

Association Rules: Dillards Department Store

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Executive Summary

The goal of this project was to identify the top 100 SKUs to be moved within Dillard's Department Store based on items frequently purchased together. After examining the market basket data from Dillard's Department stores, the following procedure was taken: 1. Examine and understand the data 2. Create a subset of data 3. Execute association rules algorithm on subset 4. Run association rules algorithm on test data. The data included purchases over multiple years, at multiple locations, at multiple registers. The average number of items per transaction was approximately 2. There were 111,649,093 rows/transactions and 13 columns. There were also 332 stores, and 713172 SKUs. SKUs purchased varied by store, month, and year, so the final subset of data was all purchases from store "8402" from January 2005, training, and February 2005, test. For the training data, the minimum support was set to 0.001, the minimum confidence was set to 1, and the minimum lift was set to 990. This yielded 89428 association rules which included up to seven elements. However, many of these were combinations of the same items with different combinations as the antecedents and consequents.

One of the most important findings from executing association rules on this data was that most items purchased together were from the same brand i.e. two or more items from Clinique were purchased together. The brands that were most commonly in these association rules were "Clinique", "Liz Clai", "FORCE ON", "CABERNET", and "ROUNDTRE." However, other brands and SKUs were also included in the association rules. All association rules are outlined in the file "rules_train", all 100 top SKUs are outlined in "FINALSKU", and all brands are found in "FINAL BRANDS."

The test data revealed a similar trend that most items purchased together were from the same brand, however, the primary brand that this applied to was Haskell. Several of the same SKUs were present in the test rules were the same as those in the training data.

Summary

Business Question: What are the top 100 SKUs to be moved in Dillards Department Store based on Association Rules?

Process:

- 1. Explore data and understand columns
- 2. Identify a subset. In the case of this exploration the subset was all purchases at store 8402 in January 2005.
- 3. Create unique transaction values. The transaction numbers were unique to a specific register at each store, so to create unique transaction numbers I combined register number, date, and transaction number to create a unique code for the transactions.
- 4. Execute Association Rules on the data.
- 5. Identify 100 SKUs to move based on the association rules and understand brands.
- 6. Repeat 3-5 on test data that is a subset from the same store (8402), but in February 2005.

Exploration

Dataset features:

111,649,093 Rows/Transactions

13 columns

332 Stores

713172 Unique SKUs

	SKU	STORE	REGISTER	TRANNUM	SEQ	SALEDATE	STYPE	QUANTITY	ORGPRI	SPRICE	AMT	INTERID	MIC
0	3	202	540	2700	326708721	2005-01-29	R	1	0.0	30.00	30.00	15200000	818
1	3	303	500	2100	23702074	2004-08-18	P	1	0.0	12.00	12.00	4600000	48
2	3	709	360	500	0	2005-08-14	P	1	0.0	30.00	30.00	6500000	818
3	3	802	660	400	0	2005-08-09	P	1	440.0	30.00	30.00	4700000	599
4	3	1202	400	2100	0	2004-11-11	P	1	0.0	30.00	30.00	8600000	999
5	3	1204	220	3400	0	2004-12-22	P	1	0.0	30.00	30.00	17600000	555
6	3	1304	160	3500	0	2004-08-07	P	1	0.0	30.00	30.00	11400000	990
7	3	1703	30	200	0	2005-08-09	P	1	440.0	30.00	30.00	4800000	999
8	3	1703	30	2400	0	2005-08-24	R	1	440.0	30.00	30.00	10100000	999
9	3	1707	160	1100	16200776	2005-07-20	P	1	440.0	1.99	1.99	7200000	931

Figure 1: Head of full dataset

Within Subset:

32163 Unique Transactions

60421 Total Items Purchased

For the Subset, ~1.879 Items Per Transactions

Structure of Unique Transactions:
REGISTER|TRANNUM|SALEDATE

	SKU	UNIQUETRANS
0	9129941	5010020050123
1	868897	15010020050106
2	5400911	56010020050105
3	6196947	56010020050105
4	6614464	56010020050105
5	8696850	56010020050105
6	9864335	56010020050105
7	3194708	78010020050104
8	314088	78010020050113
9	3254117	78010020050113
10	1937807	85010020050114
11	2808367	85010020050125
12	3248362	85010020050125

Figure 2:
Head of
subset

Association Rules

Minimum Support: 0.001

Minimum Confidence : 1

Minimum Lift: 990

Total Association Rules: 89428 with up to seven elements many of which are combinations of the same items with different combinations as the antecedents and consequents

	antecedent support	consequent support	support	confidence	lift	leverage	conviction
count	8.942800e+04	8.942800e+04	8.942800e+04	89428.0	89428.0	8.942800e+04	89428.0
mean	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.0	995.0	1.004015e-03	inf
std	1.427469e-15	1.427469e-15	1.427469e-15	0.0	0.0	2.012290e-15	NaN
min	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.0	995.0	1.004015e-03	inf
25%	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.0	995.0	1.004015e-03	inf
50%	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.0	995.0	1.004015e-03	inf
75%	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.0	995.0	1.004015e-03	inf
max	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.005025e-03	1.0	995.0	1.004015e-03	inf

Figure 3: Statistical Description of Association Rules

These rules were used to outline the top 100 SKUs that are candidates to move within Dillards. These can be seen to the right or in the file ‘FINALSKU”. The other files provided do not include descriptions of the items aside from size, brand, color, and codes that cannot be understood without a code. I used the brands to identify the items. These brands, with duplicates removed can also be seen on the right or in the file “FINALBRANDS”

SKU	
5888065	4751496
126170	474515
6163107	3896862
7044853	486689
146997	756689
2598084	7497591
6416562	4432751
148061	423714
8226562	7256846
8976562	458020
160720	9744811
5367556	366117
6036119	9896116
176017	3924024
186170	5317384
708367	293277
5706016	6536659
656698	2779816
264286	309665
1754130	204684
7376697	2161039
8836697	4594108
264715	231057
3254117	9411343
314088	250896
8077274	1937918
316667	5378213
3237302	7546562
324286	7886562
1576017	4380542
346017	44522
346689	957390
1276689	78355
3528835	3437218
3638835	122118
9469364	7.08E+12
354814	9633
9600684	9932313
386625	26691
7176700	2966979
7446105	1724045
8686732	64045
5766710	112212
407541	4313732
1394179	86170
416740	4008011
2376291	1842285
466823	4108011
2626299	9323130
3406291	9186625

BRAND
CLINIQUE
AUGUST H
KASPER A
KORET OF
LANCOME
CABERNET
LIZ CLAI
ROUNDTRE
FORCE ON
NAPIER/V
I.C. ISA
SIGRID O
ALPHA GA
NAUTICA
HART SCH
POLO FAS
ROYCE HO
THE SAK
DIANE GI
E.W.L. S
CM SHAPE
HUE/KAYS
FISHMAN
HEARTBRE
L.SCOTT
G. H. BA
M.M. & R
DAX CORP
GREAT AM
TOO SHY
POLO JEA
BIJOUX G
MOBILE E
NYGARD
CAROLE H
NEXT ERA
IT JEANS
CALVIN K

Business Insights

- One of the most important findings from executing association rules on this data was that most items purchased together were from the same brand i.e. two or more items from Clinique were purchased together.
- The brands that very often were purchased with items from the same brand were:
 - Clinique
 - Liz Clai
 - Force On
 - Cabernet
 - Roundtre
- The brands mentioned above as well as Koret Of, Next Era, IT Jeans, and Calvin Klein appeared repeatedly throughout the association rules
- The test data had different brands appear in the association rules, more commonly Haskell, but revealed the same takeaways that items of the same brand were most frequently purchased together. The different SKUs is likely due to frequent inventory changes.
- The lift is very high and confidence is one, meaning that these association rules are meaningful.
- **Takeaway:** The best approach to moving items, if only 20 items can be moved, is to group by brand. Most likely, people have significant brand loyalty or brands create products that work together. Placing items of the same brand together will push shoppers to buy multiple items. However, the 100 SKUs listed are all good candidates.

Outputs:

[Rules_train.csv](#): Rules for training data (analysis focused on this)

[FINALSKU.csv](#): Top 100 SKUs

[FINALBRANDS.csv](#): Brands associated with top 100 SKUs

All code to execute association rules(took too long to restart every kernel everytime):

[SKU_Brands.ipynb](#): Dataframe of all SKUs and Brands

[Association Rules.ipynb](#): Exploration of full dataset

[Association Rules pt 2.ipynb](#): Creating subset

[Association Rules 3.ipynb](#): Creating 1,0 coding

[Association Rules 4.ipynb](#): Executes association rules

[SKU Identification.ipynb](#): Analyzes association rules and identify top 100 SKUs and brands

Test data:

[TEST.zip](#): Code and outputs for Test data