

Assignment 1

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Analysis

The first paragraph of the description is ignored when creating the ER diagram since it is just an introduction.

The sentence “First, the system will store information about several cinemas” indicates that there is an entity Cinema for the diagram. “Each cinema has a unique name and an address” shows that the entity Cinema has attributes name and address. Although each cinema has a unique name, cinema names have changed in the past. Thus, we cannot let the attribute name be the primary key. We cannot let the attribute address be the primary key either since the location of a cinema may change (e.g., moving the cinema to another place or expanding the cinema). Thus, I believe it is better to add another attribute called cid, stands for cinema id, and let this attribute be the primary key. Therefore, the Cinema entity has three cid, name and address where cid is the primary key.

“Per cinema, the system will also maintain information per room” illustrates that the entity Room is owned by the entity Cinema. In other words, Room is a weak entity of Cinema since a room can only be uniquely defined when there is a cinema corresponding with it. Since each room has a different room number, the attribute room_num is added to be the partial key for the entity Room. So, the primary key for the entity Room is the pair (cid, room_num). Based on the description, the entity also has attributes screen_type, screen_size, projector_type, sound_system and accessibility. The examples of screen type, projector type, sound system are ignored since we focus on the attributes rather than the examples of each attribute when creating the diagram.

“This information is not only available for cinema visitors, but will also be communicated to private parties that are looking to hire a room (e.g., for a corporate event)” is ignored since the visibility is not restricted to anyone and also, the database is more for storing data rather than showing data. “Finally, per room the system also needs to know the exact seat arrangement, as the online system will allow customers to order tickets for specific seats” indicates that the entity Seat is a weak entity of the entity Room since seat is a part of the room. The sentence also shows that there is an entity Ticket that has a relationship with Seat, this will be explained in details later. The next two sentences of the description shows that the entity Seat should have attributes row, seat_num and

reserved (which means reserved for disabled people). Since only row or seat_num cannot uniquely identify the seat, I combine the two attributes into an attribute row_and_seat_num and let it be the partial key for the entity Seat. Thus, the primary key for the entity Seat is (cid, room_num, row_and_seat_num).

“Each screening is assigned a single room” depicts that there is a one-to-many relationship from an entity Screening to the entity Room. The relationship name is Room_Assign and the \longrightarrow arrow from the entity Screening to the relationship Room_Assign shows that each screening is associated with exactly one room while the \longleftarrow arrow from the entity Room to the relationship Room_Assign shows that a room can have multiple screenings. The Screening entity has attributes timeslot and screening_type. The explanation of three types of screening and how each type affect the ticket price is ignored. “For each public screening, the system keeps track which films are shown. This film information is provided by the film distributors in a standard format: for now, the system represents this external information via an entity Film with an attribute fid” depicts that there is a relationship between the entity Screening and Film, the relationship is named Show in the diagram. There is also the entity Film with the primary key attribute fid, as stated in the description. The relationship between Screening and Film is many-to-many since a screening can show multiple films and a film can be shown in many screenings. “If a screening will show multiple films (as part of special screening), then each of these films will be shown in the same room” is ignored because this can be inferred as many films are shown in a screening and a screening is associated with exactly one room. “...and the ticket of the customer assign the same seat during each film” shows that there is a one to many relationship between an entity Ticket and the entity Seat.