

## In-class Exercises: BCNF and 3NF

- **Is a relation in BCNF?**

1. Suppose we have a relation `Students(SID, email, course, term, prof)`, and that these FDs hold:  
 $\{ \text{SID} \rightarrow \text{email}; \quad \text{course, term} \rightarrow \text{prof}; \quad \text{SID, course} \rightarrow \text{grade.} \}$ . Is this relation in BCNF?
2. Suppose we have a relation `Parts(part, manufacturer, seller, price)` and these FDs hold:  
 $\{ \text{part} \rightarrow \text{manufacturer}; \quad \text{part, seller} \rightarrow \text{price} \}$ . Is this relation in BCNF?

- **BCNF Decomposition:**

Consider the relation `R(A,B,C,D,E)` with the following FDs:  $\{ A \rightarrow B; \quad CD \rightarrow E \}$ . It is clear that `R` is not in BCNF. Apply BCNF decomposition to break down `R` into smaller relations in BCNF:

- **A lossy join decomposition.** Suppose we have a relation with attributes cdf, name, grade. Here is an instance of that relation:

cdf	name	grade
g3tout	Amy	91
g4foobar	David	78
c0zhang	David	85

1. Suppose we were to decompose this into two new relations:  $R1(cdf, name)$  and  $R2(name, grade)$ . Project the data onto those two new relations.

R1:

cdf	name

R2:

name	grade

2. Now compute  $R1 \bowtie R2$  to rebuild the original table.

cdf	name	grade

3. What was lost?

- Suppose we have a relation with attributes movie, theatre, city, and FDs  $\{ theatre \rightarrow city; \text{ movie, city } \rightarrow theatre \}$ .

1. Does the functional dependency **theatre**  $\rightarrow$  **city** violate 3NF?

2. Does the functional dependency **theatre**  $\rightarrow$  **city** violate BCNF?