



WORKSHEET 4

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1. AIM:

i) Consider a relation R having attributes as R(ABCD), functional dependencies are given below:

$AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A$

Identify the set of candidate keys possible in relation R. List all the set of prime and non prime attributes.

ii) Relation R(ABCDE) having functional dependencies as :

$A \rightarrow D, B \rightarrow A, BC \rightarrow D, AC \rightarrow BE$

Identify the set of candidate keys possible in relation R. List all the set of prime and non prime attributes.

iii) Consider a relation R having attributes as R(ABCDE), functional dependencies are given below:

$B \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow C, BC \rightarrow D, AC \rightarrow BE$

Identify the set of candidate keys possible in relation R. List all the set of prime and non prime attributes.

iv) Consider a relation R having attributes as R(ABCDEF), functional dependencies are given below:

$A \rightarrow BCD, BC \rightarrow DE, B \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A$

Identify the set of candidate keys possible in relation R. List all the set of prime and non prime attributes.

v) Designing a student database involves certain dependencies which are listed below:

$X \rightarrow Y, WZ \rightarrow X, WZ \rightarrow Y, Y \rightarrow W, Y \rightarrow X, Y \rightarrow Z$

The task here is to remove all the redundant FDs for efficient working of the student database management system.

v) Debix Pvt Ltd needs to maintain database having dependent attributes ABCDEF. These attributes are functionally dependent on each other for which functionally dependency set F given as:

{ $A \rightarrow BC$, $D \rightarrow E$, $BC \rightarrow D$, $A \rightarrow D$ } Consider a universal relation $R1(A, B, C, D, E, F)$ with functional dependency set F, also all attributes are simple and take atomic values only. Find the highest normal form along with the candidate keys with prime and non-prime attribute.

2. Tools Used : SQL Server Management Studio

Solutions:

Q1) Candidate keys: {AB, BC, BD}

Prime attributes: A, B, C, D

Non-prime attributes: none

Highest normal form:

- 1NF: satisfied (atomic attributes).
- 2NF: applies to partial dependencies of non-prime attributes on part of a candidate key. There are no non-prime attributes, so 2NF holds (vacuously).
- 3NF: For every FD $X \rightarrow Y$, either X is a superkey or Y is prime.
 - $AB \rightarrow C$: AB is a candidate key \rightarrow OK.
 - $C \rightarrow D$: C is not a superkey, but D is prime \rightarrow allowed in 3NF.
 - $D \rightarrow A$: D is not a superkey, but A is prime \rightarrow allowed in 3NF.So 3NF holds.
- BCNF: Requires every FD's left side be a superkey. $C \rightarrow D$ and $D \rightarrow A$ have non-superkey left sides, so BCNF is violated.
Therefore the highest normal form of R is 3NF (but not BCNF).

Q2) Candidate keys = {AC, BC}.

Prime attributes: A, B, C

Non-prime attributes: D, E

Highest normal form:

- 1NF: holds (attributes atomic).
- 2NF: requires no partial dependency of a *non-prime* attribute on a proper subset of a candidate key.
Here $A \rightarrow D$: A is a proper subset of the candidate key AC, and D is non-prime. That is a partial dependency of a non-prime attribute \rightarrow violates 2NF.
- Since 2NF is violated, higher normal forms (2NF, 3NF, BCNF) cannot hold.
Therefore the highest normal form of R is 1NF.

Q3) Candidate keys: A and B

Prime attributes: A, B

Non-prime attributes: C, D, E

Highest normal form:

- 1NF: holds (attributes atomic).
- 2NF: holds. Partial-dependency concerns only arise when a *proper part* of a (composite) candidate key determines a non-prime attribute. Here candidate keys are single attributes (A and B), so there are no proper subsets to cause partial dependencies \rightarrow 2NF holds.
- 3NF: For every FD $X \rightarrow YX \setminus Y$, either XXX is a superkey or each attribute of YYY is prime. All FDs have left sides that are superkeys:
 - $B \rightarrow A$: B is a candidate key \rightarrow OK.
 - $A \rightarrow C$: A is a candidate key \rightarrow OK.
 - $BC \rightarrow D$: BC contains key B so is a superkey \rightarrow OK.
 - $AC \rightarrow BE$: AC contains key A so is a superkey \rightarrow OK.So 3NF holds.
- BCNF: Requires every FD left side to be a superkey. As shown above, every FD's left side is a superkey. Therefore BCNF also holds.

The relation is in BCNF (hence also in 3NF and 2NF).

Q4) Candidate keys: {AF, BF, DF}

Prime attributes: A, B, D, F

Non-prime attributes: C, E

Highest normal form:

- 1NF: satisfied (attributes atomic).
- 2NF: violated. Reason: 2NF forbids a *partial dependency* of a non-prime attribute on part of a composite key. Keys here are composite (size 2). For example, key AF — the part A (a proper subset) functionally determines C via $A \rightarrow CA \setminus C$ to $CA \rightarrow C$, and C is non-prime. That is a partial dependency of a non-prime attribute on part of a candidate key \rightarrow violates 2NF.
- Since 2NF fails, higher normal forms (3NF, BCNF) do not hold.

Therefore the highest normal form is: 1NF.

Q5) Candidate keys: {X, Y, WZ}

Prime attributes: W, X, Y, Z (all)

Non-prime: none

Highest normal form:

- 1NF: satisfied (attributes atomic).
- 2NF: there is one composite key WZ. Partial-dependency violations require a non-prime attribute depending on part of a composite key. All attributes are prime, so 2NF holds (vacuously).

- 3NF: for every FD $X \rightarrow A$, either X is a superkey or A is prime. Here every given FD has a left side that is a superkey (X and Y are keys; WZ is a key), so 3NF holds.
- BCNF: requires every FD left side to be a superkey. That is also true for the given FDs.

Therefore the relation is in BCNF (and hence also in 3NF and 2NF).

Q6) Candidate key(s): AF

Prime attributes: A, F

Non-prime attributes: B, C, D, E

Highest normal form:

- 1NF: holds (attributes are atomic).
- 2NF: requires that *no non-prime attribute* depend on a proper subset of a *composite* candidate key. Here the candidate key is composite $\{A, F\}$. We have $A \rightarrow BC$ and $A \rightarrow D$ (and thus $A \rightarrow E$), so the non-prime attributes B, C, D, E depend on A , which is a proper part of the key $\{A, F\}$. That is a partial dependency \rightarrow violates 2NF.
- Since 2NF is violated, the relation cannot be in 3NF or BCNF.

Therefore the highest normal form is: *1NF*.

3. Learning Outcomes:

- Learned to compute candidate keys using attribute closure.
- Understood how to classify prime and non-prime attributes.
- Identified partial dependencies and their effect on normalization.
- Determined the highest normal form of a relation step by step.
- Gained practical insight into reducing redundancy and anomalies in database design.