

## Chapter 5

### Association Analysis: Basic Concepts

Introduction to Data Mining, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

by

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# Association Rule Mining

- Given a set of transactions, find rules that will predict the occurrence of an item based on the occurrences of other items in the transaction

## Market-Basket transactions

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

## Example of Association Rules

$\{\text{Diaper}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Beer}\},$   
 $\{\text{Milk, Bread}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Eggs, Coke}\},$   
 $\{\text{Beer, Bread}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Milk}\},$

Implication means co-occurrence,  
not causality!

# Definition: Frequent Itemset

- **Itemset**

- A collection of one or more items
  - ◆ Example: {Milk, Bread, Diaper}
- k-itemset
  - ◆ An itemset that contains k items

- **Support count ( $\sigma$ )**

- Frequency of occurrence of an itemset
- E.g.  $\sigma(\{\text{Milk, Bread, Diaper}\}) = 2$

- **Support**

- Fraction of transactions that contain an itemset
- E.g.  $s(\{\text{Milk, Bread, Diaper}\}) = 2/5$

- **Frequent Itemset**

- An itemset whose support is greater than or equal to a *minsup* threshold

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

# Definition: Association Rule

## ● Association Rule

- An implication expression of the form  $X \rightarrow Y$ , where  $X$  and  $Y$  are itemsets
- Example:  
 $\{\text{Milk, Diaper}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Beer}\}$

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
1	Bread, Milk
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## ● Rule Evaluation Metrics

- Support (s)
  - ◆ Fraction of transactions that contain both  $X$  and  $Y$
- Confidence (c)
  - ◆ Measures how often items in  $Y$  appear in transactions that contain  $X$

Example:

$$\{\text{Milk, Diaper}\} \Rightarrow \{\text{Beer}\}$$

$$s = \frac{\sigma(\text{Milk, Diaper, Beer})}{|T|} = \frac{2}{5} = 0.4$$

$$c = \frac{\sigma(\text{Milk, Diaper, Beer})}{\sigma(\text{Milk, Diaper})} = \frac{2}{3} = 0.67$$

# Association Rule Mining Task

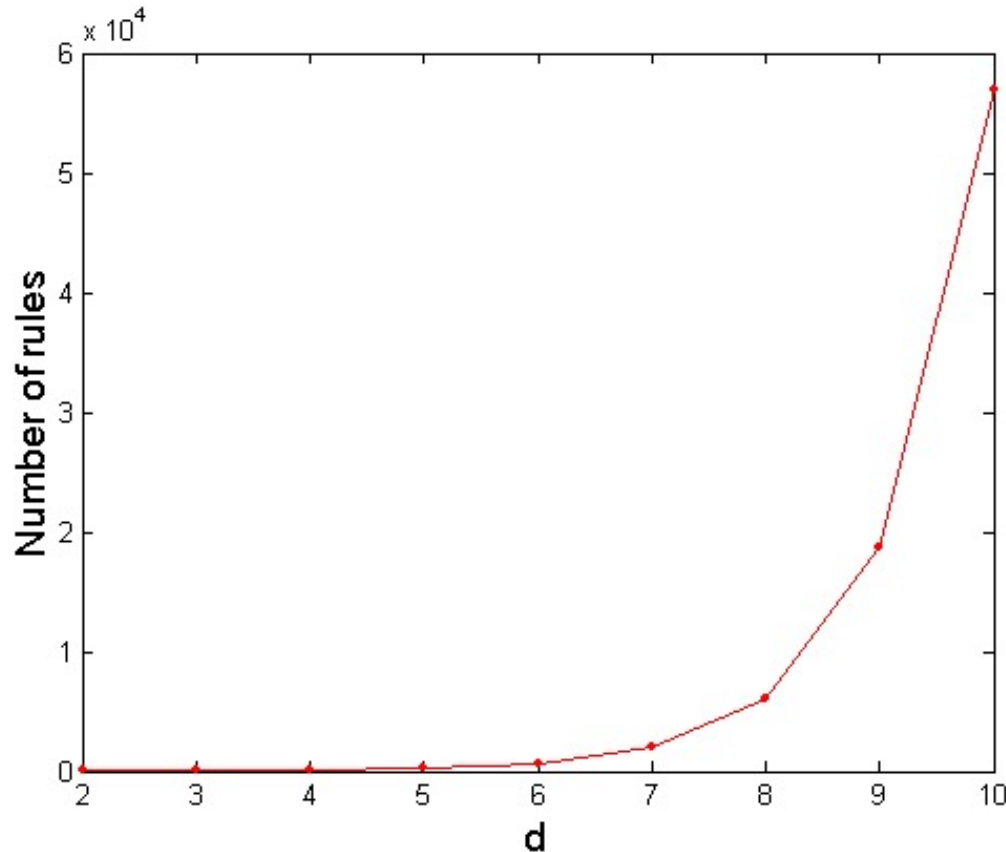
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- Given a set of transactions  $T$ , the goal of association rule mining is to find all rules having
  - support  $\geq \textit{minsup}$  threshold
  - confidence  $\geq \textit{minconf}$  threshold
- Brute-force approach:
  - List all possible association rules
  - Compute the support and confidence for each rule
  - Prune rules that fail the *minsup* and *minconf* thresholds

⇒ **Computationally prohibitive!**

# Computational Complexity

- Given  $d$  unique items:
  - Total number of itemsets =  $2^d$
  - Total number of possible association rules:



$$R = \sum_{k=1}^{d-1} \left[ \binom{d}{k} \times \sum_{j=1}^{d-k} \binom{d-k}{j} \right]$$
$$= 3^d - 2^{d+1} + 1$$

**If  $d=6$ ,  $R = 602$  rules**

# Mining Association Rules

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
1	Bread, Milk
2	Bread, Diaper, Beer, Eggs
3	Milk, Diaper, Beer, Coke
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5	Bread, Milk, Diaper, Coke

## Example of Rules:

$\{\text{Milk, Diaper}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Beer}\}$  ( $s=0.4$ ,  $c=0.67$ )  
 $\{\text{Milk, Beer}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Diaper}\}$  ( $s=0.4$ ,  $c=1.0$ )  
 $\{\text{Diaper, Beer}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Milk}\}$  ( $s=0.4$ ,  $c=0.67$ )  
 $\{\text{Beer}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Milk, Diaper}\}$  ( $s=0.4$ ,  $c=0.67$ )  
 $\{\text{Diaper}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Milk, Beer}\}$  ( $s=0.4$ ,  $c=0.5$ )  
 $\{\text{Milk}\} \rightarrow \{\text{Diaper, Beer}\}$  ( $s=0.4$ ,  $c=0.5$ )

## Observations:

- All the above rules are binary partitions of the same itemset:  
 $\{\text{Milk, Diaper, Beer}\}$
- Rules originating from the same itemset have identical support but can have different confidence
- Thus, we may decouple the support and confidence requirements

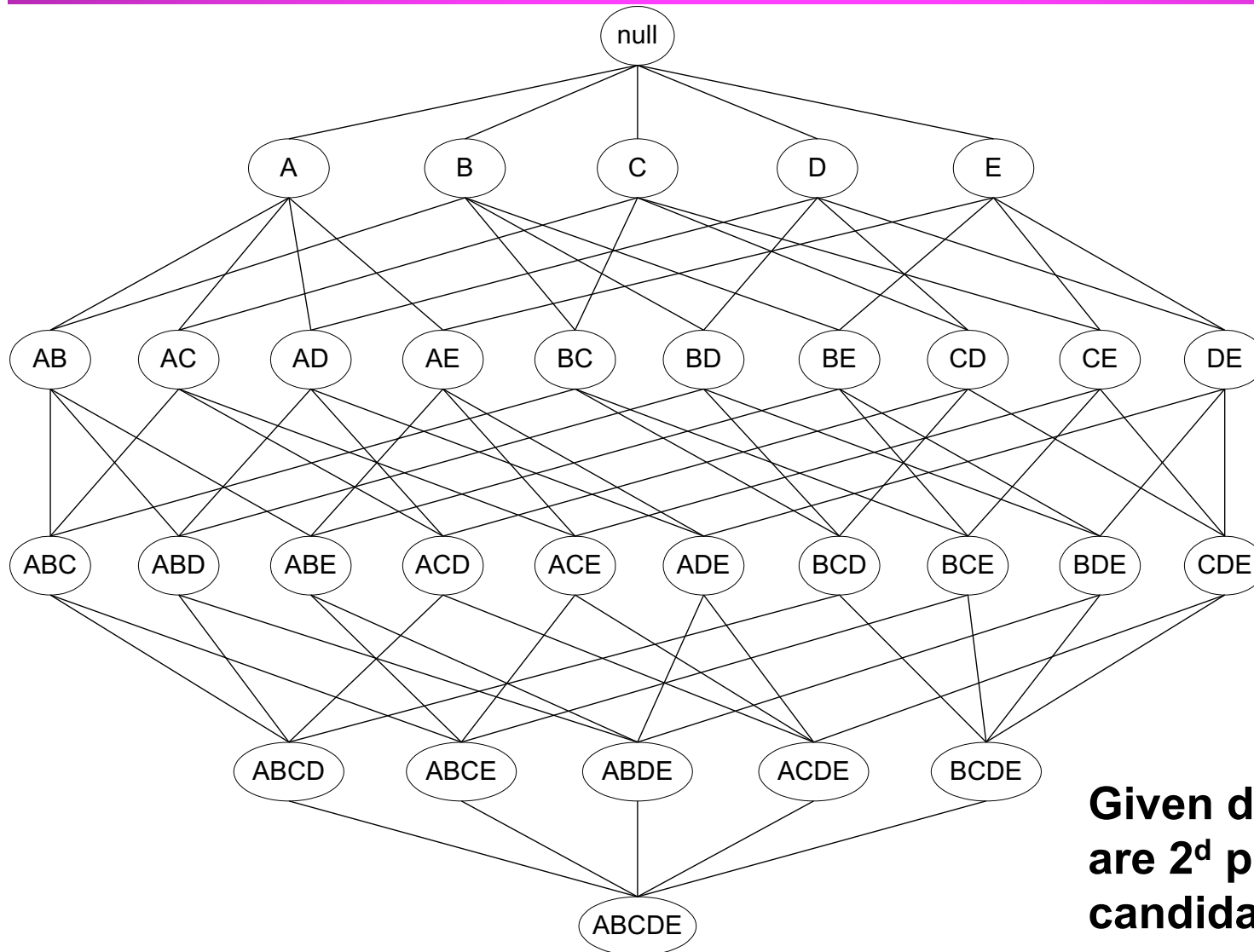
# Mining Association Rules

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- Two-step approach:
  1. Frequent Itemset Generation
    - Generate all itemsets whose support  $\geq$  minsup
  2. Rule Generation
    - Generate high confidence rules from each frequent itemset, where each rule is a binary partitioning of a frequent itemset
- Frequent itemset generation is still computationally expensive



# Frequent Itemset Generation

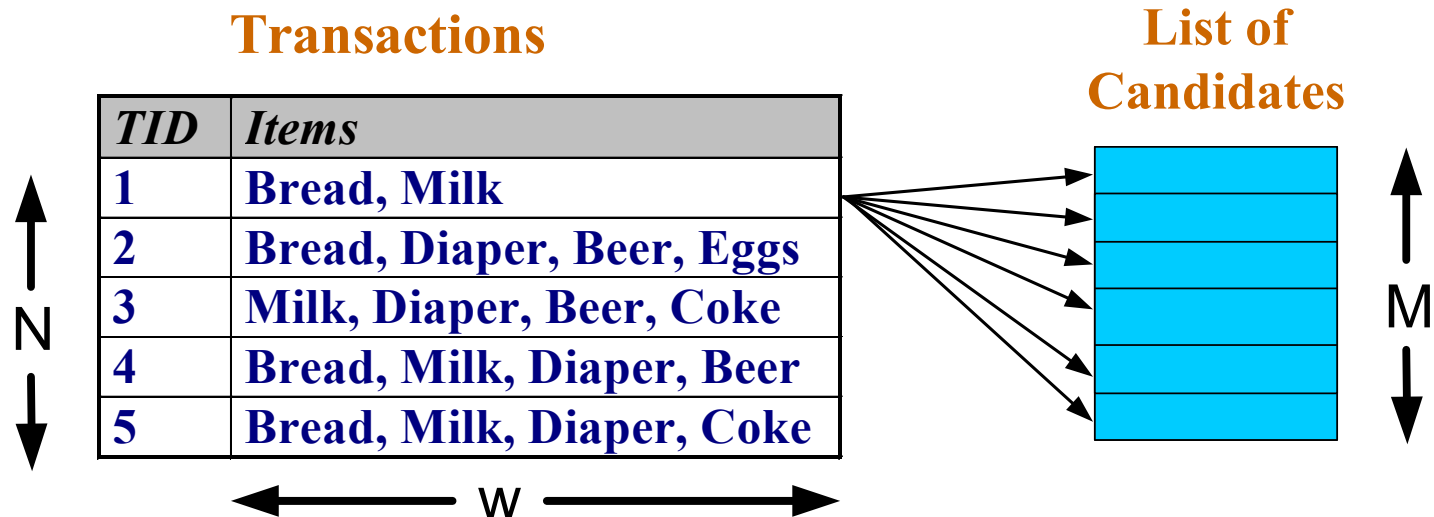


**Given  $d$  items, there are  $2^d$  possible candidate itemsets**

# Frequent Itemset Generation

- Brute-force approach:

- Each itemset in the lattice is a **candidate** frequent itemset
- Count the support of each candidate by scanning the database



- Match each transaction against every candidate
- Complexity  $\sim O(NMw) \Rightarrow$  **Expensive since  $M = 2^d$  !!!**

# Reducing Number of Candidates

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- **Apriori principle:**

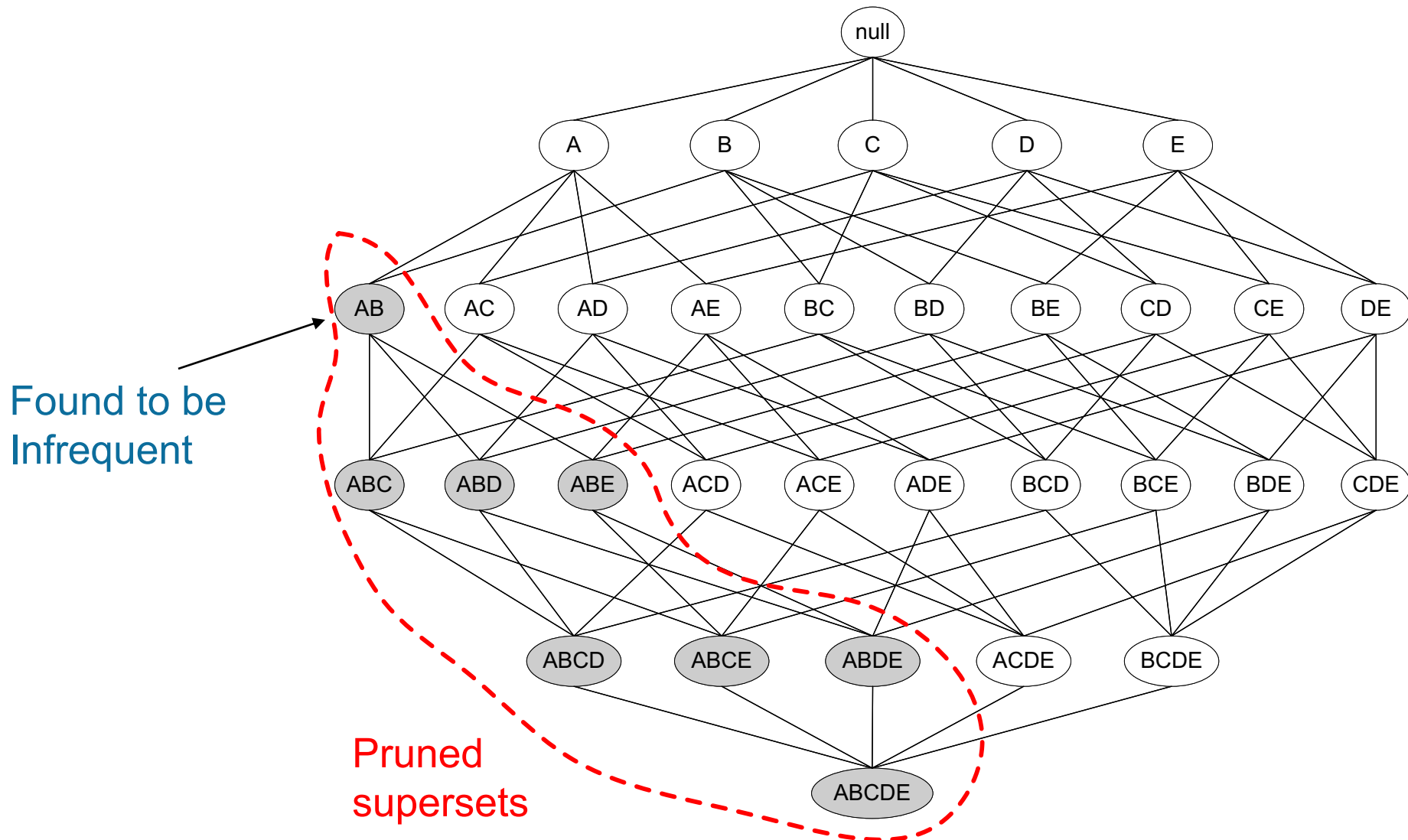
- If an itemset is frequent, then all of its subsets must also be frequent

- Apriori principle holds due to the following property of the support measure:

$$\forall X, Y : (X \subseteq Y) \Rightarrow s(X) \geq s(Y)$$

- Support of an itemset never exceeds the support of its subsets
- This is known as the **anti-monotone** property of support

# Illustrating Apriori Principle



# Illustrating Apriori Principle

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



Items (1-itemsets)

Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

$${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$$

$$6 + 15 + 20 = 41$$

With support-based pruning,

$$6 + 6 + 4 = 16$$

# Illustrating Apriori Principle

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
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Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Items (1-itemsets)



Itemset
{Bread, Milk}
{Bread, Beer }
{Bread, Diaper}
{Beer, Milk}
{Diaper, Milk}
{Beer, Diaper}

Pairs (2-itemsets)

(No need to generate candidates involving Coke or Eggs)

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

$${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$$

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Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Items (1-itemsets)



Itemset	Count
{Bread, Milk}	3
{Beer, Bread}	2
{Bread, Diaper}	3
{Beer, Milk}	2
{Diaper, Milk}	3
{Beer, Diaper}	3

Pairs (2-itemsets)

(No need to generate candidates involving Coke or Eggs)

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

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Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Items (1-itemsets)



Itemset	Count
{Bread, Milk}	3
{Bread, Beer}	2
{Bread, Diaper}	3
{Milk, Beer}	2
{Milk, Diaper}	3
{Beer, Diaper}	3

Pairs (2-itemsets)

(No need to generate candidates involving Coke or Eggs)



Itemset
{ Beer, Diaper, Milk}
{ Beer, Bread, Diaper}
{Bread, Diaper, Milk}
{ Beer, Bread, Milk}

Triplets (3-itemsets)

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

$${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$$

$$6 + 15 + 20 = 41$$

With support-based pruning,

$$6 + 6 + 4 = 16$$

# Illustrating Apriori Principle

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Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Items (1-itemsets)



Itemset	Count
{Bread, Milk}	3
{Bread, Beer}	2
{Bread, Diaper}	3
{Milk, Beer}	2
{Milk, Diaper}	3
{Beer, Diaper}	3

Pairs (2-itemsets)

(No need to generate candidates involving Coke or Eggs)



Triplets (3-itemsets)

Itemset	Count
{Beer, Diaper, Milk}	2
{Beer, Bread, Diaper}	2
<b>{Bread, Diaper, Milk}</b>	<b>2</b>
{Beer, Bread, Milk}	1

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

$${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$$

$$6 + 15 + 20 = 41$$

With support-based pruning,

$$6 + 6 + 4 = 16$$

# Illustrating Apriori Principle

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Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
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Eggs	1

Items (1-itemsets)



Itemset	Count
{Bread, Milk}	3
{Bread, Beer}	2
{Bread, Diaper}	3
{Milk, Beer}	2
{Milk, Diaper}	3
{Beer, Diaper}	3

Pairs (2-itemsets)

(No need to generate candidates involving Coke or Eggs)

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

$${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$$

$$6 + 15 + 20 = 41$$

With support-based pruning,

$$6 + 6 + 4 = 16$$

$$6 + 6 + 1 = 13$$



Triplets (3-itemsets)

Itemset	Count
{ Beer, Diaper, Milk}	2
{ Beer, Bread, Diaper}	2
{Bread, Diaper, Milk}	2
{Beer, Bread, Milk}	1

# Apriori Algorithm

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- $F_k$ : frequent k-itemsets
- $L_k$ : candidate k-itemsets

## ● Algorithm

- Let  $k=1$
- Generate  $F_1 = \{\text{frequent 1-itemsets}\}$
- Repeat until  $F_k$  is empty
  - ◆ **Candidate Generation:** Generate  $L_{k+1}$  from  $F_k$
  - ◆ **Candidate Pruning:** Prune candidate itemsets in  $L_{k+1}$  containing subsets of length  $k$  that are infrequent
  - ◆ **Support Counting:** Count the support of each candidate in  $L_{k+1}$  by scanning the DB
  - ◆ **Candidate Elimination:** Eliminate candidates in  $L_{k+1}$  that are infrequent, leaving only those that are frequent  $\Rightarrow F_{k+1}$

# Candidate Generation: Brute-force method

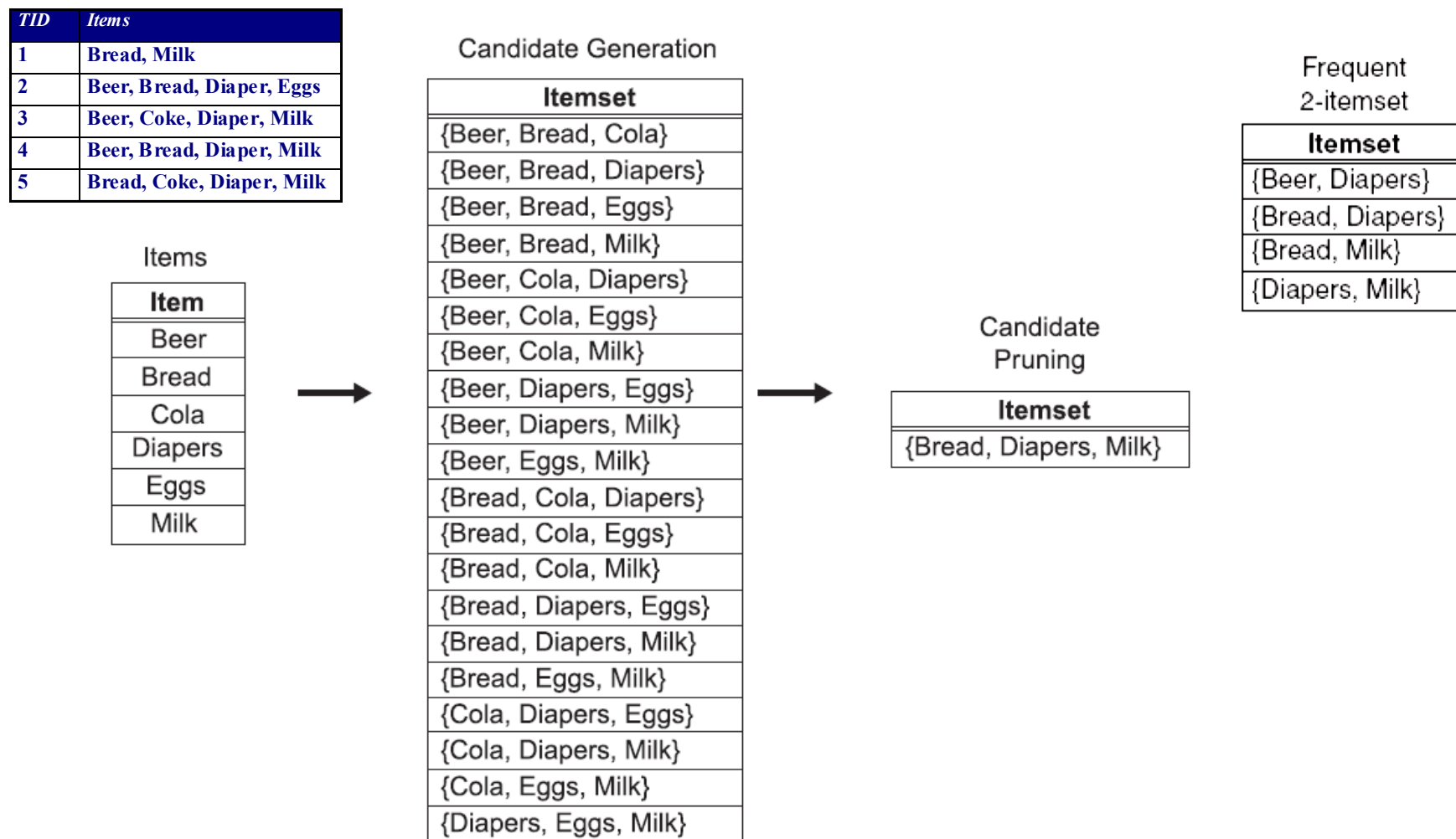
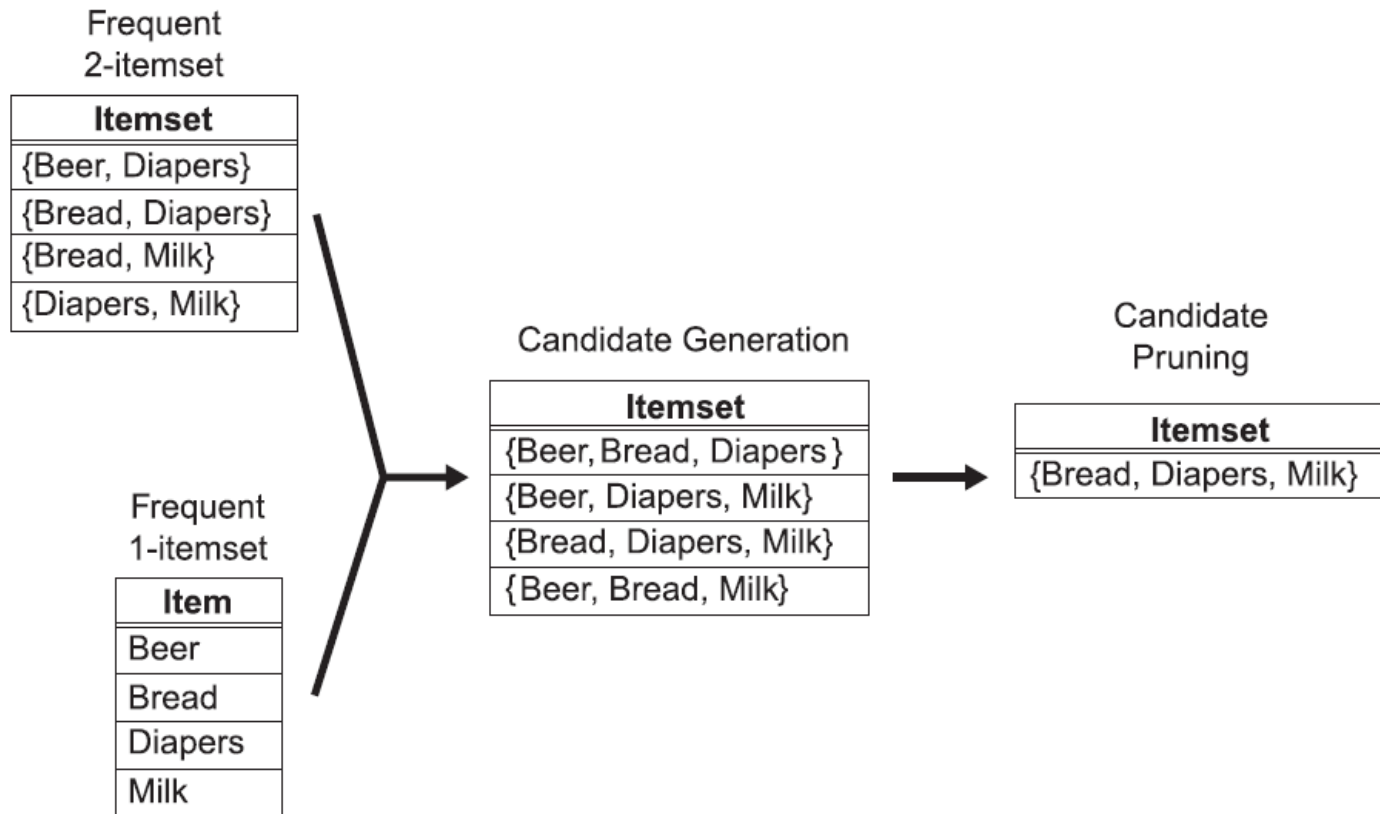


Figure 5.6. A brute-force method for generating candidate 3-itemsets.

# Candidate Generation: Merge Fk-1 and F1 itemsets



**Figure 5.7.** Generating and pruning candidate  $k$ -itemsets by merging a frequent  $(k-1)$ -itemset with a frequent item. Note that some of the candidates are unnecessary because their subsets are infrequent.

# Candidate Generation: $F_{k-1} \times F_{k-1}$ Method

---

- Merge two frequent  $(k-1)$ -itemsets if their first  $(k-2)$  items are identical
- $F_3 = \{ABC, ABD, ABE, ACD, BCD, BDE, CDE\}$ 
  - Merge(ABC, ABD) = ABCD
  - Merge(ABC, ABE) = ABCE
  - Merge(ABD, ABE) = ABDE
  - Do not merge(ABD, ACD) because they share only prefix of length 1 instead of length 2

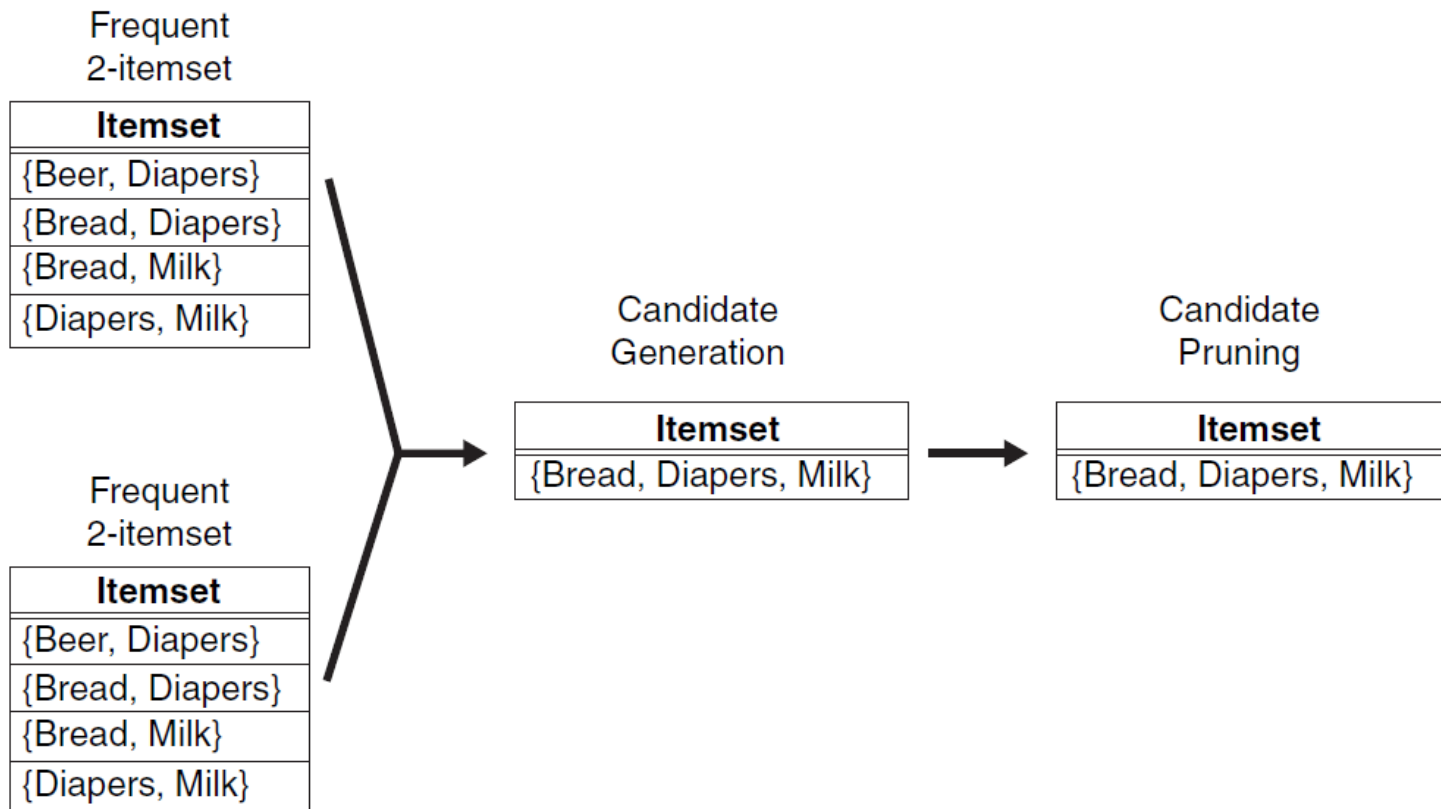
# Candidate Pruning

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- Let  $F_3 = \{ABC, ABD, ABE, ACD, BCD, BDE, CDE\}$  be the set of frequent 3-itemsets
- $L_4 = \{ABCD, ABCE, ABDE\}$  is the set of candidate 4-itemsets generated (from previous slide)
- Candidate pruning
  - Prune ABCE because ACE and BCE are infrequent
  - Prune ABDE because ADE is infrequent
- After candidate pruning:  $L_4 = \{ABCD\}$



# Candidate Generation: Fk-1 x Fk-1 Method



**Figure 5.8.** Generating and pruning candidate  $k$ -itemsets by merging pairs of frequent  $(k-1)$ -itemsets.

# Illustrating Apriori Principle

Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Items (1-itemsets)



Itemset	Count
{Bread,Milk}	3
{Bread,Beer}	2
{Bread,Diaper}	3
{Milk,Beer}	2
{Milk,Diaper}	3
{Beer,Diaper}	3

Pairs (2-itemsets)

(No need to generate candidates involving Coke or Eggs)



Triplets (3-itemsets)

Itemset	Count
{Bread, Diaper, Milk}	2

Use of  $F_{k-1} \times F_{k-1}$  method for candidate generation results in only one 3-itemset. This is eliminated after the support counting step.

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,

$${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$$

$$6 + 15 + 20 = 41$$

With support-based pruning,

$$6 + 6 + 1 = 13$$

# Alternate $F_{k-1} \times F_{k-1}$ Method

---

- Merge two frequent  $(k-1)$ -itemsets if the last  $(k-2)$  items of the first one is identical to the first  $(k-2)$  items of the second.
- $F_3 = \{ABC, ABD, ABE, ACD, BCD, BDE, CDE\}$ 
  - Merge(ABC, BCD) = ABCD
  - Merge(ABD, BDE) = ABDE
  - Merge(ACD, CDE) = ACDE
  - Merge(BCD, CDE) = BCDE

## Candidate Pruning for Alternate $F_{k-1} \times F_{k-1}$ Method

- Let  $F_3 = \{ABC, ABD, ABE, ACD, BCD, BDE, CDE\}$  be the set of frequent 3-itemsets
- $L_4 = \{ABCD, ABDE, ACDE, BCDE\}$  is the set of candidate 4-itemsets generated (from previous slide)
- Candidate pruning
  - Prune ABDE because ADE is infrequent
  - Prune ACDE because ACE and ADE are infrequent
  - Prune BCDE because BCE
- After candidate pruning:  $L_4 = \{ABCD\}$

# 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  $L \rightarrow \emptyset$  and  $\emptyset \rightarrow L$ )

# Rule Generation

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- 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

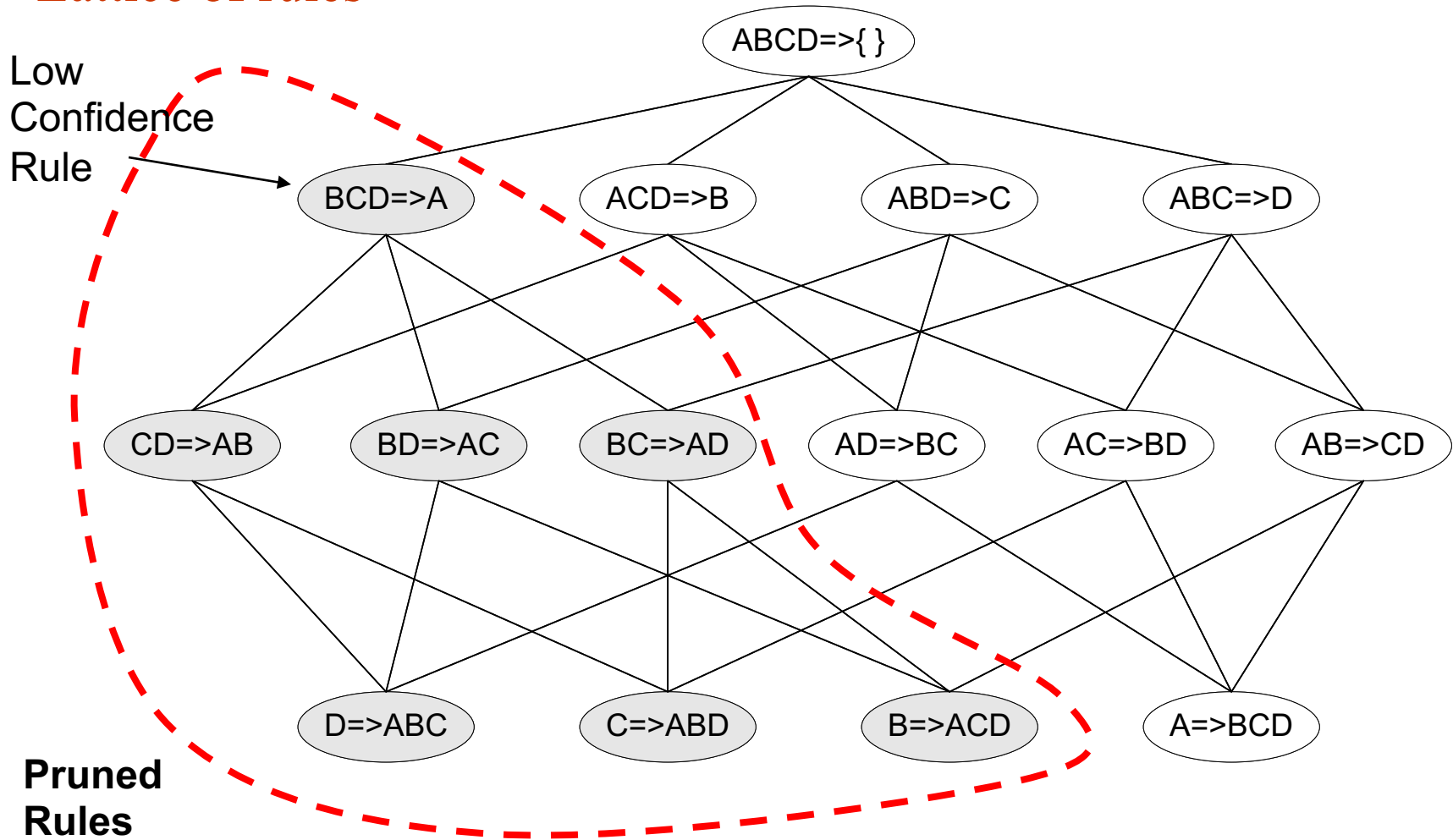
- E.g., Suppose  $\{A,B,C,D\}$  is a frequent 4-itemset:

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

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

# Rule Generation for Apriori Algorithm

## Lattice of rules



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# **Association Analysis: Basic Concepts and Algorithms**

## Algorithms and Complexity



# Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

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- Choice of minimum support threshold
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set
- Size of database
- Average transaction width

—

# Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

- Choice of minimum support threshold
  - lowering support threshold results in more frequent itemsets
  - this may increase number of candidates and max length of frequent itemsets
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set
  -

- Size of database
  -

- Average transaction width
  -

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# Impact of Support Based Pruning

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Items (1-itemsets)

Item	Count
Bread	4
Coke	2
Milk	4
Beer	3
Diaper	4
Eggs	1

Minimum Support = 3

If every subset is considered,  
 ${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3$   
 $6 + 15 + 20 = 41$   
 With support-based pruning,  
 $6 + 6 + 4 = 16$

Minimum Support = 2

If every subset is considered,  
 ${}^6C_1 + {}^6C_2 + {}^6C_3 + {}^6C_4$   
 $6 + 15 + 20 + 15 = 56$

# Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

- Choice of minimum support threshold
  - lowering support threshold results in more frequent itemsets
  - this may increase number of candidates and max length of frequent itemsets
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set
  - More space is needed to store support count of itemsets
  - if number of frequent itemsets also increases, both computation and I/O costs may also increase
- Size of database
- Average transaction width

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
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# Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

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- Size of database
  - run time of algorithm increases with number of transactions
- Average transaction width

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
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# Factors Affecting Complexity of Apriori

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- Choice of minimum support threshold
  - lowering support threshold results in more frequent itemsets
  - this may increase number of candidates and max length of frequent itemsets
- Dimensionality (number of items) of the data set
  - More space is needed to store support count of itemsets
  - if number of frequent itemsets also increases, both computation and I/O costs may also increase
- Size of database
  - run time of algorithm increases with number of transactions
- Average transaction width
  - transaction width increases the max length of frequent itemsets
  - number of subsets in a transaction increases with its width, increasing computation time for support counting

# Pattern Evaluation

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- Association rule algorithms can produce large number of rules
- Interestingness measures can be used to prune/rank the patterns
  - In the original formulation, support & confidence are the only measures used

# Computing Interestingness Measure

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

## Contingency table

	Y	$\overline{Y}$	
X	$f_{11}$	$f_{10}$	$f_{1+}$
$\overline{X}$	$f_{01}$	$f_{00}$	$f_{0+}$
	$f_{+1}$	$f_{+0}$	N

$f_{11}$ : support of X and Y

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

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

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

Used to define various measures

- ◆ support, confidence, Gini, entropy, etc.



# Drawback of Confidence

Custo mers	Tea	Coffee	...
C1	0	1	...
C2	1	0	...
C3	1	1	...
C4	1	0	...
...			

	<i>Coffee</i>	$\overline{Coffee}$	
<i>Tea</i>	150	50	200
$\overline{Tea}$	650	150	800
	800	200	1000

Association Rule: Tea  $\rightarrow$  Coffee

Confidence  $\cong P(\text{Coffee}|\text{Tea}) = 150/200 = 0.75$

Confidence > 50%, meaning people who drink tea are more likely to drink coffee than not drink coffee

So rule seems reasonable

# Drawback of Confidence

	Coffee	<u>Coffee</u>	
Tea	150	50	200
<u>Tea</u>	650	150	800
	800	200	1000

Association Rule: Tea  $\rightarrow$  Coffee

$$\text{Confidence} = P(\text{Coffee}|\text{Tea}) = 150/200 = 0.75$$

but  $P(\text{Coffee}) = 0.8$ , which means knowing that a person drinks tea reduces the probability that the person drinks coffee!

$\Rightarrow$  Note that  $P(\text{Coffee}|\overline{\text{Tea}}) = 650/800 = 0.8125$

# Drawback of Confidence

Custo mers	Tea	Honey	...
C1	0	1	...
C2	1	0	...
C3	1	1	...
C4	1	0	...
...			

	<i>Honey</i>	$\overline{Honey}$	
<i>Tea</i>	100	100	200
$\overline{Tea}$	20	780	800
	120	880	1000

**Association Rule: Tea  $\rightarrow$  Honey**

Confidence  $\cong P(\text{Honey}|\text{Tea}) = 100/200 = 0.50$

Confidence = 50%, which may mean that drinking tea has little influence whether honey is used or not

So rule seems uninteresting

But  $P(\text{Honey}) = 120/1000 = .12$  (hence tea drinkers are far more likely to have honey)

# Measure for Association Rules

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- So, what kind of rules do we really want?
  - Confidence( $X \rightarrow Y$ ) should be sufficiently high
    - ◆ To ensure that people who buy X will more likely buy Y than not buy Y
  - Confidence( $X \rightarrow Y$ ) > support(Y)
    - ◆ Otherwise, rule will be misleading because having item X actually reduces the chance of having item Y in the same transaction
    - ◆ Is there any measure that capture this constraint?
      - Answer: Yes. There are many of them.

# Statistical Relationship between X and Y

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- The criterion  
 $\text{confidence}(X \rightarrow Y) = \text{support}(Y)$

is equivalent to:

- $P(Y|X) = P(Y)$
- $P(X,Y) = P(X) \times P(Y)$  (X and Y are independent)

If  $P(X,Y) > P(X) \times P(Y)$  : X & Y occur with more expectation

If  $P(X,Y) < P(X) \times P(Y)$  : X & Y occur with low expectation

## Measures that take into account statistical dependence

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

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

lift is used for rules while  
interest is used for itemsets

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

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

# Example: Lift/Interest

	Coffee	<u>Coffee</u>	
Tea	150	50	200
<u>Tea</u>	650	150	800
	800	200	1000

Association Rule: Tea  $\rightarrow$  Coffee

Confidence =  $P(\text{Coffee}|\text{Tea}) = 0.75$

but  $P(\text{Coffee}) = 0.8$

$\Rightarrow$  Interest =  $0.15 / (0.2 \times 0.8) = 0.9375$  ( $< 1$ , therefore is negatively associated)

So, is it enough to use confidence/Interest for pruning?

**There are lots of measures proposed in the literature**

Measure (Symbol)	Definition
Correlation ( $\phi$ )	$\frac{N f_{11} - f_{1+} f_{+1}}{\sqrt{f_{1+} f_{+1} f_{0+} f_{+0}}}$
Odds ratio ( $\alpha$ )	$(f_{11} f_{00}) / (f_{10} f_{01})$
Kappa ( $\kappa$ )	$\frac{N f_{11} + N f_{00} - f_{1+} f_{+1} - f_{0+} f_{+0}}{N^2 - f_{1+} f_{+1} - f_{0+} f_{+0}}$
Interest ( $I$ )	$(N f_{11}) / (f_{1+} f_{+1})$
Cosine ( $IS$ )	$(f_{11}) / (\sqrt{f_{1+} f_{+1}})$
Piatetsky-Shapiro ( $PS$ )	$\frac{f_{11}}{N} - \frac{f_{1+} f_{+1}}{N^2}$
Collective strength ( $S$ )	$\frac{f_{11} + f_{00}}{f_{1+} f_{+1} + f_{0+} f_{+0}} \times \frac{N - f_{1+} f_{+1} - f_{0+} f_{+0}}{N - f_{11} - f_{00}}$
Jaccard ( $\zeta$ )	$f_{11} / (f_{1+} + f_{+1} - f_{11})$
All-confidence ( $h$ )	$\min \left[ \frac{f_{11}}{f_{1+}}, \frac{f_{11}}{f_{+1}} \right]$