

Assignment 4

Relational Design theory

Prof. Brodsky – Database Management

Problem 1. Given a relation schema $R(A,B,C)$ and its relation instance as follows:

| A | B | C |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 2 | 5 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 8 | 5 |

Answer: Which of the following functional dependencies are satisfied by the above relation instance. If the dependency is not satisfied, explain why by specifying the tuples (i.e., the counterexample) that cause the violation:

1. $AB \rightarrow C$
2. $A \rightarrow B$
3. $C \rightarrow A$
4. $BC \rightarrow A$
5. $ABC \rightarrow A$
6. $AB \rightarrow AC$

Problem 2. Consider relation schema $R(A,B,C)$ and the set of functional dependencies: $F = \{ B \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow C \}$. Do the following:

1. Find the cover of F , i.e., the set of all non-trivial fd's implied by F with a single attribute on the right and a minimal left hand side.
2. Find a non-empty instance of R (i.e., give a number of rows) that satisfies every FD in F .
3. Find an instance of R that satisfies every FD in F , but not $A \rightarrow B$.
4. Can you find an instance that satisfies every FD in F , but does not satisfy the FD $AB \rightarrow C$? If yes, give the instance. If not, explain why.

Problem 3. Consider the two following set of functional dependencies: $F = \{ B \rightarrow CE, E \rightarrow D, E \rightarrow CD, B \rightarrow CE, B \rightarrow A, \}$ and $G = \{ E \rightarrow CD, B \rightarrow AE \}$. Answer: Are they equivalent? Explain your answer.

Problem 4. Consider the following relation schema $R(A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J)$ and the set

of functional dependencies $F = \{ A \rightarrow DE, IJ \rightarrow H, I \rightarrow A, J \rightarrow FG, G \rightarrow BC \}$. Is R in BCNF? Justify your answer.

Problem 5. Consider a relation schema $R(A,B,C,D,E)$ with the FD's $F = \{C \rightarrow E, D \rightarrow BC, E \rightarrow D, B \rightarrow A \text{ and } A \rightarrow D\}$. This relation is in BCNF.

1. Explain why it is in BCNF
2. Now, suppose you decompose R into relations $S(C,D,E)$ and $T(A,B,D)$. Is this a lossless join decomposition?
3. Give the set F_1 of all FDs from the cover of F for schema S;
4. Give the set F_2 of all FDs from the cover of F for schema T
5. Does F_1 union F_2 logically imply F?

Problem 6. Consider the following relational schema $R(A,B,C,D,E,F)$ with the following functional dependencies: $AC \rightarrow F, B \rightarrow D, AB \rightarrow CEF, ACE \rightarrow B$, and $AEF \rightarrow BC$

Do the following:

1. Give all the candidate keys for relation schema $R(A,B,C,D,E,F)$ (under the set semantics).
2. Is relation R in BCNF? If not, show which FD violates the BCNF condition and explain why
3. Apply the BCNF decomposition algorithm

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