

CS 353 Fall 2018
Homework 5 Solutions
Due: 7 December, Friday till 17:00

Q.1 Consider the set F of functional dependencies on the relation schema

$r(A, B, C, D, E, F)$ given as $F = \{AB \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow D, F \rightarrow CE, DE \rightarrow F\}$

Determine whether each of the following functional dependencies can be derived from F:

- a) $BE \rightarrow FC$
- b) $AF \rightarrow D$
- c) $CE \rightarrow B$
- d) $FD \rightarrow A$

Solution

- a) $(BE)^+ = BEDFC$ and hence YES
- b) $(AF)^+ = AFCE$ and hence NO
- c) $(CE)^+ = CE$ and hence NO
- d) $(FD)^+ = FDCE$ and hence NO

Q.2 Consider the relation r and the set of functional dependencies as given in Q1. Show that the $BE \rightarrow C$ hold on r using ONLY Armstrong's Axioms. In each step of the proof, specify the axiom you are using.

Solution

- $B \rightarrow D$ given in the F
- $BE \rightarrow DE$ augmentation
- $BE \rightarrow F$ transitivity
- $BE \rightarrow CE$ transitivity
- $CE \rightarrow C$ reflexivity
- $BE \rightarrow C$ transitivity

Q.3 Given relation $r(A, B, C, D, E, F)$, for each of the following set of functional dependencies, determine whether the decomposition of R into $r_1(A, B, E, D)$ and $r_2(A, B, C, F)$ is a lossless-join decomposition or not:

- a) $F_1 = \{AB \rightarrow C, B \rightarrow D\}$
- b) $F_2 = \{F \rightarrow CE, DE \rightarrow F\}$

Solution

- a) $(r_1 \cap r_2)^+$ with respect to $F_1 = ABCD$ and $ABCD$ is not a super key for r_1 nor r_2 and hence the decomposition is NOT lossless-join with respect to F_1
- b) $(r_1 \cap r_2)^+$ with respect to $F_2 = AB$ and AB is not a super key for r_1 nor r_2 and hence the decomposition is NOT lossless-join with respect to F_2

Q.4 Consider the following set F of functional dependencies on the relation schema $r(A, B, C, D, E, F)$

$F = \{ A \rightarrow BCF, B \rightarrow DE, D \rightarrow A \}$

- Compute candidate keys for r
- Given a canonical cover for F
- Provide a 3NF decomposition of r

Solution

a) We start with sets of single attributes:

$A^+ = ABCDEF$	A is a candidate key
$B^+ = ABCDEF$	B is a candidate key
$C^+ = C$	C is NOT a candidate key
$D^+ = ABCDEF$	D is a candidate key
$E^+ = E$	E is NOT a candidate key
$F^+ = F$	F is NOT a candidate key

Potential candidate keys as sets of two attributes may not contain A, B and D attributes and hence we only need to check CE, CF and EF

$(CE)^+ = CE$	CE is NOT a candidate key
$(CF)^+ = CF$	CF is NOT a candidate key
$(EF)^+ = EF$	EF is NOT a candidate key

Potential candidate keys as sets of three attributes may not contain A, B and D attributes and hence we only need to check ECF:

$(ECF)^+ = ECF$	ECF is NOT a candidate key
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Hence, the candidate keys are A, B and D

b) No pairs of functional dependencies can be combined using the union rule

- Check if B is extraneous in $A \rightarrow BCF$:
 $F' = \{ A \rightarrow CF, B \rightarrow DE, D \rightarrow A \}$
 A^+ under $F' = ACF$ and A^+ does not include B, hence B is NOT extraneous
- Check if C is extraneous in $A \rightarrow BCF$:
 $F' = \{ A \rightarrow BF, B \rightarrow DE, D \rightarrow A \}$
 A^+ under $F' = ABDEF$ and A^+ does not include C, hence C is NOT extraneous
- Check if F is extraneous in $A \rightarrow BCF$:
 $F' = \{ A \rightarrow BC, B \rightarrow DE, D \rightarrow A \}$
 A^+ under $F' = ABCDE$ and A^+ does not include F, hence F is NOT extraneous
- Check if D is extraneous in $B \rightarrow DE$:
 $F' = \{ A \rightarrow BCF, B \rightarrow E, D \rightarrow A \}$
 B^+ under $F' = BE$ and B^+ does not include D, hence D is NOT extraneous
- Check if E is extraneous in $B \rightarrow DE$:
 $F' = \{ A \rightarrow BCF, B \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A \}$
 B^+ under $F' = BDACF$ and B^+ does not include E, hence E is NOT extraneous

As a result, the original set $F = \{ A \rightarrow BCF, B \rightarrow DE, D \rightarrow A \}$ is a canonical cover

c) $r_1 = (A, B, C, F)$

$r_2 = (B, D, E)$

$r_3 = (D, A)$

Q.5 Given relation r as $r = (A, B, C, D, E)$ and the set F of functional dependencies as $F = \{A \rightarrow BE, C \rightarrow D, B \rightarrow C\}$, give a BCNF decomposition of r using the functional dependencies only in F .

Solution

For $A \rightarrow BE$: A is a super key, hence no violation of BCNF

For $C \rightarrow D$: C is NOT a super key of r , hence

$r_1 = (CD)$ is in BCNF

$r_2 = (ABCE)$

For $B \rightarrow C$: B is NOT a super key of r_2 , hence

$r_{21} = (BC)$ is in BCNF

$r_{22} = (ABE)$ is in BCNF

The BCNF decomposition of r is $(C, D), (B, C), (A, B, E)$

Q.6 Considering the relation $r(A, B, C, D, E, F)$ and the set of functional dependencies as $F = \{C \rightarrow AE, B \rightarrow C, D \rightarrow ECB, A \rightarrow F\}$

Check if the decomposition of r as below is dependency preserving:

$r_1(A, C)$ $r_2(B, C, F)$ $r_3(C, D, E)$

Solution

- for $C \rightarrow AE$ we have:

result = C

using r_1 :

$(\text{result} \cap r_1)^+ = C^+ = CAEF$

$t = (\text{result} \cap r_1)^+ \cap r_1 = CAEF \cap r_1 = AC$

result = result \cup $t = AC$

using r_2 :

$(\text{result} \cap r_2)^+ = (AC \cap BCF)^+ = C^+ = CAEF$

$t = (\text{result} \cap r_2)^+ \cap r_2 = CAEF \cap BCF = CF$

result = result \cup $t = ACF$

using r_3 :

$(\text{result} \cap r_3)^+ = (ACF \cap CDE)^+ = C^+ = CAEF$

$t = (\text{result} \cap r_3)^+ \cap r_3 = CAEF \cap CDE = CE$

result = result \cup $t = ACFE$

no need to repeat over since the result includes rhs of the functional dependency $C \rightarrow AE$

- **for $B \rightarrow C$ we have:**

result=B

using r1:

$$(\text{result} \cap r1)^+ = \emptyset$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r1)^+ \cap r1 = \emptyset$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = B$$

using r2:

$$(\text{result} \cap r2)^+ = B^+ = BCAEF$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r2)^+ \cap r2 = BCAEF \cap BCF = BCF$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = B \cup BCF = BCF$$

no need to proceed as the result includes C

- **for $D \rightarrow ECB$ we have:**

result = D

using r1:

$$(\text{result} \cap r1)^+ = \emptyset$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r1)^+ \cap r1 = \emptyset$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = D$$

using r2:

$$(\text{result} \cap r2)^+ = \emptyset$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r2)^+ \cap r2 = \emptyset$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = D$$

using r3:

$$(\text{result} \cap r3)^+ = D^+ = DECBAF$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r3)^+ \cap r3 = CDE$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = CDE$$

using r1:

$$(\text{result} \cap r1)^+ = C^+ = CAEF$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r1)^+ \cap r1 = AC$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = CDE \cup AC = CDEA$$

using r2:

$$(\text{result} \cap r2)^+ = (CDEA \cap BCF)^+ = (C)^+ = CAEF$$

$$t = (\text{result} \cap r2)^+ \cap r2 = CAEF \cap BCF = CF$$

$$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = CDEAF$$

using r3:

$$(\text{result} \cap r3)^+ = (CDEAF \cap CDE)^+ = (CDE)^+ = ABCDEF$$

$t = (\text{result} \cap r_3)^+ \cap r_3 = ABCDEF \cap CDE = CDE$
 $\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = CDEAF$

using r_1 :

$(\text{result} \cap r_1)^+ = (CDEAF \cap AC)^+ = (AC)^+ = ACFE$

$t = (\text{result} \cap r_1)^+ \cap r_1 = ACFE \cap AC = AC$

$\text{result} = \text{result} \cup t = CDEAF \cup AC = CDEAF$

since the result does not change, we stop here

As the rhs of functional dependency $D \rightarrow ECB$ is not included in the result, we conclude that the decomposition is not dependency preserving.