ASDM Workshop Week 3: Association Rule Mining with R

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Association rule mining is the data mining process of finding the rules that may govern associations between sets of items. The term market basket analysis refers to a specific implementation of association rules mining that many companies use for a variety of purposes, so in a given transaction with multiple items, it tries to find the rules that govern how or why such items are often bought together. Association rules are rules which surpass a user-specified minimum support and minimum Confidence threshold. For example, peanut butter and jelly are often bought together because a lot of people like to make sandwiches using these two items. Also, surprisingly, diapers and beer are bought together because, as it turns out, that dads are often tasked to do the shopping while the moms are left with the baby.

The main applications of association rule mining:

- Basket data analysis is to analyse the association of purchased items in a single basket or single purchase.
- Cross marketing is to work with other businesses that complement your own, not competitors.
- Catalogue design the selection of items in a business' catalogue are often designed to complement each other so that buying one item will lead to buying of another. So, these items are often complements or very related.

Besides market basket analysis, association rules are commonly used for recommender systems and click stream analysis. Many online service providers such as Amazon and Netflix use recommender systems. Recommender systems can use association rules to discover related products or identify customers who have similar interests. For example, association rules may suggest that those customers who have bought product A have also bought product B, or those customers who have bought products A, B, and C are more similar to this customer. These findings provide opportunities for retailers to cross-sell their products. Click stream analysis refers to the analytics on data related to web browsing and user clicks, which is stored on the client or the server side. Web usage log files generated on web servers contain huge amounts of information, and association rules can potentially give useful knowledge to web usage data analysts.

transaction ID	items
1	milk, bread
2	bread, butter
3	beer
4	milk, bread, butter
5	bread, butter

Figure 1: An example supermarket database with five transactions

Support:

The support supp(X) of an item set X is defined as the proportion of transactions in the data set which contain the item set. For example, database in Figure 1, the item set $\{\text{milk}, \text{bread}\}$ has a support of 2/5 = 0.4 since it occurs in 40% of all transactions(2 out of 5 transactions).

Confidence:

Confidence of a rule is defined $conf(X \Rightarrow Y) = supp(X \cup Y)/supp(X)$. Therefore, an association rule $X \Rightarrow Y$ will satisfy, For example, the rule $\{milk, bread\} \Rightarrow \{butter\}$ has a confidence of 0.2/0.4 = 0.5 in the database in Figure 1, which means that for 50% of the transactions containing milk and bread the rule is correct. Confidence can be interpreted as an estimate of the probability $P(Y \mid X)$, the probability of finding the RHS of the rule in transactions under the condition that these transactions also contain the LHS.

Lift:

The lift of a rule is defined as $lift(X \Rightarrow Y) = supp(X \cup Y)/(supp(X)supp(Y))$ and can be interpreted as the deviation of the support of the whole rule from the support expected under independence given the supports of both sides of the rule. Greater lift values(>> 1) indicate stronger associations.

Part 1: Exercise

In this workshop we will practice how to implement Association Rule Mining using R programming. The dataset, **marketbasket.csv**, that we will use in the workshop can be downloaded from Blackboard. We will be using market basket data to find purchasing behaviours of customers using association rule mining. We want to know that what items are bought together using association rules.

Data Explanation

Item	Purchase
Apples	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
banana	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Coke	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Turkey	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
bourbon	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
ice_cream	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Baguette	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Soda	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Choclate	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Cracker	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Cosmetics	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Avocado	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Artichoke	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased
Sardines	Yes=Purchased, No=Not purchased

Implementation:

In this workshop, we will be using "arules" package which use **Apriori Algorithm**. The Apriori Algorithm is an influential algorithm for mining frequent item sets for boolean association rules. Apriori uses a "bottom up" approach, where frequent subsets are extended one item at a time.

- 1. Download marketbasket.csv dataset from Blackboard and save to a folder on your F: drive eg: F\ASDM\Week3. Open the CSV file using excel to get a rough idea about the dataset, e.g, attributes and their values.
- 2. Start RStudio.
- 3. Change working directory.

```
File \rightarrow More \rightarrow Go To Working Directory...
```

In the Go To Working Directory dialogue, navigate to and select the folder where you saved your data file eg:F:\ASDM\Week3. Click OK.

or

```
using R commands as follow:
```

4. Open a new R script window:

```
File \rightarrow New File \rightarrow R script
```

5. Read the data file

The data is read into the data frame named "marketbasket"

6. Inspect the dataset in R

Once the file has been imported to R, we often want to do few things to explore the dataset:

```
names (marketbasket)
head (marketbasket)
tail (marketbasket)
summary (marketbasket)
str (marketbasket)
```

7. Check the dimension of the "marketbasket" dataset

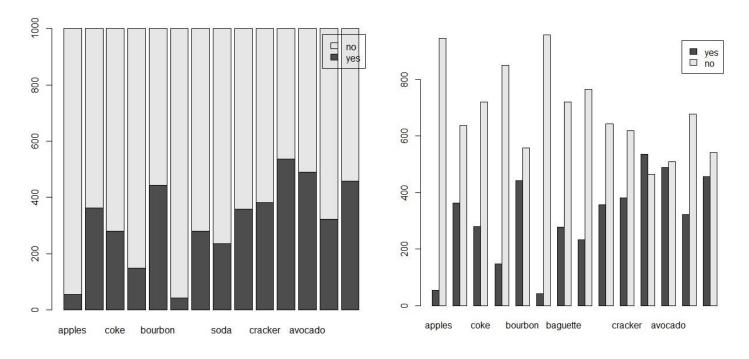
```
dim(marketbasket)
```

8. Plot and explore the "marketbasket" dataset with barplot() function

```
#colSums() function computes the sums of columns.
yes <- colSums(marketbasket == "Yes")
yes</pre>
```

```
no <-colSums(marketbasket=="No")
no
purchased <- rbind(yes,no)
purchased</pre>
```

barplot(purchased, legend=rownames(purchased)) #Plot 1
barplot(purchased, beside=T, legend=rownames(purchased))# Plot 2



Plot 1 Plot 2

9. Install and activate "arules" package.

#arules package is a powerful tool for mining associative rules in transactional databases. The most common use of arules package is market basket analysis in marketing and retail.

```
install.packages("arules")  # install "arules" package.
library(arules)  # activate "arules" package
```

10. Use the following code to create Association rules .

The apriori () function from the arule package implements the Apriori algorithm to create frequent itemsets.

#Note that, by default, the apriori () function executes all the iterations at once.

#Usage of apriori () function

apriori(data, parameter = ..., appearance = ...)

Arguments

data - object of class transactions or any data structure
which can be coerced into transactions (e.g., a binary
matrix or data.frame).

parameter - named list. The default behavior is to mine
rules with minimum support of 0.1, minimum confidence of
0.8, maximum of 10 items (maxlen), and a maximal time for
subset checking of 5 seconds (maxtime).

appearance - named list. With this argument item appearance
can be restricted (implements rule templates). By default
all items can appear unrestricted.

rules <- apriori(marketbasket)</pre>

Results: It shows that 68880 rules were generated using this line of code.

```
Apriori
Parameter specification:
 confidence minval smax arem aval originalSupport maxtime support minlen maxlen target
               0.1 1 none FALSE
                                                  TRUE
                                                                  0.1
                                                                            1
   ext
 FALSE
Algorithmic control:
 filter tree heap memopt load sort verbose
    0.1 TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE
Absolute minimum support count: 100
set item appearances ...[0 item(s)] done [0.00s].
set transactions ... [28 item(s), 1000 \text{ transaction}(s)] done [0.00s]. sorting and recoding items ... [26 item(s)] done [0.00s].
creating transaction tree ... done [0.00s].
checking subsets of size 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 done [0.02s].
writing ... [68880 rule(s)] done [0.05s].
creating S4 object ... done [0.03s].
Warning message:
  Mining stopped (maxlen reached). Only patterns up to a length of 10 returned!
```

11. Get the summary of these rules

summary(rules)

```
summary(rules)
set of 68880 rules
rule length distribution (lhs + rhs):sizes
        2
                     4
                                 6
                                                       10
   3
        85
             942 4350 10739 17062 18066 11996 4665
                                                       972
  Min. 1st Qu. Median
                         Mean 3rd Qu.
 1.000 6.000 7.000
                         6.542 8.000 10.000
summary of quality measures:
                   confidence
                                       lift
   support
                                                       count
Min.
       :0.1000
                 Min.
                        :0.8000
                                  Min.
                                         :0.8781
                                                   Min.
                                                          :100.0
1st Qu.:0.1150
                1st Qu.:0.8667
                                  1st Qu.:1.0389
                                                   1st Qu.:115.0
Median :0.1370
                 Median : 0.9453
                                  Median :1.1565
                                                   Median :137.0
Mean :0.1583
                 Mean : 0.9259
                                  Mean :1.2019
                                                   Mean :158.3
                                  3rd Qu.:1.2438
                                                   3rd Qu.:177.0
3rd Qu.: 0.1770
                 3rd Qu.: 0.9821
       :0.9580
                        :1.0000
                                         :3.5714
                                                          :958.0
                                                   Max.
Max.
                 Max.
                                  Max.
mining info:
        data ntransactions support confidence
                      1000
                               0.1
marketbasket
```

#The result tells you that there was 3 rules with 1 item and 17062 rules with 6 items, etc....

12. To inspect the rules please use the following line of code:

```
inspect(rules)
#inspect function prints the internal representation of an R object
```

13. Since there are too many rules we need to reduce them into smaller number of rules hence we have to specify the parameters using the following code:

```
\# When the max len parameter is not set, the algorithm continues each iteration until it runs out of support or until k reaches the default maxlen=10.
```

```
\#set the minlen=2, maxlen=3 and confident = 0.95
```

Results: #This has reduced the rules to 350

```
Apriori
Parameter specification:
  confidence minval smax arem aval originalSupport maxtime support minlen maxlen target
           0.95
                         0.1 1 none FALSE
                                                                             TRUE
                                                                                                         0.1
     ext
  FALSE
Algorithmic control:
  filter tree heap memopt load sort verbose
       0.1 TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE
                                                    2 TRUE
Absolute minimum support count: 100
set item appearances \dots[0 \text{ item(s)}] done [0.00s].
set train appearances ...[0 item(s)] done [0.00s].
set transactions ...[28 item(s), 1000 transaction(s)] done [0.01s].
sorting and recoding items ... [26 item(s)] done [0.02s].
creating transaction tree ... done [0.00s].
checking subsets of size 1 2 3 done [0.02s].
writing ... [350 rule(s)] done [0.00s].
creating S4 object ... done [0.03s].
```

14. Get the summary of these rules:

```
summary(rules)
```

The summary of the rules shows the number of rules and ranges of the support, confidence, and lift.

```
set of 350 rules
rule length distribution (lhs + rhs):sizes
 2 3
31 319
  Min. 1st Qu.
                Median
                          Mean 3rd Qu.
                                           Max.
 2.000 3.000
                 3.000
                         2.911
                                  3.000
                                          3.000
summary of quality measures:
                   confidence
                                        lift
   support
                                                        count
                                          :0.9919
                                                           :100.0
Min.
       :0.1000
                        :0.9500
                 Min.
                                  Min.
                                                    Min.
1st Qu.:0.2402
                1st Qu.:0.9589
                                  1st Qu.:1.0068
                                                    1st Qu.:240.2
Median :0.3565
                 Median : 0.9660
                                  Median :1.0163
                                                   Median : 356.5
Mean : 0.3710
                 Mean : 0.9687
                                  Mean :1.0664
                                                   Mean :371.0
3rd Qu.: 0.4820
                 3rd Qu.: 0.9760
                                   3rd Qu.:1.0250
                                                    3rd Qu.:482.0
       :0.9090
                        :1.0000
                                         :3.5714
                                                           :909.0
Max.
                 Max.
                                  Max.
                                                   Max.
mining info:
        data ntransactions support confidence
marketbasket
                      1000
                               0.1
```

15.Inspect the rules:

inspect(rules)

Results

```
1hs
                                                    support confidence lift
                                                    0.149
                                  => {coke=Yes}
                                                            1.0000000 3.5714286 149
[1]
     {turkey=Yes}
                                                            0.9572650 0.9992327 224
     {soda=Yes}
                                => {ice_cream=No} 0.224
[2]
F31
     {artichoke=Yes}
                                => {apples=No}
                                                  0.306
                                                            0.9503106 1.0045566 306
[4]
     {bourbon=Yes}
                                 => {ice_cream=No} 0.420
                                                            0.9502262 0.9918854 420
[5]
     {sardines=Yes}
                                 => {ice_cream=No} 0.438
                                                            0.9584245 1.0004431 438
[6]
                                                   0.441
                                                            0.9504310 1.0046840 441
     {cosmetics=No}
                                 => {apples=No}
[7]
                                 => {ice_cream=No} 0.441
                                                            0.9504310 0.9920992 441
     {cosmetics=No}
                                                            0.9673469 1.0097567 474
[8]
     {avocado=Yes}
                                  => {ice_cream=No} 0.474
     {avocado=No}
                                  => {apples=No}
                                                    0.486
                                                            0.9529412
                                                                      1.0073374 486
[9]
                                                            0.9645522 1.0068395 517
[10]
     {cosmetics=Yes}
                                  => {ice_cream=No} 0.517
     {sardines=No}
                                  => {apples=No}
                                                    0.518
                                                            0.9539595 1.0084138 518
[11]
     {sardines=No}
                                  => {ice cream=No} 0.520  0.9576427  0.9996271 520
```

#Rules that have No values are not useful

16. Since we are more interested what customers are purchasing, hence we need rules with "Yes".

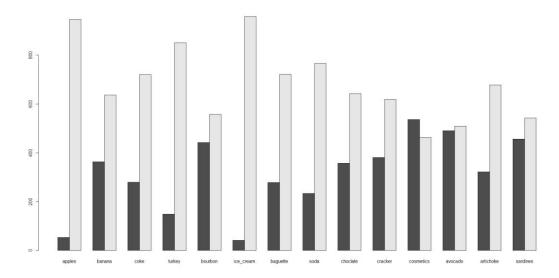
#First of all, we should find the most popular products based on sales dataset.

summary(marketbasket)

```
bourbon
                             turkey
apples
         banana
                    coke
                                                ice_cream baguette
                                                                    soda
                             No:851
                                      No :558
                                                No: 958
No:946
         No :637
                   No :720
                                                          No :721
                                                                    No :766
                                                          Yes: 279
Yes: 54
         Yes:363 Yes:280
                            Yes:149 Yes:442
                                                Yes: 42
                                                                    Yes: 234
                                      artichoke sardines
choclate cracker
                   cosmetics avocado
No :643
         No :619
                   No :464
                             No :510
                                      No :678
                                                No :543
Yes: 357
         Yes:381
                   Yes:536
                             Yes:490
                                      Yes:322
                                                Yes:457
```

#Plotting could be the easiest way to find the most purchased item.

barplot(purchased, beside=T,legend=rownames(purchased))



#According to the plot cosmetics are the most popular items. Since we want to see rules where customers are buying more of the items, so use the following code to get those rules for cosmetics:

Result: # There are no rules available for given parameter values

```
Apriori
Parameter specification:
confidence minval smax arem aval originalSupport maxtime support minlen maxlen target ext
                                   TRUE 5 0.1 2 3 rules FALSE
Algorithmic control:
filter tree heap memopt load sort verbose
   0.1 TRUE TRUE FALSE TRUE 2
Absolute minimum support count: 100
set item appearances ...[1 item(s)] done [0.00s].
set transactions ...[28 item(s), 1000 transaction(s)] done [0.00s]. sorting and recoding items ... [26 item(s)] done [0.00s].
creating transaction tree ... done [0.00s].
checking subsets of size 1 2 3 done [0.00s].
writing \dots [0 rule(s)] done [0.00s].
Warning message:
In apriori(marketbasket, parameter = list(minlen = 2, maxlen = 3, :
Mining stopped (maxlen reached). Only patterns up to a length of 3 returned!
```

#Change the confident parameter value to 70% (0.70), A lower confidence threshold allows more rules to show up.

Result: # 16 rules available for given parameters

17. Inspect these rules:

inspect(rules)

```
1hs
                                                   support confidence lift
                                   rhs
[1]
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.356
                                                          0.7265306 1.355468 356
   {avocado=Yes}
[2] {avocado=Yes,artichoke=Yes} => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.116
                                                          0.7341772 1.369734 116
[3] {choclate=Yes,avocado=Yes} => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.130
                                                          0.7182320 1.339985 130
[4] {cracker=Yes,avocado=Yes}
                                                          0.7263682 1.355164 146
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.146
[5] {avocado=Yes,sardines=No}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.200
                                                          0.7604563 1.418762 200
[6] {bourbon=No, avocado=Yes}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.215
                                                          0.7904412
                                                                     1.474704 215
[7] {cracker=No,avocado=Yes}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.210
                                                          0.7266436 1.355678 210
[8] {banana=No,avocado=Yes}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.237
                                                          0.7596154
                                                                     1.417193 237
[9] {choclate=No,avocado=Yes}
                                                          0.7313916 1.364537 226
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.226
[10] {avocado=Yes,artichoke=No}
                               => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.240
                                                          0.7228916 1.348678 240
[11] {coke=No,avocado=Yes}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.267
                                                          0.7500000 1.399254 267
[12] {baguette=No,avocado=Yes}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.295
                                                          0.8452722 1.577000 295
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.310
[13] {soda=No,avocado=Yes}
                                                          0.8288770 1.546412 310
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.313
[14] {turkey=No, avocado=Yes}
                                                          0.7417062 1.383780 313
[15] {apples=No, avocado=Yes}
                                => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.335
                                                          0.7282609
                                                                     1.358696 335
[16] {ice_cream=No,avocado=Yes} => {cosmetics=Yes} 0.345
                                                          0.7278481 1.357926 345
```

#shows that when a customer buy avocado also buy cosmetics

18. To Visualize these rules we can use a package called "arulesViz"

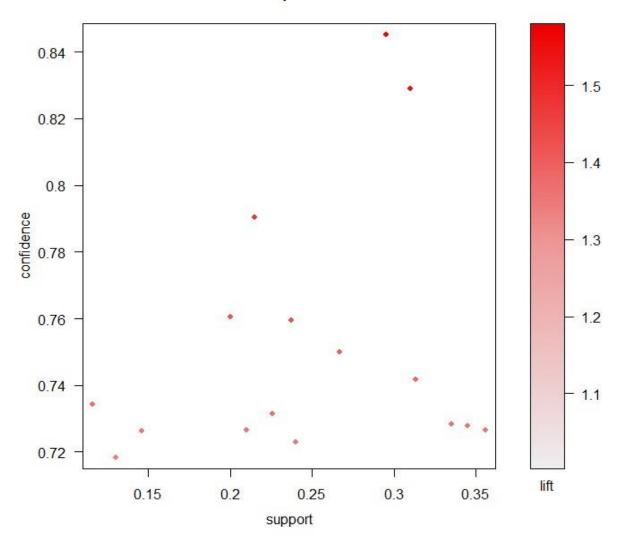
#arulesViz package provides various visualization techniques for association rules and itemsets. The package also includes several interactive visualizations for rule exploration.

```
install.packages("arulesViz")  # install "arulesViz"
library(arulesViz)  # activate "arules" package
```

19. Plot the rules.

plot(rules)

Scatter plot for 16 rules

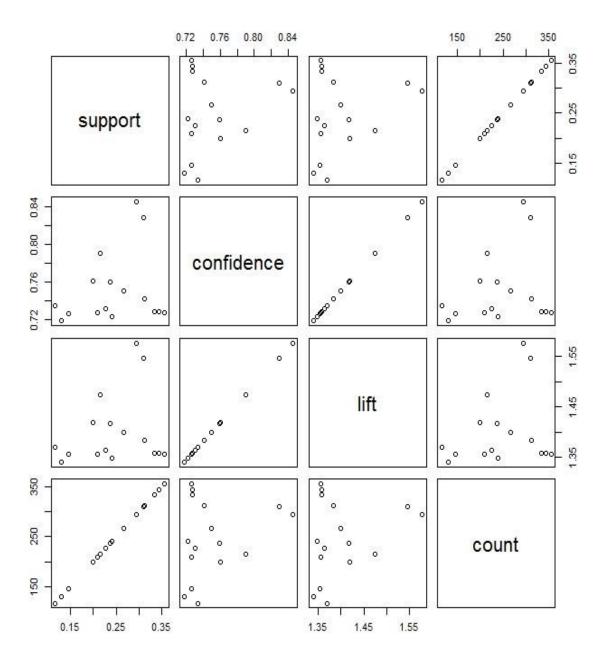


20.Use the following code to Plot the rules in groups:

plot(rules, method="grouped")

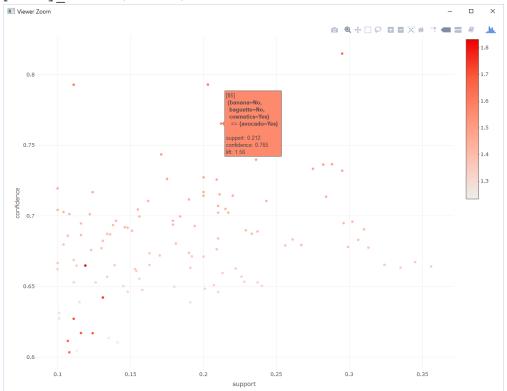


21. Below code displays a scatterplot matrix to compare the support, confidence, and lift plot (rules@quality)

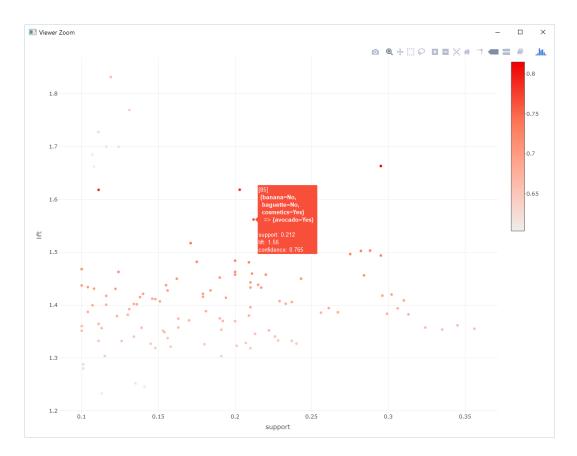


22. **plotly_arules()** function can be used to create Interactive Scatter Plot for Association Rules. You can hover over each rule and view all quality measures (support, confidence and lift).

plotly_arules(rules3)



plotly_arules(rules3, measure = c("support", "lift"), shading = "confidence")



23. In most cases we don't need to see any rules which contain purchased items "No". The fore use following line of code to get the rules with only purchased items "Yes" on left hand side and right-hand side:

```
rules2 <- apriori(marketbasket,</pre>
                  parameter = list(minlen=2, maxlen=3,conf = 0.7),
                  appearance =list(rhs=c("cosmetics=Yes"),
                                    lhs=c("apples=Yes",
                                           "banana=Yes",
                                          "coke=Yes",
                                           "turkey=Yes",
                                          "bourbon=Yes",
                                           "ice_cream=Yes",
                                           "baguette=Yes",
                                           "soda=Yes",
                                           "choclate=Yes",
                                           "cracker=Yes",
                                          "avocado=Yes",
                                           "sardines=Yes"),
                                    default="none"))
```

Result: 3 rules available for given parameters

24. Inspect the rules:

inspect (rules2)

Result:

25. Change the confident parameter value to 50% to see more rules. A lower confidence threshold allows more rules to show up.

26. You can do variety of practice on other purchased items as you wish with different confidence thresholds.

27. You can interactively explore Association Rules using ruleExplorer() function.

?ruleExplorer

Usage : ruleExplorer(x, parameter =)

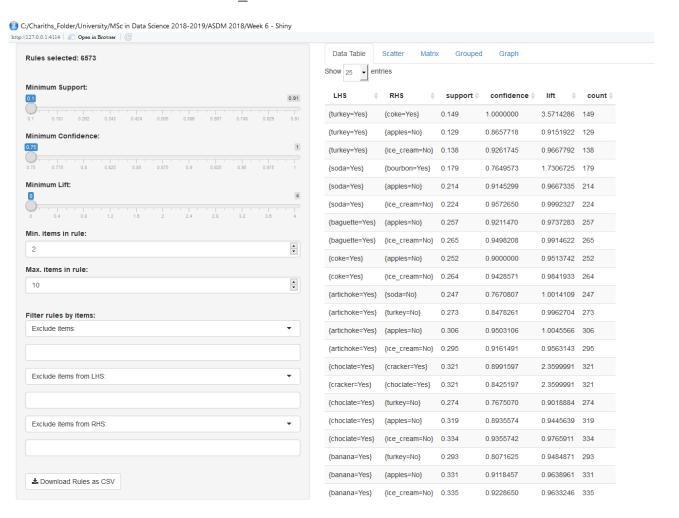
Arguments :

x a set of rules, a transactions object or a data.frame.

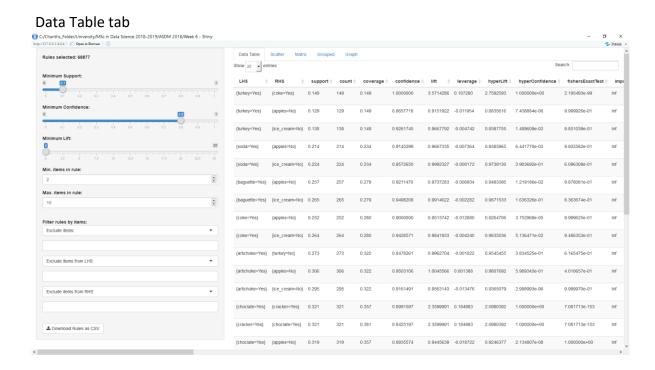
parameter a list with parameters passed on to apriori. the list can be used to set the initial support and confidence thresholds. Values are ignored if x contains a set of rules.

#Explore association rules using interactive manipulations and visualization using shiny.

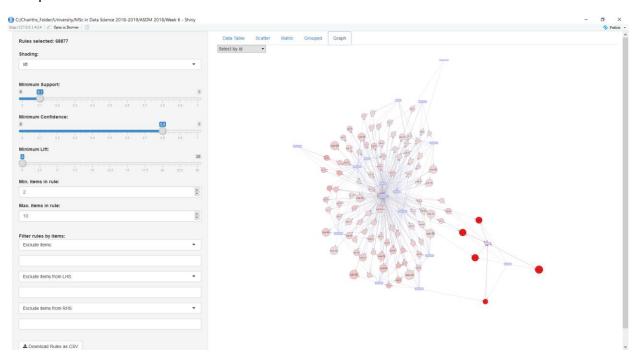
ruleExplorer(rules ex)



28. Mine and explore rules in given data sources on the fly using **ruleExplorer()** function ruleExplorer (marketbasket)



Graph Tab



Part 2: Exercise

The sinking of the RMS Titanic is one of the most infamous shipwrecks in history. On April 15,

1912, during her maiden voyage, the Titanic sank after colliding with an iceberg, killing 1502

out of 2224 passengers and crew. This sensational tragedy shocked the international

community and led to better safety regulations for ships.

One of the reasons that the shipwreck led to such loss of life was that there were not enough

lifeboats for the passengers and crew. Although there was some element of luck involved in

surviving the sinking, some groups of people were more likely to survive than others, such as

women, children, and the upper-class.

In this exercise, we ask you to complete the analysis of what sorts of people were likely to

survive. In particular, we ask you to apply the Association Rule mining to predict which

passengers survived from the tragedy.

titanic.csv data set can be downloaded from the Blackboard.

COLUMN DESCRIPTION:

Class (0 = crew, 1 = first, 2 = second, 3 = third)

Age (1 = adult, 0 = child)

Sex (1 = male, 0 = female)

Survived (1 = yes, 0 = no)

source: https://www.kaggle.com/c/titanic