

Course Name: A Level (1st Sem)

Subject : Introduction to DBMS

Topic: FD – Closure of Set of FDs (Part 5)

Date: 23-Apr-2020

Closure of Set of Functional Dependencies

Let F be a set of functional dependencies on a relational schema R , **the closure of F denoted by F^+ is the set of all functional dependencies logically implied by F .** Given F , we can define F^+ directly from the formal definition of functional dependency.

We can use Armstrong's axioms and other rules of inference to find logically implied functional dependencies (F^+) from given set of FDs (F).

Q. Suppose, we are given a relational schema $R (A, B, C, G, H, I)$ and set of functional dependency F :

$$F \{ A \rightarrow B, \\ A \rightarrow C, \\ CG \rightarrow H, \\ CG \rightarrow I, \\ B \rightarrow H \}$$

Compute the closure of above given set F . (i.e. what others FD can be derived?)

Solution:

From above given set F of functional dependencies, we can conclude following more functional dependencies set (F^+) :

- $A \rightarrow H$

[Using **transitivity** properly of Armstrong's axioms, It derives $A \rightarrow H$ since $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow H$ hold in the relation]

- **CG \rightarrow HI**

[Since CG \rightarrow H and CG \rightarrow I hold in the relation, It derives **CG \rightarrow HI** using **Union rule**]

- **AG \rightarrow I**

[Since A \rightarrow C and CG \rightarrow I hold in the relation, It derives **AG \rightarrow I** using **Pseudo Transitivity rule**]

- **AG \rightarrow H**

[Since A \rightarrow C and CG \rightarrow H hold in the relation, It derives **AG \rightarrow H** using **Pseudo Transitivity rule**]

Therefore $F^+ \{ A \rightarrow H, CG \rightarrow HI, AG \rightarrow I, AG \rightarrow H \}$

Exercise:

1. Proof the Pseudo Transitivity rule? How it can be derived using Armstrong's axioms?
2. Compute the closure (F^+) of the following set F of functional dependencies for relational schema r (A, B, C, D, E):

A \rightarrow BC

CD \rightarrow E

B \rightarrow D

E \rightarrow A

