

# A Review Paper on Frequent Pattern Mining with Uncertain Data

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**Abstract** - There are too many existing algorithms proposed that mines frequent patterns from certain or precise data. But now a day's requirement of uncertain data mining is increased. There are plenty of real world situations in which data are uncertain where mining is required. For frequent pattern mining from uncertain data mainly two approaches are proposed that are step-by-step approach and pattern-growth approach. Level-wise approach use to generate and test strategy. U-Apriori algorithm is the example of step-by-step approach. Pattern-growth approach uses tree like format structure. UF-growth algorithm, UFP-growth algorithm, CUFP-mine algorithm, PUF-growth algorithm are the real world example of pattern-growth approach. Here we are taking the survey of algorithms that are used to mine frequent patterns from uncertain data to maintain the data generated from real world applications.

**Keywords** - Frequent Pattern Mining, Data Mining Algorithms, Expected Support, Frequent Patterns, Tree Structures, and Uncertain Data

## I. INTRODUCTION

As an important data mining task, frequent pattern mining aims to discover implicit, previously unknown and potentially useful knowledge revealing patterns on collections of frequently co-occurring items, objects or events that are embedded in data. Now a days, frequent pattern mining is commonly used in various real-life business, government, and science applications (e.g., banking, bioinformatics, environmental modeling, finance, marketing, medical diagnosis, meteorological data analysis). Uncertain data are present in many of these applications. Uncertainty can be caused by (i) our limited perception or understanding of reality; (ii) limitations of the observation equipment; or (iii) limitations of available resources for the collection, storage, transformation, or analysis of data. It can also be inherent in nature. Data collected by chemical, electromagnetic, mechanical, optical radiation, thermal sensors [1] in environment surveillance, security, and manufacturing systems can be noisy. Dynamic errors—such as (i) inherited measurement inaccuracies, (ii) sampling frequency of the sensors, (iii) deviation caused by a rapid change (e.g., drift, noise) of the measured property over time, (iv) wireless transmission errors, or (v) network latencies also introduces uncertainty into the data reported by these sensors. Moreover, there is also uncertainty in survey data and uncertainty due to data granularity (e.g., city, province) in taxonomy. Disguised missing data, which are not explicitly represented as such but instead appear as potentially valid data values, also introduce uncertainty. Furthermore, in privacy-preserving applications, sensitive data may be intentionally blurred via aggregation or perturbation so as to preserve data anonymity. All these sources of uncertainty lead to huge amounts of uncertain data in real-life applications [1].

Many key models and algorithms have been developed over the past few years for various uncertain data mining tasks. These include (i) clustering uncertain data, (ii) classifying uncertain data and (iii) detecting outliers from uncertain data. In this chapter, we examine another data mining task namely, uncertain frequent pattern mining. To mine frequent patterns from uncertain data, different methodologies (e.g., fuzzy set theory, rough set theory) can be applicable. Among them, probability theory is more popular and widely used by many researchers.

Uncertain frequent pattern mining algorithm there are two approaches of uncertain frequent pattern mining algorithms:

Apriori based Algorithms	Tree based Algorithms
U-Apriori algorithm	UF-growth algorithm UFP-growth algorithm UH mine algorithm PUF-growth algorithm

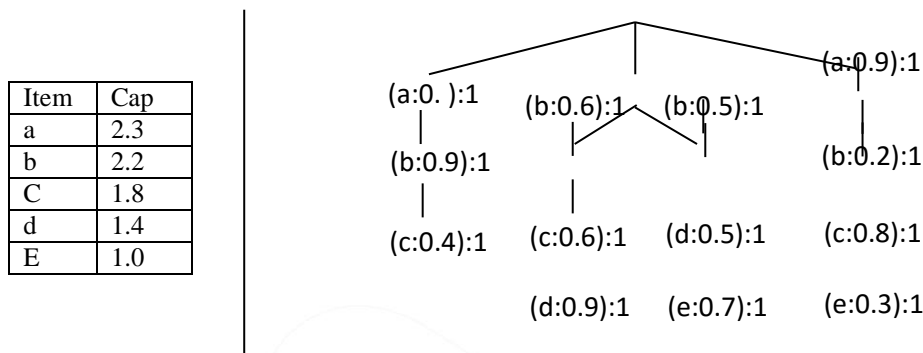
**Table 1: Algorithms parts**

## II. TREE BASED ALGORITHMS

### UF-growth

To mine frequent patterns from probabilistic datasets of uncertain data, [2] proposed a tree-based mining algorithm called **UF-growth**. Similar to its counterpart for mining precise data (the FP-growth algorithm), UF-growth also constructs a tree structure to capture the contents of the datasets. However, it does not use the FP-tree (as in FP-growth) because each node in the FP-tree only maintains (i) an item and (ii) its occurrence count in the tree path. When mining precise data, the actual support of a pattern X depends on the occurrence counts of items within X. However, when mining uncertain data, the expected support  $X_{of} X$  is the

sum of the product of the occurrence count and existential probability of every item within X. Hence, each node in the **UF-tree** consists of three components: (i) an item, (ii) its existential probability, and (iii) its occurrence count in the path. Such a UF-tree is constructed in a similar fashion as the construction of the FP-tree, except that a new transaction is merged with a child node only if the same item and the same existential probability exist in both the transaction and the child node. As such, it may lead to a lower compression ratio than the original FP-tree. Fortunately, To reduce the memory consumption, UF-growth incorporates two improvement techniques.. The first technique is to discretize the existential probability of each node (e.g., round the existential probability to k decimal places such as k=2 decimal places), which reduces the potentially infinite number of possible existential probability values to a maximum of 10k possible values. The second improvement technique is to limit the construction of UF-trees.



(The UF-tree for the probabilistic dataset D2 of uncertain data)

Each frequent item i.e., each singleton pattern) and to enumerate frequent patterns for higher levels (by traversing the tree paths and decrementing the occurrence counts) during the mining process. On the one hand, as paths in a UF-tree are shared only if they have the same item and the same existential probability, the UF-tree accurately captures the contents (especially, the existential probabilities) of the probabilistic datasets of uncertain data so that frequent patterns can be mined without producing false positives or false negatives. On the other hand, the UF-tree may be large and may not be as compact as its counterpart for precise data (i.e., FP-tree).

### UFP-growth

To make the tree more compact by reducing the tree size (via a reduction in the number of tree nodes) proposed the **UFP-growth algorithm**. Like UF-growth, the UFP-growth algorithm also scans the probabilistic dataset of uncertain data twice and builds a **UFP-tree**. As nodes for item x having similar existential probability values are clustered into a mega-node, the resulting mega node in the UFP-tree captures (i) an item x, (ii) the maximum existential probability value (among all nodes within the cluster), and (iii) its occurrence count (i.e., the number of nodes within the cluster). Tree paths are shared if the nodes on these paths share the same item but similar existential probability values. In other words, the path sharing condition is less restrictive than that of the UF-tree. At the same time, due to the approximate nature (e.g., caused by the use of the maximum existential probability value among all the nodes clustered into a mega-node) of UFP-growth, UFP-growth also finds some infrequent patterns (i.e., some false positives) in addition to those truly frequent patterns (i.e., true positives). Hence, a third scan of the probabilistic dataset of uncertain data is then required to remove these false positives.

## III. LITRACURE REVIEW

### A. PUF- Tree: A Compact Tree Structure for Frequent Pattern Mining of Uncertain data

Along this direction, Leung and Tanbeer observed that (i) the transaction cap provides CUF-growth with an upper bound to expected support of patterns and (ii) such an upper bound can be tightened in a tree-based environment. They introduced the concept of a prefixed item cap, which can be defined as follows[2].

**Definition 14.3** The **prefixed item cap**—denoted by  $I\text{Cap}(x_r, t_i)$ —of an item  $x_r$  in a transaction  $t_i = \{x_1, \dots, x_r, \dots, x_h\}$ , where  $1 \leq r \leq h$  (i.e.,  $h=|t_i|$  represent the length of  $t_i$ ), is defined as the product of  $P(x_r, t_i)$  and the highest existential probability value  $M$  of items from  $x_1$  to  $x_{r-1}$  in  $t_i$  (i.e., in the proper prefix of  $x_r$  in  $t_i$ ). More formally,

$$I\text{Cap}(x_r, t_i) = P(x_r, t_i) \times M \quad \text{if } |t_i| > 1$$

$$P(x_1, t_i) \quad \text{if } |t_i| = 1 \quad (\text{i.e., } t_i = \{x_1\})$$

$$\text{Where } M = \max_{q \in [1, r-1]} P(x_q, t_i).$$

Assume that items are arranged in the order  $a, b, c, d, e$  from the root to leaves. Then, Table shows the prefixed item cap for every item in a transaction in a probabilistic dataset D2 of uncertain data. Fig. shows for how these prefixed item caps are captured in a new tree structure called **PUF-tree**, from which the corresponding algorithm called **PUF-growth** mines uncertain frequent patterns. Like UFP-growth and CUF-growth, the PUF-growth algorithm also takes three scans of the probabilistic dataset of uncertain data to mine frequent patterns. With the first scan, PUF-growth computes the prefixed item caps. With the second scan, PUF growth builds a PUF-tree to capture (i) an item and (ii) its corresponding prefixed item cap. [2]

Like those in CUF-tree, paths in the PUF-tree are shared if the nodes on these paths share the same item. Hence, the resulting PUF-tree is of the same size as the CUF-tree (also for capturing uncertain data), which can be as compact as the FP-tree (for

capturing precise data). The header table associated with the PUF-tree gives the expected support of frequent 1-itemsets (i.e., singleton patterns or frequent items). The prefixed item caps in the PUF-tree provide upper bounds to the expected support of k-itemsets (for  $k \geq 2$ ). For any k-itemset X, if the upper bound to its expected support is less than minsup, then X can be safely pruned.

By extracting appropriate tree paths and constructing PUF-trees for subsequent projected databases, PUF-growth finds all potentially frequent patterns at the end of the second scan of the probabilistic dataset of uncertain data. As these potentially frequent patterns include all truly frequent patterns and some infrequent patterns.

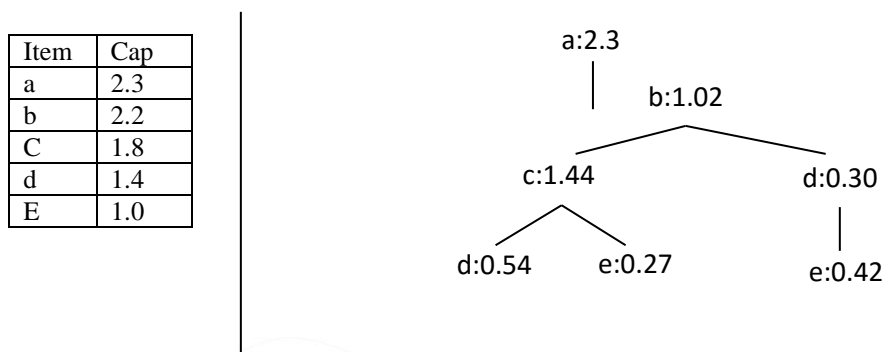


Fig : 1 The PUF-tree for the probabilistic dataset D2 of uncertain data)[2]

PUF-growth then quickly scans the dataset a third time to check each of them to verify whether or not they are truly frequent (i.e., prune false positives). As illustrated by Table shows, the prefixed item caps tighten the upper bound to the expected support of non-singleton patterns (when compared with the transaction caps in the CUF-tree). Consequently, the number of false positives that need to be examined by PUF-growth during the third scans of the probabilistic dataset[2] of uncertain data is usually smaller than that by CUF-growth. Hence, PUF-growth runs faster than CUF-growth.

### B. Fast Algorithms for Frequent Itemset Mining from Uncertain Data

Here we discuss about Frequent itemset mining algorithms, called tube-growth to find all and only those frequent itemsets (i.e., no false negatives and no false positives) from tube-trees capturing uncertain data[6].

#### Tube S-growth Algorithm

Tube S-growth algorithm first constructs a tree structure, called tube S-tree, to capture important information of uncertain data.[6] Specifically, the algorithm scans an uncertain database to find all distinct frequent items (i.e., every domain item  $x_i$  with  $\text{expSup}(x_i) \geq \text{minsup}$ ). As  $\text{expSup}$  satisfies the downward closure property (i.e., if  $\text{expSup}(X) < \text{minsup}$ , then  $\text{expSup}(X) < \text{minsup}$  for all  $X \supseteq X$ ), infrequent items can be safely removed. Then, the algorithm scans the uncertain database a second time to insert each database transaction into the tubeS-tree in a fashion similar to that of the FP-tree. For example, “prefixes” of two tree paths are merged if they share the same items. A key difference is that, when inserting a frequent item  $x_i \in t_j$ , we compute and capture both its IC value and M2 value in the node for  $x_i$ . Infrequent items in any transaction are omitted and not inserted into the tree[6]. If a node containing  $x_i$  already exists in a tree path  $p$ , we update the IC and M2 values by (i) adding its  $\text{IC}(x_i, t_j)$  into the existing  $\text{IC}(x_i, p)$  and (ii) taking the maximum between its  $\text{M2}(x_i, t_j)$  and the existing  $\text{M2}(x_i, p)$ , as described in Specifically, for each frequent domain item  $x_i$  the algorithm constructs an  $\{x_i\}$ -conditional tree by extracting all relevant tree paths (from  $x_i$  to the root) and passing both  $\text{IC}(x_i, p)$  and  $\text{M2}(x_i, p)$ . By doing so, the algorithm computes tube S for every 2-itemset  $\{y, x_i\}$  (e.g.,  $\{c, d\}$ ) where  $y$  is a frequent item located above  $x_i$  (i.e., closer to the root) on a tree path. If tube S  $(\{y, x_i\}) \geq \text{minsup}$  (i.e.,  $\{y, x_i\}$  is potentially frequent), then the algorithm performs a similar mining step by constructing a  $\{y, x_i\}$ -conditional tree to mine potentially frequent 3-itemsets, and so on. After finding all potentially frequent itemsets (including true positives and false positives), tube S-growth algorithm scans the uncertain database a third time to verify whether or not if a potentially frequent itemset is truly frequent.

#### Tube P-growth Algorithm

In contrast, tube P-growth algorithm constructs its corresponding tree structure, called tube P-tree, in a similar fashion to that for the tube S-growth algorithm, except that  $P(x_i, t_j)$  is captured instead of the  $\text{M2}(x_i, t_j)$  value. Once the tube P-tree structure is constructed, our tube P-growth algorithm[6] then recursively mines frequent item sets from the tube P-tree in a similar fashion as our tube S-growth algorithm. For each frequent domain item  $x_i$ , the tube P-growth constructs an  $\{x_i\}$ -conditional tree by extracting all relevant tree paths and passing only  $\text{IC}(x_i, p)$  but not  $P(x_i, p)$  because tube P for any 2-itemset  $\{y, x_i\}$  is computed using  $P(y, p)$  instead of  $P(x_i, p)$  where  $y$  is a frequent item located above  $x_i$  on a tree path. Similar to tube S-growth, our tube P-growth algorithm also scans the uncertain data a third time to remove all false positives [6].

### C. DISC: Efficient Uncertain Frequent Pattern Mining with Tightened Upped Bounds

UF-growth is a tree-based algorithm for mining frequent patterns from uncertain data. While it directly calculates the expected support of a pattern, it requires a significant amount of storage space to capture all existential probability values among the items. To eliminate the extra space requirement of UF-growth, the CUF-growth algorithm combines nodes with the same item by storing an upper bound on expected support. In this paper, we (i) introduce a new concept of domain item specific capping (DISC) and

(ii) propose three new scalable data analytics algorithms that use this concept to achieve a tighter upper bound than CUF-growth. Experimental results show the effectiveness of uncertain frequent pattern mining with tightened upper bounds provided by using the concept of DISC.1) the concepts of domain item-specific capping (DISC) for tightening the upper bound on expected support, DISC-trees for capturing the contents of uncertain databases, and algorithms that use the DISC-trees for mining frequent patterns. To tighten the upper bound, we introduce the concept of domain item specific capping (DISC). As its name suggests, DISC involves having caps specific to each domain item  $y_i$  in a given transaction  $t_j = \{y_1, \dots, y_h\}$ . The key idea is that, instead of multiplying the highest existential probability value  $M_1$  in  $t_j$  by the second highest existential probability value  $M_2$  in  $t_j$ , DISC multiplies the existential probability value  $P(y_i, t_j)$  of the domain item  $y_i$  by  $M_1$  in  $t_j$ . In other words, let (i)  $M_1(t_j) = \max_q P(y_q, t_j)$  be the highest existential probability value among all  $h$  items in  $t_j$ , and (ii)  $y_g = \arg \max_q P(y_q, t_j)$  be the item having  $M_1(t_j)$  so that  $M_1(t_j) = P(y_g, t_j)$ . Then, for tree-based mining, we build a tree structure such that each tree path represents some transactions in uncertain data. In a tree path representing a single transaction, each tree node keeps (i) an item  $y_i$  in  $t_j$  and (ii) its  $\text{disc}(y_i, t_j)$ :  $\text{disc}(y_i, t_j) = \begin{cases} P(y_1, t_j) & \text{if } h=1 \\ P(y_i, t_j) \times M_1(t_j) & \text{if } h \geq 2 \end{cases}$  With the information  $y_i \text{disc}(y_i, t_j)$  stored at each tree node, DISC provides an upper bound to expected support  $\text{disc}(X, t_j)$  for  $k$ -itemset  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\} \subseteq t_j = \{y_1, \dots, y_r, \dots, y_h\}$  where  $x_k = y_r$  and  $k \geq 2$  by using  $\text{disc}(X, t_j) = \text{disc}(x_k, t_j) = P(y_r, t_j) \times M_1(t_j)$ .

#### D. NEW ADAPTATIONS OF CLASSIC ALGORITHM FOR MINING FREQUENT ITEMSETS FROM UNCERTAIN:

Tree structures (e.g., UF-trees, UFP-trees) corresponding to many existing uncertain frequent pattern mining algorithms can be large. Other tree structures for handling uncertain data may achieve compactness at the expense of loose upper bounds on expected supports. To solve this problem, we propose a compact tree structure that captures uncertain data with tighter upper bounds than the Consider three classic frequent itemsets mining algorithms (Apriori, FP-growth, and H-mine) and their adaptations. Although Apriori algorithm is slower than the other two algorithms in deterministic databases, with the well-known downward closure property, UApriori algorithm performs very well among the three algorithms and is usually the fastest one in uncertain databases with high  $\text{min\_esup}$ . However, FP-growth algorithm does not show similar efficient behavior in the uncertain cases. There are some possible reasons: Firstly, the probabilities of items in uncertain database make the database sparse due to fewer shared nodes and paths. Secondly, in the uncertain cases, the compression of UFP-tree is substantially reduced because it is hard to take the advantage of shared prefix path in FP-tree. Therefore, as the support threshold goes down, the UFP-trees constructed become large and too many candidate itemsets generated, which leads to sharp increase of memory usage. So the FP-tree structure does not extend well in the sparse uncertain databases.

Based on the divide-and-conquer framework and the depth-first search strategy, UH-mine is quite suitable for sparse uncertain databases. As an extension from classical algorithm in deterministic case, UH-mine algorithm fails to compress the data structure and use the dynamic frequency order sub-structure, so it is faster in building head tables of all levels than building all conditional sub trees. Therefore UH-mine always outperforms other algorithms in uncertain sparse databases with low  $\text{min\_sup}$ .

#### E. BLIMP: A Compact Tree Structure for Uncertain Frequent Pattern Mining

aforementioned tree structures. The corresponding algorithm mines frequent patterns from this compact tree structure. It shows compactness of our tree structure and the tightness of upper bounds to expected supports provided by our uncertain frequent pattern mining algorithm[5].

A branch-level item prefixed-cap tree (BLIMP-tree), which can be as compact as the original FP tree and PUF-tree; and a mining algorithm (namely, BLIMP-growth), which finds all frequent patterns from uncertain data.

To tighten the upper bound for all  $k$ -item sets ( $k > 2$ ), we propose a branch-level item prefixed-cap tree structure (BLIMP-tree)[5]. The key idea is to keep track of a value calculated the maximum of all existential probabilities for the single item represented by that node. Every time a frequent extension is added to the suffix item to form a  $k$ -itemset (where  $k > 2$ ), this "blimp" value will be used. Hence, each node in a BLIMP-tree contains: (i) an item  $x_r$ , (ii) an item cap  $\text{ICap}(x_r, t_j)$  and (iii) a "blimp" value, which is the maximum existential probability of  $x_r$  in  $t_j$ . Fig. 1(c) shows the contents of a BLIMP-tree for the database. With this information, BLIMP-trees give a tightened upper bound on the expected support of an itemset by the product of  $\text{ICap}(x_r, t_j)$  and the "BLIMP" values in the prefix of  $x_r$ . This new compounded item cap of any  $k$ -itemset  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  in a tree path  $t_j = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_h$  (denoted as  $I(X, t_j)$  where  $x_k = x_r$ ) can be defined as follows. Let  $t_j = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r, \dots, x_h$  be a path in a BLIMP-tree, where  $h = |t_j|$  and  $r \in [1, h]$ . Let  $M_{x_i}$  denote the highest existential probability of  $x_i$  in the prefix of  $x_r$  in  $t_j$ . If  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  is a  $k$ -itemset in  $t_j$  such that  $x_k = x_r$ , its compounded item cap

$I(X, t_j)$  is defined as follows:

$I(X, t_j) = \text{ICap}(x_r, t_j)$  if  $k \leq 2$

$\text{ICap}(x_r, t_j) \times \prod_{i=1}^{k-2} M_{x_i}$  if  $k \geq 3$

Where  $\text{ICap}(x_r, t_j)$  is the prefixed item cap

To construct a BLIMP-tree, we scan the transactional database of uncertain data to compute the expected support of every domain item. Any infrequent items are removed. Then, we scan the database a second time to insert each transaction into the BLIMP-tree. An item is inserted into the BLIMP-tree according to a predefined order. If a node containing that item already exists in the tree path, we (i) update its item cap by summing the current  $\text{ICap}(x_r, t_j)$  with the existing item cap value and (ii) update its "blimp" value by taking the maximum of the current  $P(x_r, t_j)$  with the existing "blimp" value. Otherwise, we create a new node with  $\text{ICap}(x_r, t_j)$  and  $P(x_r, t_j)$  (i.e. the initial "blimp" value). For a better understanding of BLIMP-tree construction [5].



Sr no	Algorihtm	Advantage	Disadvantage
1	U-Apriori algorithm	This algorithm greatly reduces the size of candidate set.	It scans database many times and thus performance is affected.
2	UF-growth algorithm	This algorithm uses UF-trees to mine frequent patterns from uncertain databases in two database scans	It contains a distinct tree path for each distinct item, existential probability pair.
3	UFP growth algorithm	This algorithm scans the database twice, As nodes for item having similar existential probability values are clustered into a meganode, the resulting mega-node in the UFP-tree.	It contains a distinct tree path for each distinct item, existential probability pair
4	UH mine algorithm	This algorithm Stores all frequent items in each database transaction in a hyper-structure called UH-struct.	It Suffer from the high computation cost of calculating the expected support.
5	PUF groth algorithm	This algorithm Mines frequent pattern with constructing a projected database for each potential frequent pattern and recursively mine its potential frequent extensions.	It creates some false positives.

(Table 2 Comparison of uncertain frequent pattern mining algorithms)

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper, detailed study of the frequent pattern mining algorithms of uncertain data is done and identified many strength and weakness of each. New variants of existing algorithms are compared with classical mining algorithms and turns in significant benefits and limitations. This comparison may also take place into various optimization issues that will progress to better performance. Efficiency of the mining algorithms is no longer hindrance but yet there is a need to develop methods to get excellent results.

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