CSCI 406 **ERD → Relational Schema Algorithm** March 19, 2017

1 Regular Entities

- make a table
- simple attributes → attributes/columns
- composite attributes → just the components become columns
- choose a key to be the primary key
- uniqueness constraints on other keys
- do not include: derived and multivalued

2 Weak Entities

- make a table
- all simple attributes → attributes
- components of composite → attributes
- add primary key from owning entity as attribute
- make combination of partial and owning entity key → primary key
- foreign key from borrowed key back to key in owning entity

3 1:1 Relationships

Let R be a 1:1 relationship between entities S and T.

3 choices depending on participation

(a) S has **full** participation in R, take primary key of T and add it as attribute to S. Make borrowed attribute a foreign key back to T.
(b) If both S and T fully participate in R: S and T can merge into one table. (Option (a) is still preferred.)
(c) Not recommended unless there is **partial** participation on both sides. Add a cross-reference table. (Expanded further in step 5.)

4 1:N Relationships

Let R be a 1:N relationship between S and T

2 choices depending on participation

(a) Assuming T has full participation in R (most common case), then take primary key from S, add to T, and make foreign key back to S.
(b) (not preferred, unless T has partial participation) cross reference table

5 N:M Relationships

Let R be an N:M relationship between S and T.

- create a new table (called a cross reference table)
- add as columns: primary key attribute(s) of S, T
- make each ”borrowed” key a foreign key reference back to origin
- make all attributes primary key for new table

Example: using xref table:

```
SELECT d.name AS department, d.chair,
       i.name AS instructor, i.office, i.email
  FROM instructor AS i, department AS d,
       instructor_department_xref AS x
 WHERE x.instructor_name = i.name
   AND x.department_name = d.name
   AND d.name = 'Computer Science';
```

6 Multi-valued Attributes

- treat like weak entity
- create table containing:
  - multivalued attribute
  - primary key of the entity containing attribute
  - whole thing is primary key
  - make column with the primary key of containing entity a foreign key back to the containing table

7 N-ary Relationships

- x-reference table using the primary key attributes of the participating tables

8 Relational Schema Derived from Above Algorithm

- `course (course_id, title, hours)` (1)
- `instructor (name, office, email)` (1)
- `section (course_id, section_id, instructor_name)` (2, 4)
  - FK from `section.course_id` to `course.course_id`
  - FK from `section.instructor_name` to `instructor.name`
- `instructor_department_xref(instructor_name, department_name)` (5)
- `section_meetings(course_id, section_id, days, time, room)` (6)
  - whole thing is a primary key
  - foreign key on `course_id, section_id`

9 Example of multiple valued primary key

```
CREATE TABLE ...
columnname type,
...
primary key (col1, col2),
foreign key (col1) references ...
```