

Armstrong's Axioms Format

Proof using Armstrong's axioms can only use the following rules: *given*, *reflexivity*, *augmentation* and *transitivity*. Proof using *extended* Armstrong's axioms can only use the following rules: *given*, *reflexivity*, *augmentation*, *transitivity*, *union* and *decomposition*. The format of each line of the proof is:

FD [**Reason**]

where **FD** is a functional dependency with the format as above (e.g., $A \rightarrow B$) and **Reason** is as follows:

1. Given: **Given**
2. Reflexivity: **Reflexivity**
3. Augmentation: **Augmentation** (**line**) with **attr**
4. Transitivity: **Transitivity** (**line**) and (**line**)
5. Union: **Union** (**line** , **line** , **line** , ...)
6. Decomposition: **Decomposition of** (**line**)
 - **line** is the line number according to your proof.
 - **attr** is an attribute (single letter uppercase) or a set of attributes (multi-letter uppercase).

Notes:

- To use *given*, the FD must be part of the assumption given in the question.
- To use *reflexivity*, the RHS of the FD must be a subset of the LHS of the FD.
- *augmentation* may add an already existing attribute.
- In *transitivity* (i.e., if $a \rightarrow b$ and $b \rightarrow c$ then $a \rightarrow c$), the first line must be matched to $a \rightarrow b$ and the second line must be matched to $b \rightarrow c$.
- *union* requires a minimum of 2 lines and has no upper limit on the maximum number of lines. However, it should not have duplicate line number.
- Attributes may be duplicated.
- If other rules are added in the question, the usage will be explained.

Example: note that the proper alignment of arrows and/or reasons are not necessary

Example of correct usage

A \rightarrow B [Given]
B \rightarrow C [Given]
AB \rightarrow AB [Reflexivity]
AB \rightarrow BB [Augmentation (1) with B]
A \rightarrow C [Transitivity (1) and (2)]
AB \rightarrow A [Decomposition of (3)]
A \rightarrow BC [Union (1,5)]

Example of wrong usage (except for first two)

A \rightarrow B [Given]
B \rightarrow CC [Given] (note: duplicate is allowed)
A \rightarrow AB [Reflexivity]
A \rightarrow C [Transitivity (2) and (1)]
(note: wrong order for transitivity)
(note: removal of duplicate is allowed)
A \rightarrow B [Union (1)]