

#### **Lecture Outline**



- Basic Concepts
- Closed Patterns and Max-Patterns
- Frequent Pattern Mining: Apriori Algorithm
- Association Rule Mining
- Challenges and Efficiency Improvement for Frequent Pattern Mining

#### **Data Warehouse Usage**



#### Three kinds of data warehouse applications

- Information processing
  - supports querying, basic statistical analysis, and reporting using crosstabs, tables, charts and graphs
- Analytical processing
  - multidimensional analysis of data warehouse data
  - supports basic OLAP operations, slice-dice, drilling, pivoting
- Data mining
  - knowledge discovery from hidden patterns
  - supports associations, constructing analytical models, performing classification and prediction, and presenting the mining results using visualization tools.
- Differences among the three tasks

# What is Pattern Analysis

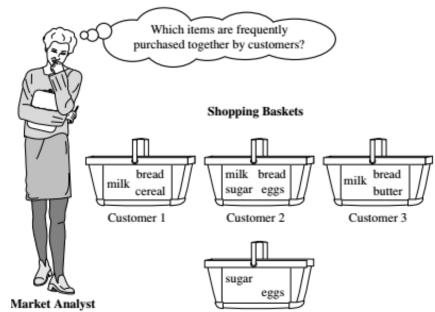


 Frequent Pattern: a set of items, subsequences, substructures that occurs frequently together (or strongly correlated) in a data set

Frequent pattern first proposed in the context of frequent itemsets and

association rule mining

- Motivation examples:
  - What products were often purchased together?
  - What are the subsequent purchases after buying an iPad?



– What word sequences likely form phrases in this corpus?

# **Why is Pattern Mining Important**



- Frequent pattern: An intrinsic and important property of datasets.
- Uncovering patterns from massive data sets
- Foundation for many essential data mining tasks
  - Association, correlation, and causality analysis
  - Mining sequential, structural (e.g. sub-graph) patterns
  - Pattern analysis in spatiotemporal, multimedia, time-series, and stream data
  - Classification: discriminative pattern-based analysis
  - Cluster analysis: pattern-based sub-space clustering
- Broad applications
  - Basket data analysis, cross-marketing, catalog design, sale campaign analysis, Web log (click through rate) analysis, and DNA sequence analysis.

# **Basic Concepts: Frequent Patterns**



- itemset: A set of one or more items
- k-itemset  $X = \{x_1, ..., x_k\}$ - 2-itemset, e.g.  $X = \{Beer, Diaper\}$
- (absolute) support (count) of X:
   Frequency or occurrence of an itemset X
- (relative) support, is the fraction of transactions that contains X (i.e. the probability that a transaction contains X)

Tid	Items Bought
t1	Beer, Nuts, Diaper
t2	Beer, Coffee, Diaper
t3	Beer, Diaper, Eggs
t4	Nuts, Eggs, Milk
t5	Nuts, Coffee, Diaper, Eggs, Milk

#### **Supports of Itermsets**



- (absolute) support (count) of X, sup{X}: Frequency or the number of occurrences of an itemset X
  - Ex. sup{Beer} = 3
  - Ex. sup{Diaper} = 4
  - Ex. sup{Beer, Diaper} = 3
  - Ex. sup{Beer, Eggs} = 1

Tid	Items Bought
t1	Beer, Nuts, Diaper
t2	Beer, Coffee, Diaper
t3	Beer, Diaper, Eggs
t4	Nuts, Eggs, Milk
t5	Nuts, Coffee, Diaper, Eggs, Milk

- (relative) support, s{X}: The fraction of transactions that contains X (i.e. the probability that a transaction contains X)
  - $\Box$  Ex. s{Beer} = 3/5 = 60%
  - $\Box$  Ex. s{Diaper} = 4/5 = 80%
  - Ex. s{Beer, Eggs} = 1/5 = 20%

# **Basic Concepts: Frequent Patterns**



- itemset: A set of one or more items
- k-itemset  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ 
  - 2-itemset, e.g.  $X = \{Beer, Diaper\}$
- (absolute) support (count) of X:
   Frequency or occurrence of an itemset X
- (relative) support, is the fraction of transactions that contains X (i.e. the probability that a transaction contains X)
- An itemset X is frequent if X's support is no less than a minsup threshold

Tid	Items Bought	
t1	Beer, Nuts, Diaper	
t2	Beer, Coffee, Diaper	
t3	Beer, Diaper, Eggs	
t4	Nuts, Eggs, Milk	
t5	Nuts, Coffee, Diaper, Eggs, Milk	

- items: Beer, Nuts, Diaper, Coffee, Eggs, Milk
- Let minsup = 50%
- Freq. 1-itemsets:
  - Beer:3(60%); Nuts:3(60%);Diaper:4(80%); Eggs:3(60%)
- Freq. 2-itemsets:
  - {Beer, Diaper}:3(60%)

#### **Your Turn!**



Tid	Items Bought
t1	a, b, c
t2	a, b, c, d
t3	b, c, e
t4	a, c, d, e
t5	d, e

Assume sup{X} represents absolute support for itemset X; s{X} represents relative support for itemset X.

sup{b, c}=	s{b, c}=
sup{a, b, c}=	s{a, b, c}=
$\sup\{b, c, d\}=$	s{b, c, d}=
sup{a, b, c, d}=	s{a, b, c, d}=
sup{a, b, c, d, e}=	s{a, b, c, d, e}=

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# **There Are Too Many Frequent Patterns!**



- A long pattern contains a combinatorial number of sub-patterns
- How many frequent itemsets does the following TDB<sub>1</sub> contain?
  - $TDB_{1:}$   $T_1: \{a_1, ..., a_{50}\}; T_2: \{a_1, ..., a_{100}\}$
  - Assuming (absolute) minsup = 1
  - Let's have a try

1-itemsets: {a<sub>1</sub>}: 2, {a<sub>2</sub>}: 2, ..., {a<sub>50</sub>}: 2, {a<sub>51</sub>}: 1, ..., {a<sub>100</sub>}: 1,

2-itemsets: {a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>}: 2, ..., {a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>50</sub>}: 2, {a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>51</sub>}: 1 ..., ..., {a<sub>99</sub>, a<sub>100</sub>}: 1,

..., ..., ..., ...

99-itemsets: {a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>, ..., a<sub>99</sub>}: 1, ..., {a<sub>2</sub>, a<sub>3</sub>, ..., a<sub>100</sub>}: 1

100-itemset: {a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>, ..., a<sub>100</sub>}: 1

The total number of frequent itemsets:

$$\binom{100}{1} + \binom{100}{2} + \binom{100}{3} + \dots + \binom{100}{100} = 2^{100} - 1$$

A too huge set for any one to compute or store!

# **Expressing Patterns in Compressed Form: Closed Patterns**



#### How to handle such a challenge?

- Solution 1: Closed patterns: A pattern (itemset) X is closed if X is frequent and there exists no super-pattern Y ⊃ X, with the same support as X.
  - Let Transaction DB TDB<sub>1</sub>:  $T_1$ : { $a_1$ , ...,  $a_{50}$ };  $T_2$ : { $a_1$ , ...,  $a_{100}$ }
  - Suppose minsup = 1. How many closed patterns does TDB<sub>1</sub> contain?
    - Two:  $P_1$ : "{ $a_1$ , ...,  $a_{50}$ }: 2";  $P_2$ : "{ $a_1$ , ...,  $a_{100}$ }: 1"
- Closed pattern is a lossless compression of frequent patterns
  - Reduces the # of patterns but does not lose the support information!
  - You will still be able to say: "{a<sub>2</sub>, ..., a<sub>40</sub>}: 2", "{a<sub>5</sub>, a<sub>51</sub>}: 1"

# Expressing Patterns in Compressed Form: Max-Patterns



- Solution 2: Max-patterns: A pattern (itemset) X is a max-pattern if X is frequent and there exists no frequent super-pattern  $Y \supset X$ .
- Difference from close-patterns?
  - Do not care the real support of the sub-patterns of a max-pattern
  - Let Transaction DB TDB<sub>1</sub>:  $T_1$ : {a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>50</sub>};  $T_2$ : {a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>100</sub>}
  - Suppose minsup = 1. How many max-patterns does TDB₁ contain?
    - One: P: "{a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>100</sub>}: 1"
- Max-pattern is a lossy compression!
  - We only know  $\{a_1, ..., a_{40}\}$  is frequent
  - But we do not know the real support of  $\{a_1, ..., a_{40}\}, ...,$  any more!
- Thus in many applications, mining close-patterns is more desirable than mining max-patterns

#### **Your Turn!**



Tid	Items Bought
t1	a, b, c
t2	a, b, c, d
t3	b, c, e
t4	a, c, d, e
t5	d, e

Is {b, c} closed? Is {a, b} closed?

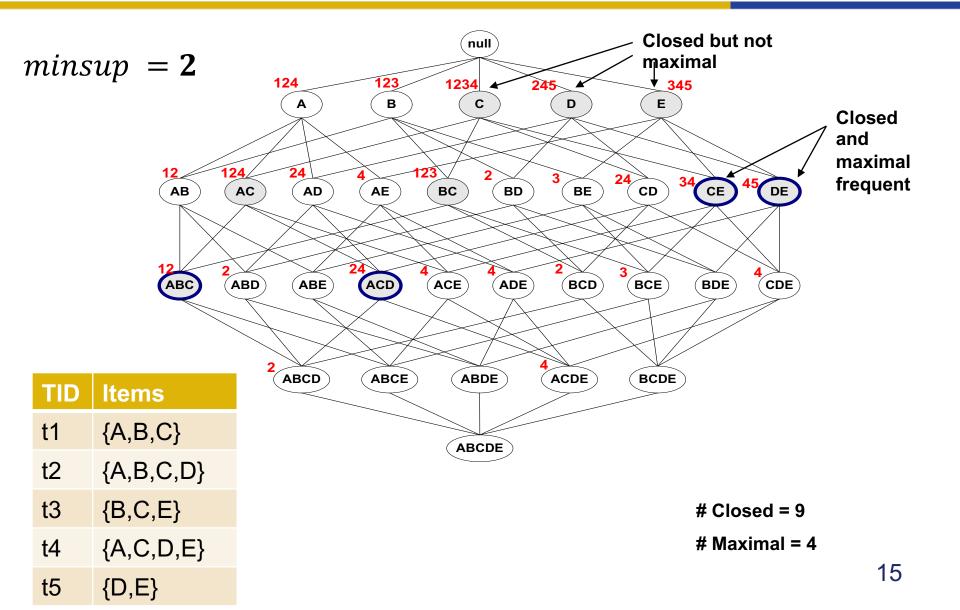
$$\sup\{b, c\}=$$

$$\sup\{a, b\}=$$

$$\sup\{b, c, d\}=$$

# Maximal vs. Closed Frequent Itemsets



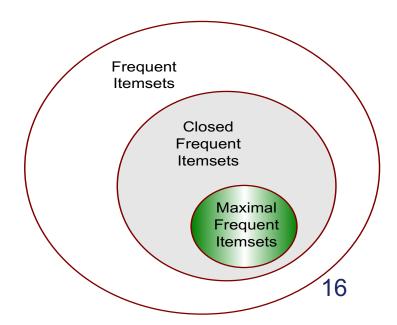


#### Max vs. Closed Patterns



- Closed Patterns are <u>Lossless</u>: the support for any frequent itemset can be deduced from the closed frequent itemsets.
- Max-pattern is a lossy compression. We only know all its subsets are frequent but not the real support.
- Thus in many applications, mining closed-patterns is more desirable than mining max-patterns.

We have closed but not max patterns, but all max patterns are closed patterns.



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# How to mine frequent itemsets?

# The Downward Closure Property of Frequent Patterns



#### Observation:

Suppose we have only two transactions and min\_sup = 1

TID	Items	
t1	$\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{100}\}$	
t2	$\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{50}\}$	

```
From TDB<sub>1:</sub> T<sub>1</sub>: {a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>50</sub>}; T<sub>2</sub>: {a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>100</sub>}
We get a frequent itemset: {a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>50</sub>}
Also, its subsets are all frequent: {a<sub>1</sub>}, {a<sub>2</sub>}, ..., {a<sub>50</sub>}, {a<sub>1</sub>, a<sub>2</sub>}, ..., {a<sub>1</sub>, ..., a<sub>49</sub>}, ...
```

There must be some hidden relationships among frequent patterns!

# **Key Observation (monotonicity)**



- Any subset of a frequent itemset must also be frequent:
   Downward closure property (also called Apriori propery)
  - If {beer, diaper, nuts} is frequent, so is {beer, diaper}
- Efficient mining methodology: Apriori pruning principle
  - Any superset of an infrequent itemset must also be infrequent.
  - If any subset of an itemset S is infrequent, then there is no chance for S to be frequent—we don't need to consider S!

A sharp knife for pruning!

# **Apriori: A Candidate Generation & Test Approach**



- Outline of Apriori
  - level-wise, candidate generation and testing
- Method:
  - 1. Initially, scan the database once to get frequent 1-itemset; k=1
  - 2. Repeat
    - a) Generate length (k+1) candidate itemsets from length k frequent itemsets
    - b) Test the candidates against the database to find frequent (k+1) itemsets
    - c) Set k=k+1
  - 3. Terminate when no frequent or candidate set can be generated
  - 4. Return all the frequent itemsets

# The Apriori Algorithm (Pseudo-Code)



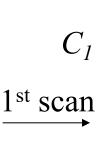
```
C_k: candidate k-itemsets
F_k: frequent k-itemsets
k = 1;
F_1 = \{\text{frequent items}\}; //\text{frequent 1-itemset}
for (k = 2; F_k = 1! = \emptyset; k + +) do{
   /** candidates generation **/
  C_k = \{\text{candidates generated from } F_k = {1};
  /** F_{k+1} = candidates in C_{k+1} with minsup **/
   Derive F_k by counting candidates in C_k w.r.t. DB at minsup;
return \bigcup_k F_k;
```

# The Apriori Algorithm—An Example





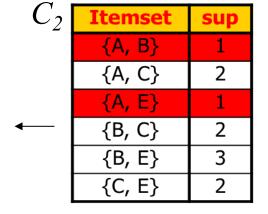
Tid	Items	
10	A, C, D	
20	В, С, Е	
30	A, B, C, E	
40	B, E	



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

	Itemset	sup
$F_1$	{A}	2
	{B}	3
<b></b>	{C}	3
	{E}	3

$\Gamma$	Itemset	sup
$ F_2 $	{A, C}	2
	{B, C}	2
	{B, E}	3
	{C, E}	2
/		



 $C_2$ 2<sup>nd</sup> scan

Itemset
{A, B}
{A, C}
{A, E}
{B, C}
{B, E}
{C, E}

 $C_3$ 

**Itemset** {B, C, E}

 $3^{\text{rd}} \text{ scan} \rightarrow F_3$ 

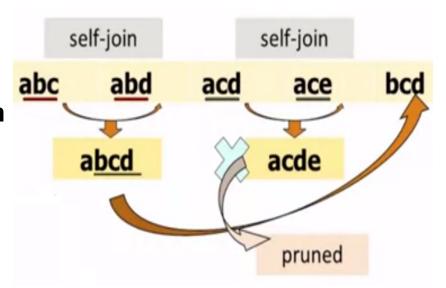
Itemset	sup
{B, C, E}	2

Self-join: members of  $F_{k-1}$  are joinable if their first (k-2) items are in common

# **Apriori Implementation Trick**



- How to generate candidates?
  - **Step 1**: self-joining  $F_k$
  - Step 2: pruning
- Example of Candidate-generation
  - $-F_3=\{abc, abd, acd, ace, bcd\}$
  - Self-joining: F<sub>3</sub>\*F<sub>3</sub>
    - abcd from abc and abd
    - acde from acd and ace
  - Pruning:
    - acde is removed because ade is not in F<sub>3</sub>
  - $-C_4 = \{abcd\}$



#### **Another Example (minsup=2)**

Generate  $C_2$ 

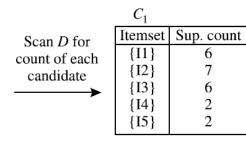
candidates

from  $L_1$ 



Transactional Data for an AllElectronics Branch

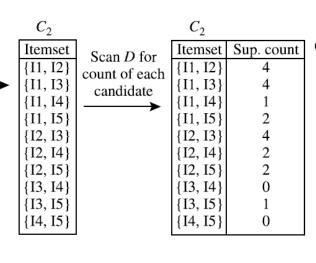
TID	List of item_IDs
T100	I1, I2, I5
T200	I2, I4
T300	12, 13
T400	I1, I2, I4
T500	I1, I3
T600	I2, I3
T700	I1, I3
T800	11, 12, 13, 15
T900	I1, I2, I3



Compare candidate support count with minimum support count  $\begin{bmatrix} L_1 \\ Items \\ I1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\begin{bmatrix} I1 \\ I2 \end{bmatrix}$ 

$L_1$	
Itemset	Sup. count
{I1}	6
{I2}	7
{I3}	6
{I4}	2
{I5}	2

$\{I1,I2\} \Rightarrow I5,$	confidence = 2/4 = 50%
$\{I1,I5\} \Rightarrow I2,$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%
$\{I2,I5\} \Rightarrow I1,$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%
$I1 \Rightarrow \{I2, I5\},$	confidence = 2/6 = 33%
$I2 \Rightarrow \{I1, I5\},$	confidence = 2/7 = 29%
$I5 \Rightarrow \{I1, I2\},\$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%



Compare candidate support count with minimum support count  $\begin{array}{c|c} L_2 \\ \hline Itemset \mid Su \\ \hline \{I1, I2\} \\ \hline \{I1, I3\} \\ \hline \{I1, I5\} \\ \hline \{I2, I3\} \\ \hline \{I2, I4\} \\ \end{array}$ 

 Itemset
 Sup. count

 {I1, I2}
 4

 {I1, I3}
 4

 {I1, I5}
 2

 {I2, I3}
 4

 {I2, I4}
 2

 {I2, I5}
 2

	$C_3$		$C_3$	(	Compare candidate	$L_3$	
Generate $C_3$	Itemset	Scan D for	Itemset	Sup. count	support count	Itemset	Sup. count
candidates	{I1, I2, I3}	count of each	{I1, I2, I3}	2	with minimum	{I1, I2, I3}	2
from $L_2$		candidate			support count		
<b>→</b>	$\{I1, I2, I5\}$	<b>→</b>	$\{I1, I2, I5\}$	2	<b>→</b>	{I1, I2, I5}	2
					'		0.5

#### **Self-Join and Pruning**



- (a) Join:  $C_3 = L_2 \bowtie L_2 = \{\{I1, I2\}, \{I1, I3\}, \{I1, I5\}, \{I2, I3\}, \{I2, I4\}, \{I2, I5\}\}\}$  $\bowtie \{\{I1, I2\}, \{I1, I3\}, \{I1, I5\}, \{I2, I3\}, \{I2, I4\}, \{I2, I5\}\}\}$   $= \{\{I1, I2, I3\}, \{I1, I2, I5\}, \{I1, I3, I5\}, \{I2, I3, I4\}, \{I2, I3, I5\}, \{I2, I4, I5\}\}.$
- (b) Prune using the Apriori property: All nonempty subsets of a frequent itemset must also be frequent. Do any of the candidates have a subset that is not frequent?
  - The 2-item subsets of  $\{I1, I2, I3\}$  are  $\{I1, I2\}$ ,  $\{I1, I3\}$ , and  $\{I2, I3\}$ . All 2-item subsets of  $\{I1, I2, I3\}$  are members of  $L_2$ . Therefore, keep  $\{I1, I2, I3\}$  in  $C_3$ .
  - The 2-item subsets of  $\{I1, I2, I5\}$  are  $\{I1, I2\}$ ,  $\{I1, I5\}$ , and  $\{I2, I5\}$ . All 2-item subsets of  $\{I1, I2, I5\}$  are members of  $L_2$ . Therefore, keep  $\{I1, I2, I5\}$  in  $C_3$ .
  - The 2-item subsets of  $\{I1, I3, I5\}$  are  $\{I1, I3\}$ ,  $\{I1, I5\}$ , and  $\{I3, I5\}$ .  $\{I3, I5\}$  is not a member of  $L_2$ , and so it is not frequent. Therefore, remove  $\{I1, I3, I5\}$  from  $C_3$ .
  - The 2-item subsets of  $\{I2, I3, I4\}$  are  $\{I2, I3\}$ ,  $\{I2, I4\}$ , and  $\{I3, I4\}$ .  $\{I3, I4\}$  is not a member of  $L_2$ , and so it is not frequent. Therefore, remove  $\{I2, I3, I4\}$  from  $C_3$ .
  - The 2-item subsets of  $\{I2, I3, I5\}$  are  $\{I2, I3\}$ ,  $\{I2, I5\}$ , and  $\{I3, I5\}$ .  $\{I3, I5\}$  is not a member of  $L_2$ , and so it is not frequent. Therefore, remove  $\{I2, I3, I5\}$  from  $C_3$ .
  - The 2-item subsets of  $\{I2, I4, I5\}$  are  $\{I2, I4\}$ ,  $\{I2, I5\}$ , and  $\{I4, I5\}$ .  $\{I4, I5\}$  is not a member of  $L_2$ , and so it is not frequent. Therefore, remove  $\{I2, I4, I5\}$  from  $C_3$ .
- (c) Therefore,  $C_3 = \{\{I1, I2, I3\}, \{I1, I2, I5\}\}$  after pruning.

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# **Basic Concepts: Association Rules**



Find all the rules  $X \Rightarrow Y$  with minimum support and confidence, T is a set of transactions  $T = \{t_1, \dots, t_n\}$ , X and Y are items in each transaction,  $X, Y \in t_i$ .

- support, s, probability that a transaction contains  $\{X\} \cup \{Y\}$ 

$$\mathbf{support}(\mathbf{X} \Longrightarrow \mathbf{Y}) = \mathbf{P}(T_X \cap T_Y) = \mathbf{P}(\{X\} \cup \{Y\})$$

where  $T_X \subseteq T$  is the subset transactions that contain item X; and  $T_Y \subseteq T$  is the subset transactions that contain item Y

 confidence, c, conditional probability that a transaction having X also contains Y

$$confidence(X \Rightarrow Y) = P(Y|X) = \frac{support(X \cup Y)}{support(X)} = \frac{support\_count(X \cup Y)}{support\_count(X)}$$

Note:  $X \cup Y$  is the union of two items. The set  $\{X \cup Y\}$  contains **both** X and Y. The set of transactions containing  $\{X \cup Y\}$  is the intersection of the transactions containing  $\{X\}$  and the transactions containing  $\{Y\}$ .

# **Basic Concepts: Association Rules**



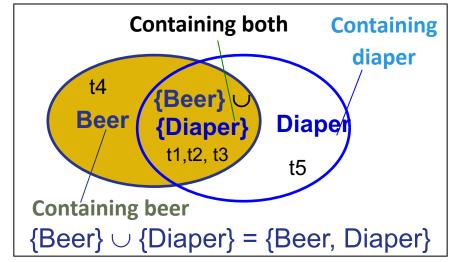
- Find all the rules X ⇒ Y with minimum support and confidence
  - support, s, probability that a transaction contains  $X \cup Y$
  - confidence, c, conditional probability that a transaction having X also contains Y

Let minsup = 50%, minconf = 50% Frequent itemsets:

{Beer}: **4**, {Nuts}: 3, {Diaper}: 4, {Eggs}: 3, {Beer, Diaper}: 3

Association rules: (many more...!)  $Beer \Rightarrow Diaper (60\%, 75\%)$   $Diaper \Rightarrow Beer (60\%, 75\%)$ 

Tid	Items Bought
t1	Beer, Nuts, Diaper
t2	Beer, Coffee, Diaper
t3	Beer, Diaper, Eggs
t4	Beer, Nuts, Eggs, Milk
t5	Nuts, Coffee, Diaper, Eggs, Milk



#### **Another Example (minsup=2)**

Generate  $C_2$ 

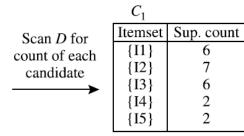
candidates

from  $L_1$ 



Transactional Data for an AllElectronics Branch

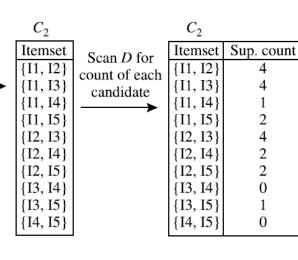
TID	List of item_IDs
T100	I1, I2, I5
T200	I2, I4
T300	12, 13
T400	I1, I2, I4
T500	I1, I3
T600	12, 13
T700	I1, I3
T800	I1, I2, I3, I5
T900	I1, I2, I3



Compare candidate support count with minimum support count

$L_1$	
Itemset	Sup. count
{I1}	6
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{I3}	6
{I4}	2
{I5}	2

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$I5 \Rightarrow \{I1, I2\},\$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%



	$C_3$		$C_3$	(	Compare candidate	$L_3$	
Generate $C_3$	Itemset	Scan D for	Itemset	Sup. count	support count	Itemset	Sup. count
candidates	{I1, I2, I3}	count of each	{I1, I2, I3}	2	with minimum	{I1, I2, I3}	2
from $L_2$		candidate			support count		
<b>→</b>	$\{I1, I2, I5\}$	<b></b>	$\{I1, I2, I5\}$	2	<b>→</b>	{I1, I2, I5}	2
					•		20

# **Mining Association Rules**



- For each frequent itemset F, generate all nonempty subsets of F.
- For every nonempty subset s of F, output the rule

"
$$s \Rightarrow (F - s)$$
" if  $\frac{support\_count(F)}{support\_count(s)} \ge \min\_conf$ 

- Example
  - Frequent itemset  $F = \{I1, I2, I5\}$
  - Nonempty subset (proper subset){I1, I2}, {I2, I5}, {I1, I5}, {I1}, {I2}, {I5}

TID	List of item_IDs		
T100	I1, I2, I5	$\{I1,I2\} \Rightarrow I5,$	confidence = 2/4 = 50%
T200	I2, I4	$\{I1,I5\} \Rightarrow I2,$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%
T300	I2, I3	, ,	
T400	I1, I2, I4	$\{I2,I5\} \Rightarrow I1,$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%
T500	I1, I3	$I1 \Rightarrow \{I2, I5\},$	confidence = 2/6 = 33%
T600	I2, I3		,
T700	I1, I3	$I2 \Rightarrow \{I1, I5\},$	confidence = 2/7 = 29%
T800	I1, I2, I3, I5	$I5 \Rightarrow \{I1, I2\},$	confidence = 2/2 = 100%
T900	I1, I2, I3	-	,

#### Strong Rules are not necessarily interesting



- Association rules that satisfy both a minimum support threshold (min\_sup) and a minimum confidence threshold (min\_conf) are called **strong**.
- Let *game* refer to the transactions containing computer games, and *video* refer to those containing videos.
- Of the 10,000 transactions analysed,
  - 6,000 of the customer transactions included computer games,
  - 7,500 included videos, and
  - 4,000 included both computer games and videos.
- minsup = 30% and minconf = 60%

$$buys(X, "computer games") \Rightarrow buys(X, "videos")$$

$$[support = 40\%, confidence = 66\%].$$
But p(videos) = 75%

# **Association to Correlation Analysis**



 $A \Rightarrow B$  [support, confidence, correlation].

#### Lift

- Assesses the degree to which the occurrence of one "lifts" the occurrence of the other.  $P(A \cup B)$
- Computed by:

$$lift(A, B) = \frac{P(A \cup B)}{P(A)P(B)}.$$

- If lift < 1, then occurrence of A is negatively correlated with B;
- If lift > 1, then occurrence of A is positively correlated with B;
- If lift = 1, then occurrence of A is independent of B;

$$P(\{game, video\})/(P(\{game\}) \times P(\{video\})) = 0.40/(0.60 \times 0.75) = 0.89$$

#### **Lecture Outline**



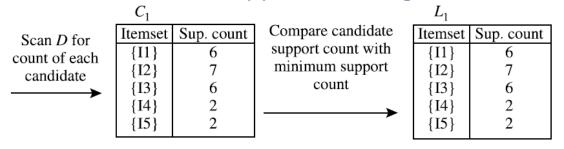
- Basic Concepts
- Closed Patterns and Max-Patterns
- Frequent Pattern Mining: Apriori Algorithm
- Association Rule Mining
- Challenges and Efficiency Improvement for Frequent Pattern Mining

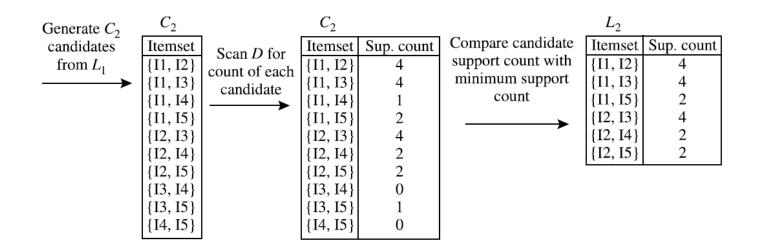
# **Challenges of Frequent Pattern Mining**



#### Challenges

- Multiple scans of transaction database
- Huge number of candidates
- Tedious workload of support counting for candidates





# **Challenges of Frequent Pattern Mining**

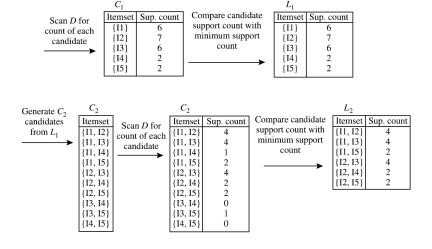


#### Challenges

- Multiple scans of transaction database
- Huge number of candidates
- Tedious workload of support counting for candidates

#### Improving Apriori: general ideas

- Reduce passes of transaction database scans
- Shrink number of candidates
- Facilitate support counting of candidates



#### **Apriori: Improvements and Alternatives**



#### Reduce passes of transaction database scans

- Partitioning (e.g. Savasere, et al., 1995)
- Dynamic itemset counting (DIC) (Brin, et al.,1997)

#### Shrink the number of candidates

- Hash-based technique (e.g., DHP: Park, et al., 1995)
- Transaction reduction (e.g., Bayardo 1998)
- Sampling (e.g., Toivonen, 1996)

#### **Transaction Reduction**



 Any transaction that does not contain any frequent k-itemsets cannot contain any frequent (k+1)-itemsets and such a transaction

may be marked or removed.

Frequent items F<sub>1</sub> are {A}, {B}, {D}, {M}, {T}. We are not able to use these to eliminate any transactions since all transactions have at least one of the items in F<sub>1</sub>.

• The frequent 2-itemsets  $C_2$  are  $\{A, B\}$  and  $\{B, M\}$ . How can we reduce transactions using these?

F	TID	Items bought		
	001	B, M, T, Y		
	002	B, M		
(	003	T, S, P		
	004	A, B, C, D		
(	005	A, B		
(	006	T, Y, E		
(	007	A, B, M		
	800	B, C, D, T, P		
(	009	D, T, S		
	010	A, B, M		

# Sampling [Toivonen, 1995]



- A random sample (usually large enough to fit in the main memory) may be obtained from the overall set of transactions and the sample is searched for frequent itemsets. These frequent itemsets are called sample frequent itemsets.
- Not guaranteed to be accurate but we sacrifice accuracy for efficiency. A lower support threshold may be used for the sample to ensure not missing any frequent datasets.
- Sample size is small such that the search for frequent itemsets for the sample can be done in main memory.

# **Summary**



- Frequent patterns
- Closed Patterns and Max-Patterns
- Apriori algorithm for mining frequent patterns
- Association Rule Mining
- (Aside) Improving the efficiency of Apriori: Transaction Reduction, Sampling

#### Reference



- Han et al.'s book
  - The lecture content is mainly based on Chapter 6.
  - Chapter 7 contains advanced techniques in pattern mining.
- Readings
  - The story of "Beer and Diaper".

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