

THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS WILL BE PROVIDED ON TESTS

Functional Dependency Inference Rules:

if Y is a subset of X then $X \rightarrow Y$ //reflexive rule
if $X \rightarrow YZ$ then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$ //decomposition rule
if $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$ then $X \rightarrow Z$ //transitive rule
if $X \rightarrow Y$, and $X \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow YZ$ //union rule
if $X \rightarrow Y$ then $WX \rightarrow WY$ //augmentation rule
if $X \rightarrow Y$ and $WY \rightarrow Z$ then $WX \rightarrow Z$ //pseudo transitive rule

Trivial Dependency: A functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ is **trivial** if Y is a subset of X .

Closure of Functional Dependencies: The closure F^+ of a set of functional dependencies F is $\{X \rightarrow Y \mid F \text{ logically implies } X \rightarrow Y\}$.

Closure of Attributes: Given a set of Attributes A and functional dependencies F , the closure A^+ of A with respect to F is $\{X \mid A \rightarrow X \text{ is in } F^+\}$.

Keys:

If R is a set of attributes and F a set of functional dependencies pertaining to R then:

An attribute set $S \subseteq R$ is a **superkey** of R if the closure S^+ with respect to F contains all attributes of R .

A superkey S is **minimal** if no proper subset of S is a superkey.

A **candidate key** is any minimal superkey.

A **primary key** a chosen candidate key (identified by underlining it in models).

Prime Attribute: An attribute A_i of $R = (A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n)$ is **prime** if any minimal key of R contains A_i .
An **non-prime** attribute is one that is not prime.

Partial Dependency: If Y is a proper subset of a key of R and A is an attribute of R not in Y . Then $Y \rightarrow A$ is a **partial dependency**. (i.e. A depends on only a part of a key.)

2nd Normal Form: A table R with associated functional dependencies F is in 2nd normal form if F^+ contains no partial dependencies $Y \rightarrow A$ where A is non-prime.

Transitive Dependency: Let Y be a set of attributes from table R and A be an attribute not contained in Y . The functional dependency $Y \rightarrow A$ is a **transitive dependency** if Y is neither a superkey of R nor a proper subset of a key of R .

3rd Normal Form: A table, with dependencies F , is in 3rd normal form if it is in 2nd normal form and if F^+ contains no transitive dependencies $Y \rightarrow A$ where A is non-prime. (Equivalently, a table is in 3rd normal form if, for each non-trivial dependency $Y \rightarrow A$, Y is a superkey or A is prime.)

Boyce-Codd Normal Form: A table, with dependencies F , is in BCNF if F^+ contains no partial or transitive dependencies. (Equivalently, a table is in BCNF if the left side of each non-trivial dependency in F^+ is a superkey.)