







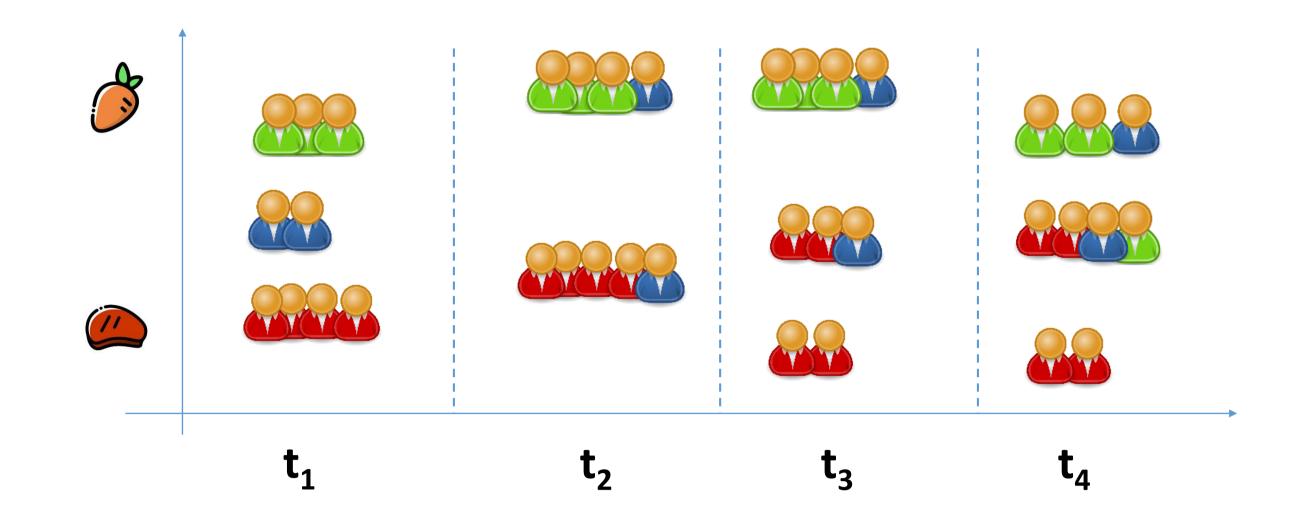
# Tracking the Evolution of Customer Purchase Behaviour Segmentation via a Fragmentation-Coagulation Process

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## **MOTIVATION**

- > Understand, attract and retain customers.
- > Track dynamic customer purchase behaviour.
- When and how does customer change their behaviour?
- How many types of customers exist?
- Whether a customer group is receptive to the promotion?



#### **METHODOLOGY**

> FC-CSM: Bayesian non-parametric customer segmentation model based on the fragmentation-coagulation process.

$$\pi_1 \sim CRP(A; \rho; 0)$$
 $\pi_{t+1} | \pi_t \sim FCP(\pi_t; \rho; \delta)$ 
 $x_{it} | \pi_t(i) = k \sim Poisson(\lambda_{\pi_t(i)})$ 
 $\lambda_k \sim Gamma(\alpha; \beta)$ 

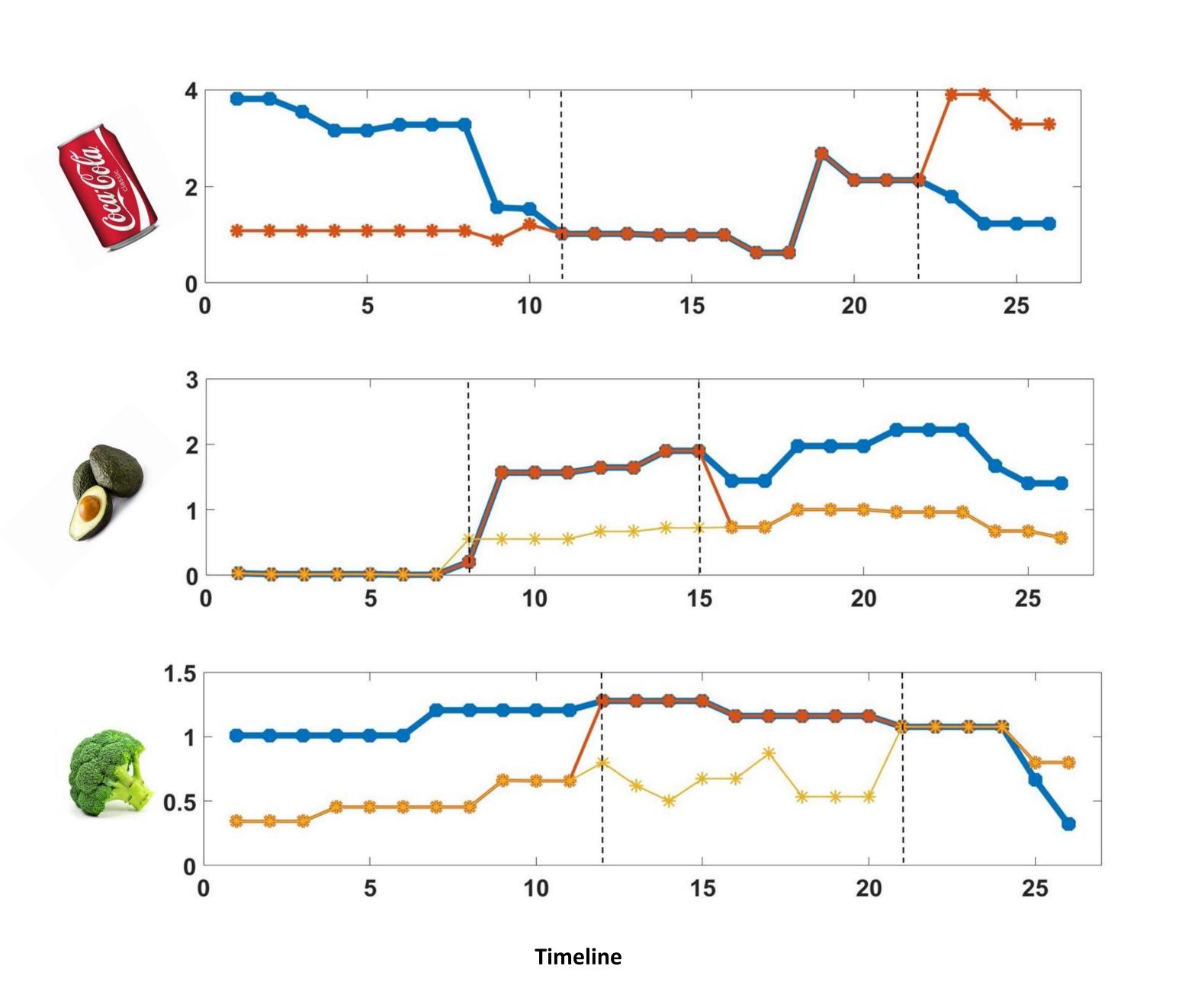
- $\mathbf{n}_t$  is the partition of customer set A at t
- CRP refers to Chinese Restaurant Process
- ullet  $\rho$  controls the number of groups in a partition
- ullet  $\delta$  controls the temporal dependence between  $\pi_t$  and  $\pi_{t+1}$

## **CASE STUDY**

- Dataset: Purchase records collected by an Australian national supermarket chain.
- Duration: between Jan 1st and Dec 31st, 2014.
- > Popular products from representative categories.

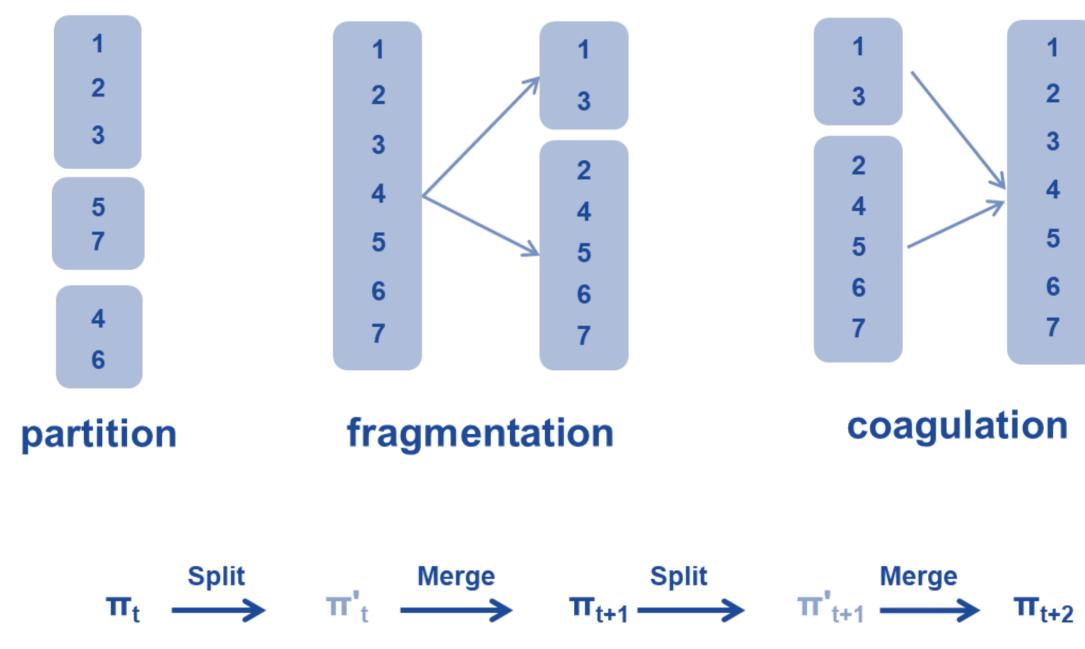
# TRAJECTORY OF CUSTOMER BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

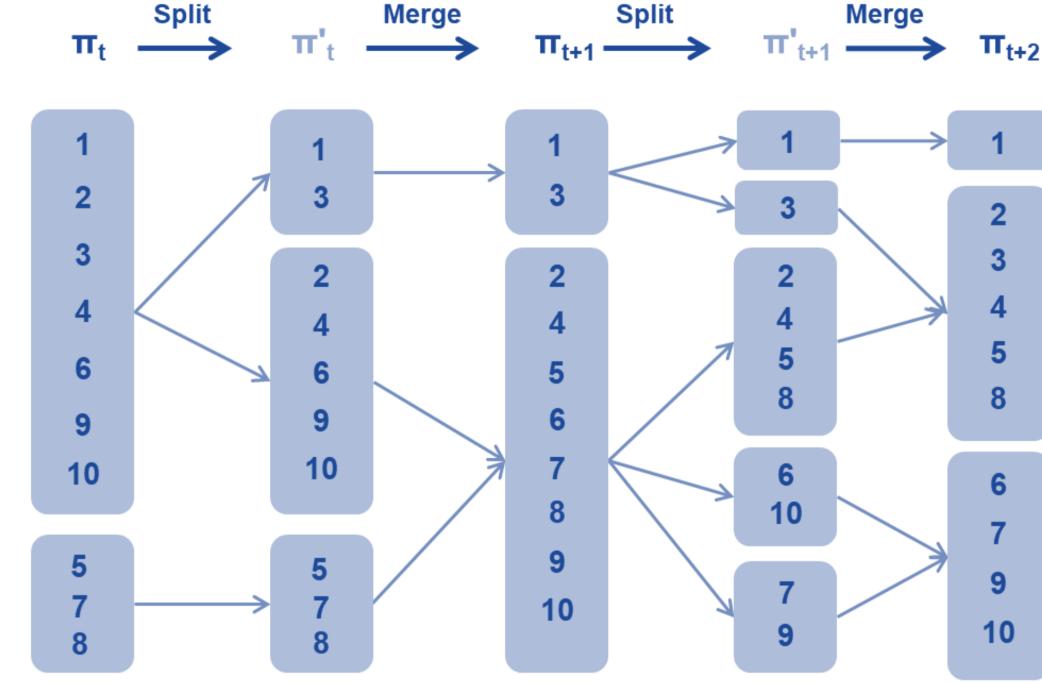
> Individual Customers: with similar total purchase amount can have contrasting behaviour.



### FRAGMENTATION-COAGULATION PROCESS

- > Random partition process: describe split and merge of groups.
- Fragmentation: one group can split into smaller groups, when members start to have divergent behaviour.
- **Coagulation**: several groups can merge, when members from different groups have **similar** behaviour.





- ✓ Track the evolution of customer groups.
- ✓ Capture the trajectories of customers shifting across groups.
- ✓ Customisable to other behavioural data.
- ✓ Support stakeholders to understand what triggers purchase behaviour changes and evaluate the effectiveness of these triggers → optimise the timing and focus of the promotion campaigns.
- > Customer Groups: tracking the evolution of groups size, purchase rates, ancestors and descendants
- > Stable behaviour (top); affected by seasonal availability (middle); customers shifting across groups (bottom).

