

Outline

- Normalization
- Functional dependencies
- Basic normal forms
 - First Normal Form (1NF)
 - Second Normal Form (2NF)
 - Third Normal Form (3NF)
- Finding functional dependencies



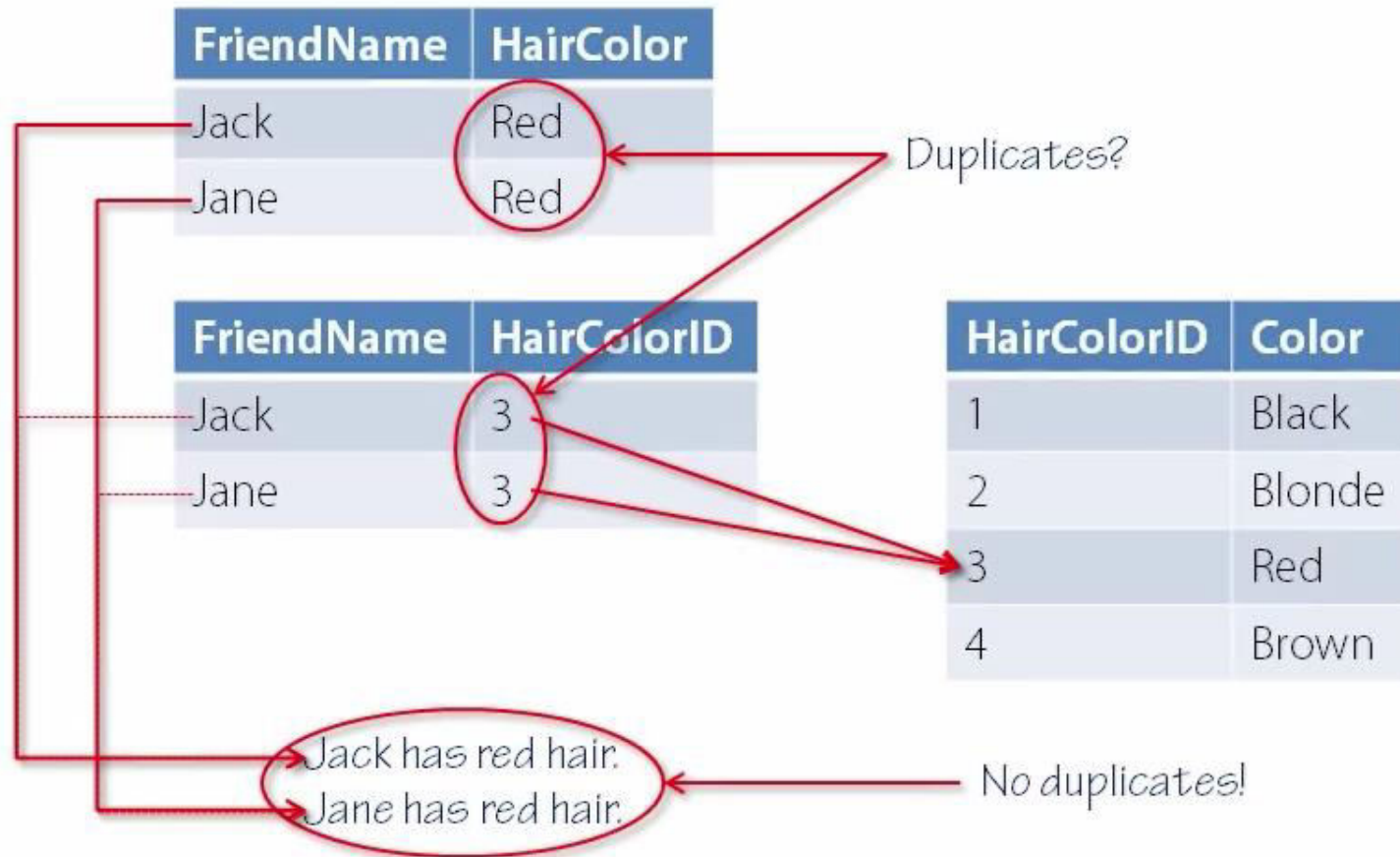
Why normalize?

- **Non-atomic values**
 - Complex code required
 - Performance impact
- **Redundancy**
 - Same fact stored multiple times
 - Storage space wasted
 - Performance impact
 - Possibility of conflicting data
 - Derived facts: special case of redundancy



Redundancy: Misconceptions

- Repeating a value is not redundant



Redundancy: Misconceptions

- Repeating a value is not redundant

FriendName	HairColor
Jack	Red
Jane	Red

FriendName	HairColorID
Jack	3
Jane	3

HairColorID	Color
1	Black
2	Blonde
3	Red
4	Brown

No duplicates!

Redundancy: Misconceptions

- **Not all redundancy is bad**
 - Redundancy can help performance
 - Derived data may be impossible to derive again later
 - Derived data may be too expensive to derive every time
- **Uncontrolled redundancy IS bad!**
 - Mark duplicated data as such
 - Mark derived data as such
 - Prevent inconsistent data



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 - Derived facts: special case of redundancy
- **Modification anomalies**
 - Design causes modifications to have unwanted side effects



Modification anomalies


Tournament	Player Name	Player Phone
2012 Christmas Tournament	Dave	801-555-0124
2013 Midsummer Tournament	Dave	801-555-0123
2013 Midsummer Tournament	Joanna	801-555-9007
...

Modification anomalies

Tournament	Player Name	Player Phone
2012 Christmas Tournament	Dave	801-555-0124
2013 Midsummer Tournament	Dave	801-555-0124
...

How to normalize?

- **Steps**

- ☐ First Normal Form (1NF)
 - ☐ Second Normal Form (2NF)
 -  ☐ Third Normal Form (3NF)
 - ☐ Elementary Key Normal Form (EKNF)
 - ☐ Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)
 - ☐ Fourth Normal Form (4NF)
 - ☐ Fifth Normal Form (5NF)
 - ☐ Domain/Key Normal Form (DKNF)
 - ☐ Sixth Normal Form (6NF)
- **Normal forms apply to table**
 - **Normal form of database = lowest normal form of all its tables**



When to normalize?

- **Most common**

- Convert Entity Relationship model to relational tables
- Normalize relational tables
- **Disadvantage:** Changes must be ported back to ER model

- **Alternative**

- Normalize Entity Relationship model
- Convert normalized ER model to relational tables
- **Disadvantage:** Normalization is a bit more complicated
 - Normalize “every object that will eventually become a table”
 - For IDEF1X:
 - every entity type
 - every many-to-many relationship

Functional dependencies

- **Mathematical function** ($f(x) \rightarrow y$)

- For every value of x :
 - Exactly one value of y can be computed, or
 - The value of y is not defined

- **Functional dependency** (attribute $A \rightarrow$ attribute B)

- For every value of A :
 - Exactly one value of B can be determined, or
 - There is no value of B
- "Attribute B is functionally dependent on attribute A ".
- "Attribute B functionally depends on attribute A ".
- "Attribute B depends on attribute A ".

Dave

December 12, 1982

Megan

No birthdate on file

Determinant

Dependent attribute



pluralsight

Properties of functional dependencies

- Can be mutual
 - Most are not!
- Can be on a combination of two or more attributes
- Depend on “Universe of Discourse”
 - Beware when making assumptions!
- If X depends on Y , it also depends on each superset of Y
 - Dependency on two or more attributes can sometimes be reduced!
 - *Full* dependency: Functional dependency that cannot be reduced
- Every attribute depends on itself (and on each superset of itself)
 - *Trivial* dependency



Functional dependencies and normalization

- Normalization uses functional dependencies that are:
 - Non-trivial
 - Full
- How to find all functional dependencies?
 - *Most* are obvious
 - But what about the rest?
- **Guaranteed method**
 - Combines finding functional dependencies with normalization
 - Tedious and time-consuming; use only when needed



Functional dependencies and derived attributes

- Derived attributes may show up as functionally dependent
- These dependencies are different from “normal” dependencies

Sale

TransactionNo
Gross Amount
Tax Rate
Tax Amount *

* Tax Amount derives from Gross Amount and Tax Rate