



“Market Basket Analysis: Use association rule mining to classify customer purchasing

patterns for targeted marketing strategies.

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THE PROBLEM: Market Basket Analysis for Targeted Marketing

A retail store (physical or online) wants to understand **customer purchasing behavior** — specifically, **which products are bought together**.

By understanding **purchase patterns**, they can:

- Design **targeted marketing campaigns**
- Create **product bundles or combos**
- Improve **store layout** (e.g., put items near each other)
- Make better **inventory decisions**

APPROACH USED TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM

We used **Association Rule Mining** with the **Apriori Algorithm** to uncover relationships between items frequently bought together. Here's a step-by-step breakdown of the approach:

- We used a CSV file named "**Market Basket Analysis.csv**".
 - The dataset contains transactions — each row lists products purchased together by a customer.
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- Remove missing values (NaN) to clean the data.
 - **Converted all items to strings** to ensure consistency.
 - **Formatted data as transactions** (list of lists) where each sub-list is a customer's basket.
-

- Used **TransactionEncoder** to **one-hot encode** the dataset.
 - This step transforms it into a **binary format** where:
 - Rows = transactions
 - Columns = items
 - Values = **True** or **False** (whether the item was purchased)
-

- Applied the **Apriori algorithm** to find frequent combinations of items.
- Set **min_support = 0.005** to only keep itemsets that appear in **at least 0.5% of all transactions**.
- This step gives us combinations of items that occur frequently together.

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- Generated **association rules** from frequent itemsets using metrics:
 - **Support**: Frequency of the itemset
 - **Confidence**: Likelihood of buying B if A is bought
 - **Lift**: How much more likely B is bought when A is bought, compared to random chance
 - Filtered rules with `lift >= 1.0` for meaningful relationships.
-

- Analyzed rules like:

If a customer buys {Milk}, then they are likely to also buy {Bread}.

- Used these rules to make **business decisions**, such as:
 - Product recommendations
 - Combo deals
 - Targeted promotions
-

Interpretation: 80% of customers who bought Bread also bought Butter, and this relationship is 1.25x stronger than random.

- A list of rules that describe **customer purchasing patterns**.
- These rules can be used for **targeted marketing strategies** and improving customer experience.

CODE :

```
• !pip install mlxtend --quiet
•
• # Step 2: Upload the file from your computer
• from google.colab import files
• uploaded = files.upload()
•
• # Step 3: Load dataset using the uploaded filename
• import pandas as pd
• import io
•
• # Automatically detect the filename
• filename = list(uploaded.keys())[0]
• df = pd.read_csv(io.BytesIO(uploaded[filename]))
•
• # Preview data
• df.head()
•
• # Step 4: Preprocess the data
• # Step 4: Clean and prepare transactions
• transactions = df.dropna().values.tolist()
•
• # Convert all items to strings to avoid type comparison issues
• transactions = [[str(item) for item in row if str(item).lower() !=
  'nan'] for row in transactions]
•
• # Step 5: Encode transactions
• from mlxtend.preprocessing import TransactionEncoder
•
• te = TransactionEncoder()
• te_ary = te.fit(transactions).transform(transactions)
• df_encoded = pd.DataFrame(te_ary, columns=te.columns_)
• # Step 6: Find frequent itemsets
• from mlxtend.frequent_patterns import apriori, association_rules
```

```
•  
• frequent_itemsets = apriori(df_encoded, min_support=0.005,  
• use_colnames=True)  
•  
•  
• # Step 7: Generate rules  
• rules = association_rules(frequent_itemsets, metric="lift",  
• min_threshold=1.0)  
•  
• # Step 8: Show top rules  
• rules[['antecedents', 'consequents', 'support', 'confidence',  
• 'lift']].sort_values(by='lift', ascending=False).head(10)
```

OUTPUT:

Choose Files10. Market Basket Analysis.csv

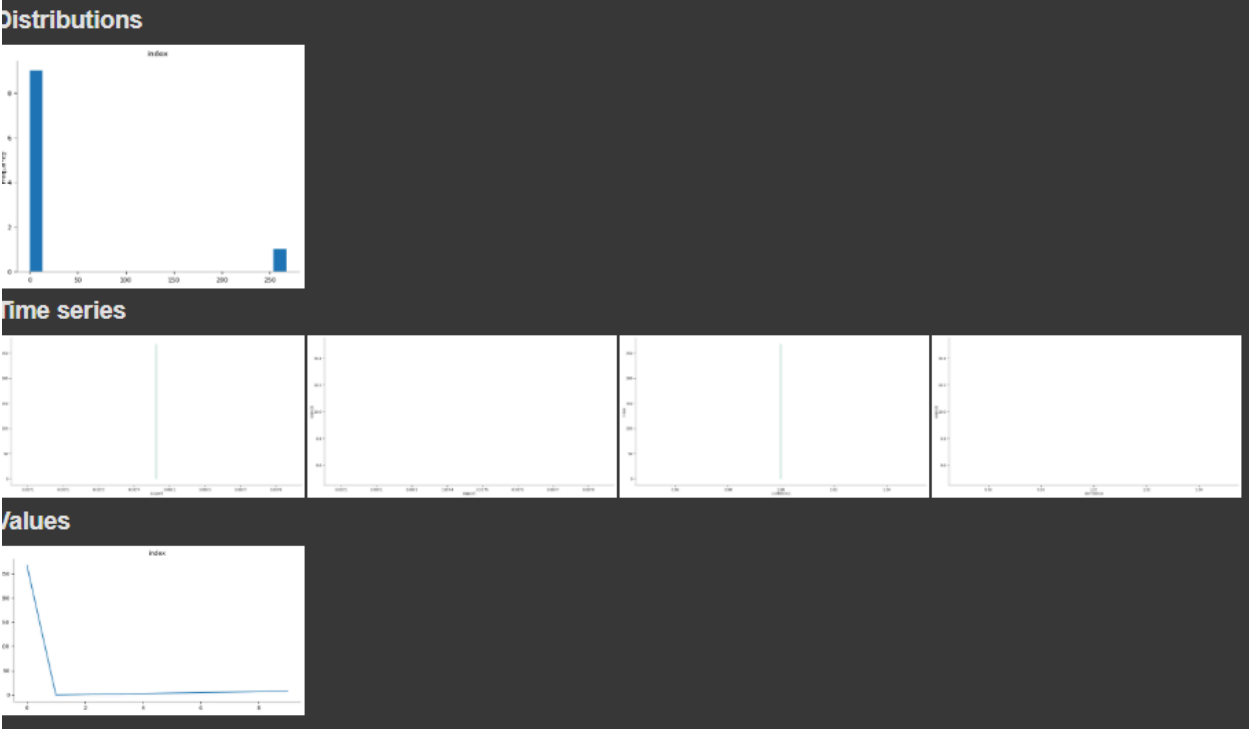
10. Market Basket Analysis.csv(text/csv) - 2603 bytes, last modified: 4/18/2025 - 100% done

saving 10. Market Basket Analysis.csv to 10. Market Basket Analysis (2).csv

1 to 10 of 10 entriesFilter📄?

index	antecedents	consequents	support	confidence	lift
267	frozenset({'canned fruit applesauce'})	frozenset({'99'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
0	frozenset({'1'})	frozenset({'prepared soups salads'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
1	frozenset({'prepared soups salads'})	frozenset({'1'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
2	frozenset({'kitchen supplies'})	frozenset({'10'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
3	frozenset({'10'})	frozenset({'kitchen supplies'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
4	frozenset({'100'})	frozenset({'missing'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
5	frozenset({'missing'})	frozenset({'100'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
6	frozenset({'air fresheners candles'})	frozenset({'101'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
7	frozenset({'101'})	frozenset({'air fresheners candles'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0
8	frozenset({'baby bath body care'})	frozenset({'102'})	0.007462686567164179	1.0	134.0

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REFERENCE/CREDITS :

Libraries & Tools

- **mlxtend** Library Documentation:
https://rasbt.github.io/mlxtend/user_guide/frequent_patterns/apriori/
- **pandas** Library:
<https://pandas.pydata.org/>
- Google Colab:
<https://colab.research.google.com/>

Dataset

- "*Market Basket Analysis.csv*" – a sample market basket dataset used for transaction-based learning.