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Database Design and
Development

Topic 7:
Physical Design (2)

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Physical Design (2) Topic 7 - 7.2

Scope and Coverage

This topic will cover:

- The concept of derived data
- Designing a representation of derived data



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Learning Outcomes

By the end of this topic students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of derived data
- Design a representation of derived data
- Recognise the tradeoffs between different ways of implementing derived data



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What is Derived Data?

- A column whose value can be found by examining the values of other columns

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Table: AcademicClasses

Topic	Room	NoOfStudents
Chemistry	87	30
Mathematics	99	12
English	32	23
Computing	55	30

What is a derived column here?

Where might it be derived from?

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Representation of Derived Data

- Not always represented in the data model
- Represented when there is a danger of losing the information
- Derived attributes shown with a '/' in front

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Entity: AcademicClass

Topic (PK)

Room

/noOfStudents

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AcademicClass

Student

Topic (PK)

Room

/noOfStudents

StudentID (PK)

Name

Address

Count(Student.StudentID)

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Adding Pseudo-Code

AcademicClass

Student

Topic (PK)

Room

/noOfStudents

StudentID (PK)

Name

Address

Topic(FK)

Count(Student.StudentID) AcademicClass.Topic = Student.Topic

Why do we Count the StudentIDs ?

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What Sort of Documents/ Applications will use Derived Fields? - 1

- **Activity:** Brainstorm – write down as many documents or applications that might use derived fields in a business.

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What Sort of Documents/ Applications will use Derived Fields? - 2

- **Activity:** Brainstorm – write down as many documents or applications that might use derived fields in a business.

Receipts

Invoices

Order Forms

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Using Derived Data to think about a Data Model

- Remember data modelling is about semantics, the meaning of the data.

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Original Customer Order Sheet for Art Supply Shop

Customer Order Sheet for an Art Supplier

Customer Number: 37

Customer Name: Jagpal Singh

Customer Type Code: RC

Customer Type Description: Retail Customer

Item Number	Item Name	Supplier ID	Price	Supplier Name	Quantity
099	Basic Paint Set	S1	£3	Smith and Co	1
0100	Sable Brush Set	S2	£3.50	Acro	1
0101	Extended Colour Set	S1	£3.75	Smith and Co	3
098	Metallic Paint Set	S1	£3.99	Smith and Co	1
078	Mixed Brush Set	S2	£3.99	Acro	2

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Adding a Total for Each Item and the Order Itself

Customer Order Sheet for an Art Supplier

Order ID: 4343

Customer Number: 37

Customer Name: Jagpal Singh

Customer Type Code: RC

Customer Type Description: Retail Customer

Item Number	Item Name	Supplier ID	Price	Supplier Name	Quantity	Item Total
099	Basic Paint Set	S1	£3	Smith and Co	1	£3.00
0100	Sable Brush Set	S2	£3.50	Acro	1	£3.50
0101	Extended Colour Set	S1	£3.75	Smith and Co	3	£11.25
098	Metallic Paint Set	S1	£3.99	Smith and Co	1	£3.99
078	Mixed Brush Set	S2	£3.99	Acro	2	£7.98

Total: 29.72

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The Entity Relationship Diagram

```
graph LR; Customer[Customer] -- "1 to 0..*" --- CustomerItem[CustomerItem]; CustomerItem -- "0..* to 1" --- Item[Item]; Item -- "0..* to 1" --- Supplier[Supplier]
```

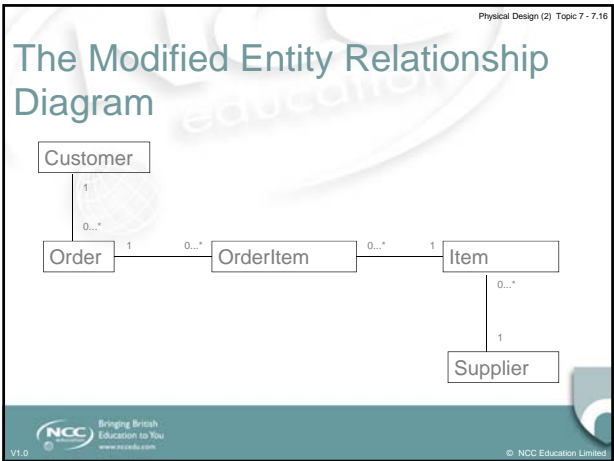
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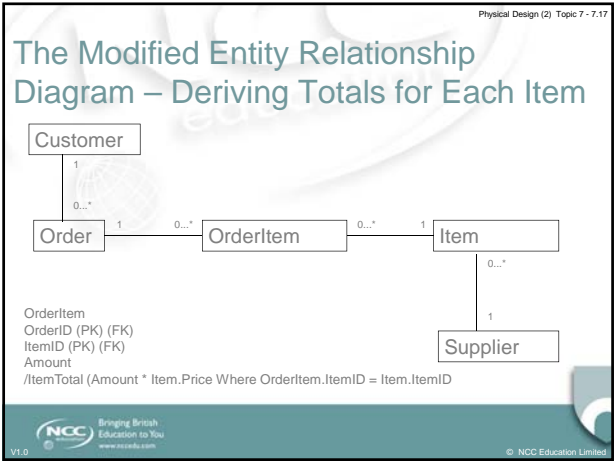
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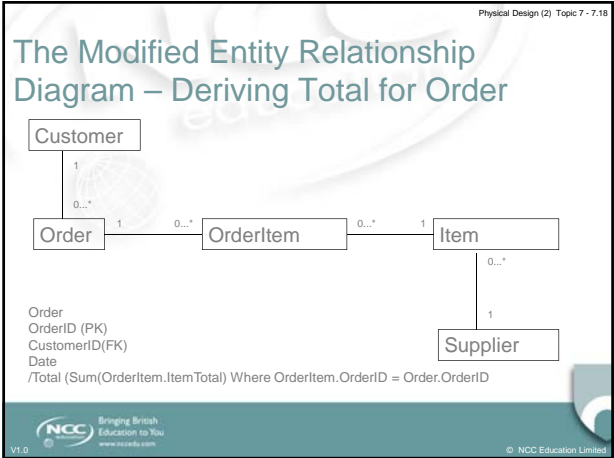
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How it Works Physically - 1

Customers

1

0...*

Orders

1

0...*

OrderItems

0...*

1

Items

0...*

1

Suppliers

Step 1. Customer makes an order
Create new row in Orders table

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How it Works Physically - 2

Customers

1

0...*

Orders

1

0...*

OrderItems

0...*

1

Items

0...*

1

Suppliers

Step 2. A number of rows are created in
The OrderItems table

Step 3. For each OrderItem the
Total is calculated.

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How it Works Physically - 3

Customers

1

0...*

Orders

1

0...*

OrderItems

0...*

1

Items

0...*

1

Suppliers

Step 4. For the Order the Total is
calculated

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Overheads of Derived Data

- Additional storage of extra attribute
- New calculation every time a value in the source field is changed
- Possibility of data becoming inconsistent

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Calculating at Run Time

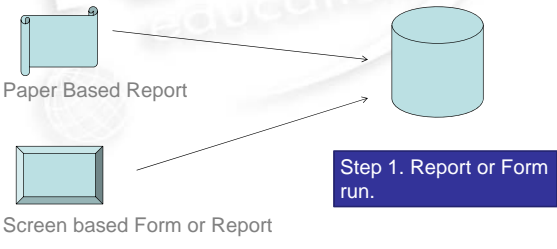
- The Order Form and similar documents such as invoices and receipts would be created as applications
- The totals calculated as they are needed
- Totals not stored in database: no derived fields

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Paper Based Report

Screen based Form or Report


Step 1. Report or Form run.

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Paper Based Report



Screen based Form or Report

Step 2. Data used to calculate data that is derived from other data.




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Paper Based Report



Screen based Form or Report

Step 3. Data and derived field sent to application



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Aggregate Functions that can be used to Derive Data

- Count – returns number of values in a column
- Sum – returns the sum total of values of a column
- Avg – returns the mean average of values in column
- Min – returns the lowest value in a column
- Max – returns the highest value in a column



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Standard SQL for Derived Column in Create Table Statement

```
CREATE TABLE ProductsStock
(
...
Product_itemID INTEGER NOT NULL,
list_price DECIMAL(7,2) NOT NULL,
Quantity INTEGER NOT NULL,
stock_value GENERATED ALWAYS AS (Quantity *
list_price),
...
)
```

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Example of Insert Statement with Derived Data

```
INSERT INTO employee_year_earnings
SELECT employee_id, salary*12
FROM employees;
```

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Derived Attribute or Calculation at Run Time?

- How complicated is the calculation to be made?
- Does it involve multiple table joins and so could impact performance?
- How often would a derived attribute be updated? Could this affect performance.

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Other Types of Derived Fields –
Non Numeric

- Potentially any type of business rule could be used to derive data
- e.g. Items of a particular sort will all be the same colour
- Would need to used more complex embedded procedural logic such as a database trigger or macro

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Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Understand the concept of derived data
- Design a representation of derived data
- Recognise the tradeoffs between different ways of implementing derived data

Did we meet them?

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- Connolly, Thomas and Begg, Carolyn *Database Solutions: A step-by-step guide to building database* Addison-Wesley 2nd Edition 2004 Chapter 12

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References - 2

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- SQL derived data <http://forums.mysql.com/read.php?10,361286,361286> Retrieved 20th July 2011

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Any Questions?

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