



# LAB 6 NORMALIZATION



Summarized by Taylor Qin  
Don't distribute with others outside the tutorial!





## Two properties

- ❏ Lossless join – “capture the same data”  
 $R \rightarrow R_1 \text{ and } R_2$   
 $R_1 \text{ join } R_2 = R$
- ❏ Dependency preservation – “capture the same meta-data”  
 $R \rightarrow R_1 \text{ and } R_2$   
FDs in  $R$  should be preserved in either  $R_1$  or  $R_2$  or derivable from the combinations of FDs from  $R_1$  and  $R_2$



# LOSSLESS JOIN



- **Example 2:** The following decomposition from  $R$  into  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  doesn't have the lossless join property. **It generates spurious tuples.**

R		
Name	StudentID	DoB
Mike	123456	20/09/1989
Mike	123458	25/01/1988

SELECT * FROM $R_3$ NATURAL JOIN $R_4$		
Name	StudentID	DoB
Mike	123456	20/09/1989
Mike	123456	25/01/1988
Mike	123458	20/09/1989
Mike	123458	25/01/1988

$R_3$	
Name	StudentID
Mike	123456
Mike	123458

$R_4$	
Name	DoB
Mike	20/09/1989
Mike	25/01/1988

# DEPENDENCY PRESERVATION



- **Example 2:** Given a FD  $\{StudentID\} \rightarrow \{Name\}$  defined on  $R$

R		
Name	<u>StudentID</u>	<u>CourseNo</u>
Mike	123456	COMP2400
Mike	123458	COMP2600

$R_1$	
Name	CourseNo
Mike	COMP2400
Mike	COMP2600

$R_2$	
StudentID	CourseNo
123456	COMP2400
123458	COMP2600

- Does the above decomposition preserves  $\{StudentID\} \rightarrow \{Name\}$ ?  
**No**, because  $\{StudentID\}$  and  $\{Name\}$  are not in a same relation after decomposition.



**Exercise:** Consider  $R = \{A, B, C\}$  with the set of FDs  $\Sigma = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$ . Does the decomposition of  $R$  into  $R_1 = \{A, B\}$  and  $R_2 = \{A, C\}$  fulfill lossless join and dependency preserving?  $\Sigma_1 = \{A \rightarrow B\}$  and  $\Sigma_2 = \{A \rightarrow C\}$

**Answer:**

Lossless join? Yes! because  $A$  is a superkey for  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .

Dependency preserving? No! because  $(\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2)^* \neq \Sigma^*$  from the fact that  $\{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C\}$  cannot derive  $B \rightarrow C$ .





Lossless join? Yes

The common attributes of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are  $\{A\}$ .  $A$  is a superkey for  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .

Dependency preservation?

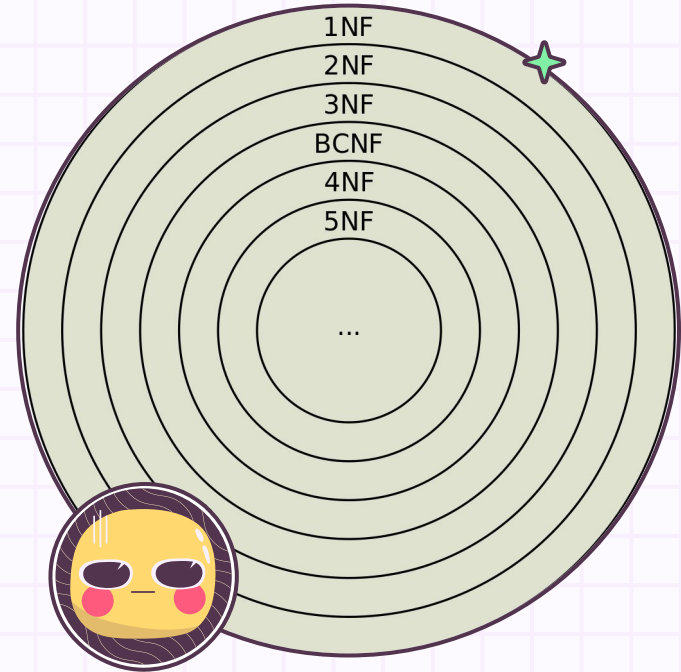
$\{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C\} \rightarrow \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$   $B \rightarrow C$  cannot be inferred from the LHS  $B^* = B$

- If  $R$  with a set  $\Sigma$  of FDs is decomposed into  $R_1$  with  $\Sigma_1$  and  $R_2$  with  $\Sigma_2$ ,
  - **Lossless join** if and only if the common attributes of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are a superkey for  $R_1$  or  $R_2$ ;
  - **Dependency preserving** if and only if  $(\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2)^* = \Sigma^*$  holds.

**Exercise:** Consider  $R = \{A, B, C\}$  with the set of FDs  $\Sigma = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$ . Does the decomposition of  $R$  into  $R_1 = \{A, B\}$  and  $R_2 = \{A, C\}$  fulfill lossless join and dependency preserving?  $\Sigma_1 = \{A \rightarrow B\}$  and  $\Sigma_2 = \{A \rightarrow C\}$

# NORMAL FORMS

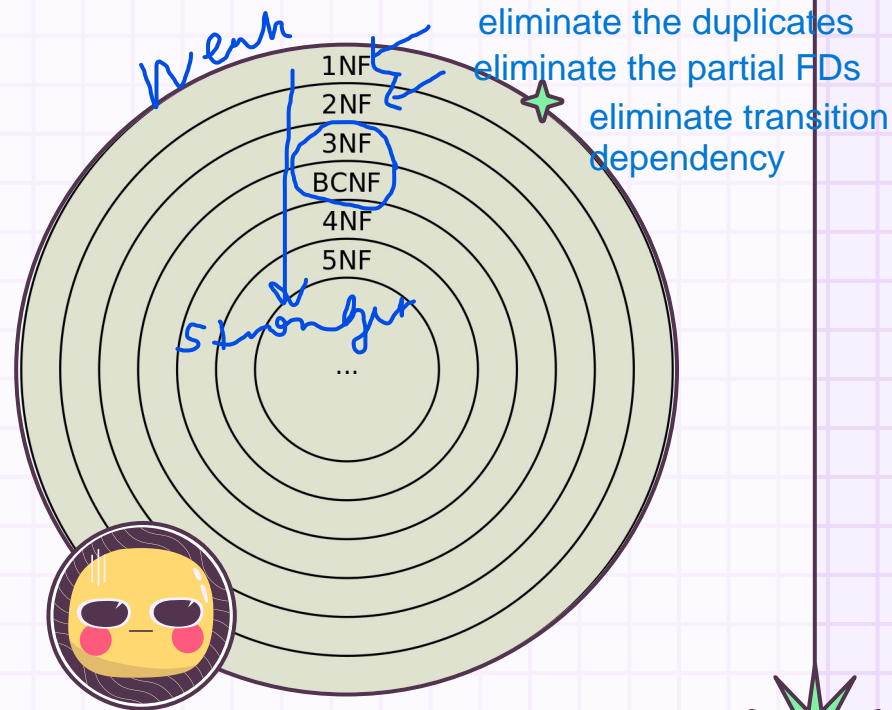
1NF  $\rightarrow$  BCNF: ?



# NORMAL FORMS

1NF  $\rightarrow$  BCNF: Weak  $\rightarrow$  Strong

4NF, 5NF will not be covered in the course.





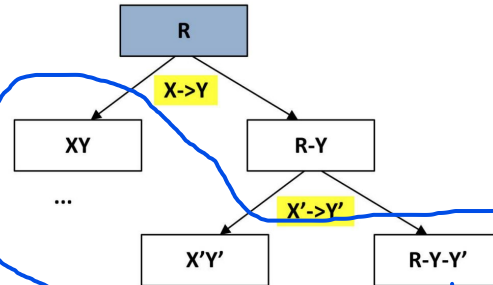
# BCNF



**BCNF:** A relation schema  $R$  is in BCNF if whenever a non-trivial FD  $X \rightarrow A$  holds in  $R$ , then  $X$  is a superkey.

- Non-trivial:  $A$  is not a subset of  $X$  trivial  $AB \rightarrow A$
- When a relation schema is in BCNF, all data redundancy based on functional dependency are removed.
- The order in which the FDs are applied may lead to different results.
- Lossless join! Why?  $X$  is the superkey of  $XY$ , same for  $X'/X'Y'$ .
- May not be dependency-preserving  $\rightarrow$  3NF (less restrictive – lossless and dependency-preserving)

$\{XY, X'Y', R-Y-Y'\}$



# 3NF



**3NF:** A relation schema  $R$  is in 3NF if whenever a non-trivial FD  $X \rightarrow A$  holds in  $R$ , then  $X$  is a superkey **or  $A$  is a prime attribute**.

- 3NF preserves all the functional dependencies at the cost of allowing some data redundancy
- Steps:
  - Find a minimal cover
  - Group FDs in the minimal cover
  - Remove redundant ones
  - Add a key (if necessary)
  - Project FDs

BCNF decomposition

{PropertyNo, Address, StaffNo, StaffName, Date, Time, CameraID}

-> {{ProperNo, Address}, {PropertyNo, StaffNo, StaffName, Date, Time, CameraID}}

-> {{ProperNo, Address}, {StaffNo, StaffName}, {PropertyNo, StaffNo, Date, Time, CameraID}}

->



# BCNF EXAMPLE



For each relation, please (a) determine the candidate keys, and (b) in 3NF? In BCNF? and (c) if a relation is not in BCNF then decompose it into a collection of BCNF relations.

**R6(A,B,C,D,E)** with functional dependencies  $A \rightarrow E$ ,  $BC \rightarrow A$ ,  $DE \rightarrow B$ .

(a)

C, D do not appear on the RHS of any FD, so C, D must be in the candidate keys.

$CD^+ = CD$

Keys: {ACD, BCD, CDE}

(b)

All attributes are prime attributes, thus the schema is in 3NF.

Not in BCNF! Because A, BC, DE are not superkeys.

(c)

{ABCDE}  $\rightarrow$  (A  $\rightarrow$  E)  $\rightarrow$  {AE, **ABCD**} (Not BC is not the key)  $\rightarrow$  (BC  $\rightarrow$  A)  $\rightarrow$  {AE, ABC, BCD}



# PRACTICE



For each relation, please (a) determine the candidate keys, and (b) if a relation is not in BCNF then decompose it into a collection of BCNF relations.

- a.  $R1(A, C, B, D, E), A \rightarrow B, C \rightarrow D$
- b.  $R2(A, B, F), AB \rightarrow F, B \rightarrow F$



# PRACTICE



For each relation, please (a) determine the candidate keys, and (b) if a relation is not in BCNF then decompose it into a collection of BCNF relations.

- a.  $R1(A, C, B, D, E), A \rightarrow B, C \rightarrow D$
- b.  $R2(A, B, F), AB \rightarrow F, B \rightarrow F$

a.  $(ACE)^+ = ABCDE$   
First compute the keys for R1. The attributes A, C, E do not appear on right hand side of any functional dependency therefore they must be part of a key. So we start from  $\{A, C, E\}$  and find out that this set can determine all features. So the key is  $\{A, C, E\}$

We have dependencies  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $C \rightarrow D$  so the table is not BCNF. Applying the BCNF decomposition algorithm, the non-BCNF dependency is  $A \rightarrow B$ , therefore create two relations  $(A, C, D, E)$  and  $(A, B)$ . The first relation is still not in BCNF since we have a non-BCNF dependency  $C \rightarrow D$ . Therefore decompose further into  $(A, C, E)$  and  $(C, D)$ . Now all relations are in BCNF and the final BCNF scheme is  $(A, C, E), (C, D), (A, B)$ .

$\{ABCDE\} - (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \{AB, ACDE\} - (C \rightarrow D) \rightarrow \{AB, CD, ACE\}$

$\{ABCDE\} - (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \{AB, ACDE\} - (C \rightarrow D) \rightarrow \{AB, CD, ACE\}$



# PRACTICE



For each relation, please (a) determine the candidate keys, and (b) if a relation is not in BCNF then decompose it into a collection of BCNF relations.

- a.  $R1(A, C, B, D, E), A \rightarrow B, C \rightarrow D$
- b.  $R2(A, B, F), AB \rightarrow F, B \rightarrow F$

b.

First compute keys for  $R2$ . Note that  $AB \rightarrow F$  is totally redundancy since we already have  $B \rightarrow F$ .  $A, B$  do not appear on right side of any dependency, so start by computing attribute set closure of  $\{AB\}$ . Since  $AB \rightarrow F$ , we have  $\{AB\}^+ = \{ABF\}$  and therefore  $\{AB\}$  is the key.

Since we have  $B \rightarrow F$ , i.e.,  $F$  is partially dependent on the key, the relation is not in BCNF. During BCNF decomposition, we have  $B \rightarrow F$  as the non-BCNF relation therefore create new schema  $(A, B)$   $(B, F)$ . Both are in BCNF.

$\{ABF\} - (B \rightarrow F) > \{BF, AB\}$



# 3NF EXAMPLE



$R = (A, B, C, D)$ .  $F = \{C \rightarrow D, C \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow C\}$ .  
Does it satisfy any normal forms?



# 3NF EXAMPLE



~~R~~ = (A, B, C, D). ~~F~~ = {~~C~~ → ~~D~~, ~~C~~ → ~~A~~, B → C}

Does it satisfy any normal forms? ✓

$B^+ = BC (B \rightarrow C)$

$= BCD (C \rightarrow D)$

$= ABCD (C \rightarrow A)$  so the candidate key is B.

B is the ONLY candidate key, because nothing determines B: There is no rule that can produce B, except  $B \rightarrow B$ .

R is not 3NF, because:

$C \rightarrow D$  causes a violation,

- $C \rightarrow D$  is non-trivial ( $\{D\} \not\subseteq \{C\}$ ).
- C is not a superkey.
- D is not part of any candidate key.

$C \rightarrow A$  causes a violation

Similar to above

$B \rightarrow C$  causes no violation

Since R is not 3NF, it is not BCNF either.





# 3NF EXAMPLE



$R = (A, B, C, D)$ .  $F = \{C \rightarrow D, C \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow C\}$ .

Decompose it into 3NF:

- Find a minimal cover  
Already minimal cover
- Group FDs in the minimal cover  
 $\{CD, AC, BC\}$
- Remove redundant ones  
No redundant ones
- Add a key (if necessary)  
B already in BC. No need.
- Project FDs  
Correct! Done.





# **MOVE ONTO YOUR LAB EXERCISE**

- Ask in the channel if you have any doubts
- A2 already out on wattle