

## Functional Dependencies Normal Forms Multi-valued Dependencies More Normal Forms

## Issues with BCNF

Decomposition into BCNF: no anomalies, can always recover information.

What is this?

Consider R(A,B,C), key AB and B->C

Decomposition into R1(A,B) and R2(B,C)

Consider tuples (a,b,c) and (d,b,e) of R. This would yield (a,b) of R1 and (b,e) of R2.

Now let's recombine (a,b) and (b,e) (they agree on attribute value of B). We will get (a,b,e). Is this a bogus tuple of R? Since B->C values c=e

You can always obtain the exact same original relation from the BCNF decomposed relations!

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3

## Issues with BCNF

BCNF: no anomalies, can always recover information.

BCNF is not, in general, dependency preserving

- If we decompose, you can't check all the FD's in the decomposed relations only.
- If we don't decompose, we violate BCNF.

Abstractly: R(A, B, C), FD:  $AB \rightarrow C$  and  $C \rightarrow B$ .

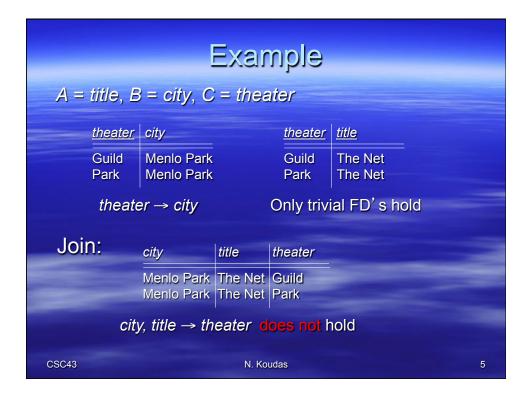
- Example 1: title, city → theater and theater → city
- Example 2: street, city  $\rightarrow$  zip and zip  $\rightarrow$  city

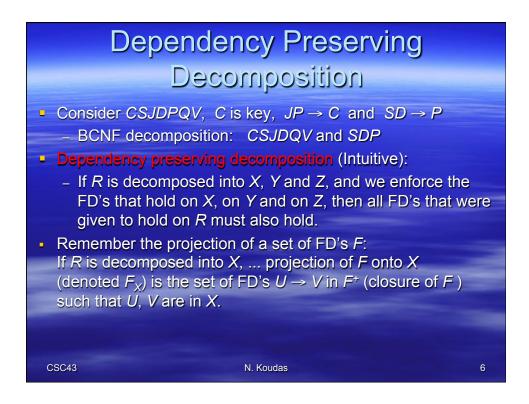
Keys:  $\{A, B\}$  and  $\{A, C\}$ , but  $C \rightarrow B$  has a left side that is not a superkey. Suggests decomposition into BC and AC.

But you can't check the FD  $AB \rightarrow C$  in only these relations.

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## Dependency Preserving Decomposition (Contd.)

- Decomposition of R into X and Y is dependency preserving if  $(F_X \text{ union } F_Y)^+ = F^+$ 
  - i.e., if we consider only dependencies in the closure F<sup>+</sup> that can be checked in X without considering Y, and in Y without considering X, these imply all dependencies in F<sup>+</sup>.
- Important to consider F<sup>+</sup>, not F, in this definition:
  - ABC,  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  $B \rightarrow C$ ,  $C \rightarrow A$ , decomposed into AB and BC.
  - Is this dependency preserving? Is  $C \rightarrow A$  preserved!?!
- For BCNF we can check if decomposition is dependency preserving (how?)
- Faster algorithm exists (not part of this course).

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## "Elegant" Workaround

Define the problem away.

- A relation R is in 3NF iff (if and only if) for every nontrivial FD X → A, either:
  - 1. X is a superkey, or
  - 2. A is prime = member of at least one key.
- Thus, the canonical problem goes away: you don't have to decompose because all attributes are prime.

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## What 3NF Gives You

There are two important properties of a decomposition:

- 1. We should be able to recover from the decomposed relations the data of the original.
  - Recovery involves projection and join, which we shall defer until we've discussed relational algebra.
- We should be able to check that the FD's for the original relation are satisfied by checking the projections of those FD's in the decomposed relations.
- Without proof, we assert that it is always possible to decompose into BCNF and satisfy (1).
- Also without proof, we can decompose into 3NF and satisfy both (1) and (2).
- But it is not always possible to decompose into BNCF and get both (1) and (2).
  - title-city-theater is an example of this point.

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9

## How to decompose in 3NF?

Given relation R set of FD F and key Y

For each dependency X->A output XA; let p be the resulting schema.

The schema p union Y is a 3NF decomposition of R that is dependency preserving and has the ability to recover the original data of R from the decomposed schema.

### Example?

Consider R(A,B,C) with AB->C and C->B this was problematic in BCNF as dependencies where not preserved.

What is the 3NF here?

R1(ABC),R2(BC) -- what do you observe?

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10

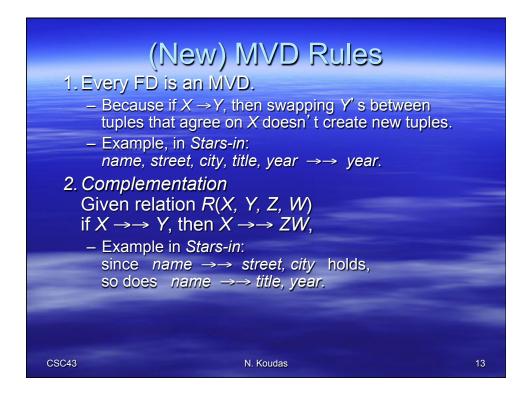
## Multivalued Dependencies

The multivalued dependency  $X \rightarrow \rightarrow Y$  holds in a relation R if whenever we have two tuples of R that agree in all the attributes of X, then we can swap their Y components and get two new tuples that are also in R.



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Example Consider Stars-in(name, street, city, title, year) with MVD name →→ street, city. If Stars-in has the two tuples: name street city title year Fisher 123 Maple St. Toronto Episode IV 1977 Fisher 5 Laurier St. Ottawa Episode V 1980 it must also have the same tuples with street, city swapped: name street city title year 5 Laurier St. Ottawa | Episode IV | 1977 Fisher Fisher 123 Maple St. Toronto | Episode V | 1980 Note 1: we must check this condition for all pairs of tuples that agree on name, not just one pair Note 2: Stars-in is in BCNF !!!!!!!!!! CSC43 N. Koudas

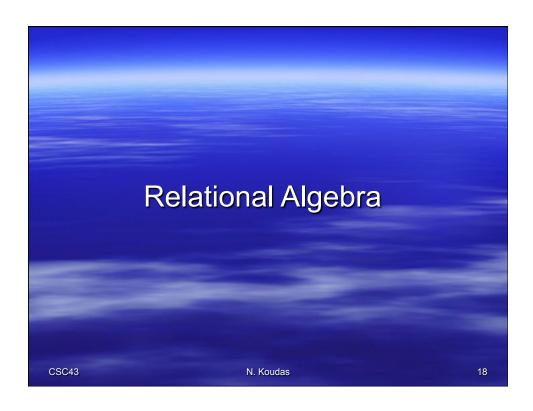




## 4NF Eliminate redundancy due to multiplicative effect of MVD's. Roughly: treat MVD's as FD's for decomposition... ... but not for key discovery. Formally: R is in 4NF if whenever MVD X →→ Y is nontrivial (Y is not a subset of X, and X union Y is not all attributes), then X is a superkey. Remember, X → Y implies X →→ Y, so 4NF is more stringent than BCNF. Decompose R, using 4NF violation X →→ Y, into XY and X union (R—Y).

## Example Consider Stars-in(name, street, city, title, year) Nontrivial MVD's: name →→ street, city and name →→ title, year. Only key: {name, street, city, title, year} Both dependencies above violate 4NF. Successive decomposition yields 4NF relations: Stars-in<sub>1</sub>(name, street, city) Stars-in<sub>2</sub>(name, title, year)





## Roadmap

- We created 'good' relational schemas applying normalization.
- How do we query the tables to obtain answers?
- We will first define an algebra on sets (well relations are sets!).
- Then we will study an 'implementation' of such an algebra in the form of a query language, called SQL (future lectures).

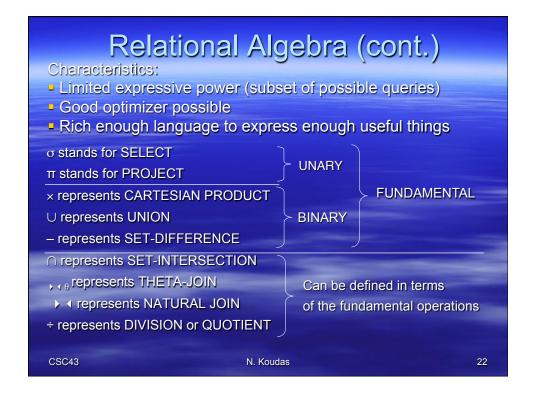
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## Why define an Algebra?

- Solid theoretical foundation.
- Algebra consists of primitive operators
  - Think of arithmetic algebra!
- Form queries by combining such operators
  - Focus on implementing each operator independently
  - Allows of optimization of expressions written in the algebra
- Enables reasoning about expressiveness of our expressions

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# "Core" Relational Algebra A small set of operators that allow us to manipulate relations in limited but useful ways. The operators are: 1. Union, intersection, and difference ... the usual set operators! But the relation schemas must be the same. 2. Selection: Picking certain rows from a relation 3. Projection: Picking certain columns 4. Products and joins: Composing relations in useful ways 5. Renaming of relations and their attributes



Union, Intersection,								
and Difference								
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
R:	Carrie Fisher Mark Hamill	123 Maple St. 456 Oak Rd.	F M	9/9/99 8/8/88				
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
S:	Carrie Fisher Harrison Ford	123 Maple St. 789 Palm Dr.	F M	9/9/99 7/7/77				
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
R∪S:	Carrie Fisher Mark Hamill Harrison Ford	123 Maple St. 456 Oak Rd. 789 Palm Dr.	F M M	9/9/99 8/8/88 7/7/77				
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Union, Intersection,								
and Difference (cont.)								
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
R:		123 Maple St. 456 Oak Rd.	F M	9/9/99 8/8/88				
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
S:	Carrie Fisher Harrison Ford	123 Maple St. 789 Palm Dr.	F M	9/9/99 7/7/77				
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
R – S:	Mark Hamill	456 Oak Rd.	M	8/8/88				
	<u>name</u>	address	gender	birthdate				
$R \cap S$ :	Carrie Fisher	123 Maple St.	F	9/9/99				
Note: $R \cap S = R - (R - S)$								
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Projection								
Syntax:	$R_1 = \pi_L(R_2)$ where L is a	list of	attribu	ites fron	n the schem	a of $R_2$		
Exampl	e:							
	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	length	in-Color	studio-Name	produceC#		
		1977 1991 1992	104	true true true	Fox Disney Paramount	12345 67890 99999		
Then the result of executing the query $\pi_{title, length, year}(Movie)$ is:								
_	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	lengt	h_				
Result:	Star Wars Mighty Ducks Wayne's World		104					
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Another example								
	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	length	in-Color	studio-Name	produceC#		
Movie:	Star Wars Mighty Ducks Wayne's World	1991	124 104 95	true true true	Fox Disney Paramount	12345 67890 99999		
Then e	xecuting π <sub>in-Co</sub>	olor (Me	o <i>vie</i> ) g	ives:				
Result:	in-Color true							
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Selection								
	$R_1 = \sigma_{\mathcal{C}}(R_2)$							
	where C is a c	onditio	on invo	lving th	e attributes	of $R_2$ .		
Example	i.							
	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	length	in-Color	studio-Name	produceC#		
Movie:	Star Wars Mighty Ducks Wayne's World	1977 1991 1992	124 104 95	true true true	Fox Disney Paramount	12345 67890 99999		
Then the result of executing the query $\sigma_{length} = 100$ (Movie) is:								
	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	length	in-Color	studio-Name	produceC#		
Result:			124 104	true true	Fox Disney	12345 67890		
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Another example								
	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	length	in-Color	studio-Name	produceC#		
Movie:	Star Wars Mighty Ducks Wayne's World	1991	124 104 95	true true true	Fox Disney Paramount	12345 67890 99999		
Then e	xecuting σ <sub>lengt</sub>	h>=100	<b>AND</b> stud	io-Name= 'l	<sub>=ox'</sub> (Movie)	gives:		
Posult:	<u>title</u>	<u>year</u>	length	in-Color	studio-Name	produceC#		
Resuit.	<u>title</u> Star Wars	1977	124	true	Fox	12345		
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