Subject: Re: Regarding optional attributes and denormalisation
Posted by AJM on Sun, 09 Oct 2011 09:39:48 GMT
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It is breaking normalisation for the simple reason that all relations which share the same primary key are supposed to be combined into the same table. That is the starting point, and from there you begin applying the other normalisation rules.

Thus if an entity called CUSTOMER has 100 attributes you start by putting them all into a single CUSTOMER table. It is only when you step through the rules of normalisation that you identify reasons to split attributes off into other tables.