

# The NextPriorityConcept Algorithm

A generic algorithm computing concepts  
from heterogeneous and complex data

The Galactic Organization <contact@thegalactic.org>



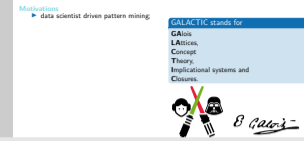
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(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/deed.en>)

### Motivations

- ▶ data scientist driven pattern mining;

**GALACTIC** stands for

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**LA**ttices,  
**C**oncept  
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2022-02-03

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  - └ Motivations
    - └ Motivations

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### arXiv

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### Theoretical Computer Sciences

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

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## 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:

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

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

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  - Bordat algorithm
    - Bordat algorithm as basis

Bordat algorithm as basis

A dual version of Bordat theorem

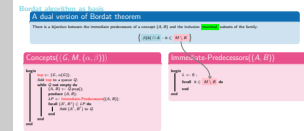
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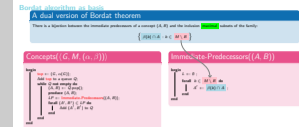
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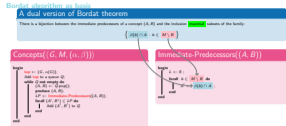
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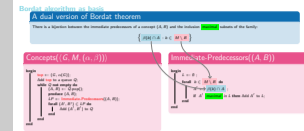
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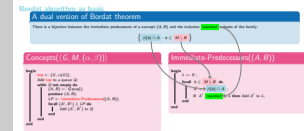
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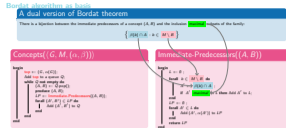
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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

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    - └ Bordat algorithm as basis



## Selection of attributes: a strategy $\sigma$

### Definition

Instead of all the possible attributes in  $M \setminus B$ , we only consider some attributes, given by a strategy. A strategy  $\sigma$  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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- The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm
  - Algorithm
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Immediate-Predecessors(  $(A, D)$  )

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Selected attributes  $P$ 

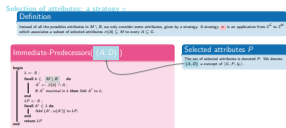
The set of selected attributes is denoted  $P$ . We denote  $(A, D)$  a concept of  $\langle G, P, I_P \rangle$ .

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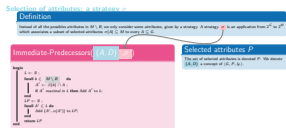
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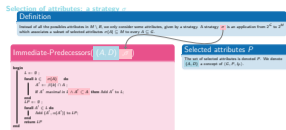
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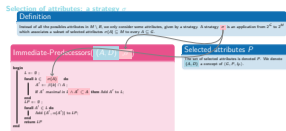
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## Constraints

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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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Strategies

Selection of attributes: a strategy  $\sigma$ 

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

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

```

begin
  L ← ∅ ;
  forall b ∈ σ(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
end

```

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

**Constraints**  
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## Selection of attributes: a strategy $\sigma$

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

```

begin
  L ← ∅ ;
  forall b ∈ σ(A) ∪ C[A] do
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  end
  LP ← ∅ ;
  forall A' ∈ L do
    Add (A', α(A')) to LP ;
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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- └ Algorithm
  - └ Strategies
    - └ Selection of attributes: a strategy  $\sigma$

The thumbnail slide contains the following content:

- Definition:** Instead of all the possible attributes in  $M \setminus B$ , we only consider some attributes, given by a strategy. A strategy  $\sigma$  is an application from  $2^G$  to  $2^M$  which associates a subset of selected attributes  $\sigma(A) \subseteq M$  to every  $A \subseteq G$ .
- Immediate-Predecessors( $(A, D), \sigma$ ):** A diagram showing a set  $L$  and a set  $A$ . It lists steps: 1.  $L \leftarrow \emptyset$ ; 2.  $A' \leftarrow \beta(b) \cap A$ ; 3. if  $A'$  maximal in  $L \wedge A' \subset A$  then Add  $A'$  to  $L$ ; 4.  $LP \leftarrow \emptyset$ ; 5. Add  $(A', \alpha(A'))$  to  $LP$ ; 6. return  $LP$ .
- 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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## Selection of attributes: a strategy $\sigma$

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  forall A' ∈ L do
    Add (A', α(A')) to LP ;
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  end
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return LP
  
```

### Selected attributes P

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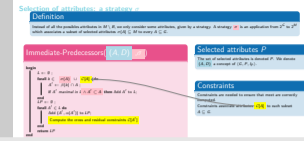
### Constraints

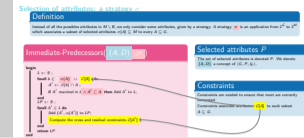
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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
  - Strategies
    - Selection of attributes: a strategy  $\sigma$





## Selection of attributes: a strategy $\sigma$

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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
  end
end

```

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- └ Algorithm
  - └ Strategies
    - └ Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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begin
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  while Q not empty do
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    forall (A', B')  $\in$  LP do
      Add (A', B') to Q;
    end
  end
end

```

## Strategy

The strategy  $\sigma$  is given as input of the main algorithm.

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Strategies

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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## Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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

```

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  while Q not empty do
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    forall (A', D')  $\in$  LP do
      Add (A', D') to Q;
    end
  end
end

```

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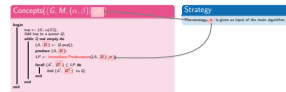
## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Strategies

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Selection of concepts: a priority queue



## Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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

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## Strategy

The strategy  $\sigma$  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.

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Strategies

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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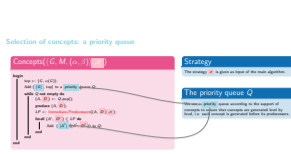
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## Selection of concepts: a priority queue

```

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
  
```

**Strategy**  
The strategy  $\sigma$  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.

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Strategies

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

Selection of concepts: a priority queue

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Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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

(123456.)  
abce

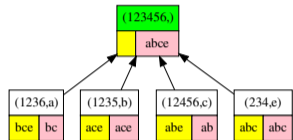


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

- $\sigma(A) = \{b \in M \mid \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$
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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Strategies

Example

Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
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3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
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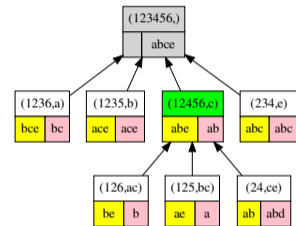


## Example

### Sample data

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2	✓	✓	✓		✓
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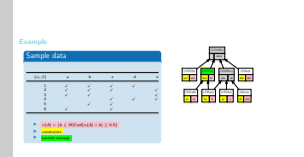
## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
- Strategies
- Example

Example

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
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3	✓	✓			✓
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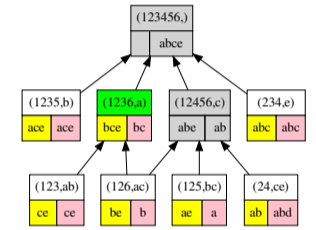


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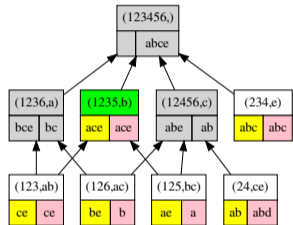


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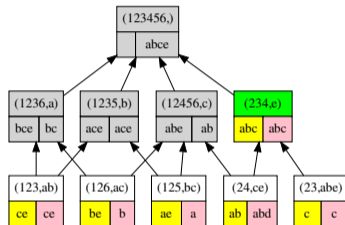


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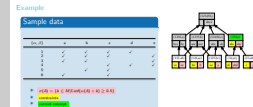
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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
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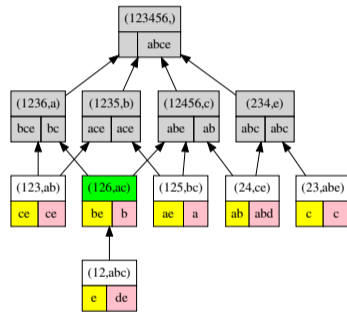


Example

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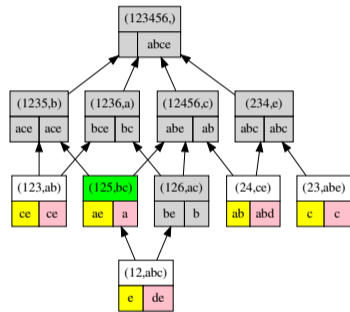
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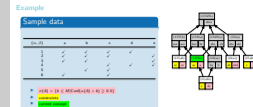
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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

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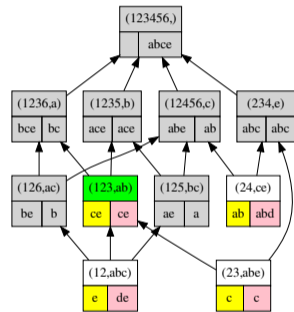


Example

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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

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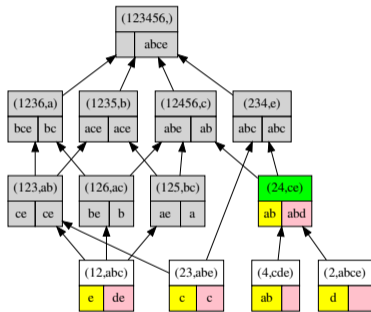


Example

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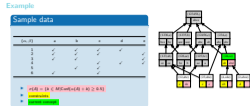
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- Strategies
- Example

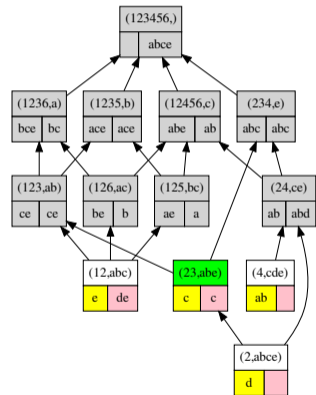


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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



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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
- Strategies
- Example

Example

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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

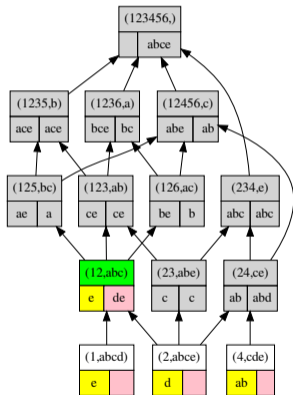


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

- ▶  $\sigma(A) = \{b \in M | \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$
- ▶ constraints
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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

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Example

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

$\sigma(A) = \{b \in M | \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$   
 • e  
 • d  
 • ab



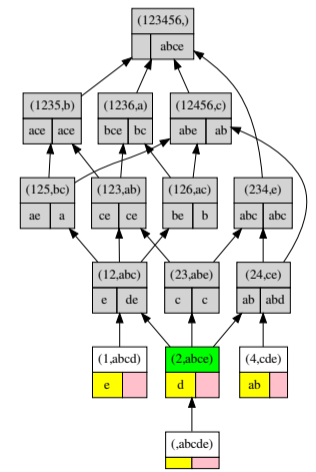


Example

Sample data

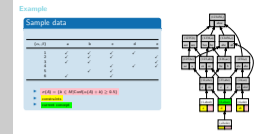
$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4		✓	✓	✓	✓
5			✓		
6	✓		✓		

- $\sigma(A) = \{b \in M | \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$
- constraints
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2022-02-03 The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
- Strategies
- Example

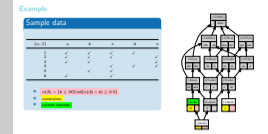
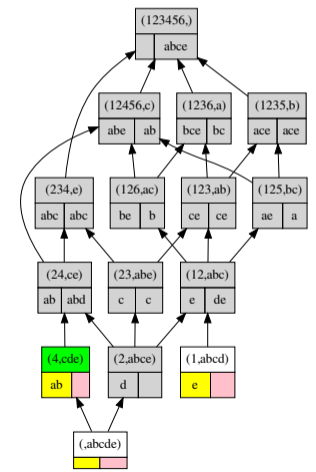


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4			✓	✓	
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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

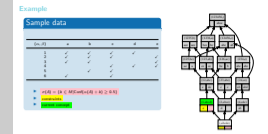
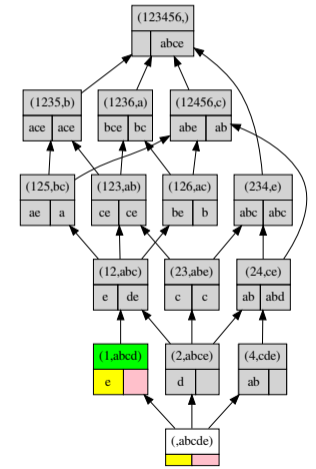


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4		✓	✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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- constraints
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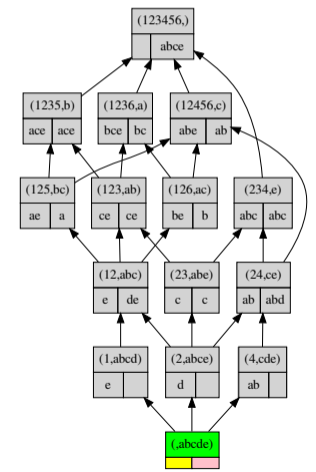


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4		✓	✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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2022-02-03 The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

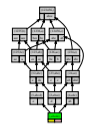
- Algorithm
- Strategies
- Example

Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4		✓	✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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

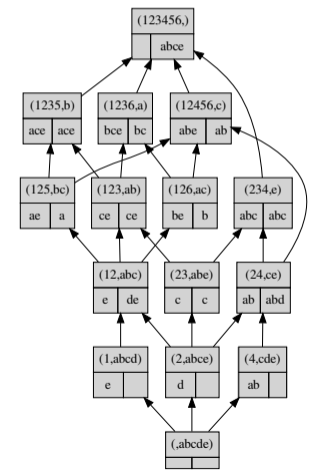


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4		✓	✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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



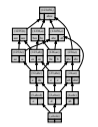
2022-02-03 The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
- Strategies
- Example

Example

$(\alpha, \beta)$	a	b	c	d	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	✓	✓	✓		✓
3	✓	✓			✓
4		✓	✓	✓	✓
5		✓	✓		
6	✓		✓		

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

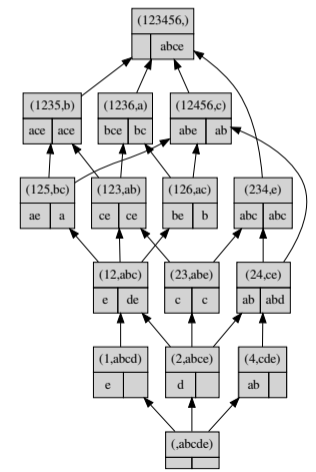


Example

Sample data

$(\alpha_P, \beta_P)$	a	b	c	d abc	d ce	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	✓	✓	✓			✓
3	✓	✓	✓			✓
4			✓		✓	✓
5		✓	✓			
6	✓		✓			

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



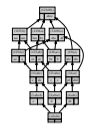
2022-02-03 The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
- Strategies
- Example

Example

Prop. (A)	a	b	c	d abc	d ce	e
1	✓	✓	✓	✓		
2	✓	✓	✓			✓
3	✓	✓	✓			✓
4			✓		✓	✓
5		✓	✓			
6	✓		✓			

$\sigma(A) = \{b \in M | \text{Conf}(\alpha(A) + b) \geq 0.5\}$   
 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
- ▶  $(\alpha_P, \beta_P)$  is the associated Galois connection

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm



NextPriorityConcept: the main theorem

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Where:

- ▶  $P$  is the set of selected attributes
- ▶  $(\alpha_P, \beta_P)$  is the associated Galois connection

## Heterogeneous data as input

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

```

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

```

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

└ Algorithm

└ Heterogeneous data

└ Heterogeneous data as input

Heterogeneous data as input





## 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.

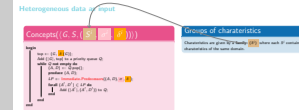
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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

Algorithm

Heterogeneous data

Heterogeneous data as input



## Heterogeneous data as input

```

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

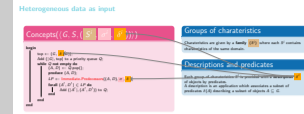
**Groups of characteristics**

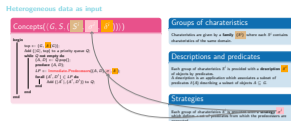
Characteristics are given by a family  $(S^i)$  where each  $S^i$  contains characteristics of the same domain.

**Descriptions and predicates**

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

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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm  
Algorithm  
Heterogeneous data  
Heterogeneous data as input





Heterogeneous data as input

```

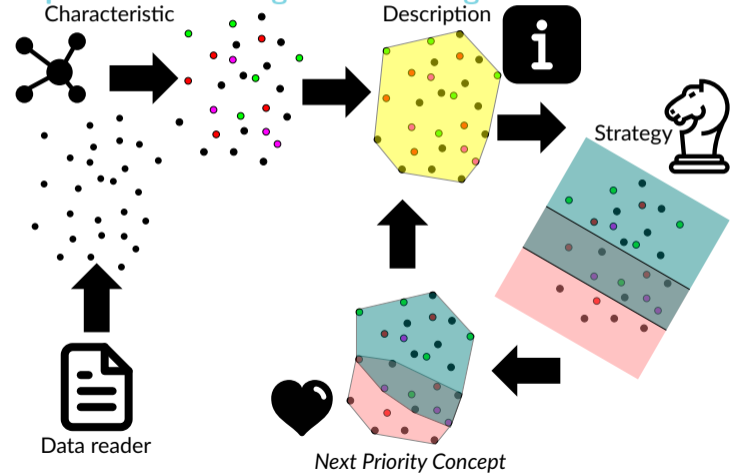
Concepts( $\langle G, S, (S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i) \rangle$ )
begin
  top  $\leftarrow (G, \delta(G))$ ;
  Add  $(|G|, \text{top})$  to a priority queue Q;
  while Q not empty do
     $(A, D) \leftarrow Q.\text{pop}()$ ;
    produce  $(A, D)$ ;
    LP  $\leftarrow \text{Immediate-Predecessors}((A, D),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

**Groups of charateristics**  
 Charateristics are given by a family  $(S^i)$  where each  $S^i$  contains charateristics of the same domain.

**Descriptions and predicates**  
 Each group of charateristics  $S^i$  is provided with a description  $\delta^i$  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 charateristics  $S^i$  is provided with a strategy  $\sigma^i$  which defines a set of predicates from which the predecessors are generated.

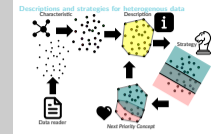
### Descriptions and strategies for heterogenous data



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The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- └ Algorithm
  - └ Heterogeneous data
    - └ Descriptions and strategies for heterogenous 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  $A$

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

- Algorithm
  - Heterogeneous data
    - Descriptions and strategies for heterogenous 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.

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

└ Algorithm

└ Heterogeneous data

└ Descriptions and strategies for heterogenous 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  $A$

#### 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  $\delta^i$  corresponds to the patterns given by predicates  
=> **heterogeneous data are possible**
- ▶ the strategy  $\sigma^i$  allows a predecessor generation "on the fly" for each subsets  $A$  of objects  
=> **discovered patterns are more suited to the data**

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## The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT Algorithm

└ Conclusion

└ Remark

└ The NEXTPRIORITYCONCEPT algorithm

The NextPriorityConcept algorithm

Remark

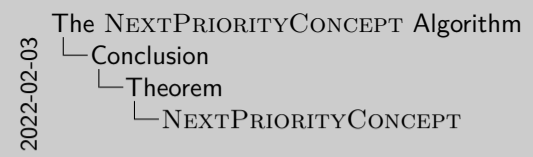
Our algorithm is a **pattern discovery** approach where each  $(S^i, \sigma^i, \delta^i)$  corresponds to a pattern structure:

- ▶ the description  $\delta^i$  corresponds to the patterns given by predicates  
=> **heterogeneous data are possible**
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=> **discovered patterns are more suited to the data**

# NextPriorityConcept

## Theorem (Demko et al. 2020)

If each description  $\delta^i$  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.**



NextPriorityConcept

Theorem (Demko et al. 2020)  
If each description  $\delta^i$  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.