

Normalization

1. Given the relation shown below
 - a. List all functional dependencies satisfied by the relation shown below.
 - b. Give all the candidate keys of this relation.

A	B	C
a1	b1	c1
a1	b1	c2
a2	b1	c3
a2	b1	c4

Answer:

The relation satisfies the following functional dependencies and the ones can be derived from them: $A \rightarrow B$, $C \rightarrow B$, $C \rightarrow A$

There is only one candidate key of this relation: $\{C\}$

2. Consider the following relation:
CAR_SALE(Car#, Date_sold, Salesman#, Commission%, Discount_amt)
Assume that a car may be sold by multiple salesmen, and hence $\{Car\#, Salesman\# \}$ is the primary key. Additional dependencies are
 $Date_sold \rightarrow Discount_amt$
 $Car\# \rightarrow Data_sold$
 $Salesman\# \rightarrow Commission\%$
 - a) Based on the given primary key, is this relation in 1NF, 2NF, or 3NF? Why or why not?
 - b) How would you successfully normalize it completely?

Answer:

- a) It is in 1NF since D1: $Car\# \rightarrow Data_sold$ and D2: $Salesman\# \rightarrow Commission\%$ are both partial dependencies.
- b) To convert it to 2NF, we first decompose the relation to two relations to deal with D1. So we have
 $R1 = (Car\#, Data_sold, Discount_amt)$
 $R2 = (Car\#, Salesman\#, Commission\%)$
 $R1$ is in 2NF. $R2$ is not due to D2. So we decompose $R2$ to deal with D2. So we have:
 $R1 = (Car\#, Data_sold, Discount_amt)$
 $R21 = (Salesman\#, Commission\%)$
 $R22 = (Car\#, Salesman\#)$
Now $R1$, $R21$, $R22$ are all in 2NF.

R21 and R22 are both in 3NF and BCNF. R1 is not in 3NF since D3: Data_sold \rightarrow Discount_amt is a transitive dependency. So to convert it to 3NF, we decompose R1:

R11=(Data_sold, Discount_amt)

R12=(Car#, Data_sold)

R21=(Salesman#, Comission%)

R22==(Car#,Salesman#)

3. Consider the relation R (A,B,C,D,E, F, G, H, I, J) with the following FDs:

$AB \rightarrow C$, $BD \rightarrow EF$, $AD \rightarrow GH$, $A \rightarrow I$, $H \rightarrow J$

a) What is the candidate key of R?

b) Explain why the relation is not in 2NF.

c) Normalize it to 2NF, 3NF, and BCNF.

Answer:

a) The candidate key of R is {ABD}

b) It is not in 2NF since D1: $AB \rightarrow C$, D2: $BD \rightarrow EF$, D3: $AD \rightarrow GH$, D4: $A \rightarrow I$ are all partial dependencies.

c) To convert to 2NF, we first decompose the relation to deal with D1. So we have:

R1=(A,B,C,I)

R2=(A,B,D,E,F,G,H,J)

Both R1 and R2 have partial dependencies, including D4 in R1, D2 and D3 in R2. We decompose R1 to deal with D4. So we have:

R11={A, I}

R12=(A,B,C)

R2=(A,B,D,E,F,G,H,J)

Now R11 and R12 are in 2NF. R2 is not due to D2 and D3. We decompose R2 to deal with D2 first. So we have:

R11={A, I}

R12=(A,B,C)

R21=(B,D,E,F)

R22=(A,B,D,G,H,J)

Now R11, R12, R21 are in 2NF. R22 is not due to D3. We decompose R22 to deal with D3. So we have:

R11={A, I}

R12=(A,B,C)

R21=(B,D,E,F)

R221=(A,D,G,H,J)

R222=(A,B,D)

Now all the relations are in 2NF.

R11, R12, R21, R222 are all in 3NF and BCNF. R221 is not in 3NF since D5: $H \rightarrow J$ is a transitive dependency. We decompose R221 to deal with D5. So we have:

R11={A, I}

R12=(A,B,C)

R21=(B,D,E,F)

R2211=(H, J)

$R_{2212} = (\underline{A}, D, G, H)$

$R_{222} = (\underline{A}, B, \underline{D})$

Now all the relations are in 3NF and BCNF.

4. Consider the following relation for published books:
BOOK (Book_title, Author_name, Book_type, List_price, Author_affil, Publisher).
Suppose the following dependencies exist:
 $\text{Book_title} \rightarrow \text{Publisher, Book_type}$
 $\text{Book_type} \rightarrow \text{List_price}$
 $\text{Author_name} \rightarrow \text{Author_affil}$
- a) What normal form is the relation in? Explain your answer.
 - b) Apply normalization until you cannot decompose the relations further. State the reasons behind each decomposition.

Answer:

- a) The key of the relation is (Book_title, Author_name). Therefore, the relation is in 1NF but not in 2NF since D1: $\text{Book_title} \rightarrow \text{Publisher, Book_type}$ and D2: $\text{Author_name} \rightarrow \text{Author_affil}$ are partial dependencies.
- b) To convert the relation to 2NF, we first decompose the relation to deal with D1.

So we have:

$\text{Book1} = (\underline{\text{Book_title}}, \text{Publisher, Book_type, List_price})$

$\text{Book2} = (\underline{\text{Book_title}}, \text{Author_name, Author_affil})$

Now Book1 is in 2NF but Book2 is not due to D2. We decompose the Book2 to deal with D2 So we have:

$\text{Book1} = (\underline{\text{Book_title}}, \text{Publisher, Book_type, List_price})$

$\text{Book21} = (\underline{\text{Author_name}}, \text{Author_affil})$

$\text{Book22} = (\underline{\text{Book_title}}, \text{Author_name})$

Now all the relations are in 2NF.

Book21 and Book22 are in 3NF and BCNF. Book1 is not in 3NF since D3:

$\text{Book_type} \rightarrow \text{List_price}$ is a transitive dependency. We decompose R1 to deal with D3. So we have:

$\text{Book11} = (\underline{\text{Book_type}}, \text{List_price})$

$\text{Book12} = (\underline{\text{Book_title}}, \text{Publisher, Book_type})$

$\text{Book21} = (\underline{\text{Author_name}}, \text{Author_affil})$

$\text{Book22} = (\underline{\text{Book_title}}, \text{Author_name})$

Now all the relations are in 3NF and BCNF.