

# COMP9318: Data Warehousing and Data Mining

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- Problem definition and preliminaries

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# What Is Association Mining?

- Association rule mining:
  - Finding frequent patterns, associations, correlations, or causal structures among sets of items or objects in transaction databases, relational databases, and other information r
  - Frequent path (https://eduassistpro.github.io/, sequence, etc.) that occurs frequently in a AIS93]
- Motivation: finding regularitie
  - What products were often purchased together? — Beer and diapers?!
  - What are the subsequent purchases after buying a PC?
  - What kinds of DNA are sensitive to this new drug?
  - Can we automatically classify web documents?

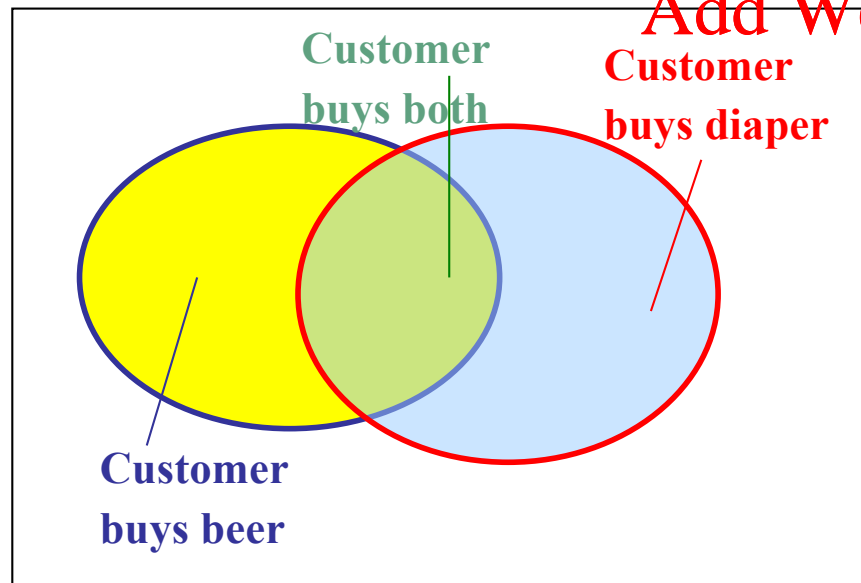
# Why Is Frequent Pattern or Association Mining an Essential Task in Data Mining?

- Foundation for many essential data mining tasks
  - Association, correlation, causality
  - Sequential patterns, temporal association, partial period, media association
  - Associative analysis, iceberg cube, fascicles (semantic data cube)
- Broad applications
  - Basket data analysis, cross-marketing, catalog design, sale campaign analysis
  - **Web log** (click stream) **analysis**, DNA sequence analysis, etc.

c.f., google's spelling suggestion

# Basic Concepts: Frequent Patterns and Association Rules

Transaction-id	Items bought
10	{ A, B, C }
20	{ A, C }
30	{ A }
40	{ B, C }



- Itemset  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ 
  - Shorthand:**  $x_1 x_2 \dots x_k$
- Find all the rules  $X \rightarrow Y$  with min confidence and support
  - support,  $s$ , probability that a transaction contains  $X \cup Y$
  - confidence,  $c$ , conditional probability that a transaction contains  $Y$ .

Let  $\text{min\_support} = 50\%$ ,

$\text{min\_conf} = 70\%$ :

$$\text{sup}(AC) = 2$$

~~$$A \rightarrow C \text{ (50\%, 66.7\%)}$$~~

$$C \rightarrow A \text{ (50\%, 100\%)}$$

frequent itemset

association rule

# Mining Association Rules—an Example

Transaction-id	Items bought
10	A, B, C
20	A, C
30	
40	

Min. support 50%  
Min. confidence 50%

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Itemset pattern	Support
{A}	75%
{C}	50%
{A, C}	50%

For rule  $A \rightarrow C$ :

support =  $\text{support}(\{A\} \cup \{C\}) = 50\%$

confidence =  $\text{support}(\{A\} \cup \{C\}) / \text{support}(\{A\}) = 66.6\%$

major computation challenge: calculate the support of itemsets  
 ← The **frequent itemset mining** problem

- Algorithms for scalable mining of (single-dimensional Boolean) association rules in transactional databases  
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# Association Rule Mining Algorithms

Candidate Generation  
& Verification

- Naïve algorithm
  - Enumerate all possible itemsets and check their support against *min\_sup*
  - Generate a *confidence* and check their confidence against *min\_conf*
- The Apriori property
  - Apriori Algorithm
  - FP-growth Algorithm

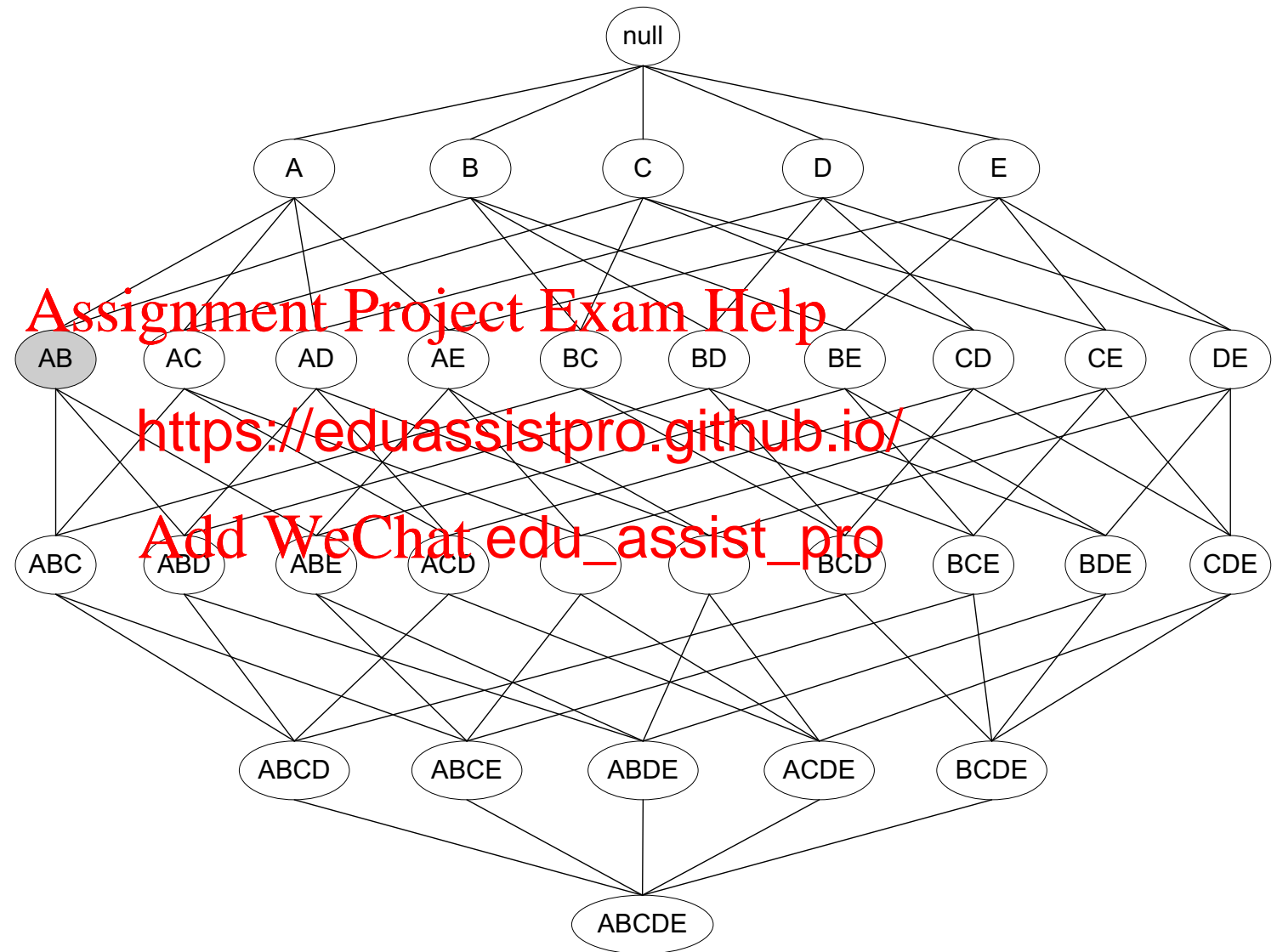
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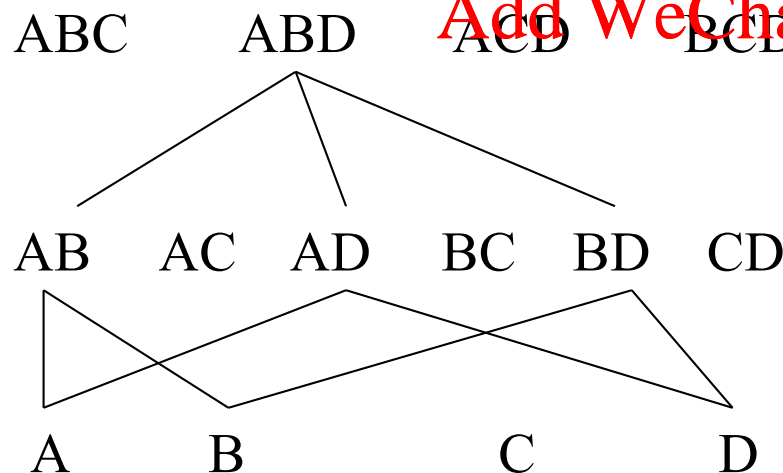


# All Candidate Itemsets for {A, B, C, D, E}



# Apriori Property

- A *frequent* (used to be called *large*) *itemset* is an itemset whose support is  $\geq \text{min\_sup}$ .
- Apriori property (downward closure): any **sub**sets of a frequent itemset are frequent itemsets
- Aka the **anti-** of support



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any **super**sets of an **inf**requent itemset are also **inf**requent itemsets"

# Illustrating Apriori Principle

Q: How to design an algorithm to improve the naïve algorithm?

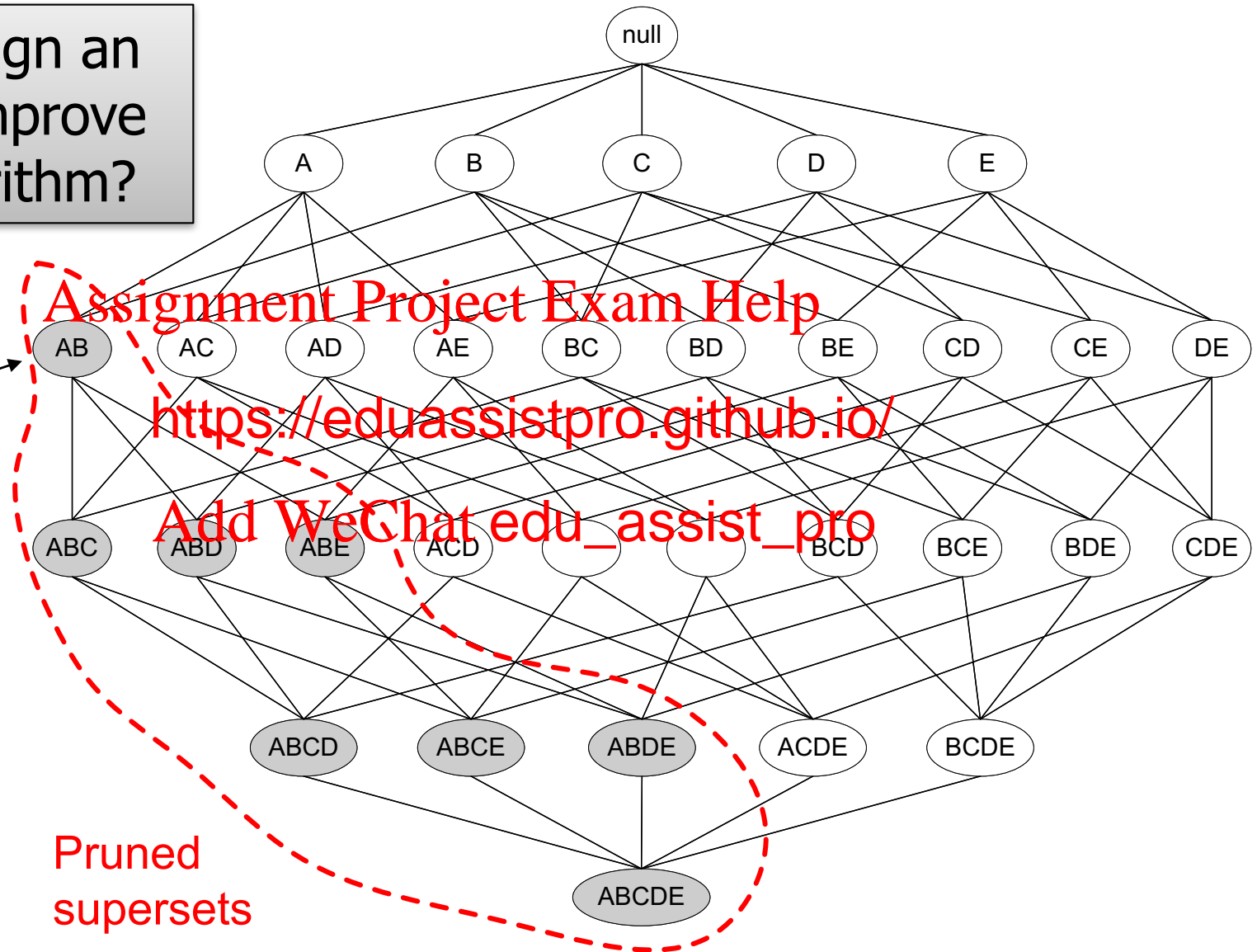
Found to be Infrequent

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Pruned  
supersets



# Apriori: A Candidate Generation-and-test Approach

- Apriori pruning principle: If there is **any** itemset which is infrequent, its superset should not be generated/tested!

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- Algorithm [Agrawal 1994]

1.  $C_k \leftarrow \text{Perf}$  (from singleton items)
2.  $L_k \leftarrow \text{Verify } C_k \text{ against } L_k$
3.  $C_{k+1} \leftarrow \text{generated from } L_k$
4. Goto 2 if  $C_{k+1}$  is not empty

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# The Apriori Algorithm

- Pseudo-code:

$C_k$ : Candidate itemset of size  $k$

$L_k$ : frequent itemset of size  $k$

$L_1 = \{\text{frequent itemsets}\}$

```
for ( $k = 1$ ;  $L_k \neq \emptyset$ ;  $k++$ ) do
     $C_{k+1} = \text{candidates generated from } L_k$ 
    for each transaction  $t$  in database do begin
        increment the count of all candidates in  $C_{k+1}$ 
        that are contained in  $t$ 
    end
     $L_{k+1} = \text{candidates in } C_{k+1} \text{ with min\_support}$ 
end
return  $\bigcup_k L_k$ ;
```

# The Apriori Algorithm—An Example

minsup = 50%

Database TDB

Tid	Items
10	A, C, D
20	B, C, E
30	A, B, C, E
40	B, E

1<sup>st</sup> scan

Itemset	sup
{A}	2
{B}	3
{C}	3
{D}	1
{E}	3

$C_1$

$L_1$

Itemset	sup
{A}	2
{B}	3
{C}	3
{E}	3

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$L_2$

Itemset	sup
{A, C}	2
{B, C}	2
{B, E}	3
{C, E}	2

$C_2$

Itemset	sup
{A, B}	1
{A, C}	2
{A, E}	1
{B, C}	2
{B, E}	3
{C, E}	2

$C_2$

Itemset	sup
{A, B}	1
{A, C}	2
{A, E}	1
{B, C}	2
{B, E}	3
{C, E}	2

$C_3$

Itemset	sup
{B, C, E}	2

3<sup>rd</sup> scan

$L_3$

Itemset	sup
{B, C, E}	2

# Important Details of Apriori

1. How to generate candidates?
  - Step 1: self-joining  $L_k$  (what's the join condition? why?)
  - Step 2: pruning
2. How to count supports of candidates?

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Example of Candidate-

- $L_3 = \{abc, abd, acd, ace, bcd\}$
- Self-joining:  $L_3 * L_3$ 
  - $abcd$  from  $abc$  and  $abd$
  - $acde$  from  $acd$  and  $ace$
- Pruning:
  - $acde$  is removed because  $ade$  is not in  $L_3$
- $C_4 = \{abcd\}$

# Generating Candidates in SQL

- Suppose the items in  $L_{k-1}$  are listed in an order
- Step 1: self-joining  $L_{k-1}$

insert into  $C_k$   
 select  $p.item_1, \dots, p.item_{k-1}, q.item_k$   
 from  $L_{k-1} p, L_{k-1} q$   
 where  $p.item_1 = q.item_1, \dots, p.item_{k-1} < q.item_{k-1}$

- Step 2: pruning

forall *itemsets*  $c$  in  $C_k$  do  
 forall  $(k-1)$ -subsets  $s$  of  $c$  do  
 if ( $s$  is not in  $L_{k-1}$ ) then delete  $c$  from  $C_k$



# Derive rules from frequent itemsets

- Frequent itemsets  $\neq$  association rules
- One more step is required to find association rules

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- For each freq

For each prop <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> t A of X,

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- Let  $B = X - A$

- $A \rightarrow B$  is an association rule if

- Confidence  $(A \rightarrow B) \geq \text{min\_conf}$ ,

where support  $(A \rightarrow B) = \text{support}(AB)$ , and

confidence  $(A \rightarrow B) = \text{support}(AB) / \text{support}(A)$

# Example – deriving rules from frequent itemsets

- Suppose 234 is frequent, with supp=50%
  - Proper nonempty subsets: 23, 24, 34, 2, 3, 4, with supp=50%, 50%, 75%, 75%, 75%, 75% respectively
  - These generate these association rules:
    - 23  $\Rightarrow$  4, <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
    - 24  $\Rightarrow$  3, confidence=1
    - 34  $\Rightarrow$  2, confidence=67%  $\frac{0.5}{0.5/(N*75\%)}$
    - 2  $\Rightarrow$  34, confidence=67%
    - 3  $\Rightarrow$  24, confidence=67%
    - 4  $\Rightarrow$  23, confidence=67%
    - All rules have support = 50%

Q: is there any optimization (e.g., pruning) for this step?

# Deriving rules

- To recap, in order to obtain  $A \rightarrow B$ , we need to have  $\text{Support}(AB)$  and  $\text{Support}(A)$
- This step is not as time-consuming as frequent itemsets generation
  - Why? <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
- It's also easy techniques such as parallel process
  - How?
- Do we really need candidate generation for deriving association rules?
  - Frequent-Pattern Growth (FP-Tree)

# Bottleneck of Frequent-pattern Mining

- Multiple database scans are **costly**
- Mining long patterns needs many passes of scanning and candidates
  - To find frequent patterns of length  $l$ 
    - # of scans:  $l$
    - # of Candidates:  $\binom{100}{1} + \binom{100}{2} + \dots + \binom{100}{l}$
- Bottleneck: candidate-generation-and-test

*Can we avoid candidate generation **altogether**?*

- FP-growth

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# No Pain, No Gain

	<u>J</u> ava	<u>L</u> isp	<u>S</u> cheme	<u>P</u> ython	<u>R</u> uby
Alice	X				X
Bob				X	X
Charlie	X			X	X
Dora					

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## ■ Apriori:

■  $L1 = \{J, L, S, P, R\}$

■  $C2 =$  all the  $\binom{5}{2}$  combinations

■ Most of  $C2$  do not contribute to the result

■ There is no way to tell because

# No Pain, No Gain

	<u>J</u> ava	<u>L</u> isp	<u>S</u> cheme	<u>P</u> ython	<u>R</u> uby
Alice	X				X
Bob				X	X
Charlie	X			X	X
Dora					

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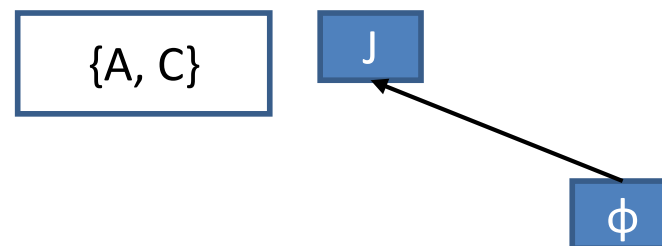
## Ideas:

- Keep the support set for each frequent itemset
- DFS

$J \rightarrow JL?$

$J \rightarrow ???$

Only need to look at support set for J



# No Pain, No Gain

	<u>J</u> ava	<u>L</u> isp	<u>S</u> cheme	<u>P</u> ython	<u>R</u> uby
Alice	X				X
Bob				X	X
Charlie	X			X	X
Dora					

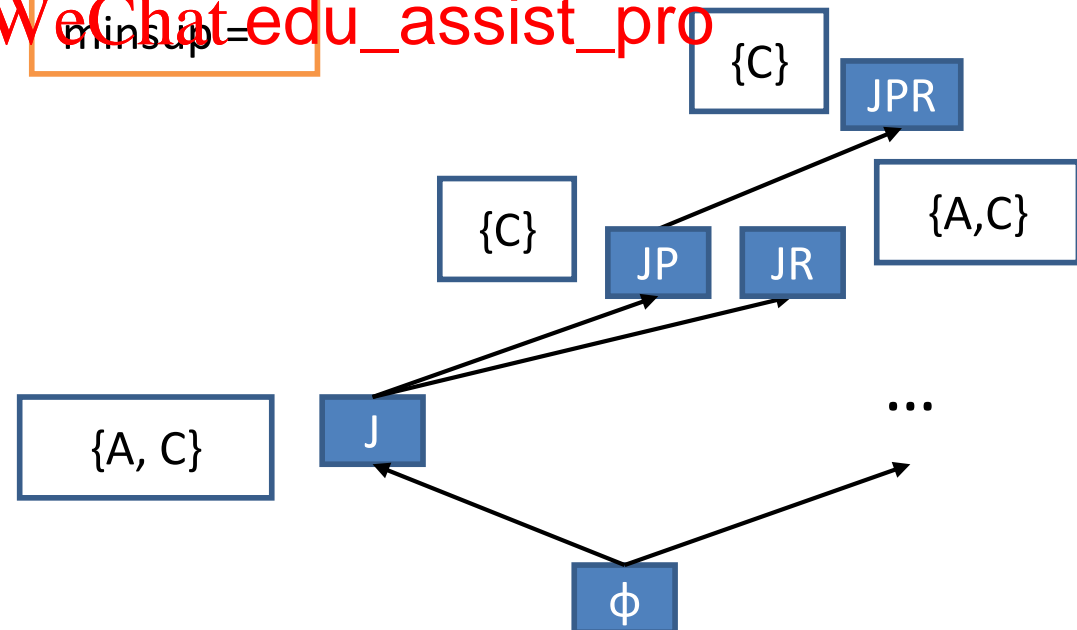
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## Ideas:

- Keep the support set for each frequent itemset
- DFS





# Notations and Invariants

- ConditionalDB:

- $DB|p = \{t \in DB \mid t \text{ contains itemset } p\}$

- $DB = DB|\emptyset$  (i.e., conditioned on nothing)

- Shorthand:

- $SupportSet(p)$

- $\{x \mid x \bmod 6 = 0 \wedge x \in \text{even}([100])\}$

- A FP-tree is equivalent to a  $DB|p$

- One can be converted to another

- Next, we illustrate the alg using conditionalDB

# FP-tree Essential Idea /1

- Recursive algorithm again!

- **FreqItemsets**(DB|p):

easy task, as  
only items (not  
itemsets) are  
needed

all frequent itemsets in  
DB|p belong to one of  
the following  
categories:

- $X = \text{FindLocal}$  <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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output  $\{ (x \ p) \mid x \in X \}$

- Foreach  $x$  in  $X$

- $\text{DB}^*|p_x = \text{GetConditionalDB}^+(\text{DB}^*|p, x)$

■

- **FreqItemsets**( $\text{DB}^*|p_x$ )

obtained  
via  
recursion

patterns  $\sim x_i p$

patterns  $\sim \star p x_1$

patterns  $\sim \star p x_2$

patterns  $\sim \star p x_i$

patterns  $\sim \star p x_n$

# No Pain, No Gain

DB|J

	<u>J</u> ava	<u>L</u> isp	<u>S</u> cheme	<u>P</u> ython	<u>R</u> uby
Alice	X				X
Charlie	X			X	X

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- Freq**Itemsets**(
  - $\{P, R\} \leftarrow$  Find **Locally** Frequent  $B|J$ )
  - Output  $\{JP, JR\}$
  - Get  $DB^*|JP$ ; Freq**Itemsets**( $DB^*|JP$ )
  - Get  $DB^*|JR$ ; Freq**Itemsets**( $DB^*|JR$ )
  - // Guaranteed no other frequent itemset in  $DB|J$

# FP-tree Essential Idea /2

## ■ Freq**Itemsets**(DB|p):

- If boundary con

- $X = \text{FindLocal}$  <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

- [optional]  $\text{DB}^*|p = \text{PruneDB}(\text{DB}^*|p, X)$

output { (x p) |  $x \in X$  }

- Foreach  $x$  in  $X$

- $\text{DB}^*|px = \text{GetConditionalDB}^+(\text{DB}^*|p, x)$
- [optional] if  $\text{DB}^*|px$  is degenerated, then powerset( $\text{DB}^*|px$ )
- Freq**Itemsets**( $\text{DB}^*|px$ )

Also output each item in  $X$  (appended with the conditional pattern)

Remove items not in  $X$ ; potentially reduce # of transactions ( $\emptyset$  or dup). Improves the efficiency.

Also gets rid of items already processed before  $x \rightarrow$  *avoid duplicates*

Grayed items are for illustration purpose only.

# Lv 1 Recursion

- minsup = 3

F C A D G I M P
A B C F L M O
B F H J O W
B C K S P
A F C E L P M N

DB

$X = \{F, C, A, B, M, P\}$

Output: F, C, A, B, M, P

F C A M P
C B P
F C A M P

DB\*

F C A M P
C B P
F C A M P

DB\*|P

DB\*|M (sans P)

DB\*|B (sans MP)

DB\*|A (sans BMP)

DB\*|C (sans ABMP)

DB\*|F (sans CABMP)

F C A
F C A
F C A

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# Lv 2 Recursion on DB\*|P

- minsup = 3

Which is actually FullDB\*|CP

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F C A M P
C B P
F C A M P

DB

$X = \{C\}$

Output: CP

C

DB\*

<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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B\*|C

C
C
C

Context = Lv 3  
recursion on DB\*|CP:  
DB has only empty  
sets or  $X = \{\}$  →  
immediately returns

# Lv 2 Recursion on $DB^*|A$ (sans ...)

- $\text{minsup} = 3$

Which is actually  $\text{FullDB}^*|CA$

Further recursion  
(output: FCA)

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F C A
F C A
F C A

DB

$X = \{F, C\}$

Output: FA, CA

F C

$DB^*$

$B^*|C$

$DB^*|F$

FC
FC
FC

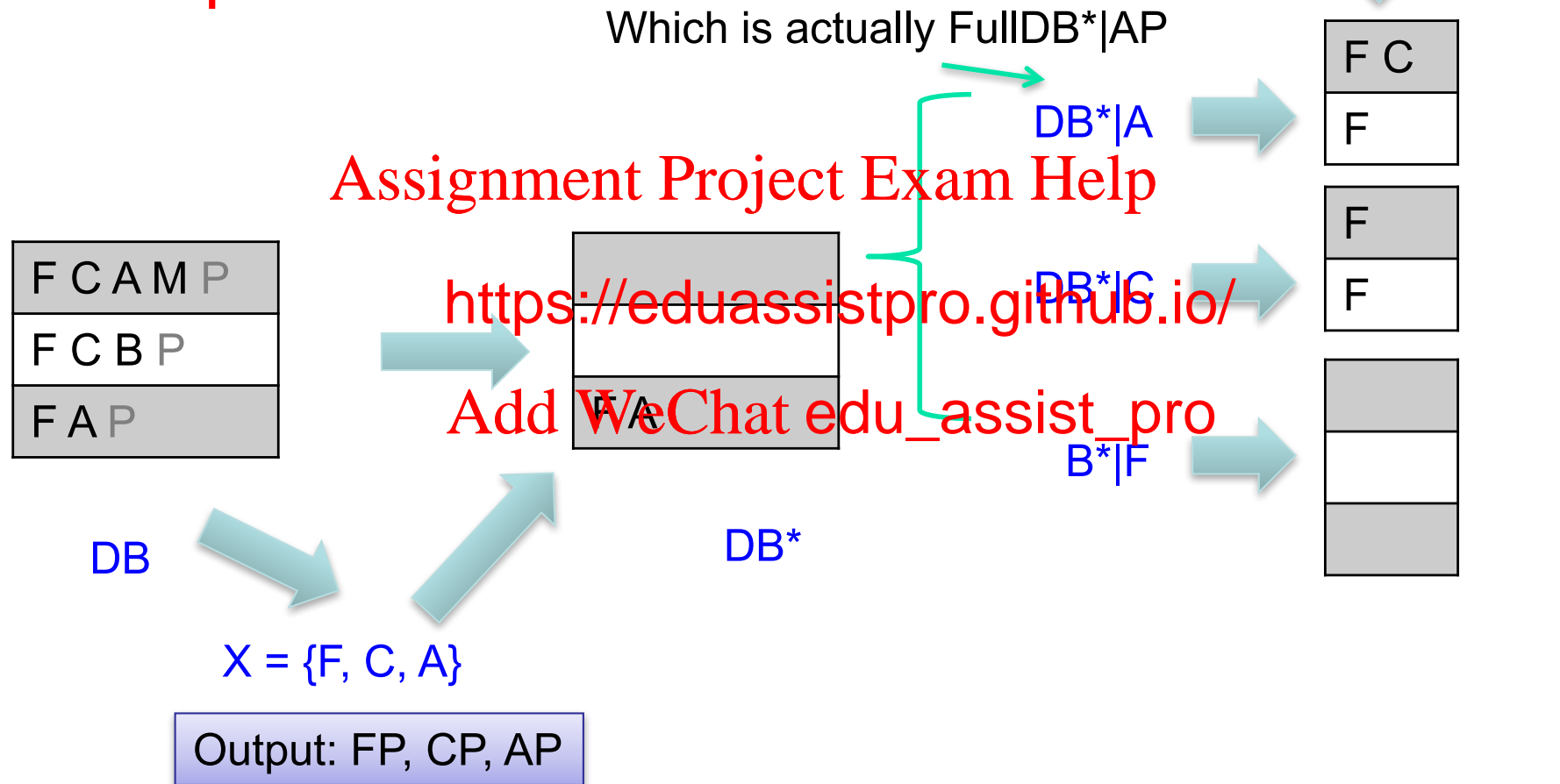
F
F
F

boundary case

# Different Example:

## Lv 2 Recursion on $DB^*|P$

- $minsup = 2$





# I will give you back the FP-tree

- An FP-tree tree of DB consists of:
  - A fixed **order** among items in DB
  - A prefix, **threaded tree of sorted** transactions in DB
  - Header tab
- When used in the algorithm, the input DB is always pruned (c.f., PruneDB())
  - Remove infrequent items
  - Remove infrequent items in every transaction

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# FP-tree Example

minsup = 3

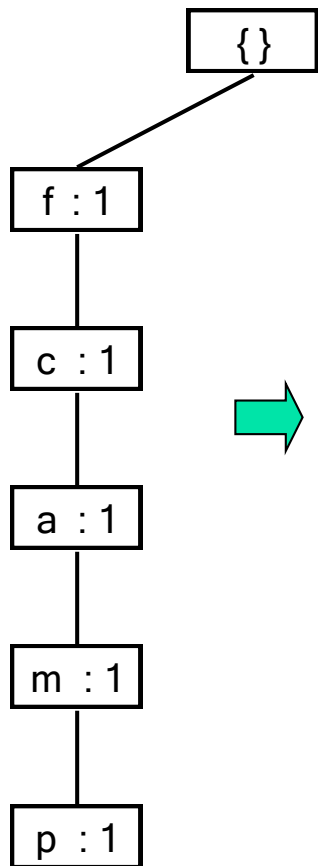
<i>TID</i>	<i>Items bought</i>	<i>(ordered) frequent items</i>
100	{f, a, c, d, g, i, m, p}	{f, c, a, m, p}
200	{a, b, c, f, l, m, o}	{f, c, a, b, m}
300	{b, f, h, j, o, w}	{f, b}
400	{b, c, k, s, p}	{c, b, p}
500	{a, f, c, e, l, p, m, n}	{f, c, a, m, p}

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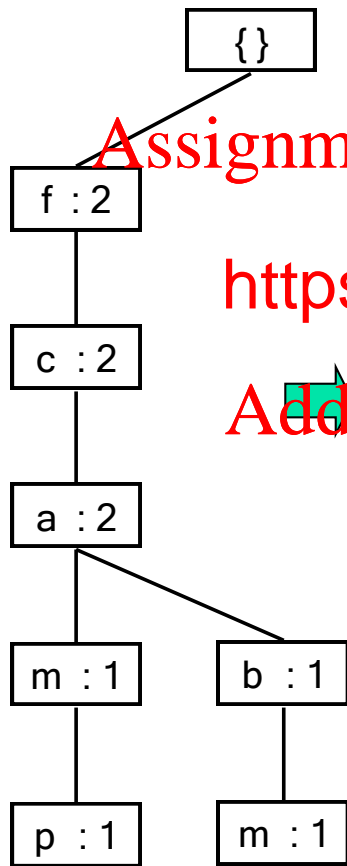
<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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<i>TID</i>	<i>Items bought</i>	<i>(ordered) frequent items</i>
100	{ <i>f, a, c, d, g, i, m, p</i> }	{ <i>f, c, a, m, p</i> }
200	{ <i>a, b, c, f, l, m, o</i> }	{ <i>f, c, a, b, m</i> }
300	{ <i>b, f, h, j, o, w</i> }	{ <i>f, b</i> }
400	{ <i>b, c, k, s, p</i> }	{ <i>c, b, p</i> }
500	{ <i>a, f, c, e, l, p, m, n</i> }	{ <i>f, c, a, m, p</i> }

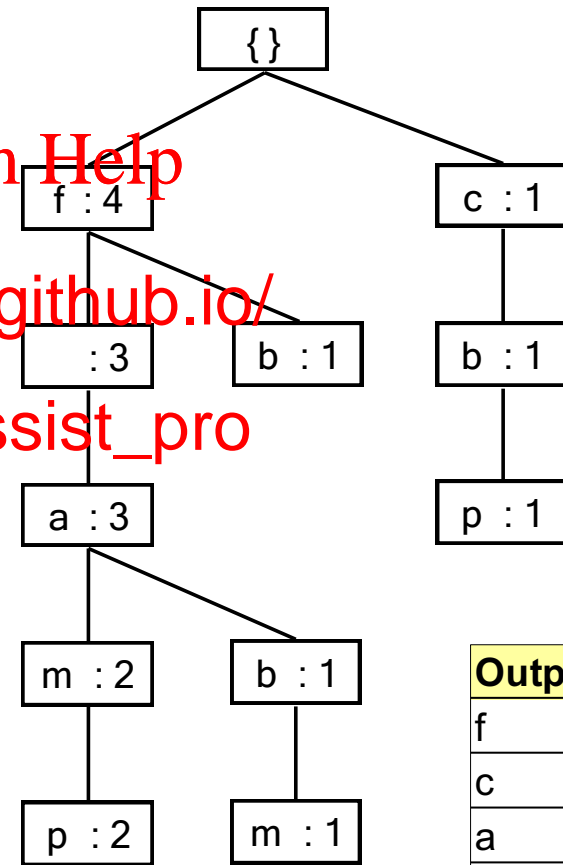


Insert  $t_1$



Insert  $t_2$

a	3	
c	3	
m	3	
p	3	



Insert all  $t_i$

Output
f
c
a
b
m
p

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<i>TID</i>	<i>frequent items</i>
100	{ <i>f, c, a, m, p</i> }
200	{ <i>f, c, a, b, m</i> }
300	{ <i>f, b</i> }
400	{ <i>c, b, p</i> }
500	{ <i>f, c, a, m, p</i> }

p's conditional pattern base				
f	c	a	m	: 2
c	b			: 1
2	3	2	1	2

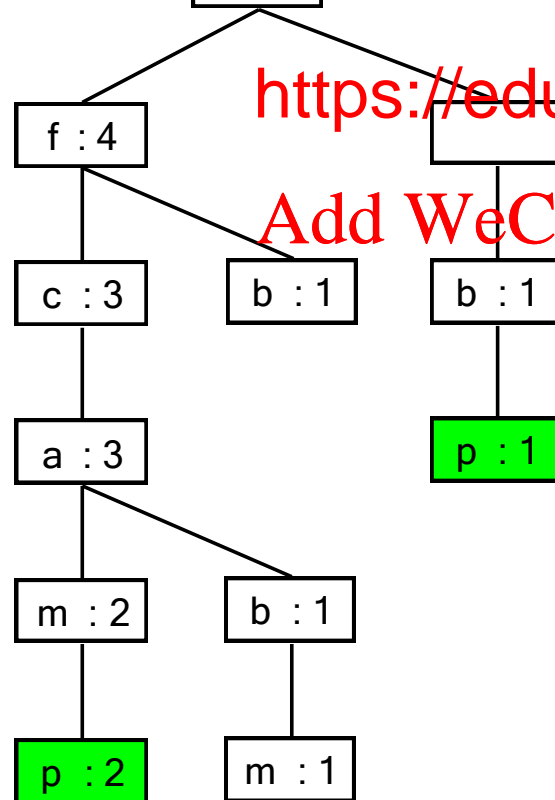
Output
pc

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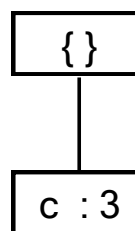
Item	freq	head
f	4	
c	4	
a	3	
b	3	
m	3	
p	3	



ed p's tiona rn base	
C	:2
C	:1

STOP

Header  
Table

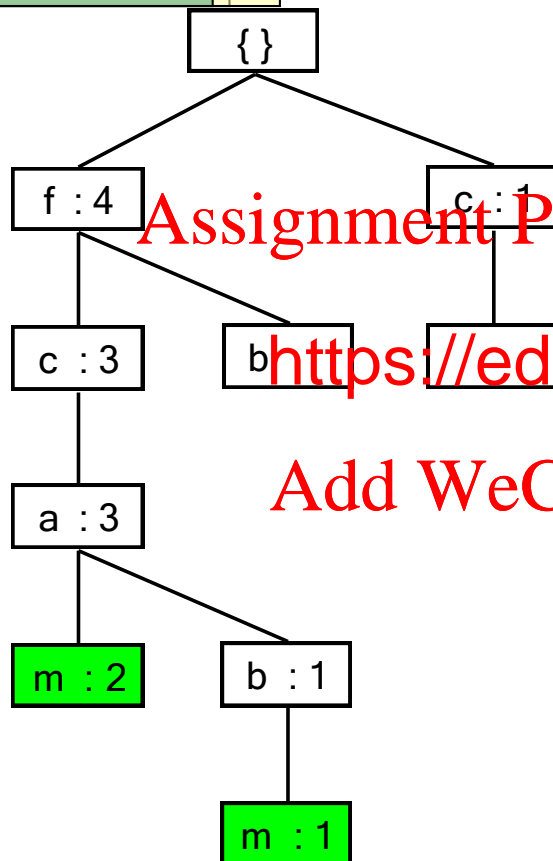


<i>TID</i>	<i>frequent items</i>
100	{f, c, a, m, p}
200	{f, c, a, b, m}
300	{f, b}
400	{c, b, p}
500	{f, c, a, m, p}

m's conditional pattern base				
f	c	a	:	2
f	c	a	b	: 1
3	3	3	:	1

Output
mf
mc
ma

Item	freq	head
f	4	
c	4	
a	3	
b	3	
m	3	



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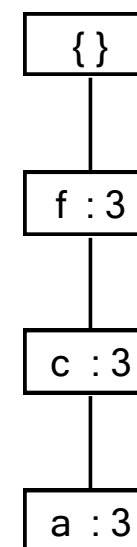
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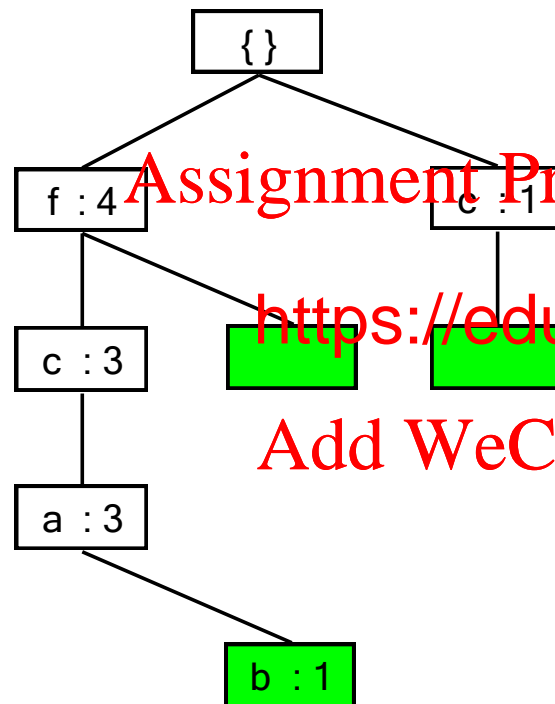
gen\_powerset

Output
mac
maf
mcf
macf

Header Table



Item	freq	head
f	4	
c	4	
a	3	
b	3	



b's conditional pattern base				
f	c	a	:	1
f			:	1
c			:	1

2 2 1

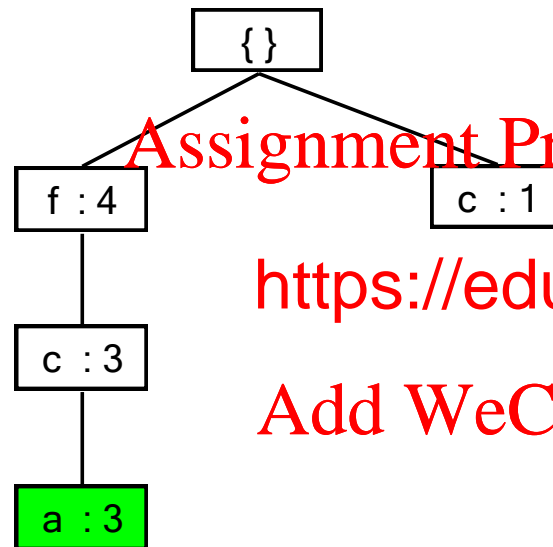
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STOP

Item	freq	head
f	4	
c	4	
a	3	



a's conditional pattern base		
f	c	: 3
3	3	

Output
af
ac

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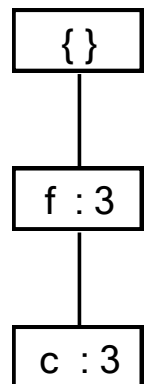
Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro

gen\_powerset

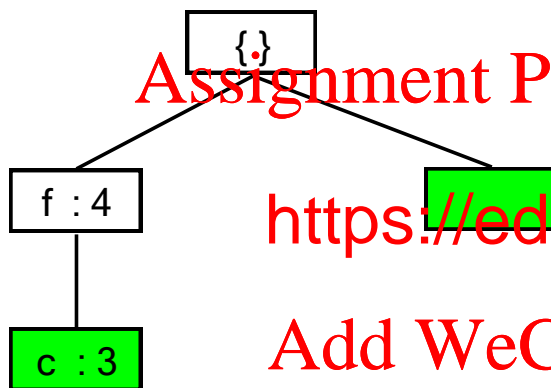
Output

acf

Header Table



Item	freq	head
f	4	
c	4	



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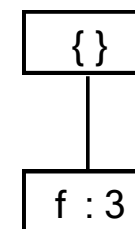
Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro

c's conditional pattern base
f : 3
3

Output
cf

STOP

Header  
Table





STOP

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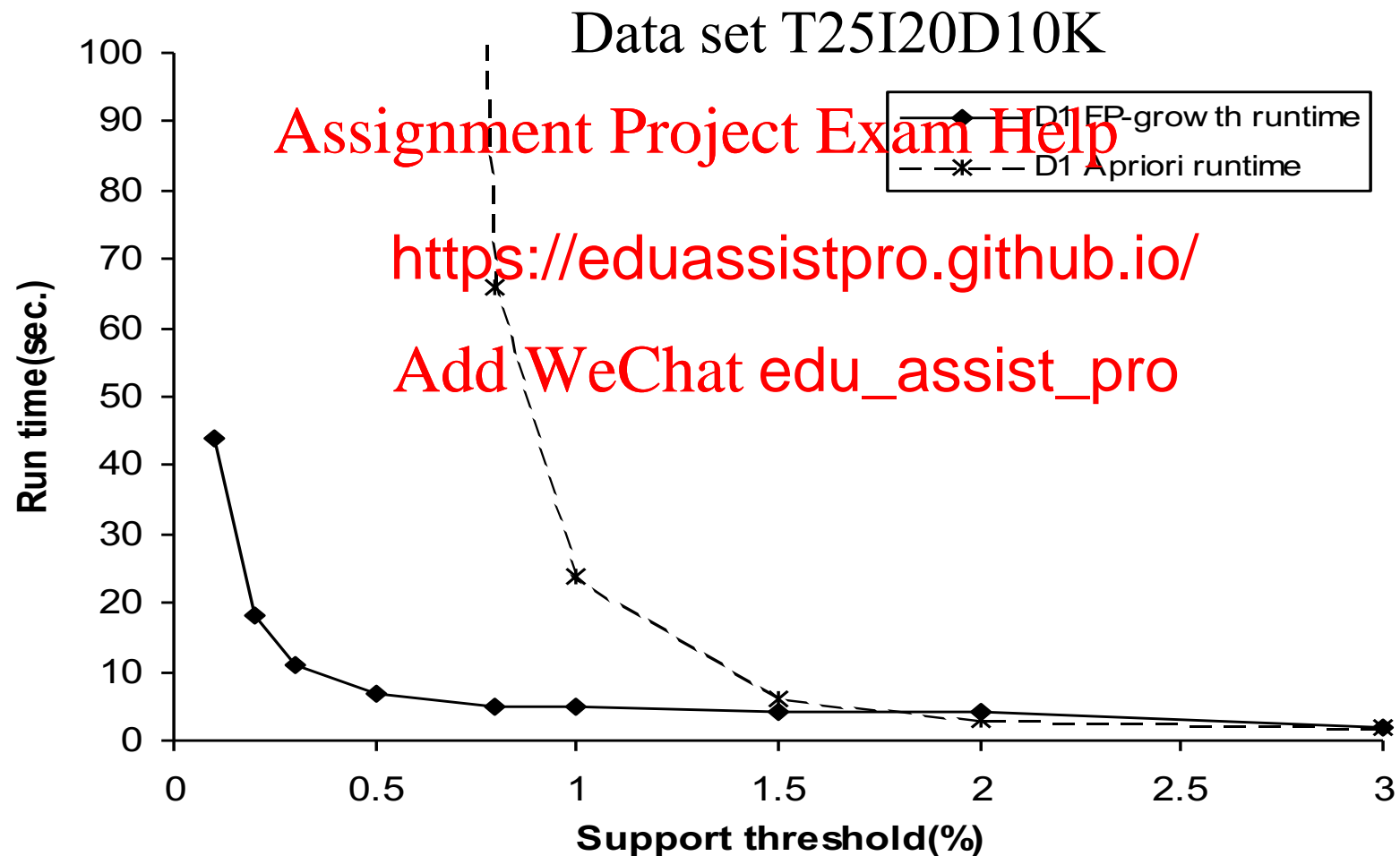
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Item	freq	head
f	4	

f : 4

# FP-Growth vs. Apriori: Scalability With the Support Threshold



# Why Is FP-Growth the Winner?

- Divide-and-conquer:
  - decompose both the mining task and DB according to the frequent patterns obtained so far
  - leads to focused databases
- Other factors
  - no candidate generation, test
  - compressed database: FP-tree structure
  - no repeated scan of entire database
  - basic ops—counting local freq items and building sub FP-tree, no pattern search and matching