**Tour of Data Mining Algorithms**

Implementation Project

The Apriori algorithm has been fully implemented. The implementation is composed of an Apriori class, a HashTree class, classes that make up the components of the hash tree, including Item and ItemSet classes. The implementation works primarily by making calls to the HashTree class, in order to manipulate the hash trees storing frequent itemsets and their occurrence counts.

Various problems were encountered during development of the Apriori implementation. Certain aspects of the algorithm’s behavior were unclear from the documentation, with further research failing to produce further clarification. As a result, some decisions and assumptions were made in order to complete the implementation.

One such issue was how an itemset should be added to the hash tree. The algorithm sets a limit on the number of itemsets a leaf node may store (max bucket size). When the bucket limit has been reached and another itemset is to be added to that bucket, the algorithm is to convert the node into an interior hash node, and split the itemsets in the bucket among new child nodes. To determine which child nodes to assign the itemsets to, the itemsets are hashed on their next item. But what happens when there is no next item to hash? Our implementation handles this by simply exceeding the bucket size limit in this case.

Another point of uncertainty was regarding whether or not a sepearate hash tree should be created for itemsets of a particular length. In other words, should there be a 1-itemset tree, a 2-itemset tree, and so on? For our implementation, this was the route we went, resulting in multiple hash trees.

The command line interface for our project has also been implemnted fully for Apriori. The Apache Commons CLI library was used to create the command line interface. When calling the program from the command line, the algorithm and input file must be specified, along with algorithm-specific options such as the minimum support for an itemset to be considered frequent by the Apriori algorithm. Optional options may be specified, such as specifying a specific name for the output file, or specifying the delimiter used to separate attributes in the input file. A help message is also provided when the help option is given, or when invalid or incomplete options are specified.

Need to include A Reference section that list all references that are relevant to your project (published papers/books, sources of algorithms and data sets, etc.)