

DRIVING SMART BASKET SIZE

Customer Analytics
at Bigbasket



Nicole Hong





- INDIA'S LARGEST ONLINE GROCERY/FOOD STORE



- In 2021, selling 20,000+ products & 1,000+ brands in 25+ cities in India
- 100+ million customers, targeting tech-savvy, young generation



- Online grocery delivery service on home essentials, convenience stores, & food supplies to its users



- Revenue based on Inventory model & Hyper-local delivery



bigbasket: Online Grocery App

Bigbasket.com Shopping

★★★★★ 667,479

E Everyone

Add to wishlist

Install



Limitless
FREE Deliveries



bigbasket: A TATA Enterprise

RECOMMENDATION

Business Issues

- Poor customer experience
- High operational costs
- Reduced profit

Analytics Approach

Features:

- Your Top 20
- Smart Basket
- “Did You Forget”

Improve the customer experience:

- Increase average basket size from 6 to 10 items, with expected sales lift of 9%¹
- Increase average order growth rate from 30% to 50% every month
- Shorten shop to checkout time from 30 minutes to 10 minutes
- Lower delivery costs by reducing from 4 to 2 deliveries per day to the same location, increasing the efficiency by 50%.

1. <https://news.ufl.edu/articles/2018/09/how-helpful-are-product-recommendations-really.html>

2. For detailed estimations, see Slide 21 in Appendix.

MARKET BASKET ANALYSIS IN R



Problems

Raw Dataset

Data Preprocessing

Conversion to
Transactional Data

Product Variable
(SKU & Description):

- Absolute Item Frequency Plot
- Relative Item Frequency Plot

Density Plot
Apriori Algorithm:

- Set the following levels:
 - Support
 - Confidence
 - Lift

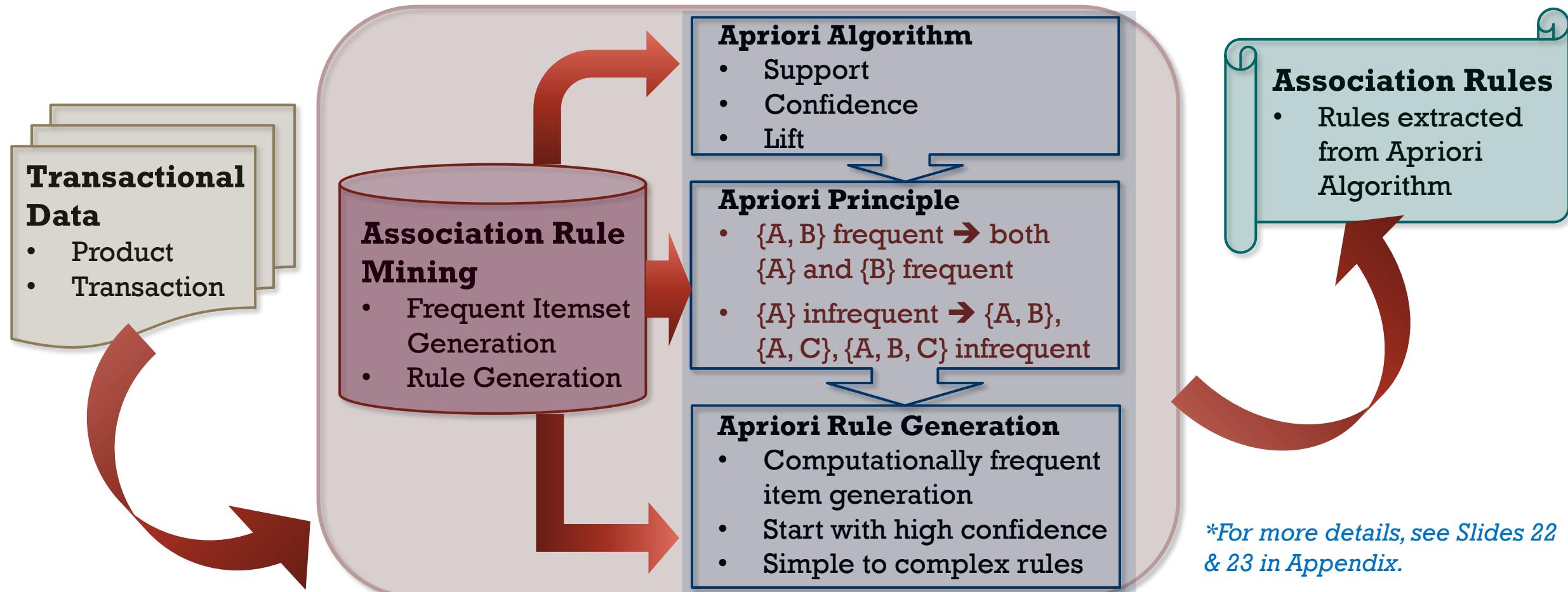
- 194 non-redundant rules
- Top 20 Rules with the highest lift
- Observe the rules with the visualizations

Solutions

- Top 20 SKU
- Smart Basket
- “Did you forget?” Engine

ASSOCIATION RULES

The rules extracted based in the inference on frequently co-occurring associations among different items, which are determined by market basket analysis (i.e. association rule mining)



RECOMMENDER #1

“Smart Basket”



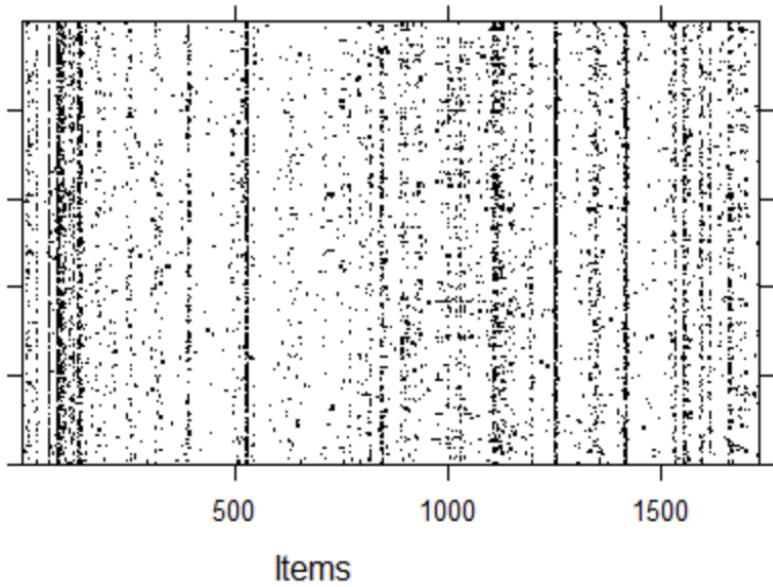
- **Association Rules** for the recommender feature
- Out of 248 rules, removed the redundancy to extract the finalized 194 rules
- Order the items under the RHS and LHS based on the highest Lift
- Demo 5 recommender rules to test "Smart Basket" feature

EXTRACTING THE RULES

1

Density of 0.43%

Transactions



*For more details, see Slide 26 in Appendix.

Number of extracted rules with apriori



2

At Confidence Level of 80%:

- Support at 0.1% = 11,006 rules
- Support at 0.3% = 56 rules

colour

- Support level of 0.1%
- Support level of 0.3%

3

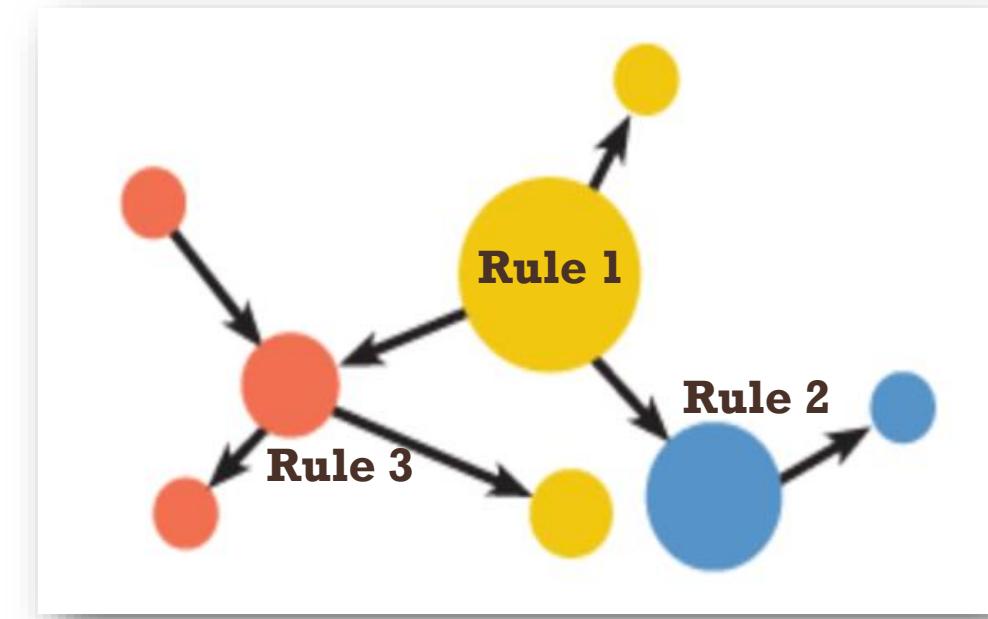
Set the rule with the following minimum parameters:

- Support = 0.25%
- Confidence = 80%

"SMART BASKET" – ASSOCIATION RULES



Rules	LHS	RHS
Rule 1	Beans_Haricot	Brinjals_Eggplant
	Exotic Vegetables_Broccoli	
	Other Vegetables_Onion Flower	
	Other Vegetables_Bottle of Pickle #2	
	Root Vegetables_Beet Root	



Rule 1	
Support	0.25%
Confidence	84%
Lift	83.86
Count	21

*For more details, see Slides 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 & 39 in Appendix.

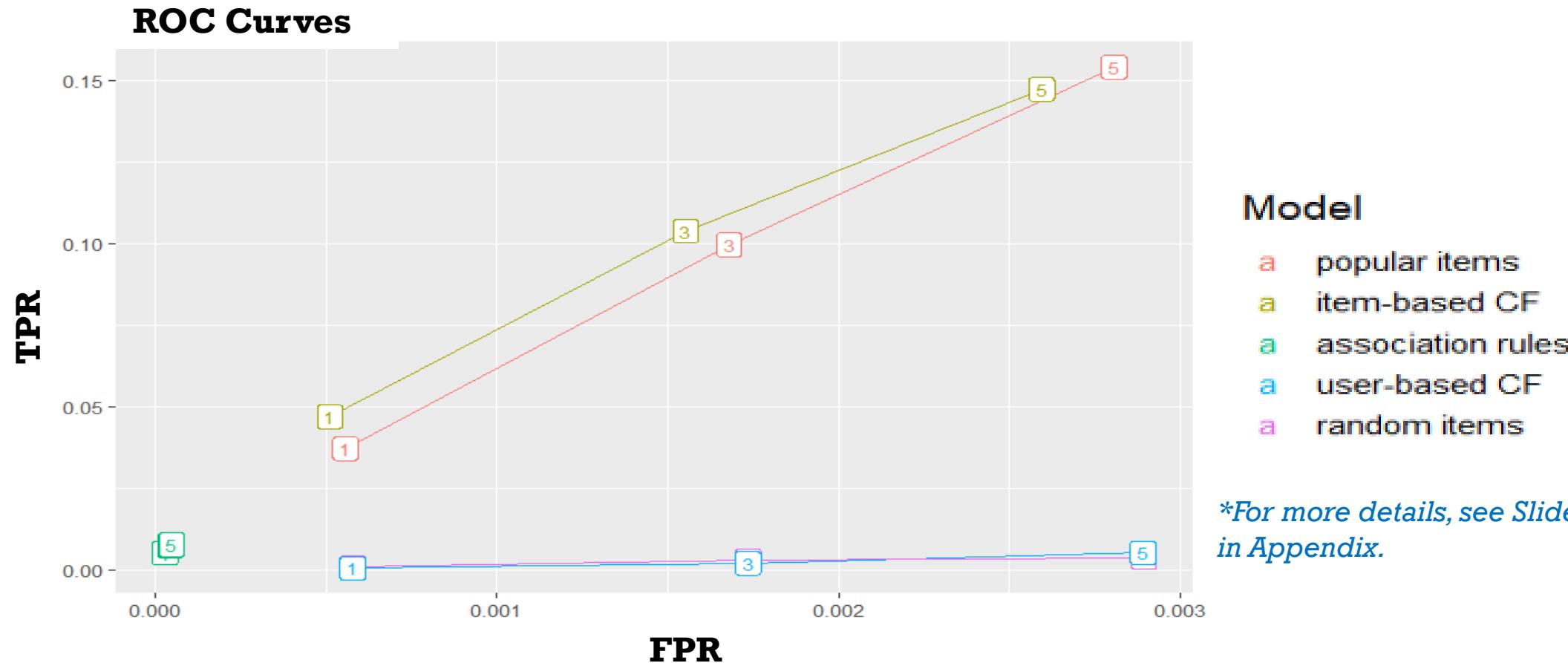
RECOMMENDER #2

“Did you forget”



- Recommenderlab to evaluate 5 recommenders using cross validation:
AR, IBCF, UBCF, Popular & Random
- Select recommender with best performance per ROC and TPR/FPR plots
- Demo 3 shopping scenarios to test recommender suggestions

ROC CURVES TO EVALUATE “DID YOU FORGET” RECOMMENDERS



SCENARIO ANALYSIS



"Smart Basket"



"Did You
Forget?" Engine

“SMART BASKET”

- Based on the highest Lift level, identified the obtain Top 5 association rules
- Recommendation notification popup

Frequently Bought Together

28% Off



In Season

Fresho
Fresho Orange - Kinnar

1 kg - Rs 36

MRP Rs 50 Rs 36

ADD

20% Off



Fresho
Fresho Sweet Corn

2 pcs - Rs 30

MRP Rs 37.50 Rs 30

ADD

20% Off



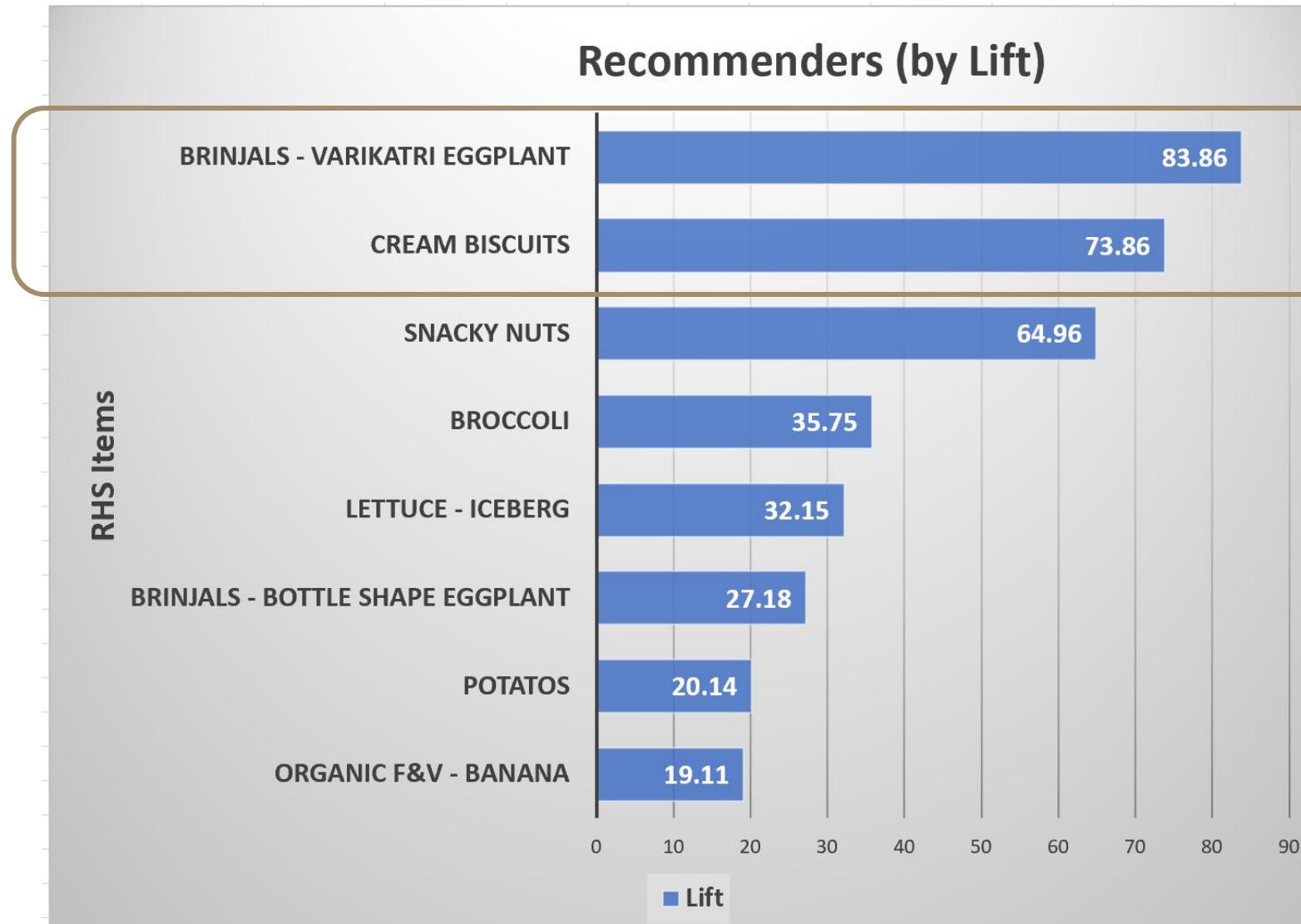
Fresho
Fresho Knol Khol

500 g - Rs 21

MRP Rs 26.25 Rs 21

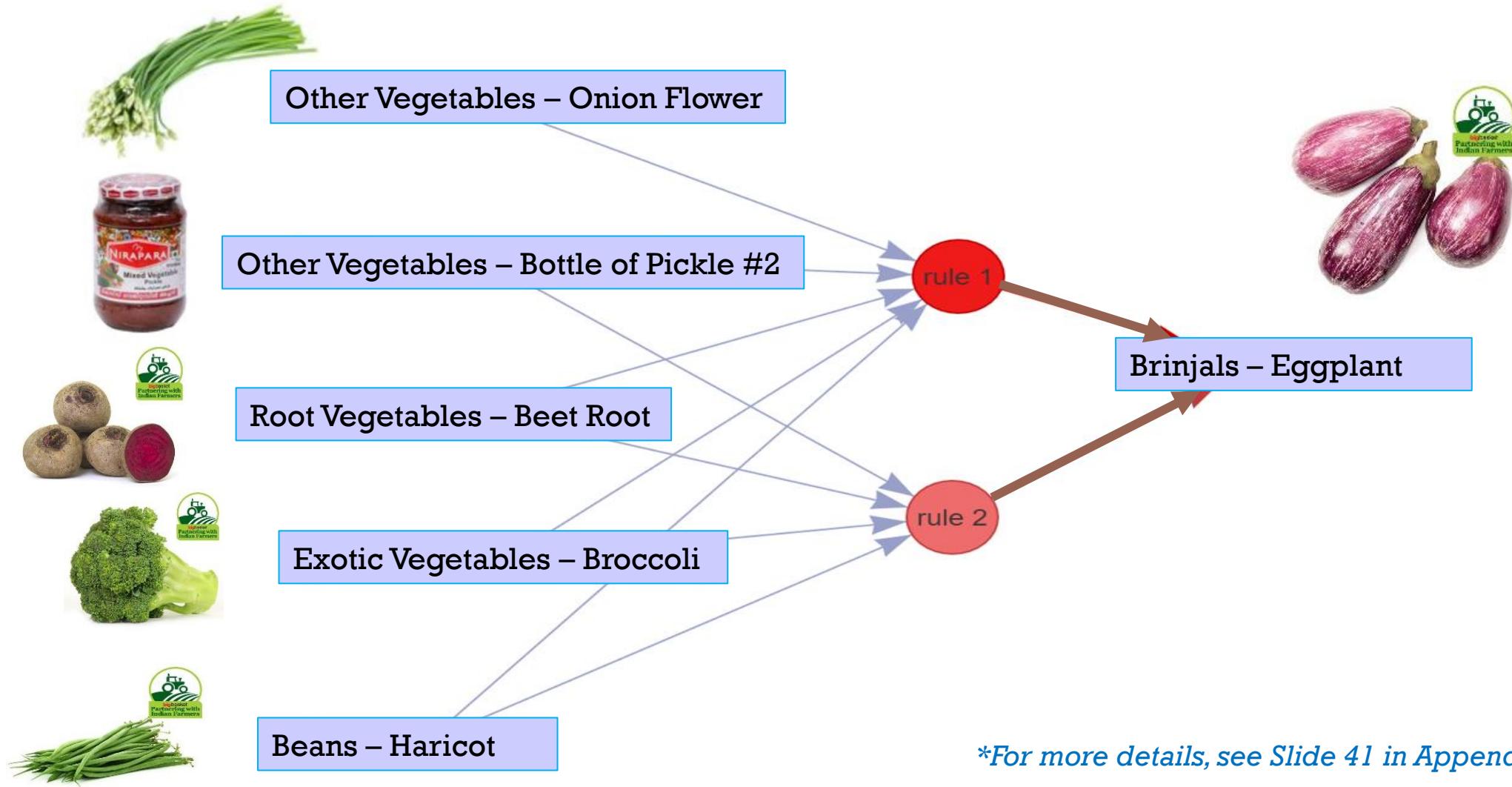
ADD

"SMART BASKET" - TOP RECOMMENDERS



*For more details, see Slide 40 in Appendix.

PEOPLE ARE ALSO BUYING...



CROSS-SELLING OPPORTUNITY



Cream Biscuits –
Orange Flavour



Cream Biscuits – Mint
Flavour



Gourd & Cucumber

Brinjals – Eggplant,
Bottle Shape

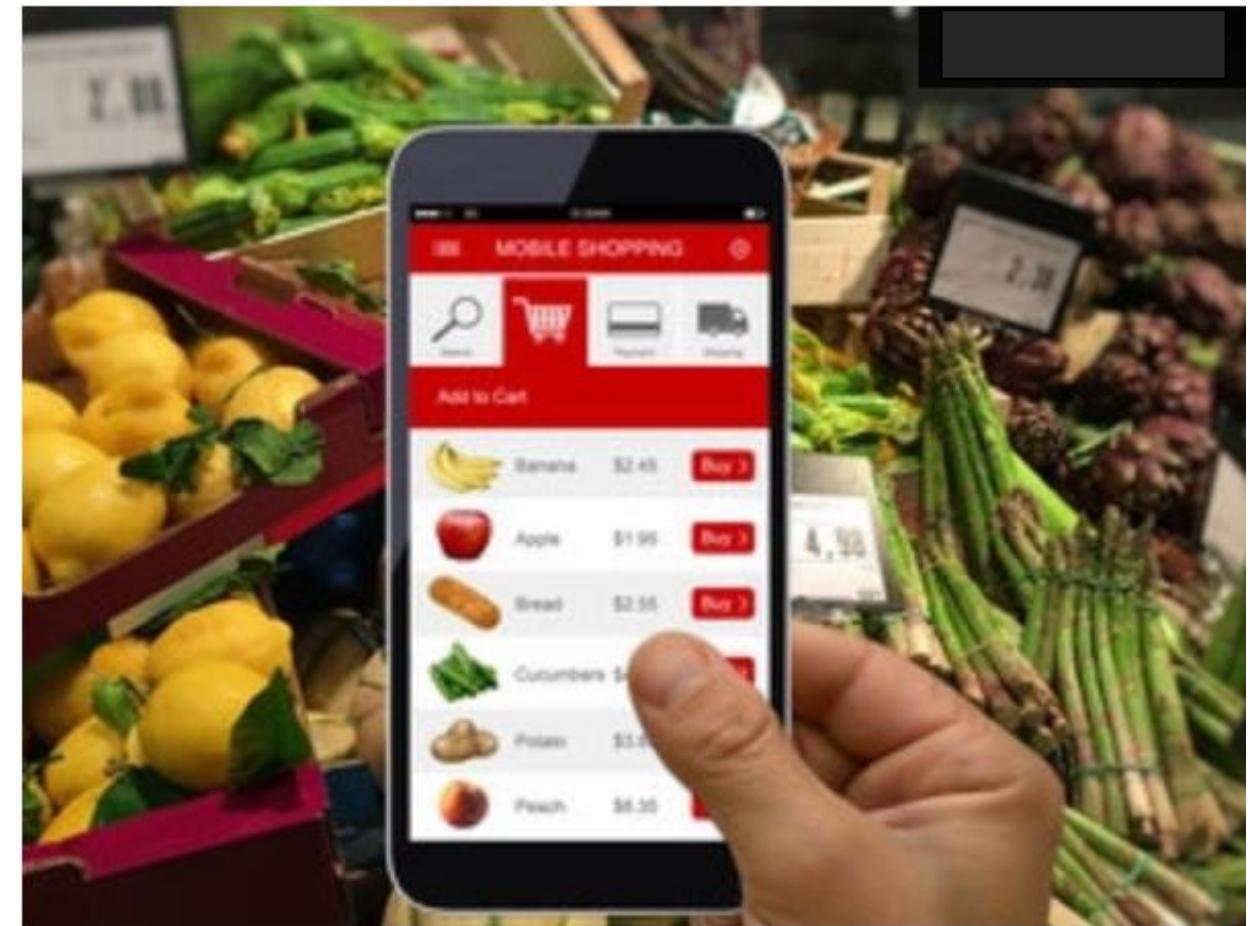
rule 3

rule 4

rule 5

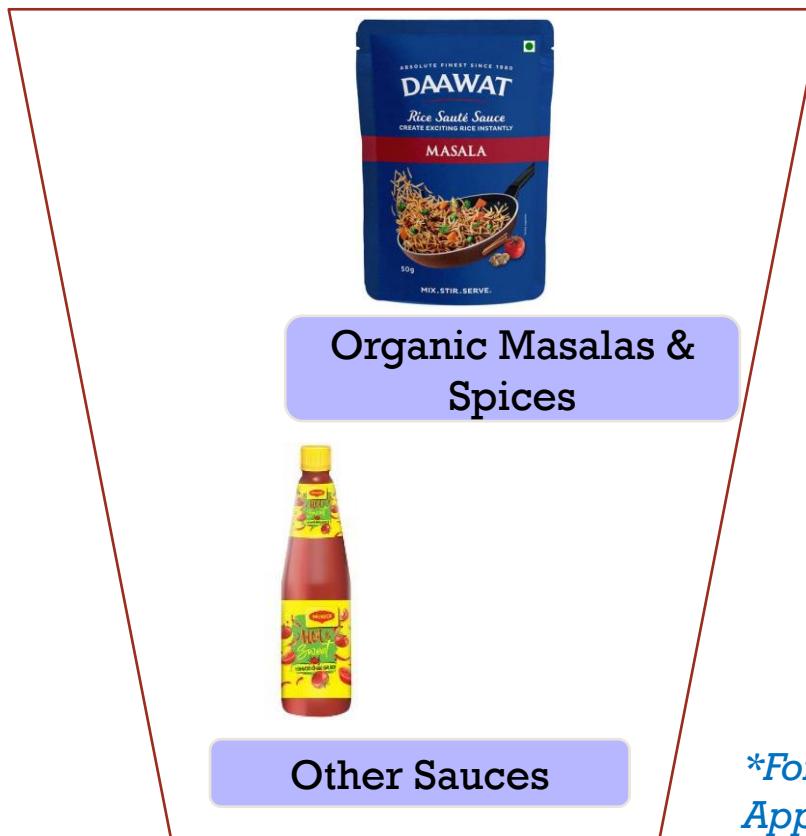
"DID YOU FORGET?" RECOMMENDER

- Suggests top 5 items that may have been forgotten, based on basket content at check out



“DID YOU FORGET?” DEMO AT CHECK-OUT

Scenario: Customer is shopping for ingredients for a Masala recipe



*For more details, see Slide 45 in Appendix.

Top 5 “Did you forget?” suggested items



NEW CUSTOMER ORDER FLOW

Start with
Your Top 20?

Yes! User adds
6+ items to
their basket

User manually
adds other
items to
basket

Smart Basket
recommends
items as they
shop

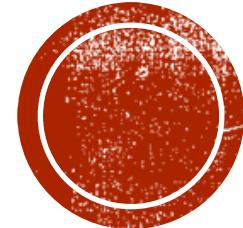
“Did You
Forget” raises 5
potential items
that the user
may have
forgotten

Add some of
these from “Did
You Forget” list



Thank You!

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APPENDIX

bb bigbasket
India's largest online supermarket



CONCLUSION – ESTIMATIONS BASED ON ASSUMPTIONS

1

Estimated Costs:

- Analysis & Model dev: 100 hours @ \$100/hr = \$10,000
- Deployment: 50 hours @ \$100/hr = \$5,000
- Total estimated cost = \$15,000

2

Average order growth rate:

- Increase average basket size from 6 to 10 items
- % Increase: $(10 \text{ items} - 6 \text{ items}) / 6 \text{ items} = 67\%$
- $30\% \text{ growth} \times (1 + 0.67) = 50\% \text{ growth every month}$

3

Delivery efficiency rate:

- Lower delivery costs by reducing from 4 to 2 deliveries per day
- % Decrease: $(4 \text{ deliveries} - 2 \text{ deliveries}) / 4 \text{ deliveries} = 50\%$

*Note:

Due to the lack of data factual to the case, our estimations required a number of assumptions to validate the efficiency rate (%) such as the number of items increased in average basket and the number of deliveries made per day.

ASSOCIATION RULE MINING

To discover relationships between items in a large transactional database

Divided into two subtasks:

- **Frequent itemset generation:** *determine all frequent itemsets of a potentially large database of transactions, satisfying a minimum support threshold*
- **Rule generation:** *from the frequent itemset generation above, generate association rules with confidence above a minimum confidence threshold*

Apriori Algorithm:

- Belong to the class of the association rule mining algorithms
- Using the bottom-up approach, generate candidate itemsets through the apriori principle

Apriori Principle:

- For a frequent itemset, all of its subsets must also be frequent.
e.g. If {A, B} is frequent, then both {A} and {B} are frequent.
- For an infrequent itemset, all its super-sets are infrequent.
e.g. If {A} is infrequent, then {A, B}, {A, C} and {A, B, C} are infrequent.

Apriori Rule Generation → Association Rules

- After computationally expensive frequent item generation, apriori generates rules
- Start with high-confidence rules with single precedent: $\{A, C\} \rightarrow \{B\}$
- Build more complex rules, with more items on the right-hand side: $\{A, C\} \rightarrow \{B, D\}$

METRICS IN ASSOCIATION RULE MINING

Elements of the Apriori Function

- Popularity of an itemset

Support (A) = Fraction of transactions that contain itemset A

Support (AUB) = Fraction of transactions with both A and B

Support

Confidence

Lift

- How often the rule is true
- Shows % in which B is bought with A

$\text{Confidence}(A \rightarrow B) = P(A \cap B) / P(A)$
 $= \text{frequency}(A, B) / \text{frequency}(A)$

- How strong is the association
- Lift > 1: B is likely to be bought with A
- Lift < 1: B is unlikely to be bought if A is bought

$\text{Lift}(A \rightarrow B) =$
 $\text{Support}(A \cup B) / (\text{Supp}(A) * \text{Supp}(B))$

TID	Transaction
1	{Bread, Butter, Cheese, Wine}
2	{Bread, Butter, Wine}
3	{Bread, Butter}
4	{Butter, Cheese, Wine}
5	{Butter, Cheese}
6	{Cheese, Wine}
7	{Butter, Wine}

Support Measure:

- $\text{supp}(\{\text{Bread}\}) = 3/7 = 42\%$
- $\text{supp}(\{\text{Bread}\} \cup \{\text{Butter}\}) = 3/7 = 42\%$

Confidence Measure:

A = {Bread} B = {Butter}

$$\text{conf } (A \rightarrow B) = (3/7) / (3/7) = 100\%$$

Lift Measure:

A = {Bread} B = {Butter}

$$\text{lift } (A \rightarrow B) = \frac{3/7}{(3/7)*(6/7)} = \frac{7}{6} \sim 1.16$$

ROC PERFORMANCE METRICS WITH TPR/FPR PLOTS

- AUC - ROC curve: performance measurement for the classification problems at various threshold settings
 - ROC: probability curve
 - AUC: the degree or measure of separability that tells how much the model is capable of distinguishing between classes. Higher the AUC, the better the model

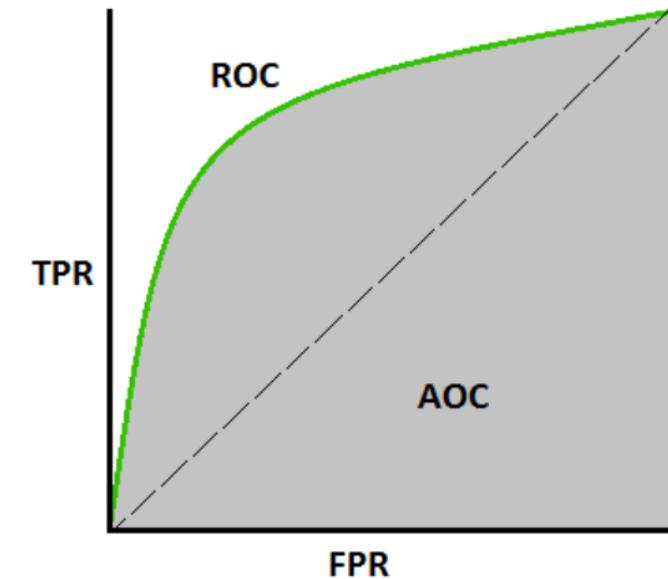
- TPR = True Positive Rate

$$\text{TPR / Recall / Sensitivity} = \frac{\text{TP}}{\text{TP} + \text{FN}}$$

- FPR = False Positive Rate

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Specificity} &= \frac{\text{TN}}{\text{TN} + \text{FP}} & \text{FPR} &= 1 - \text{Specificity} \\ &= \frac{\text{FP}}{\text{TN} + \text{FP}}\end{aligned}$$

- Sensitivity and Specificity are inversely proportional to each other – when Sensitivity increases, Specificity decreases, and vice versa.
- Similarly, when the threshold increases, more negative values, thus higher specificity and lower sensitivity.
- As $\text{FPR} = 1 - \text{specificity}$, when TPR increases, FPR also increases and vice versa.



The ROC curve is plotted with TPR against FPR, where TPR is on the y-axis and FPR is on the x-axis.

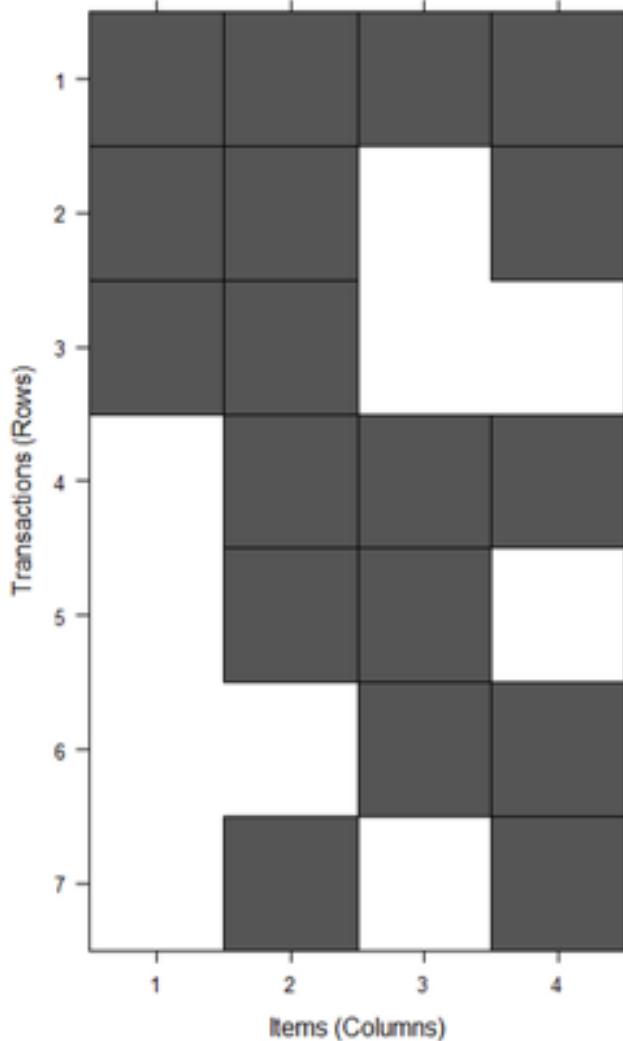
“DID YOU FORGET” – 5 RECOMMENDER ALGORITHMS

- **Item-based collaborative filtering:** a type of recommendation system that is based on the similarity between items calculated using the rating users have given to items. It helps solve issues that user-based collaborative filters suffer from such as when the system has many items with fewer items rated.
- **Popularity based filtering (Popular items):** as the name suggests, this system works with the trend. It basically uses the items which are in trend right now. For example, if any product which is usually bought by every new user then there are chances that it may suggest that item to the user who just signed up.
- **User-based collaborative filtering:** a technique used to predict the items that a user might like on the basis of ratings given to that item by the other users who have similar taste with that of the target user. Many websites use collaborative filtering for building their recommendation system.
- **Randomizable filter classifier:** This method employed an arbitrary classifier on data that has been passed through an arbitrary filter. Similar to the classifier, the structure of the filter worked exclusively on the training data and test instances will be processed by the filter without altering their structure. In using randomizable filter (RF) as an ensemble base classifier, each base classifier is built using a different random number seed (but based on the same data). The final prediction is the average of the predictions generated by the individual base classifiers.

Model

- a item-based CF
- a popular items
- a association rules
- a user-based CF
- a random items

ITEM-MATRIX & DENSITY PLOT

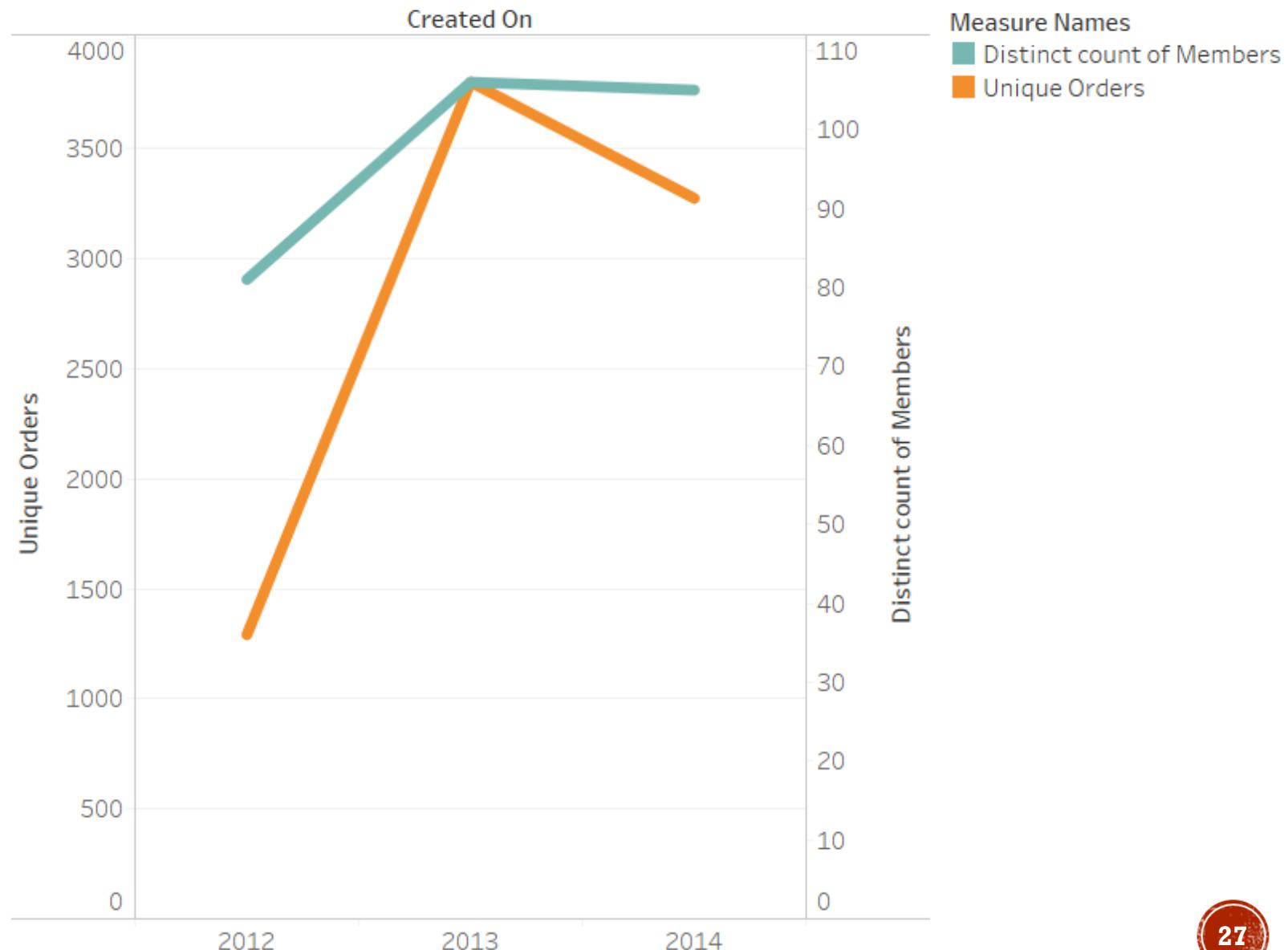


- **Density:** measures % of non-zero cells in a sparse matrix. It is the total number of items that are purchased divided by the possible number of items in that matrix
- **Density Map:** plot of ItemMatrix
- Useful to identify:
 - ➔ Patterns in the transactions
 - ➔ Sparsity in the data

Columns = 4; Rows = 7
Total 28 items in ItemMatrix
Total 18 non-zero cells
Thus, Density = $18 / 28 = 0.64$

MEMBER AND ORDER GROWTH HAS STALLED

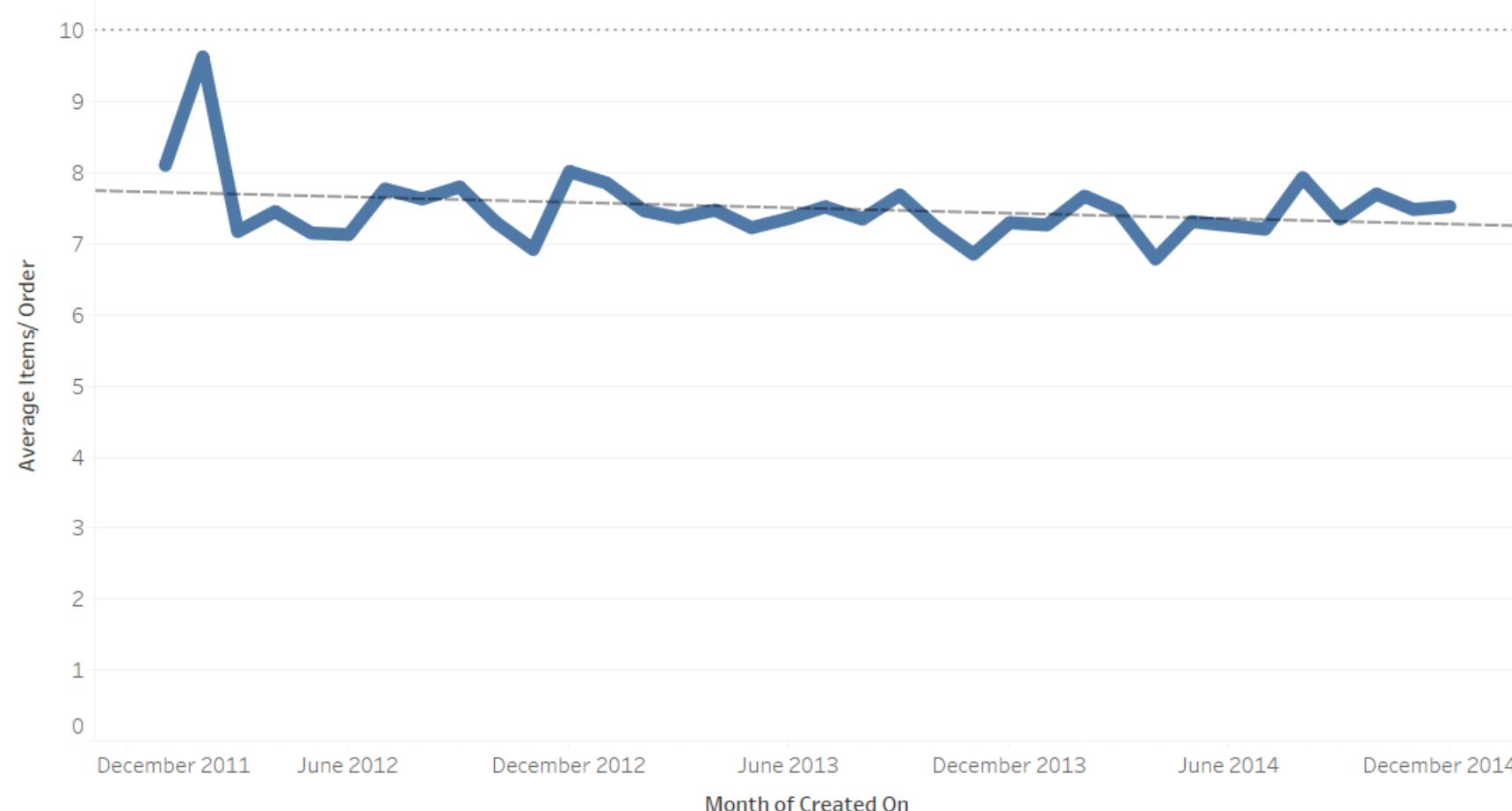
Unique Orders and Members per Year



AVERAGE BASKET SIZE IS FALLING

Average order basket by Month

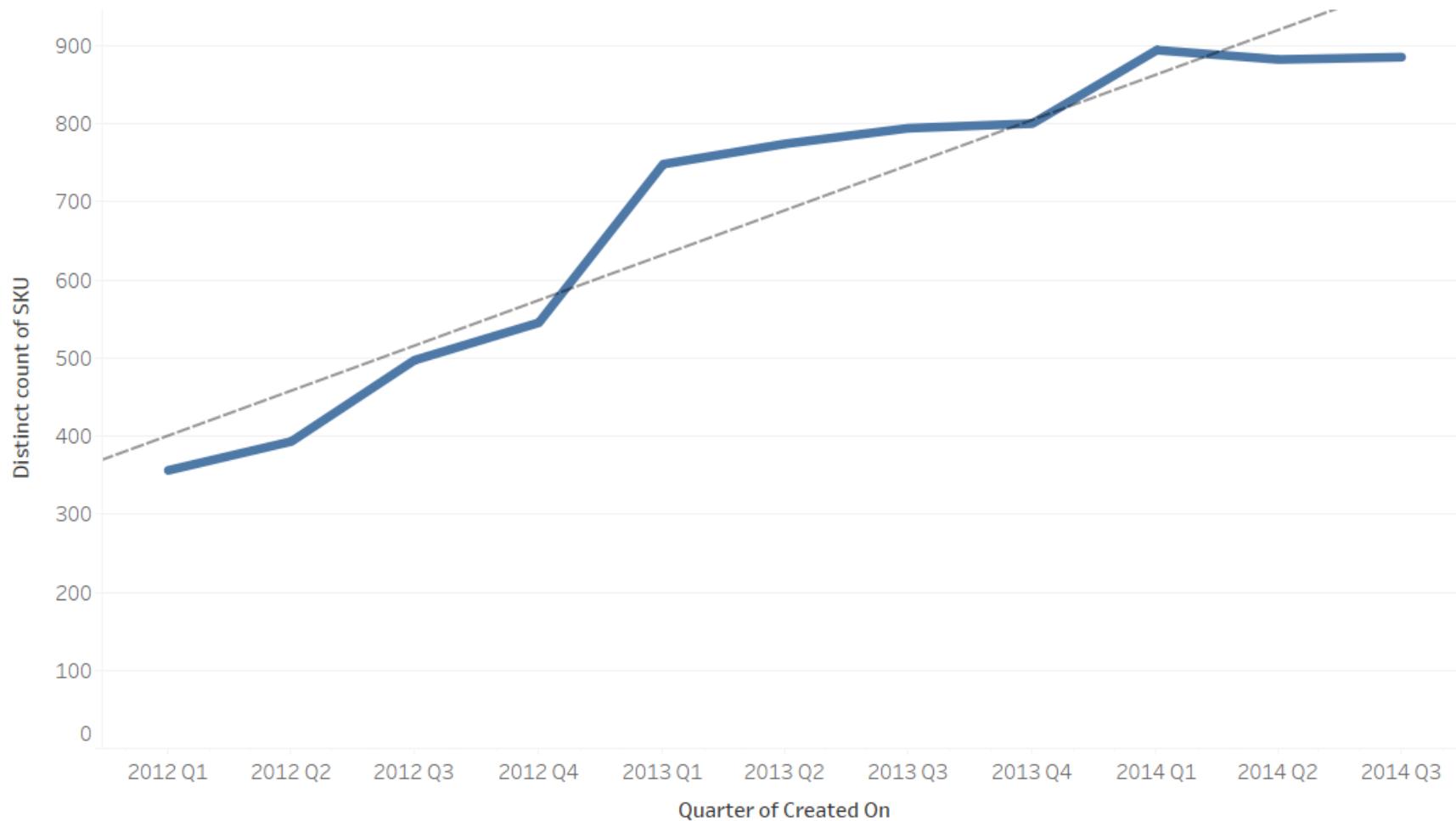
From January 2012



PRODUCT SKUS ARE GROWING

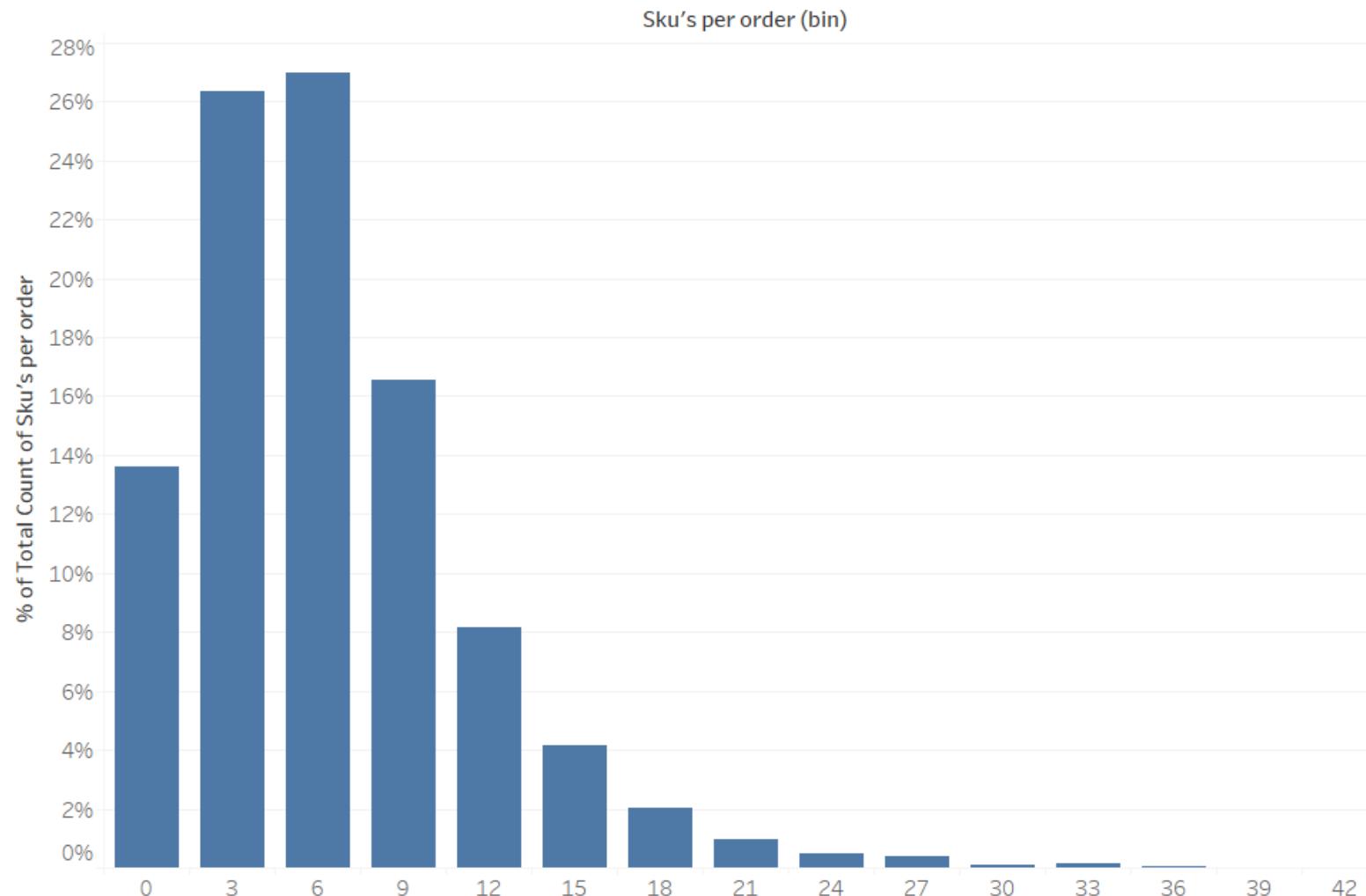
Unique Skus ordered by Quarter

From January 2012 to September 2014



SMALL BASKETS ARE THE NORM

Count of orders by order size

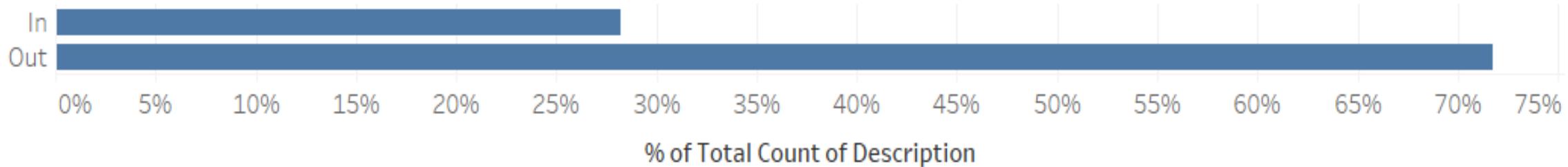


START WITH YOUR TOP 20?

Top 20 **SKU** present in order

In shows items covered in average users order | Out shows items order that are not in top 20

In / Out o..



START WITH YOUR TOP 20? IMPACT



Shows users products that they often buy



Drive ease in purchasing their common items quickly



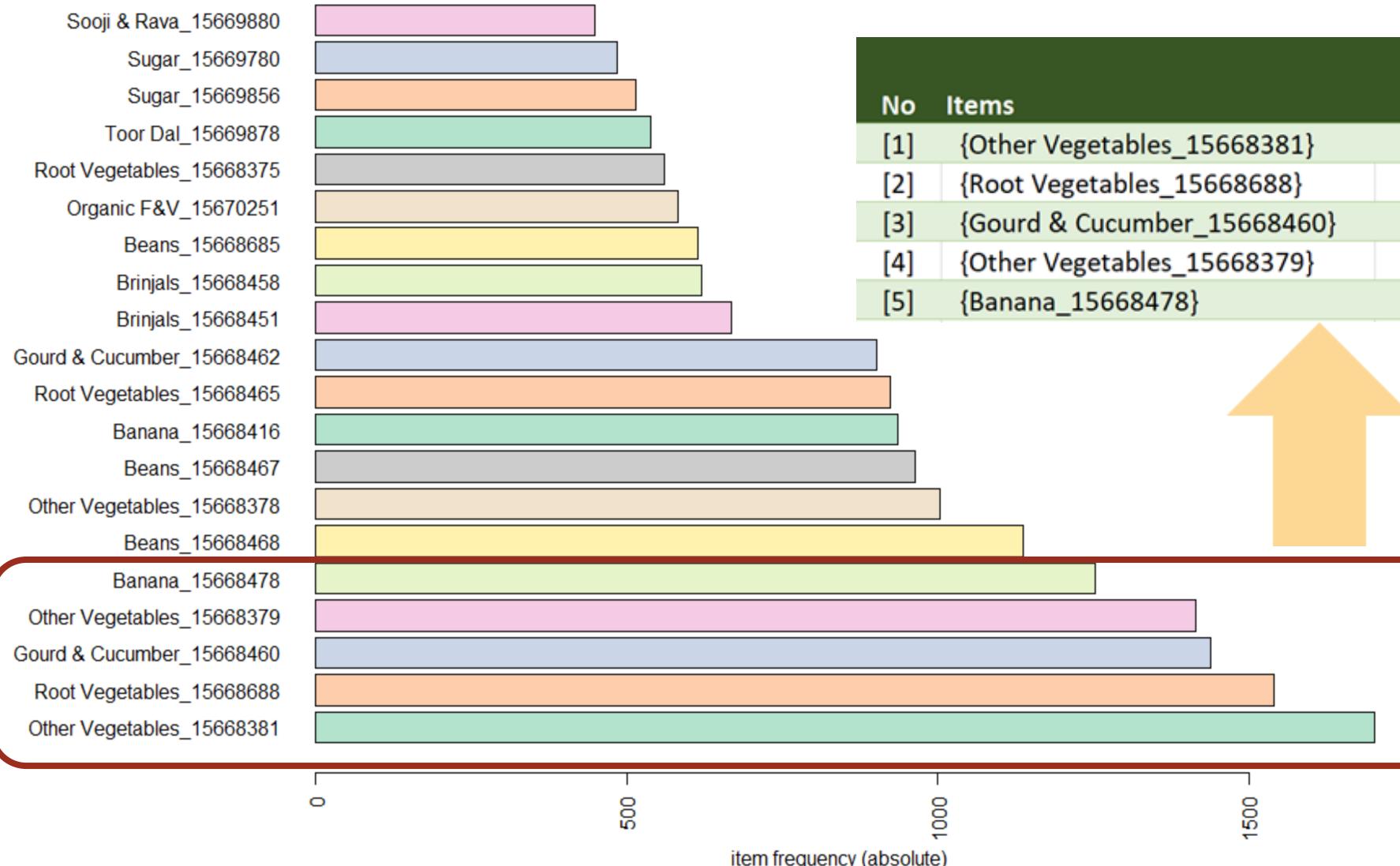
Increase minimum basket size to 6



Provides a basket to build recommendations from

POPULAR PRODUCTS

Absolute Item Frequency Plot



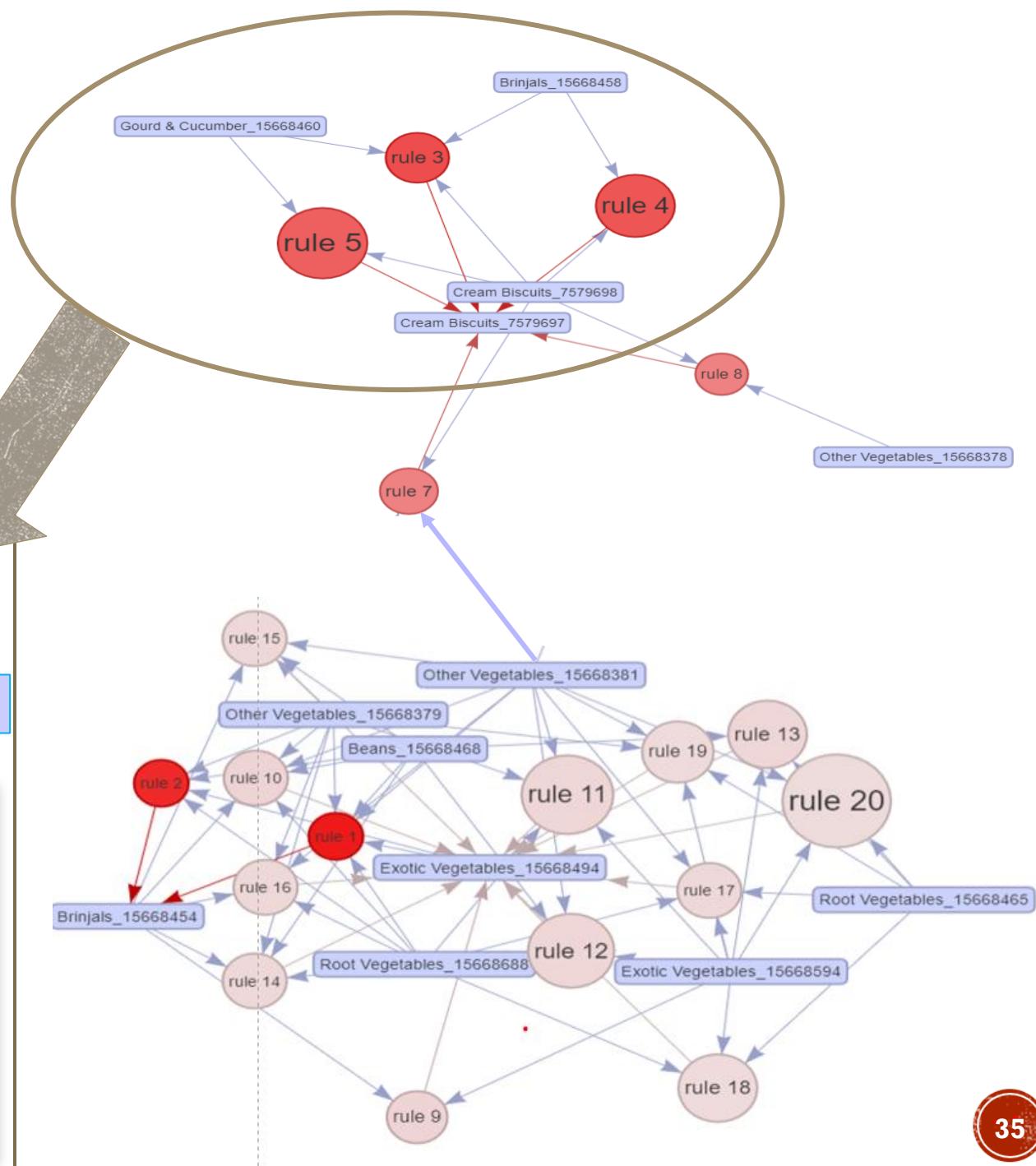
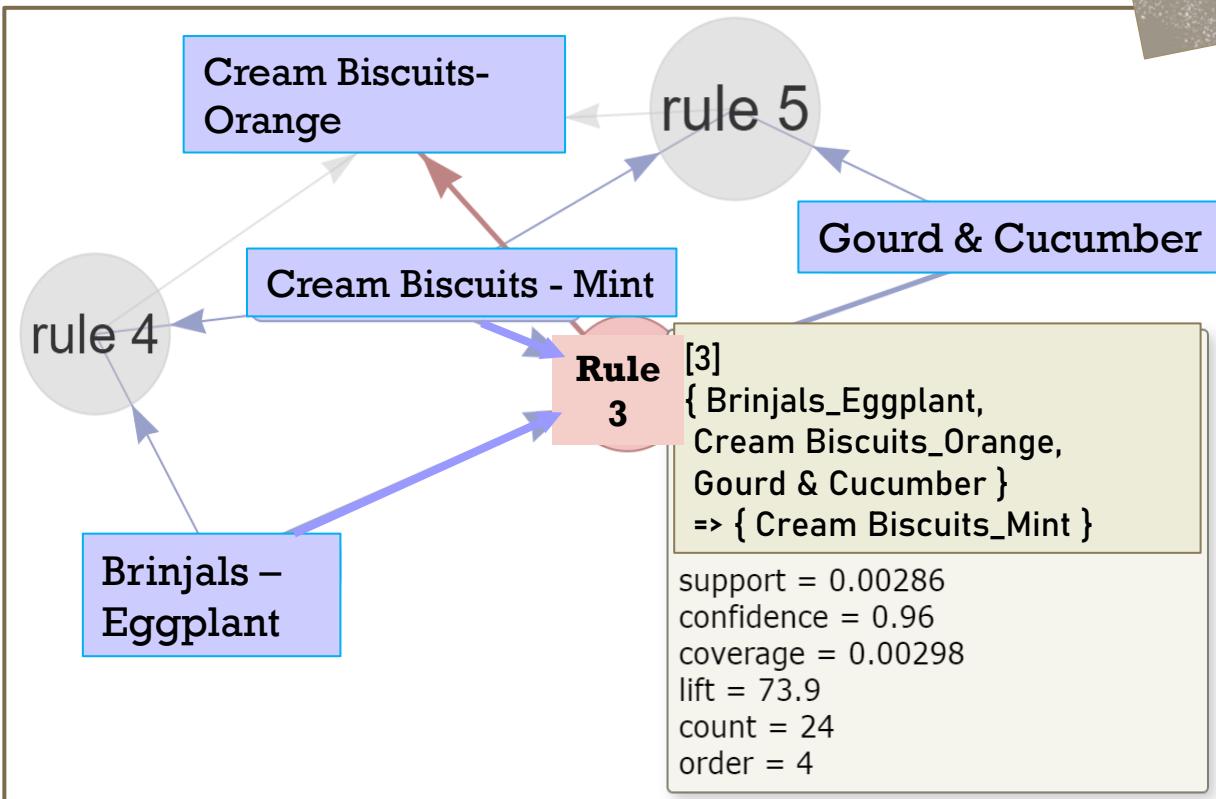
No	Items	Trans	Identical	Support	To Itemsets	Count
[1]	{Other Vegetables_15668381}			0.20	0.02	1,702
[2]	{Root Vegetables_15668688}			0.18	0.03	1,540
[3]	{Gourd & Cucumber_15668460}			0.17	0.02	1,439
[4]	{Other Vegetables_15668379}			0.17	0.03	1,415
[5]	{Banana_15668478}			0.15	0.04	1,252

"SMART BASKET" – ASSOCIATION RULES IN TABLE

Rules	LHS	RHS	Support	Confidence	Lift	Count	Coverage
[1]	Beans_15668468						
[1]	Exotic Vegetables_15668494						
[1]	Other Vegetables_15668379						
[1]	Other Vegetables_15668381						
[1]	Root Vegetables_15668688	Brinjals_15668454	0.25%	0.84	83.86	21	0.30%
[2]	Beans_15668468						
[2]	Exotic Vegetables_15668494						
[2]	Other Vegetables_15668379						
[2]	Root Vegetables_15668688	Brinjals_15668454	0.25%	0.81	80.63	21	0.31%
[3]	Brinjals_15668458						
[3]	Cream Biscuits_7579698						
[3]	Gourd & Cucumber_15668460	Cream Biscuits_7579697	0.29%	0.96	73.86	24	0.30%
[4]	Brinjals_15668458						
[4]	Cream Biscuits_7579698	Cream Biscuits_7579697	0.32%	0.93	71.63	27	0.35%
[5]	Cream Biscuits_7579698						
[5]	Gourd & Cucumber_15668460	Cream Biscuits_7579697	0.35%	0.91	69.72	29	0.38%
[6]	Snacky Nuts_7586553	Snacky Nuts_7586526	0.35%	0.91	64.96	29	0.38%
[7]	Cream Biscuits_7579698						
[7]	Other Vegetables_15668381	Cream Biscuits_7579697	0.27%	0.82	63.20	23	0.33%
[8]	Cream Biscuits_7579698						
[8]	Other Vegetables_15668378	Cream Biscuits_7579697	0.26%	0.81	62.69	22	0.32%
[9]	Brinjals_15668454						
[9]	Exotic Vegetables_15668594	Exotic Vegetables_15668494	0.26%	0.92	35.75	22	0.29%
[10]	Beans_15668468						
[10]	Brinjals_15668454						
[10]	Other Vegetables_15668379						
[10]	Other Vegetables_15668381						
[10]	Root Vegetables_15668688	Exotic Vegetables_15668494	0.25%	0.91	35.61	21	0.27%

Inspecting 10
rules out of 194
rules with the
highest Lift

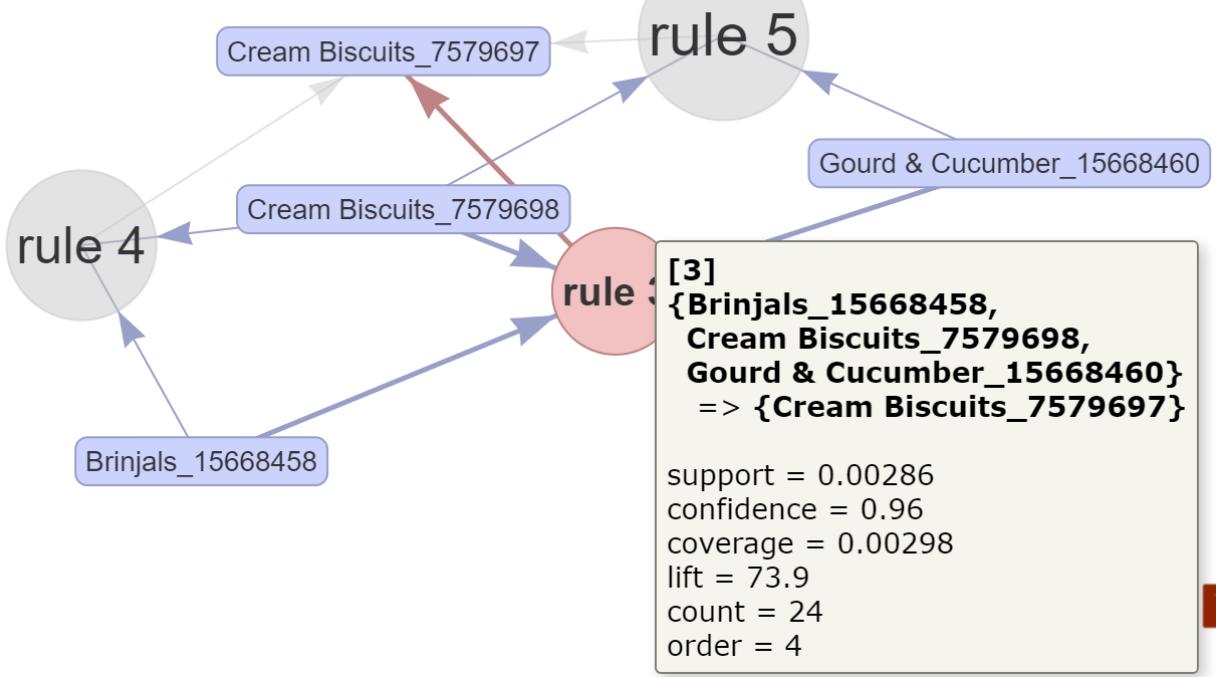
"SMART BASKET" – ASSOCIATION RULES



Grouped Matrix for 194 Rules

Items in LHS Group

c \Vegetables_15668494, +1 items}
 465, Beans_15668468, +3 items}
 7, Other Vegetables_15668379, +4 items}
 Vegetables_15668379, +3 items}
 3448, Oats_7607551, +10 items}
 7, Root Vegetables_15668688, +4 items}
 7, Root Vegetables_15668688, +5 items}
 88, Brinjals_15668454, +4 items}
 494, Other Vegetables_15668381, +3 items}



Size: lift
Color: confidence

8 rules: {Beans_15668468, Other Vegetables_15668381, +3 items}
8 rules: {Beans_15668468, Snacky Nuts_7586526, +3 items}
8 rules: {Organic F&V_15670262, Gourd & Cucumber_15668463, +15 items}

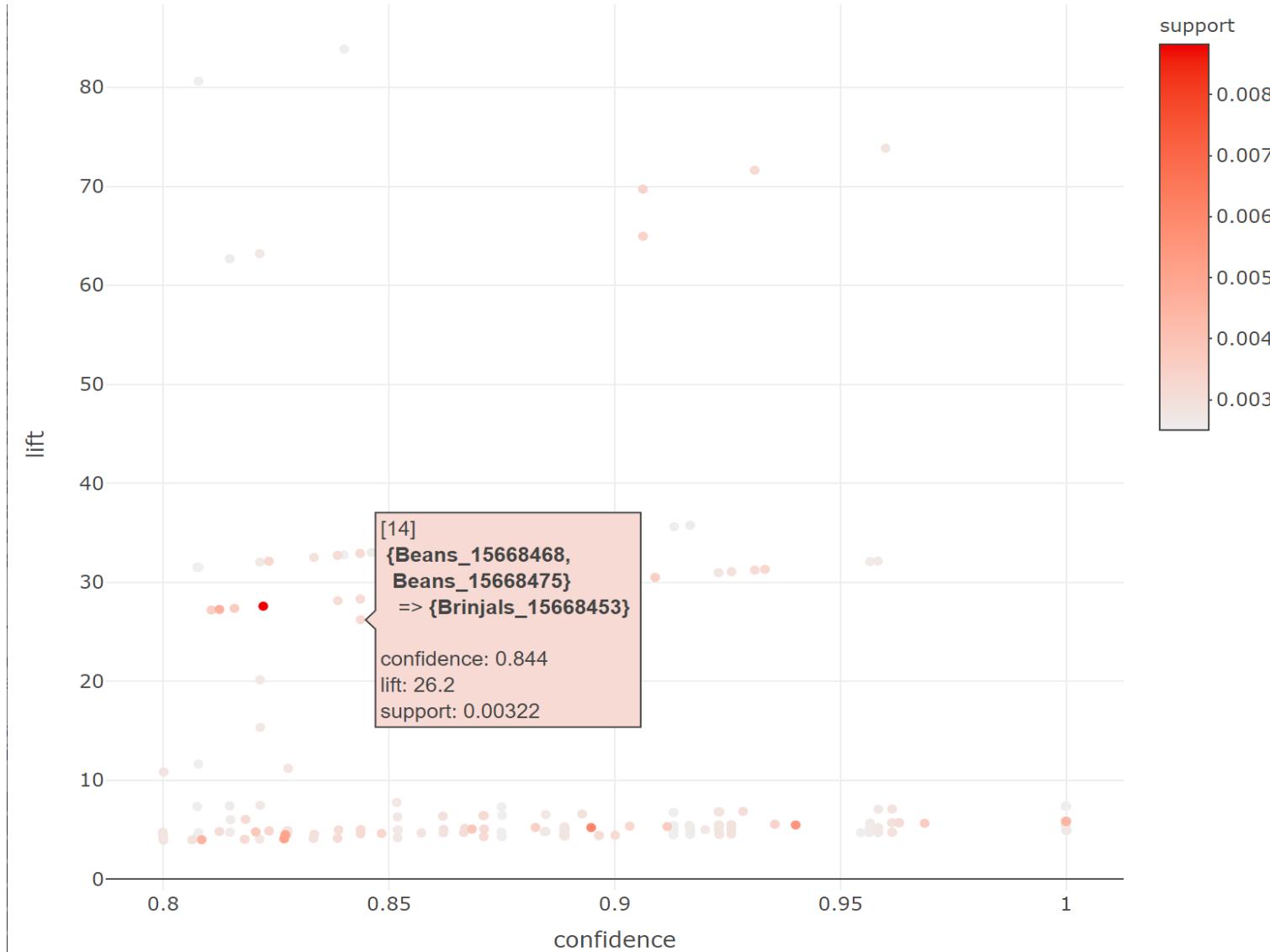
RHS

{Beans_15668468}
{Snacky Nuts_7586526}
{Other Vegetables_15668379}
{Exotic Vegetables_15668594}
{Other Vegetables_15668381}
{Root Vegetables_15668688}
{Cream Biscuits_7579697}
{Gourd & Cucumber_15668460}
{Organic F&V_15670157}
{Other Vegetables_15668378}

+ 8 suppressed

ASSOCIATION RULES

"SMART BASKET" – SCATTERED PLOT



Scattered Plot for the extracted 194 rules with varying degree of Confidence, Lift and Support Levels.

"SMART BASKET" – MATRIX PLOT

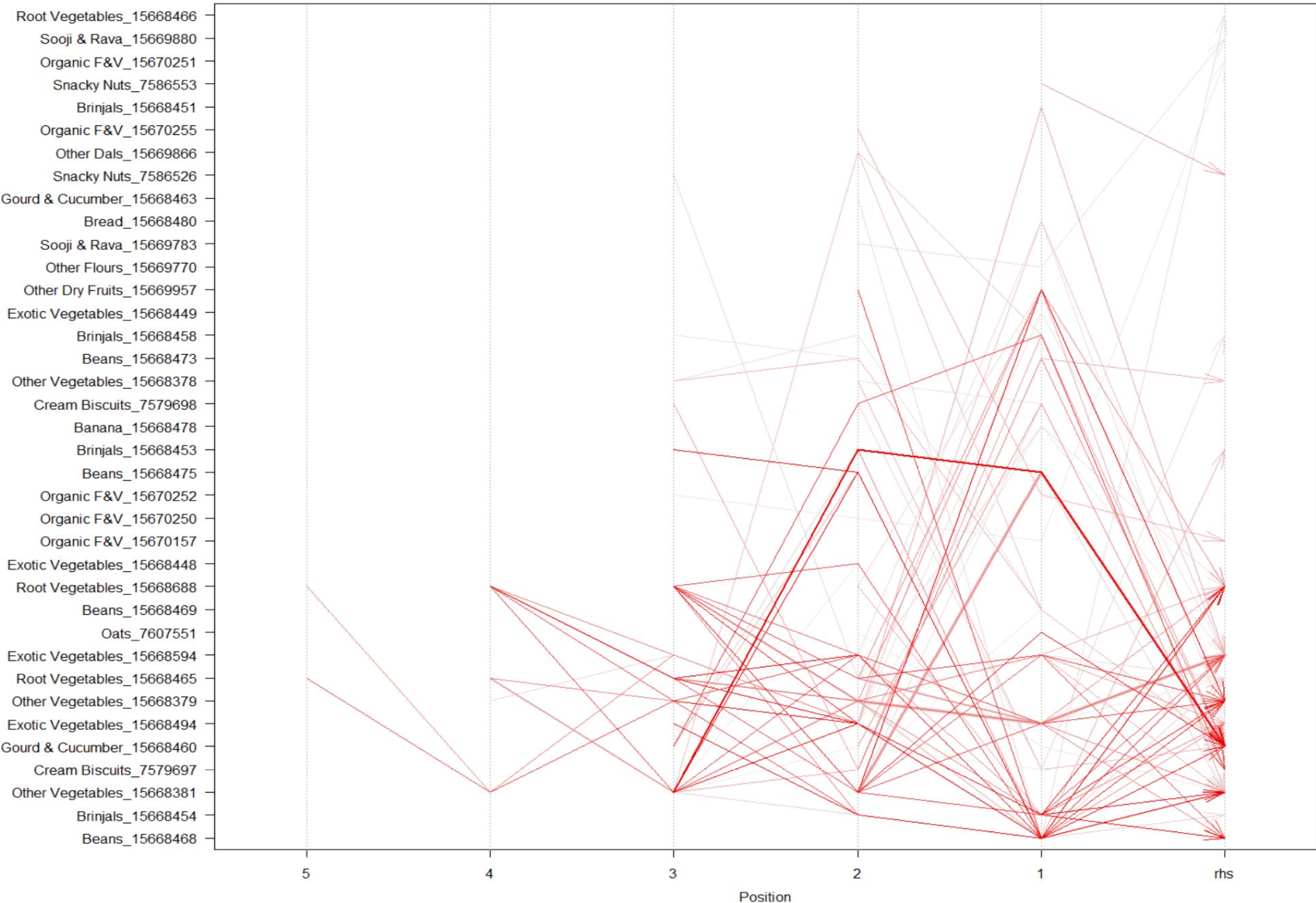


This plot shows the extracted 194 rules with RHS & LHS based on the varying degree of the support level

"SMART BASKET"

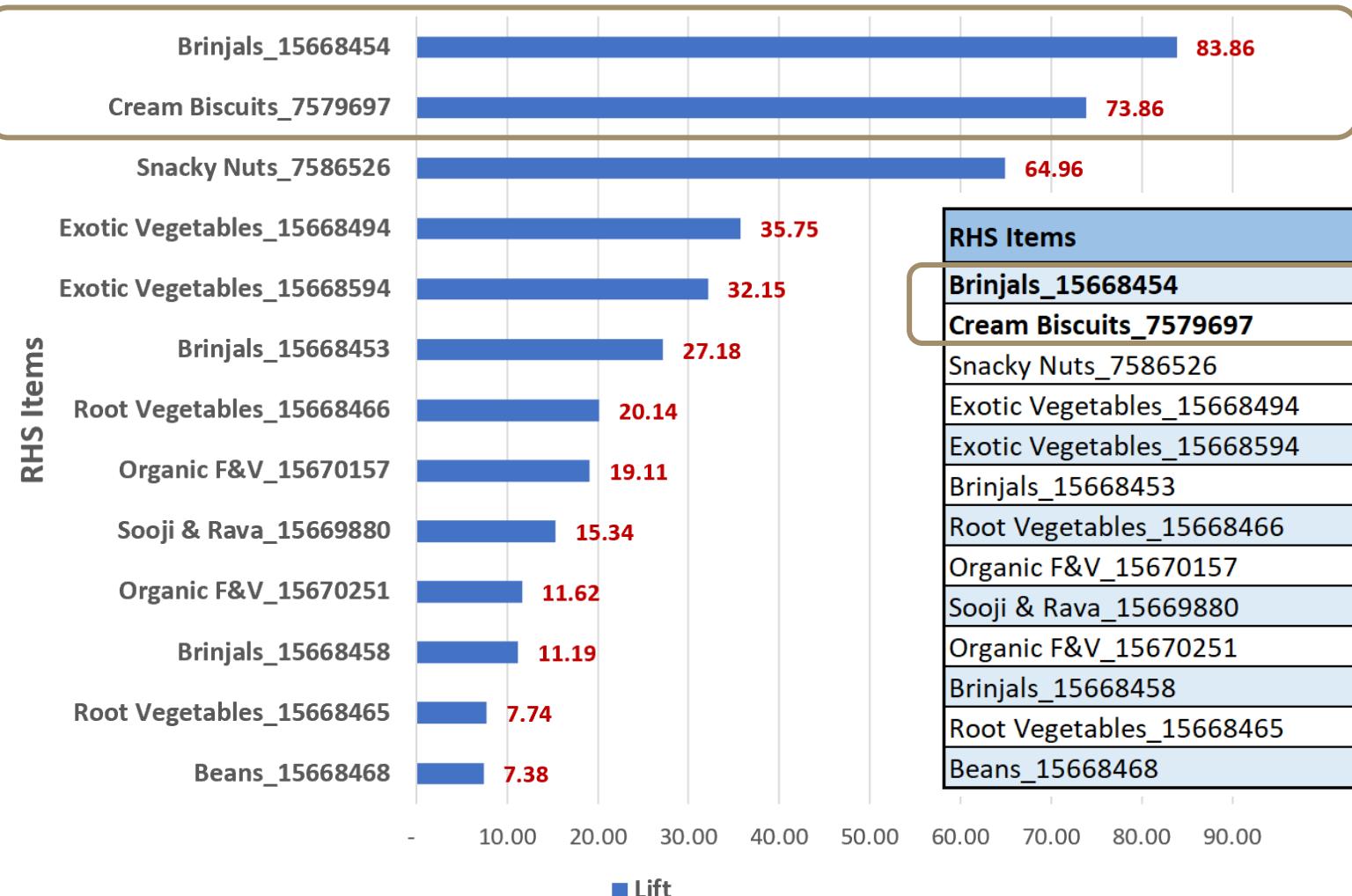
Parallel coordinates
plot for the 194
rules

Parallel coordinates plot for 194 rules



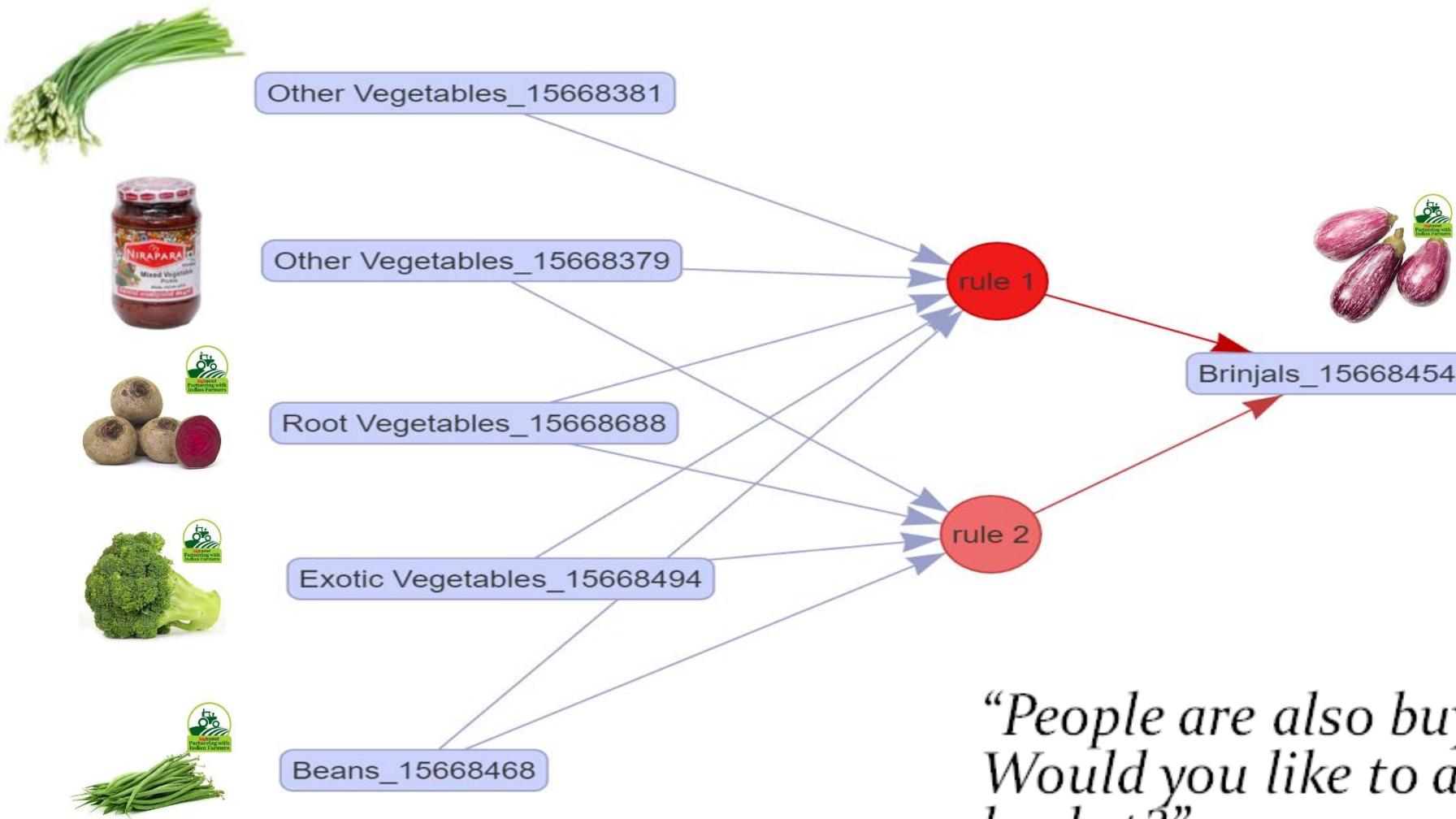
"SMART BASKET" - TOP RECOMMENDERS

Recommenders (by Lift)



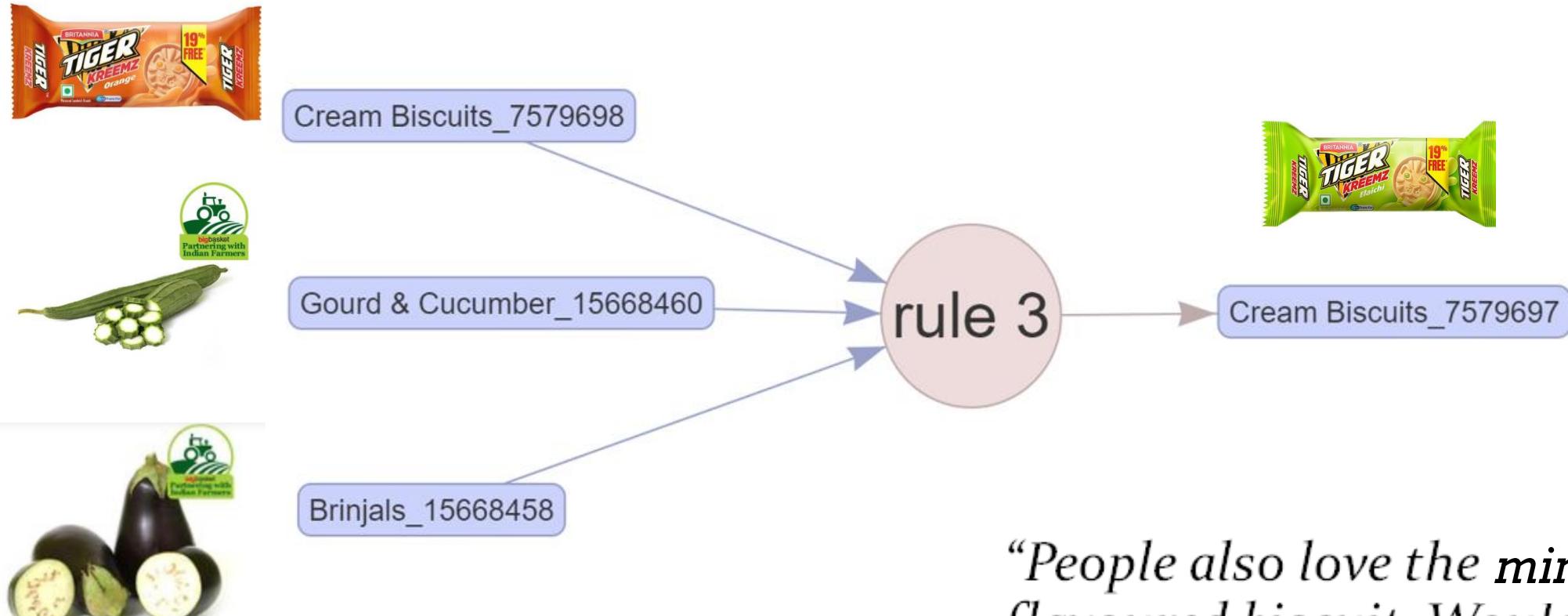
RHS Items	Description of Items	Lift	Count
Brinjals_15668454	Brinjals - Varikatri Eggplant	83.86	2
Cream Biscuits_7579697	Cream Biscuits	73.86	5
Snacky Nuts_7586526	Snacky Nuts	64.96	1
Exotic Vegetables_15668494	Broccoli	35.75	20
Exotic Vegetables_15668594	Lettuce - Iceberg	32.15	21
Brinjals_15668453	Brinjals - Bottle Shape Eggplant	27.18	3
Root Vegetables_15668466	Potatos	20.14	1
Organic F&V_15670157	Organic F&V - Banana	19.11	1
Sooji & Rava_15669880	Sooji & Rava	15.34	1
Organic F&V_15670251	Organic F&V - Tomatos	11.62	1
Brinjals_15668458	Brinjals - Long Green Eggplant	11.19	2
Root Vegetables_15668465	Root Vegetables - Beat Root	7.74	4
Beans_15668468	Beans - Haricot	7.38	20

PEOPLE ARE ALSO BUYING...



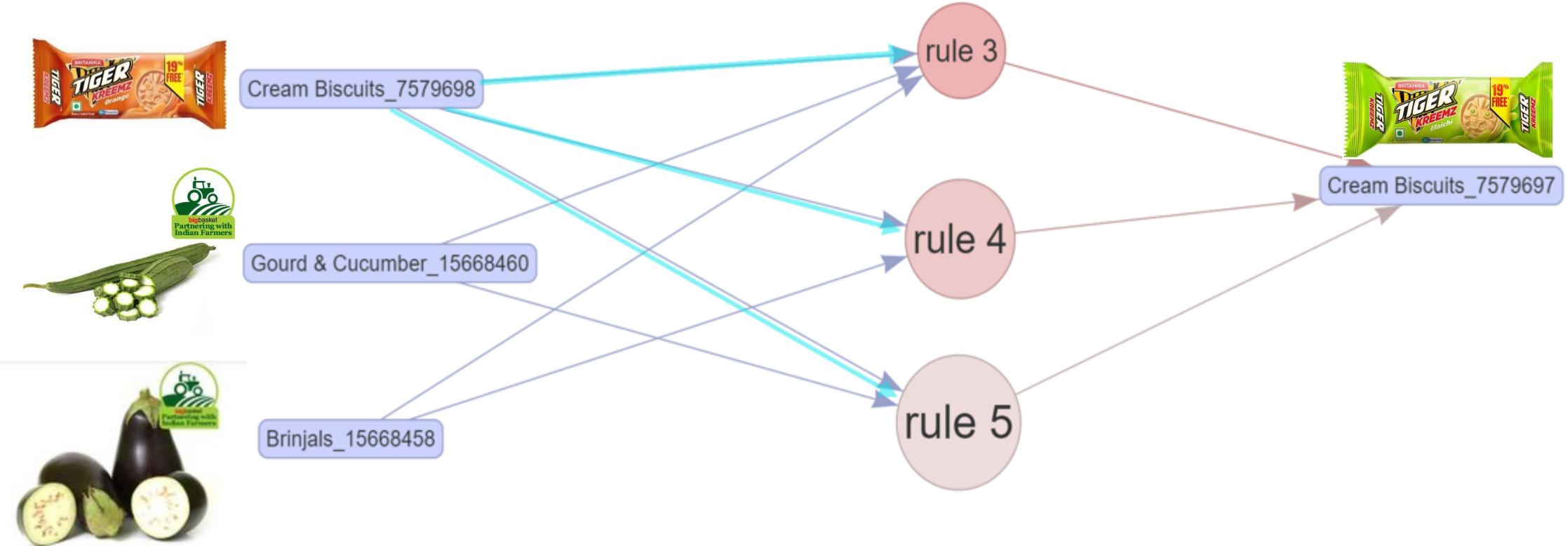
*“People are also buying Brinjals.
Would you like to add it to your
basket?”*

CROSS-SELLING OPPORTUNITY



“People also love the mint flavoured biscuit. Would you like to add this to your basket?”

CROSS-SELLING OPPORTUNITY



To further prove our cross-selling opportunity, Rule 4 & 5 are baskets with different combination of vegetables from Rule#3 , but they all have the same SKU of biscuit on the left leading to the same SKU of biscuit on the right. Our Rule #3 takes care of all combination of the previously mentioned items.

"SMART BASKET" IMPACT



Create cross-selling & upselling opportunities by showing related items



Increase the average basket size of orders



Improve the user experience



Make easier to find items



Shorten the shopping time

“DID YOU FORGET?” DEMO AT CHECK-OUT

Scenario: Customer is shopping for ingredients for a Masala recipe

Top 5 “Did you forget?” suggested items



“DID YOU FORGET?” DEMO AT CHECK-OUT

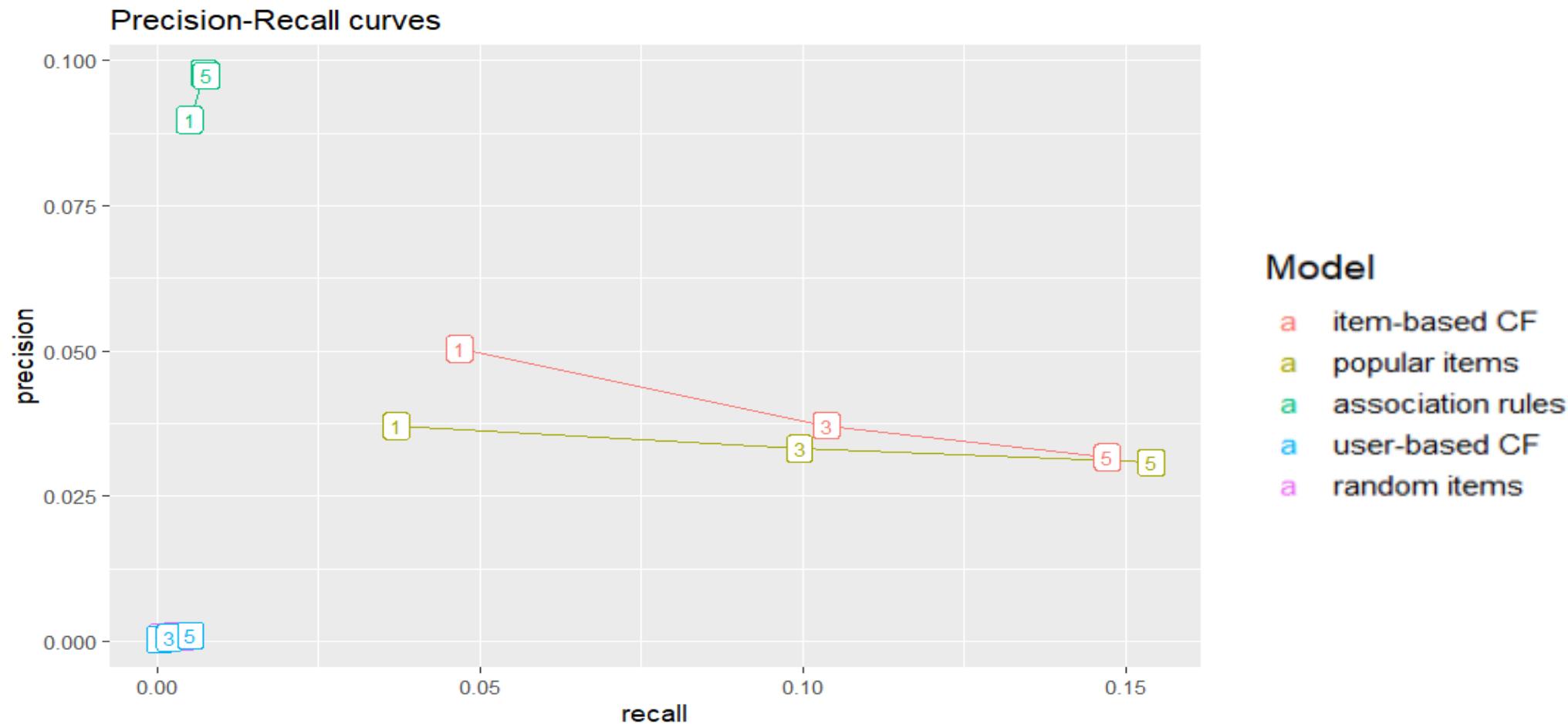
Scenario: Customer's is shopping for personal care items



Top 5 “Did you forget?”
suggested items



PRECISION-RECALL CURVES FOR “DID YOU FORGET” RECOMMENDERS



“DID YOU FORGET” IMPACT



Potential increase in sales of recommended items of 9% ¹



Reduce delivery costs by reducing number of weekly deliveries per customer due to forgotten items



Track sales of recommended items to determine actual sales lift and impact on number of weekly deliveries per customer

1. <https://news.ufl.edu/articles/2018/09/how-helpful-are-product-recommendations-really.html>