## ER to Relational / SQL Exercises

#### **Announcements**

Feedback sheet: Experiment continues! Homework 1: Available now!

Scribe notes are quite good! (add to them!) https://github.com/w411/scribenotes

## Q:Are slides sufficient?

Yes!

Reading is recommended if you find my lectures useless and confusing or want a review

## Entities vs Relationships

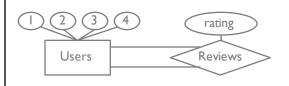
Rough guideline

"<entity> has <relationship> with <entity>"
user has instructor relationship with courses
user has friendship with user
user can view profile NO. Unless actually want to
log view operations

Ask yourself: is the relationship something you actually want to store?

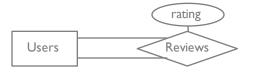
## Data vs Logic

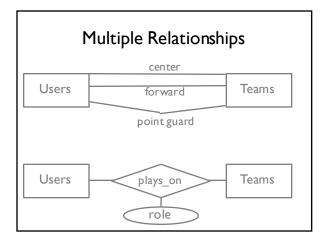
ER model stores minimum data to support application. Does not store logic

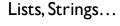


## Data vs Logic

ER model stores minimum data to support application. Does not store logic









Thinking about how to store the data, not the data itself. Violates physical data independence.

Q: Refer to non PK attributes using foreign keys?

ER diagrams: never happens

SQL: Must refer to primary key/unique (cand key)

FOREIGN KEY (a, b) REFERENCES other (x,y)

## Q: SQL for 2 relationships, I entity

Two relationships = two tables
Relationship with itself: Two attributes

```
CREATE TABLE follows(
   source int,
   destination int,
   PRIMARY KEY (source, destination),
   FOREIGN KEY (source) REFERENCES users
   FOREIGN KEY (destination) REFERENCES users);
```

#### Q: ISA hierarchy: children can't overlap

Users Students Instructors

3 tables: A user could be in all three

2 tables: Can't be a plain user

No way to express this constraint

## Q: Can a primary key be null/blank?

```
No! PRIMARY KEY(a, b, c) means:

a NOT NULL
b NOT NULL
c NOT NULL

... but a foreign key can!

CREATE TABLE tweet(
tid int, author_uid REFERENCES users
)

Tweet of (0, null) is okay
```

# Q: weak entity be involved in other relationships?

Yes! No limits to relationships with weak entity

Cannot be uniquely identified by its own attributes Binary "exactly one" relationship with "owner" Delete owner: delete weak references

Technical definition is rare in reality

Typically assign entities primary key ids

#### Relational Constraints

Domain constraints
Primary key constraints
Foreign key constraints
Unique constraints
NOT NULL constraints
CHECK constraints

## Single column keys

Abbreviated syntax:

name type PRIMARY KEY name type UNIQUE

name type REFERENCES table

## Single Column Shortcut Notation

CREATE TABLE A(
 id int,
 ref int,
 PRIMARY KEY (id),
 FOREIGN KEY (ref) REFERENCES other
);

## Single Column Shortcut Notation

CREATE TABLE A(
id int PRIMARY KEY,
ref int REFERENCES other;

PRIMARY KEY (id),

— FOREIGN KEY (ref) REFERENCES other );

### ER → Relational translation

Translate ignoring constraints

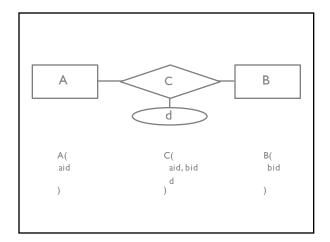
Entity: new table with primary key, no foreign key Relationship: new table;

Primary key = primary keys of related entities Don't forget foreign keys

#### Aggregation

Convert inner relationship (aggregated relationship)
Treat table for aggregated relationship as entity

ISA: tables for each type or just subtypes



#### Add constraints

At most one:

On relationship, add: UNIQUE(entity key)

Combine tables (permit NULL)

Exactly one:

Combine tables; NOT NULL constraints

At least one:

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## Eliminate Redundancy

PRIMARY KEY (a, b) + UNIQUE (b) = PRIMARY KEY (b)

Same primary key? Can combine tables

#### Perfect translation

For all possible database instances:

Constraints violated in ER are violated in relational Constraints violated in relational are violated in ER

If ER doesn't violate, neither should relational If relational doesn't violate, neither should ER

Some diagrams cannot be perfectly translated (e.g. at least one constraints)

#### How to check a translation?

For each ER constraint:

- I. Find example that violates ER constraint
- 2. Verify it violates relational version
- 3. Find example that passes ER constraint
- 4. Verify it passes relational version

"Proof by example": No guarantee, but effective

Non-exhaustive examples (with bastardized notation!)

And how to check them

