

CMPT 354: Database System I

Lecture 8. The E/R Model

Motivation

- How to figure out this **database design?**
 - Customer = {customerID, firstName, lastName, birthDate, income}
 - Account = {accNumber, type, balance, branchNumber^{FK-Branch}}
 - Owns = {customerID^{FK-Customer}, accNumber^{FK-Account}}
 - Transactions = {transNumber, accNumber^{FK-Account}, amount, date, description}
 - Employee = {sin, firstName, lastName, salary, startDate, branchNumber^{FK-Branch}}
 - PersonalBanker = {customerID^{FK-Customer}, sin^{FK-Employee}}
 - Branch = {branchNumber, branchName, street, numberEmployees, managerSIN^{FK-Employee}, budget}
- What **tables** to create?
- Which **attributes** should be added to each table?
- What are the **relationships** between the tables?

History of E/R Model

- E/R Model (Entity-Relationship Modeling)
 - Codd wrote a long letter criticizing paper
 - Many people suggested him to give up this idea

[The entity-relationship model—toward a unified view of data](#)

PPS Chen - ACM Transactions on Database Systems (TODS), 1976 - dl.acm.org

A data model, called the entity-relationship model, is proposed. This model incorporates some of the important semantic information about the real world. A special diagrammatic technique is introduced as a tool for database design. An example of database design and description using the model and the diagrammatic technique is given. Some implications for data integrity, information retrieval, and data manipulation are discussed. The entity-relationship model can be used as a basis for unification of different views of data: the ...

☆ 99 Cited by 11297 Related articles All 79 versions



Dr. Peter Chen

- Why not build RDBMS based on E/R Model?
 - No query language proposed
 - Relational DBMS in the 1970's

Outline

- E/R Basics: Entities & Relationships
- E/R Design considerations
- Advanced E/R Concepts

Outline

- **E/R Basics: Entities & Relationships**
 - Database Design
 - Entities/Entity sets/Keys/Relationships
- E/R Design considerations
- Advanced E/R Concepts

Database Design

- **Database design: Why do we need it?**
 - Agree on structure of the database before deciding on a particular implementation
- **Consider issues such as:**
 - What entities to model
 - How entities are related
 - What constraints exist in the domain
 - How to achieve good designs
- **Several formalisms exist**
 - We discuss one flavor of E/R diagrams

Database Design Process

1. Requirements Analysis

2. Conceptual Design

3. Logical, Physical, Security, etc.

1. Requirements analysis

- What data is going to be stored?
- What are we going to do with the data?
- Who should access the data?

Technical and non-
technical people are
involved

Database Design Process



2. Conceptual Design

- A high-level description of the database
- Sufficiently precise that technical people can understand it
- But, not so precise that non-technical people can't participate

This is where E/R fits in.

Database Design Process



3. More:

- Logical Database Design
- Physical Database Design
- Security Design

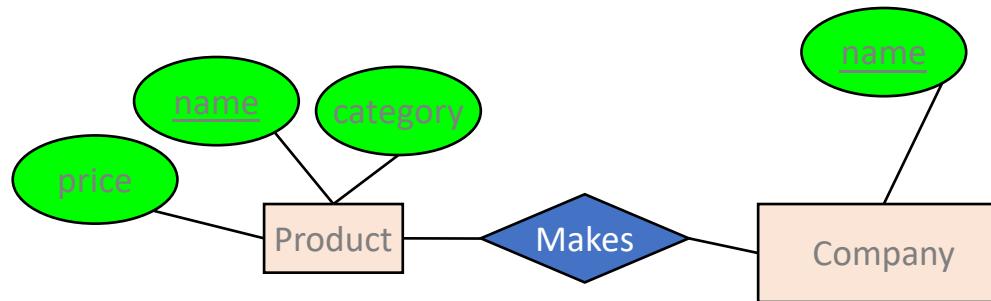
Database Design Process

1. Requirements Analysis

2. Conceptual Design

3. Logical, Physical, Security, etc.

E/R Model & Diagrams used



E/R is a *visual syntax* for DB design which is *precise enough* for technical points, but *abstracted enough* for non-technical people

Entities and Entity Sets

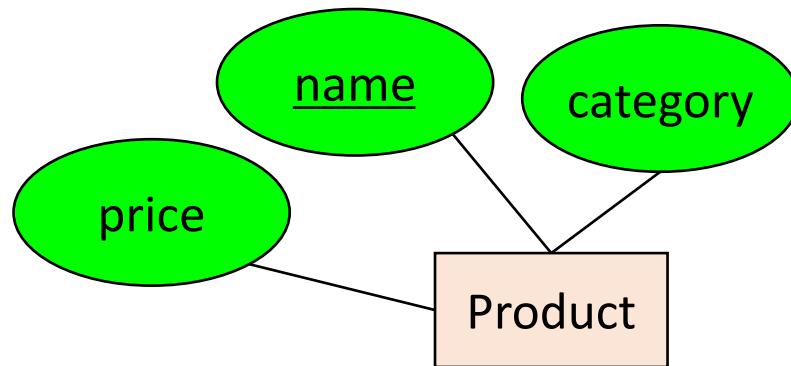
- An entity is an individual object
 - Eg: A specific person or product
- An entity set is a collection of entities of the same type
 - *These are what is shown in E/R diagrams - as rectangles*
 - Eg: Person, Product

Person

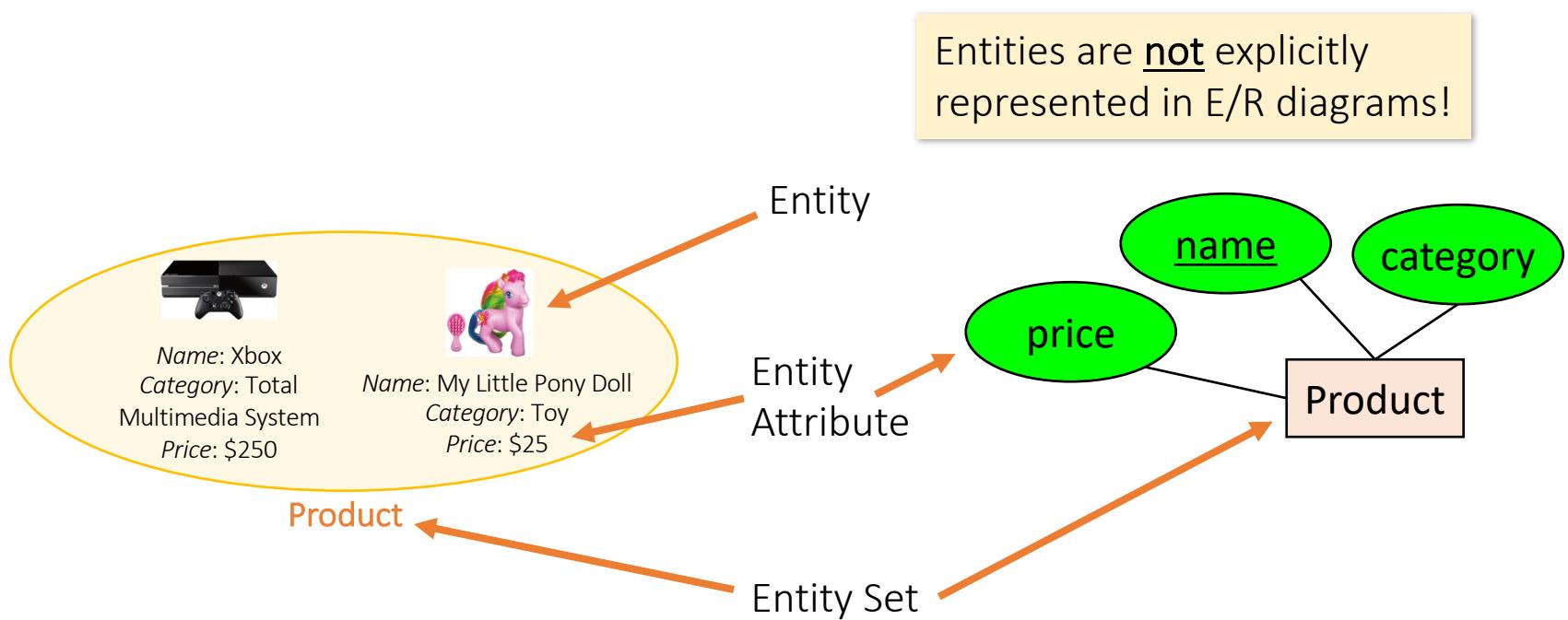
Product

Attributes

- An entity set has **attributes**
 - Represented by ovals attached to an entity set

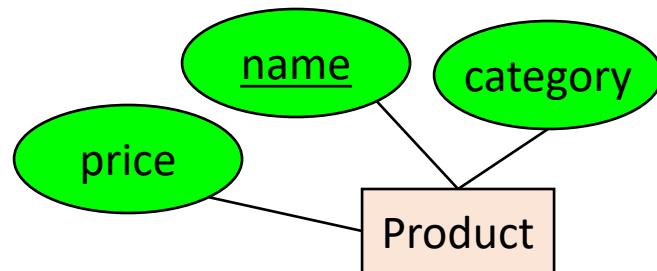


Example



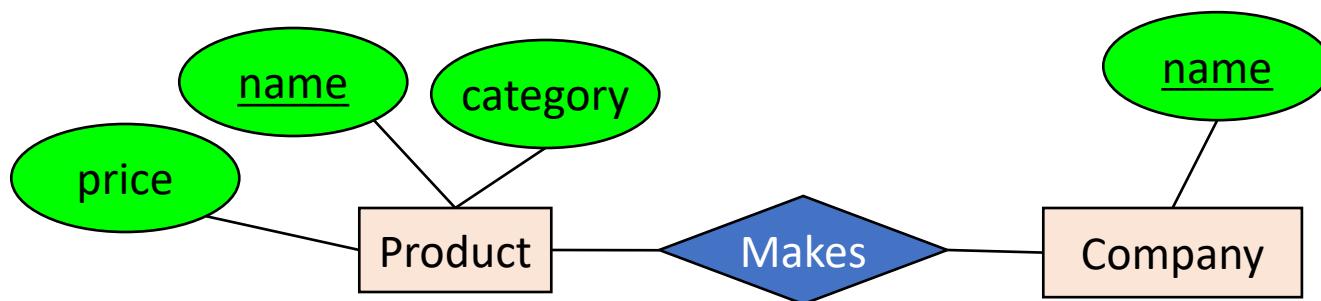
Keys

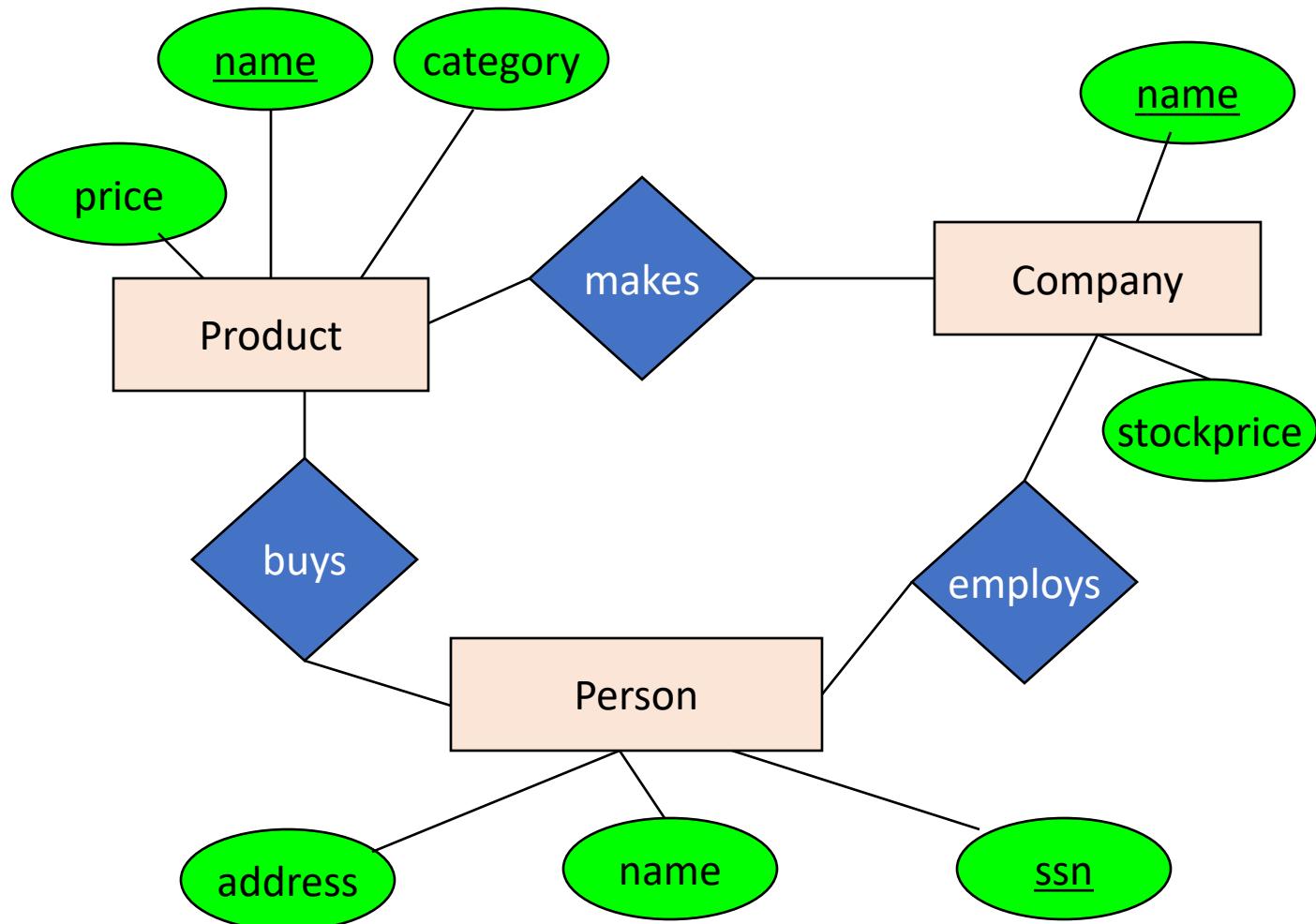
- A key is a set of attributes that uniquely identifies an entity.
- Every entity set must have a key
- Denote elements of the primary key by underlining.



The R in E/R: Relationships

- A **relationship** is between two entities

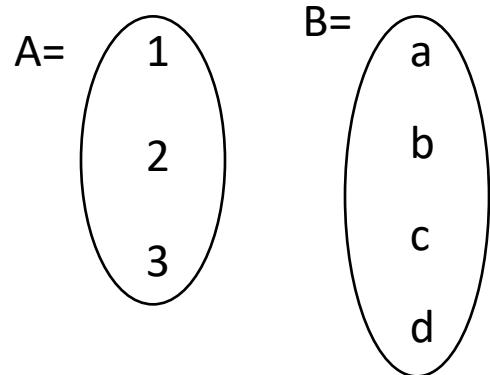




What is a Relationship?

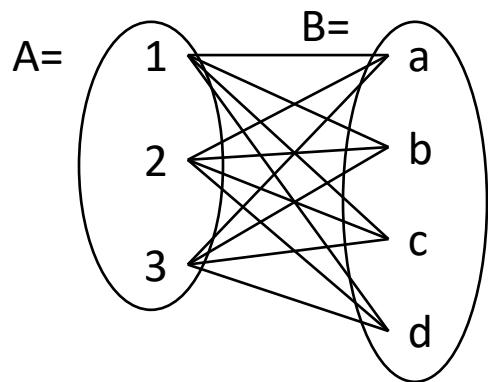
- *A mathematical definition:*

- Let A, B be sets
 - $A=\{1,2,3\}, \quad B=\{a,b,c,d\}$



What is a Relationship?

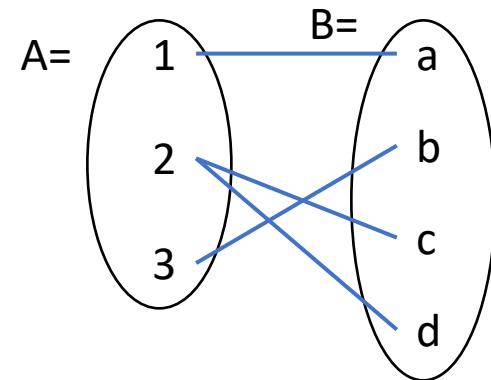
- *A mathematical definition:*
 - Let A, B be sets
 - $A=\{1,2,3\}, \quad B=\{a,b,c,d\}$
 - $A \times B$ (the ***cross-product***) is the set of all pairs (a,b)
 - $A \times B = \{(1,a), (1,b), (1,c), (1,d), (2,a), (2,b), (2,c), (2,d), (3,a), (3,b), (3,c), (3,d)\}$



What is a Relationship?

- **A mathematical definition:**

- Let A, B be sets
 - $A=\{1,2,3\}$, $B=\{a,b,c,d\}$,
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 - We define a relationship to be a subset of $A \times B$
 - $R = \{(1,a), (2,c), (2,d), (3,b)\}$

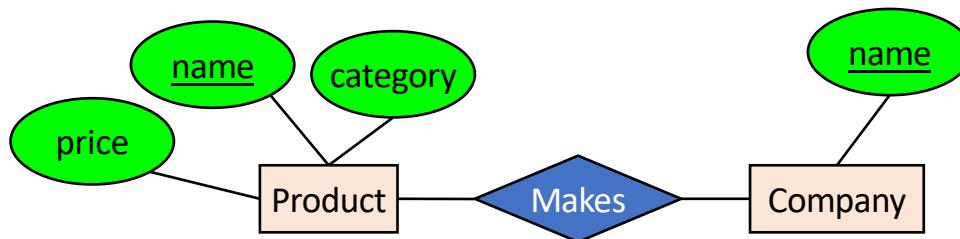


What is a Relationship?

Company Product

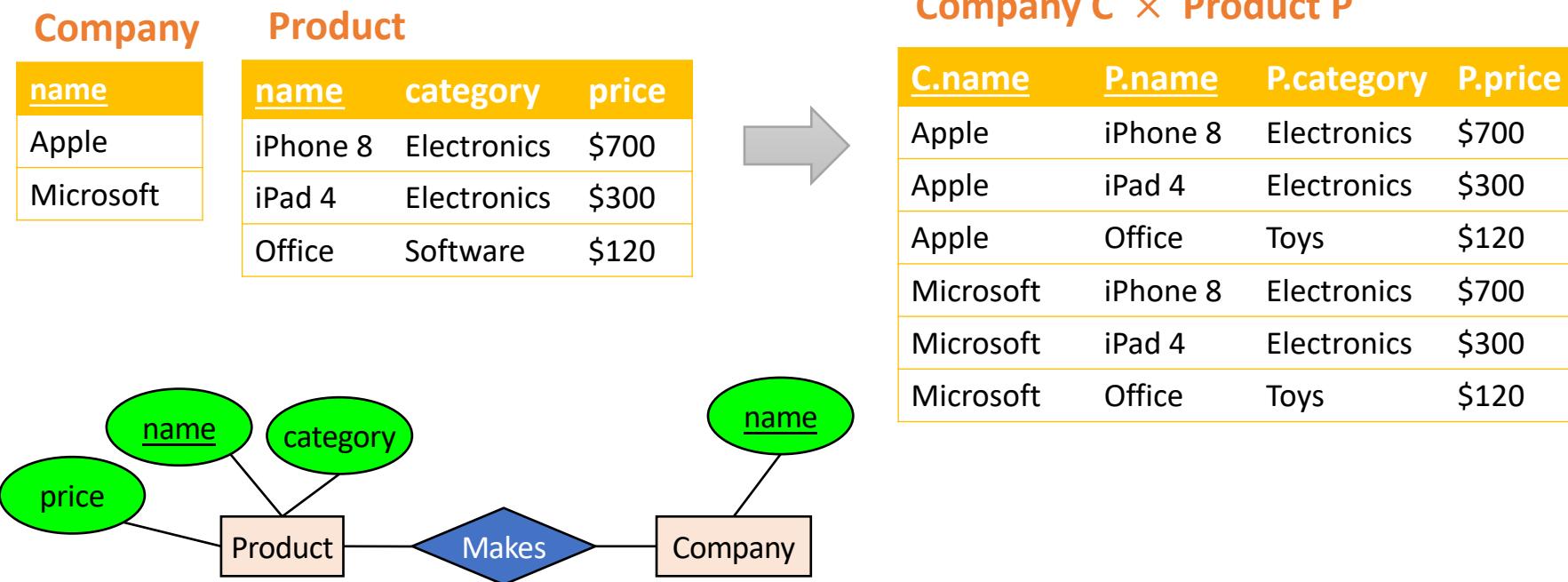
<u>name</u>
Apple
Microsoft

<u>name</u>	category	price
iPhone 8	Electronics	\$700
iPad 4	Electronics	\$300
Office	Software	\$120



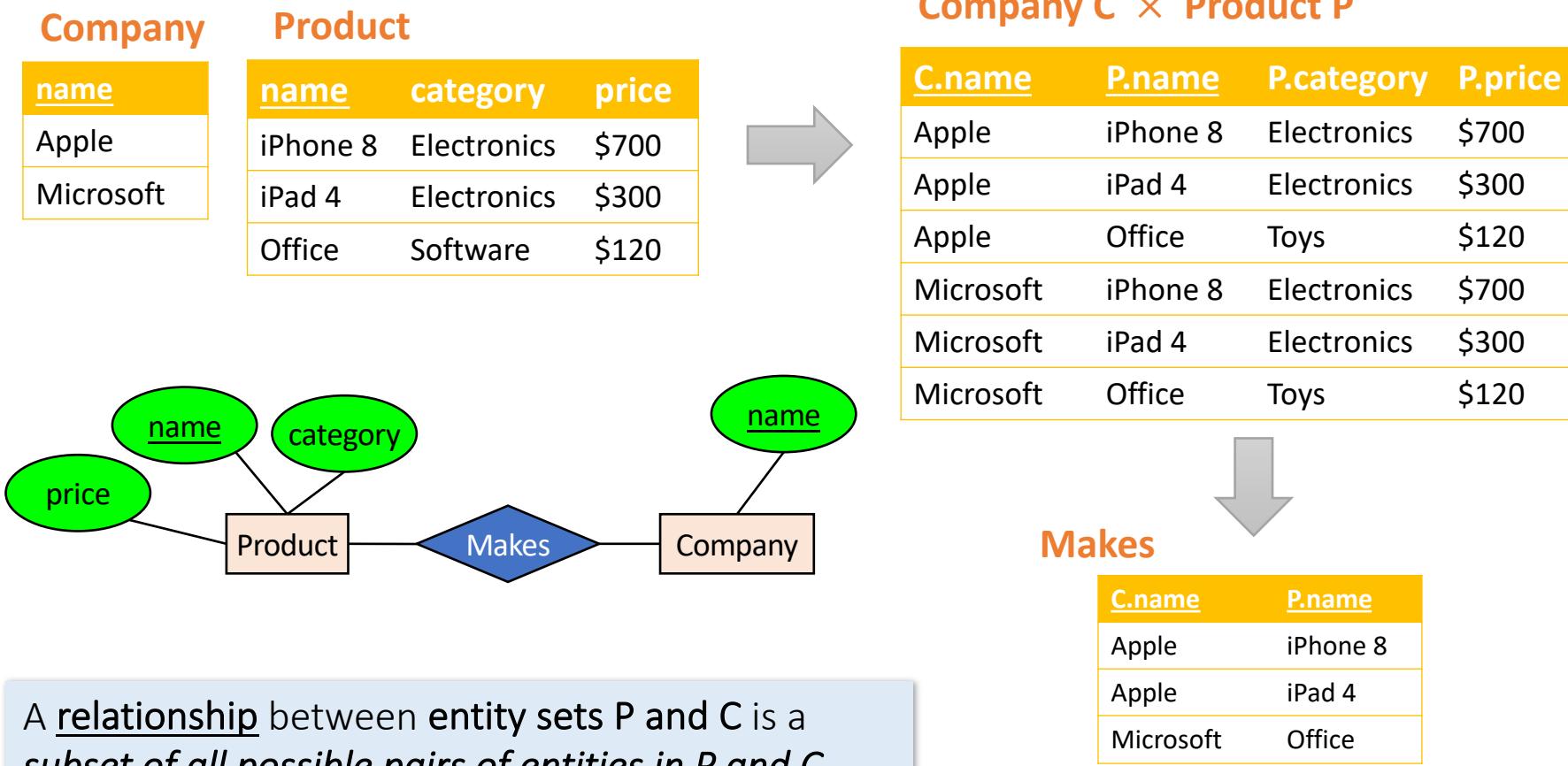
A relationship between entity sets P and C is a *subset of all possible pairs of entities in P and C* , with tuples uniquely identified by P and C 's keys

What is a Relationship?



A relationship between entity sets P and C is a *subset of all possible pairs of entities in P and C*, with tuples uniquely identified by P and C's keys

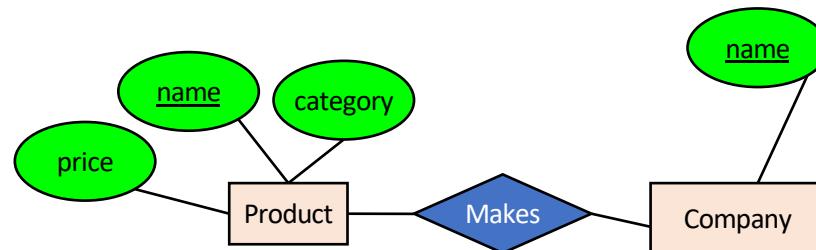
What is a Relationship?



What is a Relationship?

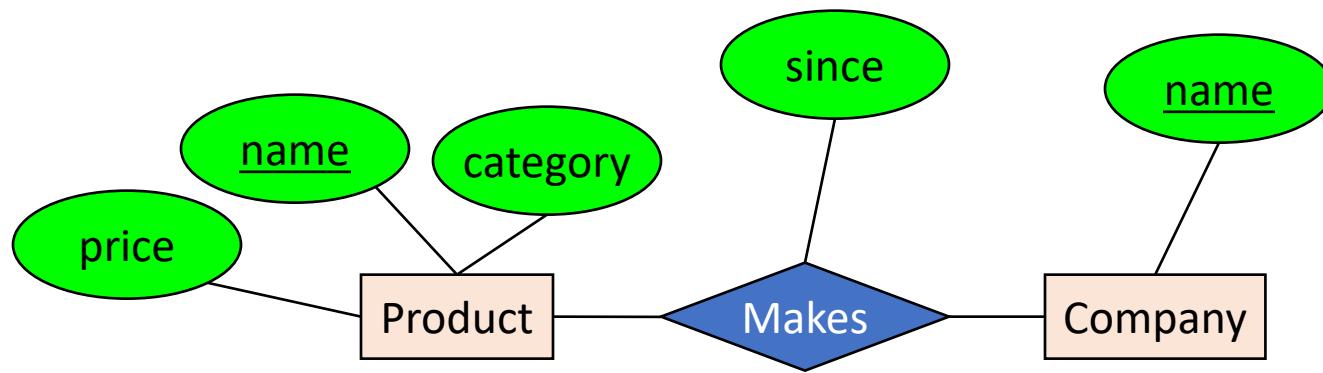
- There can only be **one relationship for every unique combination of entities**
- This also means that **the relationship is uniquely determined by the keys of its entities**
- Example: the “key” for Makes (to right) is {Product.name, Company.name}

This follows from our mathematical definition of a relationship- it's a SET!



Relationships and Attributes

- Relationships may have attributes as well.



For example: “since” records when company started making a product

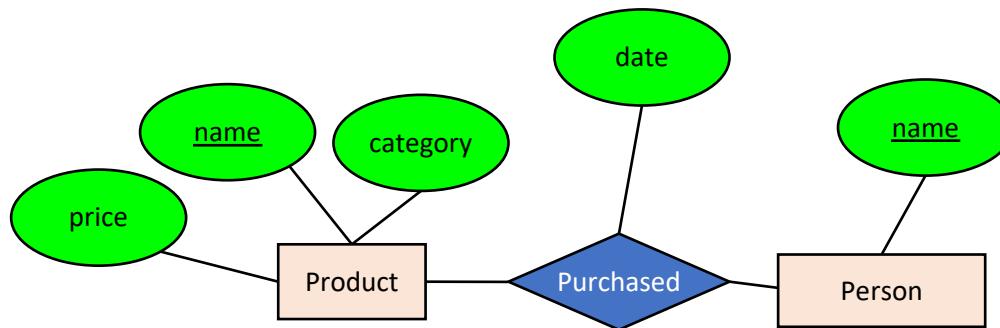
Makes

C.name	P.name	Since
Apple	iPhone 8	2018.09.01
Apple	iPhone 8	2017.09.01



Decision: Relationship vs. Entity?

- Q: What does this say?



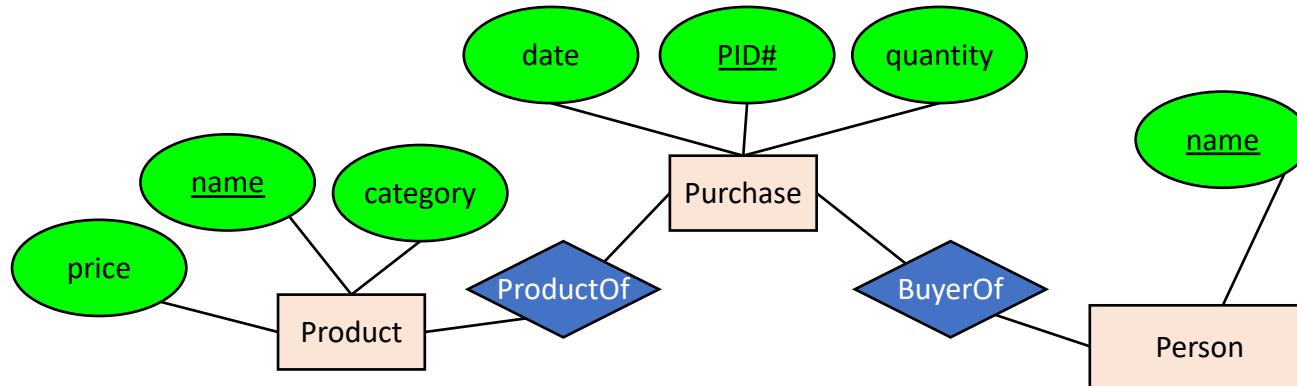
- A: A person can only buy a specific product once

Person.name	Product.name	Date
Jiannan	iPhone 8	2018.10.01
Jiannan	iPhone 8	2018.12.01



Decision: Relationship vs. Entity?

- What about this way?



- *Now we can have multiple purchases per product, person pair!*

We can always use a new entity instead of a relationship. For example, to permit multiple instances of each entity combination!

Exercise -1

Draw an E/R diagram for geography

Entities

- Country: name, area, population, gdp
- City: name, population, longitude, latitude
- River: name, length
- Sea: name, max depth

Relationships

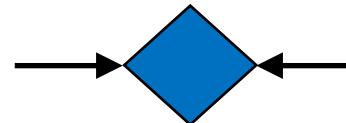
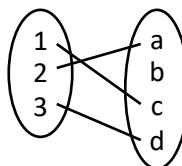
- City belongs to Country
- River crosses Country
- River ends in Sea

Outline

- E/R Basics: Entities & Relationships
 - Database Design
 - Entities/Entity sets/Keys/Relationships
- E/R Design considerations
 - Relationships cond's: multiplicity, multi-way
 - Design considerations
 - Conversion to SQL
- Advanced E/R Concepts

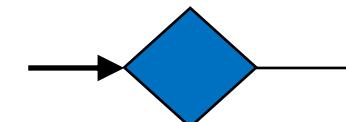
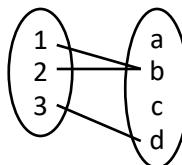
Multiplicity of E/R Relationships

One-to-one:



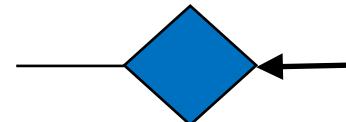
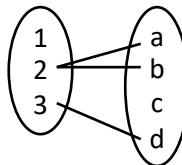
Indicated using arrows

Many-to-one:

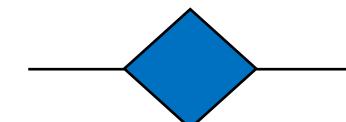
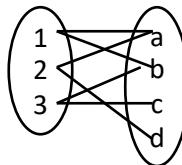


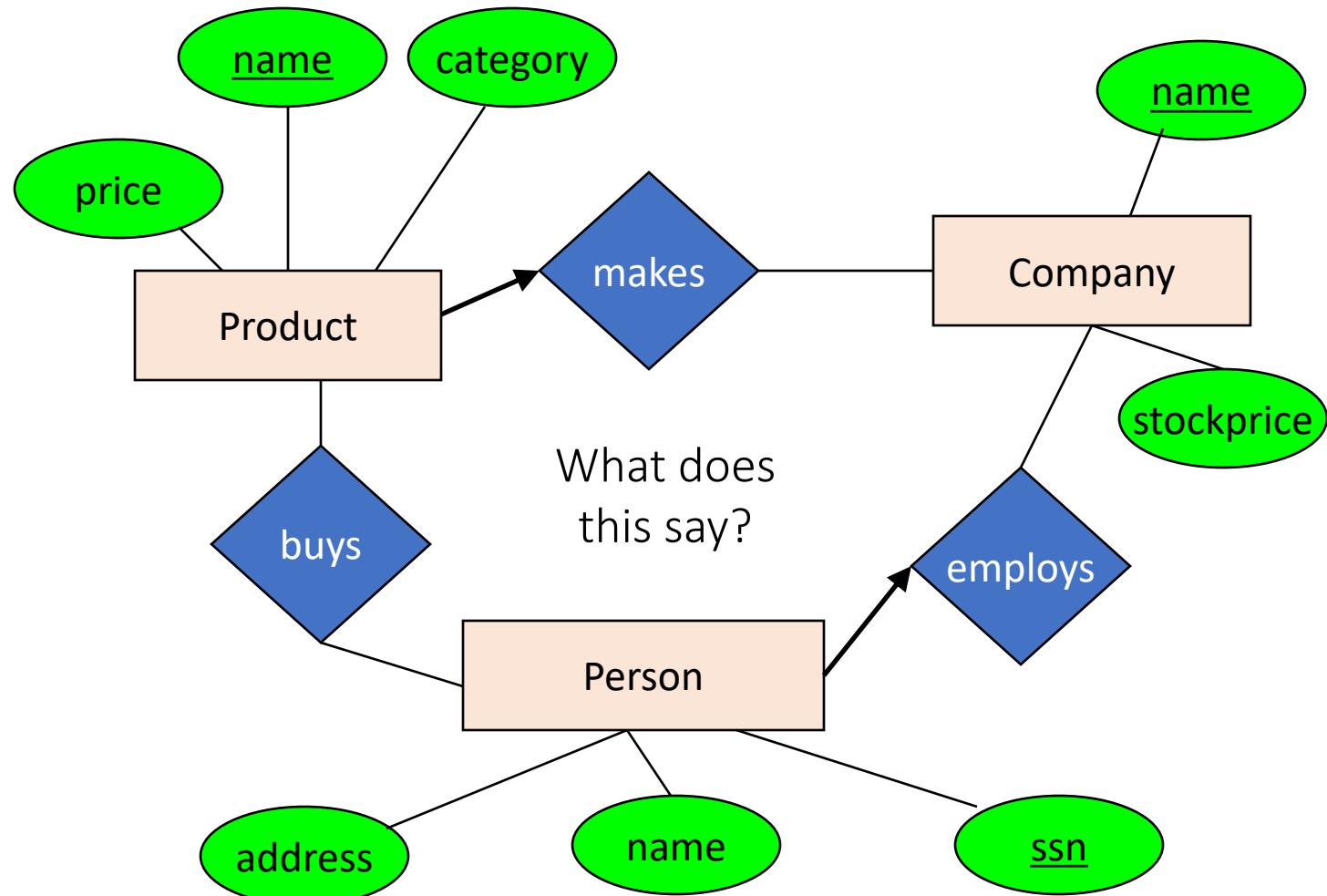
$X \rightarrow Y$ means
there exists a
function mapping
from X to Y (recall
the definition of a
function)

One-to-many:



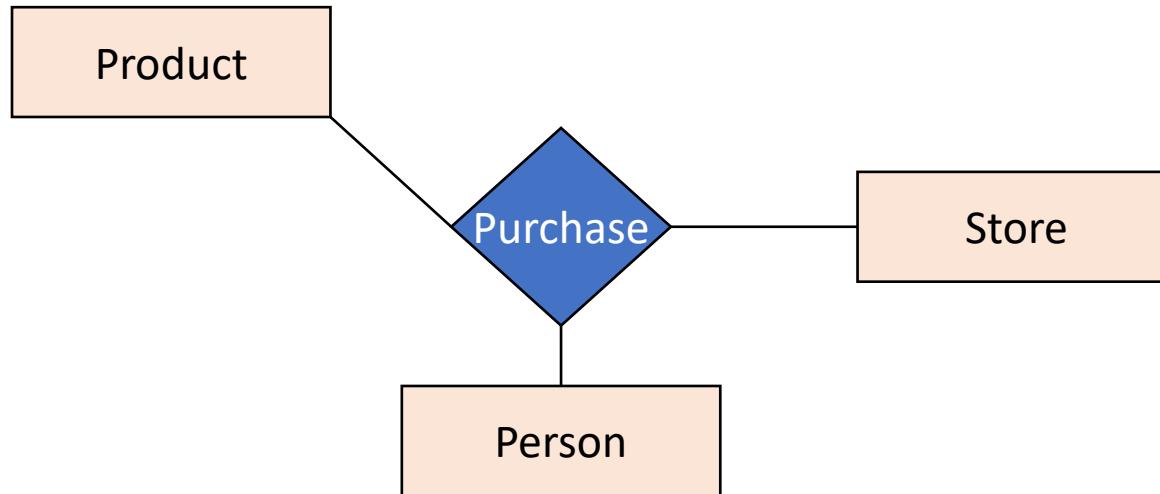
Many-to-many:





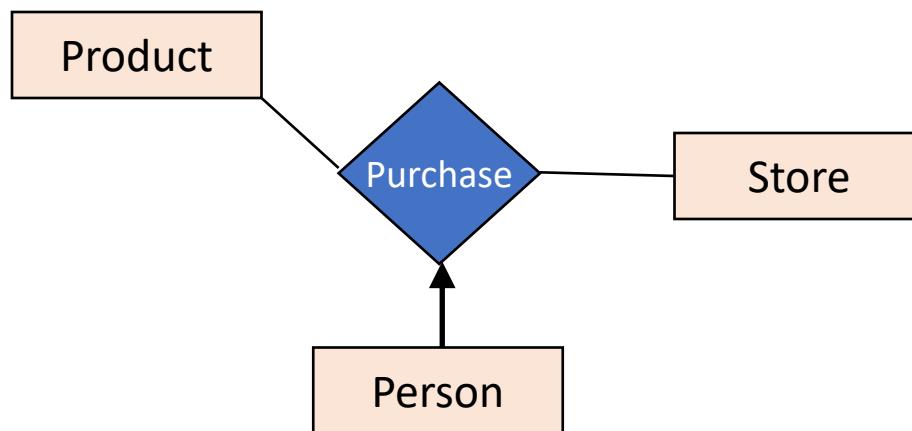
Multi-way Relationships

How do we model a purchase relationship between buyers, products and stores?



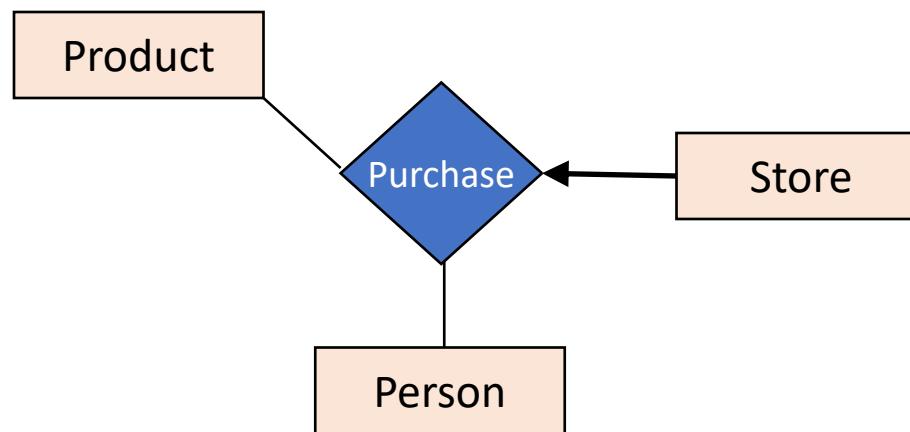
Arrows in Multiway Relationships

Q: What does the arrow mean ?



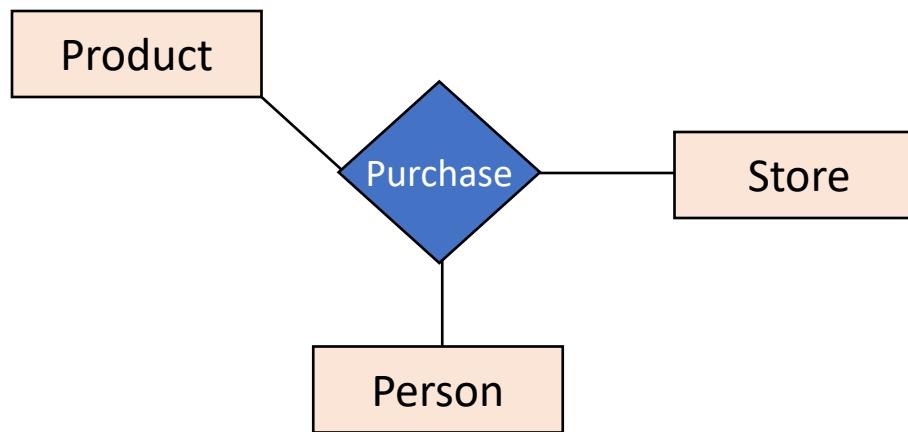
Arrows in Multiway Relationships

Q: What does the arrow mean ?



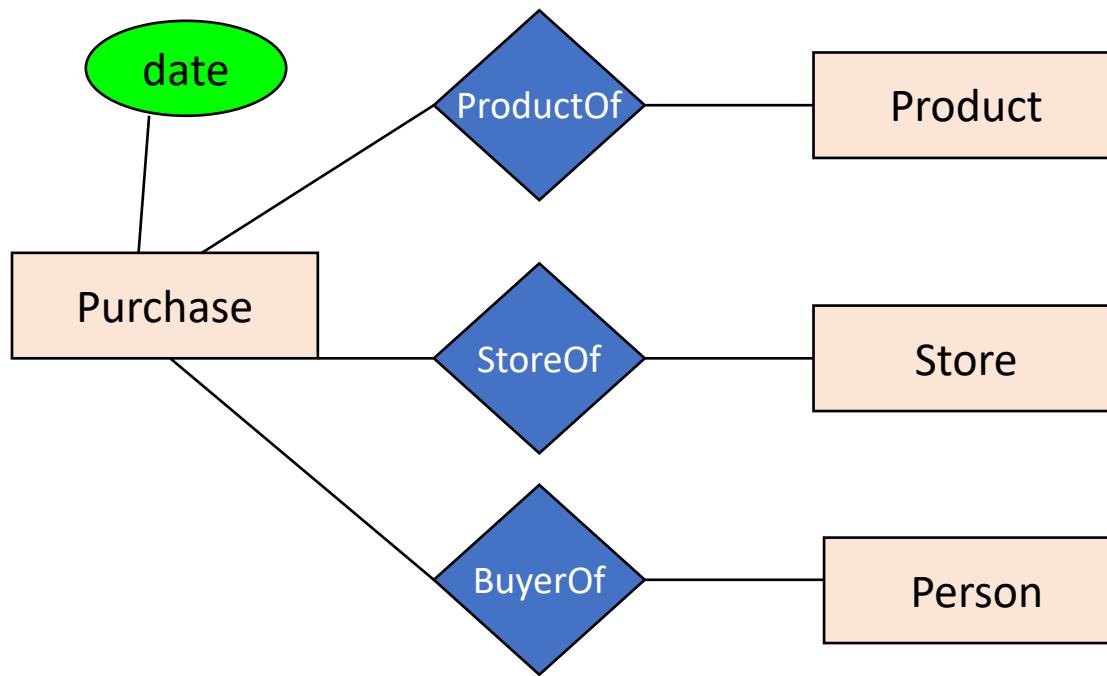
Arrows in Multiway Relationships

Q: How do we say that every person shops in at most one store ?



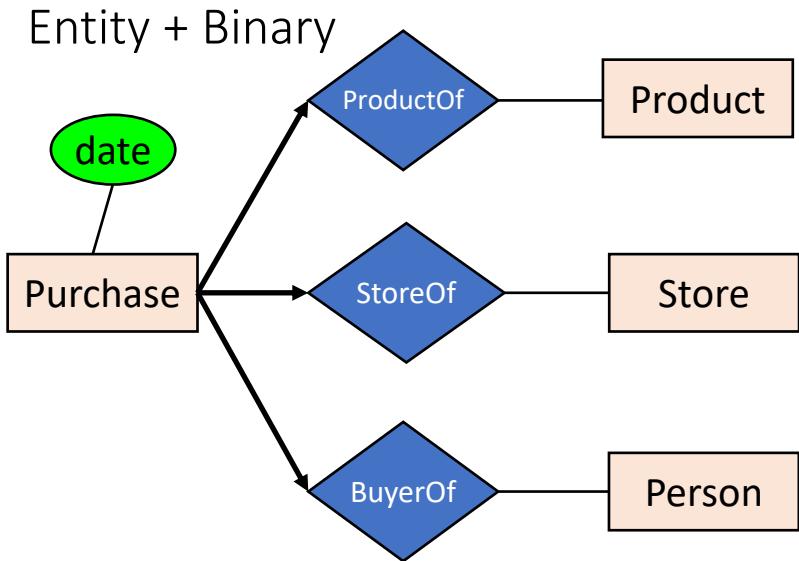
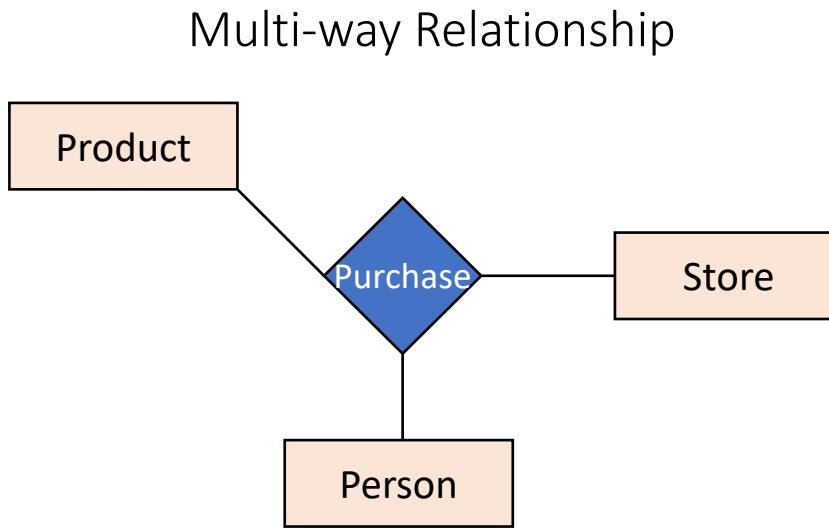
A: Cannot. This is the best approximation.
(Why only approximation ?)

Converting Multi-way Relationships to Binary



From what we had on previous slide to this - what did we do?

Decision: Multi-way or New Entity + Binary?



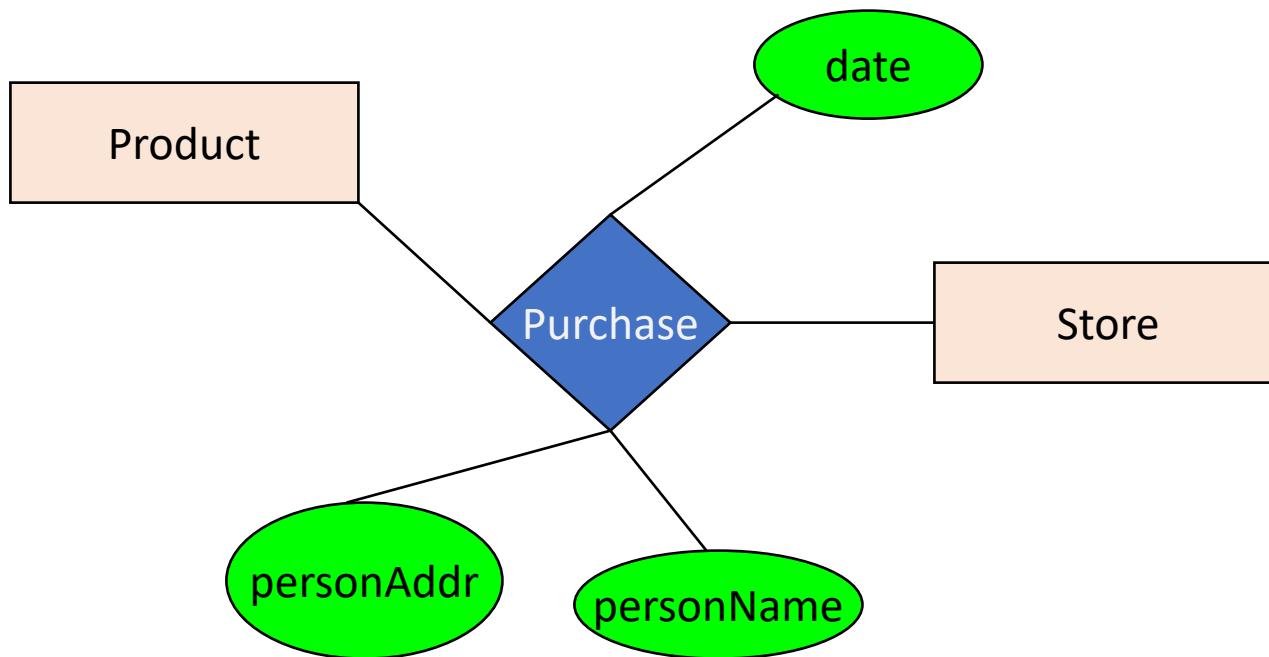
- (B) is also useful when we want to add details (constraints or attributes) to the relationship
 - “A person who shops in at most one store”
 - “How long a person has been shopping at a store”
- (A) is useful when a relationship really is between multiple entities
 - *Ex: A three-party legal contract*

Design Principles

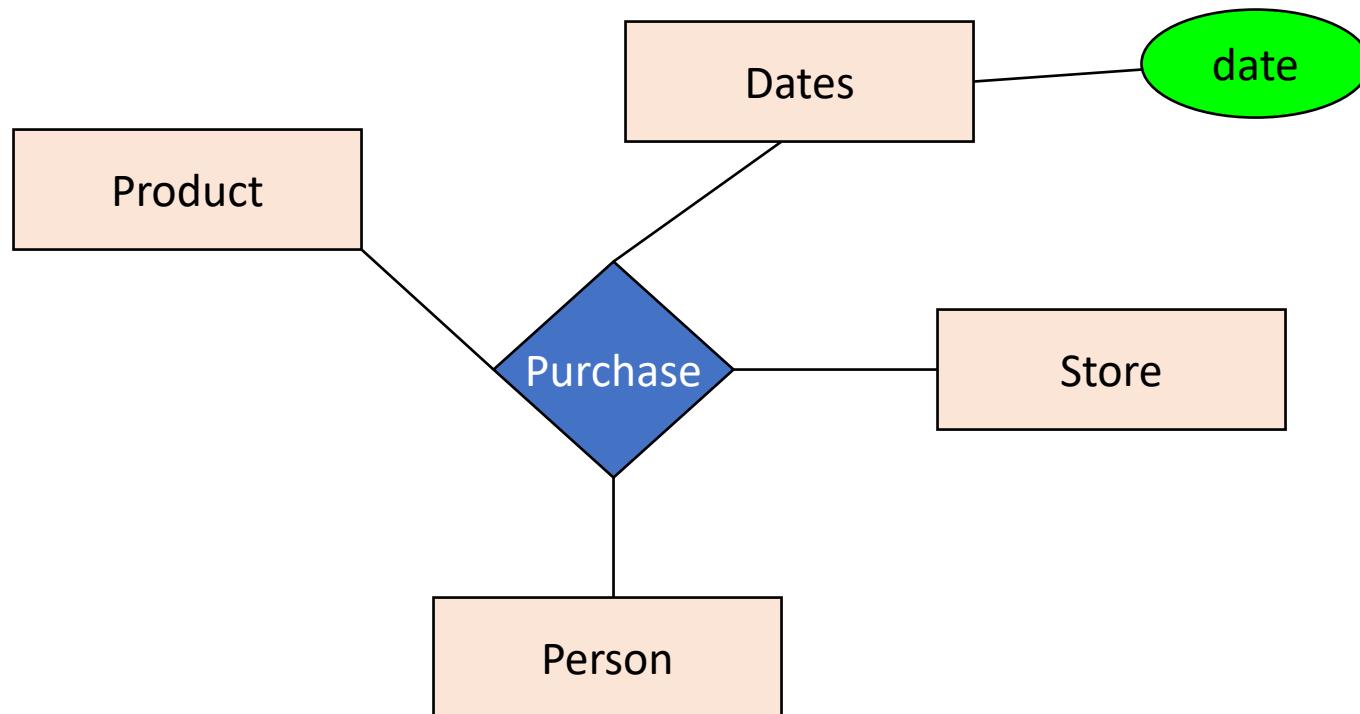
What's wrong with these examples?



Design Principles: What's Wrong?

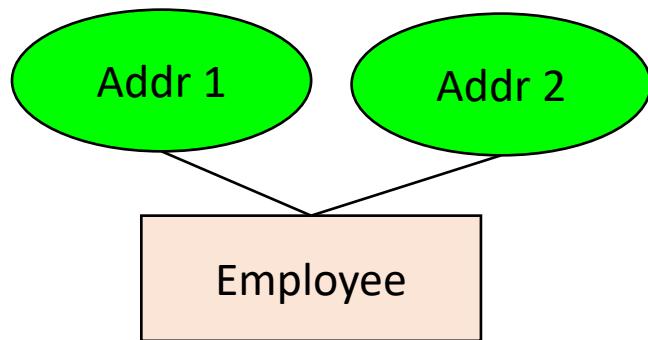


Design Principles: What's Wrong?

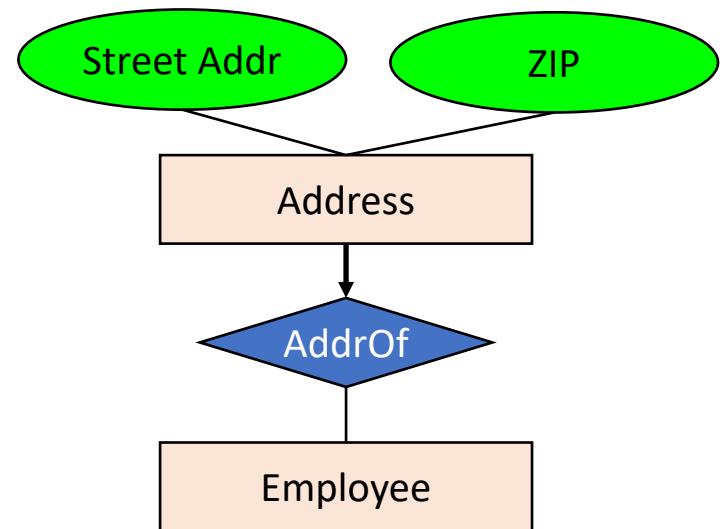


Examples: Entity vs. Attribute

Should address (A)
be an attribute?



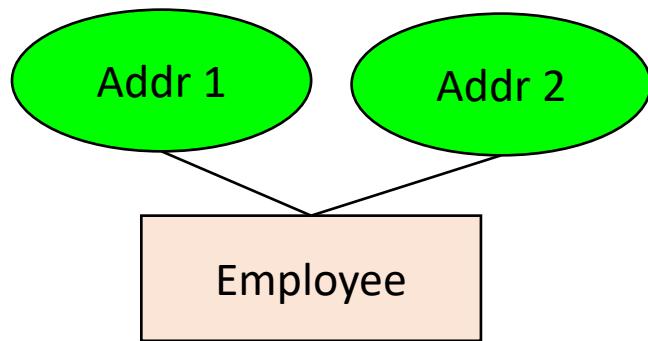
Or (B) be an entity?



Examples: Entity vs. Attribute

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be an attribute?

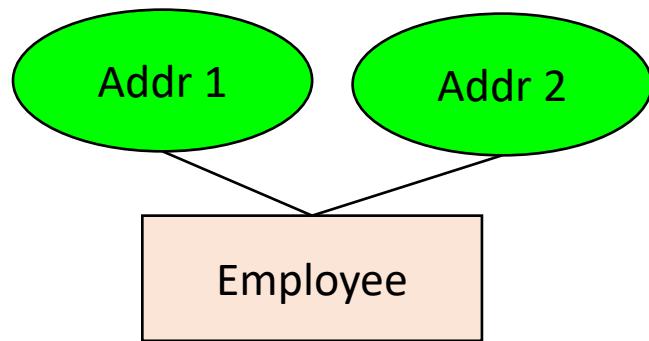
How do we handle employees
with multiple addresses here?



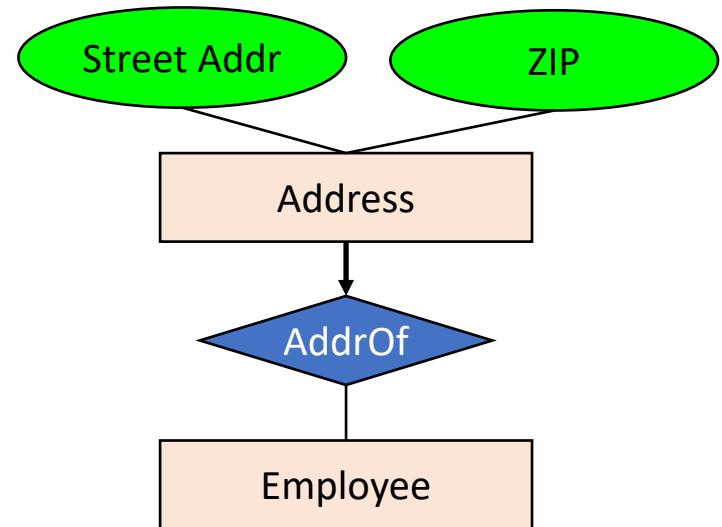
How do we handle addresses
where internal structure of the
address (e.g. zip code, state) is
useful?

Examples: Entity vs. Attribute

Should address (A)
be an attribute?



Or (B) be an entity?



In general, when we want to record several values,
we choose new entity

Exercise -2

Draw an E/R diagram for geography

Entities

- Country: name, area, population, gdp
- City: name, population, longitude, latitude
- River: name, length
- Sea: name, max depth

Relationships

- Each city belongs to a single country
- Each river crosses one or several countries
- Each river ends in a single sea

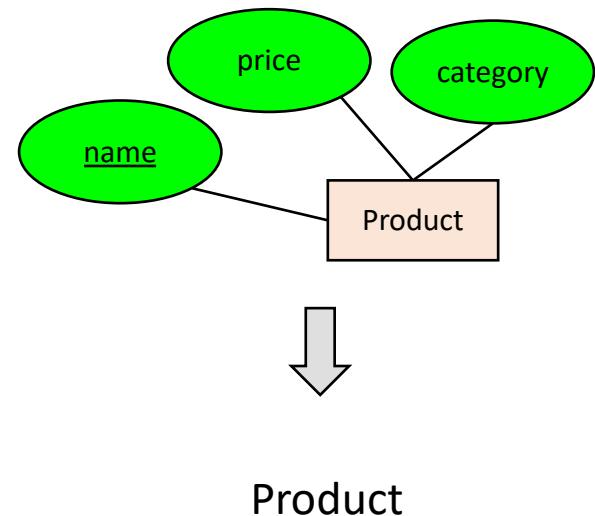
From E/R Diagrams to Relational Schema

- Key concept:

Both *Entity sets* and *Relationships* become relations
(tables in RDBMS)

From E/R Diagrams to Relational Schema

- An entity set becomes a table
 - Each row is one entity
 - Each row is composed of the entity's attributes, and has the same primary key

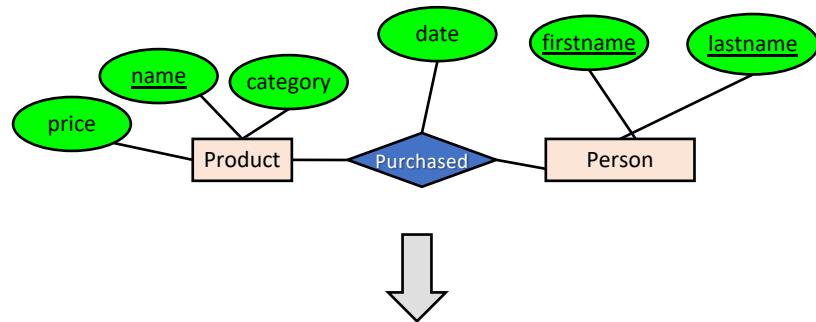


```
CREATE TABLE Product(  
    name      CHAR(50) PRIMARY KEY,  
    price     DOUBLE,  
    category  VARCHAR(30)  
)
```

<u>name</u>	price	category
iPhone	700	Electronics
Office	150	Software

From E/R Diagrams to Relational Schema

- A relationship *also* becomes a table
 - Add Primary Key
 - Add Foreign Key



```
CREATE TABLE Purchased(  
    name      CHAR(50),  
    firstname CHAR(50),  
    lastname  CHAR(50),  
    date      DATE,  
    PRIMARY KEY (name, firstname, lastname),  
    FOREIGN KEY (name)  
        REFERENCES Product,  
    FOREIGN KEY (firstname, lastname)  
        REFERENCES Person  
)
```

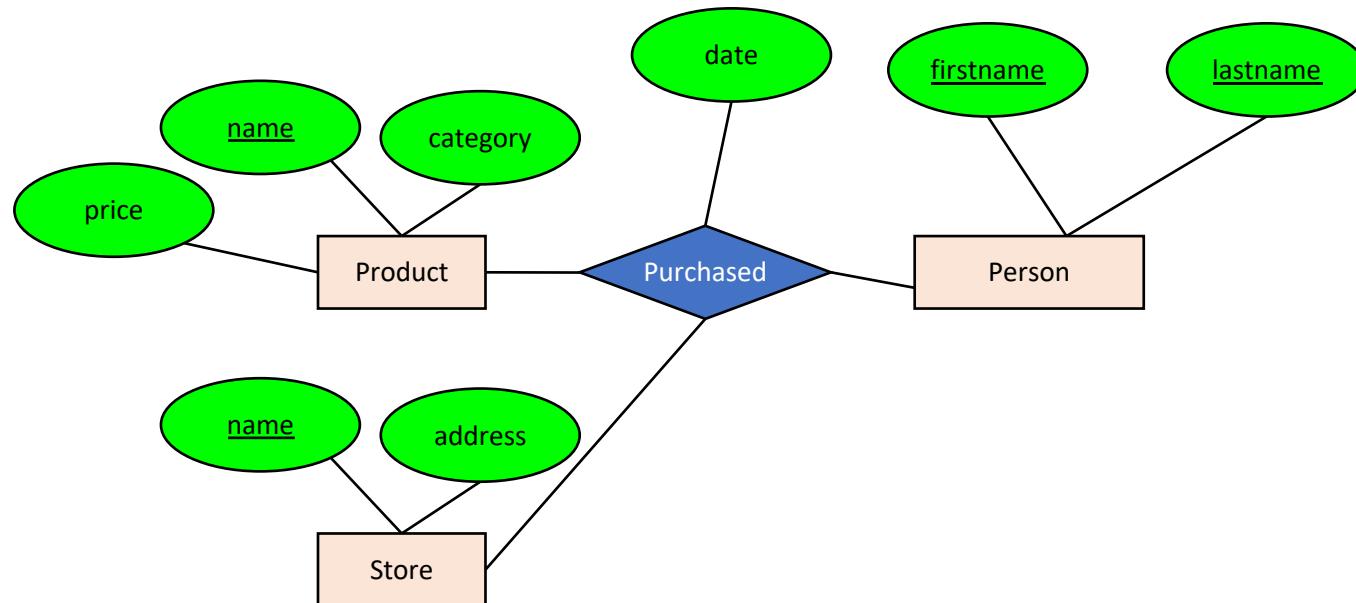
Purchased

<u>name</u>	<u>firstname</u>	<u>lastname</u>	date
iPhone	Mike	Jordan	01/01/18
iPhone	Mike	Jordan	01/03/18
iPad	John	Smith	01/05/18

Exercise -3

From E/R Diagram to Relational Schema

How do we represent this as a relational schema?



Acknowledge

- Some lecture slides were copied from or inspired by the following course materials
 - “W4111: Introduction to databases” by Eugene Wu at Columbia University
 - “CSE344: Introduction to Data Management” by Dan Suciu at University of Washington
 - “CMPT354: Database System I” by John Edgar at Simon Fraser University
 - “CS186: Introduction to Database Systems” by Joe Hellerstein at UC Berkeley
 - “CS145: Introduction to Databases” by Peter Bailis at Stanford
 - “CS 348: Introduction to Database Management” by Grant Weddell at University of Waterloo