Theoretical Assignment DATABASE SYSTEMS

For problems 1–4, we use the following relational schema:

- Product(maker, model, category)
- PC(model, speed, ram, hd, price)
- Laptop(model, speed, ram, hd, screen, price)
- Printer(model, color, type, price)

where attribute names should be self-explanatory. The constraints are as follows:

- model is the key for all relations.
- The only possible values of category are "PC", "laptop", and "printer".
- The only possible values of type are "laser" and "ink-jet".
- Every PC, laptop or printer must be referenced in relation Product.

Problem 1 (10 marks) Write an assertion statement for the following constraint: Products of different kinds cannot have the same model number. For example, a PC and a laptop cannot have the same model number, nor can a printer and a laptop, etc.

Problem 2 (10 marks) Write an assertion statement for the following constraint: For every PC, there is a laser printer, and a color ink-jet printer, by the same maker.

Problem 3 (15 marks). Write the following query in *relational algebra* (you may use $\pi, \sigma, \bowtie, \times, \cup, -$ and renaming of attributes. Renaming of relations, and the linear notation from the text are **not** allowed).

Find PCs that are faster and have more ram than all the laptops by the same manufacturer (maker).

Do not assume that the assertions of the first two problems are valid.

Problem 4 (15 marks). Write a *relational algebra* query that finds manufacturers (makers) whose laptops ought to be avoided. That is, for every laptop they make, there is another one, by a different manufacturer, that has a faster processor, more ram, a larger screen, and costs less.

The rules stated in Problem 3 apply.

Problem 5 (10 marks) Is the following schedule conflict serializable? Explain why. If it is, give an equivalent serial schedule.

T_1	T_2	T_3	T_4
write(X)			
	$\mathbf{read}(\mathbf{X})$		
$\mathbf{write}(\mathbf{Y})$			
~ /	$\mathbf{read}(\mathbf{Y})$		
		read(X)	
		~ /	read(Y)
			read(Y) write(Y)
	$\mathbf{write}(\mathbf{X})$		

Problem 6 (20 marks) Consider the following database schema. Its attributes are

and FDs are

$$\begin{array}{rrrrr} AB & \rightarrow & CF \\ BG & \rightarrow & C \\ AEF & \rightarrow & C \\ ABG & \rightarrow & ED \\ CF & \rightarrow & AE \\ A & \rightarrow & CG \\ AD & \rightarrow & FEG \\ AC & \rightarrow & B \end{array}$$

A, B, C, D, E, F, G

Each of the questions is worth 5 marks.

- 1. Find the candidate keys and the prime attributes of this schema.
- 2. Compute the minimum cover of this schema.
- 3. Produce a 3NF decomposition.
- 4. Produce a BCNF decomposition of this schema. Is it dependency-preserving? Explain why.

Problem 7 (20 marks) A set X of attributes is an *antikey* if it is not a key, but every proper superset Y of X is a key (recall that Y is a proper superset of X if $X \subset Y$ and $Y \neq X$). Is the following true: an attribute is prime if and only if it does not belong to at least one antikey.

If it is true, provide a proof; if it is false, give a counterexample. The **maximum length** of your answer is 13 lines in at least 11pt font, if you type, or equivalent for handwritten assignments. Longer answers will automatically receive 0 marks.