

Bloom Filters

Bloom, Burton H. (1970), "[Space/Time Trade-offs in Hash Coding with Allowable Errors](https://doi.org/10.1145/362686.362692)", *Communications of the ACM* **13** (7): 422–426, doi:10.1145/362686.362692

Objective:

- Introduction to Bloom Filter,
 - a primary indexing/optimization method in Big Data
- Application to distributed query processing (joins)
 - semi-join reduction

Reading:

- today: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bloom_filter

Slide thanks: Dan Suciu, wikipedia

Bloom filter

- A probabilistic data structure, for testing set membership.

Given a set $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$,

With high probability, is y an element of S ?

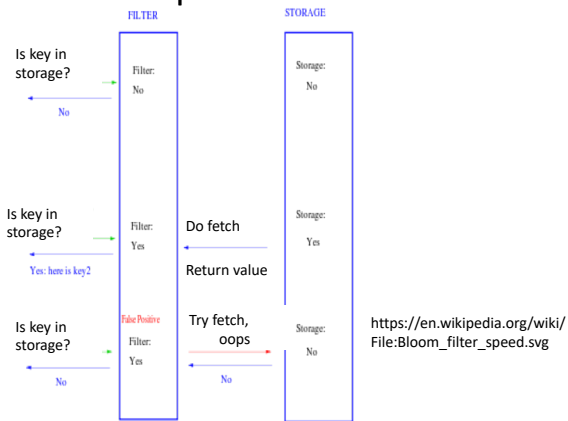
Further,

- A ‘No’ answer, is correct 100% of the time.
 - no *false negatives*
- A ‘Yes’ answer, is actually ‘maybe’.
 - *false positives* are allowed

Big Data Example

- Storage in Big Data (key_i, value_i)

Example – 3 Cases



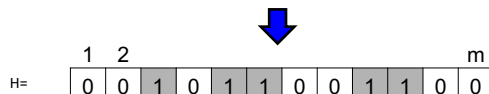
What are the common requirements?

- The set elements are known **a priori**, but queries are unknown
- Much** of the time, the answer to the membership query will be **no**
- Check **cheaply** for **set membership**
 - “More generally, fewer than 10 bits per element are required for a 1% false positive probability, independent of the size or number of elements in the set (Bonomi et al. (2006))” [wikipedia]

Hash Maps

- Let $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ be a set of elements
- Let $m > n$
- Hash function $h : S \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$

$$S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$$



7

Hash Map = Dictionary

The hash map acts like a dictionary

- Insert(x, H) = set bit $h(x)$ to 1
 - Collisions are possible
- Member(y, H) = check if bit $h(y)$ is 1
 - False positives are possible
- Delete(y, H) = not supported !
 - Extensions possible, see later

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

8

Analysis

- Let $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
- Let j = a specific bit in H ($1 \leq j \leq m$)
- What is the probability that j remains 0 after inserting all n elements from S into H ?
- Will compute in two steps

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

9

0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$
- Let's insert only x_i into H
- What is the probability that bit j is 0?

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

10

0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$
- Let's insert only x_i into H
- What is the probability that bit j is 0?
- Answer: $p = 1 - 1/m$

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

11

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$, $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
- Let's insert all elements from S in H
- What is the probability that bit j remains 0?

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

12

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$, $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
- Let's insert all elements from S in H
- What is the probability that bit j remains 0?
- Answer: $p = (1 - 1/m)^n$

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

13

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Probability of False Positives

- Take a random element y , and check $\text{member}(y, H)$
- What is the probability that it returns *true*?

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

14

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Probability of False Positives

- Take a random element y , and check $\text{member}(y, H)$
- What is the probability that it returns *true*?
- Answer: it is the probability that bit $h(y)$ is 1, which is $f = 1 - (1 - 1/m)^n \approx 1 - e^{-n/m}$

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

15

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis: Example

- Example: $m = 8n$, then
 $f \approx 1 - e^{-n/m} = 1 - e^{-1/8} \approx 0.11$
- A 10% false positive rate is rather high...
- Bloom filters improve that (coming next)

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

16

Bloom Filters

- Introduced by Burton Bloom in 1970
- Improve the false positive ratio
- Idea: use k independent hash functions

For interactive demo see:
<http://www.jasondavies.com/bloomfilter/>
<http://billmill.org/bloomfilter-tutorial/>

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

17

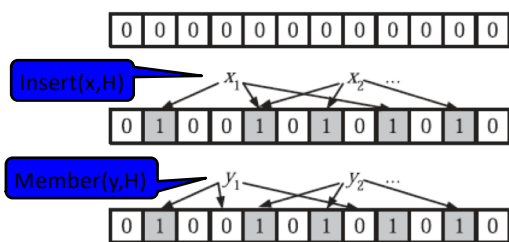
Bloom Filter = Dictionary

- $\text{Insert}(x, H) = \text{set bits } h_1(x), \dots, h_k(x) \text{ to } 1$
 - Collisions between h_i and h_j are possible
- $\text{Member}(y, H) = \text{check if bits } h_1(y), \dots, h_k(y) \text{ are } 1$
 - False positives are possible
- $\text{Delete}(z, H) = \text{not supported !}$
 - Extensions possible, see later

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

18

Example Bloom Filter $k=3$



y_1 = is not in H (why ?); y_2 may be in H (why ?)

19

Choosing k

Two competing forces:

- If k = large
 - Test more bits for $\text{member}(y, H) \rightarrow$ lower false positive rate
 - More bits in H are 1 \rightarrow higher false positive rate
- If k = small
 - More bits in H are 0 \rightarrow lower positive rate
 - Test fewer bits for $\text{member}(y, H) \rightarrow$ higher rate

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

20

0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$, #hash functions = k
- Let's insert only x_i into H
- What is the probability that bit j is 0 ?

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

21

0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$, #hash functions = k
- Let's insert only x_i into H
- What is the probability that bit j is 0 ?
- Answer: $p = (1 - 1/m)^k$

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

22

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$, $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
- Let's insert all elements from S in H
- What is the probability that bit j remains 0 ?

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

23

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Analysis

- Recall $|H| = m$, $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
- Let's insert all elements from S in H
- What is the probability that bit j remains 0 ?
- Answer: $p = (1 - 1/m)^{kn} \approx e^{-kn/m}$

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

24

Probability of False Positives

- Take a random element y , and check $\text{member}(y, H)$
- What is the probability that it returns *true* ?

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

25

Probability of False Positives

- Take a random element y , and check $\text{member}(y, H)$
- What is the probability that it returns *true* ?
- Answer: it is the probability that all k bits $h_1(y), \dots, h_k(y)$ are 1, which is:

$$f = (1-p)^k \approx (1 - e^{-kn/m})^k$$

26

Optimizing k

- For fixed m, n , choose k to minimize the false positive rate f
- Denote $g = \ln(f) = k \ln(1 - e^{-kn/m})$
- Goal: find k to minimize g

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial k} = \ln\left(1 - e^{-\frac{kn}{m}}\right) + \frac{kn}{m} \frac{e^{-\frac{kn}{m}}}{1 - e^{-\frac{kn}{m}}}$$

$$k = \ln 2 \times m / n$$

27

Bloom Filter Summary

Given $n = |S|$, $m = |H|$,
choose $k = \ln 2 \times m / n$ hash functions

Probability that some bit j is 1 $p \approx e^{-kn/m} = 1/2$

Expected distribution $m/2$ bits 1, $m/2$ bits 0

Probability of false positive

$$f = (1-p)^k \approx (1/2)^k = (1/2)^{(\ln 2)m/n} \approx (0.6185)^{m/n}$$

28

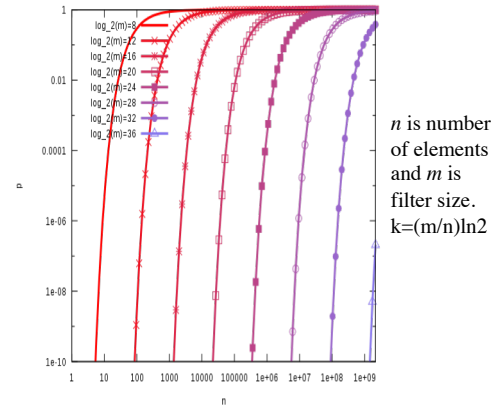
Bloom Filter Summary

- In practice one sets $m = cn$, for some constant c
 - Thus, we use c bits for each element in S
 - Then $f \approx (0.6185)^c = \text{constant}$
- Example: $m = 8n$, then
 - $k = 8(\ln 2) = 5.545$ (use 6 hash functions)
 - $f \approx (0.6185)^{m/n} = (0.6185)^8 \approx 0.02$ (2% false positives)
 - Compare to a hash table: $f \approx 1 - e^{-n/m} = 1 - e^{-1/8} \approx 0.11$

The reward for increasing m is much higher for Bloom filters

Dan Suciu – CSEP544 Fall 2011

29



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Bloom_filter_fp_probability.svg

30

Set Operations

Intersection and Union of Sets:

- Set $S \rightarrow$ Bloom filter H
- Set $S' \rightarrow$ Bloom filter H'
- How do we compute the Bloom filter for the intersection of S and S' ?

Dan Suciu – CSEP544 Fall 2011

31

Set Operations

Intersection and Union:

- Set $S \rightarrow$ Bloom filter H
- Set $S' \rightarrow$ Bloom filter H'
- How do we compute the Bloom filter for the intersection of S and S' ?
- Answer: bit-wise AND: $H \wedge H'$

Dan Suciu – CSEP544 Fall 2011

32

Counting Bloom Filter

Goal: support delete(z, H)

Keep a counter for each bit j

- Insertion \rightarrow increment counter
- Deletion \rightarrow decrement counter
- Overflow \rightarrow keep bit 1 forever

Using 4 bits per counter:

$$\text{Probability of overflow} \leq 1.37 \cdot 10^{-15} \times m$$

Dan Suciu -- CSEP544 Fall 2011

33

Semijoin Reduction

Given relations R, S

$R \bowtie_{JK1} S$

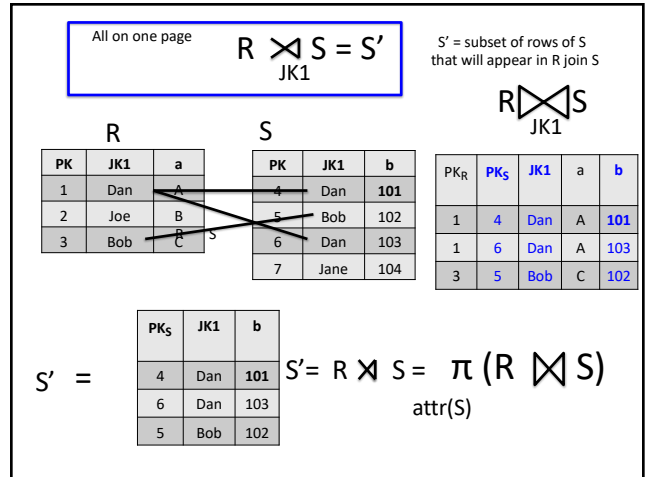
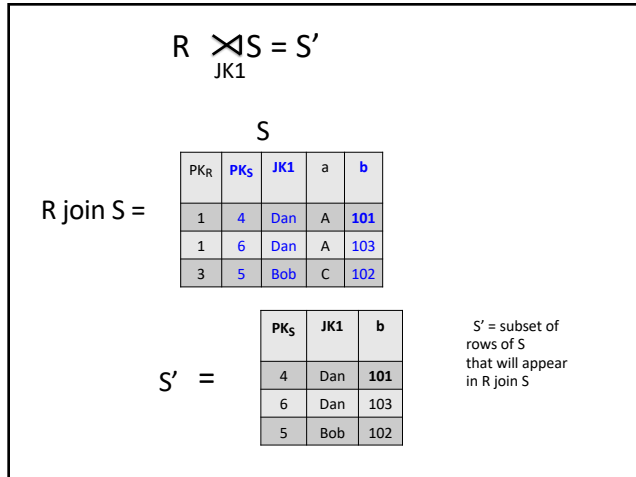
R			S		
PK	JK1	a	PK	JK1	b
1	Dan	A	4	Dan	101
2	Joe	B	5	Bob	102
3	Bob	C	6	Dan	103
			7	Jane	104

=

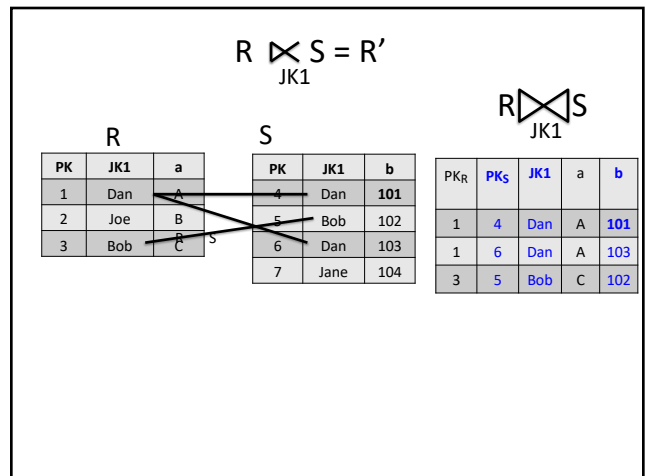
PK _R	PK _S	JK1	a	b
1	4	Dan	A	101
1	6	Dan	A	103
3	5	Bob	C	102

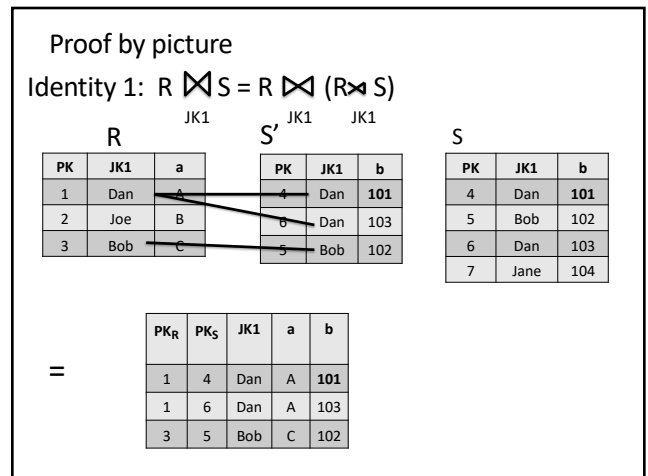
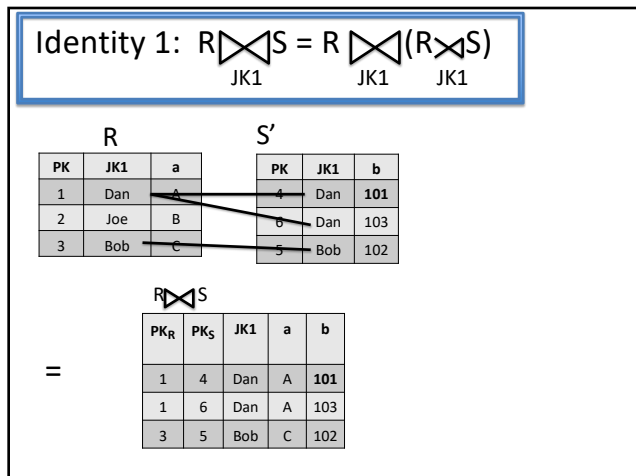
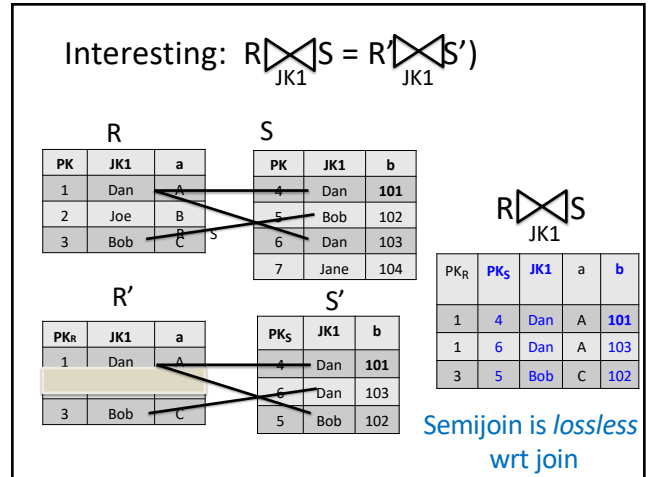
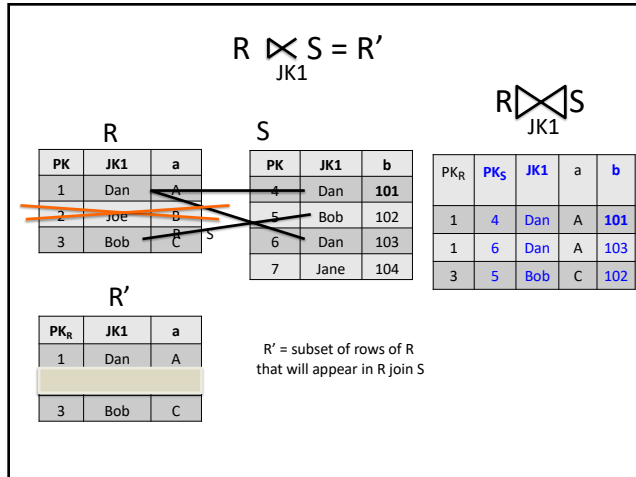
(right) Semijoin

$$R \bowtie S = \pi_{\text{attr}(S)} (R \bowtie_{JK1} S)$$



Exercise: What is $R \ltimes S$?(left semijoin)





An important general concept:
(lot's of details in a later lecture)

Semijoin reduction

Useful things computed and/or represented
in $O(n^k)$

Become
 $O(kn^2)$

Which column(s) of R did I need to
compute $R \bowtie S = S'$?

R			S		
PK	JK1	a	PK	JK1	b
1	Dan	A	4	Dan	101
2	Joe	B	5	Bob	102
3	Bob	C	6	Dan	103
			7	Jane	104

PK _S	JK1	b
4	Dan	101
6	Dan	103
5	Bob	102

Only needed column
JK1

Which column(s) of R did I need to
compute $R \bowtie S = S'$?

$\pi_{JK1} R$			S		
JK1			PK	JK1	b
Dan			4	Dan	101
Joe			5	Bob	102
Bob			6	Dan	103
			7	Jane	104

PK _S	JK1	b
4	Dan	101
6	Dan	103
5	Bob	102

Identity 2:
 $R \bowtie S = (\pi_{JK1} R) \bowtie S$

Summarize

- Definition of semi-join
 $R \bowtie S = \pi_{attr(S)} (R \bowtie S)$
- Identity 1: $R \bowtie S = R \bowtie_{JK} (\pi_{JK} (R \bowtie S))$
- Identity 2: $R \bowtie S = (\pi_{JK} R) \bowtie_{JK} S$

A very valuable optimization

- Definition of semi-join

$$R \bowtie S = \pi_{\text{attr}(S)} (R \bowtie S)$$

- Identity 1: $R \bowtie S = R \bowtie (R \bowtie S)$
- Identity 2: $R \bowtie S = (\pi R) \bowtie S$

Substitute id. 2 into id. 1 \rightarrow

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

Application in a Distributed Join Algorithm

Suppose need to compute R join S

R is on one computer
S is on another computer



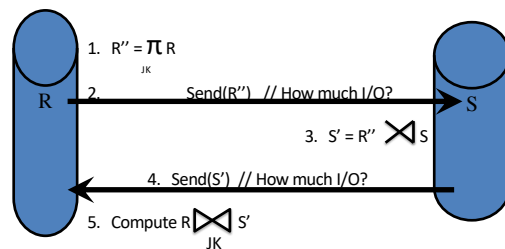
1. Send R to Computer with S
 2. Compute R join S
- How much I/O?

Database Engineering

51

Already know a better algorithm

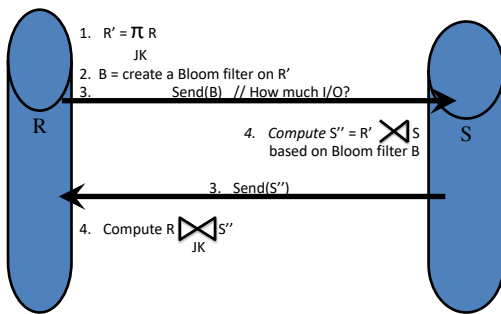
$$R \bowtie S = R \bowtie ((\pi R) \bowtie S)$$



Database Engineering

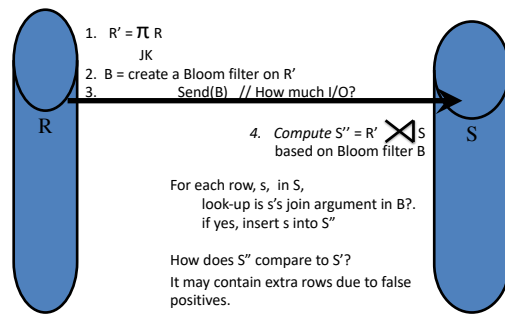
52

Even better? use a Bloom Filter



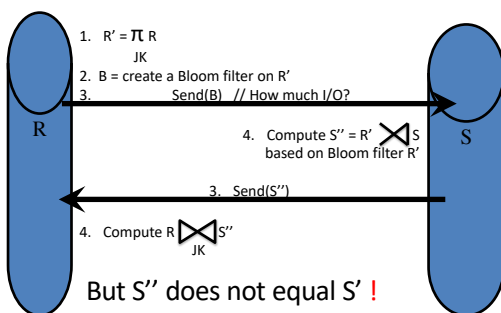
Database Engineering

53



Database Engineering

54



But S'' does not equal S' !

- Do we care?
- No,
 - the extra rows in S'' will not join with anything in R , and will not appear affect the final result

- “More generally, fewer than 10 bits per element are required for a 1% false positive probability, independent of the size or number of elements in the set (Bonomi et al. (2006))” [wikipedia]

In industry...

- Google BigTable and Apache Cassandra use Bloom filters to reduce disk lookup.
- [“Google Chrome web browser used to use a Bloom filter to identify malicious URLs.”](#)
 - [Any URL was first checked against a local Bloom filter, and only if the Bloom filter returned a positive result was a full check of the URL performed.](#)
- “Bitcoin uses Bloom filters to speed up wallet synchronization”

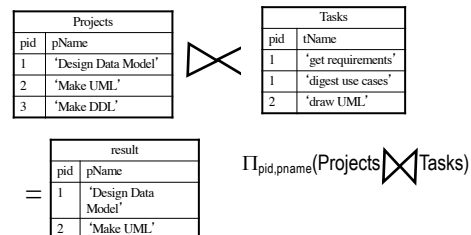
Bloom filters and MapReduce

- Pig Latin and HBASE supports it // SQL-like layers on Hadoop
- Hadoop itself has a BloomFilter class
 - <http://hadoop.apache.org/docs/current/api/org/apache/hadoop/util/bloom/BloomFilter.html>
- Coupled with Hadoop’s **distributed cache** facility, this provides a powerful toolkit for performing joins on embarrassingly parallel architectures
 - <https://hadoop.apache.org/docs/r1.2.1/api/org/apache/hadoop/filecache/DistributedCache.html>

Conclusion

- Bloom filters are probabilistic data structures that offer an excellent tradeoff between three elements:
 - Retrieval (filter reduces time)
 - The precise size of the data structure (space)
 - Probability of false positives (effectiveness)

A Last Word: SQL and Semi-join [Left] Semi Join



SQL has no explicit semijoin keyword
Use the following nested query

Projects		Tasks	
pid	pName	pid	tName
1	'Design Data Model'	1	'get requirements'
2	'Make UML'	1	'digest use cases'
3	'Make DDL'	2	'draw UML'

\bowtie

result	
pid	pName
1	'Design Data Model'
2	'Make UML'

=

```
SELECT *
FROM Projects
WHERE pid IN
(SELECT pid FROM Tasks)
```

6: Nested Queries cor.

CS347

61

There is also an anti [semi] join,
simply [Left] Anti Join

Projects		Tasks	
pid	pName	pid	tName
1	'Design Data Model'	1	'get requirements'
2	'Make UML'	1	'digest use cases'
3	'Make DDL'	2	'draw UML'

\bowtie

result	
pid	pName
3	'Make DDL'

=

```
result = Projects - (Projects  $\bowtie$  Tasks)
```

// The rows not included in the semijoin

6: Nested Queries cor.

CS347

62

[Left] Anti Join in SQL

Projects		Tasks	
pid	pName	pid	tName
1	'Design Data Model'	1	'get requirements'
2	'Make UML'	1	'digest use cases'
3	'Make DDL'	2	'draw UML'

\bowtie

result	
pid	pName
3	'Make DDL'

=

```
SELECT *
FROM Projects
WHERE pid NOT IN
(SELECT pid FROM Tasks)
```

6: Nested Queries cor.

CS347

63