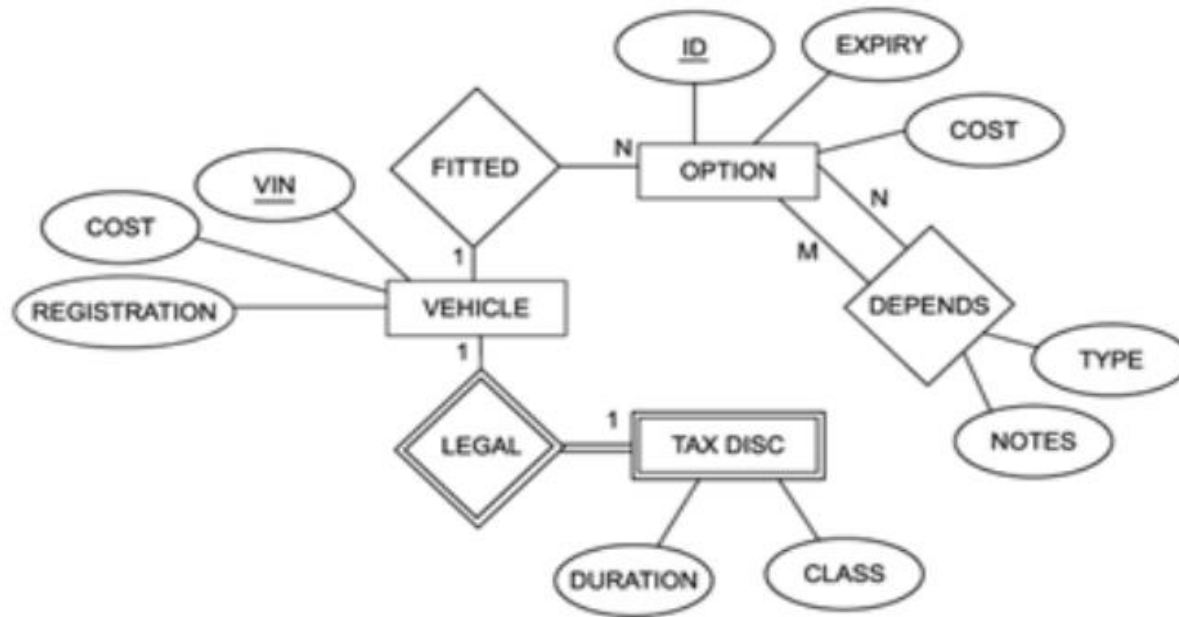


# EXERCISE FROM LAST TIME

Translate the following ER Diagram into a relational database schema.



Vehicle(VIN,cost,registration)

Option(ID,expiry,cost)

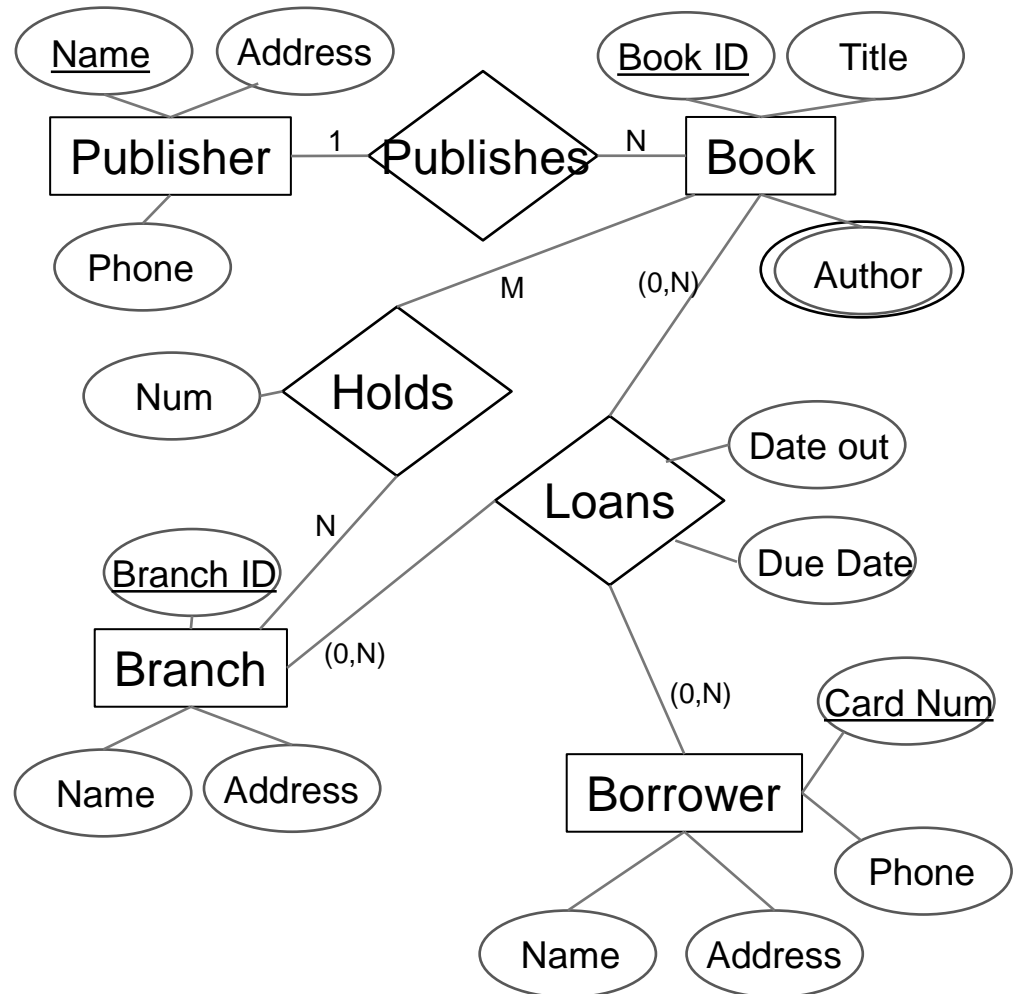
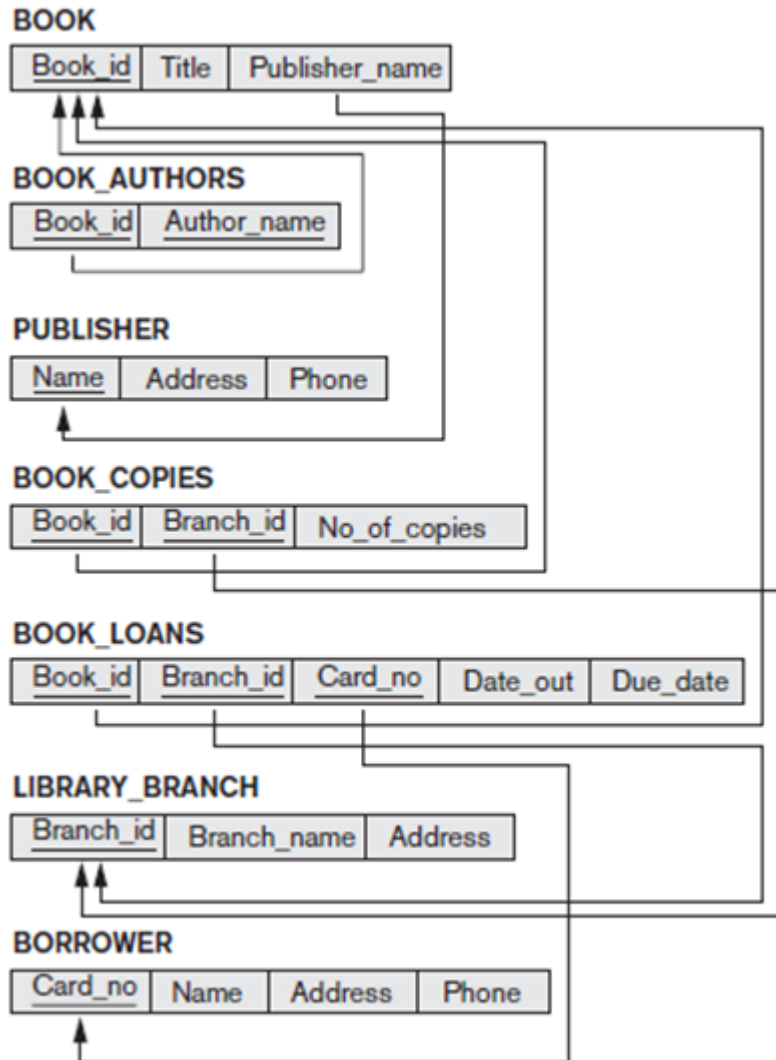
TaxDisc(VIN,duration,class)

Fitted(VIN,ID)    *or augment Option(...) to be Option(ID,expiry,cost,VIN)*

Depends(MasterID,SlaveID,notes,type)

# EXERCISE

What ER Diagram might produce the following relational database schema?



# **FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCIES**

**CHAPTER 15.1-15.2, 15.5 (6/E)**

**CHAPTER 10.1-10.2, 10.5 (5/E)**

# CHAPTER 15 OUTLINE

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- Design guidelines for relation schemas
- Functional dependencies
  - Definition and interpretation
  - Formal definition of keys
- Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)
  - Application of dependency theory to checking DB design

# ***GOODNESS IN RELATIONAL DESIGN***

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- Clarity of attributes provides semantics for relation schema.
  - Naming of attributes
  - *Fit* of attributes with each other
  - **Guideline 1**
    - Design each relation schema so that it is easy to explain its meaning.
      - Natural result of good ER design
    - Do not arbitrarily combine attributes from multiple entity types and relationship types into a single relation.
- How can we measure how well attributes fit together?
  - Amount of redundant information in tuples
  - Amount of NULL values in tuples
  - Possibility of generating spurious tuples

# MIS-PACKAGED ATTRIBUTES

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EMP\_DEPT

Ename	<u>Ssn</u>	Bdate	Address	Dnumber	Dname	Dmgr_ssn
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- Every tuple includes employee data and department data
- Redundancy
  - Dept name and manager id repeated for every employee in dept
- Potential for too many NULL values
  - Departments with no employees need to pad tuple with NULLS
  - Employees not in any department need to pad tuples with NULLS
- Update anomalies
  - Deleting the last employee in a dept should not delete dept
  - Changing the dept name/mgr requires many tuples to be updated
  - Inserting employees requires checking for consistency of its dept name and manager
- **Guideline 2**
  - Design relational DB schema so that every fact can be stored in one and only one tuple.

# SIMPLE DEPENDENCIES

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**Actor**

name	birth	city
Ben Affleck	1972	Berkeley
Alan Arkin	1934	New York
Tommy Lee Jones	1946	San Saba
John Wells	1957	Alexandria
Steven Spielberg	1946	Cincinnati
Daniel Day-Lewis	1957	Greenwich

- *Assume that no two actors have the same name.*
- Each actor has a unique date and city of birth.
- Therefore, given an actor's `name`, there is only one possible value for `birth` and for `city`.
  - `name`  $\rightarrow$  `birth`
  - `name`  $\rightarrow$  `city`
- However, given a birth year, we do not have a unique corresponding name or city.
  - `birth`  $\nrightarrow$  `name`
  - `birth`  $\nrightarrow$  `city`
- Cannot tell from example whether or not city determines name or birth

# FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCY

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- Constraint between two sets of attributes from the database

Given relation scheme  $R(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$  and sets of attributes  $X \subseteq \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$ ,  $Y \subseteq \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$ ,  $X \rightarrow Y$  specifies the following constraint: for *any* tuples  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  in *any* valid relation state  $r$  of  $R$ , if  $t_1[X] = t_2[X]$  then  $t_1[Y] = t_2[Y]$ .

- Property of semantics or meaning of the attributes
- Recognized and recorded as part of database design
- Given a relation state
  - Cannot determine which functional dependencies hold
  - Can state that functional dependency does not hold if there are tuples that show violation of the dependency
- Write  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_i\} \rightarrow \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_j\}$  but can omit set braces if  $i=1$  or  $j=1$ , respectively.
  - $\{\text{name}\} \rightarrow \{\text{birth}, \text{city}\}$                       or                       $\text{name} \rightarrow \{\text{birth}, \text{city}\}$

# TRIVIAL FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCIES

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- Some dependencies must always hold
  - $\{\text{birth, date}\} \rightarrow \{\text{birth, date}\}$
  - $\{\text{birth, date}\} \rightarrow \text{date}$
  - $\{\text{birth, date}\} \rightarrow \text{birth}$
- For any relation schema  $R$  and subsets of attributes  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $R$ , if  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$ .

# ANOTHER LOOK AT KEYS

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- Assume that EMPLOYEE(EmpNo, FirstName, LastName, Department, Email, Phone) has keys:
  1. EmpNo
  2. Email
  3. (FirstName, LastName, Department)
- Some functional dependencies:
  - $\text{EmpNo} \rightarrow \{\text{EmpNo}, \text{FirstName}, \text{LastName}, \text{Department}, \text{Email}, \text{Phone}\}$
  - $\text{Email} \rightarrow \{\text{EmpNo}, \text{FirstName}, \text{LastName}, \text{Department}, \text{Email}, \text{Phone}\}$
  - $\{\text{FirstName}, \text{LastName}, \text{Department}\} \rightarrow \{\text{EmpNo}, \text{FirstName}, \text{LastName}, \text{Department}, \text{Email}, \text{Phone}\}$
  - $\{\text{EmpNo}, \text{Email}, \text{Phone}\} \rightarrow \{\text{EmpNo}, \text{FirstName}, \text{LastName}, \text{Department}, \text{Email}, \text{Phone}\}$
- Given relation scheme  $R(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$  and set of attributes  $X$  in  $R$ .  $X$  is a superkey for  $R$  if  $X \rightarrow \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$ .
  - Often written as  $X \rightarrow R$
- To determine that  $X$  is a key, need to also show that no proper subset of  $X$  determines  $R$ 
  - $\nexists Y$  such that  $Y \subsetneq X$  and  $Y \rightarrow R$

# BOYCE-CODD NORMAL FORM

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- A relation schema R is in **Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)** if whenever a nontrivial functional dependency  $X \rightarrow A$  holds in R, then X is a superkey of R.
  - If  $X \rightarrow A$  and  $A \notin X$ , then  $X \rightarrow R$
- Relation schemas in BCNF avoid the problems of redundancy
  - We won't worry about *other normal forms* in this class.
  - Examples

EMP\_DEPT

Ename	<u>Ssn</u>	Bdate	Address	Dnumber	Dname	Dmgr_ssn
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- $Dnumber \rightarrow \{Dname, Dmgr\_ssn\}$  but  $Dnumber \nrightarrow Ename$

EMP\_PROJ

<u>Ssn</u>	<u>Pnumber</u>	Hours	Ename	Pname	Plocation
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- $Pnumber \rightarrow \{Pname, Plocation\}$  but  $Dnumber \nrightarrow SSn$
- $SSn \rightarrow Ename$  but  $SSn \nrightarrow Pnumber$

# SUMMARY

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- Informal guidelines for good design
- Functional dependency
  - Basic tool for analyzing relational schemas
  - Check for Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF) to validate designs