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A Pattern-Based Academic Reviewer Recommendation Combining Author-Paper and Diversity Metrics

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ABSTRACT With the rapid increase of publishable research articles and manuscripts, the pressure to find reviewers often overwhelms the journal editors. This paper incorporates the major entity level metrics found in the heterogeneous publication networks into a pattern mining process in order to recommend academic reviewers and potential research collaborators. In essence, the paper integrates authors' h-index and papers' citation count and proposes a quantification to account for the author diversity into one formula duped impact to measure the real influence of a scientific paper. Thereafter, this paper formulates two kinds of target patterns and mines them harnessing the high-utility itemset mining (HUIM) framework. The first pattern, researcher-general topic patterns (RGP), is a pattern that includes only researchers; whereas, the researcherspecific topic patterns (RSP) is comprised of combinations of researchers and keywords that summarize their niche of expertise. The HUI algorithms of Two Phase, IHUP, UP-Growth, FHM, FHN, HUINIV-Mine, D2HUP, and EFIM were compared on two real-world citation datasets related to Deep Learning and HUIM, in addition to the open source mushroom dataset. The EFIM algorithm showed good performance in terms of run time and memory usage. Consequently, it was then used to mine the patterns within the proposed framework. The discovered patterns of RGP and RSP showed high coverage, proving the efficiency of the proposed framework.

INDEX TERMS High utility itemset mining, recommender system, expert finding, scholarly big data, reviewer assignment.

I. INTRODUCTION

Peer review is the corner stone of the process that leads to a high quality academic publication. During the review, journal editors and conference chairs seek help from subject matter experts (SMEs) in order to decide on accepting or rejecting an article in an objective manner [46], [47]. For example, the list of experts that help the conference chair is known as technical program committee (TPC). Likewise, journal editors consult a list of well-known SMEs. The role of these experts is to provide objective critics and recommendations to accept or reject a paper. Therefore, the quality of conference proceedings or journal articles depends on the rational reviews given by the members of the TPC and the reviewers respectively [48]. Journal editors and conference chairs are therefore, always looking for qualified academic reviewers to help in the peer-reviewed publications. After identifying the list of reviewers, journal editors and conference chairs assign papers to reviewers based on their knowledge. This assignment is the back bone of the process. Incorrect assignment of papers to reviewers will have significant negative effect on the quality of reviews [49], [50].

One typical criterion for selecting a reviewer is his expertise in a specific field of research. This subject matter mastery can be measured through the individual's own contributions in that filed which is typically the collection of his publications. The reviewer recommendation

FIGURE 1. (a) a conceptual representation of a heterogeneous academic social network, (b) Example of a heterogeneous academic network extracted from a citation dataset consisting of 9 research papers.

problem [14], [31], [38] also known as referee assignment [32], or reviewer assignment (RA) [31], can be viewed as a sub-filed of the expert finding problem [26]. It can be performed either manually [47], or through a Computerized system. However, because of the sheer amount of the academic publications, the task of recommending reviewers manually is becoming overwhelmingly tedious [51].

Existing approaches of reviewer recommendation fall into three different categories. The first category, known as profile centric, generates profiles of experts and match them to keywords that represent the papers to be reviewed [33], [34], [35]. The second category on the other hand, clusters the papers to be reviewed into groups based on their topic similarity and then assigns the reviewers [28], [39], [40]. The third and most recent category, formulates the problem as a pattern mining problem [2], [23], [47]. The pattern mining problem is a subtask of the association rule mining [1] where combinations of items frequently occurring together are found. However, the frequencies of items alone would make it hard to find combinations of none frequent items which have other importance. This has motivated the high utility itemset mining (HUIM) [4]. In this context individual items have importance in terms of their counts and unit prices. Although the existing studies of reviewer recommendation encode the publication and the reviewer as keywords, they have overlooked the main factors that influence the research impact. Namely, they consider neither the author level metrics, nor the diversity of the authors.

In this paper, motivated by the characteristics of HUIM that takes into account the importance of individual items, we propose a pattern-based reviewer recommendation framework based on author, paper, and diversity metrics. The approach extracts information related to scientific papers from both citation databases gathered from digital libraries [59] and academic social networks [54], [55]. The extracted information is used to model a heterogeneous academic social network with three different node types. The nodes represent authors, intuitions and papers. Figure 1 shows the conceptual representation of the heterogeneous academic network where the three different node types are:

- 1) Author, i.e. the person who writes a paper. Authors typically have profiles in academic social networks that shows their *h-index*.
- 2) Paper, which is written by the author and has a *citation count*, and
- 3) Institution, which represents the *affiliation* of the author.

Figure 2 shows an example of a heterogeneous academic social network built from a citation dataset that contains 9 papers. The nodes represent the three different entities with colours to distinguish them. For instance, the link between the blue node labelled *Author A* and the orange node labelled *Inst*. C_1 indicates that the author *A* is affiliated to the institution C_1 . On the hand, the links from the two blue nodes *Author A* and *Author B* that point to the green node *paperP*¹ indicate that the paper P_1 is co-authored by *Author A* and *Author B*.

In order to recommend reviewers, this paper defines two kinds of patterns: researcher general-topic pattern (RGP) and researcher specific-topic pattern (RSP). To find such patterns, the paper extends the high utility itemset mining (HUIM) [17], [52]. Analogously to the HUIM, the paper incorporates the importance of individual items.

However, there are major differences between the HUIM and the patterns found in the proposed framework. Firstly, the items that make the transaction data are of different types. Secondly, unlike HUIM, the importance of an item depends on its type. Hence, the proposed framework uses item-level importance. For instance, if an item is of type author, its importance is different from another item that represent papers. Consequently, new definition are given on how to construct the impactful transaction dataset.

Table 1 shows an example of impactful transaction dataset generated from the network illustrated in Figure 2. While the importance of the papers in terms of prestige, citation count and diversity are explicitly shown in Table 1, the

TABLE 1. Impactful transactional dataset.

PID.	Authors Keywd Div CC Prestige Impact					
P_{1}	A, B	X	$1 \t 20$		-20	
P ₂		Service	\blacksquare	15	15	18
P_{2}	A, B, C	X	$\overline{2}$	10	20	30
Kevwd: Keywords, Div: Diversity, CC: Citation Count						

TABLE 2. Authors' h-index table.

Author	h -index
A	
B	-5
C	
D	
E	

TABLE 3. Keyword frequency table.

importance of the authors and keywords are shown in Table 2 and Table 3 respectively.

The main contributions of the paper can be summarized as follows:

- The citation dataset of published papers is modelled as a heterogeneous academic network comprising of three different nodes: authors, papers and institutions.
- Introducing impact a measure of a publication importance that takes into account the authors' h-index, collaboration diversity, and the citation count of the underlying paper. A high utility-pattern based framework for mining impactful researcher general-topic patterns (RGP) and researcher specific-topic patterns (RSP).
- An experimental prove of concepts using real-world citation data to prove the effectiveness of the proposed approach.

The structure of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the relevant literature; section 3 explains the main building blocks of the proposed framework along with a detailed explanation of the mining approach. Section 4 reports the details of a proof of concept case study and explains the results obtained. Section 5 concludes the work by summarizing the major parts and highlighting the future directions..

II. RELATED WORK

The scientific literature in this paper is related to two main research topics:

- High utility pattern mining
- Reviewer recommendation.

The following subsections briefly introduce the concepts related to these topics.

A. HIGH UTILITY PATTERN MINING

The pattern mining problem was proposed by [1] in order to recommend products from transactional data. However, due to the binary representation of items in the market-based data which ignores the importance of items, a new pattern known as high utility itemset mining (HUIM) was introduced [4]. The HUIM is formally defined as [58], [52]:

Let $I = \{i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_M\}$ be a finite set of items. Then a set *X* ⊂ *I* is referred to as an itemset. Let $D = \{T_1, T_2, \ldots, T_N\}$ be a transaction database. Each transaction $T_i \in D$, with unique identifier TID is a subset of *I*. The internal utility $q(i_p, T_d)$ represents the quantity of item i_p in transaction T_d . The external utility $p(i_p)$ is the unit profit value of item i_p . The utility of an item i_p in transaction T_d is defined as $u(i_p, T_d) = p(i_p) \times q(i_p, T_d)$. The utility of itemset *X* in transaction T_d is defined as

$$
u(X, T_d) = \sum_{i_p \in X \cap X \subset T_d} u(i_p, T_d)
$$
 (1)

The utility of itemset *X* in *D* is defined as

$$
u(X) = \sum_{X \subset T_d \cap T_d \in D} u(X, T_d) \tag{2}
$$

The transaction utility (TU) of a transaction T_d is defined as

$$
TU(T_d) = u(T_d, T_d)
$$
\n(3)

To perform HUIM, the user provided minimum utility threshold δ is defined as a percentage of the total TU values of the database. The minimum utility value however, is calculated as

$$
min_util = \delta \times \sum_{T_d \in D} TU(T_d)
$$
 (4)

An itemset X is called HUI if $u(X) \ge \text{min_util}$.

Given a transaction database *D*, the task of HUIM is to determine all items that have no less than *min*_*util*. The transaction-weighted utilization (TWU) of an itemset X is the sum of the transaction utilities of all transactions that contain X and is defined as:

$$
TWU(X) = \sum_{X \subset T_d \cap T_d \in D} TU(T_d) \tag{5}
$$

X is high transaction-weighted utilization itemset (HTWUI) if $TWU(X) \geq \min_util$; otherwise, X is a low transactionweighted utilization itemset. A HTWUI with *k* items is called *k*-HTWUI.

Consider the transaction database in Table 4 and the unit profit table in Table 5. In the example database, the utility of item B in transaction T_1 is $u(B, T_1) = 2 \times 2 = 4$. The utility of itemset BC in transaction T_1 is $u(BC, T_1) = u(B, T_1) +$ $u(C, T_1) = 4 + 2 = 6$. The utility of the same itemset in the entire database is $u(BC) = u(BC, T_1) + u(BC, T_2) +$ $u(BC, T_5) = 6 + 11 + 5 = 22$. Assuming the min_util = 50, the itemset BC is not HUI because $u(BC) < \min_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{U}$.

The TU of T_4 is $TU (T_4) = u (ABCDE, T_4) = 25$. Likewise, the utilities of the other transactions are shown

FIGURE 2. The architecture of the utility-pattern based academic reviewer recommendation.

TABLE 4. Example database.

TID	Transactions	TU
Τ,	(B, 2), (C,2), (E,1)	
T ₂	$(B,4)$, $(C,3)$, $(D,3)$, $(E,1)$	20
T ₂	(A,1), (C,1), (D,1)	x
T_{4}	(A,2), (C,6), (E,2)	22
T_{5}	(A,1), (B,2), (C,1), (D,6), (E,1)	25

TABLE 5. Profit table.

in the last column of Table 4. The TWU of the itemset BC is *TWU* $(BC) = TU (T_1) + TU (T_2) + TU (T_5) = 9 + 20 +$ $25 = 54$. Thus, BC is HTWUI.

The introduction of HUIM problem has motivated research in two directions [52]: 1) The development of efficient algorithms, and 2) The application of this technique to various domains.

1) HIGH UTILITY ITEMSET MINING ALGORITHMS

HUIM algorithms are mainly developed focussing on their efficiency in terms of execution time and memory space. The first such algorithms is Two-Phase [4]. It introduced the Transaction-Weighted Downward Closure (TWDC) property which is analogous to the apriority property [1], and used it to prune the search space. The algorithm follows two phases. In phase one, itemsets with TWU that satisfies the utility threshold are found. In phase two, the database is scanned to determine the real HUIs. Other algorithms that use treebased data structures were also developed. Examples of such algorithms include Utility Pattern Growth (UP-Growth) [6], Incremental High Utility Pattern mining (IHUP) [5] among others [52]. Recently, more efficient algorithms such as Efficient high-utility Itemset Mining (EFIM) [11] that use different data structures have been developed [52]. The proposed

work in this paper applies some of these algorithms to the problem of reviewer recommendation.

2) HIGH UTILITY ITEMSET MINING APPLICATIONS

Although most of the HUIM algorithms can be adopted for real-world applications in different domains, for effectiveness, researchers have devised application-specific algorithms as well. Such algorithms include IHUP [5] which was developed to handle incremental datasets, and High Utility Itemsets with Negative Item Values (HUINV-Mine) [9]. Although other algorithms have also been developed, the effectiveness of HUIM is still a challenging task [52]. The work in this paper contributes to the application aspect of HUIM. In essence, it uses the domain knowledge of academic social network and tests the applicability of HUIM techniques in the reviewer recommendation problem.

B. REVIEWER RECOMMENDATION

The emergence of big data generated due to the scientific writings has inspired researchers to utilize such data for facilitating the tasks involved in the research process. This massive amount of data in academia is referred to as - Big Scholarly Data (BSD) [13]. Within this context, recommending reviewers and collaborators is the central problem faced by both journal editors and research institutions. Although the literature reports attempts to tackle the reviewer recommendation and collaboration, few studies [2], [25] have reported applying pattern-mining approaches to the problem. The reviewer recommendation problem [14], [31], [38] also known as referee assignment [32], or Reviewer Assignment (RA) [31], can be viewed as a sub field of the expert search and finding problem [26]. Which in turn is defined as sorting a list of candidates with a proven knowledge in a certain domain for a given query [27], [28]. For its importance, the expert finding problem has a dedicated track in Text Retrieval Conference (TREC) known as Expert Finding Track [29]. According to the literature on BSD analysis [12], the previous methodologies of reviewer recommendation can be grouped into two main methods [30]. The first category builds a profile of the experts' knowledge [14], [15], and known as profile based,

FIGURE 3. Report Dataset.

and the second class follows document clustering and then querying [16], and thus known as document centric. Very recently, however, a new category that follow pattern based approach has been introduced [2], [25]. These approaches are briefly introduced in the following sub sub-sections.

1) PROFILE-CENTERIC APPROACHES

In this category, researchers build profiles of potential reviewers based on their expertise [33], [34] and then match keywords related to the paper on hand, to a list of top matching reviewers. For example, Kou *et al.* [35] considered the RA problem as Weighted-coverage Group-based Reviewer Assignment Problem (WGRAP) where reviewer expertise are weighted and compared against the terms of the paper to be reviewed. Afterwards they optimize the number of papers per reviewer [37]. However, methods that follow this approach [36] do not consider information about the authors in terms of their importance. Furthermore, in this paper we follow a pattern-based approach that does not require optimization.

2) DOCUMENT CENTRIC APPROACHES

The literature that follow this approach [28], [39] cluster the papers based on their topics and then rank the authors based

on a relevance score. An example of this category is the recent work in [40] where the authors considered additional information like time, which can affect research interest. More recently, Gui *et al.* [30] followed this approach with the addition of authority ranking. Although, document centric models are better than the profile models because they consider the text of whole publications, these models also do not consider extra information related the author. In contrast to the work proposed in this paper, the proposed methods is pattern-based which incorporate the importance of both papers and authors in addition to the keywords.

3) PATTERN BASED APPROACHES

In the pattern based reviewer recommendation approach, bibliographic datasets [56], [57] are collected and the RA is treated as a pattern-mining problem [1]. Associations

between Reviewers and or Keywords are found. Although the work in [2], and its extension in [25] are considered pilots in this direction, they treat the problem as a weighted association rule mining [17]. Where the impacts of the publications are considered as weights. The work proposed in this paper, however, although it follows pattern-based approach, it differs from [2], and [25] in several aspects. 1) this paper considers the impacts of authors and keywords in addition to the papers' citation count, 2) this paper finds all patterns of high utility compared to the closed patterns found in [25], and 3) the patterns found in this paper are represented in terms of sets rather than explicit rules as in [25].

III. A UTILITY PATTERN BASED ACADEMIC REVEWER RECOMENDATION

This paper acknowledges the heterogeneous nature of the scholarly network which is comprised of various entities [3]. For instance Figure 1-(b) shows a typical representation of the academic network. The figure shows how researchers affiliated to different institutions can collaborate to generate a written document in a form of paper that summaries a major research task they have accomplished. A closer look at the figure motivates the conceptual representation of its major entities shown in Figure 1-(a). These entities are: The researcher who is affiliated to an institution and can coauthor a paper. The second major entity is the paper that have been co-authored by several authors. The two major entities in this model can be evaluated in various ways. For example, authors or researchers in general are evaluated by their h-index [12], [41]. On the other hand, the quality of papers can be measured through the number of citations a particular paper receives. This paper combines the metrics of authors and papers along with the keywords mentioned in each paper and formulate the reviewer recommendation as a utility pattern mining problem. The paper generalizes the proposed analytical approach as a framework. The framework is comprised of three major steps as shown in Figure 2. The steps are Data Acquisition, Pre-processing, and Mining and Recommendations.

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FIGURE 4. Citation records Dataset.

FIGURE 5. Itemset lattice of the impactful transactional databse of Table1.

A. DATA ACQUISITION

The datasets that can help in reviewer recommendation can be collected from two major sources. 1) Digital Libraries such as: Clarivate Analytics' Web of Science Core Collection [56], and Scopus [57]. 2) User profiles found in Online Academic Social Networking Sites, which include Google Scholar [54], ResearchGate [53], and Arnetminer [55].

While researchers can obtain citation data from digital libraries through their institutional subscriptions, the user profile data can only be obtained through web crawlers [20]. Figure 4 shows a typical example of a record in a citation dataset retrieved from Clarivate Analytics' Web of Science Collection. Part (a) of the figure shows the citation record from where major information about the paper are extracted. Part (b), however, shows the associated citation report data from where the paper's citation count and DOI are extracted.

B. DATA PREPROCESSING

Because the work in the paper is motivated by the semantic representation of the citation data, a pre-processing step has

to be done in order to obtain a clean copy of the raw data that can be used in the subsequent utility-based pattern-mining step. In particular, this step includes extracting author level quality measures such as the h-index of an author from his academic social network profile, which was obtained in the previous data acquisition step. This step also includes extracting certain information from the citation datasets obtained from digital libraries. This information include the names of the authors, the diversity of their affiliation in terms of geographic locations of their institutions. This is represented by countries. Another piece of information is the citation count of a particular paper along with its Digital Object Identifier (DOI) [22] and a list of keywords used in this paper. Following the extraction of author and paper level information, an integration step is performed in order to generate a transaction-like dataset, which can be used for the pattern mining. Table 1 represents the result of the integrated dataset. Particularly, the first four columns represent the paper ID, list of authors, keywords, diversity, and citation count. On the other hand, Table 2 represents the *h*-index of each author and Table 3 shows the frequencies of the keywords. Algorithm 1 illustrates the data processing steps. The algorithm takes both the citation record file shown in Figure 3, and the report file shown in Figure 4. It refers to the files as \mathcal{D}_{sr} and \mathcal{D}_{rep} respectively. The output is an impactful transactional dataset referred to in the algorithm as D . The algorithm then starts by initializing two lists to keep information about Authors and Keywords. The first list, *Authorlist* extracts information about authors. Namely, the author's name from \mathcal{D}_{sr} , and his *hindex* from GoogleScholar. It also encodes the authors as numbers represented as the index of the list. The second list, *Keywords*_{list}, encodes the keywords extracted from \mathcal{D}_{sr}

and stores their counts. The two lists are defined in lines 01, and 02 of the algorithm. The process of filling these lists requires a complete scan of the D*sr* dataset. This process is represented in the algorithm by lines 03, through 20. The algorithm then scans both the \mathcal{D}_{sr} , and \mathcal{D}_{rep} datasets in order to generate the impactful transactional dataset. This process is shown from line 21 to line 35. The algorithm takes each paper p_i , in \mathcal{D}_{sr} , extracts its title as shown in Figure 4, and

uses it to extract the papers' DOI from \mathcal{D}_{rep} . It then extracts p_i 's citation count as shown in Figure 3. Thereafter, p_i 's Diversity is calculated using formula (1). Then its Prestige is calculated using formula (2), and the impacts of its authors and keywords are calculated by looking up the necessary information from *Authorlist* and *Keywordslist* using formulas (3) and (4). Finally the impact of the transaction is calculated using Formula (5) and a transaction is formed and added to D.

This process continues until the end of records in \mathcal{D}_{sr} and D_{rep} and then the algorithm returns the complete transactional dataset D.

C. MINING AND RECOMENDATION

The pattern-mining problem was proposed by [1] in order to recommend products from transactional data. It has been extended to account for weighted datasets [17]. Recently a version of the weighted algorithm was applied to the problem of reviewer recommendation [2]. Within their framework, the quality of the paper- its citation count was considered as a weight to extract compact patterns. Although the proposal of [2] is promising, it has overlooked the typical heterogeneity of the academic social network. Therefore, this paper proposes to account for the quality of publication, which stems from the semantics inherent in the network representation as shown in

Figure 1. The quality of the paper can be thought of as comprising from the authors who wrote it and the paper itself. Thus in this work we define a utility-like transaction database wherein the utilities of the papers duped impact can be calculated based on the impacts of the authors, and the prestige of the paper. Like [2], an item in the utility-like transaction is represented as attribute-value pair, where the attribute can be either an author, or a keyword.

Definition 1 (Impactful Transactional Dataset): Let A be the set of authors and S be the set of specific topics. Let P be the set of all scientific publications and let $D(p_i)(p_i \in P)$ *be the number of different countries hosting the institutions of the authors who published the paper* p_i *. Let* $C(p_i)(p_i \in$ *P) be the number of citations received by paper pⁱ , and let Pr*(p_i)($p_i \in P$) *be the prestige of paper* p_i *. Let* $I(p_i)(p_i \in P)$ *be the impact of paper pⁱ . An item i^k is a pair feature* : *vq, where v*^{*q*} ∈ *A if feature is Author, and v*^{*q*} ∈ *S, if feature is special topic keyword. A transaction t^j is a set of items related to a paper pj*(*p^j* ∈ *P*)*. An impactful transactional dataset* D *is a set of impactful transactions it*^{*j*} \in *D corresponds to different paper p_i and consists of the triplet* $\langle t_i, Pr(p_i), I(p_i) \rangle$.

Example 1: Looking at the scenario presented in figure1, a total of 9 papers are depicted which are authored and coauthored by five authors labelled A, B, C, D, and E. each one of the researchers is affiliated to an institution that resides in a different country. The institutions are labelled C_1 *through* C_4 *. Table 1 shows an impactful transactional dataset extracted from the scenario of Figure 1-(b). Each transaction in the table is identified by a PID shown in column 1. For instance paper the first paper in the scenario on figure 1 which is labelled P*¹ *and couther by authors A and B both of which belong to the same institution* C_1 *is given a PID* = P_1 *, Authors* = *A, B, and a specific topic* = *X. the other two papers are populated the same way.*

Because the goal of this paper is to recommend reviewers who are qualified, we formulate a utility-pattern mining approach to achieve the task. To this end, we define the concepts of itemset, the Author-General topic pattern, the Author-Specific topic pattern and the mining problem

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Definition 2 (Itemset): Let D *be an impactful transactional dataset and let I be the set of distinct items in the form feature* : v_a *contained in any impactful transaction it*_{*i*} $\in \mathcal{D}$ *. A k-itemset is a set of k distinct items in I.*

Itemsets can represent combination of Authors and Keywords.

Definition 3 (Paper Diversity (D)): The Diversity of a paper p_i in an impactful transaction it $_j$ denoted as $D\left(p_i, it_j\right)$ *is the sum of the affiliations Aff ^k of its authors. And is given by the following formula.*

$$
D(p_i, it_j) = \sum_{k=1}^{l} (Af_k, it_j)
$$
 (6)

where, $k = 1, 2, \ldots l$ *is the number of unique Affiliations in pi .*

For example, the diversity of the paper P_3 in table 1 is calculated as $D(P_3, P_3) = 2$, because from the scenario at Figure 1-(b), *P*³ was co-authored by three researchers: A, B and C. Both authors A and B are affiliated to the same institution, labelled C_1 . Whereas, the third author; C is affiliated to a different institution, *C*2.

Definition 4 (Paper Prestige (Pr)): The prestige of a paper p_i *in an impactful transaction it* $_j$ *denoted as* $\Pr\left(p_i, it_j\right)$ *is the product of its diversity and citation count. And is given by the following formula.*

$$
Pr(p_i, it_j) = D(p_i, it_j) * C(p_i, it_j)
$$
\n⁽⁷⁾

For example, the prestige of the paper P_2 in table 1 is calculated as Pr $(P_2, P_2) = D(P_2, P_2) * C(P_2, P_2) = 1 * 15 = 15.$

Definition 5 (Author Impact (AI)): The hindex of an author and the prestige of the publication in a particular impactful transaction represent the impact of an author

$$
AI (Ai, itj) = hindex (Ai) + Pr (pk, itj)
$$
 (8)

For example, the author impact of C in P_2 in table 1 is calculated as $AI(A, P_2) = h\textrm{-}index(A) + Pr(P_2, P_2) = 3 + 15 =$ 18. And it is shown in red in the itemset lattice depicted in figure 3.

Definition 6 (Keyword Impact (KI)): The frequency of a keyword and the prestige of the publication in a particular impactful transaction represent the impact of that keyword.

$$
KI\left(K_i, it_j\right) = frequency\left(K_i\right) + Pr\left(p_k, it_j\right) \tag{9}
$$

For example, the keyword impact of X in P_1 in table 1 is calculated as $KI(X, P_1)$ = frequency(K) + Pr(P_1, P_1) = 1 + $20 = 21$. And it is shown in red in the itemset lattice depicted in Figure 5. Where for the sake of simplicity, in this example the Keyword Impact is assumed to comprise of prestige only.

Definition 7 (Transaction Impact (I)): The impact of an impactful transaction is the combination of the prestige of the paper it represents along with the impacts of the authors and the keywords.

$$
I (it_j) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} A I (A_i, it_j) + \sum_{l=1}^{n} K I (K_l, it_j) + Pr(p_q, it_j)
$$
 (10)

FIGURE 6. The top Keywords used in the citation dataset related to High Utility Itemset along with their frequencies.

where $i = 1, \ldots$ *m represents the number of authors, and l* = 1, 2, . . . *n* represents the number of specific topic keywords.

For example, the impact of the impactful transaction *P*¹ in table 1 is calculated as $I(P_1) = AI(A, P_1) + AI(B, P_1) +$ $KI(X, P_1) + Pr(P_1, P_1) = 2 + 5 + 20 = 27$. And it is shown in the last column of table 1.

At this point, setting a minimum impact threshold, referred to hereafter as *minImpact*, and applying utility pattern mining, one would be able to extract patterns of various item combinations. However, in this paper, for the sake of academic reviewer recommendation, two special patterns are of interest. Namely, Author-General topic Patterns, and Author-Specific topic Patterns.

Definition 8 (Author General Topic Pattern (AGP)): Is a pattern that consists of combinations of authors only. The term General refers to the general keywords used to obtain the citation data at the first step of the proposed framework.

For example, in the itemset lattice of Figure 5, when the *minImpact* = 20, the none shaded items represent patterns of interest. Particularly patterns where only authors are shown represent AGP.

Definition 9 (Researcher-Specific topic Pattern (RSP)): Is a pattern that consists of combinations of authors and a specific topic. The term Specific refers to the specific keywords that are associated with the citation dataset obtained from an online database.

For example, in the itemset lattice of figure 3, when the *minImpact* = 20, the non-shaded items represent patterns of interest. Particularly patterns where authors and keywords are shown represent RSP patterns.

IV. CASE STUDY

The proposed framework have been applied to a real-world citation dataset. The datasets were prepared according to

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> NETWORKS NATURAL IMAGES

A. EXPERIMENTAL DATASET

For the purposes of the experiments, two real-world datasets and one standard dataset were used. The two real-world

Keyword Frequency

FIGURE 8. Run Time vs minImpact threshold using citation dataset related to Deep Learning.

FIGURE 9. Run Time vs minImpact threshold using citation dataset related to HUIM.

datasets were retrieved from Clarivate Analytics' Web-of-Science Core Collection (https://clarivate.com). The first one is a citation dataset related to the publications on Deep Learning [42], and the other one is related to High Utility Itemset mining [6]. The search queries used to retrieve the two datasets were ''Deep learning'' and ''High Utility Itemset Mining'' in that order. Although the dataset retrieved were big in size, for the purposes of proving the applicability of the proposal, only the top cited articles were selected for this study. Statistics about these two datasets are shown in Table 6. In parallel to that, researchers' profiles were retrieved from Google Scholar. The necessary information about the authors' names, diversity, and citation counts were extracted from the citation records [19]. The hindex of authors' however, was obtained from their Google Scholar profiles. For the keywords, the most frequent keywords were identified and two were chosen for the experiment in each dataset. Figures 6, and 7 show a histogram of the most frequent keywords in the two datasets. From the Deep learning citation dataset, only ''Recognition and ''Neural Networks'' were chosen for the analysis. Whereas, from the High Utility Itemset mining dataset, ''Data Mining'' and ''Utility Mining'' were chosen. Furthermore, for the purposes of selecting a suitable mining algorithm, the Mushroom

FIGURE 10. Number of patterns vs minImpact threshold using citation dataset related to Deep learning.

TABLE 6. Information about the citation datasets considered.

Property	Citation Dataset		
	Deep learning	HUI	
Number of Authors	170	63	
Number of papers	44	44	
Number of papers with diverse authors	14	27	
Keywords considered			

dataset (http://www.philippe-fournier-viger.com/spmf/) was also used to compare eight mining algorithms. The distribution of the three datasets is given in table 5.

B. CHOOSING A MINING ALGORITHM

Although a number of HUI mining algorithm are being developed [43], [44], few tools are available where implementations of these algorithms are freely available [24]. Therefore, in order to choose an appropriate algorithm, the UP-Miner toolkit [24] was used where the major item utility algorithms were compared for suitability of our proof of concept experiment. The algorithms considered for this purpose were, Two Phase [4], Incremental High Utility Pattern (IHUP) mining [5], Utility Pattern Growth (UP-Growth) [6],

Fast high Utility Miner (FHM) [7], Faster High-Utility itemset miner with Negative unit profits (FHN) [8], (High Utility Itemsets with Negative Item Values (HUINIV)- Mine [9], Direct Discovery of High Utility Patterns (D2HUP) [10], and Efficient high-utility Itemset Mining (EFIM) algorithm [11]. These algorithms were compared across three dimensions; number of patterns obtained, and the space and time resource consumed. Table 8 shows the results of the comparison. It is clear from the table that only three out of the eight algorithms considered reported the same number of patterns. Those were namely, FHM, FHN, and EFIM. Although FHN might produce different number of patterns generally, in this case it produced exactly the same number of patterns as FHM and EFIM. This is because our dataset

TABLE 7. Information about the citation datasets considered.

TABLE 8. Comparison of different high utility itemset mining algorithms.

TABLE 9. Impactful RGP patterns and RSP patterns generated from the Deep learning Citation Datasets.

does not include negative utility values. Two algorithms, Two Phase, and HUINIV-Mine reported memory errors and we could net obtain their results when the mushroom dataset was

C. PATTERNS DISCOVERED

EFIM algorithm was used to mine the resulting citation datasets for patterns. Firstly, in order to analyse the patterns,

TABLE 10. Impactful RGP patterns and RSP patterns generated from the HUI Citation Datasets.

Patterns Discovered				
Type	ID	Pattern	impact	Coverage
RGP		$\{(\mathbf{R}; \text{``Yu}, \text{Philip } S\text{''}), (\mathbf{R}; \text{``Tseng}, \text{ Vincent } S\text{''})\}$	756	100%
	2	$\{(\mathbf{R}; "Yu, Philip S"), (\mathbf{R}; "Tseng, Vincent S"), (\mathbf{S}; "utility mining")\}\}$	860	100%
RSP	3 4	$(R: "Tseng, Vincent S"), (S: "utility mining")\}$ $\{(\mathbf{R}: \text{``Tseng}, \text{ Vincent } S\text{''}), (\mathbf{R}: \text{``Wu}, \text{Cheng-Wei''}), (\mathbf{R}: \text{``Yu}, \text{Philip } S\text{''})\}$ (S: "utility mining")	828 702	100% 100%
<i>minImpact</i> threshold used to generate these patterns was 700				

FIGURE 11. Memory vs minImpact threshold using citation dataset related to Deep Learning.

the number of patterns generated while the minimum impact threshold varied were observed and represented in Figure 10, and Figure 13 for Deep Learning and High Utility Itemset Mining datasets respectively. From the figures, it was confirmed that patterns decrease when the impact threshold increase. In parallel, Figure 11 and Figure 12 depict the memory space consumed when performing the pattern search at different values of the *minImpact*. The memory decreased steadily. Likewise, Figure 8 and Figure 9 observe the run time of the algorithm across different values of *minImpact*. The runtime also decreased steadily. Thereafter, the patterns discovered from the Deep Learning citation dataset were observed and presented in table 7. Exactly 8 patterns were discovered when the minImpact threshold was set to 300. In the table, patterns are sorted according to their *minImpact*threshold. Those with higher values of minImpact top the list. The patterns are also classified into RGP and RSP. Five RGP patterns were found and only three RSP patterns were reported. At the top of the Researcher General topic pattern was, {(**R:** ''Hinton, Geoffrey E''), (**R:** ''Bengio, Yoshua'')} with minImpact of 486. This pattern can be interpreted as: both researchers, Mr. ''Hinton, Geoffrey E'', and ''Bengio, Yoshua'' are top experts in the general topic of ''Deep learning'' and thus, they can be contacted to review articles related to the topic. On the other hand, Table 10 reports the patterns found when the dataset was about High Utility Itemset mining and the minImpact threshold was set to 700.

FIGURE 12. Memory vs minImpact threshold using citation dataset related to HUIM.

FIGURE 13. Number of patterns vs minImpact threshold using citation dataset related to HUIM.

The RGP pattern, {(**R:** ''Yu, Philip S''), (**R:** ''Tseng, Vincent S")} with an impact of 756 reports two experts in the field. Namely, "Yu, Philip S" and "Tseng, Vincent S". Not surprisingly, however, the both experts were reported at the top of the RSP patterns as, {(**R:** ''Yu, Philip S''), (**R:** ''Tseng, Vincent S''), (**S:** ''utility mining'')} indicating the subject matter expertise in the specific topic of ''Utility Mining''.

D. PATTERN VERIFICATION

In order to verify the patterns reported by the algorithm, Google Scholar's search results were assumed to represent

the ground truth. Thereafter, the reported patterns by the algorithm on each datasets were used to search Google Scholar. The results of the search are then checked to confirm whether they matched the underlying search term (i.e. the pattern). However, in order to quantify this process, a measure of coverage is used. Although the coverage as a measure [45] is used in the literature to evaluate Association Rules [1], this paper uses the measure in a slightly modified way. In essence, we define Pattern Coverage, *r*, as : Pattern Coverage (*r*) is the fraction of ground truth records (*GTR*) that satisfy an RGP, or RSP pattern.

$$
r = \frac{GTR}{N} \tag{11}
$$

where, *N* is the total number of the *GTR*.

During the experiment for coverage, only the top ten results reported by Google Scholar in its first page are used to calculate the pattern coverage. Therefore, in our experiments, N is assumed to be 10. In addition, a ground truth pattern is said to be covered by the underlying search pattern, if and only if at least one of the authors in the pattern is among the coauthors of the ground truth.

The values of coverage of each pattern are reported in the last columns of Tables 11 and 12. The patterns have also been sorted according to their coverage values. From table 8. The top RSP pattern according to its impact was, {(**R:** ''Yu, Philip S''), (**R:** ''Tseng, Vincent S''), (**S:** ''utility mining'')}: (**impact** :860). When this pattern was used as a search query in Google Scholar to calculate its coverage, the top ten results reported at the first page are reported in table 9. A closer look at the authors- the third column of the table, shows that the pattern covers all elements of the ground truth. Consequently, a coverage of 100% was calculated for this pattern. On the contrary, a closer look at the search results of the third RGP pattern, {(**R:**''Osindero, Simon''), (**R:** ''Teh, Yee-Whye''), (**R:** ''Hinton, Geoffrey E''), (**R:** ''Bengio, Yoshua'')}: (**impact** :306) from the Deep Learning Citation datasets, will explain why its coverage was only 70%. The results reported by Google Scholar when this pattern was used as a keyword are shown in table 10. Looking at the fourth column of the table entitled as: ''Paper Title'', three papers reported in among the top ten results did not include any of the authors listed in the underlying search pattern among their authors.

The titles of these papers are shown in bold-face. The papers were, "A.

Theory of Generative ConvNet'', ''Generative Modeling of Convolutional Neural Networks'' and ''Generating Images from Captions with Attention'' respectively.

V. CONCLUSION

In ordere to solve the issue of finding academic reviewers for peer review and potential research collaborators, this paper formulated the reviewer recommendation problem as a utility pattern-mining task and contributed a new framework to mine special kinds of patterns that directly recommend reviewers. In essence, two patterns were proposed and mined. A Researcher General topic Pattern(RGP) and Researcher Specific topic Pattern (RSP). Two real-world citation datasets were prepared according the data processing algorithm cotributed by the framework. Thereafter, eight different algorithms were compared and EFIM was selected to mine the patterns. Experimental results showed the patterns mined were of a high quality according to their coverage.

The application of the framework within a big data platform along with a suitable algorithm are among the future work.

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