



NAMES OF TABLES AND FIELDS

Columns and tables

We can think of a causal map as a database consisting of two tables, the links table and the sources table. We don't need to have a separate table for the factors because the factors can be derived from the links table.

Columns in both the links and factors tables

Field name	Explanation
Citation count aka Link count	Number of citations of a given factor or link.
Source count	Number of sources mentioning a given factor or link. Source count cannot be higher than citation count and may be a lot lower if some sources mentioned the same factor or link many times.

Columns in the factors table

Field name	Explanation
incoming_links, indegree	Number of citations of all the incoming links to a particular factor.
outgoing_links, outdegree	Number of citations of all the outgoing links from a particular factor.
outcome-ness (%)	A factor with a high outcomeness percentage is mostly an outcome; it has mostly incoming links. If it has low outcomeness it has mostly outgoing links so it is mostly a driver. Outcomeness is the proportion of citations of incoming links out of all the citations of a particular factor: a normalised version of the Copeland Score (Copeland, 1951). So factors with high <i>outcomeness</i> can be thought of as “outcomes”. And factors with low outcomeness can be thought of as inputs or drivers.

Columns in the links table

Field name	Explanation

Columns in the sources table

Field name	Explanation
source_id	
title	
filename	

Relevant page: Glossary ▶

References

Copeland (1951). *A Reasonable Social Welfare Function*.