Mining Positive and Negative Association Rules Using CoherentApproach

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ABSTRACT:

Abstract—In the data mining field, association rules are discovered having domain knowledge specified as a minimum support threshold. The accuracy in setting up this threshold directly influences the number and the quality of association rules discovered. Typically, before association rules are mined, a user needs to determine a support threshold in order to obtain only the frequent item sets. Having users to determine a support threshold attracts a number of issues. We propose an association rule mining framework that does not require a pre-set support threshold.

Often, the number of association rules, even though large in number, misses some interesting rules and the rules' quality necessitates further analysis. As a result, decision making using these rules could lead to risky actions. We propose a framework to discover domain knowledge report as coherent rules. Coherent rules are discovered based on the properties of propositional logic, and therefore, requires no background knowledge to generate them. From the coherent rules discovered, association rules can be derived objectively and directly without knowing the level of minimum support threshold required. We provide analysis of the rules compare to those discovered via the apriori. The framework is developed based on implication of propositional logic via Negative and positive association algorithm. The experiments show that our approach is able to identify meaningful association rules within an acceptable execution time. This framework develop a new algorithm based on coherent rules so that users can mine the items without domain knowledge and it can mine the items efficiently when compared to association rules.

I INTRODUCTION

The process of extracting information from large databases is termed as data mining. Different algorithms are used to extract the data, by using association rules frequent items are discovered from database by specifying minimum support threshold value. The items mined require domain knowledge [3] and statistical methods to specify that threshold value. If the threshold value is very high rare items may be missing, if it is low there may be inconsistency in the items retrieved. Some interesting rules are missing for future analysis which leads to errors in decision making, for mining rare items [12] they are grouped into arbitrary items becomes frequent items this is called rare items problem defined by Manila[13] according to Liu et.al. and another method is to split the data set into two or several blocks according to the frequency and mine each block using minimum support threshold although some association rules involving both frequent and rare items across different blocks is lost.

Later frequent items are mined using multiple minimum threshold called minimum item support (MISs) by Liu et.al [12],later items are mined using minimum relative support and minimum confidence even though they are not properly correlated [2] then by using lift, leverage the minimum threshold the items are mined and they are not asymmetrical so to overcome this an approach of coherent rules using implications is used to mine the items through which the associations rules are discovered inherently, using some standard logic tables called implications. The frequent items are extracted which don trequire specification of minimum support threshold and the items can be mined without domain knowledge of user. The association rules can be derived inherently by using these coherent rules.

Association rule mining, introduced considered as one of the most important tasks in Knowledge Discovery in Databases . Among sets of items in transaction databases, it aims at discovering implicative tendencies that can be valuable information for the decision-maker. An association rule is defined as the implication $X \rightarrow Y$, described by two interestingness measures support and confidence, where X and Y are the sets of items and X AND $Y = \varphi$. Apriori [2] is the first algorithm proposed in the association rule mining field and many other algorithms were derived from it. It is very well known that mining algorithms can discover a prohibitive amount of association rules; Starting from a database, it proposes to extract all association rules satisfying minimum thresholds of support and confidence. For instance, thousands of rules are extracted from a database of

several dozens of attributes and several hundreds of transactions.

Discovering coherent rules resolves the many difficulties in mining associations that require a preset minimum support threshold. Apart from solving the issues of a support threshold, the coherent rules found can also be reasoned as logical implications due to the mapping to the truth table values of logical equivalence. In contrast, classic association rules cannot be reasoned as logical implications due to their lack of this logic property.

The popularity and importance of data mining has its roots in two causes: the ever-increasing volume of data and computation power. The amount of information in the world doubles every twenty months [FrPiMa92]. Business activities, for example, continue to produce an increasing stream of data (such as point-of-sales transactions) which is stored in larger and cheaper data storage. In the meantime, the computational power available continues to increase. Gordon Moore, co-founder of the Intel corporation, points out that the number of transistors on a chip doubles approximately every two years [In05a], and that this trend has continued for more than half a century [In05b]. The consequence of the increasing volume of data and computational power is an opportunity to create data mining applications based on state-of-art theories and algorithms to discover interesting knowledge from large volumes of data.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

More recently, it is accepted that infrequent rules are also important because it represents knowledge not found in frequent rules, and these infrequent rules are often interesting [1] In addition to missing infrequent item rules, the traditional algorithm such as apriori [3] also does not report the existence of negative associations. Association among infrequent items and negative associations have been relatively ignored by association mining algorithm mainly due to the problem of large search space and the explosion of total number of association rules reported. Some of these rules may in fact are noise in the data. There are some attempts to find infrequent association such as that of [9]. This work proposed a generalise association using correlation. Correlation is measured by chi-square. However, at small expected values, the measure of chi-square has limitation of measuring the association accurately and, hence, results may be inaccurate. In addition, the authors algorithm relies on a modified support hence, is not really suitable to find infrequent rules except the ones that are above a threshold. finds independent rules measured by interest (leverage) and below a minimum support threshold. Authors in [1] also use [1] measure, which is derived from correlation, and necessitates a minimum confidence threshold. Mining below a minimum support threshold is similar to having a maximum support threshold. In addition, measure used in [1] will inherit the drawbacks of a correlation measure in [1] filters uninteresting rules using leverage as a measure. [1],[2] finds rules using measure such as leverage or lift; these can be performed without other thresholds in place. Since rules found are independent from a minimum support threshold, theoretically it could find all infrequent rules. Rules found using leverage however measures co-occurrence but not the real implication [5].

The research by authors Liu, Hsu and Ma [4], Lin, Tseng and Su [7], Yun et al. [8] and Koh, Rountree and O'Keefe [5] has been important in establishing a minimum item support threshold with finer granularity although different criteria were injected for identifying minimum item support values. The common aim, however, was to offset heuristics when setting up a minimum support threshold. In all these approaches, we see that state-of-art association rule mining has drifted from the original idea of mining frequent patterns alone to considering other patterns as well.

Omiecinski has another approach finding rules with high confidence values. This author proposed measures of interestingness which are called all-confidence and bond, which were shown to satisfy the anti-monotone property. All-confidence means that all association rules produced from an item set would have the confidence of at least the all-confidence value whereas bond is a symmetrical measure and a special case within all-confidence. By setting a minimum threshold on bond, one can discover association rules where their all-confidence values are at least the bond values.

In much of association rule mining, data sets revolve around transaction records. During the mining, the content of transaction record is observed. As highlighted in the motivation section, observing the absence of items from a transaction record will produce a more complete result. The absence of an item is described in the following example. Assume there are three items in a dataset, items A, B and C. A transaction contains only item A. Items B and C are said to be absent from this transaction.

Cornelis et al. [CoYaZhCh06] avoided using leverage to search for negative association rules as leverage does not inherit anti-monotone property. Instead, they developed a procedure to generate item sets for both positive and negative association rules using a pre-set minimum support threshold.

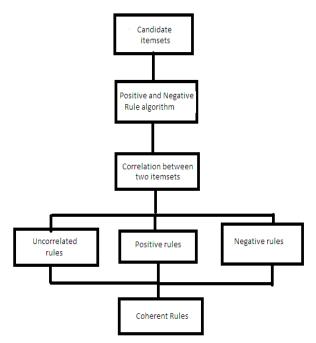
3. PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

An implication that meets both the two contrapositives is an implication of equivalence. This is a more stringent implication and is a special case in material implication. We are interested in an association rule framework that maps to the logical equivalences to find non-trivial association rules. Based on the logic property of equivalence, we can consider both the presence and absence of item sets in a set of transaction records, without this process requiring a minimum support threshold to identify association rules. Apart from not requiring a minimum support threshold, an implication of logical equivalence can avoid contradictions in reasoning with found rules.

Association Rule	Support
$X \Rightarrow Y$	S(X,Y)
$X \Rightarrow \neg Y$	$S(X, \neg Y)$
$\neg X \Rightarrow Y$	$S(\neg X, Y)$
$\neg X \Rightarrow \neg Y$	$S(\neg X, \neg Y)$

Association Rules and Supports

We give the name pseudo-implication to association rules that are mapped to implications based on comparison between supports. By pseudo-implication, we mean that the implication approximates a real implication (according to propositional logic). It is not a real implication because there are fundamental differences. Pseudo-implication is judged true or false based on a comparison of supports, which has a range of integer values. In contrast, an implication is based on binary values. The former depends on the frequencies of co-occurrences between item sets (supports) in a dataset, whereas the latter does not and is based on truth values.



The algorithm generates all positive and negative association rules that have a strong correlation. If no rule is found, either positive or negative, the correlation threshold is automatically lowered to ease the constraint on the strength of the correlation and the process is redone. Figure 1 gives the detailed pseudo-code for our algorithm.

Initially both sets of negative and positive association rules are set to empty (line 1). After generating all the frequent 1itemsets (line 2) we iterate to generate all frequent kitemsets, stored in Fk (line 8). Fk is verified from a set of candidate Ck computed in line 4. The iteration from line 2 stops when no longer frequent itemsets are possible. Unlike the join made in the traditional Apriori algorithm, to generate candidates at level k, instead of joining frequent (k -1)itemsets, we join the frequent itemsets at level k -1 with the frequent 1-itemsets (line 4). This is because we want to extend the set of candidate itemsets and have the possibility to analyze the correlation of more item combinations. The rational will be explained later. Every candidate itemset generated this way is on one hand tested for support (line 7), and on the other hand used to analyze possible correlations even if its support is below the minimum support (loop from line 9 to 22). Correlations for all possible pair combinations for each candidate itemset are computed. For an itemset i and a pair combination (X; Y) such that i = X UY, the correlation coefficient is calculated (line 10). If the correlation is positive and strong enough, a positive association rule of the type $X \square Y$ is generated, if the supp(X UY) is above the minimum support threshold and the confidence of the rule is strong.

Algorithm: Negative association rules . Input:

D:Transactional database, ms: minimum support, mc: minimum confidence Output: Positive and Negative Association Rules Method: (1) L1=frequent-1-positive-itemsets(D) (2) N1=frequent-1-Negative-itemsets(D) // complement frequent-1-positive-itemsets(D) (3) L=L1 U N1; (4) for (k=2; Lk-1 $\neq \emptyset$; k++) (5) { (6) // Generating Ck (7) for each 11,12 ε Lk-1 (8) If(11[1]=12[1][^].....11[k-2]=12[k-2]¹1[k-1] < 12[k-1])(9) Ck=Ck U {11 [1].....11 [k-2], 11[k-1], 12[k-1(10) end if (11) end for (12) // Pruning using Apriori property (13) for each (k-1)- subsets s of c in Ck (14) If s is not a member of Lk-1 (15) Ck=Ck – $\{c\}$ (16) end if (17) end for (18) PCk=Ck; (19) for each c in PCK (20) NCk= $\{ck\}$ 1/ ck 1 is obtained by replacing a literal of c in PCk by its negation} (21) //Pruning using Support Count

(22) Scan the database and find support for all c in PCk

- (23) Lk=candidates in PCk that pass support
- threshold
- (24) Find support for all ck
- 1 in NCk from supports
- of members of PCK and Lk-1
- (25) Nk= candidates in NCk that pass support
- threshold
- (26) L= Lk U Nk
- (27) }

Line 1 generates positive-frequent-1- itemsets

 $\hfill\square$ Line 2 generates negative-frequent-1- itemsets by complementing 1-itemsets

- obtained in Line 1
- $\hfill\square$ Line 8 and 9 generates candidate itemsets Ck using Apriori algorithm

□ Line 13-15 pruning candidate itemsets in Ck using Apriori property

□ Lines 18, after pruning, the remaining elements are treated as valid candidates and is denoted by PCk.

 $\hfill\square$ Line 19-20, for each literal of this valid candidate, replace the literal with the

corresponding negated literal, creates a new negative rule and denoted by NCk.

Each valid candidate with n number of literals in the antecedent will generate n new negative itemsets. For example a 3- itemset ABC will give 3 negative items γ ABC, A γ BC, and AB γ C.

 $\hfill\square$ Line 22-23, prune all items in PCk using support count and add to Lk, set of

frequent k-itemsets

 $\hfill\square$ Line 24, find support count of all items in NCk using PCk and Lk-1.

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 \Box support(\neg AUB) = support(B)-support(AUB) 23. backbone=true fins=false 66 ==> venomous=false 63 \Box support(\neg AU \neg B) = 1-support(A)- support(B) + support(A) conf:(0.95)UB) 24. backbone=true fins=false $66 \implies$ breathes=true \Box Line 25, Nk is the set of all elements whose support \geq venomous=false 63 conf:(0.95) 25. backbone=true tail=true domestic=false 64 ==> minsupp. □ The generation of positive rules continues without venomous=false 61 conf:(0.95) disruption and the rich but valuable negative rules are 26. backbone=true 83 ==> venomous=false 79 conf:(0.95) produced as by-products of the Apriori process. 27. breathes=true $80 \Longrightarrow$ fins=false 76 conf:(0.95) 28. airborne=false 77 \implies feathers=false 73 conf:(0.95)**4. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS** 29. tail=true 75 ==> venomous=false 71 conf:(0.95)30. tail=true 75 ==> backbone=true venomous=false 71 conf:(0.95) 31. breathes=true venomous=false 75 ==> fins=false 71 ARM RULES: conf:(0.95) 32. airborne=false venomous=false 71 ==> feathers=false 67 Minimum support: 0.6 (61 instances) conf:(0.94) Minimum metric <confidence>: 0.9 33. backbone=true domestic=false 71 ==> venomous=false 67 conf:(0.94) Number of cycles performed: 8 34. backbone=true breathes=true 69 ==> fins=false 65 Generated sets of large itemsets: conf:(0.94) 35. airborne=false domestic=false 68 ==> feathers=false 64 Best rules found: conf:(0.94) 36. breathes=true domestic=false 68 ==> venomous=false 64 1. venomous=false tail=true 71 ==> backbone=true 71 conf:(0.94) conf:(1)37. breathes=true domestic=false 68 ==> fins=false 64 2. aquatic=false $65 \implies$ fins=false $65 \pmod{(1)}$ conf:(0.94) 3. aquatic=false breathes=true 64 ==> fins=false 64 38. backbone=true breathes=true venomous=false 67 ==> conf:(1) fins=false 63 conf:(0.94) 4. backbone=true venomous=false fins=false 63 ==> 39. aquatic=false $65 \implies$ venomous=false $61 \quad conf:(0.94)$ breathes=true 63 conf:(1)40. airborne=false backbone=true 65 ==> feathers=false 61 5. toothed=true 61 ==> feathers=false 61 conf:(1)conf:(0.94)6. toothed=true 61 ==> backbone=true 61 conf:(1)41. airborne=false backbone=true 65 ==> venomous=false 7. toothed=true backbone=true $61 \implies$ feathers=false 6161 conf:(0.94) 42. aquatic=false fins=false $65 \implies$ venomous=false 61conf:(1)8. feathers=false toothed=true $61 \implies backbone=true 61$ conf:(0.94)43. aquatic=false 65 ==> venomous=false fins=false 61 conf:(1)9. toothed=true 61 ==> feathers=false backbone=true 61 conf:(0.94) 44. tail=true domestic=false 65 ==> venomous=false 61 conf:(1)10. aquatic=false venomous=false 61 ==> fins=false 61 conf:(0.94) 45. tail=true domestic=false 65 ==> backbone=true conf:(1)11. venomous=false tail=true domestic=false 61 ==> venomous=false 61 conf:(0.94) backbone=true 61 conf:(1) 46. breathes=true 80 ==> venomous=false 75 conf:(0.94) 47. breathes=true fins=false 76 ==> venomous=false 71 12. tail=true 75 ==> backbone=true 74 conf:(0.99)13. backbone=true fins=false 66 ==> breathes=true 65 conf:(0.93) conf:(0.98) 48. airborne=false 77 \implies venomous=false 71 conf:(0.92)14. aquatic=false $65 \implies$ breathes=true $64 \quad conf:(0.98)$ 49. venomous=false fins=false 77 ==> breathes=true 71 15. aquatic=false fins=false 65 ==> breathes=true 64 conf:(0.92) conf:(0.98) 50. domestic=false 88 ==> venomous=false 81 conf:(0.92) 51. feathers=false venomous=false 73 ==> airborne=false 67 16. aquatic=false 65 ==> breathes=true fins=false 64 conf:(0.98) conf:(0.92) 17. tail=true domestic=false 65 ==> backbone=true 64 52. feathers=false airborne=false 73 ==> venomous=false 67 conf:(0.98) conf:(0.92) 18. backbone=true breathes=true 69 ==> venomous=false 67 53. fins=false 84 ==> venomous=false 77 conf:(0.92)conf:(0.97) 54. fins=false domestic=false 72 ==> venomous=false 66 19. backbone=true breathes=true fins=false 65 ==> conf:(0.92) venomous=false 63 conf:(0.97)55. backbone=true breathes=true 69 ==> venomous=false 20. feathers=false backbone=true 63 ==> airborne=false 61 fins=false 63 conf:(0.91) conf:(0.97) 56. airborne=false domestic=false 68 ==> venomous=false 21. feathers=false backbone=true 63 ==> toothed=true 61 62 conf:(0.91) conf:(0.97)57. backbone=true venomous=false domestic=false 67 ==> 22. backbone=true tail=true 74 ==> venomous=false 71 tail=true 61 conf:(0.91)

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=== Evaluation ===

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6. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

We conclude from our design of a threshold free association rule mining technique that a minimum support threshold. We used mapping to logical equivalences according to propositional logic to discover all interesting association rules without loss. These association rules include item sets that are frequently and infrequently observed in a set of transaction records. In addition to a complete set of rules being considered, these association rules can also be reasoned as logical implications because they inherit propositional logic properties. Having considered infrequent items, as well as being implicational, these newly discovered association rules are distinguished from typical association rules. The framework is developed based on implication of propositional logic via Negative and positive association algorithm. The experiments show that our approach is able to identify meaningful association rules within an acceptable execution time. This framework develop a new algorithm based on coherent rules so that users can mine the items without domain knowledge and it can mine the items efficiently when compared to association rules. Implication of propositional logic is a good alternative on the definition on association. Rules based on this definition may be searched and discovered within feasible time.

In future this work is extended to implement current framework with the classification based associative algorithms in order to get effective classification based rules. In future ecommerce based application are used to check the product relationship for customer based analysis.

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