

Normalisation

Informal guidelines

- Semantics of the attributes
 - *easy to explain relation*
 - *doesn't mix concepts*
- Reducing the redundant values in tuples
- Choosing attribute domains that are atomic
- Reducing the null values in tuples
- Disallowing spurious tuples

Functional Dependency

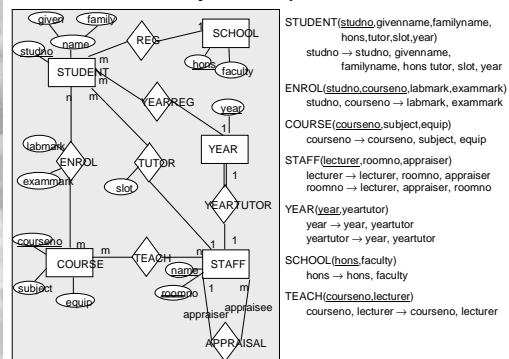
- an attribute A is functionally dependent on a set of attributes X if and only if
 - value of A is determined solely by the values of X
 - values of X uniquely determine a value of A

$$X \rightarrow A$$

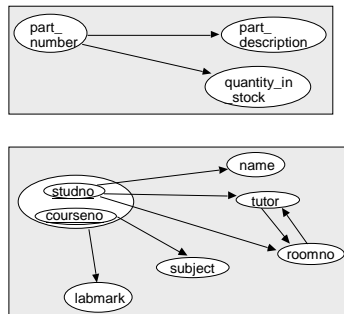
child \rightarrow mother
 mother $\not\rightarrow$ child

The value of child implies the value of mother
 Value of mother does NOT imply value of child
 Child is the determinant
 Mother is the dependent/determined

Our case study example



More Examples of Functional Dependency



Use functional dependencies to ...
 check that a relation is legal or good. e.g keys

- K is a superkey of relation R if $K \rightarrow R$

i.e.
 whenever $t1[k] = t2[k]$
 then $t1[R] = t2[R]$

K functionally determines all attributes in a tuple in R

STUDENT (studno, name, honours, tutor, slot, year)

studno \rightarrow studno, name, honours, tutor, slot, year

Use functional dependencies to ...
check that a relation is legal or good. e.g. remove redundancy

- Partial Dependency
studno, courseno → subject
(studno, courseno, subject)
- Transitive Dependency
studno → yeartutor
studno → year
year → yeartutor SO,
studno → yeartutor
(studno, yeartutor)
- Base functional dependencies F
- Set of logically implied functional dependencies
CLOSURE F+

Normalisation

Given a relation R with a set of functional dependencies F, and a key K

We must identify independent attributes

1. the key identifies all the attributes but...
2. ... if an attribute only depends on part of the key, then it is independent of the rest of it.

Attribute is partially dependent on the key

3. ... if an attribute only depends on the key transitively, then it really depends directly on another attribute and is independent of the key.

Attribute is transitively dependent on the key

Boyce-Codd Normal Form

A relation scheme R is in BCNF if, for all functional dependencies that hold on R of the form $X \rightarrow Y$ where $R \supseteq X$ and $R \supseteq Y$ at least one of the following holds

- $X \rightarrow Y$ is trivial
- X is a *candidate key* for the scheme R
i.e. $X \rightarrow R$

Every attribute must depend on the key, the whole key and nothing but the key

- Other Normal Forms: 1NF, 2NF and 3NF ... uses primary key only
- BCNF... generalised for candidate keys

Use functional dependencies to ...
check constraints on the set of legal relations

stud no	name	tutor	room no	course no	labmark	subject
s1	jones	bush	2.26	cs250	65	prog
s1	jones	bush	2.26	cs260	80	graphics
s1	jones	wibby	2.26	cs270	47	elec
s2	brown	kahn	IT206	cs250	67	prog
s2	brown	kahn	IT206	cs270	65	elec
s3	smith	goble	2.82	cs270	49	comms
s4	blogg	goble	2.82	cs280	50	design
s5	jones	zobel	2.34	cs250	0	prog
s6	peters	kahn	A17	cs250	2	prog
null	null	capon	A14	null	null	null
null	null	null	null	cs290	null	specs
s7	patel	null	null	null	null	null

F

studno → name, tutor
tutor → roomno
roomno → tutor
courseno → subject
studno, courseno → labmark

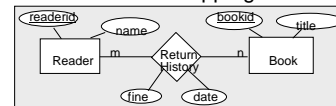
F+

studno, courseno → name *partial*
studno → roomno *transitive*

Consequences of redundancy

- Wasted space
- Potential performance cost
- Potential inconsistency
- Inability to represent data

Use functional dependencies to ...
check the EER model mapping correctness



ReturnHistory(readerid, bookid, date, fine)

readerid	bookid	date	fine
123	Macbeth	10/4	0
123	Macbeth	5/5	1.5
123	Macbeth	7/6	0
123	Hamlet	16/9	0
456	Macbeth	16/9	2
.	.	.	.

readerid → readerid
readerid → name

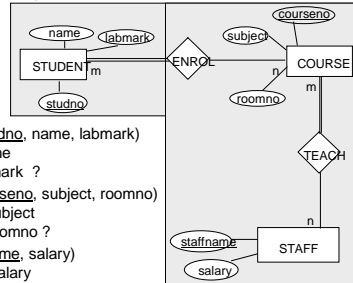
bookid → bookid
bookid → title

readerid, bookid → date ?
readerid, bookid → fine ?

Many:many relationships that could be weak entity types because they have hidden partial keys.

Using Functional Dependencies to ... check EER mappings

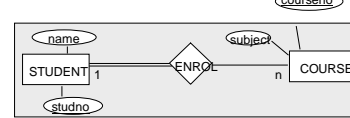
Attributes on wrong entities



- STUDENT(studno, name, labmark)
studno → name
studno → labmark ?
- COURSE(courseno, subject, roomno)
courseno → subject
courseno → roomno ?
- STAFF(staffname, salary)
staffname → salary
where is staffname → roomno ?

Using Functional Dependencies to ... check EER mappings

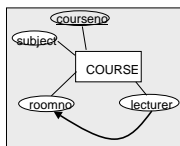
Wrong cardinalities on a relationship type



- STUDENT(studno, name)
studno → name
- COURSE(courseno, subject, studno)
courseno → subject
courseno → studno ?

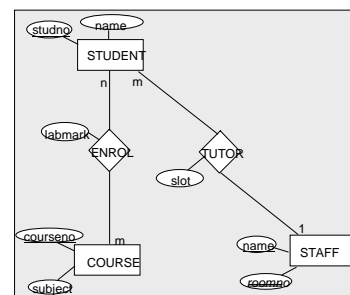
Using Functional Dependencies to ... check EER mappings

Missing 1:many relationship type and entity type or
missing multi-valued attribute



- COURSE (courseno, subject, lecturer, roomno)
courseno → subject
courseno → lecturer ?
courseno → roomno
lecturer → roomno

Functional Dependencies are hidden in EER Model



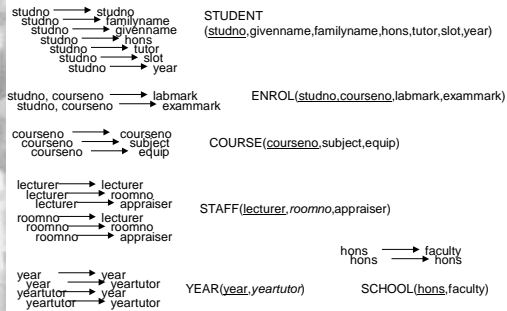
Using the EER Model and Functional Dependencies

1. Draw EER model
2. Map EER schema to relational schema
3. For every relation
 - List the functional dependencies
 - what does determine every attribute?
 - Check that every relation is in BCNF
 - does the key really solely uniquely identify each attribute?
 - if its not in BCNF then why?
 - Fix the problem
 - normalise and/or
 - trace back to EER model
4. Are there any functional dependencies missing?
5. Optimise the relational schema

Database design

- Extended Entity Relationship
 - Top Down
 - Conceptual/Abstract View
 - Functional Dependencies
 - Bottom Up
 - Implementation View
 - The Determinancy Approach
 - Synthesise relations
1. List all attributes
 2. Consider the relationships between them
 - those which determine the values of others are entities
 - those whose values are determined by other items are attributes.

Use functional dependencies to...Synthesise relations



er....

TEACH(courseno, lecturer)

courseno, lecturer \twoheadrightarrow courseno, lecturer

TEACH(courseno, lecturer, num_of_lectures)

courseno, lecturer \twoheadrightarrow num_of_lectures

Complementary Approaches

- Disadvantages of EER Top Down
 1. Not all entity types are represented by nouns or noun-phrases
 - association entity types
 2. Not all nouns and noun-phrases correspond to entities
 - single attribute entities
- Disadvantages of determinancy bottom-up
 1. Long-winded
 2. Hides overall picture of data model

The Steps of Normalisation

- * Take one dependency at a time
- * Treat each relation separately and independently
- * Iterative process

Use functional dependencies to...

NORMALISE relations

- Systematically create legal relations
- Derive relations which avoid anomalies in
 - Insertion
 - Deletion
 - Modification
 - Accessing
- Ensure single valued-ness of facts represented in attributes in keyed relations
- Ensure the removal of redundancy in a relation

Normalisation

- Given
 - a universal relation that is unnormalised
 - a set of functional dependencies on the attributes in the relation
- produce a set of relations where each relation is normalised for the functional dependencies on the attributes in the relation
 - Three approaches:
 - 1. Relational synthesis
 - 2. Step-wise normalisation
 - 3. Using BCNF decomposition

The Process of Normalisation

- Usually four steps giving rise to
 - First Normal Form (1NF)
 - Second Normal Form (2NF)
 - Third Normal Form (3NF)
 - Boyce-Codd Normal Form (BCNF)
 - Fourth Normal Form (4NF)
- At each step we consider relationships between the functional dependencies of a relation's attributes
- Normalisation is a:
 - framework
 - series of tests

First Normal Form

- Attributes form Repeating Groups
- When a group of attributes has multiple values then we say there is a repeating group of attributes in the relation
- An relation is in 1NF if there are no repeating groups of attribute types
- Any un-normalised relation is transformed to 1NF
 - Remove all repeating attribute groups
 - Repeating attribute groups become new relations in their own right
 - The key of the original relation must be an attribute (but not necessarily a key) of the derived relation.

First Normal Form : Repeating Groups

STUDENT_DETAILS						
stud no	name	tutor	roomno	course no	lab mark	subject
s1	jones	bush	2.26	cs250	65	prog
				cs260	80	graphics
				cs270	47	elecs
s2	brown	kahn	IT206	cs250	67	prog
				cs270	65	elecs

STUDENT_DETAILS
 (studno, name, tutor, roomno, {course_{no}, labmark, subject})
 studno → name, tutor course_{no} → subject
 tutor → roomno, roomno → tutor studno, course_{no} → labmark

STUDENT (studno, name, tutor, roomno) ENROL (studno, course_{no}, subject, labmark)
 studno → name, tutor course_{no} → subject
 tutor → roomno, roomno → tutor studno, course_{no} → labmark

Benefits from First Normal Form

- Any 'hidden' relations (entities) are identified
- Process results in separation of different objects
- BUT anomalies may still exist

ENROL (studno, course_{no}, subject, labmark)

- subject appears on every enrolment occurrence.
- This may result in anomalies when updating or deleting tuples
- The problem in example is that subject is functionally dependent only on course_{no} which is only part of the key

Second Normal Form

- A relation is in 2NF if it is in 1NF and each non identifying attribute depends upon the *whole* key (identifier)
- Any relation in 1NF is transformed to 2NF
 - Identify functional dependencies
 - Re-write relations so that each non-identifying attribute is functionally dependent on the *whole* of the key
 - Decompose ENROL into two relations

ENROL (studno, course_{no}, subject, labmark)
 course_{no} → subject
 studno, course_{no} → labmark

ENROL' (studno, course_{no}, labmark) COURSE (course_{no}, subject)
 studno, course_{no} → labmark course_{no} → subject

Second Normal Form

STUDENT (studno, name, tutor, roomno)

studno → name, tutor
 tutor → roomno
 roomno → tutor

ENROL' (studno, course_{no}, labmark)

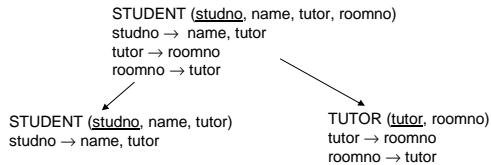
studno, course_{no} → labmark

COURSE (course_{no}, subject)

course_{no} → subject

Third Normal Form

- An relation is in 3NF if it is in 2NF and all non-identifying attributes are independent
- Any relation in 2NF is transformed in 3NF
- Determine functional dependencies between non identifying attributes
- Decompose relation into new relations



Student Relational Schema in 3NF

- STUDENT (studno, name, tutor)
 studno → name, tutor
- TUTOR (tutor, roomno)
 tutor → roomno
 roomno → tutor
- ENROL (studno, course, labmark)
 studno, course → labmark
- COURSE (course, subject)
 course → subject

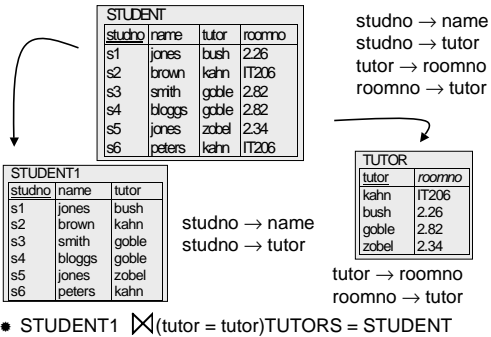
Decomposition: Lossless or Non-additive Join

- R is a relational scheme, F is a set of functional dependencies on R. R1 and R2 form a decomposition of R.
- The decomposition of R is non-additive if at least one of the following functional dependencies are in F+
 $R1 \cap R2 \rightarrow R1$
 $R1 \cap R2 \rightarrow R2$
- The decomposition of R is non-additive if for every state r of R that satisfies F
 $\bowtie (\pi_{R1}(r), \dots, \pi_{Rm}(r)) = r$
 where \bowtie condition is the natural join

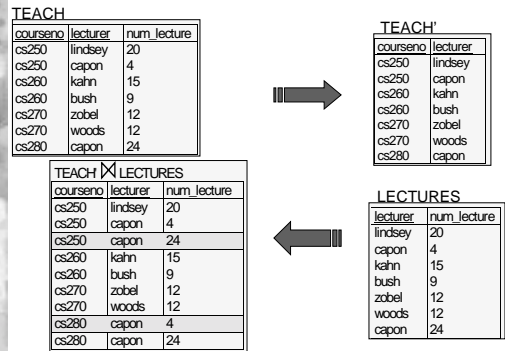
Decomposition: Lossless or Non-additive Join

- ENROL (studno, course, subject, labmark)
 course → subject
 studno, course → labmark
- ENROL' (studno, course, labmark)
 studno, course → labmark
- COURSE (course, subject)
 course → subject
- $ENROL' \cap COURSE = course$
 - $course \rightarrow subject$
 - $(course, subject) = COURSE$

Lossless or Non-additive Join



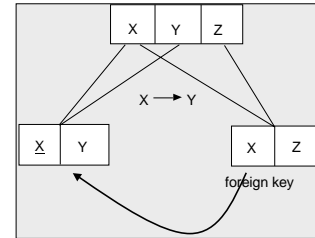
Spurious Tuples Lossless or Non-additive Join



Decomposition Algorithm: Decomposition D, relation R

- set $D := \{ R \}$;
- while there is a relation schema Q in D that is not in BCNF do
- begin
 - choose a relation schema Q in D that is not in BCNF;
 - find a functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ in Q that violates BCNF;
 - violation means that $(X)^+$ fails to find all of Q, so X can't be a key.
 - replace Q in D by two schemas
 - R1 $(Q - (Y)^+ \cup X)$
 - leave copy of X in relation to be the foreign key for R2
 - and
 - R2 $(X \cup (Y)^+)$
 - new relation for functional dependency and its closure, X will be the primary key
- end;

Lossless or Non-additive Join



Decomposition: Dependency Preservation

- When an update is made to a database, should be able to check that update satisfies all functional dependencies.
- It is desirable to allow validation of relational database schemes that allow update validation without the computation of joins.
- independent manipulation of relations.

Dependency Preservation

- The union of dependencies that hold on the individual relations in decomposition D must be equivalent to F.
- Given F on R, $\pi_{F_i}(R_i)$ where $R_i \subseteq R$ is the set of dependencies X Y in F+ such that the attributes in $X \cup Y$ are all contained in R_i
- Decomposition $D = \{R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m\}$ of R is dependency preserving w.r.t. F if

$$(\pi_{F_i}(R_i) \cup \dots \cup \pi_{F_m}(R_m))^+ = F^+$$
- Given the restriction of functional dependencies to a relation is the fds that involve attributes of that relation F_i for R_i

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n F_i \neq F \text{ possible, but... } \bigcup_{i=1}^n (F_i)^+ = F^+$$

Dependency Preservation

- STUDENT (studno, name, tutor, roomno, appraiser)
 studno \rightarrow name, tutor
 tutor \rightarrow roomno, appraiser
 roomno \rightarrow tutor, appraiser
 - STUDENT1 (studno, name, tutor)
 studno \rightarrow name, tutor
 - TUTOR (studno, roomno, appraiser)
 studno \rightarrow roomno, appraiser
- This is in Boyce-Codd Normal Form and is a lossless (nonadditive) join decomposition but we have lost....
- tutor \rightarrow roomno, appraiser
 roomno \rightarrow tutor, appraiser

Dependency Preservation

STUDENT				
studno	name	tutor	roomno	appraiser
s1	jones	bush	2.26	capon
s2	brown	kahn	IT206	watson
s3	smith	goble	2.82	capon
s4	bloggs	goble	2.82	capon
s5	jones	zobel	2.34	watson
s6	peters	kahn	IT206	watson

studno \rightarrow name
 studno \rightarrow tutor

tutor \rightarrow roomno
 tutor \rightarrow appraiser
 roomno \rightarrow tutor
 roomno \rightarrow appraiser
 studno \rightarrow appraiser
 studno \rightarrow roomno

studno \rightarrow appraiser
 studno \rightarrow roomno

STUDENT'		
studno	name	tutor
s1	jones	bush
s2	brown	kahn
s3	smith	goble
s4	bloggs	goble
s5	jones	zobel
s6	peters	kahn

TUTOR		
studno	roomno	appraiser
s1	2.26	capon
s2	IT206	watson
s3	2.82	capon
s4	2.82	capon
s5	2.34	watson
s6	IT206	watson

studno \rightarrow name
 studno \rightarrow tutor

STUDENT' \bowtie TUTOR = STUDENT

Designing a relational schema

- Build a relational database
 - without redundancy
 - *normalisation*
 - without loss of information or gain of data
 - *lossless join decomposition*
 - without losing dependency integrity
 - *dependency preservation*

Multi-valued Dependencies and Fourth Normal Form

Multi-valued Dependencies

- a course has many lecturers
- a course has many texts
- lecturers and texts are independent
- a lecturer teaches many courses
- a text is used by many courses
- lecturer and text are independent sets
- for each course no there is an associated set of lecturers
- for each course no there is an associated set of texts
- the sets are independent.

course no	lecturer	text
cs250	lindsey	Intro to SML
	capon	SML for beginners More SML
cs260	kahn	Raster Graphics
	bush	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs270	zobel	Chips with everything
	woods	Intro to Electronics
cs280	capon	Object Design

Multi-valued Dependencies

course no \twoheadrightarrow lecturer
course no \twoheadrightarrow text

This is in BCNF

key is
{course no, lecturer, text}

course no, lecturer, text
 \rightarrow course no, lecturer, text

- trivial dependencies

course no	lecturer	text
cs250	lindsey	Intro to SML
cs250	lindsey	SML for beginners
cs250	lindsey	More SML
cs250	capon	Intro to ML
cs250	capon	ML for beginners
cs250	capon	More SML
cs260	kahn	Raster Graphics
cs260	kahn	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs260	bush	Raster Graphics
cs260	bush	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs270	zobel	Chips with everything
cs270	zobel	Intro to Electronics
cs270	woods	Chips with everything
cs270	woods	Intro to Electronics
cs280	capon	Object Design

Multi-valued Dependencies

Each TEXT is associated with all the LECTURERS that teach a COURSE

The attribute TEXT contains redundant values.

If TEXT were deleted from rows 1, 2 & 3 the values could be deduced from rows 4, 5 & 6

course no	lecturer	text
cs250	lindsey	Intro to SML
cs250	lindsey	SML for beginners
cs250	lindsey	More SML
cs250	capon	Intro to ML
cs250	capon	ML for beginners
cs250	capon	More SML
cs260	kahn	Raster Graphics
cs260	kahn	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs260	bush	Raster Graphics
cs260	bush	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs270	zobel	Chips with everything
cs270	zobel	Intro to Electronics
cs270	woods	Chips with everything
cs270	woods	Intro to Electronics
cs280	capon	Object Design

Multivalued Dependencies

course no \twoheadrightarrow lecturer
course no \twoheadrightarrow text

- if (c,l,t) and (c,l',t') appear then
- (c,l,t') and (c,l',t) appear also
- tuple (c,l,t) appears if c can be taught by l using text t
- for each course all possible combinations of lecturer and text appear

course no	lecturer	text
cs250	lindsey	Intro to SML
cs250	lindsey	SML for beginners
cs250	lindsey	More SML
cs250	capon	Intro to ML
cs250	capon	ML for beginners
cs250	capon	More SML
cs260	kahn	Raster Graphics
cs260	kahn	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs260	bush	Raster Graphics
cs260	bush	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs270	zobel	Chips with everything
cs270	zobel	Intro to Electronics
cs270	woods	Chips with everything
cs270	woods	Intro to Electronics
cs280	capon	Object Design

Multi-Valued Dependencies

- Whenever $X \twoheadrightarrow Y$ holds in R so does $X \twoheadrightarrow (R - (XY))$.
- a MVD is trivial if $Y \subset X$ or $X \cup Y = R$.
i.e. the two attributes form the whole relation
- non-trivial MV dependencies need at least 3 attributes.

Fourth Normal Form

- A relation R is in 4NF if it is in 3NF and there are no multi-valued dependencies between its attribute types
- A relation R is in 4NF iff whenever there exists a non-trivial multi-valued dependency in F^+ for R
 $X \twoheadrightarrow Y$
- X is a superkey for R, i.e. all attributes are functionally dependent on X.
- Any relation in 3NF is transformed in 4NF
 - Detect any multi-valued dependencies
 - Decompose relation

Fourth Normal Form

courseno	lecturer	text
cs250	lindsey	Intro to SML
cs250	lindsey	SML for beginners
cs250	lindsey	More SML
cs250	capon	Intro to ML
cs250	capon	ML for beginners
cs250	capon	More SML
cs260	kahn	Raster Graphics
cs260	kahn	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs260	bush	Raster Graphics
cs260	bush	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs270	zobel	Chips with everything
cs270	zobel	Intro to Electronics
cs270	woods	Chips with everything
cs270	woods	Intro to Electronics
cs280	capon	Object Design

courseno	lecturer
cs250	lindsey
cs250	capon
cs260	kahn
cs260	bush
cs270	zobel
cs270	woods
cs280	capon

trivial dependencies only

courseno	text
cs250	Intro to SML
cs250	SML for beginners
cs250	More SML
cs260	Raster Graphics
cs260	Ray Tracing for Fun
cs270	Chips with everything
cs270	Intro to Electronics
cs280	Object Design

$courseno \twoheadrightarrow lecturer$
 $courseno \twoheadrightarrow text$

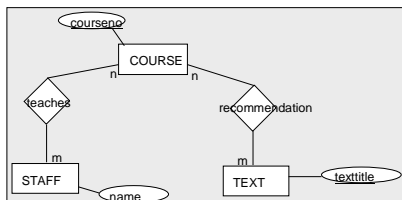
Lossless join decomposition into 4NF

- Algorithm:
Decomposition D, relation R

 1. set $D := \{ R \}$;
 2. while there is a relation schema Q in D that is not in 4NF do
begin
choose a relation schema Q in D that is not in 4NF;
find a non-trivial MVD $X \twoheadrightarrow Y$ in Q that violates 4NF;
replace Q in D by two schemas
 $(Q - Y)$ and $(X \cup Y)$
end;

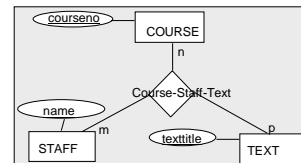
Fourth Normal Form EER modelling

- Leads to correctly normalised relational schema



Fourth Normal Form EER modelling

- Leads to relational schema that is not in 4NF



Conclusions

- Data Normalisation is a technique that ensures the basic properties of the relational model
 - no duplicate tuples
 - no nested relations
- Data normalisation is sometimes used as the only technique for database design—implementation view
- A more appropriate approach is to complement conceptual modelling with data normalisation

Lossless or Non-additive Join Algorithm

Decomposition D, relation R

1. set $D := \{R\}$;
2. while there is a relation schema Q in D that is not in BCNF do
begin
choose a relation schema Q in D that is not in BCNF;
find a functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ in Q that violates BCNF;
replace Q in D by two schemas
R1 (Q - Y) leave copy of X in relation to be foreign key for R2
and
R2 (X \cup Y) new relation for functional dependency and its closure,
X will be the primary key
end;