

# Scaling Databases and File APIs with programmable Ceph Object Storage VAULT 20

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CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN  
OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Bridges gap between student research & open source projects

Funded by Sage Weil endowment & corporate memberships

Structure



Talent, Projects, Technologies

Teach students on how to productively engage in open source communities

Fund high-impact research with plausible path to successful open source projects

Incubate developer communities around research prototypes

Operations

Reviewed every six months



Undergrads  
University Research  
Graduate

Governance

Est. 2015 - cross.ucsc.edu



**Carlos Maltzahn**  
Director



**Stephanie Lieggi**  
Assistant Director

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**SAMSUNG**

Modeled after NSF's I/UCRCs.  
Adds open source software focus.  
Sustained through membership fees



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Chief Architect  
Cloudera



**James Davis**  
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UC Santa Cruz



**Karen Sandler**  
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**Nissa Strottman**  
VP, Technology, IP,  
Innovation Strategic  
Partnerships, Visa



**Sage Weil**  
Ceph Principal Architect  
Red Hat

# CROSS Incubator

Postdocs building dev communities for their research prototypes

Exit

Requirements

Incubator Fellows

**Graduated with** Ph.D. and is well-published expert

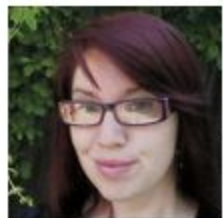
**Starts out with** a significant code base from Ph.D. project

**Leverages** at least one well-established OSS community

**Wants** to become an OSS leader



**Jeff LeFevre:**  
SkyhookDM – Programmable  
Storage for Databases  
skyhookdm.com



**Kate Compton:**  
Tracery 2 & Chancery – Getting  
poets to program AI  
tracery.io



**Ivo Jimenez:**  
Black Swan – The Practical  
Reproducibility Platform  
falsifiable.us



**Community seeding** via  
“Research Experience” Programs:

- Tap into pool of students who need project topics
- CROSS is Google Summer of Code Mentor Organization
- Great community management training
- Great driver for community infrastructure

**Evaluation metric:** number of contributors from number of organizations

**Exit:** when external funding becomes available or project fails reviews

**Expected runtime:** 2-4 years



# CROSS Research

Cutting-edge research projects with plausible paths to successful open source software projects

**Addresses** a fundamental research question

**Is advised** by UC Santa Cruz faculty

**Is not required** to create any software

**Opens** a plausible path to open source software that might be widely adopted

**Has completed** coursework required by UC Santa Cruz Ph.D. program

Research Fellows



**Xiaowei Chu:**  
Mapping Datasets to Object Storage  
(Advisor: Carlos Maltzahn)



**Akhil Dixit:** CAVSAT - A System for Query Answering over Inconsistent Databases  
(Advisor: Phokion Kolaitis)



**Jianshen Liu:**  
Eusocial Storage Devices  
(Advisor: Carlos Maltzahn)



**Sheng Hong Wang:** Lgraph - An Open Source Multi-Language Synthesis and Simulation Infrastructure (Advisor: Jose Renau)

Graduated

**Ivo Jimenez** (now incubator fellow): Popper - Practical Falsifiable Research (Advisor: Carlos Maltzahn)

**Noah Watkins** (vectorized.io): Zlog - Distributed Shared-log for Software-Defined Storage (Advisor: Carlos Maltzahn)

**Michael Sevilla** (TidalScale): Mantle - A Programmable Metadata Load Balancer for the Ceph File System (Advisor: Carlos Maltzahn)

**Brendan Short:** Strong Consistency in Dynamic Wireless Networks for Better Navigation of Autonomous Vehicles (Advisor: Ricardo Sanfelice)

# CROSS Symposium

Showing off student work at CROSS and other UC Santa Cruz research programs

Annual 2-day event with 2 tracks of program and “Systems Oktoberfest”, next event: **Oct 7-8, 2020**

**Centers** technical program around current CROSS research and incubator projects

**Shows** off student work and research programs

**Establishes** interested communities of students, industry, government, and faculty

**Located** at Baskin School of Engineering on UC Santa Cruz campus

[cross.ucsc.edu/symposium](http://cross.ucsc.edu/symposium)

October 24-25, 2016



October 3-4, 2017



October 3-4, 2018



Keynote Speakers:



October 2-3, 2019



Keynote Speakers:



# Skyhook Data Management

- Presented last year at Vault19
- Scaling storage to support database processing
  - Storage layer extensions to Ceph object classes
  - In-storage execution via data access libraries and their APIs

# This Talk

- Overview + New developments since Vault19
  - Extensions for Column-oriented storage
    - Apache Arrow Format
  - Extensions for backend plugin support
    - HDF5 Virtual Object Layer
    - High Energy Physics (ROOT) data format
  - Extensions for Physical Design reorganizations
    - Data layouts

# Data management in Storage?

- Not a new concept
  - “database machines” of the 1980’s era
    - Customized HW/SW for data management
  - Research today on embedding functions in disks/SSDs/FTLs/FPGAs
- Distributed file systems and customizable software make exploring this a bit easier now

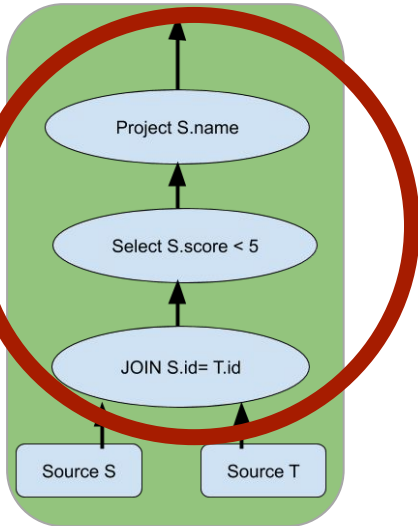
# Overview of Our Approach

- Software based
- Open source Ceph object classes extensions
  - User-defined functions (C++, Lua)
  - Customized read/write methods
- Provide data semantics to storage system
- Enable storage to understand and process data locally



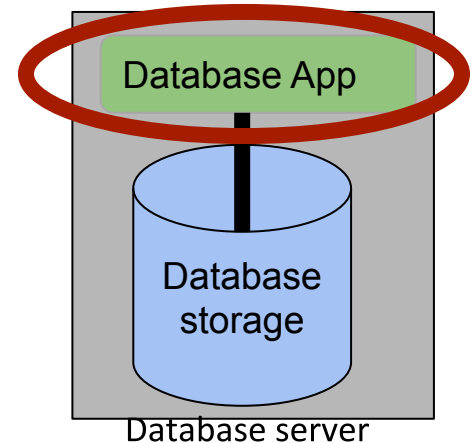
# Pushdown Processing is an old concept

- Reduce cardinality as early as possible
- Typically processing is done in application layer



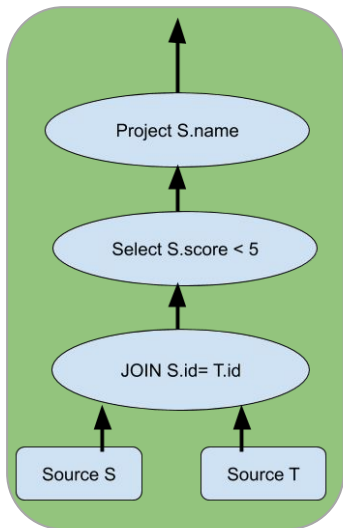
**Process data in  
application layer**

**Read source data  
in storage layer**



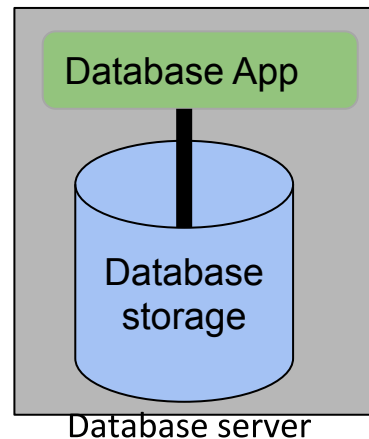
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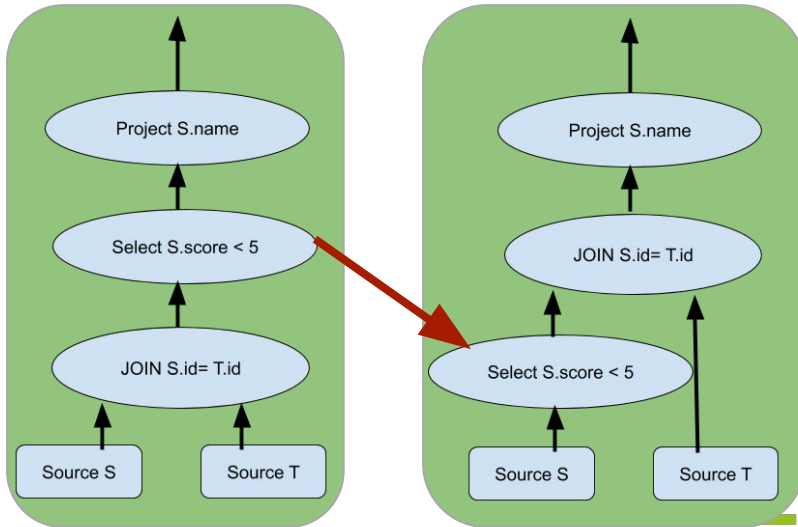
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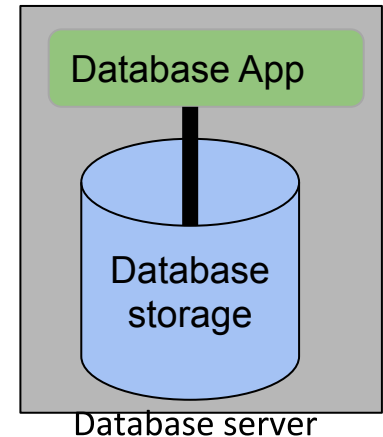
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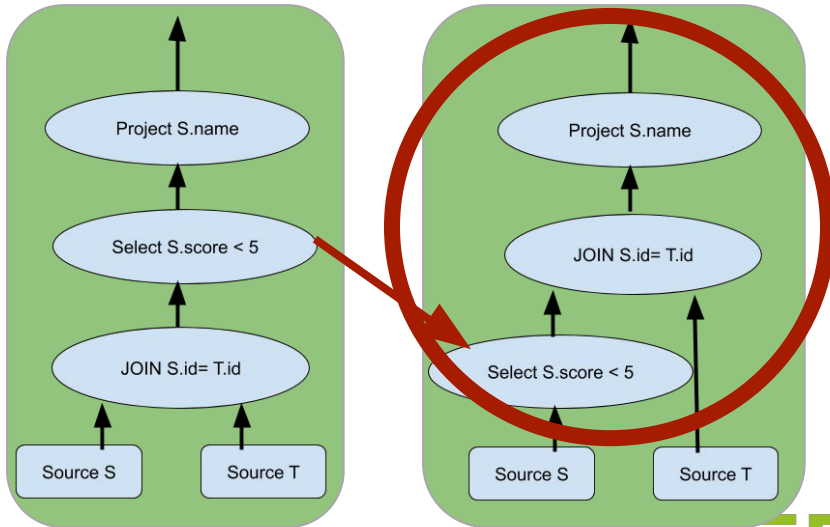
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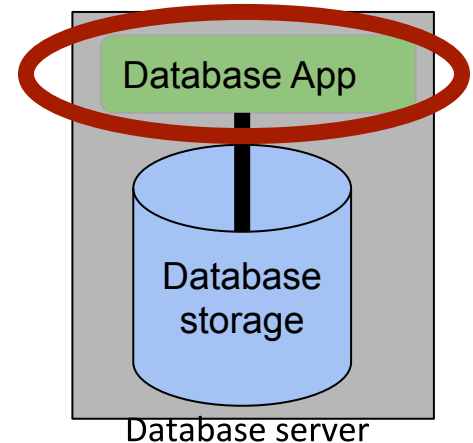
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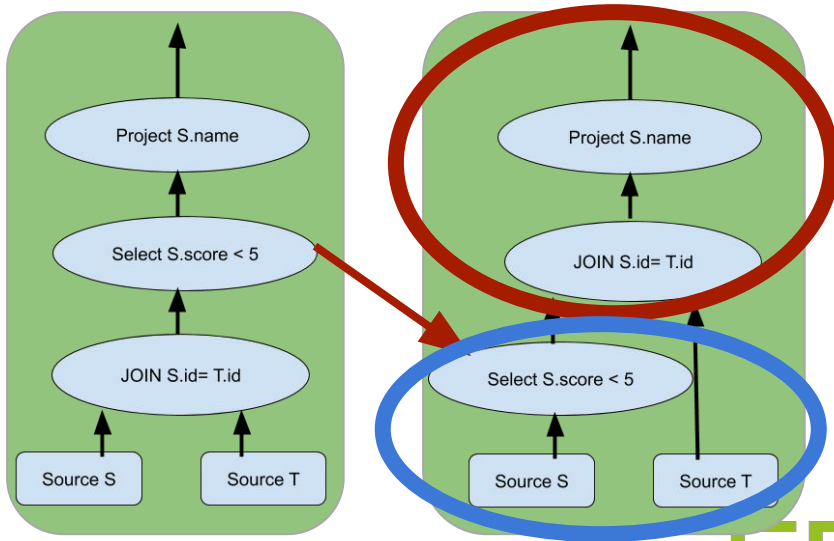
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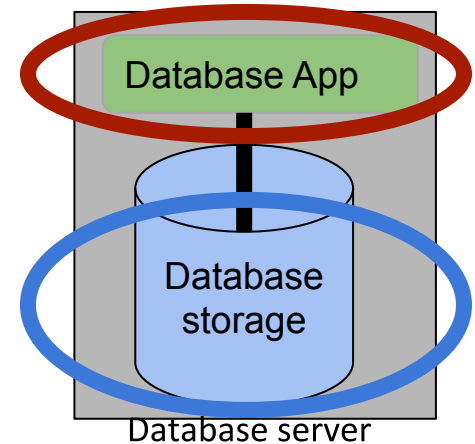
# Pushdown Processing is an old concept

- Reduce cardinality as early as possible
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Process data in  
application layer

Read + PROCESS  
source data in  
storage layer

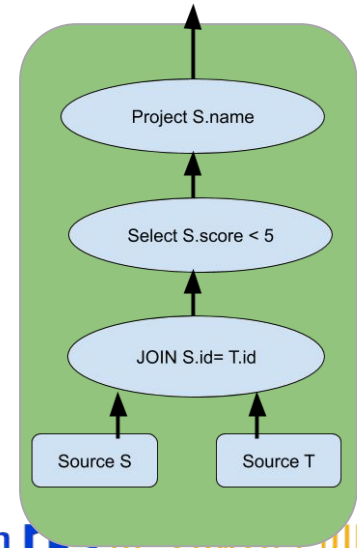
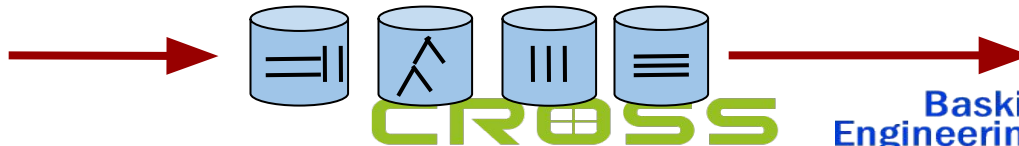




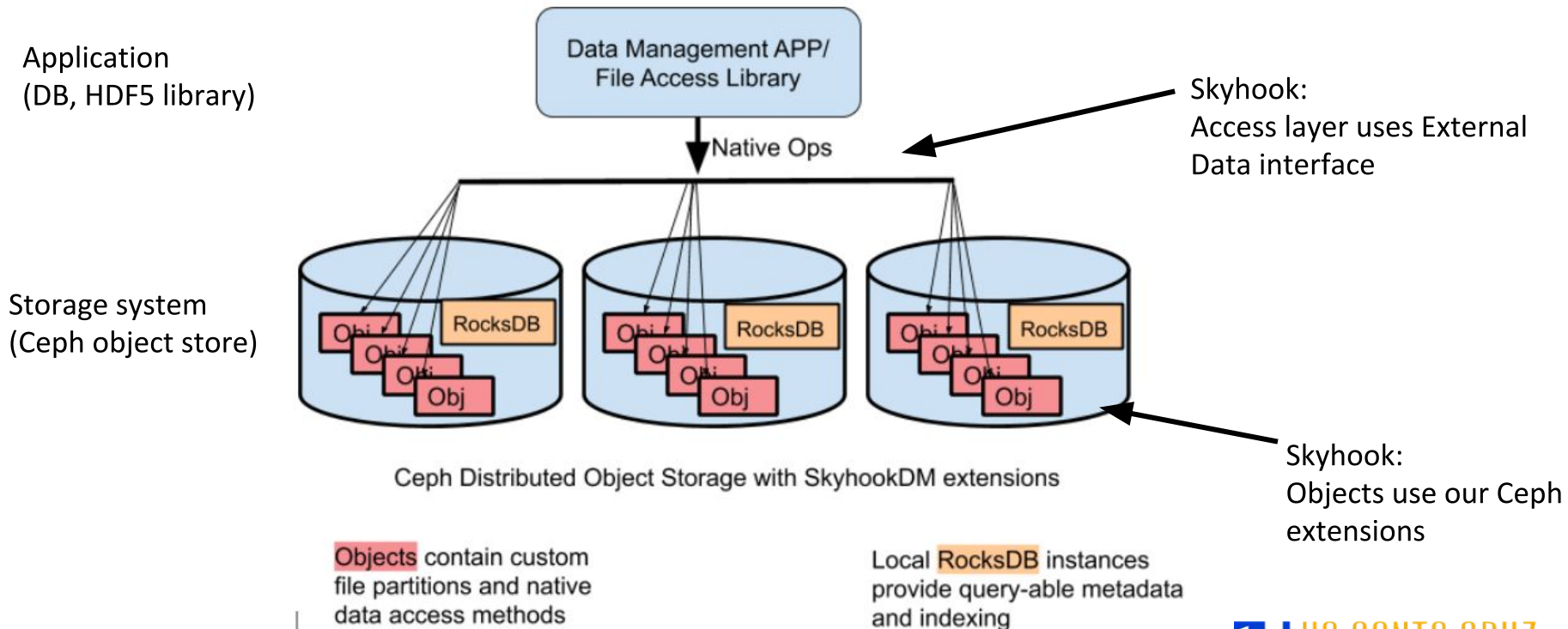
# What about data management?

- Data reliability concerns
  - Replication, consistency, access control
- Physical design concerns
  - Indexes, materialized views,
  - Partitioning, file format
  - Data skew? (object size)

JSON, Protocol Buffers,  
Parquet, Arrow,  
Flatbuffers, Avro,  
Binary Proprietary,...



# SkyhookDM Architecture



# SkyhookDM (now)

- Data storage and processing inside storage software layer via Ceph extensions
- Dynamic reorganization of the physical design
  - Each object independently transformed (or not)
- Adapt to changing workloads
  - Transform row  $\Leftrightarrow$  column formats dynamically
- Support elasticity
  - Repartition objects

# Previously Row-oriented

Table data


Row partitions\*

part-1

Formatted data\*\*

Obj-1

- Data format retains data's semantics (schema)
- Semantics are interpreted by custom object classes
- We use generated object names
- No location info stored by Skyhook

*\*Partition rows with  
[JumpConsistentHash](#)*

*\*\*Partitions formatted as  
[Google Flatbuffers](#)*

# (1) Support for Column Processing

Table data


Row partitions\*

part-1

Formatted data\*\*

Obj-1

part-2

Obj-2

part-3

Obj-3

- Data format retains data's semantics (schema)
- Semantics are interpreted by custom object classes
- We use generated object names
- No location info stored by Skyhook
- GSoC project

*\*Partition rows by Column*

*\*\*Partitions formatted as Apache Arrow*



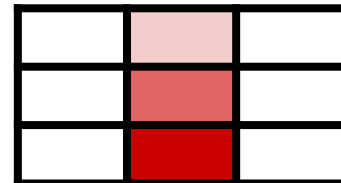
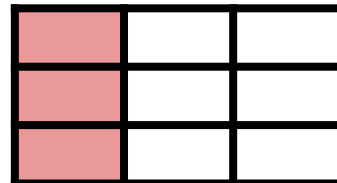
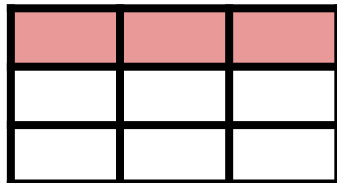
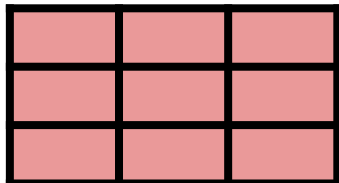
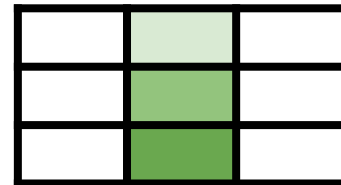
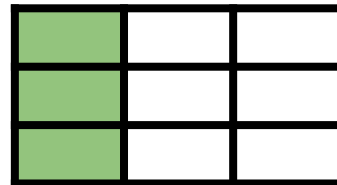
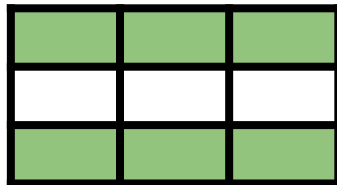
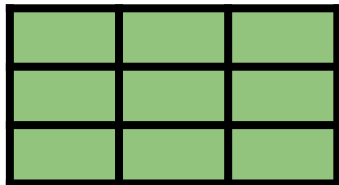
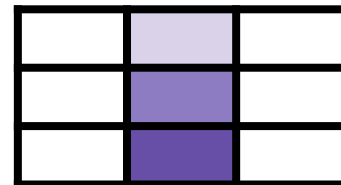
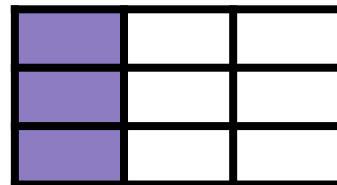
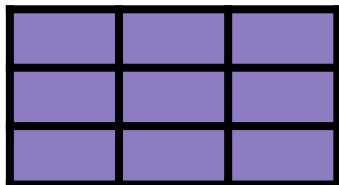
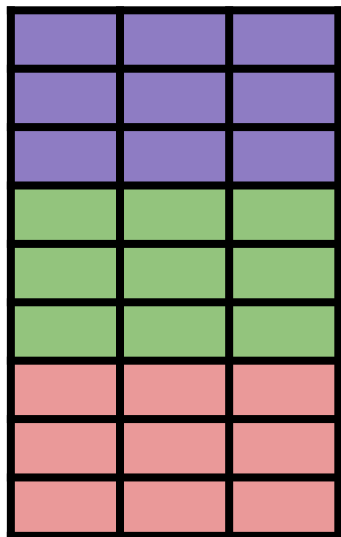
# Processing Types

(1 partition/object)

(row-operation)

(col-operation)

(set operation)  
ORDER BY/SORT



# How to Embed Semantics?

- Flatbuffers and Arrow APIs have extensible schema metadata
  - Column type, name, version, length, etc.
- How to determine which API to use?
  - Enable storage to check data format
  - Flatbuffer metadata wrapper

# Data Partition Metadata Required

- [Flatbuffer metadata wrapper](#) per partition
  - Enables each partition to understand its properties
  - Important for dynamic scalability
  - Database/client app doesn't need to know state of all objs

```
table FB_Meta {  
  blob_format      : int32;      // enum SkyFormatType of contents stored in data blob  
  blob_data        : [ubyte];    // formatted data (any supported format)  
  blob_size        : uint64;     // number of bytes in data blob  
  blob_deleted     : bool;       // has this data been deleted?  
  blob_orig_off    : uint64=0;   // optional: offset of blob data in orig file  
  blob_orig_len    : uint64=0;   // optional: num bytes in orig file  
  blob_compression : int=0;      // optional: populated by enum {none, lzw, ...}  
}
```

# Data Partition Metadata Required

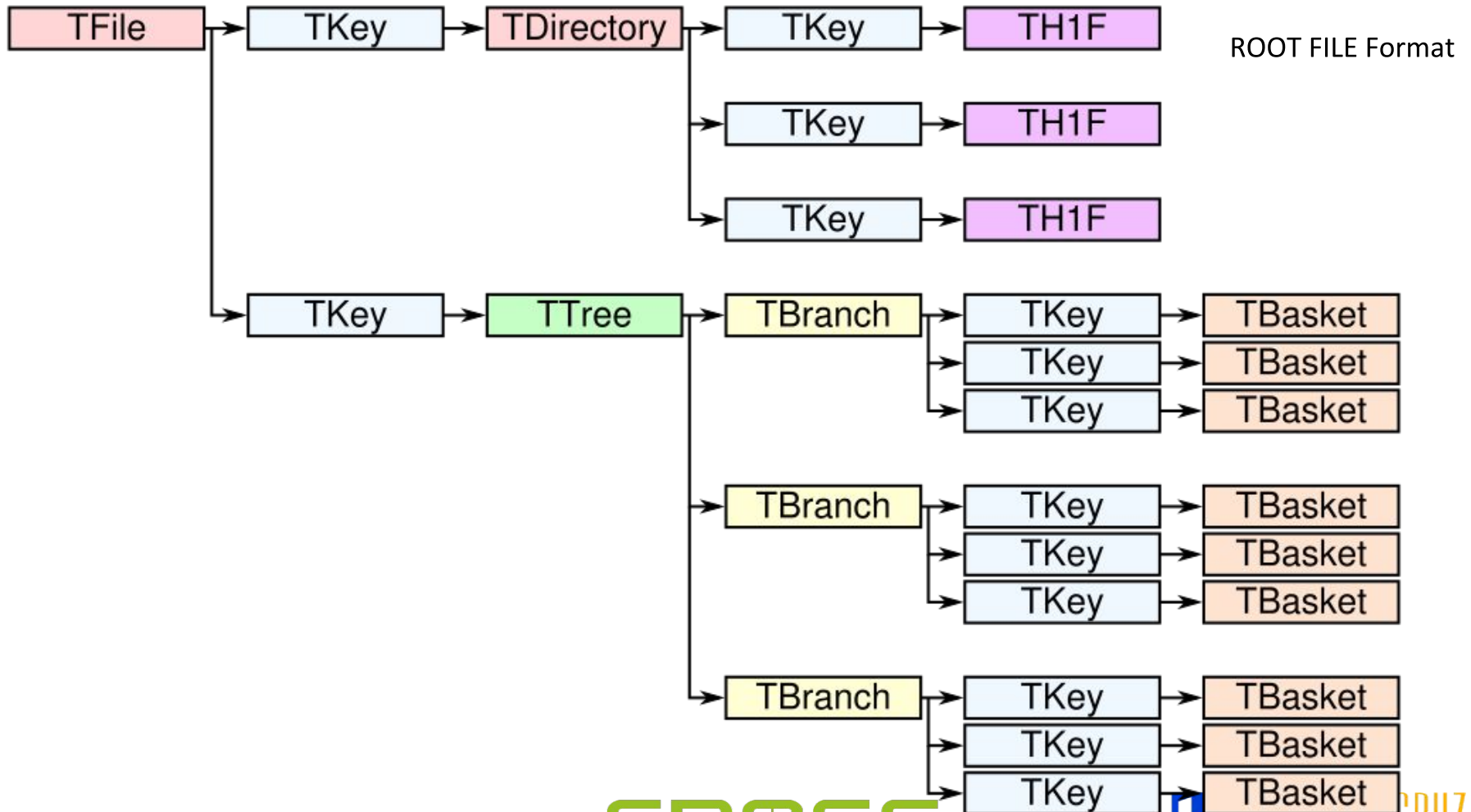
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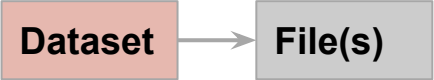
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  blob_data   : [ubyte];    // formatted data (any supported format)  
  blob_size   : uint64;     // number of bytes in data blob  
  blob_deleted : bool;      // has this data been deleted?  
  blob_orig_off : uint64=0; // optional: offset of blob data in orig file  
  blob_orig_len : uint64=0; // optional: num bytes in orig file  
  blob_compression : int=0; // optional: populated by enum {none, lzw, ...}  
}
```

## (2) Scalable APIs

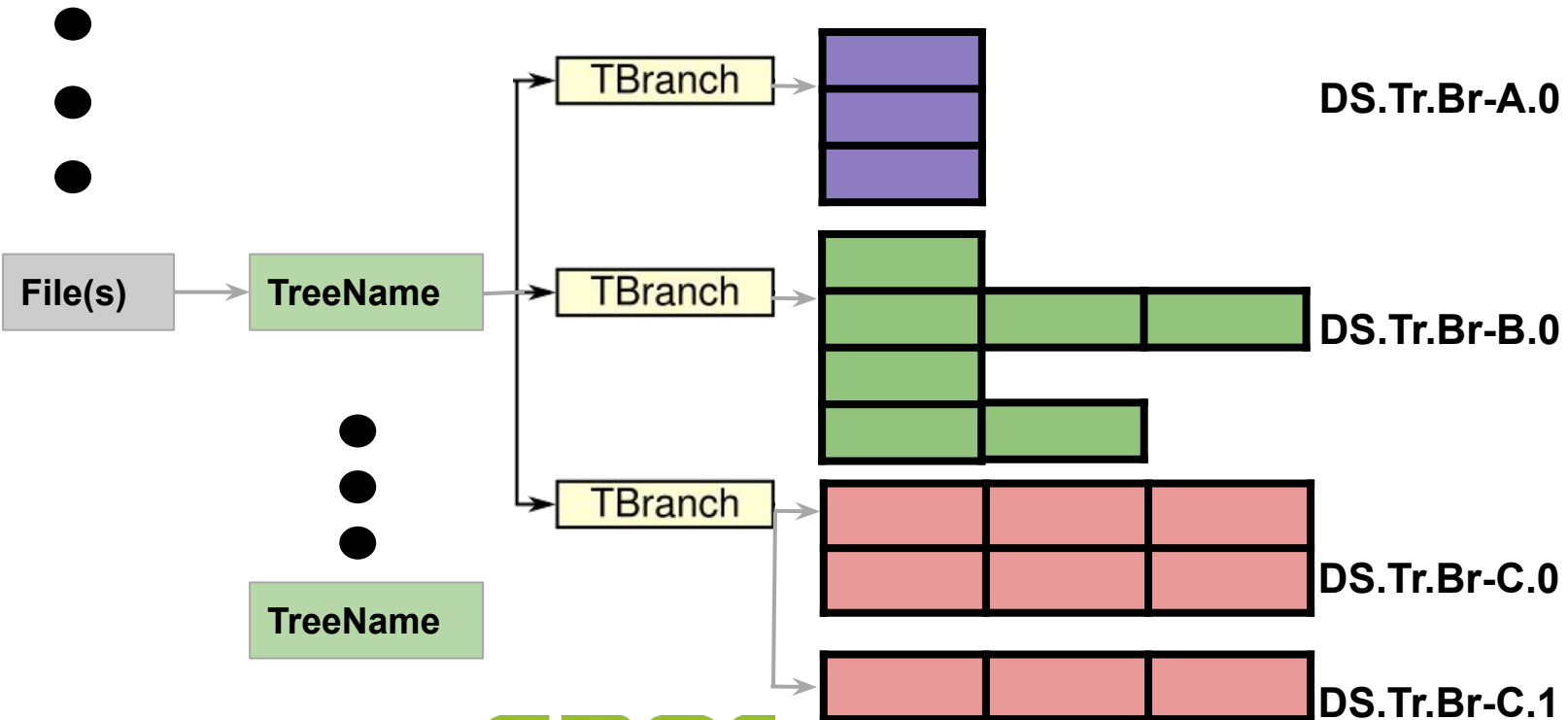
- SkyhookDM object extensions and data format metadata enable multiple formats
- Can now store and process custom formats
- Typically DB layer supports backends via external table interface (foreign data wrapper)
- Scientific file formats
  - HDF w/VOL, ROOT file format (physics)







ROOT FILE Format



# ROOT access -> obj access

- Data is stored into objects in a common format
  - Apache Arrow
- Original file replaced by collection of objects
- Objects are accessed in parallel
  - Pushdown select and project
-

# ROOT access -> obj access

- Data is stored into objects in a common format
  - Apache Arrow
- Original file replaced by collection of objects
- Objects are accessed in parallel
  - Pushdown select and project
- Scalable file access **AND** processing via storage

# Python Interface for Scientists

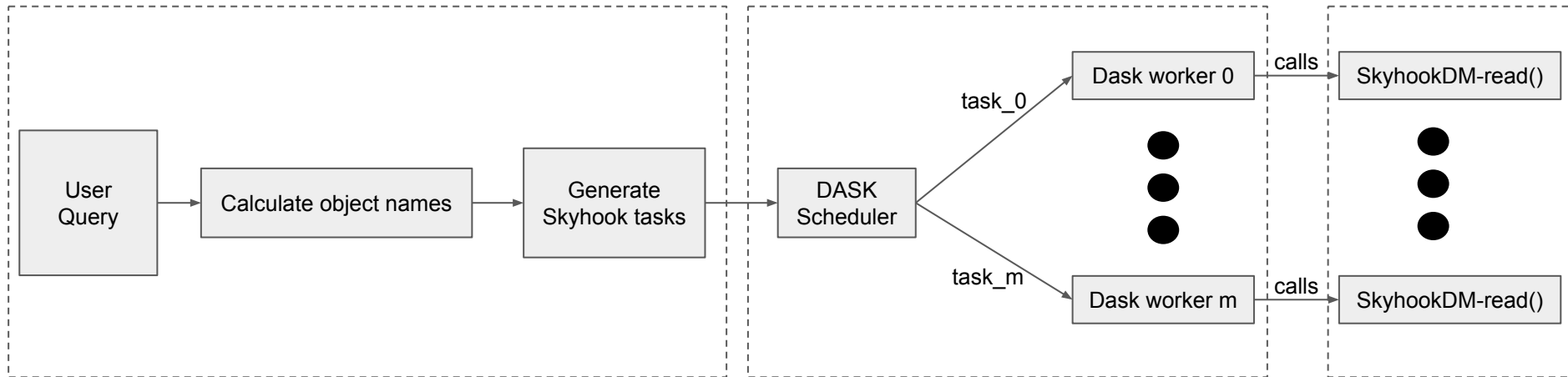
- Python library for ROOT data
- Commonly used by analysts in Jupyter notebooks
- Issues SkyhookDM reads/writes
  - Data returned as pyarrow or dataframes
- Scalable Architecture design



## SkyhookDM Python Client Library

## Dask node(s)

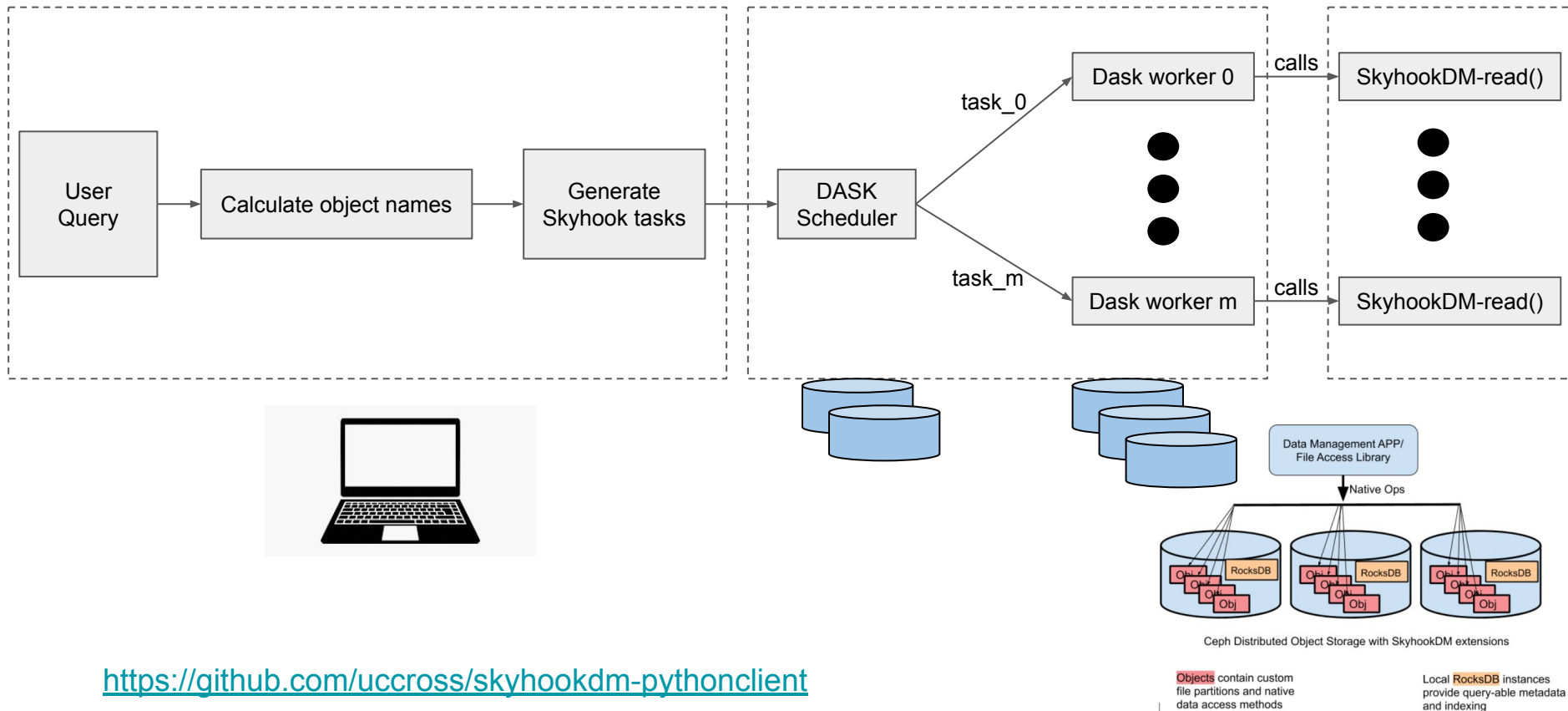
## Ceph Cluster w/SkyhookDM extensions



## SkyhookDM Python Client Library

## Dask node(s)

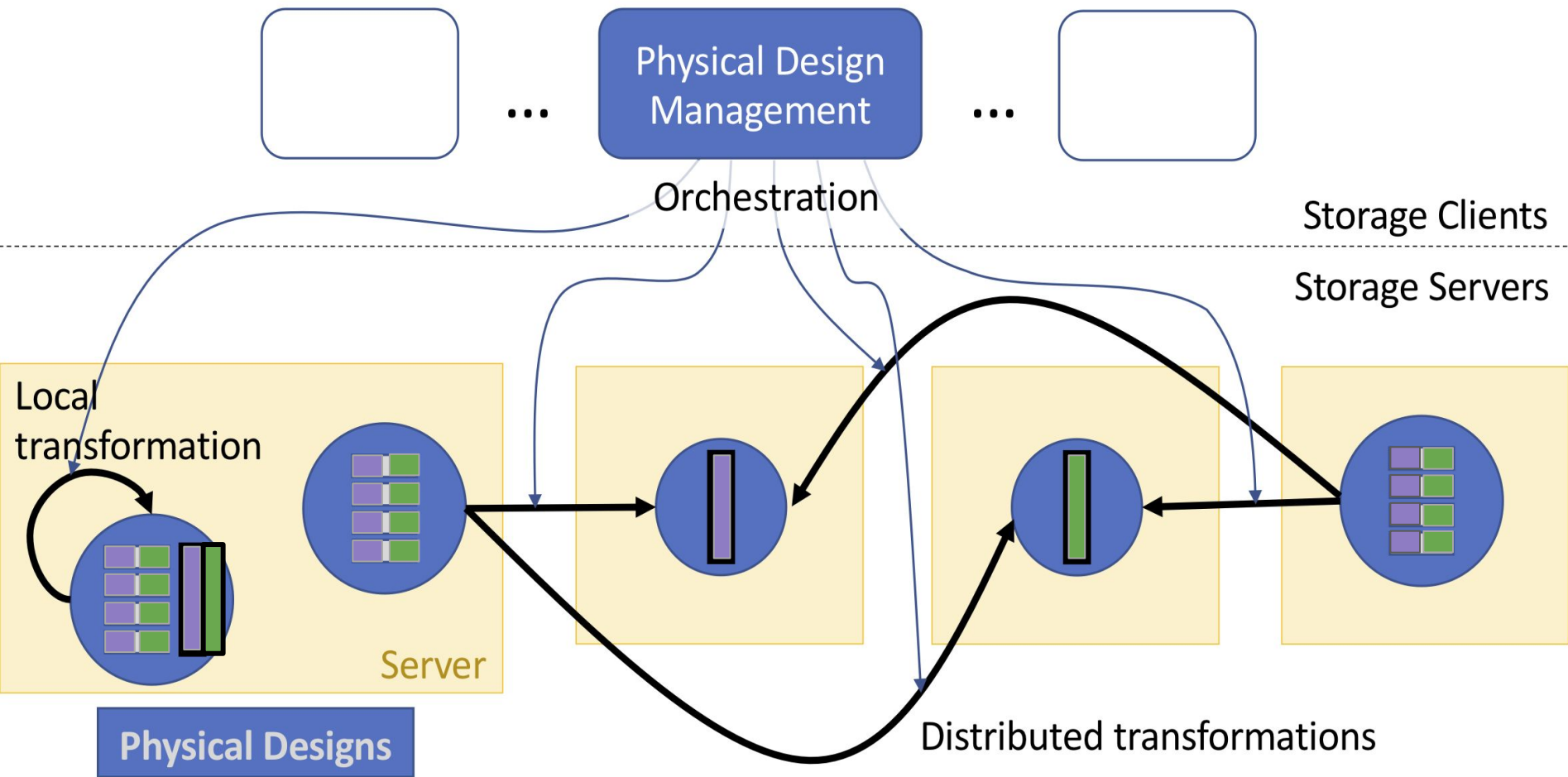
## Ceph Cluster w/SkyhookDM extensions



<https://github.com/uccross/skyhookdm-pythonclient>

# (3) Physical Design Management

- Physical design management (PDSW19)
- Dynamically transform data between row <->column
  - Match current workload needs
- Very large space of design choices
  - Consider replication, format, num objects, size,...

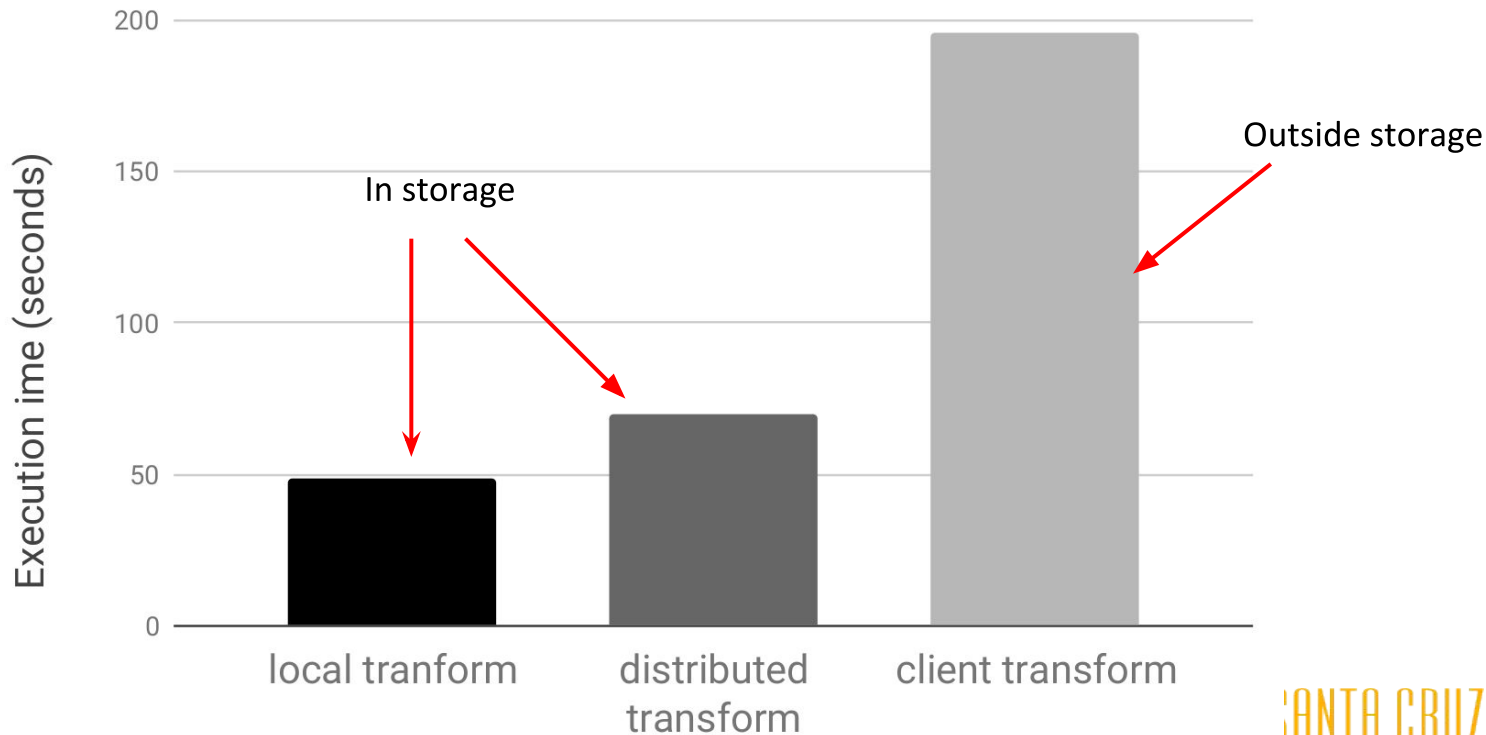


# Results

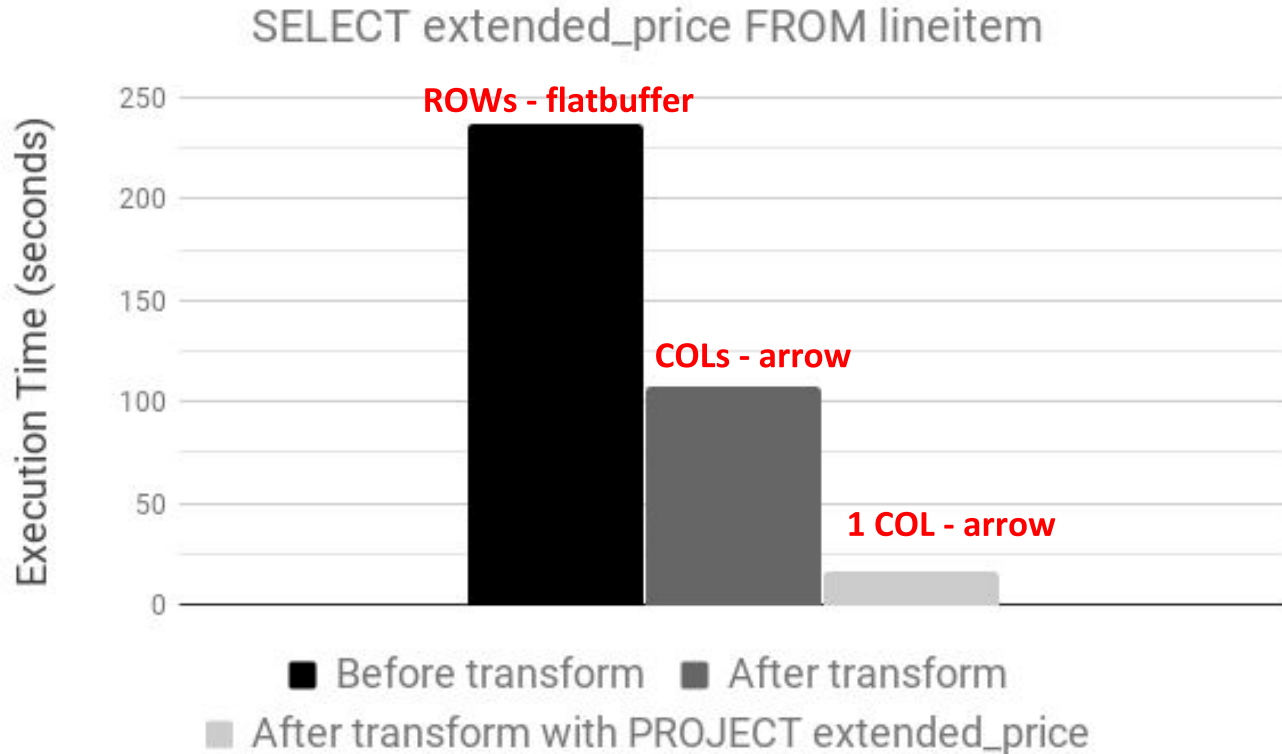
- Data: TPC-H Lineitem table, 750M rows
- Queries: select and project over lineitem
  - `SELECT * from lineitem WHERE extended_price > 91,500.00`
  - `SELECT extended_price from lineitem WHERE extended_price > 91,500.00`
- Hardware: NSF Cloudlab 40 core, 10GbE, 1TB HDD
- App: Postgres 10+, Ceph with Skyhook extensions

# Transform row to column

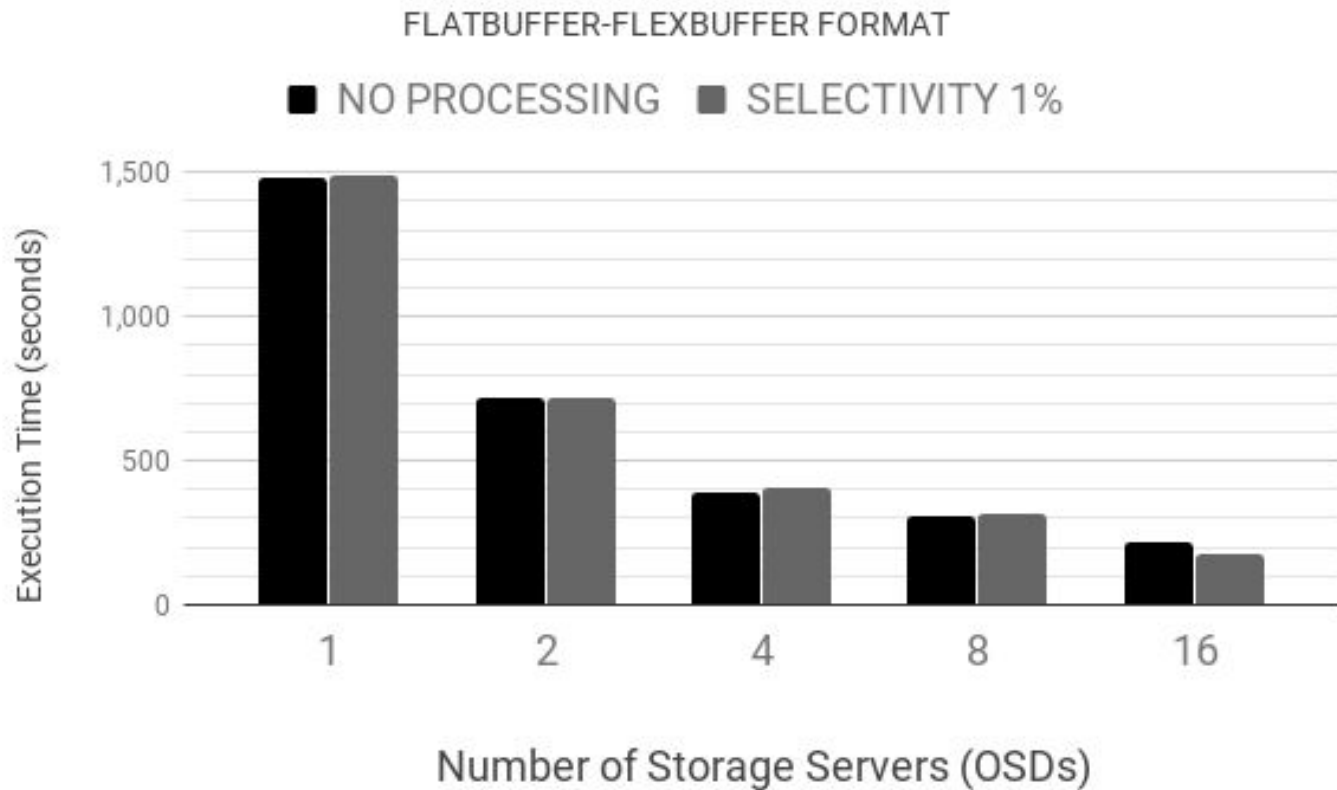
4 node storage cluster (Ceph), 1 node client machine, 750M rows TPC-H Lineitem table



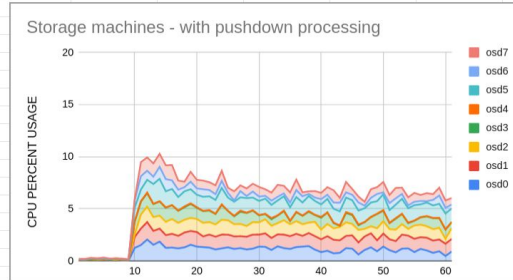
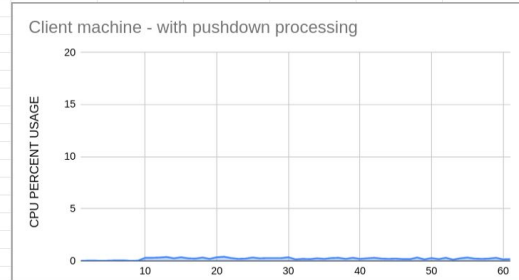
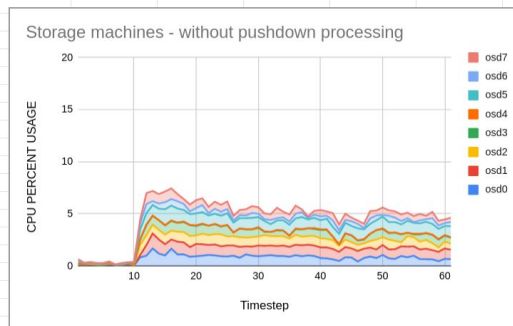
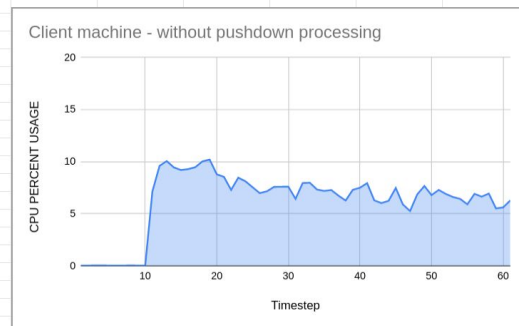
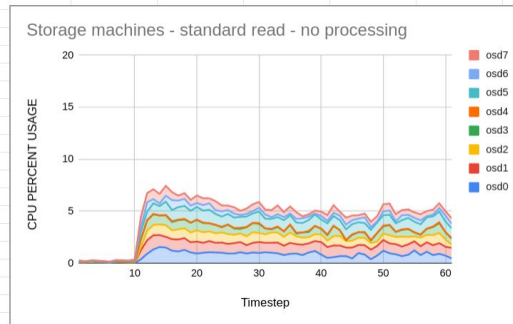
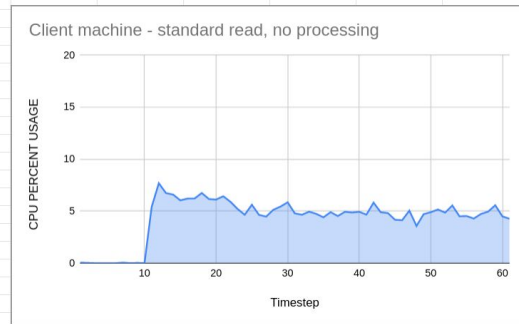
# PROJECT before/after transform



# Scalability







# Thank you

Questions please

# Acknowledgements

- Center for Research in Open Source Software at UCSC
- NSF Grant OAC-1836650, CNS-1764102, CNS-1705021
- Everyone who has contributed to SkyhookDM project!