# High Level Database Models

Thomas Schwarz, SJ

### Contents



- Design Language:
  - Entity Relationship Model (ERM)
  - Unified Modeling Language (UML)
  - (Object Description Language ODL)

- Entities: Abstract object
  - Have Attributes
    - Types can be primitive or structures
- Relationships
  - Connections between two or more entity sets

- Graphics
  - Entities are represented by rectangles
  - Attributes are represented by ovals
  - Relationships are represented by diamonds
  - Edges connect attributes and relations



- Type of binary E/R relationships between entities:
  - Many-to-one
  - One-to-one
  - Many-to-many

- Example:
  - One president can "run" one studio
  - One studio can only be 'run" by one president



• The arrow does not guarantee existence, only uniqueness

- Ternary relationships
  - Occasionally, relationships involve more than two entities



- Contracts involve a studio, a star, and a (set of) movies
  - Each relationship is a triple (star, movie, studio)



- The many-to-one relationship means that for a star and for a movie, there can only be one studio
- However, a star can have a contract over many movies
- The studio can contract with several stars for a given movie



- The arrow notation is limited
  - Studio is only a function of the movie
  - Diagram cannot distinguish between
    - Studio is a function of movie
    - Studio is a function of movie and star

- Roles
  - Entities can appear several times in a relationship
  - Question: Explain the arrow heads or their absence



- Example for a multi-way relationship and an entity set with multiple roles
  - Hollywood stars would "belong" to a studio that could lent them out to another studio



- Relationships can also have attributes
  - The attribute is functionally dependent on all parties to the relationship



- Some models (UML, ODL) limit relationships to binary
  - Move attributes to an entity set



 Multi-way relationships can be modeled through an entity as well



- Subclasses
  - Some entities are special
    - Use an is-a relationship (a triangle)



- Faithfulness
  - Can be difficult: Is "teaches" between instructors and courses many to many or one to many?
- Avoid Redundancy
  - Example: Add relationship 'owns' between movies and studios and add an attribute "studio" to movies.
    - This results in an update anomaly

- Simplicity
  - Avoid introducing more elements than is necessary
    - A studio can own movies, so each studio has a holding
    - Could be represented by this diagram, but entity holdings can also be done away with



 Keeping it just means more storage space and longer computations

- Smart Selection
  - Not every relationship in the real world is worth-while using
  - Information can be redundant
    - Assume relationships contracts, stars-in, and owns
      - Since a movie has an owning studio, and the owning studio has contracts for each star, we do not need the stars-in relationship

- Picking the right kind of element
  - Should studio be an entity set or can we add its attributes to a movie
  - Depends on the number of attributes for studio
    - If there is only studio name, we can incorporate it in movies
    - If there are more attributes, we probably run into an update anomaly

- Keys
  - Every entity set must have a key
  - There can be more than one key
  - For is-a relationships:
    - Root entity set needs to have all the attributes for a key

 Representing keys: Underline attributes that make up the primary key



- Referential Integrity Constraint
  - E.g. Foreign key constraint
  - Example:



- Every movie has at most one studio owning it
- Every movie is owned by a studio
- Every studio has at most one president
- Every president has a studio to run



- Use rounded arrows to indicate existence of the foreign entity:
  - Every movie is owned by a studio (existence)
  - But not owned by more than one studio (uniqueness)



- Use rounded arrows to indicate existence of the foreign entity:
  - Every president needs to run a studio
  - Cannot run more than one studio
  - If (s)he stops running a studio, they get deleted from the president table



- Use rounded arrows to indicate existence of the foreign entity:
  - A studio cannot have more than one president
  - But if the president has been fired, the studio still persists



- Use rounded arrows to indicate existence of the foreign entity:
  - A studio does not need to own a movie
  - But it can own more than a single movie

- Degree constraints
  - Limit the number of entities that can be connected to an entity set



The same star can only appear in 10 movies

- Degree constraints
  - <=1 means pointed arrow</li>
  - ==1 means curved arrow

- An entity's key can be composed of attributes belonging (all or some) to another entity
- Called weak entity sets

- Example:
  - Movie studio has several film crews, given by a number
    - (First unit, second unit, ...)
  - The numbering can be used also by other studios



- Double stroke indicates a weak entity set
- Crews has key (number, studios.name)
- Mediated through the "unit-of" relationship



- Biological species are given by genus and species
  - Homo neanderthalensis
- First is genus, then species
- The species has a key (species.name, genus.name)

- Connecting entity sets used to replace ternary relationships
- Often have no attributes of their own
- Keys are attributes of other entities



- Contracts have a key made up of stars.name, studio.name, movies.title, movies.year
- Own attribute salary is not a key

- Key attributes for weak entity sets:
  - Made up of zero or more of its own attributes
  - Key attributes from entity sets that are reached by certain many-to relationships
    - These are called supporting relationships and supporting entity sets, resp.


- R is a supporting relationship for E to F if the following conditions are true
  - R binary, many to one or one to one
  - R must have referential integrity:
    - For every E, there must be exactly one F entity in R
    - The attributes in F that supply (parts of the) key for E are also keys for F



 However, if F itself is weak, then the key attributes for F might be supplied by an entity G, etc.



- If there are several different supporting relationships:
  - Each relationship is used to supply a copy of the key attributes of F to help form the key of E
  - The relationships can associated an entity  $e \in E$  with <u>different</u> entities  $f_1, f_2 \in F$  and so the parts of the key of E can come from different entities



- Each crew is unique
- But to identify a crew, we need data from the supporting relationship
- There needs to be a deterministic process to obtain this data.



- Values for a crew are obtained from their attributes <u>and</u> by following the relationship "Unit of"
- Thus, the supporting relationship needs to be many-toone

- In class exercise:
  - Develop a university grading roster DB as an E/R diagram
  - You have courses and students as entities and enrollment as a connecting entity
  - Enrollment can have grade as an attribute





 Every enrollment record needs to have exactly a student and exactly a course

- In class exercise
  - Draw E/R diagrams involving weak entity sets
    - Courses and Departments
      - A course is given by a unique department, but its only attribute is its number
      - Different departments can offer courses with the same number



- Each entity set becomes a relation with the same set of attributes
- Each relationship becomes a relation with attributes being the keys for the connected entity set

- Problems:
  - Weak entity sets cannot be translated straightforwardly
  - Isa relationships are difficult
  - Sometimes, makes sense to combine relations when connected by a many-to-one relationship

• In class test:





stars(<u>name</u>, address) movies(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
studios(name, address) starsIn(name, title, year)

owns(<u>name</u>, <u>title</u>, <u>year</u>)

In class exercise





stars(<u>name</u>, address) movies(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
studios(<u>name</u>, address)
contracts(<u>name</u>, <u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, studioOfStar, producingStudio)

- Handling weak entity sets
  - Relation for a weak entity set needs to include key attributes of supporting entity sets
  - Relation for any relationship that includes a weak entity set must use as a key all of its key attributes, including those in supporting entities
  - A supporting relationship does not need to be represented in an entity itself
    - This is because the rule for the weak entity already force it to have these relationships





- First pick:
  - studios(<u>name</u>, address)
  - crews(<u>number</u>, chief, <u>studioName</u>)
  - unitOf(<u>number</u>, <u>studioName</u>, <u>name</u>)



- Second pick: studioName and name are the same
  - studios(<u>name</u>, address)
  - crews(<u>number</u>, chief, <u>studioName</u>)
  - unitOf(<u>number</u>, <u>studioName</u>)



- Final pick: can dispense with unitOf
  - studios(<u>name</u>, address)
  - crews(<u>number</u>, chief, <u>studioName</u>)

- Converting subclass structures to relations
  - is-a relationship:
    - There is a root entity
    - Root entity has a key that identifies <u>all</u> entities in the hierarchy
    - A given entity may have components that belong to the entity sets of any subtree of the hierarchy that includes root

- Converting subclass structures to relations
  - Three strategies
    - Follow the E/R viewpoint
    - Treat entities as objects belonging to the same class
    - Use null values

- Follow the E/R view
  - Make a relation for each entity



- movies(<u>title</u>, length, <u>year</u>, genre)
- murderMysteries(<u>title</u>, <u>length</u>, weapon)
- cartoons (<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>)



- E/R view:
  - movies(<u>title</u>, length, <u>year</u>, genre)
  - murderMysteries(<u>title</u>, <u>length</u>, weapon)
  - cartoons(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>)
- A cartoon has a tuple in two tables
- "Who framed Roger Rabbit" has tuples in all three tables
- Add
  - voices(<u>starName</u>, <u>title</u>, <u>year</u>)
- Would still have to retain cartoons relationship since we might have silent cartoons

- Object-Oriented Approach to subclasses
  - Entities can only belong to one class
  - Enumerate all possible subtrees of the hierarchy
  - Create a relationship for all of them



- movies(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
- moviesC(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
- moviesMM(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre, weapon)
- moviesCMM(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre, weapon)
- A movie is in only one relationship

N, genre)

length

year

genre

Murde

Mysterv

weapon

- movies(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
- moviesC(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
- moviesMM(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre, weapon)
- moviesCMM(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre, weapon)
- Add voices:
  - voices(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, <u>starName</u>)
- Should we have two (depending on CMM or C)?
  - Probably not, no good reason at this point

- Using Null values
  - Only have the root relation, but add to it all attributes in the hierarchy
    - movies(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre, weapon)
  - Use null value when movie not in MM

- Comparison of approaches
  - It can be expensive to answer queries involving several relations
    - "Null Value" approach wins
    - Different queries favor different set ups
      - What films of 2008 were longer than 150 minutes?
        - E/R approach is easy
        - OO approach needs to access four different relations

- Comparison of approaches
  - Different queries favor different set ups
    - "What weapons were used in cartoons over 120 minutes?"
      - OO approach needs to access one relation, moviesCMM
      - E/R approach: Access movies to find movies over 120 minutes, then access cartoons to see whether the movie is a cartoon, then access murderMysteries to find out the weapon

- We want few relations
  - "Null" approach works best
  - OO approach is worst

- We want to minimize space and avoid repetition
  - Null approach avoids repetition but tuples can now be very long
  - E/R approach: repeats data
  - OO approach: uses one tuple per entity

• Use E/R, OO, and Null approach on



## **Unified Modeling Language**

• Developed as graphical notation for OO software design
UML	E/R
class	entity set
association	binary relationship
association class	attributes on a relationship
subclass	Is-a hierarchy
aggregation	many-one relationship
composition	many-one relationship with rreferential integrity

- UML classes
  - Classes:
    - 3 field box
      - name

Movies
title PK
year PK
length
genre
<place for="" methods=""></place>

- instance variables (attributes)
- bottom: methods
  - Used only in OO relational databases

•	UML	keys
---	-----	------

Add PK (primary key) after attribute

	Movies	
	title PK	
	year PK	
è	length	
	genre	
	<place for="" methods=""></place>	

- Binary relationships are called associations
- No multiway relationships in UML



- Write down numerical restriction on associations at the other end
  - 0..1 at most one
    - a movie has at most one studio
  - 0..\* any number
    - A studio owns any number of movies
    - A movie has any number of stars
    - A star has any number of movies
  - No label means: 1..1 (exactly one)





- Each studio has to have at least one movie it owns
- Each movie is owned by exactly one studio
- Each president runs exactly one studio
- Each studio has one or none president



- Each movie can have none, one, or more sequels
- Each movie can be the sequel of no movie (it's not a sequel) or one movie (it is a sequel



 There is no PK for compensation, the PK will be provided by the objects that are associated

- Subclasses in UML
  - UML allows four subclass relationships
    - Complete versus partial
      - Is every object a member of a subclass?
    - Disjoint versus overlapping
      - Can an object be in two sub-classes?

Subclass objects inherit attributes from the superclass



• The relationship is disjoint, but only partial

- Aggregation (diamond) many to one association
- Composition(filled diamond) one-to-one association
  - Example:
    - Every movie can be associated with at most one studio
    - Every president has to have a studio, but not more than one



**MovieExecs** 

cert# PK

networth

name address

- Equivalent of weak entities:
  - Not necessary: In UML objects have their own attributes
  - Can use label PK in a composition



- Translating into Relations
  - Each class converts into a relation
  - Each association converts into a relation with the key attributes of the two connected classes
    - Renaming might be necessary
    - If there is an association class, relation also has attributes of the association class

- studios (<u>name</u>, address)
- movies (<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
- stars(<u>name</u>, address)
- owns(<u>studioName</u>, movieTitle, <u>movieYear</u>)
- stars-in(<u>starName</u>, <u>movieTitle</u>, <u>movieYear</u>)





- Subclasses
  - Same possibilities as before:
    - Entity/Relationship approach
    - OO approach
    - Null values



Use E/R approach



```
movies(<u>title</u>, <u>year</u>, length, genre)
studios(<u>name</u>, address)
movieExecs(<u>cert#</u>, name, address networth)
presidents(cert#)
presides(cert#, studioName)
owns(studioName, movieTitle, movieYear)
```



- Obviously, the presidents relation is superfluous
- What about owns?

- Dealing with compositions and associations:
  - They are many-to-one relationships
    - Incorporate the target relation into the other
    - If an aggregation, there might be no additional attributes

address

This leads to a simpler database scheme

movies(title, year, length, genre, studioName) studios(name, address) movieExecs(cert#, name, address, netWorth) presides(cert#, studioName)

1..\*

movies

title PK

vear PK

length

genre

