Carnegie Mellon University ADVANCED DATABASE SYSTEMS

Server-side Logic Execution

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PAVLO

@Andy_Pavlo // 15-721 // Spring 2019

TODAY'S AGENDA

Background UDF In-lining Working on Large Software Projects

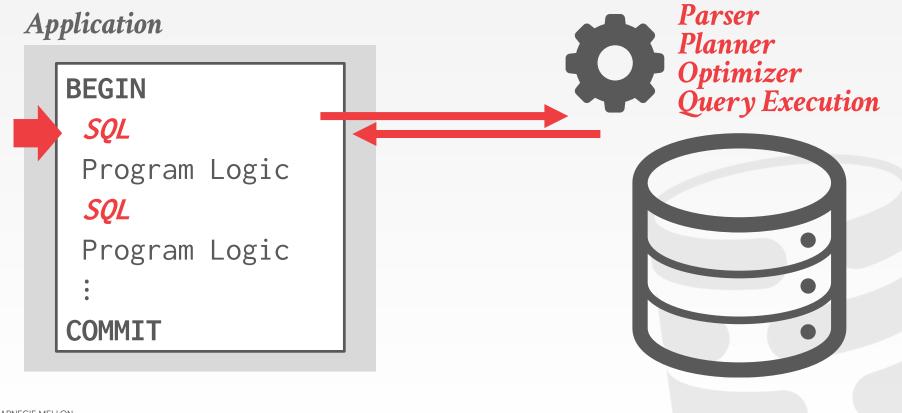


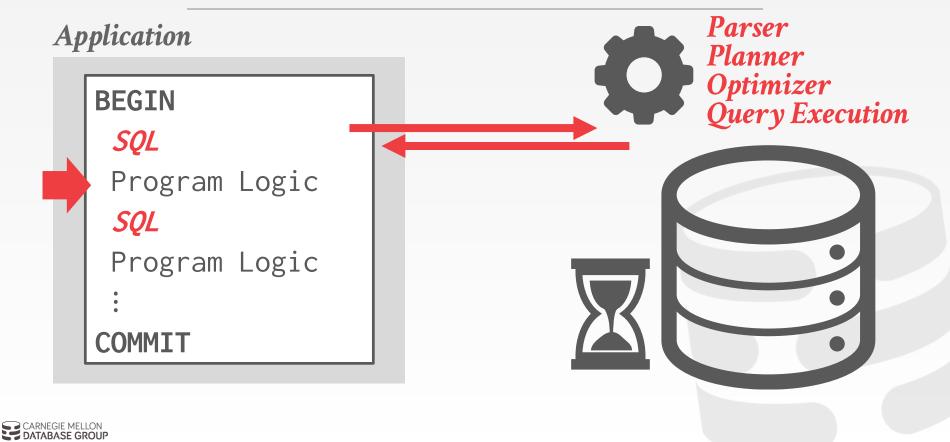
OBSERVATION

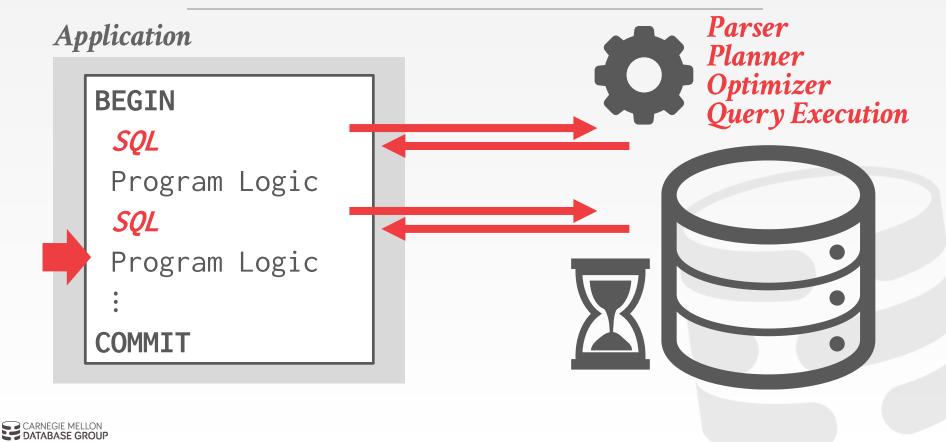
Until now, we have assumed that all of the logic for an application is located in the application itself.

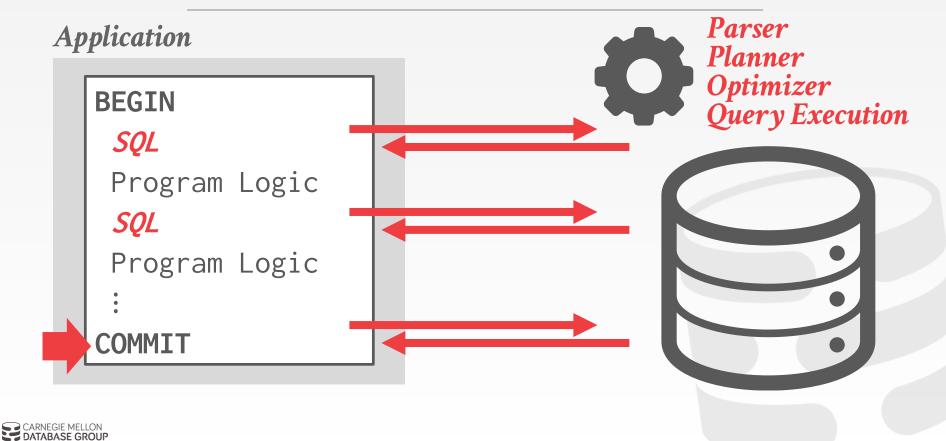
The application has a "conversation" with the DBMS to store/retrieve data. \rightarrow Protocols: JDBC, ODBC











DATABASE GROUP

EMBEDDED DATABASE LOGIC

Move application logic into the DBMS to avoid multiple network round-trips.

- **Potential Benefits**
- \rightarrow Efficiency
- \rightarrow Reuse



EMBEDDED DATABASE LOGIC

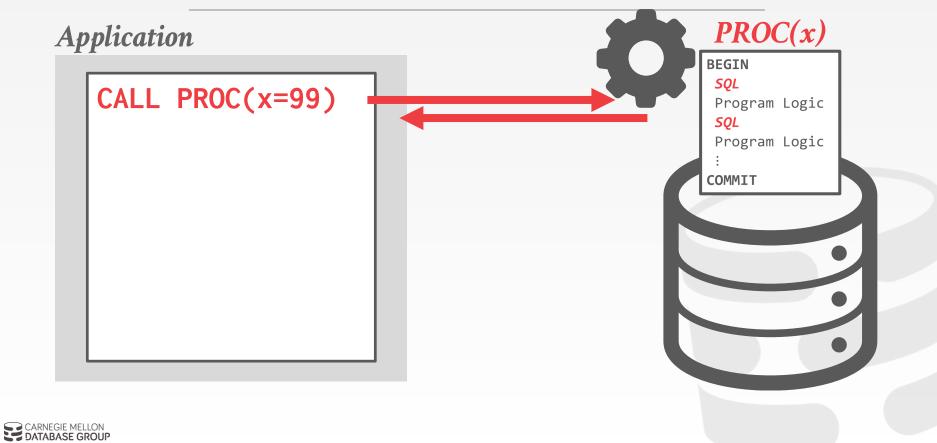
Application

BEGIN SQL Program Logic SQL Program Logic COMMIT





EMBEDDED DATABASE LOGIC



USER-DEFINED FUNCTIONS

A **<u>user-defined function</u>** (UDF) is a function written by the application developer that extends the system's functionality beyond its built-in operations.

- \rightarrow It takes in input arguments (scalars)
- \rightarrow Perform some computation
- \rightarrow Return a result (scalars, tables)



UDF EXAMPLE

```
CREATE FUNCTION cust_level(@ckey int)
RETURNS char(10) AS
BEGIN
 DECLARE @total float;
 DECLARE @level char(10);
 SELECT @total = SUM(o_totalprice)
   FROM orders WHERE o_custkey=@ckey;
 IF (@total > 1000000)
  SET @level = 'Platinum';
 ELSE
  SET @level = 'Regular';
 RETURN @level;
END
```

Get all the customer ids and compute their customer service level based on the amount of money they have spent.

UDF ADVANTAGES

→ Different queries can reuse the same application logic without having to reimplement it each time.

Fewer network round-trips between application server and DBMS for complex operations.

Some types of application logic are easier to express and read as UDFs.



UDF DISADVANTAGES (1)

Query optimizers treat UDFs as black boxes. \rightarrow Unable to estimate cost if you don't know what a UDF is going to do when you run it.

It is difficult to parallelize UDFs due to correlated queries inside of them.

 \rightarrow Some DBMSs will only execute queries with a single thread if they contain a UDF.



UDF DISADVANTAGES (2)

Complex UDFs in **SELECT** / **WHERE** clauses force the DBMS to execute iteratively.

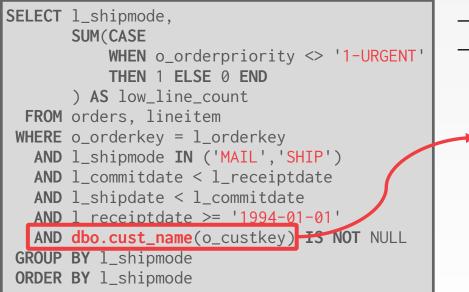
- \rightarrow RBAR = "Row By Agonizing Row"
- \rightarrow Things get even worse if UDF invokes queries due to implicit joins that the optimizer cannot "see".

Since the DBMS executes the commands in the UDF one-by-one, it is unable to perform cross-statement optimizations.



UDF PERFORMANCE

Microsoft SQL Server



```
TPC-H Q12 using a UDF (SF=1).

\rightarrow Original Query: 0.8 sec

\rightarrow Query + UDF: 13 hr 30 min
```

```
RETURNS char(25) AS
BEGIN
DECLARE @n char(25);
SELECT @n = c_name
FROM customer WHERE c_custkey = @ckey;
RETURN @n;
END
```

Source: Karthik Ramachandra

2001 – Microsoft adds TSQL Scalar UDFs.2008 – People realize that UDFs are "evil".

Source: Karthik Ramachandra

CARNEGIE MELLON DATABASE GROUP

TSQL Scalar functi	i ons are evil.	ŀ
I've been working with a number of clients recently who all have suffered at the in SQL 2000 as a means to wrap logic so we benefit from code reuse and simp good idea. I for one jumped on this initially thinking it was a great thing to de	the hands of TSQL Scalar functions. Scalar functions were introduced olify our queries. Who would be daft enough not to think this was a o.	
However as you might have gathered from the title scalar functions aren't the	e nice friend you may think they are. DFs.	
If you are running queries across large tables then this may explain why you	are getting poor performance.	
In this post we will look at a simple padding function, we will be creating larg	ge volumes to emphasize the issue with scale and vill'.	
<pre>create function PadLeft(@val varchar(100), @len int, returns varchar(100)</pre>	<pre>@char char(1))</pre>	
as begin return right(replicate(@char,@len) + @val, @len)		
go		
Interpreted Scalar functions are interpreted code that means EVERY call to the function processing your function is proportional to the number of rows.		
Running this code you will see that the native system calls take considerable system calls and 38758ms for the UDF. Thats a 19x increase.	le less time than the UDF calls. On my machine it cause as a	
<pre>set statistics time on go select max(right(replicate('0',100) + o.name + c.nam from msdb.sys.columns o cross join msdb.sys.columns c</pre>	ne, 100))	
<pre>select max(dbo.PadLeft(o.name + c.name, 100,'0')) from msdb.sys.columns o cross join msdb.sys.columns c</pre>		

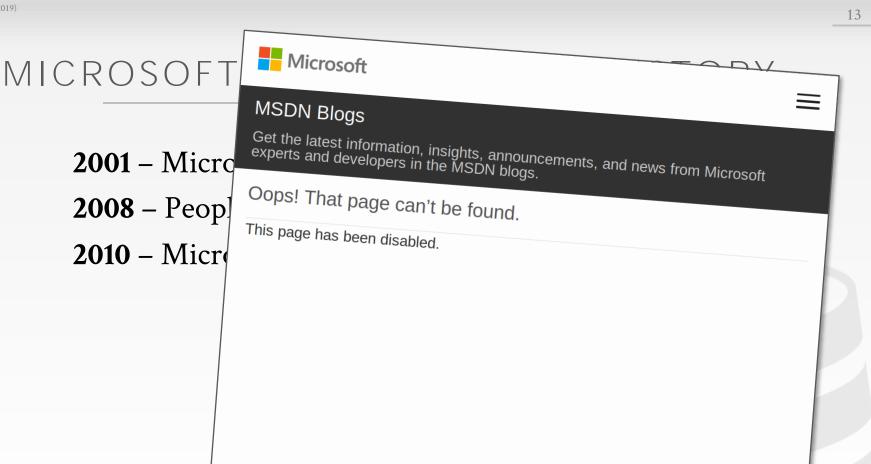
DF HISTORY

2001 – Microsoft adds TSQL Scalar UDFs.

2008 – People realize that UDFs are "evil".

2010 – Microsoft acknowledges that UDFs are evil.

Source: Karthik Ramachandra



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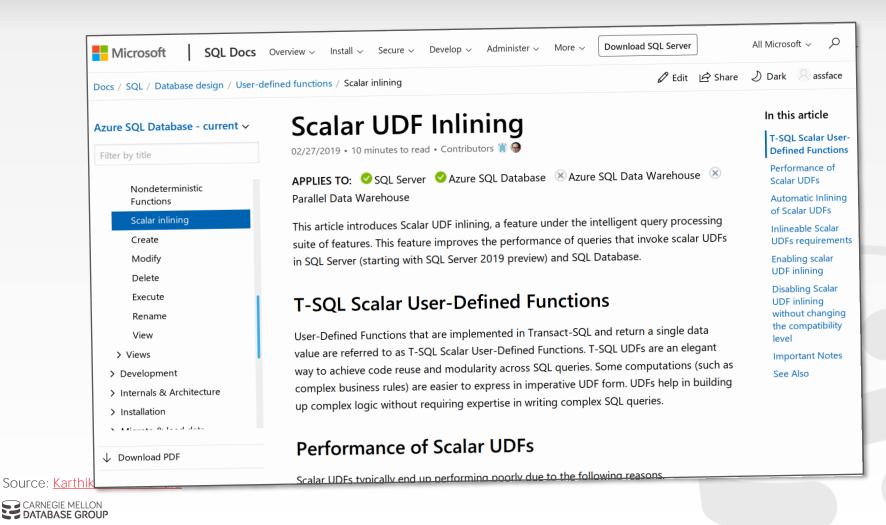
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- 2015 Froid project begins @ MSFT Jim Gray Lab.
- 2018 Froid added to SQL Server 2019.



FROID

Automatically convert UDFs into relational expressions that are inlined as sub-queries. \rightarrow Does not require the app developer to change UDF code.

 Perform conversion during the rewrite phase to avoid having to change the cost-base optimizer.
 → Commercial DBMSs already have powerful transformation rules for executing sub-queries efficiently.

FROID: OPTIMIZATION OF IMPERATIVE PROGRAMS IN A RELATIONAL DATABASE VLDB 2017

TABASE GROUP

SUB-QUERIES

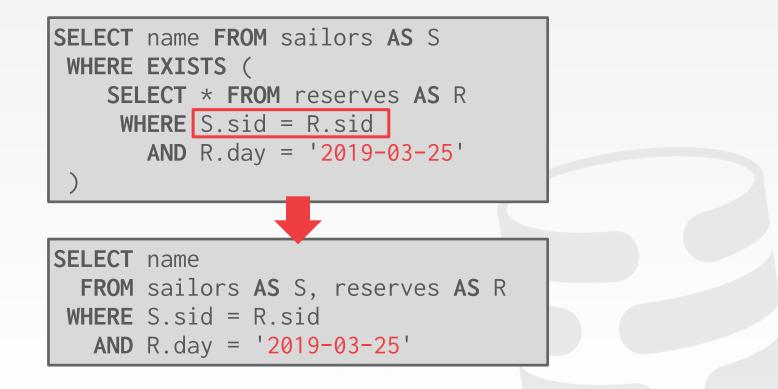
The DBMS treats nested sub-queries in the where clause as functions that take parameters and return a single value or set of values.

Two Approaches:

- \rightarrow Rewrite to de-correlate and/or flatten them
- → Decompose nested query and store result to temporary table



SUB-QUERIES - REWRITE





LATERAL JOIN

A lateral inner subquery can refer to fields in rows of the table reference to determine which rows to return.

 \rightarrow Allows you to have sub-queries in **FROM** clause.

The DBMS iterates through each row in the table reference and evaluates the inner sub-query for each row.

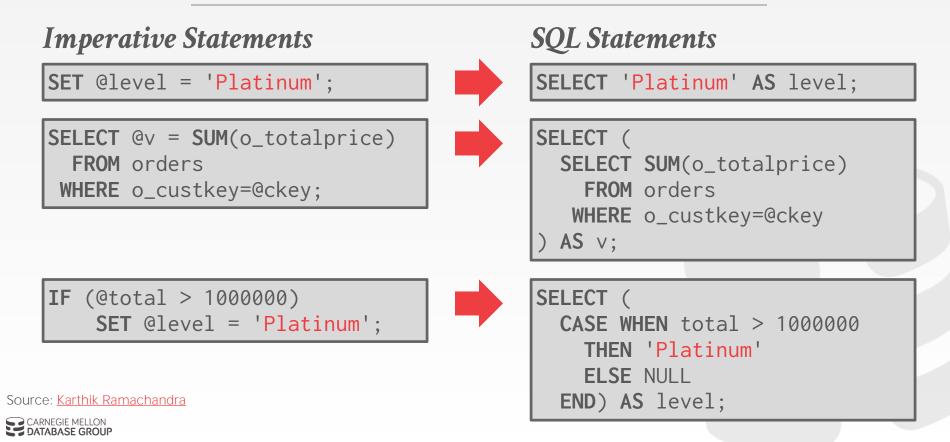
 \rightarrow The rows returned by the inner sub-query are added to the result of the join with the outer query.

FROID OVERVIEW

Step #1 – Transform Statements
Step #2 – Break UDF into Regions
Step #3 – Merge Expressions
Step #4 – Inline UDF Expression into Query
Step #5 – Run Through Query Optimizer



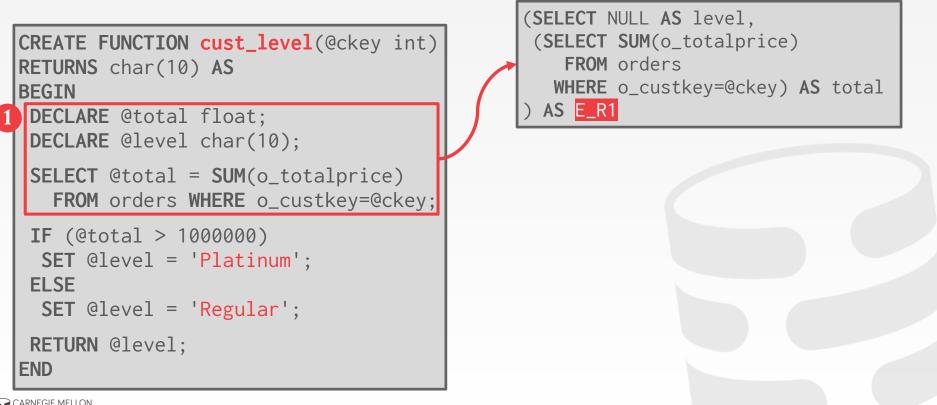
STEP #1 - TRANSFORM STATEMENTS

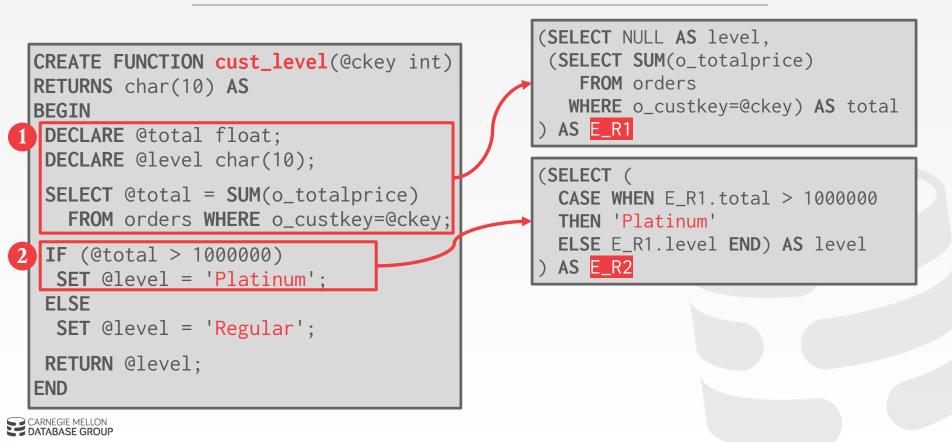


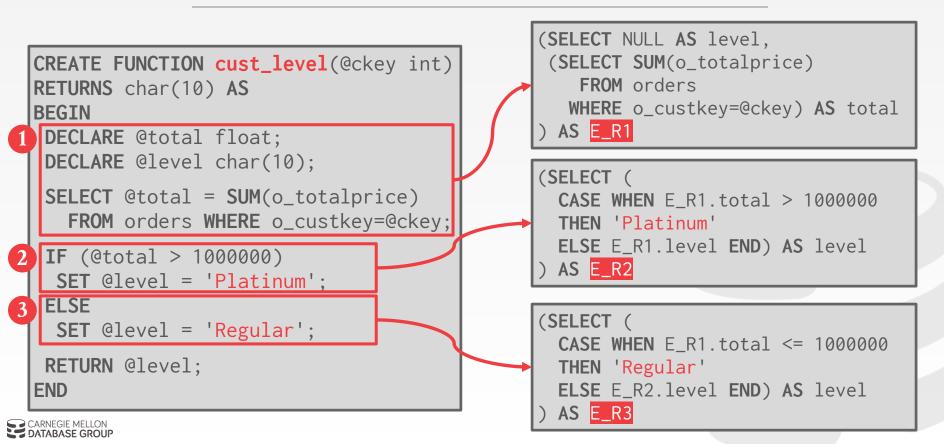
CARNEGIE MELLON DATABASE GROUP

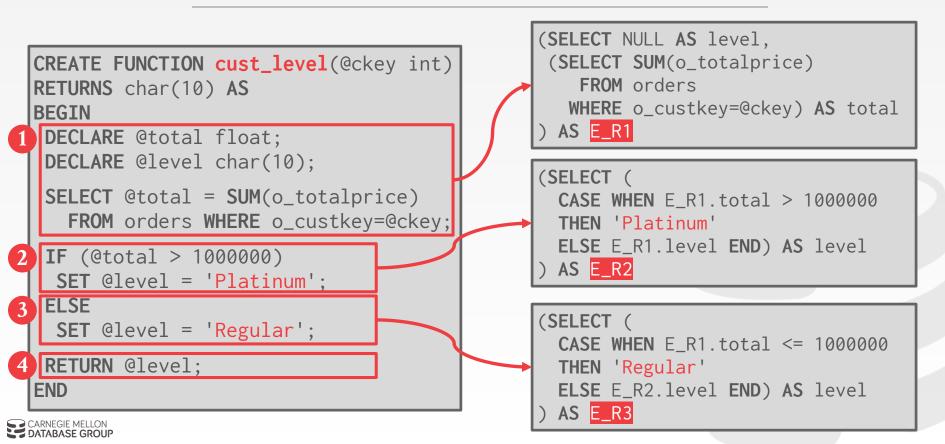
```
CREATE FUNCTION cust_level(@ckey int)
RETURNS char(10) AS
BEGIN
 DECLARE @total float;
 DECLARE @level char(10);
 SELECT @total = SUM(o_totalprice)
   FROM orders WHERE o_custkey=@ckey;
 IF (@total > 1000000)
  SET @level = 'Platinum';
 ELSE
  SET @level = 'Regular';
 RETURN @level;
END
```



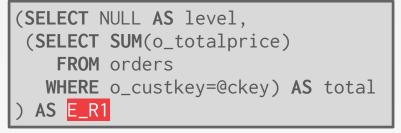




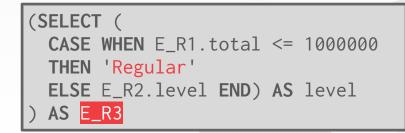




STEP #3 - MERGE EXPRESSIONS

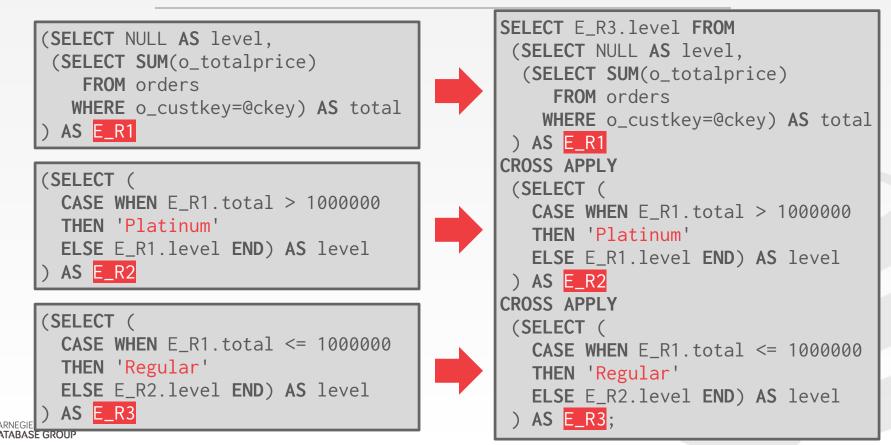


```
(SELECT (
   CASE WHEN E_R1.total > 1000000
   THEN 'Platinum'
   ELSE E_R1.level END) AS level
) AS E_R2
```

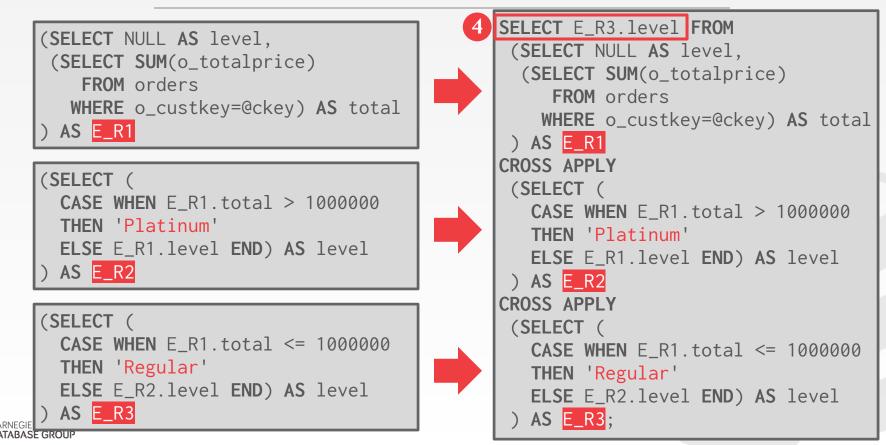




STEP #3 - MERGE EXPRESSIONS



STEP #3 - MERGE EXPRESSIONS



STEP #4 - INLINE EXPRESSION

Original Query





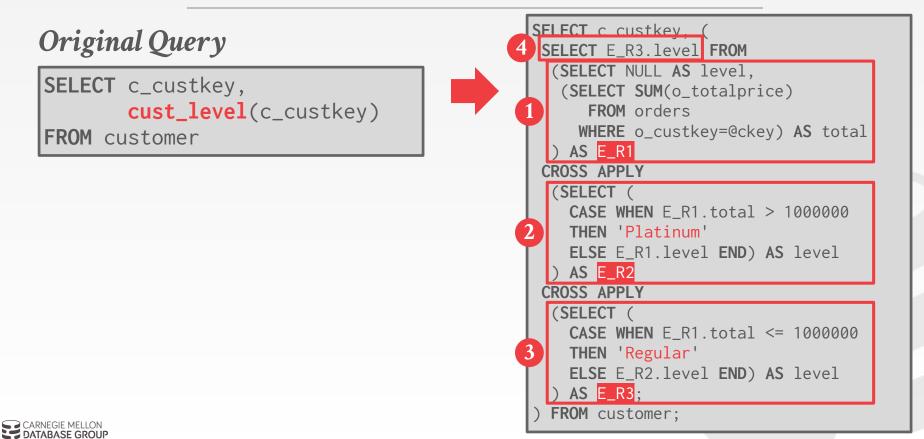
STEP #4 - INLINE EXPRESSION

Original Query

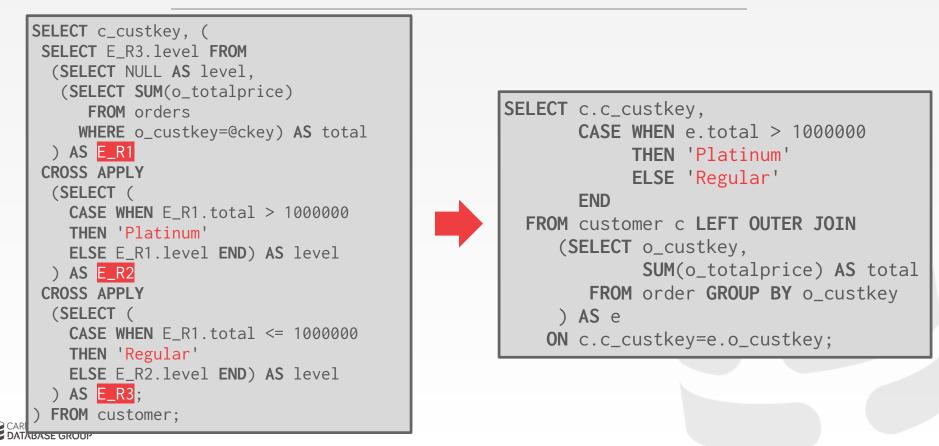
```
SELECT c_custkey, (
 SELECT E_R3.level FROM
  (SELECT NULL AS level,
   (SELECT SUM(o_totalprice)
      FROM orders
     WHERE o_custkey=@ckey) AS total
  ) AS E_R1
 CROSS APPLY
  (SELECT (
    CASE WHEN E_R1.total > 1000000
    THEN 'Platinum'
    ELSE E_R1.level END) AS level
  ) AS E_R2
 CROSS APPLY
  (SELECT (
    CASE WHEN E R1.total <= 1000000
    THEN 'Regular'
    ELSE E_R2.level END) AS level
  ) AS E_R3;
 FROM customer;
```

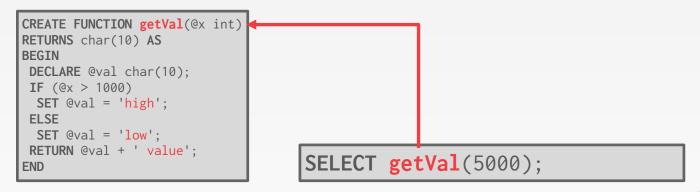


STEP #4 - INLINE EXPRESSION

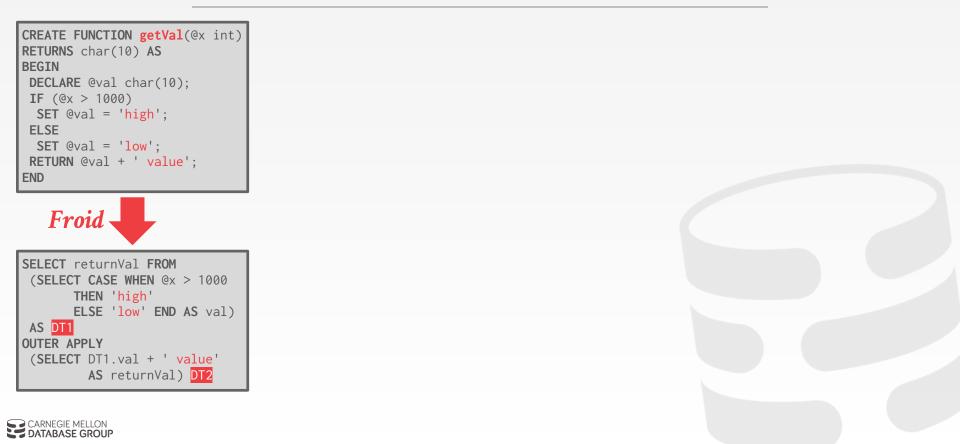


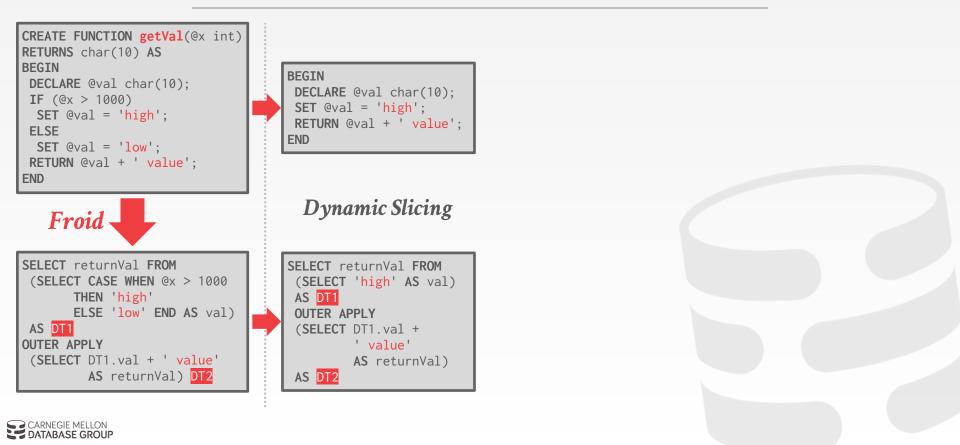
STEP #5 - OPTIMIZE



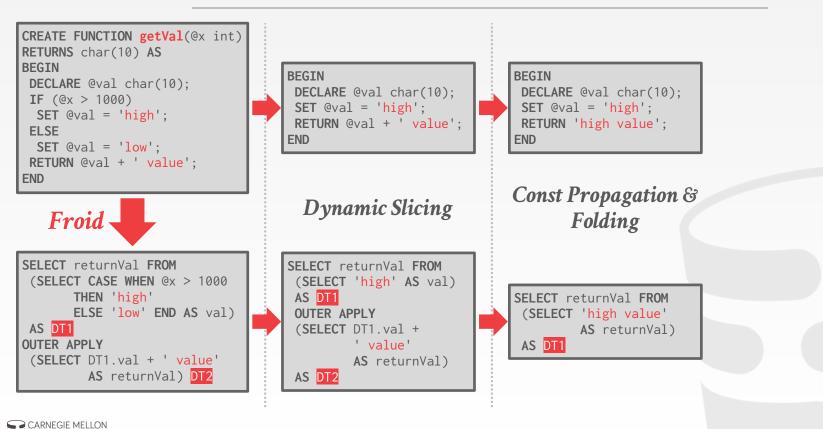


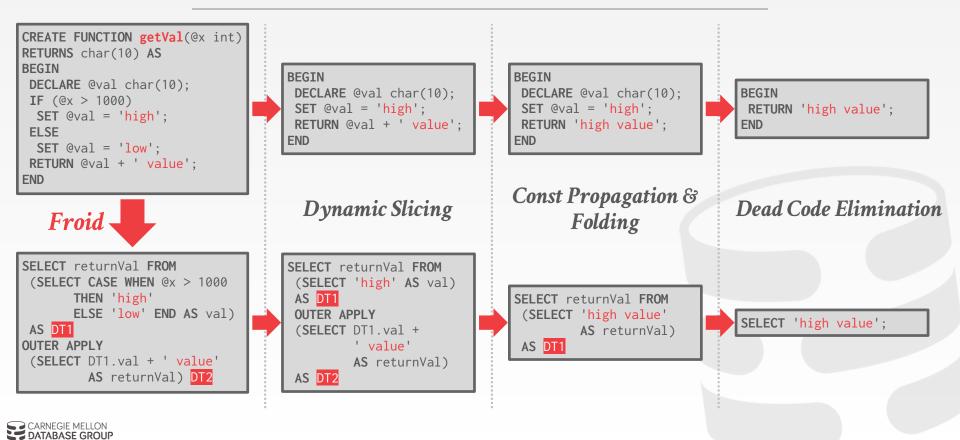






DATABASE GROUP





SUPPORTED OPERATIONS (2019)

T-SQL Syntax:

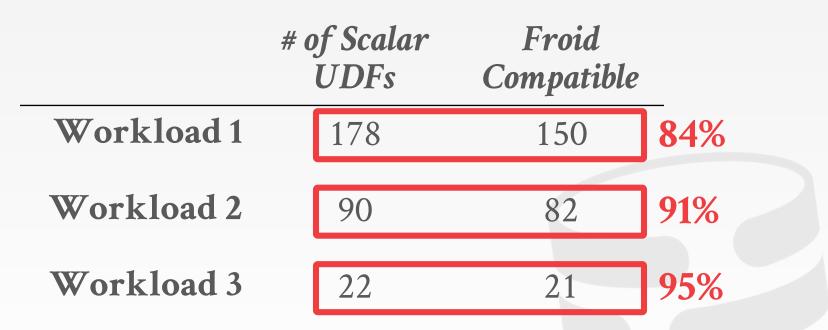
- → **DECLARE**, **SET** (variable declaration, assignment)
- \rightarrow **SELECT** (SQL query, assignment)
- \rightarrow **IF** / **ELSE** / **ELSE IF** (arbitrary nesting)
- \rightarrow **RETURN** (multiple occurrences)
- → **EXISTS**, **NOT EXISTS**, **ISNULL**, **IN**, ... (Other relational algebra operations)

UDF invocation (nested/recursive with configurable depth)

All SQL datatypes.

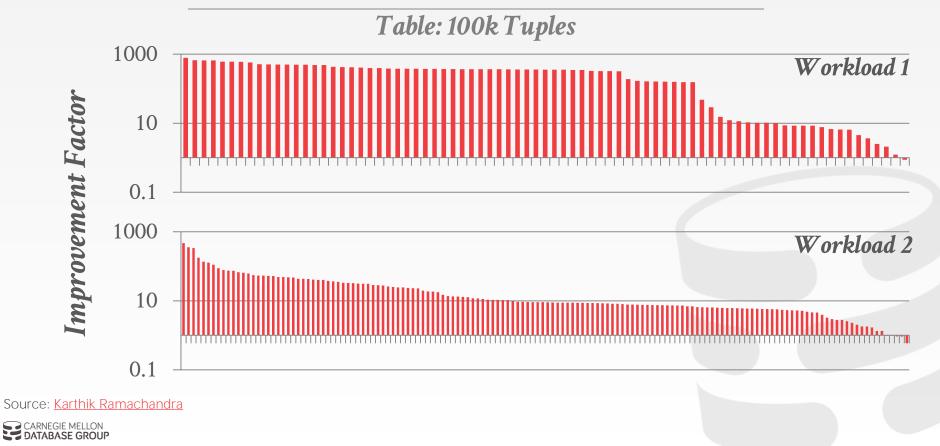


APPLICABILITY / COVERAGE





UDF IMPROVEMENT STUDY



PARTING THOUGHTS

This is huge. You rarely get 500x speed up without either switching to a new DBMS or rewriting your application.

Another optimization approach is to compile the UDF into machine code.

 \rightarrow This does <u>not</u> solve the optimizer's cost model problem.



ANDY'S LIFE LESSONS FOR WORKING ON CODE



DISCLAIMER

I have worked on a few large projects in my lifetime (2.5 DBMSs, 1 distributed system).

I have also read a large amount of "enterprise" code for legal stuff over multiple years.

But I'm not claiming to be all knowledgeable in modern software engineering practices.



OBSERVATION

Most software development is never from scratch. You will be expected to be able to work with a large amount of code that you did not write.

Being able to independently work on a large code base is the #1 skill that companies tell me they are looking for in students they hire.



PASSIVE READING

Reading the code for the sake of reading code is (usually) a waste of time.

 \rightarrow It's hard to internalize functionality if you don't have direction.

It's important to start working with the code right away to understand how it works.



TEST CASES

Adding or improving tests allows you to improve the reliability of the code base without the risk of breaking production code.

 \rightarrow It forces you to understand code in a way that is not possible when just reading it.

Nobody will complain (hopefully) about adding new tests to the system.



REFACTORING

Find the general location of code that you want to work on and start cleaning it up.

- \rightarrow Add/edit comments
- \rightarrow Clean up messy code
- \rightarrow Break out repeated logic into separate functions.

Tread lightly though because you are changing code that you are not familiar with yet.



TOOLCHAINS & PROCESSES

Beyond working on the code, there will also be an established protocol for software development.

- More established projects will have either training or comprehensive documentation.
- \rightarrow If the documentation isn't available, then you can take the initiative and try to write it.



PROJECT #3 SCHEDULE

Status Meeting: Next Week

Status Update Presentation: Monday April 8th

First Code Review: Monday April 8th



NEXT CLASS

Hash Tables! Hash Functions! Hash Joins!



