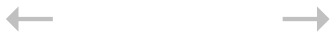


1/34 11:12:30 \*\*\*



# ER

## Entity Relationship Model (ERM)

- Basis of an entity relationship diagram (ERD)
- ERD depicts the:
  - Conceptual database as viewed by end user
  - Database's main components
    - Entities
    - Attributes
    - Relationships
- Entity - Refers to the entity set and not to a single entity occurrence

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## Attributes

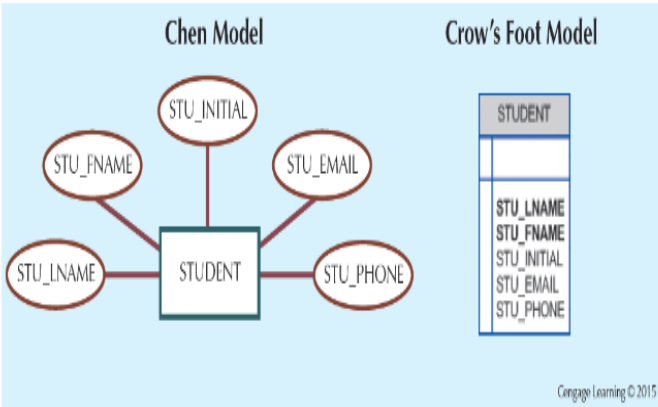
- Characteristics of entities
- **Required attribute:** Must have a value, cannot be left empty
- **Optional attribute:** Does not require a value, can be left empty
- **Domain** - Set of possible values for a given attribute
- **Identifiers:** One or more attributes that uniquely identify each entity instance

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An identifier is also called a KEY, or PRIMARY KEY - **this is one of the 'key' concepts in all of database theory!!** We'll talk much more about keys later.

Figure 4.1 - The Attributes of the Student Entity: Chen and Crow's Foot



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## Attributes

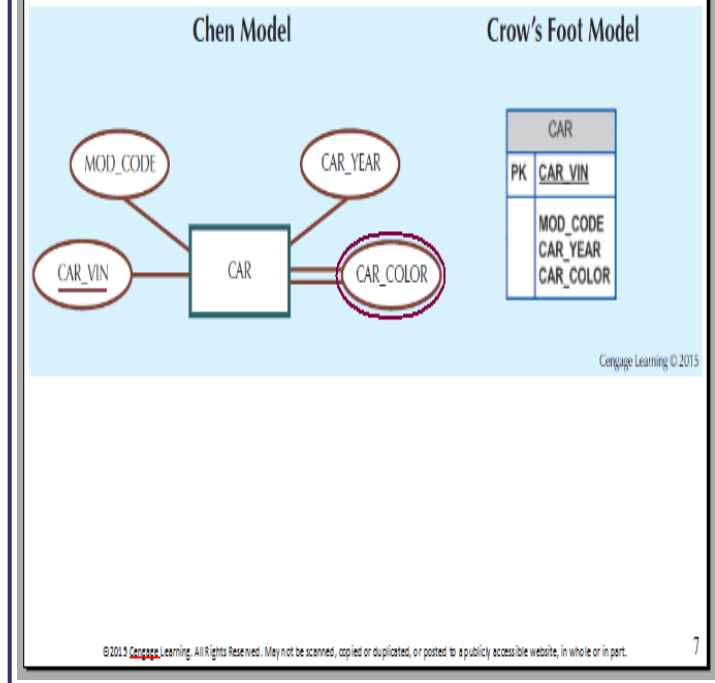
- **Composite identifier:** Primary key composed of more than one attribute
- **~~Compound~~ Composite attribute:** Attribute that can be subdivided to yield additional attributes
- **Simple attribute:** Attribute that cannot be subdivided
- **Single-valued attribute:** Attribute that has only a single value
- **Multivalued attributes:** Attributes that have many values

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FYI - [here](#) is a page on the various types of attributes.

Figure 4.3 - A Multivalued Attribute in an Entity



In Crow's Foot notation, 'bold' attributes are 'required' (can't be null).

## Attributes

- **Multivalued attributes:** Attributes that have many values and require creating:
  - Several new attributes, one for each component of the original multivalued attribute
  - A new entity composed of the original multivalued attribute's components
- **Derived attribute:** Attribute whose value is calculated from other attributes
  - Derived using an algorithm

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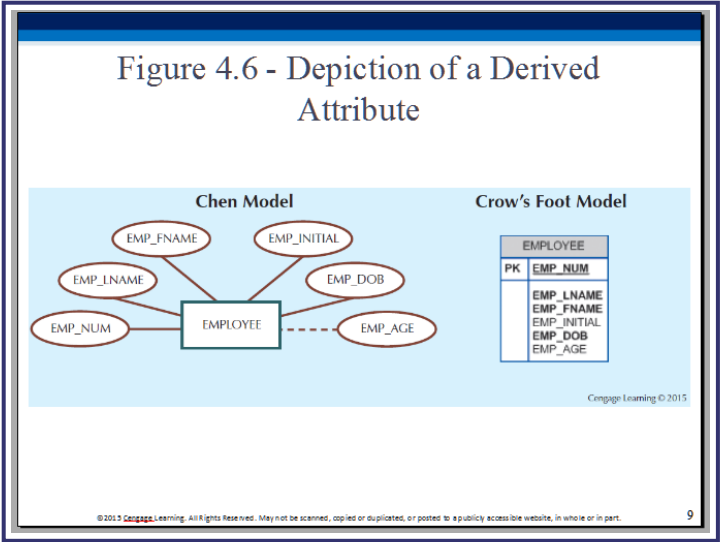




Table 4.2 - Advantages and Disadvantages of Storing Derived Attributes

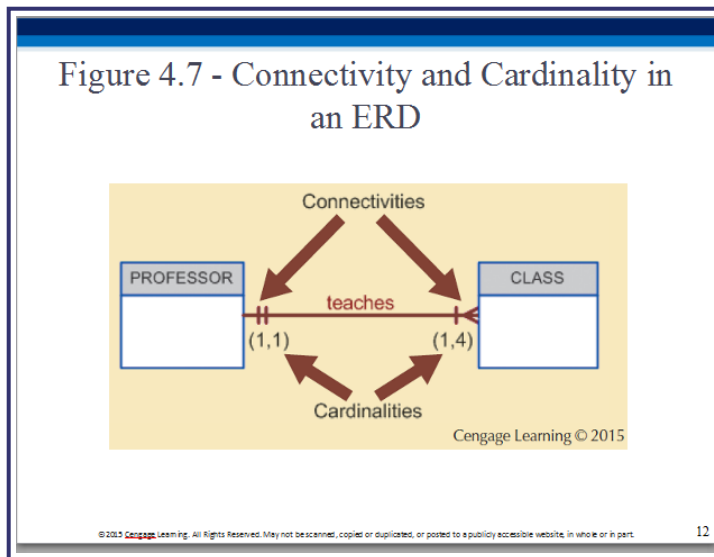
	STORED	NOT STORED
Advantage	<div>Saves CPU processing cycles</div> <div>Saves data access time</div> <div>Data value is readily available</div> <div>Can be used to keep track of historical data</div>	<div>Saves storage space</div> <div>Computation always yields current value</div>
Disadvantage	<div>Requires constant maintenance to ensure derived value is current, especially if any values used in the calculation change</div>	<div>Uses CPU processing cycles</div> <div>Increases data access time</div> <div>Adds coding complexity to queries</div>

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## Relationships

- Association between entities that always operate in both directions
- **Participants:** Entities that participate in a relationship
- **Connectivity:** Describes the relationship classification
- **Cardinality:** Expresses the minimum and maximum number of entity occurrences associated with one occurrence of related entity

# Connectivity vs cardinality



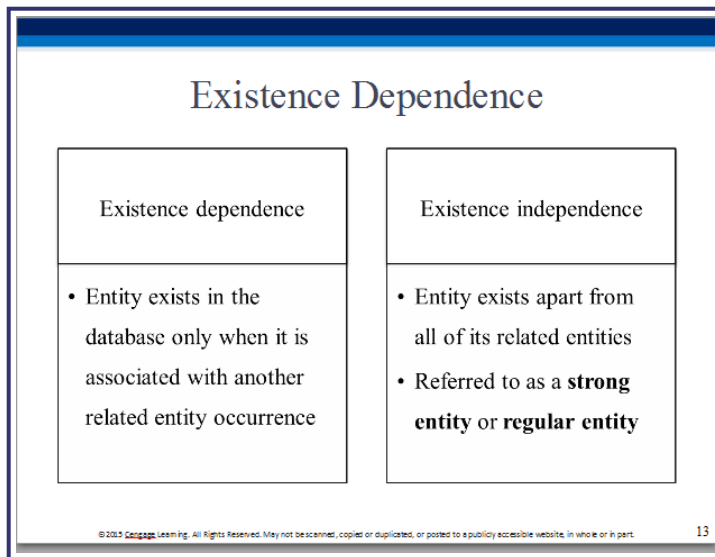
Connectivity: 1:1, 1:M or M:N (three diff ways by which two entities are related).

Cardinality: (min,max) for 1:1, 1:M or M:N (eg. 1:1 can have (1,0) as its cardinality, 1:M can have (0,4) as its cardinality). Sometimes, min is called 'modality' (and max is cardinality). The 'inside' symbols denotes min, and the outside ones, max.

Confusingly, the # rows in a table is ALSO called table's cardinality (and, # of columns is called the table's degree).

Also confusingly, 1:1, 1:M, M:N are called 'cardinality ratios'!

# 'Can I exist apart from you?'



Existence independence implies a strong entity; but, existence dependence (alone, ie. by itself) does NOT imply a weak entity (there needs to be one more condition, based on 'relationship strength', for it to become 'weak').

In other words, **we need to look at where the FK in the dependent entity is located.**

# Existence dependence

An entity B is "existent dependent" on another entity A, if, a row in B can only exist when its FK is NOT NULL, ie. a corresponding entry exists in A.

Eg. if A is EMPLOYEE and B is DEPENDENT, a dependent (eg. child) in B can only exist if there is a corresponding employee (eg. Dad) in A. THIS ALONE DOES NOT MAKE 'B' A WEAK ENTITY!

# Weak vs strong relationship

Again, it's all about the FK [WHERE it goes], in the dependent entity!

## Relationship Strength

### Weak (non-identifying) relationship

- Primary key of the related entity does not contain a primary key component of the parent entity

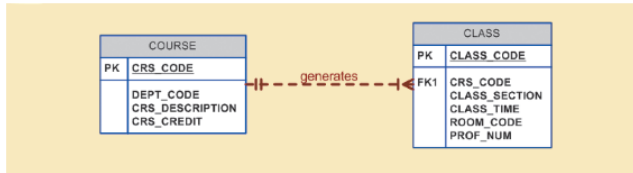
### Strong (identifying) relationships

- Primary key of the related entity contains a primary key component of the parent entity

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Figure 4.8 - A Weak (Non-Identifying) Relationship between COURSE and CLASS

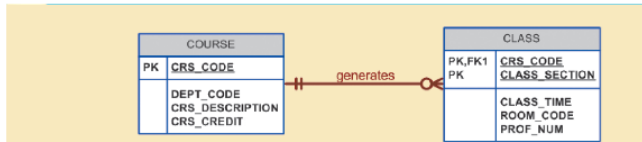


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So, here, CLASS is **\*\*not\*\*** a weak entity.

# Strong ("common PK") course-class relation

Figure 4.9 - A Strong (Identifying) Relationship between COURSE and CLASS



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and CLASS

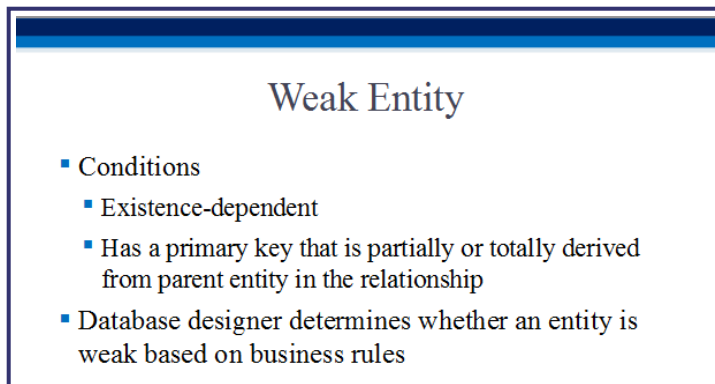
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CLASS is now a weak entity (because: it is existence dependent, AND has a strong relationship).



# Weak entity [two conditions]



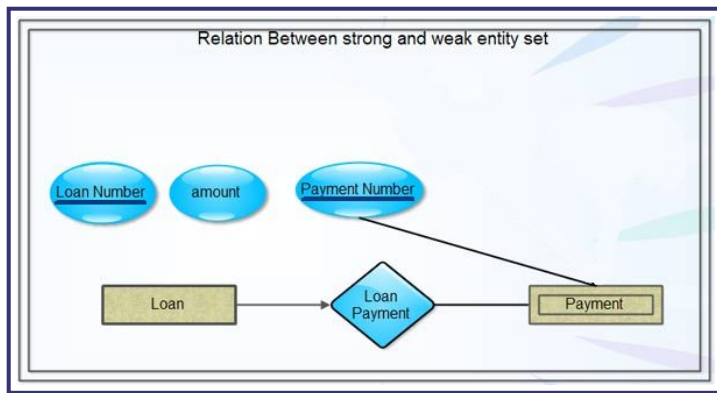
A weak entity needs to satisfy two conditions: existence dependence, strong (identifying/owning) relationship with a parent.

Note that a weak entity implies existence dependence, but existence dependence does not imply a weak entity!

Note too that a weak entity implies a strong ("owning" or "identifying") relationship.

Removing the controlling (owning) entity's key from a weak entity's PK will result in **\*\*duplicates\*\*** for remaining PK(s) - THAT is what makes it 'weak'.

# Weak entity - example



Payment cannot exist independent of Loan, AND needs Loan's key to be part of its own key, so it is a weak entity.



# Weak entity

Figure 4.11 - A Weak Entity

Table name: EMPLOYEE

Database name: Ch04\_ShortCo

EMP_NUM	EMP_LNAME	EMP_FNAME	EMP_INITIAL	EMP_DOB	EMP_HIREDATE
1001	Callente	Jeanne	J	12-Mar-64	25-May-97
1002	Smithson	William	K	23-Nov-70	26-May-97
1003	Washington	Herman	H	15-Aug-68	26-May-97
1004	Chen	Lydia	B	23-Mar-74	15-Oct-98
1005	Johnson	Melanie		28-Sep-66	20-Dec-98
1006	Ortega	Jorge	O	12-Jul-79	05-Jan-02
1007	O'Donnell	Peter	D	10-Jun-71	23-Jun-02
1008	Brzenski	Barbara	A	12-Feb-70	01-Nov-03

Table name: DEPENDENT

EMP_NUM	DEP_NUM	DEP_FNAME	DEP_DOB
1001	1	Annelise	05-Dec-97
1001	2	Jorge	30-Sep-02
1003	1	Suzanne	25-Jan-04
1006	1	Carlos	25-May-01
1006	1	Michael	19-Feb-95
1006	2	George	27-Jun-98
1006	3	Katherine	18-Aug-03

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## Relationship Participation

### Optional participation

- One entity occurrence does not require a corresponding entity occurrence in a particular relationship

### Mandatory participation

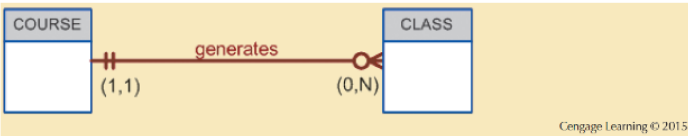
- One entity occurrence requires a corresponding entity occurrence in a particular relationship

Table 4.3 - Crow's Foot Symbols

CROW'S FOOT SYMBOLS	CARDINALITY	COMMENT
	(0,N)	Zero or many; the "many" side is optional.
	(1,N)	One or many; the "many" side is mandatory.
	(1,1)	One and only one; the "1" side is mandatory.
	(0,1)	Zero or one; the "1" side is optional.

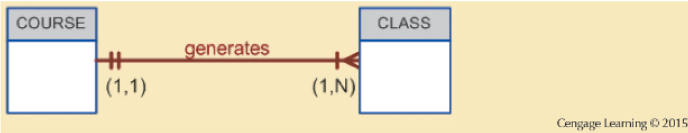
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Figure 4.13 - CLASS is Optional to COURSE



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Figure 4.14 - COURSE and CLASS in a Mandatory Relationship



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## Relationship Degree

- Indicates the number of entities or participants associated with a relationship
- **Unary relationship:** Association is maintained within a single entity
  - **Recursive relationship:** Relationship exists between occurrences of the same entity set
- **Binary relationship:** Two entities are associated
- **Ternary relationship:** Three entities are associated

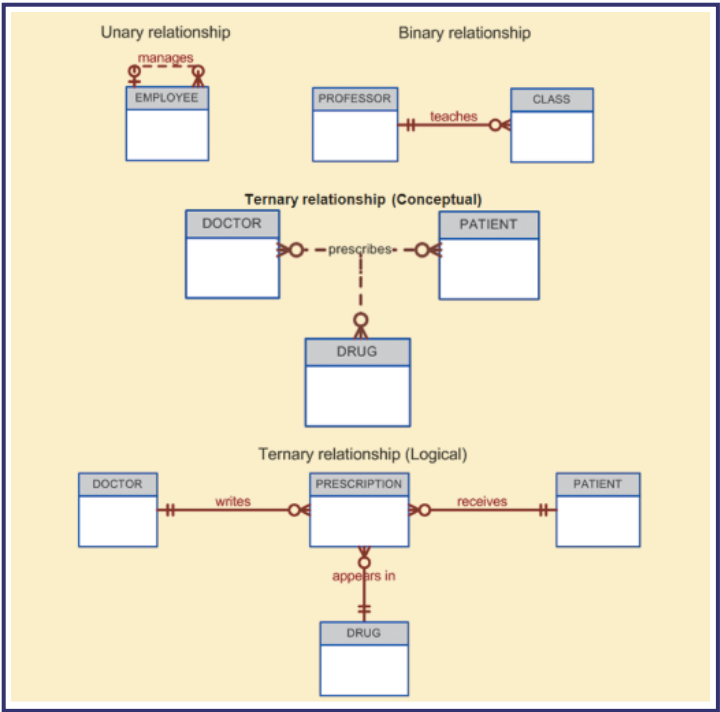


Figure 4.17 - An ER Representation of Recursive Relationships



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# Bridge entities

## Associative Entities

- Also known as composite or bridge entities
- Used to represent an M:N relationship between two or more entities
- Is in a 1:M relationship with the parent entities
  - Composed of the primary key attributes of each parent entity
- May also contain additional attributes that play no role in connective process

Figure 4.23 - Converting the M:N Relationship into Two 1:M Relationships

Table name: STUDENT

Database name: Ch04\_CollegeTry

STU_NUM	STU_LNAME
321452	Bowser
324257	Smithson

Table name: ENROLL

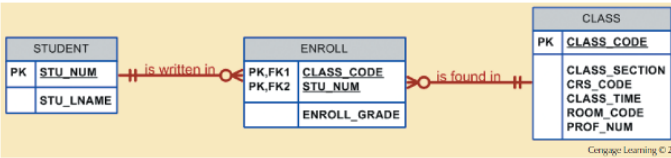
CLASS_CODE	STU_NUM	ENROLL_GRADE
10014	321452	C
10014	324257	B
10018	321452	A
10018	324257	B
10021	321452	C
10021	324257	C

Table name: CLASS

CLASS_CODE	CRS_CODE	CLASS_SECTION	CLASS_TIME	ROOM_CODE	PROF_NUM
10014	ACCT-211	3	TTh 2:30-3:45 p.m.	BUS252	342
10018	CIS-220	2	MWTF 9:00-9:50 a.m.	IKLR211	114
10021	GM-261	1	MWTF 8:00-8:50 a.m.	IKLR200	114

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Figure 4.25 - A Composite Entity in an ERD



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# Putting together an ERD

## Developing an ER Diagram

- Create a detailed narrative of the organization's description of operations
- Identify business rules based on the descriptions
- Identify main entities and relationships from the business rules
- Develop the initial ERD
- Identify the attributes and primary keys that adequately describe entities
- Revise and review ERD

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Figure 4.26 - The First Tiny College ERD Segment

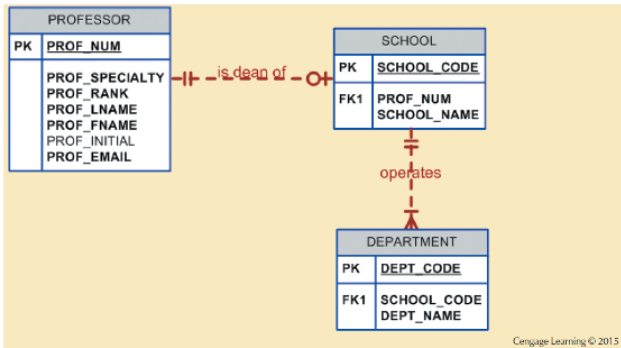


Figure 4.27 - The Second Tiny College ERD Segment

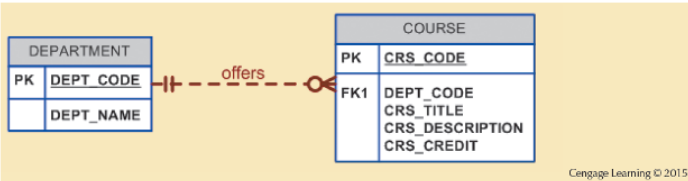
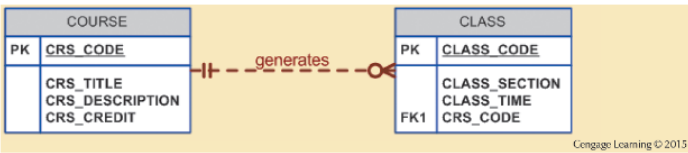


Figure 4.28 - The Third Tiny College ERD Segment





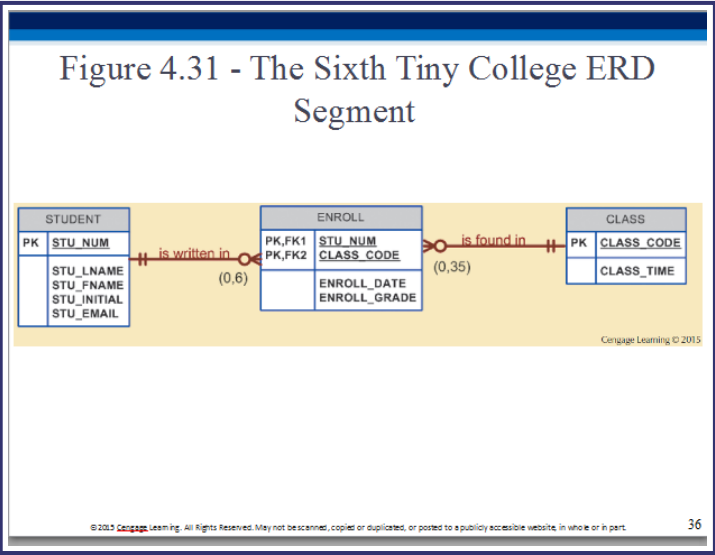
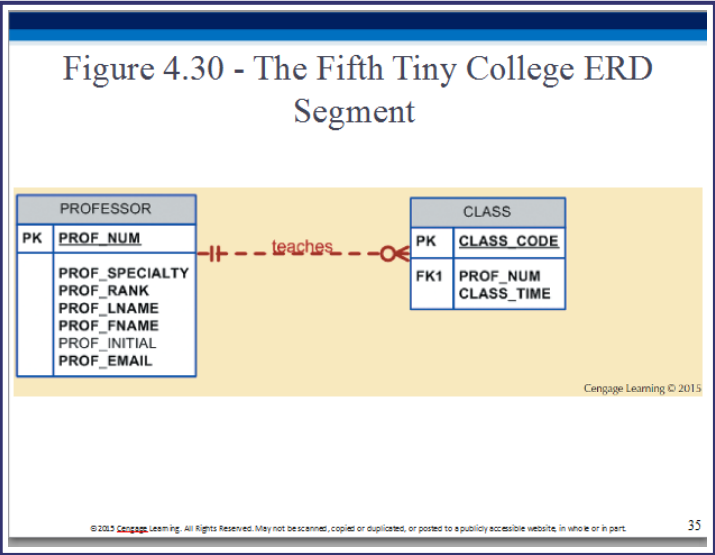
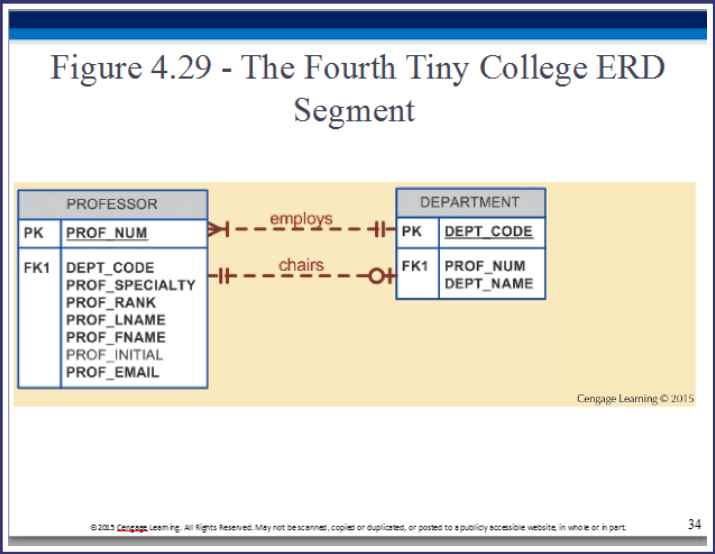


Figure 4.32 - The Seventh Tiny College ERD Segment

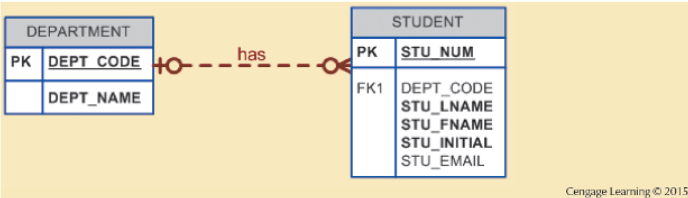


Figure 4.33 - The Eighth Tiny College ERD Segment

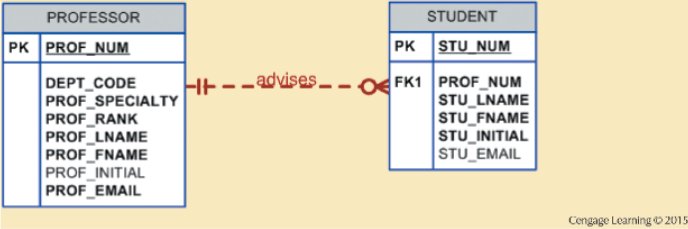
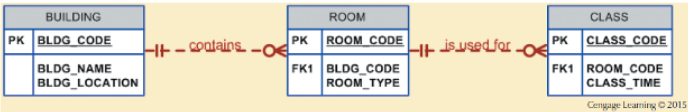


Figure 4.34 - The Ninth Tiny College ERD Segment



# List of entities, relationships, connectivities

Table 4.4 - Components of the ERM

ENTITY	RELATIONSHIP	CONNECTIVITY	ENTITY
SCHOOL	operates	1:M	DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT	has	1:M	STUDENT
DEPARTMENT	employs	1:M	PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT	offers	1:M	COURSE
COURSE	generates	1:M	CLASS
PROFESSOR	is dean of	1:1	SCHOOL
PROFESSOR	chairs	1:1	DEPARTMENT
PROFESSOR	teaches	1:M	CLASS
PROFESSOR	advises	1:M	STUDENT
STUDENT	enrolls in	M:N	CLASS
BUILDING	contains	1:M	ROOM
ROOM	is used for	1:M	CLASS

Note: ENROLL is the composite entity that implements the M:N relationship "STUDENT enrolls in CLASS."

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# The full schema

"All together now!"

