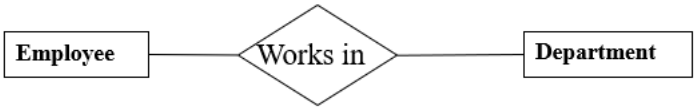
DEGREE OF RELATIONSHIP

Degree of relationship means the number of entities associated in a relationship in a relational model.



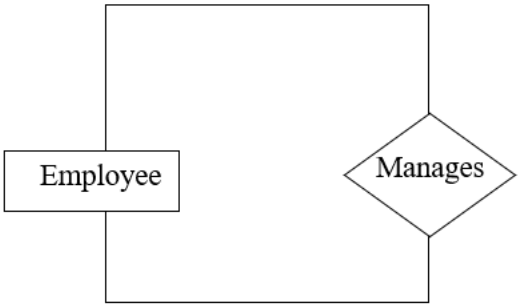
Here in the above relation two entities are associated in a single relationship, so the degree of relationship is 2 hence it is a Binary relationship.

Based on the number of entities associated we have the following degree of relationships:

1. **Unary**
2. **Binary**
3. **Ternary**
4. **N-ary**

1. UNARY:

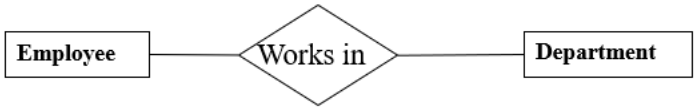
In this only single entity is associated in a relation. It is mostly used to represent the recursive relationship, means a single entity can be further divided in multiple categories. like in a company multiple employees works. To manages these all employees a manager is appointed which is also counted as an employee. Here manager is an employee first then a manager. So, we can represent this relationship like this:



Here employee has relationship itself.

2. BINARY:

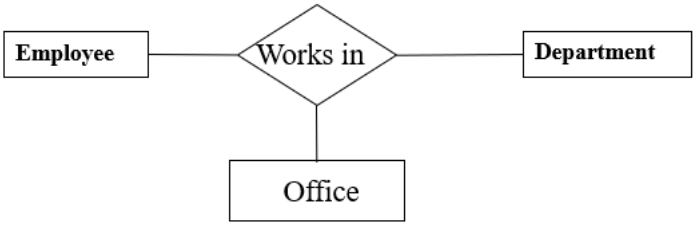
In this, two entities are associated in a relationship. This is most commonly used. This is easy to describe and maintain simplicity.



Here in the above relation two entities are associated in a single relationship, so the degree of relationship is 2 hence it is a Binary relationship.

3. TERNARY:

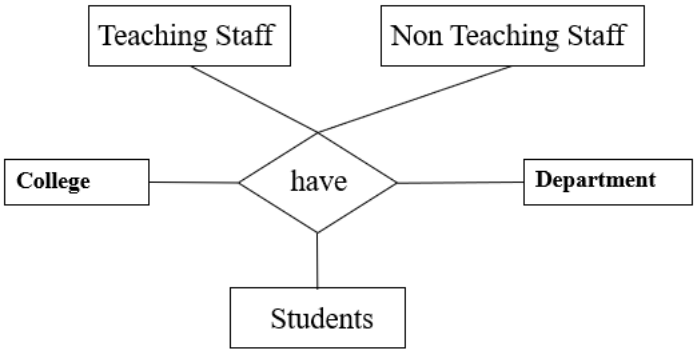
In this, three entities are associated in a relationship.



Here in above given relation an employee works in an office, but the employee should be works in a specific department. So, the employee works in a department in an office.

4. N-ARY:

In this, more than three entities are associated in a relationship.



Here in above relation a college have multiple sections like staff, departments, students etc.

N-ary relationship may have N numbers of entities associated in a single relationship.

Here Unary relationship is used vary rare.

Binary relationship is used frequently and most commonly used.

Ternary and Nary relationships are counted in higher degree relationship and used least. Most of times the higher degree relationship decomposed in binary relationship for make relationship easier and simple.