Abstract

An appropriate cost metrics for estimating development effort of the database part of an application at conceptual design stage using ER model is an important consideration. We propose four cost metrics based on the level of complexity of an ER diagram. Our effort estimation technique is based on these metrics using an empirical mathematical expression
which is capable to predict total database complexity efficiently. Again, its outcome shows that the developmental effort is directly proportional to the total entity complexity and its total database complexity.

**Reference**

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**Index Terms**

Computer Science  
Software Engineering

**Key words**

Entity Complexity  
Relationship complexity  
Constraints  
Depth of Inheritance  
Effort estimation