

Frequent Itemset Mining

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Mining

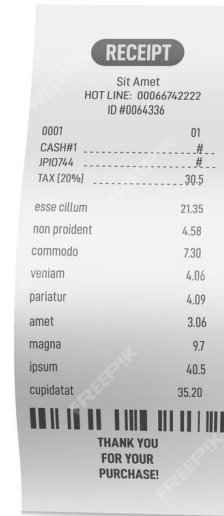
- Mining – Process of extracting something valuable
- Data Mining – Process of discovering patterns, correlations, anomalies, relationships within the data

- Consider a supermarket with a lot of products
- People buy stuff.
- In the bill – all products are **items**
- Sets of those products - **itemset**



Items

Itemsets



Recall the Example

Fathers

Who are sent to buy
diapers

Might pickup beers
for themselves.



Frequent Itemset Mining

- Goal: Find products frequently bought together.

Frequent itemsets

- Items which are frequently purchased together
- Meets a "minimum support" threshold in database.

- **Support:**
- How many times an itemset is in transactions
- Example: 10 out of 100 transactions show milk and bread together
 - → Support = 0.1 for {milk, bread}.

Overview

Role in Data Mining:

- Key foundation for numerous data mining tasks.
- Aids in detecting patterns such as association rules, correlations, sequences, and more.

Application:

- Popularly used for discovering association rules.
- Identifies sets of items or characteristics frequently co-occurring in databases.



Market-Basket Model

Market-Basket Model

Basket Composition:

- Contains a set of items known as an itemset.
- Number of items in a basket usually small compared to total items.
- Total baskets typically very large, often beyond main memory capacity.

Items and Baskets:

- Items aren't strictly "contained" in baskets.
- Focus on co-occurrences of items in relation to a basket.
- General definition:
 - $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$: Set of k items.
 - $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$: Set of n item subsets. Each b_i is a basket.

Market-Basket Model

- **Examples:**
- **Retail:**
 - I represents items in a store.
 - Each basket is a purchase transaction.
- **Document Basket:**
 - I includes dictionary words and proper nouns.
 - Each basket is a single document containing words from the document.

Frequent-Itemset Mining

- **Definitions:**

- $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$: Set of items.
- D : Task-relevant data consisting of database transactions.
- Each transaction T : A subset of items from I such that $T \subseteq I$.
- Every transaction has an identifier: TID – transaction id
- A transaction T contains set A if and only if $A \subseteq T$.

- **Itemset:**

- Collection of items.
- An itemset with k distinct items is termed a k -itemset.
- Example: {computer, anti-virus software, printer, flash-drive} is a 4-itemset.
- {Bread, butter, Milk} is a 3-itemset

Frequent-Itemset Mining

- **Occurrence Frequency:**

- Number of transactions that have the itemset.
- Also called **frequency**, **support count**, or **itemset count**.

- **Frequent Itemset:**

- An itemset is "frequent" if its support count meets a certain threshold.
- A minimum support s is defined.
- An itemset I with support $\geq s$ is deemed a frequent itemset.

Example

- Items = {milk (m), coke (c), pepsi (p), beer (b), juice (j)}
- Minimum support $s = 3$

Transactions

1.T1 = {m, c, b}

2.T2 = {m, p, j}

3.T3 = {m, b}

4.T4 = {c, j}

5.T5 = {m, p, b}

6.T6 = {m, c, b, j}

7.T7 = {c, b, j}

8.T8 = {b, c}

Find the Frequent Itemsets?

Transactions

- T1 = {m, c, b}
- T2 = {m, p, j}
- T3 = {m, b}
- T4 = {c, j}
- T5 = {m, p, b}
- T6 = {m, c, b, j}
- T7 = {c, b, j}
- T8 = {b, c}

Count support for individual item

Item	Count
m	5 (T1, T2, T3, T5, T6)
c	5 (T1, T4, T6, T7, T8)
b	6 (T1, T3, T5, T6, T7, T8)
p	2 (T2, T5)
j	4 (T2, T4, T6, T7)



{m}, {c}, {b}, {j}

Count the support for 2-itemsets

Itemset	Count	Transactions
{m, c}	3	T1, T6
{m, b}	4	T1, T3, T5, T6
{m, j}	2	T2, T6
{c, b}	5	T1, T6, T7, T8
{c, j}	3	T4, T6, T7
{b, j}	2	T6, T7



{m,b}, {c,b}, {c,j}

Count the support for 3-itemsets

Itemset	Count	Transactions
{m, c, b}	2	T1, T6
{m, c, j}	1	T6
{m, b, j}	1	T6
{c, b, j}	2	T6, T7



Nothing, all below 3

Applications - Offline Stores

Offline Stores

- Soaps on floor 1, Towels on floor 10
- High occurrence of baskets with both soaps and towels.

Strategies for store management

- On-the spot sales – Place some towels and bathing accessories with soaps on floor 1
- Pricing strategy – Put discount on soaps and raise price of towels

Applications - Online Commerce

- **Online – E-Retail like E-bay or Amazon**
- Scale – Millions of items and customers
- Can tailor offer even for individual customers
- **Market based strategy –**
 - Each basket represents items bought by a specific customer
 - Recommended items that other customers with similar basket purchased
- **Collaborative filtering –**
 - Finding customers with similar purchase
 - Recommend items based on what other customers bought but this customer hasn't.
- Scale implication
 - Even few instances of same itemset can be of value
 - Because offers can be personalised even for a single customer
 - Need Millions of pairs for diverse recommendation

Applications – Brick and Mortar Stores

- **Traditional street-side businesses**
- Scale – Limited by physical space and location
- **Market based strategy –**
 - Identify popular combinations
 - Organise store layout or promotions based on these combinations
- **Bulk Strategy**
 - Focus on items combinations bought by vast numbers
- Scale implication
 - Need thousands of occurrences of same interest to take action
 - Limited number of promotions or rearrangement possible due to physical constraints

Other Applications

- Customer transaction analysis
- Other data mining problems
 - Classification, clustering, outlier analysis
- Web mining
 - Processes web logs to determine browsing behaviour patterns.
 - Applications: Website design optimization, Making user-specific recommendations
- Software bug analysis
- Chemical and Biological analysis
 - Drug design
 - Genetic research

Association Rule Mining



Association Rule Mining

- Objective: Discover rules that indicate how certain items in a dataset relate to other items
- An Association Rule is typically represented as $I \rightarrow j$
 - Implying that if items in I appear in a transaction, j is likely to appear too

Formal Definition:

- $I = \{I_1, I_2, \dots, I_m\}$: Set of m distinct attributes or items.
- D : Database of transactions. Each transaction T is a set of items from I .
- Rule: $X \Rightarrow Y$, where both X and Y are itemsets from I , and $X \cap Y = \emptyset$.
 - X is the antecedent, and Y is the consequent.

Criteria for Rule Selection:

- Support – measures the rule's overall popularity in the dataset
- Confidence – Measures the rule's reliability

Association Rule Mining

Criteria for Rule Selection:

- Support – measures the rule's overall popularity in the dataset
- Confidence – Measures the rule's reliability

Support: A rule $X \Rightarrow Y$ is interesting if the union $X \cup Y$ is a frequent itemset.

- $support(X \cup Y) \geq \text{minimum support } s.$

Confidence: Measures the rule's reliability.

- $Confidence(X \Rightarrow Y) = \frac{support(X \cup Y)}{support(X)}.$
- Represents the likelihood that Y will appear in a transaction given X is present.
- A rule is deemed interesting if its confidence exceeds a minimum confidence threshold c

Example

Baskets

1. $B_1 = \{m, c, b\}$
2. $B_2 = \{m, p, j\}$
3. $B_3 = \{m, b\}$
4. $B_4 = \{c, j\}$
5. $B_5 = \{m, b, p\}$
6. $B_6 = \{m, c, b, j\}$
7. $B_7 = \{c, b, j\}$
8. $B_8 = \{m, b, c\}$

An association rule $\{m, b\} \rightarrow c$ has Support = Frequency $\{m, b, c\} = \frac{3}{8} = 37.5\%$

$$\text{Confidence} = \frac{\text{Support}\{m, b, c\}}{\text{Support}\{m, b\}} = \frac{3}{5} = 60\%$$

Association Rule Mining

- Confidence can be easily derived from A and $A \cup B$.
- Once the support counts of A , B , and $A \cup B$ it is straightforward to derive the association rules $A \rightarrow B$ and $B \rightarrow A$.
- Thus, problem of mining association rules can be reduced to – mining frequent itemsets

This can be viewed as two-step process

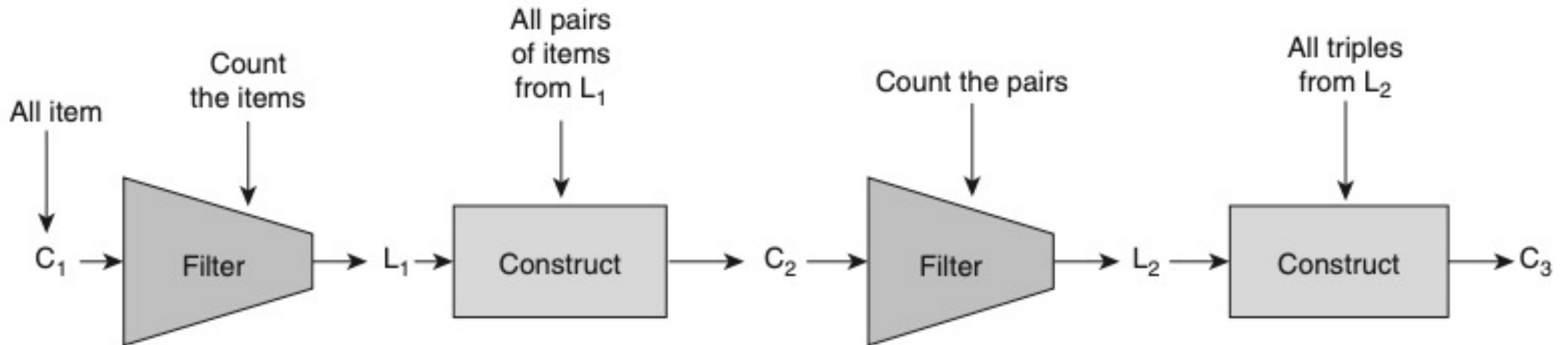
- **Find all frequent itemsets**
 - Each of the itemsets will occur at least as frequently as predetermined minimum support count
 - Various algorithms – Apriori, FP-growth, Eclat etc.
- **Generate strong association rules from the frequent itemsets**
 - The rules must satisfy minimum support and minimum confidence
 - The rules are generated by creating different combinations of antecedent and consequent

Apriori Algorithm

Algorithm for finding Frequent Itemsets

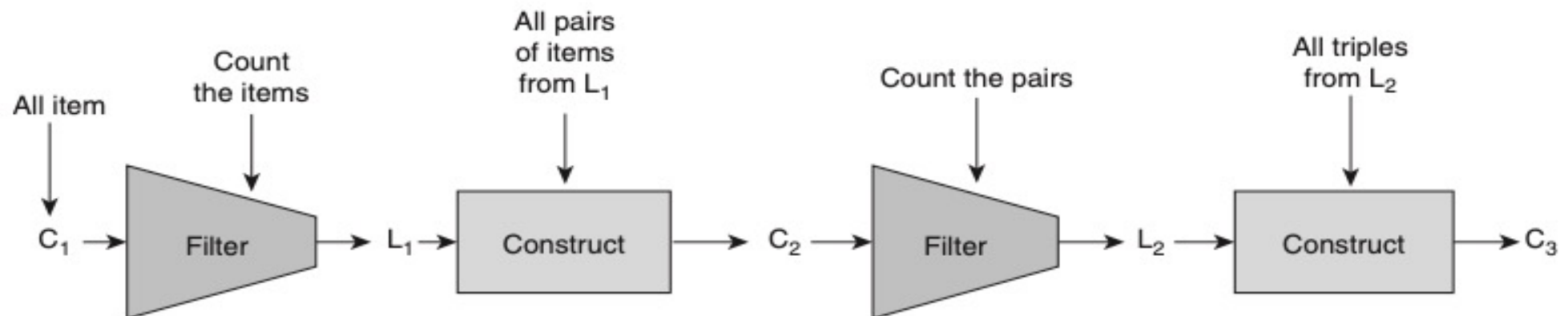
Apriori Algorithm

- Goal is to find pairs of items that occur frequently together
 - Ensuring efficient use of memory and computational resources
- Reduces the number of candidates
 - If an item is infrequent, then any of its superset will also be infrequent



Apriori Algorithm

- 1. Initialization:** Define a support threshold s .
- 2. Candidate Generation:** Generate candidate itemsets of size k . Initially $k = 1$.
- 3. Counting:** For each candidate itemset, count its occurrences in the dataset.
- 4. Pruning:** Eliminate the candidates that do not meet the support threshold s .
- 5. Incrementing and Repeating:** Generate new candidate itemsets of size $k+1$ using the frequent itemsets from the previous step. Repeat the counting and pruning steps.
- 6. Termination:** Stop when no more frequent itemsets can be generated.



Example - Apriori

Items – {a,b,c,d,e}

Baskets

1.{a, b}

2.{a, b, c}

3.{a, b, d}

4.{ b, c, d}

5.{a, b, c, d}

6.{a, b, d, e}

Support threshold

$s = 3$.

1.

(a) Construct $C_1 = \{\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}, \{e\}\}$.

(b) Count the support of itemsets in C_1 .

(c) Remove infrequent itemsets to get $L_1 = \{\{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{d\}\}$.

2.

(a) Construct $C_2 = \{\{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{b, c\}, \{b, d\}, \{c, d\}\}$.

(b) Count the support of itemsets in C_2 .

(c) Remove infrequent itemsets to get $L_2 = \{\{a, b\}, \{a, d\}, \{b, c\}, \{b, d\}\}$.

3.

(a) Construct $C_3 = \{\{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{b, c, d\}\}$. Note that we can be more careful here with the rule generation. For example, we know $\{b, c, d\}$ cannot be frequent since $\{c, d\}$ is not frequent. That is, $\{b, c, d\}$ should not be in C_3 since $\{c, d\}$ is not in L_2 .

(b) Count the support of itemsets in C_3 .

(c) Remove infrequent itemsets to get $L_3 = \{\{a, b, d\}\}$.

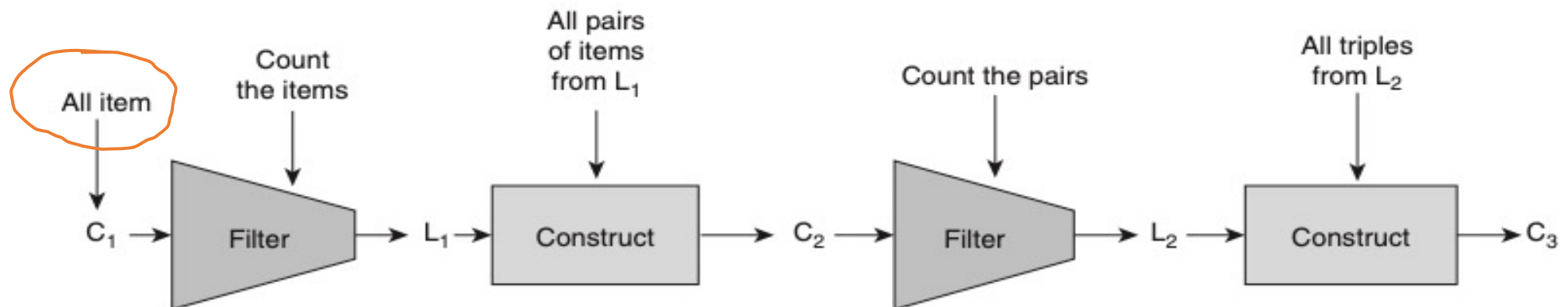
4. Construct $C_4 = \{\text{empty set}\}$.

Algorithm of Park-Chen-Yu (PCY)

Algorithm for finding Frequent Itemsets

Limitations of Apriori

- **Multiple Database Scans:** Requires multiple passes over the entire dataset.
- **Memory Consumption:** Generates large numbers of supersets.
- **Candidate Overhead:** Excessive computation for potentially non-frequent itemsets.
- **Sub-optimal Memory Use:** Does not leverage available memory efficiently.



PCY Algorithm

- Algorithm called as DHP – Direct Hashing and Pruning
- Example -

Given: Database D ; minimum support = 2 and the following data.

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
1	1,3,4
2	2,3,5
3	1,2,3,5
4	2,5

Example

Given: Database D ; minimum support = 2 and the following data.

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>
1	1,3,4
2	2,3,5
3	1,2,3,5
4	2,5

Example

Pass 1:

Step 1: Scan D along with counts. Also form possible pairs and hash them to the buckets.

For example, {1,3}:2 means pair {1,3} hashes to bucket 2.

$$(x+y) \bmod 3$$

<i>TID</i>	<i>Items</i>	<i>Itemset</i>	<i>Sup</i>		
1	1,3,4	{1}	2		
2	2,3,5	{2}	3	T1	{1,3}:2, {1,4}:1, {3,4}:3
3	1,2,3,5	{3}	3	T2	{2,3}:1, {2,5}:3, {3,5}:5
4	2,5	{4}	1	T3	{1,2}:4, {1,3}:2, {1,5}:5, {2,3}:1, {2,5}:3, {3,5}:5
		{5}	3	T4	{2,5}:3

Step 2: Using the hash function as discussed in step 1 the bucket looks like the one shown below.

Bucket	1	2	3	4	5
Count	3	2	4	1	3

PCY Algorithm

- **Hash-based Bucket Counting:** Reduces candidate pairs using hash mechanism.
- **Optimal Memory Use:** Efficiently uses memory for both item counts and hash table of pairs.
- **Candidate Reduction:** Minimized computational effort by pruning many item pairs.
- **Efficient Scanning:** Potentially fewer passes needed for subsequent itemsets.

Why consider PCY over Apriori

- **Memory Efficiency:** PCY utilizes available memory more effectively.
- **Reduced I/O:** Fewer database scans save processing time.
- **Pruned Candidates:** Fewer candidate itemsets reduce computational efforts.
- **Note:** Efficacy depends on data distribution and hash function quality.