

1

## Association Rule Mining

- Given a set of transactions, find rules that will predict the occurrence of an item based on the occurrences of other items in the transaction
Such valuable information can be used to support a variety of business-
related applications such as
- marketing promotions,
- inventory management
- customer relationship management.
Market-Basket transactions

| TID | Items |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Bread, Milk |
| 2 | Bread, Diaper, Beer, Eggs |
| 3 | Milk, Diaper, Beer, Coke |
| 4 | Bread, Milk, Diaper, Beer |
| 5 | Bread, Milk, Diaper, Coke |

Example of Association Rules
$\{$ Diaper $\} \rightarrow\{$ Beer $\}$
\{Milk, Bread $\} \rightarrow$ EEggs,Coke\}, $\{$ Beer, Bread $\} \rightarrow\{$ Milk $\}$
Implication means co-occurrence, not causality!

3

## Definition: Frequent Itemset

- Itemset

| TID | Items |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | Bread, Milk |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | Bread, Diaper, Beer, Eggs |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | Milk, Diaper, Beer, Coke |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | Bread, Milk, Diaper, Beer |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | Bread, Milk, Diaper, Coke |

- A collection of one or more items
- Example: \{Milk, Bread, Diaper\}
- k-itemset
- An itemset that contains $k$ items
- Support count ( $\sigma$ )
- Frequency of occurrence of an itemset
E.g. $\sigma(\{$ Milk, Bread, Diaper $\})=2$
- Support
- Fraction of transactions that contain an itemset
E.g. $s(\{$ Milk, Bread, Diaper $\})=2 / 5$
- Frequent Itemset

An itemset whose support is greater than or equal to a minsup threshold

4

## Association Rule Mining Task

- Given a set of transactions T, the goal of association rule mining is to find all rules having
- support $\geq$ minsup threshold
- confidence $\geq$ minconf threshold
- Brute-force approach:
- List all possible association rules
- Compute the support and confidence for each rule
- Prune rules that fail the minsup and minconf thresholds
$\Rightarrow$ Computationally prohibitive!


7

## Mining Association Rules

- Two-step approach:

1. Frequent Itemset Generation

- Generate all itemsets whose support $\geq$ minsup

2. Rule Generation

- Generate high confidence rules from each frequent itemset, where each rule is a binary partitioning of a frequent itemset
- Frequent itemset generation is still computationally expensive

9

## Frequent Itemset Generation

- Brute-force approach:
- Each itemset in the lattice is a candidate frequent itemset
- Count the support of each candidate by scanning the database

- Match each transaction against every candidate
- Complexity $\sim \mathrm{O}(\mathrm{NMw})=>$ Expensive since $\mathrm{M}=2^{\text {d }!!!}$

Frequent Itemset Generation


10

## Frequent Itemset Generation Strategies

- Reduce the number of candidates (M)
- Complete search: $\mathrm{M}=2^{\mathrm{d}}$
- Use pruning techniques to reduce M
- Reduce the number of transactions (N)
- Reduce size of $N$ as the size of itemset increases
- Used by DHP and vertical-based mining algorithms
- Reduce the number of comparisons (NM)
- Use efficient data structures to store the candidates or transactions No need to match every candidate against every transaction

| Reducing Number of Candidates |
| :--- |
| - Apriori principle: |
| - If an itemset is frequent, then all of its subsets must also |
| be frequent |
| - Apriori principle holds due to the following |
| property of the support measure: |
| $\forall X, Y:(X \subseteq Y) \Rightarrow s(X) \geq s(Y)$ |
| $\quad$- Support of an itemset never exceeds the support of its <br> subsets <br> - This is known as the anti-monotone property of support |

13


15


17


14


16



19


21

Candidate Generation: Brute-force method


Figure 5.6. A brute-force method for generating candidate 3 -itemsets.


20


22

Candidate Generation: Merge $F_{k-1}$ and $F_{1}$ itemsets


Figure 5.7. Generating and pruning candidate $k$-itemsets by merging a frequent $(k-1)$-itemset with a frequent item. Note that some of the candidates are unnecessary because their subsets are infrequent.

Candidate Generation: $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{k}-1} \times \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{k}-1}$ Method

- Merge two frequent (k-1)-itemsets if their first (k-2) items are identical
- $\mathrm{F}_{3}=\{\mathrm{ABC}, \mathrm{ABD}, \mathrm{ABE}, \mathrm{ACD}, \mathrm{BCD}, \mathrm{BDE}, \mathrm{CDE}\}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(\underline{A B C}, \underline{A B D})=\underline{A B C D}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(\underline{\mathbf{A B}} \mathbf{C}, \underline{\mathbf{A B}} \mathbf{E})=\underline{\mathbf{A B}} \mathbf{C E}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(\underline{A B D}, \underline{\mathbf{A B E}})=\underline{\mathbf{A B} D E}$
- Do not merge( $\underline{\mathbf{A} B D}, \underline{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{C D})$ because they share only prefix of length 1 instead of length 2

25
$\qquad$

Candidate Generation: Fk-1 x Fk-1 Method


Figure 5.8. Generating and pruning candidate $k$-itemsets by merging pairs of frequent $(k-1)$-itemsets.

27

28

## Candidate Pruning

- Let $\mathrm{F}_{3}=\{\mathrm{ABC}, \mathrm{ABD}, \mathrm{ABE}, \mathrm{ACD}, \mathrm{BCD}, \mathrm{BDE}, \mathrm{CDE}\}$ be the set of frequent 3 -itemsets
- $\mathrm{L}_{4}=\{\mathrm{ABCD}, \mathrm{ABCE}, \mathrm{ABDE}\}$ is the set of candidate 4-itemsets generated (from previous slide)
- Candidate pruning
- Prune ABCE because ACE and BCE are infrequent
- Prune ABDE because ADE is infrequent
- After candidate pruning: $\mathrm{L}_{4}=\{\mathrm{ABCD}\}$

26


Alternate $\mathbf{F}_{\mathrm{k}-1} \times \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{k}-1}$ Method

- Merge two frequent ( $\mathrm{k}-1$ )-itemsets if the last ( $\mathrm{k}-2$ ) items of the first one is identical to the first ( $\mathrm{k}-2$ ) items of the second.
- $\mathrm{F}_{3}=\{\mathrm{ABC}, \mathrm{ABD}, \mathrm{ABE}, \mathrm{ACD}, \mathrm{BCD}, \mathrm{BDE}, \mathrm{CDE}\}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(\mathbf{A B C}, \underline{\mathbf{B C D}})=\mathrm{ABCD}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(A \underline{B D}, \underline{\mathbf{B D E}})=\mathrm{ABDE}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(A C D, ~ C D E)=A \underline{C D E}$
$-\operatorname{Merge}(B \underline{C D}, \underline{\text { CDE }})=\mathrm{BCDE}$

Candidate Pruning for Alternate $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{k}-1} \times \mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{k}-1}$ Method

- Let $\mathrm{F}_{3}=$
$\{\mathrm{ABC}, \mathrm{ABD}, \mathrm{ABE}, \mathrm{ACD}, \mathrm{BCD}, \mathrm{BDE}, \mathrm{CDE}\}$ be the set of frequent 3-itemsets
- $\mathrm{L}_{4}=\{\mathrm{ABCD}, \mathrm{ABDE}, \mathrm{ACDE}, \mathrm{BCDE}\}$ is the set of candidate 4-itemsets generated (from previous slide)
- Candidate pruning
- Prune ABDE because ADE is infrequent
- Prune ACDE because ACE and ADE are infrequent

Prune BCDE because BCE

- After candidate pruning: $\mathrm{L}_{4}=\{\mathrm{ABCD}\}$


31

## Support Counting: An Example

Suppose you have 15 candidate itemsets of length 3:
$\{145\},\{124\},\{457\},\{125\},\{458\},\{159\},\{136\},\{234\},\{567\},\{345\},\{3$ $56\},\{357\},\left\{\begin{array}{ll}6 & 9\end{array}\right\},\left\{\begin{array}{ll}3 & 6\end{array}\right\},\left\{\begin{array}{ll}3 & 6\end{array}\right\}$
How many of these itemsets are supported by transaction ( $1,2,3,5,6$ )?


33

35


## Support Counting of Candidate Itemsets

- To reduce number of comparisons, store the candidate itemsets in a hash structure
- Instead of matching each transaction against every candidate, match it against candidates contained in the hashed buckets


32

## Support Counting Using a Hash Tree

Suppose you have 15 candidate itemsets of length 3:
$\{145\},\{124\},\{457\},\{125\},\{458\},\{159\},\{136\},\{234\},\{567\},\{345\},\{3$ $56\},\{357\},\left\{\begin{array}{ll}6 & 9\}\end{array}\right\},\{367\},\{368\}$
You need:

- Hash function
- Max leaf size: max number of itemsets stored in a leaf node (if number of candidate itemsets exceeds max leaf size, split the node)


34

Support Counting Using a Hash Tree


36


37

Support Counting Using a Hash Tree



39

Support Counting Using a Hash Tree


40

## Rule Generation

- Given a frequent itemset $L$, find all non-empty subsets $\mathrm{f} \subset \mathrm{L}$ such that $\mathrm{f} \rightarrow \mathrm{L}-\mathrm{f}$ satisfies the minimum confidence requirement
- If $\{\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}, \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{D}\}$ is a frequent itemset, candidate rules:
$\mathrm{ABC} \rightarrow \mathrm{D}, \quad \mathrm{ABD} \rightarrow \mathrm{C}, \quad \mathrm{ACD} \rightarrow \mathrm{B}, \quad \mathrm{BCD} \rightarrow \mathrm{A}$,
$\mathrm{A} \rightarrow \mathrm{BCD}, \quad \mathrm{B} \rightarrow \mathrm{ACD}, \quad \mathrm{C} \rightarrow \mathrm{ABD}, \quad \mathrm{D} \rightarrow \mathrm{ABC}$
$\mathrm{AB} \rightarrow \mathrm{CD}, \quad \mathrm{AC} \rightarrow \mathrm{BD}, \quad \mathrm{AD} \rightarrow \mathrm{BC}, \quad \mathrm{BC} \rightarrow \mathrm{AD}$,
$\mathrm{BD} \rightarrow \mathrm{AC}, \quad \mathrm{CD} \rightarrow \mathrm{AB}$,
- If $|\mathrm{L}|=\mathrm{k}$, then there are $2^{\mathrm{k}}-2$ candidate association rules (ignoring $\mathrm{L} \rightarrow \varnothing$ and $\varnothing \rightarrow \mathrm{L}$ )


## Rule Generation

- In general, confidence does not have an antimonotone property
$\mathrm{c}(\mathrm{ABC} \rightarrow \mathrm{D})$ can be larger or smaller than $\mathrm{c}(\mathrm{AB} \rightarrow \mathrm{D})$
- But confidence of rules generated from the same itemset has an anti-monotone property
- E.g., Suppose $\{\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}, \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{D}\}$ is a frequent 4 -itemset:

$$
\mathrm{c}(\mathrm{ABC} \rightarrow \mathrm{D}) \geq \mathrm{c}(\mathrm{AB} \rightarrow \mathrm{CD}) \geq \mathrm{c}(\mathrm{~A} \rightarrow \mathrm{BCD})
$$

- Confidence is anti-monotone w.r.t. number of items on the RHS of the rule


43

## Association Analysis: Basic Concepts and Algorithms

Algorithms and Complexity

44

## Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

- Choice of minimum support threshold
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set
- Size of database
- Average transaction width


47

46

## Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

- Choice of minimum support threshold
lowering support threshold results in more frequent itemsets
this may increase number of candidates and max length of frequent itemsets
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set
- Size of database
- Average transaction width

| TID | Hems |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Bread, Milk |
| 2 | Beer, Bread, Diaper, Eggs |
| 3 | Beer, Coke, Diaper, Milk |
| 4 | Beer, Bread, Diaper, Milk |
| 5 | Bread, Coke, Diaper, Milk |

${ }_{46}$

## Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

- Choice of minimum support threshold lowering support threshold results in more frequent itemsets this may increase number of candidates and max length of frequent itemsets
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set

More space is needed to store support count of itemsets if number of frequent itemsets also increases, both computation and I/O costs may also increase

- Size of database
run time of algorithm increases with number of transactions
- Average transaction width


49

## Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori


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Figure s.14, Eleded $\qquad$


55


57


59

## Closed Itemset

- An itemset $X$ is closed if none of its immediate supersets has the same support as the itemset $X$.
- X is not closed if at least one of its immediate supersets has support count as X .


61


63


65

Maximal vs Closed Itemsets

| TID | Items |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | ABC |
| 2 | ABCD |
| 3 | BCE |
| 4 | ACDE |
| 5 | DE |



62

What are the Closed Itemsets in this Data?


64


67


69


## Example question

- Given the following transaction data sets (dark cells indicate presence of an item in a transaction) and a support threshold of $20 \%$, answer the following questions


DataSet: $\bar{A} \quad$ Data Set: B $\quad$ Data Set: C
a. What is the number of frequent itemsets for each dataset? Which dataset will produce the most number of frequent itemsets?
Which dataset will produce the longest frequent itemset?
Which dataset will produce frequent itemsets with highest maximum support?
Which dataset will produce frequent itemsets containing items with widely varying support levels (i.e., What is the number of maximal frequent suport, ranging from $20 \%$ to more than $70 \%$ )? most number of maximal frequent itemsets?
What is the number of closed frequent itemsets for each dataset? Which dataset will produce the most number of closed frequent itemsets?

## Pattern Evaluation

- Association rule algorithms can produce large number of rules
- Interestingness measures can be used to prune/rank the patterns
- In the original formulation, support \& confidence are the only measures used

73

## Drawback of Confidence

| Custo <br> mers | Tea | Honey | $\ldots$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C1 | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ |
| C2 | 1 | 0 | $\ldots$ |
| C3 | 1 | 1 | $\ldots$ |
| C4 | 1 | 0 | $\ldots$ |
| $\ldots$ |  |  |  |


|  | Honey | $\overline{\text { Honey }}$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tea | 100 | 100 | 200 |
| $\overline{T e a}$ | 20 | 780 | 800 |
|  | 120 | 880 | 1000 |

Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Honey
Confidence $\cong P($ Honey $\mid$ Tea $)=100 / 200=0.50$
Confidence $=50 \%$, which may mean that drinking tea has little influence whether honey is used or not
So rule seems uninteresting
But $P($ Honey $)=120 / 1000=.12$ (hence tea drinkers are far more likely to have honey

Drawback of Confidence

| Drawback of Confidence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Custo mers | Tea | Coffee |  |  | Coffee | $\overline{\text { Coffee }}$ |  |
| C1 | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ | Tea | 150 | 50 | 200 |
| C2 | 1 | 0 | $\ldots$ | $\overline{T e a}$ | 650 | 150 | 800 |
| C3 | 1 | 1 | $\ldots$ |  | 800 | 200 | 1000 |
| C4 | 1 | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |  |  |
| .. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Confidence $\cong P($ Coffee $\mid$ Tea $)=150 / 200=0.75$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Confidence $>50 \%$, meaning people who drink tea are more likely to drink coffee than not drink coffee |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| So rule seems reasonable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Drawback of Confidence |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Custo mers | Tea | Coffee |  |  | Coffee | $\overline{\text { Coffee }}$ |  |
| C1 | 0 | 1 | $\ldots$ | Tea | 150 | 50 | 200 |
| C2 | 1 | 0 | $\ldots$ | $\overline{T e a}$ | 650 | 150 | 800 |
| C3 | 1 | 1 | $\ldots$ |  | 800 | 200 | 1000 |
| C4 | 1 | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |  |  |
| .. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Confidence $\cong P($ Coffee $\mid$ Tea $)=150 / 200=0.75$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Confidence $>50 \%$, meaning people who drink tea are more likely to drink coffee than not drink coffee |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| So rule seems reasonable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee

Confidence $\cong P($ Coffee $\mid$ Tea $)=150 / 200=0.75$
Confidence $>50 \%$, meaning people who drink tea are more likely to drink coffee than not drink coffee
So rule seems reasonable

75

## Computing Interestingness Measure

- Given $\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{Y}$ or $\{\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}\}$, information needed to compute interestingness can be obtained from a contingency table

Contingency table

|  | $Y$ | $\bar{Y}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $X$ | $f_{11}$ | $f_{10}$ | $f_{1+}$ |
| $Z$ | $f_{01}$ | $f_{00}$ | $f_{0+}$ |
|  | $f_{+1}$ | $f_{+0}$ | $N$ |

$f_{11}$ : support of $X$ and $Y$ $f_{10}$ : support of $X$ and $\bar{Y}$ $f_{01}$ : support of $X$ and $\bar{Y}$ $f_{00}$ : support of $\bar{X}$ and $\bar{Y}$

Used to define various measures
$\square$ support, confidence, Gini, entropy, etc.

74

Drawback of Confidence

|  | Coffee | Coffee |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tea | 150 | 50 | 200 |
| $\overline{\text { Tea }}$ | 650 | 150 | 800 |
|  | 800 | 200 | 1000 |

Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee

Confidence $=P($ Coffee $\mid$ Tea $)=150 / 200=0.75$
but $\mathrm{P}($ Coffee $)=0.8$, which means knowing that a person drinks tea reduces the probability that the person drinks coffee!
$\Rightarrow$ Note that $\mathrm{P}($ Coffee $\mid \overline{T e a})=650 / 800=0.8125$

## Measure for Association Rules

- So, what kind of rules do we really want?
- Confidence $(\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{Y})$ should be sufficiently high
- To ensure that people who buy X will more likely buy Y than not buy Y
- Confidence $(\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{Y})>\operatorname{support}(\mathrm{Y})$
- Otherwise, rule will be misleading because having item X actually reduces the chance of having item Y in the same transaction
- Is there any measure that capture this constraint? - Answer: Yes. There are many of them.


## Statistical Relationship between $X$ and $Y$

- The criterion

$$
\text { confidence }(\mathrm{X} \rightarrow \mathrm{Y})=\operatorname{support}(\mathrm{Y})
$$

is equivalent to:
$-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{Y} \mid \mathrm{X})=\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{Y})$
$-\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y})=\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}) \times \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{Y})(\mathrm{X}$ and Y are independent $)$

If $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y})>\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}) \times \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{Y}): \mathrm{X}$ \& Y are positively correlated
If $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y})<\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}) \times \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{Y}): \mathrm{X} \& \mathrm{Y}$ are negatively correlated

Measures that take into account statistical dependence
$\left.\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { Lift }=\frac{P(Y \mid X)}{P(Y)} \\ \text { Interest }=\frac{P(X, Y)}{P(X) P(Y)}\end{array}\right\} \begin{array}{l}\text { lift is used for rules while } \\ \text { interest is used for itemsets }\end{array}\right] \quad \begin{aligned} & \phi-\text { coefficient }=\frac{P(X, Y)-P(X) P(Y)}{\sqrt{P(X)[1-P(X)] P(Y)[1-P(Y)]}}\end{aligned}$

## Example: Lift/Interest

|  | Coffee | Coffee |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tea | 150 | 50 | 200 |
| $\overline{\text { Tea }}$ | 650 | 150 | 800 |
|  | 800 | 200 | 1000 |

Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee

Confidence $=P($ Coffee $\mid$ Tea $)=0.75$
but $\mathrm{P}($ Coffee $)=0.8$
$\Rightarrow$ Interest $=0.15 /(0.2 \times 0.8)=0.9375(<1$, therefore is negatively associated)
So, is it enough to use confidence/Interest for pruning?


83

## Property under Inversion Operation


(a)

Correlation:
IS/cosine
85 0.0

(b)
-0.1667
0.0

## $-0.1667$

 0.825
## Property under Row/Column Scaling

Grade-Gender Example (Mosteller, 1968):

|  | Male | Female |  |  |  |  | Male | Female |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| High | 30 | 20 | 50 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Low | 40 | 10 | 50 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 70 | 30 | 100 |  |  |  |  |  |

Mosteller:
Underlying association should be independent of
the relative number of male and female students in the samples
Odds-Ratio $\left(\left(f_{11+} f_{00}\right) /\left(f_{10+} f_{10}\right)\right)$ has this property

## Property under Null Addition

$$
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c} 
& B & \bar{B} & \\
\hline A & 700 & 100 & 800 \\
\bar{A} & 100 & 100 & 200 \\
\hline & 800 & 200 & 1000
\end{array} \quad \square \quad \begin{array}{cc|c|c|c} 
\\
\hline & & \begin{array}{c}
A \\
A
\end{array} & 700 & 10 \\
1100 & 1200 \\
\hline & & 800 & 1200 & 2000
\end{array}
$$

Invariant measures:

- cosine, Jaccard, All-confidence, confidence

Non-invariant measures:

- correlation, Interest/Lift, odds ratio, etc



## Simpson's Paradox

- Observed relationship in data may be influenced by the presence of other confounding factors (hidden variables)
- Hidden variables may cause the observed relationship to disappear or reverse its direction!
- Proper stratification is needed to avoid generating spurious patterns


## Simpson's Paradox

- Recovery rate from Covid
- Hospital A: 80\%
- Hospital B: $90 \%$
- Which hospital is better?


## Simpson's Paradox

- Recovery rate from Covid
- Hospital A: 80\%
- Hospital B: $90 \%$
- Which hospital is better?
- Covid recovery rate on older population
- Hospital A: 50\%
- Hospital B: 30\%
- Covid recovery rate on younger population
- Hospital A: 99\%
- Hospital B: 98\%

92

## Simpson's Paradox

- Covid-19 death: (per 100,000 of population)
- County A: 15
- County B: 10
- Which state is managing the pandemic better?

93

## Simpson's Paradox

- Covid-19 death: (per 100,000 of population)
- County A: 15
- County B: 10
- Which state is managing the pandemic better?
- Covid death rate on older population
- County A: 20
- County B: 40
- Covid death rate on younger population
- County A: 2
- County B: 5

94

Effect of Support Distribution on Association Mining

- Many real data sets have skewed support


95

## Effect of Support Distribution

- Difficult to set the appropriate minsup threshold
- If minsup is too high, we could miss itemsets involving interesting rare items (e.g., \{caviar, vodka\})
- If minsup is too low, it is computationally expensive and the number of itemsets is very large


97

Confidence and Cross-Support Patterns


99
${ }_{99}$

## H-Confidence

- To avoid patterns whose items have very different support, define a new evaluation measure for itemsets
- Known as h-confidence or all-confidence
- Specifically, given an itemset $X=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{d}\right\}$
h-confidence is the minimum confidence of any association rule formed from itemset $X$
$-\operatorname{hconf}(X)=\min \left(\operatorname{conf}\left(X_{1} \rightarrow X_{2}\right)\right)$,
where $X_{1}, X_{2} \subset X, X_{1} \cap X_{2}=\emptyset, X_{1} \cup X_{2}=X$
For example: $X_{1}=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}\right\}, X_{2}=\left\{x_{3}, \ldots, x_{d}\right\}$


## H-Confidence ...

- But, given an itemset $X=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{d}\right\}$
- What is the lowest confidence rule you can obtain from $X$ ?
- Recall $\operatorname{conf}\left(X_{1} \rightarrow X_{2}\right)=s\left(X_{1} \cup X_{2}\right) / \operatorname{support}\left(X_{1}\right)$
- The numerator is fixed: $s\left(X_{1} \cup X_{2}\right)=s(X)$
- Thus, to find the lowest confidence rule, we need to find the
$\mathrm{X}_{1}$ with highest support
- Consider only rules where $X_{1}$ is a single item, i.e., $\underset{\left\{x_{d}\right\}}{\left\{x_{1}\right\}} \rightarrow X-\left\{x_{1}\right\},\left\{x_{2}\right\} \rightarrow X-\left\{x_{2}\right\}, \ldots$, or $\left\{x_{d}\right\} \rightarrow X-$

$$
\operatorname{hconf}(X)=\min \left\{\frac{s(X)}{s\left(x_{1}\right)}, \frac{s(X)}{s\left(x_{2}\right)}, \ldots, \frac{s(X)}{s\left(x_{d}\right)}\right\}
$$

## A Measure of Cross Support

Given an itemset, $X=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{d}\right\}$, with $d$ items, we can define a measure of cross support, $r$, for the itemset

$$
r(X)=\frac{\min \left\{s\left(x_{1}\right), s\left(x_{2}\right), \ldots, s\left(x_{d}\right)\right\}}{\max \left\{s\left(x_{1}\right), s\left(x_{2}\right), \ldots, s\left(x_{d}\right)\right\}}
$$

where $s\left(x_{i}\right)$ is the support of item $x_{i}$

- Can use $r(X)$ to prune cross support patterns

98

$$
=\frac{s(X)}{\max \left\{s\left(x_{1}\right), s\left(x_{2}\right), \ldots, s\left(x_{d}\right)\right\}}
$$

## Cross Support and H-confidence ...

- Since, $\operatorname{hconf}(X) \leq r(X)$, we can eliminate cross support patterns by finding patterns with $h$-confidence < $h_{c}$, a user set threshold
- Notice that

$$
0 \leq \operatorname{hconf}(X) \leq r(X) \leq 1
$$

- Any itemset satisfying a given h-confidence threshold, $\mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{c}}$, is called a hyperclique
- H-confidence can be used instead of or in conjunction with support


## Example Applications of Hypercliques

- Hypercliques are used to find strongly coherent groups of items
- h-confidence gives us information about their pairwise

Jaccard and cosine similarity

- Assume $x_{1}$ and $x_{2}$ are any two items in an itemset $X$
- $\operatorname{Jaccard}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) \geq \operatorname{hconf}(X) / 2$
- $\cos \left(x_{1}, x_{2}\right) \geq \operatorname{hconf}(X)$
- Hypercliques that have a high h-confidence consist of very similar items as measured by Jaccard and cosine
- The items in a hyperclique cannot have widely different support
- Allows for more efficient pruning


## Properties of Hypercliques

- Hypercliques are itemsets, but not necessarily frequent itemsets
- Good for finding low support patterns
- H-confidence is anti-monotone
- Can define closed and maximal hypercliques in terms of h-confidence
- A hyperclique $X$ is closed if none of its immediate supersets has the same h -confidence as $X$
- A hyperclique $X$ is maximal if $\operatorname{hconf}(X) \leq \mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{c}}$ and none of its immediate supersets, $Y$, have $\operatorname{hconf}(Y) \leq \mathrm{h}_{\mathrm{c}}$
together in documents
- Proteins in a protein interaction network In the figure at the right, a gene ontology hierarchy for biological process shows that the identified proteins in the hyperclique (PRE2, ..., SCL1) perform the same function and are involved in the same biological process


106
$\square$

