Joins \rightarrow Aggregates \rightarrow Optimization

https://fdbresearch.github.io



Dan Olteanu

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- Abo Khamis and Ngo (RelationalAI), Nguyen (U. Michigan)

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- Kara (covers, IVM^e, and many graphics)
- Ngo (functional aggregate queries)
- Schleich (performance and quizzes)

Lastly, Kara and Schleich proofread the slides.

I would like to thank them for their support!

Goal of This Course

Introduction to a principled approach to in-database computation

This course starts where mainstream databases courses finish.

Part 1: Joins

- Basic building blocks in query languages. Studied extensively.
- Systematic study of redundancy in the computation and representation of join results
 [OZ12,OZ15,KO18]
- ► Worst-case optimal join algorithms [NPRR12,NRR13,V14,OZ15,ANS17]
- Part 2: Aggregates
- Part 3: Optimization

Outline of Part 1: Joins



Introduction by Examples

Decompositions and Variable Orders

Size Bounds for Join Results

Worst-Case Optimal Join Algorithms

Further Work and References

Quiz

Join Queries

$$\underbrace{Q(\mathbf{A}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathbf{A}_n)}_{\text{head}} = \underbrace{R_1(\mathbf{A}_1), \dots, R_n(\mathbf{A}_n)}_{\text{body}}$$

- **Query variables:** $A_1 \cup \cdots \cup A_n$. All variables in the body occur in the head.
- Relational atoms: R_1, \ldots, R_n
- Natural join: Same variable occurs in different relational atoms

Examples of bodies of queries used in the following slides:

- Path: O(customer, day, dish), D(dish, item), I(item, price)
- Path: $R_1(A, B), R_2(B, C), R_3(C, D)$
- Acyclic: R(A, B, C), S(A, B, D), T(A, E), U(E, F).
- Triangle: $R_1(A, B), R_2(A, C), R_3(B, C)$
- Loop: $R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$

Join Example: Itemized Customer Orders

Orders (O for short)			Dish (D	Dish (D for short)		Items (I for short)		
customer	day	dish	dish	item	item	price		
Elise	Monday	burger	burger	patty	patty	6		
Elise	Friday	burger	burger	onion	onion	2		
Steve	Friday	hotdog	burger	bun	bun	2		
Joe	Friday	hotdog	hotdog	bun	sausage	4		
			hotdog	onion				
			hotdog	sausage				

Consider the natural join of the above relations:

O(customer, day, dish), D(dish, item), I(item, price)							
customer	day	dish	item	price			
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6			
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2			
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2			
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6			
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2			
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2			

Join Example: Listing the Triangles in the Database

R_1		R_2		F	R_3		$R_1(A,B), R_2(A,C), R_3(B,C)$			
Α	В	Α	С	В	С	-	Α	В	С	
a 0	b ₀	a 0	C 0	b ₀	c 0		a 0	b ₀	C 0	
a 0		a 0		b_0			a 0	b_0		
a 0	b_m	a 0	Cm	<i>b</i> ₀	Cm		a 0	b_0	Cm	
a ₁	b ₀	a ₁	<i>C</i> ₀	b ₁	<i>c</i> ₀	-	a ₀	<i>b</i> ₁	<i>c</i> ₀	
	b 0		<i>C</i> ₀		<i>C</i> ₀		a 0		C 0	
a_m	b_0	a _m	c ₀	b_m	<i>c</i> ₀		a 0	b_m	<i>c</i> ₀	
						-	<i>a</i> ₁	b ₀	C 0	
								b_0	c ₀	

Outline of Part 1: Joins



Introduction by Examples

Decompositions and Variable Orders

Size Bounds for Join Results

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Further Work and References

Quiz

Join Hypergraphs

We associate a (multi)hypergraph $\mathcal{H}=(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{E})$ with every join query Q

- lacksquare Each variable in Q is a node in ${\cal V}$
- $lue{}$ The set of variables of each relation symbol in Q is a (hyper)edge in ${\mathcal E}$



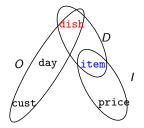
- $\mathbf{V} = \{A, B, C\}$
- $\bullet \ \mathcal{E} = \{ \{A, B\}, \{A, C\}, \{B, C\} \}$

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Example: Order query $O(\text{cust}, \text{day}, \frac{\text{dish}}{\text{otherwise}})$, I(item, price)



- $V = \{ \text{cust}, \text{day}, \frac{\text{dish}}{\text{item}}, \text{price} \}$
- $\blacksquare \ \mathcal{E} = \{\{\texttt{cust}, \texttt{day}, \texttt{dish}\}, \{\texttt{dish}, \texttt{item}\}, \{\texttt{item}, \texttt{price}\}\}$

Hypertree Decompositions

Definition[GLS99]: A (hypertree) decomposition \mathcal{T} of the hypergraph $(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$ of a query Q is a pair (\mathcal{T}, χ) , where

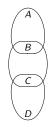
- T is a tree
- $lue{\chi}$ is a function mapping each node in T to a subset of $\mathcal V$ called bag.

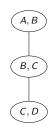
Properties of a decomposition \mathcal{T} :

- Coverage: $\forall e \in \mathcal{E}$, there must be a node $t \in \mathcal{T}$ such that $e \subseteq \chi(t)$.
- Connectivity: $\forall v \in V$, $\{t \mid t \in T, v \in \chi(t)\}$ forms a connected subtree.

The hypergraph of the query $R_1(A, B), R_2(B, C), R_3(C, D)$

A hypertree decomposition





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The hypergraph of the triangle query $R_1(A, B), R_2(A, C), R_3(B, C)$

A hypertree decomposition





Variable Orders

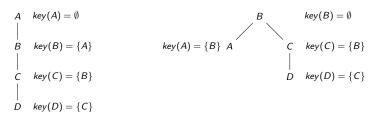
Definition[OZ15]: A variable order Δ for a query Q is a pair (F, key), where

- F is a rooted forest with one node per variable in Q
- key is a function mapping each variable A to a subset of its ancestor variables in F.

Properties of a variable order Δ for Q:

- For each relation symbol, its variables lie along the same root-to-leaf path in F. For any such variables A and B, $A \in key(B)$ if A is an ancestor of B.
- For every child B of A, $key(B) \subseteq key(A) \cup \{A\}$.

Possible variable orders for the path query $R_1(A, B)$, $R_2(B, C)$, $R_3(C, D)$:



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- For every child B of A, $key(B) \subseteq key(A) \cup \{A\}$.

Possible variable orders for the triangle query $R_1(A, B)$, $R_2(A, C)$, $R_3(B, C)$:

$$A \ key(A) = \emptyset$$
 $B \ key(B) = \emptyset$
 $C \ key(C) = \emptyset$
 $B \ key(B) = \{A\}$
 $A \ key(A) = \{B\}$
 $B \ key(B) = \{C\}$
 $C \ key(C) = \{A, B\}$
 $C \ key(C) = \{A, B\}$
 $A \ key(A) = \{B, C\}$

From variable order Δ to hypertree decomposition \mathcal{T} :

OZ15

- For each node A in Δ , create a bag $key(A) \cup \{A\}$.
- The bag for A is connected to the bags for its children and parent.
- Optionally, remove redundant bags

$$A \quad key(A) = \emptyset$$

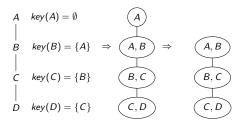
$$B \quad key(B) = \{A\} \Rightarrow A, B \Rightarrow A, B, C$$

$$C \quad key(C) = \{A, B\} \qquad A, B, C$$

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From hypertree decomposition \mathcal{T} to variable order Δ :

[OZ15]

- lacksquare Create a node A in Δ for a variable A in the top bag in $\mathcal T$
- lacktriangle Recurse with $\mathcal T$ where A is removed from all bags in $\mathcal T$.
- \blacksquare If top bag empty, then recurse independently on each of its child bags and create children of A in Δ
- Update *key* for each variable at each step.



From hypertree decomposition \mathcal{T} to variable order Δ :

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$$A \quad \ker(A) = \emptyset$$
 Step 1:
$$A \text{ is removed from } \mathcal{T} \qquad \qquad A B, C \qquad \Rightarrow$$
 and inserted into Δ

From hypertree decomposition $\mathcal T$ to variable order Δ :

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Step 2:
$$A \quad key(A) = \emptyset$$

$$B \text{ is removed from } \mathcal{T}$$

$$A, B, C \Rightarrow B \quad key(B) = \{A, B, C\}$$
 and inserted into Δ

From hypertree decomposition \mathcal{T} to variable order Δ :

[OZ15]

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- \blacksquare If top bag empty, then recurse independently on each of its child bags and create children of A in Δ
- Update *key* for each variable at each step.

Step 3:
$$C \text{ is removed from } \mathcal{T}$$
 and inserted into Δ
$$A \text{ key}(A) = \emptyset$$

$$B \text{ key}(B) = \{A\}$$

$$C \text{ key}(C) = \{A, B\}$$

From hypertree decomposition \mathcal{T} to variable order Δ :

[OZ15]

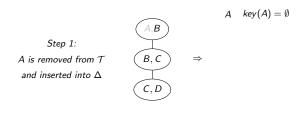
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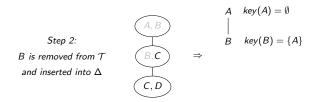
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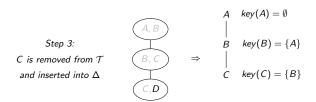
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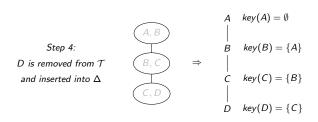
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Outline of Part 1: Joins



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Quiz

- Assumption: All relations have size N.
- The query result is included in the result of $R_1(A, B)$, $R_3(C, D)$
 - ▶ Its size is upper bounded by $N^2 = |R_1| \times |R_3|$
 - ightharpoonup All variables are "covered" by the relations R_1 and R_3
- There are databases for which the result size is at least N^2
 - ▶ Let $R_1 = [N] \times \{1\}, R_2 = \{1\} \times [N], R_3 = [N] \times \{1\}.$

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 - ▶ Let $R_1 = [N] \times \{1\}, R_2 = \{1\} \times [N], R_3 = [N] \times \{1\}.$
- Conclusion: Size of the query result is $\Theta(N^2)$ for some input classes

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- There are databases for which the result size is at least N
 - ▶ Let $R_1 = [N] \times \{1\}, R_2 = [N] \times \{1\}, R_3 \supseteq \{(1,1)\}$

Example: the triangle query $R_1(A, B)$, $R_2(A, C)$, $R_3(B, C)$

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- There are databases for which the result size is at least N
 - ▶ Let $R_1 = [N] \times \{1\}, R_2 = [N] \times \{1\}, R_3 \supseteq \{(1,1)\}$
- Conclusion: Size gap between the N^2 upper bound and the N lower bound!

Question: Can we close this gap and give tight size bounds?

Edge Covers and Independent Sets

We can generalize the previous examples as follows:

For the size upper bound:

- Cover all nodes (variables) by k edges (relations) \Rightarrow size $\leq N^k$.
- This is an edge cover of the query hypergraph!

For the size lower bound:

- m independent nodes \Rightarrow construct database such that size $\geq N^m$.
- This is an independent set of the query hypergraph!

$$\max_m = |\mathrm{IndependentSet}(Q)| \le |\mathrm{EdgeCover}(Q)| = \min_k$$

$$\boxed{\mathsf{max}_m \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{min}_k \ \mathsf{do} \ \mathsf{not} \ \mathsf{necessarily} \ \mathsf{meet!}}$$

Can we further refine this analysis?

The Fractional Edge Cover Number $\rho^*(Q)$

The two bounds meet if we take their fractional versions

[AGM08]

- Fractional edge cover of Q with weight $k \Rightarrow \text{size} \le N^k$.
- Fractional independent set with weight $m \Rightarrow \text{size} \ge N^m$.

By duality of linear programming:

 $\max_{m} = |\operatorname{FractionalIndependentSet}(Q)| = |\operatorname{FractionalEdgeCover}(Q)| = \min_{k}$

■ This is the fractional edge cover number $\rho^*(Q)$!

For query Q and database of size N, the query result has size $O(N^{\rho^*(Q)})$.

The Fractional Edge Cover Number $\rho^*(Q)$

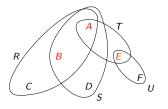
For a join query $Q(\mathbf{A}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{A}_n) = R_1(\mathbf{A}_1), \ldots, R_n(\mathbf{A}_n),$ $\rho^*(Q)$ is the cost of an optimal solution to the linear program:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \sum_{i \in [n]} x_{R_i} \\ \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i: \text{edge } R_i \text{ covers node } A} x_{R_i} \geq 1 \ \, \forall A \in \bigcup_{j \in [n]} \boldsymbol{A}_j, \\ \\ & x_{R_i} \geq 0 & \forall i \in [n]. \end{array}$$

- x_{R_i} is the weight of edge (relation) R_i in the hypergraph of Q
- $lue{}$ Each node (variable) has to be covered by edges with sum of weights ≥ 1
- lacksquare In the integer program variant for the edge cover, $\mathit{x}_{\mathit{R}_i} \in \{0,1\}$

Example: Compute the Fractional Edge Cover (1/3)

Consider the join query Q: R(A, B, C), S(A, B, D), T(A, E), U(E, F).



- The three edges R, S, U can cover all nodes. FractionalEdgeCover(Q) ≤ 3
- Each node C, D, and F must be covered by a distinct edge. FractionalIndependentSet(Q) ≥ 3

$$\Rightarrow \rho^*(Q) = 3$$

 \Rightarrow Size $\leq N^3$ and for some inputs is $\Theta(N^3)$.

Example: Compute the Fractional Edge Cover (2/3)

Consider the triangle query: $R_1(A, B)$, $R_2(A, C)$, $R_3(B, C)$.



Our previous size upper bound was N^2 :

■ This is obtained by setting any two of $x_{R_1}, x_{R_2}, x_{R_3}$ to 1.

What is the fractional edge cover number for the triangle query?

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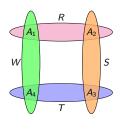
We can do better: $x_{R_1} = x_{R_2} = x_{R_3} = 1/2$. Then, $\rho^* = 3/2$.

Lower bound reaches $N^{3/2}$ for $R_1 = R_2 = R_3 = [\sqrt{N}] \times [\sqrt{N}]$.

Example: Compute the Fractional Edge Cover (3/3)

Consider the (4-cycle) join: $R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$.

The linear program for its fractional edge cover number:



minimize
$$x_R + x_S + x_T + x_W$$

subject to

$$A_1: x_R + x_W \ge 1$$
 $A_2: x_R + x_S \ge 1$
 $A_3: x_S + x_T \ge 1$
 $A_4: x_R \ge 0 \quad x_S \ge 0 \quad x_T \ge 0 \quad x_W \ge 0$

Possible solution: $x_R = x_T = 1$. Another solution: $x_S = x_W = 1$. Then, $\rho^* = 2$.

Lower bound reaches N^2 for $R = T = [N] \times \{1\}$ and $S = W = \{1\} \times [N]$.

Historical Note on the Fractional Edge Cover Number

Tight size bounds via $\rho*$ have been known from earlier works in other contexts:

■ (special case) Loomis-Whitney inequality	[LW49]
■ (general case) number of occurrences of a subgraph in a graph	[A81]
■ generalization of Loomis-Whitney that subsumes the AGM bound	[BT95]
Recent insightful travel through the history of this result	[H18]

Common case in practice:

- Relations have different sizes
- Small-size projections of relations may be added to the join query

Recall the linear program for computing the fractional edge cover number $\rho^*(Q)$ of a join query $Q(\mathbf{A}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{A}_n) = R_1(\mathbf{A}_1), \ldots, R_n(\mathbf{A}_n)$:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \sum_{i \in [n]} x_{R_i} \\ \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i: \text{edge } R_i \text{ covers node } A} x_{R_i} \geq 1 \ \, \forall A \in \bigcup_{j \in [n]} \boldsymbol{A}_j, \\ \\ & x_{R_i} \geq 0 & \forall i \in [n]. \end{array}$$

Common case in practice:

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Add relation sizes into the linear program that computes the result size of a join query $Q(\mathbf{A}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{A}_n) = R_1(\mathbf{A}_1), \ldots, R_n(\mathbf{A}_n)$:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & N^{\sum_{i \in [n]} x_{R_i}} \\ \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i: \text{edge } R_i \text{ covers node } A} x_{R_i} \geq 1 \ \, \forall A \in \bigcup_{j \in [n]} \boldsymbol{A_j}, \\ \\ x_{R_i} \geq 0 & \forall i \in [n]. \end{array}$$

Assumption: All relations have the same size N.

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$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & \prod_{i \in [n]} N^{x_i} \\ \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i: \text{edge } R_i \text{ covers node } A} x_{R_i} \geq 1 \ \, \forall A \in \bigcup_{j \in [n]} \boldsymbol{A}_j, \\ \\ & x_{R_i} \geq 0 & \forall i \in [n]. \end{array}$$

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Add relation sizes into the linear program that computes the result size of a join query $Q(\mathbf{A}_1 \cup \cdots \cup \mathbf{A}_n) = R_1(\mathbf{A}_1), \ldots, R_n(\mathbf{A}_n)$:

$$\begin{split} & \text{minimize} & \prod_{i \in [n]} N_i^{x_i} \\ & \text{subject to} & \sum_{i: \text{edge } R_i \text{ covers node } A} x_{R_i} \geq 1 \ \, \forall A \in \bigcup_{j \in [n]} \boldsymbol{A}_j, \\ & x_{R_i} \geq 0 & \forall i \in [n]. \end{split}$$

Assumption: Relation R_i has size N_i , $\forall i \in [n]$.

Size Bounds for Factorized Representations of Join Results

Recall the Itemized Customer Orders Example

Orde	Orders (O for short)		Dish (D for short)		Items (I for short)	
customer	day	dish	dish	item	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	burger	patty	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	burger	onion	onion	2
Steve	Friday	hotdog	burger	bun	bun	2
Joe	Friday	hotdog	hotdog	bun	sausage	4
			hotdog	onion		
			hotdog	sausage		

Consider the natural join of the above relations:

O(custon	ner, day, <mark>dis</mark>	h), D(dish	, item), l	(item, price)
customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2

Factor Out Common Data Blocks

O(customer,	day,	dish),	D(dish,	item), I(item,	price)	
-------------	------	--------	----	-------	------	-------	-------	--------	--

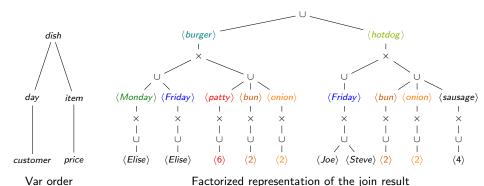
customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2

The listing representation of the above query result is:

It uses relational product (\times) , union (\cup) , and data (singleton relations).

■ The attribute names are not shown to avoid clutter.

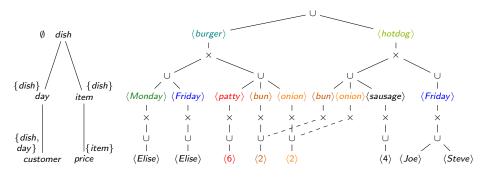
This is How A Factorized Join Looks Like!



There are several algebraically equivalent factorized representations defined:

- by distributivity of product over union and their commutativity;
- as groundings of variable orders.

.. Now with Further Compression using Caching

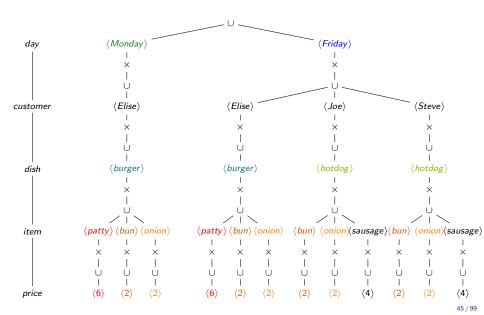


Observation:

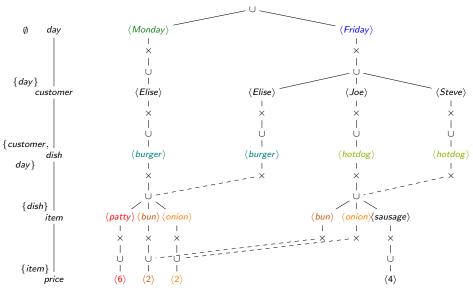
- price is under item, which is under dish, but only depends on item,
- .. so the same price appears under an item regardless of the dish.

Idea: Cache price for a specific item and avoid repetition!

Same Data, Different Factorization



.. and Further Compressed using Caching



Which factorization should we choose?

The size of a factorization is the number of its values.

Example:

$$F_{1} = (\langle 1 \rangle \cup \cdots \cup \langle n \rangle) \times (\langle 1 \rangle \cup \cdots \cup \langle m \rangle)$$

$$F_{2} = \langle 1 \rangle \times \langle 1 \rangle \cup \cdots \cup \langle 1 \rangle \times \langle m \rangle$$

$$\cup \cdots \cup$$

$$\langle n \rangle \times \langle 1 \rangle \cup \cdots \cup \langle n \rangle \times \langle m \rangle.$$

- \blacksquare F_1 is factorized, F_2 is a listing representation
- $F_1 \equiv F_2$
- **BUT** $|F_1| = m + n \ll |F_2| = m * n$.

How much space does factorization save over the listing representation?

Given a join query Q, for any database of size N, the join result admits

a listing representation of size $O(N^{\rho^*(Q)})$. [LW49,A81,BT95,AGM08]

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a factorization without caching of size $O(N^{s(Q)})$. [OZ12]

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a factorization with caching of size $O(N^{fhtw(Q)})$. [OZ15]

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- **a** a factorization with caching of size $O(N^{fhtw(Q)})$. [OZ15]

$$oxed{1 \leq \mathit{fhtw}(Q) \underbrace{\leq}_{\mathsf{up \ to \ log \ |Q|}} \mathit{s}(Q) \underbrace{\leq}_{\mathsf{up \ to \ }|Q|}
ho^*(Q) \leq |Q|}$$

- |Q| is the number of relations in Q
- $\rho^*(Q)$ is the fractional edge cover number of Q
- \bullet s(Q) is the factorization width of Q
- fhtw(Q) is the fractional hypertree width of Q

[M10]

Given a join query Q, for any database of size N, the join result admits

- **a** listing representation of size $O(N^{\rho^*(Q)})$. [LW49,A81,BT95,AGM08]
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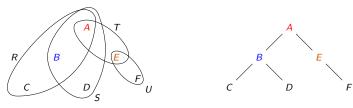
These size bounds are asymptotically tight!

Best possible size bounds for factorized representations over variable orders of Q and for listing representation, but not <u>database</u> optimal!

There exists arbitrarily large databases for which

- the listing representation has size $\Omega(N^{\rho^*(Q)})$
- the factorization with/without caching over any variable order of Q has size $\Omega(N^{s(Q)})$ and $\Omega(N^{fhtw(Q)})$ respectively.

Example: The Factorization Width s



The structure of the factorization over the above variable order Δ :

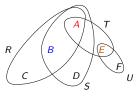
$$\bigcup_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{A}} \left(\langle \mathbf{a} \rangle \times \bigcup_{b \in \mathbf{B}} \left(\langle b \rangle \times \left(\bigcup_{c \in C} \langle c \rangle \right) \times \left(\bigcup_{d \in D} \langle d \rangle \right) \right) \times \bigcup_{e \in \mathbf{E}} \left(\langle e \rangle \times \left(\bigcup_{f \in F} \langle f \rangle \right) \right) \right)$$

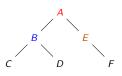
The number of values for a variable is dictated by the number of valid tuples of values for its ancestors in Δ :

■ One value $\langle f \rangle$ for each tuple (a, e, f) in the join result.

Size of factorization = sum of sizes of results of **subqueries along paths**.

Example: The Factorization Width s





- The factorization width for Δ is the largest ρ^* over subqueries defined by root-to-leaf paths in Δ
- ullet s(Q) is the minimum factorization width over all variable orders of Q

In our example:

- Path A-E-F has fractional edge cover number 2.
 ⇒ The number of F-values is ≤ N², but can be ~ N².
- All other root-to-leaf paths have fractional edge cover number 1.

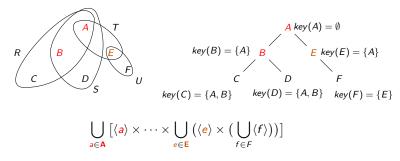
$$\Rightarrow$$
 The number of other values is $\leq N$.

$$s(Q) = 2$$
 \Rightarrow Factorization size is $O(N^2)$

Recall that
$$\rho^*(Q) = 3$$

Example: The Fractional Hypertree Width fhtw

Idea: Avoid repeating identical expressions, store them once and use pointers.

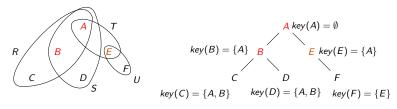


Observation:

- Variable F only depends on E and not on A: $key(F) = \{E\}$
- A value $\langle e \rangle$ maps to the same union $\bigcup_{(e,f)\in U} \langle f \rangle$ regardless of its pairings with **A**-values.
 - \Rightarrow Define $U_e = \bigcup_{(e,f) \in U} \langle f \rangle$ once for each value $\langle e \rangle$ and reuse it

Example: The Fractional Hypertree Width fhtw

Idea: Avoid repeating identical expressions, store them once and use pointers.



A factorization with caching would be:

$$\bigcup_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{A}} \left[\langle \mathbf{a} \rangle \times \cdots \times \bigcup_{e \in \mathbf{E}} \left(\langle e \rangle \times U_e \right) \right]; \qquad \left\{ U_e = \bigcup_{(e,f) \in U} \langle f \rangle \right\}$$

- fhtw for Δ is the largest $\rho^*(Q_{key(X)\cup\{X\}})$ over subqueries $Q_{key(X)\cup\{X\}}$ defined by the variables $key(X)\cup\{X\}$ for each variable X in Δ
- fhtw(Q) is the minimum fhtw over all variable orders of Q

In our example: $fhtw(Q) = 1 < s(Q) = 2 < \rho^*(Q) = 3$.

Alternative Characterizations of *fhtw*

The fractional hypertree width *fhtw* has been originally defined for hypertree decompositions. [M10]

- Given a join query Q.
- **Let T** be the set of hypertree decompositions of the hypergraph of Q.

$$fhtw(Q) = \min_{(T,\chi) \in \mathbf{T}} \max_{n \in T}
ho^*(Q_{\chi(n)})$$

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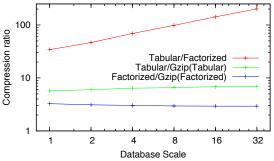
Alternative characterization of the fractional hypertree width *fhtw* using the mapping between hypertree decompositions and variable orders [OZ15]

- Given a join query Q.
- Let **VO** be the set of variable orders of *Q*.

$$\boxed{\textit{fhtw}(Q) = \min_{(F, \textit{key}) \in VO} \max_{v \in F} \rho^* (Q_{\textit{key}(v) \cup \{v\}})}$$

Compression by Factorization in Practice

Compression Contest: Factorized vs. Zipped Relations



Result of query $Orders \bowtie Dish \bowtie Items$

[BKOZ13]

- Tabular = listing representation in CSV text format
- Gzip (compression level 6) outputs binary format
- Factorized representation in text format (each digit takes one character)

Observations:

- Gzip does not exploit distant repetitions!
- Factorizations can be arbitrarily more succinct than gzipped relations.
- Gzipping factorizations improves the compression by 3x.

Factorization Gains in Practice (1/4)

Retailer dataset used for LogicBlox analytics

- Relations: Inventory (84M), Sales (1.5M), Clearance (368K), Promotions (183K), Census (1K), Location (1K).
- Compression factors (caching not used):
 - ▶ 26.61x for natural join of Inventory, Census, Location.
 - ▶ 159.59x for natural join of Inventory, Sales, Clearance, Promotions

Factorization Gains in Practice (2/4)

LastFM public dataset

- Relations: UserArtists (93K), UserFriends (25K), TaggedArtists (186K).
- Compression factors:
 - ▶ 143.54x for joining two copies of Userartists and Userfriends

With caching: 982.86x

- 253.34x when also joining on TaggedArtists
- ▶ 2.53x/ 3.04x/ 924.46x for triangle/4-clique/bowtie query on UserFriends
- ▶ 9213.51x/ 552Kx/ ≥86Mx for versions of triangle/4-clique/bowtie queries with copies for UserArtists for each UserFriend copy

Factorization Gains in Practice (3/4)

Twitter public dataset

- Relation: Follower-Followee (1M)
- Compression factors:
 - ► 2.69x for triangle query
 - ▶ 3.48x for 4-clique query
 - ▶ 4918.73x for bowtie query

Factorization Gains in Practice (4/4)

Yelp Dataset Challenge

- Relations: Business (174K), User (1.3M), Review (5.2M), Category(667K), Attribute (1.3M)
- Compression factors:
 - ▶ 39.43x for natural join of Business, User, Review, Attribute (with caching)
 - ▶ 185.87x for natural join of Business, User, Review, Attribute, Category (with caching)

Outline of Part 1: Joins



Introduction by Examples

Decompositions and Variable Orders

Size Bounds for Join Results

Worst-Case Optimal Join Algorithms

Further Work and References

Quiz

How Fast Can We Compute Join Results?

Given a join query Q, for any database of size N, the join result can be computed in time

■
$$O(N^{\rho^*(Q)})$$
 as listing representation [NPRR12,V14]

$$O(N^{s(Q)})$$
 as factorization without caching [OZ15]

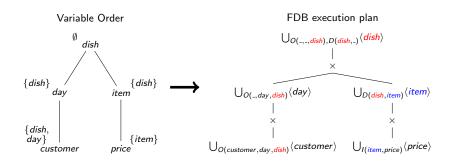
$$O(N^{fhtw(Q)})$$
 as factorization with caching [OZ15]

These upper bounds essentially follow the succinctness gap. They are:

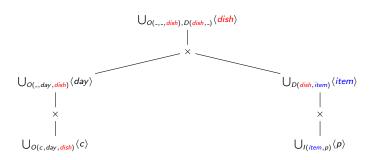
- lacktriangle worst-case optimal (modulo log N) within the given representation model
- with respect to data complexity
 - additional quadratic factor in the number of variables and linear factor in the number of relations in Q

Example: Computing the Factorized Join Result with FDB

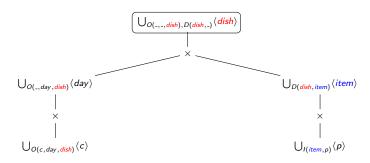
Our join: O(customer, day, dish), D(dish, item), I(item, price) can be grounded to a factorized representation as follows:

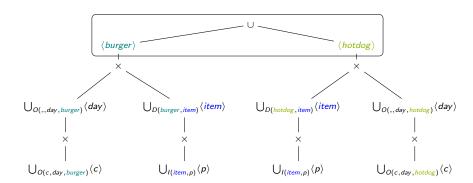


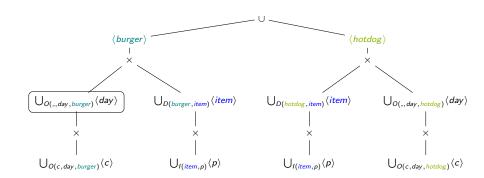
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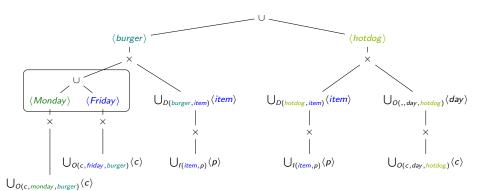


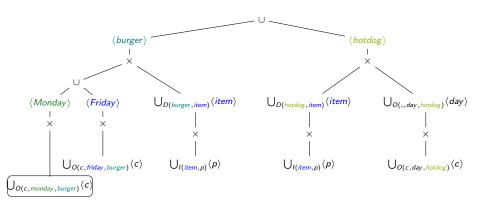
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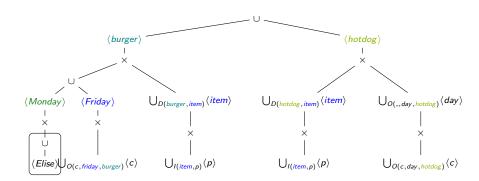


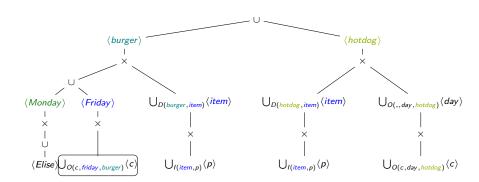


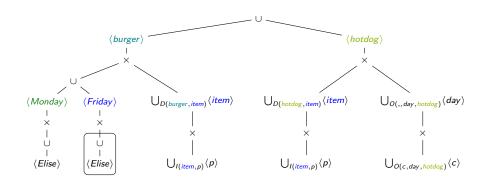


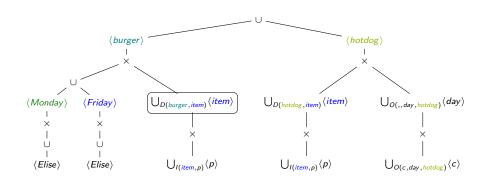


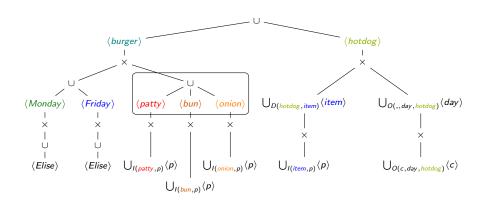


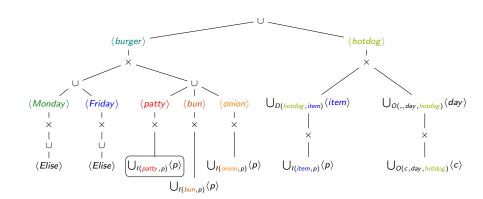


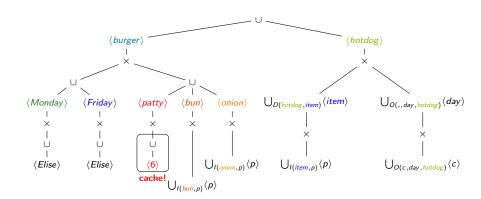


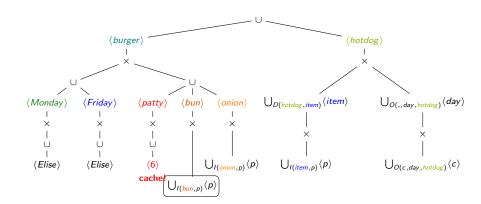


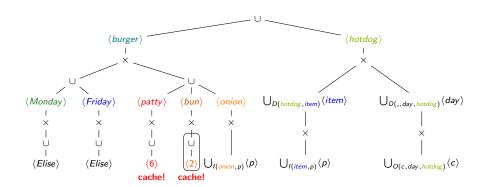


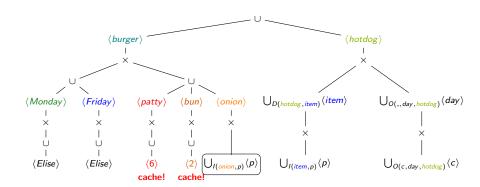


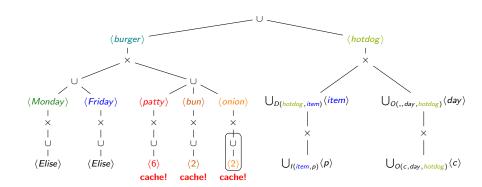


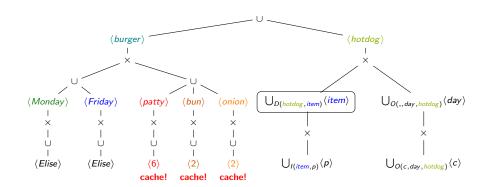


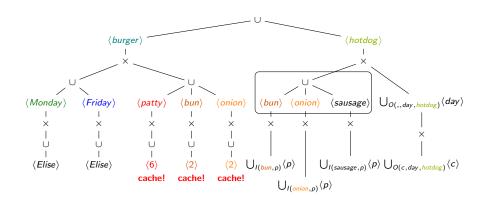


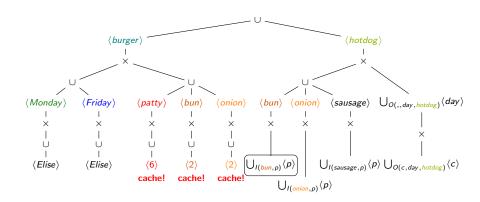


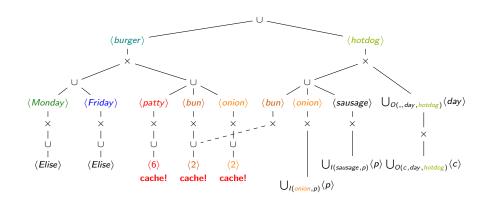




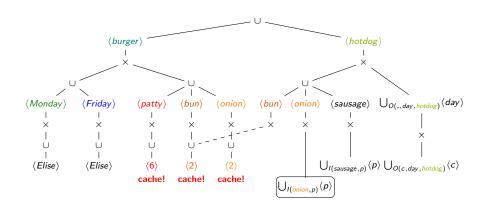




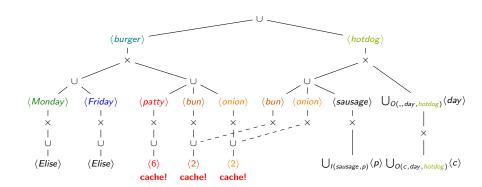




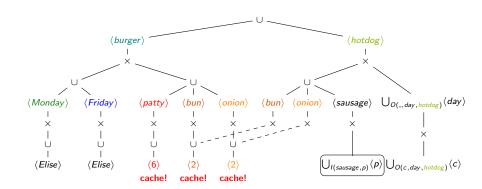
- price depends on item, but not on dish. Cache prices for specific items!
- Reuse cached prices for specific items!



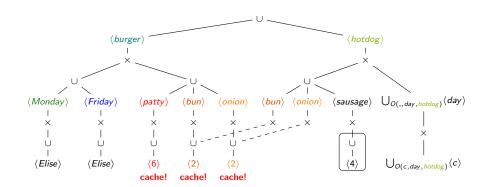
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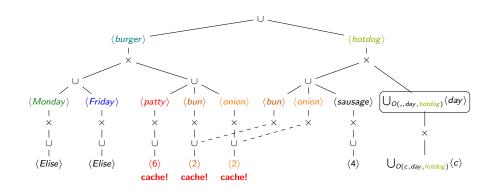
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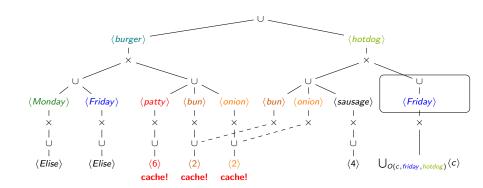
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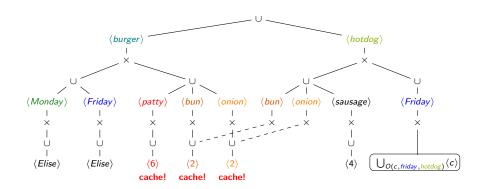
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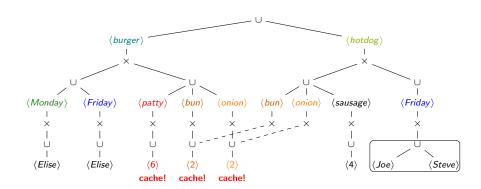
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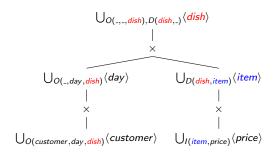
- price depends on item, but not on dish. Cache prices for specific items!
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- price depends on item, but not on dish. Cache prices for specific items!
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- price depends on item, but not on dish. Cache prices for specific items!
- Reuse cached prices for specific items!



- Relations are sorted following any topological order of the variable order
- The intersection of relations O and D on dish takes time $O(N_{\min} \log(N_{\max}/N_{\min}))$, where $N_m = m(|\pi_{dish}O|, |\pi_{dish}D|)$.
- The remaining operations are lookups in the relations, where we first fix the dish value and then the day and item values.

LeapFrog TrieJoin Algorithm

- Much acclaimed worst-case optimal join algorithm used by LogicBlox [V14]
- \blacksquare Computes a listing representation of the join result
 - ⇒ It does not exploit factorization
- $lue{}$ pprox Glorified multi-way sort-merge join with an efficient list intersection
- Several generalizations, e.g., Tetris, Minesweeper, and PANDA

[NRR13,ANS17]

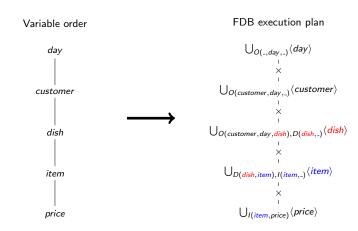
LeapFrog TrieJoin is a special case of FDB, where

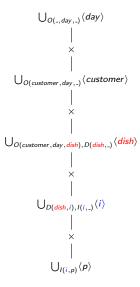
- lacksquare the input variable order Δ is a path
 - (i.e., no branching)
- for each variable A, key(A) consists of all ancestors of A in Δ . (i.e., **no caching**)

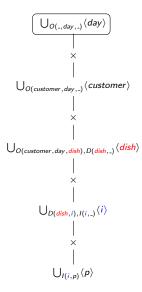
The listing representation of the result of our join:

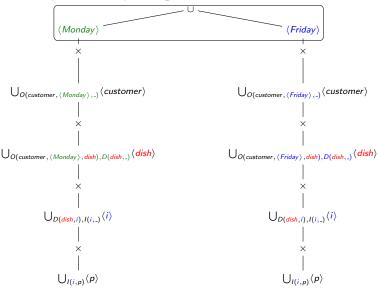
O(customer, day, dish), D(dish, item), I(item, price)

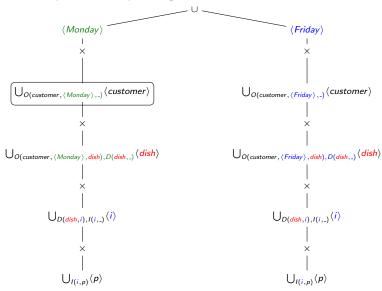
can be computed by FDB using any total variable order.

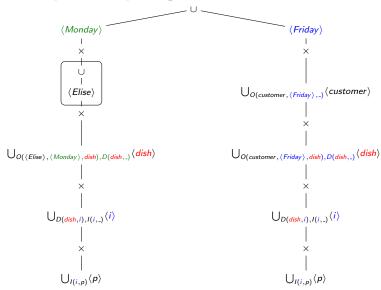


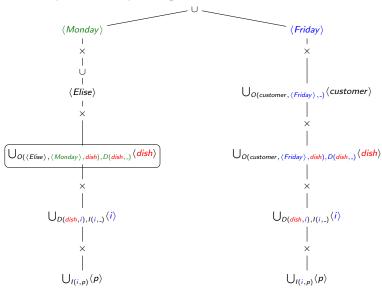


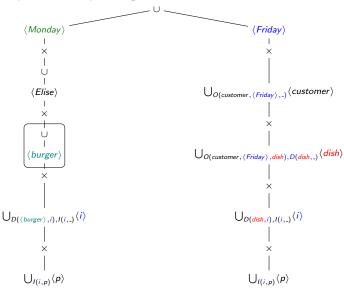


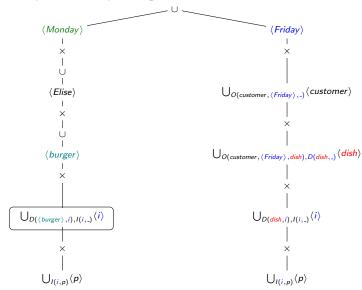


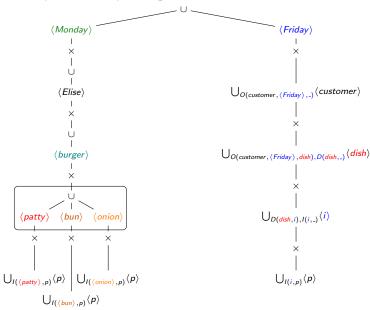


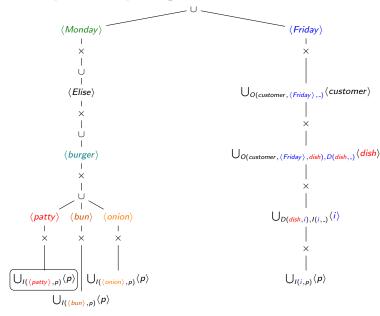


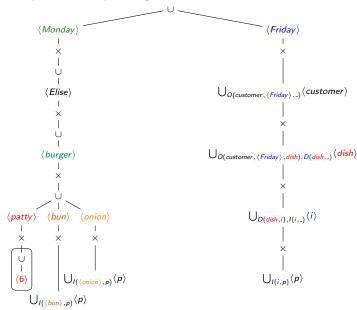


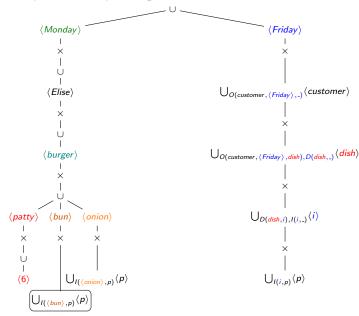


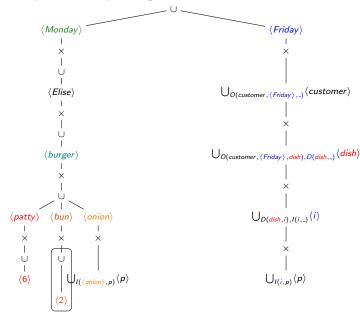


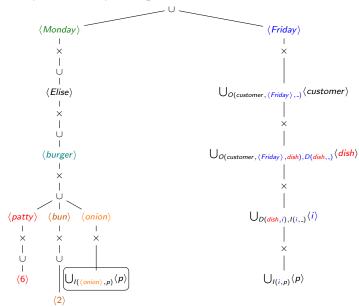


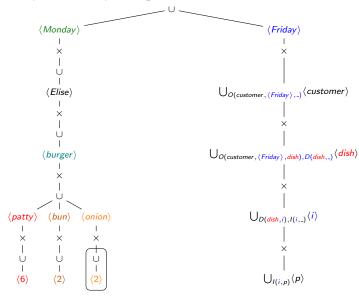


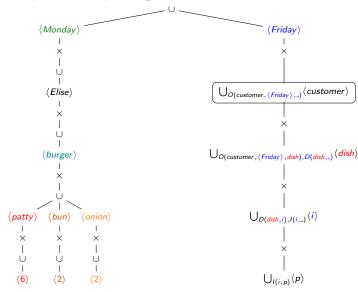


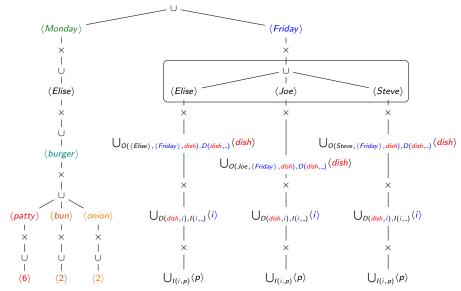


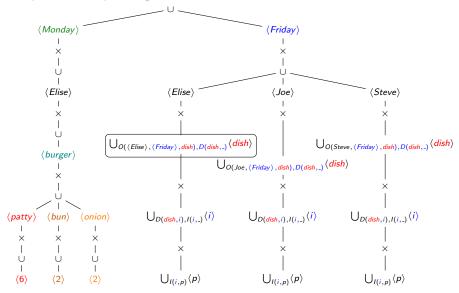


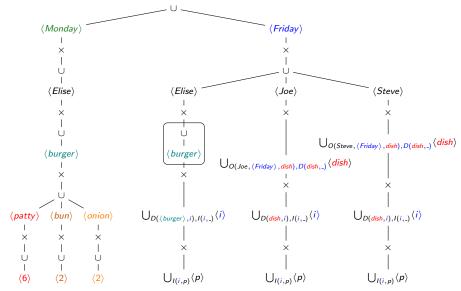


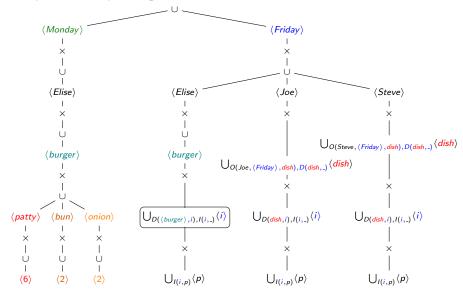


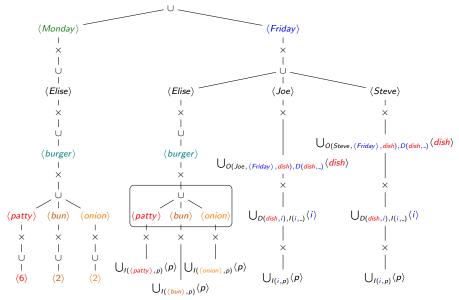


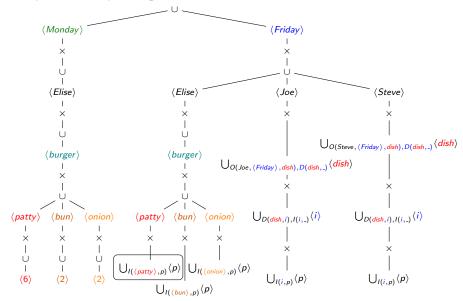


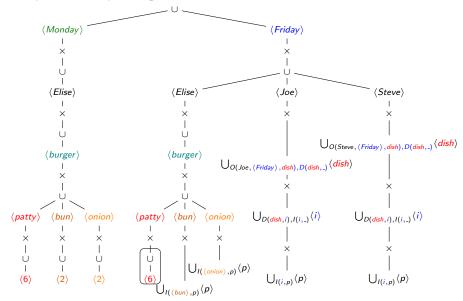


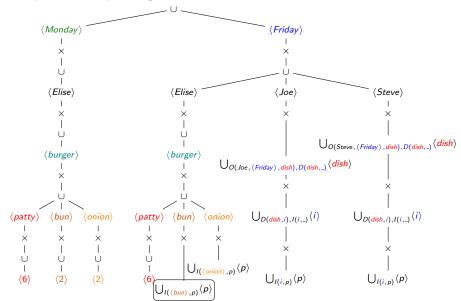


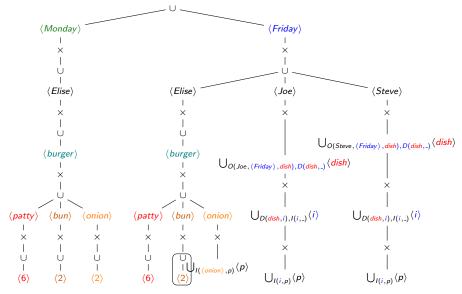


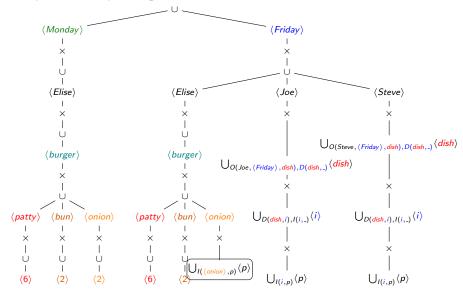


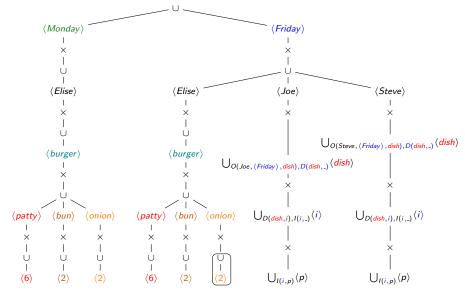


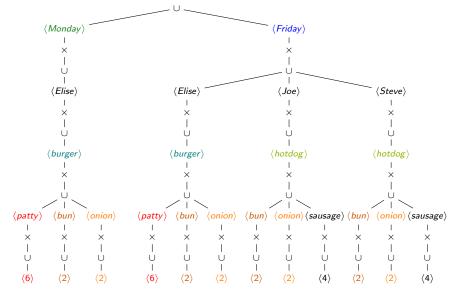






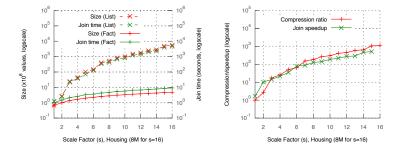






Experiment: Factorized vs. Listing Computation

		Retailer (3B)	LastFM (5.8M)
Join	Factorization	169M	316K
Size	Listing	3.6B	591M
(values)	Compression	21.4×	1870.7×
Join	FDB	30	10
Time	PostgreSQL	217	61
(sec)	Speedup	7×	6.1×



Both FDB and PostgreSQL list the records in the results of the join queries.

Outline of Part 1: Joins



Introduction by Examples

Decompositions and Variable Orders

Size Bounds for Join Results

Worst-Case Optimal Join Algorithms

Further Work and References

Quiz

Relevant Work not Covered in the Course

Widths, results sizes, and join computation under functional dependencies
 [GLVV12,ANS16,GT17,ANS17]

■ Adaptive join processing with lower complexity [AYZ97,ANS17]

We exemplify this next with the 4-cycle join

AYZ97

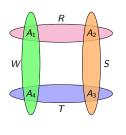
■ Covers: Relational counterpart of factorized representation

KO18

Recall the (4-cycle) Join

$$Q(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4) = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1).$$

The linear program for its fractional edge cover number:



minimize
$$x_R + x_S + x_T + x_W$$

subject to

$$A_1: x_R + x_W \ge 1$$
 $A_2: x_R + x_S \ge 1$
 $A_3: x_S + x_T \ge 1$
 $A_4: x_R \ge 0 \quad x_S \ge 0 \quad x_T \ge 0 \quad x_W \ge 0$

Solutions: $x_R = x_T = 1$ or $x_S = x_W = 1$. Then, $\rho^* = 2$. Also, fltw = 2.

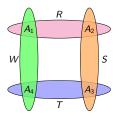
Lower bound $\Omega(N^2)$ obtained for $R(A_1, A_2) = T(A_2, A_3) = [N] \times \{1\}$ and $S(A_2, A_3)$

$$R(A_1,A_2)=T(A_3,A_4)=[N]\times\{1\} \text{ and } S(A_2,A_3)=W(A_4,A_1)=\{1\}\times[N]$$

- The variables A_1 and A_3 get values [N]
- The variable A_2 and A_4 get value $\{1\}$

Can We Do The Boolean 4-Cycle Join Faster?

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1).$$



We can use one of the two decompositions:

$$T_{1}: \underbrace{\{A_{1}, A_{2}, A_{3}\}}_{B_{1}} - \underbrace{\{A_{1}, A_{3}, A_{4}\}}_{B_{2}}$$

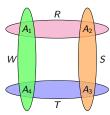
$$T_{2}: \underbrace{\{A_{4}, A_{1}, A_{2}\}}_{B_{3}} - \underbrace{\{A_{2}, A_{3}, A_{4}\}}_{B_{4}}$$

Lower-bound: A_1 and A_3 get values [N] and A_2 and A_4 get value $\{1\}$.

■ Use
$$T_1$$
: $\underbrace{R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3)}_{N \cdot N = N^2}$ cover B_1 , $\underbrace{T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)}_{N \cdot N = N^2}$ cover B_2

Can We Do The Boolean 4-Cycle Join Faster?

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1).$$



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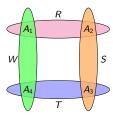
$$T_{2}: \underbrace{\{A_{4}, A_{1}, A_{2}\}}_{B_{3}} - \underbrace{\{A_{2}, A_{3}, A_{4}\}}_{B_{4}}$$

Lower-bound: A_1 and A_3 get values [N] and A_2 and A_4 get value $\{1\}$.

- Use T_1 : $\underbrace{R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3)}_{N \cdot N = N^2}$ cover B_1 , $\underbrace{T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)}_{N \cdot N = N^2}$ cover B_2
- Use T_2 : $\underbrace{R(A_1, A_2), W(A_4, A_1)}_{N}$ cover B_3 , $\underbrace{S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4)}_{N}$ cover B_4

Can We Do The Boolean 4-Cycle Join Faster?

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1).$$



We can use one of the two decompositions:

$$T_{1}:\underbrace{\{A_{1},A_{2},A_{3}\}}_{B_{1}}-\underbrace{\{A_{1},A_{3},A_{4}\}}_{B_{2}}$$

$$T_{2}:\underbrace{\{A_{4},A_{1},A_{2}\}}_{B_{3}}-\underbrace{\{A_{2},A_{3},A_{4}\}}_{B_{4}}$$

Lower-bound: A_1 and A_3 get values [N] and A_2 and A_4 get value $\{1\}$.

- Use T_1 : $\underbrace{R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3)}_{N \cdot N = N^2}$ cover B_1 , $\underbrace{T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)}_{N \cdot N = N^2}$ cover B_2
- Use T_2 : $\underbrace{R(A_1, A_2), W(A_4, A_1)}_{N}$ cover B_3 , $\underbrace{S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4)}_{N}$ cover B_4

Idea: Why not use **different decompositions** for **different classes** of input databases or even for **different partitions** of a relation?

Light and Heavy Values

Fix $\epsilon \in [0,1]$. A value a of variable A in relation R is:

HEAVY if $|\sigma_{A=a}(R)| \ge N^{\epsilon}$ LIGHT if $|\sigma_{A=a}(R)| < N^{\epsilon}$

Light and Heavy Values

Fix $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$. A value a of variable A in relation R is:

HEAVY if
$$|\sigma_{A=a}(R)| \ge N^{\epsilon}$$
 LIGHT if $|\sigma_{A=a}(R)| < N^{\epsilon}$

LIGHT if
$$|\sigma_{A=a}(R)| < N^{\epsilon}$$

Partition $R(A_1, A_2)$ and $T(A_3, A_4)$ into heavy and light parts:

$$R = \underbrace{\{(a_1, a_2) \in R \mid a_1 \text{ is heavy}\}}_{R_h} \ \cup \ \underbrace{\{(a_1, a_2) \in R \mid a_1 \text{ is light}\}}_{R_l}$$

$$T = \underbrace{\{(a_3, a_4) \in T \mid a_3 \text{ is heavy}\}}_{T_h} \cup \underbrace{\{(a_3, a_4) \in T \mid a_3 \text{ is light}\}}_{T_I}$$

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

Recall the two decompositions:

$$T_1: \overbrace{\{A_1,A_2,A_3\}}^{B_1} - \overbrace{\{A_1,A_3,A_4\}}^{B_2} \qquad T_2: \overbrace{\{A_4,A_1,A_2\}}^{B_3} - \overbrace{\{A_2,A_3,A_4\}}^{B_4}$$

We rewrite
$$Q$$
 as $Q()=Q_1()\cup Q_2()\cup Q_3()$, where
$$Q_1()=\mathsf{R_h}(A_1,A_2),S(A_2,A_3),T(A_3,A_4),W(A_4,A_1)$$

$$Q_2()=\mathsf{R_l}(A_1,A_2),S(A_2,A_3),\mathsf{T_h}(A_3,A_4),W(A_4,A_1)$$

$$Q_3()=\mathsf{R_l}(A_1,A_2),S(A_2,A_3),\mathsf{T_l}(A_3,A_4),W(A_4,A_1)$$

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

Recall the two decompositions:

$$T_1: \overbrace{\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}}^{B_1} - \overbrace{\{A_1, A_3, A_4\}}^{B_2} \qquad T_2: \overbrace{\{A_4, A_1, A_2\}}^{B_3} - \overbrace{\{A_2, A_3, A_4\}}^{B_4}$$

We evaluate

$$Q_1() = R_h(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

using
$$T_1$$
: $\underbrace{\pi_{A_1}R_h(A_1), S(A_2, A_3)}_{N^{1-\epsilon} \cdot N = N^{2-\epsilon}}$ covers B_1 , $\underbrace{\pi_{A_1}R_h(A_1), T(A_3, A_4)}_{N^{1-\epsilon} \cdot N = N^{2-\epsilon}}$ covers B_2

For $\epsilon = 1/2$, the time to compute Q_1 is $N^{3/2}$.

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

Recall the two decompositions:

$$T_1: \overbrace{\{A_1,A_2,A_3\}}^{B_1} - \overbrace{\{A_1,A_3,A_4\}}^{B_2} \qquad T_2: \overbrace{\{A_4,A_1,A_2\}}^{B_3} - \overbrace{\{A_2,A_3,A_4\}}^{B_4}$$

We evaluate

$$Q_2() = R_1(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T_h(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

using
$$T_1$$
: $\underbrace{\pi_{A_3} T_h(A_3), R_I(A_1, A_2)}_{N^{1-\epsilon} \cdot N = N^{2-\epsilon}}$ covers B_1 , $\underbrace{\pi_{A_3} T_h(A_3), W(A_1, A_4)}_{N^{1-\epsilon} \cdot N = N^{2-\epsilon}}$ covers B_2

For $\epsilon = 1/2$, the time to compute Q_2 is $N^{3/2}$.

$$Q() = R(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

Recall the two decompositions:

$$T_1: \overbrace{\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}}^{B_1} - \overbrace{\{A_1, A_3, A_4\}}^{B_2} \qquad T_2: \overbrace{\{A_4, A_1, A_2\}}^{B_3} - \overbrace{\{A_2, A_3, A_4\}}^{B_4}$$

We evaluate

$$Q_3() = R_1(A_1, A_2), S(A_2, A_3), T_1(A_3, A_4), W(A_4, A_1)$$

using
$$T_2$$
: $\underbrace{W(A_4, A_1), R_I(A_1, A_2)}_{N \cdot N^{\epsilon} = N^{1+\epsilon}}$ covers B_1 , $\underbrace{S(A_2, A_3), T_I(A_3, A_4)}_{N \cdot N^{\epsilon} = N^{1+\epsilon}}$ covers B_2

For $\epsilon = 1/2$, the time to compute Q_3 is $N^{3/2}$.

Covers: Relational Counterparts of Factorizations

- Factorized representations are not relational :(
 - ► This makes it difficult to integrate them into relational data systems
- Covers of Query Results

[KO17]

- Relations that are lossless representations of query results, yet are as succinct as factorized representations
- For a join query Q and any database of size N, a cover has size $O(N^{fhtw(Q)})$ and can be computed in time $\widetilde{O}(N^{fhtw(Q)})$
- How to get a cover?
 - Construct a hypertree decomposition of the query
 - Project query result onto the bags of the hypertree decomposition
 - Construct on these projections the hypergraph of the query result
 - Take a minimal edge cover of this hypergraph

Recall the Itemized Customer Orders Example

Orders (O for short)		Dish (D for short)		Items (I for short)		
customer	day	dish	dish	item	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	burger	patty	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	burger	onion	onion	2
Steve	Friday	hotdog	burger	bun	bun	2
Joe	Friday	hotdog	hotdog	bun	sausage	4
			hotdog	onion	•	
			hotdog	sausage		



O(customer, day, dish), B(dish, helin), I(helin, phee)									
customer	day	dish	item	price					
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6					
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2					
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2					
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6					
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2					
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2					

Elise Monday burger

Elise Friday burger

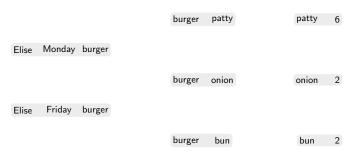


customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2



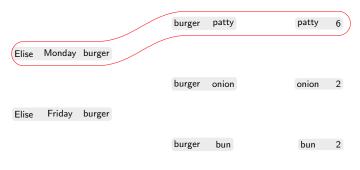


				,
customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2





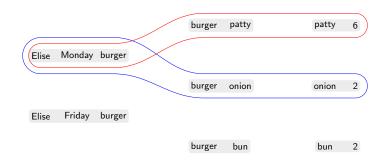
customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2





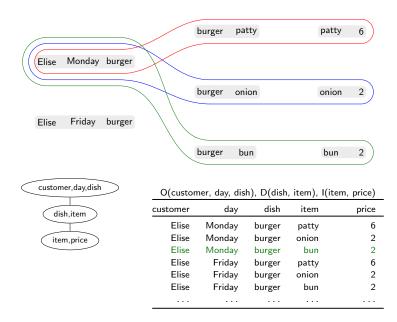
0	customer,	day	dish)	D	(dish	item)	1	(item	nrice)	١
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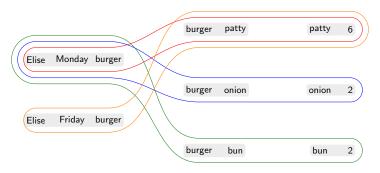
customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2





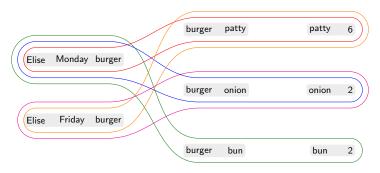
customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2





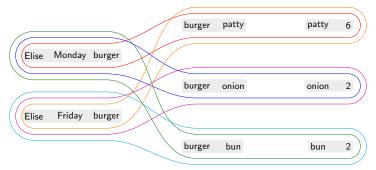


customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2





customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2

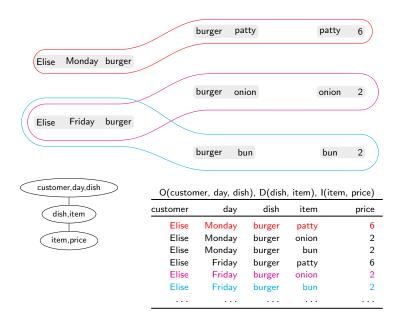




\cap	customer,	day	dich)	D_{i}	(dich	itam	۱ ۱	(itam	nrico)	١
0	customer,	uay,	aisn),	ν	(aisn,	item,), I	(Item,	price	1

customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2

A Minimal Edge Cover of the Hypergraph



A Cover of (a part of) the Query Result

O(customer, day, dish), D(dish, item), I(item, price)

_ o(customer, duy, dish), b(dish, heli), i(helii, phee)						
customer	day	dish	item	price		
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6		
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2		
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2		
	au	801	Sun			



customer	day	dish	item	price
Elise	Monday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Monday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Monday	burger	bun	2
Elise	Friday	burger	patty	6
Elise	Friday	burger	onion	2
Elise	Friday	burger	bun	2

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Outline of Part 1: Joins



Introduction by Examples

Decompositions and Variable Orders

Size Bounds for Join Results

Worst-Case Optimal Join Algorithms

Further Work and References

Quiz

QUIZ on Joins (1/4)

For each of the following queries, please show the following:

- 1. A hypertree decomposition and an equivalent variable order
- 2. The fractional edge cover number and the fractional hypertree width

Path Query of length *n*:

$$P_n(X_1,\ldots,X_{n+1})=R_1(X_1,X_2),R_2(X_2,X_3),R_3(X_3,X_4),\ldots,R_n(X_n,X_{n+1}).$$

QUIZ on Joins (2/4)

For each of the following queries, please show the following:

- 1. A hypertree decomposition and an equivalent variable order
- 2. The fractional edge cover number and the fractional hypertree width

Loop Query of length n:

$$L_n(X_1,\ldots,X_{n+1}) = R_1(X_1,X_2), R_2(X_2,X_3), R_3(X_3,X_4),\ldots, R_n(X_n,X_1).$$

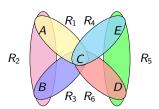
QUIZ on Joins (3/4)

For each of the following queries, please show the following:

- 1. A hypertree decomposition and an equivalent variable order
- 2. The fractional edge cover number and the fractional hypertree width

Bowtie Query:

 $Q_{\bowtie}(A, B, C, D, E) = R_1(A, C), R_2(A, B), R_3(B, C), R_4(C, E), R_5(E, D), R_6(C, D).$



QUIZ on Joins (4/4)

For each of the following queries, please show the following:

- 1. A hypertree decomposition and an equivalent variable order
- 2. The fractional edge cover number and the fractional hypertree width

Loomis-Whitney Queries of length n: A LW_n query has n variables X_1, \ldots, X_n and n relation symbols such that for every $i \in [n]$ the relation symbol R_i has variables $\{X_1, \ldots, X_n\} - \{X_i\}$:

$$LW_n(X_1,...,X_n) = R_1(X_2,...,X_n),...,R_i(X_1,...,X_{i-1},X_{i+1},...,X_n),...,$$
$$R_n(X_1,...,X_{n-1})$$

 LW_n captures the Loomis–Whitney inequality: Estimate the "size" of a d-dimensional set by the sizes of its (d-1)-dimensional projections.

 LW_3 is the triangle query.