

Semantic Modeling & ER

CE384: Database Design
Maryam Ramezani
Sharif University of Technology
maryam.ramezani@sharif.edu



01

Introduction





Database Design

The Big Picture

- Data Modelling
 - E-R
 - Relational
- Storing Data
 - File Indexes
 - Buffer Pool Management
- Query Languages
 - SQL
 - Relational Algebra
 - Relational Calculus
- Query Optimization
 - External Sorting
 - Join Algorithms
 - Query Plans, Cost Estimation

Levels of Abstraction

- Views describe how users see the data
- Conceptual schema defines logical structure
- Physical schema describes the files and indexes used.

—Index—

about the author 128, 132, 412 account info 295 active table of contents 34, 120-124, 238-239. 285-286, 354, 366, 370 ACX 465-467 Adobe 506 advertising 434, 439-449 aggregator 17-18, 322 alignment 68, 101-103, 105-106, 229-230, 261-262, 353- black 47, 93, 184, 192, 252-253, 355, 370, 385, 390 354, 380, 389 Alt codes 39 Amazon Associates 415 Amazon Follow 430, 437, 480 Amazon Giyeaway 436-439 Amazon Marketing Services (AMS) 439-449 Android 167-169, 171, 371-375 apostrophe 40, 42-44 app 141-142

Apple 169, 342, 372, 506

Automatically Update 73-75, 94, 144 back matter 124-129 background 47, 93, 181, 184, 192-193, 246, 252-253, 355, 370, 385, 390 bank information 295 Barnes & Noble 506 biography 128, 132, 410 Blackberry 372-373 blank line 27-28, 110, 112-114, 276-277, 284-285, 385 blank page 354, 385-386 block indent 50, 52, 67, 82, 106-107, 234-235 blog 411, 429, 479 Blogger 429

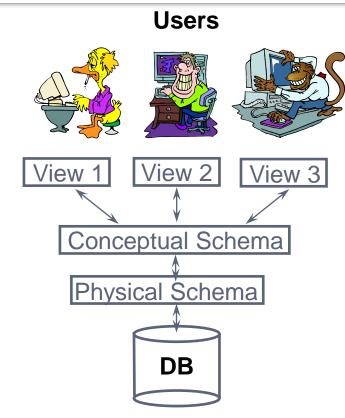
blurb 300-306, 364, 406, 411-412, 417, 477

blurry 162-164, 172, 175, 193, 246, 387, 389

body text 66, 68, 79-82, 92-94, 115, 233-235

automatic renewal 327-329, 341, 343

bloggers 327, 430



Conceptual database design

- Step 1 Build conceptual data model
 - Step 1.1 Identify entity types
 - Step 1.2 Identify relationship types
 - Step 1.3 Identify and associate attributes with entity or relationship types
 - Step 1.4 Determine attribute domains
 - Step 1.5 Determine candidate, primary, and alternate key attributes
 - Step 1.6 Consider use of enhanced modeling concepts (optional step)
 - Step 1.7 Check model for redundancy
 - Step 1.8 Validate conceptual model against user transactions
 - Step 1.9 Review conceptual data model with user

Logical database design for the relational model

- Step 2 Build and validate logical data model
 - Step 2.1 Derive relations for logical data model
 - Step 2.2 Validate relations using normalization
 - Step 2.3 Validate relations against user transactions
 - Step 2.4 Define integrity constraints
 - Step 2.5 Review logical data model with user
 - Step 2.6 Merge logical data models into global model (optional step)
 - Step 2.7 Check for future growth

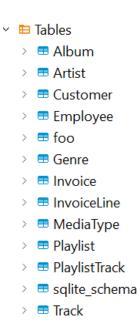
Physical database design for relational database

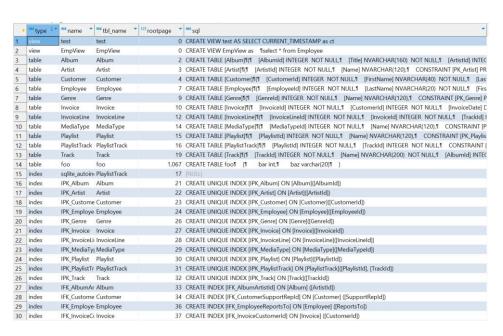
- Step 3 Translate logical data model for target DBMS
 - Step 3.1 Design base relations
 - Step 3.2 Design representation of derived data
 - Step 3.3 Design general constraints
- Step 4 Design file organizations and indexes
 - Step 4.1 Analyze transactions
 - Step 4.2 Choose file organization
 - Step 4.3 Choose indexes
 - Step 4.4 Estimate disk space requirements

- Step 5 Design user views
- Step 6 Design security mechanisms
- Step 7 Consider the introduction of controlled redundancy
- Step 8 Monitor and tune the operational system

Data Modeling

- Components of Database Environment
 - Hardware
 - Software
 - User
 - Data
 - User
 - System





How to Build a DB Application

- Pick an application
- Figure out what to model (ER model)
 - Output: ER diagram
- Transform the ER diagram to a relational schema
- Refine the relational schema (normalization)
- Now ready to implement the schema and load the data!

Conceptual Design

- What are the entities and relationships in the enterprise?
- What information about these entities and relationships should we store in the database?
- What are the integrity constraints or business rules that hold?
- A database `schema' in the ER Model can be represented pictorially (ER diagrams).
- Can map an ER diagram into a relational schema.
 - Traditional ER models
 - Extended or Enhanced ER models

ER Model

- Entity Relationship Diagram, also known as ERD, ER Diagram or ER model, is a type of structural diagram for use in database design.
- An ERD contains different symbols and connectors that visualize two important information: The major entities within the system scope, and the inter-relationships among these entities.

02

ER Model Basics





Entity

- Entity: Thing or object in the real world with an <u>independent</u> <u>existence</u>. Real-world object distinguishable from other objects.
- "Thing" encompasses a wide range, including abstract and physical concepts, while "Object" usually refers to something tangible and physical.
 - physical existence (e.g. a particular person, car, house, or employee)
 - an object with a conceptual existence (e.g. a company, a job, or a university course).
- Example:
 - a person/role (e.g. Student)
 - object (e.g. Invoice)
 - concept (e.g. Profile)
 - event (e.g. Transaction)

Attributes of Entity

- Attributes: An entity is described (in DB) using a set of attributes.
 - The particular properties that describe it.
 - Example
 - A student with a particular student number is an entity.
 - A company with a particular registration number is an entity.
 - Types:
 - Composite
 - Simple (Atomic)
 - Single-Valued
 - Multivalued
 - Stored
 - Derived
 - Null
 - Complex

Composite vs Simple (Atomic)

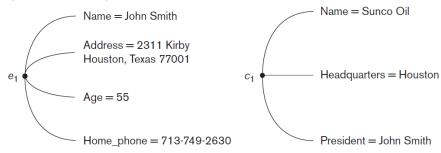


Figure 3.3Two entities,
EMPLOYEE e_1 , and
COMPANY c_1 , and
their attributes.

Composite attributes can form a hierarchy.

Street_address City State Zi

Note: <u>If</u> the composite attribute is referenced only as a whole, there is **no need to subdivide** it into component attributes

Single-Valued vs Multivalued Attributes

- Example:
 - Age is a single-valued attribute of a person.
 - People can have different numbers of values for the College_degrees attribute.
 - Two-tone cars have two color values.
- A multivalued attribute may have lower and upper bounds to constrain the number of values allowed for each individual entity.
 - The Colors attribute of a car may be restricted to have between one and two values, if we assume that a car can have two colors at most.

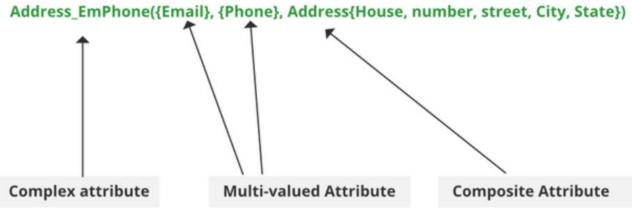
- Stored vs Derived Attributes: The stored attribute are those attribute which doesn't require any type of further update since they are stored in the database. In some cases, two (or more) attribute values are related.
 - Example: The Age attribute is hence called a derived attribute and is said to be derivable from the Birth_date attribute, which is called a stored attribute.
 - Note: Some attribute values can be derived from related entities:
 - Example
 - Total and average marks of a student
 - Number_of_employees of a DEPARTMENT entity can be derived by counting the number of employees related to (working for) that department.

Null Values

- Not applicable
 - Person's middle name. Not everyone has a middle name, so in that case, they can be made
- The attribute value exists but is missing or we don't know it.
 - Data cleaning in data science projects.
- Can not be known until a certain time
 - "date of death" in a people database

Complex Attributes: composite and multivalued attributes can be nested arbitrarily. These components are grouped between parentheses '()' and multi-valued attributes between curly braces '{}', Components are separated by commas ', '.

Note: Rarely used in DBMS (DataBase Management System). That's why they are not so popular.



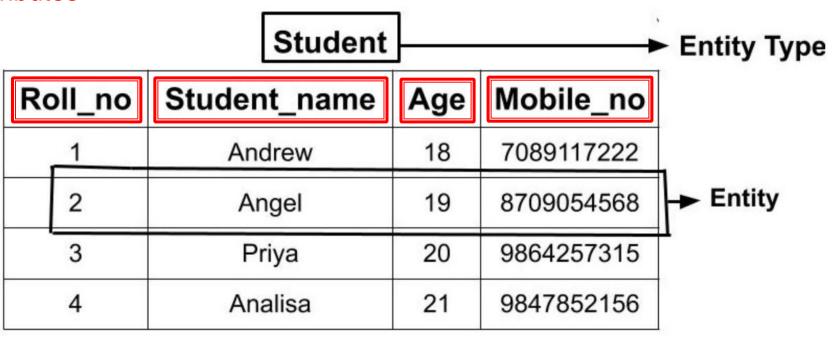
Entity Type

- Entity Type: It refers to the category that a particular entity belongs to. A collection of the entity having similar attributes
 - Example :
 - A table named student in a university database.
 - A table named employee in a company database.

Maryam Ramezani Database Design 2⁻⁻

Entity, Attribute, Entity Type

Attributes



Entity Set

Entity Set: A collection of entities of the same entity type.

An entity set is a collection or set of all entities of a particular entity type at any point in time. The type of all the entities should be the same.

→ Entity Type

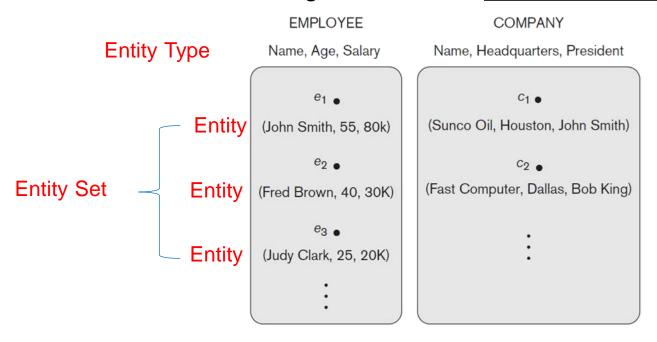
Student

Mobile_no	Age	Student_name	Roll_no
7089117222	18	Andrew	1
8709054568	19	Angel	2
9864257315	20	Priya	3
9847852156	21	Analisa	4
1	9864257315	20 9864257315	Priya 20 9864257315

E 1 E 2

Entity Set

All entities in an entity set have the <u>same set of attributes</u>



Entity, Entity Type, Entity Set

Entity	Entity Type	Entity Set
A thing in the real world with independent existence	A category of a particular entity	Set of all entities of a particular entity type.
Any particular row (a record) in a relation(table) is known as an entity.	The name of a relation (table) in RDBMS is an entity type	All rows of a relation (table) in RDBMS is entity set

Attributes of Entity Type

- Each attribute has a domain (Value Sets).
- Are similar to the basic data types available in most programming languages, such as integer, string, Boolean, float, enumerated type, subrange, and so on
- Additional data types to represent common database types, such as date, time, and other concepts, are also employed

Note: Value sets are not typically displayed in basic ER diagrams. Specified in UML class diagrams.

Composite Attributes

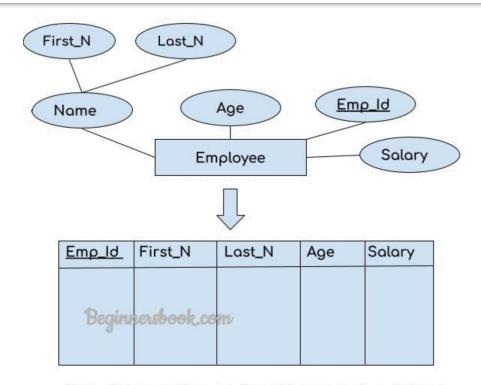
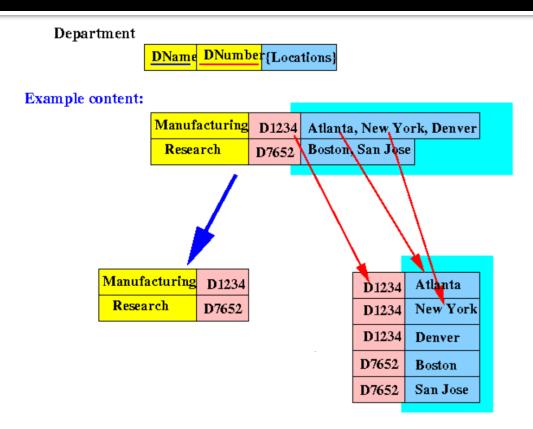


Table Schema: (Emp_id, First_N, Last_N, Age, Salary)

Multi-Valued Attributes



Key Attributes of Entity Type

Key Attributes of an Entity Type:

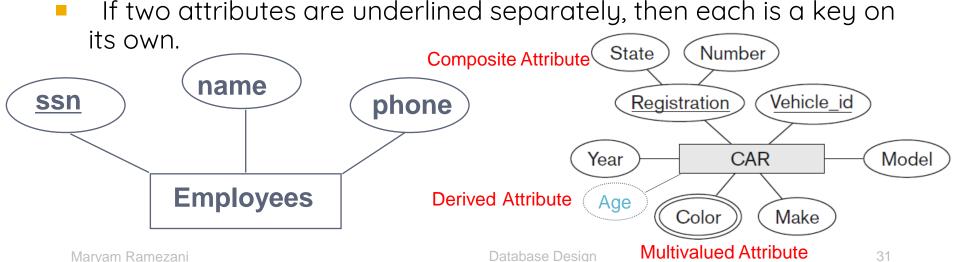
- An entity type usually has <u>one or more attributes whose values are</u> <u>distinct</u> for each individual entity in the entity set.
- Its values can be used to identify each entity uniquely.
- Composite key: Sometimes several attributes together form a key, meaning that the <u>combination of the attribute</u> values must be distinct for each entity.
 - Such a composite key must be minimal;

Key Attributes of Entity Type

- Criteria for selecting Identifiers
 - Will not change value
 - Will not be null
 - No intelligent identifiers (containing e.g. locations or people that might change)
 - Substitute new, simple keys for long, composite key.

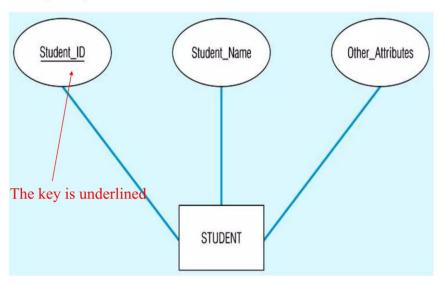
Entity Type in ER Diagram

- Entity Type is represented by a rectangle.
- Note: an entity type in the E-R diagram, not entity.
- Attributes of entity type is represented by oval.
- Each key attribute has its name underlined inside the oval.

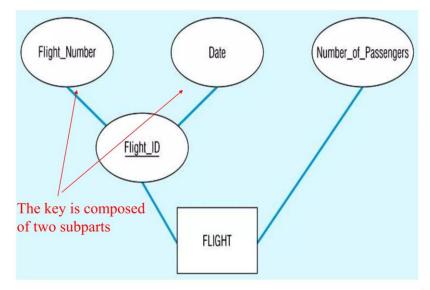


Key Attribute in ER Diagram

Simple key attribute



Composite key attribute





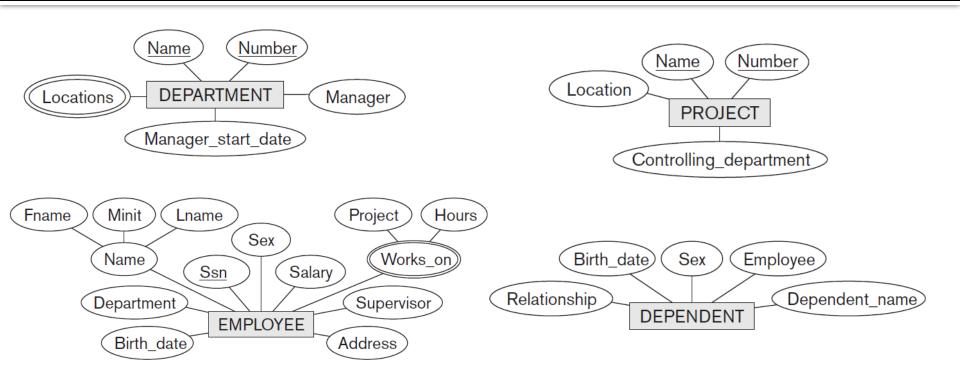




The company is organized into departments:

- Each department has a unique name, a unique number, and a particular employee who manages the department. We keep track of the start date when that employee began managing the department. A department may have several locations.
- A department controls a number of projects, each of which has a unique name, a unique number, and a single location.
- The database will store each employee's name, Social Security number, address, salary, sex (gender), and birth date. An employee is assigned to one department, but may work on several projects, which are not necessarily controlled by the same department. It is required to keep track of the current number of hours per week that an employee works on each project, as well as the direct supervisor of each employee (who is another employee).
- The database will keep track of the dependents of each employee for insurance purposes, including each dependent's first name, sex, birth date, and relationship to the employee.





Relationship

- A relationship indicated how one or more entity classes interact with one and another.
- Each entity plays a role in a relationship.

Relationship

- Relationship Type: Association among two or more entities.
 - In ER diagram, the relationship type is represented by a diamond and connecting the entities with lines



 Relationship Set: A set of relationships of the same type is known as a relationship set.

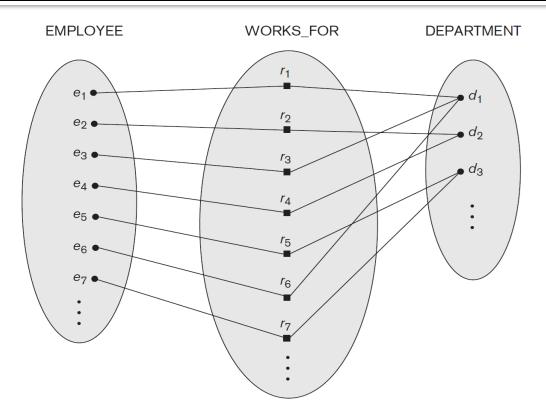
An n-ary relationship set R relates n entity sets E1 ... En; each relationship in R involves entities e1, ..., en.

Relationship Set

Database Design

-E2

Relationship Set



Degree of Relationship Type: The number of

participating entity types

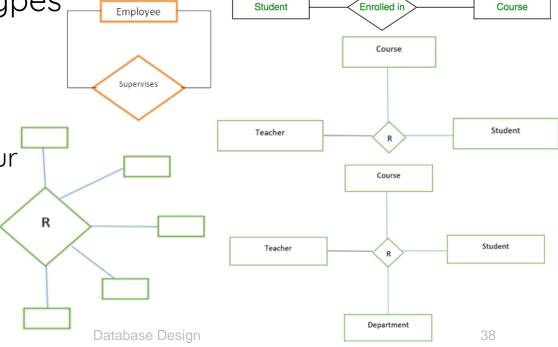
Unary: degree one

Binary: degree two

Ternary: degree three

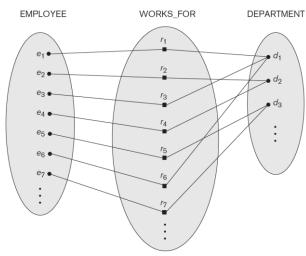
Quaternary: degree four

N-ary



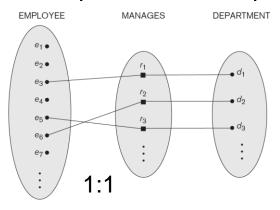
Constraints on Binary Relationship Types

- Relationship types usually have certain constraints that limit the
 possible combinations of entities that may participate in the
 corresponding relationship set. These constraints are determined
 from the miniworld situation that the relationships represent.
- We can distinguish two main types of binary relationship constraints:
 - Cardinality ratio
 - Participation

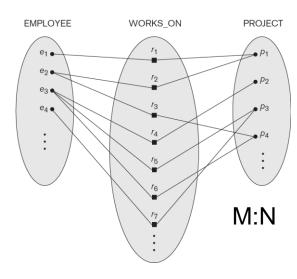


Cardinality Ratios

- Maximum number of relationship instances that an entity can participate in.
- The possible cardinality ratios for binary relationship types are:
 - **1:1**
 - M:N
 - 1:N
 - N:1

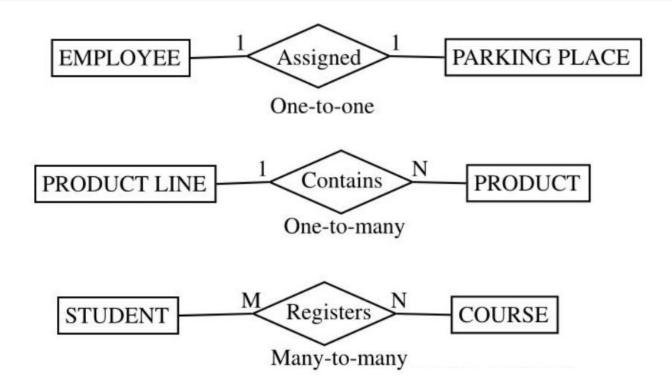


- One in ER means: zero or one
- Many in ER means: zero or more

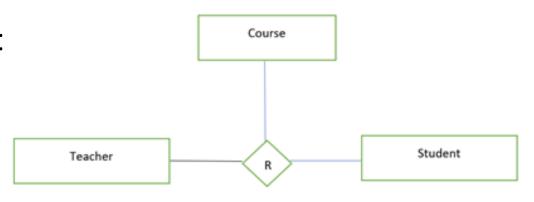


Participation Constraints

- Whether the existence of an entity depends on its being related to another entity via the relationship type.
 - Total (existence dependency):
 - If a company policy states that every employee must work for a department, then an employee entity can exist only if it participates in at least one WORKS_FOR relationship instance.
 - Meaning that every entity in the total set of employee entities must be related to a department entity via WORKS FOR.
 - ER: double line connecting the participating entity type to the relationship. A minimum of one.
 - Partial
 - We do not expect every employee to manage a department, so the participation of EMPLOYEE in the most one department and a department can have at most one manager.
 - Meaning that some or part of the set of employee entities are related to some department entity via MANAGES, but not necessarily all.
 - ER: single line connecting the participating entity type to the relationship. No minimum.



Find cardinality:

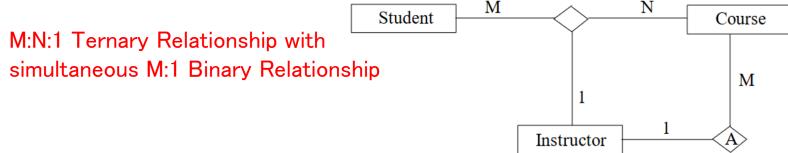


■ 1:M:N

	STUDENT	COURSE	INSTRUCTOR
1	Mike	Physics	Jones
2	Anne	Physics	Jones
3	Mike	Chemistry	Jones
4	Anne	Chemistry	Song

If we impose an external constraint on the ternary that each course can only be taught by a single instructor, then obviously tuple 3 or 4 is disallowed.

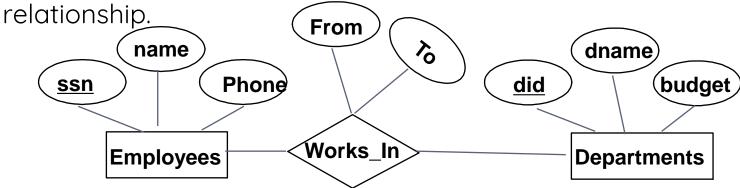
	STUDENT	COURSE	INSTRUCTOR
1	Mike	Physics	Jones
2	Anne	Physics	Jones
3	Mike	Chemistry	Jones
4	Anne	Chemistry	Song



Attributes of Relationship Types

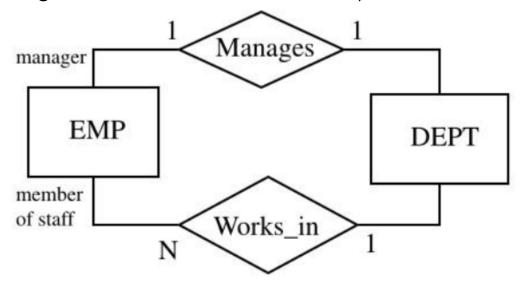
Relationships can also have **attributes** associated to them.

Generally <u>it is not recommended to give attributes to the relationships if not required because while converting the ER model into Relational model, things may get complex and we may require to create a separate table for representing the relationship</u>



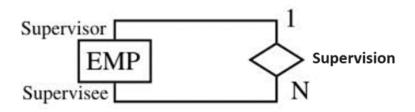
Role Name

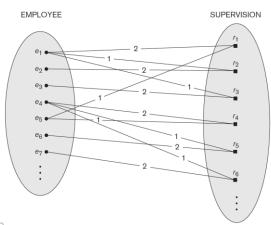
• Each entity type that participates in a relationship type plays a particular role in the relationship. Role names may also be used when two entity classes are associated through more than one relationships



Recursive Relationships (Self-Referencing)

- In some cases the same entity type participates more than once in a relationship type in different roles.
 - The SUPERVISION relationship type relates an employee to a supervisor, where both employee and supervisor entities are members of the same EMPLOYEE entity set.
 - A recursive relationship SUPERVISION between EMPLOYEE in
 - (1) supervisor role
 - (2) supervisee role





- Strong Entity Type: Has a key attribute which helps in identifying each entity uniquely. It is represented by a rectangle in ER model.
- Weak Entity Type: Doesn't have a key attribute. Weak entity type can't be identified on its own. It depends upon some other strong entity for its distinct identity. It is represented by a double outlined rectangle in ER model.
 - Relationship between the weak entity type and its identifying strong entity type is called identifying relationship and it is represented by a double diamond.

 Example: There can be a room only if building exits. There can be no independent existence of a room.

Employee Has Dependants

Maryam Ramezani

Customer Age Town State

Customer has Address

Gender Name Strong Weak Entity

EntityType Type 48

 The identifying relationship is many-to-one from the weak entity set to the identifying entity set, and the participation of the weak entity set in the relationship is total.

 A weak entity set can participate in relationships other than the identifying relationship. Here we use weak entity instead of

Multivalue

Partial Key

Title

Date

Date

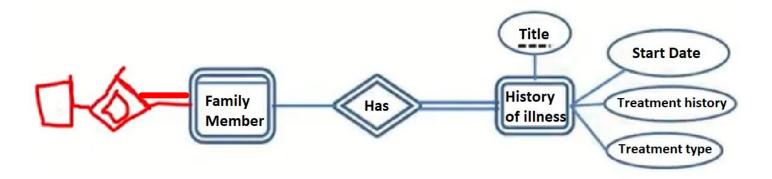
Degree

Title

Date

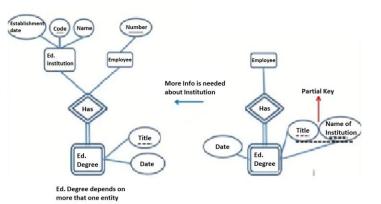
Date

 A weak entity set may participate as owner in an identifying relationship with another weak entity set.



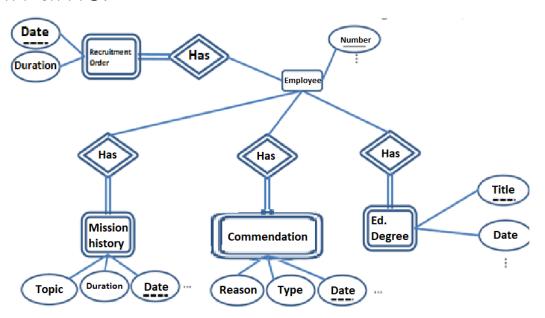
It is also possible to have a weak entity set with more than one

identifying entity set.

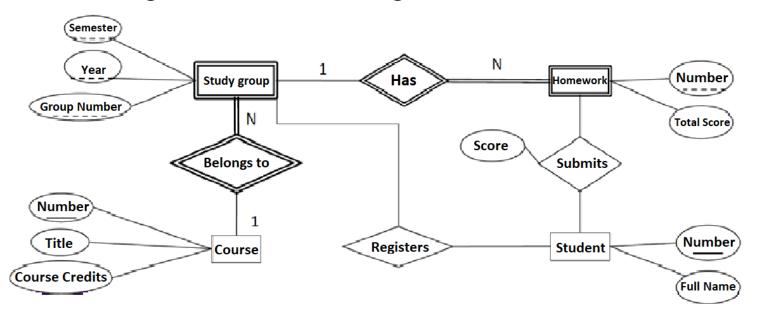


 A particular weak entity would then be identified by a combination of entities, one from each identifying entity set. The key attribute the weak entity set would consist of the union of the key attributes of the identifying entity sets, plus the discriminator of the weak entity set.

Iterative in time.



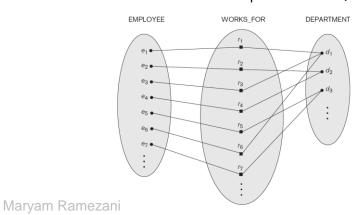
Weak Entity of a weak entity

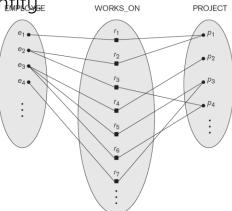


- We can convert any weak entity set to a strong entity set by simply adding ap propriate attributes. Why then, do we have weak entity sets?
 - We want to avoid the data duplication and consequent possible inconsistencies caused by duplicating the key of the strong entity.
 - Weak entities reflect the logical structure of an entity being dependent on another entity.
 - Weak entities can be deleted automatically when their strong entity is deleted.
 - Weak entities can be stored physically with their strong entities

Attributes of Relationship Types and Entity Types

- Attributes of relationship types can be migrated to one of the participating entity types:
 - 1:1 = can be attribute of any entities.
 - 1:N = can be migrated only to the entity type on the N-side of the relationship.
 - The decision where to place a relationship attribute—as a relationship type attribute or as an attribute of a participating entity type—is determined **subjectively by the schema designer**.
 - M:N = some attributes may be determined by the combination of participating entities in a relationship instance, not by any single entities works on PROJECT





Database Design

Weak Entity Type

- Not every existence dependency results in a weak entity type.
 - Example: DRIVER_LICENSE entity cannot exist unless it is related to a PERSON entity, even though it has its own key (License_number) and hence is not a weak entity
- Partial key or Discriminator:
 - The attribute that can uniquely identify weak entities that are related to the same owner entity.
 - In the worst case, a composite attribute of all the weak entity's attributes will be the partial key.
 - In ER diagram: partial key attribute is underlined with a dashed or dotted line.

Weak Entity Type in ER Model

 Weak entity type and its identifying relationship are represented by surrounding their boxes and diamonds with double lines

Partial key attribute is underlined with a dashed or dotted line

When use weak entity or complex attribute?

Data base designer choice

 If the weak entity type participates independently in relationship types other than its identifying relationship type.

Minit

Name

Lname

Address

EMPLOYEE

DEPENDENTS_OF

DEPENDENT

Birth date

Salary

Sex

Relationship

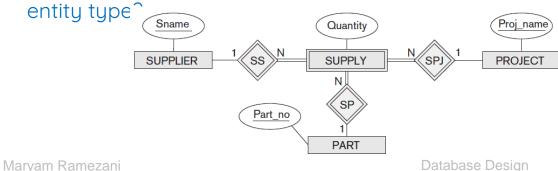
Fname

Bdate

Name

Sex

Can a weak entity have more than one identifying



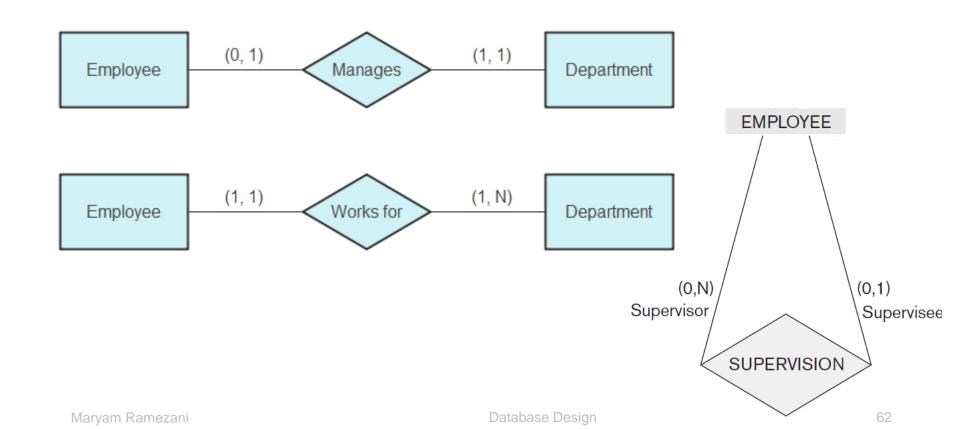
Design Choices for ER Conceptual Design

- A concept may be first modeled as an attribute and then refined into a relationship.
- An attribute that exists in several entity types may be elevated or promoted to an independent entity type.
- An inverse refinement to the previous case may be applied.

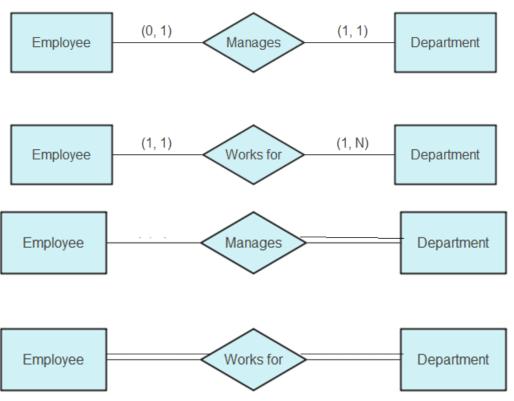
Design Choices for ER Conceptual Design

- If a concept is understood as an attribute, we consider it as a type of relationship. However, if it refers to a type of entity, we take it into account.
- If there is a relationship (from a semantic perspective) in several types
 of entities, they are regarded as shared entities, We consider the title of
 an attribute to be a type of independent entity.
- If there is only one type of entity, it has only one attribute and can only belong to one type, We consider it as an attribute.
- If a set of attributes can be identified as independent, it is regarded as a type of weak entity.

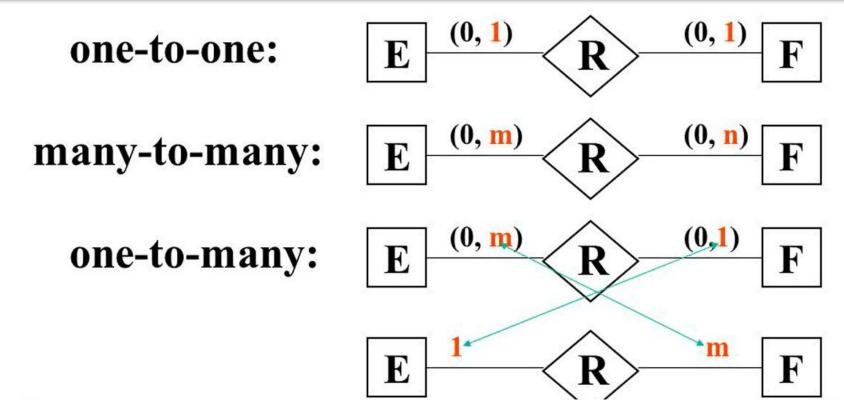
Alternative ER Notation for Specifying Structural Constraints on Relationships



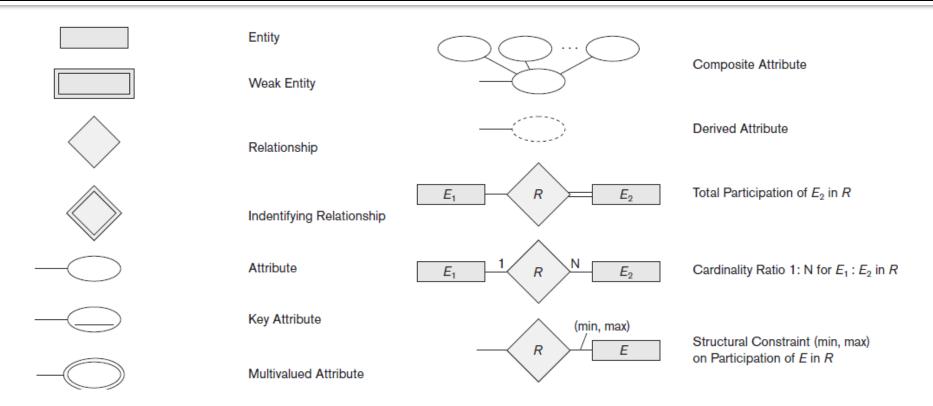
Connection between (min, max) & Partial, Total



Connection between (min,max) & Cardinality

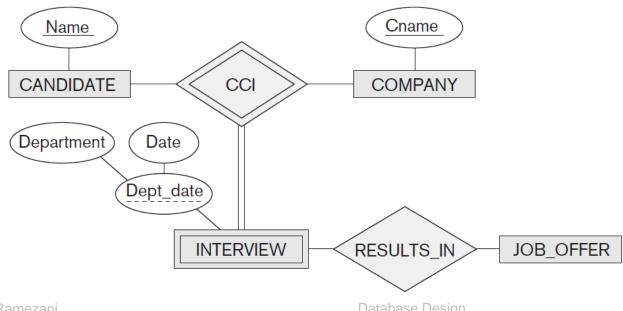


ER Notations



Some Examples

 A weak entity type INTERVIEW with a ternary identifying relationship type.

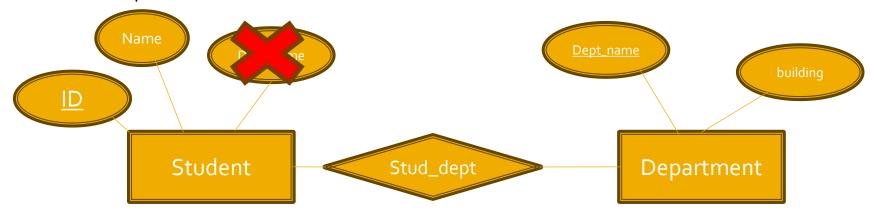


Database Design 66 Maryam Ramezani

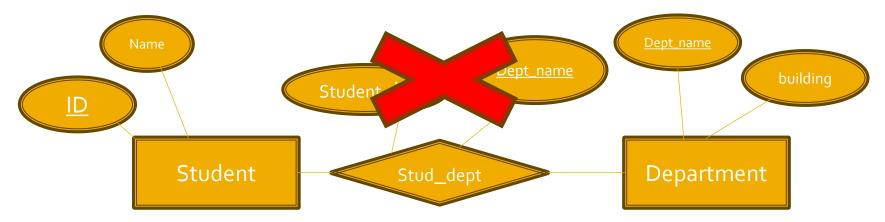
Use of Entity Sets versus Attributes

- Consider the entity set instructor with the additional attribute phone number.
- The location may be the office or home where the phone is located, with mobile (cell) phones perhaps represented by the value "mobile." Treating a phone as:
 - an attribute phone number: instructors have precisely one phone number each.
 - a phone as an entity phone :permits instructors to have several phone numbers (including zero) associated with them
 - To keep extra information about a phone.
 - phone number as a multivalued attribute: to allow multiple phones per instructor

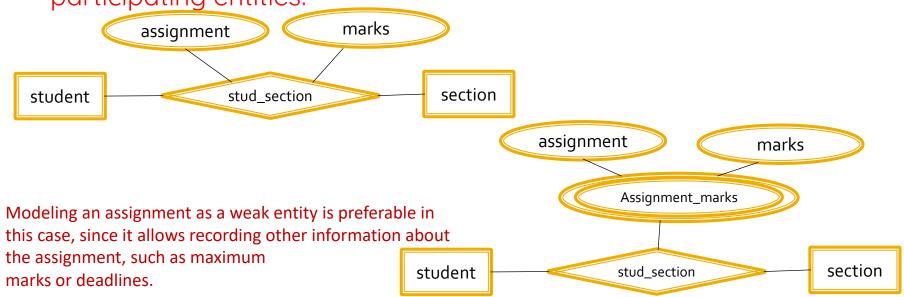
- Use of the key attribute of an entity set as an attribute of another entity set, instead of using a relationship:
 - Example of incorrect use of attribute:



- Designate the key attributes of the related entity sets as attributes of the relationship set
 - Example of incorrect use of attribute:



NOTE: relationship instances must be uniquely identified by the participating entities.

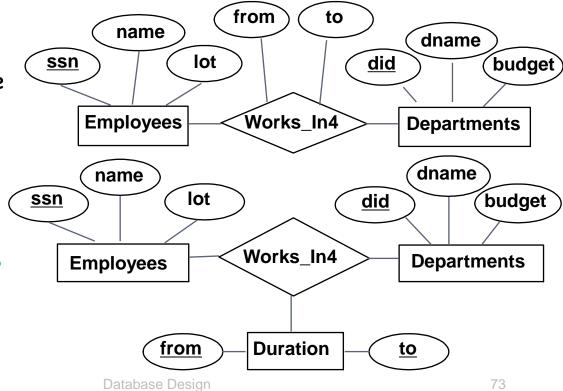


NOTE: relationship instances must be uniquely identified by the

participating entities.Works_In4 does not allow an employee to work in a department for two or more periods.

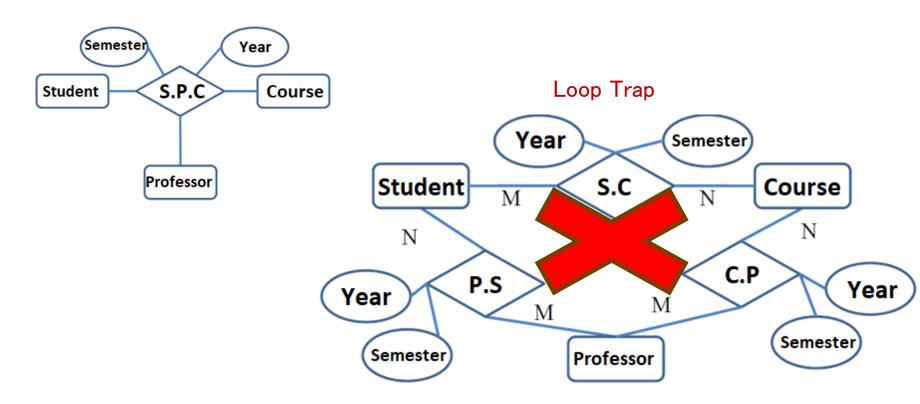
Similar to the problem of wanting to record several addresses for an employee: We want to record several values of the descriptive attributes for each instance of this relationship.

Accomplished by introducing new entity set, Duration.

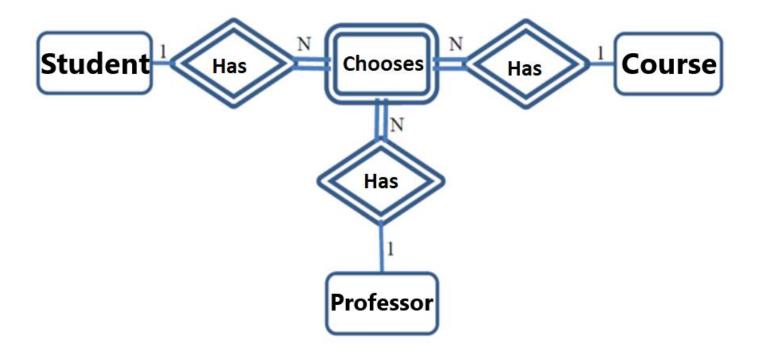


Maryam Ramezani

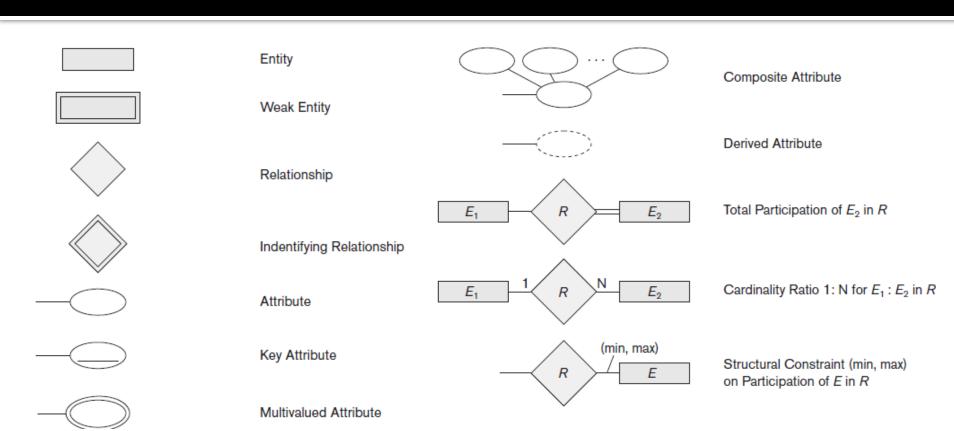
Ternary to Binary Relationship



Ternary to Binary Relationship



ER Notations



References

- Chapter 3 of FUNDAMENTALS OF Database Systems, SEVENTH EDITION
- Chapter 12 of Database Systems A Practical Approach to Design, Implementation, and Management, SIXth edition
- https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/difference-between-entity-entity-set-and-entitytype/
- https://afteracademy.com/blog/what-is-an-entity-entity-type-and-entity-set/