



If one harnessed all of the expertise and scientific advances that have emerged from IBM Research laboratories in Asia alone, that would speak volumes about Research's track record in innovation.

From speech technology to Web accessibility, IBM continues to enjoy the rich contributions emanating from our Asia laboratories. Decade after decade, these laboratories—in China, India, and Tokyo—have been at the forefront of some of the most exciting breakthrough work in our industry. This spells nothing but opportunity for IBM. Analysts predict tremendous market growth, particularly in the Asia Pacific region. In fact, one organization claims that market growth in the Asia Pacific region is expected to increase by 23.4%, to \$75 billion in 2004.

The papers represented in this special issue provide a comprehensive view of the tremendous depth and breadth of our research efforts in Asia. But this is merely a snapshot—a wealth of innovation continues to flow from these laboratories.



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