

# Bao: Learning to Steer Query Optimizers

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# Contributions

DBMS agnostic integration with  
the query optimizer

Competitive performance

Realistic evaluation setting

# Structure of this presentation

Problem overview

Model's components

Evaluation

My review

# Previous work

Fully learned systems (e.g. Neo,  
Kipf et al. Learned Cardinalities)

Heuristic query search (e.g Genetic  
Query Optimizer)

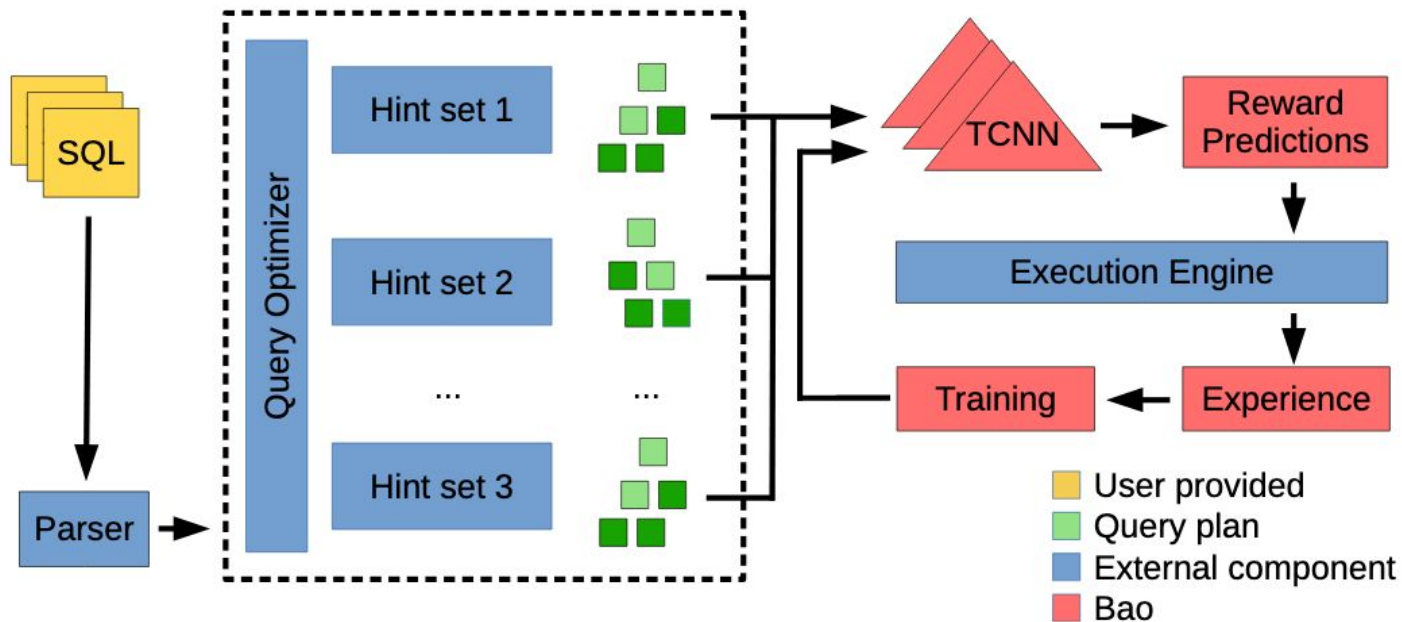
# Issues Bao Addresses

Training efficiency

Robustness to changes in data

Tail performance

# Query Steering



# Thompson Sampling

Balances between exploration and exploitation when training.

Exploration only: choose actions at random

Exploitation only: choose the action that maximizes expected likelihood of the learned distribution.

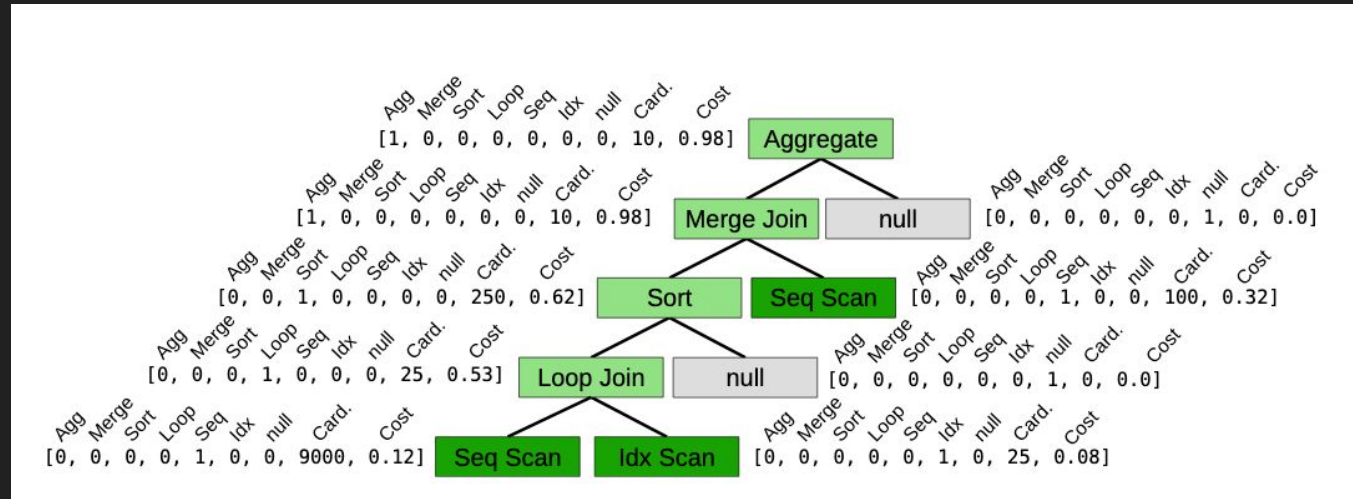
Thompson sampling: sample the action from the learned distribution.

# Vectorized query tree

Tree of feature vectors

Schema independent

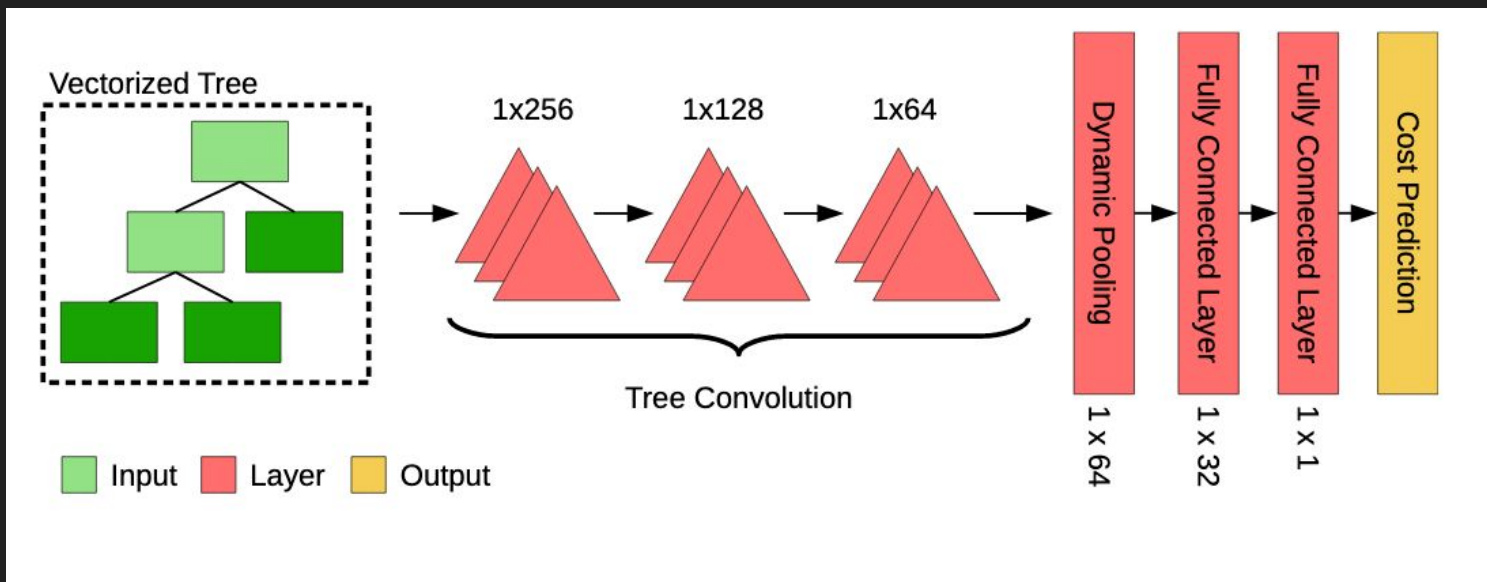
Extensible (new features can be added by concatenation)





# Tree Convolutional Neural Networks

Identify patterns in query tree corresponding to (in)efficient queries.

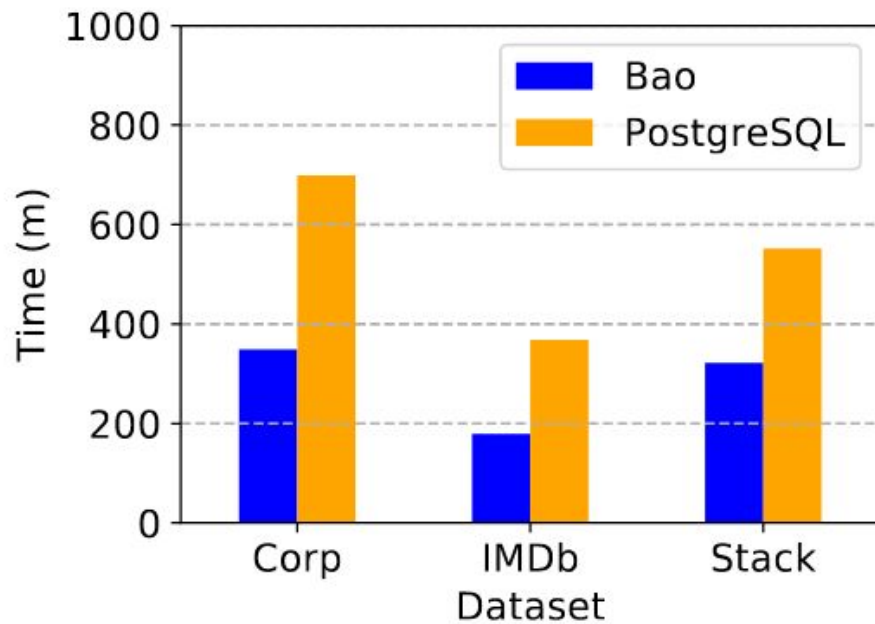
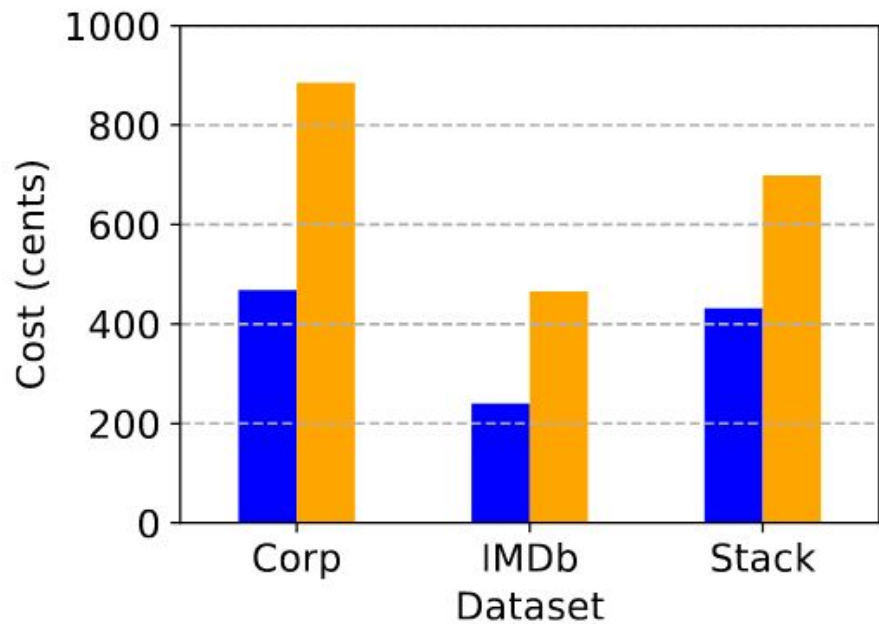


Cost function (regret)

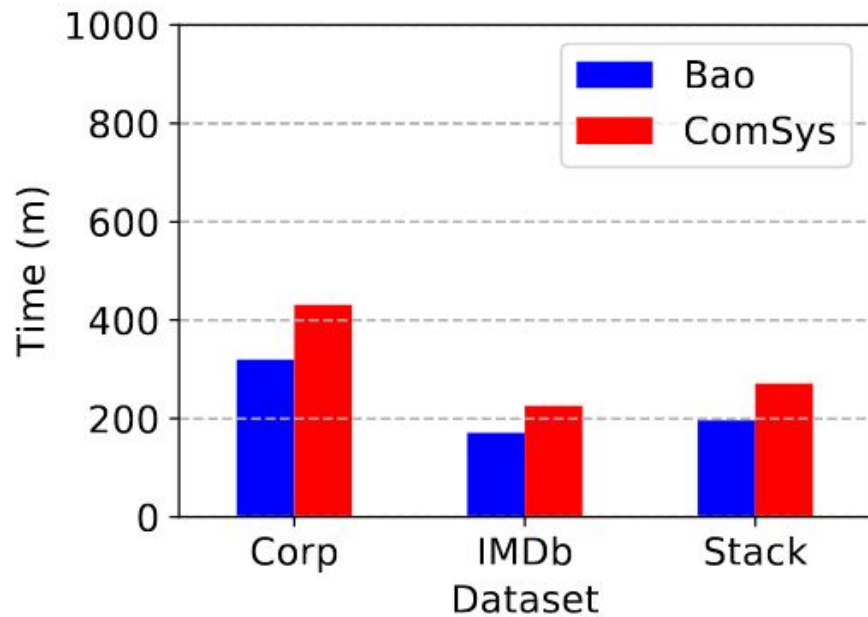
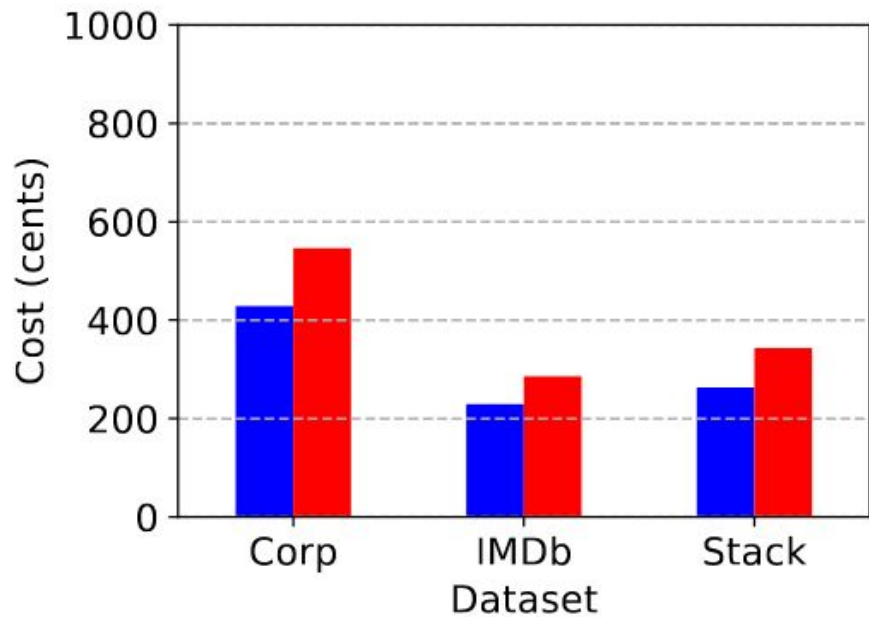
Mean squared distance from  
*optimal performance*

It is up to the user to define  
the *performance metric*

# Bao v. PostgreSQL



# Bao v. ComSys(?)



## Criticism

Parts of the evaluation were performed on proprietary systems and datasets.

Query optimiser is run 48 times for each Bao prediction.

Fails to incorporate the ideas expressed by the authors in SageDB

# Summary

Bao integrates query optimizers into multi-handed bandit optimization problem.

The paper provides a DBMS and schema agnostic query tree representation.

The model is evaluated with representative datasets and cost metrics.

Please ask  
questions!

Thank you  
for your time