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# The Relational Model

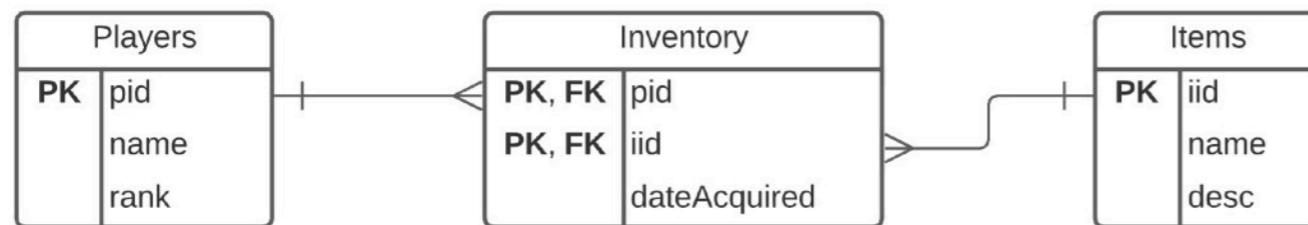
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Alan G. Labouseur, Ph.D.  
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# The Relational Model

Tables of rows and columns:  
Our AD&D-like game



```
CAP=# select *  
CAP=# from Players;
```

pid	name	rank
1	James	Captain
2	Leonard	Admiral

(2 rows)

```
CAP=# select *  
CAP=# from Items;
```

iid	name	descr
A	wand	...
B	gem	...
C	mace	...
D	sword	...

(4 rows)

```
CAP=# select *  
CAP=# from Inventory;
```

pid	iid	dateacquired
1	A	2020-01-23
1	B	2020-01-23
2	B	2020-01-23
2	C	2020-01-23

(4 rows)

# The Relational Model

## Tables of rows and columns: An e-commerce database (“CAP”)

People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
1	Dr.	Neil	Peart	Ph.D.	Toronto	1952-09-12
2	Ms.	Regina	Schock		Toronto	1957-08-31
3	Mr.	Bruce	Crump	Jr.	Jacksonville	1957-07-17
4	Mr.	Todd	Sucherman		Chicago	1969-05-02
5	Mr.	Bernard	Purdie		Teaneck	1939-06-11
6	Ms.	Demetra	Plakas	Esq.	Santa Monica	1960-11-09
7	Ms.	Terri Lyne	Carrington		Boston	1965-08-04
8	Dr.	Bill	Bruford	Ph.D.	Kent	1949-05-17
9	Mr.	Alan	White	III	Pelton	1949-06-14

Products

prodId	name	city	qtyOnHand	priceUSD
p01	Heisenberg Compensator	Dallas	47	67.50
p02	Universal Translator	Newark	2399	5.50
p03	Commodore PET	Duluth	1979	65.02
p04	LCARS module	Duluth	3	47.00
p05	Remo drumhead	Dallas	8675309	16.61
p06	Trapper Keeper	Dallas	1982	2.00
p07	Flux Capacitor	Newark	1007	1.00
p08	HAL 9000 memory core	Newark	200	1.25
p09	Red Barchetta	Toronto	1	379000.47

Customers

pid	paymentTerms	discountPct
1	Net 30	21.12
4	Net 15	4.04
5	In Advance	5.50
7	On Receipt	2.00
8	Net 30	10.00

Agents

pid	paymentTerms	commissionPct
2	Quarterly	5.00
3	Annually	10.00
5	Monthly	2.00
6	Weekly	1.00

Orders

orderNum	dateOrdered	custId	agentId	prodId	quantityOrdered	totalUSD
1011	2020-01-23	1	2	p01	1100	58568.40
1012	2020-01-23	4	3	p03	1200	74871.83
1015	2020-01-23	5	3	p05	1000	15696.45
1016	2020-01-23	8	3	p01	1000	60750.00
1017	2020-02-14	1	3	p03	500	25643.89
1018	2020-02-14	1	3	p04	600	22244.16
1019	2020-02-14	1	2	p02	400	1735.36
1020	2020-02-14	4	5	p07	600	575.76
1021	2020-02-14	4	5	p01	1000	64773.00
1022	2020-03-15	1	3	p06	450	709.92
1023	2020-03-15	1	2	p05	500	6550.98
1024	2020-03-15	5	2	p01	880	56133.00
1025	2020-04-01	8	3	p07	888	799.20
1026	2020-05-01	8	5	p03	808	47282.54

Originally from *Database Principles, Programming, and Performance* by Patrick O'Neil and Elizabeth O'Neil.  
Modified over and over by Alan G. Labouseur.

# The Relational Model

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Tables of **rows** and columns

People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
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# The Relational Model


## Tables of rows and columns

All entries in a single column are a single attribute and of a single data type.

People

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Integer      Text      Date





# Relational Rules

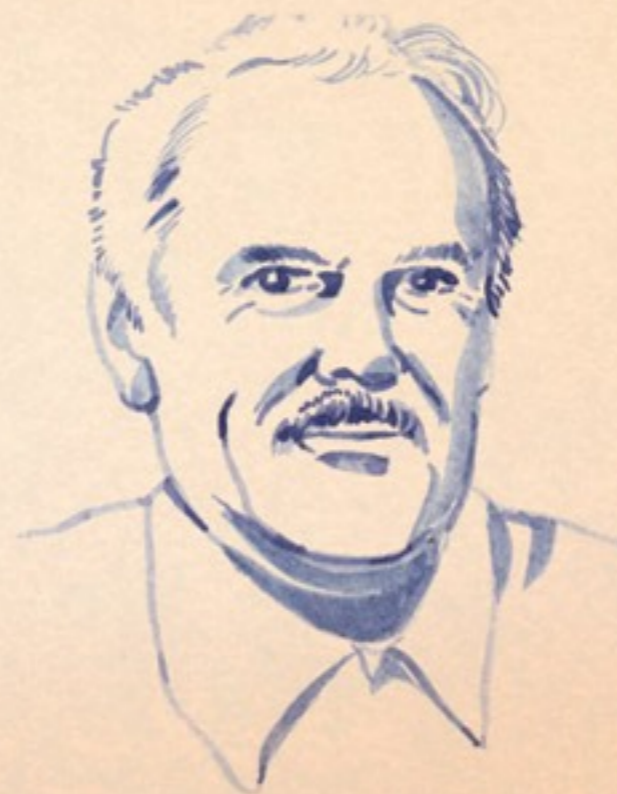
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From Codd Himself.

These rules allow us to achieve excellence in database design across time and space.

**Father of the  
Relational Database:  
Edgar F. Codd**

*A British computer scientist, Codd made important contributions to the theory of relational databases. While working for IBM, he created the relational model for database management.*



# Relational Rules

---

## 1. The **First Normal Form** Rule

There can be *no multi-valued attributes* or values with internal structure at any intersection of a row and a column in a table.

In older terms: *no repeating groups* or *no repeating fields*.

Put another way, all values at the intersection of a row and a column must be **atomic**, meaning that they cannot be subdivided.



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People

pid	name	profession	skills
---	-----	-----	-----
007	Sean	spy	pronounces "S" like "Sh", charm
008	Roger	secret agent (on who's side?)	humour, stealth
009	Pierce	stiff-assed Brit	wit, hair

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This is a violation  
of the 1NF rule.

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People

pid	name	profession	skill1	skill2
---	-----	-----	-----	-----
007	Sean	spy	pronounces "S" like "Sh"	charm
008	Roger	secret agent (on who's side?)	humour	stealth
009	Pierce	stiff-assed Brit	wit	hair

A slight restructuring of table removes the 1NF violation (but this is still bad design).

# Relational Rules

---

## 2. The **Access Rows by Content Only** Rule

We can only ask for (“query”) data by **what’s there**, never by **where it is**.

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We **can** ask, “What is the name of pid 007?”

We **cannot** ask, “What is the name in the first row?”

People

pid	name	profession	skill1	skill2
007	Sean	spy	pronounces "S" like "Sh"	charm
008	Roger	secret agent (on who's side?)	humour	stealth
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Tables are sets. The elements of a set have no intrinsic order.

$\{a, b, c\} = \{b, a, c\} = \{c, a, b\}$

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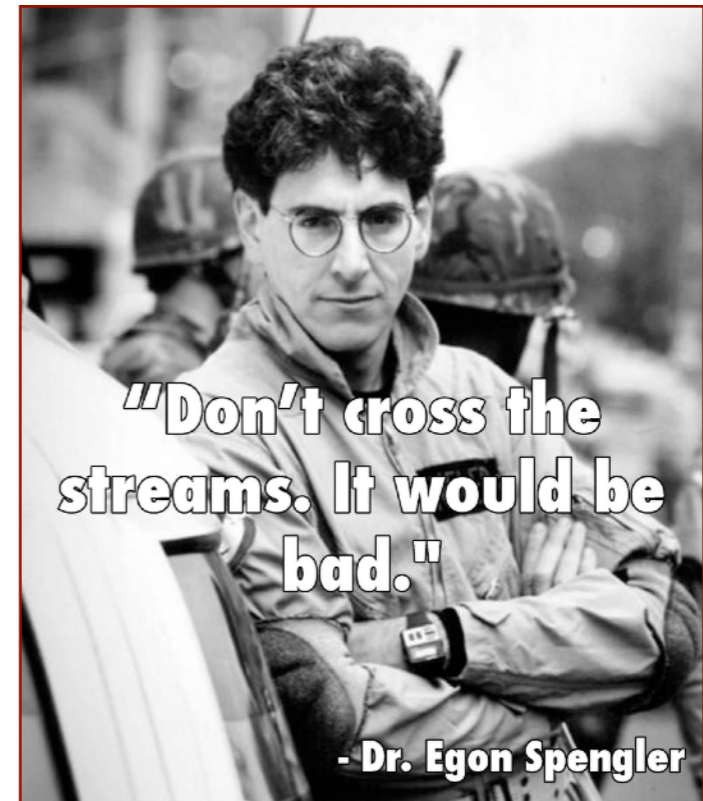
# Relational Rules

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## 3. The **All Rows Must Be Unique** Rule

Since tables are sets of rows and columns, and because the elements of a set have no intrinsic order, the only way we can insure our ability to get at every row in a table is for every row to be unique.

Were that not the case, some rows in the table would be indistinguishable. (Like crossing the streams, that would be bad.)



# Relational Rules

## 3. The All Rows Must Be Unique Rule

People

pid	name	profession	skill1	skill2
---	-----	-----	-----	-----
007	Sean	spy	pronounces "S" like "Sh"	charm
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People

pid	name	profession	skill1	skill2
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007	Sean	spy	pronounces "S" like "Sh"	charm
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# Relational Rules

## Does this database obey the rules?

### People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
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### Products

prodId	name	city	qtyOnHand	priceUSD
p01	Heisenberg Compensator	Dallas	47	67.50
p02	Universal Translator	Newark	2399	5.50
p03	Commodore PET	Duluth	1979	65.02
p04	LCARS module	Duluth	3	47.00
p05	Remo drumhead	Dallas	8675309	16.61
p06	Trapper Keeper	Dallas	1982	2.00
p07	Flux Capacitor	Newark	1007	1.00
p08	HAL 9000 memory core	Newark	200	1.25
p09	Red Barchetta	Toronto	1	379000.47

### Customers

pid	paymentTerms	discountPct
1	Net 30	21.12
4	Net 15	4.04
5	In Advance	5.50
7	On Receipt	2.00
8	Net 30	10.00

### Agents

pid	paymentTerms	commissionPct
2	Quarterly	5.00
3	Annually	10.00
5	Monthly	2.00
6	Weekly	1.00

### Orders

orderNum	dateOrdered	custId	agentId	prodId	quantityOrdered	totalUSD
1011	2020-01-23	1	2	p01	1100	58568.40
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1024	2020-03-15	5	2	p01	880	56133.00
1025	2020-04-01	8	3	p07	888	799.20
1026	2020-05-01	8	5	p03	808	47282.54

Originally from *Database Principles, Programming, and Performance* by Patrick O'Neil and Elizabeth O'Neil.  
Modified over and over by Alan G. Labouseur.

# Relational Rules

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## Expanded Summary

- All entries in a table must be single-valued.
- Each column must have a distinct name.
- All values in a column are values of the same attribute.
- The order of columns is immaterial.
- Every row is distinct (unique).
- The order of rows is immaterial.

# Keys

---

**Super Key** any field (column) or set of fields that uniquely identify every row in a table

**Candidate Key** a minimal super key

**Primary Key** the chosen candidate key

**Foreign Key** a value in one table that must match the primary key of another table



# Keys

## Super Key

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# Keys

## Candidate Key a minimal super key

### People

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# Keys

## Primary Key the chosen candidate key

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p02	Universal Translator	Newark	2399	5.50
p03	Commodore PET	Duluth	1979	65.02
p04	LCARS module	Duluth	3	47.00
p05	Remo drumhead	Dallas	8675309	16.61
p06	Trapper Keeper	Dallas	1982	2.00
p07	Flux Capacitor	Newark	1007	1.00
p08	HAL 9000 memory core	Newark	200	1.25
p09	Red Barchetta	Toronto	1	379000.47

### Customers

pid	paymentTerms	discountPct
1	Net 30	21.12
4	Net 15	4.04
5	In Advance	5.50
7	On Receipt	2.00
8	Net 30	10.00

### Agents

pid	paymentTerms	commissionPct
2	Quarterly	5.00
3	Annually	10.00
5	Monthly	2.00
6	Weekly	1.00

### Orders

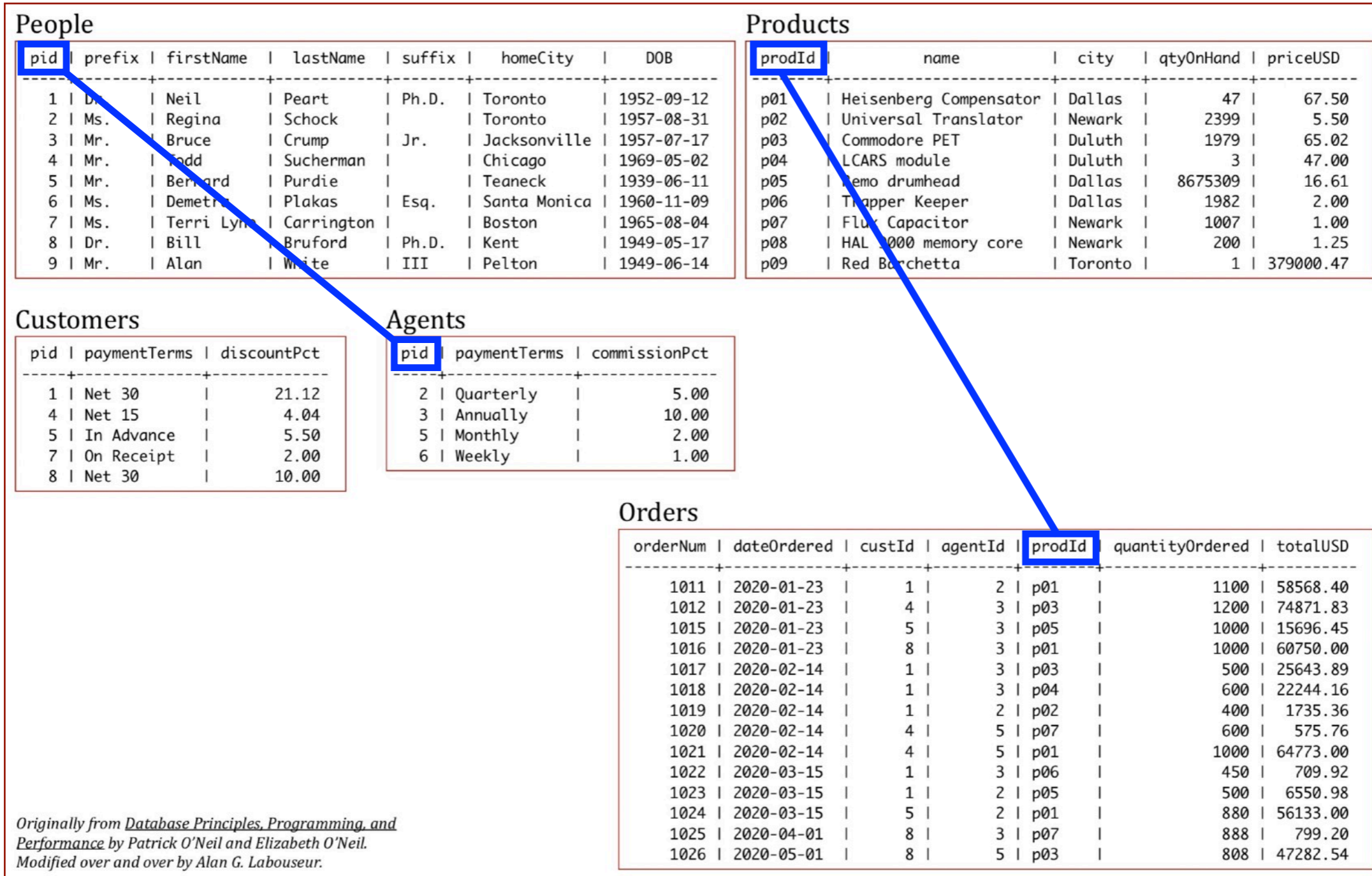
orderNum	dateOrdered	custId	agentId	prodId	quantityOrdered	totalUSD
1011	2020-01-23	1	2	p01	1100	58568.40
1012	2020-01-23	4	3	p03	1200	74871.83
1015	2020-01-23	5	3	p05	1000	15696.45
1016	2020-01-23	8	3	p01	1000	60750.00
1017	2020-02-14	1	3	p03	500	25643.89
1018	2020-02-14	1	3	p04	600	22244.16
1019	2020-02-14	1	2	p02	400	1735.36
1020	2020-02-14	4	5	p07	600	575.76
1021	2020-02-14	4	5	p01	1000	64773.00
1022	2020-03-15	1	3	p06	450	709.92
1023	2020-03-15	1	2	p05	500	6550.98
1024	2020-03-15	5	2	p01	880	56133.00
1025	2020-04-01	8	3	p07	888	799.20
1026	2020-05-01	8	5	p03	808	47282.54

Originally from *Database Principles, Programming, and Performance* by Patrick O'Neil and Elizabeth O'Neil.  
Modified over and over by Alan G. Labouseur.



# Keys

**Foreign Key** a value in one table that must match the primary key of another table



# Keys and Referential Integrity

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The enforcement of the Primary Key (PK) — Foreign Key (FK) relationship is perhaps the most important aspect of Relational Databases. This property is called **referential integrity**. It insures consistency and accuracy, and thus leads to data quality. Data cannot become information without it.

Because of the importance of keys, it's critical that we — as database designers and data architects — **never** let end users control the content of key fields. For that reason, *artificial keys* are often a smart choice.

*An artificial key* is one that we make up. CWID is an example.

# SQL

---

SELECT  
FROM  
WHERE

## People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
1	Dr.	Neil	Peart	Ph.D.	Toronto	1952-09-12
2	Ms.	Regina	Schock		Toronto	1957-08-31
3	Mr.	Bruce	Crump	Jr.	Jacksonville	1957-07-17
4	Mr.	Todd	Sucherman		Chicago	1969-05-02
5	Mr.	Bernard	Purdie		Teaneck	1939-06-11
6	Ms.	Demetra	Plakas	Esq.	Santa Monica	1960-11-09
7	Ms.	Terri Lyne	Carrington		Boston	1965-08-04
8	Dr.	Bill	Bruford	Ph.D.	Kent	1949-05-17
9	Mr.	Alan	White	III	Pelton	1949-06-14



# SQL

---

SELECT     some columns  
FROM  
WHERE

People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
1	Dr.	Neil	Peart	Ph.D.	Toronto	1952-09-12
2	Ms.	Regina	Schock		Toronto	1957-08-31
3	Mr.	Bruce	Crump	Jr.	Jacksonville	1957-07-17
4	Mr.	Todd	Sucherman		Chicago	1969-05-02
5	Mr.	Bernard	Purdie		Teaneck	1939-06-11
6	Ms.	Demetra	Plakas	Esq.	Santa Monica	1960-11-09
7	Ms.	Terri Lyne	Carrington		Boston	1965-08-04
8	Dr.	Bill	Bruford	Ph.D.	Kent	1949-05-17
9	Mr.	Alan	White	III	Pelton	1949-06-14

# SQL

---

SELECT    some columns  
FROM      some table  
WHERE

People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
1	Dr.	Neil	Peart	Ph.D.	Toronto	1952-09-12
2	Ms.	Regina	Schock		Toronto	1957-08-31
3	Mr.	Bruce	Crump	Jr.	Jacksonville	1957-07-17
4	Mr.	Todd	Sucherman		Chicago	1969-05-02
5	Mr.	Bernard	Purdie		Teaneck	1939-06-11
6	Ms.	Demetra	Plakas	Esq.	Santa Monica	1960-11-09
7	Ms.	Terri Lyne	Carrington		Boston	1965-08-04
8	Dr.	Bill	Bruford	Ph.D.	Kent	1949-05-17
9	Mr.	Alan	White	III	Pelton	1949-06-14

# SQL

---

SELECT     some columns  
FROM       some table  
WHERE      some condition holds true

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
1	Dr.	Neil	Peart	Ph.D.	Toronto	1952-09-12
2	Ms.	Regina	Schock		Toronto	1957-08-31
3	Mr.	Bruce	Crump	Jr.	Jacksonville	1957-07-17
4	Mr.	Todd	Sucherman		Chicago	1969-05-02
5	Mr.	Bernard	Purdie		Teaneck	1939-06-11
6	Ms.	Demetra	Plakas	Esq.	Santa Monica	1960-11-09
7	Ms.	Terri Lyne	Carrington		Boston	1965-08-04
8	Dr.	Bill	Bruford	Ph.D.	Kent	1949-05-17
9	Mr.	Alan	White	III	Pelton	1949-06-14

# SQL

---

```
SELECT firstName
FROM People
WHERE homeCity = 'Toronto'
```

People

pid	prefix	firstName	lastName	suffix	homeCity	DOB
1	Dr.	Neil	Peart	Ph.D.	Toronto	1952-09-12
2	Ms.	Regina	Schock		Toronto	1957-08-31
3	Mr.	Bruce	Crump	Jr.	Jacksonville	1957-07-17
4	Mr.	Todd	Sucherman		Chicago	1969-05-02
5	Mr.	Bernard	Purdie		Teaneck	1939-06-11
6	Ms.	Demetra	Plakas	Esq.	Santa Monica	1960-11-09
7	Ms.	Terri Lyne	Carrington		Boston	1965-08-04
8	Dr.	Bill	Bruford	Ph.D.	Kent	1949-05-17
9	Mr.	Alan	White	III	Pelton	1949-06-14

# SQL

## SQL Script for AD&D database: Players, Items, and Inventory tables, and a few queries

```
create table Players (  
  pid  int not null,  
  name text,  
  rank text,  
  primary key (pid)  
);  
  
insert into Players(pid, name, rank)  
values (1, 'James', 'Captain'),  
       (2, 'Leonard', 'Admiral');  
  
select *  
from Players;  
  
create table Items (  
  iid  char(1) not null,  
  name text,  
  descr text,  
  primary key (iid)  
);  
  
insert into Items (iid, name, descr)  
values ('A', 'wand', '...'),  
       ('B', 'gem', '...'),  
       ('C', 'mace', '...'),  
       ('D', 'sword', '...');  
  
select *  
from Items;
```

```
create table Inventory (  
  pid      int      not null references Players(pid),  
  iid      char(1)  not null references Items(iid),  
  dateAcquired date,  
  primary key(pid, iid)  
);  
  
insert into Inventory (pid, iid, dateAcquired)  
values (1, 'A', '2020-01-23'),  
       (1, 'B', '2020-01-23'),  
       (2, 'B', '2020-01-23'),  
       (2, 'C', '2020-01-23');  
  
select *  
from Inventory;  
  
-- Players and their Items  
select Players.name, Items.name  
from Players inner join Inventory on Players.pid = Inventory.pid  
            inner join Items on Inventory.iid = Items.iid;  
  
-- Unused Items  
select *  
from Items  
where iid not in (select iid  
                  from Inventory);  
  
-- Item use count v1  
select iid, count(iid)  
from Inventory  
group by iid  
order by count(iid) DESC;
```