

SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, COIMBATORE-35



#### (AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)

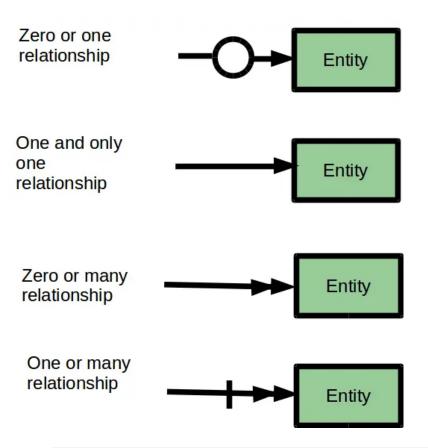
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

#### 23CST201-DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

## UNIT-I

### Introduction

**ER** Notation



• **Zero or one relationship** – a single-headed arrow, with an open circle on the line.

**One relationship** – A straight line with one arrowhead

• **Zero or many relationships** – Two arrowheads, one sitting just behind the other, and a straight line

# • **One or many relationships** – Two arrowheads, like above, with a short, perpendicular line.

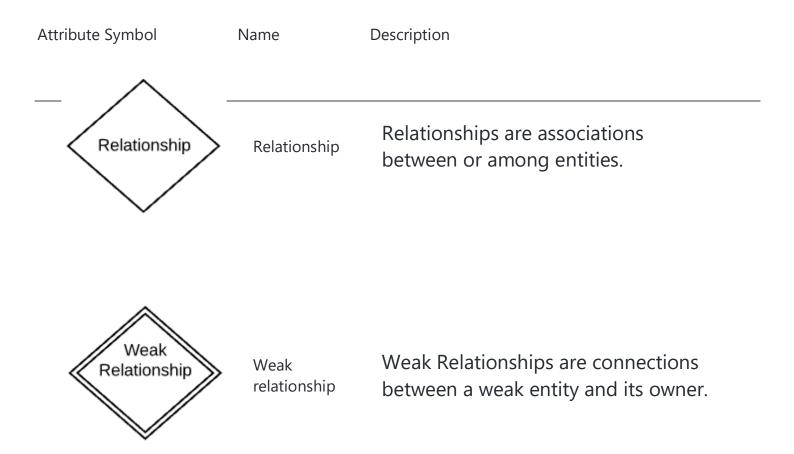
Entity	Strong entity	These shapes are independent from other entities, and are often called parent entities, since they will often have weak entities that depend on them. They will also have a primary key, distinguishing each occurrence of the entity.
Weak Entity	Weak entity	Weak entities depend on some other entity type. They don't have primary keys, and have no meaning in the diagram without their parent entity.
Associative Entity	Associative entity	Associative entities relate the instances of several entity types. They also contain attributes specific to the relationship between those entity instances.

# **ERD relationship symbols**

Relationship Symbol

Name

Description



Within entity-relationship diagrams, relationships are used to document the interaction between two entities. Relationships are usually verbs such as assign, associate, or track and provide useful information that could not be discerned with just the entity types.

## **ERD** attribute symbols

ERD attributes are characteristics of the entity that help users to better understand the database. Attributes are included to include details of the various entities that are highlighted in a conceptual ER diagram.

