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Normalization One

Part One: Kramerica CEO Miles Meservy has put together a spreadsheet of all the data he has so far, which he personally collected.

- 1) As he shows you the spreadsheet, having just signed your consulting agreement, he asks what you think of it. How do you reply?

I look forward to working with you Mr. Meservy, and thank you for choosing to use our services at Kramerica Enterprises. The given spreadsheet has valuable data; however, there are a few optimizations I believe we can further advance the efficiency and effectiveness of the data for the given business function.

- 2) Put his data in 1NF and display it.

| PackID | TagNumber | InstallDate | SoftwareCostUSD |
|--------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|
| AC01 | 32808 | 9/13/1995 | \$754.95 |
| DB32 | 32808 | 12/3/1995 | \$380.00 |
| DB32 | 57691 | 6/15/1995 | \$380.00 |
| DB33 | 57772 | 5/27/1995 | \$412.77 |
| WP08 | 32802 | 1/12/1996 | \$185.00 |
| WP08 | 37691 | 6/15/1995 | \$227.50 |
| WP08 | 57222 | 5/27/1995 | \$170.24 |
| WP09 | 59836 | 10/30/1995 | \$35.00 |
| WP09 | 77740 | 5/27/1995 | \$35.00 |

- 3) What is the primary key?

The primary key is {PackID,TagNumber}

Part Two: Add two columns of new data: one for software package name (e.g., Zork, Portal, Etc.) and one for computer model (e.g., HP, Apple, etc.). Be sure that your new data is consistent with the original data. Don not add any additional columns...?

- 4) Display the new table.

| PackID | TagNumber | PackName | Model | InstallDate | SoftwareCostUSD |
|--------|-----------|----------|--------|-------------|-----------------|
| AC01 | 32808 | Suzuki | Asus | 9/13/1995 | \$754.95 |
| DB32 | 32808 | Gardner | Asus | 12/3/1995 | \$380.00 |
| DB32 | 37691 | Gardner | Dell | 6/15/1995 | \$380.00 |
| DB33 | 57772 | Sabathia | HP | 5/27/1995 | \$412.77 |
| WP08 | 32808 | Jeter | Asus | 1/12/1996 | \$185.00 |
| WP08 | 37691 | Jeter | Dell | 6/15/1995 | \$227.50 |
| WP08 | 57222 | Jeter | Lenovo | 5/27/1995 | \$170.24 |
| WP09 | 59836 | Teixeira | IBM | 10/30/1995 | \$35.00 |
| WP09 | 77740 | Teixeira | Acer | 5/27/1995 | \$35.00 |

5) Identify and document all the functional dependencies.

PackageID \rightarrow PackageName

TagNumber \rightarrow Model

(PackageID, TagNumber) \rightarrow InstallDate

(PackageID, TagNumber) \rightarrow SoftwareCostUSD

6) Explain why the new table is **not** in third normal form.

This table is not in third normal form because there is still room for non-normalized data anomalies in this table. For instance in terms of an insert anomaly, we cannot insert new possible software packages or computer models unless the install date and total cost is known and included. Also, in terms of a delete anomaly, if say we delete the (WP09, 77740, Teixeira, Acer, 5/27/1995, \$35) line then we would lose Acer completely as a model. This “one-table-to-rule-them-all” model is indicative of 1NF normalization that lacks referential integrity and it is prone to inconsistency and inaccuracy as extraneous information is stored within a single table.

Part Three: Decompose your 1NF table into a set of tables that are in at least third normal form. (BCNF would be better). Remember that it’s wrong to add artificial keys to associative entities.

7 – 8) Identify primary keys (determinants) for all tables. Identify functional dependencies for all tables.

Software Table:

| PackID | PackName |
|--------|----------|
| AC01 | Suzuki |
| DB32 | Gardner |
| DB33 | Sabathia |
| WP08 | Jeter |
| WP09 | Teixeira |

Primary Key = PackID

Functional Dependencies: PackID \rightarrow PackName

Computer Model Table:

| TagNumber | Model |
|-----------|--------|
| 32808 | Asus |
| 37691 | Dell |
| 57222 | Lenovo |
| 57772 | HP |
| 59836 | IBM |
| 77740 | Acer |

Primary Key = TagNumber

Functional Dependencies: TagNumber \rightarrow Model

Installation Table:

| PackID | TagNumber | InstallDate | SoftwareCostUSD |
|--------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|
| AC01 | 32808 | 9/13/1995 | 754.95 |
| DB32 | 32808 | 12/3/1995 | 380 |
| DB32 | 37691 | 6/15/1995 | 380 |
| DB33 | 57772 | 5/27/1995 | 412.77 |
| WP08 | 32808 | 1/12/1996 | 185 |
| WP08 | 37691 | 6/15/1995 | 227.5 |
| WP08 | 57222 | 5/27/1995 | 170.24 |
| WP09 | 59836 | 10/30/1995 | 35 |
| WP09 | 77740 | 5/27/1995 | 35 |

Primary Key would be a composite key of (PackID,TagNumber). These two components to the primary key are foreign keys with referential integrity to the *Software* and *Computer Model* tables, respectively.

Functional Dependencies:

(PackID,TagNumber) \rightarrow InstallDate

(PackID,TagNumber) \rightarrow SoftwareCostUSD

9) Explain why the new tables are in third normal form.

These new tables are in 3NF form because the overall model fits the normalization criteria to eliminate all “anomalies.” For instance, one could delete the installation of the TagNumber (59836) yet this will not delete this IBM model computer from the database. In terms of the insert anomaly, new available TagNumbers (with their given Model) can be added to the *Computer Model* table—despite not having any installations yet (no installation date or cost). In terms of the update anomaly, the addition of referential integrity will assure that every installation has a correct corresponding Software package and computer model.

10) My Beautiful ER Diagram:

