

Module 6 Notation for Entity Relationship Diagrams

Part 3: Relationship Variations I



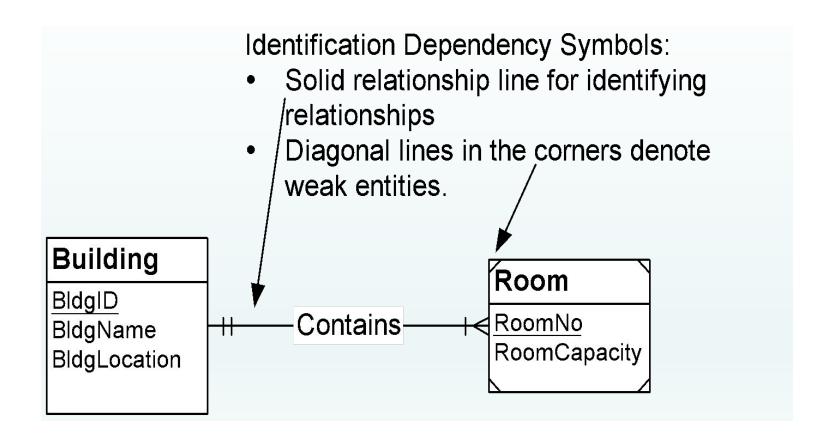
Lesson Objectives

- Explain an example involving identification dependency
- Apply relationship equivalency between M-N relationship and associative entity type
- Appreciate specialized relationships but resist temptation to overuse them





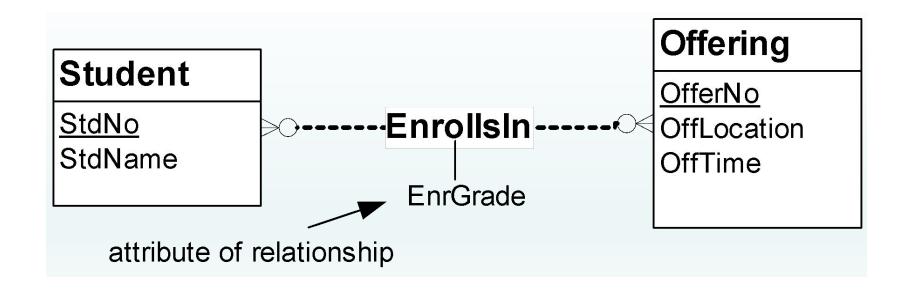
Identification Dependency







M-N Relationships with Attributes







M-N Relationships with Attributes (II)

a) Provides relationship Supplier Part SuppNo Provides PartNo SuppName PartName Q ty b) Writes relationship **Author Book AuthNo** Writes ISBN **AuthName** Title





AuthOrder

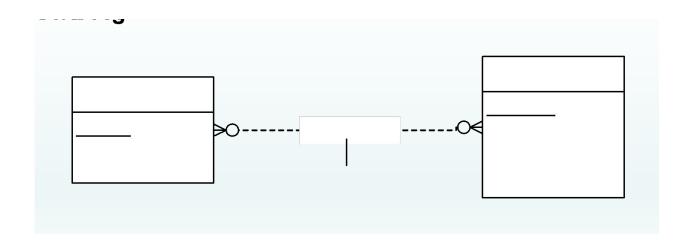
M-N Relationship Equivalency Rule

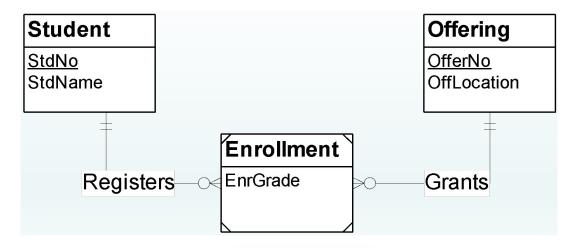
- Replace M-N relationship
 - Associative entity type
 - Two identifying 1-M relationships
- M-N relationship versus associative entity type
 - Largely preference
 - Associative entity type is more flexible in some situations





Relationship Equivalency Example







Summary

- Specialized relationships are not common but important when necessary
- Do not overuse specialized relationships
- Avoid notation errors with specialized relationships

