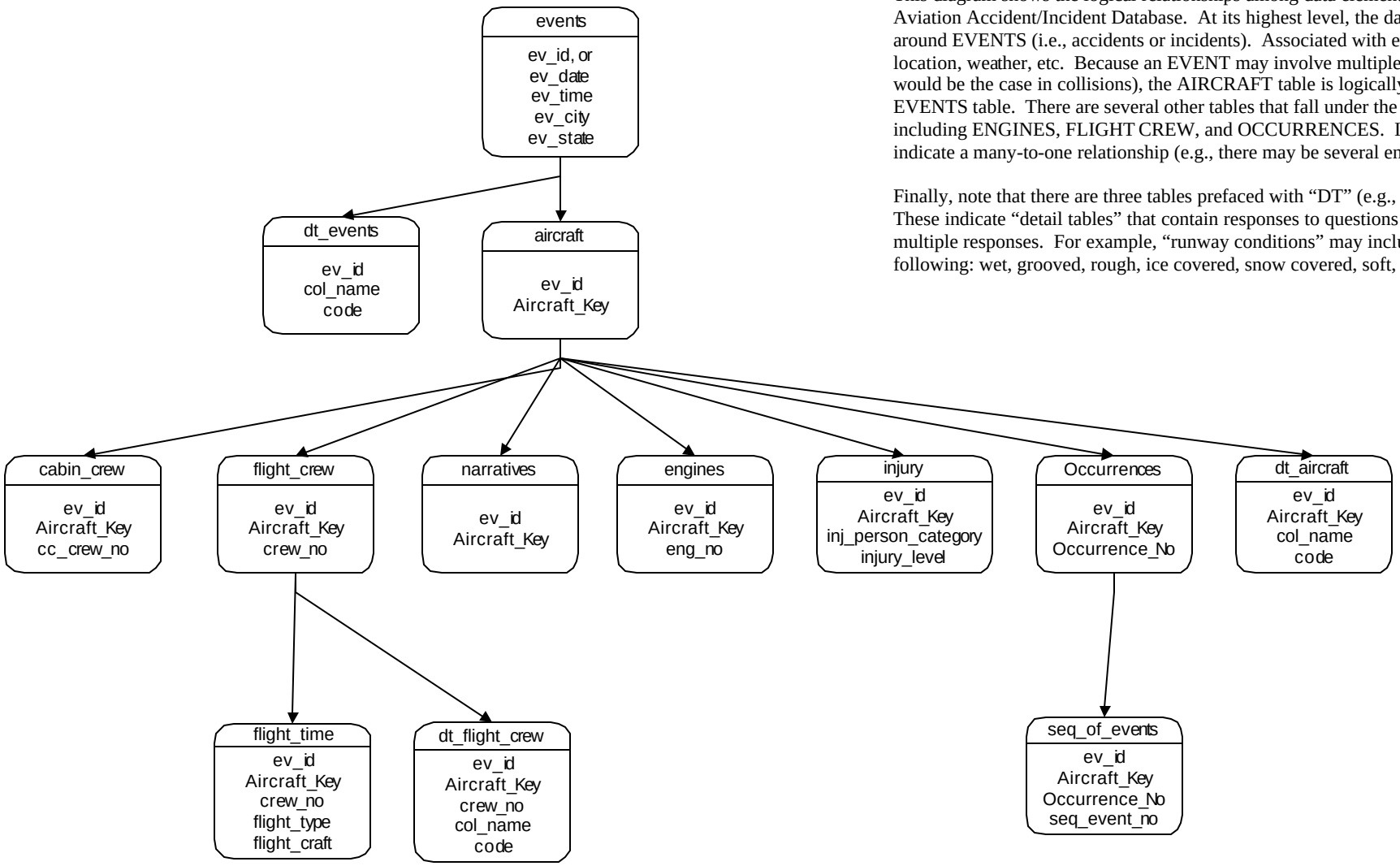
Basic NTSB Aviation Accident Incident Database Architecture with Key Fields



This diagram shows the logical relationships among data elements in the NTSB Aviation Accident/Incident Database. At its highest level, the database is organized around EVENTS (i.e., accidents or incidents). Associated with events are date, location, weather, etc. Because an EVENT may involve multiple AIRCRAFT (as would be the case in collisions), the AIRCRAFT table is logically structured under the EVENTS table. There are several other tables that fall under the AIRCRAFT table including ENGINES, FLIGHT CREW, and OCCURRENCES. In each case, they indicate a many-to-one relationship (e.g., there may be several engines on one aircraft).

Finally, note that there are three tables prefaced with "DT" (e.g., DT_AIRCRAFT). These indicate "detail tables" that contain responses to questions that may have multiple responses. For example, "runway conditions" may include any or all of the following: wet, grooved, rough, ice covered, snow covered, soft, holes, vegetation, etc.