BBS654
Data Mining

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Slides are adapted from
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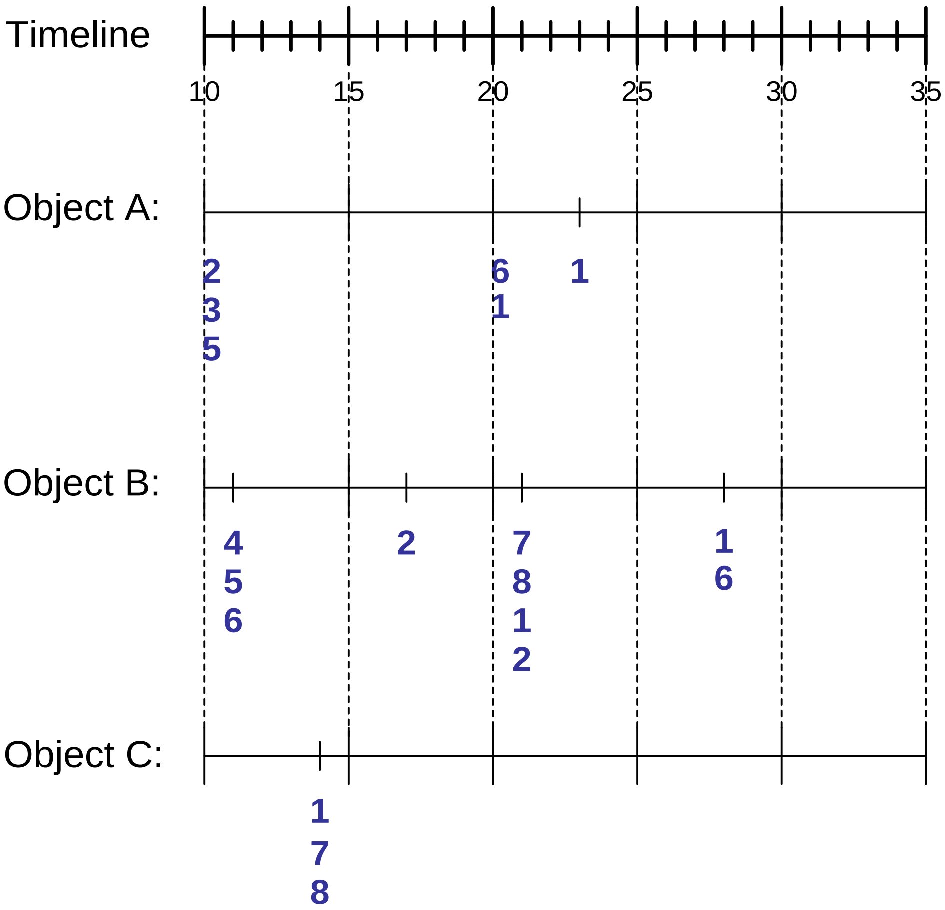
Sequence Data

Sequence Database:

Object	Timestamp	Events
A	10	2, 3, 5
A	20	6, 1
A	23	1
B	11	4, 5, 6
B	17	2
B	21	7, 8, 1, 2
B	28	1, 6
C	14	1, 8, 7

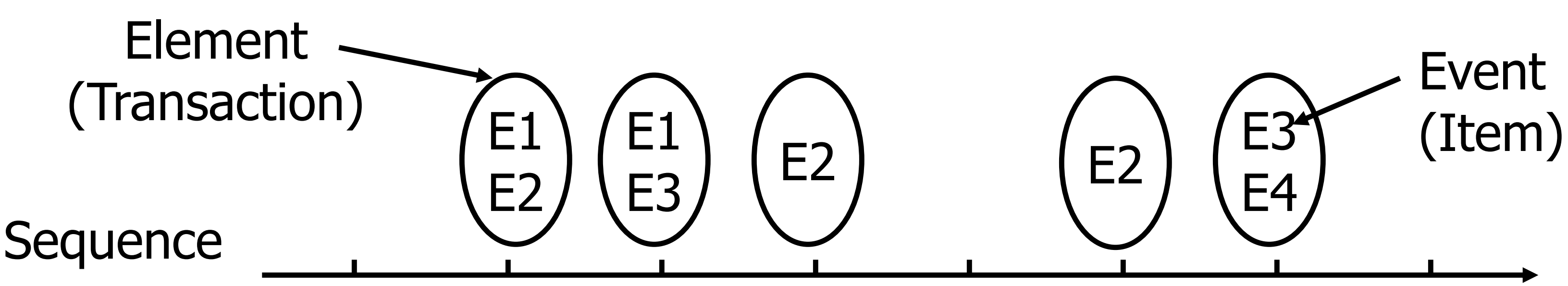


Mining Time-Series Data

- Time-series database
  - Consists of sequences of values or events changing with time
  - Data is recorded at regular intervals
  - Characteristic time-series components
    - Trend, cycle, seasonal, irregular
- Applications
  - Financial: stock price, inflation
  - Industry: power consumption
  - Scientific: experiment results
  - Meteorological: precipitation

Examples of Sequence Data

Sequence Database	Sequence	Element (Transaction)	Event (Item)
Customer	Purchase history of a given customer	A set of items bought by a customer at time t	Books, diary products, CDs, etc
Web Data	Browsing activity of a particular Web visitor	A collection of files viewed by a Web visitor after a single mouse click	Home page, index page, contact info, etc
Event data	History of events generated by a given sensor	Events triggered by a sensor at time t	Types of alarms generated by sensors
Genome sequences	DNA sequence of a particular species	An element of the DNA sequence	Bases A,T,G,C



Sequence Mining

Formal Definition of a Sequence

- A sequence is an ordered list of elements (transactions)

$$s = \langle e_1 e_2 e_3 \ldots \rangle$$

  - Each element contains a collection of events (items)

$$e_i = \{i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_k\}$$

  - Each element is attributed to a specific time or location
- Length of a sequence, $|s|$, is given by the number of elements of the sequence
- A k-sequence is a sequence that contains k events (items)

Formal Definition of a Subsequence

- A sequence $<a_1\ a_2 \ldots a_n>$ is contained in another sequence $<b_1\ b_2 \ldots b_m>$ $(m \geq n)$ if there exist integers $i_1 < i_2 < \ldots < i_n$ such that $a_1 \subseteq b_{i1}$, $a_2 \subseteq b_{i1}$, …, $a_n \subseteq b_{in}$

Data sequence	Subsequence	Contain?
< {2,4} {3,5,6} {8} >	< {2} {3,5} >	Yes
< {1,2} {3,4} >	< {1} {2} >	No
< {2,4} {2,4} {2,5} >	< {2} {4} >	Yes

- The support of a subsequence w is defined as the fraction of data sequences that contain w
- A *sequential pattern* is a frequent subsequence (i.e., a subsequence whose support is ≥ *minsup*)

Sequential Pattern Mining: Definition

- Given:
  - a database of sequences
  - a user-specified minimum support threshold, *minsup*
- Task:
  - Find all subsequences with support ≥ *minsup*

What Is Sequential Pattern Mining?

- Given a set of sequences, find the complete set of *frequent* subsequences

A *sequence* : < (ef) (ab) (df) c b >

A *sequence database*

SID	sequence
10	<a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
20	<(ad)c(bc)(ae)>
30	<(ef)(ab)(df)cb>
40	<eg(af)cbc>

An element may contain a set of items. Items within an element are unordered and we list them alphabetically.

<a(bc)dc> is a *subsequence* of <a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>

Given *support threshold* *min_sup* =2, <(ab)c> is a *sequential pattern*

J. Han and M. Kamber. Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques, www.cs.uiuc.edu/~hanji

Sequential Pattern Mining: Challenge

- Given a sequence: <{a b} {c d e} {f} {g h i}>
  - Examples of subsequences:

    <{a} {c d} {f} {g} >, < {c d e} >, < {b} {g} >, etc.

- How many k-subsequences can be extracted from a given n-sequence?

<{a b} {c d e} {f} {g h i}> n = 9

k=4: $\underbrace{\text{Y \_ \_ Y Y \_ \_ \_ Y}}$

<{a} {d e} {i}>

Answer :

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{9}{4} = 126$$

Challenges on Sequential Pattern Mining

- A huge number of possible sequential patterns are hidden in databases
- A mining algorithm should
  - find the complete set of patterns, when possible, satisfying the minimum support (frequency) threshold
  - be highly efficient, scalable, involving only a small number of database scans
  - be able to incorporate various kinds of user-specific constraints

Sequential Pattern Mining Algorithms

- Concept introduction and an initial Apriori-like algorithm
  - Agrawal & Srikant. Mining sequential patterns, ICDE'95
- Apriori-based method: GSP (Generalized Sequential Patterns: Srikant & Agrawal @ EDBT'96)
- Pattern-growth methods: FreeSpan & PrefixSpan (Han et al.@KDD'00; Pei, et al.@ICDE'01)
- Vertical format-based mining: SPADE (Zaki@Machine Leanining'00)
- Constraint-based sequential pattern mining (SPIRIT: Garofalakis, Rastogi, Shim@VLDB'99; Pei, Han, Wang @ CIKM'02)
- Mining closed sequential patterns: CloSpan (Yan, Han & Afshar @SDM'03)

Sequential Pattern Mining: Example

Object	Timestamp	Events
A	1	1,2,4
A	2	2,3
A	3	5
B	1	1,2
B	2	2,3,4
C	1	1, 2
C	2	2,3,4
C	3	2,4,5
D	1	2
D	2	3, 4
D	3	4, 5
E	1	1, 3
E	2	2, 4, 5

Minsup = 50%

Examples of Frequent Subsequences:

< {1,2} >	s=60%
< {2,3} >	s=60%
< {2,4}>	s=80%
< {3} {5}>	s=80%
< {1} {2} >	s=80%
< {2} {2} >	s=60%
< {1} {2,3} >	s=60%
< {2} {2,3} >	s=60%
< {1,2} {2,3} >	s=60%

Extracting Sequential Patterns

- Given n events: $i_1, i_2, i_3, \ldots, i_n$
- Candidate 1-subsequences:

  $<\{i_1\}>, <\{i_2\}>, <\{i_3\}>, \ldots, <\{i_n\}>$
- Candidate 2-subsequences:

  $<\{i_1, i_2\}>, <\{i_1, i_3\}>, \ldots, <\{i_1\} \{i_1\}>, <\{i_1\} \{i_2\}>, \ldots, <\{i_{n-1}\} \{i_n\}>$
- Candidate 3-subsequences:

  $<\{i_1, i_2 , i_3\}>, <\{i_1, i_2 , i_4\}>, \ldots, <\{i_1, i_2\} \{i_1\}>, <\{i_1, i_2\} \{i_2\}>, \ldots,$

  $<\{i_1\} \{i_1 , i_2\}>, <\{i_1\} \{i_1 , i_3\}>, \ldots, <\{i_1\} \{i_1\} \{i_1\}>, <\{i_1\} \{i_1\} \{i_2\}>,$

  …

The Apriori Property of Sequential Patterns

- A basic property: Apriori (Agrawal & Sirkant'94)
  - If a sequence S is not frequent
  - Then none of the super-sequences of S is frequent
  - E.g, <hb> is infrequent → so do <hab> and <(ah)b>

Seq. ID	Sequence
10	<(bd)cb(ac)>
20	<(bf)(ce)b(fg)>
30	<(ah)(bf)abf>
40	<(be)(ce)d>
50	<a(bd)bcb(ade)>

Given *support threshold* *min_sup* =2

Generalized Sequential Pattern (GSP)

- **Step 1**:
  - Make the first pass over the sequence database D to yield all the 1-element frequent sequences
- **Step 2**:

  Repeat until no new frequent sequences are found
  - **Candidate Generation**:
    - Merge pairs of frequent subsequences found in the (k-1)*th* pass to generate candidate sequences that contain k items
  - **Candidate Pruning**:
    - Prune candidate *k*-sequences that contain infrequent *(k-1)*-subsequences
  - **Support Counting**:
    - Make a new pass over the sequence database D to find the support for these candidate sequences
  - **Candidate Elimination**:
    - Eliminate candidate *k*-sequences whose actual support is less than *minsup*

Finding Length-1 Sequential Patterns

- Initial candidates:
  - <a>, <b>, <c>, <d>, <e>, <f>, <g>, <h>
- Scan database once, count support for candidates

min_sup =2

Seq. ID	Sequence
10	<(bd)cb(ac)>
20	<(bf)(ce)b(fg)>
30	<(ah)(bf)abf>
40	<(be)(ce)d>
50	<a(bd)bcb(ade)>

Cand	Sup
<a>	**3**
<b>	**5**
<c>	**4**
<d>	**3**
<e>	**3**
<f>	**2**
~~<g>~~	1
~~<h>~~	1

Generating Length-2 Candidates

51 length-2 Candidates

	<a>	<b>	<c>	<d>	<e>	<f>
<a>	<aa>	<ab>	<ac>	<ad>	<ae>	<af>
<b>	<ba>	<bb>	<bc>	<bd>	<be>	<bf>
<c>	<ca>	<cb>	<cc>	<cd>	<ce>	<cf>
<d>	<da>	<db>	<dc>	<dd>	<de>	<df>
<e>	<ea>	<eb>	<ec>	<ed>	<ee>	<ef>
<f>	<fa>	<fb>	<fc>	<fd>	<fe>	<ff>

	<a>	<b>	<c>	<d>	<e>	<f>
<a>		<(ab)>	<(ac)>	<(ad)>	<(ae)>	<(af)>
<b>			<(bc)>	<(bd)>	<(be)>	<(bf)>
<c>				<(cd)>	<(ce)>	<(cf)>
<d>					<(de)>	<(df)>
<e>						<(ef)>
<f>						

Without Apriori property, 8*8+8*7/2=92 candidates

Apriori prunes 44.57% candidates

Finding Lenth-2 Sequential Patterns

- Scan database one more time, collect support count for each length-2 candidate
- There are 19 length-2 candidates which pass the minimum support threshold
  - They are length-2 sequential patterns

The GSP Mining Process

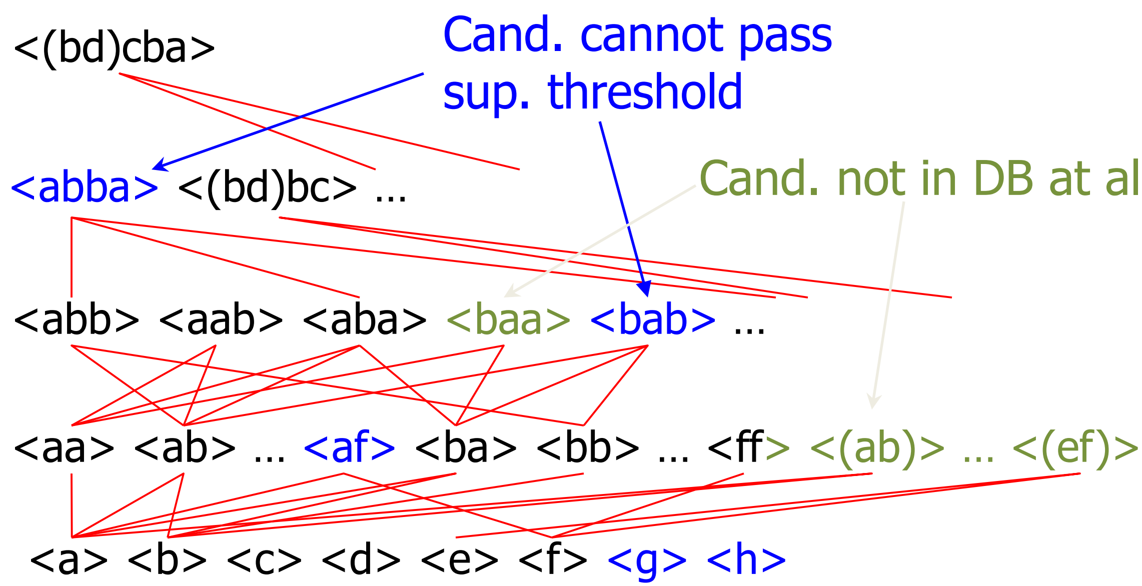
5th scan: 1 cand. 1 length-5 seq. pat.

4th scan: 8 cand. 6 length-4 seq. pat.

3rd scan: 46 cand. 19 length-3 seq. pat. 20 cand. not in DB at all

2nd scan: 51 cand. 19 length-2 seq. pat. 10 cand. not in DB at all

1st scan: 8 cand. 6 length-1 seq. pat.



min_sup =2

Seq. ID	Sequence
10	<(bd)cb(ac)>
20	<(bf)(ce)b(fg)>
30	<(ah)(bf)abf>
40	<(be)(ce)d>
50	<a(bd)bcb(ade)>

Candidate Generation

- Base case (k=2):
  - Merging two frequent 1-sequences <{i_1}> and <{i_2}> will produce two candidate 2-sequences: <{i_1} {i_2}> and <{i_1 i_2}>
- General case (k>2):
  - A frequent *(k-1)*-sequence w_1 is merged with another frequent *(k-1)*-sequence w_2 to produce a candidate *k*-sequence if the subsequence obtained by removing the first event in w_1 is the same as the subsequence obtained by removing the last event in w_2
    - The resulting candidate after merging is given by the sequence w_1 extended with the last event of w_2.
      - If the last two events in w_2 belong to the same element, then the last event in w_2 becomes part of the last element in w_1
      - Otherwise, the last event in w_2 becomes a separate element appended to the end of w_1

Candidate Generation Examples

- Merging the sequences
  w_1=<{1} {2 3} {4}> and w_2 =<{2 3} {4 5}>
  will produce the candidate sequence < {1} {2 3} {4 5}> because the last two events in w_2 (4 and 5) belong to the same element

- Merging the sequences
  w_1=<{1} {2 3} {4}> and w_2 =<{2 3} {4} {5}>
  will produce the candidate sequence < {1} {2 3} {4} {5}> because the last two events in w_2 (4 and 5) do not belong to the same element

- We do not have to merge the sequences
  w_1 =<{1} {2 6} {4}> and w_2 =<{1} {2} {4 5}>
  to produce the candidate < {1} {2 6} {4 5}> because if the latter is a viable candidate, then it can be obtained by merging w_1 with
  < {1} {2 6} {5}>

GSP Example

Frequent
3-sequences

< {1} {2} {3} >
< {1} {2 5} >
< {1} {5} {3} >
< {2} {3} {4} >
< {2 5} {3} >
< {3} {4} {5} >
< {5} {3 4} >

Candidate
Generation

< {1} {2} {3} {4} >
< {1} {2 5} {3} >
< {1} {5} {3 4} >
< {2} {3} {4} {5} >
< {2 5} {3 4} >

Candidate
Pruning

< {1} {2 5} {3} >

The SPADE Algorithm

- SPADE (Sequential PAttern Discovery using Equivalent Class) developed by Zaki 2001
- A vertical format sequential pattern mining method
- A sequence database is mapped to a large set of
  - Item: <SID, EID>
- Sequential pattern mining is performed by
  - growing the subsequences (patterns) one item at a time by Apriori candidate generation

The SPADE Algorithm

SID	EID	Items
1	1	a
1	2	abc
1	3	ac
1	4	d
1	5	cf
2	1	ad
2	2	c
2	3	bc
2	4	ae
3	1	ef
3	2	ab
3	3	df
3	4	c
3	5	b
4	1	e
4	2	g
4	3	af
4	4	c
4	5	b
4	6	c

a		b		...
SID	EID	SID	EID	...
1	1	1	2	
1	2	2	3	
1	3	3	2	
2	1	3	5	
2	4	4	5	
3	2			
4	3			

ab			ba			...
SID	EID (a)	EID(b)	SID	EID (b)	EID(a)	...
1	1	2	1	2	3	
2	1	3	2	3	4	
3	2	5				
4	3	5				

aba				...
SID	EID (a)	EID(b)	EID(a)	...
1	1	2	3	
2	1	3	4	

The main advantage of the vertical approach is that it enables different search strategies over the sequence search space, including breadth or depth-first search

Bottlenecks of GSP and SPADE

- A huge set of candidates could be generated
  - 1,000 frequent length-1 sequences generate s huge number of length-2 candidates! $1000 \times 1000 + \frac{1000 \times 999}{2} = 1{,}499{,}500$
- Multiple scans of database in mining
- Mining long sequential patterns
  - Needs an exponential number of short candidates
  - A length-100 sequential pattern needs 10^{30} candidate sequences! $\sum_{i=1}^{100} \binom{100}{i} = 2^{100} - 1 \approx 10^{30}$

Projection-Based Sequence Mining: PrefixSpan

- PrefixSpan : Prefix-Projected Sequential Pattern Growth
  - Projection-based
  - But only prefix-based projection: less projections and quickly shrinking sequences
- J.Pei, J.Han,… PrefixSpan : Mining sequential patterns efficiently by prefix-projected pattern growth. ICDE' 01.
- The main idea in PrefixSpan is to compute the support for only the individual symbols in the projected database Ds , and then to perform recursive projections on the frequent symbols in a depth-first manner.

Prefix and Suffix (Projection)

- <a>, <aa>, <a(ab)> and <a(abc)> are *prefixes* of sequence <a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
- Given sequence <a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>

Prefix	*Suffix* (Prefix-Based *Projection)*
<a>	<(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
<aa>	<(_bc)(ac)d(cf)>
<ab>	<(_c)(ac)d(cf)>

Mining Sequential Patterns by Prefix Projections

- Step 1: find length-1 sequential patterns
  - <a>, <b>, <c>, <d>, <e>, <f>
- Step 2: divide search space. The complete set of seq. pat. can be partitioned into 6 subsets:
  - The ones having prefix <a>;
  - The ones having prefix <b>;
  - …
  - The ones having prefix <f>

SID	sequence
10	<a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
20	<(ad)c(bc)(ae)>
30	<(ef)(ab)(df)cb>
40	<eg(af)cbc>

Finding Seq. Patterns with Prefix <a>

- Only need to consider projections w.r.t. <a>
  - <a>-projected database: <(abc)(ac)d(cf)>, <(_d)c(bc)(ae)>, <(_b)(df)cb>, <(_f)cbc>

- Find all the length-2 seq. pat. Having prefix <a>: <aa>, <ab>, <(ab)>, <ac>, <ad>, <af>
  - Further partition into 6 subsets
    - Having prefix <aa>;
    - …
    - Having prefix <af>

SID	sequence
10	<a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
20	<(ad)c(bc)(ae)>
30	<(ef)(ab)(df)cb>
40	<eg(af)cbc>

Completeness of PrefixSpan

SDB

SID	sequence
10	<a(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
20	<(ad)c(bc)(ae)>
30	<(ef)(ab)(df)cb>
40	<eg(af)cbc>

Length-1 sequential patterns
<a>, <b>, <c>, <d>, <e>, <f>

Having prefix <a>

Having prefix <b>

Having prefix <c>, …, <f>

<a>-projected database
<(abc)(ac)d(cf)>
<(_d)c(bc)(ae)>
<(_b)(df)cb>
<(_f)cbc>

Length-2 sequential patterns
<aa>, <ab>, <(ab)>, <ac>, <ad>, <af>

<b>-projected database

…

… …

Having prefix <aa>

Having prefix <af>

<aa>-proj. db

…

<af>-proj. db

The Algorithm of PrefixSpan

- **Input**: A sequence database S, and the minimum support threshold min_sup
- **Output**: The complete set of sequential patterns
- **Method**: Call PrefixSpan(<>,0,S)
- **Subroutine** PrefixSpan(α, l, $S|\alpha$)
- **Parameters**:
  - α: sequential pattern,
  - l: the length of α;
  - $S|\alpha$: the α-projected database, if $\alpha \neq$<>; otherwise; the sequence database S

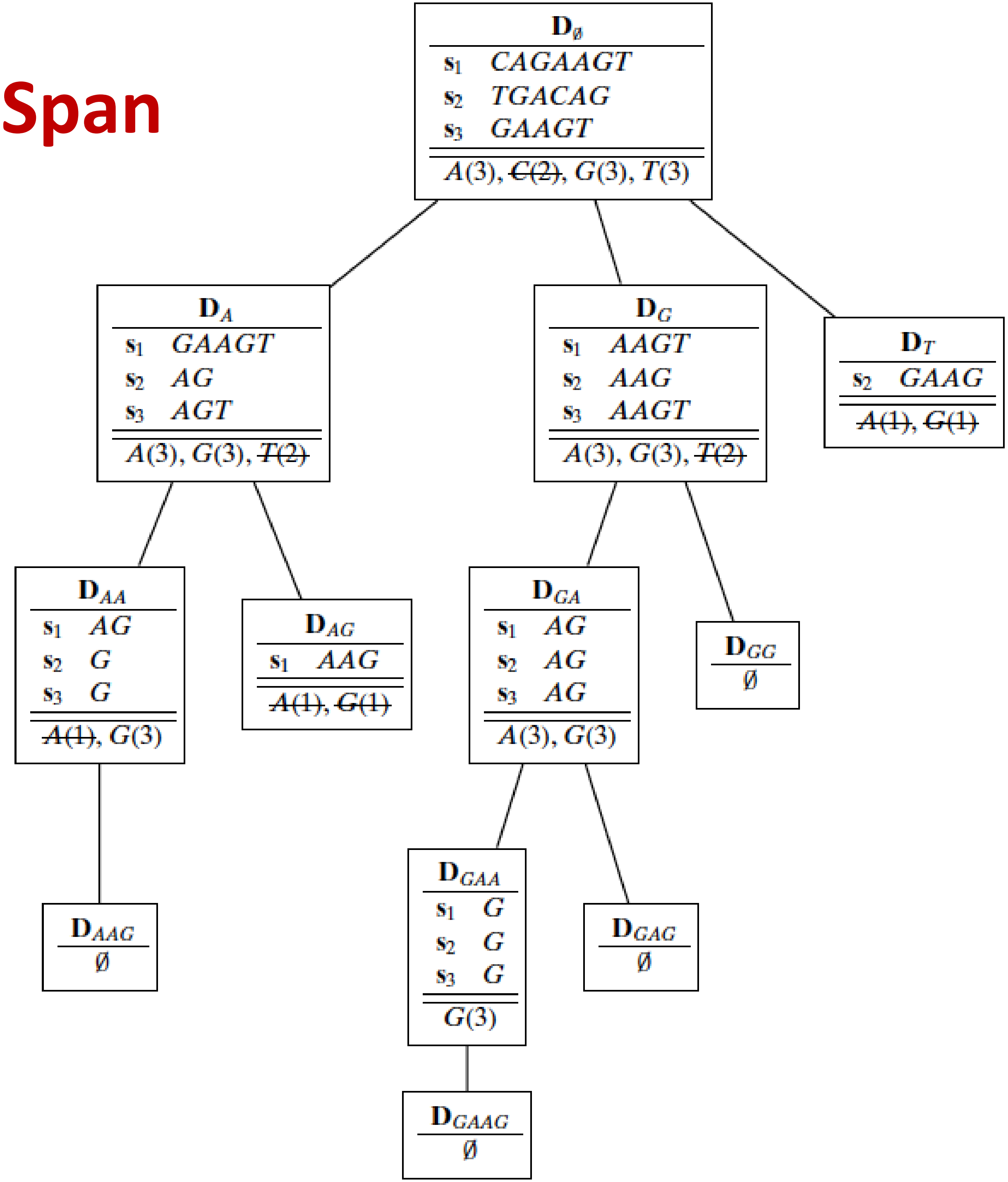
The Algorithm of PrefixSpan(2)

- **Method**

1. Scan S|α once, find the set of frequent items b such that:
   a) b can be assembled to the last element of α to form a sequential pattern; or
   b) <b> can be appended to α to form a sequential pattern.
2. For each frequent item b, append it to α to form a sequential pattern α', and output α';
3. For each α', construct α'-projected database S|α', and call PrefixSpan(α', l+1, S|α').

PrefixSpan

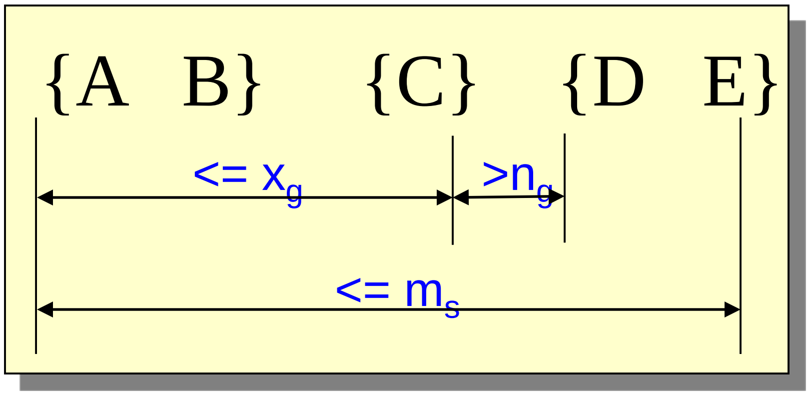
Minsup = 3



Efficiency of PrefixSpan

- No candidate sequence needs to be generated
- Projected databases keep shrinking
- Major cost of PrefixSpan: constructing projected databases
  - Can be improved by bi-level projections

Timing Constraints



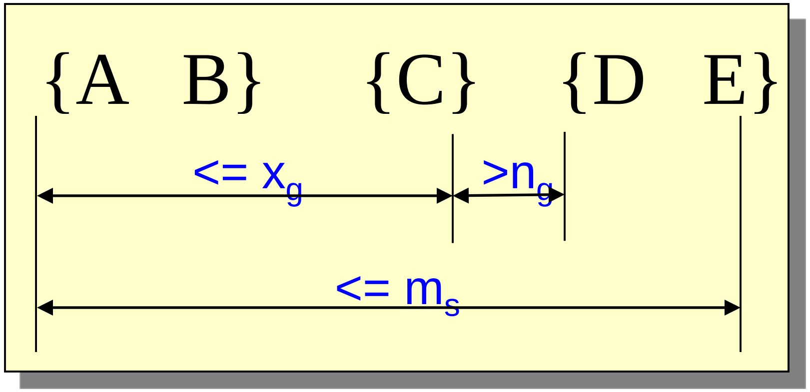
x_g: max-gap

n_g: min-gap

m_s: maximum span

- Maxspan: maximum allowed time difference between the latest and the earliest occurrences of events in the entire sequence.
- Mingap: minimum time difference between consecutive elements of a sequence
- Maxgap: maximum time difference between consecutive elements of a sequence

Timing Constraints



x_g: max-gap

n_g: min-gap

m_s: maximum span

$x_g = 2$, $n_g = 0$, $m_s = 4$

Data sequence	Subsequence	Contain?
< {2,4} {3,5,6} {4,7} {4,5} {8} >	< {6} {5} >	Yes
< {1} {2} {3} {4} {5}>	< {1} {4} >	No
< {1} {2,3} {3,4} {4,5}>	< {2} {3} {5} >	Yes
< {1,2} {3} {2,3} {3,4} {2,4} {4,5}>	< {1,2} {5} >	No

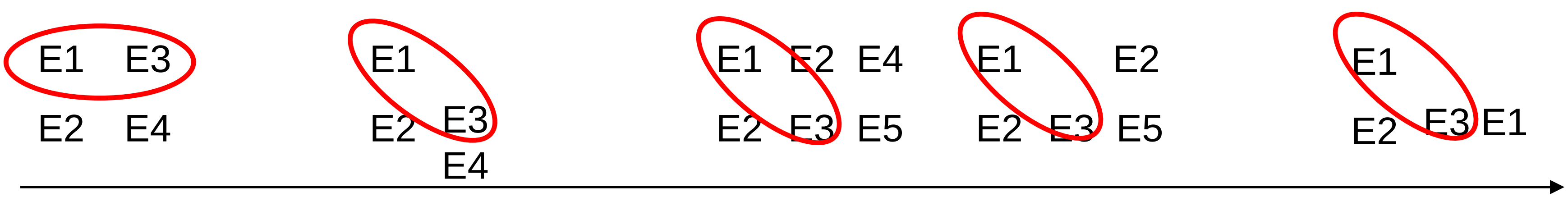
Mining Sequential Patterns with Timing Constraints

- Approach 1:
  - Mine sequential patterns without timing constraints
  - Postprocess the discovered patterns

- Approach 2:
  - Modify GSP to directly prune candidates that violate timing constraints

Other Formulation

- In some domains, we may have only one very long time series
  - Example:
    - monitoring network traffic events for attacks
    - monitoring telecommunication alarm signals
- Goal is to find frequent sequences of events in the time series
  - This problem is also known as frequent episode mining



Pattern: <E1> <E3>

Ref: Mining Sequential Patterns

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