

Relational database design

Pitfalls in relational database design

- 1) Redundancy of information
- 2) Difficulty in accessing info

branch (branch-name, branch-city, assets)

loan (loan-no, customer-name, loan-amt)

lending-schema (branch-name, branch-city, assets, ~~loan-no~~,
customer-name, loan no, loan-amt)

(Ringside, Horseneck, 1700000, Adams, L-31, 1500)

Functional dependency

Consider a relation schema R , and let $\alpha \subseteq R$ & $\beta \subseteq R$. The functional dependency

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$$

holds on schema R if in any legal relation $r(R)$,
for all pairs of tuples t_1 and t_2 in r such that $t_1[\alpha] = t_2[\alpha]$,
it is also the case that $t_1[\beta] = t_2[\beta]$.

A determines C $\leftarrow A \rightarrow C$

But not $C \rightarrow A$

$$t_1[A] = t_2[A]$$

$$a_1 = a_1$$

$$\Rightarrow t_1[C] = t_2[C] \text{ which is true } \Rightarrow \therefore A \rightarrow C$$

$$\text{But } t_4[C] = t_5[C] \text{ as } c_2 = c_2$$

$$\text{But, } t_4[A] = t_5[A] \Rightarrow \therefore C \rightarrow A \text{ is true}$$

	A	B	C	D
t_1	a_1	b_1	c_1	d_1
t_2	a_1	b_2	c_1	d_2
t_3	a_2	b_2	c_1	d_2
t_4	a_2	b_2	c_2	d_3
t_5	a_2	b_3	c_2	d_4