The Need & Rationale

- Spreadsheet syndrome
- Goal:
 - reduce redundancies and inconsistencies
 - efficient updates
 - eliminate anomalies
- Normalization solves these problems

Normal Forms

- Criteria for safety against anomalies & inconsistencies
- Usually 3 to 7 normal forms (1NF \rightarrow 7NF)
 - First 3: how non-key attributes relate to key
 - 4th & 5th: many-to-one, many-to-many
 - Must be satisfied progressively
 - May combine several in one step
- Highest Normal Form (HNF)
- Applied to individual tables

First Normal Form

- A relation *is* a relation:
 - no repetition in a tuple
 - one (at least) unique key
 - no nullable attribute (optional)
- Atomic attribute values
 - For e.g., decompose *multi-valued* attributes
- Atomicity can be extreme: *date, strings*

Conditions:

- Relation is in 1NF
- No non-prime attributes functionally depend on subset of PK

Conditions:

- Relation is in 1NF
- No non-prime attributes functionally depend on subset of PK

Not in 2NF:

- books(book_name, author_name, review)
- skills(employee_name, skill, address)

- Conditions:
 - Relation is in 1NF
 - No non-prime attributes functionally depend on subset of PK
- Not in 2NF:
 - books(book_name, author_name, review)
 - skills(employee_name, skill, address)
- Solution: separate into multiple relations

- Conditions:
 - Relation is in 1NF
 - No non-prime attributes functionally depend on subset of PK
- Not in 2NF:
 - books(book_name, author_name, review)
 - skills(employee_name, skill, address)
- Solution: separate into multiple relations
 - For e.g.: employee_name, skill and employee_name, address
 - Both are in 2NF

- Conditions:
 - Relation is in 1NF
 - No non-prime attributes functionally depend on subset of PK
- Not in 2NF:
 - books(book_name, author_name, review)
 - skills(employee_name, skill, address)
- Solution: separate into multiple relations
 - For e.g.: employee_name, skill and employee_name, address
 - Both are in 2NF
- single primary key \Rightarrow 2NF

- Conditions:
 - Relation is in 1NF
 - No non-prime attributes functionally depend on subset of PK
- Not in 2NF:
 - books(book_name, author_name, review)
 - skills(employee_name, skill, address)
- Solution: separate into multiple relations
 - For e.g.: employee_name, skill and employee_name, address
 - Both are in 2NF
- single primary key \Rightarrow 2NF
- Can have anomalies in 2NF

AuthorAwards(award_name, award_year, author_name, date_of_birth)

Conditions:

- Relation is in 2NF
- Every non-key is directly dependent on the key
 - "every non-key attribute must provide a fact about the key, the whole key, and nothing but the key."

Conditions:

- Relation is in 2NF
- Every non-key is directly dependent on the key
 - "every non-key attribute must provide a fact about the key, the whole key, and nothing but the key."

AuthorAwards(award_name, award_year, author_name, date_of_birth)

- Conditions:
 - Relation is in 2NF
 - Every non-key is directly dependent on the key
 - "every non-key attribute must provide a fact about the key, the whole key, and nothing but the key."

AuthorAwards(award_name, award_year, author_name, date_of_birth)

- *date_of_birth* intransitively dependent on key
 - (author_name, award_year) \rightarrow author_name \rightarrow date_of_birth
- Solution: separate into multiple relations
 - AuthorAwards(award_name, award_year, author_name) & Author(author_name, date_of_birth)

Other examples:

Employees(Empl_id, Empl_name, Dept_name, Dept_floor):

- Conditions:
 - Relation is in 2NF
 - Every non-key is directly dependent on the key
 - "every non-key attribute must provide a fact about the key, the whole key, and nothing but the key."

AuthorAwards(award_name, award_year, author_name, date_of_birth)

- *date_of_birth* intransitively dependent on key
 - (author_name, award_year) \rightarrow author_name \rightarrow date_of_birth
- Solution: separate into multiple relations
 - AuthorAwards(award_name, award_year, author_name) & Author(author_name, date_of_birth)

Other examples:

Employees(Empl_id, Empl_name, Dept_name, Dept_floor): Employees(Empl_id, Empl_name, Dept_id) and Department(Dept_id, Dept_name, Dept_floor)

3NF: free of update, insertion, and deletion anomalies

Fourth Normal Form

• Only **many-to-one** and **many-to-many**

Relational Database Design