Logical Database Design
Mapping ER Models to Relational Models

Also called “transformation” of conceptual models to logical models.

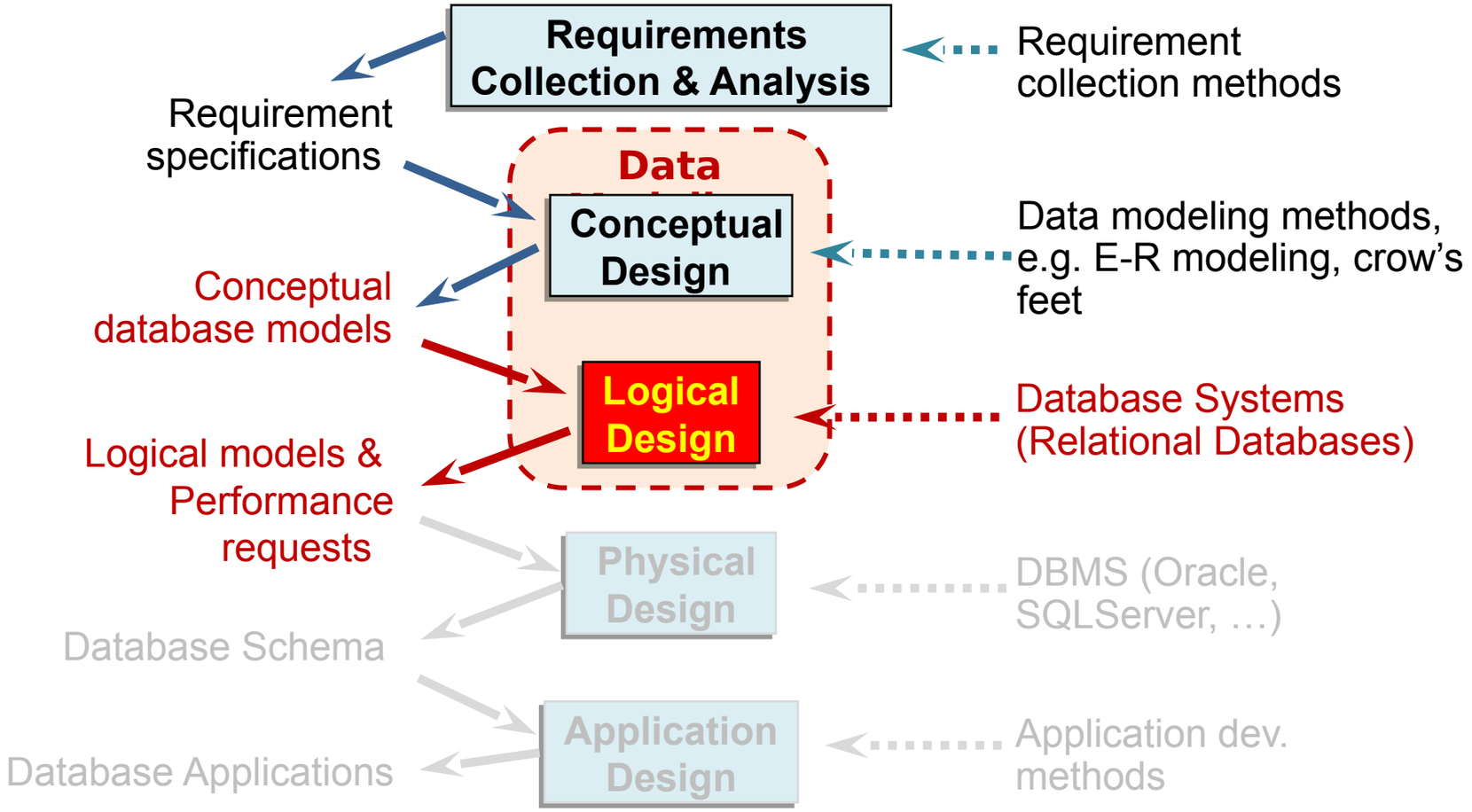
Entity-relationship model -> relational model

Acknowledgement: Dr. S. Hong provided some of the material for this set of lecture notes.

Objectives

- Understand how to transform an ER model into a relational model
- Constructs of an entity-relationship model
  - Entity types
    - attributes (key, non-key)
  - Relationship types
    - 1:N
    - M:N
    - 1:1
- Construct of relational model
  - Relation

Data modeling is part of database design methodology



The Relational Model

- Collection of tables, called relations, stored in a database
  - Codd 1970
  - Simplicity

- Key concepts:
  - A **table** (relation) refers to a list of data arranged in columns (fields) and rows (records)
    - Structured to minimize redundancy
  - A database is either a single table or a collection of related tables
  - A column (**field**) defines the data that a table can hold
  - A row (**record**) represents a single instance of whatever the table keeps track of
  - A **key** is the field(s) used to uniquely identify each record in a table and to relate tables in a database

- SQL (Structured Query Language) – for creating and querying a database

Simple Database (Revisited)
Customers of sales representatives

Sales Representative (i.e. Employee)

RepNum	LastName	FirstName	Street	City	State	Zip	Commission	Rate
20	Kaiser	Valerie	624 Randall	Grove	FL	33321	$20,542.50	0.05
35	Hull	Richard	532 Jackson	Sheldon	FL	33553	$39,216.00	0.07
65	Perez	Juan	1626 Taylor	Fillmore	FL	33336	$23,487.00	0.05

Customer

CustomerNum	CustomerName	Street	City	State	Zip	Balance	CreditLimit	RepNum
148	Al's Appliance	2837 Greenway	Filmore	FL	33336	$6,550.00	$7,500.00	20
282	Brookings Direct	3827 Devon	Grove	FL	33321	$431.50	$10,000.00	35
356	Ferguson's	382 Wildwood	Northfield	FL	33141	$5,785.00	$7,500.00	65
408	Everything Shop	1828 Raven	Crystal	FL	33503	$5,285.24	$5,000	35

What queries might you ask of this database? Note: minimize redundancy.

Logical design:
Transform conceptual model into a logical model to be implemented in a relational database

- Relational model has one construct (relation/table)
- Conceptual ER models are very descriptive (semantics rich)
- ER modeling concepts must be converted to relational concepts
  - Entities -> relations
  - Relationships -> foreign key in existing relation; or new relation
  - Depends on min/max cardinalities

Conceptual ER Model	Relational Model
Entity types	Relation (table)
Single valued attributes	Single-valued attributes
Relationships (1-to-1, 1-to-N)	Foreign keys
Many-to-many (N:M) relationships (w/ relationship attributes possible)	Relation (table)

Translation to Logical Model

Transformation / Conversion / Mapping Rules – Entity

[Note: Do not confuse *mapping rules* with *mapping ratios*]

Each entity becomes a relation (table) with same key

Transformation / Conversion / Mapping Rules -- Relationship

- 1:N – Foreign key
  - (0,1) and (0/1,N) – foreign key (can have null value)
  - (1,1) and (0/1,N) – foreign key (cannot have null value)
- N:M – New relation
  - (0/1,N) and (0/1,M)
  - Key is concatenation (joining together) of keys of the two entities
  - Relationship attributes become non-keys

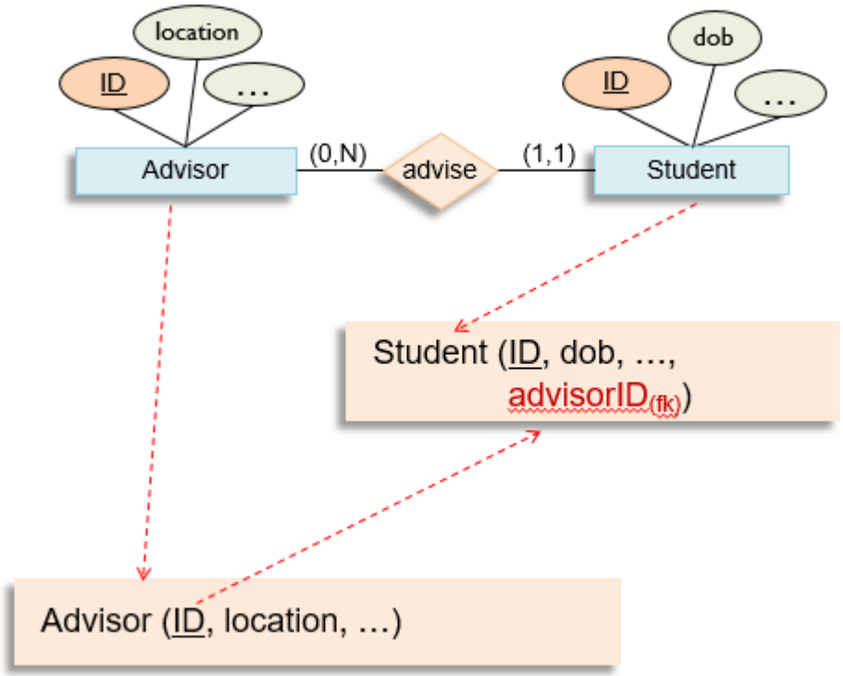
1:1 – foreign key

- (1,1) and (1,1) – foreign key in either relation (decide based upon usage)
- (0,1) and (1,1) [or (1,1) and (0,1)] – use foreign key such that there are no null values allowed.

Binary (1-to-N) relationship represented as foreign keys

(1) Map entity types and attributes

(2) 1-to-N relationship: insert the PK of the entity with the many max cardinality into another entity's table as a FK



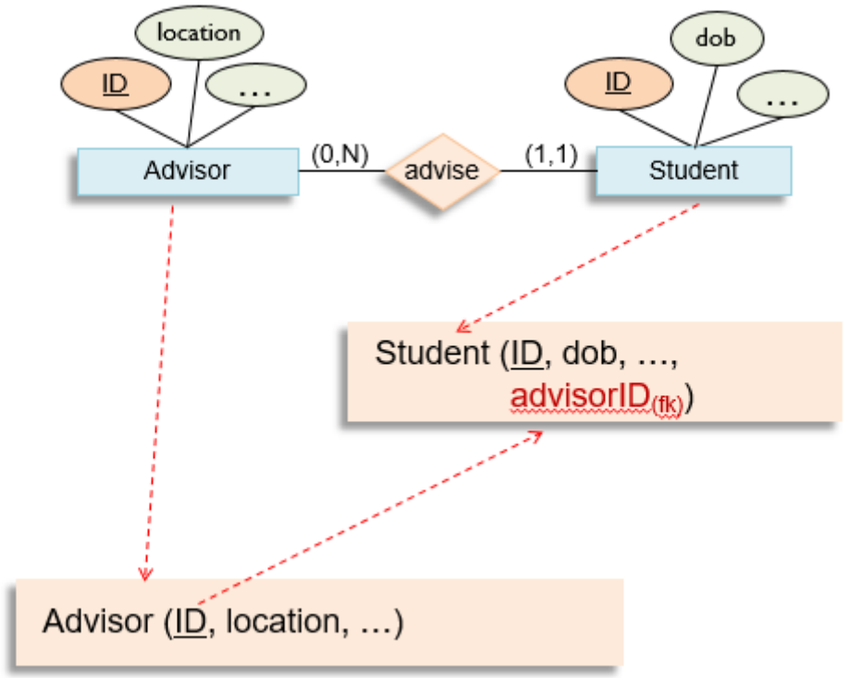
Note: 1:N relationship does not have relationship attributes

Binary (1-to-N) relationship represented by foreign keys

Relations:

Advisor: [AdvisorID, location, …]

Student: [StudentID, dob, …. advisorID]

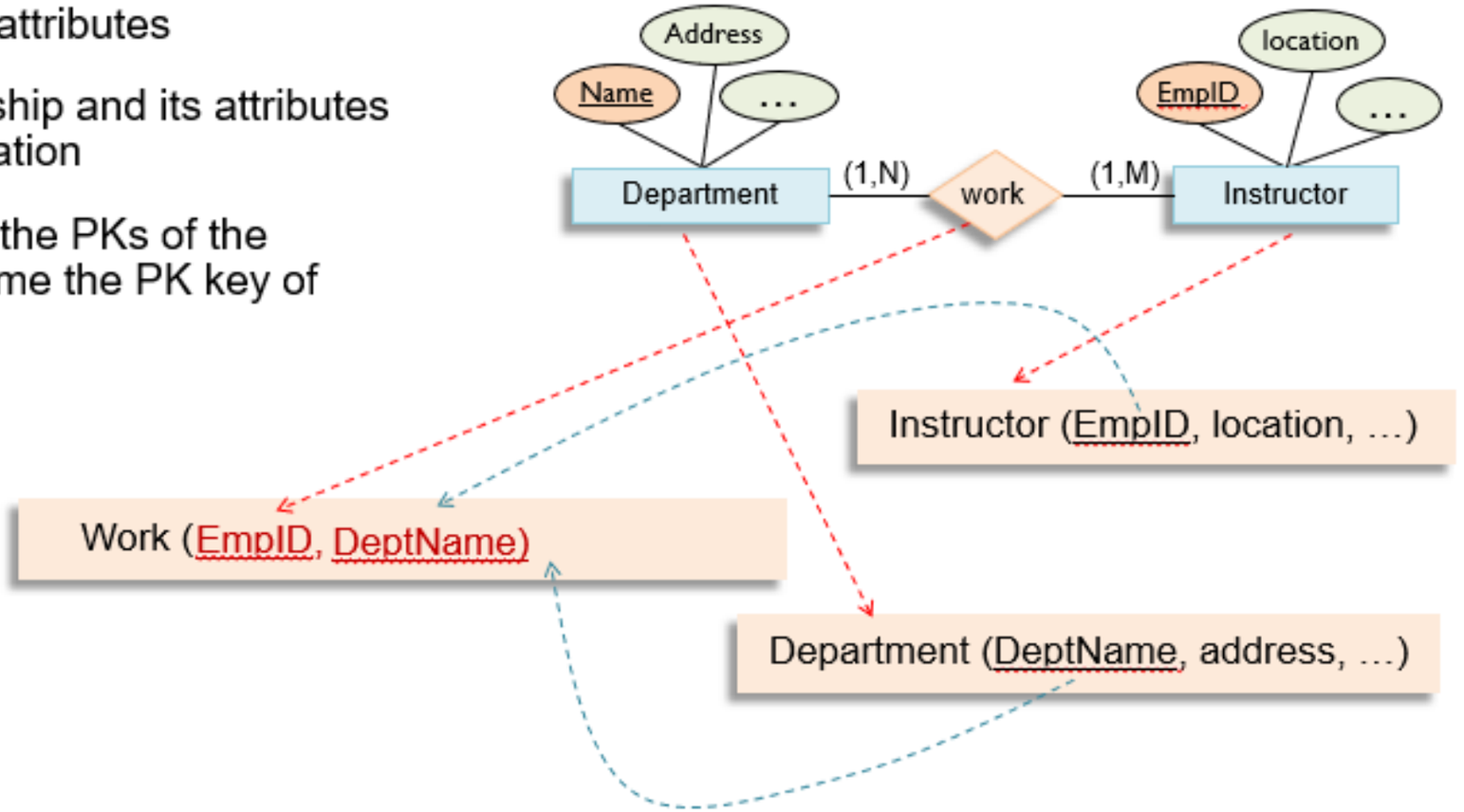


Binary N:M relationship represented as new relation

(1) Map entity types and attributes

(2) Map the N:M relationship and its attributes (if any) into a new relation

(3) The concatenation of the PKs of the involved entities become the PK key of the new relation.



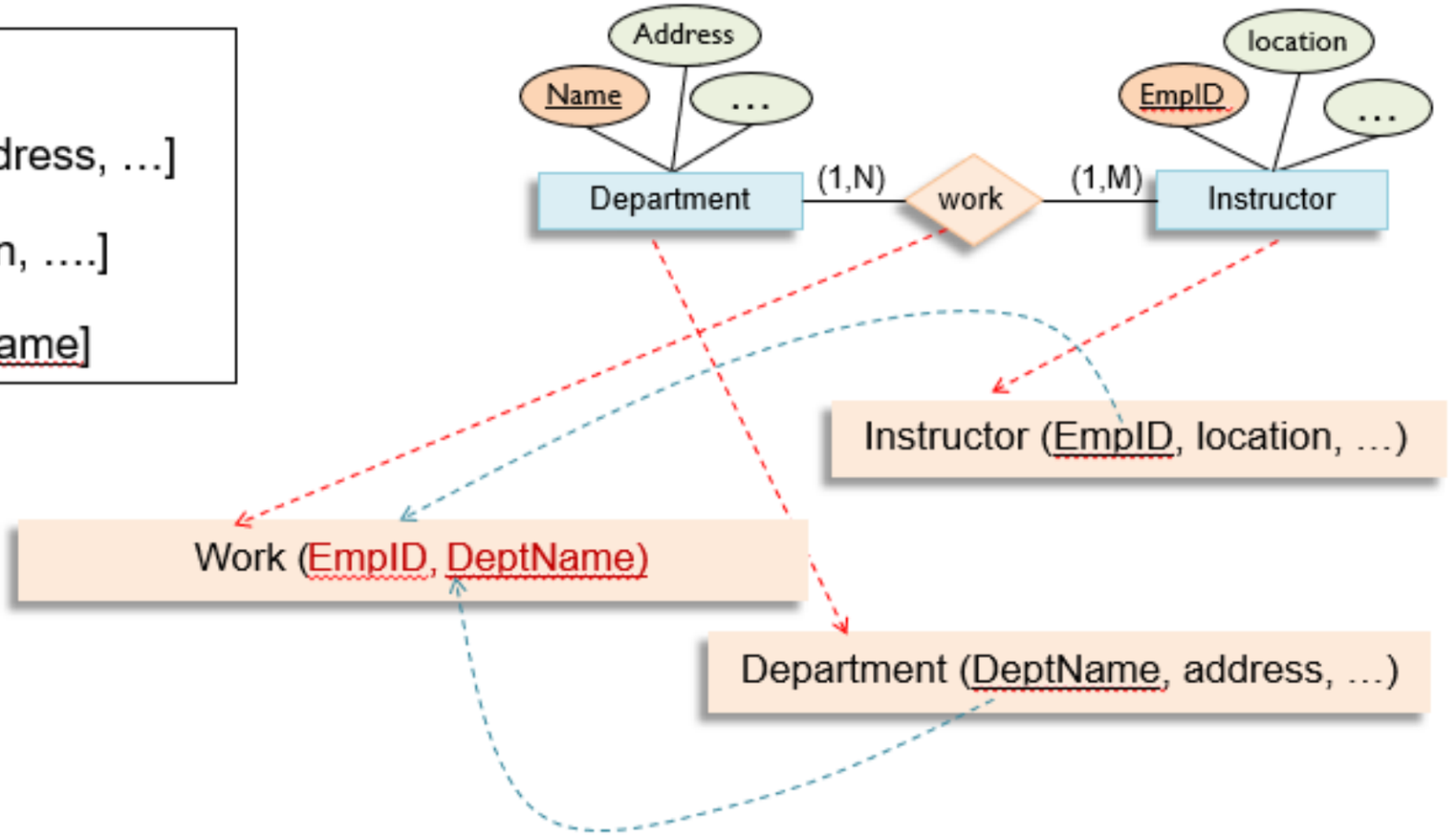
Binary N:M relationship represented as new relation

Relations:

Department: [DeptName, address, …]

Instructor: [EmpID, location, ….]

Work: [EmpID, DeptName]



Binary N:M relationship with relationship attributes

(1) Map entity types and attributes

(2) Map the N:M relationship and its attributes into a new relationship table

(3) The concatenation of the PKs of the involved entities become the PK key of the new relation

(4) The relationship attribute(s) become the non-key(s).

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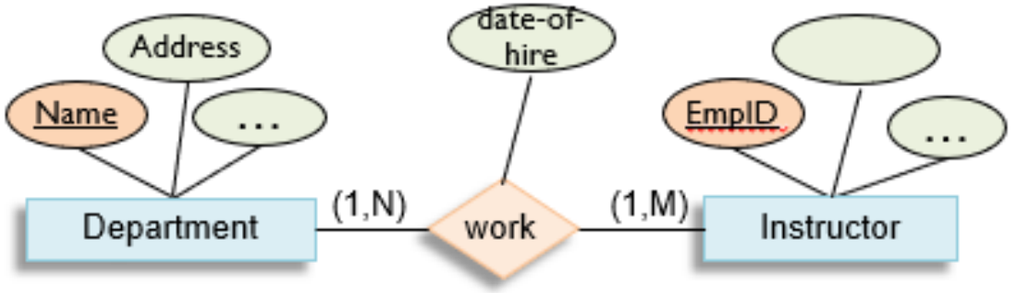


Work (EmpID, DeptName, date-of-hire)

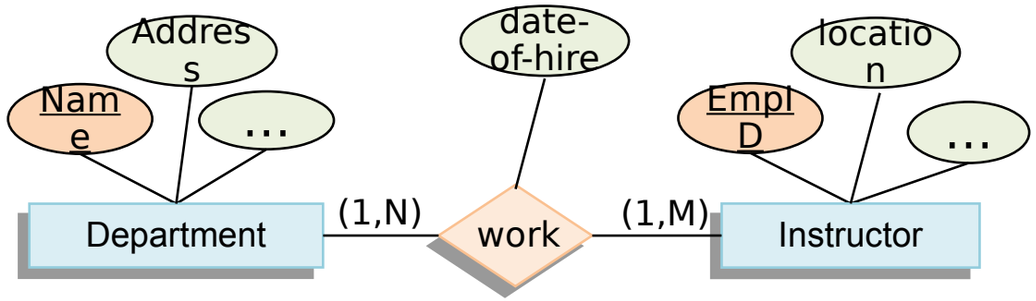
Binary N:M relationship with relationship attributes

Relations:

Department: [Name, address, …]

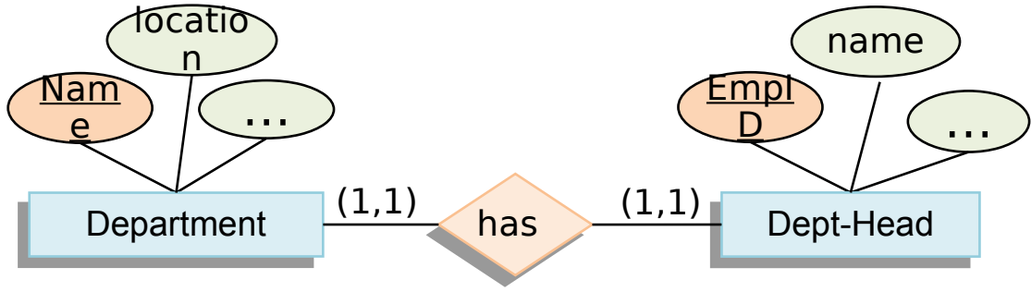
Instructor: [EmpID, location, ….]

Work: [EmpID, DeptName, date-of-hire]



1:1 Relationship

Every dept must have one (and only one) department head.



Options:
-- foreign key in either relation

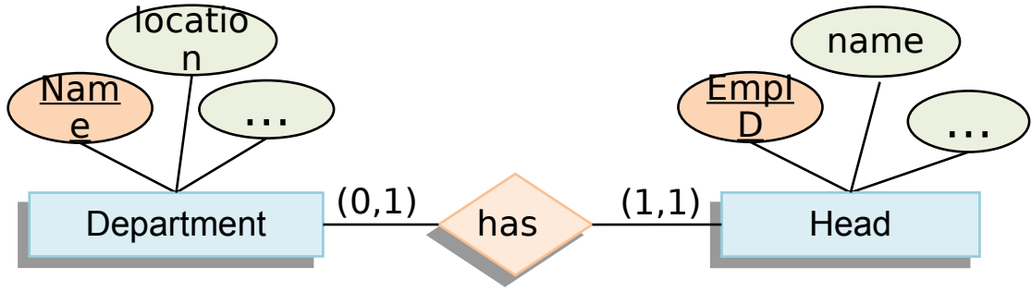
Department: [DeptName, location, … EmpID]

Or:
Dept-Head: [EmpID, name, …., DeptName]

How would you decide?

Optional 1:1 Relationship

Business rule: department can have at most one department head

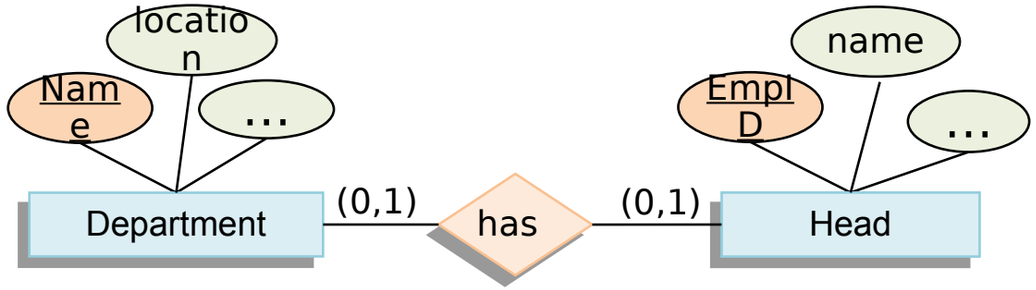


Head: [EmpID, name, …., DeptName]

Where “DeptName” is not allowed to have a null value.

Optional 1:1 Relationship in both directions

What if both optional?



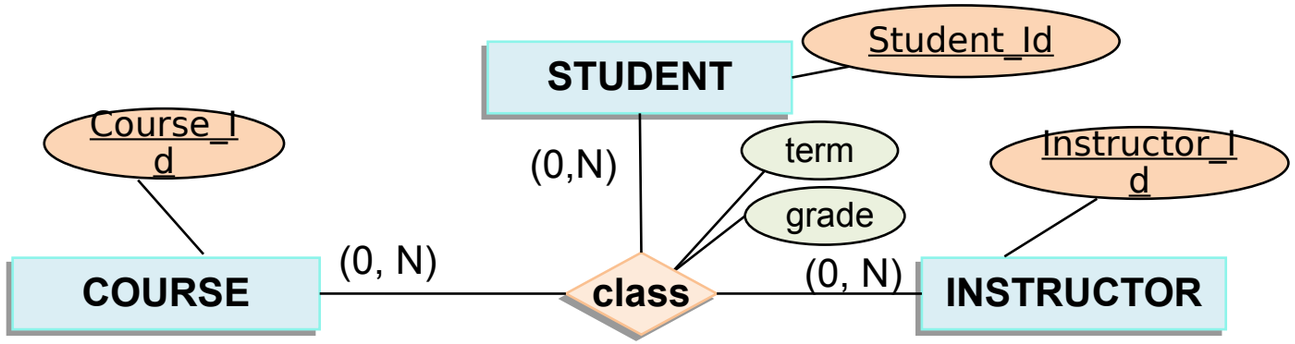
Dept-Head: [EmpID, DeptName]

-or- Head: [EmpID, name, …., DeptName]
(null FK allowed)
-or- Dept: [DeptName, … EmpID]
(null FK allowed)

Ternary relationships mapped to separate relation

(1) Map entity types and attributes

(2) Map the ternary relationship and its attributes (if any) into a new relation



Class: [Student_Id, Course_Id, Instructor_Id, term, grade]

Assumptions inherent in this example?

Summary

- Mapping rules
  - Conceptual data model ☾ relational data model
- Most common
  - 1:1, 1:N, M:N
  - Others – unary, ternary
- Special cases, exceptions
  - Understand application being modelled
- More examples coming