

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0263-2241(18)30008-3

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.measurement.2018.01.009>

Reference: MEASUR 5184

To appear in: *Measurement*

Received Date: 30 October 2015

Accepted Date: 8 January 2018



Please cite this article as: R. Iqbal, M.A. Azmi Murad, L. Sliman, C.P. da Silva, A mathematical evaluation for measuring correctness of domain ontologies using concept maps, *Measurement* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.measurement.2018.01.009>

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A mathematical evaluation for measuring correctness of domain ontologies using concept maps

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Abstract

There is a need for further research in the area of ontology evaluation specifically dealing with ontology development exploiting concept maps. The existing literature on ontology evaluation primarily emphasis on ontology formalisation as well as on performing logical inferences, which is usually not directly relevant for concept maps as they are commonly exploited as communication instruments for learning purposes. Commonly used techniques for evaluating concept maps for knowledge assessment may be adopted for a kind of criteria-based evaluation of a domain concept map with respect to a particular aspect. However, this makes its validity limited to a particular aspect or criteria. This paper presents a mathematical ontology evaluation technique to measure the correctness of domain ontologies engineered using concept maps. It is based on the notion of merging two different mathematical measures, namely closeness index and similarity index to come up with a combined index that takes different criteria or aspects in to account while performing ontology evaluation. Therefore, the proposed technique makes the evaluation process more reliable and robust. Two case studies were conducted employing the proposed technique for evaluating two different domain ontologies that were engineered using concept maps. Calculations and results from the case studies showed that depending on the correctness of individual

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