

# Frequent Itemsets 1

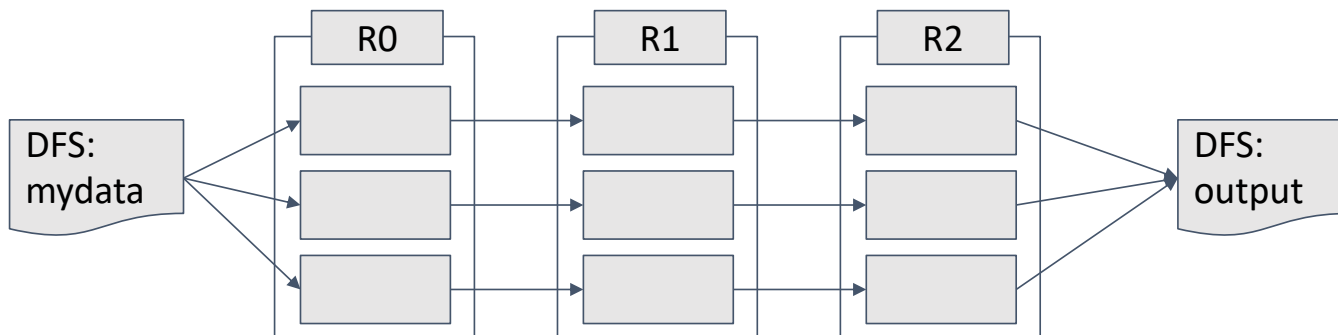
EE412: Foundation of Big Data Analytics

# Announcements

- Homeworks
  - HW0 will be posted today (deadline: 09/21)
  - HW1 will be posted next Thursday (deadline: 10/05)
- Classum
  - I saw the first question and great answers
  - Thank you!

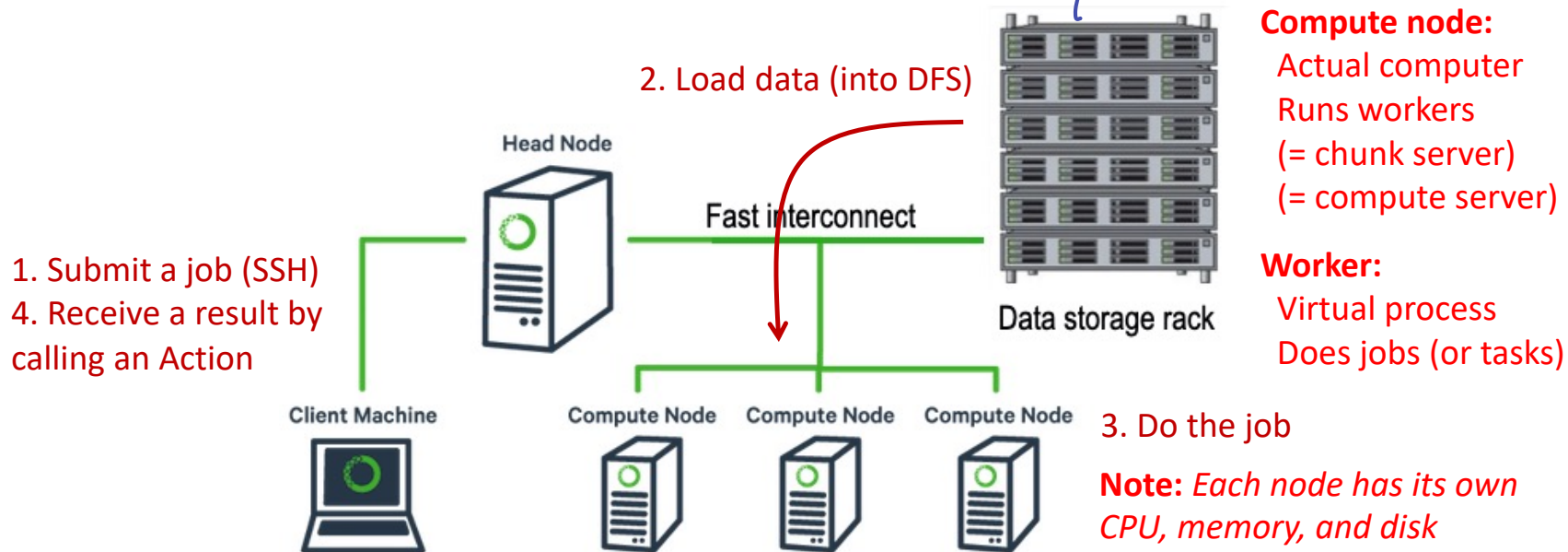
# Recap: Spark

- Spark extends MapReduce with a DAG of functions
  - **Data abstraction:** Resilient distributed datasets (RDDs)
  - **Operations:** Map, FlatMap, Filter, Reduce, Join, etc.
  - **Two improvements:** Lazy evaluation, and the lineage of RDDs



# Recap: Computing Cluster

- **Q:** How exactly does a distributed cluster (Hadoop or Spark) work?

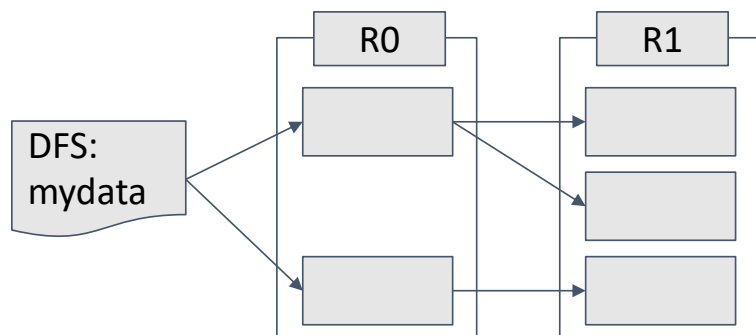


Source: Corredor and Rodriguez (2021)

# Recap: Details on FlatMap

- **Q1:** Can FlatMap create multiple partitions from one?
  - **A:** Yes, it is a one-to-many function
- **Q2:** Then, does it have **wide dependencies**?
  - **A:** No, each partition in R1 still comes from only one partition

↓  
*narrow dependencies*



# Outline

1. **Frequent Itemsets**
2. Association Rules
3. Finding Frequent Pairs
4. A-Priori Algorithm

# Association Rule Discovery

- **Market-basket model** for supermarket shelf management:
  - **Goal:** Identify items that are bought together by many customers
  - **Approach:** Process sales data to find dependencies among items
  - **A classic rule:**
    - If someone buys diaper and milk, then he/she is likely to buy beer
    - Don't be surprised if you find six-packs next to diapers!
- **Association rules:** People who bought  $\{x, y\}$  tend to buy  $\{z, v\}$

# The Market-Basket Model

- Many-to-many mapping between items and baskets
  - A large set of **items** (e.g., things sold in a supermarket)
  - A large set of **baskets** (e.g., things a customer buys at one time)
    - Each basket is a small subset of items

<i>Basket</i>	<i>Items</i>
1	Bread, Coke, Milk
2	Beer, Bread
3	Beer, Coke, Diaper, Milk
4	Beer, Bread, Diaper, Milk
5	Coke, Diaper, Milk

Source: Stanford CS246 (2022)



# Frequent itemsets

- **Goal:** Find sets of items that appear together frequently in baskets //
- **Support** for itemset  $I$ : # of baskets containing all elements in  $I$ .
  - Given a support threshold  $s$
  - Itemset  $I$  is a **frequent itemset** if it appears at least in  $s$  baskets

<i>Basket</i>	<i>Items</i>
1	Bread, Coke, Milk
2	Beer, Bread
3	Beer, Coke, Diaper, Milk
4	Beer, Bread, Diaper, Milk
5	Coke, Diaper, Milk

Support of {Beer, Bread} is 2

Source: Stanford CS246 (2022)

# Example

- Items = {milk, coke, pepsi, beer, juice}
- Support threshold = 3 baskets

B1 = {m, c, b}	B2 = {m, p, j}
B3 = {m, b}	B4 = {c, j}
B5 = {m, p, b}	B6 = {m, c, b, j}
B7 = {c, b, j}	B8 = {b, c}

- Frequent itemsets:  
    {m}, {c}, {b}, {j}, {m, b}, {b, c}, {c, j}

# Example

- Items = {milk, coke, pepsi, beer, juice}
- Support threshold = 3 baskets

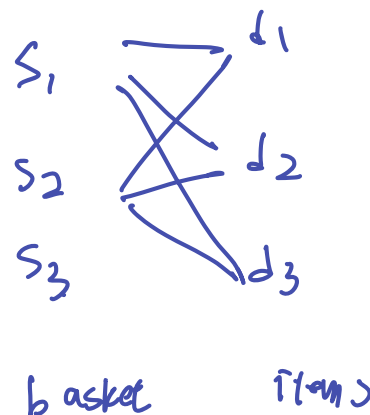
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B5 = {m, p, b}	B6 = {m, c, b, j}
B7 = {c, b, j}	B8 = {b, c}

- Frequent itemsets:

{m}, {c}, {b}, {j}, {m, b}, {b, c}, {c, j}

# Market-Basket Model as Abstract

- Items and baskets are abstract
  - **Supermarket:** items = products; baskets = sets of products
    - Bread and milk (not too interesting)
    - Hot dog and mustard (opportunity for clever marketing)
    - Diapers and beers (why?)
  - **Topic discovery:** items = words; baskets = documents
  - **Plagiarism:** items = documents; baskets = sentences
    - Notice items do not have to be “in” baskets
  - **Biomarkers:** items = drugs & side effects; baskets = patients



# Outline

1. Frequent Itemsets
2. **Association Rules**
3. Finding Frequent Pairs
4. A-Priori Algorithm

# Association Rules

- **Given** an itemset  $I$  and an item  $j$
- **Association rule**  $I \rightarrow j$  means that if a basket contains all of the items in  $I$ , then it is likely to contain  $j$  as well

B1 = {m, c, b}

B2 = {m, p, j}

B3 = {m, b}

B4 = {c, j}

B5 = {m, p, b}

B6 = {m, c, b, j}

B7 = {c, b, j}

B8 = {b, c}

Association rule: {m, b}  $\rightarrow$  c

*Is this a good rule?*

# Confidence

- We want to find significant/interesting rules
- **Confidence** of  $I \rightarrow j$  = Probability of  $j$  given  $I$  in a basket
  - $\text{conf}(I \rightarrow j) = P(j|I) = P(I \cup \{j\}) / P(I)$
  - $\text{conf}(I \rightarrow j) = \text{support}(I \cup \{j\}) / \text{support}(I)$

B1 = {m, c, b}

B2 = {m, p, j}

Support({m, b, c}): 2

B3 = {m, b}

B4 = {c, j}

Support({m, b}): 4

B5 = {m, p, b}

B6 = {m, c, b, j}

Confidence:  $2/4 = 0.5$

B7 = {c, b, j}

B8 = {b, c}

Association rule:  $\{m, b\} \rightarrow c$

# Interest

- Not all high-confidence rules are interesting
  - The rule  $X \rightarrow \text{milk}$  may have high confidence if milk is purchased a lot
- **Interest** of  $I \rightarrow j = \text{conf}(I \rightarrow j) - P(j) = P(j|I) - P(j)$ 
  - $P(j)$ : Fraction of baskets containing  $j$  in the dataset

B1 = {m, c, b}

B2 = {m, p, j}

Support({m, b, c}): 2

B3 = {m, b}

B4 = {c, j}

Support({m, b}): 4

B5 = {m, p, b}

B6 = {m, c, b, j}

Confidence:  $2/4 = 0.5$

B7 = {c, b, j}

B8 = {b, c}

**Interest :  $0.5 - 5/8 = -1/8$**   
**(negative value?)**

Association rule: {m, b}  $\rightarrow$  c



# Mining Association Rules

- **Goal:** Find all rules with support  $\geq s$  and confidence  $\geq c$ 
  - **Note:** Support of a rule  $I \rightarrow j$  is the support of  $I \cup \{j\}$
- **Hard part:** Finding the frequent itemsets
  - Identifying association rules is easy if we have frequent itemsets

# Mining Association Rules

- **Step 1:** Find all frequent itemsets  $I$  (we will explain this next)

- **Step 2:** Rule generation

- For every subset  $A$  of  $I$ , generate a rule  $A \rightarrow I \setminus A$

- **Variant 1:** Single pass to compute the rule confidence

- $\text{conf}(\{a, b\} \rightarrow \{c, d\}) = \text{support}(\{a, b, c, d\}) / \text{support}(\{a, b\})$

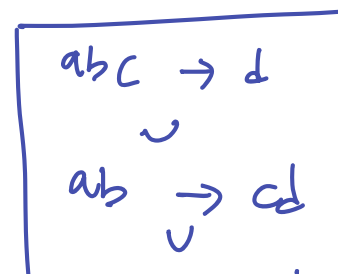
- **Variant 2:**

- **Observation:** If  $\{a, b, c\} \rightarrow \{d\}$  is below confidence, then so is  $\{a, b\} \rightarrow \{c, d\}$

- Can eliminate stronger rules by starting from weaker ones

- Output the rules above the confidence threshold

$$\underline{s(ab) \geq s(abc)}$$



$$a \rightarrow bcd$$

# Mining Association Rules

- **Example**

- Support threshold  $s = 3$
- Confidence threshold  $c = 3/4$

B1 = {m, c, b}

B2 = {m, p, j}

B3 = {m, c, b, n}

B4 = {c, j}

B5 = {m, p, b}

B6 = {m, c, b, j}

B7 = {c, b, j}

B8 = {b, c}

1. Frequent itemsets:

{b,m}, {b,c}, {c,m}, {c,j}, {m,c,b}

# Mining Association Rules

- **Example**

- Support threshold  $s = 3$
- Confidence threshold  $c = 3/4$

B1 = {m, c, b}

B3 = {m, c, b, n}

B5 = {m, p, b}

B7 = {c, b, j}

B2 = {m, p, j}

B4 = {c, j}

B6 = {m, c, b, j}

B8 = {b, c}

1. Frequent itemsets:

{b,m}, {b,c}, {c,m}, {c,j}, {m,c,b}

2. Generated rules:

{b, c} → m: conf = 3/5 *weaker*

{b, m} → c: conf = 3/4

{m, c} → b: conf = 3/3

b → {c, m}: conf = 3/6 *stronger*

...

# Mining Association Rules

- **Example**

- Support threshold  $s = 3$
- Confidence threshold  $c = 3/4$

B1 = {m, c, b}

B3 = {m, c, b, n}

B5 = {m, p, b}

B7 = {c, b, j}

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B6 = {m, c, b, j}

B8 = {b, c}

1. Frequent itemsets:

{b,m}, {b,c}, {c,m}, {c,j}, {m,c,b}

2. Generated rules:

~~{b, c} → m: conf = 3/5~~

{b, m} → c: conf = 3/4

{m, c} → b: conf = 3/3

~~b → {c, m}: conf = 3/6~~

...

# Compacting the Output

- Giving a store manager a million association rules is not practical
  - *What can we do other than adjusting support threshold?*
- To reduce # of rules, we can post-process frequent itemsets into
  - **Maximal frequent itemsets:**
    - No immediate superset is frequent //
    - Gives more pruning
  - **Closed itemsets:**
    - No immediate superset has the same support ( $> 0$ )
    - Stores not only frequent information, but exact supports/counts

# Example: Maximal / Closed Itemsets

- **Example** ( $s=3$ )

	Support	Maximal	Closed	
A	4	No	No	
B	5	<u>No</u>	Yes	BC is freq.
C	3	No	No	support(BC) = 3
AB	4	Yes	Yes	ABC is not freq.
AC	2	No	No	
BC	3	Yes	Yes	support(ABC) < 3
ABC	2	No	Yes	

*Handwritten notes:*

- Comparison w/ threshold (pointing to Maximal column)
- Comparison w/ support (pointing to Closed column)

# Pop Quiz

- Suppose we have the following baskets:

B1 = {apple, butter, milk}

B2 = {apple, butter, banana, walnuts, milk}

B3 = {butter, milk, banana}

B4 = {apple, milk}

- **Q1.** Compute the support for itemset {apple, butter} 2

- **Q2.** Compute the confidence for the rule {apple}  $\rightarrow$  {butter}  $\frac{2}{3}$

- **Q3.** Compute the interest of {apple}  $\rightarrow$  {butter}

$$\frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{8-9}{12} = -\frac{1}{6}$$

- **Q4.** Is {apple}  $\rightarrow$  {butter} maximal and/or closed?



# Outline

1. Frequent Itemsets
2. Association Rules
3. **Finding Frequent Pairs**
4. A-Priori Algorithm

# Representation of Market-Basket Data

- Let's go back to finding frequent itemsets
- Market-basket data is stored on disk basket-by-basket
  - Either in a DFS (baskets are objects in files) or as a file
- The data can be too large to fit in main memory
  - Baskets are small but we have many baskets and items

Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Item
Etc.

Source: Stanford CS246 (2022)

# Computational Cost

- The true cost of mining disk-resident data is usually # of disk I/Os
- In practice, association-rule algorithms read the data in passes
- We measure the cost by # of passes an algorithm makes over data

# Main-Memory Bottleneck

- For many frequent-itemset algorithms, **main memory** is the issue
  - As we read baskets, we need to count something, e.g., item occurrences
  - The number of different things we can count is limited by main memory
  - Swapping counts in/out is a disaster
- **Minor technique:** We first represent items by consecutive integers from 1 to  $n$  where  $n$  is the number of distinct items
  - Can construct a hash table that translates items to integers

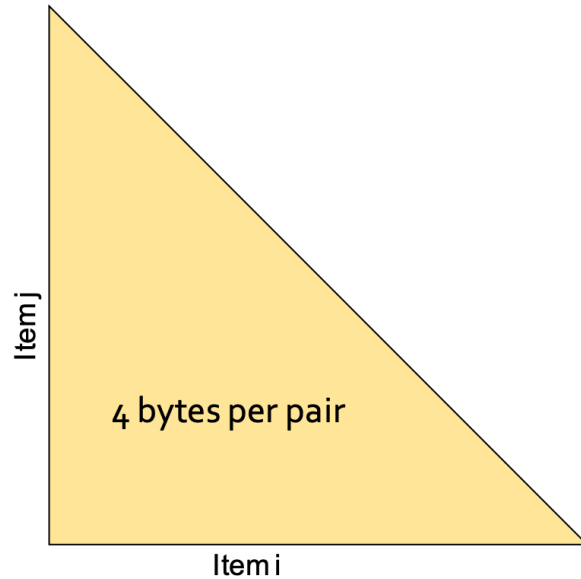
# Finding Frequent Pairs

- The hardest problem is finding frequent **pairs of items**  $\{i, j\}$ 
  - **Why?** Frequent pairs are common, frequent triples are rare
  - Probability of being frequent drops exponentially with size
- Let's first concentrate on pairs, then extend to larger sets

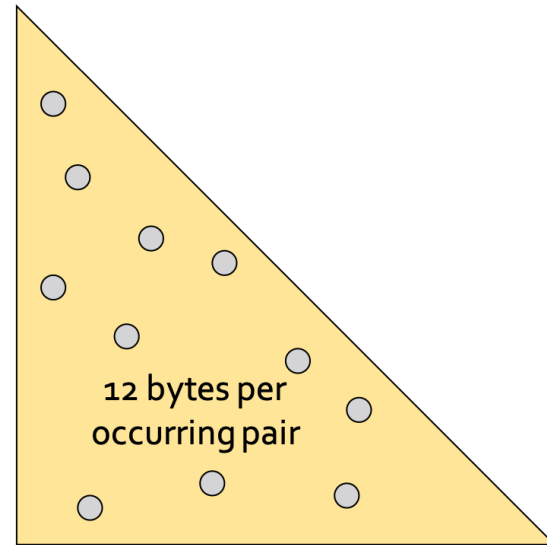
# Counting Pairs in Memory

- **Goal:** Count the number of occurrences of each pair of items  $(i, j)$
- **Triangular-matrix method** *no dense most pairs occurs in data*
  - Use a large matrix (i.e., an array) to store all counts
- **Triples method** *sparse only few pair matches*
  - Keep a hash table of triples  $(i, j, c)$ , storing count  $c$  for each pair  $(i, j)$
  - If integers are 4 bytes, we need about 12 bytes for each pair with  $c > 0$
  - Plus some additional overhead for the hash table

# Comparison of Two Approaches



**Triangular Matrix**



**Triples (item i, item j, count)**

[ 2 171

Source: Stanford CS246 (2022)

# Comparison of Two Approaches

- **Triangular-matrix method**

- Count pair of items  $(i, j)$  only if  $i < j$
- Pairs are stored in lexicographic order:
  - $\{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \dots, \{1,n\}, \{2,3\}, \{2,4\}, \dots, \{2,n\}, \dots, \{n-1,n\}$

- Total bytes =  $4 \times n(n-1)/2$

- **Triples Method**

- Uses 12 bytes per pair only if count  $> 0$

- Total bytes =  $12 \times p \times n$

- The triples method is better if  $p < 1/3$

with 31,415,926  
 $p = 1/3$



# Naïve Algorithm

- Count in main memory the occurrences of each pair
  - From each basket  $b$  of  $n_b$  items, generate its  $n_b(n_b - 1)/2$  pairs
- Fails if  $(\# \text{ of items})^2$  exceeds main memory *easy happen*
  - **Remember:** # of items can be 100K (Wal-Mart) or 10B (Web pages)
    - If we have 1M items, 2 terabytes of memory is needed
    - What if we have 1B items?
- *How can we do better when we have too many items?*

# Outline

1. Frequent Itemsets
2. Association Rules
3. Finding Frequent Pairs
4. **A-Priori Algorithm**

# A-Priori Algorithm

- **A-Priori** is a two-pass approach which limits memory usage
- **Key idea: Monotonicity** (inequality 이함)
  - If a set of items  $I$  appears at least  $s$  times, so does every subset  $J$  of  $I$
- **Contrapositive for pairs:** (대각 반례)
  - If item  $i$  does not appear in  $s$  baskets, then no pair including  $i$  can

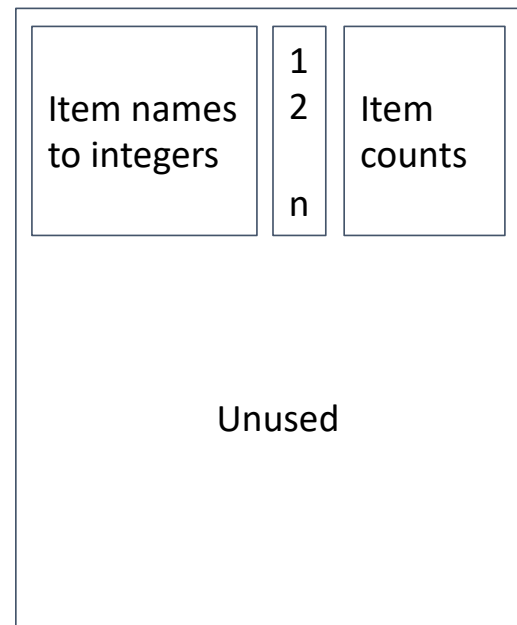
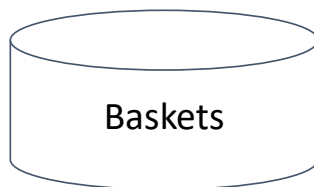
# A-Priori Algorithm

- **Pass 1:** Read baskets and count # of occurrences of each item
  - Requires only memory proportional to # of items
- **Mark** the items that appear  $\geq s$  times as frequent items
- **Pass 2:** Read baskets again keeping track of only the freq. items
  - Count only those pairs where both elements are frequent (from Pass 1)
  - Requires memory proportional to square of # of frequent items
  - Plus a list of the frequent items (so you know what must be counted)

array  
freq?  
threshold >L  
array size.

# A-Priori Algorithm (Pass 1)

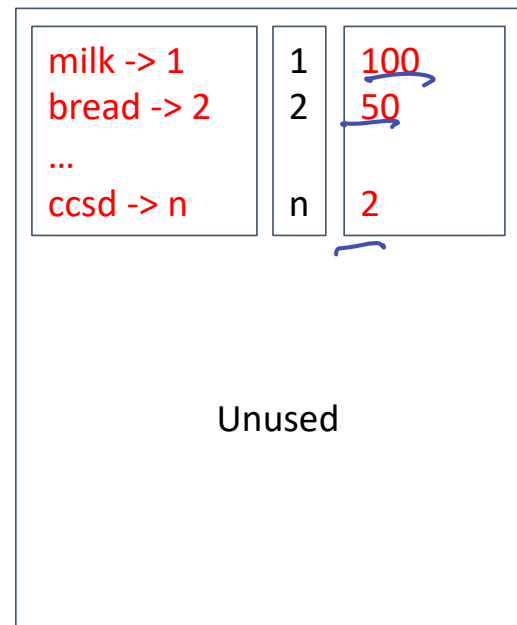
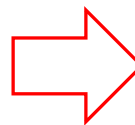
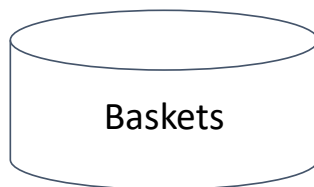
- Table 1: Translate item names to integers  $1, \dots, n$
- Table 2: Initialize an array of counts for  $n$  items to 0



<main memory>

# A-Priori Algorithm (Pass 1)

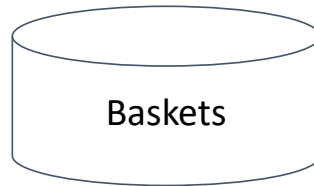
- Table 1: Translate item names to integers  $1, \dots, n$
- Table 2: Initialize an array of counts for  $n$  items to 0



<main memory>

# A-Priori Algorithm (between Pass 1 & 2)

- Find frequent items with support  $\geq s$
- Create new numbering  $1, \dots, m$  for the freq. items
- Create a table where the  $i$ -th entry is 0 if item  $i$  is not frequent or a unique integer in  $[1, m]$  otherwise



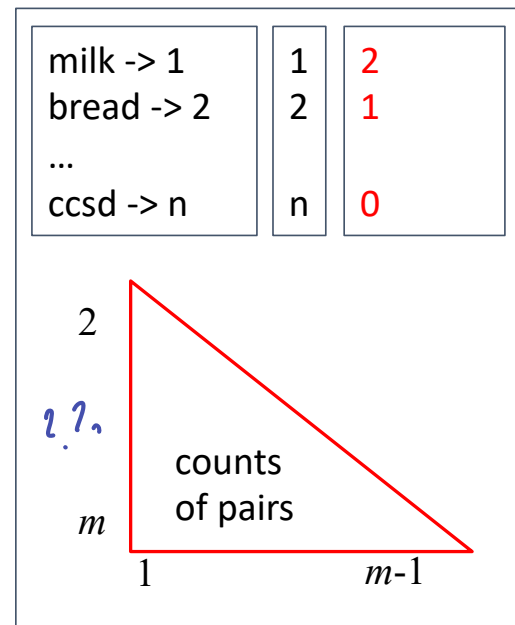
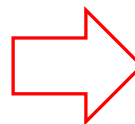
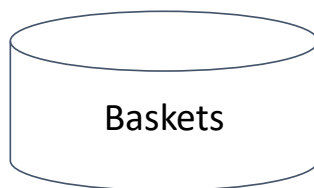
milk -> 1	1	<u>2</u>
bread -> 2	2	<u>1</u>
...		
ccsd -> n	n	<u>0</u>

Unused

<main memory>

# A-Priori Algorithm (Pass 2)

- For each basket, check which items are frequent
- Generate all pairs of frequent items in basket
- For each such pair, increment count in the data structure (triangular matrix or triples)

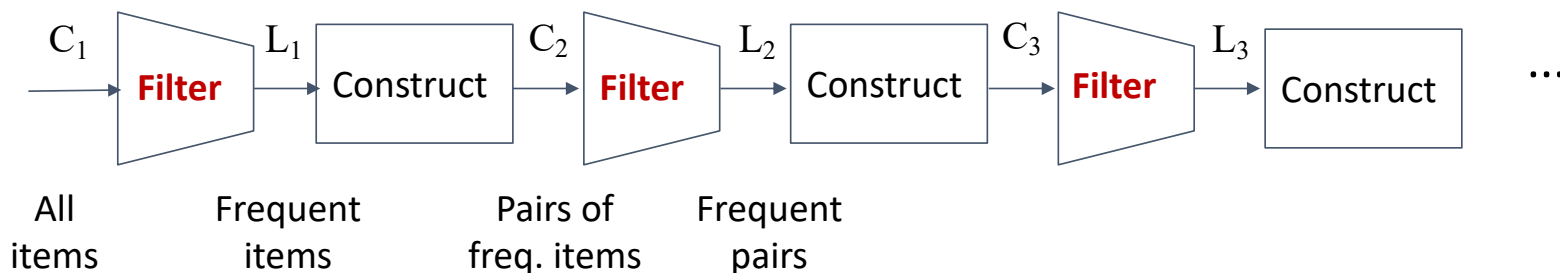


<main memory>



# Frequent Triples

- Same technique is used for finding larger frequent itemsets
- When we move from size  $k - 1$  to  $k$ , we use two sets of itemsets:
  - $C_k$ : Set of candidate  $k$ -tuples that might be frequent sets
  - $L_k$ : Set of truly frequent  $k$ -tuples
- If no frequent itemsets are found, we are done by monotonicity



# Example

- $C1 = \{ \{1\} \{2\} \{3\} \{4\} \{5\} \{6\} \{7\} \{8\} \{9\} \{10\} \}$
- Count the support of itemsets in  $C1$
- Prune non-frequent itemsets:  $L1 = \{ \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\} \}$

# Example

- $C1 = \{ \{1\} \{2\} \{3\} \{4\} \{5\} \{6\} \{7\} \{8\} \{9\} \{10\} \}$
- Count the support of itemsets in  $C1$
- Prune non-frequent itemsets:  $L1 = \{ \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\} \}$
- Generate  $C2 = \{ \{1,2\} \{1,3\} \{1,4\} \{1,5\} \{2,3\} \{2,4\} \{2,5\} \{3,4\} \{3,5\} \{4,5\} \}$
- Count the support of itemsets in  $C2$
- Prune non-frequent itemsets:  $L2 = \{ \{1,2\} \{2,3\} \{2,4\} \{3,4\} \{4,5\} \}$

# Example

- $C1 = \{ \{1\} \{2\} \{3\} \{4\} \{5\} \{6\} \{7\} \{8\} \{9\} \{10\} \}$
- Count the support of itemsets in C1
- Prune non-frequent itemsets:  $L1 = \{ \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\} \}$
- Generate  $C2 = \{ \{1,2\} \{1,3\} \{1,4\} \{1,5\} \{2,3\} \{2,4\} \{2,5\} \{3,4\} \{3,5\} \{4,5\} \}$
- Count the support of itemsets in C2
- Prune non-frequent itemsets:  $L2 = \{ \{1,2\} \{2,3\} \{2,4\} \{3,4\} \{4,5\} \}$
- Generate  $C3 = \{ \{2,3,4\} \}$
- ...

1, 2, 3, 3, 1, 2, 4, 3, 2, 4, 5, 3, 1, 3, 4, 5, 3?

# Pop Quiz

- Apply the A-Priori algorithm with support threshold 3:

B1 = {apple, butter, milk}

B2 = {apple, butter, banana, walnuts, milk}

B3 = {butter, milk}

B4 = {apple, milk}

# Summary

1. Frequent Itemsets
  - Market-basket model
2. Association Rules
  - Confidence, Interest, Maximal or closed itemsets
3. Finding Frequent Pairs
  - Triangular-matrix method, Triples method
4. A-Priori Algorithm
  - How the two-pass algorithm works