Mapping ER Diagrams To Relation Data Model (ER2RDM Mapping)

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

01

Introduction

Translating Relationship Set into Tables

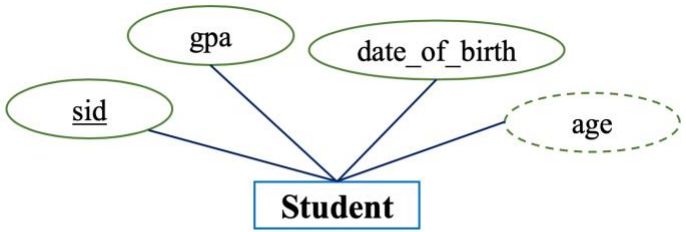
- Conceptual ER-models allow you to more accurately represent the subject area than logical models (relational, network, etc.).
- But, there are no DBMSs that support ER models.
- So, ER diagram is converted into the tables in Relational Data Model (RDM or RM).
- Relational models can be easily implemented by RDBMS like mySQL, MS SQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle etc.

Translating Relationship Set into Tables

- The **ER2RDM mapping method** is based on the formation of a set of initial relation tables from ER-diagrams (initial logical model) and based on this factors – atomic and multivalued of attribute, cardinality (max=one-many) and obligation (min=optional-mandatory) of relationship.
- At the next stage, the initial logical RD model are optimized (**normalized**).

3 Simple Rules for Entities

- A table is created for each entity:
  - 01) Each simple entity attribute corresponds to a current table column, derived entity attribute removed from a current table.
    - The primary key of the table will be the key attribute of the entity set.

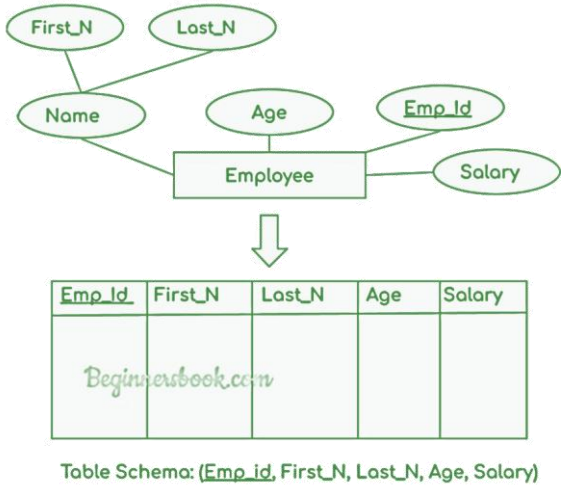


sid	gpa	date_of_birth

Schema: Student(sid, gpa, date_of_birth)

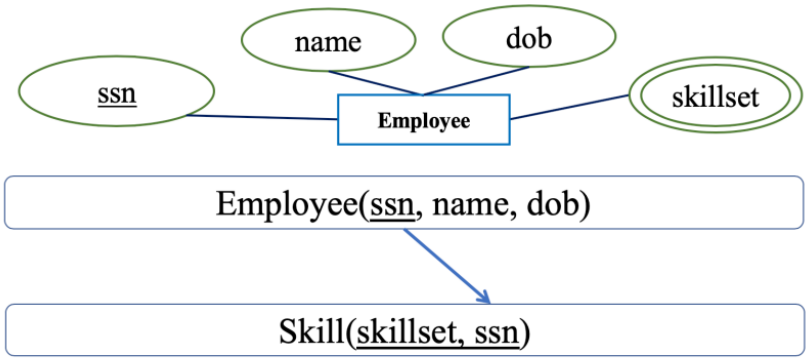
3 Simple Rules for Entities

- 02) Each element of composite attribute corresponds to a current table column. While conversion, simple attributes of the composite attributes are taken into account and not the composite attribute itself.



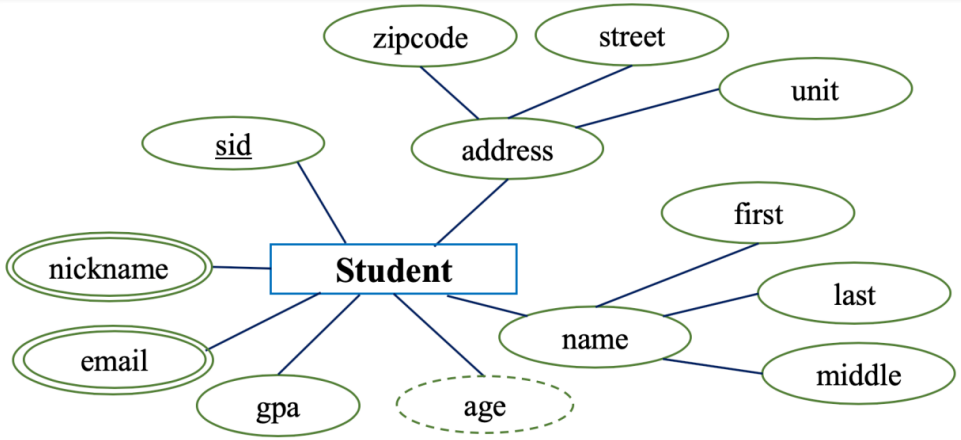
3 Simple Rules

- 03) A strong entity set with any number of multivalued attributes will require 2 tables in relational model.
  - One table will contain all the simple attributes with the primary key.
  - Other table will contain the primary key and all the multivalued attributes.



Key Attribute Migration (tranzition).

Let's Practice



Student(sid, zipcodeAddr, streetAddr, unitAddr, firstName, middleName, lastName, gpa, dob)

Nickname(sid, nickname)

Email(sid, email)

Some Notations

- We represent the primary key with a continuous underline.

Empolyee(Emp_no,Emp_name,Salary)

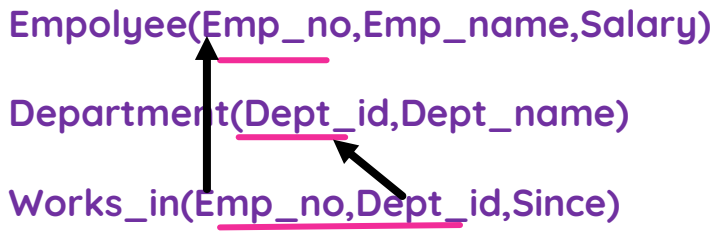
- We represent the foreign key with a dotted underline.

Empolyee(Emp_no,Emp_name,Salary)

Department(Dept_id,Dept_name)

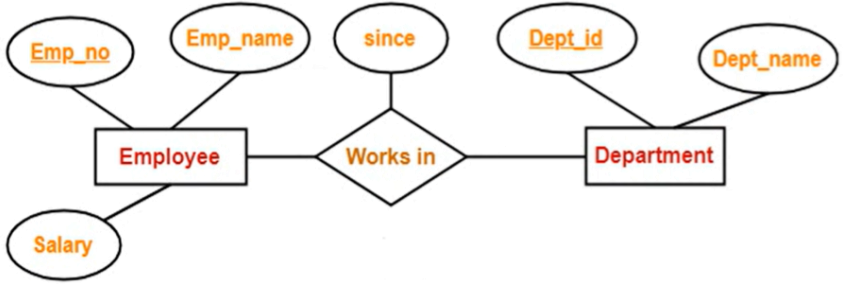
Works_in(Emp_no,Dept_id,Since)

- The attribute name of a relationship that has a foreign key to another relation is either kept the same (to make the reference clear), or we draw an arrow between them.



Relationship to Table

- One table for each entity type.
- One table for relationship type with:
  - Attributes are:
    - Primary key of participating entity sets.
    - Its own descriptive attributes if any.
  - Primary key:
    - Set of non-descriptive attributes



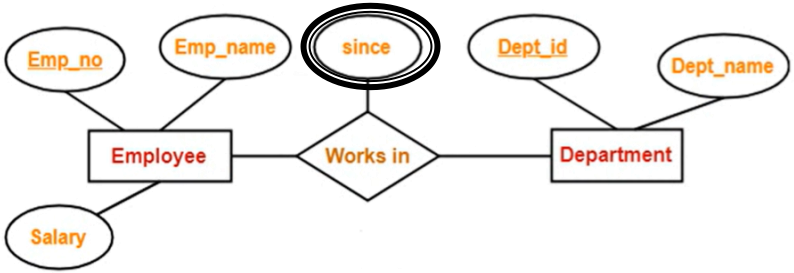
Empolyee(Emp_no,Emp_name,Salary)

Department(Dept_id,Dept_name)

Works_in(Emp_no,Dept_id,Since)

Relationship to Table

- If the relationship is unique by “since” attribute. “since” is a multivalued attribute, then its in the primary key of “Works_in” table.



Empolyee(Emp_no,Emp_name,Salary)

Department(Dept_id,Dept_name)

Works_in(Emp_no,Dept_name,Since)

02

Binary Relationship with Cardinality 1:1

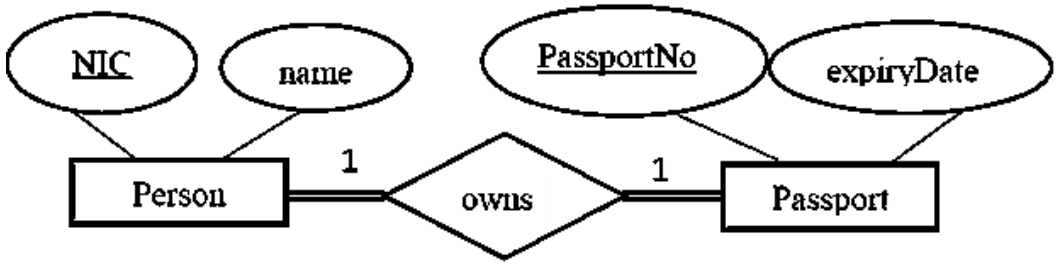
Three Possible Approaches

1) Merged Relation

2) Foreign key

3) Cross-reference

1) Both sides Total Participation



- Merged relation approach
  - One table by combine both entities and relationship.
  - Assign one PK from any of the entity types.

Person_passport(NIC,name,PassportNo,expiryDate)

OR

Person_passport(NIC,name,PassportNo,expiryDate)

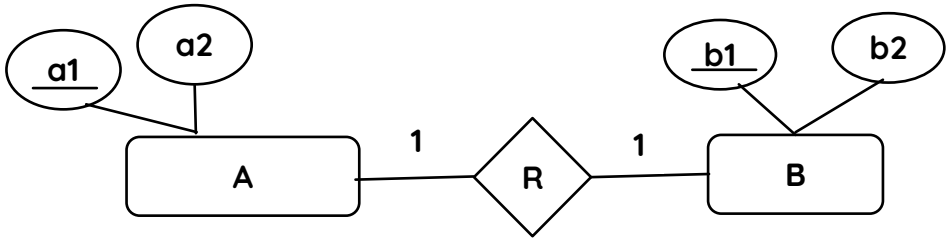
2) One side Total Participation

- Foreign key approach
  - Two table.
  - PK must to go Total Participation side as FK.

Department(DEID , PRID)

Professor(PRID)

3) Both side Partial Participation



- Merged relation approach
  - PK can go to either side.

A (a1 , a2)

BR (b1 , b2 , a1)

OR

AR (a1 , a2 , b1)

B (b1 , b2)

- Cross-reference approach
  - When number of participations are very low, maybe three table will be better to avoid null values:

A (a1 , a2)

B (b1 , b2)

R (a1,b1)

03

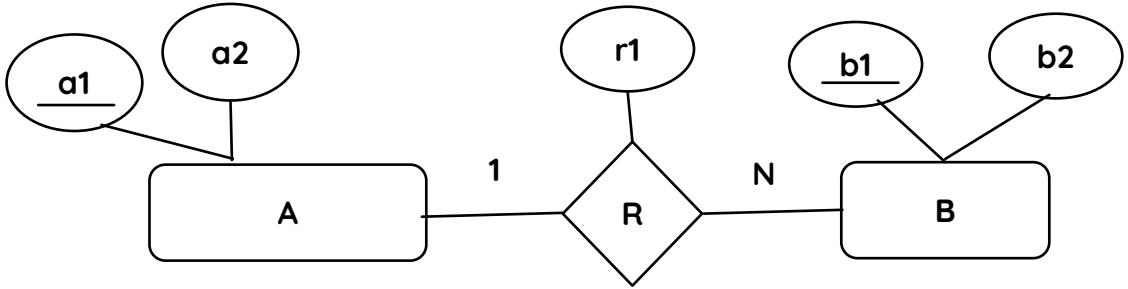
Binary Relationship with Cardinality 1:N

Two Possible Approaches

1) Merged Relation

2) Cross-reference

1) Strong Entity Types



- First solution: Merged relation approach
  - Two tables for two entities
  - PK of 1 side go to N side
  - **Note: If there are any descriptive attributes they also go to the N side (Wherever the FK goes, descriptive attributes goes there)**

A (a1 , a2)

BR (b1 , b2 , a1, r1)

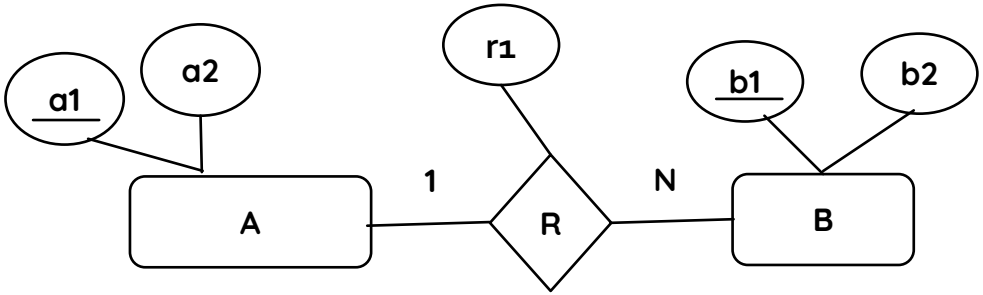
1) Strong Entity Types – Continue

- Second solution: Cross-reference approach
  - Three tables:

A (a1 , a2)

B (b1 , b2)

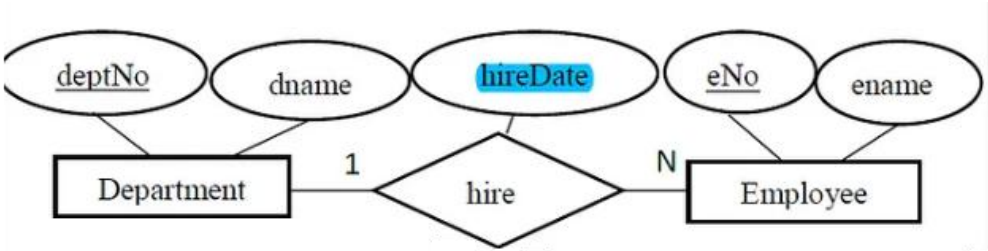
R (a1,b1,r1)



- When second solution is preferred?
  - To avoid null values in table "BR": Number of "B" entity set not participated in "R" relationship is large (so, "B" must be partial participated).
  - The frequency of reference to the relation "R" is high while other attributes with a lower frequency are needed.
  - Attributes of "R" is too large, which leads to large columns for table "B".

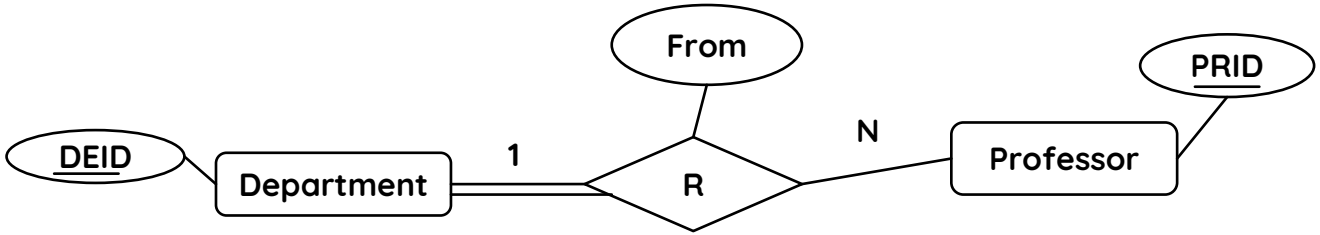
1) Strong Entity Types – Continue

- Examples



Department(deptNo, dname)

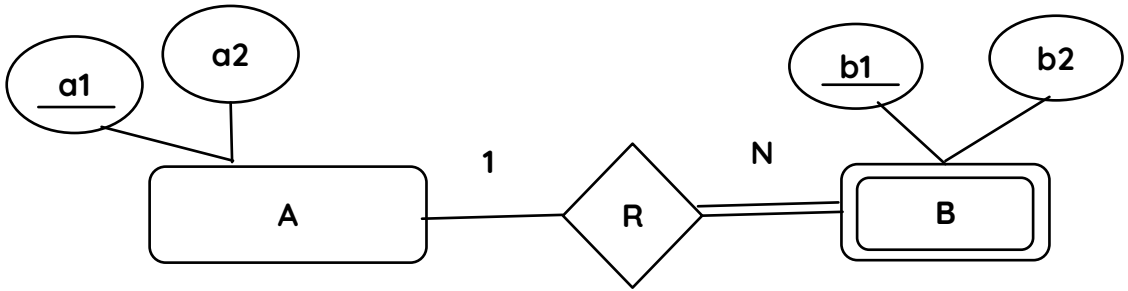
Employee(eNo, ename, deptNo,hireDate)



DEP (DEID)

PRO (PRID , DEID, From)

3) Strong Entity Type and Weak Entity Type



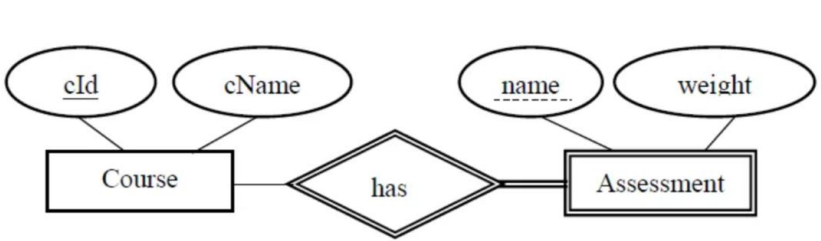
- PK of Owner Entity goes to combine with the Partial Key of the Weak Entity to form the PK.

A (a1 , a2)

B (b2 , b1 , a1)

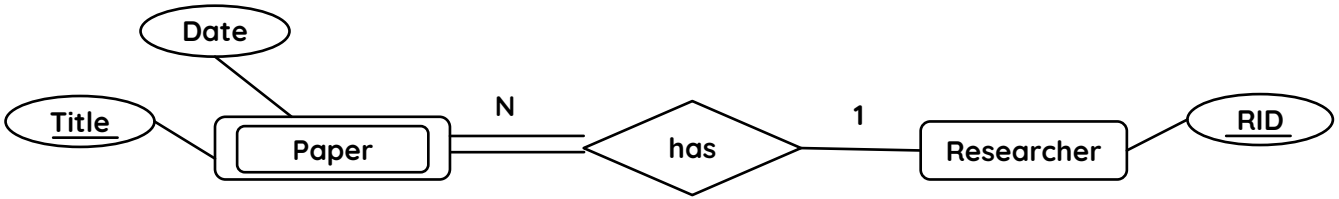
3) Strong Entity Type and Weak Entity Type

- Examples



Course (cId, cName)

Assessment (cId, name,weight)



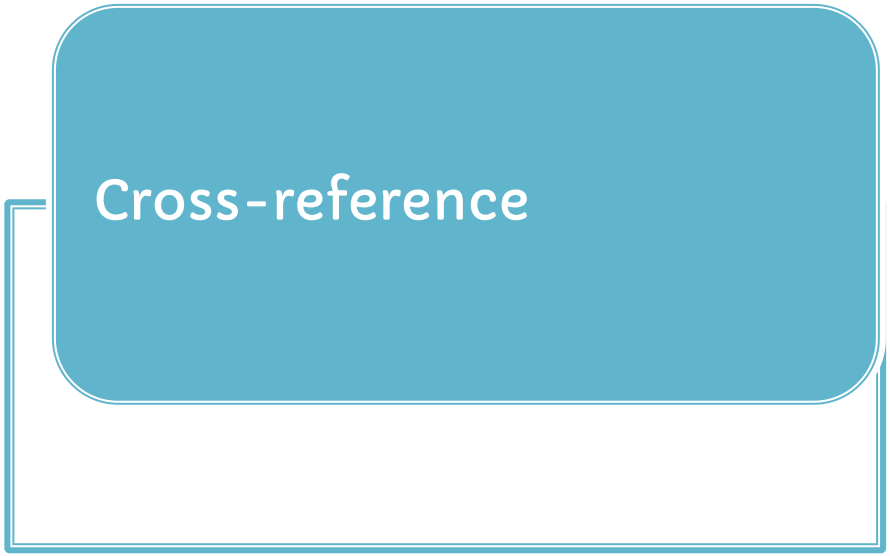
Paper (PRID,Title,Date)

Researcher (RID)

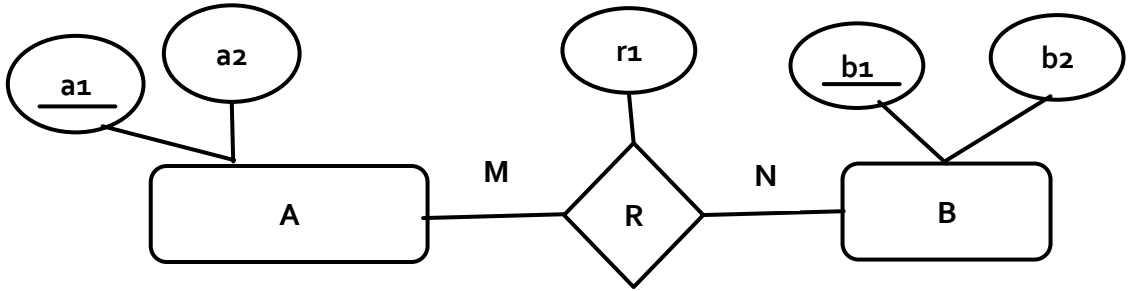
04

Binary Relationship with Cardinality M:N

One Possible Approaches



1) Single Attribute for Relationship



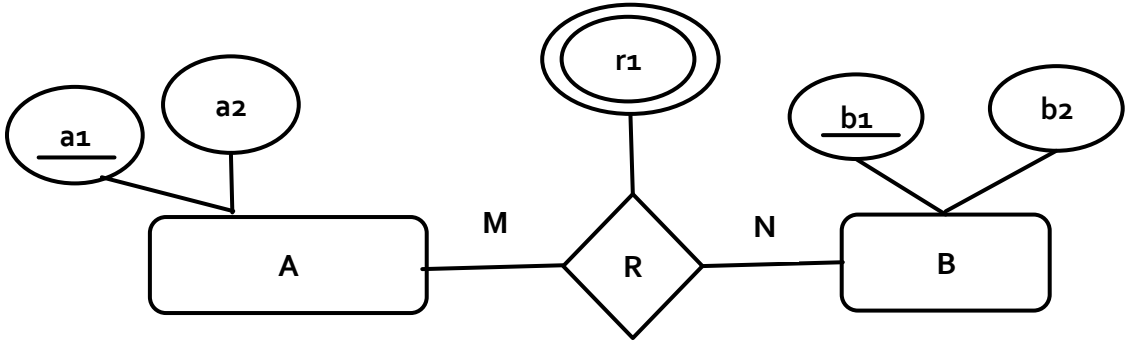
- A table/relation for the Relationship is created including the PK's of the participating entities and descriptive attributes, if any.

A (a1 , a2)

B (b1 , b2)

R (a1 , b1 , r1)

2) Multivalued Attribute for Relationship

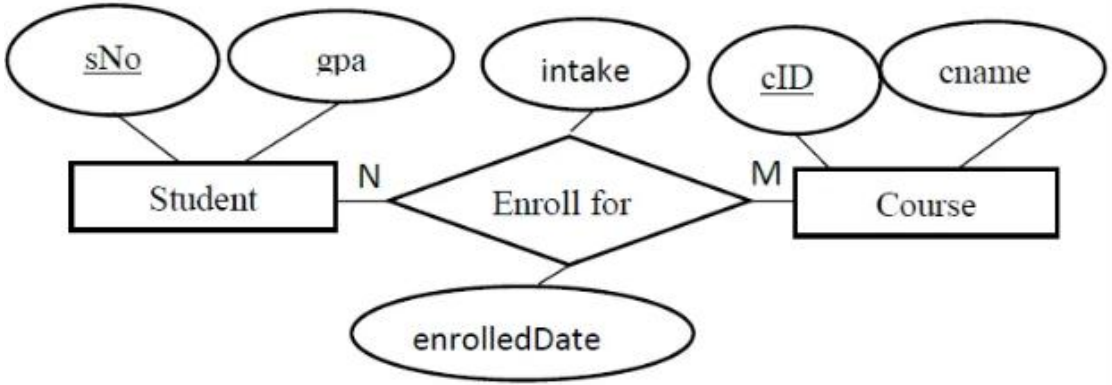


A (a1 , a2)

B (b1 , b2)

R (a1 , b1 , r1)

Examples



Student (sNo, gpa)

EnrollFor (sNo,cID, intake, enrolledDate)

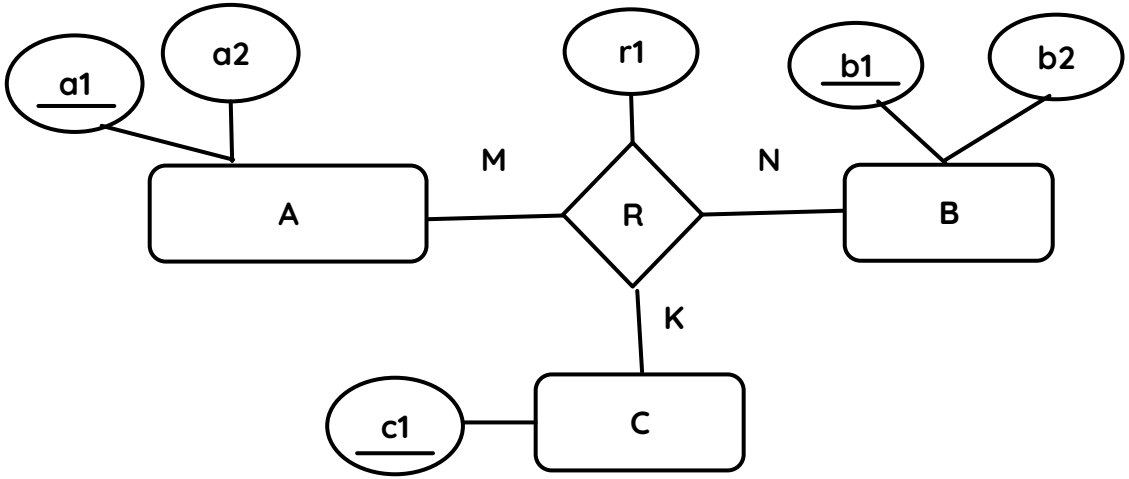
Course (cID, cname)

05

Ternary Relationship with Cardinality M:N:K

One Possible Approaches

1) Single Attribute for Relationship



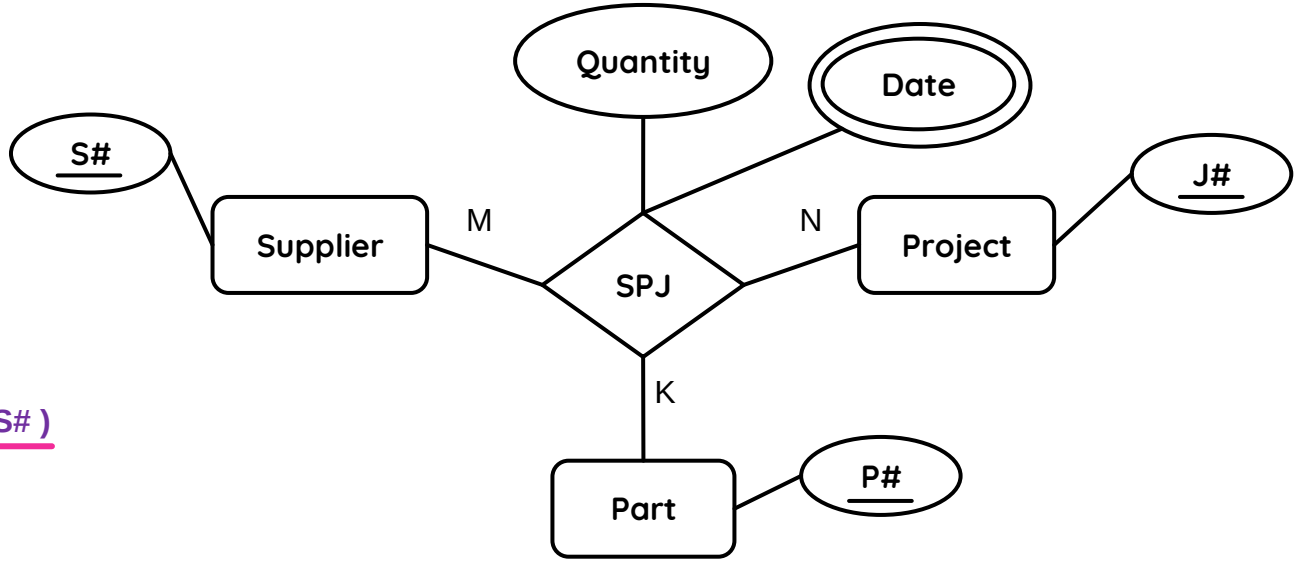
A (a1 , a2)

B (b1 , b2)

C (c1)

R (a1 , b1 , c1 , r1)

Example: Multivalued Attribute for Relationship



Supplier (S#)

Part (P#)

Project (J#)

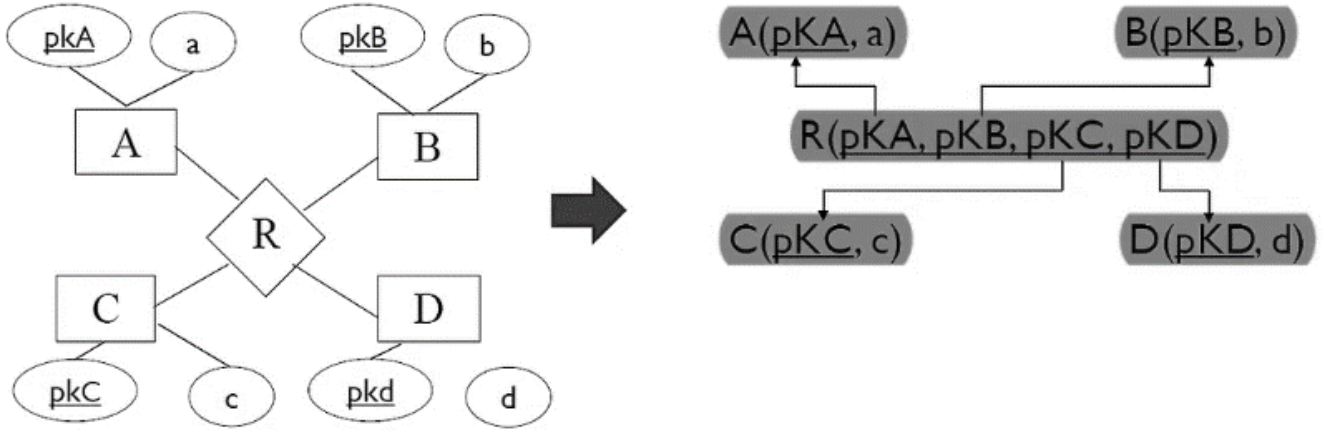
SPJ (S# , J# , P# , Date, Quantity)

06

N-ARY Relationship

N-ARY Relationship

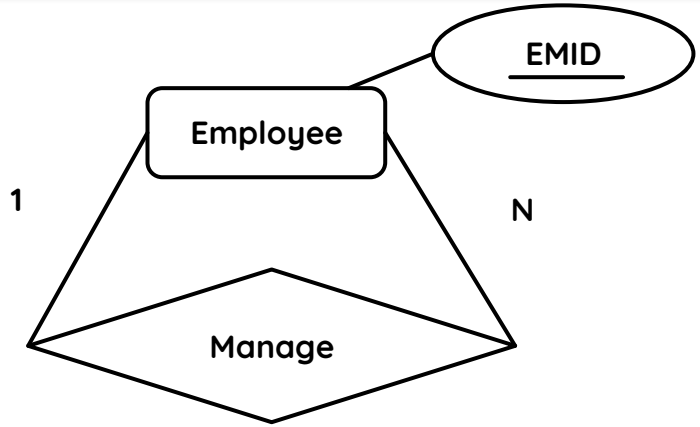
- N-ary relationship is mapped in to a “Relationship” relation and foreign keys.
  - “N” means Degree greater than 2
  - Review: Degree = No of Entities attached to the relationship.



07

Unitary Relationship with Cardinality 1:N

1:N Unitary Relationship



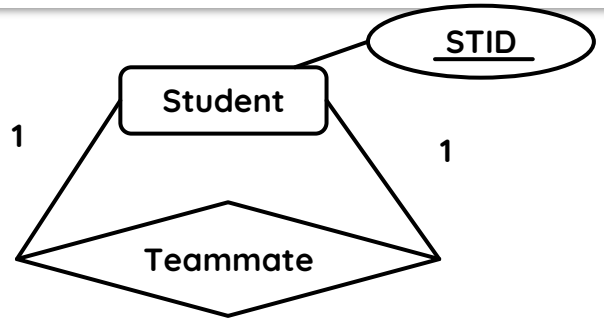
- One table:

EMPL (EMID , EMGRID)

08

Unitary Relationship with Cardinality 1:1

1:1 Unitary Relationship



- Solution for when there are not many people without group members.

EMPL (EMID , EMGRID)

Unique

- Solution for when there are many people without group members.

EMPL (EMID)

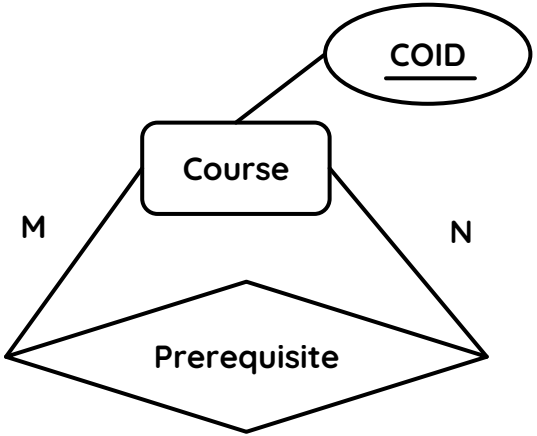
TEAMMATE (EMID , EMGRID)

Unique

09

Unitary Relationship with Cardinality M:N

M:N Unitary Relationship

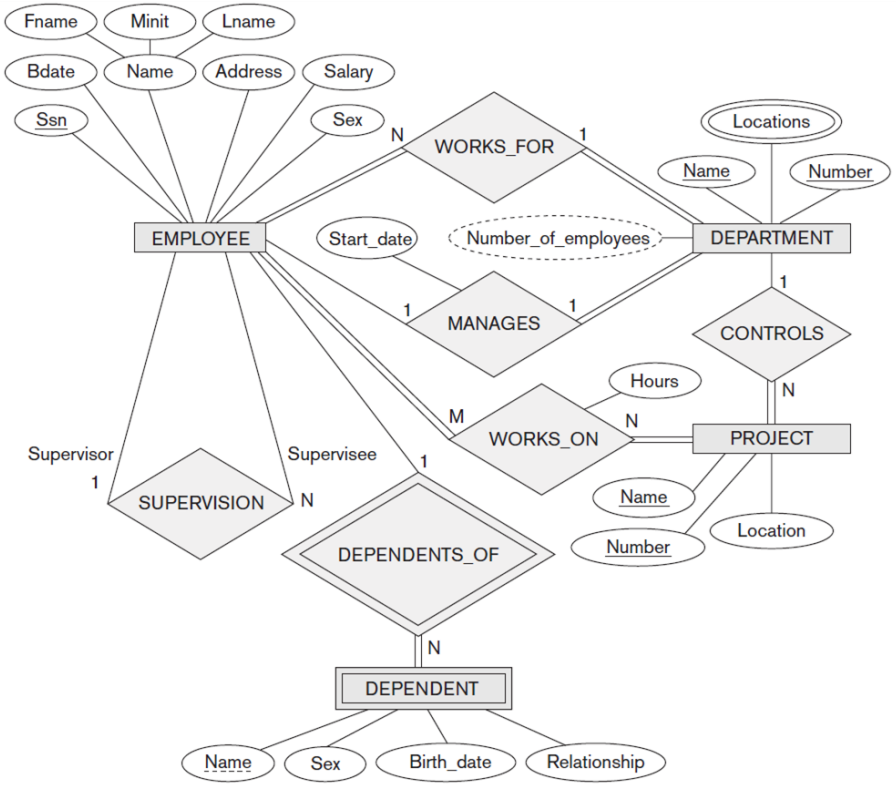


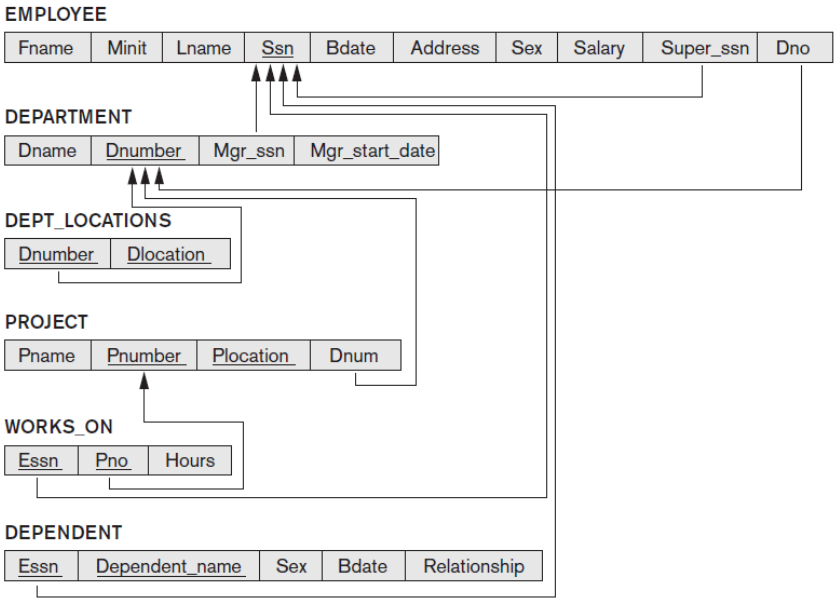
- Two tables:

Prerequisite (COID , PRECOID)

Course (COID)

Example


Fname
Minit
Lname
Bdate
Name
Address
Salary
Ssn
Sex
N
WORKS_FOR
1
Locations
Name
Number
EMPLOYEE
Start_date
Number_of_employees
DEPARTMENT
1
1
MANAGES
1
CONTROLS
N
Hours
M
WORKS_ON
N
PROJECT
Supervisor
1
Supervisee
1
SUPERVISION
N
Name
Location
Number
DEPENDENTS_OF
N
DEPENDENT
Name
Sex
Birth_date
Relationship


EMPLOYEE
Fname
Minit
Lname
Ssn
Bdate
Address
Sex
Salary
Super_ssn
Dno
DEPARTMENT
Dname
Dnumber
Mgr_ssn
Mgr_start_date
DEPT_LOCATIONS
Dnumber
Dlocation
PROJECT
Pname
Pnumber
Plocation
Dnum
WORKS_ON
Essn
Pno
Hours
DEPENDENT
Essn
Dependent_name
Sex
Bdate
Relationship

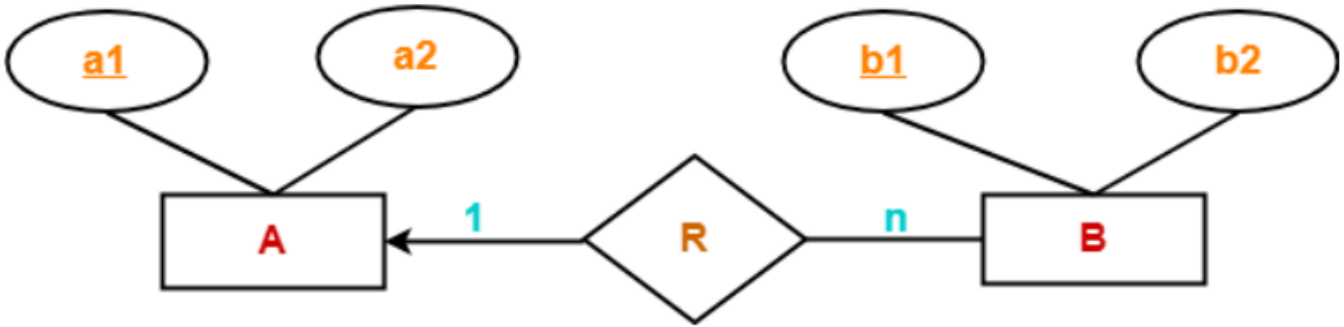
Conclusion

- Correspondence between ER and Relational Models

ER MODEL	RELATIONAL MODEL
Entity type	*Entity* relation
1:1 or 1:N relationship type	Foreign key (or *relationship* relation)
M:N relationship type	*Relationship* relation and *two* foreign keys
n-ary relationship type	*Relationship* relation and *n* foreign keys
Simple attribute	Attribute
Composite attribute	Set of simple component attributes
Multivalued attribute	Relation and foreign key
Value set	Domain
Key attribute	Primary (or secondary) key

Notes

- In some references, the ER notation is as the follows, where the **arrow** indicates cardinality **1** and **line** indicates cardinality.



10

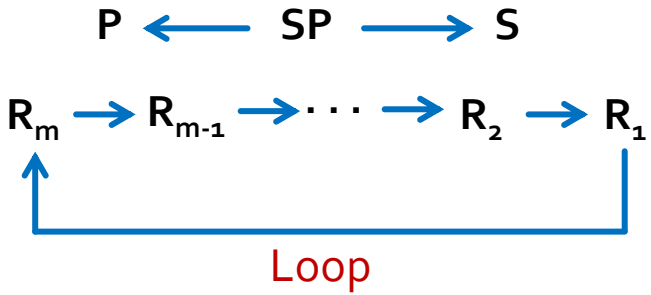
Referential Integrity

Referential Integrity Rules

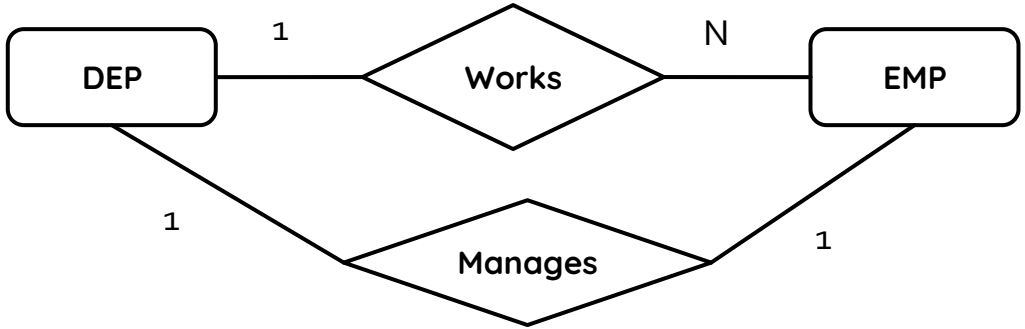
- The main rules of referential integrity are to ensure that:
  - A foreign key value in one table corresponds to an existing primary key value in another table.
  - When a primary key value is deleted, all foreign key values that reference it are also deleted or set to null.
  - When a primary key value is updated, all foreign key values that reference it are also updated.
- Referential integrity is enforced by creating relationships between tables and enforcing integrity constraints, such as the use of foreign key constraints, which ensure that referential integrity is maintained in the database.

Referential Integrity Graph

- We can diagrammatically display referential integrity constraints by drawing a directed arc from each foreign key to the relation it references.
- For clarity, the arrowhead may point to the primary key of the referenced relation.



Loop-Referencing with two relationships



E#: Employee ID of the manager

D#: Department ID

DEPT (D#, DTITLE, … , E#)

Unique

EMPL (E#, ENAME, …, D#)

DEPT ⇄ **EMPL**

Self-Referencing (Loop-Referencing with one relationship)

Manager ID with renamed name

EMPL (E#, ENAME, ELASTNAME, …, EPHONE, EMANAGER#)

Loop-Referencing with three relationships

Dep of prof

PROF (PRID, PRNAME, …, DEID)

DEPT(DEID, DTITLE, …., UNID)

UNIV(UNID, UNAME, …, UNPRESNUM)

PRID of manager of university

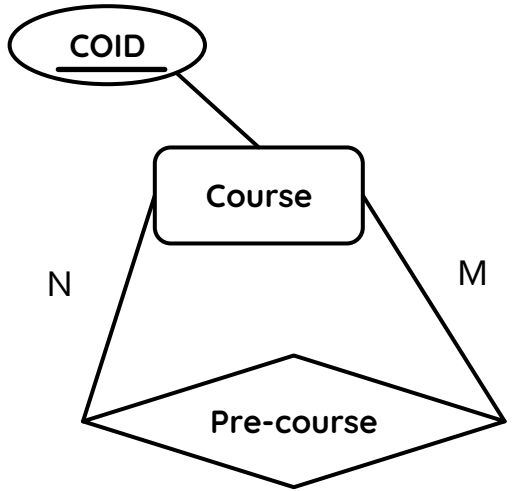
- Draw the ER of this logical model!

Note

- Does the loop in ER necessarily make a loop-referencing?
  - No!!! Look at the cardinality of relationships! Example:

COT (COID, …)

COPRECO(COID, PRECO)

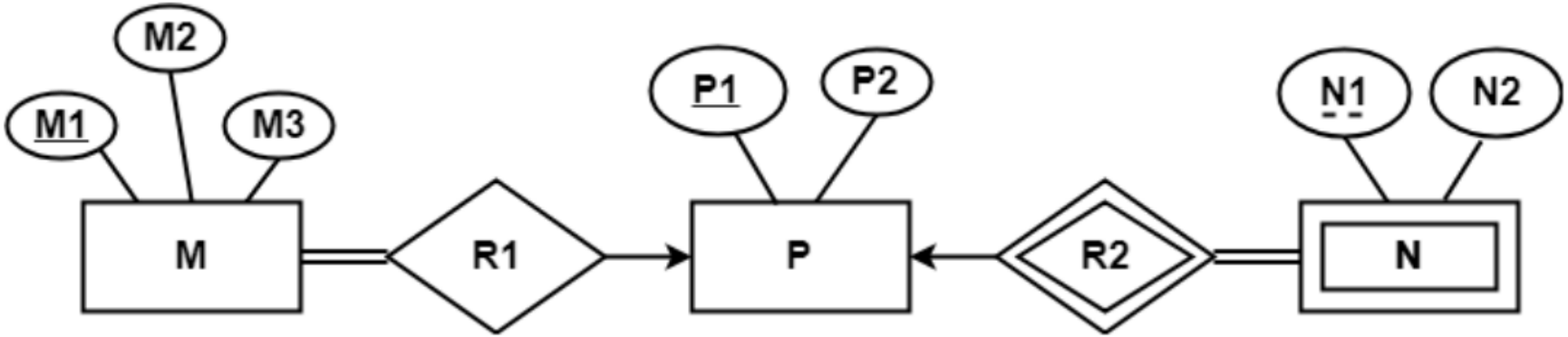


11

Practice Problems

Find the minimum number of tables required for the following ER diagram in relational model

Example #1



Solution:

MR1(M1, M2, M3, P1)

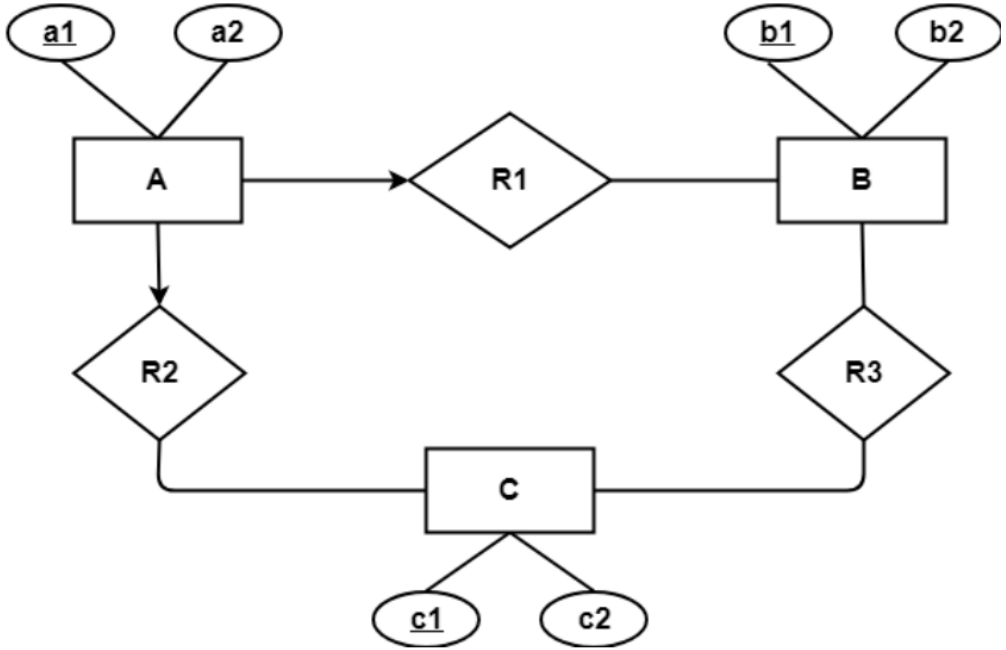
P(P1, P2)

NR2(P1. N1, N2)

Example #2

Solution:

AR1R2(a1, b1, c1 , a2)
B(b1, b2)
C(c1, c2)
R3(b1, c1)



References

- Chapter 9 of FUNDAMENTALS OF Database Systems, SEVENTH EDITION
- Chapter 6 Part 7 of DATABASE SYSTEM CONCEPTS, SIXTH EDITION.
- Chapter 4 of Database Systems A Practical Approach to Design, Implementation, and Management, SIXth edition