Association Rule Mining

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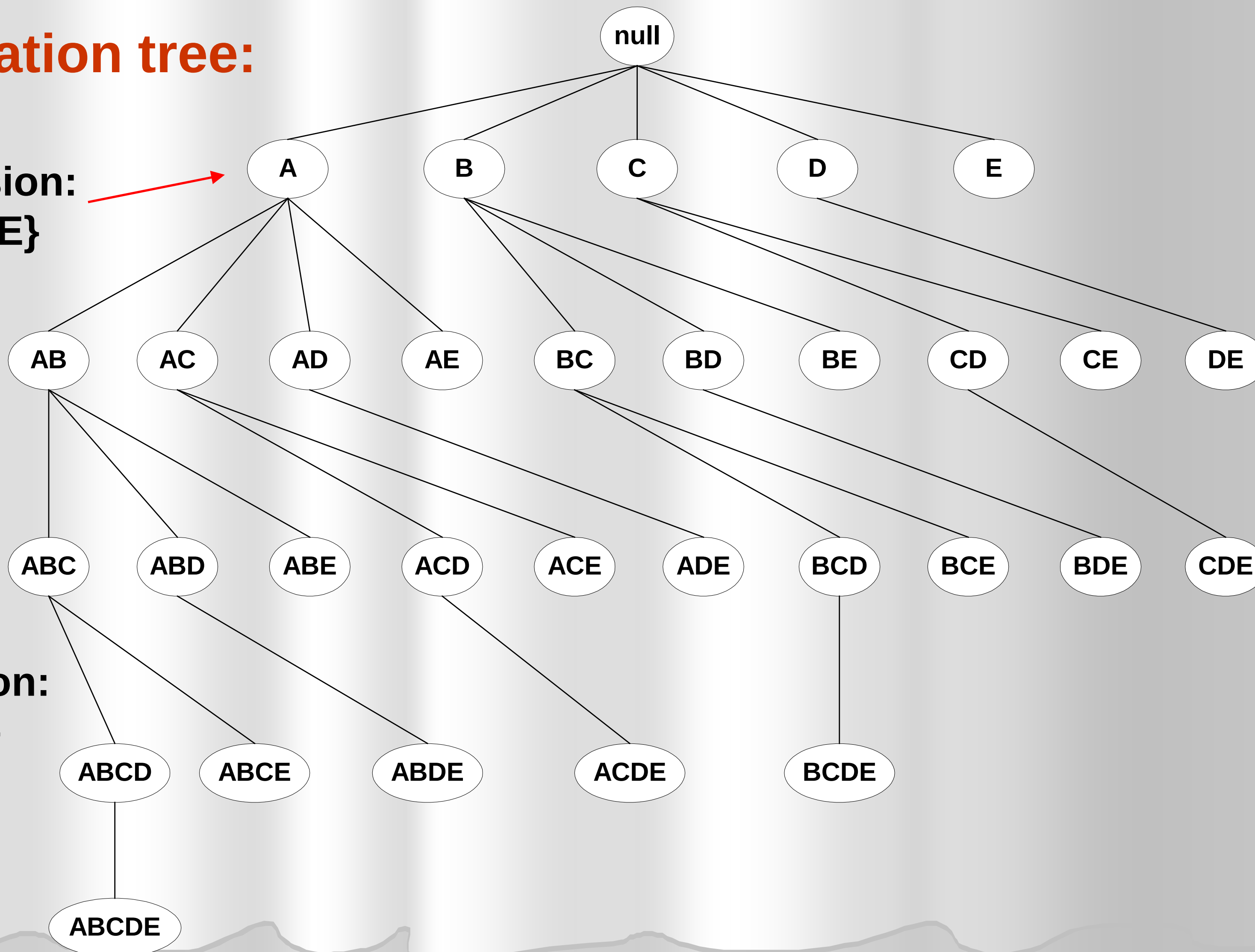
Tree Projection

Set enumeration tree:

Possible Extension:
E(A) = {B,C,D,E}



Possible Extension:
E(ABC) = {D,E}

Tree Projection

- Items are listed in lexicographic order
- Each node P stores the following information:
  - Itemset for node P
  - List of possible lexicographic extensions of P: E(P)
  - Pointer to projected database of its ancestor node
  - Bitvector containing information about which transactions in the projected database contain the itemset

Projected Database

Original Database:

TID	Items
1	{A,B}
2	{B,C,D}
3	{A,C,D,E}
4	{A,D,E}
5	{A,B,C}
6	{A,B,C,D}
7	{B,C}
8	{A,B,C}
9	{A,B,D}
10	{B,C,E}

Projected Database for node A:

TID	Items
1	{B}
2	{}
3	{C,D,E}
4	{D,E}
5	{B,C}
6	{B,C,D}
7	{}
8	{B,C}
9	{B,D}
10	{}

For each transaction T, projected transaction at node A is $T \cap E(A)$

Rule Generation

- Given a frequent itemset L, find all non-empty subsets $f \subset L$ such that $f \rightarrow L - f$ satisfies the minimum confidence requirement
  - If {A,B,C,D} is a frequent itemset, candidate rules:

$ABC \rightarrow D$,	$ABD \rightarrow C$,	$ACD \rightarrow B$,	$BCD \rightarrow A$,
$A \rightarrow BCD$,	$B \rightarrow ACD$,	$C \rightarrow ABD$,	$D \rightarrow ABC$
$AB \rightarrow CD$,	$AC \rightarrow BD$,	$AD \rightarrow BC$,	$BC \rightarrow AD$,
$BD \rightarrow AC$,	$CD \rightarrow AB$,		

- If $|L| = k$, then there are $2^k - 2$ candidate association rules (ignoring $L \rightarrow \varnothing$ and $\varnothing \rightarrow L$)

Rule Generation

- How to efficiently generate rules from frequent itemsets?
  - In general, confidence does not have an anti-monotone property

    $c(ABC \rightarrow D)$ can be larger or smaller than $c(AB \rightarrow D)$

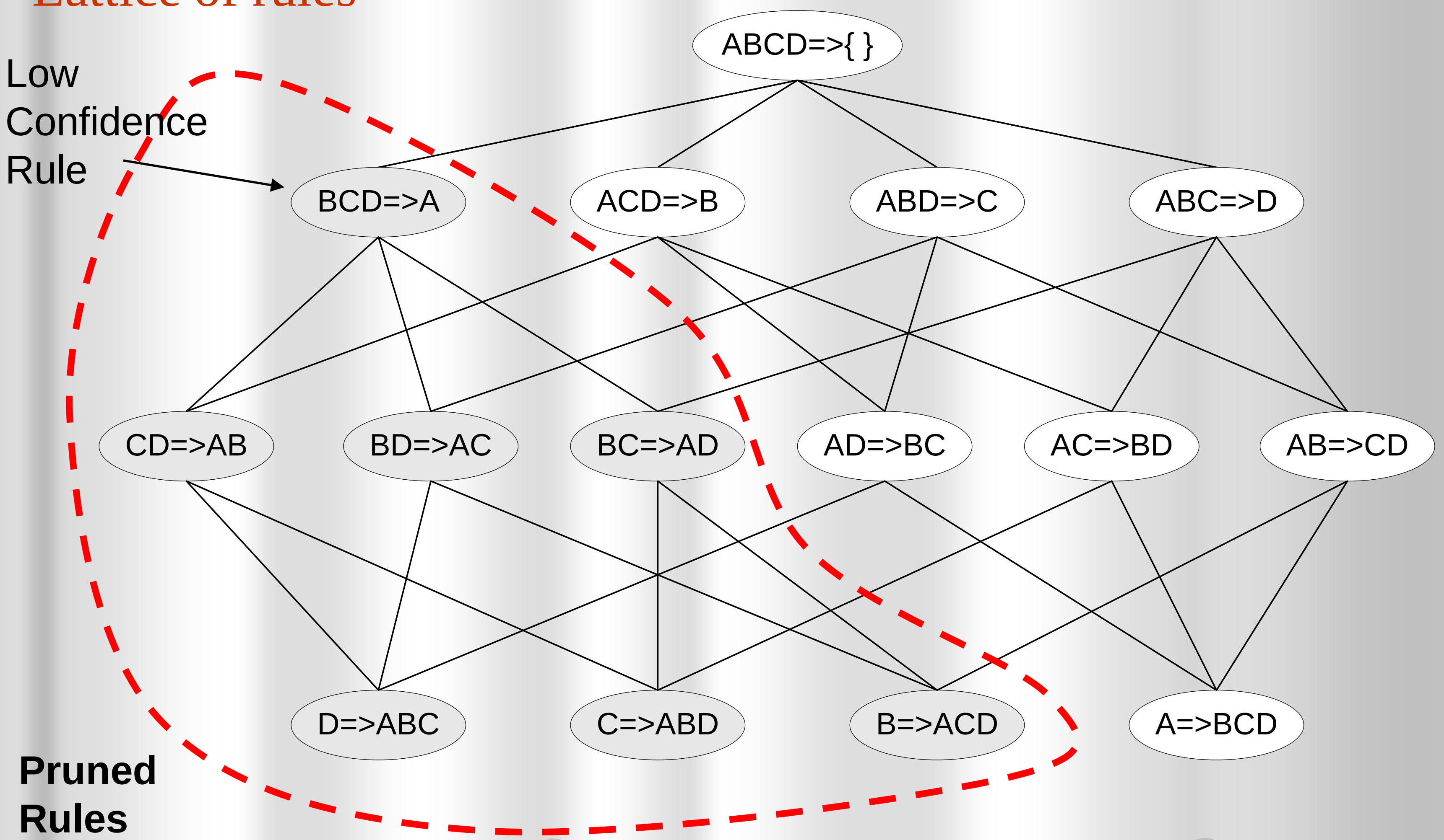
  - But confidence of rules generated from the same itemset has an anti-monotone property
  - e.g., $L = \{A,B,C,D\}$:

    $$c(ABC \rightarrow D) \geq c(AB \rightarrow CD) \geq c(A \rightarrow BCD)$$

    - Confidence is anti-monotone w.r.t. number of items on the RHS of the rule

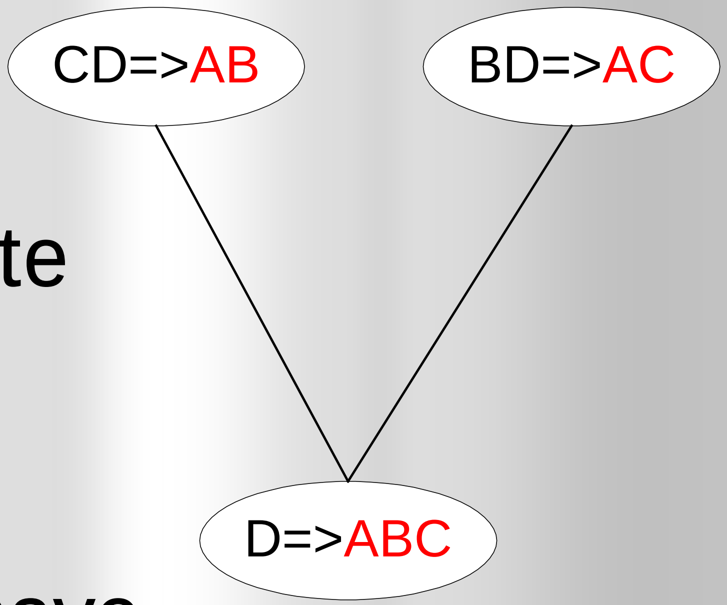
Rule Generation for Apriori Algorithm

Lattice of rules



Rule Generation for Apriori Algorithm

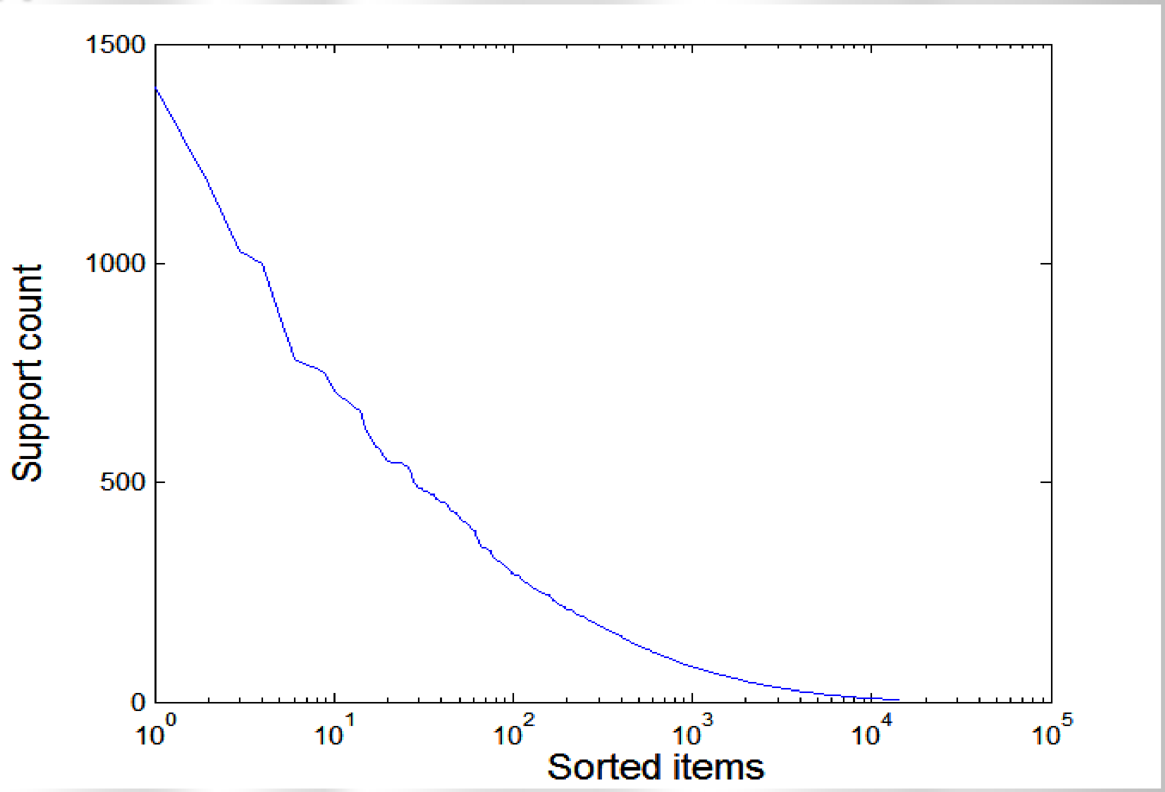
- Candidate rule is generated by merging two rules that share the same prefix in the rule consequent
- join(CD=>AB,BD=>AC) would produce the candidate rule D => ABC
- Prune rule D=>ABC if its subset AD=>BC does not have high confidence



Effect of Support Distribution

- Many real data sets have skewed support distribution

Support distribution of a retail data set



Effect of Support Distribution

- How to set the appropriate *minsup* threshold?
  - If *minsup* is set too high, we could miss itemsets involving interesting rare items (e.g., expensive products)
  - If *minsup* is set too low, it is computationally expensive and the number of itemsets is very large
- Using a single minimum support threshold may not be effective

Multiple Minimum Support

- How to apply multiple minimum supports?

  MS(i): minimum support for item i

  - e.g.: MS(Milk)=5%, MS(Coke) = 3%, MS(Broccoli)=0.1%, MS(Salmon)=0.5%

  MS({Milk, Broccoli}) = min (MS(Milk), MS(Broccoli)) = 0.1%

  Challenge: Support is no longer anti-monotone

  - Suppose: Support(Milk, Coke) = 1.5% and Support(Milk, Coke, Broccoli) = 0.5%
  - {Milk,Coke} is infrequent but {Milk,Coke,Broccoli} is frequent

Multiple Minimum Support (Liu 1999)

- Order the items according to their minimum support (in ascending order)
  - e.g.: MS(Milk)=5%, MS(Coke) = 3%, MS(Broccoli)=0.1%, MS(Salmon)=0.5%
  - Ordering: Broccoli, Salmon, Coke, Milk
- Need to modify Apriori such that:
  - L_1 : set of frequent items
  - F_1 : set of items whose support is $\geq$ MS(1) where MS(1) is $\min_i$(MS(i))
  - C_2 : candidate itemsets of size 2 is generated from F_1 instead of L_1

Multiple Minimum Support (Liu 1999)

Modifications to Apriori:

- In traditional Apriori,
  - A candidate (k+1)-itemset is generated by merging two frequent itemsets of size k
  - The candidate is pruned if it contains any infrequent subsets of size k
- Pruning step has to be modified:
  - Prune only if subset contains the first item

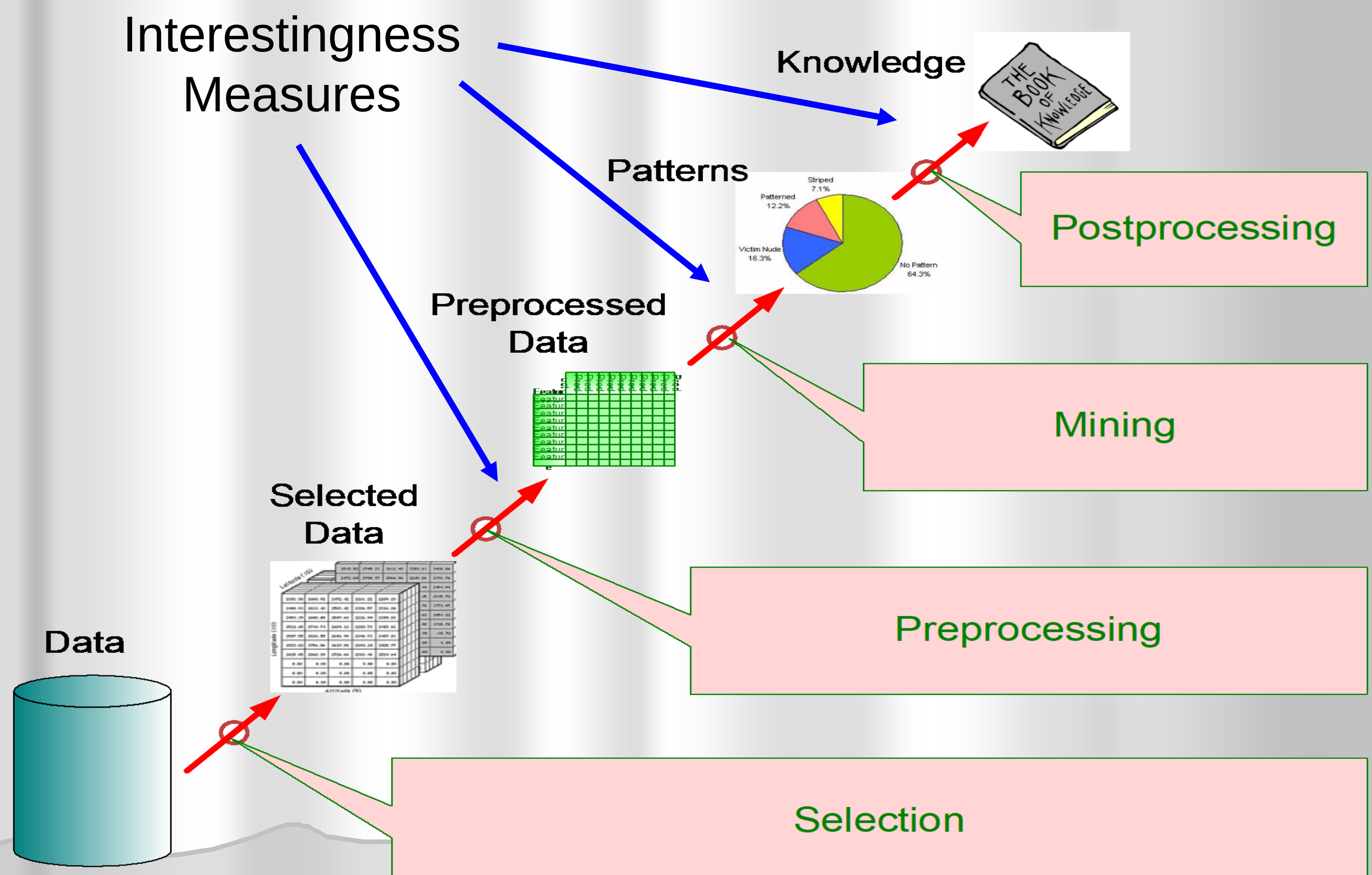
  e.g.: Candidate={Broccoli, Coke, Milk} (ordered according to minimum support)

  {Broccoli, Coke} and {Broccoli, Milk} are frequent but {Coke, Milk} is infrequent
  - Candidate is not pruned because {Coke,Milk} does not contain the first item, i.e., Broccoli.

Pattern Evaluation

- Association rule algorithms tend to produce too many rules
  - many of them are uninteresting or redundant
  - Redundant if $\{A,B,C\} \rightarrow \{D\}$ and $\{A,B\} \rightarrow \{D\}$ have same support & confidence
- Interestingness measures can be used to prune/rank the derived patterns
- In the original formulation of association rules, support & confidence are the only measures used

Application of Interestingness Measure



Computing Interestingness Measure

- Given a rule $X \rightarrow Y$, information needed to compute rule interestingness can be obtained from a contingency table

Contingency table for $X \rightarrow Y$

	Y	$\overline{Y}$	
X	f_{11}	f_{10}	f_{1+}
$\overline{X}$	f_{01}	f_{00}	f_{o+}
	f_{+1}	f_{+0}	$\|T\|$

f_{11}: support of X and Y
f_{10}: support of X and $\overline{Y}$
f_{01}: support of $\overline{X}$ and Y
f_{00}: support of $\overline{X}$ and $\overline{Y}$

Used to define various measures

- support, confidence, lift, Gini, J-measure, etc.

Drawback of Confidence

	Coffee	$\overline{\text{Coffee}}$	
Tea	15	5	20
$\overline{\text{Tea}}$	75	5	80
	90	10	100

Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee

Confidence= P(Coffee|Tea) = 0.75

but P(Coffee) = 0.9

$\Rightarrow$ Although confidence is high, rule is misleading

$\Rightarrow$ P(Coffee|$\overline{\text{Tea}}$) = 0.9375

Statistical Independence

- Population of 1000 students
  - 600 students know how to swim (S)
  - 700 students know how to bike (B)
  - 420 students know how to swim and bike (S,B)
  - $P(S \wedge B) = 420/1000 = 0.42$
  - $P(S) \times P(B) = 0.6 \times 0.7 = 0.42$

  - $P(S \wedge B) = P(S) \times P(B)$ => Statistical independence
  - $P(S \wedge B) > P(S) \times P(B)$ => Positively correlated
  - $P(S \wedge B) < P(S) \times P(B)$ => Negatively correlated

Statistical-based Measures

- Measures that take into account statistical dependence

$$Lift = \frac{P(Y|X)}{P(Y)}$$

$$Interest = \frac{P(X,Y)}{P(X)P(Y)}$$

$$PS = P(X,Y) - P(X)P(Y)$$

$$\phi - coefficient = \frac{P(X,Y) - P(X)P(Y)}{\sqrt{P(X)[1-P(X)]P(Y)[1-P(Y)]}}$$

Example: Lift/Interest

	Coffee	$\overline{\text{Coffee}}$	
Tea	15	5	20
$\overline{\text{Tea}}$	75	5	80
	90	10	100

Association Rule: Tea $\rightarrow$ Coffee

Confidence= P(Coffee|Tea) = 0.75

but P(Coffee) = 0.9

$\Rightarrow$ Lift = 0.75/0.9= 0.8333 (< 1, therefore is negatively associated)

Drawback of Lift/Interest

	Y	$\overline{Y}$	
X	10	0	10
$\overline{X}$	0	90	90
	10	90	100

$$Lift = \frac{0.1}{(0.1)(0.1)} = 10$$

	Y	$\overline{Y}$	
X	90	0	90
$\overline{X}$	0	10	10
	90	10	100

$$Lift = \frac{0.9}{(0.9)(0.9)} = 1.11$$

Statistical independence:

If P(X,Y)=P(X)P(Y) => Lift = 1