CS 4092 Database Design and Development (DDD)

07: Design NF

Seokki Lee

Slides are adapted from:

Database System Concepts, 6th & 7th Ed. ©Silberschatz, Korth and Sudarshan

Outline

- Features of Good Relational Design
- Functional Dependency Theory
- Algorithms for Functional Dependencies
- Decomposition Using Multivalued Dependencies
- Atomic Domains and First Normal Form
- Decomposition Using Functional Dependencies
- More Normal Form
- Database-Design Process
- Modeling Temporal Data

What is Good Design?

→ Easier: What is Bad Design?

Combine Schemas?

- Suppose we combine *instructor* and *department* into *inst_dept*
  - *(No connection to relationship set inst_dept)*
- Result is possible repetition of information

ID	*name*	*salary*	*dept_name*	*building*	*budget*
22222	Einstein	95000	Physics	Watson	70000
12121	Wu	90000	Finance	Painter	120000
32343	El Said	60000	History	Painter	50000
45565	Katz	75000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
98345	Kim	80000	Elec. Eng.	Taylor	85000
76766	Crick	72000	Biology	Watson	90000
10101	Srinivasan	65000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
58583	Califieri	62000	History	Painter	50000
83821	Brandt	92000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
15151	Mozart	40000	Music	Packard	80000
33456	Gold	87000	Physics	Watson	70000
76543	Singh	80000	Finance	Painter	120000

Redundancy is Bad!

- Update Physics Department
  - Multiple tuples to update
  - Efficiency + potential for errors
- Delete Physics Department
  - Update multiple tuples
  - Efficiency + potential for errors
- Departments without instructor or instructors without departments
  - Need dummy department and dummy instructor
  - Makes aggregation harder and error-prone.

ID	*name*	*salary*	*dept_name*	*building*	*budget*
22222	Einstein	95000	Physics	Watson	70000
12121	Wu	90000	Finance	Painter	120000
32343	El Said	60000	History	Painter	50000
45565	Katz	75000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
98345	Kim	80000	Elec. Eng.	Taylor	85000
76766	Crick	72000	Biology	Watson	90000
10101	Srinivasan	65000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
58583	Califieri	62000	History	Painter	50000
83821	Brandt	92000	Comp. Sci.	Taylor	100000
15151	Mozart	40000	Music	Packard	80000
33456	Gold	87000	Physics	Watson	70000
76543	Singh	80000	Finance	Painter	120000

A Combined Schema Without Repetition

- Consider combining relations
  - *sec_class(sec_id, building, room_number)* and
  - *section(course_id, sec_id, semester, year)*

  into one relation
  - *section(course_id, sec_id, semester, year, building, room_number)*
- No repetition in this case

What About Smaller Schemas?

- Suppose we had started with *inst_dept.* How would we know to split up (**decompose**) it into *instructor* and *department*?
- Write a rule "if there were a schema (*dept_name, building, budget*), then *dept_name* would be a candidate key"
- Denote as a **functional dependency**:

  $$dept\_name \rightarrow building, budget$$

- In *inst_dept*, because *dept_name* is not a candidate key, the building and budget of a department may have to be repeated.
  - This indicates the need to decompose *inst_dept*

What About Smaller Schemas?

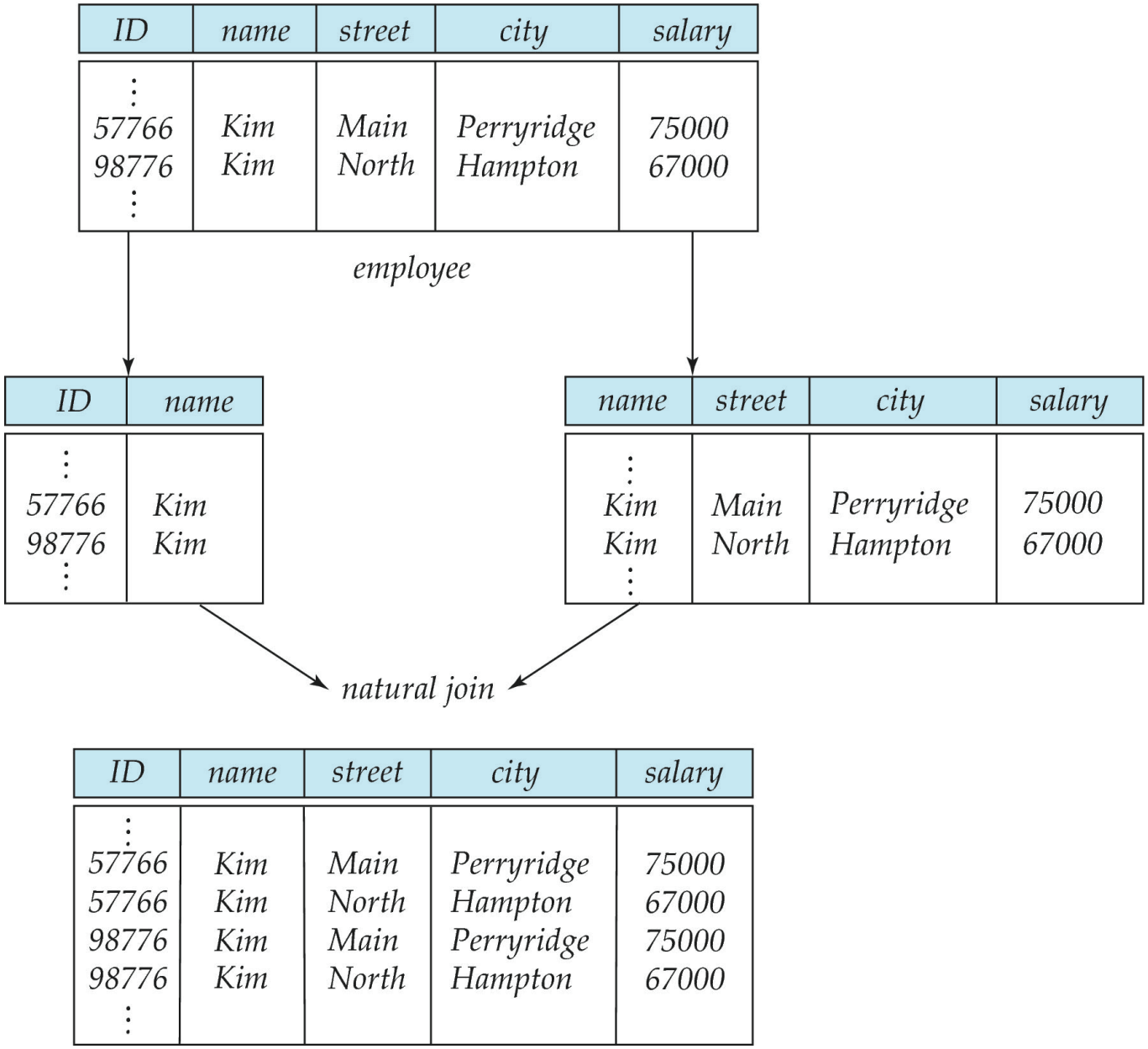
- Not all decompositions are good. Suppose we decompose *employee(ID, name, street, city, salary)* into

  employee1 (*ID*, *name*)

  employee2 (*name*, *street, city, salary*)

- The next slide shows how we lose information -- we cannot reconstruct the original *employee* relation -- and so, this is a **lossy decomposition**.

A Lossy Decomposition



Example of Lossless-Join Decomposition

- **Lossless join decomposition**
  - Splitting a table in a way that does not lose information
  - In other words, it is feasible to reconstruct the original table by joining the decomposed tables.
- Decomposition of $R = (A, B, C)$

$$R_1 = (A, B) \quad R_2 = (B, C)$$

A	B	C
α	1	A
β	2	B

r

A	B
α	1
β	2

$\Pi_{A,B}(r)$

B	C
1	A
2	B

$\Pi_{B,C}(r)$

$$\Pi_A (r) \bowtie \Pi_B (r)$$

A	B	C
α	1	A
β	2	B

Goal — Devise a Theory for the Following

- Decide whether a particular relation *R* is in "good" form.
- In the case that a relation *R* is not in "good" form, decompose it into a set of relations $\{R_1, R_2, ..., R_n\}$ such that
  - each relation is in good form
  - the decomposition is a lossless-join decomposition
- Our theory is based on:
  - **1)** Models of dependency between attribute values
    - **functional dependencies**
    - multivalued dependencies
  - **2)** Concept of **lossless decomposition**
  - **3) Normal Forms** Based On
    - Atomicity of values
    - Avoidance of redundancy
    - Lossless decomposition

Modeling Dependencies between Attribute Values:

Functional and Multivalued Dependencies

Functional Dependencies

- Constraints on the set of legal instances of the relation.
- Require that the value for a certain set of attributes determines uniquely the value for another set of attributes.
- A functional dependency
  - is a generalization of the notion of a *key.*
  - allows us to express constraints that uniquely identify the values of certain attributes.

Functional Dependencies (Cont.)

- Let R be a relation schema

$$\alpha \subseteq R \quad and \quad \beta \subseteq R$$

- The **functional dependency**

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$$

holds on R if and only if for any legal relations r(R), whenever any two tuples t_1 and t_2 of R agree on the attributes α, they also agree on the attributes β. That is,

$$t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha] \quad \Rightarrow \quad t_1[\beta] = t_2[\beta]$$

- Example: Consider R (A,B) with the following instance of R.

1	4
1	5
3	7

A = 1 and B = 4
A = 1 and B = 5

- In this instance, $A \rightarrow B$ does **NOT** hold, but $B \rightarrow A$ does hold.

Functional Dependencies (Cont.)

- K is a superkey for relation schema R if and only if $K \rightarrow R$
- K is a candidate key for R if and only if
  - $K \rightarrow R$, and
  - for no $\alpha \subset K$, $\alpha \rightarrow R$
- Functional dependencies allow us to express constraints that cannot be expressed using superkeys. Consider the schema:

  inst_dept (*ID, name, salary, dept_name, building, budget*).

  We expect these functional dependencies to hold:

  dept_name→ *building*

  and *ID* → *building*

  but would not expect the following to hold:

  dept_name → *salary*

Use of Functional Dependencies

- We use functional dependencies to:
  - test relations to see if they are legal under a given set of functional dependencies.
    - If a relation *r* is legal under a set *F* of functional dependencies, we say that *r* **satisfies** *F.*
  - specify constraints on the set of legal relations
    - We say that *F* **holds on** *R* if all legal relations on *R* satisfy the set of functional dependencies *F.*
- Note: A specific instance of a relation schema may satisfy a functional dependency even if the functional dependency does not hold on all legal instances.
  - For example, a specific instance of *instructor* may, by chance, satisfy

    $$name \rightarrow ID.$$

Functional Dependencies (Cont.)

- *A* functional dependency is **trivial** if it is satisfied by all relations
  - *A* → *A* is satisfied by all relations involving attribute *A*
  - Example*:*
    - *ID, name* → *ID*
    - *name* → *name*
  - In general, $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$

Functional-Dependency Theory

- We now consider the formal theory that tells us which functional dependencies are implied logically by a given set of functional dependencies.
- How do we get the initial set of FDs?
  - Semantics of the domain we are modeling
  - Has to be provided by a human (the designer)
- Example:
  - Relation Citizen(SSN, FirstName, LastName, Address)
  - We know that SSN is unique and a person has a unique SSN
  - Thus, SSN → FirstName, LastName

Closure of a Set of Functional Dependencies

- Given a set F of functional dependencies, there are certain other functional dependencies that are logically implied by F.
  - For example: If $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$, then we can infer that $A \rightarrow C$
- The set of **all** functional dependencies logically implied by F is the **closure** of F.
- We denote the *closure* of F by $\mathbf{F^+}$.
- F^+ is a superset of F.

Closure of a Set of Functional Dependencies

- We can find $F^{+,}$ the closure of F, by repeatedly applying **Armstrong's Axioms:**
  - if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ **(reflexivity)**
  - if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\gamma\ \alpha \rightarrow\ \gamma\ \beta$ **(augmentation)**
  - if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, and $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$, then $\alpha \rightarrow\ \gamma$ **(transitivity)**
- These rules are
  - **sound** (generate only functional dependencies that actually hold), and
  - **complete** (generate all functional dependencies that hold).

Example

- $R = (A, B, C, G, H, I)$
  $F = \{ A \rightarrow B$
  $A \rightarrow C$
  $CG \rightarrow H$
  $CG \rightarrow I$
  $B \rightarrow H \}$
- some members of F^+

- if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ **(reflexivity)**
- if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\gamma\ \alpha \rightarrow \gamma\ \beta$ **(augmentation)**
- if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, and $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ **(transitivity)**

Example

- $R = (A, B, C, G, H, I)$
  $F = \{ A \rightarrow B$
  $A \rightarrow C$
  $CG \rightarrow H$
  $CG \rightarrow I$
  $B \rightarrow H \}$

- if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ **(reflexivity)**
- if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\gamma\ \alpha \rightarrow \gamma\ \beta$ **(augmentation)**
- if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, and $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ **(transitivity)**

- some members of F^+
  - $A \rightarrow H$
    - by transitivity from $A \rightarrow B$ *and* $B \rightarrow H$
  - $AG \rightarrow I$
    - by augmenting $A \rightarrow C$ with G, to get $AG \rightarrow CG$
      and then transitivity with $CG \rightarrow I$
  - $CG \rightarrow HI$
    - by augmenting $CG \rightarrow I$ to infer $CG \rightarrow CGI$,
      and augmenting of $CG \rightarrow H$ to infer $CGI \rightarrow HI$,
      and then transitivity

Prove Additional Implications

- Prove or disprove the following rules from Amstrong's axioms
  - *1) $A \rightarrow B,C$ implies $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$*
  - *2) $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$ implies $A \rightarrow B,C$*
  - *3) $A,B \rightarrow B,C$ implies $A \rightarrow C$*
  - 4) $A \rightarrow B$ *and* $C \rightarrow D$ *implies* $A,C \rightarrow B,D$

- if $\beta \subseteq \alpha$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ **(reflexivity)**
- if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\gamma\ \alpha \rightarrow \gamma\ \beta$ **(augmentation)**
- if $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, and $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ **(transitivity)**

Procedure for Computing F+

- To compute the closure of a set of functional dependencies F:

$F^+ = F$
repeat
    for each functional dependency *f* in F^+
        apply *reflexivity* and *augmentation* rules on *f*
        add the resulting functional dependencies to F^+
    for each pair of functional dependencies f_1 and f_2 in F^+
        if f_1 and f_2 can be combined using *transitivity*
            then add the resulting functional dependency to F^+
until F^+ does not change any further

NOTE: We shall see an alternative procedure for this task later

Closure of Functional Dependencies (Cont.)

- Additional rules:
  - If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta\gamma$ holds **(union)**
  - If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta\gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ holds **(decomposition)**
  - If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and $\gamma\beta \rightarrow \delta$ holds, then $\alpha\gamma \rightarrow \delta$ holds **(pseudotransitivity)**

  The above rules can be inferred from Armstrong's axioms.

Closure of Attribute Sets

- Given a set of attributes α, define the ***closure*** of α **under** *F* (denoted by α^+) as the set of attributes that are functionally determined by α under *F*

- Algorithm to compute α^+, the closure of α under *F*

```
result := α;
while (changes to result) do
        for each β → γ in F do
          begin
             if β ⊆ result then  result := result ∪ γ
          end
```

Example of Attribute Set Closure

- $R = (A, B, C, G, H, I)$
- $F = \{A \rightarrow B$
  $A \rightarrow C$
  $CG \rightarrow H$
  $CG \rightarrow I$
  $B \rightarrow H\}$
- $(AG)^+$
  1. $result = AG$
  2. $result = ABCG$ $(A \rightarrow C$ and $A \rightarrow B)$
  3. $result = ABCGH$ $(CG \rightarrow H$ and $CG \subseteq AGBC)$
  4. $result = ABCGHI$ $(CG \rightarrow I$ and $CG \subseteq AGBCH)$
- Is AG a candidate key?
  1. Is AG a super key?
     1. Does $AG \rightarrow R$? == Is $(AG)^+ \supseteq$ R
  2. Is any subset of AG a superkey?
     1. Does $A \rightarrow R$? == Is $(A)^+ \supseteq$ R
     2. Does $G \rightarrow R$? == Is $(G)^+ \supseteq$ R

Uses of Attribute Closure

There are several uses of the attribute closure algorithm:

- Testing for *superkey*
  - To test if α is a superkey, we compute α^+, and check if α^+ contains all attributes of *R*.
- Testing *functional dependencies*
  - To check if a functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds (or, in other words, is in F^+), just check if $\beta \subseteq \alpha^+$.
  - That is, we compute α^+ by using attribute closure, and then check if it contains β.
  - Is a simple and cheap test, and very useful
- Computing *closure of F*
  - For each $\gamma \subseteq R$, we find the closure γ^+, and for each $S \subseteq \gamma^+$, we output a functional dependency $\gamma \rightarrow S$.

Canonical Cover

- We can reduce the effort spent in checking for violations by testing a simplified set of functional dependencies that has the same closure as the given set.
- Sets of functional dependencies may have redundant dependencies that can be inferred from the others
  - For example: $A \rightarrow C$ is redundant in: $\{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$
  - Parts of a functional dependency may be redundant
    - E.g.: on RHS: $\{A \rightarrow B, \quad B \rightarrow C, \quad A \rightarrow CD\}$ can be simplified to

      $$\{A \rightarrow B, \quad B \rightarrow C, \quad A \rightarrow D\}$$

    - E.g.: on LHS: $\{A \rightarrow B, \quad B \rightarrow C, \quad AC \rightarrow D\}$ can be simplified to

      $$\{A \rightarrow B, \quad B \rightarrow C, \quad A \rightarrow D\}$$

- Intuitively, a canonical cover of F is a “minimal” set of functional dependencies equivalent to F, having no redundant dependencies or redundant parts of dependencies

Extraneous Attributes

- Consider a set F of functional dependencies and the functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in F.
  - Attribute A is **extraneous** in α if $A \in \alpha$
    and F logically implies $(F - \{\alpha \rightarrow \beta\}) \cup \{(\alpha - A) \rightarrow \beta\}$.
  - Attribute A is **extraneous** in β if $A \in \beta$
    and the set of functional dependencies
    $(F - \{\alpha \rightarrow \beta\}) \cup \{\alpha \rightarrow (\beta - A)\}$ logically implies F.
- *Note:* implication in the opposite direction is trivial in each of the cases above, since a "stronger" functional dependency always implies a weaker one
- Example: Given $F = \{A \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow C\}$
  - B is extraneous in $AB \rightarrow C$ because $\{A \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow C\}$ logically implies $A \rightarrow C$ (I.e. the result of dropping B from $AB \rightarrow C$).
- Example: Given $F = \{A \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow CD\}$
  - C is extraneous in $AB \rightarrow CD$ since $AB \rightarrow C$ can be inferred even after deleting C

Testing if an Attribute is Extraneous

- Consider a set *F* of functional dependencies and the functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in *F*.
- To test if attribute $A \in \alpha$ is extraneous in α
  - compute $(\{\alpha\} - A)^+$ using the dependencies in *F*
  - check that $(\{\alpha\} - A)^+$ contains β; if it does, *A* is extraneous in α
- To test if attribute $A \in \beta$ is extraneous in β
  - compute α^+ using only the dependencies in
    $$F' = (F - \{\alpha \rightarrow \beta\}) \cup \{\alpha \rightarrow (\beta - A)\},$$
  - check that α^+ contains *A;* if it does, *A* is extraneous in β

Canonical Cover

- A **canonical cover** for F is a set of dependencies F_c such that
  - F logically implies all dependencies in F_c, and
  - F_c logically implies all dependencies in F, and
  - No functional dependency in F_c contains an extraneous attribute, and
  - Each left side of functional dependency in F_c is unique.
- To compute a canonical cover for F:

  repeat

  Use the union rule to replace any dependencies in F

  $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_1$ and $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_2$ with $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_1 \beta_2$

  Find a functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ with an extraneous attribute either in α or in β

  /* Note: test for extraneous attributes done using F_c, not F*/

  If an extraneous attribute is found, delete it from $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

  until F does not change
- Note: Union rule may become applicable after some extraneous attributes have been deleted, so it has to be re-applied

Computing a Canonical Cover

- $R = (A, B, C)$
  $F = \{A \rightarrow BC, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow C\}$
- Combine $A \rightarrow BC$ and $A \rightarrow B$ into $A \rightarrow BC$
  - Set is now $\{A \rightarrow BC, B \rightarrow C, AB \rightarrow C\}$
- A is extraneous in $AB \rightarrow C$
  - Check if the result of deleting A from $AB \rightarrow C$ is implied by the other dependencies
    - Yes: in fact, $B \rightarrow C$ is already present!
  - Set is now $\{A \rightarrow BC, B \rightarrow C\}$
- C is extraneous in $A \rightarrow BC$
  - Check if $A \rightarrow C$ is logically implied by $A \rightarrow B$ and the other dependencies
    - Yes*:* using transitivity on $A \rightarrow B$ *and* $B \rightarrow$ C.
      - Can use attribute closure of A in more complex cases
- The canonical cover is: $A \rightarrow B$ $B \rightarrow C$

Lossless Join-Decomposition
Dependency Preservation

Lossless-join Decomposition

- For the case of $R = (R_1, R_2)$, we require that for all possible relations r on schema R

$$r = \prod_{R1}(r) \bowtie \prod_{R2}(r)$$

- A decomposition of R into R_1 and R_2 is *lossless join* if at least one of the following dependencies is in F^+:
  - $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_1$
  - $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$

if R1 ∩ R2 forms a superkey of either R1 or R2!

- The above functional dependencies are a sufficient condition for lossless join decomposition; the dependencies are a necessary condition only if all constraints are functional dependencies

Example

- $R = (A, B, C)$
  $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
  - Can be decomposed in two different ways
- $R_1 = (A, B), \quad R_2 = (B, C)$
  - Lossless-join decomposition:

    $$R_1 \cap R_2 = \{B\} \text{ and } B \rightarrow BC$$

  - Dependency preserving
- $R_1 = (A, B), \quad R_2 = (A, C)$
  - Lossless-join decomposition:

    $$R_1 \cap R_2 = \{A\} \text{ and } A \rightarrow AB$$

  - Not dependency preserving
    (cannot check $B \rightarrow C$ without computing $R_1 \bowtie R_2$)

Dependency Preservation

- Let F_i be the set of dependencies F^+ that include only attributes in R_i.
  - A decomposition is **dependency preserving**, if

    $$(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \ldots \cup F_n)^+ = F^+$$

  - If it is not, then checking updates for violation of functional dependencies may require computing joins, which is expensive.

Testing for Dependency Preservation

- To check if a dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is preserved in a decomposition of R into R_1, R_2, …, R_n we apply the following test (with attribute closure done with respect to F)
  - *result* = α
    while (changes to *result*) do
      for each R_i in the decomposition
        $t = (result \cap R_i)^+ \cap R_i$
        $result = result \cup t$
  - If *result* contains all attributes in β, then the functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is preserved.
- We apply the test on all dependencies in F to check if a decomposition is dependency preserving
- This procedure takes polynomial time, instead of the exponential time required to compute F^+ and $(F_1 \cup F_2 \cup \ldots \cup F_n)^+$

Example

- $R = (A, B, C)$
  $F = \{A \rightarrow B$
  $B \rightarrow C\}$
  Key = $\{A\}$

- Decomposition $R_1 = (A, B)$, $R_2 = (B, C)$
  - Lossless-join decomposition
  - Dependency preserving

Normal Forms

So Far

- **Theory of dependencies**
- **Decompositions and ways to check whether they are "good"**
  - Lossless
  - Dependency preserving
- **Next: What is missing?**
  - Define what constitutes a good relation
    - Normal forms
  - How to check for a good relation
    - Test normal forms
  - How to achieve a good relation
    - Translate into normal form
    - Involves decomposition

Goals of Normalization

- Let R be a relation scheme with a set F of functional dependencies.
- Decide whether a relation scheme R is in "good" form.
- In the case that a relation scheme R is not in "good" form, decompose it into a set of relation scheme $\{R_1, R_2, ..., R_n\}$ such that
  - each relation scheme is in good form
  - the decomposition is a lossless-join decomposition
  - Preferably, the decomposition should be dependency preserving.

First Normal Form

- A relational schema R is in **first normal form** if the domains of all attributes of R are atomic
- A domain is **atomic** if its elements are considered to be indivisible units
  - Examples of non-atomic domains:
    - Set of names, composite attributes
    - Identification numbers like CS101 that can be broken up into parts
- Non-atomic values complicate storage and encourage redundant (repeated) storage of data
  - Example: Set of accounts stored with each customer, and set of owners stored with each account
  - We assume all relations are in first normal form.

First Normal Form (Cont'd)

- Atomicity is actually a property of how the elements of the domain are used.
  - Example: Strings would normally be considered indivisible
  - Suppose that students are given roll numbers which are strings of the form *CS0012* or *EE1127*
  - If the first two characters are extracted to find the department, the domain of roll numbers is not atomic.
  - Doing so is a bad idea: leads to encoding of information in application program rather than in the database.

Second Normal Form

- A relation schema *R* in **1NF** is in **second normal form (2NF)** *iff*
  - No non-prime attribute depends on parts of a candidate key.
  - An attribute is non-prime if it does not belong to any candidate key for R.

Second Normal Form Example

- R(A,B,C,D)
  - A,B $\rightarrow$ C,D
  - A $\rightarrow$ C
  - B $\rightarrow$ D
- {A,B} is the only candidate key
- R is not in 2NF, because A → C where A is part of a candidate key and C is not part of a candidate key.
- Interpretation **R**(A,B,C,D) is **Advisor**(InstrSSN, StudentID, InstrName, StudentName)
  - Indication that we are putting stuff together that does not belong together

Second Normal Form Interpretation

- Why is a dependency on parts of a candidate key bad?
  - That is why is a relation that is not in 2NF bad?
- 1) A dependency on part of a candidate key indicates *potential for redundancy*
  - **Advisor**(InstrSSN, StudentID, InstrName, StudentName)
  - StudentID $\rightarrow$ StudentName
  - If a student is advised by multiple instructors we record his name several times
- 2) A dependency on parts of a candidate key shows that some attributes are *unrelated* to other parts of a candidate key
  - That means the table should be split.

2NF is What We Want?

- **Instructor**(Name, Salary, DepName, DepBudget) = I(A,B,C,D)
  - A $\rightarrow$ B,C,D
  - C $\rightarrow$ D
- {Name} is the only candidate key
- I is in 2NF
- However, as we have seen before I still has update redundancy that can cause update anomalies
  - We repeat the budget of a department if there is more than one instructor working for that department

Third Normal Form

- A relation schema *R* is in **third normal form (3NF)** if for **all**:

  $$\alpha \rightarrow \beta \text{ in } F^+$$

  at least one of the following holds:

  - $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial (i.e., $\beta \in \alpha$)
  - α is a superkey for *R*
  - Each attribute *A* in $\beta - \alpha$ is contained in a candidate key for *R.*

    (**NOTE***:* each attribute may be in a different candidate key)

  Alternatively,

  - Every attribute depends directly on a candidate key, i.e., for every attribute A there is a dependency X $\rightarrow$ A, but no dependency Y $\rightarrow$ A where Y is not a candidate key

3NF Example

- **Instructor**(Name, Salary, DepName, DepBudget) = I(A,B,C,D)
  - A $\rightarrow$ B,C,D
  - C $\rightarrow$ D
- {Name} is the only candidate key
- I is in 2NF
- I is not in 3NF

Testing for 3NF

- Optimization: Need to check only FDs in *F*, need not check all FDs in F^+.
- Use attribute closure to check for each dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, if α is a superkey.
- If α is not a superkey, we have to verify if each attribute in β is contained in a candidate key of *R*
  - This test is rather more expensive since it involves finding candidate keys
  - Testing for 3NF has been shown to be *NP-hard*
  - Interestingly, decomposition into the third normal form (described shortly) can be done in polynomial time.

3NF Decomposition Algorithm

Let F_c be a canonical cover for F;
$i := 0$;
for each functional dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in F_c **do**
  if none of the schemas R_j, $1 \leq j \leq i$ contains $\alpha \beta$
    then begin
      $i := i + 1$;
      $R_i := \alpha \beta$
    end
if none of the schemas R_j, $1 \leq j \leq i$ contains a candidate key for R
  then begin
    $i := i + 1$;
    R_i := any candidate key for R;
  end
/* Optionally, remove redundant relations */
repeat
if any schema R_j is contained in another schema R_k
  then /* delete R_j */
    $R_j = R$;;
    $i=i-1$;
return $(R_1, R_2, ..., R_i)$

3NF Decomposition Algorithm (Cont.)

- Above algorithm ensures:
  - Each relation schema R_i is in 3NF
  - Decomposition is dependency preserving and lossless-join
  - Proof of correctness is at the end of this presentation

3NF Decomposition: An Example

- Relation schema:

  cust_banker_branch = (*customer_id, employee_id,*
  branch_name, type)

- The functional dependencies for this relation schema are:
  1. *customer_id, employee_id* → *branch_name, type*
  2. *employee_id* → *branch_name*
  3. *customer_id, branch_name* → *employee_id*
- We first compute a canonical cover
  - *branch_name* is extraneous in the r.h.s. of the 1st dependency
  - No other attribute is extraneous, so we get F_C =

    customer_id, employee_id → *type*
    employee_id → *branch_name*
    customer_id, branch_name → *employee_id*

3NF Decompsition Example (Cont.)

- The **for** loop generates following 3NF schema:

  (*customer_id, employee_id, type*)

  (*employee_id, branch_name*)

  (*customer_id, branch_name, employee_id)*

  - Observe that (*customer_id, employee_id, type*) contains a candidate key of the original schema, so no further relation schema needs be added
- At the end of the for loop, detect and delete schemas, such as (*employee_id, branch_name*), which are subsets of other schemas
  - result will not depend on the order in which FDs are considered
- The resultant simplified 3NF schema is:

  (*customer_id, employee_id, type*)

  (*customer_id, branch_name, employee_id)*

Another 3NF Example

- Relation *dept_advisor*:
  - ***dept_advisor*** (*s_ID, i_ID, dept_name)*
    $F = \{s\_ID, dept\_name \rightarrow i\_ID,$
    $i\_ID \rightarrow dept\_name\}$
  - Two candidate keys: *s_ID, dept_name,* and *i_ID, s_ID*
  - *R* is in 3NF
    - $s\_ID, dept\_name \rightarrow i\_ID$
      - *s_ID, dept_name* is a superkey
    - $i\_ID \rightarrow dept\_name$
      - *dept_name* is contained in a candidate key

Redundancy in 3NF

- There is some redundancy in this schema ***dept_advisor*** (*s_ID, i_ID, dept_name)*
- Example of problems due to redundancy in 3NF
  - $R = (J, K, L)$
    $F = \{JK \rightarrow L, L \rightarrow K\}$
- Repetition of information (e.g., the relationship l_1, k_1)
  - (i_ID, dept_name)
- Need to use null values (e.g., to represent the relationship l_2, k_2 where there is no corresponding value for J).
  - (i_ID, dept_name) if there is no separate relation mapping instructors to departments

J	*L*	*K*
j_1	l_1	k_1
j_2	l_1	k_1
j_3	l_1	k_1
null	l_2	k_2

Boyce-Codd Normal Form

A relation schema *R* is in BCNF with respect to a set *F* of functional dependencies if for all functional dependencies in F^+ of the form

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$$

where $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$, at least one of the following holds:

- $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is trivial (i.e., $\beta \subseteq \alpha$)
- α is a superkey for *R*

Example schema *not* in BCNF:

instr_dept (*ID, name, salary, dept_name, building, budget*)

because *dept_name* $\rightarrow$ *building, budget* holds on *instr_dept,* but *dept_name* is not a superkey

BCNF and Dependency Preservation

- If a relation is in BCNF, it is in 3NF.
- Constraints, including functional dependencies, are costly to check in practice unless they pertain to only one relation
- Because it is **not always** possible to achieve **both BCNF and dependency preservation**, we consider *third normal form* that allows us to preserve dependencies.

Testing for BCNF

- To check if a non-trivial dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ causes a violation of BCNF
  1. compute α^+ (the attribute closure of α), and
  2. verify that it includes all attributes of *R*, that is, it is a superkey of *R*.
- **Simplified test**: To check if a relation schema *R* is in BCNF, it suffices to check only the dependencies in the given set *F* for violation of BCNF, rather than checking all dependencies in F^+.
  - If none of the dependencies in *F* causes a violation of BCNF, then none of the dependencies in F^+ will cause a violation of BCNF either.
- However, **simplified test using only *F* is incorrect when testing a relation in a decomposition of R**
  - Consider $R = (A, B, C, D, E)$, with $F = \{ A \rightarrow B, BC \rightarrow D \}$
    - Decompose *R* into $R_1 = (A,B)$ and $R_2 = (A,C,D,E)$
    - Neither of the dependencies in *F* contain only attributes from (A,C,D,E) so we might be mislead into thinking R_2 satisfies BCNF.
    - In fact, dependency $AC \rightarrow D$ in F^+ shows R_2 is not in BCNF.

Testing Decomposition for BCNF

- To check if a relation R_i in a decomposition of R is in BCNF,
  - Either test R_i for BCNF with respect to the **restriction** of F to R_i (that is, all FDs in F^+ that contain only attributes from R_i)
  - or use the original set of dependencies F that hold on R, but with the following test:
    - for every set of attributes $\alpha \subseteq R_i$, check that α^+ (the attribute closure of α) either includes no attribute of R_i- α, or includes all attributes of R_i.
    - If the condition is violated by some $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in F, the dependency

      $\alpha \rightarrow (\alpha^+ - \alpha) \cap R_i$

      can be shown to hold on R_i, and R_i violates BCNF.
    - We use above dependency to decompose R_i

Decomposing a Schema into BCNF

- Suppose we have a schema *R* and a non-trivial dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ causes a violation of BCNF.

  We decompose *R* into:

  - $(\alpha \cup \beta)$
  - $(R - (\beta - \alpha))$
- In our example,
  - *instr_dept* (*ID, name, salary, dept_name, building, budget*)
  - *dept_name* $\rightarrow$ *building, budget*
  - α = *dept_name*
  - β = *building, budget*

  and *inst_dept* is replaced by
  - $(\alpha \cup \beta)$ = (*dept_name, building, budget*)
  - $(R - (\beta - \alpha))$ = (*ID, name, salary, dept_name*)

BCNF Decomposition Algorithm

result := {*R* };
done := false;
compute F^+;
while (not *done)* **do**
  if (there is a schema R_i in *result* that is not in BCNF)
    then begin
      let $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ be a nontrivial functional dependency that
        holds on R_i such that $\alpha \rightarrow R_i$ is not in F^+,
        and $\alpha \cap \beta = \varnothing$;
      result := (*result* – R_i) $\cup$ (R_i – β) $\cup$ (α, β);
    end
    else *done* := **true;**

Note: each R_i is in BCNF, and decomposition is lossless-join.

Example of BCNF Decomposition

- $R = (A, B, C)$
  $F = \{A \rightarrow B$
  $B \rightarrow C\}$
  Key = $\{A\}$
- R is not in BCNF ($B \rightarrow C$ but B is not superkey)
- Decomposition
  - $R_1 = (B,C)$
  - $R_2 = (A,B)$

Example of BCNF Decomposition

- *class* (*course_id*, *title*, *dept_name*, *credits*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year*, *building*, *room_number*, *capacity*, *time_slot_id*)
- Functional dependencies:
  - *course_id* → *title*, *dept_name*, *credits*
  - *building*, *room_number* → *capacity*
  - *course_id*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year* → *building*, *room_number*, *time_slot_id*
- A candidate key {*course_id*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year*}.
- BCNF Decomposition:
  - *course_id* → *title*, *dept_name*, *credits* holds
    - but *course_id* is not a superkey.
  - We replace *class* by:
    - *course* (*course_id*, *title*, *dept_name*, *credits*)
    - *class-1* (*course_id*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year*, *building*, *room_number, capacity*, *time_slot_id*)

BCNF Decomposition (Cont.)

- *course* is in BCNF
  - How do we know this?
- *building*, *room_number*→*capacity* holds on *class-1*
  - but {*building*, *room_number*} is not a superkey for *class-1*.
  - We replace *class-1* by:
    - *classroom* (*building*, *room_number*, *capacity*)
    - *section* (*course_id*, *sec_id*, *semester*, *year*, *building*, *room_number*, *time_slot_id*)
- *classroom* and *section* are in BCNF.

BCNF and Dependency Preservation

- $R = (J, K, L)$
  $F = \{JK \rightarrow L$
  $L \rightarrow K\}$
  Two candidate keys = JK and JL
- R is not in BCNF
- Any decomposition of R will fail to preserve

$$JK \rightarrow L$$

This implies that testing for $JK \rightarrow L$ requires a join

How good is BCNF?

- There are database schemas in BCNF that do not seem to be sufficiently normalized
- Consider a relation

  inst_info (ID, child_name, phone)

  - where an instructor may have more than one phone and can have multiple children

ID	*child_name*	*phone*
99999 99999 99999 99999	David David William William	512-555-1234 512-555-4321 512-555-1234 512-555-4321

inst_info

How good is BCNF? (Cont.)

- There are no non-trivial functional dependencies and therefore the relation is in BCNF
- Insertion anomalies – i.e., if we add a phone 981-992-3443 to 99999, we need to add two tuples

(99999, David, 981-992-3443)
(99999, William, 981-992-3443)

How good is BCNF? (Cont.)

- Therefore, it is better to decompose *inst_info* into:

inst_child

ID	*child_name*
99999	David
99999	David
99999	William
99999	Willian

inst_phone

ID	*phone*
99999	512-555-1234
99999	512-555-4321
99999	512-555-1234
99999	512-555-4321

This suggests the need for higher normal forms, such as Fourth Normal Form (4NF), which we shall see later.

Comparison of BCNF and 3NF

- It is always possible to decompose a relation into a set of relations that are in 3NF such that:
  - the decomposition is lossless
  - the dependencies are preserved
- It is always possible to decompose a relation into a set of relations that are in BCNF such that:
  - the decomposition is lossless
  - it may not be possible to preserve dependencies.

Summary Normal Forms

- BCNF → 3NF →2NF → 1NF

- **1NF**
  - atomic attributes
- **2NF**
  - no non-trivial dependencies of non-prime attributes on parts of the key
- **3NF**
  - no transitive non-trivial dependencies on the key
- **BCNF**
  - only non-trivial dependencies on a superkey

Design Goals Revisited

- Goal for a relational database design is:
  - BCNF
  - Lossless join.
  - Dependency preservation.
- If we cannot achieve this, we accept one of
  - Lack of dependency preservation
  - Redundancy due to use of 3NF
- Interestingly, SQL does not provide a direct way of specifying functional dependencies other than superkeys.
  - Can specify FDs using assertions, but they are expensive to test

Multivalued Dependencies and 4NF, 5NF

Multivalued Dependencies

- Suppose we record names of children, and phone numbers for instructors:
  - *inst_child*(*ID*, *child_name*)
  - *inst_phone*(*ID*, *phone_number*)
- If we were to combine these schemas to get
  - *inst_info*(*ID*, *child_name*, *phone_number*)
  - Example data:
    (99999, David, 512-555-1234)
    (99999, David, 512-555-4321)
    (99999, William, 512-555-1234)
    (99999, William, 512-555-4321)
- This relation is in BCNF
  - Why?

Multivalued Dependencies (MVDs)

- Let R be a relation schema and let $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$. The **multivalued dependency**

$$\alpha \rightarrow\!\!\rightarrow \beta$$

holds on R if in any legal relation $r(R)$, for all pairs for tuples t_1 and t_2 in r such that $t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha]$, there exist tuples t_3 and t_4 in r such that:

$$t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha] = t_3[\alpha] = t_4[\alpha]$$
$$t_3[\beta] = t_1[\beta]$$
$$t_3[R - \beta] = t_2[R - \beta]$$
$$t_4[\beta] = t_2[\beta]$$
$$t_4[R - \beta] = t_1[R - \beta]$$

MVD (Cont.)

- Tabular representation of $\alpha \rightarrow\rightarrow \beta$

	α	β	$R - \alpha - \beta$
t_1	$a_1 \ldots a_i$	$a_{i+1} \ldots a_j$	$a_{j+1} \ldots a_n$
t_2	$a_1 \ldots a_i$	$b_{i+1} \ldots b_j$	$b_{j+1} \ldots b_n$
t_3	$a_1 \ldots a_i$	$a_{i+1} \ldots a_j$	$b_{j+1} \ldots b_n$
t_4	$a_1 \ldots a_i$	$b_{i+1} \ldots b_j$	$a_{j+1} \ldots a_n$

Example

- Let R be a relation schema with a set of attributes that are partitioned into 3 nonempty subsets.

$$Y, Z, W$$

- We say that $Y \rightarrow\rightarrow Z$ (Y **multidetermines** Z) if and only if for all possible relations r (R)

$$< y_1, z_1, w_1 > \in r \text{ and } < y_1, z_2, w_2 > \in r$$

then

$$< y_1, z_1, w_2 > \in r \text{ and } < y_1, z_2, w_1 > \in r$$

- Note that since the behavior of Z and W are identical it follows that

$Y \rightarrow\rightarrow Z$ if $Y \rightarrow\rightarrow W$

Example (Cont.)

- In our example:

$$ID \twoheadrightarrow child\_name$$
$$ID \twoheadrightarrow phone\_number$$

- The above formal definition is supposed to formalize the notion that given a particular value of Y (ID) it has associated with it a set of values of Z *(child_name)* and a set of values of W *(phone_number)*, and these two sets are in some sense independent of each other.
- Note:
  - If $Y \rightarrow Z$ then $Y \twoheadrightarrow Z$
  - Indeed we have (in above notation) $Z_1 = Z_2$
    The claim follows.

Theory of MVDs

- From the definition of multivalued dependency, we can derive the following rule:
  - If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$

  That is, every functional dependency is also a multivalued dependency
- The **closure** D^+ of *D* is the set of all functional and multivalued dependencies logically implied by *D*.
  - We can compute D^+ from *D*, using the formal definitions of functional dependencies and multivalued dependencies.
  - We can manage with such reasoning for very simple multivalued dependencies, which seem to be most common in practice
  - For complex dependencies, it is better to reason about sets of dependencies using a system of inference rules (see Appendix C).

Use of Multivalued Dependencies

- We use multivalued dependencies in two ways:
  1. To test relations to **determine** whether they are legal under a given set of functional and multivalued dependencies
  2. To specify **constraints** on the set of legal relations. We shall thus concern ourselves *only* with relations that satisfy a given set of functional and multivalued dependencies.
- If a relation *r* fails to satisfy a given multivalued dependency, we can construct a relation *r′* that does satisfy the multivalued dependency by adding tuples to *r.*

Fourth Normal Form

- A relation schema *R* is in **4NF** with respect to a set *D* of functional and multivalued dependencies if for all multivalued dependencies in D^+ of the form $\alpha \rightarrow\rightarrow \beta$, where $\alpha \subseteq R$ and $\beta \subseteq R$, at least one of the following hold:
  - $\alpha \rightarrow\rightarrow \beta$ is trivial (i.e., $\beta \subseteq \alpha$ or $\alpha \cup \beta = R$)
  - α is a superkey for schema *R*
- If a relation is in 4NF it is in BCNF

Further Normal Forms

- **Join dependencies** generalize multivalued dependencies
  - lead to **project-join normal form (PJNF)** (also called **fifth normal form**)
- A class of even more general constraints, leads to a normal form called **domain-key normal form**.
- Problem with these generalized constraints: are hard to reason with, and no set of sound and complete set of inference rules exists.
- Hence rarely used

Final Thoughts on Design Process

Overall Database Design Process

- We have assumed schema *R* is given
  - *R* could have been generated when converting an ER diagram to a set of tables.
  - *R* could have been a single relation containing *all* attributes that are of interest (called **universal relation**).
  - Normalization breaks *R* into smaller relations.
  - *R* could have been the result of some ad hoc design of relations, which we then test/convert to normal form.

ER Model and Normalization

- When an ER diagram is carefully designed, identifying all entities correctly, the tables generated from the ER diagram should not need further normalization.
- However, in a real (imperfect) design, there can be functional dependencies from non-key attributes of an entity to other attributes of the entity
  - Example: an *employee* entity with attributes *department_name* and *building*,
    and a functional dependency
    department_name $\rightarrow$ *building*
  - Good design would have made department an entity
- Functional dependencies from non-key attributes of a relationship set possible, but rare --- most relationships are binary

Denormalization for Performance

- May want to use non-normalized schema for performance
- For example, displaying *prereqs* along with *course_id,* and *title* requires join of *course* with *prereq*
- Alternative 1: Use denormalized relation containing attributes of *course* as well as *prereq* with all above attributes
  - faster lookup
  - extra space and extra execution time for updates
  - extra coding work for programmer and possibility of error in extra code
- Alternative 2: use a materialized view defined as
  $$course \bowtie prereq$$
  - Benefits and drawbacks same as above, except no extra coding work for programmer and avoids possible errors

Other Design Issues

- Some aspects of database design are not caught by normalization
- Examples of bad database design, to be avoided:

  Instead of *earnings* (*company_id, year, amount*), use

  - *earnings_2004, earnings_2005, earnings_2006*, etc., all on the schema (*company_id, earnings*).
    - Above are in BCNF, but make querying across years difficult and needs new table each year
  - *company_year* (*company_id, earnings_2004, earnings_2005, earnings_2006*)
    - Also in BCNF, but also makes querying across years difficult and requires new attribute each year.
    - Is an example of a **crosstab**, where values for one attribute become column names
    - Used in spreadsheets, and in data analysis tools

Recap

- Functional and Multi-valued Dependencies
  - Axioms
  - Closure
  - Minimal Cover
  - Attribute Closure
- Redundancy and lossless decomposition
- Normal-Forms
  - 1NF, 2NF, 3NF
  - BCNF
  - 4NF, 5NF

End of Chapter

Proof of Correctness of 3NF Decomposition Algorithm

Correctness of 3NF Decomposition Algorithm

- 3NF decomposition algorithm is dependency preserving (since there is a relation for every FD in F_c)
- Decomposition is lossless
  - A candidate key (C) is in one of the relations R_i in decomposition
  - Closure of candidate key under F_c must contain all attributes in R.
  - Follow the steps of attribute closure algorithm to show there is only one tuple in the join result for each tuple in R_i

Correctness of 3NF Decomposition Algorithm (Cont'd.)

Claim: if a relation R_i is in the decomposition generated by the above algorithm, then R_i satisfies 3NF.

- Let R_i be generated from the dependency $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$
- Let $\gamma \rightarrow$ B be any non-trivial functional dependency on R_i. (We need only consider FDs whose right-hand side is a single attribute.)
- Now, B can be in either β or α but not in both. Consider each case separately.

Correctness of 3NF Decomposition (Cont'd.)

- Case 1: If B in β:
  - If γ is a superkey, the 2nd condition of 3NF is satisfied
  - Otherwise α must contain some attribute not in γ
  - Since $\gamma \rightarrow B$ is in F^+ it must be derivable from F_c, by using attribute closure on γ.
  - Attribute closure not have used $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$. If it had been used, α must be contained in the attribute closure of γ, which is not possible, since we assumed γ is not a superkey.
  - Now, using $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta - \{B\})$ and $\gamma \rightarrow B$, we can derive $\alpha \rightarrow B$

    (since $\gamma \subseteq \alpha\ \beta$, and $B \notin \gamma$ since $\gamma \rightarrow B$ is non-trivial)
  - Then, B is extraneous in the right-hand side of $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$; which is not possible since $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is in F_c.
  - Thus, if B is in β then γ must be a superkey, and the second condition of 3NF must be satisfied.

Correctness of 3NF Decomposition (Cont'd.)

- Case 2: *B* is in α.
  - Since α is a candidate key, the third alternative in the definition of 3NF is trivially satisfied.
  - In fact, we cannot show that γ is a superkey.
  - This shows exactly why the third alternative is present in the definition of 3NF.

Q.E.D.