- 1. All functional dependencies in D^+ that include only attributes of R_i .
- 2. All multivalued dependencies of the form:

where $\alpha \subseteq R_i$ and $\alpha \longrightarrow \beta$ is in D^+ .

7.6.3 4NF Decomposition

The analogy between 4NF and BCNF applies to the algorithm for decomposing a schema into 4NF. Figure 7.16 shows the 4NF decomposition algorithm. It is identical to the BCNF decomposition algorithm of Figure 7.11, except that it uses multivalued dependencies and uses the restriction of D^+ to R_i .

If we apply the algorithm of Figure 7.16 to (ID, $dept_name$, street, city), we find that $ID \rightarrow dept_name$ is a nontrivial multivalued dependency, and ID is not a superkey for the schema. Following the algorithm, we replace it with two schemas:

```
(ID, dept_name)
(ID, street, city)
```

This pair of schemas, which is in 4NF, eliminates the redundancy we encountered earlier.

As was the case when we were dealing solely with functional dependencies, we are interested in decompositions that are lossless and that preserve dependencies. The following fact about multivalued dependencies and losslessness shows that the algorithm of Figure 7.16 generates only lossless decompositions:

```
 \begin{aligned} \textit{result} &:= \{R\}; \\ \textit{done} &:= \text{false}; \\ \textit{compute } D^+; \text{ Given schema } R_i, \text{ let } D_i \text{ denote the restriction of } D^+ \text{ to } R_i \\ \textbf{while (not } \textit{done}) \textbf{ do} \\ \textbf{if (there is a schema } R_i \text{ in } \textit{result} \text{ that is not in 4NF w.r.t. } D_i) \\ \textbf{then begin} \\ & \text{let } \alpha \longrightarrow \beta \text{ be a nontrivial multivalued dependency that holds} \\ & \text{on } R_i \text{ such that } \alpha \longrightarrow R_i \text{ is not in } D_i, \text{ and } \alpha \cap \beta = \emptyset; \\ & \textit{result} := (\textit{result} - R_i) \cup (R_i - \beta) \cup (\alpha, \beta); \\ & \textbf{end} \\ & \textbf{else } \textit{done} := \text{true}; \end{aligned}
```

Figure 7.16 4NF decomposition algorithm.