

Course Name: A Level (1st Sem)
Topic: FD – Exercise practices on canonical cover (Part 10)

Subject : Introduction to DBMS
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Canonical Cover - Exercise Practices

Q. Suppose a relational schema R(w x y z), and set of functional dependency as following

$$F : \{ x \rightarrow w, \\ wz \rightarrow xy, \\ y \rightarrow wxz \}$$

Find the canonical cover F_c (Minimal set of functional dependency).

Solution:

Step1: First we will check if there is any extra attribute for each FD at right side:

For this, we will decompose all the FD

$$\begin{aligned} x &\rightarrow w, \\ wz &\rightarrow x, \\ wz &\rightarrow y, \\ y &\rightarrow w, \\ y &\rightarrow x, \\ y &\rightarrow z \end{aligned}$$

Now compute

$$x^+ = xw \quad (\text{using all FDs})$$

$$x^+ = x \quad (\text{without using } x \rightarrow w)$$

It implies that $x \rightarrow w$ is **essential** because without this FD, x^+ is different.



Like wise

$$wz^+ = wzxy \quad (\text{using all FDs})$$

$$wz^+ = wzyx \quad (\text{without using } wz \rightarrow x)$$

It implies that $wz \rightarrow x$ is **not essential** because without this FD, wz^+ is same.

Important: Decomposition is always done at right side of FD. Never try to decompose at left side. It makes FDs invalid.

$AB \rightarrow CD$	$AB \rightarrow CD$
We can decompose	We can't decompose
$AB \rightarrow C$	$A \rightarrow CD$
$AB \rightarrow D$ 	$B \rightarrow CD$ 

$wz^+ = wz$ (without using $wz \rightarrow y$)

It implies that $wz \rightarrow y$ is **essential** because without this FD, wz^+ is different.

$y^+ = ywxz$ (using all FDs)

$y^+ = yxzw$ (without $y \rightarrow w$)

$y^+ = yz$ (without $y \rightarrow x$)

$y^+ = yxw$ (without $y \rightarrow z$)

Note: Once the non essential FD is identified, then do not include that non essential FD while computing the closure of attributes further. Exclude that FD immediately.

It implies that $y \rightarrow w$ is **not essential** whereas $y \rightarrow x$ and $y \rightarrow z$ are **essential**.

Now FD set (all essential FDs)

$x \rightarrow w$

$wz \rightarrow y$

$y \rightarrow x$

$y \rightarrow z$

Step 2: Now we will check if there is any extra attribute at left side of FD.

For this

$wz \rightarrow y$ (only this FD has more than one attribute at left side, it may only contain extra attribute at left side)

compute $wz^+ = wzyx$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } wz^+ \text{ and } w^+ \text{ are same, it implies that } z \text{ is extra in } wz \rightarrow y. \\ \text{Likewise if } wz^+ \text{ and } z^+ \text{ are same, it implies that } w \text{ is extra in } wz \rightarrow y. \end{array} \right\}$

$w^+ = w$

$z^+ = z$

$wz \rightarrow y$ is **essential** because wz^+ and w^+ are different, wz^+ and z^+ are different .

Therefore, the minimal set of FD is whereas

$F_c : \{ x \rightarrow w, wz \rightarrow y, y \rightarrow xz \}$

$F : \{ x \rightarrow w, wz \rightarrow xy, y \rightarrow wxz \}$

x was extraneous.
 w was extraneous.

Exercise:

Suppose a relational schema $R(P, Q, R, S)$, and set of functional dependency as following

$$F : \{ P \rightarrow QR, \\ Q \rightarrow R, \\ P \rightarrow Q, \\ PQ \rightarrow R \}$$

Find the canonical cover F_c (Minimal set of functional dependency).

