Business Analytics Exercise Sheet 10

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> 9 July 2014 Submission until 15 July 2014 23:59

Exercise 25: Frequent Itemset Mining (5 points)

- (a) What is the pruning criteria of the apriori breadth-first search algorithm with respect to the support values of supersets?
- (b) Consider the transactions dataset shown in Table 1, which is recorded in an imaginary local store, which sells only four products, namely bread, beer, bratwurst and borecole. Find the frequent item sets having a minimum support value of three, by using the NAIVE breadth-first search techniques.
- (c) Repeat the computations of Section 1.b) with the pruning trick of Section 1.a). How many support calculations do you spare?

Exercise 26: Frequent Itemset Mining (Programming) (5 points)

- (a) What is the confidence of an association rule? Mention the aspect that confidence assures.
- (b) Implement the apriori breadth-first search algorithm with support value pruning and briefly describe your source code.
- (c) The file name "retail.txt" contains a list of 88162 purchase transactions from a real supermarket, where products are represented by their id (Brijs et al. [1999]). Each row is a list of product ids and represent a single transaction. Run your implementation of Section 2.b) and report the frequent item sets for varying values of minimum support, ranging from 5 to 15.

Customer ID	Product 1	Product 2	Product 3	Product 4	Transaction Time
Customer 1	Bratwurst	Beer			02/07/13 19:04:21
Customer 2	Bread	Bratwurst			02/07/13 11:59:03
Customer 3	Bratwurst	Borecole	Beer		02/07/13 12:01:27
Customer 4	Bread	Bratwurst	Borecole	Beer	02/07/13 10:34:41
Customer 5	Bread	Bratwurst	Beer		02/07/13 14:01:59
Customer 6	Borecole	Beer			02/07/13 18:53:10
Customer 7	Bratwurst	Borecole			02/07/13 12:20:46

Tabelle 1: Local Store - Transaction Database

Submission

• Electronically to wistuba@ismll.de. Text submitted as pdf, code submitted as source files. No archives.

Literatur

Tom Brijs, Gilbert Swinnen, Koen Vanhoof, and Geert Wets. Using association rules for product assortment decisions: A case study. pages 254–260, 1999.