

Course Name: A Level (1st Sem)

Subject : Introduction to DBMS

Topic: FD – Closure of Attribute Sets (Part 6)

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Closure of Set of Functional Dependencies

Let α be set of attributes in relational schema R, **the set of all attributes functionally determined by α under a set F of functional dependencies is the closure of α under F.** It is denoted by α^+ .

An algorithm to compute α^+ , the closure of α under F

1. result := α ;
2. **repeat**
3. **for each** functional dependency $\beta \rightarrow \gamma$ **in** F **do**
4. **begin**
5. **if** $\beta \subseteq \text{result}$ **then** result := result $\cup \gamma$
6. **end**
7. **until** (result does not change)

Q 1. Suppose, a relational schema R (A, B, C) and FD:

$$F \{ A \rightarrow B, \\ B \rightarrow C \}$$

Compute A^+ , B^+ , C^+ (closure of attribute A, B, C).

Solution 1:

$A^+ = A$	result: = A (see line 1 of algo. – Initially the result is attribute (s) itself.
$A B$	because of FD $A \rightarrow B$, result includes B (See line 2-6, since $A \subseteq \text{result}$, therefore result := result \cup B
$A B C$	because of FD $B \rightarrow C$, result includes C (See line 2-6, since $B \subseteq \text{result}$, therefore result := result \cup C (now if we repeat the steps result does not change, so algo. ends here)

Therefore $A^+ = (A B C)$

$B^+ = B$	Initially result is B itself
$B C$	Because of FD $B \rightarrow C$, C is included in the result. (Note: FD $A \rightarrow B$ is not considered since A is not subset of result)

Therefore $B^+ = (B C)$

$C^+ = C$	The result is only C (because of FDs $B \rightarrow C$, $A \rightarrow B$, neither B nor C is subset of result)
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Therefore $C^+ = C$

Q 2. Suppose, a relational schema R (A, B, C, D, E, F, G) and FD:

$$F \{ A \rightarrow B, \\ BC \rightarrow DE, \\ AEG \rightarrow G \}$$

Compute AC^+ .

Solution 2:

$AC^+ = AC$

Initially result is AC.

ABC

because of FD $A \rightarrow B$, result includes B

ABCDE

because of FD $BC \rightarrow DE$, result includes DE

Therefore $AC^+ = (ABCDE)$

Exercise:

1. Suppose, a relational schema R (A, B, C, G, H, I), and FD:

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

Compute AG^+ and ABH^+ .

