

# COMP 3311

# DATABASE MANAGEMENT

# SYSTEMS

## LECTURE 5

## RELATIONAL MODEL AND

## RELATIONAL DATABASE DESIGN

# FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCY (FD): DEFINITION

Let  $R$  be a relation schema,  $X$ ,  $Y$  be sets of attributes in  $R$  and  $f$  be a time-varying function from  $X$  to  $Y$ . Then

$$f: X \rightarrow Y$$

is a *functional dependency (FD)* if *at every point in time*, for a given value of  $x$  in  $X$  there will be at most one value of  $y$  in  $Y$ .

**Example:** PGStudent(studentId, name, supervisor, specialization)

$f$ : supervisor  $\rightarrow$  specialization

- If two student records have the **same supervisor** (e.g., Papadias), then they must have the **same specialization** (e.g., Databases).
- On the other hand, if two students have **different supervisors**, then they may have the **same or different specializations**.

**PGStudent**

studentId	name	supervisor	specialization
23455789	Bruno Ho	Yang	Artificial Intelligence
23556789	Jenny Jones	Papadias	Database
25678989	Kathy Ko	Kim	Software Technology
26789012	Susan Sze	Papadias	Database
26184624	Terry Tam	Song	Artificial Intelligence
26186666	Carol Chen	Tai	Graphics

# FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCY (FD): DEFINITION

- In general,  $X$  (and  $Y$ ) can be sets of attributes.  
E.g., if  $X \equiv X_1 \cup X_2 \cup \dots \cup X_n$ , then we can write  $X_1X_2\dots X_n \rightarrow Y$
- We normally omit the “ $f$ .” and simply write the FD as  $X \rightarrow Y$ .
  - $X$  is called the determinant set or left hand side (LHS) of the FD.
  - $Y$  is called the dependent set or right hand side (RHS) of the FD.

 We say that  $X$  determines  $Y$  or  $Y$  depends on  $X$ .

- A functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  is **trivial** if  $Y$  is a subset of  $X$ .

  $Y$  appears on both the LHS and the RHS of the FD.

➤ Trivial FDs hold for all relation instances.

- A functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  is **non-trivial** if  $Y \cap X = \emptyset$ .

  $Y$  does not appear on both the LHS and the RHS of the FD.

➤ Non-trivial FDs are given as **constraints** when designing a database.

➤ Non-trivial FDs constrain the set of legal relation instances.

# FUNCTIONAL DEPENDENCIES AND KEYS

- A FD is a generalization of the concept of a **key**.

For the relation

PGStudent (studentId, name, supervisor, specialization)

we can write:

$\text{studentId} \rightarrow \text{name, supervisor, specialization}$

because the key, studentId, determines the value of all the attributes (i.e., the entire tuple).

- If two tuples in the PGStudent relation have the same studentId, then **they must have the same values on all attributes**.

 **They must be the same tuple!**

(Since the relational model does not allow duplicate tuples.)

## INFERENCE RULES FOR FDS

- Given a set of functional dependencies  $F$ , there are certain other functional dependencies that are *logically implied* by  $F$ .
- We can find all functional dependencies implied by  $F$  by applying the following **inference rules for FDs**.

### IR1: Reflexivity

If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  (*trivial FD*)

### IR2: Augmentation

$X \rightarrow Y \models XZ \rightarrow YZ$

### IR3: Transitivity

$X \rightarrow Y, Y \rightarrow Z \models X \rightarrow Z$

### IR4: Union

$X \rightarrow Y, X \rightarrow Z \models X \rightarrow YZ$

### IR5: Decomposition

$X \rightarrow YZ \models X \rightarrow Y \text{ and } X \rightarrow Z$

### IR6: Psuedotransitivity

$X \rightarrow Y, WY \rightarrow Z \models WX \rightarrow Z$

**Armstrong's  
Axioms  
(basic rules)**

**Additional  
rules  
(derivable from  
IR1, IR2 and IR3)**

# EXAMPLES OF ARMSTRONG'S AXIOMS

## IR1: Reflexivity

If  $Y \subseteq X$ , then  $X \rightarrow Y$  (*trivial FD*)

name  $\rightarrow$  name

name, supervisor  $\rightarrow$  name

name, supervisor  $\rightarrow$  supervisor

since name  $\subseteq$  name

since name  $\subseteq$  {name, supervisor}

since supervisor  $\subseteq$  {name, supervisor}

## IR2: Augmentation

$X \rightarrow Y \models XZ \rightarrow YZ$

studentId  $\rightarrow$  name

studentId, supervisor  $\rightarrow$  name, supervisor

(given)

(inferred)

## IR3: Transitivity

$X \rightarrow Y, Y \rightarrow Z \models X \rightarrow Z$

studentId  $\rightarrow$  supervisor

supervisor  $\rightarrow$  specialization

studentId  $\rightarrow$  specialization

(given)

(given)

(inferred)

# INFERENCE RULES FOR FDS AND CLOSURE

Inference rules IR1, IR2 and IR3 are **sound and complete**.

**sound:** Given a set of FDs,  $F$ , specified on a relation schema  $R$ , any FD that we can infer from  $F$  by using IR1 to IR3 *will hold* in every relation instance  $r$  of  $R$  that satisfies  $F$  (i.e., it is a *true* FD).

**complete:** Using IR1, IR2 and IR3 repeatedly to infer FDs will infer *all* the FDs that can be inferred from  $F$ . (i.e., there are *no other FDs* that are true).

The set of all functional dependencies *logically implied* by  $F$  is called the **closure** of  $F$  denoted as  $F^+$ .

## CLOSURE OF ATTRIBUTE SETS

- The closure of  $X$  under  $F$  (denoted by  $X^+$ ) is the **set of attributes that are functionally determined** by  $X$  under  $F$ .

$$X \rightarrow Y \text{ is in } F^+ \iff Y \subseteq X^+$$

$X$  is a set of attributes

Given studentId (e.g., studentId is  $X$ ).

If studentId  $\rightarrow$  name  
then name is part of studentId<sup>+</sup>  
(i.e., studentId<sup>+</sup> = {studentId, name, ...})

**Why is studentId in  $X^+$ ?**

If studentId  $\rightarrow$  supervisor  
then supervisor is part of studentId<sup>+</sup>  
(i.e., studentId<sup>+</sup> = {studentId, name, supervisor, ...})



# COMPUTING ATTRIBUTE CLOSURE: ALGORITHM

## Input:

$R$  a relation schema

$F$  a set of functional dependencies

$X \subseteq R$  (the set of attributes for which we want to compute the closure)

## Output:

$X^+$  the closure of  $X$  w.r.t.  $F$

$X^{(0)} := X$

**Repeat**

$X^{(i+1)} := X^{(i)} \cup Z$ , where  $Z$  is the set of attributes such that there exists  
 $Y \rightarrow Z$  in  $F$ , and  $Y \subset X^{(i)}$

**Until**  $X^{(i+1)} := X^{(i)}$

**Return**  $X^{(i+1)}$

👉 For every attribute  $Y$  in  $X^i$ , if  $Y$  is the LHS of an FD, then add the RHS attributes  $Z$  to the closure; repeat until there are no more attributes to add.

# USES OF ATTRIBUTE CLOSURE

## Testing for Superkey

To test if  $X$  is a superkey, compute  $X^+$ , and check if  $X^+$  contains all attributes of  $R$ . If  $X$  is minimal, then it is a candidate key.

✎ An attribute that is part of any candidate key is called a prime attribute; otherwise it is a nonprime attribute

## Testing Functional Dependencies

To determine whether a functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  holds (i.e., if  $X \rightarrow Y$  is in  $F^+$ ), compute  $X^+$  and check if  $Y \subseteq X^+$ .

## Computing the Closure of $F$

For each subset  $X \subseteq R$ , compute  $X^+$  and, for each  $Y \subseteq X^+$ , output a functional dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$ .

# CLOSURE OF A SET OF ATTRIBUTES: EXAMPLE

$R(A, B, C, D, E, G)$

$F = \{ AB \rightarrow C, \quad C \rightarrow A, \quad BC \rightarrow D, \quad ACD \rightarrow B, \\ D \rightarrow EG, \quad BE \rightarrow C, \quad CG \rightarrow BD, \quad CE \rightarrow AG \}$

 Compute the closure of  $X = \{B, D\}$  w.r.t  $F$

$X^{(0)} = \{B, D\}$

$X^{(1)} = \{B, D, E, G\}$

apply  $D \rightarrow EG$  add  $E, G$  to  $X$

$X^{(2)} = \{B, C, D, E, G\}$

apply  $BE \rightarrow C$  add  $C$  to  $X$

$X^{(3)} = \{A, B, C, D, E, G\}$

apply  $C \rightarrow A$  add  $A$  to  $X$

$X^{(4)} = X^{(3)}$

no more FDs can be applied

$\{B, D\}^+ = \{A, B, C, D, E, G\}$

Is  $BD$  a candidate key?

# EXAMPLE RELATION SCHEMA & DATABASE

Car

<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>engineSize</u>	fee	origin	tax
Nissan	Sunny	1	4,000	Japan	90
Fiat	Mirafiori	1	4,000	Italy	85
Honda	Accord	1	4,000	Japan	90
Toyota	Camry	4	7,000	Canada	50
Ford	Mustang	4	7,000	Canada	50
Ford	Mustang	2	5,000	U.S.A.	75
BMW	7.35i	3	6,000	Germany	95
Toyota	Camry	1	4,000	Japan	90

## Functional Dependencies

make, model, engineSize  $\rightarrow$  origin

make, model, engineSize  $\rightarrow$  tax

make, model, engineSize  $\rightarrow$  fee

origin  $\rightarrow$  tax

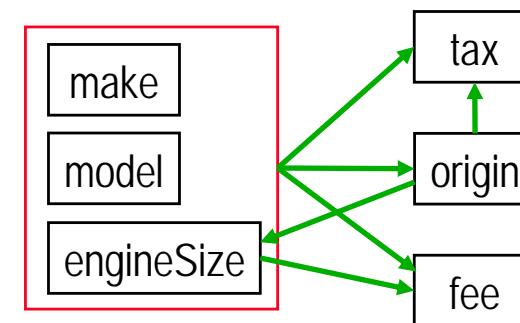
engineSize  $\rightarrow$  fee

origin  $\rightarrow$  engineSize

due to the  
primary key

from real-world  
knowledge

## FD visualization



# FDS AND RELATIONAL DATABASE DESIGN

- Relational database design requires that we find a “good” collection of relation schemas.

👉 **A bad design may lead to several problems.**

- FDs can be used to refine a relation schema reduced from an E-R schema by iteratively decomposing it (called normalization) to place it in a certain normal form.
  - The first four normal forms  $\Rightarrow$  use only FDs.
  - Additional normal forms  $\Rightarrow$  use other types of dependencies

👉 **Normal forms do not guarantee a good design!**

# NORMALIZATION: GOALS

## Design Guideline 1: Clear Semantics for Attributes

Design a relation schema so that it is **easy to explain its meaning**. Typically this means that we should not combine attributes from multiple real-world entities in a single relation schema.

- Grouping attributes into relation schemas puts an implied meaning on the attributes  $\Rightarrow$  **somehow the attributes are related**.
- The **easier it is to explain** the meaning of a relation schema, **the better the design**.
- Each relation schema should have a **well-defined, unambiguous meaning**.
  - We are able to give a clear explanation to the question “What does this relation schema represent?”

## NORMALIZATION: GOALS (CONT'D)

### Design Guideline 2: Minimize Use of Null Values

As far as possible, avoid placing attributes in relation schemas whose values may be null. If nulls are unavoidable, make sure that they apply in exceptional cases only.


- If many attributes of a relation schema do not apply to all instances, we end up with many null values.
- This can lead to problems of
  - understanding the meaning of attributes.
  - specifying certain operations (e.g., aggregation operations).

# NORMALIZATION: GOALS (CONTD)

## Design Guideline 3: Minimize Redundancy

Design relation schemas so that **no insertion, deletion or update anomalies occur** in the relation instances. If any update anomalies are present, note them clearly so that update programs will operate correctly.

- One goal of database design is to **minimize storage space** for data.

 **A relation schema has redundancy if there is a FD where the LHS is not a key.**

- More importantly, **redundant data** in relations can also **cause operation anomalies**.
  - **insertion** (e.g., insert the license fee for cars of engine size 5)
  - **deletion** (e.g., delete the instance for “BMW, 7.35i, ...”)
  - **update** (e.g., update the license fee for engine size 1 cars)



# NORMALIZATION: GOALS (CONT'D)

## Design Guideline 4: Lossless Decomposition

The normalized relation schemas **should contain the same information** as the original schema. Otherwise decomposition results in information loss.

- A decomposition is **lossless** (aka **lossless join**) if the **initial relation instance can be recovered** from the schema fragments.
  - The join of all the fragments results in exactly the initial relation instance.
- In general a decomposition of  $R$  into  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  is **lossless if and only if** at least one of the following functional dependencies is in  $F^+$ :

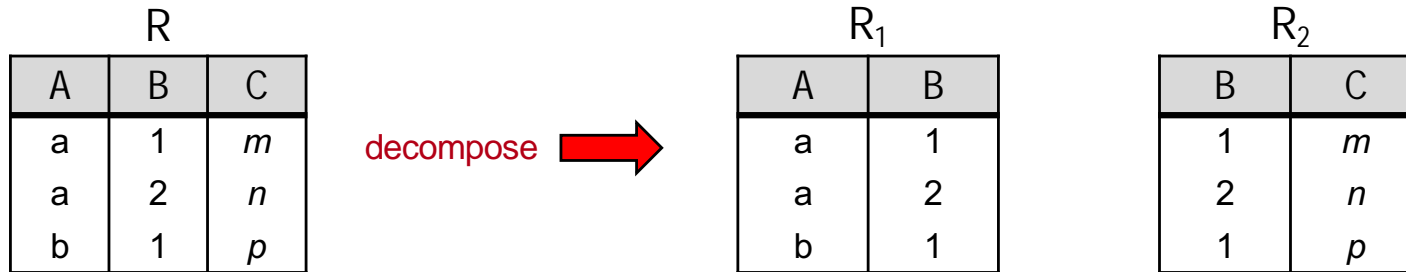
$$R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_1$$

$$R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

☞ **The common attributes of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  must be a superkey for  $R_1$  or  $R_2$ .**

# LOSSY DECOMPOSITION EXAMPLE

Decompose  $R(A, B, C)$  into  $R_1(A, B)$  and  $R_2(B, C)$ .



R<sub>1</sub> JOIN R<sub>2</sub>

A	B	C
a	1	m
a	1	p
a	2	n
b	1	m
b	1	p

The *decomposition is lossy* since the join produces two extra tuples. Thus, the decomposition “loses” some information! Note that the common attribute B is not a superkey of either R<sub>1</sub> or R<sub>2</sub>.

## NORMALIZATION: GOALS (CONT'D)

### Design Guideline 5: Preserve Functional Dependencies

As far as possible, functional dependencies should be preserved within each relation schema; otherwise, checking updates for violation of functional dependencies may require computing joins, which is expensive.

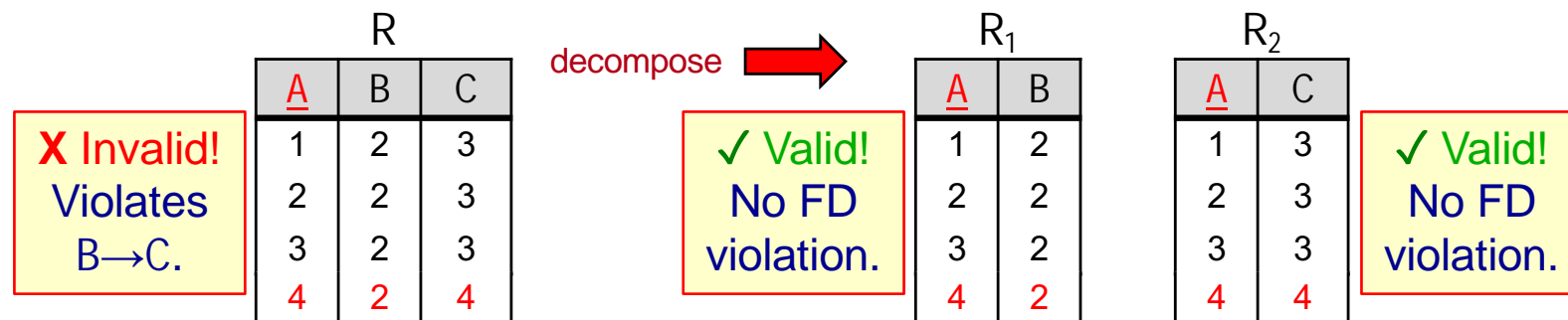
- Functional dependencies **represent real-world constraints**.
- If a functional dependency does not appear in any relation schema (i.e. it is “**lost**”), the constraint may be **much more difficult to enforce**.
- The decomposition of a relation schema  $R$  with FDs  $F$  is a set of schema fragments  $R_i$  with FDs  $F_i$ .
  - $F_i$  is the subset of dependencies in  $F^+$  (the closure of  $F$ ) that involves only attributes in  $R_i$ .
- The decomposition is dependency preserving *if and only if*  $(\cup F_i)^+ = F^+$ .
  - Every FD in  $F$  is present in some fragment  $R_i$ .

# NON-DEPENDENCY PRESERVING DECOMPOSITION EXAMPLE

$R(A, B, C)$        $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$       **Key: A**

For the FD  $B \rightarrow C$ , the LHS is not the key. Consequently, there can be **considerable redundancy** in  $R$ .

**Solution:** Break  $R$  into relations  $R_1(A, B)$ ,  $R_2(A, C)$  (**normalization**).



The decomposition is **lossless** since the common attribute  $A$  is a key for  $R_1$  (and  $R_2$ ).

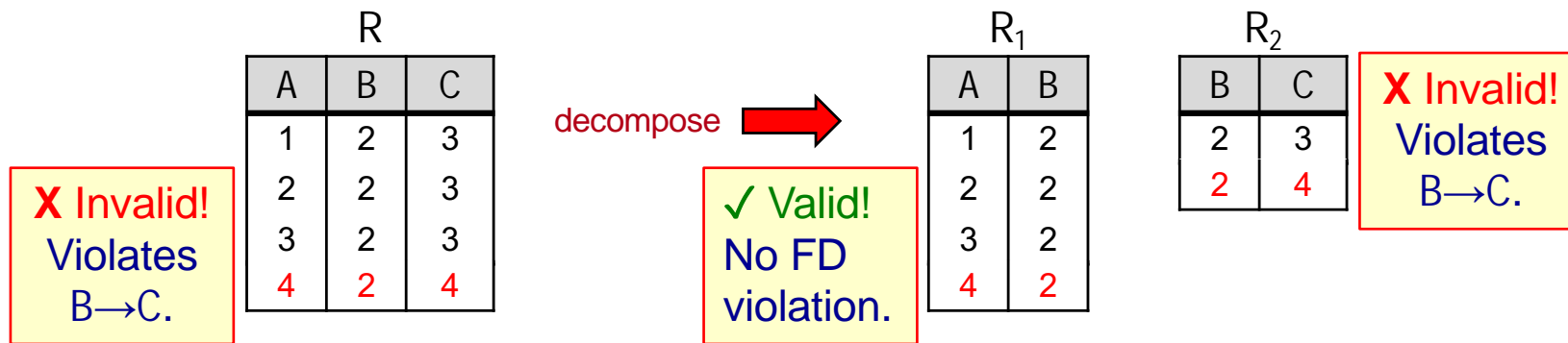
The decomposition is **not dependency preserving** because  $F_1 = \{A \rightarrow B\}$ ,  $F_2 = \{A \rightarrow C\}$  and  $(F_1 \cup F_2)^+ \neq F^+$ . **The FD  $B \rightarrow C$  is lost.**

In practice, each “lost” FD is implemented as an assertion (a type of constraint), which is checked when there are updates. Thus, to find violations on  $B \rightarrow C$ ,  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  have to be joined, which can be very expensive.

# DEPENDENCY PRESERVING DECOMPOSITION EXAMPLE

$R(A, B, C)$        $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$       **Key: A**

Break  $R$  into relations  $R_1(A, B)$ ,  $R_2(B, C)$ .



The decomposition is **lossless** since the common attribute  $B$  is a key for  $R_2$ .

The decomposition is **dependency preserving** because  $F_1 = \{A \rightarrow B\}$ ,  $F_2 = \{B \rightarrow C\}$  and  $(F_1 \cup F_2)^+ = F^+$ .

Violations of the FDs can be found by inspecting the individual tables, without performing a join.

👉 **How a relation is decomposed, may determine whether functional dependencies are preserved.**

## FIRST NORMAL FORM (1NF)

A relation schema is in *First Normal Form (1NF)* if all attributes are atomic (single-valued).

✎ There are **no multi-valued or composite attributes**.

- Relation schemas are always in 1NF according to the definition of the relational model and according to our strategy for reducing an E-R schema to relation schemas.

# SECOND NORMAL FORM (2NF)

A relation schema is in **Second Normal Form (2NF)** if all **non-prime attributes** are **fully functionally dependent** on every candidate key.

- $R$  is a relation schema, with the set  $F$  of FDs.
- $R$  is in 2NF *if and only if*

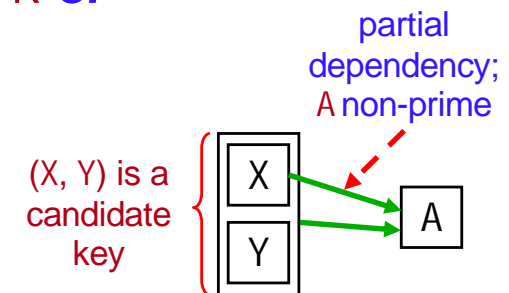
For each FD:  $X \rightarrow A$  in  $F^+$ :

$A \in X$  (the FD is trivial) **or**

$X$  is **not** a proper subset of a candidate key for  $R$  **or**

$A$  is a **prime attribute** for  $R$ .

👉 **A subset of a candidate key cannot determine a non-prime attribute.**



## SECOND NORMAL FORM (2NF) EXAMPLE

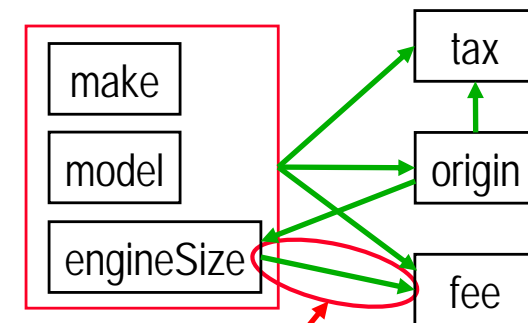
- `make`, `model`, `engineSize` is a candidate key (it is not a proper subset).
- `engineSize` is a proper subset of a candidate key.
- `fee` is a non-prime attribute.
- Hence, the relation schema is **not in 2NF** due to the FD `engineSize` → `fee`.

**Note redundancy.**

Car

<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>engineSize</u>	fee	origin	tax
Nissan	Sunny	1	4,000	Japan	90
Fiat	Mirafiori	1	4,000	Italy	85
Honda	Accord	1	4,000	Japan	90
Toyota	Camry	4	7,000	Canada	50
Ford	Mustang	4	7,000	Canada	50
Ford	Mustang	2	5,000	U.S.A.	75
BMW	7.35i	3	6,000	Germany	95
Toyota	Camry	1	4,000	Japan	90

### FDs in schema

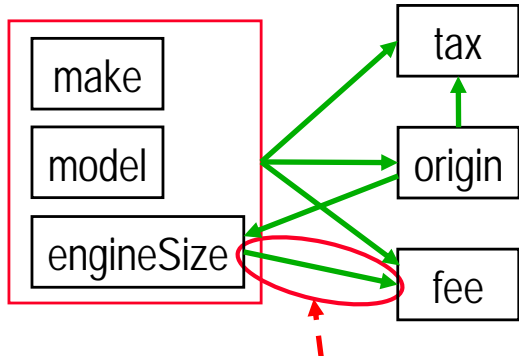


partial dependency; **fee** is non-prime



# SECOND NORMAL FORM (2NF) EXAMPLE (CONT'D)

## FDs in original schema

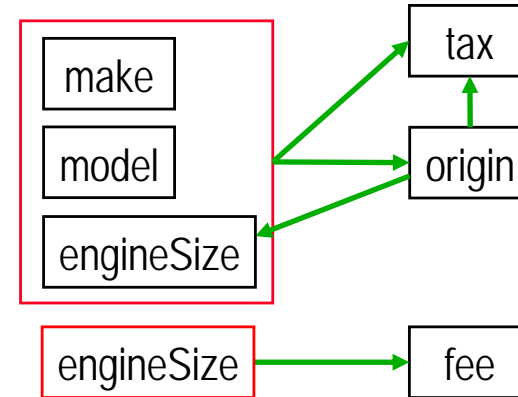


partial dependency; fee is non-prime

decompose  
the schema



## FDs in 2NF schemas



decompose  
the tables



Car

<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>engineSize</u>	origin	tax
Nissan	Sunny	1	Japan	90
Fiat	Mirafiori	1	Italy	85
Honda	Accord	1	Japan	90
Toyota	Camry	4	Canada	50
Ford	Mustang	4	Canada	50
Ford	Mustang	2	U.S.A.	75
BMW	7.35i	3	Germany	95
Toyota	Camry	1	Japan	90

Licensing

<u>engineSize</u>	fee
1	4000
2	5000
3	6000
4	7000

## SECOND NORMAL FORM (2NF) EXAMPLE (cont'd)

Consider the previous update anomalies:

**Insert:** A new engine size, fee (e.g., 5, 8000). ?

✗

**Delete:** The instance of BMW 7.35i. ?

**Update:** The licensing fee for engine size 1. ?

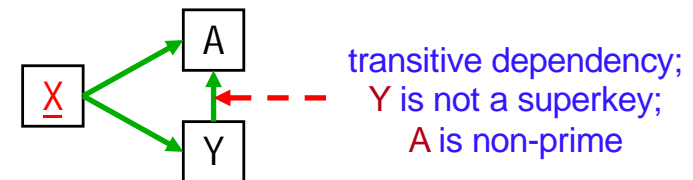
## THIRD NORMAL FORM (3NF)

A relation schema is in **Third Normal Form (3NF)** if it is in 2NF and **every non-prime attribute is non-transitively dependent on every candidate key.**

- $R$  is a relation schema, with set  $F$  of FDs.
- $R$  is in 3NF *if and only if*

For each FD:  $X \rightarrow A$  in  $F^+$ :

$A \in X$  (*trivial FD*) **or**  
 $X$  is a **superkey** for  $R$  **or**  
 $A$  is a **prime attribute** for  $R$ .

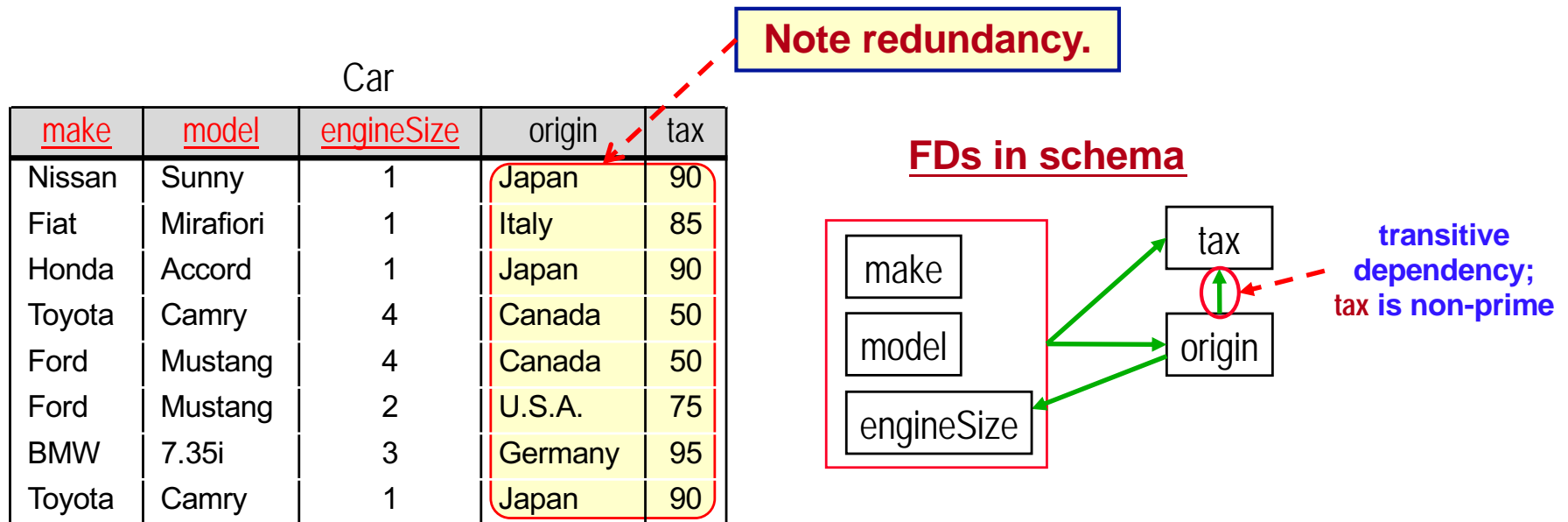


**For every FD that does not contain extraneous attributes:**

- the LHS is a candidate key, **or**
- the RHS is a prime attribute (i.e., it is part of a candidate key).

# THIRD NORMAL FORM (3NF) EXAMPLE

- For the FD  $\text{origin} \rightarrow \text{tax}$ ,  $\text{origin}$  is not a superkey.
- $\text{tax}$  is not a prime attribute.
- Hence, the relation schema is **not in 3NF** due to the FD  $\text{origin} \rightarrow \text{tax}$ .



## THIRD NORMAL FORM (3NF) EXAMPLE (cont'd)

Consider the following database operations on the **Car 2NF relation schema**:

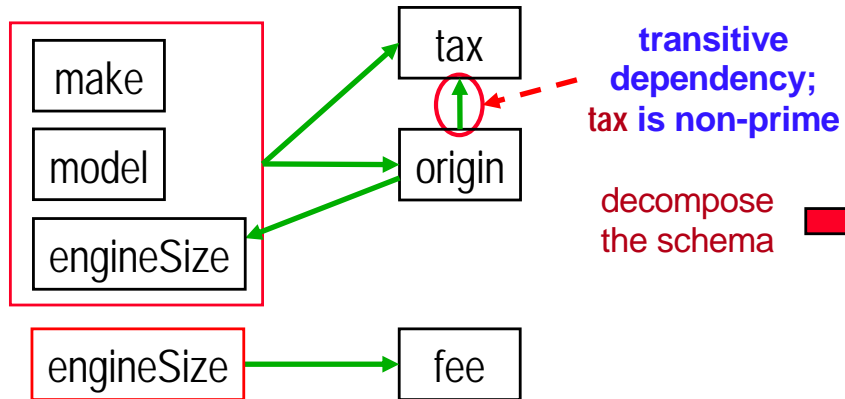
**Insert:** What if we want to insert tax information for a country that does not yet import any cars to Hong Kong (e.g., Australia, 40)?

**Delete:** What happens if we delete (BMW, 7.35i)?

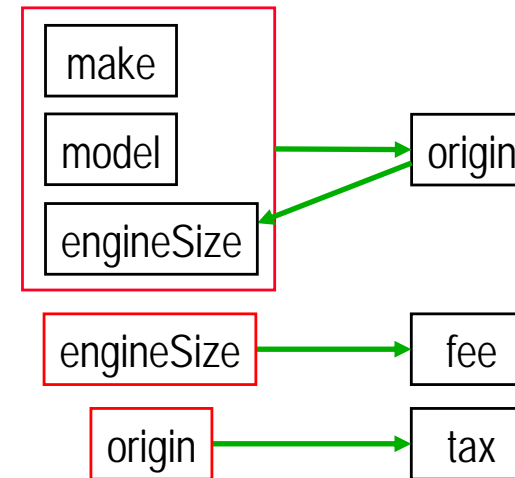
**Update:** What if we want to update the tax rate for cars from Japan?

# THIRD NORMAL FORM (3NF) EXAMPLE (cont'd)

## FDs in 2NF schemas



## FDs in 3NF schemas



Car

<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>engineSize</u>	origin
Nissan	Sunny	1	Japan
Fiat	Mirafiori	1	Italy
Honda	Accord	1	Japan
Toyota	Camry	4	Canada
Ford	Mustang	4	Canada
Ford	Mustang	2	U.S.A.
BMW	7.35i	3	Germany
Toyota	Camry	1	Japan

ImportTax

<u>origin</u>	tax
Canada	50
U.S.A.	75
Italy	85
Japan	90
Germany	95

Licensing

<u>engineSize</u>	fee
1	4000
2	5000
3	6000
4	7000

If none of the decomposed relations contains a candidate key of the original relation, then add a relation containing one of the candidate keys.

decompose the tables

## THIRD NORMAL FORM (3NF) EXAMPLE (cont'd)

Consider the previous update anomalies:

**Insert:** A new country and tax (e.g., Australia, 40). ?

**Delete:** The instance of BMW 7.35i. ?

**Update:** Update tax rate for Japan. ?

## BOYCE-CODD NORMAL FORM (BCNF)

**A relation schema is in *Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)* if every determinant (left hand side) of its FDs is a superkey.**

- $R$  is a relation schema, with the set  $F$  of FDs.
- $R$  is in BCNF *if and only if*

For each FD:  $X \rightarrow A$  in  $F^+$ :

$A \in X$  (trivial FD) **or**

$X$  is a **superkey** for  $R$ .

 **For every FD that does not contain extraneous attributes, the LHS is a candidate key.**

- BCNF tables have no redundancy.
- If a table is in BCNF it is also in 3NF (and 2NF and 1NF).



# BOYCE-CODD NORMAL FORM (BCNF): EXAMPLE

- For the FD  $\text{origin} \rightarrow \text{engineSize}$ ,  $\text{origin}$  is not a superkey.
- Hence, this relation schema is not in BCNF due to the FD  $\text{origin} \rightarrow \text{engineSize}$ .

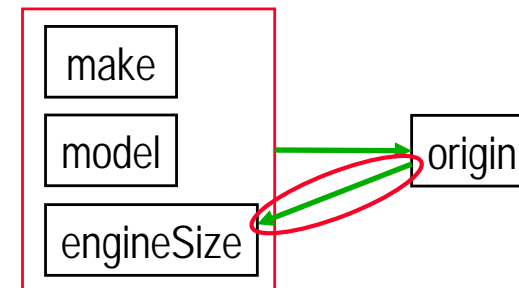
Note redundancy.

Car

<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>engineSize</u>	origin
Nissan	Sunny	1	Japan
Fiat	Mirafiori	1	Italy
Honda	Accord	1	Japan
Toyota	Camry	4	Canada
Ford	Mustang	4	Canada
Ford	Mustang	2	U.S.A.
BMW	7.35i	3	Germany
Toyota	Camry	1	Japan

**Note:** Need to use null values if we want to represent an engine size and origin, but do not know the make and model.

## FDs in 3NF schema Car



✎ In the FD  $\text{origin} \rightarrow \text{engineSize}$ ,  $\text{engineSize}$  is a prime attribute.

# BOYCE-CODD NORMAL FORM (BCNF): **EXAMPLE**

(CONT'D)

Update anomalies due to the FD  $\text{origin} \rightarrow \text{engineSize}$ :

**Insert:** What if we want to insert a new ( $\text{engineSize}$ ,  $\text{origin}$ ) record (e.g., 5, Korea) for which there is yet no make and model?

**Delete:** If we delete all instances of Ford, Mustang, what happens?

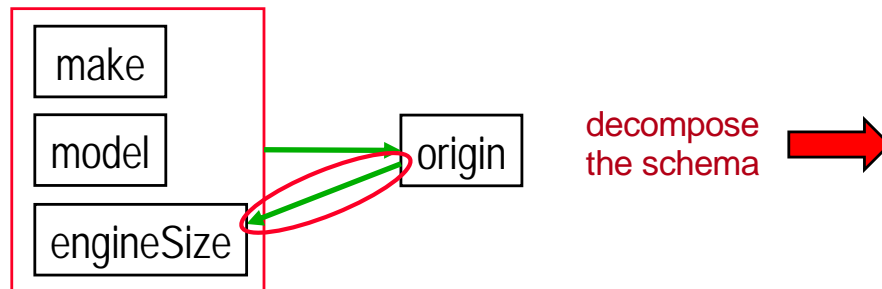
**Update:** What if we want to update the size of engine for cars from Japan?

 **How to decompose the schema so that it is lossless?**

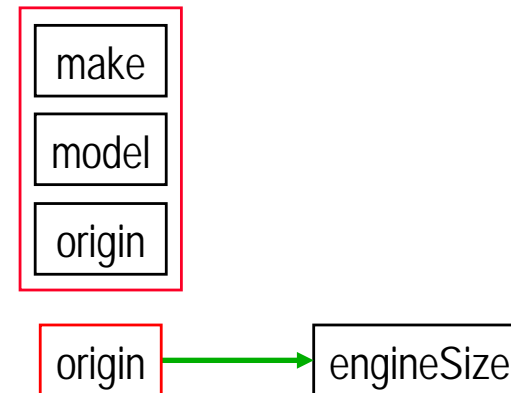
# BOYCE-CODD NORMAL FORM (BCNF): **EXAMPLE**

(CONT'D)

## FDs in 3NF schema



## FDs in BCNF schemas



decompose  
the tables →

Car

<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>origin</u>
Nissan	Sunny	Japan
Fiat	Mirafiori	Italy
Honda	Accord	Japan
Toyota	Camry	Canada
Ford	Mustang	Canada
Ford	Mustang	U.S.A.
BMW	7.35i	Germany
Toyota	Camry	Japan

Country

<u>origin</u>	engineSize
Italy	1
Canada	4
U.S.A.	2
Germany	3
Japan	1

This decomposition avoids  
the 3NF problems of  
redundancy and null values.

# BOYCE-CODD NORMAL FORM (BCNF): EXAMPLE

(CONT'D)

- We can generate the original relation instance by joining the two fragments, using a **full outer join** (explained in the next lecture).

Car			Country		Car			
<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>origin</u>	<u>origin</u>	engineSize	<u>make</u>	<u>model</u>	<u>engineSize</u>	origin
Nissan	Sunny	Japan	Italy	1	Nissan	Sunny	1	Japan
Fiat	Mirafiori	Italy	Canada	4	Fiat	Mirafiori	1	Italy
Honda	Accord	Japan	U.S.A.	2	Honda	Accord	1	Japan
Toyota	Camry	Canada	Germany	3	Toyota	Camry	4	Canada
Ford	Mustang	Canada	Japan	1	Ford	Mustang	4	Canada
Ford	Mustang	U.S.A.			Ford	Mustang	2	U.S.A.
BMW	7.35i	Germany			BMW	7.35i	3	Germany
Toyota	Camry	Japan			Toyota	Camry	1	Japan

**Is the decomposition dependency preserving?**

**No.** We lose the FD  $\text{make, model, engineSize} \rightarrow \text{origin}$ .

**A relation may not have a dependency preserving BCNF decomposition!**

**Can we have a dependency preserving decomposition?**

**No.** No matter how we break up the relation schema we lose the FD  $\text{make, model, engineSize} \rightarrow \text{origin}$  since it involves all the attributes of the original 3NF Car relation.

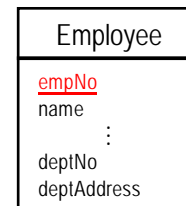
# OBSERVATIONS ABOUT BCNF

- BCNF is the **best normal form**.
- BCNF **avoids** the problems of **redundancy** and **all anomalies**.
- There is **always a lossless decomposition** that generates BCNF relation schemas.
- However, **all the functional dependencies may not be preserved**.

# NORMALIZATION AND THE E-R MODEL

- When an E-R schema is **well designed**, the relation schemas generated from it **should not need further normalization**.
- However, in an **imperfect design** there can be FDs from non-key attributes of an entity to some other attributes of the entity.

- Consider an **Employee** entity with an FD  $\text{deptNo} \rightarrow \text{deptAddress}$ .



- A good design would have made department a separate entity.

# RELATIONAL MODEL & RELATIONAL DATABASE DESIGN: SUMMARY

## Relational Model

**Relation (table)** – represents **entities** *and* **relationships**

**Foreign keys** – represent **relationships**

## Result of E-R Schema to Relation Schema Reduction

1. A **relation schema** with the **same attributes** as the original entity:
  - entities with 1:1, 1:N (on the 1-side) or N:M binary relationships.
2. A **relation schema** with the **embedded primary key** of the entity on the 1-side:
  - entities with a 1:1 binary relationship for one of the entities.
  - entities with a 1:N binary relationship for the entity on the N-side.
3. A **relation schema** with the **primary keys of all the entities** in the relationship:
  - binary N:M (or higher degree) relationships.

## Goal of Normalization

A relational schema that: **has clear semantics**; **minimizes null values**; **minimizes redundancy**; **is lossless join**; **preserves functional dependencies**.