



Guessing application owner desires

How to select important query groups without asking the app owner

Swiss PGDay — Lightning talk

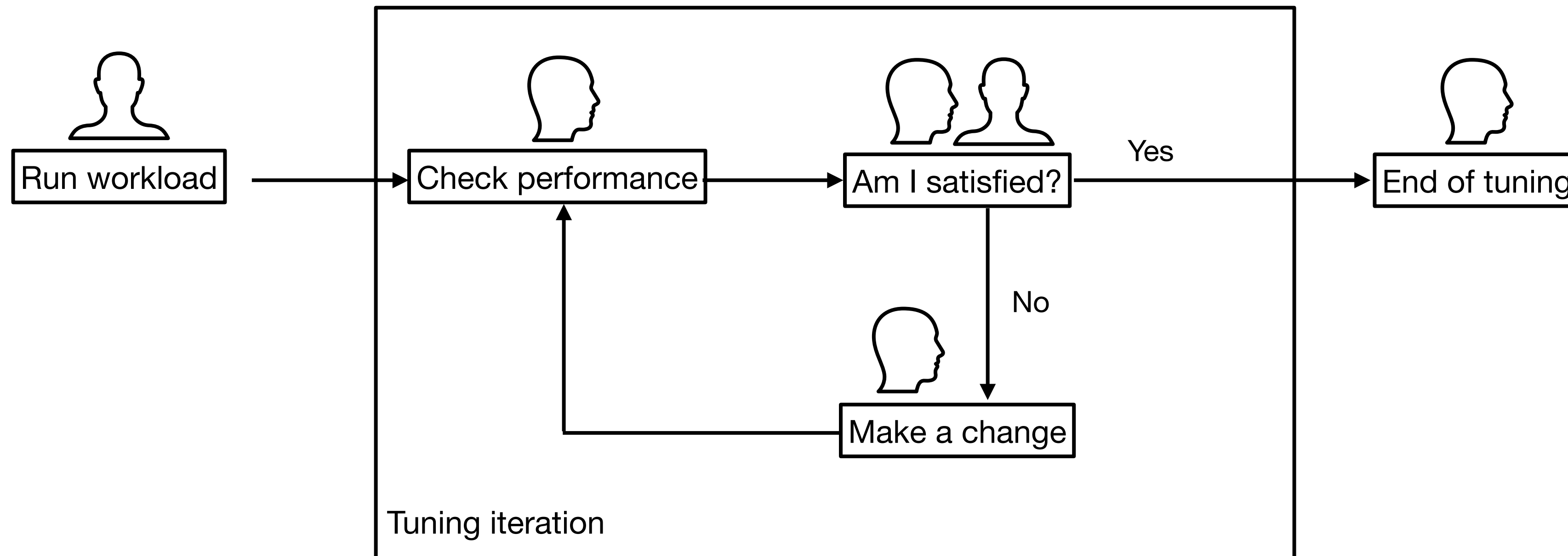
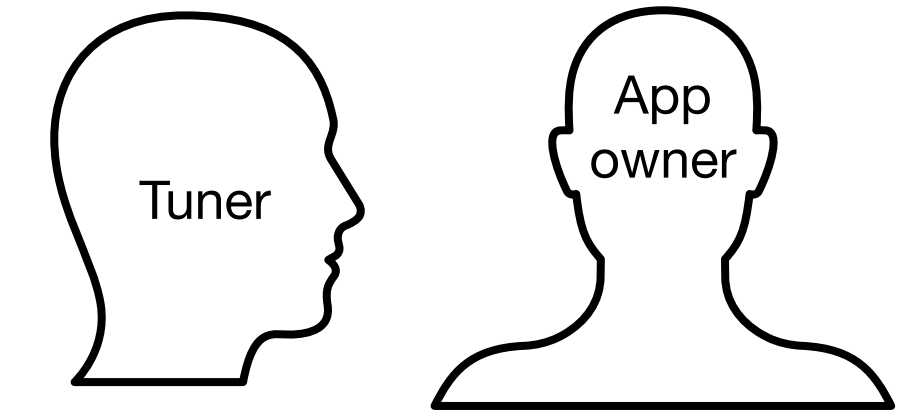
June 26, 2026



Luigi Nardi

Founder & CEO, DBtune

Performance tuning process pictorial



The relationship between the tuner and the app owner



Dr. Marc Linster

“The first thing we have always asked our clients is to give us the 10 most important queries they want to tune”

The relationship between the tuner and the app owner



Dr. Marc Linster

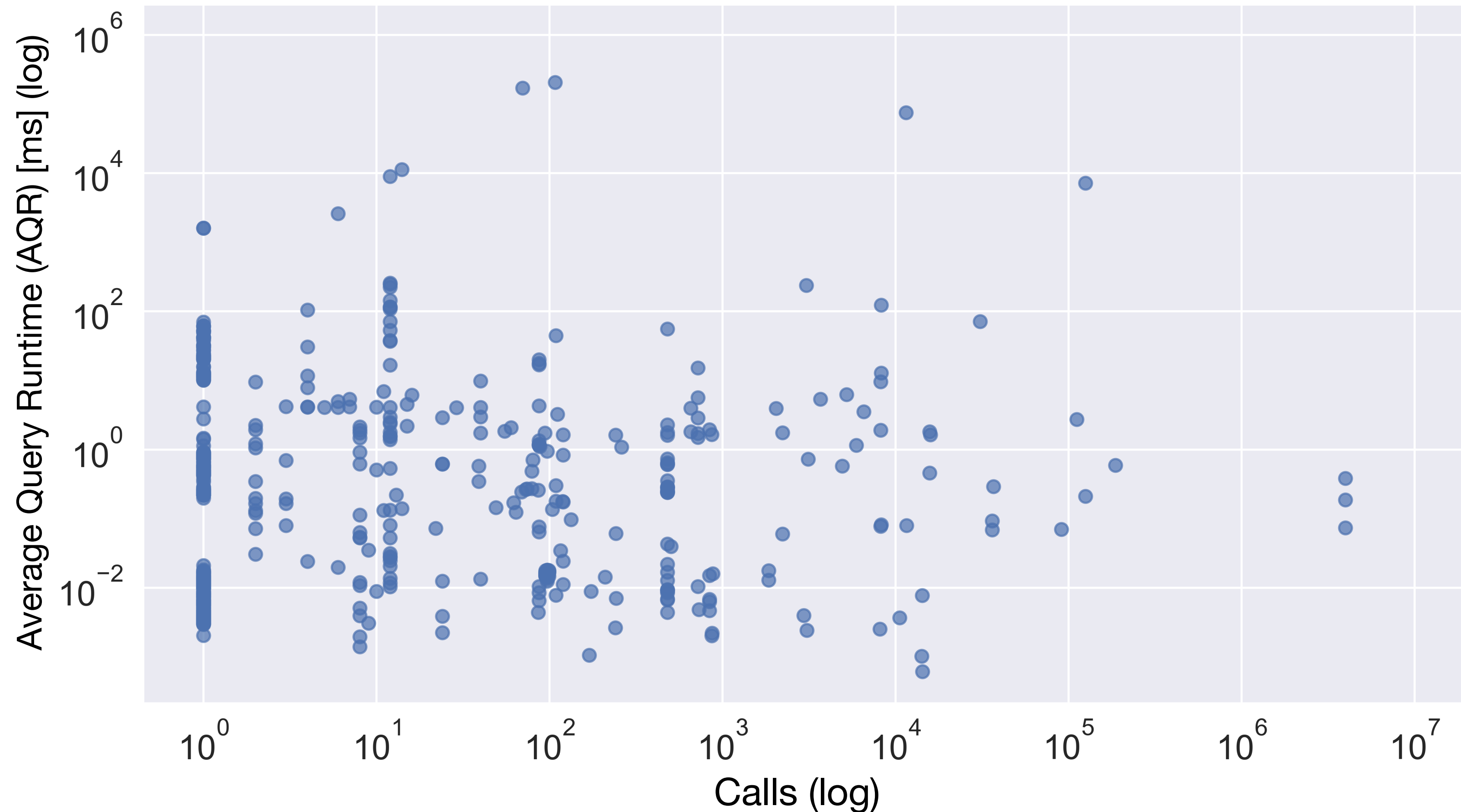
“The first thing we have always asked our clients is to give us the 10 most important queries they want to tune”

Can we guess what are the queries the app owner cares about?

How do we guess a subset of important queries with 100s of query groups?

RDS prod system, time window = 2h; unique query IDs = 787; total exec time = 1,808,598s

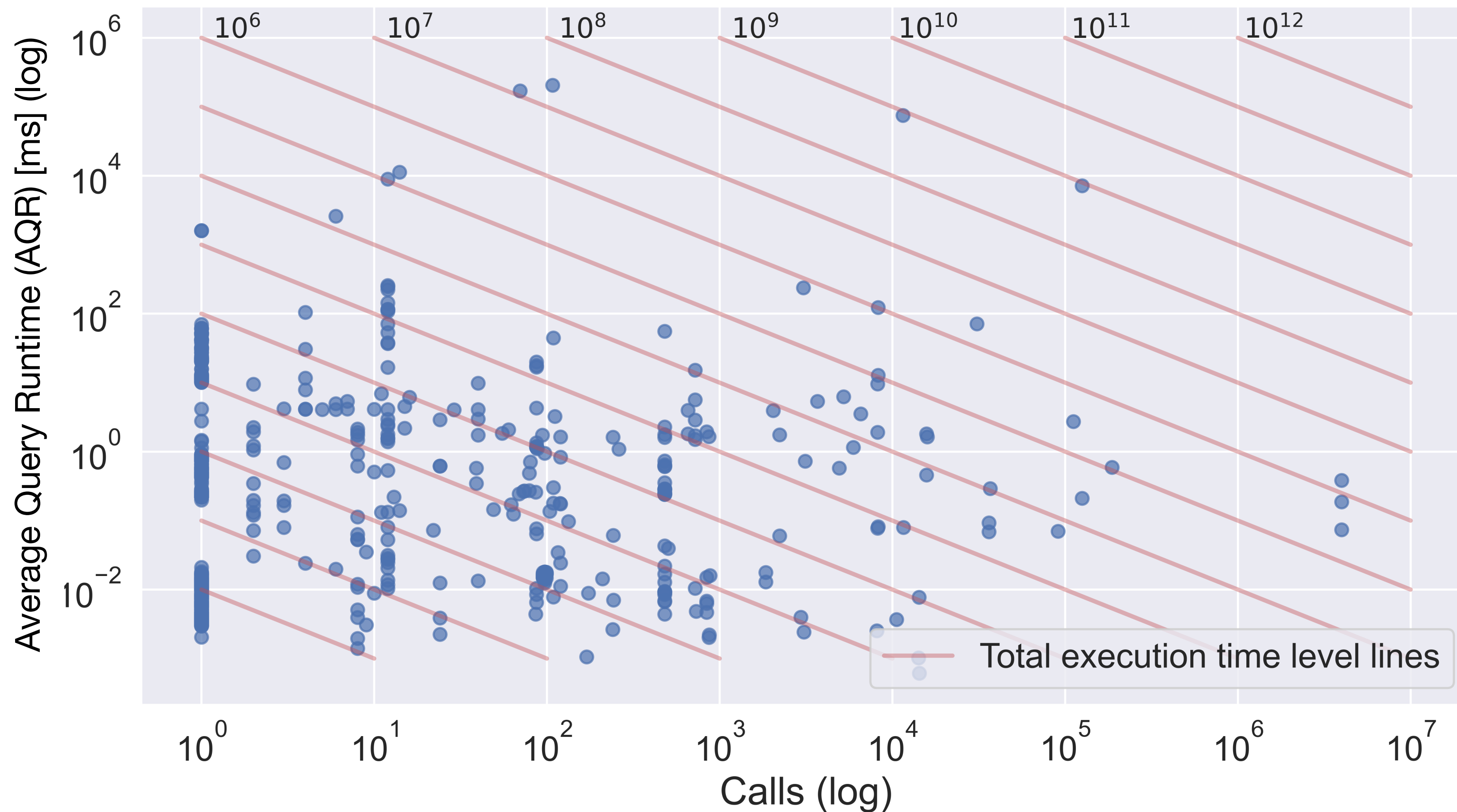
Scatter plot AQR vs #calls for each query group



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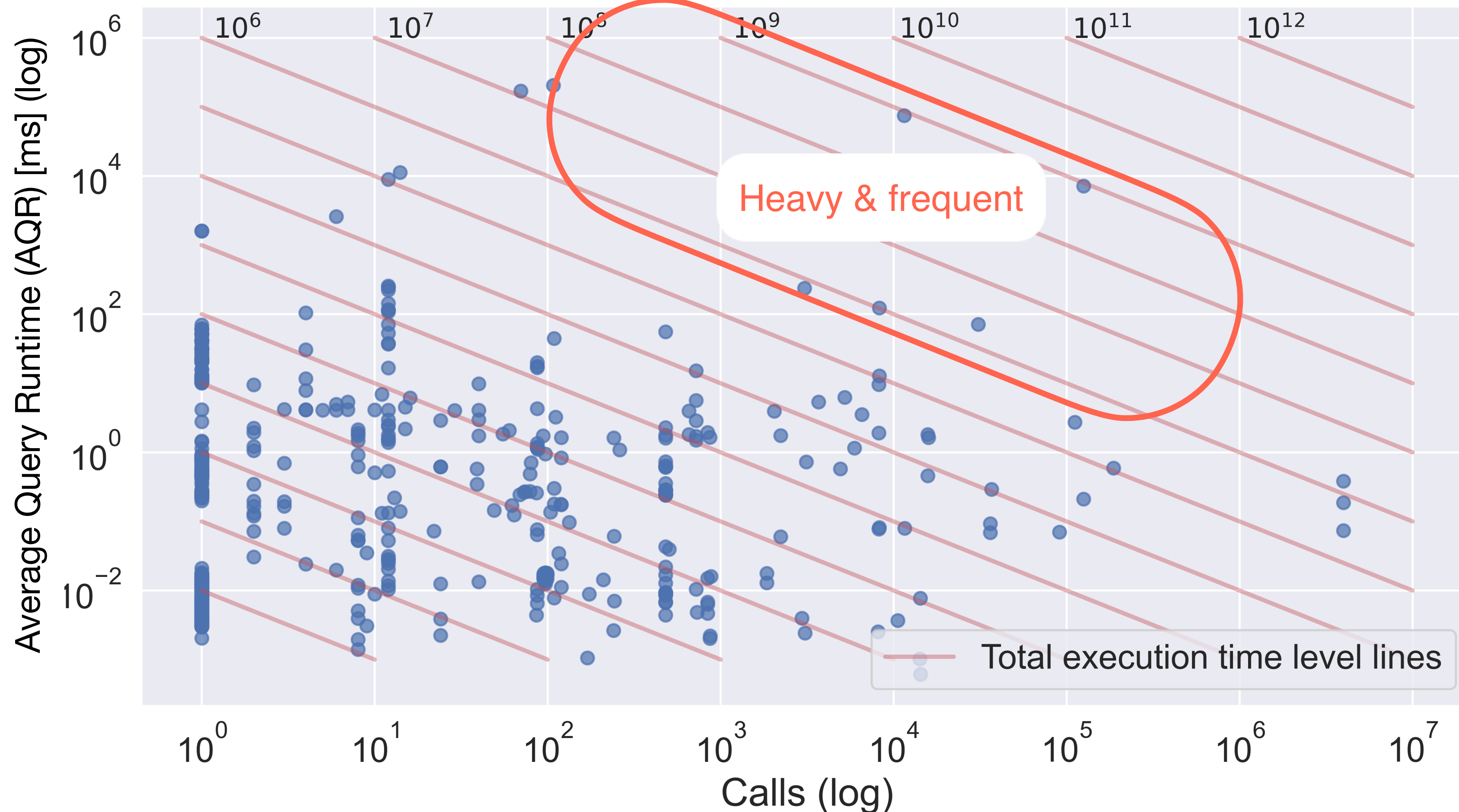
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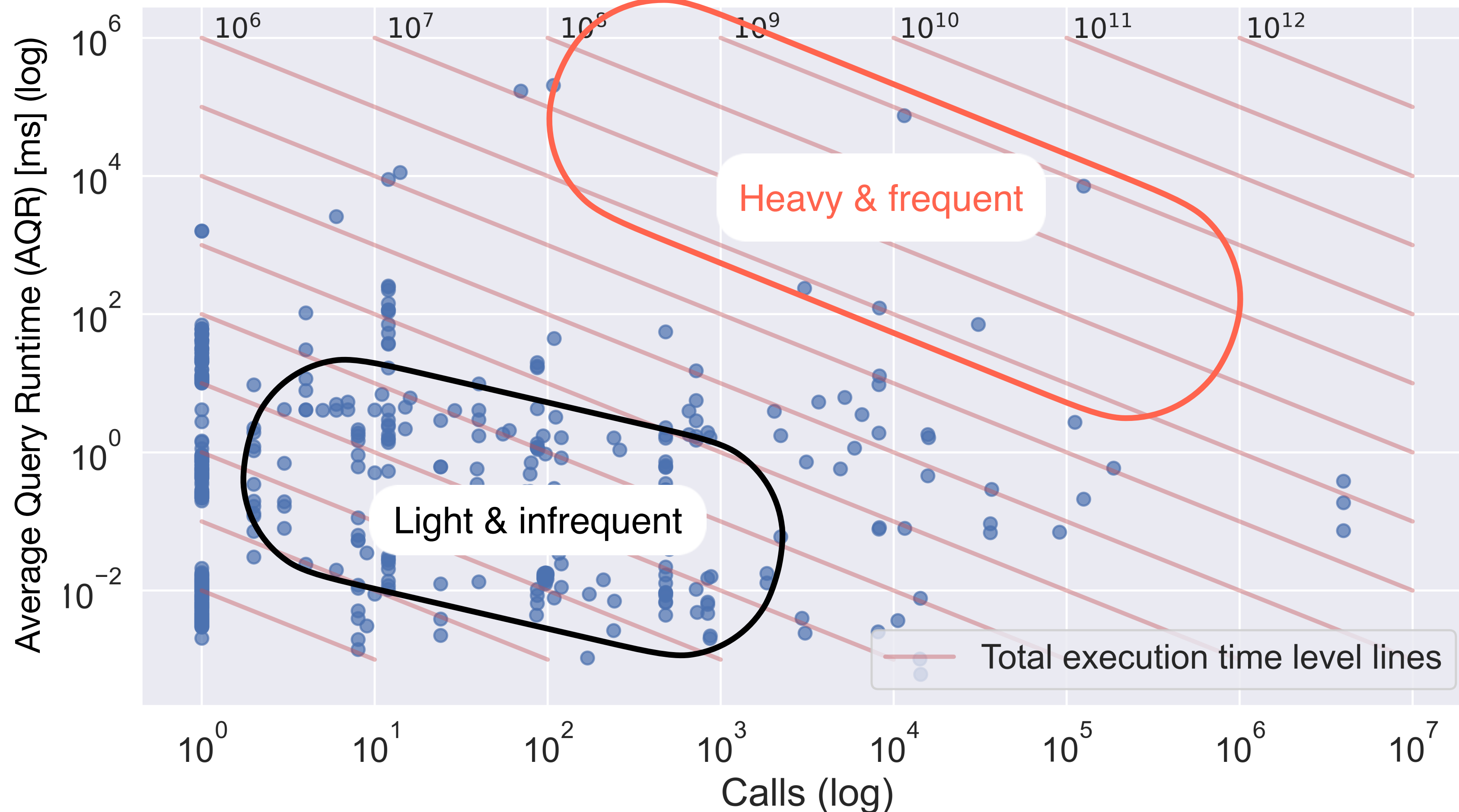
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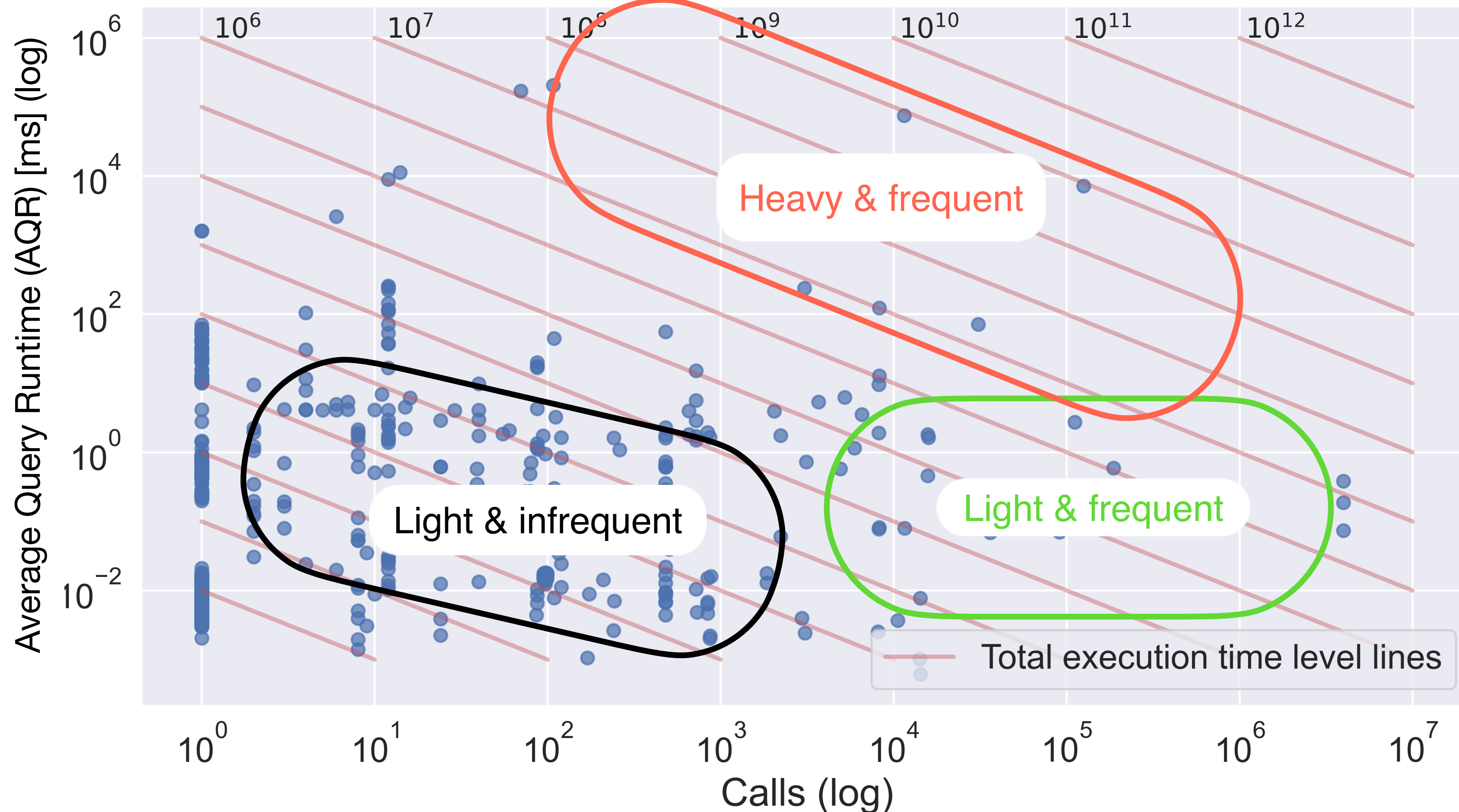
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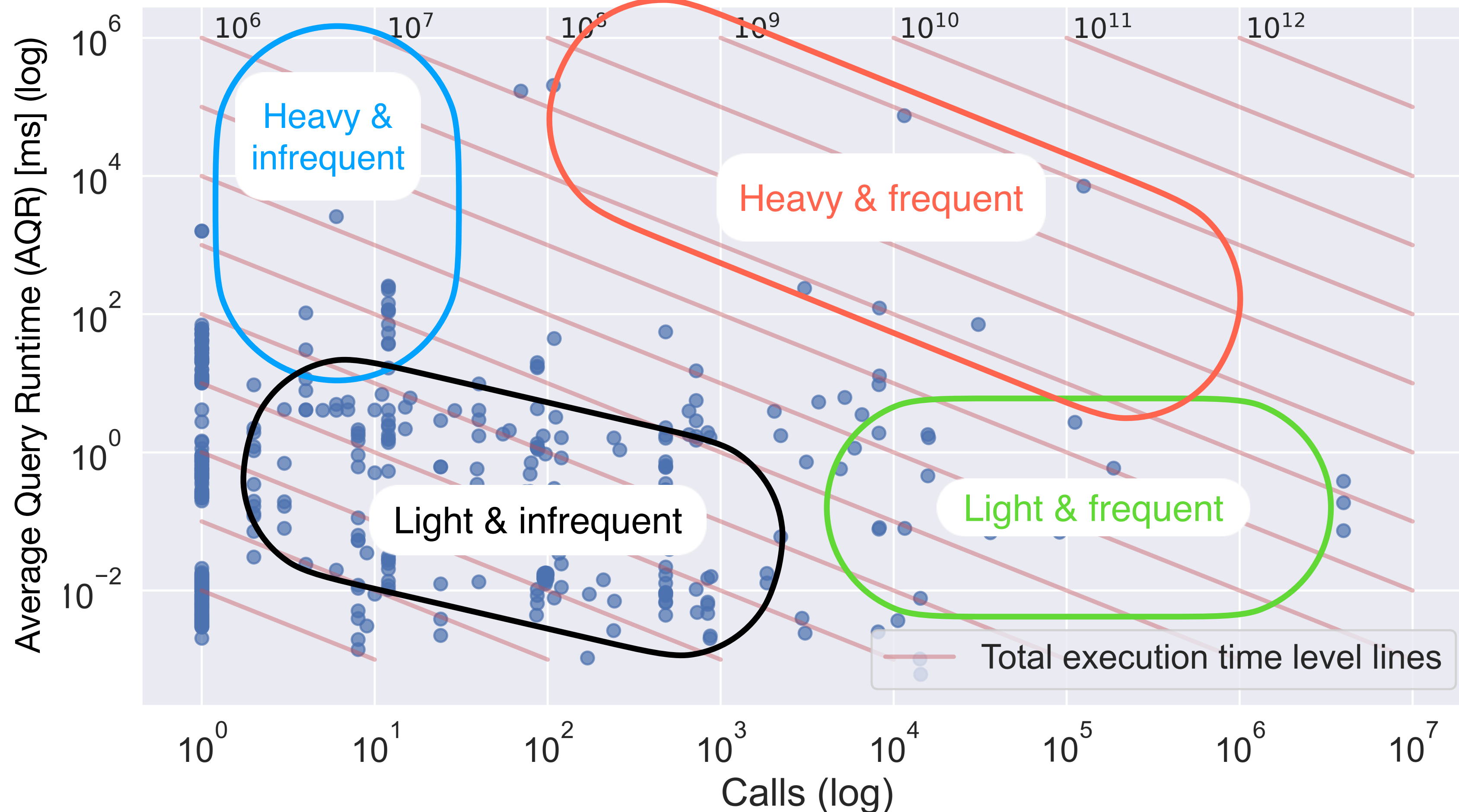
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Long version of this talk at PGConf NYC 2025



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WORKLOAD FINGERPRINTS: A KEY TO UNDERSTANDING POSTGRESQL PERFORMANCE

Date: 2025-09-30

Time: 14:30–15:20

Room: Hub One

Level: Intermediate

Feedback: [Leave feedback](#)

PostgreSQL performance measurement is complex, with metrics like average query runtime often hiding significant variability, particularly when analyzing short time windows or different times of the day. This talk explores the limitations of traditional performance indicators and introduces a novel workload fingerprint method designed for more reliable performance assessment, particularly in live production environments. This fingerprint approach provides a granular view of database activity, aiding both human database administrators and AI-powered tuning systems in understanding and effectively addressing performance tuning. Attendees will gain insights into effective tuning strategies and monitoring techniques, engaging in discussions that span both the technical implementation and philosophical considerations of database optimization, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and solutions in maximizing PostgreSQL efficiency.

SLIDES

The following slides have been made available for this session:

- <https://dbtune.com/pdf/DBtune-deck-on-Workload-Fingerprint-at-PGConf-US-NYC.pdf>