

Database Design: The Entity-Relationship Approach

Chapter 7: Entity-Relationship Model



- ☐ Design Process
- ☐ Modeling
- ☐ Constraints
- ☐ E-R Diagram
- ☐ Design Issues
- ☐ Weak Entity Sets
- ☐ Extended E-R Features
- ☐ Design of the Bank Database
- ☐ Reduction to Relation Schemas
- ☐ Database Design
- ☐ UML

Design Phases



- ❑ The initial phase of database design is to characterize fully the data needs of the prospective database users.
- ❑ Next, the designer chooses a data model and, by applying the concepts of the chosen data model, translates these requirements into a conceptual schema of the database.
- ❑ A fully developed conceptual schema also indicates the functional requirements of the enterprise. In a “specification of functional requirements”, users describe the kinds of operations (or transactions) that will be performed on the data.

Design Phases (Cont.)



- ❑ The process of moving from an abstract data model to the implementation of the database proceeds in two final design phases.
- ❑ Logical Design – Deciding on the database schema. Database design requires that we find a “good” collection of relation schemas.
 - Business decision – What attributes should we record in the database?
 - Computer Science decision – What relation schemas should we have and how should the attributes be distributed among the various relation schemas?
- ❑ Physical Design – Deciding on the physical layout of the database

Design Approaches



- ❑ Entity Relationship Model (covered in this chapter)
 - Models an enterprise as a collection of *entities* and *relationships*
 - Entity: a “thing” or “object” in the enterprise that is distinguishable from other objects
 - Described by a set of *attributes*
 - Relationship: an association among several entities
 - Represented diagrammatically by an *entity-relationship diagram*:
- ❑ Normalization Theory (Chapter 8)
 - Formalize what designs are bad, and test for them

ER model -- Database Modeling



- ❑ The ER data model was developed to facilitate database design by allowing specification of an **enterprise schema** that represents the overall logical structure of a database.
- ❑ The ER model is very useful in mapping the meanings and interactions of real-world enterprises onto a conceptual schema. Because of this usefulness, many database-design tools draw on concepts from the ER model.
- ❑ The ER data model employs three basic concepts:
 - entity sets,
 - relationship sets,
 - attributes.
- ❑ The ER model also has an associated diagrammatic representation, the ER diagram, which can express the overall logical structure of a database graphically.

Entity Sets

- ❑ An **entity** is an object that exists and is distinguishable from other objects.
 - Example: specific person, company, event, plant
- ❑ An **entity set** is a set of entities of the same type that share the same properties.
 - Example: set of all persons, companies, trees, holidays
- ❑ An entity is represented by a set of attributes; i.e., descriptive properties possessed by all members of an entity set.
 - Example:
 $instructor = (ID, name, street, city, salary)$
 $course = (course_id, title, credits)$
- ❑ A subset of the attributes form a **primary key** of the entity set; i.e., uniquely identifying each member of the set.

Entity Sets -- *instructor* and *student*

instructor_ID instructor_name

76766	Crick
45565	Katz
10101	Srinivasan
98345	Kim
76543	Singh
22222	Einstein

instructor

student-ID student_name

98988	Tanaka
12345	Shankar
00128	Zhang
76543	Brown
76653	Aoi
23121	Chavez
44553	Peltier

student

Relationship Sets

- ❑ A **relationship** is an association among several entities

Example:

44553 (Peltier)	<u>advisor</u>	22222 (<u>Einstein</u>)
<i>student</i> entity	relationship set	<i>instructor</i> entity

- ❑ A **relationship set** is a mathematical relation among $n \geq 2$ entities, each taken from entity sets

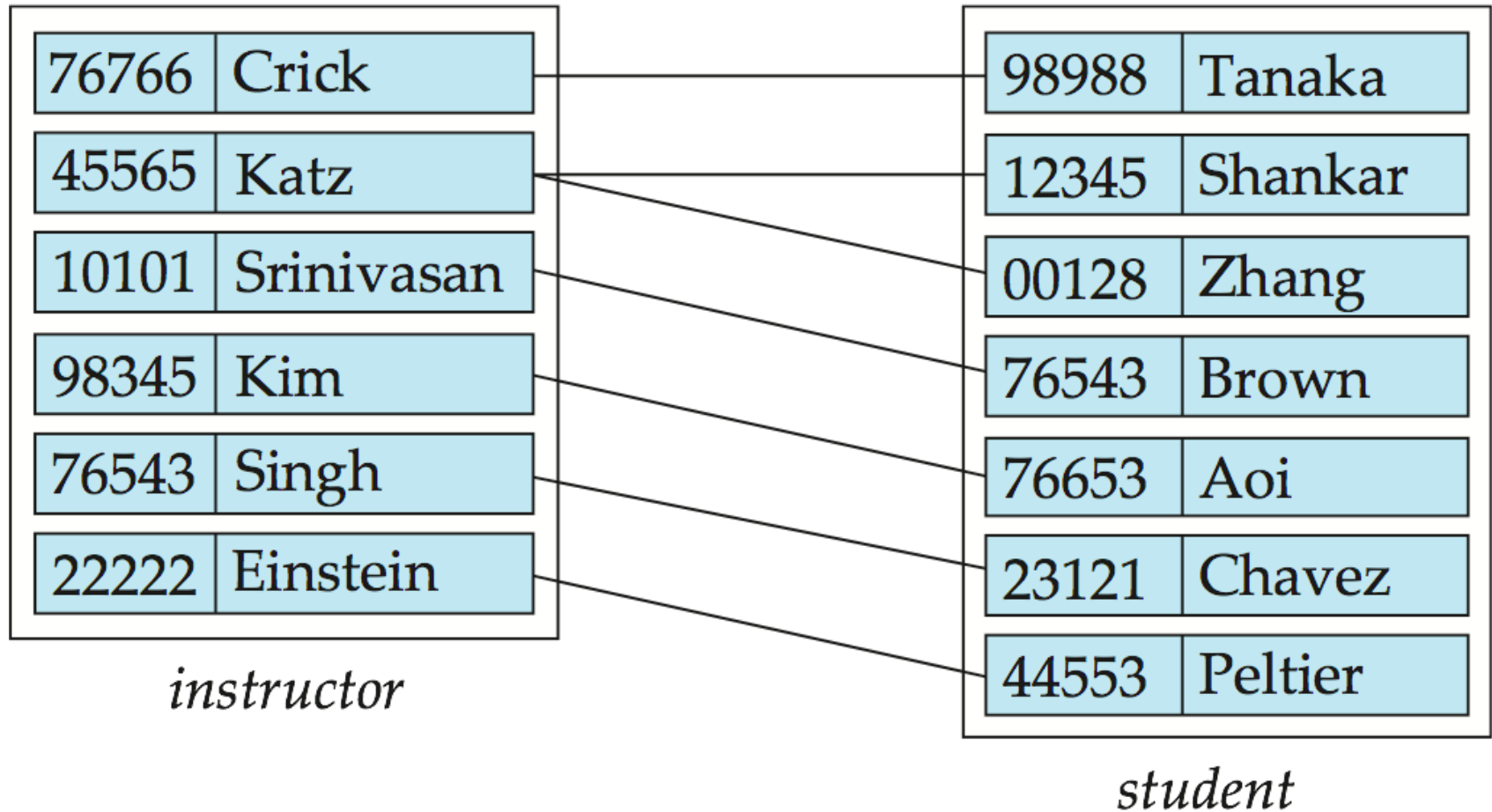
$$\{(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) \mid e_1 \in E_1, e_2 \in E_2, \dots, e_n \in E_n\}$$

where (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) is a relationship

- Example:

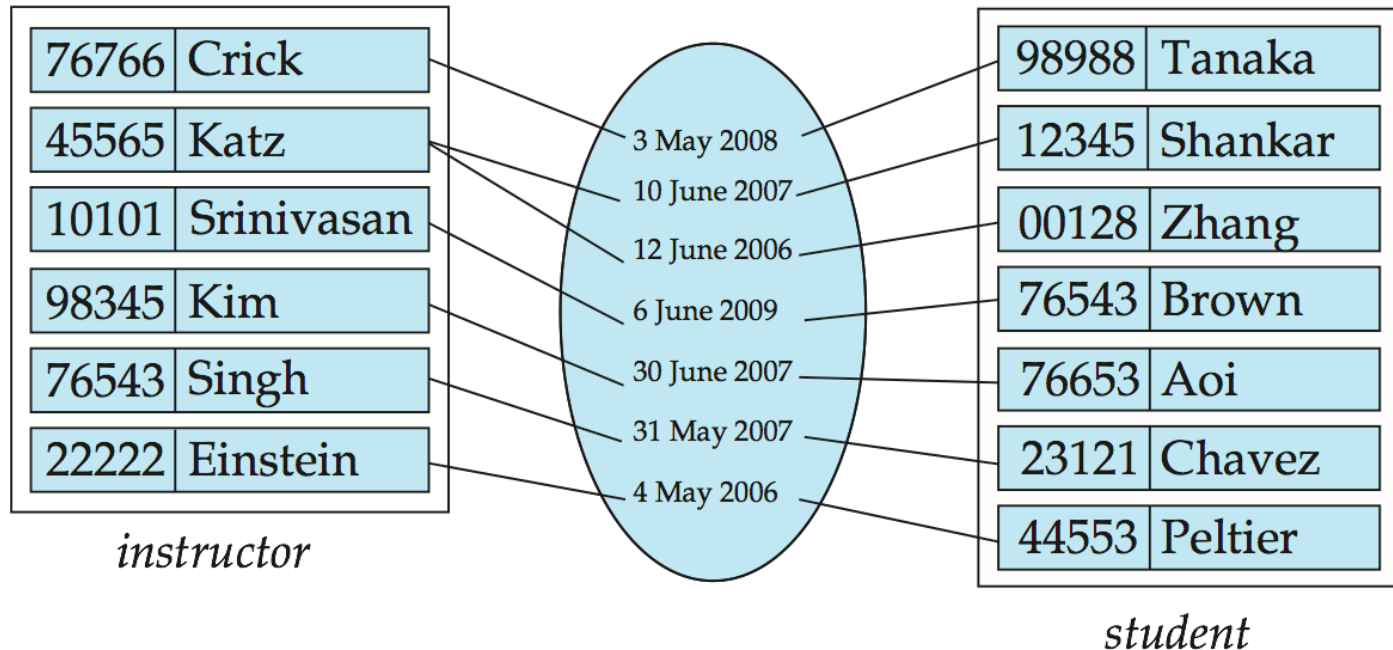
$$(44553, 22222) \in \text{advisor}$$

Relationship Set *advisor*



Relationship Sets (Cont.)

- ❑ An attribute can also be associated with a relationship set.
- ❑ For instance, the *advisor* relationship set between entity sets *instructor* and *student* may have the attribute *date* which tracks when the student started being associated with the advisor



Degree of a Relationship Set



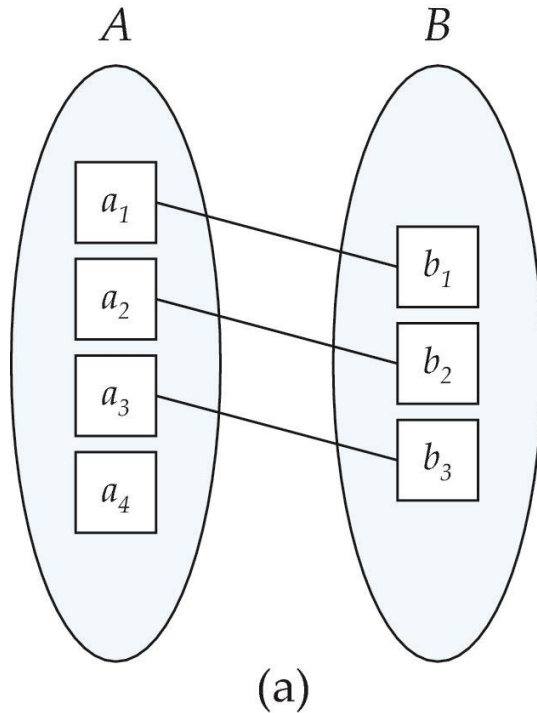
- ❑ binary relationship
 - involve two entity sets (or degree two).
 - most relationship sets in a database system are binary.
- ❑ Relationships between more than two entity sets are rare. Most relationships are binary. (More on this later.)
 - ▶ Example: *students* work on research *projects* under the guidance of an *instructor*.
 - ▶ relationship *proj_guide* is a ternary relationship between *instructor*, *student*, and *project*

Mapping Cardinality Constraints

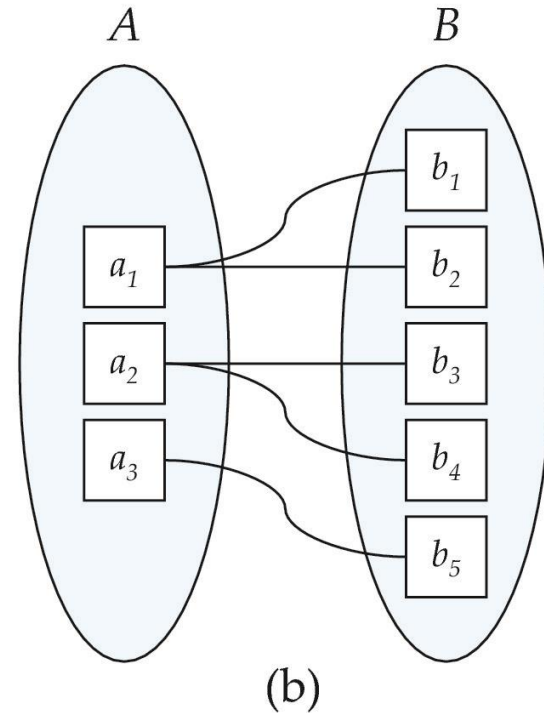


- ☐ Express the number of entities to which another entity can be associated via a relationship set.
- ☐ Most useful in describing binary relationship sets.
- ☐ For a binary relationship set the mapping cardinality must be one of the following types:
 - One to one
 - One to many
 - Many to one
 - Many to many

Mapping Cardinalities



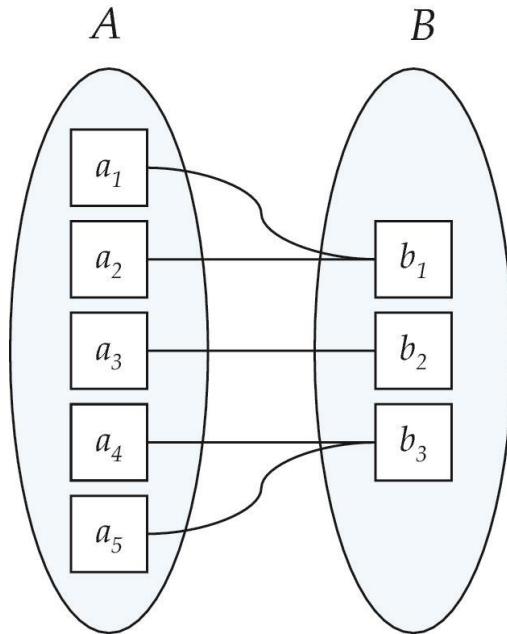
One to one



One to many

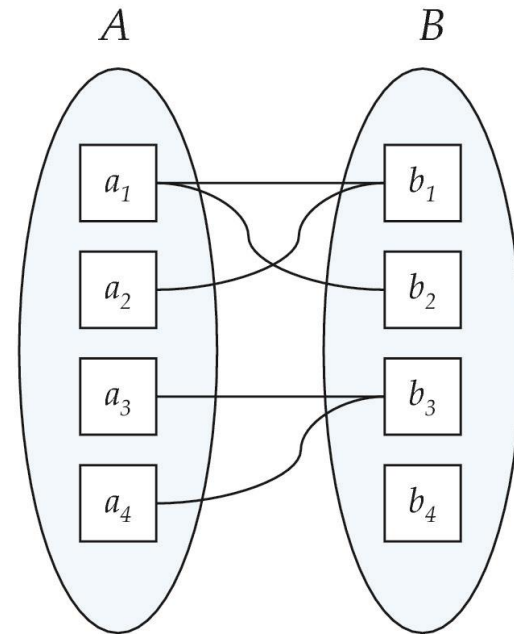
Note: Some elements in A and B may not be mapped to any elements in the other set

Mapping Cardinalities



(a)

Many to one



(b)

Many to many

Note: Some elements in A and B may not be mapped to any elements in the other set

Complex Attributes



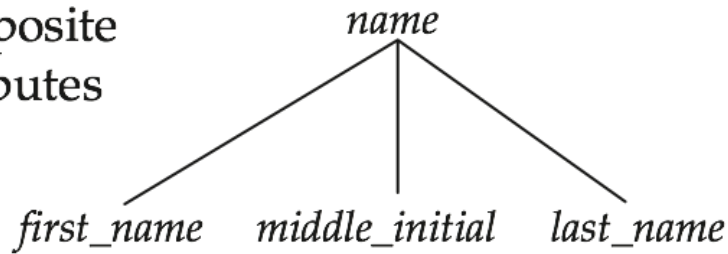
❑ Attribute types:

- **Simple** and **composite** attributes.
- **Single-valued** and **multivalued** attributes
 - Example: multivalued attribute: *phone_numbers*
- **Derived** attributes
 - Can be computed from other attributes
 - Example: age, given date_of_birth

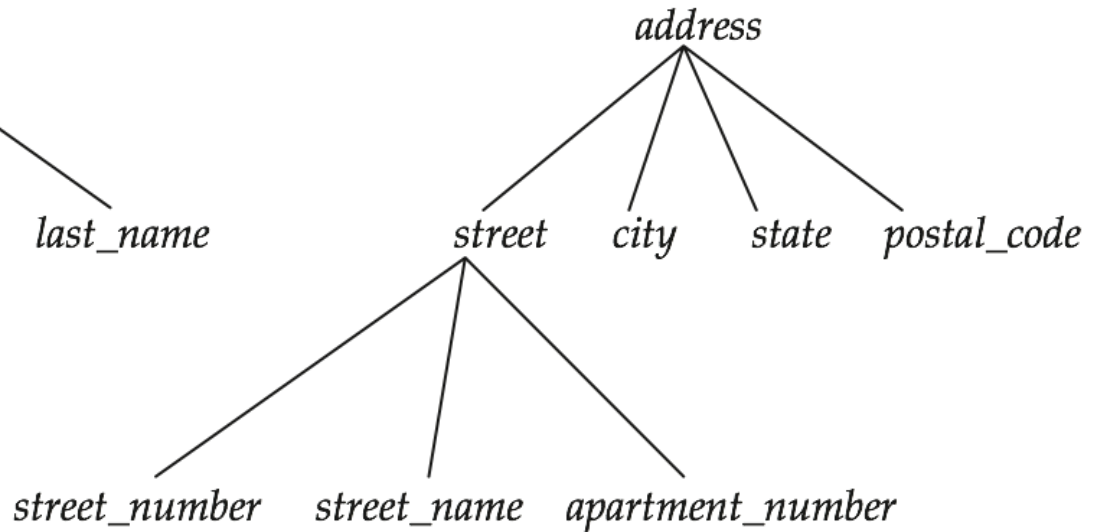
❑ **Domain** – the set of permitted values for each attribute

Composite Attributes

composite
attributes



component
attributes



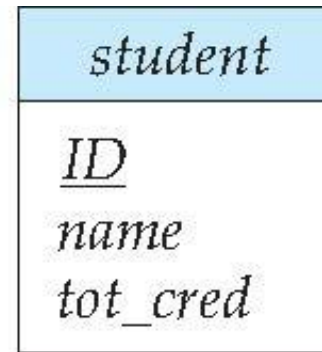
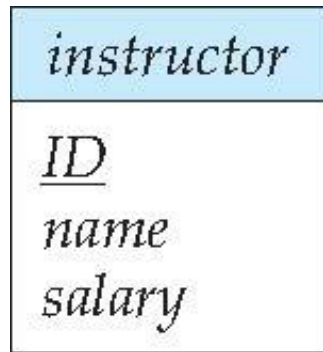
Redundant Attributes

- ❑ Suppose we have entity sets:
 - *instructor*, with attributes: *ID*, *name*, *dept_name*, *salary*
 - *department*, with attributes: *dept_name*, *building*, *budget*
- ❑ We model the fact that each instructor has an associated department using a relationship set *inst_dept*
- ❑ The attribute *dept_name* appears in both entity sets. Since it is the primary key for the entity set *department*, it replicates information present in the relationship and is therefore redundant in the entity set *instructor* and needs to be removed.
- ❑ BUT: when converting back to tables, in some cases the attribute gets reintroduced, as we will see later.

Entity Sets

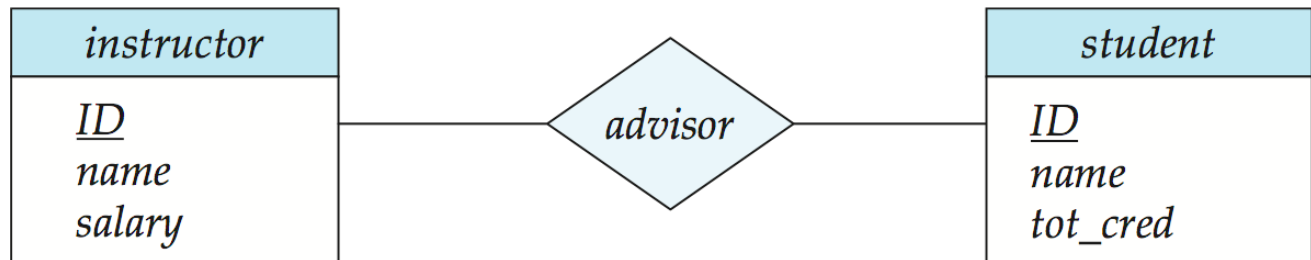
■ Entities can be represented graphically as follows:

- Rectangles represent entity sets.
- Attributes listed inside entity rectangle
- Underline indicates primary key attributes

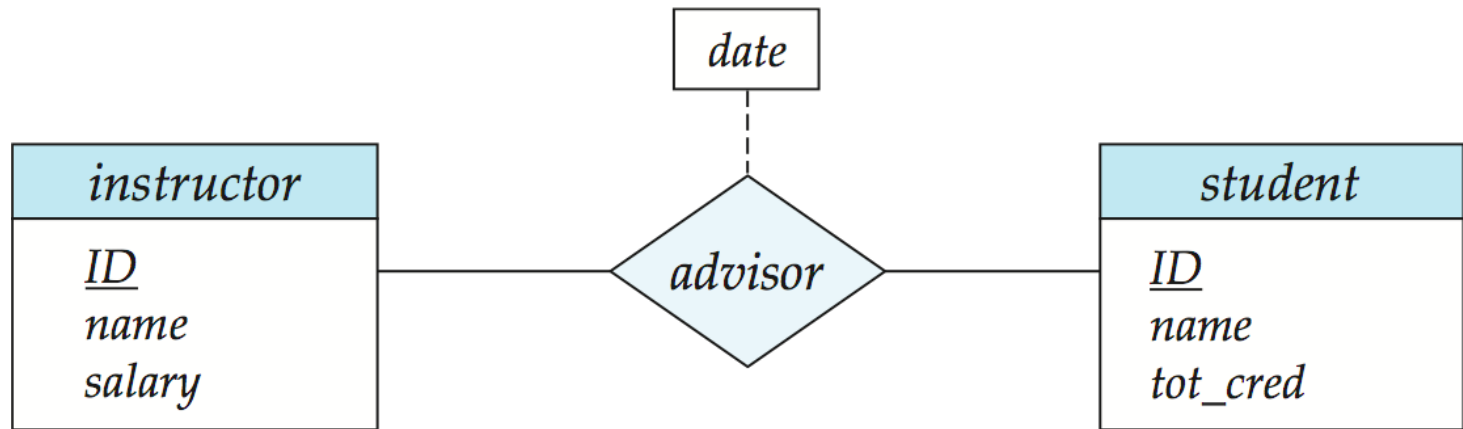


Relationship Sets

- ❑ Diamonds represent relationship sets.

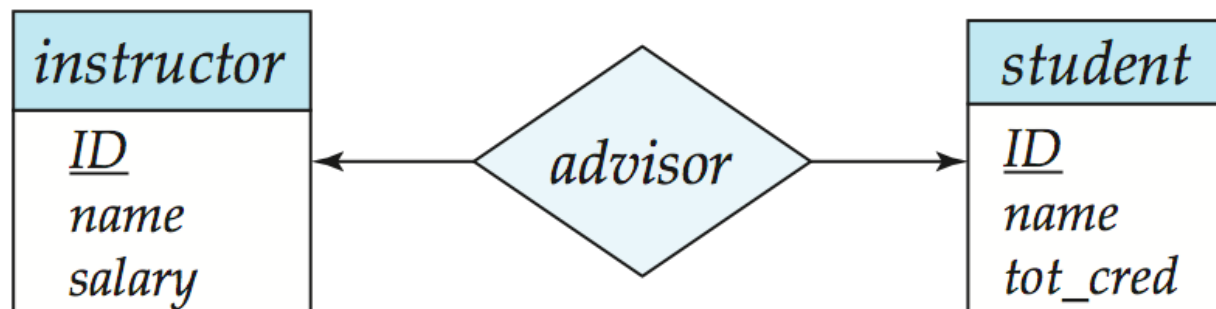


Relationship Sets with Attributes



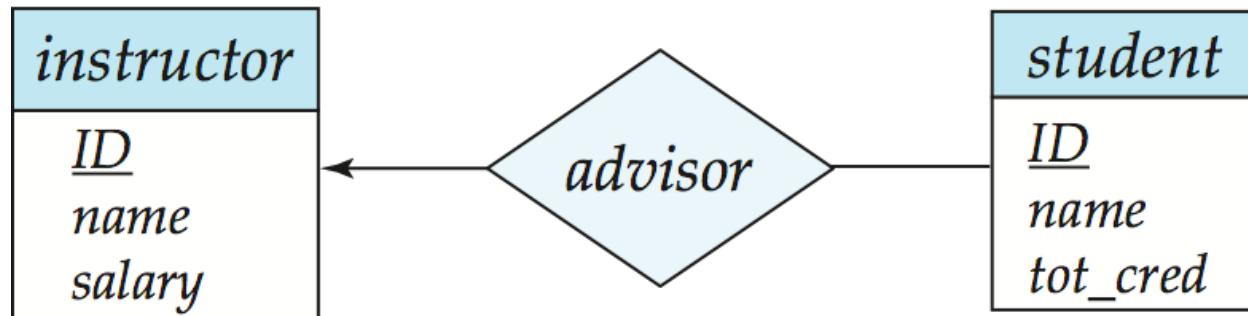
Cardinality Constraints

- ❑ We express cardinality constraints by drawing either a directed line (\rightarrow), signifying “one,” or an undirected line ($—$), signifying “many,” between the relationship set and the entity set.
- ❑ One-to-one relationship between an *instructor* and a *student* :
 - A *student* is associated with at most one *instructor* via the relationship *advisor*
 - A *instructor* is associated with at most one *student* via the relationship *advisor*



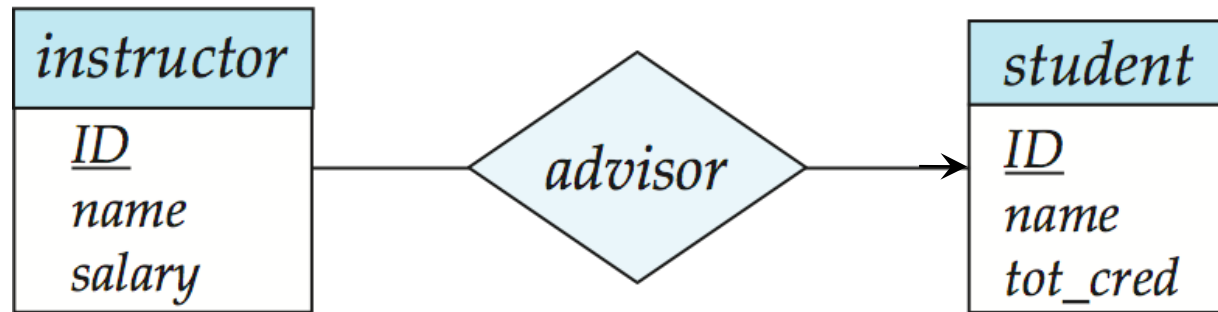
One-to-Many Relationship

- ❑ one-to-many relationship between an *instructor* and a *student*
 - an instructor is associated with several (including 0) students via *advisor*
 - a student is associated with at most one instructor via *advisor*,



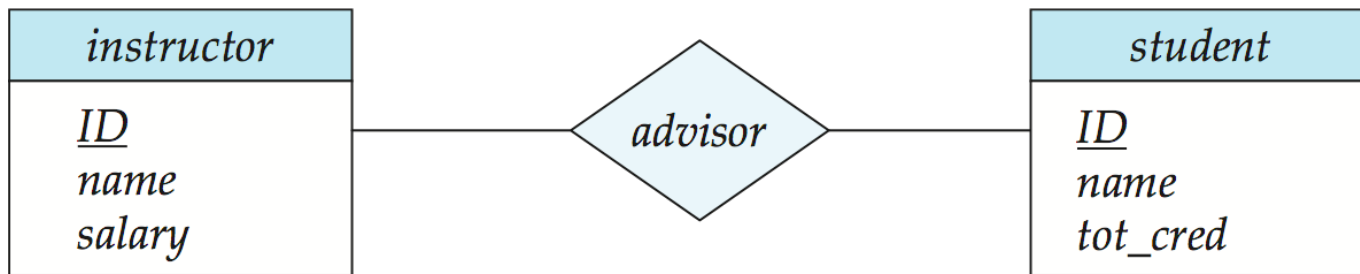
Many-to-One Relationships

- ❑ In a many-to-one relationship between an *instructor* and a *student*,
 - an instructor is associated with at most one student via *advisor*,
 - and a student is associated with several (including 0) instructors via *advisor*



Many-to-Many Relationship

- ❑ An instructor is associated with several (possibly 0) students via *advisor*
- ❑ A student is associated with several (possibly 0) instructors via *advisor*



Total and Partial Participation

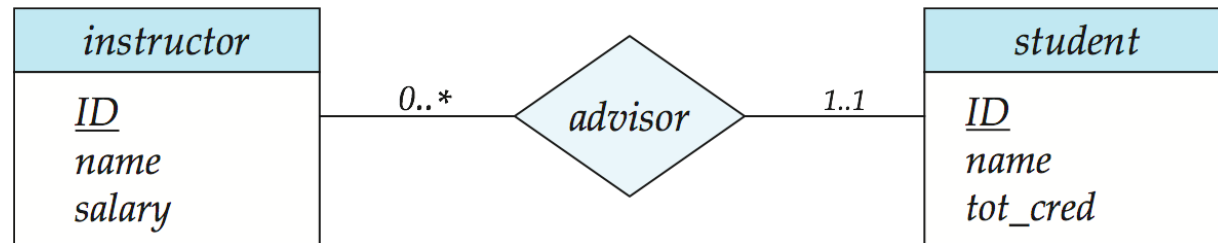
- Total participation (indicated by double line): every entity in the entity set participates in at least one relationship in the relationship set



- participation of *student* in *advisor* relation is total
 - ▶ every *student* must have an associated instructor
- Partial participation: some entities may not participate in any relationship in the relationship set
 - Example: participation of *instructor* in *advisor* is partial

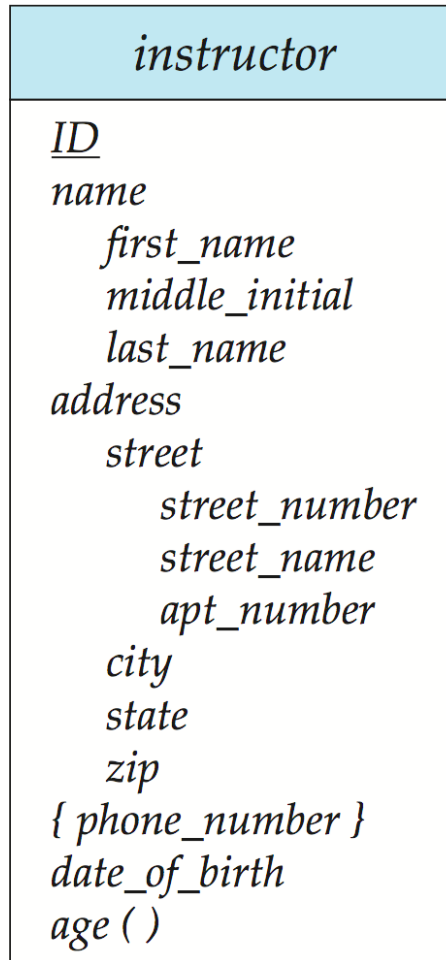
Notation for Expressing More Complex Constraints

- A line may have an associated minimum and maximum cardinality, shown in the form $l..h$, where l is the minimum and h the maximum cardinality
 - A minimum value of 1 indicates total participation.
 - A maximum value of 1 indicates that the entity participates in at most one relationship
 - A maximum value of * indicates no limit.



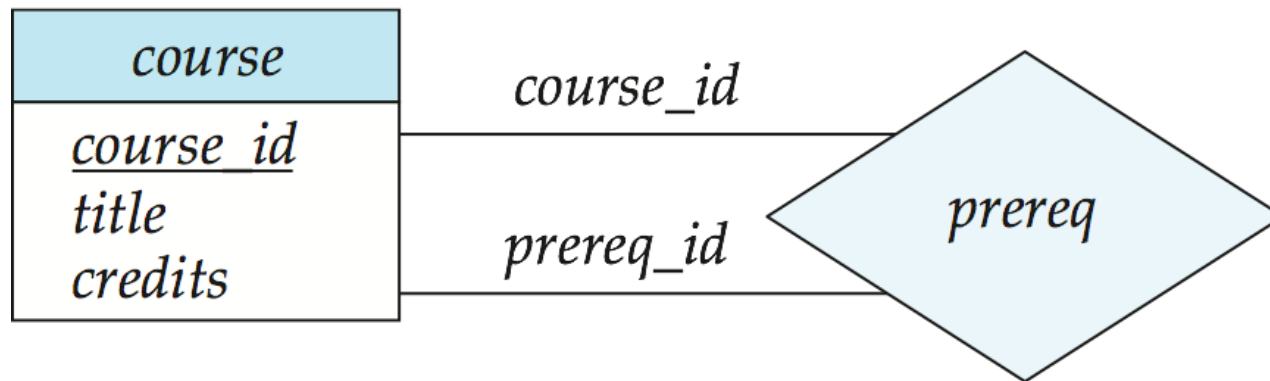
Instructor can advise 0 or more students. A student must have 1 advisor; cannot have multiple advisors

Notation to Express Entity with Complex Attributes



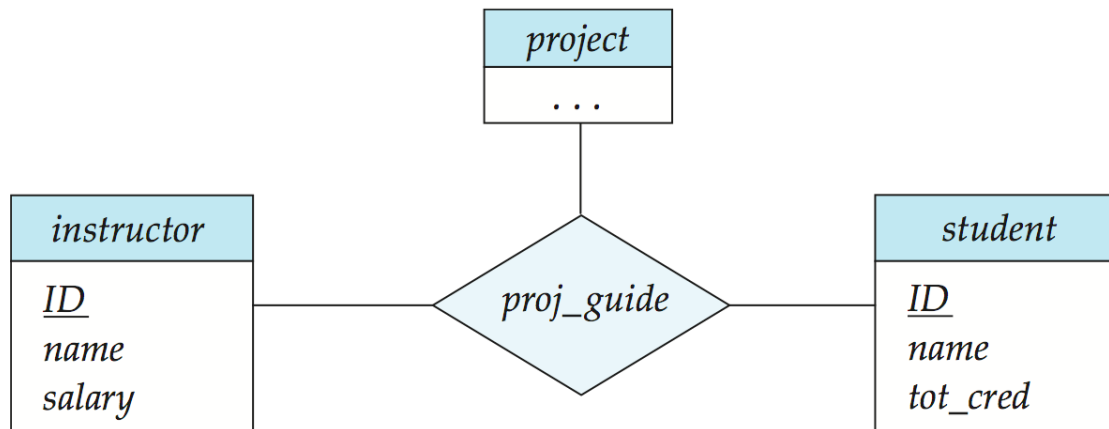
Roles

- ❑ Entity sets of a relationship need not be distinct
 - Each occurrence of an entity set plays a “role” in the relationship
- ❑ The labels “*course_id*” and “*prereq_id*” are called **roles**.



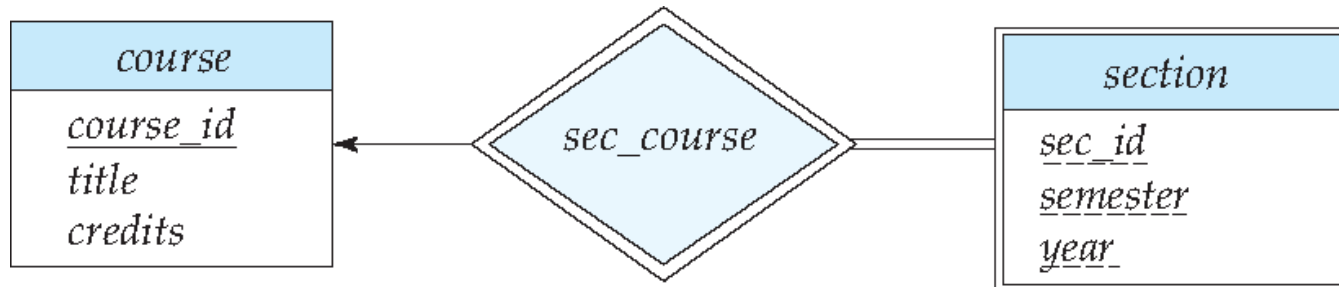
Non-binary Relationship Sets

- ❑ Most relationship sets are binary
- ❑ There are occasions when it is more convenient to represent relationships as non-binary.
- ❑ E-R Diagram with a Ternary Relationship




Expressing Weak Entity Sets

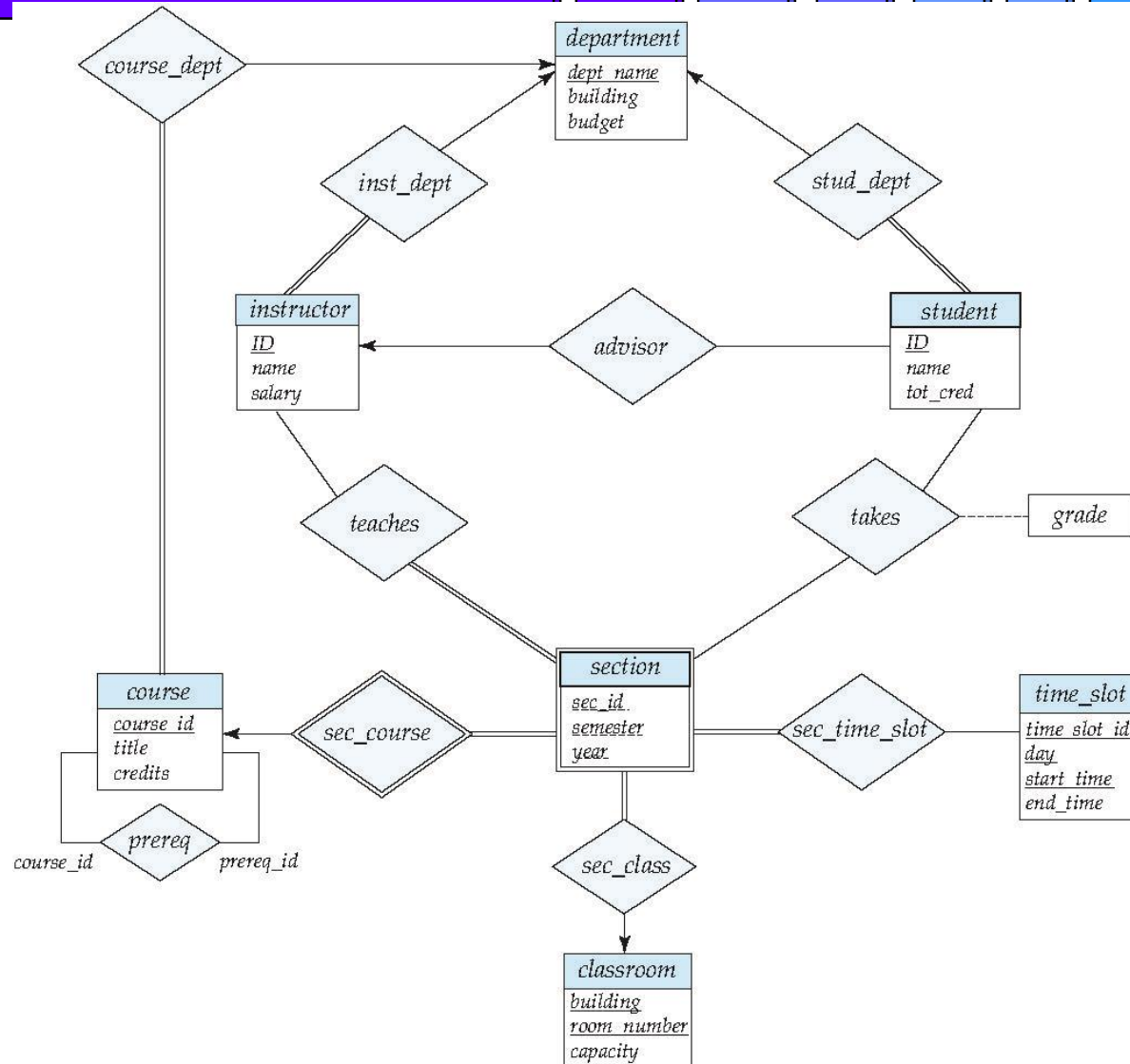
- ❑ In E-R diagrams, a weak entity set is depicted via a double rectangle.
- ❑ We underline the discriminator of a weak entity set with a dashed line.
- ❑ The relationship set connecting the weak entity set to the identifying strong entity set is depicted by a double diamond.
- ❑ Primary key for *section* – (*course_id*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year*)



Weak Entity Sets

- 
- ❑ Consider a *section* entity, which is uniquely identified by a *course_id*, *semester*, *year*, and *sec_id*.
 - ❑ Clearly, section entities are related to course entities. Suppose we create a relationship set *sec_course* between entity sets *section* and *course*.
 - ❑ Note that the information in *sec_course* is redundant, since *section* already has an attribute *course_id*, which identifies the course with which the section is related.
 - ❑ One option to deal with this redundancy is to get rid of the relationship *sec_course*; however, by doing so the relationship between *section* and *course* becomes implicit in an attribute, which is not desirable.

E-R Diagram for a University Enterprise



Reduction to Relation Schemas



- ☐ Entity sets and relationship sets can be expressed uniformly as *relation schemas* that represent the contents of the database.
- ☐ A database which conforms to an E-R diagram can be represented by a collection of schemas.
- ☐ For each entity set and relationship set there is a unique schema that is assigned the name of the corresponding entity set or relationship set.
- ☐ Each schema has a number of columns (generally corresponding to attributes), which have unique names.

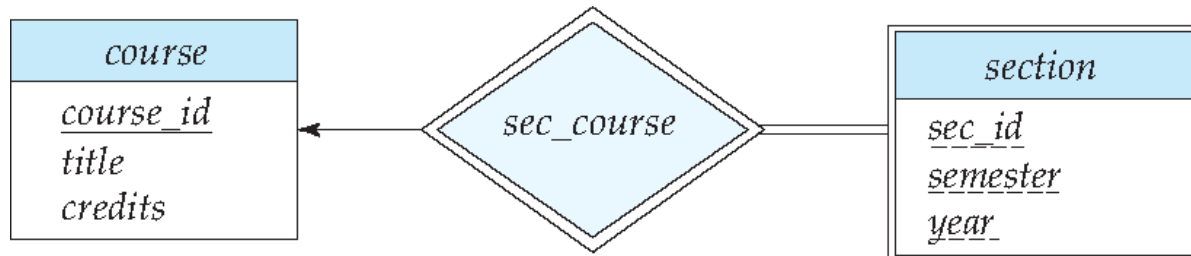
Representing Entity Sets

- ❑ A strong entity set reduces to a schema with the same attributes

student(ID, name, tot_cred)

- ❑ A weak entity set becomes a table that includes a column for the primary key of the identifying strong entity set

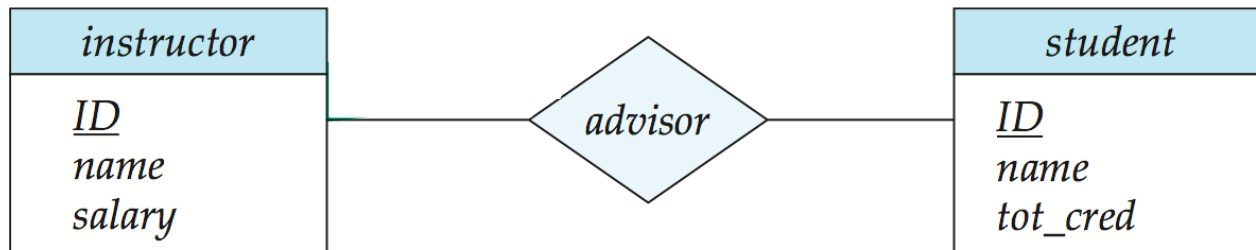
section (course_id, sec_id, sem, year)



Representing Relationship Sets

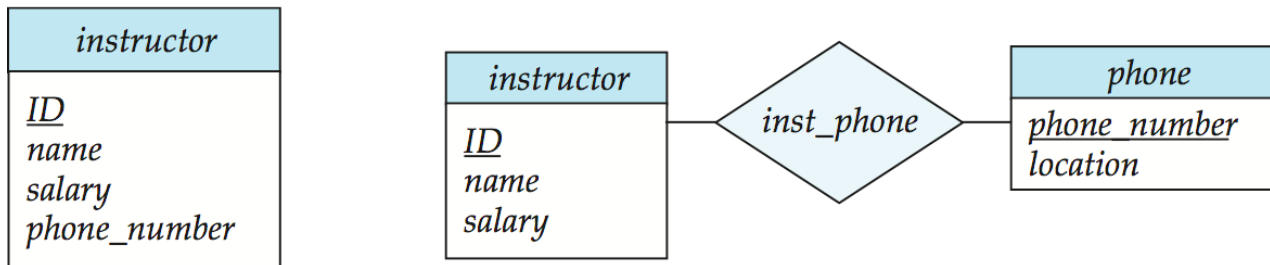
- ❑ A many-to-many relationship set is represented as a schema with attributes for the primary keys of the two participating entity sets, and any descriptive attributes of the relationship set.
- ❑ Example: schema for relationship set *advisor*

advisor = (*s_id*, *i_id*)



Entities vs. Attributes

- ❑ Use of entity sets vs. attributes

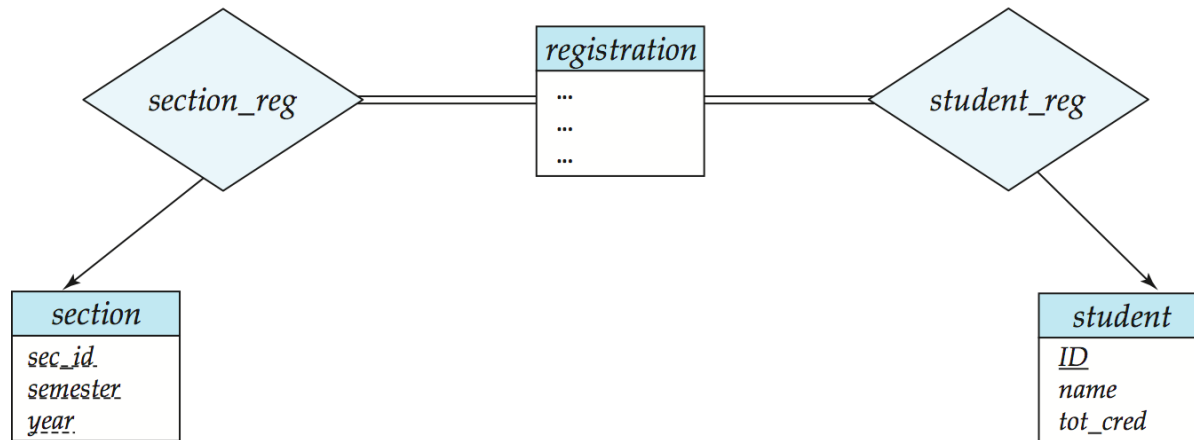


- ❑ Use of phone as an entity allows extra information about phone numbers (plus multiple phone numbers)

Entities vs. Relationship sets

❑ Use of entity sets vs. relationship sets

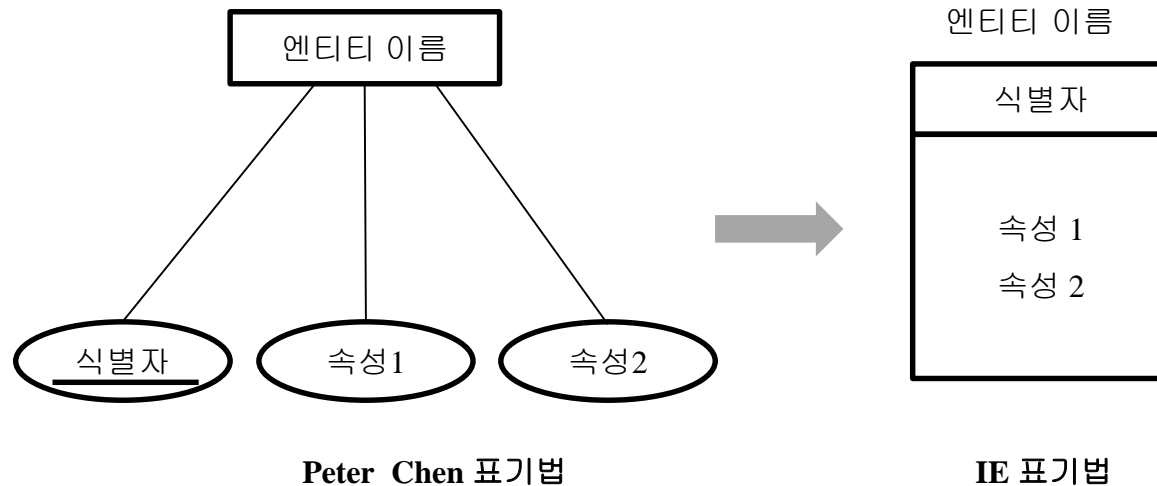
Possible guideline is to designate a relationship set to describe an action that occurs between entities



❑ Placement of relationship attributes

- For example, attribute date as attribute of advisor or as attribute of student

Information Engineering Notations

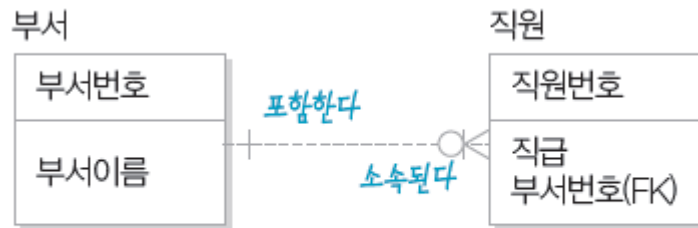
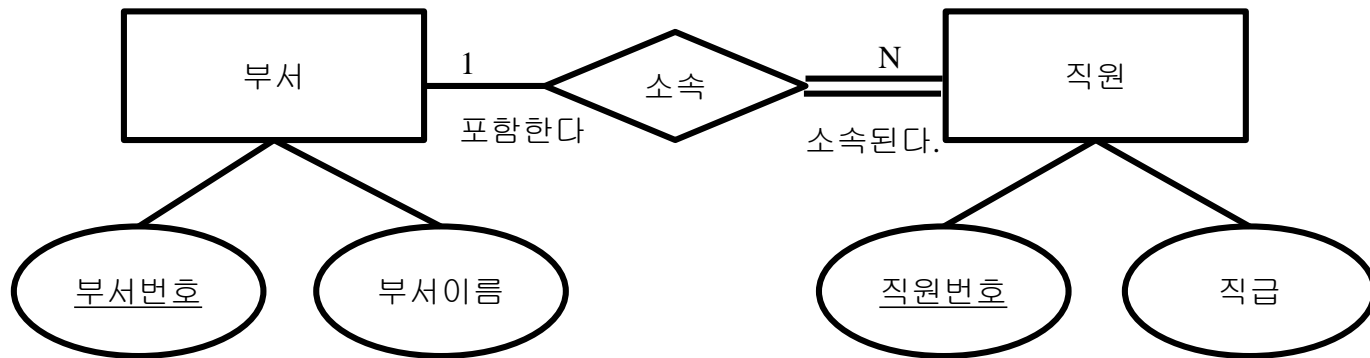


Information Engineering Notations



기호	의미
-----	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 비식별자 관계(non-identifying relationship): 강한 개체 타입 • 부모 개체의 키가 일반 속성으로 포함되는 관계
_____	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 식별자 관계(identifying relationship): 약한 개체 타입 • 부모 개체의 키가 주식별자로 포함되는 관계
————<	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 일대다(1:N)의 관계: N 쪽에 새발을 표시
————○	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0(선택 참여), 최소 참여가 0일 경우
————+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1(필수 참여), 최소 참여가 1일 경우

Information Engineering Notations



(b) IE 표기법으로 작성한 직원-부서 관계

