

Database System Concept (CSE 3103)

Lecture 03-Day 01

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Normalization of Database

- Database Normalisation is a technique of organizing the data in the database. Normalization is a systematic approach of decomposing tables to eliminate data redundancy and undesirable characteristics like Insertion, Update and Deletion Anamolies. It is a multi-step process that puts data into tabular form by removing duplicated data from the relation tables.
- Normalization is used for mainly two purpose,
- Eliminating reduntant(useless) data.
- Ensuring data dependencies make sense i.e data is logically stored.

Problem Without Normalization

Without Normalization, it becomes difficult to handle and update the database, without facing data loss. Insertion, Updation and Deletion Anamolies are very frequent if Database is not Normalized. To understand these anomalies let us take an example of **Student** table.

S_id	S_Name	S_Address	Subject_opted
401	Adam	Noida	Bio
402	Alex	Panipat	Maths
403	Stuart	Jammu	Maths
404	Adam	Noida	Physics

Problem Without Normalization

- Updation Anamoly: To update address of a student who occurs twice or more than twice in a table, we will have to update S_Address column in all the rows, else data will become inconsistent.
- Insertion Anamoly: Suppose for a new admission, we have a Student id(S_id), name and address of a student but if student has not opted for any subjects yet then we have to insert NULL there, leading to Insertion Anamoly.
- **Deletion Anamoly**: If (S_id) 401 has only one subject and temporarily he drops it, when we delete that row, entire student record will be deleted along with it.

Normalization Rule

- Normalization rule are divided into following normal form.
- First Normal Form
- Second Normal Form
- Third Normal Form
- BCNF

First Normal Form (1NF)

- As per First Normal Form, no two Rows of data must contain repeating group of information i.e each set of column must have a unique value, such that multiple columns cannot be used to fetch the same row. Each table should be organized into rows, and each row should have a primary key that distinguishes it as unique.
- The Primary key is usually a single column, but sometimes more than one column can be combined to create a single primary key. For example consider a table which is not in First normal form

First Normal Form (1NF)

Student	Age	Subject
Adam	15	Biology, Maths
Alex	14	Maths
Stuart	17	Maths

In First Normal Form, any row must not have a column in which more than one value is saved, like separated with commas. Rather than that, we must separate such data into multiple rows.

Student	Age	Subject
Adam	15	Biology
Adam	15	Maths
Alex	14	Maths
Stuart	17	Maths

Using the First Normal Form, data redundancy increases, as there will be many columns with same data in multiple rows but each row as a whole will be unique.