

# Database Management System I

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**Entity Relational Diagram Model**  
Week #2

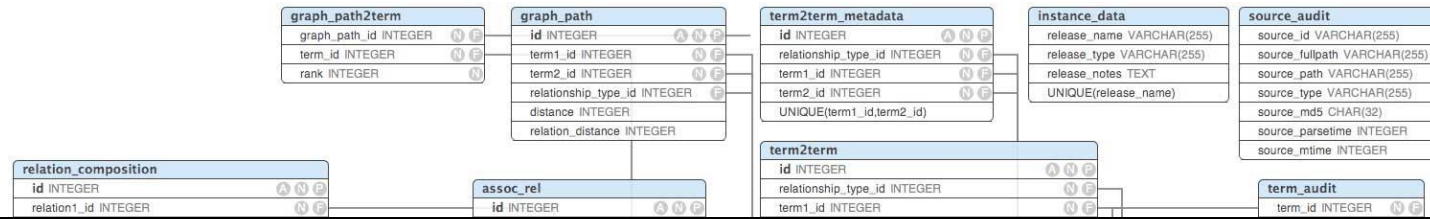
# The Road Ahead

## E/R Diagram

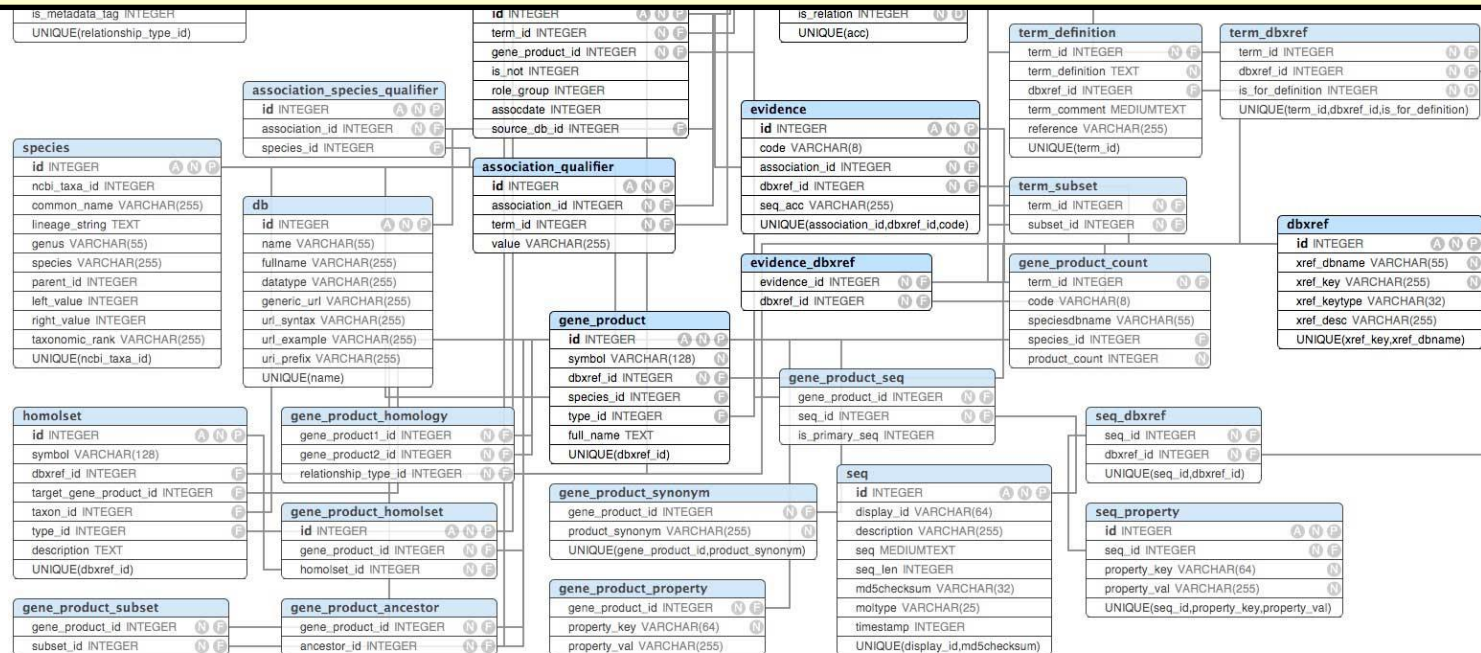
- Introduction to Entity-Relationship (ER) Diagrams
- Entity
- Relationship
- Constraints
- Subclasses
- Weak Entity Sets
- ER Design Principle
- Translating an ER Diagram into a Relational Scheme Design



# A real database may have a large number of tables...



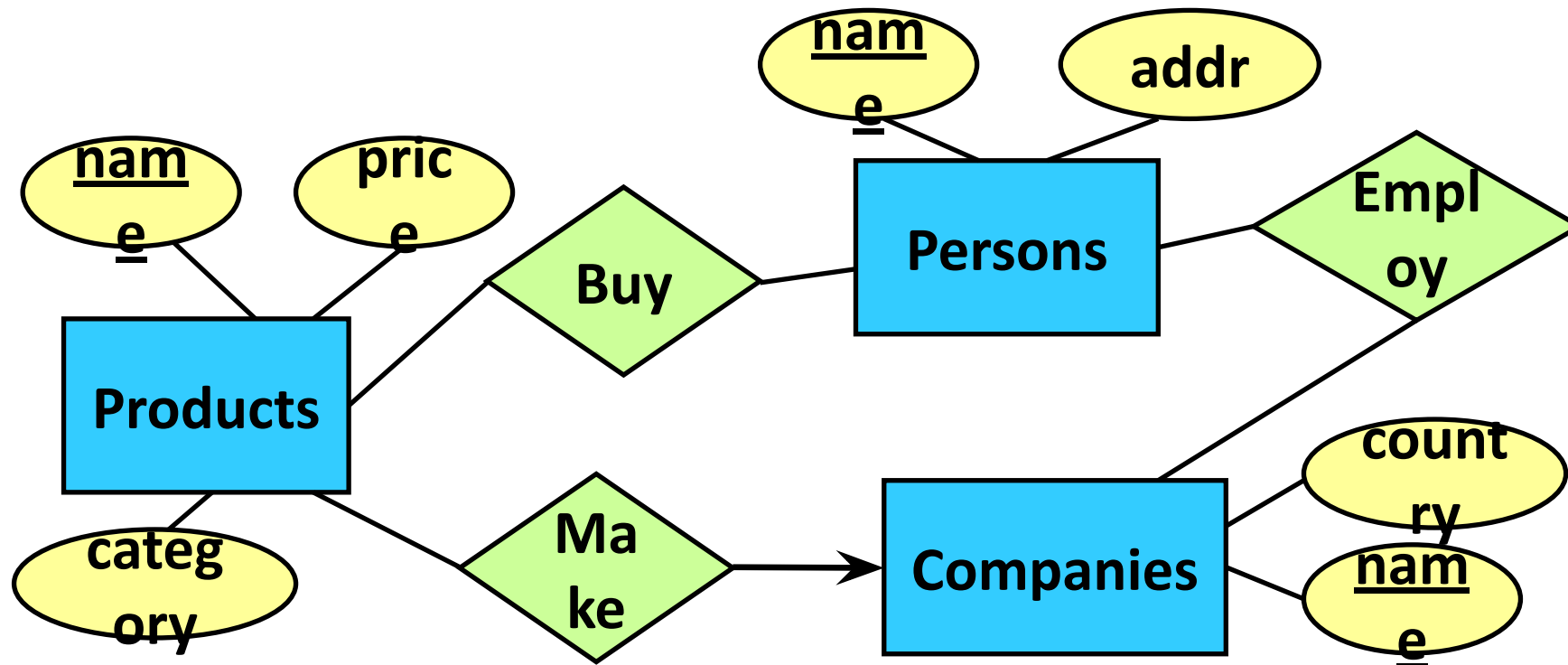
- Imagine that you are asked to design a database like this....
- How would you approach the problem?



# Designing a Database for an Application

- Conceptually model the requirements of the application
  - What are the things that need to be stored?
  - How do they interact with each other?
- **Tool to use: Entity-Relationship (ER) Diagrams**
  - for modelling
- Translate the conceptual model into a set of tables
- Create the tables with a DBMS

# ER Diagram

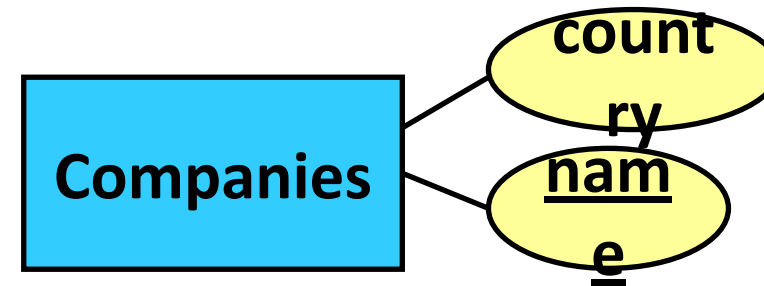
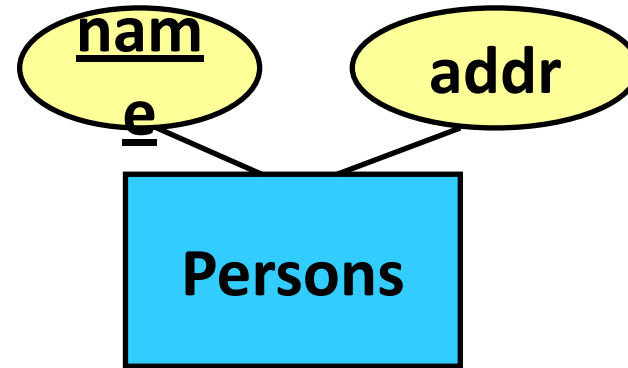
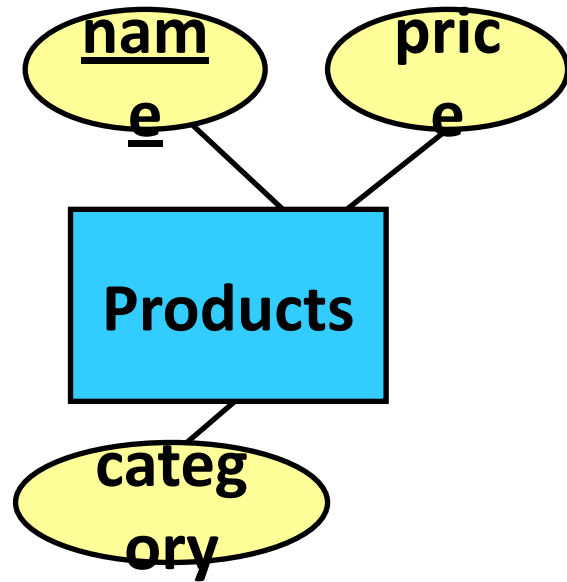


# ER Diagram



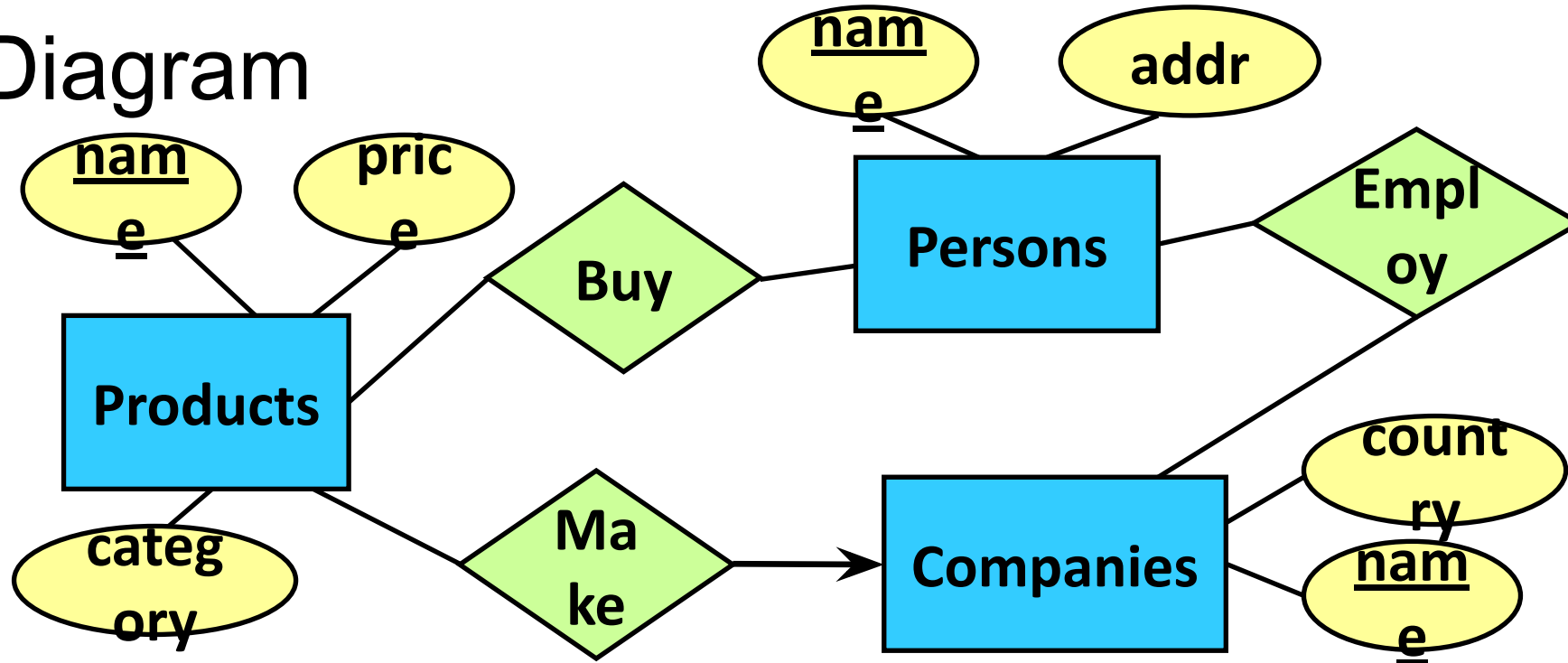
- Rectangle = **Entity**
- **Entity** = Real-world object (e.g., a bar)
- **Entity Set** = Collection of similar objects (e.g., a set of bars)

# ER Diagram



- Oval = **Attribute** = Property of an entity set

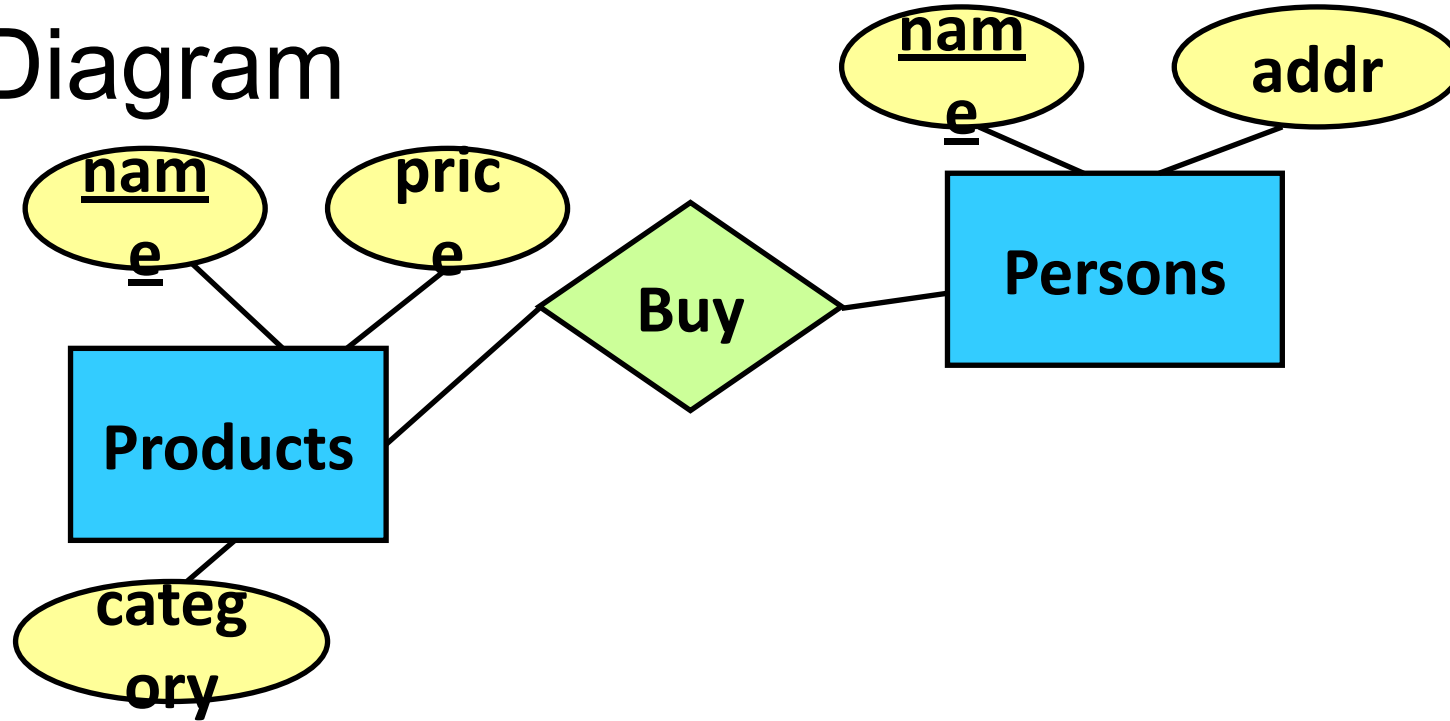
# ER Diagram



- Diamond = **Relationship** = Connection between two entity sets

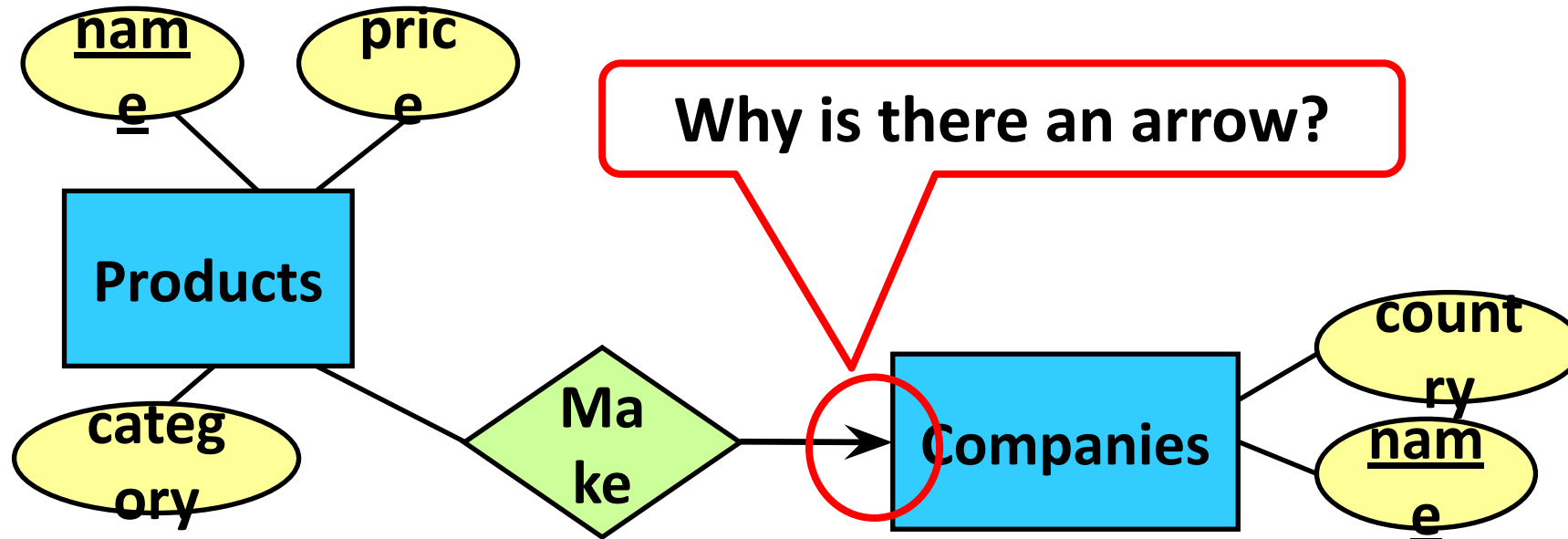


# ER Diagram



- Diamond = **Relationship** = Connection between two entity sets
- Persons buy products

# ER Diagram

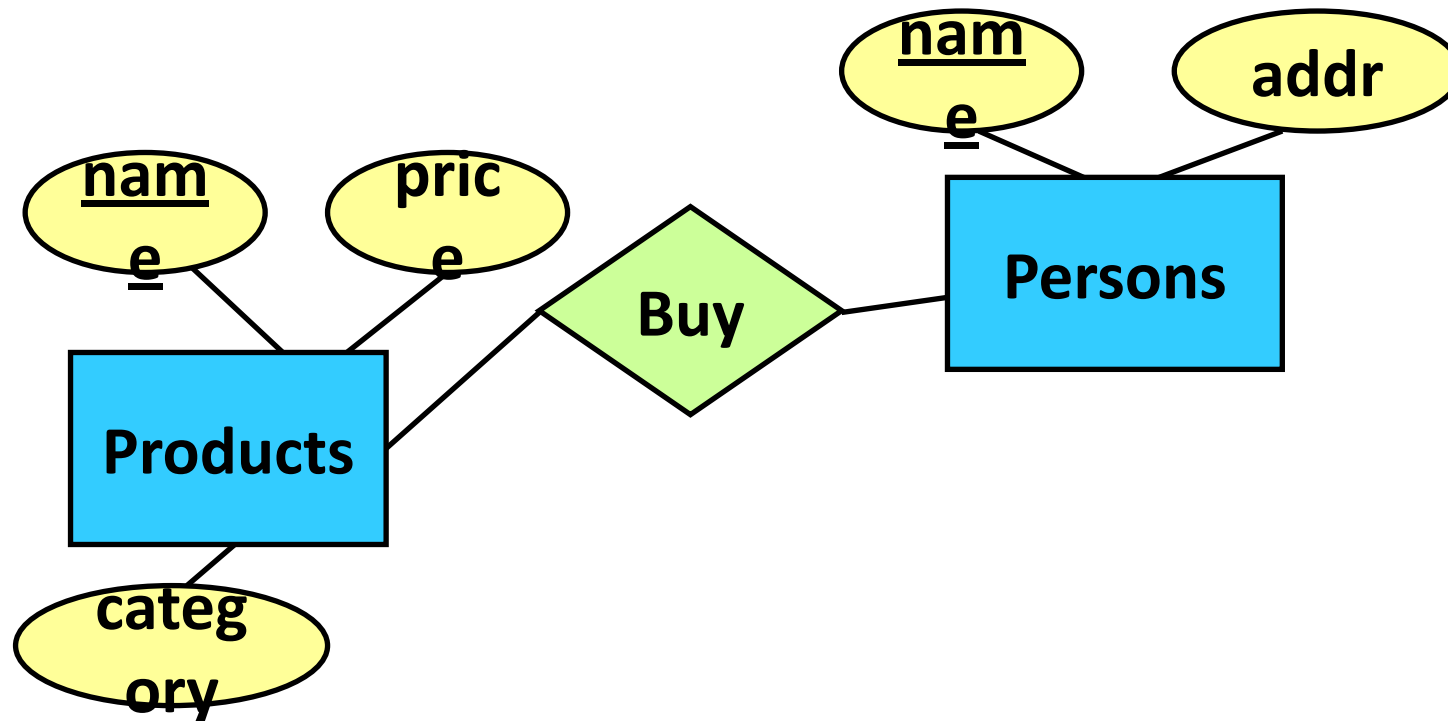


- Diamond = **Relationship** = Connection between two entity sets
- Companies make products

# Types of Relationships

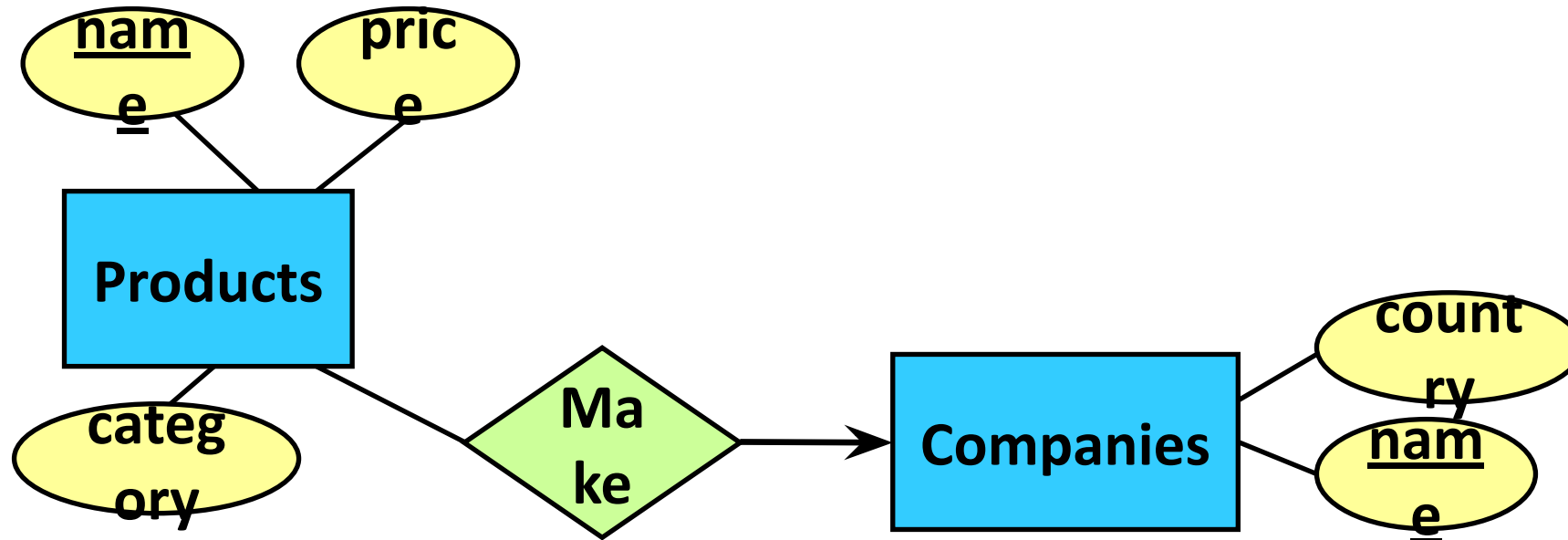
- Many-to-Many Relationships
- Many-to-One Relationships
- One-to-One Relationships

# Many-to-Many Relationship



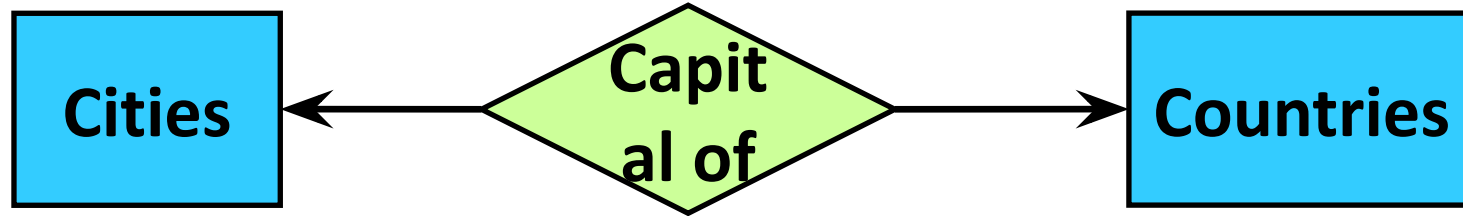
- One person can buy multiple products
- One product can be bought by multiple persons

# Many-to-One Relationship



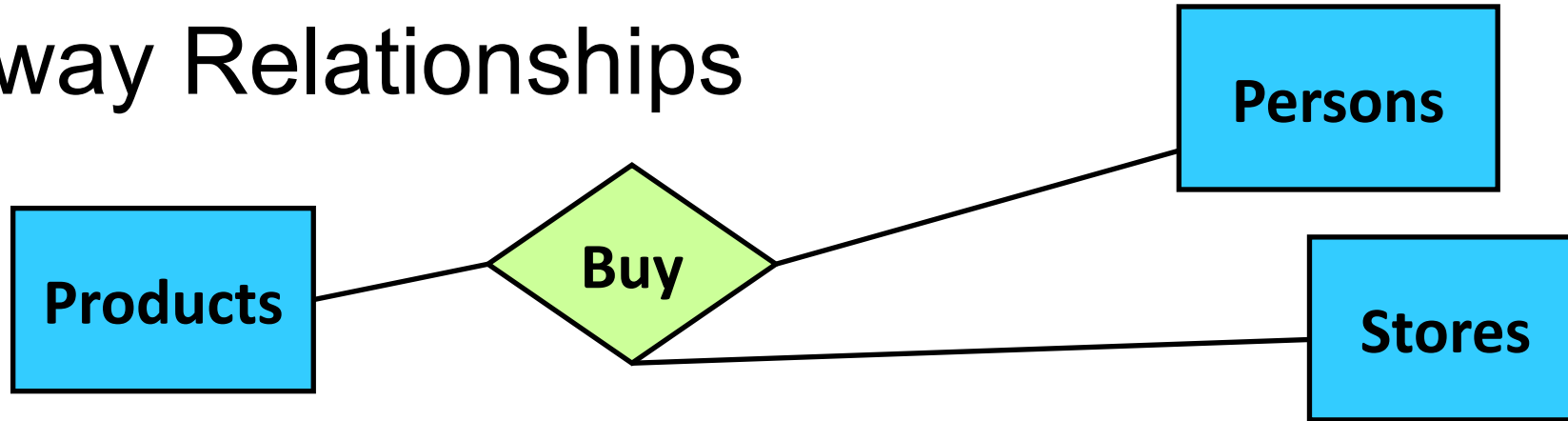
- One company can make multiple products
- But one product can only be made by one company (at most)

# One-to-One Relationship



- A city can be the capital of only one country
- A country can have only one capital city

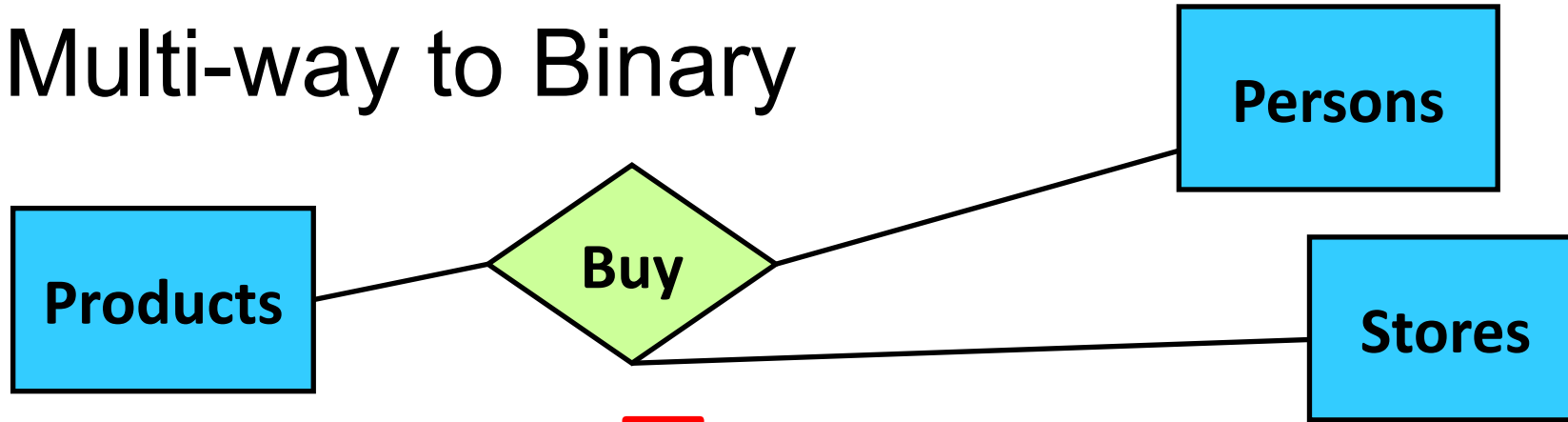
# Multi-way Relationships



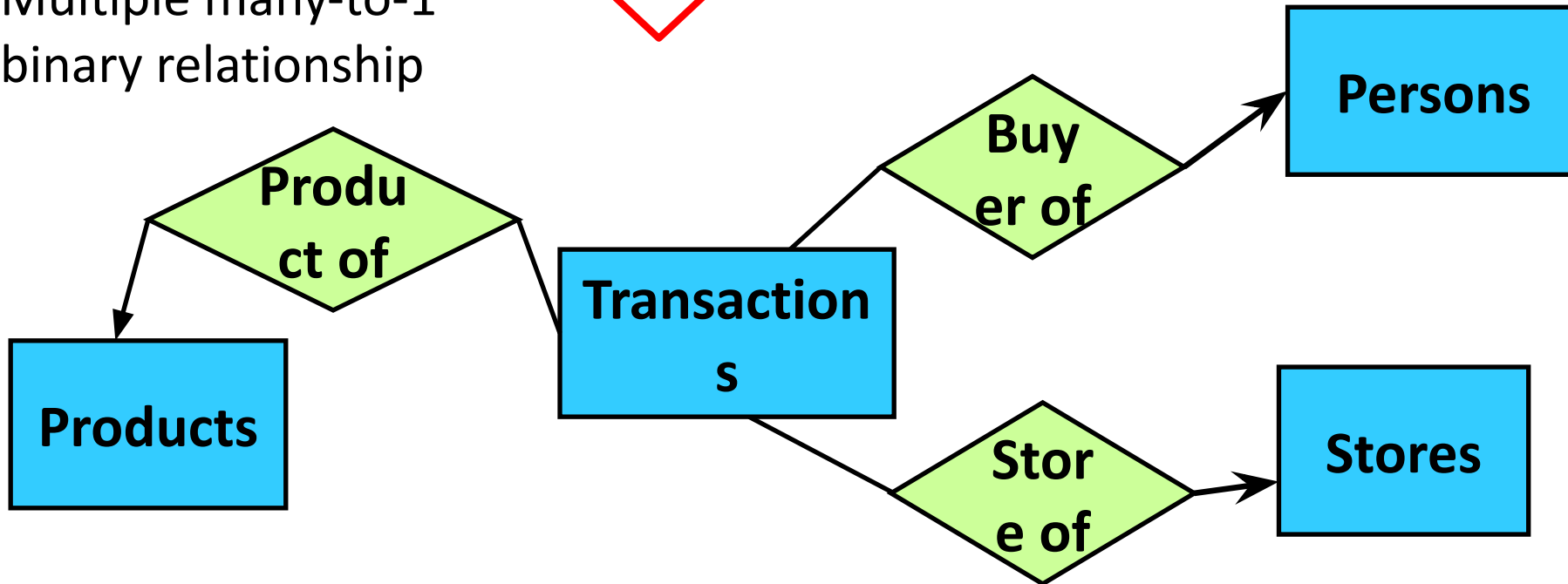
- What if we want to record the store from which the person buys the product?
- We can use a 3-way relationship

person	product	store
Ray	Milk Skim	S&S NTU
Ray	Milk Chocolate	S&S NTU
Ray	Milk Chocolate	NUS co-op
Peter	Milk Skim	S&S NTU

# From Multi-way to Binary

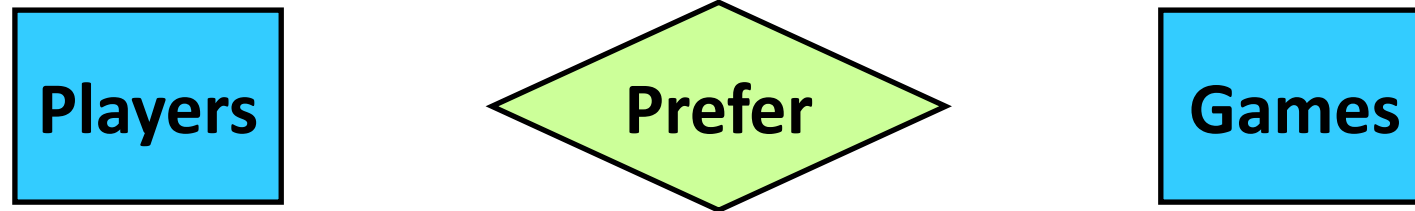


Multiple many-to-1  
binary relationship





# Exercise



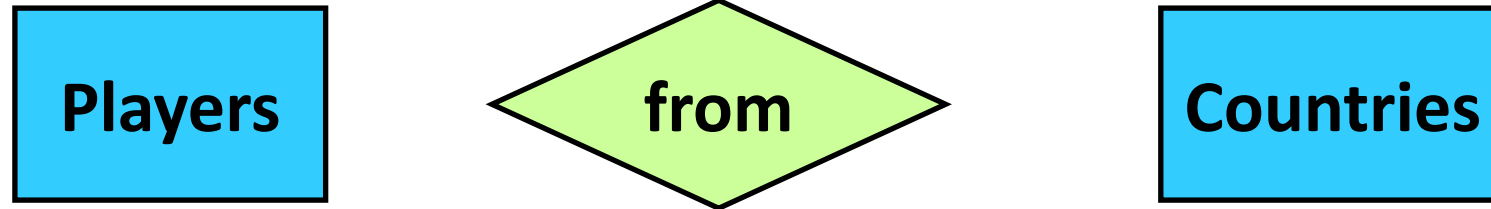
- Each player prefers only one game
  - One player can prefer one game
  - One game can be preferred by many players
  - P-G Many-to-One
- Many-to-many?
- Many-to-one?
- One-to-one?

# Exercise



- No two shops sell the same product
  - One product can be sold by one shop
  - One shop can sell many products
  - P-G One-to-One
- Many-to-many?
- Many-to-one?
- One-to-one?

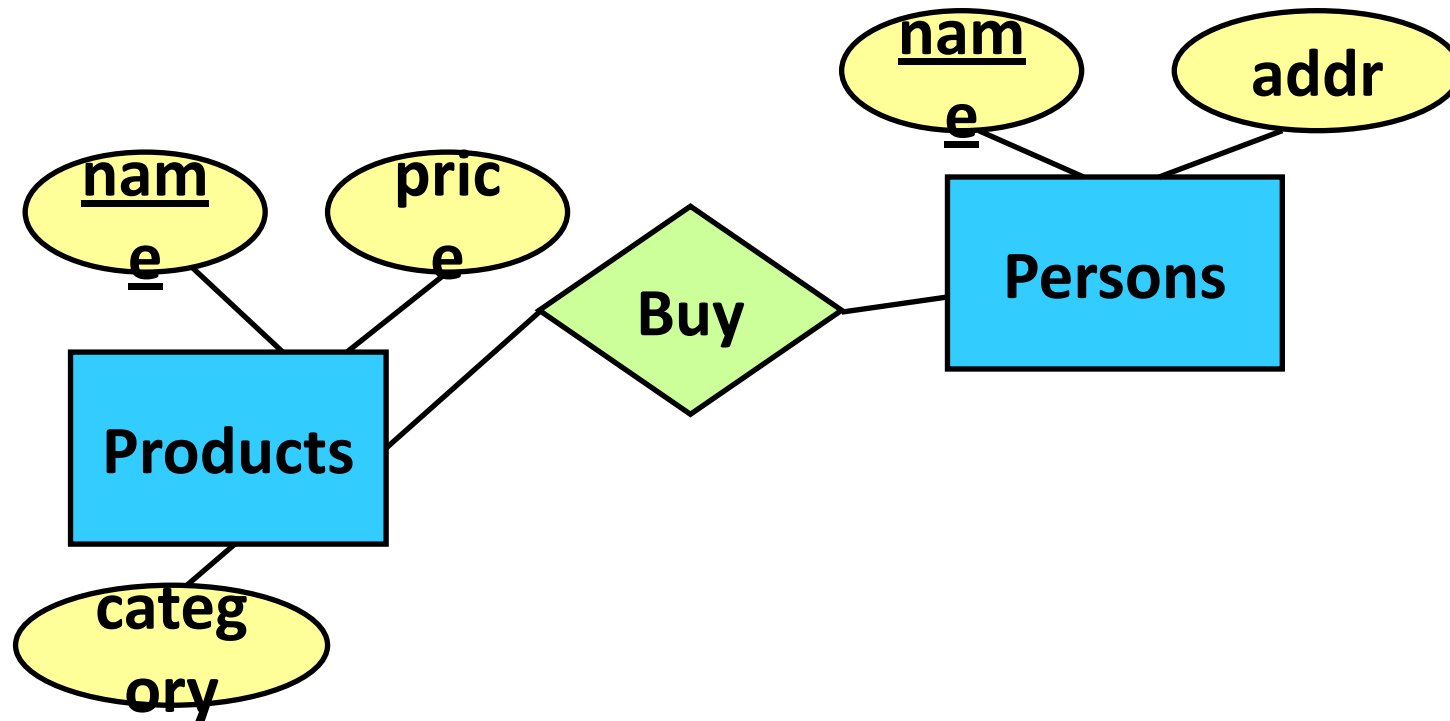
# Exercise



- Any two players are from two different countries
  - One player can be from one country
  - One country can have one player only
  - P-G One-to-One
- Many-to-many?
- Many-to-one?
- One-to-one?

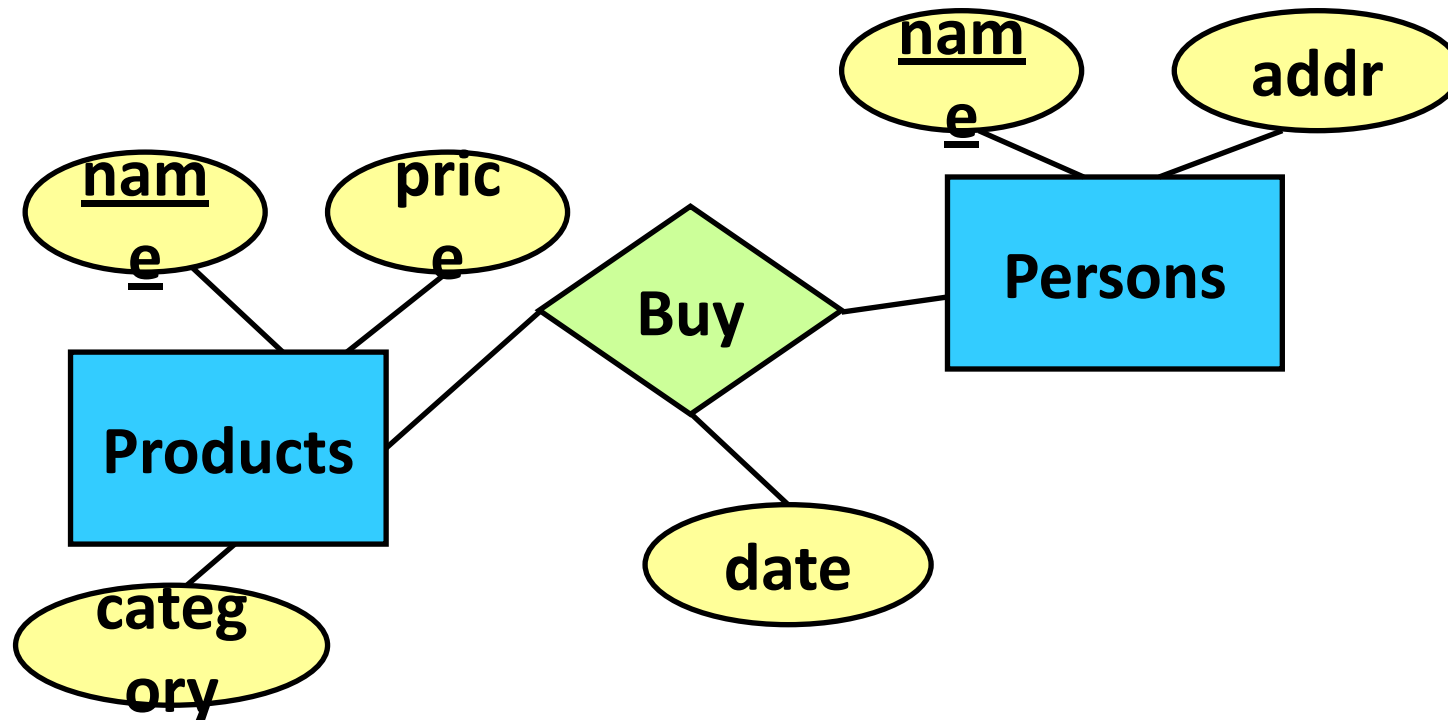
# One More Thing about Relationships

- A relationship can have its own attribute

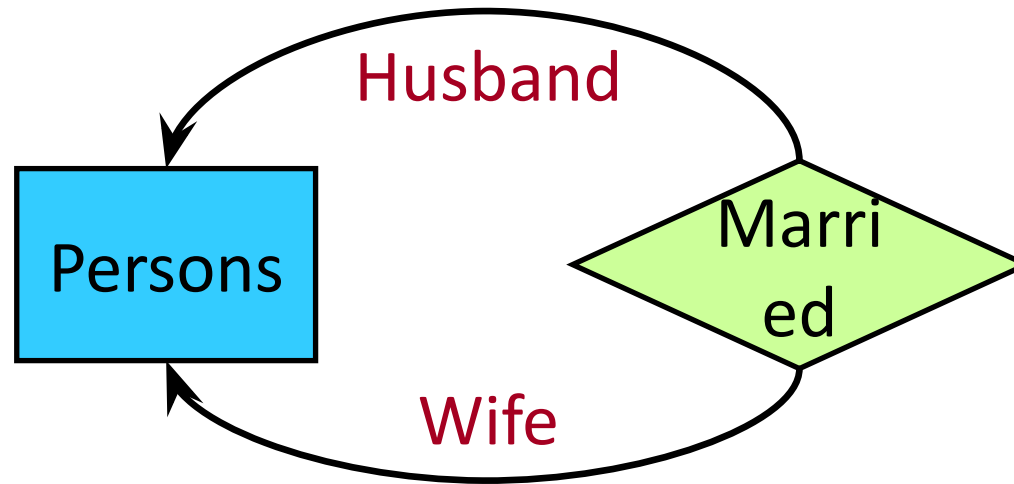


# One More Thing about Relationships

- A relationship can have its own attribute
- If we want to record the date of the purchase



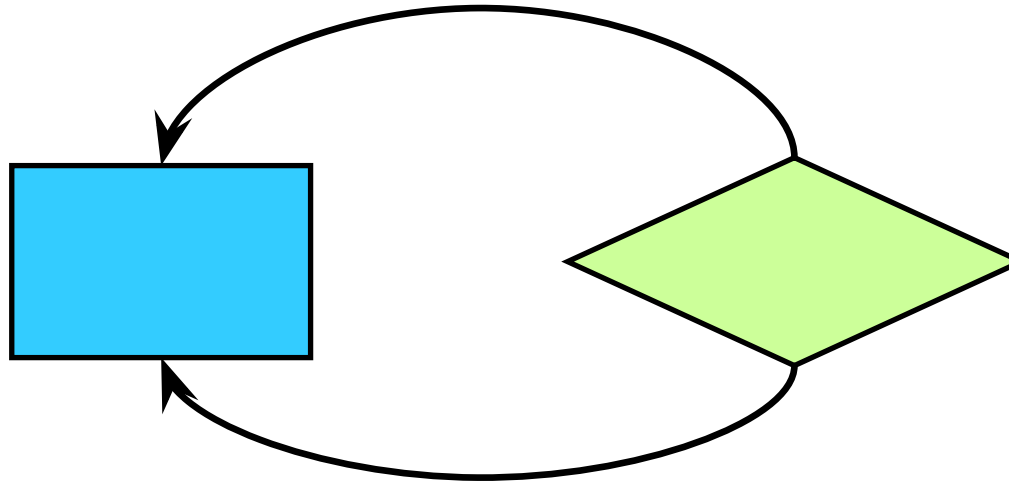
# Roles



- Sometimes an entity set may appear more than once in a relationship
- Example: some persons are married to each other
- The role of the person is specified on the edge connecting the entity set to the relationship

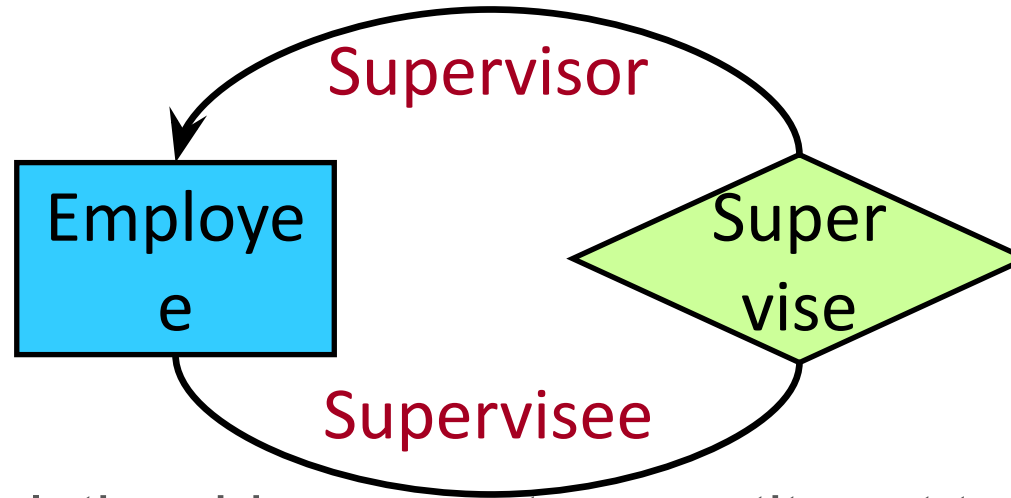
Husband	Wife
Bob	Alice
David	Cathy
...	...

# Roles



- Question: A relationship connects an entity set to itself, does it have to be one-to-one?
- Answer: No

# Roles



- Question: A relationship connects an entity set to itself, does it have to be one-to-one?
- Answer: No
- Example above:
  - One employee has only one supervisor, but may have many supervisee



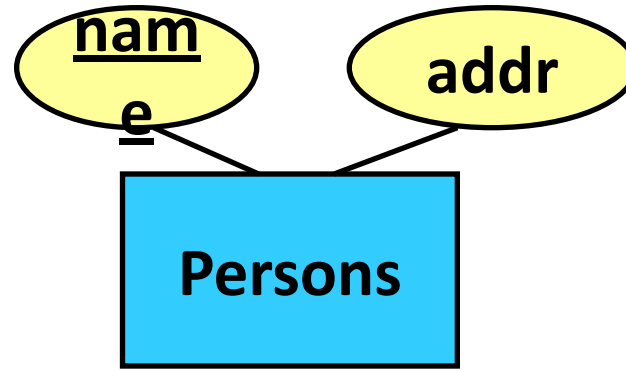
# Roadmap

- Constraints
- Subclasses
- Weak Entity Sets
- ER Design Principle
- Translating an ER Diagram into a Relational Scheme Design

# Constraints

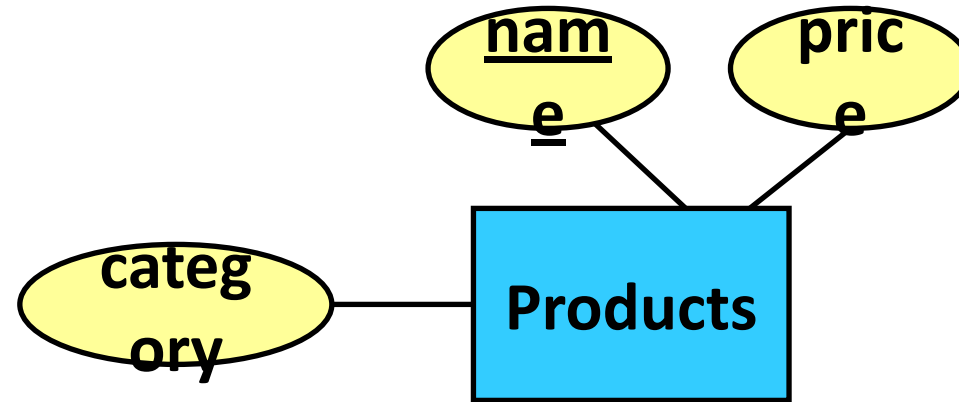
- Some conditions that entity sets and relationships should satisfy
- We will focus on three types of constraints
  - Key constraints
  - Referential integrity constraints
  - Degree constraints

# Key



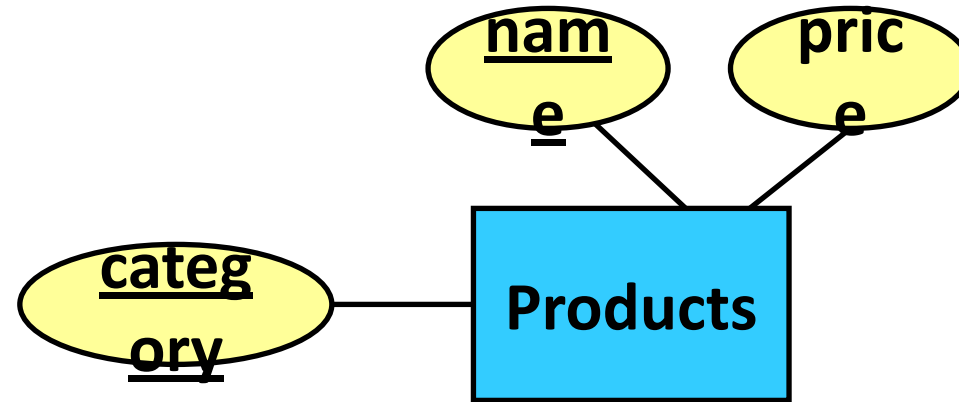
- One or more attributes that are underlined
- Meaning: They uniquely represent each entity in the entity set
- Example: The names uniquely represent the persons
- i.e., each person must have a unique name

# Key



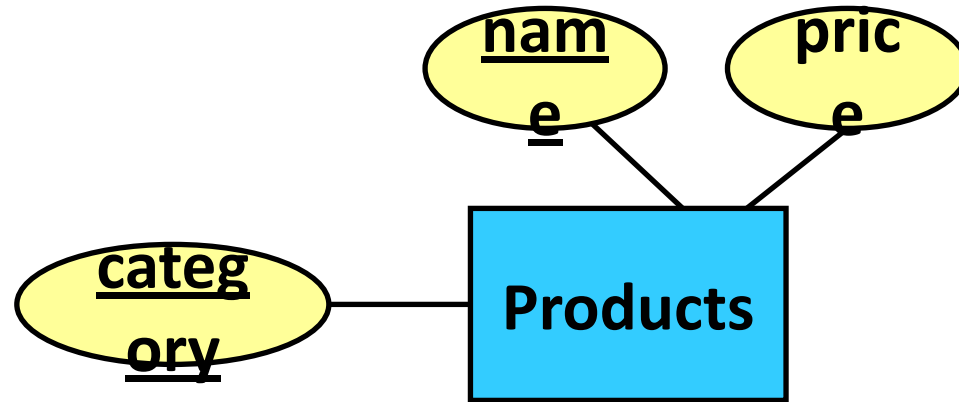
- One or more attributes that are underlined
- Meaning: They uniquely represent each entity in the entity set
- Example: Each product has a unique name

# Key



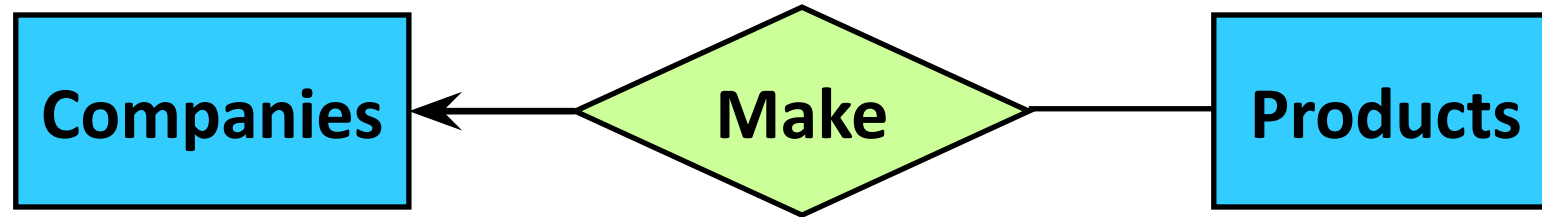
- One or more attributes that are underlined
- What now?
- Each product has a unique <name, category> combination
- But there can be products with the same name, or the same category, but not both
- Example
  - Name = "Apple", Category = "Fruit", Price = "1"
  - Name = "Apple", Category = "Phone", Price = "888"

# Key



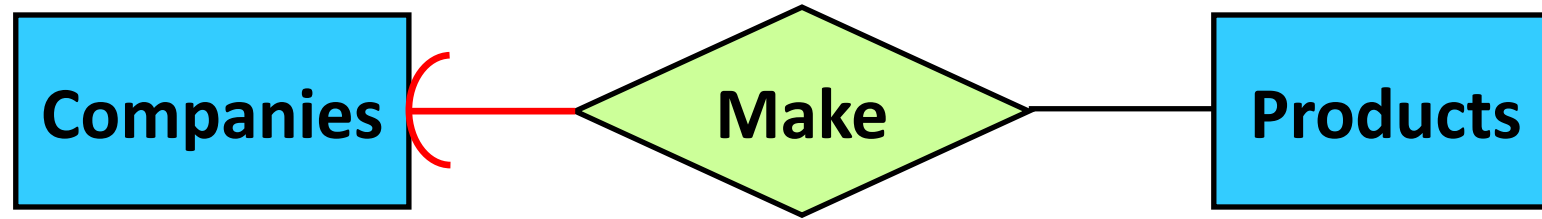
- Rule: Every entity set should have a key
  - So that we can uniquely refer to each entity in the entity set

# Referential Integrity



- One company may make multiple products
- One product is made by one company
- Can there be a product that is not made by any company?
- No.
- i.e., every product must be involved in the Make relationship
- This is called a referential integrity constraint.
- How do we specify this in an ER diagram?
- Use a rounded arrow instead of a pointed arrow

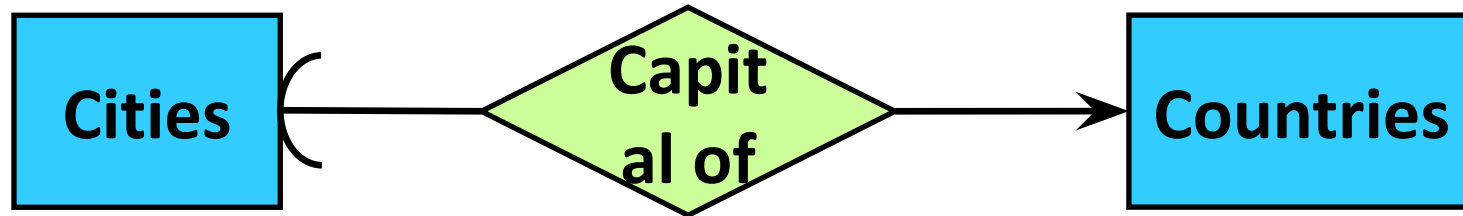
# Referential Integrity



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# Referential Integrity: Exercise



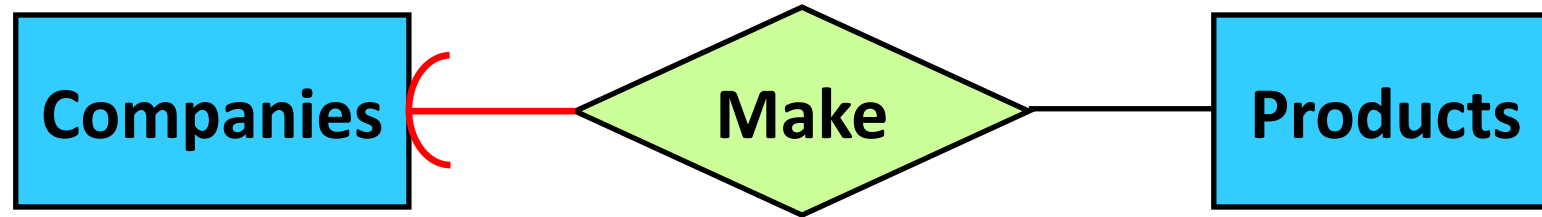
- A city can be the capital of only one country
- A country must have a capital

# Referential Integrity: Exercise



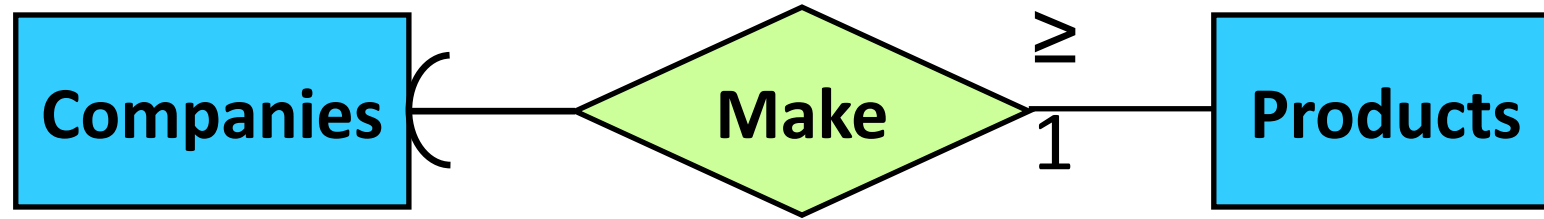
- A company must hire at least one person
- A person must be hired by exactly one company

# Referential Integrity



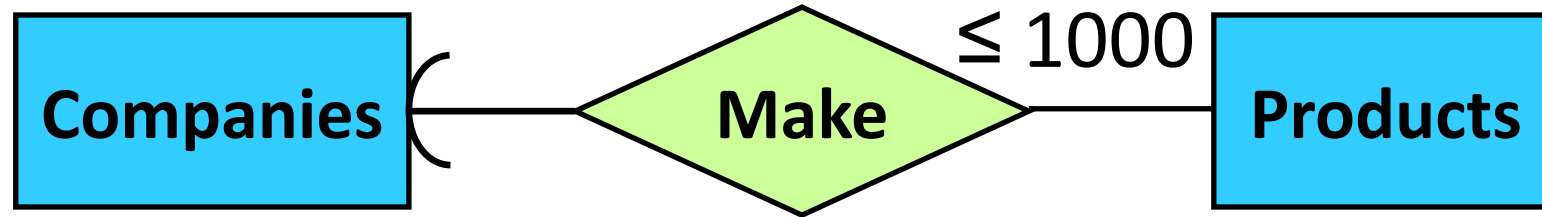
- What if every company should make at least one product?
- In general, a referential integrity constraint can only apply to the “one” side of
  - A many-to-one relationship, or
  - A one-to-one relationship
- For the “many” side, there is another type of constraints to use

# Degree Constraint



- Each company should make at least 1 product

# Degree Constraint

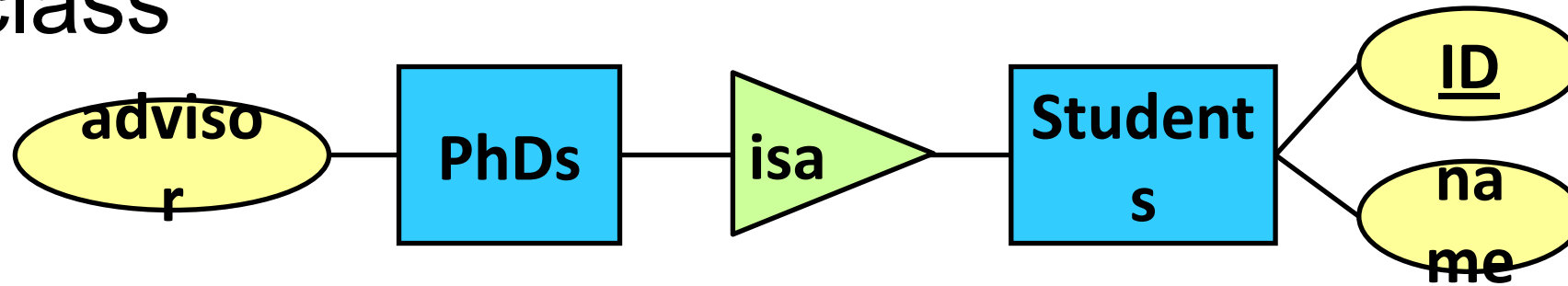


- Each company can make at most 1000 product
- Note
  - Not required in the exam
  - Key and referential integrity constraints can be easily enforced in a DBMS
  - Degree constraints are not easy to enforce

# Roadmap

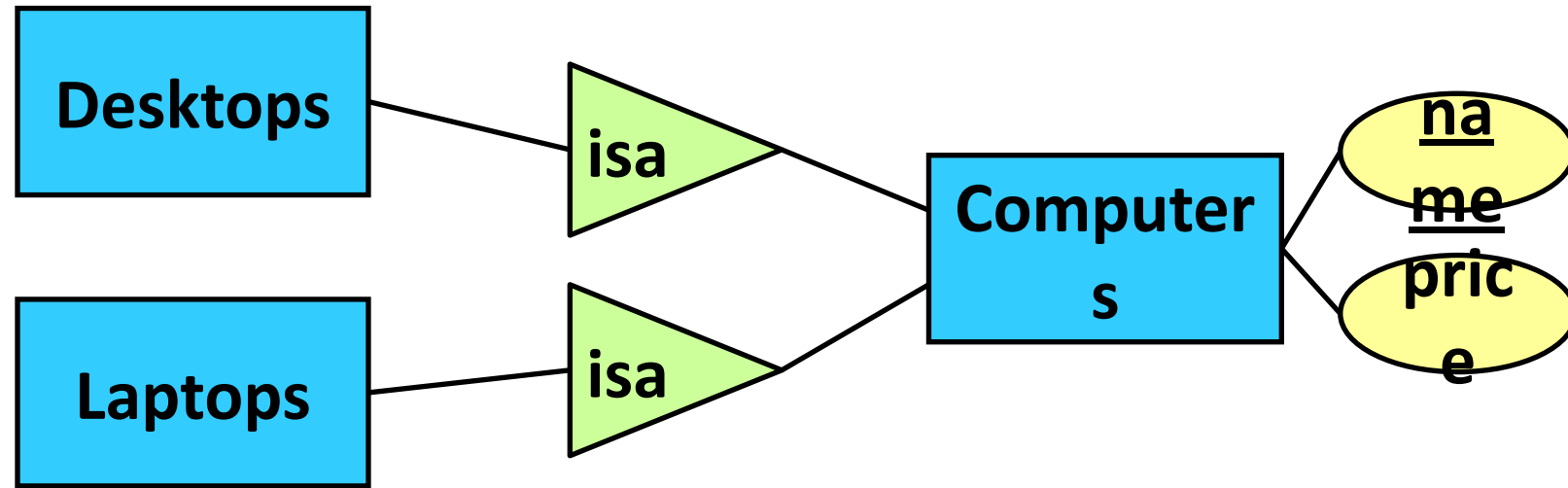
- Constraints
- Subclasses
- Weak Entity Sets
- ER Design Principle
- Translating an ER Diagram into a Relational Scheme Design

# Subclass



- PhDs are a special type of Students
- **Subclass** = Special type
- The connection between a subclass and its superclass is captured by the **isa relationship**, which is represented using a triangle
- Key of a subclass = key of its superclass
- Example: Key of Phds = Students.ID
- Students is referred to as the **superclass** of PhDs

# Subclass

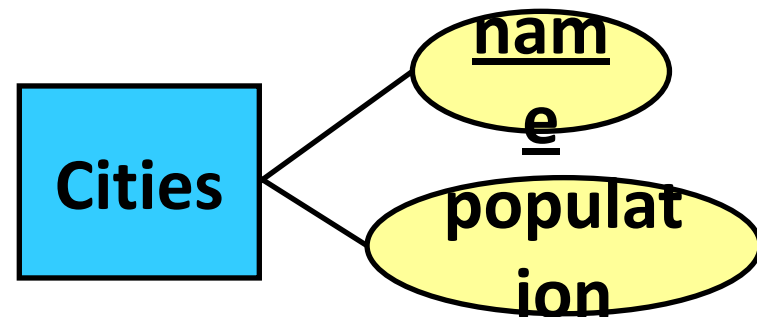


- An entity set can have multiple subclasses
- Example
  - Superclass: Computers
  - Subclass 1: Desktop
  - Subclass 2: Laptop



# Weak Entity Sets

- Weak entity sets are a special type of entity sets that
  - cannot be uniquely identified by their own attributes
  - needs attributes from other entities to identify themselves
- Example: Cities in USA
- Problem: there are cities with identical names



# Madison

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Madison** may refer to:

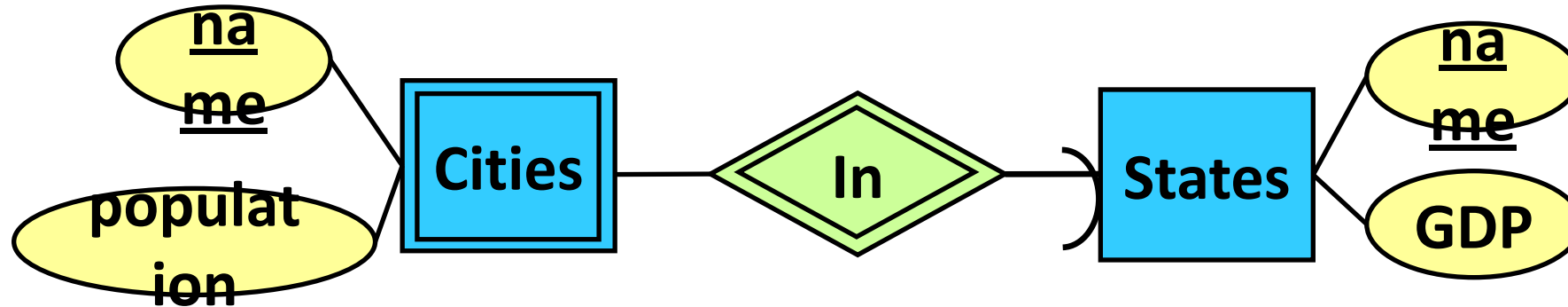
## People

- [Madison \(name\)](#), a given name and a surname

## Place names

- [Madison, Wisconsin](#), the largest city by the name and the state capital of Wisconsin
- [Madison, Alabama](#)
- [Madison, Arkansas](#)
- [Madison, California](#)
- [Madison, Connecticut](#)
- [Madison, Florida](#)
- [Madison, Georgia](#)
- [Madison, Illinois](#)
- [Madison, Indiana](#)
- [Madison, Kansas](#)
- [Madison, Maine](#)
  - [Madison \(CDP\), Maine](#), census-designated place within the town of Madison
- [Madison, Minnesota](#)
- [Madison, Mississippi](#)
- [Madison, Missouri](#)
- [Madison, Nebraska](#)
- [Madison, New Hampshire](#)
- [Madison, New Jersey](#)
- [Madison \(town\), New York](#)
  - [Madison \(village\), New York](#), within the town of Madison
- [Madison, North Carolina](#)
- [Madison, Ohio](#)
- [Madison, Pennsylvania](#)
- [Madison, South Dakota](#)
- [Madison, Tennessee](#)
- [Madison, Virginia](#)
- [Madison, West Virginia](#)
- [Madison \(town\), Wisconsin](#), adjacent to the city of Madison
- [Madison Lake, Minnesota](#)
- [Madison Park, Seattle, Washington State](#)

# Weak Entity Sets



- Problem: there are cities with identical names
- Observation: cities in the same state would have different names
- Solution: make Cities a **weak entity set** associated with the entity set States : **Double-lined rectangle**
- The relationship In is called the **supporting relationship** of Cities : **Double-lined diamond**
- The key of Cities = (State.name, Cities.name)
  - Zero or more of its own attributes
  - Key attributes from entity sets that are reached by **supporting relationships** to other entity sets

# Exercise

- Consider two entity sets: Players and Teams
- Each player has a name and a number
- Each team has a name and a manager
- Each player plays for exactly one team, and is uniquely identified within the team by his/her number
- Each team is uniquely identified by its name
- Different players may have the same name
- Draw a ER diagram that captures the above statements
- What is the key of Players?

# Road Map

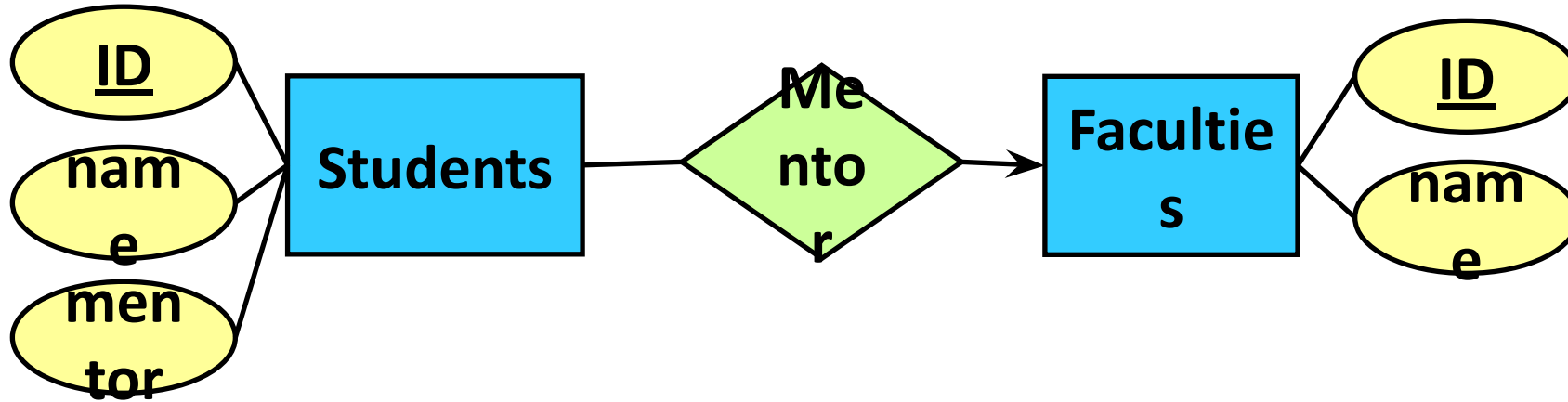
- Design Principle of ER Diagrams
- Translating an ER Diagram into a Relational Scheme Design

# Design Principle 1: Be Faithful

- Be faithful to the specifications of the application
- Capture the requirements as much as possible

# Design Principle 2: Avoid Redundancy

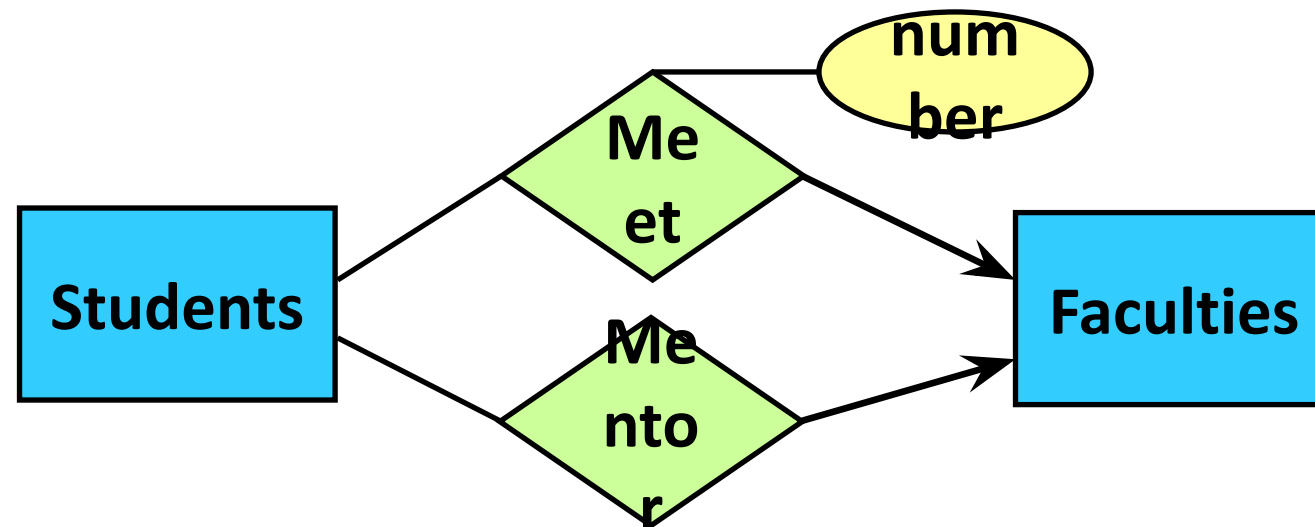
- Avoid repetition of information
- Example



- Problems that can be caused by redundancy
  - Waste of space
  - Possible inconsistency

# Design Principle 3: Keep It Simple

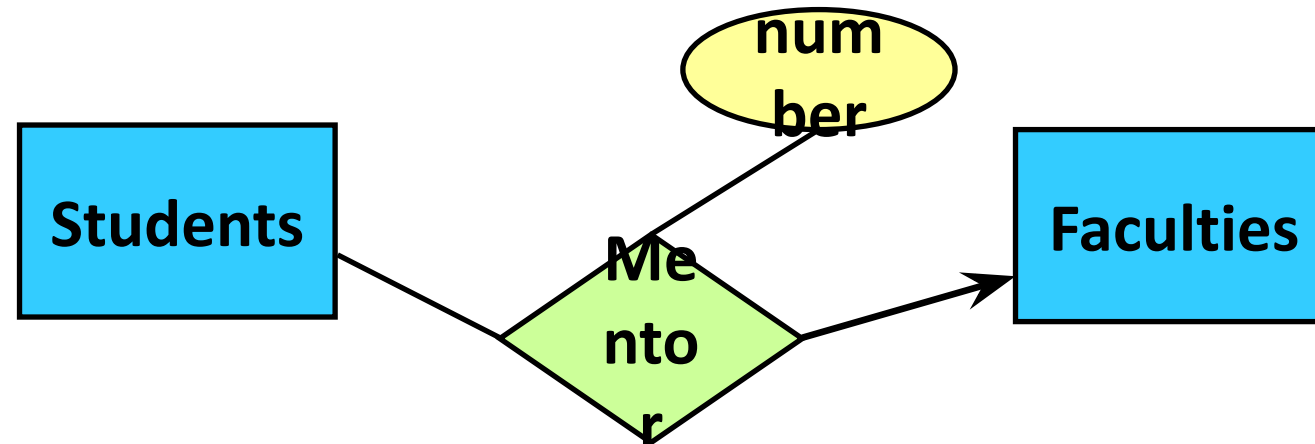
- Each student is mentored by one faculty
- One faculty can mentor multiple students
- We also record the number of times that a mentee meets with his/her mentor
- Design below: Not wrong, but can be simplified





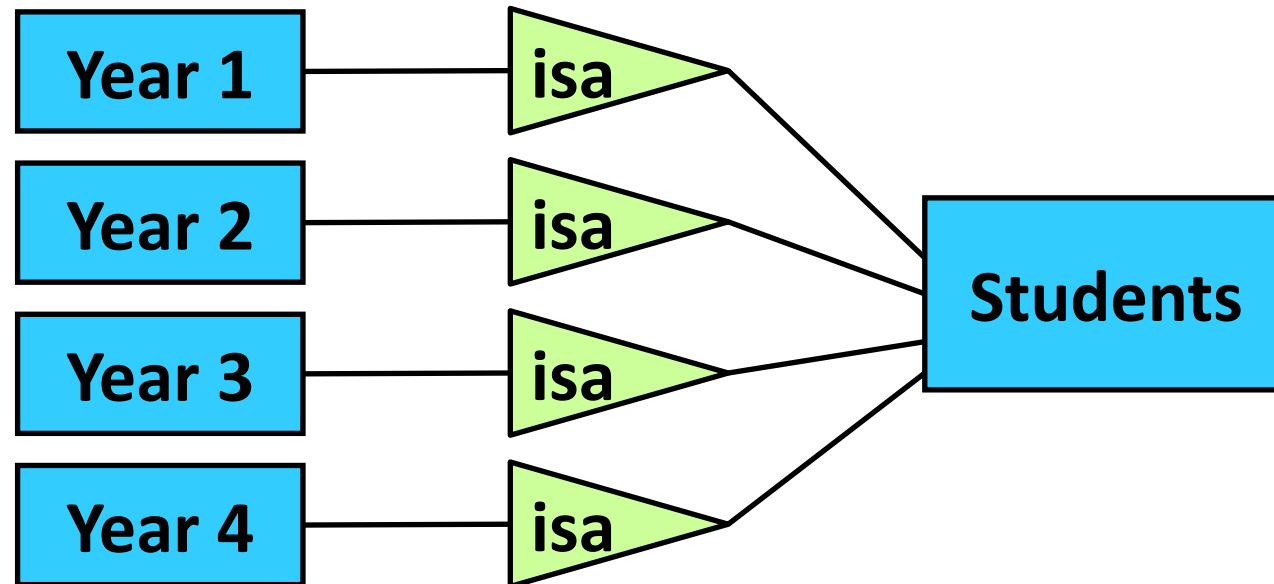
# Design Principle 3: Keep It Simple

- Each student is mentored by one faculty
- One faculty can mentor multiple students
- We also record the number of times that a mentee meets with his/her mentor
- Better Design:



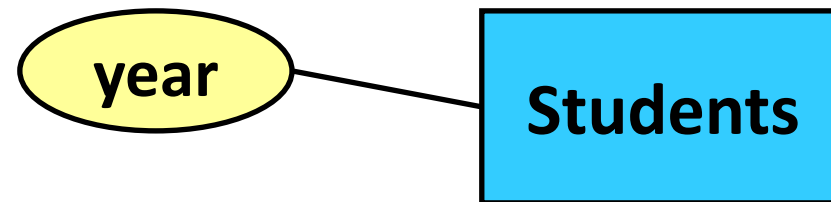
# Design Principle 3: Keep It Simple

- There are four types of students: Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
- Design below: Not wrong, but can be simplified



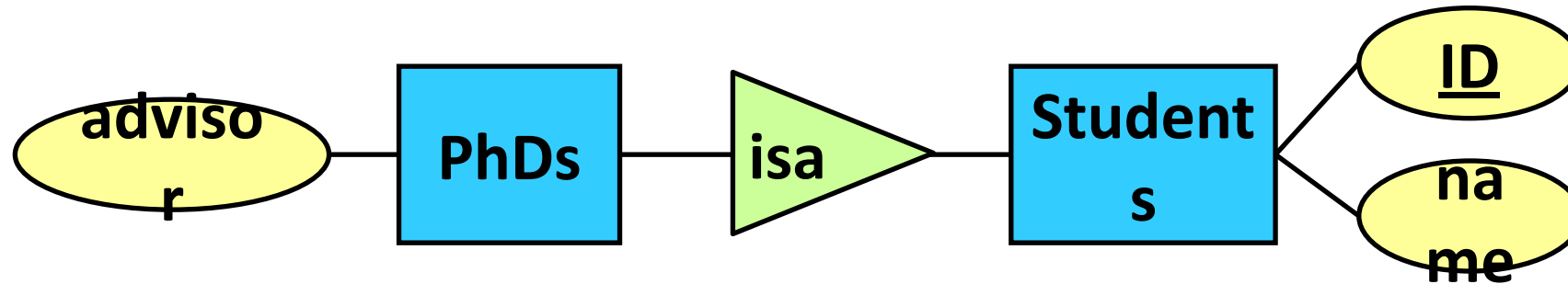
# Design Principle 3: Keep It Simple

- There are four types of students: Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
- Better Design

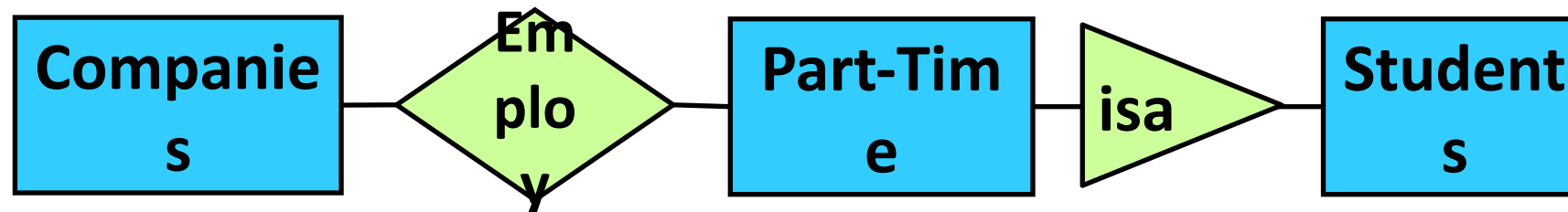


# Tips: When to Use Subclasses

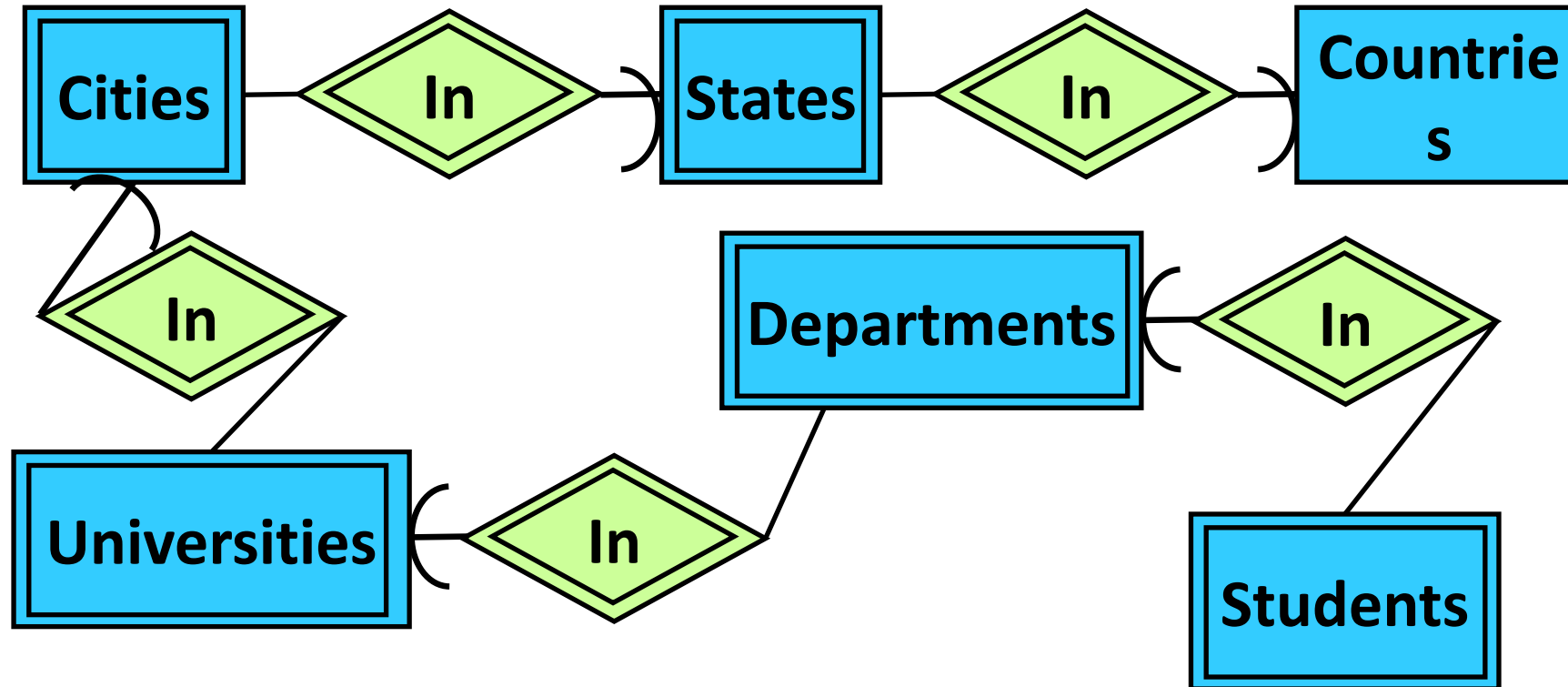
- Case 1: When a subclass has some attribute that is absent from the superclass



- Case 2: When a subclass has its own relationship with some other entity sets



# Design Principle 4: Don't Over-use Weak Entity Sets

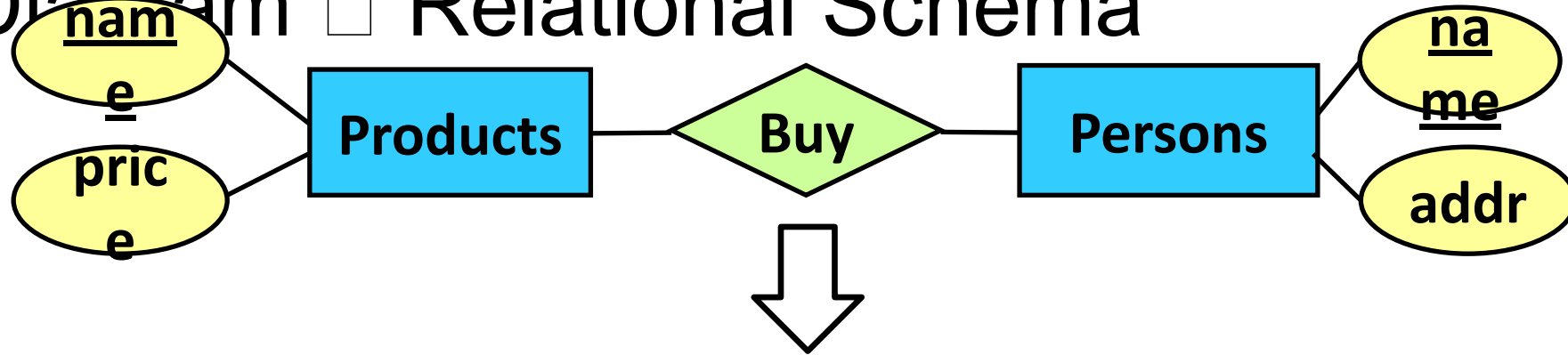


- Too many entity sets that should not be “weak”

# Road Map

- Design Principle of ER Diagrams
- Translating an ER Diagram into a Relational Scheme Design

# ER Diagram $\square$ Relational Schema



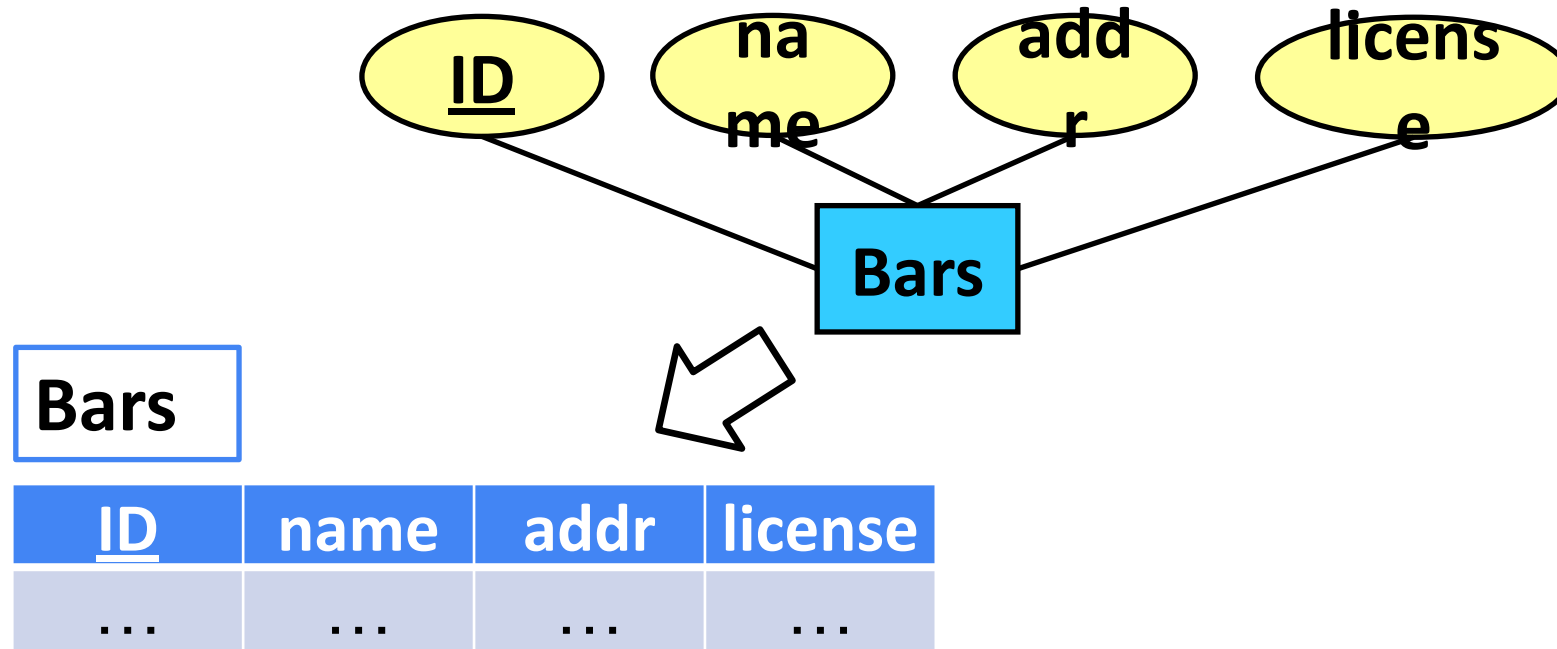
- Products (name, price)
- Persons (name, addr)
- Buy (product\_name, person\_name)
- Terminology
  - A **relation schema** = the name of a table + names of its attributes
  - A **database schema** = a set of relation schemas

# ER Diagram $\square$ Relational Schema

- General rules:
  - Each entity set becomes a relation
  - Each many-to-many relationship becomes a relation
- Special treatment needed for:
  - Weak entity sets
  - Subclasses
  - Many-to-one and one-to-one relationships

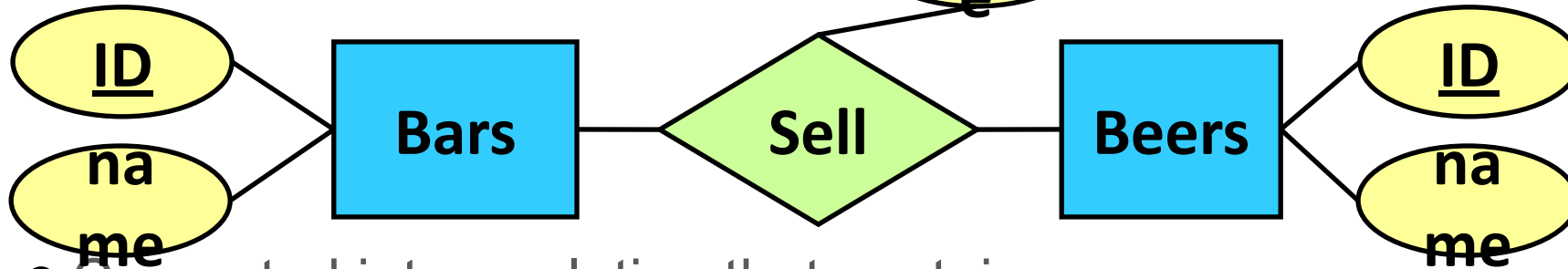


# Entity Set $\square$ Relation



- Each entity set is converted into a relation that contains all its attributes
- The key of the relation = the key of the entity set

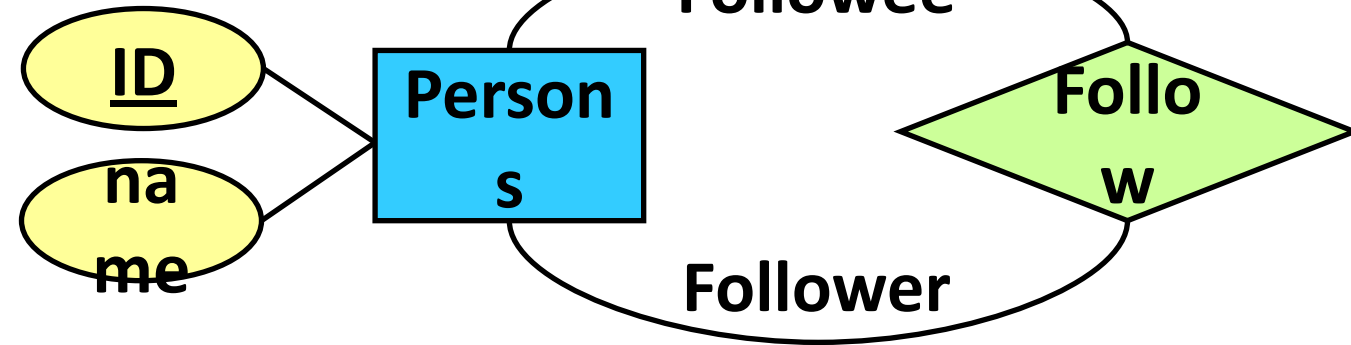
# Many-to-Many Relationship Relation



- Converted into a relation that contains
  - all keys of the participating entity sets, and
  - the attributes of the relationship (if any)
- Normally, Key of relation = Keys of the participating entity sets

Sell	<u>Bars-ID</u>	<u>Beers-ID</u>	price
	...	...	...

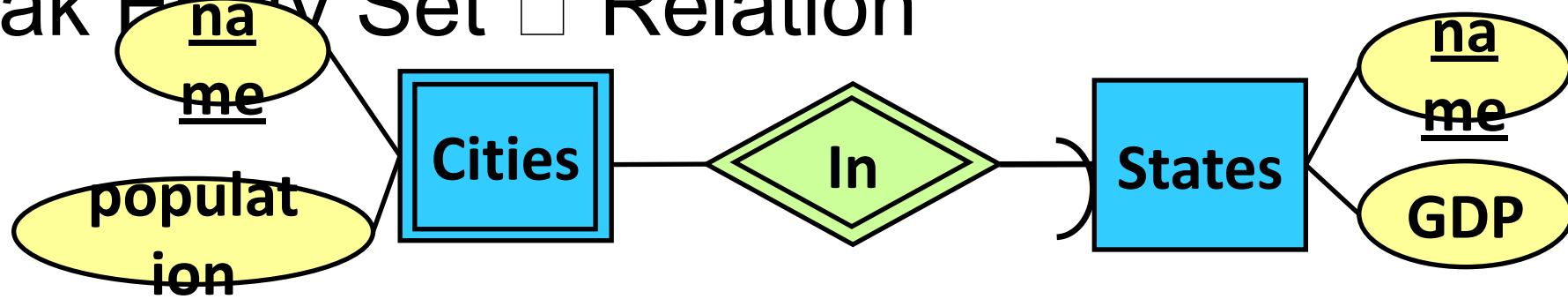
# Many-to-Many Relationship



- If an entity is involved multiple times in a relationship
  - Its key will appear in the corresponding relation multiple times
  - The key is re-named according to the corresponding role

Follow	<u>Follower-ID</u>	<u>Followee-ID</u>
	...	...

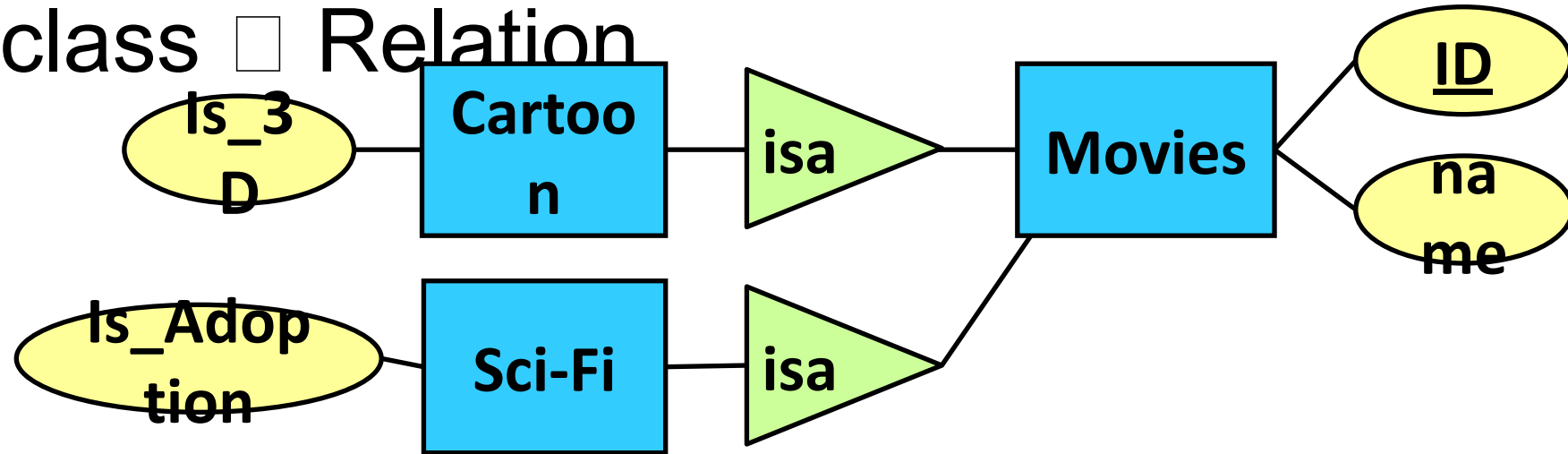
# Weak Entity Set □ Relation



- Each weak entity set is converted to a relation that contains
  - all of its attributes, and
  - the key attributes of the supporting entity set
- The supporting relationship is ignored

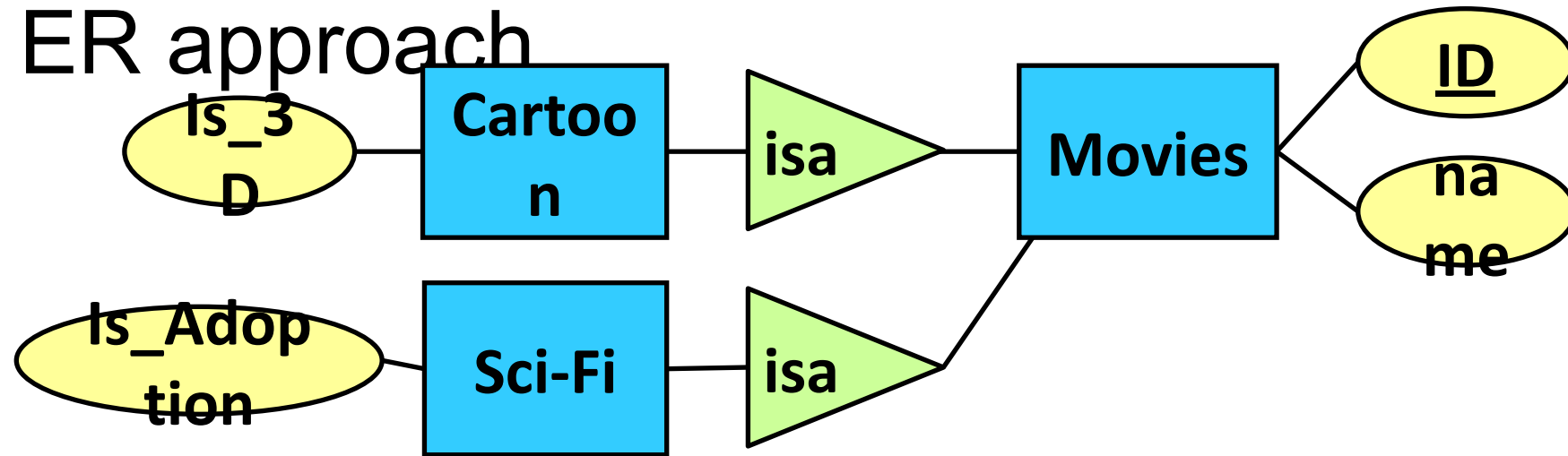
Cities	<u>state-name</u>	<u>city-name</u>	population
	...	...	...

# Subclass Relation



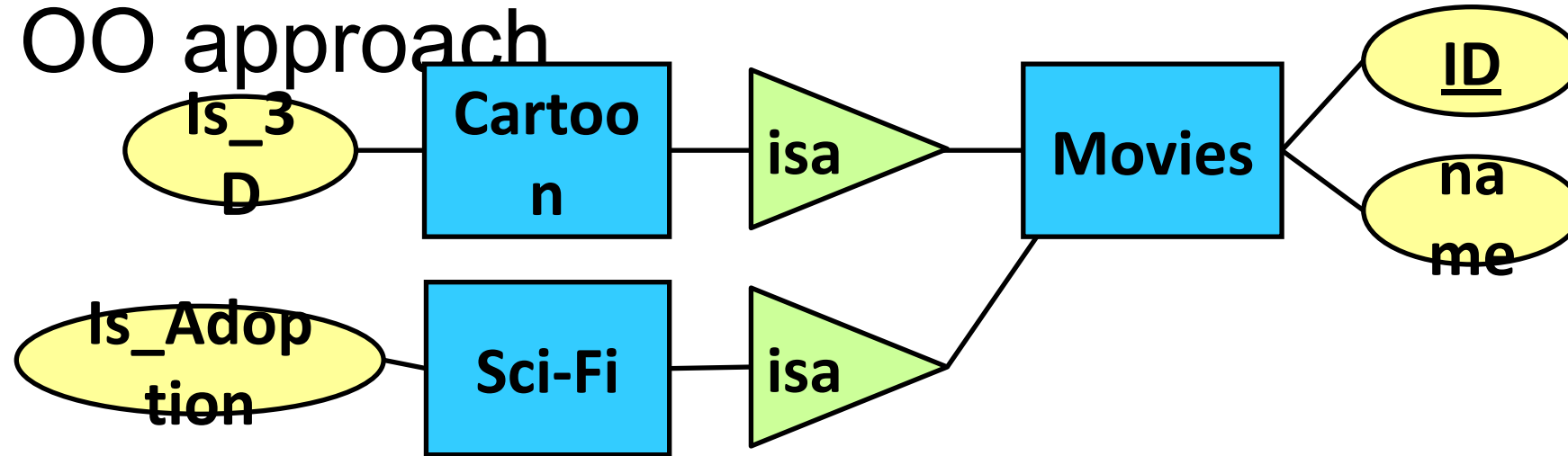
- There are three different ways
  - The ER approach
  - The OO approach
  - The NULL approach

# The ER approach



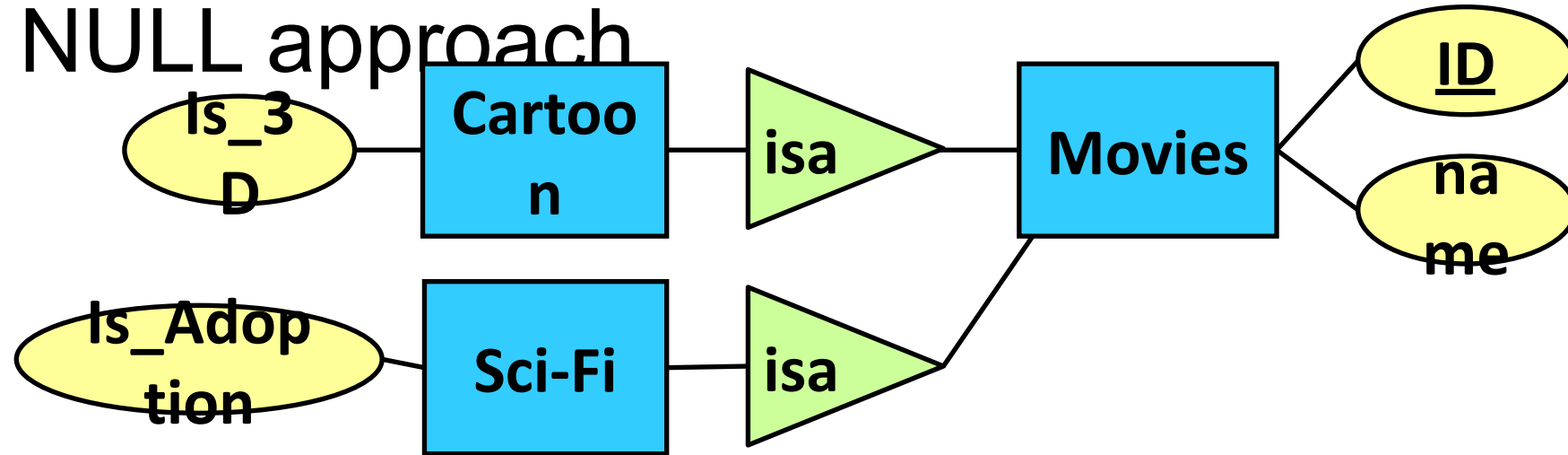
- One relation for each entity set
  - Movies( ID, name )
  - Cartoon( ID, Is\_3D )
  - Sci-Fi( ID, Is\_Adoption )
- A record may appear in multiple relations

# The OO approach



- One relation for each entity set and each possible subclass combination
  - Movies( ID, name )
  - Cartoon( ID, name, Is\_3D )
  - Sci-Fi( ID, name, Is\_Adoption )
  - Sci-Fi-Cartoon( ID, name, Is\_3D, Is\_Adoption )
- Each record appears in only one relation

# The NULL approach



- One relation that includes everything
  - Movies( ID, name, Is\_3D, Is\_Adoption )
- For non-cartoon movies, its “Is\_3D” is set to NULL
- For non-sci-fi movies, its “Is\_Adoption” is set to NULL



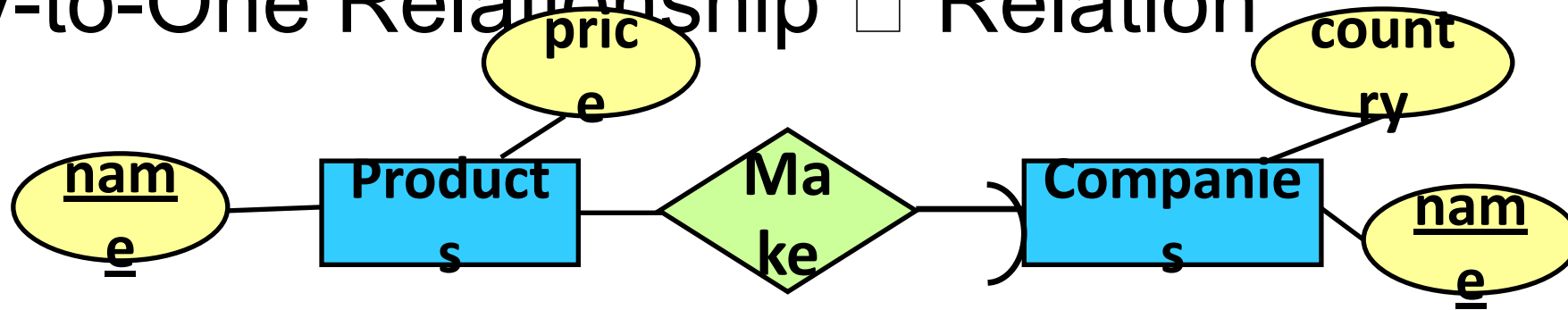
# Which Approach is the Best?

- It depends
- The NULL approach
  - Advantage: Needs only one relation
  - Disadvantage: May have many NULL values
- The OO approach
  - Advantage: Good for searching subclass combinations
  - Disadvantage: May have too many tables
- The ER approach
  - A middle ground between OO and NULL

# ER Diagram $\square$ Relational Schema

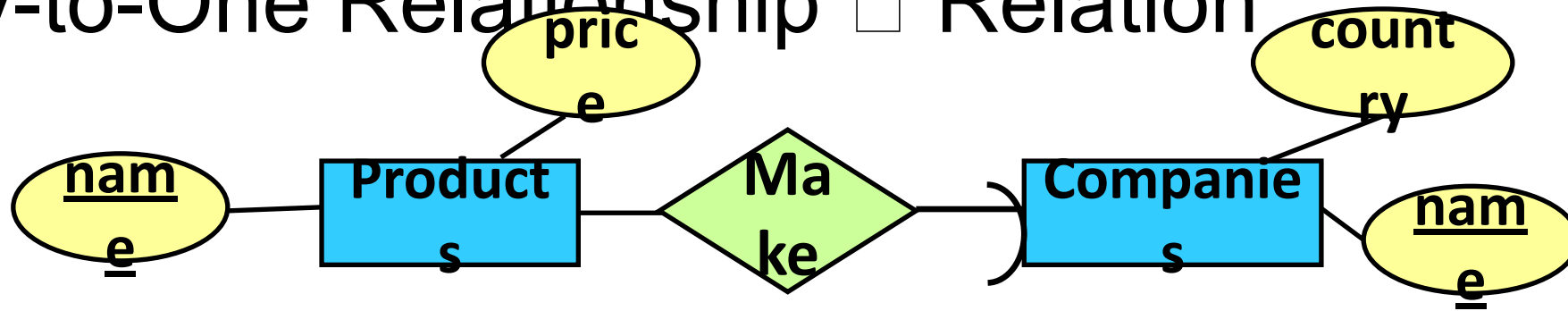
- General rules:
  - Each entity set becomes a relation
  - Each many-to-many relationship becomes a relation
- Special treatment needed for:
  - Weak entity sets
  - Subclasses
  - Many-to-one and one-to-one relationships

# Many-to-One Relationship □ Relation



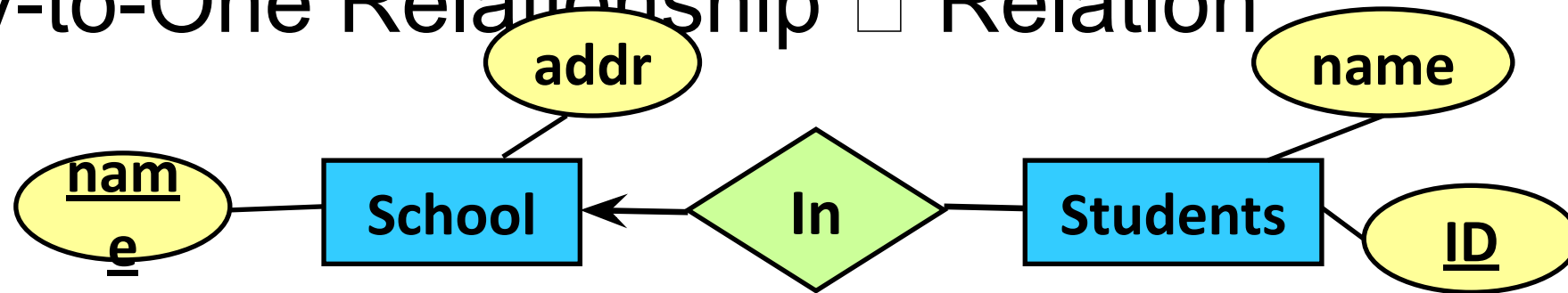
- Intuitive translation:
  - Products( Pname, price )
  - Companies( Cname, country )
  - Make( Pname, Cname )
- Observation: in “Make”, each Pname has only one Cname
- Simplification: Merge “Make” and “Products”
- Results:
  - Products( Pname, price, Cname )
  - Companies( Cname, country )

# Many-to-One Relationship Relation



- In general, we do not need to create a relation for a many-to-one relationship
- Instead, we only need to put the key of the “one” side into the relation of the “many” side

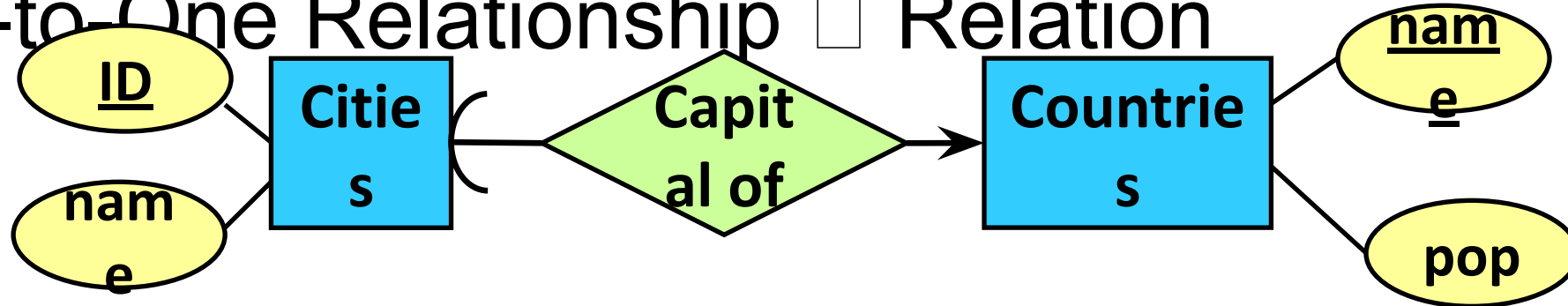
# Many-to-One Relationship □ Relation



## ■ Translation:

- School( Hname, addr )
  - Students( ID, Sname, Hname )
- Only need to put the key of the “one” side into the relation of the “many” side

# One-to-One Relationship □ Relation



- No need to create a relation for a one-to-one relationship
- Only need to put the key of one side into the relation of the other
- Solution 1
  - Cities( TID, Tname )
  - Countries( Cname, pop, TID)
- Solution 2
  - Cities( TID, Tname, Cname )
  - Countries( Cname, pop )

# Summary

- Entity
- Relationship
- Constraints (Key, FK)
- Subclasses
- Weak Entity Sets
- Translating an ER Diagram into a Relational Scheme Design