

Apriori: A Candidate Generation & Test Approach

- Outline of Apriori (level-wise, candidate generation and test)
 - Initially, scan DB once to get frequent 1-itemset
 - Repeat
 - □ Generate length-(k+1) candidate itemsets from length-k frequent itemsets
 - Test the candidates against DB to find frequent (k+1)-itemsets
 - Set k := k +1
 - Until no frequent or candidate set can be generated
 - Return all the frequent itemsets derived

The Apriori Algorithm (Pseudo-Code)

```
C_k: Candidate itemset of size k
F_k: Frequent itemset of size k
K := 1;
F_k := \{ \text{frequent items} \}; // \text{frequent 1-itemset} \}
While (F_k != \emptyset) do \{ // when F_k is non-empty
  C_{k+1} := candidates generated from F_k; // candidate generation
  Derive F_{k+1} by counting candidates in C_{k+1} with respect to TDB at minsup;
  k := k + 1
return \bigcup_k F_k // return F_k generated at each level
```

The Apriori Algorithm—An Example

Database TDB

Items

A, C, D

B, C, E

A, B, C, E

B, E

minsup = 2

2

1st scan

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

 $F_{1} \begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline I temset & sup \\ \hline & \{A\} & 2 \\ \hline & \{B\} & 3 \\ \hline & \{C\} & 3 \\ \hline & \{E\} & 3 \\ \hline \end{tabular}$

 F_2

Tid

10

20

30

40

Itemset	sup
{A, C}	2
{B, C}	2
{B, E}	3
{C, E}	2

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

C

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

 C_3 Itemset {B, C, E}

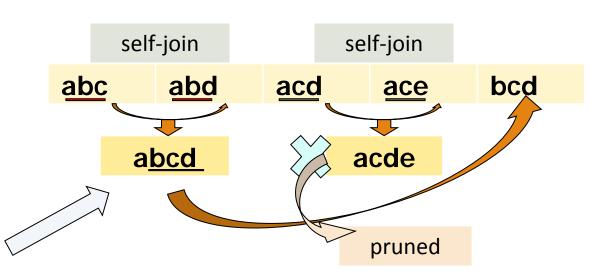
 3^{rd} scan F_3

Itemset	sup
{B, C, E}	2

2nd scan

Apriori: Implementation Tricks

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



Candidate Generation: An SQL Implementation

where $p.item_1 = q.item_1$, ..., $p.item_{k-2} = q.item_{k-2}$, $p.item_{k-1} < q.item_{k-1}$

- lacksquare Suppose the items in F_{k-1} are listed in an order
- Step 1: self-joining F_{k-1} insert into C_k select $p.item_1$, $p.item_2$, ..., $p.item_{k-1}$, $q.item_{k-1}$ from F_{k-1} as p, F_{k-1} as q
- Step 2: pruning for all *itemsets c in C_k* do for all *(k-1)-subsets s of c* do *if (s is not in F_{k-1})* **then delete** *c* **from** C_k