

# HỌC VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ BƯU CHÍNH VIỄN THÔNG



Subjects

**Databases** 

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### Superkey

A **Superkey** is a set of attributes  $A_1, ..., A_n$  s.t. for any single attribute B:

$$A_1, \ldots, A_n \to B$$

In other words, for the set of all attributes C in the relation R, the set  $\{A_1, ..., A_n\}$  is a superkey iff  $\{A_1, ..., A_n\}^+ = C$ 

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#### Key

A **Key** is a minimal superkey, i.e. no subset of a key is a superkey.

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# Superkeys

Keys

```
Restaurants(rid, name, rating, popularity)
rid → name
rid → rating
rating → popularity
```

	Closure	Superkey?	Key?
{rid, rating}	{rid, name, rating, popularity}		
rid	{rid, name, rating, popularity}		
rating	{rating, popularity}		
popularity	{popularity}		

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rating	{rating, popularity}	No	No
popularity	{popularity}	No	No

# Usefulness of Keys in Design

What intuitions do we get from data interrelationships?

- FDs that are not superkeys hint at redundancy
  - If a FD antecedent is **not** a superkey, we can remove redundant information, i.e. the FD consequent
- Rephrased
  - $\{A\} \rightarrow \{B\}$  is fine if  $\{A\}$  is a superkey
  - Otherwise, we can extract {*B*} into a separate table

Name	SSN	Phone	City
Fred	123-45-6789	206-555-9999	Seattle
Fred	123-45-6789	206-555-8888	Seattle
Joe	987-65-4321	415-555-7777	San Francisco

SSN is not a superkey!

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# **Think About This**



$${SSN}+ = ?$$

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# Database Design

Database Design is about
(1) characterizing data and (2) organizing data

How to talk about properties we know or see in the data

# **Database Design**

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(1) characterizing data and (2) organizing data

How to organize data to promote ease of use and efficiency

## Normal Forms

### **Normal Forms**

- 1NF → Flat
- 2NF → No partial FDs (obsolete)
- 3NF → Preserve all FDs, but allow anomalies
- BCNF → No transitive FDs, but can lose FDs
- 4NF → Considers multi-valued dependencies
- 5NF → nsiders join dependencies (hard to do)

We only discuss this

## Normal Forms

#### 1NF

A relation *R* is in **First Normal Form** if all attribute values are atomic. Attribute values cannot be multivalued. Nested relations are not allowed.

We call data in 1NF "flat."

#### **BCNF**

A relation R is in **Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)** if for every non-trivial dependency,  $X \to A$ , X is a superkey.

Equivalently, a relation R is in BCNF if  $\forall X$  either  $X^+ = X$  or  $X^+ = C$  where C is the set of all attributes in R

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**Trvial FD** 

Super key

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SSN → SSN, Name, City

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We often call these "bad FDs" because they prevent the relation from being in BCNF

If we remove all the bad FDs, then the relation is in BCNF

# Decomposition

- "Extracting" attributes can be done with decomposition (split the schema into smaller parts)
- For this class, decomposition means the following:

$$R(A_1, ..., A_n, B_1, ..., B_m, C_1, ..., C_k) < \frac{R_1(A_1, ..., A_n, B_1, ..., B_m)}{R_2(A_1, ..., A_n, C_1, ..., C_k)}$$

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- For this class, decomposition means the following:

$$R(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B_1, \ldots, B_m, C_1, \ldots, C_k) \subset R_1(A_1, \ldots, A_n, B_1, \ldots, B_m) \subset R_2(A_1, \ldots, A_n, C_1, \ldots, C_k)$$
Some common attributes are present

so we can rejoin data

```
Normalize(R)

C ← the set of all attributes in R

find X s.t. X^+ \neq X and X^+ \neq C

if X is not found

then "R is in BCNF"

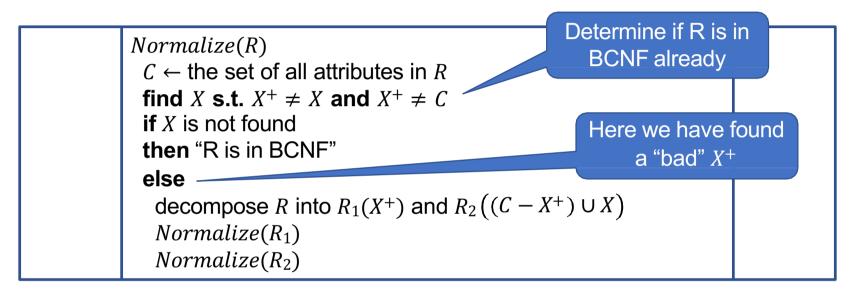
else

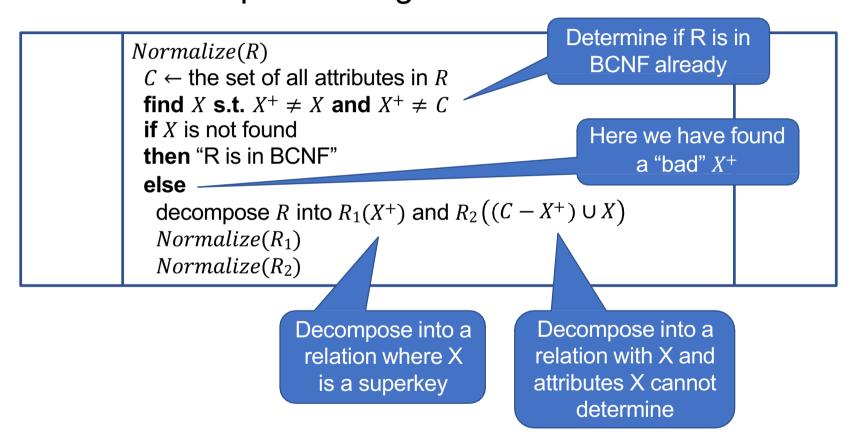
decompose R into R_1(X^+) and R_2((C - X^+) \cup X)

Normalize(R<sub>1</sub>)

Normalize(R<sub>2</sub>)
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rid → name, rating
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Restaurants(rid, name, rating, popularity, recommended)

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- (3) R2 = rid, name, rating

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Finished?

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- (1) rating → rating, popularity, recommended ("bad" FD)
- (2) R1 = rating, popularity, recommended
- (3) R2 = rid, name, rating

Finished? NO! (popularity → recommended) is still "bad" We decompose R1 into R3, R4

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Normalize(R<sub>2</sub>)
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R2 = rid, name, rating R3 = rating, popularity R4 = popularity, recommended

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- (1) rating → rating, popularity, recommended ("bad" FD)
- (2) R1 = rating, popularity, recommended
- (3) R2 = rid, name, rating

Finished? NO! (popularity → recommended) is still "bad" We decompose R1 into R3, R4

These three tables are the final decomp.

R2 = rid, name, rating R3 = rating, popularity R4 = popularity, recommended

### **BCNF** Decomposition Order

Restaurants(rid, name, rating, popularity, recommended)
rid → name, rating
rating → popularity
popularity → recommended

Note that we chose to split the tables on (rating → rating, popularity, recommended) first. We could have instead chosen (popularity → recommended) first.

In this case the final tables in BCNF will have the same attributes, but not always.

As long as the end result is in BCNF, the particular distribution of attributes doesn't matter for correctness.

#### **Definition**

**Lossless Decomposition** is a reversible decomposition, i.e. rejoining all decomposed relations will always result exactly with the original data.

This is the opposite of a **Lossy Decomposition**, an irreversible decomposition, where rejoining all decomposed relations may result something other than the original data, specifically with extra tuples.

This concept might be familiar if you have ever encountered lossless data compression (e.g. Huffman encoding or PNG) or lossy data compression (e.g. JPEG).

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Is BCNF decomposition lossless?

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Yes!

In our example:

R2 = rid, name, rating

R3 = rating, popularity

R4 = popularity, recommended

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Yes!

In our example:

R2 = rid, name, rating

R3 = rating, popularity

R4 = popularity, recommended

...gives us original R

#### Consider this example:

Consider this example:

A -> CD

F -> AE

D -> B

Good idea to start with closures first:

 $A + = \{ABCD\}$ 

So what's our first decomp?

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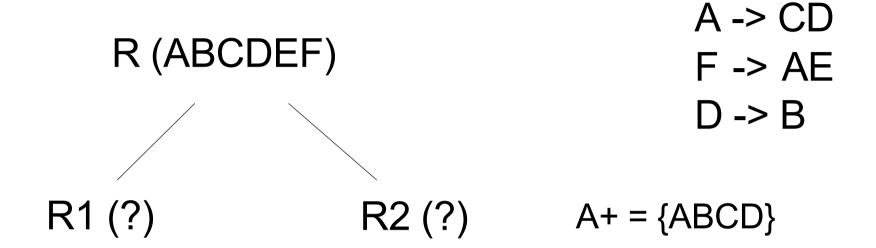
So what's our first decomp?

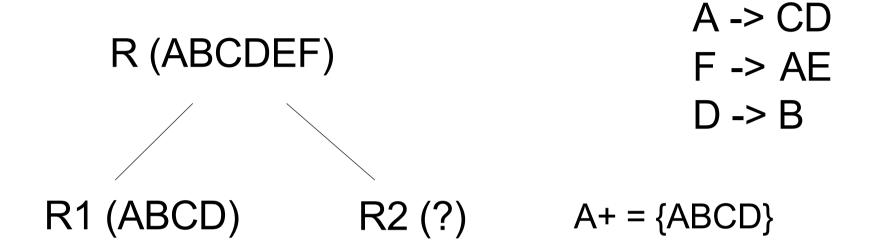
R (ABCDEF)

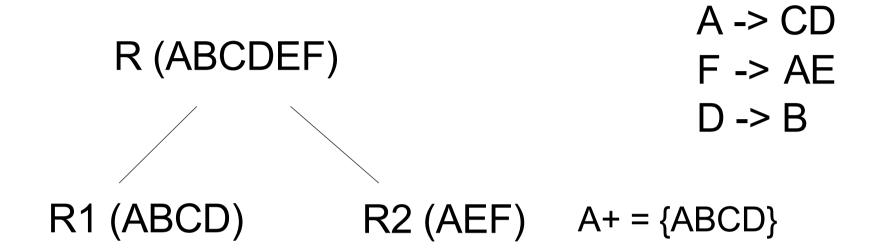
A -> CD

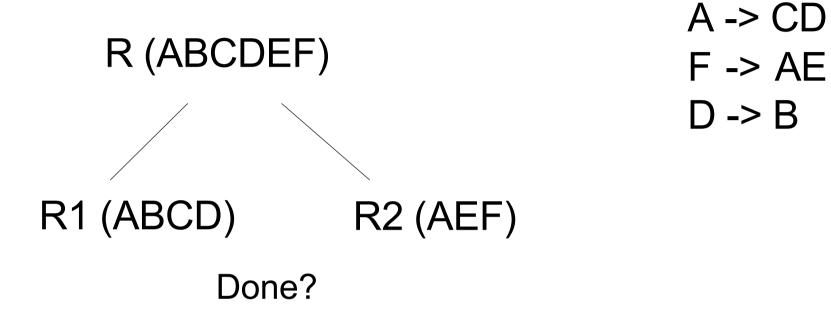
F -> AE

D -> B









R (ABCDEF)

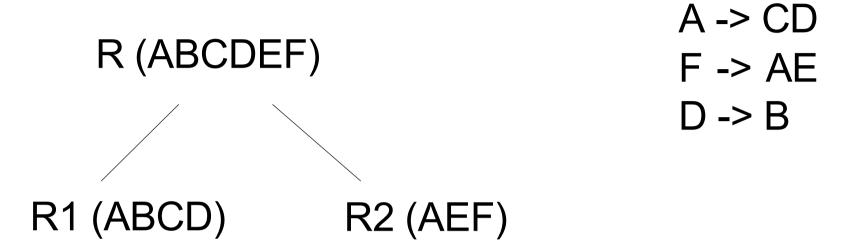
R1 (ABCD) R2 (AEF)

Done? No!

A -> CD

F -> AE

D -> B



Next attribute(s)?