UNIVERSITATEA POLITEHNICA BUCURESTI FACULTATEA DE INGINERIE IN LIMBI STRAINE

Databases

"Videogame World"

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1231B

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1. Description of the Universe

In this project, I will present the structure of an open-world online game, starting from geographical information and ending with how different items can be used by player characters.

A zone is a region inside a continent. An instance is a scenario with special encounters situated inside a zone, usually accessed from a portal, meaning it is not in the open world. An instance can have multiple difficulties. Every instance has enemy encounters. Instances can be one of two types: dungeon (for parties of 5 players) and raid (for parties of 10 or more players).

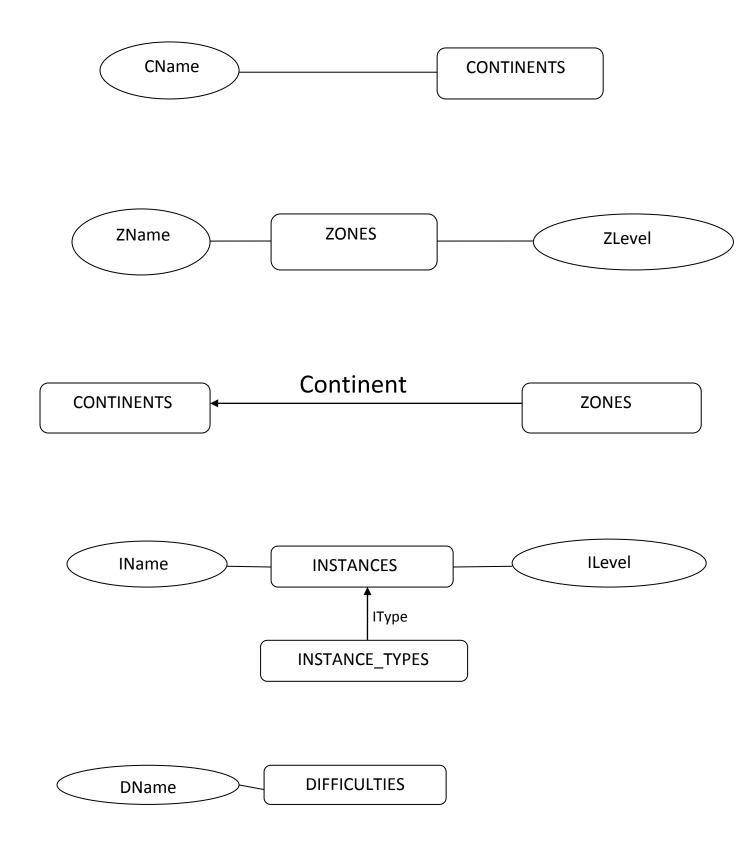
A "boss" is a powerful enemy that yields items to the player, either weapons or armor. A boss only gives one item when defeated, out of multiple possible items. In some cases, one item can be obtained from more than one boss. Weapons and armor can both be of multiple types, but only armor can have slots (gloves, chest plates, leg armor, boots, helmets, etc) as only one weapon can be equipped by a player.

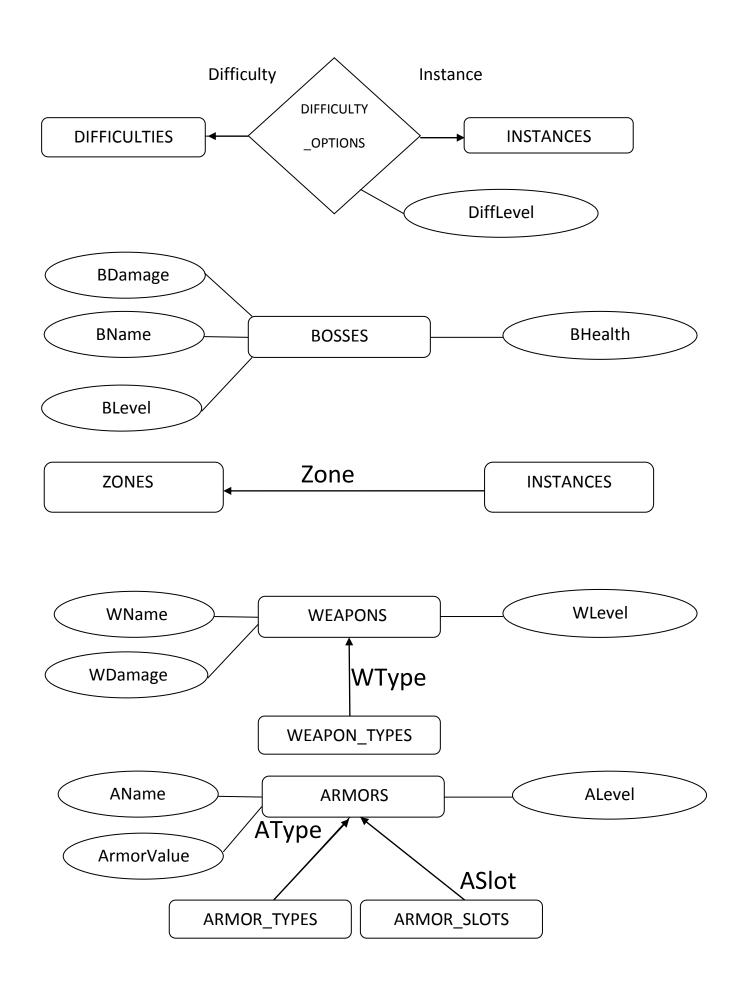
Some weapons and armor can only be used by specific classes. Classes are defined by their role in the world. For example, some bows may only be used by hunter characters, some robes may only be available to priest characters.

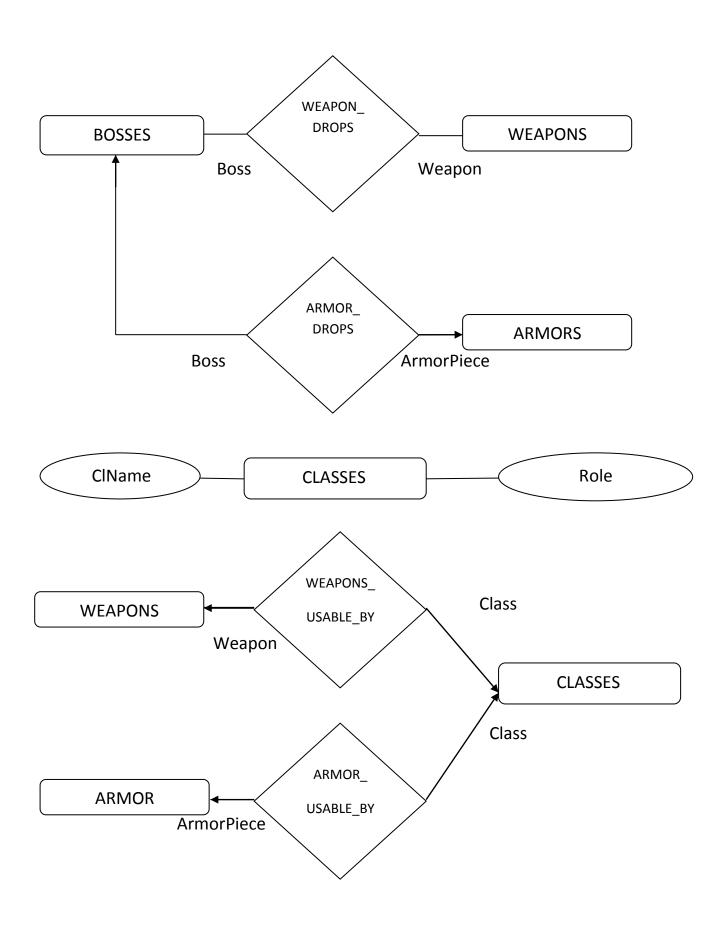
2. Restrictions

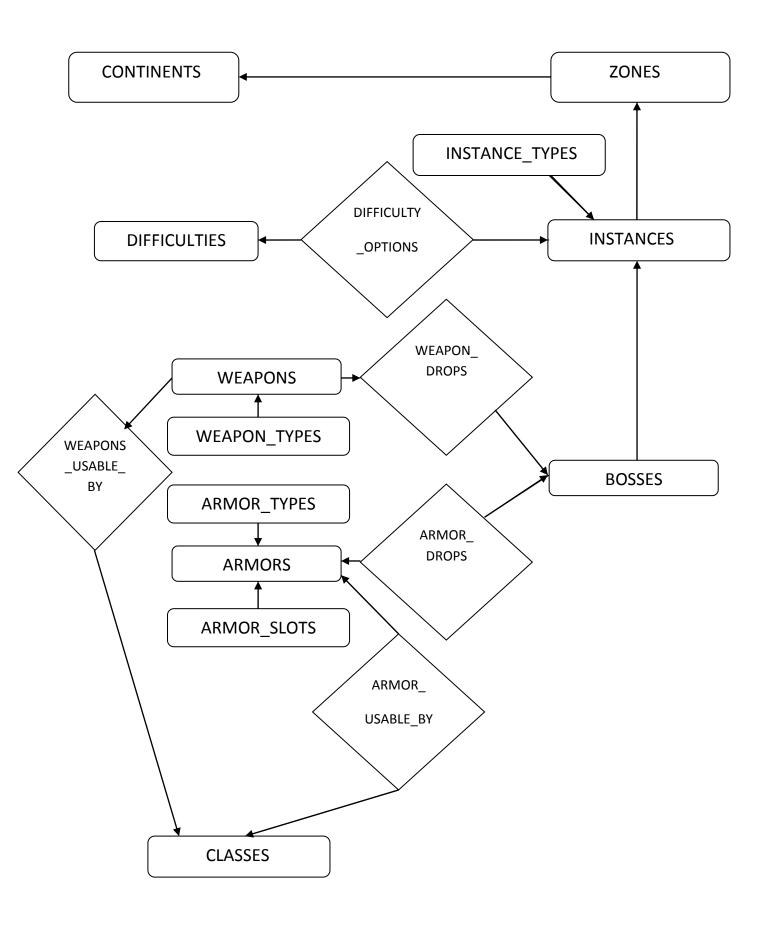
- R1: All continents must have different names.
- R2: All zones in a continent must have different names.
- R3: All instances must have different names.
- R4: All instance difficulties must have a different name.
- R5: No instance can be of more than one type.
- R6: Every instance must have at least one difficulty option.
- R7: All bosses of one instance must have different names.
- R8: One boss must yield at least 1 piece of armor or 1 weapon.
- R9: A weapon cannot be of two types.
- R10: A piece of armor occupies only one slot.
- R11: A piece of armor cannot be of two types.
- R12: Weapon damage values cannot be negative.
- R13: A piece of armor must be used by at least one class.
- R14: A weapon must be used by at least one class.

3. Entity-Relationship Diagrams









4. Associated Restrictions List

- 4.1. CONTINENTS (the set of continents in the world)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(CONTINENTS))=20
- b. Data Ranges:

CName: ASCII(64)

- c. Compulsory data: CName
- d. Uniqueness: CName (there may not be two continents with the same name)
- 4.2. ZONES (the set of zones in the world)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(ZONES))=1,000
- b. Data Ranges:

ZName: ASCII (128) ZLevel: [1, 110]

- c. Compulsory data: ZName, Continent
- d. Uniqueness ZName Continent (there may not be two zones with the same name in the same continent)
- 4.3. INSTANCES (the set of instances in the world)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(INSTANCES))=1,000
- b. Data Ranges:

IName: ASCII(255) ILevel: [15,110]

- c. Compulsory data: IName, Zone, IType
- d. Uniqueness: IName (there may not be two instances with the same name), IName•IType (the same instance cannot be of two types)
- 4.4. INSTANCE_TYPES (the set of instance types)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(INSTANCE_TYPES))=3
- b. Data Ranges:

ITypeName: ASCII(128)

- c. Compulsory data: ITypeName
- d. Uniqueness: ITypeName (there may not be two instance types with the same name)
- 4.5. DIFFICULTIES (the set of difficulty choices an instance has)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(DIFFICULTIES))=10
- b. Data Ranges:

DName: ASCII(128)

- c. Compulsory data: DName
- d. Uniqueness: DName (there may not be two difficulties with the same name)
- 4.6. DIFFICULTY_OPTIONS (the set of pairs <i, d> that store the difficulty options d of instances i)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(DIFFICULTY OPTIONS))=10,000
- b. Compulsory data: Instance, Difficulty, DiffLevel
- c. Uniqueness: the same pair <i, d> cannot appear more than once.

- 4.7. BOSSES (the set of bosses in every instance)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(BOSSES))=20,000
- b. Data Ranges:

BName: ASCII(128) BLevel: [15, 113]

BDamage: [100, 10,000,000] BHealth: [5,000, 10,000,000,000]

- c. Compulsory data: BName, Instance
- d. Uniqueness: BName Instance (there may not be two bosses with the same name in the same

instance)

- 4.8. WEAPONS (the set of available weapons in the world)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(WEAPONS))=10,000
- b. Data Ranges:

WName: ASCII(128) WLevel: [1, 110] WDamage: [1, 10,000]

- c. Compulsory data: WName, WType
- d. Uniqueness: WName (there may not be two weapons with the same name)
- 4.9. WEAPON_TYPES (the set of weapon types)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(WEAPON_TYPES))=20
- b. Data Ranges:

WTypeName: ASCII(128)

- c. Compulsory data: WTypeName
- d. Uniqueness: WTypeName (the same weapon type may not appear twice)
- 4.10. ARMORS (the set of available armor pieces in the game)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(ARMOR))=100,000
- b. Data Ranges:

AName: ASCII(128) ALevel: [1, 110] ArmorValue: [1, 5000]

- c. Compulsory data: AName, ASlot, AType
- d. Uniqueness: AName (there may not be two armor pieces with the same name)
- 4.11. ARMOR_TYPES
- a. Cardinality: max(card(ARMOR_TYPES))=20
- b. Data Ranges:

ATypeName: ASCII(128)

- c. Compulsory data: ATypeName
- d. Uniqueness: ATypeName (the same armor type may not appear twice)
- 4.12. ARMOR_SLOTS
- a. Cardinality: max(card(ARMOR_SLOTS))=20
- b. Data Ranges:

ASlotName: ASCII(128)

- c. Compulsory data: ASlotName
- d. Uniqueness: ASlotName (the same armor slot may not appear twice)

- 4.13. WEAPON_DROPS (the set of pairs <b, w> that store which weapons w are yielded by boss b)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(WEAPON_DROPS))=100,000
- b. Compulsory data: Boss, Weapon
- c. Uniqueness: the same pair <b, w> cannot appear more than once.
- 4.14. ARMOR_DROPS (the set of pairs <b, a> that store which armor pieces a are yielded by boss b)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(ARMOR_DROPS))=1,000,000
- b. Compulsory data: Boss, ArmorPiece
- c. Uniqueness: the same pair <b, a> cannot appear more than once.
- 4.15. CLASSES (the set of playable classes in the game)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(CLASSES))=15
- b. Data Ranges:

ClName: ASCII(128) Role: ASCII(128) c. Compulsory data: ClName

- d. Uniqueness: ClName (the same class cannot appear twice)
- 4.16. WEAPONS_USABLE_BY (the set of pairs <c, w> where the weapons w can be used by the class c)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(WEAPONS_USABLE_BY))=150,000
- b. Compulsory data: Class, Weapon
- c. Uniqueness: the same pair <c, w> cannot appear twice.
- 4.17. ARMOR_USABLE_BY (the set of pairs <c, a> where the armor pieces a can be used by the class c)
- a. Cardinality: max(card(ARMOR_USABLE_BY))=1,500,000
- b. Compulsory data: Class, ArmorPiece
- c. Uniqueness: the same pair <c, a> cannot appear twice.

5. Initial Mathematical Scheme

By translating the ERDs and restriction lists into mathematical schemes, we get the following scheme:

```
5.1. CONTINENTS
```

x - NAT(2), total CName - ASCII(64), total, key (R1

5.2. ZONES

x - NAT(3), total ZName - ASCII(128), total, key

ZIVallie - ASCII(126), total, Re

ZLevel - [1, 110]

Continent: ZONES → CONTINENTS, total

ZName • Continent key (R2)

Any combination containing ZName is a key.

ZLevel NOT a key (two zones can have the same level)

Continent NOT a key (two zones can be in the same continent)

ZLevel Continent NOT a key (two zones of the same level can be in the same continent)

5.3. INSTANCES

x - NAT(3), total

IName - ASCII(255), total, key (R3)

ILevel - [15, 110]

Zone - INSTANCES \rightarrow ZONES, total

IType - INSTANCES \rightarrow INSTANCE TYPES, total

IName ■IType key (R5)

Any combination containing IName is a key.

ILevel NOT a key (two instances can be at the same level)

Zone NOT a key (more than one instance can be in one zone)

IType NOT a key (more than one instance can be of one type)

ILevel•IType NOT a key (multiple instances of the same level can be of the same type)

ILevel • Zone NOT a key (multiple instances of the same level can be in the same zone)

IType● Zone NOT a key (multiple instances of the same type can be in the same zone)

ILevel● Zone ●IType NOT a key (multiple instances of the same level can be of the same type and be in the same zone)

5.4. INSTANCE_TYPES

x - NAT(1), total

ITypeName - ASCII(128), total, key

5.5. DIFFICULTIES

x - NAT(2), total

DName - ASCII(128), total, key (R4)

5.6. DIFFICULTY_OPTIONS = (INSTANCES, DIFFICULTIES)

x - NAT(3), total

DiffLevel - [15, 110]

5.7. BOSSES

x - NAT(5), total

BName: ASCII(128), total

BLevel: [15, 113]

BDamage: [100, 10,000,000] BHealth: [5,000, 10,000,000,000]

Instance: BOSSES \rightarrow INSTANCES, total

BName Instance key (R7)

BLevel NOT a key (two bosses can have different levels)

BDamage, BHealth NOT keys (two bosses can have different health and damage values)

Instance NOT a key (a boss can be in two different instances)

BLevel•BHealth, BLevel•BDamage NOT keys (bosses of the same level can have the same damage and health values)

BName•BLevel NOT a key (two bosses with the same name can have the same level)

BName•BHealth, BName•BDamage NOT keys (bosses with the same name can have the same damage and health values)

Instance • BHealth, Instance • BDamage NOT keys (bosses in the same instance can have the same damage and health values)

Instance • BLevel NOT a key (bosses in the same instance can have the same level)

5.8. WEAPONS

x - NAT(5), total

WName: ASCII(128), total, key

WLevel: [1, 110] WDamage: [1, 10,000]

WType: WEAPONS → WEAPON_TYPES, total

WName • WType key (R9)

Any combination containing WName is a key.

WLevel NOT a key (two weapons can have the same level)

WDamage NOT a key (two weapons can have the same damage values)

WType NOT a key (two weapons can be of the same type)

WLevel•WDamage NOT a key (two weapons of the same level can have the same damage values)

WLevel • WType NOT a key (two weapons of the same level can be of the same type)

WDamage • WType NOT a key (two weapons with the same damage values can be of the same type)

WLevel•WDamage•WType NOT a key (two weapons of the same level can have the same damage values and type)

5.9. WEAPON TYPES

x - NAT(2), total

WTypeName: ASCII(128), total, key

5.10. ARMORS

x - NAT(5), total

AName: ASCII(128), total, key

ALevel: [1, 110] ArmorValue: [1, 5000]

ASlot - ARMOR \rightarrow AMOR_SLOTS, total AType - ARMOR \rightarrow ARMOR TYPES, total

AName

◆ASlot key (R10), AName

◆AType key (R11)

Any combination containing AName is a key.

ALevel NOT a key (two armor pieces can have the same level)

AType NOT a key (two armor pieces can be of the same type)

ArmorValue NOT a key (two armor pieces can have the same armor values)

ASlot NOT a key (two armor pieces can occupy the same armor slot)

ALevel•ArmorValue NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same level can have the same armor values)

ALevel•AType NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same level can be of the same type)

ALevel•ASlot NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same level can occupy the same slot)

ArmorValue•AType NOT a key (two armor pieces with the same armor values can be of the same type)

ArmorValue•ASlot NOT a key (two armor pieces with the same armor values can occupy the same slot)

ASlot•AType NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same type can occupy the same slot)

ALevel•ArmorValue•AType NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same level can have the same armor values and type)

ALevel•ArmorValue•ASlot NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same level can have the same armor values and occupy the same slot)

ArmorValue•AType•ASlot NOT a key (two armor pieces of the same type can have the same armor values and occupy the same slot)

ALevel•AType•ASlot•ArmorValue NOT a key (two armor pieces can be of the same level, same type, same armor value and occupy the same slot)

5.11. ARMOR_TYPES

x - NAT(2), total

ATypeName: ASCII(128), total, key

5.12. ARMOR_SLOTS

x - NAT(2), total

ASlotName: ASCII(128), key

5.13. WEAPON_DROPS = (BOSSES, WEAPONS)

x - NAT(5), total

$5.14. ARMOR_DROPS = (BOSSES, ARMOR)$

x - NAT(6), total

5.15. CLASSES

x - NAT(2), total

ClName: ASCII(128), total, key

Role: ASCII(128)

5.16. WEAPONS_USABLE_BY = (CLASSES, WEAPONS)

x - NAT(6), total

5.17. ARMOR_USABLE_BY = (CLASSES, ARMOR)

x - NAT(8), total

6. DB Implementation in MS Access 2007

6.1. Creating the database

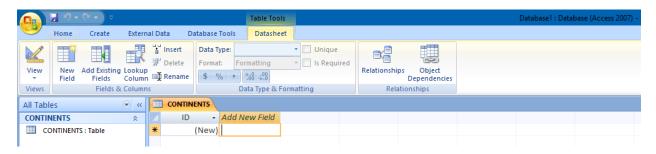
Open MS Access 2007 and click on the "Blank Database" button shown on the right.



Data Type

AutoNumber

Using Access' menu, I created and saved the first set, called CONTINENTS.

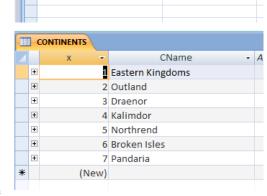


In the "Design Mode" of this table, I entered the corresponding fields, according to the mathematical scheme. x is the Primary Key and CName is the continent's name (also a key). Both fields have the "Required" attribute set to "Yes".

The following sets are similar: all have an ID "x" and a name, but some also contain special links to other sets using SQL commands. For example, in the ZONES set, the Continent attribute is linked to the CONTINENTS set using the following command:

```
SELECT CONTINENTS.[x],[CONTINENTS].[CName]
FROM CONTINENTS ORDER BY [CName];
```

The process is similar for all sets, except the ones which eliminate many to many relationships, such as ARMOR_DROPS or WEAPONS_USABLE_BY. These sets contain pairs of instances of other sets, such as (Boss, Armor) and (Weapon, Class) for the examples given above. They are obtained with SQL commands.



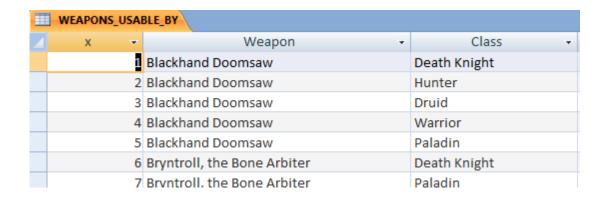
CONTINENTS

CName

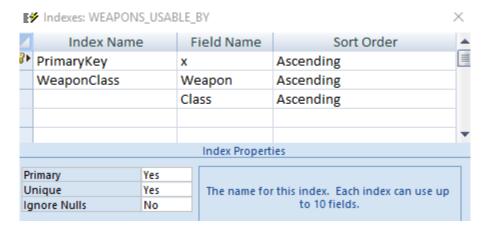
Field Name

```
SELECT [WEAPONS].[x], [WEAPONS].[WName] FROM WEAPONS ORDER BY [WName]; SELECT [CLASSES].[x], [CLASSES].[ClName] FROM CLASSES ORDER BY [ClName];
```

These commands give us:



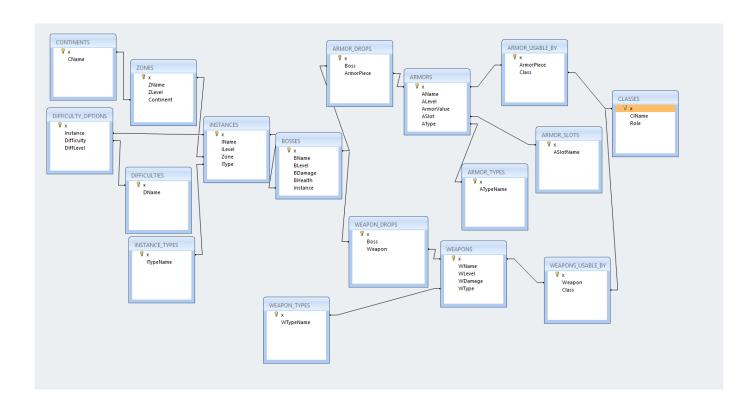
To enforce constraints and keys, we enter "Design Mode" and click on the "Indexes" button. For the WEAPONS_USABLE_BY set, the indexes are:



The Weapon • Class pair's "Unique" attribute is set to "Yes" because two the same pair may not appear twice, enforcing the uniqueness rule defined in 4.16.c.

Other sets have similar-looking indexes.

The final relationship scheme is:



7. Queries

There are 4 queries which work with the aid of subqueries:

7.1.

CountAllClassItems sums up the number of armor pieces and weapons and displays it next to the name of its corresponding class. Its subquery is CountClassItemsSeparate, which creates a UNION of two tables generated by two other subqueries: ClassArmor (the counted number of armor pieces per class) and ClassWeapons (the counted number of weapons per class).

7.1.1. ClassArmor

SELECT Classes.ClName,
Count(ARMOR_USABLE_BY.ArmorPiece) AS A
FROM CLASSES INNER JOIN ARMOR_USABLE_BY ON
CLASSES.x=ARMOR_USABLE_BY.Class
GROUP BY ClName;

7.1.2. ClassWeapons

SELECT Classes.ClName,
Count(WEAPONS_USABLE_BY.Weapon) AS W
FROM CLASSES INNER JOIN WEAPONS_USABLE_BY ON
CLASSES.x=WEAPONS_USABLE_BY.Class
GROUP BY ClName;

7.1.3. CountClassItemsSeparate

(SELECT CLASSES.ClName, ClassWeapons.W FROM ClassWeapons)
UNION ALL

(SELECT CLASSES.ClName, ClassArmor.A FROM ClassArmor);

7.1.4. CountAllClassItems

SELECT CLASSES.ClName, ClassItems FROM CountClassItemsSeparate GROUP BY CLASSES.ClName;

The final result for the current data values is displayed in the image:

CONTINENTS DIFFICULTIES DIFFICULTY_OPTIONS INSTANCE_TYPES INSTANCES ■ WEAPON_DROPS WEAPON TYPES **WEAPONS** WEAPONS_USABLE_BY **ZONES** Queries ADrops ClassArmor ClassWeapons CountAllClassItems FindBosses FindClassArmor FindClassWeapons ItemDropsTotal ■ WDrops CountClassItemsSeparate FindClassItems FindItemsFromBossesInInstance

SUM([CountClassItemsSeparate].W)

All Access Objects

ARMOR_DROPS

ARMOR_SLOTS
ARMOR_TYPES

■ BOSSES

CLASSES

ARMOR_USABLE_BY

ARMORS

Tables



AS

ItemDropsTotal works similar to CountAllClassItems in that it sums up the number of armor pieces and weapons, but it displays that number next to a column of bosses. Its subquery, AllItems allows for duplicate values of bosses, because it is the UNION of the tables created by ADrops (counted number of armor pieces yielded per boss) and WDrops (counted number of weapons yielded per boss).

7.2.1. ADrops

SELECT BOSSES.BName, Count(ARMOR_DROPS.ArmorPiece) AS A FROM BOSSES INNER JOIN ARMOR_DROPS ON BOSSES.x=ARMOR_DROPS.Boss GROUP BY BName;

7.2.2. WDrops

SELECT BOSSES.BName, Count(WEAPON_DROPS.Weapon) AS W FROM BOSSES INNER JOIN WEAPON_DROPS ON BOSSES.x=WEAPON_DROPS.Boss GROUP BY BOSSES.BName;

7.2.3. AllItems

```
(SELECT BOSSES.BName, WDrops.W FROM WDrops)
UNION ALL
(SELECT BOSSES.BName, ADrops.A FROM ADrops);
```

7.2.4. ItemDropsTotal

SELECT AllItems.BOSSES.BName, Sum(AllItems.W) AS ItemDrops FROM AllItems
GROUP BY AllItems.BOSSES.BName;

The final result for the current data values is displayed in the image:

	ItemDropsTotal		
4	BName +	ItemDrops	¥
	Advisor Melandrus		1
	Aku'mai		1
	Arugal		1
	Brew Elemental		1
	Cenarius		2
	Chimaeron		1
	Chromaggus		3
	Chronomatic Anomaly		1
	General Angerforge		5
	Grand Empress Shek'ze		2
	Gul'Dan		4
	Infernus		1
	Krosus		4
	Lord Marrowgar		2
	Magistrix Elisande		4
	Mekgineer Thermaplu _{		2
	Nefarian, Lord of Black		5
	Nefarian, Son of Nelth		1
	Ner'zhul		2
	Nythendra		3
	Oakheart		2
	Prince Keleseth		2
	Ragnaros		2
	Shade of Xavius		1
	Spellblade Aluriel		1
	Teron Gorefiend		1
	Thaurissan		3
	Vaelastrasz		2
	Vanessa Van Cleef		2
	Xavius		1

FindClassItems is a query which accepts keyboard input. The user types the name of the class he/she wants to be displayed by the query. This query is a UNION between two other subqueries, FindClassArmor (displays armor pieces usable by a class and their corresponding equipment slot) and FindClassWeapons (displays weapons usable by a class and their type). All three of these queries can be used individually, depending on the user's preference to find class-specific armor, weapons or both at the same time.

7.3.1. FindClassArmor

```
SELECT ARMORS.AName AS ItemName, ARMOR_SLOTS.ASlotName AS ItemType FROM (ARMORS INNER JOIN ARMOR_USABLE_BY ON ARMORS.x=ARMOR_USABLE_BY.ArmorPiece) INNER JOIN ARMOR_SLOTS ON ARMOR_SLOTS.x=ARMORS.ASlot WHERE Class=DLookup("x","CLASSES","ClName='" & [Enter Class Name] & "'") GROUP BY AName, ASlotName;
```

7.3.2. FindClassWeapons

```
SELECT WEAPONS.WName AS ItemName, WEAPON_TYPES.WTypeName AS ItemType FROM (WEAPONS INNER JOIN WEAPONS_USABLE_BY ON WEAPONS.x=WEAPONS_USABLE_BY.Weapon) INNER JOIN WEAPON_TYPES ON WEAPON_TYPES.x=WEAPONS.WType
WHERE Class=DLookup("x","CLASSES","ClName='" & [Enter Class Name] & "'")
GROUP BY WName, WTypeName;
```

7.3.3. FindClassItems

(SELECT FindClassWeapons.ItemName, FindClassWeapons.ItemType FROM FindClassWeapons)
UNION (SELECT FindClassArmor.ItemName, FindClassArmor.ItemType FROM FindClassArmor);

FindClassWeapons for the input: Warrior



FindClassArmor for the input: Priest

	FindClassArmor FindClassWeapons FindClassItem				
ItemName -	ItemType →				
Ancient Dreamwoven Mantle	Shoulders				
Cosy Dryad Hoof-Socks	Boots				
Emperor's Seal	Ring				
Force of Will	Neck				
Master Warmage's Leggings	Legs				
Reinforced Velvet Helm	Head				
Robes of Arugal	Chest				
Robes of Fluctuating Energy	Chest				
Robes of Transcendence	Chest				

FindClassItems for the input: Hunter

ItemName -	ItemType →
Band of Sulfuras	Ring
Blackhand Doomsaw	Polearm
Bryntroll, the Bone Arbiter	Axe (Two Handed)
Citadel Enforcer's Claymore	Sword (Two Handed)
Dragon Stabler's Gauntlets	Gloves
Dragonstalker Helm	Head
Dragonstalker Shoulders	Shoulders
Eagletalon Cowl	Head
Eagletalon Legchains	Legs
Eagletalon Tunic	Chest
Greyed Dragonscale Coif	Head
Legionkiller	Crossbow
Luminous Bladesworn Hauberk	Chest
Vilescale Helm	Head
Yan-zhu's Pressure Valve	Gun

7.4.

FindItemsFromBossesInInstance is a subquery which displays every armor piece and weapon from every boss in the instance whose name is received as a keyboard input. Its subquery, FindBosses displays only the bosses in the inputted instance.

7.4.1. FindBosses

```
SELECT BOSSES.x AS Boss, BOSSES.BName
FROM BOSSES
WHERE BOSSES.Instance=DLookup("x","INSTANCES","IName='" & [Enter
Instance Name] & "'");
```

7.4.2. FindItemsFromBossesInInstance

```
(SELECT FindBosses.BName, ARMORS.AName AS ItemName FROM (FindBosses INNER JOIN ARMOR_DROPS ON ARMOR_DROPS.Boss=FindBosses.Boss) INNER JOIN ARMORS ON ARMORS.x=ARMOR_DROPS.ArmorPiece)
UNION
(SELECT FindBosses.BName, WEAPONS.WName AS ItemName FROM (FindBosses INNER JOIN WEAPON_DROPS ON WEAPON_DROPS.Boss=FindBosses.Boss) INNER JOIN WEAPONS ON WEAPONS.x=WEAPON DROPS.Weapon);
```

The final result for input: Blackrock Depths



8. Conclusions

The universe which manages item attainment in a video game contains a database with sets which can reproduce the functionality of the in-game item system, with the help of the properties and restrictions I have enforced upon these sets. Of course, the database only handles the problem of "which items correspond to which boss". The queries I created serve to easily find items usable by a class of the user's choice and items found in a certain instance of the user's choice.