

# Formal Concept Analysis

## II Closure Systems and Implications

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slides based on a lecture by Prof. Gerd Stumme

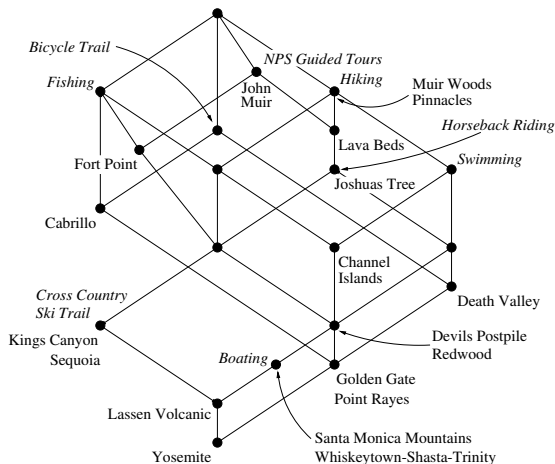
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## Implications

- Implications
- Attribute Logic
- Concept Intents and Implications
- Implications and Closure Systems
- Pseudo-Intents and the Stem Base
- Computing the Stem Base With NEXT CLOSURE
- Bases of Association Rules

# Implications

**Def.:** An *implication*  $X \rightarrow Y$  *holds* in a context, if every object that has all attributes from  $X$  also has all attributes from  $Y$ .



Examples:

- $\{Swimming\} \rightarrow \{Hiking\}$
- $\{Boating\} \rightarrow \{Swimming, Hiking, NPS Guided Tours, Fishing, Horseback Riding\}$
- $\{Bicycle Trail, NPS Guided Tours\} \rightarrow \{Swimming, Hiking, Horseback Riding\}$



**Def.:** A subset  $T \subseteq M$  *respects* an implication  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  
if  $A \not\subseteq T$  or  $B \subseteq T$  holds.

(We then also say that  $T$  is a *model* of  $A \rightarrow B$ .)

$T$  *respects a set*  $\mathcal{L}$  of implications, if  $T$  respects every implication in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Lemma:** An implication  $A \rightarrow B$  holds in a context, iff  $B \subseteq A''$   
( $\Leftrightarrow A' \subseteq B'$ ). It is then respected by all concept intents.

# Implications and Closure Systems

**Lemma:** If  $\mathcal{L}$  is a set of implications in  $M$ , then

$$\text{Mod}(\mathcal{L}) := \{X \subseteq M \mid X \text{ respects } \mathcal{L}\}$$

is a closure system on  $M$ .

The respective closure operator  $X \mapsto \mathcal{L}(X)$  is constructed in the following way: For a set  $X \subseteq M$ , let

$$X^{\mathcal{L}} := X \cup \bigcup_{A \rightarrow B \in \mathcal{L}} \{B \mid A \subseteq X\}.$$

We form the sets  $X^{\mathcal{L}}, X^{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}}, X^{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}\mathcal{L}}, \dots$  until a set

$$\mathcal{L}(X) := X^{\mathcal{L}\dots\mathcal{L}}$$

is obtained with  $\mathcal{L}(X)^{\mathcal{L}} = \mathcal{L}(X)$  (i.e., a fixpoint).<sup>1</sup>  $\mathcal{L}(X)$  is then the closure of  $X$  for the closure system  $\text{Mod}(\mathcal{L})$ .

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<sup>1</sup>If  $M$  is infinite, this may require infinitely many iterations.

**Def.:** An implication  $A \rightarrow B$  *follows (semantically)* from a set  $\mathcal{L}$  of implications in  $M$  if each subset of  $M$  respecting  $\mathcal{L}$  also respects  $A \rightarrow B$ . A family of implications is called *closed* if every implication following from  $\mathcal{L}$  is already contained in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Lemma:** A set  $\mathcal{L}$  of implications in  $M$  is closed, iff the following conditions (*Armstrong Rules*) are satisfied for all  $W, X, Y, Z \subseteq M$ :

- ①  $X \rightarrow X \in \mathcal{L}$ ,
- ② If  $X \rightarrow Y \in \mathcal{L}$ , then  $X \cup Z \rightarrow Y \in \mathcal{L}$ ,
- ③ If  $X \rightarrow Y \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $Y \cup Z \rightarrow W \in \mathcal{L}$ , then  $X \cup Z \rightarrow W \in \mathcal{L}$ .

**Remark:** You should know these rules from the database lecture!

**Def.:** A set  $\mathcal{L}$  of implications of a context  $(G, M, I)$  is called *complete*, if every implication that holds in  $(G, M, I)$  follows from  $\mathcal{L}$ .

A set  $\mathcal{L}$  of implications is called *non-redundant* if no implication in  $\mathcal{L}$  follows from other implications in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

**Def.:**  $P \subseteq M$  is called *pseudo intent* of  $(G, M, I)$ , if

- $P \neq P''$ , and
- if  $Q \subsetneq P$  is a pseudo intent, then  $Q'' \subseteq P$ .

**Theorem:** The set of implications

$$\mathcal{L} := \{P \rightarrow P'' \mid P \text{ is pseudo intent}\}$$

is non-redundant and complete. We call  $\mathcal{L}$  the *stem base*.



Example: membership of developing countries in supranational groups  
(Source: Lexikon Dritte Welt. Rowohlt-Verlag, Reinbek 1993)

	Group of 77	Non-aligned	LLDC	MSAC	OPEC	ACP
Afghanistan	x	x	x	x		
Algeria	x	x			x	
Angola	x	x				x
Antigua and Barbuda	x					x
Argentina	x					
Bahamas	x					x
Bahrain	x	x				
Bangladesh	x	x	x			
Barbados	x	x				x
Belize	x	x				x
Benin	x	x	x			x
Bhutan	x	x	x			
Bolivia	x	x				
Botswana	x	x	x			x
Brazil	x					
Brunei						
Burkina Faso	x	x	x			x
Burundi	x	x	x			x
Cambodia	x	x				x
Cameroon	x	x		x		x
Cape Verde	x	x	x			x
Central African Rep.	x	x	x			x
Chad	x	x	x			x
Chile	x					
China						
Colombia	x	x				
Comoros	x	x	x			x
Congo	x	x				x
Costa Rica	x					
Cuba	x	x				
Djibouti	x	x	x			x
Dominica	x	x				
Dominican Rep.	x					x

	Group of 77	Non-aligned	LLDC	MSAC	OPEC	ACP
Ecuador	x	x			x	
Egypt	x	x				
El Salvador	x		x			
Equatorial Guinea	x	x				x
Ethiopia	x	x	x			x
Fiji	x					x
Gabon	x	x			x	
Gambia	x	x	x			x
Ghana	x	x	x			x
Grenada	x	x				x
Guatemala	x					x
Guinea	x	x	x			x
Guinea-Bissau	x	x	x			x
Guyana	x	x				x
Haiti	x	x	x			x
Honduras	x					x
Hong Kong						
India	x	x				x
Indonesia	x	x				x
Iran	x	x			x	
Iraq	x	x				x
Ivory Coast	x	x				x
Jamaica	x	x				x
Jordan	x	x				
Kenya	x	x				x
Kiribati			x			x
Korea-North	x	x				x
Korea-South	x					
Kuwait	x	x				x
Laos	x	x	x			
Lebanon	x	x				
Lesotho	x	x	x			x
Liberia	x	x				x
Libya	x	x				x
Madagascar	x	x				x
Malawi	x	x				x
Malaysia	x	x				
Maldives	x	x				
Mali	x	x	x			x
Mauretania	x	x	x			x
Mauritius	x	x				x
Mexico	x					
Mongolia						
Morocco	x	x				
Mozambique	x	x				x
Myanmar	x	x				
Namibia	x					x
Nauru						
Nepal	x	x	x			
Nicaragua	x	x				
Niger	x	x	x			x
Nigeria	x	x				x
Oman	x	x				
Pakistan	x	x				x
Panama	x	x				
Papua New Guinea	x					x
Paraguay	x					
Peru	x	x				
Philippines	x					
Qatar	x	x				x
Réunion						
Rwanda	x	x	x			x
Samoa						x
São Tomé e Príncipe	x	x	x			x
Saudi Arabia	x	x				x

	Group of 77	Non-aligned	LLDC	MSAC	OPEC	ACP
Senegal	x	x				x
Seychelles	x	x				x
Sierra Leone	x	x	x			x
Singapore	x	x				
Solomon Islands	x					x
Somalia	x	x	x			x
Sri Lanka	x	x				
St Kitts						
St Lucia	x	x				x
St Vincent & Grenad.	x					x
Sudan	x	x	x			x
Surinam	x	x				x
Swaziland	x	x				x
Syria	x	x				
Taiwan						
Tanzania	x	x	x			x
Thailand	x					
Togo	x	x	x			x
Tonga	x					x
Trinidad and Tobago	x	x				x
Tunisia	x	x				
Tuvalu			x			
Uganda	x	x	x			x
United Arab Emirates	x	x				x
Uruguay	x					
Vanuatu	x	x	x			x
Venezuela	x	x				x
Vietnam	x	x	x			
Yemen	x	x	x			
Zaire	x	x	x			x
Zambia	x	x	x			x
Zimbabwe	x	x				x

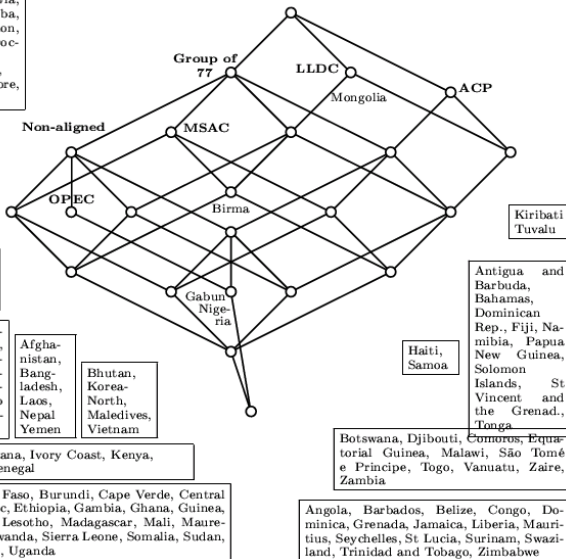
The abbreviations stand for: LLDC := Least Developed Countries, MSAC := Most Seriously Affected Countries, OPEC := Organization of Petrol Exporting Countries, ACP := African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries.

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica,  
Korea-South, Mexico, Paraguay, Philip-  
pines, Thailand, Uruguay

Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Nauru,  
Réunion, St Kitts, Taiwan

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras

Bahrain, Bolivia,  
Colombia, Cuba,  
Jordan, Lebanon,  
Malaysia, Moroc-  
co, Nicaragua,  
Oman, Panama,  
Peru, Singapore,  
Syria, Tunisia



stem base of the developing countries context:

$$\{\text{OPEC}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Group of 77, Non-Alligned}\}$$
$$\{\text{MSAC}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Group of 77}\}$$
$$\{\text{Non-Alligned}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Group of 77}\}$$
$$\{\text{Group of 77, Non-Alligned, MSAC, OPEC}\} \rightarrow \{\text{LLDC, AKP}\}$$
$$\{\text{Group of 77, Non-Alligned, LLDC, OPEC}\} \rightarrow \{\text{MSAC, AKP}\}$$

# Computing the Stem Base With NEXT CLOSURE

The computation is based on the following theorem:

**Theorem:** The set of all concept intents and pseudo-intents is a closure system. The corresponding closure operator is given by:

Starting with a set  $X$  we compute

$$X^{\mathcal{L}^\bullet} := X \cup \bigcup_{A \rightarrow B \in \mathcal{L}} \{B \mid A \subset X, A \neq X\}$$
$$X^{\mathcal{L}^\bullet \mathcal{L}^\bullet} := X^{\mathcal{L}^\bullet} \cup \bigcup_{A \rightarrow B \in \mathcal{L}} \{B \mid A \subset X^{\mathcal{L}^\bullet}, A \neq X^{\mathcal{L}^\bullet}\}$$

etc., until we reach a set  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(X)$  with  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(X) = \mathcal{L}^\bullet(x)^{\mathcal{L}^\bullet}$ . This is then the wanted intent or pseudo-intent.

# Computing the Stem Base With NEXT CLOSURE

The algorithm NEXT CLOSURE to compute all concept intents and the stem base:

- ① The set  $\mathcal{L}$  of all implications is initialized to  $\mathcal{L} = \emptyset$ .
- ② The lexicographically first concept intent or pseudo-intent is  $\emptyset$ .
- ③ If  $A$  is an intent or a pseudo-intent, the lexicographically next intent/pseudo-intent is computed by checking all  $i \in M \setminus A$  in descending order, until  $A <_i \mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i)$  holds. Then  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i)$  is the next intent or pseudo-intent.
- ④ If  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i) = (\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i))''$  holds, then  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i)$  is a concept intent, otherwise it is a pseudo-intent and the implication  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i) \rightarrow (\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i))''$  is added to  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- ⑤ If  $\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i) = M$ , finish. Else, set  $A \leftarrow \mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i)$  and continue with Step 3.

## Computing the Stem Base With NEXT CLOSURE

**Example:**

	a	b	c	e
1	×		×	
2		×		×
3		×	×	×

$A$	$i$	$A + i$	$\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i)$	$A <_i \mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i)?$	$(\mathcal{L}^\bullet(A + i))''$	$\mathcal{L}$	new intent

## 4 Implications

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- Bases of Association Rules



$\{\text{veil color: white, gill spacing: close}\} \rightarrow \{\text{gill attachment: free}\}$   
support: 78.52%                      confidence: 99.60%

The input data to compute association rules can be represented as a formal context  $(G, M, I)$ :

- $M$  is a set of *items* (things, products of a market basket),
- $G$  contains the *transaction ids*,
- and the relation  $I$  the *list of transactions*.

# Bases of Association Rules

$\{\text{veil color: white, gill spacing: close}\} \rightarrow \{\text{gill attachment: free}\}$   
support: 78.52%      confidence: 99.60%

The *support* of an implication is the fraction of all objects that have all attributes from the premise and the conclusion.

(repetition: the support of an attribute set  $X \subseteq M$  is  $\text{supp}(X) := \frac{|X'|}{|G|}$ .)

**Def.:** The *support of a rule*  $X \rightarrow Y$  is given by

$$\text{supp}(X \rightarrow Y) := \text{supp}(X \cup Y)$$

The *confidence* is the fraction of all objects that fulfill both the premise and the conclusion among those objects that fulfill the premise.

**Def.:** The *confidence of a rule*  $X \rightarrow Y$  is given by

$$\text{conf}(X \rightarrow Y) := \frac{\text{supp}(X \cup Y)}{\text{supp}(X)}$$

{veil color: white, gill spacing: close}  $\rightarrow$  {gill attachment: free}  
support: 78.52%                  confidence: 99.60%

**Classical data mining task:** Find for given  $minsupp, minconf \in [0, 1]$  all rules with a support and confidence above these bounds.

*Our task:* finding a *base* of rules, i.e., a minimal set of rules from which all other rules follow.

From  $B' = B'''$  follows

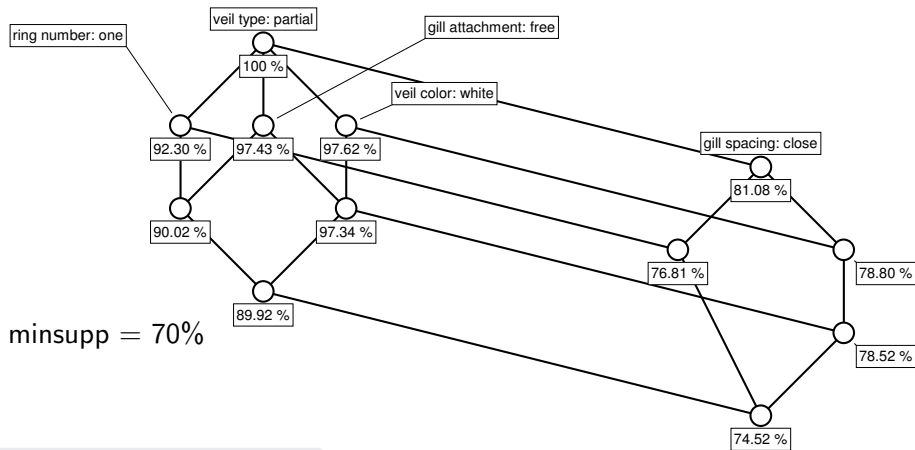
$$\text{supp}(B) = \frac{|B'|}{|G|} = \frac{|B''|}{|G|} = \text{supp}(B'')$$

**Theorem:**  $X \rightarrow Y$  and  $X'' \rightarrow Y''$  have the same support and the same confidence.

To compute *all* association rules it is thus sufficient to compute the support of all frequent sets with  $B = B''$  (i.e., the intents of the iceberg concept lattice).

# Bases of Association Rules

## The Benefit of Iceberg Concept Lattices (Compared to Frequent Itemsets)

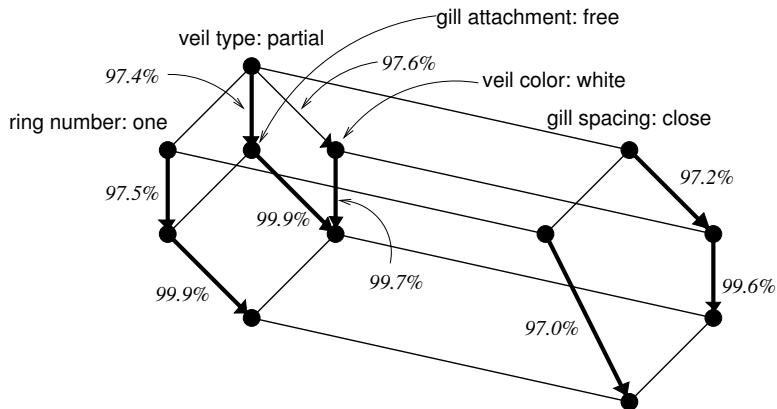


32 frequent itemsets are represented by 12 frequent concept intents

- *more efficient computation (e.g., TITANIC)*
- *fewer rules (without loss of information!)*

# Bases of Association Rules

## The Benefit of Iceberg Concept Lattices (Compared to Frequent Itemsets)



Association rules can be visualized in the (iceberg) concept lattice:

exact association rules (implications):  $conf = 100\%$

(approximate) association rules:  $conf < 100\%$

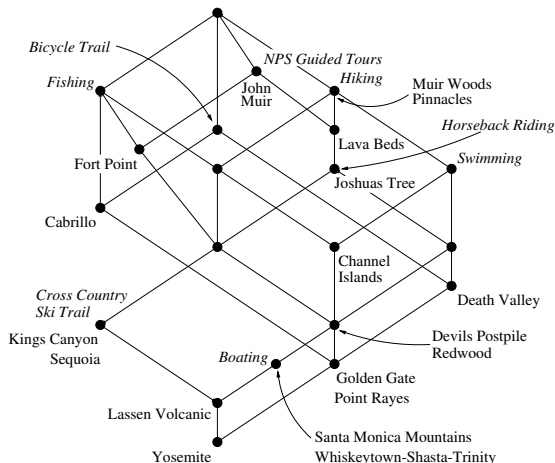
# Bases of Association Rules: Exact Association Rules

... can be read off from the stem base. In concept lattices we can read them directly off from the diagram:

**Lemma:** An implication  $X \rightarrow Y$  holds, iff the largest concept that is below the concepts that are generated by the attributes of  $X$  is below all concepts that are generated by the attributes in  $Y$ .

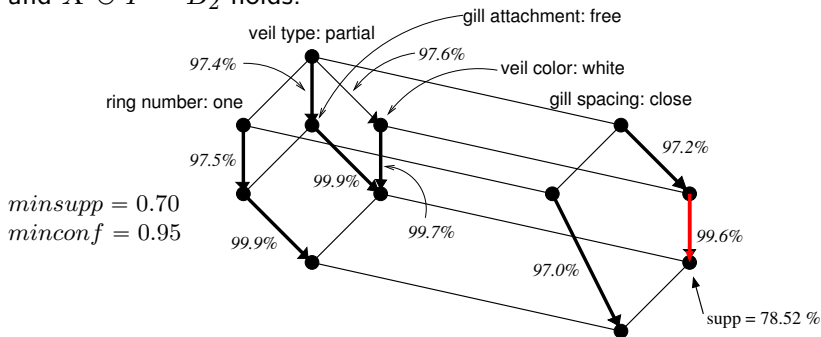
## Examples:

- $\{Swimming\} \rightarrow \{Hiking\}$  ( $supp = 10/19 \approx 52.6\%$ ,  $conf = 100\%$ )
- $\{Boating\} \rightarrow \{Swimming, Hiking, NPS\ Guided\ Tours, Fishing, Horseback\ Riding\}$  ( $supp = 4/19 \approx 21.0\%$ ,  $conf = 100\%$ )
- $\{Bicycle\ Trail, NPS\ Guided\ Tours\} \rightarrow \{Swimming, Hiking, Horseback\ Riding\}$  ( $supp = 4/19 \approx 21.0\%$ ,  $conf = 100\%$ )



# Bases of Association Rules

**Def.:** The *Luxenburger basis* contains all valid approximate association rules  $X \rightarrow Y$ , such that concepts  $(A_1, B_1)$  and  $(A_2, B_2)$  exist, with  $(A_1, B_1)$  being a direct upper neighbor of  $(A_2, B_2)$ , such that  $X = B_1$  and  $X \cup Y = B_2$  holds.



Every arrow shows a rule of the basis. E.g., the right arrow stands for  $\{\text{veil type: partial, gill spacing: close, veil color: white}\} \rightarrow \{\text{gill attachment: free}\}$  ( $conf = 99.6\%$ ,  $supp = 78.52\%$ )

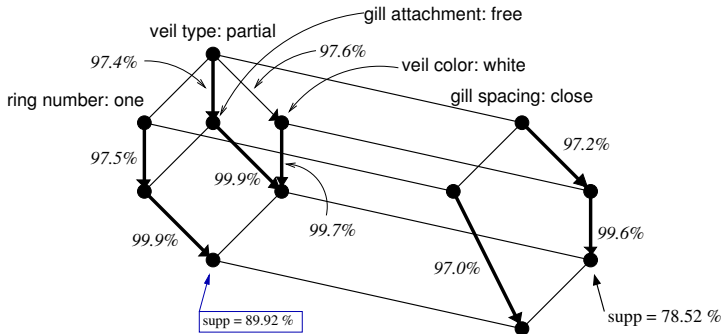


**Theorem:** From the Luxenburger basis all approximate association rules (incl. support and confidence) can be derived by the following rules:

- $\phi(X \rightarrow Y) = \phi(X \rightarrow Y \setminus Z)$ , for  $\phi \in \{\text{conf}, \text{supp}\}$ ,  $Z \subseteq X$
- $\phi(X'' \rightarrow Y'') = \phi(X \rightarrow Y)$
- $\text{conf}(X \rightarrow X) = 1$
- $\text{conf}(X \rightarrow Y) = p, \text{conf}(Y \rightarrow Z) = q \Rightarrow \text{conf}(X \rightarrow Z) = pq$  for all frequent concept intents  $X \subset Y \subset Z$ .
- $\text{supp}(X \rightarrow Z) = \text{supp}(Y \rightarrow Z)$  for all  $X, Y \subseteq Z$

The basis is minimal with respect to this property.

# Bases of Association Rules



## example

$\{\text{ring number: one}\} \rightarrow \{\text{veil color: white}\}$

- has a support of 89.92% (the support of the largest concept which contains both attributes in its intent)
- and confidence  $97.5\% \cdot 99.9\% \approx 97.4\%$ .

# Some experimental results

Dataset (Minsupp)	Exact rules	stem basis	Minconf	association rules	Luxenburger basis
T10I4D100K (0.5%)	0	0	90%	16,269	3,511
			70%	20,419	4,004
			50%	21,686	4,191
			30%	22,952	4,519
MUSHROOMS (30%)	7,476	69	90%	12,911	563
			70%	37,671	968
			50%	56,703	1,169
			30%	71,412	1,260
C20D10K (50%)	2,277	11	90%	36,012	1,379
			70%	89,601	1,948
			50%	116,791	1,948
			30%	116,791	1,948
C73D10K (90%)	52,035	15	95%	1,606,726	4,052
			90%	2,053,896	4,089
			85%	2,053,936	4,089
			80%	2,053,936	4,089