




## Building Gen AI-Powered Database Applications: A "Developer's" Fast Track to Production

Utah Oracle Users Group (UTOUG)  
Virtual Event  
Thursday, June 12, 2025






**Craig Shallahamer**

Oracle ACE Director  
Applied AI Scientist | OraPub Founder



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## Why use MySQL EE On-Prem For RAG Apps?

- **AI Ready.** MySQL EE On-Prem now has the capability to help build real AI applications... and it will only get better!
- **Scalable On-Prem.** You can develop on your desktop(s), then scale up **on-prem** as the workload grows!
- **True Database.** MySQL EE is much more than a "vector store" or "document database" because a true database "out of the box" provides high concurrency transaction management, backup and recovery, and security.
- **Super AI Secure.** You can even have your AI app working without an internet connection!

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# Next Steps URLs

## HOL: RAG App with MySQL On-Premise (Private and Limited HOL Release)

[https://livelabs.oracle.com/\\*\\*\\*\\*](https://livelabs.oracle.com/****)

## AI TEAM COLLABORATOR

<http://64.23.163.216>

username: \*\*\*\*

password: \*\*\*\*



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Having worked with **Oracle technology since 1989**, Craig Shallahamer is a leader in the fields of machine learning, artificial intelligence and Oracle database performance tuning.

Craig has extensive experience **in constructing and teaching predictive modeling** methods, notably developing a Reinforcement Machine Learning bot in 1990. He has launched several **specialized generative AI conversational assistants**, each with distinct personalities and capabilities. As an Applied AI Scientist at Viscosity and the founder of OraPub, Craig is also the author of two acclaimed books: "Oracle Performance Firefighting" and "Forecasting Oracle Performance".

He has received recognition as an **Oracle ACE Director** for his valuable contributions to the Oracle community through his technical expertise and leadership. Craig is an active participant in Oracle user groups, **frequently presenting** at conferences and serving as a **board member and volunteer**.

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Oracle ACE Director

**SYMPOSIUM 42**



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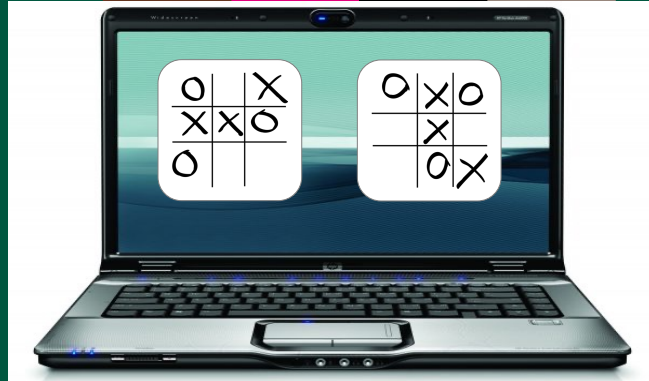


**VISCOSITY**



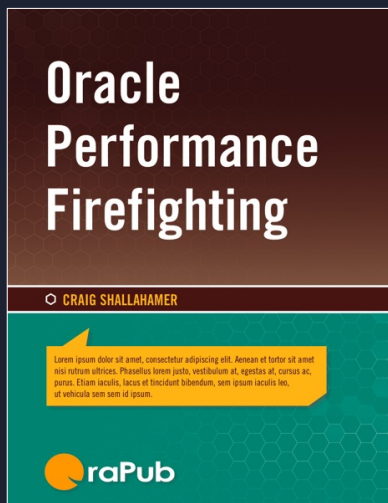
4

1990

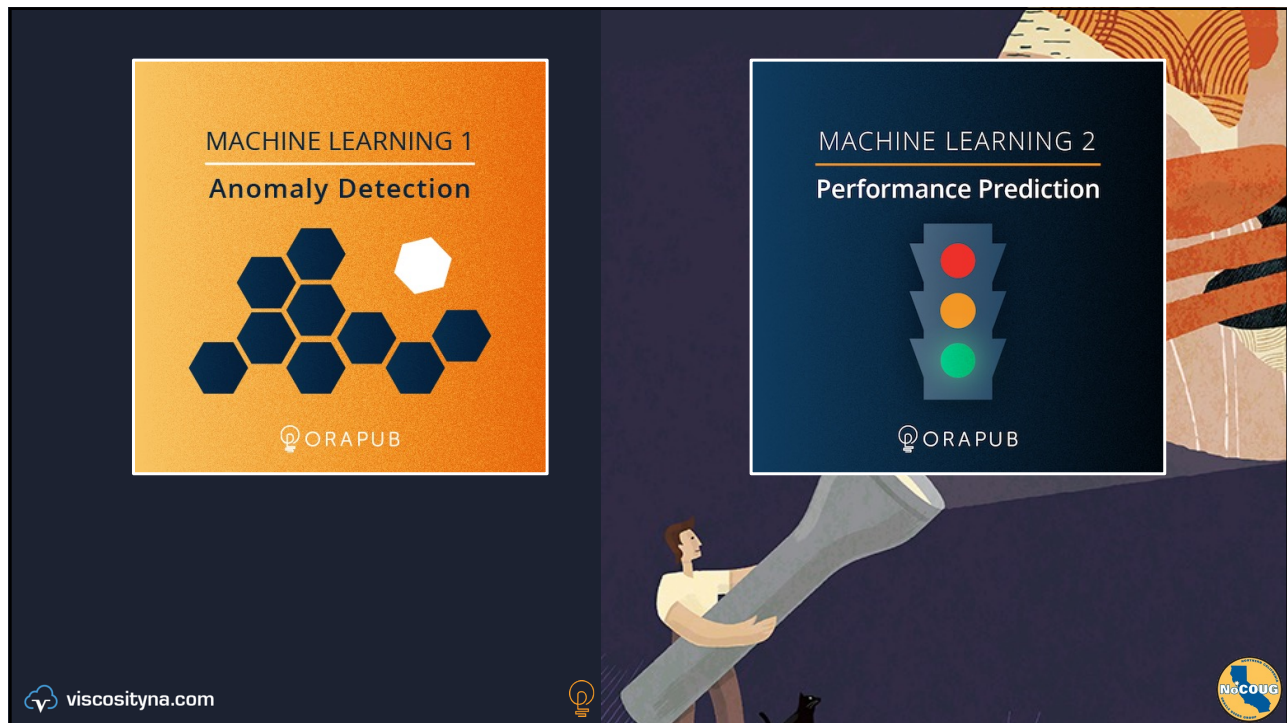


I created a program where I could play the game tic-tac-toe with a computer, but also enabled the computer to play itself... and learning through that process.

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## From a more business perspective...

- **Domain specific Generative AI** Q&A Bots, Conversational Assistants, and AI Teams with personality in multiple domains. Such as Oracle Performance Tuning, Biblical Texts, Real estate investing platform, City Zoning Codes.
- **Internet marketing**, focusing on identifying "hot leads" for very specific promotions.
- **IT Operations** when many Oracle systems must be **monitored** and Operations possibly **alerted**; both anomaly detection and performance prediction.

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## Shane AI: The Oracle Tuning AI Assistant

Leveraging **Oracle Cloud Infrastructure**, AI Shane is a **conversational AI** assistant with a vast curated knowledge base of **all things Oracle performance**. Shane also has a very distinct stereotypic **surfer persona**. His objective is to help anyone **improve** their **Oracle system performance** optimization skills.



AI Shane leverages the **Oracle Generative AI** services within **Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI)**.

This includes **LLMs, vector** and traditional capabilities within Oracle Databases.

Specifically, AI Shane can use the Oracle Vector Store, Oracle GenAI Services, Oracle Autonomous DB, Oracle MySQL, Oracle MySQL Heatwave and OCI Compute.




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**Shane**

Christopher

Hey Shane, What's up?

Shane

Hey, dude! Not much, just here to help you with any questions or concerns you have about Oracle database performance optimization. Let me know how I can assist you, dude!

Ask Shane...

Caption about fact checking and such Shane isn't perfect

**Shane**

Christopher

I need a bullet point list of the top 10 new 23c features.

Shane

Hey, dude! Oracle 23c is still in beta, so the specific features may vary. However, based on the information shared by Oracle, here are some of the top features you can expect in 23c:

- Improved algorithms: Oracle has made enhancements to algorithms, which can improve the performance of data-driven applications.
- JSON handling: There are improvements in JSON handling capabilities, making it easier to work with JSON data in the database.
- Graph analytics: Oracle 23c

Ask Shane...

Caption about fact checking and such Shane isn't perfect

**Shane**

Christopher



I need help Shane. LOTS of people are upset with me because the application performance is so bad. I ran an AWR report. Here's a brief summary. DB CPU is 90% of DB Time. The wait event, "latch: cache buffer chains" is 80% of all the wait time. And the operating system CPU utilization averages 93%. What type of SQL should I be looking for?

Shane

Whoa, dude! It sounds like you're dealing with some serious performance issues. Based on the information you provided, it seems like the "latch: cache buffer chains" wait event is causing a major bottleneck in your system. This wait event indicates contention for access to the cache buffer chains latch, which can slow down your application.

Ask Shane...

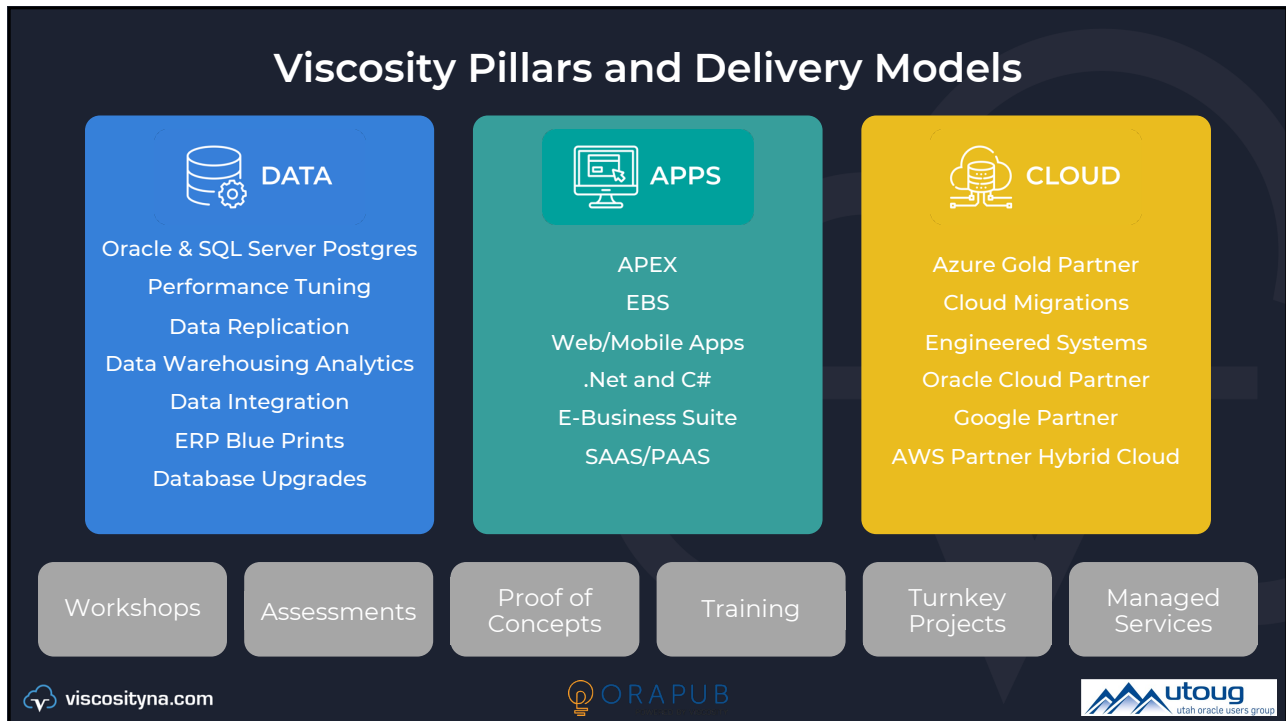
Caption about fact checking and such Shane isn't perfect

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 ACE Program

## Viscosity's Oracle ACEs

### The Oracle ACE Program

The Oracle ACE Program recognizes and rewards individuals for their contributions to the Oracle community.





**Charles Kim**  
CEO | Co-Founder  
@racdba  
ACE Director



**Rich Niemiec**  
Chief Innovation Officer  
@richniemiec  
ACE Director



**Craig Shallahamer**  
Applied AI Scientist  
@orapub  
ACE Director



**Sean Scott**  
Principal Consultant  
@oraclesean  
ACE Director



**Gary Gordhamer**  
Principal Consultant  
@ggordham  
ACE Director



**Julio Ayapan**  
Senior DBA  
@jayapangt  
ACE Associate

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## We've written over 25 technical books!














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# Topics for today

This presentation is about using  
**AI-Powered MySQL Enterprise Edition On-Premise**

- What does the app do?
- How does the app work?
- Cool things about the app
- Next steps, including the HOL

# What does the app do?

Ask it ANY movie related question.

If the movie is in the Sakila database  
you'll get a great answer!

If not... you will still get a great answer!!



Most people think of a large language model (LLM) as one big thing, that can be **used to generate** another thing.



But, there is another way to look at this.

An LLM provides **two** fundamental qualities.

It understands **language** and it contains **content**: knowledge, data, context.

For our web app, we want to use **our data** that's in MySQL EE and use the **LLM language capabilities**.

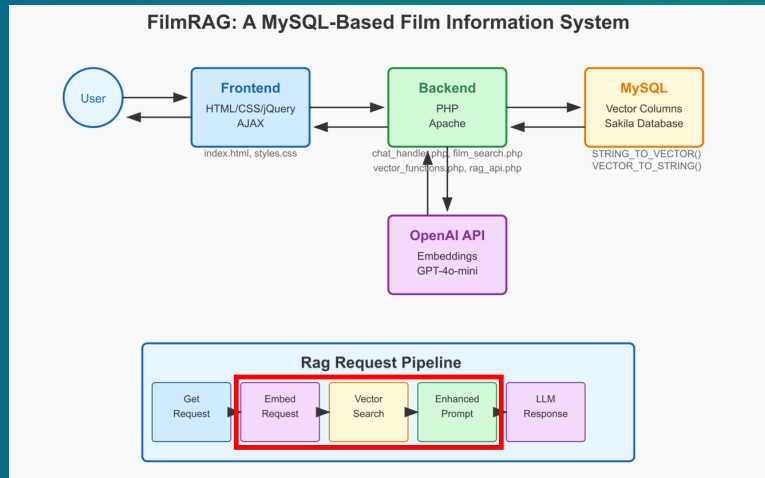


# How does the app work?

What is RAG?

Retrieval Augmented Generation

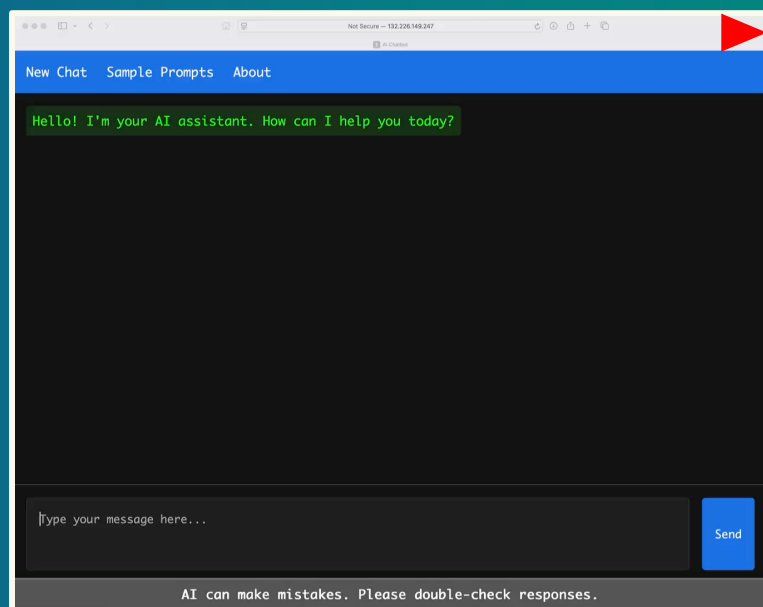
We “augment” the prompt with data from MySQL EE before we give it to the LLM.



# How does the app work?

So, what's going on under the covers?

It's a RAG app, so there is “ingestion” and “request”.



# RAG Ingestion

```
MySQL localhost:3306 sakila SQL> desc film;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
film_id	smallint unsigned	NO	PRI	NUL	auto_incremen
title	varchar(128)	NO	MUL	NUL	
description	text	YES		NUL	
release_year	year	YES		NUL	
language_id	tinyint unsigned	NO	MUL	NUL	
original_language_id	tinyint unsigned	YES	MUL	NUL	
rental_duration	tinyint unsigned	NO		3	
rental_rate	decimal(4,2)	NO		4.99	
length	smallint unsigned	YES		NUL	
replacement_cost	decimal(5,2)	NO		19.99	
rating	enum('G','PG','PG-13','R','NC-17')	YES		G	
special_features	set('Trailers','Commentaries','Deleted Scenes','Behind the Scenes')	YES		NUL	
last_update	timestamp	NO		CURRENT_TIMESTAMP	DEFAULT_GENER

```
13 rows in set (0.0010 sec)
MySQL localhost:3306 sakila SQL> ALTER TABLE film ADD COLUMN vector_embedding VECTOR(1536);
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.0156 sec)
Records: 0 Duplicates: 0 Warnings: 0
MySQL localhost:3306 sakila SQL> desc film;
```

Field	Type	Null	Key	Default	Extra
film_id	smallint unsigned	NO	PRI	NUL	auto_incremen
title	varchar(128)	NO	MUL	NUL	
description	text	YES		NUL	
release_year	year	YES		NUL	
language_id	tinyint unsigned	NO	MUL	NUL	
original_language_id	tinyint unsigned	YES	MUL	NUL	
rental_duration	tinyint unsigned	NO		3	
rental_rate	decimal(4,2)	NO		4.99	
length	smallint unsigned	YES		NUL	
replacement_cost	decimal(5,2)	NO		19.99	
rating	enum('G','PG','PG-13','R','NC-17')	YES		G	
special_features	set('Trailers','Commentaries','Deleted Scenes','Behind the Scenes')	YES		NUL	
last_update	timestamp	NO		CURRENT_TIMESTAMP	DEFAULT_GENER
vector_embedding	vector(1536)	YES		NUL	

```
14 rows in set (0.0018 sec)
MySQL localhost:3306 sakila SQL>
```

- Non “true” databases ingest “documents” by chopping up the text, vectorized/embedded each chunk and storing that in a vector store.
- “True” databases like MySQL EE,
  - Already contain data... because they are a database!
  - So existing column(s) are vectorized/embedded and stored in a new column(s) within the existing table.
  - The new column has the type, vector.
  - This process is performed for each table row using a variety of techniques.

CE5AF59BC0E582C3D26DBC3A185F95BB19A5AC3C149417392D8828BAA0FFCBB48BB883C4536A2BC771E44BC7321283C197AD63B110F31BCB088E8B  
0B0DBC68D427BC7CBEEBB76D82CBDD690933C3E5EF3BCA5C3B2BC0C195DBC27A931BCBB2B95BCCA4A5BBC221052BBCBE61E3C4A79D5BC988D8FBC57  
ABBC325CDBC0483E1BCBDE9E1BCFB173CBC6013D6BB4140CEBB36EC05BCFC8F713CF356EABC6F81803C61B6613C15AF58BC52979BBC318544BC694CD  
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06BCA609CA3BB14  
CF5631B3C577DDA3  
B23D3B1041CFBC1B  
13CE64B9D3AE834C  
| 0xDC02AEBB9D68  
B3B88403D258282B  
ACAA3D74990DBDF0  
C391F34F13BDD4E85BBE7F6B23C73B6643C404D3BBD38D2DD3CB104F7BC58AE6C3C1C521DBD02FF2ABC826FE6BC3D7A833B0587EA3A1B06C6BC2FD09  
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F3BCCBB17DBCE47D0D3D8AEA45BD188DA03CD679913CA12D41BD548F5BBD416BF1BCB606313CE79C1EBDC98908BD962AA2BC9748D6BC73E487BCBDD  
CBB1705BDB5F7963C274622BC98EE413BBE81103CDFB8103DB5C9733C7ED88C3C4AD813BD7B31443DD52D3A3C8315D23C8AF95FBC2F4783C1F34F1B  
D3A53CA74D2FBC83BB3BBD244545BC4D57CBC55CC983B3C975A3CBF9F44BC73B664BCE9062A3C8206B83CFF57E23C218FE23CE9F70FBC8AF95F3B87  
BDDCAA2633D579F523DCDB25ABC2AF0C4BD6C9A8BC6F8839BC8315D23B0AE3B83CACC7B1BCDE038BBC25545FBD3C0A2D3B9857703DBBE9E1BC12139  
30DF353C375A153D67FE3FBD6C69A83C7E413BCB241343D1F62943CE2C887BC6968CBBC838D83B0C4D4BD46D6593C280A423C777BE1BC15E6D73C  
986399FC335BD2554DFBCC9E583BC764E13BDD2C3AEBEC219E7CBB3249C1BCD41EA03CC36441BC2126B4BCECE87D3D1F6294BCA9B7BABC6D9676BCC4B  
380D8A81BC4EF7A4BCB1321ABC73E487BCB0F5DC3CF463DDBC48E883D9B01FBC0A7A0ABC15E6573BF18189BCC8CFA93BD41E20BDEE3455BC0888C7  
6CD8B8C2504E3D4C9C3B393C016BD304864BC9A958A3C0A4CE7BA13B909BD107BEFBB106CD53B91560BBA7A7C3EBBE59BC1BCB6AC1CB8088473C2  
793B6AA5083D8D910EBDE44F6A3BD25A803CC556043DB861A23A5D19D53C25545FBD5CE4C3DFF5762BCE53213BC8D0957BD5D80A63CF2F9513C6339  
CF4635DBC2554DFB6767EBDB4ABBFBCB2504EBAA0E1693D8461293B56537BBB01B353B83F3E23BD94CFB03C703DBFBCE2C8073CB9BC93BD3281253  
23153DAFD728BD78B81E3A95EDE4BC23EA533CC8CFA9BC7C4F78BCB250CEBCC8ABC33FEC63C7298303D9DA581BC2864563B6D1EAE8B9C1C6D3DCC

# What is embedding?

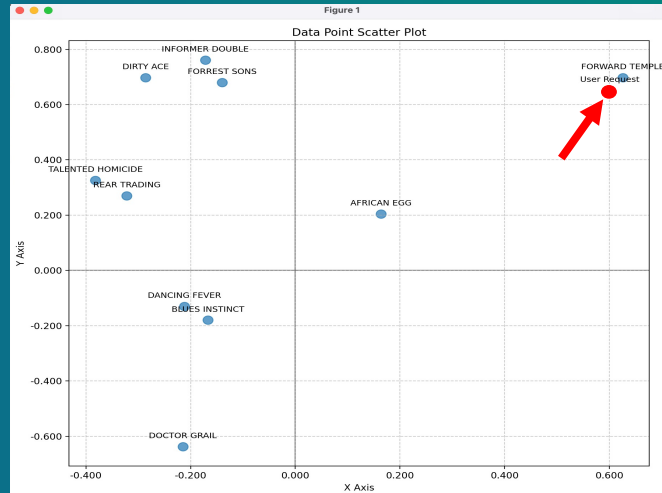
Imagine for each film, taking all the information about then film, then reducing it a point; coordinates

Then, imagine taking a user's request, then reducing it to a point.

Plot all the points.

Locate the closest 3 films to the User Request. This is the context the LLM will reference when responding to the User Request.

**User Request:** *I'm interested in watching a movie, set in a deep African forest that centers around life in the community temple.*



# What is embedding?

Transforming text, pictures, graphics, videos, music, etc. to vectors (array of 1536 numbers) enables thematic searching not rigid keyword searches and *regex*.

This distance calculation is based on 1536 dimensions, not just 2 or 3 dimensions.





# So Cool: **Embedding** & Design Decision

```

[opc@mysql-compute rag_service]$ pwd
/var/www/html/my-web-app/rag_service
[opc@mysql-compute rag_service]$ ls
db_config.php  generate_embeddings.php  vector_functions.php
film_search.php  rag_api.php
[opc@mysql-compute rag_service]$ php generate_embeddings.php

```

# So Cool: **Embedding** & Design Decision

```

generate_embeddings.php
function generate_film_embeddings() {
    try {
        // Process each film
        $processed = 0;
        foreach ($films as $film) {
            echo "Processing film: {$film['title']}\n";
            // Create text representation with enhanced data
            $text = create_film_text($film);
            // Generate embedding
            $embedding = generate_embedding($text, $openai_api_key);
            if (!$embedding) {
                echo "Error generating embedding\n";
                continue;
            }
            // Convert embedding array to proper format for STRING_TO_VECTOR
            $vector_str = "[" . implode(",", $embedding) . "]";
            // Store embedding directly using STRING_TO_VECTOR MySQL function
            $stmt = $conn->prepare("
                UPDATE film
                SET vector_embedding = STRING_TO_VECTOR(?)
                WHERE film_id = ?
            ");
            $stmt->bind_param("si", $vector_str, $film['film_id']);
        }
    }
}

```

1

Every row in the film table.

2

Create a text string related to the film. See next slide.

3

Vectorize/embed the text.

4

Update the vector\_embedding column in the film table.

## So Cool: Embedding & Design Decision

```

generate_embeddings.php
app-home > my-web-app > rag_service > generate_embeddings.php
102 /**
103  * Create enhanced text representation of a film for embedding
104  * Now includes more details from film list
105  */
106 function create_film_text($film){
107     $text = "Film Title: {$film['title']}\n";
108     $text .= "Description: {$film['description']}\n";
109     $text .= "Release Year: {$film['release_year']}\n";
110     $text .= "Rating: {$film['rating']}\n";
111     $text .= "Length: {$film['length']}- minutes\n";
112
113     // Add price information
114     if (isset($film['price'])) {
115         $text .= "Rental Price: \${$film['price']}\n";
116     }
117
118     // Add category information
119     if (isset($film['category'])) {
120         $text .= "Categories: {$film['category']}\n";
121     }
122

```

Each film's information (row) is formatted into a text string. Then the text will be embedded/vectorized.

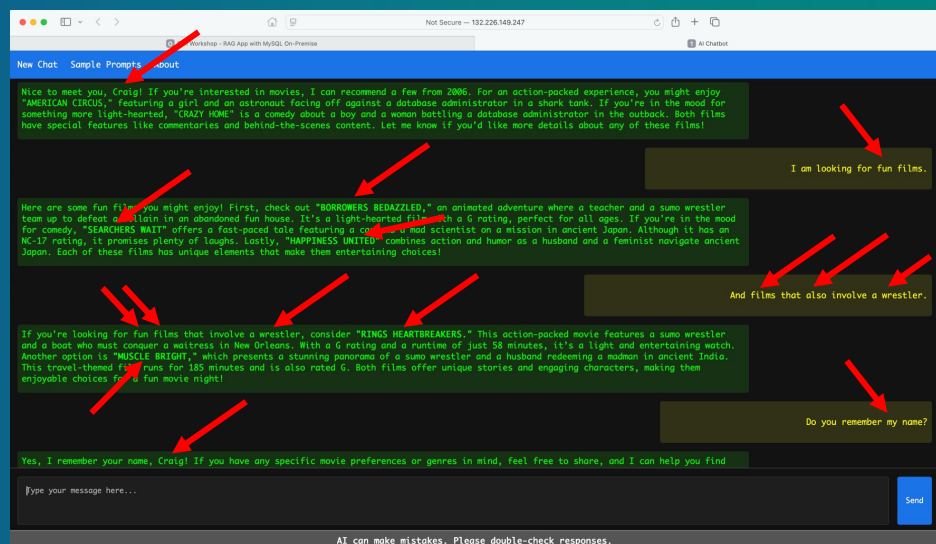
The result is each MySQL EE **row** will contain the existing application columns and also the new vectorized/embedded text column.

Why? The similarity search will be between the users' embedded/vectorized request and the "text" embeddings/vectors.

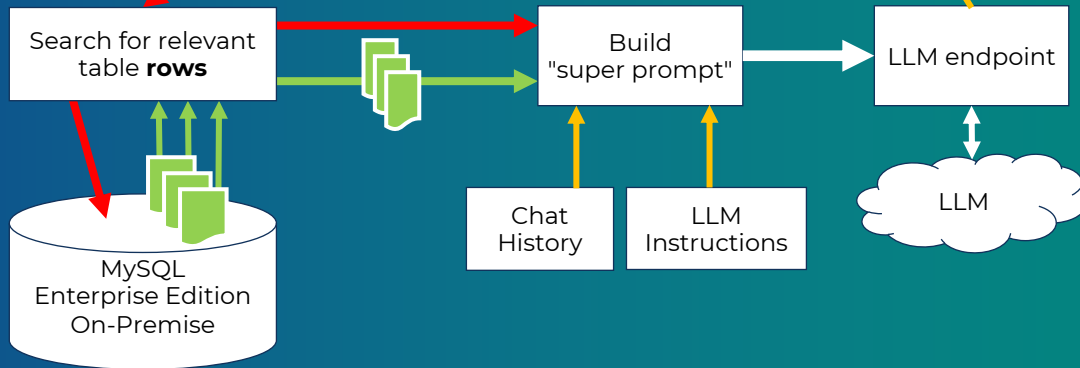
## And... It just works!

Notice how we are taking advantage of LLM language power, our context and conversation history (RAG).

Without Linear Algebra, matrixes and vectors, current day AI would simply not exist.



# RAG Request and Response



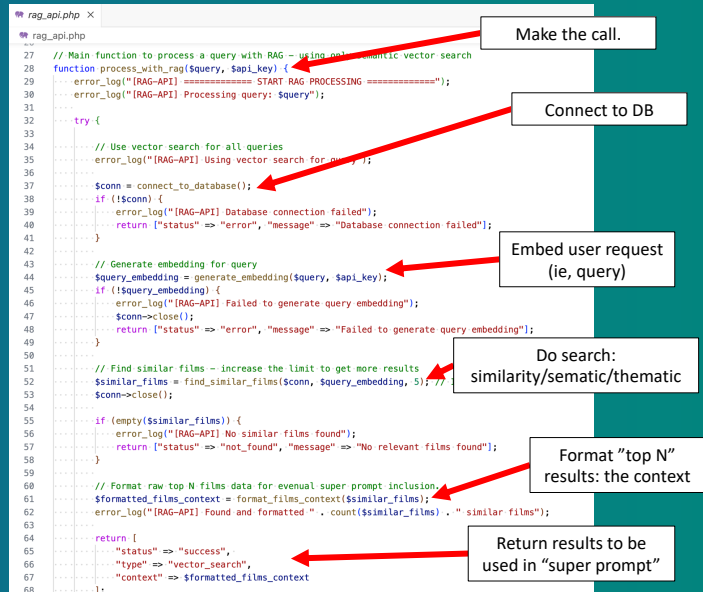
## RAG Request & Context Build

We create the "super prompt" so the LLM can **respond using our data**.

Part of the super prompt contains details about the films that are "similar" to the user's request.

"Similar" means relatively **close in vector space**.

This **distance** between the user's request vector (embedding) and a film's vector (embedding) are computed, then the top N closest films data is returned, formatted and return to used in super prompt.



# RAG

## Response Send To LLM

We are giving the LLM: 1) instructions, 2) user request, 3) context (films) and 4) chat history.

Truly, a "super prompt".

There are many nuanced strategies to design, structure and build the final "super prompt".

```

123
124 // Building the augmented/super prompt: LLM instructions, user
125 $super_prompt = "### Instructions: ";
126 $super_prompt .= "Respond to the request in paragraph form based on the context and the chat history.";
127 $super_prompt .= "Use the chat history to help generate a better response. ";
128 $super_prompt .= "Limit your response to 150 words. Do not use any external information. \n\n";
129 $super_prompt .= "### Request: ($user_request) \n\n";
130 $super_prompt .= "### Context: \n($stop_films_context)\n";
131 $super_prompt .= "### Chat History:\n". json_encode($SESSION['chat_history']);
132
133 error_log("[CHAT] Super prompt:\n". $super_prompt);
134
135 // Prepare the request to the OpenAI API
136 $request_body = [
137     'model' => 'gpt-4o-mini',
138     'messages' => [
139         [
140             'role' => 'user',
141             'content' => $super_prompt
142         ]
143     ],
144     'temperature' => 0.15,
145     'max_tokens' => 500
146 ];
147
148 // Initialize cURL session
149 $ch = curl_init('https://api.openai.com/v1/chat/completions');
150
151 // Set cURL options
152 curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, true);
153 curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_POST, true);
154 curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_POSTFIELDS, json_encode($request_body));
155 curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_HTTPHEADER, [
156     'Content-Type: application/json',
157     'Authorization: Bearer ' . $openai_api_key
158 ]);
159
160 // Execute cURL session and get the response
161 $response = curl_exec($ch);
162 $http_code = curl_getinfo($ch, CURLINFO_HTTP_CODE);
  
```

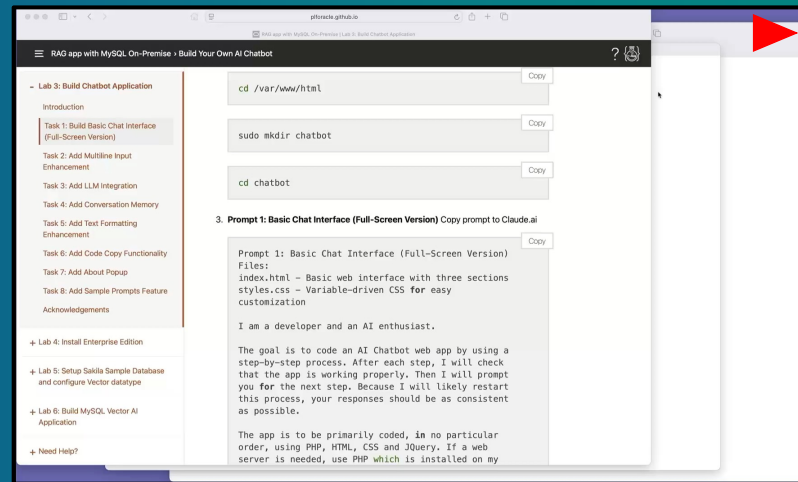
## Cool things about the app.

100% Claude.ai collaboration... hard work.  
Uses my preference of vendors.  
Embedding design decision is important.



# So Cool: 100% Claude.ai Collaboration

The initial Chatbot was 100% prompt "copy and paste". The final RAG app was an intense and fun collaboration with AI.



# So Cool: Uses **my** vendor preferences

- **OpenAI** for RAG LLM:
  - Always works with coding assistants,
  - Offer small and fast LLMs.
- **Claude.ai** web app interface:
  - Coding LLM (eg, Sonnet) just works,
  - I like the AI persona and Anthropic.
- Cohere. Inexpensive, great models, but coding assistants don't work well with Cohere.
- Grok. Expensive and don't need a scientific truth-seeking answer.
- Llama. Did not want **the LLM on my desktop (super secure)**, build an infrastructure or use an API service.
- Gemini. Have not tried it yet... but will.
- Deepseek. Do not need a "reasoning" model with a long response time.

## Why use MySQL EE On-Prem For RAG Apps?

- **AI Ready.** MySQL EE On-Prem now has the capability to help build real AI applications... and it will only get better!
- **Scalable On-Prem.** You can develop on your desktop(s), then scale up **on-prem** as the workload grows!
- **True Database.** MySQL EE is much more than a “vector store” or “document database” because a true database “out of the box” provides high concurrency transaction management, backup and recovery, and security.
- **Super AI Secure.** You can even have your AI app working without an internet connection!

## Why use MySQL EE On-Prem For RAG Apps?

Because, if you have of lots data in a database and:

- Extracting and analyzing the data takes multiple SQL statements, requires crazy syntax or takes forever.
- You desire a more collaborative analysis environment.
- Your data is proprietary....period.
- Deep research or casual questions specific to your proprietary data is the norm.

# Next Steps...

- Get MySQL Enterprise Edition on-prem/desktop/OCI/AWS/... Go!
- Advanced RAG. There are a ton of techniques and technologies to make RAG much better. Goto: [www.orapub.com](http://www.orapub.com)
- Multiple AIs working together collaborating with you. Not a “reasoning” model, but a true collaboration. Goto: [www.orapub.com](http://www.orapub.com) or the Viscosity table for a URL.
- Cursor AI. I love this coding AI assistant!!! Goto: [www.cursor.ai](http://www.cursor.ai)
- ....and...



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# Next Steps... Hands On Lab

Step-By-Step you can build a  
simple Q&A web app using only  
prompts that you copy/paste  
into Claude.ai  
-AND-  
MySQL EE On-Prem Q&A  
chatbot web app



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# Thank You!

## Next Steps URLs

### **HOL: RAG App with MySQL On-Premise (Private and Limited HOL Release)**

<https://livelabs.oracle.com/pls/apex/dbpm/r/livelabs/view-workshop?wid=4158>


### **AI TEAM COLLABORATOR**

<http://64.23.163.216>

username: nocoug



password: vna123






## Building Gen AI-Powered Database Applications: A "Developer's" Fast Track to Production

Utah Oracle Users Group (UTOUG)  
Virtual Event  
Thursday, June 12, 2025


Craig Shallahamer


Oracle ACE Director  
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