

# COMM1822

Term 2 2022



## Introduction to Databases for Business Analytics

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### Week 2 Entity Relatio (ER) Modelling Part 2

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- If you upload your original work and presents it as their own either on a file-sharing website or on a social media platform, you may be found guilty of collusion — even years after graduation

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UNSW Business School acknowledges the Bidjigal (Kensington campus) and Gadigal (City campus) the traditional custodians of the lands where each campus is located.

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We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past and present and their communities who have shared and practiced their teachings over thousands of years including business practices.

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We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's ongoing leadership and contributions, including to business, education and industry.

UNSW Business School. (2022, May 7). *Acknowledgement of Country* [online video]. Retrieved from <https://vimeo.com/369229957/d995d8087f>

# Agenda

## Entity Relationship Modelling (from week 1)

- Recap
- Weak Entity

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## Advanced Entity Relatio

- Supertype
- Subtype

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## Convert from an Entity Relationship Model to a Relational Model

# Recap: ER Modelling 1

## □ Data Modelling:

- Data model as a (relatively) simple abstraction of the complex real-world.
- One modelling technique to design a database: Entity Relationship Modelling.

## □ Entity Relationship Mod

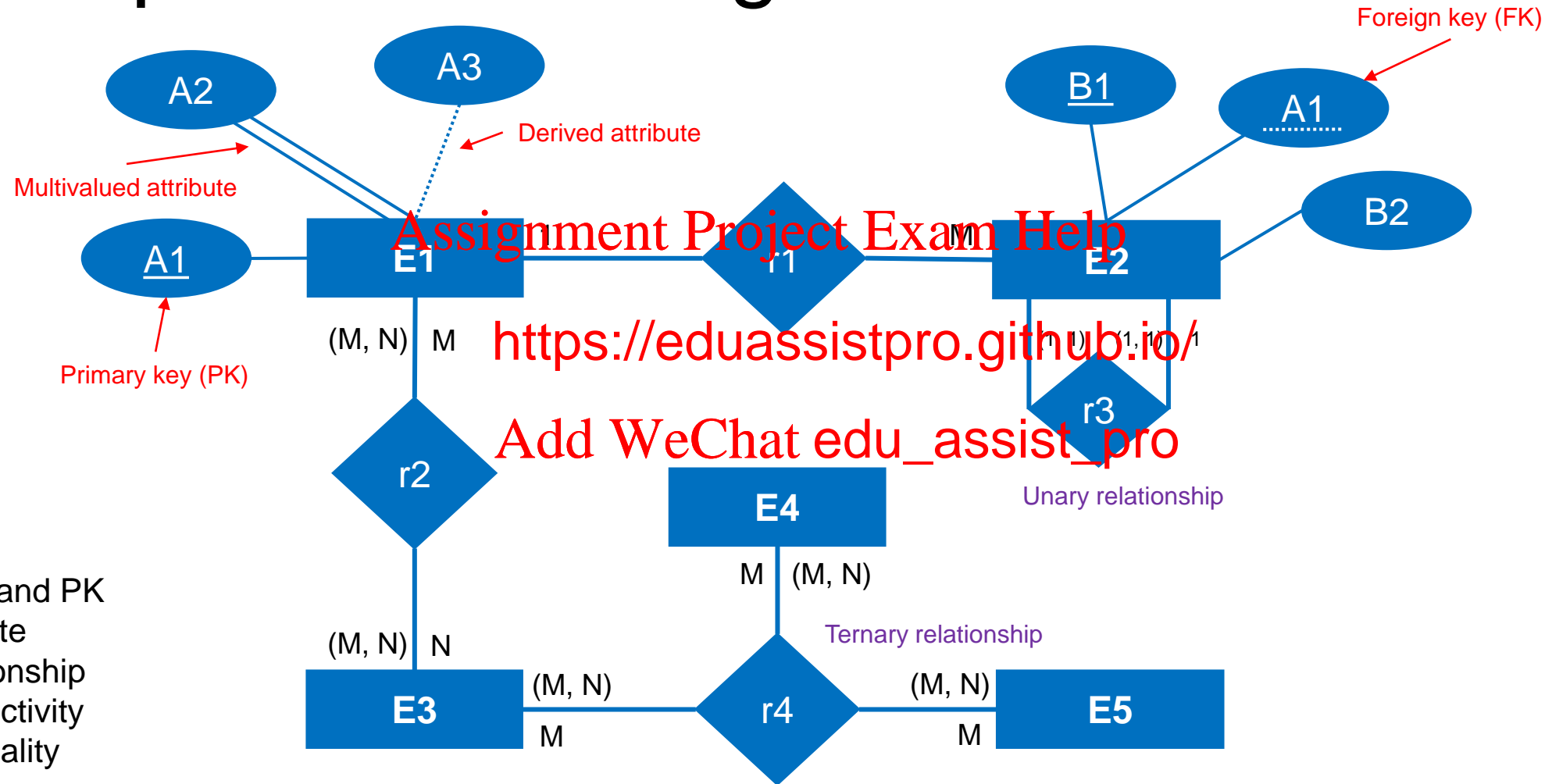
- Entity Types and Entity Instances
- Attributes and Values
- Keys
- Relationships
- Connectivity and Cardinality

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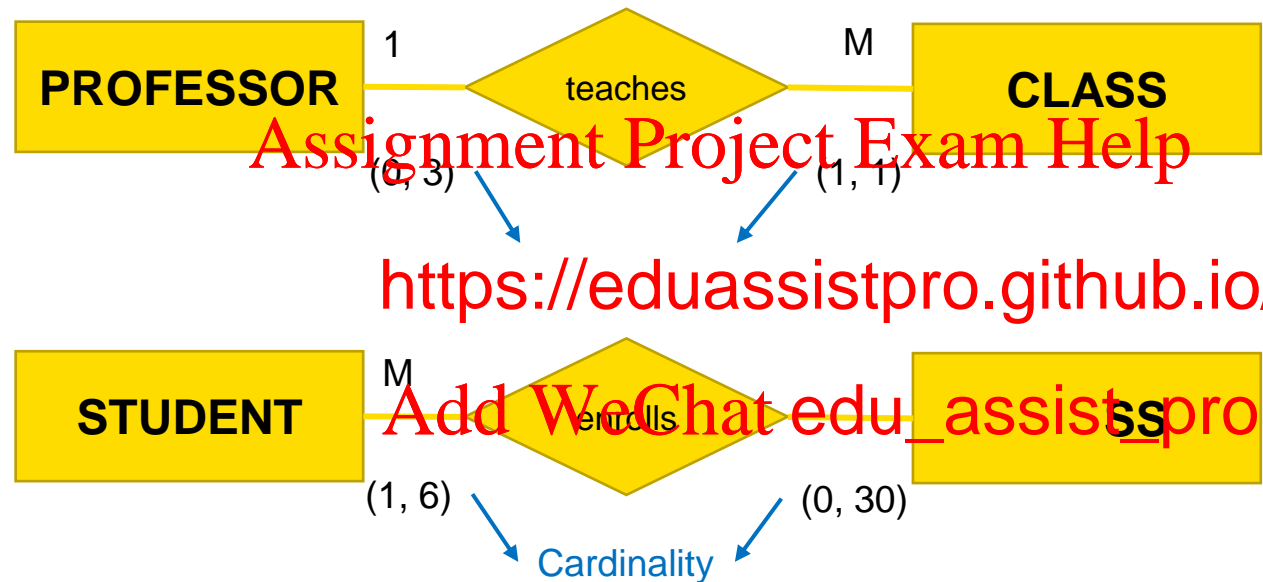
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# Recap: ER Modelling 1



- Entity and PK
- Attribute
- Relationship
- Connectivity
- Cardinality

# Connectivity and Cardinality



One-to-Many Relationship

Many-to-Many Relationship

How to read this?

- A professor teaches (0, 3) classes. A class is taught by (1, 1) professors.
- A student enrolls in (1, 6) classes. A class has enrolled in it (0, 30) students.



# Existence Dependence and Independence

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# Existence Dependence and Independence

**Existence dependence:** Entity exists in the database only when it is associated with another related Entity occurrence

e.g., parents

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**Existence independence:** Entity exists independently from all of its related entities, and referred to as a **strong entity** or **regular entity**

e.g., customer & product in a supermarket

# Weak (Non-identifying) Relationship

Primary key of the related entity **does not** contain a primary key component of the parent entity.

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CRS\_CODE is a **primary key** of C

CRS\_CODE is a **foreign key** of Class table

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CRS\_CODE is a foreign key, but it is **not part of the primary key of Class table.**

# Strong (Identifying) Relationship

Primary key of the related entity  
contains a primary key component of  
the parent entity.

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CRS\_CODE is a primary key of Course table,  
and CRS\_CODE is a foreign key of Class  
table.

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CRS\_CODE is also part of the primary key of  
Class table. CRS\_CODE is part of the  
composite primary key for Class table.

# Weak Entity

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# Weak Entity

- ❑ **Weak entity** is an entity that **relies on the existence of another (strong or independent) entity**. It has a primary key (PK) that is partially or totally derived from the parent entity in the relationship.
- ❑ Weak entity meets two conditions:
  - **Existence-dependent:** Cannot exist without entity it has a relationship.
  - Has primary key that is **partially or totally derived from parent entity** in the relationship.
- ❑ Database designer usually determines whether an entity can be described as weak **based on the business rules**.

# Example of a Weak Entity in an ERD

Weak Entity: DEPENDENT

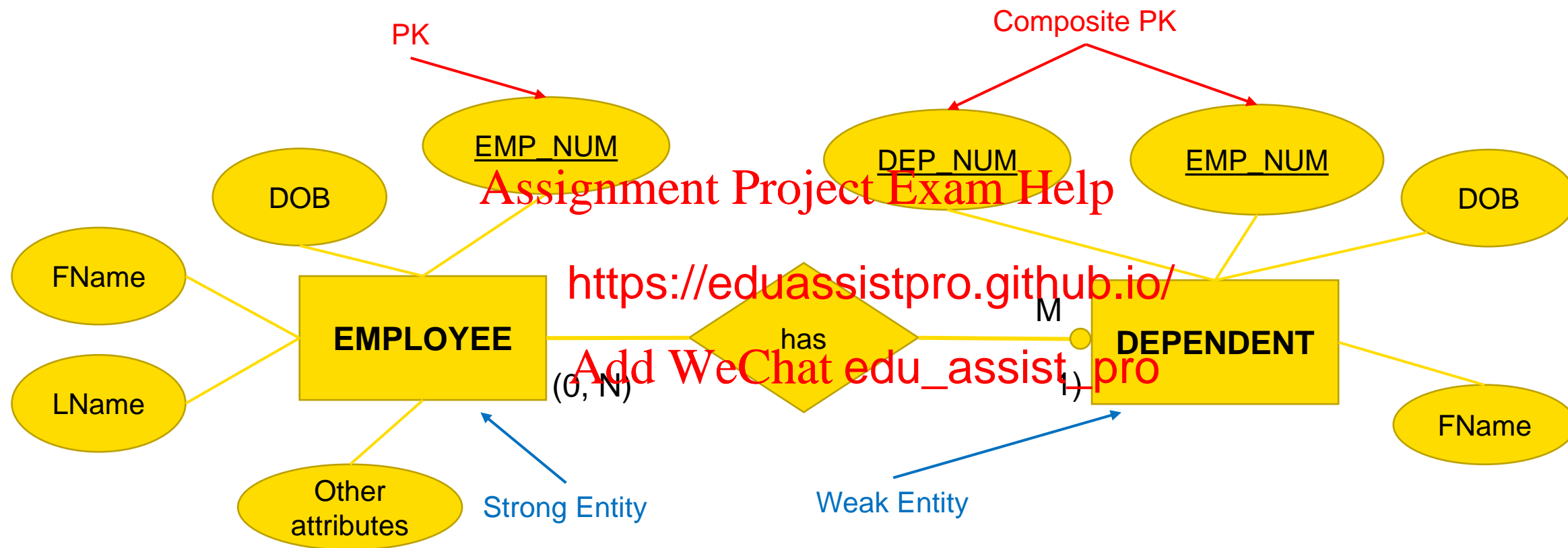
As for fulfilling the conditions:

- a. **Existence-dependent:** Cannot exist without entity with which it has a relationship – in this case it is the DEPENDENT entity. **A child must exist with one of his/her parents.**
- b. Has primary key that is **partially or totally derived from the parent entity** in the relationship – in this case, **EMP\_NUM in DEPENDENT entity** is associated with EMP\_NUM of the EMPLOYEE table.

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Symbol to Weak Entity  
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- A child must have **one parent** working in the company.
- If both parents work in the company, you **only have to connect to one**. E.g., UNSW childcare: it is connected to the parent who will pay childcare fees 😊

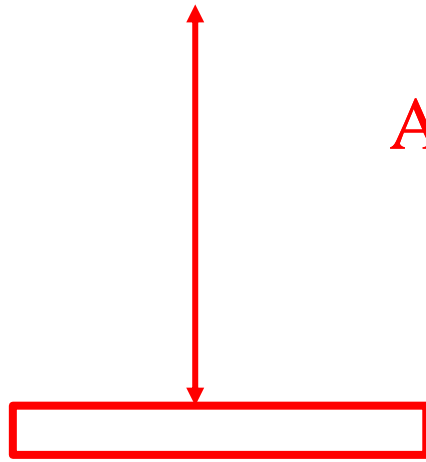
# Example of a Weak Entity (with Attributes)



Existent-Dependent Relationship between EMPLOYEE & DEPENDENT



# Example of a Weak Entity



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# Desirable Primary Key Characteristics

Unique value **Cannot be null**

Non intelligent **Should not have embedded semantic meaning, e.g., use zID as PK rather than name**

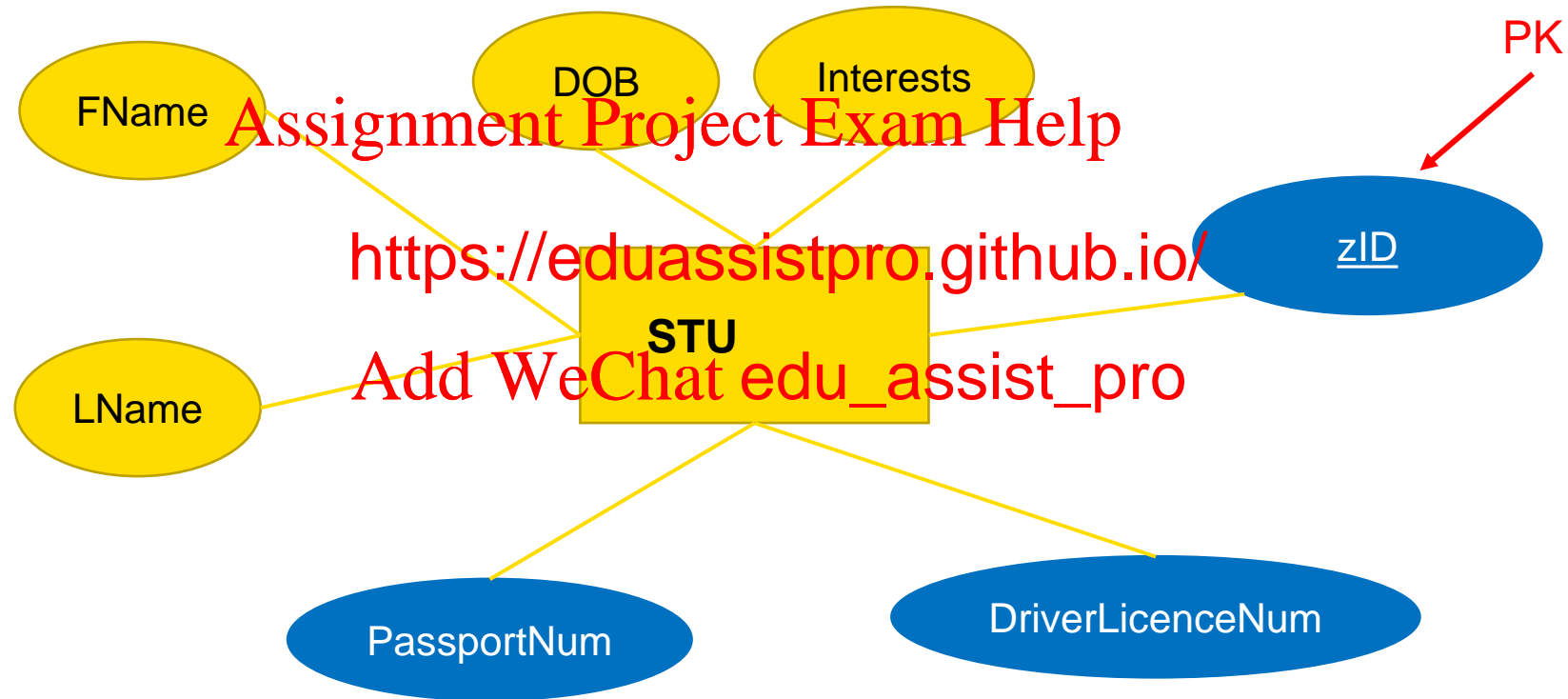
No change over time **<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>**

Preferably single-attribute **Remember attributes m** **Requires foreign key, multiple tables**

Preferably numeric **To avoid typing errors; Can use auto-increment, e.g., zID**

Security-compliant **Using Social Security Number (SSN) as a SID is a bad idea.**

# Candidate Key and Primary Key



Candidate Keys:

- **zID**
- **PassportNum**
- **DriverLicenceNum**

# Plan: ER Modelling 2

## □ Enhanced Entity Relationship Modelling

- **Composite entity** (bridge entity)
- **Supertype** and **subtype**
- **Generalisation** and **specialisation**
- **Constraints** (completeness, disjointness, etc.)

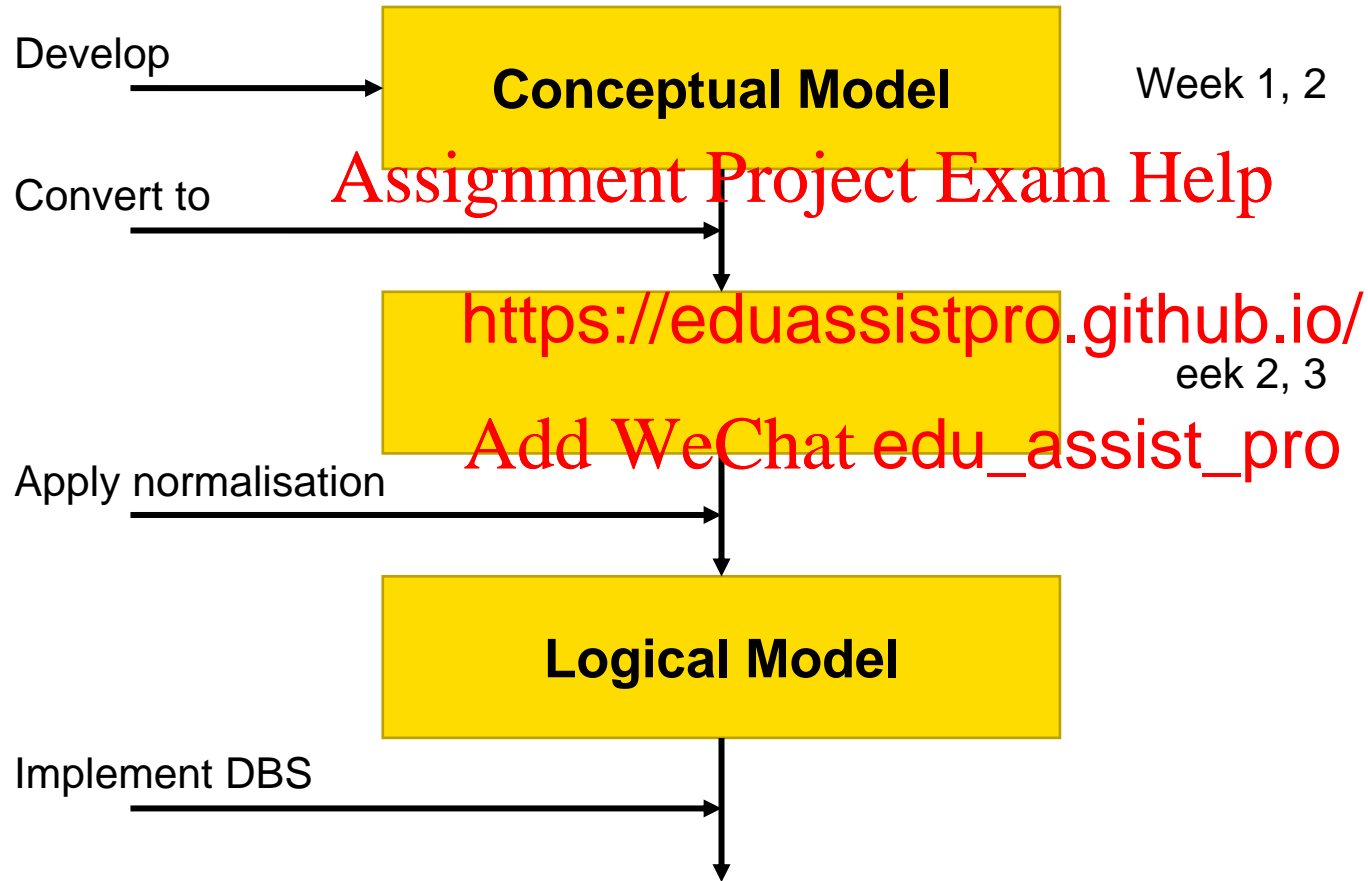
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## □ Exercise

# Database Design Process Modelling



# Composite Entity

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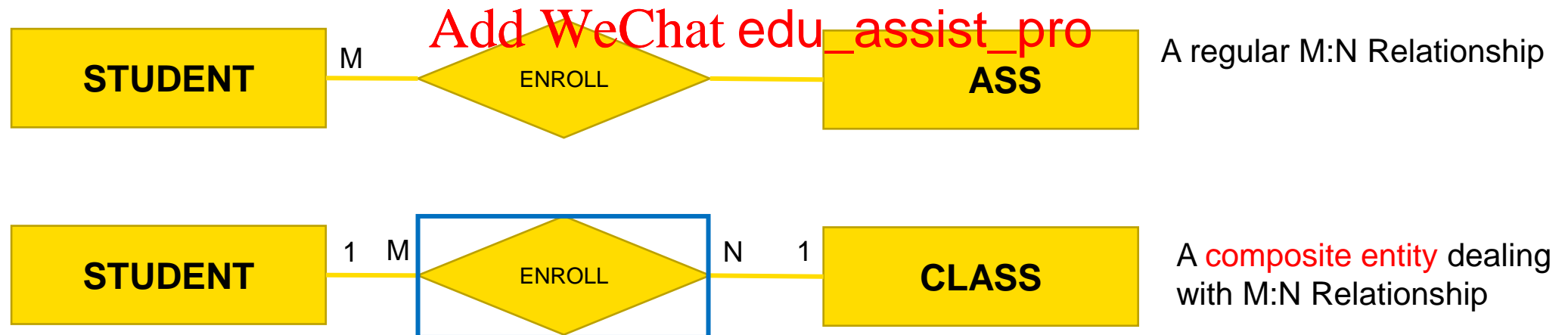
# Composite Entity

A **composite entity** (bridge entity, associative entity) is an entity type that associates the instances of one or more entity types. It contains attributes that are peculiar (singular) to the relationship between those entity instances.

- ❑ The composite entity builds a **bridge** between the original entities.
- ❑ The composite entity is composed of the **PKs of the original entities**.
- ❑ The composite entity may contain

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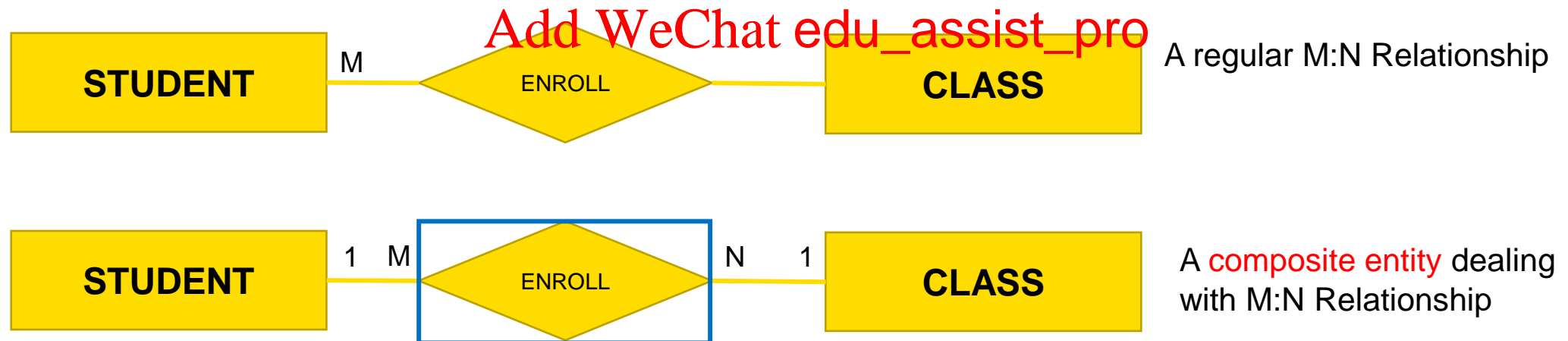
# Composite Entity

- ❑ **M:N relationships** (many-to-many relationships) should be **avoided**.
- ❑ **Relational databases** can only handle **1:M relationships** (one-to-many relationships).
- ❑ **M:N relationships** should be **decomposed** (broken down) to 1:M relationships by creating a **composite entity**.
- ❑ The composite entity builds **new** entities.
- ❑ The composite entity is composed of the **PKs** of the original entities.
- ❑ The composite entity is **existence-dependent** on the original entities.
- ❑ The composite entity may contain **additional attributes**.

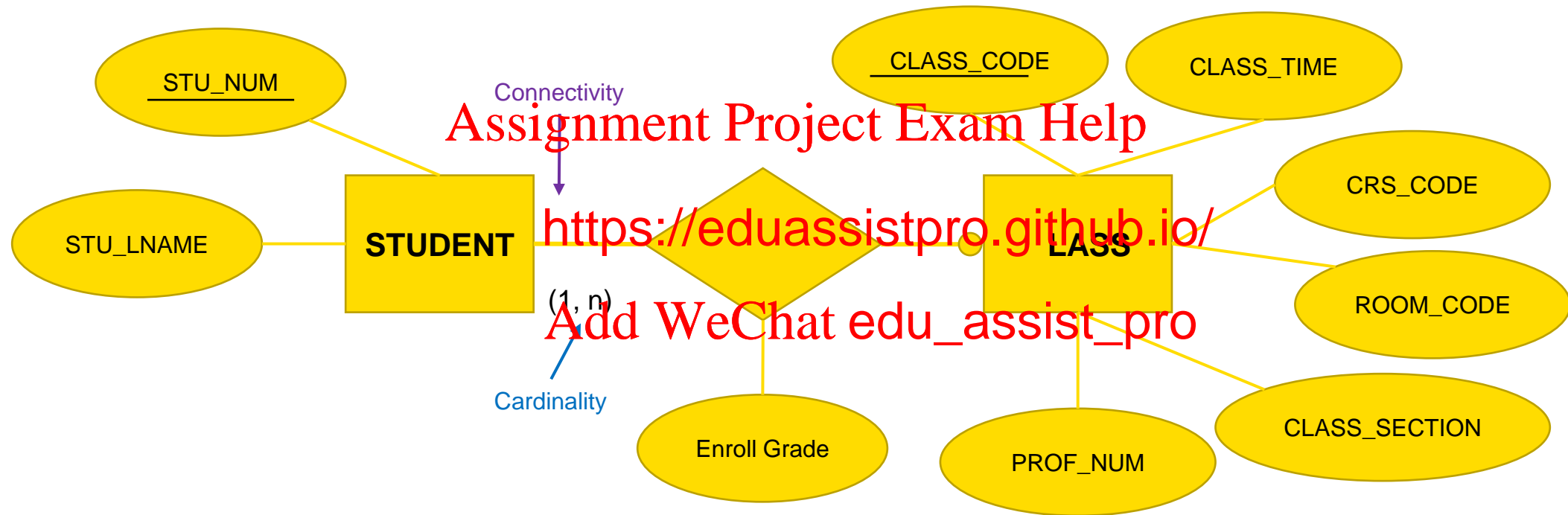


# Composite Entity

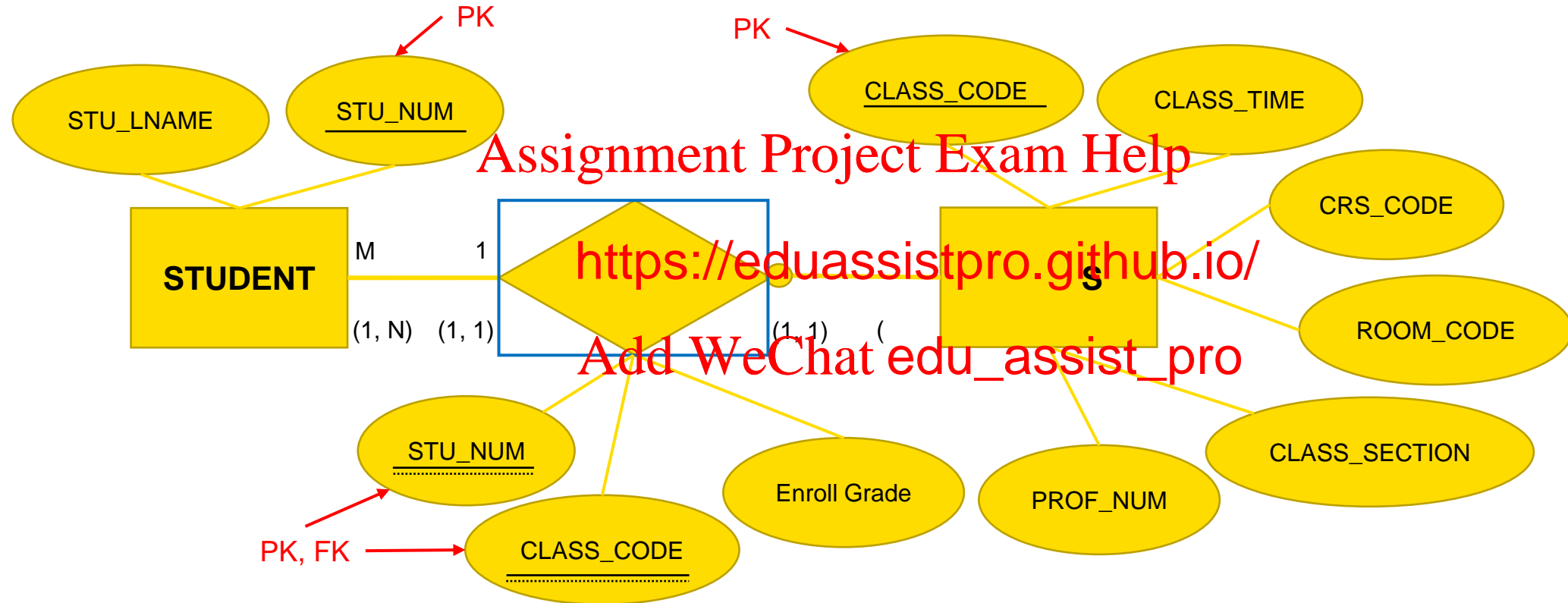
- **Relational databases** can only handle **1:N relationships** (one-to-many relationships) or **1:1 relationships**.
- **M:N relationships** (many-to-many relationships) should be **avoided** (via building composite entity).
- A **M:N relationship** should be broken down) to **two** 1:M relationships by creating <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>



# Without Composite Entity (Original)



# With Composite Entity



## *Inappropriate Approach*

STUDENT		
STU_NUM	STU_LNAME	CLASS_CODE
001	Brown	1602, 1603
002	Pink	1602, 2603
003	Green	5992
004		3

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CLASS		
CLASS_CODE	CRS_CODE	
1602	CIS-200	
1603	CIS-300	510
2603	SAD-100	240
5992	GM-200	350
5993	ADB-300	120

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STUDENT	
STU_NUM	STU_LNAME
001	Brown
002	Pink
003	Green
004	White

### Correct Approach

ENROLS	
STU_NUM	CLASS_CODE
001	1602
001	1603
002	1602
002	2603
003	5992
004	5992
004	5993

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CLASS		
CLASS_CODE	ClassName	PROF_N
1602	CIS-200	700
1603	CIS-300	510
2603	SAD-100	240
5992	GM-200	350
5993	ADB-300	100

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# Ternary Relationship Without Composite Entity

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# Ternary Relationship With Composite Entity

- ✓ A guest can be included in many schedule records;
- ✓ A schedule record includes only one guest;
- ✓ A room can be included in many schedule records;
- ✓ A schedule record includes only one room;
- ✓ An event can have many schedule records;
- ✓ A schedule record is only for one event.

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Chapter 5  
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d Data Modeling  
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# Supertype and Subtype

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# Supertype and Subtype

“A **supertype** is a more **generic** entity type compared to its subtypes.”

“A **subtype** is a more **specific** entity type compared to its supertype.”

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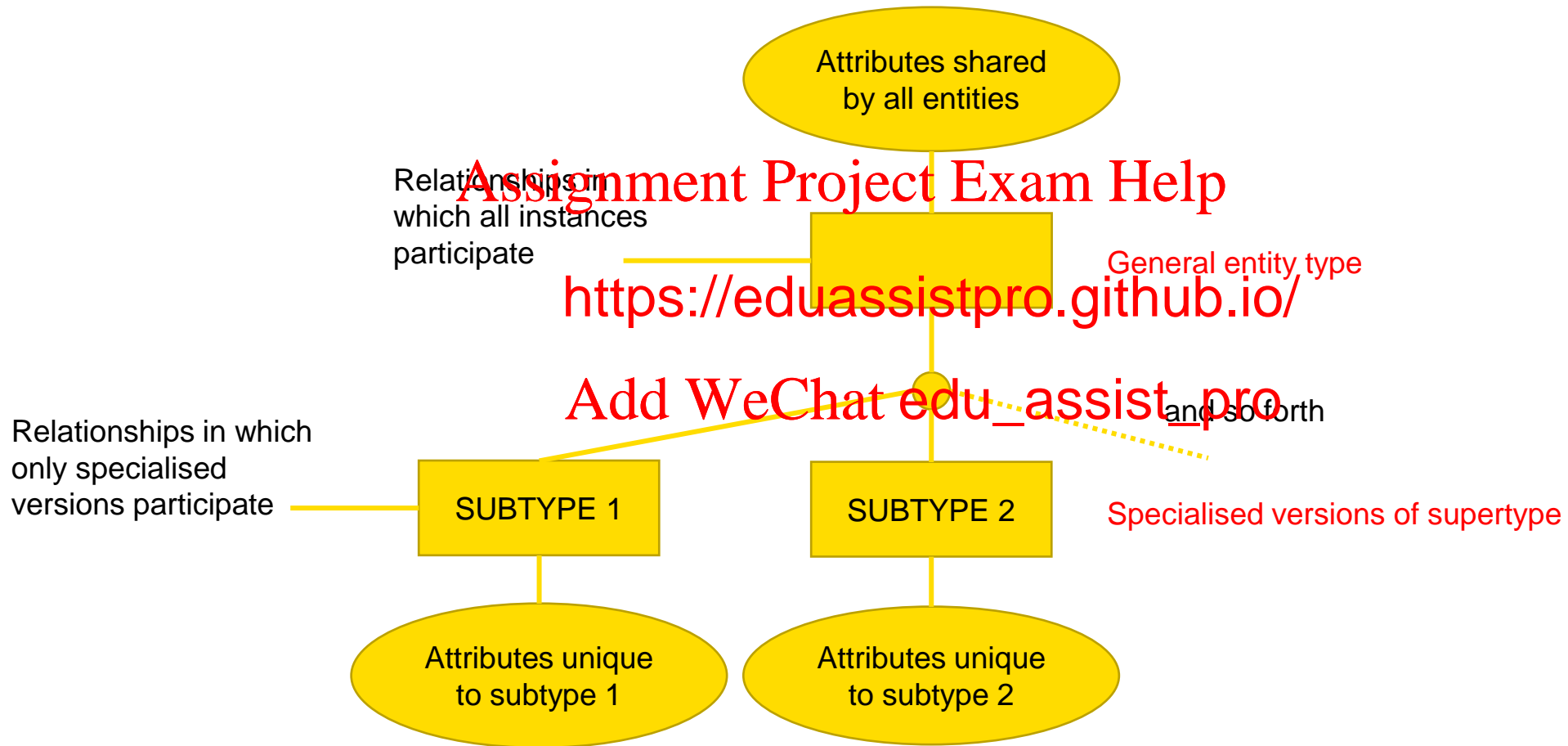
• A subtype entity inherit <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> **type.**

• A subtype has additional, **specific** at [Add WeChat edu\\_assist\\_pro](#)

• **An instance (occurrence) of a subtype is also an instance (occurrence) of the supertype.**

(The other way around, an instance of the supertype may or may not be an instance of one or more subtypes.)

# Supertype and Subtype



# Example of Supertype and Subtype

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<https://eduassistpro.github.io/> Explain later

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# Generalisation and Specialisation

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# Generalisation and Specialisation

- **Generalisation:** The process of defining a general entity type from a set of specialised entity types. It is a **bottom-up** process **from subtypes to supertypes**.  
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- **Specialisation:** The process of defining one or more subtypes of the supertype. It is a **top-down** process **from supertypes to subtypes**.

# Generalisation

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**Question: How to generalise the listed two entity types:  
CAR and TRUCK?**



# Generalisation

- What are the common attributes?
  - Vehicle\_ID
  - Vehicle\_Name (Make, Model)
  - Price
  - Engine Displacement
- What are the specific attributes for Car?
  - No\_of\_Passengers
- What are the specific attributes for Truck?
  - Capacity
  - Cab\_Type

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# Specialisation

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How to specialise the entity type PART??

# Specialisation

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# Specialisation

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How to specialise the entity type Staff?

# Specialisation

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# Constraints

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# Constraints

- ❑ The **Completeness Constraint** describes **whether** an instance of a supertype must also be an instance of **at least one subtype**.

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- ❑ The **Disjointness Constraint** <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> an instance of a supertype may **simultaneously** be a **two (or more)** subtypes.  
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# Constraints

- A staff *must* be either an academic staff **or** admin staff (total

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ion rule): double line.

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- An staff **may also** be an  
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ad overlap rule): o.



# Constraints

Common sense tells us:

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A vehicle *may* be a car or truck or something else (partial specialisation): **single line**.

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car *must not* (CANNOT) be a truck (disjoint rule): **d**.

# Constraints

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<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>double line.

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- A part *must* be purchased or manufactured (total specialisation rule):
- A manufactured part *may* also be a purchased part (overlap rule): o.

# Completeness Constraint

- ❑ Specifies whether each supertype occurrence must also be a member of at least one subtype

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- ❑ Types
  - **Partial completeness:** Not every sup occurrence is a member of a subtype
  - **Total completeness:** Every supertype occurrence must be a member of any subtype

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such as Bus (which is not listed out)

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STAFF – Academic Staff & Admin Staff

# Disjoint and Overlapping Constraints

❑ **Disjoint subtypes:** Contain a unique subset of the supertype entity set

VEHICLE – Car vs Truck

- Known as **nonoverlapping subtypes**

- Implementation is based on a discriminator type discriminator attribute in the supertype

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❑ **Overlapping subtypes:** Contain overlapping subsets of the supertype entity set

STAFF – Academic Staff & Admin Staff

- Implementation requires the use of one discriminator attribute for each subtype

# Subtype Discriminator(s)

- **Subtype discriminator(s)** are the attribute(s) of the supertype that determine (code, note, identify) the target subtype.
  - Disjoint Constraint Rule: One attribute
  - Overlapping Constraint

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verbal attributes.

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possible values indicates the disjoint rule).

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“C”

“T”

→ Discriminator Attribute

Vehicle_Type	Comment
C	The VEHICLE is a CAR.
T	The VEHICLE is a TRUCK.
Null	The VEHICLE is neither a CAR nor a TRUCK.

A composite attribute (Staff\_Type) with sub-attributes (with “Yes”/“No” values) indicates the subtype (overlap rule).

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Staff_Type		Comment
Academic Staff	Admin Staff	
Yes	No	The Staff is a member of the Academic Staff subtype.
No	Yes	The Staff is a member of the Admin Staff subtype.
Yes	Yes	The Staff is both an Academic Staff and an Admin Staff.

How about No / No?

# Specialisation Hierarchy Constraint Scenarios

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A simple attribute (Employee\_Type) with different possible values indicates the subtype (disjoint rule).

Can the Employee\_Type be null?



# ER Modelling Guideline

- ☐ The data items should be put into **an entity (logical group)**.
- ☐ For each entity, there should be a Primary **key** that uniquely identifies individual members of entity type.
- ☐ There should be **no re**del.
- ☐ Ask yourself the following
  - What are the relevant entities here?
  - What are the relevant relationships h
  - Can I generalise some entities?
- ☐ Document your **assumptions** as you go.
- ☐ Leave connectivity and **cardinalities** until the end.

# Questions

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Source: [canningtonvet.com.au](http://canningtonvet.com.au)

# Public Holiday Arrangement in Week 3

- ❑ No lecture on Queen's Birthday 13 June (Monday)!
- ❑ A lecture recording of Week 3 will be uploaded on 14 June by 12 pm.

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- ❑ Tutorials will go as usual

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# Exercise

Draw an ER diagram for this situation (state any assumptions that you make). Based on the ER diagram, draw the relevant relational model.

- The firm has a number of sales offices in several states. Attributes of sales office include Office\_number (identifier) and Location.
- Each sales office is assigned one or more employees. Attributes of employee include Employee\_ID (identifier) and Employee\_Name. An employee may manage only one sales office.
- For each sales office, there is a manager. An employee may manage only the sales office to which he or she is assigned.
- The firm lists property for sale. Attributes of property include Property\_ID (identifier) and Location. Components of Location include Address, City, State, and Zip\_Code.
- Each unit of property must be listed with one (and only one) of the sales offices. A sales office may have any number of properties listed or may have no properties listed.
- Each unit property has one or more owners. Attributes of owners are Owner\_ID (identifier) and Owner\_Name. An owner may own one or more units of property. An attribute of the relationship between property and owner is Percent\_Owned.