

CSC 8490

Exercise: Given $R=ABCDEFGH$, find a minimal cover for the following set of FD's.

$ABH \rightarrow C$	$BGH \rightarrow F$	$E \rightarrow F$
$A \rightarrow D$	$F \rightarrow AD$	$BH \rightarrow E$
$C \rightarrow E$		

Step 1) Split the RHS wherever possible and get:

$ABH \rightarrow C$	$BGH \rightarrow F$	$E \rightarrow F$
$A \rightarrow D$	$F \rightarrow A$	$BH \rightarrow E$
$C \rightarrow E$	$F \rightarrow D$	

Step 2) Shrink the LHS wherever possible:

- $ABH \rightarrow C$ can become $BH \rightarrow C$ (exercise for you: why?)
- $BGH \rightarrow F$ can become $BH \rightarrow F$ (ditto)

So we're left with

$BH \rightarrow C$	$BH \rightarrow F$	$E \rightarrow F$
$A \rightarrow D$	$F \rightarrow A$	$BH \rightarrow E$
$C \rightarrow E$	$F \rightarrow D$	

Step 3) Eliminate any redundant FD's (ie, those that can be inferred from the others):

- $BH \rightarrow F$ is redundant
- $F \rightarrow D$ is redundant
- $BH \rightarrow E$ is redundant

What's left is minimal:

$BH \rightarrow C$
 $A \rightarrow D$
 $C \rightarrow E$
 $F \rightarrow A$
 $E \rightarrow F$

We can sketch it as

B
H

 $\rightarrow C \rightarrow E \rightarrow F \rightarrow A \rightarrow D$