

1. Consider the following relation instance  $r$  of the relational schema  $R(A, B, C, D)$ .

R			
A	B	C	D
8	6	1	7
0	4	1	9
8	6	1	7
8	5	2	7

List all the functional dependencies of the form  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  where  $\alpha \subseteq R^1$  and  $\beta \in R$  that *definitely* do not hold on  $R$ . In fact, this can be symbolised as  $\alpha \nrightarrow \beta$ .

**Solution:**

- $A \nrightarrow B$
- $A \nrightarrow C$
- $C \nrightarrow A$
- $C \nrightarrow B$
- $C \nrightarrow D$
- $D \nrightarrow B$
- $D \nrightarrow C$
- $AD \nrightarrow B$
- $AD \nrightarrow C$

2. Consider the relational schema  $R$  and let  $a, b, c, d \subseteq R$ . Use only Armstrong's axioms to prove the soundness of the following two inference rules:

- (a) *Pseudo Transitivity*: If  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $bc \rightarrow d$ , then  $ac \rightarrow d$ .  
 (b) *Composition Rule*: If  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $c \rightarrow d$ , then  $ac \rightarrow bd$ .

You can try writing the proofs move systematically at <https://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~adi-yoga/CS2102/FD/>.

**Solution:**

- (a) Pseudo Transitivity

(1)  $a \rightarrow b$  [Given]

(2)  $ac \rightarrow bc$  [Augmentation of (1) with  $c$ ]

<sup>1</sup>Basically,  $\alpha$  is a *set of attributes* and  $\beta$  is a *single attribute*.

(3)	$bc \rightarrow d$	[Given]
(4)	$ac \rightarrow d$	[Transitivity of (2) and (3)]
1	$\{a\} \rightarrow \{b\}$	[Given]
2	$\{a, c\} \rightarrow \{b, c\}$	[Augmentation (1) with $\{c\}$ ]
3	$\{b, c\} \rightarrow \{d\}$	[Given]
4	$\{a, c\} \rightarrow \{d\}$	[Transitivity (2) <b>and</b> (3)]

(b) Composition Rule

(1)	$a \rightarrow b$	[Given]
(2)	$c \rightarrow d$	[Given]
(3)	$ac \rightarrow bc$	[Augmentation of (1) with $c$ ]
(4)	$bc \rightarrow bd$	[Augmentation of (2) with $b$ ]
(5)	$ac \rightarrow bd$	[Transitivity of (3) and (4)]

1	$\{a\} \rightarrow \{b\}$	[Given]
2	$\{c\} \rightarrow \{d\}$	[Given]
3	$\{a, c\} \rightarrow \{b, c\}$	[Augmentation (1) with $\{c\}$ ]
4	$\{b, c\} \rightarrow \{b, d\}$	[Augmentation (2) with $\{b\}$ ]
5	$\{a, c\} \rightarrow \{b, d\}$	[Transitivity (3) <b>and</b> (4)]

3. Consider  $R(A, B, C, D, E, G)$ <sup>2</sup> with set of functional dependencies  $F = \{ABC \rightarrow E, BD \rightarrow A, CG \rightarrow B\}$ .

- (a) Use Armstrong's axioms to show that  $F$  implies  $CDG \rightarrow E$ .
- (b) Compute  $\{CDG\}^+$ .
- (c) Find all the keys of  $R$ .

You can try writing the proofs move systematically at <https://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~adi-yoga/CS2102/FD/>.

### Solution:

(a) Proof:

(1)	$ABC \rightarrow E$	[Given]
(2)	$BD \rightarrow A$	[Given]
(3)	$CG \rightarrow B$	[Given]
(4)	$CDG \rightarrow BD$	[Augmentation of (3) with $D$ ]
(5)	$CDG \rightarrow A$	[Transitivity of (4) and (2)]
(6)	$CDG \rightarrow CG$	[Reflexivity]

<sup>2</sup>Why  $G$  and not  $F$ ? We reserve  $F$  for the set of functional dependencies.

- (7)  $CDG \rightarrow B$  [Transitivity of (6) and (3)]  
 (8)  $CDG \rightarrow BCDG$  [Augmentation of (7) with  $CDG$ ]  
 (9)  $BCDG \rightarrow AB$  [Augmentation of (5) with  $B$ ]  
 (10)  $CDG \rightarrow AB$  [Transitivity of (8) and (9)]  
 (11)  $CDG \rightarrow ABC$  [Augmentation of (10) with  $C$ ]  
 (12)  $CDG \rightarrow E$  [Transitivity of (11) and (1)]

(b)  $\{CDG\}^+ = \{ABCDEG\}$ .

This can be computed via closure algorithm.

(c) Observe that  $C$ ,  $D$  and  $G$  do not appear in the right hand side of any functional dependencies. Therefore, every key of  $R$  must contain  $CDG$ . Meanwhile  $\{CDG\}^+ = \{ABCDEG\}$  from (b), which indicates that  $CDG$  is the only key.

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1 {a,b,c} -> {e} [Given]
2 {b,d} -> {a} [Given]
3 {c,g} -> {b} [Given]
4 {c,d,g} -> {b,d} [Augmentation (3) with {d}]
5 {c,d,g} -> {a} [Transitivity (4) and (2)]
6 {c,d,g} -> {c,g} [Reflexivity]
7 {c,d,g} -> {b} [Transitivity (6) and (3)]
8 {c,d,g} -> {b,c,d,g} [Augmentation (7) with {c,d,g}]
9 {b,c,d,g} -> {a,b} [Augmentation (5) with {b}]
10 {c,d,g} -> {a,b} [Transitivity (8) and (9)]
11 {c,d,g} -> {a,b,c} [Augmentation (10) with {c}]
12 {c,d,g} -> {e} [Transitivity (11) and (1)]
13 {c,d,g} -> {e} [QED]
14 compute closure of {c,d,g}
15 compute keys of {a,b,c,d,e,g}

```

4. Consider  $R(A, B, C, D, E)$  with set of functional dependencies  $F = \{AB \rightarrow CDE, AC \rightarrow BDE, B \rightarrow C, C \rightarrow B, C \rightarrow D, B \rightarrow E\}$ .

Find all the keys of  $R$ .

**Solution:** Observe that  $A$  does not appear in the right hand side of any functional dependencies. Therefore, every key of  $R$  must contain  $A$ . Let's consider all sets of attributes that contain  $A$ .

- $\{A\}^+ = \{A\}$   $A$  is not a key
- $\{AB\}^+ = \{ABCDE\}$   $AB$  is a key; any  $S \supset \{AB\}$  can't be key
- $\{AC\}^+ = \{ABCDE\}$   $AC$  is a key; any  $S \supset \{AB\}$  can't be key
- $\{AD\}^+ = \{AD\}$   $AD$  is not a key
- $\{AE\}^+ = \{AE\}$   $AE$  is not a key

- $\{ADE\}^+ = \{ADE\}$

$ADE$  is not a key

- All other supersets of  $\{A\}$  can't be keys since they must be *proper superset* of either  $AB$  or  $AC$ . Therefore, there are only two keys:  $AB$  and  $AC$ .

```
1 {a,b} -> {c,d,e}      [Given]
2 {a,c} -> {b,d,e}      [Given]
3 {b}   -> {c}          [Given]
4 {c}   -> {b}          [Given]
5 {c}   -> {d}          [Given]
6 {b}   -> {e}          [Given]
7 compute closure of {a}
8 compute closure of {a,b}
9 compute closure of {a,c}
10 compute closure of {a,d}
11 compute closure of {a,e}
12 compute closure of {a,d,e}
13 compute keys of {a,b,c,d,e}
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