

L18

# Normalization is a Good Idea Continued

# Administrivia

I have Midterms if you didn't get it

Project Part 3 due **next Tuesday** March 29

Part 3 demos: March 28-April 1

HW3: Due April 5

**WARNING:** SQLite is very permissive and lets you write bad SQL!

# Let's order pizza

One type of meat, cheese, and vegetable

Pizza	Topping	Type
1	Mozzarella	Cheese
1	Pepperoni	Meat
1	Olives	Vegetable
2	Mozzarella	Cheese
2	Sausage	Meat
2	Peppers	Vegetable

Key? (Pizza, Type)

# Pizza: Dependencies?

Pizza	Topping	Type
1	Mozzarella	Cheese
1	Pepperoni	Meat
1	Olives	Vegetable
2	Mozzarella	Cheese
2	Sausage	Meat
2	Peppers	Vegetable

Topping  $\rightarrow$  Type

Pizza, Type  $\rightarrow$  Topping

Is this in BCNF?

# Pizza: Decomposition?

Pizza	Topping
1	Mozzarella
1	Pepperoni
1	Olives
2	Mozzarella
2	Sausage
2	Peppers

Topping	Type
Mozzarella	Cheese
Pepperoni	Meat
Olives	Vegetable
Sausage	Meat
Peppers	Vegetable

Topping  $\rightarrow$  Type

Pizza, Type  $\rightarrow$  Topping : Lost this dependency!

(In SQL: Can't enforce one topping type)

# BCNF in general

Decomposition may not preserve dependencies

In practice: additional checks may be needed  
e.g. join to enforce topping type constraint

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Normal Form (3NF)

Relax BCNF (e.g.,  $BCNF \subseteq 3NF$ )

F: set of functional dependencies over relation R  
for  $(X \rightarrow Y)$  in F  
Y is in X OR  
X is a superkey of R

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F: set of functional dependencies over relation R  
for  $(X \rightarrow Y)$  in F  
Y is in X OR  
X is a superkey of R OR  
Y is part of a key in R

Is new condition trivial? NO! key is minimal

Nice properties

lossless join ^ dependency preserving decomposition to 3NF always possible



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Topping  $\rightarrow$  Type

Pizza, Type  $\rightarrow$  Topping

Is this in 3NF?

# Pizza: Dependencies?

Topping  $\rightarrow$  Type

Pizza, Type  $\rightarrow$  Topping

for  $(X \rightarrow Y)$  in  $F$   
Y is in X OR  
X is a superkey of R OR  
Y is part of a key in R

Victory! This is in 3<sup>rd</sup> Normal Form  
(Topping determines part of a key)

# Wait, what just happened?

Redundancy is bad

Functional dependencies (FD)

useful to find duplication

BCNF: No redundancy permitted!

But may not be able to enforce FDs

3NF: Permits some duplication

Can always decompose into 3NF

# What's the point?

Improve our data design abilities  
by  
understanding redundancy

# We're going to need some theory

Closure of FDs

armstrong's axioms

Minimal FD Set

Principled Decomposition

BCNF & 3NF

# Closure of FDs

If I know

$\text{Name} \rightarrow \text{Bday}$  and  $\text{Bday} \rightarrow \text{age}$

Then it implies

$\text{Name} \rightarrow \text{age}$

An FD  $f'$  is implied by set  $F$  if  $f'$  is true when  $F$  is true

$F^+$ : the **closure** of  $F$  is all FDs implied by  $F$

Can we construct this closure automatically? YES

# Closure of FDs

*Inference rules* called **Armstrong's Axioms**

Reflexivity      if  $Y \subseteq X$  then  $X \rightarrow Y$

Augmentation    if  $X \rightarrow Y$  then  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  for any  $Z$

Transitivity      if  $X \rightarrow Y$  &  $Y \rightarrow Z$  then  $X \rightarrow Z$

These are **sound** and **complete** rules

sound            doesn't produce FDs not in the closure

complete        doesn't miss any FDs in the closure

Reflexivity: if  $Y \subseteq X$  then  $X \rightarrow Y$

$A \rightarrow A$

$A, B \rightarrow A$

$X, Y, Z \rightarrow Y, Z$

The “trivial” rule:

column always determines itself

a set of columns determines any subset of those columns



# Augmentation

if  $X \rightarrow Y$  then  $XZ \rightarrow YZ$  for any  $Z$

If:  $A \rightarrow B$

By reflexivity:  $C \rightarrow C$

... so ... Stick them together? (informal)

$A, C \rightarrow B, C$

# Transitivity

if  $X \rightarrow Y$  &  $Y \rightarrow Z$  then  $X \rightarrow Z$

Informal: apply them in sequence

$X \rightarrow Y$ : if you know  $(x, y)$  then  $x$  always implies  $Y=y$

$Y \rightarrow Z$ : if you know  $(y, z)$  then  $y$  always implies  $Z=z$

Therefore, if you see  $(x)$ , you know  $Y=y$ ; and since you see  $y$ , you know  $Z=z$

# Closure of FDs

$F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, CB \rightarrow E\}$

Is  $A \rightarrow E$  in the closure?

$A \rightarrow B$	given
$A \rightarrow AB$	augmentation $A$
$A \rightarrow BB$	apply $A \rightarrow B$
$A \rightarrow BC$	apply $B \rightarrow C$
$BC \rightarrow E$	given
$A \rightarrow E$	transitivity

# We're going to need some theory

Closure of FDs

armstrong's axioms

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Principled Decomposition

BCNF & 3NF

# Minimum Cover of FDs

Closures let us compare sets of FDs meaningfully

$$F1 = \{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow BC\}$$

$$F2 = \{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C\}$$

F1 equivalent to F2

If there's a closure (a maximally expanded FD),  
there's a *minimal* FD. Let's find it

# Minimum Cover of FDs

1. Turn FDs into *standard form*  
decompose each FD so single attr on the right side
2. Minimize left side of each FD  
for each FD, check if can delete left attr w/out changing closure  
given  $ABC \rightarrow D, B \rightarrow C$  can reduce to  $AB \rightarrow D, B \rightarrow C$
3. Delete redundant FDs  
check each remaining FD and see if it can be deleted  
e.g., in closure of the other FDs

2 must happen before 3!

# Minimum Cover of FDs

$A \rightarrow B, ABC \rightarrow E, EF \rightarrow G, ACF \rightarrow EG$

Standard form

$A \rightarrow B, ABC \rightarrow E, EF \rightarrow G, ACF \rightarrow E, ACF \rightarrow G$

Minimize left side

$A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow E, EF \rightarrow G, ACF \rightarrow E, ACF \rightarrow G$

reason:  $AC \rightarrow E + A \rightarrow B$  implies  $ABC \rightarrow E$

Delete Redundant FDs

$A \rightarrow B, AC \rightarrow E, EF \rightarrow G, \cancel{ACF \rightarrow E}, \cancel{ACF \rightarrow G}$

reason:  $ACF \rightarrow E$  implied by  $AC \rightarrow E, EF \rightarrow G$

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# Decomposition

Eventually want to decompose  $R$  into  $R_1 \dots R_n$  wrt  $F$

We've seen issues with decomposition.

Lost Joins: Can't recover  $R$  from  $R_1 \dots R_n$

Lost dependencies

Principled way of avoiding these?

# Lossless Join Decomposition

join the decomposed tables to get *exactly the* original

e.g., decompose  $R$  into tables  $X, Y$

$$\pi_X(R) \bowtie \pi_Y(R) = R$$

Lossless wrt  $F$  if and only if  $F^+$  contains

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

intersection of  $X, Y$  is a key for one of them

# Lossless Join Decomposition

Lossless wrt  $F$  if and only if  $F^+$  contains

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

intersection of  $X, Y$  is a key for one of them

FDs:  $A \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow B$

A	B	C
1	2	1
5	3	4
9	2	6



A	B
1	2
5	3
9	2

B	C
2	1
3	4
2	6



A	B	C
1	2	1
5	3	4
9	2	6
1	2	6
9	2	1

Lossy!  $AB \cap BC = B$  doesn't determine anything

# Lossless Join Decomposition


Lossless wrt  $F$  if and only if  $F^+$  contains

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

intersection of  $X, Y$  is a key for one of them


FDs:  $A \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow B$

A	B	C
1	2	1
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A	B
1	2
5	3
9	2

A	C
1	1
5	4
9	6



A	B	C
1	2	1
5	3	4
9	2	6

OK

# Dependency-preserving Decomposition

$F_R$  = Projection of  $F$  onto  $R$

FDs  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $F^+$  s.t.  $X$  and  $Y$  attrs are in  $R$

Subset of  $F$  that are “valid” for  $R$

If  $R$  decompose to  $X, Y$ .

FDs that hold on  $X, Y$  equivalent to all FDs on  $R$

$$(F_X \cup F_Y)^+ = F^+$$

Consider  $ABCD$ ,  $C$  is key,  $AB \rightarrow C, D \rightarrow A$

BCNF decomposition:  $BCD, DA$

$AB \rightarrow C$  doesn't apply to either table!

# We're going to need some theory

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Principled Decomposition

**BCNF & 3NF**

# BCNF

while BCNF is violated

  R with FDs  $F_R$

  if  $X \rightarrow Y$  violates BCNF

    turn R into R-Y & XY

ABCDE    key A,  $D \rightarrow B$ ,  $C \rightarrow D$ ,  $BC \rightarrow A$

DB, ACDE            using  $D \rightarrow B$

DB, CD, ACE        using  $C \rightarrow D$

uh oh, lost  $BC \rightarrow A$

# Example

Branch, Customer, banker Name, Office  
BCNO

Name -> Branch, Office      N -> BO  
Customer, Branch -> Name    CB -> N



# Example

Branch, Customer, banker Name, Office  
BCNO

Name  $\rightarrow$  Branch, Office      N  $\rightarrow$  BO  
Customer, Branch  $\rightarrow$  Name    CB  $\rightarrow$  N

CB is the key (determines everything)

# BCNF

while BCNF is violated

  R with FDs  $F_R$

  if  $X \rightarrow Y$  violates BCNF

    turn R into R-Y & XY

BCNO       $BC \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow BO$

NBO, CN using  $N \rightarrow BO$

uh oh, lost  $BC \rightarrow N$

# 3NF

$F^{\min}$  = minimal cover of  $F$

Run BCNF using  $F^{\min}$

for  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $F^{\min}$  not in projection onto  $R_1 \dots R_N$

create relation  $XY$

BCNO       $BC \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow BO$

NBO, CN using  $N \rightarrow BO$

# 3NF

$F^{\min}$  = minimal cover of  $F$

Run BCNF using  $F^{\min}$

for  $X \rightarrow Y$  in  $F^{\min}$  not in projection onto  $R_1 \dots R_N$

create relation  $XY$

BCNO       $BC \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow BO$

NBO, CN using  $N \rightarrow BO$  ... oops create BCN

NBO, CN, BCN

NBO, BCN ... Done  $N \rightarrow B$  is not BCNF is 3NF

# Summary

Normal Forms: BCNF and 3NF

FD closures: Armstrong's axioms

Proper Decomposition

# Summary

Accidental redundancy is really really bad

Adding lots of joins can hurt performance

Can be at odds with each other

Normalization good starting point, relax as needed

People usually think in terms of entities and keys,  
usually ends up reasonable

# What you should know

Purpose of normalization

Anomalies

Decomposition problems

Functional dependencies & axioms

3NF & BCNF

properties

algorithm