

The “Works In” relationship above can be efficiently represented in different ways in our SQL code.

Approach 1: Using a foreign key

Assumption: *Employee* and *Department* tables have a 1:N (one-to-many) relationship i.e., one employee works in one department, but one department can have many employees.

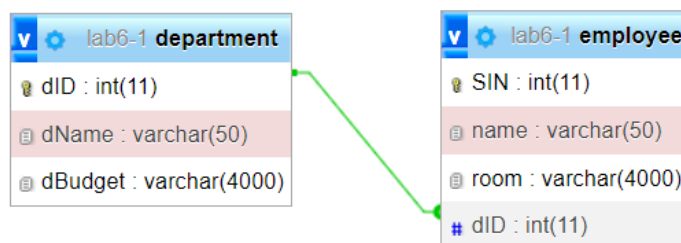
SQL Queries:

```

CREATE TABLE Employee (
    SIN    INT          NOT NULL    PRIMARY KEY,
    name   VARCHAR(50)  NOT NULL,
    room   VARCHAR(4000) NOT NULL,
    dID    INT,
    FOREIGN KEY (dID) REFERENCES Department (dID)
);
  
```

```

CREATE TABLE Department (
    dID      INT          NOT NULL    PRIMARY KEY ,
    dName    VARCHAR(50)  NOT NULL,
    dBudget  VARCHAR(4000) NOT NULL
);
  
```



In the *Department* table, *dID* is the primary key followed by *dName* and *DBudget* which are non-prime attributes.

In the *Employee* table, *SIN* is a primary key followed by *name* and *room* which are non-prime attributes. *dID* is the foreign key referencing the primary key from the *Department* table, used

to link the two tables together. The *dID* column is very crucial as it prevents broken relationships between the two tables and orphan rows (i.e., referential integrity).

Approach 2: Using a junction table

Assumption: *Employee* and *Department* tables have a N:M (many-to-many) relationship i.e., one employee can work in multiple departments and, one department can have many employees.

SQL Queries:

```
CREATE TABLE Employeeex
```

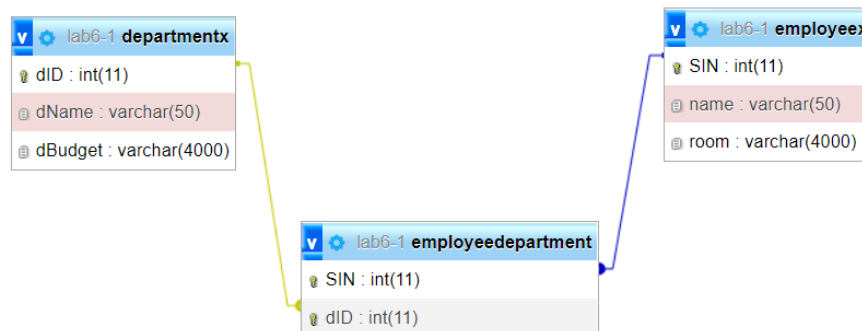
```
(
    SIN INT NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
    name VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
    room VARCHAR(4000) NOT NULL
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE Departmentx
```

```
(
    dID INT NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
    dName VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
    dBudget VARCHAR(4000) NOT NULL
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE EmployeeDepartment
```

```
(
    SIN INT NOT NULL,
    dID INT NOT NULL,
    CONSTRAINT PK_EmpDept PRIMARY KEY (SIN, dID),
    FOREIGN KEY (SIN) REFERENCES Employeeex(SIN),
    FOREIGN KEY (dID) REFERENCES Departmentx(dID)
);
```



As there is an N:M (many-to-many) relationship between the tables *Employeeex* and *Departmentx*, we created a third table *EmployeeDepartment* which holds a composite primary key with *SIN* and *dID*. Here, the foreign key *SIN* refers to the primary key from *Employeeex* table whereas the foreign key *dID* refers to the primary key from *Departmentx* table.

Explanation:

In terms of design principles, if the relationship is 1:N, it makes no sense to create a third table (junction table) since a foreign key can do the job better. In the case of an N:M relationship, the existing tables should be broken down into smaller tables or a junction table connecting

the main tables, to achieve normalization. Considering the relationship between the tables is crucial to implementing an efficient approach. However, under certain constraints, the contents of the junction table can be folded down into one of the base tables as additional columns, improving efficiency.

When two alternatives for a database design exist, it would be wise to examine which alternative more closely fits the underlying conceptual and relational models, which can entail performance advantages and space savings.

Attribution:

*These assignments were completed by **Ravi Chandan Pandi**, and they represent his original work completed for academic purposes during his studies and self-learning purposes.*

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