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Databases Project Assignment 2 FlavorFinder

Entities → Tables

- Each entity set → one table (`users`, `recipes`, `ingredients`, `cuisines`).
- Weak entity `recipe_steps` → own table with composite PK (`recipe_id`, `step_no`).

Relationships → Tables

- M: N → join tables:
 - `recipe_ingredients` (with attributes `quantity`, `unit`, `optional_flag`)
 - `recipe_dietary`
 - `saved_recipes`
- 1:N → foreign key (e.g., `recipe_steps.recipe_id` → `recipes.recipe_id`).

ISA Hierarchies

- `users` superclass → `chefs` subclass (class-table inheritance).
- `ingredients` superclass → `perishable_ingredients` subclass (extra attributes).

Constraints

- Surrogate PKs (`AUTO_INCREMENT`) for simplicity.
- Unique: `users.email`, `ingredients.name`, `cuisines.name`.

- Checks for ratings, valid ranges.
- FKs with ON DELETE actions:
 - CASCADE for dependent data (steps, ingredients, reviews).
 - SET NULL for chef in recipes (recipe still exists if chef deleted).

Alternatives

- Could use single-table inheritance (one big users table with NULL columns).
- Could use natural keys (e.g., ingredients.name), but surrogate keys make joins simpler.
- Could denormalize (store ingredient names in recipes), but that risks update anomalies.

Repository:

https://github.com/Kats-19/Database-Project_FlavorFinder/blob/main/flavorfind_schema.sql