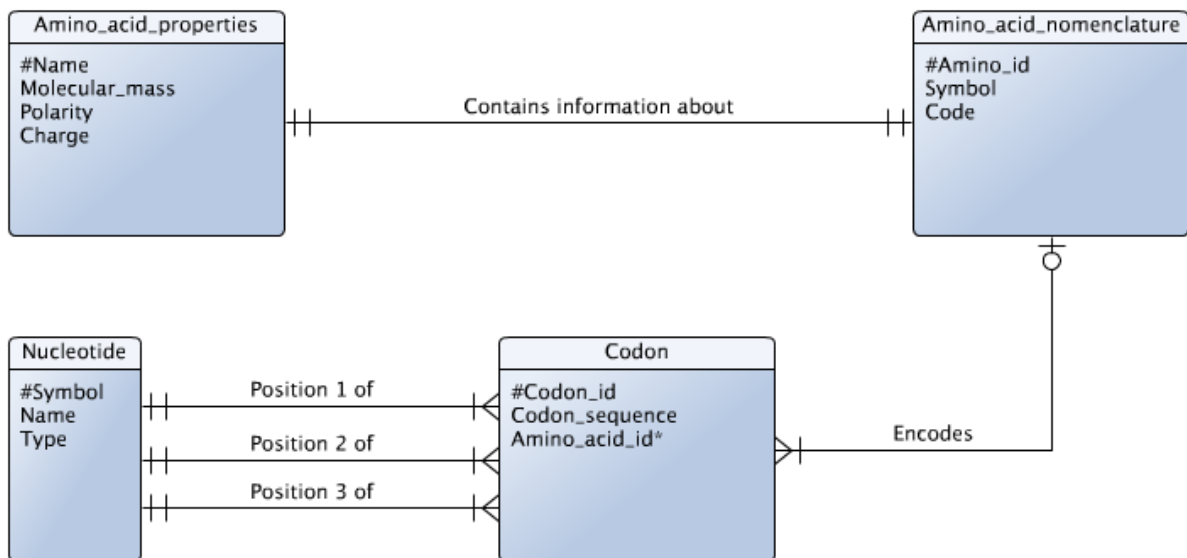


1

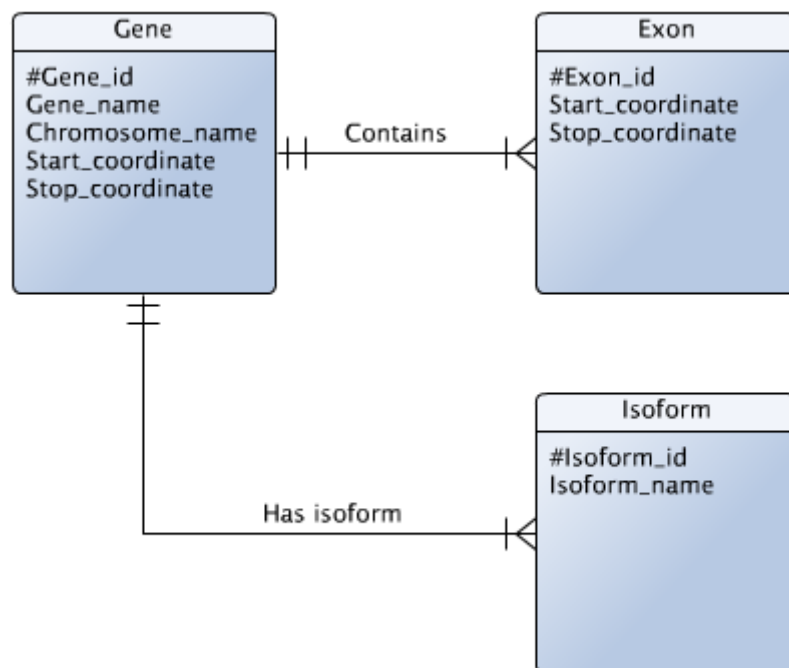
Where text is used on the lines it explains the relationship from left to right or from top to bottom.



2i

The entities are Gene, Exon and Isoform. Chromosome does not have to be an entity here as it has no attributes. Where text is used on the lines it explains the relationship from left to right or from top to bottom.

2ii



## 2iii

Gene (#Gene\_id, Gene\_name, Chromosome\_name, Start\_coordinate, Stop\_coordinate)

Exon (#Exon\_id, Gene\_id\*, Start\_coordinate, Stop\_coordinate)

Isoform (#Isoform\_id, Isoform\_name, Gene\_id\*)

All primary keys are minimal so the database is on 2NF. It is not on 3NF however; there are transitive functional dependencies in the Gene table. To remove them I split the table up:

Gene (#Gene\_id, Name\*)

Gene\_properties (#Name, Chromosome\_name, Start\_coordinate, Stop\_coordinate)

Assuming a one-to-one correspondence between isoform\_id and isoform\_name I must also split up the Isoform table:

Isoform (#Isoform\_id, Isoform\_name\*)

Isoform\_properties (#Isoform\_name, Gene\_id\*)

The resulting database is now on 3NF:

Gene (#Gene\_id, Name\*)

Gene\_properties (#Name, Chromosome\_name, Start\_coordinate, Stop\_coordinate)

Exon (#Exon\_id, Gene\_id\*, Start\_coordinate, Stop\_coordinate)

Isoform (#Isoform\_id, Isoform\_name\*)

Isoform\_properties (#Isoform\_name, Gene\_id\*)

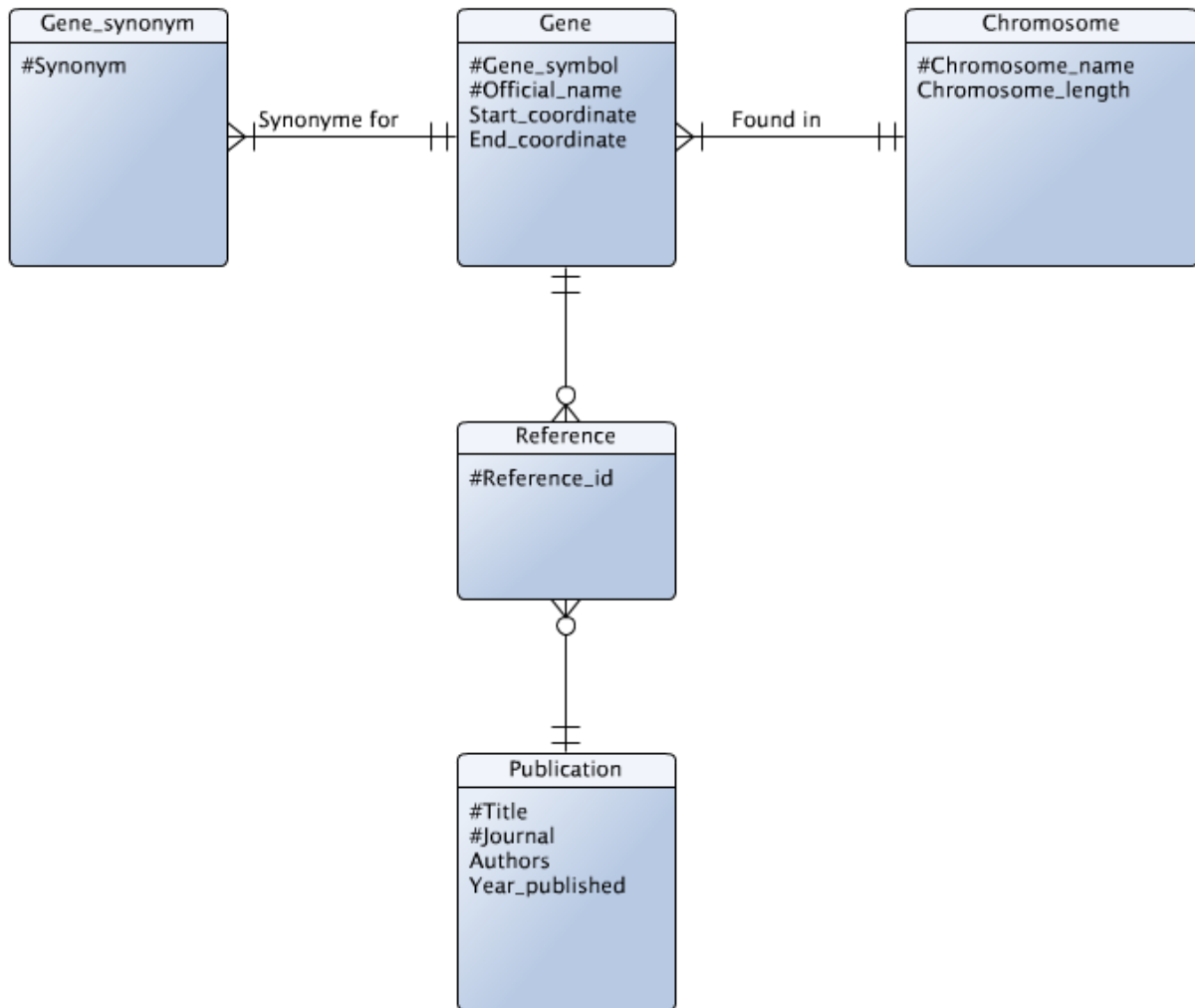
Because each gene\_name and isoform\_name would appear just once in the first 2NF draft I think the normalization to 3NF is unnecessary.

3i

I propose the entities Gene, Gene\_synonym, Chromosome, Reference and Publication.

3ii

I assume {Title, Journal} is a minimal primary key for the Publication table. Where the entity “is a relationship” I do not always write additional text on the connected lines. Where text is used on the lines it explains the relationship from left to right or from top to bottom.



3iii

Gene\_synonym(#Synonym, Gene\_symbol\*)

Gene (#Gene\_symbol, #Official\_name, Chromosome\_name\*, Start\_coordinate, End\_coordinate)

Chromosome (#Chromosome\_name, Chromosome\_length)

Reference (#Reference\_id, Gene\_symbol\*, Title\*, Journal\*)

Publication (#Title, #Journal, Year\_published, Authors)

This database contains only atomic values (no lists, tables etc.) so it is on 1NF. The Gene table is not on 2NF because Start\_coordinate is determined by any one of Gene\_symbol and Official\_name.

### 3iv

I mark the changes in red.

1NF -> 2NF:

Gene (#Gene\_symbol, **Official\_name**, Chromosome\_name\*, Start\_coordinate, End\_coordinate)

Now all the tables are on 2NF because all the tables with a primary key of just 1 attribute must be on 2NF and the Publication table is also on 2NF because the primary key is minimal.

2NF -> 3NF:

Because Start\_coordinate is determined by Official\_name we have a transitive functional dependency.

**Gene (#Gene\_symbol, Official\_name\*)**

**Gene\_properties (#Official\_name, Chromosome\_name\*, Start\_coordinate, End\_coordinate)**

After the changes all the transitive functional dependencies are gone and we have 3NF.

3NF -> BCNF:

Any table on 3NF having just two columns must be on BCNF because any determinant must then determine both columns. Also any determinant in Reference and Publication determine all columns.

This leaves just Gene\_properties left to be checked. First the determinant {Chromosome\_name, Start\_coordinate} looked like a problem because it determines the Official\_name column. But then I realized it must also determine the End\_coordinate column. Almost the same argument shows that {Chromosome\_name, Start\_coordinate} is also a superkey. All the other determinants in the Gene\_properties are also superkeys. The table I got when I normalized to 3NF was therefore also on BCNF.

Gene\_synonym (#Synonym, Gene\_symbol\*)

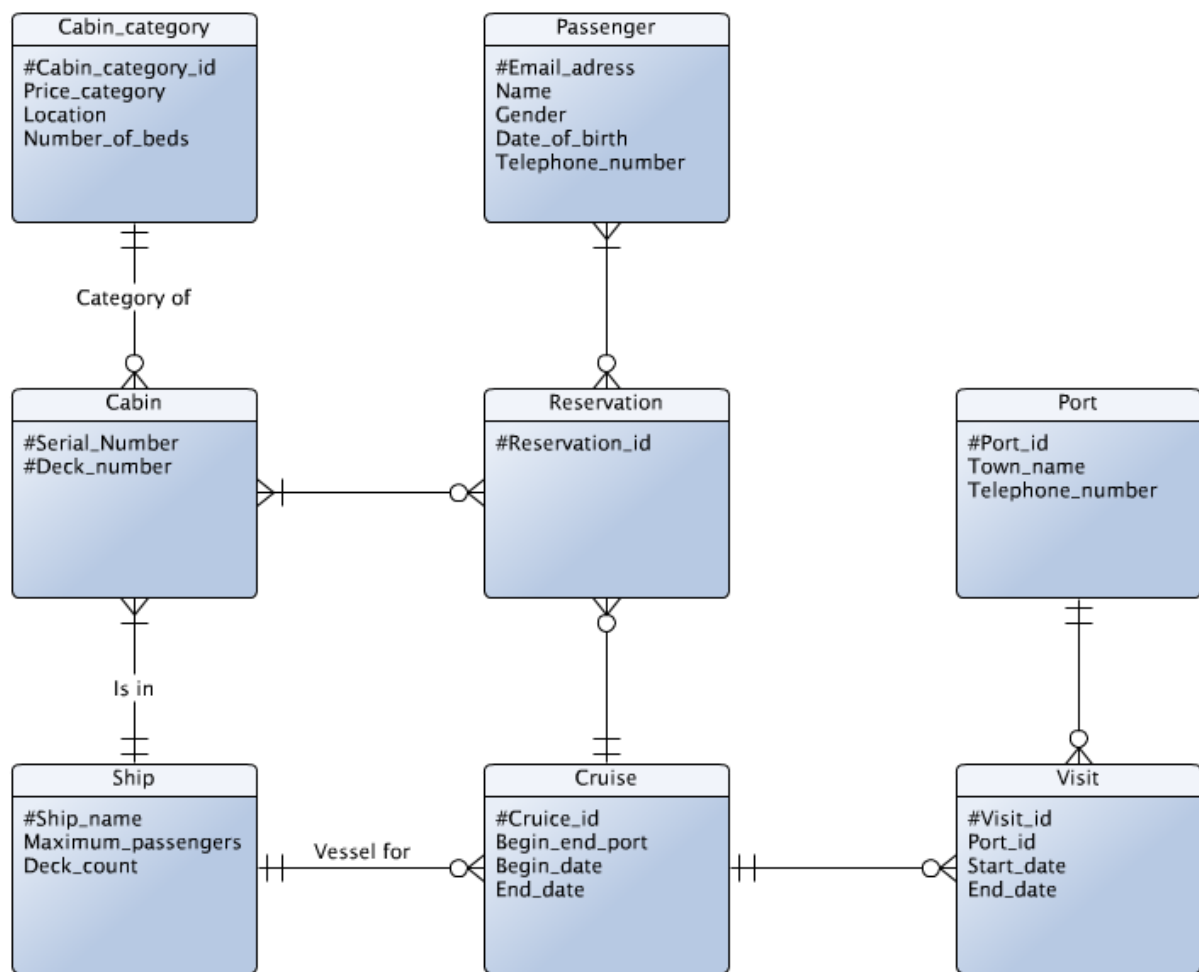
Gene (#Gene\_symbol, Official\_name\*)

Gene\_properties (#Official\_name, Chromosome\_name\*, Start\_coordinate, End\_coordinate)

Chromosome (#Chromosome\_name, Chromosome\_length)

Reference (#Reference\_id, Gene\_symbol\*, Title\*, Journal\*)

Publication (#Title, #Journal, Year\_published, Authors)



A cabin can be reserved by several reservations, as long as the reservations are for different cruises. Where the entity "is a relationship" I do not always write additional text on the connected lines. Where text is used on the lines it explains the relationship from left to right or from top to bottom.

## 5i

First of all, it is unintuitive to store the assignment number in the truck table, we would expect only information about the actual truck in a table called Truck.

Also with this setup we have to use an entire row in the Truck table each time a truck is assigned a new job.

We could copy all the information about a truck for each row, but this is wasteful with regards to storage space. This would also make it harder to update the information (harder to maintain integrity) about a truck as we would have to update all the rows.

On the other hand, if we left some of the information about a truck blank in all but one row, we would still probably waste space. In this case it would also be more work extracting the information about a truck given an Assignment\_number, as we would have to find out which row contains this information.

In 5iii I find another problem with this implementation.

## 5ii

The only column that decides any other is the Registration\_number column. The only column that decides Assignment\_number is itself. The functional dependencies are:

$\text{Reg\_number} \cup X \rightarrow Y$  for all  $X, Y \subseteq \{\text{Reg\_number}, \text{Reg\_year}, \text{Model}, \text{Max\_weight}\}$   
and

$\text{Reg\_number} \cup \text{As\_number} \cup X \rightarrow Y$   
for all  $X, Y \subseteq \{\text{Reg\_number}, \text{Reg\_year}, \text{Model}, \text{Max\_weight}, \text{As\_number}\}$

## 5iii

If we do not allow null values in Assignment\_number, then one candidate key is  $\{\text{Reg\_number}, \text{As\_number}\}$  because it is a minimal super key. There are no other minimal super keys.

This leads to another problem, a primary key cannot be allowed to contain null values. This means that if we want to add a truck that has no assignment yet, we cannot put null in the Assignment\_number field. So we have to decide for some dummy value to put in it.

## 5iv

The table is already on 1NF:

Container\_type (#Type\_id, Type\_name, Max\_weight, Cubic\_quantity, Nightly\_rate)

Container (#Container\_number, Type\_id\*)

Customer (#Telephone\_number, Address)

Assignment (#Assignment\_number, Telephone\_number\*, Container\_number\*, Start\_date, End\_date)

Truck (#Registration\_number, Registration\_year, Model, Maximum\_weight, #Assignment\_number\*)

1NF -> 2NF, decompose Truck into two tables:

Truck (#Registration\_number, Registration\_year, Model, Maximum\_weight)

Truck\_assignment (#Assignment\_number\*, #Registration\_number\*)

I am assuming that any truck of a particular Model has the same Maximum\_weight. I also assume that the Type\_name of Container\_type decides the Max\_weight, Cubic\_quantity and Nightly\_rate.

2NF -> 3NF further decompose Truck into two new tables, also decompose Container\_type:

Container\_type (#Type\_id, Type\_name\*)

Container\_properties (#Type\_name, Max\_weight, Cubic\_quantity, Nightly\_rate)

Truck (#Registration\_number, Registration\_year, Model\*)

Truck\_properties (#Model, Maximum\_weight)

3NF -> BCNF:

I cannot detect any determinants that are not super keys, so my normalization to 3NF also made it to BCNF. The final results are:

Container\_type (#Type\_id, Type\_name\*)

Container\_properties (#Type\_name, Max\_weight, Cubic\_quantity, Nightly\_rate)

Container (#Container\_number, Type\_id\*)

Customer (#Telephone\_number, Address)

Assignment (#Assignment\_number, Telephone\_number\*, Container\_number\*, Start\_date, End\_date)

Truck (#Registration\_number, Registration\_year, Model\*)

Truck\_properties (#Model, Maximum\_weight)

Truck\_assignment (#Assignment\_number\*, #Registration\_number\*)