

## ER to Relational mapping algorithm

### Step 1: Mapping of Regular Entity Types.

- a.) For each regular (strong) entity type E in the ER schema, create a relation R that includes all the simple attributes of E.
  - a. Composite attributes should be broken up into their atomic pieces, and those can be added as attributes to your relation
- b.) Choose one of the key attributes of E as the primary key for R.
- c.) If the chosen key of E is composite, the set of simple attributes that form it will together form the primary key of R.

### Step 2: Mapping of Weak Entity Types

- a.) For each weak entity type W in the ER schema with owner entity type E, create a relation R & include all simple attributes (or simple components of composite attributes) of W as attributes of R.
- b.) Also, include as foreign key attributes of R, the primary key attribute(s) of the relation(s) that correspond to the owner entity type(s) E.
- c.) The primary key of R is the combination of the primary key(s) of the owner(s) and the partial key of the weak entity type W, if any

### Step 3: Mapping of Specializations and Generalizations

- a.) For each Superclass C with m Subclasses {S1 ... Sm} add a relation for C according to the rules in step 1.
- b.) For each subclass Si add a relation for Si according to the rules in step one
- c.) For each subclass Si, add the primary key of C as a foreign key attribute. This will be the primary key for the subclass relation.
- d.) If a Subclass Si is a shared subclass, then add a foreign key attribute for each Superclass of Si. The combination of these foreign keys will be the primary key for Si

### Step 4: Mapping of Union Types/Categories

- a.) For each Superclass Ci of the Union Type U, add a relation according to the rules in step 1.
- b.) Create an artificial key for U. Add a relation for the U with it's attributes, and the Artificial Key as the Primary key.
- c.) In each Superclass Ci add the primary key of U as a foreign key

### Step 5: Mapping of Binary 1:1 Relation Types

- a.) For each binary 1:1 relationship type R in the ER schema, identify the relations S and T that correspond to the entity types participating in R.
- b.) Choose one of the relations-say S-and include a foreign key in S the primary key of T. It is better to choose an entity type with total participation in R in the role of S.

Step 6: Mapping of Binary 1:N Relationship Types.

- a.) For each regular binary 1:N relationship type R, identify the relation S that represent the participating entity type at the N-side of the relationship type.
- b.) Include as foreign key in S the primary key of the relation T that represents the other entity type participating in R.
- c.) Include any simple attributes of the 1:N relation type as attributes of S.

Step 7: Mapping of Binary M:N Relationship Types.

- a.) For each regular binary M:N relationship type R, create a new relation S to represent R. This is a relationship relation.
- b.) Include as foreign key attributes in S the primary keys of the relations that represent the participating entity types; their combination will form the primary key of S.
- c.) Also include any simple attributes of the M:N relationship type (or simple components of composite attributes) as attributes of S.

Step 8: Mapping of Multivalued attributes.

- a.) For each multivalued attribute A, create a new relation R.
- b.) This relation R will include an attribute corresponding to A, plus the primary key attribute K-as a foreign key in R-of the relation that represents the entity type of relationship type that has A as an attribute.
- c.) The primary key of R is the combination of A and K. If the multivalued attribute is composite, we include its simple components.

Step 9: Mapping of N-ary Relationship Types.

- a.) For each n-ary relationship type R, where  $n > 2$ , create a new relation S to represent R.
- b.) Include as foreign key attributes in S the primary keys of the relations that represent the participating entity types.
- c.) Also include any simple attributes of the n-ary relationship type (or simple components of composite attributes) as attributes of S.