



Experiment 1.4

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1. **Problem Title:** Functional Dependency and Keys.
2. **Problem Description:** In relational databases, keys are defined using functional dependencies (FDs). A super key is any set of one or more attributes that can uniquely identify a tuple in a relation; formally, if a set of attributes X functionally determines all attributes of the relation ($X \rightarrow R$), then X is a super key. Among super keys, the candidate keys are those that are minimal, meaning no proper subset of them can still uniquely determine all attributes of the relation. From the set of candidate keys, one is chosen as the primary key, which serves as the main identifier for tuples in the relation. When a key is made up of two or more attributes, it is called a composite key, and this occurs when the combination of attributes together functionally determines all other attributes of the relation, but no single attribute in that set can do so individually. Thus, super keys guarantee uniqueness, candidate keys are the minimal super keys, the primary key is the selected candidate key, and composite keys are keys formed by combining multiple attributes.

3. Questions:

- a. $R(ABCD)$: -
 - i. $AB \rightarrow C$
 - ii. $C \rightarrow D$
 - iii. $D \rightarrow A$

$AB^+ = ABCD$
 $BC^+ = CBDA$
 $DB^+ = DBAC$

Candidate keys = {AB, BC, DB} **PA** = {A, B, C, D} **NPA** = {}

Normalisation: 3NF because (X is a super key or candidate key OR Y is a prime attribute) (If all attributes come out to be prime – R is in 3NF).

b. R(ABCDE): -

- i. A→D
- ii. B→A
- iii. BC→D
- iv. AC→BE.

Given: R (A, B, C, D, E); **FD:** A→D, B→A, BC→D, AC→BE.

CA⁺ = DCABE

CB⁺ = CBADE

Candidate keys = {CA, CB} **PA** = {A, C, B} **NPA** = {D, E}

Normalisation: 1NF

c. R(ABCDE)

- i. B→A
- ii. A→C
- iii. BC→D
- iv. AC→BE

Given FD: B→A, A→C, BC→D, AC→BE.

A⁺ = DCABE

B⁺ = CBADE

Candidate keys = {A, B} **PA** = {A, B} **NPA** = {C, D, E}

Normalisation: BCNF or 3.5NF because (All the FD in X is super key or candidate key).

d. R(ABCDEF)

- i. A→BCD
- ii. BC→DE
- iii. B→D
- iv. D→A.

Given: R (A, B, C, D, E, F);

FB⁺ = BDACEF

FD⁺ = DABCEF

Candidate keys = {FB, FD} **PA** = {A, D, F, B} **NPA** = {C, E}

Normalisation: 1NF because (X is a subset of candidate key AND Y is non-prime attribute) – then R is not in 2NF.

e. R(W, X, Y, Z): -

- i. X→Y

- ii. $WZ \rightarrow X$
- iii. $WZ \rightarrow Y$
- iv. $Y \rightarrow W$
- v. $Y \rightarrow X$
- vi. $Y \rightarrow Z$

Given: $R(W, X, Y, Z)$; **FD:** $X \rightarrow Y, WZ \rightarrow X, WZ \rightarrow Y, Y \rightarrow W, Y \rightarrow X, Y \rightarrow Z$.

Since $X \rightarrow Y$ so we can write $WZ \rightarrow Y$.

FD': $X \rightarrow Y, WZ \rightarrow Y, Y \rightarrow W, Y \rightarrow X, Y \rightarrow Z$.

$X^+ = YWXZ$

$Y^+ = WXZY$

$WZ^+ = WZYX$

Candidate keys = $\{X, Y, WZ\}$ **PA** = $\{X, Y, WZ\}$ **NPA** = $\{\}$

Normalisation: BCNF because (All the FD in X is super key or candidate key).

f. $R_1(A, B, C, D, E, F)$

- i. $A \rightarrow BC$
- ii. $D \rightarrow E$
- iii. $BC \rightarrow D$
- iv. $A \rightarrow D$

Given: $R(A, B, C, D, E, F)$; **FD:** $A \rightarrow BC, D \rightarrow E, BC \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow D$.

$AF^+ = AFDBCE$

Candidate keys = $\{AF\}$ **PA** = $\{A, F\}$ **NPA** = $\{B, C, D, E\}$

Normalisation: 1NF because (X is a subset of candidate key AND Y is non-prime attribute) – then R is not in 2NF.