CompSci 516 Database Systems

Lecture 5 Design Theory and Normalization

Instructor: Sudeepa Roy

Where are we now?

We learnt

- ✓ Relational Model and Query Languages
 ✓ SQL, RA, RC
 ✓ Postgres (DBMS)
 ✓ XML (overview)
 - HW1

Next

- Database Normalization
 - (for good schema design)

Announcements

- No class or office hour on Thursday
 - Classes are canceled due to Hurricane alert
 - Make up classe/office hour to be announced later

- Reminder: HW1
 - Sakai : Resources -> HW -> HW1 folder
 - Due on 09/20 (Thurs), 11:55 pm, no late days
 - Start now!
 - Submission instructions for gradescope are updated on piazza

Reading Material

- Database normalization
 - [RG] Chapter 19.1 to 19.5, 19.6.1, 19.8 (overview)
 - [GUW] Chapter 3

Acknowledgement:

- The following slides have been created adapting the instructor material of the [RG] book provided by the authors Dr. Ramakrishnan and Dr. Gehrke.
- Some slides have been adapted from slides by Profs. Magda Balazinska, Dan Suciu, and Jun Yang

What will we learn?

- What goes wrong if we have redundant info in a database?
- Why and how should you refine a schema?
- Functional Dependencies a new kind of integrity constraints (IC)
- Normal Forms
- How to obtain those normal forms

Example

The list of hourly employees in an organization

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

• key = SSN

Example

The list of hourly employees in an organization

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

- key = SSN
- Suppose for a given rating, there is only one hourly_wage value
- Redundancy in the table
- Why is redundancy bad?

The list of hourly employees in an organization

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

1. Redundant storage:

- Some information is stored repeatedly
- The rating value 8 corresponds to hourly_wage 10, which is stored three times

The list of hourly employees in an organization

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	$10 \rightarrow 9$	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

2. Update anomalies

- If one copy of data is updated, an inconsistency is created unless all copies are similarly updated
- Suppose you update the hourly_wage value in the first tuple using UPDATE statement in SQL -- inconsistency

The list of hourly employees in an organization

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

3. Insertion anomalies:

- It may not be possible to store certain information unless some other, unrelated info is stored as well
- We cannot insert a tuple for an employee unless we know the hourly wage for the employee's rating value

The list of hourly employees in an organization

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

4. Deletion anomalies:

- It may not be possible delete certain information without losing some other information as well
- If we delete all tuples with a given rating value (Attishoo, Smiley, Madayan), we lose the association between that rating value and its hourly_wage value

Nulls may or may not help

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

- Does not help redundant storage or update anomalies
- May help insertion and deletion anomalies
 - can insert a tuple with null value in the hourly_wage field
 - but cannot record hourly_wage for a rating unless there is such an employee (SSN cannot be null) – same for deletion

Summary: Redundancy

Therefore,

- Redundancy arises when the schema forces an association between attributes that is "not natural"
- We want schemas that do not permit redundancy
 - at least identify schemas that allow redundancy to make an informed decision (e.g. for performance reasons)
- Null value may or may not help
- Solution?
 - decomposition of schema

Decomposition

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hourly- wage (W)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	10	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	10	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	7	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	7	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	10	40

<u>ssn (S)</u>	name (N)	lot (L)	rating (R)	hours- worked (H)
111-11-1111	Attishoo	48	8	40
222-22-2222	Smiley	22	8	30
333-33-3333	Smethurst	35	5	30
444-44-4444	Guldu	35	5	32
555-55-5555	Madayan	35	8	40

<u>rating</u>	hourly _wage
8	10
5	7

Decompositions should be used judiciously

- 1. Do we need to decompose a relation?
 - Several normal forms
 - If a relation is not in one of them, may need to decompose further
- 2. What are the problems with decomposition?
 - Lossless joins (soon)
 - Performance issues -- decomposition may both
 - help performance (for updates, some queries accessing part of data), or
 - hurt performance (new joins may be needed for some queries)

Functional Dependencies (FDs)

- A <u>functional dependency</u> (FD) X → Y holds over relation R if, for every allowable instance r of R:
 - i.e., given two tuples in r, if the X values agree, then the Y values must also agree
 - X and Y are *sets* of attributes
 - $t1 \in r$, $t2 \in r$, $\Pi_X(t1) = \Pi_X(t2)$ implies $\Pi_Y(t1) = \Pi_Y(t2)$

Α	В	С	D
a1	b1	c1	d1
al	b1	c1	d2
al	b2	c2	d1
a2	b1	c3	d1

What is an FD here?

Functional Dependencies (FDs)

- A functional dependency (FD) X → Y holds over relation R if, for every allowable instance r of R:
 - i.e., given two tuples in r, if the X values agree, then the Y values must also agree
 - X and Y are *sets* of attributes
 - $t1 \in r$, $t2 \in r$, $\Pi_X(t1) = \Pi_X(t2)$ implies $\Pi_Y(t1) = \Pi_Y(t2)$

Α	В	С	D
a1	b1	c1	d1
a1	b1	c1	d2
a1	b2	c2	d1
a2	b1	c3	d1

What is an FD here?

 $AB \rightarrow C$

Note that, AB is not a key

not a correct question though.. see next slide!

Functional Dependencies (FDs)

- An FD is a statement about all allowable relations
 - Must be identified based on semantics of application
 - Given some allowable instance r1 of R, we can check if it violates some FD f, but we cannot tell if f holds over R
- K is a candidate key for R means that $K \rightarrow R$
 - denoting R = all attributes of R too
 - However, S \rightarrow R does not require S to be minimal
 - e.g. S can be a superkey

Example

- Consider relation obtained from Hourly_Emps:
 - Hourly_Emps (<u>ssn</u>, name, lot, rating, hourly_wage, hours_worked)
- Notation: We will denote a relation schema by listing the attributes: SNLRWH
 - Basically the set of attributes {S,N,L,R,W,H}
 - here first letter of each attribute
- FDs on Hourly_Emps:
 - − ssn is the key: $S \rightarrow SNLRWH$
 - rating determines hourly_wages: $R \rightarrow W$

Armstrong's Axioms

- X, Y, Z are sets of attributes
- Reflexivity: If $X \supseteq Y$, then $X \rightarrow Y$
- Augmentation: If $X \rightarrow Y$, then $XZ \rightarrow YZ$ for any Z
- Transitivity: If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$

Α	В	С	D
a1	b1	c1	d1
a1	b1	c1	d2
a1	b2	c2	d1
a2	b1	c3	d1

Apply these rules on $AB \rightarrow C$ and check

Armstrong's Axioms

- X, Y, Z are sets of attributes
- Reflexivity: If $X \supseteq Y$, then $X \rightarrow Y$
- Augmentation: If $X \rightarrow Y$, then $XZ \rightarrow YZ$ for any Z
- Transitivity: If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$

- These are sound and complete inference rules for FDs
 - sound: then only generate FDs in F⁺ for F
 - complete: by repeated application of these rules, all FDs in F⁺ will be generated

Additional Rules

- Follow from Armstrong's Axioms
- Union: If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow YZ$
- Decomposition: If $X \rightarrow YZ$, then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$

Α	В	С	D
a1	b1	c1	d1
a1	b1	c1	d2
a2	b2	c2	d1
a2	b2	c2	d2

$$\begin{array}{c} A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow C \\ A \rightarrow BC \end{array}$$

 $\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{A} \to \mathsf{BC} \\ \mathsf{A} \to \mathsf{B}, \mathsf{A} \to \mathsf{C} \end{array}$

Closure of a set of FDs

- Given some FDs, we can usually infer additional FDs:
 SSN → DEPT, and DEPT → LOT implies SSN → LOT
- An FD *f* is implied by a set of FDs *F* if *f* holds whenever all FDs in *F* hold.
- F⁺

= closure of F is the set of all FDs that are implied by F

To check if an FD belongs to a closure

- Computing the closure of a set of FDs can be expensive
 - Size of closure can be exponential in #attributes
- Typically, we just want to check if a given FD X → Y is in the closure of a set of FDs F
- No need to compute F⁺
- 1. Compute attribute closure of X (denoted X⁺) wrt *F*:
 - Set of all attributes A such that $X \rightarrow A$ is in F^+
- 2. Check if Y is in X⁺

Computing Attribute Closure

Algorithm:

- closure = X
- Repeat until no change
 - if there is an FD U \rightarrow V in F such that U \subseteq closure, then closure = closure \cup V
- Does F = {A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, C D \rightarrow E } imply A \rightarrow E?
 - i.e, is A \rightarrow E in the closure F⁺? Equivalently, is E in A⁺?

Normal Forms

- Question: given a schema, how to decide whether any schema refinement is needed at all?
- If a relation is in a certain normal forms, it is known that certain kinds of problems are avoided/minimized
- Helps us decide whether decomposing the relation is something we want to do

FDs play a role in detecting redundancy

Example

- Consider a relation R with 3 attributes, ABC
 - No FDs hold: There is no redundancy here no decomposition needed
 - Given A → B: Several tuples could have the same A value, and if so, they'll all have the same B value – redundancy – decomposition may be needed if A is not a key

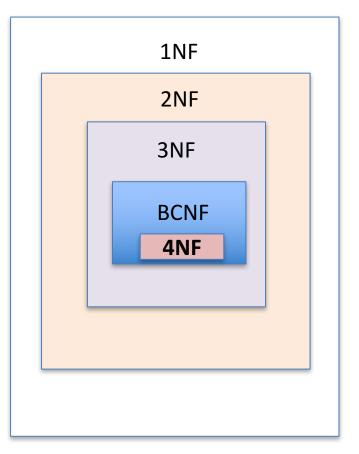
• Intuitive idea:

- if there is any non-key dependency, e.g. $A \rightarrow B$, decompose!

Normal Forms



- \Rightarrow R is in BCNF
- \Rightarrow R is in 3NF
- \Rightarrow R is in 2NF (a historical one)
- \Rightarrow R is in 1NF (every field has atomic values)

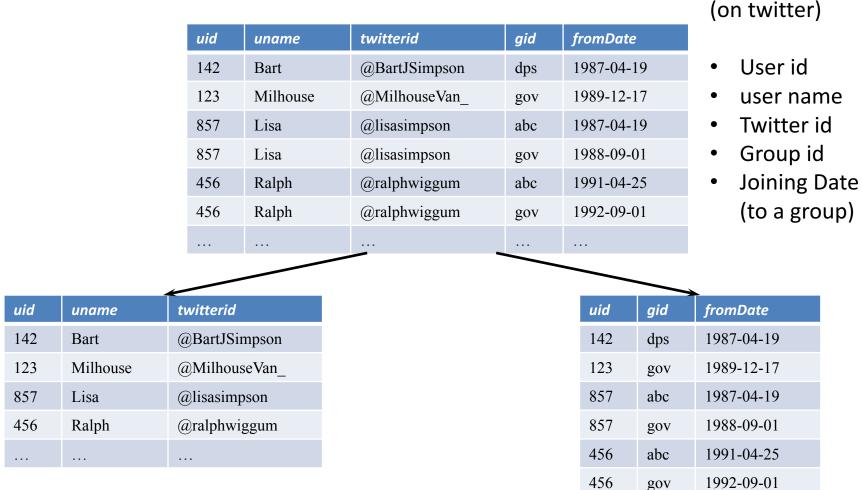


Only BCNF and 4NF are covered in the class

Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)

- Relation R with FDs F is in BCNF if, for all X →
 A in F
 - $-A \in X$ (called a trivial FD), or
 - X contains a key for R
 - i.e. X is a superkey

Decomposition



- Eliminates redundancy
- To get back to the original relation: ⋈

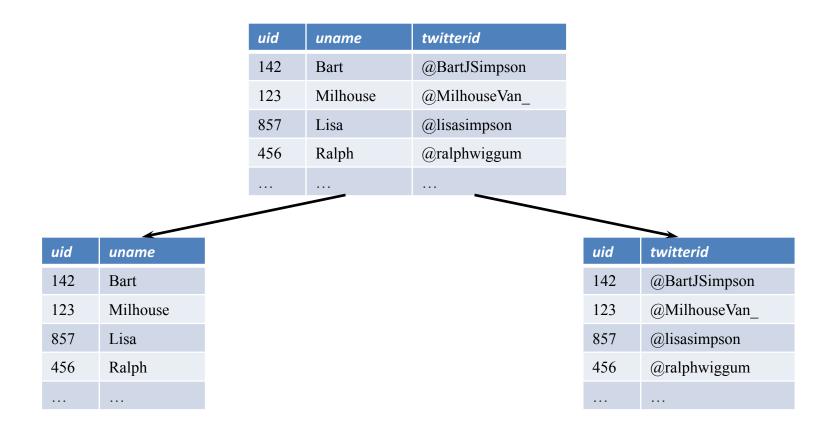
Duke CS, Fall 2018

. . .

. . .

. . .

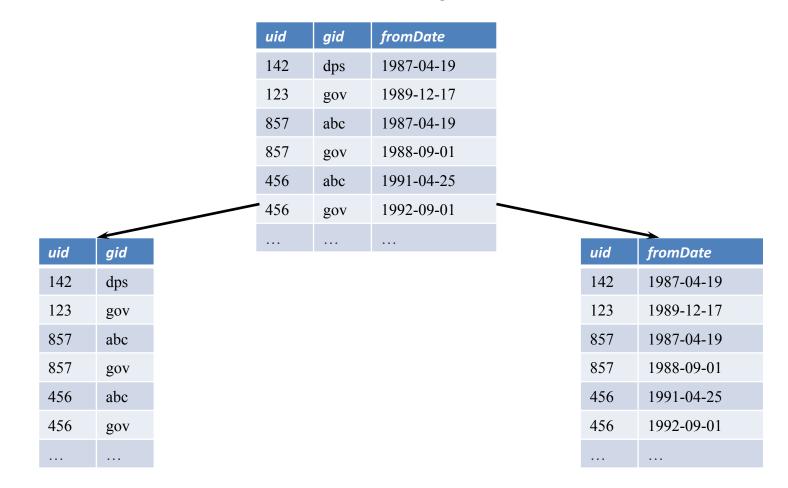
Unnecessary decomposition



- Fine: join returns the original relation
- Unnecessary: no redundancy is removed; schema is more complicated (and *uid* is stored twice!)

Duke CS, Fall 2018

Bad decomposition



- Association between *gid* and *fromDate* is lost
- Join returns more rows than the original relation Duke CS, Fall 2018 CompSci 516: Database Systems

Lossless join decomposition

• Decompose relation *R* into relations *S* and *T*

$$- attrs(R) = attrs(S) \cup attrs(T)$$

$$-S = \pi_{attrs(S)}(R)$$
$$-T = \pi_{attrs(T)}(R)$$

- The decomposition is a lossless join decomposition if, given known constraints such as FD's, we can guarantee that R = S ⋈ T
- $R \subseteq S \bowtie T$ or $R \supseteq S \bowtie T$?
- Any decomposition gives $R \subseteq S \bowtie T$ (why?) - A lossy decomposition is one with $R \subset S \bowtie T$

Loss? But I got more rows!

- "Loss" refers not to the loss of tuples, but to the loss of information
 - Or, the ability to distinguish different original relations

			uid	gid	fromDate			
			142	dps	1987-04-19	No) wav	to tell
			123	gov	1989-12-17			s the ori
			857	abc	1988-09-01			
			857	gov	1987-04-19			
1	· · ·		456	abc	1991-04-25			
	gid		456	gov	1992-09-01		uid	fromDate
	dps						142	1987-04-19
3	gov						123	1989-12-17
,	abc						857	1987-04-19
7	gov						857	1988-09-01
	abc						456	1991-04-25
56	gov						456	1992-09-01
(6	e CS, Fall 2	2018			CompSci 5	516: Database	Systems	

BCNF decomposition algorithm

• Find a BCNF violation

- That is, a non-trivial FD $X \rightarrow Y$ in R where X is not a super key of R
- Decompose *R* into *R*₁ and *R*₂, where
 - $-R_1$ has attributes $X \cup Y$
 - R_2 has attributes $X \cup Z$, where Z contains all attributes of R that are in neither X nor Y
- Repeat until all relations are in BCNF
- Also gives a lossless decomposition!

BCNF decomposition example - 1

- <u>CSJDPQV</u>, key C, $F = {JP \rightarrow C, SD \rightarrow P, J \rightarrow S}$
 - To deal with SD \rightarrow P, decompose into <u>SD</u>P, CSJDQV.
 - To deal with J \rightarrow S, decompose CSJDQV into <u>J</u>S and <u>C</u>JDQV
- Is JP \rightarrow C a violation of BCNF?
- Note:
 - several dependencies may cause violation of BCNF
 - The order in which we pick them may lead to very different sets of relations
 - there may be multiple correct decompositions (can pick J \rightarrow S first)

BCNF decomposition example - 2

 $uid \rightarrow uname$, twitterid twitterid $\rightarrow uid$ uid, gid \rightarrow fromDate

UserJoinsGroup (uid, uname, twitterid, gid, fromDate)

BCNF violation: *uid* \rightarrow *uname*, *twitterid*

User (uid, uname, twitterid)

 $uid \rightarrow uname$, twitterid twitterid $\rightarrow uid$

BCNF

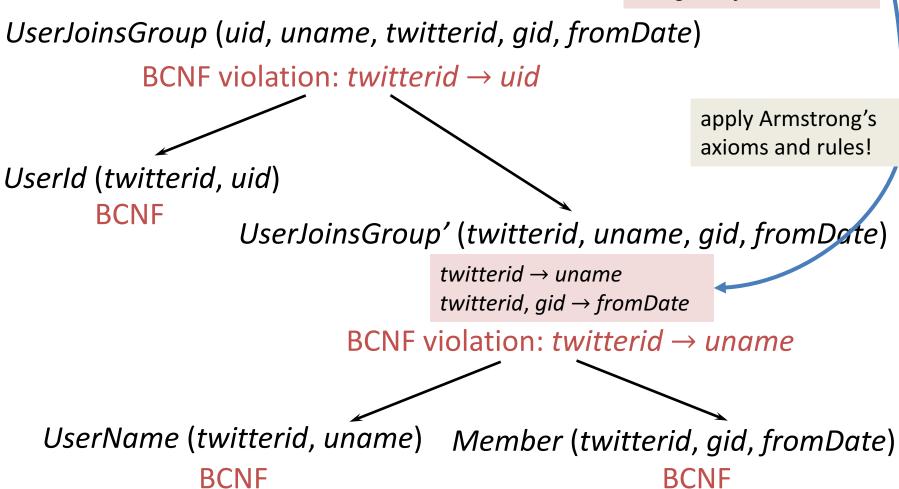
Member (uid, gid, fromDate)

uid, gid \rightarrow fromDate

BCNF

BCNF decomposition example - 3

 $uid \rightarrow uname$, twitterid twitterid $\rightarrow uid$ uid, gid \rightarrow fromDate



Recap

- Functional dependencies: a generalization of the key concept
- Non-key functional dependencies: a source of redundancy
- BCNF decomposition: a method for removing redundancies
 - BCNF decomposition is a lossless join decomposition
- BCNF: schema in this normal form has no redundancy due to FD's

BCNF = no redundancy?

• User (uid, gid, place)

- A user can belong to multiple groups
- A user can register places she's visited
- Groups and places have nothing to do with other
- FD's?
 - None
- BCNF?
 - Yes
- Redundancies?
 - Tons!

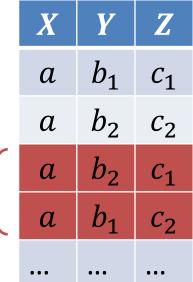
uid	gid	place
142	dps	Springfield
142	dps	Australia
456	abc	Springfield
456	abc	Morocco
456	gov	Springfield
456	gov	Morocco

Multivalued dependencies

A multivalued dependency (MVD) has the form

 $X \rightarrow Y$, where X and Y are sets of attributes in a relation R X = X = X

 X → Y means that whenever two rows in R agree on all the attributes of X, then we can swap their Y components and get two rows that are also in R



MVD examples

User (uid, gid, place)

- uid → gid
- $uid \rightarrow place$
 - Intuition: given *uid*, attributes *gid* and *place* are "independent"
- uid, gid \rightarrow place
 - Trivial: LHS \cup RHS = all attributes of R
- uid, gid → uid
 Trivial: LHS ⊇ RHS

Verify these yourself!

Complete MVD + FD rules

- FD reflexivity, augmentation, and transitivity
- MVD complementation: If $X \rightarrow Y$, then $X \rightarrow attrs(R) - X - Y$
- MVD augmentation: If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $V \subseteq W$, then $XW \rightarrow YV$
- MVD transitivity: If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z - Y$
- Replication (FD is MVD): If $X \rightarrow Y$, then $X \rightarrow Y$
- Coalescence: Try proving things using these!? If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Z \subseteq Y$ and there is some W disjoint from Y such that $W \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$

Read this slide after looking at the examples

An elegant solution: "chase"

- Given a set of FD's and MVD's \mathcal{D} , does another dependency d (FD or MVD) follow from \mathcal{D} ?
- Procedure
 - Start with the premise of d, and treat them as "seed" tuples in a relation
 - Apply the given dependencies in ${\cal D}$ repeatedly
 - If we apply an FD, we infer equality of two symbols
 - If we apply an MVD, we infer more tuples
 - If we infer the conclusion of d, we have a proof
 - Otherwise, if nothing more can be inferred, we have a counterexample

TO BE CONTINUED IN LECTURE 6

Proof by chase

• In R(A, B, C, D), does $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$ imply that $A \rightarrow C$?

Have:	A	B	С	D	Need:	A	B	С	D	
	а	b_1	<i>c</i> ₁	d_1		а	b_1	<i>C</i> ₂	d_1	er de la companya de la comp
	а	b_2	<i>C</i> ₂	d_2		а	b_2	<i>c</i> ₁	d_2	af a
$A \twoheadrightarrow B$	а	b_2	<i>c</i> ₁	d_1						
A → D	а	b_1	<i>C</i> ₂	d_2						
$B \twoheadrightarrow C$	а	b_2	<i>C</i> ₁	d_2						
D C	а	b_2	<i>C</i> ₂	d_1						
$B \twoheadrightarrow C$	а	b_1	<i>c</i> ₂	d_1						
D C	а	b_1	-	_	i16: Database Systems					

Another proof by chase

• In R(A, B, C, D), does $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$ imply that $A \rightarrow C$?

Have:ABCDNeed:a b_1 c_1 d_1 a b_2 c_2 d_2

$$A \to B$$
 $b_1 = b_2$

$$B \to C \qquad c_1 = c_2$$

In general, with both MVD's and FD's, chase can generate both new tuples and new equalities

Counterexample by chase

• In R(A, B, C, D), does $A \rightarrow BC$ and $CD \rightarrow B$ imply that $A \rightarrow B$?

Have:	A	B	С	D	N	eed:	1. 1
	а	b_1	<i>c</i> ₁	d_1			$b_1 = b_2 <$
	а	<i>b</i> ₂	<i>C</i> ₂	d_2			
$A \rightarrow DC$	а	<i>b</i> ₂	<i>C</i> ₂	d_1			
$A \twoheadrightarrow BC$	а	b_1	<i>c</i> ₁	d_2			

Counterexample!

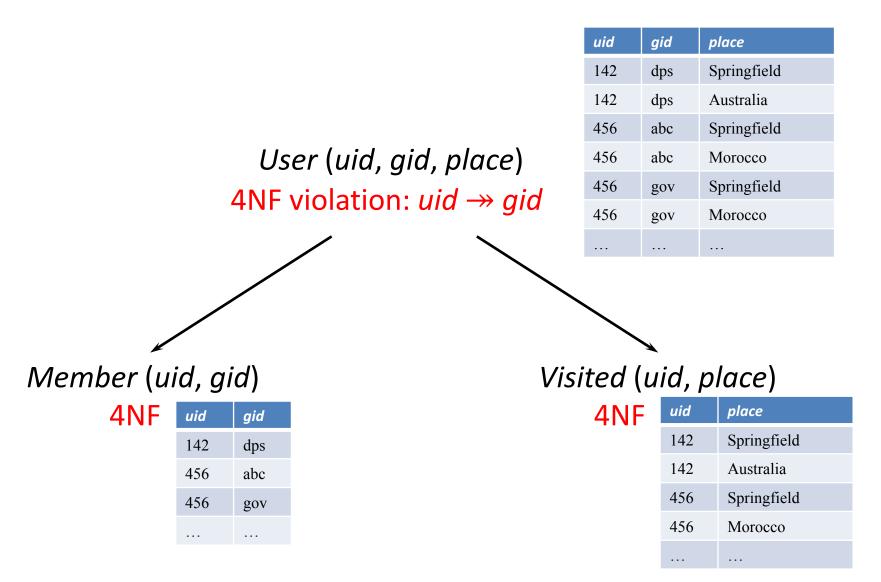
4NF

- A relation *R* is in Fourth Normal Form (4NF) if
 - For every non-trivial MVD $X \rightarrow Y$ in R, X is a superkey
 - That is, all FD's and MVD's follow from "key → other attributes" (i.e., no MVD's and no FD's besides key functional dependencies)
- 4NF is stronger than BCNF
 - Because every FD is also a MVD

4NF decomposition algorithm

- Find a 4NF violation
 - A non-trivial MVD $X \rightarrow Y$ in R where X is not a superkey
- Decompose R into R_1 and R_2 , where
 - R_1 has attributes $X \cup Y$
 - R_2 has attributes $X \cup Z$ (where Z contains R attributes not in X or Y)
- Repeat until all relations are in 4NF
- Almost identical to BCNF decomposition algorithm
- Any decomposition on a 4NF violation is lossless

4NF decomposition example



Other kinds of dependencies and normal forms

- Dependency preserving decompositions
- Join dependencies
- Inclusion dependencies
- 5NF, 3NF, 2NF
- See book if interested (not covered in class)

Summary

- Philosophy behind BCNF, 4NF: Data should depend on the key, the whole key, and nothing but the key!
 - You could have multiple keys though
- Redundancy is not desired typically
 - not always, mainly due to performance reasons
- Functional/multivalued dependencies capture redundancy
- Decompositions eliminate dependencies
- Normal forms
 - Guarantees certain non-redundancy
 - BCNF, and 4NF
- Lossless join
- How to decompose into BCNF, 4NF
- Chase

