

A/B Testing and Apriori

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Topic 1

Topic 2

Item (A)

Item (B)

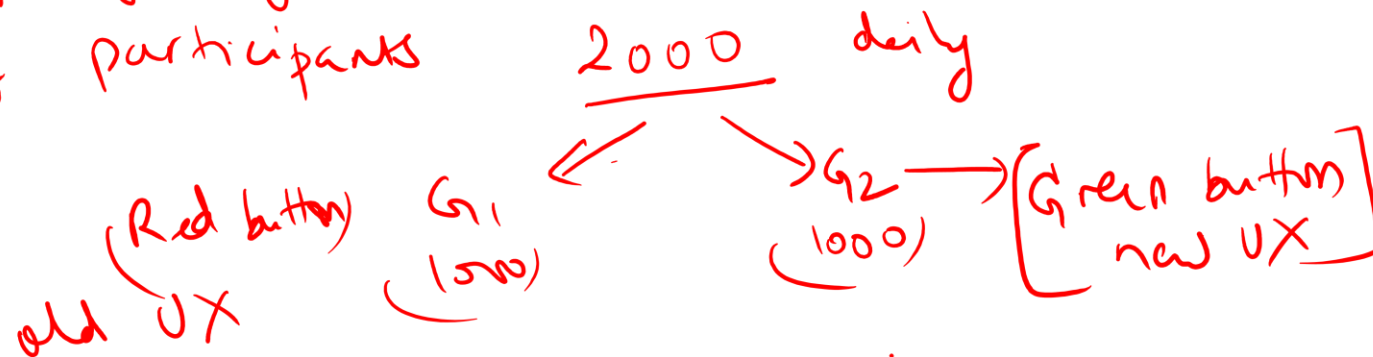
Two products / versions / items / design / entities, and we want to compare the performance

Assumption → Changing the button color will increase the revenue

Design, perform and collect-the data

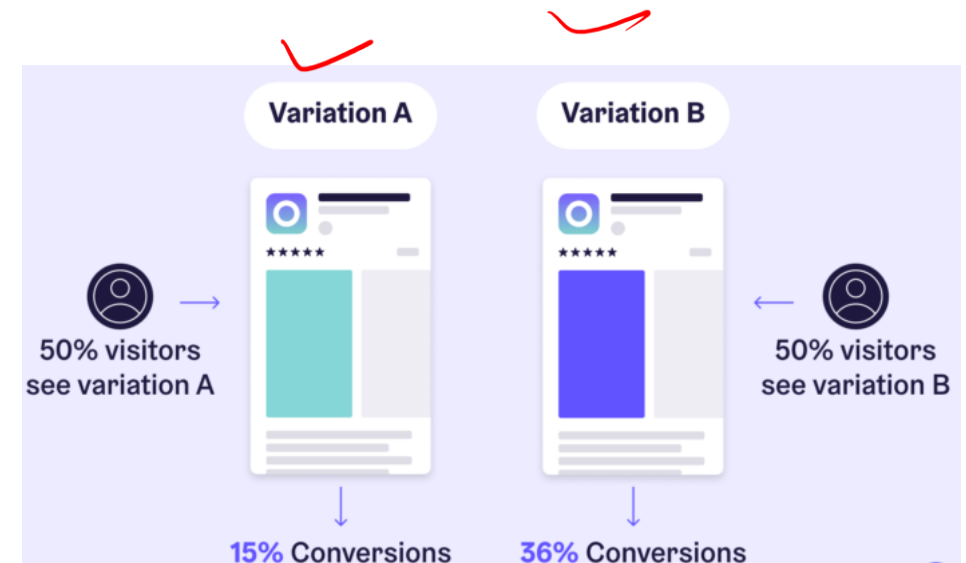
A/B testing

- ① Decide for the number of days you want to run the experiment
- ② Decide the number of participants



What is A/B testing?

- A/B testing (or split testing) is a user experience research methodology.
- It consists of a randomized experiment that usually involves two variants (A and B)
- A/B tests are useful for understanding user engagement and satisfaction for online features like a new feature or product
- Large social media sites like LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram use A/B testing



Hypothesis Testing for A/B Testing

Hypothesis testing is used for A/B testing

Samples A: ~~Users visiting older version of website~~

Samples B: Users visiting new version of website

Null Hypothesis (H_0) :

- ~~The null hypothesis states that the difference in sample observations (A and B) result purely from chance~~
- There is no difference between the control (A) and variant (B) groups

Alternate Hypothesis (H_1) :

- It indicates that observed difference is not by chance – there is relationship /pattern
- The conversion rate of newer version of website (B) is higher than older version (A)

Hypothesis Testing for A/B Testing

Samples A:

- Daily 1000 random users sampled from users visiting older version of website
- Daily conversion rate calculated for 1000 users
- Experiment continued for 5 weeks – 35 data points

Samples B:

- Daily 1000 random users sampled from users visiting Newer version of website
- Daily conversion rate calculated for 1000 users
- Experiment continued for 5 weeks – 35 data points

Day	Conversion rate A	Conversion rate B
✓ 1	0.14 ✓	0.16
✓ 2	0.12 ✓	0.11
.		
✓ 35	0.18	0.19

Hypothesis Testing for A/B Testing

Should we simply calculate average conversion rate for A and B to conclude?

- No
- Higher average doesn't necessarily indicate B is better version than A

Solution:

- Two sample t-test
- It is needed to prove that higher average is not just by chance
- For rejecting null hypothesis, we should prove the statistical significance ($p\text{-value} < 0.05$)

Day	Conversion rate A	Conversion rate B
1	0.14	0.16
2	0.12	0.11
....
35	0.18	0.19

For supermarket

For warehouse management

Idea is to understand the purchasing pattern/behavior to know the affinity b/w multiple items

Market Basket Analysis

What is market basket analysis?

- ① Item 1 reinforces the purchase of item 2
- ② Item 1 & 2 are independent
- ③ Item 1 is substitute of item 2

- Market basket analysis is used by retailers to understand customer purchasing patterns
- It involves analyzing large data sets, such as purchase history, to identify products that are likely to be purchased together
- It helps large retailers to uncover known/unknown associations between items

Basket Number	Items Purchased
1	Apples, Bread, Eggs, Yoghurt
2	Bananas, Sugar, Onion
3	Bread, Eggs, Ketchup
4	Beans, Bread, Eggs, Onion

Applications of market basket analysis

- Market Basket analysis can be used for recommending products

E.g. Amazon recommends people who bought X also bought Y

- It can also help in product placement in retail store | *warehouses*

E.g. Customer who buy new technology book also buy Marker – place them nearby

Apriori Algorithm

is used for market basket analysis
or

association rule mining

- It is used for association rule mining (finding items which are frequently bought together)
- Name of the algorithm is Apriori because it uses prior knowledge (e.g., purchase history) of frequent itemset properties.
- **Apriori Property:**
 - All subsets of a frequent itemset must be frequent
 - If an itemset is infrequent, all its supersets will be infrequent (If any item is bought infrequently then its associations with other items will also be infrequent)

Property 1

All item subsets of a frequent itemset must be frequent

A frequent itemset is one occurring at least 20% times.

A, B, C, D ✓
A, B, C ✓
B, C, E ✓
E, F ✓
F, G ✓
E, G, H ✓
C, D, E ✓
A, B, C ✓
A, G, H ✓
A, B, C, D, E ✓

[A, B, C, D] \Rightarrow frequent itemset

⑤ [A], [B], [C], [D], [A, B], [A, C], [A, D]

[B, D], [C, D], [A, B, C] [A, B, D]

[A, C, D] [B, C, D]

Property 2

If an itemset is infrequent, then all its supersets will also be infrequent.

$[A, B, C, D, E] \rightarrow$ infrequent \Rightarrow occurring only once.

$[A, B, C, D, E, F]$

$[A, B, C, D, E, G]$

$[A, B, C, D, E, H]$

\rightarrow assume this is frequent ~~X~~ infrequent

Apriori Algorithm

Support, confidence, ~~lift~~ lift
evaluation metric

Support

Support is an indication of how frequently the itemset appears in the dataset

$$\text{Support}(A) = 6/10 = 0.6 = 60\%$$

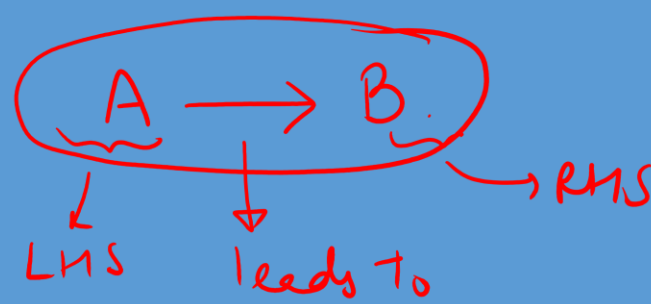
$$\text{Support}(A,B) = 5/10 = 0.5 = 50\%$$

$$A \rightarrow B \quad \text{support}(A,B)$$

$$A, B \rightarrow C \quad \text{support}(A, B, C)$$

Basket	Items (sorted list)
1	A, B, F, H, K
2	B, T, Z
3	A, M, N, P, R
4	A, B, C, D, M, P, Q
5	D, E, F
6	A, B, F, H, Z
7	A, B, M, N, O, P
8	C, M, P, Q, R
9	D, E, G, I
10	A, B, C, M, N, P, T

Apriori Algorithm



$A, B \rightarrow C$
 $A \rightarrow B, C$
 $A, B \rightarrow C, D$

Confidence

Confidence is the percentage of all baskets with A that also have B

$$\text{confidence}(A \rightarrow B) = \frac{\text{supp}(A, B)}{\text{supp}(A)} = \frac{6}{6} = 1$$

$$\text{Confidence}(A, B) = \text{Support}(A, B) / \text{Support}(A)$$

$$= 0.5 / 0.6$$

$$= 0.83$$

$$\text{Lift}(A \rightarrow B) = \frac{\text{supp}(A, B)}{\text{supp}(A) \text{supp}(B)} = \frac{6}{6 \times 10} = 0.1$$

Every time customer buys A -> they buy B
~83% of the time

Basket	Items (sorted list)
1	A, B, F, H, K, A1
2	B, T, Z, A1
3	A, M, N, P, R, A1
4	A, B, C, D, M, P, Q, A1
5	D, E, F, A1
6	A, B, F, H, Z, A1
7	A, B, M, N, O, P, A1
8	C, M, P, Q, R, A1
9	D, E, G, I, A1
10	A, B, C, M, N, P, T, A1

$\text{confidence}(B \rightarrow A) = ?$
 $= \frac{\text{supp}(B, A)}{\text{supp}(B)} = \frac{0.5}{0.6} = 0.83$

Apriori Algorithm

$$\text{Lift}(A \rightarrow B) = \frac{\text{supp}(A, B)}{\text{supp}(A) \text{supp}(B)}$$

$$\text{Lift} > 1 \rightarrow \text{meaningful rule}$$

$$\text{Lift} = 1 \rightarrow \text{No association b/w LHS \& RHS}$$

Lift

It is useful to extract actual associations and remove noise

E.g., If B is present in all baskets Confidence metric will be 1 for (A,B) but its simply due to high occurrence of B and not due to co-occurrence of A and B

Lift (A,B)

$$= \text{Support}(A,B) / (\text{Support}(A) * \text{Support}(B))$$

$$= 0.5 / (0.6 * 0.6)$$

$$= 1.38$$

Basket	Items (sorted list)
1	A, B, F, H, K
2	B, T, Z
3	A, M, N, P, R
4	A, B, C, D, M, P, Q
5	D, E, F
6	A, B, F, H, Z
7	A, B, M, N, O, P
8	C, M, P, Q, R
9	D, E, G, I
10	A, B, C, M, N, P, T

Lift < 1 → Items have negative impact

Apriori Algorithm

Lift < 1

- Items are substitute to each other. ✓
- Presence of one item has ~~negative effect on another item~~

Lift = 1

- Probability of occurrence of A and B (any two items under consideration) are independent of each other

Lift > 1

- Items are complementary to each other.
- Presence of one item has ~~positive effect on another item~~