

# SQLAlchemy & Models



BEW 1.2

- Learning Outcomes
- Warm-Up: My Favorite Mistake
- Lab Activity - Pair Programming
- Types of Fields
- **BREAK**
- One-to-Many Relationships
- Many-to-Many Relationships
- Lab Activity - Pair Programming
- Wrap-Up

By the end of today, you should be able to...

1. **Write** models containing one-to-many and many-to-many relationships using SQLAlchemy.
2. **Create, read, update, and delete** data from a SQLAlchemy database using model classes.

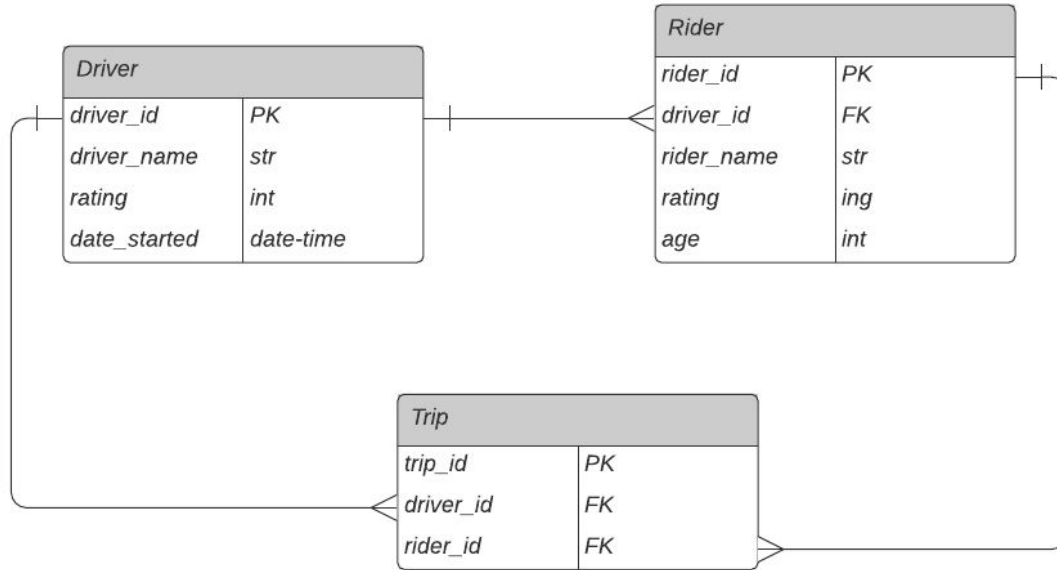
# Warm-Up - My Favorite Mistake (5 minutes)

In a group of 3, discuss each of the following **3 submissions** and answer:

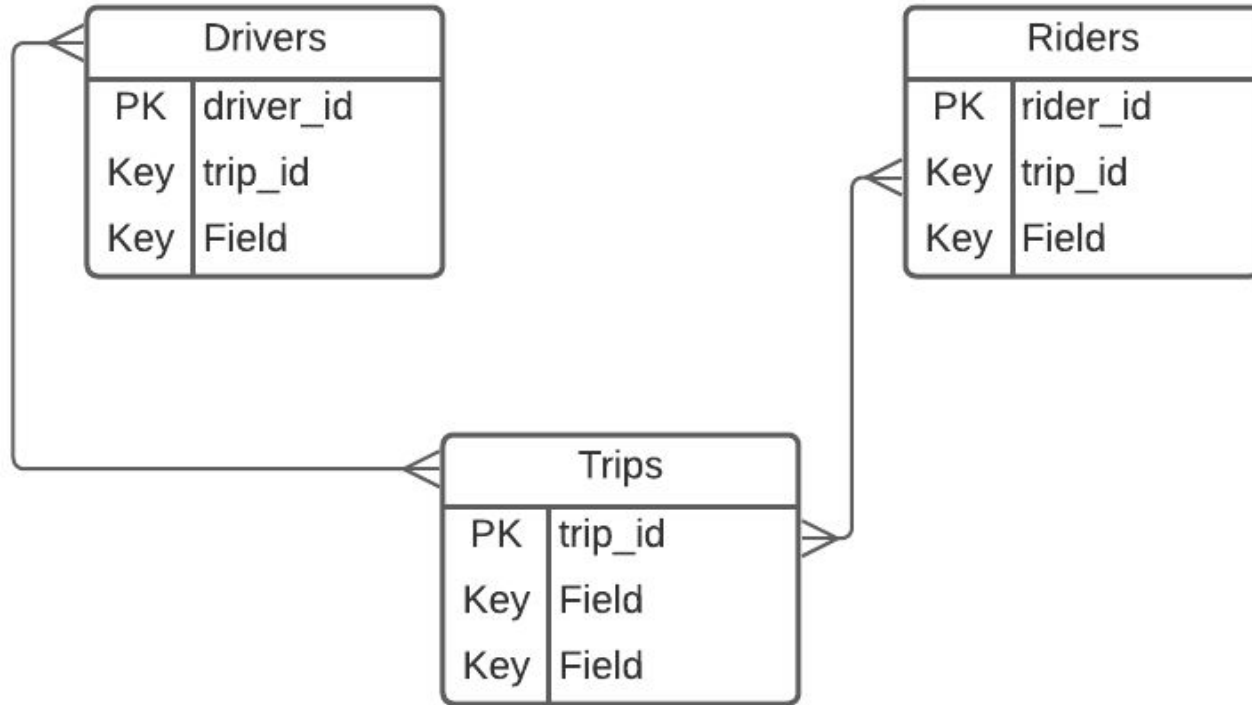
1. What did this person do **right**?
2. What **misconception** did this person have?

Go to the next slides (3, 4, 5) to view the submissions.

# "Lyft" ERD



# "Lyft" ERD



SQL code to select all songs on albums published between 1970 and 1980:

```
SELECT Songs.title  
FROM Albums, Songs  
WHERE year_published BETWEEN 1970 AND 1980;
```

# A note on this class: Desirable difficulty

Often during this course, your first exposure to the topic being introduced will be via a **lab activity** instead of via direct instruction.

You may find these activities to be difficult or confusing, or that they take you out of your comfort zone.

*That's okay - and expected! **If a topic is confusing at first, and you are able to resolve that confusion, you will learn it better than if you were just given the answer.***

For more info on desirable difficulties, see [this Stanford article](#).



# What are Models?

# What are Models?

A **model** is a special Python class that defines a database table.

In this class we'll be using the **Flask-SQLAlchemy** library to define our models.

This will make it much easier for us to create and query our data.

## Activity (25 minutes)

Complete Part 1 of the [SQLAlchemy Models Lab](#) with a partner.

Be sure to practice good pair programming!

Here is an example of a model class:

```
class Author(db.Model):  
    """Author model."""  
    id = db.Column(db.Integer, primary_key=True)  
    name = db.Column(db.String(80), nullable=False)  
    books = db.relationship('Book', back_populates='author')
```

In addition to primary & foreign key, models can have the following field types:

[Source](#)

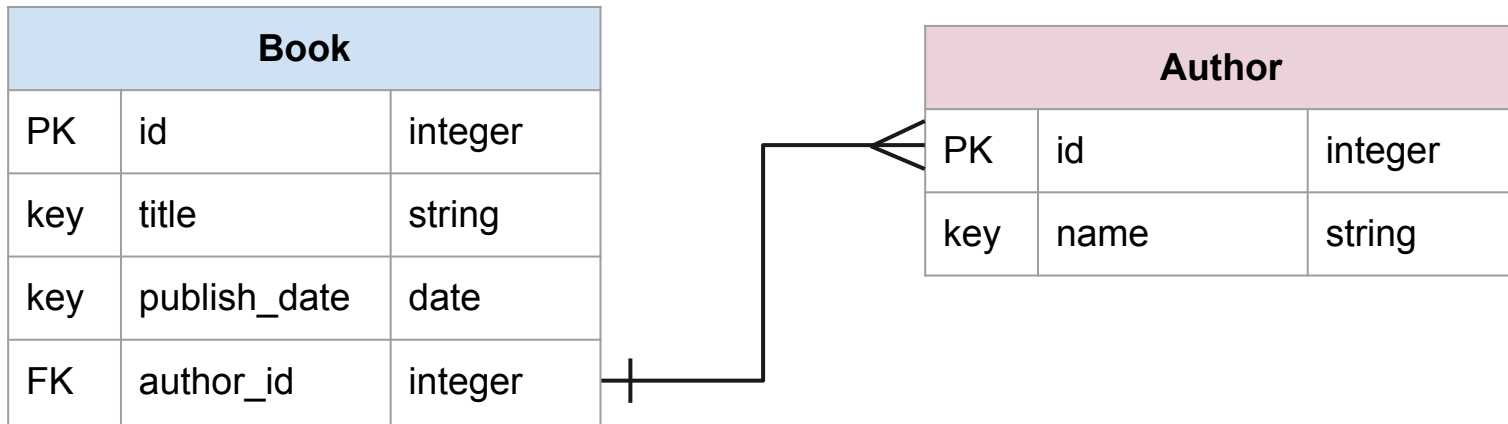
<b>Integer</b>	an integer
<b>String(size)</b>	a string with a maximum length (optional in some databases, e.g. PostgreSQL)
<b>Text</b>	some longer unicode text
<b>DateTime</b>	date and time expressed as Python <b>datetime</b> object.
<b>Float</b>	stores floating point values
<b>Boolean</b>	stores a boolean value
<b>Enum</b>	an enum value

**Break - 10 min**

# One-to-Many Relationships

# One-to-Many Relationships

Let's say our site has **Book** and **Author** entities with the following relationship:





We can use a **db.ForeignKey** field to store the author id:

```
class Author(db.Model):
    id = db.Column(db.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = db.Column(db.String(80), nullable=False)

class Book(db.Model):
    id = db.Column(db.Integer, primary_key=True)
    title = db.Column(db.String(80), nullable=False)
    publish_date = db.Column(db.Date)
    author_id = db.Column(db.Integer, db.ForeignKey('author.id'))
```

However, it would be pretty annoying to search for a book, and then only be able to see its author's id.

Ideally, when we query for a book, **we want to get the author's info** without having to do an extra query.

Luckily, SQLAlchemy has us covered! :)

# One-to-Many Relationships

We can use **relationship** fields to tell SQLAlchemy to automatically populate some extra data when it does a query. These aren't real columns in the SQL table, unlike the **Column** fields.

```
class Author(db.Model):  
    # ...  
    books = db.relationship('Book', back_populates='author')  
  
class Book(db.Model):  
    # ...  
    author_id = db.Column(db.Integer, db.ForeignKey('author.id'))  
    author = db.relationship('Author', back_populates='books')
```

# One-to-Many Relationships

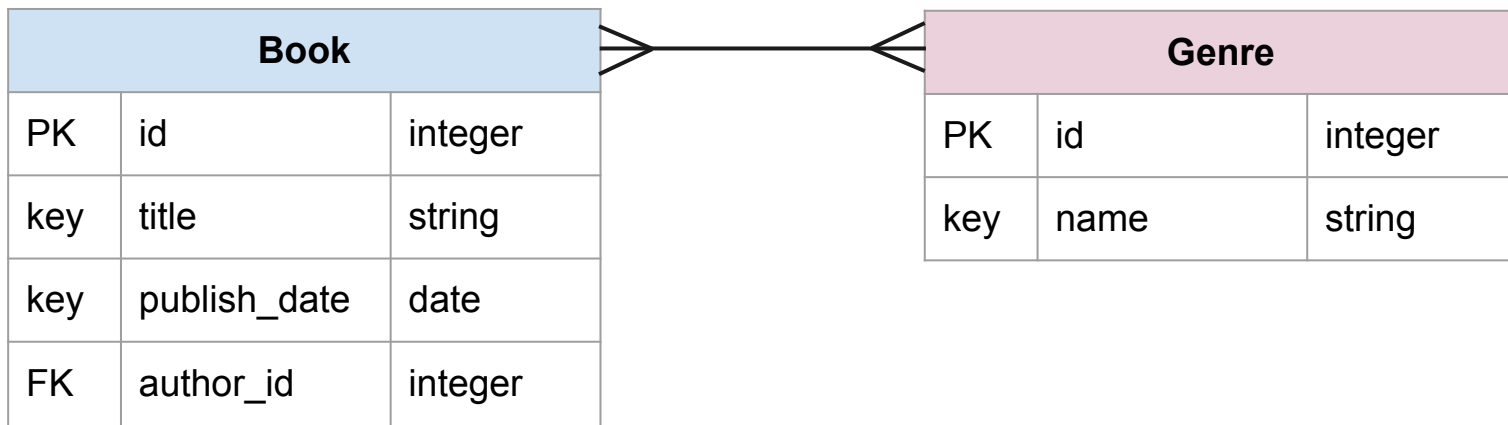
When two models both have relationships to each other, we can use **back\_populates** to denote a two-way relationship.

```
class Author(db.Model):  
    # ...  
    books = db.relationship('Book', back_populates='author')  
  
class Book(db.Model):  
    # ...  
    author_id = db.Column(db.Integer, db.ForeignKey('author.id'))  
    author = db.relationship('Author', back_populates='books')
```

# Many-to-Many Relationships

# Many-to-Many Relationships

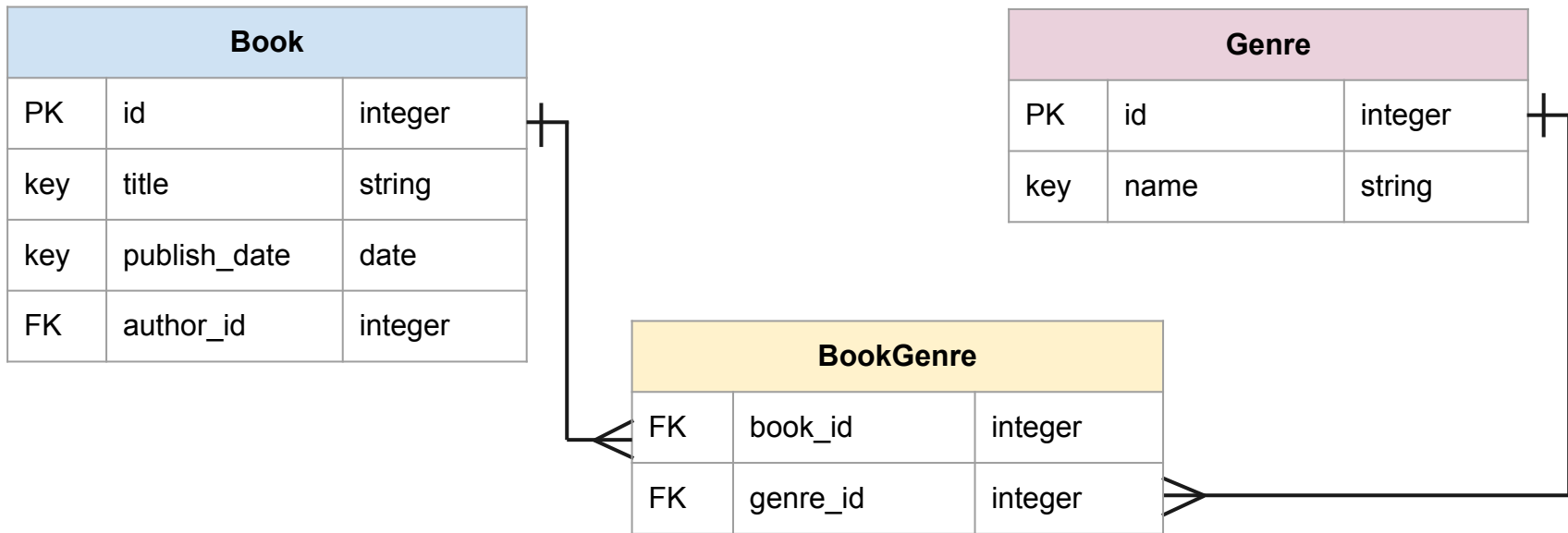
Now let's say we have the following relationship:



Notice that neither **Book** nor **Genre** have a foreign key field that explicitly refers to the other.

# Many-to-Many Relationships

Remember, **we can re-write this relationship** by using a **bridge table**:



Notice that there isn't any important information in the bridge table. **It's just a tool** to get us that many-to-many relationship.

# Many-to-Many Relationships

It's recommended to make the bridge table a **db.Table**, not a **db.Model**, because we don't need to query it directly.

```
class Genre(db.Model):
    # ...
    books = db.relationship('Book', secondary='book_genre', back_populates='genres')

class Book(db.Model):
    # ...
    genres = db.relationship('Genre', secondary='book_genre', back_populates='books')

book_genre_table = db.Table('book_genre',
    db.Column('book_id', db.Integer, db.ForeignKey('book.id')),
    db.Column('genre_id', db.Integer, db.ForeignKey('genre.id'))
)
```



## Activity (25 minutes)

Complete Parts 2 and 3 of the [SQLAlchemy Models Lab](#) with a partner.

# Wrap-Up

Finish lab activity (parts 2 and 3)

Start on Homework 2: Events Site