

# COMM1822

Term 2 2022

## Introduction to Databases for Business Analytics

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Week 1 Entity Relati  
(ER) Modelling Part 1

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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

- **Data Modelling**

- ☐ Data model as a (relatively) simple abstraction of the complex real-world (for the purpose of creating a DB).
- ☐ A good DBMS will perform database.
- ☐ One modelling technique is Relationship Modelling

- **Entity Relationship Modelling**

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

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# Chapter 2

## Data Models

### 2-1 to 2-6


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4-1 to 4-2

# Data Modeling and Data Models

- **Model** - Abstraction of a real-world object or event
- **Data modeling:** Iterative and progressive process of creating a specific data model for a determined purpose  


To model and translate business requirements into a data model that can be used to store data which business can use

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- **Data models:** Simple representations of real-world data structures
  - Useful for supporting a specific problem domain

What would be the data model like for UNSW?

# Importance of Data Models

Are a communication tool

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Give an o

e

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Organize data for various

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Are an abstraction for the creation of good database



# Data Model Basic Building Blocks

- **Entity:** Unique and distinct **object** used to collect and store data  
e.g., people, thing, event, ...

❑ **Attribute:** Characteristic of an entity

- **Relationship:** Describes the association between entities

❑ One-to-many (1:M)

❑ Many-to-many (M:N or M:M)

❑ One-to-one (1:1)

- **Constraint:** Set of rules to ensure data integrity

Violation examples:

- Enter an SID to STUDENT table, it finds two students (Entity integrity)
- STUDENT table says that student X's department code is Y. But in the DEPARTMENT Table, there is no code Y. (Referential integrity)

# Business Rules – Design a Data Model

Brief, precise, and unambiguous description of a policy, procedure, or principle

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Enable blocks

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Describe main and distinguishing characteristics of the data

# Translating Business Rules into Data Model Components

- **Nouns** translate into entities  
Each **student** can **take** at most 3 **courses** each semester.  
Each **research student** must **have** two **supervisors** at UNSW.
- **Verbs** translate into relationships  
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- Relationships are bidirectional  
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Each **student** can **take** at most 3 **courses** each semester.  
Each **research student** must **have** two **supervisors** at UNSW.
- Questions to identify the **relationship type: 1:1, 1:M or M:N**
  - ☐ How many instances of B are related to one instance of A?
  - ☐ How many instances of A are related to one instance of B?

# Naming Conventions

- Entity names - Required to STUDENT, EMPLOYEE, DEPARTMENT, ...
  - ☐ Be descriptive of the objects in the business environment
  - ☐ Use terminology that is familiar to the users
- Attribute name - Required to the data represented by  
the attribute https://eduassistpro.github.io/  
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STUDENT: SID, D FIRST\_NAME, LAST\_NAME, ...
- Proper naming
  - Facilitates communication between parties
  - Promotes self-documentation

# Evolution of Data Models

We will focus and discuss more on relational, entity relationship, and NoSQL in the last few weeks.

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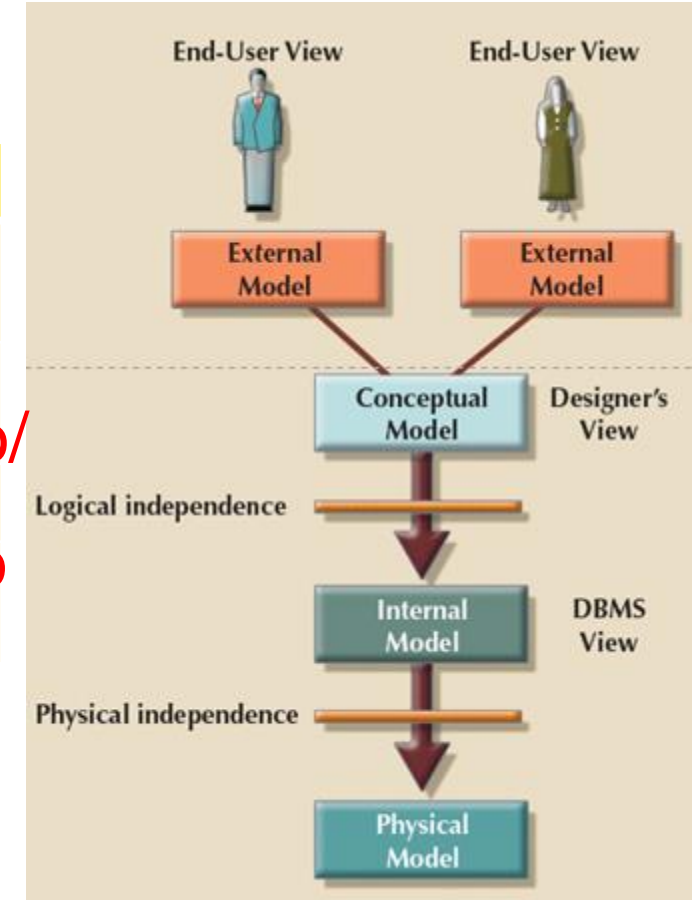
Source: Coronel, Morris, Rob 2017

# Levels of Data Abstraction

Model	Degree of Abstraction	Focus	Independent of
External	<div>High</div> <div>↑</div> <div>↓</div> <div>Low</div>	End user views	Hardware and software
Conceptual		Global model	End user and hardware
Internal		Specific data	End user and hardware
Physical		Storage and access methods	End user and hardware

Data abstraction is the **reduction** of a particular body of data to a **simplified** representation of the whole.

Abstraction, in general, is the process of taking away or removing characteristics from something in order to reduce it to a set of **essential** characteristics.



Source: Coronel, Morris, Rob 2017

# Conceptual Data Modelling Techniques

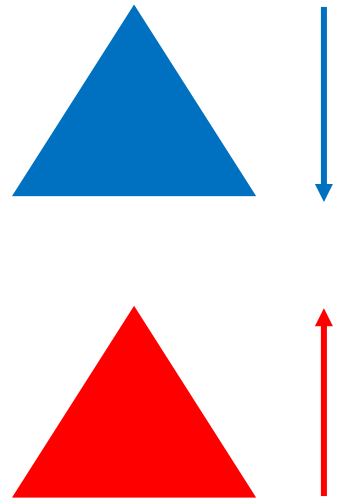
Two common techniques:

- **Entity-Relationship (ER)** approach. Begins by looking for the data group
- **Normalization:** Bottom-up approach. Beginning at the smallest individual items of data recorded by the system.

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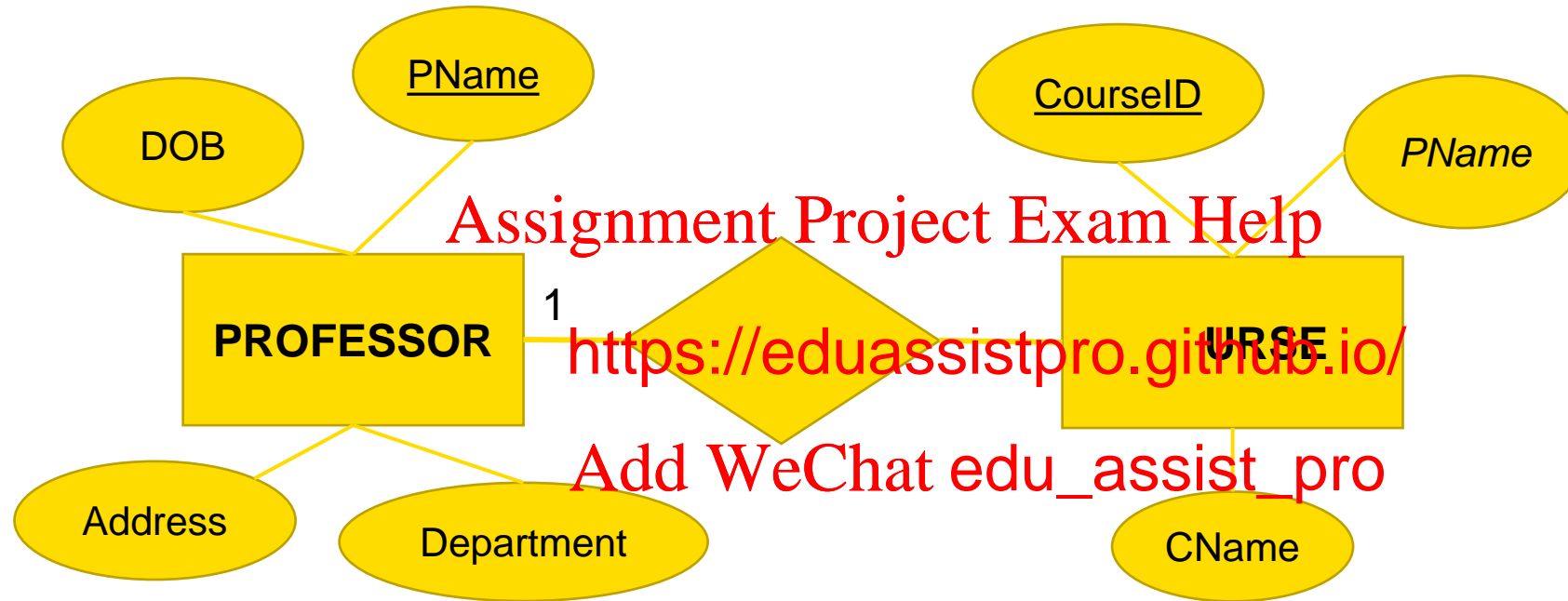


# Internal Model and Conceptual Model

- The internal model is the model that we used when database is **implemented**.
- The internal model maps the **conceptual model** to the **DBMS**.  
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<https://eduassistpro.github.io/ftware>
- The internal model depend **ftware**.  
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- Hence, a change in DBMS software requires internal model be changed.
- **Logical independence**: you can change the internal model without affecting conceptual model!



# Conceptual Model



Conceptual Model

PROFESSOR (PName, DOB, Address, Department)  
COURSE (CourseID, CName, *PName*)

Internal Model

# Conceptual Modelling: ER Model

- An **Entity-Relationship (ER) model** is a detailed, logical representation of the data for an organisation or for a business area.

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- The ER model is expressed in **entities** in the business environment, **relationships** or associations between those entities, and the **attributes** of both the entities and their relationships.
- An ER model is normally expressed as an **ER diagram**, which is a graphical representation of an ER model. In this course we will follow **Chen's notation**.

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# ER Model Notations



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# Agenda

- **Data Modelling**

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- ☐ A good DBMS will perform
- ☐ One modelling technique t

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- **Entity Relationship Mod**

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

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# Entity Relationship Modelling (ERM)

- Basis of an **entity relationship diagram (ERD)**
- ERD depicts the:
  - ☐ **Conceptual** database <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
  - ☐ Database's main components
    - ☐ Entities (Tables) **Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro**
    - ☐ Attributes (Columns of tables)
    - ☐ Relationships (Associations between tables)
- Entity - Refers to the entity set and not to a single entity occurrence

# Entity (Type) and (Entity) Instance

- **en-ti-ty** /'entitē/ (Noun)
  - ❑ A thing with distinct and independent existence.
  - ❑ Existence; being: "entity and nonentity".
- Synonyms: being - existence - essence - thing
- **in-stance** /'instəns/ (Noun)
  - ❑ An example or single occurrence of something: "an instance".
  - ❑ A particular case: "in this instance".
- Synonyms: example - case - sample - event - occurrence - exemplar
- One type of things is a Person. Joe is an instance of Person.
- One type of things is a Drink. Espresso an instance of Drink.

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# Entity (Type) and (Entity) Instance

- **Entities:** “An **entity** is an object about which the system requires to hold data.”
- An **entity type** (entity class) is a collection of entities that share common **properties or characteristics** (similar to be grouped into one Entity Type).
- It is represented as a **rectangle** diagram with the name of the entity inside.
- An **entity instance** is a **single occurrence** of an **entity type**.

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**STUDENT**

Entity Type

Entity Instances

STUDENT

z1234567

Martin, S.

BEng

z1357926

Fong, L.

BSc

# ER Model with Only Appropriate Entities

A treasurer looks after researchers' research accounts. Each account pays more than one expenses. The treasure prints expense reports regularly, e.g., every month.

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# Attribute

## Characteristics of entities

- **Required attribute:** Must have a value, cannot be left empty
  - **Optional attribute:** Does not require a value, can be left empty
  - **Domain:** Set of possible values
  - **Identifiers:** One or more attributes that identify each entity instance
- <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>  
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the relational model

# Attributes

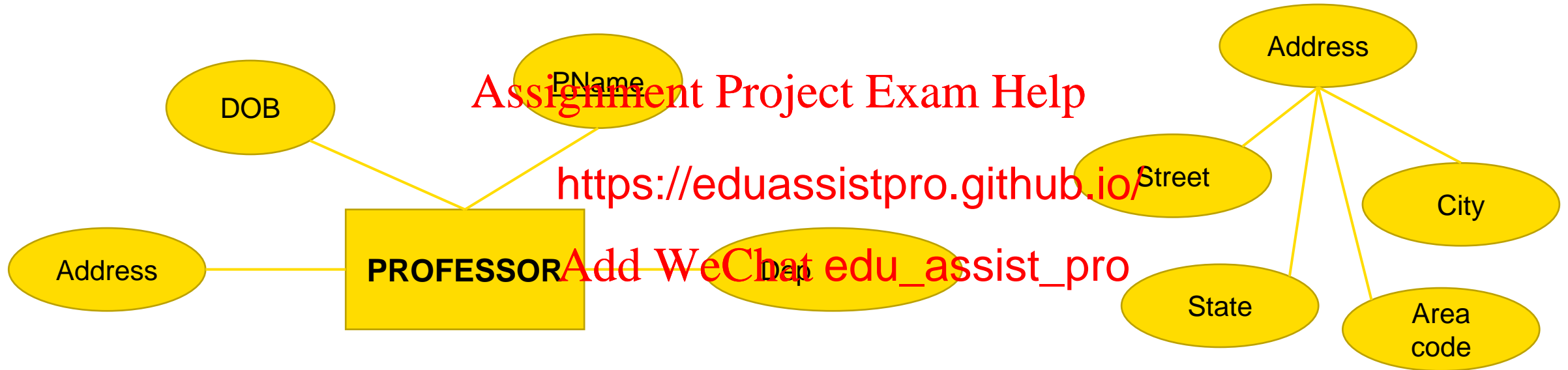
- **Simple attribute:** Attribute that cannot be subdivided
  - ❑ Example: zID
- **Composite attribute:** Attribute that can be subdivided to yield additional attributes
  - ❑ Example: Address (= str
- **Single-valued attribute:** Attribute that has a single value
- **Multivalued attribute:** Attribute that have many values
- **Derived attribute:** Attribute that derived using an algorithm
- **A Key attribute** is unique so to identify the entity.

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# Example of Attributes



Entity: PROFESSOR

Attribute: PName, Department, Address, DOB

Composite attribute: Address

# A Multivalued Attribute in an Entity

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multiple values



# Splitting the Multivalued Attributes into New Attributes

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Is this a good idea?

Depends on your design!

# Depiction of a Derived Attribute

Derived attribute is when the value is calculated from other attributes.  
e.g., EMP\_AGE can be calculated from EMP\_DOB.

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Do we need EMP\_AGE?

Technically, we do not store the employee's age because we can calculate from date of birth of the employee. Otherwise, you have to update the age every day.

# Advantages and Disadvantages of Storing Derived Attributes

	Derived Attribute: Stored	Derived Attribute: Not Stored
<b>Advantage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saves CPU proc</li> <li>Saves data acce</li> <li>Data value is rea</li> <li>Can be used to keep track of historical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>es storage space</li> <li>putation always yields current value</li> </ul>
<b>Disadvantage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires constant maintenance to ens derived value is current, especially if any values used in the calculation change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PU processing cycles</li> <li>Increases data access time</li> <li>Adds coding complexity to queries</li> </ul>

# Keys

- Consist of one or more attributes that determine other attributes
- Used to
  - ❑ Ensure that each row in a table is uniquely identifiable
  - ❑ Establish relations of the data d to ensure the integrity
- **Primary key (PK):** Attribute or combination of attributes that uniquely identifies any given row

For example, STUDENTS table, the PK is zID; EMPLOYEES table, PK is employee ID.  
A PK may contain more than one attribute.



# Find the Primary Keys

Table: STUDENT	Example
zID	z1234567
Email	<a href="mailto:z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au">z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au</a>
LastName	Bold
FirstName	Alice
DOB	28/02/2010

Table: COURSE	Example
CourseID	COMM1822
CourseName	Intro to DB for BusAn

Table: CLASS_ENR	Example
zID	z1234567
CourseID	COMM1822
	2022T2
	W16A
	M18A

Table: DEGREE	Example
zID	z1234567
ProgramID	3347

For simplicity, not all attributes are included in the tables. Also, I used COMM1822 as the course ID.

# Answer for the Primary Keys

Table: STUDENT	Example	Keys
zID	z1234567	PK
Email	<a href="mailto:z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au">z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au</a>	
LastName	Bold	
FirstName	Alice	
DOB	28/02/2010	

Table: CLASS_ENR	Example	Keys
zID	z1234567	PK
CourseID	COMM1822	PK
	2022T2 W16A	PK
	M18A	

Table: COURSE	Example	Keys
CourseID	COMM1822	PK
CourseName	Intro to DB for BusAn	

Table: DEGREE	Example	Keys
zID	z1234567	PK
ProgramID	3347	PK

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# Types of Keys

- **Composite key:** Key that is composed of more than one attribute

e.g., the CLASS\_ENR table has (zID, CourseID, TermID) is a composite key

- **Key attribute:** Attribute that is a part of a key

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- **Superkey:** Key that can uniquely identify a table

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e.g., zID, {zID, Last\_Name}, {zID, First\_Name}, {zID, Last\_Name}, ... in STUDENT table

- **Candidate key:** Minimal superkey

e.g., zID in STUDENT table; mobile number can identify you if you forget your rewards card.

- **Entity integrity:** Condition in which each row in the table has its own unique identity

- ☐ All of the values in the primary key must be unique
- ☐ No key attribute in the primary key can contain a null

# Types of Keys

- **Null:** Absence of any data value that could represent
  - ☐ An unknown attribute value
  - ☐ A known, but missing, attribute value
  - ☐ An inapplicable condition
- **Referential integrity:** <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> entity instance by another entity instance is valid
- **Foreign key (FK):** Primary key of one entity has been placed into another table to create a common attribute
- **Secondary key:** Key used strictly for data retrieval purposes
  - e.g., people do not remember their membership no. (PK), the secondary key can be their name, which may not be unique.

# Example of Foreign Key

Table: CLASS_ENR	Example	Keys
zID	z1234567	PK, FK
CourseID	COMM1822	PK
TermID	2022T2	PK
Lab	W16A	
Lecture	M18A	

Table: COURSE	Example	Keys
CourseID	COMM1822	PK
CourseName	Intro to DB for BusAn	

Table: DEGREE	Example	Keys
zID	z1234567	PK, FK
ProgramID	3347	PK

Table: STUDENT	Example	Keys
	z1234567	PK
	<a href="mailto:z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au">z1234567@student.unsw.edu.au</a>	
	Id	
FirstName	Alice	
DOB	28/02/2010	

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# Relationships

A relationship is a link between two entities which is significant for the system.

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- The **degree of a relationship** is the number of entity types that participate in that relationship.
- The most common relationships are **unary, binary, ternary, and quaternary**.
- The relationships between entities can be
  - ☐ One-to-One 1:1
  - ☐ One-to-Many 1:M
  - ☐ Many-to-Many M:N

# Entity Relationships

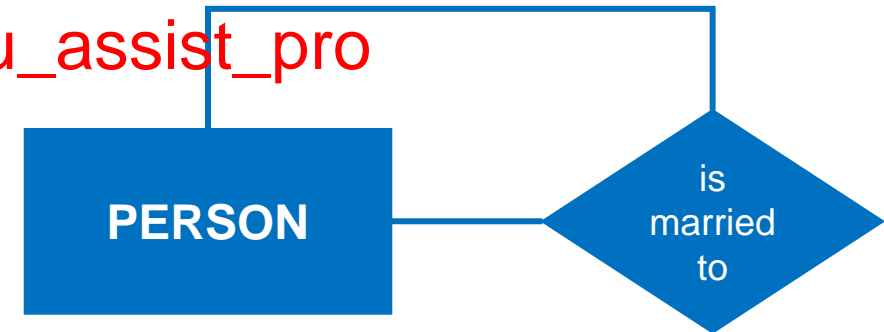


Entity 1

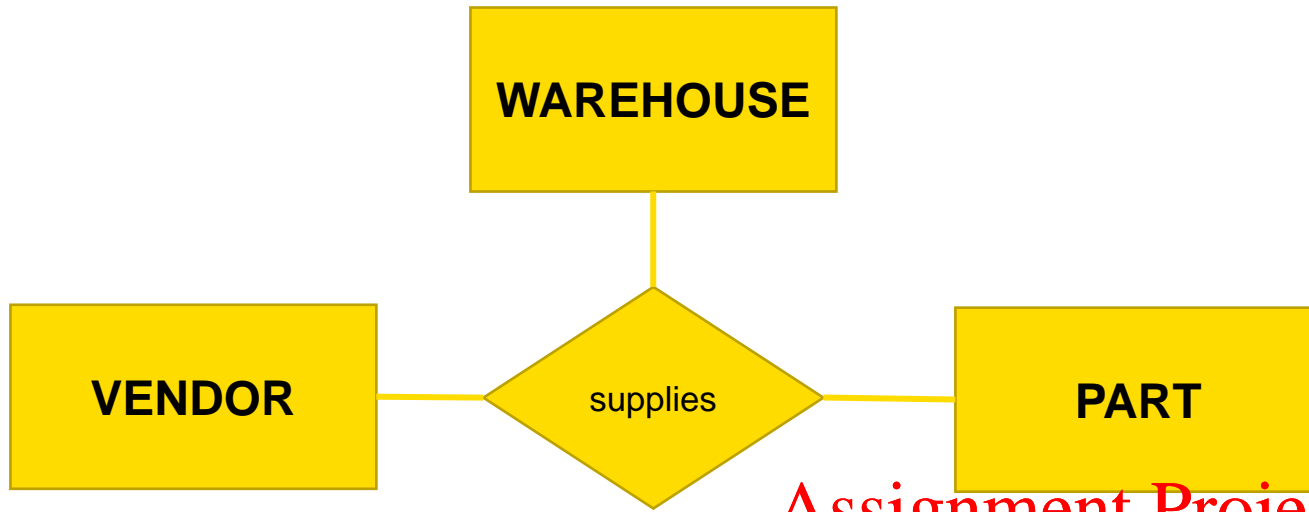
Relationship <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

Binary Relationship (2 entities)

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Unary Relationship (1 entity)



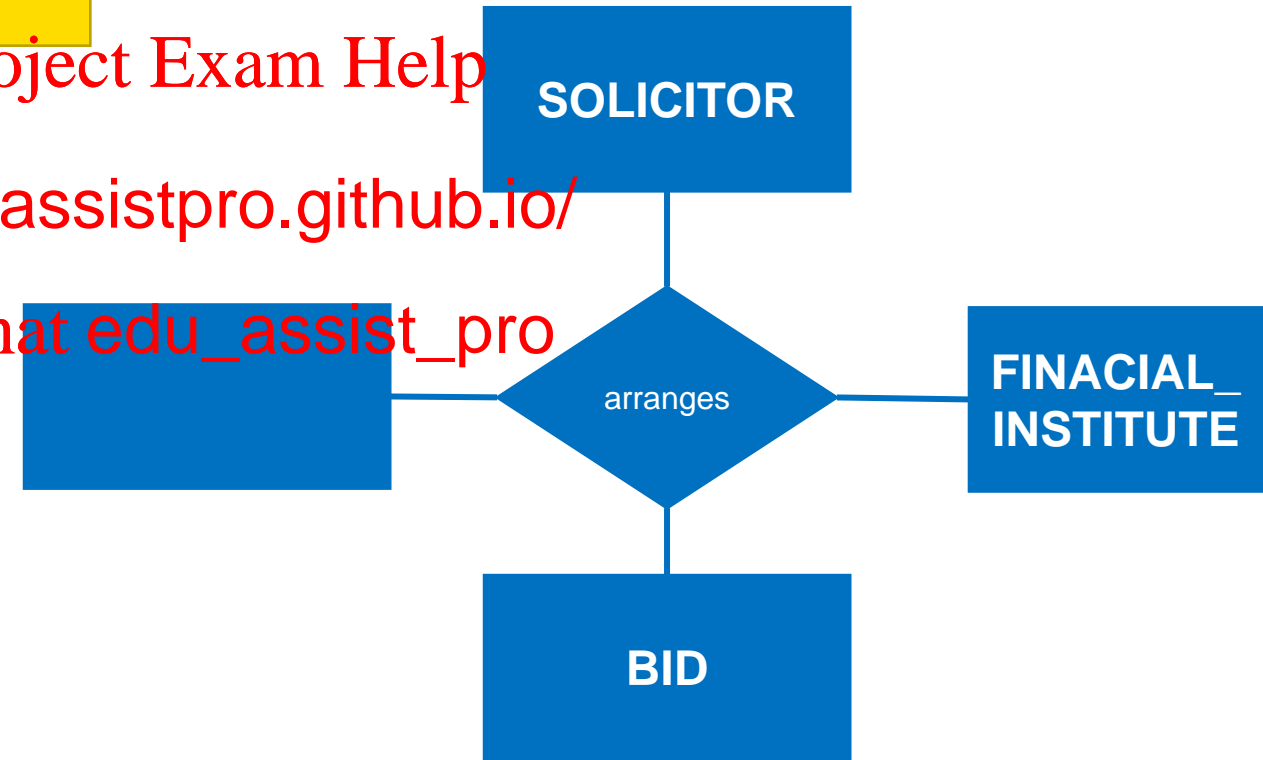
Ternary Relationship (3 e

Quaternary Relationship (4 entities)

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# Connectivity

- **Connectivity** is used to describe the **relationship classification**.

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- The ER diagram indicates using a numeric notation.  
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# Basic Relationship (One-to-One 1:1)



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State

Capital City

NSW

Sydney

Victoria

Melbourne

# Basic Relationship (One-to-Many 1:M)



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- A movie (e.g., Avengers) can be stocked a ys (e.g., 30 copies)
- All blurays contain a film.
- There is “one-to-many” relationship between film and bluray.

# Basic Relationship (Many-to-Many M:N)

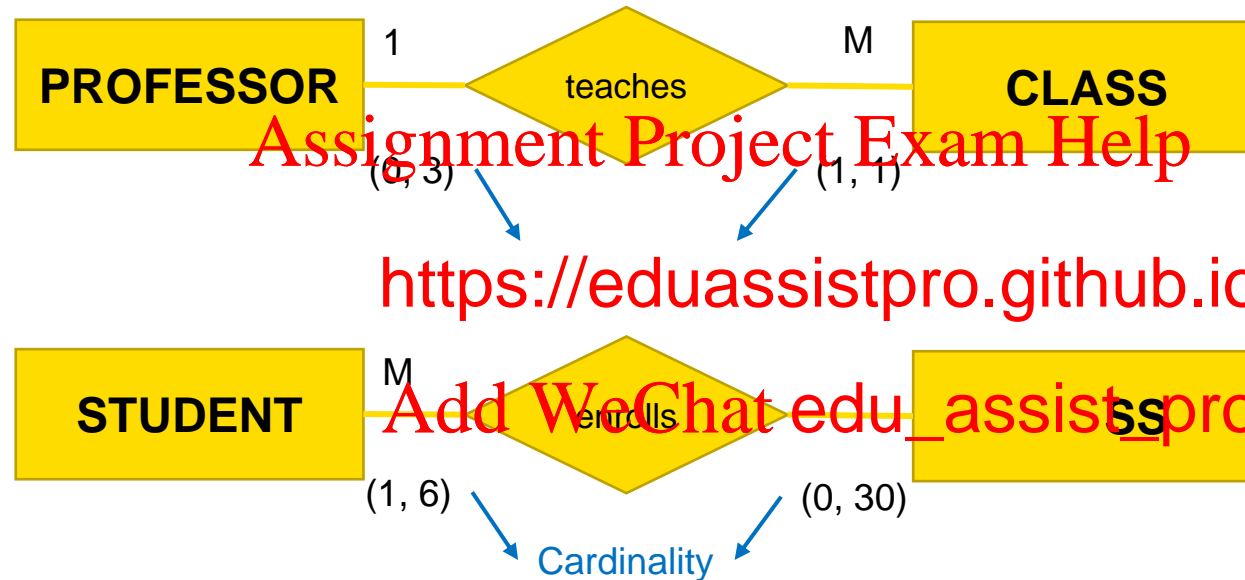


- A student enrolls many courses.
- Each course is enrolled by many students.

# Cardinality

- **Cardinality** expresses the **specific number of entity occurrences associated with one occurrence of related entity**.
- A **cardinality constraint** specifies the **number of instances of entity A** that can be associated with **each instance of entity B**. Carrom business rules.  
<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
- **Business rules**: They are derived from organisational environment.  
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- **Minimum cardinality** is the **minimum number** of instances of one entity that may be associated with each instance of another entity.
- **Maximum cardinality** is the **maximum number** of instances of one entity that may be associated with each instance of another entity.

# Examples of Cardinality



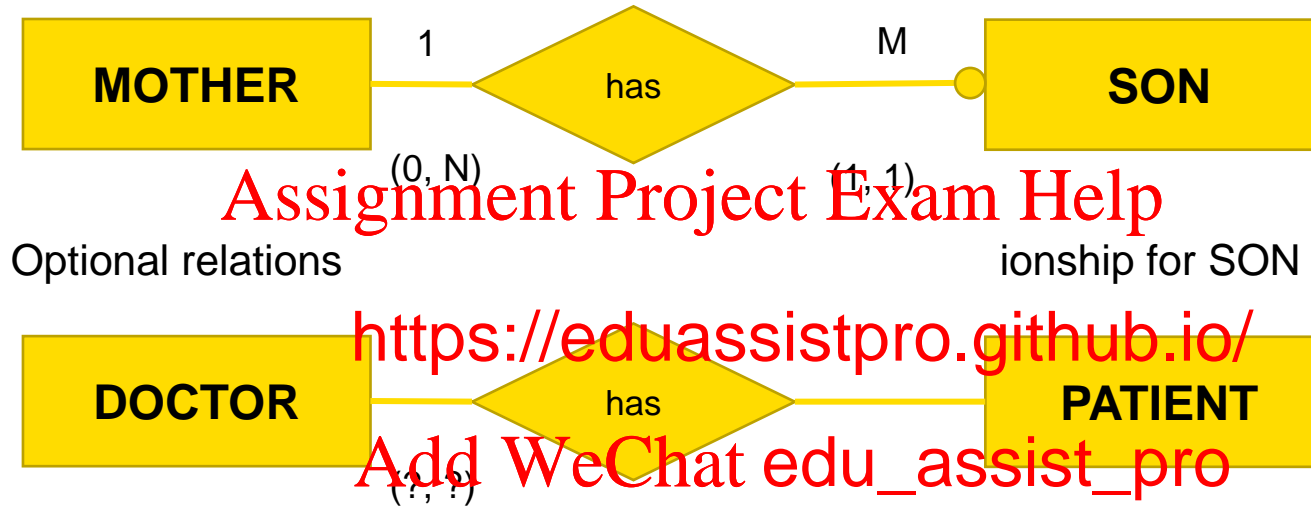
One-to-Many Relationship

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.

# Relationship Participation



Mandatory relationship between DOCTOR & PATIENT

- A participating entity in a relationship can be either **optional** or **mandatory**.
- Determined by the **specific meaning of the terms used**.
  - ☐ Depends on context.
  - ☐ Need to state assumptions.

# Ternary Relationships

Research fund may be placed into several categories.

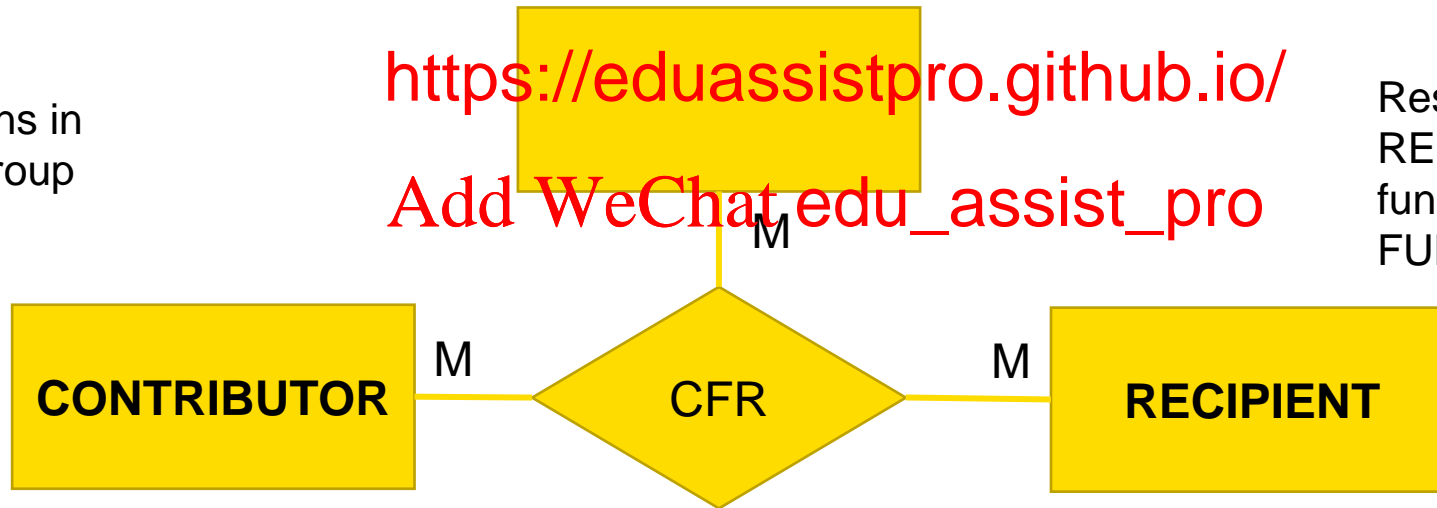
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People or institutions in CONTRIBUTOR group donate money to a special research FUND.

Researchers found in RECIPIENT are funded through the FUND contents.





# Relationship, Connectivity, Cardinality

- **Relationship:** Association between entities that always operate in both directions

tables

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- **Participants:** Entities
  - The most common relationship classification is binary, ternary, and quaternary.

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- **Connectivity:** Describes the relationship classification

1:1, 1:M and M:N

- **Cardinality:** Expresses the minimum and maximum number of entity occurrences associated with one occurrence of related entity

e.g., how many classes at most one professor can teach.

# Recap: ER Modelling Part 1

- **Data Modelling**

- ☐ Data model as a (relatively) simple abstraction of the complex real-world (for the purpose of creating a DB).
- ☐ A good DBMS will perform database.
- ☐ One modelling technique is Relationship Modelling

- **Entity Relationship Modelling**

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

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# Questions

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Source: tryinteract.com