The symposium invites papers on fundamental aspects of data management. Original research papers on the theory, design, specification, or implementation of data management tools are solicited. Papers emphasizing new topics or foundations of emerging areas are especially welcome. The symposium will be held at the Maison de la Chimie, Paris, in conjunction with the ACM SIGMOD Intl. Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD’04).

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

- Access Methods & Physical Design
- Active Databases
- Complexity & Performance Evaluation
- Data Integration & Interoperability
- Data Mining
- Data Stream Management
- Database Programming Languages
- Databases & Information Retrieval
- Databases & Workflows
- Deductive Databases & Knowledge Bases
- Distributed Databases
- Information Processing on the Web
- Logic in Databases
- Multimedia Databases
- Object-oriented Databases
- Query Languages
- Query Optimization
- Real-time Databases
- Security & Privacy
- Semistructured Data & XML
- Spatial & Temporal Databases
- Theory of recovery
- Transaction Management
- Views & Warehousing
- Web Services & Electronic Commerce
- XML Databases

**Important Dates:**

- Paper abstracts due: December 1, 2003 (11:59pm PST)
- Full papers due: December 8, 2003 (11:59pm PST)
- Notification of acceptance/rejection: February 23, 2004
- Camera-ready due: March 22, 2004

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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. The address, telephone number, FAX number, and e-mail address of the contact author should appear on the title page of the submission. Submissions 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. It is recommended that each submission begins with a succinct statement of the problem, a summary of the main results, and a brief explanation of their significance and relevance to the conference, all suited for the non-specialist. Technical development of the work, directed to the specialist, should follow. If the authors believe more details are necessary to substantiate the main claims of the paper, they may include a clearly marked appendix to be read at the discretion of the committee. Only electronic submissions are accepted. 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.