Unit III Relational Model

Basic Concepts

- A rational model is defined as a database that allows you to group its data items into one or more independent tables that can be related to one another by using fields common to each related table.
- The relational data model was introduced by C. F. Codd in 1970. Currently, it is the most widely used data model

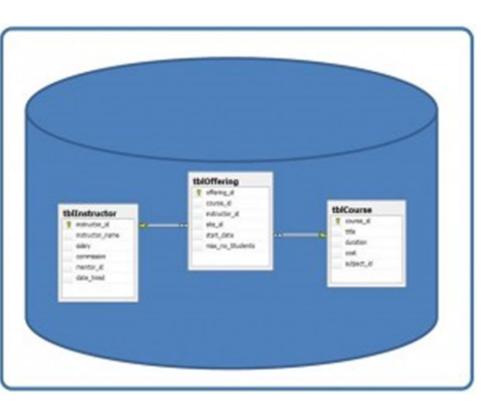
Attributes	Emp_Code	Name	Yea
Tuples	21130	Amar Jain	1
	30745	Kuldeep	3
	41894	Manoj	2
	51207	Rita bajaj	6

Relation

A relation, also known as a table or file, is a subset of the Cartesian product of a list of domains characterized by a name.

Table

A database is composed of multiple tables and each table holds the data.



Field Name Data
First Name Isabelle
Family Name Whelan
Nationality British
Salary 109,900
Date of Birth 15 September 1983
Marital Status Single
Shift Mon, Wed
Place of issue Addis Ababa
Valid until 17 December 2003

Database with three tables.

Column

The principal storage units are called columns or fields or attributes.

Domain

A domain is the original sets of atomic values used to model data. By atomic value, we mean that each value in the domain is indivisible as far as the relational model is concerned.

For example:

The domain of Marital Status has a set of possibilities: Married, Single, Divorced.

The domain of Shift has the set of all possible days: {Mon, Tue, Wed...}.

The domain of Salary is the set of all floating-point numbers greater than 0 and less than 200,000.

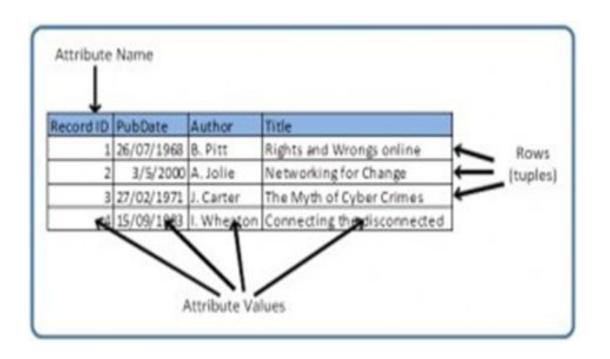
The domain of First Name is the set of character strings that represents names of people.

Tuples of a Relation

Each row of data is a tuple. Actually, each row is an n-tuple, but the "n-" is usually dropped.

Cardinality of a relation: The number of tuples in a relation determines its cardinality. In this case, the relation has a cardinality of 4.

Degree of a relation: Each column in the tuple is called an attribute. The number of attributes in a relation determines its degree.



The relation in figure has a degree of 3.