Foreign keys

Efficient and consistent databases

This table contains an overview of leased movies.

- We are storing the name "Thor: Ragnarok" multiple times. This takes up more space than necessary on the disc.
- The last entry has been typed wrong into the database, making it inconsistent.
 - Is Thor: Ragnarok the same as Thor: Ragnarök?
 - If we search for all the people having rented Thor: Ragnarok we won't get all of them

Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID	Movie name
1	Robert	22	Fight club
2	Weird Al	42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
3	Aldrin	11	Thor: Ragnarok
4	Sam	11	Thor: Ragnarok
5	Loki	11	Thor: Ragnarök

We want the movie names to only be written/stored once!!!

Splitting tables

Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID	Mov	me	
1	Robert	22	Fig		
2	Weird Al	42	Hitch galaxy		the
3	Aldrin	11	Thor:		
4	Sam	11	Th	.0	
5	Loki	11	Tho	₃narök	

Delete the row containing Movie names in the Lease table

Removing duplicate rows and making Movie ID as Primary key

Create a new Movies table containing the Movie ID and the Movie name

Movie ID	Movie name
22	Fight club
42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
11	Thor: Ragnarok
	Thor: Ragnarok
	rnor: Ragnarok

Making the connection

We now have two tables, Lease and Movies

The *Movie ID* column of the *Movies* table corresponds to the *Movie ID* column of the *Lease* table

Lease

Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID	
1	Robert	22	
2	Weird Al	42	
3	Aldrin	11	
4	Sam	11	
5	Loki	11	

Movies

Movie ID	Movie name
22	Fight club
42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
11	Thor: Ragnarok

"Thor: Ragnarok" is only stored once, regardless of how many times we rent out the movie!!!

No chance of writing multiple names for the same movie

Foreign key

Movie ID from the Movies table is a primary key and is "sent" to the Lease table.

In the *Lease* table the column *Movie ID* is a **Foreign key** as it comes from another table (where it is a **primary key**). **Foreign keys** are denoted with a *.

A table with a **foreign key** is a **child table** while the table where the key comes from is a **parent** of that child.

Lease				Movies		
	Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID*	—	Movie ID	Movie name
	1	Robert	22		22	Fight club
	2	Weird Al	42		42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
	3	Aldrin	11			
ı					11	Thor: Ragnarok
	4	Sam	11			
	5	Loki	11			Parent

Foreign key restrictions

You are not allowed to input a number in the *Movie ID* column in the *Lease* table that doesn't exist in the *Movies* tables' *Movie ID*.

Lease

Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID*
1	Robert	22
2	Weird Al	42
3	Aldrin	33

Movies

Movie ID	Movie name
22	Fight club
42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
11	Thor: Ragnarok

Foreign key relations

- Foreign keys ARE relations
 - A table with a foreign key is connected with another table

Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID	
1	Robert	22	
2	Weird Al	42	
3	Aldrin	11	
4	Jack	22	
5	Ole	11	

Movie ID	Movie name
22	Fight club
42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
11	Thor: Ragnarok

Crow foot notation

- The relation between two tables can be show with notation
 - Multiple notations exist, crow foot is popular
 - More on relationships later

A foreign key value can in this case exist multiple times in a child table hence the "many" crow foot

				A key v	alue can only exist once ir	n the parent table
Rent ID	Renter	Movie ID				
1	Robert	22		Movie ID	Movie name	
2	Weird Al	42		22	Fight club	
3	Aldrin	11	One to many	42	Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy	
4	Jack	22	←	11	Thor: Ragnarok	
5	Ole	11				

Create foreign key vare VNr CHAR(5) Betegnelse VARCHAR (100) CREATE TABLE Vare Pris DECIMAL (8,2) VNr CHAR(5), Antall INT(11) Betegnelse VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL, → Hylle CHAR(3) kategori Pris DECIMAL(8,2) NOT NULL, *KatNr SMALLINT(6) KatNr SMALLINT, Navn VARCHAR(50) Antall INTEGER NOT NULL, Hylle CHAR(3), CONSTRAINT VarePN PRIMARY KEY (VNr), CONSTRAINT VareKategoriFN FOREIGN KEY (KatNr) REFERENCES Kategori (KatNr)

You can also add a foreign key later with ALTER TABLE

```
ALTER TABLE Orders

ADD CONSTRAINT FK_PersonOrder

FOREIGN KEY (PersonID) REFERENCES Persons(PersonID);
```