

Carnegie Mellon University

DATABASE SYSTEMS

Column Stores + Compression

LECTURE #06 » 15-445/645 FALL 2025 » PROF. ANDY PAVLO

ADMINISTRIVIA

Homework #2 is due Sunday Sept 21st @ 11:59pm

Project #1 is due Sunday Sept 29th @ 11:59pm
→ Recitation Tuesday Sept 16th @ 8:00pm ([@73](#))

UPCOMING DATABASE EVENTS

Session #1 (09:30 – 10:30)

- SpiralDB (GHC 7101)
- PingCAP TiDB (GHC 7501)
- RelationalAI (GHC 8115)

Session #2 (10:30 – 11:30)

- IBM DataStax (GHC 7101)
- Yellowbrick (GHC 7501)
- Firebolt (GHC 8115)

Session #3 (11:30 – 12:30)

- SingleStore (GHC 7101)
- ClickHouse (GHC 7501)
- Yugabyte (GHC 8115)

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University

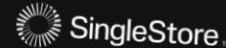
Database Group
Industry Affiliates

Company Tech Talks
Tuesday Sept 16th

UPCOMIN

Session #1 (09:30 – 10:30)

- SpiralDB (GHC 7101)
- PingCAP TiDB (GHC 7102)
- RelationalAI (GHC 8101)



SingleStore Announces Growth Buyout Led by Vector Capital

Accelerates growth strategy to capture the expanding global opportunity in enterprise AI under Vector's majority ownership

San Francisco, Sept.

...



ashton kutcher

@aplusk

Excited for my friends @memsql @ericfrenkiel @nikitashamgunov & the launch of MemSQL 4 today. Congrats!

5:50 PM · May 20, 2015

- ClickHouse (GHC 7102)
- Yugabyte (GHC 8101)

SingleStore. Several Vector Capital limited partners such as Adams Street Partners, J.P. Morgan Asset Management, the External Investing Group (XIG) at Goldman Sachs Asset Management, Angeles Investments, Lexington Partners, and Performance Equity Management will invest alongside Vector Capital VI, LP in SingleStore. Financial terms were not disclosed.

LAST CLASS

We discussed storage architecture alternatives to tuple-oriented scheme.

- Log-structured storage
- Index-organized storage

These approaches are ideal for write-heavy
(INSERT/UPDATE/DELETE) workloads.

But the most important query for some workloads may be read (**SELECT**) performance...

TODAY'S AGENDA

- Database Workloads
- Storage Models
- Data Compression

DATABASE WORKLOADS

On-Line Transaction Processing (OLTP)

- Fast operations that only read/update a small amount of data each time.

On-Line Analytical Processing (OLAP)

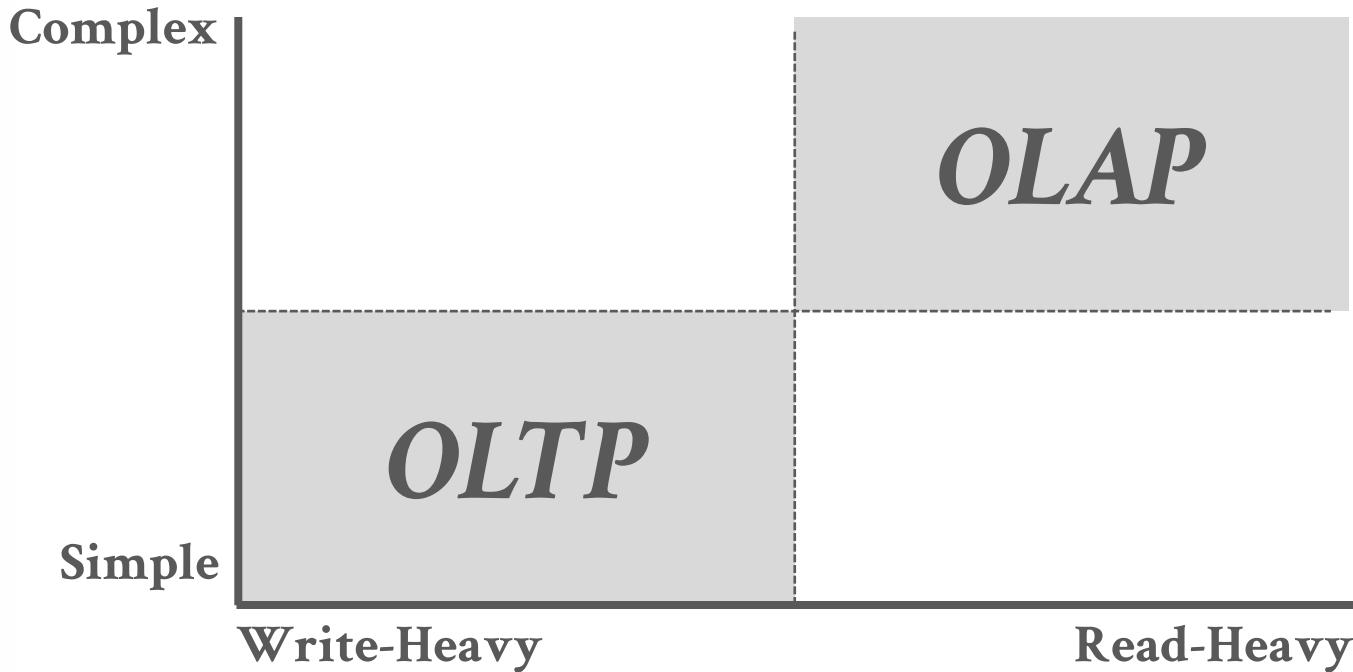
- Complex queries that read a lot of data to compute aggregates.

Hybrid Transaction + Analytical Processing

- OLTP + OLAP together on the same database instance

DATABASE WORKLOADS

Operation Complexity

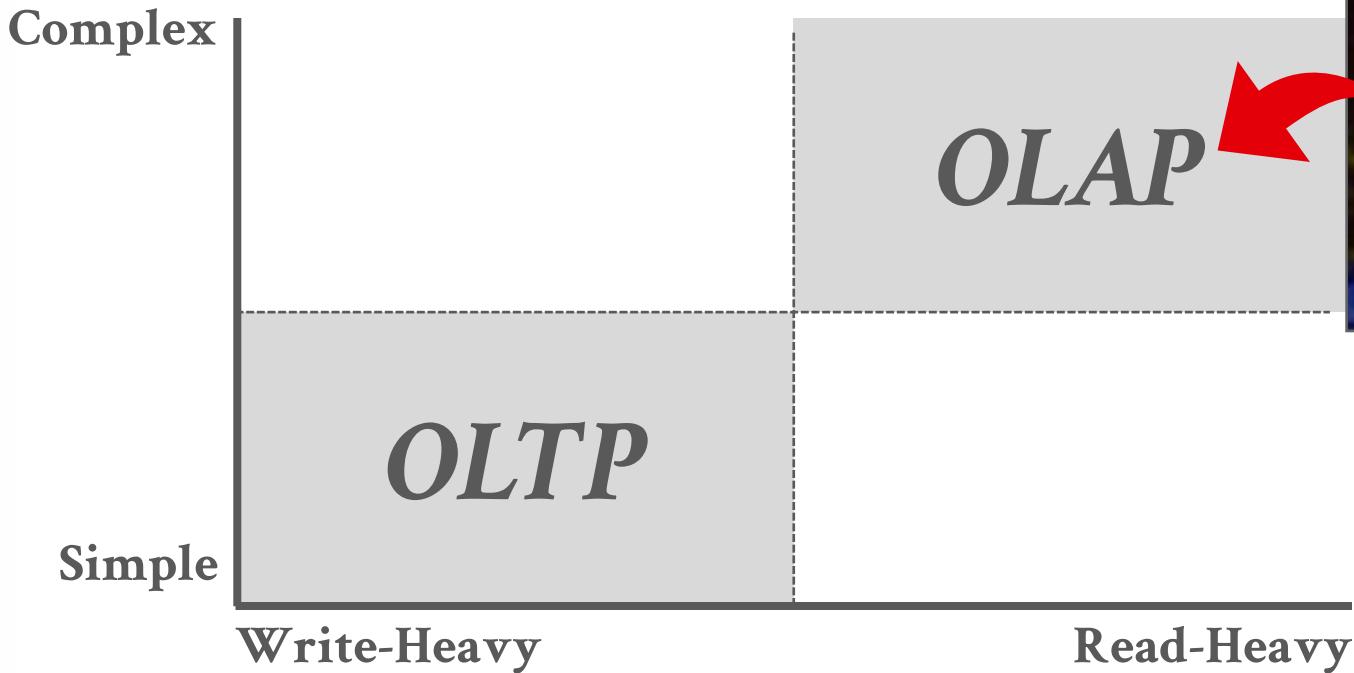


Workload Focus

Source: [Mike Stonebraker](#)

DATABASE WORKLOADS

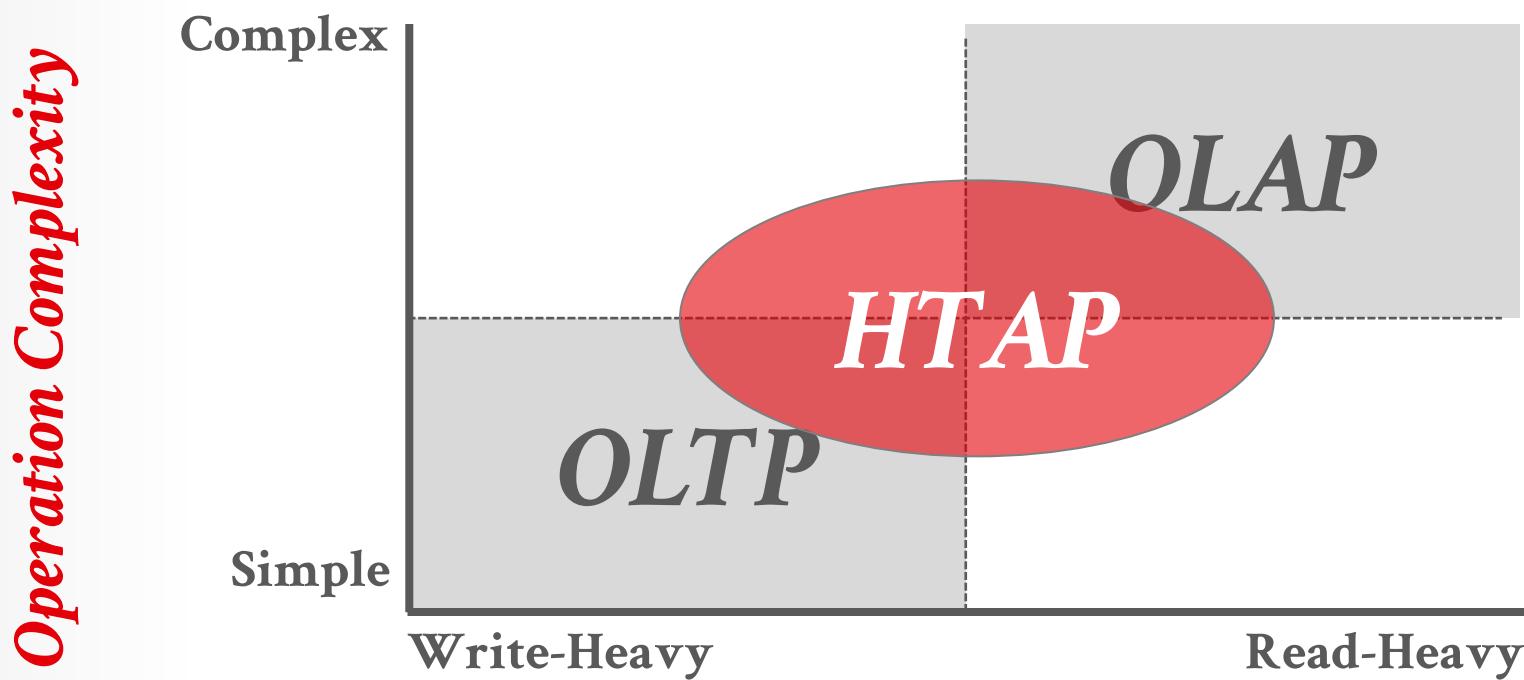
Operation Complexity



Workload Focus

Source: [Mike Stonebraker](#)

DATABASE WORKLOADS



Workload Focus

Source: [Mike Stonebraker](#)

WIKIPEDIA EXAMPLE

```
CREATE TABLE useracct (
    userID INT PRIMARY KEY,
    userName VARCHAR UNIQUE,
    :
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE pages (
    pageID INT PRIMARY KEY,
    title VARCHAR UNIQUE,
    latest INT
    ↗ REFERENCES revisions (revID),
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE revisions (
    revID INT PRIMARY KEY,
    userID INT REFERENCES useracct (userID),
    pageID INT REFERENCES pages (pageID),
    content TEXT,
    updated DATETIME
);
```

WIKIPEDIA EXAMPLE

Pavlo was born and raised in the streets of Baltimore, MD. After completing bachelor's and master's degrees from Rochester Institute of Technology and Brown University, he completed his Ph.D. from Brown University under Stan Zdonik and Mike Stonebraker.

- **Comment:** "On the streets of..." Is not encyclopedic enough. Please use a NPOV voice when writing. And while I believe he is probably notable enough for an article- the sources here do not support that. we need significant coverage in independent secondary sources (IE-Nightenbelle (talk) 15:28, 9 July 2021 (UTC))

```
userID INT REFERENCES users (userID),  
pageID INT REFERENCES pages (pageID),  
content TEXT,  
updated DATETIME  
);
```

LIVINCPOLI EXAMPLE

Wikipedia Page of Andy Pavlo



From: Tamsin Amanda <tamsin@...>
To: Me
Date: 7/26/21 2:45 PM

Hi,

I checked your Wikipedia declined draft;

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draft:Andy_Pavlo

I am an experienced Wikipedian. I will do on content in an encyclopedic tone, format the guidelines and get it approved, I will forward review before submitting it.

Kindly reply for more details.

Best regards,
Tamsin

) ;

Pav
and
con

Opportunity to Rebuild "Andy Pavlo" Wikipedia Page with Assistance



From: Philip Royce <philip@...>
To: Me
Date: 9/24/24 2:41 PM
Spam Status: Spamassassin

Dear Andy,

I trust this email finds you well. I wanted to bring up an important matter regarding your Wikipedia page.

Recently, I noticed that your Wikipedia page has been declined. As a former experienced Wikipedia moderator with several years of involvement, I understand the complexities involved in this platform. I believe I can assist you in ensuring its successful publication.

Over the years, I have navigated various challenges in Wikipedia content creation and moderation. My expertise can be instrumental in addressing your page's deletion.

Here are a few ways I can be of assistance:

Content Review: I will carefully review the

bachelor's

Establish Your Credibility with a Professional Wikipedia Page



From: Abdus Sami Tariq <abdussamitariq@gmail.com>
To: Me
Date: 6/26/25 1:54 PM
Spam Status: Spamassassin

Hi Andy Pavlo,

I hope this message finds you well. After researching, I discovered that you're notable and eligible for a Wikipedia page. This is an incredible opportunity to highlight your achievements on a global platform, enhancing your credibility and securing your legacy.

A Wikipedia page not only showcases your contributions to millions worldwide but also strengthens your online presence, ensuring your story is preserved with neutrality and credibility.

If this interests you or if you have any questions, I'd love to schedule a quick Zoom call to discuss further.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

--

Best regards,
Abdus Sami Tariq
Founder

OBSERVATION

The relational model does not specify that the DBMS must store all a tuple's attributes together in a single page.

This may not actually be the best layout for some workloads...

OLTP

On-line Transaction Processing:

→ Simple queries that read/update a small amount of data that is related to a single entity in the database.

This is usually the kind of application that people build first.

```
SELECT P.* , R.*  
  FROM pages AS P  
INNER JOIN revisions AS R  
    ON P.latest = R.revID  
 WHERE P.pageID = ?
```

```
UPDATE useracct  
  SET lastLogin = NOW(),  
      hostname = ?  
 WHERE userID = ?
```

```
INSERT INTO revisions  
VALUES ( ?, ?, ..., ? )
```

OLAP

On-line Analytical Processing:

- Complex queries that read large portions of the database spanning multiple entities.

You execute these workloads on the data you have collected from your OLTP application(s).

```
SELECT COUNT(U.lastLogin),  
       EXTRACT(month FROM  
              U.lastLogin) AS month  
  FROM useracct AS U  
 WHERE U.hostname LIKE '%.gov'  
 GROUP BY  
       EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin)
```

STORAGE MODELS

A DBMS's **storage model** specifies how it physically organizes tuples on disk and in memory.

- Can have different performance characteristics based on the target workload (OLTP vs. OLAP).
- Influences the design choices of the rest of the DBMS.

Choice #1: N-ary Storage Model (NSM)

Choice #2: Decomposition Storage Model (DSM)

Choice #3: Hybrid Storage Model (PAX)

N-ARY STORAGE MODEL (NSM)

The DBMS stores (almost) all attributes for a single tuple contiguously in a single page.
→ Also commonly known as a row store

Ideal for OLTP workloads where queries are more likely to access individual entities and execute write-heavy workloads.

NSM database page sizes are typically some constant multiple of 4 KB hardware pages.

NSM: PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

A disk-oriented NSM system stores a tuple's fixed-length and variable-length attributes contiguously in a single slotted page.

The tuple's **record id** (page#, slot#) is how the DBMS uniquely identifies a physical tuple.

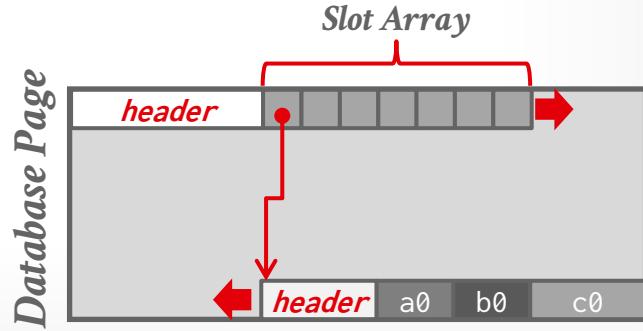
| | Col A | Col B | Col C |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Row #0 | a0 | b0 | c0 |
| Row #1 | a1 | b1 | c1 |
| Row #2 | a2 | b2 | c2 |
| Row #3 | a3 | b3 | c3 |
| Row #4 | a4 | b4 | c4 |
| Row #5 | a5 | b5 | c5 |

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| Row #5 | a5 | b5 | c5 |

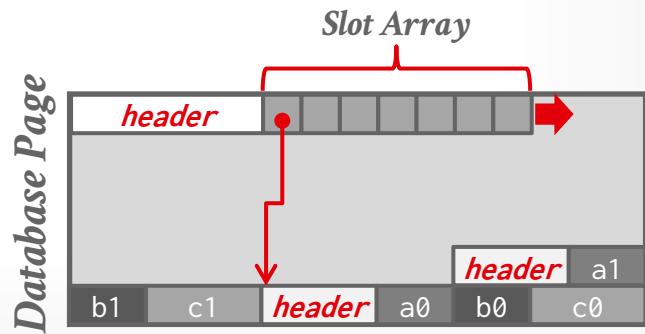


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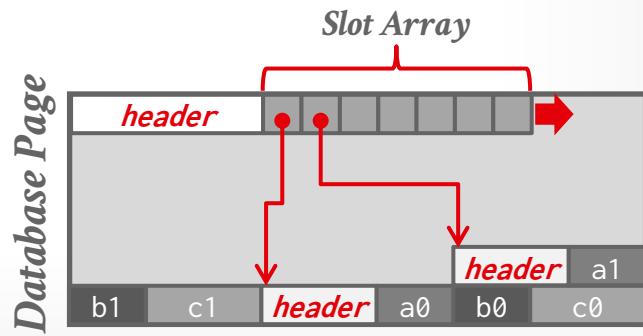


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| Row #4 | a4 | b4 | c4 |
| Row #5 | a5 | b5 | c5 |

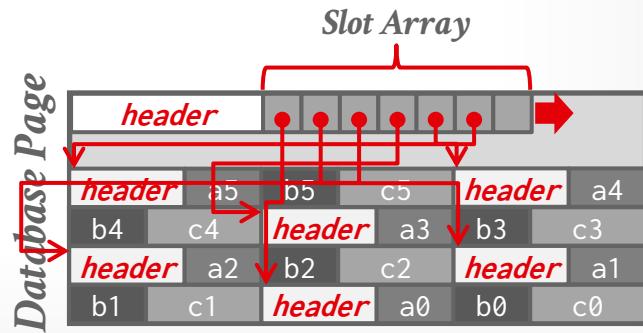


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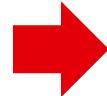
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| Row #3 | a3 | b3 | c3 |
| Row #4 | a4 | b4 | c4 |
| Row #5 | a5 | b5 | c5 |



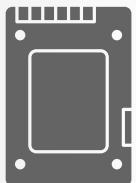
NSM: OLTP EXAMPLE

```
SELECT * FROM useracct  
WHERE userName = ?  
AND userPass = ?
```



Lectures #8-9

Index



Disk

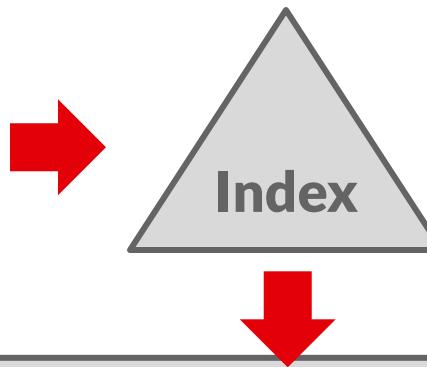
Database File



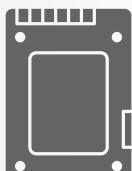
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Lectures #8-9

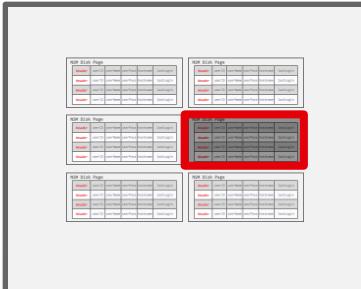


| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
|---------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | - | - | - | - | - |



Disk

Database File



NSM: OLTP EXAMPLE

```
SELECT * FROM useracct
WHERE userName = ?
AND userPass = ?
```

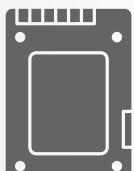
```
INSERT INTO useracct
VALUES (?, ?, ...?)
```

Lectures #8-9

Index

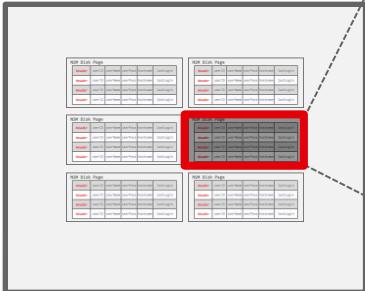
NSM Disk Page

| | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |



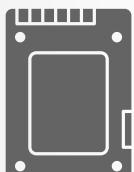
Disk

Database File



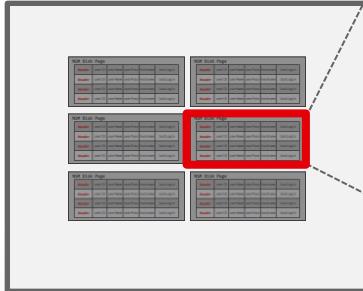
NSM: OLAP EXAMPLE

```
SELECT COUNT(U.lastLogin),  
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  FROM useracct AS U  
 WHERE U.hostname LIKE '%.gov'  
 GROUP BY EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin)
```



Disk

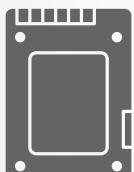
Database File



| header | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
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| header | | | | | |
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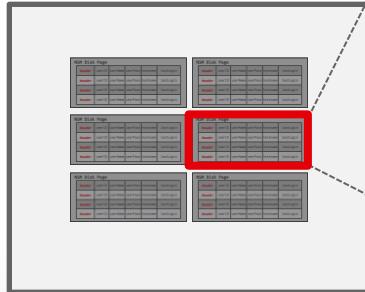
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Disk

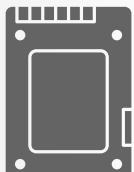
Database File



| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
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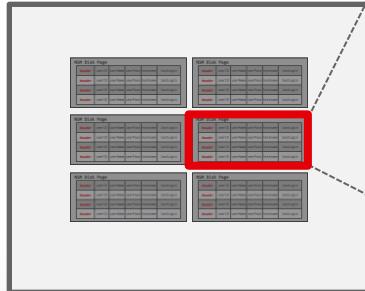
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```



Disk

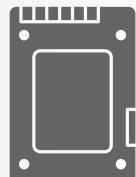
Database File



| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
|---------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |

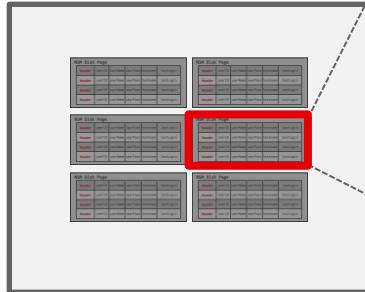
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```



Disk

Database File



| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
|---------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | | | | | lastLogin |



Useless Data!

NSM: SUMMARY

Advantages

- Fast inserts, updates, and deletes.
- Good for queries that need the entire tuple (OLTP).
- Can use index-oriented physical storage for clustering.

Disadvantages

- Not good for scanning large portions of the table and/or a subset of the attributes.
- Terrible memory locality in access patterns.
- Not ideal for compression because of multiple value domains within a single page.

DECOMPOSITION STORAGE MODEL (DSM)

Store a single attribute for all tuples contiguously in a block of data.
 → Also known as a "column store"

Ideal for OLAP workloads where read-only queries perform large scans over a subset of the table's attributes.

DBMS is responsible for combining/splitting a tuple's attributes when reading/writing.

A DECOMPOSITION STORAGE MODEL

George F. Copeland
 Satyap N. Khoshafian
 Microelectronics And Technology Computer Corporation
 9430 Research Blvd
 Austin, Texas 78759

Abstract

This report examines the relative advantages of a storage model based on decomposition of community view relations into binary relations containing one attribute (one attribute) over conventional n-ary storage models.

There seems to be a general consensus among the database community that the n-ary approach is better. This conclusion is usually based on a comparison of the performance of various database systems. The purpose of this report is not to claim that decomposition is better. Instead, we compare the two approaches to see what is well-founded and that neither is clearly better until a complete analysis is made along the dimensions of a database system. The purpose of this report is to move further in both scope and depth toward analyzing and examining such dimensions as simplicity, generality, storage requirements, update performance and retrieval performance.

Most database systems use an n-ary storage model (NSM) for a set of reasons. This approach stores data in a form that is convenient for access. Also, various inverted file or cluster indexes might be added for direct access needs. The key problem with NSM is that the attributes of the conceptual schema record are stored together. For example, the conceptual schema relation

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| a1 a2 a3 | a1 a2 a3 | a1 a2 a3 |
| a1 v1 | a1 v1 | a1 v1 |
| a2 v2 | a2 v2 | a2 v2 |
| a3 v3 | a3 v3 | a3 v3 |

contains a surrogate for record identity and three attributes per record. The NSM would store a1, v1, a2, v2 and a3 together for each record.

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Some database systems use a fully transposed storage model, for example, RM (Lorie and Symonds 1976), RDB (Wiederhold 1979), RART (Turner et al 1978), and others (Burstall and Thomas 1981). This approach stores all values of the same attribute of a conceptual schema relation separately. Several studies have compared the performance of transposed storage models with the NSM (Hoffer andatory 1979, Mehta and Neverov 1979, and Koch and Hodder 1984). In this report, we describe the advantages of a fully transposed storage model, which we call a transposed storage model, with surrogates included. The DSM pairs each attribute value with the surrogate value. The surrogate value is used in a binary relation. For example, the above relation would be stored as

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| a1 sur1 val1 | a1 sur1 val1 | a1 sur1 val1 |
| a1 v1 | a1 v1 | a1 v1 |
| a2 v2 | a2 v2 | a2 v2 |
| a3 v3 | a3 v3 | a3 v3 |

In addition, the DSM stores two copies of each attribute relation. One copy is clustered on the value attribute and the other is clustered on the surrogate. These statements apply only to base (i.e., extensional) data. To support the relational model, the DBM must support relations that need an n-ary representation. If a richer data model than normalized relations is supported, then larger and more complex records need a correspondingly richer representation.

This report compares these two storage models based on several criteria. Section 2 compares the relative complexity and generality of the two storage models. Section 3 compares their storage requirements. Section 4 compares their update performance. Section 5 compares their retrieval performance. Finally, Section 6 provides a summary and suggests some refinements for the DSM.

2 SIMPLICITY AND GENERALITY

This Section compares the two storage models to illustrate their relative simplicity and generality. Other (Agrawal 1979, Agrawal and Koslowski 1977, Koslowski 1978, Codd 1970) have argued that semantic purity is a general principle for representing most basic facts individually within the conceptual schema as the DBN does within the storage schema.

DSM: PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

Store attributes and meta-data (e.g., nulls) in separate arrays of **fixed-length** values.

- Most systems identify unique physical tuples using offsets into these arrays.
- Need to handle variable-length values...

Maintain separate pages per attribute with a dedicated header area for meta-data about entire column.

| | Col A | Col B | Col C |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Row #0 | a0 | b0 | c0 |
| Row #1 | a1 | b1 | c1 |
| Row #2 | a2 | b2 | c2 |
| Row #3 | a3 | b3 | c3 |
| Row #4 | a4 | b4 | c4 |
| Row #5 | a5 | b5 | c5 |

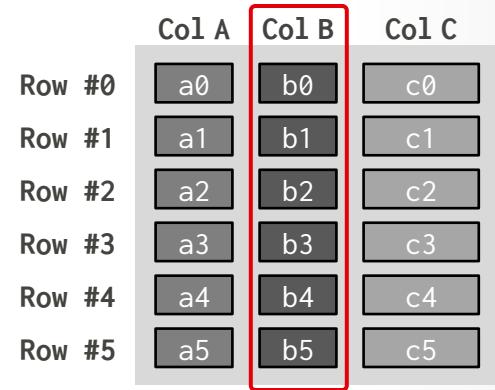
| Page #1 | <i>header</i> | | <i>null bitmap</i> | | | |
|---------|---------------|----|--------------------|----|----|----|
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | a4 | a5 |
| | | | | | | |

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|---------|---------------|----|--------------------|----|----|----|
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| | | | | | | |

| Page #2 | <i>header</i> | | <i>null bitmap</i> | | | |
|---------|---------------|----|--------------------|----|----|----|
| | b0 | b1 | b2 | b3 | b4 | b5 |
| | | | | | | |

DSM: PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

Store attributes and meta-data (e.g., nulls) in separate arrays of **fixed-length** values.

- Most systems identify unique physical tuples using offsets into these arrays.
- Need to handle variable-length values...

Maintain separate pages per attribute with a dedicated header area for meta-data about entire column.

| | Col A | Col B | Col C |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Row #0 | a0 | b0 | c0 |
| Row #1 | a1 | b1 | c1 |
| Row #2 | a2 | b2 | c2 |
| Row #3 | a3 | b3 | c3 |
| Row #4 | a4 | b4 | c4 |
| Row #5 | a5 | b5 | c5 |

| Page #1 | <i>header</i> | | <i>null bitmap</i> | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----|--------------------|----|----|----|--|
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | a4 | a5 | |
| | | | | | | | |

| Page #2 | <i>header</i> | | <i>null bitmap</i> | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----|--------------------|----|----|----|--|
| | b0 | b1 | b2 | b3 | b4 | b5 | |
| | | | | | | | |

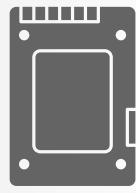
| Page #3 | <i>header</i> | | <i>null bitmap</i> | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----|--------------------|----|----|--|--|
| | c0 | c1 | c2 | c3 | c4 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

DSM: OLAP EXAMPLE

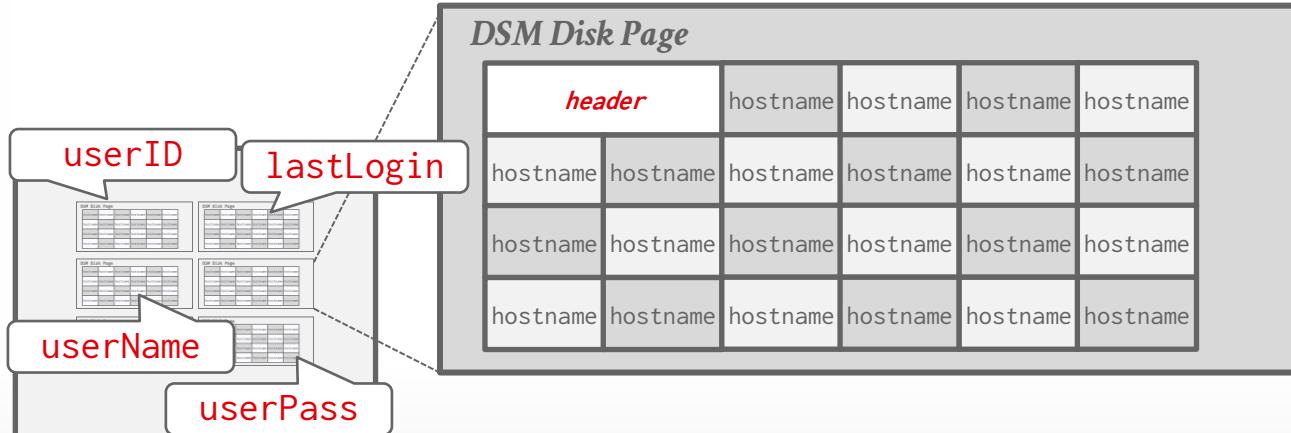
| | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |
| <i>header</i> | userID | userName | userPass | hostname | lastLogin |

DSM: OLAP EXAMPLE

```
SELECT COUNT(U.lastLogin),
       EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin) AS month
  FROM useracct AS U
 WHERE U.hostname LIKE '%.gov'
 GROUP BY EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin)
```

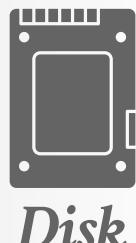


Database File



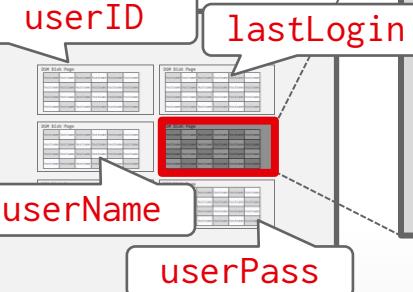
DSM: OLAP EXAMPLE

```
SELECT COUNT(U.lastLogin),
       EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin) AS month
  FROM useracct AS U
 WHERE U.hostname LIKE '%.gov'
 GROUP BY EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin)
```



Database File

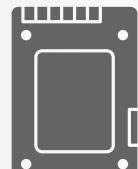
| header | hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname |
| hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname |
| hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname | hostname |



DSM: OLAP EXAMPLE

```

SELECT COUNT(U.lastLogin),
       EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin) AS month
  FROM useracct AS U
 WHERE U.hostname LIKE '%.gov'
 GROUP BY EXTRACT(month FROM U.lastLogin)
    
```



Disk

Database File

| | | header | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | lastLogin | lastLogin | lastLogin | lastLogin | lastLogin | lastLogin |
| | lastLogin |
| | lastLogin |
| | lastLogin |

DSM: TUPLE IDENTIFICATION

Choice #1: Fixed-length Offsets

→ Each value is the same length for an attribute.



Offsets

| | A | B | C | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | | | | |
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |

Embedded Ids

| | A | B | C | D |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |

DSM: VARIABLE-LENGTH DATA

Padding variable-length fields to ensure they are fixed-length is wasteful, especially for large attributes.

A better approach is to use *dictionary compression* to convert repetitive variable-length data into fixed-length values (typically 32-bit integers).

→ More on this later in this lecture...

DECOMPOSITION STORAGE MODEL (DSM)

Advantages

- Reduces the amount wasted I/O per query because the DBMS only reads the data that it needs.
- Faster query processing because of increased locality and cached data reuse ([Lecture #14](#)).
- Better data compression.

Disadvantages

- Slow for point queries, inserts, updates, and deletes because of tuple splitting/stitching/reorganization.

OBSERVATION

OLAP queries almost never access a single column in a table by itself.

→ At some point during query execution, the DBMS must get other columns and stitch the original tuple back together.

But we still need to store data in a columnar format to get the storage + execution benefits.

We need columnar scheme that still stores attributes separately but keeps the data for each tuple physically close to each other...

PAX STORAGE MODEL

Partition Attributes Across (PAX)
is a hybrid storage model that
vertically partitions attributes within
a database page.

→ Examples: Parquet (2013), ORC (2013),
Arrow (2016), Nimble (2023),
Vortex (2025).

The goal is to get the benefit of faster processing on columnar storage while retaining the spatial locality benefits of row storage.

Weaving Relations for Cache Performance

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Abstract

Relational database systems have traditionally optimized for I/O performance and organized records sequentially on disk pages using the N-way Storage Model (NSM) (a.k.a., *slotted pages*). Recent research, however, indicates cache utilization is becoming increasingly important on modern platforms. In this paper we first demonstrate that in-page data placement is the key to high cache performance and that NSM exhibits low cache utilization on modern platforms. Next, we propose a new partitioning mechanism called Partition Attributes Across (PAX), that significantly improves cache performance by grouping together all values of each attribute within each page. Because PAX only affects layout *inside* the pages, it does not affect I/O or memory access times. According to our experiments, when compared to NSM (a) PAX exhibits superior cache and memory bandwidth utilization, saving at least 75% of NSM's stall time due to data cache accesses, (b) range selection queries and updates on information-redundant relations execute 15-25% faster, and (c) TPC-H queries involving I/O execute 11-48% faster.

1 Introduction

The communication between the CPU and the secondary storage (I/O) has been traditionally recognized as the major database performance bottleneck. To optimize data transfer to and from mass storage, relational DBMSs have long organized data sequentially on disk pages using the N-way Storage Model (NSM). NSM stores records continuously starting from the beginning of each disk page, and uses an offset (slot) table at the end of the page to locate the beginning of each record [27].

Unfortunately, most queries use only a portion of each record. To address this problem, the DSSN (Distributed Storage System) Model (DSM) was proposed in [10]. DSM partitions an-n-attribute relation vertically into n sub-relations, each of which is accessed only when the corresponding attribute is needed. Queries that involve multiple attributes from a relation, however, must spend

[†] Work done while author was at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
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Proceedings of the 27th VLDB Conference, Roma, Italy, 2001

tremendous additional time to join the participating sub-relations together. Except for SybaseIQ [33], today's relational DBMSs use NSM for general-purpose data placement [20][29][32].

Recent research has demonstrated that modern data-base workloads, such as decision support systems and spatial applications, are often bound by delays related to the cache hierarchy [11][12][13][14][15][16][17][18][19][20][21][22][23]. When running commercial database systems on a modern processor, data requests that miss in the cache hierarchy (i.e., requests for data that are not found in any of the caches and are transferred from main memory) are a key memory system bottleneck [1]. In addition, only a fraction of data can be transferred from memory to a useful cache. The item that the query processing algorithm requests and the transfer unit between the memory and the processor are typically not the same size. Loading the cache with useless data (a) wastes bandwidth, (b) pollutes the cache, and (c) possibly forces replacement of information that may be needed later, causing increased mean more delays. The challenge is to retain NSM's cache behavior without compromising its advantages over DSM.

This paper introduces and evaluates **Partition Attributes Across (PAX)**, a new layout for data records that combines the best of the two worlds and achieves performance superior to both placement schemes. By eliminating the need for joins, PAX reduces the number of relations, PAX stores the same data on each page as NSM. Within each page, however, PAX groups all the values of a particular attribute together on a minpage. During a sequential scan (e.g., to apply a predicate on a fraction of the records), the full width of the cache resources is used on each minpage. A number of single attribute values are loaded into the cache together. At the same time, all parts of the record are on the same page. To reconstruct a record one needs to perform a *mini-join* among minpages, which incurs minimal cost because it does not have to look beyond the page.

PAX is implemented for MySQL against NSM and DSM using (a) predicate selection predicates on numeric data and (b) a variety of queries on TPC-H datasets on top of the Shore storage manager [7]. We vary query parameters including selectivity, projectivity, number of predicates, distance between the projected attribute and the attribute in the predicate, and degree of the relation. Our experimental results show that, when compared to NSM, PAX (a) incurs 50-75% fewer second-level cache misses due to data

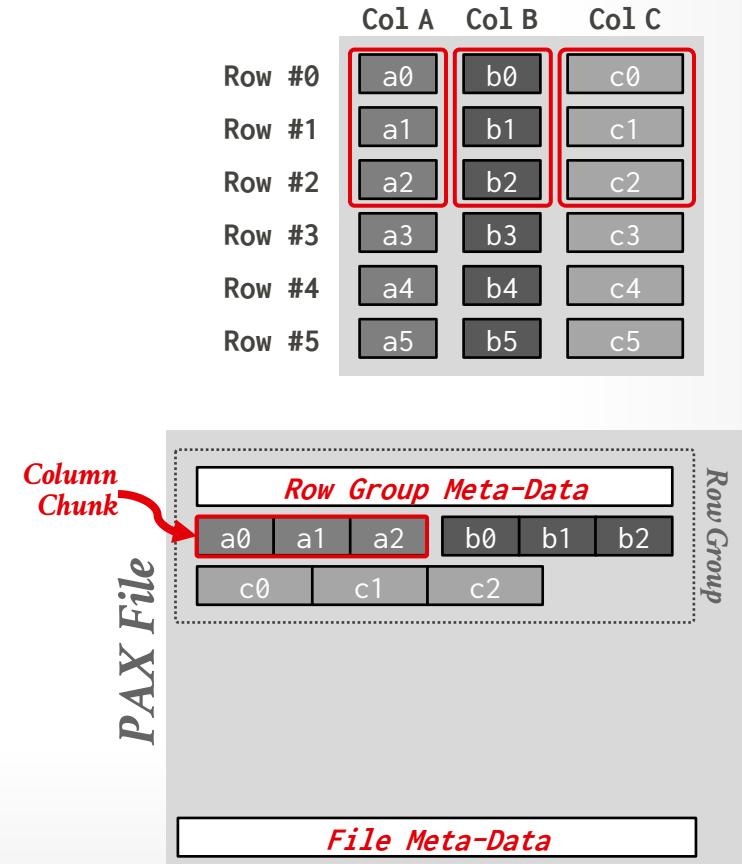
PAX: PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

Horizontally partition data into *row groups*. Then vertically partition their attributes into *column chunks*.

Global meta-data directory contains offsets to the file's row groups.

→ This is stored in the footer if the file is immutable (Parquet, Orc).

Each row group contains its own meta-data header about its contents.



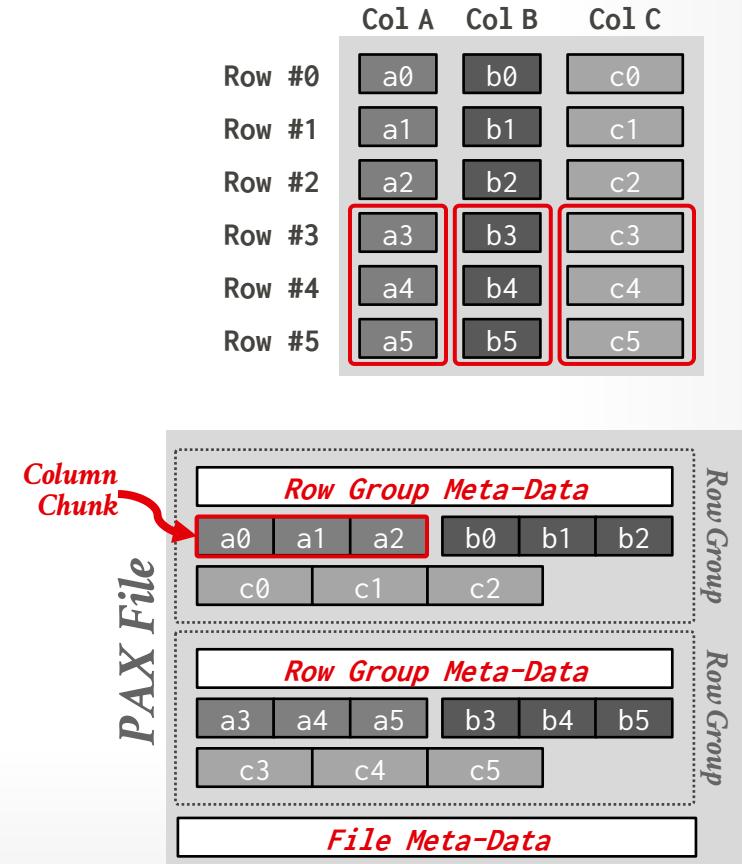
PAX: PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

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PAX: PHYSICAL ORGANIZATION

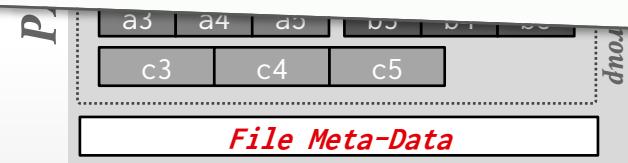
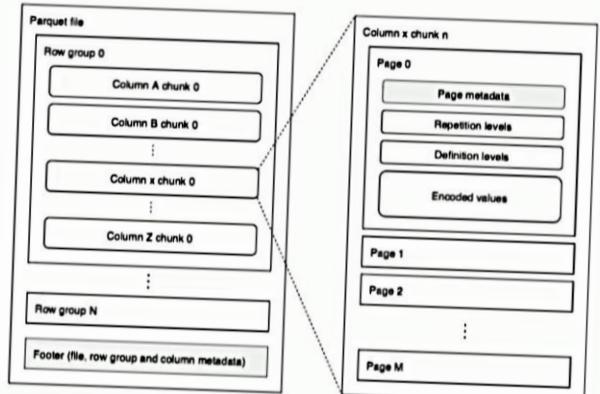
Horizontally partitioned into **row groups**. Then vertically partitioned into **column attributes** into **columns**.

Global meta-data directory contains offsets to the file's row groups → This is stored in the immutable (Parquet, Avro) header.

Each row group contains a meta-data header about its contents.

Parquet: data organization

- Data organization
 - Row-groups (*default 128MB*)
 - Column chunks
 - Pages (*default 1MB*)
 - Metadata
 - Min
 - Max
 - Count
 - Rep/def levels
 - Encoded values



OBSERVATION

I/O is the main bottleneck if the DBMS fetches data from disk during query execution.

The DBMS can compress pages to increase the utility of the data moved per I/O operation.

Key trade-off is speed vs. compression ratio

- Compressing the database reduces DRAM requirements.
- It may decrease CPU costs during query execution.

DATABASE COMPRESSION

Goal #1: Must produce fixed-length values.

→ Only exception is var-length data stored in separate pool.

Goal #2: Postpone decompression for as long as possible during query execution.

→ Also known as late materialization.

Goal #3: Must be a lossless scheme.

→ People (typically) don't like losing data.

→ Any lossy compression must be performed by application.

COMPRESSION GRANULARITY

Choice #1: Block-level

- Compress a block of tuples for the same table.

Choice #2: Tuple-level

- Compress the contents of the entire tuple (NSM-only).

Choice #3: Attribute-level

- Compress a single attribute within one tuple (overflow).
- Can target multiple attributes for the same tuple.

Choice #4: Column-level

- Compress multiple values for one or more attributes stored for multiple tuples (DSM-only).

NAÏVE COMPRESSION

Compress data using a general-purpose algorithm.

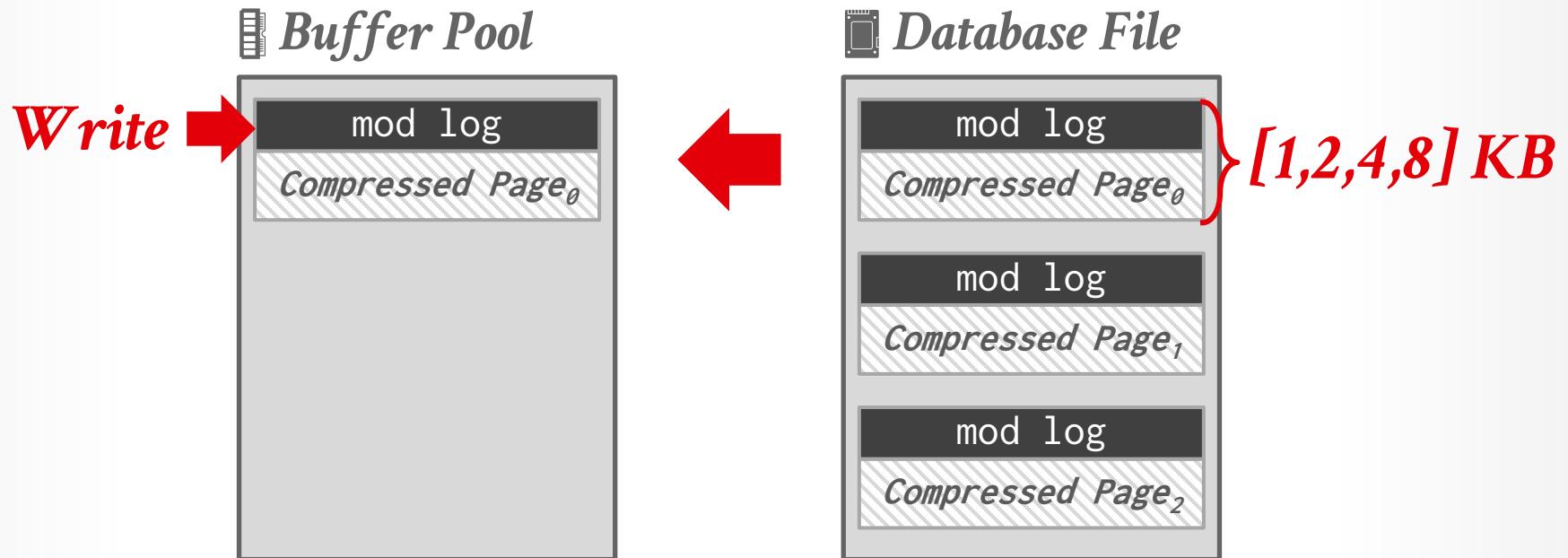
Scope of compression is based on input provided.

→ Examples: Deflate (1990), LZO (1996), LZ4 (2011), Snappy (2011), Oracle OZIP (2014), Zstd (2015), Lizard (2017)

Considerations

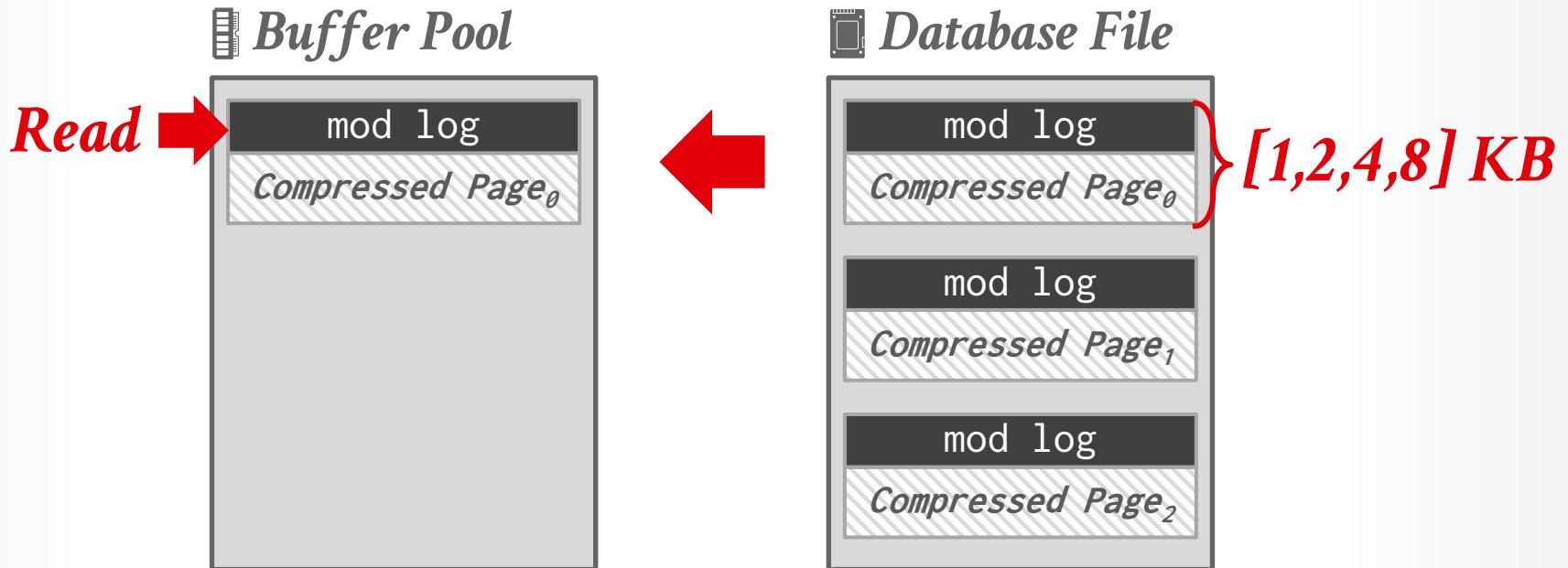
- Computational overhead
- Compress vs. decompress speed.

MYSQL INNODB COMPRESSION



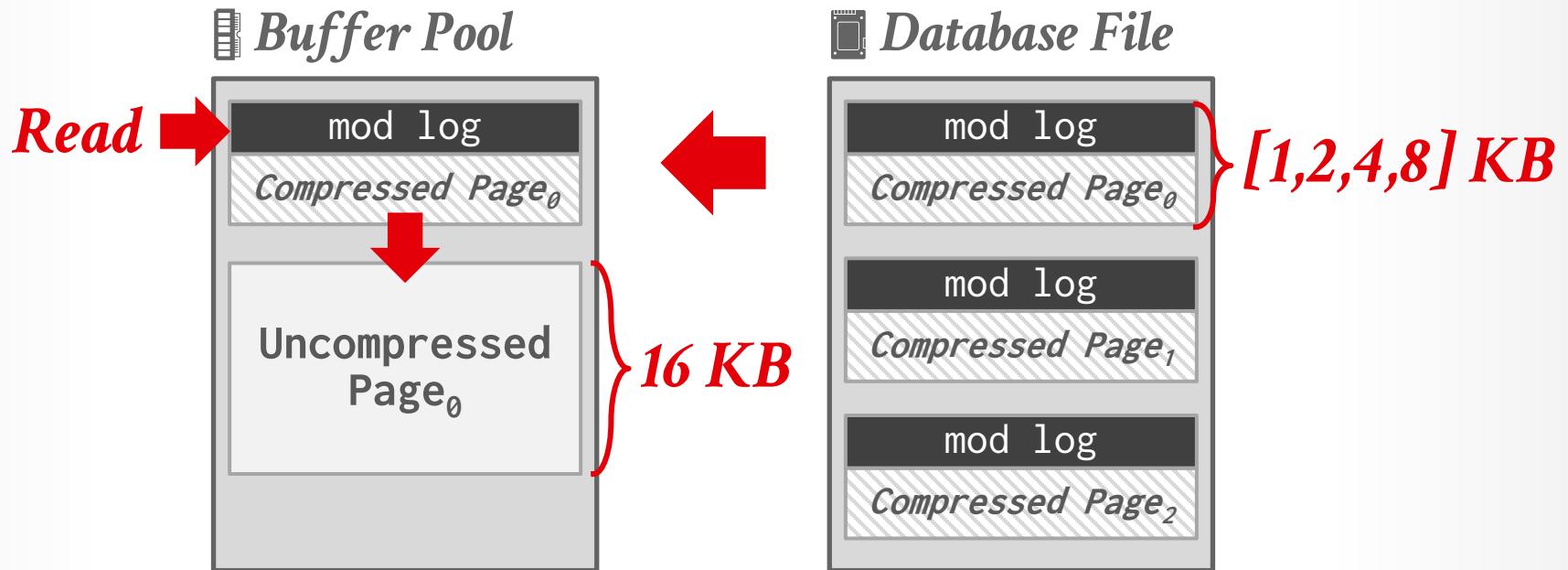
Source: [MySQL 5.7 Documentation](#)

MYSQL INNODB COMPRESSION



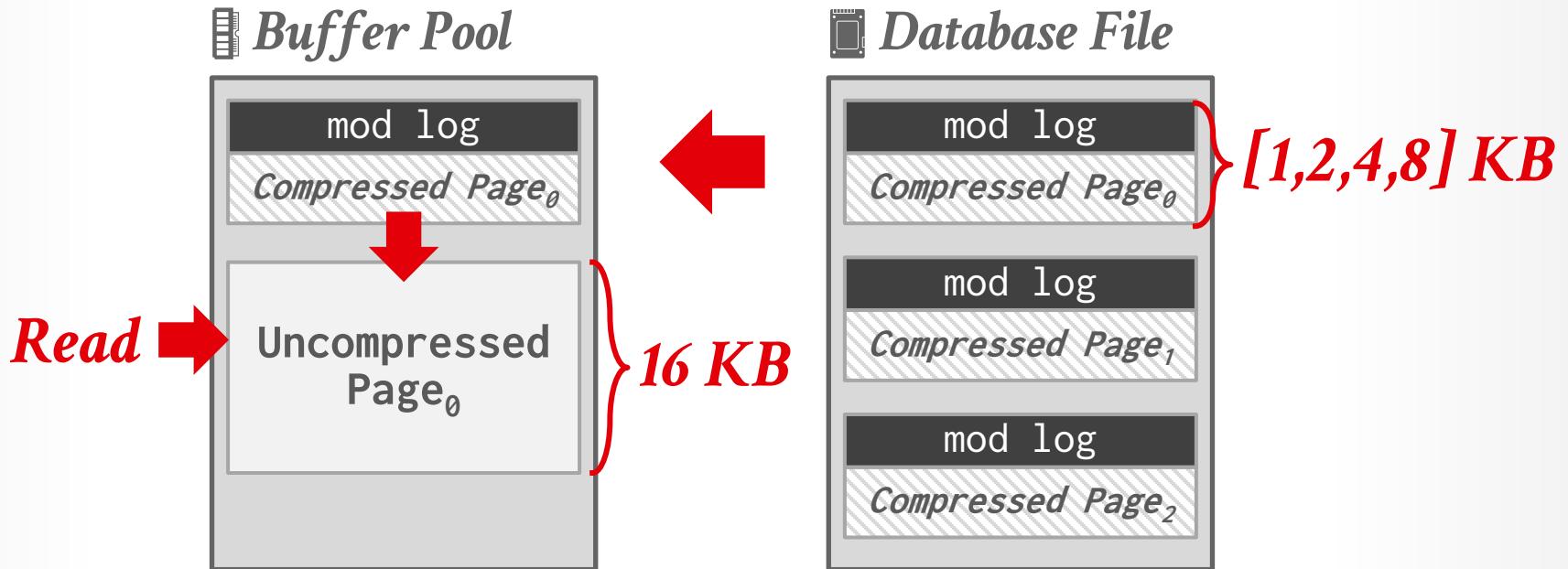
Source: [MySQL 5.7 Documentation](#)

MYSQL INNODB COMPRESSION



Source: [MySQL 5.7 Documentation](#)

MYSQL INNODB COMPRESSION



Source: [MySQL 5.7 Documentation](#)

NAÏVE COMPRESSION

The DBMS must decompress data first before it can be read and (potentially) modified.

→ This limits the "scope" of the compression scheme.

These schemes also do not consider the high-level meaning or semantics of the data.

OBSERVATION

Ideally, we want the DBMS to operate on compressed data without decompressing it first.

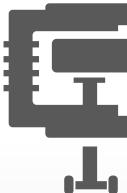
Database Magic!

```
SELECT * FROM users  
WHERE name = 'Andy'
```



```
SELECT * FROM users  
WHERE name = XX
```

| NAME | SALARY |
|---------|--------|
| Andy | 99999 |
| Jignesh | 88888 |



| NAME | SALARY |
|------|--------|
| XX | AA |
| YY | BB |

COMPRESSION GRANULARITY

Choice #1: Block-level

- Compress a block of tuples for the same table.

Choice #2: Tuple-level

- Compress the contents of the entire tuple (NSM-only).

Choice #3: Attribute-level

- Compress a single attribute within one tuple (overflow).
- Can target multiple attributes for the same tuple.

Choice #4: Column-level

- Compress multiple values for one or more attributes stored for multiple tuples (DSM-only).

COLUMNAR COMPRESSION

Run-length Encoding

Bit-Packing Encoding

Bitmap Encoding

Delta / Frame-of-Reference Encoding

Incremental Encoding

Dictionary Encoding

RUN-LENGTH ENCODING

Compress runs of the same value in a single column into triplets:

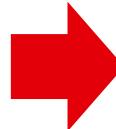
- The value of the attribute.
- The start position in the column segment.
- The # of elements in the run.

Requires the columns to be sorted intelligently to maximize compression opportunities.

RUN-LENGTH ENCODING

Original Data

| id | isDead |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | Y |
| 2 | Y |
| 3 | Y |
| 4 | N |
| 6 | Y |
| 7 | N |
| 8 | Y |
| 9 | Y |



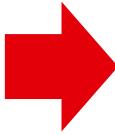
Compressed Data

| id | isDead |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | (Y, 0, 3) |
| 2 | (N, 3, 1) |
| 3 | (Y, 4, 1) |
| 4 | (N, 5, 1) |
| 6 | (Y, 6, 2) |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |

RLE Triplet
*- Value
- Offset
- Length*

RUN-LENGTH ENCODING

```
SELECT isDead, COUNT(*)  
FROM users  
GROUP BY isDead
```



Compressed Data

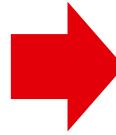
| id | isDead |
|----|-----------|
| 1 | (Y, 0, 3) |
| 2 | (N, 3, 1) |
| 3 | (Y, 4, 1) |
| 4 | (N, 5, 1) |
| 6 | (Y, 6, 2) |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |

RLE Triplet
- Value
- Offset
- Length

RUN-LENGTH ENCODING

Original Data

| id | isDead |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | Y |
| 2 | Y |
| 3 | Y |
| 4 | N |
| 6 | Y |
| 7 | N |
| 8 | Y |
| 9 | Y |



Compressed Data

| id | isDead |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | (Y, 0, 3) |
| 2 | (N, 3, 1) |
| 3 | (Y, 4, 1) |
| 4 | (N, 5, 1) |
| 6 | (Y, 6, 2) |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |

RLE Triplet
- Value
- Offset
- Length

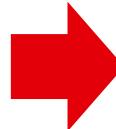
RUN-LENGTH ENCODING

Sorted Data

| id | isDead |
|----|--------|
| 1 | Y |
| 2 | Y |
| 3 | Y |
| 6 | Y |
| 8 | Y |
| 9 | Y |
| 4 | N |
| 7 | N |

Compressed Data

| id | isDead |
|----|-----------|
| 1 | (Y, 0, 6) |
| 2 | (N, 7, 2) |
| 3 | |
| 6 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 4 | |
| 7 | |



BIT PACKING

If the values for an integer attribute is smaller than the range of its given data type size, then reduce the number of bits to represent each value.

Use bit-shifting tricks to operate on multiple values in a single word.

Original Data

| int32 |
|-------|
| 13 |
| 191 |
| 56 |
| 92 |
| 81 |
| 120 |
| 231 |
| 172 |

*Original:
8 × 32-bits =
256 bits*

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 00001101 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 10111111 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 00111000 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01011100 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01010001 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111000 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 11100111 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 10101100 |

BIT PACKING

If the values for an integer attribute is smaller than the range of its given data type size, then reduce the number of bits to represent each value.

Use bit-shifting tricks to operate on multiple values in a single word.

Original Data

| int32 |
|-------|
| 13 |
| 191 |
| 56 |
| 92 |
| 81 |
| 120 |
| 231 |
| 172 |

*Original:
8 × 32-bits =
256 bits*

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 00001101 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 10111111 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 00111000 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01011100 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01010001 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111000 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 11100111 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 10101100 |

BIT PACKING

If the values for an integer attribute is smaller than the range of its given data type size, then reduce the number of bits to represent each value.

Use bit-shifting tricks to operate on multiple values in a single word.

Original Data

| int32 |
|-------|
| 13 |
| 191 |
| 56 |
| 92 |
| 81 |
| 120 |
| 231 |
| 172 |

*Original:
8 × 32-bits =
256 bits*

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 00001101 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 10111111 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 00111000 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01011100 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01010001 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111000 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 11100111 |
| 00000000 00000000 00000000 10101100 |

BIT PACKING

If the values for an integer attribute is smaller than the range of its given data type size, then reduce the number of bits to represent each value.

Use bit-shifting tricks to operate on multiple values in a single word.

Original Data

| int32 | |
|-------|----------|
| 13 | 00001101 |
| 191 | 10111111 |
| 56 | 00111000 |
| 92 | 01011100 |
| 81 | 01010001 |
| 120 | 01111000 |
| 231 | 11100111 |
| 172 | 10101100 |

*Original:
8 × 32-bits =
256 bits*

*Compressed:
8 × 8-bits =
64 bits*

PATCHING / MOSTLY ENCODING

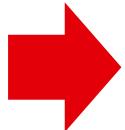
A variation of bit packing for when an attribute's values are "mostly" less than the largest size, store them with smaller data type.

- The remaining values that cannot be compressed are stored in their raw form.

Original Data

Original:
 $8 \times 32\text{-bits} = 256\text{ bits}$

| int32 |
|----------|
| 13 |
| 191 |
| 99999999 |
| 92 |
| 81 |
| 120 |
| 231 |
| 172 |



Compressed Data

| mostly8 | offset | value |
|---------|--------|----------|
| 13 | | |
| 181 | | |
| XXX | 3 | 99999999 |
| 92 | | |
| 81 | | |
| 120 | | |
| 231 | | |
| 172 | | |

Compressed:
 $(8 \times 8\text{-bits}) + 16\text{-bits} + 32\text{-bits} = 112\text{ bits}$

Source: [Redshift Documentation](#)

BITMAP ENCODING

Store a separate bitmap for each unique value for an attribute where an offset in the vector corresponds to a tuple.

- The i^{th} position in the Bitmap corresponds to the i^{th} tuple in the table.
- Typically segmented into chunks to avoid allocating large blocks of contiguous memory.

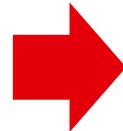
Only practical if the value cardinality is low.

Some DBMSs provide bitmap indexes.

BITMAP ENCODING

Original Data

| id | isDead |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 | Y |
| 2 | Y |
| 3 | Y |
| 4 | N |
| 6 | Y |
| 7 | N |
| 8 | Y |
| 9 | Y |



Compressed Data

| id | isDead | isDead |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | 0 | 1 |
| 6 | 1 | 0 |
| 7 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | 1 | 0 |
| 9 | 1 | 0 |

BITMAP ENCODING

Original Data

| id | isDead |
|----|--------|
| 1 | Y |
| 2 | Y |
| 3 | Y |
| 4 | N |
| 6 | Y |
| 7 | N |
| 8 | Y |
| 9 | Y |

*Original:
8 × 8-bits =
64 bits*

*Compressed:
16 bits + 16 bits =
32 bits*

| id | isDead | Y | N |
|----|--------|---|---|
| 1 | | 1 | 0 |
| 2 | | 1 | 0 |
| 3 | | 1 | 0 |
| 4 | | 0 | 1 |
| 6 | | 1 | 0 |
| 7 | | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | | 1 | 0 |
| 9 | | 1 | 0 |

$2 \times 8\text{-bits} =$
 16 bits

$8 \times 2\text{-bits} =$
 16 bits

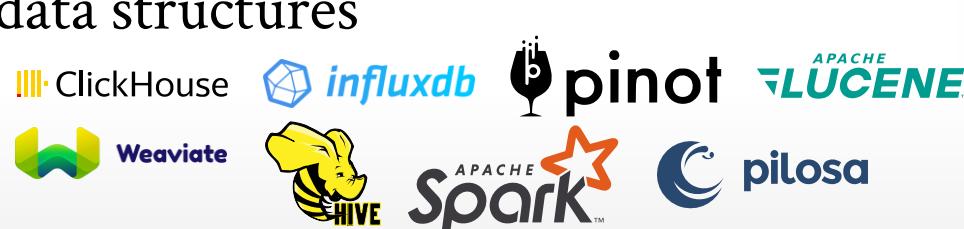
BITMAP ENCODING: EXAMPLE

Assume we have 10 million tuples.
 43,000 zip codes in the US.
 $\rightarrow 10000000 \times 32\text{-bits} = 40 \text{ MB}$
 $\rightarrow 10000000 \times 43000 = 53.75 \text{ GB}$

Every time the application inserts a new tuple, the DBMS must extend 43,000 different bitmaps.

```
CREATE TABLE customer (
    id INT PRIMARY KEY,
    name VARCHAR(32),
    email VARCHAR(64),
    address VARCHAR(64),
    zip_code INT
);
```

There are compressed data structures for sparse data sets:
 \rightarrow Roaring Bitmaps



DELTA ENCODING

Recording the difference between values that follow each other in the same column.
→ Store base value in-line or in a separate look-up table.

Original Data

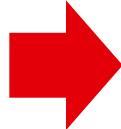
| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| 12:01 | 99.4 |
| 12:02 | 99.5 |
| 12:03 | 99.6 |
| 12:04 | 99.4 |

DELTA ENCODING

Recording the difference between values that follow each other in the same column.
→ Store base value in-line or in a separate look-up table.

Original Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| 12:01 | 99.4 |
| 12:02 | 99.5 |
| 12:03 | 99.6 |
| 12:04 | 99.4 |



Compressed Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| +1 | -0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | -0.2 |

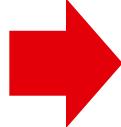
DELTA ENCODING

Recording the difference between values that follow each other in the same column.

- Store base value in-line or in a separate look-up table.
- Combine with RLE to get even better compression ratios.

Original Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| 12:01 | 99.4 |
| 12:02 | 99.5 |
| 12:03 | 99.6 |
| 12:04 | 99.4 |



Compressed Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| +1 | -0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | -0.2 |

DELTA ENCODING

Recording the difference between values that follow each other in the same column.

- Store base value in-line or in a separate look-up table.
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Original Data

| time64 | temp |
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| 12:00 | 99.5 |
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| 12:03 | 99.6 |
| 12:04 | 99.4 |

Compressed Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| +1 | -0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | -0.2 |

Compressed Data

| time64 | temp |
|---------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| (+1, 4) | -0.1 |
| +0.1 | +0.1 |
| +0.1 | -0.2 |

DELTA ENCODING

Recording the difference between values that follow each other in the same column.

- Store base value in-line or in a separate look-up table.
- Combine with RLE to get even better compression ratios.

Frame-of-Reference Variant: Use global min value.

Original Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| 12:01 | 99.4 |
| 12:02 | 99.5 |
| 12:03 | 99.6 |
| 12:04 | 99.4 |

$5 \times 64\text{-bits}$
 $= 320 \text{ bits}$

Compressed Data

| time64 | temp |
|--------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| +1 | -0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | +0.1 |
| +1 | -0.2 |

$64\text{-bits} + (4 \times 16\text{-bits})$
 $= 128 \text{ bits}$

Compressed Data

| time64 | temp |
|---------|------|
| 12:00 | 99.5 |
| (+1, 4) | -0.1 |
| +0.1 | +0.1 |
| +0.1 | -0.2 |

$64\text{-bits} + (2 \times 16\text{-bits})$
 $= 96 \text{ bits}$

DICTIONARY COMPRESSION

Replace frequent values with smaller fixed-length codes and then maintain a mapping (dictionary) from the codes to the original values

- Typically, one code per attribute value.
- Most widely used native compression scheme in DBMSs.

The ideal dictionary scheme supports fast encoding and decoding for both point and range queries.

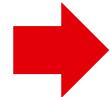
- **Encode/Locate:** For a given uncompressed value, convert it into its compressed form.
- **Decode/Extract:** For a given compressed value, convert it back into its original form.

DICTIONARY: ORDER-PRESERVING

The encoded values need to support the same collation as the original values.

Original Data

| name |
|-------------|
| Andrea |
| Mr. Pickles |
| Andy |
| Jignesh |
| Mr. Pickles |



Compressed Data

| name |
|------|
| 10 |
| 40 |
| 20 |
| 30 |
| 40 |

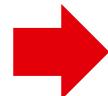
| value | code |
|-------------|------|
| Andrea | 10 |
| Andy | 20 |
| Jignesh | 30 |
| Mr. Pickles | 40 |

Sorted
Dictionary

DICTIONARY: ORDER-PRESERVING

The encoded values need to support the same collation as the original values.

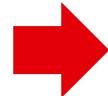
```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE name LIKE 'And%'
```



```
SELECT * FROM users
WHERE name BETWEEN 10 AND 20
```

Original Data

| name |
|-------------|
| Andrea |
| Mr. Pickles |
| Andy |
| Jignesh |
| Mr. Pickles |



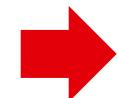
Compressed Data

| name | value | code |
|-------------|-------|------|
| Andrea | 10 | 10 |
| Andy | 40 | 20 |
| Jignesh | 20 | 30 |
| Mr. Pickles | 30 | 40 |
| Mr. Pickles | 40 | |

Sorted Dictionary

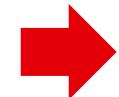
ORDER-PRESERVING ENCODING

```
SELECT name FROM users
WHERE name LIKE 'And%'
```



Still must perform scan on column

```
SELECT DISTINCT name
FROM users
WHERE name LIKE 'And%'
```



Only need to access dictionary

Original Data

| name |
|-------------|
| Andrea |
| Mr. Pickles |
| Andy |
| Jignesh |
| Mr. Pickles |



Compressed Data

| name | value | code |
|-------------|-------|------|
| Andrea | 10 | |
| Mr. Pickles | 40 | |
| Andy | 20 | |
| Jignesh | 30 | |
| Mr. Pickles | 40 | |

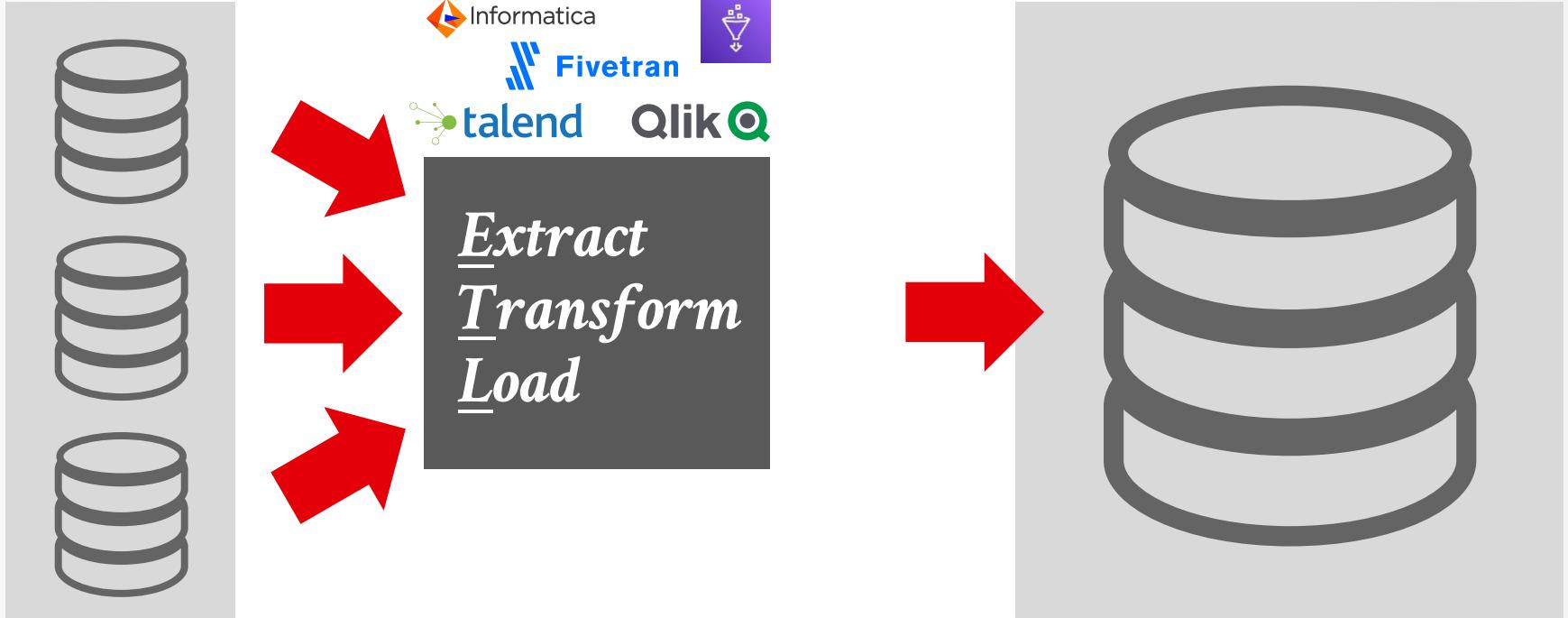
Sorted Dictionary

OBSERVATION

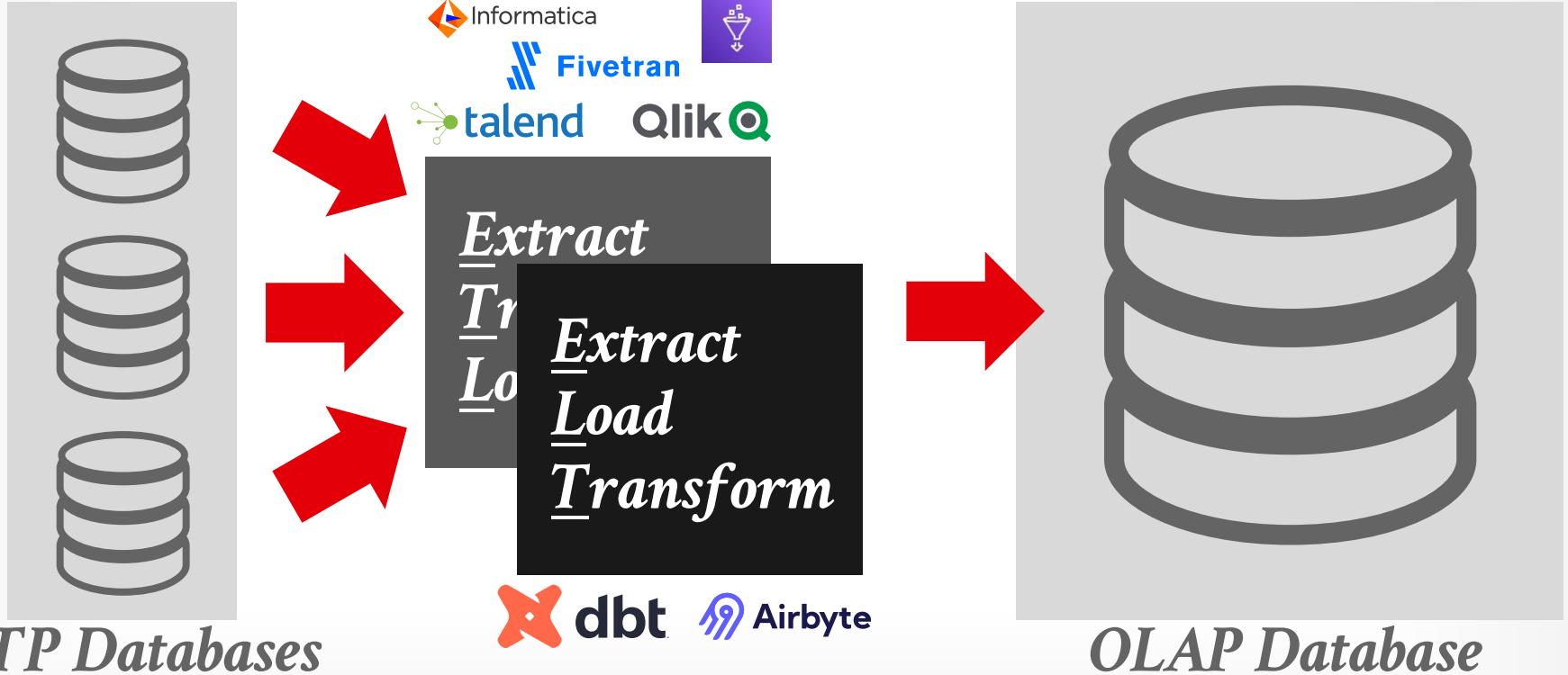
Since an OLAP DBMS is superior for analytical queries than an OLTP DBMSs, one should always use an OLAP DBMS for them.

But if new data arrives at the OLTP DBMS, then we need a way to transfer data between them...

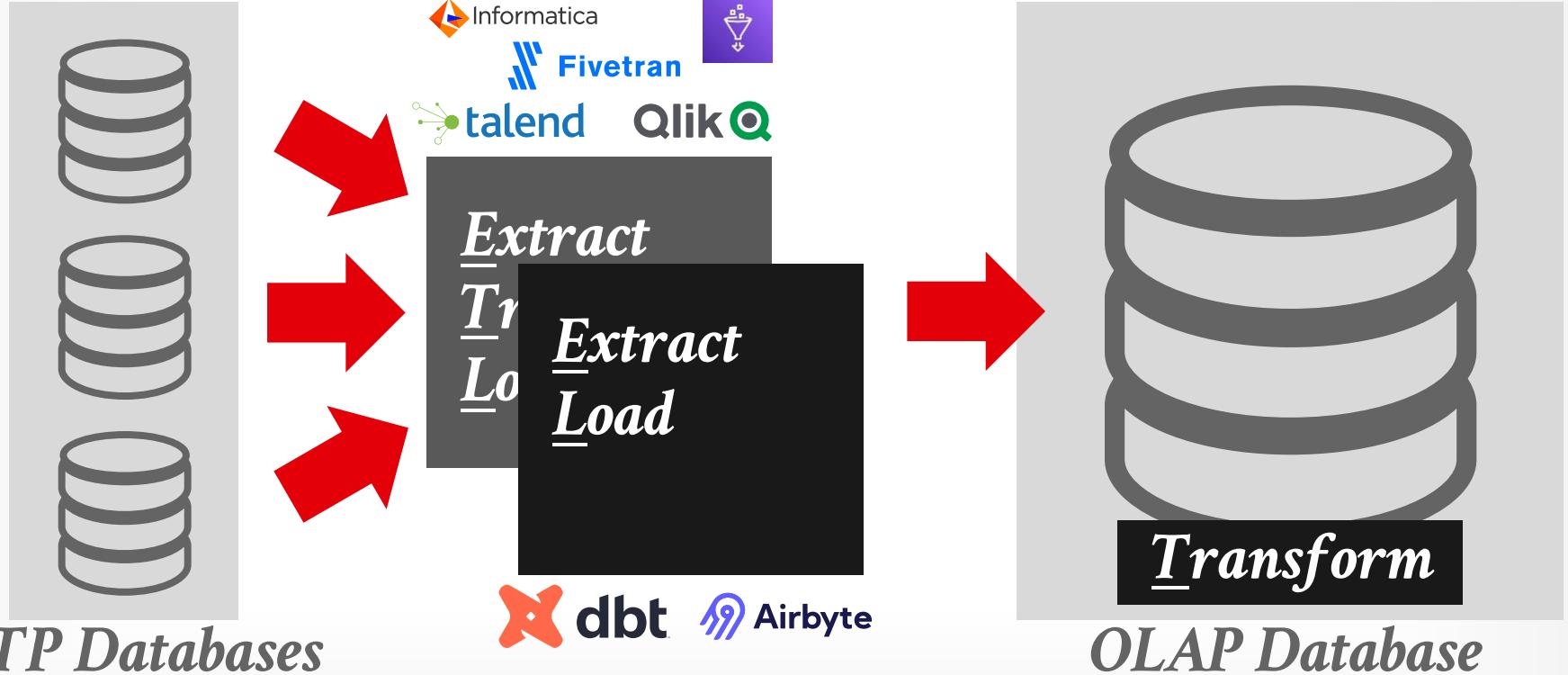
BIFURCATED ENVIRONMENT



BIFURCATED ENVIRONMENT



BIFURCATED ENVIRONMENT



OBSERVATION

Instead of maintaining two separate DBMSs, a single DBMS could support both OLTP and OLAP workloads if it exploits the temporal nature of data.

- Data is "hot" when it enters the database
- As a tuple ages, it is updated less frequently.

HYBRID STORAGE MODEL

Use separate execution engines that are optimized for either NSM or DSM databases.

- Store new data in NSM for fast OLTP.
- Migrate data to DSM for more efficient OLAP.
- Combine query results from both engines to appear as a single logical database to the application.

Choice #1: Fractured Mirrors

- Examples: Oracle, IBM DB2 Blu, Microsoft SQL Server

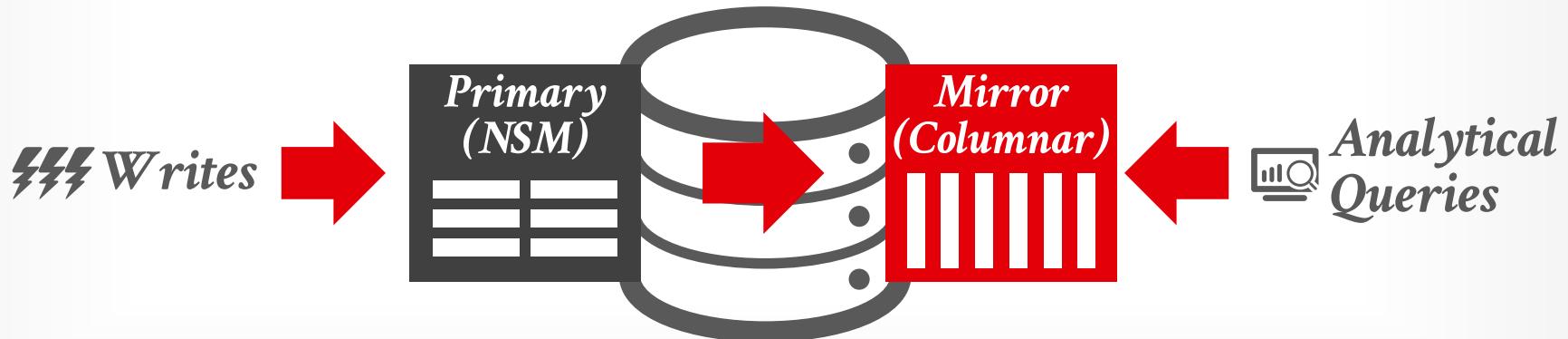
Choice #2: Delta Store

- Examples: SAP HANA, Vertica, SingleStore, Databricks, Google Napa

FRACTURED MIRRORS

Store a second copy of the database in a DSM layout that is automatically updated.

- All updates are first entered in NSM then eventually copied into DSM mirror.
- If the DBMS supports updates, it must invalidate tuples in the DSM mirror.

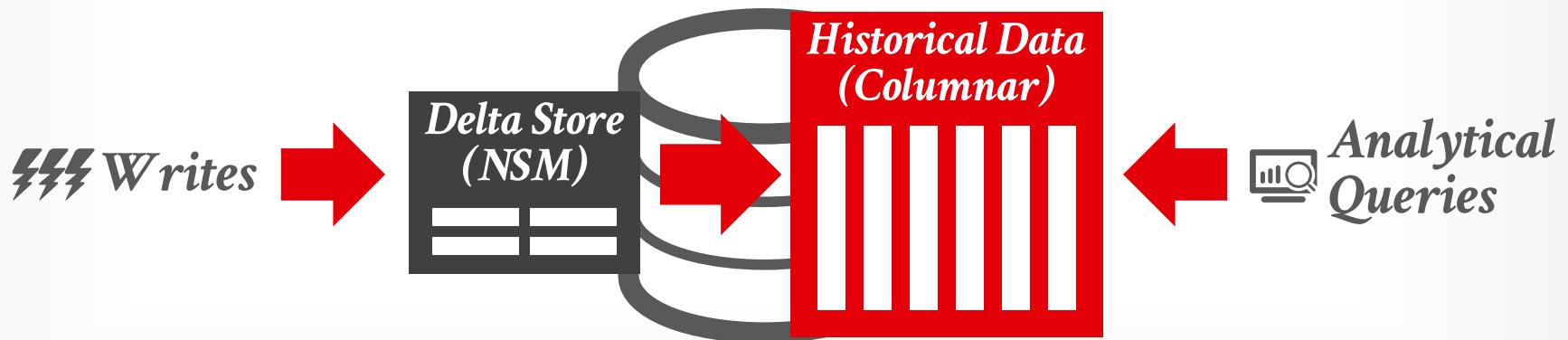


DELTA STORE

Stage updates to the database in an NSM table.

A background thread migrates updates from delta store and applies them to DSM data.

- Batch large chunks and then write them out as a PAX file.
- Delete records in the delta store once they are in column store.



CONCLUSION

It is important to choose the right storage model for the target workload:

- OLTP = Row Store
- OLAP = Column Store

DBMSs can combine different approaches for even better compression.

Dictionary encoding is probably the most useful scheme because it does not require pre-sorting.

NEXT CLASS

Data Structures: Hash Tables!

→ We must build our own...