

Functional Dependencies & Normalization for Relational DBs

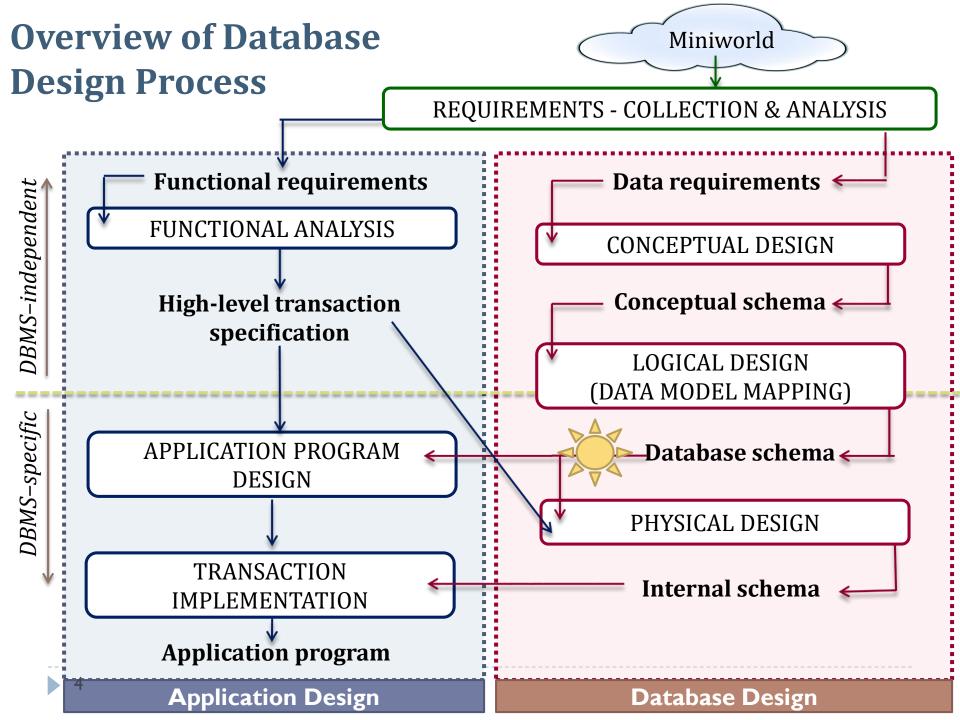
Chapter 7

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Functional dependencies
- 3 Normalization

Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Functional dependencies
- **9** Normalization



- Each relation schema consists of a number of attributes and the relational database schema consists of a number of relation schemas
- Attributes are grouped to form a relation schema
- Need some formal measure of why one grouping of attributes into a relation schema may be better than another

- "Goodness" measures:
 - Redundant information in tuples
 - Update anomalies: modification, deletion, insertion
 - Reducing the NULL values in tuples
 - Disallowing the possibility of generating spurious tuples

• Redundant information in tuples: the attribute values pertaining to a particular department (DNUMBER, DNAME, DMGRSSN) are repeated for every employee who works for that department.

| Ename | Ssn | Bdate | Address | Dnumber | Dname | Dmgr_ssn |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
| Smith, John B. | 123456789 | 1965-01-09 | 731 Fondren, Houston, TX | 5 | Research | 333445555 |
| Wong, Franklin T. | 333445555 | 1955-12-08 | 638 Voss, Houston, TX | 5 | Research | 333445555 |
| Zelaya, Alicia J. | 999887777 | 1968-07-19 | 3321 Castle, Spring, TX | 4 | Administration | 987654321 |
| Wallace, Jennifer S. | 987654321 | 1941-06-20 | 291 Berry, Bellaire, TX | 4 | Administration | 987654321 |
| Narayan, Ramesh K. | 666884444 | 1962-09-15 | 975 FireOak, Humble, TX | 5 | Research | 333445555 |
| English, Joyce A. | 453453453 | 1972-07-31 | 5631 Rice, Houston, TX | 5 | Research | 333445555 |
| Jabbar, Ahmad V. | 987987987 | 1969-03-29 | 980 Dallas, Houston, TX | 4 | Administration | 987654321 |
| Borg, James E. | 888665555 | 1937-11-10 | 450 Stone, Houston, TX | 1 | Headquarters | 888665555 |

- ▶ **<u>Update anomalies</u>**: modification, deletion, insertion
 - Modification
 - As the manager of a dept. changes we have to update many values according to employees working for that dept.
 - Easy to make the DB <u>inconsistent</u>

| Ename | Ssn | Bdate | Address | Dnumber | Dname | Dmgr_ssn |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
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Deletion: if Borg James E. leaves, we delete his tuple and lose the existing of dept. 1, the name of dept. 1, and who is the manager of dept. 1

| Ename | <u>Ssn</u> | Bdate | Address | Dnumber | Dname | Dmgr_ssn |
|----------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
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▶ Insertion:

How can we create a department before any employees are assigned to it??

| Ename | <u>Ssn</u> | Bdate | Address | Dnumber | Dname | Dmgr_ssn |
|----------------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
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- Reducing the NULL values in tuples
 - Employees not assigned to any dept.: waste the storage space
 - Other difficulties: aggregation operations (e.g., COUNT, SUM) and joins

Disallowing the possibility of generating spurious tuples

EMP_PROJ (SSN, PNumber, Hours, EName, PName, PLocation)

EMP_LOCS (EName, PLocation)
EMP_PROJ1 (SSN, PNumber, Hours, PName, PLocation)

Generation of invalid and spurious data during JOINS: PLocation is the attribute that relates EMP_LOCS and EMP_PROJ1, and PLocation is neither a primary key nor a foreign key in either EMP_LOCS or EMP_PROJ1

Disallowing the possibility of generating spurious tuples

EMP_LOCS

| Ename | Plocation |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Smith, John B. | Bellaire |
| Smith, John B. | Sugarland |
| Narayan, Ramesh K. | Houston |
| English, Joyce A. | Bellaire |
| English, Joyce A. | Sugarland |
| Wong, Franklin T. | Sugarland |
| Wong, Franklin T. | Houston |
| Wong, Franklin T. | Stafford |
| Zelaya, Alicia J. | Stafford |
| Jabbar, Ahmad V. | Stafford |
| Wallace, Jennifer S. | Stafford |
| Wallace, Jennifer S. | Houston |
| Borg, James E. | Houston |

EMP_PROJ1

| Ssn | Pnumber | Hours | Pname | Plocation |
|-----------|---------|-------|-----------------|-----------|
| 123456789 | 1 | 32.5 | ProductX | Bellaire |
| 123456789 | 2 | 7.5 | ProductY | Sugarland |
| 666884444 | 3 | 40.0 | ProductZ | Houston |
| 453453453 | 1 | 20.0 | ProductX | Bellaire |
| 453453453 | 2 | 20.0 | ProductY | Sugarland |
| 333445555 | 2 | 10.0 | ProductY | Sugarland |
| 333445555 | 3 | 10.0 | ProductZ | Houston |
| 333445555 | 10 | 10.0 | Computerization | Stafford |
| 333445555 | 20 | 10.0 | Reorganization | Houston |
| 999887777 | 30 | 30.0 | Newbenefits | Stafford |
| 999887777 | 10 | 10.0 | Computerization | Stafford |
| 987987987 | 10 | 35.0 | Computerization | Stafford |
| 987987987 | 30 | 5.0 | Newbenefits | Stafford |
| 987654321 | 30 | 20.0 | Newbenefits | Stafford |
| 987654321 | 20 | 15.0 | Reorganization | Houston |
| 888665555 | 20 | NULL | Reorganization | Houston |

Disallowing the possibility of generating spurious tuples

| | Ssn | Pnumber | Hours | Pname | Plocation | Ename |
|---|-----------|---------|-------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | 123456789 | 1 | 32.5 | ProductX | Bellaire | Smith, John B. |
| * | 123456789 | 1 | 32.5 | ProductX | Bellaire | English, Joyce A. |
| | 123456789 | 2 | 7.5 | ProductY | Sugarland | Smith, John B. |
| * | 123456789 | 2 | 7.5 | ProductY | Sugarland | English, Joyce A. |
| * | 123456789 | 2 | 7.5 | ProductY | Sugarland | Wong, Franklin T. |
| | 666884444 | 3 | 40.0 | ProductZ | Houston | Narayan, Ramesh K. |
| * | 666884444 | 3 | 40.0 | ProductZ | Houston | Wong, Franklin T. |
| * | 453453453 | 1 | 20.0 | ProductX | Bellaire | Smith, John B. |
| | 453453453 | 1 | 20.0 | ProductX | Bellaire | English, Joyce A. |
| * | 453453453 | 2 | 20.0 | ProductY | Sugarland | Smith, John B. |
| | 453453453 | 2 | 20.0 | ProductY | Sugarland | English, Joyce A. |
| * | 453453453 | 2 | 20.0 | ProductY | Sugarland | Wong, Franklin T. |
| * | 333445555 | 2 | 10.0 | ProductY | Sugarland | Smith, John B. |
| * | 333445555 | 2 | 10.0 | ProductY | Sugarland | English, Joyce A. |
| | 333445555 | 2 | 10.0 | ProductY | Sugarland | Wong, Franklin T. |
| * | 333445555 | 3 | 10.0 | ProductZ | Houston | Narayan, Ramesh K. |
| | 333445555 | 3 | 10.0 | ProductZ | Houston | Wong, Franklin T. |
| | 333445555 | 10 | 10.0 | Computerization | Stafford | Wong, Franklin T. |
| * | 333445555 | 20 | 10.0 | Reorganization | Houston | Narayan, Ramesh K. |
| _ | 333445555 | 20 | 10.0 | Reorganization | Houston | Wong, Franklin T. |

- "Goodness" measures:
 - Redundant information in tuples
 - Update anomalies: modification, deletion, insertion
 - Reducing the NULL values in tuples
 - Disallowing the possibility of generating spurious tuples

Normalization

- Normalization helps DB designers determine the best relation schemas
 - A formal framework for analyzing relation schemas based on their keys and on the functional dependencies among their attributes
 - A series of normal form tests that can be carried out on individual relation schemas so that the relational database can be normalized to any desired degree
- ▶ It is based on the concept of normal form 1NF, 2NF, 3NF, BCNF, 4NF, 5NF
- It is a process which ensures that the data is structured in such a way that attributes are grouped with the PK. Attributes that do not directly depend on PK may be extracted to form a new relation

- There are two important properties of decompositions:
 - 1) non-additive or losslessness of the corresponding join
 - 2) preservation of the functional dependencies
- Note that property (1) is extremely important and cannot be sacrificed. Property (2) is less stringent and may be sacrificed

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- Definition of FDs
- Direct, indirect, partial dependencies
- Inference Rules for FDs
- Equivalence of Sets of FDs
- Minimal Sets of FDs

- Functional dependencies (FDs) are used to specify formal measures of the "goodness" of relational designs
- FDs and keys are used to define normal forms for relations
- ▶ FDs are constraints that are derived from the meaning and interrelationships of the data attributes
- A set of attributes X <u>functionally determines</u> a set of attributes Y if the value of X determines a unique value for Y

 $X \rightarrow Y$

- X → Y holds if whenever two tuples have the same value for X, they must have the same value for Y
- For any two tuples t_1 and t_2 in any relation instance r(R): If $t_1[X]=t_2[X]$, then $t_1[Y]=t_2[Y]$
- \rightarrow Y in R specifies a constraint on all relation instances r(R)
- Examples:
 - ▶ social security number determines employee name:
 SSN → EName
 - ▶ project number determines project name and location:
 PNumber → {PName, PLocation}
 - employee ssn and project number determines the hours per week that the employee works on the project:
 - $\{SSN, PNumber\} \rightarrow Hours$

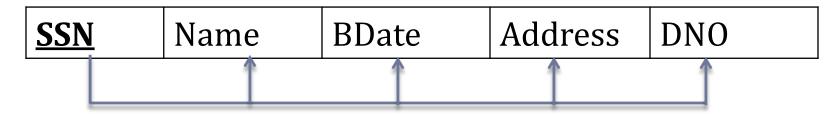
▶ If K is a key of R, then K functionally determines all attributes in R (since we never have two distinct tuples with t₁[K]=t₂[K])

- Definition of FDs
- Direct, indirect, partial dependencies
- Inference Rules for FDs
- Equivalence of Sets of FDs
- Minimal Sets of FDs

▶ **Direct dependency** (fully functional dependency): All attributes in a R must be fully functionally dependent on the primary key (or the PK is a determinant of all attributes in R)

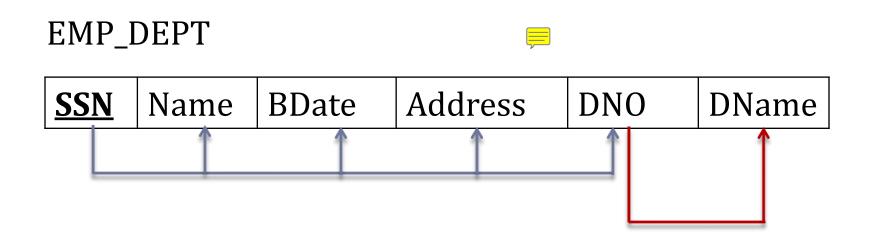
SSN → {Name, BDate, Address, DNO}

EMPLOYEE



Indirect dependency (transitive dependency): Value of an attribute is not determined directly by the primary key

DNO → DName



Partial dependency

- Composite determinant more than one value is required to determine the value of another attribute, the combination of values is called a composite determinant {SSN, PNumber} in EMP_PROJ
- Partial dependency if the value of an attribute does not depend on an entire composite determinant, but only part of it, the relationship is known as the partial dependency

SSN → EName, Pnumber → {PName, PLocation}

EMP_PROJ

SSN PNumber Hours EName PName PLocation

- Definition of FD
- Direct, indirect, partial dependencies
- Inference Rules for FDs
- Equivalence of Sets of FDs
- Minimal Sets of FDs

- Given a set of FDs F, we can infer additional FDs that hold whenever the FDs in F hold
- Armstrong's inference rules:
 - ▶ **IR1. (Reflexive)** If Y = X, then $X \rightarrow Y$

 - ▶ **IR3. (Transitive)** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$



- Some additional inference rules that are useful:
 - **Decomposition:** If $X \rightarrow YZ$, then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$
 - **▶ Union:** If X -> Y and X -> Z, then X -> YZ
 - ▶ **Psuedotransitivity:** If X -> Y and WY -> Z, then WX -> Z
- The last three inference rules, as well as any other inference rules, can be deduced from IR1, IR2, and IR3 (completeness property)



- Closure of a set F of FDs is the set F⁺ of all FDs that can be inferred from F
- Closure of a set of attributes X with respect to F is the set X⁺ of all attributes that are functionally determined by X
- X⁺ can be calculated by repeatedly applying IR1, IR2, IR3 using the FDs in F



Exercise

- Consider a relation R(A, B, C, D, E) with the following dependencies F:
 - (1) AB \rightarrow C,
 - (2) CD \rightarrow E,
 - (3) DE \rightarrow B
- ▶ Find {A,¬В}+ , {A, В,¬D}+
- ▶ Find F⁺

- Definition of FD
- Direct, indirect, partial dependencies
- Inference Rules for FDs
- Equivalence of Sets of FDs
- Minimal Sets of FDs

- ▶ Two sets of FDs F and G are equivalent if F⁺ = G⁺
- Definition:
 - ▶ F covers G if $G^+ \subseteq F^+$
 - F and G are equivalent if F covers G and G covers F
- There is an algorithm for checking equivalence of sets of FDs

- ▶ A set of FDs is minimal if it satisfies the following conditions:
 - Every dependency in F has a single attribute for its RHS.
 - We cannot remove any dependency from F and have a set of dependencies that is equivalent to F.
 - We cannot replace any dependency X → A in F with a dependency Y → A, where Y proper-subset-of X (Y subset-of X) and still have a set of dependencies that is equivalent to F



- Every set of FDs has an equivalent minimal set
- There can be several equivalent minimal sets
- There is no simple algorithm for computing a minimal set of FDs that is equivalent to a set F of FDs
- To synthesize a set of relations, we assume that we start with a set of dependencies that is a **minimal set**



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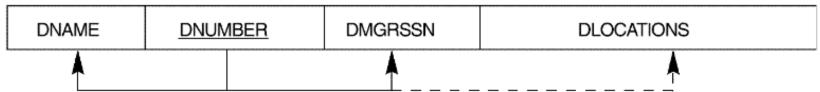
- Normalization: The process of decomposing unsatisfactory "bad" relations by breaking up their attributes into smaller relations
- Normal form: Using keys and FDs of a relation to certify whether a relation schema is in a particular normal form
- Normalization is carried out in practice so that the resulting designs are of high quality and meet the desirable properties
- ▶ The database designers <u>need not</u> normalize to the highest possible normal form (3NF, BCNF or 4NF)

- Two new concepts:
 - A Prime attribute must be a member of some candidate key
 - A **Nonprime attribute** is not a prime attribute: it is not a member of any candidate key

- ▶ 1NF and dependency problems
- ▶ 2NF solves partial dependency
- ▶ 3NF solves indirect dependency
- BCNF well-normalized relations

- First normal form (1NF): there is only one value at the intersection of each row and column of a relation no set valued attributes in 1NF
 - → Disallows composite attributes, multivalued attributes, and **nested relations**
- To be part of the formal definition of a relation in the basic (flat) relational model

(a) DEPARTMENT



(b) DEPARTMENT

| DNAME | DNUMBER | DMGRSSN | DLOCATIONS |
|----------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Research | 5 | 333445555 | {Bellaire, Sugarland, Houston} |
| Administration | 4 | 987654321 | {Stafford} |
| Headquarters | 1 | 888665555 | {Houston} |

(c) DEPARTMENT

| DNAME | DNUMBER | DMGRSSN | DLOCATION |
|----------------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Research | 5 | 333445555 | Bellaire |
| Research | 5 | 333445555 | Sugarland |
| Research | 5 | 333445555 | Houston |
| Administration | 4 | 987654321 | Stafford |
| Headquarters | 1 | 888665555 | Houston |
| 41 | | | |

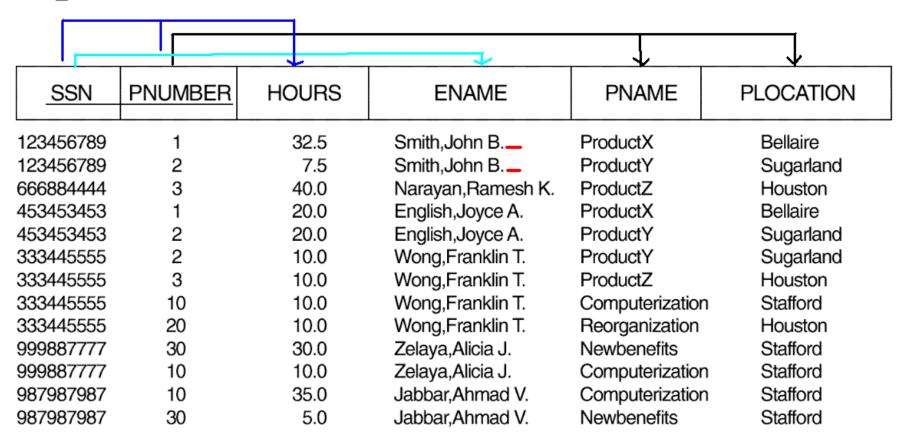
EMP_PROJ

| | PROJS | | |
|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| SSN | ENAME | PNUMBER | HOURS |

EMP_PROJ

| Ssn | Ename | Pnumber | Hours |
|-----------|--------------------|---------|-------|
| 123456789 | Smith, John B. | 1 | 32.5 |
| L | | 2 | 7.5 |
| 666884444 | Narayan, Ramesh K. | 3 | 40.0 |
| 453453453 | English, Joyce A. | 1 | 20.0 |
| | | 2 | 20.0 |

EMP_PROJ



EMP_PROJ (SSN, PNumber, Hours, EName, PName, PLocation)

- 1. SSN, PNumber \rightarrow Hours
- 2. SSN \rightarrow EName
- 3. PNumber \rightarrow PName, PLocation

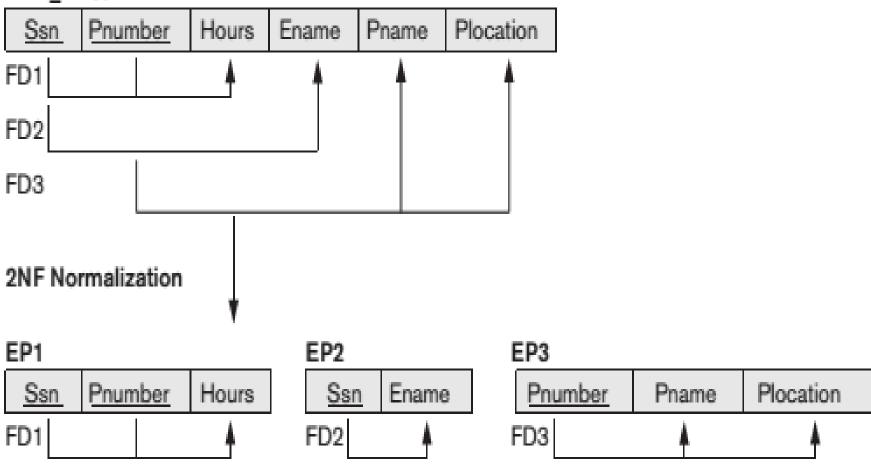
EMP_PROJ (<u>SSN</u>, <u>PNumber</u>, Hours) EMP (<u>SSN</u>, EName) PROJ (<u>PNumber</u>, PName, PLocation)

- 1. SSN, PNUMBER \rightarrow HOURS
- 2. SSN \rightarrow ENAME
- 3. PNUMBER \rightarrow PNAME, PLOCATION

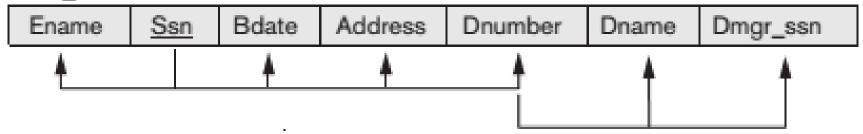
- ▶ 1NF and dependency problems
- 2NF solves partial dependency
- ▶ 3NF solves indirect dependency
- BCNF well-normalized relations

- Second normal form (2NF) all attributes must be fully functionally dependent on the primary key
- 2NF solves partial dependency problem in 1NF
- Method: identify primary keys and group attributes that relate to the key together to form separate new relations





EMP_DEPT



EMP_DEPT ➤ Problem with 2NF

| Ename | Ssn | Bdate | Address | Dnumber | Dname | Dmgr_ssn |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
| Smith, John B. | 123456789 | 1965-01-09 | 731 Fondren, Houston, TX | 5 | Research | 333445555 |
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- ▶ 1NF and dependency problems
- ▶ 2NF solves partial dependency
- **▶** 3NF solves indirect dependency
- BCNF well-normalized relations

▶ A relation schema R is in **third normal form (3NF)** if it is in 2NF *and* no non-prime attribute A in R is transitively dependent on the primary key

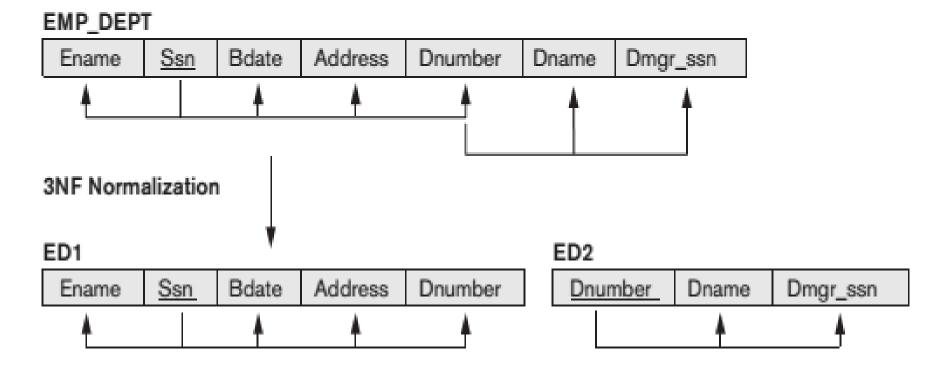
NOTE:

In $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, with X as the primary key, we consider this a problem only if Y is <u>not</u> a candidate key. When Y is a candidate key, there is no problem with the transitive dependency.

E.g., Consider EMP (SSN, Emp#, Salary).

Here, SSN → Emp# → Salary and Emp# is a candidate key

- 3NF solves indirect (transitive) dependencies problem in 1NF and 2NF
- Method: identify all transitive dependencies and each transitive dependency will form a new relation, with non-prime attributes participating in the transitive dependency and the attribute which determines others as the attributes for the new relation



Consider the universal relation $R = \{A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J\}$ and the set of functional dependencies:

- 1. $A, B \rightarrow C$
- 2. $A \rightarrow D, E$
- 3. $B \rightarrow F$
- 4. $F \rightarrow G, H$
- 5. $D \rightarrow I, J$

What is the key for R? Decompose R into 2NF, then 3NF relations.

- INF and dependency problems
- ▶ 2NF solves partial dependency
- ▶ 3NF solves indirect dependency
- ▶ BCNF well-normalized relations

SUMMARY OF NORMAL FORMS based on Primary Keys

Summary of Normal Forms Based on Primary Keys and Corresponding Normalization

| Normal Form | Test | Remedy (Normalization) |
|--------------|---|--|
| First (1NF) | Relation should have no multivalued attributes or nested relations. | Form new relations for each multi- valued attribute or nested relation. |
| Second (2NF) | For relations where primary key contains multiple attributes, no nonkey attribute should be functionally dependent on a part of the primary key. | Decompose and set up a new relation for each partial key with its dependent attribute(s). Make sure to keep a relation with the original primary key and any attributes that are fully functionally dependent on it. |
| Third (3NF) | Relation should not have a nonkey attribute functionally determined by another nonkey attribute (or by a set of nonkey attributes). That is, there should be no transitive dependency of a nonkey attribute on the primary key. | Decompose and set up a relation that includes the nonkey attribute(s) that functionally determine(s) other nonkey attribute(s). |

General Normal Form Definitions

- ▶ The above definitions consider the primary key only
- The following more general definitions take into account relations with multiple candidate keys

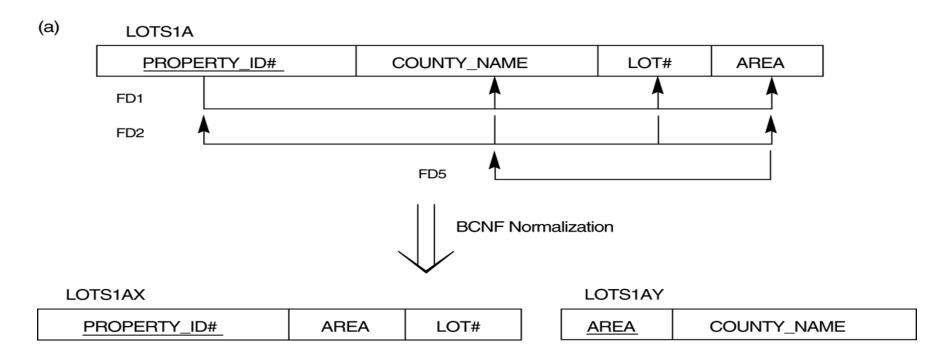
General Normal Form Definitions

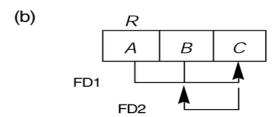
- ▶ A relation schema R is in **second normal form** (**2NF**) if every non-prime attribute A in R is fully functionally dependent on *every key* of R
- ▶ A relation schema R is in **third normal form** (**3NF**) if whenever a FD X -> A holds in R, then either:
 - (a) X is a superkey of R, or
 - (b) A is a prime attribute of R

- ▶ 1NF and dependency problems
- ▶ 2NF solves partial dependency
- ▶ 3NF solves indirect dependency
- BCNF well-normalized relations

A relation schema R is in Boyce-Codd
 Normal Form (BCNF) if whenever an FD
 X -> A holds in R, then X is a superkey of R

BCNF





Boyce-Codd normal form. (a) BCNF normalization of LOTSIA with the functional dependency FD2 being lost in the decomposition. (b) A schematic relation with FDs; it is in 3NF, but not in BCNF.

BCNF

► TEACH (Student, Course, Instructor)

FD1: {Student, Course} → Instructor

FD2:12 Instructor → Course

TEACH

| Student | Course | Instructor |
|---------|-------------------|------------|
| Narayan | Database | Mark |
| Smith | Database | Navathe |
| Smith | Operating Systems | Ammar |
| Smith | Theory | Schulman |
| Wallace | Database | Mark |
| Wallace | Operating Systems | Ahamad |
| Wong | Database | Omiecinski |
| Zelaya | Database | Navathe |
| Narayan | Operating Systems | Ammar |

BCNF

- Three possible pairs
 - {Student, Instructor} and {Student, Course}.
 - 2. {Course, Instructor} and {Course, Student}.
 - 3. {Instructor, Course} and {Instructor, Student}.
- All three decompositions *lose the functional dependency FD1*. The desirable decomposition of those just shown is 3 because it will not generate spurious tuples after a join

Nonadditive Join Decomposition into BCNF Schemas

Algorithm 16.5. Relational Decomposition into BCNF with Nonadditive Join Property

Input: A universal relation *R* and a set of functional dependencies *F* on the attributes of *R*.

```
1. Set D := \{R\};
```

2. While there is a relation schema Q in D that is not in BCNF do $\{$ choose a relation schema Q in D that is not in BCNF; find a functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ in Q that violates BCNF; replace Q in D by two relation schemas (Q - Y) and $(X \cup Y)$; $\}$;

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Consider the universal relation R = {*A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, *E*, *F*, *G*, *H*, *I*, *J*} and the set of functional dependencies:

- 1) $A, B \rightarrow C$
- 2) $B, D \rightarrow E, F$
- 3) $A, D \rightarrow G, H$
- 4) $A \rightarrow I$
- 5) $H \rightarrow J$

Decompose *R* into 2NF, then 3NF relations.

Consider the relation:

BOOK (Book_Name, Author, Edition, Year)

Based on a common-sense understanding of the data, what are the possible candidate keys of this relation?

| Book_Name | Author | Edition | Copyright_Year |
|-----------------|---------|---------|----------------|
| DB_fundamentals | Navathe | 4 | 2004 |
| DB_fundamentals | Elmasri | 4 | 2004 |
| DB_fundamentals | Elmasri | 5 | 2007 |
| DB_fundamentals | Navathe | 5 | 2007 |

Trường ĐH Bách Khoa TPHCM PHIẾU ĐIỂM - Học kỳ 1 năm 2008

MSSV: 50500000

Tên sinh viên: Nguyễn Văn A

Địa chỉ: KTX Bách Khoa

Khoa: Khoa học & kỹ thuật máy tính

| Mã môn học | Tên môn học | Nhóm | Số TC | Điểm KT | Điểm thi | Điểm tổng kết |
|---------------|----------------|------|----------|------------|-------------|------------------|
| 501040 | CTDL> | TN | 3 | 7 | 8 | 7.8 |
| 501045 | CSDL | 2C | 3 | 6.5 | 8.5 | 8.1 |

Ghi chú: Tùy từng môn học sẽ có hệ số của điểm kiểm tra và điểm thi khác nhau. Điểm tổng kết được tính dựa trên điểm KT, điểm thi và các hệ số này.

Key finding algorithms

Extended part

Key and super key

- ▶ **Superkey** of R: A set of attributes **SK** of **R** such that no two tuples in any valid relation instance r(R) will have the same value for SK. That is, for any distinct tuples t1 and t2 in r(R), t1[SK] \neq t2[SK]
- ▶ **Key** of R: A **"minimal" superkey**; that is, a superkey K such that removal of any attribute from K results in a set of attributes that is not a superkey
- If K is a key of R, then K functionally determines all attributes in R



Key-finding algorithm (1)

Input: A relation R and a set of functional dependencies F on the attributes of R.

Output: a key K of R

- Set K to contain all attributes in R
- For each attribute A in K {
 compute (K A)⁺ with respect to F;
 if (K A)⁺ contains all attributes in R, then set K := K {A}
 };

By Elmasri and Navathe

- In algorithm (1), we start by setting K to all the attributes of R; we then remove one attribute at a time and check whether the remaining attributes still form a superkey.
- The algorithm (1) determines only **one key** out of the possible candidate keys for R; the key returned depends on the order in which attributes are removed from R in step 2.

Key-finding algorithm (2)_{By Hossein Saiedian & Thomas Spencer}

Input: A relation R and a set of functional dependencies F on the attributes of R.

Output: all candidate keys of R

Let:

- **U** contain **all** attributes of R
- $ightharpoonup U_l$ contain attributes of R that occur **only** on the **left-hand side** of FDs in F
- $ightharpoonup U_r$ contain attributes of R that occur only on the right-hand side of FDs in F
- $lackbox{U}_b$ contain attributes of R that occur on **both sides** of FDs in F

Note:

- $U_l \cap U_r = \emptyset$, $U_l \cap U_b = \emptyset$ and $U_r \cap U_b = \emptyset$
- $\qquad \qquad \boldsymbol{U_l} \cup \boldsymbol{U_r} \cup \boldsymbol{U_b} = \boldsymbol{U}$
- For every attribute $A \in U$, if $A \in U_l$, then A must be part of every candidate key of \mathbf{R} .
- For every attribute $A \in U$, if $A \in U_r$, then A will <u>not</u> be part of any candidate key of R.



Key-finding algorithm (2)_{By Hossein Saiedian & Thomas Spencer}

Input: A relation R and a set of functional dependencies F on the attributes of R.

Output: all candidate keys of R

- 1. Determine U_l , U_r and U_b
- If $U_{l^{+}_{\downarrow}} = U$ under F, then U_{l} forms the only key of R and the algorithm stops here.

Else: move to step $3 // U_{l^{\pm}_{1}} \neq U$ under F

- Consider every subsets U_{bi} of U_b : $U_{bi} \subseteq U_b$ For each U_{bi} , if $(U_l \cup U_{bi})^+ = U$ under F, then $K_i = (U_l \cup U_{bi})$ is a candidate key of R $^{(*)}$
- (*) If $K_i = (U_l \cup U_{bi})$ is a candidate key of R, then we need not to check $U_{bj} \subset U_b$ where $U_{bi} \subset U_{bj}$



Key-finding algorithm (2) By Hossein Saiedian & Thomas Spencer

- A simple categorization of attributes into the sets U_l , U_r and U_b allows to distinguish between those attributes that will participate in the candidate keys of a relational database schema and those that do not.
- ▶ The algorithm (2) finds all candidate keys.



Consider the universal relation $R = \{A, B, C, D, E, F\}$ and the set of functional dependencies:

- 1) $A \rightarrow B$
- 2) $C, D \rightarrow A$
- 3) $B, C \rightarrow D$
- 4) $A, E \rightarrow F$
- 5) $C, E \rightarrow D$

What is the key for *R*?



Consider the universal relation $R = \{A, B, C, D, E, F\}$ and the set of functional dependencies:

- 1) $A, D \rightarrow B$
- 2) $A, B \rightarrow E$
- 3) $C \rightarrow D$
- 4) $B \rightarrow C$
- 5) $A, C \rightarrow F$

What is the key for *R*? Decompose *R* into 2NF, then 3NF relations.



Consider the universal relation $R = \{A, B, C, D, E, F\}$ and the set of functional dependencies:

- 1) $A \rightarrow B$
- 2) $C \rightarrow A, D$
- 3) $A, F \rightarrow C, E$

What is the key for *R*? Decompose *R* into 2NF, 3NF, and BCNF relations.

