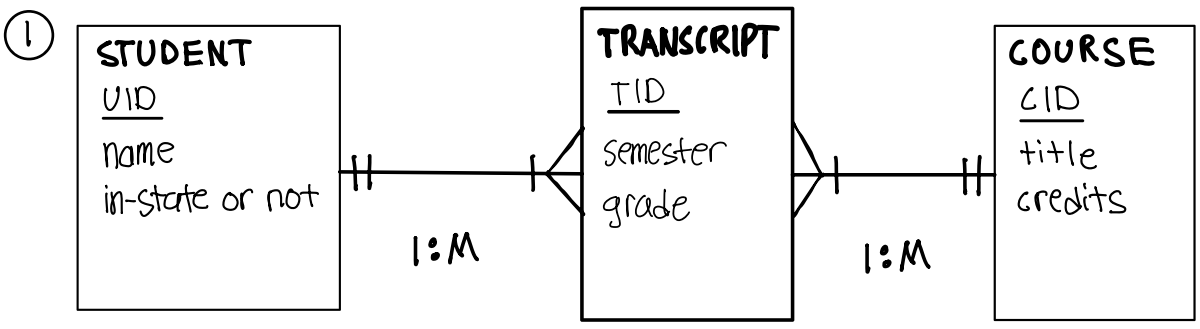
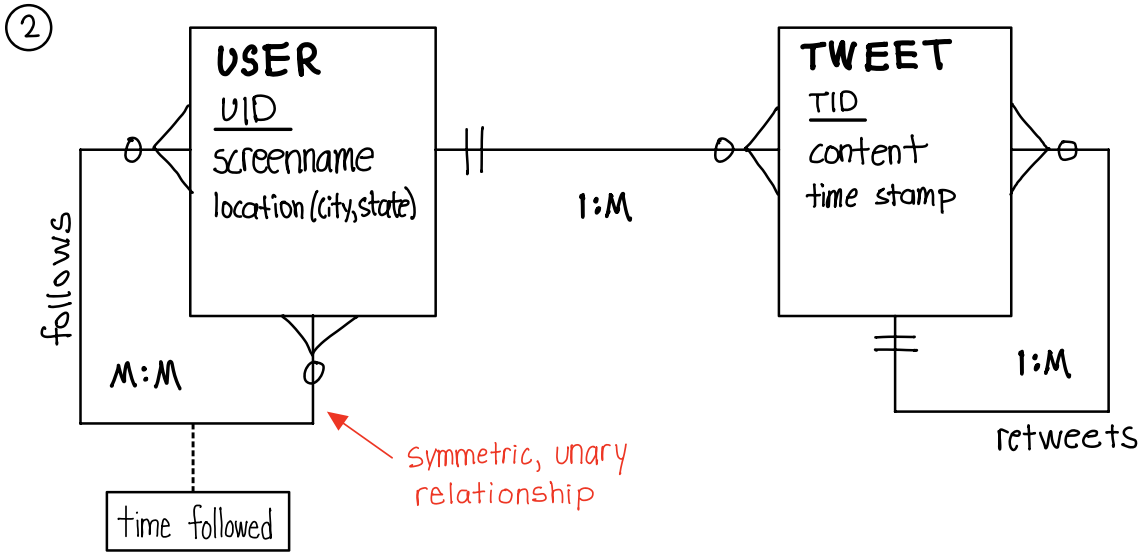
- A bookstore wants to build a simple database for its customers and books.
- A customer is identified by an ID. She/he also has name and address (treat both as a simple attributes).
- A book is identified by an ISBN. It also has a title and price.
- A customer can buy zero or more books.
- A book can be purchased by many customers, and we allow new books or unpopular books that no one buys.
- Draw an ER diagram and clearly indicate cardinality.



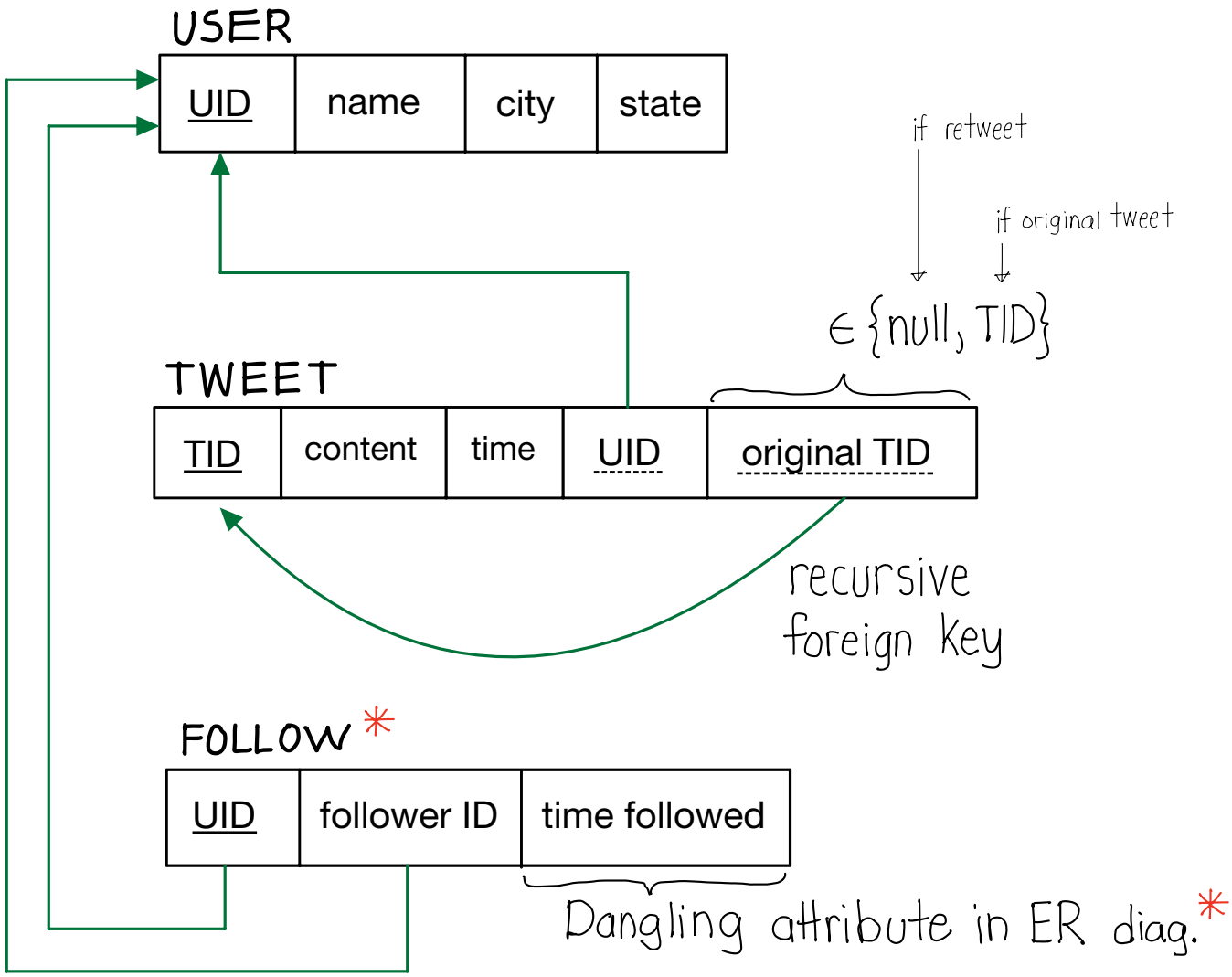
using an associative entity to convert a binary M:M relationship into 2 1: M relationships, which are easier to manage with a DBMS. Also, associative entities have the capacity to house multiple attributes (unlike dangling attributes).



using a dangling attribute because I only need to track a single variable - the time a user follows another user. Moreover, such an attribute is unique to users and cannot participate in relationships with other entities.

So, adding an associative entity to the ER model adds no additional value.

Relational Schematic



* FOLLOW table would look slightly different w/ an assoc. entity for tracking time followed:

FID	UID	follow ID	time followed