On-Line Application Processing

Warehousing
Data Cubes
Data Mining
Overview

• Traditional database systems are tuned to many, small, simple queries.
• Some new applications use fewer, more time-consuming, complex queries.
• New architectures have been developed to handle complex “analytic” queries efficiently.
The Data Warehouse

• The most common form of data integration.
  – Copy sources into a single DB (warehouse) and try to keep it up-to-date.
  – Usual method: periodic reconstruction of the warehouse, perhaps overnight.
  – Frequently essential for analytic queries.
OLTP

• Most database operations involve On-Line Transaction Processing (OTLP).
  – Short, simple, frequent queries and/or modifications, each involving a small number of tuples.
  – Examples: Answering queries from a Web interface, sales at cash registers, selling airline tickets.
OLAP

• Of increasing importance are *On-Line Application Processing* (OLAP) queries.
  – Few, but complex queries --- may run for hours.
  – Queries do not depend on having an absolutely up-to-date database.

• Sometimes called *Data Mining*. 
OLAP Examples

1. Amazon analyzes purchases by its customers to come up with an individual screen with products of likely interest to the customer.

2. Analysts at Wal-Mart look for items with increasing sales in some region.
Common Architecture

• Databases at store branches handle OLTP.
• Local store databases copied to a central warehouse overnight.
• Analysts use the warehouse for OLAP.
Star Schemas

- A *star schema* is a common organization for data at a warehouse. It consists of:
  1. *Fact table*: a very large accumulation of facts such as sales.
     - Often “insert-only.”
  2. *Dimension tables*: smaller, generally static information about the entities involved in the facts.
Example: Star Schema

• Suppose we want to record in a warehouse information about every beer sale: the bar, the brand of beer, the drinker who bought the beer, the day, the time, and the price charged.

• The fact table is a relation:
Sales(bar, beer, drinker, day, time, price)
Example, Continued

• The dimension tables include information about the bar, beer, and drinker “dimensions”:
  Bars(bar, addr, license)
  Beers(beer, manf)
  Drinkers(drinker, addr, phone)
Dimensions and Dependent Attributes

- Two classes of fact-table attributes:
  1. *Dimension attributes*: the key of a dimension table.
  2. *Dependent attributes*: a value determined by the dimension attributes of the tuple.
Example: Dependent Attribute

• *price* is the dependent attribute of our example Sales relation.

• It is determined by the combination of dimension attributes: *bar, beer, drinker*, and the time (combination of *day* and *time* attributes).
Approaches to Building Warehouses

1. \textit{ROLAP} = “relational OLAP”: Tune a relational DBMS to support star schemas.

2. \textit{MOLAP} = “multidimensional OLAP”: Use a specialized DBMS with a model such as the “data cube.”
ROLAP Techniques

1. *Bitmap indexes*: For each key value of a dimension table (e.g., each beer for relation Beers) create a bit-vector telling which tuples of the fact table have that value.

2. *Materialized views*: Store the answers to several useful queries (views) in the warehouse itself.
Typical OLAP Queries

• Often, OLAP queries begin with a “star join”: the natural join of the fact table with all or most of the dimension tables.

• Example:

```
SELECT * 
FROM Sales, Bars, Beers, Drinkers 
WHERE Sales.bar = Bars.bar AND 
  Sales.beer = Beers.beer AND 
  Sales.drinker = Drinkers.drinker;
```
Typical OLAP Queries --- 2

- The typical OLAP query will:
  1. Start with a star join.
  2. Select for interesting tuples, based on dimension data.
  3. Group by one or more dimensions.
  4. Aggregate certain attributes of the result.
Example: OLAP Query

• For each bar in Palo Alto, find the total sale of each beer manufactured by Anheuser-Busch.


4. Aggregation: Sum of $price$. 
Example: In SQL

SELECT bar, beer, SUM(price)  
FROM Sales NATURAL JOIN Bars  
   NATURAL JOIN Beers  
WHERE addr = 'Palo Alto' AND  
   manf = 'Anheuser-Busch'  
GROUP BY bar, beer;
Using Materialized Views

- A direct execution of this query from Sales and the dimension tables could take too long.
- If we create a materialized view that contains enough information, we may be able to answer our query much faster.
Example: Materialized View

• Which views could help with our query?
• Key issues:
  1. It must join Sales, Bars, and Beers, at least.
  2. It must group by at least bar and beer.
  3. It must not select out Palo-Alto bars or Anheuser-Busch beers.
  4. It must not project out addr or manf.
Example --- Continued

- Here is a materialized view that could help:

```sql
CREATE VIEW BABMS(bar, addr, beer, manf, sales) AS
SELECT bar, addr, beer, manf,
SUM(price) sales
FROM Sales NATURAL JOIN Bars
    NATURAL JOIN Beers
GROUP BY bar, addr, beer, manf;
```

Since bar -> addr and beer -> manf, there is no real grouping. We need addr and manf in the SELECT.
Example --- Concluded

• Here’s our query using the materialized view BABMS:

```
SELECT bar, beer, sales
FROM BABMS
WHERE addr = 'Palo Alto' AND manf = 'Anheuser-Busch';
```
MOLAP and Data Cubes

• Keys of dimension tables are the dimensions of a hypercube.
  – Example: for the Sales data, the four dimensions are bars, beers, drinkers, and time.

• Dependent attributes (e.g., price) appear at the points of the cube.
Marginals

• The data cube also includes aggregation (typically SUM) along the margins of the cube.

• The marginals include aggregations over one dimension, two dimensions,...
Example: Marginals

• Our 4-dimensional Sales cube includes the sum of \textit{price} over each bar, each beer, each drinker, and each time unit (perhaps days).
• It would also have the sum of \textit{price} over all bar-beer pairs, all bar-drinker-day triples,...
Structure of the Cube

• Think of each dimension as having an additional value *.

• A point with one or more *’s in its coordinates aggregates over the dimensions with the *’s.

• Example: Sales(“Joe’s Bar”, “Bud”, *, *) holds the sum over all drinkers and all time of the Bud consumed at Joe’s.
Materialized Data-Cube Views

• Data cubes invite materialized views that are aggregations in one or more dimensions.
• Dimensions may not be completely aggregated --- an option is to group by an attribute of the dimension table.
Data Mining

- *Data mining* is a popular term for queries that summarize big data sets in useful ways.
- **Examples:**
  1. Clustering all Web pages by topic.
  2. Finding characteristics of fraudulent credit-card use.
Market-Basket Data

• An important form of mining from relational data involves *market baskets* = sets of “items” that are purchased together as a customer leaves a store.

• Summary of basket data is *frequent itemsets* = sets of items that often appear together in baskets.
Example: Market Baskets

• If people often buy hamburger and ketchup together, the store can:
  1. Put hamburger and ketchup near each other and put potato chips between.
  2. Run a sale on hamburger and raise the price of ketchup.
Finding Frequent Pairs

• The simplest case is when we only want to find “frequent pairs” of items.
• Assume data is in a relation Baskets(basket, item).
• The support threshold $s$ is the minimum number of baskets in which a pair appears before we are interested.
Frequent Pairs in SQL

```
SELECT b1.item, b2.item
FROM Baskets b1, Baskets b2
WHERE b1.basket = b2.basket
  AND b1.item < b2.item
GROUP BY b1.item, b2.item
HAVING COUNT(*) >= s;
```

Look for two Basket tuples with the same basket and different items. First item must precede second, so we don’t count the same pair twice.

Create a group for each pair of items that appears in at least one basket.

Throw away pairs of items that do not appear at least \( s \) times.
A-Priori Trick --- 1

- Straightforward implementation involves a join of a huge Baskets relation with itself.
- The \textit{a-priori algorithm} speeds the query by recognizing that a pair of items \{i,j\} cannot have support \(s\) unless both \{i\} and \{j\} do.
A-Priori Trick --- 2

- Use a materialized view to hold only information about frequent items.

```sql
INSERT INTO Baskets1(basket, item)
SELECT * FROM Baskets
WHERE item IN (  
  SELECT ITEM FROM Baskets  
  GROUP BY item  
  HAVING COUNT(*) >= s
);
```

Items that appear in at least \( s \) baskets.
A-Priori Algorithm

1. Materialize the view Baskets1.
2. Run the obvious query, but on Baskets1 instead of Baskets.
   • Baskets1 is cheap, since it doesn’t involve a join.
   • Baskets1 *probably* has many fewer tuples than Baskets.
     – Running time shrinks with the *square* of the number of tuples involved in the join.
Example: A-Priori

• Suppose:
  1. A supermarket sells 10,000 items.
  2. The average basket has 10 items.
  3. The support threshold is 1% of the baskets.

• At most 1/10 of the items can be frequent.

• *Probably*, the minority of items in one basket are frequent -> factor 4 speedup.