The symposium invites papers on fundamental aspects of databases. Original research papers on the theory, design, specification, or implementation of databases are solicited. Papers emphasizing new topics or foundations of emerging areas are especially welcome. The symposium will be held in Town and Country Hotel in San Diego, in conjunction with the ACM SIGMOD Intl. Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD'03), and as part of the Federated Computing Research Conference (FCRC'03).

Suggested topics include the following (this list is not exhaustive and the order does not reflect priorities):

- Access Methods and Physical Design
- Transaction Management
- Logic in Databases
- Database Programming Languages
- Deductive Databases and Knowledge Bases
- Spatial and Temporal Databases
- Distributed Databases
- Data Mining
- Information Processing on the Web
- Complexity and Performance Evaluation
- Integrity and Security
- Query Languages
- Database Updates
- Object-oriented Databases
- Constraint Databases
- Data Integration and Interoperability
- Databases and Information Retrieval
- Databases and Workflows
- Concurrency Control
- Data Models
- Query Optimization
- Active Databases
- Multimedia Databases
- Real-time Databases
- Views and Warehousing
- Semistructured Data and XML

Important Dates:
- November 15, 2002: Paper abstracts due
- November 22, 2002: Full papers due
- February 11, 2003: Notification of acceptance/rejection
- March 8, 2003: Camera-ready due

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Submission format and instructions:
Authors are required to submit a paper title and short abstract (about 100 words) before submitting the paper. Papers should be limited to 10 pages (with font size at least 11 pts) and may consist of extended abstracts. Each submission must provide sufficient detail to allow the program committee to assess its merits and should include appropriate references to and comparisons with the literature.

Electronic submission and hard copy are accepted. Electronic submission of both short abstracts and papers is strongly preferred. Instructions for (electronic) submissions will be posted on PODS's home page.

Awards:
- Best Newcomer Award: An award will be given to the best submission, as judged by the program committee, written solely by authors who have never published in earlier PODS proceedings.
- Best Paper Award: There will also be an award for the best of all papers submitted, as judged by the program committee.

The program committee reserves the right to give both awards to the same paper, not to give an award, or to split an award among several papers. Papers authored or co-authored by PC members are not eligible for an award.