2 Databases (ttg22)

(a) Part II supervisions are organised within the department rather than colleges. The department intends to implement a relational database application to track the allocation of supervisors to students. As a preliminary step it has asked two data modellers each to provide an Entity-Relationship for this task. The modellers delivered the two different ER diagrams below. Note that both models are incomplete in that many obvious attributes are missing as well as the cardinality constraints on relationships. However, argue that diagram $M_2$ represents a better initial model than diagram $M_1$. [5 marks]

ER model $M_1$:

ER model $M_2$:

(b) Present one way of implementing model $M_2$ in a relational database. Note that you first have to determine reasonable cardinalities for the relationships in $M_2$. Justify your choices. [8 marks]

(c) Using your relational implementations from Part (b), write an SQL query that returns records of the form crsid, courseid, groupid where crsid is the id of a student in a supervision group for course with id courseid, and the supervision group id is groupid. The groupid column should contain NULL if the student is not in any supervision group for the associated course. [7 marks]