

Application of Cognitive Map in Knowledge Management

Akbar Esfahanipour

Amirkabir University of Technology, Iran

Ali Reza Montazemi

McMaster University, Canada

INTRODUCTION

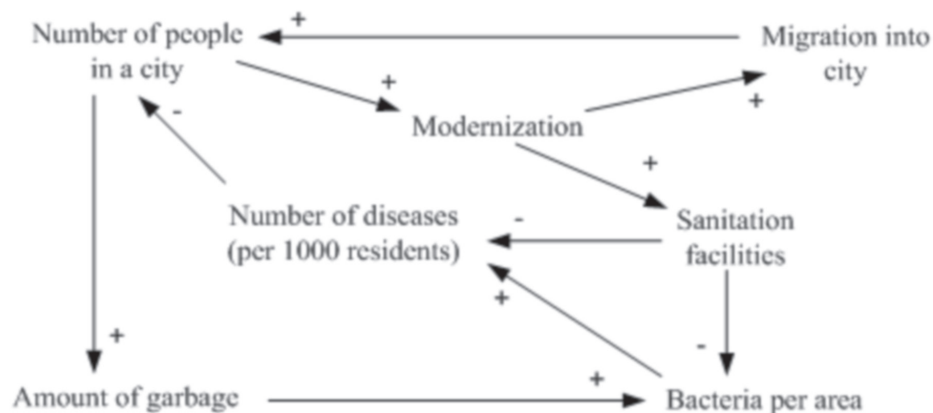
Cognitive mapping techniques consist of a set of procedures to capture perceived relationships of attributes related to ill-structured decision problems that decision makers have to face. This article provides an overview of the application of cognitive maps (CMs) in the design and development of intelligent information systems. Here, CM is used as a set of techniques to identify subjective beliefs and to portray those beliefs externally as follows:

- Causal mapping is used to investigate the cognition of decision-makers. A causal map represents a set of causal relationships (i.e., cause and effect relationships) among constructs within a system. For example, Figure 1 shows that better sanitation facilities, causing an initial improvement in health, led to an increase in

the city's population. This growth led to more garbage, more bacterial, and therefore more disease. Causal map aids: 1) in identification of irrelevant data, 2) to evaluate the factors that affect a given class of decisions, and 3) enhances the overall understanding of a decision maker's environment, particularly when it is ill-structured.

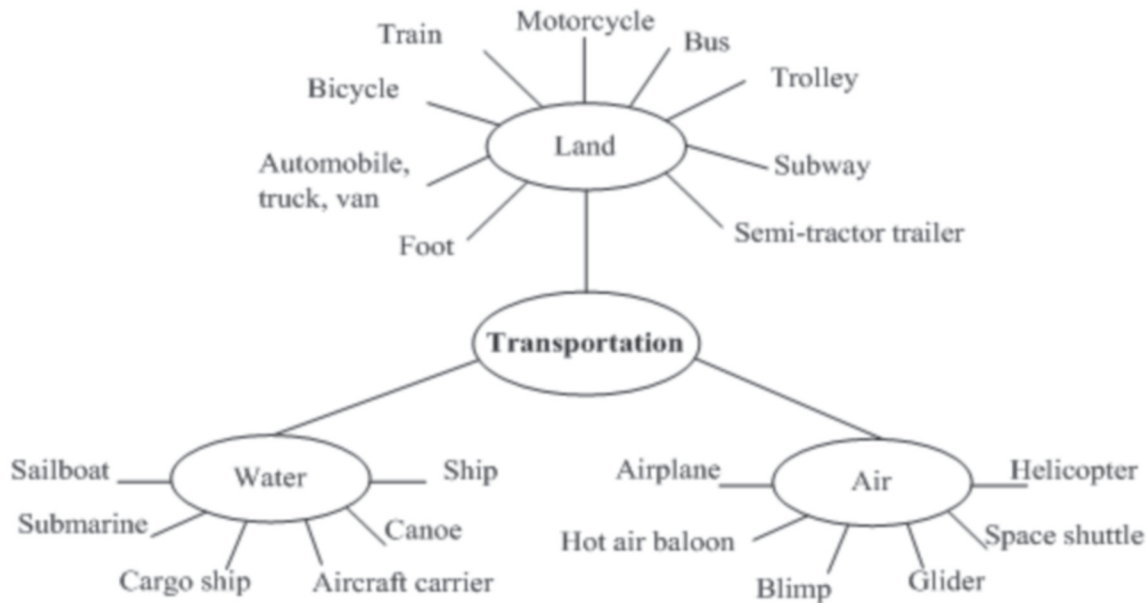
- Semantic mapping, also known as *idea mapping*, is used to explore an idea without the constraints of a superimposed structure. A semantic map visually organizes related concepts around a main concept with tree-like branches. Figure 2 depicts different types of transportation, organized in three categories: land, water, and air. This technique facilitates communication between end-users and system analysts in support of information requirements analysis.

Figure 1. Causal map for public health issues



DOI: 10.4018/978-1-4666-5888-2.ch106

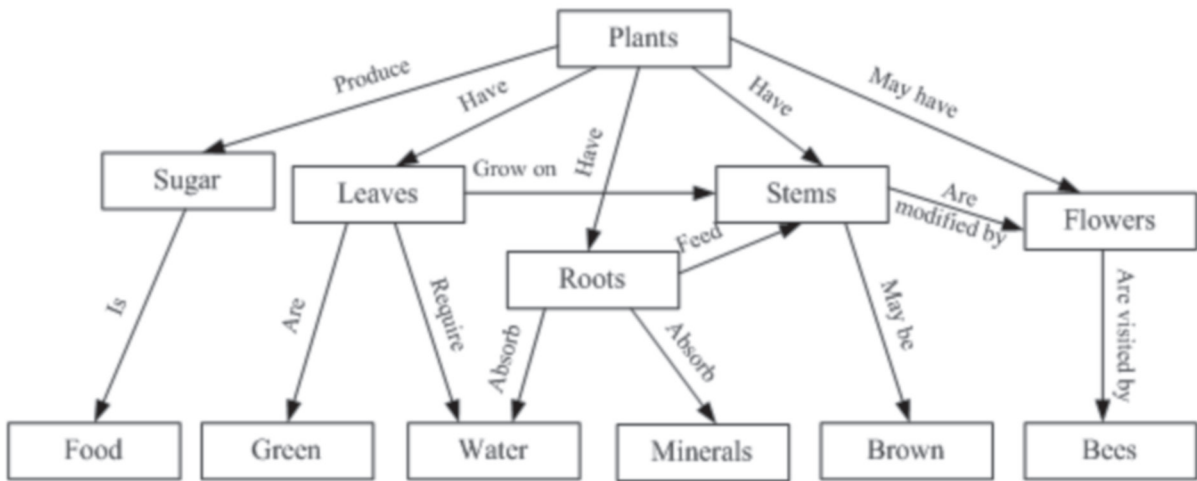
Figure 2. Semantic map for different types of transportation



- Concept mapping is a useful tool for organizing and representing concepts (events or objects) and their interrelationships in a particular domain. Each concept is designated with a label. The relationship between two concepts in a concept map is referred to as a proposition; propositions connect concepts to form a meaningful statement. Relationships between con-

cepts are associative. For example, in Figure 3, two concepts of “plants” and “flowers” are associated via “may have” that form the proposition of “plants may have flowers.” Describing complex structures with simple propositions improve quality of conceptual modeling in the development of information systems.

Figure 3. Concept map for plants



9 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage:

www.igi-global.com/chapter/application-of-cognitive-map-in-knowledge-management/112507

Related Content

Interview: The Systems View from Barry G. Silverman: A Systems Scientist

Manuel Mora and Miroslav Kljajic (2010). *International Journal of Information Technologies and Systems Approach* (pp. 57-63).

www.irma-international.org/article/interview-systems-view-barry-silverman/45161

The Vital Importance of Faculty Presence in an Online Learning Environment

Ni Chang (2018). *Encyclopedia of Information Science and Technology, Fourth Edition* (pp. 2661-2671).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/the-vital-importance-of-faculty-presence-in-an-online-learning-environment/183976

Trend-Aware Data Imputation Based on Generative Adversarial Network for Time Series

Han Li, Zhenxiong Liu, Jixiang Niu, Zhongguo Yang and Sikandar Ali (2023). *International Journal of Information Technologies and Systems Approach* (pp. 1-17).

www.irma-international.org/article/trend-aware-data-imputation-based-on-generative-adversarial-network-for-time-series/325212

Exploring the Impact of Security Policy on Compliance

Winfred Yaokumah and Peace Kumah (2018). *Global Implications of Emerging Technology Trends* (pp. 256-274).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/exploring-the-impact-of-security-policy-on-compliance/195833

Hybrid TRS-FA Clustering Approach for Web2.0 Social Tagging System

Hannah Inbarani and Hand Selva Kumar S (2015). *International Journal of Rough Sets and Data Analysis* (pp. 70-87).

www.irma-international.org/article/hybrid-trs-fa-clustering-approach-for-web20-social-tagging-system/122780