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Factorised Relational Databases

Dan Olteanu and Jakub Závodný, University of Oxford

Factorised Representations of Relations

				Ord		ltem	
Cust		ckey okey		date	okey disc		
ckey	name		1	1	1995	1	0.1
1	Joe		1	2	1996	1	0.2
2	Dan		2	3	1994	3	0.4
3	Li		2	4	1993	3	0.1
4	Мо		3	5	1995	4	0.4
			3	6	1996	5	0.1

Consider a query joining the three relations above:

Cus	t ⊠ _{ckey}	, Ord	\bowtie_{okey}	ltem
ckey	name	okey	date	disc
1	Joe	1	1995	0.1
1	Joe	1	1995	0.2
2	Dan	3	1994	0.4
2	Dan	3	1994	0.1
2	Dan	4	1993	0.4
3	Li	5	1995	0.1

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Factorised Representations of Relations

Cus	t ⊠ _{ckey}	, Ord	\bowtie_{okey}	Item
ckey	name	okey	date	disc
1	Joe	1	1995	0.1
1	Joe	1	1995	0.2
2	Dan	3	1994	0.4
2	Dan	3	1994	0.1
2	Dan	4	1993	0.4
3	Li	5	1995	0.1

A *flat* relational algebra expression of the query result is:

$\langle 1 \rangle$	×	$\langle \textit{Joe} \rangle$	×	$\langle 1 angle$	×	$\langle 1995 angle$	×	$\langle 0.1 angle$	U
$\langle 1 angle$	×	$\langle \textit{Joe} angle$	×	$\langle 1 angle$	×	$\langle 1995 angle$	×	$\langle 0.2 \rangle$	U
$\langle 2 \rangle$	×	$\langle Dan angle$	×	$\langle 3 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1994 angle$	×	$\langle 0.4 \rangle$	U
$\langle 2 \rangle$	×	$\langle Dan angle$	×	$\langle 3 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1994 angle$	×	$\langle 0.1 angle$	U
$\langle 2 \rangle$	×	$\langle Dan angle$	×	$\langle 4 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1993 \rangle$	×	$\langle 0.4 \rangle$	U
$\langle 3 \rangle$	×	$\langle Li \rangle$	×	$\langle 5 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1995 \rangle$	×	$\langle 0.1 \rangle$	

It uses relational product (×), union (U), and unary relations (e.g., $\langle 1 \rangle).$

Factorised Representations of Relations

$\langle 1 \rangle$	×	$\langle \textit{Joe} \rangle$	×	$\langle 1 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1995 angle$	×	$\langle 0.1 angle$	U
$\langle 1 angle$	×	$\langle \textit{Joe} angle$	×	$\langle 1 angle$	×	$\langle 1995 angle$	×	$\langle 0.2 \rangle$	U
$\langle 2 \rangle$	×	$\langle Dan angle$	×		×	$\langle 1994 \rangle$	×	$\langle 0.4 \rangle$	U
$\langle 2 \rangle$	×	$\langle Dan angle$	×		×	$\langle 1994 \rangle$	×	$\langle 0.1 angle$	U
$\langle 2 \rangle$	×	$\langle \textit{Dan} \rangle$	×	$\langle 4 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1993 \rangle$	×	$\langle 0.4 \rangle$	U
$\langle 3 \rangle$	×	$\langle Li \rangle$	×	$\langle 5 \rangle$	×	$\langle 1995 \rangle$	×	$\langle 0.1 angle$	

A factorised representation (or f-representation) of the query result is:

```
 \begin{array}{l} \langle 1 \rangle \times \langle Joe \rangle \times \langle 1 \rangle \times \langle 1995 \rangle \times (\langle 0.1 \rangle \cup \langle 0.2 \rangle) \cup \\ \langle 2 \rangle \times \langle Dan \rangle \times (\langle 3 \rangle \times \langle 1994 \rangle \times (\langle 0.4 \rangle \cup \langle 0.1 \rangle) \cup \langle 4 \rangle \times \langle 1993 \rangle \times \langle 0.4 \rangle) \cup \\ \langle 3 \rangle \times \langle Li \rangle \times \langle 5 \rangle \times \langle 1995 \rangle \times \langle 0.1 \rangle \end{array}
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There are several *algebraically equivalent* factorised representations defined by distributivity of product over union and commutativity of product and union.

Applications of Factorised Representations

- Succinct representation of large intermediate/final results in query evaluation
 - Equality joins induce regularity in the query result and make it factorisable.
- Provenance databases and probabilistic databases
 - Compact encoding of large provenance (10MB/record in GeneOntology DB)
 - ► Factorisation of provenance polynomials is used for efficient query evaluation.
- Incompleteness and non-determinism (choice) in design specifications
 - Whenever we need to deal with a large space of possibilities or choices.
- Compiled relational databases
 - Compile data into compact factorised representation to speed up processing of many subsequent queries.
- Configuration problems
 - Represent the space of feasible solutions (valid combinations of components)

Properties of Factorised Representations of Relations

Factorised Representations

- Are relational algebra expressions.
- Can be exponentially more succinct than the relations they encode.
- Allow for fast (constant-delay) enumeration of tuples
- Reduce data redundancy and boost query performance using a mixture of

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- vertical data partitioning (product) and
- horizontal data partitioning (union).

Key Challenges and Talk Overview

1. Characterise conjunctive queries based on succinctness of their factorised results.

2. Build a relational DBMS that uses f-representations at the physical layer.

Overview of the Rest of the Talk:

- Factorisations whose nesting structures are inferred from the query
- Tight bounds on size and readability of factorised query results
- FDB: Query engine for factorised databases

Factorisation Trees

A factorisation tree (f-tree) \mathcal{T} over relational schema \mathcal{S} is a rooted forest with nodes labelled by attributes from \mathcal{S} .

 ${\mathcal T}$ defines a nesting structure for f-representations of relations over ${\mathcal S}.$

Example f-trees and corresponding factorisations over $S = \{A, B, C\}$:

$$A \qquad \longleftrightarrow \qquad \bigcup_{a \in A} (\langle a \rangle \times (\bigcup_{b \in B} \langle b \rangle) \times (\bigcup_{c \in C} \langle c \rangle)).$$

$$A \qquad \longleftrightarrow \qquad \bigcup_{a \in A} (\langle a \rangle \times (\bigcup_{b \in B} \langle b \rangle \times (\bigcup_{c \in C} \langle c \rangle))).$$

$$B \qquad \bigcup_{c \in C} (\langle a \rangle \times (\bigcup_{b \in B} \langle b \rangle \times (\bigcup_{c \in C} \langle c \rangle))).$$

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Factorisation Trees for Relations

However, not all f-trees work for all relations.

The f-tree



cannot factorise the relation R

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because

- For A = 1, the values of B and C are *dependent*, i.e.,
- Relation $\pi_{B,C}\sigma_{A=1}(R)$ cannot be factorised as $(\bigcup_{b\in B} \langle b \rangle) \times (\bigcup_{c\in C} \langle c \rangle)$: $[(\langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 2 \rangle) \times (\langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 2 \rangle)] \neq [(\langle 1 \rangle \times \langle 1 \rangle) \cup (\langle 2 \rangle \times \langle 2 \rangle)]$

Factorisation Trees for Query Results

We statically infer from queries which f-trees always work for their results.

For a query Q (without projections) and f-tree \mathcal{T}

the result $Q(\mathbf{D})$ can be factorised according to \mathcal{T} for any database **iff**

for all relations of Q, all attributes are on a single root-to-leaf path.

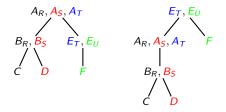
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Similar but more involved condition holds for arbitrary conjunctive queries.

Factorisation Trees for Query Results

Consider query $Q = \sigma_{\phi}(R \times S \times T \times U)$, with

- schemas $R(A_R, B_R, C)$, $S(A_S, B_S, D)$, $T(A_T, E_T)$, and $U(E_U, F)$,
- condition $\phi = (A_R = A_S = A_T, B_R = B_S, E_T = E_U).$



F-representations modelled on the left f-tree have the structure:

$$\bigcup_{a \in A_{R}, A_{S}, A_{T}} \left[\langle a \rangle \times \bigcup_{b \in B_{R}, B_{S}} \left(\langle b \rangle \times \left(\bigcup_{c \in C} \langle c \rangle \right) \times \left(\bigcup_{d \in D} \langle d \rangle \right) \right) \times \bigcup_{e \in E_{T}, E_{U}} \left(\langle e \rangle \times \left(\bigcup_{f \in F} \langle f \rangle \right) \right) \right]$$

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Size of Factorised Representations

The size of an f-representation is the number of its singleton data elements.

$$\begin{split} |(\langle 1\rangle \cup \langle 2\rangle \cup \langle 3\rangle)(\langle 1\rangle \cup \langle 2\rangle)| &= 5, \\ |(\langle 1\rangle \langle 1\rangle \cup \langle 1\rangle \langle 2\rangle \cup \langle 2\rangle \langle 1\rangle \cup \langle 2\rangle \langle 2\rangle \cup \langle 3\rangle \langle 1\rangle \cup \langle 3\rangle \langle 2\rangle)| &= 12. \end{split}$$

The two sizes above differ, although

 $(\langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 2 \rangle \cup \langle 3 \rangle)(\langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 2 \rangle) = (\langle 1 \rangle \langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 1 \rangle \langle 2 \rangle \cup \langle 2 \rangle \langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 2 \rangle \langle 2 \rangle \cup \langle 3 \rangle \langle 1 \rangle \cup \langle 3 \rangle \langle 2 \rangle)$

How much space do we save by factorisation?

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Tight Bounds on the Size of Factorised Representations

Given a query Q, for any f-tree \mathcal{T} of Q there is a rational number $s(\mathcal{T})$ such that:

- For any database **D**, the factorisation of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ over \mathcal{T} has size $O(|\mathbf{D}|^{s(\mathcal{T})})$.
- There exist arbitrarily large databases D for which the factorisation of Q(D) over T has size Θ(|D|^{s(T)}).

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The parameter $s(\mathcal{T})$ is

- a feasible solution to a linear program,
- the fractional edge cover number of a sub-query of Q.
 - this sub-query depends on the shape of \mathcal{T} .
 - ▶ $1 \leq s(\mathcal{T}) \leq |Q|.$

Example of Computing $s(\mathcal{T})$

Consider the following f-tree \mathcal{T} .

• Attributes with the same colour belong to the same input relation.



Number of relations covering the path from root to any node *X*:

- For each node X except for F, this number is 1.
- For node *F*, this number is 2.

s(T) is the maximum of the number of covering relations for each node.
Thus, s(T) = 2.

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Tight Bounds on the Size of Factorised Representations

Size bounds for f-trees can be lifted to queries by finding an optimal f-tree:

$$s(Q) = \min_{\mathcal{T}} s(\mathcal{T}).$$

s(Q) characterises queries by factorisability of their results.

• For any database **D**, there is a factorisation of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ with size $O(|\mathbf{D}|^{s(Q)})$.

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• For f-trees derived from Q, this bound is best possible.

Readability of Factorised Representations

- Assume we annotate tuples by distinct variables (= provenance, keys).
- Factorised representations can be seen as polynomials over such variables
 - \cup becomes sum (+) and \times becomes product (.).

Readability:

- A representation Φ is read-k if the maximum number of occurrences of any variable in Φ is k.
- The readability of Φ is the smallest number k such that there is a read-k representation equivalent to Φ .
- Readability has been proposed in the context of factorisation of Boolean functions [Golumbic et al.'06].
- Example: ψ_1 is read-3 and ψ_2 is read-1. They are equivalent and have readability one.

$$\psi_1 = c_1 o_1 i_1 + c_1 o_1 i_2 + c_2 o_3 i_3 + c_2 o_3 i_4 + c_2 o_4 i_5 + c_3 o_5 i_6.$$

$$\psi_2 = c_1 o_1 (i_1 + i_2) + c_2 (o_3 (i_3 + i_4) + o_4 i_5) + c_3 o_5 i_6.$$

Two Readability Dichotomies

- 1. Let Q be a query.
 - If Q is *hierarchical*, the readability of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ for any database **D** is bounded by a constant.
 - If Q is non-hierarchical, for any f-tree T of Q there exist arbitrarily large databases D such that T(D) is read-Ω(|D|).
- 2. Let Q be a query without repeating relation symbols.
 - If Q is hierarchical, the readability of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ is 1 for any database \mathbf{D} .
 - If Q is non-hierarchical, there exist arbitrarily large databases **D** such that the readability of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ is $\Omega(\sqrt{|\mathbf{D}|})$.

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What are these hierarchical queries?

Hierarchical query Q:

• For any two equivalence classes of attributes in *Q*, either their sets of relation symbols are disjoint, or one is included in the other.

This is a key property for query characterisation in many applications:

- In probabilistic databases, any tractable non-repeating conjunctive query is hierarchical; non-hierarchical queries are intractable [Suciu&Dalvi'07].
- In the finite cursor machine model of computation [Grohe et al'07], any query that can be evaluated in one pass is hierarchical; non-hierarchical queries need more passes.

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- Assumption: we are allowed to first sort the input relations.
- In the Massively Parallel computation model, any query that can be evaluated with one synchronisation step is hierarchical. [Suciu et al'11]

Readability Width of a Query

There is a rational number r(Q) with properties similar to those of s(Q):

- For any database D, the readability of the query result Q(D) is at most M · |D|^{r(Q)}, where M is the max number of repeating relation symbols in Q.
- For any f-tree \mathcal{T} of Q there exist arbitrarily large databases **D** such that the f-representation $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{D})$ is at least read- $(|\mathbf{D}|/|Q|)^{r(Q)}$.

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- r(Q) = 0 for hierarchical queries Q only and r(Q) > 0 for all others.
- r(Q) defines the *readability width* of Q.

FDB: A Query Engine for Factorised Databases

- Uses f-representations to encode relational data
- Query evaluation
 - Relational operators: selection, projection, product
 - New operators for restructuring factorisations
 - Any query can be evaluated by a sequence of operators
- Query optimisation
 - Find the best query and factorisation plan
- \bullet Implementation of an in-memory engine in C++
 - flat/factorised data \rightarrow flat/factorised data
- Experimental evaluation with FDB and relational engines
 - Factorised query results up to 6 orders of magnitude smaller than equivalent relations.

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 FDB up to 5 orders of magnitude faster than PostgreSQL/SQLite/our in-memory relational engine.

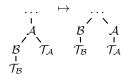
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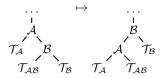
Query Operators

Restructuring operators

• Normalisation factors out expressions common to all terms of a union. Example: f-tree nodes A and B do not have dependent attributes.



• Swap exchanges a node with its parent while preserving normalisation. Example: $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{A}}$ depends on \mathcal{A} only, $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{B}}$ depends on \mathcal{B} only, $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{AB}}$ depends on both \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B}

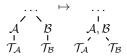


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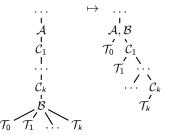
Query Operators

Selection operators A = B, where A and B label nodes A and B respectively.

• Merge siblings ${\mathcal A}$ and ${\mathcal B}$ into a single node



• Absorb \mathcal{B} into its ancestor \mathcal{A} . Example: \mathcal{T}_i depends on \mathcal{B} and \mathcal{C}_i



Select $A\theta c$ does not change the f-tree; it removes from the f-representation all products containing A-singletons $\langle a \rangle$ for which $a \neg \theta c$.

Query Operators

Further query algebra operators

- Cartesian product of two f-trees is their forest
- **Projection** on attribute list \overline{A} removes from the f-tree all attributes but those in \overline{A} ; empty leaf nodes are removed.
 - The projection operation is more involved if the resulting f-tree must not allow f-representations with duplicates.

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• Work in progress: Order-by, Group-by, Aggregates.

Query Optimisation

Goal: Find the best f-plan = query **and** factorisation plan

- Optimal f-representation of the query result
- Minimal computation cost, i.e., the sizes of intermediate results
- Cost computation based on s(Q) or cardinality and selectivity estimates

Search space defined by

- selection operators may require several swaps before application,
- choice of selection operators and f-tree transformations for each join,

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- choice of order for join conditions,
- projection push-downs.

Query Optimisation: Example

Build f-plan for selection B = F on the leftmost f-tree, with dependencies $\{A, B, C\}$ and $\{D, E, F\}$.

Alternative f-plans (cost given by $\max s(\mathcal{T}_i)$ over all \mathcal{T}_i 's in the f-plan):

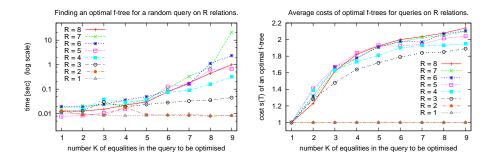
Input and output f-trees with cost 1, intermediate with cost 2

All three f-trees have cost 1.

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Experimental Evaluation

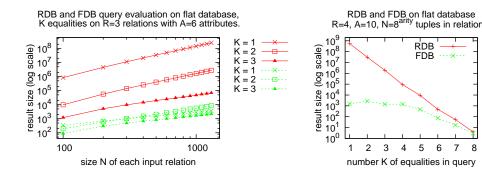
Query optimisation. K equalities on R relations with A = 40 attributes.



- exhaustive search used above.
- heuristics perform up to 4 orders of magnitude better, the cost differs by at most 0.5.

Experimental Evaluation

Query evaluation on flat data: FDB vs. Relational DB (RDB).

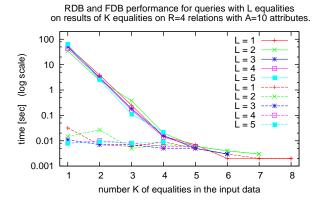


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• The trend is the same for time performance.

Experimental Evaluation

Query evaluation on factorised data: FDB (dotted lines) vs. RDB (solid lines).



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• The trend is the same for size.

Disclaimer: Discussion for queries without projection!

For any attribute A in an f-tree \mathcal{T} , the number of occurrences of A-values in the factorisation of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ over \mathcal{T} is $|\pi_{\text{path}(A)}(Q(\mathbf{D}))|$.



Example

- $\operatorname{path}(F) = \{A_R, A_S, A_T, E_T, E_U, F\}.$
- The number of occurrences of *F*-values is then $|\pi_{\text{path}(F)}(Q(\mathbf{D}))|$.

Next step:

- The trouble is that $\pi_{\text{path}(A)}(Q(\mathbf{D}))$ requires to know $Q(\mathbf{D})$.
- We would like to express it as a function of Q and D.

Restrict $Q = \pi_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma_{\phi}(R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n))$ and **D** to the attributes in path(A):

- $Q_A = \sigma_{\phi_{\mathrm{path}(A)}}(\pi_{\mathrm{path}(A)}R_1 \times \cdots \times \pi_{\mathrm{path}(A)}R_n)$,
- D_A obtained by projecting D onto path(A).

Then number of A-values $= |\pi_{\text{path}(A)}(Q(\mathbf{D}))| \le |Q_A(\mathbf{D}_A)|.$

Rough estimate:

- Cover all attributes of Q_A by $k \leq |Q_A|$ relations.
- Then, $|Q_A(\mathbf{D}_A)| \leq |\mathbf{D}|^k$.
- Best k is the edge cover number of the hypergraph of Q_A .

Better estimate:

• From edge cover number k to fractional edge cover number $\rho^*(Q_A)$.

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For a query $Q = \sigma_{\phi}(R_1 \times \cdots \times R_n)$, the *fractional edge cover number* $\rho^*(Q)$ is the cost of an optimal solution to the linear program with variables $\{x_{R_i}\}_{i=1}^n$:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimising} & \sum_{i} x_{R_{i}} \\ \text{subject to} & \sum_{i:R_{i} \in rel(\mathcal{A})} x_{R_{i}} \geq 1 \ \text{for all attribute classes } \mathcal{A}, \\ & x_{R_{i}} \geq 0 \qquad \qquad \text{for all } R_{i}. \end{array}$$

- x_{R_i} is the weight of relation R_i .
- rel(A) are relations with attributes in A.
- Each node A has to be covered by relations in rel(A) such that the sum of the weights of these relations is greater than 1.
- The objective is to minimise the sum of the weights of all relations.
- In the non-weighted edge cover, the variables x_{R_i} can only be assigned the values 0 and 1.

Then $|Q(\mathbf{D})| \leq |\mathbf{D}|^{\rho^*(Q)}$ for all databases **D**. [Atserias, Grohe, Marx; FOCS'08]

- 1. Number of A-values = $|\pi_{\operatorname{path}(A)}(Q(\mathsf{D}))| \le |Q_A(\mathsf{D}_A)| \le |\mathsf{D}_A|^{\rho^*(Q_A)} \le |\mathsf{D}|^{\rho^*(Q_A)}$.
- 2. Define $s(\mathcal{T}) = \max_A \rho^*(Q_A)$.

• $s(\mathcal{T}) = \text{maximal possible } \rho^*(Q_A) \text{ over all attributes } A \text{ from } Q.$

- Then, the size of the factorisation of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ over \mathcal{T} is $\leq |Q| \cdot |\mathbf{D}|^{s(\mathcal{T})} = O(|\mathbf{D}|^{s(\mathcal{T})}).$
- 3. Define $s(Q) = \min_{\mathcal{T}} s(\mathcal{T})$.
 - $s(Q) = \text{minimum possible } s(\mathcal{T}) \text{ over all f-trees } \mathcal{T} \text{ for } Q.$
 - Then, there exists an f-representation of $Q(\mathbf{D})$ with size $O(|\mathbf{D}|^{s(Q)})$.

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Example of computing s(Q)



- For each node X except for F, we have that ρ*(Q_X) = 1 since all attributes in path(X) are covered by one relation.
- path(F) is not covered by one relation and $\rho^*(Q_F) = 2$.
- Thus, $s(\mathcal{T}) = 2$.
- s(Q) = 2 since s(T) = 2 is the smallest possible value for any f-tree T of the query Q.

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Projections

With $R(A_R, B_R)$, $S(A_S, B_S)$, the query $Q = \sigma_{A_R = A_S}(R \times S)$ has s(Q) = 1:

 A_R, A_S A_S B_R

However the query $Q' = \pi_{B_R, C_S}(\sigma_{A_R=A_S}(R \times S))$ has s(Q') = 2.

After projecting away A_R , A_S , B_R and C_S are dependent and cannot be siblings.

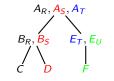
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 \Rightarrow Projection may increase the factorisation size.

More Succinct Representations: DAG

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



$$\bigcup_{a \in A_R, A_S, A_T} \left[\langle a \rangle \times \cdots \times \bigcup_{e \in E_T, E_U} \left(\langle e \rangle \times \left(\bigcup_{f \in F} \langle f \rangle \right) \right) \right]$$

- Node $\{F\}$ only depends on $\{E_T, E_U\}$.
- A fixed $\langle e \rangle$ binds with the same $\bigcup_{f \in F} \langle f \rangle$ for each $\langle a \rangle$.
 - \Rightarrow store the mapping $\langle e \rangle \mapsto \bigcup_{f \in F} \langle f \rangle$ separately.

$$\bigcup_{a \in A_{\mathcal{R}}, A_{\mathcal{S}}, A_{\mathcal{T}}} \left[\langle a \rangle \times \cdots \times \bigcup_{e \in E_{\mathcal{T}}, E_{\mathcal{U}}} \left(\langle e \rangle \times U_{e} \right) \right]; \qquad \left\{ U_{e} = \bigcup_{f \in F} \langle f \rangle \right\}$$

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