



The Entity- Relationship Model

CIS 4301

Lecture Notes

Lecture 3 - 1/19/2006



Constraints

- What are constraints?
- Different classes, e.g.,
 - Key constraint
 - Single-value constraint
 - Domain constraint
 - Referential integrity constraint
 - General constraint (assertion)
- Keys are part of the schema

Keys

- Attributes or sets of attributes that uniquely identify an entity within its entity set
- In E/R diagram notation, underline the attributes belonging to a key for an entity type
- In case there are multiple candidate keys, designate one key, *primary key*

