



# Adaptive query optimization in PostgreSQL

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[postgrespro.ru](http://postgrespro.ru)

What is query optimization?

How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

What is adaptive query optimization?

Machine learning and kNN method.

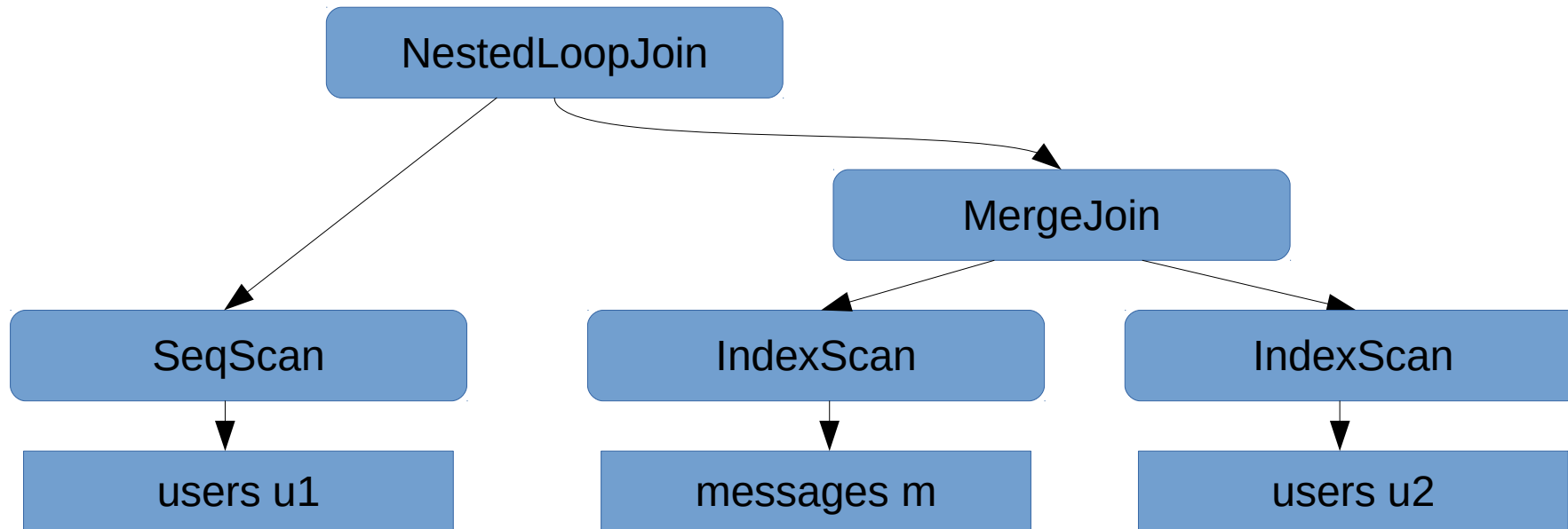
How to use machine learning for adaptive query optimization?

How much can it improve PostgreSQL performance?

Implementaion details: AQO.

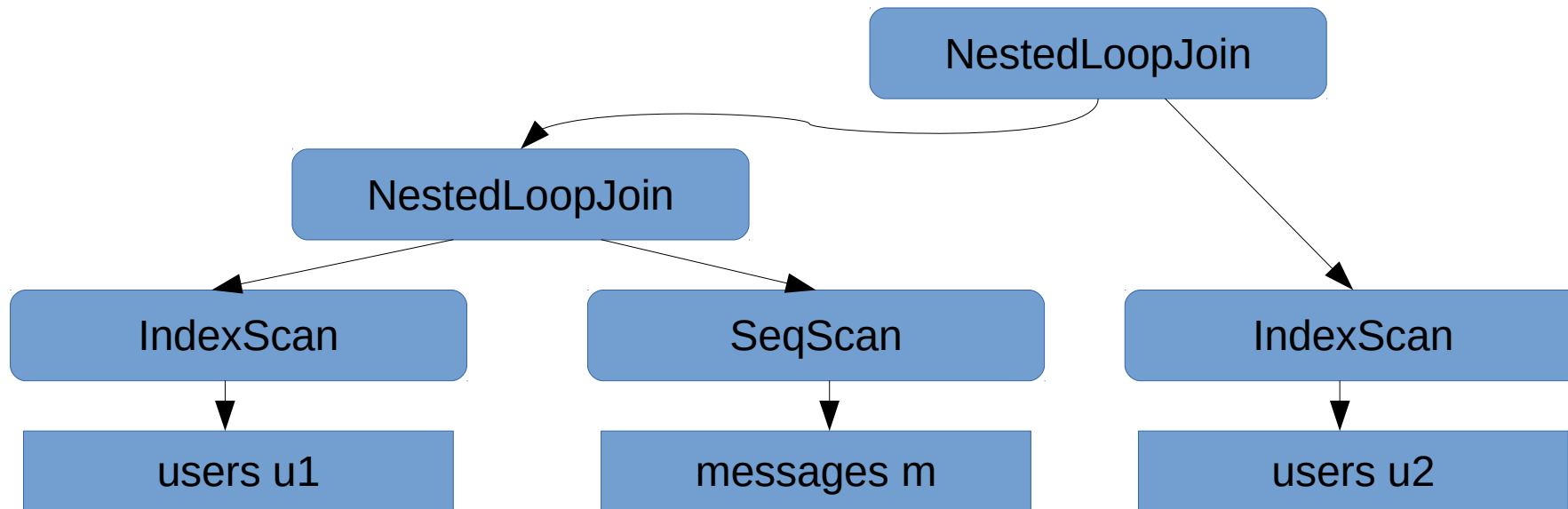
# What is query optimization?

```
SELECT *  
FROM users AS u1, messages AS m, users AS u2  
WHERE u1.id = m.sender_id AND m.receiver_id = u2.id;
```



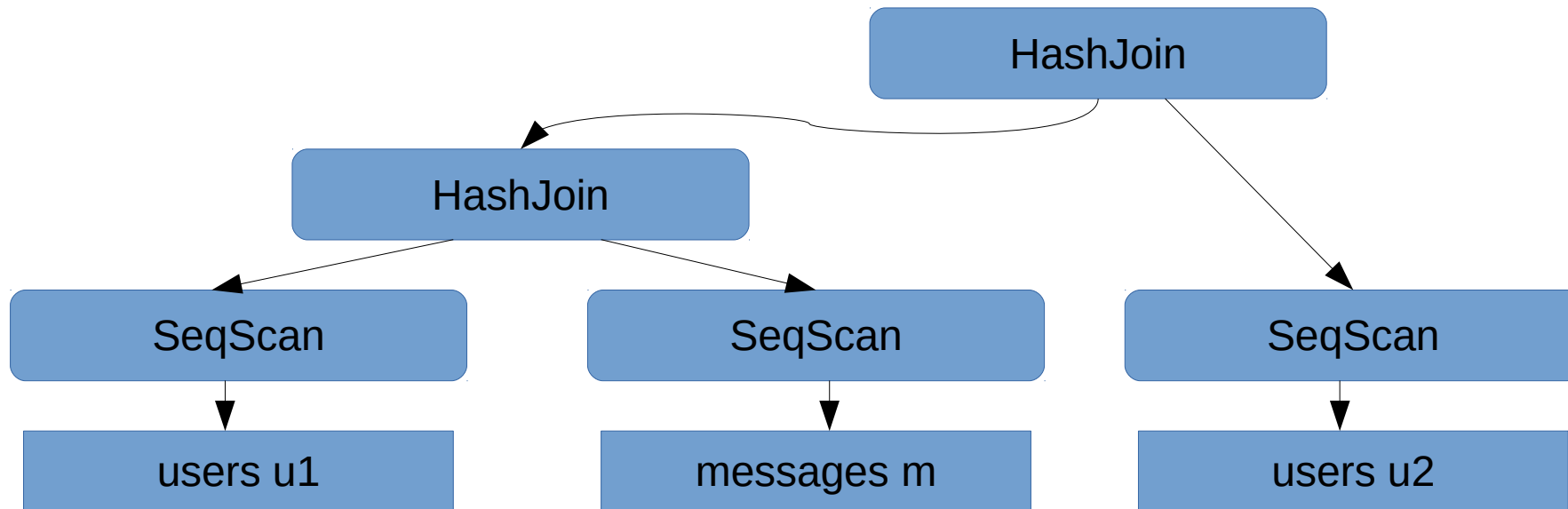
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# What is query optimization?

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SELECT *  
FROM users AS u1, messages AS m, users AS u2  
WHERE u1.id = m.sender_id AND m.receiver_id = u2.id;
```



# What is query optimization?

```

EXPLAIN SELECT *
FROM users AS u1, messages AS m, users AS u2
WHERE u1.id = m.sender_id AND m.receiver_id = u2.id;
          QUERY PLAN
  
```

```

-----
Hash Join  (cost=540.00..439429.44 rows=10003825 width=27)
  Hash Cond: (m.receiver_id = u2.id)
    -> Hash Join  (cost=270.00..301606.84 rows=10003825 width=23)
      Hash Cond: (m.sender_id = u1.id)
        -> Seq Scan on messages m  (cost=0.00..163784.25 rows=10003825 width=19)
        -> Hash  (cost=145.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)
          -> Seq Scan on users u1  (cost=0.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)
    -> Hash  (cost=145.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)
      -> Seq Scan on users u2  (cost=0.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)
(9 rows)
  
```

# What is query optimization?

Plan execution cost

```
EXPLAIN SELECT *  
FROM users AS u1, messages AS m, users AS u2  
WHERE u1.id = m.sender_id AND m.receiver_id = u2.id;
```

QUERY PLAN

```
-----  
Hash Join (cost=540.00..439429.44 rows=10003825 width=27)  
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      Hash Cond: (m.sender_id = u1.id)  
        -> Seq Scan on messages m (cost=0.00..163784.25 rows=10003825 width=19)  
        -> Hash (cost=145.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)  
          -> Seq Scan on users u1 (cost=0.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)  
    -> Hash (cost=145.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)  
      -> Seq Scan on users u2 (cost=0.00..145.00 rows=10000 width=4)  
(9 rows)
```

Plan node execution cost

Plan node cardinality

# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?



## Cost-based query optimization

System R (1974)

Choose the cheapest plan  
among all the possible plans



# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

$$Cost = n_s c_s + n_r c_r + n_t c_t + n_i c_i + n_o c_o$$

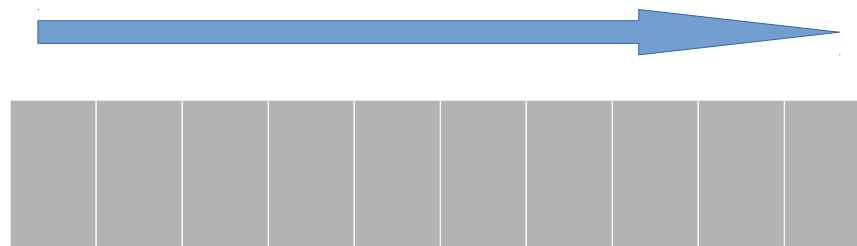
$c_s$	seq_page_cost	1.0
$c_r$	random_page_cost	4.0
$c_t$	cpu_Tuple_cost	0.01
$c_i$	cpu_Index_tuple_cost	0.005
$c_o$	cpu_Operator_cost	0.0025

# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

```
SELECT * FROM users  
WHERE age < 25;
```

SeqScan

Data



$$Cost = n_s c_s + n_o \cdot c_o$$

$$n_s = N_{pages}$$

$$n_o = N_{tuples}$$



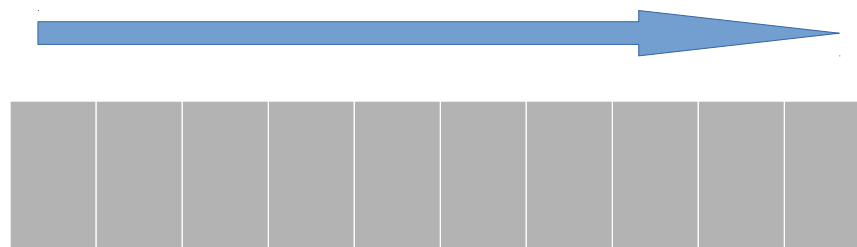
IndexScan

# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE age < 25;
```

SeqScan

Data



$$Cost = n_s c_s + n_o \cdot c_o$$

$$n_s = N_{pages}$$

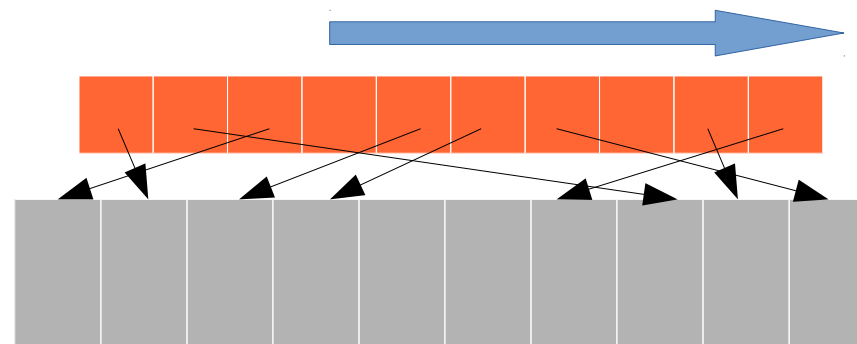
$$n_o = N_{tuples}$$



IndexScan

Index

Data

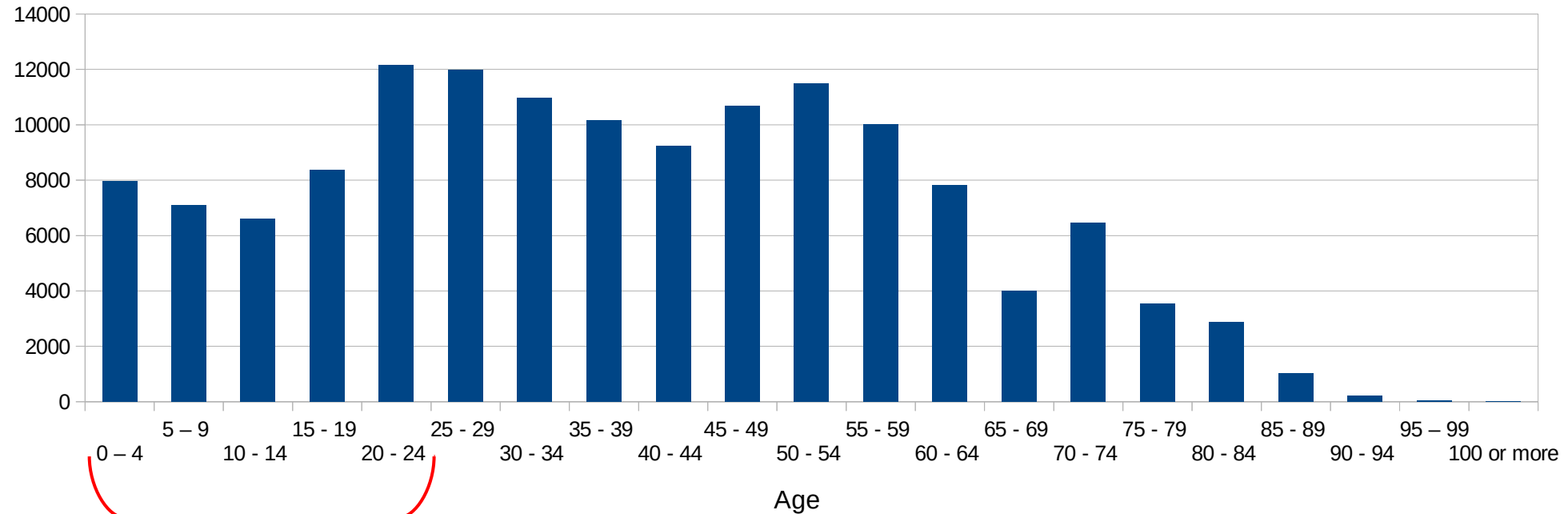


$$Cost = n_r \cdot c_r$$

$$n_r = Cardinality$$

# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

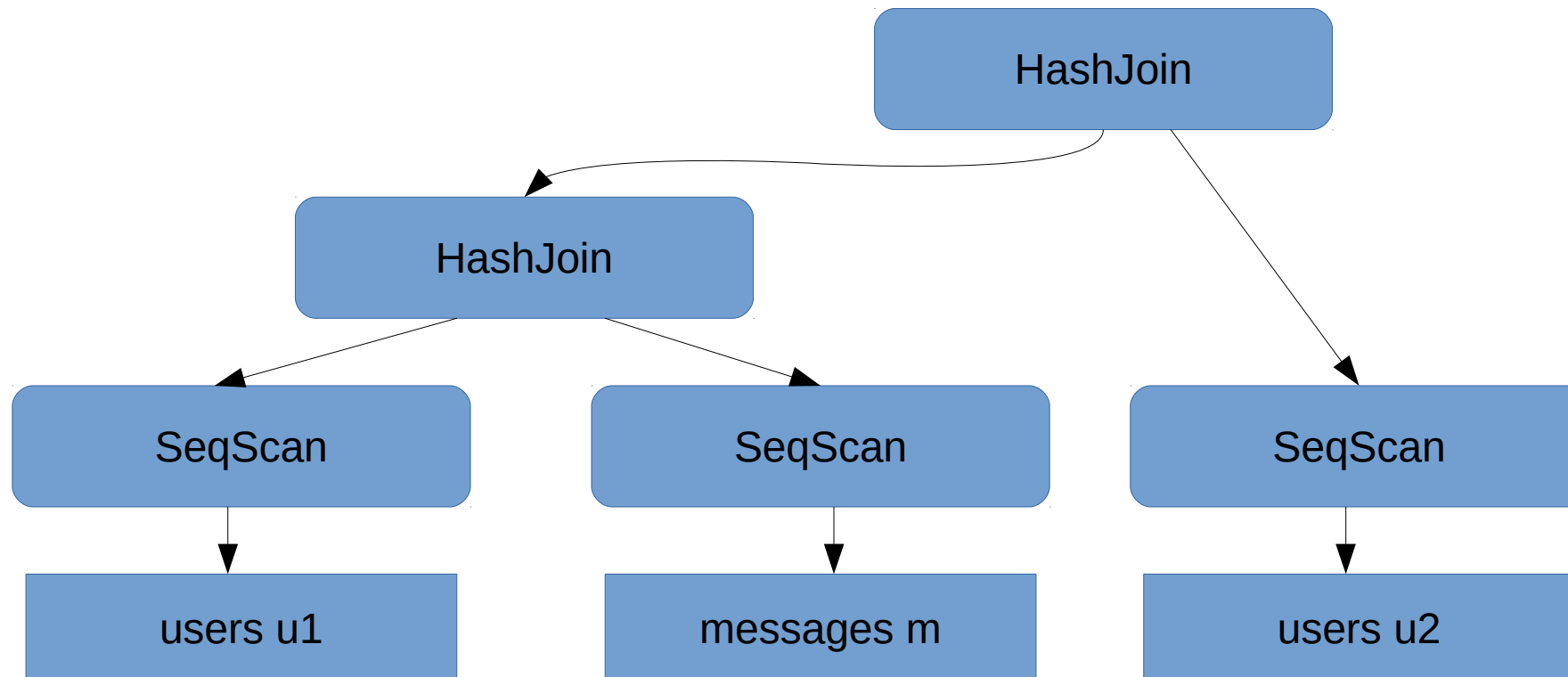
```
SELECT * FROM users  
WHERE age < 25;
```



*Cardinality*

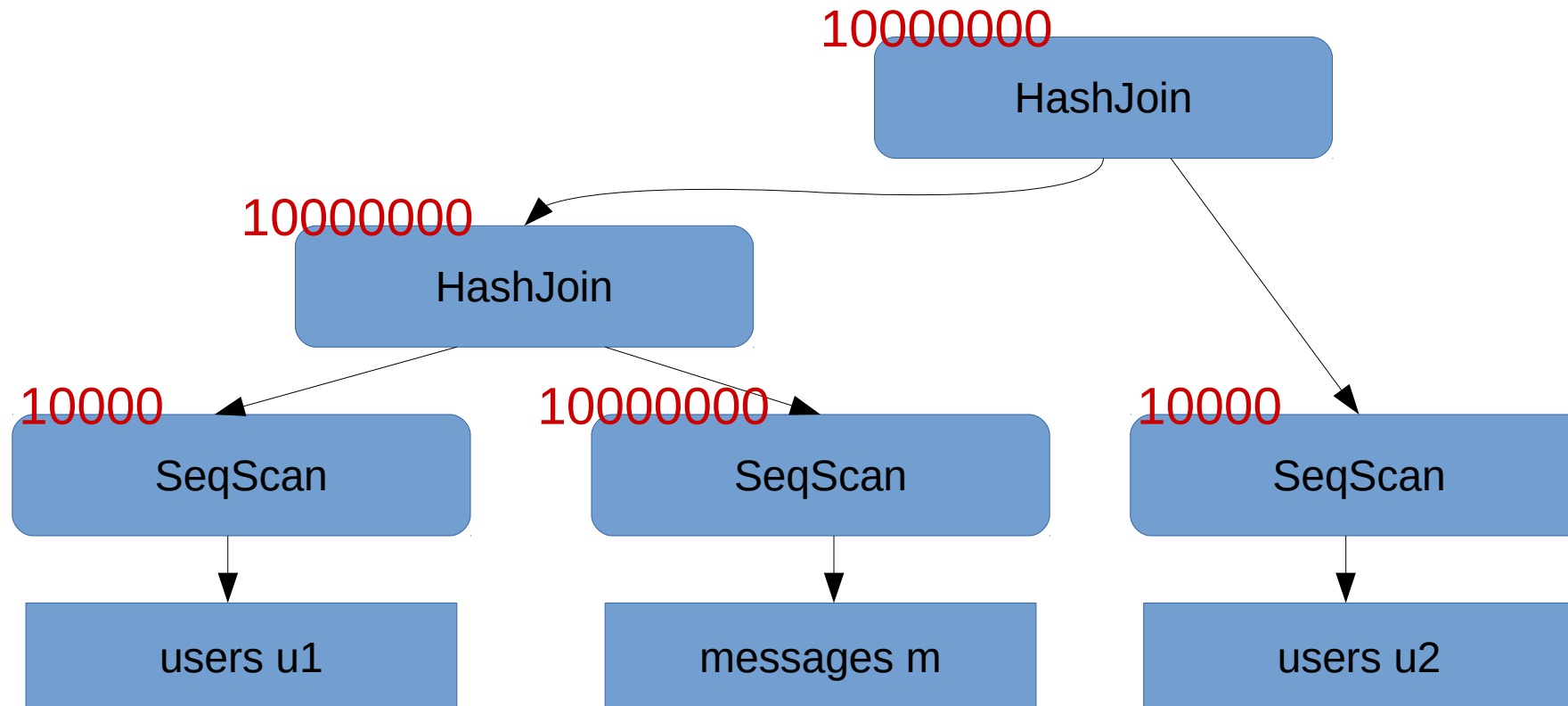
# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

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SELECT *  
FROM users AS u1, messages AS m, users AS u2  
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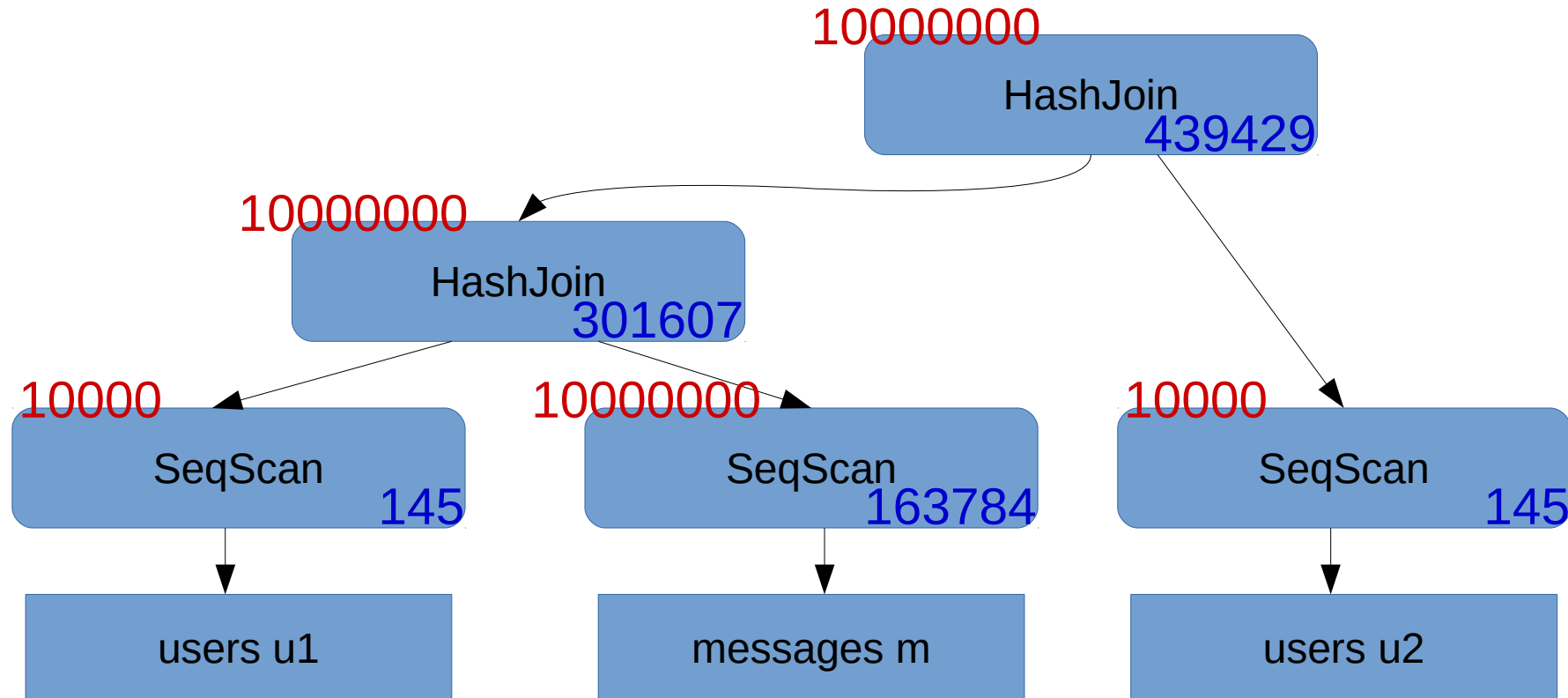
# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

```
SELECT *  
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# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

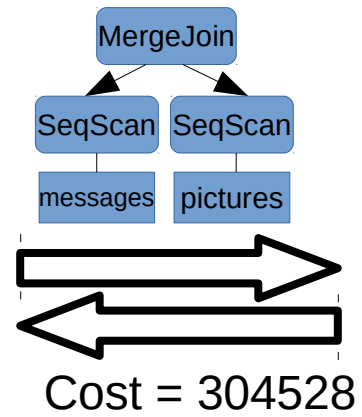
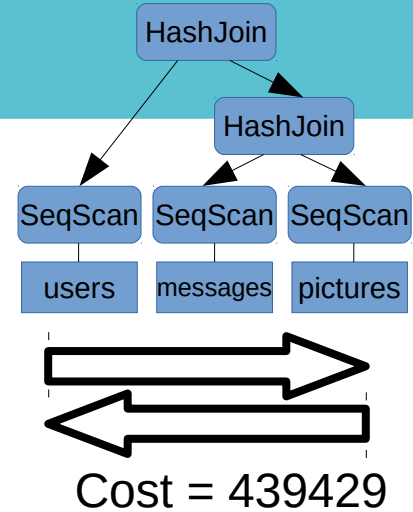
```
SELECT *  
FROM users AS u1, messages AS m, users AS u2  
WHERE u1.id = m.sender_id AND m.receiver_id = u2.id;
```



# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

## Optimization method

Full search



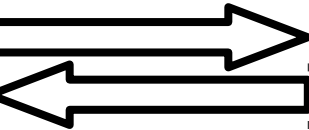
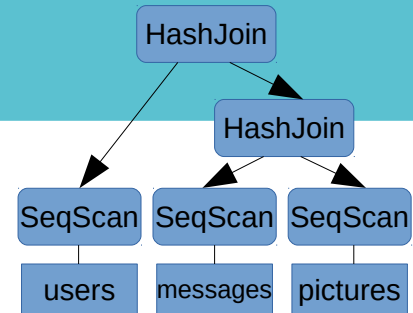
## Plan's cost estimation



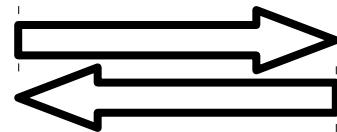
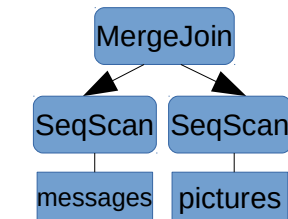
# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

## Optimization method

~~Full Search~~



Cost = 439429



Cost = 304528

## Plan's cost estimation

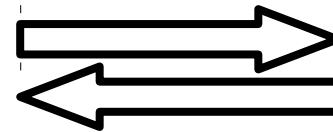
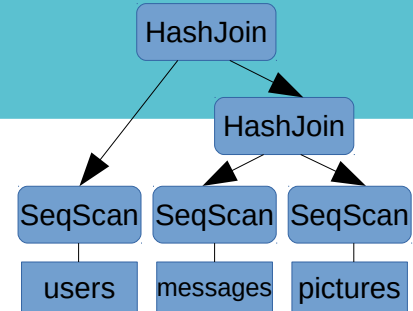
# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

## Optimization method

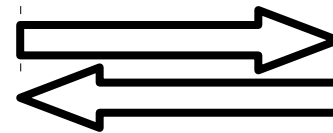
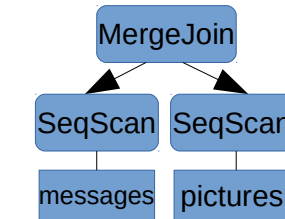
Dynamic programming

or

Genetic algorithm



Cost = 439429



Cost = 304528

## Plan's cost estimation

# Dynamic programming over subsets

- System R
- Time complexity:  $3^n$
- Memory consumption:  $2^n$
- Always finds the cheapest plan

# Genetic algorithm

- PostgreSQL
- Common and flexible method
- Can be stopped on every iteration
- No guarantees

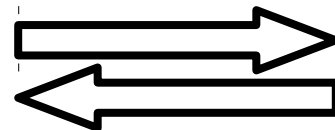
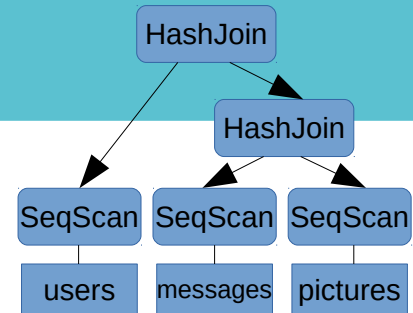
# How does PostgreSQL optimize queries?

## Optimization method

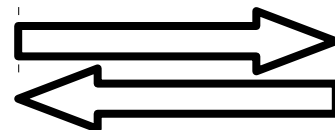
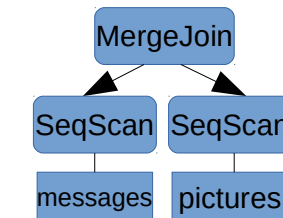
Dynamic programming

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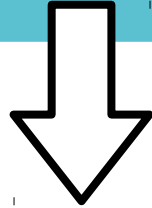
Cost = 439429



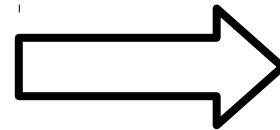
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## Plan's cost estimation

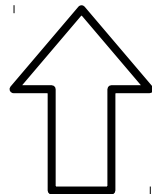
Query clauses



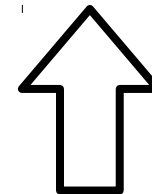
Cardinality  
estimation



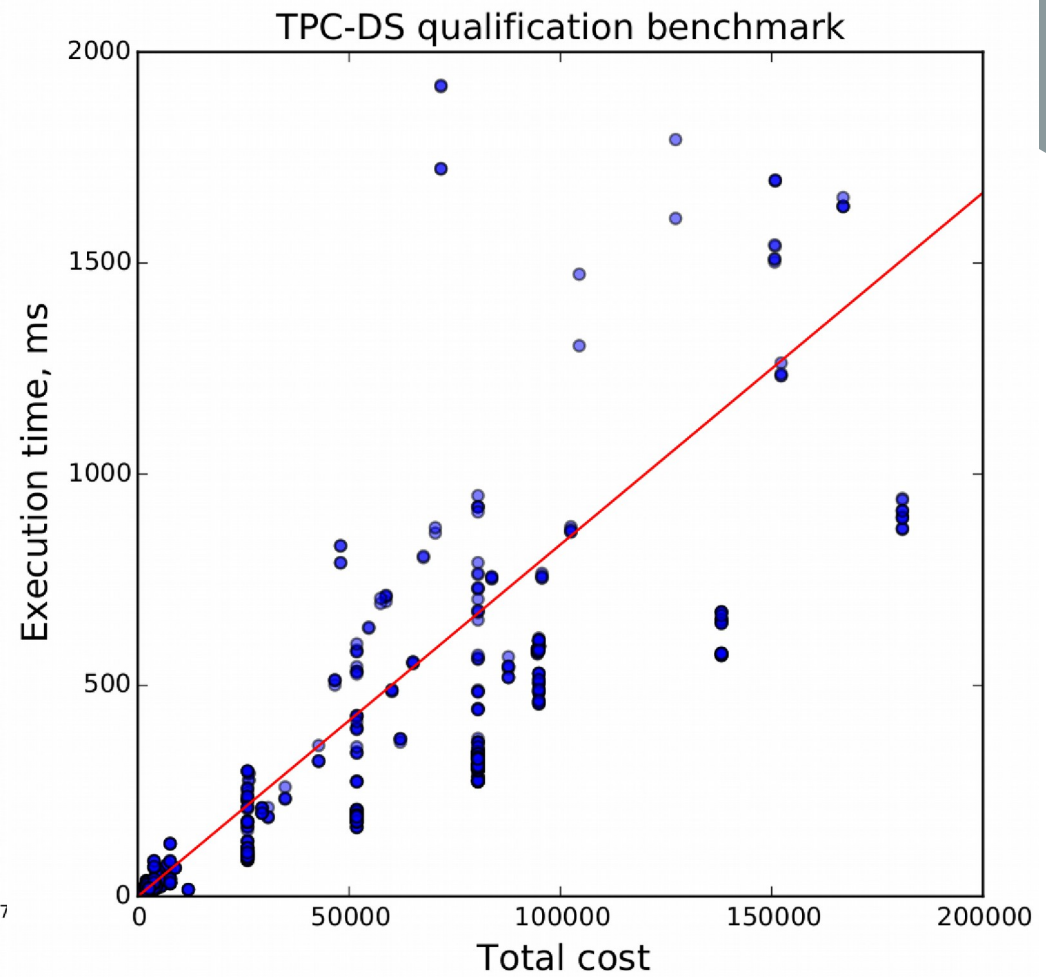
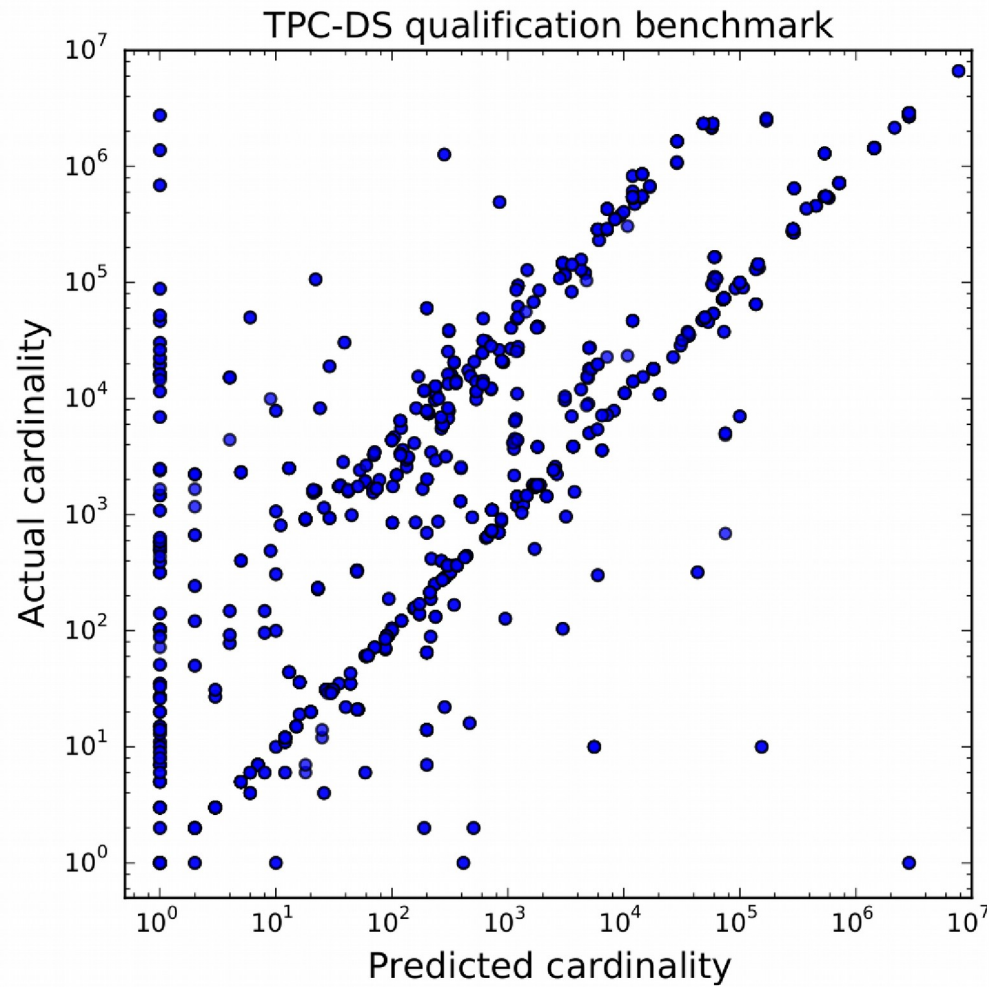
Cost estimation



Information about  
stored data



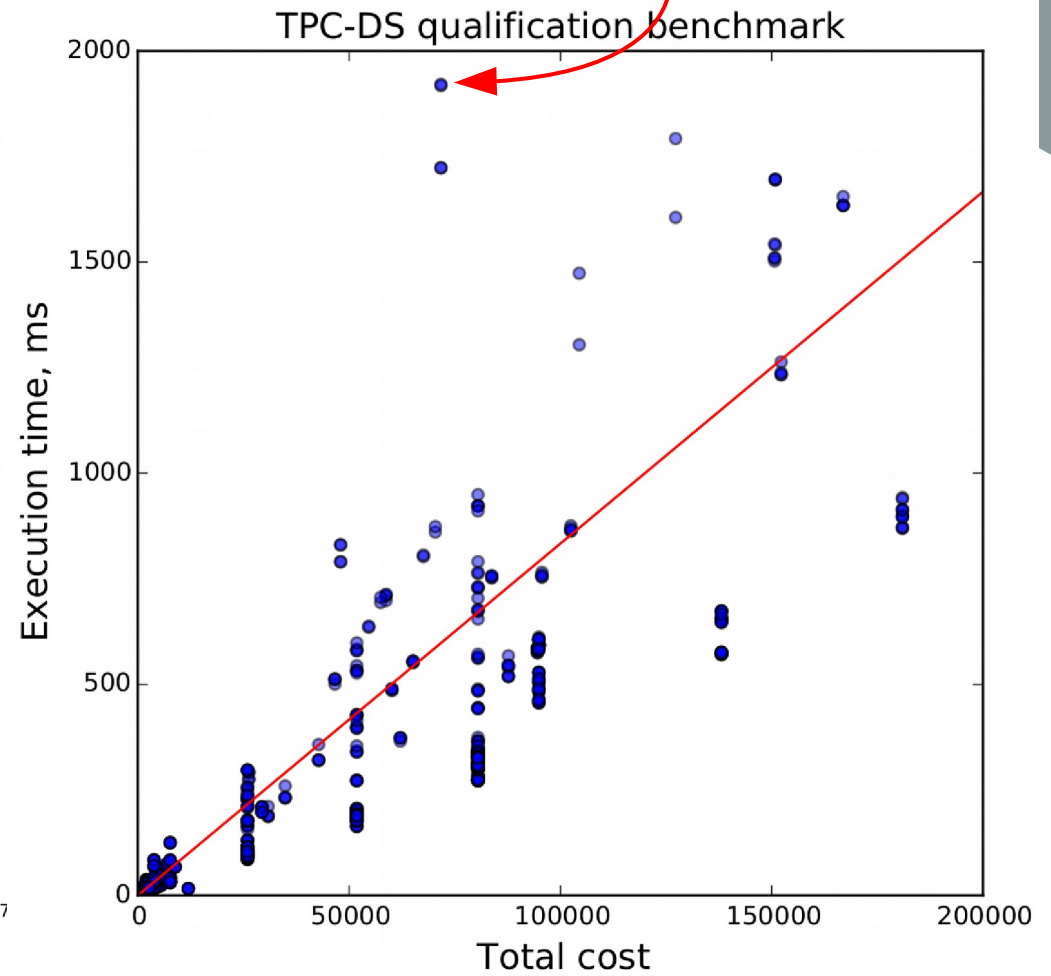
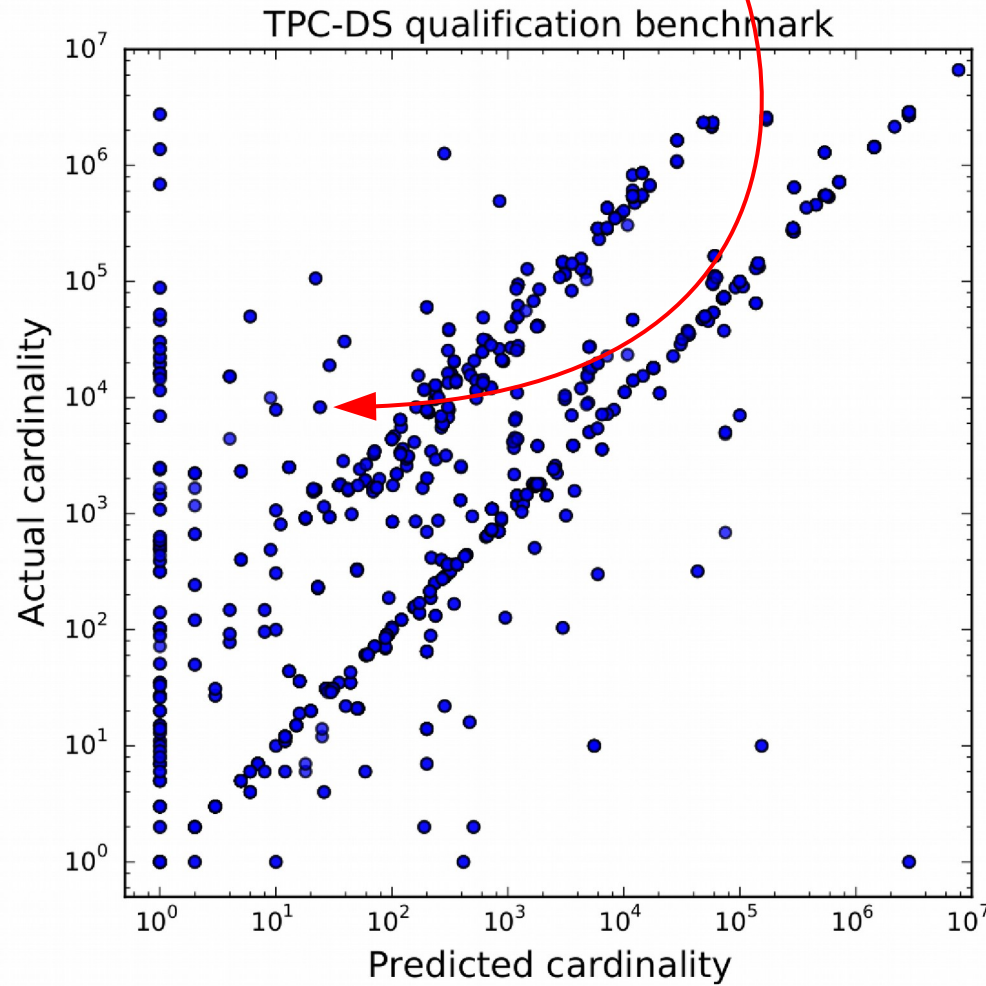
PostgreSQL state



Dataset:  
The TPC Benchmark™DS (TPC-DS)  
<http://www.tpc.org/tpcds/>

**Error: 300 times**

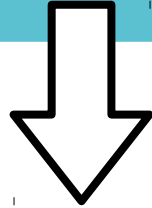
**Error: 4 times**



Dataset:  
The TPC Benchmark™DS (TPC-DS)  
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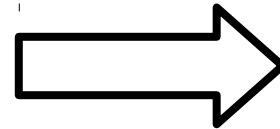
Query clauses



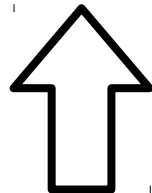
How good are query optimizers, really?  
V. Leis, A. Gubichev, A. Mirchev et al.



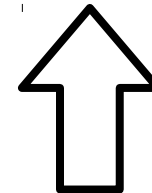
Cardinality estimation



Cost estimation

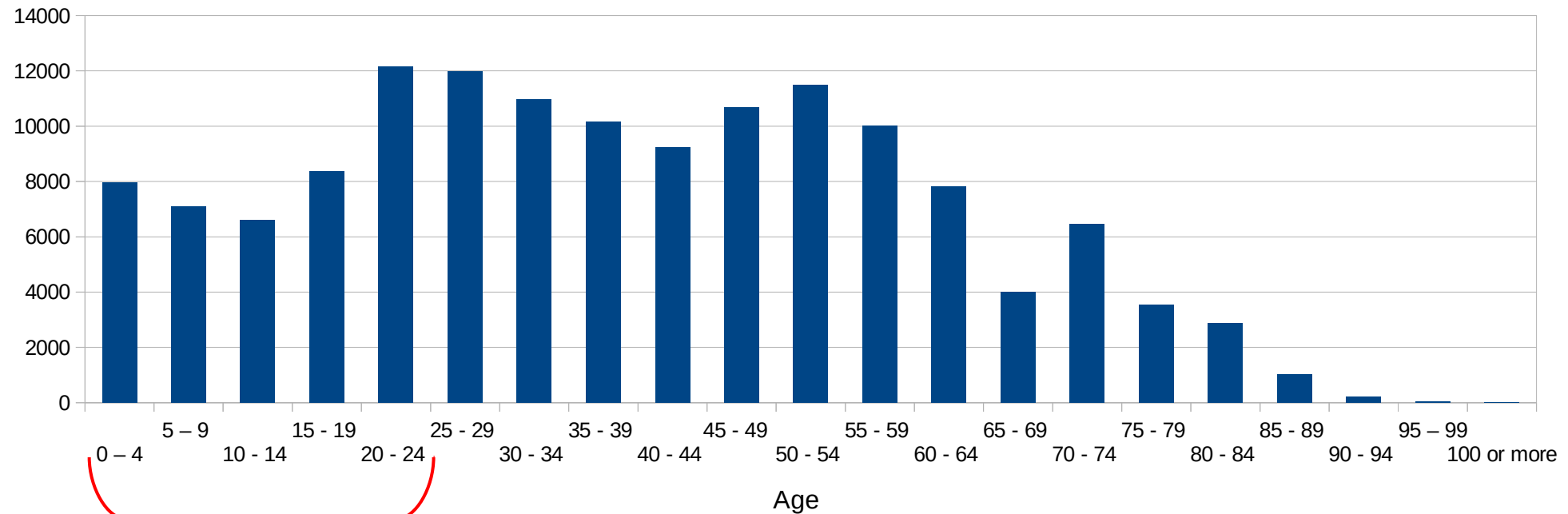


Information about  
stored data



PostgreSQL state

```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE age < 25;
```



*Selectivity*  $\approx 0.3$

*Cardinality* =  $N_{tuples} \cdot \textit{Selectivity}$

```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE age < 25 AND city = 'Moscow';
```

Only selectivities of individual clauses  
(i.e. *marginal* selectivities)  
are known

$$\textit{Selectivity}_{age} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\textit{Selectivity}_{city} = \frac{1}{7}$$

$$\textit{Selectivity}_{age, city} = ?$$

$1/3$

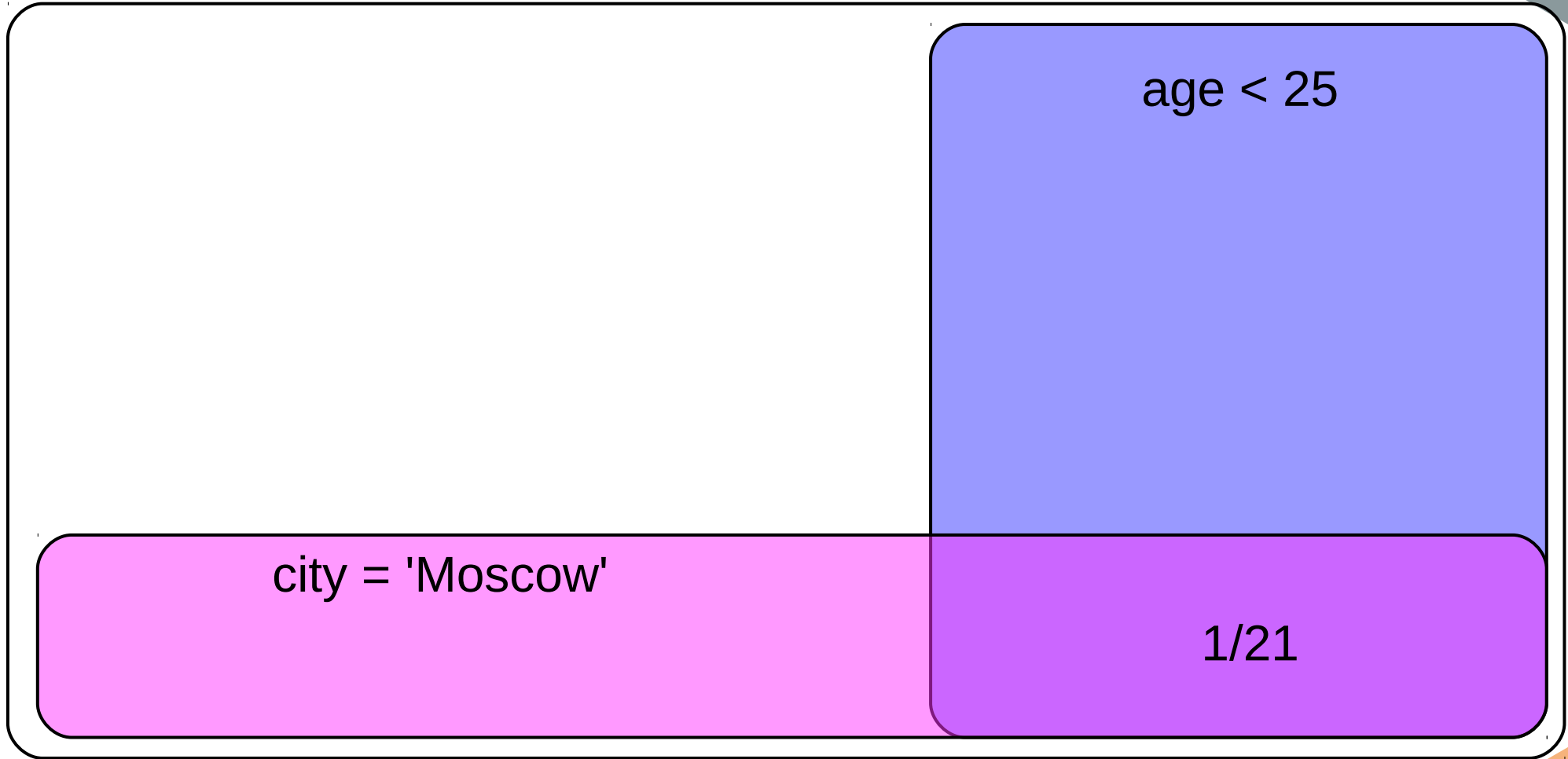
age < 25

city = 'Moscow'

$1/21$

28

$1/7$



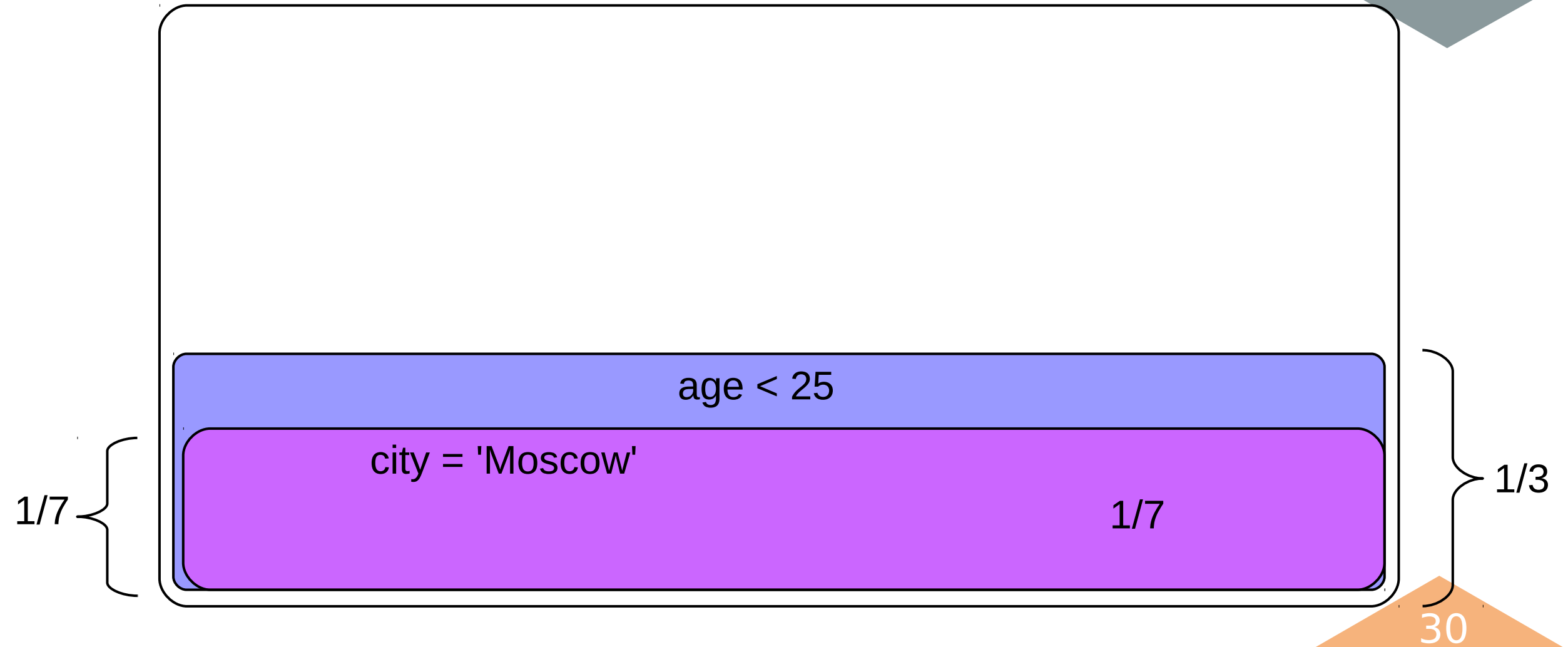
```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE age < 25 AND city = 'Moscow';
```

Only selectivities of individual clauses  
are known

The clauses are considered to be independent:

$$Selectivity_{age, city} = Selectivity_{age} \cdot Selectivity_{city}$$

With the exception of  $Selectivity_{25 < age \text{ AND } age < 57} = Selectivity_{25 < age < 57}$



age < 25

1/3

city = 'Moscow'

1/7

31

```
SELECT * FROM users  
WHERE age < 12 AND married = true;
```

age < 12

married = true



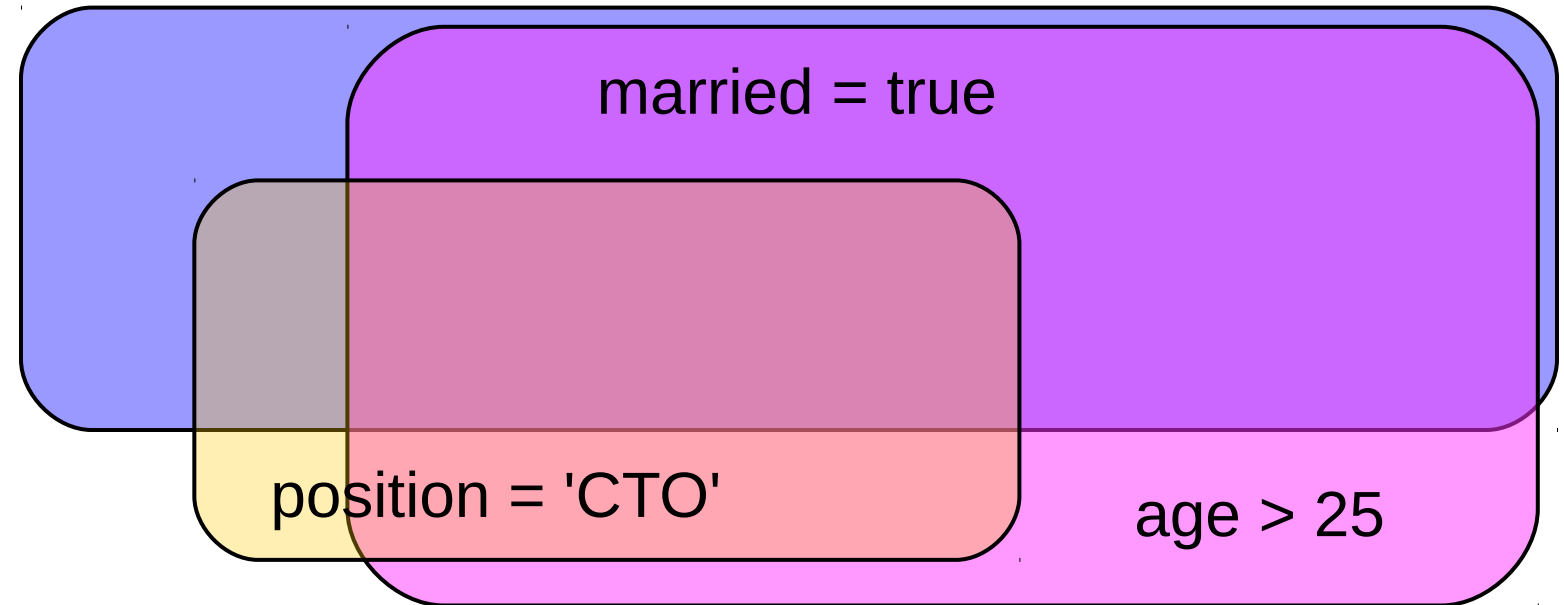
```
SELECT * FROM users  
WHERE age < 12 AND married = false;
```

A Venn diagram illustrating the logical AND operation. It consists of two overlapping rounded rectangles. The left rectangle is purple and contains the text "age < 12". The right rectangle is blue and contains the text "married = false". The intersection of the two rectangles is shaded in a darker purple color.

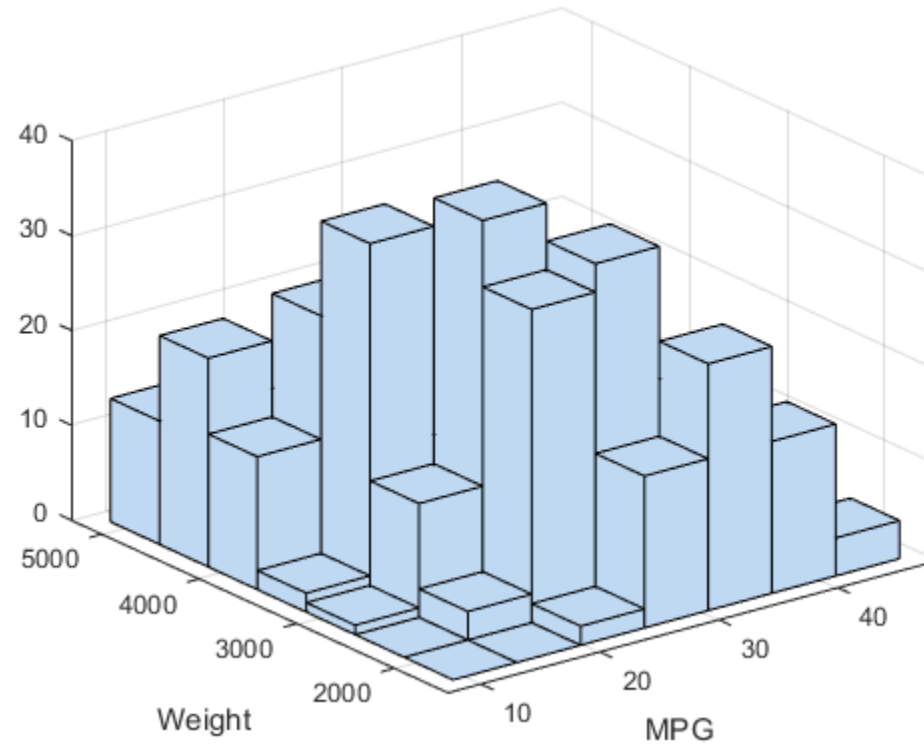
age < 12

married = false

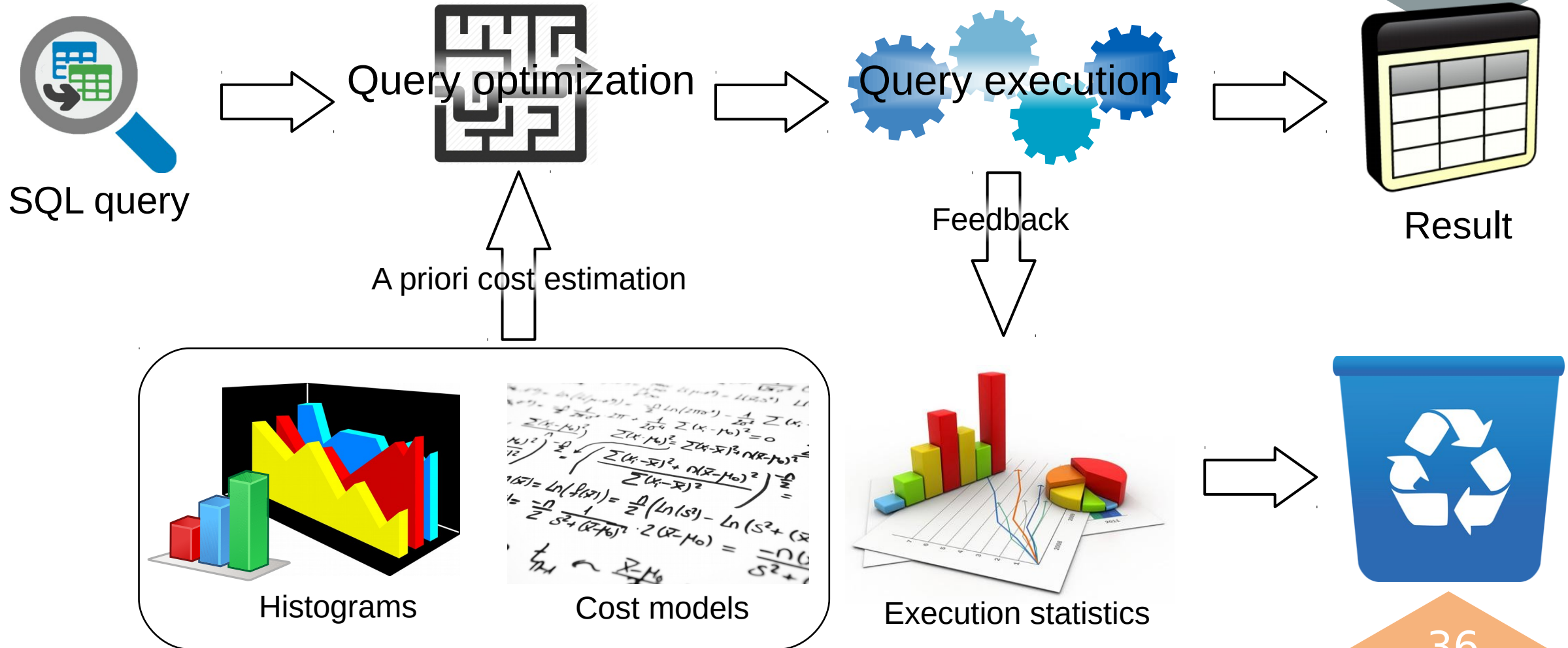
```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE age > 25 AND married = true
AND position = 'CTO';
```



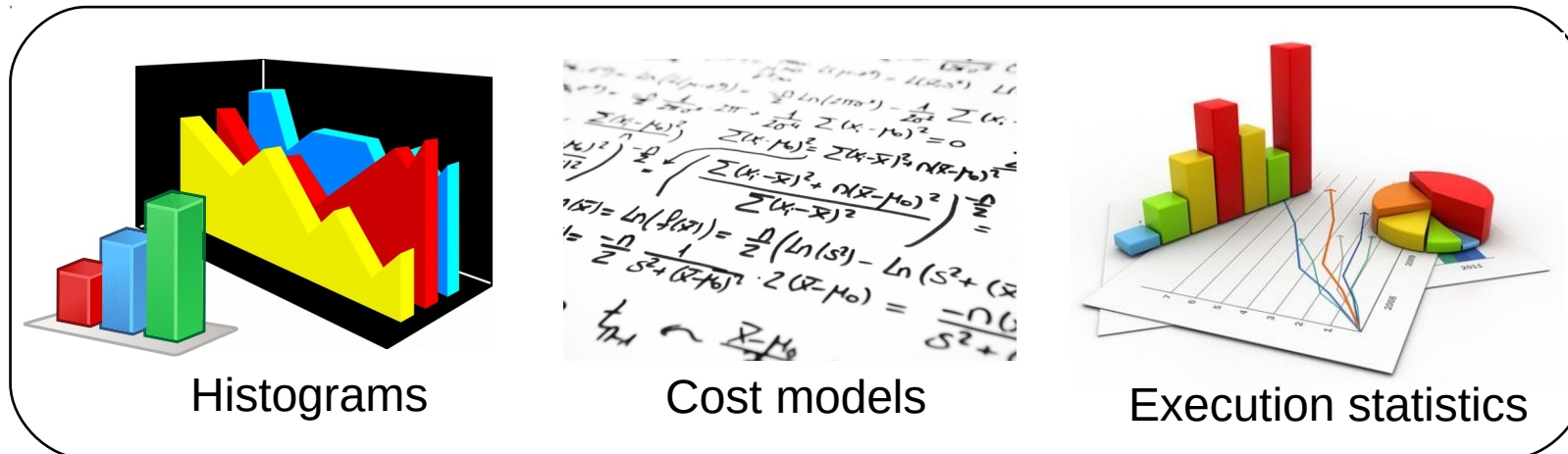
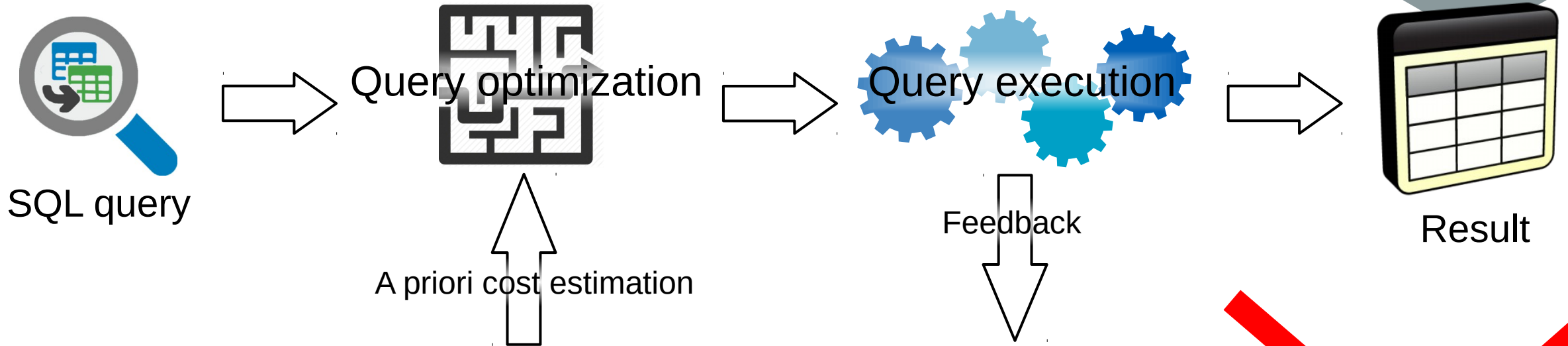
# Multidimensional histograms



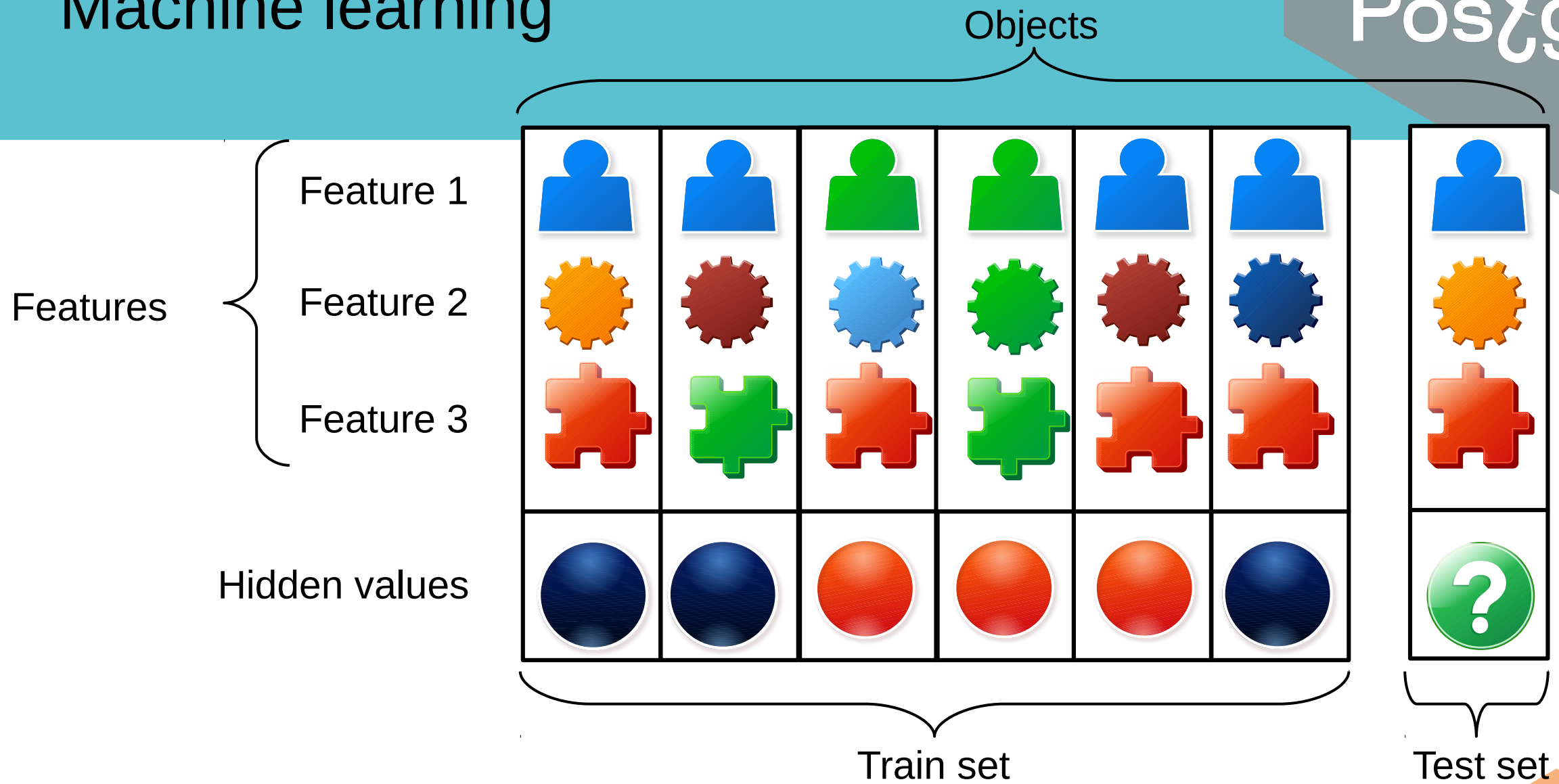
# What is adaptive query optimization?



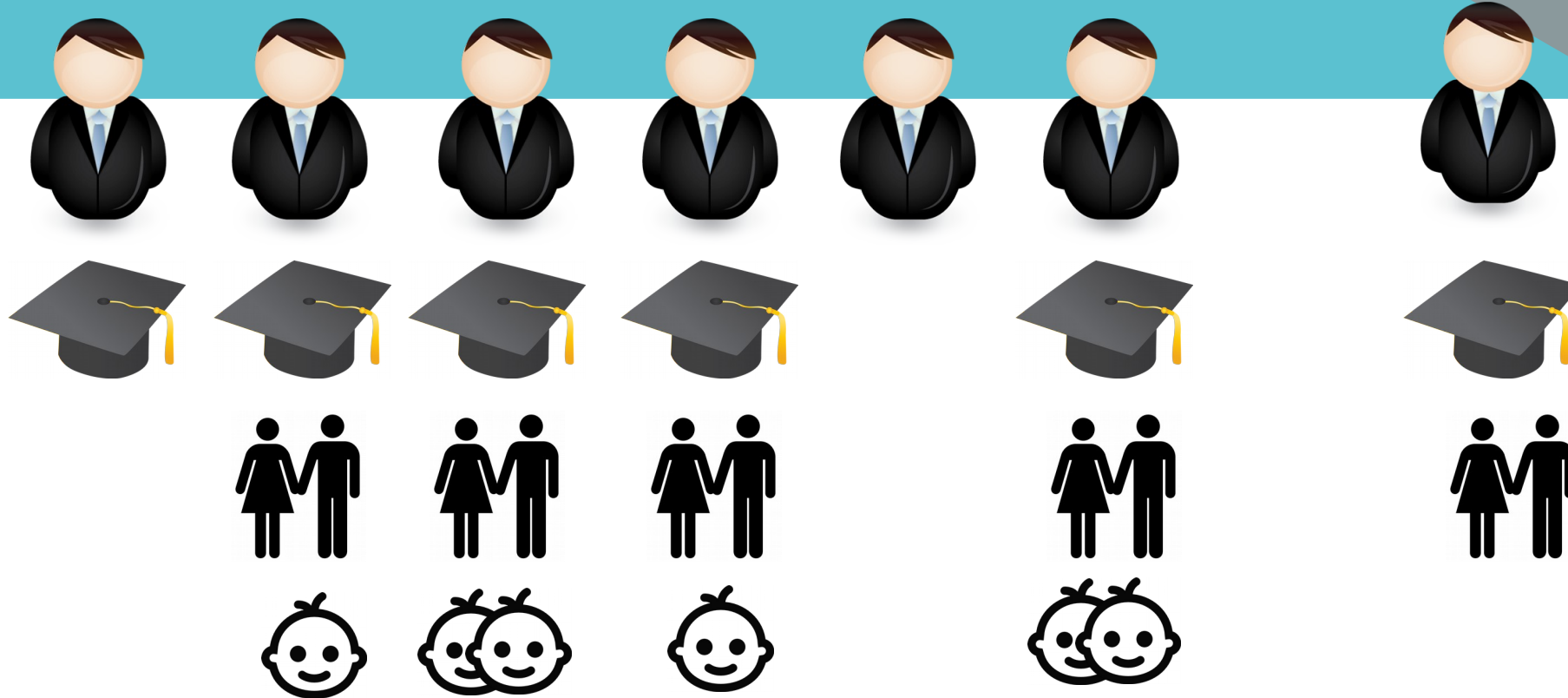
# What is adaptive query optimization?



# Machine learning

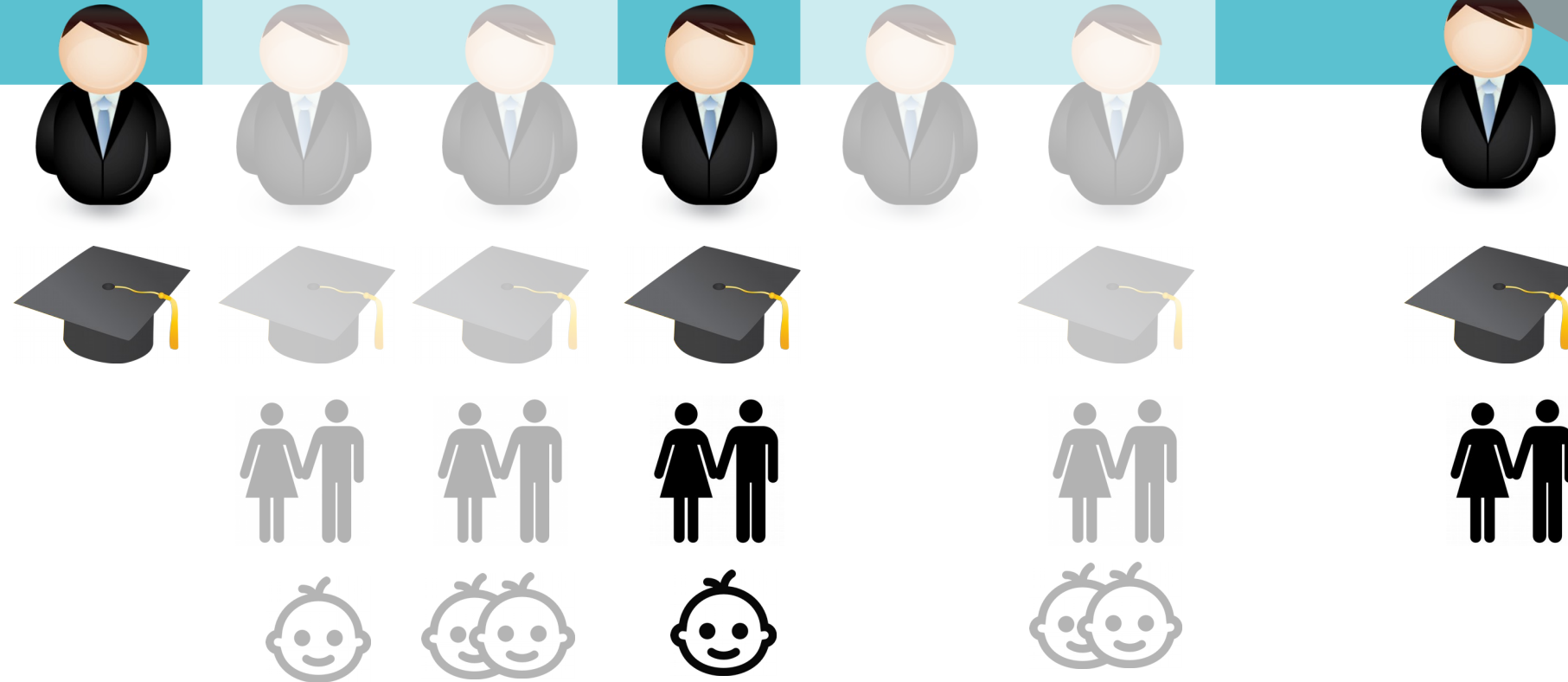


# K Nearest Neighbours method



Age	25	47	55	32	22	45	28
Salary	50	120	100	80	30	90	?

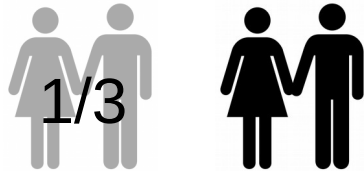
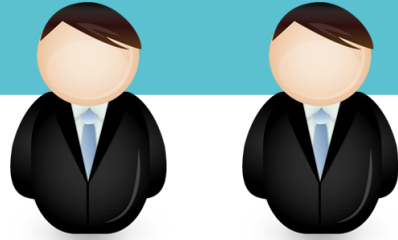
# K Nearest Neighbours method



Age	25	47	55	32	22	45	28
Salary	50	120	100	80	30	90	?



# Gradient approach to kNN



Age	27	47
-----	----	----

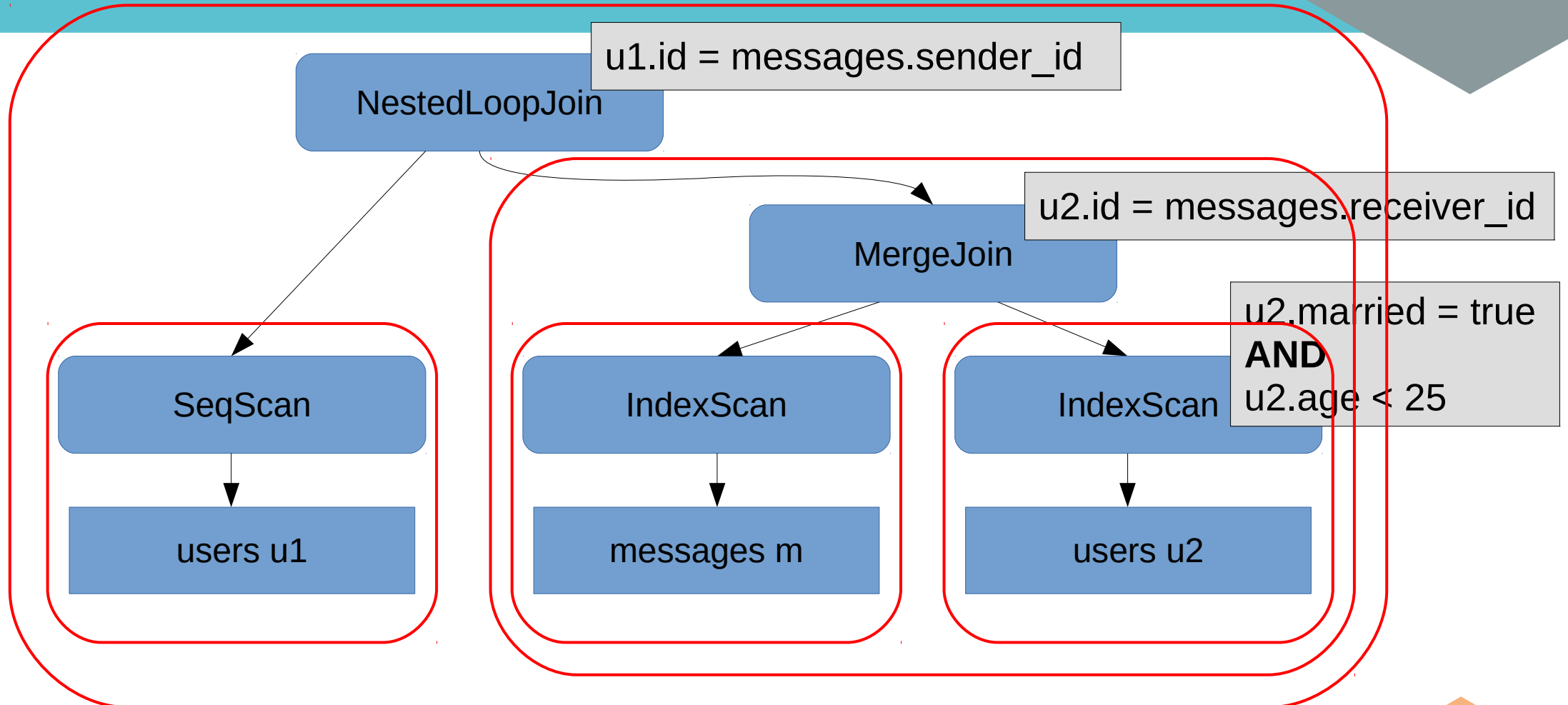
Age	28
-----	----

Salary	53	103
--------	----	-----

Salary	?
--------	---

# How to use machine learning for adaptive query optimization?

# The object is a node with its subtree



## Histograms

```
users.id = messages.receiver_id  
AND  
users.married = true  
AND  
users.age < 25
```

Information about the data

Clauses list

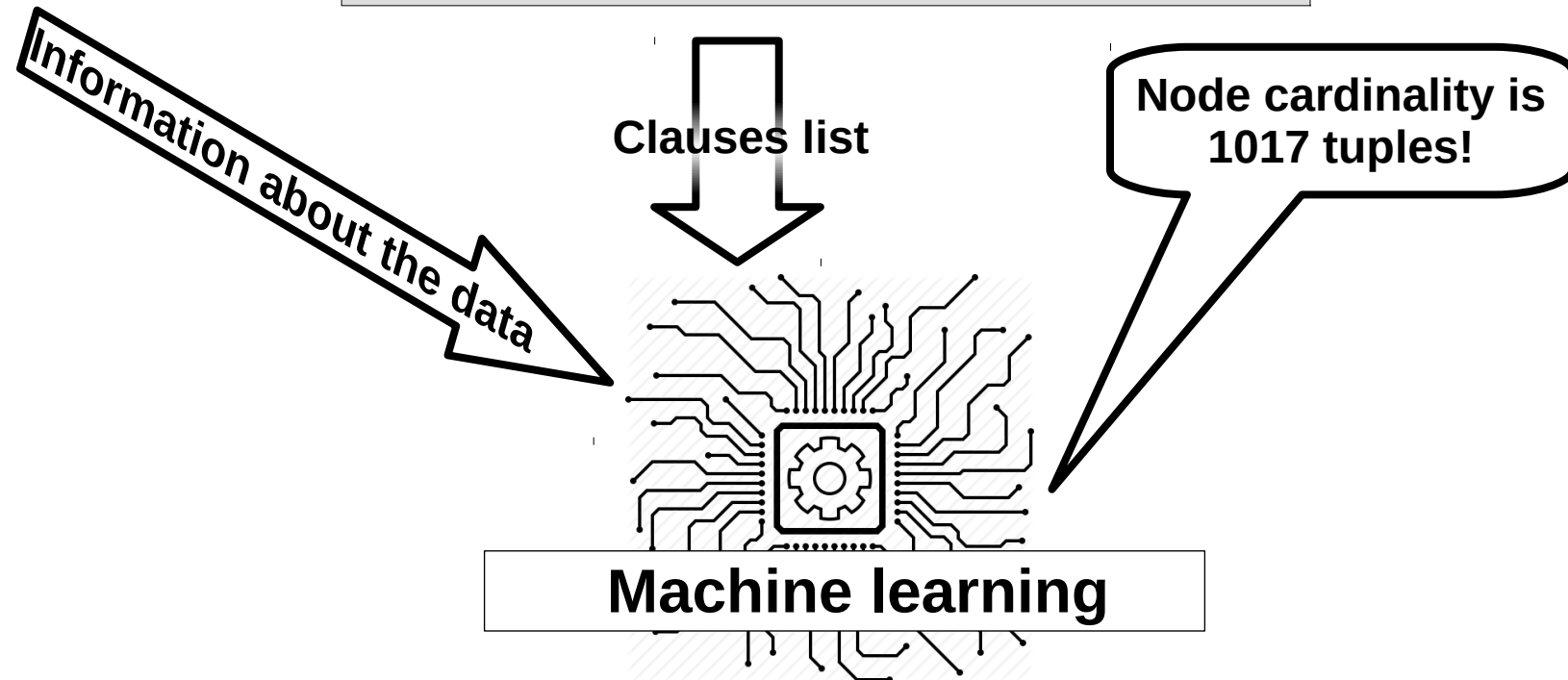
Node cardinality is  
105 tuples!

PostgreSQL estimator

## Clause selectivities

- 0.0001
- 0.73
- 0.23

users.id = messages.receiver\_id  
**AND**  
users.married = **const**  
**AND**  
users.age < **const**

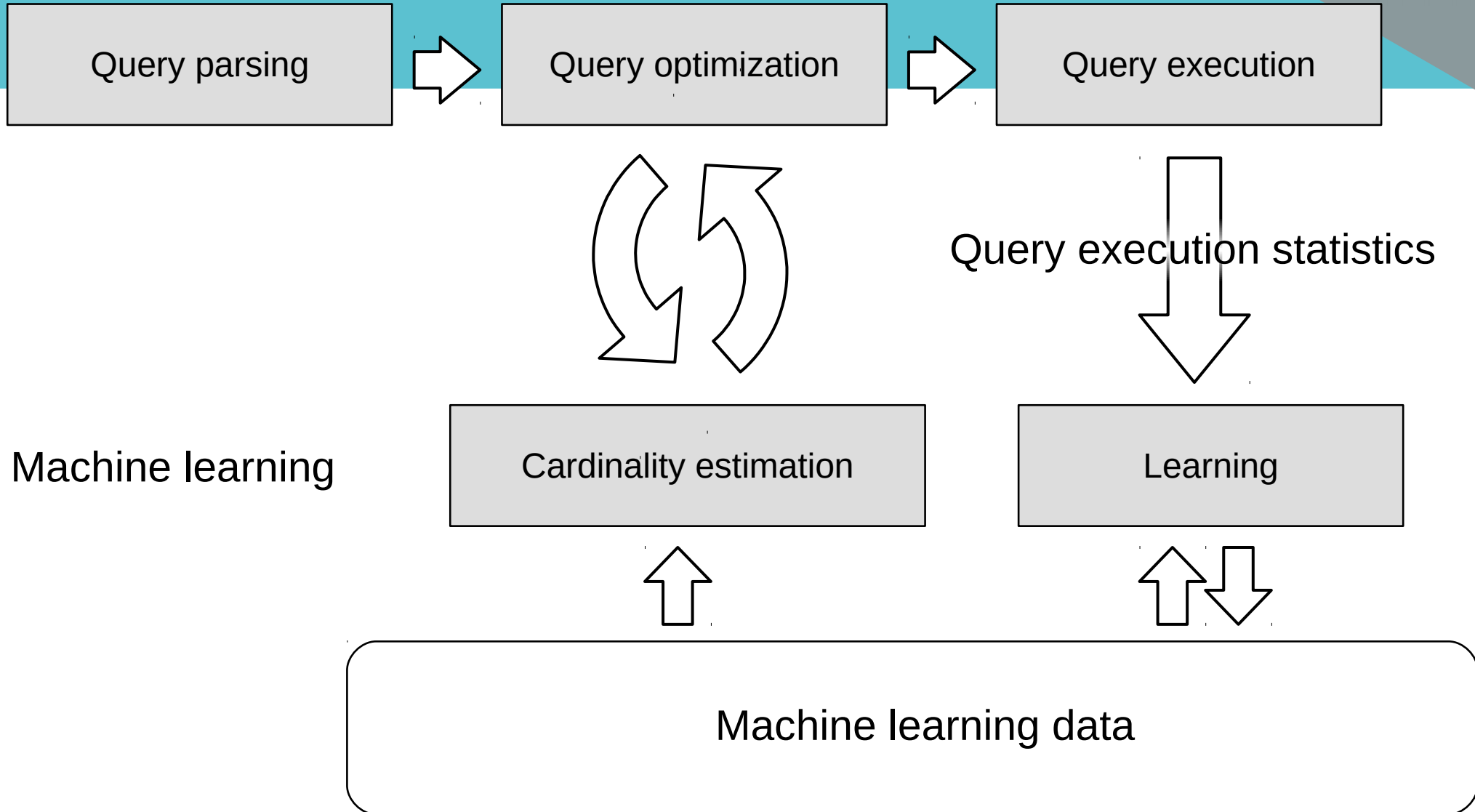


# Machine learning problem statement

Object is a plan node

Features	{	users.id = messages.receiver_id	0.0001
		users.married = <b>const</b>	0.73
		users.age < <b>const</b>	0.23
Hidden value	Node cardinality		?

# Workflow



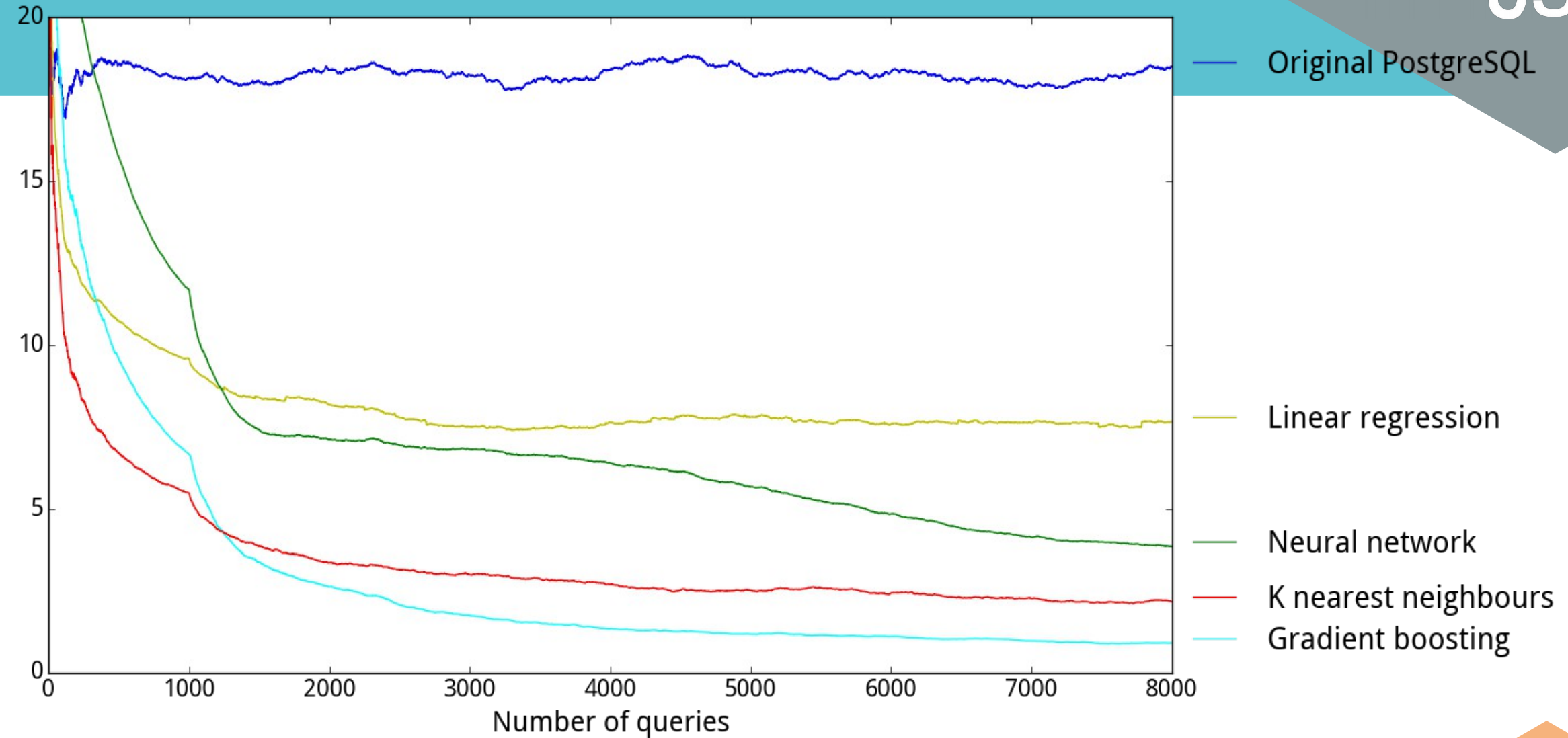
- Will it converge?  
Yes, in the finite number of steps
- How fast will it converge?  
Don't know (in practice in a few steps)
- What guarantees on obtained plans or regressor do we have?  
Predictions are correct for all executed paths  
With perfect cost model obtained plans are not worse



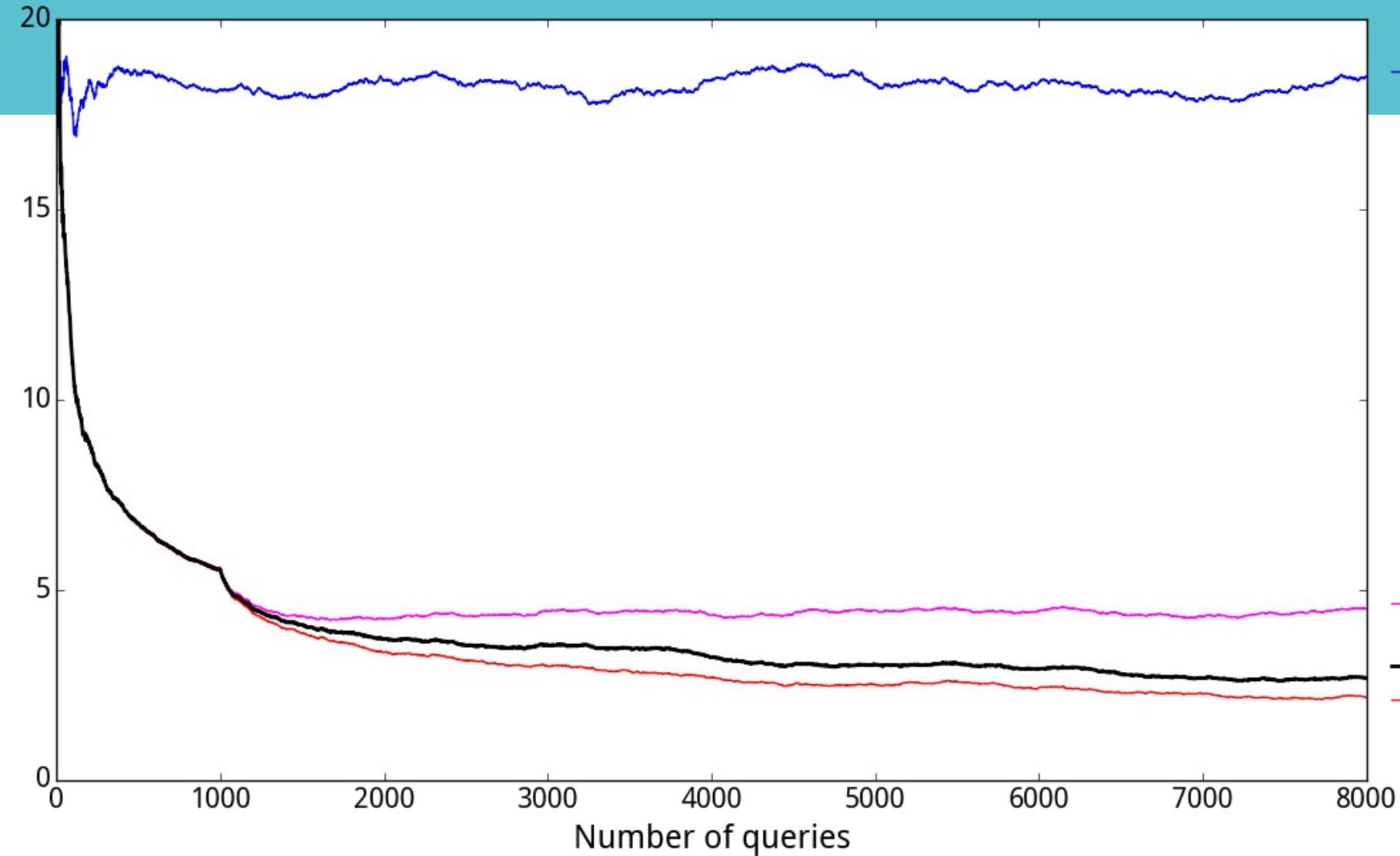
# How much can it improve PostgreSQL performance?

Experimental evaluation

# Estimation error



# Estimation error



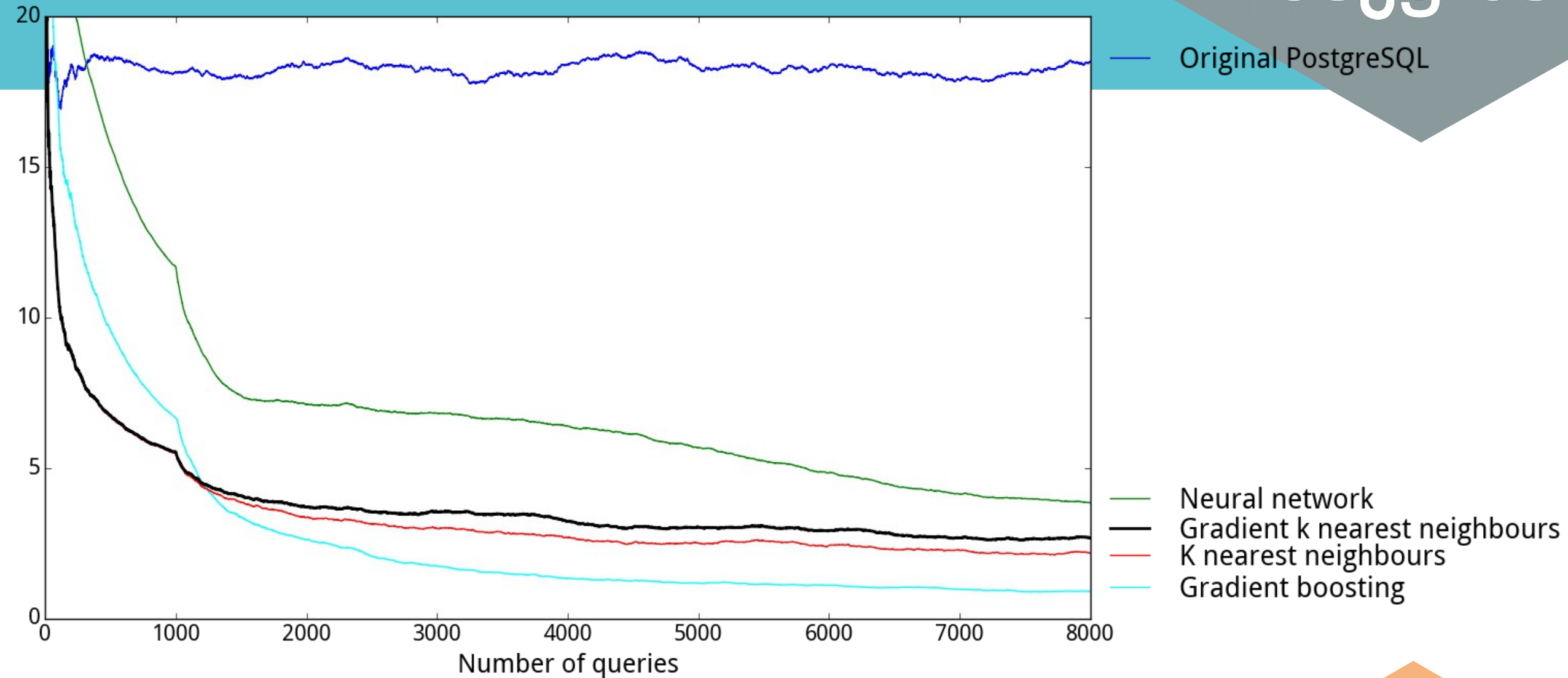
Original PostgreSQL

k nearest neighbours limited

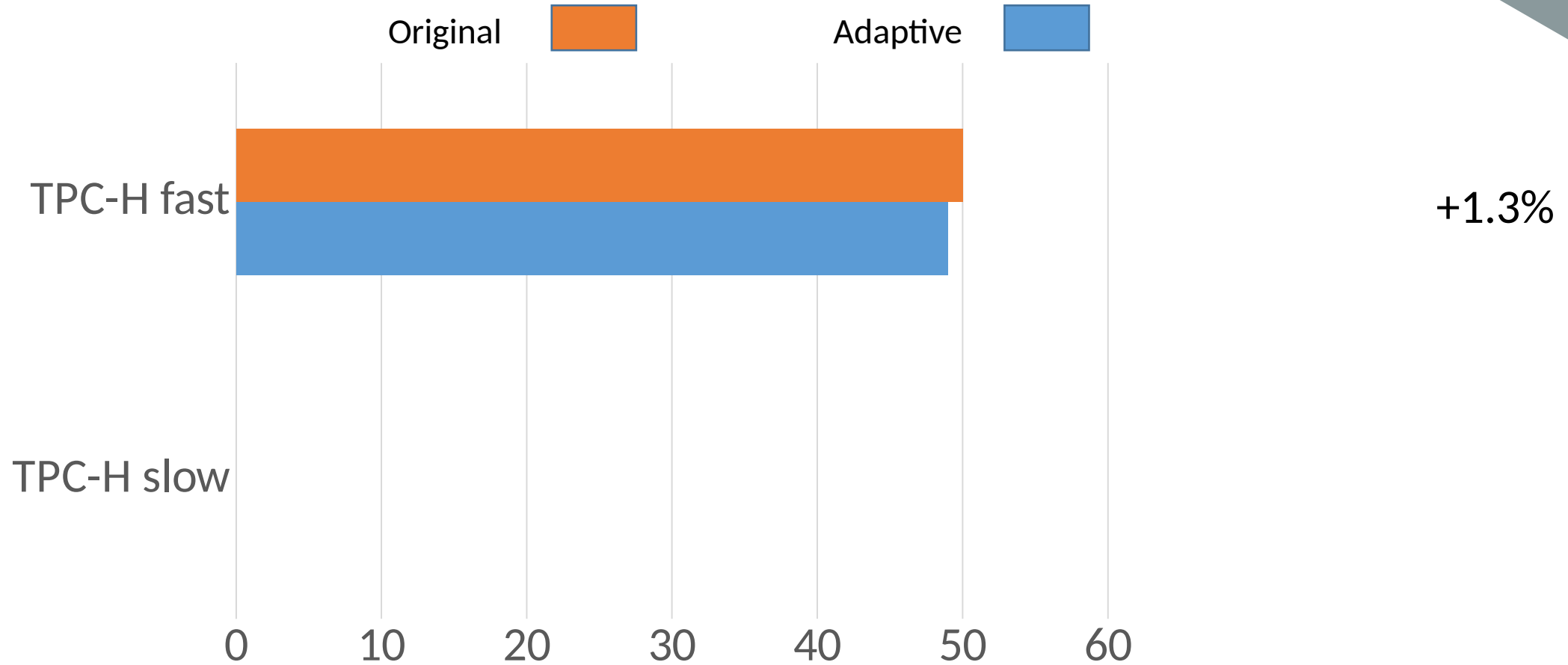
Gradient k nearest neighbours

K nearest neighbours

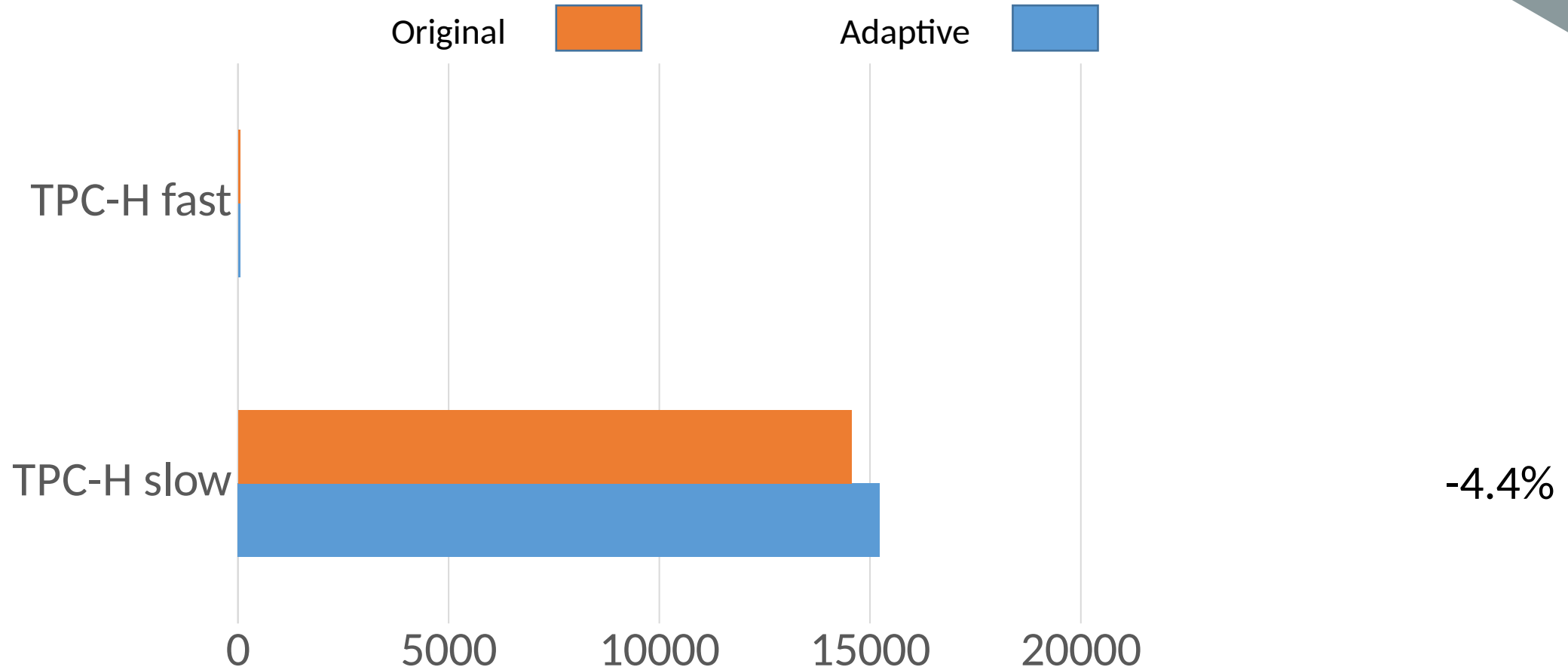
# Estimation error



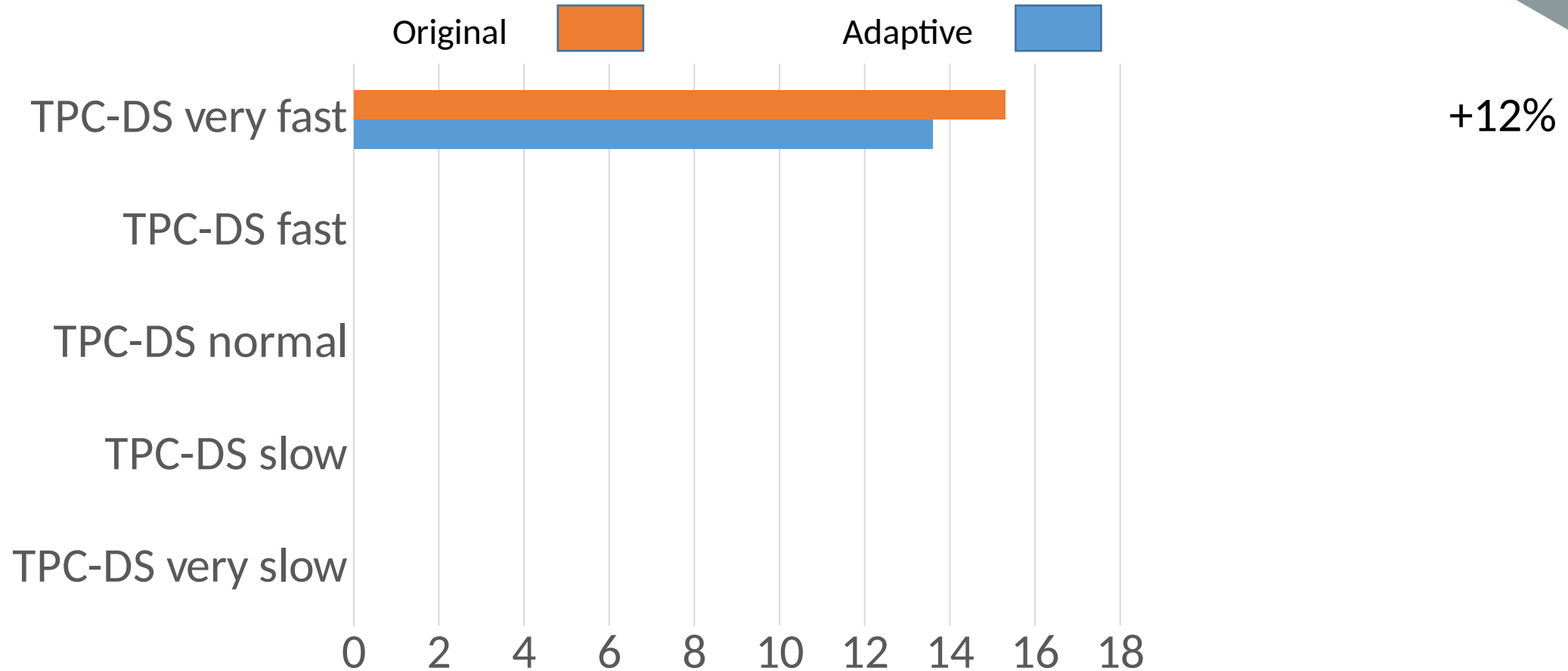
# Performance improvement



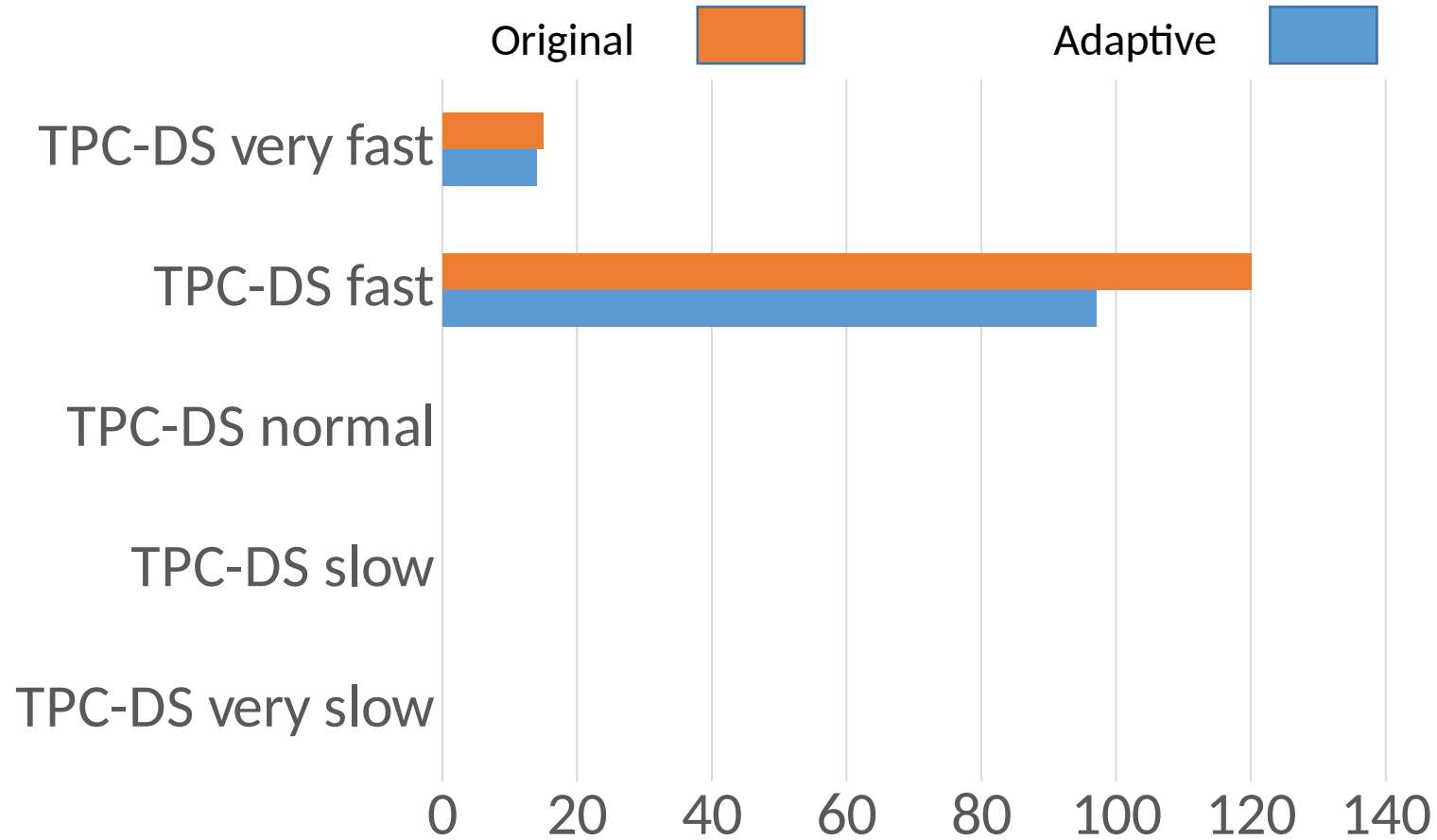
# Performance improvement



# Performance improvement



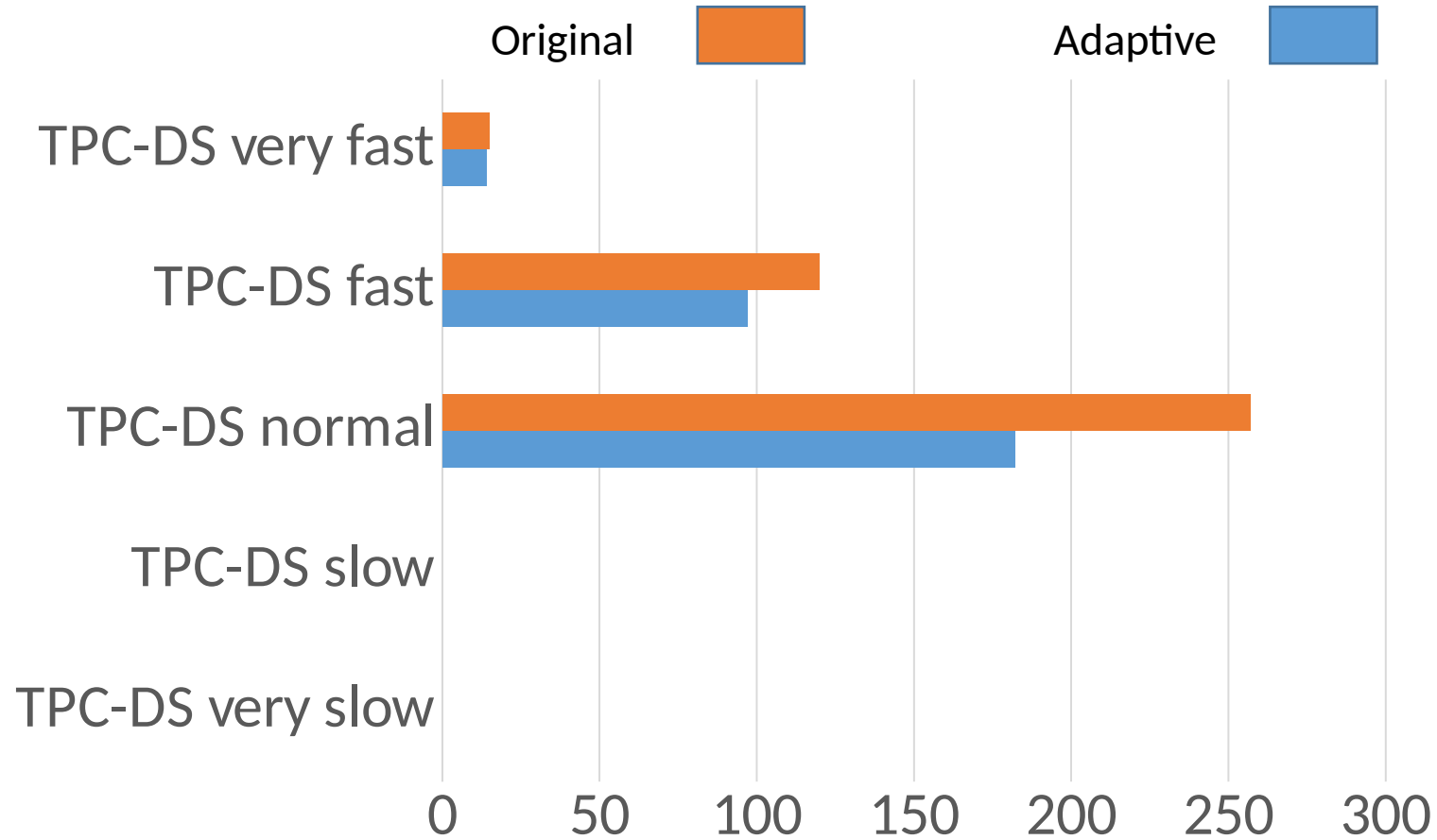
# Performance improvement



+24%

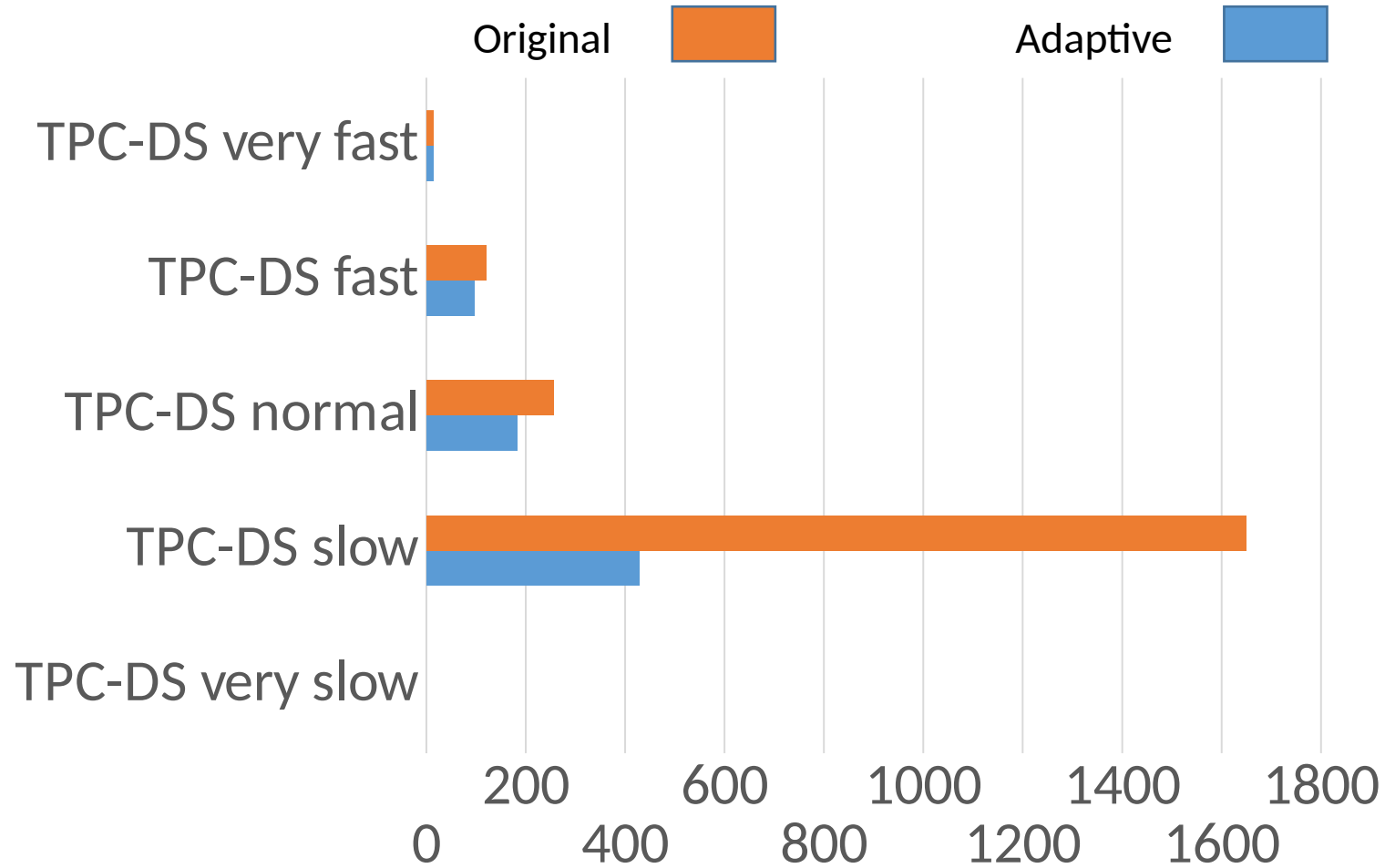


# Performance improvement



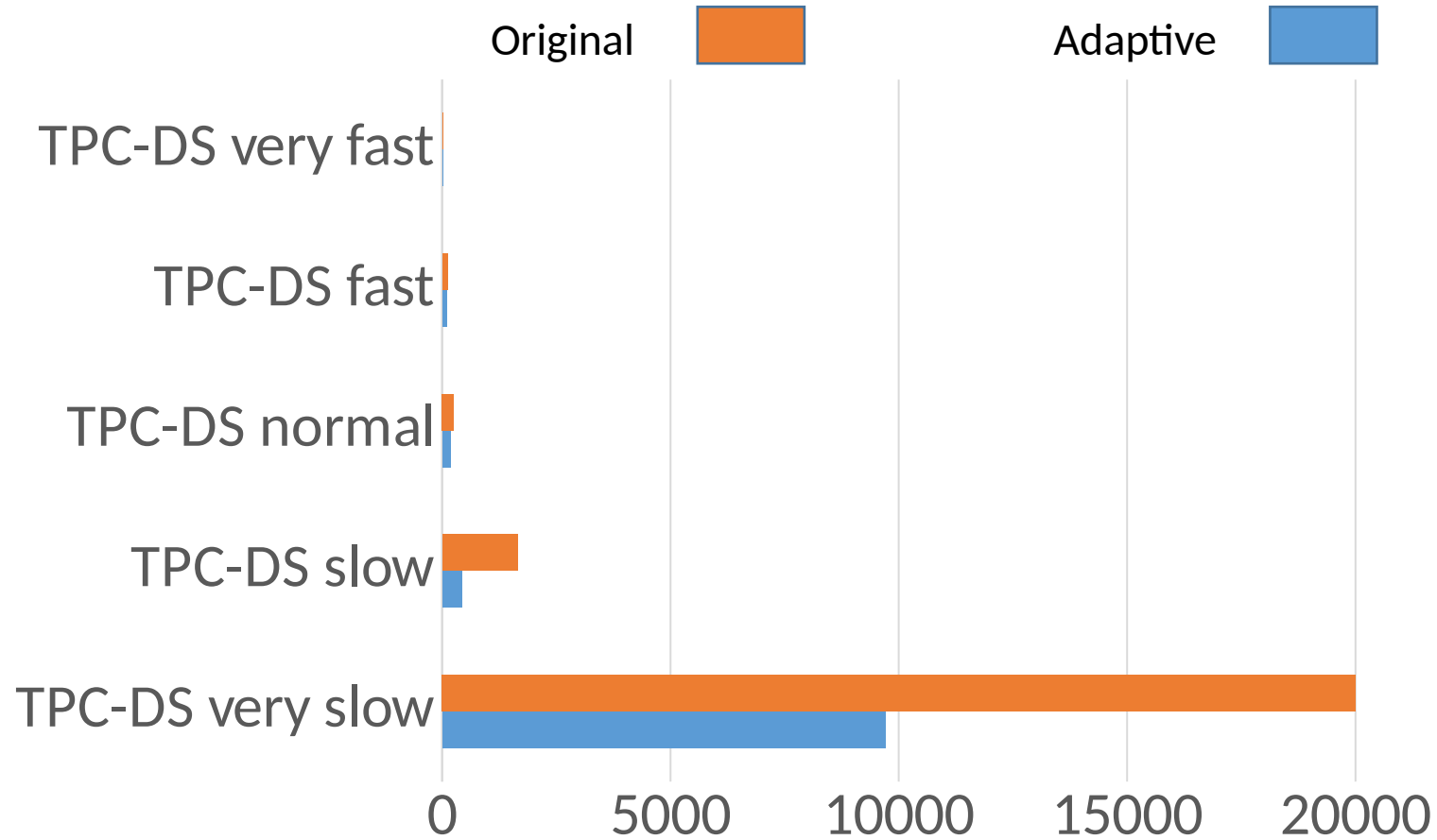
+41%

# Performance improvement



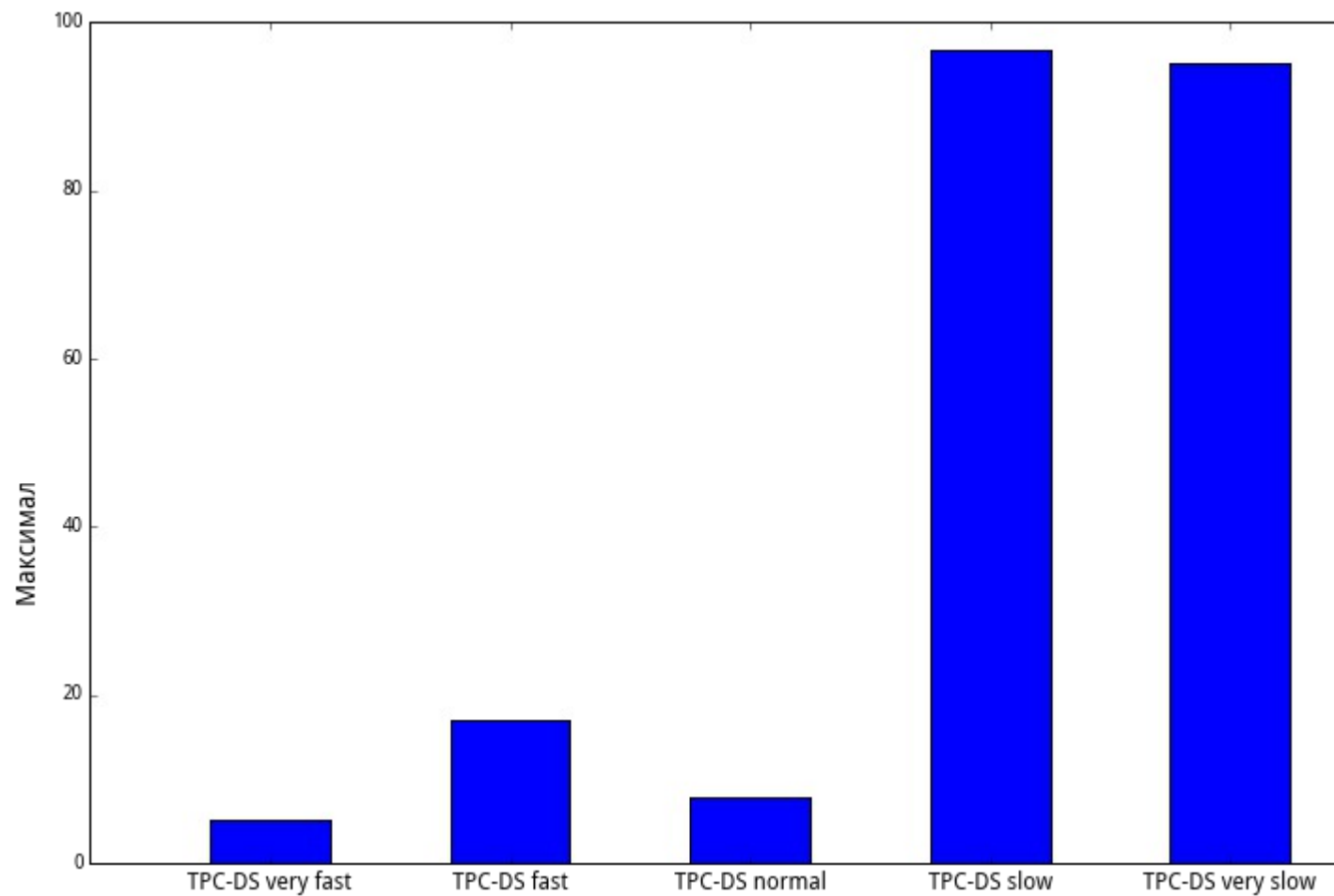
+285%

# Performance improvement



+115%

# Maximum acceleration



# Overheads

Experimental evaluation

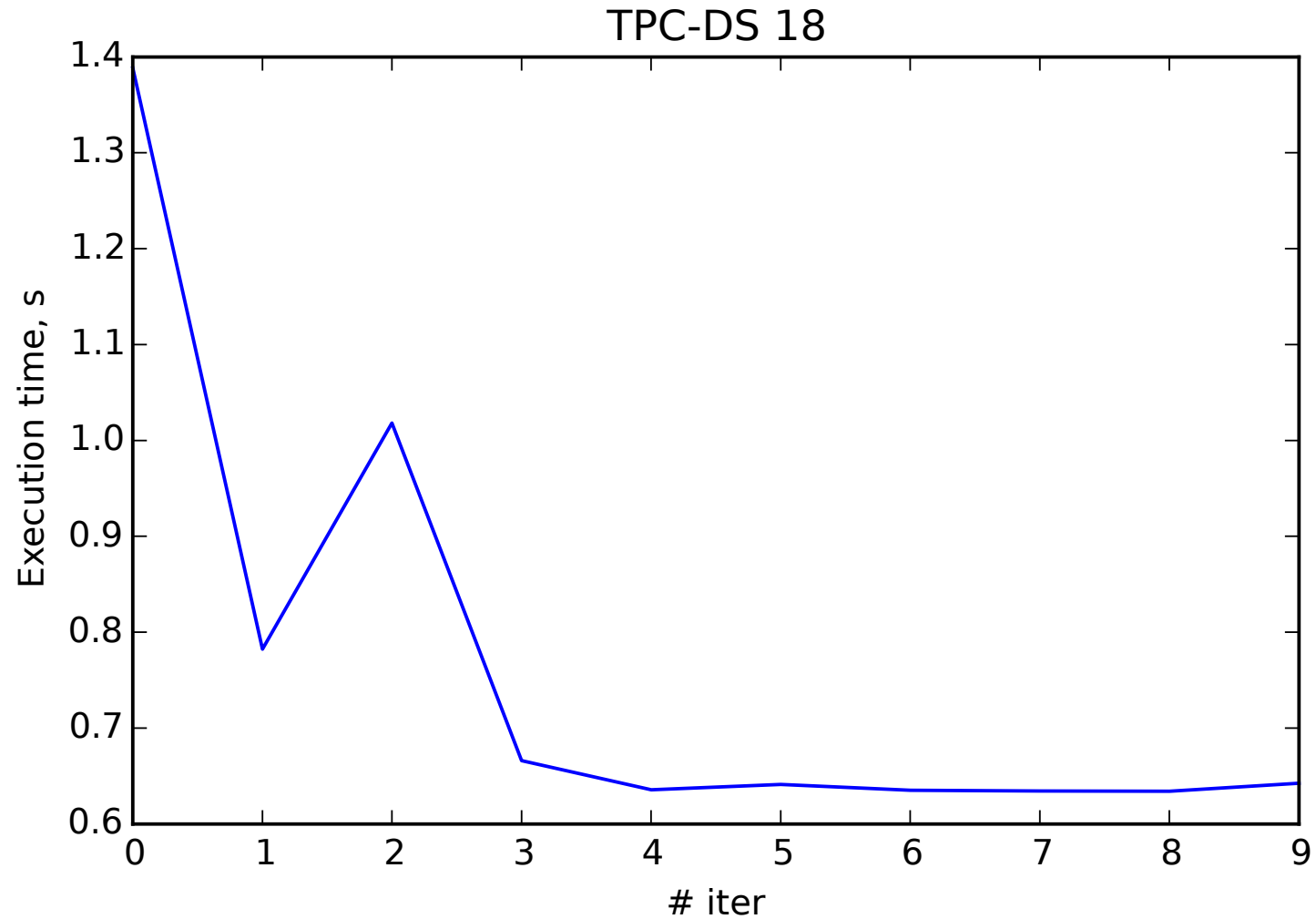
Slowdown for genetic algorithm is not more than 2 seconds

Slowdown for dynamic programming is not more than 30 ms

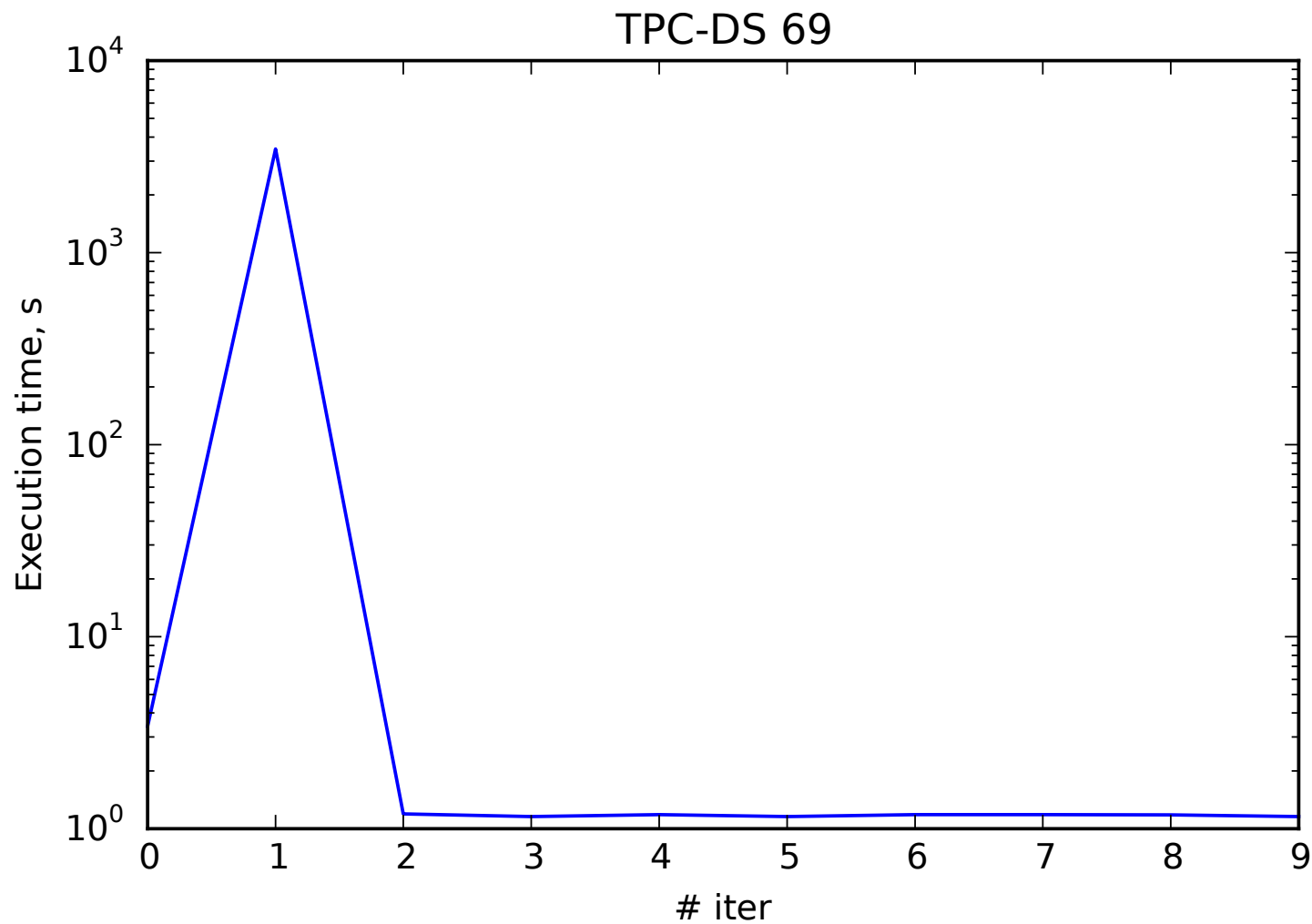
# Applicability

Complex analytical queries  
with a repeating pattern.

# Learning progress

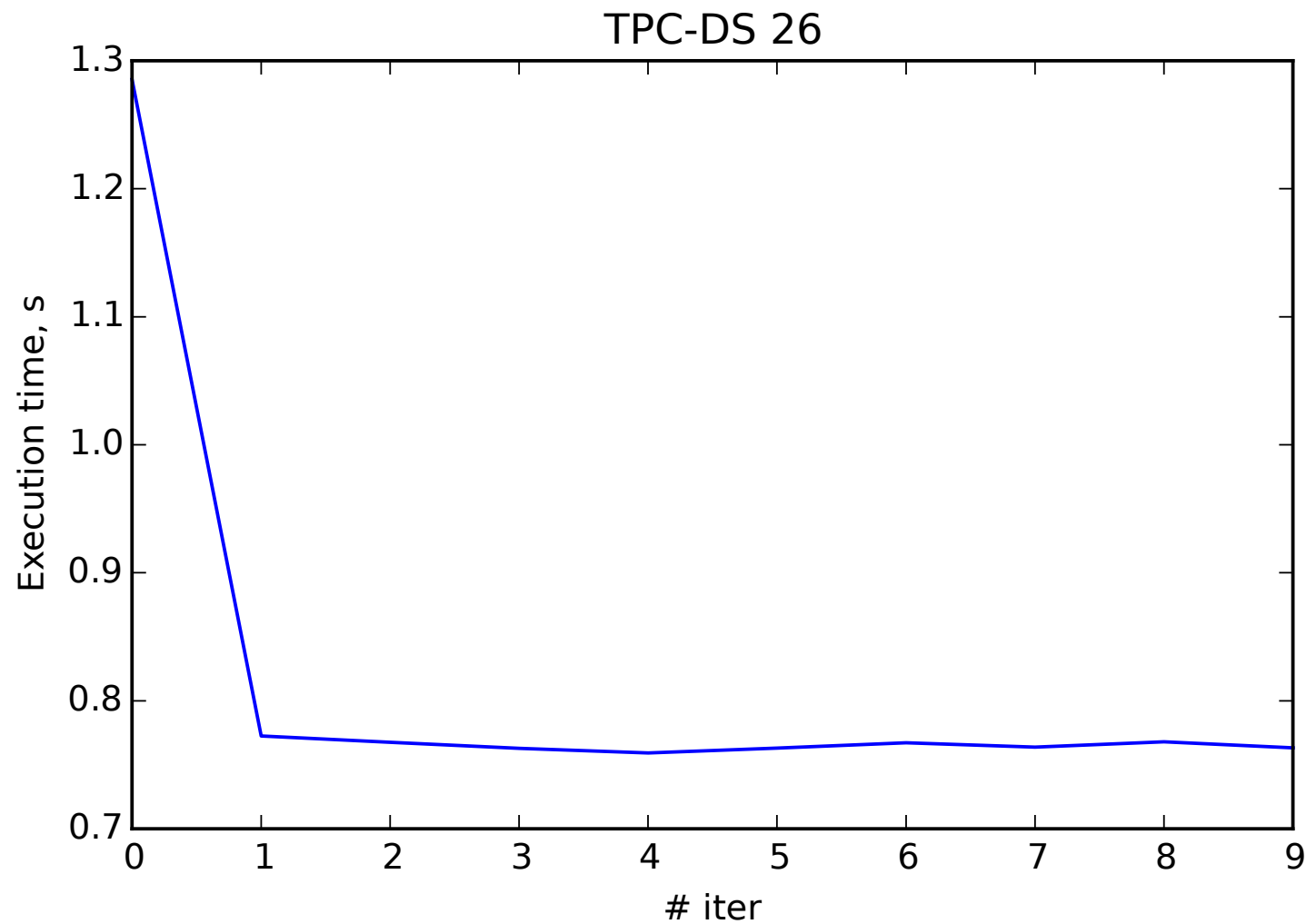


# Learning progress





# Learning progress



# AQO: adaptive query optimization

Current code for vanilla PostgreSQL (extension + patch):  
<https://github.com/tigvarts/aqo>

Available in Postgres Pro Enterprise

# AQO: adaptive query optimization

For some queries we don't need AQO.

So we need a mechanism to determine whether the query needs AQO.

# AQO: adaptive query optimization

*Query type* is the set of queries, which differ only in their constants.

Query type:

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE age > const AND city = const;
```

Queries:

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE age > 18 AND city = 'Moscow';
```

```
SELECT * FROM users WHERE age > 65 AND city = 'Kostroma';
```

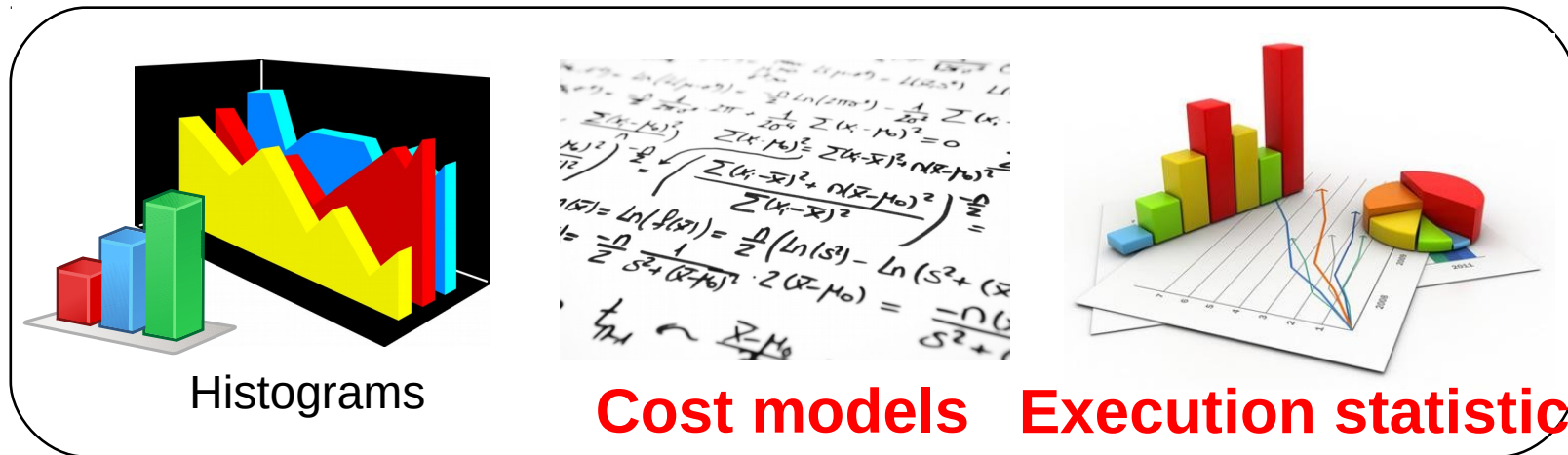
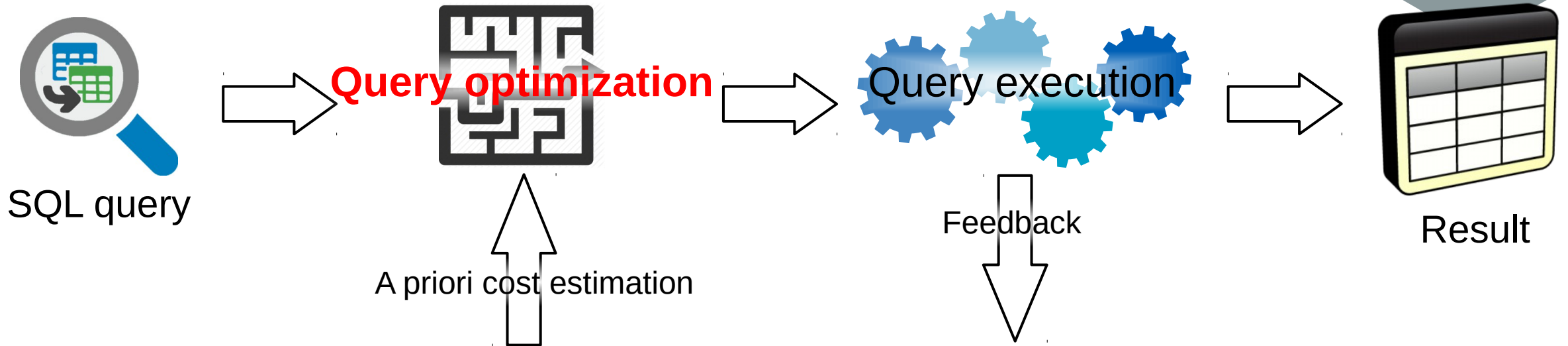
...

# AQO: adaptive query optimization

aqo.mode:

- Disabled for all query types
- Enabled for all query types
- Use manual settings for known query types, ignore others
- Use manual settings for known query types, tries to tune others automatically

# What is next?



**Histograms**

**Cost models**

**Execution statistics**

# Questions



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The background is a collage of hexagonal tiles in various shades of blue and orange. Some tiles contain abstract patterns like splatters, wavy lines, or dotted grids. A white wavy line graphic is positioned at the bottom center of the page.

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