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# Announcements

## Make-up midterms

- Saturday: 1300-1500
- Utown LT51
- If you have MC, send your valid MC to your tutor during tutorial
- If you're from CS2040, I will get your data from Prof. Chong

## Remedial

- Friday: 1500-1800
- SR10

## Useful websites

- [https://github.com/thisisadiyoga/cs2102\\_ay1819\\_s2](https://github.com/thisisadiyoga/cs2102_ay1819_s2)
- <http://cs2102-ay1819-s2.herokuapp.com/>
- <http://cs2102-fd-nf.herokuapp.com/>

# CS2102

# Database Systems

*Slides adapted from Prof. Chan Chee Yong*

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LECTURE 08

FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCIES

# Transaction, procedures, triggers

- ❑ A **transaction** starts with **BEGIN** ends with either **COMMIT** or **ROLLBACK**
  - ❑ We assume ACID property is maintained
- ❑ **Stored function**
  - ❑ **CREATE** [ **OR REPLACE** ] **FUNCTION** **func\_name** ...
  - ❑ **SELECT** **func\_name** (...);
- ❑ **Stored procedure**
  - ❑ **CREATE** [ **OR REPLACE** ] **PROCEDURE** **proc\_name** ...
  - ❑ **CALL** **proc\_name** (...);
- ❑ **Triggers**
  - ❑ **CREATE TRIGGER** **trigger\_name**  
    { **BEFORE** | **AFTER** | **INSTEAD OF** }  
    { **event** [ **OR event** [ ... ] ] } **ON table**  
    [ **FOR** [ **EACH** ] { **ROW** | **STATEMENT** } ]  
    [ **WHEN cond** ] **EXECUTE PROCEDURE func\_name()**;

# Application development

- ❑ Server & libraries

- ❑ Accept connection

- ❑ Route if necessary

- ❑ What to do when client request /page?

- ❑ Connect to database

- ❑ How to construct SQL queries?

- ❑ Create and return response

- ❑ What to give to client when /page is requested?

- ❑ Security

- ❑ SQL injection attack

- ❑ Placeholder for sanitization

- Motivation
    - ER model
    - Schema
  - Functional dependencies
    - Definition
  - Asking questions
    - Armstrong's axiom
    - Closure
    - Minimal cover
- 

## Overview

- Motivation
    - ER model
    - Schema
  - Functional dependencies
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    - Minimal cover
- 

## Motivation

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# Database design process

## ER diagram

### 1. Requirement analysis

- Find out the data/application/performance requirement of the enterprise

### 2. Conceptual database design

- Capture data requirements using a conceptual schema

### 3. Logical database design

- Map conceptual schema to logical schema supported by DBMS

### 4. Schema refinement

- Improve logical schema design using data constraints

### 5. Physical database design

- Use performance requirements to design physical schema

### 6. Application & security design

- Specify access control policies
- 

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# Database design process

## Next step

### 1. Requirement analysis

- Find out the data/application/performance requirement of the enterprise

### 2. Conceptual database design

- Capture data requirements using a conceptual schema

### 3. Logical database design

- Map conceptual schema to logical schema supported by DBMS

### 4. Schema refinement

- Improve logical schema design using data constraints

### 5. Physical database design

- Use performance requirements to design physical schema

### 6. Application & security design

- Specify access control policies
- 



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# Database design process

## Requirement analysis

I would like my customers to be able to browse my catalog of books and place orders over the Internet. Currently, I take orders over the phone. I have mostly corporate customers who call me and give me the ISBN number of a book and a quantity; they often pay by credit card. If I don't have enough copies in stock, I order additional copies and delay the shipment until the new copies arrive; I want to ship a customer's entire order together. My catalog includes all the books I sell. For each book, the catalog contains its ISBN number, title, author, purchase price, sales price, and the year the book was published. Most of my customers are regulars, and I have records with their names and addresses. New customers have to call me first and establish an account before they can use my website. On my new website, customers should first identify themselves by their unique customer identification number. Then they should be able to browse my catalog and to place orders online.

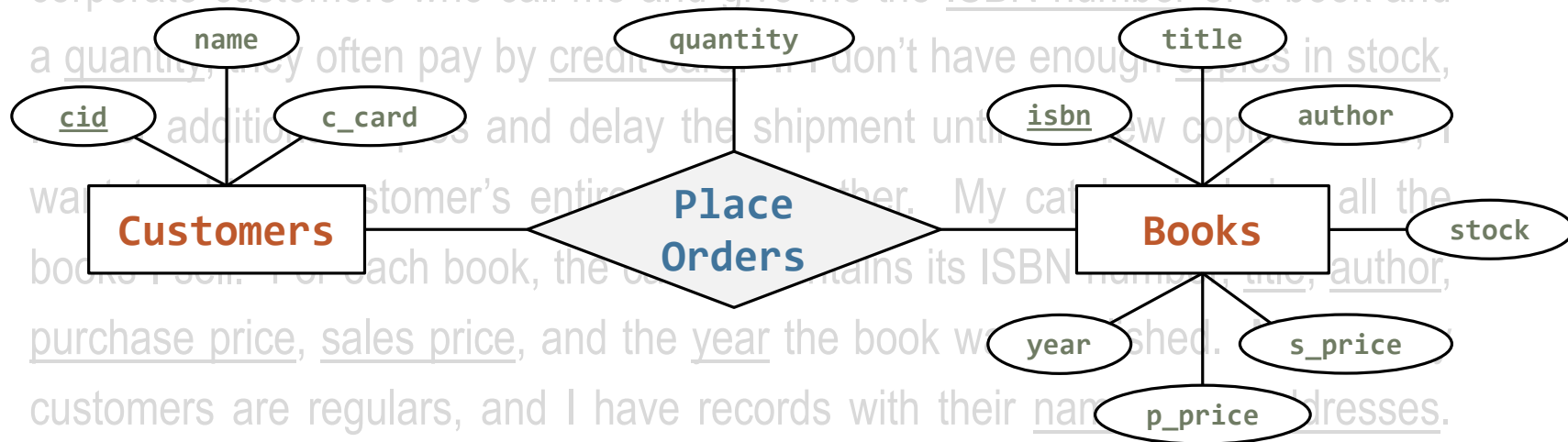
# ER model

## Entities, relationships, and attributes

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# ER model

## Entities, relationships, and attributes



### Constraints:

- Each customer is identified by their cid, they have a name and a credit card
- Each book is identified by their isbn, they have title, author, etc
- Each customer buys at most one book, the quantity is to be recorded

# Schema

## Entities, relationships, and attributes

I would like my customers to be able to browse my catalog of books and place orders over the Internet. Currently, I take orders over the phone. I have mostly

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books I sell. For each book, the catalog contains its ISBN number, title, author, purchase price, sales price, and the year the book was published. Most of my customers are regulars, and I have records with their names and addresses.

New customers have to call me first and establish an account before they can

### Constraints:

- Each customer is identified by their *cid*, they have a name and a credit card
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# Schema

## Schema refinement issues

- How do we know if the schema design is good or bad?
- How to transform a bad schema design into a good design?

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- **Possible problems**
  - **Insertion anomaly**: we cannot store any customer if they have never made a purchase
  - **Deletion anomaly**: if we delete all books with isbn 1234, we lose information about Alice
  - **Update anomaly**: if Trudy credit card number change, we have to be careful of consistent updates (*update on all places*)

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- ER diagram solution to the problem

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3118	Alice	5243 ****
1423	Trudy	1234 ****
5609	Carol	5243 ****

<i>cid</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>isbn</i>
3118	100	1234
1423	100	1234
1423	200	2102
5609	200	2102

<i>isbn</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
1234	DB	Adi	2019			
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1423	Trudy	1234 ****
5609	Carol	5243 ****

<u>cid</u>	<i>quantity</i>	<u>isbn</u>
3118	100	1234
1423	100	1234
1423	200	2102
5609	200	2102

<u>isbn</u>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
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<u>cid</u>	<i>quantity</i>	<u>isbn</u>
3118	100	1234
1423	100	1234
1423	200	2102
5609	200	2102

<u>isbn</u>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
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- **Possible problems**
  - **Insertion anomaly**: ~~we cannot store any customer if they have never made a purchase~~
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## Functional dependencies

# Functional dependencies

## Notations

- We use  $R(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$  to denote relation schema with  $n$  attributes
- We use  $R$  to denote the set of attributes in  $R$  (i.e.,  $attr(R)$ )
  - Example:  $R = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$
- We use lowercase letter  $a, b, \dots$  except  $r$  to denote subsets of attributes in  $R$ 
  - Let  $a, b \subseteq R$  and  $A_i, A_j \in R$ 
    - We use  $ab$  to denote  $a \cup b$  union
    - We use  $A_i A_j$  to denote  $\{A_i, A_j\}$  set
    - We use  $A_i b$  to denote  $\{A_i\} \cup b$  union
    - We use  $b - A_i$  to denote  $b - \{A_i\}$  set difference

# Functional dependencies

## Definition

- **Functional dependencies** (FD) are constraints on schemas that specify that the values for certain set of attributes determine unique values for another set of attributes (i.e., uniquely identifies)
- Let  $a$  and  $b$  denote subsets of attributes of a relational schema  $R$ 
  - We use  $a \rightarrow b$  to denote that  $a$  functionally determines  $b$
  - We also say that  $b$  functionally depends on  $a$
- The **FD**  $a \rightarrow b$  **holds on**  $R$  if and only if for any relation instance  $r$  of  $R$ , whenever two tuples  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  of  $r$  agree on the attributes  $a$ , they also agree on the attributes  $b$ 
  - $\pi_a(t_1) = \pi_a(t_2) \Rightarrow \pi_b(t_1) = \pi_b(t_2)$
  - Example
    - $cid \rightarrow name$
    - $cid \rightarrow c\_card$
    - $name \rightarrow c\_card$
    - $(cid, name) \rightarrow name$

<u>cid</u>	name	c_card
3118	Alice	5243 ****
1423	Trudy	1234 ****
5609	Carol	5243 ****

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    - $cid \rightarrow c\_card$
    - ~~$name \rightarrow c\_card$~~
    - $(cid, name) \rightarrow name$

<u>cid</u>	name	c_card
3118	Alice	5243 ****
1423	Trudy	1234 ****
5609	Carol	5243 ****
3119	Alice	1234 ****

# Functional dependencies

## Example

<i>cid</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>c_card</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>isbn</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
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## Constraints:

- Each customer is identified by their *cid*, they have a name and a credit card
- Each book is identified by their *isbn*, they have title, author, etc
- Each customer buys at most one book, the quantity is to be recorded

# Functional dependencies

## Example

<i>cid</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>c_card</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>isbn</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
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## Constraints:

- Each customer is identified by their *cid*, they have a name and a credit card
  - $cid \rightarrow (name, c\_card)$
- Each book is identified by their *isbn*, they have title, author, etc
  - $isbn \rightarrow (title, author, year, \dots)$
- Each customer buys at most one book, the quantity is to be recorded
  - $(cid, isbn) \rightarrow quantity$

# Functional dependencies

## Definition

- Let  $r$  be a relation instance of relation schema  $R$ 
  - $r$  **satisfies** FD  $a \rightarrow b$  if for every pair of tuples  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  in  $r$  such that  $\pi_a(t_1) = \pi_a(t_2)$ , it is also true that  $\pi_b(t_1) = \pi_b(t_2)$
  - An FD  $f$  **holds on**  $R$  if and only if for any relation instance  $r$  of  $R$ ,  $r$  **satisfies**  $f$
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1423	Trudy	1234 ****	200	2102	PSQL	Yoga	2016			
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~~$cid \rightarrow (name, c\_card)$~~

~~$isbn \rightarrow (title, \dots)$~~

~~$(cid, isbn) \rightarrow quantity$~~

# Functional dependencies

## Trivial and non-trivial

- An FD  $a \rightarrow b$  is a **trivial** FD if  $b \subseteq a$ 
  - $b$  is a **subset** of  $a$
- An FD  $a \rightarrow b$  is a **non-trivial** FD if  $b \not\subseteq a$ 
  - $b$  is **NOT a subset** of  $a$  (i.e.,  $a \rightarrow b$  is **NOT a trivial** FD)
- An FD  $a \rightarrow b$  is a **completely non-trivial** FD if  $a \cap b = \emptyset$ 
  - $a \rightarrow b$  is **non-trivial**, and
  - $a$  and  $b$  have **completely different attributes**

<i>FD</i>	<i>is trivial?</i>	<i>is non-trivial?</i>	<i>is completely non-trivial?</i>
$AB \rightarrow B$			
$AB \rightarrow AC$			
$AB \rightarrow C$			
$C \rightarrow \emptyset$			
$\emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset$			

# Functional dependencies

## Trivial and non-trivial

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  - $b$  is a **subset** of  $a$
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### Evaluate the following claim:

- There are trivial FDs that are also completely non-trivial
- There are completely non-trivial FDs that are trivial
- There are non-trivial FDs that are not completely non-trivial

# Functional dependencies

## Trivial and non-trivial

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### Evaluate the following claim:

- ~~• There are trivial FDs that are also completely non-trivial~~
- ~~• There are completely non-trivial FDs that are trivial~~
- There are non-trivial FDs that are not completely non-trivial



- Motivation
    - ER model
    - Schema
  - Functional dependencies
    - Definition
  - Asking questions
    - Armstrong's axiom
    - Closure
    - Minimal cover
- 

## Asking questions

# Introduction

## What kind of questions can we ask about FDs?

- Given a set of FDs  $F$  (that hold on  $R$ ) and an FD  $f$ 
  - Does  $f$  also hold on  $R$
- Example:
  - $F = \{ \text{cid} \rightarrow (\text{name}, \text{c\_card}), \text{isbn} \rightarrow (\text{title}, \dots), (\text{cid}, \text{isbn}) \rightarrow \text{quantity} \}$
  - Which of the following FDs also hold?

<i>cid</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>c_card</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>isbn</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
3118	Alice	5243 ****	100	1234	DB	Adi	2019			
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- $(\text{cid}, \text{isbn}) \rightarrow \text{name}$
- $\text{isbn} \rightarrow \text{quantity}$
- ❖ How do we know?

# Asking question

## Closure

- Definitions:
  - Let  $F$  and  $G$  denote sets of FDs, and  $f$  denote an FD
  - $F$  **logically implies** (or simply **implies**) if every relation instance  $r$  of  $R$  that satisfies the FDs  $F$  **also satisfies** the FD  $f$ 
    - Denoted as  $F \models f$
    - More generally,  $F \models G$  if  $F \models g$  for all  $g \in G$
  - The **closure** of  $F$  is the set of all FDs **implied** by  $F$ 
    - Denoted as  $F^+ = \{ f \mid F \models f \}$
  - $F$  is **equivalent** to  $G$  if  $F^+ = G^+$ 
    - Denotes as  $F \equiv G$
    - In other words,  $F \models G$  and  $G \models F$
    - Or simply, their closure are the same

# Asking question

## Finding closure

- Let  $R = (A, B)$  with FDs  $F = \{A \rightarrow B\}$
- In other words, we have relation  $R(\underline{A}, B)$

FD	is implied?	FD	is implied?
$\emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊	$A \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊
$\emptyset \rightarrow A$	😞	$A \rightarrow A$	😊
$\emptyset \rightarrow B$	😞	$A \rightarrow B$	😊
$\emptyset \rightarrow AB$	😞	$A \rightarrow AB$	😊
$B \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊	$AB \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊
$B \rightarrow A$	😞	$AB \rightarrow A$	😊
$B \rightarrow B$	😊	$AB \rightarrow B$	😊
$B \rightarrow AB$	😞	$AB \rightarrow AB$	😊

In general,  
enumeration works,  
but you will need to  
go through  $2^n \times 2^n$   
FDs

- Closure:

$$F^+ = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset, B \rightarrow \emptyset, B \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow \emptyset, A \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow AB \\ AB \rightarrow \emptyset, A \rightarrow AB, AB \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow AB \end{array} \right\}$$

# Asking question

## Finding closure

- Let  $R = (A, B)$  with FDs  $F = \{A \rightarrow B\}$
- In other words, we have relation  $R(\underline{A}, B)$

FD	is implied?	FD	is implied?
$\emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊	$A \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊
$\emptyset \rightarrow A$	😞	$A \rightarrow A$	😊
$\emptyset \rightarrow B$	😞	$A \rightarrow B$	😊
$\emptyset \rightarrow AB$	😞	$A \rightarrow AB$	😊
$B \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊	$AB \rightarrow \emptyset$	😊
$B \rightarrow A$	😞	$AB \rightarrow A$	😊
$B \rightarrow B$	😊	$AB \rightarrow B$	😊
$B \rightarrow AB$	😞	$AB \rightarrow AB$	😊

### Is there a simpler way?

- Consider the function way of writing things
- $A \rightarrow B \equiv (F(A) = B)$
- Given  $F(A)$  can you find the value of  $A$ ?
- Given  $A$  and  $C$  such that  $F(A) = B$ , can you find the value of  $B$  and  $C$ ?
- Given  $A$  such that  $F(A) = B$  and  $F(B) = C$ , can you find the value of  $C$ ?

- Closure:

$$F^+ = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset, B \rightarrow \emptyset, B \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow \emptyset, A \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow AB \\ AB \rightarrow \emptyset, A \rightarrow AB, AB \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow AB \end{array} \right\}$$

# Asking question

## Finding closure

- Let  $R = (A, B)$  with FDs  $F = \{A \rightarrow B\}$
- In other words, we have relation  $R(\underline{A}, B)$

*Rewrite the consideration into  $A \rightarrow B$  form again*

- Given  $F(A)$  can you find the value of  $A$ ?
  - $A \rightarrow A$  for any  $A$
  - Any attribute uniquely identify itself
  - More generally  $a \rightarrow b$  for any  $b \subseteq a$
- Given  $A$  and  $C$  such that  $F(A) = B$ , can you find the value of  $B$  and  $C$ ?
  - $AC \rightarrow BC$
  - Adding new information does not make us lose information
- Given  $A$  such that  $F(A) = B$  and  $F(B) = C$ , can you find the value of  $C$ ?
  - $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \rightarrow C$  implies  $A \rightarrow C$
  - If  $A$  uniquely identifies  $B$  and  $B$  uniquely identified  $C$ 
    - Surely  $A$  uniquely identifies  $C$

- Closure:

$$F^+ = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset, B \rightarrow \emptyset, B \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow \emptyset, A \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow AB \\ AB \rightarrow \emptyset, A \rightarrow AB, AB \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow AB \end{array} \right\}$$

# Asking question

## Armstrong's axioms

- Let  $R = (A, B)$  with FDs  $F = \{A \rightarrow B\}$
- In other words, we have relation  $R(\underline{A}, B)$

### Set of Armstrong's axioms

- Reflexivity

- $A \rightarrow A$  for any  $A$
- Any attribute uniquely identify itself
- More generally  $a \rightarrow b$  for any  $b \subseteq a$

- Augmentation

- $AC \rightarrow BC$
- Adding new information does not make us lose information

- Transitivity

- $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \rightarrow C$  implies  $A \rightarrow C$
- If  $A$  uniquely identifies  $B$  and  $B$  uniquely identified  $C$ 
  - Surely  $A$  uniquely identifies  $C$

- Properties

- Sound any derived FD is implied by  $F$
- Complete all FDs in  $F^+$  can be derived

# Asking question

## Using Armstrong's axioms

- Consider  $R(A, B, C, D, E)$  with the following FDs

- $A \rightarrow C \quad B \rightarrow C \quad CD \rightarrow E$

- Show that  $F \models AD \rightarrow E$

- Steps

1.  $A \rightarrow C$

Given

2.  $AD \rightarrow CD$

Augmentation of (1) with  $D$

3.  $CD \rightarrow E$

Given

4.  $AD \rightarrow E$

Transitivity with (2) and (3)



# Asking question

## Extended Armstrong's axioms

- Recap
    - Reflexivity if  $b \subseteq a$  then  $a \rightarrow b$
    - Augmentation if  $a \rightarrow b$  then  $ac \rightarrow bc$
    - Transitivity if  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $b \rightarrow c$  then  $a \rightarrow c$
  - Extension
    - Union if  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $a \rightarrow c$  then  $a \rightarrow bc$
    - Decomposition if  $a \rightarrow b$  then  $a \rightarrow b'$  where  $b' \subseteq b$ 
      - Specific case if  $a \rightarrow bc$  then  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $a \rightarrow c$
- ❖ Unless specified, we will only use the non-extended version
- ❖ The extended Armstrong's axiom can be derived from the first three axioms

# Asking question

## Using extended Armstrong's axioms

- Consider the following sets of FDs
  - $F = \{A \rightarrow BCD\}$
  - $G = \{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow D\}$
  - Show that  $F \equiv G$
  - Steps
    - Proof  $F \models G$ 
      - By decomposition, we have  $A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow D$
      - Therefore  $F \models \{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow D\}$
    - Proof  $G \models F$ 
      - By union, we have  $A \rightarrow BCD$
      - Therefore  $G \models A \rightarrow BCD$

# Revisiting the keys

## Superkeys, keys, and prime attributes

- A set of attributes  $a$  is a **superkey** of schema  $R$  (with FDs  $F$ ) if  $F \models a \rightarrow R$ 
  - If we know the values of attributes  $a$ , we can uniquely identify any tuple in  $R$
- A set of attributes  $a$  is a **key** of schema  $R$  if
  - $a$  is a **superkey**
  - No proper subset of  $a$  is a superkey (*minimal*, for each  $b \subset a$ ,  $F \not\models b \rightarrow R$ )
    - This is the **candidate key**
- An attribute  $A \in R$  is a **prime attribute** if  $A$  is contained in **some** key of  $R$
- ❖ Can you find the prime attributes of the table below? (in blue)
  - $F = \{ \text{cid} \rightarrow (\text{name}, \text{c\_card}), \text{isbn} \rightarrow (\text{title}, \dots), (\text{cid}, \text{isbn}) \rightarrow \text{quantity} \}$

<i>cid</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>c_card</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>isbn</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
3118	Alice	5243 ****	100	1234	DB	Adi	2019			
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# Attribute closure

## Interpreting information

- FDs allow us to figure out what we can know given a piece of information
  - Consider knowing `cid`, can you know the name and credit card number?
- However, there are limits to what we can know if the information is limited
  - Even if we know `cid`, we still cannot know the title of a book
  - To know the title of a book, we need to know the `isbn`
    - What we want to know is the limit of what we can know
- Given a set of attribute  $a$ , other attributes that we can know is called *attribute closure of  $a$*
- $F = \{ \text{cid} \rightarrow (\text{name}, \text{c\_card}), \text{isbn} \rightarrow (\text{title}, \dots), (\text{cid}, \text{isbn}) \rightarrow \text{quantity} \}$

<i>cid</i>	<i>name</i>	<i>c_card</i>	<i>quantity</i>	<i>isbn</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>author</i>	<i>year</i>	<i>omitted</i>		
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    - What we want to know is the limit of what we can know
- Given a set of attribute  $a$ , other attributes that we can know is called *attribute closure of  $a$*
- More formally, given  $a \subseteq R$  and the set of FDs  $F$  on  $R$ 
  - The closure of  $a$  (w.r.t.  $F$ ) is  $a^+ = \{A \in R \mid F \models a \rightarrow A\}$
  - In other words, all the attributes that functionally depends on  $a$
  - ❖ A nice attribute that we have is  $F \models a \rightarrow b$  if and only if  $b \subseteq a^+$
  - ❖ We can then also compute  $F^+$  if we can compute  $a^+$

# Attribute closure

## Computing attribute closure

- Algorithm #1
  - **Input** A set of attributes  $a \subseteq R$  and a set of FDs  $F$  on  $R$
  - **Output**  $a^+$  (w.r.t.  $F$ )
  - 1. initialize  $\theta = a$
  - 2. while (there exists some FD  $b \rightarrow c \in F$   
such that  $b \subseteq \theta$  and  $c \notin \theta$ )
  - 3.  $\theta = \theta \cup c$
  - 4. return  $\theta$

# Attribute closure

## Computing attribute closure

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such that  $b \subseteq \theta$  and  $c \not\subseteq \theta$ )
  - 3.  $\theta = \theta \cup c$
  - 4. return  $\theta$
- Example: let  $F = \{A \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow C, CD \rightarrow E\}$ 
  - Show that  $F \models AD \rightarrow E$
  - 1. initialize  $\Rightarrow \theta = AD$
  - 2. with  $A \rightarrow C \Rightarrow \theta = ACD$
  - 3. with  $CD \rightarrow E \Rightarrow \theta = ACDE$
  - 4. therefore  $AD^+ = ACDE$ 
    - thus  $F \models AD \rightarrow E$

# Minimal covers

## Motivation

- We can compute  $F^+$ , we don't need to store all FDs
- Therefore, some FDs are redundant  $\Rightarrow$  can be removed
- The smallest set of FDs is called **minimal cover**
  - This is simpler than the original  $F$ , **can be enforced more efficiently**

## Definition

- Given an FD  $a \rightarrow b$ , an attribute  $A \in a$  is a **redundant attribute in FD** if
  - $(F - \{a \rightarrow B\}) \cup \{(a - A) \rightarrow B\}$  is equivalent to  $F$
  - In other words, having  $(a - A) \rightarrow B$  instead of  $a \rightarrow B$  does not change  $F^+$
- How to compute?
  - $((F - \{a \rightarrow B\}) \cup \{(a - A) \rightarrow B\})^+ = F^+$
  - Or simply if  $F \models (a - A) \rightarrow B$ 
    - then  $(F - \{a \rightarrow B\}) \cup (a - A) \rightarrow B \models a \rightarrow B$



# Minimal covers

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  - In other words, having  $(a - A) \rightarrow B$  instead of  $a \rightarrow B$  does not change  $F^+$
- Example
  - $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow A\}$ 
    - Is  $A$  in  $AB \rightarrow C$  redundant?      yes, since  $B^+ = ABC$  w.r.t.  $F$
    - Is  $B$  in  $AB \rightarrow C$  redundant?      yes, since  $A^+ = ABC$  w.r.t.  $F$
    - But can only remove one, cannot both!

# Minimal covers

## Motivation

- We can compute  $F^+$ , we don't need to store all FDs
- Therefore, some FDs are redundant  $\Rightarrow$  can be removed
- The smallest set of FDs is called **minimal cover**
  - This is simpler than the original  $F$ , **can be enforced more efficiently**

## Definition

- Given an FD  $f \in F$ ,  $f$  is **a redundant FD** if
  - $F - f$  is equivalent to  $F$
  - In other words, not using  $f$  is fine, since we can derive  $f$
- How to compute?
  - $(F - f)^+ = F^+$
  - Or simply,  $(F - f) \models f$ 
    - If  $f = a \rightarrow B$ , we can simply compute  $a^+$  w.r.t.  $(F - f)$
    - If it contains  $B$ , then  $f$  is redundant

# Minimal covers

## Motivation

- We can compute  $F^+$ , we don't need to store all FDs
- Therefore, some FDs are redundant  $\Rightarrow$  can be removed
- The smallest set of FDs is called **minimal cover**
  - This is simpler than the original  $F$ , **can be enforced more efficiently**

## Definition

- Given an FD  $f \in F$ ,  $f$  is **a redundant FD** if
  - $F - f$  is equivalent to  $F$
  - In other words, not using  $f$  is fine, since we can derive  $f$
- Example
  - $F = \{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow A\}$
  - Which FDs are redundant?
    - $A \rightarrow C$  can be derived from  $A \rightarrow B \wedge B \rightarrow C$
    - $B \rightarrow A$  can be derived from  $B \rightarrow C \wedge C \rightarrow A$
    - $B \rightarrow C$  can be derived from  $B \rightarrow A \wedge A \rightarrow C$

# Minimal covers

## Motivation

- We can compute  $F^+$ , we don't need to store all FDs
- Therefore, some FDs are redundant  $\Rightarrow$  can be removed
- The smallest set of FDs is called **minimal cover**
  - This is simpler than the original  $F$ , **can be enforced more efficiently**

## Definition

- A **minimal cover** for a set  $F$  of FDs is a set  $G$  of FDs such that
  - Every FD in  $G$  is of the **form**  $a \rightarrow A$  (*i.e., single attribute on the right*)
  - For each FD  $a \rightarrow A$  in  $G$ ,  $a$  has **no redundant attributes**
  - There are **no redundant FDs** in  $G$
  - $G$  and  $F$  are **equivalent**
- ❖ Each set of FDs has **at least one** minimal cover
  - ❖ Trivially, it is itself!

# Minimal covers

## Definition

- A **minimal cover** for a set  $F$  of FDs is a set  $G$  of FDs such that
  - Every FD in  $G$  is of the **form**  $a \rightarrow A$  (*i.e., single attribute on the right*)
  - For each FD  $a \rightarrow A$  in  $G$ ,  $a$  has **no redundant attributes**
  - There are **no redundant FDs** in  $G$
  - $G$  and  $F$  are **equivalent**

## Computing a minimal cover

- Algorithm #2
  - **Input** A set of FDs  $F$
  - **Output** A minimal cover for  $F$
  - A. **Break down any**  $a \rightarrow B_1, \dots, B_n$  **to**  $\{a \rightarrow B_1, \dots, a \rightarrow B_n\}$
  - B. **Remove redundant attribute:** **while preserving**  $F^+$
  - C. **Remove redundant FD:** **while preserving**  $F^+$

# Minimal covers

## Computing a minimal cover

- Algorithm #2

- **Input** A set of FDs  $F$

- **Output** A minimal cover for  $F$

1. initialize  $G = \emptyset$

2. for each (FD  $a \rightarrow B_1 \dots B_n$  in  $F$ )

3.  $G = G \cup \{a \rightarrow B_i \mid i \in [1, n]\}$

4. for each (FD  $a \rightarrow B$  in  $G$ )

5. initialize  $a' = a$

6. for each ( $A \in a$ ) do

7. if ( $B$  in  $(a' - A)^+$  w.r.t  $G$ ) then

8. replace  $a' \rightarrow B$  in  $G$  by  $(a' - A) \rightarrow B$

9.  $a' = a' - A$

10. for each (FD  $a \rightarrow B$  in  $G$ )

11. if ( $B$  in  $a^+$  w.r.t.  $G - \{a \rightarrow B\}$ ) then

12. remove  $a \rightarrow B$  from  $G$

13. return  $G$

} Decompose

} Remove  
redundant  
attribute

} Remove  
redundant FDs

# Minimal covers

## Computing a minimal cover

- Example:  $F = \{ABCD \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow D\}$

- Find a minimal cover of  $F$

- Steps

➤ **Decompose FDs:** already decomposed

➤ **Remove redundant attributes:**

start with  $G = \{ABCD \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow D\}$

1.  $A$  in  $ABCD \rightarrow E$  is non-redundant  $BCD^+ = BCD$  w.r.t.  $G$

2.  $B$  in  $ABCD \rightarrow E$  is redundant  $ACD^+ = ABCDE$  w.r.t.  $G$

- $G = \{ACD \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow D\}$

3.  $C$  in  $ABCD \rightarrow E$  is non-redundant  $AD^+ = ABD$  w.r.t.  $G$

4.  $D$  in  $ABCD \rightarrow E$  is redundant  $AC^+ = ABCDE$  w.r.t.  $G$

- $G = \{AC \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow D\}$

5.  $A$  in  $AC \rightarrow D$  is non-redundant  $C^+ = C$  w.r.t.  $G$

6.  $C$  in  $AC \rightarrow D$  is non-redundant  $A^+ = AB$  w.r.t.  $G$

# Minimal covers

## Computing a minimal cover

- Example:  $F = \{ABCD \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow D\}$ 
  - Find a minimal cover of  $F$
  - Steps
    - Remove redundant FDs:  
start with  $G = \{AC \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow D\}$ 
      1.  $AC \rightarrow E$  is non-redundant       $AC^+ = ABCD$  w.r.t.  $G - \{AC \rightarrow E\}$
      2.  $E \rightarrow D$  is non-redundant       $E^+ = E$  w.r.t.  $G - \{E \rightarrow D\}$
      3.  $A \rightarrow B$  is non-redundant       $A^+ = A$  w.r.t.  $G - \{A \rightarrow B\}$
      4.  $AC \rightarrow D$  is redundant       $AC^+ = ABCDE$  w.r.t.  $G - \{AC \rightarrow D\}$
    - Minimal cover is  $G = \{AC \rightarrow E, E \rightarrow D, A \rightarrow B\}$



# Summary

## □ Functional dependencies

- Abstraction of “*uniquely identifies*”
- Superkey  $a \rightarrow R$
- Key (candidate key)  $a$  is also minimal
- Prime attribute  $A \in a$  is in **some** key  $a \rightarrow R$

## □ Armstrong's axiom

- Reflexivity, Augmentation, Transitivity
- Repeated application of axiom  $\Rightarrow$  **FD closure** and **attribute closure**

## □ Attribute closure

- Given an attribute, what other attributes can we uniquely identify?
- **Algorithm #1**

## □ Minimal cover

- Find a simpler set  $G$  such that  $G \equiv F$  and no redundancy
- **Algorithm #2**