

Query Cost Estimation

CS 4750 Database Systems

[A. Silberschatz, H. F. Korth, S. Sudarshan, Database System Concepts, Ch.15]
[C.M. Ricardo, S.D. Urban, "Databases Illuminated, Ch.13]

Review 1: SQL and RA

Consider the following schema statements.

```
student(ID, name, dept_name, tot_cred)
takes(ID, course_ID, sec_id, semester, year, grade)
```

Find IDs and names of all students who have taken more than 3 courses

1. Write SQL query
2. Draw an RA plan

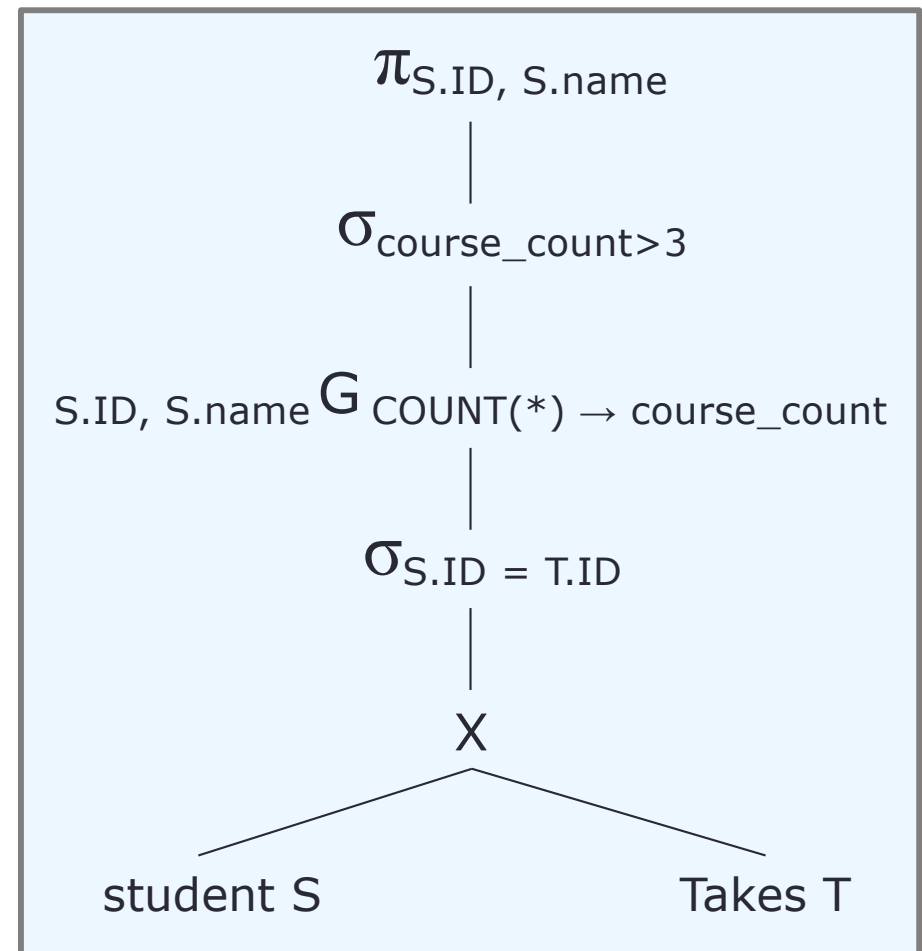
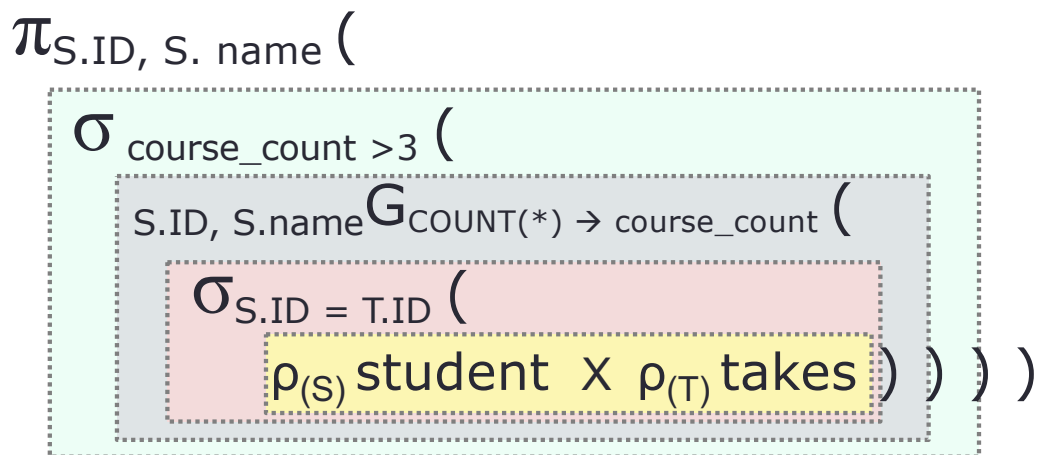
Review 1: SQL and RA (solution)

student(ID, name, dept_name, tot_cred)

takes(ID, course_ID, sec_id, semester, year, grade)

Find IDs and names of all students who have taken more than 3 courses

```
SELECT DISTINCT S.ID, S.name
FROM student S, takes T
WHERE S.ID = T.ID
GROUP BY S.ID, S.name
HAVING COUNT(*) > 3
```



Review 2: SQL and RA

Consider the following schema statements.

```
emp(empno, ename, job, mgr, hiredate, salary, comm, deptno)
dept(deptno, dname, loc)
```

Find the names of departments where more than three employees are working

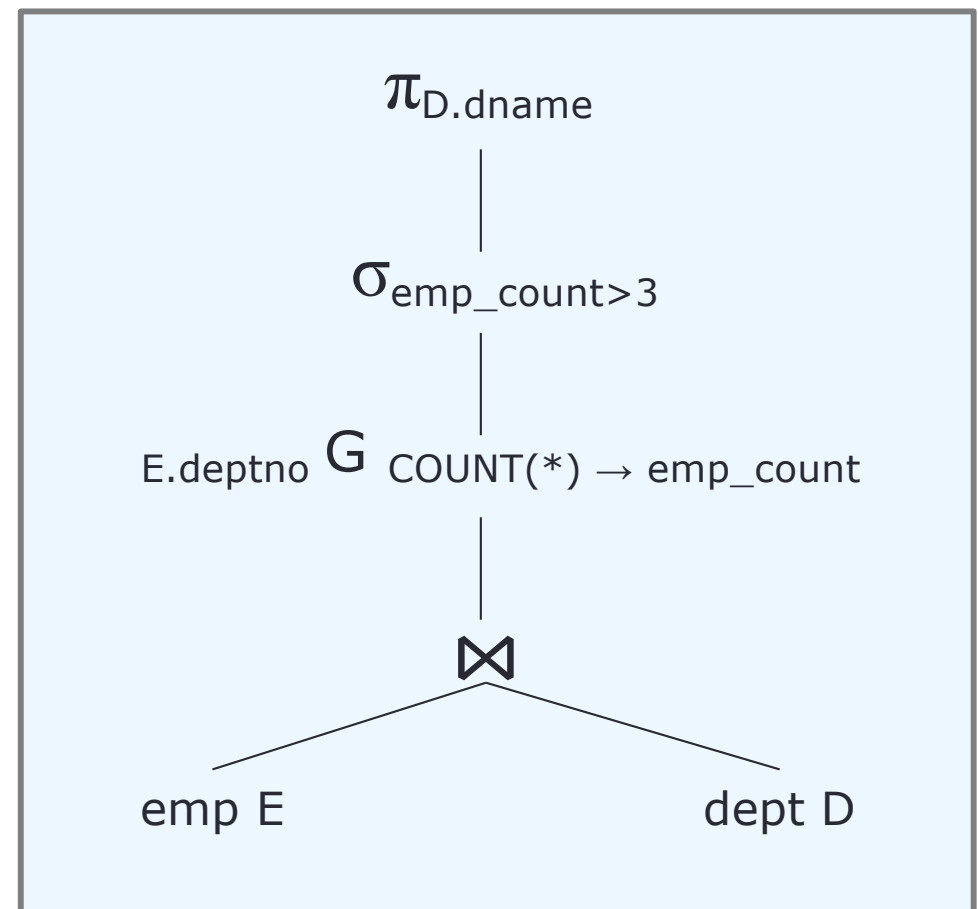
1. Write SQL query
2. Draw an RA plan

Review 2: SQL and RA (solution 1)

emp(empno, ename, job, mgr, hiredate, salary, comm, deptno)
 dept(deptno, dname, loc)

Find the names of departments where more than three employees are working

```
SELECT D.dname
FROM emp E
      NATURAL JOIN dept D
GROUP BY E.deptno
HAVING COUNT(*) > 3;
```

$$\pi_{D.dname} \left(\sigma_{\text{emp_count} > 3} \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{E.deptno } G \text{ COUNT(*)} \rightarrow \text{emp_count} \left(\rho_{(E)} \text{ emp} \bowtie \rho_{(D)} \text{ dept} \right) \end{array} \right) \right)$$


Review 2: SQL and RA (solution 2)

```
emp(empno, ename, job, mgr, hiredate, salary, comm, deptno)  
dept(deptno, dname, loc)
```

Find the names of departments where more than three employees are working

Can you think of another solution?

Review 2: SQL and RA (solution 2)

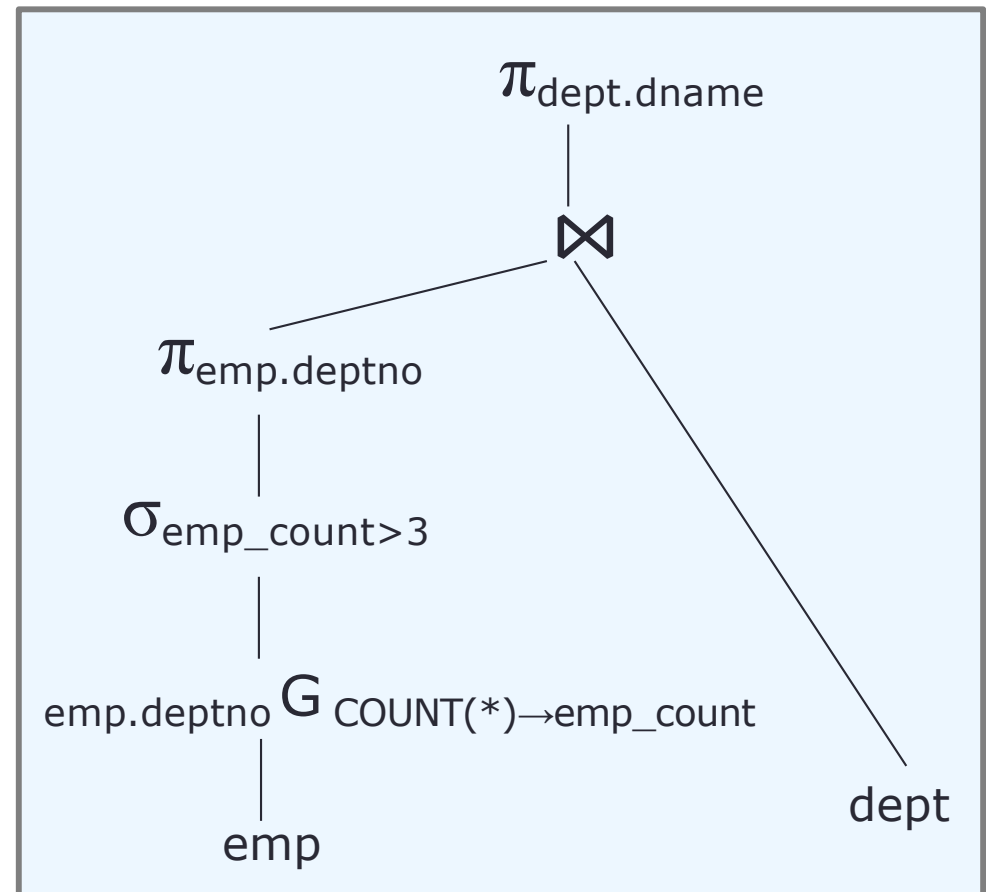
emp(empno, ename, job, mgr, hiredate, salary, comm, deptno)
dept(deptno, dname, loc)

Find the names of departments where more than three employees are working

Another solution:

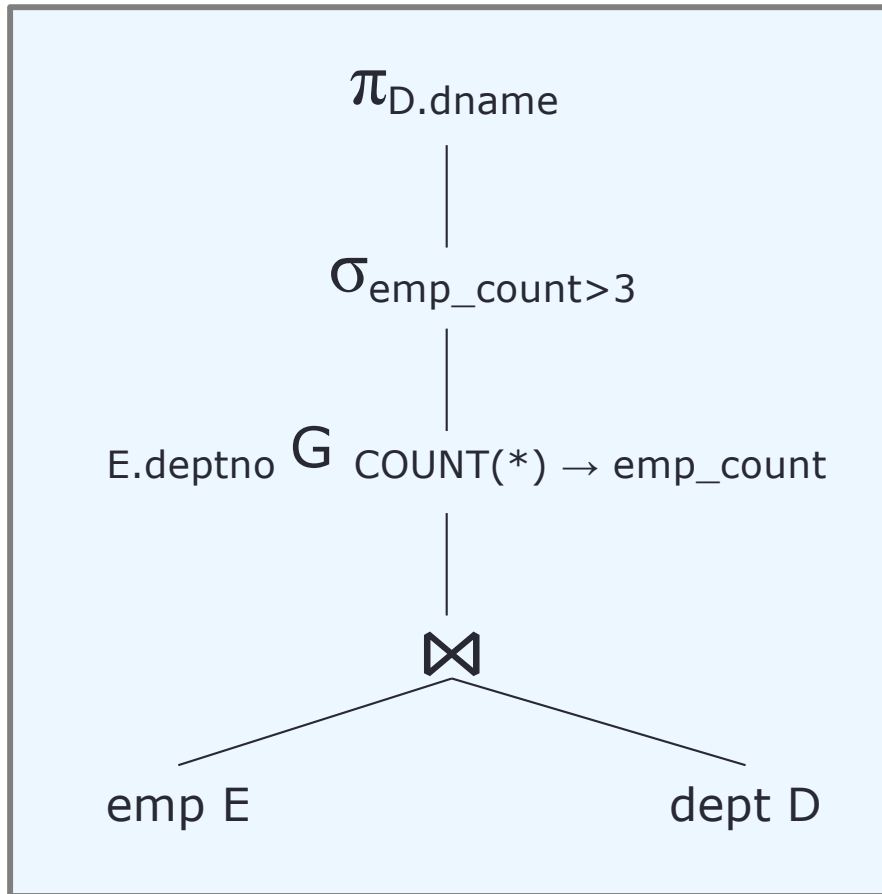
```
SELECT dept.dname
FROM (
  SELECT deptno
  FROM emp
  GROUP BY deptno
  HAVING COUNT(*) > 3 )
NATURAL JOIN dept
```

$\pi_{\text{dept.dname}} ($
 $\pi_{\text{emp.deptno}} (\sigma_{\text{emp_count} > 3} ($
 $\text{emp.deptno } \bowtie \text{COUNT} (*) \rightarrow \text{emp_count} (\text{emp})))$
 $\bowtie \text{dept})$

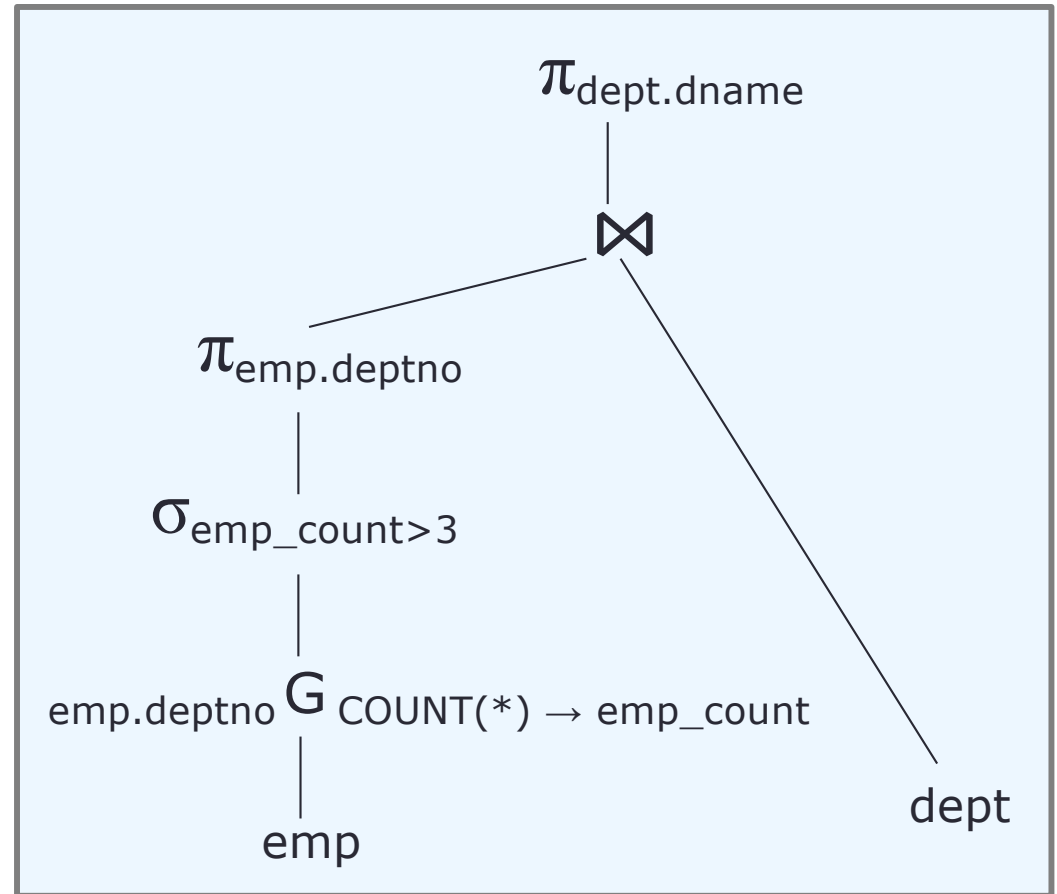


Review 2: SQL and RA (solutions 1 vs. 2)

Can you verify equivalence?



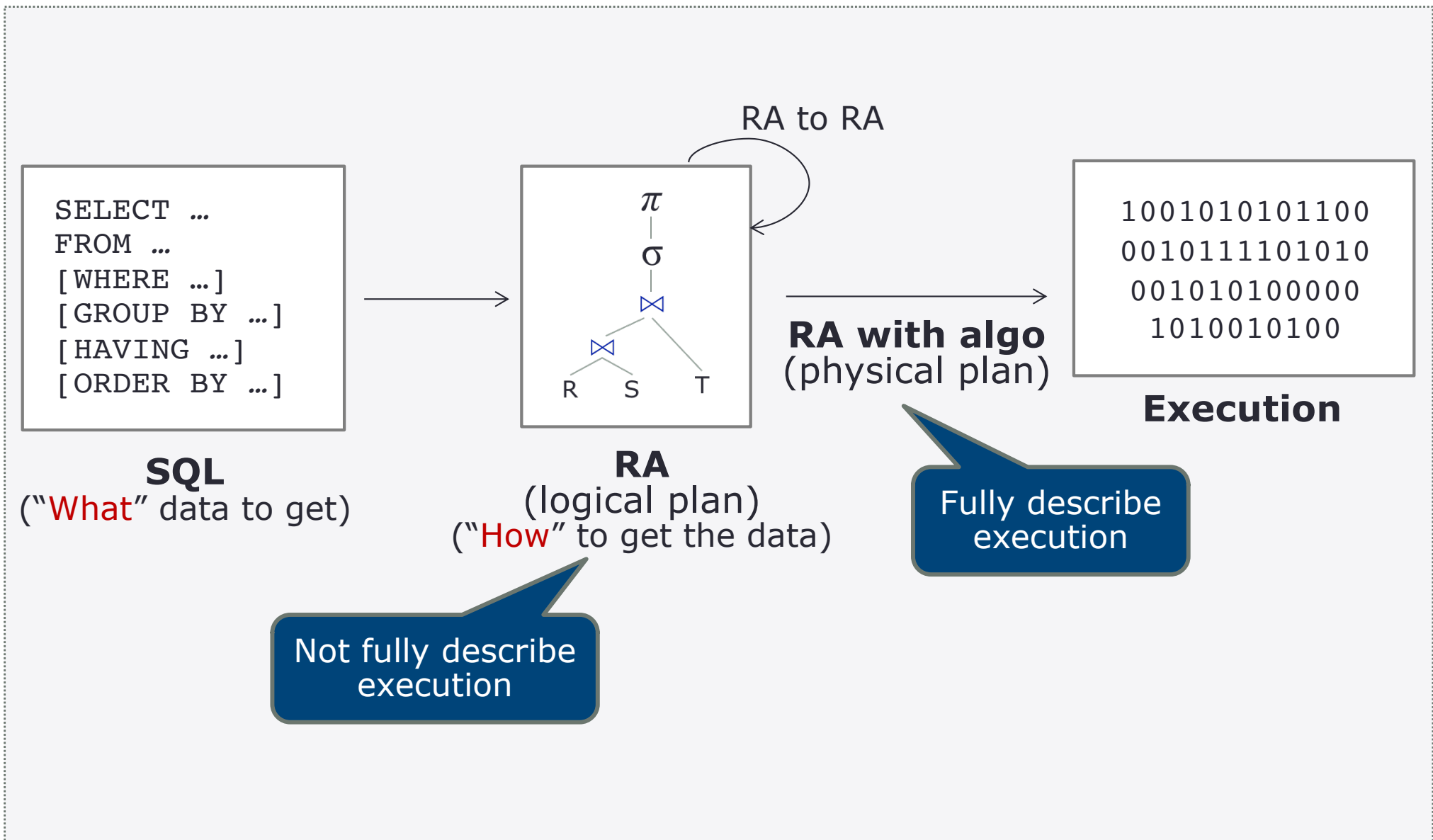
solution 1



solution 2

What's the Point of RA?

RDBMS



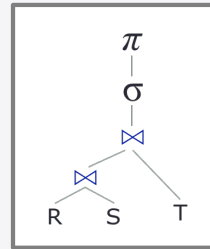
Overview: Query Processing

RDBMS

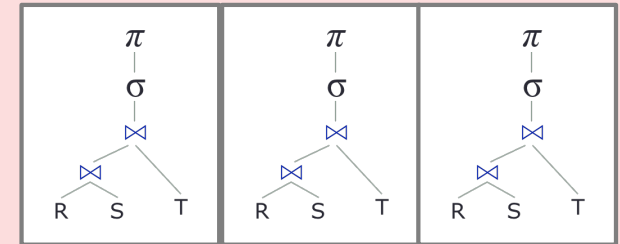
“Plan enumeration”

```
SELECT ...  
FROM ...  
[WHERE ...]  
[GROUP BY ...]  
[HAVING ...]  
[ORDER BY ...]
```

SQL



RA
(logical plan)



RA
(Set of equivalent
logical plans)

Set of equivalent
Physical plans

Least cost plan

CS4750 considers
“Cardinality estimation”

```
1001010101100  
0010111101010  
001010100000  
1010010100
```

Execution

Plan Enumeration (RA to RA)

- Some queries can be expressed in different ways
- RA formulation of a query is important in query processing and optimization
 - RA specifies the order of operations
 - The order can largely determine how efficient the query plan will be
- Why RA equivalences?
 - Simplify queries
 - Make queries faster

Explore equivalent RA plans

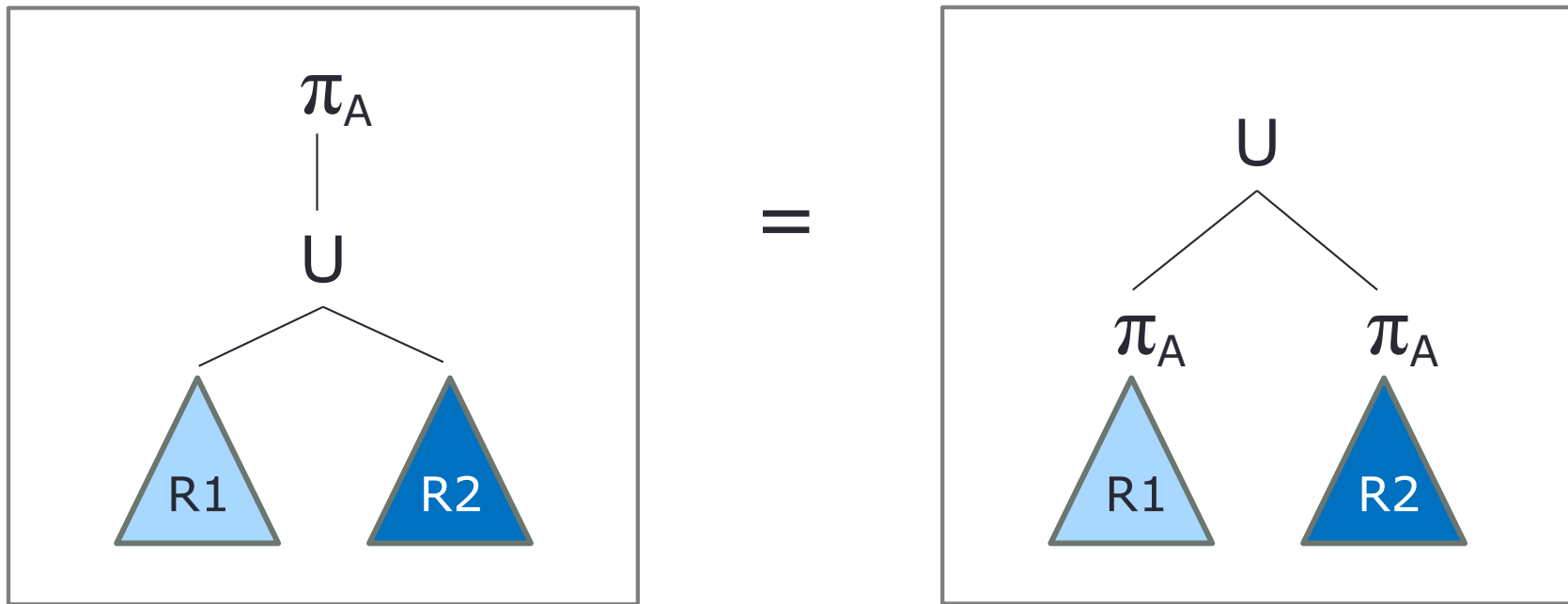
Simplify “Project”



Successive projects can be reduced to the final project
only the last project has to be executed

A and B are sets of attributes; $R1$ is a relation

“Project” and “Union”



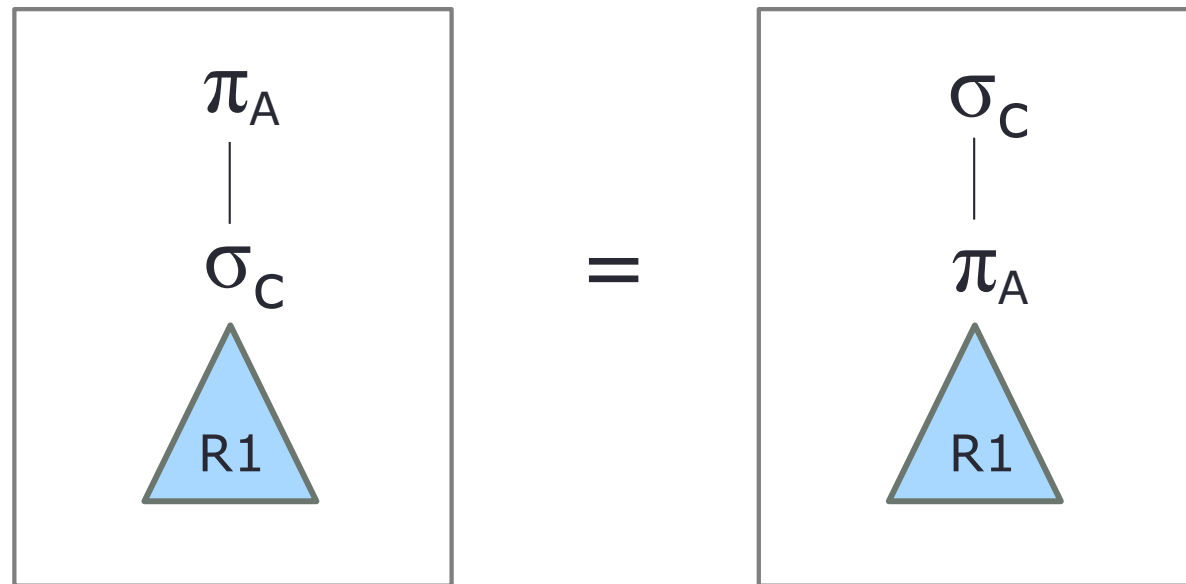
Make sure the **schema matches**

Note: this may not work with intersection or set difference

Project distributes over union

A is a set of attributes; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Select” and “Project”



If C only references attributes in A

Select and project sometimes commute if the condition involves only the attributes in the project list

A is a set of attributes; C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ is a relation

"Select" and "AND"

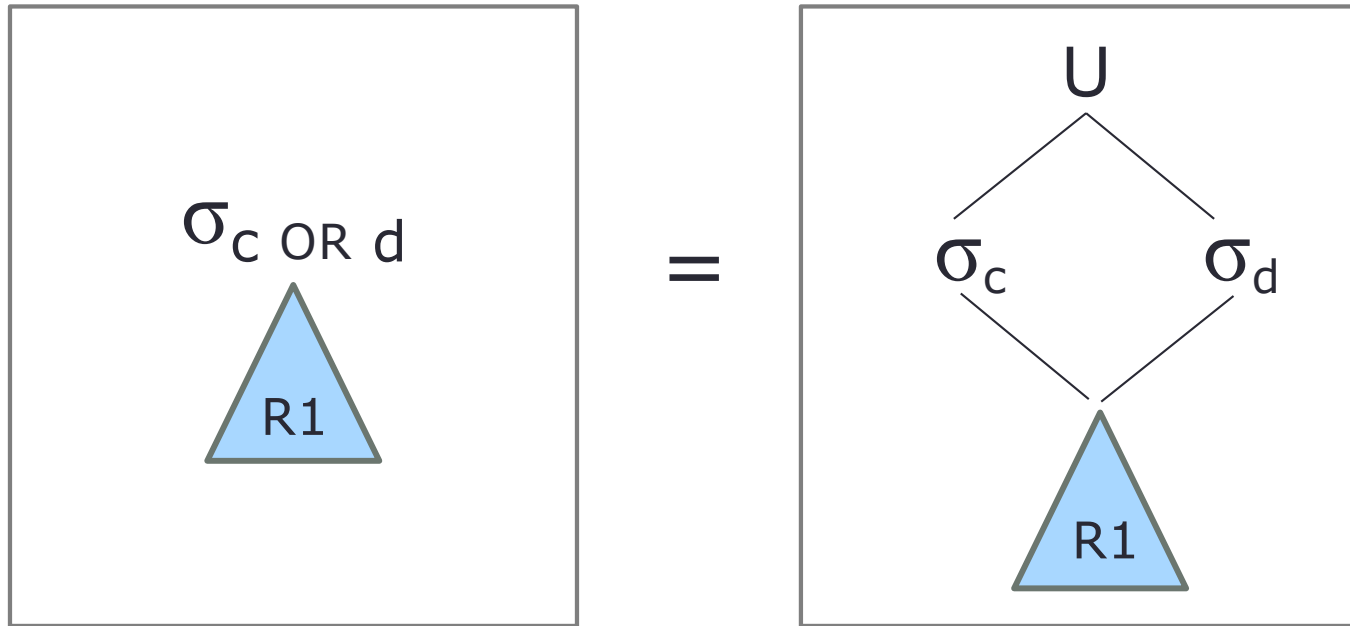


Conjunctive selects can cascade into individual selects

$$\sigma_{c \text{ AND } d} (R1)) = \sigma_d(\sigma_c(R1))$$

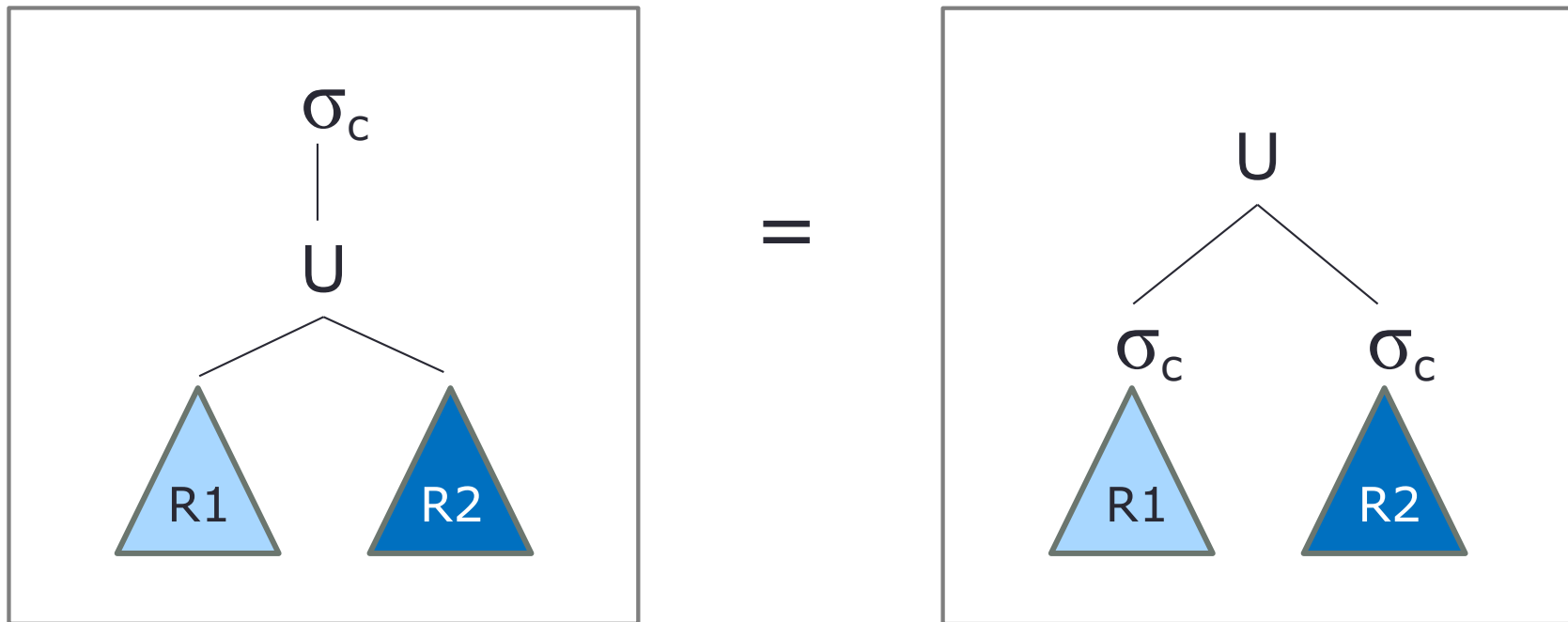
c and d are Boolean conditions; $R1$ is a relation

"Select" and "OR"



c and d are Boolean conditions; $R1$ is a relation

“Select” and “Union”

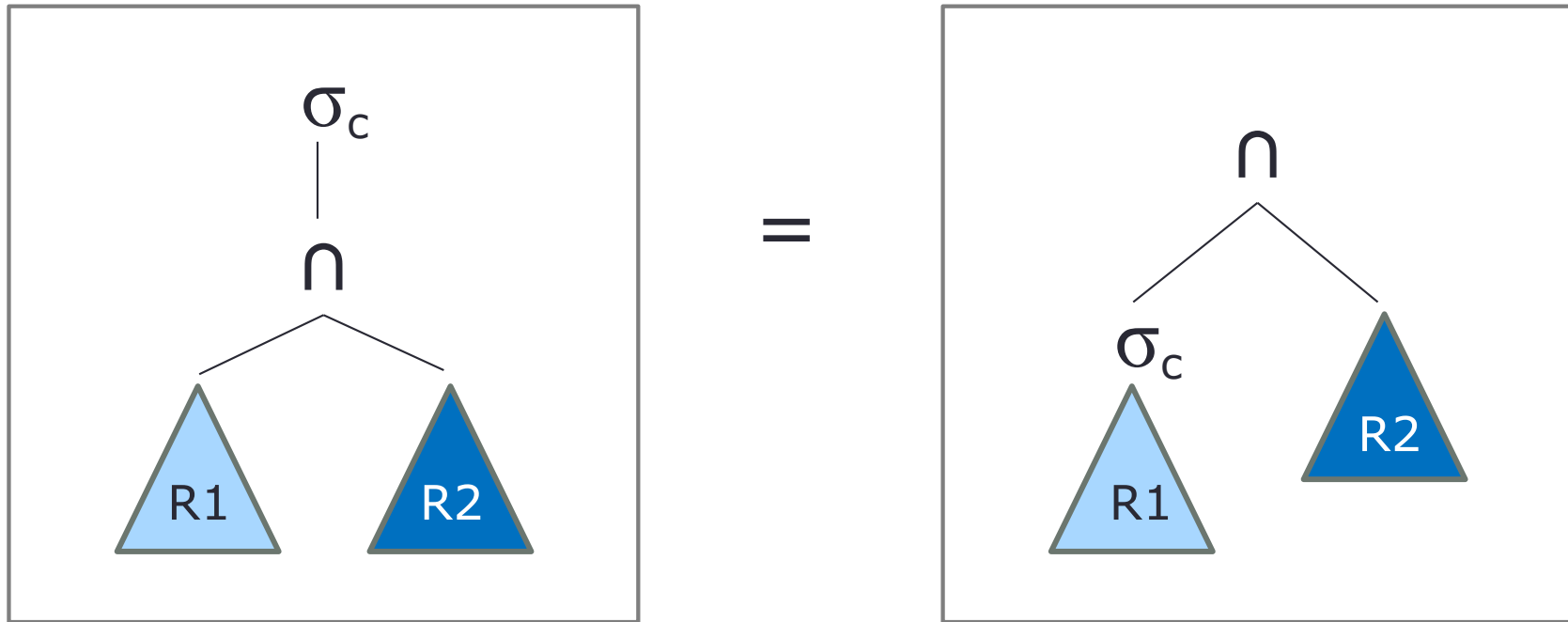


If C references attributes in $R1$ and $R2$

Perform “Select” operation as early as possible

C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

"Select" and "Intersect"

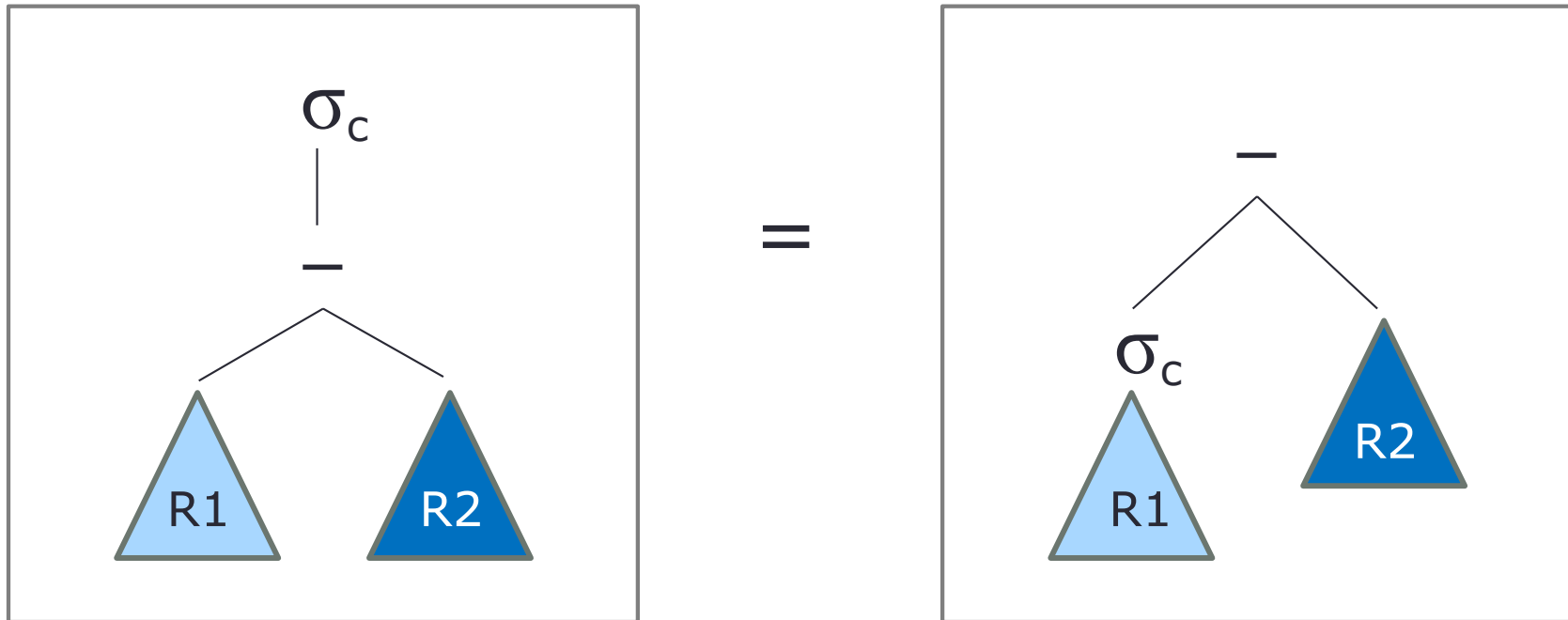


If C only references attributes in $R1$

Perform "Select" operation as early as possible

C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Select” and “Difference”



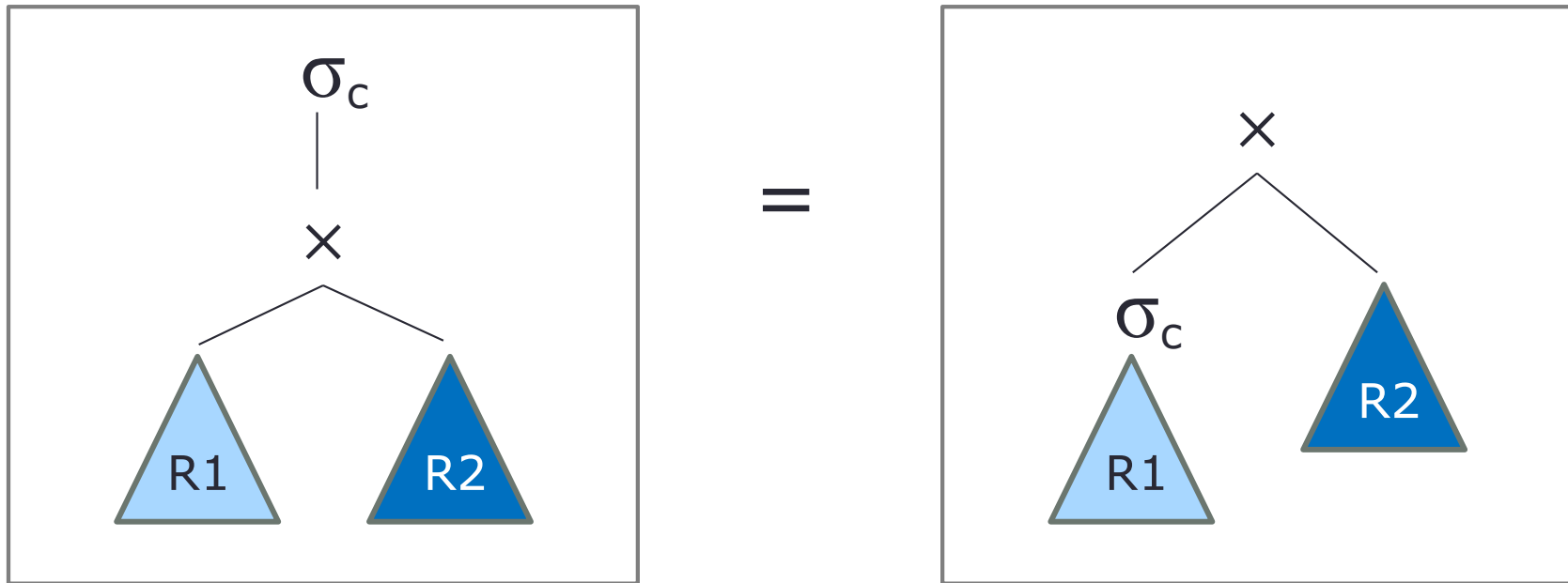
If C only references attributes in $R1$

Perform “Select” operation as early as possible

“EXCEPT” in SQL is equivalent to set “difference” in RA

C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Select” and “Cartesian Product”



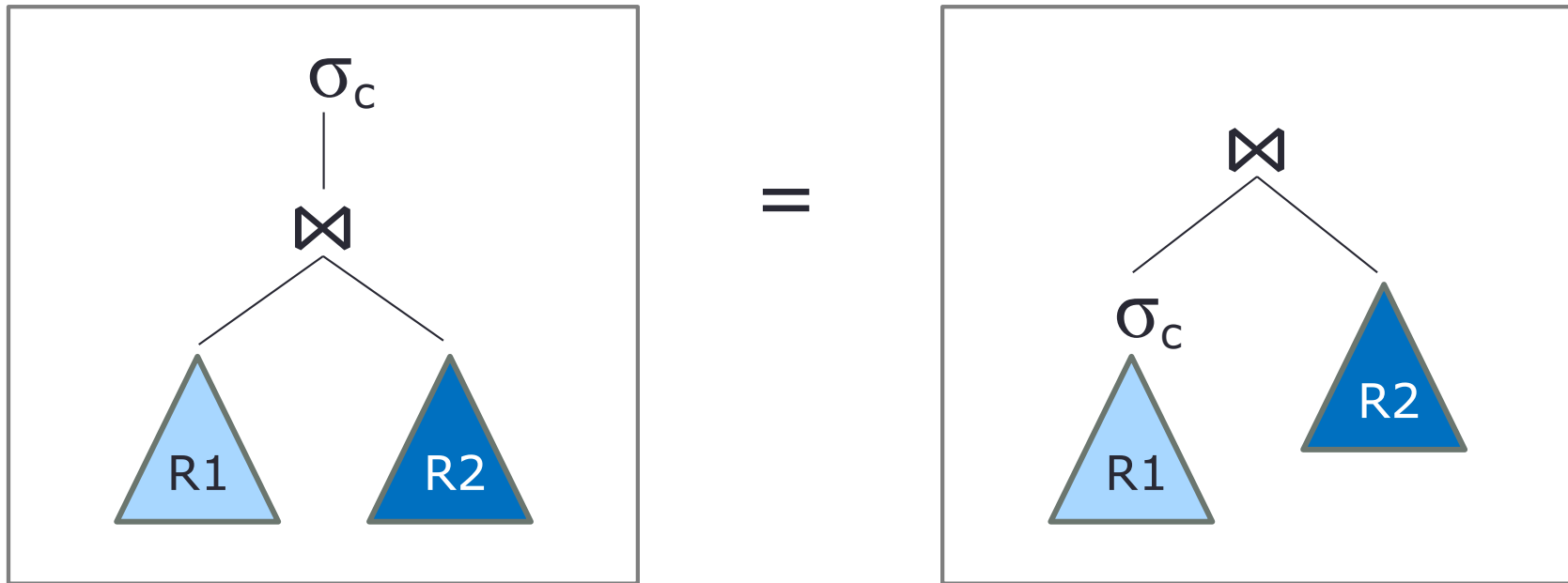
If C only references attributes in $R1$

Select and product
sometimes commute

Perform “Select” operation as
early as possible

C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Select” and “Join”



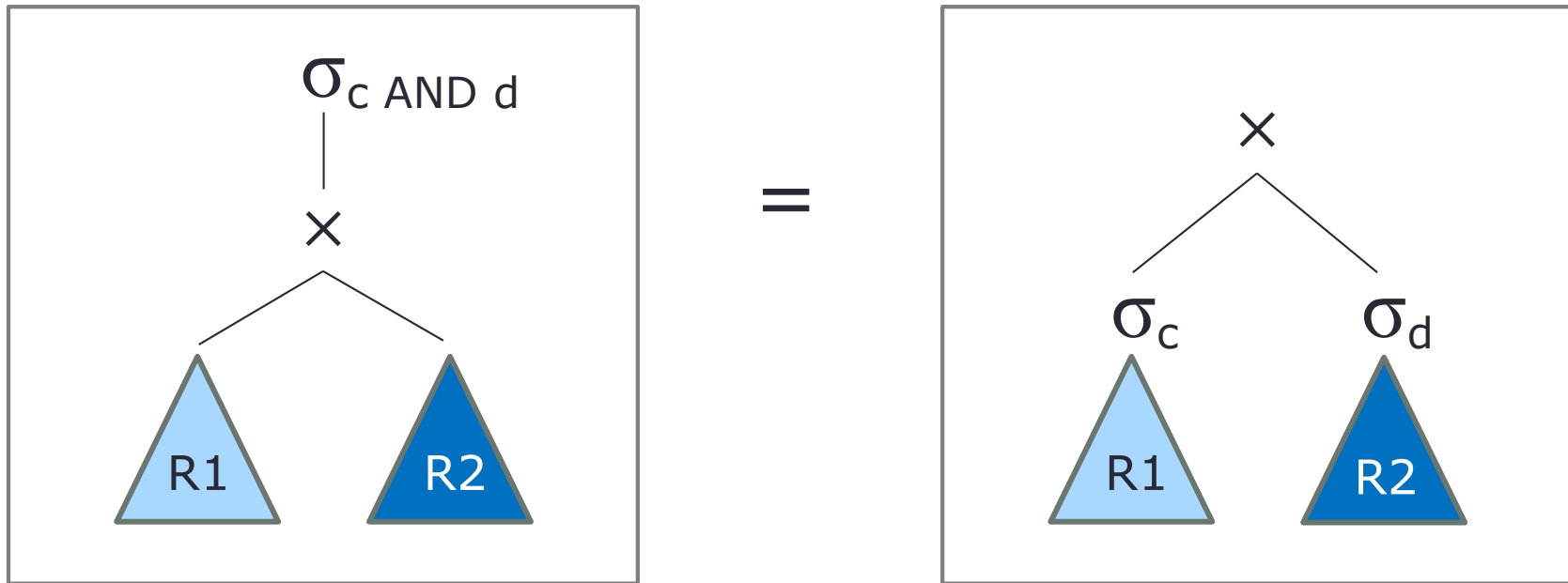
If C only references attributes in $R1$

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“Select” and “Cartesian Product”



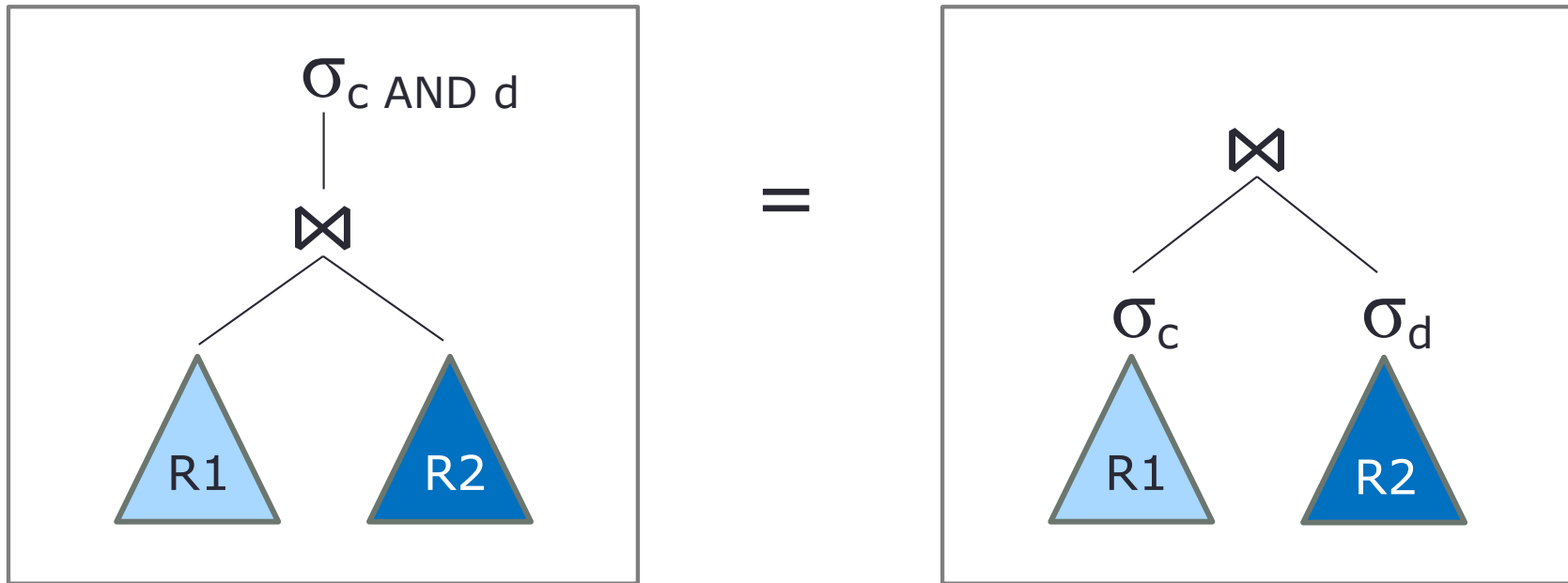
If c references attributes in $R1$ and d references attributes in $R2$

Select sometimes distribute over product

Perform “Select” operation as early as possible

C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Select” and “Join”



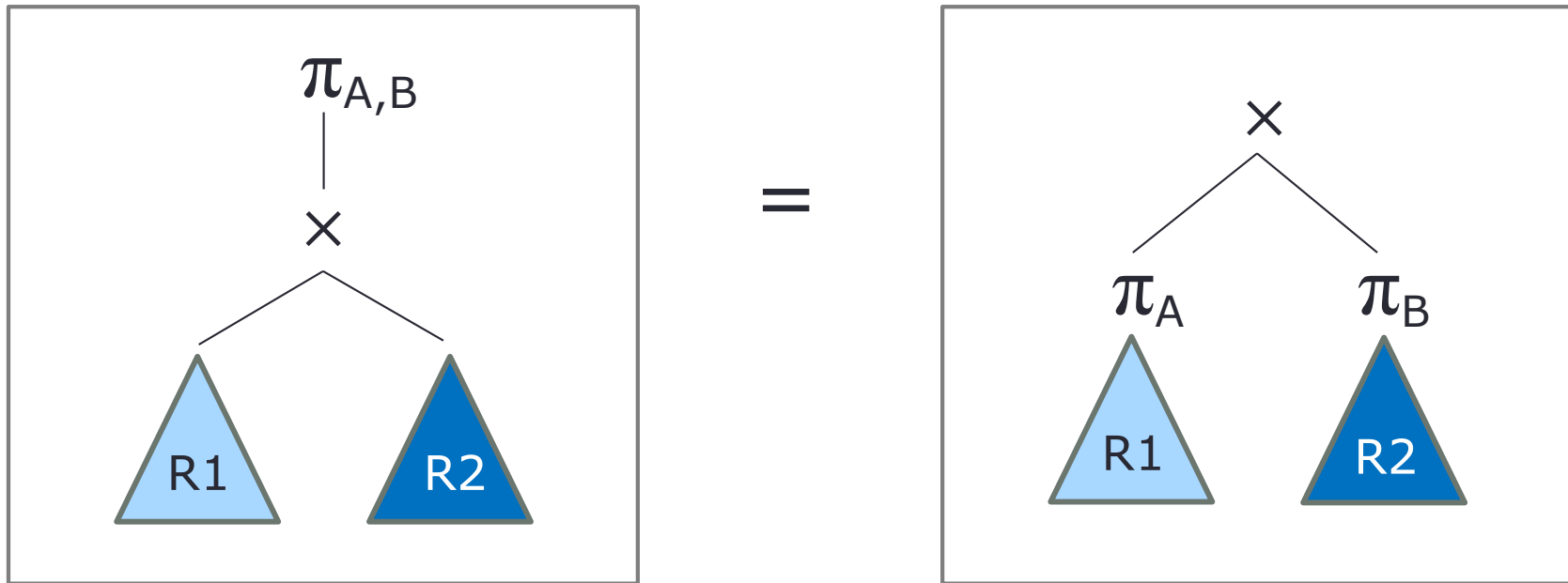
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Select sometimes distribute
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Perform “Select” operation as
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C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Project” and “Cartesian Product”

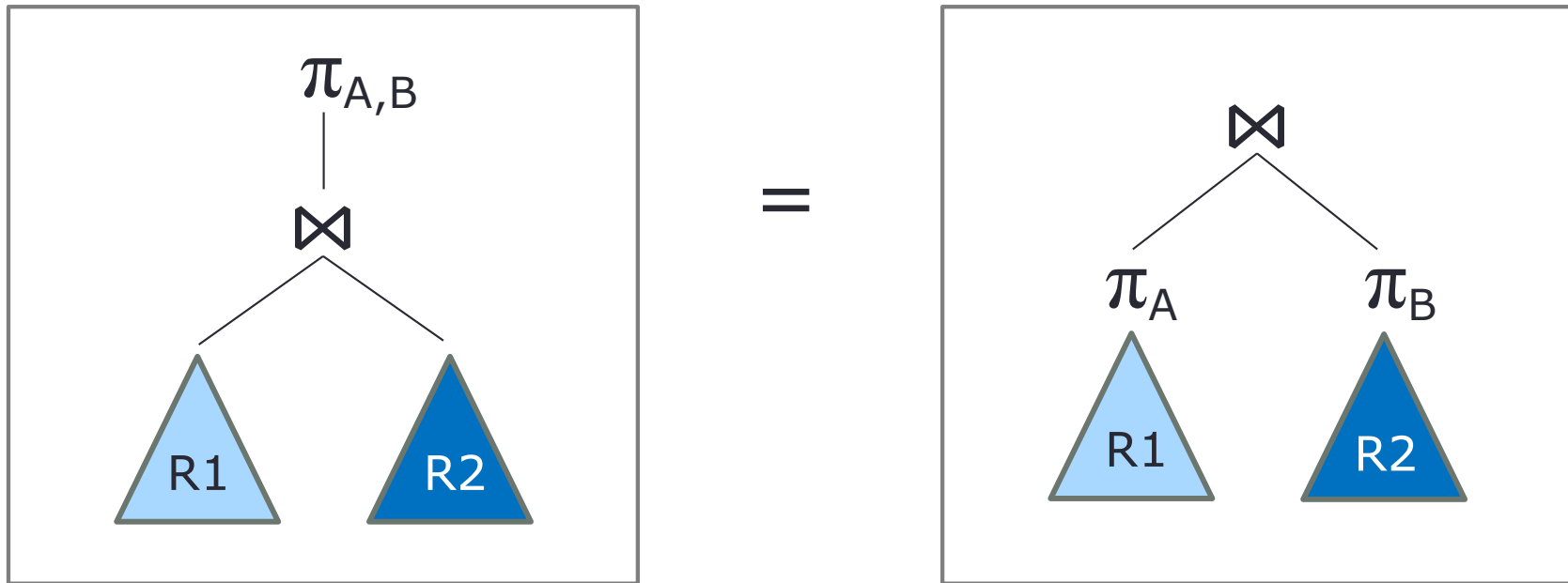


If A contains attributes in $R1$ and B contains attributes in $R2$

Project sometimes distribute
over product

A and B are sets of attributes; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Project” and “Join”

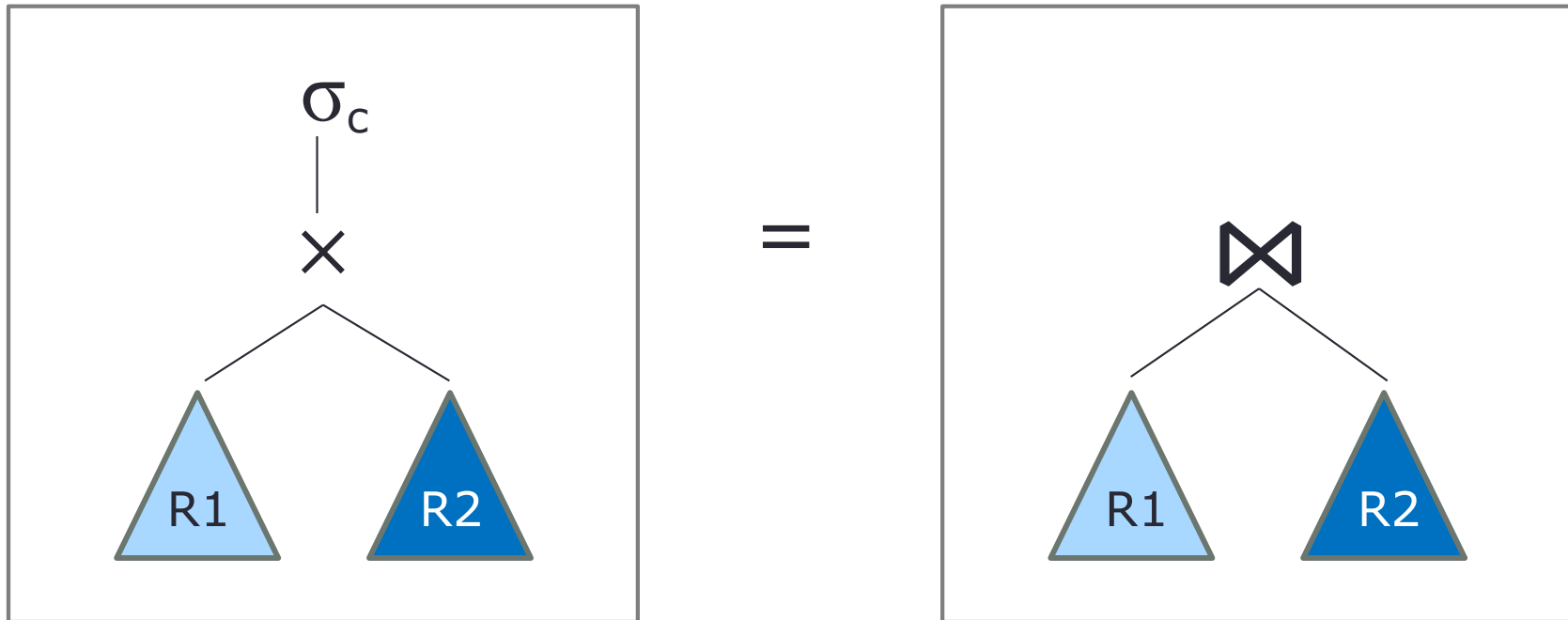


If A contains attributes in $R1$ and B contains attributes in $R2$

Project sometimes distribute
over join

A and B are sets of attributes; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

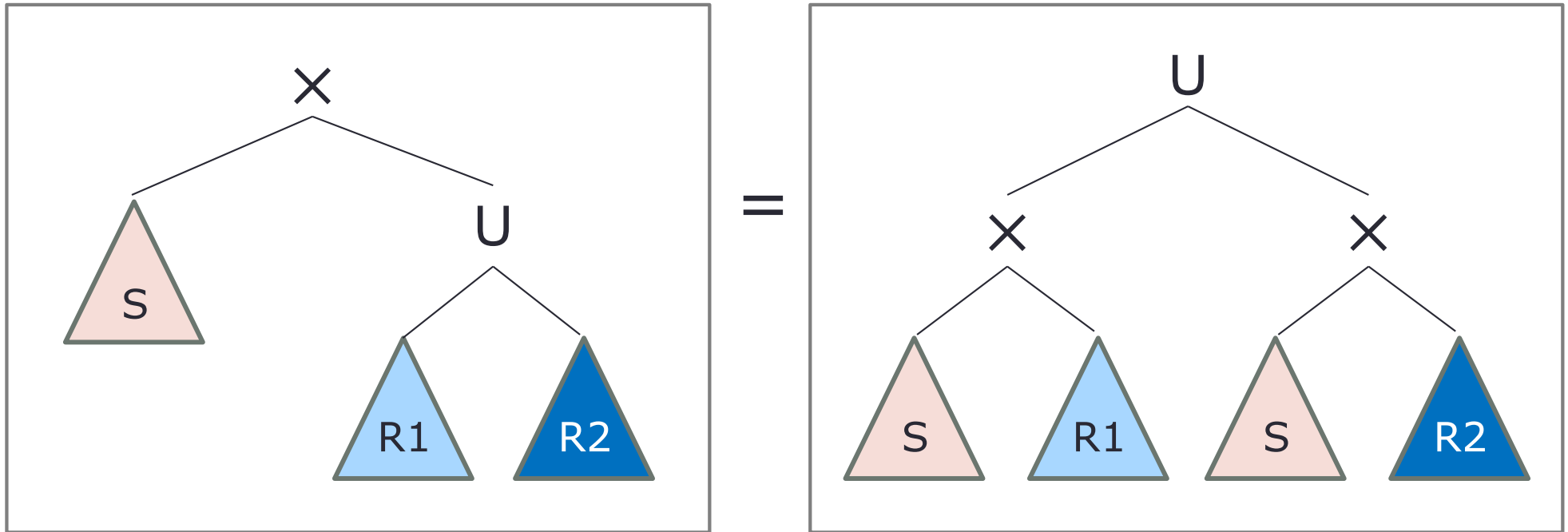
“Cartesian Product” and “Join”



Assume C contains attributes that are used to combine relations

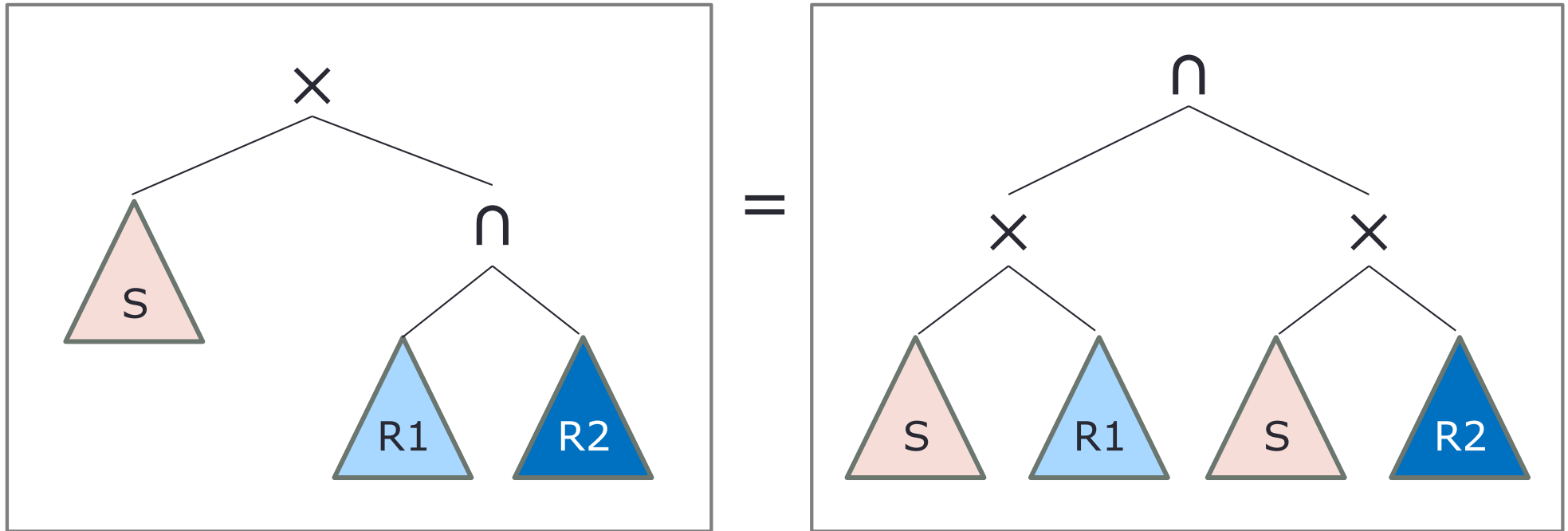
C is a set of Boolean conditions; $R1$ and $R2$ are relations

“Cartesian Product” and “Union”



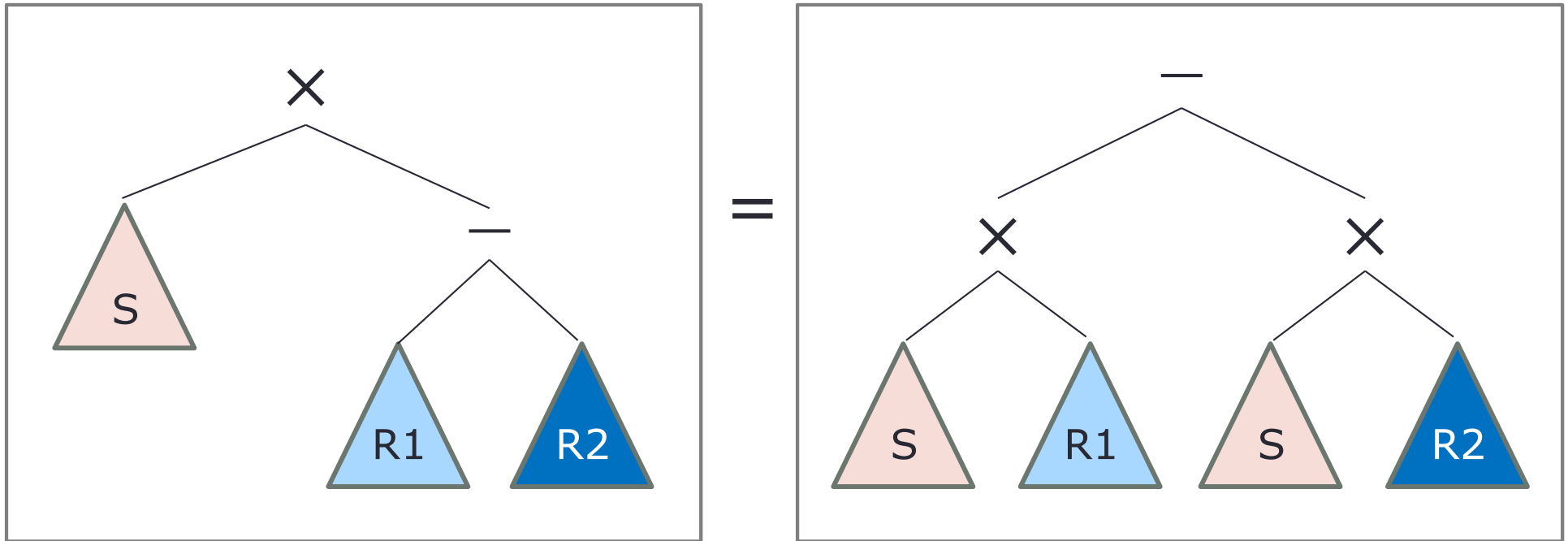
$R1$, $R2$, and S are relations

“Cartesian Product” and “Intersect”



$R1$, $R2$, and S are relations

“Cartesian Product” and “Difference”



“EXCEPT” in SQL is equivalent to set difference in RA

$R1$, $R2$, and S are relations

More RA Equivalences

- All joins and Cartesian products are commutative

$$R \times S = S \times R \quad (\text{mostly})$$

$$R \bowtie S = S \bowtie R$$

- Joins and Cartesian products are associative

$$(R \times S) \times T = R \times (S \times T)$$

$$(R \bowtie S) \bowtie T = R \bowtie (S \bowtie T)$$

- Select is commutative

$$\sigma_c(\sigma_d(R)) = \sigma_d(\sigma_c(R))$$

- Union and intersection are commutative

$$R \cup S = S \cup R$$

$$R \cap S = S \cap R$$

- Union and intersection are associative

$$(R \cup S) \cup T = R \cup (S \cup T)$$

$$(R \cap S) \cap T = R \cap (S \cap T)$$

Plenty more equivalences

How to remember?
Use the definitions

R , S , and T are relations

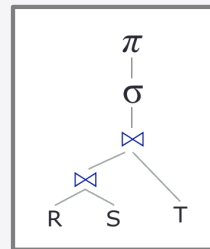
Overview: Query Optimization

RDBMS

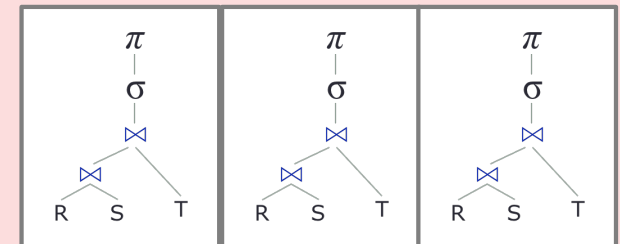
"Plan enumeration"

```
SELECT ...
FROM ...
[WHERE ...]
[GROUP BY ...]
[HAVING ...]
[ORDER BY ...]
```

SQL



RA
(logical plan)



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(Set of equivalent
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Set of equivalent
Physical plans

Least cost plan

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"Cardinality estimation"

```
1001010101100
0010111101010
0010101000000
1010010100
```

Execution

Disclaimer

Cost estimation is an active research topic.

Equations and methods discussed here form a foundation of concepts, but usually cannot compare to a commercialized solution.

General Idea on Plan Selection

- Which equivalent RA leads to the most efficient algorithm?
- What algorithm should we use to implement each operation?
- How should the operations pass data from one to the other?

Depends on info available to the query optimizer

- Size of each relation
- Statistics (#blocks, #tuples, #distinct values for an attribute)
- Indexes
- Layout of data on disk

For this class, we assume

- Disk-based storage – HDD
- Row-based storage – tuples are stored contiguously
- HDD I/O cost (reading from disk) only considered
- Sequential disk reads
- A block can be read at once
- No data preloaded

Cardinality Estimation

Estimate the **number of tuples** in the output of each RA operator

Let's use the University database schema as a running example

```
Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)
Class (classNumber, facId, schedule, room)
Faculty (facId, name, department, rank)
Enroll (studId, classNumber, grade)
```

Estimation: SELECT

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

#of tuples

#of distinct values

#of distinct values

range of values

```
SELECT studId, lastName
FROM Student
```

$\pi_{\text{studId, lastName}}$
|
Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?

10,000

Estimation: DISTINCT

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

#of tuples

#of distinct values

#of distinct values

range of values

```
SELECT DISTINCT lastName  
FROM Student
```

π_{lastName}

Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?

9,500

Estimation: AGGREGATE

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

T(Student) = 10,000

V(lastName) = 9,500

V(major) = 10

Range(credits) = [1, 126)

#of tuples

#of distinct values

#of distinct values

range of values

```
SELECT major, AVG(credits)
FROM Student
GROUP BY major
```

major^GAVG(credits)
|
Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?

10

Estimation: WHERE Value

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

#of tuples

#of distinct values

#of distinct values

range of values

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE studId = 1111
```

$\sigma_{\text{studId}=1111}$

Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?
(assume that 1111 exists)

1

Estimation: WHERE Value

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

#of tuples

#of distinct values

#of distinct values

range of values

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE lastname = 'Happy'
```

$\sigma_{\text{lastname}='Happy'}$

Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?
(assume distinct values uniformly distribute; constant 'Happy' exists;
without assumption, estimate is impossible)

$$T(R) * \frac{1}{V(\text{attr})} = 10000 * \frac{1}{9500} \approx 1.05 \text{ tuples}$$

Selectivity factor

Estimation: WHERE Range

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

#of tuples

#of distinct values

#of distinct values

range of values

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30
```

$\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30}$

Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?
(assume uniformly distributed and continuous; without assumption,
estimate is impossible)

$$T(R) * \frac{(\text{val} - \text{min})}{(\text{max} - \text{min})} = 10000 * \frac{(30 - 1)}{(126 - 1)} \approx 2320 \text{ tuples}$$

Selectivity factor = (selection range) / (total range)

Estimation: AND

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

#of tuples

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

#of distinct values

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

#of distinct values

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

range of values

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
AND lastname = 'Happy'
```

$\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30 \text{ AND } \text{lastname} = \text{'Happy'}}$
|
Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?
(assume constants exist, distinct values uniformly distributed and continuous, 'Happy' exists; without assumption, estimate is impossible)

Estimation: AND (2)

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
AND lastname = 'Happy'
```

$\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30 \text{ AND lastname} = \text{'Happy'}}$
|
Student

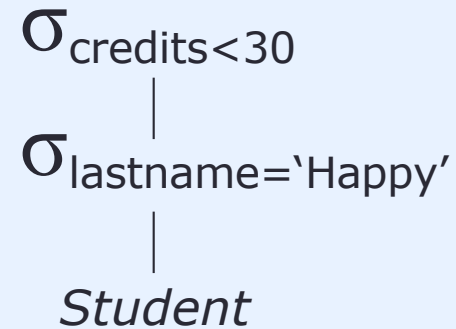
$\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30}$
|
 $\sigma_{\text{lastname} = \text{'Happy'}}$
|
Student



\cap
/ \
 $\sigma_{\text{lastname} = \text{'Happy'}}$ $\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30}$
| |
Student *Student*

Estimation: AND (3)

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
AND lastname = 'Happy'
```



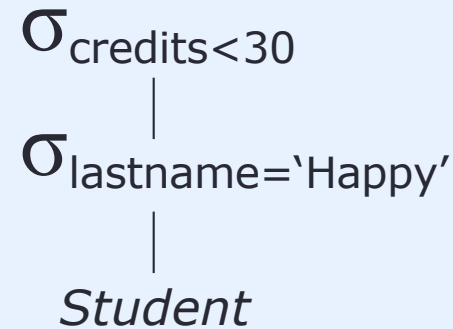
How many tuples do we expect this query to output? – hard to say

- If conditions disjoint, **0** tuple result
 - E.g. no student with lastname 'Happy' has credits <30
- If conditions independent, there will be **multiple** estimates
 - E.g. lastname and credits are independent
- If conditions fully overlap, take **minimum** of estimates
 - E.g. all students with lastname 'Happy' have credits <30

Assume independent unless you know for sure full overlap

Estimation: AND (4)

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
AND lastname = 'Happy'
```



How many tuples do we expect this query to output? – hard to say

- If conditions disjoint, 0 tuple result

= 0

Selectivity factor

- If conditions independent, there will be multiple estimates

$\approx 10000 * ((30-1) / (126-1)) * (1/9500) \approx 0.244$ tuples

- If conditions fully overlap, take minimum of estimates

$\leq 10000 * \min\{((30-1) / (126-1)), (1/9500)\} \approx 1.053$ tuples

(assume independent unless otherwise specified --- answer: 0.244 tuples)

Estimation: OR

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

$T(\text{Student}) = 10,000$

#of tuples

$V(\text{lastName}) = 9,500$

#of distinct values

$V(\text{major}) = 10$

#of distinct values

$\text{Range}(\text{credits}) = [1, 126)$

range of values

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
OR lastname = 'Happy'
```

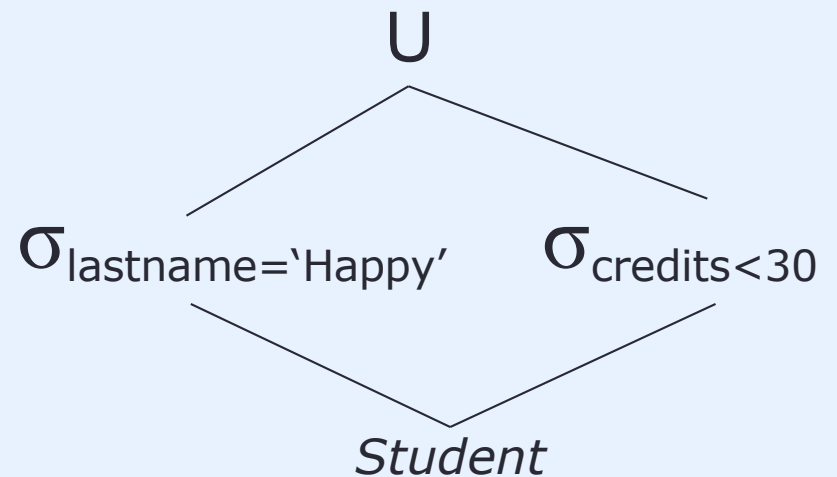
$\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30 \text{ OR } \text{lastname} = \text{'Happy'}}$
|
Student

How many tuples do we expect this query to output?
(assume constants exist, distinct values uniformly distributed and continuous; without assumption, estimate is impossible)

Estimation: OR (2)

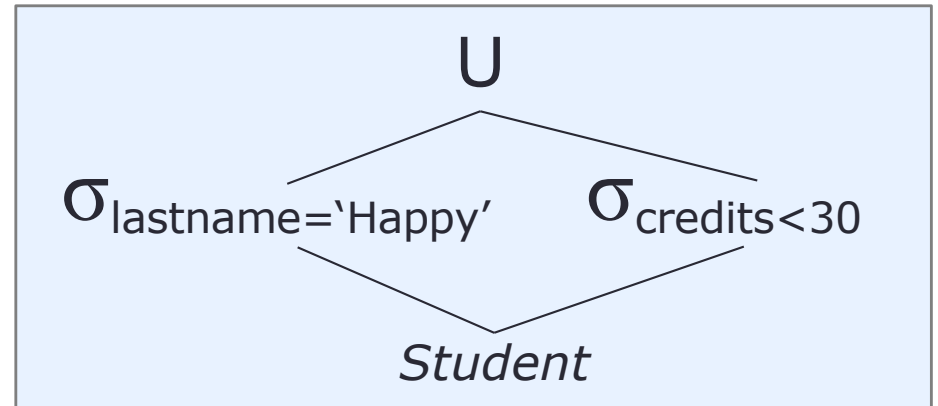
```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
OR lastname = 'Happy'
```

$\sigma_{\text{credits} < 30 \text{ OR lastname} = \text{'Happy'}}$
|
Student



Estimation: OR (3)

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
OR lastname = 'Happy'
```



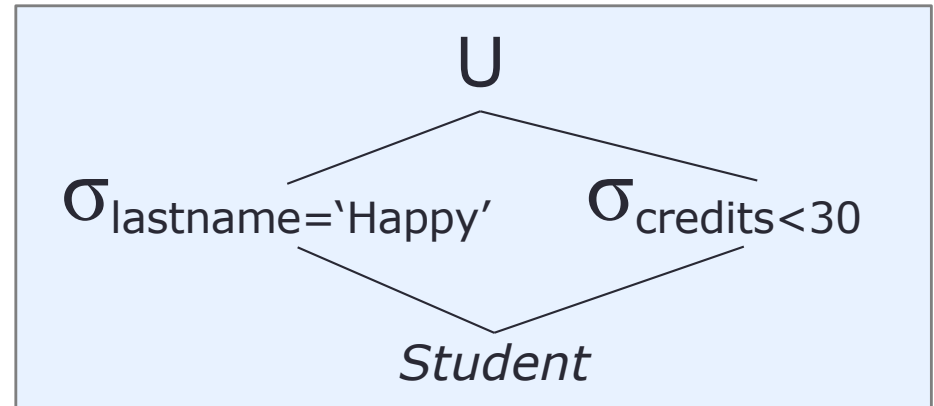
How many tuples do we expect this query to output? – hard to say

- If conditions disjoint, **add** estimates
 - E.g. no student with lastname 'Happy' has credits <30
- If conditions fully overlap, take **maximum** of estimates
 - E.g. all students with lastname 'Happy' have credits <30

Assume disjoint unless you know for sure full overlap

Estimation: OR (4)

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
WHERE credits < 30  
OR lastname = 'Happy'
```



How many tuples do we expect this query to output? – hard to say

- If conditions disjoint, **add** estimates

$$\leq 10000 * ((30-1) / (126-1)) + (10000 * 1/9500) \approx 2321 \text{ tuples}$$

- If conditions fully overlap, take **maximum** of estimates

$$\geq 10000 * \max\{ ((30-1) / (126-1)), (1/9500) \} \approx 2320 \text{ tuples}$$

(assume disjoint unless otherwise specified --- answer: 2321 tuples)

Selectivity factor

Estimation: Cartesian Product

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, fistName, major, credits)

T(Student) = 10,000

#of tuples

V(lastName) = 9,500

#of distinct values

V(major) = 10

#of distinct values

Range(credits) = [1, 126)

range of values

Enroll (studId, classNumber, grade)

T(Enroll) = 50,000

#of tuples

V(studId) = 10,000

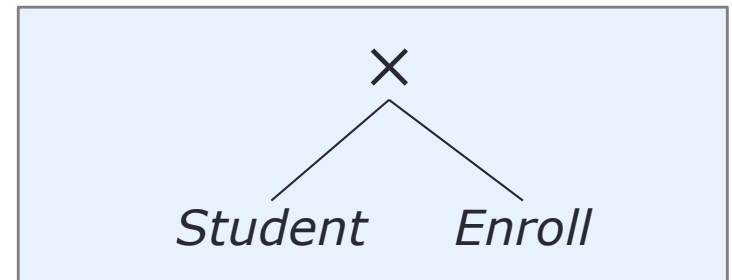
#of distinct values

V(classNumber) = 200

#of distinct values

SELECT *

FROM Student, Enroll



How many tuples do we expect this query to output?

$T(\text{Student}) * T(\text{Enroll}) = 10000 * 50000$ tuples

No selectivity factor
(because no WHERE clause
applied)

Estimation: JOIN

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

T(Student) = 10,000

#of tuples

V(lastName) = 9,500

#of distinct values

V(major) = 10

#of distinct values

Range(credits) = [1, 126)

range of values

Enroll (studId, classNumber, grade)

T(Enroll) = 50,000

#of tuples

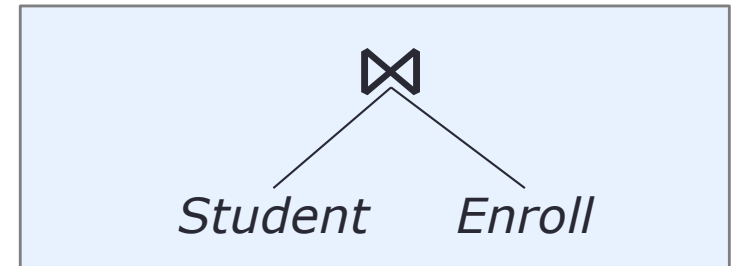
V(studId) = 10,000

#of distinct values

V(classNumber) = 200

#of distinct values

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student  
NATURAL JOIN Enroll
```



How many tuples do we expect this query to output?

$\leq T(\text{Student}) * T(\text{Enroll})$

$\leq 10000 * 50000$ tuples

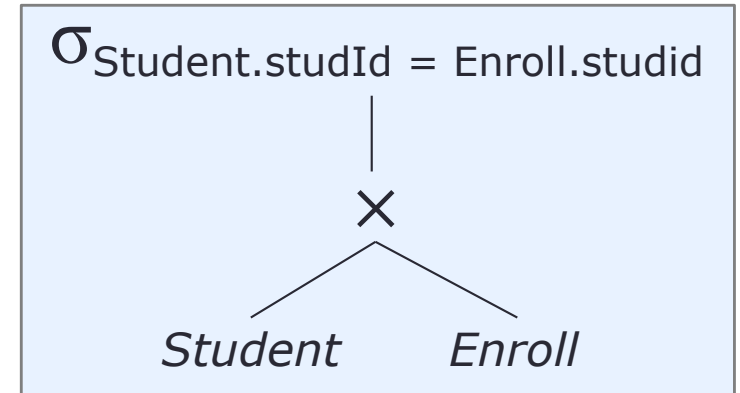
Can we do better?

Estimation: JOIN (2)

1. Start with Cartesian product

```
SELECT *  
FROM Student, Enroll  
WHERE Student.studId = Enroll.studId
```

$T(\text{Student}) * T(\text{Enroll})$



2. Suppose there are `studId` in both relations that match

3. How many times does `sid0` occur? (assume `sid0` is `studId`)

How many tuples do we expect from

$\sigma_{\text{Student.studId}=\text{sid0} \text{ AND } \text{Enroll.studId}=\text{sid0}}$

$$\text{Selectivity factor} = \frac{1}{V(\text{Student}, \text{studId})} * \frac{1}{V(\text{Enroll}, \text{studId})}$$

Estimation: JOIN (3)

4. How many distinct values of `sid0s` exist in the join?

- If no overlap

0

- If full overlap

$$\leq \min\{ V(\text{Student}, \text{studId}), V(\text{Enroll}, \text{studId}) \}$$

Assume full overlap
(~ one is a subset of the other)

5. Multiply (1), (3), and (4)

$$\frac{T(\text{Student}) * T(\text{Enroll})}{V(\text{Student}, \text{studId}) * V(\text{Enroll}, \text{studId})} * \min\{V(\text{Student}, \text{studId}), V(\text{Enroll}, \text{studId})\}$$

Simplify to

$$\frac{T(\text{Student}) * T(\text{Enroll})}{\max\{V(\text{Student}, \text{studId}), V(\text{Enroll}, \text{studId})\}}$$

Estimation: JOIN (4)

Assume we know the following information:

Student (studId, lastName, firstName, major, credits)

T(Student) = 10,000

#of tuples

V(lastName) = 9,500

#of distinct values

V(major) = 10

#of distinct values

Range(credits) = [1, 126)

range of values

Enroll (studId, classNumber, grade)

T(Enroll) = 50,000

#of tuples

V(studId) = 10,000

#of distinct values

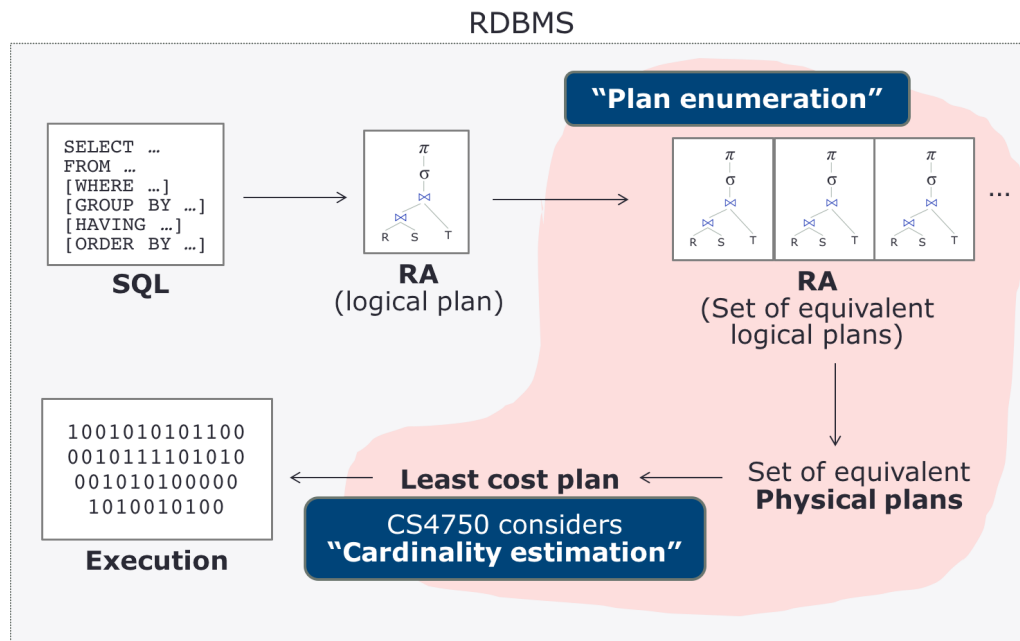
V(classNumber) = 200

#of distinct values

$$\frac{T(\text{Student}) * T(\text{Enroll})}{\max\{V(\text{Student}, \text{studId}), V(\text{Enroll}, \text{studId})\}} = \frac{10000 * 50000}{\max\{10000, 10000\}} = 50000 \text{ tuples}$$

Since we assume full overlap of studIds between Student and Enroll,
we only need the studIds of the smaller relation

Wrap-Up



What's next?

- Indexing

- Cardinality estimation
- Real RDBMS uses sophisticated cost model
- Making inappropriate assumptions to estimate cardinality may lead to:
 - Inaccurate estimates
 - Optimization selects a slow plan
 - Slow query execution
- Be careful and document your assumptions