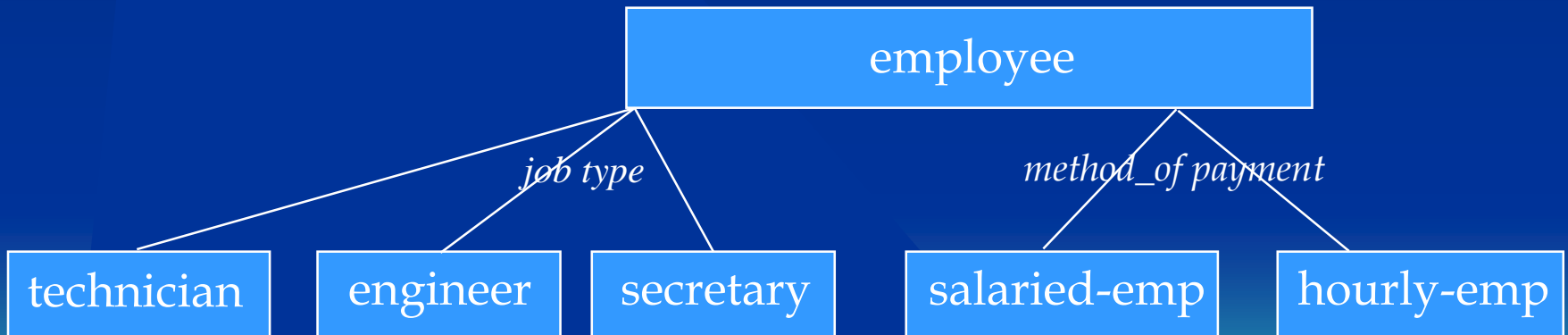


# Specialization

Specialization is the process of defining a set of sub-entities of some entity type.

- Starting with Employee
- Consider the *Job Type* and *Method of payment* attributes
- We can specialize to create:



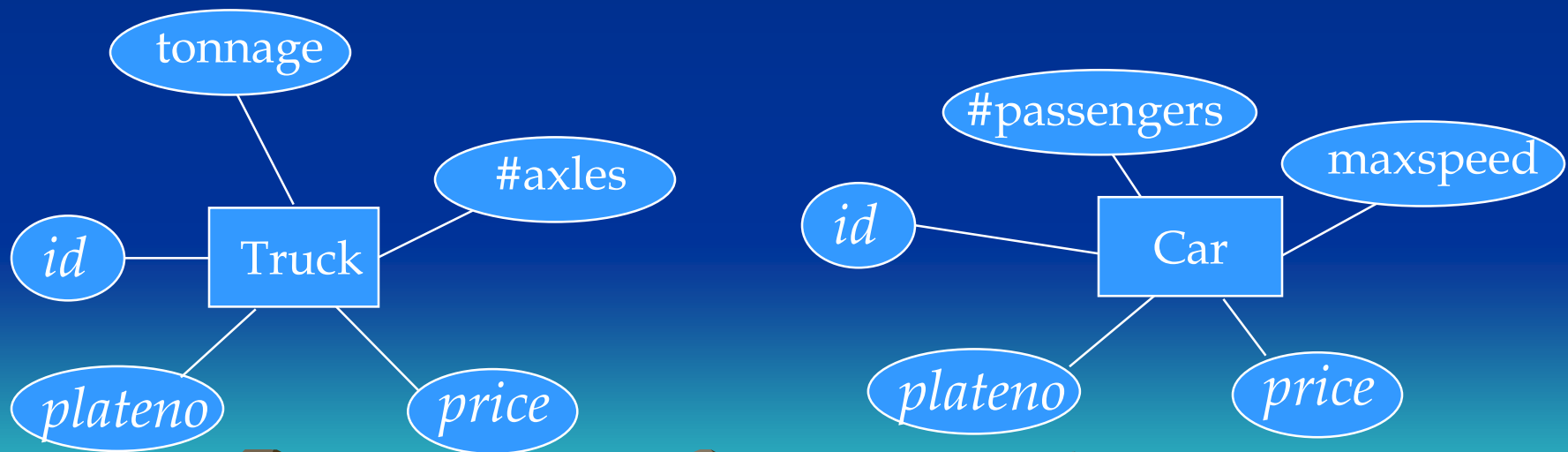
# Specialization

- Allows us to define a set of subclasses of an entity
  - in other words, helps us focus on distinguishing characteristics
- Associate additional specific characteristics with each subclass
  - helps us define attributes of each subclass
- Establish other relationships for subclasses

# Generalization

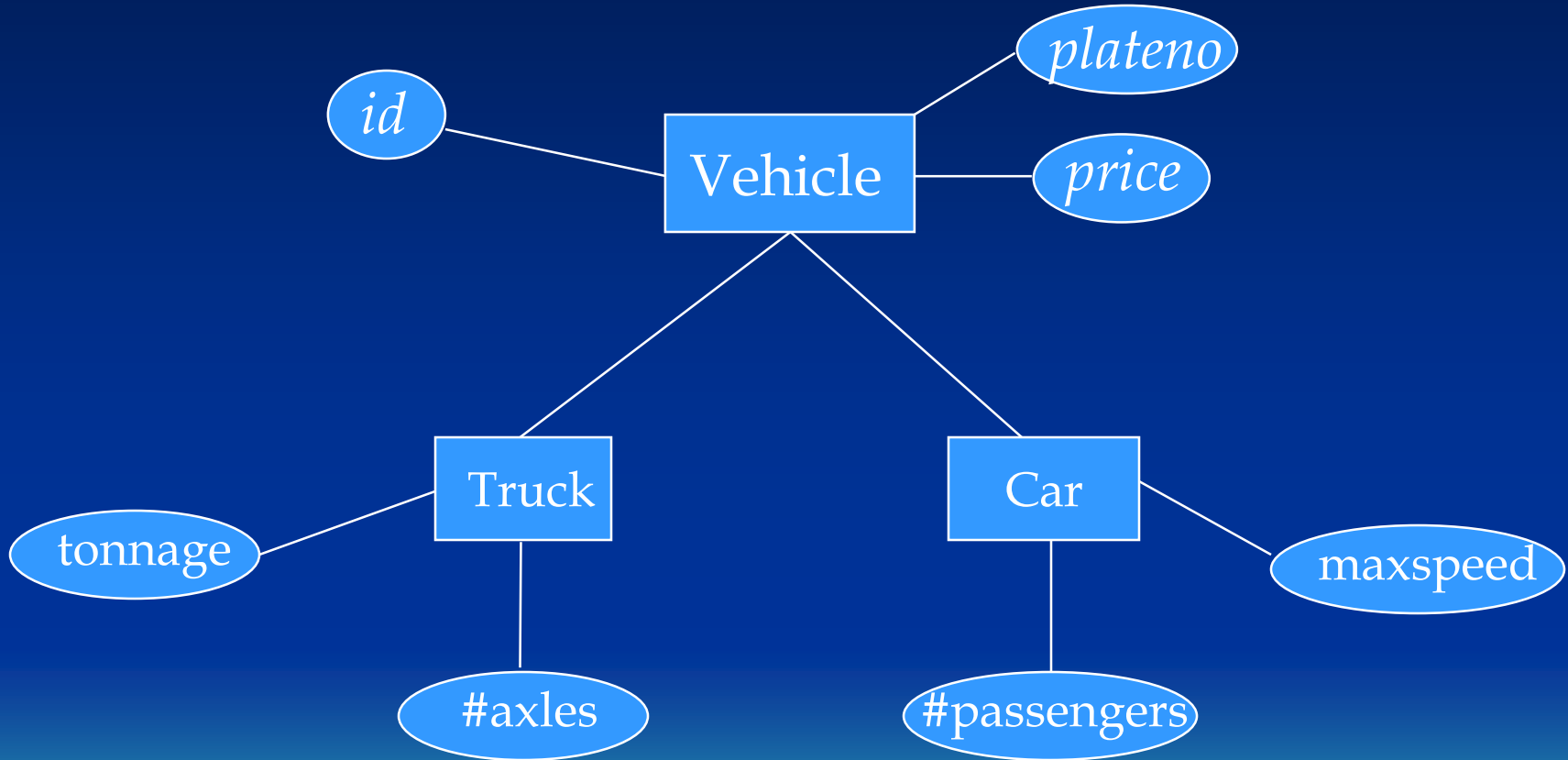
Generalization is the opposite approach/process of determining a supertype based on certain entities having common characteristics.

- reverse process of defining subclasses
- bottom up approach
- bring together common attributes from similar entity types, and suppress the differences (to form a superclass)
- example: suppose we begin with Cars and Trucks




# Generalization

□ we generalize to get Vehicle



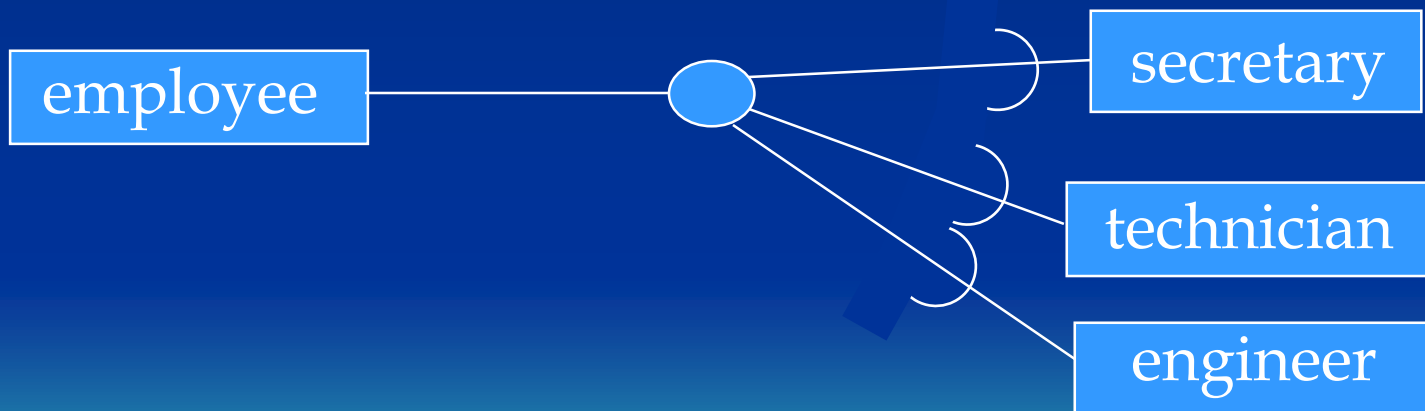
# Specialization

- The entity in the subclass (secretary, engineer, technician) is said to play a specialized role
- The  is used when you have more than one subclass based on the same defining attribute (e.g., *Job type*)
- The class/subclass relationship is shown using:



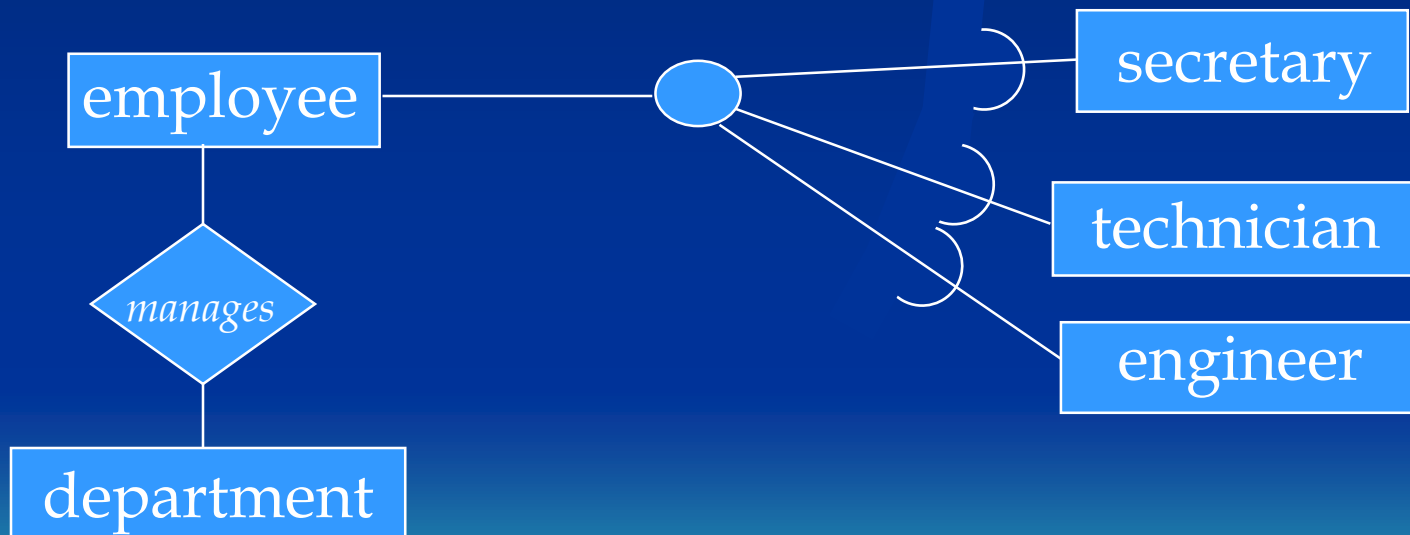
# EERD with Class/SubClass Relationship

- similar to a 1:1 relationship except that it is between instances of the same entity type
- A 1:1 relationship is between two different entity types
- Example: employee/secretary/technician/engineer



# EERD with Class/SubClass Relationship

- A 1:1 relationship is between two different entity types
  - Example: a *manages* relationship between employee and department





# Constraints

- to determine when an entity will become a member of subclass:

- Predicate-defined

- system automatically enforces the constraint

- e.g *JobType* = 'Secretary'

- usually defined by an attribute value, a discriminator

- User-defined

- users decide the subclass for each entity

- not automatically enforced

# Disjointness Constraint

## □ Disjoint

- an entity can be a member of at most one subclass of a specialization

## □ Notation



## □ Overlap

- the same entity may belong to more than one subclass of a specialization

## □ Notation



# Completeness Constraint

## □ Total Specialization

- each entity of a superclass belongs to some subclass of a specialization

### □ Notation



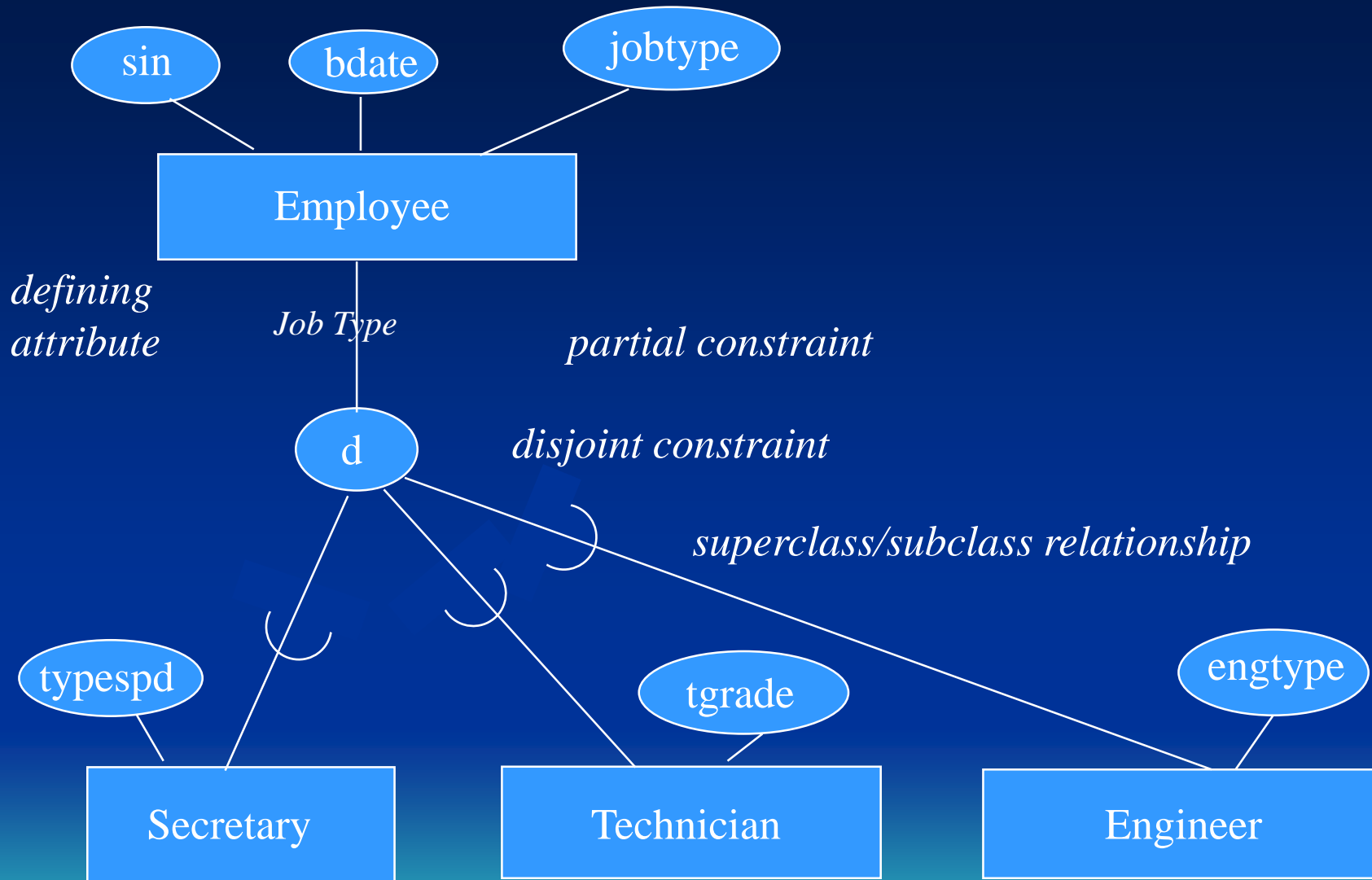
## □ Partial Specialization

- every entity of a superclass need not belong to a subclass of a specialization

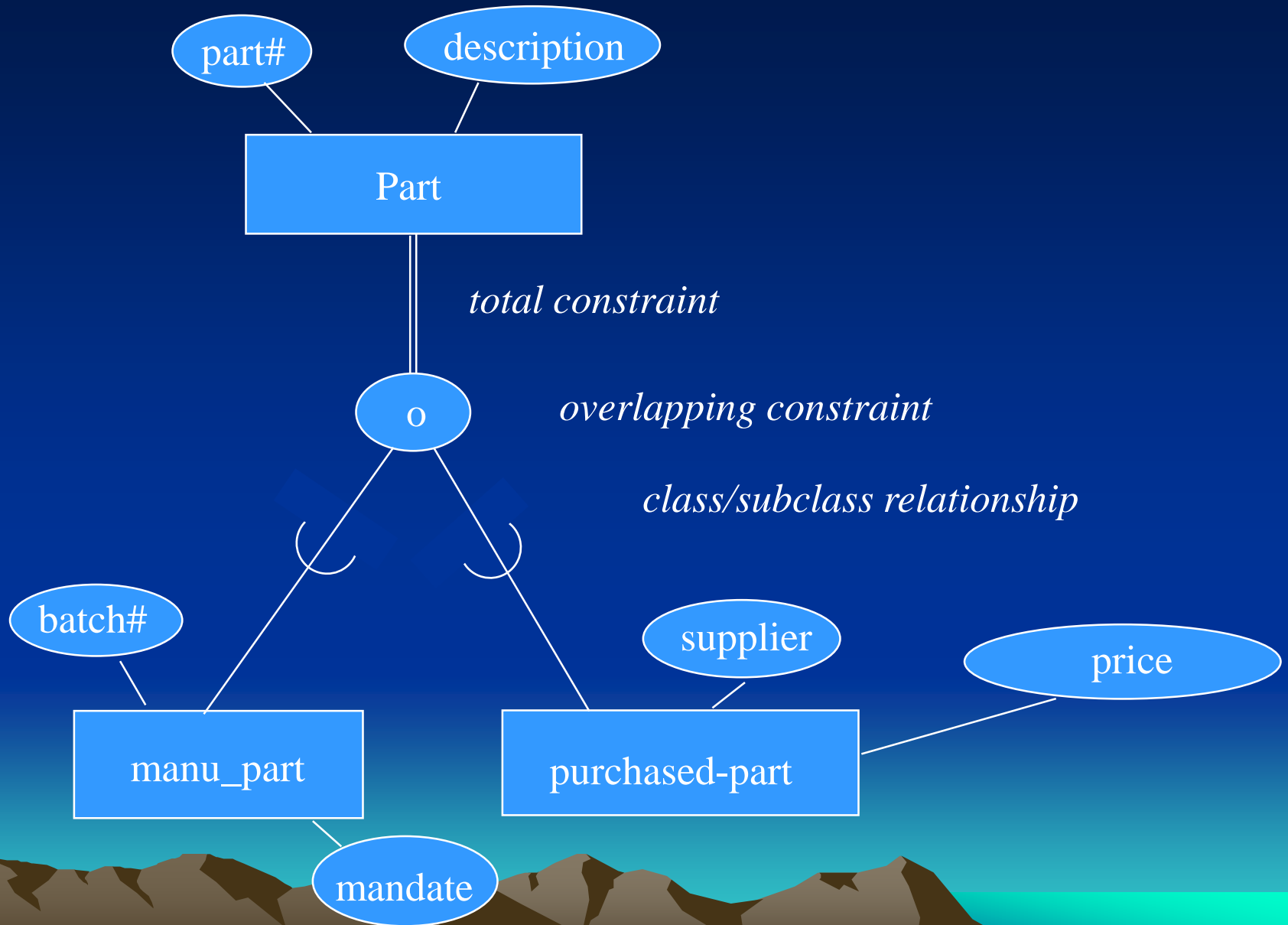
### □ Notation



# Putting concepts together



# Putting concepts together



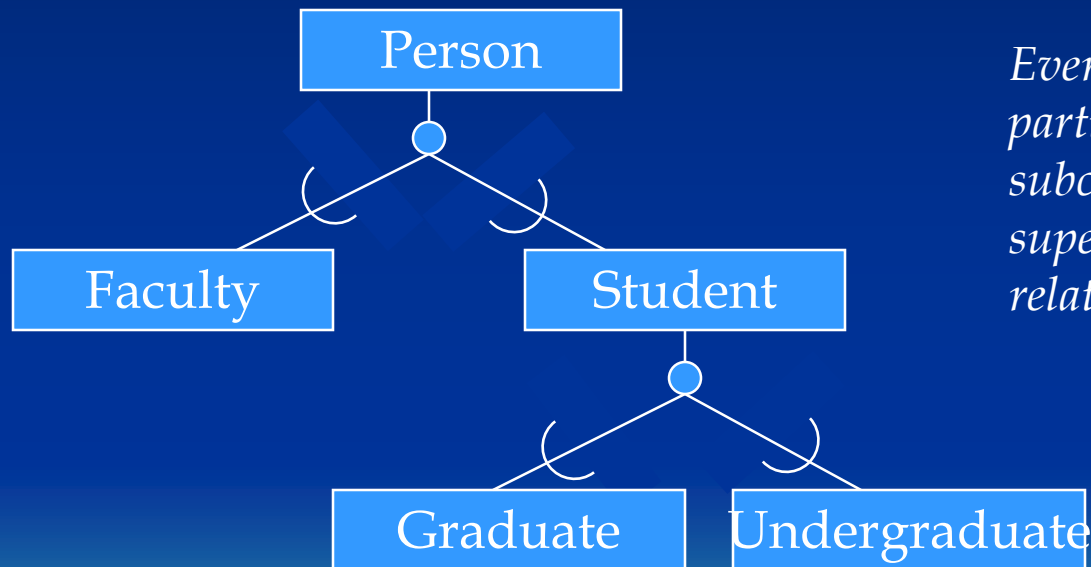
# Insertion, Deletion Rule

- Deleting an entity from a superclass implies that it is automatically deleted from all subclasses it belongs to
- Inserting an entity into a superclass implies that it is automatically inserted into all predicate-defined subclasses for which it satisfies the condition  
(Ex: *Job Type = 'secretary'*)
- Inserting an entity into a superclass of a total specialization implies that it is automatically inserted into some subclass

# Hierarchy

## □ Hierarchy

- where a subclass participates in only one class/subclass relationship



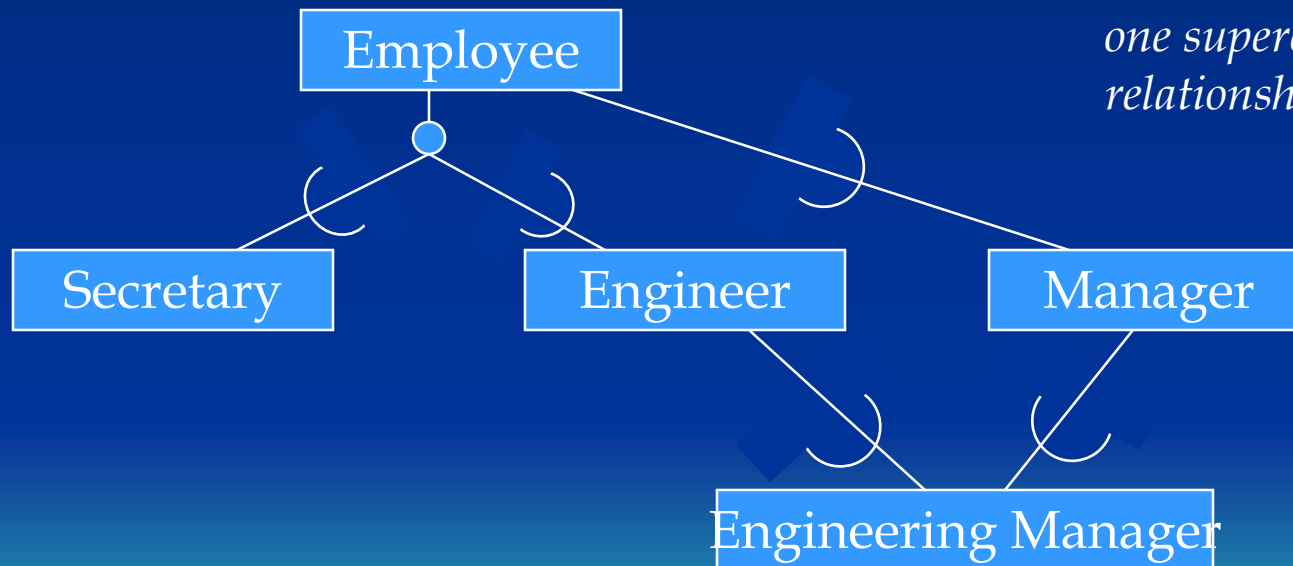
*Every subclass participates, as a subclass, in exactly one superclass/subclass relationship*

# Lattice

## □ Lattice

- where a subclass participates in more than one class/subclass relationship

*A subclass participates, as a subclass, in more than one superclass/subclass relationship*

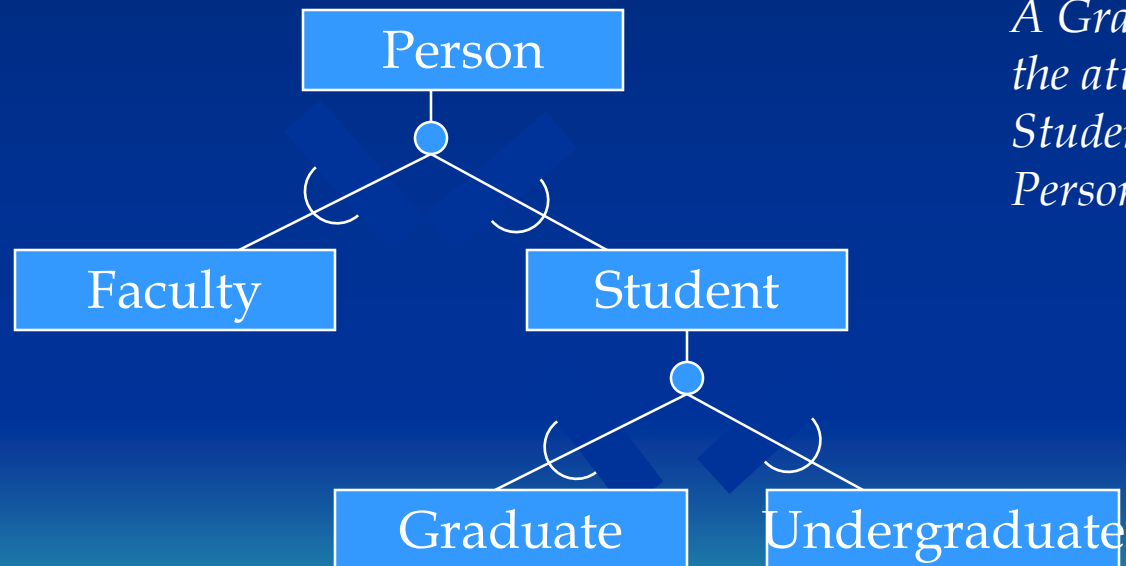




# Attribute Inheritance

## □ Attribute Inheritance

- A subclass inherits attributes not only from its direct superclass, but also from all its predecessor superclasses all the way to the root

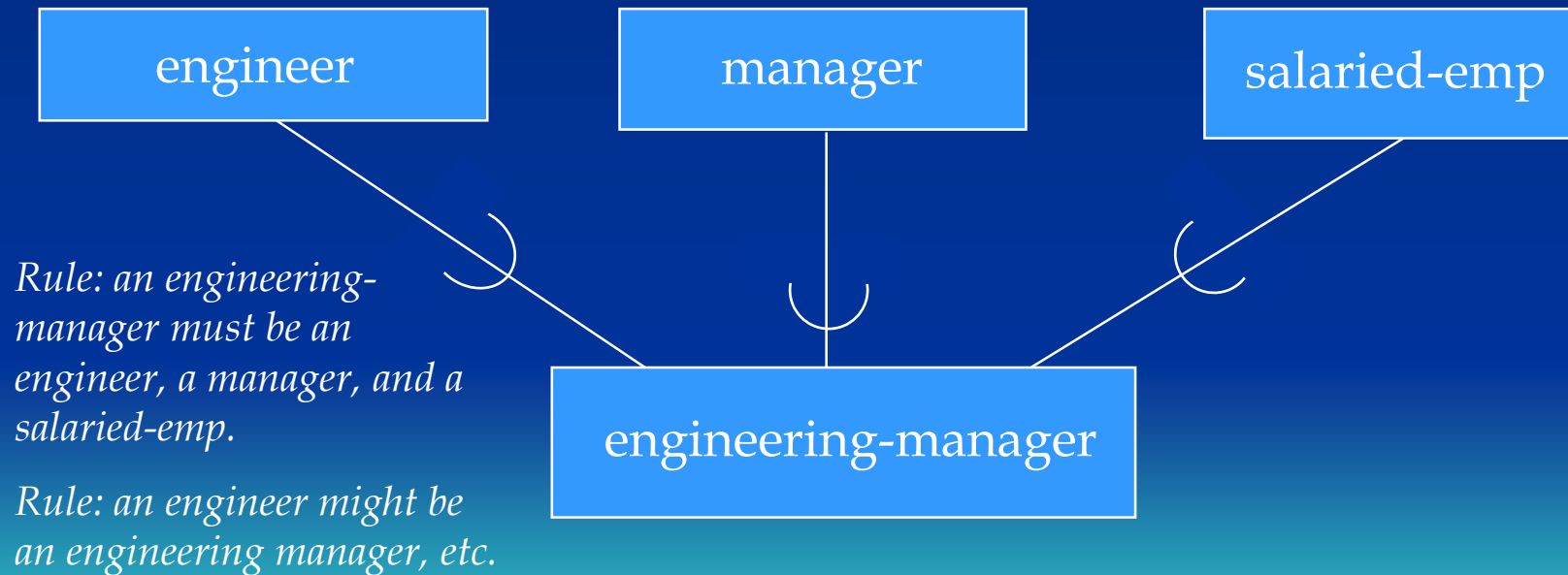


*A Graduate has all the attributes of a Student and a Person.*

# Shared Subclass

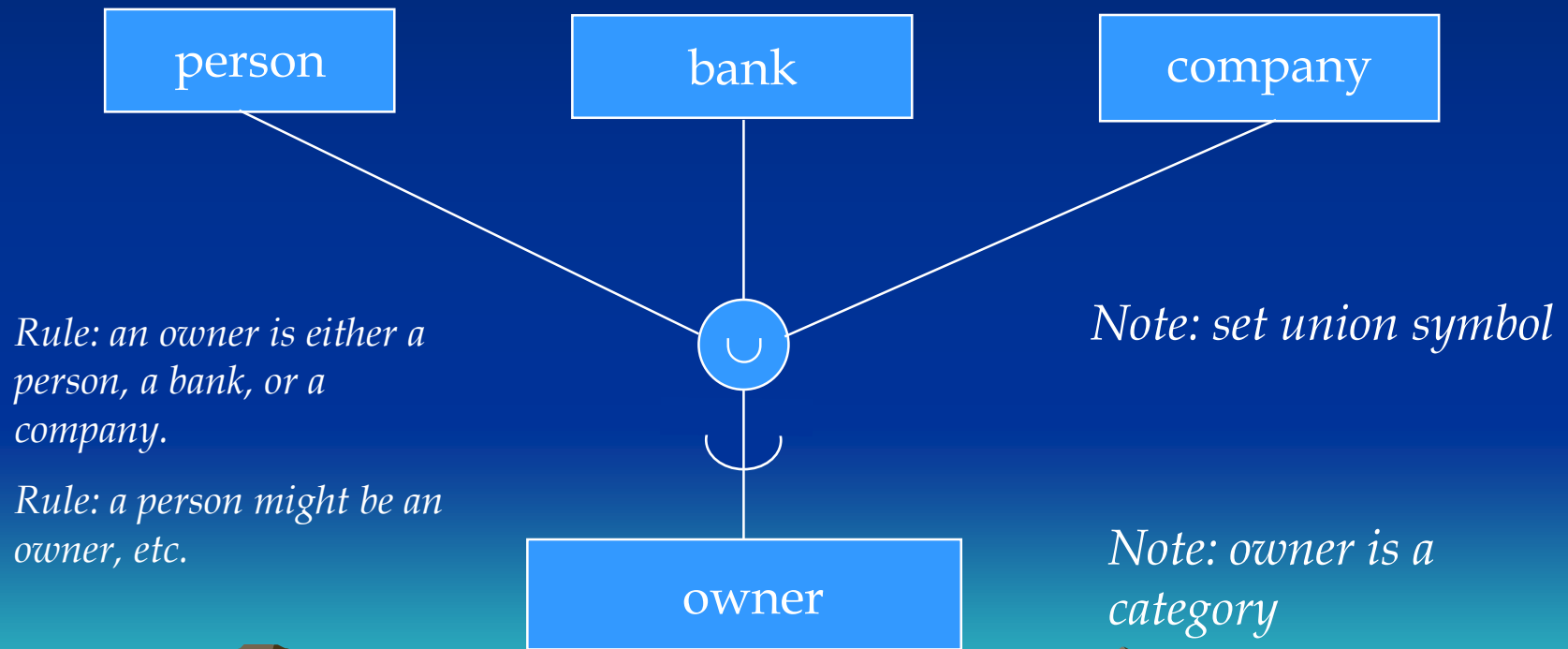
## □ Shared SubClass

- a subclass with more than one superclass
- leads to the concept of multiple inheritance: engineering manager inherits attributes of engineer, manager, and salaried employee



# Categories

- Models a single class/subclass with more than one super class of different entity types



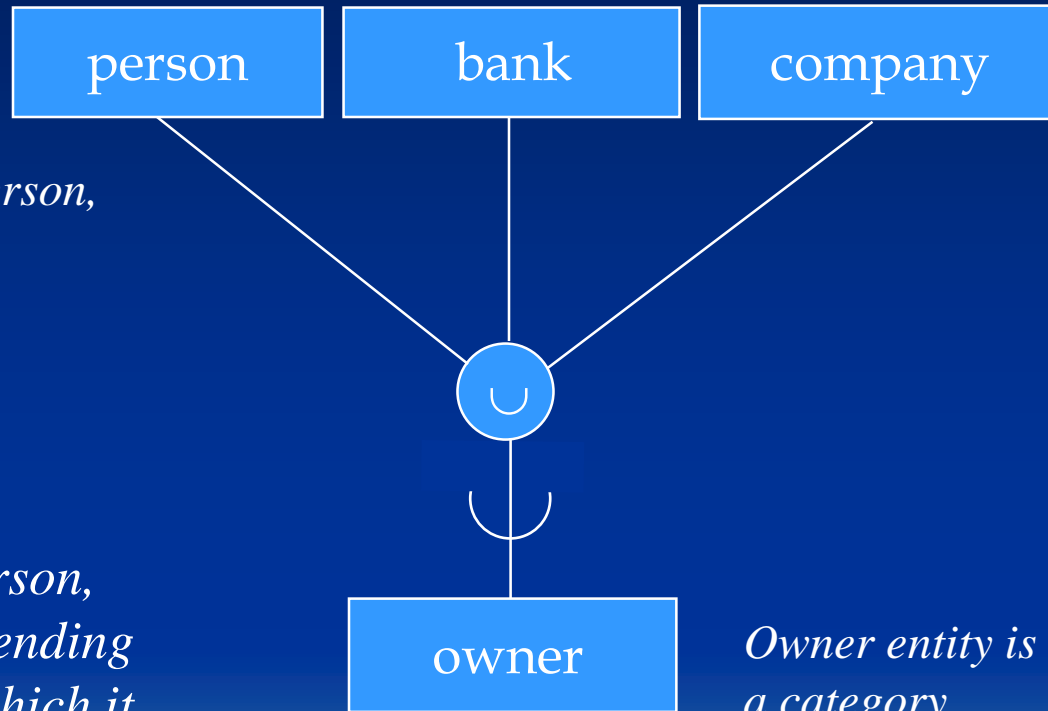
# Categories

*A category has two or more superclasses that represent distinct entity types*

*Owner may be either a person, bank, or company*

*Each owner inherits the attributes of either person, bank or company depending on the superclass to which it belongs - selective inheritance*

Person, Bank, and Company might have different keys

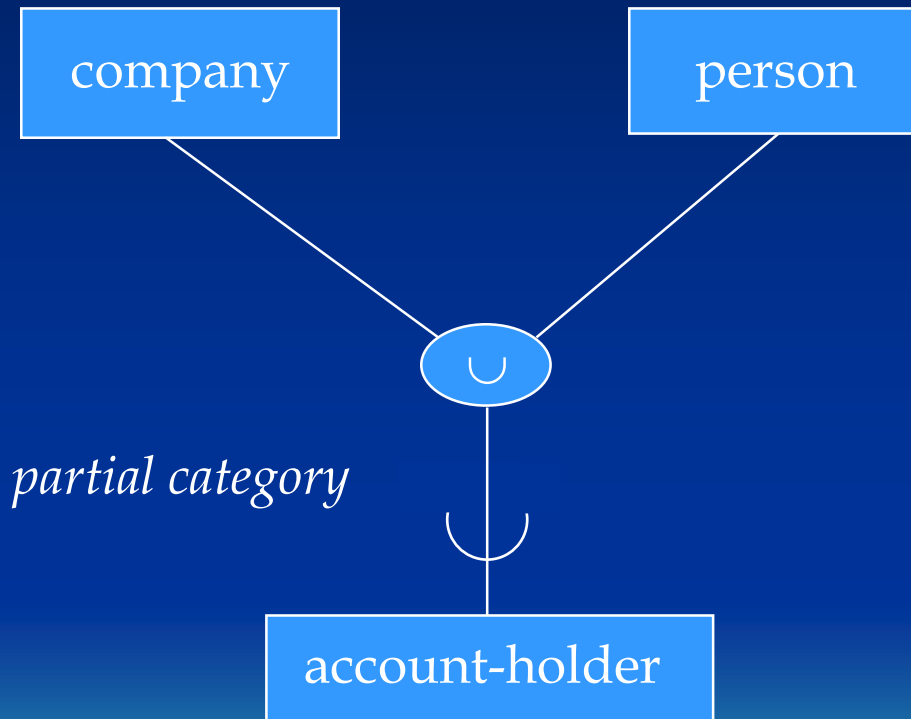


*Owner entity is called a category*

**Attribute inheritance is selective for categories**

# Categories

- A category can be either total or partial



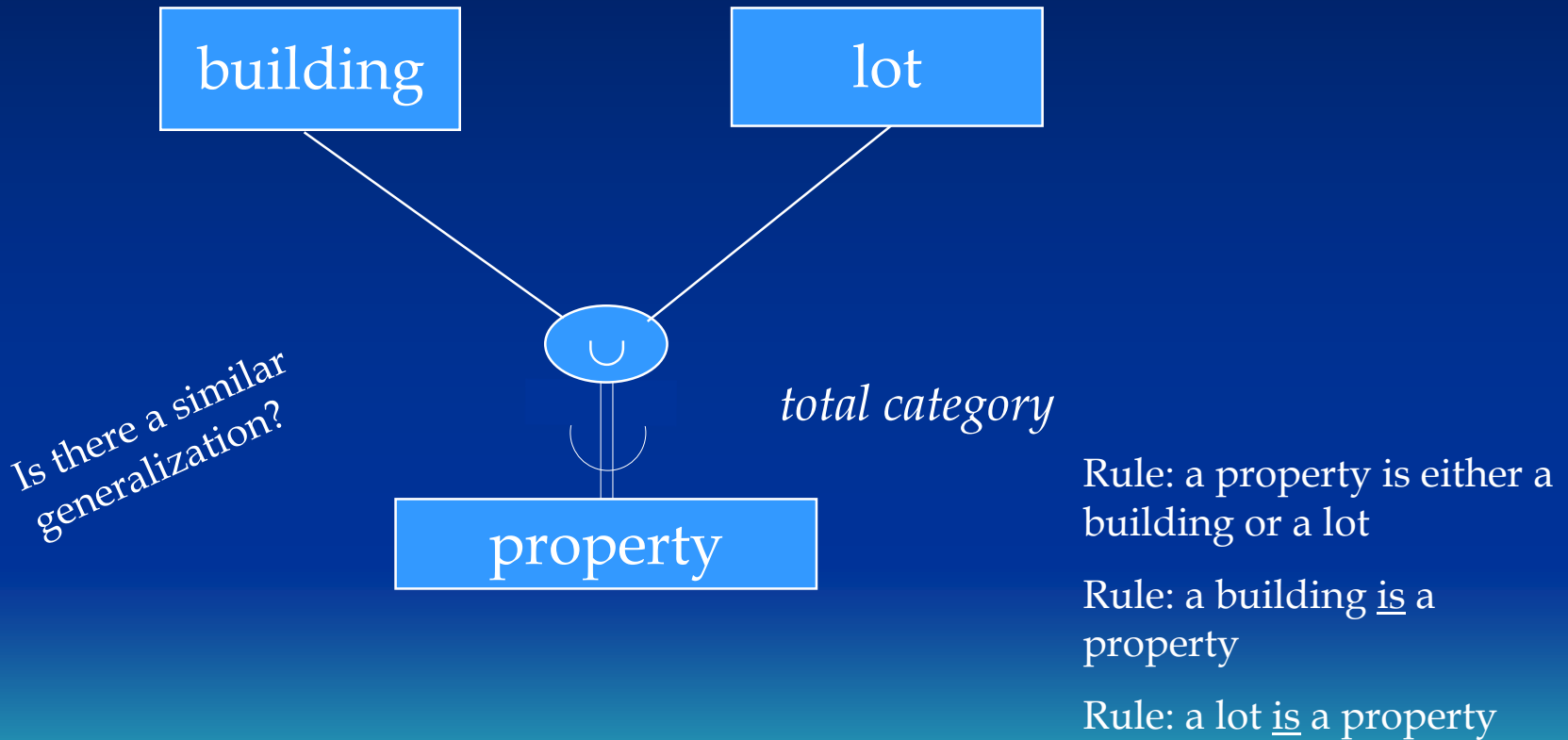
Rule: an account holder is either a person or a company.

Rule: a person may, or may not, be an account owner

Rule: a company may, or may not, be an account holder

# Categories

- A category can be either total or partial



# EER to relational

## □ Review 7-step algorithm in Section 9.1

### 1. Create a relation for each strong entity type

- include all simple attributes
- choose a primary key

### 2. Create a relation for each weak entity type

- include primary key of owner (an FK)
- PK becomes owner's PK + partial key

### 3. For each binary *1:1* relationship choose an entity and include the other's PK in it as a FK

4. For each binary  $1:n$  relationship, choose the  $n$ -side entity and include a FK wrt the other entity.
5. For each binary  $M:N$  relationship, create a relation for the relationship
  - include PKs of both participating entities and any attributes of the relationship
  - PK is the catenation of the participating entity PKs
6. For each multi-valued attribute create a new relation
  - include the PK attributes of the entity type
  - PK is the PK of the entity type and the multi-valued attribute



7. For each  $n$ -ary relationship, create a relation for the relationship
- include PKs of all participating entities and any attributes of the relationship
  - PK may be the catenation of the participating entity PKs (depends on cardinalities)

## □ Step 8 Conversion of Subclass/Superclasses

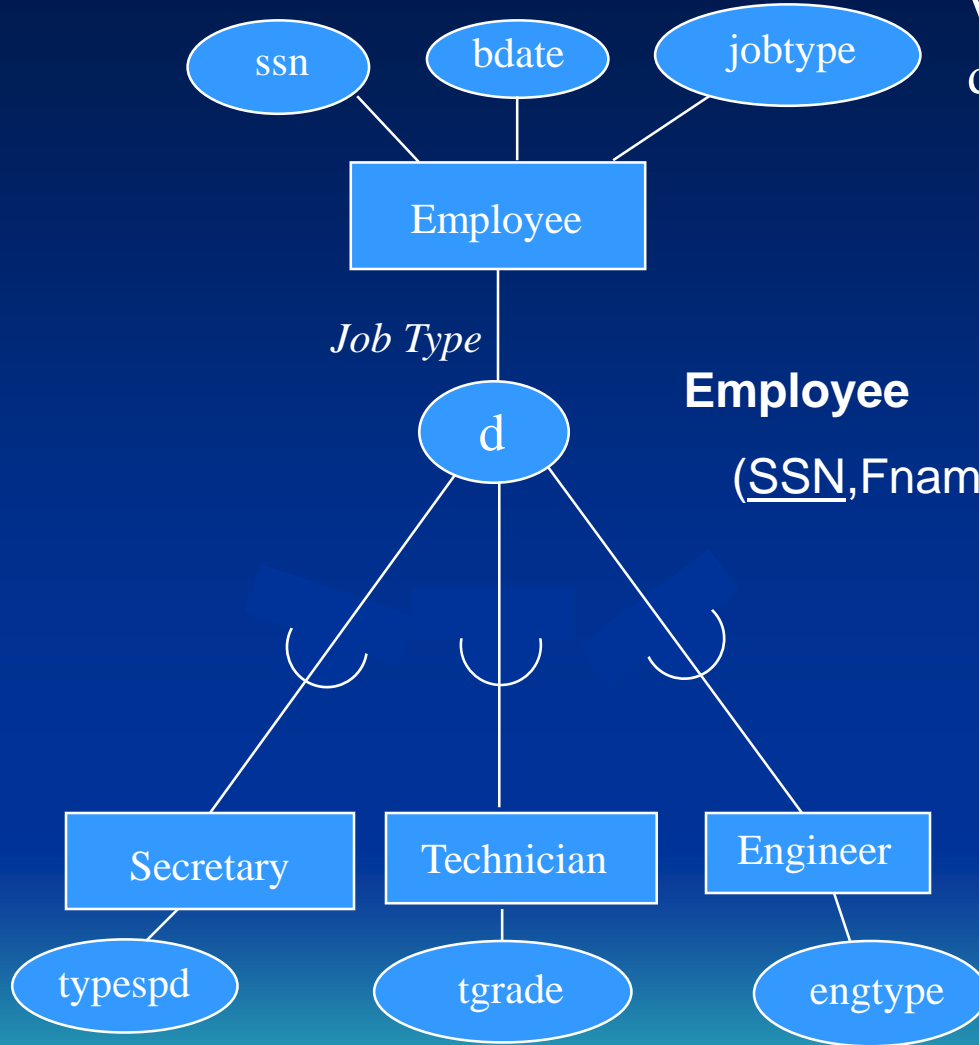
### □ Option A

- Create a table for the Superclass
- Create a separate table for each subclass with primary key of superclass

# EER to relational

## Option A

Works for any kind of constraint:  
disjoint, overlapping, partial or total



### Employee

(SSN, Fname, Minit, Lname, Bdate, Address, JobType)

**Secretary** (SSN, typing Speed)

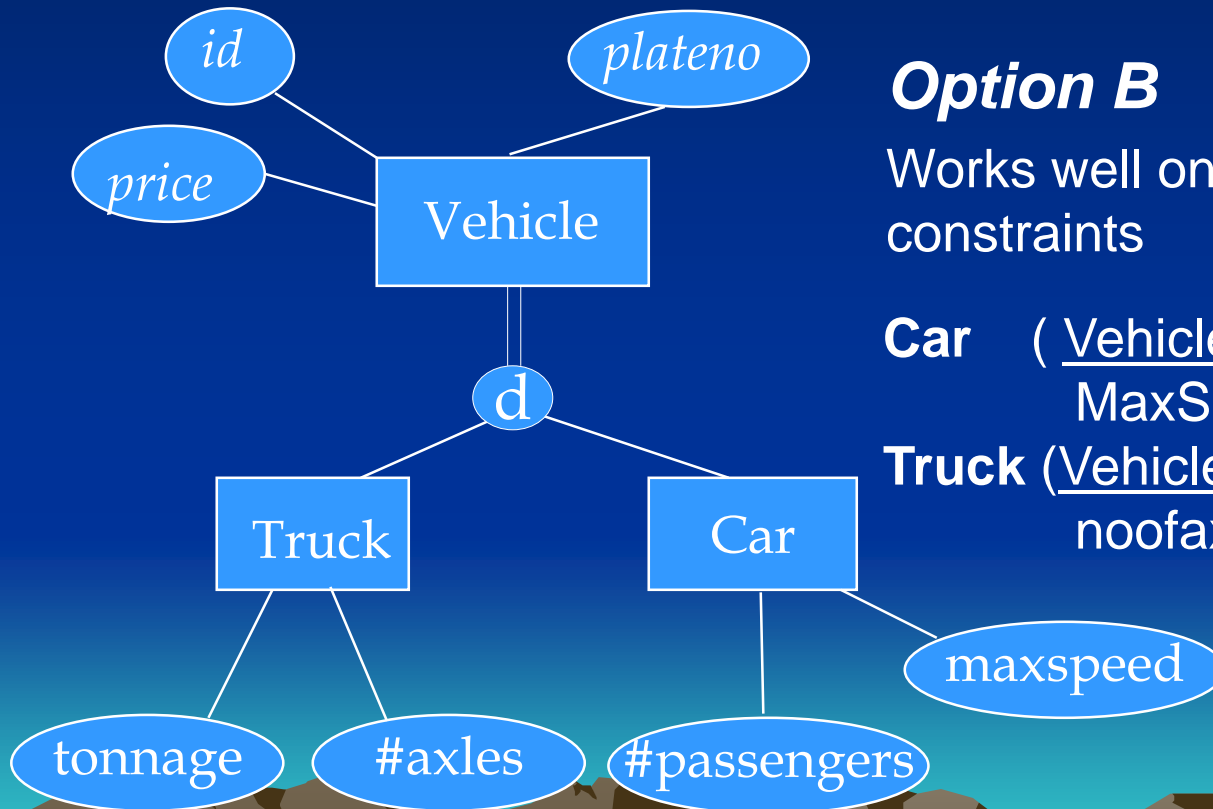
**Technician** (SSN, Tgrade)

**Engineer** (SSN, Engtype)

# EER to relational

## □ Option B

- Create tables for each subclass, but not for the superclass
- Move all the attributes of the superclass and include them as attributes of each subclass



## ***Option B***

Works well only for disjoint and total constraints

**Car** ( VehicleID, LicensePlateNo, Price, MaxSpeed, NoOfpassengers)

**Truck** (VehicleID, LicensePlateNo, Price, noofaxles, tonnage)

# EER to relational

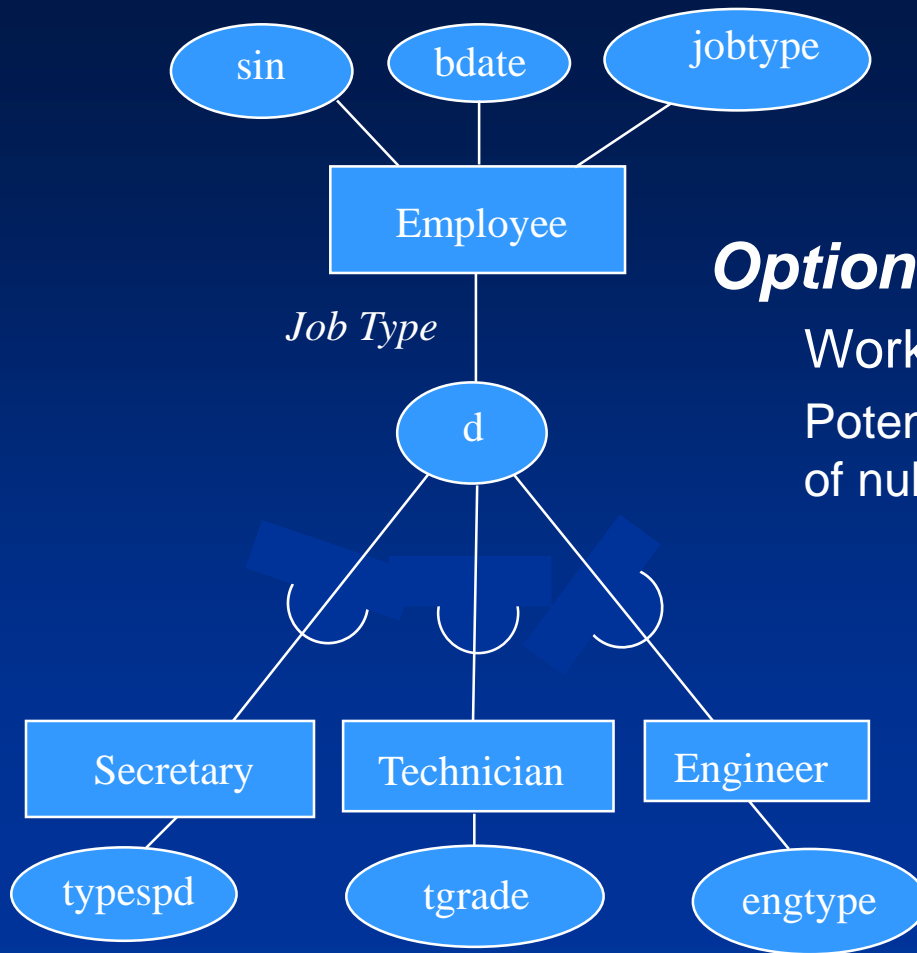
## □ *Option C*

- Create a single relation with attributes of all the subclasses with a single type attribute as a discriminator
- Only for disjoint subclasses

## □ *Option D*

- Create a single relation with attributes of all the subclasses and include one flag per subclass
- Only for overlapping subclasses

# EER to relational



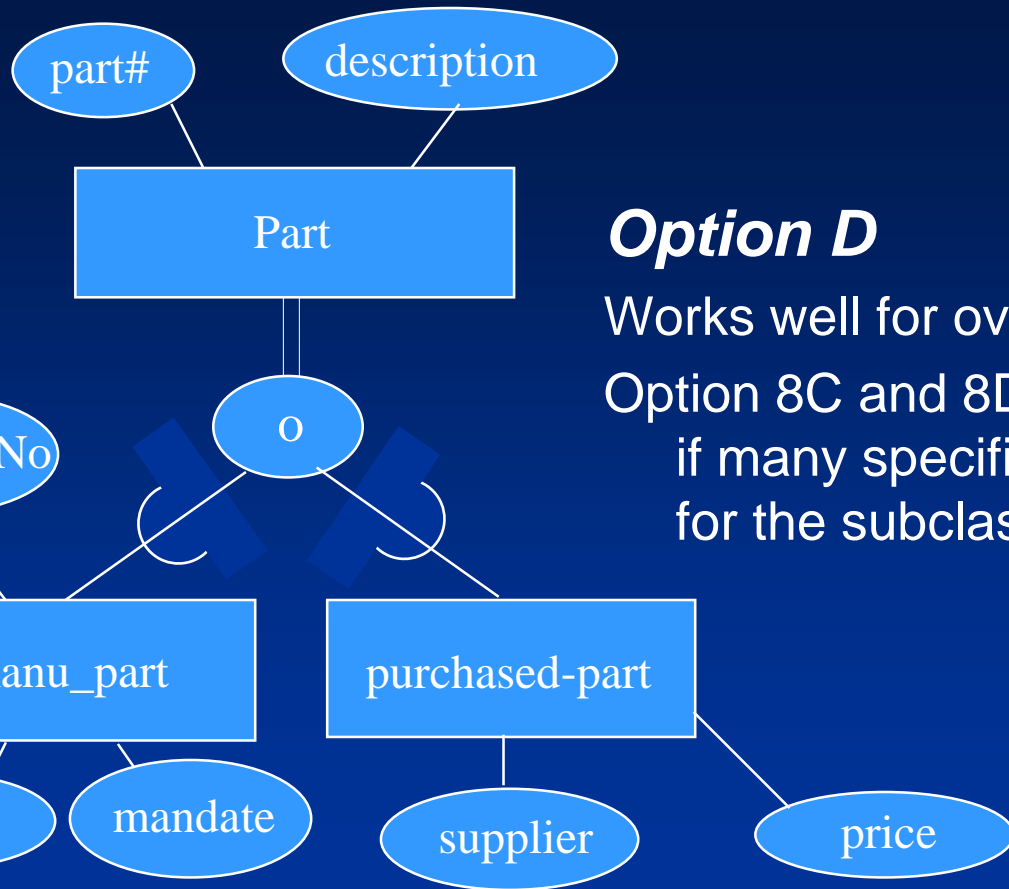
## Option C

Works well for disjoint constraints  
 Potential for generating large number of nulls

**Employee** (SSN, bdate, Address, *JobType*, Typing Speed, Tgrade, EngType)

12345	...	...	1	...	...		
56463	...	...	2	...	...		
55554	...		3	...	...		

# EER to relational



## Option D

Works well for overlapping constraints

Option 8C and 8D are not recommended if many specific attributes are defined for the subclasses

**Part** ( PartNo, Descr, Mflag, DrawingNo, ManDate, BatchNo, Pflag, SupName, ListPrice)

1	screw	1	...	...	...	...
2	bolt		...	...	1	...
3	nail	1	...	...	1	

- Mapping of Categories/Superclasses

## Category:

- Generate a table for each entity type involved
- Each table with different key
- Specify a new key called surrogate key for the category

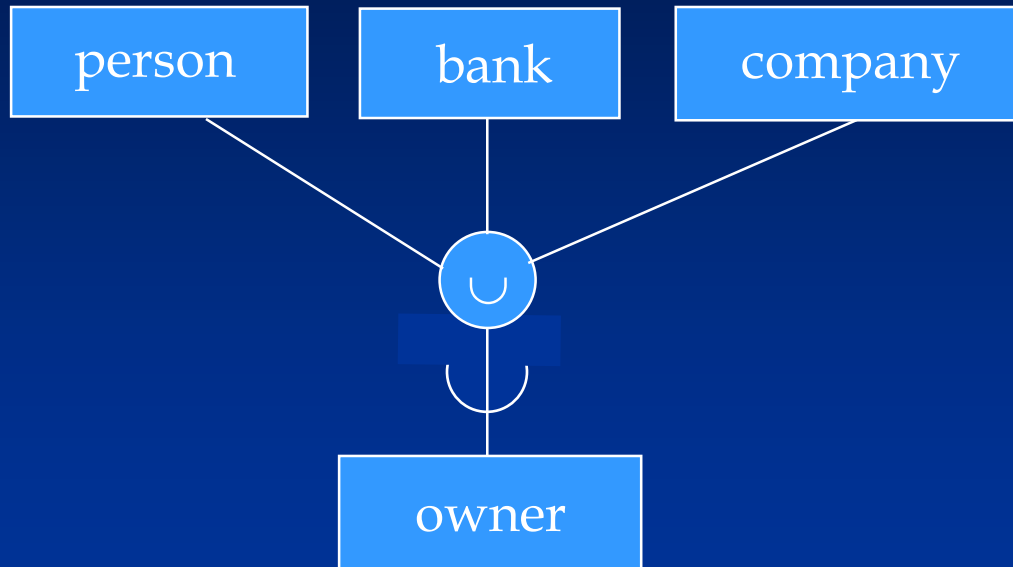
## Superclass

- Generate a table for each entity type involved
- All tables with the same keys

No need of a surrogate key

# EER to relational

## □ Categories - Superclasses with different keys



**Person** (SSN, DrLicNo, Name, Address, Ownerid)

**Bank** (Bname, BAddress, Ownerid)

**Company** (CName, CAddress, Ownerid)

**Owner** (Ownerid)

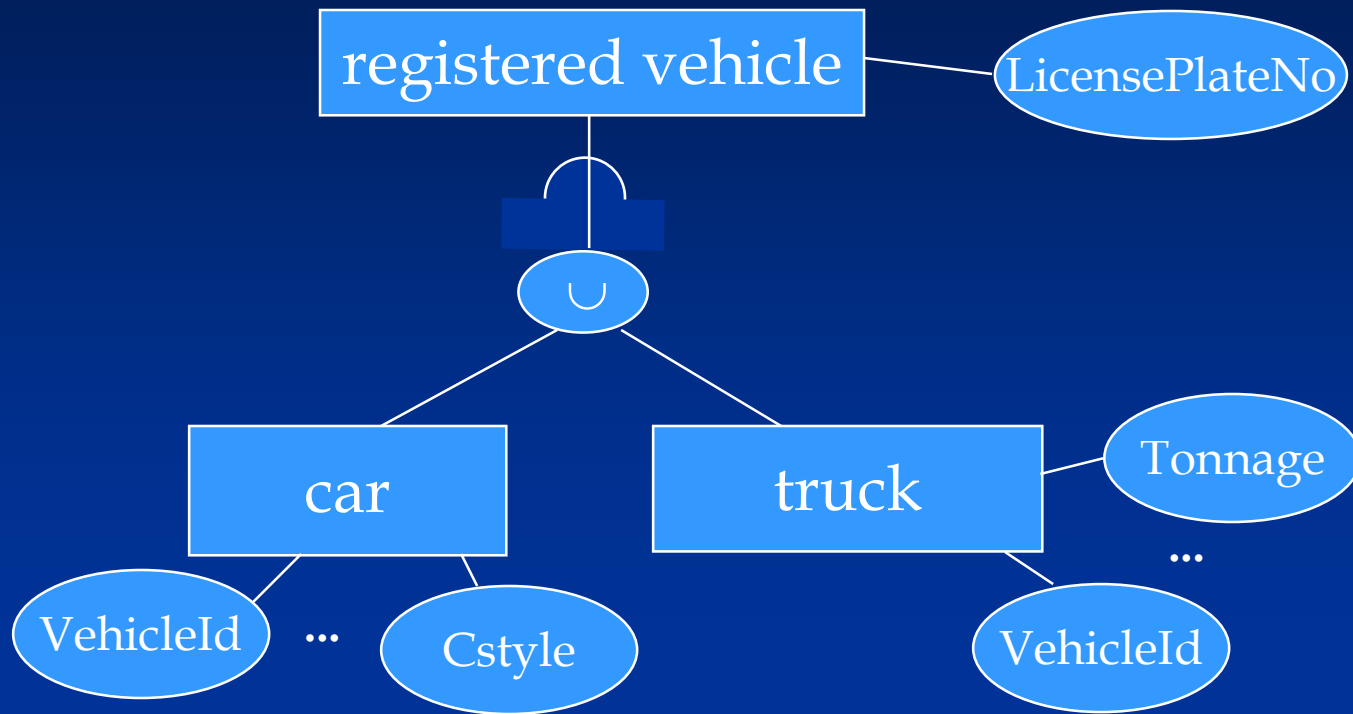
*Note the Foreign Keys*

*Surrogate key*



# EER to relational

- Categories - Superclasses with the same keys



**Registered Vehicle** (VehicleID, LicensePlateNo,)

**Car** (VehicleID, Cstyle, CMake, CModel, CYear)

**Truck** (VehicleID, TMake, TModel, TYear, Tonnage)

*Note there are no Foreign Keys*

# Classification and Instantiation

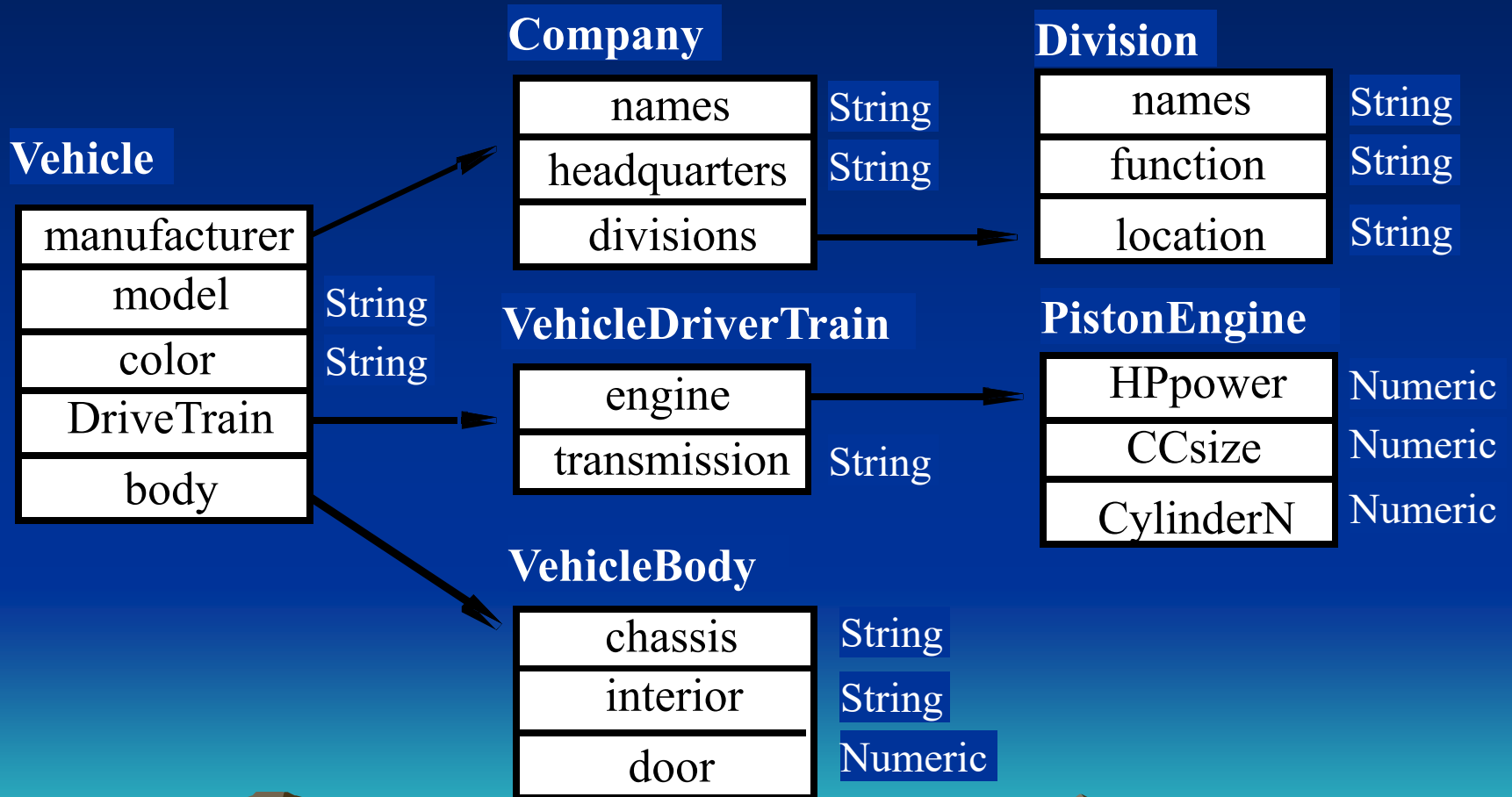
- Classification - Process of systematically assigning similar objects to object classes
  - from employee objects to Employee Class
- Instantiation - Refers to the generation and specific examination of distinct objects of a class
  - employee objects of the Employee Class
  
- Knowledge based systems (KR)
  - Classes can be an instance of another class (meta-classes)
- EERD
  - Only super/subclass association is possible

Opposites  
of one  
another

# Aggregation and Association

- Aggregation - Concept of building composite objects from their components
  - EERD: Aggregating attributes into an entity
- Association - Associate objects from several independent classes
  - EERD: relationships between different entities
- Aggregation vs Association
  - Delete an aggregate object involves deleting its components
  - Deleting an association does not involve deleting its participating objects

# Aggregation:



# Aside: UML

## Unified Modeling Language (1994+)

- Booch, Rumbaugh, Jacobson @ Rational Software
- for modeling systems
- concepts learned here apply to UML

*Note: there are many modeling notations: Chen, IE, IDEF1X, UML*

