### **Learning Journal**

Database redundancy is something I haven’t had to think much about in my previous experience. I am very used to working with 1 dimensional databases, such as data sets for research. Major difference is that these databases, redundancy can be gotten away with. We manually manipulate the database, and its not its own entity that needs to stay clean and be self sustaining even when adding new entries is automated, like these types of databases where the relational model is so pertinent.

I am finding functional dependencies as a topic very abstract. Intuitively in the examples it makes sense, but I am not sure if I will recognize an FD in the real world. I will keep reading and try to build my understanding.

Learning the functional dependency rules was useful. I have made a lay person chart to help:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reflexivity | The trivial FD |
| Augmentation | A FD (A-->B)can be multiplied (both sides) by another subset of attributes C, then AC → B |
| Transitivity | If something is dependent on A, and something is dependent on that something, then ‘that something’ is also dependent on A. |

Not sure I entirely understand the Closure sets… somewhat confusing. I think I need to do a real example and go through identifying these functional dependencies to really tease this out.

Watching the video on Normalisation was very helpful. I was finding this written material way too abstract (which can happen sometimes with these concepts, and with not having worked with relational databases so much).

Struggle somewhat with this weeks assignment. I think I set up my original keys a bit strangely. Will need to do some catch up prior to next weeks material.