



## UNIT-IV

### Schema Refinement:

Introduction to Schema Refinement, Properties of Decomposition, Functional Dependencies, Reasoning about FD.

**Normalization:** Normal Forms – 1NF, 2NF, 3NF, BCNF, 4NF and 5NF.

## INTRODUCTION TO SCHEMA REFINEMENT

### Introduction

Schema Refinement is the process of improving a database schema to reduce redundancy, eliminate anomalies, and ensure data integrity. It is an important step in database design and is achieved mainly through **Normalization**.

A poorly designed schema may lead to data duplication, inconsistency, and difficulties in maintaining the database. Schema refinement helps organize data efficiently and improves the overall performance and reliability of the database.

### Need for Schema Refinement

A database schema may suffer from the following problems:

#### 1. Data Redundancy

The same information is stored repeatedly in multiple records.

#### Example

| StudentID | StudentName | Course | Instructor |
|-----------|-------------|--------|------------|
| 101       | Arun        | DBMS   | Kumar      |
| 102       | Ravi        | DBMS   | Kumar      |

Instructor name "Kumar" is repeated.

#### 2. Update Anomaly

A change in one place must be made in several records.

#### Example

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If Instructor "Kumar" changes to "Ramesh", all rows must be updated.

### **3. Insertion Anomaly**

Certain data cannot be inserted unless other data is available.

#### **Example**

A new course cannot be entered until a student enrolls in it.

### **4. Deletion Anomaly**

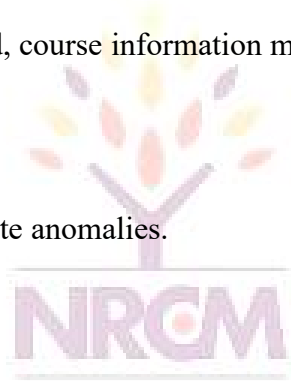
Deleting a record may result in loss of useful information.

#### **Example**

If the last student enrolled in DBMS is deleted, course information may also be lost.

#### **Objectives of Schema Refinement**

1. Reduce data redundancy.
2. Eliminate insertion, deletion, and update anomalies.
3. Improve data consistency.
4. Maintain data integrity.
5. Organize data efficiently.
6. Improve database performance.



## **PROPERTIES OF DECOMPOSITION**

Decomposition is the process of dividing a relation (table) into two or more smaller relations to eliminate redundancy and anomalies while preserving the original information.

During normalization, large relations are decomposed into smaller relations. A good decomposition should satisfy certain properties to ensure that no information is lost and queries can still be answered correctly.

A decomposition is considered good if it satisfies the following properties:

1. Lossless Join Decomposition
2. Dependency Preservation

### **LOSS LESS JOIN DECOMPOSITION**

Decomposition of a relation R into R1 and R2 is lossless-join decomposition if at least one of the following functional dependencies are in F+ (Closure of functional dependencies)

$$R1 \cap R2 \rightarrow R1 \text{ OR}$$

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$$R_1 \cap R_2 \rightarrow R_2$$

- Consider a relation  $R$  which is decomposed into subrelations  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .
- This decomposition is called lossless join decomposition when we join  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  and if we get the same relation  $R$  that was decomposed.  
For lossless join decomposition, we always have:  $R_1 \bowtie R_2$

**Example 1:** Consider the following relation  $R(A, B, C)$ . Let this relation is decomposed into two sub relations  $R_1(A, B)$  and  $R_2(B, C)$

| R |   |   |  |  | R <sub>1</sub> |   | R <sub>2</sub> |   |
|---|---|---|--|--|----------------|---|----------------|---|
| A | B | C |  |  | A              | B | B              | C |
| 1 | 2 | 1 |  |  | 1              | 2 | 2              | 1 |
| 2 | 5 | 3 |  |  | 2              | 5 | 5              | 3 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 |  |  | 3              | 3 | 3              | 3 |

Now, let us check whether this decomposition is lossless or not. For lossless decomposition, we must have:  $R_1 \bowtie R_2 = R$ . Now, if we perform the natural join ( $\bowtie$ ) of the sub relations  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , we get

| A | B | C |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 |

This relation is same as the original relation  $R$ .

Thus, we conclude that the above decomposition is lossless join decomposition. This is because the resultant relation after joining the sub relations is same as the decomposed relation. No extraneous tuples (rows) appear after joining of the sub-relations.

### **Loss of Functional Dependency**

- Once tables are decomposed, certain functional dependencies might not be preserved, which can lead to the inability to enforce specific integrity constraints.
- Example: If you have the functional dependency ' $A \rightarrow B$ ' in the original table, but in the decomposed tables, there is no table with both ' $A$ ' and ' $B$ ', this functional dependency can't be preserved.

Example: Let's consider a relation  $R$  with attributes  $A, B$ , and  $C$  and the following functional dependencies:

$A \rightarrow B$

$B \rightarrow C$

Now, suppose we decompose  $R$  into two relations:

**$R_1(A, B)$  with FD  $A \rightarrow B$**

**$R_2(B, C)$  with FD  $B \rightarrow C$**

In this case, the decomposition is dependency-preserving because all the functional dependencies of the original relation  $R$  can be found in the decomposed relations  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .

We do not need to join  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  to enforce or check any of the functional dependencies.

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### Functional Dependencies (FD)

A functional dependency  $\{(X \rightarrow Y)\}$  between two sets of attributes  $X$  and  $Y$  in a relation  $R$  is defined as: if two tuples (rows) of  $R$  have the same value for attributes  $X$ , then they must also have the same values for attributes  $Y$ . In other words, the values of  $X$  determine the values of  $Y$ .

Consider a relation (table) Students:

| sid  | sname    | zipcode | cityname   | state       |
|------|----------|---------|------------|-------------|
| S001 | Aarav    | 110001  | New Delhi  | Delhi       |
| S002 | Priyanka | 400001  | Mumbai     | Maharashtra |
| S003 | Rohit    | 700001  | Kolkata    | West Bengal |
| S004 | Ananya   | 560001  | Bengaluru  | Karnataka   |
| S005 | Kartik   | 600001  | Chennai    | Tamil Nadu  |
| S006 | Lakshmi  | 500001  | Hyderabad  | Telangana   |
| S007 | Aditya   | 160017  | Chandigarh | Chandigarh  |

1. sid functionally determines sname because for a given student ID, there's only one possible student name
2. zipcode functionally determines cityname, a specific zip code should determine a unique cityname
3. cityname functionally determines state, A city name could determine a state.

Mathematically, these functional dependencies can be represented as:

$\{(sid \rightarrow sname)\}$   
 $\{(zipcode \rightarrow cityname)\}$   
 $\{(cityname \rightarrow state)\}$

## Reasoning About Functional Dependencies

### 1. Trivial Dependency

- If  $Y$  is a subset of  $X$ , then the dependency  $X \rightarrow Y$  is trivial.
- For example, in  $\{A, B\} \rightarrow \{A\}$ , the dependency is trivial because  $A$  is part of  $\{A, B\}$ .

Example: For attributes  $A, B, C$ :

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- $\{A\} \rightarrow A$  is a trivial dependency because an attribute always determines itself.
- $\{AB\} \rightarrow A$  is a trivial dependency because the combined attributes A and B always determine A as it's a subset.
- $\{ABC\} \rightarrow AC$  is a trivial dependency for the same reason; the combined attributes A, B, and C always determine A and C.

### Full Functional Dependency

An attribute functionally depends on a set of attributes, X, and does not functionally depend on any proper subset of X.

Example: Consider a relation StudentCourses that has the following attributes:

- **StudentID** (unique identifier for each student)
- **CourseID** (unique identifier for each course)
- **Instructor** (name of the instructor teaching the course)

The relation is used to keep track of which student is enrolled in which course and who the instructor for that course is.

Now, assume we have the following functional dependency:  
 **$(\text{StudentID}, \text{CourseID}) \rightarrow \text{Instructor}$**

This means that a combination of a specific student and a specific course will determine who the instructor is.

Thus, Instructor is fully functionally dependent on the combined attributes StudentID and CourseID

### Transitive Dependency

If  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \rightarrow C$ , then A has a transitive dependency on C through B.

Example: Consider a relation Employees with the following attributes:

- EmployeeID (unique identifier for each employee)
- EmployeeName
- Department (department in which the employee works)
- DepartmentLocation (location of the department)

Now, let's consider the following functional dependencies:

**$\text{EmployeeID} \rightarrow \text{Department}$**

**$\text{Department} \rightarrow \text{DepartmentLocation}$**

From the above functional dependencies:

An EmployeeID determines the Department an employee works in.

A Department determines its DepartmentLocation.

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However, the DepartmentLocation is also dependent on the EmployeeID through Department. This means the DepartmentLocation has a transitive dependency on EmployeeID via Department.

This kind of transitive dependency can lead to redundancy.

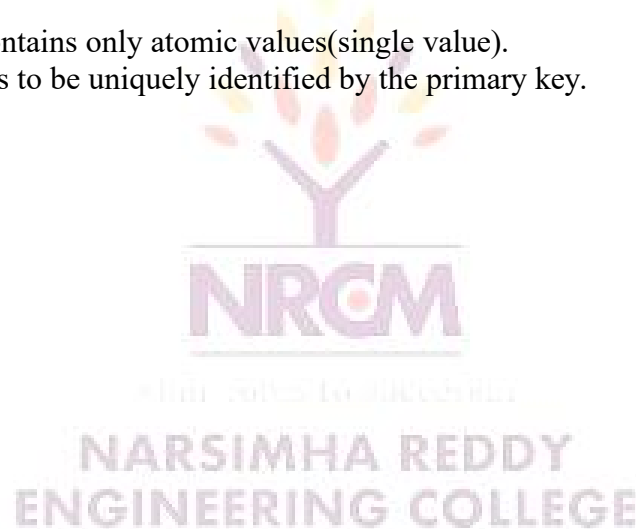
### 4. Closure

1. - The closure of a set of attributes  $X$  with respect to a set of functional dependencies  $FD$ , denoted as  $X^+$ , is the set of attributes that are functionally determined by  $X$ .  
- For example, given  $FDs: \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$ , the closure of  $\{A\}$ , denoted as  $A^+$ , would be  $\{A, B, C\}$ .

### 1NF(FIRST NORMAL FORM)

A relation (table) is said to be in first normal form if and only if:

- Each table cell contains only atomic values (single value).
- Each record needs to be uniquely identified by the primary key.



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### 1NF Example:

| HTNO | FIRSTNAME | LASTNAME | MOBILE                   |
|------|-----------|----------|--------------------------|
| 501  | Jhansi    | Rani     | 9999988888<br>7777799999 |
| 502  | Ajay      | Kumar    | 8888888881<br>7897897897 |
| 503  | Priya     | Verma    | 9898989898               |

The above table is not in 1NF because **501** and **502** is having two values in mobile column. If we add a new column as *alternative mobile number* to the above table, then for 503 *alternative mobile number* is NULL. Moreover, if a student has 'n' mobile numbers, then adding 'n' extra column is meaningless. It is better to add extra rows. If we add extra row for each 501 and 502 then the table looks like

| HTNO | FIRSTNAME | LASTNAME | MOBILE     |
|------|-----------|----------|------------|
| 501  | Jhansi    | Rani     | 9999988888 |
| 501  | Jhansi    | Rani     | 7777799999 |
| 502  | Ajay      | Kumar    | 8888888881 |
| 502  | Ajay      | Kumar    | 7897897897 |
| 503  | Priya     | Verma    | 9898989898 |

But the above table violates primary key constraint. Therefore instead of adding either columns or rows, the best solution is to split the table into two tables as shown below. If we do as shown below, if a student having 'n' number of mobile numbers also can be added.

| HTNO | FIRST NAME | LAST NAME |
|------|------------|-----------|
| 501  | Jhansi     | Rani      |
| 502  | Ajay       | Kumar     |
| 503  | Priya      | Verma     |

| HTNO | MOBILE     |
|------|------------|
| 501  | 9999988888 |
| 501  | 7777799999 |
| 502  | 8888888881 |
| 502  | 7897897897 |
| 503  | 9898989898 |

## 2. 2NF (SECOND NORMAL FORM)

A relation is said to be in 2-NF if and only if

- It should be in 1-NF (First Normal Form)
- There should not be any partial functional dependencies

### 2NF Example:

| <b><i>HTNO</i></b> | <b><i>Name</i></b> | <b><i>DOB</i></b> | <b><i>DeptNo</i></b> | <b><i>DeptName</i></b> | <b><i>Location</i></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 501                | Jhansi             | 30-10-1998        | 05                   | CSE                    | A-Block                |
| 502                | Ajay               | 24-12-1999        | 05                   | CSE                    | A-Block                |
| 410                | Priya              | 12-03-2000        | 04                   | ECE                    | B-Block                |
| 120                | Rahul              | 30-10-1998        | 01                   | CIVIL                  | C-Block                |
| 415                | Smitha             | 18-06-1999        | 04                   | ECE                    | B-Block                |

The above table is not in 2NF because there exist partial function dependencies. ***HTNO*** is a key attribute in the above table. If every non-key attribute fully dependent on key attribute, then we say it is fully functional dependent. Consider the below diagram.  $\{Name, DOB, DeptNo, DeptName, Location\}$  depends on ***HTNO***. But  $\{DeptName, Location\}$  also depends on ***DeptNo***.



It is clear that ***DeptName*** and ***Location*** not only depends upon ***HTNO*** but also on ***DeptNo***. So, there exists partial function dependency. This partial functional dependency can be removed by splitting the above table into two tables as follows.

| <b><i>HTNO</i></b> | <b><i>Name</i></b> | <b><i>DOB</i></b> | <b><i>DeptNo</i></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 501                | Jhansi             | 30-10-1998        | 05                   |
| 502                | Ajay               | 24-12-1999        | 05                   |
| 410                | Priya              | 12-03-2000        | 04                   |
| 120                | Rahul              | 30-10-1998        | 01                   |
| 415                | Smitha             | 18-06-1999        | 04                   |

| <b><i>DeptNo</i></b> | <b><i>DeptName</i></b> | <b><i>Location</i></b> |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 05                   | CSE                    | A-Block                |
| 04                   | ECE                    | B-Block                |
| 01                   | CIVIL                  | C-Block                |

### 3. 3NF(THIRD NORMAL FORM)

A relation (table) is in third normal form if and only if it satisfies the following conditions:

- It is in second normal form

- There is no transitive functional dependency



Transitive functional dependency means, we have the following relationships in the table: A is functionally dependent on B ( $A \rightarrow B$ ), and B is functionally dependent on C ( $B \rightarrow C$ ). In this case, C is transitively dependent on A via B ( $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \rightarrow C$  mean  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$  implies  $A \rightarrow C$ ).

### 3NF Example:

Consider the following book details table example:

| BOOK_DETAILS |         |           |        |
|--------------|---------|-----------|--------|
| BookID       | GenreID | GenreType | Price  |
| 1            | 1       | Gardening | 250.00 |
| 2            | 2       | Sports    | 149.00 |
| 3            | 1       | Gardening | 100.00 |
| 4            | 3       | Travel    | 160.00 |
| 5            | 2       | Sports    | 320.00 |

The above table is not in 3NF because there exist transitive dependency. In the table above,

*BookID* determines *GenreID*

$\{BookID \rightarrow GenreID\}$

*GenreID* determines *GenreType*.

$\{GenreID \rightarrow GenreType\}$

*BookID* determines *GenreType* via *GenreID*.

$\{BookID \rightarrow GenreType\}$

It implies that transitive functional dependency is existing and the structure does not satisfy third normal form. To bring this table into third normal form, we split the table into two as follows:

| BOOK_DETAILS |         |        | GENRE_DETAILS |           |
|--------------|---------|--------|---------------|-----------|
| BookID       | GenreID | Price  | GenreID       | GenreType |
| 1            | 1       | 250.00 | 1             | Gardening |
| 2            | 2       | 149.00 | 2             | Sports    |
| 3            | 1       | 100.00 | 3             | Travel    |
| 4            | 3       | 160.00 |               |           |
| 5            | 2       | 320.00 |               |           |

## 4. BOYCE CODD NORMAL FORM(BCNF)

A relation (table) is said to be in the BCNF if and only if it satisfies the following conditions:

- It should be in the **Third Normal Form**.
- For any functional dependency  $A \rightarrow B$ , A should be as **uperkey**.

- In simple words, it means, that for a dependency  $A \rightarrow B$ , A cannot be a **non-prime attribute**, if B is a **prime attribute**.

**Example:** Below we have a Patient table of a hospital. A patient can go to hospital many times to take treatment. On a single day many patients can take treatment.

| PatientID | Name   | EmailID       | AdmittedDate | Drug | Quantity |
|-----------|--------|---------------|--------------|------|----------|
| 101       | Ram    | ram@gmail.com | 30/10/1998   | A-10 | 10       |
| 102       | Jhon   | jho@gmail.com | 30/10/1998   | X-90 | 10       |
| 101       | Ram    | ram@gmail.com | 10/06/2001   | X-90 | 20       |
| 103       | Sowmya | sam@gmail.com | 05/03/2002   | Y-30 | 15       |
| 102       | Jhon   | jho@gmail.com | 05/03/2002   | A-10 | 15       |

In the above table,  $\{PatientID, AdmittedDate\}$  acts as Primarykey. But if we know the *EmailID* value, we can find *PatientID* value.

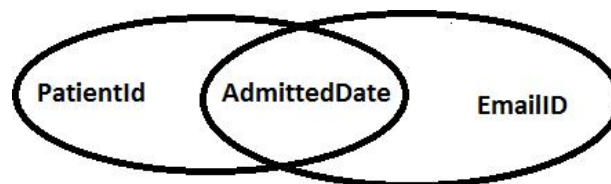
That is  $EmailID \rightarrow PatientID$ .

In the above dependency, *EmailID* is non-prime attribute and *PatientID* is a prime attribute. Therefore the above table is not in BCNF. In order to bring the table into BCNF, we split it into two tables as shown below.

| PatientID | Name   | AdmittedDate | Drug | Quantity |
|-----------|--------|--------------|------|----------|
| 101       | Ram    | 30/10/1998   | A-10 | 10       |
| 102       | Jhon   | 30/10/1998   | X-90 | 10       |
| 101       | Ram    | 10/06/2001   | X-90 | 20       |
| 103       | Sowmya | 05/03/2002   | Y-30 | 15       |
| 102       | Jhon   | 05/03/2002   | A-10 | 15       |

| PatientID | EmailID       |
|-----------|---------------|
| 101       | ram@gmail.com |
| 102       | jho@gmail.com |
| 103       | sam@gmail.com |

In other words we can also define BCNF as there should not be any overlapping between candidate keys. If you consider the original table (before splitting), we can get two candidate keys  $\{PatientID, AdmittedDate\}$  and  $\{EmailID, AdmittedDate\}$ .



As there exist overlapping in the candidate keys, the table is not in BCNF. To bring it into BCNF, we split into

two tables as shown above.



## 5. 4-NF (FOURTH NORMAL FORM)

A relation is said to be in 4-NF if and only if it satisfies the following conditions

- It should be in the **Third Normal Form**.
- The table should not have any **Multi-valued Dependency**.

### What is Multi-valued Dependency?

A table is said to have multi-valued dependency, if the following three conditions are true.

- A table should have at-least 3 columns for it to have a multi-valued dependency.
- For any dependency  $A \twoheadrightarrow B$ , if there exists multiple value of  $B$  for a single value of  $A$ , then the table may have multi-valued dependency. It is represented as  $A \twoheadrightarrow B$ .
- In a relation  $R(A,B,C)$ , if there is a multi-valued dependency between  $A$  and  $B$ , then  $B$  and  $C$  should be independent of each other.

If all these three conditions are true for any relation (table), then it contains multi-valued dependency.

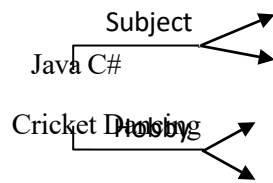
The multi-valued dependency can be explained with an example. Let the Relation  $R$  containing three columns  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and four rows  $s$ ,  $t$ ,  $u$ ,  $v$ .

|   | A  | B  | C  |
|---|----|----|----|
| s | a1 | b1 | c1 |
| t | a1 | b1 | c2 |
| u | a1 | b2 | c1 |
| v | a1 | b2 | c2 |

If  $s(A)=t(A)=u(A)=v(A)$   
 $s(B)=t(B)$  and  $s(B)=v(B)$   
 $s(C)=u(C)$  and  $t(C)=v(C)$ , then there exist multi-valued dependency.

**Example:** Consider the below college enrolment table with columns HTNO, Subject and Hobby.







Hobby As shown in the above figure, if 501 opted for subjects like Java and C# and hobbies of 501 are Cricket and Dancing. Similarly, If 502 opted for subjects like Python and Android and hobbies of 501 are Chess and Singing, then it can be written into a table with three columns as follows:

| <i><b>HTNO</b></i> | <i><b>Subject</b></i> | <i><b>Hobby</b></i> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 501                | Java                  | Cricket             |
| 501                | Java                  | Dancing             |
| 501                | C#                    | Cricket             |
| 501                | C#                    | Dancing             |
| 502                | Python                | Chess               |
| 502                | Python                | Singing             |
| 502                | Android               | Chess               |
| 502                | Android               | Singing             |

As there exists multi-valued dependency, the above table is decomposed into two tables such that

| <i><b>HTNO</b></i> | <i><b>Subject</b></i> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 501                | Java                  |
| 501                | C#                    |
| 502                | Python                |
| 502                | Android               |

| <i><b>HTNO</b></i> | <i><b>Hobby</b></i> |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 501                | Cricket             |
| 501                | Dancing             |
| 502                | Chess               |
| 502                | Singing             |

Now these tables (relations) satisfy the fourth normal form.

## 6. 5NF

A relation is said to be in 5NF if and only if it satisfies the following conditions

- It should be in the **Fourth Normal Form**.
- The tables should not have any **join Dependency** and joinings should be lossless.

5NF is also known as Project-join normal form (PJ/NF).

A table is decomposed into multiple small tables to eliminate redundancy, and when we re-join the decomposed tables, there should not be any loss in the original data or should not create any new data. In simple words, joining two or more decomposed tables should not lose records nor create new records.

**Example:** Consider a table which contains a record of **Subject**, **Professor** and **Semester** in three columns. The primary key is the combination of all three columns. No column itself is not a candidate key or a super key.

In the table, DBMS is taught by Ravindar and Uma Rani in semester 4, DS by Sindhusa and Venu in sem 3. In this case, the combination of all these fields required to identify valid data.

So to make the table into 5NF, we can decompose it into three relations,

| <i>Subject</i> | <i>Professor</i> | <i>Semester</i> |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| C              | Srilatha         | 2               |
| DBMS           | Ravindar         | 4               |
| DS             | Sindhusa         | 3               |
| DBMS           | UmaRani          | 4               |
| CN             | Srikanth         | 5               |
| DS             | Venu             | 3               |
| WT             | Srinivas         | 5               |

The above table is decomposed into three tables as follows to bring it into 5-NF.

| <i>Subject</i> | <i>Professor</i> |
|----------------|------------------|
| C              | Srilatha         |
| DBMS           | Ravindar         |
| DS             | Sindhusa         |
| DBMS           | UmaRani          |
| CN             | Srikanth         |
| DS             | Venu             |
| WT             | Srinivas         |

| <i>Semester</i> | <i>Professor</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 2               | Srilatha         |
| 3               | Ravindar         |
| 5               | Sindhusa         |
| 3               | UmaRani          |
| 5               | Srikanth         |
| 2               | Venu             |
| 5               | Srinivas         |

| <i>Semester</i> | <i>Subject</i> |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 2               | C              |
| 4               | DBMS           |
| 3               | DS             |
| 5               | CN             |
| 5               | WT             |