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FREQUENT PATTERN MINING USING DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

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ABSTRACT

Data mining methodologies have been developed for exploration and analysis of large quantities of data to discover meaningful patterns and rules. Frequent pattern mining is an important model in data mining. In this pattern mining given a data base of customer transactions, the task is to unearth all patterns in the form of sets of items appearing in a sizable number of transactions. Here the attempt is to discover frequent pattern using the Dynamic programming methods in operation research. Here we can calculate the frequent pattern item set by stages of operations.

KEYWORDS

Data mining, Dynamic programming, Frequent pattern mining.

INTRODUCTION

Frequent item set mining [1] is popular frame work for pattern discovery. Frequent patterns are patterns that appear in a data set frequently. For example set of items such as milk and bread, that appear frequently together in a transaction data set is a frequent item set. The concept of frequent item set was first introduce for mining transaction data base and was first proposed by Agarwal. et. al (1993).

Frequent mining searches for declining relationship in a given data sets. Frequent item set mining leads to the discovery of associations and correlations among items in large transactional or relational data sets. With massive amounts of data, continuously being collected and stored, many industries are becoming interested in mining such patterns from their data bases. The discovery of interesting correlation relationship among huge amounts of business transaction records can help in many business decision making process, such as catalog design cross marketing and customer shopping behavior analysis.

A typical example of frequent item set mining is market basket analysis. This process analyzes customer buying habits by finding associations between the different items that customers place in their 'shopping baskets'. The discovery of such associations can help retailers develop marketing strategies by gaining insight into which items are frequently purchased together by customers. For instance, if customers are buying milk, how likely are they to also buy bread on the same trip to the supermarket? Such information can lead to increased sales by helping retailers do selective marketing and plan their shelf space.

This paper discusses frequent pattern by Dynamic programming methods. Here the problem is divided into different stages and at each stage frequent patterns are found. Section 2 deal with an overview of some related work for mining frequent patterns. In section 3 some definitions are given. Section 4 is about Dynamic programming methods. Section 5 discuss frequent mining model with DP. In section 6 an example is discussed. Final section is the conclusion.

RELATED WORKS

As an important data mining problem, frequent pattern mining plays an essential role in many data mining tasks, such as mining associations [2,8], sequential patterns [18,13] maximum patterns and frequent closed patterns [5,12,16] classification [6,15] and clustering [4]. There have been many algorithms developed for fast mining of frequent patterns which can be classified into two categories. The first category, candidate generation and test approach, such as Apriori [2] as well as many subsequent studies, are directly based as an anti-monotone. If a pattern with K items is not frequent, any of its super-patterns with (K+1) or more items can never be frequent. A candidate generation and test approach iteratively generates the set of candidate patterns of length (K+1) from the set of frequent patterns of length K ($K \geq 1$), and check their corresponding occurrence frequencies in the data base.

The Apriori algorithm achieves good reduction on the size of candidate sets. However, when there exist a large number of frequent patterns or long patterns, candidate generation and test methods may still suffer from generating huge numbers of candidates and taking many scans of large data bases for frequency checking.

Recently, other category methods, pattern-growth methods, such as FP growth [11] and Trade projection [3] have been proposed. A pattern – growth methods uses the Apriori property. However, instead of generating candidate sets, it recursively partitions the data base in to sub-data bases according to the frequent patterns found and searches for local frequent patterns to assemble longer global ones. In [10] shows that H-Mine has high performance in various kinds of data, out performs the previously developed algorithms in different settings, and is highly scalable in mining large data bases. In [19] developed an algorithm termed – A

Dynamic approach for frequent patterns mining using Transposition of Data base for mining frequent patterns which are based on Apriori algorithm and used Dynamic function for longest common subsequence. In [7] output from hidden Markov models into the association rule mining frame work, demonstrating the potential for frequent pattern mining in the field of scientific modeling and experimentation. New probabilistic formulations of frequent item set based on possible world semantics are introduced in [21]. In [17] a statistical approach to the success probability for the simple shopping model where every item has the same probability and all the items and all the transactions are independent is given. A class of models called Item Set Generating models (IGM) that can be used to formally connect the process of frequent item sets to discover with the learning of generative models are presented in [20].

FREQUENT PATTERN MINING

Definition: Let $I = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ be a set of items. An item set X is a subset of items, ie, $X \subseteq I$. For the sake of brevity, an item set $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$ is also denoted as $X = x_1 x_2 \dots x_m$. A transaction $T = (tid, X)$ is a 2-tuple, where tid is a transaction-id and X is an item set. A transaction $T = (tid, X)$ is said to contain item set Y if and only if $Y \subseteq X$. A transaction database TDB is a set of transactions. The number of transactions in TDB containing item set X is called the support of X , denoted as

sup(X). Given a transaction database TDB and a support threshold min-sup, an item set X is a frequent pattern, or a pattern in short, if and only if $\text{sup}(X) \geq \text{min-sup}$.

The problem of frequent pattern mining is to find the complete set of frequent patterns in a given transaction database with respect to a given support threshold.

DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

The method of dynamic programming (DP) was developed in 1950's through the work of Richard Bellman who is still the doyen of research workers in this field. The essential feature of the method is that a multivariable optimization problem is decomposed into a series of stages, optimization being done at each stage with respect to one variable only. Richard Bellman gave it rather the un-descriptive name of dynamic programming. A more significant name would be recursive optimization.

To case a verbal problem into a multistage structure is not always simple: often it is very difficult and even looks mysterious. But once done, recursive optimization is easy to apply. Recursion equations are a standard type and the related computer programming is a standard routine.

FREQUENT ITEM MINING BY DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

Let $I = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ be a set of items. Let $T = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_k\}$ be a set of data base of customer transactions. Each transaction T_i is a collection of items purchased by a customer in one visit to a store. A non-empty set of items is called an item set. Our aim is to find the items whose frequency exceeds a user defined threshold referred to as a frequent item set.

Let the number of an item in the whole transaction is greater than or equal to 'p' then it is considered as frequent item. First we search for a single item which occurs as frequent item. From that we will get sets of frequent items containing one element. After that we check for frequent item sets with two element and then check for frequent items set with three elements. Continue the process so as to get frequent item sets with maximum number of elements. We use D.P method by dividing the problems into stages and find the optimal solution for each stage. Each stage consists of some state variables and return functions.

	x_1	x_2	.....	.....	x_n
T_1	$p_1(x_1)$	$p_1(x_2)$	.....	.....	$p_1(x_n)$
T_2	$p_2(x_1)$	$p_2(x_2)$	.....	.....	$p_2(x_n)$
.....
.....
T_k	$p_k(x_1)$	$p_k(x_2)$	.....	.....	$p_k(x_n)$

The above table gives the relation between the transaction and items where $p_k(x_n)$ is the probability of x_n in the k^{th} transaction. $p_j(x_i) = 1$ if $x_i \in T_j$ and equal to zero other wise .

The first stage is to find all the frequent item sets with single item. Here we have to check which among x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are frequent items.

The return function for the variable x_i is

$$F_1(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_i) \text{ is the return function.}$$

If $\sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_i) \geq p$ then x_i is frequent item if it is less than P then it is not a

frequent item. So we can remove the item from further stages.

Let $I = (x_{11}, x_{12}, \dots, x_{1q})$ are the frequent item from stage 1. The Table for stage 1 is given follows:

Item	count in the transaction
x_1	$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_1)$
x_2	.....
...
.....
x_n	$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_n)$

Now we enter the second stage with variables from the first stage as frequent. Here our attempt is to find frequent item sets with two elements.

Here the return function for the variables (x_{1i}, x_{1k}) is

$$F_2(x_{1i}, x_{1k}) = \sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_{1i}) p_j(x_{1k} / x_{1i})$$

where x_{1i} and x_{1k} element of $\{x_{11}, x_{12}, \dots, x_{1q}\}$ and $p_j(x_{1k} / x_{1i}) = 1$ if $(x_{1i}, x_{1k}) \in T_j$
 $= 0, \text{ other wise}$

if $\sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_{1i}) p_j(x_{1k} / x_{1i}) \geq p$ then (x_{1i}, x_{1k}) is a frequent pattern or associate items

Table for second stage

	X_{12}	.....	.....	X_{1q}
X_{11}	$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j (X_{11}) p_j (X_{12} / X_{11})$	.....	.....	.....
X_{12}		.....	.....	.....
.....
.....
.....
X_{1q}	$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j (X_{1q}) p_j (X_{12} / X_{11})$	.....	.....	.....

From the second stage give frequent item set of two items. In the third stage examines for frequent item set of three elements. The return function $\sum_{j=1}^k p_j (X_{2q}) p_j (X_{2r}, X_{2s} / X_{2q}) \geq A$

Where $p_j (X_{2r}, X_{2s} / X_{2q}) = 1$ if $X_{2r}, X_{2s}, X_{2q} \in T_j$ and zero other wise . X_{2r}, X_{2s}, X_{2q} is a frequent item set if $A \geq p$.

Continued for getting frequent item set containing maximum number of items which satisfies the minimum threshold.

EXAMPLE

Following is a transactional data given the items in each transaction.

T _i D	List of items
T ₁	11, 12, 15
T ₂	12, 14
T ₃	12, 13
T ₄	11, 12, 14
T ₅	11, 13
T ₆	12, 13
T ₇	11, 13
T ₈	11, 12, 13, 15
T ₉	11, 12, 13

Item I = {11, 12, 13, 14, 15}

Let the number of item in the whole transaction is ≥ 2 then it is a frequent item. The table showing the relation between items and transactions are follows.

	11	12	13	14	15
T ₁	1	1			1
T ₂		1		1	
T ₃		1	1		
T ₄	1	1		1	
T ₅	1		1		
T ₆		1	1		
T ₇	1		1		
T ₈	1	1	1		1
T ₉	1	1	1		

For stage 1 we search for single set frequent items.

Items	$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j(x_i)$
11	6
12	7
13	6
14	2
15	2

Here all items satisfy the minimum threshold. Therefore the frequent item from stage 1 is 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. The second stage is to find the frequent item sets with two elements.

	11	12	13	14	15
11	-	4	4	1	2
12	4	-	4	2	2
13	4	4	-	0	1
14	1	2	0	-	0
15	2	2	1	0	-

Here the item set satisfy the condition $\sum_{j=1}^k p_j (x_{1i}) p_j (x_{1k} / x_{1i}) \geq 2$ are

{11, 12} {11, 13} {11,15}{12,13} {12, 14} {12, 15}.

In the third stage is for finding frequent item set with three elements.

	11	12	13	14	15
{11, 12}	-	-	2	1	2
{11, 13}	-	2	-	0	1
{11, 15}	-	2	1	0	-
{12, 13}	2	-	-	0	1
{12, 14}	1	-	0	-	0
{12, 15}	2	-	1	0	-

Here the item set satisfies the condition $\sum_{j=1}^k p_j (x_{2i}) p_j (x_{2r}, x_{2s} / x_{2i}) \geq 2$ are {11, 12, 13} and

{11, 12, 15}.

{11, 12, 15}.

Now for stage four is to find frequent item sets containing four elements.

	11	12	13	14	15
{11, 12, 13}	-	-	-	0	1
{11, 12, 15}	-	-	1	0	-

Here no item sets satisfies the minimum threshold condition. Therefore there does not exist frequent set containing four elements. Therefore maximum number of elements in the frequent item set is three and they are {11, 12, 13}, {11, 12, 15}.

CONCLUSION

Determining frequent item sets is one of the most important field of mining. It is well known that the way of candidates are defined has great effect on running time and memory need and this is the reason for the large number of algorithms. Here presented a new research trend on frequent mining using dynamic programming. Dynamic programming is a simplest method in operation research. The concept of DP has been extended to infinitely multi stage cases also.

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