



## UNIT 1. CONCEPTUAL MODELLING (EER)

### Part 2 of 3: ER DIAGRAM

27/09/23

# Bases de datos (BD)

## CFGs Desarrollo de Aplicaciones Web (DAW)

# UNIT 1. CONCEPTUAL MODELLING (EER)

- PART 1/3

- UNIT 1.1 ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP DIAGRAM (ER)

- Modelling a database. Steps to follow.
    - ER conceptual modelling key concepts

- Workshop A: basic-complexity diagrams

- PART 2/3

- UNIT 1.2 ATTRIBUTES IN RELATIONSHIPS & WEAKNESS

- Attributes in relationships
    - Weak entities

- Workshop B: medium-complexity diagrams

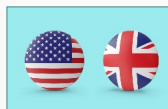
- PART 3/3

- UNIT 1.3 EXTENDED E-R DIAGRAM (EER)

- Generalizations and specializations
    - Aggregations (relationships as entities)

- Workshop C: high-complexity diagrams

- Workshop D: spiders :-)



# UNIT 1. CONCEPTUAL MODELLING (EER)

## PART 1

### UNIT 1.1 ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP DIAGRAM

**Workshop A:** basic-complexity diagrams

## PART 2

### UNIT 1.2 ATTRIBUTES IN RELATIONSHIPS & WEAKNESS

**Workshop B:** medium-complexity diagrams

## PART 3

### UNIT 1.3 EXTENDED E-R DIAGRAM

**Workshop C:** high-complexity diagrams

**Workshop D:** spiders :-)

# UNIT 1. CONCEPTUAL MODELLING (EER)



## UNIT 1.2 ATTRIBUTES IN RELATIONSHIPS & WEAKNESS

### 1.2.1 Attributes in relationships

### 1.2.2 ER: Weak entities

# UNIT 1.2.1 ATTRIBUTES IN RELATIONSHIPS

Let's study this case:

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/attributes-to-relationships-in-er-model/>



# UNIT 1. CONCEPTUAL MODELLING (EER)



## UNIT 1.2 ATTRIBUTES IN RELATIONSHIPS & WEAKNESS

1.2.1 Attributes in relationships

**1.2.2 ER: Weak entities**

# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

A **weak entity** is one that **needs another entity to exist**, that is, if the strong entity does not exist the weak entity could not exist either.

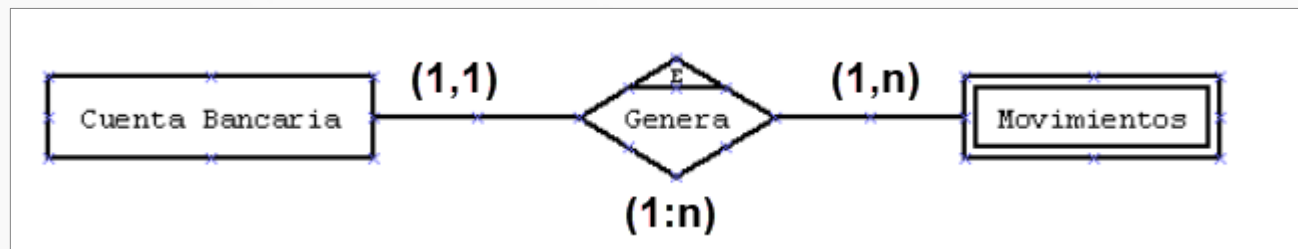
We can recognize a weak entity B by its dependence on the other entity A, for this we can ask ourselves if we delete an occurrence of entity A will it be necessary to also delete the related occurrences of entity B (the weak one)?

At the example below, in a banking environment, we have bank ACCOUNTS and we have bank MOVEMENTS. Obviously, bank MOVEMENTS have no meaning without the existence of bank ACCOUNTS.

- **We'll say MOVEMENTS (acting as weak) has an existence dependency on ACCOUNTS (acting as strong).**

So, an **existence dependency** (from the WEAK entity to the STRONG entity) is represented by **writing an “E”** at the top of the diamond (relationship symbol) and **placing a double line on the weak entity**.

In this case, both entities have a PRIMARY KEY that uniquely identifies each occurrence of the entity (ACCOUNTS could be “account\_id” and for MOVEMENTS could be “movement\_id”).



The E can be inside or outside the diamond. Generally at the top of it.

In this case, we assume that the MOVEMENTS have an attribute that uniquely identifies them in the entire database.

Movement 987329832754  
Movement 987329832757  
Movement 987329832756

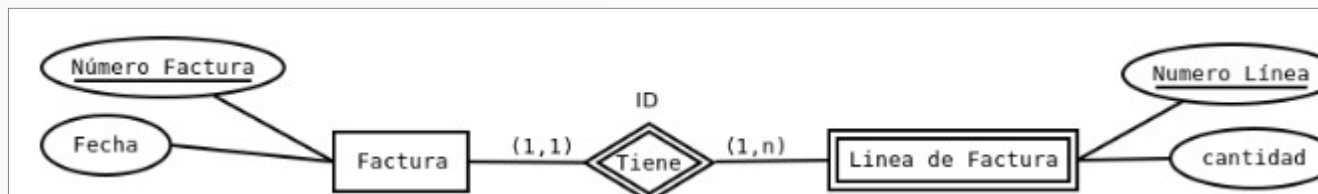
# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

When the weak entity cannot identify every one of its instances/occurrences with an unique value, it needs to add the primary key of the strong entity to form its own primary key. In this case, we have **an identity dependency**.

The **identity dependency includes the existence dependency**, since you need to remove all the related instances of the weak one when you remove an instance of the strong one.

This kind of weakness, is represented by **writing “ID”** at the top of the relation, keeping the **double lined rectangle** over the weak entity. Actually, we should write E+ID since ID always includes E, so you can write E+ID o just ID.

In the example below, to identify any INVOICE LINE we'll need an INVOICE. So, the PRIMARY KEY for the INVOICE LINE will be the **composite attribute “invoice number” of the strong entity + the “line number” of the weak one**.



Tip: Add an E next to the ID text to remind you that the IDENTITY DEPENDENCY includes the EXISTENCE DEPENDENCY

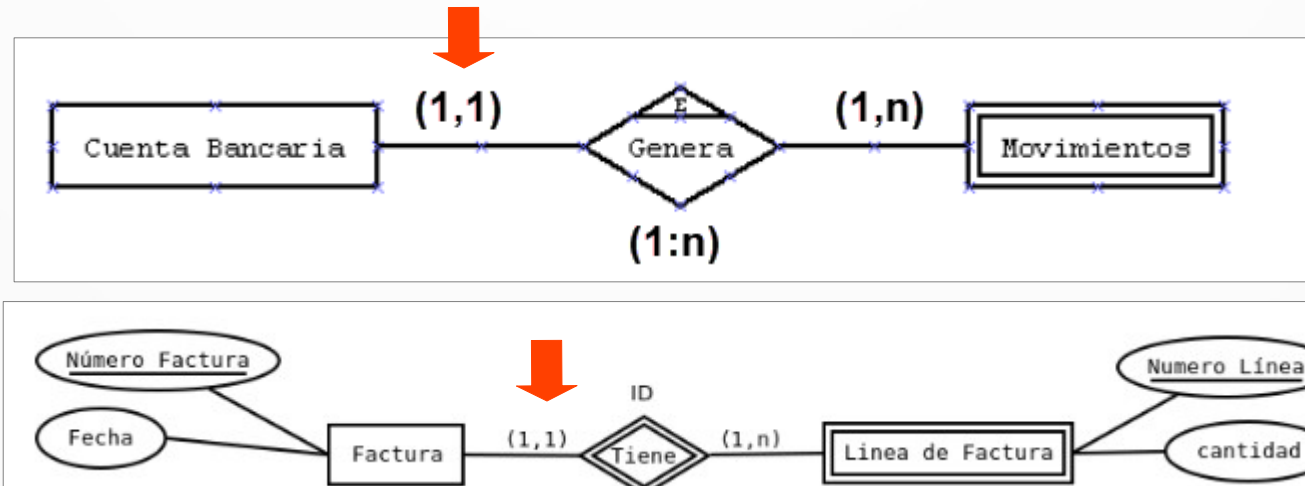
The diamond of the relationship can be single or double-lined in both types of weak relationships. What determines if it is of one type or another are the letters that you put above it (only E, E+ID or just ID)



# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Be aware, in a weakness scenario, the **STRONG** entity is always participating with **1,1**!

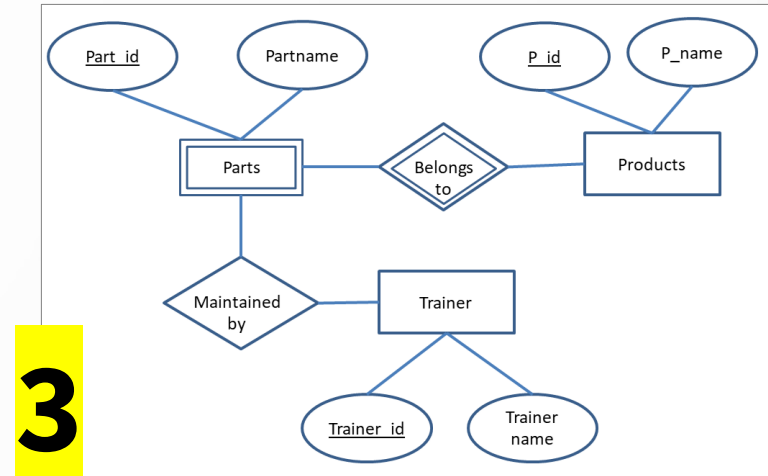
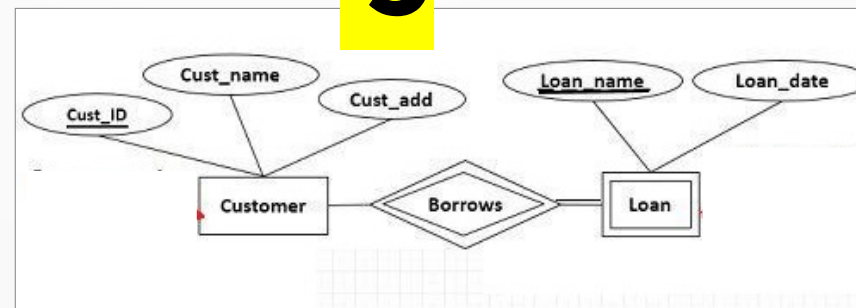
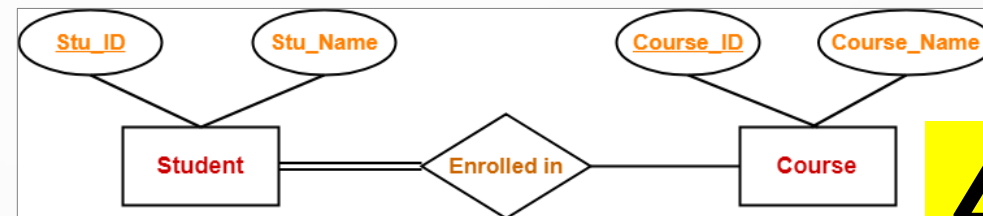
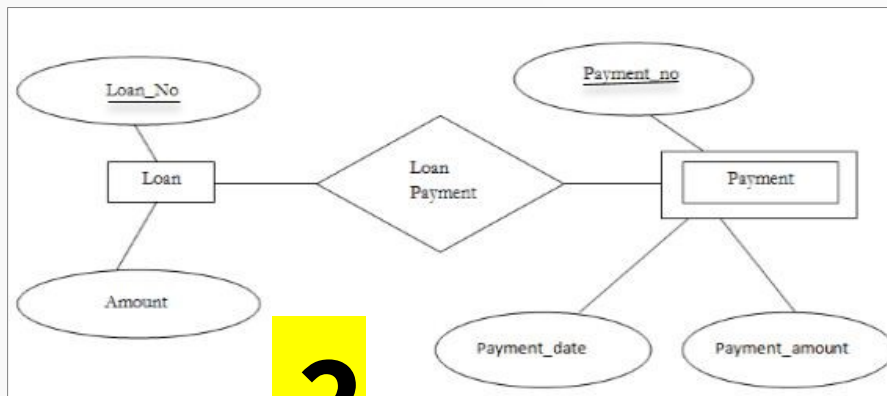
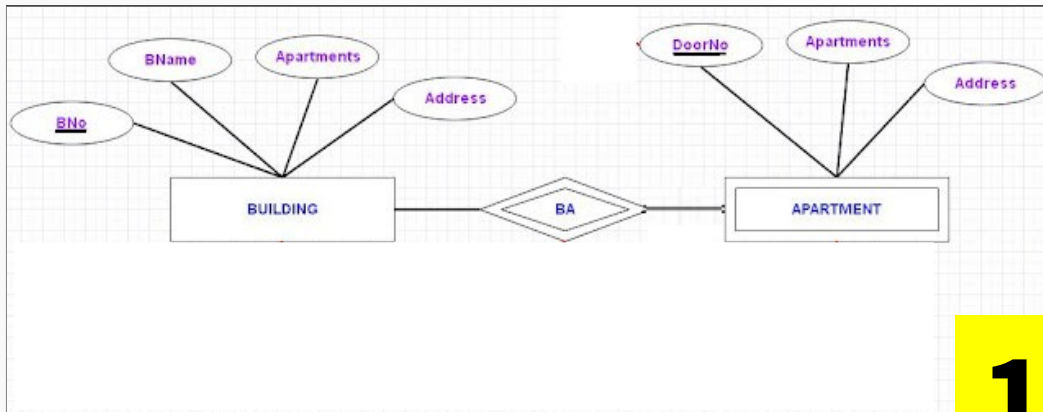
Why? You should know the answer (at this point)...



# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

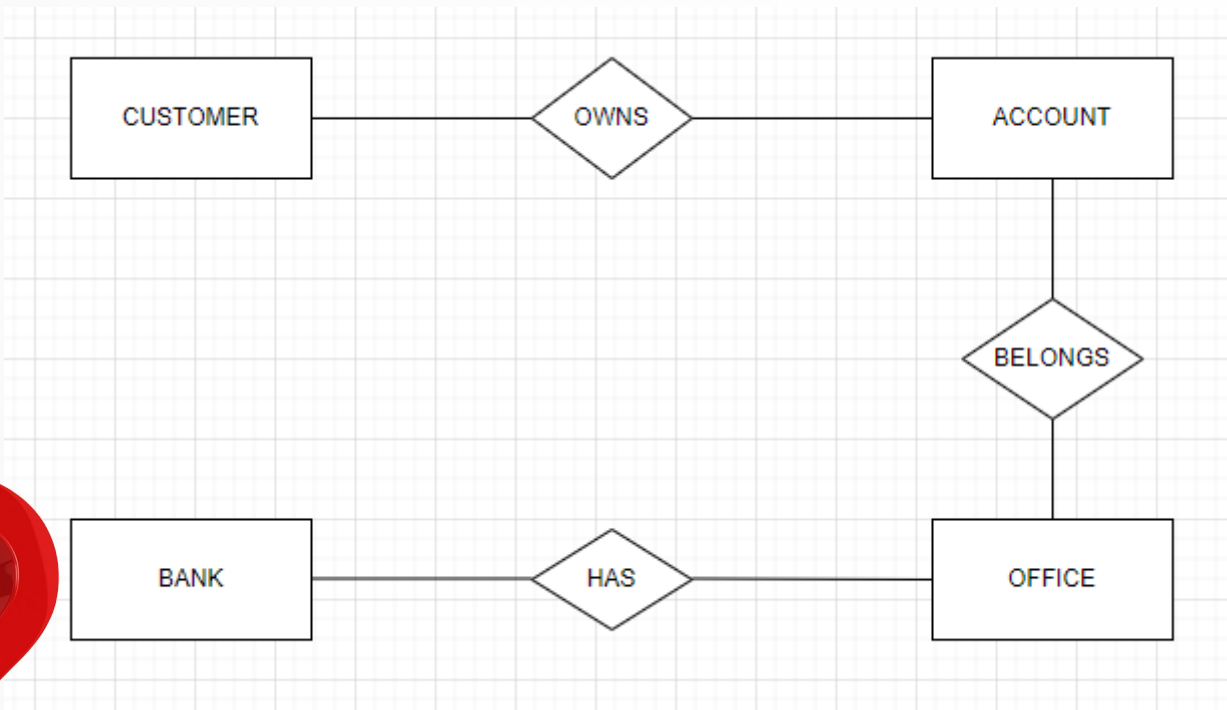
Have a look at these examples and **try to guess the PARTICIPATION, CARDINALITY and if they are E+ID (IDENTITY) or just E (EXISTENCE)**:

Publish your SOLUTION PROPOSAL in the **UNIT 1 FORUM**, creating a new post with the subject WEAKNESS EXAMPLES: DIAGRAM X ... if no one has created it before :-)



# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Sometimes, an entity can act as STRONG and WEAK depending on the relationship....

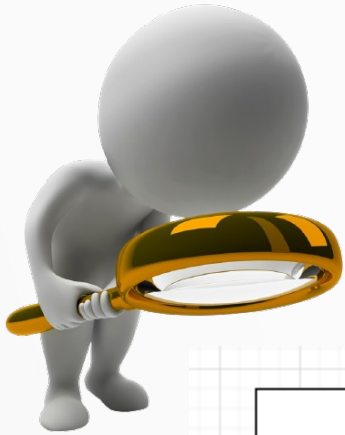


Write the participations knowing that:

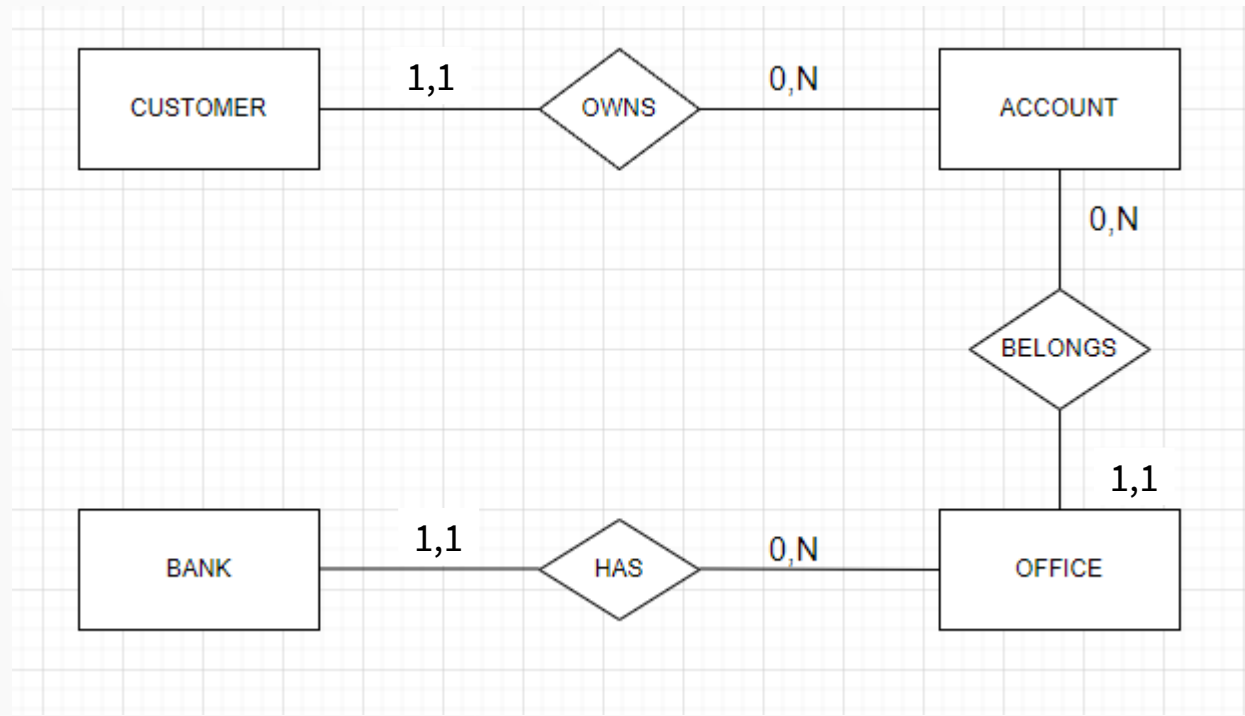
- A customer **can** own more than one account
- An account **must** have a **single** customer (as owner)
- An account **must** belong to a **single** office
- An office **can** have more than one account
- An office **must** belong to a **single** bank
- A bank **can** have more than one offices



# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities



Sometimes, an entity can act as STRONG and WEAK depending on the relationship....



Detect the weakness knowing that:

- An account doesn't need a customer to be identified, but **does need** to be deleted if the customer is deleted.
- An account **does need** an office to be identified, and **does need** to be deleted if the office is deleted.
- An office **does need** a bank to be identified, and **does need** to be deleted if the bank is deleted.

## ATTENTION:

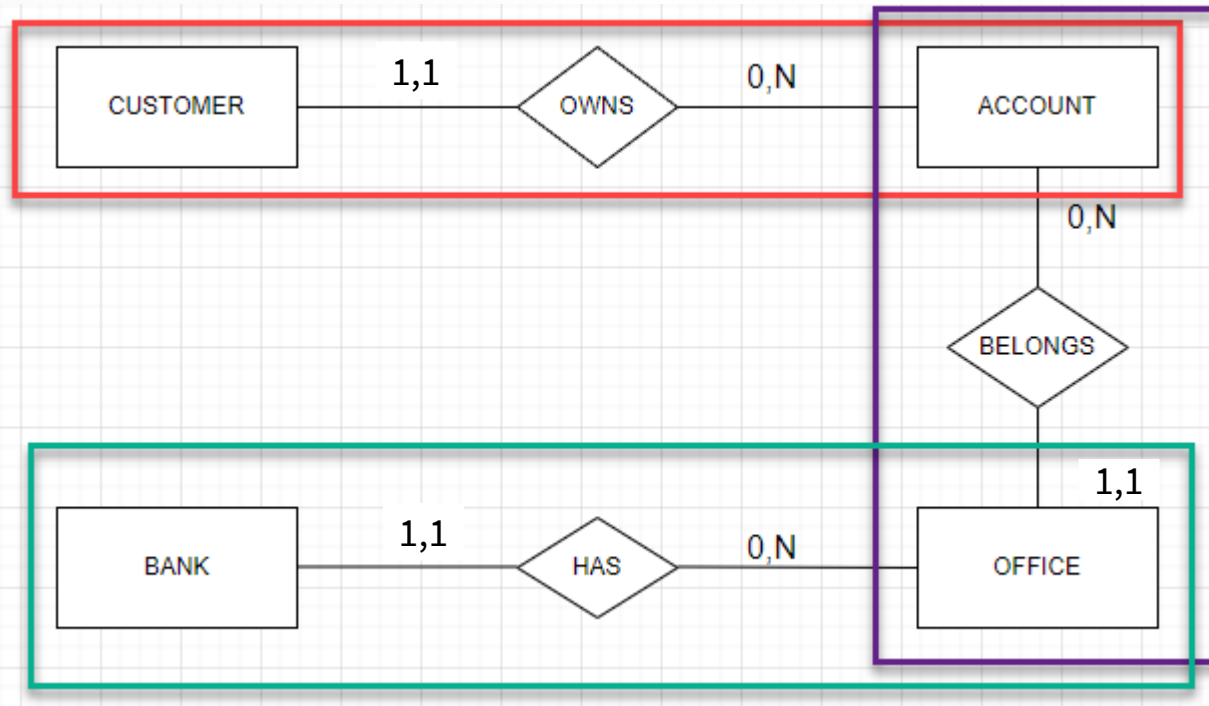
You should detect each weakness, setting a STRONG entity and a WEAK entity **for EACH WEAKNESS!**





# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Sometimes, an entity can act as STRONG and WEAK depending on the relationship....



**ATTENTION:**

We have THREE weakness! Detect now the STRONG and the WEAK in each one...

**TIP:**

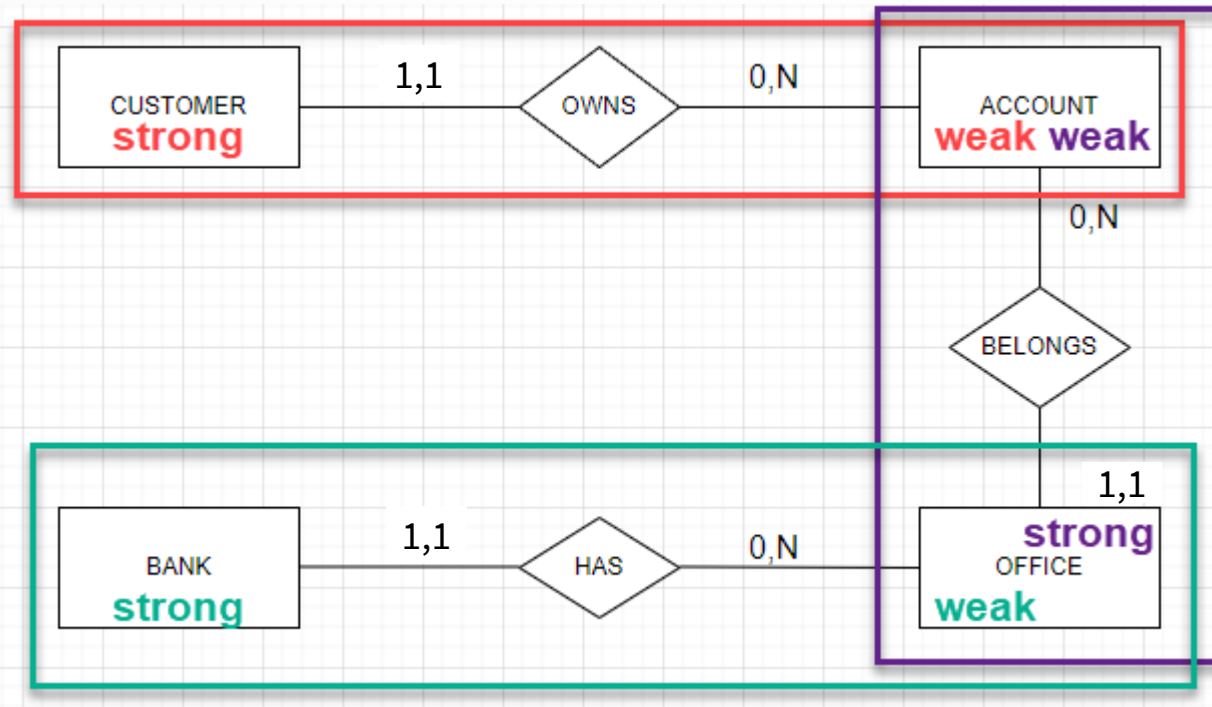
Look at the participations...





# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Sometimes, an entity can act as STRONG and WEAK depending on the relationship....



## ATTENTION :

Last step... is to draw the double lines over the diamonds and the rectangles.

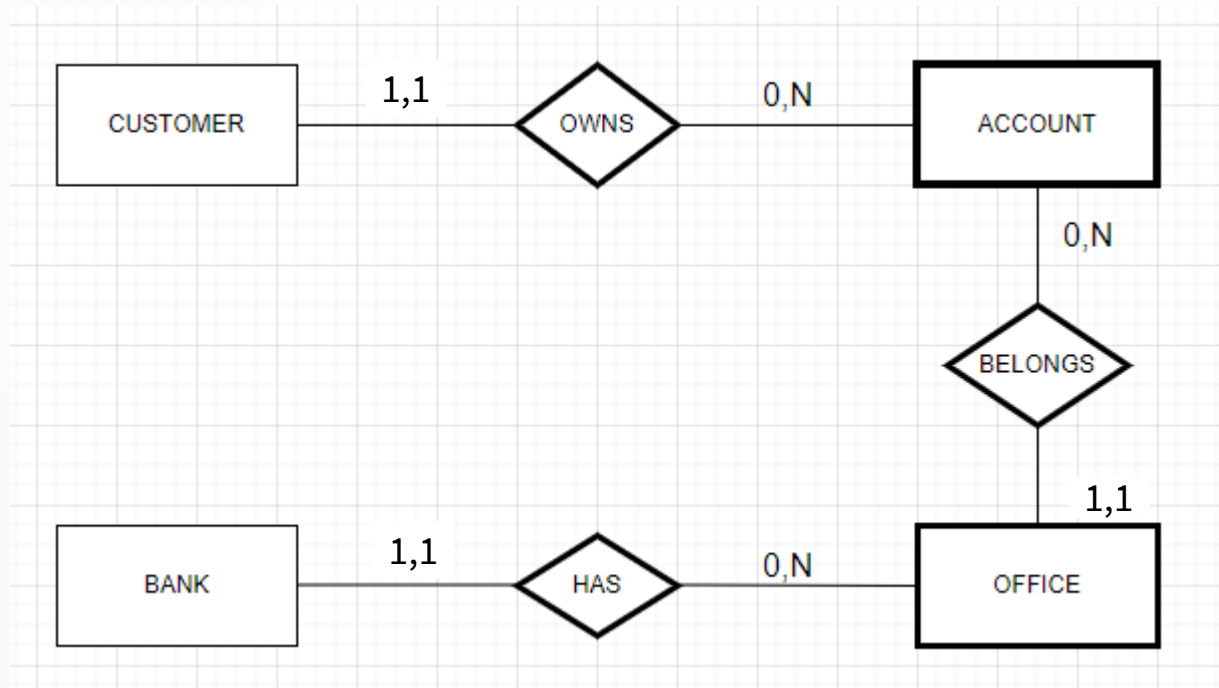
## TIP:

If an entity is acting as WEAK anytime, it should be double lined.



# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Sometimes, an entity can act as STRONG and WEAK depending on the relationship....



**ATTENTION :**

Last step... is to set the type of weakness for each relationship.

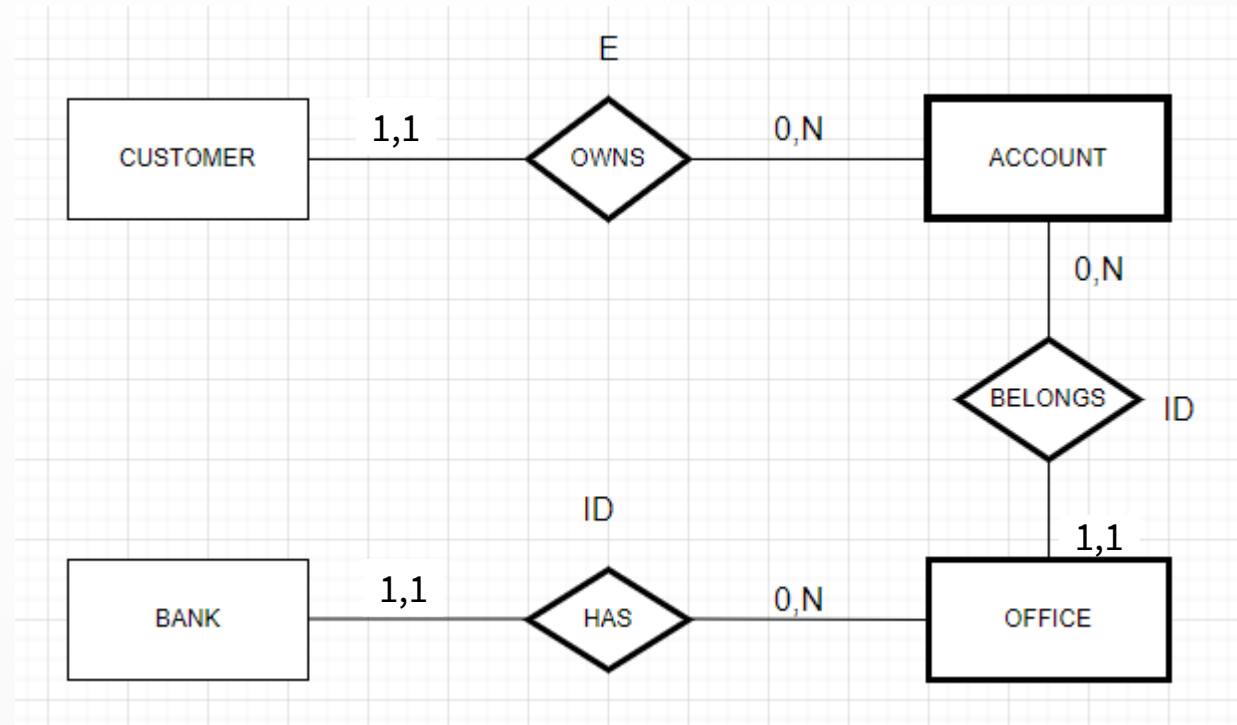
**TIP:**

Go back and check the specifications.



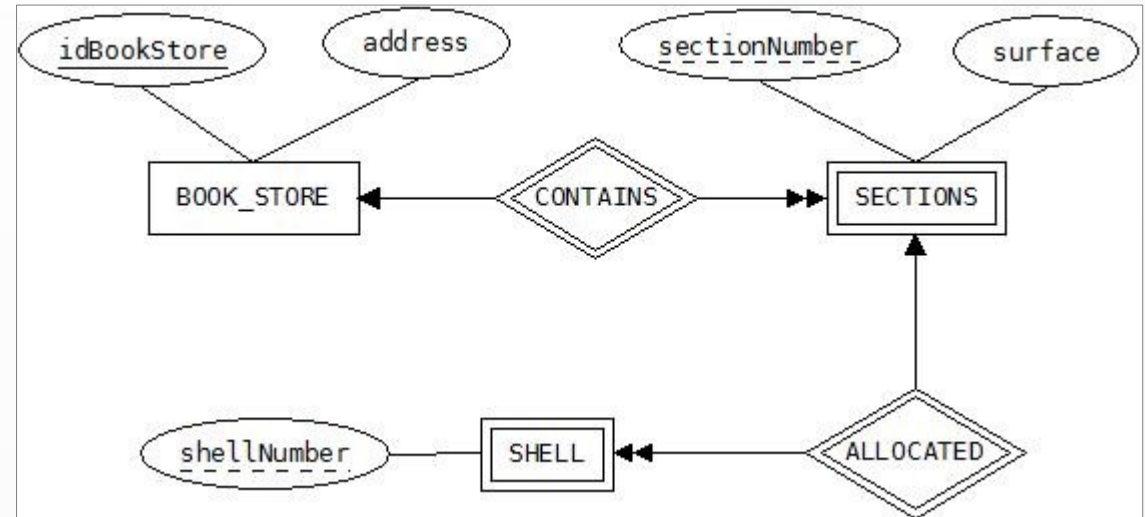
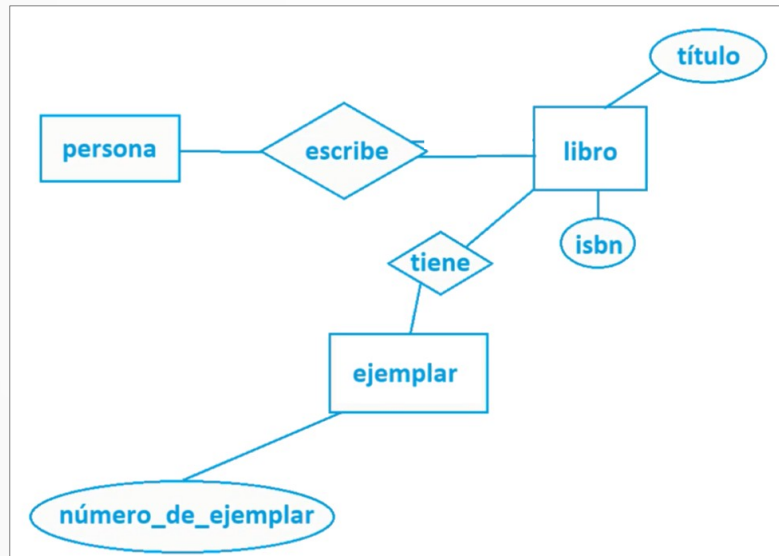
# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Sometimes, an entity can act as STRONG and WEAK depending on the relationship....



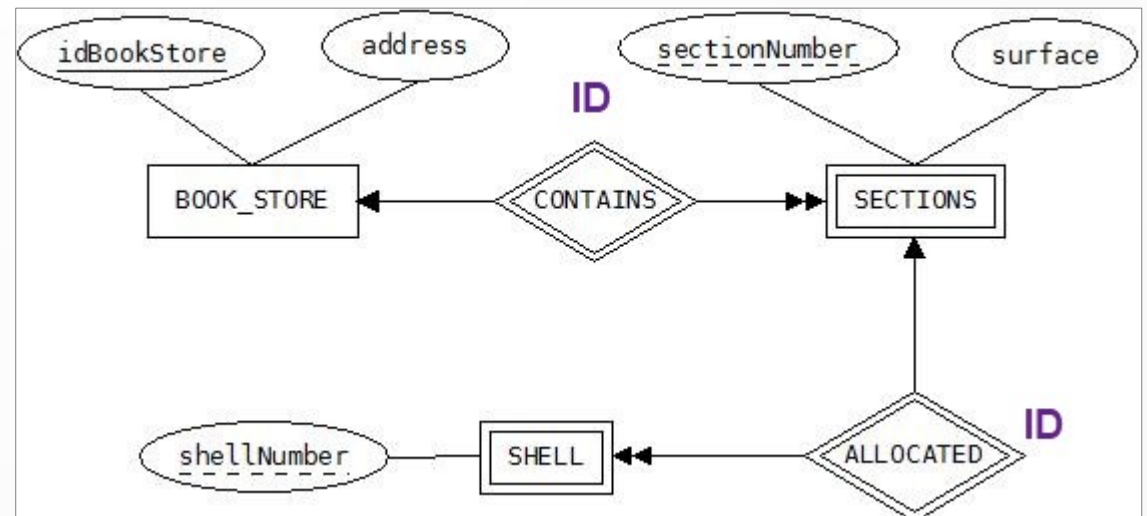
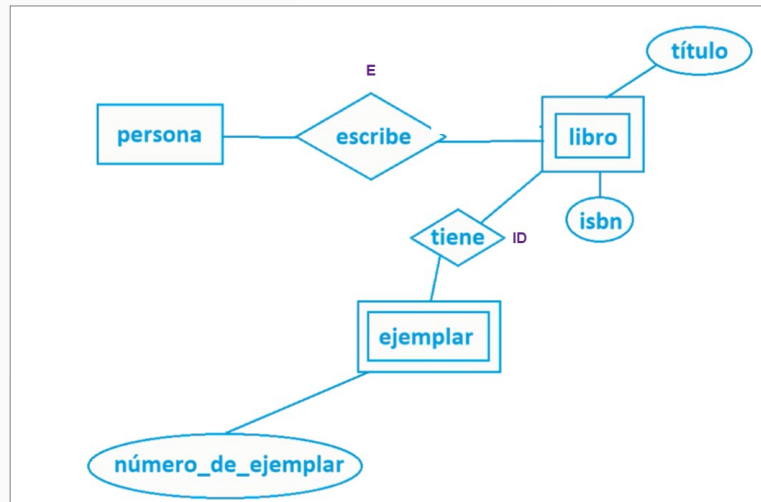
# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Try to guess the type of each weakness in these examples (**ignore the arrows**):



# 1.2.2 ER: Weak Entities

Try to guess the type of each weakness in these examples (**ignore the arrows**):





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