ORACLE Academy

Database Design

2-3

Entity Relationship Modeling and ERDs





Objectives

- This lesson covers the following objectives:
 - Define the meaning of "implementation-free" as it relates to data models and database design implementation
 - List the four goals of entity relationship modeling
 - -Identify an entity relationship diagram (ERD)



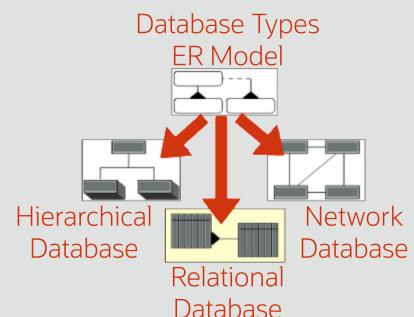
Purpose

 An entity relationship diagram (ERD) is a consistent tool that can be used to represent the data requirements of a business regardless of the type of database that is used, and even in the absence of one!



Implementation-Free Models

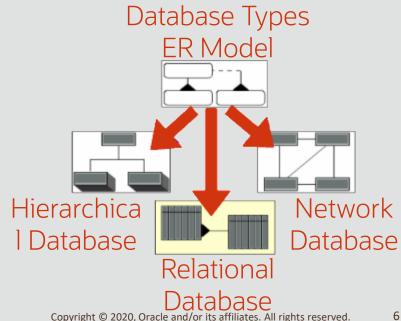
- A good conceptual data model stays the same regardless of the type of database the system is eventually built—or implemented—on
- This is what we mean when we say that the model is "implementation-free"





Implementation-Free Models

- The data model should stay the same even if a database is not used at all
- For example: when the data is eventually stored on pieces of paper in a filing cabinet





What is an Entity Relationship Model?

- An Entity Relationship Model:
 - Is a list of all entities and attributes as well as all relationships between the entities that are of importance
 - Provides background information such as entity descriptions, data types, and constraints
 - Note: The model does not require a diagram, but the diagram is typically a very useful tool



Goals of ER Modeling

- There are four goals of ER modeling:
 - -Capture all required data
 - -Ensure that data appears only once
 - Model no data that is derivable from other data already modeled
 - -Locate data in a predictable, logical place



Goals of ER Modeling

- Imagine your school record—from your earliest days in school, data about you was captured
- Your absences, discipline history, classes taken, and grades earned are probably part of your record
- This data needs to be stored in a logical way, to allow accessing and updating records to be carried out easily and efficiently
- Following the goals of ER Modeling helps to achieve this



H.R. Department Business Scenario

- Read the complete business scenario for the Human Resource Department below
- Then examine the completed ERD
 - I manage the Human Resources Department for a large company
 - We need to store data about each of our company's employees
 - We need to track each employee's first name, last name, job or position, hire date and salary
 - -For each employee on commission, we also need to track his/her potential commission
 - -Each employee is assigned a unique employee number

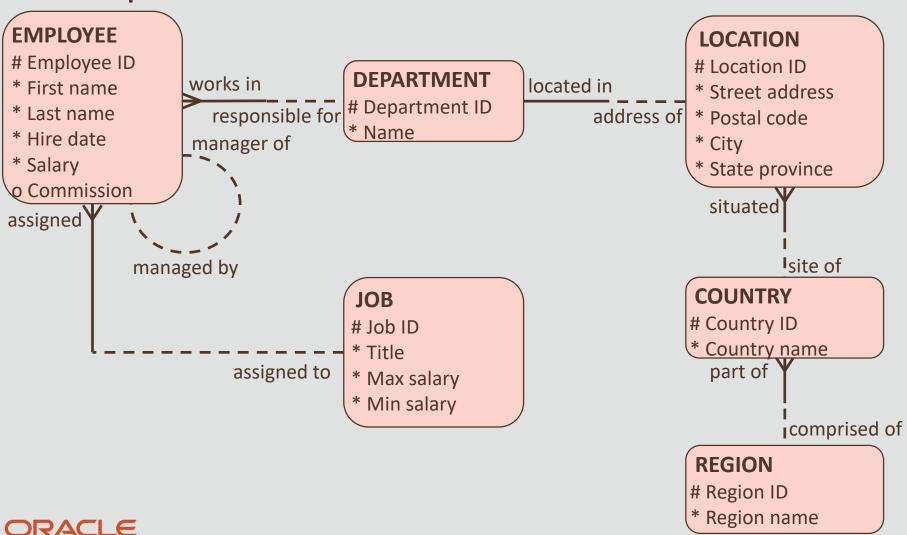


H.R. Department Business Scenario

- Read the complete business scenario for the Human Resource Department below
- Then examine the completed ERD
 - -Our company is divided into departments
 - Each employee reports to a department -- for example, accounting, sales, or development
 - We need to know the department responsible for each employee and the department location
 - -Each department has a unique number.
 - Some of the employees are managers
 - We need to know each employee's manager and all of the employees that are managed by each manager



H.R Department ERD



Terminology

- Key terms used in this lesson included:
 - -Entity relationship diagram (ERD)
 - -Implementation-free



Summary

- In this lesson, you should have learned how to:
 - Define the meaning of "implementation-free" as it relates to data models and database design implementation
 - List the four goals of entity relationship modeling
 - Identify an entity relationship diagram (ERD)



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