



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, COIMBATORE-35

(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION)



DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

23CST201-DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

UNIT-III

Database Design

Topic: Functional Dependency

Functional Dependency

The functional dependency is a relationship that exists between two attributes. It typically exists between the primary key and non-key attribute within a table.

1. $X \rightarrow Y$

The left side of FD is known as a determinant, the right side of the production is known as a dependent.

Forexample:

Assume we have an employee table with attributes: Emp_Id, Emp_Name, Emp_Address.

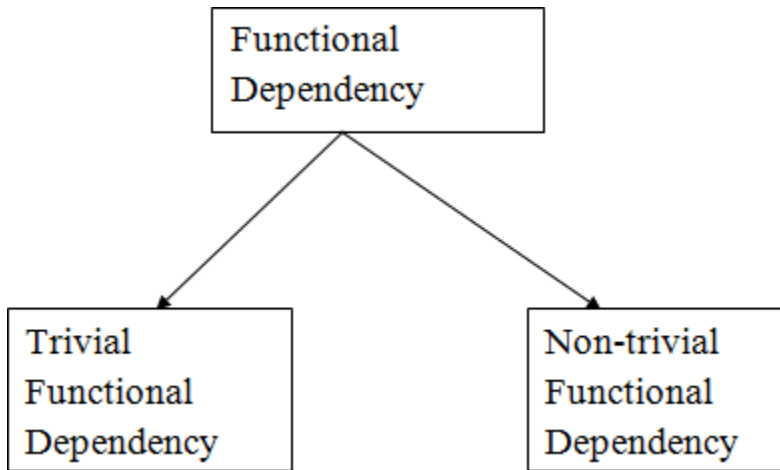
Here Emp_Id attribute can uniquely identify the Emp_Name attribute of employee table because if we know the Emp_Id, we can tell that employee name associated with it.

Functional dependency can be written as:

1. $\text{Emp_Id} \rightarrow \text{Emp_Name}$

We can say that Emp_Name is functionally dependent on Emp_Id. **Types of**

Functional dependency



1. Trivial functional dependency

- $A \rightarrow B$ is a trivial functional dependency if B is a subset of A .
- The following dependencies are also trivial like: $A \rightarrow A, B \rightarrow B$

Example:

1. Consider a table with two columns `Employee_Id` and `Employee_Name`.
2. $\{Employee_id, Employee_Name\} \rightarrow Employee_Id$ is a trivial functional dependency as
3. `Employee_Id` is a subset of $\{Employee_Id, Employee_Name\}$.
4. Also, `Employee_Id` \rightarrow `Employee_Id` and `Employee_Name` \rightarrow `Employee_Name` are trivial dependencies too.

2. Non-trivial functional dependency

- $A \rightarrow B$ is a non-trivial functional dependency if B is not a subset of A .
- When $A \cap B = \text{NULL}$, then $A \rightarrow B$ is called a complete non-trivial.

Example:

1. `ID` \rightarrow `Name`,
2. `Name` \rightarrow `DOB`