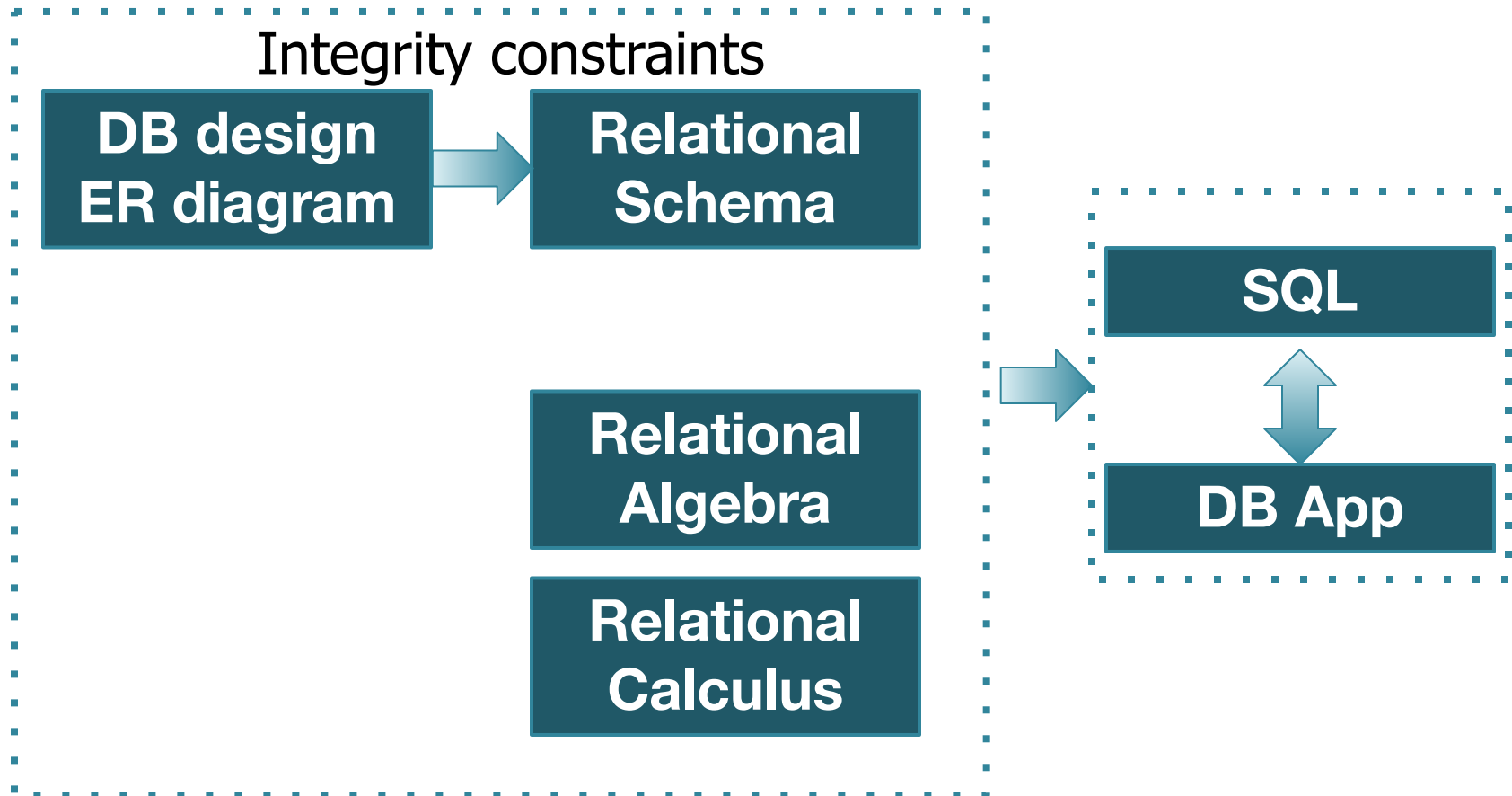




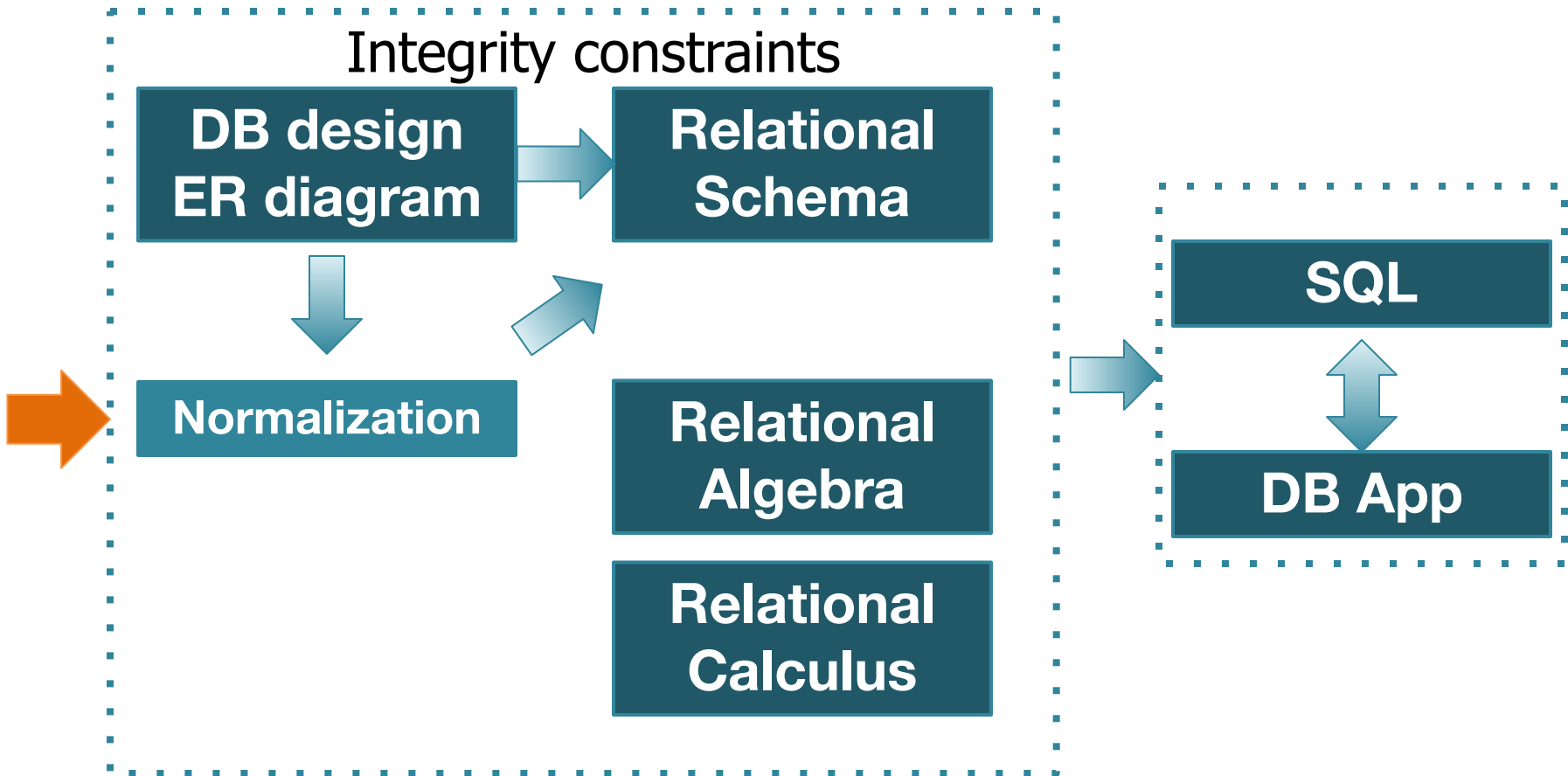
# Normalization using Schema Refinement

## Chapter 19

# Review



# Today



# Form/Spreadsheet

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
			Paint	blue	\$10
			Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2, A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

(Note: ACME is a fictional corporation from the Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote series)

Problems with the above table?



# Form/Spreadsheet

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$8
			Paint	blue	\$10
			Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2, A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

## Bad Table!

- (Supplier ID, item) appears to be the key, but Supplier ID is NULL in many places – assumed to be copied from the prior non-null entry – ordering matters.
- Addresses appear to be multi-valued
- Redundancy in (Item, Desc)

# Normalization

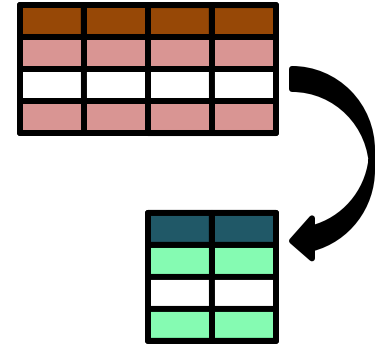
Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
			Paint	blue	\$10
			Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2, A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

Going to a proper set of tables is called "normalization".

- avoid redundancy of data
- capture the dependencies inherent in the data
- We will always start with one giant table and then "normalize it" into multiple tables, ala, Project 1

# Goal

- Design ‘good’ tables
  - What is good?
  - How to fix bad tables?
- In short:



We want tables where the attributes depend on the primary key, on the whole key, and nothing but the key.

# Two Approaches to Normalization

- Approach 1 (you did this in Project 1):
  - Create an ER model and then map to tables. Should result in good (normalized) tables (very manual)
- Approach 2 [Today]:
  - State dependencies between attributes of tables
  - Map dependencies to tables. Can be done automatically!



# Normal Forms

- Guarantees that certain problems won't occur & obeys certain rules:
  - 1 NF : Starting point
  - 2 NF : Historical
  - 3 NF : ...
  - BCNF : Boyce-Codd Normal Form
  - 4NF: Use lossless decompositions for multi-valued dependencies



# 1<sup>st</sup> Normal Form – First Step

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
			Paint	blue	\$10
			Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2, A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8



# 1<sup>st</sup> Normal Form – First Step

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

- Each value in table is single-valued
- Each row contains all the relevant data

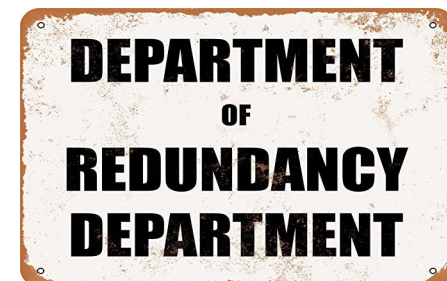
We now have a relational table.  
Rows can be reordered, all rows independent.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Normal Form: Redundancy remains however

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

# Redundancy bad for changing DBs

- Space inefficient – same thing stored multiple times
- Makes for messy update process
  - **Update anomalies:** Changing address of a supplier requires changing multiple rows
  - **Insertion anomalies:** Inserting a supplier requires inserting NULL or other values in unrelated columns
  - **Deletion anomalies:** Deleting an item requires care. It could end up deleting a Supplier as well.



# Dealing with Redundancy

- Normalize tables further
- ER Diagramming and translation to Relational model did that
- But ER diagramming and translation seems a bit ad hoc. Can the method be formalized?
- We will learn another trick today: using **functional dependencies** more to normalize tables

# Example Normalization using ER approach

- **ER Approach:** (1) Supplier Entity, (2) Item Entity, (3) Supplier-Item Relationship with Price as an attribute

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	Dynamite	boom	\$8

<u>Supplier ID</u>	Supplier Name
1	Acme
2	Beanery

<u>Item</u>	Desc
Dynamite	boom
Paint	blue
Flowers	pink

<u>Supp ID</u>	<u>Item</u>	Price
1	Dynamite	\$7
1	Paint	\$10
1	Flowers	\$3
2	Dynamite	\$8

# Alternative Way: Use Functional Dependencies

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	Dynamite	boom	\$8

<u>Supplier ID</u>	Supplier Name
1	Acme
2	Beanery

<u>Item</u>	Desc
Dynamite	boom
Paint	blue
Flowers	pink

**Use key constraints among attributes as the starting point**

- Supplier ID → Supplier Name
- Item → Desc
- Supplier ID, Item → Price

<u>Supp ID</u>	<u>Item</u>	Price
1	Dynamite	\$7
1	Paint	\$10
1	Flowers	\$3
2	Dynamite	\$8



# Functional Dependencies (FD)

- FD captures dependency between attributes.
- Notation:  $X \rightarrow Y$
- Read as: X functionally determines Y
- i.e., *Y depends on X* or *for a given X, there is one Y*

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

E.g.: Supplier ID  $\rightarrow$  Supplier Name

# FD: Definition

- Notation:  $X \rightarrow Y$
- **Informally:** Given a specific  $X$ , there is one  $Y$  value.
- **Formally:** A form of Integrity Constraint

$D: X \rightarrow Y$        $X$  and  $Y$  subsets of a relation  $R$ 's attributes.

Given tuples  $t1$  and  $t2$  in relation instance  $r$  of  $R$ :

$$\pi_X(t1) = \pi_X(t2) \Rightarrow \pi_Y(t1) = \pi_Y(t2)$$

(Supplier ID, Item)

$\rightarrow$  Price

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

# Question?

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

Which of the following FDs are definitely wrong?

- Item  $\rightarrow$  Desc
- Item  $\rightarrow$  Price



A. Yes/Yes   B. Yes/No   C. No/Yes   D No/No

# FD: Example

FDs capture dependencies among attributes

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

- Supplier ID  $\rightarrow$  Supplier Name
- Item  $\rightarrow$  Desc
- Supplier ID, Item  $\rightarrow$  Price

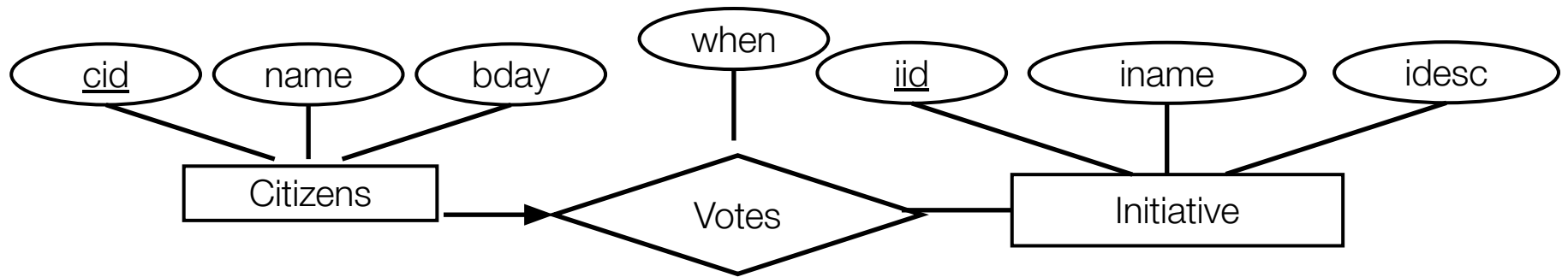
# FD: Example

FDs capture dependencies among attributes

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8

- Supplier ID  $\rightarrow$  Supplier Name
- Item  $\rightarrow$  Desc
- Supplier ID, Item  $\rightarrow$  Price

# Another Example



**What are the FDs among attributes in the above diagram? Try it out.**

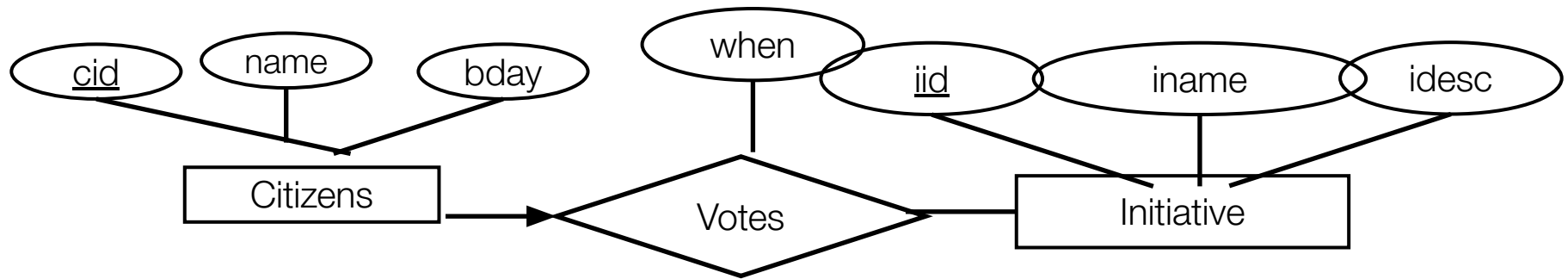
$cid \rightarrow name, bday$

$iid \rightarrow iname, idesc$  ( $iid \rightarrow iname$ ;  $iid \rightarrow idesc$ )

$cid, iid \rightarrow when.$  (even if there was no arrow)

$cid \rightarrow iid$

# Another Example



**What are the FDs for the attributes in the above diagram?**

$cid \rightarrow name, bday$

$iid \rightarrow iname, idesc$

$cid, iid \rightarrow when$

$cid \rightarrow iid$

**A logically equivalent answer:**

$cid \rightarrow cid, name, bday, when, iid, iname, idesc$  (*i.e., everything*)

$iid \rightarrow iid, iname, idesc$

# More on FDs

- An FD is a statement about **all** allowable relations.
  - Based only on application semantics, not a table instance

Primary Key IC: special case of FD

- Primary key attributes  $\rightarrow$  All other attributes



# Basic Normalization

- Map FDs to tables

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	Dynamite	boom	\$8



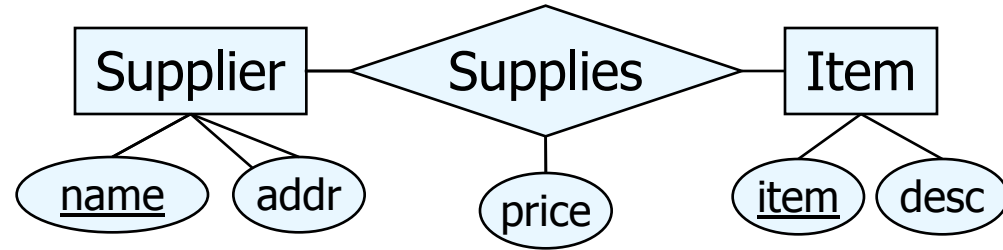
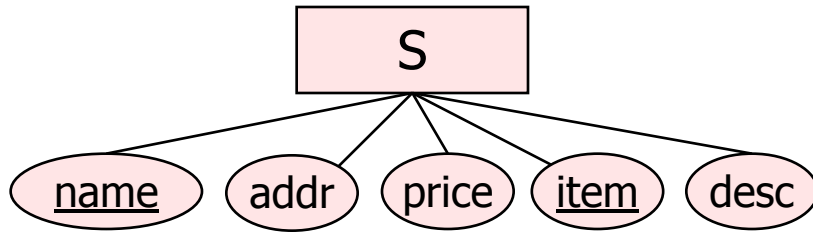
Supplier ID	Supplier Name
1	Acme
2	Beanery

Item	Desc
Dynamite	boom
Paint	blue
Flowers	pink

Supp ID	Item	Price
1	Dynamite	\$7
1	Paint	\$10
1	Flowers	\$3
2	Dynamite	\$8

- Supplier ID → Supplier Name
- Item → Desc
- Supplier ID, Item → Price

# Example: Constraints on Entity Set



- $S(\underline{\text{name}}, \underline{\text{item}}, \text{desc}, \text{addr}, \text{price})$
- FD:  $\{n, i\} \rightarrow \{n, i, d, a, p\}$
- Additional dependencies:
  - FD:  $\{n\} \rightarrow \{a\}$
  - FD:  $\{i\} \rightarrow \{d\}$
- Decompose to:  $\underline{\text{NA}}, \underline{\text{ID}}, \underline{\text{INP}}$

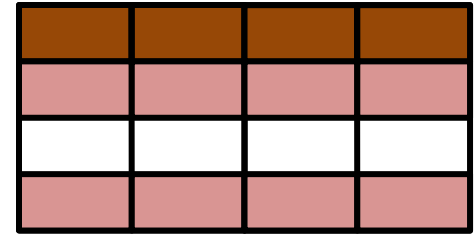
## Resulting Tables:

- Supplier(name, addr)
  - FD:  $\{n\} \rightarrow \{n, a\}$
- Item(item, desc)
  - FD:  $\{i\} \rightarrow \{i, d\}$
- Supplies(name, item, price)
  - FD:  $\{n, i\} \rightarrow \{n, i, p\}$

ER design is subjective and can have many E + Rs  
FDs: More systematic

# High -Level Goal

- Given a relation and FDs:
  - $R(\text{sid}, \text{sname}, \dots)$
  - FDs ( $\text{sid} \rightarrow \dots, \text{iid} \rightarrow \dots$ )
- Algorithm that generates
  - 'good' schemas





# Concept of Closure

Given:

- A base set of “facts”
- A set of derivation rules

Closure is the set of all derivable facts

E.g.

Facts:  $a < a+1$  for all natural numbers  $a$

Derivation rule: transitivity

Closure = ??

# Implied FDs

- $F_+$ : Closure of  $F$  = Set of all valid FDs

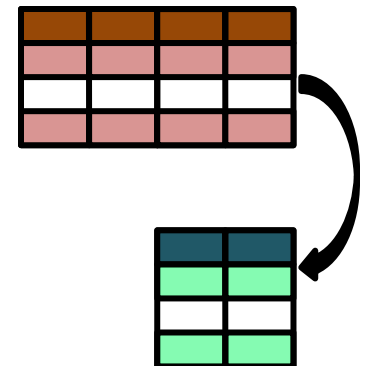
$F$ :

Supplier ID  $\rightarrow$  Supplier Name

Item  $\rightarrow$  Desc

Supplier ID, Item  $\rightarrow$  Price

- Many other dependencies in the closure  $F_+$ , e.g.,
  - Supplier ID, Item  $\rightarrow$  Desc
  - Supplier ID  $\rightarrow$  Supplier ID
  - Supplier ID  $\rightarrow$  Supplier ID, Supplier Name
- How to derive  $F_+$ : Armstrong's Axioms!



# First Armstrong Axioms

- Axiom#1: Reflexive Property
- Given attribute sets X and Y:
  - Reflexivity: If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$
- Example:  $(\text{Supplier ID, Item\#}) \rightarrow \text{Item\#}$
- In the example, X is [Supplier ID, Item#]. Y is [Item#]
- Given left side, there is a unique value for right side
- This is called a trivial dependency
  - E.g.,  $X \rightarrow X$

# Armstrong's Inference Axioms

- Armstrong's Axioms ( $X, Y, Z$  are sets of attributes):
  - **Reflexivity**: If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  (trivial dependency)
  - **Augmentation**: If  $X \rightarrow Y$ , then  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  for any  $Z$
  - **Transitivity**: If  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow Z$ , then  $X \rightarrow Z$   
e.g.  $\text{ename} \rightarrow \text{ejob}$ ,  $\text{ejob} \rightarrow \text{esal}$ ;  $\Rightarrow \text{ename} \rightarrow \text{esal}$
- Additional useful rules (derivable):
  - **Union**: If  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $X \rightarrow Z$ , then  $X \rightarrow YZ$
  - **Decomposition**: If  $X \rightarrow YZ$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $X \rightarrow Z$

# Deriving Union Rule from Axioms

- Prove: if  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $X \rightarrow Z$  then  $X \rightarrow YZ$
- Proof:



- Reflexivity: If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  (trivial dependency)
- Augmentation: If  $X \rightarrow Y$ , then  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  for any  $Z$
- Transitivity: If  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow Z$ , then  $X \rightarrow Z$



# Deriving Union Rule from Axioms

- Prove: if  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $X \rightarrow Z$  then  $X \rightarrow YZ$
- Proof:
  1.  $X \rightarrow Y$  (given)
  2.  $X \rightarrow Z$  (given)
  3.  $XX \rightarrow XZ$  or  $X \rightarrow XZ$  (augmentation of 2)
  4.  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  (augmentation of 1)
  5.  $X \rightarrow YZ$  (transitivity of 3 and 4)
- Possible to derive the decomposition rule from the basic Armstrong rules

# Question?

Given the FD

$X \rightarrow A$ , where  $A$  includes all attributes of a table  $R$ , you can deduce that:

- A.  $X$  is primary key
- B.  $X$  is candidate key
- C.  $X$  is superkey
- D. Cannot say for sure: could be any (or none) of the above

# Closure

- **F<sub>+</sub>: Closure of F** = Set of all FDs that can be derived from F using Armstrong's axioms
- E.g.,  $F = \{X \rightarrow Y, Y \rightarrow Z\}$
- $F_+ = \{X \rightarrow Y, X \rightarrow Z, \text{(original)}$   
 $X \rightarrow X, Y \rightarrow Y, Z \rightarrow Z, XY \rightarrow X, XY \rightarrow XY, \dots \text{(reflexive)}$   
 $X \rightarrow Z \text{(transitivity),}$   
 $X \rightarrow YZ \text{(union), } \dots\}$

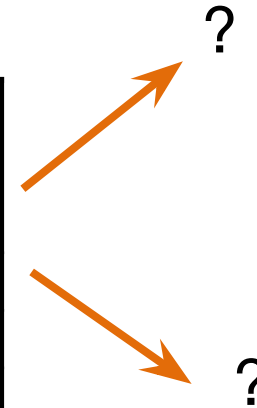
# Armstrong's Axioms: Sound and Complete

- $F^*$ : All FDs that are implied by  $F$
- $F_+$ : All FDs that can be generated from  $F$  by applying Armstrong's Axioms
- Soundness:  $F_+$  is a subset of  $F^*$
- Completeness:  $F^*$  is a subset of  $F_+$
- Armstrong's Axioms can be shown to be both sound and complete

# Solution to Redundancy: Decomposition

- Split a large relation to smaller ones to eliminate redundancies

Supplier ID	Supplier Name	Supplier Address	Item	Desc	Price
1	Acme	A1	Dynamite	boom	\$7
1	Acme	A1	Paint	blue	\$10
1	Acme	A1	Flowers	pink	\$3
2	Beanery	A2	Dynamite	boom	\$8
2	Beanery	A3	Dynamite	boom	\$8



# Solution to Redundancy: Decomposition

Two key goals of decomposition:

- **Lossless Join:** Can we reconstruct the original relation from instances of the decomposed relations?
  - **Dependency Preservation:** Avoid having to join decomposed relations to check dependencies
- Downside of decomposition:
- **Some queries** become **more expensive** (more joins)

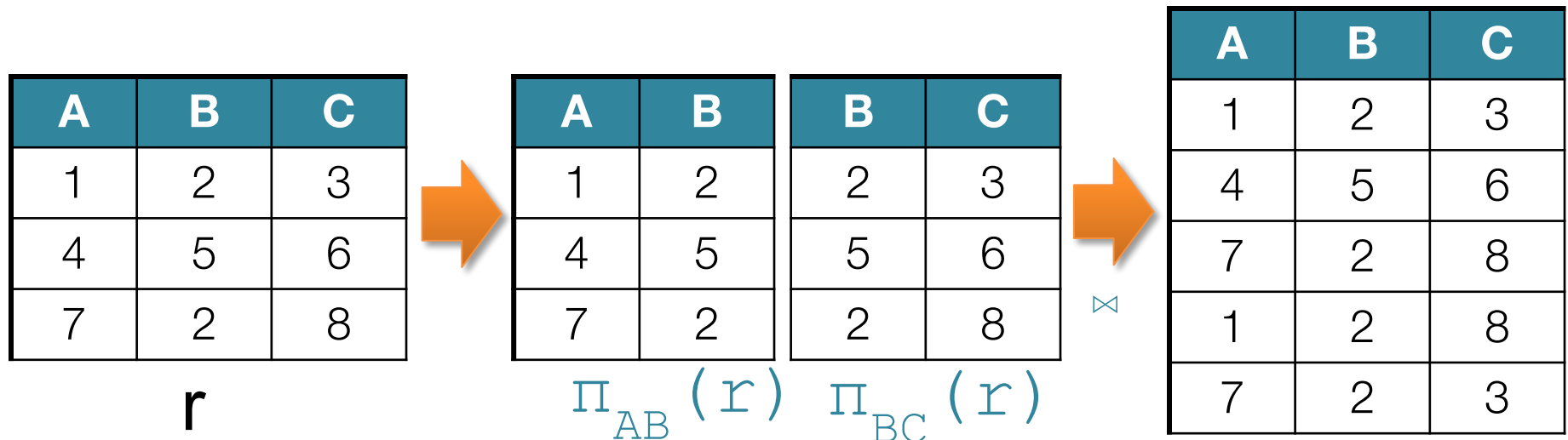
Must  
have

Good  
to  
have

# Lossless Join Decompositions

- Given Relation R, FDs F: Say, R decomposed to X, Y
- Decomposition of R into X, Y is Lossless-Join if joining back X and Y always gives R, i.e.,  

$$\pi_X(r) \bowtie \pi_Y(r) = r \quad \text{for every instance } r \text{ of } R$$
- Project 1: Part 4 checked if part 2 satisfied lossless-join!
- The following decomposition is **not** lossless-join:



# Lossless Join (cont.)

- Relation R, FDs F; Decomposed to X, Y
  - Test: **lossless-join** w.r.t. F if and only if  $F^+$  contains:

$$X \cap Y \rightarrow X, \quad \text{or} \quad X \cap Y \rightarrow Y$$

i.e. attributes common to X and Y contain a key for either X or Y

Lossless join decomposition is always required!



# Dependency Preserving Decomposition

- **Informally:** We don't want the original FDs to span two tables.
- R has a dependency-preserving decomposition to X, Y  
if  $F^+ = (F_x \cup F_y)^+$
- Note: F not necessarily  $= F_x \cup F_y$
- Example:
- R (sailor, boat, date)    F:  $\{D \rightarrow S, D \rightarrow B\}$
- Consider decomp. to X (sailor, boat)    Y (boat, date) and dependencies  $F_y: \{D \rightarrow B\}$ .
- To enforce  $D \rightarrow S$ , must join X and Y (expensive)



The above is not dependency preserving

# Decomposition: Example

**X**

ssn	cid	grade
123	413	A
123	415	B
234	211	A

**Y**

ssn	name	addr
123	Smith	Main
234	Jones	Huron

Given the dependencies below:  
Does  $X \cap Y \rightarrow X$ ? Does  $X \cap Y \rightarrow Y$ ?

---

ssn	cid	grade	name	addr
123	413	A	Smith	Main
123	415	B	Smith	Main
234	211	A	Jones	Huron

$ssn \rightarrow \text{name, address}$   
(assigned to Y after  
decomposition)  
 $ssn, cid \rightarrow \text{grade}$

# Decomposition: Example

**X**

ssn	cid	grade
123	413	A
123	415	B
234	211	A

$\text{ssn, cid} \rightarrow \text{grade}$

**Y**

ssn	name	addr
123	Smith	Main
234	Jones	Huron

$\text{ssn} \rightarrow \text{name, address}$

---

ssn	cid	grade	name	addr
123	413	A	Smith	Main
123	415	B	Smith	Main
234	211	A	Jones	Huron

$\text{ssn} \rightarrow \text{name, address}$   
 $\text{ssn, cid} \rightarrow \text{grade}$

Is X, Y decomposition dependency preserving?  
Does it satisfy Lossless-join?

# Example continued

- Is it dependency preserving?
  - Yes! Joins are not required to capture all the original dependencies
- Does decomposition have lossless-join property?
  - Check if one of the following is true.
    - $X \cap Y \rightarrow X$ , i.e.,  $ssn \rightarrow ssn, cid, grade$
    - $X \cap Y \rightarrow Y$ , i.e.,  $ssn \rightarrow ssn, name, addr$

Yes, it has the lossless-join property! Second one is true.

This decomposition is lossless and dependency preserving!

# Question?

Suppose you have a choice between Lossless Join and Dependency Preservation. That is, you find you can get at most one of these properties.

Which would you prefer?

- A. Lossless Join
- B. Dependency Preservation
- C. Either: it doesn't matter
- D. Depends on the specific case

# Normal Forms

- Guarantees that certain problems won't occur & obeys certain rules:
  - 1 NF : No set-valued attrs
  - 2 NF : Historical
  - 3 NF : ...
  - BCNF : Boyce-Codd Normal Form
  - 4NF: Use lossless decompositions for multi-valued dependencies



# Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)

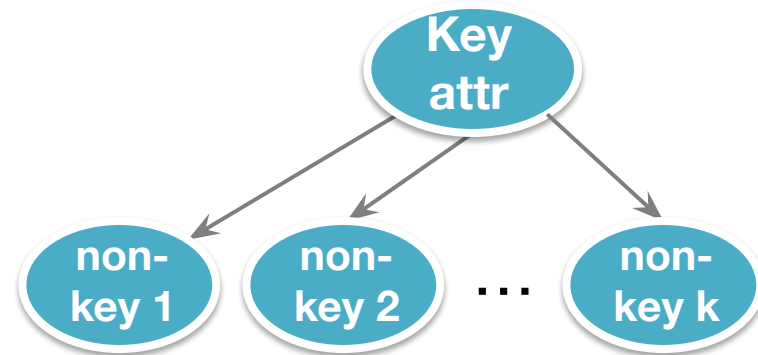
- Rel.  $R$  with FDs  $F$  is in **BCNF** if, for all  $X \rightarrow A$  in  $F^+$ 
  - $A \subseteq X$  (**trivial** FD), or
  - $X$  is a super key

$X$ : subset of attributes

$A$ : single attribute

i.e., all non-trivial FDs over  $R$  are due to keys.

- No redundancy in  $R$**  (at least none that FDs detect)
- Most often desired normal form



# Question?

- Consider a relation in BCNF and FD:  $X \rightarrow A$ ,  
Two tuples have the same X value
- Can the y values be different?



X	Y	A
x	y1	a
x	?	a

- A. Yes
- B. No



# 3NF

- Relation R with FDs F is in **3NF** if, for all  $X \rightarrow A$  in  $F^+$ 
  - $A \subseteq X$  (trivial dependency) or
  - X is a super key or
  - A is part of some (minimal) key for R      **(prime attribute)**

Minimality of a key (i.e. a candidate key) is crucial!


X: subset of attributes

A: single attribute

- BCNF implies 3NF, but 3NF does not imply BCNF

# 3NF: Example



- e.g. Reserves(Sailor, Boat, Date, CreditCard)
  - SBD  $\rightarrow$  SBDC, S  $\rightarrow$  C (not 3NF)  **Why? SBD is the only key, S not a key, C not a key**
  - If **additionally** C  $\rightarrow$  S, then CBD  $\rightarrow$  SBDC (i.e., CBD is also a key).  
 $\rightarrow$  Now in 3NF!
  - Note redundancy in (S, C); 3NF permits this
  - Compromise used when BCNF not achievable, or performance considerations

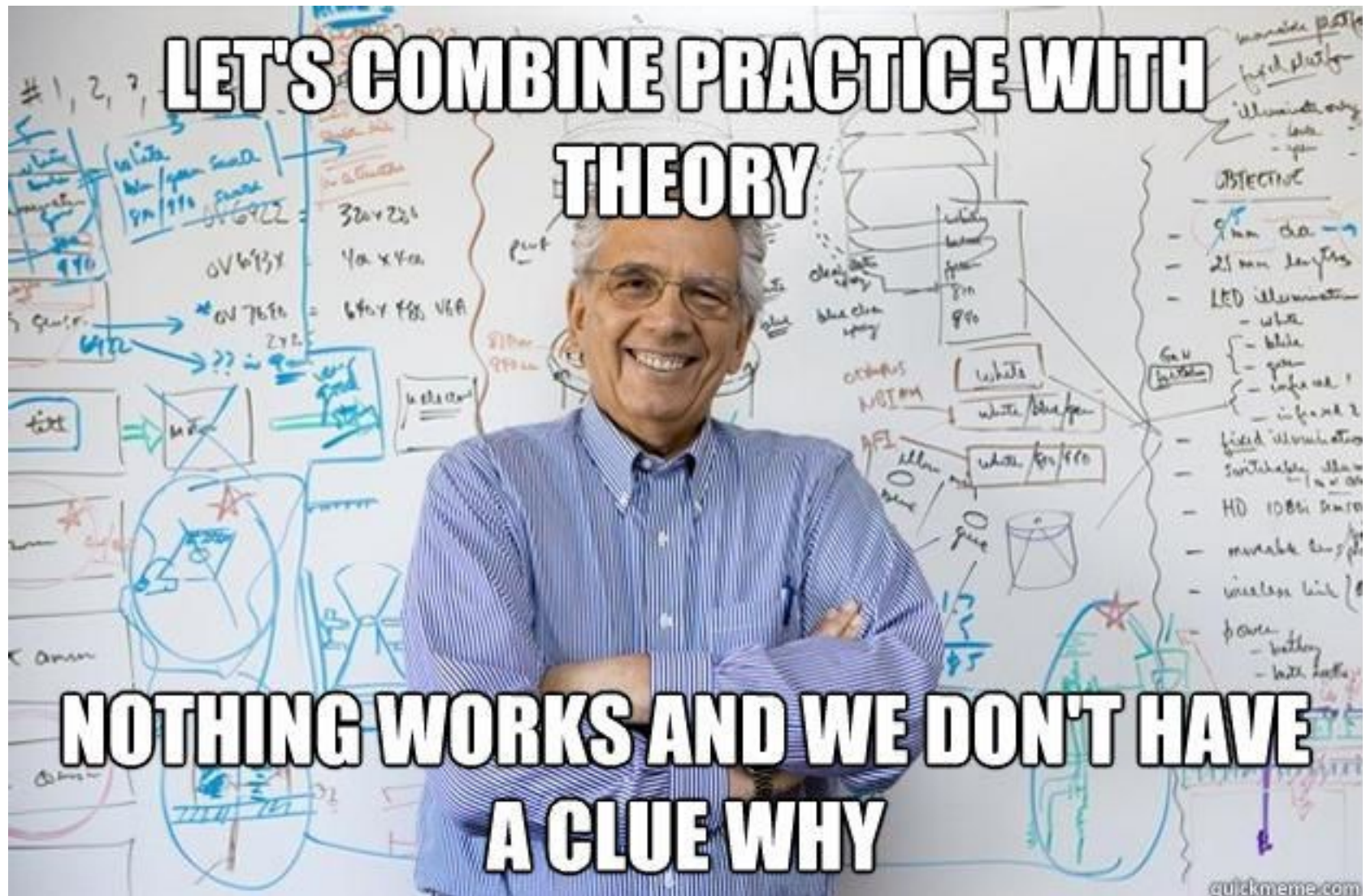
Lossless-join, dependency-preserving decomposition of R into a collection of 3NF relations is **always possible**.

Relation R with FDs F is in **3NF** if, for all  $X \rightarrow A$  in  $F^+$

- $A \subseteq X$  (trivial dependency) or
- X is a super key or
- A is part of some (minimal) key for R (prime attribute)**

Minimality of a key (i.e., not a super key) is crucial!

Time to practice 😊



# Exercise 1: BCNF or 3NF?

- Relation  $R=(A,B,C,D,E)$

- FDs:

$A \rightarrow BC$

$CD \rightarrow E$

$B \rightarrow D$

$E \rightarrow A$

A is a (candidate) Key.

E is also a key.

CD is also a key

BC is also a key

- Is R in BCNF?

- Is R in 3NF?



Hint:  
Use Armstrong's  
Axioms

- Reflexivity: If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  (trivial dependency)
- Augmentation: If  $X \rightarrow Y$ , then  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  for any Z
- Transitivity: If  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow Z$ , then  $X \rightarrow Z$

# Exercise 1: BCNF or 3NF?

- **Keys:**

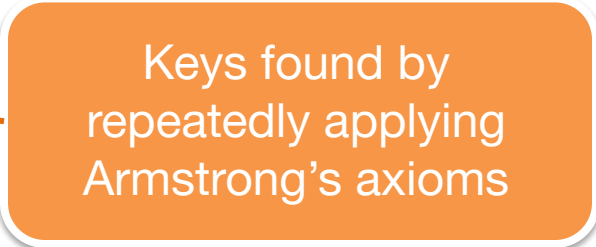
- A, E, CD, BC

- **Is R in BCNF?**

- No, because of  $B \rightarrow D$

- **Is R in 3NF?**

- Yes



Keys found by  
repeatedly applying  
Armstrong's axioms

- **Reflexivity:** If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  (trivial dependency)
- **Augmentation:** If  $X \rightarrow Y$ , then  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  for any  $Z$
- **Transitivity:** If  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \rightarrow Z$ , then  $X \rightarrow Z$

# Exercise 2: FDs & Normal Forms

Suppose you are given the following relation R: ABCDEF

$BC \rightarrow D$

$CD \rightarrow B$

$D \rightarrow E$

$ACD \rightarrow F$

1. Find the keys of R
2. List all of the above FDs that violate BCNF
3. List all of the above FDs that violate 3NF

# Exercise 2: Solution

1. All possible keys: ACD, ABC

2. Violates BCNF:

$BC \rightarrow D, CD \rightarrow B, D \rightarrow E$

3. Violates 3NF

$D \rightarrow E$

== FDs: ==  
 $BC \rightarrow D$   
 $CD \rightarrow B$   
 $D \rightarrow E$   
 $ACD \rightarrow F$

# Decomposition into BCNF

## High-Level Algorithm

**Input:** a relation  $R$  with FDs  $F$

1. Identify if any FDs violate BCNF (How?)
  - If  $X \rightarrow Y$  violates BCNF, decompose  $R$  into  $R - Y$  and  $XY$
2. Repeat for every  $X \rightarrow Y$  that violates BCNF.

**Output:** a collection of relations that are in BCNF

- Does this algorithm provide a lossless join decomposition?
  - Yes! Notice that  $X$  is a key for the relation  $XY$
- Several dependencies may cause violation of BCNF. The **order** in which we “deal with” them could lead to very **different sets of relations!**



# Algorithm for BCNF (relation R, FDs F)

done = false;

result = {R};

compute  $F^+$ ;

while (not done) do

    if  $\exists R_i \in \text{result}$  and  $R_i$  is not in BCNF

        let  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  be a nontrivial FD that holds in  $R_i$

            such that  $(\alpha \rightarrow R_i) \notin F^+$  and  $\alpha \cap \beta = \emptyset$  ;

        result = (result -  $R_i$ )  $\cup$  ( $R_i - \beta$ )  $\cup$  ( $\alpha, \beta$ ) ;

    else done = true ;



# Exercise 3: Fix R to be in BCNF

- Relation  $R=(A,B,C,D,E)$
- FDs:  $A \rightarrow BC$ ,  $CD \rightarrow E$ ,  $B \rightarrow D$ ,  $E \rightarrow A$
- Keys:  $A$ ,  $BC$ ,  $CD$ ,  $E$
- $B \rightarrow D$  violates BCNF
- Decompose R into:
  - $R1=(A,B,C,E)$   $R2=(B,D)$
- Is this decomposition lossless join?
  - Yes!  $R1 \cap R2 = B$  and  $B \rightarrow R2$
- Is it dependency preserving?
  - $F1: A \rightarrow BCE$ ,  $E \rightarrow A$ ,  $BC \rightarrow AE$
  - $F2: B \rightarrow D$
  - No!  $CD \rightarrow E$  is not in  $(F1 \cup F2)^+$

In this case,  
leave it in 3NF

# Exercise 4

Suppose you are given the following relation R: ABCDEF

- $BC \rightarrow D$
- $CD \rightarrow B$
- $D \rightarrow E$
- $ACD \rightarrow F$

Now decompose R into R1 and R2,  
Do each of them satisfy lossless join property?



- R1: ACDF, R2: ABCDE
- R1: BCD, R2: ABEF

# Exercise 4: Solution

- R1: ACDF, R2: ABCDE

It satisfies lossless-join

Attributes common: ACD - it is a key

- R1: BCD, R2: ABEF

It does not satisfy lossless-join

Attributes common: B - not a key

# Schema Refinement



- Suppose you are given the following schema.
- IS (item, name, desc, loc, price)  
S (name, addr)
- You are asked to further normalize it assuming that supplier keeps all items of the same name in the same location. i.e., Add an FD:  
 $name \rightarrow loc$

# Schema Refinement

IS (item, name, desc, loc, price)

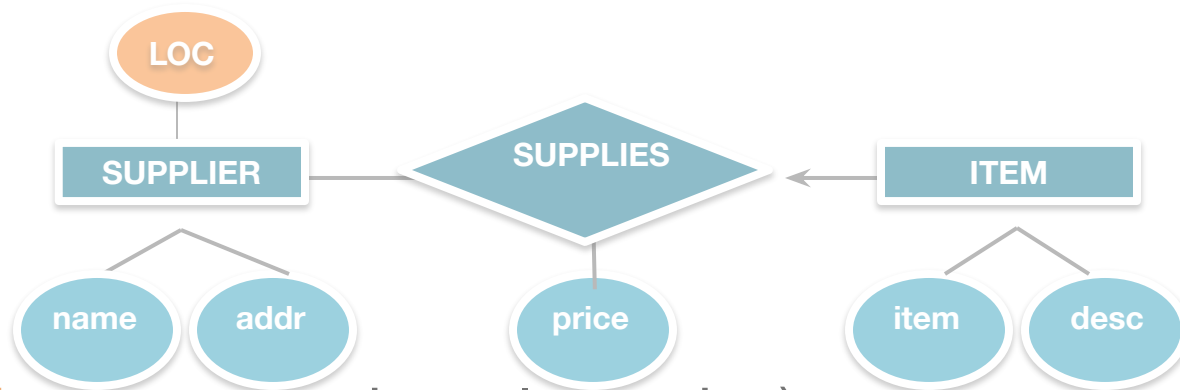
S (name, addr)

FDs =  $\{i \rightarrow ndlp, n \rightarrow la\}$



- IS is not in BCNF, due to  $n \rightarrow l$
- Break it up: IS(i,n,d,p), Loc(n,l)
- S(n,a) remains unchanged
- Now notice same key for S and Loc, so merge
- Loc (name, addr, loc)

# Schema Refinement



- IS (**item**, name, desc, loc, price)  
S (**name**, addr)
- A supplier keeps all items of the same name in the same location **FD: name**  $\rightarrow$  **loc**

Solution:

IS (**item**, name, desc, price)

Loc (**name**, addr, loc)

Refined Schema

# Normalization Summary

- Bad schemas lead to redundancy
  - Redundant storage, update, insert, and delete anomaly
- To “correct” bad schemas: decompose relations
  - Must be a lossless-join decomposition
  - Would like dependency preserving decompositions
- Desired Normal Forms
  - BCNF: allow only super-key functional dependencies
  - 3NF: allow dependencies with prime attributes on the RHS
    - Allows a limited form of redundancy
    - Trades off performance (avoid joins) for redundancy