

Patch Review Workshop

PGConf.dev - May 28-31 - Vancouver, Canada

Andres Freund
PostgreSQL Developer & Committer
Microsoft

Robert Haas
VP, Chief Database Scientist
EnterpriseDB



Focus

- What can you add that nobody else has done?
 - Often patches tend to get bogged down with just one kind of review.
- Why are you reviewing?
 - For your learning: Code review on patches outside your reach can be good investment
 - To help others: In-depth code review on patches outside your reach might not be efficient
- Partial reviews are ok, particularly if they resolve problems
- Don't aim for perfection

Kinds of Review

- Does the goal make sense?
- Does it work?
- Is the user interface reasonable?
- Is the architecture reasonable?
- Is the code reasonable?
- Are there tests?
- Polishing needed?

Style

- Have empathy for author / Write for the audience
- Mention the positive as well as the negative
- Be direct and concise
- Don't be cryptic
- Consider culture differences / language barriers

Patch Review Resources

- commitfest.postgresql.org

Emails

[Evaluate arguments of correlated SubPlans in the referencing ExprState](#) x

First at 2023-02-25 21:44:01 by Andres Freund <andres at anarazel.de>

Latest at 2024-01-28 09:07:46 by Alena Rybakina <lena.ribackina at yandex.ru>

Latest attachment ([v3-0001-WIP-Evaluate-arguments-of-correlated-SubPlans-in-the.patch](#)) at 2024-01-28 09:07:46 from Alena Rybakina <lena.ribackina at yandex.ru>

[Attachment \(v3-0001-WIP-Evaluate-arguments-of-correlated-SubPlans-in-the.patch\)](#) at 2024-01-28 09:07:46 from Alena Rybakina <lena.ribackina at yandex.ru> (Patch: Yes)

[Attachment \(v2-0001-WIP-Evaluate-arguments-of-correlated-SubPlans-in-the.patch\)](#) at 2023-10-23 20:14:02 from Alena Rybakina <lena.ribackina at yandex.ru> (Patch: Yes)

[Attachment \(v2-0001-WIP-Evaluate-arguments-of-correlated-SubPlans-in-.patch\)](#) at 2023-03-03 00:19:24 from Andres Freund <andres at anarazel.de> (Patch: Yes)

[Attachment \(v1-0001-WIP-Evaluate-arguments-of-correlated-SubPlans-in-.patch\)](#) at 2023-02-25 21:44:01 from Andres Freund <andres at anarazel.de> (Patch: Yes)

- cfbot.cputube.org

- [H](#) shows history of tests, failing and flapping tests are bad

Group Discussion

- Divide the room into more and less experienced reviewers
- Divide each side into groups of 3-4
- Pick one of the suggested patches
 - https://wiki.postgresql.org/wiki/2024.pgconf.dev_Patch_Review_Workshop
 - Choose one, or ask Robert to help
- Discuss (~ 40m):
 - What is your patch about?
 - Thought process for analysis?
 - What felt hard?
 - Open ends?
- Afterwards: Each group presents a short summary (~30m)
- Post reviews on-list, if possible!