Distribution Transparency

- Allows management of physically dispersed database as if centralized
  - Levels: **Fragmentation, location and local mapping**

- **Unique fragment**: Each row is unique, regardless of the fragment in which it is located

- Supported by **distributed data dictionary (DDD)** or **distributed data catalog (DDC)**
  - DDC contains the description of the entire database as seen by the database administrator

- **Distributed global schema**: Common database schema to translate user requests into subqueries