

Lossless Join Decomposition Tutorial

SWEN304/SWEN439

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Outline

- Lossless join decomposition
- Exercises
 - 3NF decomposition
 - BCNF decomposition

FDs and a Relation Schema Key

- Each relation schema **key** is the **consequence** of a functional dependency from F^+
- Let $R(A_1, \dots, A_n)$ be a relation schema and F the set of functional dependencies in R
- Set of attributes $X \subseteq R$ is a relation schema **key** if

$$1^\circ X \rightarrow R \in F^+ \text{ (or } X^+ = R \text{)}$$

$$2^\circ (\forall Y \subset X)(Y \rightarrow R \notin F^+)$$

- Not null** condition still applies to X
- A **prime** attribute is a relation schema attribute that belongs to any of the keys
- Primary key is one of the keys

Lossless Join Decomposition

- A decomposition $D = \{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m\}$ of a relation R has the **lossless (nonadditive) join** property wrt the set of dependencies F on R if, for every relation $r(R)$ that satisfies F ,

$$* (\pi_{R_1} r(R), \dots, \pi_{R_m} r(R)) = r(R)$$

where $*$ is the natural join of all the relations in D .

- It is proven in the theory of the relational data model that the decomposition of a relation schema R onto R_1 and R_2 is *lossless (non-additive)* if the intersection $R_1 \cap R_2$ contains a **key** of R_1 or a key of R_2

Example 1: Checking Losslessness of D (1)

- Given a set of relation schemas:

$$D = \{N_1(\{A, B\}, \{A\}), N_2(\{B, D\}, \{B\}), N_3(\{C, B\}, \{C\})\}$$

- How to check whether the whole set of relation schemas represents a lossless join decomposition of the (supposed) universal relation schema?

Example 1: Checking Losslessness of D (2)

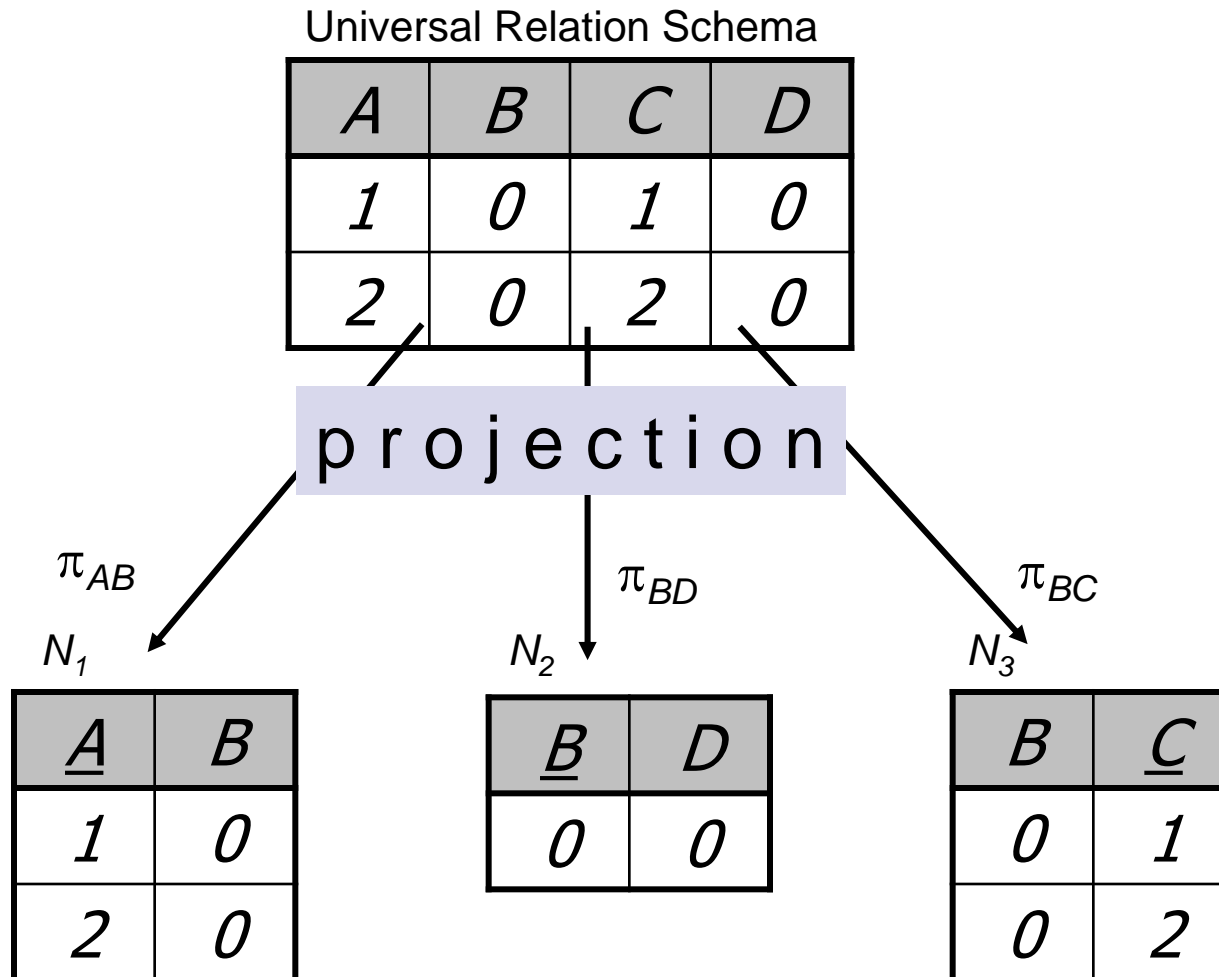
- A naïve and generally **wrong** approach:
 - Perform a pair wise checking of the relation schemas
 - for each relation schema you find another one such that the intersection of the two schemas is a schema key of one of the schema
- So, according to that approach:
 - $\{A, B\} \cap \{B, D\} = \{B\}$, and B is the key of N_2
 - $\{B, C\} \cap \{B, D\} = \{B\}$, and B is the key of N_2
 - Conclusion (a **wrong one**): The set of relation schemas D is a lossless join decomposition (of a universal relation schema)

Example 1: Checking Losslessness of D (2)

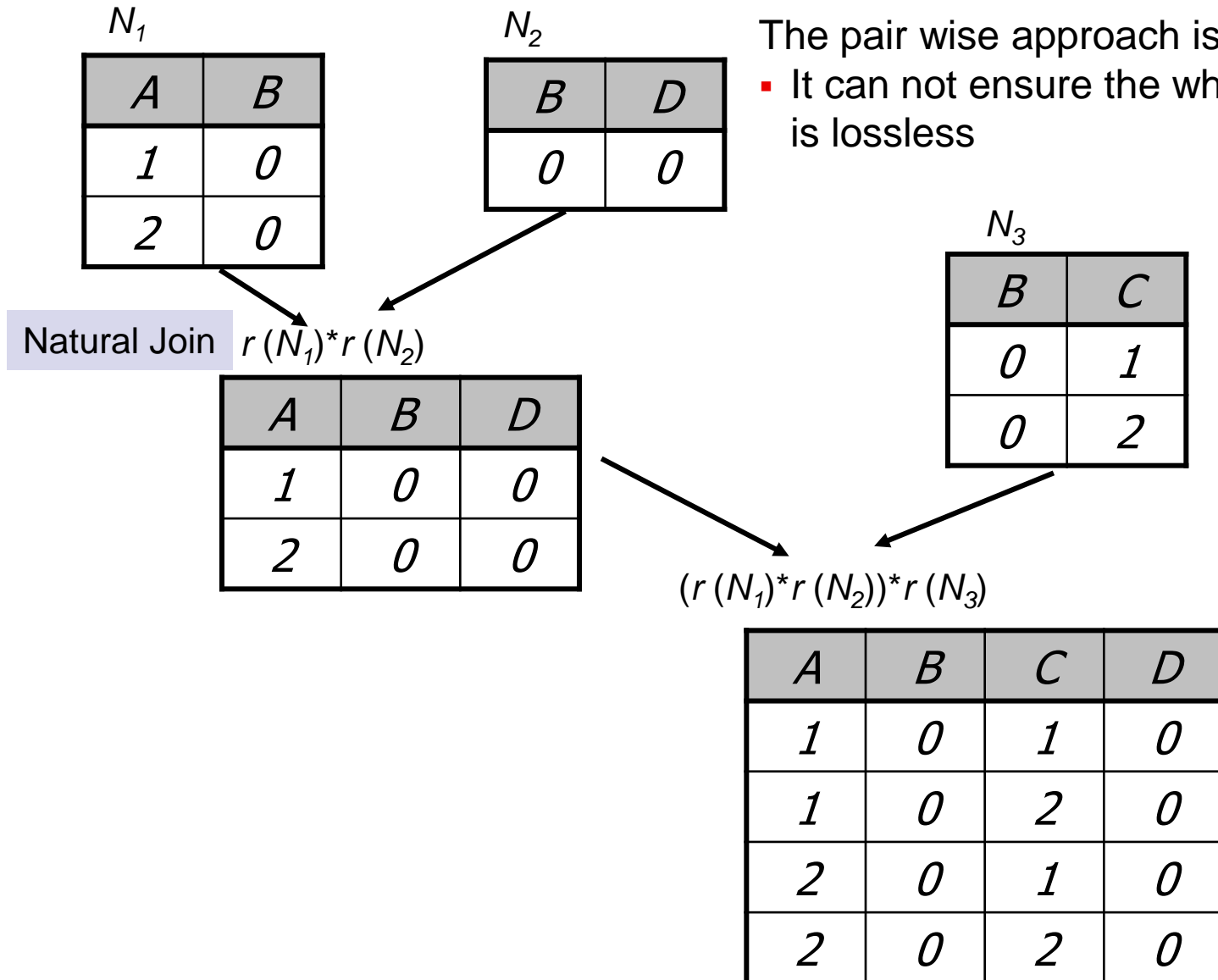
$$D = \{N_1(\{A, B\}, \{A\}), N_2(\{B, D\}, \{B\}), N_3(\{C, B\}, \{C\})\}$$

- A correct approach is to apply this checking iteratively until all the schemas are considered
 - $\{A, B\} \cap \{B, D\} = \{B\}$, and B is the key of N_2 ,
 - construct new relation schema $N_{12}(R_{12}, \text{Key}(N_{12}))$, with $R_{12} = \{A, B\} \cup \{B, D\} = \{A, B, D\}$ and $\text{Key}(N_{12}) = \{A\}$
 - $\{A, B, D\} \cap \{B, C\} = \{B\}$, and check again.
 - B is neither a key of N_{12} nor a key of N_3
- We can conclude the set of relation schemas D is a **not** a lossless join decomposition (of a universal relation schema).

Example 1: Checking Losslessness of D (3)



Example 1: Checking Losslessness of D (4)



One Approach of Checking Losslessness of D

- To check whether a set D of relation schemas is a lossless decomposition is:

1. **Construct** a relation schema (U, F) , where

$$U = \bigcup_{i=1}^n R_i \quad \text{and} \quad F = \bigcup_{i=1}^n F_i$$

2. **Find** all keys $\{X_i / i = 1, \dots, m\}$ of the constructed “universal” relation schema (U, F)
3. If there is a relation schema $R(K)$ in D that contains a key of the constructed relation schema (U, F) , then D is a lossless join decomposition
4. Otherwise, add a new relation schema that contains only a key X_i of the constructed “universal” relation schema (U, F) to D

$$D = D \cup \{N_x(X_i, X_i)\}$$

Example 2: Checking Losslessness of D

- The universal relation schema key is AC , and decompositions

$$D = \{N_1(\{A, B\}, \{A\}), N_2(\{B, D\}, \{B\}), N_3(\{B, C\}, \{C\})\}$$

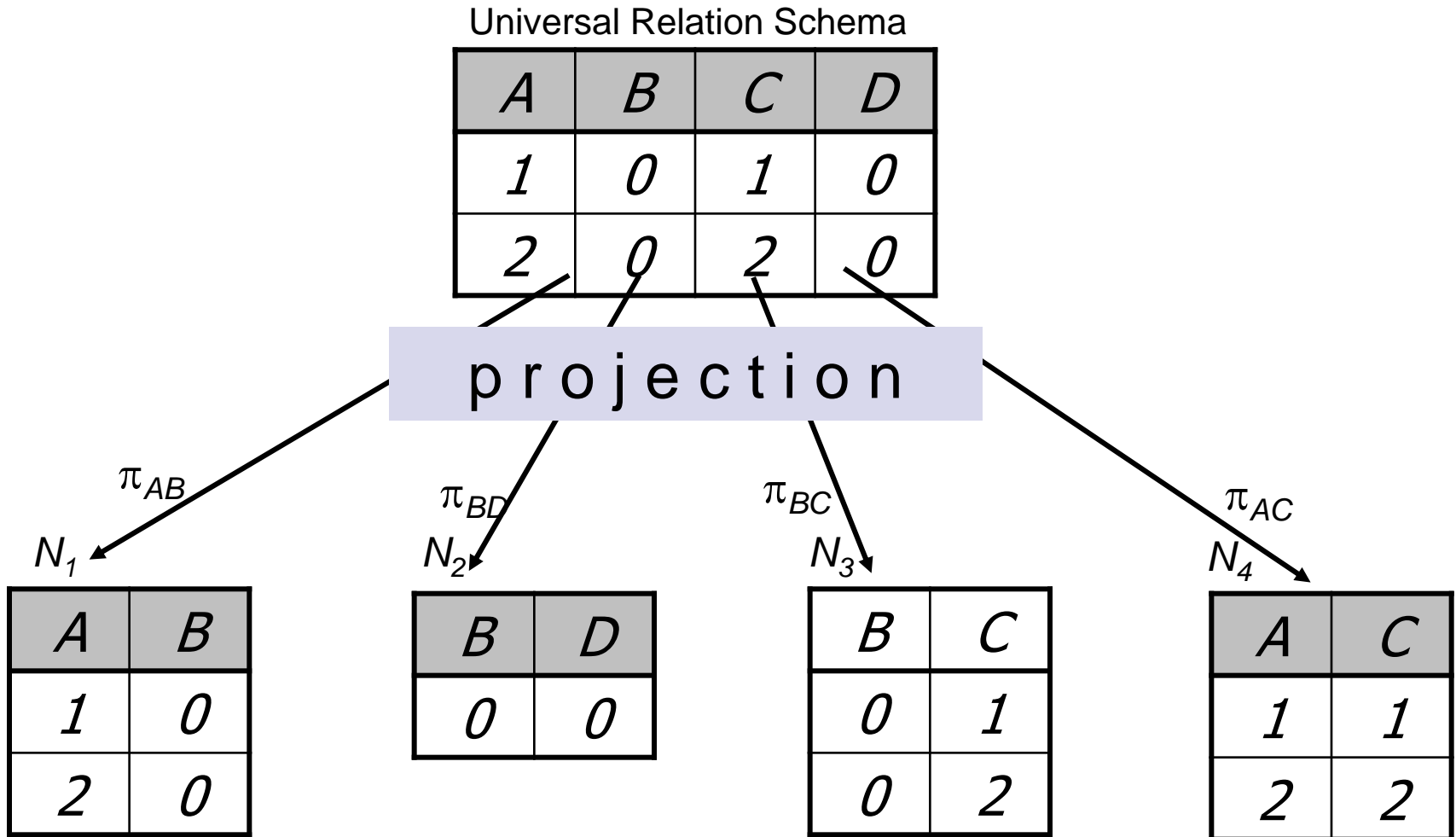
Is the decomposition lossless? Why?

- A lossless decomposition

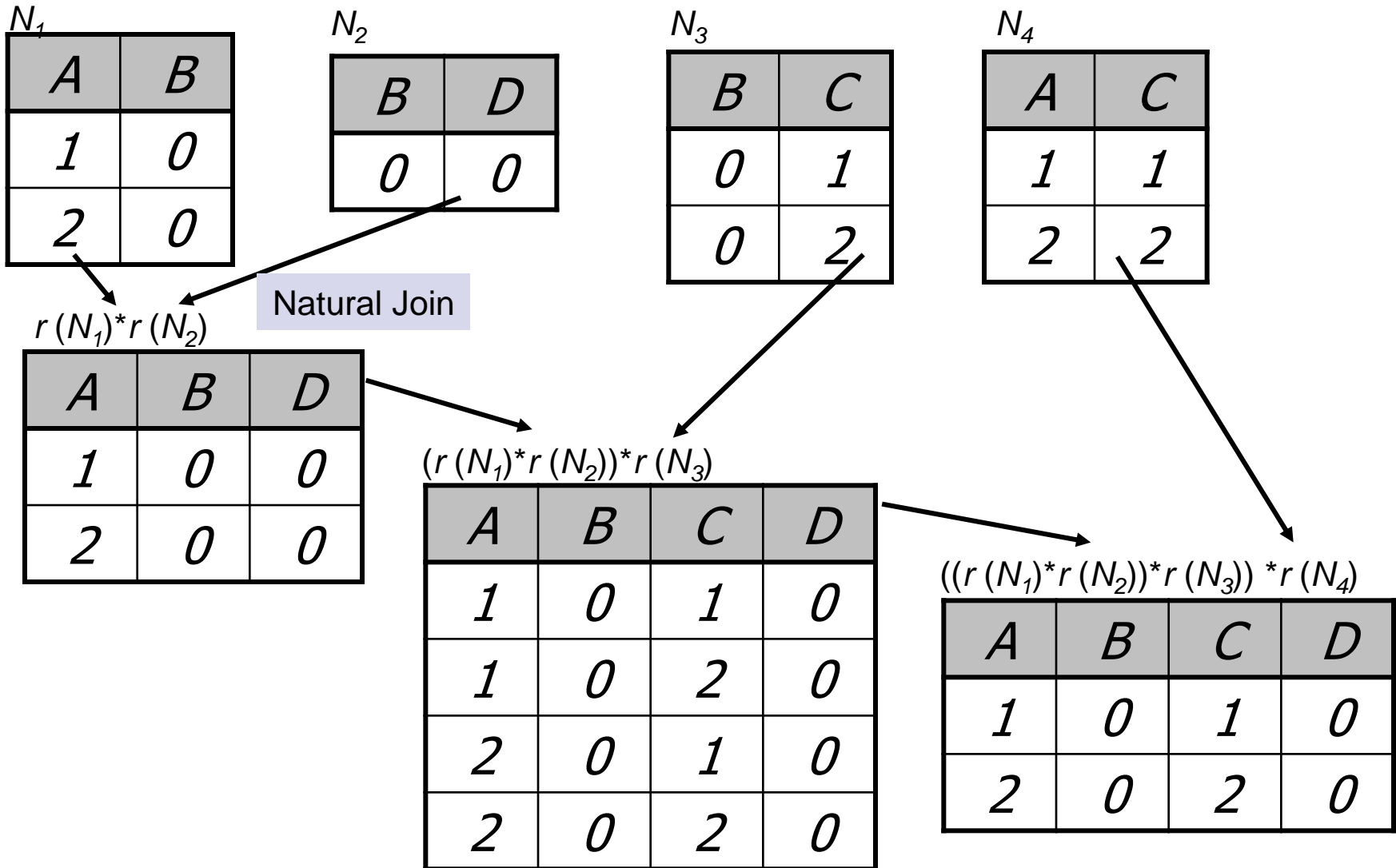
$$D' = \{N_1(\{A, B\}, \{A\}), N_2(\{B, D\}, \{B\}), N_3(\{B, C\}, \{C\}), N_4(\{A, C\}, \{AC\})\}$$

- This can be achieved using the Synthesis Algorithm

Example 2: Checking Losslessness of D (3)



Example 2: Checking Losslessness of D (4)



Exercise 1: Lossless Join Decomposition

- Consider the following relation schema again
Department ($\{LecId, LeName, CourId, CoName, DptId\}$,
 $\{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, CourId \rightarrow CoName + DptId\}$)
- Is Department in 3NF? If not, decompose it into 3NF
- Is Department in BCNF? If not, decompose it into BCNF

Exercise 1: 3NF Decomposition

- Consider the following relation schema again
 $Department(\{LecId, LeName, CourId, CoName, DptId\}, \{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, CourId \rightarrow CoName + DptId\})$

- Compute minimal cover of F
 $G = \{LecId \rightarrow LeName, LecId \rightarrow CourId, CourId \rightarrow CoName, CourId \rightarrow DptId\}$

- 1. Group FDs according to LHS and form relation schemas
 $LecId \rightarrow LeName, LecId \rightarrow CourId,$
 $CourId \rightarrow CoName, CourId \rightarrow DptId$

 $Lecturer(\{LecId, LeName, CourId\}, \{LecId\})$
 $Course(\{CourId, CoName, DptId\}, \{CourId\})$

Exercise 1: 3NF Decomposition

2. Compute universal relation keys and check if any of the relation schemas contains one of the keys:
 - *LecId* is the universal relation schema key and is in Lecturer
3. All functional dependencies are preserved

Exercise 1: BCNF Decomposition

- Consider the following relation schema again
 $Department(\{LecId, LeName, CourId, CoName, DptId\}, \{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, CourId \rightarrow CoName + DptId\})$
 Is *Department* in BCNF?
- Is decomposed into BCNF using $CourId \rightarrow CoName + DptId$
 $Lecturer(\{LecId, LeName, CourId\}, \{LecId\})$
 $Course(\{CourId, CoName, DptId\}, \{CourId\})$
- Both *Lecturer* and *Course* are in BCNF

Exercise 2: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R = ABCD$ a relation schema and
 $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A\}$ a set of dependencies
 for R .
- 1) Find the candidate keys for R
 - 2) If R is not in BCNF, give a decomposition of R in relations that will be in BCNF

Exercise 2: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R = ABCD$ a relation schema and
 $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A\}$ a set of dependencies for R .

1) Find the candidate keys for R

$$\begin{aligned}
 A^+ &= A, & B^+ &= B, & C^+ &= CDA, & D^+ &= DA, \\
 AB^+ &= ABCD = R = ABC^+ = ABD^+ = ABCD^+, \\
 AC^+ &= ACD \\
 AD^+ &= AD \\
 BC^+ &= BCDA = R = BCD^+ \\
 BD^+ &= BDAC = R \\
 CD^+ &= CDA \\
 ACD^+ &= ACD
 \end{aligned}$$

AB , BC , and BD are scheme keys

Exercise 2: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R = ABCD$ a relation schema and
 $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A\}$ a set of dependencies for R .
- 2) If R is not in BCNF, give a decomposition of R in relations that will be in BCNF

R is not in BCNF because there are FDS, $C \rightarrow D$ and $D \rightarrow A$, of which the *LHS* is not a superkey.

Decompose R using $C \rightarrow D$ into $R_1 = ABC$ with $F_1 = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow A\}$, $R_2 = CD$ with $F_2 = \{C \rightarrow D\}$.

R_2 is in BCNF but R_1 is not yet in BCNF because there is FD $C \rightarrow A$, of which the *LHS* is not a super key.

Decompose R_1 along $C \rightarrow A$, R_1 is decomposed into $R_{11} = BC$ with $F_{11} = \{\}$, and $R_{12} = CA$ with $F_{12} = \{C \rightarrow A\}$. Both R_{11} and R_{12} are in BCNF

Exercise 2: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R = ABCD$ a relation schema and
 $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A\}$ a set of dependencies for R .
- 2) If R is not in BCNF, give a decomposition of R in relations that will be in BCNF

R is decomposed into $R_{11}(\{B, C\}, \{B \rightarrow C\})$, $R_{12}(\{C, A\}, \{C \rightarrow A\})$,
 $R_{13}(\{D, A\}, \{D \rightarrow A\})$

$$F' = R_{11} \cup R_{12} \cup R_{13} = \{C \rightarrow A, C \rightarrow D\}$$

Functional dependencies $AB \rightarrow C$, $D \rightarrow A$ are lost during the decomposition because based on F'

$$D^+ = D \text{ and } A \notin D^+$$

$$AB^+ = AB \text{ and } C \notin AB^+$$

Exercise 3: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R=JKL$ a relation and $F = \{JK \rightarrow L, L \rightarrow K\}$ a set of dependencies for R .
- Find two candidate keys in R
- Is R in 3NF? Justify your answer
- If R is not in BCNF, decompose R into BCNF
- Are the functional dependencies preserved during the decomposition?

Exercise 3: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R=JKL$ a relation and $F = \{JK \rightarrow L, L \rightarrow K\}$ a set of dependencies for R .

Exercise 3: Find Keys and Normalization

Let $R=JKL$ a relation and $F = \{JK \rightarrow L, L \rightarrow K\}$ a set of dependencies for R .

- Find two candidate keys in R

JK and JL are the keys, since $JK^+ = JKL = R$, and $JL^+ = JLK = R$

- Is R in 3NF? Justify your answer

Yes, it is, since all FDs in F either their LHS is a superkey or RHS is a prime attribute.

Exercise 3: Find Keys and Normalization

- Let $R=JKL$ a relation and $F = \{JK \rightarrow L, L \rightarrow K\}$ a set of dependencies for R .
- If R is not in BCNF, decompose R into BCNF

R is not in BCNF because there is a FD $L \rightarrow K$ of which the LHS is not a super key

Using $L \rightarrow K$, R is decomposed into

$R_1=JL$ with $F_1 = \{\}$ and $R_2=LK$ with $F_2 = \{L \rightarrow K\}$

Both R_1 and R_2 is in BCNF since for each of them all FDs having LHS as a super key of R_i

Hence, R is decomposed into $R_1(\{J,L\}, \{J+I\})$, $R_2(\{L,K\}, \{L\})$

- Not all the functional dependencies preserved during the decomposition.

$JK \rightarrow L$ is lost since using $F_1 \cup F_2$, $JK^+ = JK$ and $L \notin JK^+$