Appendix C: Advanced Relational Database Design

- Reasoning with MVDs
- Higher normal forms
  - Join dependencies and PJNF
  - DKNF

Theory of Multivalued Dependencies

- Let *D* denote a set of functional and multivalued dependencies. The closure D^+ of *D* is the set of all functional and multivalued dependencies logically implied by *D*.
- Sound and complete inference rules for functional and multivalued dependencies:

1. **Reflexivity rule**. If α is a set of attributes and $\beta \subseteq \alpha$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds.
2. **Augmentation rule**. If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and γ is a set of attributes, then $\gamma \alpha \rightarrow \gamma \beta$ holds.
3. **Transitivity rule**. If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds and $\gamma \alpha \rightarrow \gamma \beta$ holds, then $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ holds.

Theory of Multivalued Dependencies (Cont.)

4. **Complementation rule.** If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow R - \beta - \alpha$ holds.
5. **Multivalued augmentation rule.** If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds and $\gamma \subseteq R$ and $\delta \subseteq \gamma$, then $\gamma\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \delta\beta$ holds.
6. **Multivalued transitivity rule.** If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds and $\beta \twoheadrightarrow \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \gamma - \beta$ holds.
7. **Replication rule.** If $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ holds, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$.
8. **Coalescence rule.** If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds and $\gamma \subseteq \beta$ and there is a δ such that $\delta \subseteq R$ and $\delta \cap \beta = \emptyset$ and $\delta \rightarrow \gamma$, then $\alpha \rightarrow \gamma$ holds.

Simplification of the Computation of D^+

- We can simplify the computation of the closure of *D* by using the following rules (proved using rules 1-8).
  - **Multivalued union rule.** If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta\gamma$ holds.
  - **Intersection rule.** If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta \cap \gamma$ holds.
  - **Difference rule.** If If $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ holds and $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \gamma$ holds, then $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta - \gamma$ holds and $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \gamma - \beta$ holds.

Example

- $R = (A, B, C, G, H, I)$
  $D = \{A \rightarrow\rightarrow B$
  $B \rightarrow\rightarrow HI$
  $CG \rightarrow\rightarrow H\}$
- Some members of D^+:
  - $A \rightarrow\rightarrow CGHI.$
    Since $A \rightarrow\rightarrow B,$ the complementation rule (4) implies that $A \rightarrow\rightarrow R - B - A.$
    Since $R - B - A = CGHI$, so $A \rightarrow\rightarrow CGHI.$
  - $A \rightarrow\rightarrow HI.$
    Since $A \rightarrow\rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow\rightarrow HI$, the multivalued transitivity rule (6) implies that $B \rightarrow\rightarrow HI - B.$
    Since $HI - B = HI$, $A \rightarrow\rightarrow HI.$

Example (Cont.)

- Some members of D^+ (cont.):
  - $B \rightarrow H$.
    Apply the coalescence rule (8); $B \rightarrow HI$ holds.
    Since $H \subseteq HI$ and $CG \rightarrow H$ and $CG \cap HI = \emptyset$, the coalescence rule is satisfied with α being B, β being HI, δ being CG, and γ being H. We conclude that $B \rightarrow H$.
  - $A \rightarrow CG$.
    $A \rightarrow CGHI$ and $A \rightarrow HI$.
    By the difference rule, $A \rightarrow CGHI - HI$.
    Since $CGHI - HI = CG$, $A \rightarrow CG$.

Normalization Using Join Dependencies

- Join dependencies constrain the set of legal relations over a schema R to those relations for which a given decomposition is a lossless-join decomposition.
- Let R be a relation schema and $R_1, R_2, \ldots, R_n$ be a decomposition of R. If $R = R_1 \cup R_2 \cup \ldots \cup R_n$, we say that a relation $r(R)$ satisfies the *join dependency* $*(R_1, R_2, \ldots, R_n)$ if:

  $$r = \Pi_{R1}(r) \bowtie \Pi_{R2}(r) \bowtie \ldots\ldots \bowtie \Pi_{Rn}(r)$$

  A join dependency is *trivial* if one of the R_i is R itself.
- A join dependency $*(R_1, R_2)$ is equivalent to the multivalued dependency $R_1 \cap R_2 \twoheadrightarrow R_2$. Conversely, $\alpha \twoheadrightarrow \beta$ is equivalent to $*(\alpha \cup (R - \beta), \alpha \cup \beta)$
- However, there are join dependencies that are not equivalent to any multivalued dependency.

Project-Join Normal Form (PJNF)

- A relation schema R is in PJNF with respect to a set D of functional, multivalued, and join dependencies if for all join dependencies in D^+ of the form

  $*(R_1, R_2, \ldots, R_n)$ where each $R_i \subseteq R$

  and $R = R_1 \cup R_2 \cup \ldots \cup R_n$

  at least one of the following holds:
  - $*(R_1, R_2, \ldots, R_n)$ is a trivial join dependency.
  - Every R_i is a superkey for R.
- Since every multivalued dependency is also a join dependency, every PJNF schema is also in 4NF.

Example

- Consider *Loan-info-schema* = (*branch-name, customer-name, loan-number, amount*).
- Each loan has one or more customers, is in one or more branches and has a loan amount; these relationships are independent, hence we have the join dependency
- *(=(*loan-number, branch-name*), (*loan-number, customer-name*), (*loan-number, amount*))
- *Loan-info-schema* is not in PJNF with respect to the set of dependencies containing the above join dependency. To put *Loan-info-schema* into PJNF, we must decompose it into the three schemas specified by the join dependency:
  - (*loan-number, branch-name*)
  - (*loan-number, customer-name*)
  - (*loan-number, amount*)

Domain-Key Normal Form (DKNY)

- **Domain declaration**. Let A be an attribute, and let **dom** be a set of values. The domain declaration $A \subseteq$ **dom** requires that the *A* value of all tuples be values in **dom**.
- **Key declaration**. Let *R* be a relation schema with $K \subseteq R$. The key declaration **key** (*K*) requires that *K* be a superkey for schema *R* ($K \rightarrow R$). All key declarations are functional dependencies but not all functional dependencies are key declarations.
- **General constraint**. A general constraint is a predicate on the set of all relations on a given schema.
- Let **D** be a set of domain constraints and let **K** be a set of key constraints for a relation schema *R*. Let **G** denote the general constraints for *R*. Schema *R* is in DKNF if **D** $\cup$ **K** logically imply **G**.

Example

- Accounts whose *account-number* begins with the digit 9 are special high-interest accounts with a minimum balance of 2500.
- General constraint: ``If the first digit of *t* [*account-number*] is 9, then *t* [*balance*] ≥ 2500.''
- DKNF design:

  Regular-acct-schema = (*branch-name, account-number, balance*)

  Special-acct-schema = (*branch-name, account-number, balance*)
- Domain constraints for {*Special-acct-schema*} require that for each account:
  - The account number begins with 9.
  - The balance is greater than 2500.

DKNF rephrasing of PJNF Definition

- Let $R = (A_1, A_2, ..., A_n)$ be a relation schema. Let dom(A_i) denote the domain of attribute A_i, and let all these domains be infinite. Then all domain constraints **D** are of the form $A_i \subseteq$ **dom** (A_i).
- Let the general constraints be a set **G** of functional, multivalued, or join dependencies. If F is the set of functional dependencies in **G**, let the set **K** of key constraints be those nontrivial functional dependencies in F^+ of the form $\alpha \rightarrow R$.
- Schema R is in PJNF if and only if it is in DKNF with respect to **D**, **K**, and **G**.