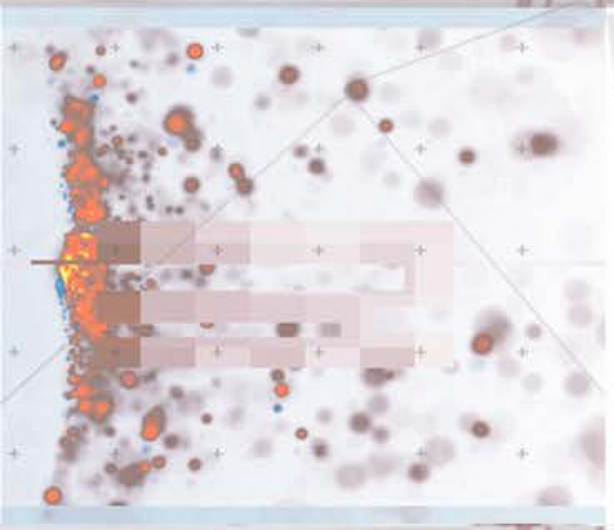

The Downward Closure Property of Frequent Patterns

The Downward Closure Property of Frequent Patterns

- Observation: From TDB_1: T_1: $\{a_1, \ldots, a_{50}\}$; T_2: $\{a_1, \ldots, a_{100}\}$
  - We get a frequent itemset: $\{a_1, \ldots, a_{50}\}$
  - Also, its subsets are all frequent: $\{a_1\}$, $\{a_2\}$, …, $\{a_{50}\}$, $\{a_1, a_2\}$, …, $\{a_1, \ldots, a_{49}\}$, …
  - There must be some hidden relationships among frequent patterns!
- The downward closure (also called "Apriori") property of frequent patterns
  - If **{beer, diaper, nuts}** is frequent, so is **{beer, diaper}**
  - Every transaction containing {beer, diaper, nuts} also contains {beer, diaper}
  - Apriori: Any subset of a frequent itemset must be frequent
- Efficient mining methodology
  - If any subset of an itemset S is infrequent, then there is no chance for S to be frequent—why do we even have to consider S!? A sharp knife for pruning!

Apriori Pruning and Scalable Mining Methods

- Apriori pruning principle: If there is any itemset which is infrequent, its superset should not even be generated! (Agrawal & Srikant @VLDB'94, Mannila, et al. @ KDD' 94)
- Scalable mining Methods: Three major approaches
  - Level-wise, join-based approach: Apriori (Agrawal & Srikant@VLDB'94)
  - Vertical data format approach: Eclat (Zaki, Parthasarathy, Ogihara, Li @KDD'97)
  - Frequent pattern projection and growth: FPgrowth (Han, Pei, Yin @SIGMOD'00)