

Relational Theory

Functional Dependencies

- Constraint on the set of legal relations
 - Mapping from one set of attributes to another as many-to-one relation
- $X \rightarrow Y$ means that X functionally determines Y

Example

- for element 'a' and 'b' is subset of relation schema R and $a \rightarrow b$
 - So, for tuple t_1 and t_2 in R
 - if $t_1[a] = t_2[a]$ then $t_1[b] = t_2[b]$

Trivial FD

- $X \rightarrow Y$ is trivial if Y is subset of X
- $X \rightarrow X$ is trivial FD

Application of FD

- Definition of keys
 - K is a key of R if $K \rightarrow R$
 - K is a candidate key of R if $K \rightarrow R$
 - and no proper subset of $K \rightarrow R$
- Trivial FD
 - $X \rightarrow Y$ is trivial if Y is subset of X
 - $X \rightarrow X$ is trivial FD

Closure of FD

- Set of all FDs that can logically implied by a given set of FDs
- How to logically imply FDs? : Armstrong's Axioms
 - Reflexivity : $X \rightarrow Y$ for any Y subset of X
 - Augmentation : $X \rightarrow Y$ then $XZ \rightarrow YZ$
 - Transitivity : $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$ then $X \rightarrow Z$
 - Union : $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$ then $X \rightarrow YZ$
 - Decomposition : $X \rightarrow YZ$ then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$
 - Pseudotransitivity : $X \rightarrow Y$ and $WY \rightarrow Z$ then $WX \rightarrow Z$
- Example
 - $R = (A, B, C, G, H, I)$ and $F = \{A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C, CG \rightarrow H, CG \rightarrow I, B \rightarrow H\}$
 - $A^+ = \{A, B, C, H\}$

Normal Forms

First Normal Form (1NF)

- single & single valued attributes
- domains of all attributes must be atomic

Second Normal Form (2NF)

- 1NF + no partial dependencies
- partial dependencies : non-prime attribute depends on proper subset of candidate key
 - e.g. $R = (A, B, C, D)$ and $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow D\}$
 - violates 2NF because $B \rightarrow D$ and B is subset of candidate key AB

Third Normal Form (3NF)

- 2NF + no transitive dependencies
 - e.g. $R = (A, B, C)$ and $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
 - decompose R into $R_1 = (A, B)$ and $R_2 = (B, C)$
 - because $A \rightarrow C$ is non-direct dependency(transitive dependency)

Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)

- 3NF + determinant must subset of candidate key
 - e.g. $R = (A, B, C)$ and $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow B\}$
 - violates BCNF because $C \rightarrow B$ and C is not subset of candidate key AB
- In other words, all relations in BCNF follow one of 2 conditions
 - FD is trivial
 - every non-trivial determinant is a superkey
 - e.g. $R = (A, B, C)$ and $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
 - violates BCNF because $B \rightarrow C$ and B is not superkey

Decomposition

Lossy Decomposition

- R_1 and R_2 are lossy decomposition of R if $R_1 \bowtie R_2$ is not subset of R_1 or R_2
 - e.g. $R = (A, B, C)$ and $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
 - $R_1 = (A, B)$ and $R_2 = (B, C)$ is lossy decomposition of R
 - because $R_1 \bowtie R_2 = (B)$ and B is not subset of R_1 or R_2

Lossless Decomposition

- For relation R and it's decomposition (R_1, R_2)
 - R must equal to natural join of R_1 and R_2
 - $R = \Pi_{R_1}(R) \bowtie \Pi_{R_2}(R)$

- $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_1$ or $R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$

Dependency Preservation

- For relation R and its decomposition $(R_1, \dots, R_i, \dots, R_n)$
 - F_i is restriction of F to R_i
 - then $F^+ = F_1^+ \cup \dots \cup F_n^+$
 - the decomposition is dependency preserving if $F^+ = F_1^+ \cup \dots \cup F_n^+$