

Definition of Functional Dependency ($A \rightarrow B$)

For some relation-scheme R , we say that a set of attributes A (A a subset of R) **functionally determines** a set of attributes B (B a subset of R) iff, for any two tuples in a legal relation on R such that $t_1[A] = t_2[A]$, then it must be that $t_1[B] = t_2[B]$.

Definition of Multivalued Dependency ($A \twoheadrightarrow B$)

For some relation-scheme R , we say that a set of attributes A (A a subset of R) **multi determines** a set of attributes B (B a subset of R) iff, for any pair of tuples t_1 and t_2 in a legal relation on R such that $t_1[A] = t_2[A]$, there must exist tuples t_3 and t_4 such that

$$\begin{aligned} t_1[A] &= t_2[A] = t_3[A] = t_4[A] \text{ and} \\ t_3[B] &= t_1[B] \text{ and } t_4[B] = t_2[B] \text{ and} \\ t_3[R-A-B] &= t_2[R-A-B] \text{ and } t_4[R-A-B] = t_1[R-A-B] \end{aligned}$$

Note: if $t_1[B] = t_2[B]$, then this requirement is satisfied by letting $t_3 = t_2$ and $t_4 = t_1$. Likewise, if $t_1[R-A-B] = t_2[R-A-B]$, then the requirement is satisfied by setting $t_3 = t_1$ and $t_4 = t_2$. Thus, this definition is only interesting when $t_1[B] \neq t_2[B]$ and $t_1[R-A-B] \neq t_2[R-A-B]$.