

Lecture 6. Constraint-Based Pattern Mining

- Why Constraint-Based Mining?
- Different Kinds of Constraints: Different Pruning Strategies
- Constrained Mining with Pattern Anti-Monotonicity
- Constrained Mining with Pattern Monotonicity
- Constrained Mining with Data Anti-Monotonicity
- Constrained Mining with Succinct Constraints
- Constrained Mining with Convertible Constraints
- Handling Multiple Constraints



Why Constraint-Based Mining?

- Finding all the patterns in a dataset autonomously? unrealistic!
 - Too many patterns but not necessarily user-interested!
- Pattern mining should be an interactive process
 - User directs what to be mined using a data mining query language (or a graphical user interface)
- Constraint-based mining
 - User flexibility: provides constraints on what to be mined
 - Optimization: explores such constraints for efficient mining
 - Constraint-based mining: Constraint-pushing, similar to push selection first in DB query processing

Constraints in General Data Mining

A data mining query can be in the form of a meta-rule or with the following language primitives

- Knowledge type constraint:
 - Ex.: classification, association, clustering, outlier finding,
- Data constraint using SQL-like queries
 - Ex.: find products sold together in NY stores this year
- Dimension/level constraint
 - Ex.: in relevance to region, price, brand, customer category
- Rule (or pattern) constraint
 - Ex.: small sales (price < \$10) triggers big sales (sum > \$200)
- Interestingness constraint
 - Ex.: strong rules: min_sup ≥ 0.02, min_conf ≥ 0.6, min_correlation ≥ 0.7

Meta-Rule Guided Mining

- A meta-rule can contain partially instantiated predicates & constants
- The resulting mined rule can be
 - \square age(X, "15-25") ^ profession(X, "student") \Rightarrow buys(X, "iPad")
- ☐ In general, (meta) rules can be in the form of
- Method to find meta-rules
 - Find frequent (I + r) predicates (based on min-support)
 - Push constants deeply when possible into the mining process
 - Using constraint-push techniques introduced in this lecture
 - Also, push min_conf, min_correlation, and other measures as early as possible (measures acting as constraints)