A New Viewpoint for Mining Frequent Patterns

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Abstract—According to the traditional viewpoint of Data mining, transactions are accumulated over a long period of time (in years) in order to find out the frequent patterns associated with a given threshold of support, and then they are applied to practice of business as important experience for the next business processes. From the point of view, many algorithms have been proposed to exploit frequent patterns. However, the huge number of transactions accumulated for a long time and having to handle all the transactions at once are still challenges for the existing algorithms. In addition, today, new characteristics of the business market and the regular changes of business database with too large frequency of added-deleted-altered operations are demanding a new algorithm mining frequent patterns to meet the above challenges. This article proposes a new perspective in the field of mining frequent patterns: accumulating frequent patterns along with a mathematical model and algorithms to solve existing challenges.

Keywords—accumulating frequent patterns; data mining; frequent pattern; horizontal parallelization; representative set; vertical parallelization

I. INTRODUCTION

Frequent pattern mining is a basic problem in data mining and knowledge discovery. Frequent patterns are set of items which occur in dataset more than user specified number of times. Identifying frequent patterns will play an essential role in mining associations, correlations, and many other interesting relationships among data (Prakash et. al. 2011). Recently, frequent pattern has been studied and applied into many areas such as: text categorization (Yuan et. al. 2013), text mining (Kim et. al. 2012), social network (Nancy and Ramani 2012), frequent subgraph (Wang and Ramon 2012) ... Various techniques have been proposed to improve the performance of frequent pattern mining algorithms. In general, methods of finding frequent patterns may fall into 3 main categories: Candidate Generation Methods, Without Candidate Generation Methods and Parallel Methods.

The common rule of Candidate Generation Methods is probing dataset many times to generate good candidates which can be used as frequent patterns of dataset. Apriori algorithm, proposed by Agrawal and Srikant in 1995 (Prasad and Ramakrishna 2011), is a typical technique in this approach. Recently, many researches focus on Apriori and improve this algorithm to reduce the complexity and increase the efficiency of finding frequent patterns. Partitioning technique (Prasad and Ramakrishna 2011), pattern based algorithms and incremental Apriori based algorithms (Sharma and Garg 2011) can be Phi-Khu Nguyen Department of Computer Science University of Information Technology, Vietnam National University HCM City Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

viewed as the Candidate Generation Methods. Many improvements of Apriori were presented. An efficient improved Apriori algorithm for mining association rules using Logical Table based approach was proposed (Malpani and Pal 2012). Another group focuses on map/reduce design and implementation of Apriori algorithm for structured data analysis (Koundinya et. al. 2012) while some researchers proposed an improved algorithm for mining frequent patterns in large datasets using transposition of the database with minor modification of the Apriori-like algorithm (Gunaseelan and Uma 2012). The custom-built Apriori algorithm (Rawat and Rajamani 2010), and the modified Apriori algorithm (Raghunathan and Murugesan 2010) were introduced but the time consuming has been still a big obstacle. Reduced Candidate Set (RCS) is an algorithm which is more efficiency than original Apriori algorithm (Bahel and Dule 2010). Record Filter Approach is a method which takes less time than Apriori (Goswami et. al. 2010). In addition, Sumathi et. al. 2012 also proposed the algorithm taking vertical tidset representation of the database and removes all the non-maximal frequent itemsets to get exact set of Maximal Frequent Itemset directly. Besides, a method was introduced by Utmal et. al. 2012. This method firstly finds frequent 1_itemset and then uses the heap tree to sort frequent patterns generated, and so repeatedly. Although Apriori and its developments are proved the effectiveness, many scientists still focus on the other heuristic algorithms and try to find better algorithms. Genetic algorithms (Prakash et. al. 2011), Dynamic Function (Joshi et. al. 2010) and depth-first search were studied and applied successfully in reality. Besides, a study presented a new technique using a classifier which can predict the fastest ARM (Association Rule Mining) algorithm with a high degree of accuracy (Sadat et. al. 2011). Another approach was also based on Apriori algorithm but provides better reduction in time because of the prior separation in the data (Khare and Gupta 2012).

Apriori and Apriori-like algorithms sometimes create large number of candidate sets. It is hard to pass the database and compare the candidates. Without Candidate Generation is another approach which determines complete set of frequent item sets without candidate generation, based on divide and conquer technique. Interesting patterns, Constraint-based mining are typical methods which were all introduced recently (Prasad and Ramakrishna 2011). FP-Tree, FP-Growth and their developments (Aggarwal et. al. 2009) – (Kiran and Reddy 2011) – (Deypir and Sadreddini 2011) – (Xiaoyun et. al. 2009) – (Duraiswamy and Jayanthi 2011) introduced a prefix tree structure which can be used to find out frequent patterns in datasets. In other hand, researchers studied a transaction reduction technique with FP-tree based bottom up approach for mining cross-level pattern (Jayanthi and Duraiswamy 2012), and construction of FP-tree using Huffman Coding (Patro et. al. 2012). H-mine is a pattern mining algorithm which is used to discover features of products from reviews (Prasad and Ramakrishna 2011) – (Ghorashi et. al. 2012). Besides that, a novel tree structure called FPU-tree was proposed which is efficient than available trees for storing data streams (Baskar et. al. 2012). Another study tried to find improved association to show that which item set is most acceptable association with others (Saxena and Satsangi 2012). Q-FP tree was introduced as a way to mine data streams for association rule mining (Sharma and Jain 2012).

Applying parallel technique to solve high complexity problems is an interesting field. In recent years, several parallel, distributed extensions of serial algorithms for frequent pattern discovery have been proposed. A study presented a distributed, parallel algorithm, which makes feasible the application of SPADA to large data sets (Appice et. al. 2011) while another group introduced HPFP-Miner algorithm, based on FP-Tree algorithm, to integrate parallelism into finding the frequent patterns (Xiaoyun et. al. 2009).

A method for finding the frequent occurrence patterns and the frequent occurrence time-series change patterns from the observational data of the weather-monitor satellite applied successfully parallel method to solve the problem of calculation cost (Niimi et. al. 2010). PFunc, a novel task parallel library whose customizable task scheduling and task priorities facilitated the implementation of clustered scheduling policy, was presented and proved its efficiency (Kambadur et. al. 2012). Another method is partitioning for finding frequent pattern from huge database. It is based on key based division for finding the local frequent pattern (LFP). After finding the partition frequent pattern from the subdivided local database, it then find the global frequent pattern from the local database and perform the pruning from the whole database (Gupta and Satsangi 2012).

Fuzzy frequent pattern mining has been also a new approach recently (Picado-Muiño et. al. 2012).

Although there are significant improvement in finding frequent patterns recently, working with the varying database is still a big challenge. Especially, it need not scan again the whole database whenever having need of adding a new element or deleting/modifying an element. Besides, a number of algorithms are effective, but their basis of mathematics and way of installation are complex. In addition, it is the limit of computer memory. Hence, combining how to store the data mining context most effectively with costing the memory least and how to store frequent patterns is also not a small challenge. Finally, ability of dividing data into several parts for parallel processing is also concerned.

Furthermore, characteristics of the medium and small market also produce challenges need to be solved:

• Most enterprises have medium and small scale, such as: interior decoration, catering business, computer training, foreign language training, motor business, and so on. The number of categories of goods which they trade in is about 200 to 1000. Cases up to 1000 items, it is usually the supermarkets with diverse categories such as food, appliances, makeup, homemaker, ...

- The purchasing invoices have the same general principle is that the number of categories sold is about 20 (the invoice form is in accordance with the government)
- The fact that the laws indicating a shopping tendency of the market in the best way are drawn from the number of invoices having accumulated time from 6 months to 1 year before. Because the current market needs and design, utility, function of goods change rapidly and continuously, so it can not use the laws of the previous years to apply to the current time.
- Market trends in different areas are different.
- Businesses need to regularly change the minimum support threshold in order to find acceptable laws based on the number of buyers.
- Due to the specific management of enterprises, the operations such as adding, deleting, editing frequently impact on database.
- The need of accumulating the results immediately after each operation on the invoice to be able to refer to the laws at any time.

In this article, a mathematical space will be introduced with some new related concepts and propositions to design new algorithms which are expected to solve remain issues in finding frequent patterns.

II. MATHEMATICAL MODEL

Definition 1: Given 2 bit chains with the same length: $a = a_1a_2...a_m$, $b = b_1b_2...b_m$. *a* is said to cover *b* or *b* is covered by *a* – denoted $a \subseteq b$ – if $pos(b) \subseteq pos(a)$ where $pos(s) = \{i \mid s_i = 1\}$

Definition 2:

+ Let u be a bit chain, k is a non-negative integer, we say [u; k] is a *pattern*.

+ Let *S* be the set of size-*m* bit chains (chains with the length of *m*), *u* is a size-*m* bit chain. If there are *k* chains in *S* cover *u*, we say: *u* is a *form* of *S* with frequency *k*; and [u; k] is a pattern of *S* – denoted $[u; k]_{\rightarrow S}$

For instance: $S = \{1110, 0111, 0110, 0010, 0101\}$ and u = 0110. We say *u* is a form with frequency 2 in *S*, so $[0110; 2]_{\rightarrow S}$

+ A pattern [u; k] of *S* is called *maximal pattern* – denoted $[u; k]_{\max \to S}$ – if and only if it doesn't exist *k*' such that $[u; k']_{\max \to S}$ and k' > k. With the above instance, $[0110; 3]_{\max \to S}$

Definition 3: *P* is representative set of S when $P = \{[u; p]_{\max \to S} | \not\exists [v; q]_{\max \to S} : (v \subseteq u \text{ and } q > p)\}$. Each element in *P* is called a *representative pattern* of *S*

Proposition 1: Let S be a set of size-m bit chains with representative set P, then two arbitrary elements in P do not coincide with each other.

Maximal Rectangle: If we present the set S in the form of matrix with each row being an element in S, intuitively, we can see that each element [u; k] of the representative set P forms a maximal rectangle with maximal height of k.

For instance, given $S = \{1110, 0111, 1110, 0111, 0011\}$, the representative set of $S: P = \{[1110; 2], [0110; 4], [0010; 5], [0111; 2], [0011; 3]\}$.

А	5x4	matri	x:	and		[011	0; 4]:	
1	1	1	0		1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1		0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0		1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1		0	1	1	1
0	0	1	1		0	0	1	1

Fig.1. A 5x4 matrix for [0110; 4].

Figure 1 shows a maximal rectangle with boldface 1s and a maximal height of 4 corresponding to the pattern [0110; 4]. Other maximal rectangles formed by elements of *P* are:

[1	110); 2]]:	[001	0; 5]:	[0	111	; 2]:	[001	1;3]:
1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0
0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1

Fig.2. Matrices for [1110; 2], [0010; 5], [1110; 2] and [0011; 3].

Definition 4 (Binary relations):

+ Two size-*m* bit chains *a* and *b* is said to be equal – denoted a = b – if and only if $a_i = b_i \quad \forall i \in \{1, ..., m\}$, otherwise $a \neq b$

+ Given 2 patterns $[u_1; p_1]$ and $[u_2; p_2]$. $[u_1; p_1]$ is said to be contained in $[u_2; p_2]$ – denoted $[u_1; p_1] \subseteq [u_2; p_2]$ – if and only if $u_1 = u_2$ and $p_1 \le p_2$, otherwise $[u_1; p_1] \not\subset [u_2; p_2]$

+ Given 2 size-*m* bit chains *a* and *b*. A size-*m* bit chain *z* is called *minimum chain* of *a* and *b* – denoted $z = a \land b$ – if and only if $z_k = \min(a_k, b_k) \forall k \in \{1, ..., m\}$

+ *Minimum pattern* of 2 patterns $[u_1; p_1]$ and $[u_2; p_2]$ is a pattern [u'; p'] – denoted $[u'; p'] = [u_1; p_1]$ o $[u_2; p_2]$ – where $u' = u_1 \land u_2$ and $p' = p_1 + p_2$

III. PRACTICAL ISSUE

A. Presenting the Problem

We have a set of transactions and the goal is to produce the frequent patterns according to a specific bias called *min support*.

We can present the set of transactions as a set *S* of bit chains. For a chain in *S*, the i^{th} bit is set to 1 when the i^{th} item is chosen and otherwise. The representative set *P* of *S* is the set of all patterns in *S* with maximal occurrence time.

We can calculate the frequent patterns easily according to *P*.

So, the problem is transferred to rebuilding the representative set P whenever S is modified (add, delete or alter elements).

B. Adding a New Transaction

We just simply use the above algorithm to rebuild the representative set P when a new transaction is added.

Algorithm for rebuilding the representative set when adding a new element to S: Let S be a set of n size-m bit chains with representative set P. In this section, we consider the algorithm for rebuilding the representative set when a new chain is added to S.

```
ALGORITHM NewRepresentative (P, z) // Finding new representative set for S when one chain is added to S.
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// Input: *P* is the representative set of *S*,

z is a chain added to S.

// Output: The new representative set *P* of $S \cup \{z\}$.

1. $M = \emptyset // M$: set of new elements of P

2. flag1 = 03. flag2 = 04. for each $x \in P$ do 5. q = x o [z; 1]6. if $q \neq 0 //q$ is not a chain with all bits 0 7. if $x \subseteq q$ then $P = P \setminus \{x\}$ 8. if $[z; 1] \subseteq q$ then flag1 = 1 9. for each $y \in M$ do 10. if $y \subseteq q$ then $M = M \setminus \{y\}$ 11. 12. break for 13. endif 14. if $q \subseteq y$ then 15. flag2 = 116. break for endif 17. endfor 18. 19. else 20. flag2 = 121. endif 22. if flag2 = 0 then $M = M \cup \{q\}$ 23. flag2 = 024. endfor 25. if flag1 = 0 then $P = P \cup \{[z; 1]\}$ 26. $P = P \cup M$ 27. return P

The complexity of the algorithm:

The complexity of *NewRepresentative* algorithm is $nm2^{2m}$, where *n* is the number of transactions and *m* is the number of items. (Of course, if we are more careful, we may get a better estimate, however the above estimate is linear in *n*, and this is the most important thing).

Proof: Let *P* be the representative set before adding *z*, and let *Q* the new representative set after adding *z*. Let |P| be the cardinal of *P* (i.e. the number of elements of *P*).

The key observation is that $|P| \le 2^m$. This is because we can not have two elements [z; p] and [z'; p'] in P such that z = z' and $p \ne p'$. Therefore, the number of elements of P will always less than or equal to the number of chains of m bits, the latter is 2^m .

Fixed an x in P.

In line 5, the complexity will be *m*.

In line 7, the complexity will be *m* again.

In line 8, the complexity is *m* again.

In lines 9-13, the cardinal |M| is at most |P|, since from the definition of *M* on line 22 the worst case is when we add every thing of the form q = x o [z; 1] into *M*, here *x* runs all over *P*, and in this case |M| = |P|. Hence the complexity of these lines 9-13 is less than or equal to |P|.

Lines 18-24 the complexity is at most *m*.

Hence when we let x vary in P (but fix a transaction z), we see that the total complexity for lines 5-24 is about $m|P|^2 \le m2^{2m}$.

If we vary the transactions z (whose number is n), we see that the complexity for the whole algorithm is $nm2^{2m}$.

Theorem 1:

Let *S* be a set of size-*m* bit chains and *P* be representative set of *S*. For [u; p], $[v; q] \in P$ and $z \notin S$, let [u; p] o [z; 1] = [t; p+1], [v; q] o [z; 1] = [d; q+1]. Only one of the following cases must be satisfied:

i. $[u; p] \subseteq [t; p+1]$ and $[u; p] \subseteq [d; q+1], t = d$

ii. $[u; p] \subseteq [t; p+1]$ and $[u; p] \not\subset [d; q+1], t \neq d$

iii. $[u; p] \not\subset [t; p+1]$ and $[u; p] \not\subset [d; q+1]$.

Proof: From *Proposition 1*, obviously $u \neq v$. The theorem is proved if the following claim is true: Let

- (a): u = t, u = d, and t = d;
- (b): u = t, $u \neq d$, and $t \neq d$;
- (c): $u \neq t$ and $u \neq d$,

only one of the above statements is correct.

By the method of induction on the number *m* of entries of chain, in the first step, we show that the claim is correct if *u* and *v* differ at only one k^{th} entry.

Without loss of generality, we assume that $u_k = 0$ and $v_k = 1$. The following cases must be true:

- Case 1:
$$z_k = 0$$
; Then min $(u_k, z_k) = min(v_k, z_k) = 0$, hence

$$t = u \land z = (u_1, u_2, \dots, 0, \dots, u_m) \land (z_1, z_2, \dots, 0, \dots, z_m) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, 0, \dots, x_m), x_i = \min(u_i, z_i), \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m, i \neq k;$$

$$d = v \land z = (v_1, v_2, \dots, 1, \dots, v_m) \land (z_1, z_2, \dots, 0, \dots, z_m) = (y_1, y_2, \dots, 0, \dots, y_m), y_i = \min(v_i, z_i), \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m, i \neq k.$$

From the assumption $u_i = v_i$ when $i \neq k$ thus $x_i = y_i$, so t = d. Hence, if u = t then u = d and (a) is correct. On the other hand, if $u \neq t$ then $u \neq d$, therefore (c) is correct.

- Case 2: $z_k = 1$; We have $\min(u_k, z_k) = 0$, $\min(v_k, z_k) = 1$ and $t = u \land z = (u_1, u_2, \dots, 0, \dots, u_m) \land (z_1, z_2, \dots, 1, \dots, z_m) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, 0, \dots, x_m), x_i = \min(u_i, z_i)$, for $i = 1, \dots, m, i \neq k$;

 $d = v \land z = (v_1, v_2, \dots, 1, \dots, v_m) \land (z_1, z_2, \dots, 1, \dots, z_m) = (y_1, y_2, \dots, 1, \dots, y_m), y_i = \min(v_i, z_i), \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, m, i \neq k.$

So, $t \neq d$. If u = t then $u \neq d$, thus the statement (b) is correct.

In summary, the above claim is true for any u and v of S that differ only at one entry.

By induction in the second step, it is assumed that the claim is true if u and v differ at r entries, and only one of the three statements (a), (b) or (c) is true.

Without loss of generality, we assume that the first r entries of u and v are different, and they differ at (r + 1)-th entries. Applying the same method in the first step where r = 1 to this instance, it is obtained

True statements when $u \neq v$, and their first <i>r</i> entries are different:	True statements when $u \neq v$, and their first $r + 1$ entries are different:	True statements when combining the two possibilities:
(a)	(a)	(a)
(a)	(b)	(b)
(a)	(c)	(c)
(b)	(a)	(b)
(b)	(b)	(b)
(b)	(c)	(c)
(c)	(a)	(c)
(c)	(b)	(c)
(c)	(c)	(c)

Fig.3. Cases in comparison.

Therefore, if u and v are different at r + 1 entries, only one of the (a), (b), (c) statements is correct. The above claim is true, and *Theorem I* is proved.

Theorem 2:

Let *S* be a set of *n* size-*m* bit chains. The representative set of *S* is determined by applying *NewRepresentative* algorithm to each of *n* elements of *S* in turn.

Proof: We prove the theorem by induction on the number n of elements of S.

Firstly, when applying the above algorithm to the set *S* of only one element, this element is added into *P* and then *P* with that only element is the representative set of *S*. Thus, theorem 2 is proved in the case of n = 1.

Next, assume that whenever *S* has *n* elements, the above algorithm can be applied to *S* to obtain a representative set P_0 .

Now we prove that when *S* has n + 1 elements then the above algorithm can be applied to yield a representative *P* for *S*. We assume that *S* is the union of a set S_0 of *n* elements and an element *z*, and that we already had a representative set P_0 for S_0 . Each element of P_0 allows forming a maximal rectangle from S_0 , and we call *p* the number of elements of P_0 .

The fifth statement in the *NewRepresentative* algorithm shows that the operator o can be applied to z and p elements of P_0 to produce p new elements belonging to P. This means z "scans" all elements in the set P_0 to find out new rectangle forms when adding z into S₀. Consequently, three groups of 2p + 1 elements in total are created from the sets P_0 , P, and z.

To remove redundant rectangles, we have to check whether each element of P_0 is contained by elements of P or not, whether elements of P contain other one another, and whether zis contained by an element in P.

Let *x* be an element of P_0 and consider the form *x* o [*z*; 1]. There are two cases: if the form of *z* covers the one of *x* then *x* is a new form; or if the form of *x* covers the one of *z* then *z* is a new form. In either case, the frequency of the new form is always one unit greater than frequency of the original.

According to *Theorem 1*, with $x \in P_0$, if some pattern w contains x then w must be a new element which belongs to P, and that new element is q = x o [z; 1]. To check whether x is contained by elements belonging to P, we need only to check that whether x is contained by q or not. If x is contained by q, it must be removed from the representative set (line 7).

In summary, first, the algorithm checks whether elements belonging to P_0 is contained by elements belonging to P. Then, the algorithm checks whether elements of P contain one another (from line 9 to line 18), and whether [z; 1] is contained by elements belonging to P or not (line 8).

Finally, the above *NewRepresentative* algorithm can be used to find new representative set when adding new elements to *S*.

C. Deleting a Transaction

Definition 5: Let *S* be a set of bit chains and *P* received by applying the algorithm *NewRepresentative* to *S* be the representative set of *S*. Given $[p; k] \in P$, and $s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_r \in S$ are $r \ (r \leq k)$ chains participating in taking shape *p*, i.e., these chains participate in creating a rectangle with the form *p* in *S*, denoted *p*_crd: s_1, s_2, \ldots, s_r , otherwise, *p*_crd: $!s_1, !s_2, \ldots, !s_r$

For example, with *Figure 1*, the chains 1110 and 0111 are 2 in 4 chains participating in creating [0110; 4]. Let $s_1 = 1110$, $s_2 = 0111$ and p = 0110, we have $p_crd = s_1$, s_2 . Besides, the chain $s_3 = 0011$ does not participate in creating [0110; 4], so $p_crd = !s_3$

Theorem 3:

Let *S* be a set of bit chains and *P* received by applying the algorithm *NewRepresentative* to *S* be the representative set of *S*. With an arbitrary $s \in S$, we have:

$$\forall [p; k] \in P \mid p_crd: s, s \subseteq p \text{ and } \forall [p'; k'] \in P \mid p'_crd: !s, s ! \subseteq p'$$

Proof: Suppose to the contradiction that *Theorem 3* is wrong. It has 2 cases:

(1)
$$\exists [p; k] \in P \mid p_crd: s, s ! \subseteq p \text{ or }$$

(2)
$$\exists [p'; k'] \in P \mid p'_crd: !s, s \subseteq p'$$

With (1), we have $s : \subseteq p$. According to the algorithm *NewRepresentative*, *s* can not participate in creating *p*, *p*_crd: *!s*, hence (1) is wrong.

With (2), we have $s \subseteq p'$. According to the algorithm *NewRepresentative*, *s* have to participate in creating *p'*, *p'*_crd: *s*, hence (2) is wrong.

To sum up, *Theorem 3* is right.

When having *Theorem 3*, modifying the representative set after a transaction was deleted is rather simple. We just use the chain/transaction deleted to scan all elements of the representative set and reduce their frequency by 1 unit if they are covered by this chain. The example for this situation will be showed in the section III.*E* Now the algorithm *NewRepresentative_Delete* are generated:

ALGORITHM NewRepresentative_Delete (P, z)

// Finding new representative for *S* when one chain is removed from *S*.

// Input: P is the representative set of S, z is a chain removed from S.

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// Output: The new representative set P of S \setminus \{z\}
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1. For each $x \in P$ do

2. if z \hookrightarrow x.Form then

3. x.Frequency \leftarrow x.Frequency - 1

- 4. if x.Frequency = 0 then $P \leftarrow P \setminus \{x\}$
- 5. endif
- 6. endfor

D. Altering a Transaction

The operation of altering a transaction is equivalent to deleting that transaction and adding new transaction with the changed content.

E. Example

Give the set S of transactions $\{o_1, o_2, o_3, o_4, o_5\}$ and the set I of items $\{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4\}$. Figure 4 describes elements in S.

	i_1	i_2	i_3	i_4
o_1	1	1	1	0
o_1 o_2	0	1	1	1
03	0	1	1	1
	1	1	1	0
O_4 O_5	0	0	1	1

Fig.4. Bit chains of S.

- **Step 1**: Consider line 1: [1110; 1] (*l*₁)

Since P now is empty means should we put (l_1) in P, we have:

```
P = \{ [1110; 1] \} (1)
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- Step 2: Consider line 2: [0111; 1] (*l*₂)

Let (l_2) perform the o operation with the elements existing in *P* in order to get the new elements

 (l_2) o (1): [0111; 1] o [1110; 1] = [0110; 2] (n_1)

Considering excluded:

- Considering whether or not the old elements in P is contained in the new elements: We remain: (1)

- Considering whether or not the new elements contain each other (note: (l_2) is also a new element): We remain: (l_2) and (n_1)

After considering excluded, we put the elements into *P*:

 $P = \{ [1110; 1] (1);$

[0110; 2] (2);

[0111; 1] (3) }

- Step 3: Consider line 3: [0111; 1] (l₃)

Let (l_3) perform the o operation with the elements existing in *P* in order to get the new elements

 (l_3) o (1): [0111; 1] o [1110; 1] = [0110; 2] (n_1)

 (l_3) o (2): [0111; 1] o [0110; 2] = [0110; 3] (n_2)

 (l_3) o (3): [0111; 1] o [0111; 1] = [0111; 2] (n_3)

Considering excluded:

- Considering whether or not the old elements in P is contained in the new elements: We remove: (2) because of being contained in (n_1) , and (3) because of being contained in (n_3) ; we remain: (1)

- Considering whether or not the new elements contain each other (note: (l_3) is also a new element): We remove: (n_1) because of being contained in (n_2) , and (l_3) because of being contained in (n_3) ; we remain: (n_2) and (n_3)

After considering excluded, we put the elements into *P*:

 $P = \{ [1110; 1] (1); \}$

[0110; 3] (2);

 $[0111; 2] (3) \}$

- Step 4: Consider line 4: [1110; 1] (*l*₄)

Let (l_4) perform the o operation with the elements existing in P in order to get the new elements

 (l_4) o (1): [1110; 1] o [1110; 1] = [1110; 2] (n_1)

 (l_4) o (2): [1110; 1] o [0110; 3] = [0110; 4] (n_2)

 (l_4) o (3): [1110; 1] o [0111; 2] = [0110; 3] (n_3)

Considering excluded:

- Considering whether or not the old elements in P is contained in the new elements: We remove: (1) because of being contained in (n_1) , and (2) because of being contained in (n_2) ; we remain: (3)

- Considering whether or not the new elements contain each other (note: (l_4) is also a new element): We remove: (n_3) because of being contained in (n_2) , and (l_4) because of being contained in (n_1) ; we remain: (n_1) and (n_2)

After considering excluded, we put the elements into *P*:

 $P = \{ [0111; 2] (1);$

[1110; 2] (2);

[0110; 4] (3) }

- Step 5: Consider line 5: [0011; 1] (*l*₅)

Let (l_5) perform the o operation with the elements existing in P in order to get the new elements

 (l_5) o (1): [0011; 1] o [0111; 2] = [0011; 3] (n_1)

 (l_5) o (2): [0011; 1] o [1110; 2] = [0010; 3] (n_2)

 (l_5) o (3): [0011; 1] o [0110; 4] = [0010; 5] (n_3)

Considering excluded:

- Considering whether or not the old elements in P are contained in the new elements: We remain: (1), (2), and (3)

- Considering whether or not the new elements contain each other (note: (l_5) is also a new element): We remove: (l_5) because of being contained in (n_1) , and (n_2) because of being contained in (n_3) ; we remain: (n_1) and (n_3)

After considering excluded, we put the elements into *P*:

 $P = \{ [0111; 2] (1); \\ [1110; 2] (2); \\ [0110; 4] (3); \\ [0011; 3] (4); \\ [0010; 5] (5) \}$

So, the frequent patterns satisfying *min support* = 40% (2/5) is listed:

{ $\{i_2, i_3, i_4\}$ (2/5); $\{i_1, i_2, i_3\}$ (2/5); $\{i_2, i_3\}$ (4/5); $\{i_3, i_4\}$ (3/5); $\{i_5\}$ (5/5) }

In addition, we also can list immediately the frequent patterns satisfying *min support* = 60% (3/5):

 $\{\{i_2, i_3\} (4/5); \{i_3, i_4\} (3/5); \{i_3\} (5/5)\}$

When the invoice $o_1 = 1110$ is deleted, we need only scan through each element of *P* and examine whether their forms are covered by o_1 . If they are covered then we reduce their frequency by 1 unit. Specifically, we have:

$$P = \{ [0111; 2] (1);$$

$$[1110; 1] (2);$$

$$[0110; 3] (3);$$

$$[0011; 3] (4);$$

$$[0010; 4] (5) \}$$

To increase the speed of computation, we can realize intuitively that grouping the chains/transactions in the period of preprocessing data, before running the algorithms is a good idea.

Form	Frequency
1110	2
0111	2
0011	1

Fig.5. The result after grouping the bit chains of *S*.

IV. EXPERIMENTATION 1

The experiments of *NewRepresentative* algorithm are conducted on a machine with Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-2100 CPU @ 3.10GHz (4 CPUs), ~3.1GHz and 4096MB main memory installed. The operating system is Windows 7 Ultimate 64-bit (6.1, Build 7601) Service Pack 1. Programming language is C#.NET.

The proposed algorithm is tested on two datasets: the Retail data taken from a small and medium enterprise in reality and the T10I4D100K data taken from *http://fimi.ua.ac.be/data/* website. First 10,000 transactions of T10I4D100K is run and compared with 12,189 transactions of Retail data.

Datasets	No. of transactions	The maximum number of items which customer can purchase	The maximum number of items in the dataset	Running time (second)	No. of frequent patterns
Retail	12,189	8	38	0.900051 5	44
T10I4D1 00K	10,000	26	1,000	702.1381 6	139,491

Fig.6. The experimental results when running proposed algorithm on 2 datasets.

Figure 6 shows the experimental results. The running time and the number of frequent patterns of T10I4D100K are absolutely larger than Retail. The result shows that the number of frequent patterns in reality of a store or an enterprise is often small. T10I4D100K is generated using the generator from the IBM Almaden Quest research group so that the transactions fluctuate much and the number of frequent patterns increases sharply when adding a new transaction.

The fast increase of number of frequent patterns leads to a big issue in computation: overflow. Although the large and the fast growth of frequent patterns, it is easy to prove that the maximum number of frequent pattern cannot be larger than a specified value. For example, if M is the maximum number of items in a store and N is the maximum number of items which a customer can purchase. The number of frequent patterns in the store is always not larger than $C_M^1 + C_M^2 + \ldots + C_M^N$. It

means the number of frequent patterns may increase fast but it is not big enough to make the system to be crashed.

To reduce the running time of the algorithm, parallelization is one of good ways. Parallelization was applied to find frequent patterns from huge database in the past (Gupta and Satsangi 2012). The large amount of frequent patterns is a reason makes us apply parallelization method to the *NewRepresentative* algorithm.

One of the big issues when developing an algorithm in parallel systems is the complexity of algorithms. Some algorithms can not divide into small part to run simultaneously separate sites machines. Fortunately, in or the NewRepresentative algorithm can be expanded for parallel systems easily. The following section introduces two ways to parallelize the algorithm: Horizontal Parallelization and Vertical Parallelization. The parallelization methods share the resource of machines and reduce the running time. It's one of the efficient ways to increase the speed of algorithms having high executing complexity.

V. THE PRINCIPLES OF PARALLEL COMPUTING

Parallel computing is a form of computation in which many calculations are carried out simultaneously operating on the principle that large problems can often be divided into smaller ones, which are then solved concurrently.

The parallel system of the *NewRepresentative* algorithm has the following structure:

At first, the fragmentation will be implemented. The whole data will be divided into small and equal fragments. In Horizontal Parallelization, the transactions in data will be divided while the items are the information which will be divided in Vertical Parallelization. After the data is fragmented properly, all fragments must be allocated in various sites of network. A master site has responsibility for fragmenting data, allocating fragments to sites and merging the results from site into the final result. Sites will run the *NewRepresentative* algorithm with the fragments which are assigned to them simultaneously and finally, send the results into the master site for merging.

VI. HORIZONTAL PARALLELIZATION

Consider a set of n transactions S. If there are k machine located in k separate sites. Horizontal Parallelization (*HP*) will divide the set S into k equal fragments and allocate those fragments to k sites. The *NewRepresentative* algorithm is applied on n/k transactions in each site. After running algorithm, every site has its own representative set. All representative sets are sent back to master site for merging.

Merging representative sets from sites in mater site is similar to find representative set when adding new transactions into dataset.

ALGORITHM HorizontalMerge(PM, PS)

//Input: PM: representative set of master site.

PS: the set of representative sets from other sites. //Output: The new representative set of horizontal parallelization.

1. for each $P \in PS$ do

```
2. for each z \in P do
```

```
3. PM = NewRepresentative(PM, z);
4. end for;
```

```
5. end for;
```

```
6. return PM;
```

Theorem 4:

Horizontal Parallelization method returns the representative set.

Proof: We prove by induction on *k*.

If k = 1, then the *HP* method is the *NewRepresentative* method, hence returns the representative set.

If k = 2, then let the two sites be S_1 and S_2 , and let (u_1, p_1) , ..., (u_m, p_m) be the representative set for S_1 , and let $(v_1, q_1), \ldots,$ (v_n, q_n) be the representative set for S_2 . We need to show that the HP algorithm will give us the representative for the union of S_1 and S_2 ($S_1 \cup S_2$). Let (*w*, *r*) be a representative element for $S_1 \cup S_2$. We denote by (w_1, r_1) the restriction of (w, r) to S_1 , that is $w_1 = w$ and r_1 = the number of when w appears in S_1 . Similarly we define (w_2, r_2) . Then by definition we must have $r_1 + r_2 = r$. Also, there must be one of the representative elements in S_1 , called (u_1, p_1) , so that $u_1 \subseteq w$ and $p_1 = r_1$. In fact, by definition of representative elements, there must be such a (u_1, p_1) for which $u_1 \subseteq w$ and $p_1 \ge r_1$. We also have a (v_1, p_1) q_1) in S_2 with $v_1 \subseteq w$ and $q_1 \ge r_2$. Now we must have $p_1 = r_1$ and $q_1 = r_2$ because otherwise w will appear $p_1 + q_1 > r_1 + r_2 = r$ times in $S_1 \cup S_2$. Now when we apply the *HP* algorithm then we will see at least one element (w', r) where $w' = u_1 \wedge v_1$, and in particular w' must cover w. Then w' must be in fact w, otherwise, we have an element (w', r) with $w' \subseteq w$ but the frequency of w' is strictly larger than of w, and hence (w, r)cannot be a representative element. Then we see that (w, r) is produced when using the HP algorithm as wanted.

Assume that we proved the correctness of the *HP* algorithm for *k* sites. We now prove the correctness of the *HP* algorithm for k + 1 sites. We denote these sites by $S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_k, S_{k+1}$. By the induction assumption, we can find the representative set for *k* sites S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_k using the *HP* algorithm. Denote by

 $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} S_i$. Now apply the case of two sites which we proved

above to the two sites *S* and S_{k+1} , we have that the *HP* algorithm produces the representative set for $S \cup S_{k+1}$, that is we have the representative set for the union of the k + 1 sites $S_1, \ldots, S_k, S_{k+1}$. Therefore we completed the proof of *Theorem* 4.

VII. VERTICAL PARALLELIZATION

Vertical Parallelization is more complex than Horizontal Parallelization. While Horizontal Parallelization focuses on transactions, Vertical Parallelization focuses on items. Vertical Parallelization (*VP*) divides the dataset into fragments based on items. Each fragment contains a subset of items. Fragments are allocated into separate sites. In each sites, they run *NewRepresentative* algorithm to find out representative sets. The representative sets will be sent back to the master site and will be merged to find the final representative set.

Vertical merging is based on *merged-bit operation* and *vertical merging operation*.

Definition 6 (merged-bit operation (ω)): merged-bit operation is a dyadic operation in bit-chain space $(a_1a_2 \dots a_n)$ $(b_1b_2 \dots b_m) = (a_1a_2 \dots a_nb_1b_2 \dots b_m).$

Definition 7 (vertical merging operation *(HP)*: Vertical merging operation is a dyadic operation between two representative patterns from two different vertical fragments:

 $[(a_1a_2 \dots a_n), p, \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_p\}] \iff [(b_1b_2 \dots b_m), q, \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_q\}] = [vmChain, vmFreq, vmObject];$

 $vmChain = (a_1a_2 \dots a_n) \cup (b_1b_2 \dots b_m) = (a_1a_2 \dots a_nb_1b_2 \dots b_m)$ $vmObject = \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_p\} \cap \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_q\} = \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_k\}$

vmFreq = k

At the master site, representative sets of other sites will be merged into representative set of master site. The below algorithm is run to find out the final representative set.

ALGORITHM VerticalMerge(PM, PS) //Input: *PM*: representative set of master site.

PS: the set of representative sets from other sites.

//Output: The new representative set of vertical parallelization.

```
1.
     for each P \in PS do
2.
        for each m \in PM do
3.
          flag = 0;
          M = \emptyset //M: set of used elements in P
4.
5.
          for each z \in P do
6.
             q = m \iff z;
7.
             if frequency of q \neq 0 then
8.
                flag = 1; // mark m as used element
9.
               M = M \cup \{q\}; // \text{ mark } q \text{ as used}
                                         element
               PM = PM \cup \{q\};
10.
11.
             end if;
12.
          end for;
13.
          if flag = 1 then
14.
             PM = PM \cup \{m\}
15.
          end if;
          PM = PM \cup (P \setminus M);
16.
17.
        end for;
18. end for;
19. return PM;
```

Theorem 5:

Vertical Parallelization method returns the representative set.

Proof: We prove by induction on *k*.

If k = 1, this is the *NewRepresentative* algorithm, hence gives the representative set.

If k = 2, we let S_1 and S_2 be the two sites, and let S be the union. Let $R = (\{i_1, \ldots, i_n\}, k, \{o_1, \ldots, o_k\}) = (I, k, O)$ be a

representative element for S. Let R_1 be the restriction of R to S_1 , that is $R_1 = (I_1, p_1, O_1)$, where I_1 is the intersection of $\{i_1, \ldots, i_n\}$ i_n with the set of items in S_1 , O_1 is the set of transactions in R_1 containing all items in I_1 . We define similarly $R_2 = (I_2, p_2, O_2)$ the restriction of R to S_2 . Note that if $I_1 = \emptyset$ then $p_1 = 0$, otherwise p_1 must be positive ($p_1 > 0$). Similarly, if $I_2 = \emptyset$ then $p_2 = 0$, otherwise p_2 must be positive $(p_1 > 0)$. We use the convention that if $I_1 = \emptyset$ then $O_1 = O$, and if $I_2 = \emptyset$ then $O_2 =$ O. Remark that at least one of I_1 or I_2 is non-empty. Now by definition, there must be a representative element $Q_1 = (I_1, p_1)$, O_1) in S_1 with $I_1 \subseteq I_1$, $O_1 \subseteq O_1$, and p_1 >= p_1 . Similarly, we have a representative element $Q_2 = (I_2^{\prime}, p_2^{\prime}, O_2^{\prime})$ in S_2 with $I_2 \subseteq$ I_2 ', $O_2 \subseteq O_2$ ', and p_2 ' >= p_2 . When we do the vertical merging operation of Q_1 and Q_2 , then we must obtain *I*. Otherwise, we obtain an element R' = (I', k', O') where $I \subseteq I', O \subseteq O'$, and k' >= k, and at least one of these is strict. This is a contradiction to the assumption that R is a representative element of S. Now that we proved the correctness of the algorithm for k = 1 and k = 2. Then, assume that we proved the correctness of the VPalgorithm for k sites. We now prove the correctness of the VPalgorithm for k + 1 sites. We denote these sites by S_1, S_2, \ldots , S_k , S_{k+1} . By the induction assumption, we can find the representative set for k sites S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_k using the VP algorithm. Denote by $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} S_i$. Now apply the case of two

sites which we proved above to the two sites S and S_{k+1} , we have that the *VP* algorithm produces the representative set for $S \cup S_{k+1}$, that is we have the representative set for the union of the k + 1 sites $S_1, \ldots, S_k, S_{k+1}$. Therefore we completed the proof of *Theorem 5*.

Example: Give the set S of transactions $\{o_1, o_2, o_3, o_4, o_5, o_6, o_7\}$ and the set I of items $\{i_1, i_2, i_3\}$.

	i_1	i_2	i_3
01	0	0	1
02	0	1	0
03	0	1	1
04	1	0	0
05	1	0	1
06	1	1	0
07	1	1	1

Fig.7. Bit-chains of *S*.

Divide the items into two segments: $\{i_1\}$ and $\{i_2, i_3\}$.

since two segments. [1]					
	i_1				
01	0				
02	0				
03	0				
O_4	1				
05	1				
06	1				
07	1				

	i_2	i_3
01	0	1
<i>o</i> ₂	1	0
03	1	1
04	0	0
O_4 O_5	0	1
0 ₆ 07	1	0
07	1	1

Fig.9. The second segment.

Allocate two segments in two separate sites and run *NewRepresentative* algorithm on those fragments simultaneously.

It is easy to get the representative sets from two sites:

The site has $\{i_1\}$ fragment: $P_{\{i_1\}} = \{[(1); 4; \{o_4, o_5, o_6, o_7\}]\}$

The site has $\{i_2, i_3\}$ fragment: $P_{\{i_2, i_3\}} = \{[(01); 4; \{o_1, o_3, o_5, o_7\}], [(10); 4; \{o_2, o_3, o_6, o_7\}], [(11); 2; \{o_3, o_7\}]\}$

Merge both of them:

 $\begin{matrix} [(1); \ 4; \ \{o_4, \ o_5, \ o_6, \ o_7\} \end{bmatrix} \iff \begin{matrix} [(01); \ 4; \ \{o_1, \ o_3, \ o_5, \ o_7\} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} [(101); \ 2; \ \{o_5, \ o_7\} \end{matrix} \rbrack$

 $\begin{matrix} [(1); 4; \{o_4, o_5, o_6, o_7\} \end{bmatrix} \nleftrightarrow \begin{matrix} [(10); 4; \{o_2, o_3, o_6, o_7\} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{matrix} [(110); 2; \{o_6, o_7\} \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$

 $\begin{matrix} [(1);\ 4;\ \{o_4,\ o_5,\ o_6,\ o_7\} \end{bmatrix} \Longleftrightarrow \begin{matrix} [(11);\ 2;\ \{o_3,\ o_7\}] = \begin{matrix} [(111);\ 1;\ \{o_7\} \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$

The full representative set *P* is:

$$P = \{[(100); 4; \{o_4, o_5, o_6, o_7\}], \\[(001); 4; \{o_1, o_3, o_5, o_7\}], \\[(010); 4; \{o_2, o_3, o_6, o_7\}], \\[(011); 2; \{o_3, o_7\}], \\[(101); 2; \{o_5, o_7\}], \\[(110); 2; \{o_6, o_7\}], \\[(111); 1; \{o_7\}]\} \\VIII. EXPERIMENTATION 2$$

The experiments of Vertical Parallelization Method are conducted on machines which has similar configuration: Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-2100 CPU @ 3.10GHz (4 CPUs), ~3.1GHz and 4096MB main memory installed. The operating system is Windows 7 Ultimate 64-bit (6.1, Build 7601) Service Pack 1. Programming language is C#.NET.

The proposed methods are tested on *T10I4D100K* dataset taken from *http://fimi.ua.ac.be/data/* website. First 10,000 transactions of *T10I4D100K* are run and compared with the result when running without parallelization.

Dataset	No. of transactions	The maximum No. of items which customer can purchase	The maximum No. of items in the dataset	Running time (second)	No. of frequent patterns
T10I4D100K	10,000	26	1,000	702.13816	139,491

Fig.10. The result when running the algorithm in single machine.

Vertical Parallelization model is applied in 17 machines with the same configuration. Each machine is located in a separate site. 1,000 items is digitized into 1,000-tuple bit-chain. The master site will divide the bit-chain into 17 fragments (16 60-tuple bit-chains and a 40-tuple bit-chain).

Fragments	Length of bit-chain	Running Time	Number of frequent patterns
1	60	18.0870345s	899
2	60	10.5576038s	535
3	60	14.9048526s	684
4	60	12.2947032s	548
5	60	8.0554607s	432
6	60	10.3075896s	560
7	60	17.7480151s	656
8	60	10.8686217s	526
9	60	21.3392205s	856
10	60	13.3007607s	682
11	60	9.6135499s	617
12	60	16.1179219s	736
13	60	15.4338827s	587
14	60	21.4922293s	928
15	60	18.2790455s	834
16	60	17.011973s	701
17	40	4.4142525s	223

Fig.11. The result of running the algorithm in sites.

After running the algorithm in sites, the representative sets are sent back to master site for merging. The merging time is 27.5275745s and the number of final frequent patterns is 139,491. So, the total time of Parallelization is:

max(Running Times) + Merging Time = 21.4922293s + 27.5275745s = 49.0198038s

It is easy to see the efficiency and accuracy of Vertical Parallelization method.

IX. CONCLUSION

Proposed algorithms (*NewRepresentative* and *NewRepresentative_Delete*) solved cases of adding, deleting, and altering in the context of mining data without scanning the database.

Users can regularly change the minimum support threshold in order to find acceptable laws based on the number of buyers without rerunning the algorithms.

With accumulating frequent patterns, users can refer to the laws at any time.

The algorithm is easy for implement with low complexity $(nm2^m)$, where *n* is number of transactions and *m* is number of items).

Practically, it is easy to prove that the maximum number of frequent patterns cannot be larger than a specified value. Because the invoice form is in accordance with the government (the number of categories sold is a constant called *r*), the number of frequent patterns in the store is always not larger than $C_m^1 + C_m^2 + \ldots + C_m^{r-1} + C_m^r$

The set P obtained represents the context of the problem. In addition, the algorithm allows segmenting the context to solve partially.

This approach is simple for expanding for parallel systems. By applying parallel strategy to this algorithm to reduce time consuming, the article presented two methods: Vertical Parallelization and Horizontal Parallelization methods.

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