CLOUD COMPUTING 2012), held between July 22 and 27, 2012, in Nice, France, intended to prospect the applications supported by the new paradigm and validate the techniques and the mechanisms. A complementary target was to identify the open issues and the challenges to be fixed, especially on security, privacy, and inter- and intra-clouds protocols.

We welcomed technical papers presenting research and practical results, position papers addressing the pros and cons of specific proposals, such as those being discussed in the standard fora or in industry consortia, survey papers addressing the key problems and solutions on any of the above topics short papers on work in progress, and panel proposals.

We take here the opportunity to warmly thank all the members of the CLOUD COMPUTING 2012 Technical Program Committee, as well as the numerous reviewers. The creation of such a broad and high quality conference program would not have been possible without their involvement. We also kindly thank all the authors who dedicated much of their time and efforts to contribute to CLOUD COMPUTING 2012. We truly believe that, thanks to all these efforts, the final conference program consisted of top quality contributions.

Also, this event could not have been a reality without the support of many individuals, organizations, and sponsors. We are grateful to the members of the CLOUD COMPUTING 2012 organizing committee for their help in handling the logistics and for their work to make this professional meeting a success.

We hope that CLOUD COMPUTING 2012 was a successful international forum for the exchange of ideas and results between academia and industry and for the promotion of progress in the area of cloud computing.

We are convinced that the participants found the event useful and communications very open. We hope Côte d’Azur provided a pleasant environment during the conference and everyone saved some time for exploring the Mediterranean Coast.
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CLOUD COMPUTING Advisory Chairs
Jaime Lloret Mauri, Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain
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Hong Zhu, Oxford Brookes University, UK

Service-oriented
Qi Yu, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

Security
Chih-Cheng Hung, Southern Polytechnic State University - Marietta, USA

Platforms
Arden Agopyan, IBM Central & Eastern Europe, Russia, Middle East & Africa (CEE & MEA), Turkey
Dariusz Król, Academic Computer Center CYFRONET - Cracow, Poland