# Finding Candidate Keys

Here is a simple method to find candidate keys from a given set of functional dependencies

## Steps

1. Find attributes that are neither on the left nor the right side

2. Find attributes that are only on the right side

3. Find attributes that are only on the left side

4. Combine the attributes on step 1 and 3

## First Example

Let’s do it with the below example - the attributes are J, A, S, O, N

Functional Dependencies:

JA -> O

ASO -> N

Steps:

1. Find attributes that are neither on the left nor the right side

none

2. Find attributes that are only on the right side

N

3. Find attributes that are only on the left side

JAS

4. Combine the attributes on step 1 and 3

J,A,S

## Second example

Attributes: ABCDEFG

Functional Dependencies:

AB -> F AD -> E F -> G

Steps:

1. Find attributes that are neither on the left nor the right side

C,

2. Find attributes that are only on the right side

E,G

3. Find attributes that are only on the left side

A,B,D

4. Combine the attributes on step 1 and 3

C, A,B,D