

Partial State in Dataflow-Based Materialized Views

Jon Gjengset — Doctoral Dissertation
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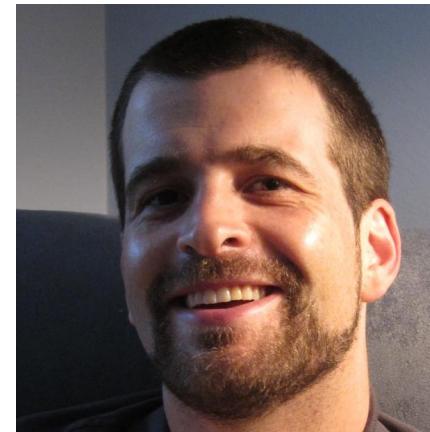
My Committee



Robert Morris
(thesis advisor)



M. Frans Kaashoek



Sam Madden



Malte Schwarzkopf

Why are we here?

To make databases better.

Database 101

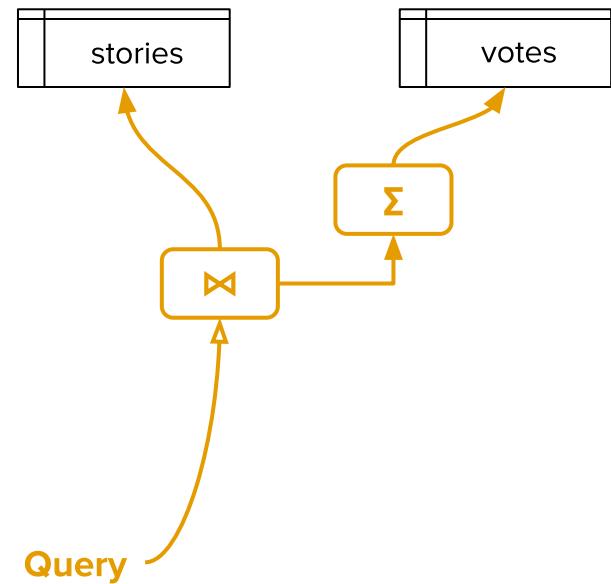
You take some tables.

	stories
--	---------

	votes
--	-------

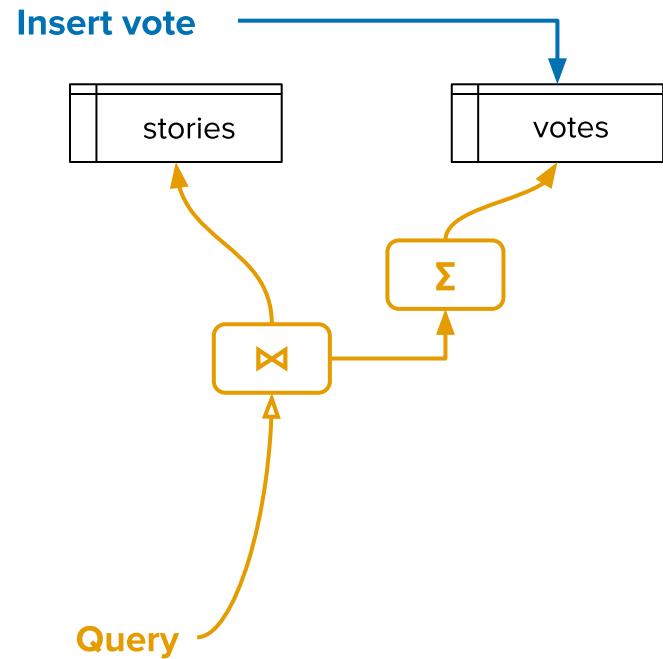
Database 101

To query, do this:



Database 101

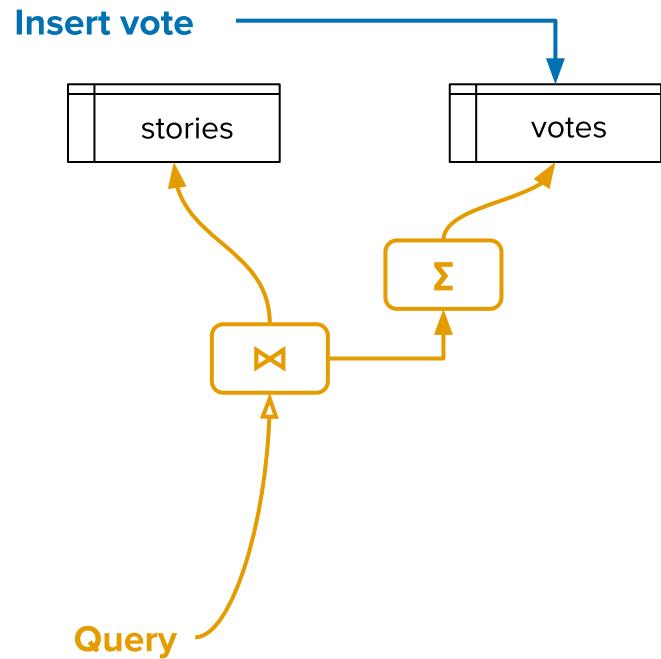
To update, do this:



Why are we here?

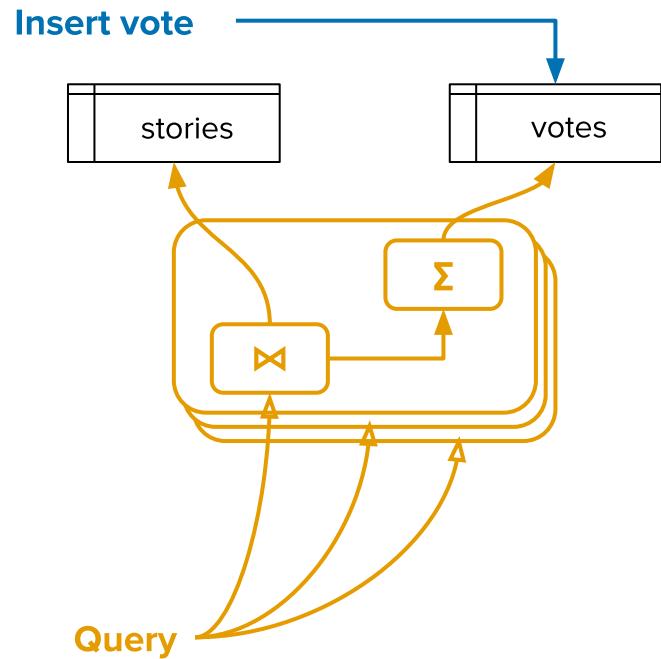
More orange work than blue.

But orange is often more common!



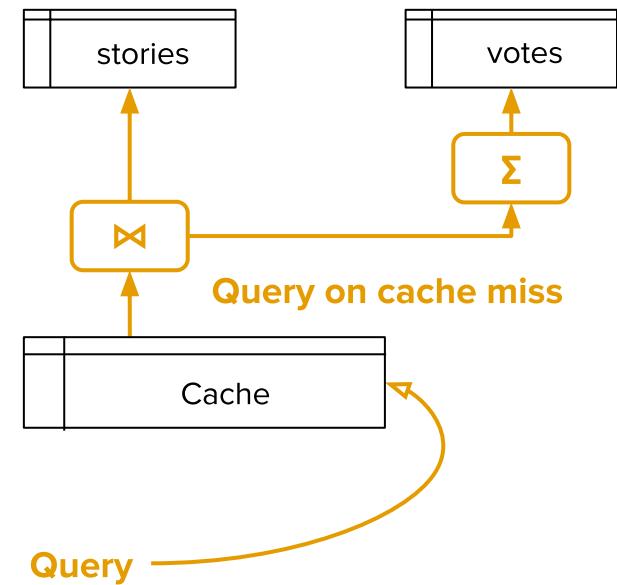
Why are we here?

Repeated, unnecessary orange work.



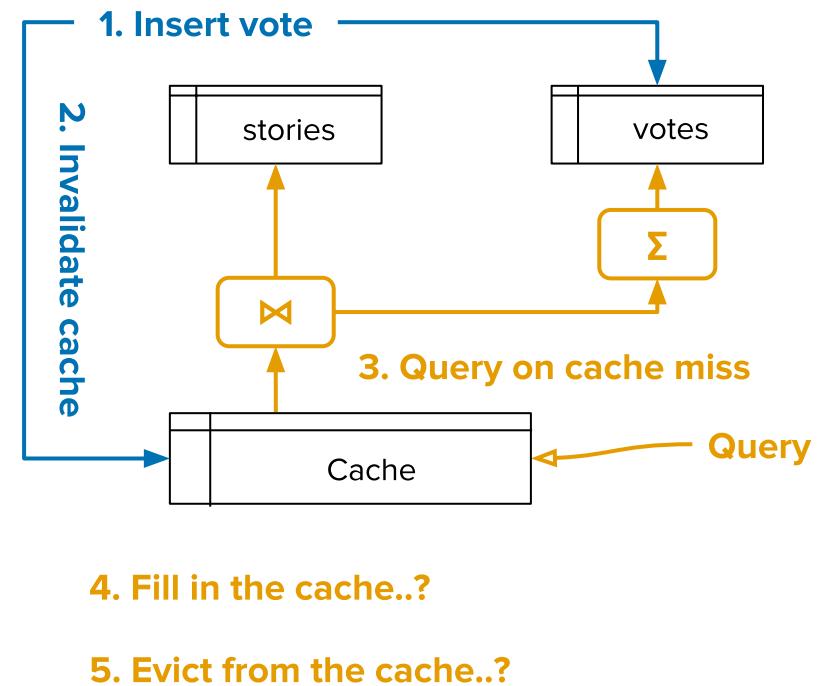
But Jon, caches.

Queries are now fast again!



Caches are great.

But caching is hard.



Automatic
database
caching.

Back to the title:

Partial State in Dataflow-Based Materialized Views

Back to the title:

Partial State in Dataflow-Based **Materialized Views**

Remembering Query Results

- Invented by the database community in the 1980s.
- Essentially “run the query and remember the result”.
- Key question is how to **maintain** the materialization:
 - What happens if the underlying data **changes**?
 - Should be **incremental**: don’t execute from scratch each time.
 - Maintain on **write** or on subsequent **read**?

Back to the title:

Partial State in **Dataflow-Based** Materialized Views

Push Changes to Views

- Dataflow has many definitions; here: data moves to compute.
 - Think “push-based computation”.
- Data changes propagate through graph of *operators*.
 - Here: relational operators like joins, aggregations, and filters.
- Each edge is a data dependency.
 - e.g., a join depends on its inputs.
- Messages are *deltas*:
 - Each delta is a full row with a positive (add) or negative (remove) sign.

Example Dataflow Execution

CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW

StoryWithVC

AS SELECT

stories.*,

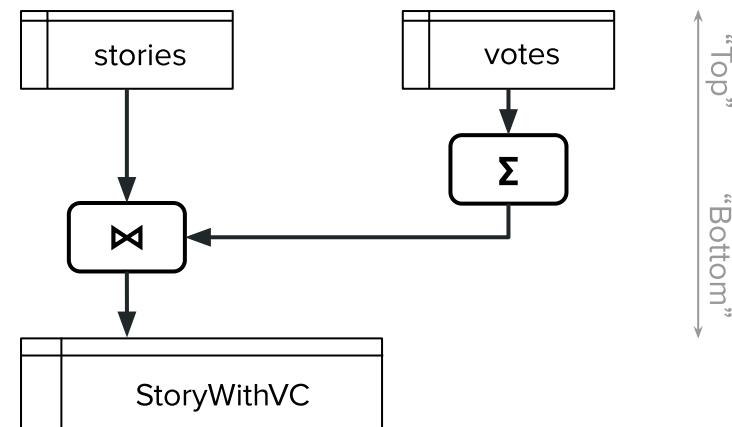
COUNT(votes.user) AS votes

FROM stories

JOIN votes

ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)

GROUP BY stories.id;



Example Dataflow Execution

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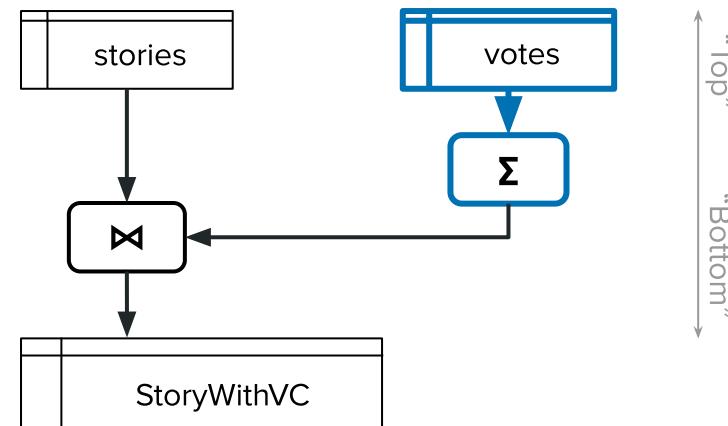
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GROUP BY stories.id;
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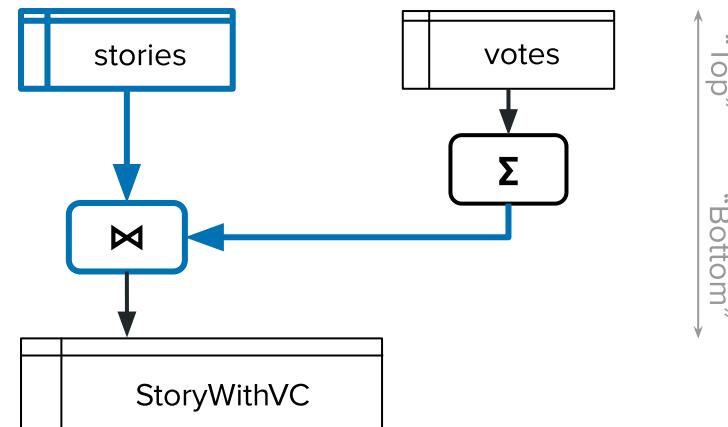
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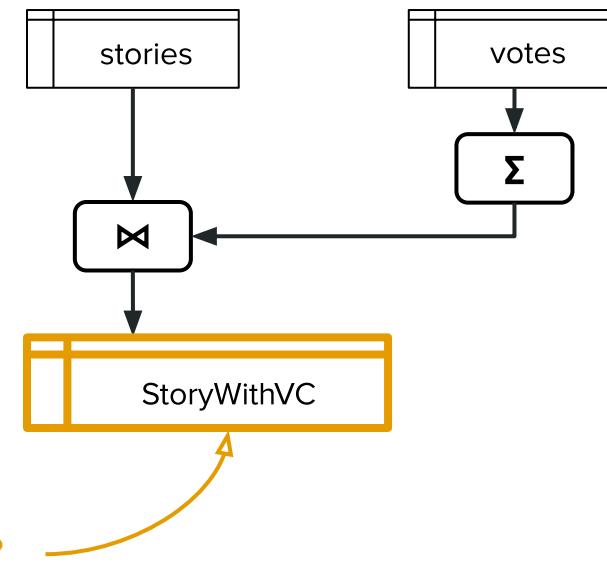
```
JOIN votes
```

```
ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)
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```
GROUP BY stories.id;
```



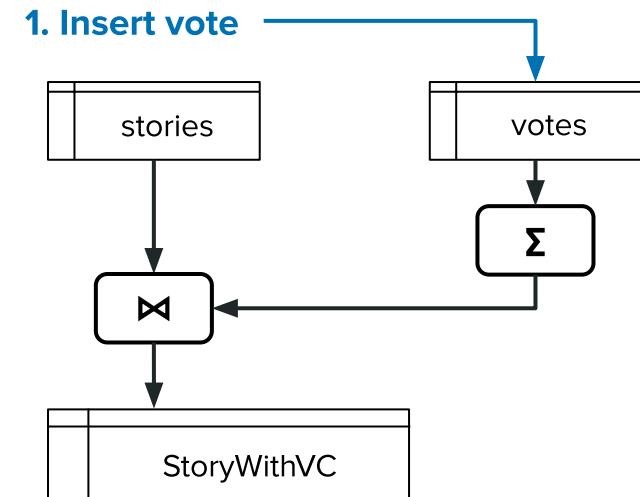
```
SELECT * FROM StoryWithVC WHERE id = ?
```



Example Dataflow Execution

CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW

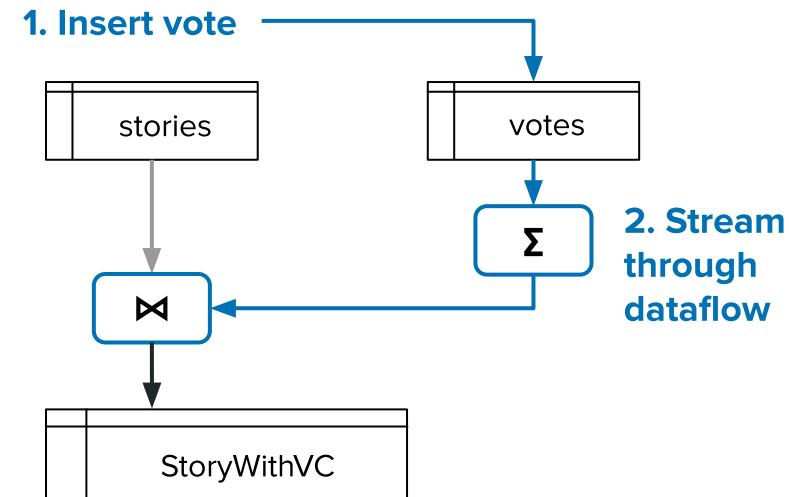
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Example Dataflow Execution

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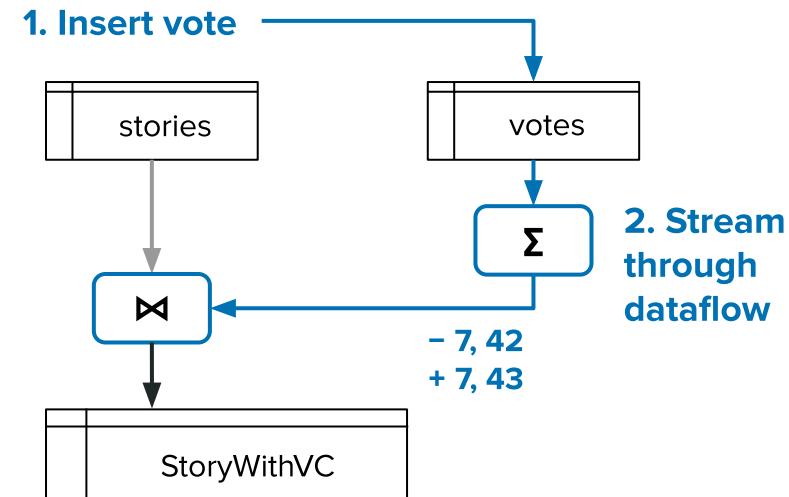
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Example Dataflow Execution

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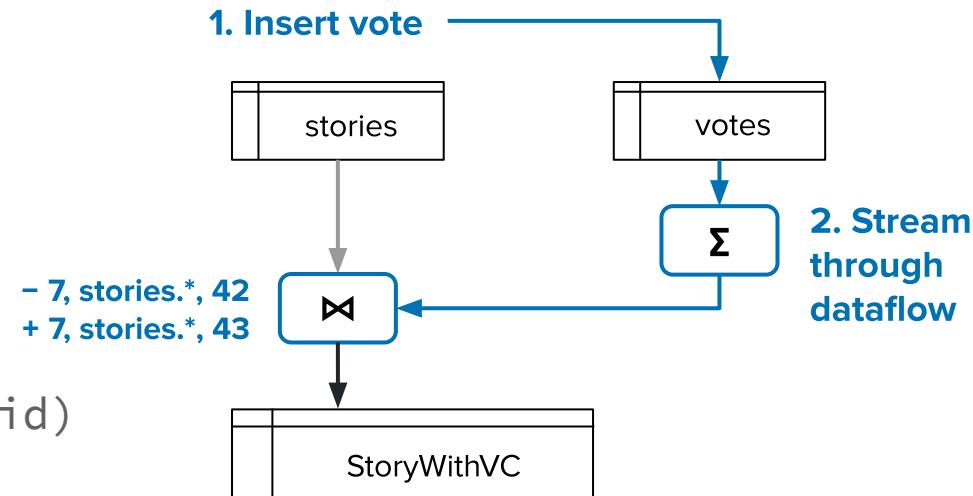
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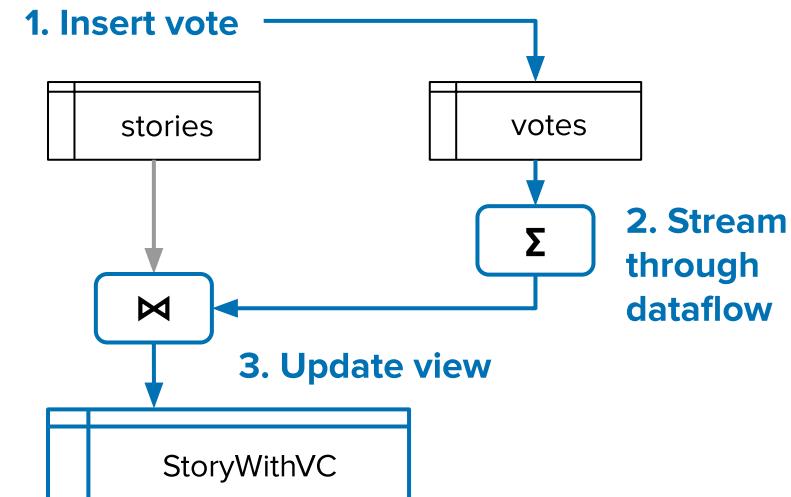
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Back to the title:

Partial State in Dataflow-Based Materialized Views

Learning to Forget

- Chances are that **most** entries in the view are not accessed.
 - Old and unpopular stories are **wasting memory**.
- Need to **evict** old entries, and only add new ones **on demand**.
- Three main contributions:
 - Notion of *missing state* in materialized views.
 - *Upqueries* to populate missing state using dataflow.
 - Implementation and evaluation of partial state in Noria.

View and Query are Separate

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW
```

```
StoryWithVC
```

```
AS SELECT
```

```
stories.*,
```

```
COUNT(votes.user) AS votes
```

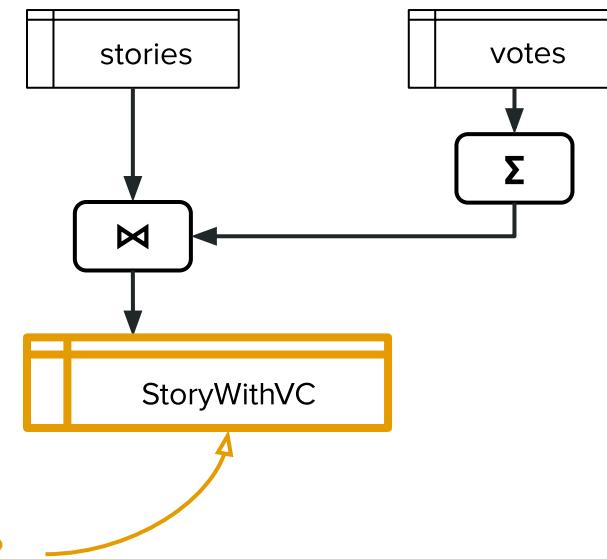
```
FROM stories
```

```
JOIN votes
```

```
ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)
```

```
GROUP BY stories.id;
```

```
SELECT * FROM StoryWithVC WHERE id = ?
```



View Must Know Query Parameter(s)

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CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW
```

```
StoryWithVC
```

```
AS SELECT
```

```
stories.*,
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```
COUNT(votes.user) AS votes
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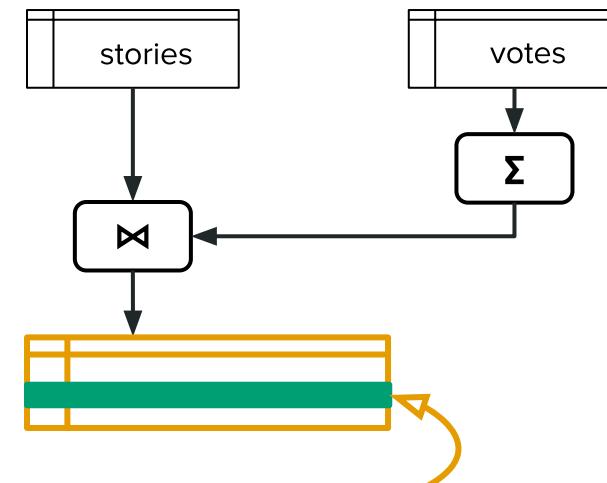
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FROM stories
```

```
JOIN votes
```

```
ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)
```

```
GROUP BY stories.id
```

```
WHERE stories.id = ?;
```



Queries Can Miss in Materialized View

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW
```

```
StoryWithVC
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AS SELECT
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stories.*,
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COUNT(votes.user) AS votes
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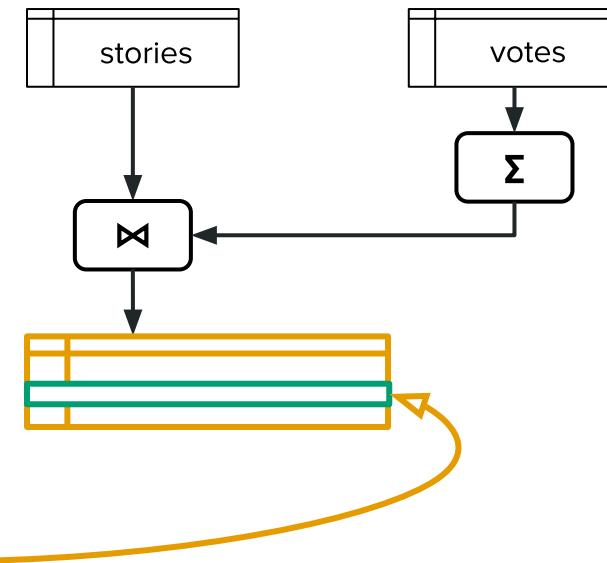
```
FROM stories
```

```
JOIN votes
```

```
ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)
```

```
GROUP BY stories.id
```

```
WHERE stories.id = 7;
```



Misses Trigger Upqueries

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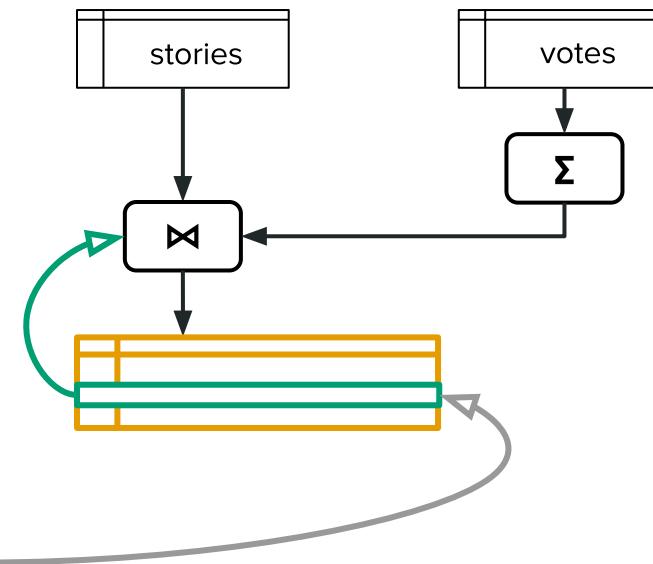
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ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)
```

```
GROUP BY stories.id
```

```
WHERE stories.id = 7;
```



Upqueries Can Trigger Further Upqueries

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW
```

```
StoryWithVC
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```
AS SELECT
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```
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```
COUNT(votes.user) AS votes
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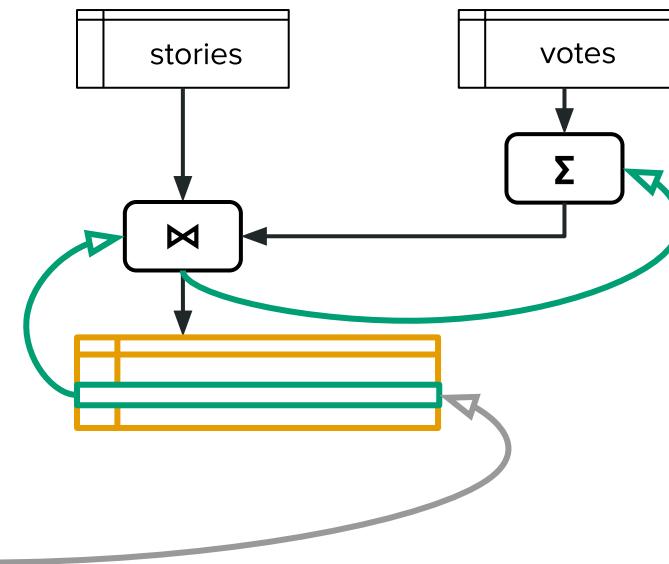
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FROM stories
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```
ON (votes.story_id = stories.id)
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```
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```



Answer May Reside in Intermediate State

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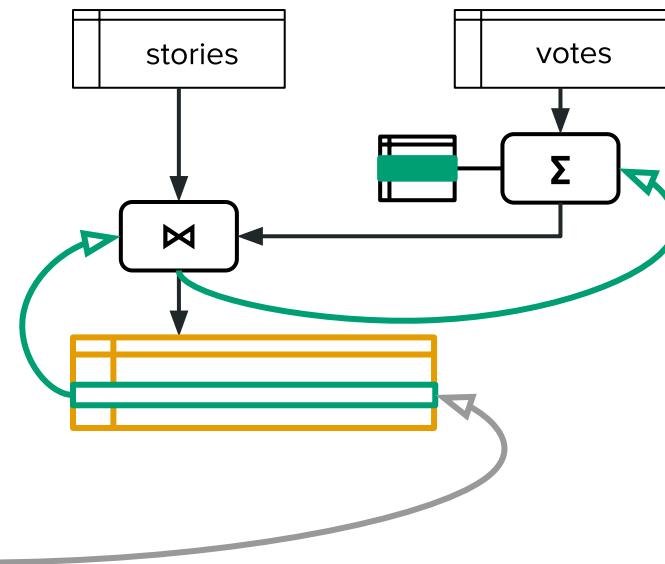
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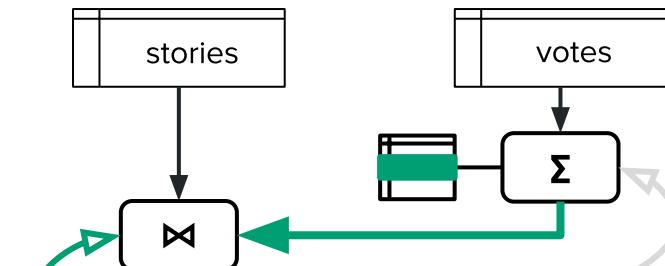
```
WHERE stories.id = 7;
```



Response Uses Normal Dataflow

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW
```

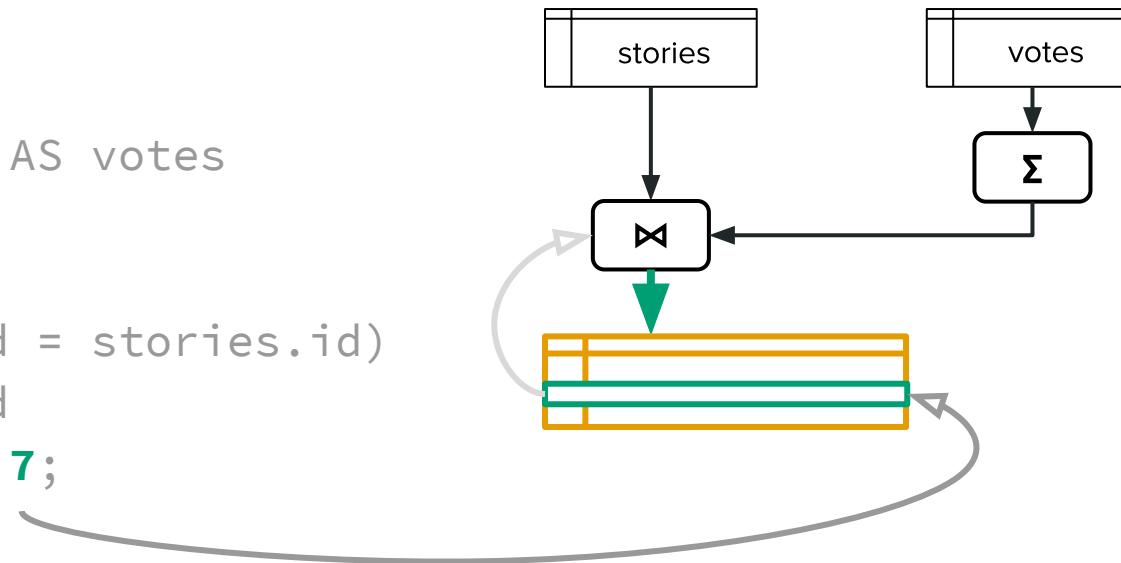
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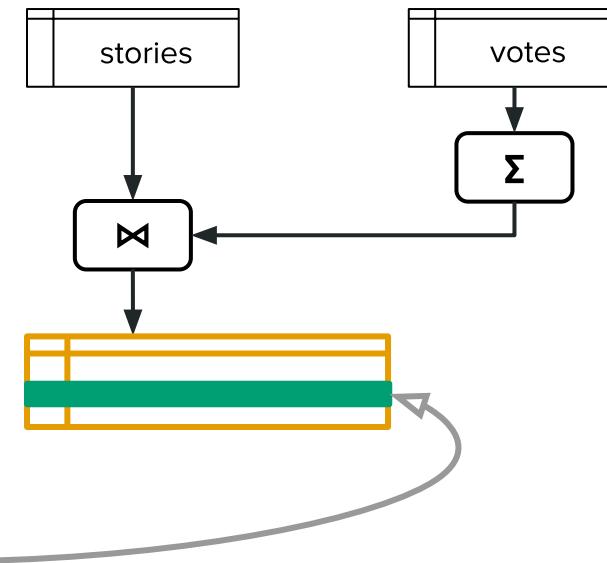
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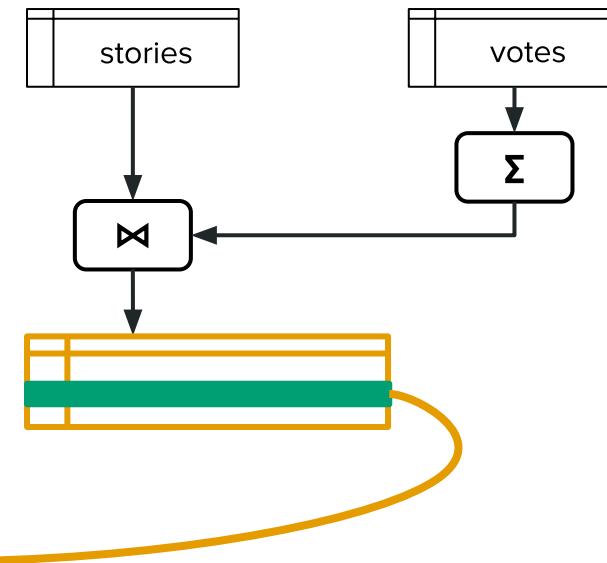
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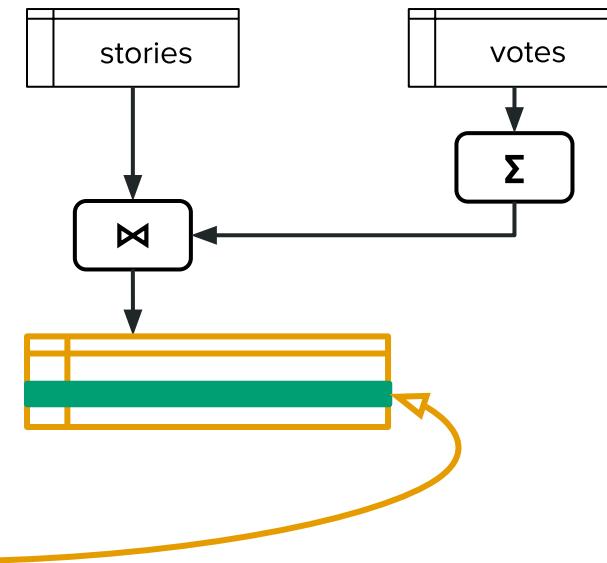
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```



Next Query with Same Parameter is Fast

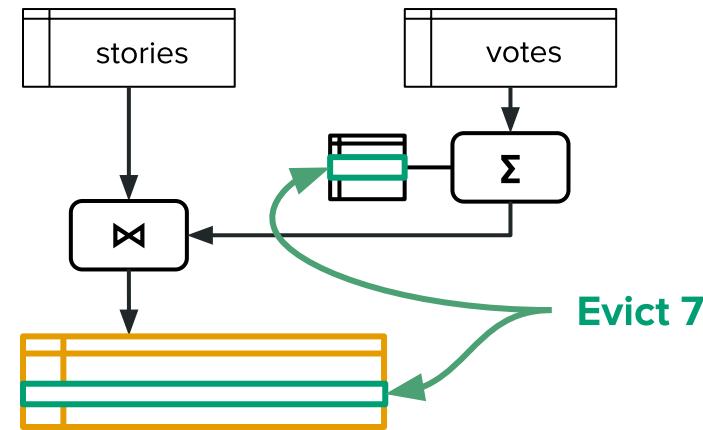
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AS SELECT
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FROM stories
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GROUP BY stories.id
WHERE stories.id = 7;
```



To Evict: Mark as Missing Again

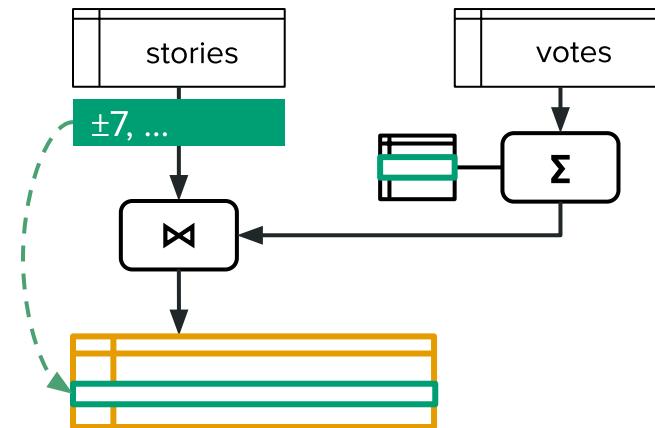
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GROUP BY stories.id  
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```



No Need to Update Missing State!

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CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW
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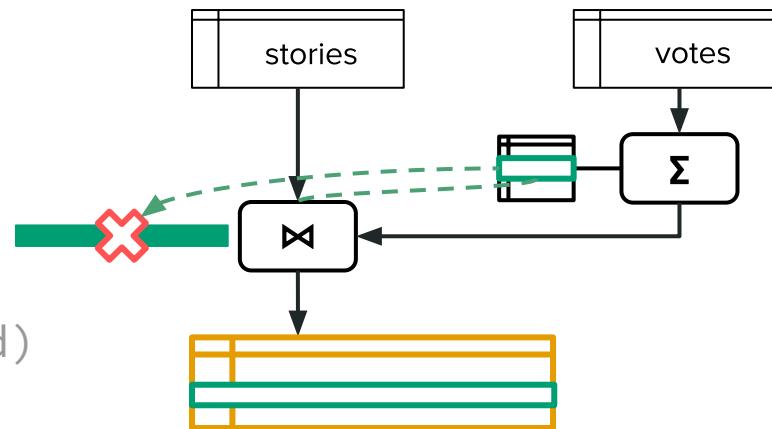
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```
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Intermission Related work

Materialized View Maintenance

- Primarily targets analytics workloads → infrequent reads.
- Little or no support for on-demand queries.
- No support for eviction.

Automated Caching Systems

- Few are general-purpose.
- Many only support invalidation, not updates.
- Often limited to specific database interaction, not general SQL.

Dataflow and Stream Processing

- Usually focused on write performance.
- Focus on strong consistency at the cost of read latency.
- Limited support for on-demand compute & eviction.

Are we done?

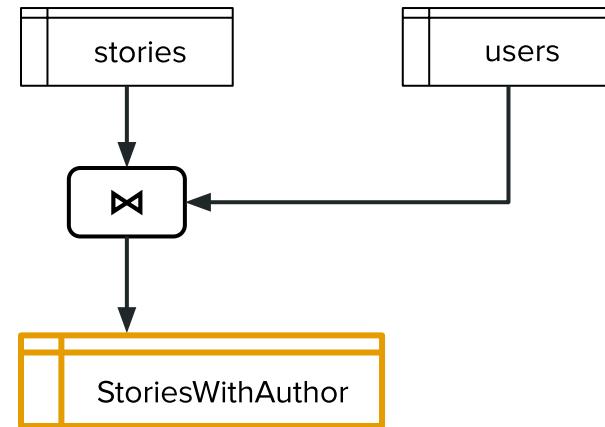
In Practice, Things are Hard

- Must ensure that data changes take effect exactly once.
- Traditionally easy, but hard in this model because:
 - Upqueries hold past state which may be concurrently updated.
 - Updates may be discarded early.
- Many hazards (see thesis), but we'll focus on one.

Incongruent Join Evictions

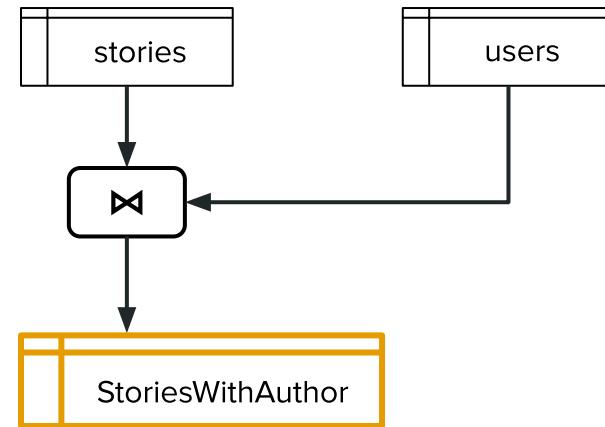
What is an Incongruent Join?

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW  
  StoriesWithAuthor  
AS SELECT  
  stories.*,  
  users.name AS fname,  
FROM stories  
JOIN users  
  ON (stories.author = users.id)  
WHERE stories.id = ?;
```



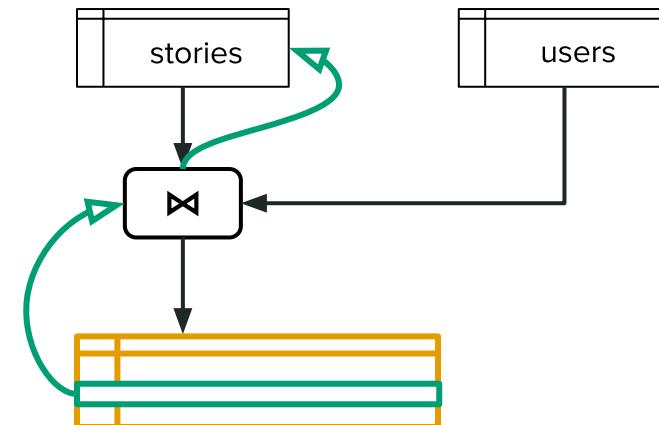
Query Key ≠ Join Key

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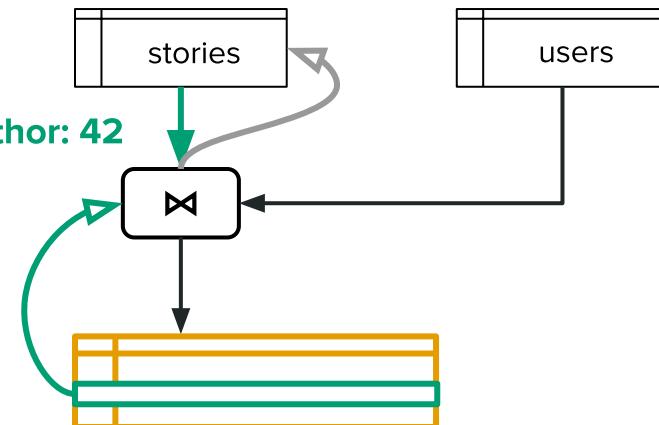
Upquery Works Correctly

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WHERE stories.id = 7;
```



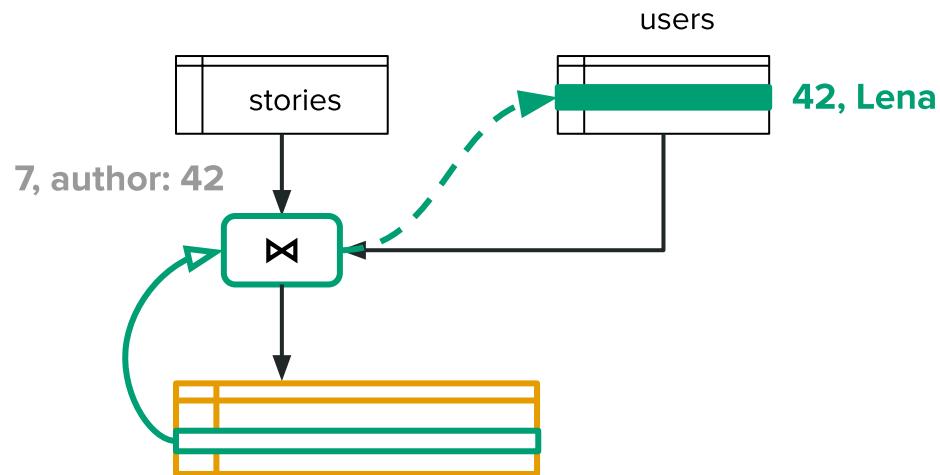
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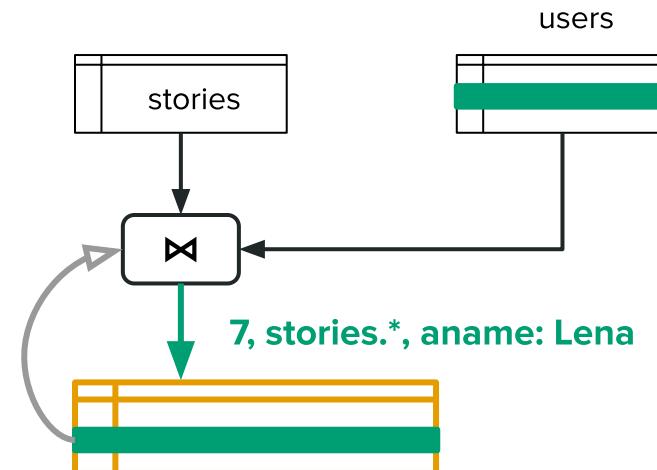
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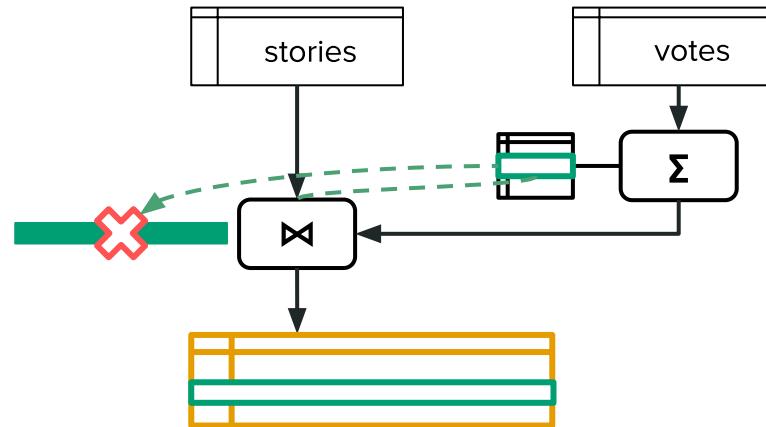


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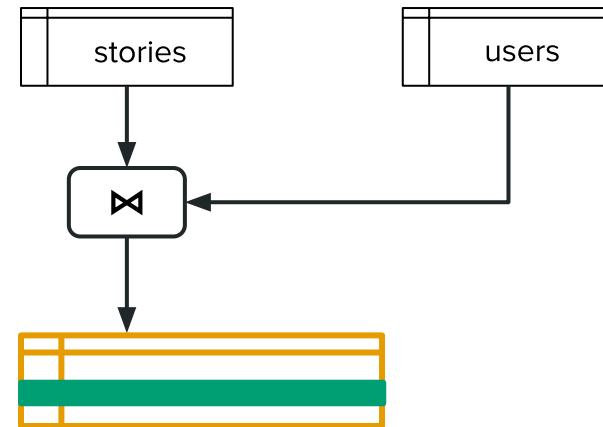
Recall This Figure?



What if the Author Changes?

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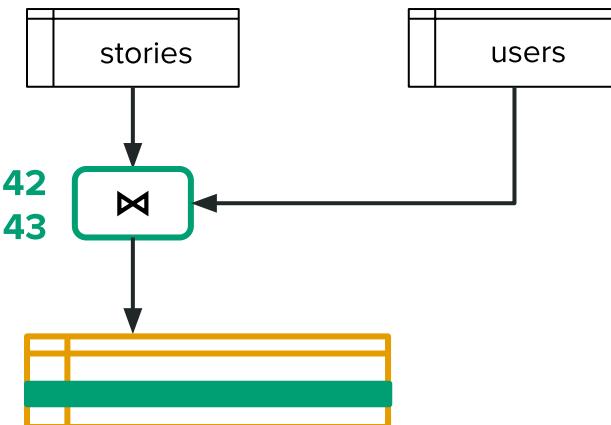
- 7, ..., author: 42
+ 7, ..., author: 43



Change Must Propagate to the View

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW  
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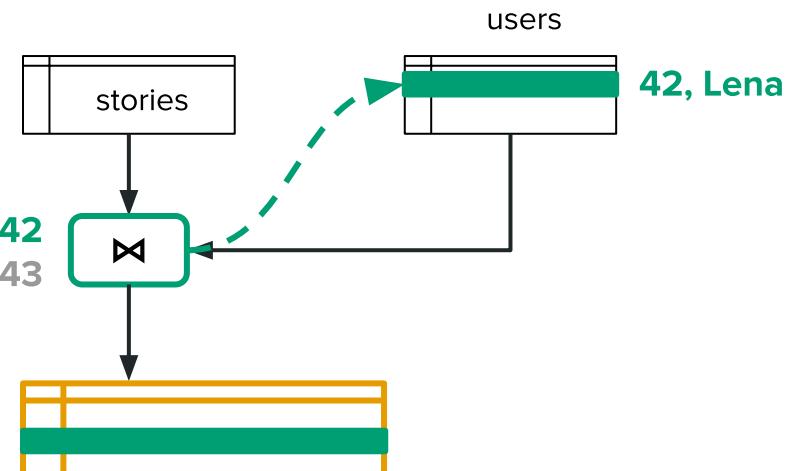
- 7, ..., author: 42
+ 7, ..., author: 43



Each Change is Joined

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CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW  
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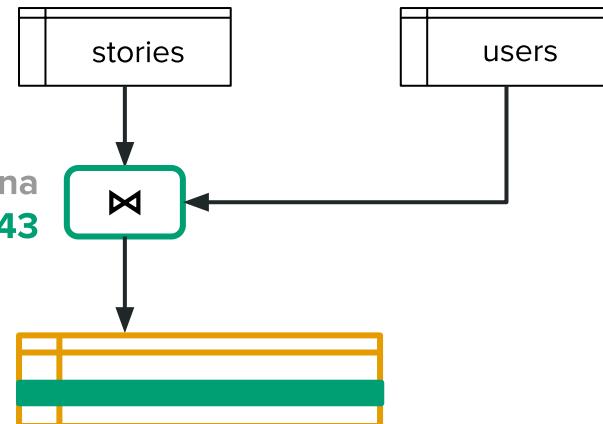
- 7, ..., author: 42
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Just One More Step

```
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```

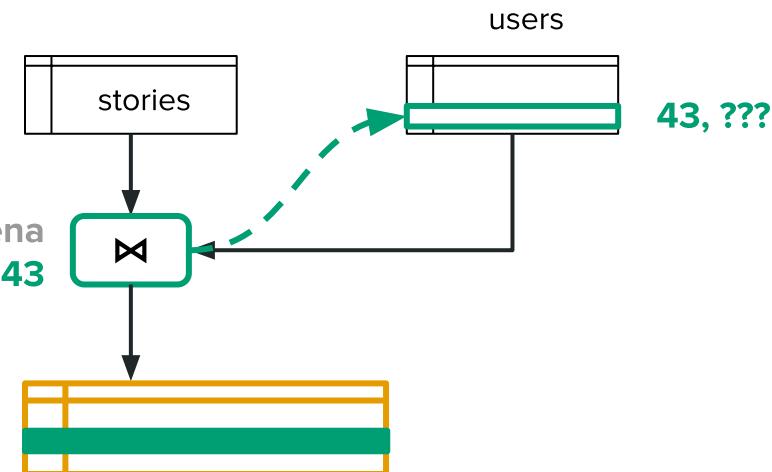
- 7, ..., fname: Lena
+ 7, ..., author: 43



State for New Author is Missing!

```
CREATE MATERIALIZED VIEW  
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  users.name AS fname,  
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JOIN users  
  ON (stories.author = users.id)  
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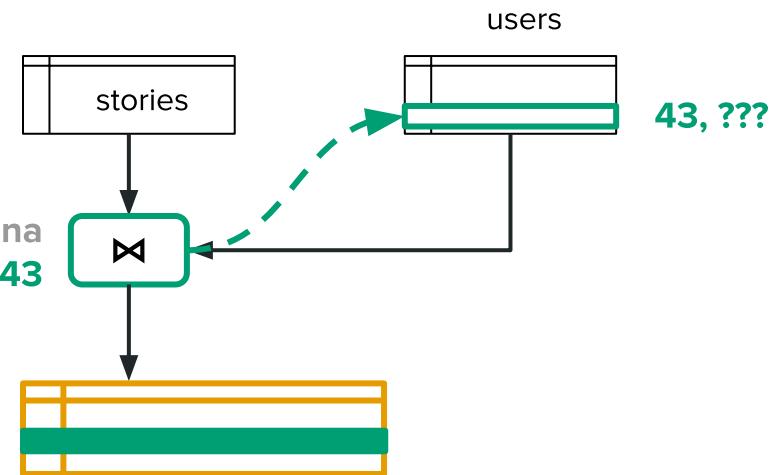
- 7, ..., fname: Lena
+ 7, ..., author: 43



What Do We Do?

- Cannot produce needed update!
- Cannot forward just the negative.
- Cannot drop update altogether.

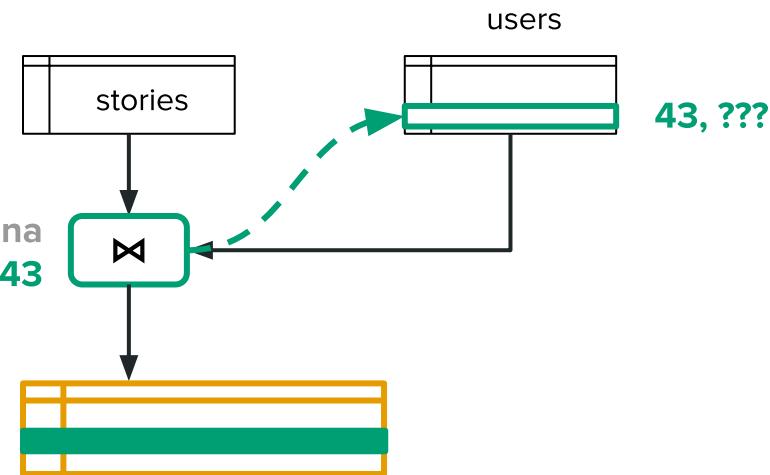
– 7, ..., fname: Lena
+ 7, ..., author: 43



What Do We Do?

- Cannot produce needed update!
- Cannot forward just the negative.
- Cannot drop update altogether.
- Fill missing state?

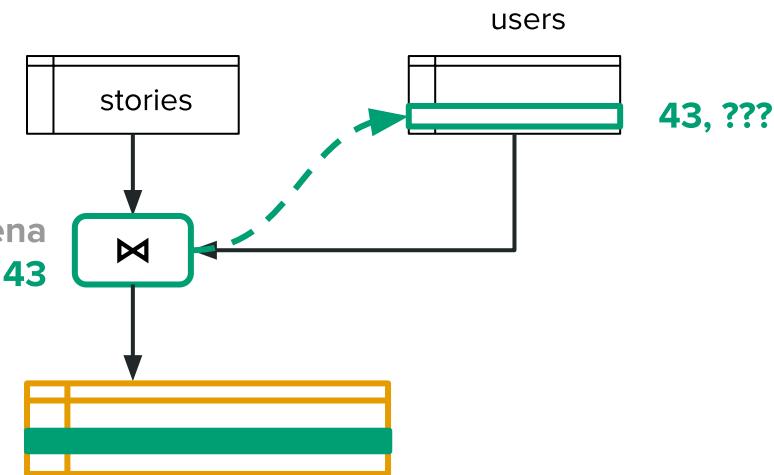
– 7, ..., fname: Lena
+ 7, ..., author: 43



What Do We Do?

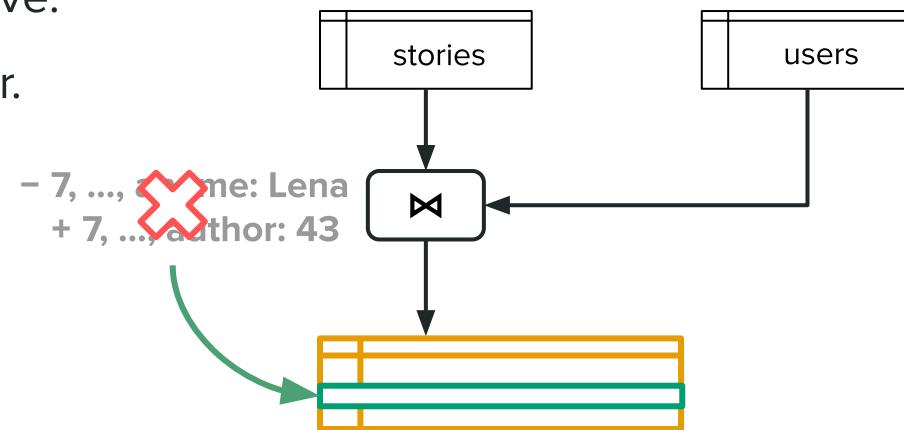
- Cannot produce needed update!
- Cannot forward just the negative.
- Cannot drop update altogether.
- ~~- Fill missing state?~~

~~- 7, ..., fname: Lena~~
~~+ 7, ..., author: 43~~



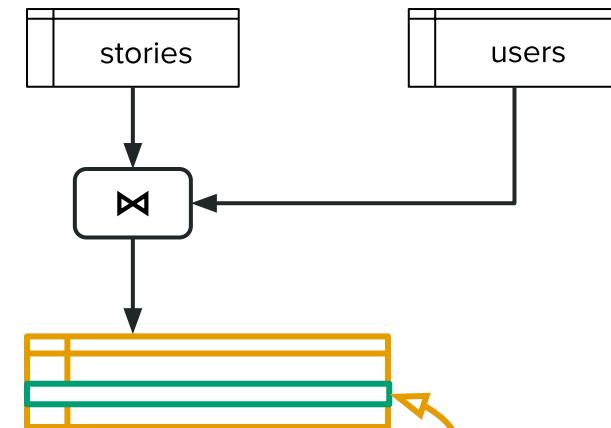
What Do We Do?

- Cannot produce needed update!
- Cannot forward just the negative.
- Cannot drop update altogether.
- ~~- Fill missing state?~~
- **Evict** downstream state.



What Do We Do?

- Cannot produce needed update!
- Cannot forward just the negative.
- Cannot drop update altogether.
- ~~- Fill missing state?~~
- **Evict** downstream state.
- Next query fills it again.



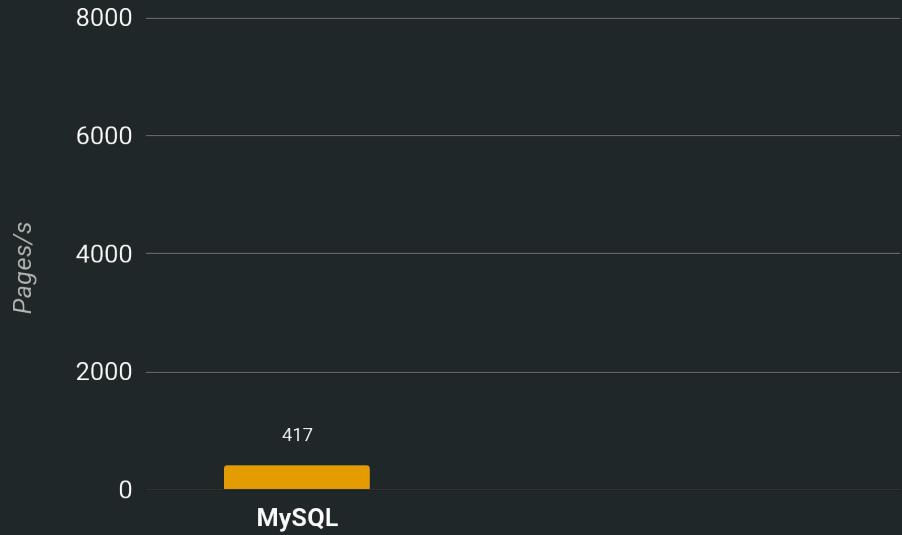
Does it work?

Need a Realistic Test Subject

- Lobste.rs: a Hacker News-like news aggregator.
 - Users submit stories, vote for and comment on them, etc.
 - Open-source, so we can see the queries.
 - Data statistics available, so we know the workload.
- Workload generator: synthesize Lobste.rs-like requests.

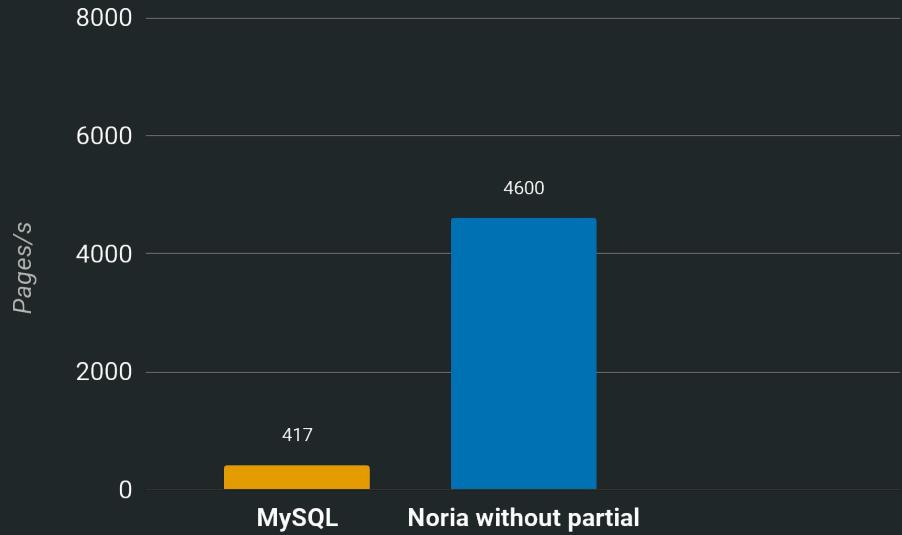
Throughput

Fixed available resources.



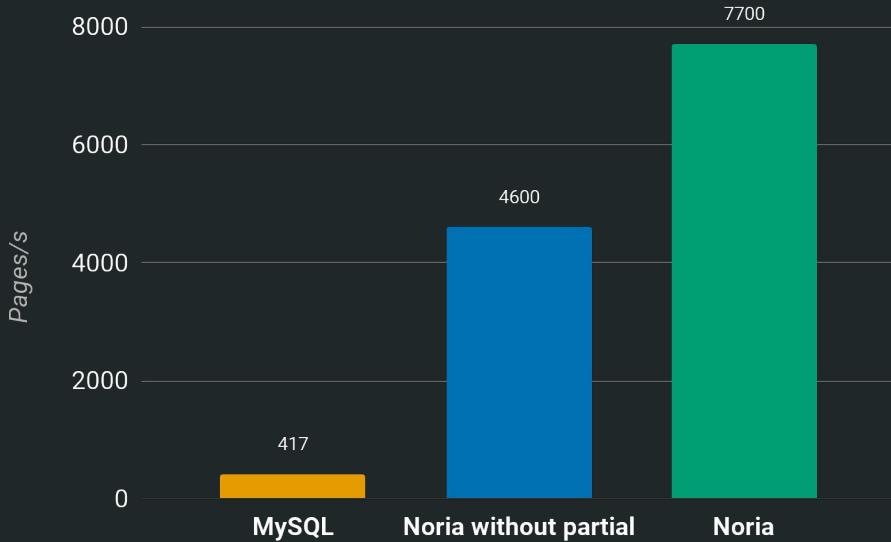
Throughput

Fixed available resources.



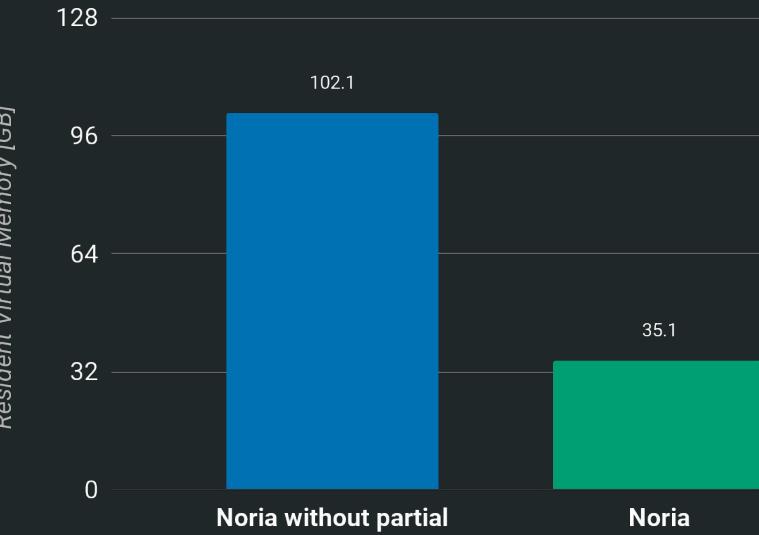
Throughput

Fixed available resources.



Memory use

Fixed throughput & runtime.



Noria vs. cache

vs. Redis

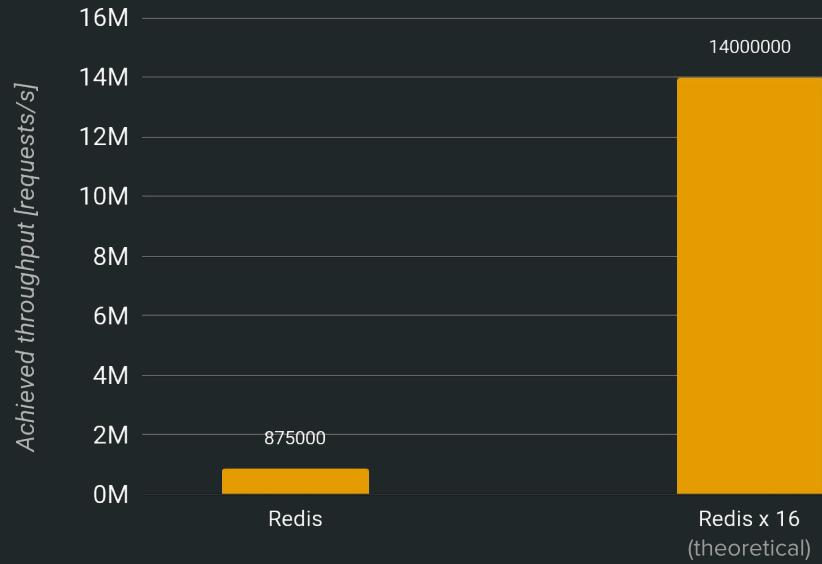
Idealized cache workload.



vs. Redis

Idealized cache workload.

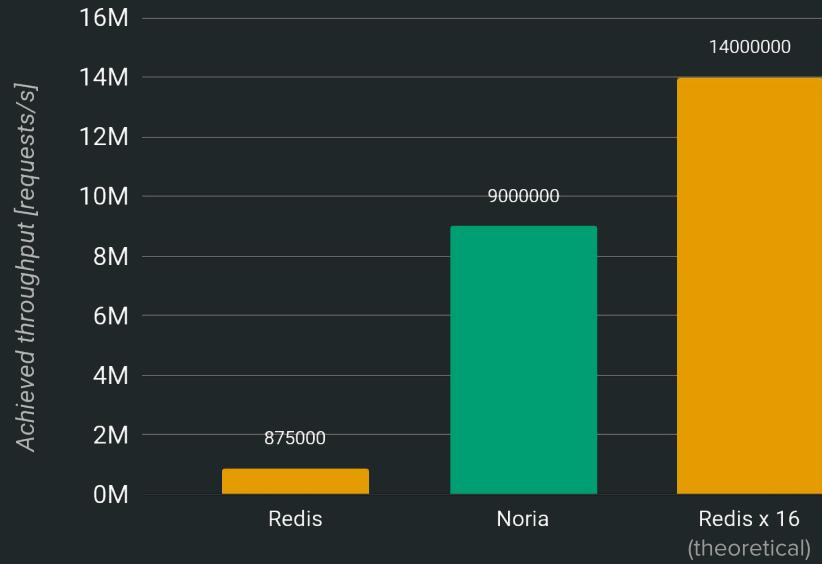
Redis is single-threaded, so 16x is extrapolated.



vs. Redis

Idealized cache workload.

Redis is single-threaded, so 16x is extrapolated.



Wrapping things up

Future work

Noria is neither perfect nor complete.

- Range queries, cursors, time-windowed operators.
- Upstream database integration.
- Maintaining downstream views.
- Fault tolerance.

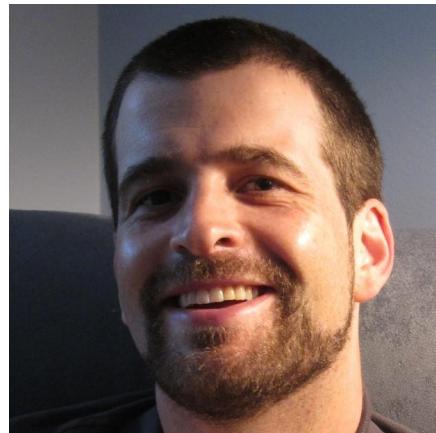
Acknowledgements



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Conclusion

My thesis enables **materialized views** to be used as **caches**.

It does so by allowing state to be **missing** from materializations, and using **upqueries** to populate missing state on demand.

The resulting system provides **automated** caching for SQL queries, and reduces the need for complex, ad hoc caching logic.

Thank you — please ask questions!
jon@thesquareplanet.com

Backup slides

Page	%	W	Q	Description
Story	55.8	1	14	Renders an individual story's page, including its popularity score, comments, and the scores of its comments.
Front page	30.1	0	14	Lists the 25 most highly scored stories, along with their authors and scores.
User	6.7	0	7	Renders a user summary page, including what story "tags" they contribute to.
Comments	4.7	0	9	Like the front page, but for comments.
Recent	1.0	0	14	25 most recently added stories, along with their authors and scores.
Vote	1.2	1	2	Vote up/down a given comment or story.
Comment	0.4	2	5	Add a new comment to a story.

Table 6.1.: Pages in Lobsters. % indicates the percentage of requests that load the given page. W is the number of writes performed by a given page. Q is the number of (read) queries a page issues.

