Query Optimization

CS348 Spring 2024

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Sections: **002 & 003 only**

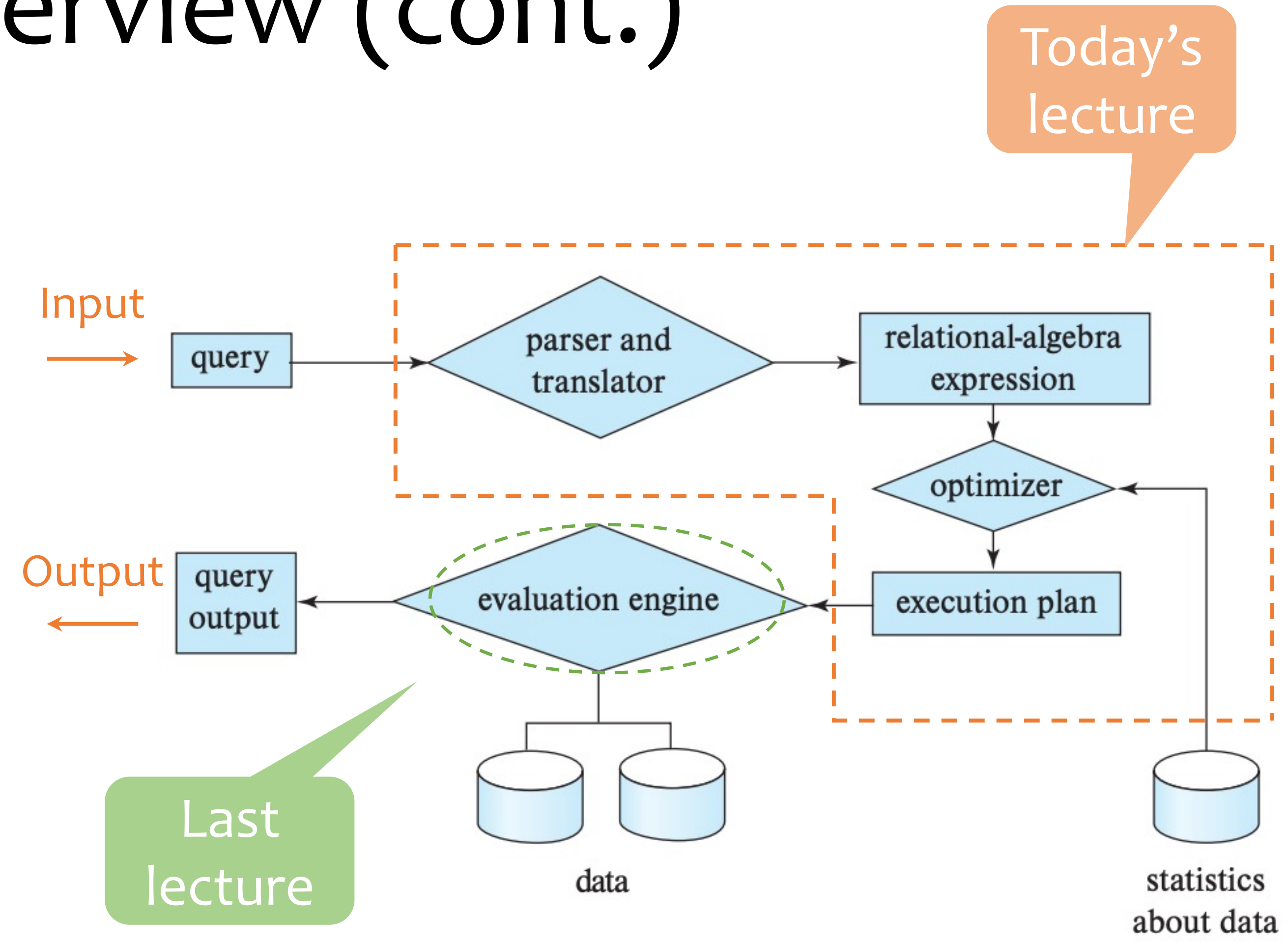
Overview

- Many different ways of processing the same query
  - Scan? Sort? Hash? Use an index?
  - All have different performance characteristics and/or make different assumptions about data

last lectur

- Best choice depends on the situation
  - Implement all alternatives
  - Let the query optimizer choose at run-time (this lecture)

Overview (cont.)



Outline

- System view of query processing
  - Logical plan and physical plan

- Cost calculation of the physical plan
  - Cardinality estimation

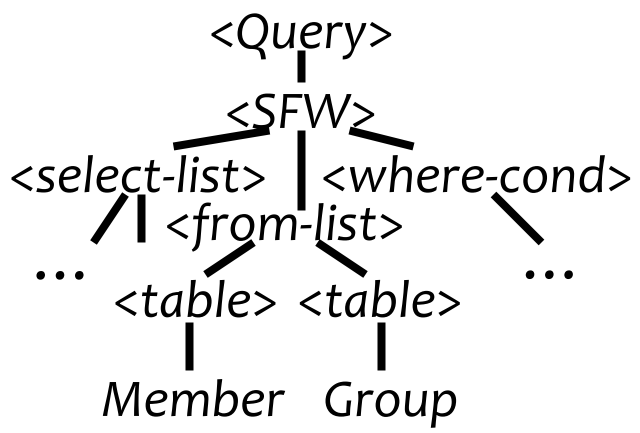
Cost based optimization

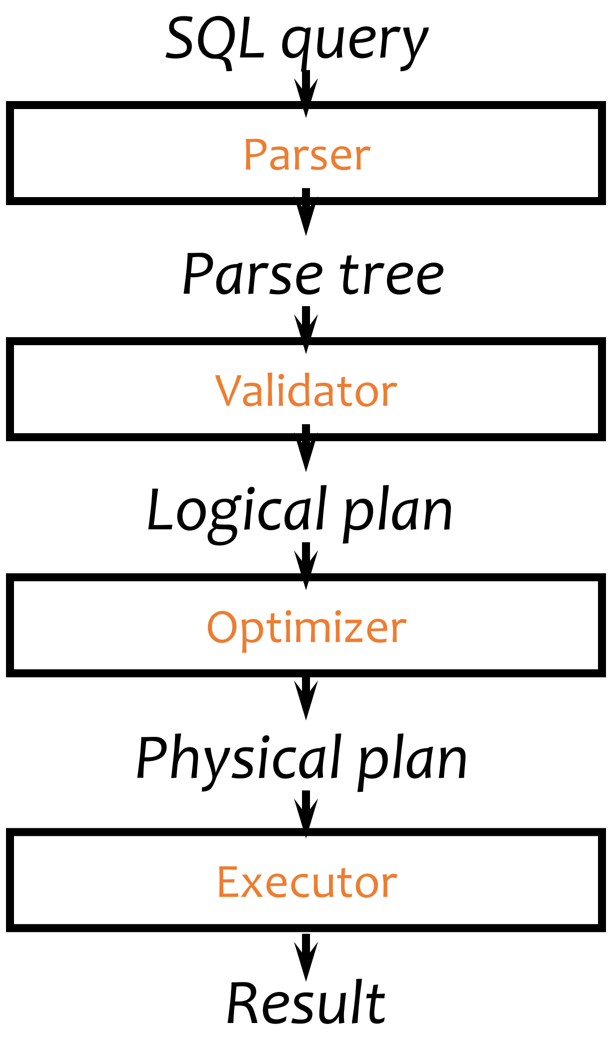
- Search space and search strategy
  - Transformation rules

Heuristic or Rule based optimization

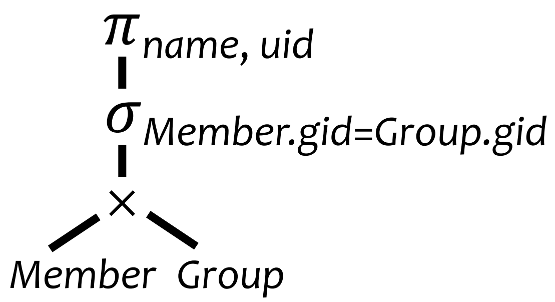
A query's trip through the DBMS

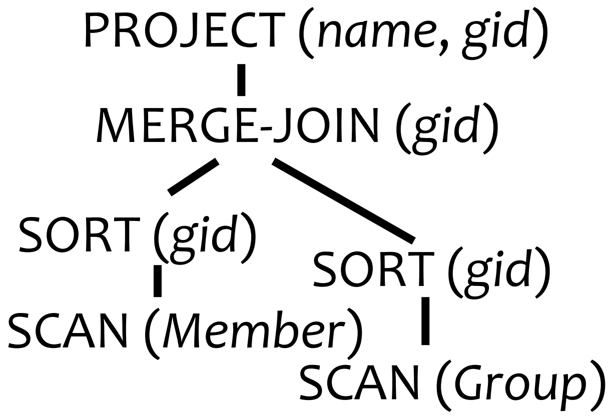
AST: Abstract Syntax Tree





SELECT name, uid
FROM Member, Group
WHERE Member.gid =
Group.gid;



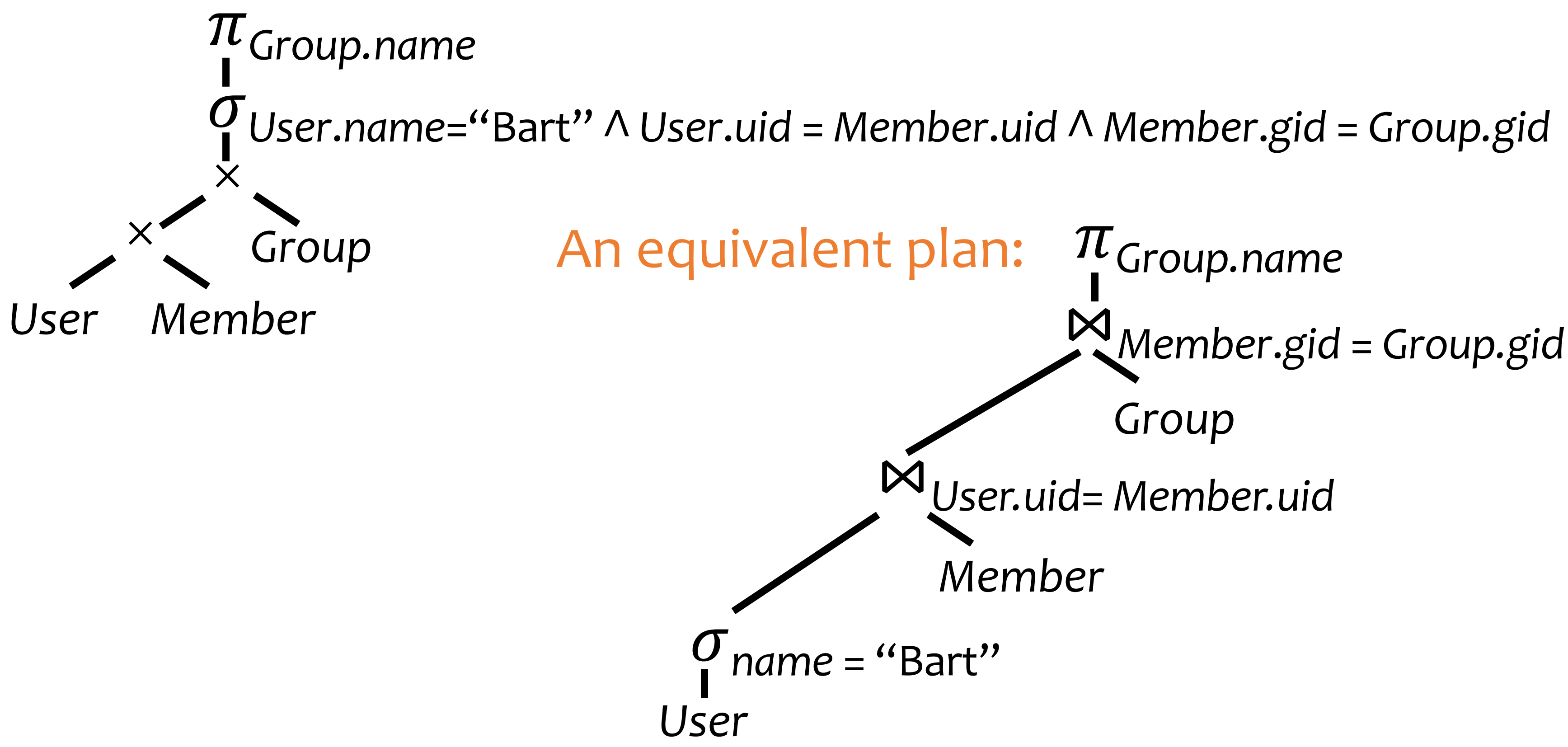


Parsing and validation

- Parser: SQL → parse tree or AST
  - Detect and reject syntax errors
- Validator: parse tree → logical plan
  - Detect and reject semantic errors
    - Nonexistent tables/views/columns?
    - Insufficient access privileges?
    - Type mismatches?
      - Examples: AVG(name), name + pop, User UNION Member
  - Also
    - Expand *
    - Expand view definitions
  - Information required for semantic checking is found in system catalog (which contains all schema information)

Logical plan

- Nodes are logical operators (often relational algebra operators)
- There are many equivalent logical plans



$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\sigma_{User.name=\text{“Bart”} \wedge User.uid = Member.uid \wedge Member.gid = Group.gid}$
$\times$
$\times$
Group
User
Member
An equivalent plan:
$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\bowtie_{Member.gid = Group.gid}$
Group
$\bowtie_{User.uid= Member.uid}$
Member
$\sigma_{name = \text{“Bart”}}$
User

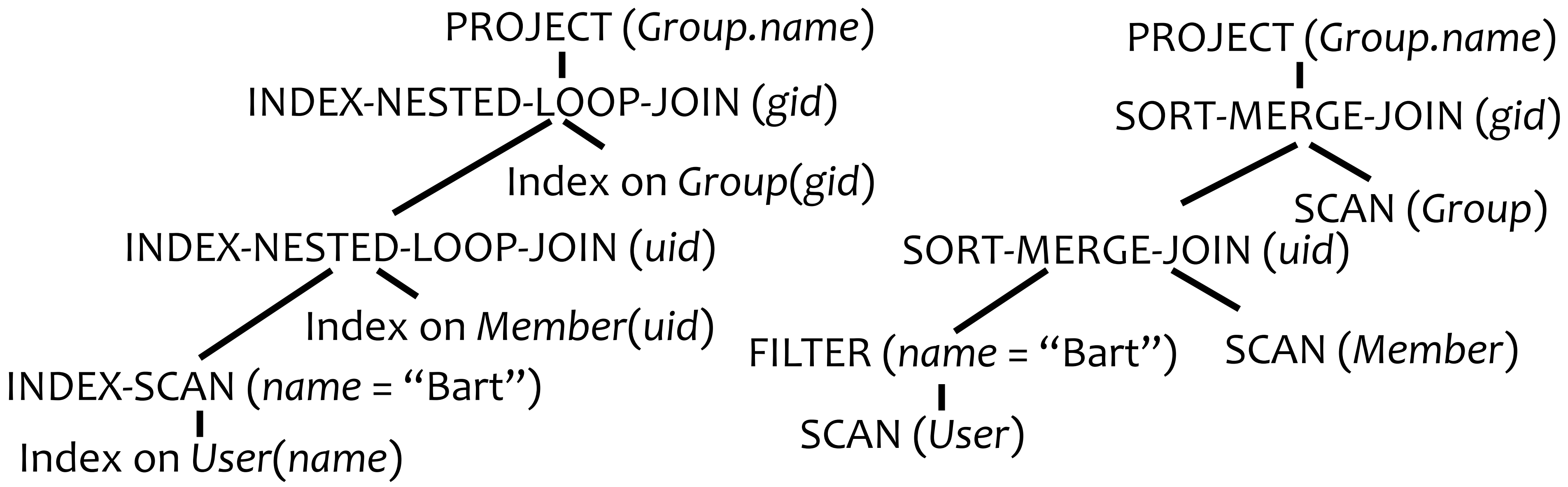
Physical (execution) plan

- A complex query may involve multiple tables and various query processing algorithms
  - E.g., table scan, basic & block nested-loop join, index nested-loop join, sort-merge join, … (last lecture)

- A physical plan for a query tells the DBMS query processor how to execute the query
  - A tree of physical plan operators
  - Each operator implements a query processing algorithm
  - Each operator accepts a number of input tables/streams and produces a single output table/stream

Examples of physical plans

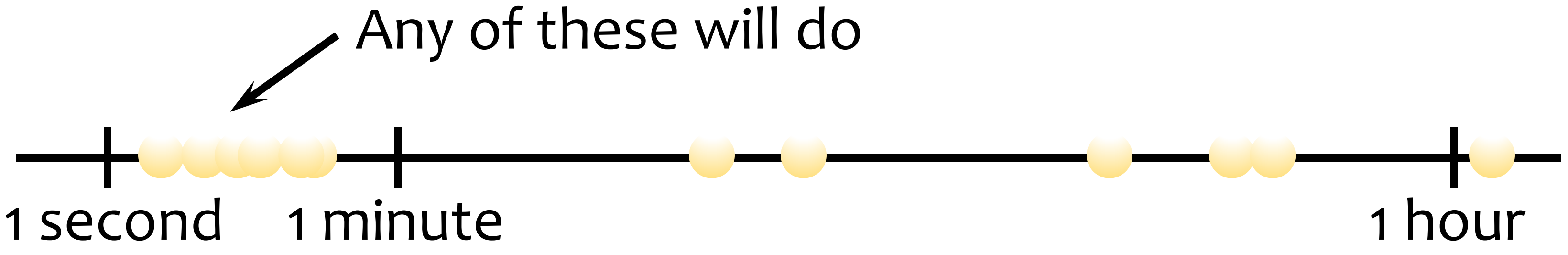
SELECT Group.name
FROM User, Member, Group
WHERE User.name = 'Bart'
AND User.uid = Member.uid AND Member.gid = Group.gid;



- Many physical plans for a single query
  - Equivalent results, but different costs and assumptions!
  - ☞DBMS query optimizer picks the "best" possible physical plan

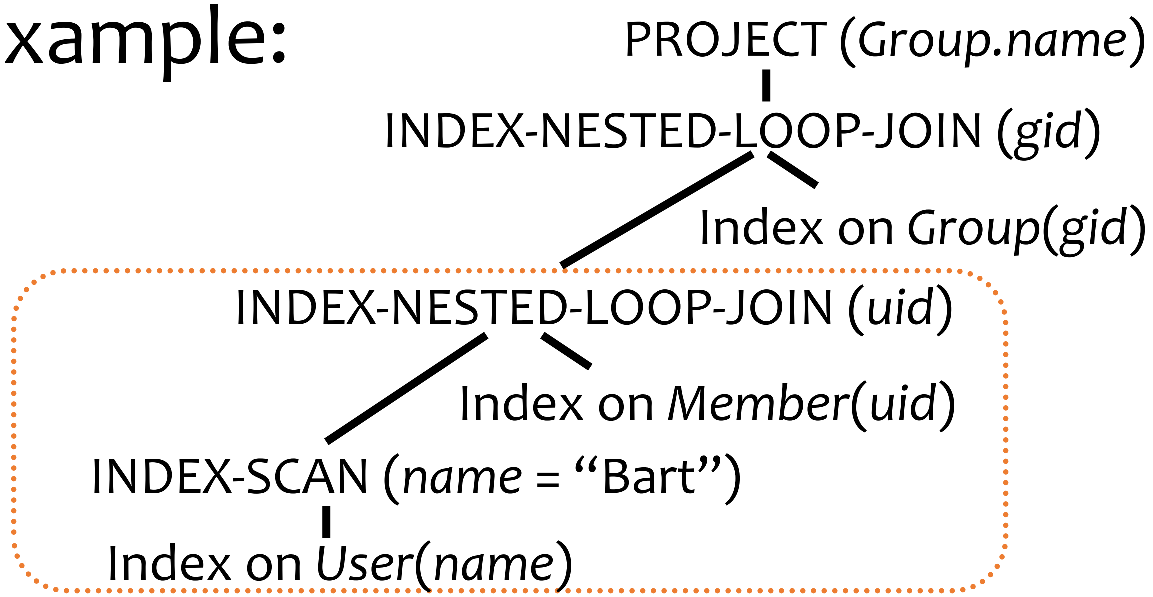
How to pick the "best" physical plan?

- One logical plan → "best" physical plan
- Questions
    - How to estimate costs
    - How to enumerate possible plans
    - How to pick the "best" one
- Often the goal is not getting the optimum plan, but instead avoiding the horrible ones



Cost estimation

Physical plan example:



Input to Join(*uid*):

What is its input size? How many tuples with name='Bart'?

Last lecture

- We have: cost estimation for each operator
  - Example: INDEX-NESTED-LOOP-JOIN(*uid*) takes $O(B(R) + |R| \cdot (\text{index lookup} + \text{record fetch}))$
- We need: size of intermediate results

Cardinality estimation

Cardinality estimation for:

- Equality predicates
- Range predicates
- Joins

- Textbook has more operators

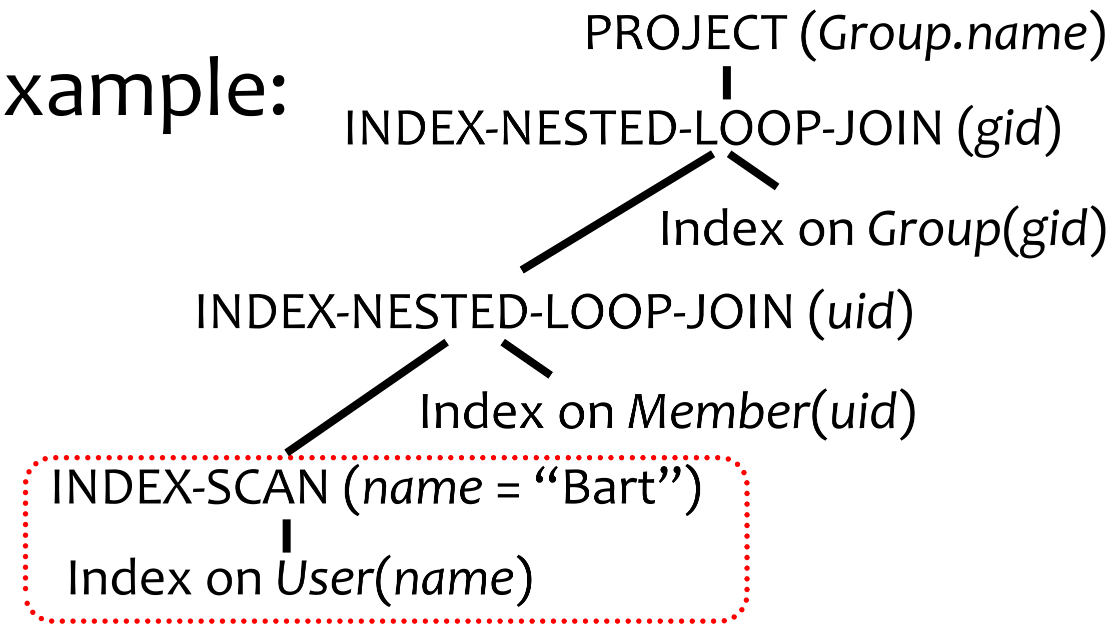
Selections with equality predicates

- Q: $\sigma_{A=v} R$
- DBMSs typically store the following in the catalog
  - Size of R: $|R|$
  - Number of distinct A values in R: $|\pi_A R|$
- Assumptions
  - Values of A are uniformly distributed in R

- $|Q| \approx {}^{|R|}/_{|\pi_A R|}$
  - Selectivity factor of $(A = v)$ is ${}^{1}/_{|\pi_A R|}$
  - Selectivity: the probability that any row will satisfy a predicate

Example

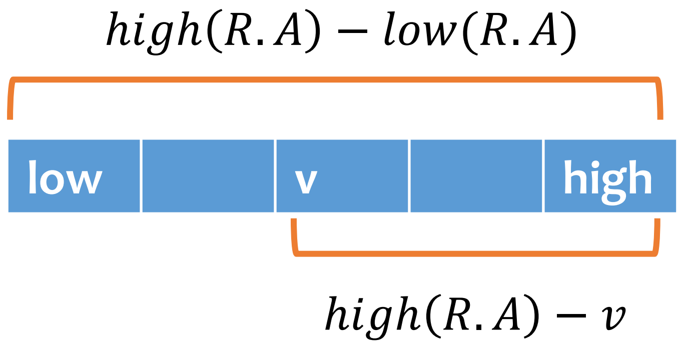
Physical plan example:



- |User|=1000, $|\pi_{name}(User)| = 50$ ➔ $|\sigma_{name="Bart"}(User)| =?$
- Assumptions:
  - Values of $name$ are uniformly distributed in $User$
- $|\sigma_{name="Bart"}(User)| = \frac{1000}{50} = 20$

Range predicates

- Q: $\sigma_{A>v} R$
- Not enough information!
  - Just pick, say, $|Q| \approx |R| \cdot {}^1/_3$



- With more information
  - Largest R.A value: $\mathrm{high}(R.A)$
  - Smallest R.A value: $\mathrm{low}(R.A)$
  - $|Q| \approx |R| \cdot \frac{\mathrm{high}(R.A)-v}{\mathrm{high}(R.A)-\mathrm{low}(R.A)}$

  - Selectivity factor: $\frac{\mathrm{high}(R.A)-v}{\mathrm{high}(R.A)-\mathrm{low}(R.A)}$

Two-way equi-join (R.A=S.A)

- Q: $R(A,B) \bowtie S(A,C)$
- Assumption: containment of value sets
  - Every tuple in the "smaller" relation (one with fewer distinct values for the join attribute) joins with some tuple in the other relation
    - That is, if $|\pi_A R| \leq |\pi_A S|$ then $\pi_A R \subseteq \pi_A S$
  - Certainly not true in general
  - But holds in the common case of foreign key joins
- $|Q| \approx \frac{|R|\cdot|S|}{\max(|\pi_A R|,|\pi_A S|)}$
  - Selectivity factor of $R.A = S.A$ is ${}^{1}/_{\max(|\pi_A R|,|\pi_A S|)}$

Example

- Database:
  - User(<u>uid</u>, name, age, pop), Member(<u>gid,uid</u>,date), Group(<u>gid</u>, gname)
  - |User|=1000 rows, |Group|=100 rows, |Member|=50000 rows
  - $|\pi_{name}(User)| = 50$
  - $|\pi_{uid}(Member)| = 500$

- Estimate size $|User \bowtie Member| =?$
- $|Q| \approx \frac{|R| \cdot |S|}{\max(|\pi_A R|, |\pi_A S|)}$

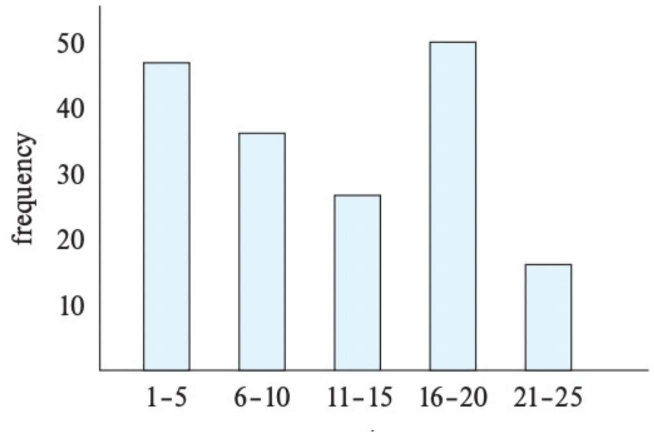
  - $|\,\pi_{uid}(User)| = 1000$
  - $|\pi_{uid}(Member)| = 500$
  - 1000*50000/max(500,1000)=50000

Other estimations

- Using similar ideas, we can estimate the size of projection, duplicate elimination, union, difference, aggregation (with grouping)

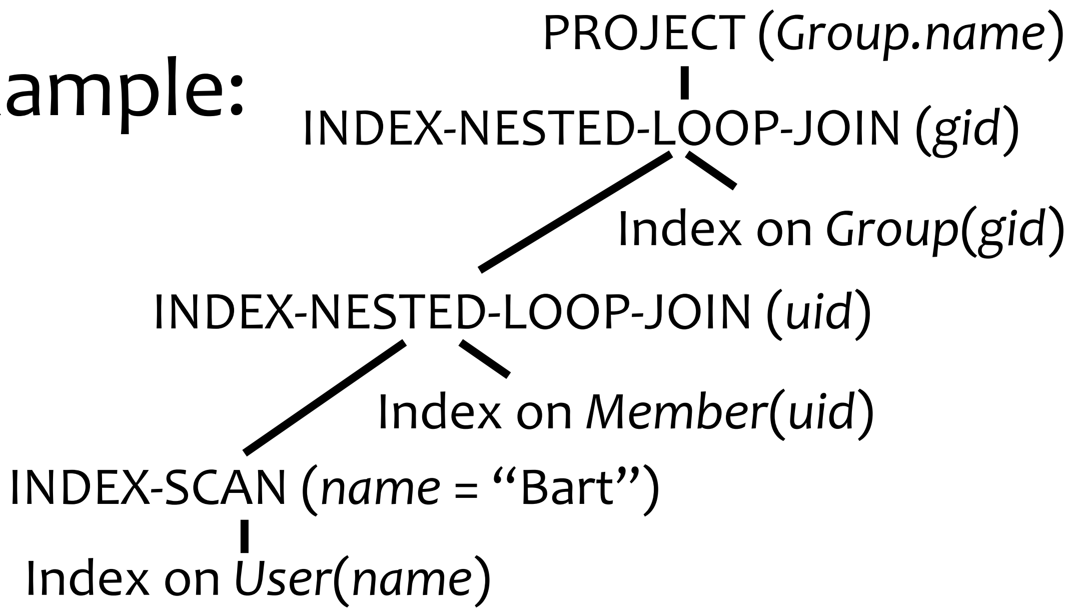
- Lots of assumptions and very rough estimation
  - Accurate estimate is not needed
  - Maybe okay if we overestimate or underestimate

- Better estimation using histograms
  - Instead of assuming uniform distribution, use the frequency from the histogram



Case Study

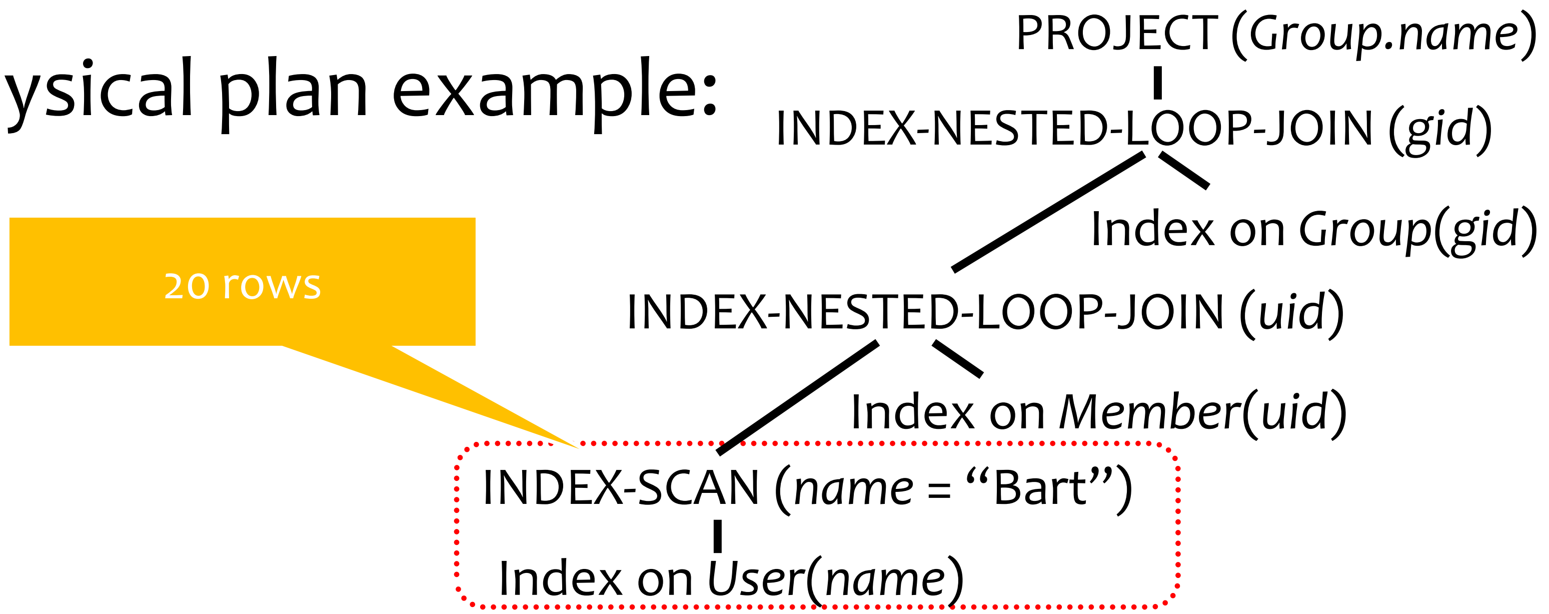
Physical plan example:



- System requirements:
  - Each disk/memory block can hold up to 10 rows (from any table);
  - All tables are stored compactly on disk (10 rows per block);
  - 8 memory blocks are available for query processing: M=8
- Database:
  - User(uid, age, pop), Member(gid,uid,date), Group(gid, gname)
  - |User|=1000 rows, |Group|=100 rows, |Member|=50000 rows
  - #of blocks: B(User)=1000/10=100; B(Group)=100/10=10; B(Member)=50000/10=5k

Case Study

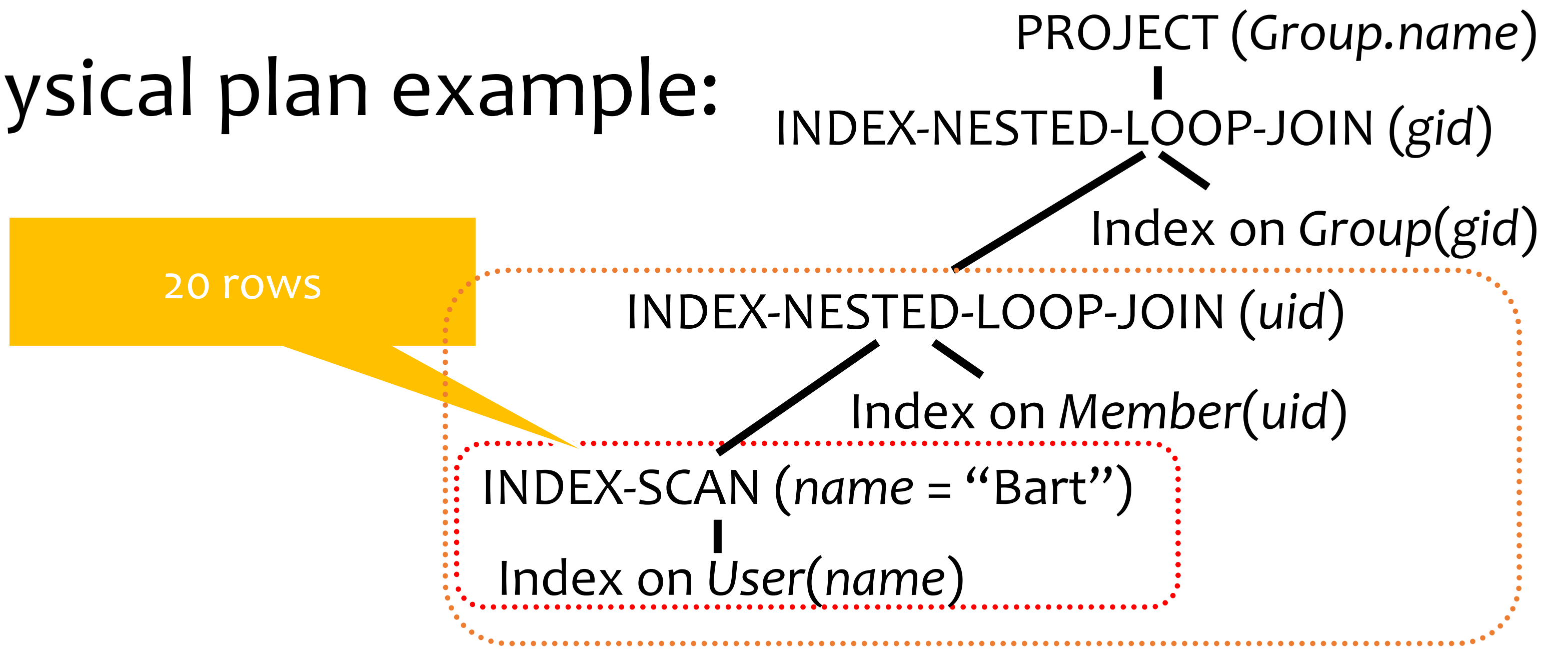
Physical plan example:



- Given |User|=1000, $|\pi_{name}(User)| = 50$
    - ➔ $|\sigma_{name="Bart"}(User)| = \frac{1000}{50} = 20$ records
- INDEX-SCAN on User
    - IO COST: index lookup (4 IOs, depending on the height of the index tree)

Case Study

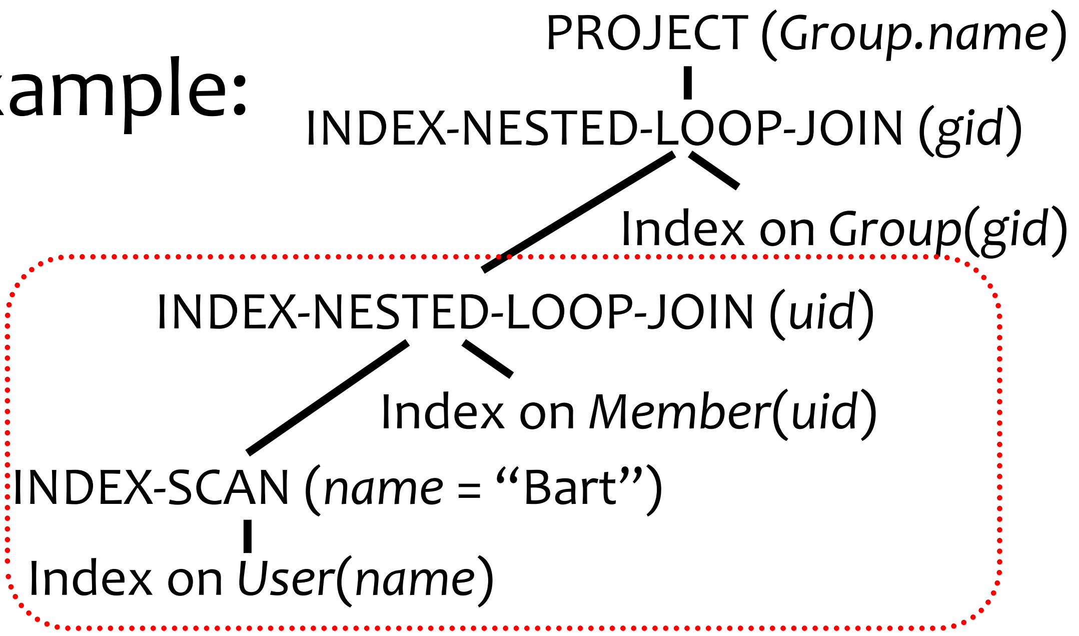
Physical plan example:



- |User|=1000, $|\pi_{name}(User)| = 50$ ➔ $|\sigma_{name="Bart"}(User)| = \frac{1000}{50} = 20$ records
- INDEX-SCAN on User
  - IO COST: index lookup (4 IOs, depending on the height of the index tree)
- JOIN: For each record with name = "Bart", probe the index on $Member(uid)$
  - IO cost: $B(R) + |R| \cdot (\text{index lookup} + \text{record fetch})$
  - 20 rows are not clustered → at worst case, 20 blocks of data to be retrieved
  - 20 + 20 * (4 IOs for index + record fetches)

Case Study

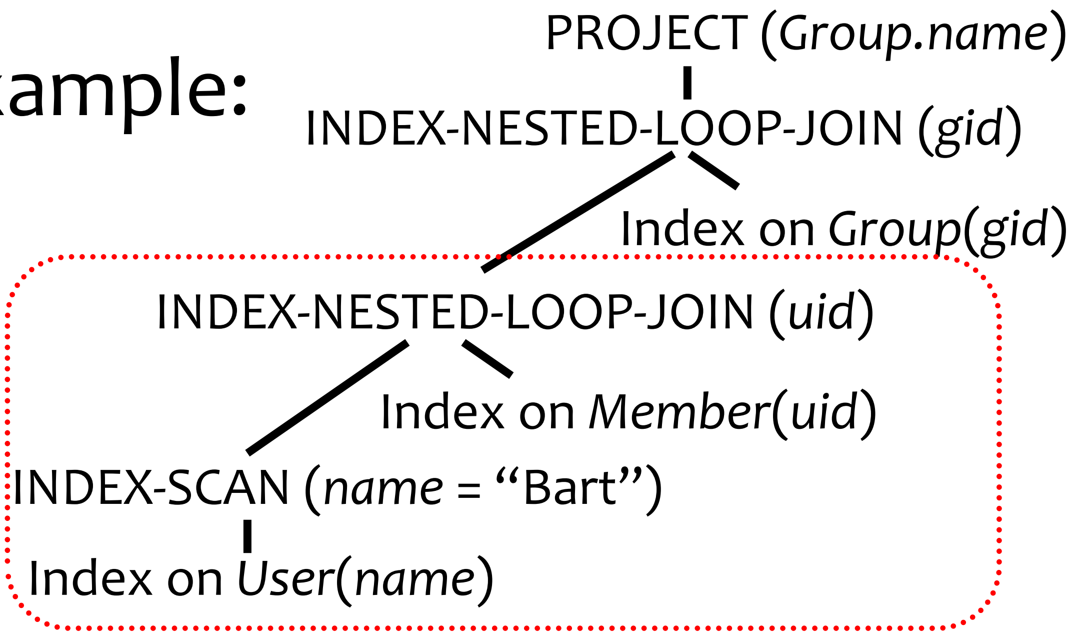
Physical plan example:



- Given $|\pi_{uid}(\sigma_{name="Bart"}User)| = 20$, $|\pi_{uid}(Member)| = 500$, $|\pi_{gid}(Member)| = 100$, $|\pi_{gid}(Group)| = 100$
- $|JOIN(uid)| = ?$

Case Study

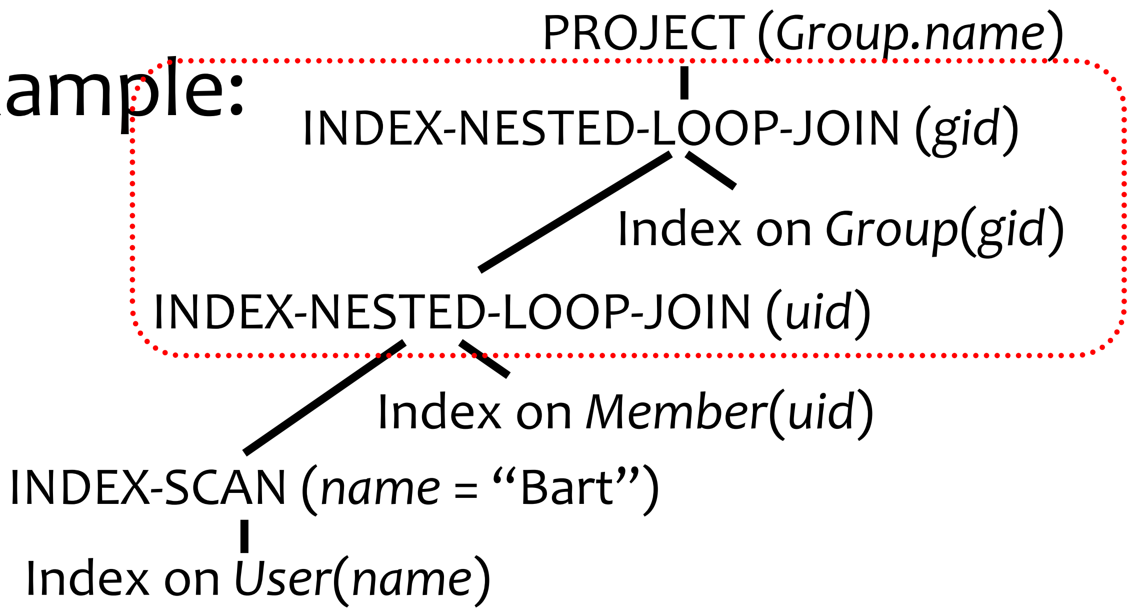
Physical plan example:



- Given $|\pi_{uid}(\sigma_{name="Bart"}User)| = 20$, $|\pi_{uid}(Member)| = 500$, $|\pi_{gid}(Member)| = 100$, $|\pi_{gid}(Group)| = 100$
- $|JOIN(uid)| \approx \frac{|R|\cdot|S|}{\max(|\pi_A R|,|\pi_A S|)} = \frac{20\cdot 50k}{\max(20,500)} = \frac{1000k}{500} = 2k$
- |JOIN(gid)| = ?

Case Study

Physical plan example:


PROJECT (Group.name)
INDEX-NESTED-LOOP-JOIN (gid)
Index on Group(gid)
INDEX-NESTED-LOOP-JOIN (uid)
Index on Member(uid)
INDEX-SCAN (name = "Bart")
Index on User(name)

Input = JOIN(uid)

- Given | Input|= 2k, $|\pi_{gid}(\text{Member})| = 100$, $|Group| = 100$, $|\pi_{gid}(Group)| = 100$,
- $|JOIN(gid)| \approx \frac{|R|\cdot|S|}{\max(|\pi_A R|,|\pi_A S|)} = \frac{2k\cdot 100}{\max(100,100)} = \frac{200k}{100} = 2k$

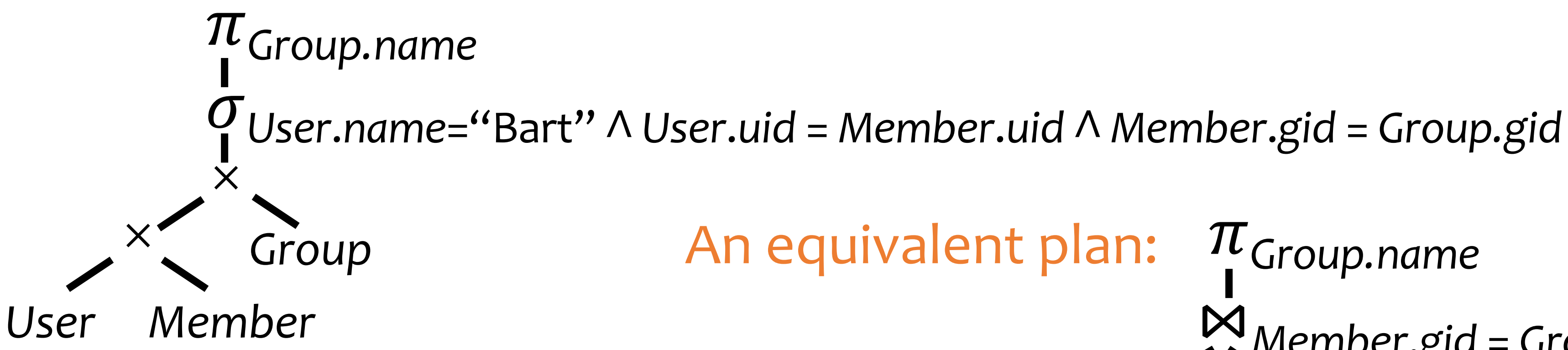
Outline

- System view of query processing
  - Logical plan and physical plan
- Cost calculation of the physical plan
  - Cardinality estimation
- Search space and search strategy
  - Transformation rules
  - Heuristic approach

Search space is huge

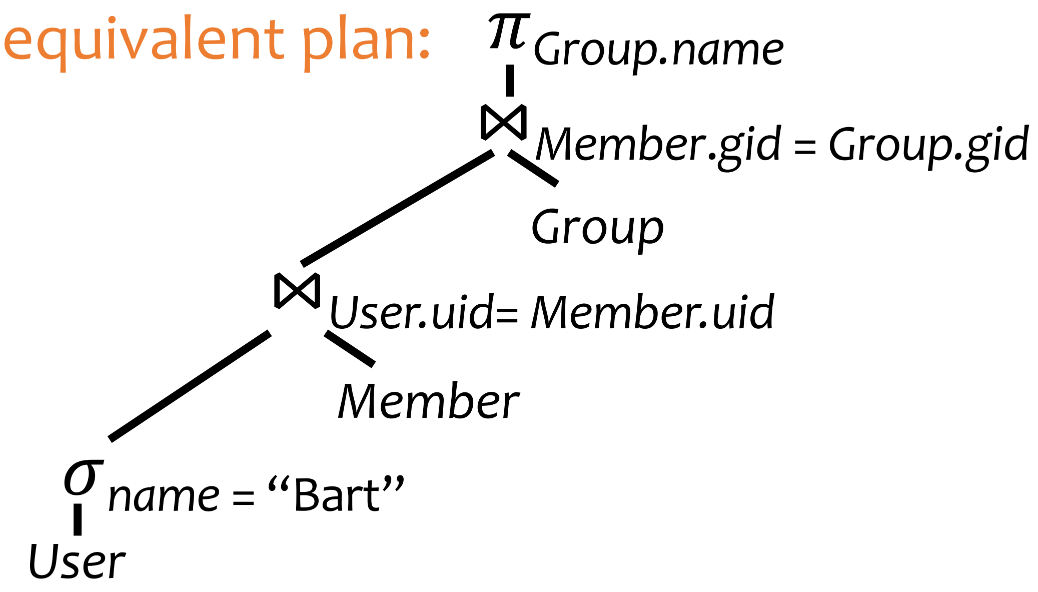
- Characterized by “equivalent” logical query plans

SELECT Group.name FROM User, Member, Group WHERE User.name = 'Bart'
AND User.uid = Member.uid AND Member.gid = Group.gid;



$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\sigma_{User.name=“Bart” \wedge User.uid = Member.uid \wedge Member.gid = Group.gid}$
×
×
Group
User
Member

An equivalent plan:



$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\bowtie_{Member.gid = Group.gid}$
Group
$\bowtie_{User.uid= Member.uid}$
Member
$\sigma_{name = “Bart”}$
User

Do we need to exam all the logical plans?

No. We can apply heuristic transformation rules to find a cheaper logical plan

Transformation rules (a sample)

- Convert σ_p-$\times$ to/from $\bowtie_p$: $\sigma_p(R \times S) = R \bowtie_p S$
  - Example: $\sigma_{User.uid=Member.uid}(User \times Member) = User \bowtie Member$
- Merge/split σ's: $\sigma_{p_1}\left(\sigma_{p_2} R\right) = \sigma_{p_1 \wedge p_2} R$
  - Example: $\sigma_{age>20}\left(\sigma_{pop=0.8} User\right) = \sigma_{age>20 \wedge pop=0.8} User$
- Merge/split π's: $\pi_{L_1}\left(\pi_{L_2} R\right) = \pi_{L_1} R$, if $L_1 \subseteq L_2$
  - Example: $\pi_{age}\left(\pi_{age,pop} User\right) = \pi_{age} User$

Transformation rules (a sample)

- Push down/pull up σ:
  $\sigma_{p \wedge p_r \wedge p_s}(R \bowtie_{p'} S) = (\sigma_{p_r} R) \bowtie_{p \wedge p'} (\sigma_{p_s} S)$, where
  - p_r is a predicate involving only R columns
  - p_s is a predicate involving only S columns
  - p and p' are predicates involving both R and S columns
  - Example:

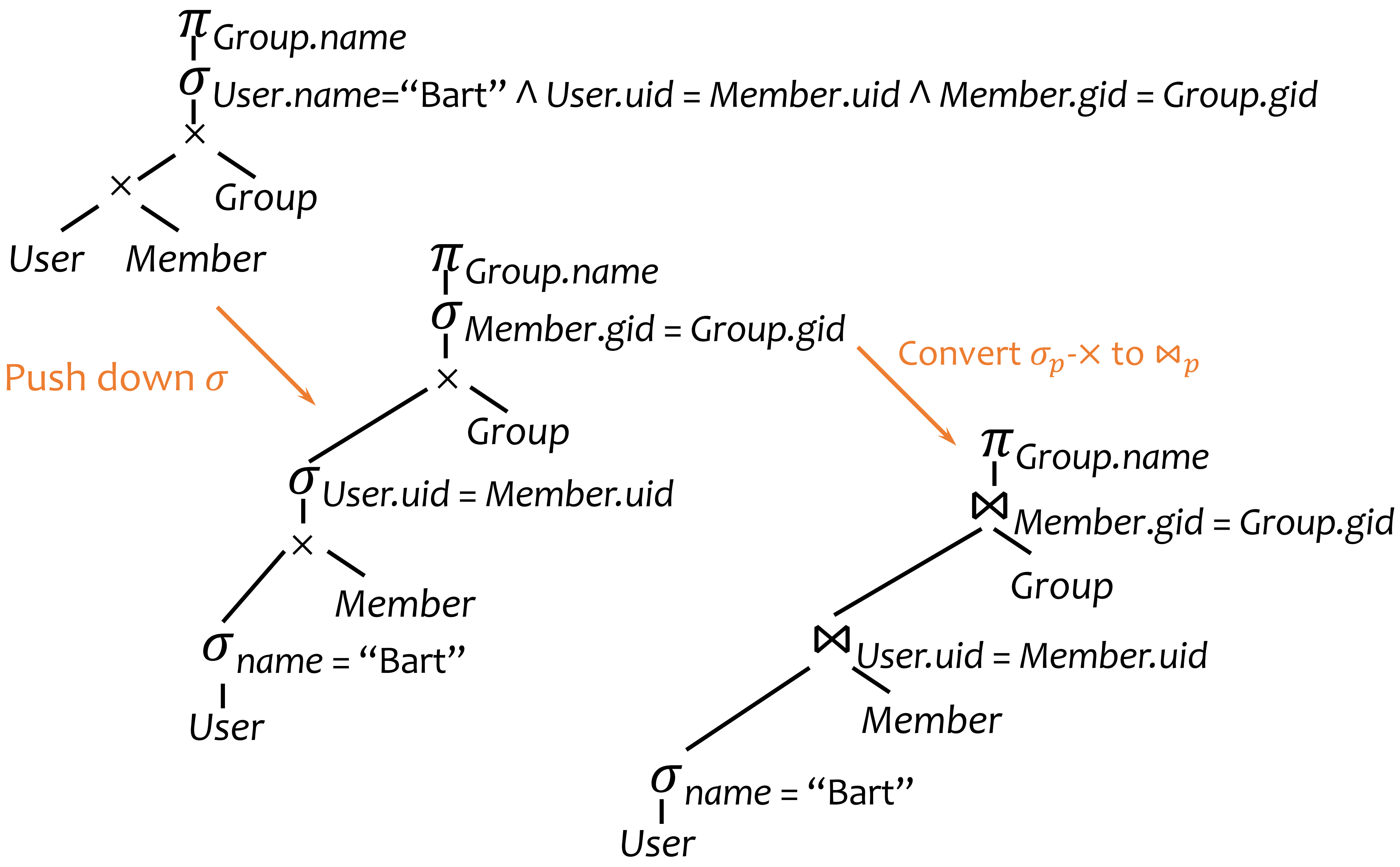
$$\sigma_{\text{U1.name=U2.name} \wedge U1.\text{pop}>0.8 \wedge U2.pop>0.8}(\rho_{U1} User \bowtie_{U1.uid \neq U2.uid} \rho_{U2} User)$$
$$= \sigma_{pop>0.8}(\rho_{U1} User) \bowtie_{U1.uid \neq U2.uid \wedge U1.name=U2.name} (\sigma_{pop>0.8}(\rho_{U2} User))$$

Transformation rules (a sample)

- Push down π: $\pi_L\left(\sigma_p R\right) = \pi_L\left(\sigma_p\left(\pi_{L,L'} R\right)\right)$, where
    - L' is the set of columns referenced by p that are not in L
    - Example:
      $\pi_{age}\left(\sigma_{pop>0.8} User\right) = \pi_{age}(\sigma_{pop>0.8}(\pi_{age,pop} User))$

- Many more (seemingly trivial) equivalences…
    - Can be systematically used to transform a plan to new ones

Relational query rewrite example



$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\sigma_{User.name=\text{"Bart"} \wedge User.uid = Member.uid \wedge Member.gid = Group.gid}$
$\times$
$\times$
Group
User
Member
Push down σ
$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\sigma_{Member.gid = Group.gid}$
$\times$
Group
$\sigma_{User.uid = Member.uid}$
$\times$
Member
$\sigma_{name = \text{"Bart"}}$
User
Convert σ_p-$\times$ to $\bowtie_p$
$\pi_{Group.name}$
$\bowtie_{Member.gid = Group.gid}$
Group
$\bowtie_{User.uid = Member.uid}$
Member
$\sigma_{name = \text{"Bart"}}$
User

Heuristics-based query optimization

- Start with a logical plan
- Push selections/projections down as much as possible
  - Why? Reduce the size of intermediate results
- Join smaller relations first, and avoid cross product
  - Why? Joins are more optimized and have alternate implementations
- Convert the transformed logical plan to a physical plan (by choosing appropriate physical operators)

Search strategy

- Heuristics-based optimization
  - Apply heuristics to rewrite “logical plans” into cheaper ones
- Cost-based optimization
  - Need statistics to estimate sizes of intermediate results to find the best “physical plan”

→ Course CS448 “Database Systems Implementation”

Summary

- System view of query processing
  - Logical plan and physical plan
- Cost calculation of the physical plan
  - Cardinality estimation
- Search space and search strategy
  - Transformation rules
  - Heuristic approach