

Decision Support System using Data Mining Method for a Cross Selling Strategy in Retail Stores

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ABSTRACT

A sales transaction data of a retail company which is collected every day is enormous. Very large data will be more meaningful to increase the company's profits if it can be extracted properly. Based on the research results of Andhika, et al [1], Zhang and Ruan [6], Herera et al [7], Witten [11], explained that one of the methods that can gather information from the transaction data is the method of association. With this method it can be determined the patterns of transactions performed simultaneously and repeatedly. Thus, it can be obtained a model that can be used as a reference for cross selling sales strategy. The purpose of this research is to apply data mining association methods of data mining by using apriori algorithm to create a new sales strategy for cross selling. Based on calculations, Association Rule is implemented by applying Confidence value=0.8 while the value of Support=0.1 of the defined minimum value, the total result are 77 rules.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Decision Support System (DSS) began to attract attention among programmers and systems analysts. These systems assist decision-making by managing data and using certain models to solve the problem. Decision support systems to be special because it is able to solve the problem of unstructured or semi-structured. In many areas, a decision support system has many perceived benefits and dependency to use the system in increasing with the increasing complexity of the data management process search information system.

Application of the DSS to a business interest plays a very important role, such as to provide advice in the preparation of cross-selling strategy at retail stores. One method that can be used to solve the problem is by using association method of apriori algorithms. The study on the application of the method of Apriori Association has been done by previous studies with a variety of objects.

Research conducted by Andhika et al [1] entitled Excavation Association Patterns in Data Warehouse Agent Manufacturing Using Microsoft SQL Server (Case Study: PTXYZ) aims to create an integrated system, using the data warehouse and association method of rule mining, that found a pattern of sales transaction data from previous periods regarding the relationship between a variable that is known tendency of the product to be purchased by the customer in conjunction with the specific product. The method used is the design of the data, starting from the formulation of the problems encountered, and then do a search the required data. Once collected, the data is filtered and transformed that into a form consistent database. Further more, applying association rule mining using Microsoft Visual Studio. The end result is an

application that can provide cross product recommendations-selling of the process of extracting the association of the sales data in XYZ, so it can help XYZ perform data management and decision-making.

Subsequent research conducted by Dongwoon, et al. [4] with the title of High-utility rule mining for cross selling. The objective of this study aims to determine the results of the excavation cross selling with HURM method (high-utility rule mining) to develop three elements of the target, effectiveness and opportunities. Average number of transactions carried out buy six items and products. Further research conducted by Lutfi[14], entitled Application of Data Mining Association Algorithm for Improving Sales. This study aims to determine the groups of items of goods which have consistently purchased simultaneously. The information obtained is used for promotions, store layout settings to put the goods items in an optimal relation to each other, designing catalogs, and identify customer segments based on the pattern. The method used in this research is to find all frequent item set, then bring up the strong association rule from frequent item set. The final result is expected from the built system that has the ability to see patterns of sales of goods that can then be used to develop new sales strategies.

The next study was conducted by Zhang and Ruan[3] titled modification of association algorithm with its application in the cross-selling strategy in the retail industry. The purpose of this study is to modify the apriori association algorithm by reducing the scale of the candidate item set C_k and the input output. Based on the result obtained show that the modified algorithm can improve the performance of the apriori association algorithm efficiently.

The next research was conducted by Tang, et al.[6] with the title the use of data mining to accelerate cross-selling. The purpose of this study was to determine the pattern of cross-selling sales to be taken into consideration to make sales acceleration strategy. The method used apriori association algorithm method with XL Miner software. The results showed that by using the parameters of minimum support and minimum confidence. Both of these parameters are useful and influential seriously.

The next research was conducted by Yang, et al. [15] with the title the use of decision tree and association algorithm for predictive cross selling opportunities. The purpose of this study is to predict the cross selling opportunities with innovative approaches effectively. The method used is the method of decision tree and association algorithms. The result obtained show that the approach can improve prediction accuracy and helps telecom vendors in making policy for cross selling.

Research conducted by Yusuf, et al.[13] with the title of the application of data mining in the determination of association rules between types of items. The study aimed to determine the association between the type of product, the types of products that appear the same on every transaction so that the transaction data is an important input in making efforts to increase the sales. The method used is the association method with the apriori algorithm. The result obtained show that the sales transaction data gives three rules that meet the 80% confidence limit.

2. ASSOCIATION METHOD AND APRIORI ALGORITHM

2.1. Association Rule Mining

Association rule mining is a method used to determine the general patterns and repetitions in a set of transactions in large amounts. Association rule studies the frequency of a number of items that occur together in a transaction database based on two measures called support and confidence. Both of these measures to identify the occurrence and association rules from the item set. The formation of association rules on item set if the support and confidence values greater than the minimum support and confidence specified by the analyst [5].

Association rule can be used on one or more than one data dimension. If it is in one-dimensional, association rules that occur only involve one-dimensional logical data from multiple dimensions of data in data warehouses and data marts. In multi-dimensional association rules that occur involving more than one dimension of the logical data from multiple dimensions of data in data warehouses and data marts.

A procedure is to look for relationships between items in a specified data set [9]. Association Rule Mining includes two stages:

- a. Looking for the most common combination of an item set (frequent itemset).
- b. Generate the Association Rule of frequent item set that has been made before.

Generally there are two measures of confidence (interestingness measure) used in determining an association rule, namely the Support and Confidence [9].

2.2. Apriori Algorithm for Finding Frequent Item Sets

Apriori algorithm is an efficient method for selecting strong rules contained in the transaction group [10]. The first phase of the algorithm generates frequent item set appears in a systematic and robust second phase generates rules from the item set.

An Association rule can be explained as follows: O is a set of items where $O = \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_n\}$. T is the transaction that contains a set of items. D is the set of all transactions so that $D = \{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_m\}$. Association rule to generate will be shaped following implications:

"If A, then B" or " $A \Rightarrow B$ "

A is the antecedent (predecessor) of the implications, while B is the consequent (follower) of the implications. A and B are subsets of I so that $A, B \subseteq I$. A and B are two disjoint sets so $A \cap B = \emptyset$.

There are two sizes in determining the support of item sets can be expressed as association rules. This size is expressed as support and confidence.

a. Support is a requirement on how often a set of items must appear to be expressed as a rule. Support denoted by $\text{supp}\{A \Rightarrow B\} = \frac{f(A \cup B)}{\text{number of } T \text{ in } D}$

b. Confidence shows the level of confidence predecessor items (antecedents) and a follower items (consequent) will appear in the same transaction. Confidence is denoted by $\text{conf}\{A \Rightarrow B\} = \frac{f(A \cup B)}{f(A)}$

Item set is a set comprising some or all of the items that are members of I. An item set consisting of k items is called a k-item set. A frequent item set (frequent item set) is an item set which has a frequency of numbers ϕ . Frequent item set which has k elements is called a k-item set (frequent k-item set).

In addition to the size of the support and confidence of an item set is frequent, the third measure that can be considered is the value of the lift. Lift size is determined as follows:

$$L = \text{lift}\{A \Rightarrow B\} = \frac{f(A \cup B)}{f(A) f(B)}$$

Lift Value illustrates the following points:

- If the value of the lift < 1 , then A and B have the same low frequency of occurrence in the data as expected based on the independent assumption. In other words, A and B have a negative dependence and the influence of substitution between A and B.
- If the value of the lift $= 1$, then A and B at the same frequency of occurrence is frequent in the data as expected based on the independent assumption. A and B can be said to be independent from one another.
- If the value of the lift > 1 , then A and B at the same frequency of occurrence of more frequent data as expected based on the independent assumption. In other words, A and B are positive inter dependence, and there is a complementary effect between A and B.

Lift is calculated only for the 2-itemset because the lift value tends to be higher for large item set compared to slight item set. To that end, the lift is not suitable to determine the influence of different sizes item set. Apriori algorithm to perform frequent item set to obtain association rules. As the name implies, this algorithm uses prior knowledge of frequent item set properties on which we had known before, to process further information. Apriori uses an iterative approach referred to as level-wise search where k-itemset is used to find the (k+1)-itemset [8].

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sample data used comes from retail stores Alfamart Jl MT Haryono Cilacap, based on the collection of secondary data, it is obtained that every day there are about 700 transactions occur, in a year there are at least 255.600 transactions. This is just one branch of Alfamart alone. Number of Branches in Cilacap district, there are about 230 branches Alfamart. Then, after the completion of data used each year, what for is the data? Will it be discarded? Is that just kept until piling numbers? Of course, although it is only kept on file annually, there are costs to be incurred by the company for its maintenance. If the data that has been accumulated is not used, but there are maintenance costs to be incurred, the company would get loss.

For the process of extracting data with association analysis, we take a sample of transaction data Alfamart Jl MT Haryono, the transaction occurred on August 2, 2013

Table 1. Shopping cart transaction data

ID Transaksi	ITEM
101-1355	KINO LRTN PET 200ML
101-1356	SAMPOERNA A MILD MRH 16[PB]
101-1356	DJARUM 76
	GG SURYA 16 [PB]
	SAMPOERNA A MILD MRH 12[PB]
101-1361	DJARUM L.A LIGHT 16
	GG FILTER MERAH 12
101-1363	WALL'S CRNT BLACK&WHT NEW 110ML
	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML
	WALL'S POPULAIRE STRAWBERRY 90ML
101-1364	BINTANG ZERO KLG 330ML
101-1365	MARLBORO BLACK MENTHOL 20
101-1367	A GULA TEBU LOKAL 1KG
	ABC SPC GRADE COCOPANDAN 585ML
	KAPAL API KOPI SPECIAL 65G
	KG AST MERAH MINI 700G
	SARIWANGI TEH ASLI 25'S
	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML
101-1368	GG FILTER MERAH 12
101-1369	DUNHILL FINE CUT MILD 20
101-1370	BIG STROBERI PET 3.1L

Association analysis is used for finding important relationships hidden among very large datasets. Open relationships are already represented in the form of association rules or a rule set of items that frequently appear. The rule indicates a strong relationship between the sale of one item to another because many customers buy two items of the product. Thus, the mini market management can use this as a way to identify potential opportunities for cross-selling strategy (cross-selling) the goods are sold.

3.1. Modeling with Rapid Miner 5.0

Modeling with RapidMiner using data from sales transactions in August 2013 to December 2013. Processing is done by first binarizing existing transaction data. Existing raw transaction data cannot be processed because RapidMiner can only read the data in the form of binary data, which is represented by "0" or "1".

Data transactions are processed real data, and no manipulation. Despite only using transaction data in a day, but the patterns and rules can be obtained is expected to represent the spending behavior of consumers. The generation of association rules can be continued with daily transaction data processing based on receipt number to find items that could be used as a cross-selling strategy.

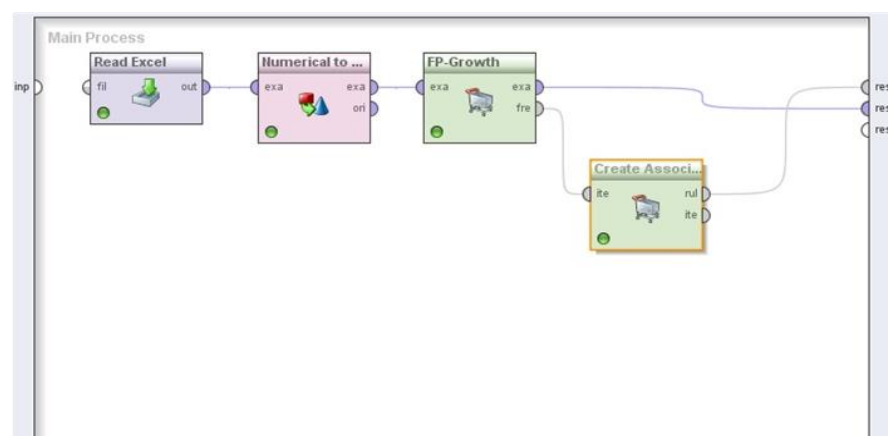


Figure 1. Process of Association Rule Modeling with RapidMiner

No.	Premises	Conclusion	Support	Confid.	Lift	Gain	p-s	Lift	Conv.
1	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	WALL'S POPULAIRE STRAWBERRY90ML	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
2	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	WALL'S CRNT BLACK&WHT NEW 110ML	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
3	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	SARIWANGI TEH ASLI 25'S	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
4	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KG AST MERAH MINI 700G	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
5	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KAPAL API KOPI SPECIAL 65G	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
6	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	ABC SPC GRADE COCOPANDAN 585ML	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
7	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	A GULA TEBU LOKAL 1KG	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
8	GG FILTER MERAH 12	DJARUM LA LIGHT 16	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
9	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	WALL'S POPULAIRE STRAWBERRY90ML	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
10	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	SARIWANGI TEH ASLI 25'S, KG AST MER	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
11	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	SARIWANGI TEH ASLI 25'S, KAPAL API KI	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
12	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	SARIWANGI TEH ASLI 25'S, ABC SPC GR	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
13	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	SARIWANGI TEH ASLI 25'S, A GULA TEBU	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
14	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KG AST MERAH MINI 700G, KAPAL API KI	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
15	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KG AST MERAH MINI 700G, ABC SPC GR	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
16	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KG AST MERAH MINI 700G, A GULA TEBU	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
17	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KAPAL API KOPI SPECIAL 65G, ABC SPC	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
18	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	KAPAL API KOPI SPECIAL 65G, A GULA T	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818
19	WALL'S FEAST COKLAT 65ML	ABC SPC GRADE COCOPANDAN 585ML	0.091	0.500	0.923	-0.27	0.074	5.500	1.818

Figure 2.Results of Application of Association Rule Table View

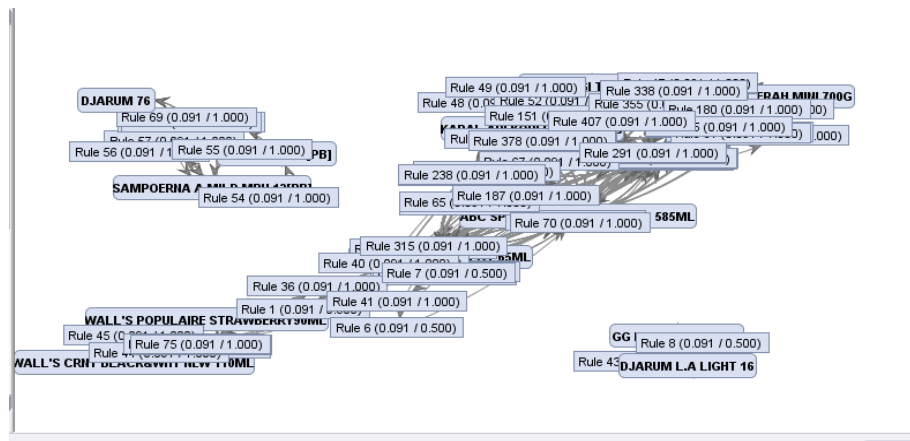


Figure 3.Results of Application of Association Rule Graph View

Calculation of Association Rule applied by applying Confidence value=0.8 while the value of Support=0.1. Of the defined minimumvalue, the result a total is 77rules. Rapid Miner can accomodate up to thousands of rules in accordance with the minimum support and minimum confidence that we specify.

3.2. Conclusions of Cross-selling Item

Several conclusions about cross-selling products that can be recommended from the process of extracting the association data include:

- Wall's Feast Chocolate with Sariwangi The Asli
- Gudang Garam Filter Merah with Djarum LA Light
- Sariwangi The Asli in various size with Kapal Api Kopi with different variants and sizes
- Gula Tebu Lokal with Kapal Api Kopi with different variants and sizes
- Gula Tebu Lokal with Sariwangi The Asli with different variants and sizes
- Gula Tebu Lokal with ABC Special Grade Coco pandan
- Djarum 76 with Gudang Garam 16
- Sariwangi The Asli, Kapal Api Kopi with Wall's Feast Chocolate

4. CONCLUSION

From the data processing transaction dated August 2, 2013 on one branch Alfamart mini market in Cilacap, it is obtained the results of association rules or link age among products that can be used for the consideration of cross-selling strategies as well as to determine the layout of the items in the shop window. Modeling of Association Rule only takes a sample of data from the transaction for one day. Data processing

and modeling can be applied to larger data to find a combination and association rules and also a linkage of inter-complex products.

Several conclusions about cross-selling products that can be recommended from process of extracting the association data include:

1. Wall's Feast Chocolate with Sariwangi The Asli
2. Gudang Garam Filter Merah with Djarum LA Light
3. Sariwangi The Asli in various size with Kapal Api Kopi with different variants and sizes
4. Gula Tebu Lokal with Kapal Api Kopi with different variants and sizes
5. Gula Tebu Lokal with Sariwangi The Asli with different variants and sizes
6. Gula Tebu Lokal with ABC Special Grade Cocopandan
7. Djarum 76 with Gudang Garam 16
8. Sariwangi The Asli, Kapal Api Kopi with Wall's Feast Chocolate

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