

Class notes - Ch. 5

ER Diagrams



- if this is developed, it'll generate the db through DDL

- OR db scripts could generate the ER Diagram

* - a subquery approach usually has a corresponding left join approach

* Learn CTE's (inner query is 1st for subqueries)

Database Ch. 5 - notes

Data Modeling w/ the Entity-Relationship Model

E-R Diagram: Entity-Relationship (see top of page for graphic)
 * Data modeling occurs in the requirements analysis step of the systems development life cycle in the systems analysis and design process

I. The Purpose of a Data Model

Data Model: a blueprint for a db design; generalized to non-DBMS specific
 - Ex. planning stage before building a house

II. The Entity-Relationship Model

- publ. by Peter Chen in 1976.

- Submodels were added later, & called the extended ER model, but is now essentially the standard

Entities

- something users want to track (CUSTOMER entity = data that's important to the customer)

- Entities of a given type are grouped into an entity class (i.e. CUSTOMER, EMPLOYEE)

Entity Class: collection of entities to descr. by the structure of the entities in that class

Entity Instance: occurrence of a particular entity (i.e. CUSTOMER (23))

- entity class has many instances of an entity
- it's like a record of data in a table

Attributes

defn:

- describe characteristics (data columns)
- ER model assumes all instances of a given entity class have the same attributes
- Attributes in Ellipses vs Attributes in Rectangle (common)

Identifiers

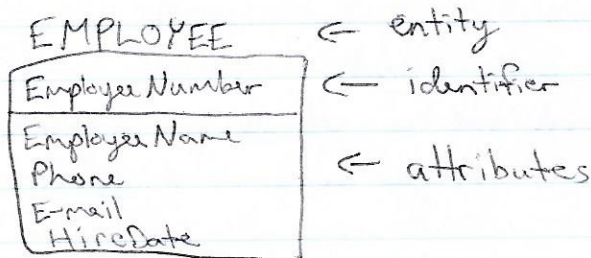
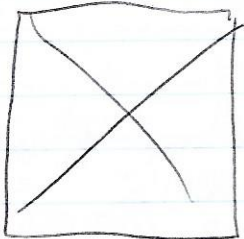
defn:

- attributes that name, or id, entity instances
- Ex. Employee Number id's EMPLOYEE instances

Composite identifier: identifiers that consist of 2 or more attributes

- Ex. (ProjectName, TaskName)

- entities are displayed in 3 layers of detail today:



← entity

← identifier

← attributes

Relationships

defn:

- how entities can associate w/ one another
- ER Model contains both relationship classes & instances

Relationship classes: associations among entities entity classes

Relationship instances: " " among entity instances



- Rel. names are given to describe the nature of the relationship
Degree: number of ~~relationship~~ entity classes in a relationship
- degree 3 = Ternary Rel.

- relationships in ER model are classified by their cardinality
 - Max Cardinality is max # instances that can be a part of a relationship instance
 - Min Cardinality is the opposite

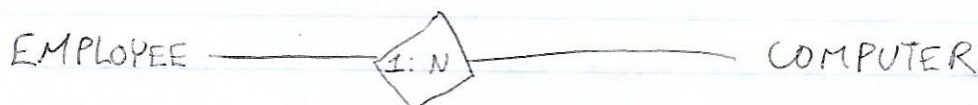
Max Cardinality $\star (1 = \text{parent} / N = \text{child}) \star$

- 3 Types:

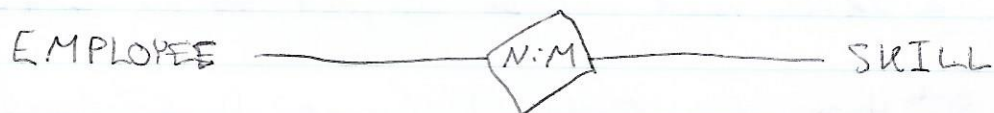
1.) One-to-One relationship



2.) One-to-Many relationship



3.) Many-to-Many relationship



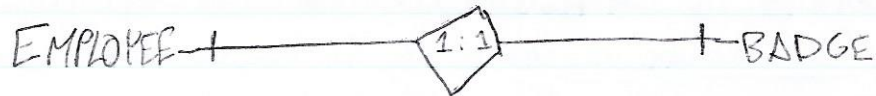
- 1a) 1 EMPLOYEE instance is associated w/ 1 BADGE entity instance ("at most 1")
- 1b) 1 EMPL. entity instance ~~can~~ can be associated w/ many COMPUTER entity instances, but only 1 COMPUTER instance is associated w/ only 1 EMPL. instance
- 1c) 1 EMPL. instance can have many SKILL instances and vice versa
- N:M highlights possibility of different ~~instances~~ cardinalities
- \star Ex. EMPL1 has 9 skills, but that skill is associated w/ 3 EMPL instances

Min Cardinality : min # entities that must participate in a relationship

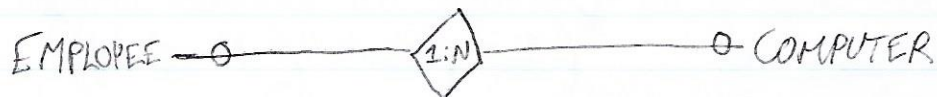
• 0+1 : (0 = optional / 1 = mandatory) *

- 3 Types:

1) Mandatory - to - Mandatory Relationship



2) Optional - to - Optional Relationship



3) Optional - to - Mandatory Relationship



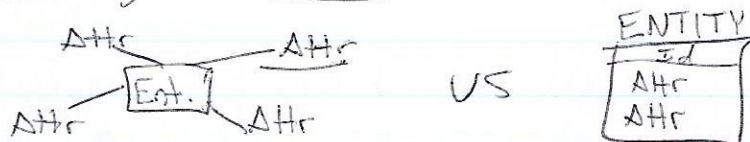
1a) entities are required on both sides

1b) an EMPL need not have an COMPUTER & vice versa

1c) an EMPL must be assigned to at least 1 SKILL, but a SKILL need not be assigned to an EMPL.

- 4th type is M-to-O (swap of 3rd type)

ER Diagrams & Their Versions



Variations of ER Model

1) Information Engineering model : uses crow's feet to show the "Many" ; called the IE Crow's Foot model

2) Integrated Definition 1, Extended (IDEF1X): incorp. basic ideas of ER model but uses different symbols

- difficult to use (Appendix C)

3) Unified Modeling Language: OOD spin on the model (Appendix D)

ER Diagrams Using IE Crow's Foot

original: DEPT \circ \diamond 1:N \oplus EMPL





Grows Fast: DEPT \longleftrightarrow EMPL

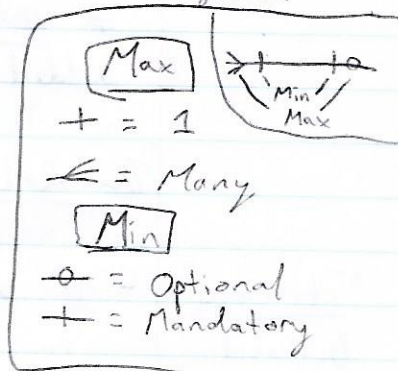
Minimum Cardinality

Maximum Cardinality

Legend

Notation

- a) : Mandatory - One ; exactly 1
- b) : Mandatory - Many ; one or more
- c) : Optional - One ; zero or one
- d) : Optional - Many ; zero or more



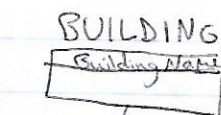
Strong Entities & Weak Entities

- Strong: represents something that can stand alone (i.e. PERSON)
- Weak: entity whose existence depends on presence of another entity

ID-Dependent Entities

ID-Dep.: an entity whose identifier includes the identifier of another entity

Example:




APARTMENT

Building Name
Apt + Number

- APPT needs both ~~Building Number~~ Building Name and Appt Number to determine APPT, making APPT ID-Dependent on BUILDING

* composite identifier

identifying relationship:

-  rounded corners represent the ID-Dep. entity
- solid line b/w ID-Dep. entity & its parent

nonidentifying relationship: ~~neither~~ neither entity is ID-Dependent

- dashed line b/w 2 strong entities
- no ID-Dep entities in that particular relationship

- * - 1 entity can have multiple relationships, all w/ different properties

Non-ID Dep Weak Entities

- All ID-Dep. entities are weak
- in special cases, an entity can be weak and non-ID-Dep. For this, we use a nonidentifying rel. w/ a note added to the data model, saying the entity is weak

The Ambiguity of a Weak Entity

Strictly Defined

- If a weak entity = any entity whose db presence depends on another entity, then any entity w/ a min card. of 1 to a second entity = weak

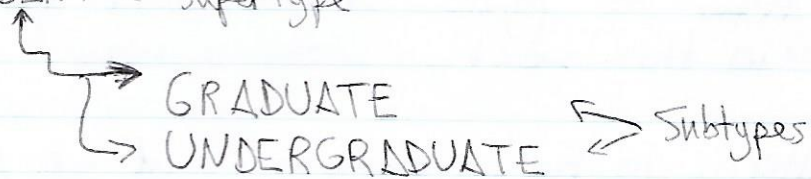
Ex. if STUDENT must have an ADVISOR, then ~~that~~ STUDENT is weak b/c it can't be stored w/o an ADVISOR

Narrowly Defined

- weak = an entity must logically depend on another entity
- Ex. in this case, aside from business rules, a STUDENT can logically exist w/o ~~an~~ an ADVISOR
- Ex. 2: an APPT cannot exist w/o a BUILDING

Subtype Entities (extended ER)

- a subtype is a special case of another entity (supertype)
& STUDENT ← supertype



Notation:

Subtype = ○

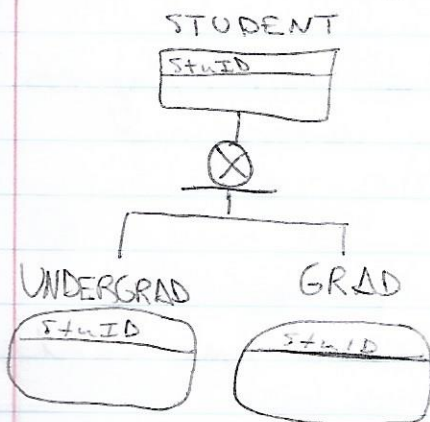
exclusive sub = ⊗

- Discriminator: an attribute ^{→ of a supertype} that determines which subtype is appropriate for a given instance
- not all supertypes have a discriminator

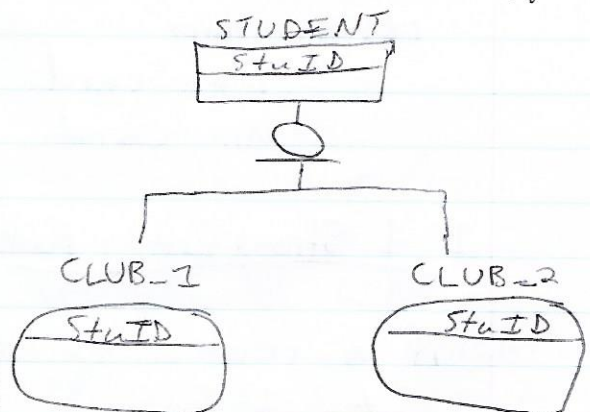
exclusive Subtype: supertype instance is related to at most 1 subtype

Inclusive Subtype: relates to 1 or more subtypes
- for this reason \bigcirc , it does not need a discriminator

Ex. Exclusive Subtype w/ Discriminator



Ex. Inclusive Subtypes



* - Most important reason for subtypes in a data model is to avoid value-inappropriate nulls

* refer to pg 210, Figure 5-14 for everything in this section

III. Patterns in Forms, Reports, and ER Models

- to speak to users where they understand, we must infer data indirectly from user docs, convos, & behaviors
Ways:

1.) Study the user's forms & reports

- From here, we can begin to comprise a data model (or entities/rel at least)

- also can use to validate an already-created data model

* Data-first design: the structure of forms & reports determine the structure of the data model

Strong Entity Patterns

- 3 relationships possible = 1:1, 1:N, N:M

- max/min cardinality must be found when modeling relationships

◦ max card. can be found on forms/reports

◦ min card: will need to be determined

1:1 Strong Entity Rels

- if a relationship is 1:1, we can set max card. to 1:1

Ex:



Relationship is:

- 1:1
- Optional: Optional
- Not ID-Dep
- Optional: One
- nonidentifying rel (---)

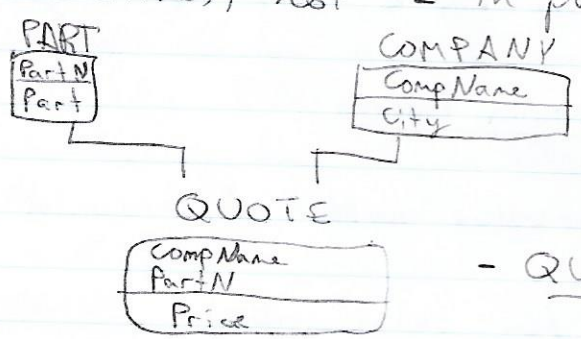
- When trying to determine relationships, you can:
 - think logically
 - ask someone
 - look at the business setting

ID-Dependent Relationships

- 3 principle patterns: multivalued attribute, version/instance, association

Association Pattern to Entity

- similar to N:M strong relationship
- ~~Price~~-attr. is ~~not~~ an attribute to the combs of 2 entities, not 1 in particular



- this can occur b/w 2 or more entities

- QUOTE = associative entity

- QUOTE is ~~not~~ ID-Dep on both entities

Multivalued Attribute Pattern

- Today: attr. must have a single value / row

Ex. 1 user w/ > 1 phone number

- solution: phone is not an attribute of USER, but an ~~ID-Dep~~ ID-Dep entity w/ a 1:N relationship
- new entity, PHONE, would include a composite identifier (user ID, Phone Number)

- model can be extended for multivalued attr. too

- * - if multivalued needed, make a new entity w/ 1:N relationship

The Archetype (version) / Instance Pattern

- occurs when 1 entity represents an instance of another entity
 - Ex: x-model is instance of x archetype
 - a yacht manuf. has various yacht-designs
 - each yacht is an instance of a particular yacht-design archetype
- the child entity (yacht) is always an ID-Dep entity to its archetype
- if yacht can be identified by more characteristics than specified in the ~~id~~ entity, then its added, it will end up being weak, but no longer ID-Dep

Mixed Identifying & Nonidentifying Patterns

- some patterns involve both id & nonid rels

The Line-Item Pattern (Ex: sales order)

- the identifier of a line is a composite of the identifier of a particular line & the identifier of a particular order
 - entries for line items are always ID-Dependent on the order in which they appear
- line items are existence dependent on orders.
If an order is deleted, the line item corresponding to it cannot exist

* Figure 5-33 pg 223

Other Mixed Patterns

- look for mixed pattern when a strong entity has a multi, composite group
- Figure 5-35

The For-Use-By Pattern

→ on a form

- if I ever see a "For Use by ... only", this indicates the need for subtype entities

- Ex. A Fishing-License entity can either have a Commercial-License or a Sport-License

* Figure 5-37 (pg 225) relationships can be different

Recursive Patterns (unary relationship)

- occurs when an entity type has a relationship to itself (w/ all 3 types of rels)

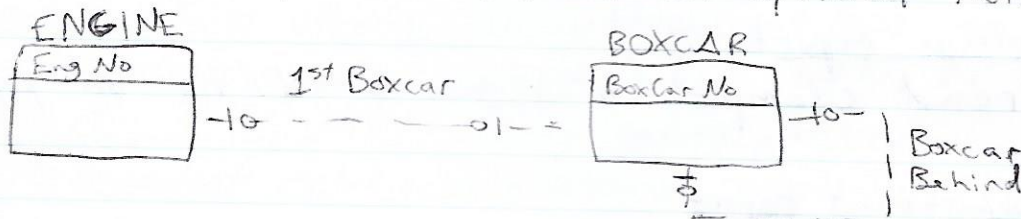
1:1 Recursive

Ex. ~~Rail~~ db for railroad

entity: BOXCAR



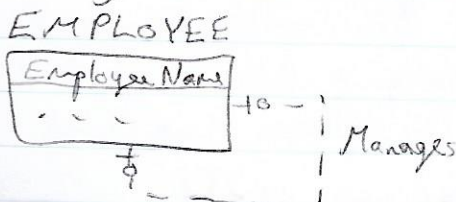
- each boxcar has 1 in front of it, except for the 1st
- each has 1 behind, except for the last
- 1:1 b/w boxcars, w/ an optional rel. for 1st & last



1:N Recursive

- organizational charts (1 manager manages several others)

* - breadcrumbs, rabbit trails ...



N:M Recursive

- manufacturing apps, where they can represent bills of materials

Ex: car: engine, tranny, interior, exterior

engine: nuts, bolts, cylinders, spark plugs

tranny: gears, clutch, clutch pads

interior: seats, stereo, speakers, steering wheel

exterior: paint, body, sunroof, wheels, tires

it keeps going like a hierarchy

- family tree is another example

IV. The Data Modeling Process

- analyzation of user requirements to construct a data model from data sources, forms, reports, and user interviews
- iterative process → model can change as more forms are analyzed
- model also needs user validation

Examples:

The College Report

- read example to Figure 5-44/45 on pg 229

The Department Report

- this report is representative of having to add additional requirements as more are analyzed
- see example to Figure 5-46/47 on pg 230

The Department/Major Report

- see example to Figure 5-48 on pg 232

The Student Acceptance Letter

- includes data about student, major, department, and adviser
- problems w/ parent / child relationships in data model to produce the letter perfectly in >1 case
- see example to Figure 5-50/51 on pg 233

- it's typical to revise the data model many times throughout the process

Review (key terms)

- 1) ID-Dep Entity: identifier includes the identifier of another entity
 - identifying relationship (parent required, child isn't)
- 2) Weak Entity: existence depends on the presence of another entity
 - all ID-Dep entities
- 3) Subtype Entity: special case of supertype; exclusive or inclusive
 - avoid value-inappropriate nulls
- 4) relationship b/w an entity and itself is a recursive relationship (can be 1:1, 1:N, or N:M)
- 5) relationships among nonsubtype entities are HAS-A rels.
relationships among supertype/subtype entities are IS-A rels.
- 6) 1:1, 1:N, N:M strong entity patterns
- 7) ID-Dependent relationship patterns: association, multivalued attribute, version/instance
 - mixed 1d to nond patterns as well
- 8) For-Use-By pattern indicates the need for subtypes
- 9) Subtypes - differ b/c of different attributes or relationships
- 10) Data modeling process is iterative (evidence gathering)
- 11) Will not always find minimum cardinality from a form/report