

Relational Database Design

UNIT-5

Functional Dependency:

- Functional dependency is a concept that specifies the relationship between two sets of attributes where one attribute determines the value of another attribute.
- It is denoted as $X \rightarrow Y$, where the attribute set on the left side of the arrow, **X** is called **Determinant**, and **Y** is called the **Dependent**.

Example:

Consider a simple example of a table that contains information about students and their courses:

StudentID	StudentName	CourseID	CourseName
1	Alice	C101	Math
2	Bob	C102	Physics
3	Alice	C101	Math

- **StudentID** functionally determines **StudentName** ($\text{StudentID} \rightarrow \text{StudentName}$). If you know the StudentID, you can uniquely determine the StudentName.
- **CourseID** functionally determines **CourseName** ($\text{CourseID} \rightarrow \text{CourseName}$). If you know the CourseID, you can uniquely determine the CourseName.

Types of Functional Dependency:

1. Trivial functional dependency
2. Non-Trivial functional dependency
3. Multivalued functional dependency
4. Transitive functional dependency
5. Fully Functional Dependency
6. Partial Functional Dependency

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1. Trivial Functional Dependency:

- In Trivial Functional Dependency, a dependent is always a subset of the determinant. i.e. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and Y is the subset of X , then it is called trivial functional dependency.
- In other words, $X \rightarrow Y$ if Y is already contained within X . Trivial dependencies do not provide any new information about the database.
- **If the set of attributes Y is a subset of the set of attributes X .**

2. Non Trivial Functional Dependency:

- In Non-trivial functional dependency, the dependent is strictly not a subset of the determinant. i.e. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and Y is not a subset of X , then it is called Non-trivial functional dependency.

3. Multivalued Functional Dependency:

- In Multivalued functional dependency, entities of the dependent set are not dependent on each other. i.e. If $a \rightarrow \{b, c\}$ and there exists **no** functional dependency between **b and c** , then it is called a multivalued functional dependency.

4. Transitive Functional Dependency:

- A transitive functional dependency is an indirect relationship between attributes in a relational database.
- Specifically, if you have a functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ and another functional dependency $Y \rightarrow Z$ a transitive dependency implies that $X \rightarrow Z$.

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Explanation

Consider a relation RRR with attributes AAA, BBB, and CCC:

1. If $A \rightarrow B$
2. And $B \rightarrow C$
3. Then, $A \rightarrow C$ is a transitive dependency.

Example

Assume we have a relation **Employee** with the following attributes:

- **EmployeeID** (Primary Key)
- **DepartmentID**
- **DepartmentName**

The functional dependencies might be:

1. **EmployeeID** \rightarrow **DepartmentID** (An employee belongs to a department)
2. **DepartmentID** \rightarrow **DepartmentName** (Each department has a unique name)

Because of these dependencies, we can infer that:

- **EmployeeID** \rightarrow **DepartmentName**

Here, **EmployeeID** \rightarrow **DepartmentName** is a transitive dependency because **DepartmentID** is the intermediate attribute linking **EmployeeID** to **DepartmentName**.

5. Fully Functional Dependency:

- A functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ is said to be fully functional if removing any attribute from X means that the dependency no longer holds. In other words, Y is fully functionally dependent on X if Y is functionally dependent on the whole of X and not on any proper subset of X.

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Example: Consider a relation R with attributes $\{A, B, C\}$ and the following functional dependency:

- $\{A, B\} \rightarrow C$

If C depends on both A and B together and not on A or B alone, then C is fully functionally dependent on $\{A, B\}$.

6. Partial Functional Dependency:

- A functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ is partial if there is a proper subset X' of X such that $X' \rightarrow Y$. In other words, Y is partially dependent on X if it depends on just a part of X .

Example: Consider a relation R with attributes $\{A, B, C\}$ and the following functional dependencies:

- $\{A, B\} \rightarrow C$
- $A \rightarrow C$

Here, C is partially dependent on $\{A, B\}$ because it is already dependent on A alone, which is a subset of $\{A, B\}$.

Armstrong's Axioms/Inference Rules:

- Armstrong's Axioms, also known as inference rules for functional dependencies in relational databases, are a set of rules used to infer all the functional dependencies on a relational database.
- They were developed by William W. Armstrong in 1974.

Rules:

1. **Reflexivity:** If A is a set of attributes and B is a subset of A , then A holds B . If $B \subseteq A$ then $A \rightarrow B$.

2. **Augmentation:** If $A \rightarrow B$ holds and Y is the attribute set, then $AY \rightarrow BY$ also holds. That is adding attributes to dependencies, does not change the basic dependencies.
3. **Transitivity:** Same as the transitive rule in algebra, if $A \rightarrow B$ holds and $B \rightarrow C$ holds, then $A \rightarrow C$ also holds. $A \rightarrow B$ is called A functionally which determines B .

Secondary Rules

These rules can be derived from the above axioms.

- **Union:** If $A \rightarrow B$ holds and $A \rightarrow C$ holds, then $A \rightarrow BC$ holds. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$ then $X \rightarrow YZ$.
- **Composition:** If $A \rightarrow B$ and $X \rightarrow Y$ hold, then $AX \rightarrow BY$ holds.
- **Decomposition:** If $A \rightarrow BC$ holds then $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$ hold. If $X \rightarrow YZ$ then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$.
- **Pseudo Transitivity:** If $A \rightarrow B$ holds and $BC \rightarrow D$ holds, then $AC \rightarrow D$ holds. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $YZ \rightarrow W$ then $XZ \rightarrow W$.
- **Self Determination:** It is similar to the Axiom of Reflexivity, i.e. $A \rightarrow A$ for any A .

Closure of FD:

- closure of functional dependencies refers to the set of all functional dependencies that can be logically inferred from a given set of functional dependencies.
- The closure essentially includes all functional dependencies that hold within the database.
- This is often denoted as F^+ for a set F of functional dependencies.

Steps to Find Closure of Functional Dependencies:

1. Start with the given set of functional dependencies, F .

2. Apply inference rules (such as Armstrong's Axioms) to derive new functional dependencies:
 - **Reflexivity:** If $Y \subseteq X$, then $X \rightarrow Y$.
 - **Augmentation:** If $X \rightarrow Y$, then $XZ \rightarrow YZ$ for any set of attributes Z .
 - **Transitivity:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$.
 - **Union:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow YZ$.
 - **Decomposition:** If $X \rightarrow YZ$, then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$.
 - **Pseudotransitivity:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $YZ \rightarrow W$, then $XZ \rightarrow W$.
3. Iterate this process until no more new functional dependencies can be inferred. The result is the closure F^+ .

Closure of Attributes:

- The closure of a set of attributes X (denoted as X^+) with respect to a set of functional dependencies F is the set of all attributes that are functionally determined by X using the functional dependencies in F .
- **EXAMPLES:**

Decomposition:

When we divide a table into multiple tables or divide a relation into multiple relations, then this process is termed Decomposition.

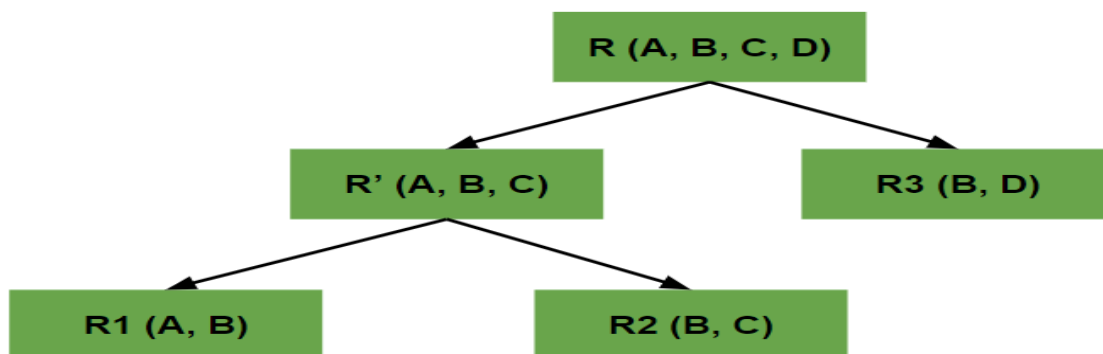
Types of Decomposition

There are two types of Decomposition:

- Lossless Decomposition
- Lossy Decomposition

Lossless Decomposition: The process in which where we can regain the original relation R with the help of joins from the multiple relations formed after decomposition.

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- The lossless decomposition tries to ensure following things:
- While regaining the original relation, no information should be lost.
- If we perform join operation on the sub-divided relations, we must get the original relation.

Example:

There is a relation called R(A, B, C)

A	B	C
55	16	27
48	52	89

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Now we decompose this relation into two sub relations R1 and R2

R1(A, B)

A	B
55	16
48	52

R2(B, C)

B	C
16	27
52	89

After performing the Join operation we get the same original relation

A	B	C
55	16	27
48	52	89

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Lossy Decomposition:

- Lossy decomposition means when we perform join operation on the sub-relations it doesn't result to the same relation which was decomposed.
- After the join operation, we always found some extraneous tuples.

Database Anomalies:

- Database anomalies refer to issues that arise in a database when data is inserted, updated, or deleted.
- These anomalies can occur when the database schema is not properly normalized, leading to redundancy, inconsistency, and inefficiency.
- There are three primary types of database anomalies:
 1. **Insertion Anomaly**
 2. **Update Anomaly**
 3. **Deletion Anomaly**

Normalization:

- Normalization is the process of minimizing redundancy from a relation or set of relations.
- Redundancy in relation may cause insertion, deletion, and update anomalies.

Important Points Regarding Normal Forms in DBMS:

1. **First Normal Form (1NF)**
2. **Second Normal Form (2NF)**
3. **Third Normal Form (3NF)**
4. **Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)**
5. **Fourth Normal Form (4NF)**
6. **Fifth Normal Form (5NF)**

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First Normal Form (1NF):

- This is the most basic level of normalization. In 1NF, each table cell should contain only a single value, and each column should have a unique name.
- The first normal form helps to eliminate duplicate data and simplify queries.

A table is in 1 NF if:

- There are only Single Valued Attributes.
- Attribute Domain does not change.
- There is a unique name for every Attribute/Column.
- The order in which data is stored does not matter.

Example 1:

Relation STUDENT in table 1 is not in 1NF because of multi-valued attribute STUD_PHONE. Its decomposition into 1NF has been shown in table 2.

STUD_NO	STUD_NAME	STUD_PHONE	STUD_STATE	STUD_COUNTRY
1	RAM	9716271721, 9871717178	HARYANA	INDIA
2	RAM	9898297281	PUNJAB	INDIA
3	SURESH		PUNJAB	INDIA

Table 1

Conversion to first normal form

STUD_NO	STUD_NAME	STUD_PHONE	STUD_STATE	STUD_COUNTRY
1	RAM	9716271721	HARYANA	
1	RAM	9871717178	HARYANA	INDIA
2	RAM	9898297281	PUNJAB	INDIA
3	SURESH		PUNJAB	INDIA

Table 2

Second Normal Form (2NF):

- A relation that is in First Normal Form.
- The second Normal Form (2NF) is based on the concept of fully functional dependency.
- **All the non-prime attribute should be fully functional dependent on the candidate key.**

Third Normal Form (3NF):

- A relation is in the third normal form, if there is no transitive dependency for non-prime attributes as well as it is in the second normal form.

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- A relation is in 3NF if at least one of the following conditions holds in every non-trivial function dependency $X \rightarrow Y$.
- X is a super key.
 - Y is a prime attribute (each element of Y is part of some candidate key)

Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF):

- BCNF is a stricter form of 3NF that ensures that each determinant in a table is a candidate key.
- In other words, BCNF ensures that each non-key attribute is dependent only on the candidate key.

Rules for BCNF

Rule 1: The table should be in the 3rd Normal Form.

Rule 2: X should be a super/candidate key for every functional dependency (FD) $X \rightarrow Y$ in a given relation.

Fourth Normal Form (4NF):

A relation R is in 4NF if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. It should be in the Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF).
2. The table should not have any Multi-valued Dependency.

Fifth Normal Form/Projected Normal Form (5NF)

A relation R is in 5NF if and only if it satisfies the following conditions:

1. R should be already in 4NF.
2. It cannot be further non loss decomposed (join dependency).