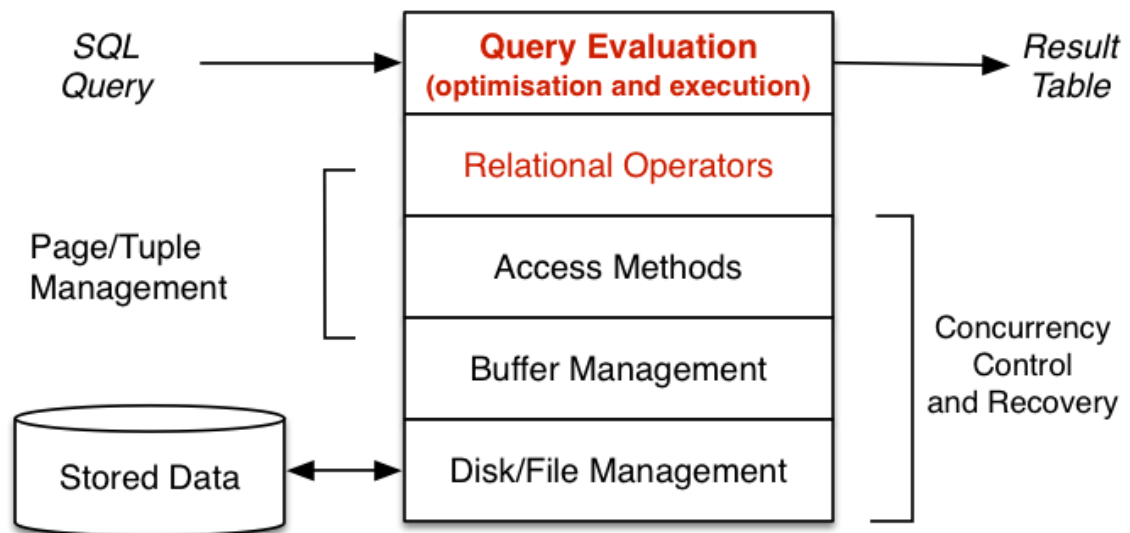


# Query Processing

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- Query Processing
- Terminology Variations

## ❖ Query Processing



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## ❖ Query Processing (cont)

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A **query** in SQL:

- states *what* kind of answers are required (declarative)
- does not say *how* they should be computed (procedural)

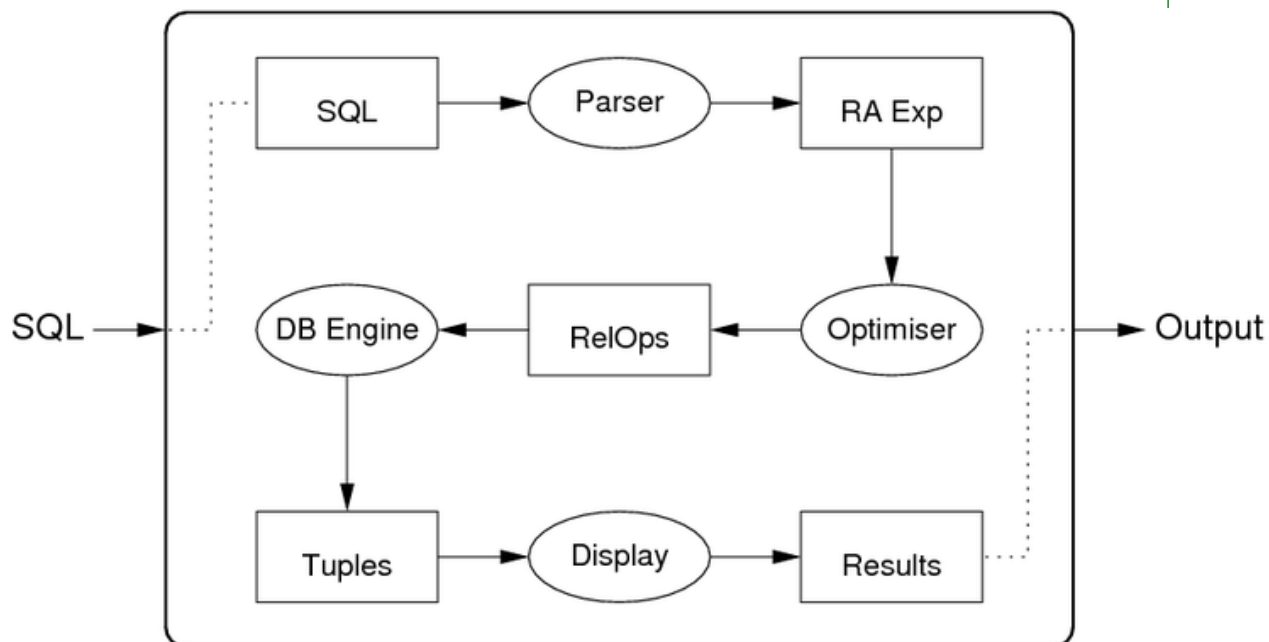
A **query evaluator/processor** :

- takes declarative description of query (in SQL)
- parses query to internal representation (relational algebra)
- determines plan for answering query (expressed as DBMS ops)
- executes method via DBMS engine (to produce result tuples)

Some DBMSs can save query plans for later re-use.

## ❖ Query Processing (cont)

Internals of the query evaluation "black-box":



## ❖ Query Processing (cont)

DBMSs provide several "flavours" of each RA operation.

For example:

- several "versions" of selection ( $\sigma$ ) are available
- each version is effective for a particular kind of selection, e.g

```
select * from R where id = 100    -- hashing
select * from S                    -- Btree index
where age > 18 and age < 35
select * from T                    -- MALH file
where a = 1 and b = 'a' and c = 1.4
```

Similarly,  $\pi$  and  $\Join$  have versions to match specific query types.

## ❖ Query Processing (cont)

We call these specialised version of RA operations **RelOps**.

One major task of the query processor:

- given a RA expression to be evaluated
- find a combination of RelOps to do this efficiently

Requires the query translator/optimiser to consider

- information about relations (e.g. sizes, primary keys, ...)
- information about operations (e.g. selection reduces size)

RelOps are realised at execution time

- as a collection of inter-communicating **nodes**
- communicating either via pipelines or temporary relations

## ❖ Terminology Variations

### Relational algebra expression of SQL query

- intermediate query representation
- logical query plan

### Execution plan as collection of RelOps

- query evaluation plan
- query execution plan
- physical query plan

### Representation of RA operators and expressions

- $\sigma = \textit{Select} = \textit{Sel}$ ,  $\pi = \textit{Project} = \textit{Proj}$
- $R \bowtie S = R \textit{ Join } S = \textit{Join}(R, S)$ ,  $\wedge = \&$ ,  $\vee = |$

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