



CHAPTER 15

Relational Database Design Algorithms and Further Dependencies

Chapter Outline

- 1. Further topics in Functional Dependencies
 - 1.1 Inference Rules for FDs
 - 1.2 Equivalence of Sets of FDs
 - 1.3 Minimal Sets of FDs
- 2. Properties of Relational Decompositions
- 3. Algorithms for Relational Database Schema Design
- 4. Nulls, Dangling Tuples, Alternative Relational Designs

Chapter Outline

- 5. Multivalued Dependencies and Fourth Normal Form – further discussion
- 6. Other Dependencies and Normal Forms
 - 6.1 Join Dependencies
 - 6.2 Inclusion Dependencies
 - 6.3 Dependencies based on Arithmetic Functions and Procedures
 - 6.2 Domain-Key Normal Form

FOR THIS LECTURE #10

We will only include:

SECTION 15.1 of Chapter 15:

- 15.1. Further topics in Functional Dependencies
 - 15.1.1 Inference Rules for FDs
 - 15.1.2 Equivalence of Sets of FDs
 - 15.1.3 Minimal Sets of FDs

Defining Functional Dependencies

- $X \rightarrow Y$ holds if whenever two tuples have the same value for X , they *must have* the same value for Y
 - For any two tuples $t1$ and $t2$ in any relation instance $r(R)$: If $t1[X]=t2[X]$, *then* $t1[Y]=t2[Y]$
- $X \rightarrow Y$ in R specifies a *constraint* on all relation instances $r(R)$
- Written as $X \rightarrow Y$; can be displayed graphically on a relation schema as in Figures in Chapter 14. (denoted by the arrow).
- FDs are derived from the real-world constraints on the attributes

1.1 Inference Rules for FDs (1)

- **Definition:** An FD $X \rightarrow Y$ is **inferred from** or **implied by** a set of dependencies F specified on R if $X \rightarrow Y$ holds in *every* legal relation state r of R ; that is, whenever r satisfies all the dependencies in F , $X \rightarrow Y$ also holds in r .
- Given a set of FDs F , we can **infer** additional FDs that hold whenever the FDs in F hold

Inference Rules for FDs (2)

- Armstrong's inference rules:
 - IR1. (**Reflexive**) If Y *subset-of* X , then $X \rightarrow Y$
 - IR2. (**Augmentation**) If $X \rightarrow Y$, then $XZ \rightarrow YZ$
 - (Notation: XZ stands for $X \cup Z$)
 - IR3. (**Transitive**) If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $Y \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow Z$
- IR1, IR2, IR3 form a **sound** and **complete** set of inference rules
 - **Sound**: Given a set F that holds in R , every dependency that can be inferred using the rules will hold in every state of R .
 - **Complete**: These rules and all other extended rules that hold can be applied to a set F of dependencies in R until no more dependencies can be inferred.

INFERENCE RULES -1

- **Armstrong's Axioms-1**

1. **Axiom of Reflexivity**

- A set of attributes \rightarrow A subset of the attributes

- **Example:**

- $\text{NRIC, Name} \rightarrow \text{NRIC}$
- $\text{StudentID, Name, Age} \rightarrow \text{Name, Age}$
- $\text{ABCD} \rightarrow \text{ABC}$
- $\text{ABCD} \rightarrow \text{BCD}$
- $\text{ABCD} \rightarrow \text{AD}$
- $\text{ABCD} \rightarrow \text{ABCD}$

INFERENCE RULES-2

- **Armstrong's Axioms-2**

2. Axiom of Augmentation

- If $A \rightarrow B$
- Then $AC \rightarrow BC$ (for any C)
- Also, $AA \rightarrow BA$ which means $A \rightarrow AB$

- **Example:** if $NRIC \rightarrow Name$ then
- $NRIC, Age \rightarrow Name, Age$
- $NRIC, Salary, Weight \rightarrow Name, Salary, Weight$
- $NRIC, Address, Postal \rightarrow Name, Address, Postal$

INFERENCE RULES-3

- **Armstrong's Axioms-3**

- 3. Axiom of Transitivity**

- If $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow C$
 - Then $A \rightarrow C$

- **Example:**

- if $\text{NRIC} \rightarrow \text{Address}$
and $\text{Address} \rightarrow \text{Postal}$
 - then $\text{NRIC} \rightarrow \text{Postal}$

Inference Rules for FDs –contd.

- Some additional inference rules that are useful:
 - **Decomposition:** If $X \rightarrow YZ$, then $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$
 - **Union:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $X \rightarrow Z$, then $X \rightarrow YZ$
 - **Pseudotransitivity:** If $X \rightarrow Y$ and $WY \rightarrow Z$, then $WX \rightarrow Z$
- The last three inference rules, as well as any other inference rules, can be deduced from IR1, IR2, and IR3 (completeness property)

Extended Armstrong Axioms -1

- Extended Armstrong's Axioms

Armstrong's Axioms

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Reflexivity | $AB \rightarrow A$ |
| 2. Augmentation | $A \rightarrow B \Rightarrow AC \rightarrow BC$ |
| 3. Transitivity | $A \rightarrow B \ \& \ B \rightarrow C \Rightarrow A \rightarrow C$ |

A. Rule of Decomposition

- If $A \rightarrow BC$
- Then $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$

- **Proof:**

1. $A \rightarrow BC$ Given

2. $BC \rightarrow B$ Reflexivity $B \subseteq BC$

Hence, $A \rightarrow B$ Transitivity (1) and (2) ■

3. $BC \rightarrow C$ Reflexivity $C \subseteq BC$

Now, $A \rightarrow BC$ and $BC \rightarrow C$; Hence, $A \rightarrow C$, by Transitivity

Extended Armstrong Axioms -2

- Extended Armstrong's Axioms

Armstrong's Axioms

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Reflexivity | $AB \rightarrow A$ |
| 2. Augmentation | $A \rightarrow B \Rightarrow AC \rightarrow BC$ |
| 3. Transitivity | $A \rightarrow B \ \& \ B \rightarrow C \Rightarrow A \rightarrow C$ |

B. Rule of Union

- If $A \rightarrow B$ and $A \rightarrow C$
- Then $A \rightarrow BC$

- **Proof:**

1. $A \rightarrow B$ Given
2. $A \rightarrow C$ Given

Hence, $A \rightarrow AB$ Augmentation of (1) with A

3. $AB \rightarrow BC$ Augmentation of (2) with B

Now, $A \rightarrow AB$ and $AB \rightarrow BC$. Thus, $A \rightarrow BC$

Closure

Two types of CLOSURE

- (1) **Closure of a set F of FDs** is the set F^+ (which is called “Closure of F ” or “ F closure”) of all FDs that can be inferred from F
- (2) **Closure of a set of attributes X with respect to F** is the set X^+ of all attributes (called Closure of X) that are functionally determined by X
- X^+ can be calculated by repeatedly applying IR1, IR2, IR3 using the FDs in F

Algorithm to determine Closure

- **Algorithm 15.1.** Determining X^+ , the Closure of X under F
- **Input:** A set F of FDs on a relation schema R , and a set of attributes X , which is a subset of R .

$X^+ := X;$

repeat

$\text{old}X^+ := X^+;$

for each functional dependency $Y \rightarrow Z$ in F do

 if $X^+ \supseteq Y$ then $X^+ := X^+ \cup Z;$

until $(X^+ = \text{old}X^+);$

Example of Closure (1)

- For example, consider the following relation schema about classes held at a university in a given academic year.

CLASS (Classid, Course#, Instr_name, Credit_hrs, Text, Publisher, Classroom, Capacity).

ASSUMPTION: The same instructor may offer the same course# in an assigned classroom on different days – these will get different sectionids. Different instructors may choose different texts for the same course.

- Let F , the set of functional dependencies for the above relation include the following f.d.s:

FD1: Classid \rightarrow Course#, Instr_name, Credit_hrs, Text, Publisher, Classroom, Capacity;

FD2: Course# \rightarrow Credit_hrs;

FD3: {Course#, Instr_name} \rightarrow Text, Classroom;

FD4: Text \rightarrow Publisher

FD5: Classroom \rightarrow Capacity

SEMANTICS: These f.d.s above represent the *meaning* of the individual attributes and the relationships among them and defines certain rules about the classes.

Example of Closure (2)

- The closures of attributes or sets of attributes for some example sets:

$\{ \text{Classid} \}^+ = \{ \text{Classid}, \text{Course\#}, \text{Instr_name}, \text{Credit_hrs}, \text{Text}, \text{Publisher}, \text{Classroom}, \text{Capacity} \} = \text{CLASS}$

$\{ \text{Course\#} \}^+ = \{ \text{Course\#}, \text{Credit_hrs} \}$

$\{ \text{Course\#}, \text{Instr_name} \}^+ = \{ \text{Course\#}, \text{Instr_name}, \text{Credit_hrs}, \text{Text}, \text{Publisher}, \text{Classroom}, \text{Capacity} \}$

Note that the above combination on LHS does NOT define Classid. (because same instructor can teach a course in the same classroom on different days). Hence it **cannot** be a key.

Note that each closure above has an interpretation that is revealing about the attribute(s) on the left-hand-side.

The closure of $\{ \text{Classid} \}^+$ is the entire relation CLASS indicating that all attributes of the relation can be determined from Classid and **hence it is a key.**

On that basis, Course# **CANNOT** be a key and even (Course#, Instr_name) cannot be the key.

Application of Inference Rules – Example 1

• Exercise #1

■ Given:

1. $A \rightarrow B$
2. $D \rightarrow C$

■ Target (to show) : $AD \rightarrow BC$

■ Proof:

3. $AD \rightarrow BD$ Augmentation of (1) with D
4. $AD \rightarrow B$ Decomposition of (3)
5. $AD \rightarrow AC$ Augmentation (2) with A
6. $AD \rightarrow C$ Decomposition of (5)
7. $AD \rightarrow BC$ Union of (4),(6)

Armstrong's Axioms

1. Reflexivity $AB \rightarrow A$
2. Augmentation $A \rightarrow B \Rightarrow AC \rightarrow BC$
3. Transitivity $A \rightarrow B \ \& \ B \rightarrow C \Rightarrow A \rightarrow C$

Extended Armstrong's Axioms

- A. Decomposition $A \rightarrow BC \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B \ \& \ A \rightarrow C$
- B. Union $A \rightarrow B \ \& \ A \rightarrow C \Rightarrow A \rightarrow BC$

Type equation here.

Application of Inference Rules – Example 2

• Exercise #2

■ Given:

1. $A \rightarrow C$
2. $AC \rightarrow D$
3. $AD \rightarrow B$

■ Target (to show) : $A \rightarrow B$

■ Proof:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. $A \rightarrow AC$ | Augmentation (1) with A |
| 5. $A \rightarrow D$ | Transitivity (4) and (2) |
| 6. $A \rightarrow AD$ | Augmentation (5) with A |
| 7. $A \rightarrow B$ | Transitivity (6) and (3) |

Armstrong's Axioms

1. Reflexivity $AB \rightarrow A$
2. Augmentation $A \rightarrow B \Rightarrow AC \rightarrow BC$
3. Transitivity $A \rightarrow B \ \& \ B \rightarrow C \Rightarrow A \rightarrow C$

Extended Armstrong's Axioms

- A. Decomposition $A \rightarrow BC \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B \ \& \ A \rightarrow C$
- B. Union $A \rightarrow B \ \& \ A \rightarrow C \Rightarrow A \rightarrow BC$

1.2 Equivalence of Sets of FDs

- Two sets of FDs F and G are **equivalent** if:
 - Every FD in F can be inferred from G , and
 - Every FD in G can be inferred from F
 - Hence, F and G are equivalent if $F^+ = G^+$
- Definition (**Covers**):
 - F covers G if every FD in G can be inferred from F
 - (i.e., if $G^+ \text{ subset-of } F^+$)
- F and G are equivalent if F covers G and G covers F

Functional Dependency Equivalence

- **Example**

- **Example:** $R(A, B, C, D, E)$

- $F1 = \{A \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow C, D \rightarrow AC, D \rightarrow E\}$

- $F2 = \{A \rightarrow BC, D \rightarrow AE\}$

- ❖ Show $F1 \equiv F2$

- 1. Prove that $F1$ can be derived from $F2$

- From $F2$, $A \rightarrow B$ and $D \rightarrow E$ can be derived easily using *decomposition rule*

- $\{AB\}^+ = \{ABC\}$ so $AB \rightarrow C$ is implied by $F2$

- $\{D\}^+ = \{DAE\}^+ = \{DAEBC\}$; so $D \rightarrow AC$ is implied by $F2$

$\therefore F1$ can be derived from $F2$

Functional Dependency Equivalence

- **Example**

- **Example:** $R(A, B, C, D, E)$

- $F1 = \{A \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow C, D \rightarrow AC, D \rightarrow E\}$

- $F2 = \{A \rightarrow BC, D \rightarrow AE\}$

- ❖ Show $F1 \equiv F2$

2. Prove that $F2$ can be derived from $F1$

- $\{A\}^+ = \{ABC\}$ so $A \rightarrow BC$ is implied by $F1$

- $\{D\}^+ = \{ABCDE\}$ so $D \rightarrow AE$ is implied by $F1$ using Closures

$\therefore F2$ can be derived from $F1$

1.3 Finding Minimal Cover of F.D.s (1)

- Just as we applied inference rules to expand on a set F of FDs to arrive at F^+ , its closure, it is possible to think **in the opposite direction** to see if we could shrink or reduce the set F to its **minimal form** so that the minimal set is still equivalent to the original set F .
- **Definition:** An attribute in a functional dependency (on LHS) is considered **extraneous attribute** if we can remove it without changing the closure of the set of dependencies. Formally, given F , the set of functional dependencies and a functional dependency $X \rightarrow A$ in F , attribute set Y is extraneous in X if Y is a subset of X , and F logically implies $(F - (X \rightarrow A) \cup \{ (X - Y) \rightarrow A \})$

Minimal Sets of FDs (2)

- A set of FDs is **minimal** if it satisfies the following conditions:
 1. Every dependency in F has a single attribute for its RHS.
 2. We cannot replace any dependency $X \rightarrow A$ in F with a dependency $Y \rightarrow A$, where Y is a proper-subset-of X and still have a set of dependencies that is equivalent to F .
 3. We cannot remove any dependency from F and have a set of dependencies that is equivalent to F .

Minimal Sets of FDs (3)

- **Algorithm 15.2. Finding a Minimal Cover F for a Set of Functional Dependencies E**
 - **Input: A set of functional dependencies E.**
 - 1. Set $tF := E$.
 - breaking up the right hand side
 - 2. Replace each functional dependency $X \rightarrow \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$ in F by the n functional dependencies $X \rightarrow A_1, X \rightarrow A_2, \dots, X \rightarrow A_n$.
 - 3. For each functional dependency $X \rightarrow A$ in F
 - for each attribute B that is an element of X
 - if $\{ \{F - \{X \rightarrow A\} \} \cup \{ (X - \{B\}) \rightarrow A \} \}$ is equivalent to F
 - then replace $X \rightarrow A$ with $(X - \{B\}) \rightarrow A$ in F .

(* The above constitutes a removal of the extraneous attribute B from X *)
 - 4. For each remaining functional dependency $X \rightarrow A$ in F if $\{F - \{X \rightarrow A\}\}$ is equivalent to F , then remove $X \rightarrow A$ from F .

(* The above constitutes a removal of the redundant dependency $X \rightarrow A$ from F *)

Computing the Minimal Sets of FDs (4)

We illustrate algorithm 15.2 with the following:

Let the given set of FDs be $E : \{B \rightarrow A, D \rightarrow A, AB \rightarrow D\}$. We have to find the minimum cover of E .

- All above dependencies are in canonical form; i.e., they have only one attribute on the RHS. So we have completed step 1

of Algorithm 15.2 and can proceed to step 2. In step 2 we need to determine if $AB \rightarrow D$ has any **redundant attribute** on the left-hand side; that is, can it be replaced by $B \rightarrow D$ or $A \rightarrow D$?

- Since $B \rightarrow A$, by augmenting with B on both sides (IR2), we have $BB \rightarrow AB$, or $B \rightarrow AB$ (i). However, $AB \rightarrow D$ as given (ii).

- Hence by the transitive rule (IR3), we get from (i) and (ii), $B \rightarrow D$. Hence $AB \rightarrow D$ may be replaced by $B \rightarrow D$.

- We now have a set equivalent to original E , say $E' : \{B \rightarrow A, D \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow D\}$. No further reduction is possible in step 2 since all FDs have a single attribute on the left-hand side.

- In step 3 we look for a redundant FD in E' . By using the transitive rule on $B \rightarrow D$ and $D \rightarrow A$, we derive $B \rightarrow A$. Hence $B \rightarrow A$ is redundant in E' and can be eliminated.

- Hence the minimum cover of E is $\{B \rightarrow D, D \rightarrow A\}$.

Minimal Basis (Cover)

Conditions

1. $F_b \equiv F$
2. Non-trivial and decomposed
3. No redundant attributes on LHS
4. No redundant FD

• Example

- $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$ $F_b = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C\}$
- Is F_b a minimal basis for F ?
 1. $A \rightarrow C$ in F can be derived from F_b
 - F_b is F by removal of $A \rightarrow C$
 2. All FDs in F_b are non-trivial and decomposed
 3. For any FD in F_b , if we remove an attribute from left hand side, then the FD cannot be derived from F *(in fact, they have no left hand side!)*
 4. If any FD in F_b is removed, then some FD in F cannot be derived

$\therefore F_b$ is a minimal basis (cover) for F

Minimal Basis (Cover)

Conditions

1. $F_b \equiv F$
2. Non-trivial and decomposed
3. No redundant attributes on LHS
4. No redundant FD

• Example

■ $F = \{A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow C, A \rightarrow C\}$ $F_b = \{A \rightarrow B, AB \rightarrow C\}$

■ Is F_b a minimal basis for F ?

1. $B \rightarrow C$ in F can **NOT** be derived from F_b

$\therefore F_b$ is **NOT** equivalent to F and hence cannot be a minimal basis for F

Minimal Sets of FDs as a basis for design of relations

- Every set of FDs F has an equivalent minimal set
- There can be several equivalent minimal sets for a given set F of FDs.
- There is no simple algorithm for computing a minimal set of FDs that is equivalent to a set F of FDs. The process of Algorithm 15.2 is used until no further reduction is possible.
- *The synthesis approach to design a set of relations, which we will discuss in Lecture 12, starts with all possible F.D.s among a set of attributes that we wish to store, computes their minimal cover and then proceeds to design a set of relations in a specific Normal Form. We will discuss that in the algorithms of Ch.15.*

DESIGNING A SET OF RELATIONS

■ The Approach of Relational Synthesis (Bottom-up Design):

- Assumes that all possible functional dependencies are known. (impossible in real life)
- First constructs a minimal set of FDs
- Then applies algorithms that construct a target set of 3NF or BCNF relations.
- Additional criteria may be needed to ensure the the *set of relations* in a relational database are satisfactory (see Algorithm 15.3).

companies use decomposition approach instead