Query Optimization
Repetition

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Motivation

- declarative query has to be translated into an imperative, executable plan
- usually multiple semantically equivalent plans (search space)
- possibly huge differences in execution costs of different alternatives

Goal: find the cheapest of those plans
Query Graph

- undirected graph
- nodes: relations
- edges: predicates/joins
- different shapes (e.g. chain, star, tree, clique)
- shape influences size of the search space
Join Tree

- inner nodes: operators (e.g. join, cross product)
- leaves: relations
- different shapes
  - linear (left-deep, right-deep, zigzag)
  - bushy
- desired shape influences size of the search space
  - with cross products: number of tree shapes * number of leaf permutations
  - without cross products: depends on the shape of the query graph
Selectivity, Cardinality

\[ f_p = \frac{\left| \sigma_p(R) \right|}{|R|} \]

\[ f_{i,j} = \frac{\left| R_i \bowtie p_{i,j} R_j \right|}{|R_i \times R_j|} \]
Costs

\[ C_{out}(R) = 0 \]
\[ C_{out}(R_i \bowtie R_j) = \left| R_i \bowtie R_j \right| + C_{out}(R_i) + C_{out}(R_j) \]

- more advanced cost functions for different physical join implementations
- properties
  - symmetry: \( C(A \bowtie B) = C(B \bowtie A) \)
  - ASI: rank function \( r \) such that
    \[ r(AUVB) \leq r(AVUB) \iff C(AUVB) \leq C(AVUB) \]
Greedy Heuristics

- choose each relation as start node once
  - greedily pick adjacent nodes to join such that a specific function (e.g. MinSel) is minimized/maximized
- pick the cheapest tree
- produces linear trees
Greedy Operator Ordering (GOO)

- greedily pick edges such that the intermediate result is minimized
- merge nodes connected by the picked edge
- calculate cardinality of merged node
- calculate selectivities of collapsed edges (product of individual selectivities)
- can produce bushy trees
Maximum Value Precedence (MVP)

- heuristic: prefer to perform joins that reduce the input size of expensive operations the most
- algorithm builds an effective spanning tree in the weighted directed join graph (edges and nodes have weights)
  - physical edge: $w_{u,v} = \frac{|\Join_u|}{|u\cap v|}$
  - virtual edge: $w_{u,v} = 1$
  - node: $w(p_{i,j}, S) = \frac{|\Join_{p_{i,j}}^S|}{|R_i \Join_{p_{i,j}} R_j|}$
- take edges with weight $< 1$ (reduce work for later operators)
- add remaining edges (increase input sizes as late as possible)
generates optimal left deep trees for acyclic queries in polynomial time (requires cost function with ASI property)
for each relation $R$ in the query graph
  - build the precedence graph rooted in $R$
  - find subtree whose children are chains
  - build compound relations to eliminate contradictory sequences (normalize)
  - merge chains (ascending in rank)
  - repeat until the whole join tree is a chain
  - denormalize previously normalized compound relations
pick the cheapest of all generated sequences
Dynamic Programming

- optimality principle
- construct larger trees from optimal smaller ones
- try all combinations that might be optimal
- different possibilities to enumerate sets of relations
  - $DP_{size}$: enumerate sets ascending in size
  - $DP_{sub}$: enumerate in integer order
  - $DP_{ccp}$: enumerate connected component complement pairs
    - adapts to the shape of the query graph
    - lower bound for all DP algorithms
  - $DP_{hyp}$: handles hypergraphs (join predicates between more than two relations, reordering constraints for non inner joins, graph simplification)
Memoization

- recursive top-down approach
- memoize already generated trees to avoid duplicate work
- might be faster, as more knowledge allows for more pruning
- usually slower than DP
Transformative Approaches

- apply equivalences to initial join tree
- makes it easy to add new equivalences/rules (in theory)
- use memoization (keep all trees generated so far)
- naive implementation generates a massive amount of duplicates
- duplicates can be avoided by disabling certain rules after a transformation has been applied (introduction of new rules becomes harder)
Permutations

- construct permutations of relations (left deep trees)
- choose each relation as start relation once
  - successively add a relation to the existing chain (recursively enlarge the prefix)
  - only explore the resulting chain further if exchanging the last two relations does not result in a cheaper chain
  - recursion base: all relations are contained in the chain ⇒ keep chain if cheaper than cheapest chain seen so far
- any time algorithm (can be stopped as soon as the first complete permutation is generated)
- finds the optimal plan eventually
Random Join Trees (uniformly distributed)

general approach:

- set of alternatives $S$
- count number of alternatives $n = |S|$
- bijection $rank : S \rightarrow [0, n[$
- draw a random number $r \in [0, n[$
- $rank^{-1}(r)$ gives a random element from $S$ (unranking)

implementation

- random permutation (left deep tree, leaf labeling)
- random tree shape (Dyck words)
- random trees without cross products for tree queries (pretty complex)
Quick Pick

- generate pseudo random trees
- randomly pick an edge from the query graph
- no longer uniformly distributed $\Rightarrow$ no guarantees
- use union-find datastructure to identify subsets containing the nodes connected by an edge
Meta Heuristics

- universal optimization strategies
- Iterative Improvement
  - start with random join tree
  - apply random transformation until minimum is reached
  - might be stuck in local minimum
- Simulated Annealing (inspired by metallurgy)
  - start with random join tree
  - apply random transformation
  - accept transformed tree either if it is cheaper or - with a temperature dependent probability - even if it is more expensive
  - decrease temperature over time
  - allows to escape local minima
Meta Heuristics

- Tabu Search
  - start with random join tree
  - investigate cheapest neighbor even if it is more expensive
  - keep (recently) investigated solutions in tabu set to avoid running into circles
Outlook

- join ordering
  - genetic algorithms (population of join trees, simulate crossover and mutation, survival of the fittest)
  - hybrid approaches
  - order preserving joins (e.g. for XQuery/XPath)

- accessing the data

- physical properties