

# NORMALIZATION Tutorial

SWEN304/SWEN439

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**Engineering and Computer Science**



# Outline

- Normal forms
- 3NF normalization: Synthesis algorithm
- BCNF normalization: Decomposition algorithm

# Understanding Normal Forms

- The fact that each relation schema key functionally determines each relation schema attribute is crucial for understanding 2NF, 3NF, and BCNF
- e.g.

$R = \{A, B, C, D\}, F = \{AB \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow D\}, K = AB$

$AB \rightarrow A, AB \rightarrow B$  trivial FDs

$AB \rightarrow C$  in  $F$

$B \rightarrow D$  with  $D$  partially functional depends on  $B$

# First Normal Form and Second Normal Form

- A relation schema is in **first normal form (1NF)** if the domain of its each attribute has only atomic values
  - No relation schema attribute is allowed to be composite or multi-valued
- A relation schema  $R$  is in **second normal form (2NF)** if no non-prime attribute in  $R$  is **partially** functionally dependent on any relation schema  $R$  key

# First Normal Form Example

- **Grades** ( $\{StudId, StName, NoOfPts, CourId, Grd\}$ ,  
 $\{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoOfPts, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grd\}$ )
- $K(Grades) = StudId + CourId$
- in 1NF but not in 2NF

<u>StudId</u>	<u>CourId</u>	StName	NoOfPts	Grd
007	M114	James	80	A+
131	C102	Susan	18	B-
007	C102	James	80	A
555	M114	Susan	18	B+
007	C103	James	80	A+
131	M214	Susan	18	ω

A new student can not be inserted until she/he enrolls  
If a student passes a new exam, all the tuples have to be examined...

## Second Normal Form

**Lecturer** ( $\{LecId, LeName, CourId, CoName\}$ ,  
 $\{LecId \rightarrow LeName, LecId \rightarrow CourId,$   
 $LecId \rightarrow CoName, CourId \rightarrow CoName\}$ )

$K(Lecturer) = LecId$

<i>CourId</i>	<i>CoName</i>	<u><i>LecId</i></u>	<i>LeName</i>
M114	Math	777	Mark
C102	Java	101	Ewan
M114	Math	999	Vladimir
C103	Algorith	99	Peter
M214	Math	333	Peter
C201	C++	222	Robert
C101	Inet	820	Ray

**New Course data  
can not be  
inserted without  
knowing who is  
going to lecture it  
If a lecturer  
resigns, Course  
data will be lost**

# Third Normal Form and BCNF

- A relation schema  $N(R, F)$  with a set of keys  $K(N)$  is in **third normal form (3NF)** if for each nontrivial functional dependency  $X \rightarrow A$  holds in  $F$ , **either**  $X$  is a **superkey** of  $N$ , **or**  $A$  is a **prime** attribute of  $N$
- A relation schema is in **third normal form (3NF)** if it is in 2NF, *and* no non-prime attribute is **transitively** functionally dependent on any relation schema key
- The relation schema  $(R, F)$  is in the **Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)**, if the left-hand side of each **nontrivial** functional dependency in  $F$  **contains** a relation schema key

# Third Normal Form

- ***Employee*** ( $\{EmpId, EmpName, SSN\}$ ,  
 $\{EmpId \rightarrow SSN, SSN \rightarrow EmpId,$   
 $EmpId \rightarrow EmpName, SSN \rightarrow EmpName\}$ ),  
 $K(Employee) = \{EmpId, SSN\}$
- is in 3NF (even in BCNF)
- LHS of each nontrivial FD in  $F$  is a superkey



# Third Normal Form

- **Lecturer**( $\{LecId, LeName, CourId\}$ ,  $\{LecId \rightarrow LeName, LecId \rightarrow CourId\}$ ,  
 $K(Lecturer) = LecId$ ,  $Null(Lecturer, CourId) = Yes$
- is in 3NF (and even in BCNF)

<u>LecId</u>	LeName	CourId
777	Mark	M114
101	Ewan	C102
999	Vladimir	M114
99	Peter	C103
333	Peter	M214
222	Robert	C201
444	Ian	ω

These relations are free of update anomalies:

- Ian is not teaching any course
- C101 does not have a teacher

<u>CourId</u>	CoName
M114	Math
C102	Java
C103	Algorithm
M214	Math
C201	C++
C101	Inet

# 3NF but not BCNF

3NF, but not BCNF

<u>LecId</u>	<u>StudId</u>	<u>CourId</u>	Grade
777	007	M114	A+
101	131	C102	B+
101	007	C102	B
999	555	M114	C
99	007	C103	A
333	131	M214	ω
222	555	C201	A
222	007	C201	A+

<u>LecId</u>	LeName	<u>CourId</u>
777	Mark	M114
101	Ewan	C102
999	Vladimir	M114
99	Peter	C103
333	Peter	M214
222	Robert	C201
444	Ian	ω

<u>StudId</u>	StName
007	James
131	Susan
555	Susan
909	Paul

<u>CourId</u>	CoName
M114	Math
C102	Java
C103	Algorit
M214	Math
C201	C++
C101	Inet

Given **Stud\_Cour\_Lec** ({*StudId*, *CourId*, *LecId*, *Grade* },  
{***LecId* → *CourId***, *StudId*+*CourId* → *LecId*, *StudId*+*CourId* → *Grade* })

## Problem:

- Information about the relationship between lecturers and courses is stored twice
- Update of *CourId* for any *LecId* need to check ***LecId* → *CourId***
- Delete a lecture will delete relationship of student and course.

# Lossless 3NF Decomposition

Synthesis Algorithm (simplified )

**Input:**  $(U, F)$

**Output:**  $S = \{(R_i, K_i) | i = 1, \dots, n\}$  (\* $K_i$  is the relation schema key\*)

1. Find a **minimal cover**  $G$  of  $F$
2. **Group** FDs from  $G$  according to the **same left-hand side**.  
For each group of FDs

$$(X \rightarrow A_1, X \rightarrow A_2, \dots, X \rightarrow A_k),$$

make **one** relation schema in  $S$

$$(\{X, A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k\}, X)$$

3. If **none** of relation schemes in  $S$  contain a key of  $(U, F)$ ,  
**create** a new relation scheme in  $S$  that will contain only  
a **key** of  $(U, F)$

# Example 1: 3NF Decomposition (1)

- **Faculty** = ( $U, F$ )

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$

$F = \{StudId \rightarrow StName, StudId \rightarrow NoPts, CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName, LecId \rightarrow CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade, StudId + CourId \rightarrow LecId\}$

- Step 1. Minimal cover is  $F$

Step 2. Groups:

$(StudId \rightarrow StName, StudId \rightarrow NoPts)$

$(CourId \rightarrow CoName)$

$(LecId \rightarrow LeName, LecId \rightarrow CourId)$

$(StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade, StudId + CourId \rightarrow LecId)$

## Example 1: 3NF Decomposition (2)

- Step 2 Relation schemas:

$$S = \{(\mathbf{Student}(\underline{StudId}, StName, NoOfPts),$$

$$\mathbf{Course}(\underline{CourId}, CoName),$$

$$\mathbf{Lecturer}(\underline{LecId}, LeName, CourId),$$

$$\mathbf{St\_Le\_Pa}(\underline{StudId, CourId}, LecId, Grade)\}$$

- Step 3 Universal relation key is in **St\_Le\_Pa**

$$(\underline{StudId + CourId})^+ = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId,$$

$$CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$$

- So, the decomposition is lossless and dependency preserving

# Example 1: 3NF Decomposition (3)

## Faculty database

### **Student**

<i>StudId</i>	<i>StName</i>	<i>NoPts</i>
007	James	80
131	Susan	18
555	Susan	18
010	John	0

### **Course**

<i>CourId</i>	<i>CoName</i>
C102	Java
M114	Math
C103	Algorith
M214	Math
C201	C++

# Example 1: 3NF Decomposition (4)

## Faculty database

### Lecturer

<i>CourId</i>	<u><i>LecId</i></u>	<i>LeName</i>
C102	101	Ewan
M114	999	Vladimir
C103	99	Peter
M214	333	Peter
C201	222	Robert
C101	820	Ray

An update anomaly would arise if a lecturer decides to resign or change the course

### Cour\_Stud\_Lec

<u><i>CourId</i></u>	<u><i>StudId</i></u>	<u><i>LecId</i></u>	<i>Grd</i>
M214	007	333	A+
C102	131	101	B-
C102	007	101	A
M114	555	999	B+
C103	007	99	A+
M214	131	333	ω
C201	555	222	ω
C201	007	222	A+
C101	010	820	ω

## Example 2: 3NF Decomposition (exercise)

- $U = \{EmpId, LicenceNo, IRNo, EmpName\}$   
 $F = \{EmpId \rightarrow LicenceNo, LicenceNo \rightarrow EmpId, EmpId \rightarrow IRNo, IRNo \rightarrow EmpId, EmpId \rightarrow EmpName\}$
- Is  $U$  in 3NF? If not decompose it in 3NF



## Example 3: 3NF Decomposition (exercise)

- $U = \{A, B, C, D\}, F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
- Is  $U$  in 3NF? If not decompose it in 3NF

## Example 3: 3NF Decomposition

- $U = \{A, B, C, D\}, F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
- Step 1.:  $F$  is already minimal
- Step 2.: group FDs according to LHS and make a schema for each group
  - $(A \rightarrow B)$
  - $(B \rightarrow C)$
  - $S = \{(\{A, B\}, \{A\}), (\{B, C\}, \{B\})\}$
- Step 3, check if any relation schema contains a key of schema  $U$ 
  - $A^+ = ABC$
  - $B^+ = BC$
  - $K(U, F) = AD$
- create a relation schema that contains a Key
  - $S = \{(\{A, B\}, \{A\}), (\{B, C\}, \{B\}), (\{A, D\}, \{AD\})\}$

# BCNF Decomposition

Decomposition algorithm:

**Input:**  $(U, F)$

**Output:**  $S = \{(R_i, F_i) \mid i = 1, \dots, n\}$

1. Set  $S := \{(U, F)\}$
  2. While there is a relation schema  $(R, G)$  in  $S$  that is not in BCNF do
    - 2.1 Choose a functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $G$  that violates BCNF,
    - 2.2 Replace  $(R, G)$  with  $(R - Y, G \mid_{R-Y})$  and  $(XY, G \mid_{XY})$
- The final result will be a lossless BCNF-decomposition

# Projection of a Set of FDs

*Examples:*

- $F_1 = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D\}, W = \{A, D\}$   
 $F_1|_W = \{A \rightarrow D\}$

- $F_2 = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow A\}, W = \{A, B\}$   
 $F_2|_W = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow A\}$

*Exercise:*  $F_3 = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow B\}, W = \{A, C, D\},$   
 $F_3|_W = ?$

- $F_3|_W = \{AD \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D\}$

## Example 4: BCNF Decomposition (1)

- Take the **Faculty** = ( $U, F$ ) as in Example 1

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$

$F = \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts, CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$

$K = \{StudId + CourId, StudId + LecId\}$

- Step 2

*Faculty* is not BCNF due to, say,  $StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts$ , so

$S_1 = \{\mathbf{Student}(\{StudId, StName, NoOfPts\}, \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts\})\}$

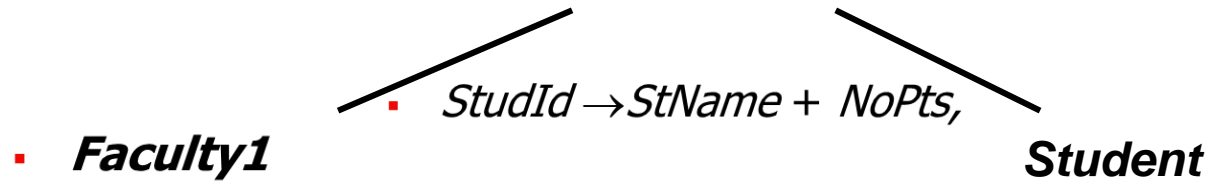
**Faculty1** ( $\{StudId, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}, \{CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\})$ )

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$

$F = \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts, CourId \rightarrow CoName, \\ LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$

$K = \{StudId + CourId, StudId + LecId\}$

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$



## Example 4: BCNF Decomposition (2)

- *Student* is BCNF, but *Faculty1* is not due to

$$CourId \rightarrow CoName$$

- So decompose along  $CourId \rightarrow CoName$

$$S_2 = \{$$

***Student*** ( $\{StId, StName, NoPts\}, \{StId \rightarrow StName + NoPts\}$ ),

***Course*** ( $\{CourId, CoName\}, \{CourId \rightarrow CoName\}$ ),

***Faculty2*** ( $\{StId, CourId, LecId, LeName, Grade\}, \{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$ )

}

- Now, *Course* is BCNF, but *Faculty2* is not due to  
 $LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId$

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$   
 $F = \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts, CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$   
 $K = \{StudId + CourId, StudId + LecId\}$

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$

$\text{Student}(\{StudId, StName, NoOfPts\}, \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts\})$   
 $StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts,$

**Faculty1** ( $\{StudId, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}, \{CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$ )

$CourId \rightarrow CoName$   
**Faculty2**      **Course**



## Example 4: BCNF Decomposition (3)

$S_3 = \{ \mathbf{Student}(\{StId, StName, NoPts\}, \{StId \rightarrow StName + NoPts\}),$

$\mathbf{Course}(\{CourId, CoName\}, \{CourId \rightarrow CoName\}),$

$\mathbf{Lecturer}(\{LecId, CourId, LeName\}, \{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId\}),$

$\mathbf{Stud\_Lect}(\{StId, LecId, Grade\}, \{StId + LecId \rightarrow Grade\}) \}$

- $S_3$  is BCNF
- $StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade$  is in  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^n F_i)^+$
- But FD  $StudId + CourId \rightarrow LecId$  is lost

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$   
 $F = \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts, CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$   
 $K = \{StudId + CourId, StudId + LecId\}$

$U = \{StudId, StName, NoPts, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}$

$\text{Student}(\{StudId, StName, NoOfPts\}, \{StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts\})$   
 $StudId \rightarrow StName + NoPts$

**Faculty1** ( $\{StudId, CourId, CoName, LecId, LeName, Grade\}, \{CourId \rightarrow CoName, LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StudId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$ )

$CourId \rightarrow CoName$

**Faculty2** ( $\{StId, CourId, LecId, LeName, Grade\}, \{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId, StId + CourId \rightarrow Grade + LecId\}$ )

**Course** ( $\{CourId, CoName\}, \{CourId \rightarrow CoName\}$ )

$LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId$

**Stud\_Lect** ( $\{StId, LecId, Grade\}, \{StId + LecId \rightarrow Grade\}$ )

**Lecturer** ( $\{LecId, CourId, LeName\}, \{LecId \rightarrow LeName + CourId\}$ )

## Example 5: FDs cannot be preserved (3)

<u>LecId</u>	<u>StudId</u>
777	007
101	131
101	007
999	555
99	007
333	131
222	555
222	007

<u>StudId</u>	<u>CourId</u>	Grade
007	M114	A+
131	C102	B+
007	C102	B
555	M114	C
007	C103	A
131	M214	ω
555	C201	A
007	C201	A+

<u>LecId</u>	<u>CourId</u>
777	M114
101	C102
999	M114
99	C103
333	M214
222	C201
444	ω

1. If a lecturer resigns or starts teaching another course, students' grades are not lost
2. Information about the relationship between lecturers and courses is stored only once
3. If a lecturer resigns, we lose only information regarding his/her relationship with students