

Association Rule Breaking Based Diversity for Recommender Systems

University of Southern Denmark

Ed Abel

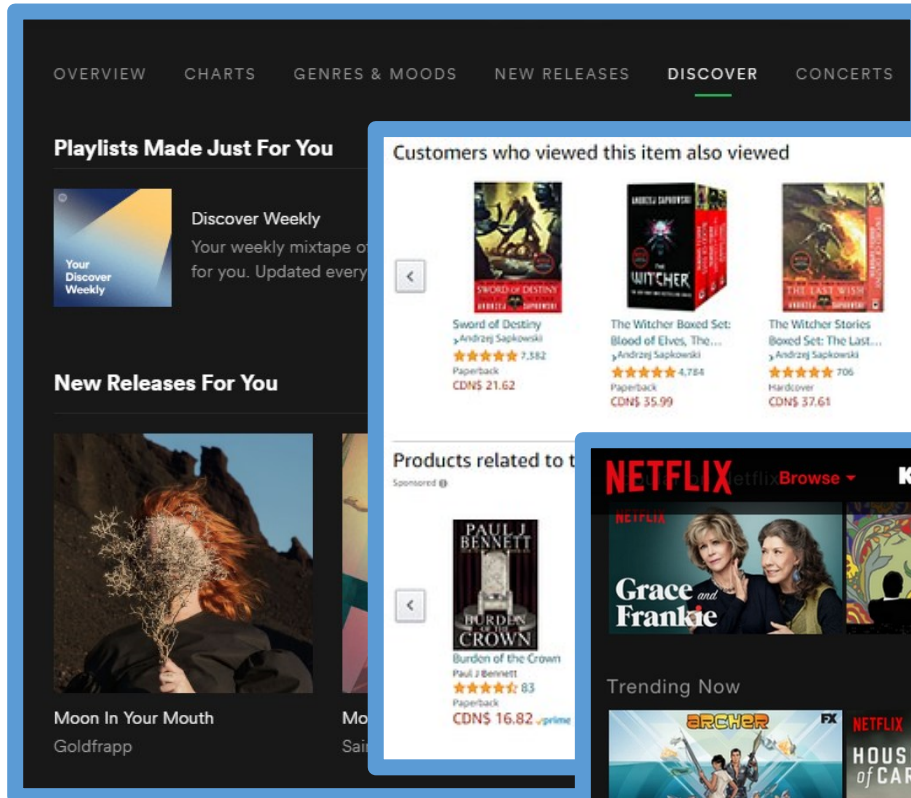
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Recommender Systems

- Have become omnipresent in our data lives



OVERVIEW CHARTS GENRES & MOODS NEW RELEASES **DISCOVER** CONCERTS

Playlists Made Just For You

Discover Weekly
Your weekly mixtape of songs you'll love. Updated every week.

New Releases For You

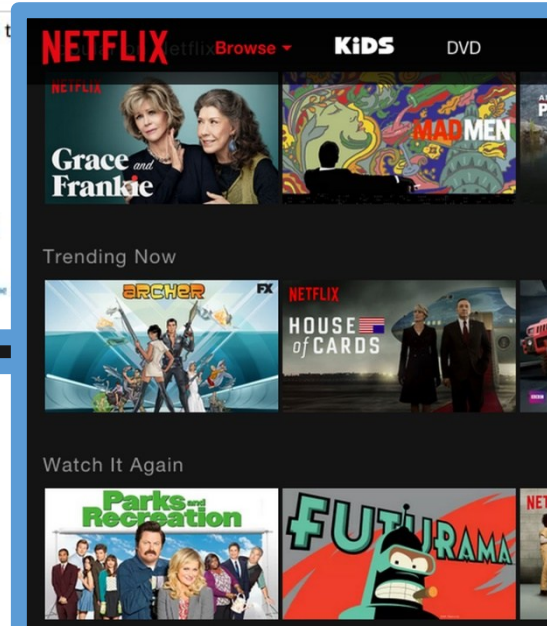
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- Sword of Destiny**
Andrzej Sapkowski
★★★★★ 7,582
Paperback
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Andrzej Sapkowski
★★★★★ 4,784
Paperback
CDN\$ 35.99
- The Witcher Stories**
Blood of Elves, The Witcher, and The End of the World
Andrzej Sapkowski
★★★★★ 706
Hardcover
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- Season of Storms**
Andrzej Sapkowski
★★★★★ 3,916
Paperback
CDN\$ 22.76
- The Last Wish**
Andrzej Sapkowski
★★★★★ 1,111
Paperback
CDN\$ 17.99

Products related to this item

BURDEN OF THE CROWN
Paul J. Bennett
★★★★★ 83
Paperback
CDN\$ 16.82

Moon In Your Mouth
Goldfrapp



NETFLIX Browse Kids DVD

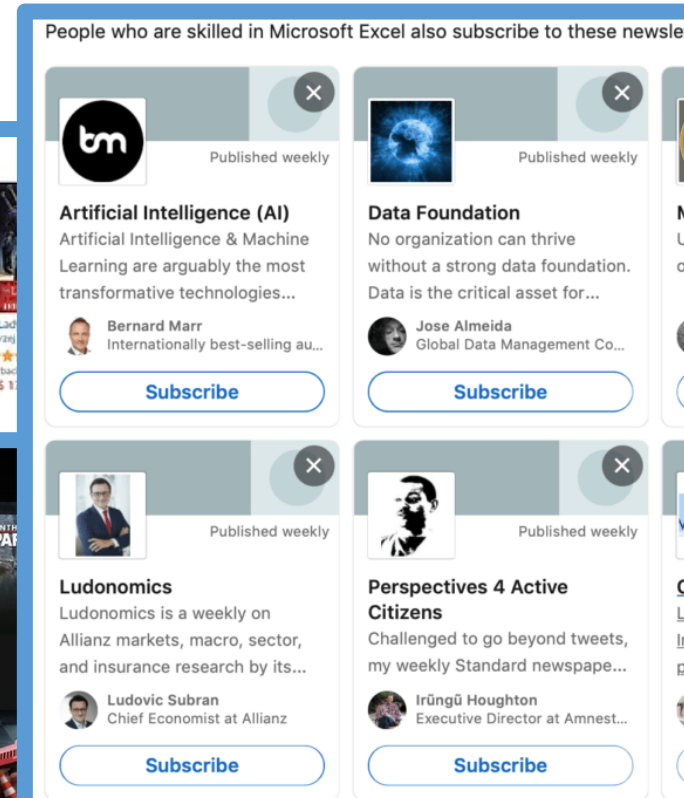
Grace and Frankie

Trending Now

- Brooklyn Nine-Nine**
- House of Cards**

Watch It Again

- Parks and Recreation**
- Futurama**
- Orange Is the New Black**
- Star Trek: Into Darkness**



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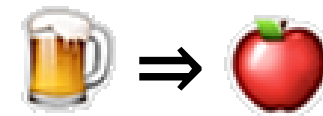
- **Accuracy**
- Looks to optimize user satisfaction
- Focusing on accuracy can recommend familiar items
- Notion of *You like X so here is more X*
- Danger “*Toy Story 1*” & “*Toy Story 2*” ➔ “*Toy Story 3*”
- **Diversity:** Consensus that it’s also an important consideration
- Promote the discovery of varied content
- Introduce new and varied less repetitive recommendations
- Can ultimately improve user experience and satisfaction
- **Tension/Trade-off between Accuracy & Diversity**

Diverse Recommendation Approaches SDU

- **Content-Based Filtering with Diversity Enhancement**
 - Adjusting item similarity considerations to encourage a broader item range
 - E.g. movies with a mix of genres, even if a user watches 1 genre
- **Re-Ranking with Diversity Considerations**
 - Generate an initial ranked list of recommendations based on relevance
 - Then re-rank the list to increase diversity
 - E.g. News articles list reordered to downweigh category repetitions
- **Context-Aware Recommender Systems**
 - Considering contextual information such as time/location etc.
 - Create diverse recommendations suited to different contexts
 - E.g. Dining app suggesting breakfast places during AM, restaurants during PM
- **Creating separate recommendation lists**
 - Creating distinct lists that are stratified by topics/feature
 - E.g. Movie streaming site having separate categories/genre lists

Association Rule Mining

- Data Mining technique to find interesting relationships/associations
- Identifies relationships in the form of rules
- E.g. customer purchases data
- *"if customer buys Product-X" they "are likely to also buy Product-Y"*
- Within Association rule mining we have:
 - **Items**
 - **Transactions**
 - **Derived Rules**



- Rule form $A \Rightarrow B$
- *Suggesting if A is/are present, B is/are likely to be present too*

Transaction 1	   
Transaction 2	  
Transaction 3	 
Transaction 4	 

- **Measures to help quantify meaning and significance of association rules**

Support

- measures how frequently the items in a rule appear together in the data
- It tells us how common or rare an item set is in the entire dataset

Confidence

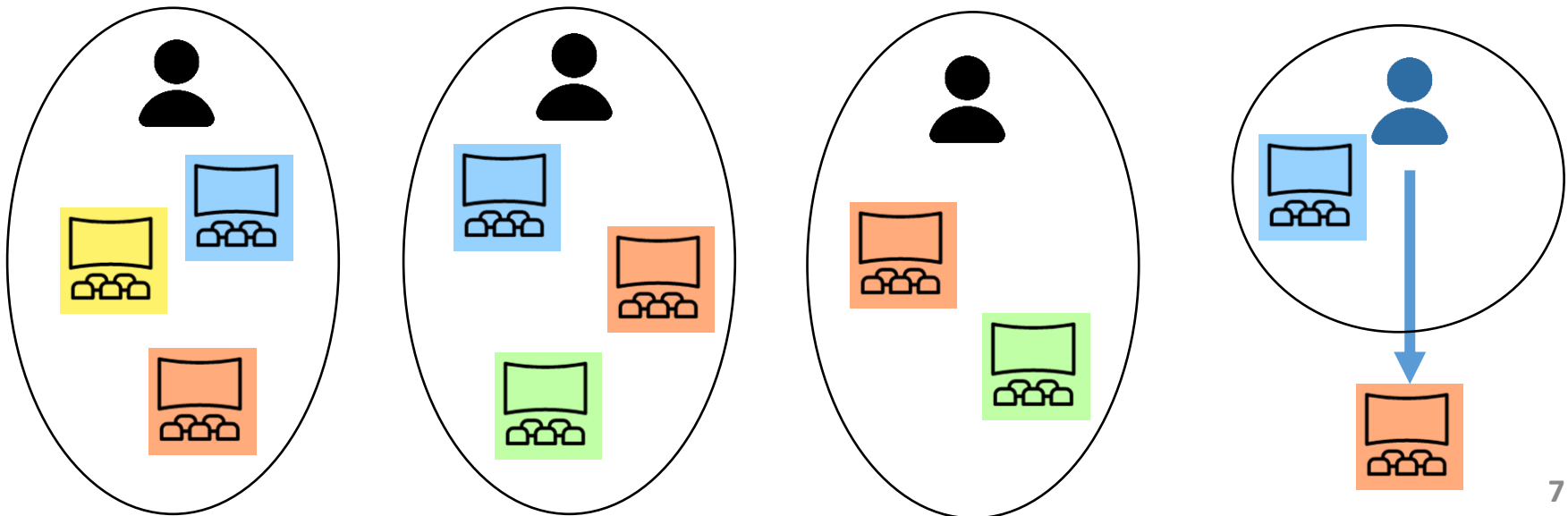
- **Rule reliability:** shows how often the rule has been true
- **Predictive power:** indicates the likelihood that if the 1st item is present, the 2nd item will also be present

Lift

- **Strength of connection:** Indicating how much more likely the items are to appear together than by random chance
- **Comparative measure:** Telling us if the presence of one item increases the likelihood of the other item more than would be expected randomly
- **A higher lift value indicates stronger and more significant rule**

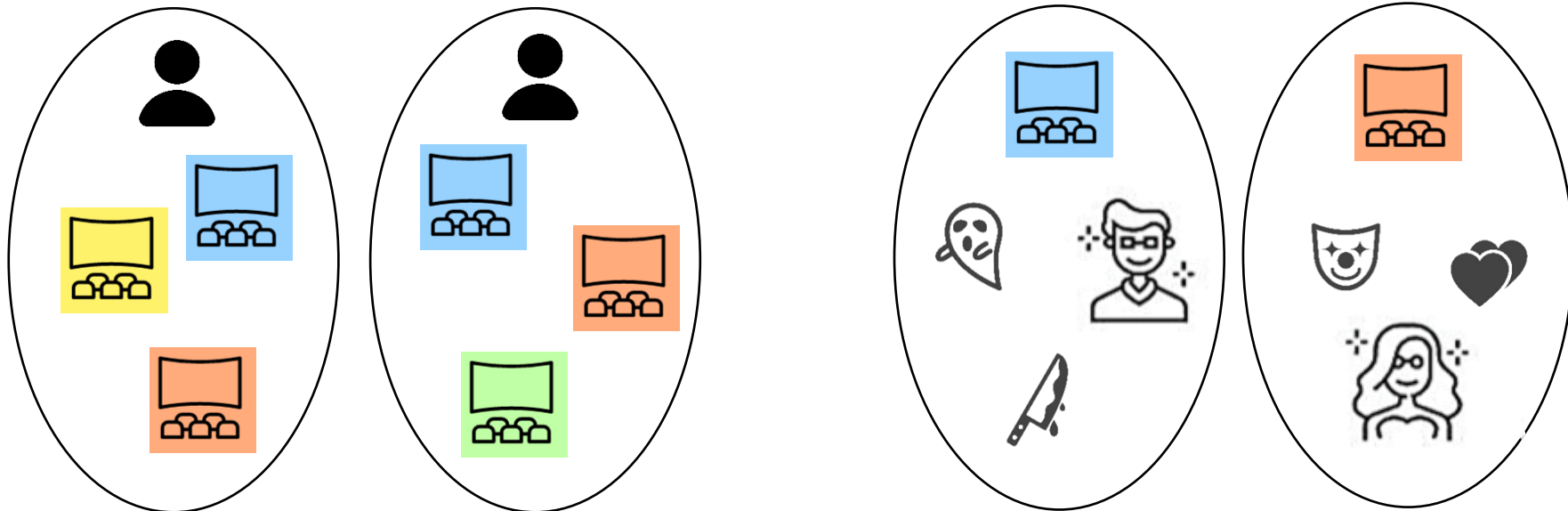
Association Rules In Rec Systems

- Work has considered users as transactions
- Each containing the set of items the user has consumed/liked
- Providing associations of the form
- If a person consumes/liked x they also consumes/liked y
- If a user has consumed/liked x but not y
- Y can be recommended



Association Rules In Rec Systems

- Work has considered users as transactions
- Each containing the set of items the user has consumed/liked
- **In our approach we consider content as a transaction**
- Made up of a set of item-parts



Jim Carrey Movies

- In our approach we consider association rules through:
- *Items as transaction made up of a set of item-parts*
- Movies with features regarding actors and genres etc.
- *Jim Carrey $\Rightarrow$ Comedy*
- But not necessary the inverse (Comedy $\Rightarrow$ Jim Carrey)

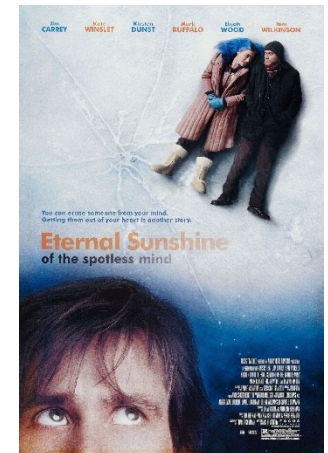
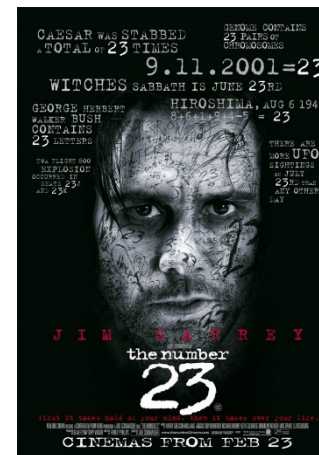
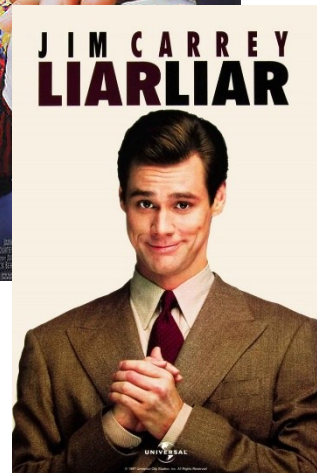
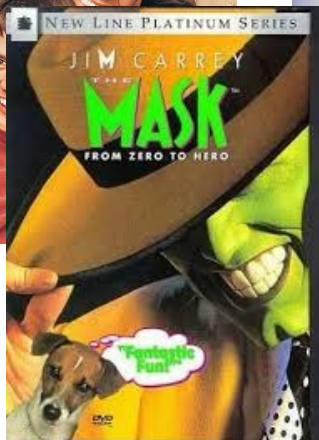


Our approach explores diversity through calculating diversity in terms of the level of association rule breaking or conformity

Jim Carrey Movies

- Many films with features of Jim Carrey and Comedy
- *Jim Carrey* $\Rightarrow$ *Comedy*
- Instead of seeking diversity in terms of Not Jim Carrey & Not Comedy
- Interesting unusual case would be when this rule is broken
- *Jim Carrey* $\not\Rightarrow$ *Comedy*

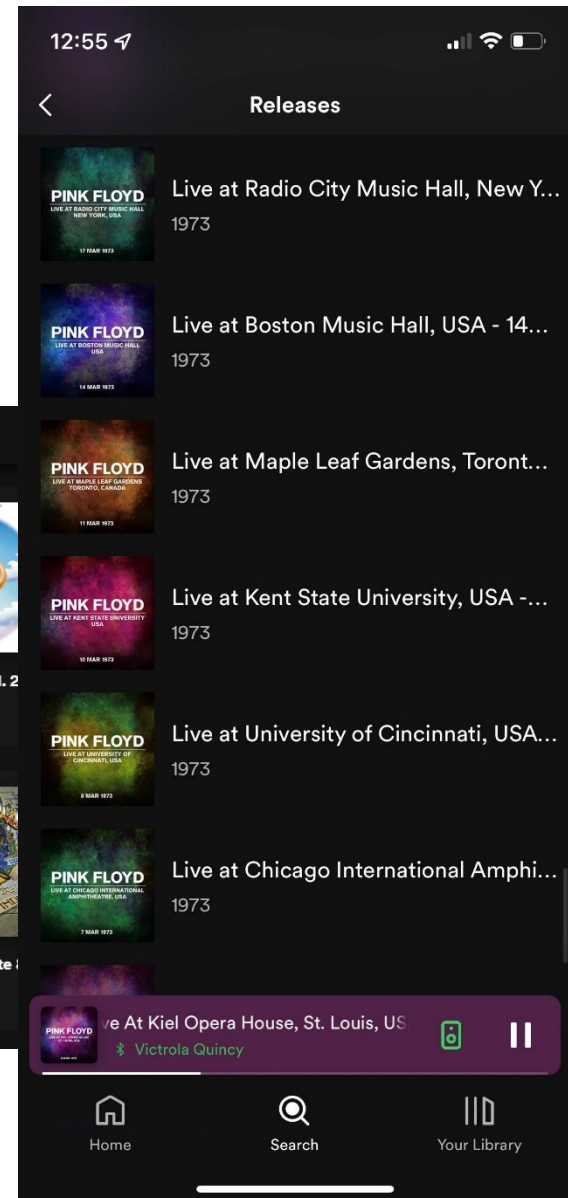
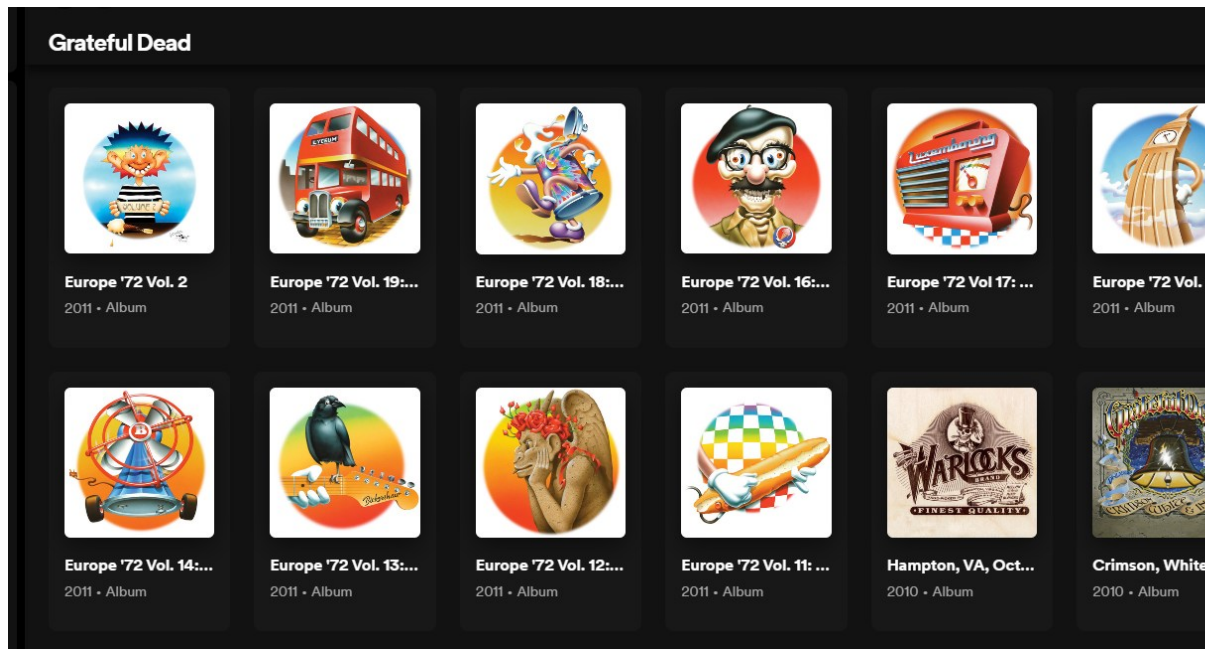
Recommendations both aligned to some user tastes and diverse



Historical Live Music Concerts Domain



- Historical live concert performance recordings
- Becoming readily available
- Providing an unwieldly abundance of choice



Concert setlists

Setlist

Queen
News of the World
Bingley Hall, Stafford, England

We Will Rock You
Brighton Rock
Somebody to Love
Death on Two Legs (Dedicated to...)
Killer Queen
Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy
I'm in Love With My Car
Get Down, Make Love
The Millionaire Waltz
You're My Best Friend
Spread Your Wings
It's Late
Now I'm Here
Love of My Life
'39
My Melancholy Blues
White Man
The Prophet's Song
Guitar Solo
The Prophet's Song
Liar
Bohemian Rhapsody
Keep Yourself Alive
Tie Your Mother Down

Encore

We Will Rock You
We Are the Champions
Sheer Heart Attack
Jailhouse Rock (Elvis Presley cover)
God Save the Queen ([traditional] cover)

setlist.fm

Setlist

Queen
News of the World
Madison Square Garden, New York, NY, USA

We Will Rock You
Brighton Rock
Somebody to Love
Death on Two Legs (Dedicated to...)
Killer Queen
Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy
I'm in Love With My Car
Get Down, Make Love
The Millionaire Waltz
You're My Best Friend
Doing All Right
Liar
Love of My Life
'39
White Man
The Prophet's Song
Guitar Solo
The Prophet's Song
Now I'm Here
Stone Cold Crazy
Bohemian Rhapsody
Keep Yourself Alive
Tie Your Mother Down

Encore

We Will Rock You
We Are the Champions
Sheer Heart Attack
Jailhouse Rock (Elvis Presley cover)
Saturday Night's Alright for Fighting (Elton John cover)
Stupid Cupid (Connie Francis cover)
Be-Bop-A-Lula (Gene Vincent & His Blue Caps cover)
God Save the Queen ([traditional] cover)

setlist.fm

Setlist

Queen
News of the World
Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, ON, Canada

We Will Rock You
Brighton Rock
Somebody to Love
It's Late
Death on Two Legs (Dedicated to...)
Killer Queen
Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy
I'm in Love With My Car
Get Down, Make Love
The Millionaire Waltz
You're My Best Friend
Spread Your Wings
Liar
Love of My Life
'39
My Melancholy Blues
White Man
The Prophet's Song
Guitar Solo
The Prophet's Song
Keep Yourself Alive
Stone Cold Crazy
Now I'm Here
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Tie Your Mother Down

Encore

We Will Rock You
We Are the Champions
Sheer Heart Attack
Jailhouse Rock (Elvis Presley cover)
God Save the Queen ([traditional] cover)

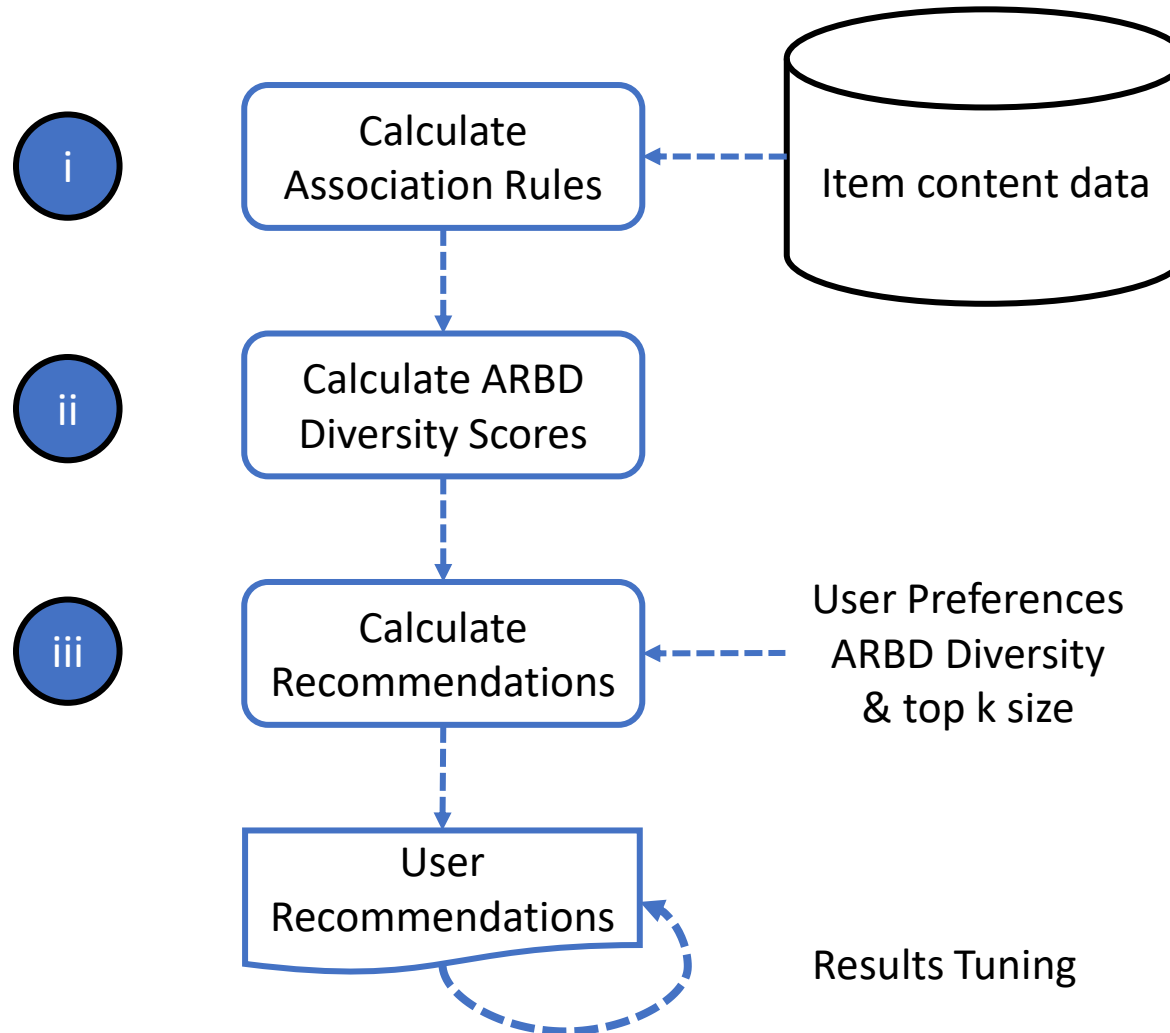
setlist.fm

We contain patterns of the same songs appearing together

Historical Live Music Concerts Domain **SDU**

- Association Rules Elements in this domain
- **Items:** Individual songs
- **Transactions:** Concert Setlists, each containing a set of songs
- **Rules:** such as $A \Rightarrow B$, would indicate that when song(s) A are played then song(s) B will likely also be played
- The notion of rules being broken represent:
 - Song A is played but Song B is not
 - Contrary to how this is often the case

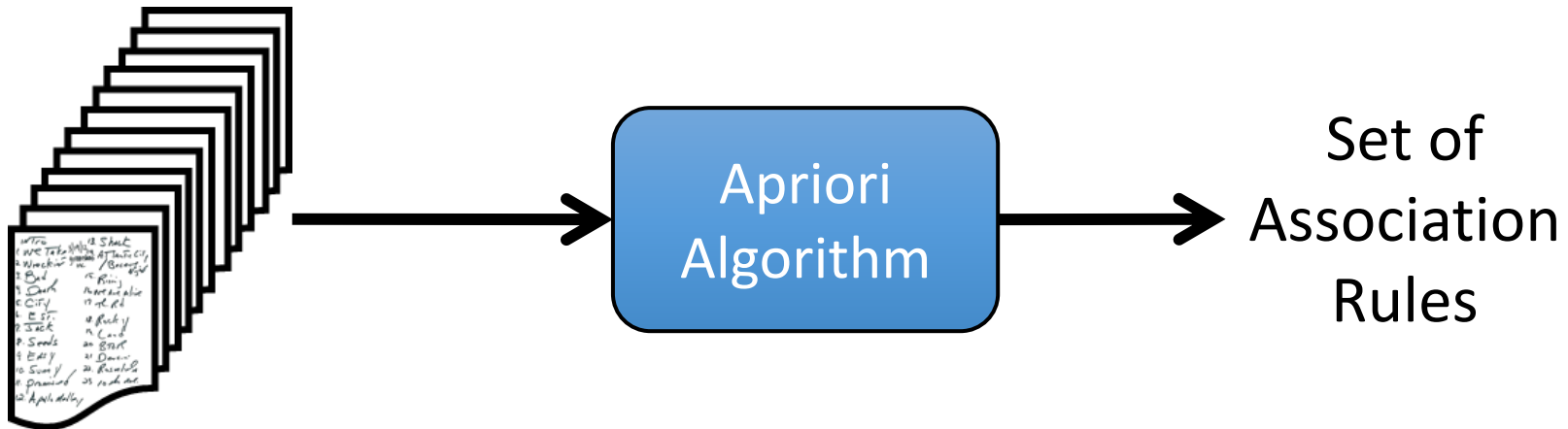
Our Approach





Calculating association rules

- Taking an artist's entire setlist career history
- Each show a (*transaction*) set of songs (*items*)
- Find rules that have single song of the Left-Hand Side (LHS)
- And a single song the Right-Hand Side (RHS)



- Set of Association Rules and Each's Lift Value



Calculating ARBD Diversity Scores

- Given example rule of: $C \Rightarrow A$
- And Example Transactions of
 - {A,C,D} ← - - - - The Rule Holds
 - {B,C,D} ← - - - - The Rule is Broken
 - {A,B,D} ← - - - - The Rule neither Breaks or Holds

- Given rule of
- Song A $\Rightarrow$ Song B

Concert 1

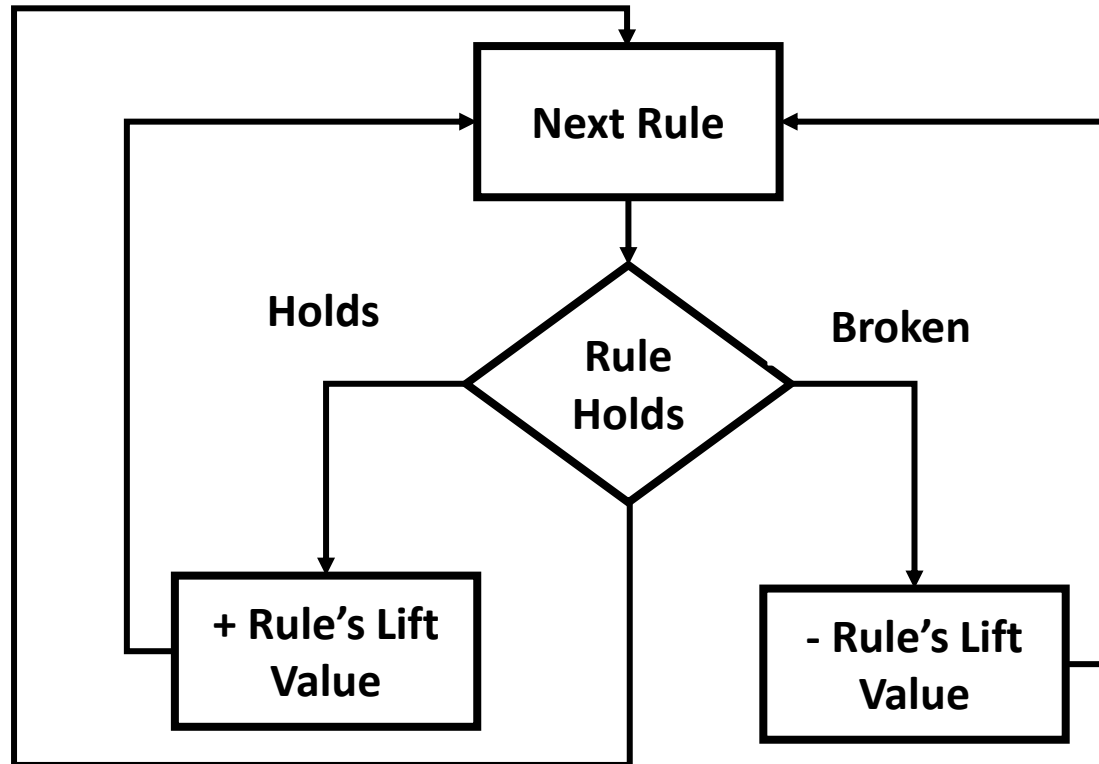
- Song A
- Song B
- Song C
- Song D
- Song E

Concert 2

- Song A
- Song C
- Song D
- Song E
- Song G

Association Rule Breaking Diversity (ARBD)

- For a transaction (Concert) – iterative through every Rule

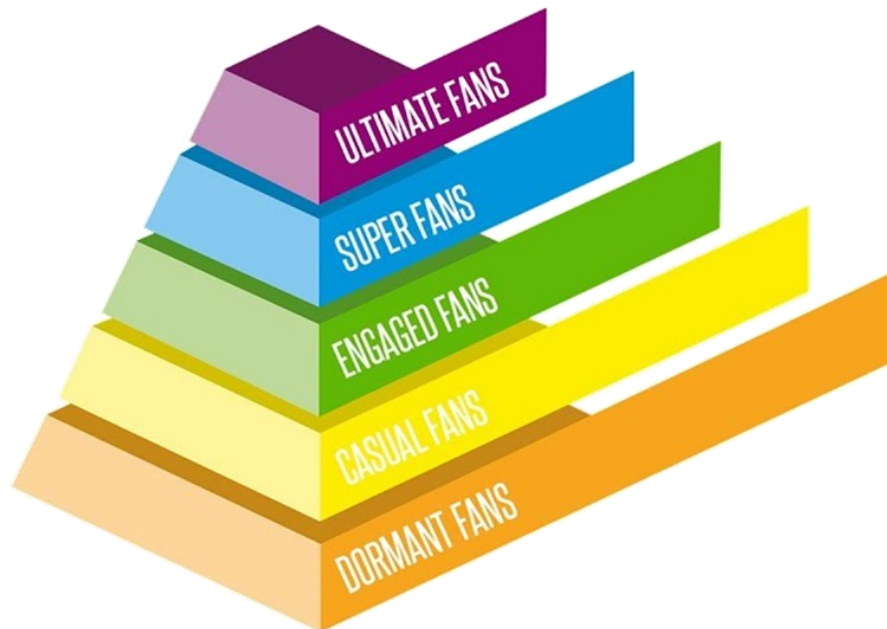


- Calculate normalised ARBD value for transaction the higher the more Diverse**
- So ARBD values for the set of all transactions defines:
 - “most diverse” (in terms of ruling breaking)
 - “most conforming” (in terms of rules holding)



Calculating Recommendations

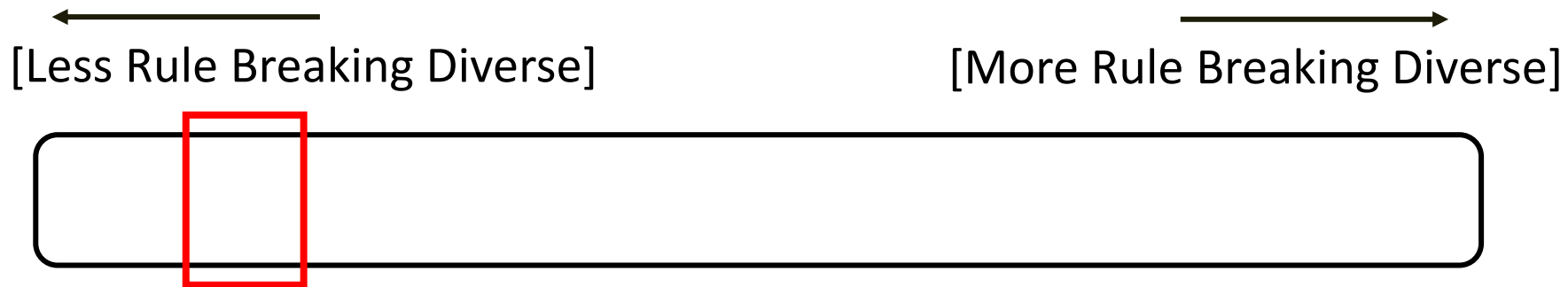
- So, stages of going from user preferences to recommendations
- User preferences allow different “types” of fans
- Different fan types may have very different diversity preferences
- Causal Fans → Looking for accessible recommendations
- Super Fans → Looking for something more diverse





Calculating Recommendations

- **User Preferences**
 1. Indication of how diverse the recommendations should be
 2. How big a set of recommendations to be shown
- Select window of setlists from list that is ordered by ARBD
- Aligned to the level of diversity desired



- **The desired size of transactions shown to the user**
- User can inspect the recommendations and fine tune
- Level of Diversity sought/no of results

Results and Experiments

- **Bruce Springsteen**
- 5 very diverse recommendations requested

Select Artist:

Bruce Springsteen ▼

Typical Vs Diverse

0% 100%

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

No. to Recommend:

5

GO



	Concert Date	Name of Gig's Tour
R1	23 Jan 2010	Other
R2	12 May 1997	Ghost of Tom Joad Tour
R3	13 Jun 2005	Devils and Dust Tour
R4	19 Dec 2004	Other
R5	6 May 1988	Tunnel of Love Tour

Results and Experiments

- **Bruce Springsteen**
- 10 quite typical recommendations requested

Select Artist:

Bruce Springsteen ▼

Typical Vs Diverse

0% 20% 100%

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

No. to Recommend:

10

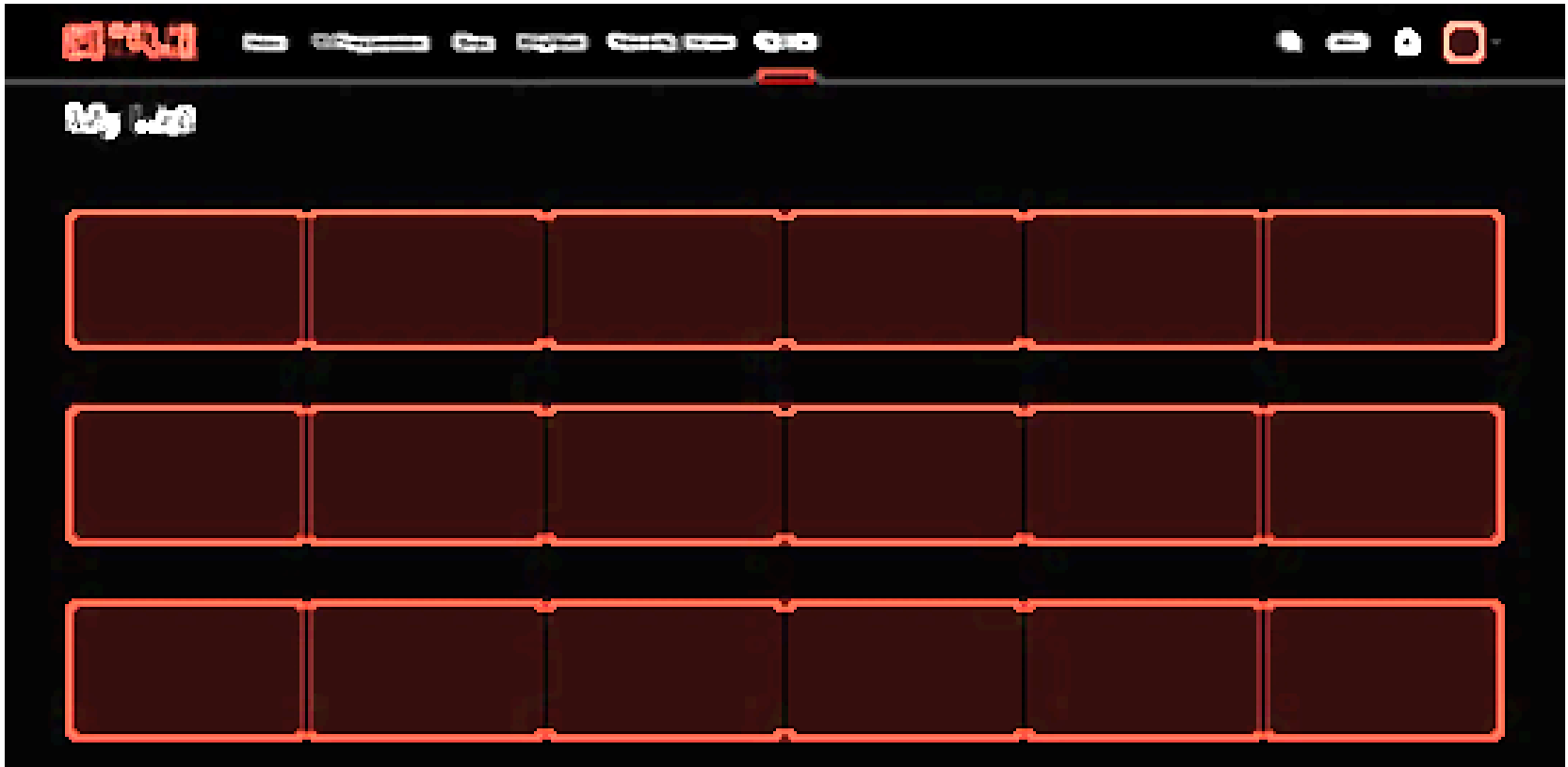
GO



	Concert Date	Name of Gig's Tour
R1	17 May 2016	The Ties That Bind Tour
R2	8 Dec 1980	The River Tour
R3	25 Aug 2016	The Ties That Bind Tour
R4	26 Oct 1984	Born in the USA Tour
R5	21 May 2016	The Ties That Bind Tour
R6	2 Oct 1985	Born in the USA Tour
R7	25 Feb 2017	The Ties That Bind Tour
R8	17 May 2012	Wrecking Ball World Tour
R9	13 Sep 1981	The River Tour
R10	30 Jul 1984	Born in the USA Tour

Varying Variety Recommendation Rows

- Could use various “preferences” as part of a multi-row interface



- Recommender systems omnipresent in our data lives
- Diversity important aspect when curating recommendations
- Proposed an approach to make recommendations
- Utilising Association Rule Mining
- Measuring diversity in terms of association rule breaking
- Exploring example domain of music live concerts
- Live concerts (transactions) made up of songs (item)
- Finding association rules between songs (items)
- User flexibility to define how much diversify they seek
- Casual fan vs Superfan can get very different recommendations

Association Rule Breaking Based Diversity for Recommender Systems

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Support, Confidence and Lift

- Measures to help quantify significance of association rules
- $A \Rightarrow B$
- **Support** frequency an item(set) appears in the dataset
- A appears in 7 out of 10 transactions
- **Support 7/10**
- B appears in 6 out of 10 transactions
- **Support 6/10**
- A and B appear (together) in 4 out of 7
- **Support 4/10**

Concert	Song X	Song Y
1	Yes	Yes
2	Yes	Yes
3	Yes	Yes
4	Yes	Yes
5	Yes	No
6	Yes	No
7	Yes	No
8	No	Yes
9	No	Yes
10	No	No

- Measures to help quantify significance of association rules
- $A \Rightarrow B$
- **Support** frequency an item(set) appears in the dataset
- A appears in 7 out of 10 transactions = **Support 7/10**
- B appears in 6 out of 10 transactions = **Support 6/10**
- A and B appear (together) in 4 out of 7 = **Support 4/10**
- **Confidence**: Likelihood a RHS of rule given the LHS
- “A and B” appear together in 4 out of the 7 transactions that A
- **Confidence = $4/7 \approx 0.57$**
- **Lift evaluates the strength of a rule**
- Comparing confidence to expected confidence if items were independent
- **Lift = Confidence/RHS support**
- **Lift = $0.57 / 0.6 \approx 0.95$**
- **A higher lift value indicates stronger and more significant rule**

Lift Association Rule Measure

Lift = 1: LHS and RHS are independent.

The occurrence of A does not affect the occurrence of B

Lift > 1: There is a positive correlation between A and B

The occurrence of A increases the likelihood of the occurrence of B

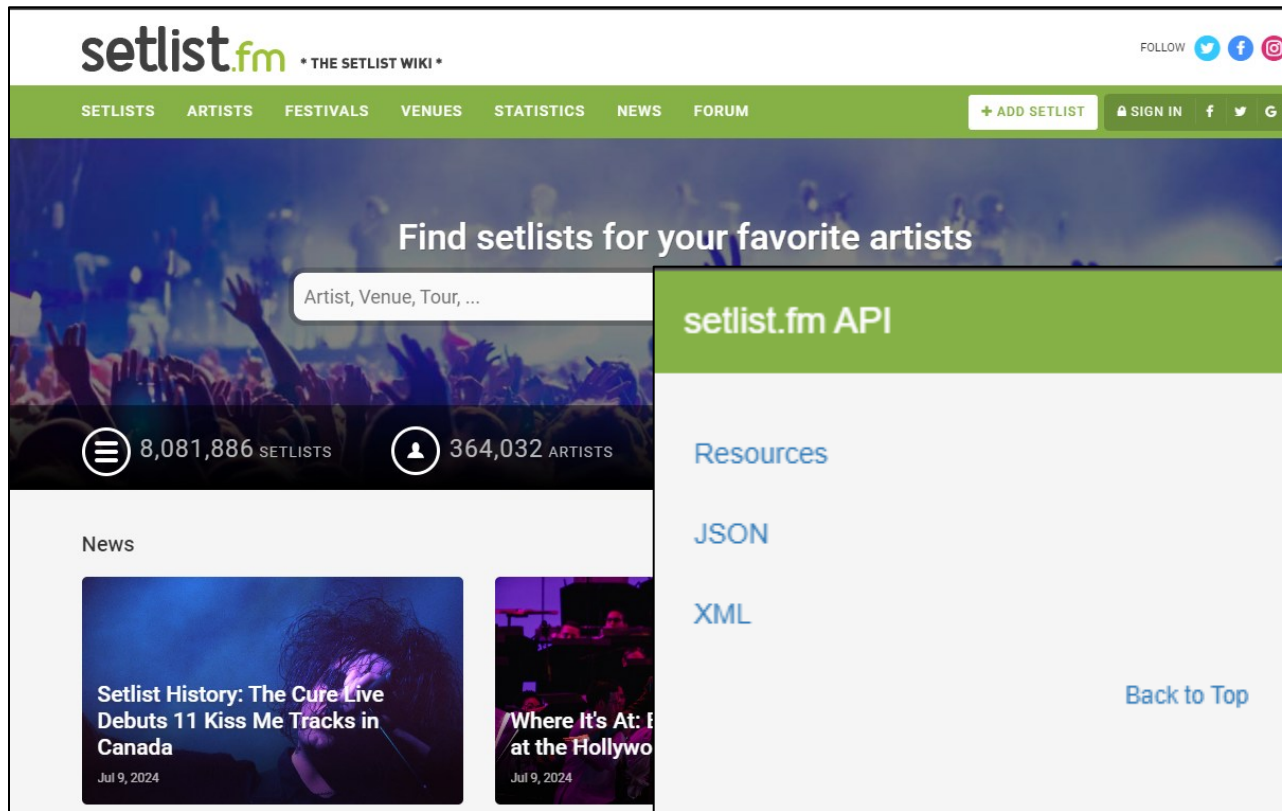
Lift < 1: There is a negative correlation between A and B

The occurrence of A decreases the likelihood of the occurrence of B

- **One can generally say that the higher the lift value, the more significant and stronger an association rule is**
- **Strength of Association:** A higher lift value indicates that the occurrence of the LHS increases the likelihood of the occurrence of the RHS more significantly than would be expected by chance
- **Significance:** Higher value suggests that the rule captures a relationship that is not due to random chance

Set List Data Acquisition

- www.setlist.fm – crowd sourced encyclopaedia of setlist data
- API access to acquire data - <https://api.setlist.fm/>
- Acquiring an artist's entire setlist career history
- Each show a (*transaction*) set of songs (*items*)



The image shows a screenshot of the setlist.fm website and its API documentation page. The website header includes the logo "setlist.fm • THE SETLIST WIKI •" and navigation links for SETLISTS, ARTISTS, FESTIVALS, VENUES, STATISTICS, NEWS, and FORUM. A search bar prompts users to "Find setlists for your favorite artists" with a placeholder "Artist, Venue, Tour, ...". Below the search bar, statistics show "8,081,886 SETLISTS" and "364,032 ARTISTS". The "News" section features two articles: "Setlist History: The Cure Live Debuts 11 Kiss Me Tracks in Canada" and "Where It's At: ... at the Hollywo". The API documentation page, titled "setlist.fm API", lists "Resources" for "JSON" and "XML", and includes a "Back to Top" link.

Finding Association Rules with Apriori SDU

- **Bruce Springsteen Example:**
 - Input: Nearly 2k transactions
 - Pre-Transaction filtering to keep only shows with x shows (10 – to ensure events like TV appearances with 3 songs etc are not used)
- Association Rules Finding
 - Minimum Support: 0.2
 - Minimum Confidence: 0.5
 - Rule Length (restricted to 1 item on each side)
- Resulting in 181 Rules

Results and Experiments

- Taylor Swift

Select Artist:
Taylor swift

Typical Vs Diverse (ARBD)
0% 100%

No. to Recommend:
2

GO

2 Very ARBD typical
recommendations requested



	Concert Date	Name of Gig's Tour
R1	26 Mar 2010	Fearless Tour
R2	17 Jul 2009	Fearless Tour

Select Artist:
Taylor swift

Typical Vs Diverse (ARBD)
0% 70% 100%

No. to Recommend:
2

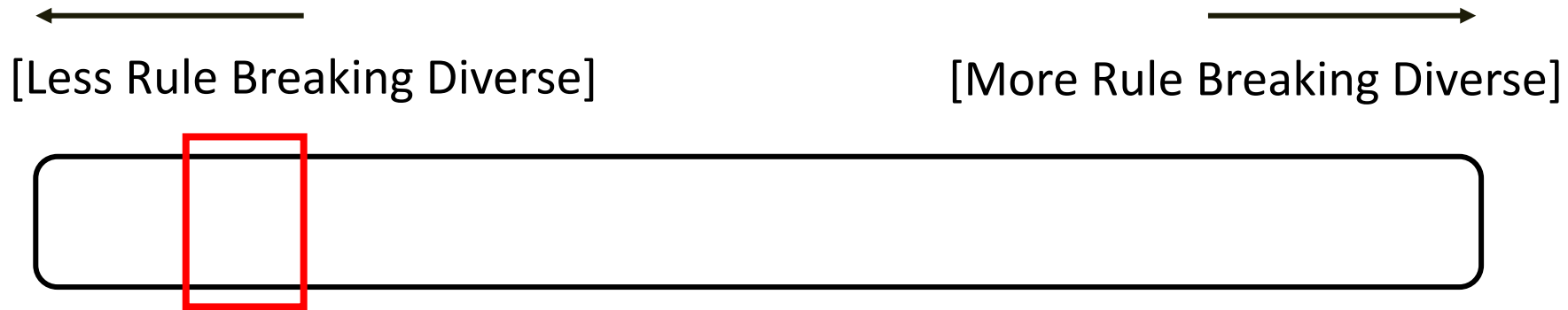
GO

2 Very ARBD diverse
recommendations requested



	Concert Date	Name of Gig's Tour
R1	12 Nov 2011	Speak Now World Tour
R2	30 Jun 2015	The 1989 World Tour

iii Calculating Recommendations



- Select window of transactions larger than desired k amount
- Then cluster the transactions in k based on distance measured in terms of identical songs
- Then single transaction from each cluster chosen – that is most aligned with ARBD preferences
- **This way dealing with potential for identical/very-similar transactions to exist next to each other in the list**
- Window size parameterized can be informed by specific knowledge of each artist
- **The k selected transactions are then shown to the user**

Finding Association Rules with Apriori **SDU**

- **Apriori Algorithm to find Association rules**
- Identifies frequent itemsets by iteratively extending smaller frequent itemsets
- Evaluates itemsets using
 - Support (frequency of occurrence)
 - Confidence (conditional probability)
- Ensuring only those that meet min thresholds are retained
- Define params of
 - Min Support
 - Min Confidence
 - Min and Max rule length

- For each concert (t) calculate **ARDB**
- **Association Rule Breaking Diversity (ARDB)**

$$ARBD_t = \frac{1}{m} (\sum_1^m x)$$

- Where m is the number of rules found and x is calculated via:

$$x = Rule_m(A \Rightarrow B, T) \begin{cases} +L_m & \text{if } A \subseteq T \text{ and } B \subseteq T \\ -L_m & \text{if } A \subseteq T \text{ and } B \not\subseteq T \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Where A is the left-hand side of Rule m
- B is the right-hand side of Rule m
- T is the set of items in transaction t ,
- L_m is the Lift value of $Rule_m$.
- Then normalise so
- “most diverse” (in terms of ruling breaking) has value of 1
- “most conforming” (in terms of rules holding) has value of 0

- Considering diversity in terms of occurrence of rare and unusual items
- (e.g. Just saying film with no Jim Carey and No comedy)
- Within setlists could consider how “Rare” the songs played are
- Most diverse setlists will be ones with most infrequent played items
- **This may result in excess pursuit of diversity**
- For each concert (t) calculate a *Frequency Score (FS)*
- Which considers transactions in terms of the occurrence of rare songs

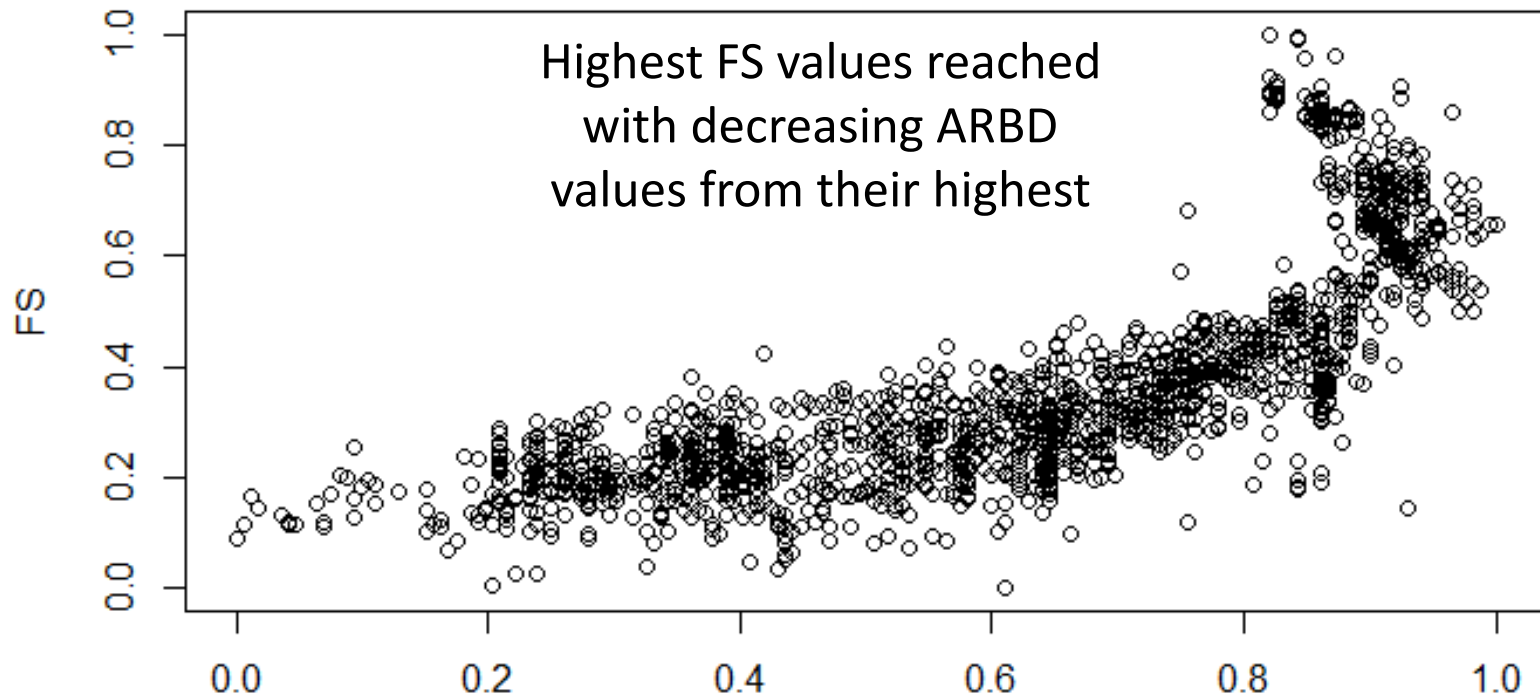
$$FS_t = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f_i$$

- f_i is the frequency ratio score of the n^{th} item from transaction t
- n is the number of items in transaction t

ARBD Comparison to Frequency

- Comparison between ARBD and FS scores
- Can see differing when comes to higher values for each measure

Bob Dylan



Rising ARBD values for
modest rises in FS values

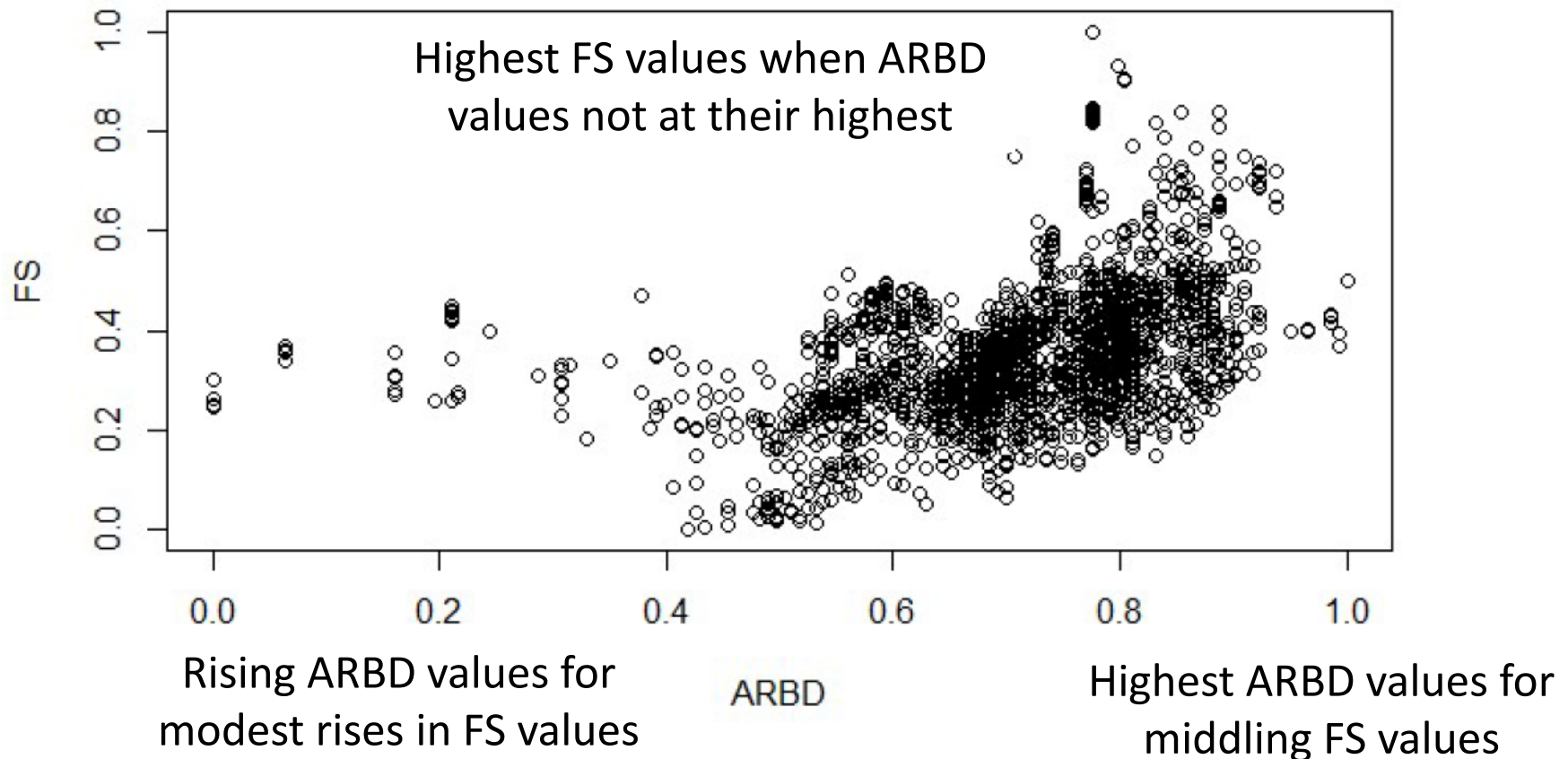
ARBD

Highest ARBD values for
middling FS values

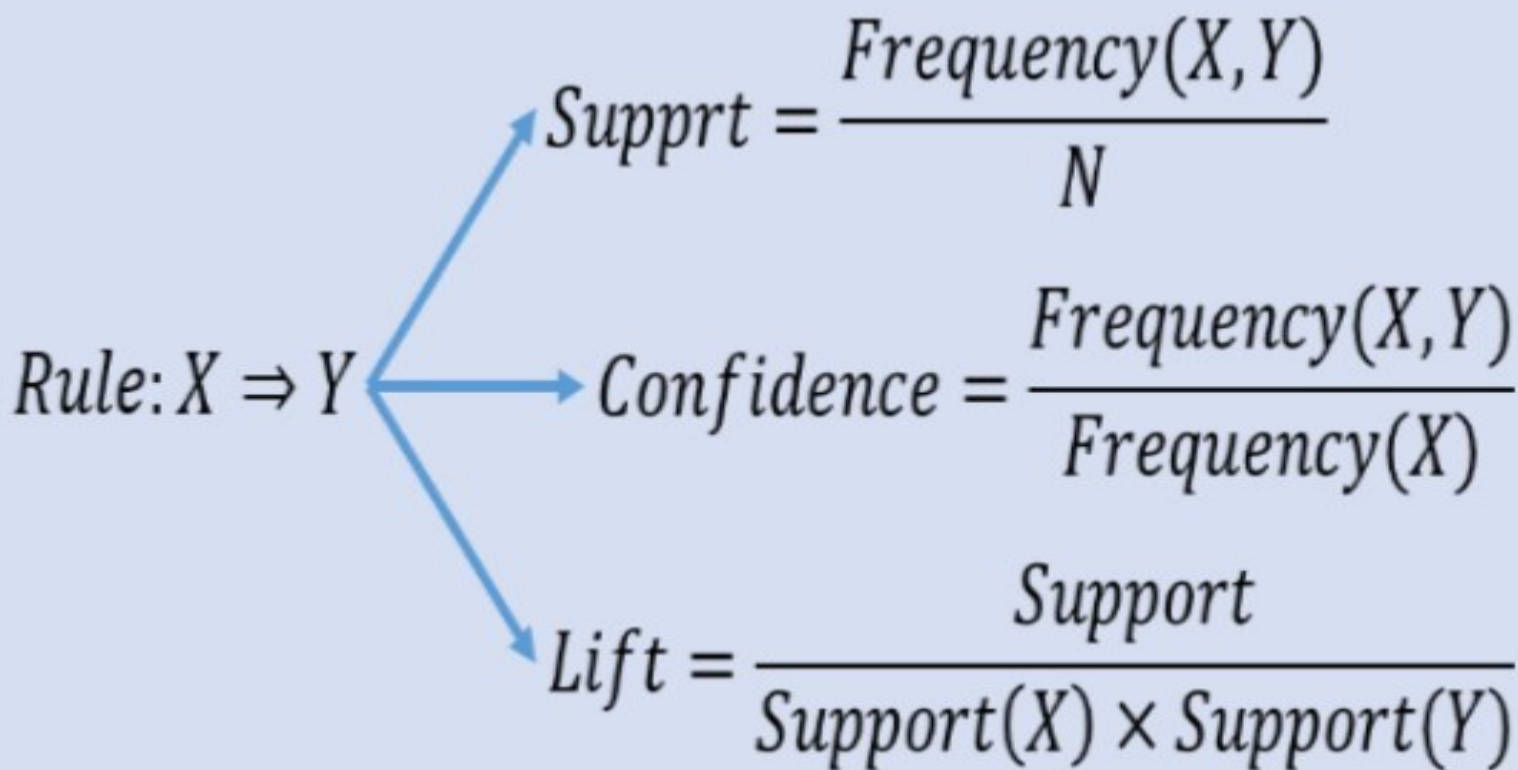
ARBD Comparison to Frequency

- Comparison between ARBD and FS scores
- Can see differing when comes to higher values for each measure

Bruce Springsteen



- To measure the significance of association rules
- The measures of **support**, **confidence**, and **lift**, are commonly used
- **Support** measures how frequently an itemset appears in the whole dataset
- It is the proportion of transactions in the dataset which contain the item set
- The formula to calculate the support of an itemset A is given by:
- **Confidence** measures the reliability of the inference made by a rule
- For a rule $A \Rightarrow B$, it's confidence considers the proportion of transactions that contain A which also contain B.
- The formula for calculating the confidence of a rule $A \Rightarrow B$ is:
- **Lift** is a measure that assesses the strength of a rule $A \Rightarrow B$ by comparing the likelihood of B occurring with A, in relation to B's overall likelihood in the dataset
- to indicate if A and B occur together more frequently than would be expected if they were statistically independent.
- A higher lift value suggests a potentially useful and strong association between them.
- It considers the ratio of the observed support of $A \cup B$, to the expected support if A and B were independent, essentially comparing the confidence of the rule to the overall frequency of B, and is calculated via:



The diagram illustrates the relationship between a rule and its associated metrics. On the left, the text "Rule: $X \Rightarrow Y$ " is positioned. Three blue arrows originate from this text and point towards the right, each leading to a specific metric formula. The top arrow points to the Support formula, the middle arrow points to the Confidence formula, and the bottom arrow points to the Lift formula.

Rule: $X \Rightarrow Y$

Support = $\frac{\text{Frequency}(X, Y)}{N}$

Confidence = $\frac{\text{Frequency}(X, Y)}{\text{Frequency}(X)}$

Lift = $\frac{\text{Support}}{\text{Support}(X) \times \text{Support}(Y)}$