

# WeBridge: **Synthesizing Stored Procedures** for Large-Scale Real-World Web Applications

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Zhiyuan Dong, Sheng Yao, and Haibo Chen

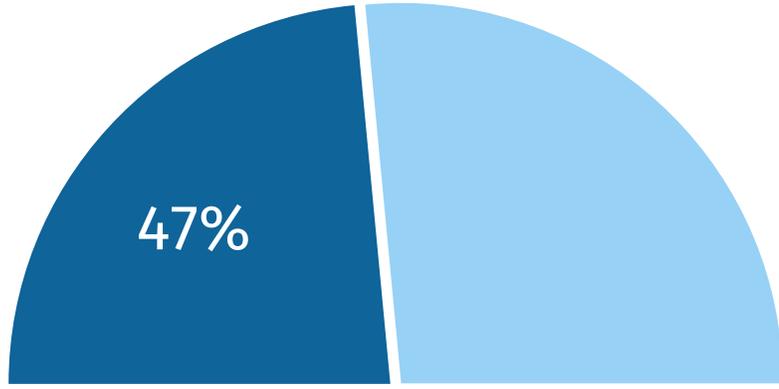
*Institute of Parallel and Distributed Systems (IPADS),  
Shanghai Jiao Tong University*



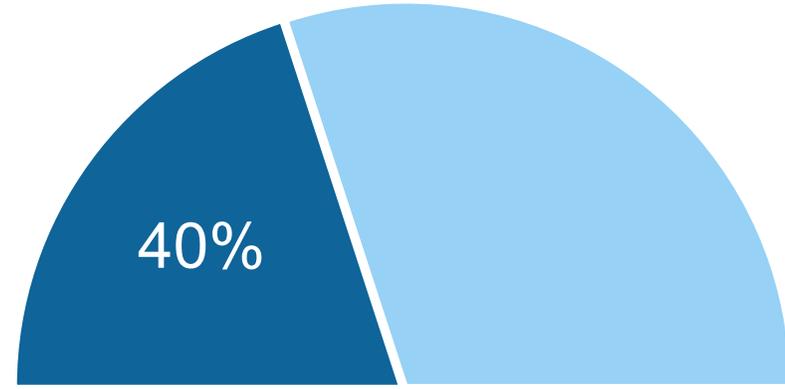
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG  
UNIVERSITY



# Latency is Critical to Web Applications



**<2s page load time**  
expected by 47% users

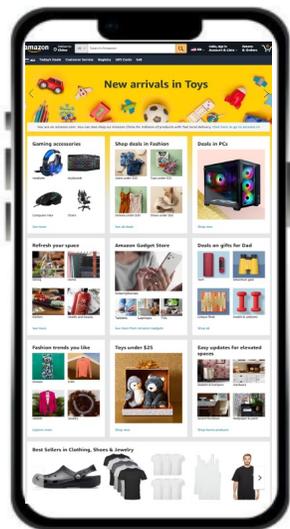


**>3s page load time**  
causes 40% users to leave

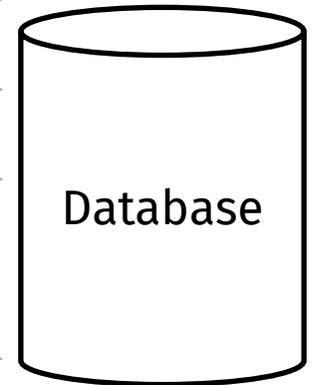
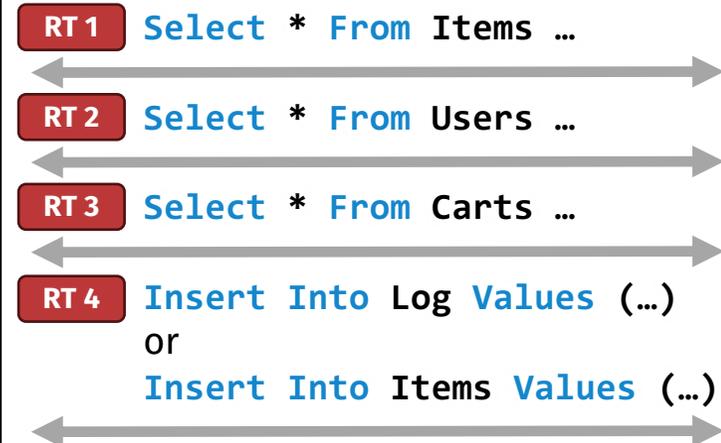
**“A 1 second page delay could potentially cost \$2.5 million in lost sales every year”**

# Web Apps Suffer from DB Round Trips

56% request processing time is spent on DB round trips!



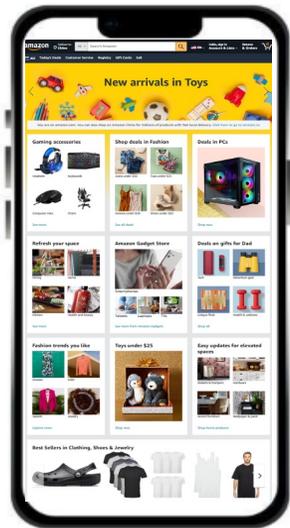
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```



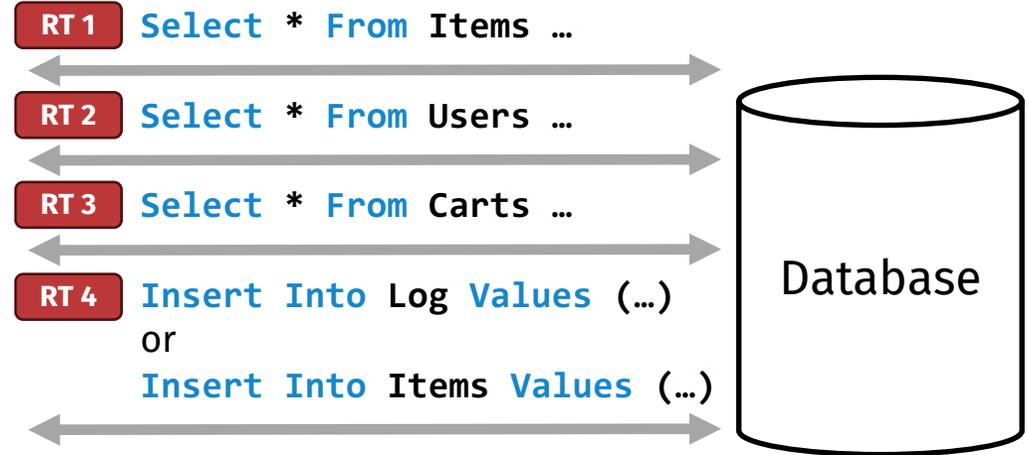
**Dynamically generated & Individually sent!**

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**Dynamically generated & Individually sent!**

**Research Question: How to reduce DB round trips?**



# Existing Method: Prefetching

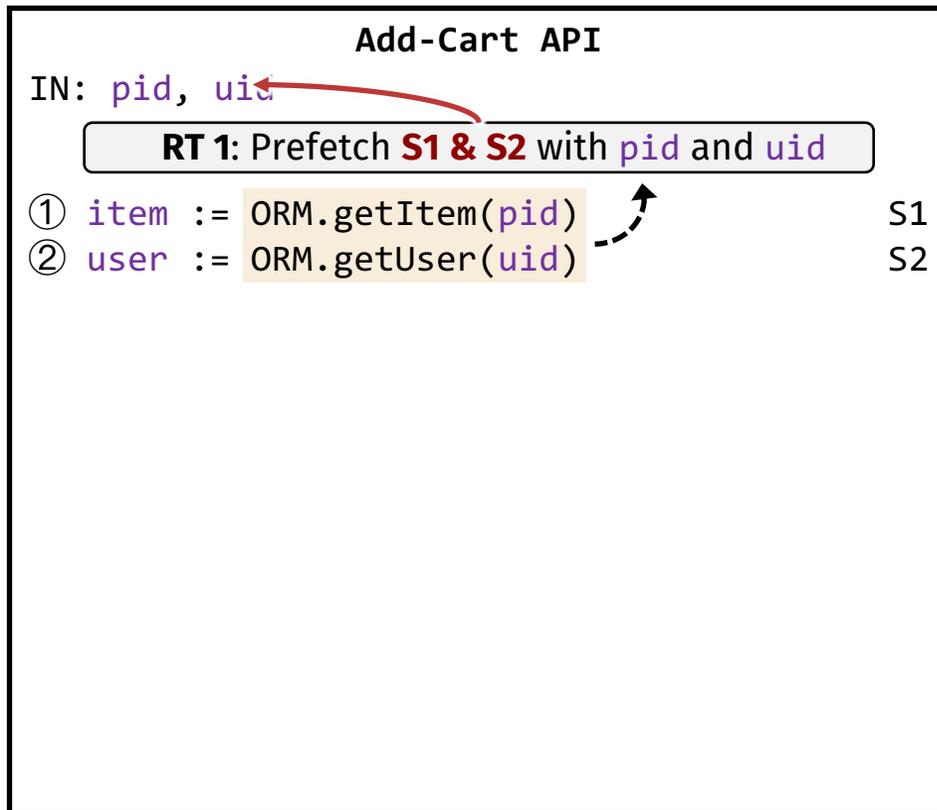
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Execute statements as soon as parameters become ready.

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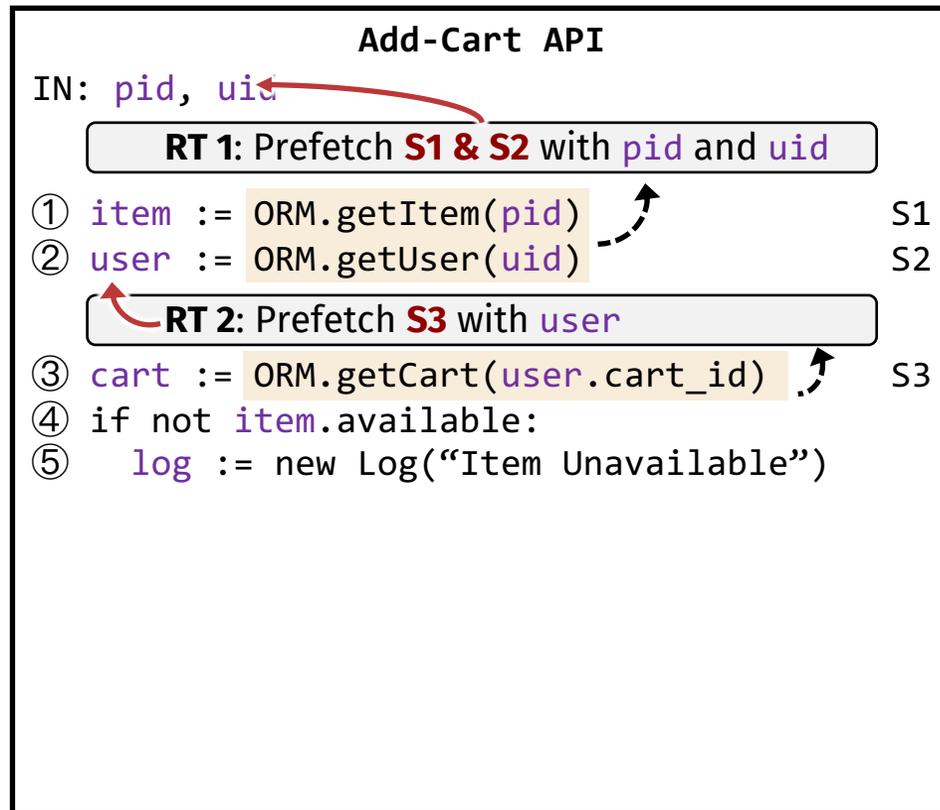


→ Data Dep. → Control Dep. ----> Get Results From

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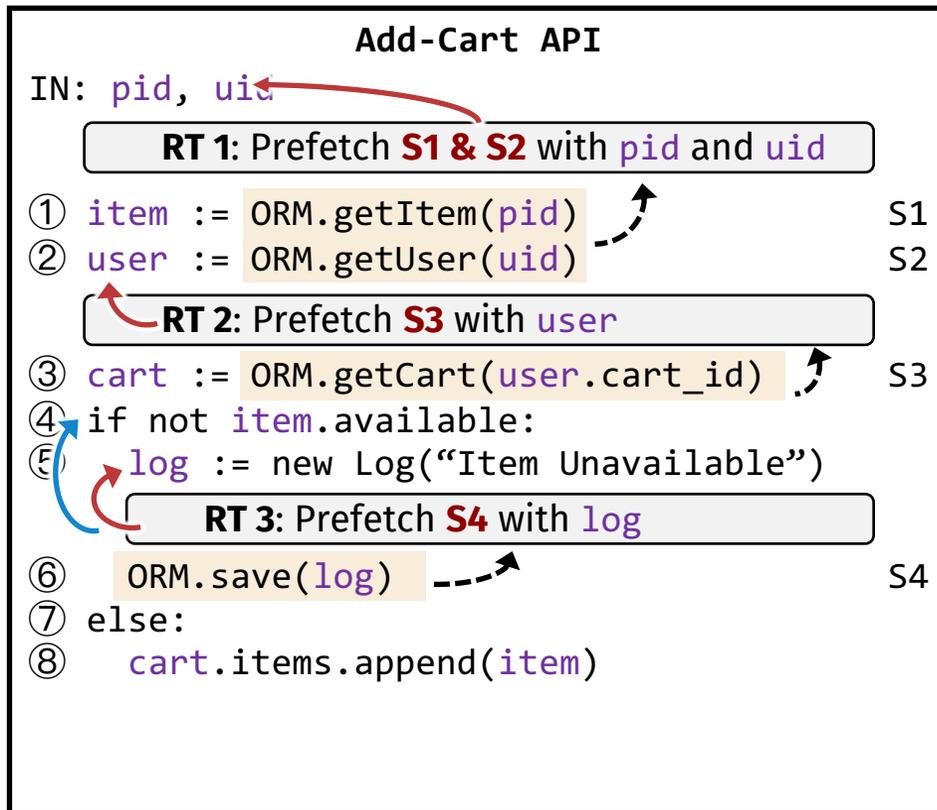


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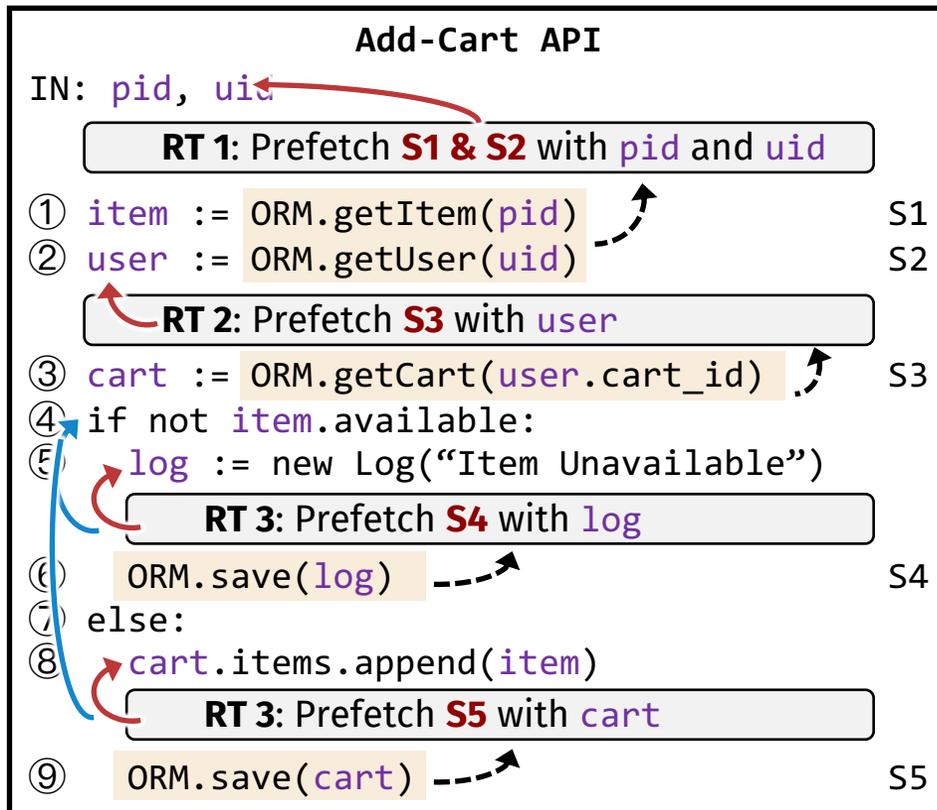


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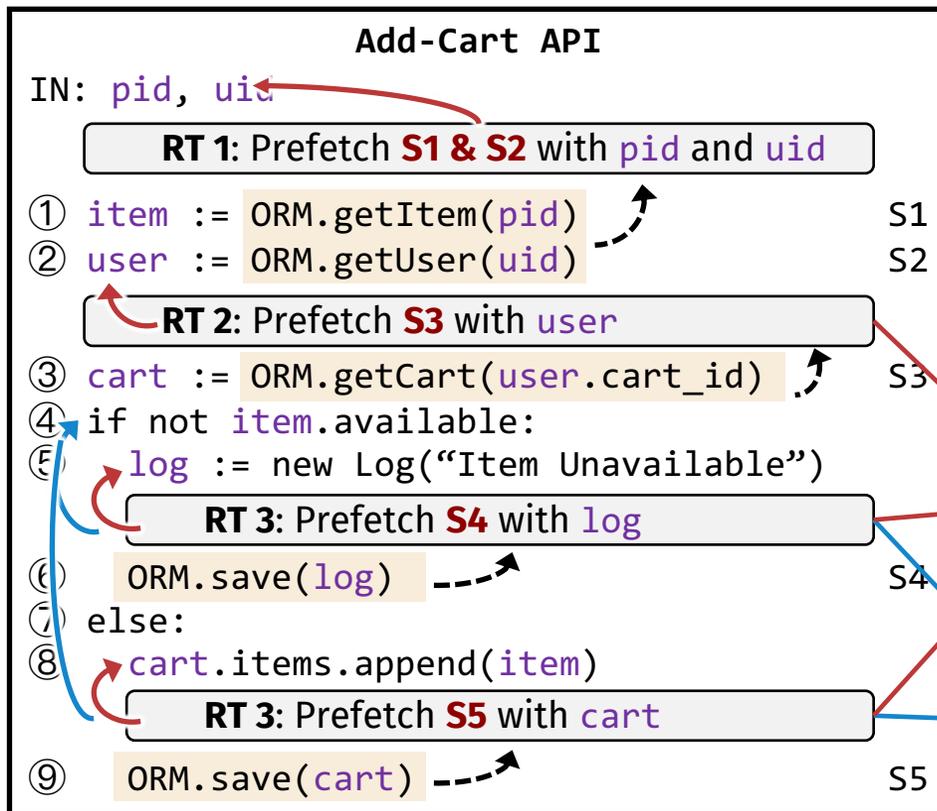


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# Existing Method: Prefetching

## Prefetching (or, eager execution)

Execute statements as soon as parameters become ready.



## Number of Round Trips



Original **Prefetching**

## Data Dependency

Prefetching of S3 must wait until variable `user` is finalized.

## Control Dependency

Prefetching of S4/5 must wait until branching at ④ is decided.

→ Data Dep. → Control Dep. ----> Get Results From

# Our Approach: Shipping Dependencies to DB

```

Add-Cart API
IN: pid, uid
RT 1: call PROCEDURE with pid and uid
① item := ORM.getItem(pid)           S1
② user := ORM.getUser(uid)           S2
③ cart := ORM.getCart(user.cart_id)  S3
④ if not item.available:
⑤   log := new Log("Item Unavailable") S4
⑥   ORM.save(log)
⑦ else:
⑧   cart.items.append(item)
⑨   ORM.save(cart)                   S5

```



```

Stored Procedure Code
PROCEDURE (pid, uid) BEGIN
Select * Into @item_item_id, @item_available, ... S1
  From Items Where product_id=@pid
Select * Into @userid_user, @cart_id_user, ...   S2
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END

```

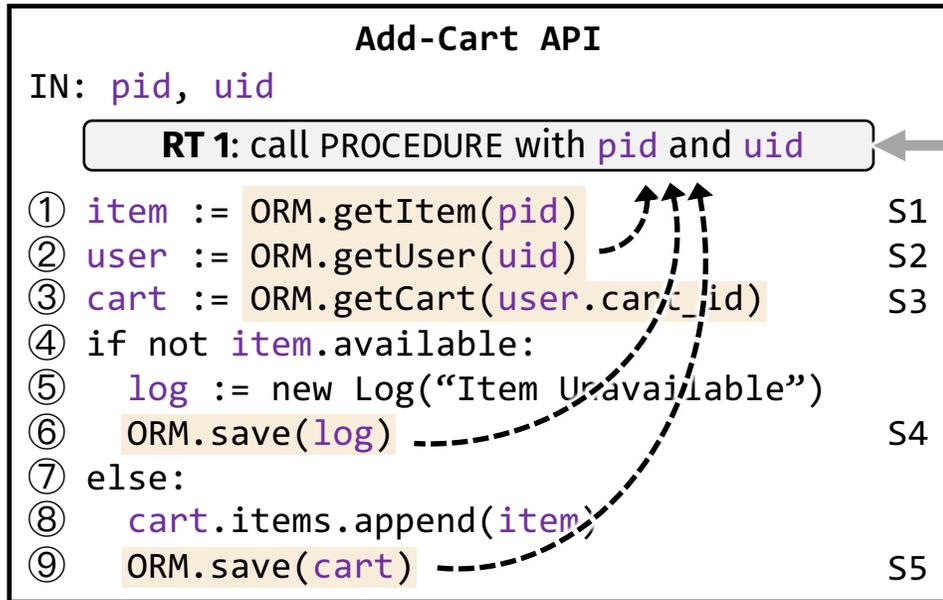
-----> Get Results From



Number of Round Trips

Stored Procedures

# Our Approach: Shipping Dependencies to DB



**Stored Procedure Code**

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-----> Get Results From



**Number of Round Trips**

## Stored Procedures

- Can express **data dep** via local variables
- Can express **control dep** via branching commands

# Our Approach: Shipping Dependencies to DB

**Add-Cart API**

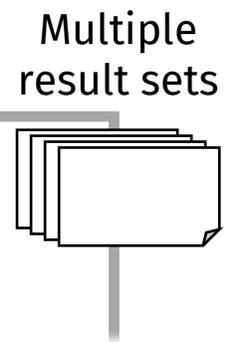
IN: `pid, uid`

**RT 1:** call PROCEDURE with `pid` and `uid`

```

① item := ORM.getItem(pid)
② user := ORM.getUser(uid)
③ cart := ORM.getCart(user.cart_id)
④ if not item.available:
⑤   log :=
⑥   ORM.sav
⑦ else:
⑧   cart.it
⑨   ORM.sav
    
```

S1  
S2  
S3



**Stored Procedure Code**

```

PROCEDURE (pid, uid) BEGIN
  Select * Into @item_item_id, @item_available, ... S1
    From Items Where product_id=@pid
  Select * Into @userid user, @cart_id user, ... S2
  S3
  Insert Into Log Values ... S4
else:
  Insert Into Items Values ... S5
END
    
```

**How to synthesize such stored procedures?**

-----> Get Results From



**Number of Round Trips**

## Stored Procedures

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- Can express **control dep** via branching commands



# Practical Challenge

- **Strawman Solution: static trans-compiling**
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- **Challenge: Language dynamism**

- The language feature that **alter program behaviors at run time** (e.g., Java's reflection), commonly used by web frameworks.

```
entityManager.find(Entity.class, id)
```

1. Issue **Select** with **Inner Join**
2. Issue **Select** with **Left Outer Join**
3. Defer **Select** until returned object is used
4. Do nothing
5. ...

# Practical Challenge

- **Strawman Solution: static trans-compiling**

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1. Issue **Select** with **Inner Join**
2. Issue **Select** with **Left Outer Join**
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- As a result, we **cannot statically determine** what and when SQL statements will be issued at run time.

# Opportunities

- **Concolic execution (concrete + symbolic execution)**
  - Able to **accurately analyze dynamic languages** like Java.
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- **Concolic execution (concrete + symbolic execution)**
  - Able to **accurately analyze dynamic languages** like Java.
  - However, it only analyzes the program paths triggered by given inputs.
- **Pareto principle in program path hotness distribution**
  - Most requests are handled in a few distinct program paths.
    - In Broadleaf\*, 2 hottest paths account for **96.3%** requests
  - By collecting inputs that trigger these hot paths, we can still **optimize for the most common cases**

\* Broadleaf Commerce, 1.7k Stars, <https://github.com/BroadleafCommerce>

# Key Idea



**Synthesize and call stored procedures to cover **hot path requests****

**Safely fall back to normal execution for **cold path requests****

# Synthesizing Stored Procedures

IN: `uid`

① `user := ORM.getUser(uid)` S1

② `if user != null:`

③ `code := ORM.getCart(user.cart_id)` S2

**Original Code**

# Synthesizing Stored Procedures

IN: uid

① user := ORM.getUser(uid) S1

② if user != null:

③ cart := ORM.getCart(user.cart\_id) S2

## Original Code

```
uid:      233
S1_ret:  {id:233, ...}
S2_ret:  /* cart obj */
```

**Trace** (taking if branch)

# Synthesizing Stored Procedures

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Trace (taking if branch)

Concolically  
Replay

## SQL node (S1)

```
Template: "Select ... Where id={uid}"
Condition: true
In: uid
Out: user
```

## SQL node (S2)

```
Template: "Select... id={user_cart_id}"
Condition: user != null
In: user_cart_id
Out: cart
```

Dependency Graph

# Synthesizing Stored Procedures

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IN: uid
① user := ORM.getUser(uid)      S1
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```

## Original Code

```
uid:      233
S1_ret:  {id:233, ...}
S2_ret:  /* cart obj */
```

Trace (taking if branch)

```
if true:
  Select * Into @user From Users
  Where id=@uid
if @user != null:
  Select * Into @cart From Carts
  Where id=@user_cart_id
```

## Stored Procedure

Concolically  
Replay

### SQL node (S1)

```
Template: "Select ... Where id={uid}"
Condition: true
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Out: user
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### SQL node (S2)

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Template: "Select... id={user_cart_id}"
Condition: user != null
In: user_cart_id
Out: cart
```

Dependency Graph

Translate

# Integrating into Web Apps

## Add-Cart API

IN: `pid, uid`

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② user := ORM.getUser(uid) S2
③ cart := ORM.getCart(user.cart_id) S3
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⑤     log := new Log("Item Unavailable")
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⑧     cart.items.append(item)
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```

## Stored Procedure Code

```
PROCEDURE (pid, uid) BEGIN
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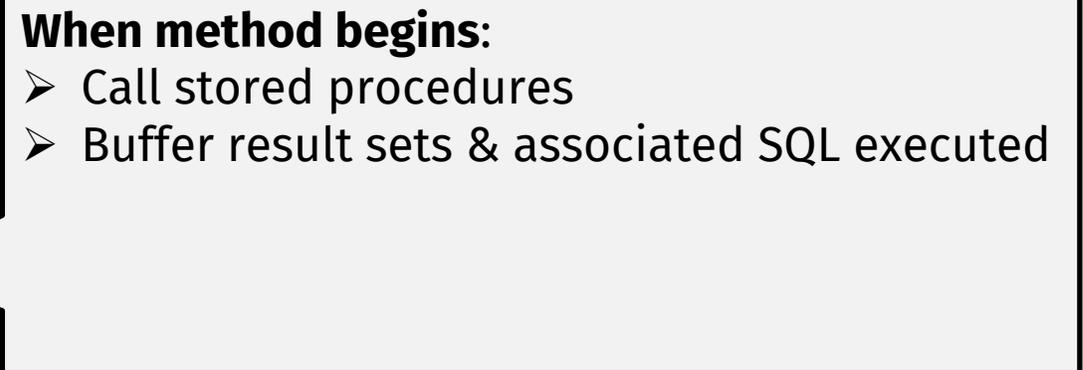
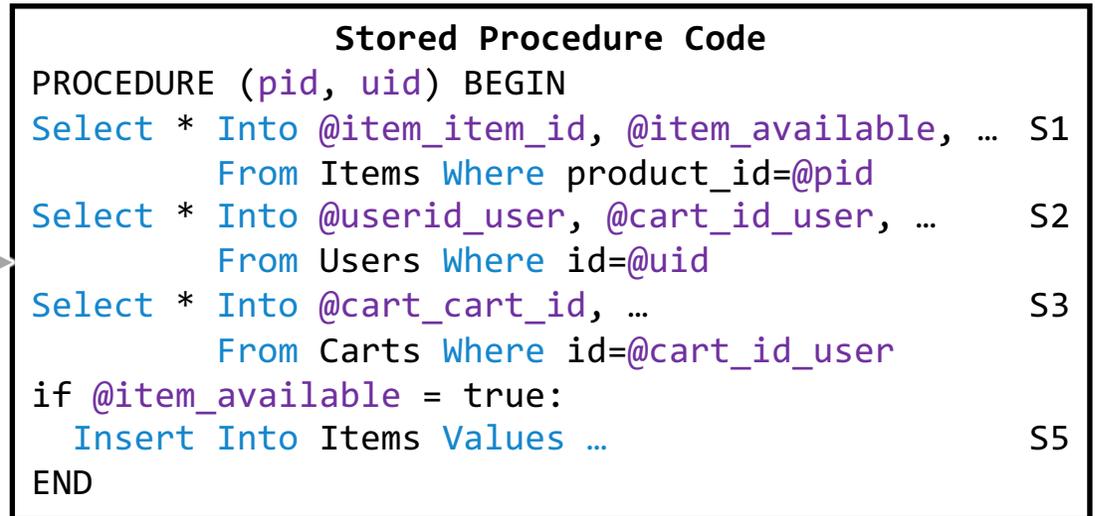
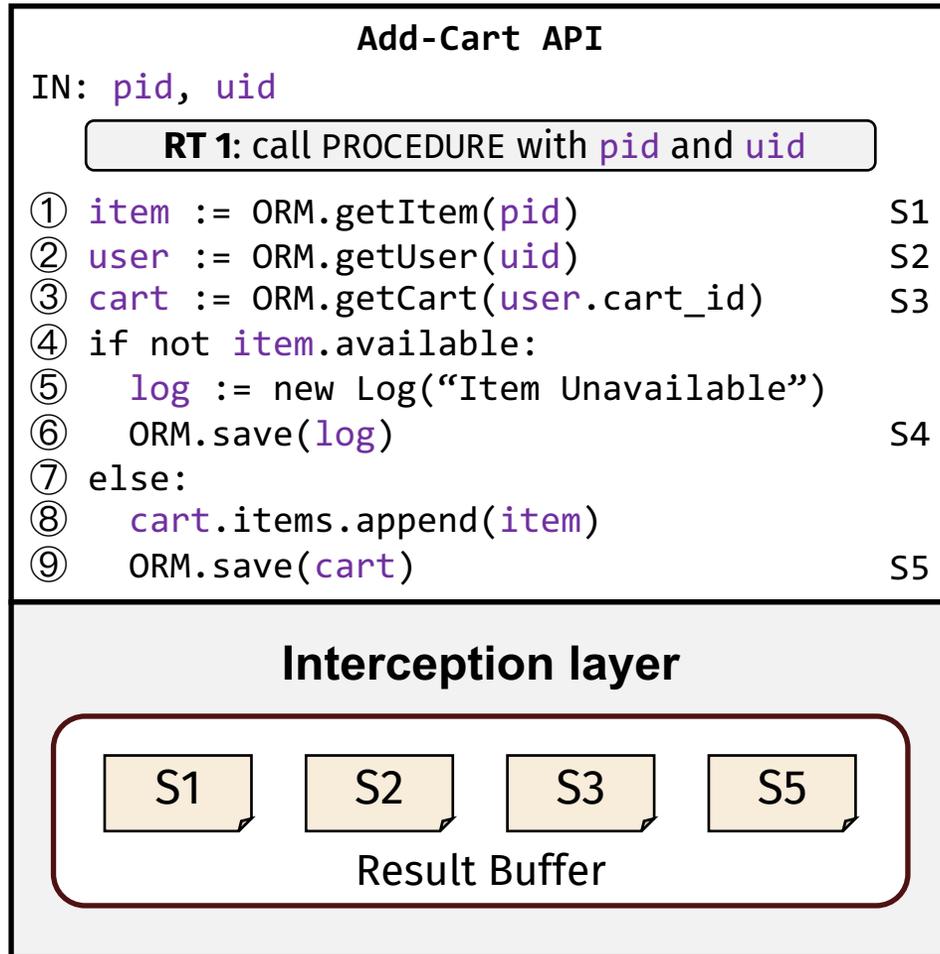
## Interception layer

Result Buffer

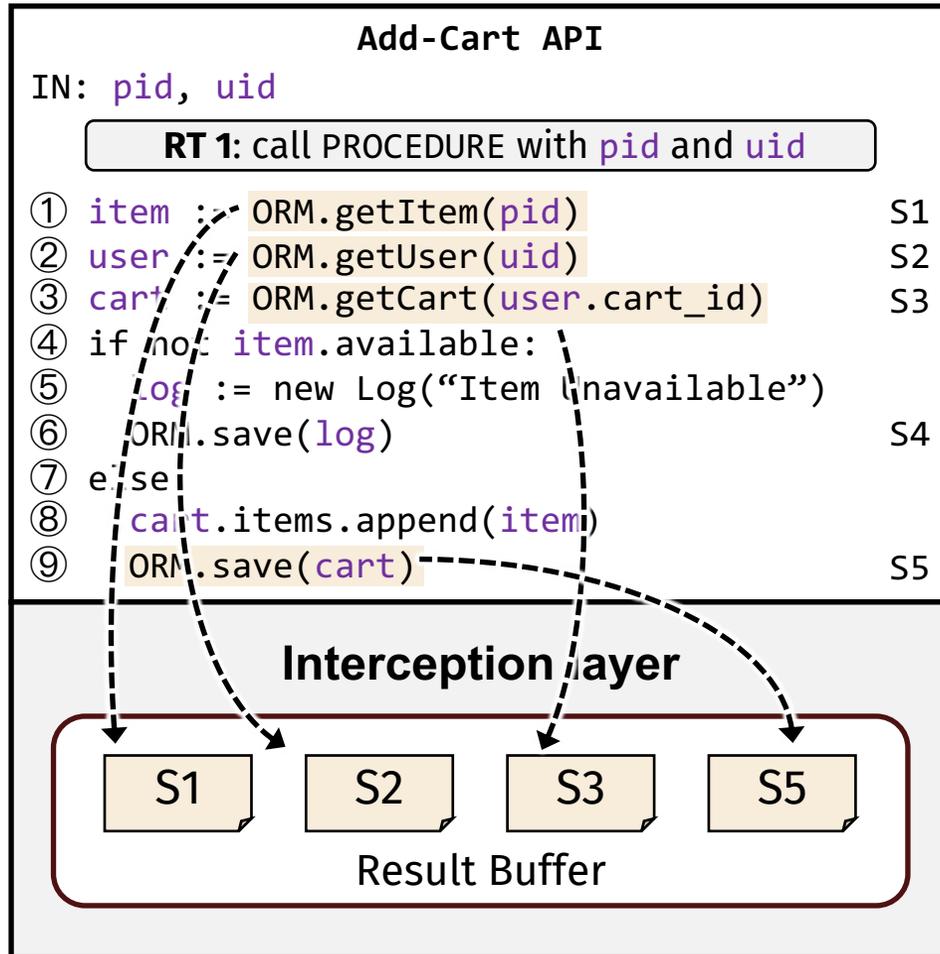
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# Integrating into Web Apps



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**Stored Procedure Code**

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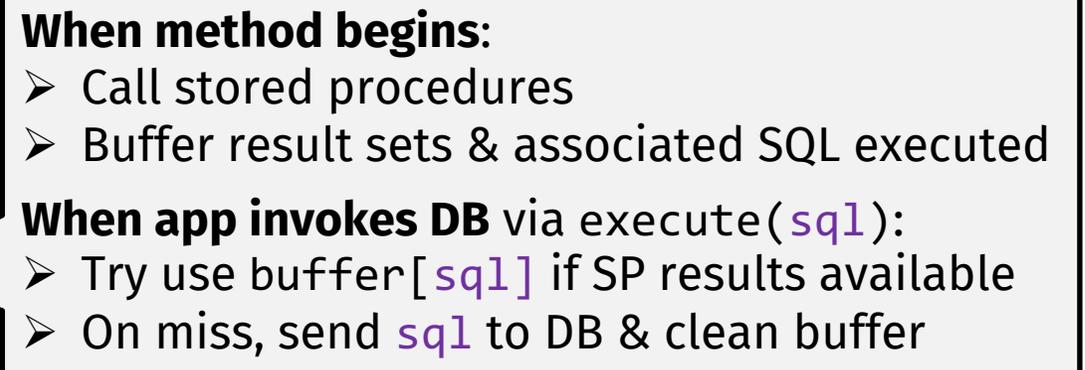
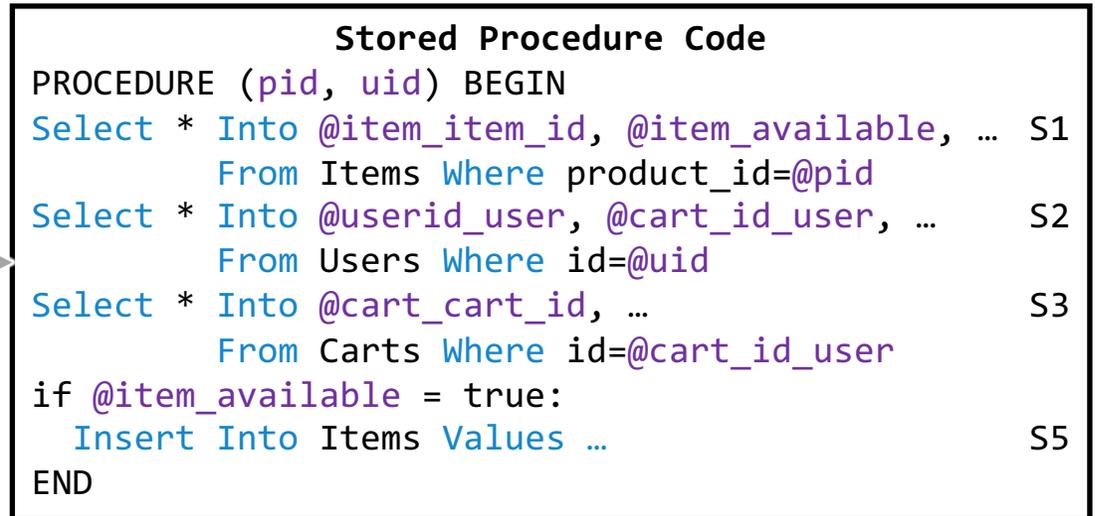
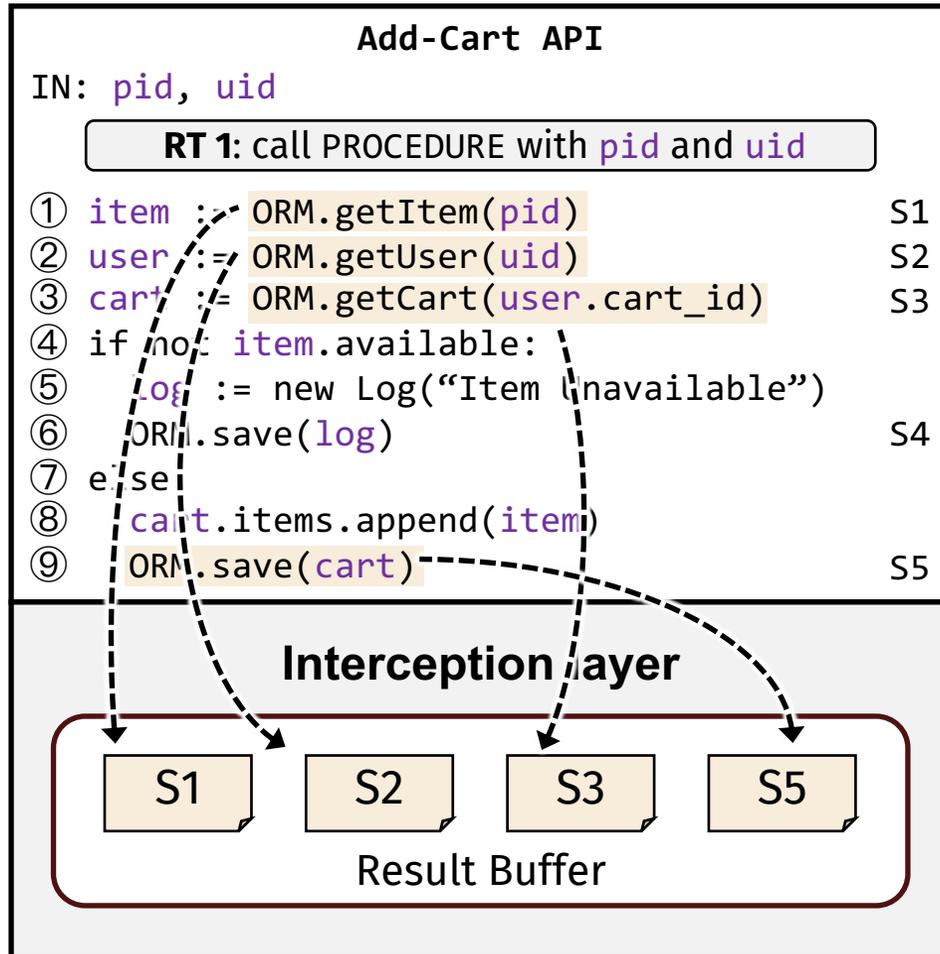
**When method begins:**

- Call stored procedures
- Buffer result sets & associated SQL executed

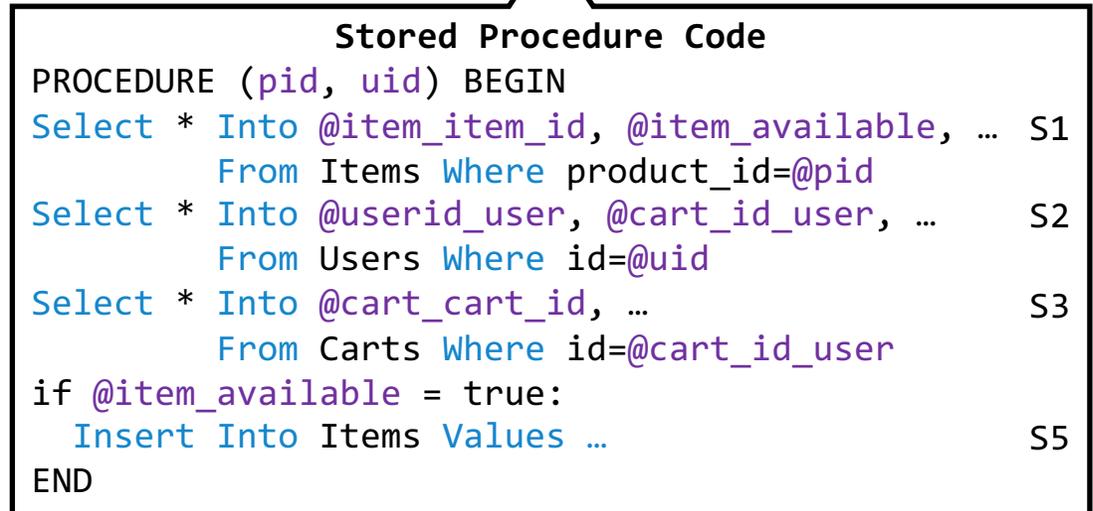
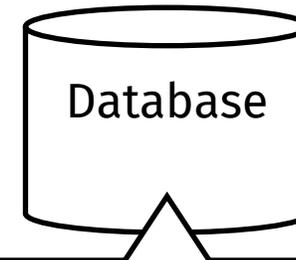
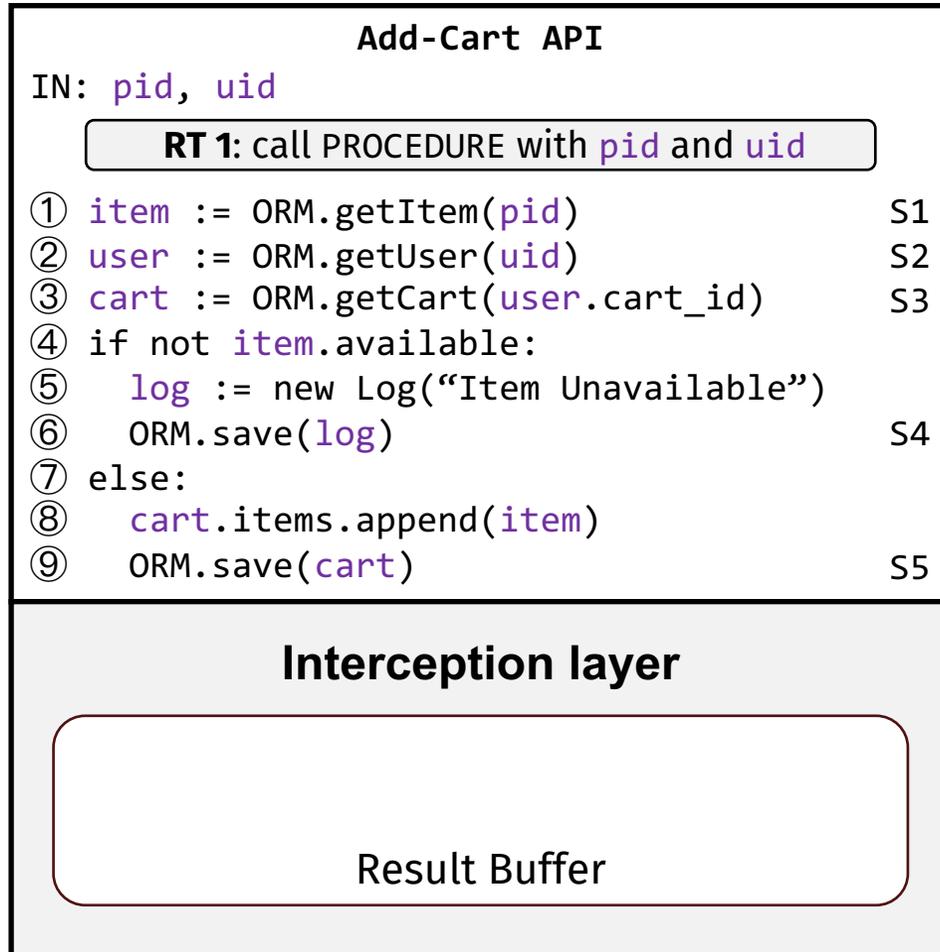
**When app invokes DB via execute(sql):**

- Try use buffer[sql] if SP results available

# Integrating into Web Apps



# Handling Cold Path Requests



# Handling Cold Path Requests

Request adding *unavailable* item

## Add-Cart API

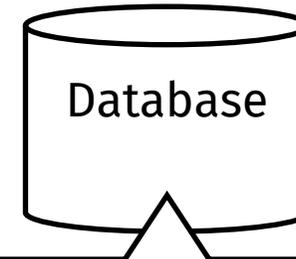
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## Interception layer

Result Buffer



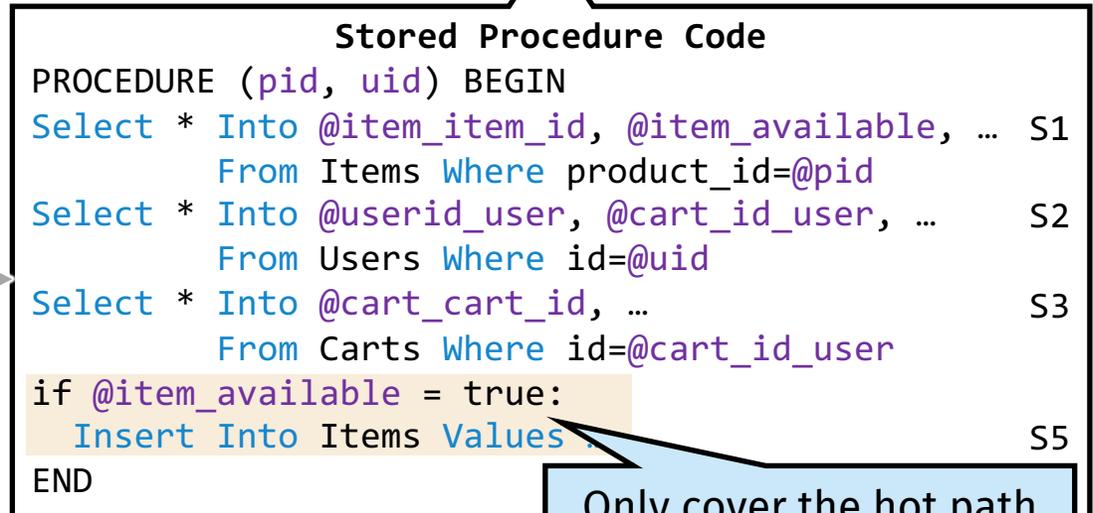
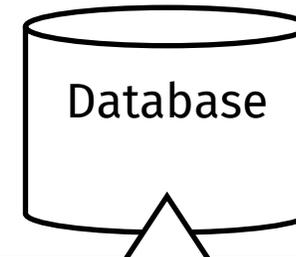
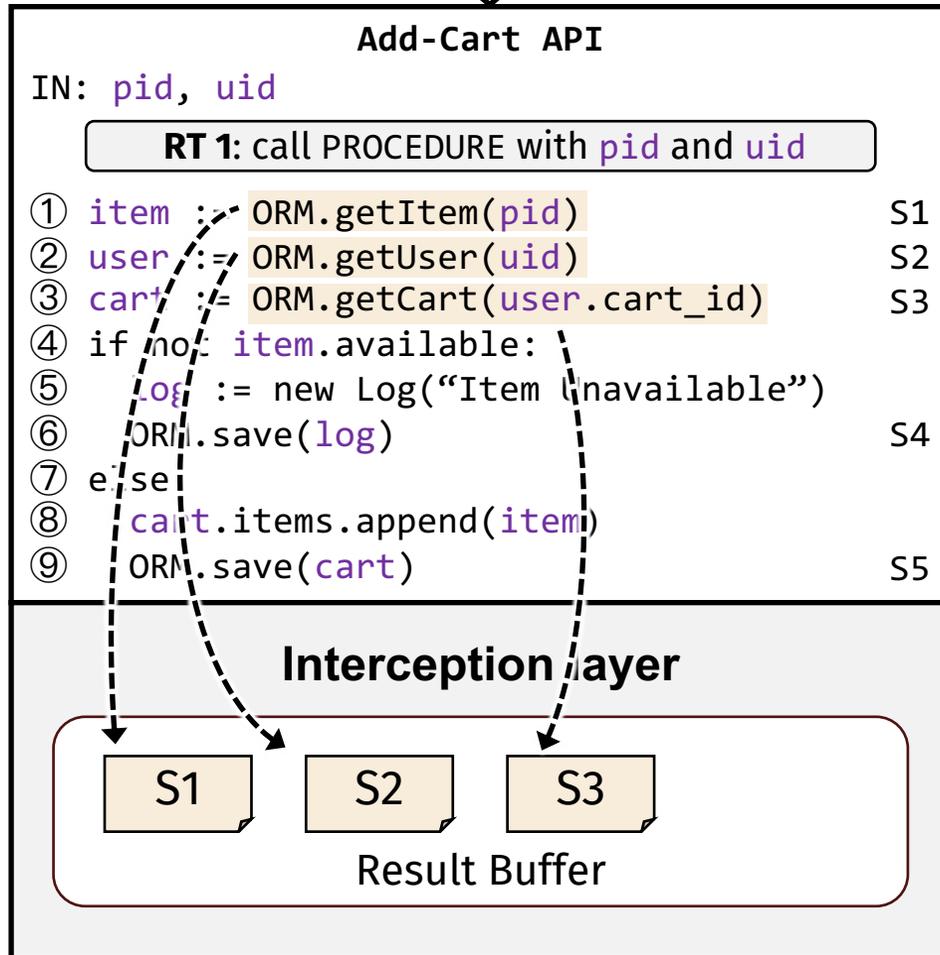
## Stored Procedure Code

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```

Only cover the hot path  
(item being available)

# Handling Cold Path Requests

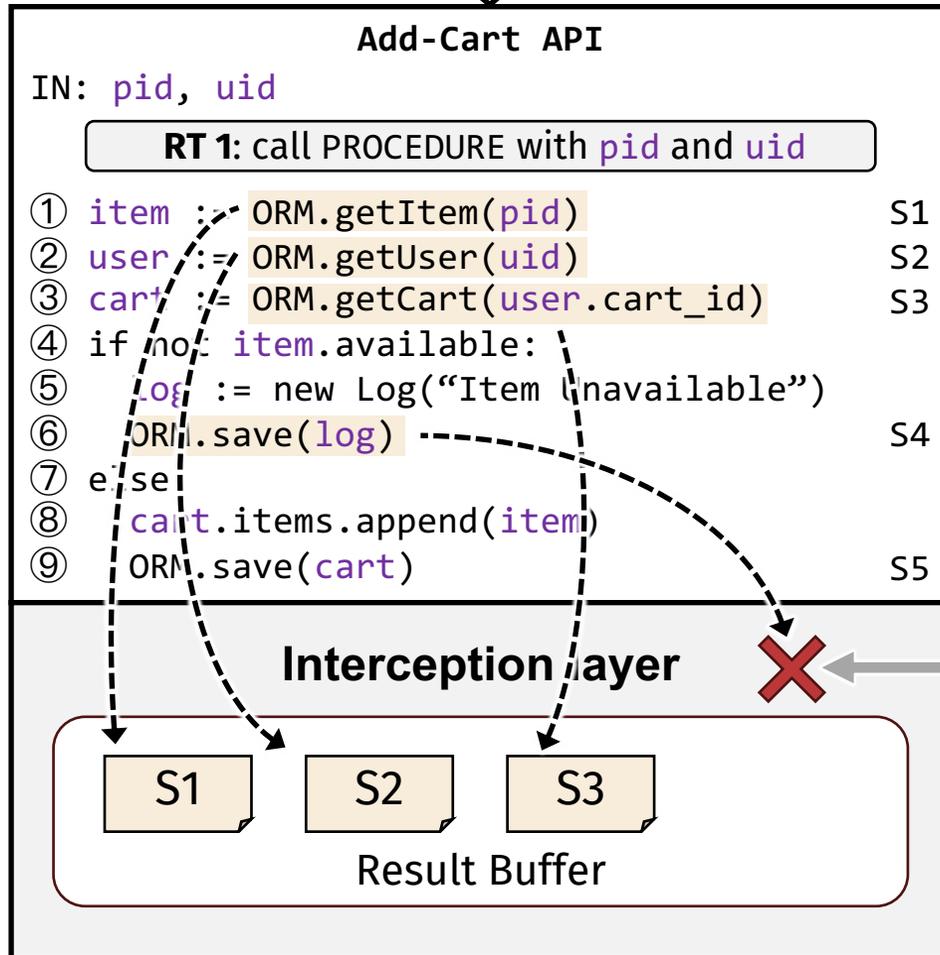
Request adding *unavailable* item



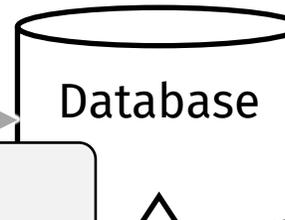
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# Handling Cold Path Requests

Request adding **unavailable** item



**RT 2:**  
Insert Into Log Values ...



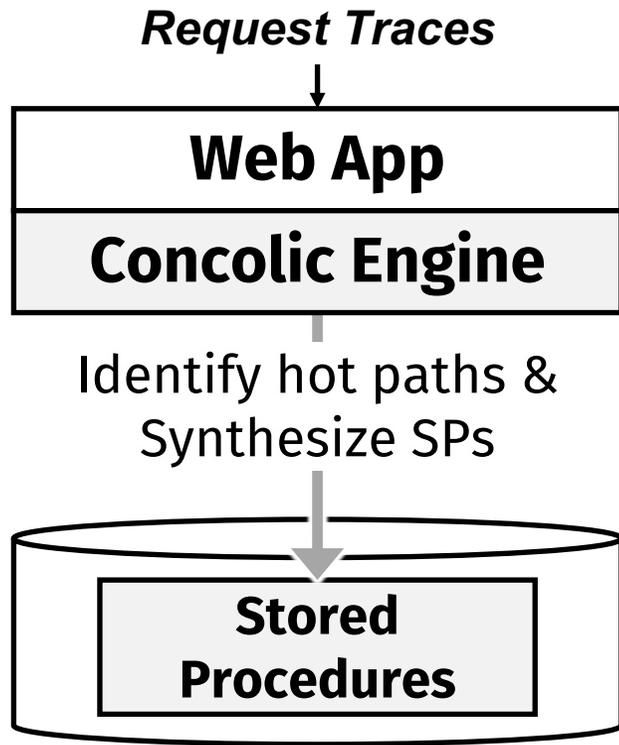
**Stored Procedure Code**

```
PROCEDURE (pid, uid) BEGIN
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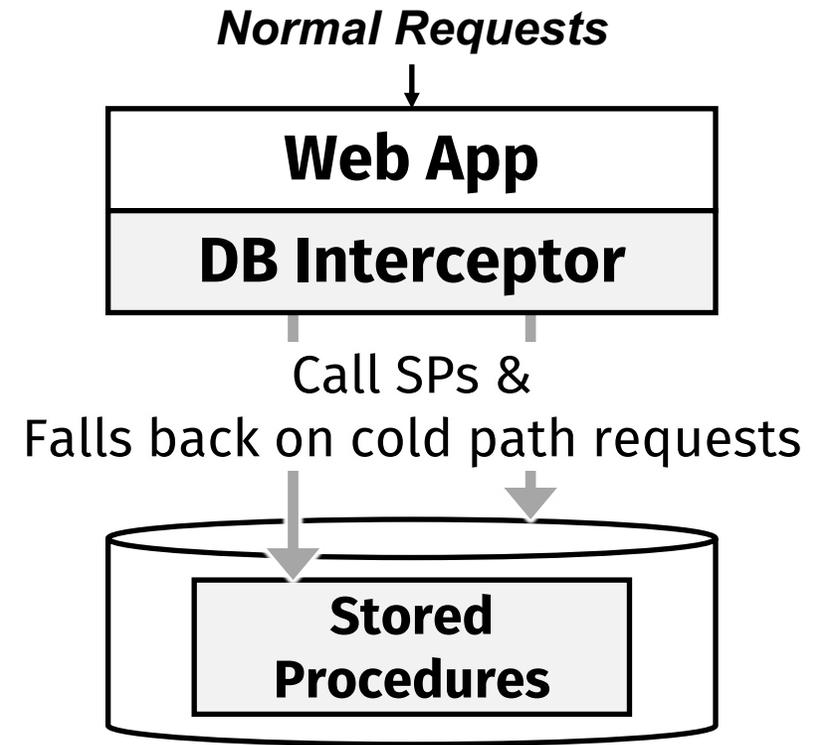
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# System Overview

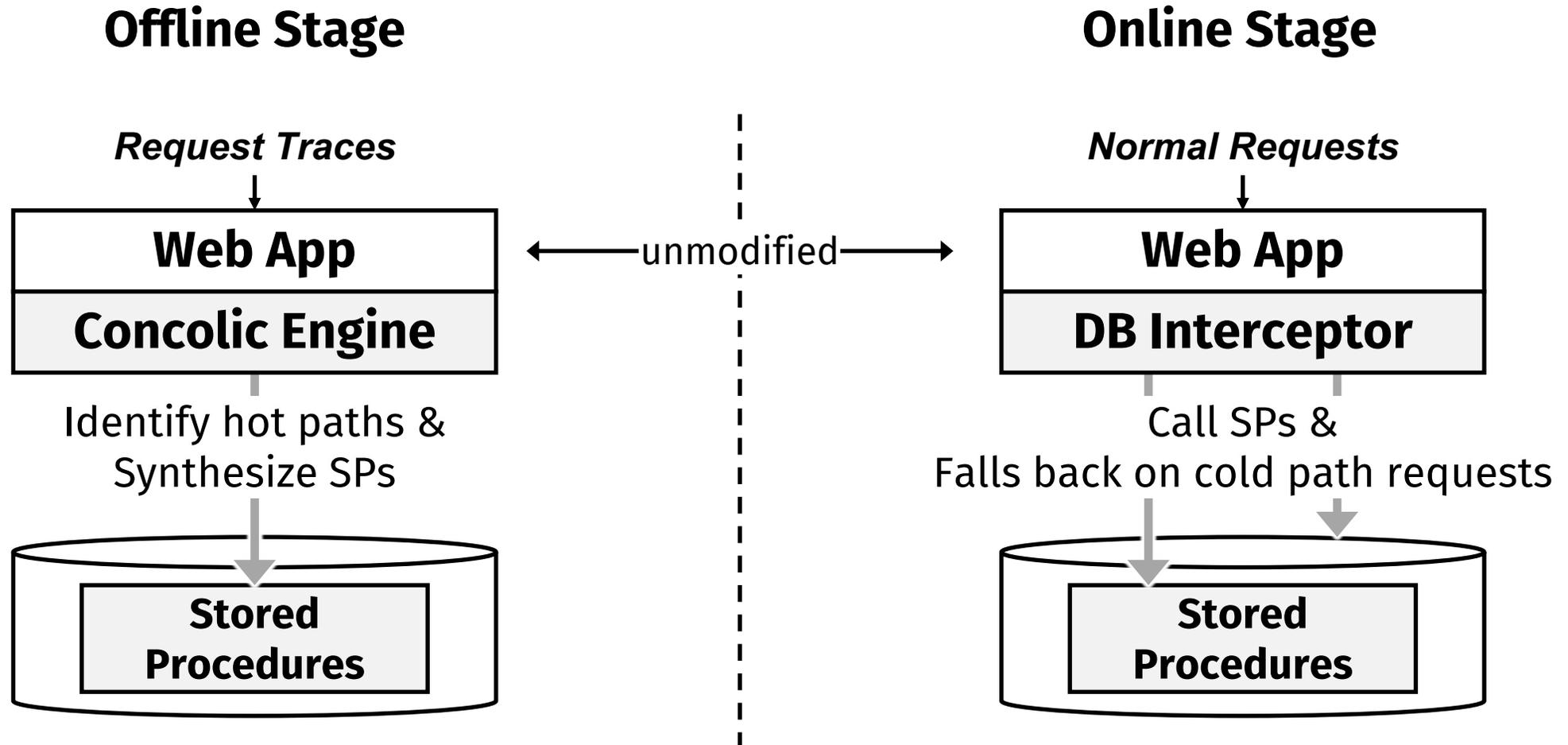
## Offline Stage



## Online Stage

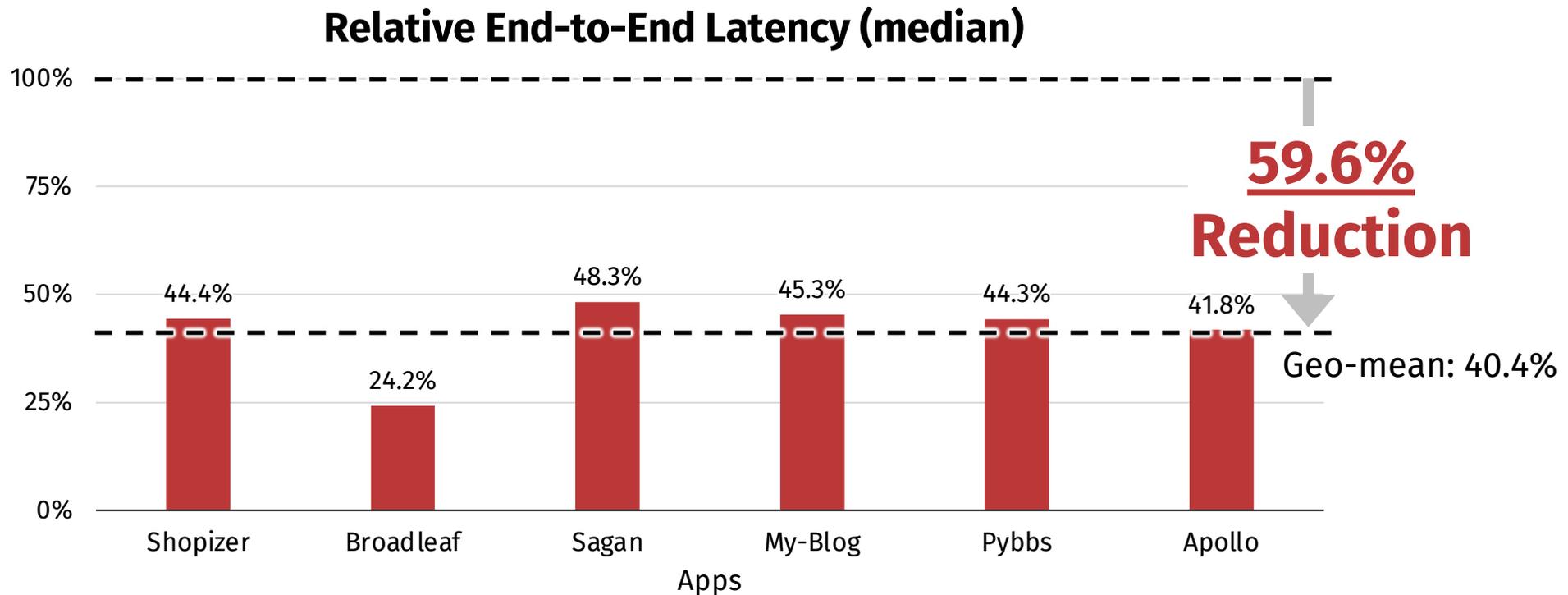


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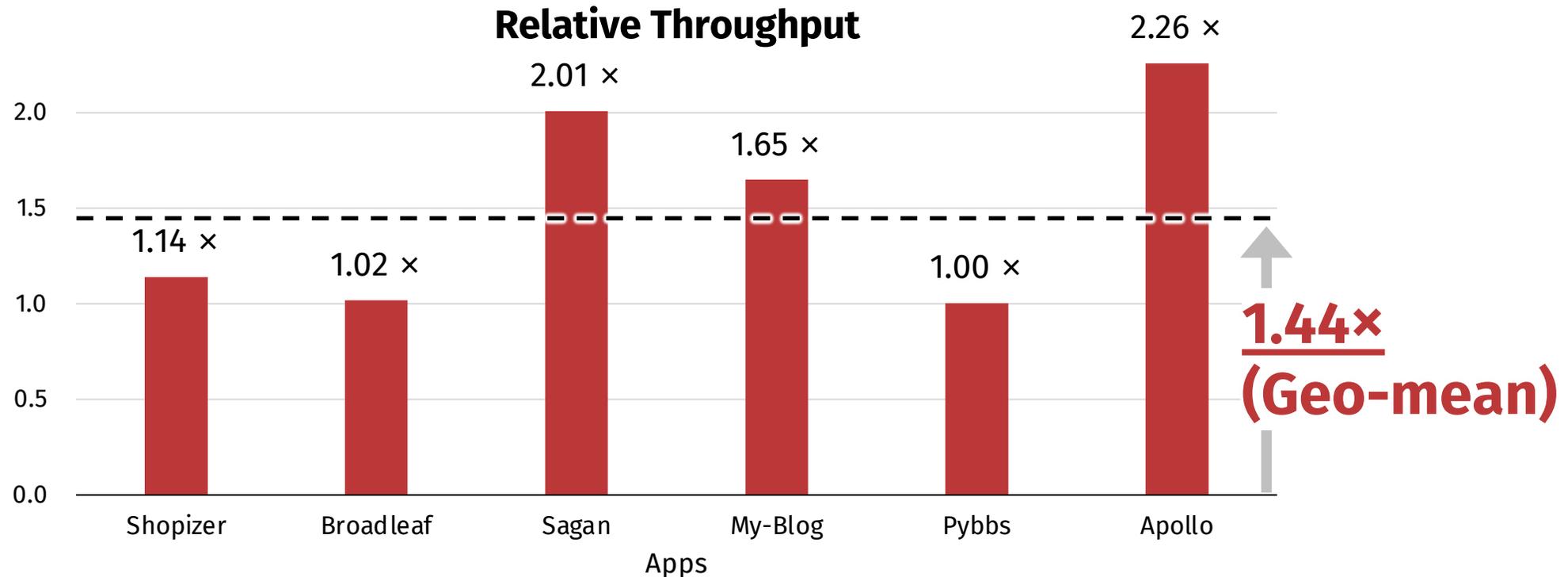
# Evaluation: Latency

- Over 6 open-source apps with realistic workloads. (6.8k ★/app)
- WeBridge achieves **59.6% end-to-end latency reduction**.



# Evaluation: Throughput

- **WeBridge can also increase near half throughput, by**
  - Avoid DB repeatedly parsing interactive statements; and
  - Shorten lock-holding time of conflicting transactions



# Summary and Q/A

- WeBridge **synthesize stored procedures** to pre-execute SQL statements to reduce DB round trips.
- Using **concolic execution**, data & control dependencies are accurately shipped to DB.
- For end-users, WeBridge **reduces 59.6% latency** and achieves **1.44× relative throughput**.

- **Check out our paper and source code!**

- Design details; optimizations; correctness proof, etc.



Paper



Code