

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

# ENTITY- RELATIONSHIP MODELLING

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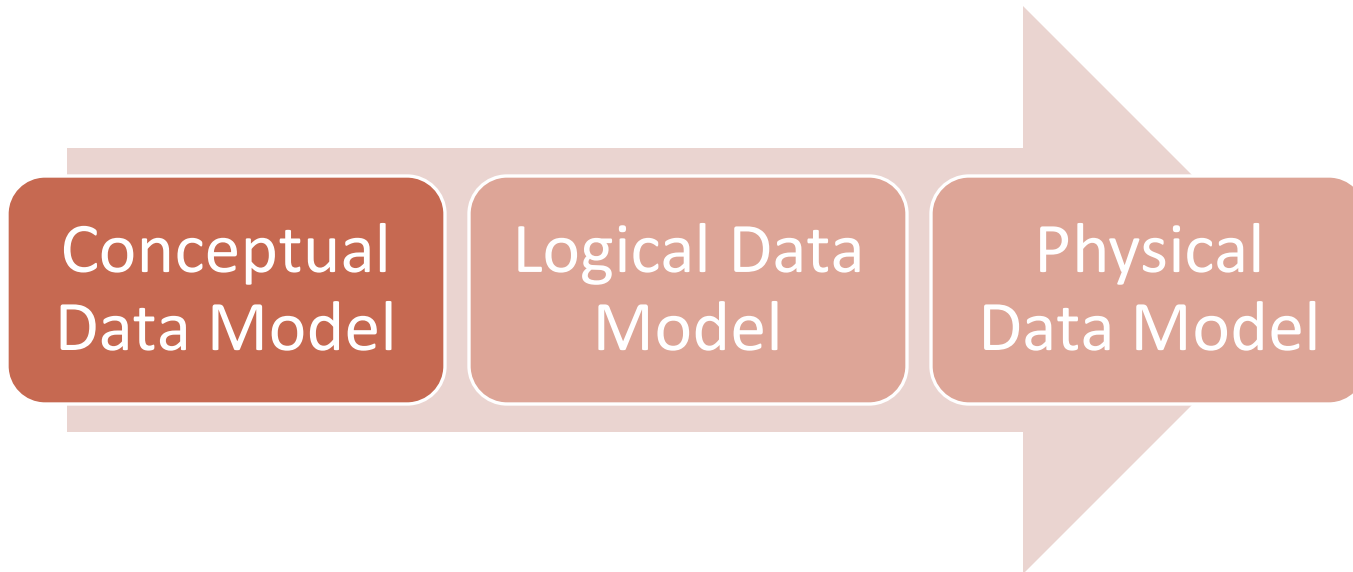
COMP23111 – Database Systems

# OUTLINE

ER modelling concepts

Conceptual Data Model (via ER Diagram)

# DATABASE APPLICATION DESIGN PHASES - *DATA MODELLING*



- Entity-Relationship Diagram (ERD)

# ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP (ER) ~~MODELLING~~



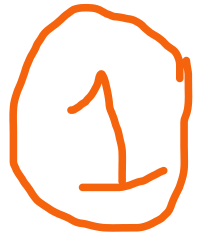
customer



order



product



# ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP (ER) MODEL

At least one of the attributes should be UNIQUE (\*).

Attributes



• ship. date



- name
- tel. no
- delivery address

- quantity
- type



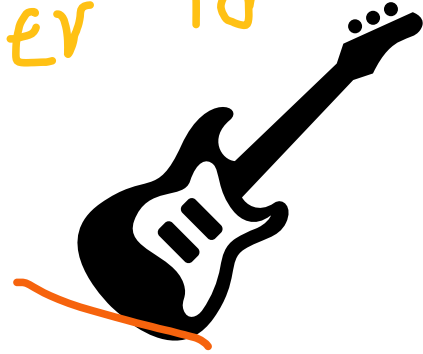
# ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP (ER) MODEL

Attributes



- name
- tel. no
- delivery address
- \*customer id

- ship. address
- ship. date
- \*order id



- quantity
- type
- \*product id



At least one of the attributes should be UNIQUE (\*).

# ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP (ER) MODEL



Attribute types:

<b>Composite</b>	Can be split into components.
Vs.	
<b>Simple (or atomic)</b>	Cannot be split into components.

<b>Single-valued</b>	Takes up a single value for each instance.
Vs.	
<b>Multivalued</b>	More than one single-valued attribute for each instance.

<b>Stored</b>	As is.
Vs.	
<b>Derived</b>	From other stored attributes.

<b>NULL-valued</b>	N/A for some reason.
Vs.	
<b>Complex-valued</b>	Composite + multivalued

*\*Customer id*

*D.O.B.*

Current age

Membership Type

Preferred delivery details

Name (First, Last)

Tel. Number

*Email*

Delivery address

Membership points

# ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP (ER) MODEL



Attribute types:

Delivery address

**Composite**

Name (First, Last)

Vs.

**Simple** (or atomic)

*\*Customer id*

**Single-valued**

Membership Type

Vs.

**Multivalued**

Tel. Number

*Email*

**Stored**

*D.O.B.*

Vs.

**Derived**

Current age

**NULL-valued**

Membership points

Vs.

**Complex-valued**

Preferred delivery details

Composite &  
complex are  
**different!**



# ENTITY-RELATIONSHIP (ER) MODEL



Binary

Ternary (3 entities) ...

# ER MODEL

**Entity** (an identifiable unique “thing” which independently exists).

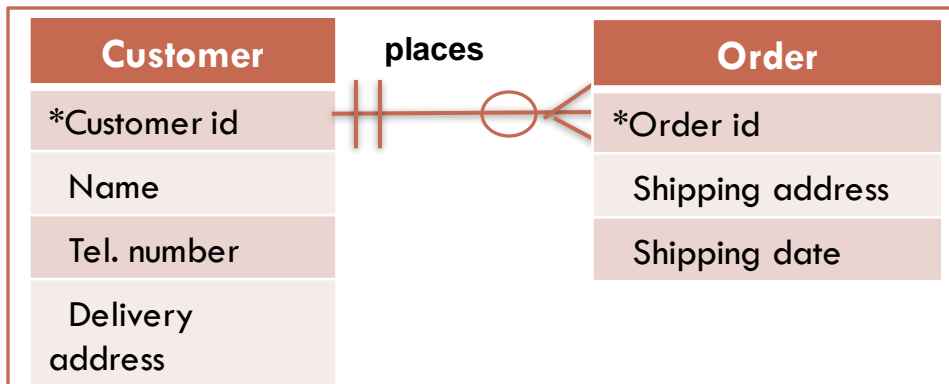
**Attribute** (a property of an entity).

**Relationship** (connects two or more entities with meaning).

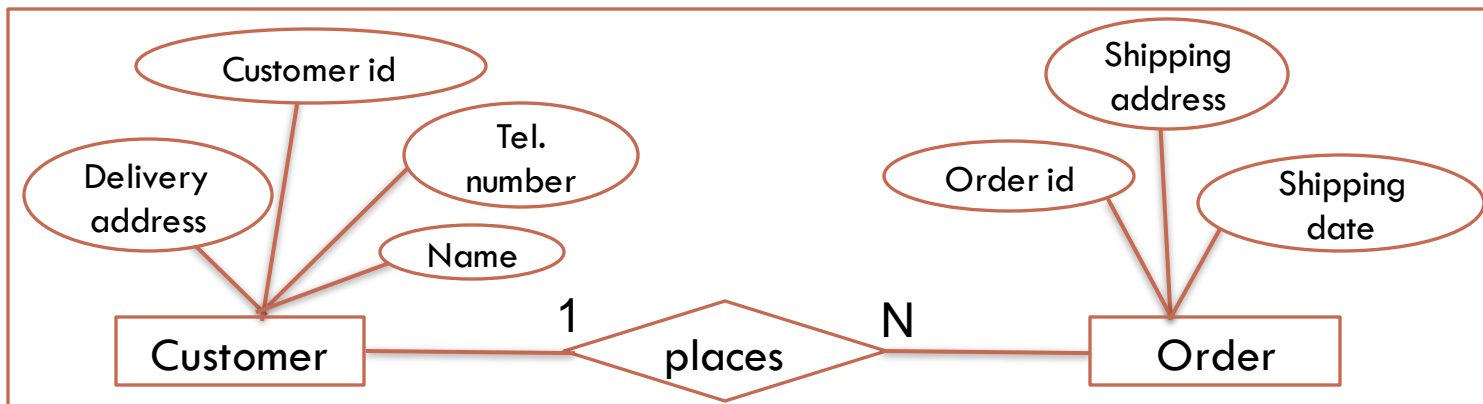
*How do we represent them in an ER model?*

# ER MODEL – DIAGRAMS

Different types of ER diagrams:



Crow's foot  
(invented by Gordon Everest)



Chen

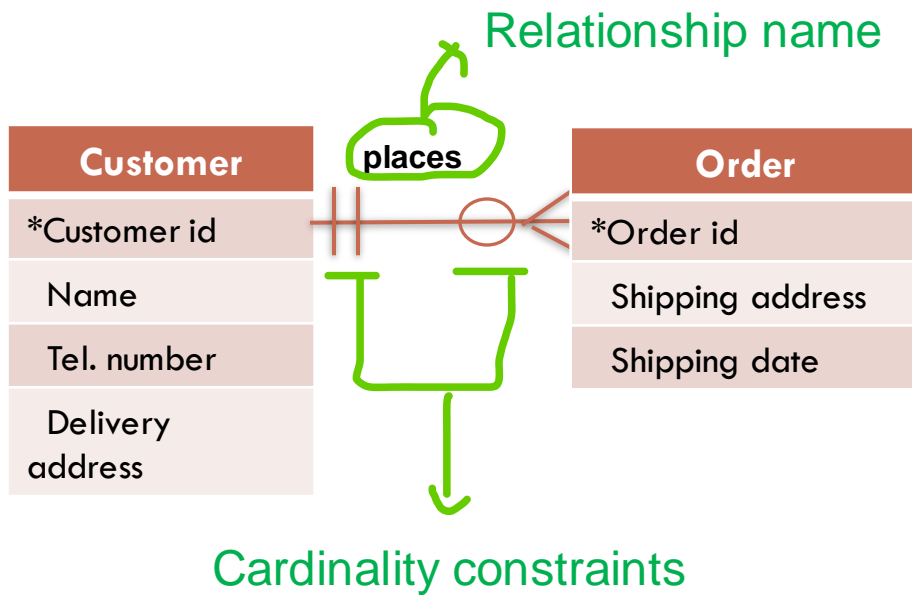
# ER MODEL – ENTITIES & ATTRIBUTES

Customer
*Customer id
Name
Tel. number
Delivery address

Customer	Customer
*1877	*4229
Alex Caroll	Mary Smiths
07732425562	07762455371
21 Empire St...	101 Lever St...

	Attribute	Attribute	Attribute
Entity Instance			
Entity Instance		Data...	
Entity Instance			
Entity Instance			

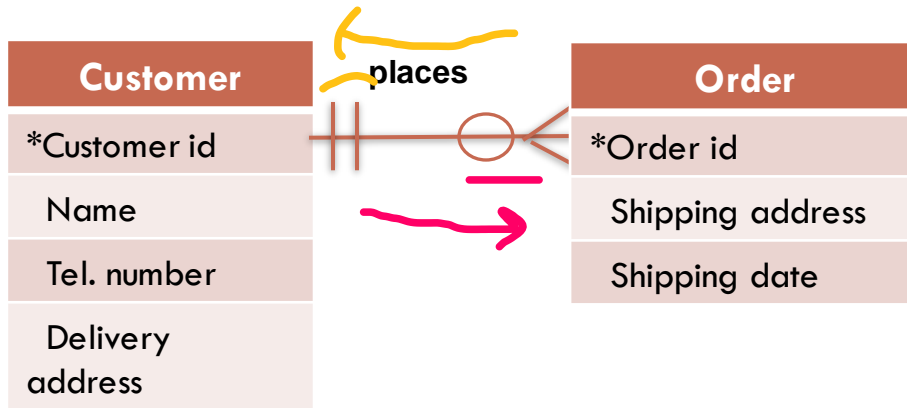
# ER MODEL – RELATIONSHIPS



Define the relationship in numerical terms, via the concepts of *minimum* and *maximum*.

Attributes and relationships show the **logical structure** and **semantics**.

# ER MODEL – RELATIONSHIPS



min. max.  
0      ←  
min. max.  
|      |

## Cardinality constraints

———|| One (and only one)

———○| Zero or one

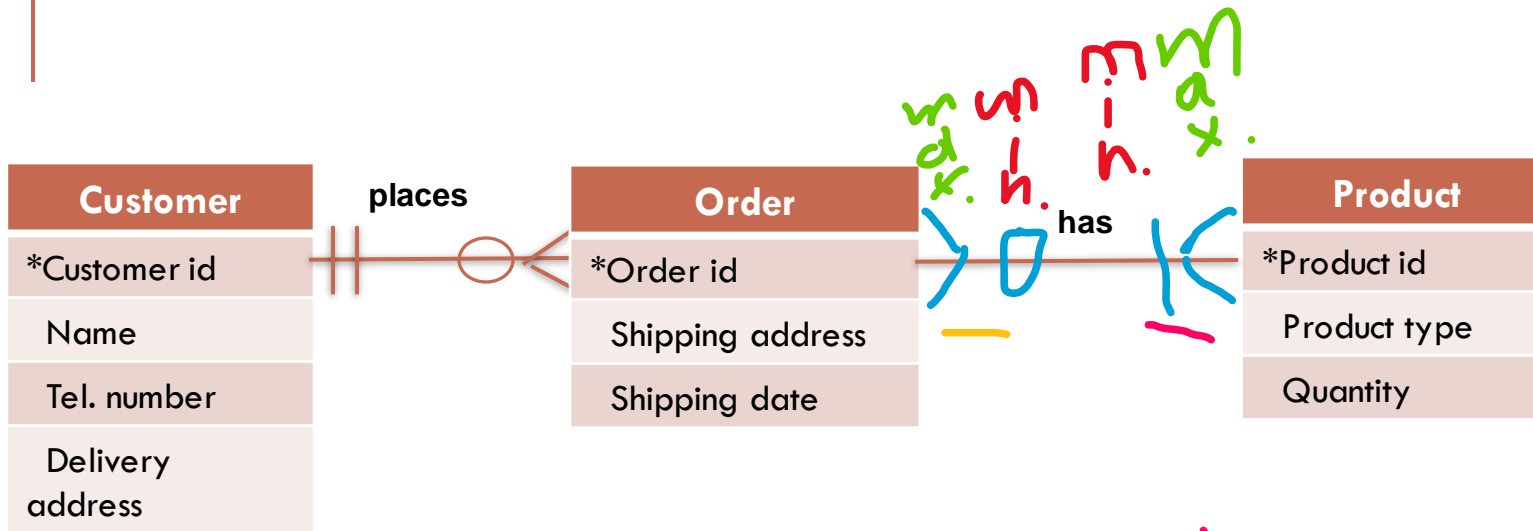
———|< One or many

———○< Zero or many

Read it:

max ← min

# ER MODEL – RELATIONSHIPS



## Cardinality constraints

—|| One (and only one)

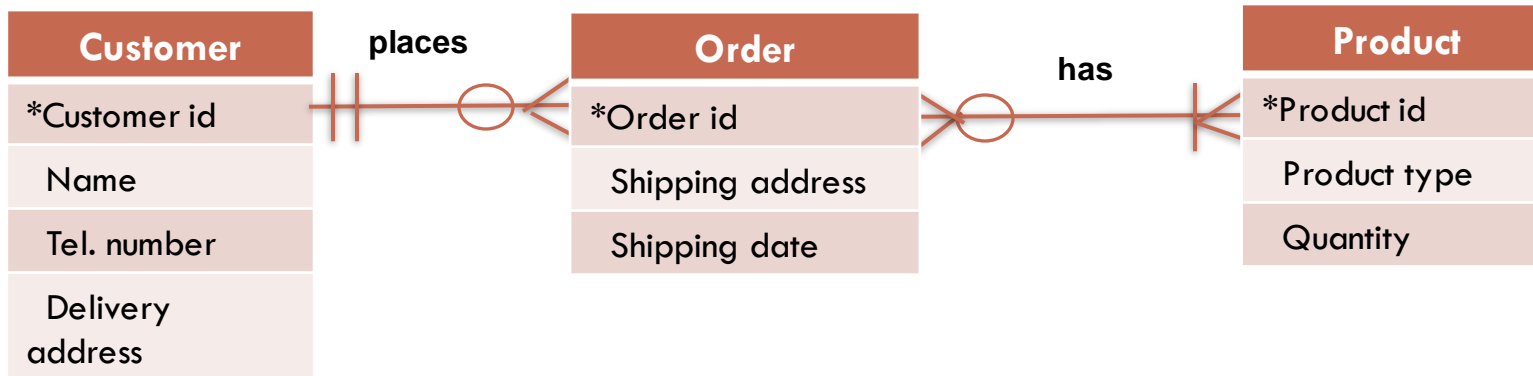
—○| Zero or one

—|< One or many

—○< Zero or many

To decide the cardinality constraints, we refer to the **data requirements given**.

# CONCEPTUAL DATA MODEL



- Entities
- Attributes
- Relationships