

Axioms -

1. Axiom of reflexivity -

If A is a set of attributes and B is subset of A , then A holds B . If $B \subseteq A$ then $A \rightarrow B$. This property is trivial property.

2. Axiom of augmentation -

If $A \rightarrow B$ holds and Y is attribute set, then $AY \rightarrow BY$ also holds. That is adding attributes in dependencies, does not change the basic dependencies. If $A \rightarrow B$, then $AC \rightarrow BC$ for any C .

3. Axiom of transitivity -

Same as the transitive rule in algebra, if $A \rightarrow B$ holds and $B \rightarrow C$ holds, then $A \rightarrow C$ also holds. $A \rightarrow B$ is called as A functionally determines B . If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$.

Secondary Rules -

These rules can be derived from the above axioms.

1. Union -

If $A \rightarrow B$ holds and $A \rightarrow C$ holds, then $A \rightarrow BC$ holds. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$ then $X \rightarrow YZ$.

2. Composition -

If $A \rightarrow B$ and $X \rightarrow Y$ holds, then $AX \rightarrow BY$ holds.

3. Decomposition -

If $A \rightarrow BC$ holds then $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$ hold. If $X \rightarrow YZ$ then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$.

4. Pseudo Transitivity -

If $A \rightarrow B$ holds and $BC \rightarrow D$ holds, then $AC \rightarrow D$ holds. If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $YZ \rightarrow W$ then $XZ \rightarrow W$.

