

UNIT-IV

SCHEMA REFINEMENT (NORMALIZATION)

Problems Caused by Redundancy, Decompositions, Problems Related to Decomposition, Functional dependency, Properties of Functional dependency, Properties of Decompositions - Lossless join decomposition and dependency preserving decomposition, Normal forms based on functional dependency -1NF, 2NF and 3NF, Boyce-Codd normal form(BCNF).

Q) Define Redundancy. What are the problems caused by redundancy?

Redundancy means having multiple copies of same data in the database. This problem arises when a database is not normalized.

Suppose a table of student details attributes are: student Id, student name, college name, college rank, and course opted.

Student_ID	Name	Contact	College	Course	Rank
100	Himanshu	7300934851	GEU	Btech	1
101	Ankit	7900734858	GEU	Btech	1
102	Aysuh	7300936759	GEU	Btech	1
103	Ravi	7300901556	GEU	Btech	1

As it can be observed that values of attribute college name, college rank, course is being repeated which can lead to problems.

Problems caused due to redundancy are:

- 1) Insertion anomaly
- 2) Deletion anomaly
- 3) Updation anomaly.

1. Insertion Anomaly –

If a student detail has to be inserted whose course is not being decided yet then insertion will not be possible till the time course is decided for student.

Student_ID	Name	Contact	College	Course	Rank
100	Himanshu	7300934851	GEU		1

This problem happens when the insertion of a data record is not possible without adding some additional unrelated data to the record.

2. Deletion Anomaly –

If the details of students in this table are deleted then the details of college will also get deleted which should not occur by common sense.

This anomaly happens when deletion of a data record results in losing some unrelated information that was stored as part of the record that was deleted from a table.

It is not possible to delete some information without losing some other information in the table as well.

3. Updation Anomaly –

Suppose if the rank of the college changes then changes will have to be all over the database which will be time-consuming and computationally costly.

Student_ID	Name	Contact	College	Course	Rank
100	Himanshu	7300934851	GEU	Btech	1
101	Ankit	7900734858	GEU	Btech	1
102	Aysuh	7300936759	GEU	Btech	1
103	Ravi	7300901556	GEU	Btech	1

All places should be updated

If updation do not occur at all places then database will be in inconsistent state.

Decomposition:-

The process of breaking up of a relation into smaller sub relations is called Decomposition.

Problems Related to Decomposition:

Unless we are careful, decomposing a relation schema can create more problems than it solves. Two important questions must be asked repeatedly:

1) How we need to decompose a relation?

For this several normal forms have been proposed for relations.

If a relation schema is in one of these normal forms, we know that certain kinds of problems cannot arise. Considering the normal form of a given relation schema can help us to decide whether or not to decompose it further.

2) What problems does a given decomposition cause?

To answer this we discuss about two properties of decomposition they are:

1) Lossless join property.

2) Dependency Preserving property.

1) Lossless join property:

- The lossless-join property enables us to recover any instance of the decomposed relation from corresponding instances of the smaller relations.

<EmplInfo>

Emp_ID	Emp_Name	Emp_Age	Emp_Location	Dept_ID	Dept_Name
E001	Jacob	29	Alabama	Dpt1	Operations
E002	Henry	32	Alabama	Dpt2	HR
E003	Tom	22	Texas	Dpt3	Finance

<EmpDetails>

Emp_ID	Emp_Name	Emp_Age	Emp_Location
E001	Jacob	29	Alabama
E002	Henry	32	Alabama
E003	Tom	22	Texas

<DeptDetails>

Dept_ID	Emp_ID	Dept_Name
Dpt1	E001	Operations
Dpt2	E002	HR
Dpt3	E003	Finance

Emp_ID	Emp_Name	Emp_Age	Emp_Location	Dept_ID	Dept_Name
E001	Jacob	29	Alabama	Dpt1	Operations
E002	Henry	32	Alabama	Dpt2	HR
E003	Tom	22	Texas	Dpt3	Finance

2) Dependency preserving property:-

- It is an important constraint of the database.
- In the dependency preservation, at least one decomposed table must satisfy every dependency.
- If a relation R is decomposed into relation R1 and R2, then the dependencies of R either must be a part of R1 or R2 or must be derivable from the combination of functional dependencies of R1 and R2.
- For example, suppose there is a relation R (A, B, C, D) with functional dependency set (A→BC). The relational R is decomposed into R1(ABC) and R2(AD) which is dependency preserving because FD A→BC is a part of relation R1(ABC)

Functional dependency:-

A functional dependency is a constraint that specifies the relationship between two sets of attributes where one set can accurately determine the value of other sets. It is denoted as $X \rightarrow Y$, where X is a set of attributes that is capable of determining the value of Y. The attribute set on the left side of the arrow, X is called **Determinant**, while on the right side, Y is called the **Dependent**.

Example:

roll_no	name	dept_name	dept_building
42	abc	CO	A4
43	pqr	IT	A3
44	xyz	CO	A4
45	xyz	IT	A3

roll_no	name	dept_name	dept_building
46	mno	EC	B2
47	jkl	ME	B2

From the above table we can conclude some valid functional dependencies:

- $roll_no \rightarrow \{ name, dept_name, dept_building \}$, \rightarrow Here, roll_no can determine values of fields name, dept_name and dept_building, hence a valid Functional dependency
- $roll_no \rightarrow dept_name$, Since, roll_no can determine whole set of {name, dept_name, dept_building}, it can determine its subset dept_name also.
- $dept_name \rightarrow dept_building$, Dept_name can identify the dept_building accurately, since departments with different dept_name will also have a different dept_building
- More valid functional dependencies: $roll_no \rightarrow name$, $\{roll_no, name\} \twoheadrightarrow \{dept_name, dept_building\}$, etc.

Here are some invalid functional dependencies:

- $name \rightarrow dept_name$ Students with the same name can have different dept_name, hence this is not a valid functional dependency.
- $dept_building \rightarrow dept_name$ There can be multiple departments in the same building, For example, in the above table departments ME and EC are in the same building B2, hence $dept_building \rightarrow dept_name$ is an invalid functional dependency.
- More invalid functional dependencies: $name \rightarrow roll_no$, $\{name, dept_name\} \rightarrow roll_no, dept_building$ $\rightarrow roll_no$, etc.

Armstrong’s axioms/properties of functional dependencies:

1. **Reflexivity:** If Y is a subset of X, then $X \rightarrow Y$ holds by reflexivity rule
For example, $\{roll_no, name\} \rightarrow name$ is valid.
2. **Augmentation:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ is a valid dependency, then $XZ \rightarrow YZ$ is also valid by the augmentation rule.
For example, If $\{roll_no, name\} \rightarrow dept_building$ is valid, hence $\{roll_no, name, dept_name\} \rightarrow \{dept_building, dept_name\}$ is also valid. \rightarrow
3. **Transitivity:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$ are both valid dependencies, then $X \rightarrow Z$ is also valid by the Transitivity rule.
For example, $roll_no \rightarrow dept_name$ & $dept_name \rightarrow dept_building$, then $roll_no \rightarrow dept_building$ is also valid.

Types of Functional dependencies in DBMS:

1. Trivial functional dependency

2. Non-Trivial functional dependency
3. Multivalued functional dependency
4. Transitive functional dependency

1. Trivial Functional Dependency:-

In **Trivial Functional Dependency**, a dependent is always a subset of the determinant.

i.e. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and **Y is the subset of X**, then it is called trivial functional dependency

For example,

roll_no	name	age
42	abc	17
43	pqr	18
44	xyz	18

Here, $\{\text{roll_no, name}\} \rightarrow \text{name}$ is a trivial functional dependency, since the dependent **name** is a subset of determinant set $\{\text{roll_no, name}\}$

Similarly, $\text{roll_no} \rightarrow \text{roll_no}$ is also an example of trivial functional dependency.

2. Non-trivial Functional Dependency:-

In **Non-trivial functional dependency**, the dependent is strictly not a subset of the determinant.

i.e. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and **Y is not a subset of X**, then it is called Non-trivial functional dependency.

For example,

roll_no	name	Age
42	abc	17
43	pqr	18
44	xyz	18

Here, $\text{roll_no} \rightarrow \text{name}$ is a non-trivial functional dependency, since the dependent **name** is **not a subset of** determinant **roll_no**

Similarly, $\{\text{roll_no, name}\} \rightarrow \text{age}$ is also a non-trivial functional dependency, since **age** is **not a subset of** $\{\text{roll_no, name}\}$

3. Multivalued Functional Dependency:-

In **Multivalued functional dependency**, entities of the dependent set are **not dependent on each other**.

i.e. If $a \rightarrow \{b, c\}$ and there exists **no functional dependency** between **b and c**, then it is called a **multivalued functional dependency**.

For example,

roll_no	name	age
42	abc	17
43	pqr	18
44	xyz	18
45	abc	19

Here, $\text{roll_no} \rightarrow \{\text{name, age}\}$ is a multi valued functional dependency, since the dependents **name & age** are **not dependent** on each other(i.e. $\text{name} \rightarrow \text{age}$ or $\text{age} \rightarrow \text{name}$ doesn't exist !)

4. Transitive Functional Dependency:-

In transitive functional dependency, dependent is indirectly dependent on determinant.

i.e. If $a \rightarrow b$ & $b \rightarrow c$, then according to axiom of transitivity, $a \rightarrow c$. This is a **transitive functional dependency**

For example,

enrol_no	Name	dept	building_no
42	Abc	CO	4
43	Pqr	EC	2
44	Xyz	IT	1
45	Abc	EC	2

Here, $\text{enrol_no} \rightarrow \text{dept}$ and $\text{dept} \rightarrow \text{building_no}$,

Hence, according to the axiom of transitivity, $\text{enrol_no} \rightarrow \text{building_no}$ is a valid functional dependency.

This is an indirect functional dependency, hence called Transitive functional dependency.

Normal Forms (NF):-

Normalization is the process of minimizing **redundancy** from a relation or set of relations. Redundancy in relation may cause insertion, deletion, and update anomalies. So, it helps to minimize the redundancy in relations. **Normal forms** are used to eliminate or reduce redundancy in database tables.

Types of Normal Forms:

1. First normal form(1NF)
2. Second normal form(2NF)
3. Third normal form(3NF)
4. Boyce-Codd normal form(BCNF)(3.5)

1. First Normal Form(1NF):-

If a relation contain composite or multi-valued attribute, it violates first normal form or a relation is in first normal form if it does not contain any composite or multi-valued attribute. A relation is in first normal form if every attribute in that relation is **singled valued attribute**.

Example 1 – Relation STUDENT in table 1 is not in 1NF because of multi-valued attribute STUD_PHONE. Its decomposition into 1NF has been shown in table 2.

STUD_NO	STUD_NAME	STUD_PHONE	STUD_STATE	STUD_COUNTRY
1	RAM	9716271721, 9871717178	HARYANA	INDIA
2	RAM	9898297281	PUNJAB	INDIA
3	SURESH		PUNJAB	INDIA

Table 1

Conversion to first normal form

STUD_NO	STUD_NAME	STUD_PHONE	STUD_STATE	STUD_COUNTRY
1	RAM	9716271721	HARYANA	INDIA
1	RAM	9871717178	HARYANA	INDIA
2	RAM	9898297281	PUNJAB	INDIA
3	SURESH		PUNJAB	INDIA

Table 2

Example 2 –

ID	Name	Courses
1	A	c1, c2
2	E	c3
3	M	C2, c3

In the above table Course is a multi-valued attribute so it is not in 1NF.

Below Table is in 1NF as there is no multi-valued attribute

ID	Name	Course
1	A	c1
1	A	c2
2	E	c3
3	M	c2
3	M	c3

2. Second Normal Form(2NF): –

To be in second normal form, a relation must be in first normal form and relation must not contain any partial dependency. A relation is in 2NF if it has **No Partial Dependency**, i.e., no non-prime attribute (attributes which are not part of any candidate key) is dependent on any proper subset of any candidate key of the table.

Partial Dependency – If the proper subset of candidate key determines non-prime attribute, it is called partial dependency.

• **Example 1** – Consider table-3 as following below.

STUD_NO	COURSE_NO	COURSE_FEE
1	C1	1000
2	C2	1500
1	C4	2000
4	C3	1000
4	C1	1000
2	C5	2000

{Note that, there are many courses having the same course fee. }

Here,

COURSE_FEE cannot alone decide the value of COURSE_NO or STUD_NO;

COURSE_FEE together with STUD_NO cannot decide the value of COURSE_NO;

COURSE_FEE together with COURSE_NO cannot decide the value of STUD_NO;

Hence,

COURSE_FEE would be a non-prime attribute, as it does not belong to the one only candidate key {STUD_NO, COURSE_NO} ;

But, COURSE_NO -> COURSE_FEE, i.e., COURSE_FEE is dependent on COURSE_NO, which is a proper subset of the candidate key. Non-prime attribute COURSE_FEE is dependent on a proper subset of the candidate key, which is a partial dependency and so this relation is not in 2NF.

To convert the above relation to 2NF,

we need to split the table into two tables such as :

Table 1: STUD_NO, COURSE_NO

Table 2: COURSE_NO, COURSE_FEE

Table 1		Table 2	
STUD_NO	COURSE_NO	COURSE_NO	COURSE_FEE
1	C1	C1	1000
2	C2	C2	1500
1	C4	C3	1000
4	C3	C4	2000
4	C1	C5	2000

NOTE: 2NF tries to reduce the redundant data getting stored in memory. For instance, if there are 100 students taking C1 course, we don't need to store its Fee as 1000 for all the 100 records, instead, once we can store it in the second table as the course fee for C1 is 1000.

Example 2 – Consider following functional dependencies in relation R (A, B , C, D)

AB -> C [A and B together determine C]

BC → D [B and C together determine D]

In the above relation, AB is the only candidate key and there is no partial dependency, i.e., any proper subset of AB doesn't determine any non-prime attribute.

3. Third Normal Form :-

A relation is in third normal form, if there is **no transitive dependency** for non-prime attributes as well as it is in second normal form.

A relation is in 3NF if **at least one of the following condition holds** in every non-trivial function dependency $X \rightarrow Y$

1. X is a super key.
2. Y is a prime attribute (each element of Y is part of some candidate key).

STUD_NO	STUD_NAME	STUD_STATE	STUD_COUNTRY	STUD_AGE
1	RAM	HARYANA	INDIA	20
2	RAM	PUNJAB	INDIA	19
3	SURESH	PUNJAB	INDIA	21

Table 4

Transitive dependency – If $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$ are two FDs then $A \rightarrow C$ is called transitive dependency.

Example 1 – In relation STUDENT given in Table 4,

FD set: { $STUD_NO \rightarrow STUD_NAME$, $STUD_NO \rightarrow STUD_STATE$, $STUD_STATE \rightarrow STUD_COUNTRY$, $STUD_NO \rightarrow STUD_AGE$ }

Candidate Key: { $STUD_NO$ }

For this relation in table 4, $STUD_NO \rightarrow STUD_STATE$ and $STUD_STATE \rightarrow STUD_COUNTRY$ are true. So $STUD_COUNTRY$ is transitively dependent on $STUD_NO$. It violates the third normal form. To convert it in third normal form, we will decompose the relation STUDENT ($STUD_NO$, $STUD_NAME$, $STUD_PHONE$, $STUD_STATE$, $STUD_COUNTRY$, $STUD_AGE$) as:

STUDENT ($STUD_NO$, $STUD_NAME$, $STUD_PHONE$, $STUD_STATE$, $STUD_AGE$)

STATE_COUNTRY ($STATE$, $COUNTRY$)

Example 2 – Consider relation $R(A, B, C, D, E)$

$A \rightarrow BC$,

$CD \rightarrow E$,

$B \rightarrow D$,

$E \rightarrow A$

All possible candidate keys in above relation are {A, E, CD, BC} All attributes are on right sides of all functional dependencies are prime.

4. Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF): –

A relation R is in BCNF if R is in Third Normal Form and for every FD, LHS is super key. A relation is in BCNF iff in every non-trivial functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$, X is a super key.

Example 1 – Find the highest normal form of a relation $R(A, B, C, D, E)$ with FD set as { $BC \rightarrow D$, $AC \rightarrow BE$, $B \rightarrow E$ }

Step 1. As we can see, $(AC)^+ = \{A, C, B, E, D\}$ but none of its subset can determine all attribute of relation, So AC will be candidate key. A or C can't be derived from any other attribute of the relation, so there will be only 1 candidate key {AC}.

Step 2. Prime attributes are those attributes that are part of candidate key {A, C} in this example and others will be non-prime {B, D, E} in this example.

Step 3. The relation R is in 1st normal form as a relational DBMS does not allow multi-valued or

composite attribute.

The relation is in 2nd normal form because $BC \rightarrow D$ is in 2nd normal form (BC is not a proper subset of candidate key AC) and $AC \rightarrow BE$ is in 2nd normal form (AC is candidate key) and $B \rightarrow E$ is in 2nd normal form (B is not a proper subset of candidate key AC).

The relation is not in 3rd normal form because in $BC \rightarrow D$ (neither BC is a super key nor D is a prime attribute) and in $B \rightarrow E$ (neither B is a super key nor E is a prime attribute) but to satisfy 3rd normal form, either LHS of an FD should be super key or RHS should be prime attribute.

So the highest normal form of relation will be 2nd Normal form.

Example 2 –For example consider relation R(A, B, C)

$A \rightarrow BC$,

$B \rightarrow$

A and B both are super keys so above relation is in BCNF.