Query Optimizer:
2 steps:

1. Query rewrite
2. cost-based opti: find a good query plan (not necessary the best one), definitely avoid a bad one.

Query optimizer consider the following info:

1. Physical structure of the table
2. available access method (paths), indexes
3. Statistics of the tables
4. cost model for operation: CPU, memory, disc, network bondness

Plan Executer/Relational operators(Run time)

- usually based on “a tree of operators/iterators”
    - iteration: open(),getNext(), close()