

Task 1 (3.0 marks)

Consider the relational schemas given below and the respective sets of functional dependencies valid in the schemas.

$R(P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W)$

Functional Dependency:  $RW \rightarrow V, P \rightarrow QR, Q \rightarrow RUW, T \rightarrow P, U \rightarrow TV$

(i) Find all the minimal super keys of the relational table  $R$ . List the derivations of all minimal keys.

Functional Dependencies (FDs):

$RW \rightarrow V$

$P \rightarrow QR$

$Q \rightarrow RUW$

$T \rightarrow P$

$U \rightarrow TV$

Closure of U:

$U \rightarrow T, V$  (Given FD) [ $U \rightarrow T, U \rightarrow V$ ] (via decomposition)

$T \rightarrow P$  (Given FD)

$U \rightarrow T \rightarrow P = U \rightarrow P$  (transitivity axiom)

$P \rightarrow Q, R$  (Given FD)

$U \rightarrow P \rightarrow Q = U \rightarrow Q$  (transitivity axiom)

$U \rightarrow P \rightarrow R = U \rightarrow R$  (transitivity axiom)

$Q \rightarrow R, U, W$  (Given FD)

$Q \rightarrow W$  (via decomposition)

$U \rightarrow Q \rightarrow R = U \rightarrow R$  (transitivity axiom)

$RW \rightarrow V \rightarrow$  already have  $R, W \rightarrow V$  already derived

$U^+ = \{U, T, V, P, Q, R, W\}$

Add  $S \rightarrow US^+ = \{U, T, V, P, Q, R, W, S\} =$  all attributes

$US$  is a candidate key

Closure of T:

$T \rightarrow P$

$P \rightarrow QR$

$Q \rightarrow RUW$

$U \rightarrow TV$

$RW \rightarrow V$

$T^+ = \{T, P, Q, R, U, W, V\}$

$T^+$  missing  $S$

$\{T, S\}^+ = \{T, P, Q, R, U, V, W, S\}$

$TS$  is a candidate key

Closure of Q:

$Q \rightarrow RUW$

$RW \rightarrow V$   
 $U \rightarrow TV$   
 $T \rightarrow P$   
 $P \rightarrow QR$   
 $Q^+ = \{Q, R, U, W, V, T, P\}$   
 $\{Q, S\}^+ = \{Q, R, U, W, V, T, P, S\}$   
 QS is a candidate key

Closure of P:

$P \rightarrow QR$   
 $Q \rightarrow RUW$   
 $RW \rightarrow V$   
 $U \rightarrow TV$   
 $P^+ = \{P, Q, R, U, W, V, T\}$   
 $\{P, S\}^+ = \{P, Q, R, U, W, V, T, S\}$   
 PS is a candidate key

Check for minimality: removing any single attribute breaks full closure

Answer:

**Minimal Superkeys (Candidate Keys): US, TS, QS, PS**

(ii) Identify the highest normal form of the relational table  $R$ . Remember that the identification of a normal form requires analysis of the valid functional dependencies.

Assume 1NF is satisfied (atomic values).

2NF Check:

All attributes must be fully functionally dependent on the entire key

There are no partial dependencies from any minimal key subset to non-prime attributes

use  $\{U, S\}$  as the reference candidate key

Prime Attributes (Part of any Candidate Key):

- P, Q, T, U, S

Non-Prime Attributes:

- R, V, W

$RW \rightarrow V \rightarrow$  not a subset of any candidate key

$P \rightarrow QR \rightarrow P$  is part of  $\{P, S\}$ , not a subset of any other key

$Q \rightarrow RUW \rightarrow Q$  is part of  $\{Q, S\}$ , not partial for others

$T \rightarrow P \rightarrow T$  is part of  $\{T, S\}$

$U \rightarrow TV \rightarrow U$  is part of  $\{U, S\}$

No partial dependencies found

Therefore, the table is in 2NF

### **2NF is satisfied**

3NF Check:

No transitive dependency should exist on a non-prime attribute.

$RW \rightarrow V$

- $RW$  is not a super key
- $V$  is non-prime (Violates 3NF)

$P \rightarrow QR$

- $P$  is not a super key
- $Q$  and  $R$ :  $Q$  is prime,  $R$  is not (Violates 3NF due to  $R$ )

$Q \rightarrow RUW$

- $Q$  is not a super key
- $R, U, W$ :  $U$  is prime,  $R$  and  $W$  are not (Violates 3NF)

$T \rightarrow P$

- $T$  is not a super key
- $P$  is prime (Acceptable)

$U \rightarrow TV$

- $U$  is not a super key
- $T$  is prime,  $V$  is not (Violates 3NF)

$V$  is transitively dependent on  $U$

Transitive dependency detected

**Answer: Highest Normal Form: 2NF**

(iii) Decompose the relational table  $R$  into minimal number of normalized relational tables in BCNF. Remember to indicate the primary key and foreign keys (if any).

We decompose  $R$  into BCNF by removing violating FDs step-by-step.

$R(P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W)$

1.  $RW \rightarrow V$ :  $RW$  is not a super key

Decompose:

- $R_1(R, W, V)$ , key =  $RW$
- $R_2(P, Q, S, T, U)$

2. In  $R_2$ :  $P \rightarrow QR$ :

$P$  is not a super key

Decompose:

- $R_3(P, Q, R)$ , key =  $P$
- $R_4(S, T, U)$

3. In  $R_4$ :  $U \rightarrow TV$ :

$U$  is not a super key.

Decompose:

- $R_5(U, T, V)$ , key =  $U$
- $R_6(S)$

Final set of BCNF Relations:

- $R_1(R, W, V)$ , PK =  $RW$
- $R_3(P, Q, R)$ , PK =  $P$
- $R_5(U, T, V)$ , PK =  $U$
- $R_6(S)$ , PK =  $S$

All resulting relations are in BCNF