

# **AQA Computer Science A-Level**

## **4.10.3 Database design and normalisation techniques**

### **Marking Scheme**

Additional Specimen AS Paper 1  
June 2012 Comp 3

<b>9</b>	(b)	<p>Data is atomic // no repeating groups (of attributes); <b>R</b> No repeated columns/attributes/data/values</p> <p>No partial (key) dependencies // No (non-key) attribute depends on part of the primary key but not the whole of it // all non-prime attributes are (functionally) dependent on the whole of every candidate key // (non-key) attributes depend on the whole key;</p> <p>No non-key dependencies // No transitive dependencies // (non-key) attributes depend on nothing but the key;</p> <p>Every (non-key) attribute is dependent upon the key;</p> <p>Every determinant is a candidate key;</p> <p><b>A</b> "field" for "attribute" <b>A</b> "part" for "partial"</p> <p><b>MAX 2</b></p>	2
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9	(f)	<p><b>ONE MARK FOR PRINCIPLE AND MAX TWO MARKS FOR IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <p><b>Principle:</b></p> <p>Create a new table (<b>A</b> link table) (BookCopy); through which Book and Loan tables will be (indirectly) linked;</p> <p><b>Implementation details using a new primary key:</b></p> <p>Create a new <u>unique ID/key field</u> (e.g. CopyID) (for each copy);  Store the BookID and the CopyID in the new table;  Replace the BookID in the Loans table with this CopyID;</p> <p>Note: In this implementation, CopyID is unique, i.e. BookID 1 and 2 cannot both have CopyID 1.</p> <p><b>Implementation details using a composite key:</b></p> <p>Create a new field CopyID;  Composite key formed by BookID and CopyID; <b>TO</b> if composite key is clearly in book table or loan table  Store the BookID and the CopyID in the new table; <b>R</b> adding CopyID to Book table as this would created data redundancy but this does not talk out other mark scheme points  Add the CopyID field to Loans table; <b>R</b> replace BookID with CopyID</p> <p>Note: In this implementation, CopyID is not unique, e.g. BookID 1 and 2 can both have CopyID 1.</p>	
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## June 2017 Paper 2

10	2	<p><b>1 mark for AO2 (analyse) and 1 mark for AO1 (understanding)</b></p> <p><b>AO2 (analyse) – 1 mark:</b>            A person may own more than one car // a person may bring different cars to the garage;            It might be desired to store details of an owner when the car they own is not yet known;  <b>A.</b> A car might be owned by more than one person (at different times)  <b>A.</b> Easier to transfer car from one owner to another</p> <p><b>AO1 (understanding) – 1 mark:</b>            Avoid storing owner details once for each car they own / multiple times;            Avoid having to input owner details once for each car they own;            To transfer car between owners would only have to change one attribute in the car relation;            Minimise data duplication // no unnecessary repeated data; <b>A.</b> Reduce for minimise</p>	2
		<p>Eliminate data redundancy; <b>A.</b> Reduce/minimise for eliminate            Eliminate data inconsistency // improve consistency // avoid inconsistency problems;            Eliminate update anomalies; <b>A.</b> Example in context            Eliminate insertion anomalies; <b>A.</b> Example in context  <b>NE.</b> Fewer errors when updating/inserting/deleting without concrete example or good explanation  <b>NE.</b> Saving space/memory  <b>NE.</b> Easier to query</p>	

10	7	<p><b>All marks AO2 (analyse)</b></p> <p><b>1 mark:</b> Create a new relation to identify which make/model(s) of car each part can be fitted to;</p> <p><b>A.</b> Use of a relation name that clearly identifies the purpose eg <code>PartToFitMakeModel</code> instead of an explanation</p> <p><b>A.</b> If it is just stated that a new relation is creation if the attributes in the relation make its purpose clear</p> <p><b>NE.</b> A relation to link the <code>Part</code> and <code>Car</code> relations</p> <p><b>2 marks from:</b> Store the attributes <code>PartID</code>, <code>Make</code> and <code>Model</code> in the new relation;</p> <p><b>I.</b> Inclusion of additional attributes Make the <code>PartID</code>, <code>Make</code> and <code>Model</code> / all the attributes the entity identifier;</p> <p><b>A.</b> The creation of a new field as an entity identifier for this relation if it is explained that a constraint would also need to be added to ensure that it is not possible to record twice in the relation that a particular part could be fitted to a particular make and model of car</p> <p>Accept answers by example, such as: <code>PartToFitMakeModel (PartID, Make, Model)</code></p> <p><b><u>Alternative Response</u></b></p> <p><b>1 mark:</b> Create two new relations, one to associate an entity identifier with each make and model of car (eg <code>MakeModelID</code>) and one to link the parts to this new relation.</p> <p><b>A.</b> If it is just stated that new relations will be created if the attributes in the relations make their purpose clear</p> <p><b>2 marks from:</b> Store the attributes <code>Make</code> and <code>Model</code> with a new entity identifier (eg <code>MakeModelID</code>) in one of the new relations;</p> <p>Store the <code>PartID</code> in the other new relation together with the entity identifier from the first new relation (eg <code>MakeModelID</code>);</p> <p>Make the <code>PartID</code> and <code>MakeModelID</code> the entity identified in the second new relation;</p> <p><b>A.</b> The creation of a new field as an entity identifier for this relation if it is explained that a constraint would also need to be added to ensure that it is not possible to record twice in the relation that a particular part could be fitted to a particular make and model of car</p> <p>Accept answers by example, such as: <code>UniqueMakeModel (MakeModelID, Make, Model)</code> and <code>PartToFitMakeModel (PartID, MakeModelID)</code></p> <p><b>A.</b> Table or entity for relation. <b>A.</b> Field for attribute. <b>A.</b> Primary key for Entity Identifier.</p>	3
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## June 2013 Comp 3

<b>9</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<p><b>What means:</b>  every attribute (in relation) is dependent on the key;  the whole key;  and nothing but the key;  <b>R. Everything</b>  OR  (relations) contain no repeating groups (of attributes) // data is atomic;  no partial dependencies;  no non-key dependencies;  <b>R No repeated columns/attributes/data</b>  OR  every determinant (in the relation) is a candidate key;;</p>	<b>4</b>
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		<p><b>MAX 2</b>  <b>Why important:</b>  Eliminate update anomalies; <b>A</b> Example  Eliminate insertion anomalies; <b>A</b> Example  Eliminate deletion anomalies; <b>A</b> Example  Eliminate data inconsistency // improve consistency // avoid inconsistency problems;  *Minimise data duplication // no unnecessary repeated data; <b>A</b> Reduce for minimise <b>R</b> eliminate  *Eliminate data redundancy; <b>A</b> Reduce/minimise for eliminate  <b>NE</b> Easier to update/insert/delete without concrete example or good explanation  <b>NE</b> Less errors when updating/inserting/deleting without concrete example or good explanation  <b>NE</b> Saving space/memory  <b>NE</b> Easier to query  <b>Award marks to points made anywhere across 9(a)</b>  <b>Can only award one of the two marks indicates by asterisks (*)</b>  <b>MAX 2</b></p>	
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## Specimen Paper 2

<b>09</b>	<b>2</b>	<p><b>All marks AO1 (knowledge)</b></p> <p><b>Any 2 from:</b> Data is atomic // no repeating groups (of attributes); <b>R.</b> No repeated columns/attributes/data/values No partial (key) dependencies // No (non-key) attribute depends on part of the primary key but not the whole of it // all non-prime attributes are (functionally) dependent on the whole of every candidate key // (non-key) attributes depend on the whole key; No non-key dependencies // No transitive dependencies // (non-key) attributes depend on nothing but the key; Every (non-key) attribute is dependent upon the key; Every determinant is a candidate key; <b>A.</b> 'field' for 'attribute' <b>A.</b> 'part' for 'partial' <b>MAX 2</b></p>	<b>2</b>
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