

The NextPriorityConcept Algorithm

A generic algorithm computing concepts
from heterogeneous and complex data

The Galactic Organization <contact@thegalactic.org>

2018-2022



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Motivations

- ▶ data scientist driven pattern mining;

GALACTIC stands for

GAlois
LAttices,
Concept
Theory,
Implicational systems and
Closures.



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Motivations

- ▶ data scientist driven pattern mining;
- ▶ consideration of heterogeneous and complex data;
- ▶ generation of implication rules;
- ▶ extracted information size adapted to the goals.

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Founding ideas

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- ▶ inspired by the Bordat algorithm;

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- ▶ constraint propagation mechanism.

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- ▶ constraint propagation mechanism.

arXiv

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.11038>

Theoretical Computer Sciences

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tcs.2020.08.026>

Bordat algorithm as basis

A dual version of Bordat theorem

There is a bijection between the immediate predecessors of a concept (A, B) and the inclusion **maximal** subsets of the family:

$$\left\{ \beta(b) \cap A : b \in M \setminus B \right\}$$

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$$\{ \beta(b) \cap A : b \in M \setminus B \}$$

Concepts($\langle G, M, (\alpha, \beta) \rangle$)

```
begin
  top ← (G, α(G));
  Add top to a queue Q;
  while Q not empty do
    (A, B) ← Q.pop();
    produce (A, B);
    LP ← Immediate-Predecessors((A, B));
    forall (A', B') ∈ LP do
      | Add (A', B') to Q
    end
  end
end
```

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```

Immediate-Predecessors((A, B))

```

begin
  | L ← ∅;
end

```

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begin
  L ← ∅;
  forall b ∈ M \ B do
    | A' ← β(b) ∩ A;
  end
end

```

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    forall (A', B')  $\in$  LP do
      | Add (A', B') to Q
    end
  end
end
  
```

Immediate-Predecessors((A, B))

```

begin
  L  $\leftarrow$   $\emptyset$ ;
  forall b  $\in$  M \ B do
    A'  $\leftrightarrow$   $\beta(b) \cap A$ ;
    if A' maximal in L then Add A' to L;
  end
end
  
```

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     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, B));$ 
    forall  $(A', B') \in LP$  do
      | Add  $(A', B')$  to Q
    end
  end
end
  
```

Immediate-Predecessors((A, B))

```

begin
   $L \leftarrow \emptyset;$ 
  forall  $b \in M \setminus B$  do
     $A' \leftrightarrow \beta(b) \cap A;$ 
    if  $A'$  maximal  $\leftarrow L$  then Add  $A'$  to L;
  end
end
  
```

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    forall (A', B')  $\in$  LP do
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```

begin
  L  $\leftarrow$   $\emptyset$ ;
  forall b  $\in$  M \ B do
    A'  $\leftrightarrow$   $\beta(b) \cap A$ ;
    if A' maximal  $\nleftarrow$  L then Add A' to L;
  end
  LP  $\leftarrow$   $\emptyset$ ;
  forall A'  $\in$  L do
    | Add (A',  $\alpha(A')$ ) to LP
  end
  return LP
end
  
```

Selection of attributes: a strategy σ

Definition

Instead of all the possible attributes in $M \setminus B$, we only consider some attributes, given by a strategy. A strategy σ is an application from 2^G to 2^M which associates a subset of selected attributes $\sigma(A) \subseteq M$ to every $A \subseteq G$.

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Immediate-Predecessors((A, D))

```
begin
  L ← ∅ ;
  forall b ∈ M \ B do
    | A' ← β(b) ∩ A ;
    | if A' maximal in L then Add A' to L;
  end
  LP ← ∅ ;
  forall A' ∈ L do
    | Add (A', α(A')) to LP;
  end
  return LP
end
```

Selected attributes P

The set of selected attributes is denoted P . We denote (A, D) a concept of $\langle G, P, I_P \rangle$.

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Immediate-Predecessors($(A, D), \sigma$)

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  L ← ∅ ;
  forall b ∈ σ(A) do
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    | if A' maximal in L ∧ A' ⊂ A then Add A' to L;
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Constraints

Constraints are needed to ensure that meet are correctly computed.

Constraints associate attributes $C[A]$ to each subset $A \subseteq G$.

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  forall b ∈ σ(A) ∪ C[A] do
    A' ← β(b) ∩ A ;
    if A' maximal in L ∧ A' ⊂ A then Add A' to L;
  end
  LP ← ∅ ;
  forall A' ∈ L do
    Add (A', α(A')) to LP;
  end
  return LP
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  end
  LP ← ∅ ;
  forall A' ∈ L do
    Add (A', α(A')) to LP ;
    Compute the cross and residual constraints C[A']
  end
  return LP

```

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Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Concepts($\langle G, M, (\alpha, \beta) \rangle$)

```
begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \alpha(G));$ 
  Add top to a queue  $Q$ ;
  while  $Q$  not empty do
     $(A, B) \leftarrow Q.pop();$ 
    produce  $(A, B)$ ;
     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, B));$ 
    forall  $(A', B') \in LP$  do
      Add  $(A', B')$  to  $Q$ ;
    end
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    end
  end
end
```

Strategy

The strategy σ is given as input of the main algorithm.

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

 $\text{Concepts}(\langle G, M, (\alpha, \beta) \rangle, \sigma)$

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  top  $\leftarrow (G, \alpha(G))$ ;
  Add top to a queue Q;
  while Q not empty do
    (A, D)  $\leftarrow$  Q.pop();
    produce (A, D);
    LP  $\leftarrow$  Immediate-Predecessors((A, D),  $\sigma$ );
    forall (A', D')  $\in$  LP do
      | Add (A', D') to Q;
    end
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Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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     $(A, D) \leftarrow Q.pop()$ ;
    produce  $(A, D)$ ;
     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, D), \sigma)$ ;
    forall  $(A', D') \in LP$  do
      | Add  $(A', D')$  to  $Q$ ;
    end
  end
end
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Strategy

The strategy σ is given as input of the main algorithm.

The priority queue Q

We use a priority queue according to the support of concepts to ensure that concepts are generated level by level, i.e. each concept is generated before its predecessors.

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Concepts($\langle G, M, (\alpha, \beta) \rangle, \sigma$)

```
begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \alpha(G));$ 
  Add ( $|G|$ , top) to a priority queue  $Q$ ;
  while  $Q$  not empty do
    ( $A, D$ )  $\leftarrow Q$ .pop();
    produce ( $A, D$ );
     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, D), \sigma)$ ;
    forall ( $A', D' \in LP$ ) do
      Add ( $|A'|$ , ( $A', D'$ )) to  $Q$ ;
    end
  end
end
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    forall ( $A', D' \in LP$ ) do
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Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

- ▶ $\sigma(A) = \{b \in M \mid \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$
- ▶ constraints
- ▶ current concept

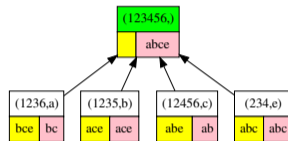
(123456.)
abce

Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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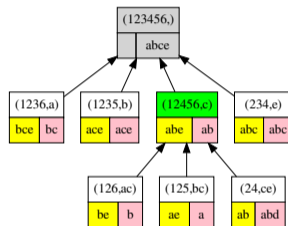


Example

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3	✓	✓			✓
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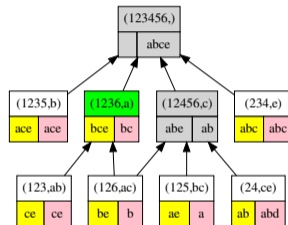


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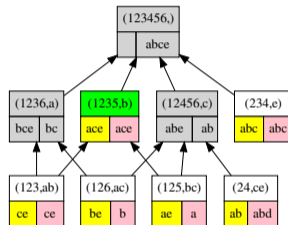


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3	✓	✓			✓
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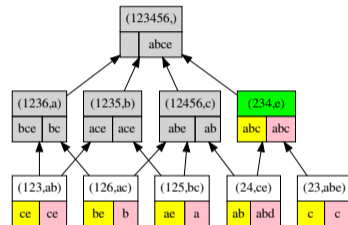


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3	✓	✓			✓
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5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

- ▶ $\sigma(A) = \{b \in M \mid \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$
- ▶ constraints
- ▶ current concept

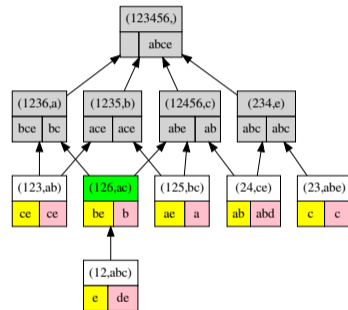


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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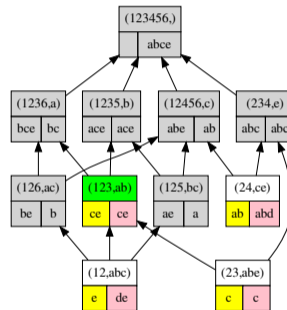


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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- ▶ constraints
- ▶ current concept

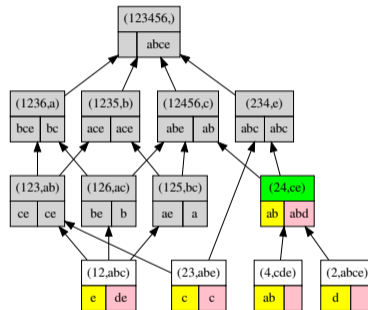


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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Example

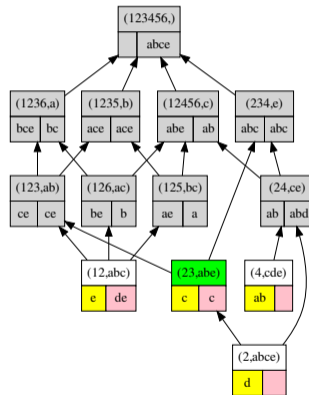
Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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▶ constraints

▶ current concept

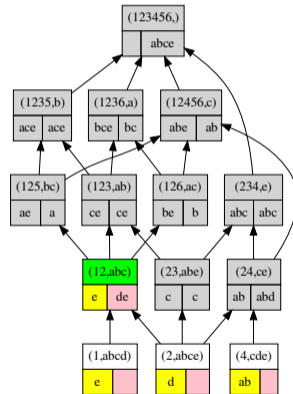


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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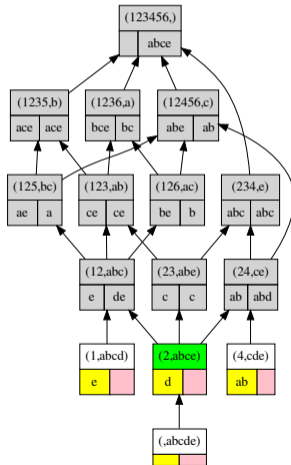


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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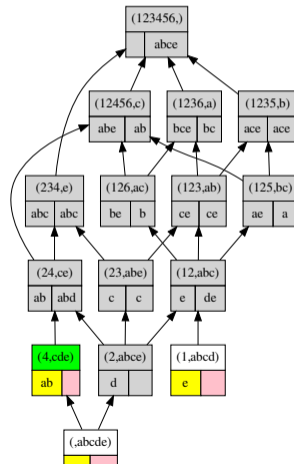


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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Example

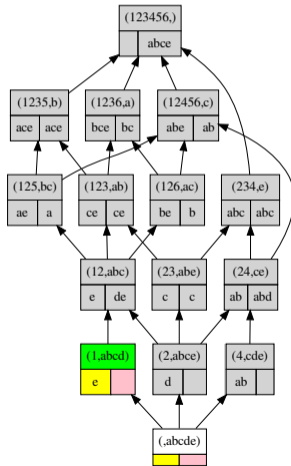
Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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▶ constraints

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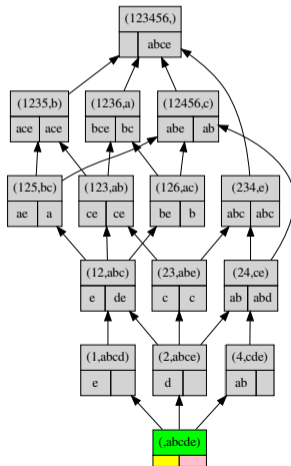


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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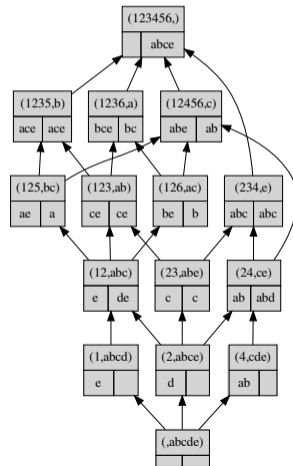


Example

Sample data

(α, β)	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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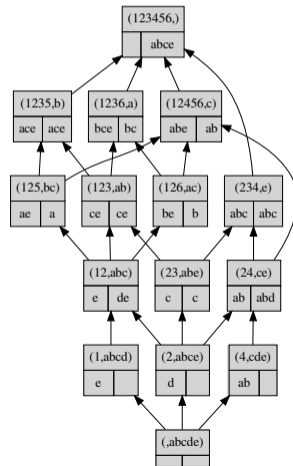


Example

Sample data

(α_P, β_P)	a	b	c	d abc	d ce	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	✓	✓	✓			✓
3	✓	✓	✓			✓
4			✓		✓	✓
5		✓	✓			
6	✓		✓			

- ▶ $\sigma(A) = \{b \in M \mid \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$
- ▶ constraints
- ▶ current concept



NextPriorityConcept: the main theorem

Theorem (Demko et al. 2020)

This NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT algorithm computes the concept lattice of $(G, P, (\alpha_P, \beta_P))$

Where:

- ▶ P is the set of selected attributes
- ▶ (α_P, β_P) is the associated Galois connection

Heterogeneous data as input

Concepts($\langle G, S, (S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i) \rangle \rangle$)

```
begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \delta(G));$ 
  Add  $(|G|, \text{top})$  to a priority queue  $Q$ ;
  while  $Q$  not empty do
     $(A, D) \leftarrow Q.\text{pop}();$ 
    produce  $(A, D)$ ;
     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, D), \sigma, \delta);$ 
    forall  $(A', D') \in LP$  do
      | Add  $(|A'|, (A', D'))$  to  $Q$ ;
    end
  end
end
```


Heterogeneous data as input

 $\text{Concepts}(\langle G, S, (S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i) \rangle)$

```
begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \delta(G));$ 
  Add  $(|G|, \text{top})$  to a priority queue  $Q$ ;
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     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, D), \sigma, \delta);$ 
    forall  $(A', D') \in LP$  do
      | Add  $(|A'|, (A', D'))$  to  $Q$ ;
    end
  end
end
```

Groups of characteristics

Characteristics are given by a family (S^i) where each S^i contains characteristics of the same domain.

Heterogeneous data as input

Concepts($\langle G, S, (S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i) \rangle$)

```

begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \delta(G));$ 
  Add  $(|G|, \text{top})$  to a priority queue  $Q$ ;
  while  $Q$  not empty do
     $(A, D) \leftarrow Q.\text{pop}();$ 
    produce  $(A, D)$ ;
     $LP \leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, D), \sigma, \delta);$ 
    forall  $(A', D') \in LP$  do
      | Add  $(|A'|, (A', D'))$  to  $Q$ ;
    end
  end
end
  
```

Groups of characteristics

Characteristics are given by a family (S^i) where each S^i contains characteristics of the same domain.

Descriptions and predicates

Each group of characteristics S^i is provided with a description δ^i of objects by predicates.
A description is an application which associates a subset of predicates $\delta(A)$ describing a subset of objects $A \subseteq G$.

Heterogeneous data as input

Concepts($\langle G, S, (S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i) \rangle \rangle$)

```

begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \delta(G));$ 
  Add ( $|G|$ , top) to a priority queue Q;
  while Q not empty do
    ( $A, D$ )  $\leftarrow$  Q.pop();
    produce ( $A, D$ );
    LP  $\leftarrow$  Immediate-Predecessors( $(A, D), \sigma, \delta$ );
    forall ( $A', D'$ )  $\in$  LP do
      | Add ( $|A'|$ , ( $A', D'$ )) to Q;
    end
  end
end

```

Groups of characteristics

Characteristics are given by a **family** (S^i) where each S^i contains characteristics of the same domain.

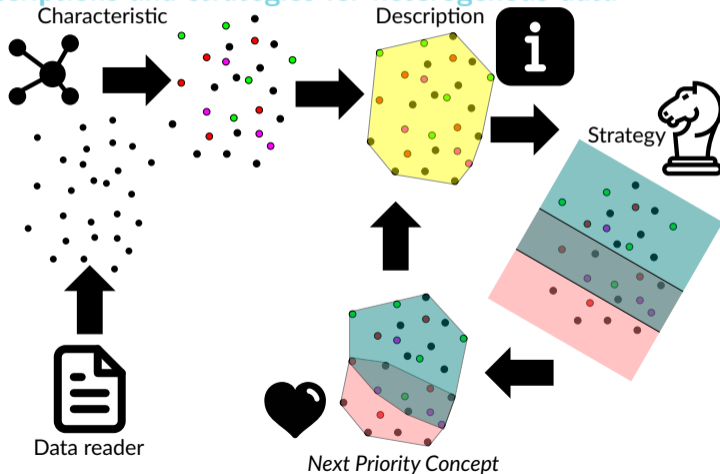
Descriptions and predicates

Each group of characteristics S^i is provided with a **description** δ^i of objects by predicates.
A description is an application which associates a subset of predicates $\delta(A)$ describing a subset of objects $A \subseteq G$.

Strategies

Each group of characteristics S^i is provided with a **strategy** σ^i which defines a set of predicates from which the predecessors are generated.

Descriptions and strategies for heterogeneous data



Descriptions and strategies for heterogenous data

Description

The description $\delta(A)$ is composed of predicates describing the borders of the **generalized** convex hull of A

Descriptions and strategies for heterogenous data

Description

The description $\delta(A)$ is composed of predicates describing the borders of the **generalized** convex hull of A

Strategy

The strategy $\sigma(A)$ is composed of predicates describing a “cut” of the **generalized** convex hull of A from which the predecessors are generated.

The NextPriorityConcept algorithm

Remark

Our algorithm is a **pattern discovery** approach where each $(S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i)$ corresponds to a pattern structure:

- ▶ the description δ^i corresponds to the patterns given by predicates
=> **heterogeneous data are possible**
- ▶ the strategy σ^i allows a predecessor generation “on the fly” for each subsets A of objects
=> **discovered patterns are more suited to the data**

NextPriorityConcept

Theorem (Demko et al. 2020)

If each description δ^i verifies $\delta^i(A) \sqsubseteq \delta^i(A')$ for $A' \subseteq A$ then:

The NextPriorityConcept algorithm computes the concept lattice of $(G, P, (\alpha_P, \beta_P))$ where P is the set of predicates issued from the descriptions.