

Notes on Relational Databases: - Mozilla Firefox

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http://www.pgrocer.net/Cis54/relation.html

Notes on Relational Databases:

3rd normal form

Notes on Relational Databases:

A database can consist of multiple tables/files. These tables/files are related to each other in some way so that the programmer or developer can access information from multiple table/files the same time. A database management system is the database and its functionality. In today's PC environment, the model of relating the table/files within a database is the relational database model. Things that must be considered in a relational database:

- Analyze the data and determine how to design the files - consider whether the data is in a one to one relationship, a one to many relationship or a many to many relationship.
- Consider functional dependence: An attribute B, is functionally depended on another attribute, A if a value for A determines a single value for B at any one time.
- The primary key has all attributes in the table functionally dependent upon it - to simplify you can think of the primary key as the minimum collection of fields that will get you one and only one record from the table/file.
- We must also consider the rules of normalization and establish the relationships so that the database is in third normal form.

- A relation is in **first normal form** if it does not contain repeating groups.
- A relation is in **second normal form** if it is in first normal form and no non-key attribute is dependent on only a portion of the primary key. (Note: an attribute is a non-key attribute is not a part of the primary key).
- A relation is in **third normal form** if it is in second normal form and if the only determinants it contains are candidate keys. (Note: any attribute that determines another attribute is called a determinant).

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3rd normal form**Notes on Relational Databases:**

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Student 'id

hamp

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CIS 2

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2

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~~Student id~~

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Student id PK

↓

dept id

dept name

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Now we are going to look at making two tables following some rules that we will examine in more detail next week - Mozilla Firefox

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http://www.pgrocer.net/Cis17/assign/studentdb.html

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Now we are going to look at making ...

Student Table

- **Student Id Number - primary key**
- Student Name
- Student City
- Student State
- Department Code
- Student GPA

Now we will develop a new table to hold the department information. This makes sense. It certainly would be a waste to key in the department name and the name of the chair over and over on each student record. And what about when the department chair changes, do we have to go to each student record and change the name. We don't want to do that. If there was a separate department table, we could just change the department chairs name in one record and we would be all set.

Department Table

- Department Code
- Department Name
- Department Chair

Looking at this table, the Department Code can be established as the primary key because it uniquely identifies a record within a table.

Department Table

- **Department Code - primary key**
- Department Name
- Department Chair

Now we have set up two tables:

<h4>Student Table</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Id Number - primary key • Student Name • Student City • Student State • Department Code • Student GPA 	<h4>Department Table</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department Code - primary key • Department Name • Department Chair
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CI

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CI Comp ~ Grover
BL Bush ~ Leona'd

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- Department Name
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Now we have set up two tables:

<p>Student Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Id Number - primary key • Student Name • Student City • Student State • Department Code • Student GPA 	<p>Department Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department Code - primary key • Department Name • Department Chair
--	--

Notice that Department Code appears in both tables. It links the two tables together so when I am processing a student and I want to know the Department Name, I can go to the Department Table and use the Department Code to get the correct Department Name. The Department Code on the Student Table is called a **foreign key** because it is a field on that table that links to a primary key on another table - in this case the Department Table.

Now let's add information about the courses the student is taking. I want to include the following information:

- Course Number
- Course Name
- Number of credits

Done

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Department Table

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- Department Name
- Department Chair

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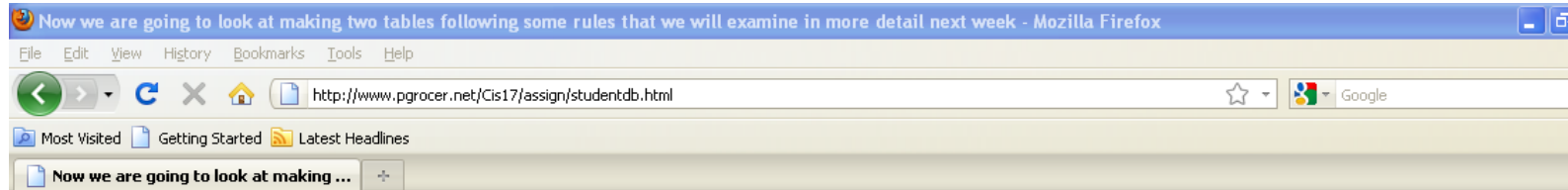
<p>Student Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Id Number - primary key • Student Name • Student City • Student State • Department Code • Student GPA 	<p>Department Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department Code - primary key • Department Name • Department Chair
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Course Number
 Course Name
 Number of credits

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Now let's add information about the courses the student is taking. I want to include the following information:

- Course Number
- Course Name
- Number of credits
- Semester the student took the course
- Grade the student got in the course

We cannot carry information about the courses the student has taken on the Student Table because that would involve repeating groups. So we know we will need another table. When we start to layout this table we have the Student Id Number and the Course Number.

StudentCourse Table	
• Student Id Number	combined for
• Course Number	primary key

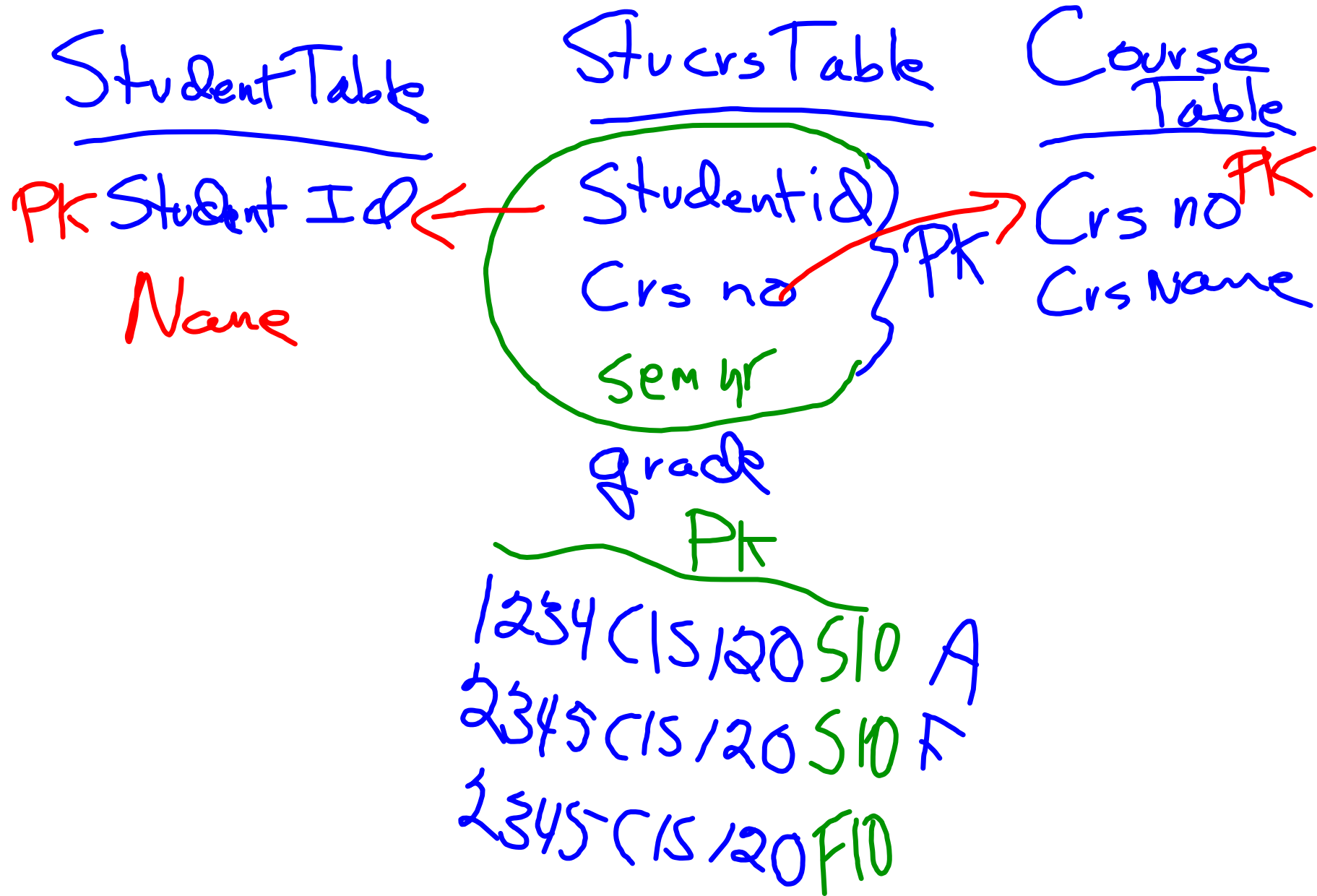
Combined, these would make the key for the courses a student has taken. Then the grade could go on as data because the grade relates to the student and the course. But, there is a problem. What about the student who fails or withdraws from the course and wants to take it again. This structure would not allow the student to take the course again because it would not be a unique id. The solution is to add a date to the key. Probably not an actual date but something like F08 for fall 2008. The grade can then be added as data. It relates to all parts of the key, it is

StudentCourse Table	
• Student Id Number	these 3 fields
• Course Number	combined =
• SemYr	primary key
• Grade	

I cannot put course name or number of credits in because they relate to the course number which is only part of the key. They do not relate to the whole key. Therefore, I am going to have a Course Table that will contain the Course Number as the key and the Course Name and Number Credits as fields.

StudentCourse Table	Course Table
• Student Id Number	• Course Number
• Course Number	primary key
• SemYr	• Course Name
• Grade	• Number Credits

Done



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of the key, it is

StudentCourse Table

- Student Id Number these 3 fields combined = primary key
- Course Number
- SemYr
- Grade

Assignment is to create the four tables shown below and then populate them and test them with queries. Recommend you not use auto number and that you make the link fields have the same type and size and name.

I cannot put course name or number of credits in because they relate to the course number which is only part of the key. They do not relate to the whole key. Therefore, I am going to have a Course Table that will contain the Course Number as the key and the Course Name and Number Credits as fields.

<p>StudentCourse Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Id Number these 3 fields combined = primary key • Course Number • SemYr • Grade 	<p>Course Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Number primary key • Course Name • Number Credits
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Adding these two tables gives me a total of 4 tables.

<p>Student Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Id Number - PK • Student Name • Student City • Student State • Department Code • Student GPA 	<p>Department Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department Code - PK • Department Name • Department Chair 	<p>StudentCourse Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Id Number part1 PK • Course Number part2 PK • SemYr part3 PK • Grade 	<p>Course Table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Number PK • Course Name • Number Credits
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Assignment: Set up and populate these tables.

Queries:

1. Display the student name, student GPA, department code and department name for students within a certain department (for example the CI department).
2. Display the student id number, the student name, the GPA, the state, the course number, the course name for all students who have a GPA > 3 and live in MA.
3. Display the student id number, the student name, the student GPA, the department code, the department name, the course number, the course name for GPA > 2 or a certain department code (for example CI).

Done