Database Normalization and Entity Relationship (ER) Model

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Interpret the Entity-Relationship Model(ER)
- List down the components of ER Diagram
- Create relationship sets
- Outline relationship degree



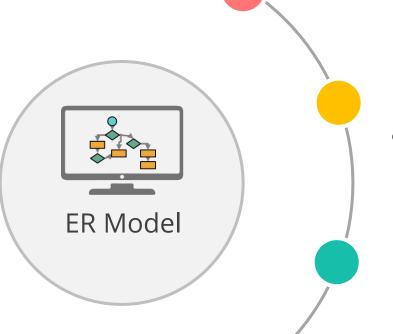


Entity-Relationship (ER) Model



Entity-Relationship (ER) Model

An Entity-relationship model (ER model) is a data model which describes the design of database with the help of Entity-relationship Diagram.



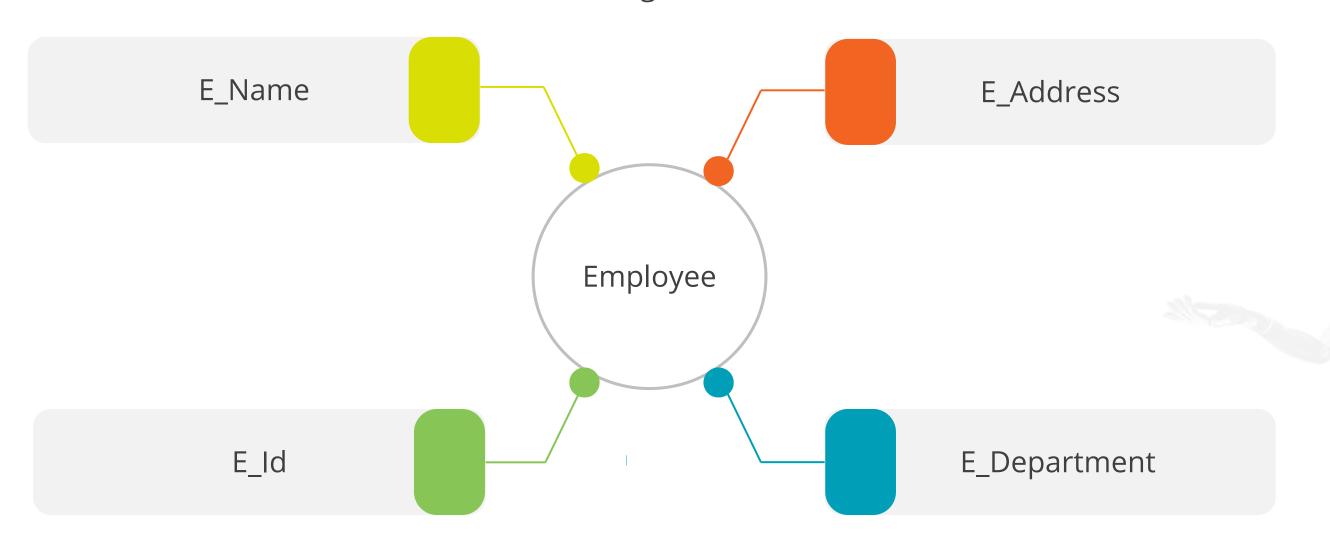
It is an architecture or blueprint of a database that may be implemented later as a database.

Entity set and relationship set are the two primary components of the E-R model.

The ER-Diagram is a graphical representation of data that shows how data is distributed and related to each other.

Entity-Relationship (ER) Model

For example: Suppose you design an HR database, the employee will be an entity with the following attributes:



The address can be another entity with attributes, such as country, city, landmark, street name, and pin code, and there will be a relationship between them.

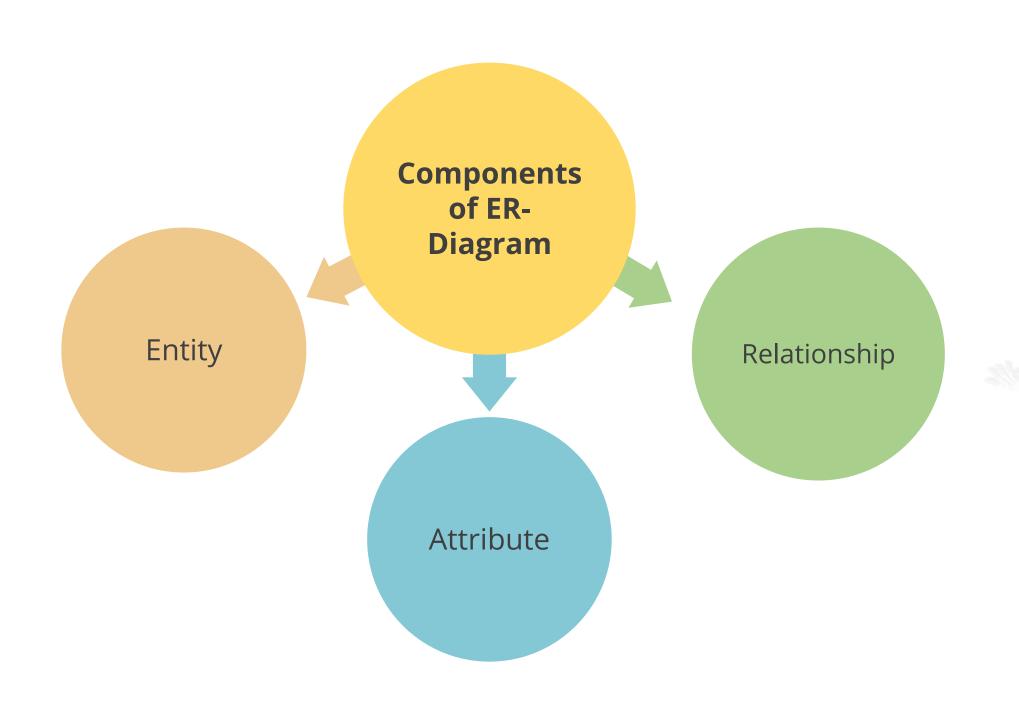




Components of ER Diagram



Components of (ER) Diagram





Entity

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Entity

Any object, class, or component of data can be considered an entity. In an ER diagram, entities are represented by a rectangle.

Employee

Department

Organization



Entity

Weak Entity: A weak entity is one that is reliant on another entity. There are no key attributes in the weak entity. A weak entity is represented by a double rectangle.

Salary Account

Bank





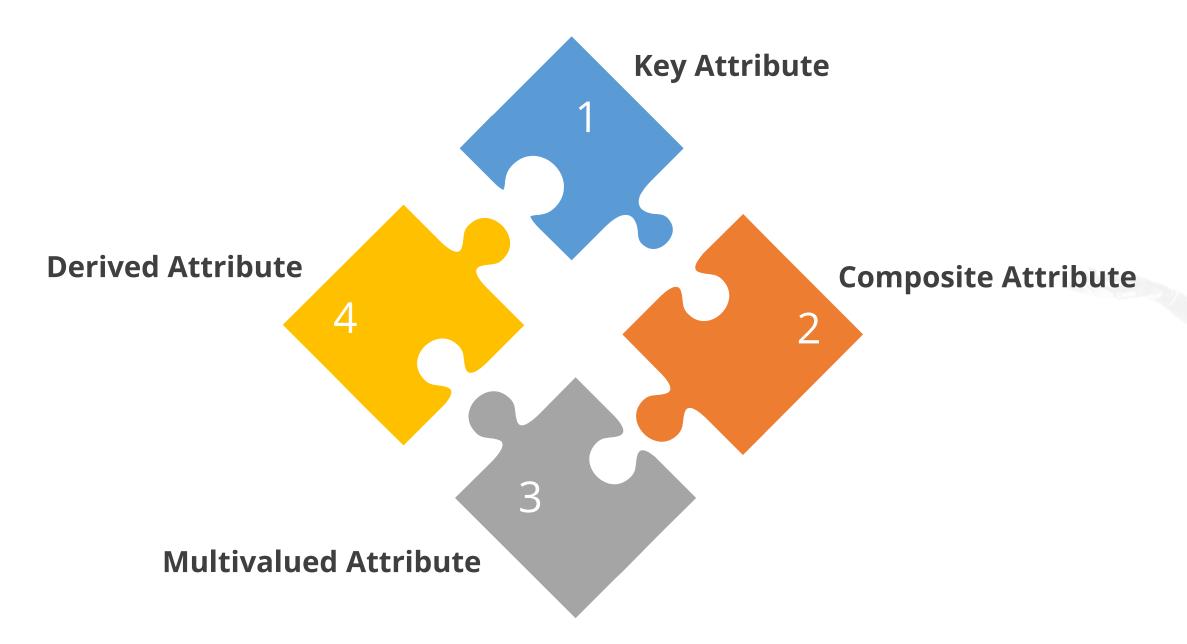
Attributes



Attributes

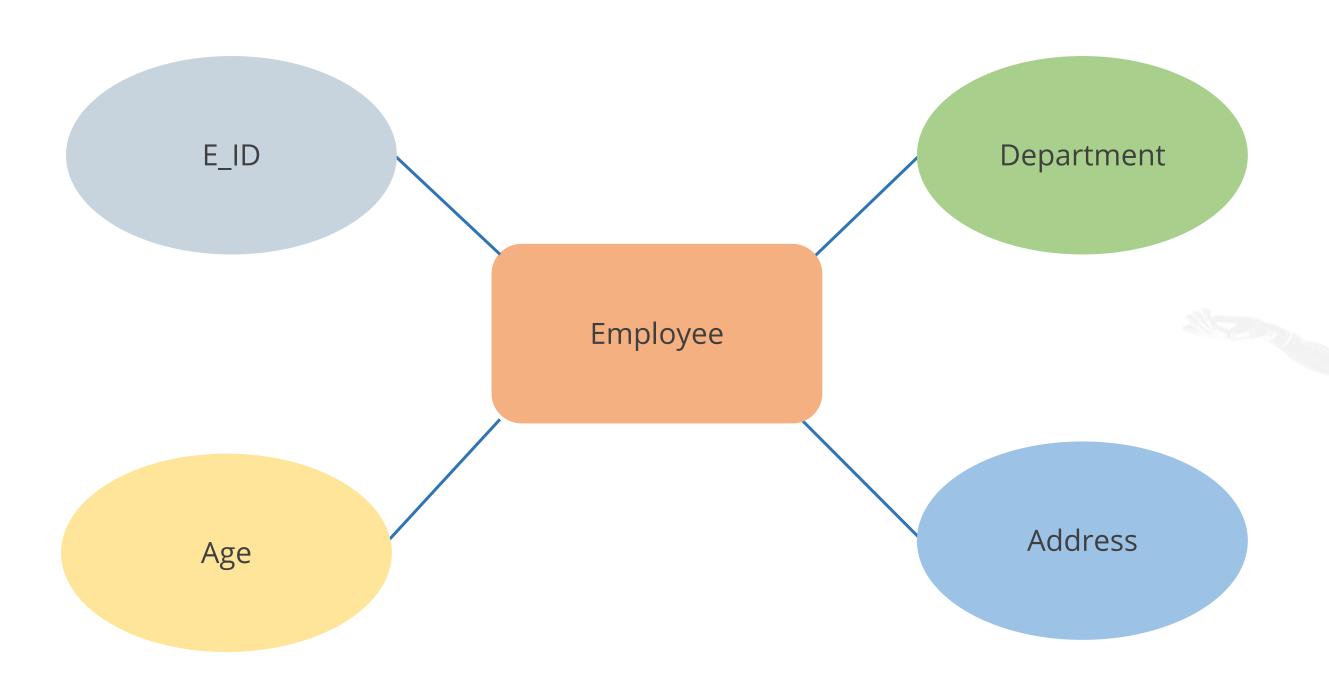
The properties of entities are known as attributes and an attribute is represented by ellipses.

There are four types of attributes:



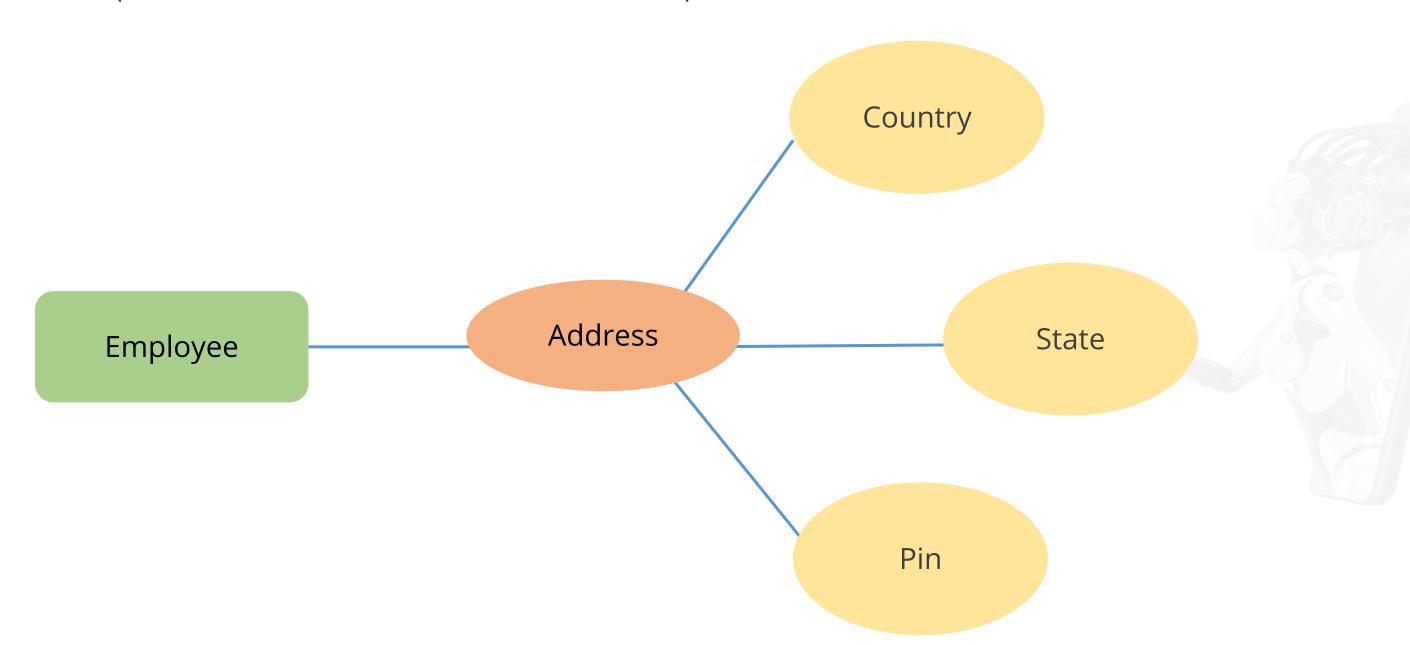
Key Attributes

A key attribute can be used to identify one entity from a group of entities.



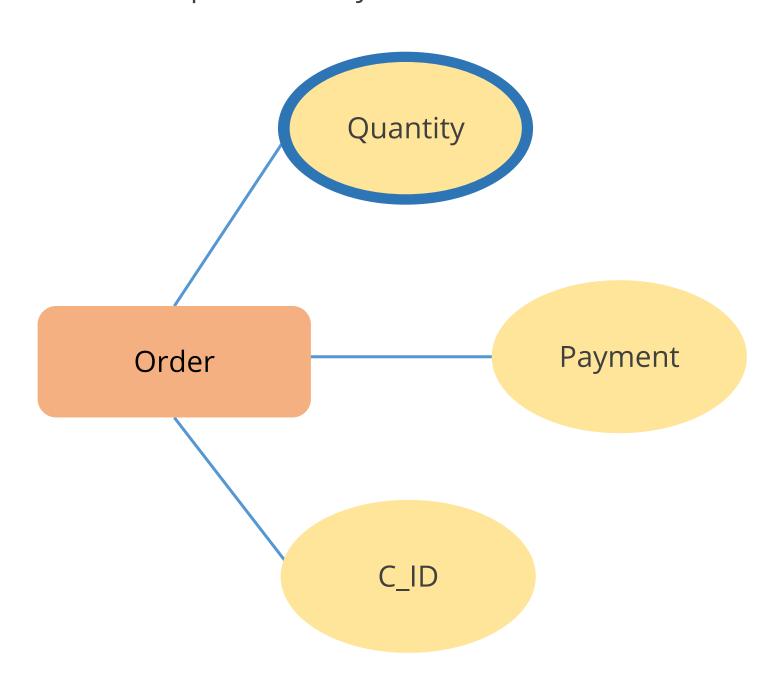
Composite Attributes

A composite attribute is an attribute that is composed of several other attributes.



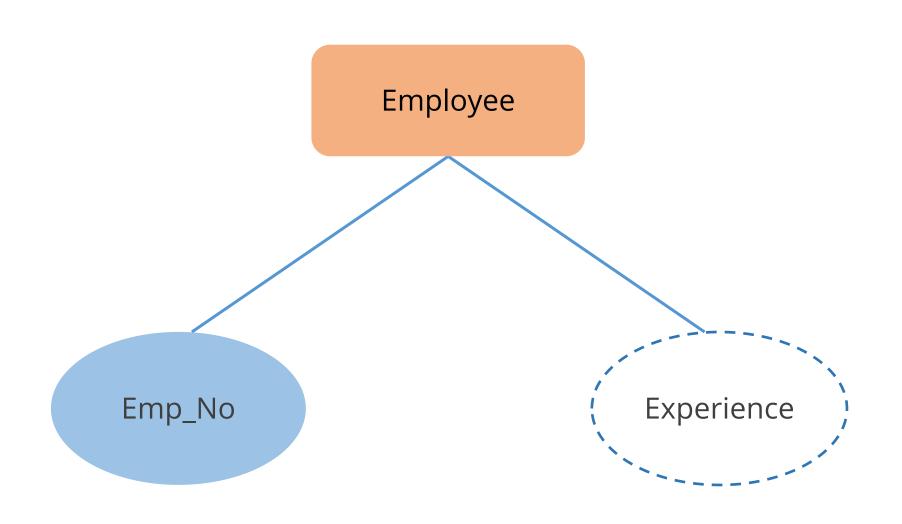
Multivalued Attributes

A multivalued attribute is a kind of attribute that has multiple values. A multivalued attribute is represented by a double oval.



Derived Attributes

Derivative attributes are attributes that can be derived from other attributes. A dashed ellipse can be used to illustrate this.

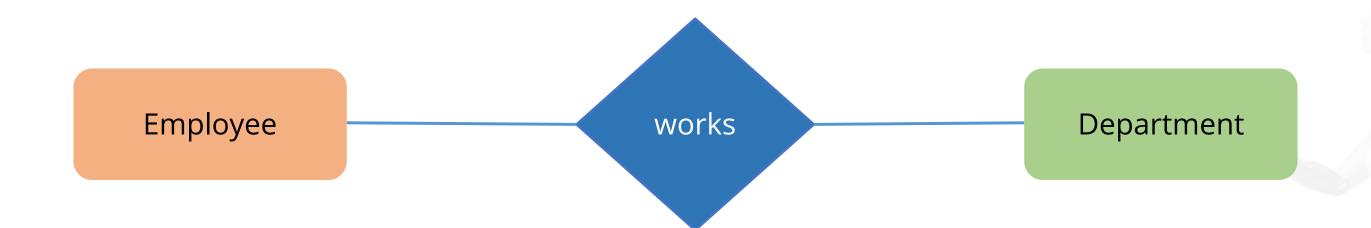




Relationship

Relationship

Relationship: A relationship is a term used to describe the connection between two or more entities. The relationship is represented as a diamond or rhombus.





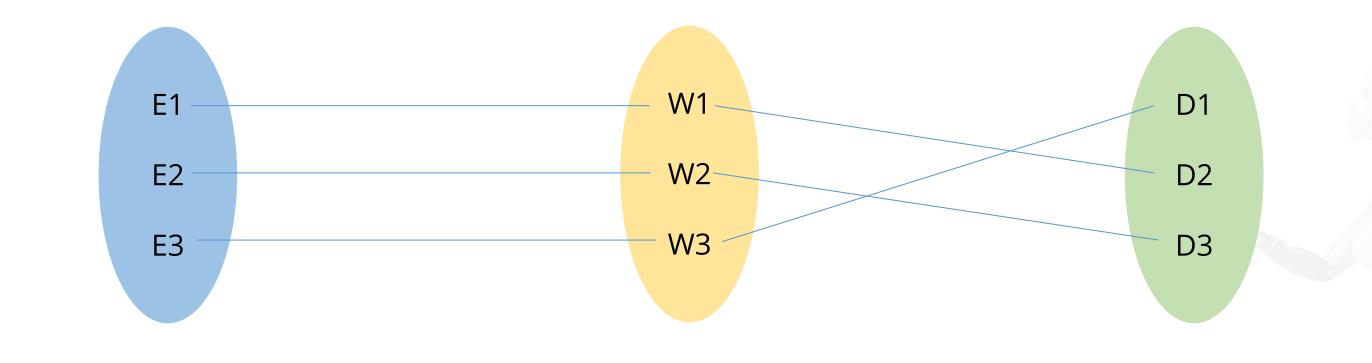
Relationship Sets



Employee Entity Set

Relationship Set

Relationship set: A relationship set is a group of similar type of relationships.



The above relationship set depicts that E1 works in D2, E2 works in D3, and E3 works in D1.

Relationship Entity Set

Department Entity Set



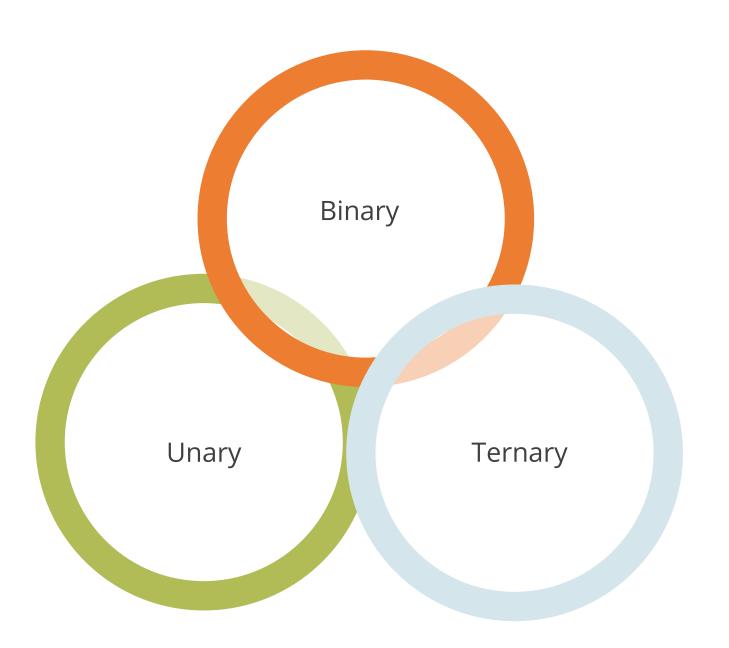
Relationship Degree



Relationship Degree

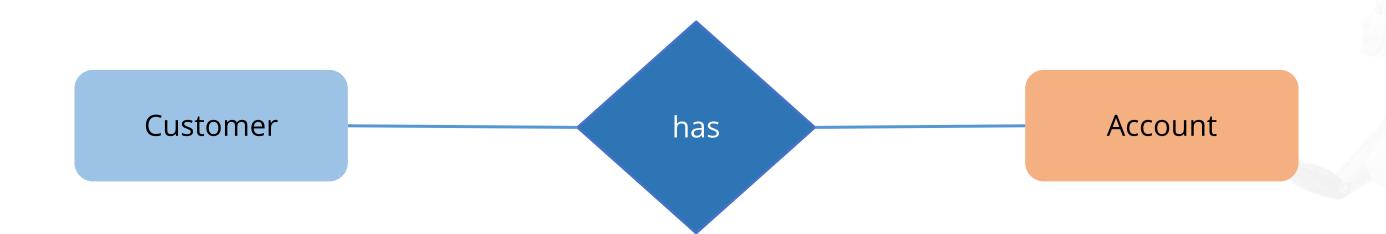
Relationship Degree: The degree of a relationship is determined by the number of entities that participate in it.

The three most common degrees of relationships in ER models are:



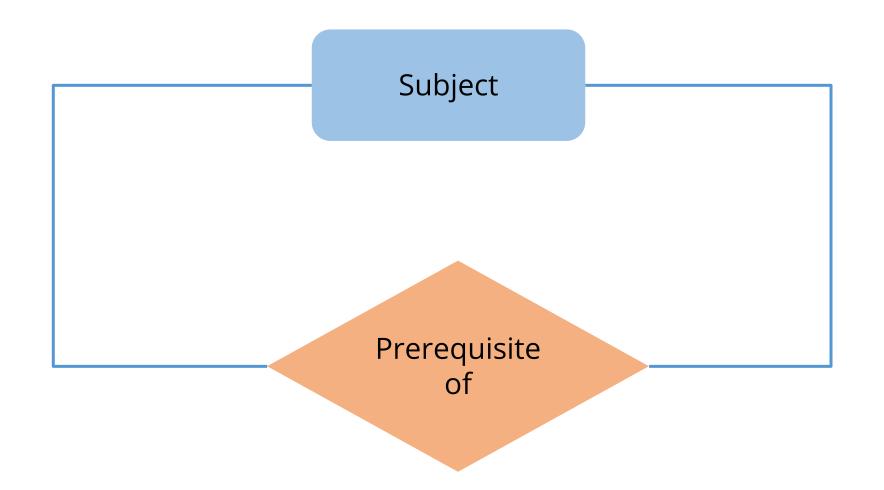
Binary Relationship

The most common type of relationship is a binary relationship, which involves two entities.



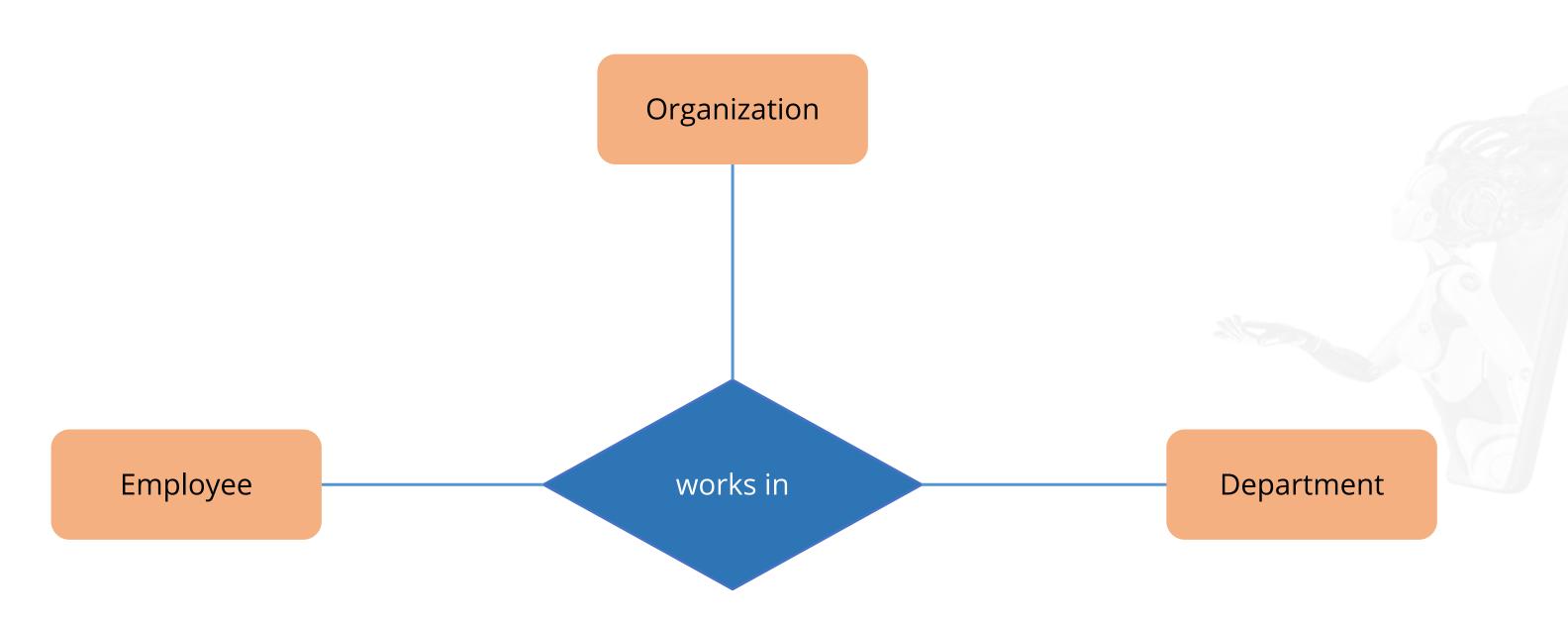
Unary Relationship

When both partners in a relationship are the same entity, the relationship is said to be unary.



Ternary Relationship

A ternary relationship is one where three entities are involved.



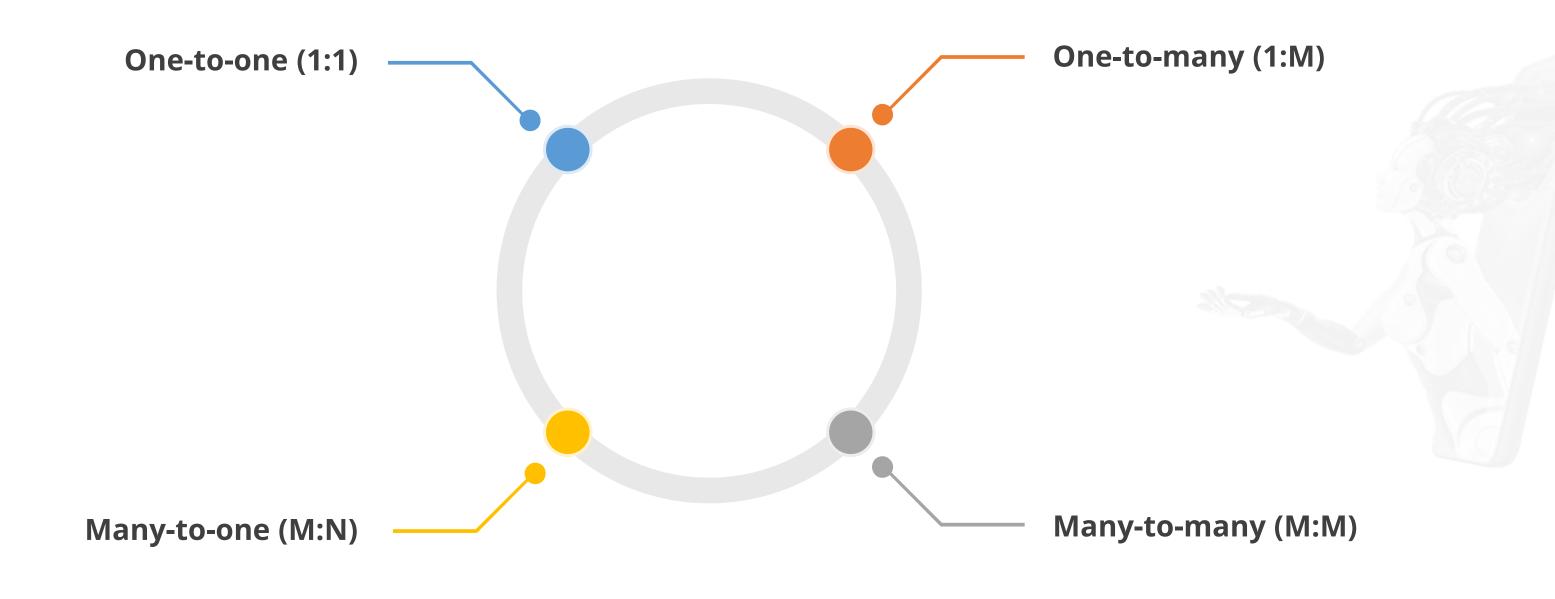


Types of Relationships



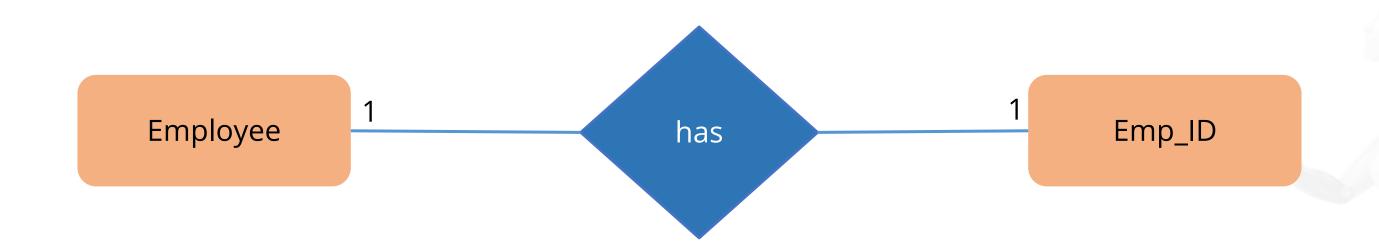
Types of Relationships

There are four types of relationships:



One-to-One (1:1)

A one-to-one relationship exists when a single instance of one entity is connected with a single instance of another entity.



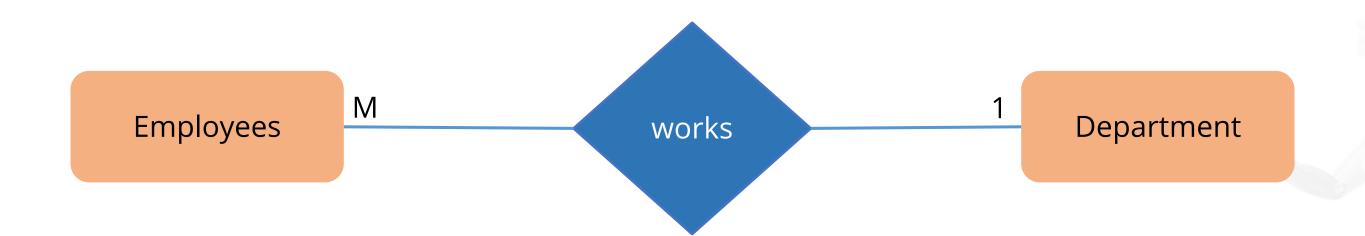
One to Many (1:M)

When a single instance of one entity is connected to several instances of another entity, this is referred to as a one-to-many relationship.



Many-to-One (M:N)

A many-to-one relationship exists when several instances of one entity are connected to a single instance of another entity.



Many-to-Many (M:M)

A many-to-many relationship occurs when more than one instance of an entity is connected to several instances of another entity.

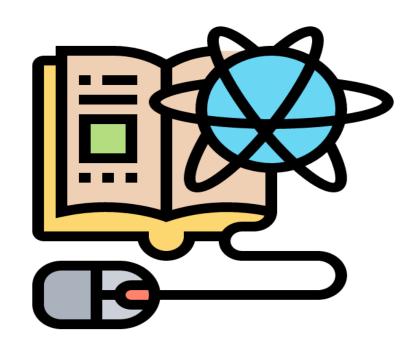




Mapping Cardinalities



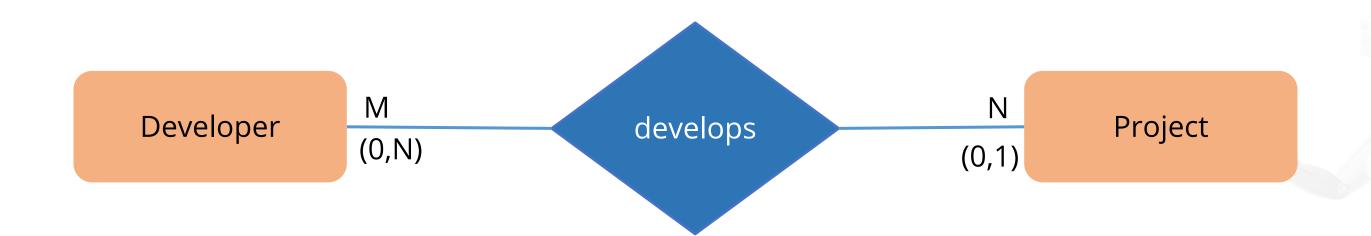
Cardinalities



- A relationship's cardinality is the number of occurrences of an entity that can be associated with another entity.
- Each relationship has a minimum and a maximum cardinality.

Cardinalities

Each developer in an organization can work on an indefinite number of projects as long as his or her weekly hours do not exceed 40.

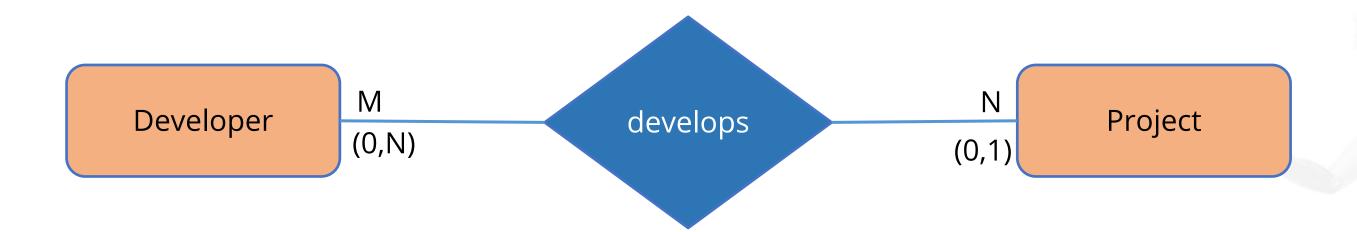


Developers may develop 0 projects if they are involved in nontechnical projects. Therefore, the cardinality limits for the developer are (O,N).



Cardinalities

According to the organization's regulations, each project is developed by a single developer, but it is possible to have projects that have not yet been assigned to a developer.



Therefore, the cardinality limits for the project are (0,1).

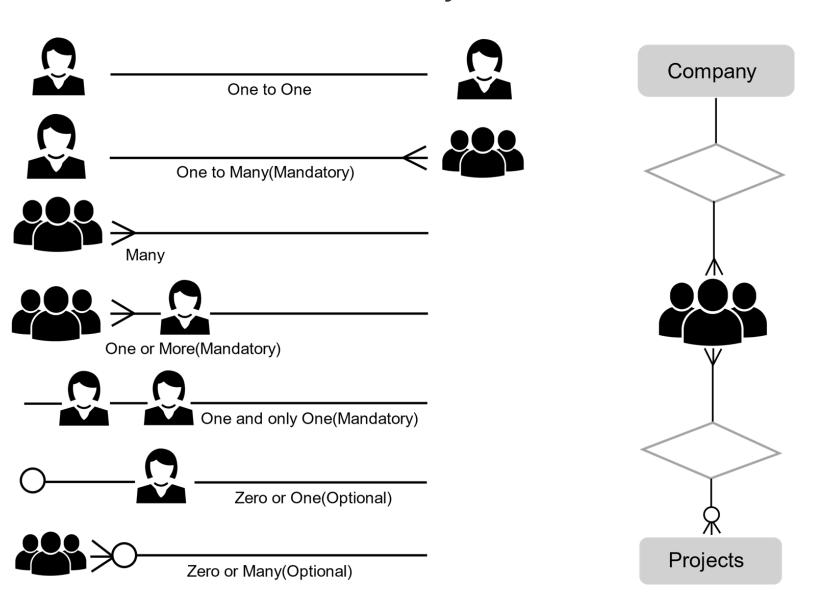


Cardinalities Notations of ER Diagram



Notations

Cardinality is represented by the styling of a line and its endpoint, according to the chosen notation style:







Database Normalization



Database Normalization



- The process of organizing and managing data in a database to eliminate redundancy and unnecessary anomalies is known as normalization.
- It helps in the division of large database tables into smaller ones and establishes relationships between them.



Types of Anomalies



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Types of Anomalies









Data Redundancy

Data redundancy occurs when two or more rows or columns have the same or repeated value, causing the memory to be used inefficiently.

EmpRegistration	EmpID	EmpName	Address	Department
2305	6204	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2305	6247	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2324	6247	Bolt	New York	Admin
2330	6204	Ritchie	Egypt	IT
2330	6208	Ritchie	Egypt	HR

The records of the two employees, **John** and **Ritchie** are repetitive in the above table, which results in data redundancy.



Insert Anomaly

Insert anomaly occurs when some attributes or data items are to be inserted into the database without the existence of other attributes.

EmpRegistration	EmpID	EmpName	Address	Department
2305	6204	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2305	6247	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2324	6247	Bolt	New York	Admin
2330	6204	Ritchie	Egypt	IT

If we want to enter a new EmpID into the employee table, we must wait till the employee joins the organization. Hence, it is called insertion anomalies.



Update Anomaly

Update anomaly occurs when duplicate data is updated only in one location and not in other instances. As a result, the data becomes inconsistent.

EmpRegistration	EmpID	EmpName	Address	Department
2305	6204	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2305	6247	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2324	6247	Bolt	New York	Admin
2330	6204	Ritchie	Egypt	IT
2330	6208	Ritchie	Egypt	HR

In the above table, there is an employee named **John**. If we change the department in the employee database, we must also change it in the department database; otherwise, the data will be inconsistent.



Delete Anomaly

Delete anomaly occurs when certain entries are lost or deleted from a database table as a result of the deletion of other records.

EmpRegistration	EmpID	EmpName	Address	Department
2305	6204	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2305	6247	John	Los Angeles	Finance
2324	6247	Bolt	New York	Admin
2330	6204	Ritchie	Egypt	IT
2330	6208	Ritchie	Egypt	HR

If we delete Bolt from the above table, we also remove his address and other data from the table. As a result, we may argue that removing certain attributes might result in the removal of other attributes from the database table.



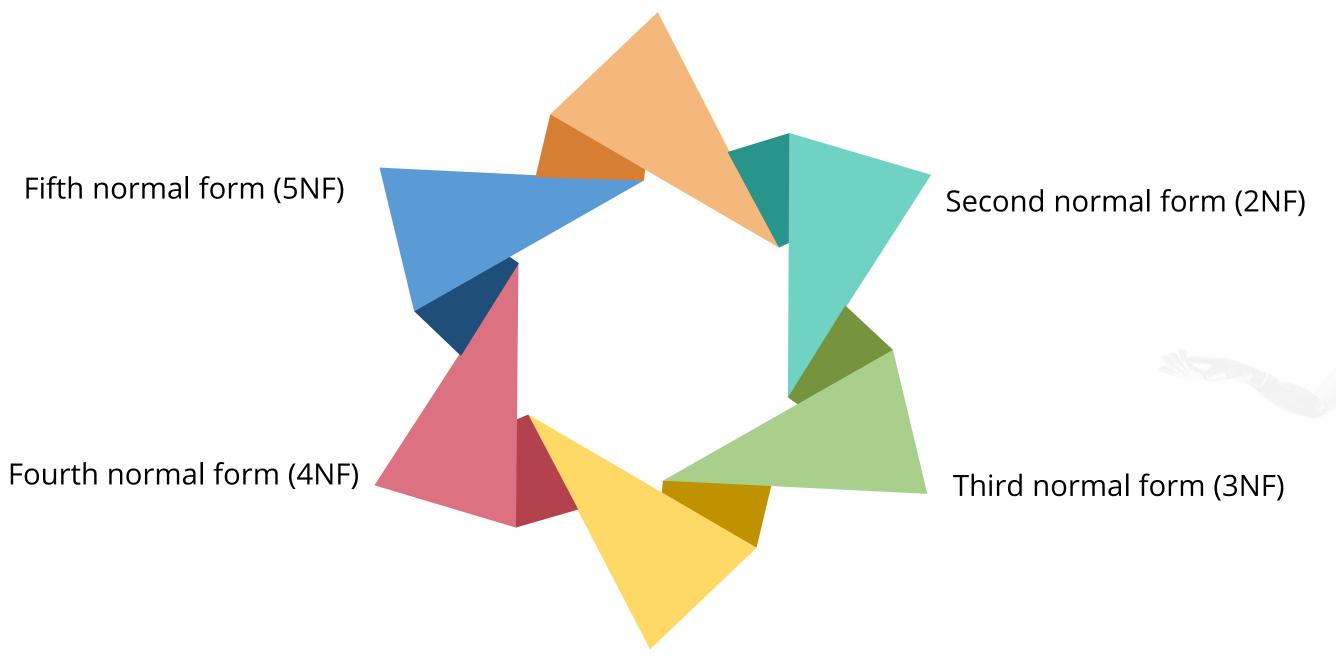


Types of Normalization



Types of Normalization

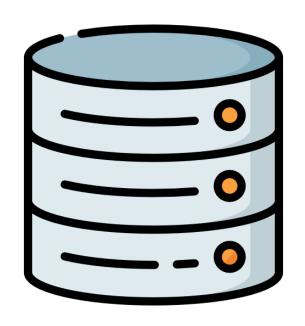




Boyce and Codd normal form (BCNF)



First Normal Form (1NF)



- The 1NF states that all the attributes in a relation must have atomic domains.
- The 1NF specifies that a table attribute cannot have multiple values.
- In 1NF, multivalued attribute, composite attribute, and their combination are not allowed.

First Normal Form (1NF)

The table on the left consists of employees who belongs to different departments. Example- John. Normalization is achieved by splitting this record into two different rows.

EmpID	EmpName	Department
6204, 6240	John	Sales, Marketing
6247	Kit	Finance
6247	Bolt	Admin
6204	Ritchie	IT
6208	Ritchie	HR

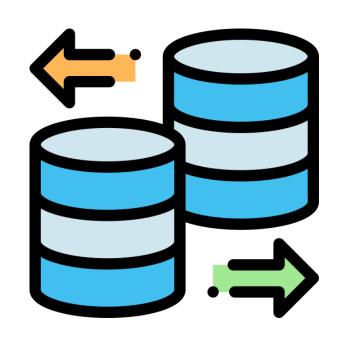
EmpID	EmpName	Department
6204	John	Sales
6240	John	Marketing
6247	Kit	Finance
6247	Bolt	Admin
6204	Ritchie	IT
6208	Ritchie	HR

Table without first normal form

Table with first normal form



Second Normal Form (2NF)



- In the second normal form, the entity should already be in 1NF.
- All attributes inside it should be based entirely on the entity's unique identifier.
- To remove the dependency, we can divide the table, remove the attribute that causes the dependency, and add it to the other table where it fits.

Second Normal Form (2NF)

The first table is a product table with the details of product name, brand, and product Id.

P_ID	P_Name	Brand
6204	Headphone	JBL
6247	Scanner	HP
6247	Monitor	Samsung
6204	Webcam	HP

P_ID	P_Name
6204	Headphone
6247	Scanner
6247	Monitor
6204	Webcam

P_ID	Brand
6204	JBL
6247	HP
6247	Samsung
6204	HP

Product table without the second normal form

Product category table with the second normal form

Brand table with the second normal form

In the given table, brand is dependent on product Id, a proper subset of candidate key that violates the rules of 2NF.



Second Normal Form (2NF)

To convert the given table into 2NF, let's decompose it into two tables:

P_ID	P_Name
6204	Headphone
6247	Scanner
6247	Monitor
6204	Webcam

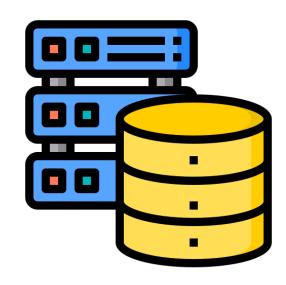
P_ID	Brand
6204	JBL
6247	HP
6247	Samsung
6204	HP

Product category table with the second normal form

Brand table with the second normal form



Third Normal Form (3NF)



- In the third normal form, an entity should be considered already in 2NF.
- No column entry should be dependent on any other entry (value) than the table's key.
- 3NF is used to reduce redundancy in the data and to ensure data consistency.

Third Normal Form (3NF)

The given tables have employee details along with their ratings:

EmpID	EmpName	Department
6204	John	Sales
6247	Kit	Finance
6247	Bolt	Admin
6204	Ritchie	IT
6208	Ritchie	HR

Employee table

EmpID	Ratings (out of 5)	Salary
6204	1.5	25000
6247	2	27000
6247	3	27000
6204	2.5	28000
6208	2.7	30000

Ratings table

To determine the hike percentage, HR needs to create a new column in the ratings table named as hike.



Third Normal Form (3NF)

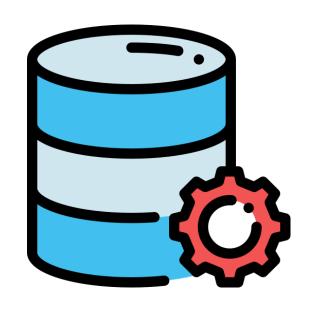
After adding the hike column, we have achieved 3NF.

EmpID	Ratings (out of 5)	Salary	Hike
6204	1.5	25000	0%
6247	2	27000	10%
6247	3	27000	80%
6204	2.5	28000	20%
6208	2.7	30000	25%

Ratings table



Boyce and Codd Normal Form (BCNF)



- In BCNF, a table or database must be in the third normal form.
- All the tables in the database should have just one primary key.
- For every functional dependency A->B, A should be the super key of the table.

Boyce and Codd Normal Form (BCNF)

In this example you have an employee table with the following details:

E_ID	E_location	E_Dept	D_Type	D_emp_count
6204	U.S.A	Production	P101	100
6247	Canada	Sales	S102	400
6247	Australia	Design	P102	80
6204	U.K	Operations	S103	150

Employee table without BCNF

The table is not in BCNF as neither E_ID nor E_Dept alone are keys.



Boyce and Codd Normal Form (BCNF)

To make the table comply with BCNF, divide it into three different tables:

E_ID	E_location
6204	U.S.A
6247	Canada
6247	Australia
6204	U.K

E_Dept	D_Type	D_emp_count
Production	P101	100
Sales	S102	400
Design	P102	80
Operations	S103	150

E_ID	E_Dept
6204	Production
6247	Sales
6247	Design
6204	Operations

Emp_Location table

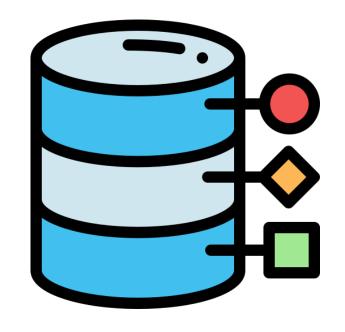
Emp_Dept table

Emp_Dept_mapping table

This is how you achieve BCNF as the functional dependencies in the left side part is a key.



Fourth Normal Form (4NF)



- In the fourth normal form, the database should be in BCNF.
- It should not have any multivalued dependency.
- For a dependency A → B, if for a single value of A, multiple values of B exist, then the relation will be a multivalued dependency.

Fourth Normal Form (4NF)

In this example, you have a product table with the following details:

P_ID	P_Name	Brand
6204	Headphone	JBL
6247	Scanner	HP
6240	Monitor	Samsung
6204	Webcam	HP
6205	Headphone	Samsung

Product table with BCNF

P_ID and Brand are two independent entities here.



Fourth Normal Form (4NF)

To remove the multivalued dependency on brand we will divide the table in to two different tables as shown below:

P_ID	P_Name
6204	Headphone
6247	Scanner
6240	Monitor
6204	Webcam
6205	Headphone

P_ID	Brand
6204	JBL
6247	HP
6240	Samsung
6204	HP
6205	Samsung

Product_Name table with BCNF

Product_Brand table with BCNF

Now we can see the multivalued dependency and confusion around the data is removed.



Fifth Normal Form (5NF)



- In the fifth normal form, the database should be in 4NF.
- Join dependency and additional no loss decomposition should be avoided.
- 5NF is also known as project join normal form (PJNF).

Fifth Normal Form (5NF)

In this example, you have a product table with the following details:

P_Name	Brand	P_Geo
Headphone	JBL	U.S.A
Scanner	HP	U.K
Monitor	Samsung	South Korea
Webcam	НР	France
Headphone	Samsung	U.A.E

Product table with BCNF



Fifth Normal Form (5NF)

Divide the above table into three: (P_Name, Brand), (Brand, P_Geo), (P_Name, P_Geo)

P_Name	Brand
Headphone	JBL
Scanner	HP
Monitor	Samsung
Webcam	HP
Headphone	Samsung

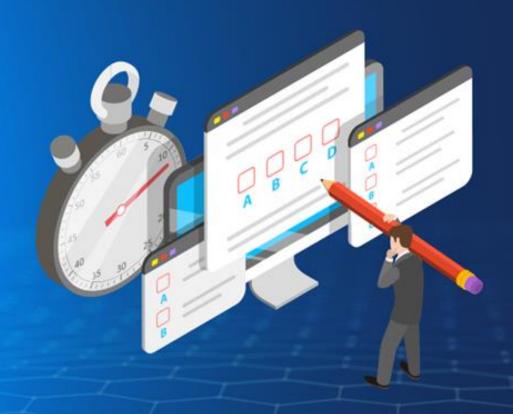
Brand	P_Geo
JBL	U.S.A
HP	U.K
Samsung	South Korea
HP	France
Samsung	U.A.E

P_Name	P_Geo
Headphone	U.S.A
Scanner	U.K
Monitor	South Korea
Webcam	France
Headphone	U.A.E

Now, each combination has a separate table. To identify the product for a specific location, join the keys of each table and get the result.



DATA AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Knowledge Check



A _____ is one that is reliant on another entity.

- A. Weak entity
- B. Strong entity
- C. Attribute
- D. Relationship



A _____ is one that is reliant on another entity.

- A. Weak entity
- B. Strong entity
- C. Attribute
- D. Relationship



The correct answer is A

A weak entity is one that is reliant on another entity



2

The properties of entities are known as ______.

- A. Strong entity
- B. Attributes
- C. Weak entity
- D. Relationship





The properties of entities are known as ______.

- A. Strong entity
- B. Attributes
- C. Weak entity
- D. Relationship



The correct answer is **B**

The properties of entities are known as attributes.



3

A relationship set is a group of similar type of ______.

- A. Entity
- B. Attributes
- C. Department
- D. Relationship





3

A relationship set is a group of similar type of ______.

- A. Entity
- B. Attributes
- C. Department
- D. Relationships



The correct answer is **D**

A relationship set is a group of similar type of relationships.



Key Takeaways

- An Entity-Relationship model (ER model) is a data model which describes the design of database with the help of Entity-Relationship diagram.
- The three main components of the ER diagram are entity, attribute, and relationship.
- A relationship set is a group of similar type of relationships.
- The degree of a relationship is determined by the number of entities that participate in it.

