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# Semi-Supervised Ligand Finding Using Formal Concept Analysis

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## Summary

- Background: In organisms, receptors have crucial roles for signal processing
  - Ligands are key tools to investigate them in biochemical experiments
- **Problem:** Finding ligands is difficult
  - In silico approach is required for helping biologists
- Solution: A machine learning approach by formalizing the problem as multi-label classification
  - We develop a new algorithm LIFT (<u>Ligand Finding via Formal ConcepT</u> Analysis) for multi-label classification
    - Ligand data are treated in the semi-supervised manner
    - Clustering is realized by Formal Concept Analysis (FCA)

#### **Contents**

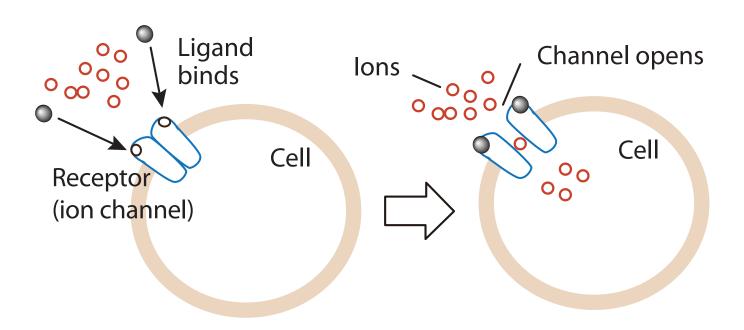
- 1. Motivation
- 2. Classification by LIFT
  - i) Data preprocessing
  - ii) Making concepts by LIFT
  - iii) Classifying unlabeled data
- 3. Experiments
- 4. Conclusion

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# Background

- Receptors are "gates" of various responses of living things
  - A ligand is a chemical compound
  - It activates (agonist / activator) or inhibits (antagonist / inhibitor) receptors

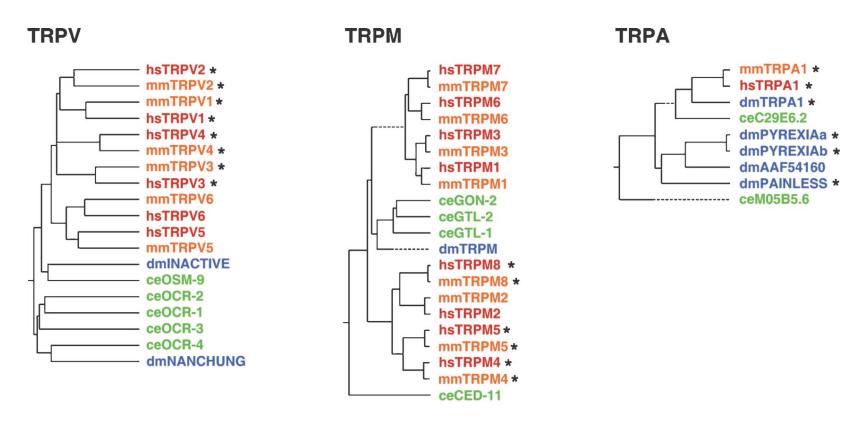


## **Example: TRP Ion Channels**

Dhaka A, et al. 2006.

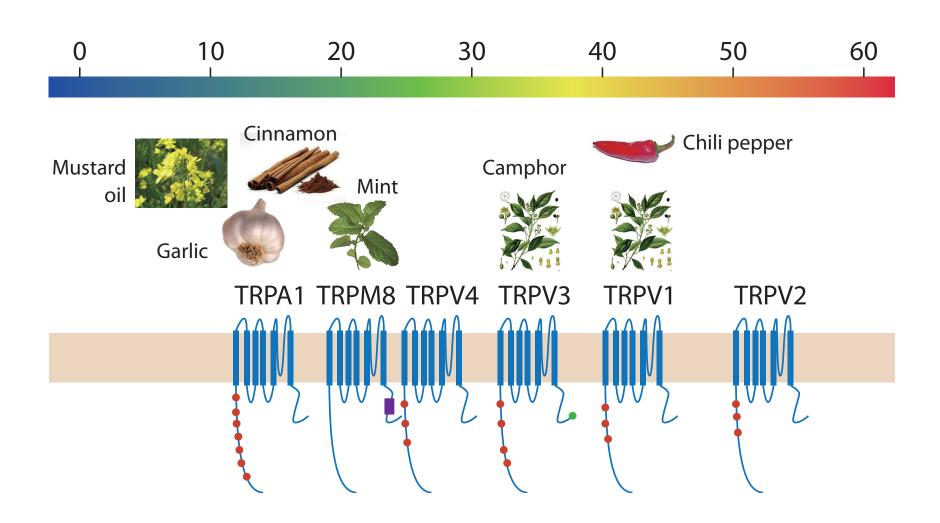
Annu. Rev. Neurosci. 29:135-61

TRP ion channels form a family of ligand-gated channels

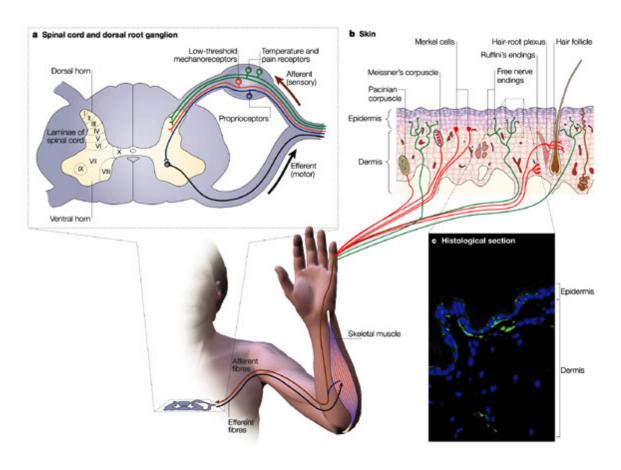


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#### **ThermoTRPs**



# Signal Path of ThermoTRPs



Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

#### **Problems**

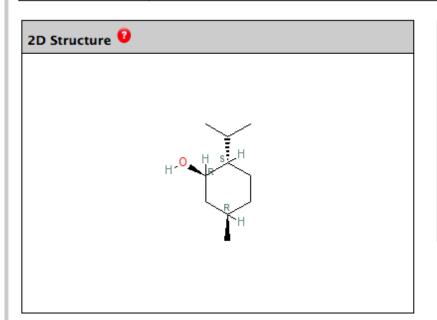
- Finding new convenient ligands is difficult
  - Choosing ligand candidates relies on expert knowledge of biologists
  - Conducting experiments to test whether or not candidates work in vivo or in vitro has a high cost in terms of time and money
- An in silico approach is required for helping biologists

## Strategy

- We find candidates of ligands from databases in a machine learning approach
- We use IUPHAR database [Sharman et al., 2011]
  - 1,782 ligands in total
  - Each ligand is characterized by 7 features
    - 3 continuous and 4 discrete variables
  - For each ligand, we can know ligands to which it binds, corresponding to class labels

IUPHAR-DB Ligand: 2430

Ligand name menthol



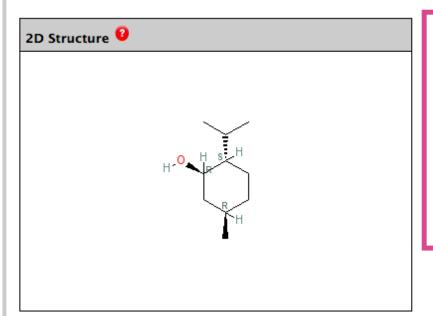
Calculated Physical-Chemical Properties							
Hydrogen bond acceptors	1						
Hydrogen bond donors	1						
Rotatable bonds	1						
Topological polar surface area	20.23						
Molecular weight	156.15						
XLogP	3.21						
No. Lipinski's rules broken	0						

Molecular properties generated using the CDK

S	Selectivity at human ion channels									
K	Sey to terms and symbols					Click column	headers to so			
	Receptor	Туре	Action	Affinity	Units	Concentration range (M)	Reference			
						range (m)				

IUPHAR-DB Ligand: 2430

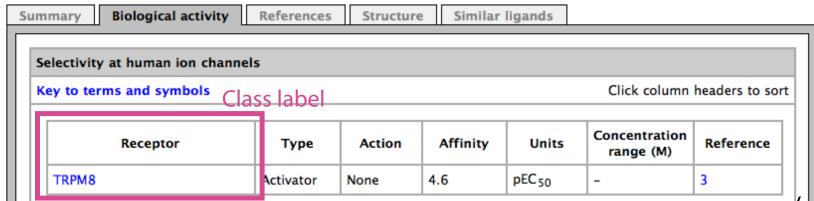
Ligand name menthol



Calculated Physical-Chemical Properties							
Hydrogen bond acceptors	1						
Hydrogen bond donors	1						
Rotatable bonds	1						
Topological polar surface area	20.23						
Molecular weight	156.15						
XLogP	3.21						
No. Lipinski's rules broken	0						

Molecular properties generated using the CDK

Feature vector



## **Mathematical Modeling**

- We model ligand finding as multi-label classification
  - Ligand: Data point
  - Receptor: Class label
    - Each object has not a single label but a set of possible labels
    - Recently discussed in preference learning
- In the database, there are lots of ligands associated with non-related receptors
  - We adopt semi-supervised learning by using them as unlabeled data

## **Key Approach**

- We use Formal Concept Analysis (FCA)
  - Used for frequent pattern mining [Pasquier et al., 1999]
    - Closed patterns obtained by FCA is used as condensed "lossless" representations of original patterns
  - Databases are treated in a discrete manner
  - Fast algorithm LCM has been already proposed by Uno [Uno et al., 2005]
- We discretize continuous values based on the binary encoding scheme to exploit FCA

#### Related Work (ML)

- No study treats machine learning for ligand finding in classification point of view
- There exists only one related study [Ballester and Mitchell, 2010]
  - A machine learning approach to predict the affinity of ligands
- Another approach was performed by King et al. [King et al., 1996] for modeling structure-activity relationships (SAR)
  - However, their goal is to understand the chemical model by describing relations using inductive logic programming (ILP)

## Related Work (in silico modeling)

- Most in silico studies about receptors and ligands [Huang et al., 2006; Moitessier et al., 2008] tried to construct a predictive model using domain-specific knowledge
  - The potential energy of a complex
  - The two-dimensional co-ordinates
  - The free energy of binding
- Lots of scoring methods were proposed; e.g., AMBER [Cornell et al., 1995], AutoDock [Huey et al., 2007], and DrugScore [Gohlke et al., 2000]
- However, some domain-specific background knowledge is required and results depend on them

#### **Contents**

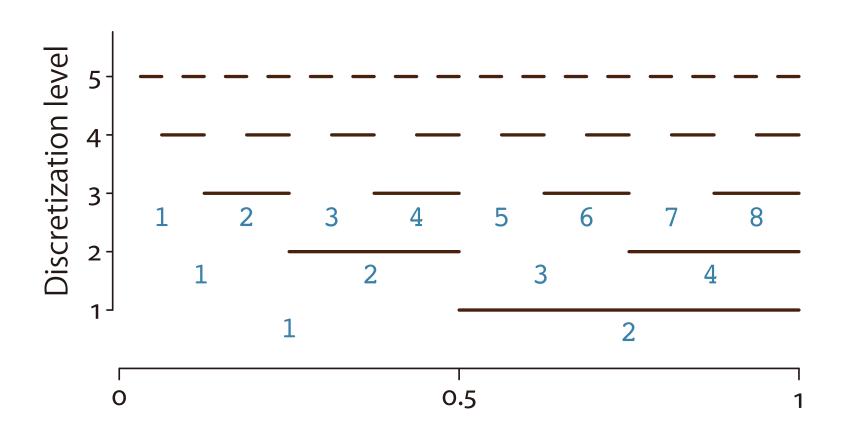
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# **Example of Classification**

Classify the test object y

	HBD	TPS	MW	Labels		
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.98	0.88	A		
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	1	0.41	0.48	В	C	
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	2	0.12	0.71	A	C	
у	0	0.77	0.79			

# **Binary Encoding**

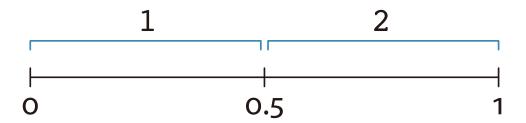


#### Discretization at level 1

Classify the test object y

	HBD	TPS	MW	Labels		
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.98	0.88	A		
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	1	0.41	0.88 0.48 0.71	В	C	
<b>X</b> 3	2	0.12	0.71	A	C	
У	0	0.77	0.79			

At discretization level 1



#### Data preprocessing

Classify the test object y

	HBD	TPS	MW	Lab	els
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.98	0.88	A	
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	1	0.41	0.48	В	C
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	2	0.12	0.71	A	C
у	0	0.77	0.79		

– It is converted as follows:

	H.o	H.1	H.2	T.1	T.2	M.1	M.2
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	×				×		×
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>		×		×		×	
<b>X</b> 3			×	×			×
У	×				×		×

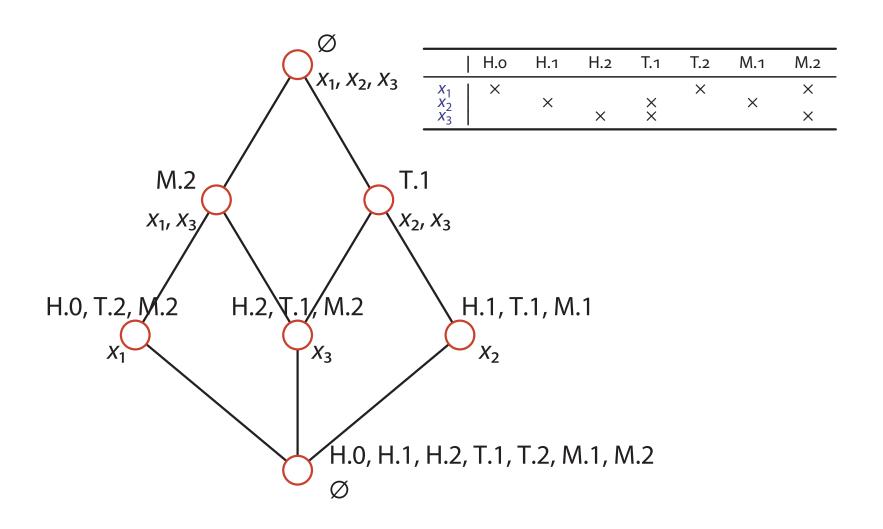
#### Method to Calculate Preference

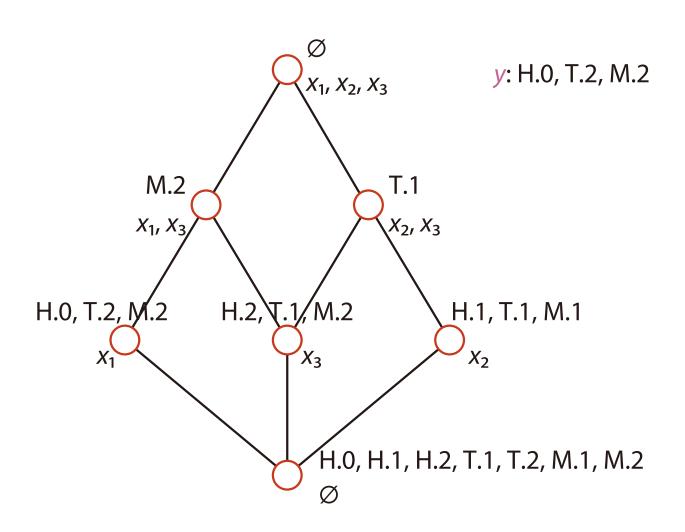
Classify the test object y

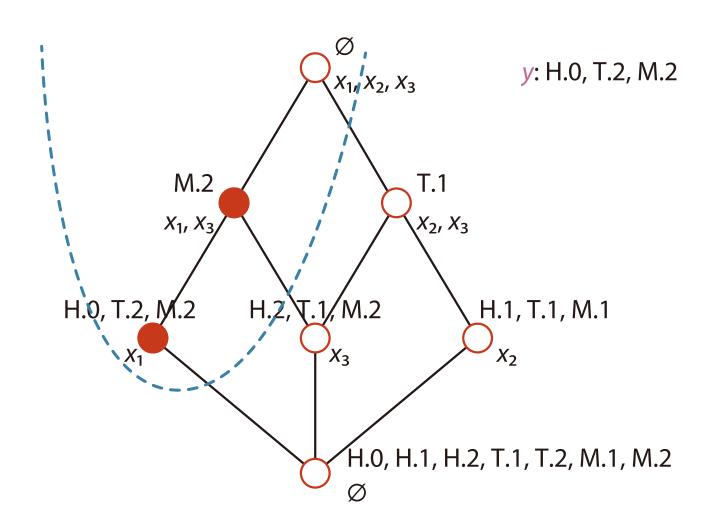
	H.o	H.1	H.2	T.1	T.2	M.1	M.2
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	×				×		×
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>		×		×		×	
<b>X</b> 3	×		×	X			×
У	×				×		×

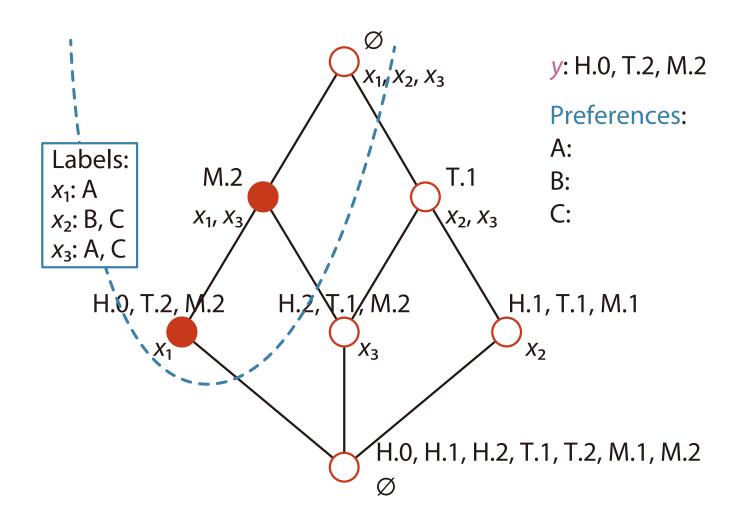
- 1. Make a concept lattice from training data  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  by FCA
- 2. Find consistent concepts
- 3. Calculate preference for each label

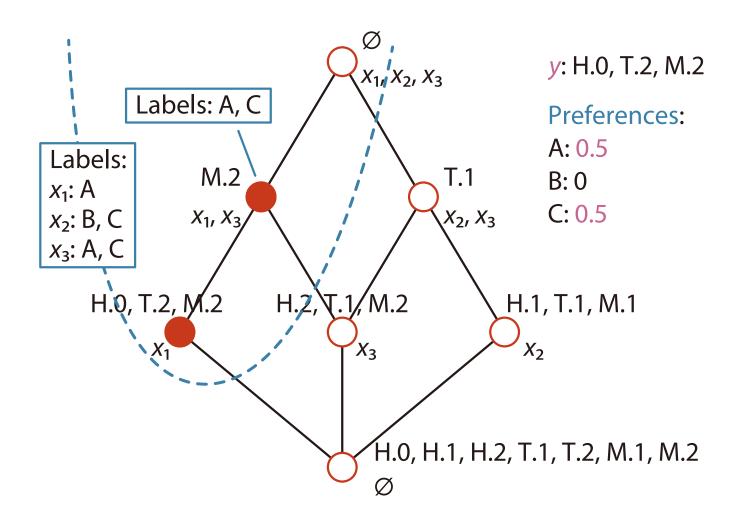
## **Concept Lattice by FCA**

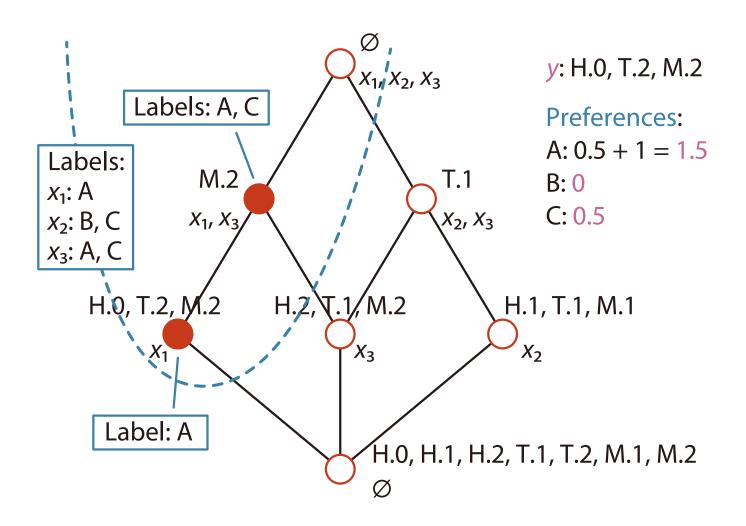












#### **Preferences**

At discretization level 1, preferences are

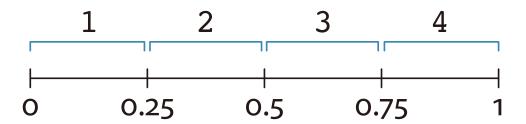
$$\psi_y^1(A) = 1.5$$
,  $\psi_y^1(B) = 0$ , and  $\psi_y^1(C) = 0.5$ 

#### Discretization at level 2

Classify the test object y

	HBD	TPS	MW	Labels		
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.98	0.88	A		
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	1	0.41	0.48	В	C	
<b>X</b> 3	2	0.12	0.71	A	C	
у	0	0.77	0.79			

At discretization level 2



## Data preprocessing

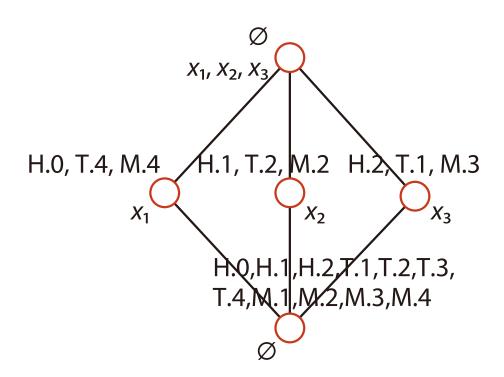
Classify the test object y

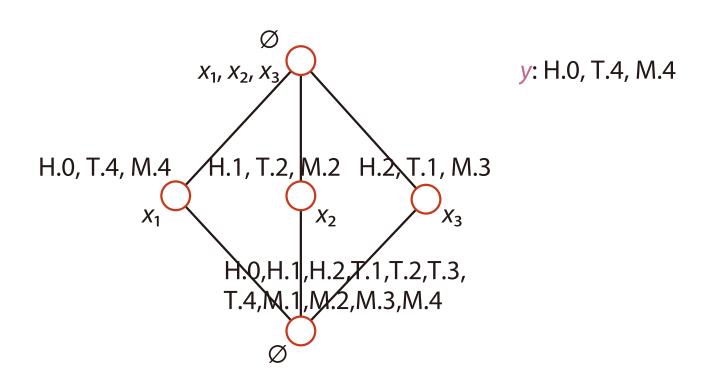
	HBD	TPS	MW	Lak	pels
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.98	0.88	A	
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	1	0.41	0.48	В	C
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	2	0.12	0.71	A	C
У	0	0.77	0.79		

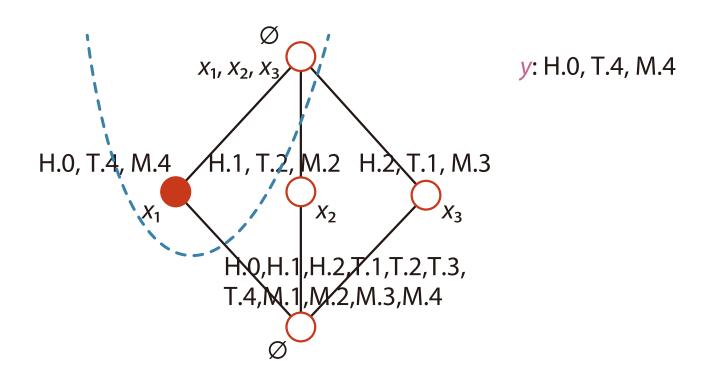
- It is converted as follows:

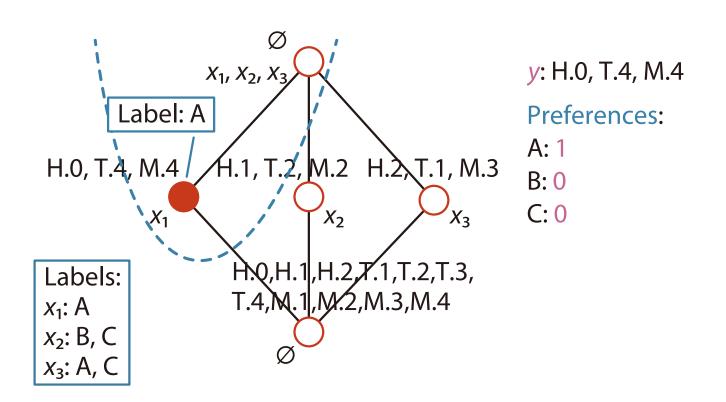
	H.o	H.1	H.2	T.1	T.2	T.3	T.4	M.1	M.2	М.3	M.4
X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>2</sub> X <sub>3</sub>	×	×	×	×	×		×		×	×	×
У	×						×				×

# **Concept Lattice by FCA**









#### **Preferences**

- At discretization level 1, preferences are  $\psi_v^1(A) = 1.5$ ,  $\psi_v^1(B) = 0$ , and  $\psi_v^1(C) = 0.5$
- At discretization level 2, preferences are  $\psi_y^2(A) = 1$ ,  $\psi_y^2(B) = 0$ , and  $\psi_y^2(C) = 0$

#### **Preferences**

At discretization level 1, preferences are

$$\psi_y^1(A) = 1.5$$
,  $\psi_y^1(B) = 0$ , and  $\psi_y^1(C) = 0.5$ 

At discretization level 2, preferences are

$$\psi_y^2(A) = 1$$
,  $\psi_y^2(B) = 0$ , and  $\psi_y^2(C) = 0$ 

Preference for each label is

$$\psi_y(A) = 1.5 + 1 = 2.5,$$
 $\psi_y(B) = 0 + 0 = 0,$ 
 $\psi_y(C) = 0.5 + 0 = 0.5$ 

- y should be associated with the label A, B
- y's label ranking is A > C > B
  - The maximum level  $k_{\text{max}} = 2$  is given by the user

#### **Definition for Preference**

- For a context  $(\{y\}, M, I)$  and a concept (A, B), y is consistent with  $(A, B) \iff B \subseteq \{m \in M \mid (y, m) \in I\}$  and  $B \neq \emptyset$
- Given tables  $\tau = (H, X)$  and  $\upsilon = (H, y)$  with  $|\upsilon| = 1$ . For each discretization level k and each label  $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$ , define the preference of  $\lambda$  at discretization level k w.r.t. y by

$$\psi_y^k(\lambda|\tau) := \sum_{A \in A} \#\Lambda(A)^{-1}$$
, where  $\mathbf{A} := \{A \mid y \text{ is consistent with } (A, B) \in \mathscr{B}^k(\tau) \text{ with } \lambda \in \Lambda(A)\}$ 

- Assume  $\#\Lambda(A)^{-1} = 0 \iff \#\Lambda(A) = 0$  for simplicity
- Given a natural number  $k_{\text{max}}$  (input parameter). For each label  $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$  and y, define the preference of  $\lambda$  by

$$\psi_y(\lambda|\tau) := \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\text{max}}} \psi_y^k(\lambda|\tau)$$

# Algorithm for Data Preprocessing

```
Input: Table \tau = (H, X) and discretization level k
Output: Context (G, M^k, I^k)

function Context(\tau, k)

1: G \leftarrow \text{set}(X)

2: for each feature h \in H

3: if \text{Drom}(h) = \mathbb{N} then (M_h, I_h) \leftarrow \text{ContextD}(X, h)

4: else if \text{Drom}(h) = \mathbb{R} then (M_h, I_h) \leftarrow \text{ContextC}(X, h, k)

5: end if

6: combine (M_{\text{HBA}}, I_{\text{HBA}}), (M_{\text{HBD}}, I_{\text{HBD}}), \dots, (M_{\text{NLR}}, I_{\text{NLR}}) into (M^k, I^k)

7: return (G, M^k, I^k)
```

# **Algorithm for Data Preprocessing**

```
function ContextD(X, h)
      M \leftarrow \{h.m \mid m \in x(h) \text{ such that } x \in \text{set}(X)\}
      I \leftarrow \{(x, h.m) \mid x \in \text{set}(X) \text{ and } x(h) = m\}
       return (M, I)
3:
function ContextC(X, h, k)
      M \leftarrow \{1, 2, \dots, 2^k\}, I \leftarrow \emptyset
       Normalize the set \{x(h) \mid x \in set(X)\}
      for each x \in set(X)
3:
         if x(h) = 0 then I \leftarrow I \cup \{(x, h.1)\}
4:
      else if x(h) \neq 0 then
5:
          I \leftarrow I \cup \{(x, h.a)\}, \text{ where } (a-1) \cdot 2^{-k} < x(h) \le a \cdot 2^{-k}
6:
       end if
7:
       end for
8:
       return (M, I)
9:
```

# The LIFT Algorithm

```
Input: Tables \tau = (H, X) and v = (H, y), and maximum level k_{\text{max}} Output: Preference \psi_y for each label \lambda \in \mathcal{L}

function LIFT(\tau, v, k_{\text{max}})

1: k \leftarrow 1 // k is discretization level

2: for each label \lambda \in \mathcal{L}

3: \psi_y(\lambda|\tau) \leftarrow 0 // initialization

4: end for

5: return Learning(\tau, v, k, k_{\text{max}})
```

# The LIFT Algorithm

```
function Learning (\tau, \nu, k, k_{\text{max}})
         (G(\tau), M^k(\tau), I^k(\tau)) \leftarrow \text{Context}(\tau, k) // make a context from \tau
         (G(v), M^k(v), I^k(v)) \leftarrow \text{Context}(v, k) // make a context from v
  2:
          make a concept lattice k(\tau) from (G(\tau), M^k(\tau), I^k(\tau)) by FCA
  3:
         for each label \lambda \in \mathcal{L}
  4:
           compute the preference \psi_{\nu}^{k}(\lambda|X) at discretization level k
  5:
            \psi_{\nu}(\lambda|X) \leftarrow \psi_{\nu}(\lambda|X) + \psi_{\nu}^{k}(\lambda|X)
  6:
          end for
  7:
        if k = k_{\text{max}} then
  8:
           return (\psi_{\nu}(\lambda|\tau))_{\lambda\in\mathscr{L}}
  9:
          else
10:
            return Learning (\tau, \nu, k + 1, k_{max})
11:
          end if
12:
```

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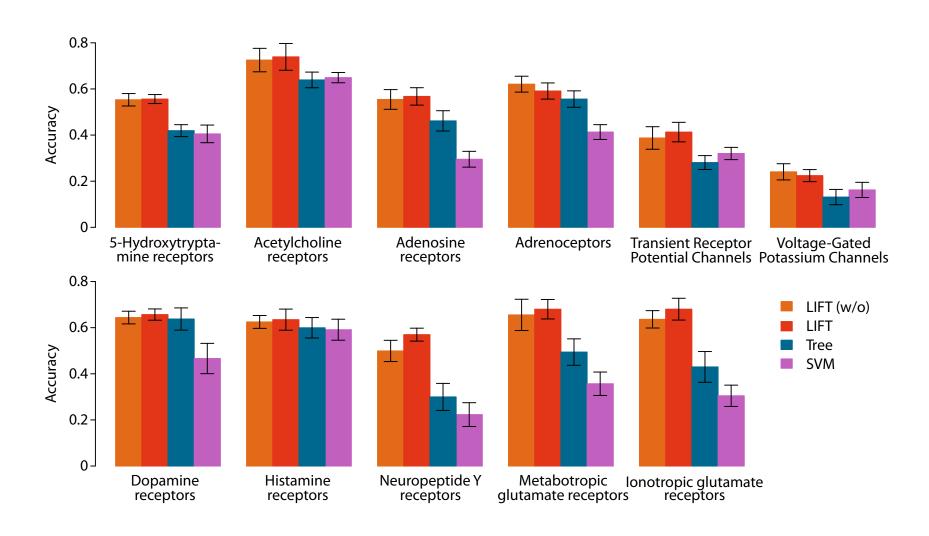
### **Experimental Methods**

- LIFT was implemented in R version 2.12.2
  - LIFT uses LCM [Uno et al., 2005] to construct a concept lattice
- We collected the entire 1,782 ligands in the IUPHAR database
- To measure the effectiveness of unlabeled ligand data, we used LIFT in two cases:
  - 1. Only labeled data were used in training
  - All ligands except test data were used as unlabeled training data
- The maximum level  $k_{\text{max}}$  was set at 5
- 10-fold cross validation
- Control methods: SVM (RBF kernel) and the decision tree-based method implemented in R

# Families of receptors

Family name	# Ligands (Data size)	•
5-Hydroxytryptamine receptors	286	53
Acetylcholine receptors	100	68
Adenosine receptors	162	40
Adrenoceptors	111	35
Dopamine receptors	69	40
Histamine receptors	120	37
Neuropeptide Y receptors	76	34
Metabotropic glutamate receptors	73	9
Transient receptor potential channels	78	58
Voltage-gated potassium channels	61	71
Ionotropic glutamate receptors	81	14

# **Experimental Results**



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#### Conclusion

- We have mathematically modeled the ligand finding problem as multi-label classification
- We have proposed the semi-supervised learning algorithm LIFT
  - Every dataset is translated into a context, followed by clustering of it by FCA by putting on a concept lattice
    - Each continuous value is discretized based on the binary encoding scheme
- LIFT should be valuable for finding new ligands compared to other machine learning methods
  - It may contribute to biology and biochemistry

# **Appendix**

#### Related Work (FCA)

- Many studies used FCA for machine learning and knowledge discovery
  - Classification [Ganter and Kuznetsov, 2003]
  - Clustering [Zhang et al., 2008]
  - Association rule mining [Pasquier et al., 1999]
  - Bioinformatics [Blinova et al., 2003; Kaytoue et al., 2011;
     Kuznetsov and Samokhin, 2005]
- Ganter and Kuznetsov treated the problem of binary classification for real-valued data
  - Their method discretizes real-valued variables by conceptual scaling [Ganter and Wille, 1998], that are given a priori

#### **Notation**

- A set of ligands is treated as a table  $\tau = (H, X)$  (H: header, X: body)
  - The domain of h is denoted by Drom(h)
  - A body X is a sequence of tuples  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ 
    - Each tuple  $x_i$  is a total function from H to Drom(H) such that  $x_i(h) \in \text{Drom}(h)$  for all  $h \in H$ .
  - $|\tau|$ : the number of tuples (the table size) n
  - set(X): the body X treated as a set
- In the IUPHAR database, the header *H* is always the set {HBA, HBD, RB, TPS, MW, XLogP, NLR}, and

```
Drom(HBA) = Drom(HBD) = Drom(RB) = Drom(NLR) = \mathbb{N},

Drom(TPS) = Drom(MW) = Drom(XLogP) = \mathbb{R}
```

• The projection of x on  $J \subset H$ , denoted by  $x|_J$ , is exactly the same as the restriction of x to J

### **Time Complexity**

- Data preprocessing takes O(nd)
  - n is the number of objects
  - d is the number of attributes
- Making concepts takes  $O(\Delta^3)$ 
  - $\Delta$  = max{#J | J ⊆ I, g = h for all (g, m), (h, l) ∈ J, or m = l for all (g, m), (h, l) ∈ J}
- Judging consistency of concepts takes less than O(N)
  - N is the maximum number of concepts in concept lattices constructed in the learning process of LIFT
- The time complexity of SELF is  $O(nd) + O(\Delta^3) + O(N)$

- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

	HBD	TPS	MW
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.61	0.98
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	0	0.44	0.74
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	1	0.72	0.34

- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

	HBD	TPS	MW
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.61	0.98
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	0	0.44	0.74
<b>X</b> 3	1	0.72	0.34

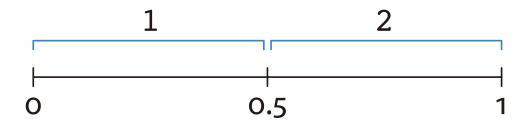
First, HBD is converted as follows:

	HBD.o	HBD.1	
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	×		
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	X		
<b>X</b> 3		×	

- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

	HBD	TPS	MW
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.61	0.98
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	0	0.44	0.74
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	1	0.72	0.34

 Second, discretize continuous values using binary encoding at discretization level 1



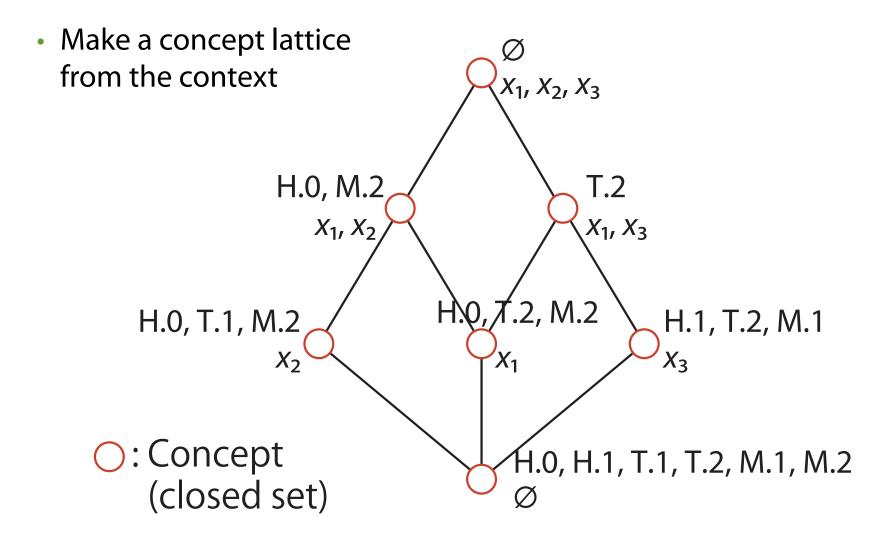
- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

	HBD	TPS	MW
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0	0.61	0.98
$X_2$	0	0.44	0.74
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	1	0.72	0.34

Finally, it is converted as follows:

	HBD.o	HBD.1	TPS.1	TPS.2	MW.1	MW.2
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	×			×		×
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	×		×			X
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>		×		×	×	

## Make a Concept Lattice by FCA



### Data Preprocessing (continuous)

- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

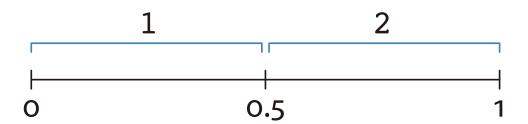
	TPS	MW	XLogP
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0.23	0.12	0.18
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.35	0.03	0.74
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	0.41	0.79	0.91

### Data Preprocessing (continuous)

- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

	TPS	MW	XLogP
X <sub>1</sub>	0.23	0.12	0.18
X <sub>2</sub>	0.35	0.03	0.74
X <sub>3</sub>	0.41	0.79	0.91

Discretize continuous values using binary encoding



### Data Preprocessing (continuous)

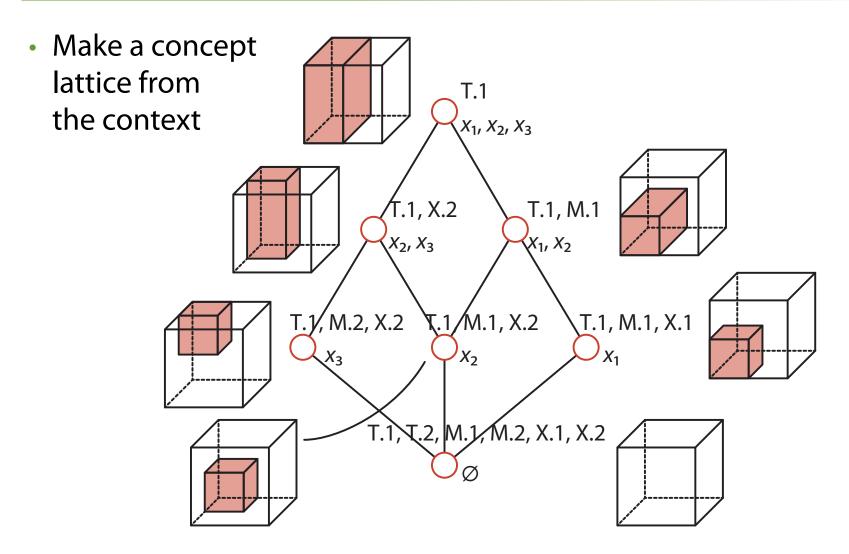
- Objective: Convert a given dataset to a context for FCA
  - Example:

	TPS	MW	XLogP
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	0.23	0.12	0.18
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.35	0.03	0.74
<b>X</b> 3	0.41	0.79	0.91

It is converted as follows (discretization level 1):

	TPS.1	TPS.2	MW.1	MW.2	XLogP.1	XLogP.2
<i>X</i> <sub>1</sub>	×		×		X	
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>	×		×			×
<i>X</i> <sub>3</sub>	× × ×			×		×

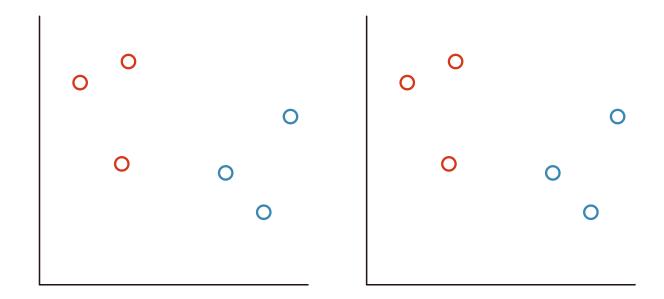
## Make a Concept Lattice by FCA



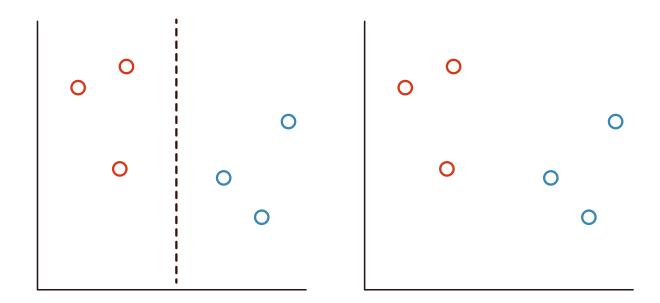
#### What is SSL?

- It is a special form of classification
- Goal: Using (large amount of) unlabeled data effectively, together with labeled data, build better classifiers [Zhu and Goldberg, 2009]
  - Transductive learning focuses on classification of unlabeled data in the training data [?]
  - In contrast, in SSL we treat learning of classification rules and classification of unseen data
- Usual assumption: There are only few labeled data  $(10\sim100)$  and lots of unlabeled data  $(\sim1000)$ 
  - Labeling costs high in real situation

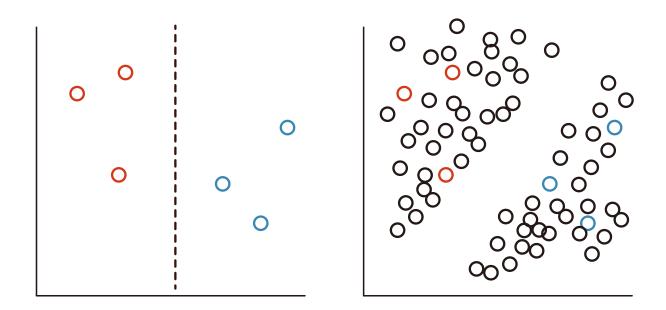
- It is a special form of classification
- Goal: Using (large amount of) unlabeled data effectively, together with (only few) labeled data, build better classifiers [Zhu and Goldberg, 2009]



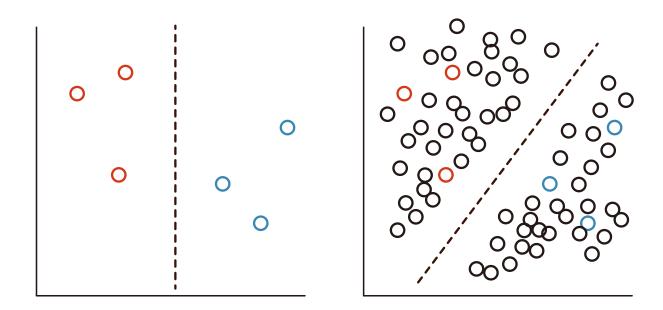
- It is a special form of classification
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