

EE4202 Database Systems

REPRESENTATIONAL DATABASE MODEL – (RELATIONAL MODEL)

ER TO RELATIONAL MAPPING

Entity Relationship Model	Relational Model
Entity type	Relation/Table
Attribute name	Column header
Attributes	Domain constraint, Null constraint
Entity/Relationship instance	Tuple/Row
Relationship type	Referential integrity constraint or normalized into a separate table
Candidate Keys	Key constraint, Entity Integrity
----- ---	Data constraints

- Domain is the set of all distinct values that can be assigned for an attribute.
- Domain has a role name (attribute name), data type and format. Data types of attributes can be any one of integer (Ex: 2,3), decimal (total, decimal places) (Ex: 5.89), varchar(size)/char(size) (Ex: "Kamal Fonseka"), Boolean (Ex: 0, 1), date (20/11/2020), time (13:54:34) etc.
- Null value can be assigned to an attribute if the attribute is not applicable (Ex: Apartment num) or value exists and missing (Ex: height) or unknown about existence (Ex: degrees).

- A relational schema (intention/definition) is defined in SQL as,

CREATE TABLE Relation_name(
Attribute_1 data type default 'def_val',
Attribute_2 data type NOT NULL,.....,
Attribute_n data type,

PRIMARY KEY (Attribute_1, Attribute_2),

constraint fk1 foreign key (attribute1) references othertable(attr2) on delete set NULL on update set

DEFAULT);

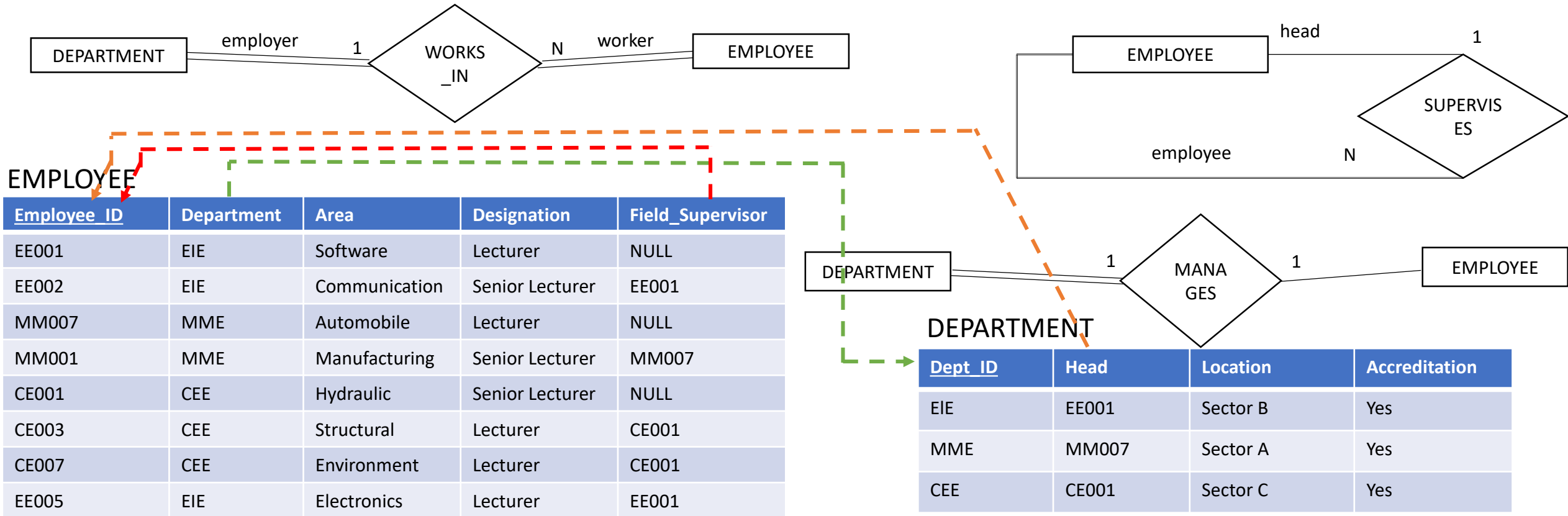
CONSTRAINTS IN RELATIONAL MODEL

- Composite and multivalued attributes in ER-model cannot be implemented in Relational model. *All attribute values must be atomic, single valued (Domain constraint) and all tuples must be distinct (Entity Integrity)* which is relational model must be in **first normal form**.
- Normalization is the goodness of design of a relational database.
- Multivalued attribute must be shown as a separate relation.
- Composite attribute can be broken into atomic attributes.
- Schema based constraints are
 - ☐ Domain constraints
 - ☐ Key constraints
 - ☐ Constraints on nulls
 - ☐ Entity integrity constraints
 - ☐ Referential integrity constraints
- Data constraints are
 - Functional dependencies
 - Multivalued dependencies

CONSTRAINTS

- **Domain constraints** – Each value of the attribute of the tuple must be atomic and single valued within its domain.
- **Key constraint** - When there are candidate keys only one of them is declared as primary key and underlined and other key attributes are declared with unique property.
- **Constraints on null** specifies whether null values are permitted or not.
- **Entity integrity** constraint specifies that primary key must be defined and the value cannot be null.

REFERENTIAL INTEGRITY



- **Referential integrity** states that tuple from the referencing relation must refer to an existing tuple in the referenced relation or be null.
- The referencing attribute is called **foreign key** and it refers to a primary key in other relation.
- This facilitates to maintain the concept of relationships in ER model.
- Indicated using a dashed arrow from foreign key to the primary key.