

Tutorial 5: Logical Database Design

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February 2018

`StudentInfo(S, N, M, A, C, T, I, L, G)`

with the following FDs:

1. $S \rightarrow N$
2. $C \rightarrow T, I$
3. $I \rightarrow L$
4. $S, C, M \rightarrow G$
5. $S, M \rightarrow A$
6. $A \rightarrow M$

1 Find all keys and prove that you have found them all.

Since S and C do not appear in any RHS of the FDs,
 S and C must be part of every key.

$(S\ C)^+ = S\ C\ N\ T\ I\ L$ so $(S\ C)$ is not a key.

Guess $(S\ C\ M)$ and $(S\ C\ A)$ are keys.

$(S\ C\ M)^+ = (S\ C\ M\ N\ T\ I\ L\ G\ A) = SI$ so $(S\ C\ M)$ is a superkey.

$(S\ C\ A)^+ = (S\ C\ A\ N\ T\ I\ L\ G\ M) = SI$ so $(S\ C\ A)$ is a superkey.

Since $(S\ C)$ is not a key, so $(S\ C\ M)$ and $(S\ C\ A)$ are minimal, so they are keys.

Consider the maximal set $X \subseteq (S\ N\ M\ A\ C\ T\ I\ L\ G)$ such that $(S\ C) \subset X$
and $A, M \notin X$. The maximal such X is $(S\ N\ C\ T\ I\ L\ G)$

$X^+ = (S\ N\ C\ T\ I\ L\ G)^+ = (S\ N\ C\ T\ I\ L\ G) \neq SI$

Therefore, $(S\ C\ M)$ and $(S\ C\ A)$ are the only keys.

- 2 Find a minimal cover for this set of FDs.
- 3 Obtain a lossless-join, BCNF decomposition of StudentInfo.
- 4 Obtain a lossless-join, dependency-preserving, 3NF decomposition of StudentInfo by making use of the BCNF decomposition in Question (f).
- 5 Obtain a lossless-join, dependency-preserving, 3NF decomposition of StudentInfo via synthesis by making use of your minimal cover in Question (e).
- 6 Comment on the differences, if any, between your answers to Questions (g) and (h).