

GEQO_SAIO_report

June 26, 2015

1 SAIO vs GEOF comparison - report

1.1 Introduction

This is an aggregated report on comparison of two alternative join order optimizers:

- GEOF - Genetic Query Optimizer (current default optimizer in Postgres)
- SAIO - Simulated Annealing based Join Order optimizer (PGXN extension for Postgres)

The tests compare query costs, optimizing time and memory used.

1.2 Methodology

GEOF and SAIO are tested on many different schemas and queries. To ensure proper representation of each join order optimizer abilities, each query has been tested on a range of parameters:

- GEOF has been tested with GEOF effort in range 0 to 10
- SAIO has been tested with different combinations of:
 - equilibrium factor (determines the number of equilibrium loops)
 - temperature reduction (temperature is multiplied by this fraction in each iteration until the system freezes)

Some parameters of SAIO were fixed to reduce testing time:

- initial temperature (affects initial randomness of the algorithm and the total number of iterations)
- steps before freeze

FROM_COLLAPSE_LIMIT and JOIN_COLLAPSE_LIMIT have been set to 200.

1.3 Testing data

The testing data (DB schemas and queries) has been divided into following sections:

1.3.1 Provided data

SQL scripts that were written by hand. Mostly for the previous iteration of SAIO.

1.3.2 Programatically generated data

SQL scripts automatically generated by Python scripts

Schemas:

- 20-150 tables without constraints
- 20-150 tables with constraints

Flat queries:

- 15-20 JOINS (JOINS, LEFT JOINS, RIGHT JOINS, mixed)
- 20 JOINS (...)
- 30 JOINS
- 50 JOINS
- 70 JOINS
- 100 JOINS
- 130 JOINS

Nested queries:

- 15-20 JOINS (LEFT, RIGHT, mix)
- 20-25 JOINS
- 30-35 JOINS
- 50-60 JOINS
- 70-80 JOINS

1.3.3 Industrial examples

This would be awesome to include such examples. No examples yet.

The biggest query that I found during the search was on StackOverflow:
<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/15769643/postgresql-query-optimization-with-many-left-joins?rq=1>, which had 13 joins.

2 Test summary

3 Conclusions

This report presents the behaviour of SAIO and GEQO for a number of queries. It doesn't show superiority of SAIO however it indicates that SAIO is worth further development and can possibly replace GEQO for more complicated queries.

There is number of cases where SAIO outperforms GEQO in terms of estimated total query cost. Unfortunately SAIO often produces worse results in terms of total cost, used memory and optimizing time.

3.1 Cases where GEQO clearly wins:

In these cases GEQO constantly creates plans with lower cost, needs less time and memory.

- Queries with cartesian joins such as:

```
SELECT * FROM tab_1, tab_2 ... tab_N  
WHERE (tab_1.col_1 = tab_2.col_1) AND (...) AND (tab_1.col_1 = tab_N.col_1);
```

- Queries with many JOINS and LEFT JOINS such as:

```
SELECT * FROM tab_1  
[LEFT] JOIN tab_2 on tab_1.col_1 = tab_2.col_2  
...  
[LEFT] JOIN tab_N on tab_N.col_X = tab_Y.col_Z;
```

3.2 Cases where SAIO wins

Here we can observe that SAIO constantly finds solutions with lower cost.

- Queries with many RIGHT JOINS such as:

```
SELECT * FROM tab_1
    RIGHT JOIN tab_2 on tab_1.col_1 = tab_2.col_2
    ...
    RIGHT JOIN tab_N on tab_N.col_X = tab_Y.col_Z;
```

- Nested queries:

```
SELECT * FROM tab_1
[LEFT/RIGHT/] JOIN (
    SELECT * FROM tab_2
        [LEFT/RIGHT/] JOIN tab_3.col_A = tab_2.col_B
        ...
        [LEFT/RIGHT/] JOIN tab_W.col_X = tab_Y.col_Z
) AS subquery_1 ON TRUE
...
[LEFT/RIGHT/] JOIN (
) AS subquery_N ON TRUE;
```

This benchmark should be treated with a grain of salt as it doesn't cover all the possible cases (it can be improved with some suggestions). For a production system, join order optimizer should be chosen after checking its performance on a few expected query types.

4 Test details

In this section one can find more detailed information about the testing process - schemas and queries used. Also graphs that highlight performance of each of the algorithms.

4.1 Provided queries

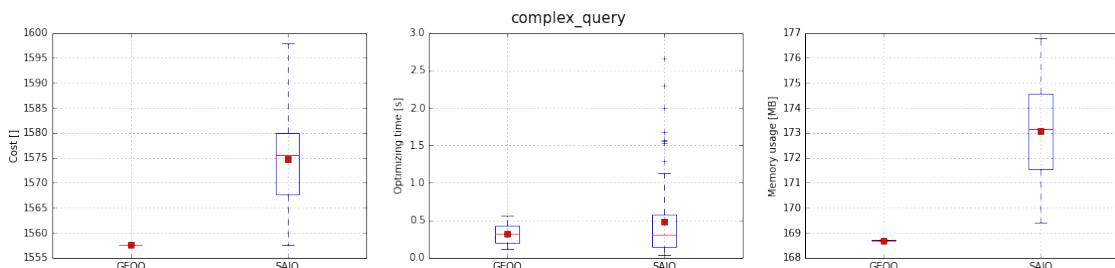
These queries were provided to test the previous iteration of SAIO back in 2010.

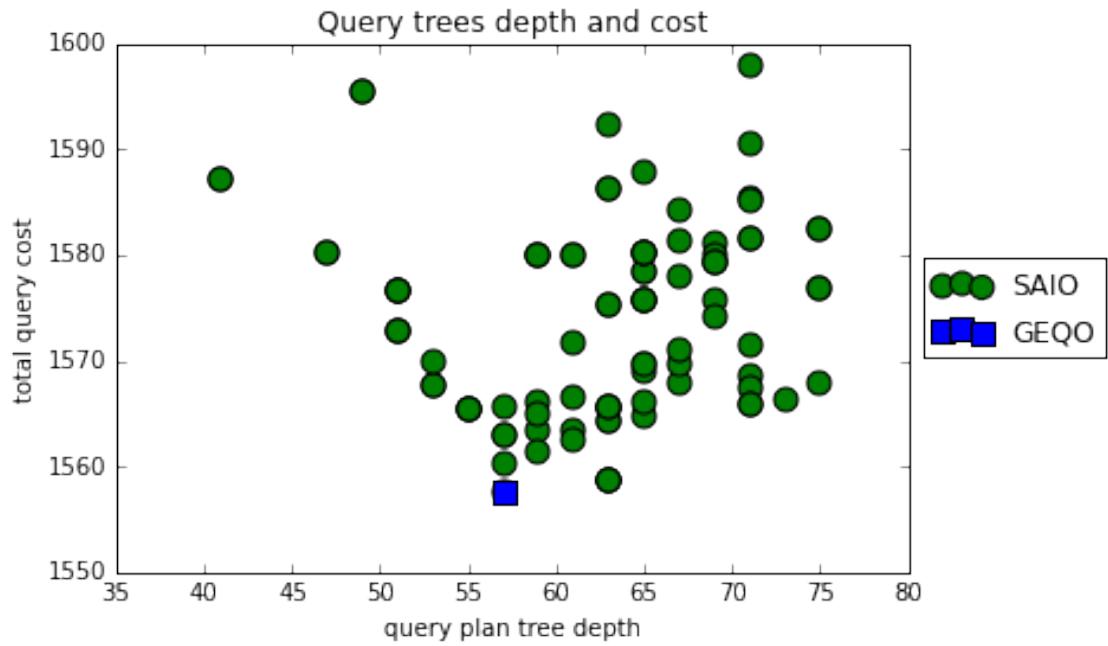
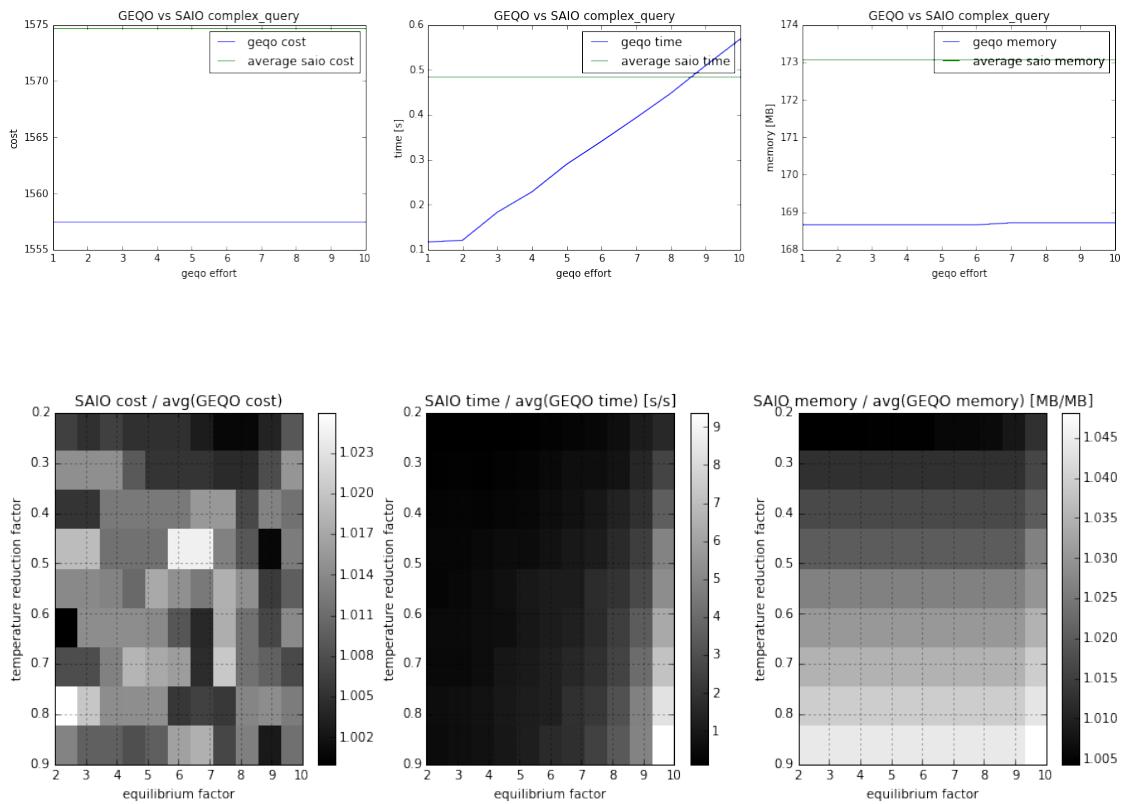
4.1.1 MODERATELY COMPLEX QUERY

Here we can see that SAIO is finding solutions comparable to GEQO. The optimizing time may be comparable to GEQO depending on the parameters of the algorithms. SAIO requires more memory than GEQO.

What's interesting - looking at 'query cost vs tree depth' plot, we can see that while SAIO explores a big number of different trees, GEQO is stuck near just one solution.

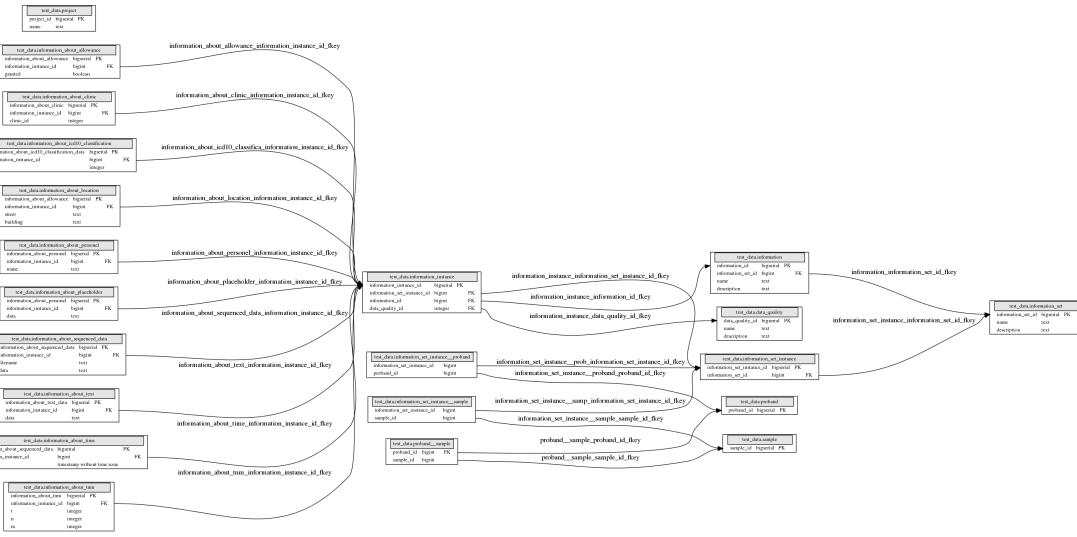
In [3]: `display_info_for_test_case('complex_query')`





4.1.2 COMPLEX QUERY

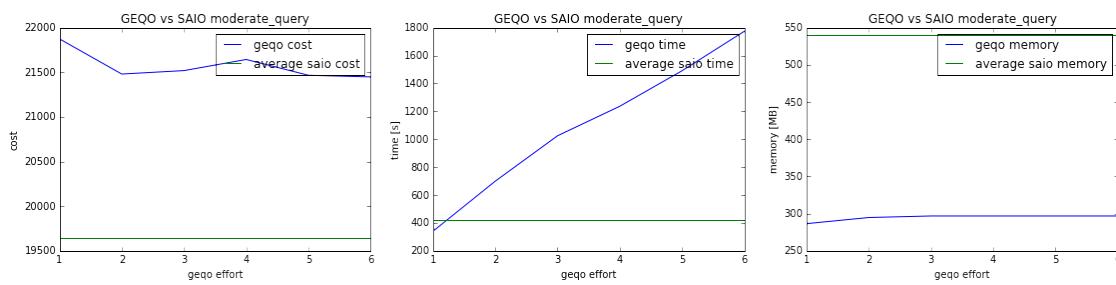
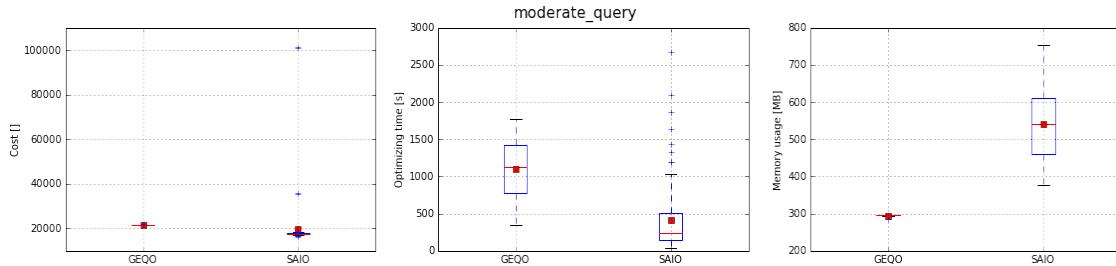
This query is based on a schema with multiple constraints.

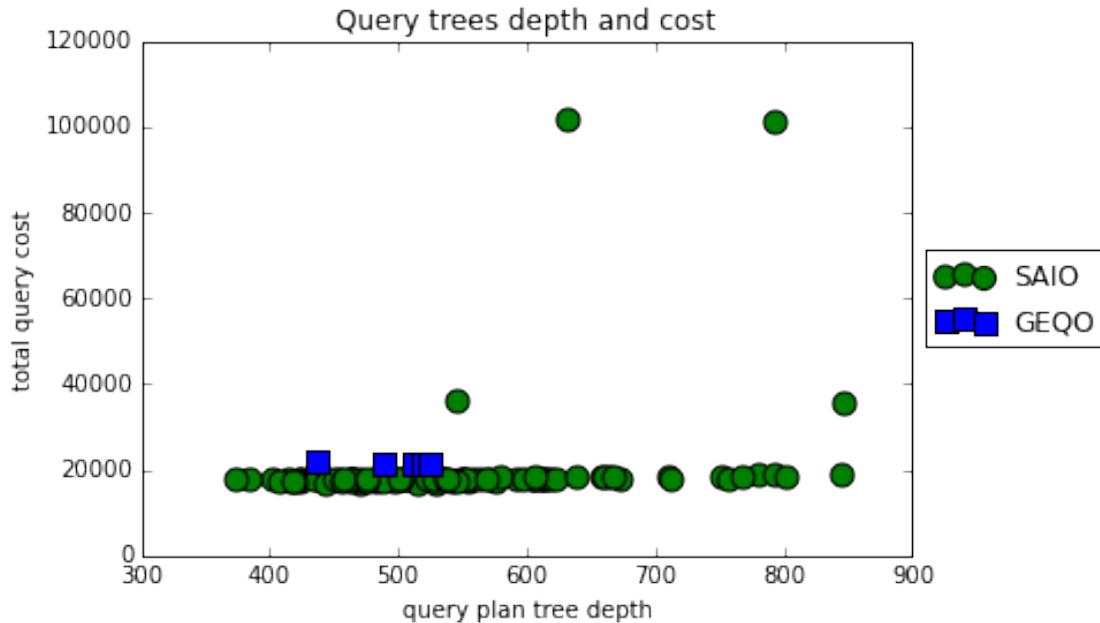
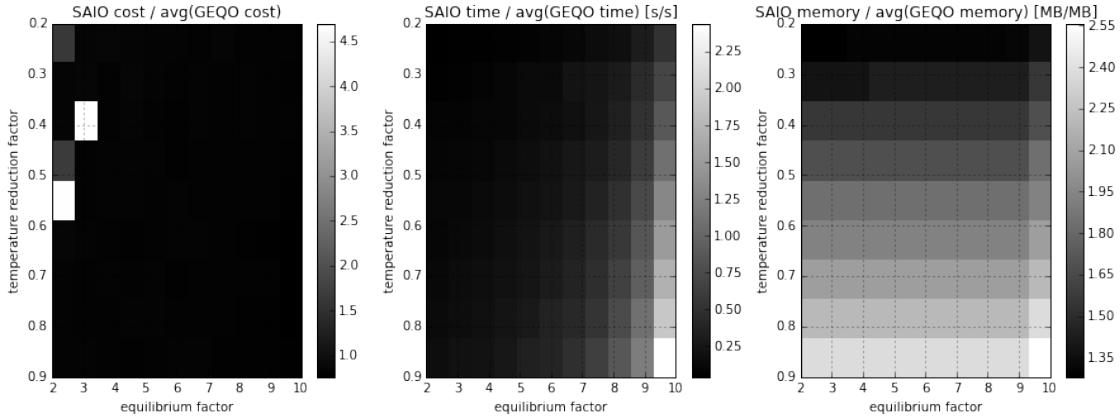


There are 5 views created on this schema. These views contain over 360 JOINS of different kind. The final query selects data from these views joining them with tables from the schema using 13 JOINS.

Here SAIO clearly outperforms GEQO finding join order with lower cost in shorter time.

```
In [4]: import sys  
        sys.setrecursionlimit(2000) # for finding depth of a very deep python dict  
        display_info_for_test_case('moderate_query')
```





4.2 Programatically generated queries

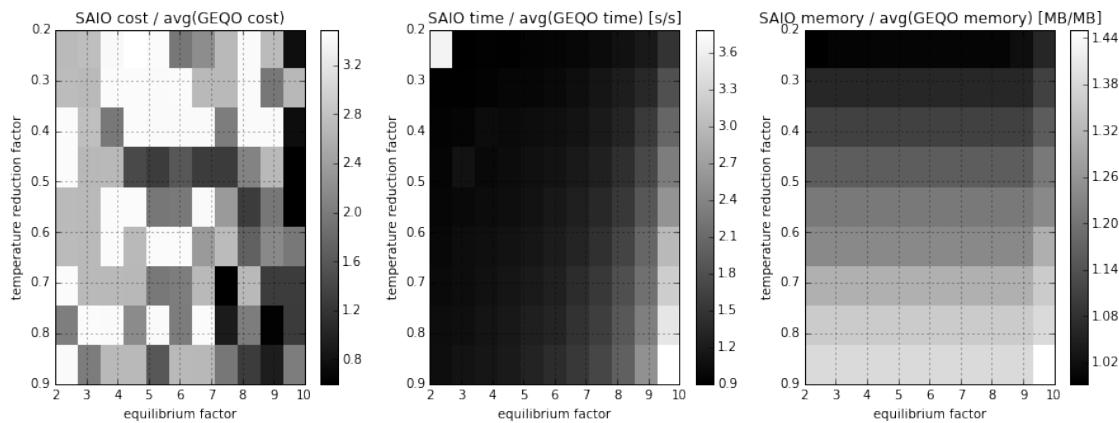
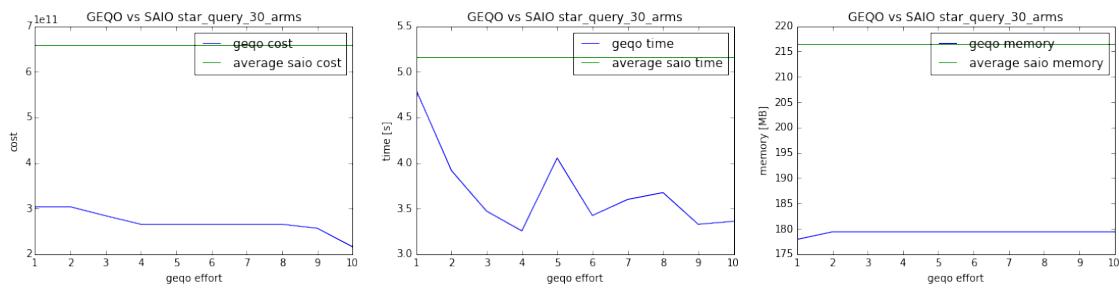
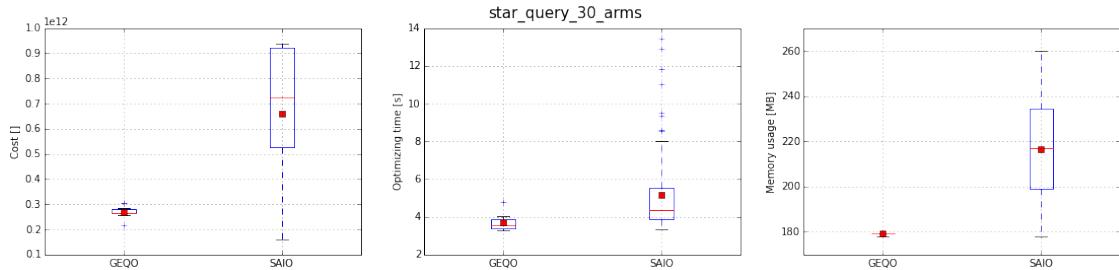
4.2.1 star query - cartesians

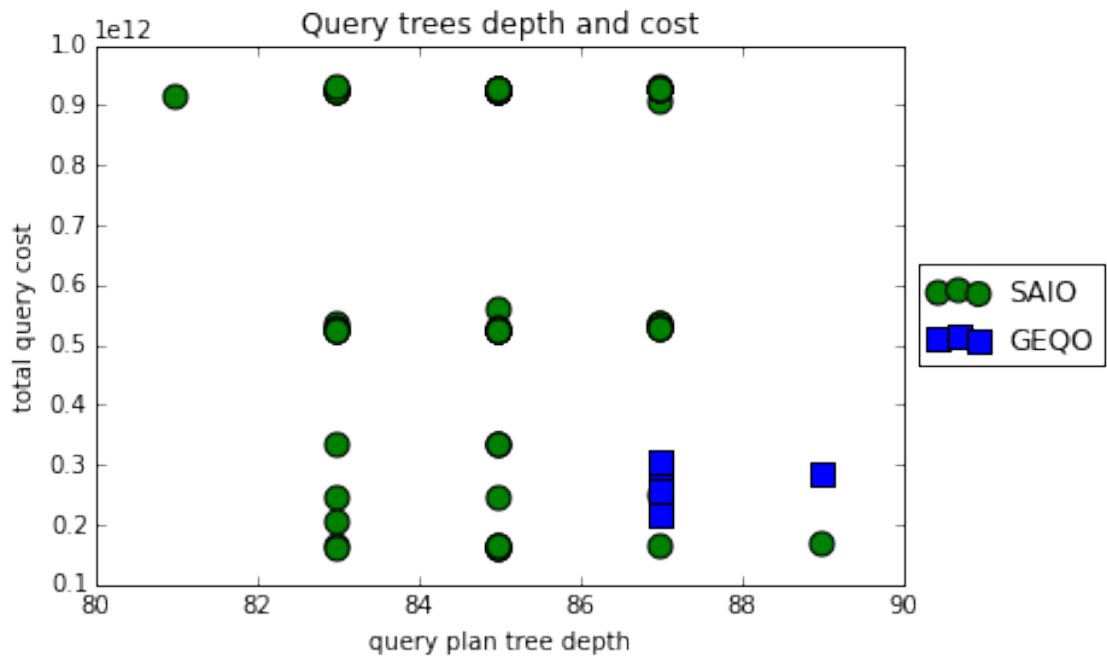
These queries look like this:

```
SELECT * FROM tab_1, tab_2 ... tab_N
WHERE (tab_1.col_1 = tab_2.col_1) AND (...) AND (tab_1.col_1 = tab_N.col_1);
```

30 arms The best solutions here were found by SAIO, however average solution found by GEQO was much better than average SAIO solution. SAIO also needed more time and more memory to optimize the table order for this query.

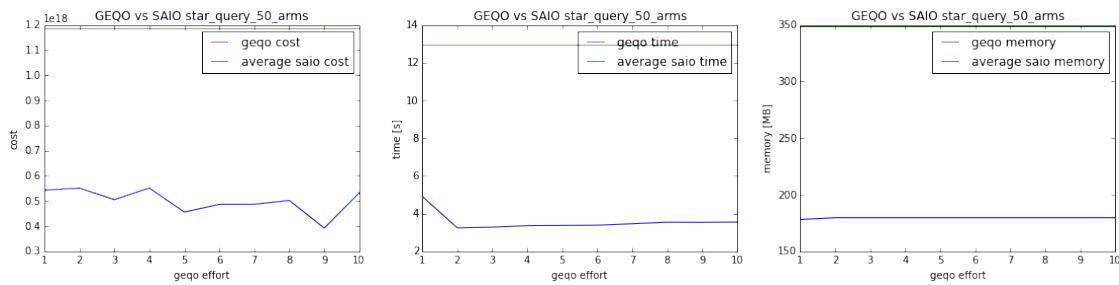
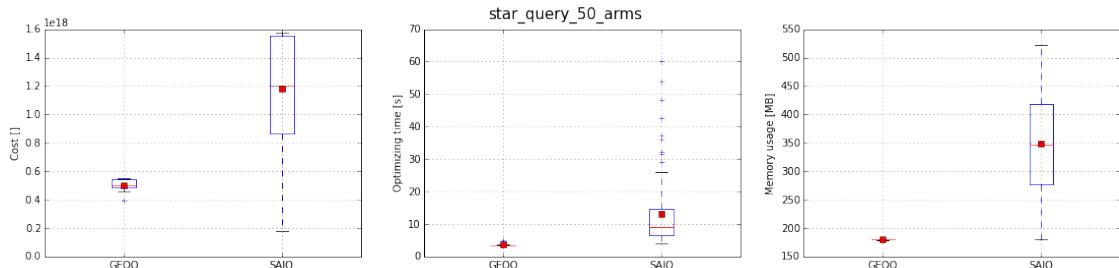
```
In [16]: display_info_for_test_case('star_query_30_arms')
```

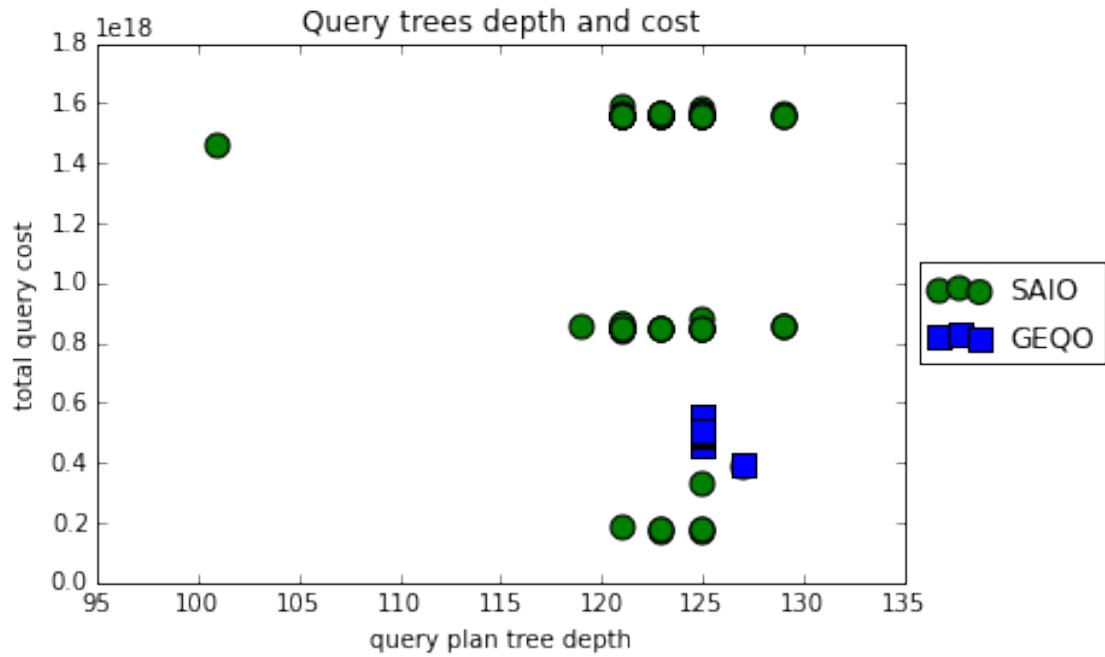
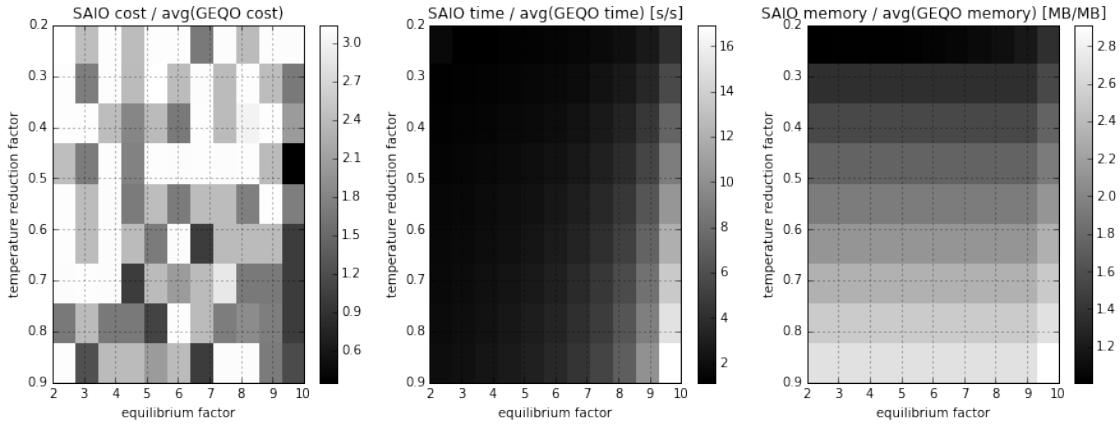




50 arms The same holds for this query.

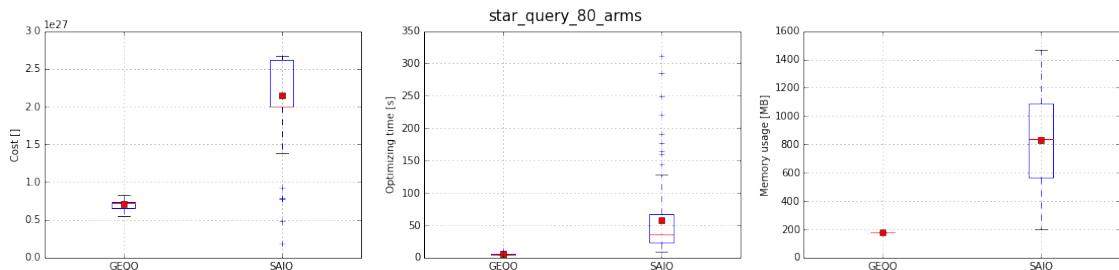
In [17]: `display_info_for_test_case('star_query_50_arms')`

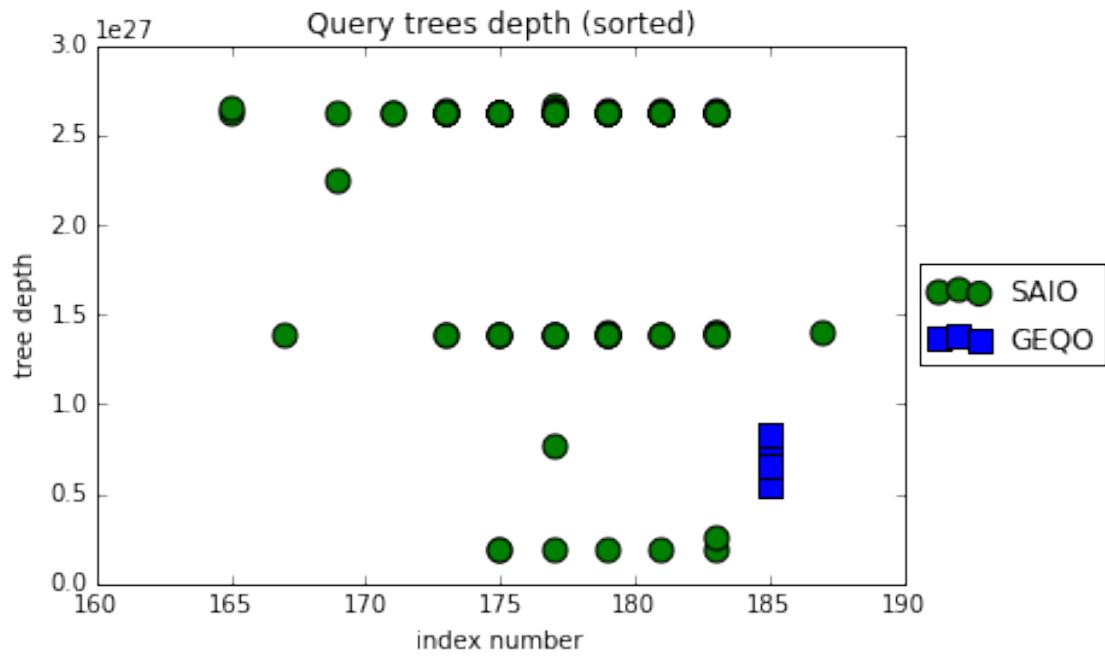
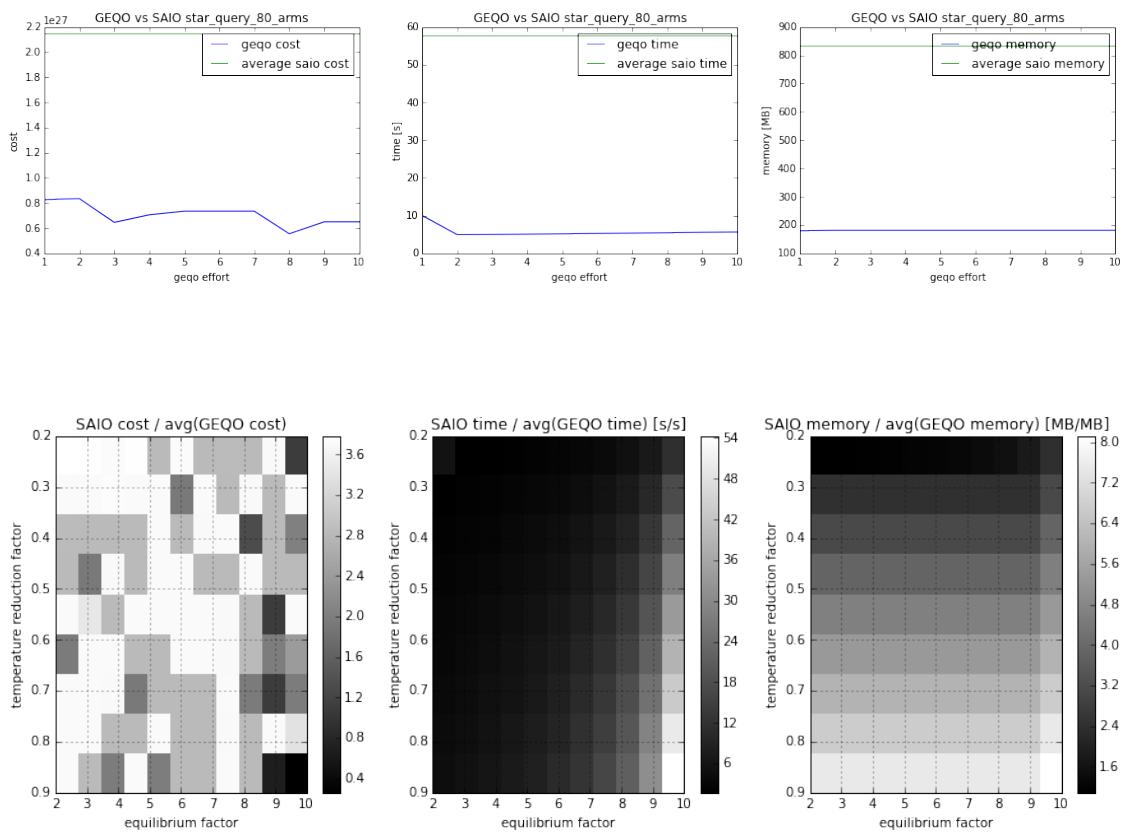




80 arms The result is the same as for the previous queries. GEQO finds better average solution than SAIO in shorter time using much less memory.

In [13]: `display_info_for_test_case('star_query_80_arms')`





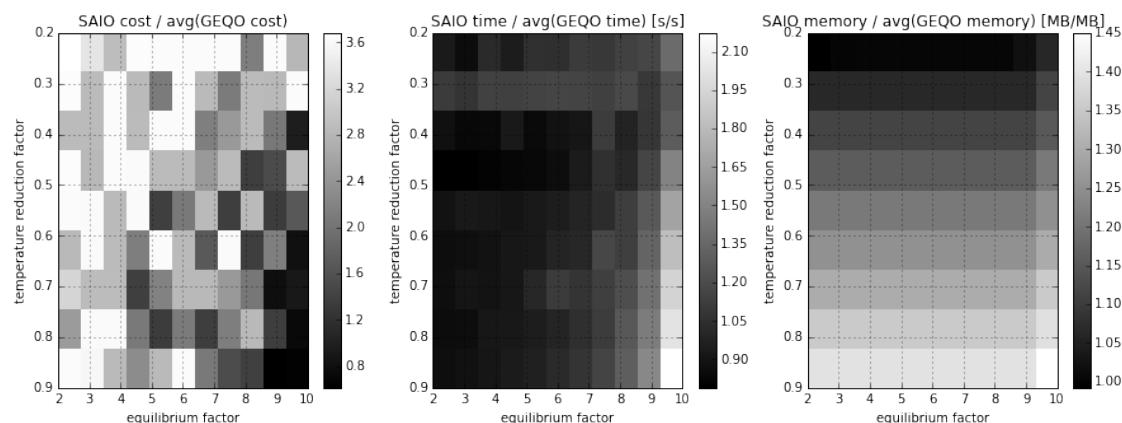
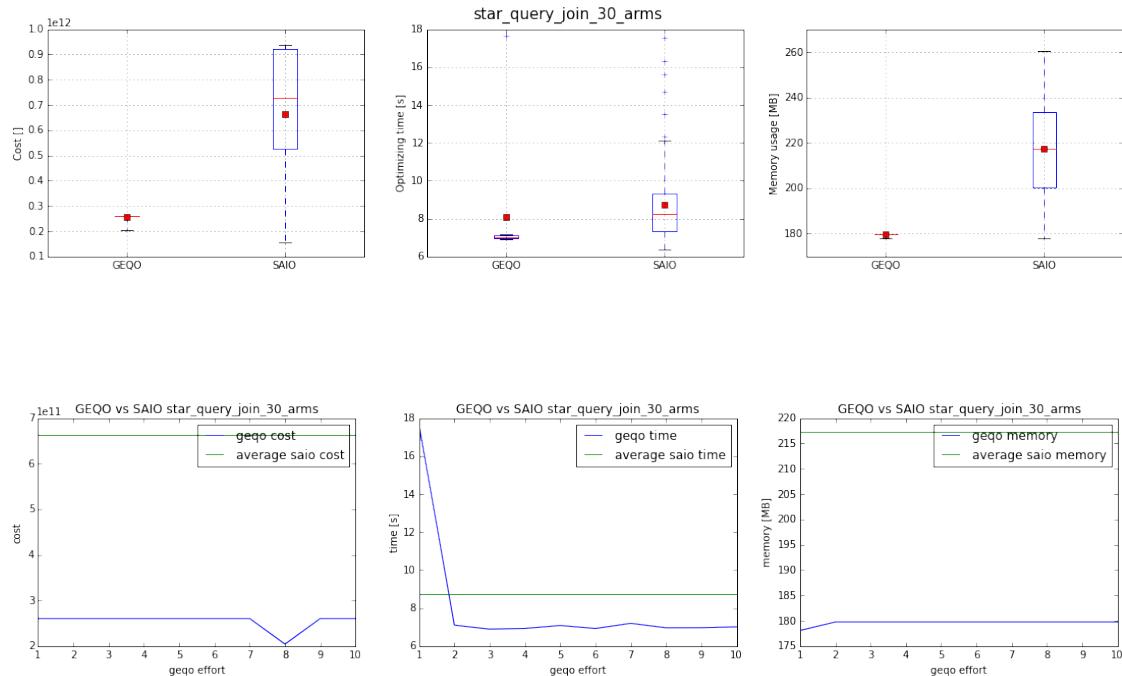
4.2.2 star query - joins

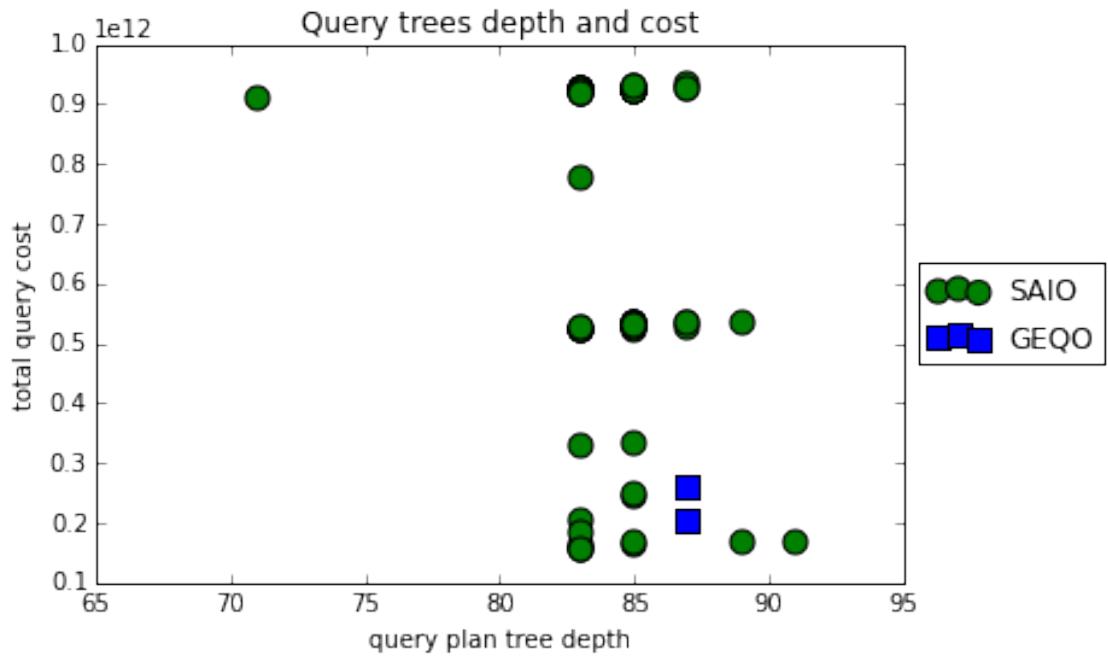
These queries look like:

```
SELECT * FROM center JOIN arm0 ON (arm0.col = center.col0 or arm0.col = center.col0)
JOIN arm1 ON (arm1.col = center.col1 or arm1.col = center.col2)
...
JOIN armN ON (armN.col = center.colN or armM.col = center.colN);
```

30 arms Still the same conclusions as for previous cartesian queries. GEQO wins.

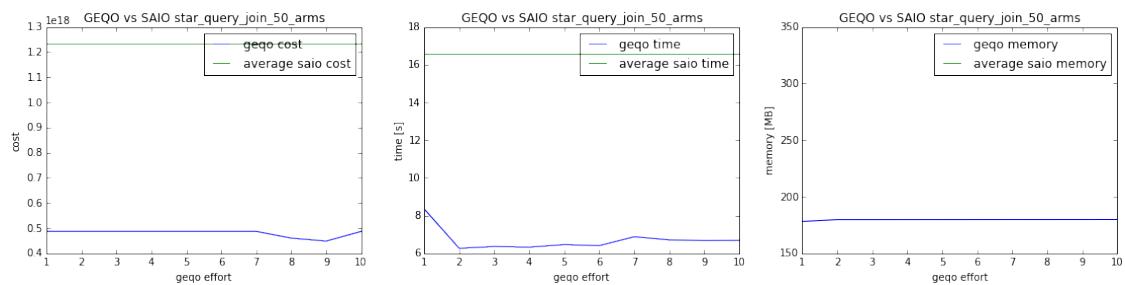
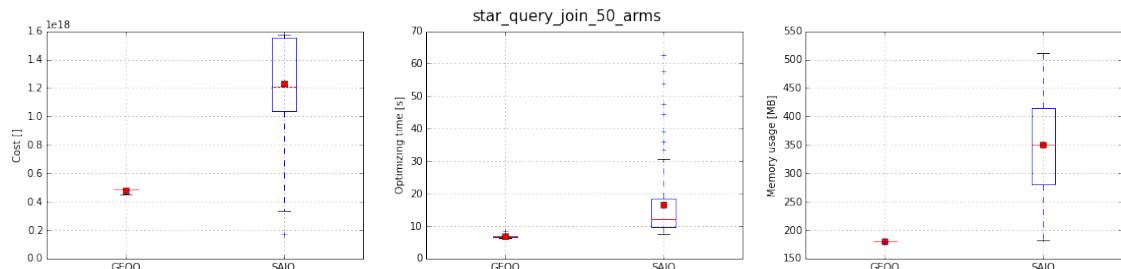
In [18]: `display_info_for_test_case('star_query_join_30_arms')`

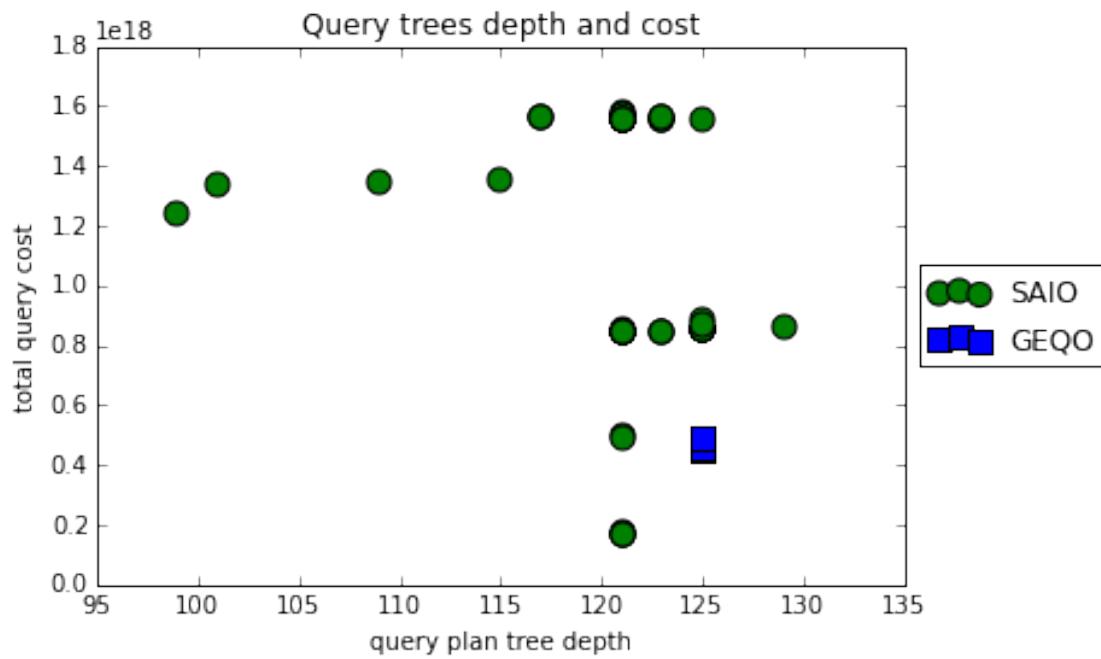
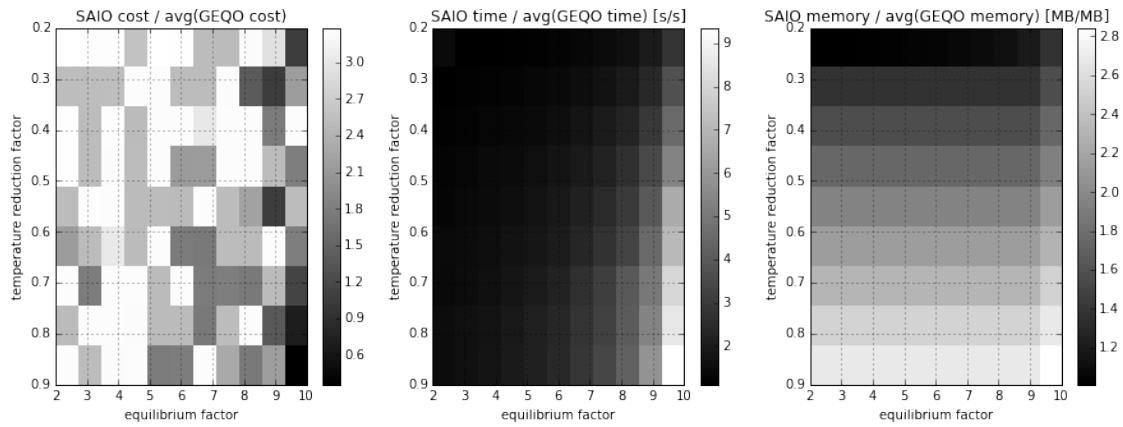




50 arms

```
In [19]: display_info_for_test_case('star_query_join_50_arms')
```





4.2.3 flat queries

```
SELECT * FROM table_0
JOIN/LEFT JOIN/RIGHT JOIN table_random ON table_random.col_random = table_random2.col_random2
...
JOIN/LEFT JOIN/RIGHT JOIN table_random ON table_random.col_random = table_random2.col_random2;
```

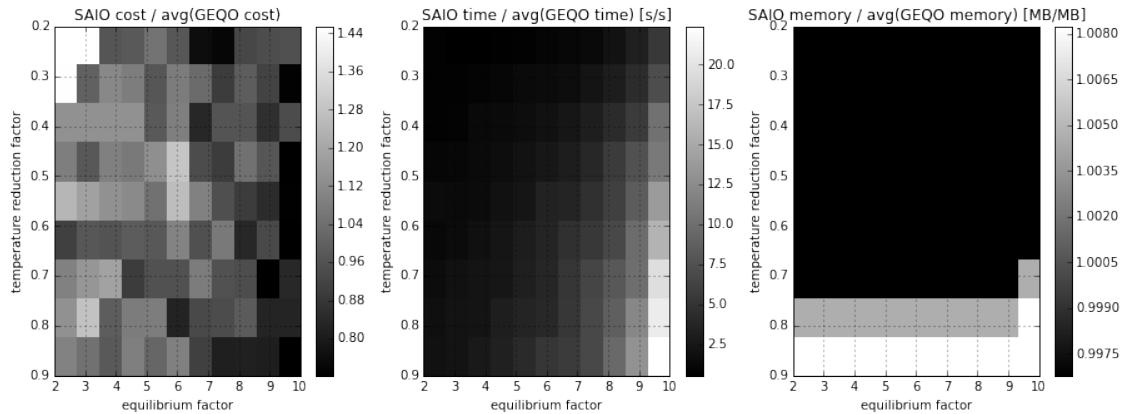
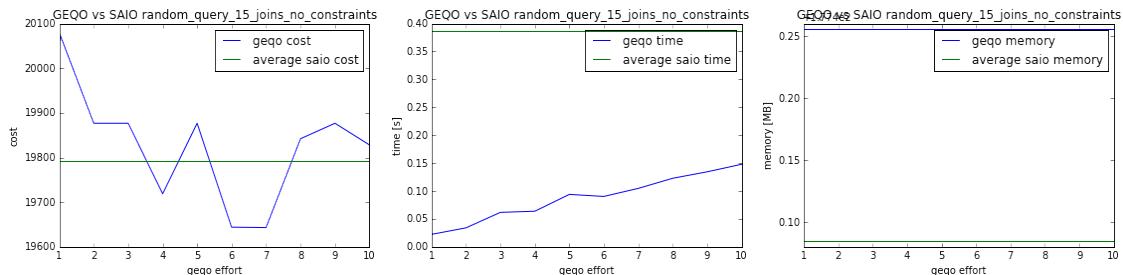
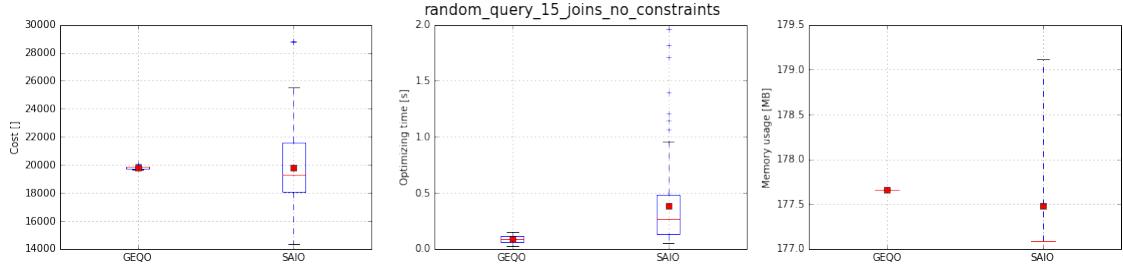
15 JOINS (JOINS, LEFT JOINS, RIGHT JOINS) For queries with 15 JOINS we can see that the results generated by the libraries are pretty much comparable. GEQO has a bit worse average and median solution but it is more predictable than SAIO.

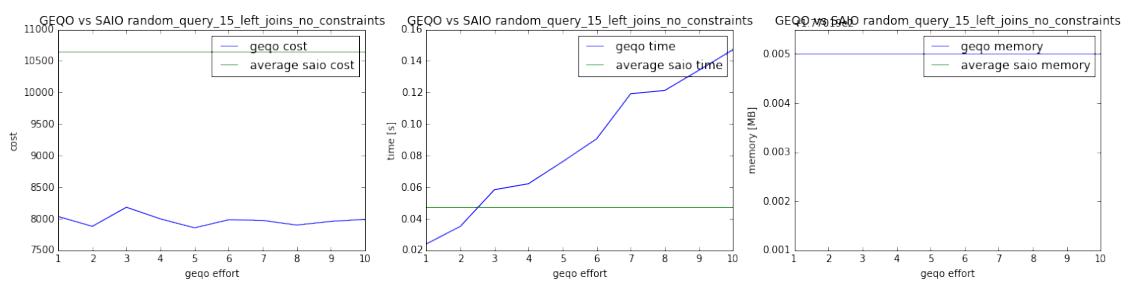
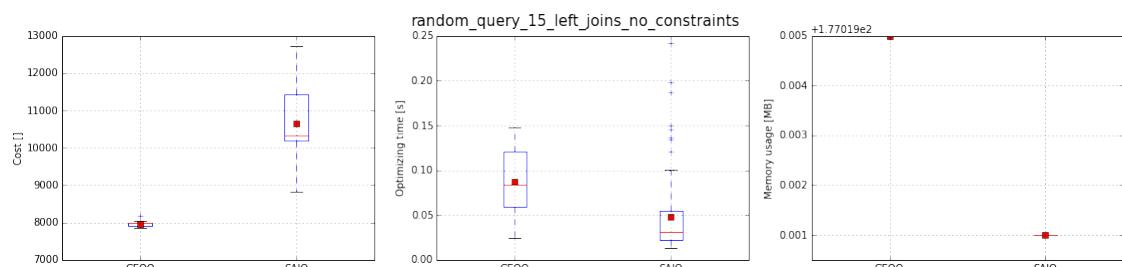
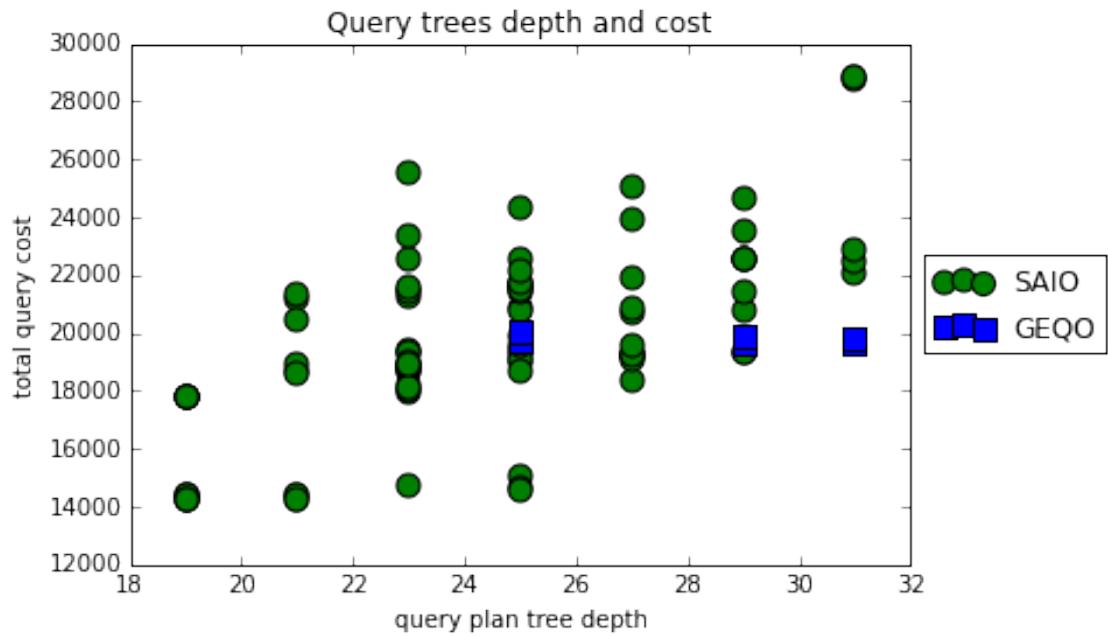
For queries with 15 LEFT JOINS SAIO finds worse solutions but needs less time and memory than GEQO.

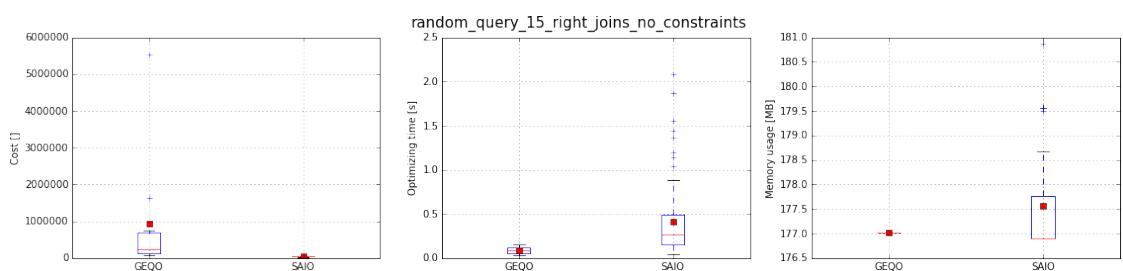
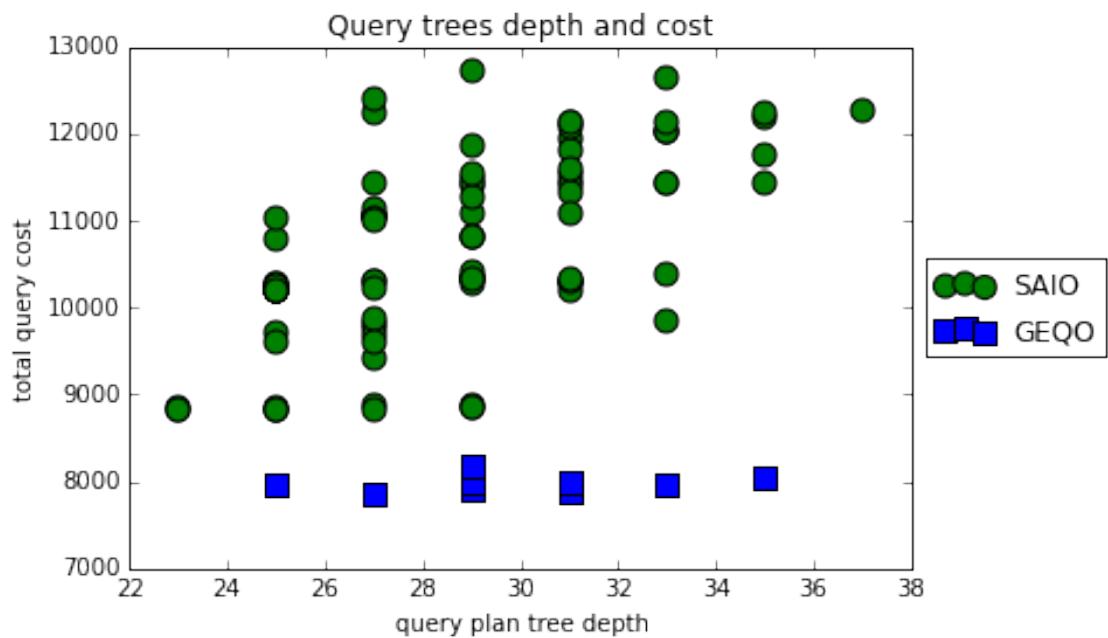
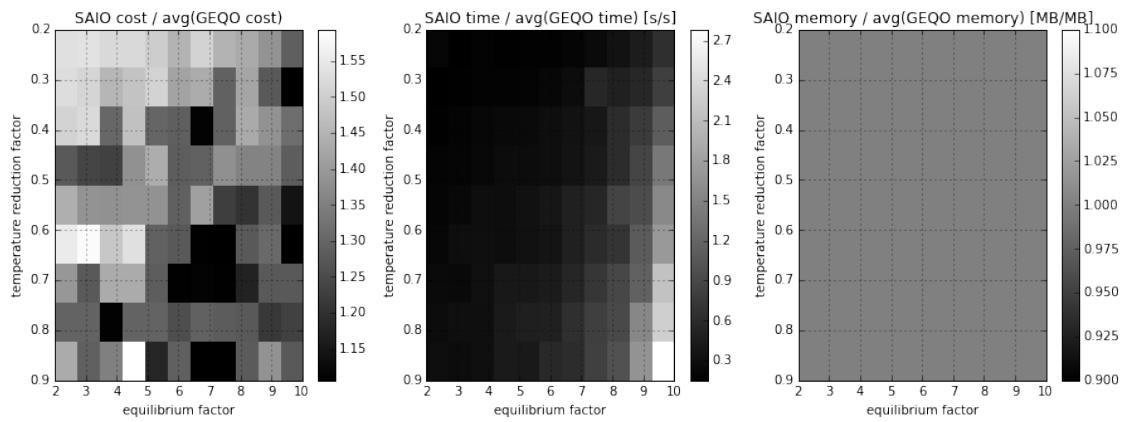
For queries with 15 RIGHT JOINS we can see that GEQO returns some strangely high estimations. It looks like bushy trees produced by SAIO are more suitable to model queries with many RIGHT JOINs.

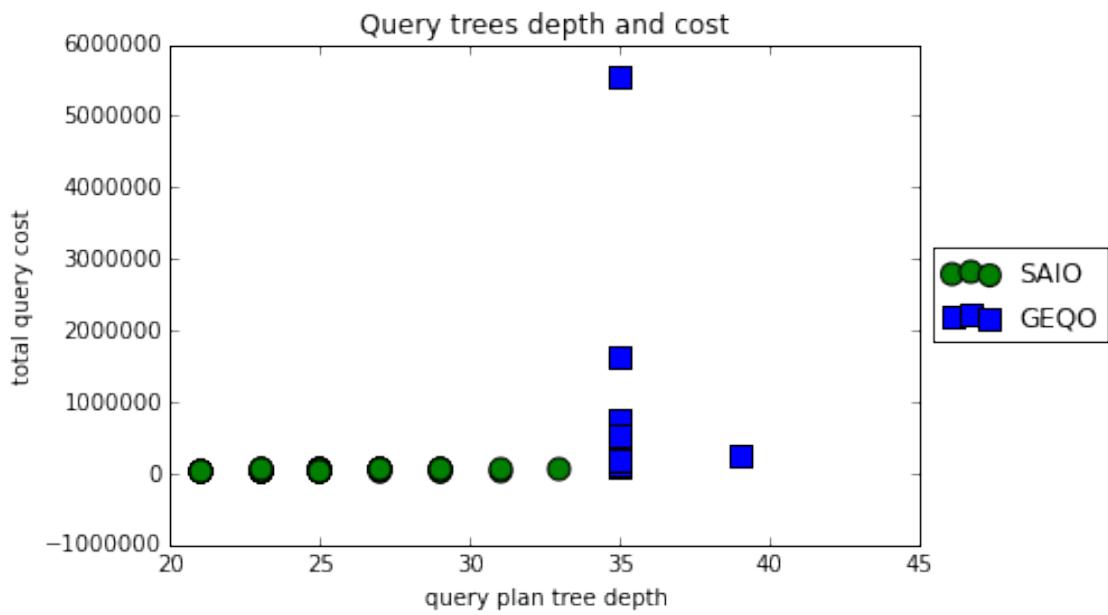
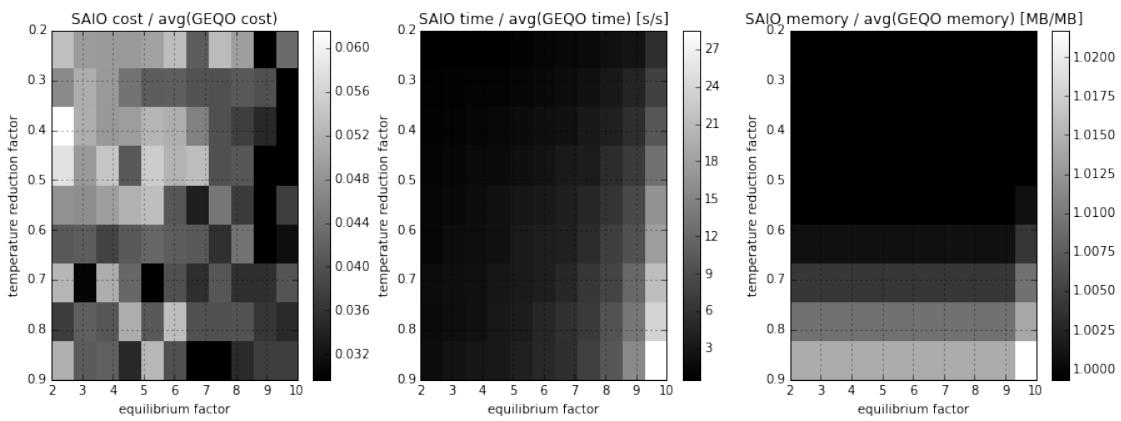
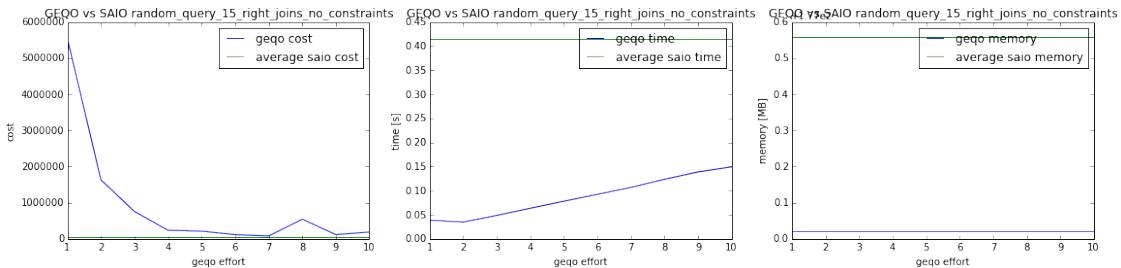
For a mixed query with 5 JOINS, 5 LEFT JOINS and 5 RIGHT JOINs SAIO wins again. This is probably due to presence of RIGHT JOINs in the query. GEQO doesn't seem to handle them well.

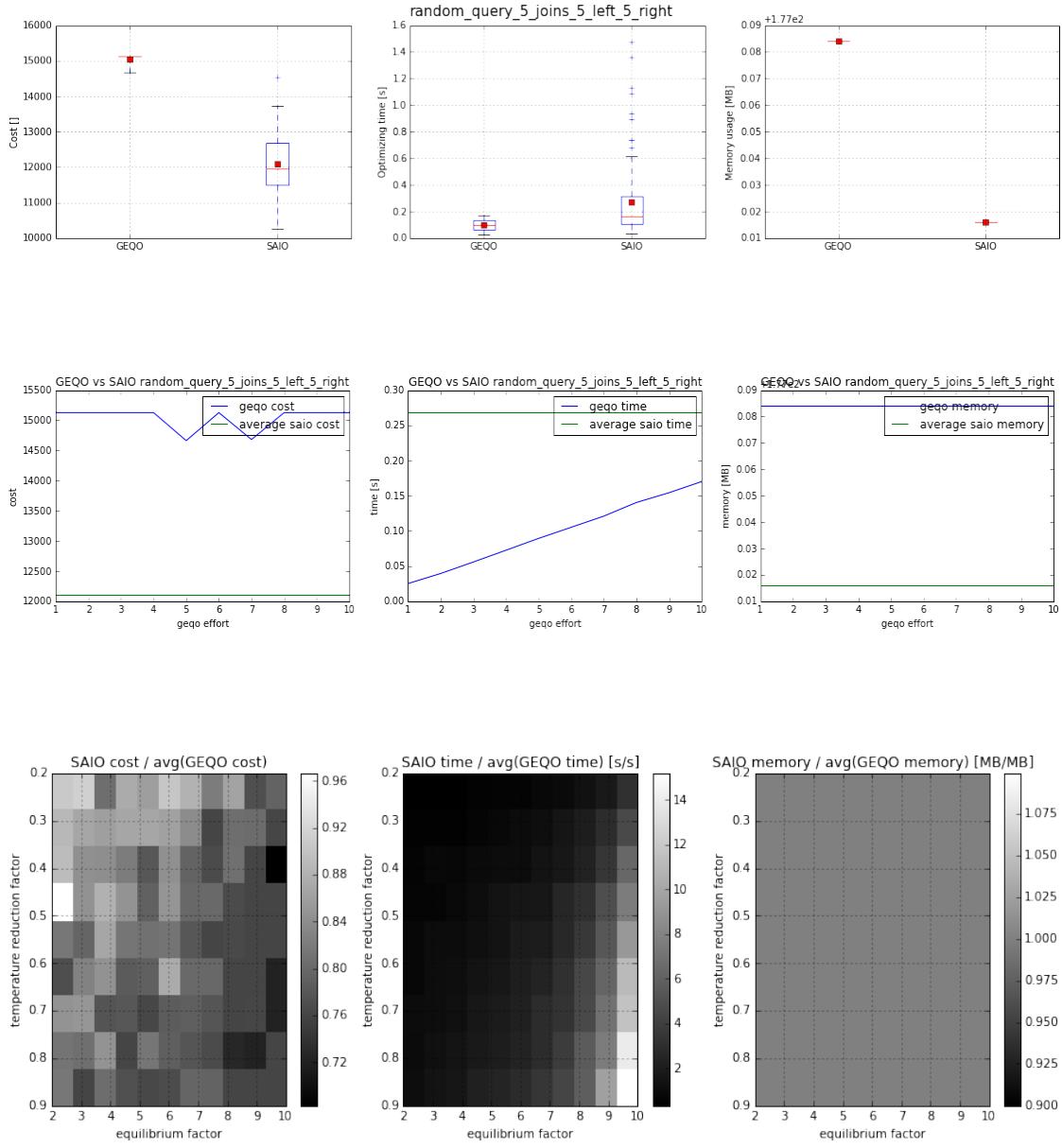
```
In [28]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_15_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_15_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_15_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_5_joins_5_left_5_right')
```

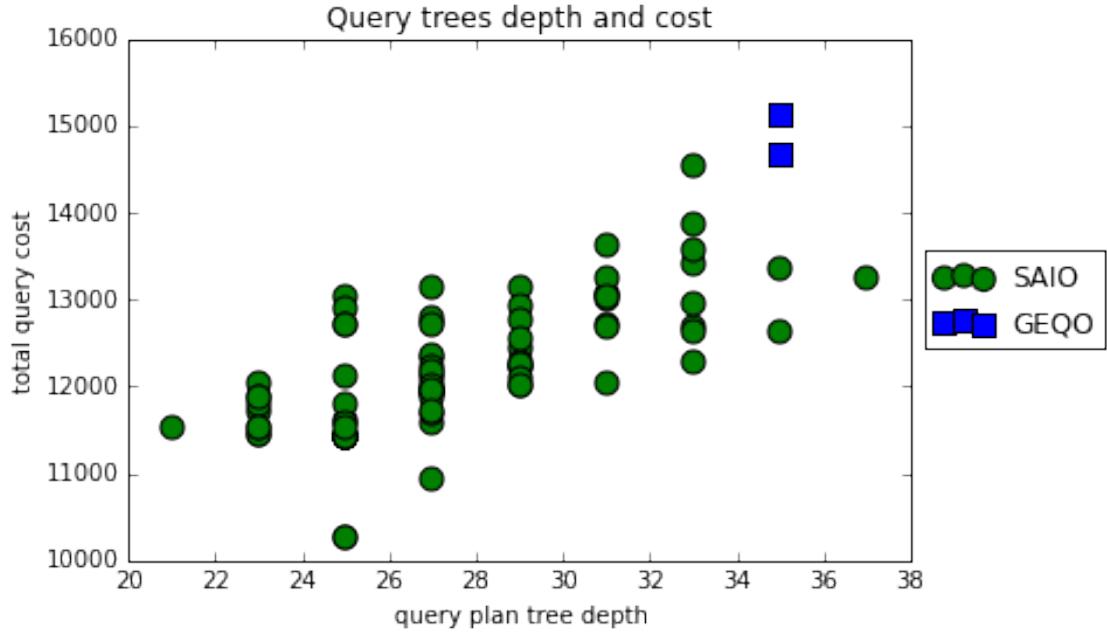






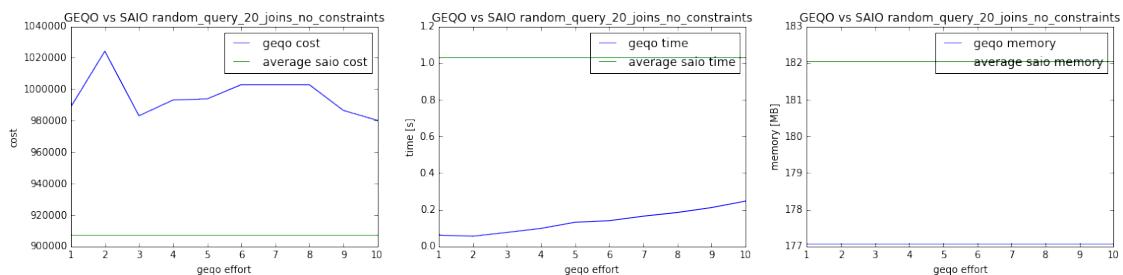
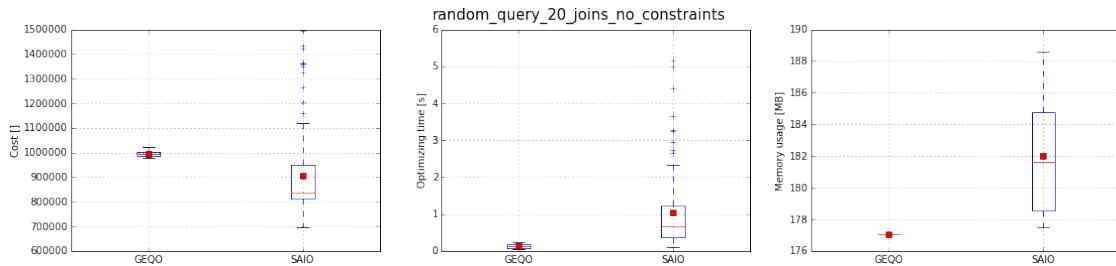


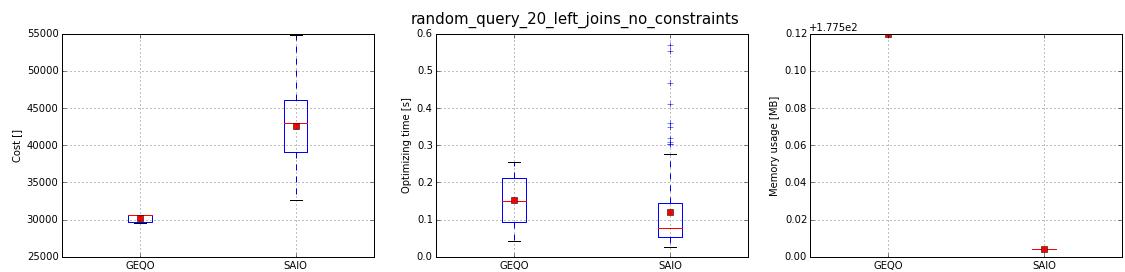
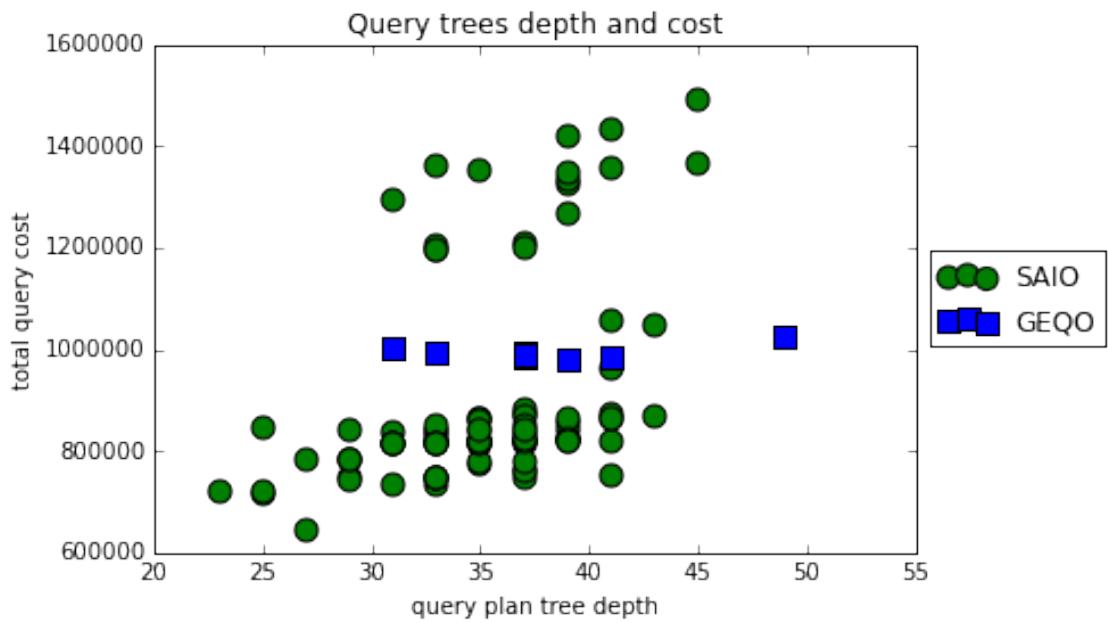
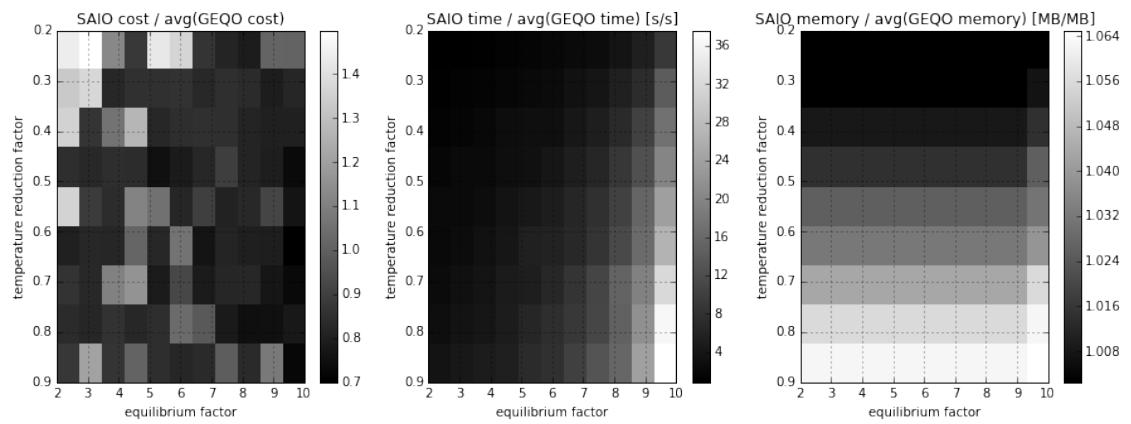


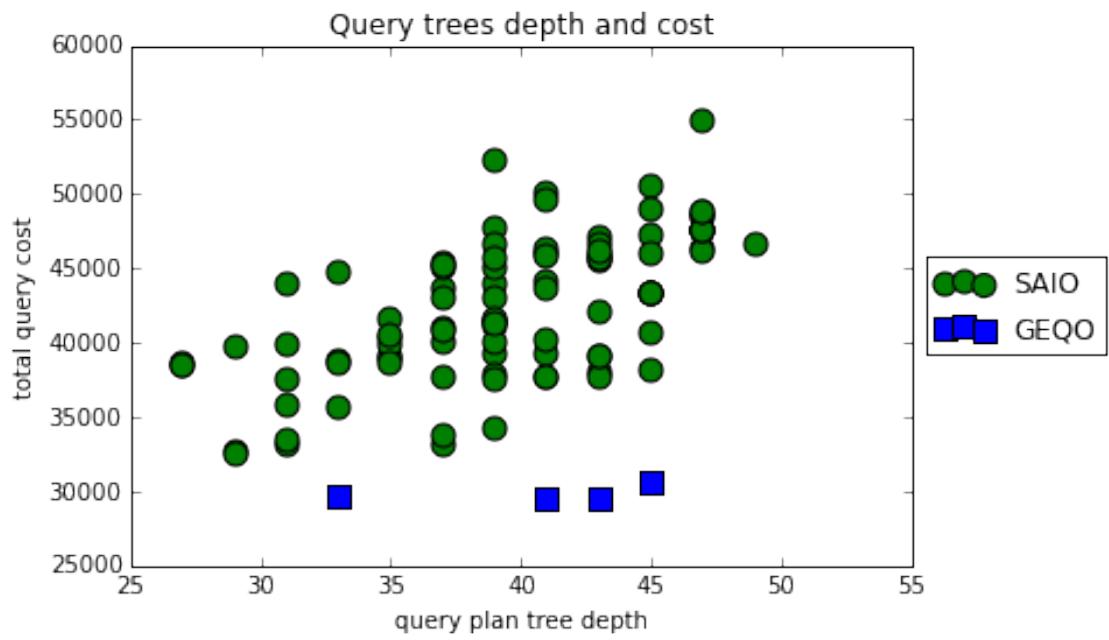
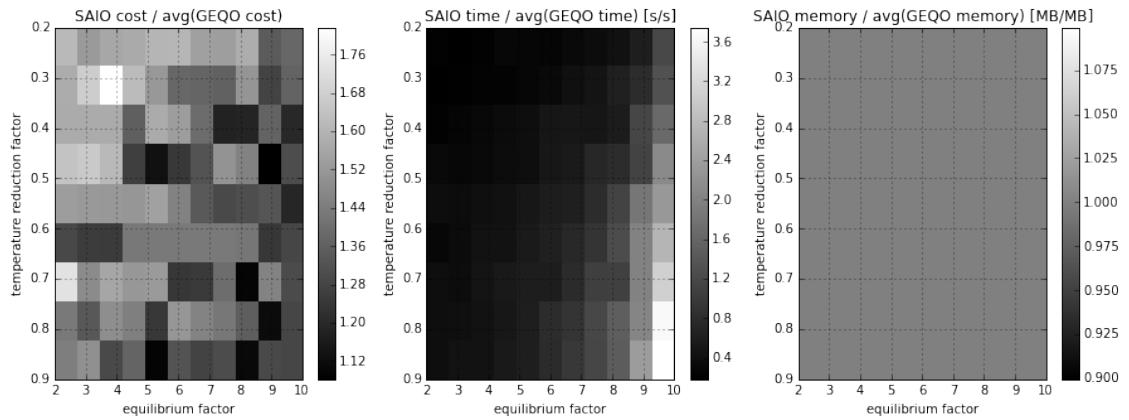
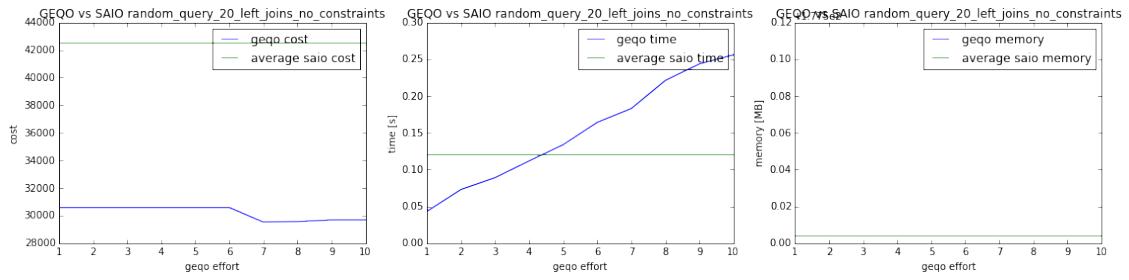


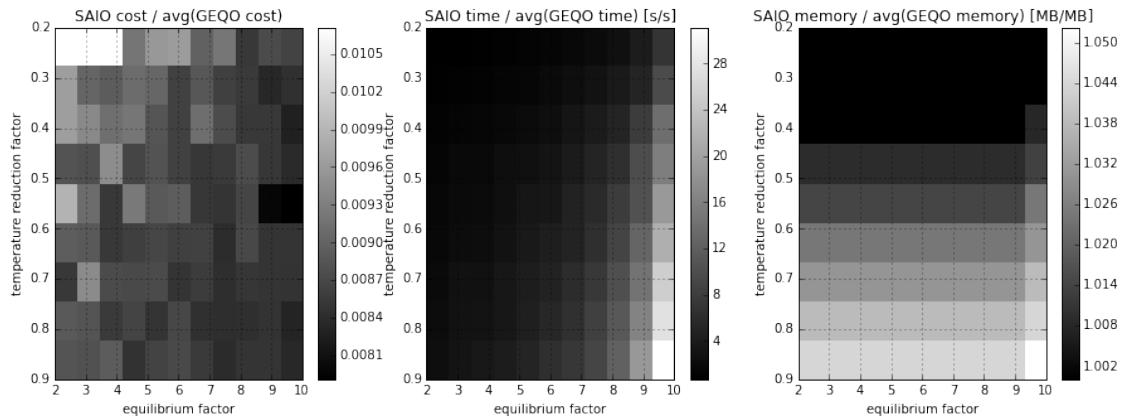
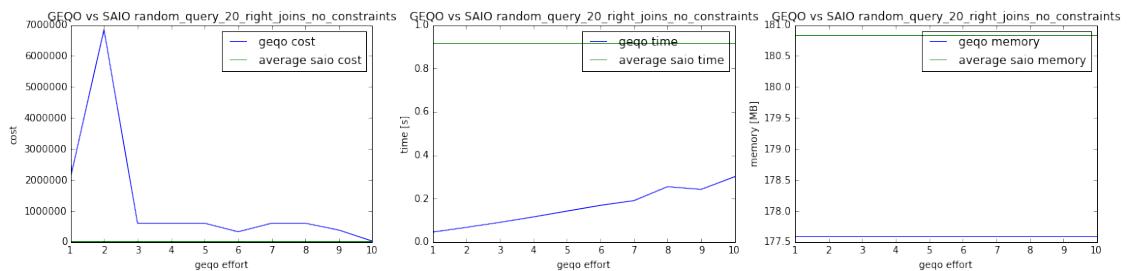
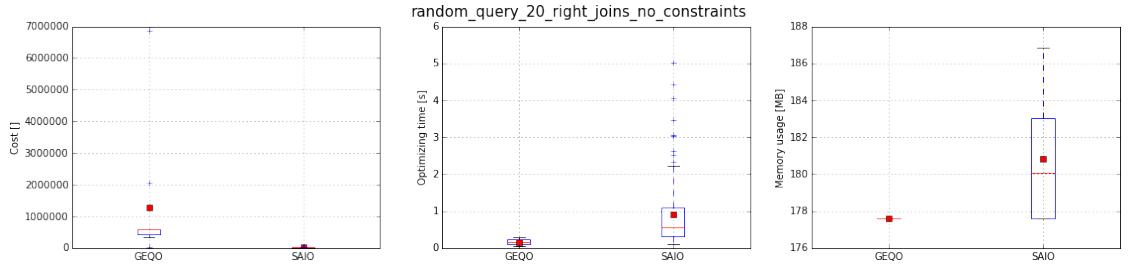
20 JOINS For these queries the observations from the previous smaller queries hold. SAIO seems comparable to GEQO for queries with regular JOINS, worse for queries with LEFT JOINS and much better (correct!) for queries with RIGHT JOINS and mixed queries.

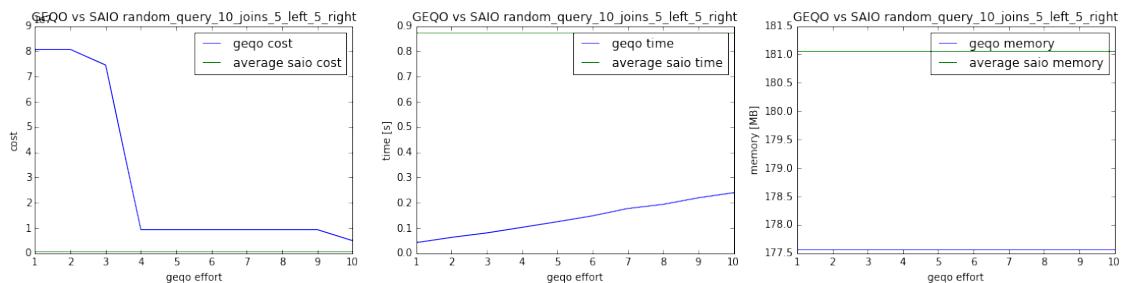
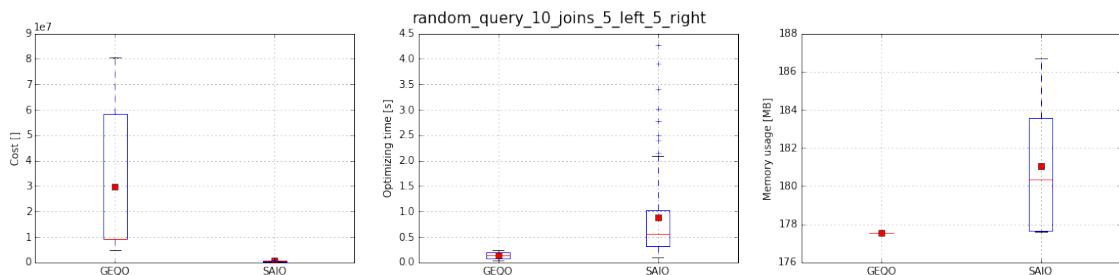
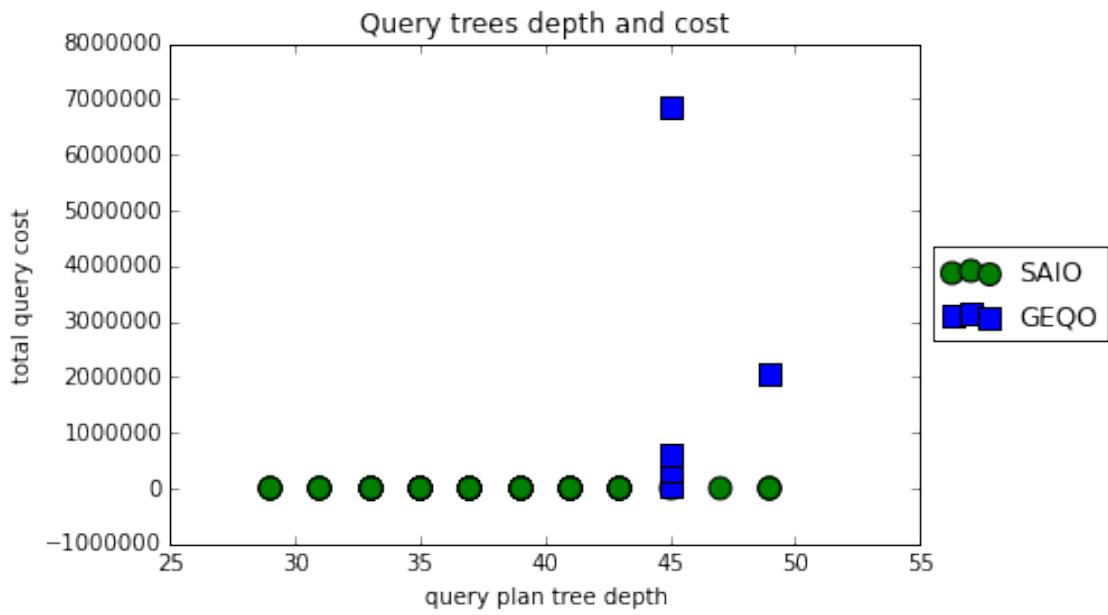
```
In [21]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_20_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_20_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_20_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_10_joins_5_left_5_right')
```

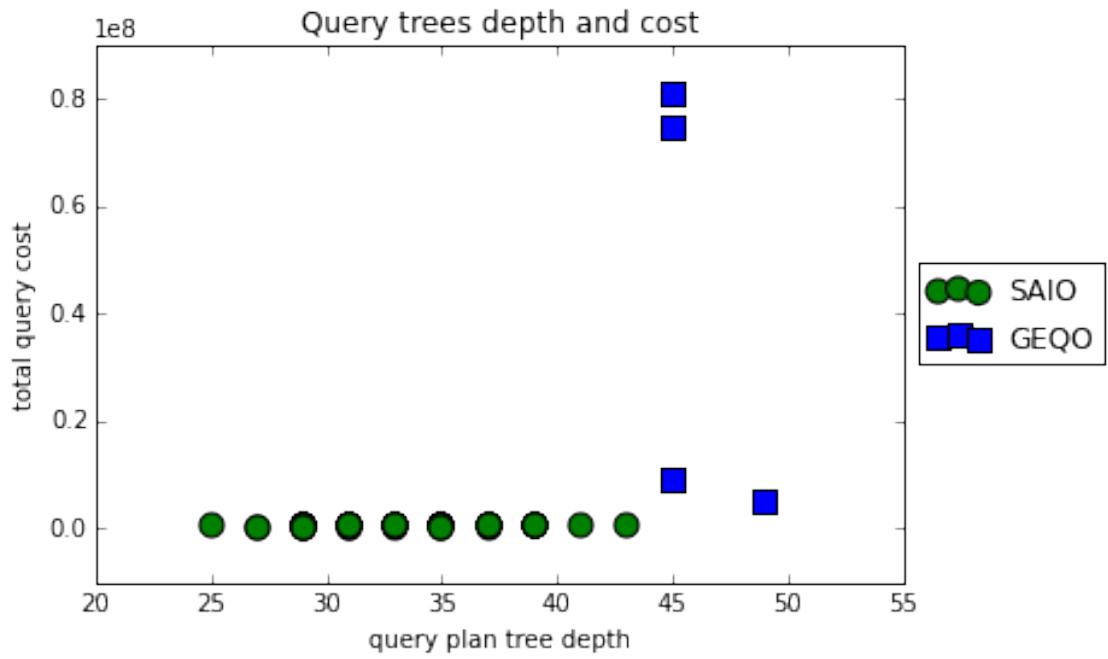
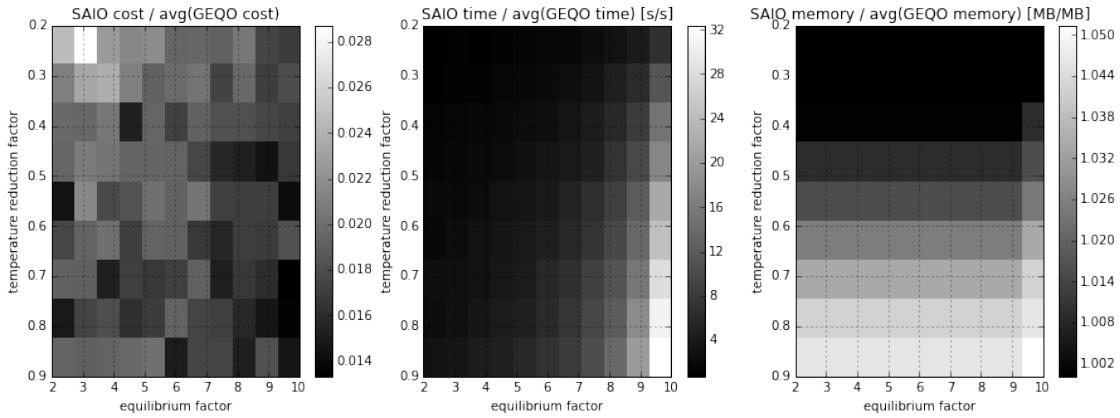






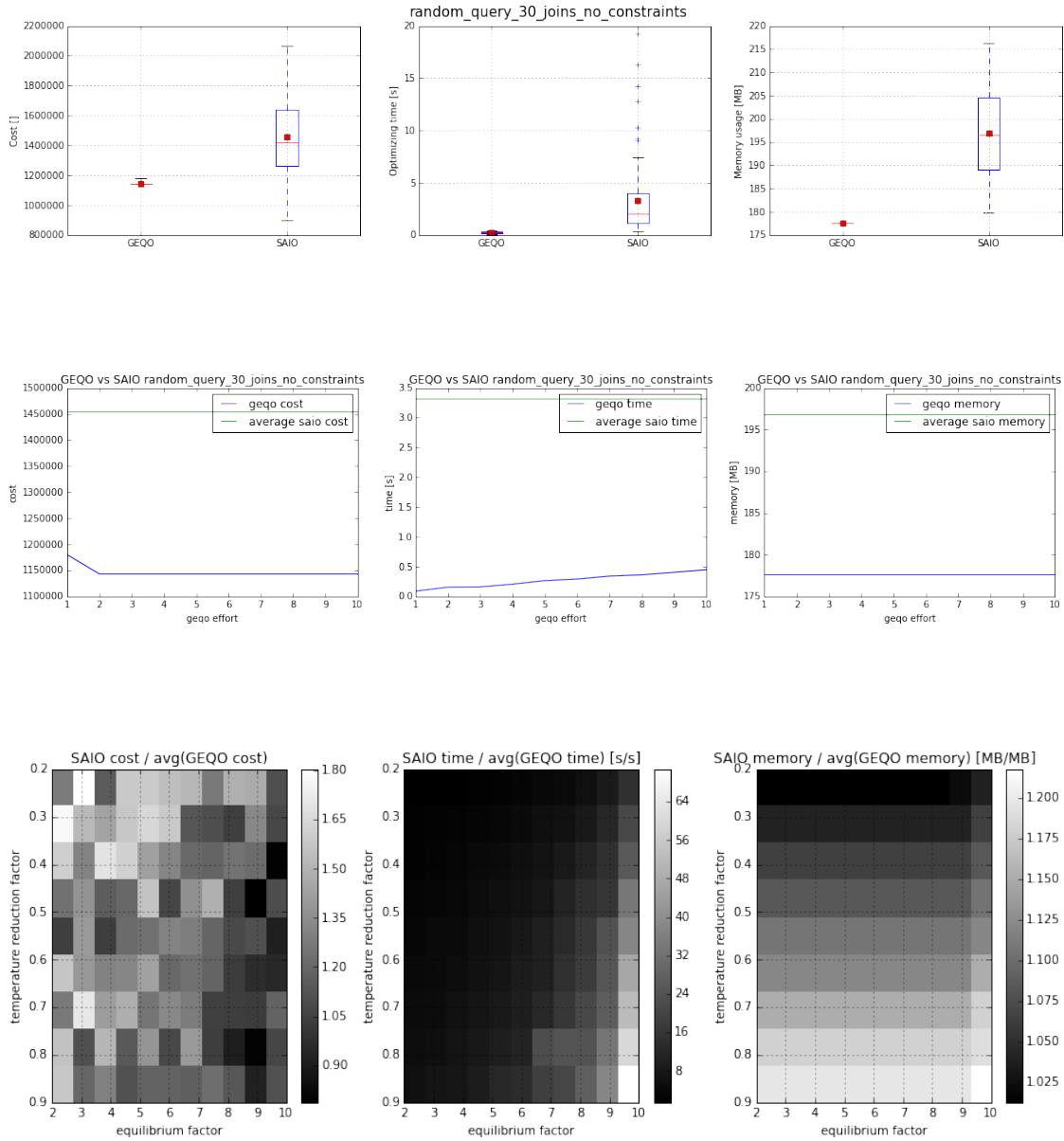


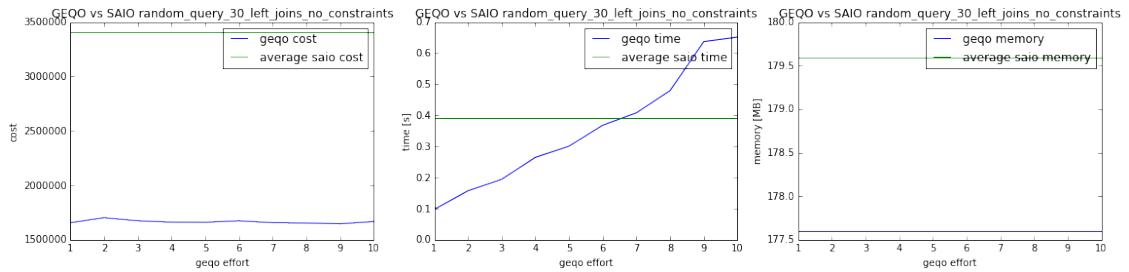
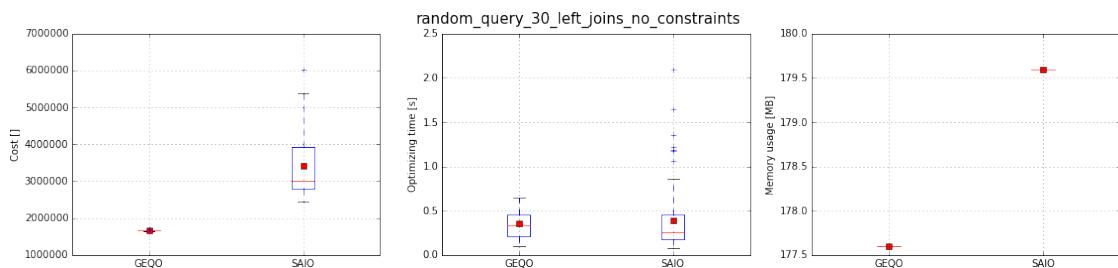
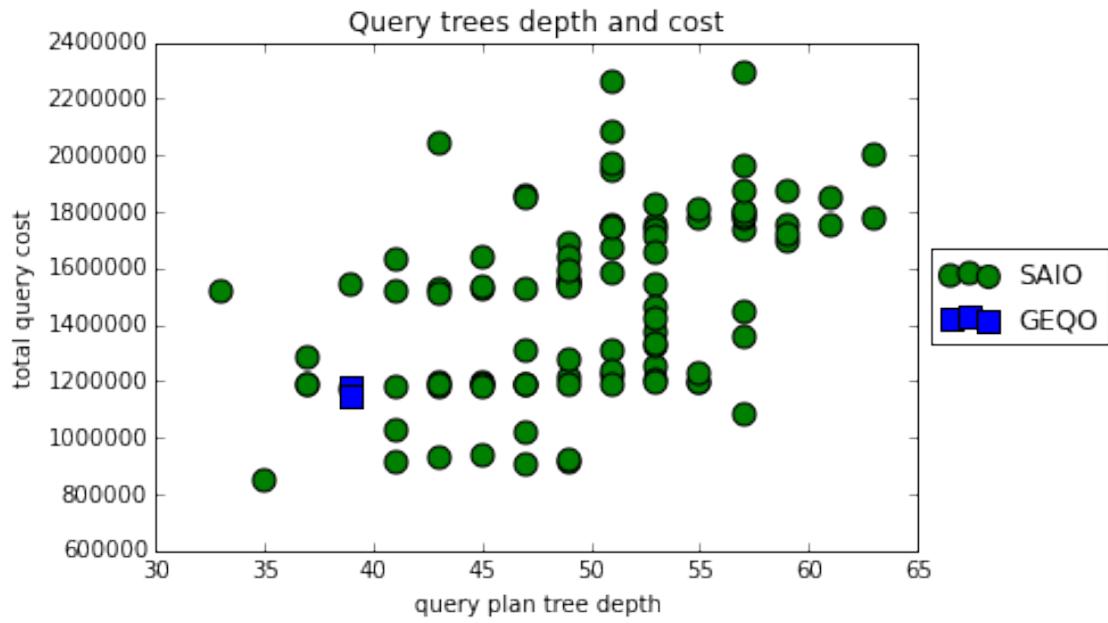


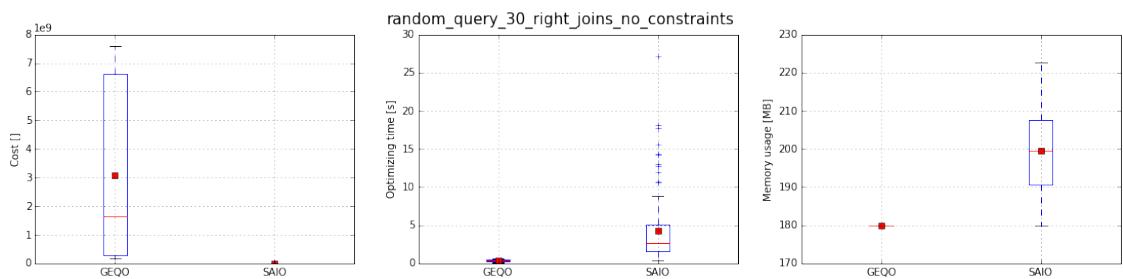
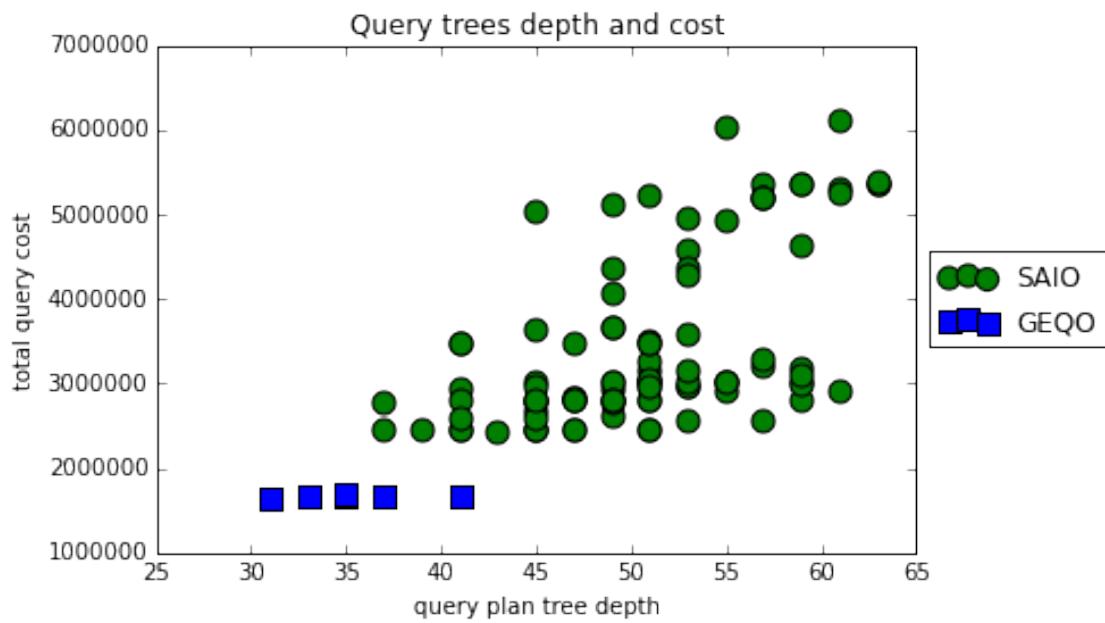
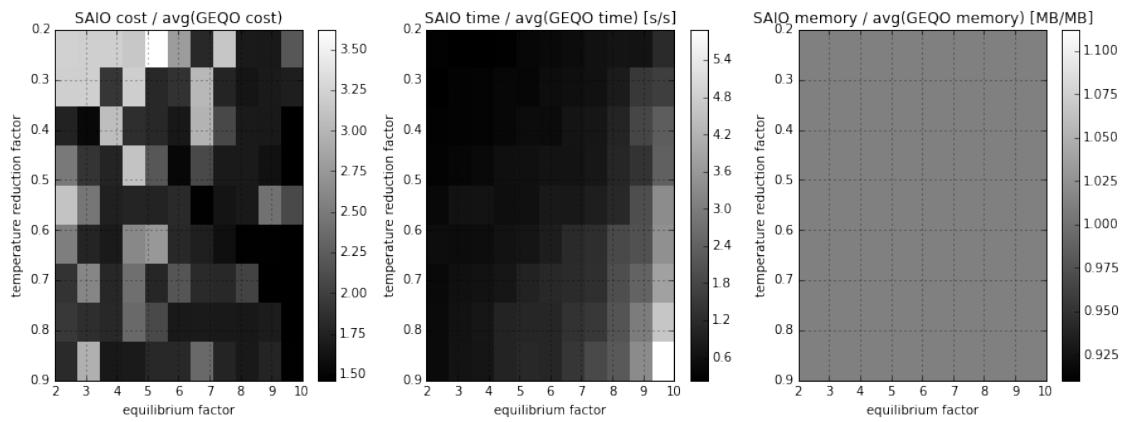


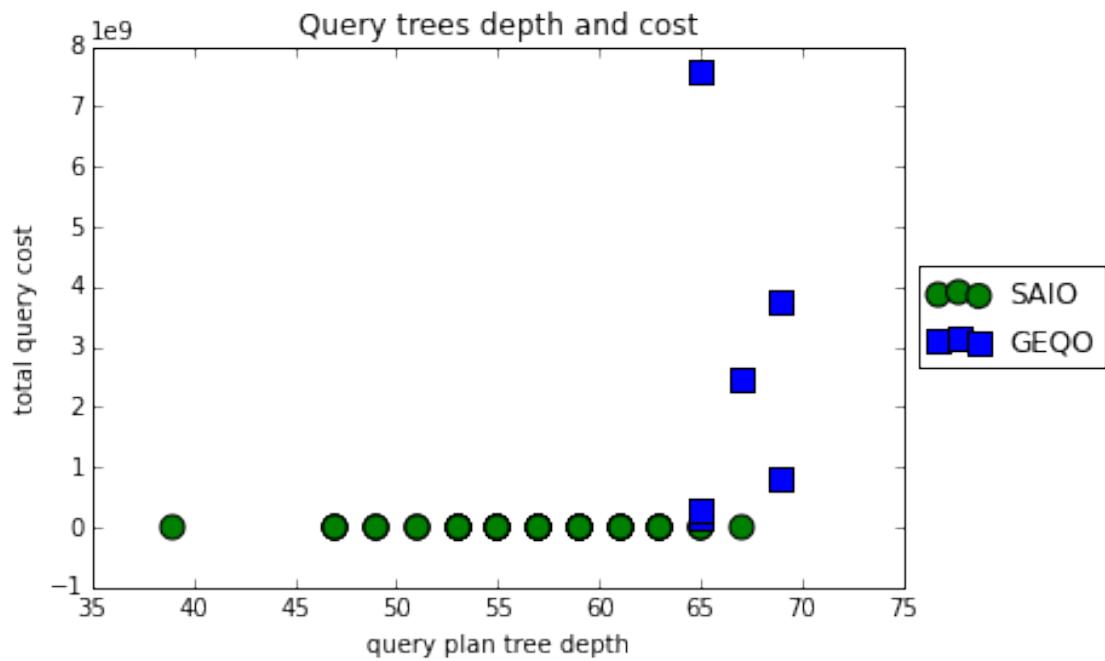
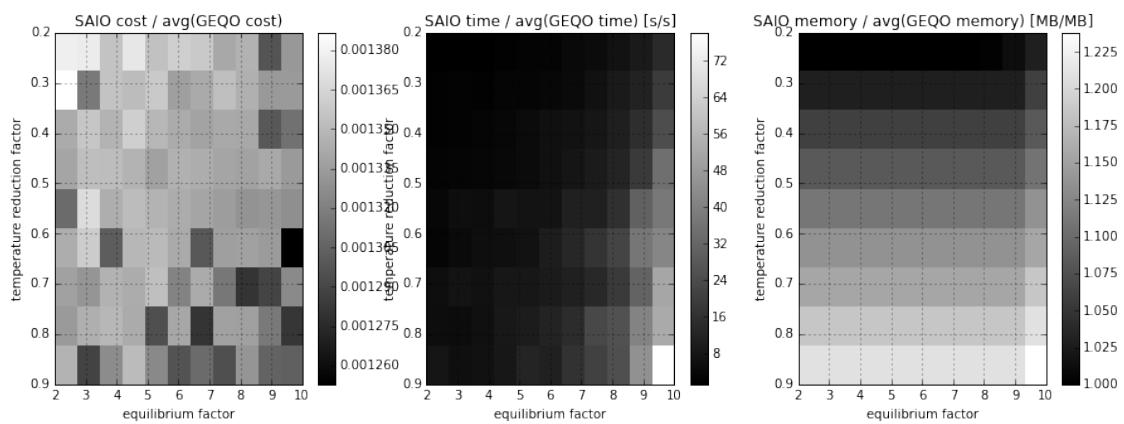
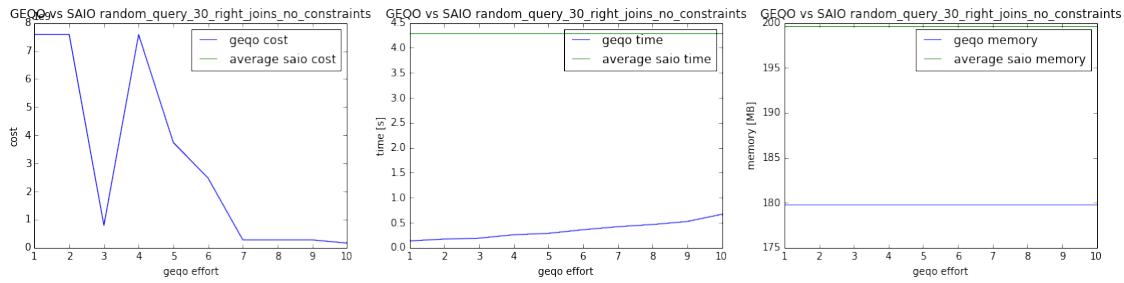
30 JOINS The observations from previous cases of flat queries hold.

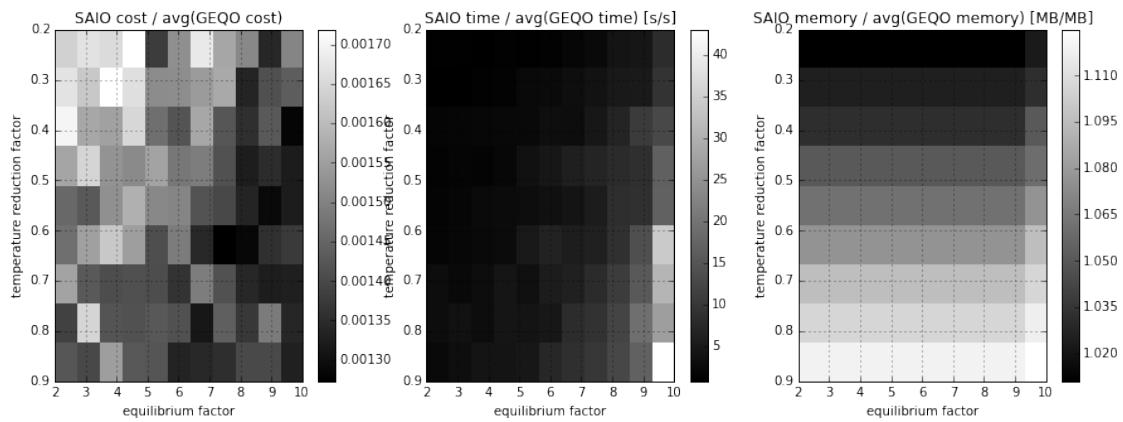
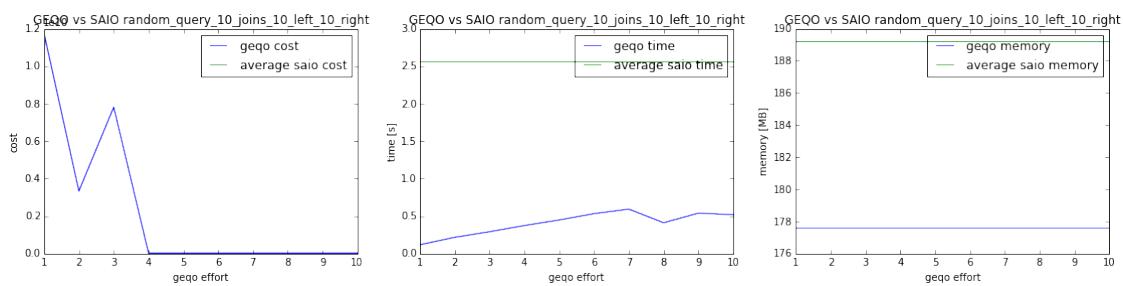
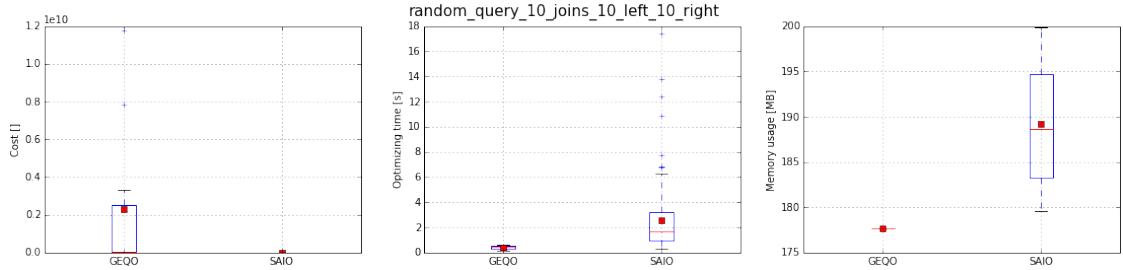
```
In [22]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_30_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_30_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_30_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_10_joins_10_left_10_right')
```

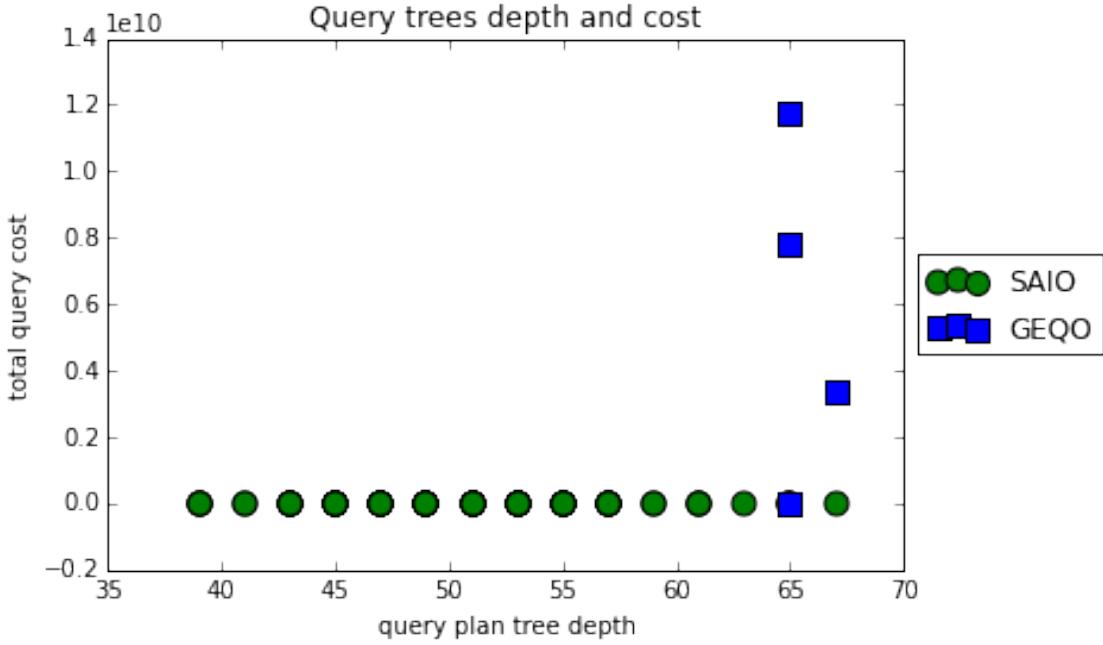










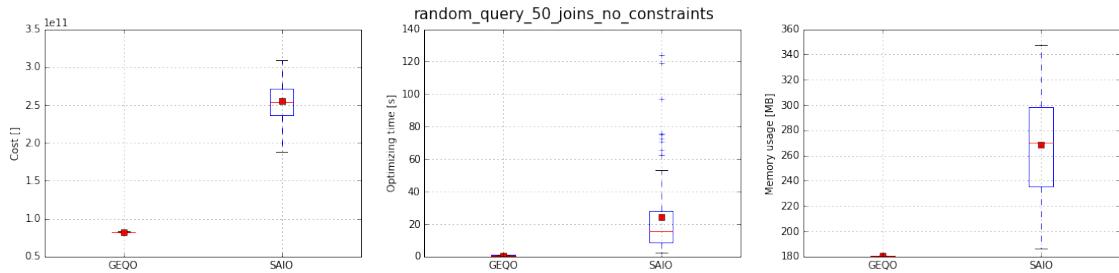


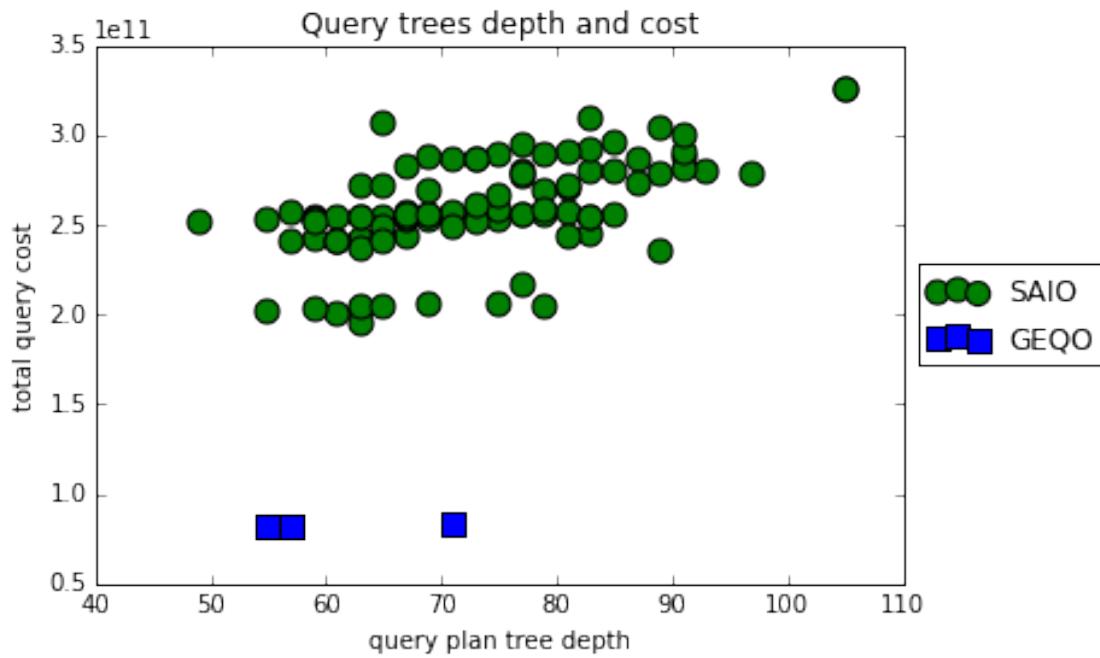
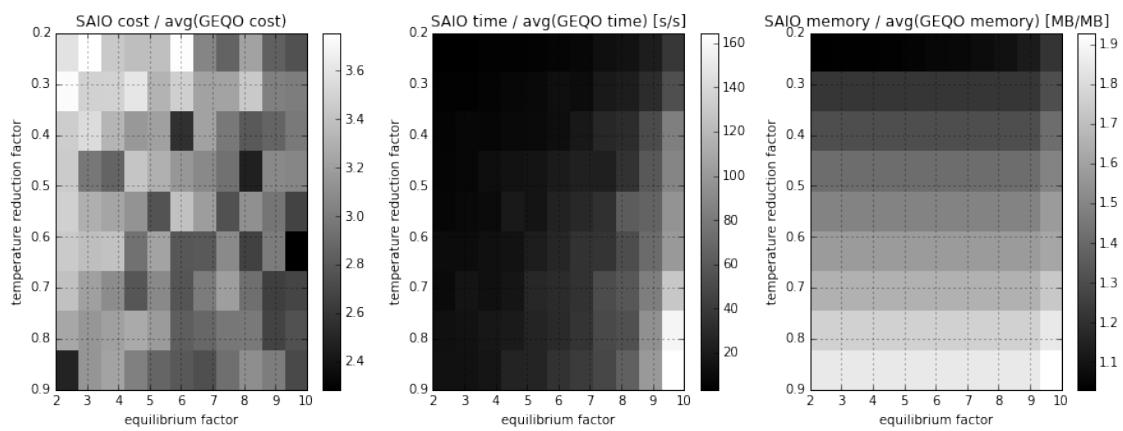
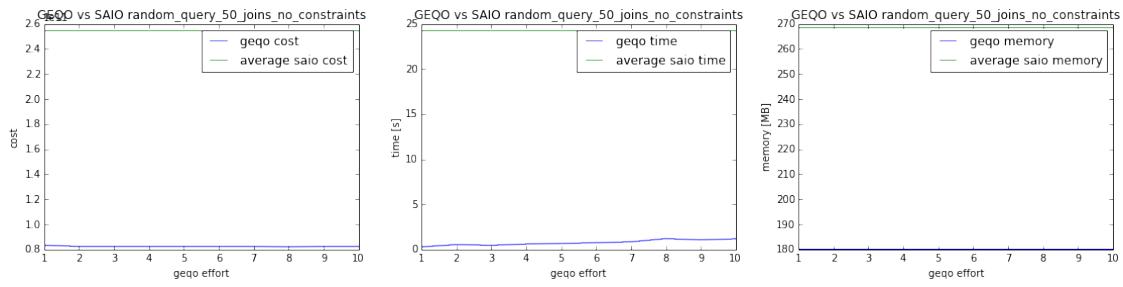
50 JOINS For the next part of flat queries, this time with 50 JOINS, we can see that GEQO produces better results for queries with JOINS and LEFT JOINs.

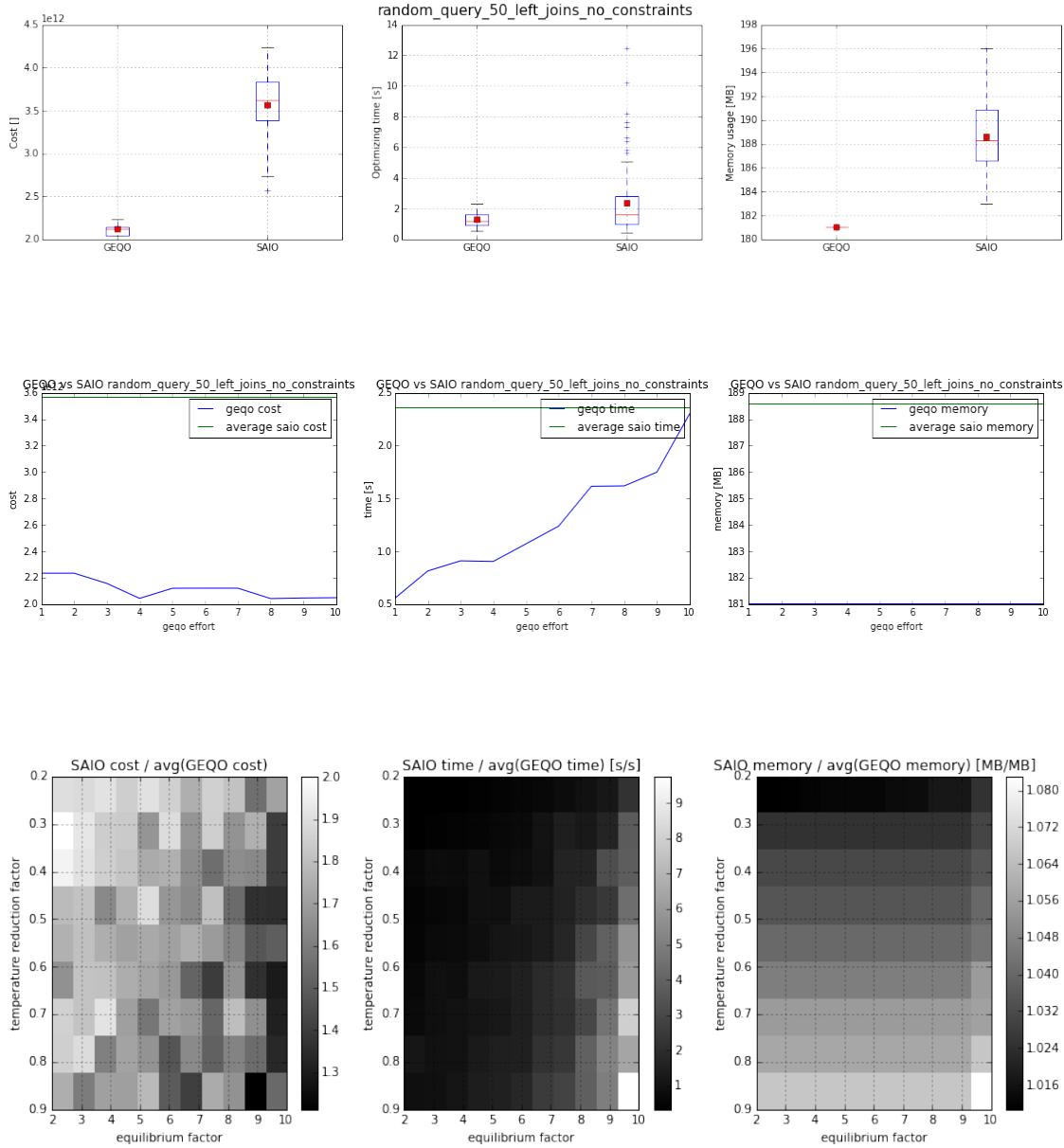
SAIO wins at RIGHT JOIN cases and mixed queries.

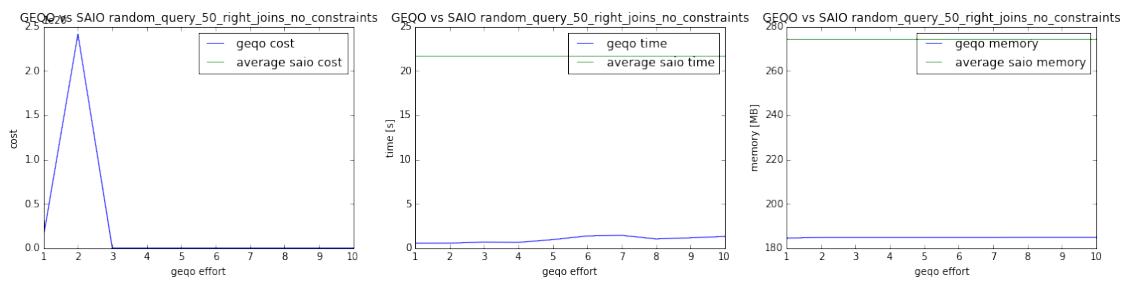
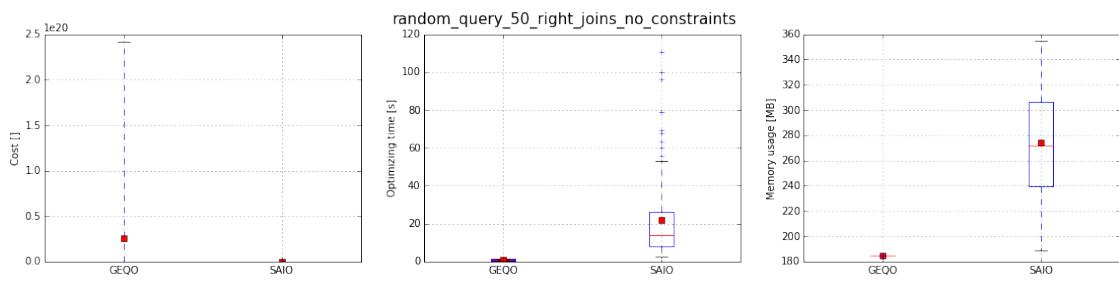
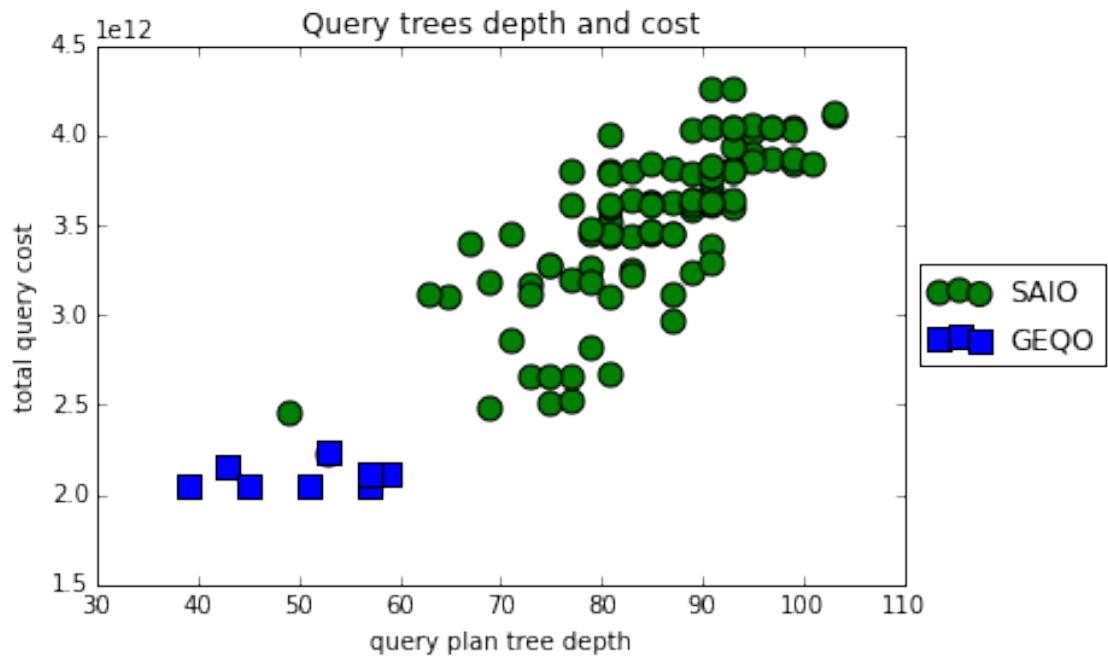
This is interesting that for the query with 50 LEFT JOINs GEQO actually produces a shorter tree than SAIO solutions.

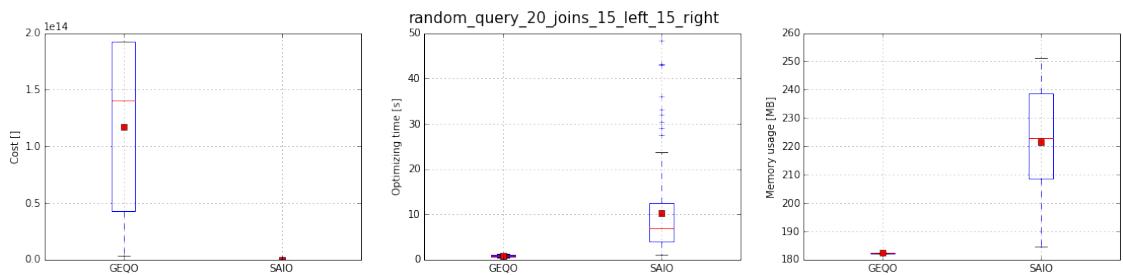
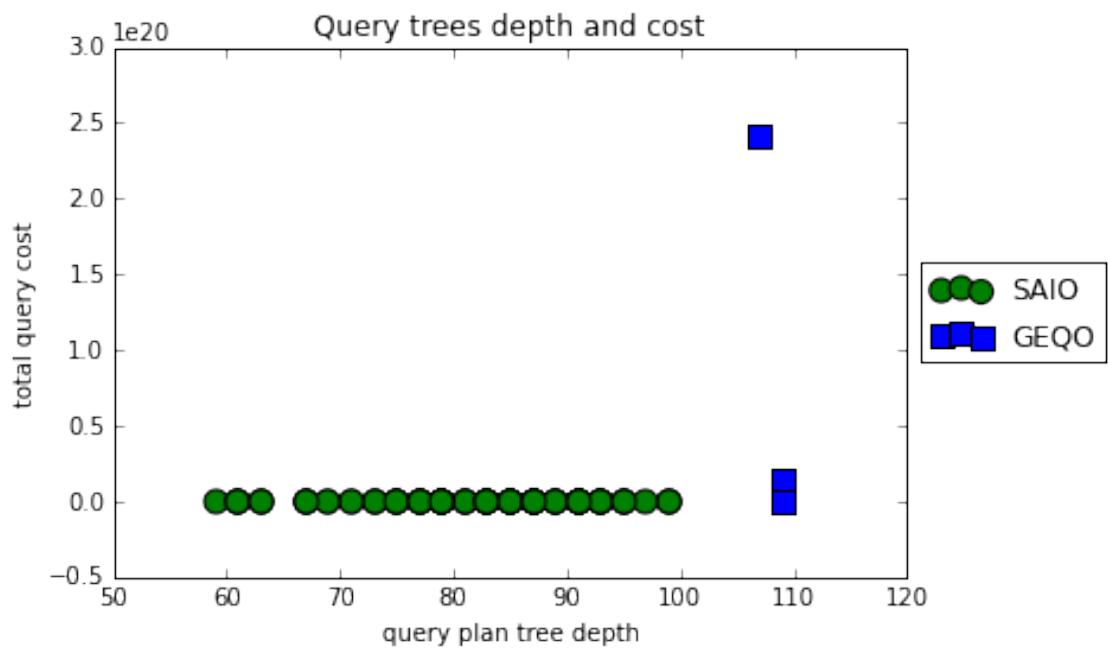
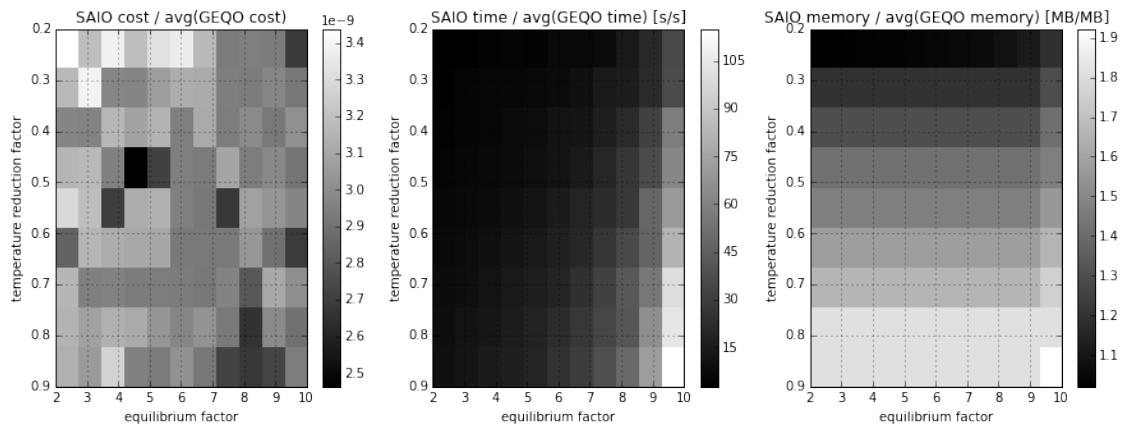
```
In [23]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_50_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_50_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_50_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_20_joins_15_left_15_right')
```

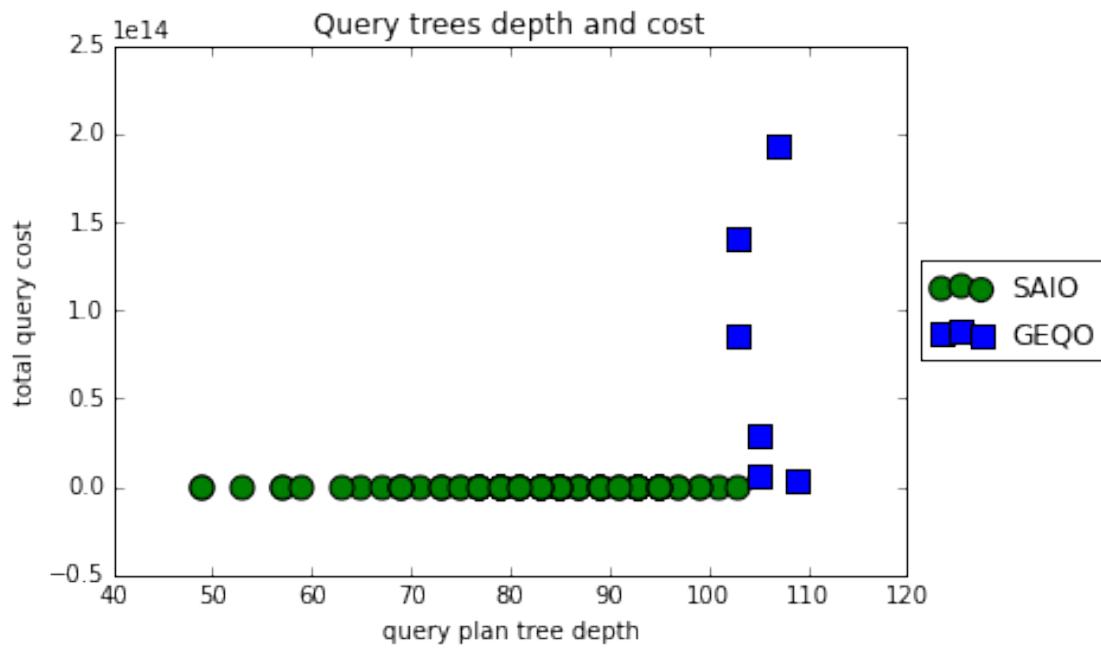
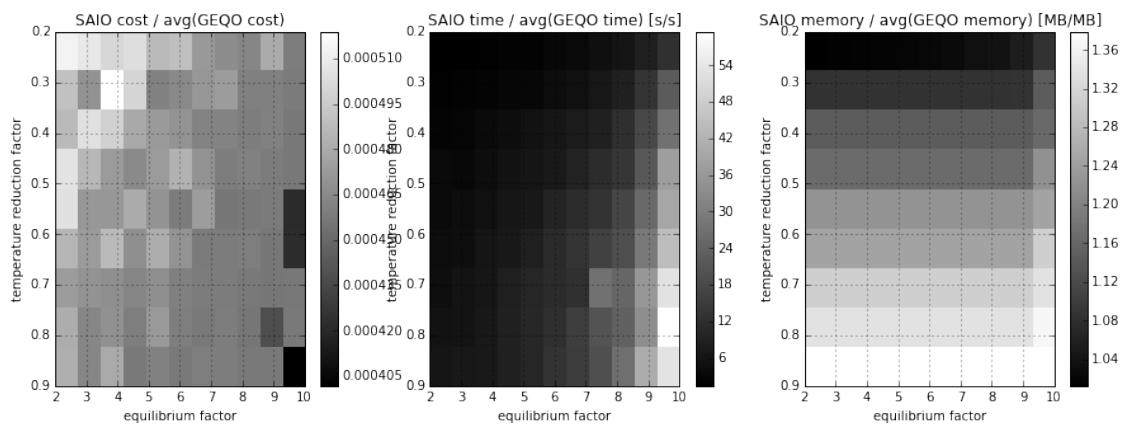
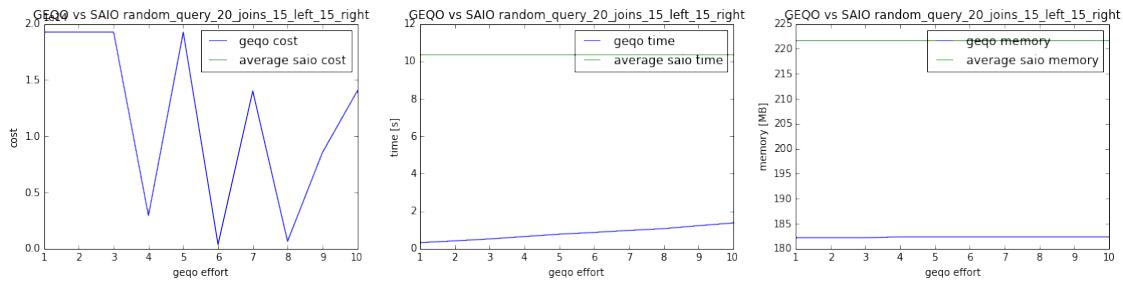






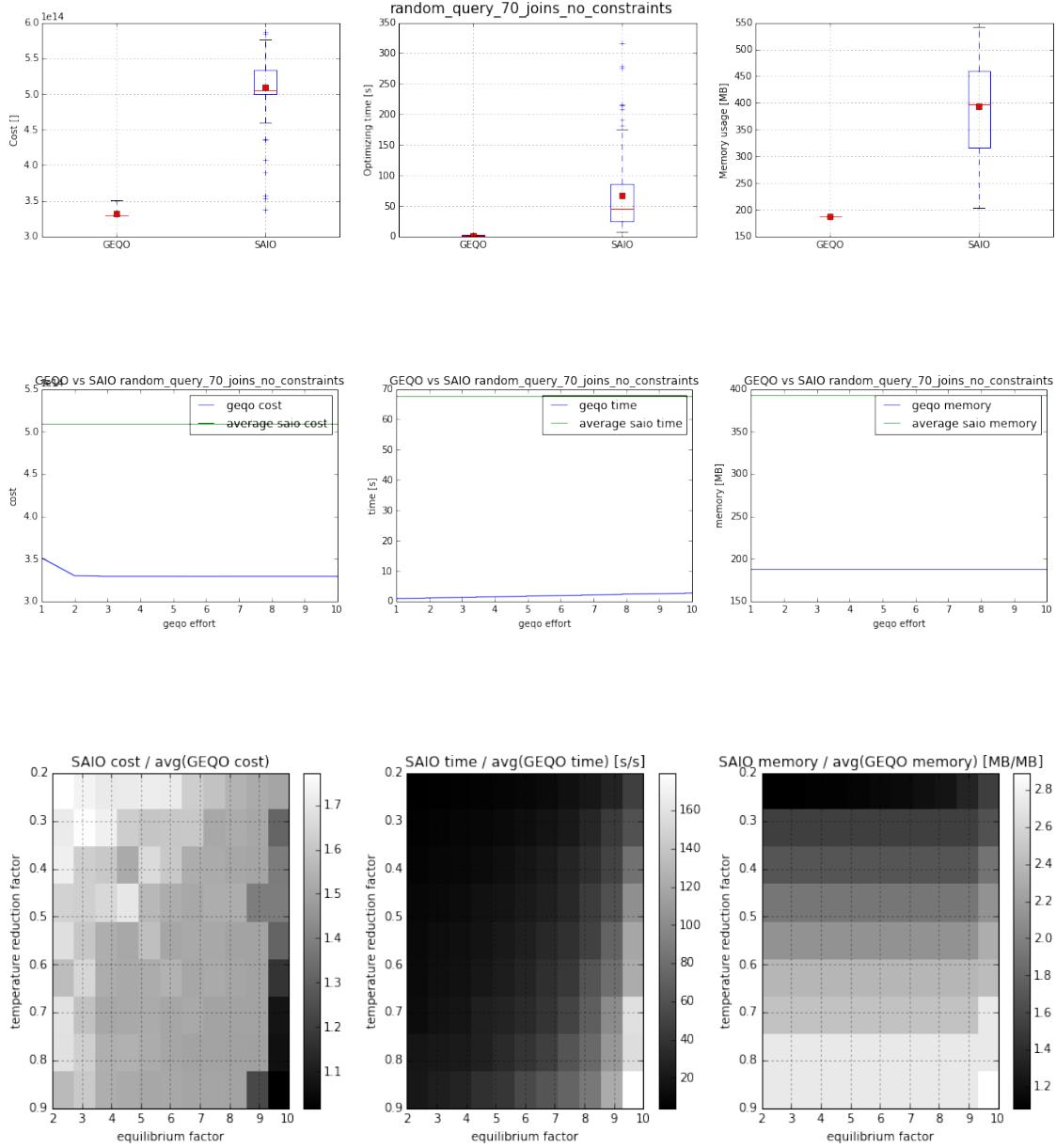


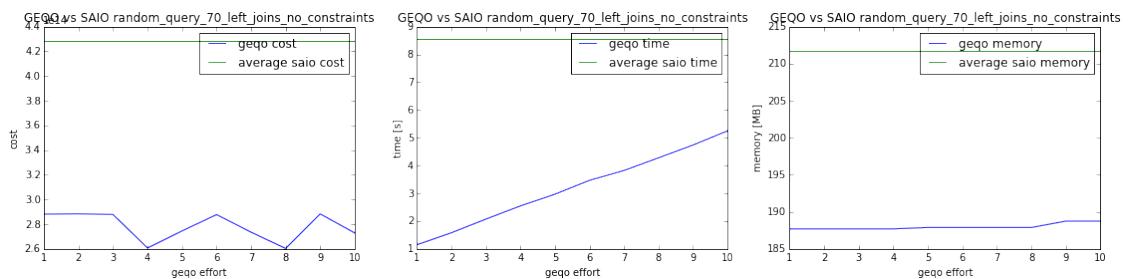
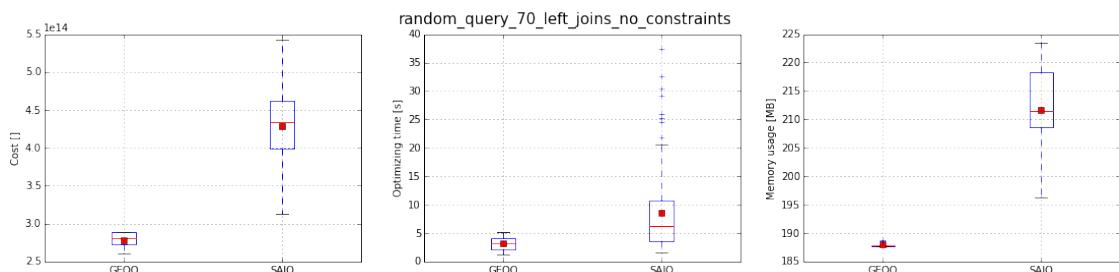
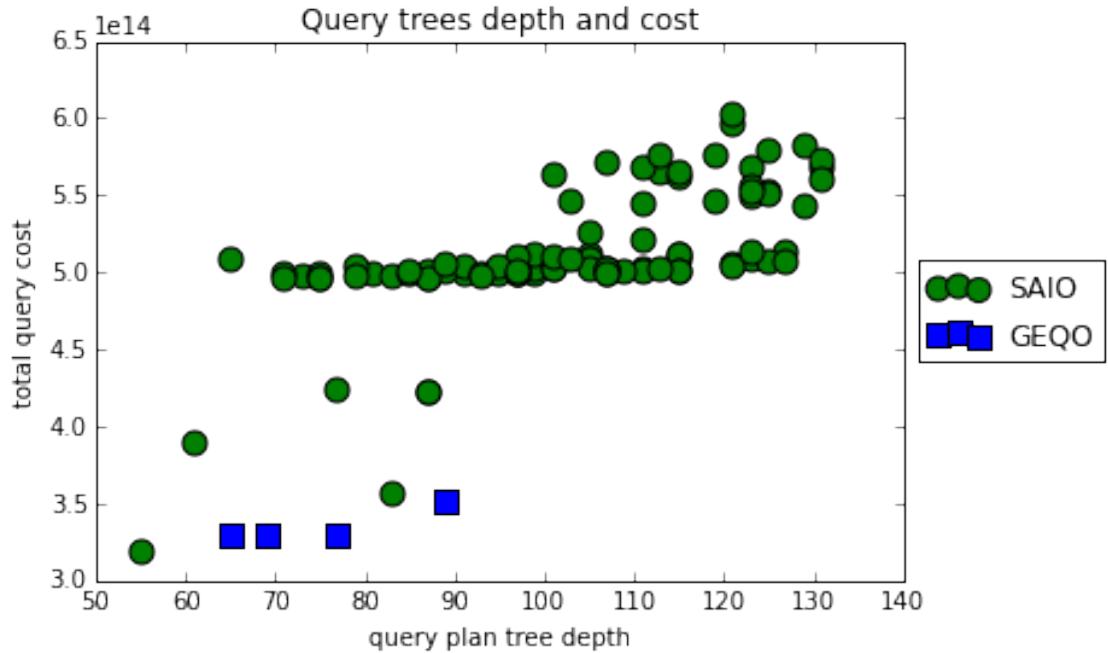


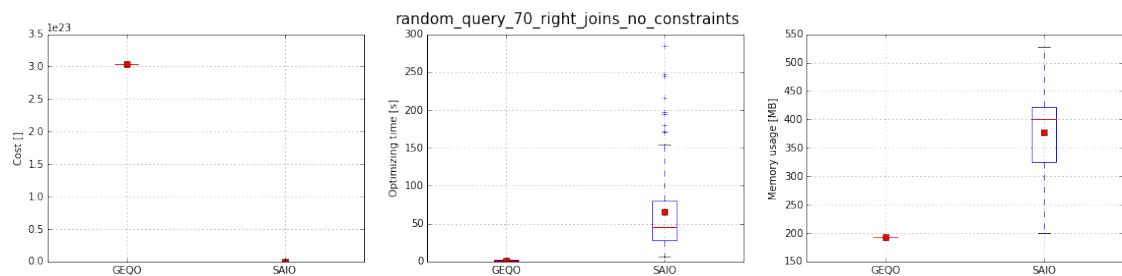
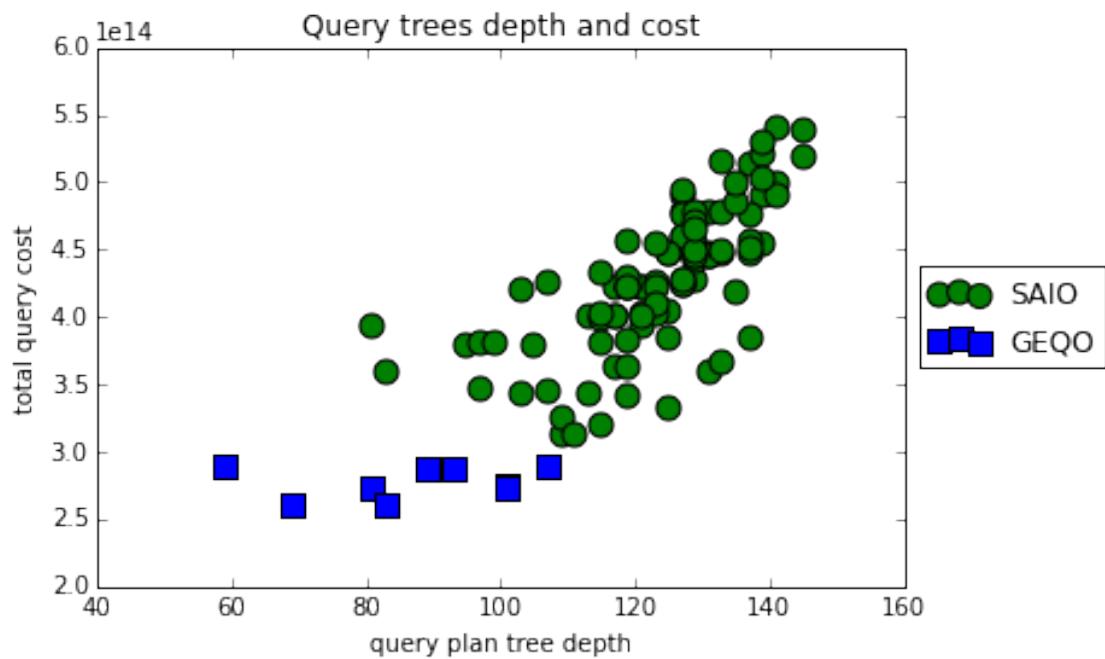
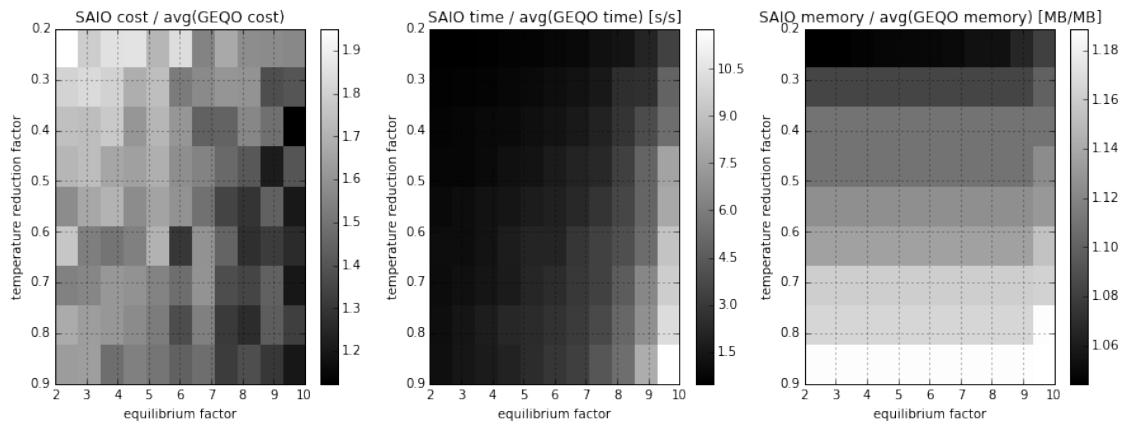


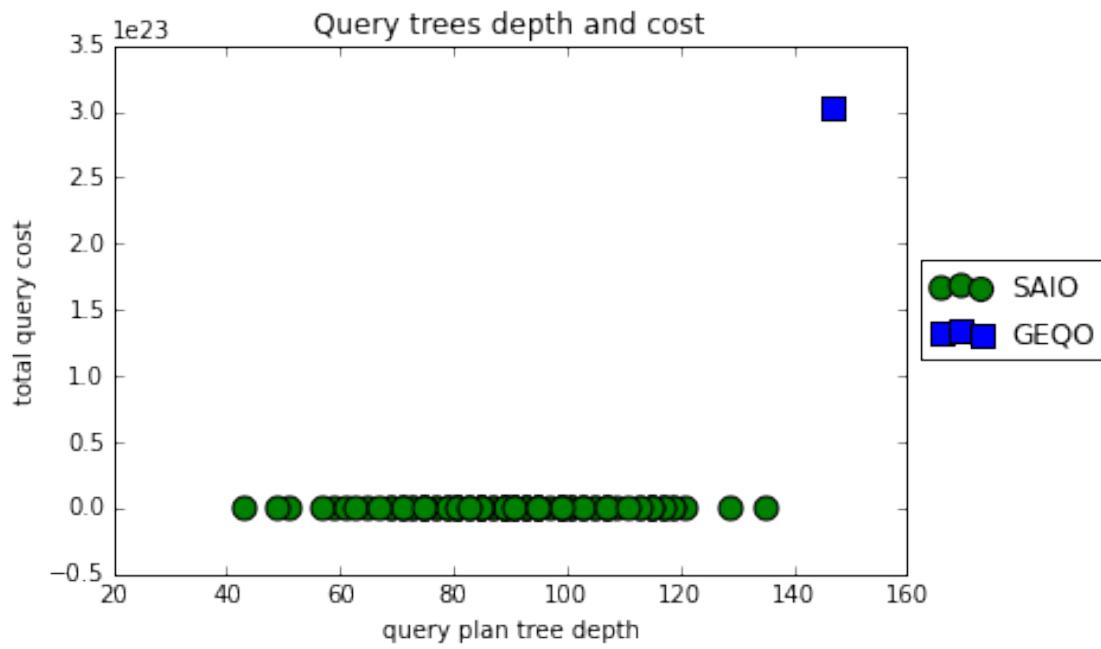
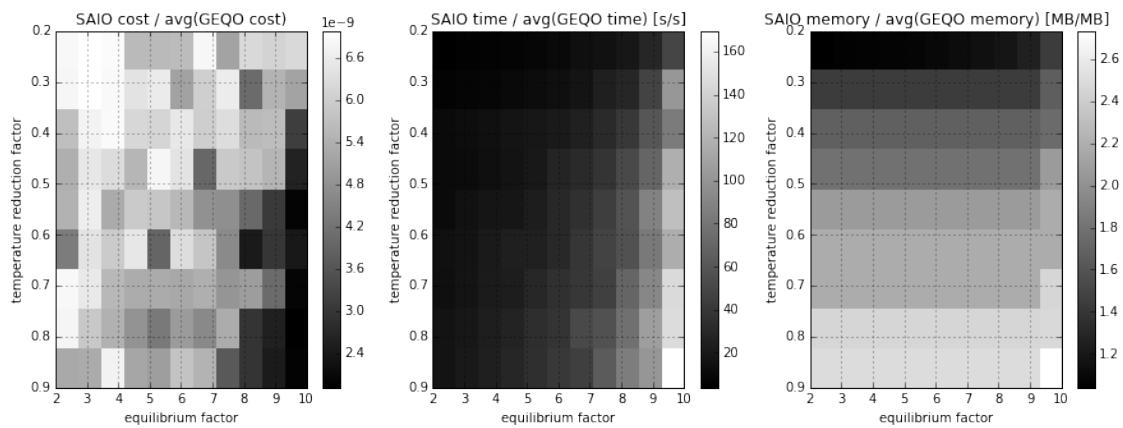
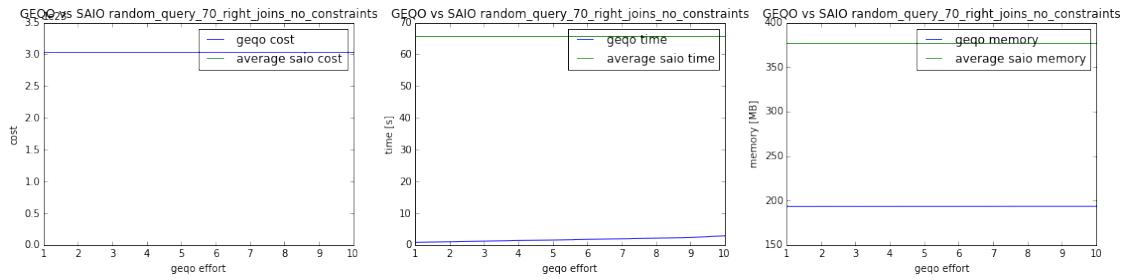
70 JOINS Observations from the previous case hold.

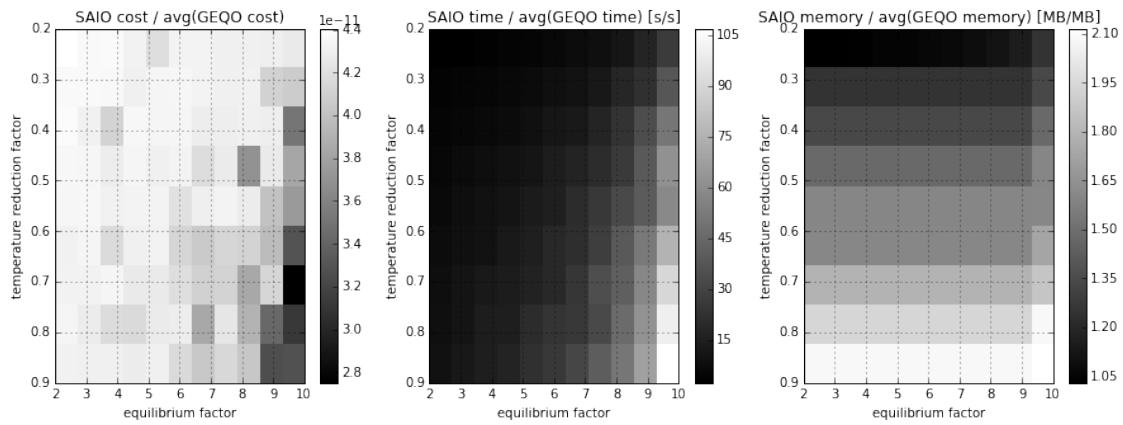
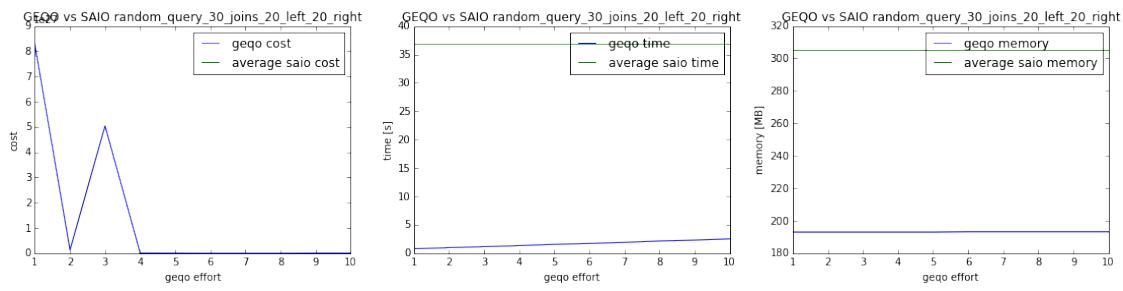
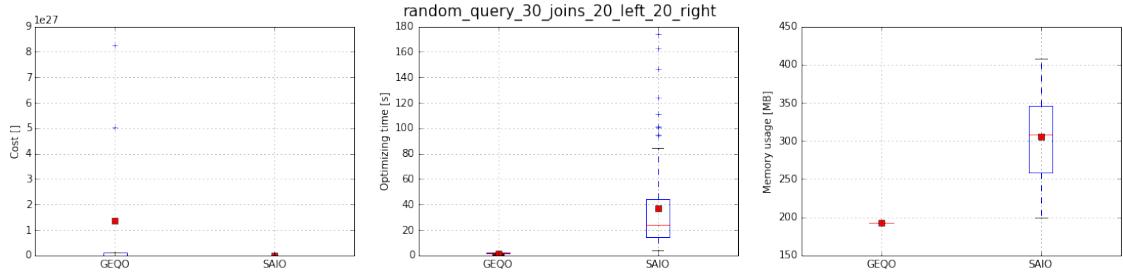
```
In [24]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_70_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_70_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_70_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_30_joins_20_left_20_right')
```

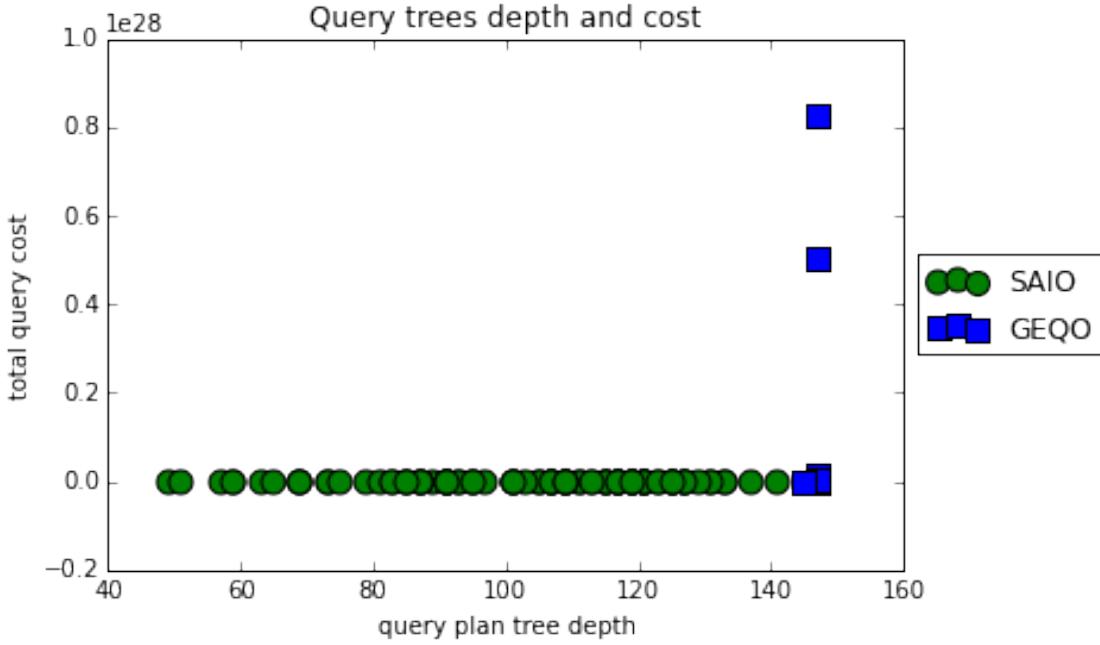








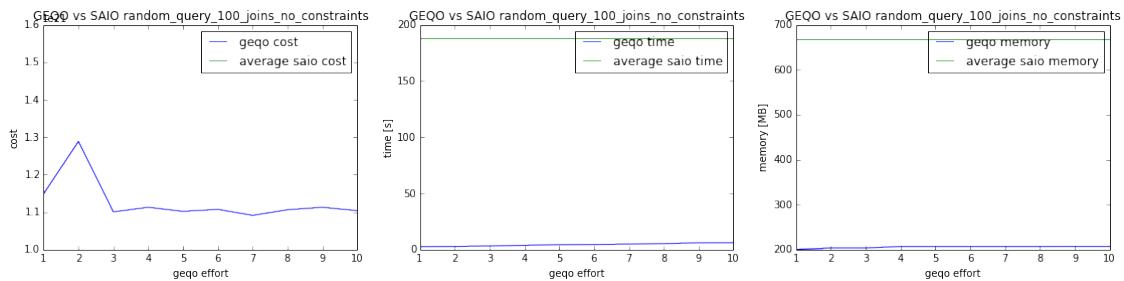
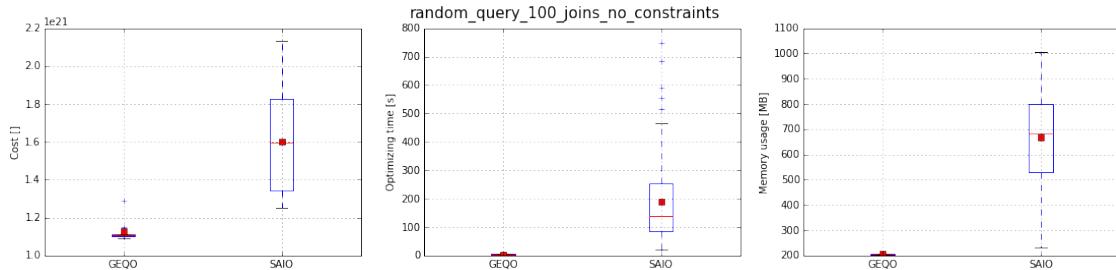


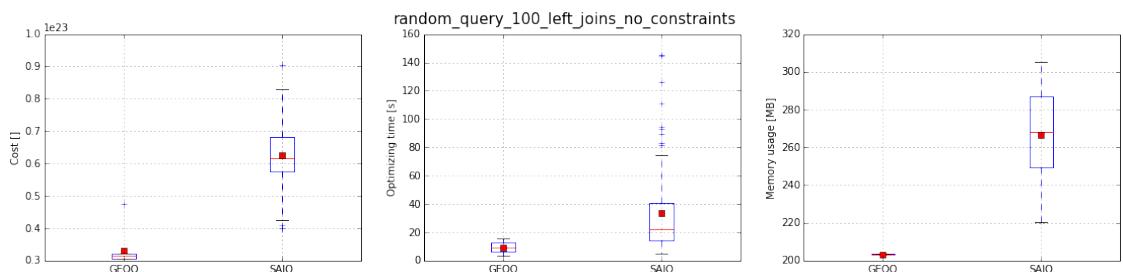
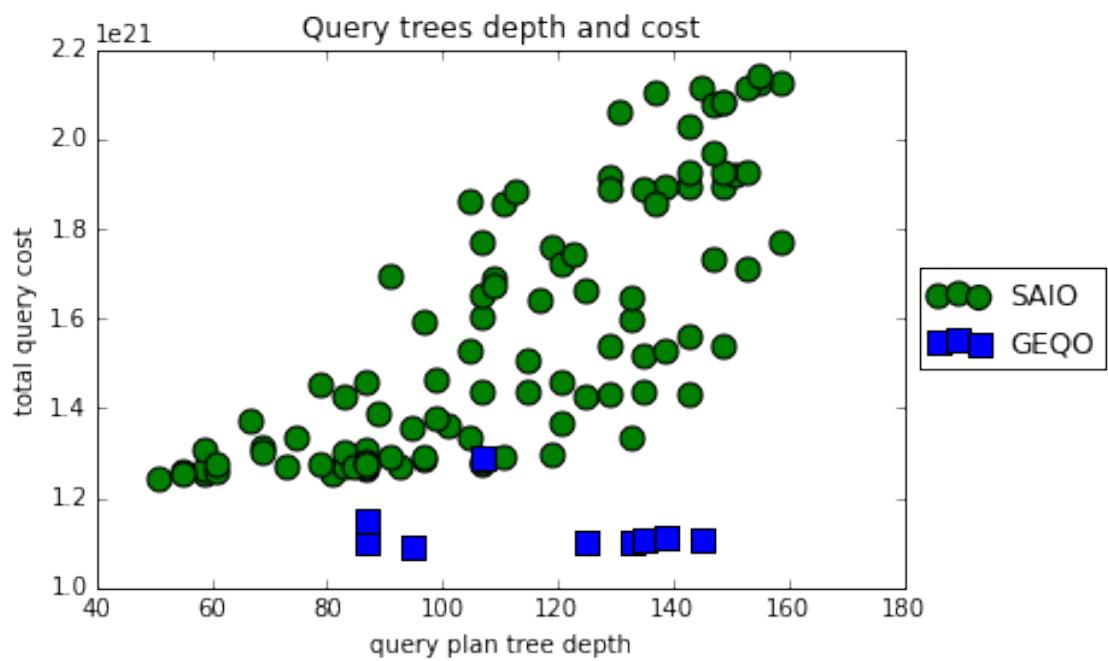
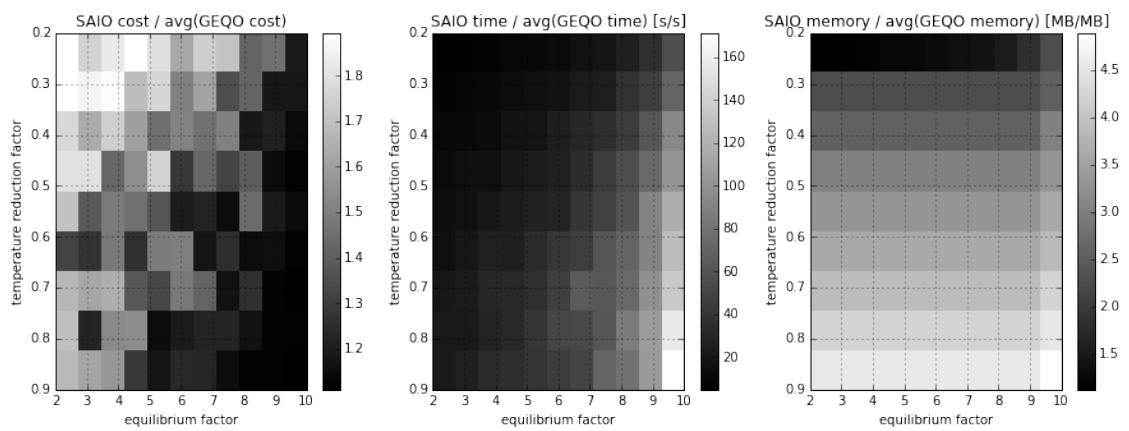


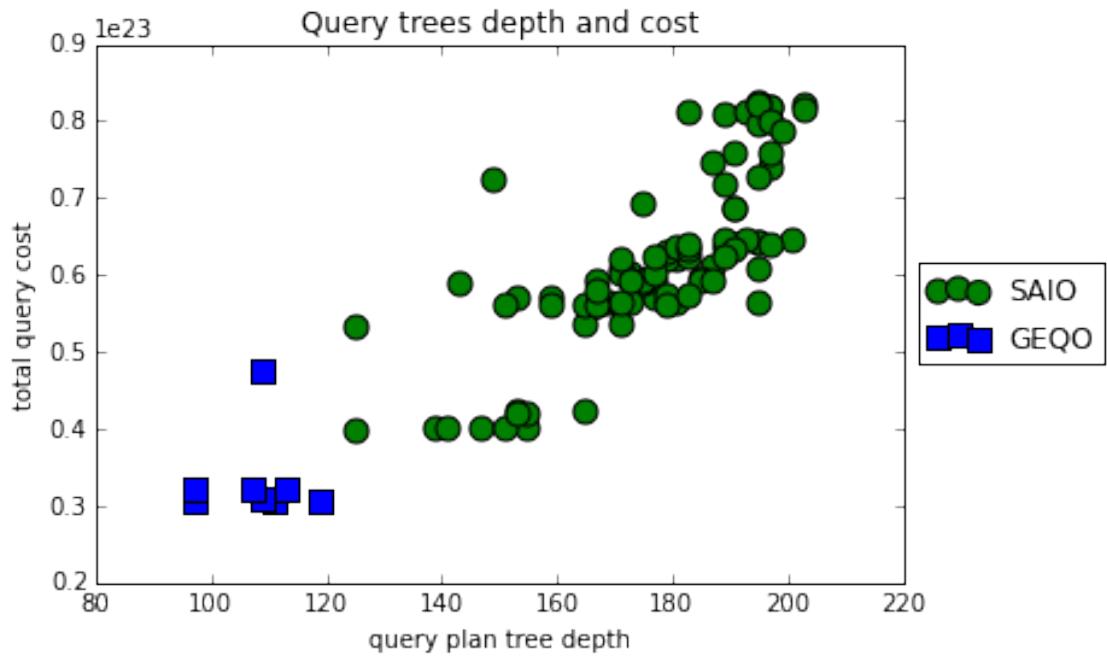
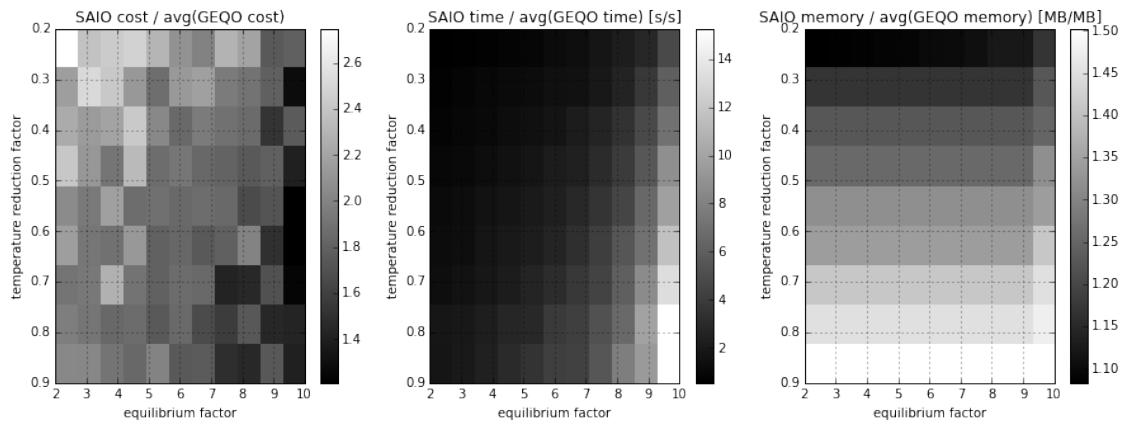
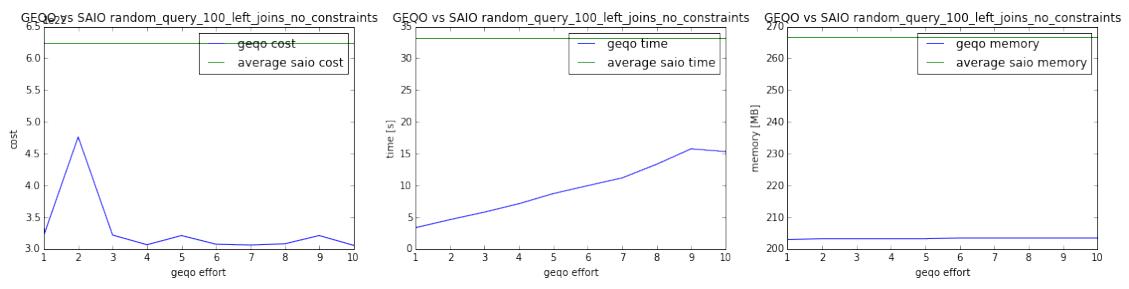
100 JOINS These queries would probably not complete during our lifetime, however the observations from the previous cases hold.

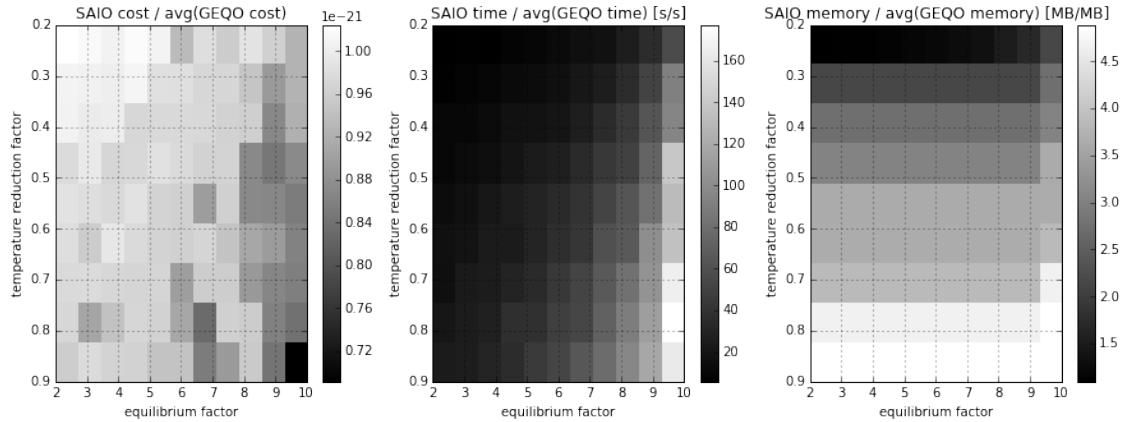
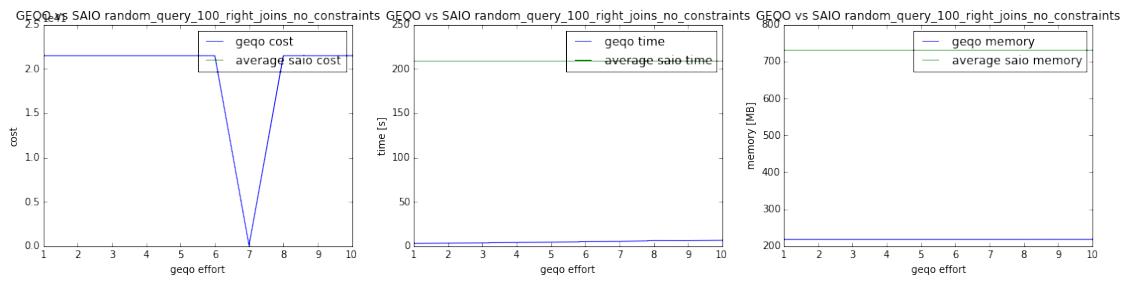
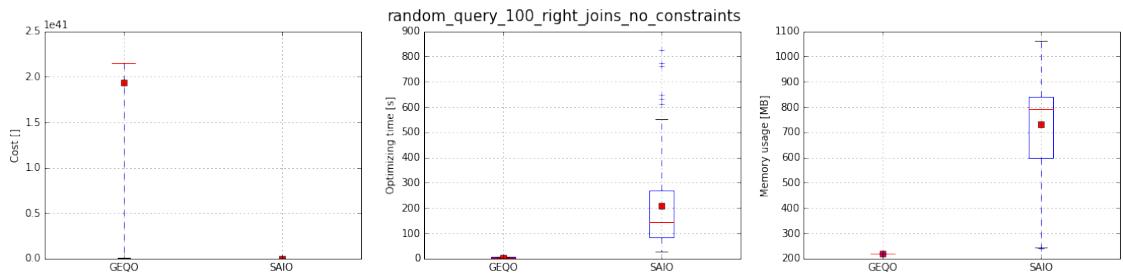
GEQO wins for JOINS and LEFT JOINS, SAIO wins for queries that contain RIGHT JOINS.

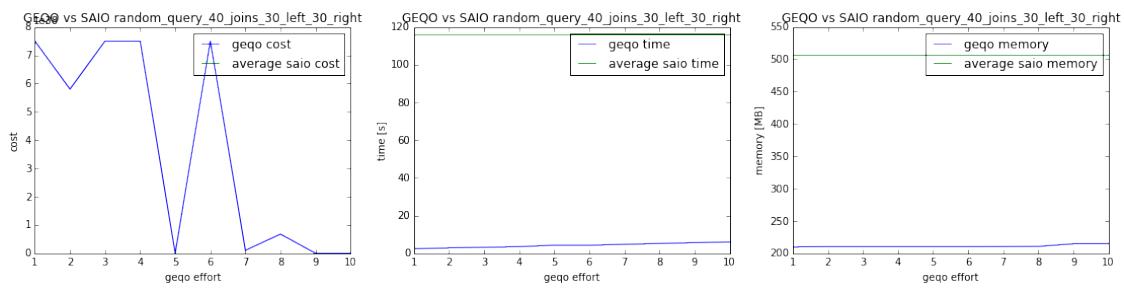
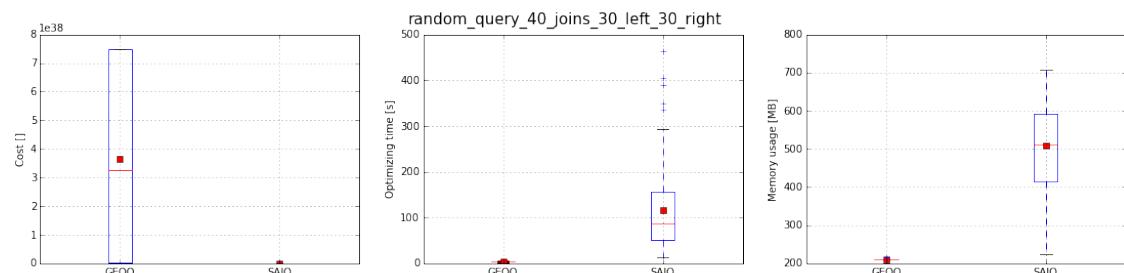
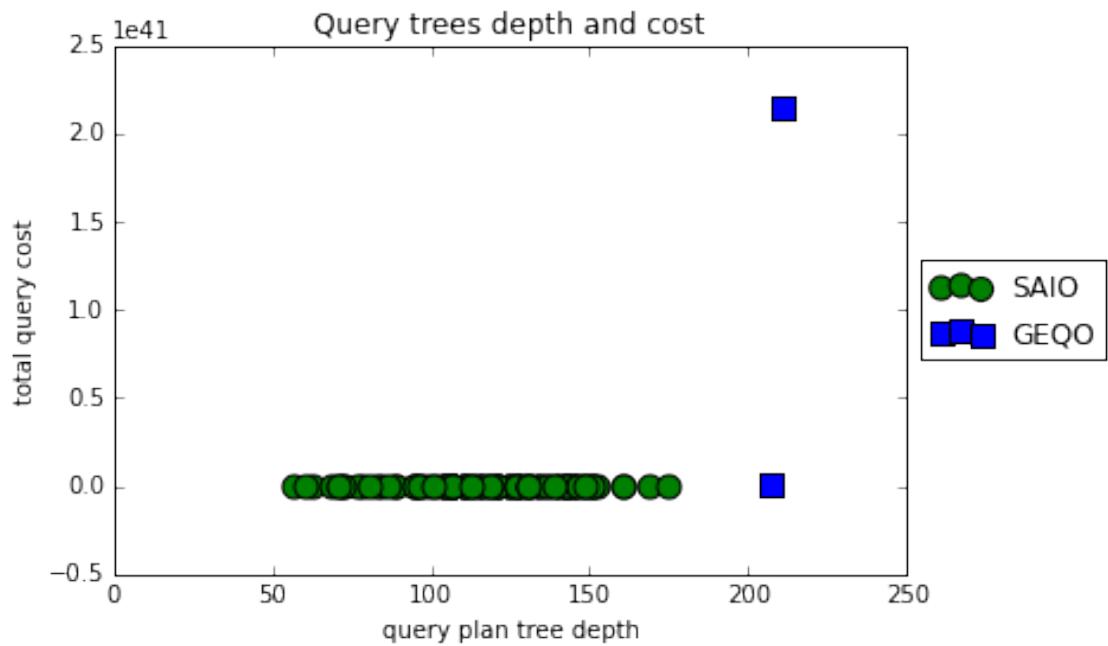
```
In [52]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_100_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_100_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_100_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_40_joins_30_left_30_right')
```

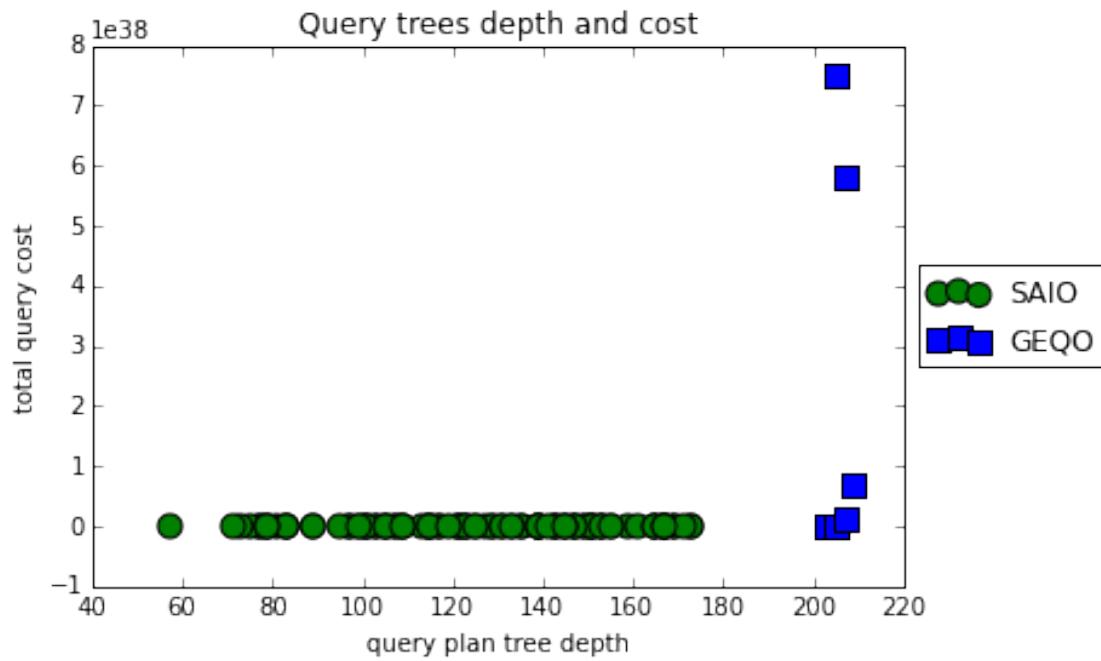
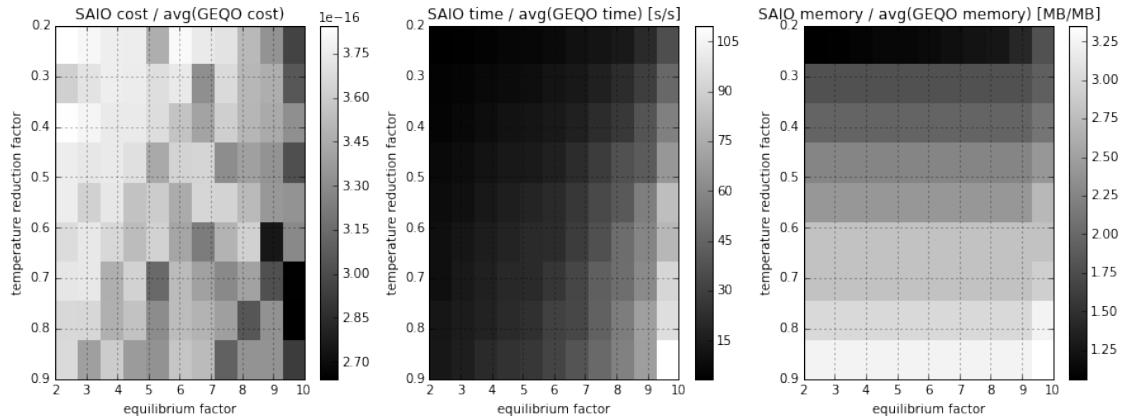






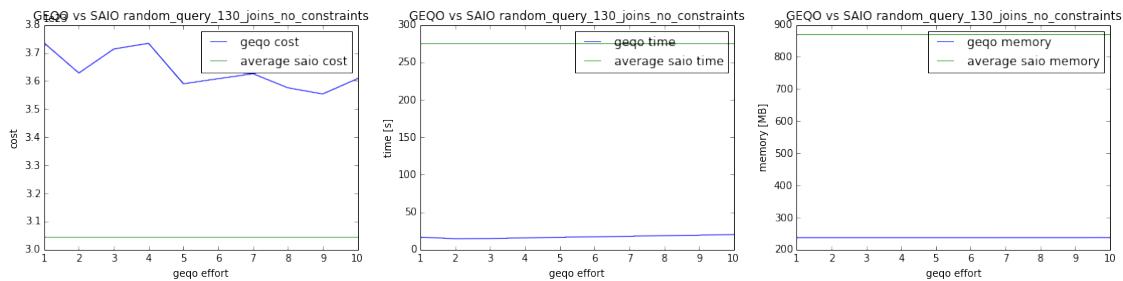
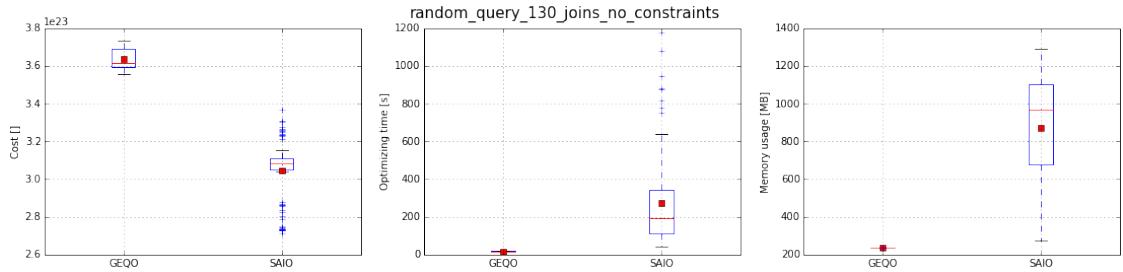




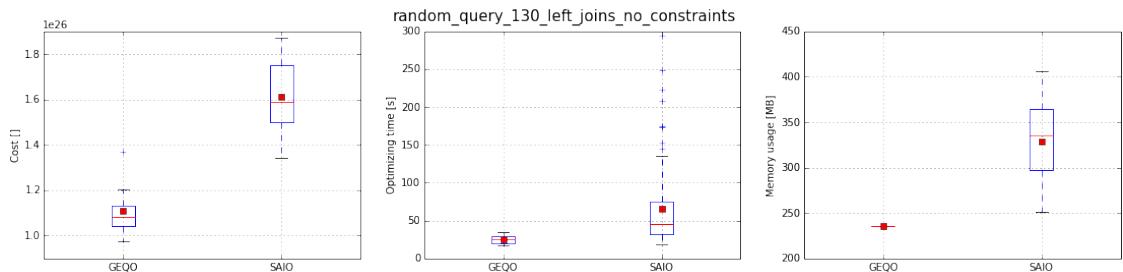
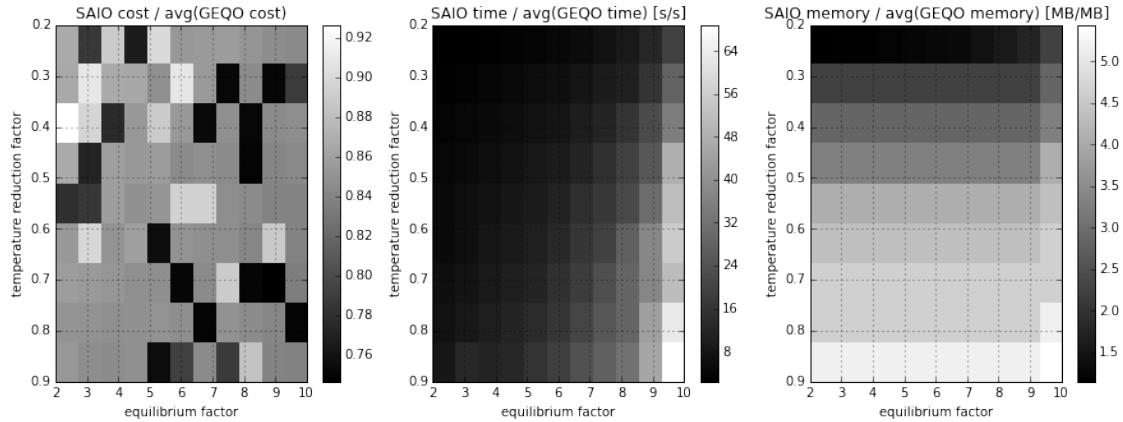


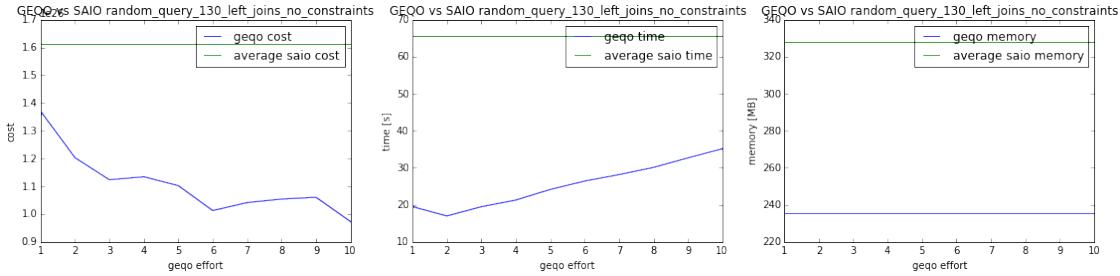
130 joins Previous observations hold.

```
In [16]: display_info_for_test_case('random_query_130_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_130_left_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_130_right_joins_no_constraints')
display_info_for_test_case('random_query_50_joins_40_left_40_right')
```

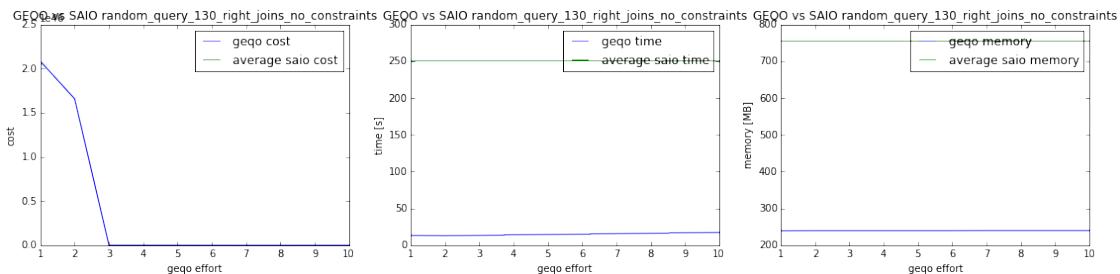
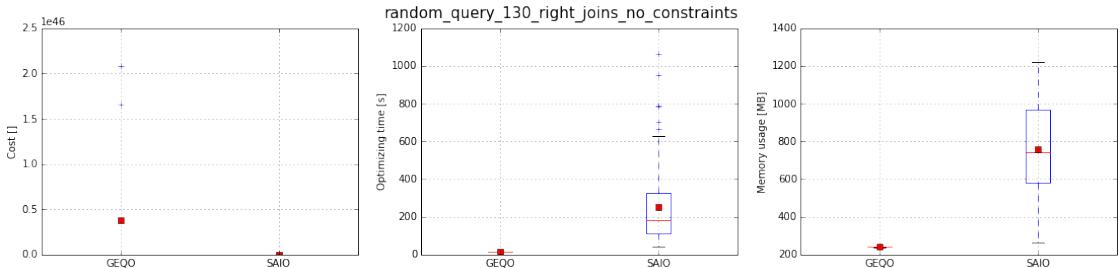
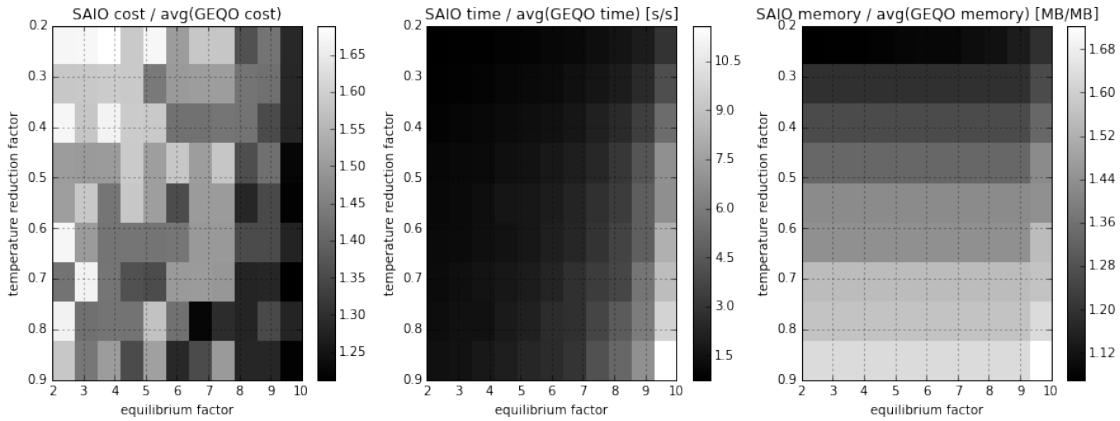


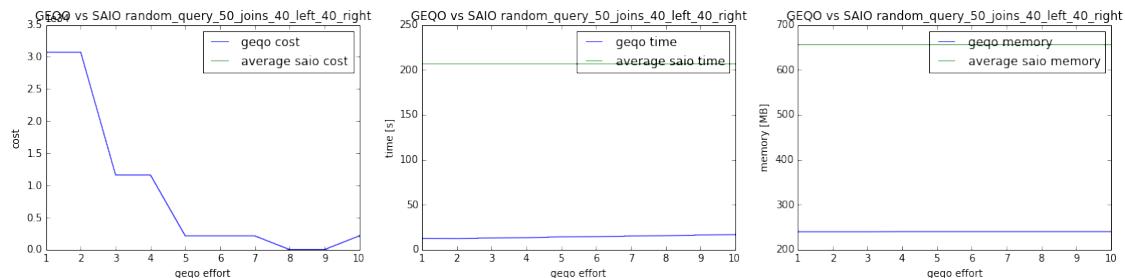
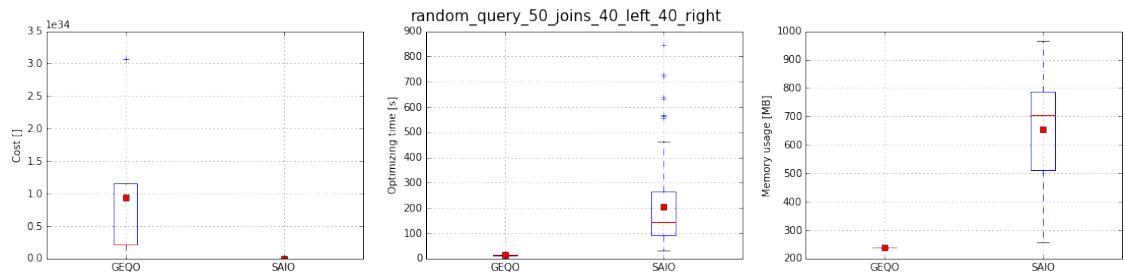
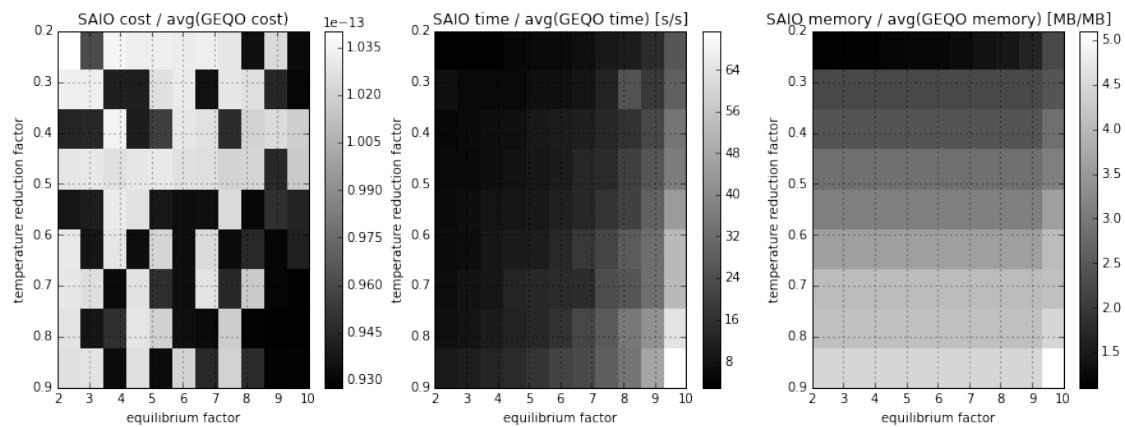
99

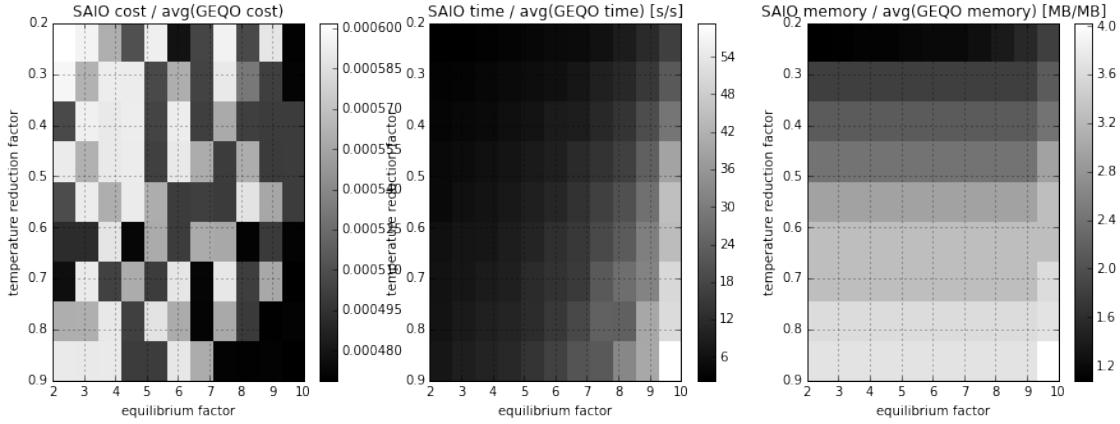




99







4.2.4 nested queries

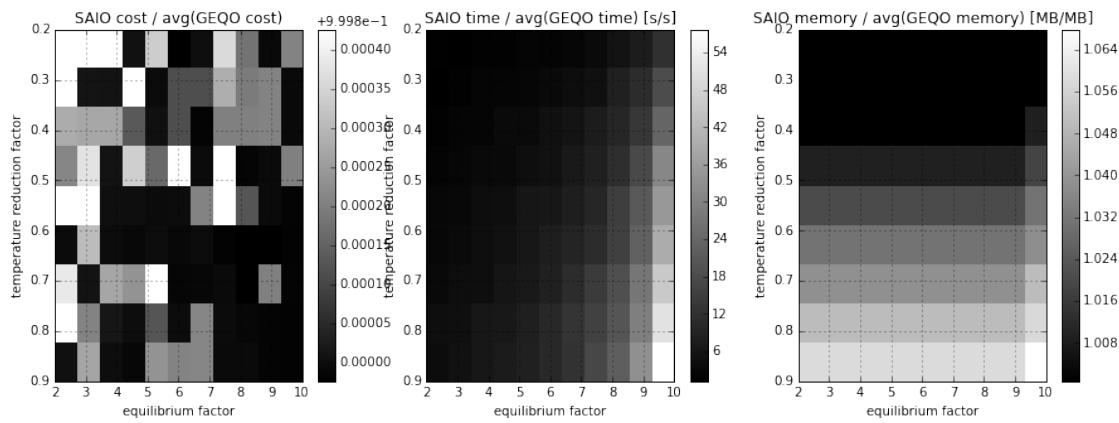
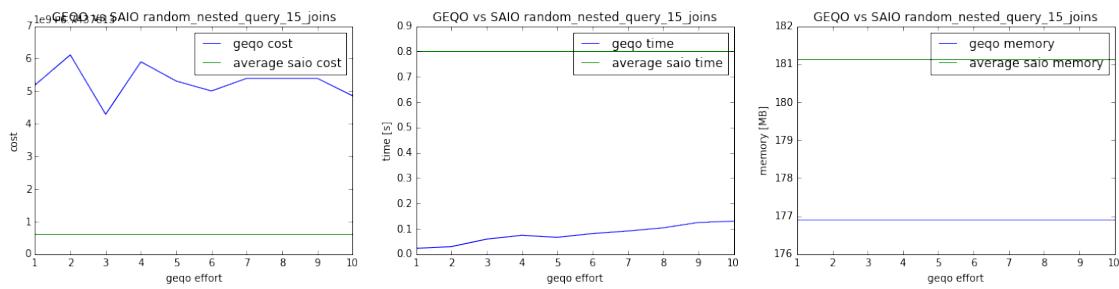
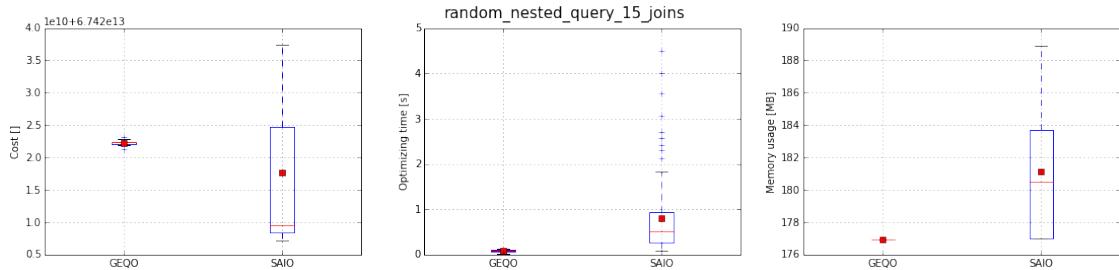
Example:

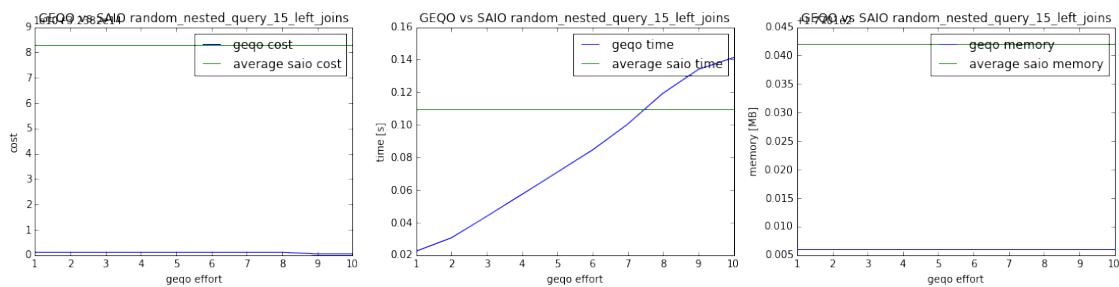
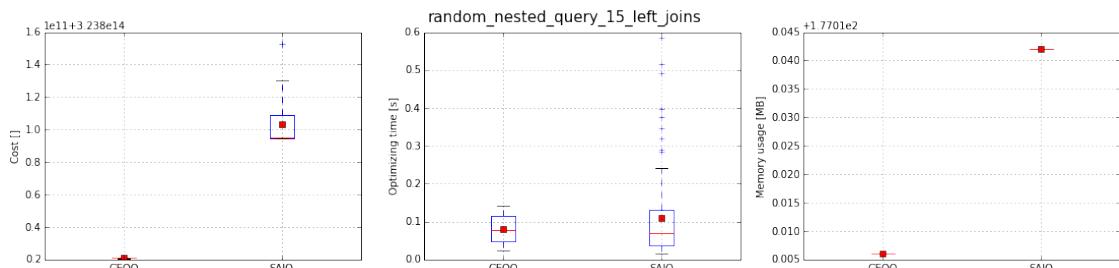
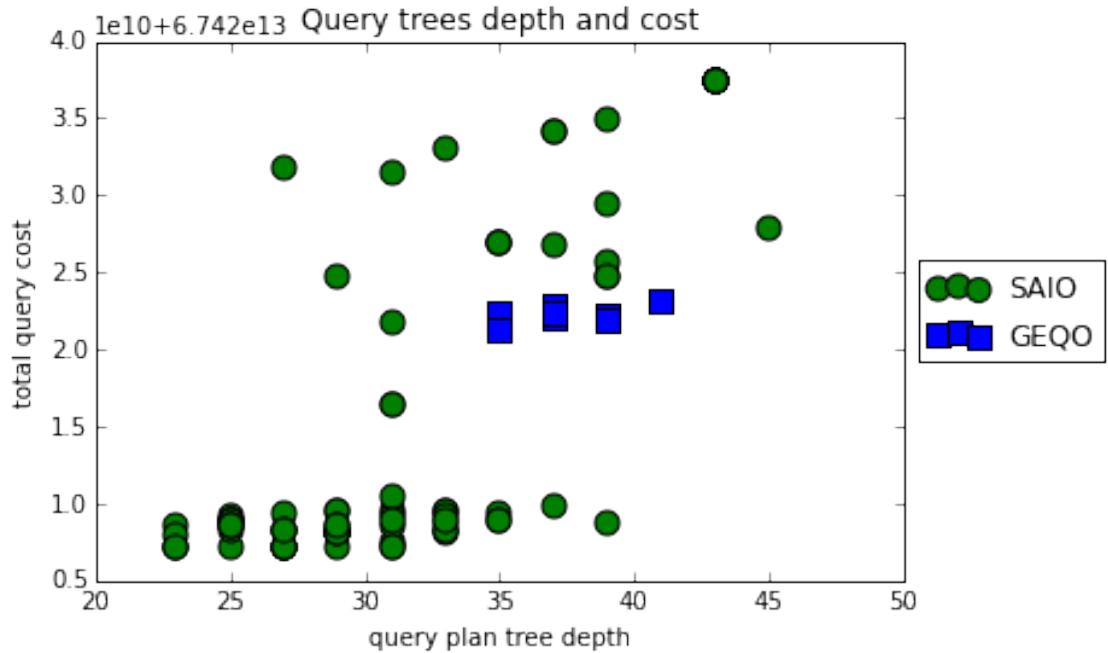
```
SELECT * FROM table_0 JOIN table_12 ON table_0.col_0 = table_12.col_3
JOIN table_11 ON table_12.col_1 = table_11.col_0
JOIN table_5 ON table_0.col_1 = table_5.col_1
JOIN table_13 ON table_0.col_0 = table_13.col_1
JOIN table_7 ON table_12.col_3 = table_7.col_1
JOIN table_8 ON table_11.col_0 = table_8.col_0
JOIN table_19 ON table_12.col_3 = table_19.col_1
JOIN table_3 ON table_12.col_1 = table_3.col_1
JOIN table_1 ON table_0.col_3 = table_1.col_2
JOIN table_17 ON table_5.col_1 = table_17.col_0
JOIN (
    SELECT * FROM table_0 JOIN table_5 ON table_0.col_1 = table_5.col_0
) AS subquery_table_0_299
    ON TRUE
JOIN table_15 ON table_12.col_0 = table_15.col_2
JOIN table_6 ON table_12.col_3 = table_6.col_0
JOIN table_16 ON table_0.col_0 = table_16.col_0;
```

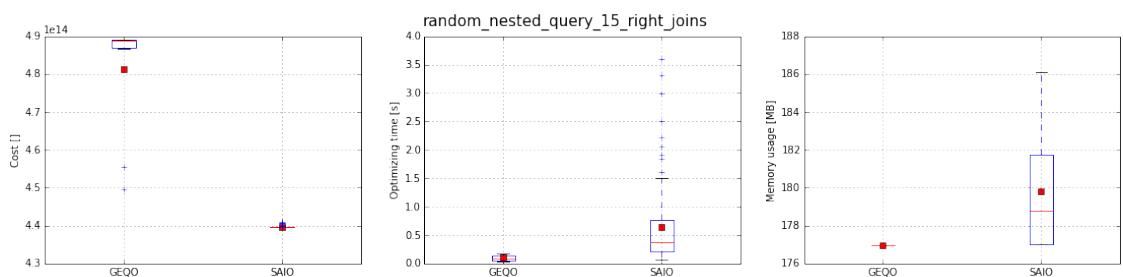
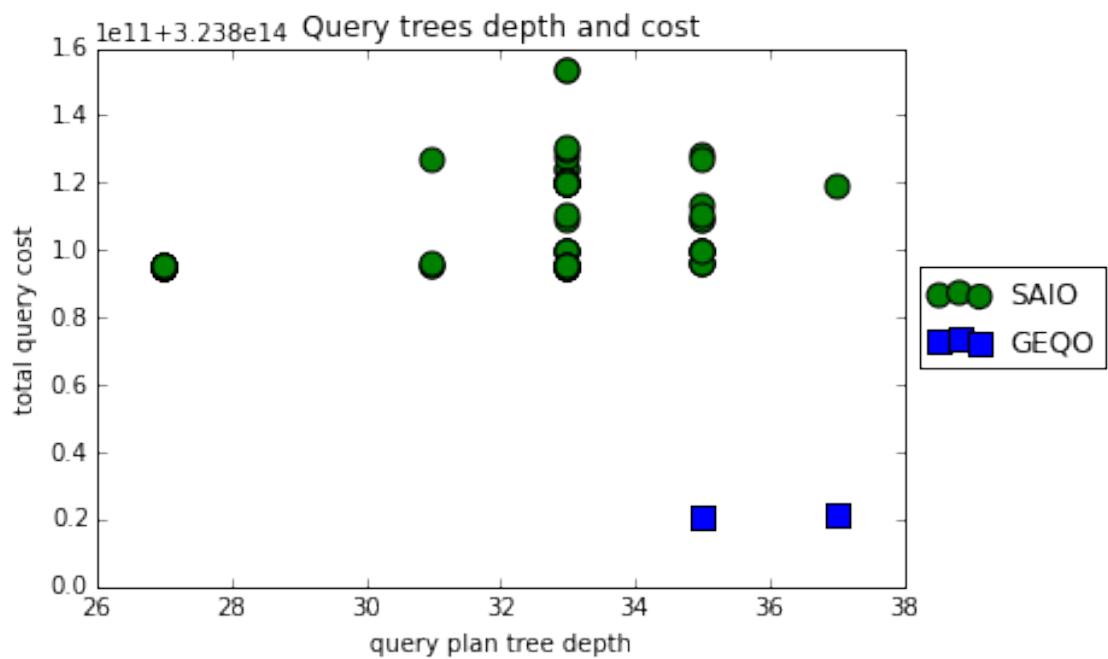
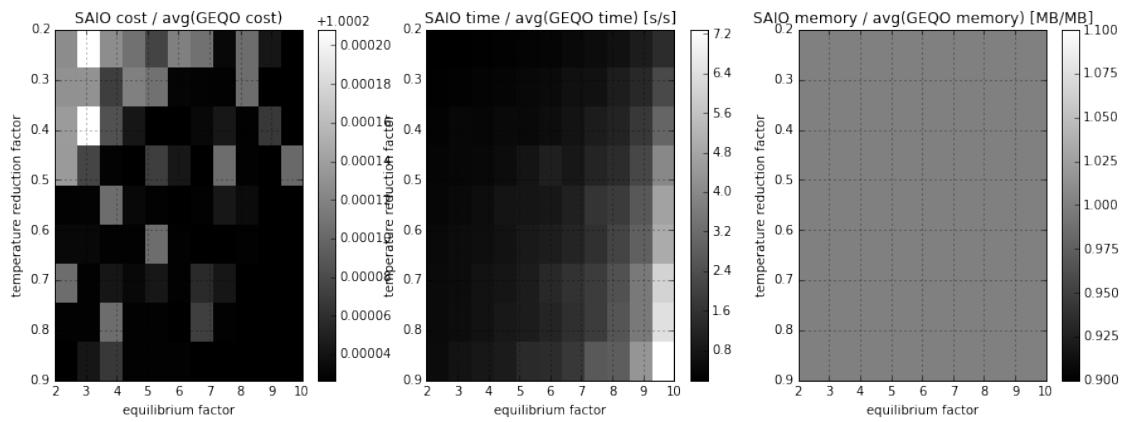
15-20 JOINS For nested queries with 15-20 JOINS we can observe similar situation as for flat queries with such parameters.

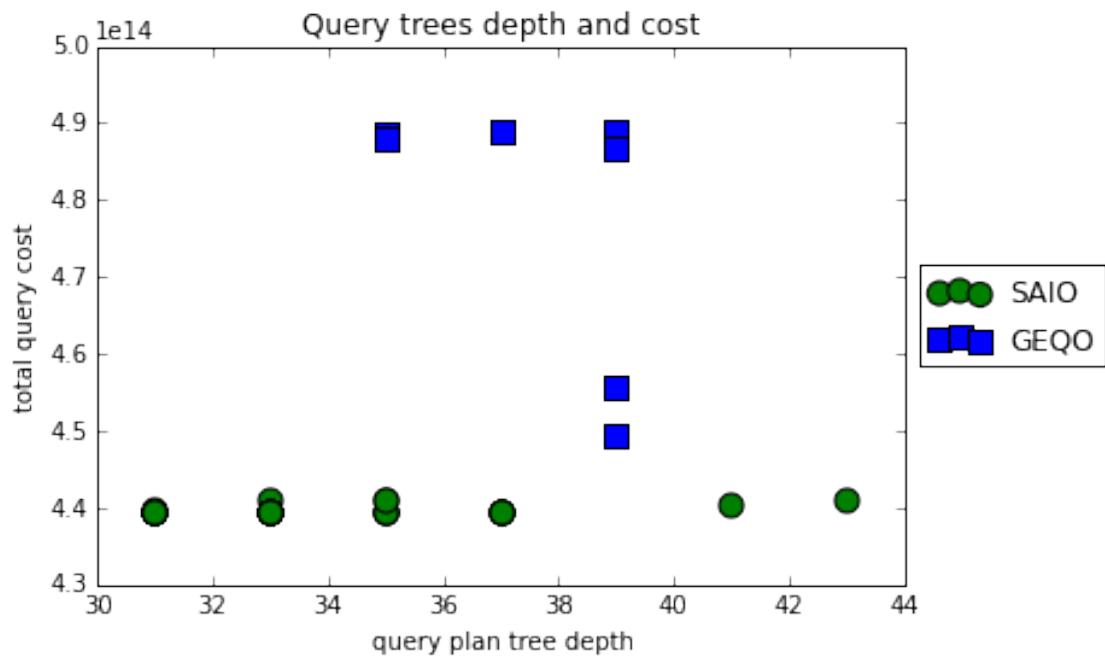
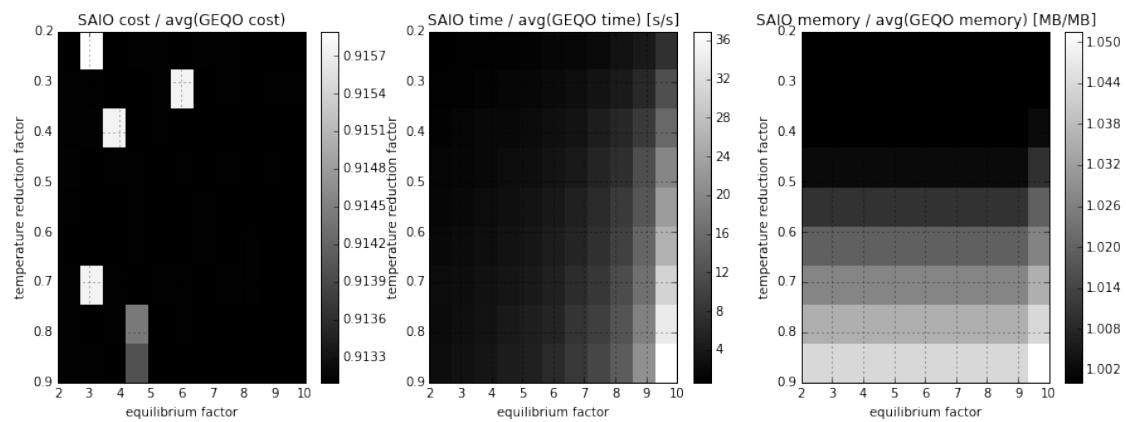
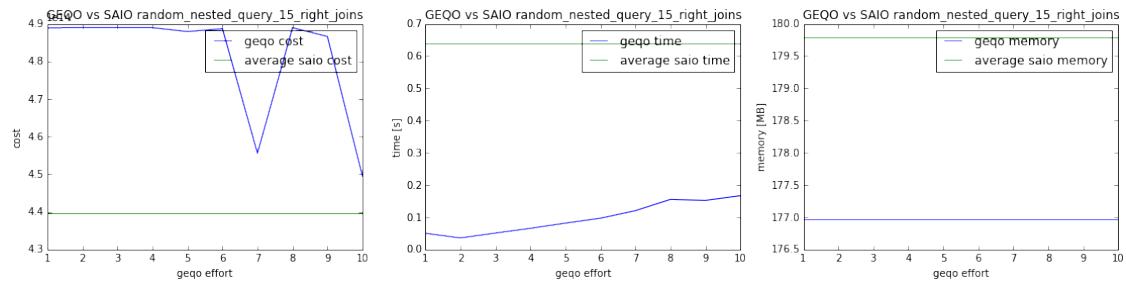
SAIO wins for queries that use JOINS or contain RIGHT JOINS. GEQO wins at optimizing queries with LEFT JOINS.

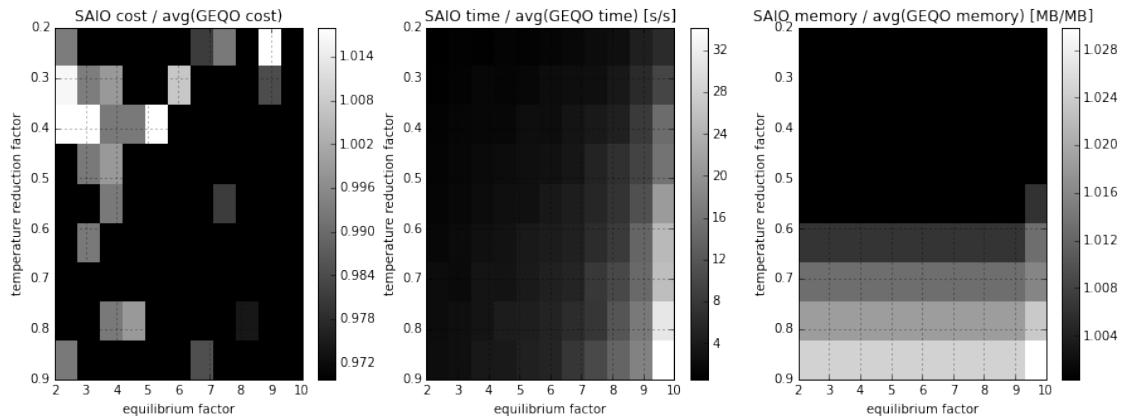
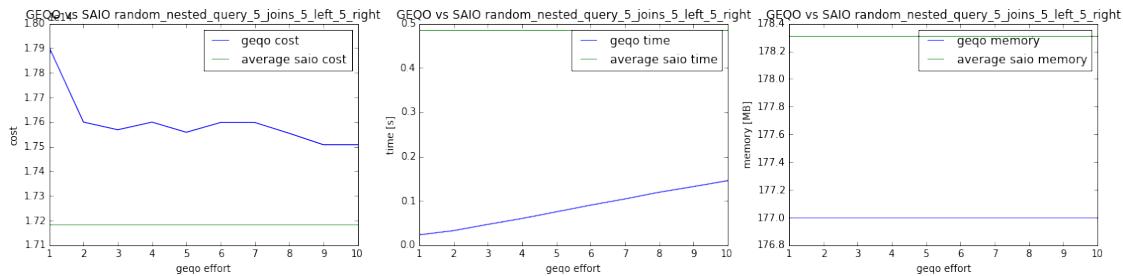
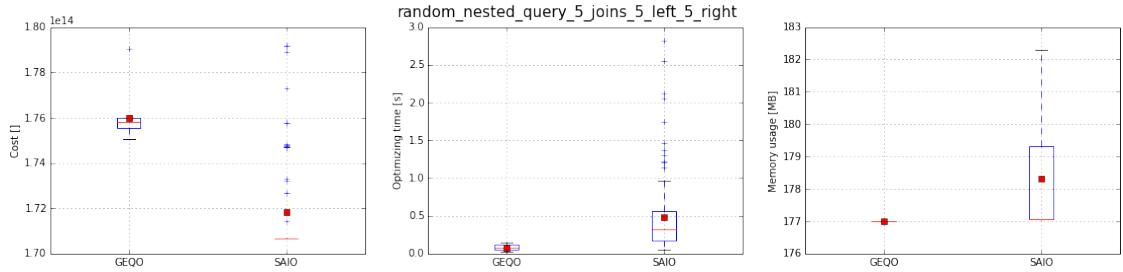
```
In [8]: display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_15_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_15_left_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_15_right_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_5_joins_5_left_5_right')
```

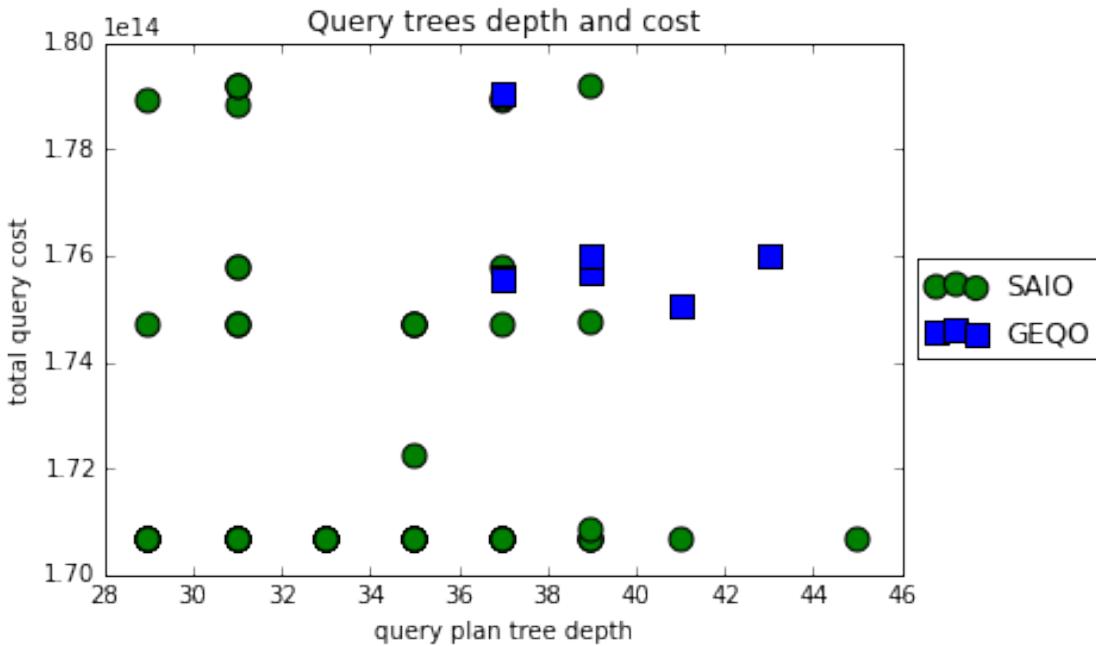






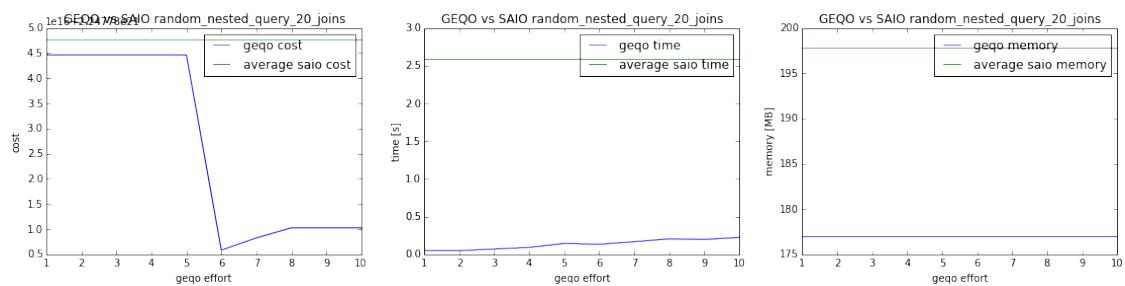
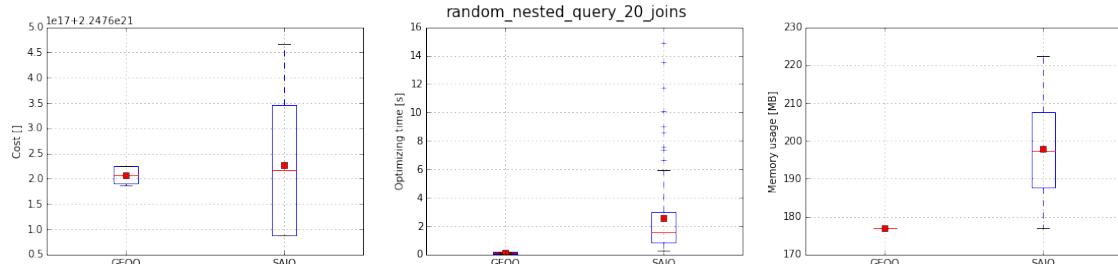


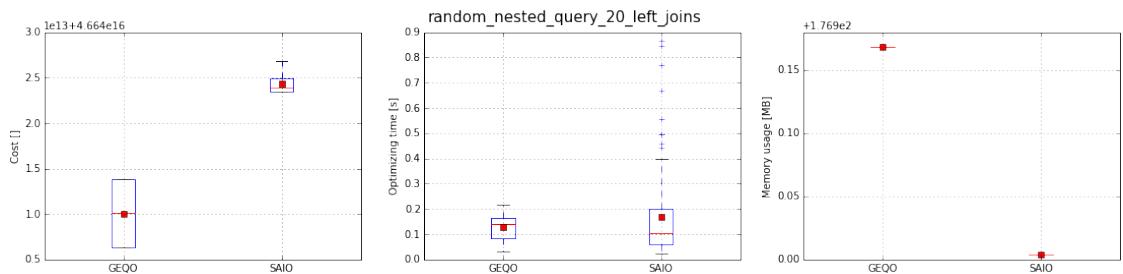
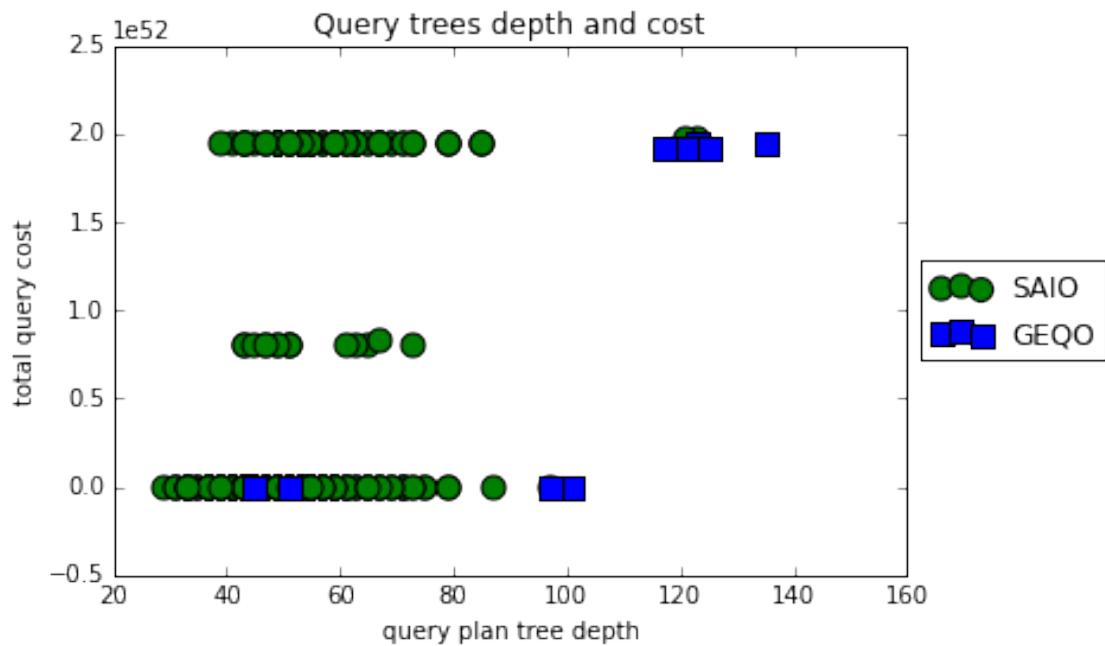
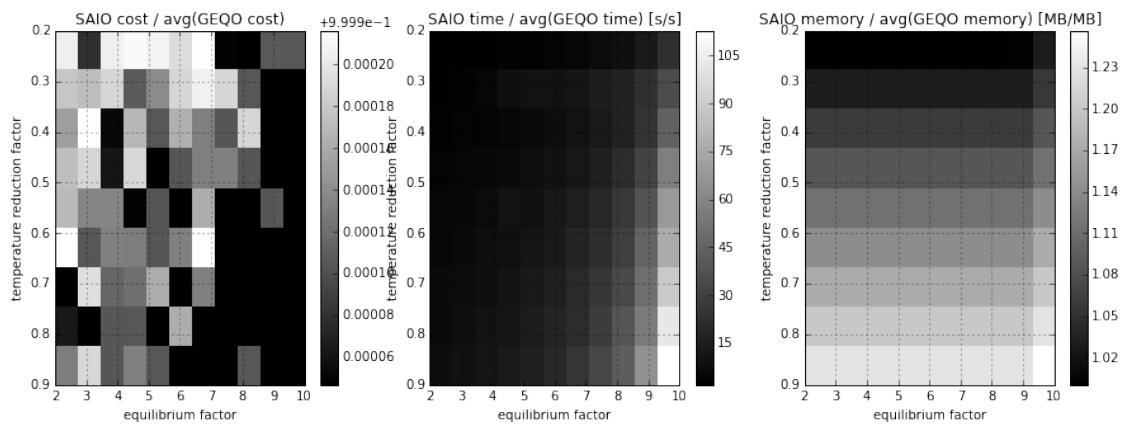


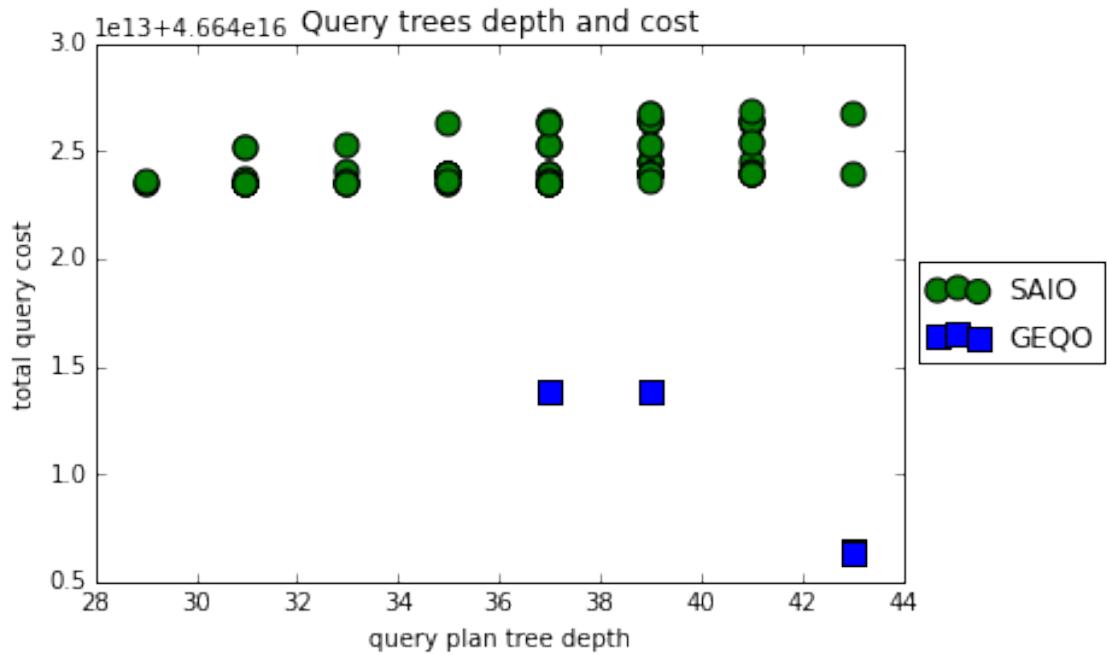
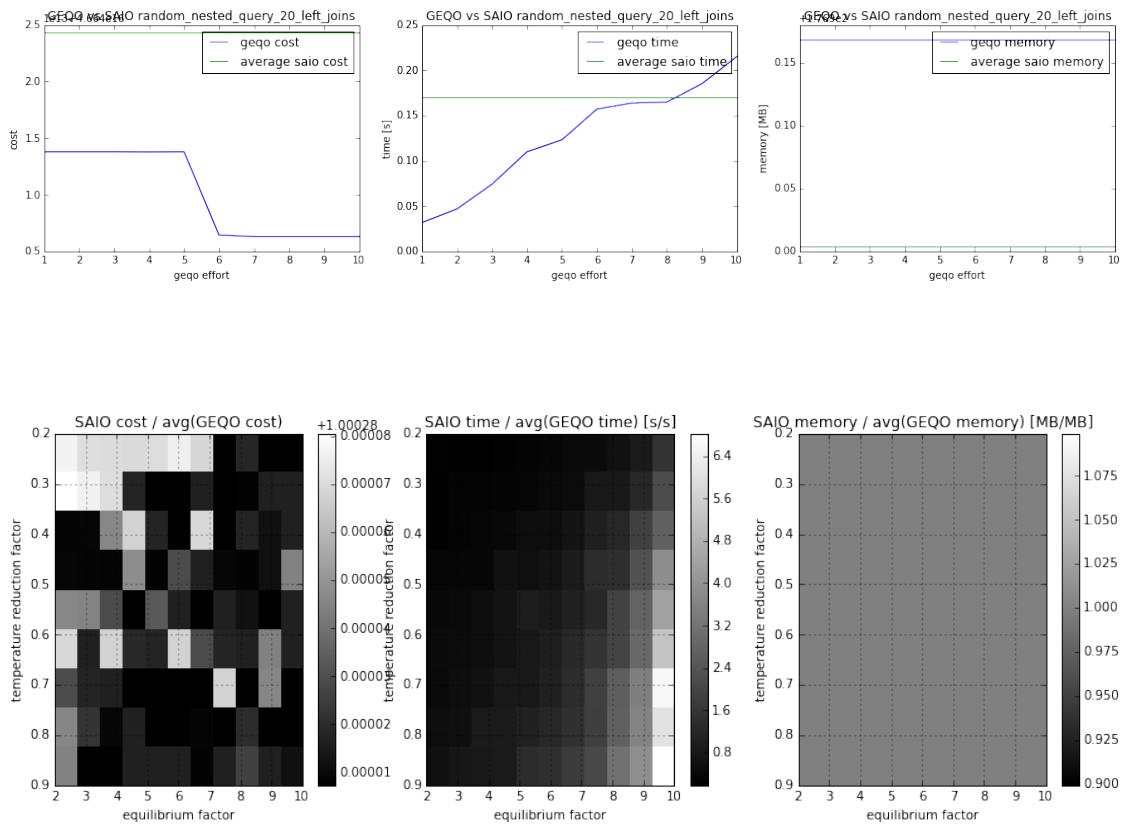


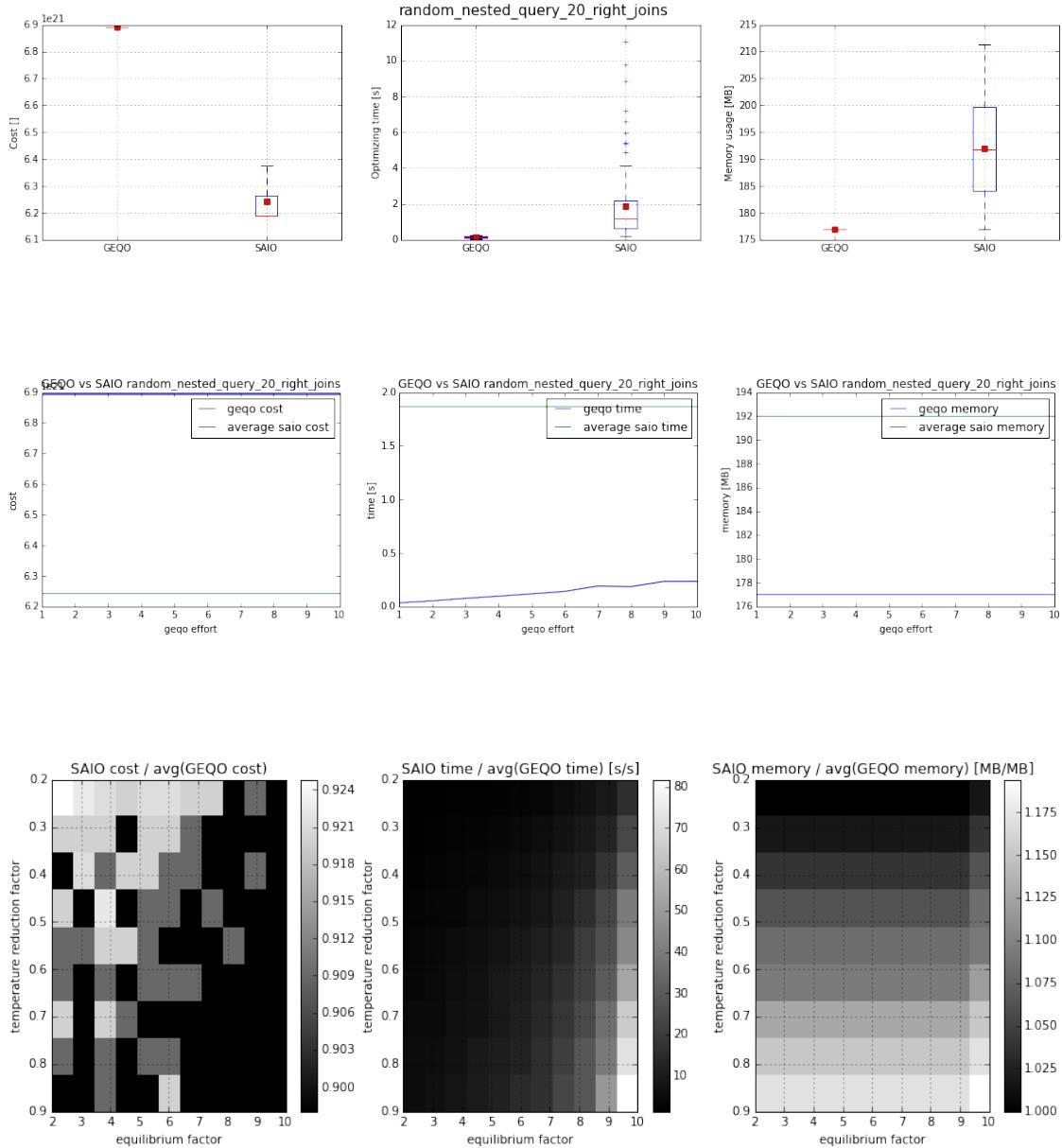
20-25 JOINS SAIO and GEQO are comparable for queries with 20-25 JOINS. GEQO wins at LEFT JOINS. SAIO wins at RIGHT JOINS.

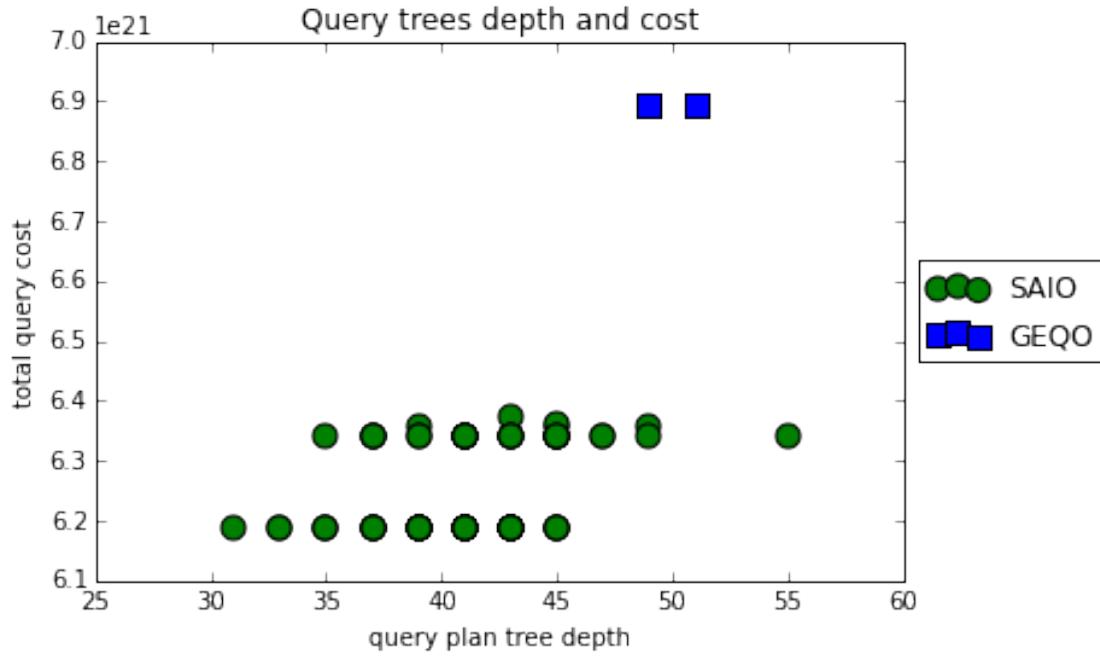
```
In [5]: display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_20_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_20_left_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_20_right_joins')
```





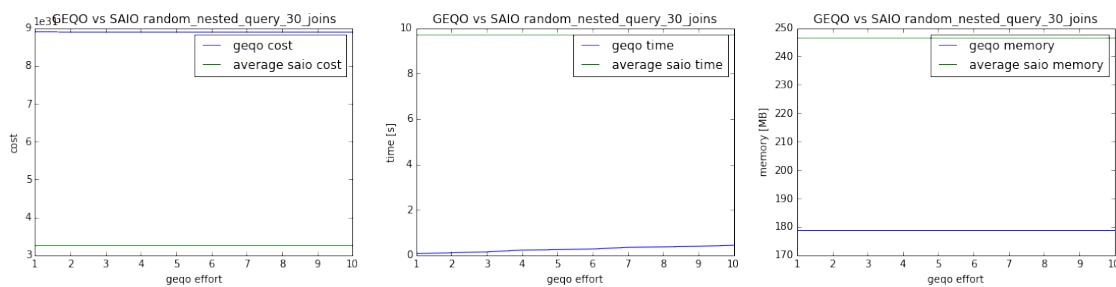
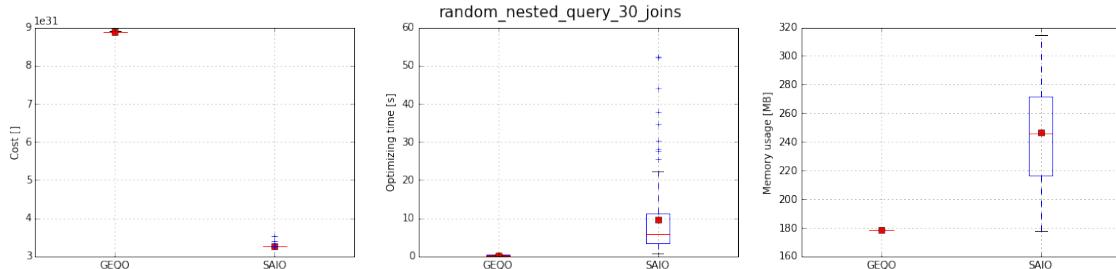


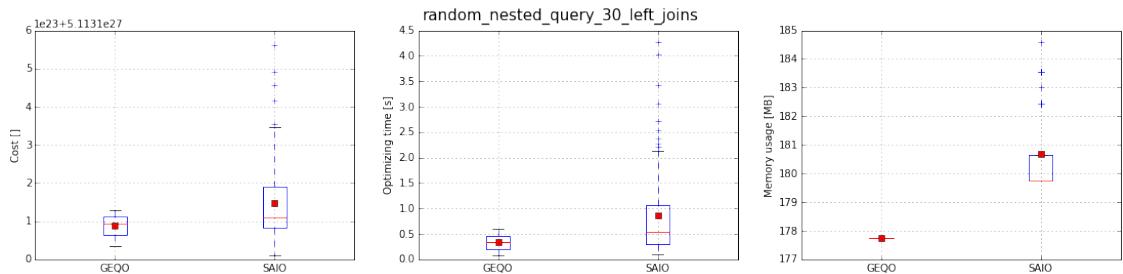
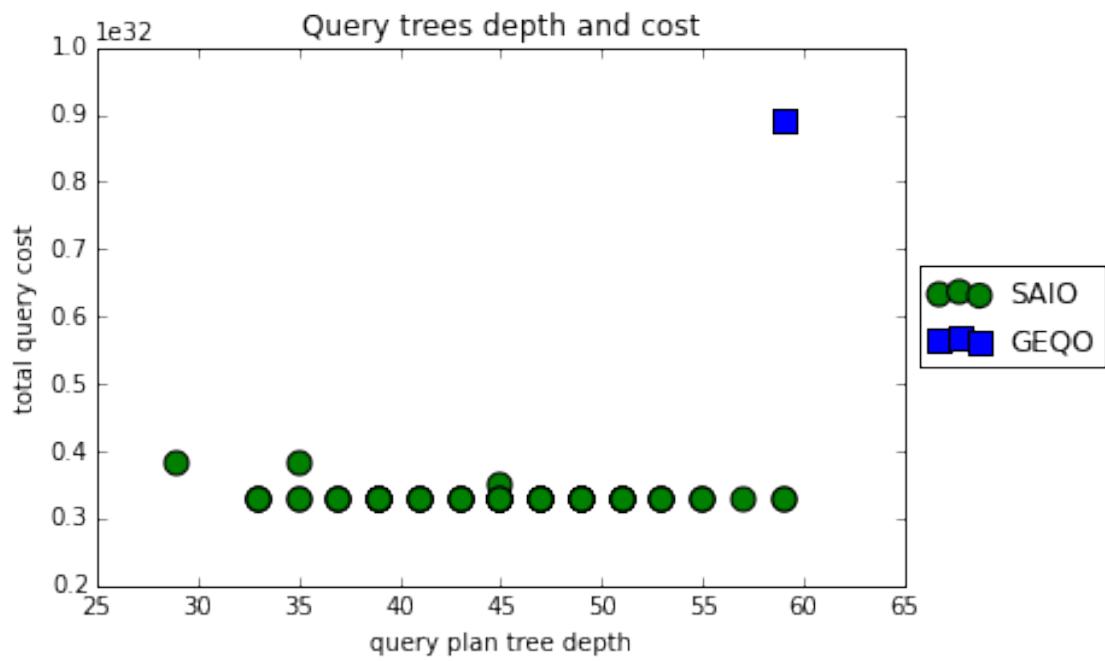
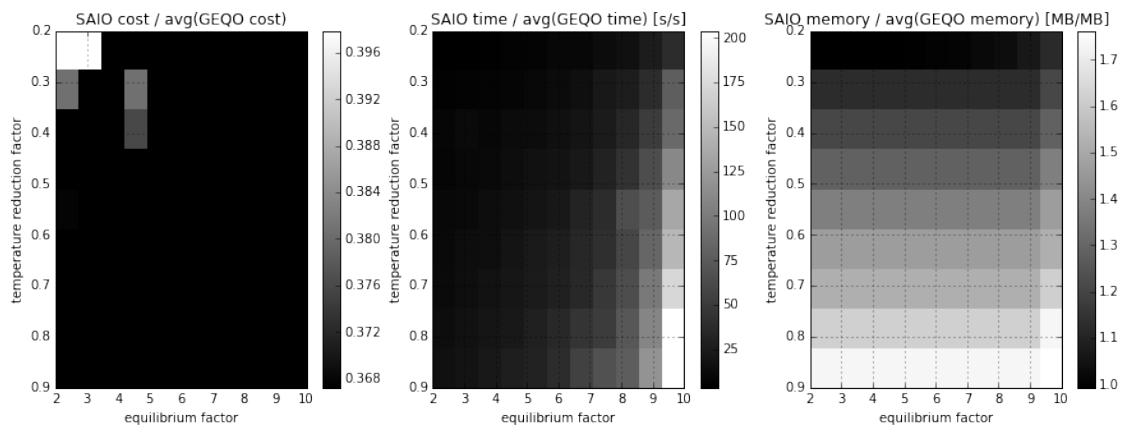


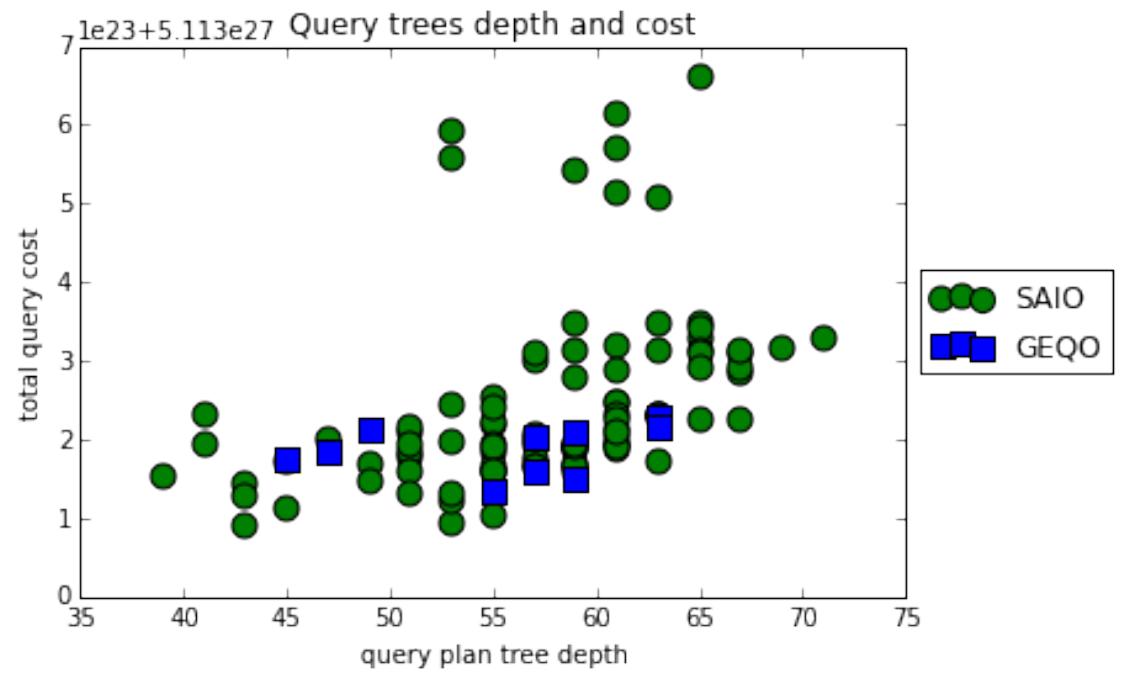
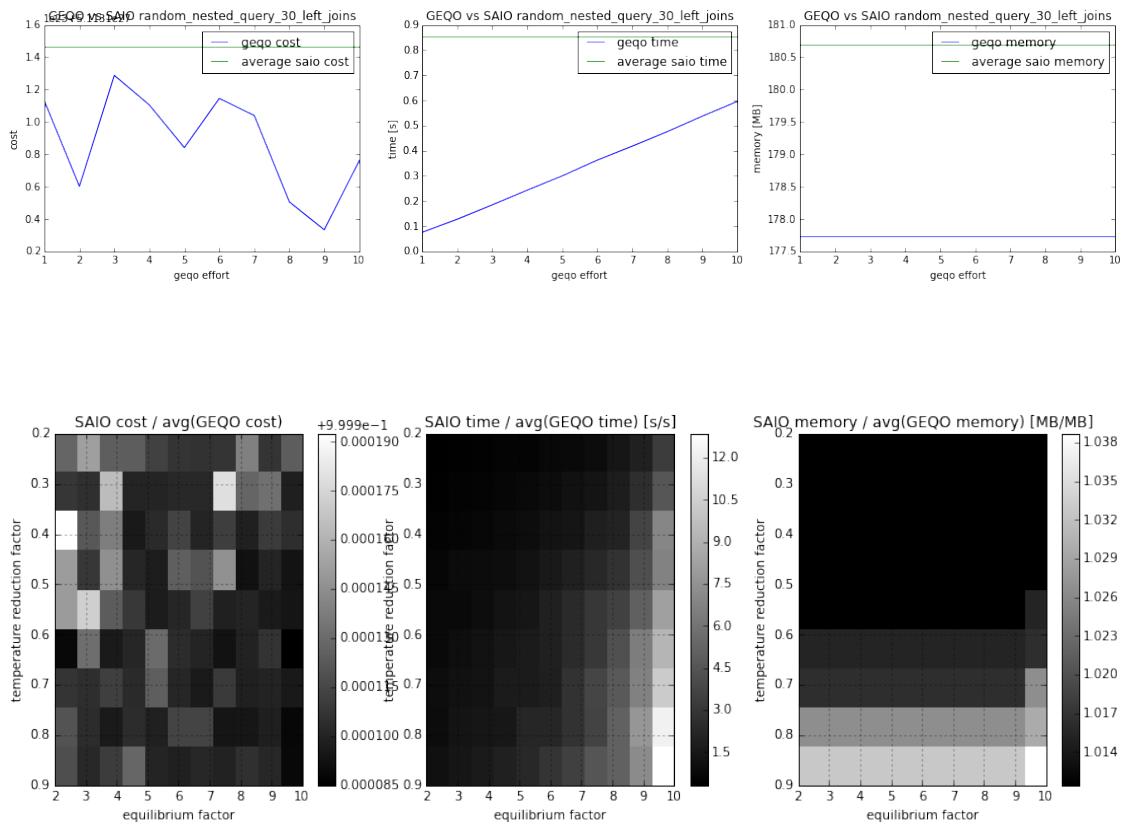


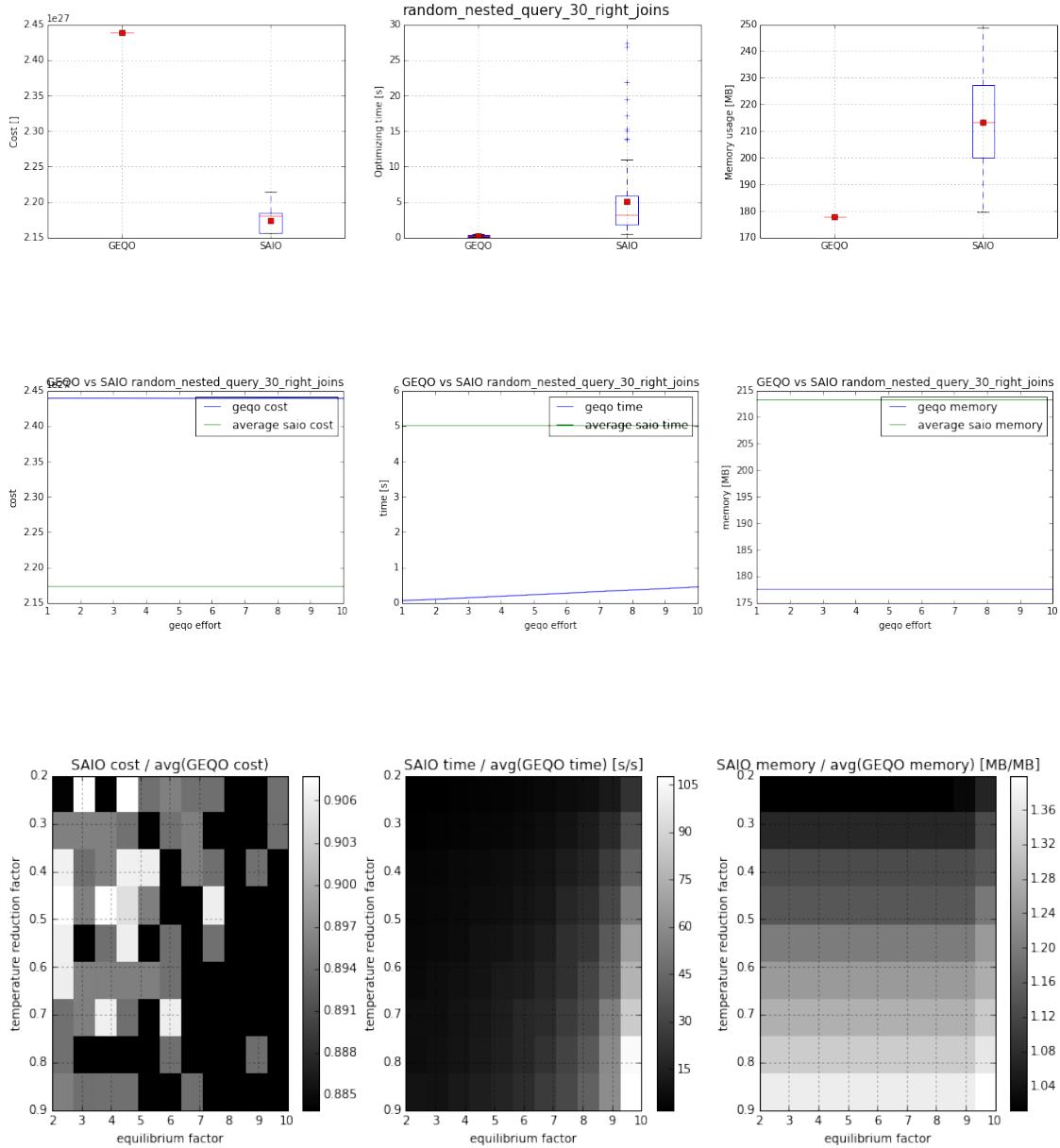
30-35 JOINS Here SAIO finds better results for queries with 30-35 JOINS, RIGHT JOINS and mixed. Solutions for queries with LEFT JOINS are comparable between GEQO and SAIO.

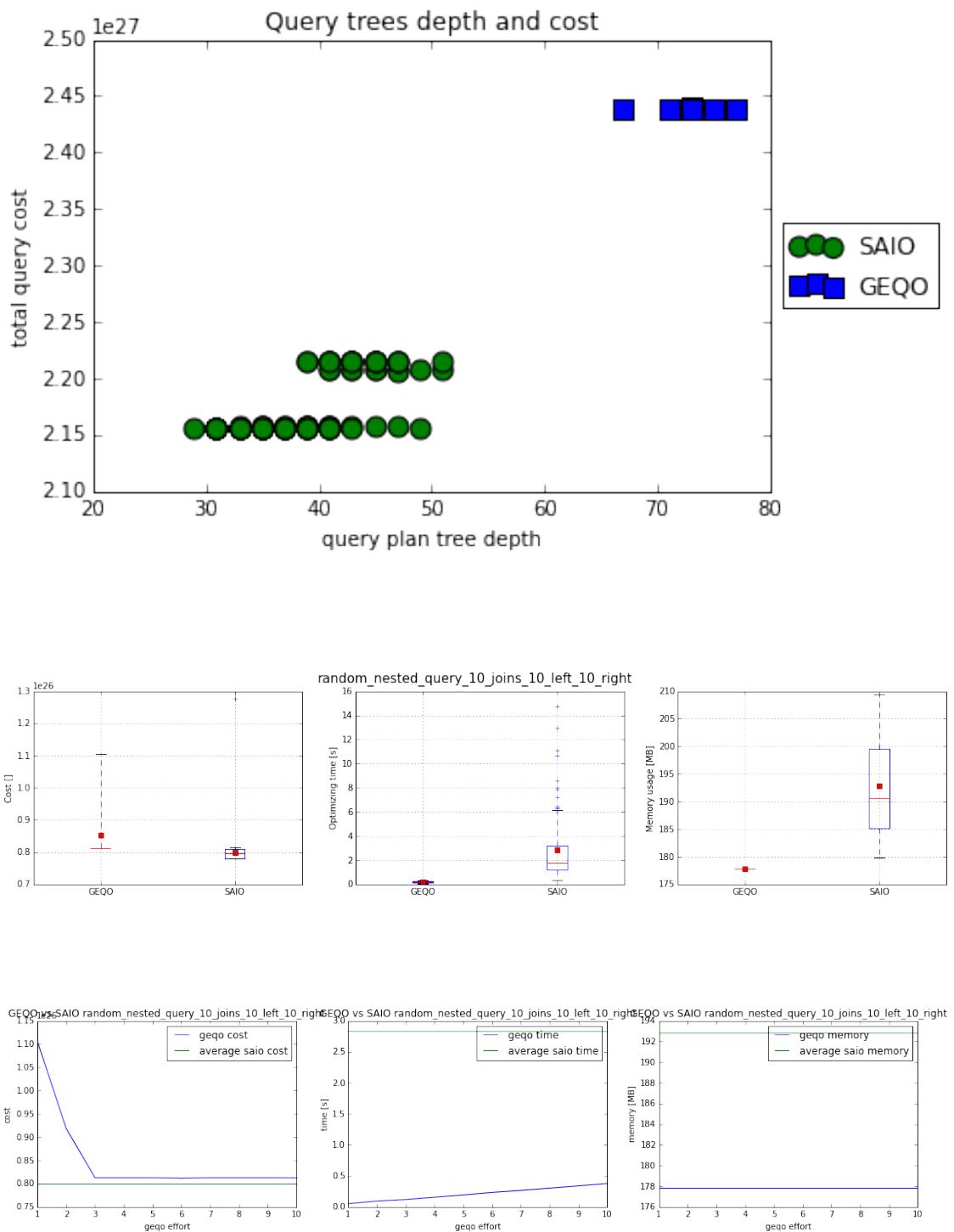
```
In [12]: display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_30_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_30_left_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_30_right_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_10_joins_10_left_10_right')
```

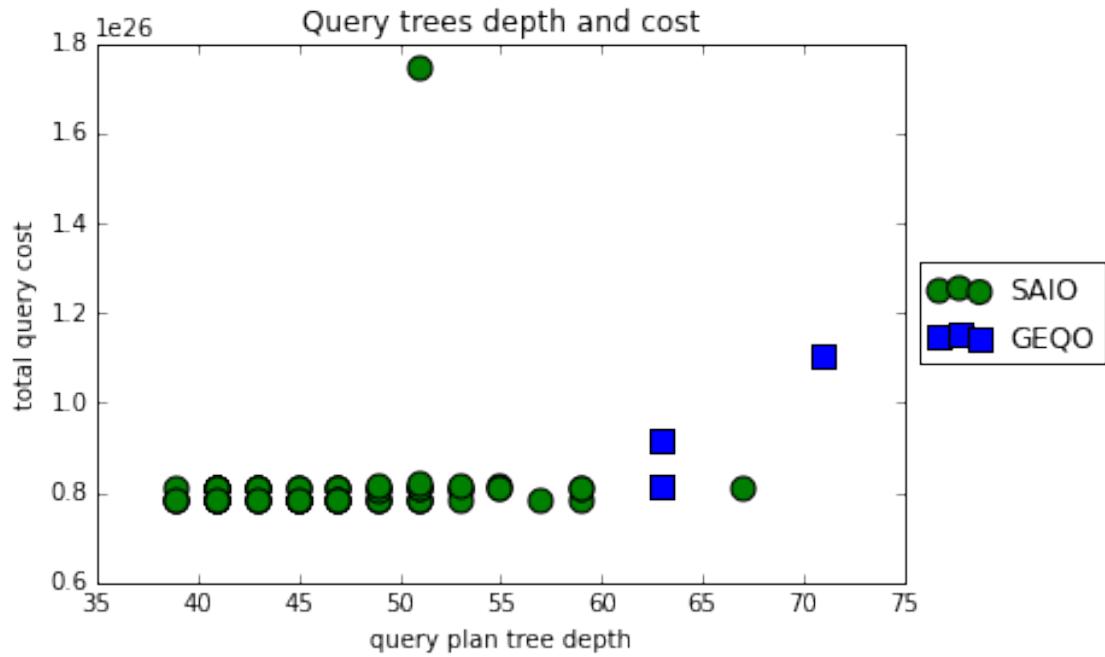
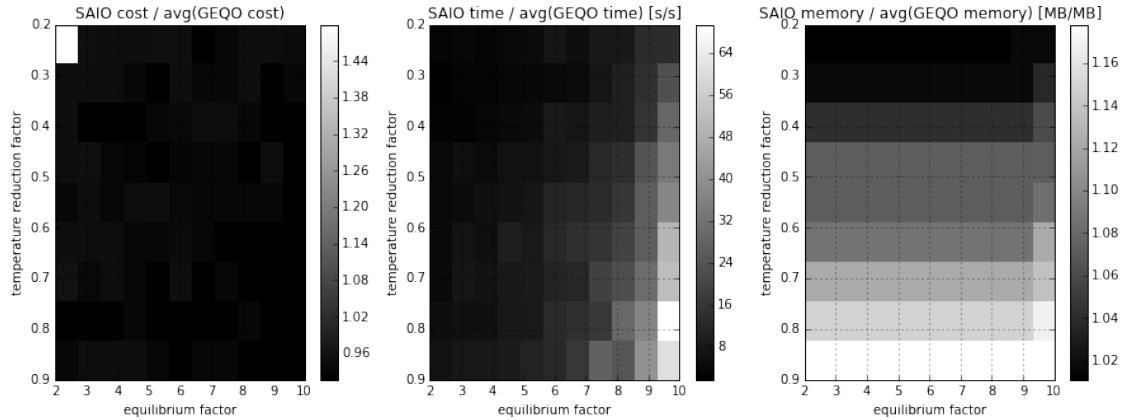






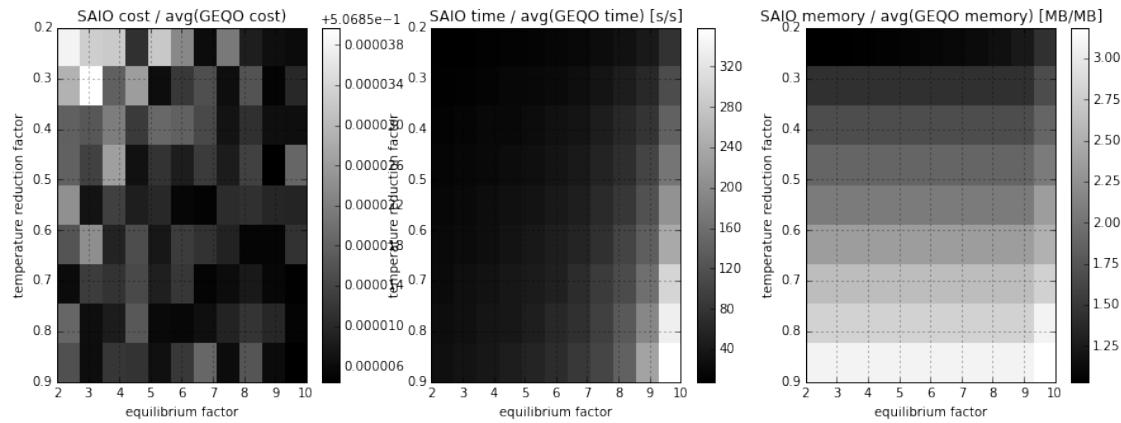
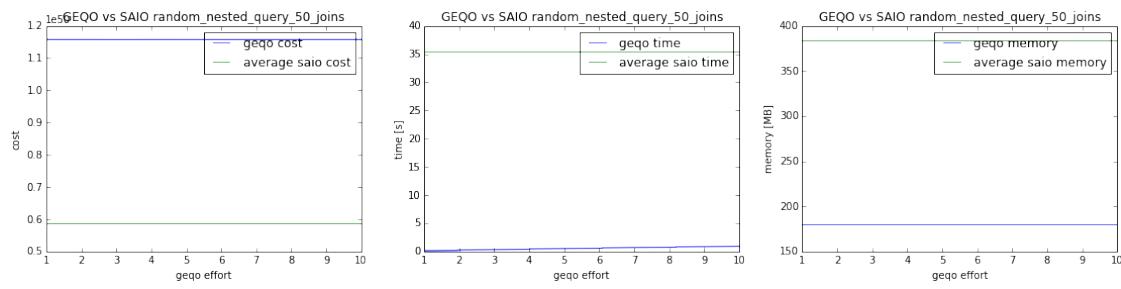
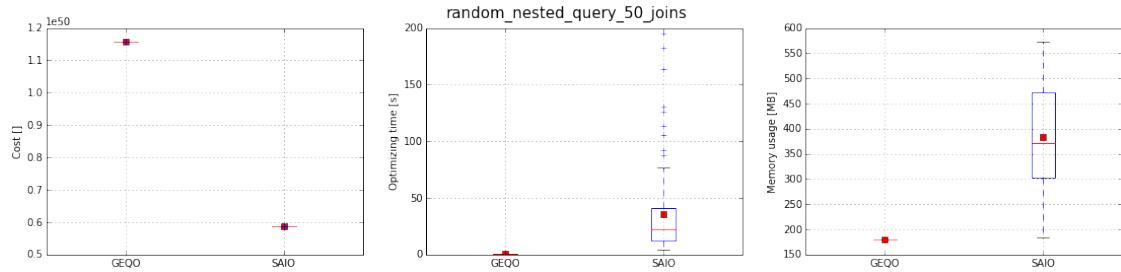


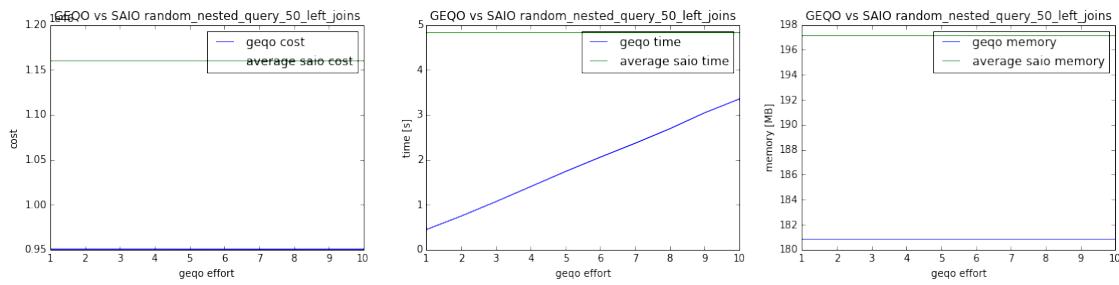
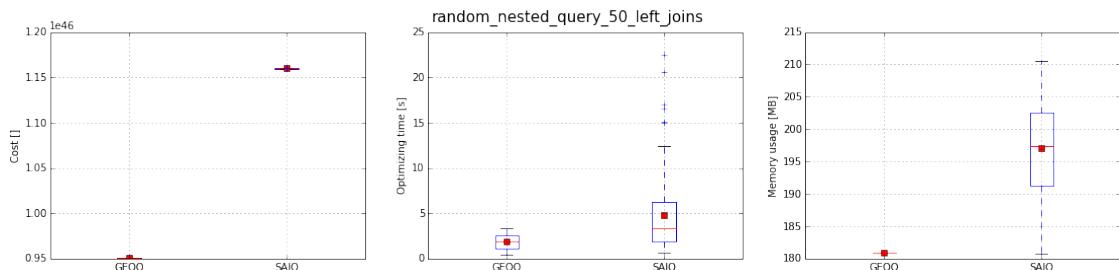
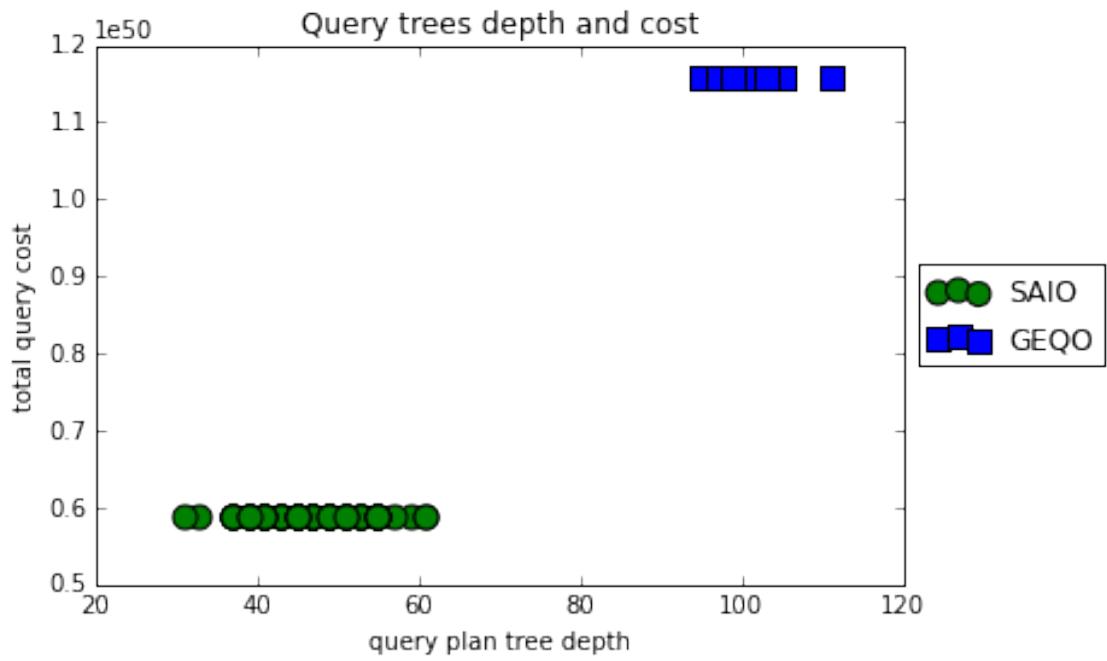


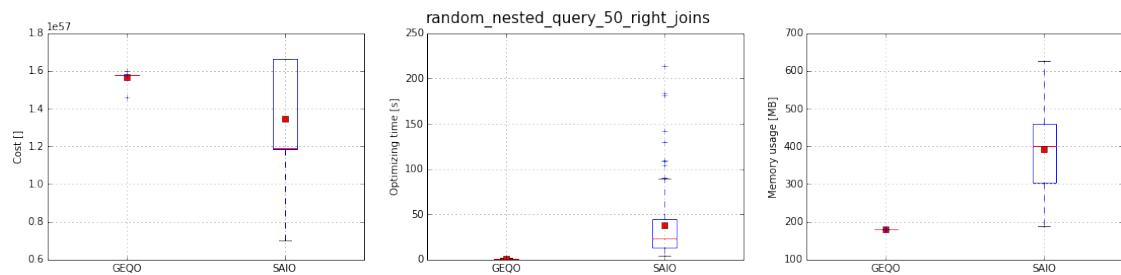
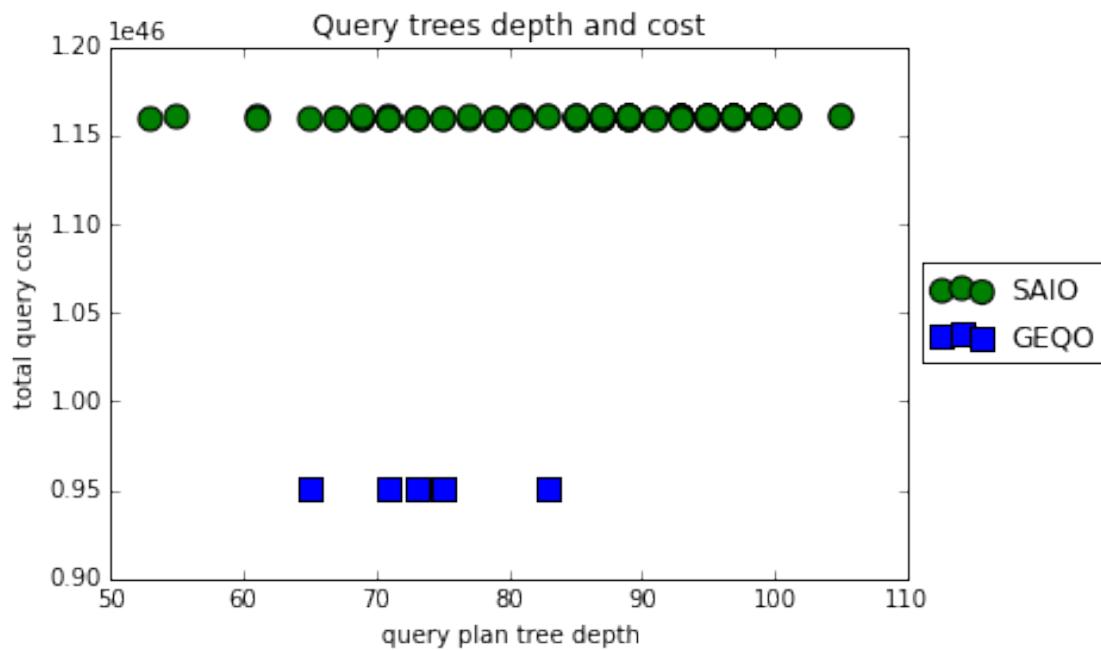
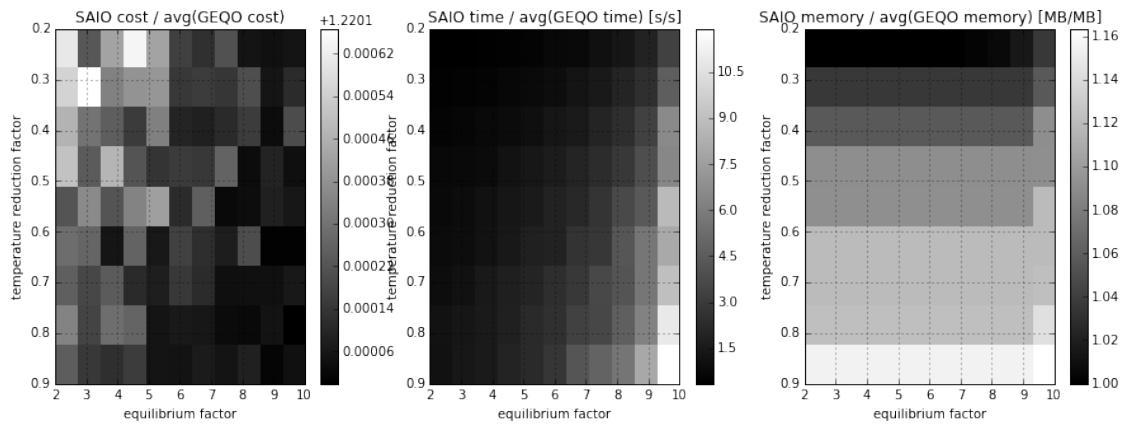


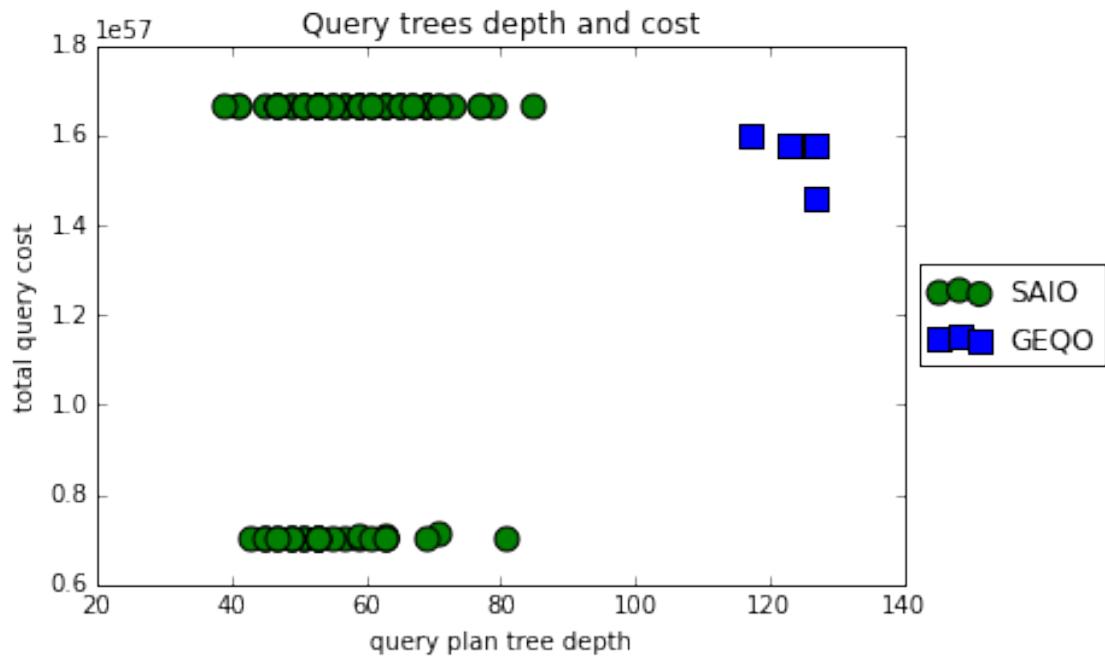
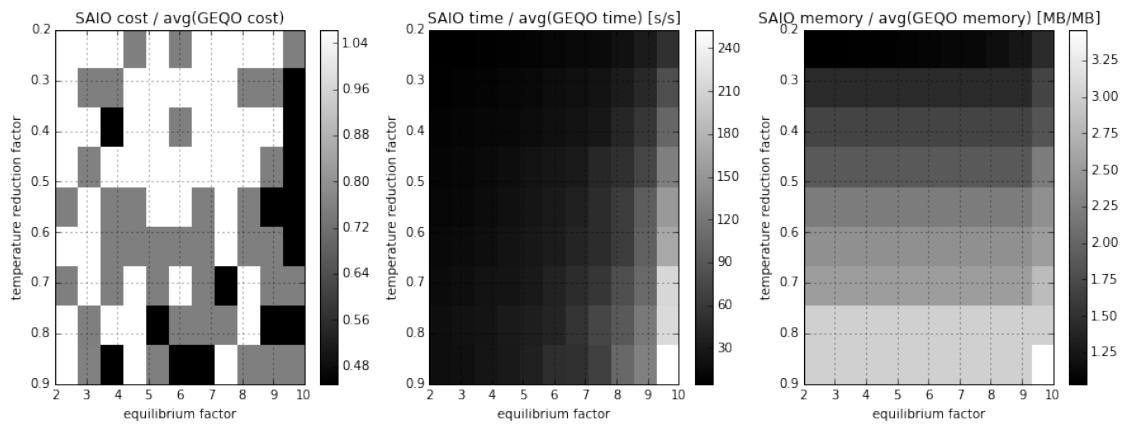
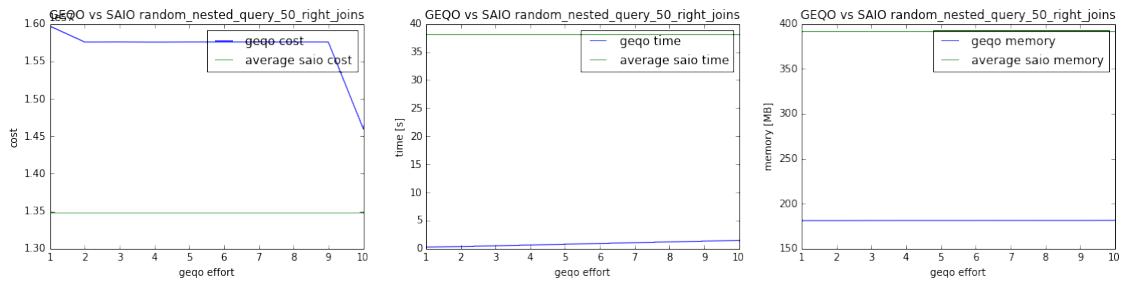
50-60 joins Looking at the costs, these queries would take almost forever to complete. But still it is visible that GEQO wins for queries that contain LEFT JOINS while SAIO wins at regular JOINS, RIGHT JOINS and mixed queries.

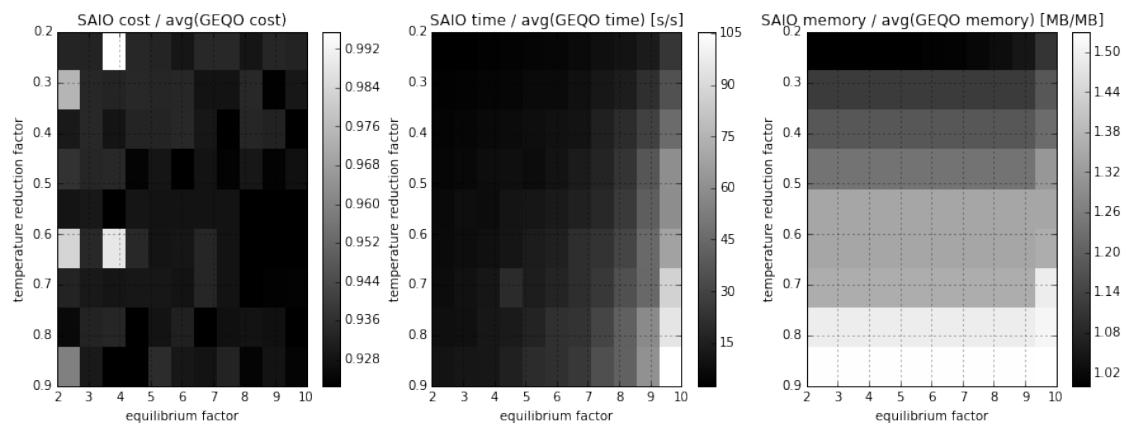
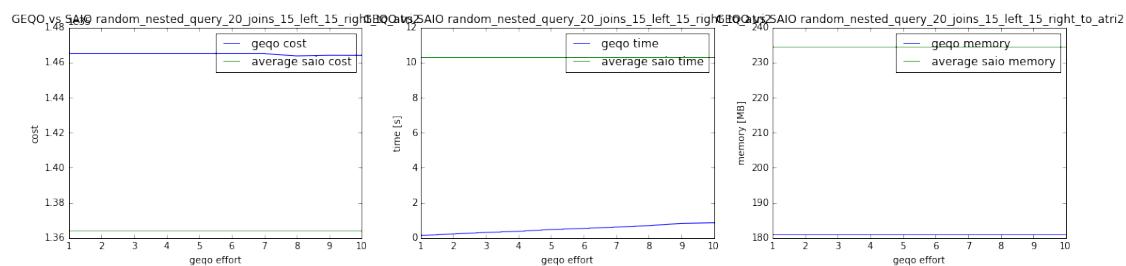
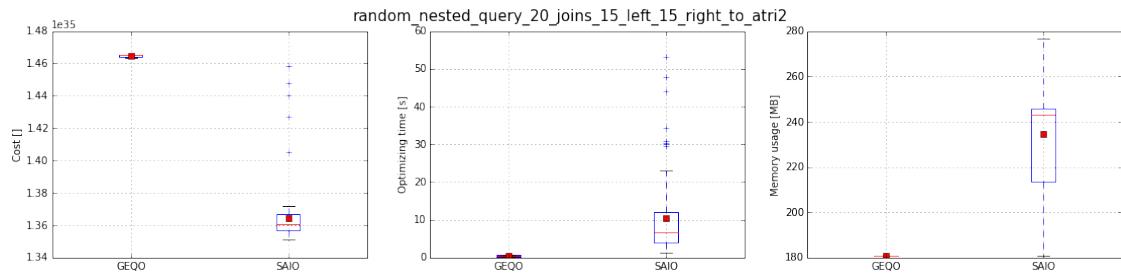
```
In [24]: display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_50_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_50_left_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_50_right_joins')
display_info_for_test_case('random_nested_query_20_joins_15_left_15_right_to_atri2')
```

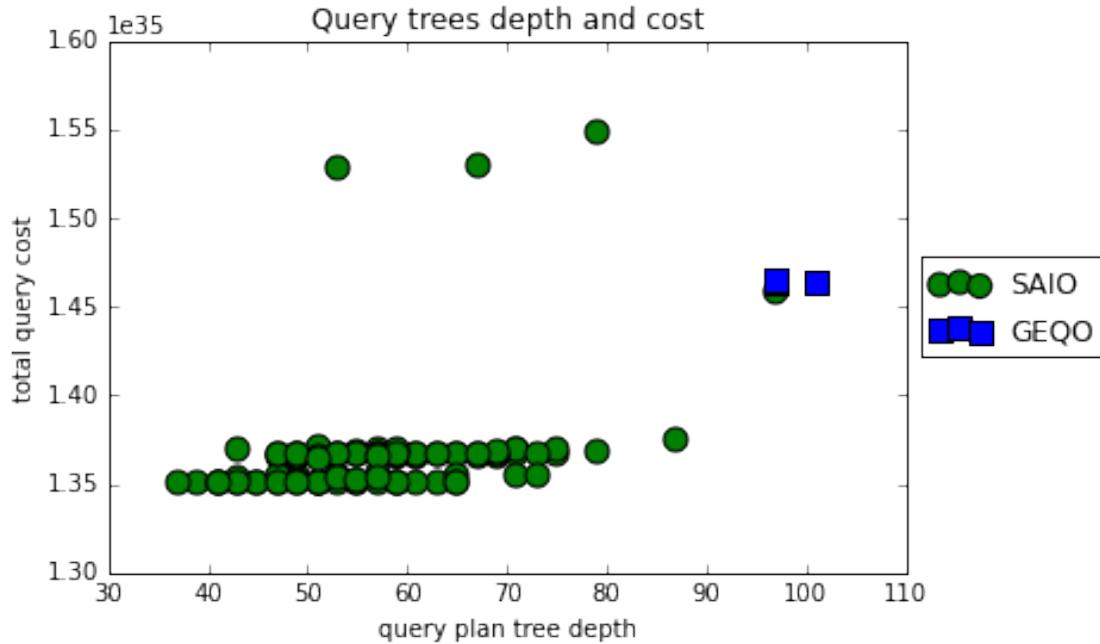






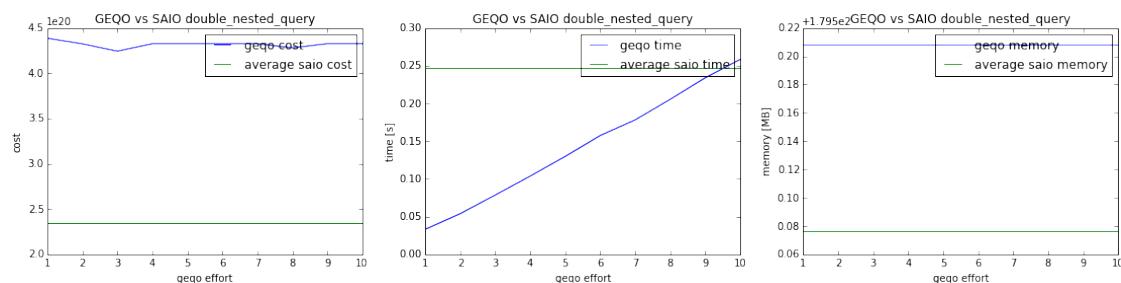
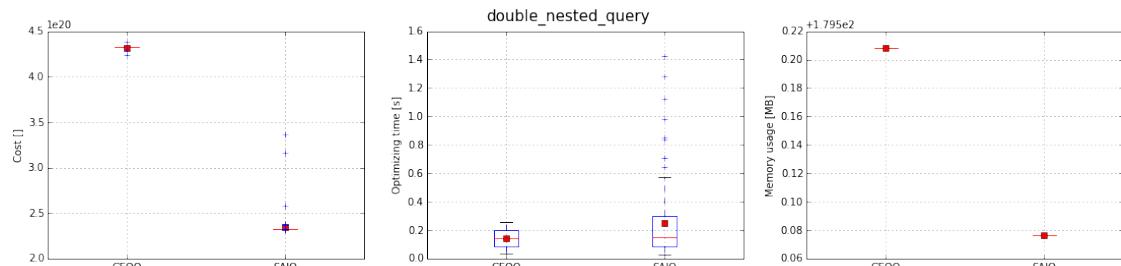


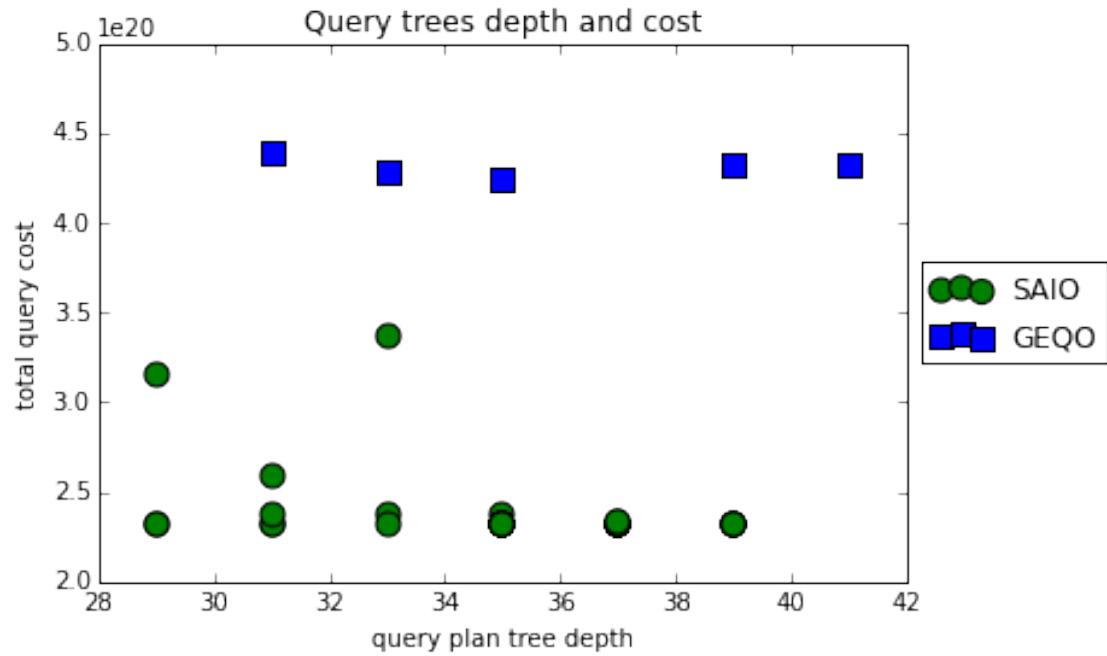
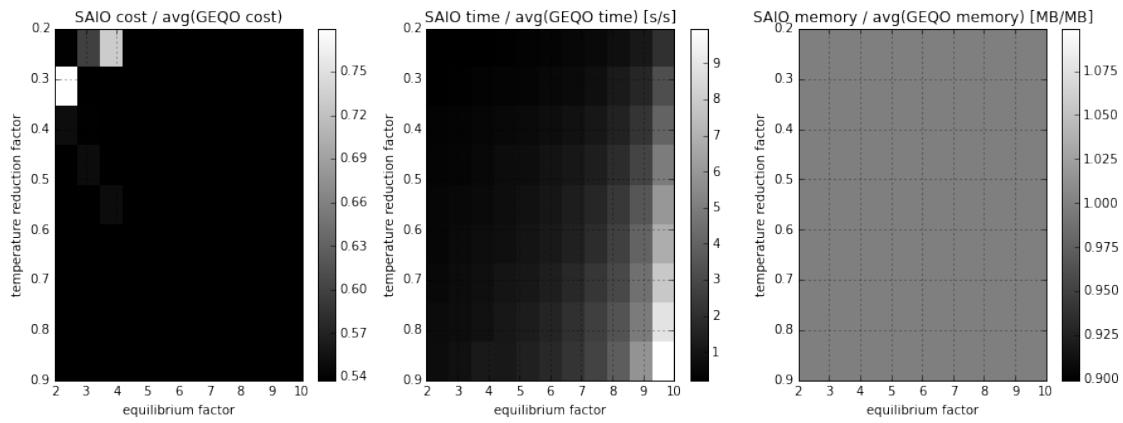




Two level nested query For this query that has subqueries within subqueries and 4 joins, 3 left joins, 15 right joins in total, it is visible that SAIO easily beats GEQO finding a query with lower cost and using less memory. For the correct set of SAIO parameters, the computing time of SAIO may be also shorter than that of GEQO.

In [31]: `display_info_for_test_case('double_nested_query')`





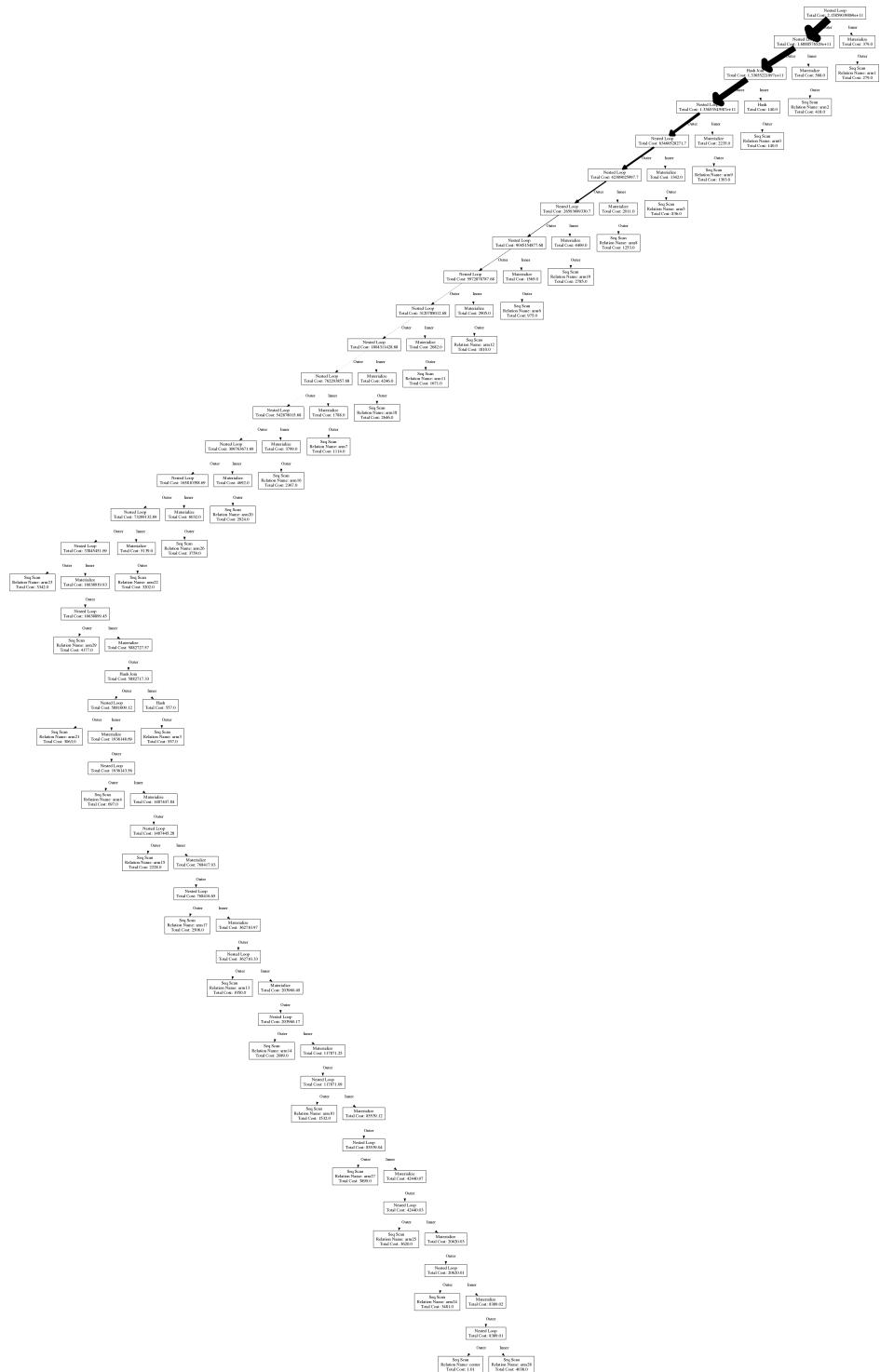
4.3 Sample query trees

To illustrate solutions created by GEQO and SAIO, a few smaller query trees are included

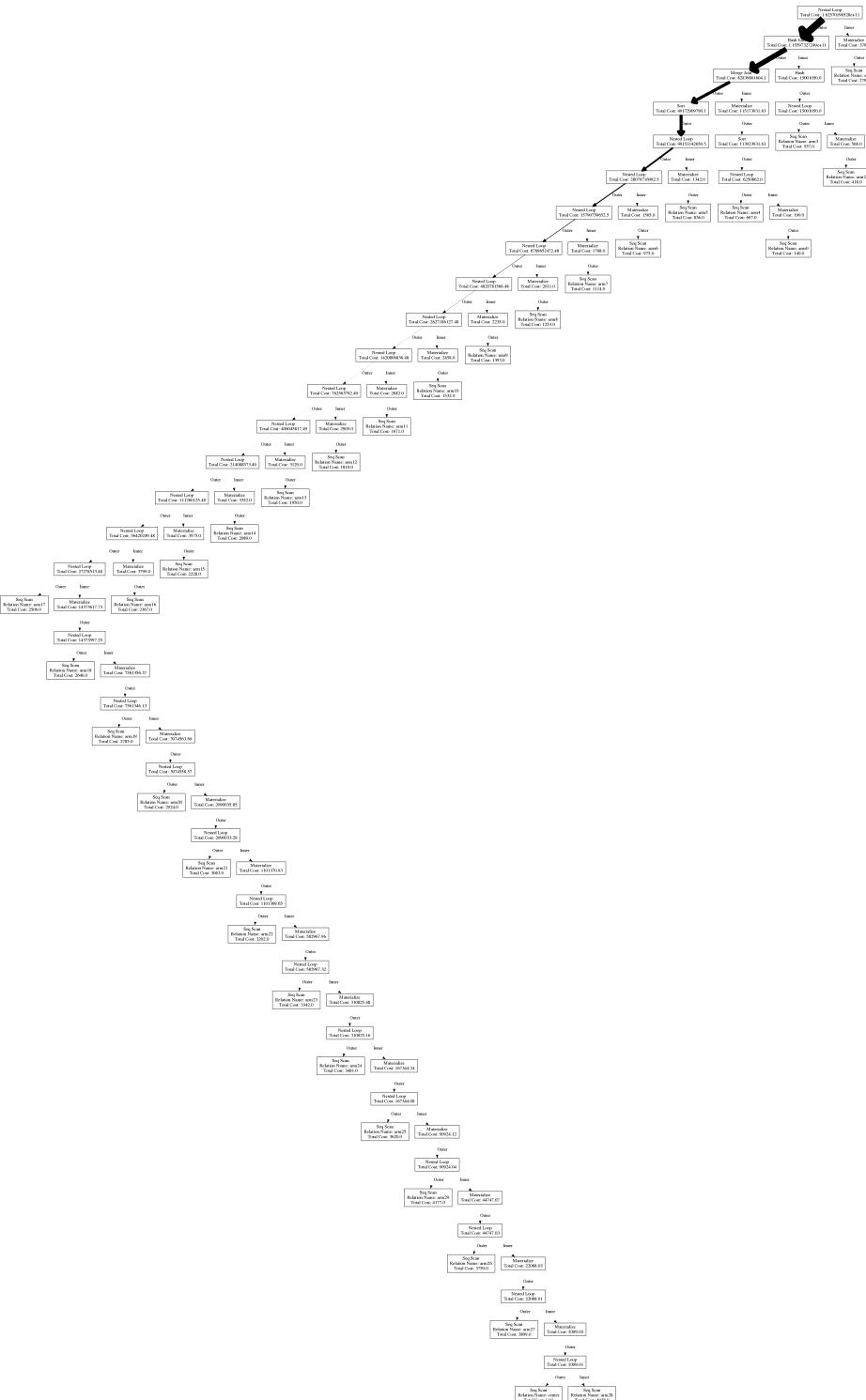
4.3.1 Query trees for cartesians

For queries with cartesian joins we can observe that both GEQO and SAIO produce trees of very similar topology.

GEQO



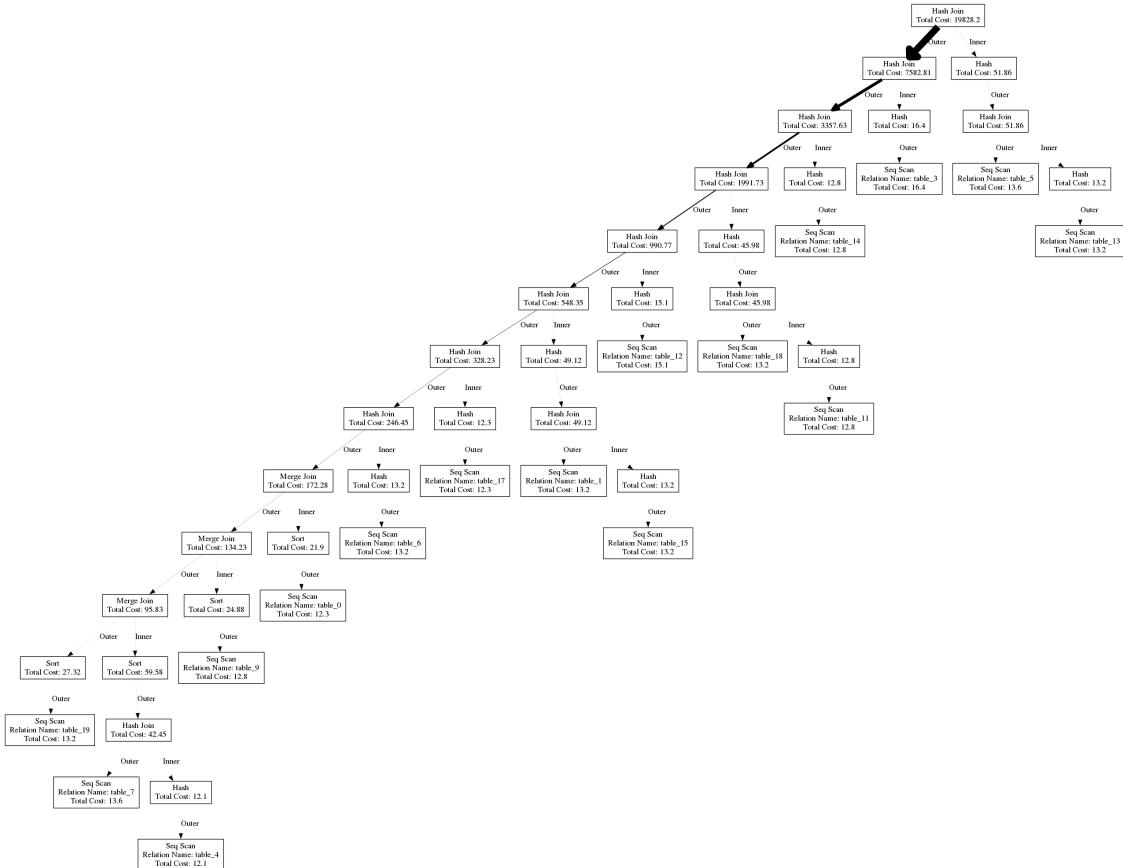
SAIO



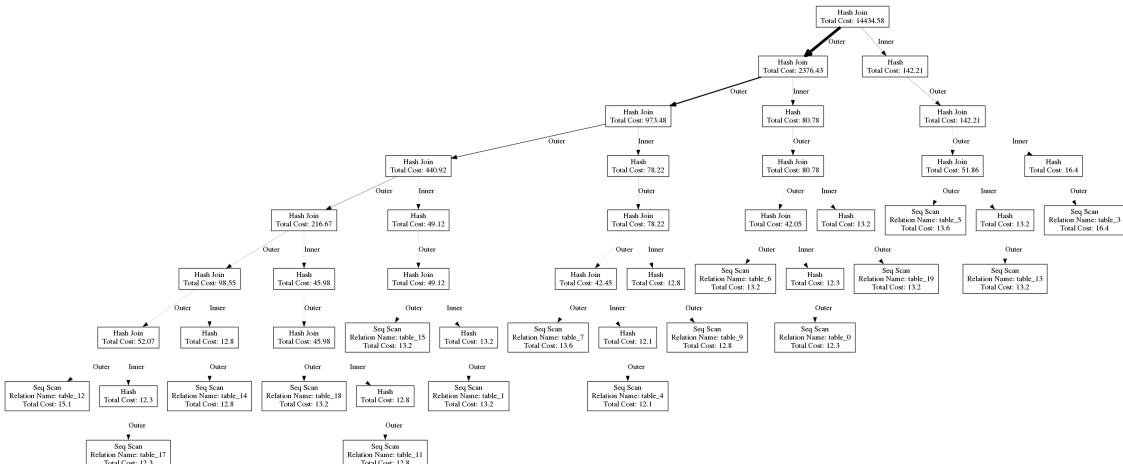
4.3.2 Query trees for joins

For queries with joins the trees produced by GEQO and SAIO have similar topology.

GEQO



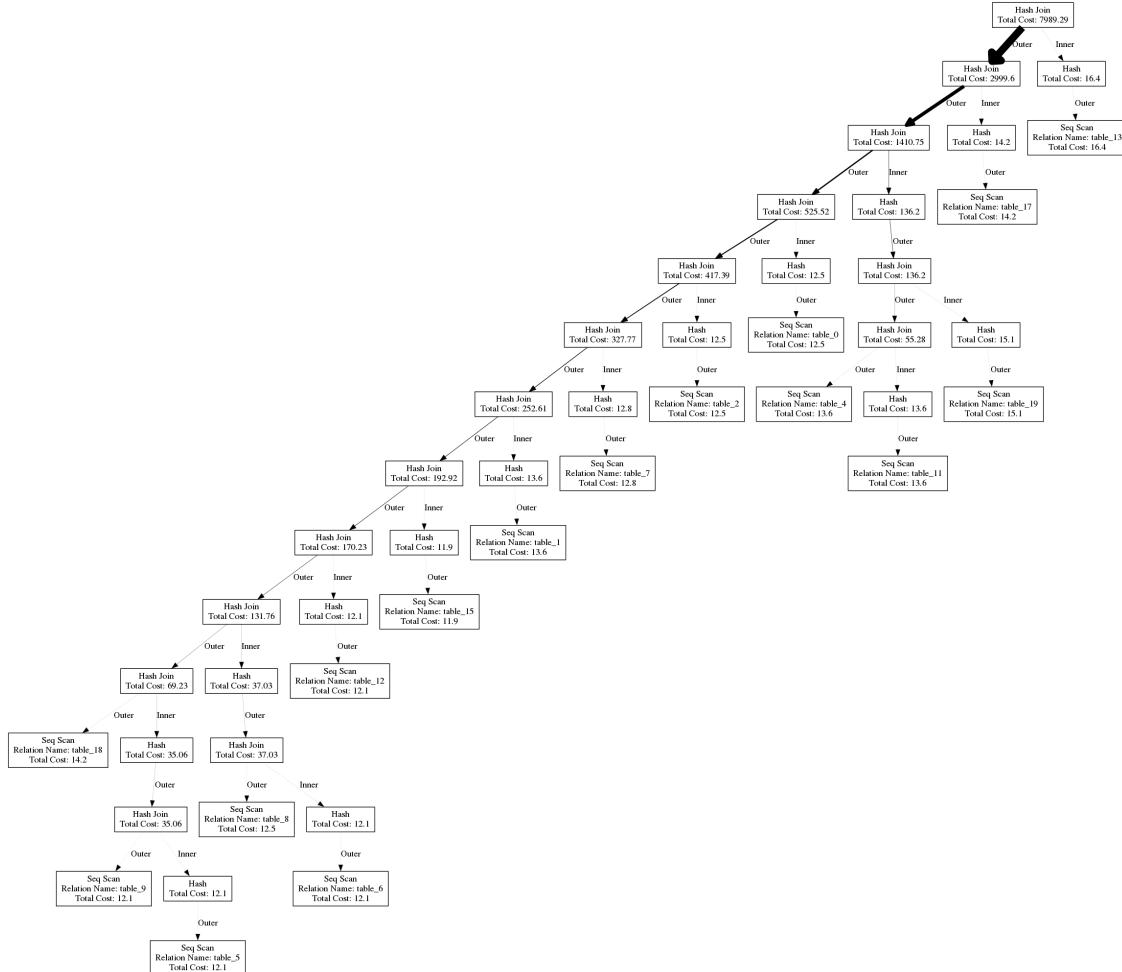
SAIO



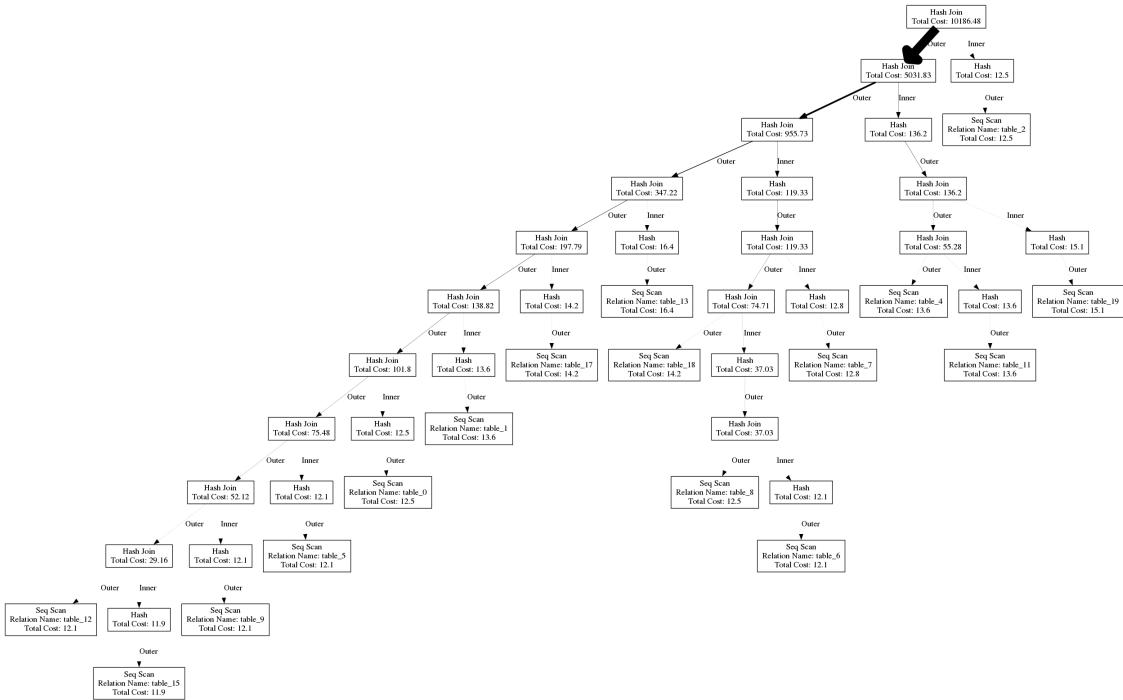
4.3.3 Query trees for left joins

For queries with left joins the trees produced by GEQO and SAIO have similar topology.

GEQO



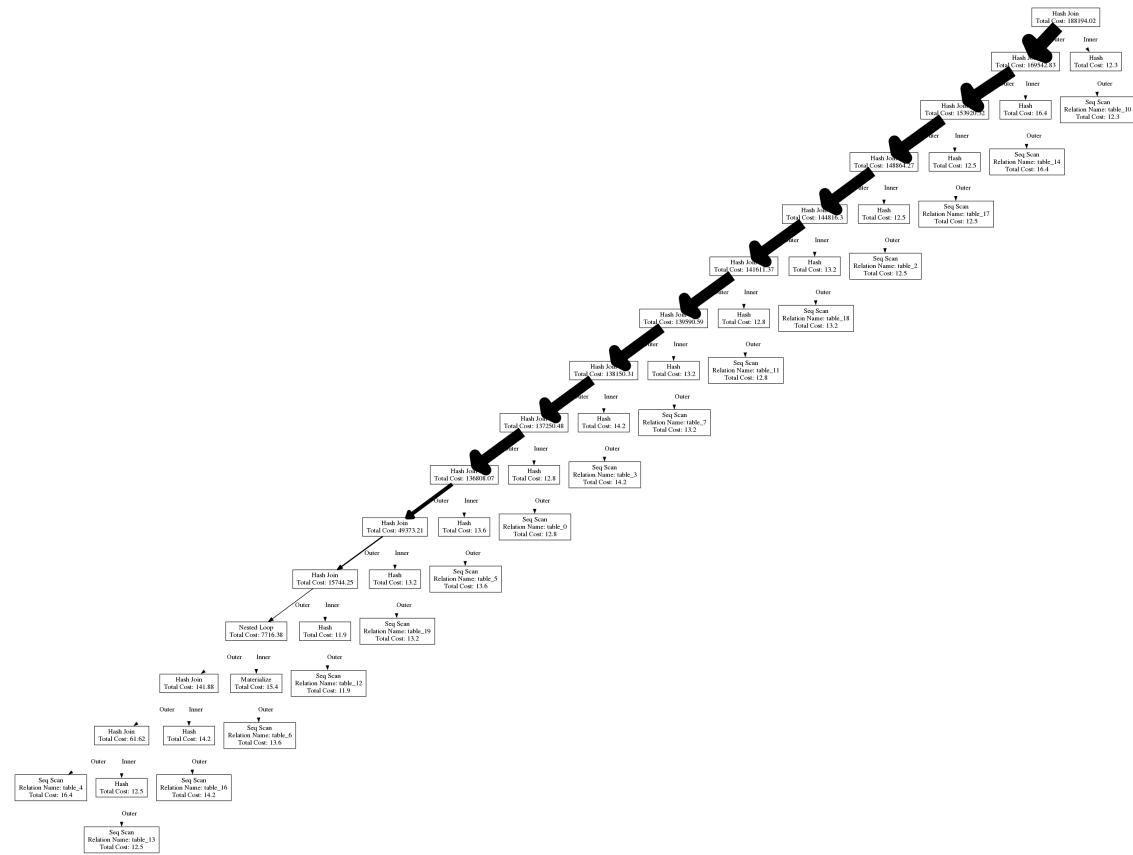
SAIO



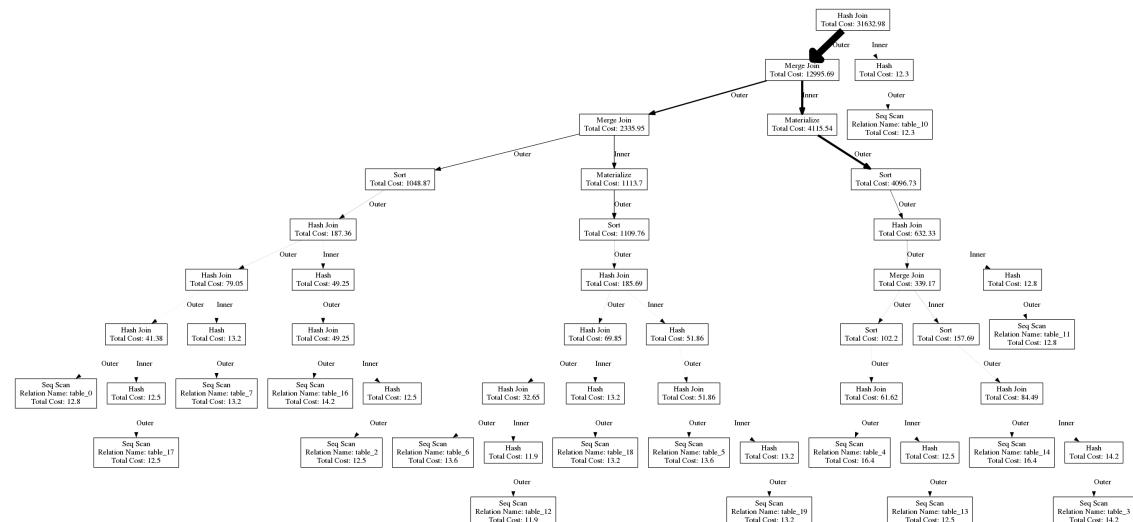
4.3.4 Query trees for right joins

For queries with right joins we can observe that the trees produced by GEQO and SAIO look much different. The GEQO tree is left-deep and SAIO tree is bushy.

GEQO



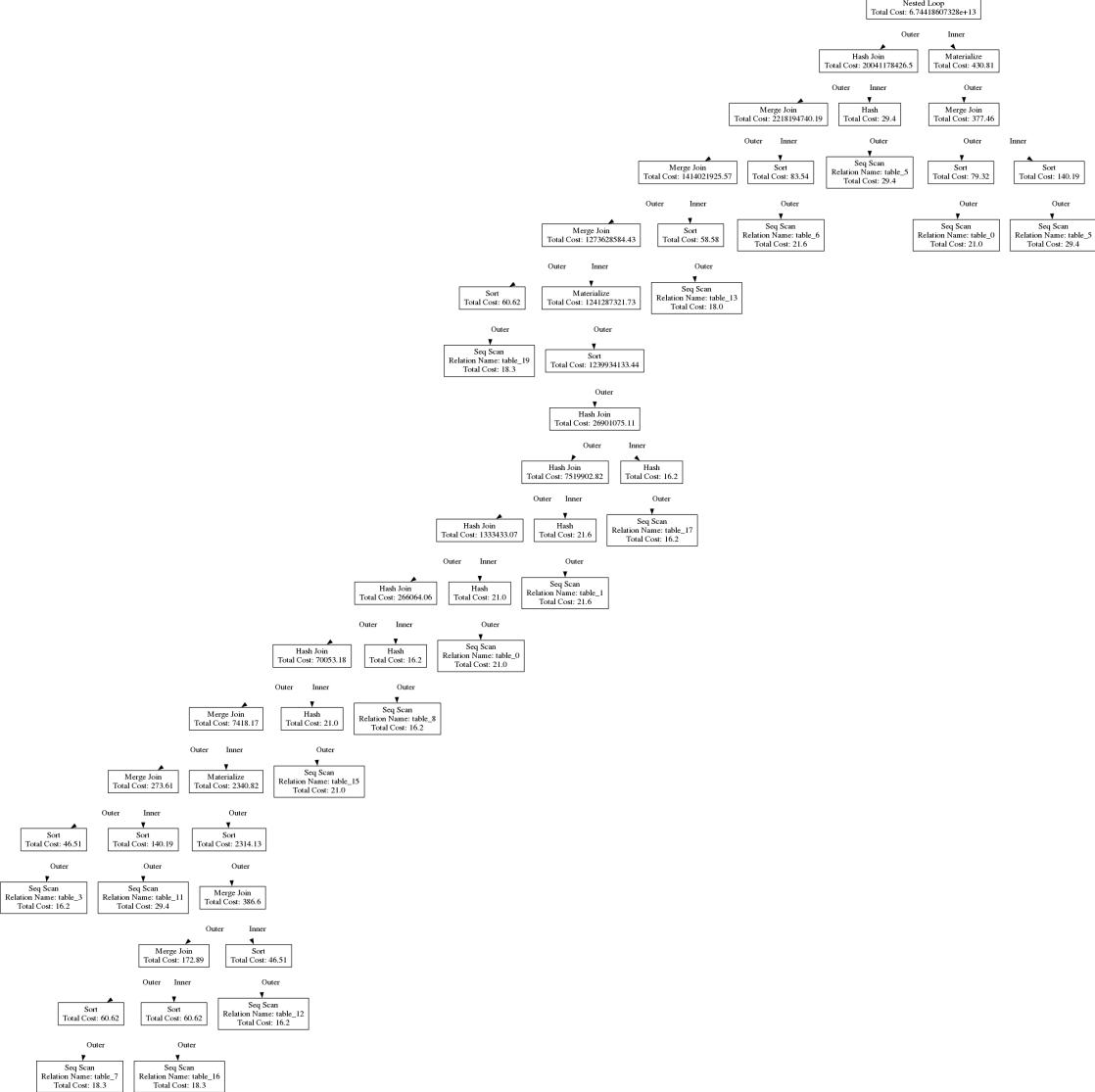
SAIO



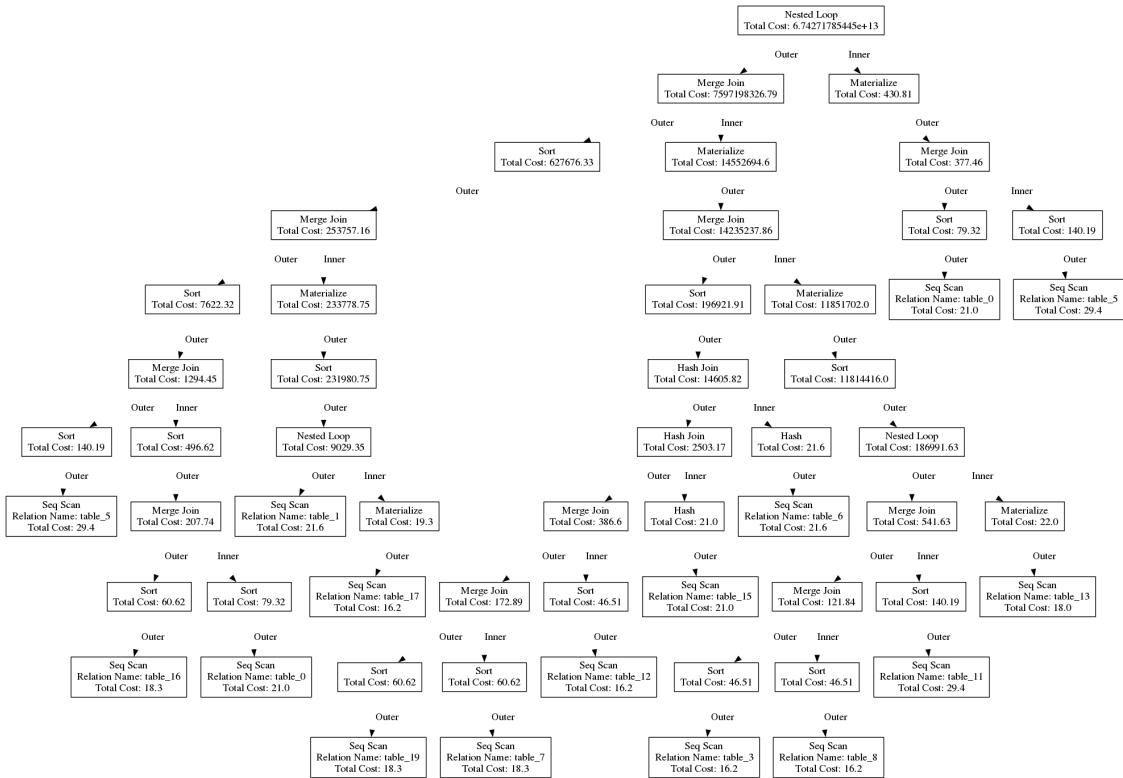
4.3.5 Query trees for nested queries

Here we can observe that trees produced by GEQO and SAIO have different topologies again. This is because we have some right joins here.

GEQO



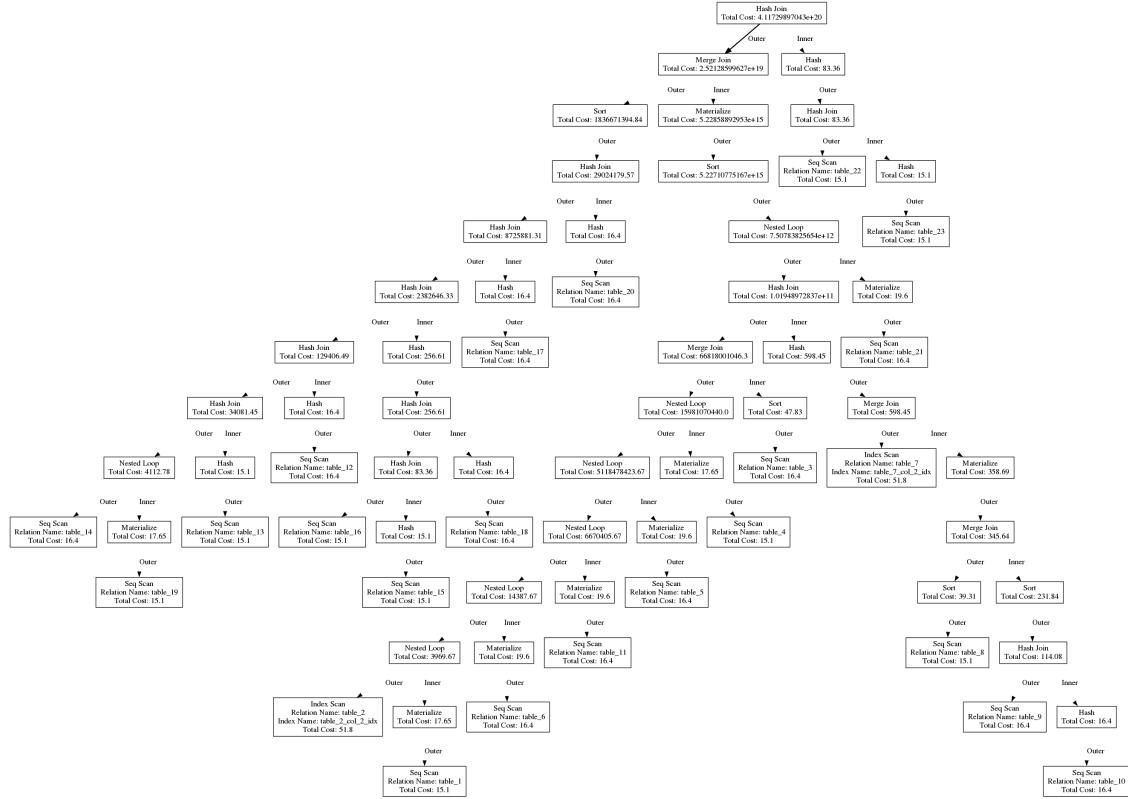
SAIO



4.3.6 Query trees for double nested query

Here both trees look pretty bushy.

GEQO



SAIO

