Translating an E-R Model to a Relational Schema

- Main ideas:
 - Each entity set maps to a new table
 - Each attribute maps to a new table column
 - Each relationship set maps to either new table columns or to a new table

Representing Strong Entity Sets

- Entity set *E* with attributes $a_1, \ldots, a_n \to \text{table } E$ with attributes a_1, \ldots, a_n
- Entity of type $E \leftrightarrow \text{row in table } E$
- Primary key of entity set \rightarrow primary key of table



Student		
StudentNum	StudentName	Major

Representing Weak Entity Sets

- Weak entity set $E \rightarrow \text{table } E$
- Columns of table *E* should include
 - Attributes of the weak entity set
 - Attributes of the identifying relationship set
 - Primary key attributes of dominating entity set (as foreign key into dominating entity set)
- Primary key of weak entity set \rightarrow primary key of table

Representing Weak Entity Sets (cont'd)



Representing Relationship Sets

- If the relationship set is an identifying relationship set for a weak entity set then no action needed
- If the general cardinality constraint (1,1) can be deduced for a component entity set *E* then add following columns to table *E*
 - Attributes of the relationship set
 - Primary key attributes of remaining component entity sets (as foreign keys into those entity sets)
- Otherwise: relationship set $R \rightarrow \text{table } R$

Representing Relationship Sets (cont'd)

- Columns of table *R* should include
 - Attributes of the relationship set
 - Primary key attributes of each component entity set (as foreign keys into component entity sets)
- Primary key of table *R* determined as follows
 - If the general cardinality constraint (0,1) can be deduced for a component entity set *E*, then choose the primary key attributes for *E*
 - Otherwise, choose primary key attributes of each component entity

Representing Relationship Sets (cont'd)



Team	
TeamName	

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Location
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LocName Address

Match

HomeTeamName VisitorTeamName LocName Score

Representing Aggregation

- Tabular representation for aggregation of relationship set *R* = tabular representation for relationship set *R*
- To represent relationship set involving aggregation of *R*, treat the aggregation like an entity set whose primary key = primary key of the table for *R*



Representing Specialization

• Create table for higher-level entity set, and treat specialized entity subsets like weak entity sets



Student	
StudentNumber	StudentName
Graduate	
StudentNumber	ProfessorName
Degree	
StudentNumber	Degree

Professor

ProfessorName

Example Translation

