Normalization



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- A process to validate and improve logical design so that it satisfies certain constraints that avoid unnecessary duplication of the data.
- Normalization is a formal technique for analyzing a relation based on its primary key and the FDs between the attributes of that relation.
- The normalization process was first proposed by Codd 1972.
- The normalization process takes a relation schema through a series of tests to certify whether it satisfies a certain normal form.

- Solve problems associated with redundant data.
- Identify various types of update anomalies such as insertion, deletion, and modification anomalies.
- Recognize the appropriateness or quality of the design of relations.
- Use FDs to group attributes into relations that are in a known normal form.



- The four most commonly used normal forms are:
 - First Normal Form (1NF)
 - Second Normal Form (2NF)
 - Third Normal Form (3NF)
 - Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)
- To convert un-normalized table to a normalized one, you first convert it to INF, then to 2NF, then to 3NF and then to BCNF. In other words:

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UNF \rightarrow 1NF \rightarrow 2NF \rightarrow 3NF \rightarrow BCNF
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-- Relationship Between Normal Forms



DB:Normalization

- Formal technique for analyzing a relation based on its primary key and the functional dependencies between the attributes of that relation.
- Often executed as a series of steps. Each step corresponds to a specific normal form, which has known properties.
- As normalization proceeds, the relations become progressively more restricted (stronger) in format and also less vulnerable to update anomalies.
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- A table would be in unnormalized form if it contains some multivalued attributes or repeating groups.
- To create an unnormalized table Transform the data from the information source (e.g. form) into table format with columns and rows.
- Example:

Dname	Dnumber	DMGRSSN	Dlocations	
Research	5	222	Dammam, Khobar, Dhahran	
Administration	4	333	Jubail	
Headquarters	1	444	Khobar	

DEPARTMENT

- Converting From UNF to Normalized Form

- 1NF +
- UNF to 1NF +
- Example: UNF to 1NF +
- 2NF +
- INF to 2NF +
- Example: 1NF to 2NF +
- 3NF +
- 2NF to 3NF +
- Example: 2NF to 3NF +
- BCNF +
- 3NF to BCNF +
- Example: 3NF to BCNF +



 A relation in which the intersection of each row and column contains one and only one value.



- Nominate an attribute or group of attributes to act as the key for the unnormalized table.
- Identify the repeating group(s) in the unnormalized table which repeats for the key attribute(s).
- Remove the repeating group by
 - Entering appropriate data into the empty columns of rows containing the repeating data ('flattening' the table).
 - Or by
 - Placing the repeating data along with a copy of the original key attribute(s) into a separate relation.



UNF	Dname	Dnumber	DMGRSSN	Dlocations
	Research	5	222	Dammam, Khobar, Dhahran
	Administration	4	333	Jubail

1NF	Dname	Dnumber	DMGRSSN	Dlocations
	Research	5	222	Dammam
	Research	5	222	Khobar
	Research	5	222	Dhahran
	Administration	4	333	Jubail

- Based on the concept of full functional dependency.
- Full functional dependency indicates that if
 - *A* and *B* are attributes of a relation,
 - B is fully dependent on A if B is functionally dependent on
 A but not on any proper subset of A.
- Example: In the last table {SSN, Pnumber} → Hours is a full dependency. (neither SSN → Hours nor Pnumber → hours hold.
- A relation that is in 1NF and every non-primary-key attribute is fully functionally dependent on the primary key.



- If a primary key is a single attribute then the relation is already in 2NF.
- In the case of composite key, the following steps are applied to convert to 2NF:
 - Identify the primary key for the 1NF
 - Identify the functional dependencies in the relation
 - If partial dependency exists on the primary key remove them by placing them in a new relation along with a copy of their determinant.



• 3NF is based on the concept of transitive dependency.

- Transitive Dependency is a condition where
 - A, B and C are attributes of a relation such that if $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$,
 - then C is transitively dependent on A through B. (Provided that A is not functionally dependent on B or C).

- Identify the primary key in the 2NF relation.
- Identify functional dependencies in the relation.
- If transitive dependencies exist on the primary key remove them by placing them in a new relation along with a copy of their dominant.

- Based on functional dependencies that takes into account all candidate keys in a relation.
- For a relation with only one candidate key, 3NF and BCNF are equivalent.
- A relation is in BCNF, if and only if every determinant is a candidate key.
- Violation of BCNF may occur in a relation that
 - contains two (or more) composite keys
 - which overlap and share at least one attribute in common.

- Identify all candidate keys in the relation.
- Identify all functional dependencies in the relation.
- If functional dependencies exists in the relation where their determinants are not candidate keys for the relation, remove the functional dependencies by placing them in a new relation along with a copy of their determinant.

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Steps in Normalization

March 23, 2008

DB:Normalization

- Definition
 - A functional dependency $X \rightarrow A$ is called **trivial** if, $A \subseteq X$.
 - A relation is in **1NF** if, and only if, every attribute is single-valued for each tuple.
 - A relation is in **2NF** if, and only if, it is in 1NF and all the non-key attributes are fully functionally dependent on the key.
 - A relation is in **3NF** if, when ever a non-trivial functional dependency X→ A exists, then either X is a superkey or A is a member of some candidate key.
 - A relation is in BCNF if, whenever a non-trivial functional dependency X → A exists, then X is a superkey.