



Australian  
National  
University

程序代写代做 CS编程辅导



## Functional Dependencies – Part 2

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# Definition and Identification

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## 程序代写代做 CS编程辅导 Codd and Functional Dependencies



- **Functional dependencies** were introduced by Codd in 1971<sup>1</sup>
- Edgar F. Codd of IBM (1923-2003) invented the **relational data model** for data management in 1970.
- He received the ACM Turing Award in 1981 for his contributions on the theoretical foundations of relational databases:

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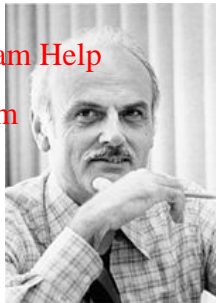
- **Functional dependencies**
- **Normalization**
  - Boyce–Codd Normal Form (BCNF)
- **Query languages**
  - Relational Calculus
  - Relational Algebra

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<sup>1</sup> Further Normalization of the Data Base Relational Model. E. F. Codd, IBM Research Report, San Jose, California, 1971.



## Why Functional Dependencies?



- We need some **form** of analysis for analysing whether a database schema is well-designed, or why one is better than another.

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- FDs are developed to define the **goodness** and **badness** of (relational) database design in a formal way.

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- **Top down:** start with a relation schema and FDs, and produce smaller relation schemas in certain normal form (called *normalisation*).
- **Bottom up:** start with attributes and FDs, and produce relation schemas (*not popular in practice*).

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**FDs tell us “relationship between and among attributes”!**



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## Functional Dependencies – Informal Description



- We have two FDs on ENROLMENT:

ENROLMENT					
Name	StudentID	DoB	CourseNo	Semester	Unit
Tom	123456	25/01/1988	COMP2400	2010 S2	6
Tom	123456	25/01/1988	COMP8740	2011 S2	12
Michael	123458	21/04/1985	COMP2400	2009 S2	6
Michael	123458	21/04/1985	COMP8740	2011 S2	12
Fran	123457	11/09/1987	COMP2400	2009 S2	6

- StudentID **functionally determines** Name and DoB, i.e.,  
 $\{\text{StudentID}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Name}, \text{DoB}\}$
- CourseNo **functionally determines** Unit, i.e.,  
 $\{\text{CourseNo}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Unit}\}$



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## Functional Dependencies – Informal Description

- A **FD** says that, within a relation, the values of some attributes determine the values of other attributes.



Animal	→	Legs
Ostrich		2
Wombat		4



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- If attributes  $A, B, C$  determine attributes  $D, E$ , then we write

$\{A, B, C\} \rightarrow \{D, E\}$

- This means, if two tuples have the same values for  $A, B$  and  $C$ , then they must also have the same values for  $D$  and  $E$ .
- $A, B$  and  $C$  are the **determinant**, while  $D$  and  $E$  are the **dependent**.



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## Formal Definition



- Let  $R$  be a relation schema

- A **FD** on  $R$  is a functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  with attribute sets  $X, Y \subseteq R$ .
- A relation  $r(R)$  satisfies  **$X \rightarrow Y$  on  $R$**  if, for any two tuples  $t_1, t_2 \in r(R)$ , whenever the tuples  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  coincide on values of  $X$ , they also coincide on values of  $Y$ .

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- A FD is **trivial** if it can always be satisfied, e.g.,

- $\{A, B, C\} \rightarrow \{C\}$
- $\{A, B, C\} \rightarrow \{A, B\}$

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- Syntactical convention:** (1) Instead of  $\{A, B, C\}$ , we may use  $ABC$ . (2)  $A, B, \dots$  for individual attributes and  $X, Y, \dots$  for sets of attributes.



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## Exercise - Functional Dependencies on Relations



- Consider the following relations with attributes  $\{A, B, C, D, E\}$ . Do they satisfy:  
(1)  $AB \rightarrow E$ ; (2)  $C \rightarrow D$

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$r_1(R)$				
A	B	C	D	E
1	4	1	9	4
1	4	2	8	9
1	4	3	8	9

$r_2(R)$				
A	B	C	D	E
1	3	1	3	8
1	3	2	4	8
1	2	2	4	9

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- Check:**
- |                        |     |     |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| (1) $AB \rightarrow E$ | no  | yes |
| (2) $C \rightarrow D$  | yes | no  |



## 程序代写代做 CS编程辅导 How to Identify FDs in General?



- A functional dependency is a constraint on the relation schema that must hold **at all times**.
- In real-life applications, we often use the following approaches:

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#### (1) **Analyse data requirements**

Can be provided in the form of discussion with application users and/or data requirement specifications.

#### (2) **Analyse sample data**

Useful when application users are unavailable for consultation and/or the document is incomplete.

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## (1) Identifying FDs - Analyse Data Requirements

- Consider the following schema:



RENTAL={CustID, PropertyNo, DateStart, Owner}.

- Data requirements:

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- Each customer can be uniquely identified by his or her customer ID.

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{CustID} → {CustName}

- A customer cannot rent two or more properties from the same date.

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{CustID, DateStart} → {PropertyNo}

- A customer cannot rent the same property more than once.

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{PropertyNo, CustID} → {DateStart}

- Each property can be uniquely identified by its owner.

{Owner} → {PropertyNo}



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## (2) Identifying FDs - Analyse Sample Data

- Can you find some FDs in ENROLMENT based on the sample data?



ENROLMENT					
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Michael	123458	21/04/1985	COMP8740	2011 S2	12
Fran	123457	11/09/1987	COMP2400	2009 S2	6

- We may have: [Email: tutorcs@163.com](mailto:tutorcs@163.com)

- {StudentID} → {Name, DoB};
- {CourseNo} → {Unit};
- {StudentID, CourseNo, Semester} → {Name, DoB, Unit};
- {Name} → {StudentID} ×;
- {DoB} → {StudentID} ×;
- .....

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**Limitations:** Sample data needs to be a true representation of **all possible values** that the database may hold.