

# CIS 5500: Database and Information Systems

## Homework 2: Relational DB Design

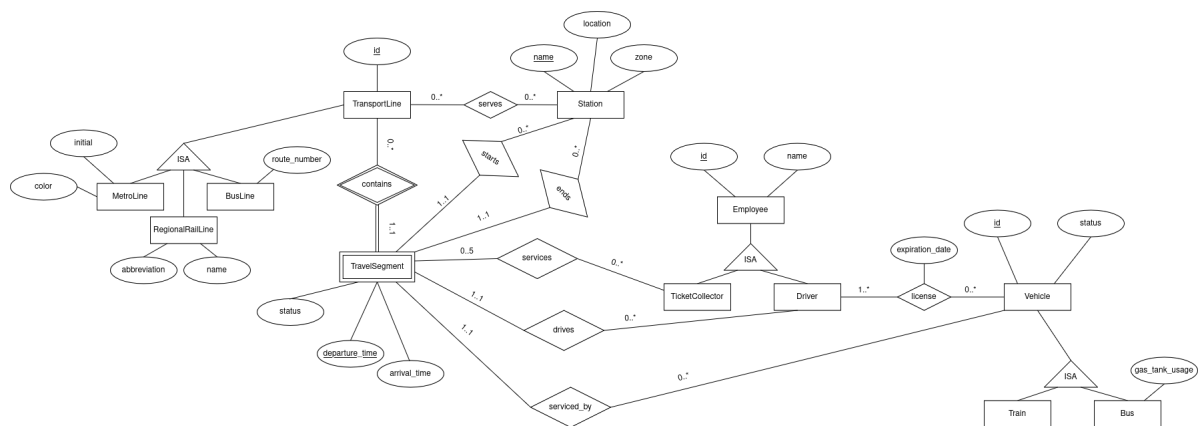
February 26, 2026

Mustafa Rashid

Spring 2026

### 1. Question 1 (30 points)

#### A. (20 points)



#### B. (5 points)

**Ans:** A TravelSegment could start or end at a Station that is not served by its associated TransportLine. This would be valid in the ER diagram because there is no constraint requiring the start and end stations of a TravelSegment to be among the stations served by that TransportLine.

To enforce this constraint, we must require that the start and end stations of a TravelSegment appear in the Serves relationship with the same TransportLine. In other words, a TravelSegment may only start and end at stations that are served by its associated TransportLine.

#### C. (5 points)

**Ans:** Add an attribute to the relationship Serves called `no_of_platforms`. Add an attribute to the Station entity set called `maximum_no_of_platforms`. We then add a constraint that, for each Station, the sum of `no_of_platforms` across all TransportLines assigned to that Station does not exceed `maximum_no_of_platforms`.

## 2. Question 2 (20 points)

## A. 12 points

Ans:

```
CREATE TABLE Artists(  
  ArtistID INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  Name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  Nationality VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  BirthYear INT(4) NOT NULL  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE Customers(  
  CustomerID INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  Name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  Email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE Artworks(  
  ArtworkID INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  OwnerID INT FOREIGN KEY REFERENCES Customers(CustomerID),  
  CreatorID INT FOREIGN KEY REFERENCES Artists(ArtistID),  
  Title VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  AYear INT(4),  
  Medium VARCHAR(50)  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE Exhibitions(  
  ExhibitionID INT PRIMARY KEY,  
  ExhibitionName VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL  
);  
  
CREATE TABLE DisplayedIn(  
  ArtworkID INT,  
  ExhibitionID INT,  
  PRIMARY KEY (ArtworkID, ExhibitionID),  
  FOREIGN KEY (ArtworkID) REFERENCES Artworks(ArtworkID),  
  FOREIGN KEY (ExhibitionID) REFERENCES  
    Exhibitions(ExhibitionID),  
  StartDate DATE,  
  EndDate DATE  
);
```

## B. 4 points

**Ans:** We can create an assertion as follows

```
CREATE ASSERTION exhibition_cardinality
CHECK (
    NOT EXISTS (
        SELECT ExhibitionID
        FROM DisplayedIn
        GROUP BY ExhibitionID
        HAVING COUNT(*) NOT BETWEEN 5 AND 20
    )
);
```

## C. 4 points

**Ans:** We change the cardinality on the Artists entity set from 0..\* to 1..\*. We also add the following assertion

```
CREATE ASSERTION artist_has_artwork
CHECK (
    NOT EXISTS (
        SELECT *
        FROM Artists A
        WHERE NOT EXISTS (
            SELECT *
            FROM Artworks W
            WHERE W.CreatorID = A.ArtistID
        )
    )
);
```

**3. Question 3 (40 points)****A. 4 points**

**Ans:** No they cannot.

If they did then the functional dependencies  $\text{PassengerID} \rightarrow \text{PassengerEmail}$  and  $\text{PassengerEmail} \rightarrow \text{PassengerID}$  would not hold.

**B. 4 points**

**Ans:** Yes. The functional dependency  $\text{TrainNo} \rightarrow \text{ConductorID}$  only ensures each train has one conductor, but it does not prevent multiple trains from having the same conductor.

**C. 6 points**

**Ans:** The candidate keys are  $\{\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}\}$  and  $\{\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerEmail}\}$ .  $\text{TrainNo}$  determines  $\text{DepartureDate}$  and  $\text{ConductorID}$ ,  $\text{PassengerID}$  determines  $\text{PassengerEmail}$ , and together  $\text{TrainNo}$  and  $\text{PassengerID}$  determine  $\text{SeatNo}$  and  $\text{BaggageQty}$ , giving all attributes. Since  $\text{PassengerEmail} \leftrightarrow \text{PassengerID}$ , replacing  $\text{PassengerID}$  with  $\text{PassengerEmail}$  also forms a key.

**D. 5 points**

**Ans:** The dependency  $\text{TrainNo} \rightarrow \text{DepartureDate}, \text{ConductorID}$  violates 3NF because  $\text{TrainNo}$  is not a superkey and neither  $\text{DepartureDate}$  nor  $\text{ConductorID}$  is a member of any candidate key. All other dependencies satisfy 3NF because either the left-hand side is a superkey or the right-hand side attribute is a member of some candidate key.

**E. 2 points**

**Ans:** Yes, the decomposition has a lossless join.

$$R_1 \cap R_2 = \{\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}\},$$

which is a candidate key of  $R$  and therefore a superkey of  $R_2$ . By the lossless-join condition, a decomposition is lossless if the common attributes form a superkey of at least one of the relations, so the join is lossless.

## F. 2 points

**Ans:** No, this decomposition does not have a lossless join.

$$R_1 \cap R_2 = \{\text{PassengerID}\},$$

which is neither a superkey of  $R_1$  nor of  $R_2$  (PassengerID alone does not determine DepartureDate or ConductorID, nor SeatNo or BaggageQty), so the lossless-join condition fails.

## G. 12 points

**Ans:** Applying the 3NF decomposition algorithm to  $F$  (already a minimal cover):

- TrainNo  $\rightarrow$  DepartureDate, ConductorID: create  $R_1$
- PassengerID  $\rightarrow$  PassengerEmail: create  $R_2$
- PassengerEmail  $\rightarrow$  PassengerID:  $R_2$  already contains PassengerEmail, PassengerID so we skip this functional dependency
- TrainNo, PassengerID  $\rightarrow$  SeatNo, BaggageQty: create  $R_3$

$R_3$  contains  $\{\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}\}$ , a candidate key of  $R$  meaning that we do not need any additional relations.

After performing the algorithm we get the following decomposed relations  $R_i$  each with with a candidate key and a set of preserved functional dependencies.

- $R_1(\text{TrainNo}, \text{DepartureDate}, \text{ConductorID})$ 
  - **Candidate Key:**  $\{\text{TrainNo}\}$
  - **FDs Preserved:** TrainNo  $\rightarrow$  DepartureDate, ConductorID
- $R_2(\text{PassengerID}, \text{PassengerEmail})$ 
  - **Candidate Keys:**  $\{\text{PassengerID}\}, \{\text{PassengerEmail}\}$
  - **FDs Preserved:** PassengerID  $\leftrightarrow$  PassengerEmail
- $R_3(\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}, \text{SeatNo}, \text{BaggageQty})$ 
  - **Candidate Key:**  $\{\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}\}$
  - **FDs Preserved:** TrainNo, PassengerID  $\rightarrow$  SeatNo, BaggageQty

## H. 5 points

**Ans:**

Yes, all three relations are in BCNF. For every  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $F$ , either  $X \rightarrow Y$  is trivial or  $X$  is a superkey:

- $R_1(\text{TrainNo}, \text{DepartureDate}, \text{ConductorID})$  with key  $\text{TrainNo}$ .  
 $\text{TrainNo} \rightarrow \text{DepartureDate}$  and  $\text{TrainNo} \rightarrow \text{ConductorID}$  have  $\text{TrainNo}$  as LHS, which is a superkey.
- $R_2(\text{PassengerID}, \text{PassengerEmail})$  with keys  $\text{PassengerID}$ ,  $\text{PassengerEmail}$ .  $\text{PassengerID} \rightarrow \text{PassengerEmail}$  has superkey LHS, and  $\text{PassengerEmail} \rightarrow \text{PassengerID}$  has superkey LHS.
- $R_3(\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}, \text{SeatNo}, \text{BaggageQty})$  with key =  $\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID}$ . Both  $\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID} \rightarrow \text{SeatNo}$  and  $\text{TrainNo}, \text{PassengerID} \rightarrow \text{BaggageQty}$  have the full key as LHS.