TABLE 2.1 Summary of the Basic ER Modeling Concepts Concept **Graphical Presentation** Regular Attribute Attribute **Unique Attribute** Attribute **Composite Attribute** AttributeB AttributeC AttributeA (AttributeX) **Composite Unique Attribute** AttributeB AttributeA AttributeC (AttributeX) Multivalued Attribute Attribute Derived Attribute Attribute **Optional Attribute** Attribute (O) **Entity with Attributes** AttributeB Notes: Each entity must have at least AttributeC AttributeA one unique attribute. Within one entity, each attribute name is different. Entity Within one ER diagram, each entity name is different Relationship AttributeA AttributeB AttributeC AttributeD EntityY EntityZ Relationship

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Summary of the Basic ER Modeling Concepts (Continued) TABLE 2.1 Concept **Graphical Presentation** Cardinality Constraints Maximum Cardinality-Many or One Relationship Participation (Minimum Cardinality)-Optional or Mandatory **Four Possible Cardinality Constraints** Mandatory Many Optional Many Mandatory One Optional One Three Types of Relationships One to One (Maximum Cardinality-Wise) One to Many (Many to One) Many to Many Relationship with an Attribute AttributeE AttributeC AttributeD AttributeA AttributeB Note: Applicable for many-to-many relationships EntityY Relationship EntityZ Relationship with Specific Minimum AttributeA AttributeB AttributeD AttributeC and Maximum Cardinalities (2,10)(0,5)Entity'Y Relationship EntityZ **Unary Relationship** Relationship Degree of a Relationship: 1 (one entity involved) Entity'Y Binary Relationship EntityY Relationship EntityZ Degree of a Relationship: 2 (two entities involved)

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Concept

TABLE 2.1

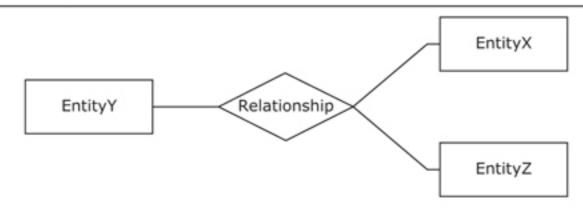
Graphical Presentation

Ternary Relationship

Degree of a Relationship: 3 (three entities involved)

Notes: Mostly applicable as many-tomany-to-many relationships.

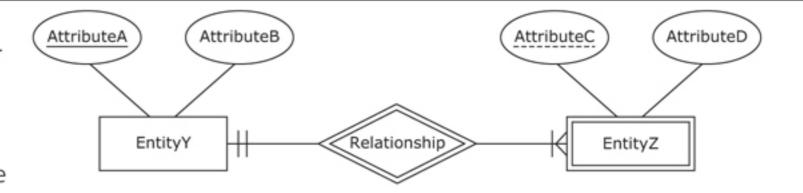
Ternary relationships are rare (relationships of a degree higher than 3 are even rarer).



Weak Entity

Notes: Always associated with its owner via an identifying relationship (which is either 1:M or 1:1).

If identifying relationship is 1:M, then weak entity must have a partially unique attribute.



Associative Entity

Note: Alternative method for depicting M:N relationships; particularly useful for depicting ternary relationships.

