
Assignment 2 - Report

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1 SHORT QUESTIONS

Provide a short answer (3-4 sentences at most) for each of the following questions. You may use figures if necessary.

1. Suppose we have a relation R as given below, representing the exam statistics for course CS411. First project relation R to GPA (i.e., eliminate SID and Name) and then calculate the average GPA, under the set-model and the bag-model respectively. Which model is preferred in this example and why?

| SID | Name | GPA |
|-----|---------|-----|
| 1 | James | 3 |
| 2 | Charles | 4 |
| 3 | Doris | 4 |
| 4 | Ada | 4 |

Answer: We should use Bag Operations. It is faster than sets because of no duplicate elimination in Bag Operations.

2. Consider a relation $R(A, B, C)$. You may assume there are no null values or duplicates in R. If the result of $\sigma_{Y \neq V}(\rho_{R(X,Y,Z)} R \bowtie \rho_{R(X,V,W)} R)$ is always guaranteed to be empty, then what property of R can you infer? (Hint: think functional dependencies.)

Answer: There exists a FD: $A \rightarrow B$ in relation R.

3. Consider any relation R that never contains more than one tuple. Is it true that R must in Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)? Justify your answer.

Answer: True. Whether relation R is a BCNF is determined by whether LHS is super-key

(closure) of the relation. However, here we have only one instance so it will always be BCNF.

4. Consider a relation $R(A, B, C, D, E)$ with dependencies $AB \rightarrow CD, C \rightarrow AB, D \rightarrow AE$, list all minimal keys for R. Also, state whether the relation R is in 3NF **with reasoning**.

Answer: Minimal keys for R are $\{A, B\}, \{C\}, \{D, B\}$.

It is not a 3NF.

Minimal Basis: $\{ABC\}, \{ABD\}, \{AC\}, \{BC\}, \{AD\}, \{DE\}$. This is the 3NF decomposition for this relation.

5. Two sets of functional dependencies (FD's) F and F' are equivalent if all FD's in F' follow from the ones in F , and all FD's in F follow from the ones in F' . Consider the following three sets of functional dependencies:

- $F1 = A \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow A$
- $F2 = B \rightarrow AC$
- $F3 = AB \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow A$

- a) Are $F1$ and $F2$ equivalent? Justify your answer.

Answer: False. Use transitivity in $F1$ we can get $B \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow C$. However, we cannot get $A \rightarrow C$ from $F2$.

- b) Are $F1$ and $F3$ equivalent? Justify your answer.

Answer: False. Use transitivity in $F1$ we can get $B \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow C$. In $F3, B \rightarrow A \Rightarrow B \rightarrow AB \Rightarrow B \rightarrow C$. However, we cannot get $A \rightarrow C$ from $F3$.

- c) Are $F2$ and $F3$ equivalent? Justify your answer.

Answer: True. In $F3, B \rightarrow A \Rightarrow B \rightarrow AB \Rightarrow B \rightarrow C$. In $F2, B \rightarrow AC$. They are equivalent.

2 RELATIONAL ALGEBRA TO ENGLISH

Consider a relation Works (name, company, salary) with no duplicates. Consider the following relational algebra expression, written in linear notation.

$$P1(salary) = \pi_{salary}(\sigma_{company="IBM"}(Works))$$

$$P2(salary) = \pi_{salary}(\rho_{T1(s)}(P1) \bowtie_{s > salary} P1)$$

$$P3(salary) = P1 - P2$$

$$Answer(name) = \pi_{name}(Works \bowtie_{salary > s} \rho_{T2(s)}(P3))$$

State in English what is computed as the final answer briefly. Long-winded answers will be deducted points. For partial credit, explain what $P1, P2$ and $P3$ contain.

Answer: $Answer(name)$: Select people's name, who have salary higher than the highest salary in IBM.

3 ENGLISH TO RELATIONAL ALGEBRA

Consider the following relational database schema that describes information about students and their courses. A course is uniquely identified by its CODE (e.g., "CS411"), and a student is uniquely identified by his or her SID.

Course(CODE, units, time, room) // all courses

Student(SID, name, level) // all students, level can be "grad" or "undergrad"

Taking(SID, CODE) // current enrollment information

Write a relational algebra expression to list the information (i.e., CODE, units, time, room) of courses that are currently offered but have no graduate students enrolled.

$$Course \leftarrow \left(\Pi_{(code)} \left(\sigma_{(level \neq 'grad')} (Student \bowtie Course) \right) \right) \bowtie Course$$

4 DATA TO FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCY

Consider a relation R(A, B, C), satisfying some functional dependency. Two instances of R are given as below:

| A | B | C |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 4 |

| A | B | C |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 2 | 1 |

Based on R's schema, enumerate all possible completely nontrivial functional dependencies (FDs) with only a single attribute on the right-hand side. Then, based on the instances above, for each FD you listed, label whether it:

H: Definitely holds in R.

NH: Definitely does not hold in R.

CD: Cannot be determined from the information given whether or not it holds in R.

- $B \rightarrow A$: NH in R.
- $C \rightarrow A$: NH in R.
- $BC \rightarrow A$: NH in R.
- $A \rightarrow B$: NH in R.
- $C \rightarrow B$: CD in R.
- $AC \rightarrow B$: CD in R.
- $A \rightarrow C$: NH in R.

- $B \rightarrow C$: CD in R.
- $AB \rightarrow C$: CD in R.

5 NORMALIZATION

Consider the following relational schema for a chain store:

Sale(clerk, store, city, date, dish, size)

// a clerk sold a dish on a particular day at a given store in a city

Menu(dish, size, price)

// prices and available size for the dish

Make the following assumptions:

- Each clerk works in one store.
- Each store is in one city.
- The price of a dish is different for different sizes. The store has standardized prices: the same sized dish cannot be sold to two persons at two different prices.

1. Specify a set of completely nontrivial functional dependencies for relations Sale and Menu that encodes the assumptions described above and no additional assumptions.

$clerk \rightarrow store$

$store \rightarrow city$

$dish, size \rightarrow price$

2. Based on your functional dependencies in part (1), specify all minimal keys for relations Sale and Menu.

Sale: {clerk, date, dish, size}

Menu: {dish, size}

3. Are the schema of Sale and Menu in Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF) according to your answers to (1) and (2)? If not, give a decomposition into BCNF. If yes, justify your answer.

For Menu, it is in Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF). However, Sale is not in BCNF.

Menu: The closure for the minimal key in previous question is {dish, size, price}. It contains all the attributes in Menu schema.

Sale:

- {clerk, store}
- {store, city}
- {clerk, date, dish, size}

4. Now add the following assumption:

- Each city has at most one store and each store has only one clerk.

Specify additional functional dependencies to take these new assumptions into account.

Answer: $city \rightarrow store$, $store \rightarrow clerk$

5. Based on your functional dependencies for parts (1) and (4) together, specify all minimal keys for relation Sale.

Sale:

- {clerk, date, dish, size }
- {store, date, dish, size }
- {city, date, dish, size }

6. Are the schema of Sale and Menu in 3NF according to your answers to (1), (4) and (5)? If not, give a decomposition into 3NF. If yes, justify your answer.

Answer: Sale is not 3NF, Menu is 3NF.

Sale: (clerk, store), (store, city), (clerk, date, dish, size)

Menu: $dish, size \rightarrow price$, so (dish, size, price) is the minimal-key, the result from step

2. We do not need decompose this.