

Measuring and Scaling in Concept Lattices

Novel Tools in conexp-clj

Tom Hanika

Information Systems and Machine Learning Lab, University of Hildesheim

2025-09-08 @ CONCEPTS 2025



What is **conexp-clj**

conexp-clj by Borchmann/Hanika [HH19]

Where can I get it? <https://github.com/tomhanika/conexp-clj>



Statistics

- Clojure software
- Implements a wide range of FCA and more.
- Last updated: Aug 2025, created May 2009

Basic Functionality

You can run either a clojure program, some IDE for clojure, or interact with the REPL directly. The latter you can achieve by¹:

```
java -jar conexp-clj-2.8.0-standalone-openjdk-17.jar
```

Load a formal context (cxt):

```
(def ctxt1 (read-context "sp-food.cxt"))
```

Compute all formal concepts:

```
(def cs1 (concepts ctxt1))
```

Draw Concept Lattice:

```
(use 'conexp.gui.draw)  
(draw-concept-lattice ctxt1)
```

Compute Canonical Base:

(canonical-base ctxt1)

¹<https://github.com/tomhanika/conexp-clj/releases/download/v2.8.0/conexp-clj-2.8.0-standalone-openjdk-17.jar>

Extended Functionality

- default namespace of `conexp-clj` is called `main`
- all analytical tools are available using the namespace `analysis`
- this namespace can be loaded using
 - ① `(require 'conexp.analysis)`
 - ② `(ns conexp.analysis)`

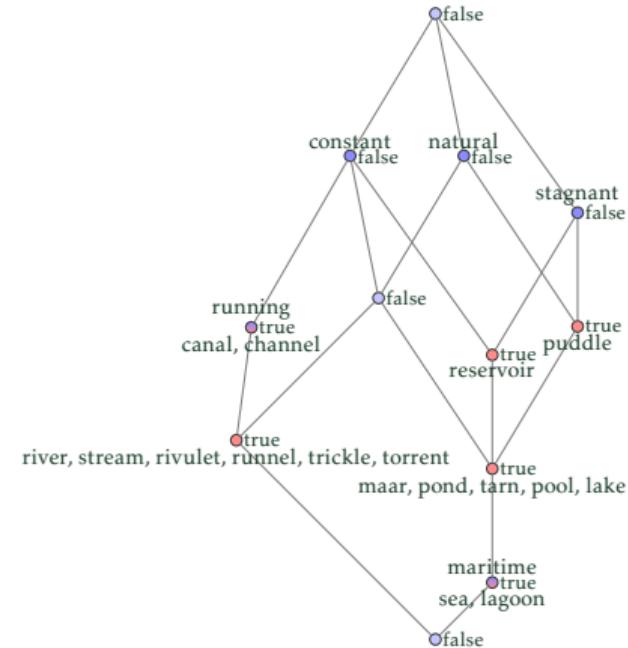
Certain functionalities are not loaded by default, e.g.:

- `(require 'fca.ordinal-motifs)` — ordinal motifs (nominal, ordinal, etc.)
- `(require 'fca.metric-contexts)` — contexts with metric on G or M
- `(require 'fca.non-monotonic-contexts)` – contexts with order on G or M
- `(require 'fca.smeasure)` — scale measures

Metrics

Distributivity

- **(distributive? (concept-lattice ctxt))**
false
- **(distributivity-degree (concept-lattice ctxt))**
110/117
- **(distributive-triples (concept-lattice ctxt))**
will tell you which triples are in distributivity
- **(modular? (concept-lattice ctxt))**
false
- **(modularity-degree (concept-lattice ctxt))**
1307/1320

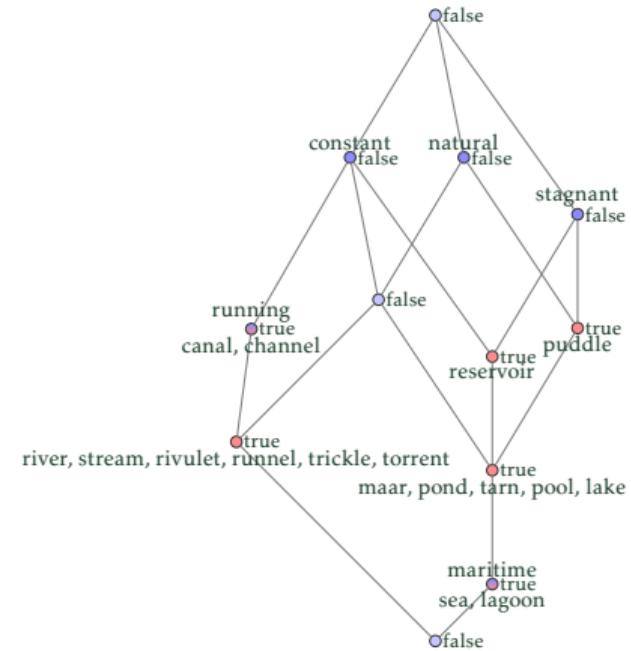


More to come during the next days, e.g., Birkhoff Completion

Entropy [HKS19]

Attribute information entropy is defined by $\sum_{m \in M} 1 - m''/|M|)/|M|$.

- **(attribute-information-entropy ctxt)**
16/25
- **(object-information-entropy ctxt)**
182/289
- **(shannon-attribute-information-entropy ctxt)**
2.18
- **(shannon-object-information-entropy ctxt)**
8.59
- **(modularity-degree (concept-lattice ctxt))**
1307/1320
- **(n-maximal-relevant ctxt (concepts ctxt) 3)**
#"constant" "natural" "stagnant"



Substructures and Decomposition

Ordinal Motifs

```
(require 'conexp.fca.ordinal-motifs)
```

```
(def os
  (conexp.fca.ordinal-motifs/generate-scale :ordinal 3))
(conexp.fca.ordinal-motifs/is-of-scale? :ordinal os)
true
```



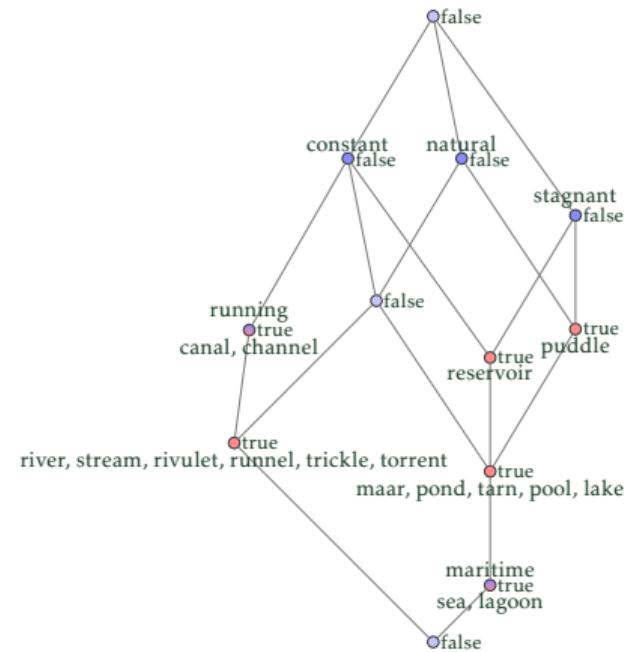
Ordinal Motifs: Example

```
(require 'conexp.fca.ordinal-motifs)
```

```
(def water-complex
  (conexp.fca.ordinal-motifs/make-scale-complex
    (dual-context ctxt)))

(conexp.fca.ordinal-motifs/get-complex
  water-complex :contranominal :maximal true )

#{"running" "maritime"}
#{"running" "natural"}
#{"constant" "natural" "stagnant"}
#{"running" "stagnant"}
```



Scale-Measures [HH22]

(require 'conexp.fca.smeasure)

	<i>running</i>	<i>maritime</i>	<i>constant</i>	<i>natural</i>	<i>stagnant</i>
<i>river</i>	×	.	×	×	.
<i>stream</i>	×	.	×	×	.
<i>reservoir</i>	.	.	×	.	×
<i>puddle</i>	.	.	.	×	×
<i>sea</i>	.	×	×	×	×
<i>lagoon</i>	.	×	×	×	×
<i>rivulet</i>	×	.	×	×	.
<i>maar</i>	.	.	×	×	×
<i>pond</i>	.	.	×	×	×
<i>runnel</i>	×	.	×	×	.
<i>tarn</i>	.	.	×	×	×
<i>canal</i>	×	.	×	.	.
<i>pool</i>	.	.	×	×	×
<i>trickle</i>	×	.	×	×	.
<i>channel</i>	×	.	×	.	.
<i>lake</i>	.	.	×	×	×
<i>torrent</i>	×	.	×	×	.

	<i>fun</i>	<i>favorit</i>
<i>river</i>	×	×
<i>stream</i>	×	×
<i>reservoir</i>	.	.
<i>puddle</i>	.	×
<i>sea</i>	.	×
<i>lagoon</i>	.	×
<i>rivulet</i>	×	×
<i>maar</i>	.	×
<i>pond</i>	.	×
<i>runnel</i>	×	×
<i>tarn</i>	.	×
<i>canal</i>	×	.
<i>pool</i>	.	×
<i>trickle</i>	×	×
<i>channel</i>	×	.
<i>lake</i>	.	×
<i>torrent</i>	×	×

Scale-Measures [HH22]

```
(require 'conexp.fca.smeasure)
```

Scale-Measure for Bodies of water

- We want to measure the objects of *Bodies of water* using the attribute set {fun, favorite}.
- Since both contexts shall use the same objects, we can use an identity map.
- **(def sm1**
 `(conexp.fca.smeasure/make-smeasure`
 `ctxt ctxt-sm identity`)
- *If the result is not a scale-measure, no scale-measure will returned.*

	<i>fun</i>	<i>favorit</i>
<i>river</i>	×	×
<i>stream</i>	×	×
<i>reservoir</i>	.	.
<i>puddle</i>	.	×
<i>sea</i>	.	×
<i>lagoon</i>	.	×
<i>rivulet</i>	×	×
<i>maar</i>	.	×
<i>pond</i>	.	×
<i>runnel</i>	×	×
<i>tarn</i>	.	×
<i>canal</i>	×	.
<i>pool</i>	.	×
<i>trickle</i>	×	×
<i>channel</i>	×	.
<i>lake</i>	.	×
<i>torrent</i>	×	×

Scale-Measures II

(println sm1)

	running	maritime	constant	natural	stagnant		fun	favorit
river	x	.	x	x	.	→	river	x x
stream	x	.	x	x	.	→	stream	x x
reservoir	.	.	x	.	x	→	reservoir	.
puddle	.	.	.	x	x	→	puddle	. x
sea	.	x	x	x	x	→	sea	. x
lagoon	.	x	x	x	x	→	lagoon	. x
rivulet	x	.	x	x	.	→	rivulet	x x
maar	.	.	x	x	x	→	maar	. x
pond	.	.	x	x	x	→	pond	. x
runnel	x	.	x	x	.	→	runnel	x x
tarn	.	.	x	x	x	→	tarn	. x

A scale-measure can always be represented in a canonical form, i.e., using a identity map on objects and attributes that are created using conjunction/disjunction on the original attribute set.

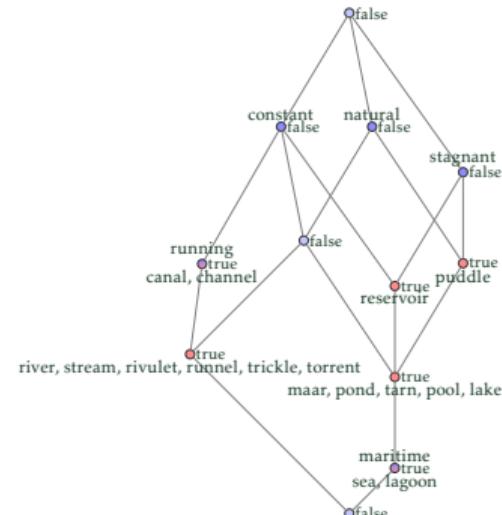
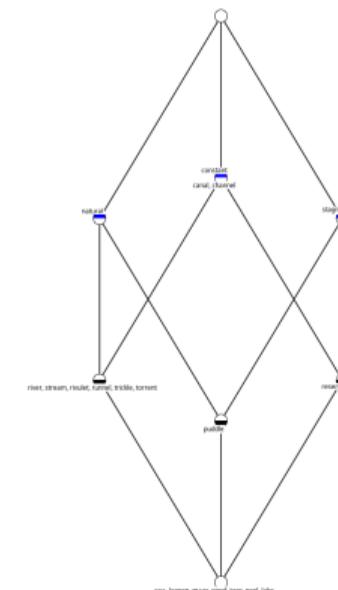
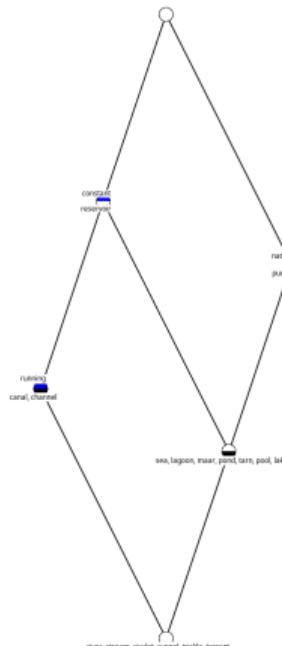
- **(conexp.fca.smeasure/canonical-smeasure-representation sm1)**
- **smeasure-valid-attr**
Filters the scale-measure scale attributes to the set of valid attributes
- **smeasure-invalid-attr**
- **smeasure-valid-exts**
Filters the scale-measure extents to the set of valid extents.

Maximal Decomposable Intervals

Part of Bachelor Thesis by Jannik Nordmeyer (<https://doi.org/10.17170/kobra-2025021510916>)

(def il (conexp.fca.decompositions/maximally-decomposable-intervals))

(draw-lattice (frist il)) (draw-lattice (second il))



Wishlist?

If you have one wish

- Which function would you like to see in `conexp-clj`
(Please don't say better GUI)

Bibliography I

- [HH19] Tom Hanika and Johannes Hirth. “Conexp-Clj - A Research Tool for FCA.” In: *Supplementary Proceedings of ICFCA 2019 Conference and Workshops, Frankfurt, Germany, June 25-28, 2019*. Ed. by Diana Cristea et al. Vol. 2378. CEUR Workshop Proceedings. CEUR-WS.org, 2019, pp. 70–75. URL: <http://ceur-ws.org/Vol-2378/shortAT8.pdf>.
- [HH22] Tom Hanika and Johannes Hirth. “On the lattice of conceptual measurements.” In: *Information Sciences* 613 (2022), pp. 453–468. ISSN: 0020-0255. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ins.2022.09.005>. URL: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0020025522010489>.

Bibliography II

- [HKS19] Tom Hanika, Maren Koyda, and Gerd Stumme. “Relevant Attributes in Formal Contexts.” In: *Graph-Based Representation and Reasoning - 24th International Conference on Conceptual Structures, ICCS 2019, Marburg, Germany, July 1-4, 2019, Proceedings*. Ed. by Dominik Endres, Mehwish Alam, and Diana Sotropa. Vol. 11530. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, 2019, pp. 102–116. doi: [10.1007/978-3-030-23182-8_8](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-23182-8_8). url: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-23182-8%5C_8.