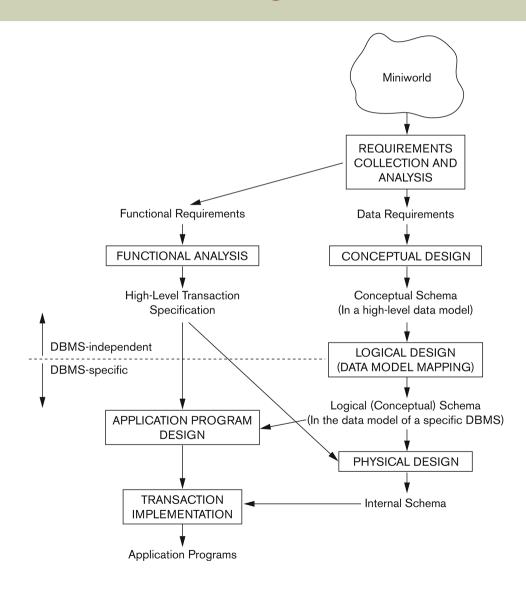
4CCS1DBS – Database Systems

# The Relational Data Model and Relational Database Constraints

# Recap: Database Design Process



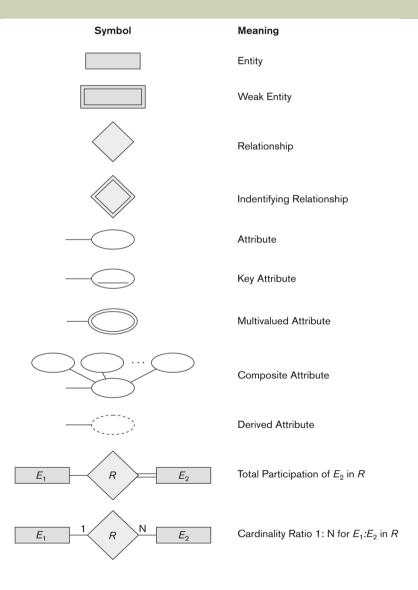
# Recap: ER Model Concepts

- ER model has three main concepts:
  - Entities (and their entity types and entity sets)
  - Attributes (simple, composite, multivalued)
  - Relationships (and their relationship types and relationship sets)
- Entities and Attributes
  - Entities are specific objects or things in the mini-world that are represented in the database.
  - Attributes are properties used to describe an entity.
- Entities with the same basic attributes are grouped or typed into an <u>entity type</u>.
- Each entity type will have a collection of entities stored in the database: the <u>entity set</u>

# Recap: ER Model Concepts

- A relationship relates two or more distinct entities with a specific meaning.
- Relationships of the same type are grouped or typed into a relationship type.
- Each relationship type will have a set of associations: the relationship set.

# Recap: Summary of notation for ER diagrams



# Recap: Relationship type vs. relationship set

## Relationship Type:

- A set of associations among entities
- Is the schema description of a relationship
- Identifies the relationship name and the participating entity types
- Also identifies certain relationship constraints

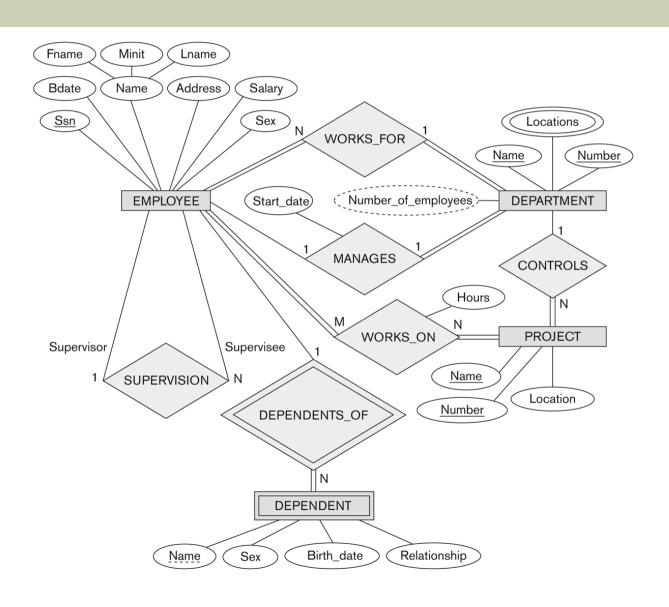
## Relationship Set:

- The current set of relationship instances represented in the database
- The current <u>state</u> of a relationship type

# Constraints on Relationships

- Structural Constraints on Relationship Types
  - Also known as ratio constraints.
  - Cardinality Ratio: specifies maximum number of relationship instances that an entity can participate in.
    - One-to-one (1:1)
    - One-to-many (1:N) or Many-to-one (N:1)
    - Many-to-many (M:N)
  - Existence Dependency Constraint: specifies minimum participation, i.e. if existence of an entity depends on its being related to another entity via relationship type (also called participation constraint)
    - zero (optional participation, not existence-dependent)
    - one or more (mandatory participation, existence-dependent)

## The Schema for COMPANY Database



# **Outline for Today**

- Relational Model Concepts
- Relational Model Constraints and Relational Database Schemas
- Update Operations and Dealing with Constraint Violations

# Relational Model Concepts

- The relational Model of Data is based on the concept of a Relation
  - The strength of the relational approach to data management comes from the formal foundation provided by the theory of relations
- We review the essentials of the formal relational model
- In practice, there is a standard model based on SQL this will be described in later lectures
- Note: There are several important differences between the formal model and the practical model, as we shall see

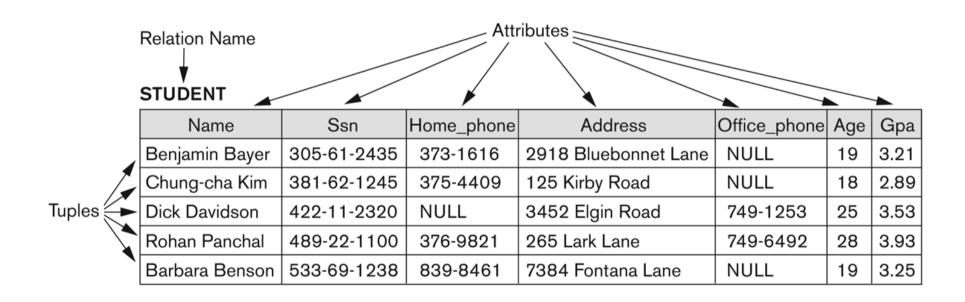
## Relational Model Concepts

- A Relation is a mathematical concept based on the ideas of sets
- The model was first proposed by Dr. E.F. Codd of IBM Research in 1970 in the following paper:
  - "A Relational Model for Large Shared Data Banks," Communications of the ACM, June 1970
- The above paper caused a major revolution in the field of database management and earned Dr.
   Codd the coveted ACM Turing Award

## **Informal Definitions**

- Informally, a relation looks like a table of values.
- A relation typically contains a set of rows.
- The data elements in each row represent certain facts that correspond to a real-world entity or relationship
  - In the formal model, rows are called tuples
- Each column has a column header that gives an indication of the meaning of the data items in that column
  - In the formal model, the column header is called an attribute name (or just attribute)

# Example of a Relation



#### **Informal Definitions**

- Key of a Relation:
  - Each row has a value of a data item (or set of items)
     that uniquely identifies that row in the table
    - Called the key
  - In the STUDENT table, SSN is the key
  - Sometimes row-ids or sequential numbers are assigned as keys to identify the rows in a table
    - Called artificial key or surrogate key

#### Formal Definitions - Schema

- The Schema (or description) of a Relation:
  - Denoted by R(A1, A2, .....An)
  - R is the name of the relation
  - The attributes of the relation are A1, A2, ..., An
- Example:
  - CUSTOMER (Cust-id, Cust-name, Address, Phone#)
  - CUSTOMER is the relation name
  - Defined over the four attributes: Cust-id, Cust-name, Address, Phone#
- Each attribute has a domain or a set of valid values.
  - For example, the domain of Cust-id is 6 digit numbers.

# Formal Definitions - Tuple

- A tuple is an ordered set of values (enclosed in angled brackets '< ... >')
- Each value is derived from an appropriate domain.
- A row in the CUSTOMER relation is a 4-tuple and would consist of four values, for example:
  - <632895, "John Smith", "101 Main St. Atlanta, GA 30332", "(404) 894-2000">
  - This is called a 4-tuple as it has 4 values
  - A tuple (row) in the CUSTOMER relation.
- A relation is a set of such tuples (rows)

## Formal Definitions - Domain

- A domain (a set of atomic values) has a logical definition:
  - Example: "USA\_phone\_numbers" are the set of 10 digit phone numbers valid in the U.S.
- A domain also has a data-type or a format defined for it.
  - The USA\_phone\_numbers may have a format: (ddd)ddd-dddd where each d is a decimal digit.
  - Dates have various formats such as year, month, date formatted as yyyy-mm-dd, or as dd mm,yyyy etc.
- The attribute name designates the role played by a domain in a relation:
  - Used to interpret the meaning of the data elements corresponding to that attribute
  - Example: The domain Date may be used to define two attributes named "Invoice-date" and "Payment-date" with different meanings

## Formal Definitions - State

- The relation state is a subset of the Cartesian product of the domains of its attributes
  - each domain contains the set of all possible values the attribute can take.
- Example: attribute Cust-name is defined over the domain of character strings of maximum length 25
  - dom(Cust-name) is varchar(25)
- The role these strings play in the CUSTOMER relation is that of the *name of a customer*.

# Formal Definitions - Summary

- Formally,
  - Given R(A1, A2, ....., An)
  - r(R) ⊂ dom (A1) X dom (A2) X ....X dom(An)
  - Cartesian product specifies all possible combinations of values from the underlying domains
- R(A1, A2, ..., An) is the **schema** of the relation
- R is the name of the relation
- A1, A2, ..., An are the attributes of the relation
- r(R): a specific state (or "value" or "population") of relation R – this is a set of tuples (rows)
  - $r(R) = \{t1, t2, ..., tn\}$  where each ti is an n-tuple
  - ti = <v1, v2, ..., vn> where each vj element-of dom(Aj)

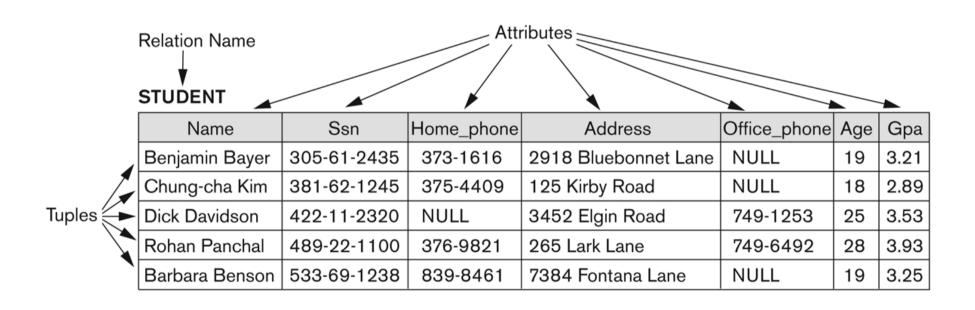
# Formal Definitions - Example

- Let R(A1, A2) be a relation schema:
  - Let  $dom(A1) = \{0,1\}$
  - Let  $dom(A2) = \{a,b,c\}$
- Then: dom(A1) X dom(A2) is all possible combinations: {<0,a>, <0,b>, <0,c>, <1,a>, <1,b>, <1,c>}
- The relation state r(R) ⊂ dom(A1) X dom(A2)
- For example: r(R) could be {<0,a>, <0,b>, <1,c>}
  - this is one possible state (or "population" or "extension") r of the relation R, defined over A1 and A2.
  - It has three 2-tuples: <0,a> , <0,b> , <1,c>

# **Definition Summary**

<u>Informal Terms</u>	Formal Terms
Table	Relation
Column Header	Attribute
All possible Column Values	Domain
Row	Tuple
Table Definition	Schema of a Relation
Populated Table	State of the Relation

# Example – A relation STUDENT



## Characteristics of Relations

- Relation is a set of tuples
- Ordering of tuples in a relation r(R):
  - The tuples are not considered to be ordered, even though they appear to be in the tabular form.
- Ordering of attributes in a relation schema R (and of values within each tuple):
  - We will consider the attributes in R(A1, A2, ..., An) and the values in t=<v1, v2, ..., vn> to be ordered.
    - (However, a more general alternative definition of relation does not require this ordering)

# Same state as previous Figure (but with different order of tuples)

#### **STUDENT**

Name	Ssn	Home_phone	Address	Office_phone	Age	Gpa
Dick Davidson	422-11-2320	NULL	3452 Elgin Road	749-1253	25	3.53
Barbara Benson	533-69-1238	839-8461	7384 Fontana Lane	NULL	19	3.25
Rohan Panchal	489-22-1100	376-9821	265 Lark Lane	749-6492	28	3.93
Chung-cha Kim	381-62-1245	375-4409	125 Kirby Road	NULL	18	2.89
Benjamin Bayer	305-61-2435	373-1616	2918 Bluebonnet Lane	NULL	19	3.21

## Characteristics of Relations

- Values in a tuple:
  - All values are considered atomic (indivisible).
  - Each value in a tuple must be from the domain of the attribute for that column
    - If tuple t = <v1, v2, ..., vn> is a tuple (row) in the relation state r of R(A1, A2, ..., An)
    - Then each *vi* must be a value from *dom(Ai)*
  - A special null value is used to represent values that are unknown or inapplicable to certain tuples.

## Characteristics of Relations

- Notation:
  - We refer to component values of a tuple t by:
    - t[Ai] or t.Ai
    - This is the value vi of attribute Ai for tuple t
  - Similarly, t[Au, Av, ..., Aw] refers to the subtuple of t containing the values of attributes Au, Av, ..., Aw, respectively in t

# Relational Integrity Constraints

- Constraints are conditions that must hold on all valid relation states.
- There are three main types of constraints in the relational model:
  - Key constraints
  - Entity integrity constraints
  - Referential integrity constraints
- Another implicit constraint is the domain constraint
  - Every value in a tuple must be from the domain of its attribute (or it could be null, if allowed for that attribute)

# **Key Constraints**

#### Superkey of R:

- Is a set of attributes SK of R with the following condition:
  - No two tuples in any valid relation state r(R) will have the same value for SK
  - That is, for any distinct tuples t1 and t2 in r(R), t1[SK] ≠ t2[SK]
  - This condition must hold in any valid state r(R)

#### Key of R:

- A "minimal" superkey
- That is, a key is a superkey K such that removal of any attribute from K results in a set of attributes that is not a superkey (does not possess the superkey uniqueness property)

# Key Constraints (continued)

- Example: Consider the CAR relation schema:
  - CAR(State, Reg#, SerialNo, Make, Model, Year)
  - Define superkeys of relation CAR
  - Define keys of relation CAR

# Key Constraints (continued)

- Example: Consider the CAR relation schema:
  - CAR(State, Reg#, SerialNo, Make, Model, Year)
  - CAR has two keys:
    - Key1 = {State, Reg#}
    - Key2 = {SerialNo}
  - Both are also superkeys of CAR
  - {SerialNo, Make} is a superkey but not a key.
- In general:
  - Any key is a superkey (but not vice versa)
  - Any set of attributes that includes a key is a superkey
  - A minimal superkey is also a key

# Key Constraints (continued)

- If a relation has several candidate keys, one is chosen arbitrarily to be the primary key.
  - The primary key attributes are <u>underlined</u>.
- Example: Consider the CAR relation schema:
  - CAR(State, Reg#, <u>SerialNo</u>, Make, Model, Year)
  - We chose SerialNo as the primary key
- The primary key value is used to uniquely identify each tuple in a relation
  - Provides the tuple identity
- Also used to reference the tuple from another tuple
  - General rule: Choose as primary key the smallest of the candidate keys (in terms of size)
    - Not always applicable choice is sometimes subjective

# CAR table with two candidate keys – LicenseNumber chosen as Primary Key

#### CAR

<u>License_number</u>	Engine_serial_number	Make	Model	Year
Texas ABC-739	A69352	Ford	Mustang	02
Florida TVP-347	B43696	Oldsmobile	Cutlass	05
New York MPO-22	X83554	Oldsmobile	Delta	01
California 432-TFY	C43742	Mercedes	190-D	99
California RSK-629	Y82935	Toyota	Camry	04
Texas RSK-629	U028365	Jaguar	XJS	04

#### Relational Database Schema

#### Relational Database Schema:

- A set S of relation schemas that belong to the same database.
- S is the name of the whole database schema
- S = {R1, R2, ..., Rn}
- R1, R2, ..., Rn are the names of the individual relation schemas within the database S
- Following slide shows a COMPANY database schema with 6 relation schemata

## **COMPANY Database Schema**

#### **EMPLOYEE**

Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	Bdate	Address	Sex	Salary	Super_ssn	Dno
							J		

#### **DEPARTMENT**

Dname Dnumb	oer Mgr_ssn	Mgr_start_date
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#### DEPT\_LOCATIONS

<u>Dnumber</u>   <u>Dlocation</u>	Dnumber	Dlocation
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#### **PROJECT**

Pname Pnumber Plocation	Dnum
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#### WORKS\_ON

Essn Pno Hours	3
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#### **DEPENDENT**

# **Entity Integrity**

#### Entity Integrity:

- The primary key attributes PK of each relation schema
   R in S cannot have null values in any tuple of r(R).
  - This is because primary key values are used to *identify* the individual tuples.
  - t[PK] ≠ null for any tuple t in r(R)
  - If PK has several attributes, null is not allowed in any of these attributes
- Note: Other attributes of R may be constrained to disallow null values, even though they may not be members of the primary key.

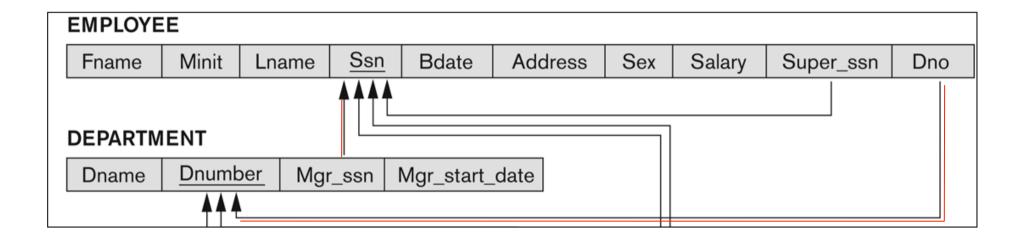
# Referential Integrity

- A constraint involving two relations
  - The previous constraints involve a single relation.
- Used to specify a relationship among tuples in two relations:
  - The referencing relation and the referenced relation.

# Foreign Key

- A set of attributes FK in relation schema R<sub>1</sub> is a foreign key of R<sub>1</sub> that references relation R<sub>2</sub> if it satisfies the following two rules:
  - The attributes in FK have the same domain(s) as the primary key attributes PK or R<sub>2</sub>
    - the attributes FK are said to reference or refer to the relation R<sub>2</sub>
  - A value of FK in tuple t<sub>1</sub> of r<sub>1</sub>(R<sub>1</sub>) either occurs as a value of PK for some tuple t<sub>2</sub> in the relation state r<sub>2</sub>(R<sub>2</sub>) or it is null.
    - t<sub>1</sub>[FK]=t<sub>2</sub>[PK], i.e tuple t<sub>1</sub> references or refers to tuple
       t<sub>2</sub>

# Foreign Key - example



# Referential Integrity

- Tuples in the referencing relation R1 have attributes FK (called foreign key attributes) that reference the primary key attributes PK of the referenced relation R2.
  - A tuple t1 in R1 is said to reference a tuple t2 in R2 if t1[FK] = t2[PK].
- A referential integrity constraint can be displayed in a relational database schema as a directed arc from R1.FK to R2.PK

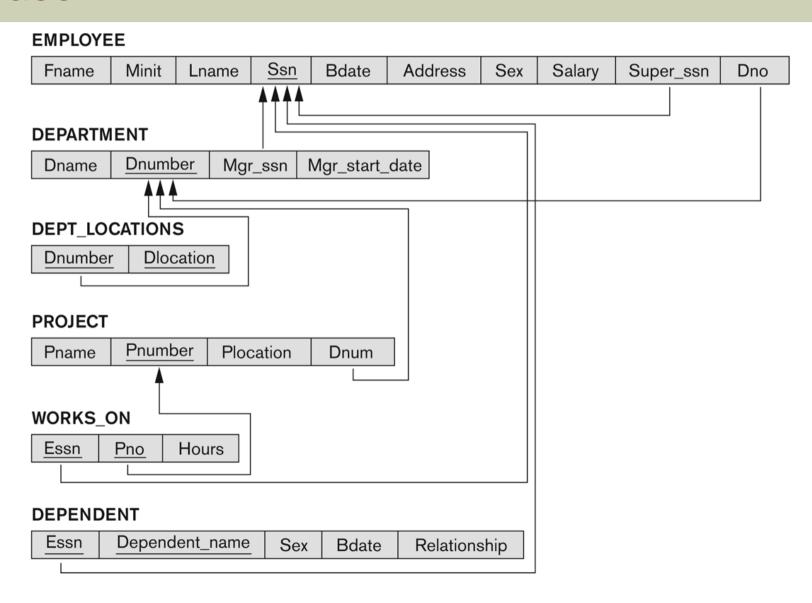
# Referential Integrity (or Foreign Key) Constraint

- Statement of the constraint
  - The value in the foreign key column (or columns)
    FK of the referencing relation R1 can be either:
    - (1) a value of an existing primary key value of a corresponding primary key PK in the referenced relation R2, or
    - (2) a **null**.
- In case (2), the FK in R1 should **not** be a part of its own primary key.

# Displaying a Relational Database Schema and its Constraints

- Each relation schema can be displayed as a row of attribute names
- The name of the relation is written above the attribute names
- The primary key attribute (or attributes) will be underlined
- A foreign key (referential integrity) constraints is displayed as a directed arc (arrow) from the foreign key attributes to the referenced table
  - Can also point to the primary key of the referenced relation for clarity
- COMPANY relational schema diagram next

# Referential Integrity Constraints for COMPANY database



### Other Types of Constraints

- Semantic Integrity Constraints:
  - based on application semantics and cannot be expressed by the model per se
  - Example: "the max. no. of hours per employee for all projects he/she works on is 56 hrs per week"
    - A constraint specification language may have to be used to express these
      - SQL-99 allows triggers and assertions to express some of these constraints

### Populated Database State

- Each relation will have many tuples in its current relation state
- The relational database state is a union of all the individual relation states
- Whenever the database is changed, a new state arises
- Basic operations for changing the database:
  - INSERT a new tuple in a relation
  - DELETE an existing tuple from a relation
  - MODIFY an attribute of an existing tuple
- Next slide shows an example state for the COMPANY database

# Populated Database State for COMPANY

#### **EMPLOYEE**

Fname	Minit	Lname	Ssn	Bdate	Address	Sex	Salary	Super_ssn	Dno
John	В	Smith	123456789	1965-01-09	731 Fondren, Houston, TX	М	30000	333445555	5
Franklin	Т	Wong	333445555	1955-12-08	638 Voss, Houston, TX	М	40000	888665555	5
Alicia	J	Zelaya	999887777	1968-01-19	3321 Castle, Spring, TX	F	25000	987654321	4
Jennifer	S	Wallace	987654321	1941-06-20	291 Berry, Bellaire, TX	F	43000	888665555	4
Ramesh	K	Narayan	666884444	1962-09-15	975 Fire Oak, Humble, TX	М	38000	333445555	5
Joyce	Α	English	453453453	1972-07-31	5631 Rice, Houston, TX	F	25000	333445555	5
Ahmad	V	Jabbar	987987987	1969-03-29	980 Dallas, Houston, TX	М	25000	987654321	4
James	Е	Borg	888665555	1937-11-10	450 Stone, Houston, TX	М	55000	NULL	1

#### DEPARTMENT

Dname	Dnumber	Mgr_ssn	Mgr_start_date	
Research	5	333445555	1988-05-22	
Administration	4	987654321	1995-01-01	
Headquarters	1	888665555	1981-06-19	

#### DEPT\_LOCATIONS

Dnumber	Dlocation		
1	Houston		
4	Stafford		
5	Bellaire		
5	Sugarland		
5	Houston		

#### WORKS\_ON

Essn	<u>Pno</u>	Hours	
123456789	1	32.5	
123456789	2	7.5	
666884444	3	40.0	
453453453	1	20.0	
453453453	2	20.0	
333445555	2	10.0	
333445555	3	10.0	
333445555	10	10.0	
333445555	20	10.0	
999887777	30	30.0	
999887777	10	10.0	
987987987	10	35.0	
987987987	30	5.0	
987654321	30	20.0	
987654321	20	15.0	

#### **PROJECT**

Pname	Pnumber	Plocation	Dnum
ProductX	1	Bellaire	5
ProductY	2	Sugarland	5
ProductZ	3	Houston	5
Computerization	10	Stafford	4
Reorganization	20	Houston	1
Newbenefits	30	Stafford	4

#### DEPENDENT

Essn	Dependent_name	Sex	Bdate	Relationship
333445555	Alice	F	1986-04-05	Daughter
333445555	Theodore	М	1983-10-25	Son
333445555	Joy	F	1958-05-03	Spouse
987654321	Abner	М	1942-02-28	Spouse
123456789	Michael	М	1988-01-04	Son
123456789	Alice	F	1988-12-30	Daughter
9	Elizabeth	F	1967-05-05	Spouse

### **Update Operations on Relations**

- INSERT a tuple.
- DELETE a tuple.
- MODIFY a tuple.
- Integrity constraints should not be violated by the update operations.
- Several update operations may have to be grouped together.
- Updates may propagate to cause other updates automatically. This may be necessary to maintain integrity constraints.

### **Update Operations on Relations**

- In case of integrity violation, several actions can be taken:
  - Cancel the operation that causes the violation (RESTRICT or REJECT option)
  - Perform the operation but inform the user of the violation
  - Trigger additional updates so the violation is corrected (CASCADE option, SET NULL option)
  - Execute a user-specified error-correction routine

### Possible Violations for Each Operation

- INSERT may violate any of the constraints:
  - Domain constraint:
    - if one of the attribute values provided for the new tuple is not of the specified attribute domain
  - Key constraint:
    - if the value of a key attribute in the new tuple already exists in another tuple in the relation
  - Referential integrity:
    - if a foreign key value in the new tuple references a primary key value that does not exist in the referenced relation
  - Entity integrity:
    - if the primary key value is null in the new tuple

### Possible Violations for Each Operation

- DELETE may violate only referential integrity:
  - If the primary key value of the tuple being deleted is referenced from other tuples in the database
    - Can be remedied by several actions: RESTRICT, CASCADE,
       SET NULL (will be discussed in one of following lectures)
      - RESTRICT option: reject the deletion
      - CASCADE option: delete referencing tuples
      - SET NULL option: set the foreign keys of the referencing tuples to NULL
  - One of the above options must be specified during database design for each foreign key constraint

### Possible Violations for Each Operation

- UPDATE may violate domain constraint and NOT NULL constraint on an attribute being modified
- Any of the other constraints may also be violated, depending on the attribute being updated:
  - Updating the primary key (PK):
    - Similar to a DELETE followed by an INSERT
    - Need to specify similar options to DELETE
  - Updating a foreign key (FK):
    - May violate referential integrity
  - Updating an ordinary attribute (neither PK nor FK):
    - Can only violate domain constraints

# Summary

- Presented Relational Model Concepts
  - Definitions
  - Characteristics of relations
- Discussed Relational Model Constraints and Relational Database Schemas
  - Domain constraints
  - Key constraints
  - Entity integrity
  - Referential integrity
- Described the Relational Update Operations and Dealing with Constraint Violations