The main purpose of this book is to present the contents of an introductory course in databases. In this regard, one can find a number of material validity and recognized different scopes. This work is developed under the guidelines that the authors use in dictating the course Introduction to Databases, Faculty of Informatics, National University of La Plata, Argentina.

We present a series of introductory topics Databases (DB), such as the physical aspects of files and their structural composition, concepts that allow us to understand the behavior, response times, a DB. Research on DB is not a closed issue.

In the past 40 years how to model, related to the types of handlers DB, has evolved. Market requirements have made much of this change. Comparing the needs of an information system (IS) of the decades of the 70, 80, 90 and early 2000, we can see that from simple partially structured data has been migrated to more complex structures that include Currently, images, sound, video, plus general information. The BD should then be able to withstand this type of information, and meet the needs of the user in a simple and efficient basically. However, this material does not lose sight that is oriented to a first course in databases, or trained for the reader who wishes to understand a simple mechanism to generate a data model that supports an information system. For this reason an entire section dedicated to data modeling associated problems, which are exemplified simple cases, in what are known as conventional management systems.

It is almost inevitable that each library materials present issues according to the vision of each author. This book is no exception in this regard. It presents an innovative methodology, but a way of dealing with the problems of data modeling, summarizing views of several authors. In each case we have taken those considered fundamental, trying to summarize them in a clear and effective way.