

We have seen this figure before. Thus far we have looked at how enterprise data stored in a relational database using SQL.

By now you must be convinced that we can get out pretty much any information we need by using SQL.

As I have said a few times before, I find this all the more fascinating because at the time we design the database, we do not have to ever consider what retrieval requirements we might have .. And yet, we can easily get whatever we want from the database.

Little wonder then that relational databases have served as the backbone of IT systems for over three decades now. Without this technology, IT applications might not have developed to the extent they have.

With increased volumes of data – like those that companies like Google and Facebook handle, we need different technologies – but that has to wait for another course ...

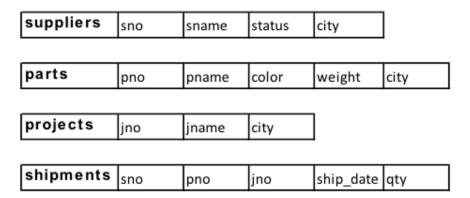
We now trun out attention to database design. We have seen several (small, to be sure) relational databases – Suppliers-parts, SBA basketball, College, Sakila and classic models. Each had a set of tables and we enjoyed waving our SQL wand at these to get information.

How did whoever desinged these databases decide exactly what tables to have and what fields to keep in each table. After all they could have done things in so many different ways.

Why did they choose to do it exactly like they did?

Enter "Database Design" using "Entity Relationship Diargrams" or ERD.

SPJ Database

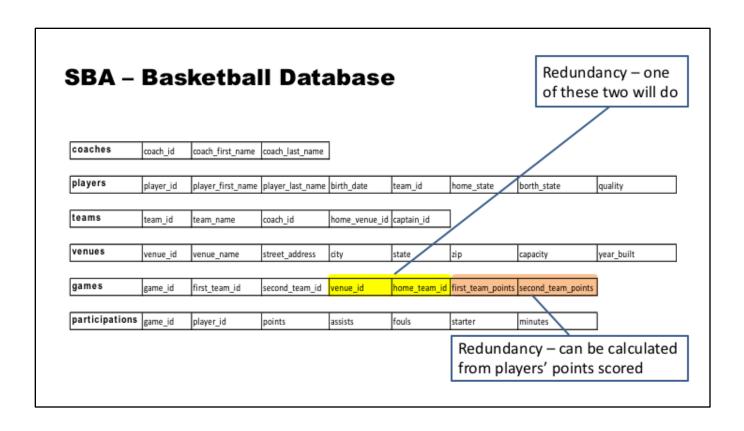


College Database

| courses | course_id | course_name | credits |] | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------|--------|-----|-------|
| | | | | - | | | |
| instructors | instructor_id | firstname | lastname | | | | |
| | | | | - | | | |
| sections | course_id | section_name | instructor_id | | | | |
| | | | | • | | | |
| students | student_id | firstname | lastname | height | weight | dob | state |
| | | | | | | | |
| registrations | course_id | section_name | student_id | | | | |

SBA - Basketball Database

| coaches | coach_id | coach_first_name | coach_last_name | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| | | | | - | | | | |
| players | player_id | player_first_name | player_last_name | birth_date | team_id | home_state | borth_state | quality |
| | | | | | | | | |
| teams | team_id | team_name | coach_id | home_venue_id | captain_id |] | | |
| | | | | | | • | | |
| venues | venue_id | venue_name | street_address | city | state | zip | capacity | year_built |
| | • | • | | | • | | | |
| games | game_id | first_team_id | second_team_id | venue_id | home_team_id | first_team_points | second_team_points | |
| | | • | • | | | • | | • |
| participations | game_id | player_id | points | assists | fouls | starter | minutes |] |
| | | | | | | | | |



Business rules

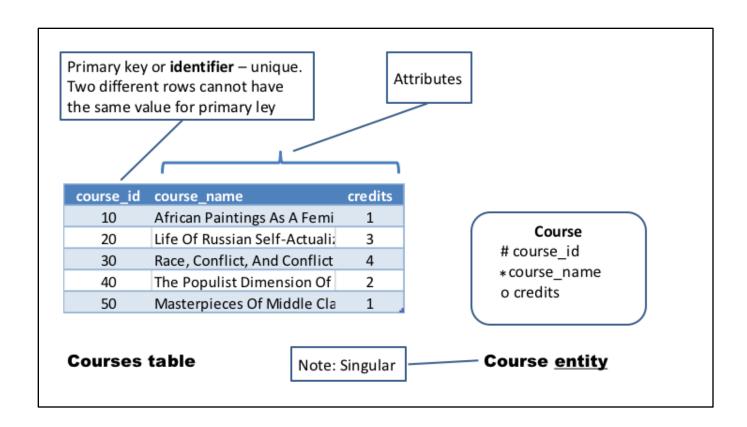


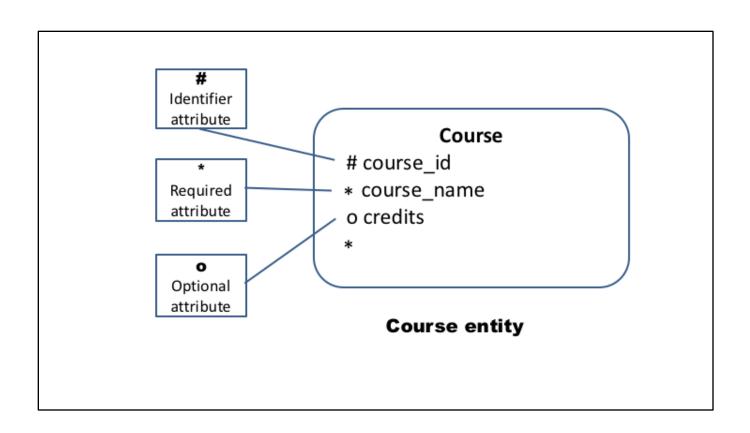
Database Design

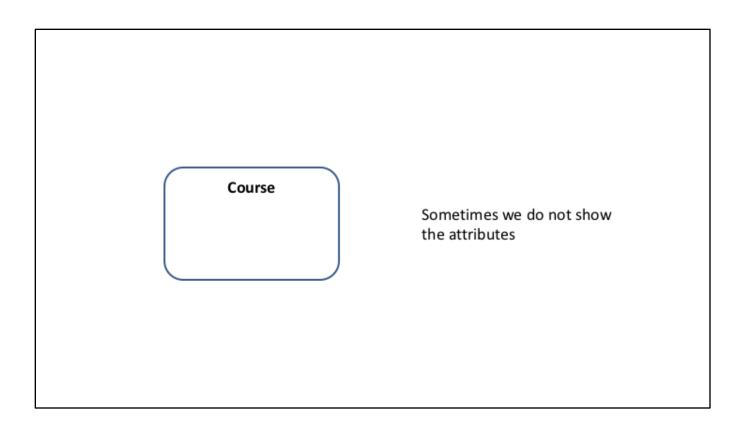
We will learn a structured process to understand a business situation and convert that understanding into a relational database design that can support almost any queries that would likely arise in managing operations.

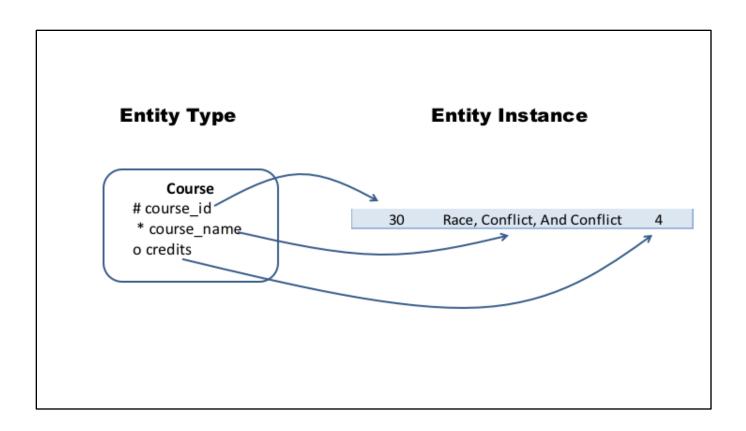
AT this stage we do not need to explicitly consider what information might need to be retrieved. Just represent some kinds of business rules in a rigorous diagrammatic notation and the database design automatically pops out of the process. Cool stuff indeed!

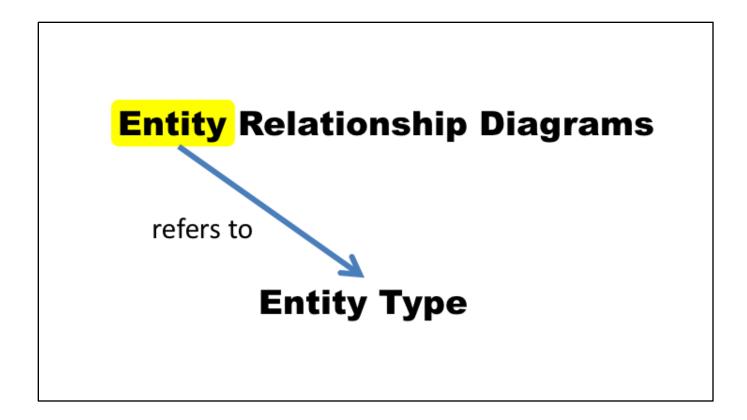
Business knowledge plays a key role in this process.











Your turn: Draw the entity corresponding to the parts table shown below. Pause the video, do the work and only then proceed. (Make your own assumptions regarding required and optional attributes.)

| pno | pname | color | weight | city |
|-----|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| P1 | Nut | Red | 12 | London |
| P2 | Bolt | Green | 17 | Paris |
| Р3 | Screw | Blue | 17 | Rome |
| P4 | Screw | Red | 14 | London |
| P5 | Cam | Blue | 12 | Paris |
| P6 | Cog | Red | 19 | London |

pno
* pname
o color
* weight
o city

Parts table

Part entity

Instructors table

| instructor_id | firstname | lastname | dob |
|---------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 10 | DARIUS | Bokman | 7/8/1957 |
| 20 | CAREY | Mccament | 1/3/1984 |
| 30 | FIDEL | Blondell | 4/5/1976 |
| 40 | FLWOOD | Farb | 9/1/1986 |

Instructor entity

Instructor

- # instructor_id
- * firstname
- * lastname o dob

Category of things about which an organization wants to store data.

An entity type represents a category or concept. You should pay special attention to this fact. Entity types differ from entity instances.

The concept "Person" is an entity type. Specific persons like you and I are instances of this concept.

In this sense an entity type is abstract and instances are concrete.

Can potentially have instances Always has attributes

If you come across something that cannot have instances, then it cannot be an entity type – it could be an entity instance.

For example, consider a specific customer like customer A. Can we have instances of customer A? No. Customer A is customer A and does not represent a concept. Customer A is a specific, concrete customer.

On the other hand "Customer" is a concept and we could have several instances of the concept.

Entity types can have attributes. Each instance of an entity type will have its own values for each of the attributes.

In this sense you can also see an entity type as a template describing whatever is common to a family of objects or things.

Each instance has its own value for each attribute

Instructor

Instructor

- #instructor id
- * firstname
- * lastname o dob

| instructor_id | firstname | lastname | dob |
|---------------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 10 | DARIUS | Bokman | 7/8/1957 |
| 20 | CAREY | Mccament | 1/3/1984 |
| 30 | FIDEL | Blondell | 4/5/1976 |
| 40 | ELWOOD | Farb | 9/1/1986 |

The slide shows the entity type "Instructor" on the left.

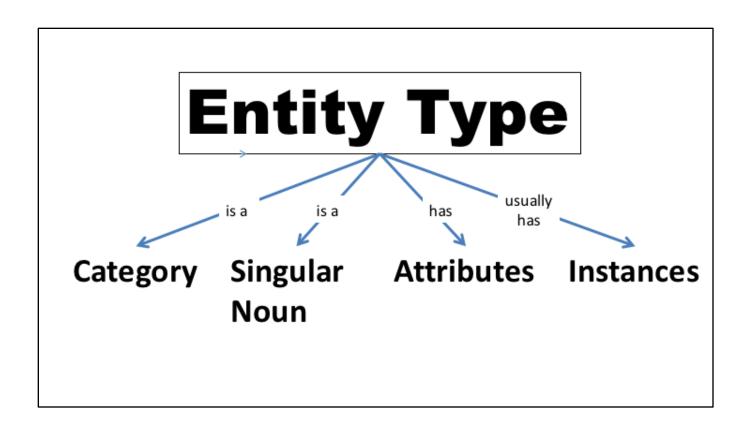
On the right we see a table containing data about four instances of the entity type.

Note how each instance has its own values for each of the attributes like instructor_id, firstname, lastname and dob.

Singular noun

Since an entity type represents a category or concept, it is always expressed as a singular noun.

Do not think of an entity type as a collection of instances. That misunderstanding can hamper you a lot as you try to learn ER diagramming.



Customer

Represents a category and can have instances, for example, customer A, customer B, etc. Can have attributes like name, address, etc. Can be an entity type.

Vendor

Represents a category and can have instances like vendor A, vendor B, etc. Can have attributes like name, address, etc. Can be an entity type.

Seton Hall University

Does not represent a category because it cannot have its own instances. Looks like an instance of an entity type like University, or Organization or some such.

Person

Represents a category and can have instances which would be specific persons like you and me.

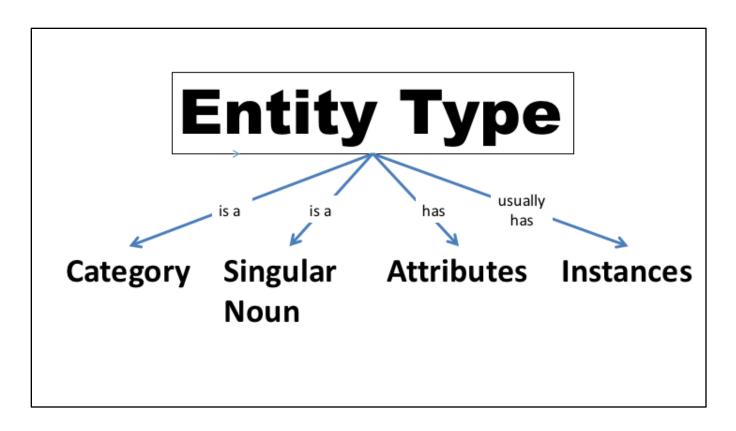
Can have attributes like name, address, etc.

Can be an entity type.

Person with SSN 111-11-1111

Does not represent a category and hence cannot be an entity type.

Could be an **instance** of an entity type like Person.



In any given situation, we can identify infinitely many entity types. Which ones should we actually model?

For example, while studying an organization, we will surely come across entity types like chair, table, insect, light and so on. Whether we include these in our model or not depends on whether the business wants to track these as part of its operations. While mostly quite clear, we will encounter situations where this decision could be subjective.

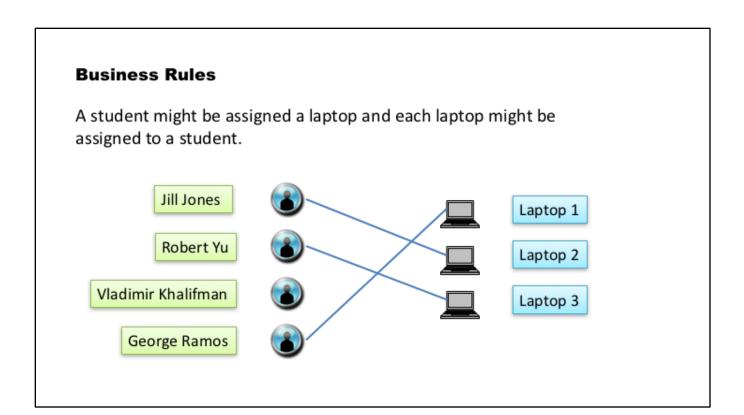


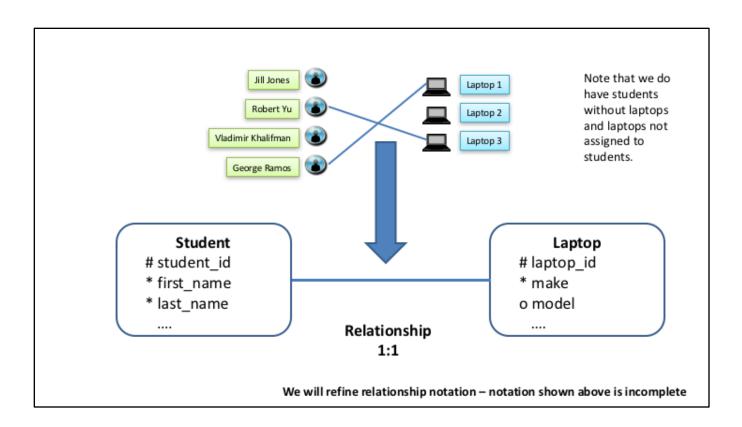
Figure shows instances of entity type student and shows possible relationships between those and instances of entity type laptop.

The above is not an ER diagram. It does not show entity types, instead it deals with entity instances.

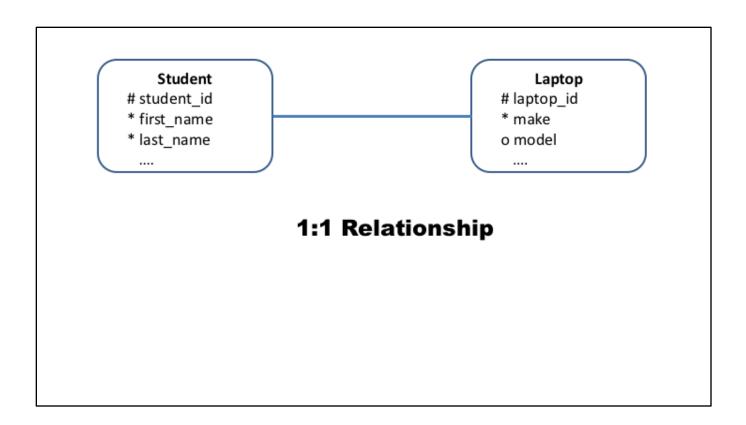
Relationship

Relationships capture the various ways in which entities could be related in the situation under consideration.

As with entity types, we can potentially identify infinitely many relationships. Which ones we include in our model depends on what the organization considers significant.



Note the correspondence between the figure showing connections between entity instances and the more general ER diagram showing the generic relationship between the two entity types.



Since a student can have at most one laptop and a laptop can be assigned to at most one student, this is a 1:1 relationship.

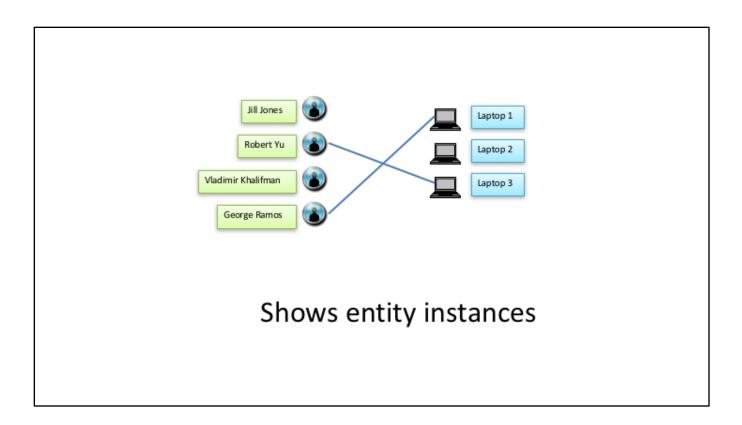
In determining the degree of a relationship, we consider each entity type in turn and ask at most how many instances of the other entity type the first one can be related to. We are concerned only with whether the answer is "one" or "many" – if the answer is more than 1, then the specific number does not matter, it is just "many."

In the above situation we ask:

Each student can be associated with at most how many laptops? Our earlier description indicated that a student might be assigned a laptop. Thus the upper limit is 1.

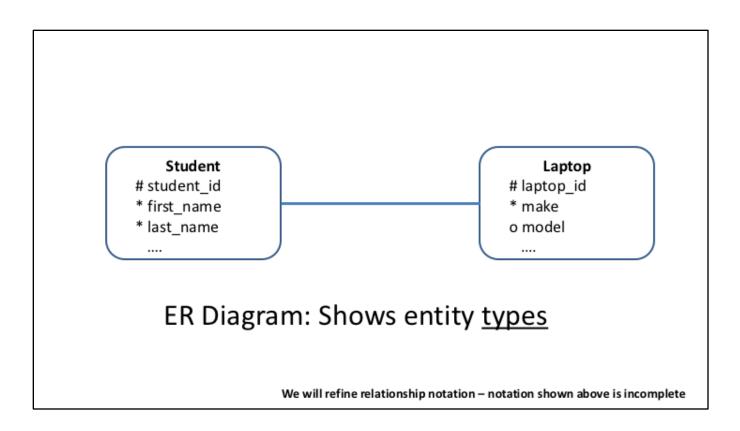
Each laptop can be assigned to at most how many students? Again we see that the description indicates that this is also 1.

Therefore the relationship is 1:1.



The above figure represents instances. It is not an ER diagram and I have shown it only to clarify the difference between ER diagrams and those that show specific instances.

ER diagrams show only entity types. As an enterprise operates, specific instances come and go – new customers are added, old ones are removed and so on – but the entity type "customer" stays on.

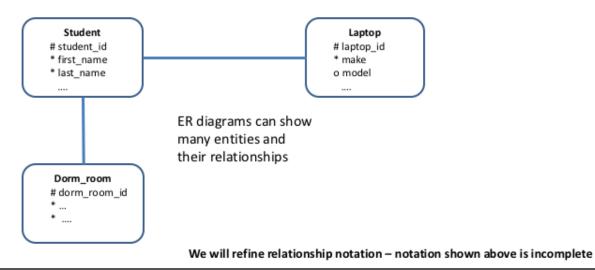


The above is an ER diagram – although the relationship notation has not yet been refined. We will discuss additional nuances of the notation shortly.

Your turn: A professor might be Prof. X Office 101 assigned an office; each office might Prof. Y Office 201 be assigned to a professor. Prof. Z Office 302 Example: Prof X -> office 101, Prof Y Office 747 \rightarrow office 201. Prof Z \rightarrow none. Offices 302 and 747 have not been assigned to any professors. Professor Office # prof_id # office_id * first_name * ... Show the instances and how they * last_name o are related and also show the ERD. Is this a 1:1 relationship? Another 1:1 relationship We will refine relationship notation - notation shown above is incomplete

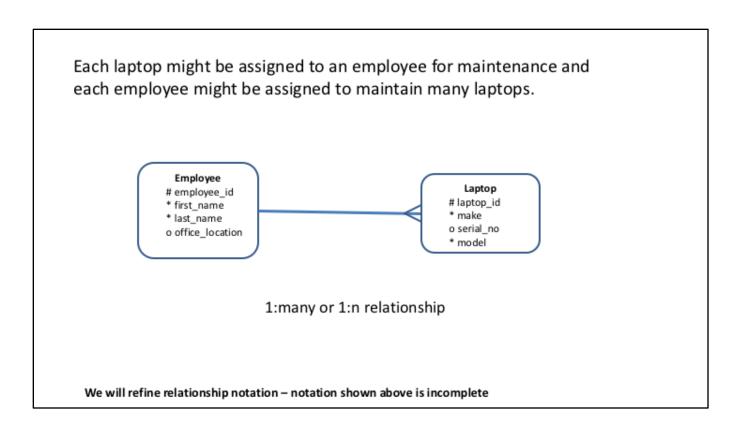
ERDs show relationships between entity types by connecting related entity types by a line. The above slide does not show the full picture yet. We will refine the notation as we progress.

A student might be assigned a laptop and each laptop might be assigned to a student. Each student is assigned a dorm room and each dorm room might be assigned to a student.

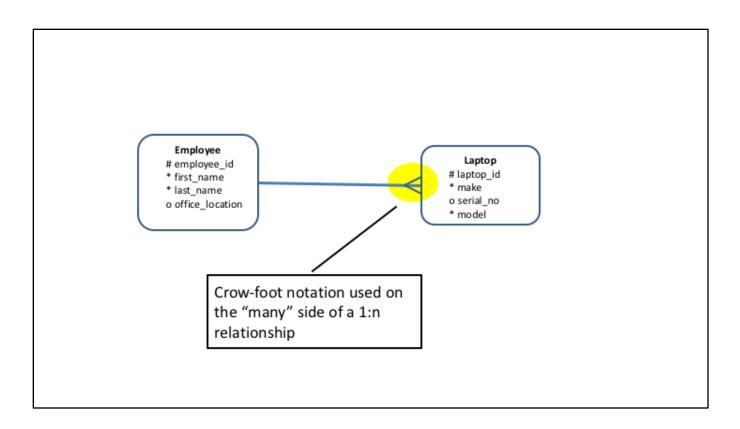


An ERD shows many entity types of interest to an organization, and depicts their relationships.

You can therefore expect to see that many entity types have relationships with many others, as with Student above, which relates to Laptop and Dormroom.



In the above, we see that each laptop might be assigned to at most one employee, but that each employee might be responsible for many laptops – we thus have a relationship of degree 1:n.



We use the crow-foot notation on the "many" side of the 1:n relationship.

Since one employee can be associated with many laptops, we have the crow-foot on the side of Laptop.

Since each laptop can be associated with at most one employee, we do not have a crow-foot on Employee.

Be sure you get the logic of the placement of the crow-foot.

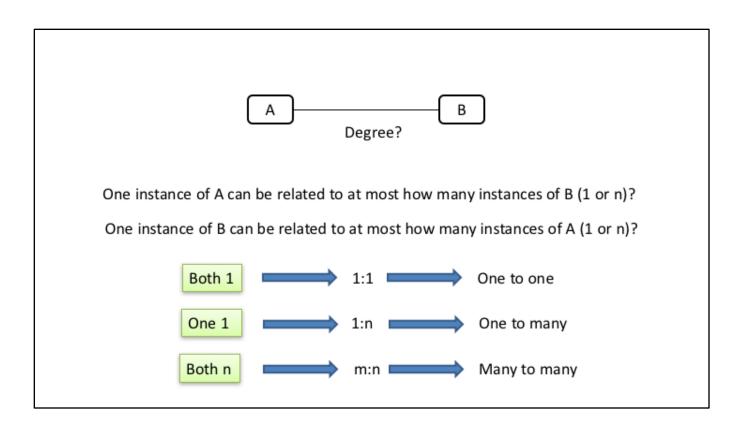
Relationship degree

One instance of each entity type can be associated with at most how many of the other – is upper limit 1 or many?

In determining the degree of relationship between entity types A and B, we are concerned with the following two questions:

One instance of A can be related to at most how many of B: 1 or n? One instance of B can be related to at most how many of A: 1 or n?

If both are 1, then we have a 1:1 relationship. If one is 1 and the other is n then we have a 1:n relationship. If both or n, then we have a m:n relationship.



Look at the relationship from both ends to determine the degree.

Relationship degree

1:1

1:n

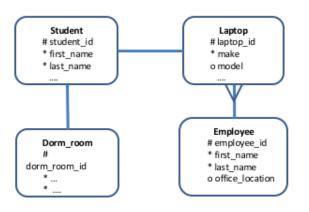
m:n

We will say more about m:n relationships later.

Business Rules

- A student might be assigned a laptop and each laptop might be assigned to a student.
- Each student is assigned a dorm room and each dorm room might be assigned to a student.
- Each laptop must be assigned to an employee for maintenance and each employee might be assigned to maintain zero or more laptops.

Corresponding ERD



We will refine relationship notation - notation shown above is incomplete

Database design involves identifying the various entity types involved in a business situation and capturing the relationships.

During this process we do not explicitly consider data retrieval requirements. We only try to unearth entities and relationships of interest. The sheer beauty of the relational database concept allows us to then use SQL to retrieve pretty much anything we need.

We first understand the business rules by talking to people who run the business and then convert these into ERDs.

A student **might be** assigned a laptop and each laptop **might be** assigned to a student.

Vs.

Every student is assigned a laptop and each laptop **might be** assigned to a student.

Vs.

Every student is assigned a laptop and each laptop **must be** assigned to a student.

We now look at another aspect of relationships – whether or not an entity type has optional or mandatory or obligatory participation in a relationship. The three situations presented above bring out the main issue.

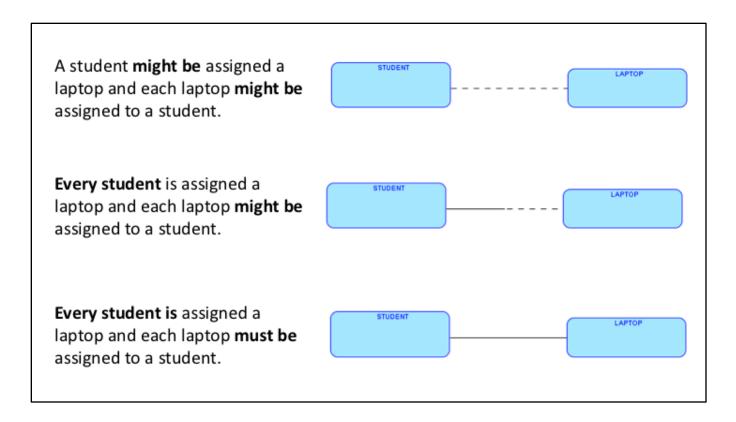
In the first sentence, we see that students and laptops have a relationship, but that the business rules allow for some students to not be related to any laptops and some laptops to not be related to any students. This means that all students and all laptops are not obliged to participate in the relationship.

That is, in general students and laptops re related, but not all students and laptops need to participate – participation is **optional**.

In the third sentence we see that all students and all laptops must participate – participation is **obligatory** or **mandatory**.

In the second sentence, we see that students must participate but laptops need not.

Note: Will not show attributes in some of the following few ERDs



The relationship line connecting two entity types can be seen as comprising two halves – one half close to each entity type.

If an entity type has obligatory participation (that is, it must participate and cannot remain unassociated with the other entity type) on a relationship then the half line close to it on that relationship is solid. Otherwise that half line is dashed.

We look at each of the above three examples in the following slides.

When we say that a student need not necessarily be related to a laptop, we are really answering the question: "is it possible that at some point in time w could have an instance of student that is unrelated to any instance of laptop?" If this is true, we have optional participation.

On the other hand, if at no point in time were it allowed for a student instance to be unrelated to a laptop instance, then we have obligatory participation.

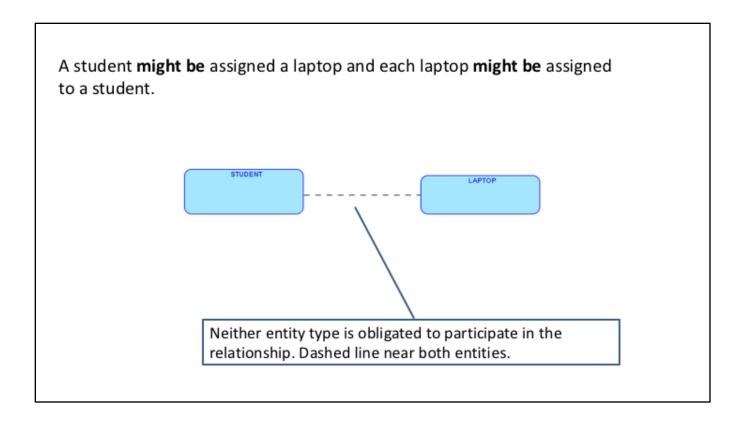
A student **might be** assigned a laptop and each laptop **might be** assigned to a student.

Allows for a **student** with no laptop and for **laptop** that is not assigned to any student.

Non-OBLIGATORY participation

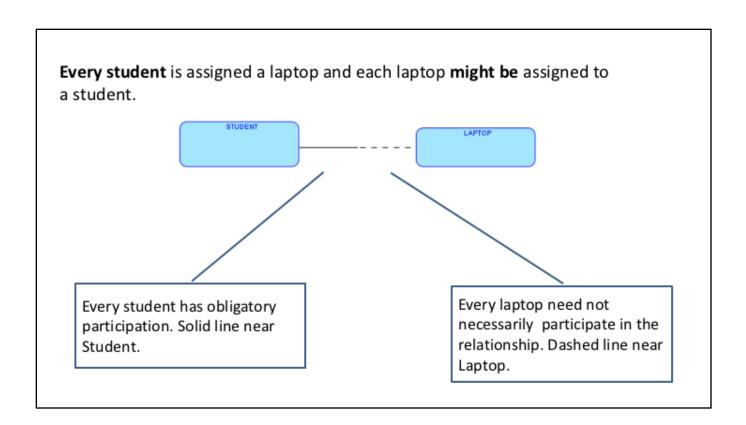
When we have two entity types that have a relationship – like **student** and **laptop** above, we have many possibilities for business rules controlling their participation in the relationship.

The business rule on this slide says that although some instances of student and laptop might be associated, we could still have instances of both of these entity types which are not associated with any instance of the other. That is, these entity types have NON-OBLIGATORY participation in this relationship.

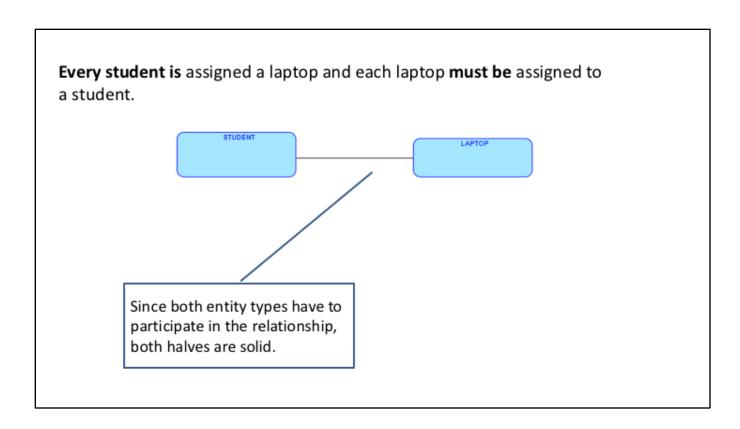


In practice this means that in our database we can have instances of either entity type that has no associated instance of the other entity type.

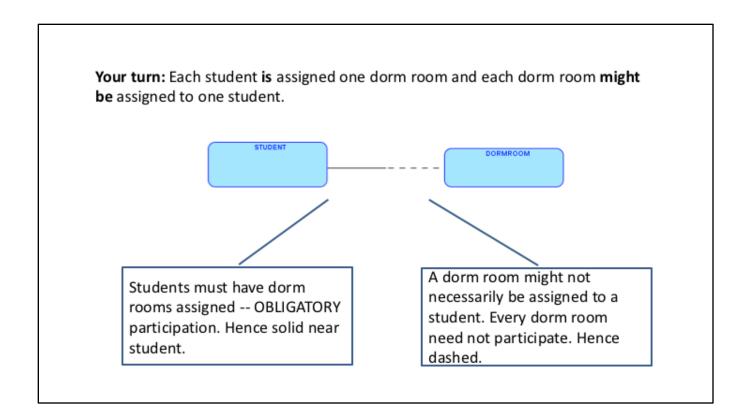
This allows us to have instances of student and laptop that are related and also allows us to have instances of either that are unrelated to the other type.

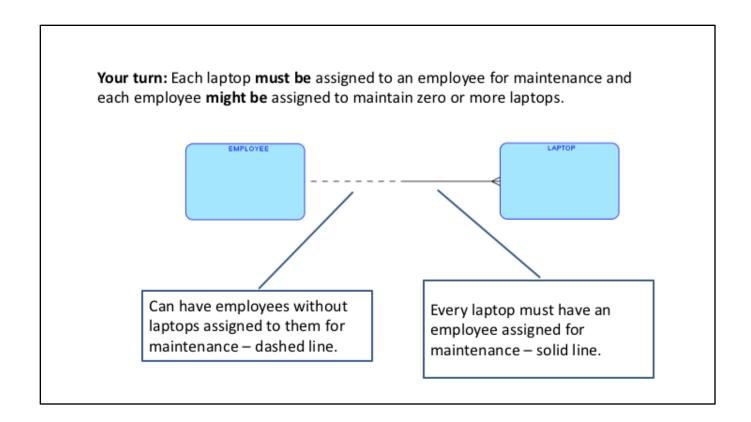


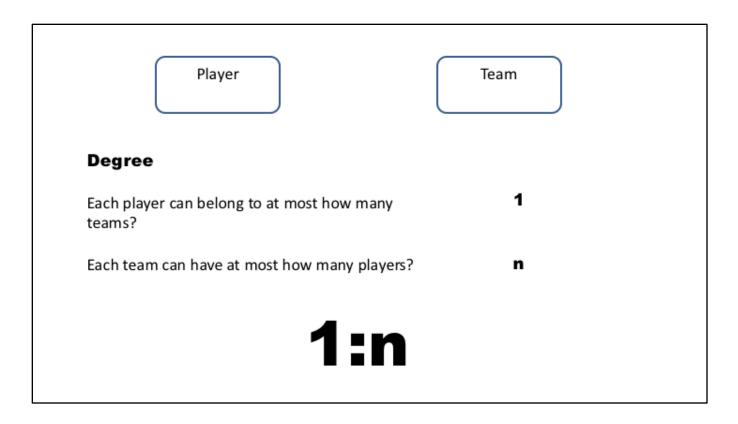
In practice this means that we are not allowed to create a student instance without specifying a laptop for that student. Each and every student must at all times be associated to a laptop instance. However, we could create laptop instances that have no associated student.



In practice this means that we cannot create a student without a laptop nor can we create a laptop without assigning it to a student.







While drawing ERDs we first identify the entity types of interest. In doing this we apply the what we learned earlier about the properties of entity types.

Once we have the various entity types, we need to consider the relationships.

Properly representing a relationship requires us to identify the degree of a relationship and also the participation rules.

Together they determine the proper **cardinality** notation.

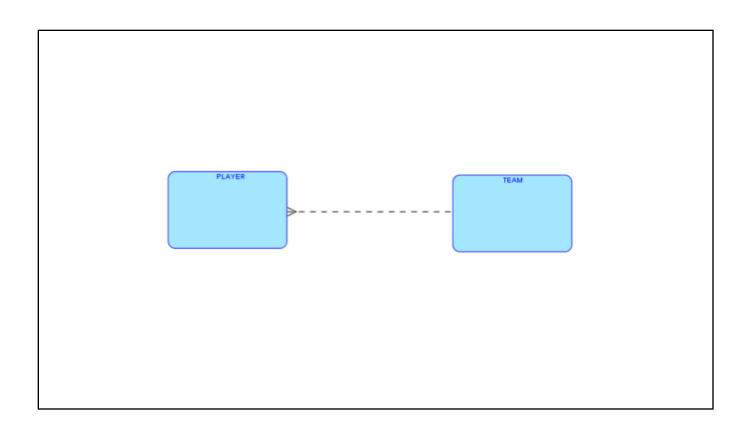
Obligatory?

Does each player have to belong to a team?

No – free agents don't

Does each team have to have at least one player?

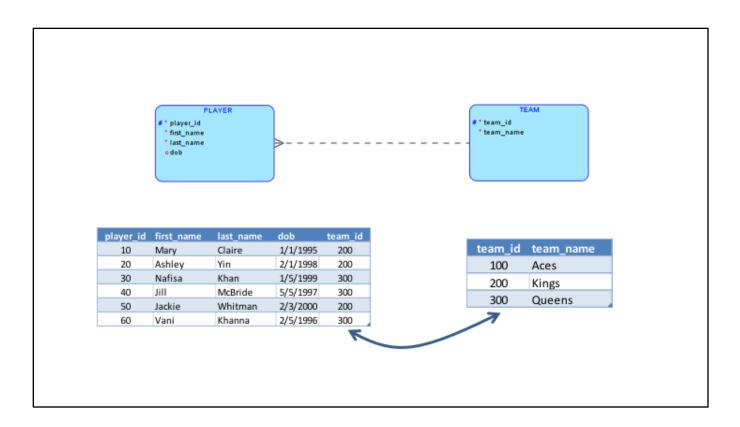
No – might not have purchased any players yet



| ERD | Relational database |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Entity type | Table |
| Relationship | ??? |
| | |
| | |

We have already seen that an entity type on the ERD corresponds to a table on the relational database schema.

What does a relationship on the ERD connote in a relational database schema?

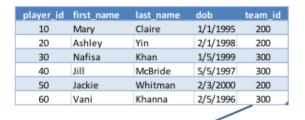


From the databases that we have already seen, we know that we can show connections between various tables by adding the primary key of one table as a field or column in another. The slide shows how the connection between players and teams (that is, which team a player belongs to) is represented by adding the team_id to the players table.

In fact this is exactly how we represent relationships in schema.

The added column to represent a relationship is called a **foreign key**. The term makes sense because the field is not a primary key in the table where it is added — like the team_id in the players table, but it is a primary key elsewhere (in the players table); it is the key of some other table.

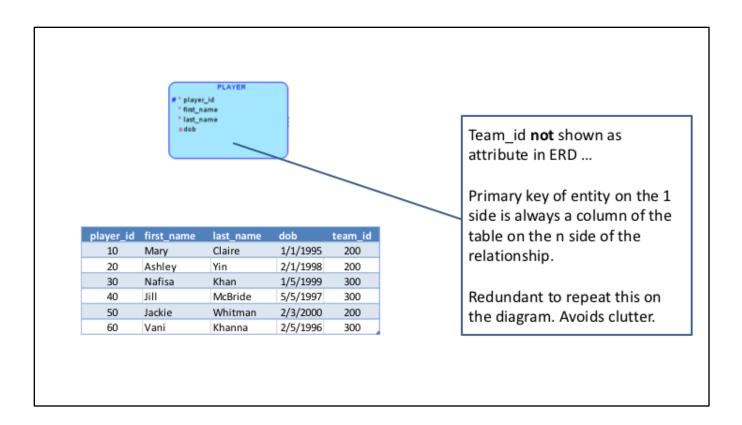
We will see later that the primary key of a table can sometimes be added to that same table as a *foreign* key.



| team_id | team_name |
|---------|-----------|
| 100 | Aces |
| 200 | Kings |
| 300 | Queens |

Foreign key column

Relationships represented by adding primary key of a table as FOREIGN KEY column



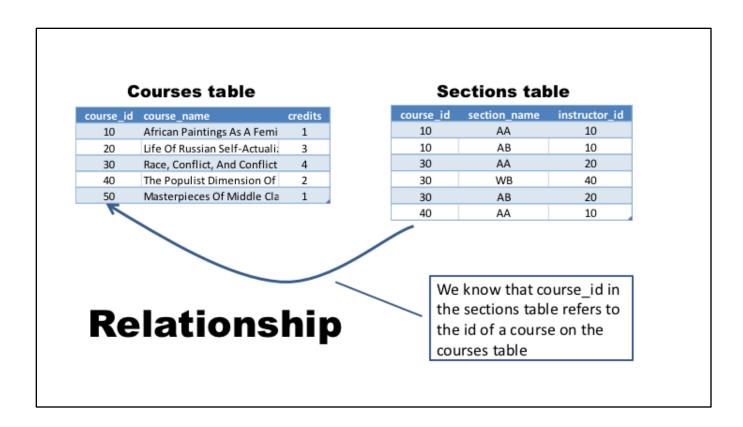
ERDs can get pretty complex and we want to avoid clutter and redundancy where possible.

Generalizing from the teams-players example, we can see that to represent a i:n relationship, we add the primary key of the entity type in the "1" side as a foreign key to the entity type on the "n" side of the relationship. This is always true and therefore when we see a 1:n relationship on an ERD, we can always infer this. Therefore there is no need to redundantly show the foreign key attribute on the ERD and add clutter and redundancy.

This is why the above ERD does not show team_id as an attribute in the Player entity type. The ERD on the prior page implies this and so we need not repeat this by showing team_id as an attribute.

| ERD | Relational database |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Entity type | Table |
| Relationship | Foreign key |
| | |
| | |

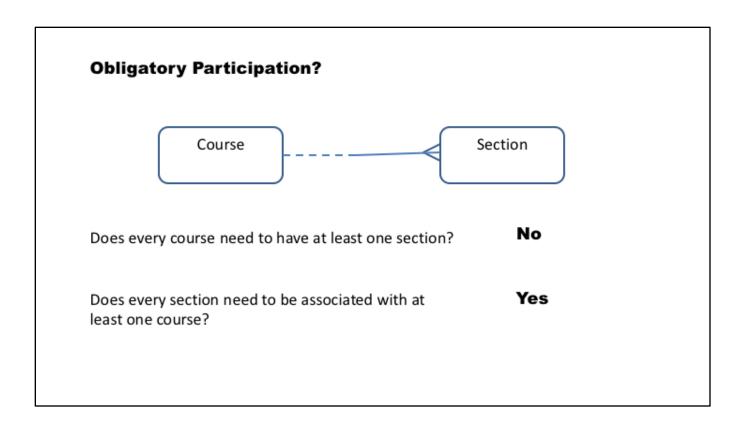
From the earlier discussion, we see that a relationship on the ERD is represented through a foreign key on the database schema.

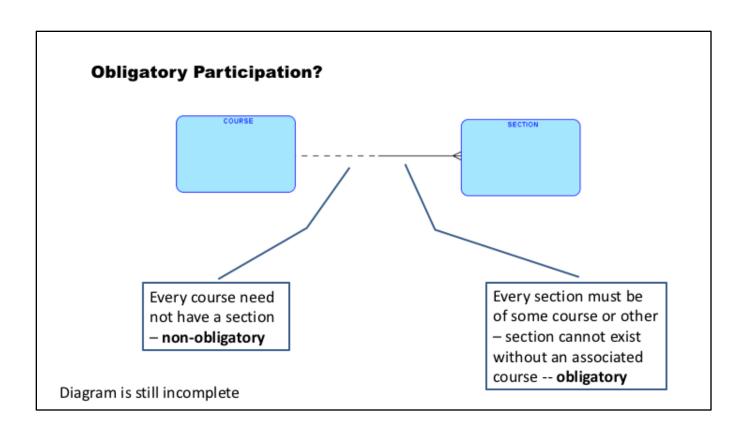


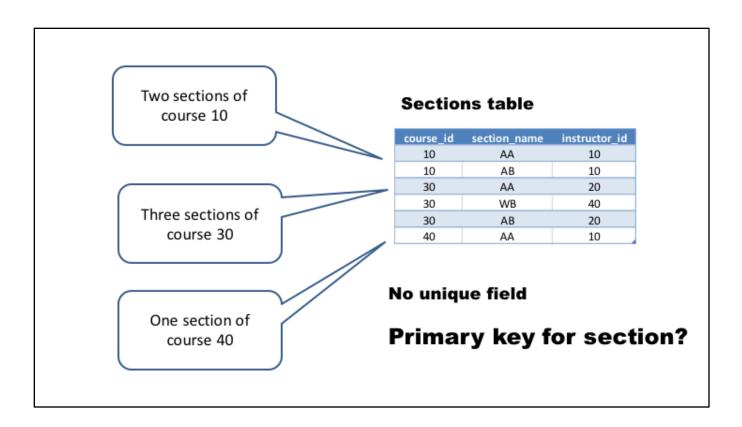
We have several courses and for some courses we have multiple sections. We now go on to look at the issue of a primary key for the sections table.

Degree: How many sections can a course have? One or many?

A course can possibly have many sections. Each section is related to one course.

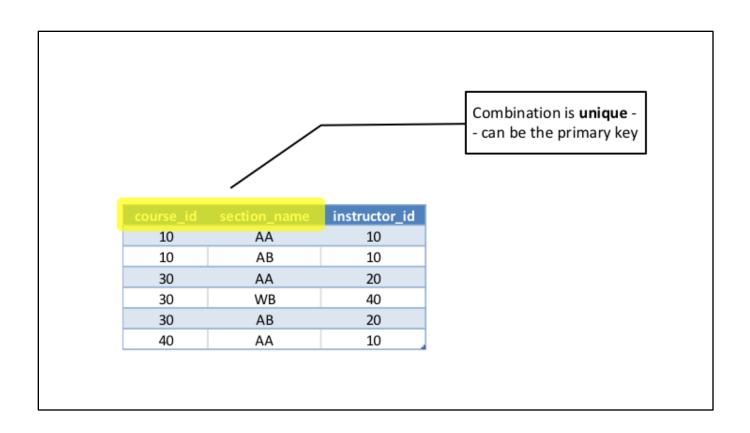


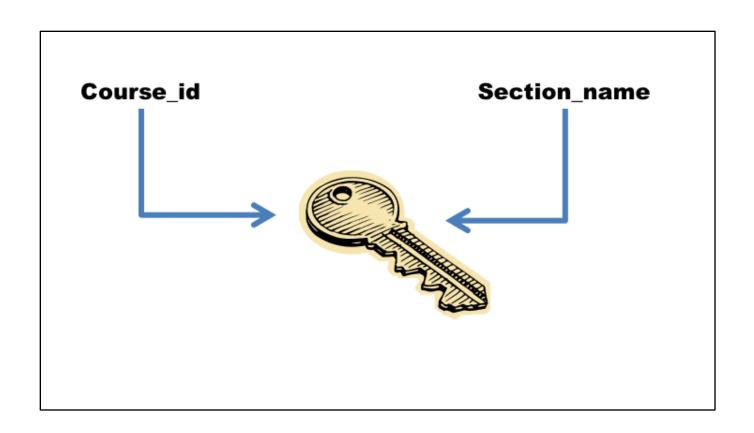


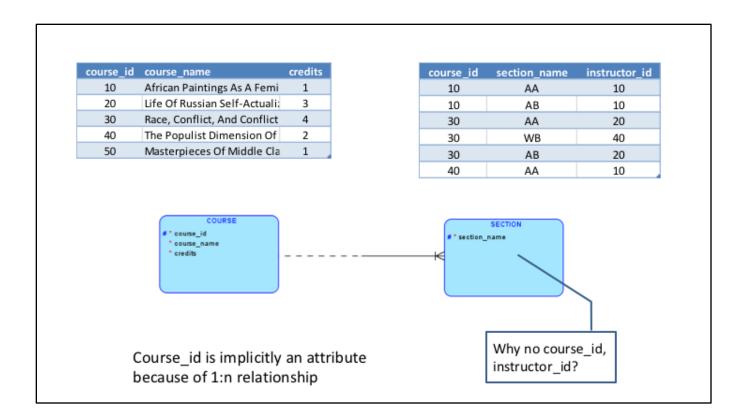


We can see that none of the columns in the sections table can be the primary key for the table. We need to think carefully about what uniquely identifies a section. Clearly a course has many sections. To distinguish between the different sections of the same course, we have the section name.

Since the combination of course_id and section_name will surely be unique, we can use this combination as the primary key.





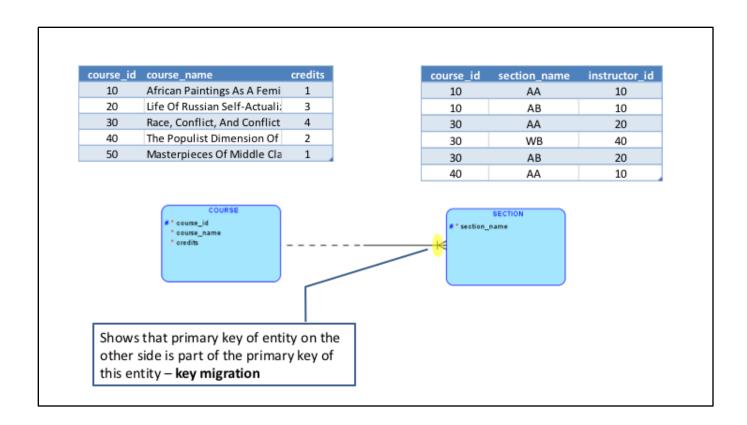


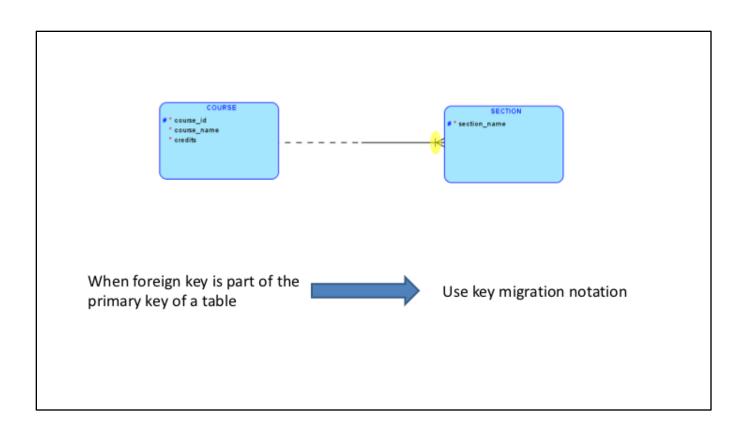
Because of the 1:n relationship between Course and Section, course_id is implicitly an attribute (as a foreign key) in Section. Thus, we do not need to show it as an attribute on the Section entity in the ERD.

However, this poses a problem because course_id is one of the columns in the primary key of Section. How can we show that the primary key for Section is course_id+section_id without being ale to put course_id as an attribute in Section?

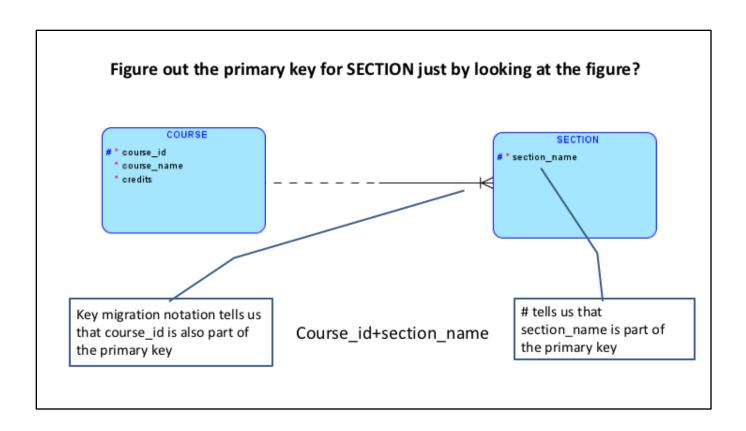
The small vertical bar near the crow-foot is called as the key migration notation and it is used to solve this problem. The key migration notation tells us that the primary key of the entity type on the opposite side of the relationship is part of the primary key of this entity type.

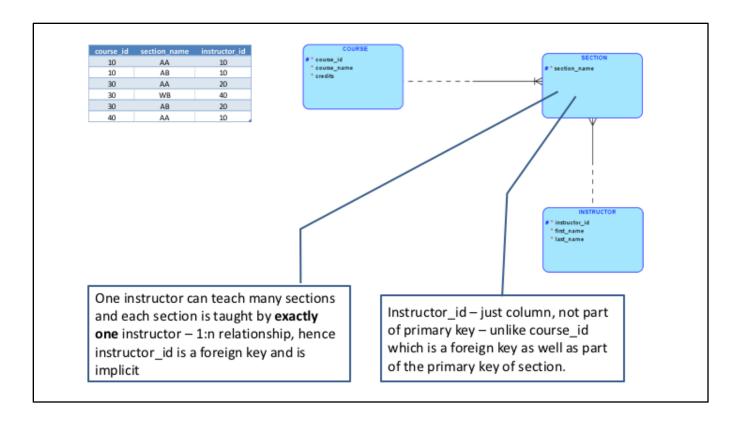
Specifically, because of the key migration notation above, we know that the primary key of Section is not section_id alone, which is all that is shown inside the Section entity type, but that course_id is also a part of the primary key for Section.





Whenever a situation arises that the foreign key is also part of the primary key we should use the key migration notation.

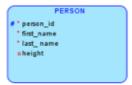


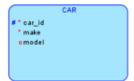


Instructor_id in the sections table is also a foreign key and hence it is not explicitly shown in the Section entity type. However, the mere presence of a 1:n relationship automatically tells us that instructor_id is a foreign key attribute and does not need to be redundantly specified on the entity type.

Practice 1: A person might own several cars or no cars (car_id is the primary key). Each car is owned by exactly one person (person_id is primary key). Make up two or three attributes other than the indicated primary key.

Step 1: Identify the entity types and their primary keys





Practice 2 (continued): A person might own several cars or no cars (car_id is the primary key). Each car is owned by exactly one person (person_id is primary key). Make up two or three attributes other than the indicated primary key.

Step 2: Identify the degree of the relationship



Each person can own several cars (upper limit)

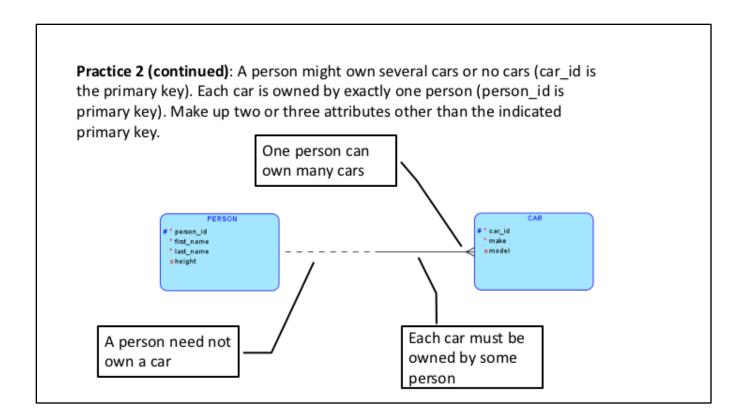
Each car can belong to exactly one person (upper limit)

Practice 2 (continued): A person might own several cars or no cars (car_id is the primary key). Each car is owned by exactly one person (person_id is primary key). Make up two or three attributes other than the indicated primary key.

Step 3: Identify participation

Each person can own zero or more cars – Non obligatory

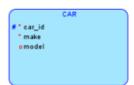
Each car must belong to exactly one person – Obligatory



Practice 2: Construct an ER diagram for a car insurance company whose customers own one or more cars each. Each insurance policy covers one or more cars, and has zero or more premium payments associated with it. Each payment is for a particular policy and for a period of time and has an associated due date and the date when payment was received.

Step 1: Identify the entity types and their primary keys



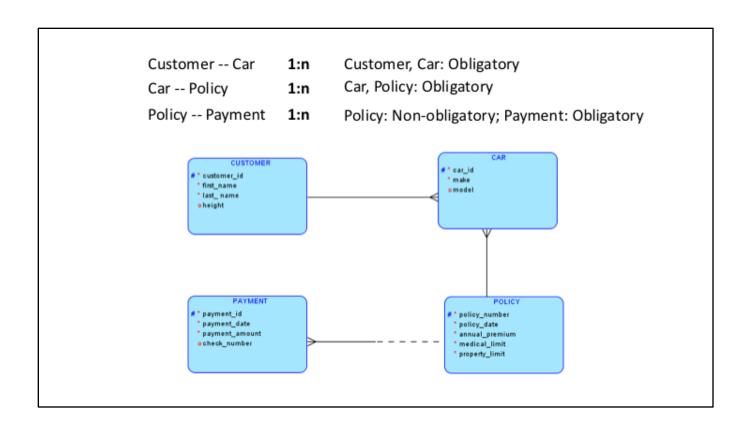






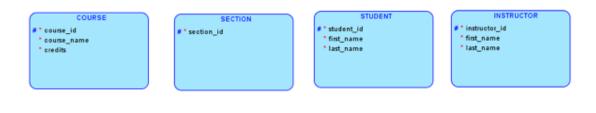
Practice 2 (continued): Construct an ER diagram for a car insurance company whose customers own one or more cars each. Each insurance policy covers one or more cars, and has zero or more premium payments associated with it. Each payment is for a particular policy and for a period of time and has an associated due date and the date when payment was received.

| Step 2: Identify relationship degrees | | Step 3: Identify participation rules |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---|
| Customer Car | 1:n | Customer, Car: Obligatory |
| Policy Car | 1:n | Car, Policy: Obligatory |
| Policy Payment | 1:n | Policy: Non-obligatory; Payment: Obligatory |
| | | |



Practice 3: A course can have many sections or none. Each section is of exactly one course. A student can be registered for several sections or none. A section could have many students or none and a section must have exactly one instructor. An instructor could be teaching many sections or none. Each student has an instructor as advisor. Each instructor might be the advisor for many students or none.

Step 1: Identify the entity types and their primary keys



Practice 3 (continued): A course can have many sections or none. Each section is of exactly one course. A student can be registered for several sections or none. A section could have many students or none and a section must have exactly one instructor. An instructor could be teaching many sections or none.

| Step 2: Identify relationship degrees | | Step 3: Identify participation rules |
|---------------------------------------|-----|--|
| Course Section | 1:n | Course: Optional; Section: Obligatory |
| Student Section | m:n | Student: Optional; Section; Optional |
| Instructor – Section | 1:n | Section: Obligatory; Instructor : Optional |
| Instructor Student | 1:n | Student: Obligatory; Instructor : Optional |
| | | |

