



# PostgreSQL at 30 Community Moments That Matter

Valeria Kaplan



Academia



Pharma



Databases



# Valeria Kaplan

- Significant Contributor
- PGconf.EU 24/25/26 Organising Committee
- Funds Group
- PostgreSQL Europe Advocacy Committee
- Open Alliance for Postgres Education

Past

- PgUS User Group Committee (Chair)
- PostgreSQL Europe Diversity Task Force
- Program Committees (PGConf.DE, PgDay Paris)





***You haven't really contributed to  
PostgreSQL until you've worn a Slonik suit***

# PostgreSQL

# PostgreSQL

code

community

**Where does  
PostgreSQL  
development  
happen?**

# Hackers mailing list

## Re: general purpose array\_sort

From: Junwang Zhao <zhjwz@atgmail(dot)com>  
To: Tom Lane <tgl(at)sss(dot)pg(dot)pa(dot)us>  
Cc: Amit Langote <amitlangote@atgmail(dot)com>, Michael Paquier <michael(at)paquier(dot)fr>  
Subject: Re: general purpose array\_sort  
Date: 2025-04-01 23:25:12  
Message-ID: CAE68a3jfrzcs9j1Kcb0jcbYvhz5Ecrig+12f\_6wXr\_zxrpA@mail.gmail.com  
Views: [Whole Thread](#) | [Raw Message](#) | [Download mbox](#) | [Resend email](#)  
Thread: 2025-04-01 23:25:12 from Junwang Zhao <zhjwz@atgmail(dot)com>  
Lists: [pgsql-hackers](#)

## Re: AIO writes vs hint bits vs checksums

From: Heikki Linnakangas <hlinnaka(at)iki(dot)fi>  
To: Andres Freund <andres(at)anarazel(dot)de>  
Cc: postgres-hackers(at)postgresql(dot)org, Noah Misch <noah(at)leadboat(dot)com>, Robert Haas <robertmhaas(at)gmail(dot)com>, Thomas Munro <thomas(dot)munro(at)gmail(dot)com>  
Subject: Re: AIO writes vs hint bits vs checksums  
Date: 2025-04-01 10:34:53  
Message-ID: 043cb50-d183-46e5-b054-145cc0f908@iki.fi  
Views: [Whole Thread](#) | [Raw Message](#) | [Download mbox](#) | [Resend email](#)  
Thread: 2025-04-01 10:34:53 from Heikki Linnakangas <hlinnaka(at)iki(dot)fi>  
Lists: [pgsql-hackers](#)

Here's a rebase of these patches.

The last patch, to use `mprotect()` to detect bad buffer accesses, needed some changes because of AIO. I disabled the protection completely for I/O worker processes, it was difficult to be more fine-grained than that. I didn't test it with `iouring`.

I went ahead and committed the "heapam: Only set tuple's block once per page in `pagemode`" patch, because it was trivial and independent of the rest.

Heikki Linnakangas

## Re: AIO v2.5

From: Noah Misch <nmmisch@google.com>  
To: Andres Freund <andres(at)anarazel(dot)de>  
Cc: postgres-hackers(at)postgresql(dot)org, Antonin Housh <ahoush(at)anarazel(dot)de>  
Subject: Re: AIO v2.5  
Date: 2025-04-01 15:11:59  
Message-ID: 2025040115115931.nmmisch@google.com  
Views: [Whole Thread](#) | [Raw Message](#) | [Download mbox](#) | [Resend email](#)  
Thread: 2025-04-01 15:11:59 from Noah Misch <noah(at)leadboat(dot)com>  
Lists: [pgsql-hackers](#)

On Mon, Mar 31, 2025 at 08:41:39PM -0400, Andres Freund wrote:  
> updated version  
  
All non-write patches (1-7) are ready for commit, though I have some cosmetic recommendations below. I've marked the commitfest entry Ready for Committer.

```
> + # Check a page validity error in another block, to ensure we report  
> + # the correct block number  
> + $sql_a=query_safe  
> +     qel  
> +> $SELECT modify_rel_block("tbl_zero", 3, corrupt_headers=true);
```

```
> block 3",  
> 3, zero_on_error=>  
> id page in block 3 of
```

## Re: Horribly slow pg\_upgrade performance with many Large Objects

From: Hannu Krosing <hannuk(at)google(dot)com>  
To: Nathan Bossart <nathanbossart(at)gmail(dot)com>  
Cc: PostgreSQL Hackers <pgsql-hackers(at)lists(dot)postgresql(dot)org>  
Subject: Re: Horribly slow pg\_upgrade performance with many Large Objects  
Date: 2025-04-08 07:35:24  
Message-ID: CAMTORQRL08=Si+9V7RW7VKcbozH7G06ME3opk5\_WHPeBcctBLg@mail.gmail.com  
Views: [Whole Thread](#) | [Raw Message](#) | [Download mbox](#) | [Resend email](#)  
Thread: 2025-04-08 07:35:24 from Hannu Krosing <hannuk(at)google(dot)com>  
Lists: [pgsql-hackers](#)

On Tue, Apr 8, 2025 at 12:17 AM Nathan Bossart <nathanbossart(at)gmail(dot)com> wrote:  
>  
> On Mon, Apr 07, 2025 at 18:33:47PM +0200, Hannu Krosing wrote:  
> > The obvious solution would be to handle the table  
> > 'pg\_largeobject\_metadata' the same way as we currently handle  
> > 'pg\_largeobject' by not doing anything with it in 'pg\_dump  
> > --binary-upgrade' and just handle the contents it like we do for user  
> > tables in pg\_upgrade itself.  
> >  
> > This should work fine for all source database versions starting from PgSQL v12.

## Re: Update LDAP Protocol in fe-connect.c to v3

From: Andrew Jackson <andrewjackson947(at)gmail(dot)com>  
To: postgres-hackers <pgsql-hackers(at)postgresql(dot)org>  
Cc: Tom Lane <tgl(at)sss(dot)pg(dot)pa(dot)us>, Peter Eisentraut <peter(at)eisentraut(dot)org>  
Subject: Re: Update LDAP Protocol in fe-connect.c to v3  
Date: 2025-04-01 14:19:31  
Message-ID: CAKK5Bkh5UcyR+g2k\_T9sOQU=Tr0SLf6k64qqouk8guxQth8RAw@mail.gmail.com  
Views: [Whole Thread](#) | [Raw Message](#) | [Download mbox](#) | [Resend email](#)  
Thread: 2025-04-01 14:19:31 from Andrew Jackson <andrewjackson947(at)gmail(dot)com>  
Lists: [pgsql-hackers](#)

Hi,

Added some tests for the LDAP connection parameters lookup functionality with the attached patch. It is based off of the tests that were added recently that cover the connection service file libpq functionality as well as the existing ldap test framework.

Thanks,  
Andrew Jackson

## Re: pgsql: Add support for OAUTHBEARER SASL mechanism

From: Jacob Champion <jacob(dot)champion(at)enterprisedb(dot)com>  
To: Christoph Berg <christoph.berg(at)gmail(dot)org>  
Cc: Daniel Gustafson <danielgustafson(at)postgresql(dot)org>, Thomas Munro <thomas(dot)munro(at)gmail(dot)com>, postgres-hackers(at)lists(dot)postgresql(dot)org  
Subject: Re: pgsql: Add support for OAUTHBEARER SASL mechanism  
Date: 2025-04-01 00:06:16  
Message-ID: CAD9m=48890uVbLz3r0r0yJAAn0LE=vg59P9HEZC@mail.gmail.com  
Views: [Whole Thread](#) | [Raw Message](#) | [Download mbox](#) | [Resend email](#)  
Thread: 2025-04-01 00:06:16 from Jacob Champion <jacob(dot)champion(at)enterprisedb(dot)com>  
Lists: [pgsql-committers](#) [pgsql-hackers](#)

On Mon, Mar 31, 2025 at 4:09 PM Jacob Champion <jacob(dot)champion(at)enterprisedb(dot)com> wrote:  
> I don't have `hard-assert` to test, but I'm working on a patch that will  
> build and pass tests if I manually merge `pg.conf`'s. We were skipping  
> the useless tests via a `skip_windows_os` check; I think I should use  
> `check_pg_config` instead.  
  
Proposed fix attached.

Thanks,  
— Jacob

Attachment	Content-Type	Size
01-oauth-fix-build-on-platforms-without-epoll-kqueue.patch	application/octet-stream	2.3 KB

response to

• [Re: pgsql: Add support for OAUTHBEARER SASL mechanism](#) at 2025-03-31 23:09:22 from Jacob Champion

sponses

• [Re: pgsql: Add support for OAUTHBEARER SASL mechanism](#) at 2025-04-01 13:47:59 from Daniel Gustafson

rowse [pgsql-committers](#) by date

	From	Date	Subject
<a href="#">at Message</a>	Tatsuo Ishii	2025-04-01 00:48:24	<a href="#">Re: pgsql: Add memory/disk usage for Window aggregate nodes in EXPLAIN.</a>
<a href="#">previous Message</a>	Jacob Champion	2025-03-31 23:09:22	<a href="#">Re: pgsql: Add support for OAUTHBEARER SASL mechanism</a>

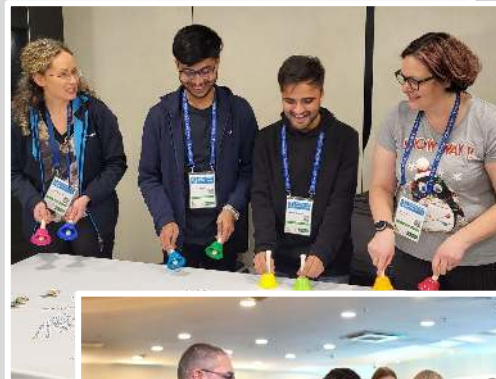
rowse [pgsql-hackers](#) by date

	From	Date	Subject
<a href="#">at Message</a>	Andres Freund	2025-04-01 00:41:39	<a href="#">Re: AIO v2.5</a>
<a href="#">previous Message</a>	Maquell Grassi	2025-04-01 00:02:25	<a href="#">Re: Adding comments to help understand <code>pgsql</code> hidden queries</a>

Where does  
PostgreSQL  
development  
**really** happen?

# Where does PostgreSQL development really happen?

- Hallway track conversations
- Dinners, pubs, at social events
- Hotel lobbies
- Breakfasts
- Karaoke bars
- During chess tournaments
- Cross-company collaborations and initiatives
- Mentorship conversations
- After-event discussions



... and also in Hackers mailing list

# Where does PostgreSQL development really happen?

*"You can't inspire people in an email."*

— Bruce Momjian, EDB

*"There is also huge value in your staff learning, directly from talks, but also in the hallway, having the chance to meet and chat to PostgreSQL hackers, is something you don't get in other events."*

— Chris Ellis, Nextteam

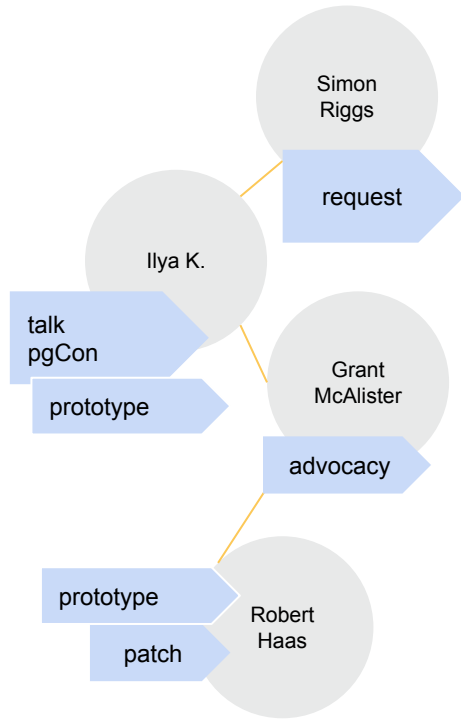
*"Relationships are essential in open source communities where roles are not as clearly defined and no one is directly managing anyone else."*

— Melanie Plageman, Microsoft

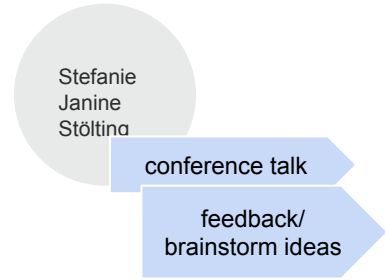
*"When engineers from a company are active in the community, speaking and contributing, it signals real expertise."*

— Gülçin Yıldırım Jelinek, Xata

## Wait events



## foreign data wrapper

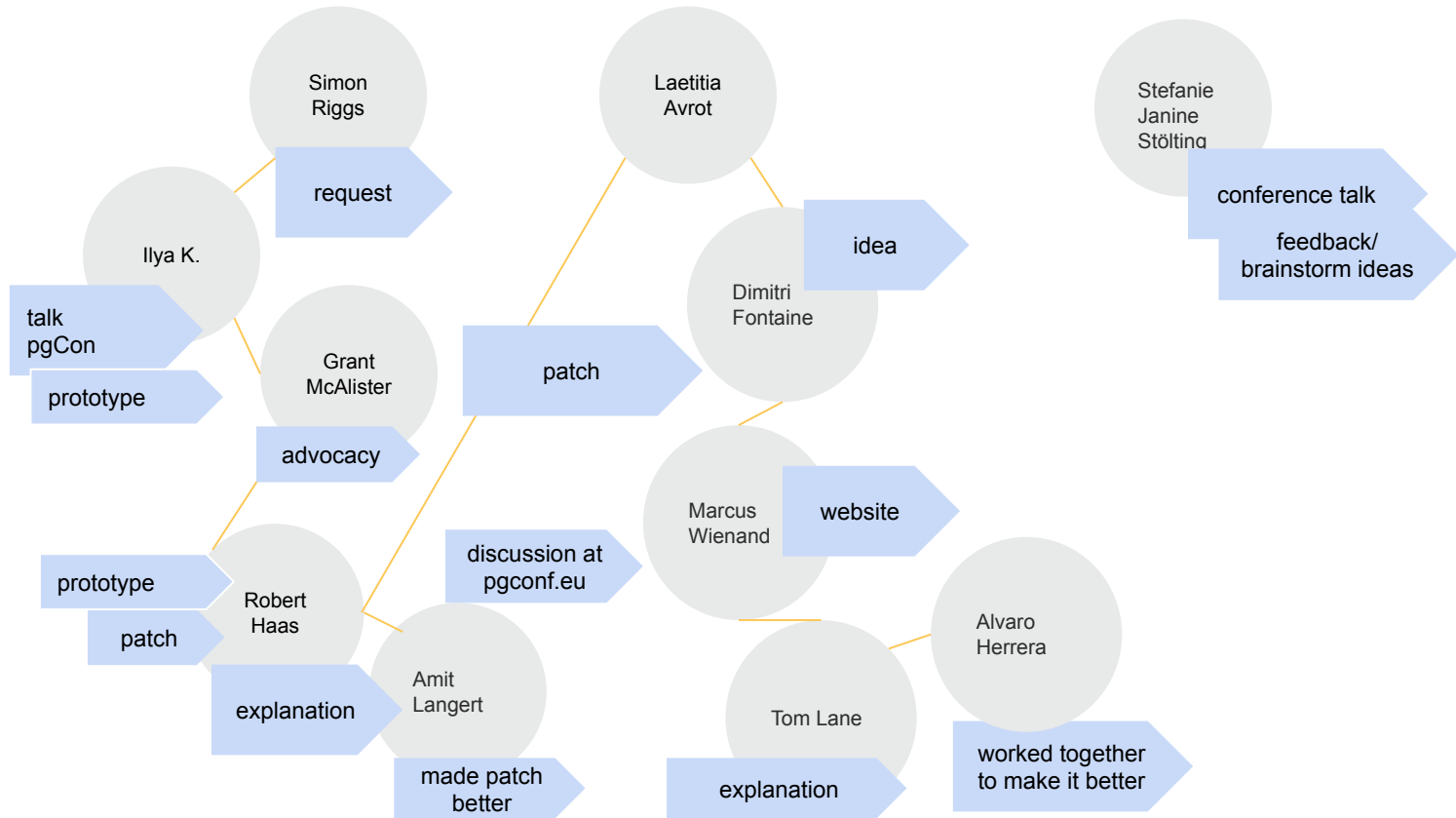


Wait events

alt\_table

Compliance improvement

foreign data wrapper





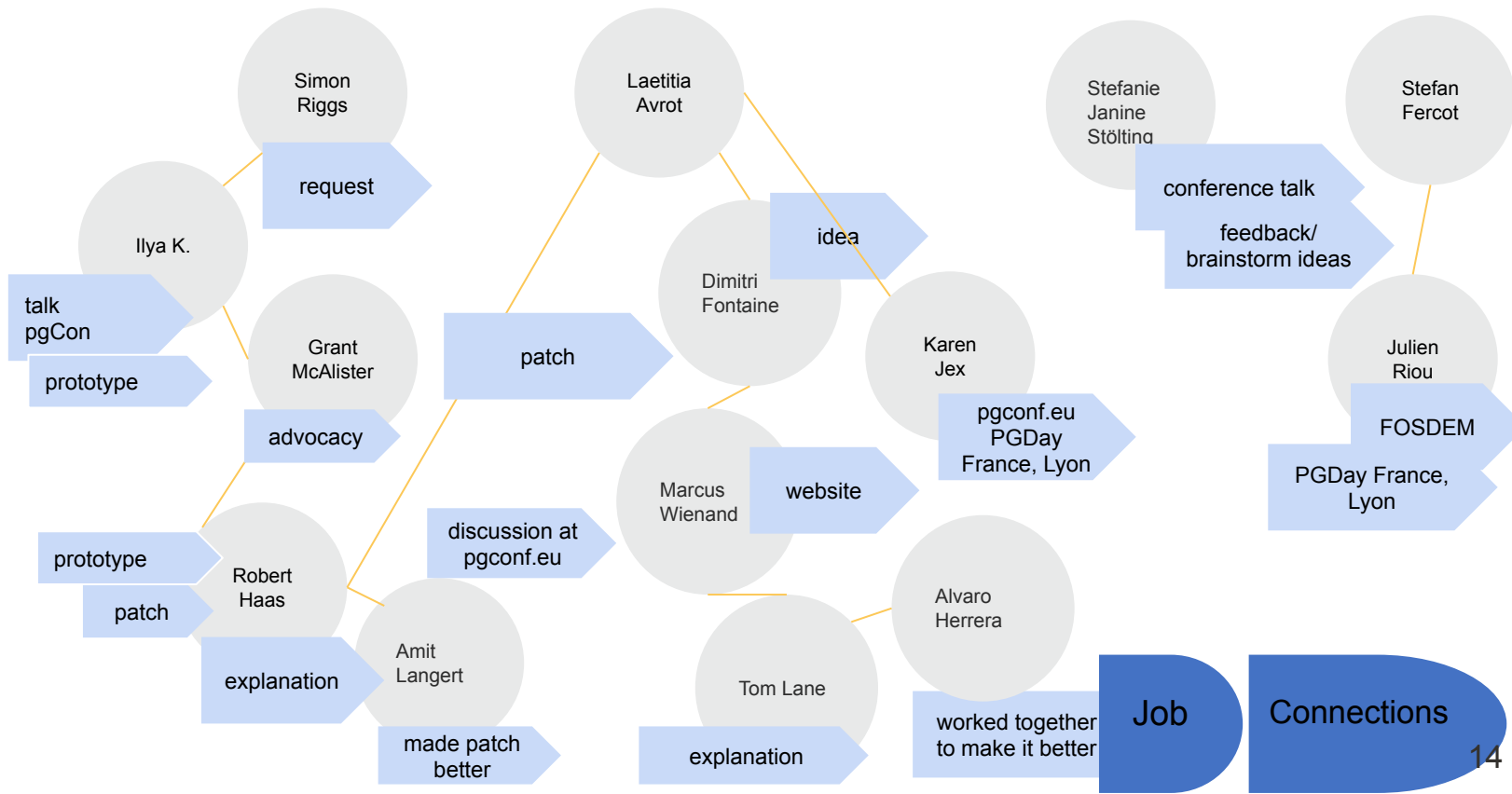
Wait events

alt\_table

Compliance improvement

Friendship

foreign data wrapper



Warsaw PostgreSQL Users Group

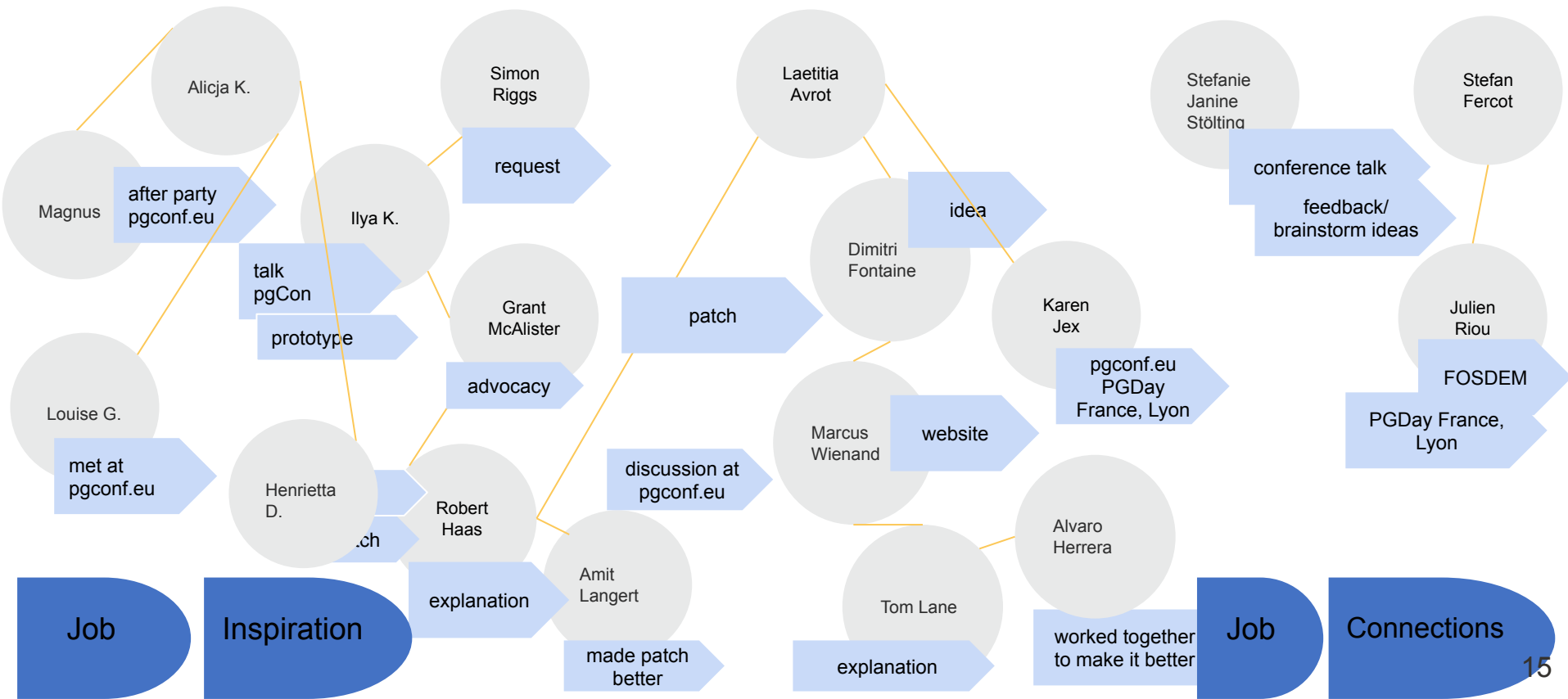
Wait events

alt\_table

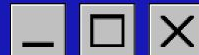
Compliance improvement

Friendship

foreign data wrapper



**How do events  
shape  
PostgreSQL?**



# Code and community, 1996–2026



30 years of code and community, growing together



Development milestones

Community conferences





## 1995. Postgres95



SQL support is added.

## 1996. PostgreSQL is named

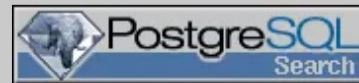


First open source release 6.0. One mailing list.  
Just code and email.  
1997 - PostgreSQL Global Development Group formed.

## 2001. WAL introduced (v7.1)



Write-Ahead Logging is introduced –  
a landmark for reliability.



### Community grows globally

Mailing lists active across Europe, Asia, Americas. The community is international – but has never met in person.

## 2005-2007 – Windows support and the first gatherings



### 2005. PostgreSQL 8.0



Native Windows support. Point-in-time recovery. Savepoints. Tablespace.

### 2005. PostgreSQL 8.1



Two-phase commit. Bitmap index scans. In-core autovacuum.

### 2006. PostgreSQL 8.2



Warm standby. Concurrent index creation. GIN indexes.



*I met many people which I only knew from mail or irc, had some interesting discussions... We had a nice meeting right before starting the party: it was all about creating an European user group... Now we just have to transform this ideas into something more usable.*

Andreas 'ads' Scherbaum  
Prato, Italy 2007



### Toronto. PostgreSQL Anniversary Summit

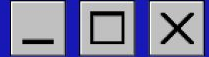
10th anniversary. 90 attendees. All core team present. First charity elephant auction.

### 2007 Ottawa. PGCon

140 developers. University of Ottawa. Annual ever since.

### Prato, Italy. PGDay.it

Organised by Linux User Group



## 2008. PostgreSQL 8.3



Brussels. FOSDEM PostgreSQL devroom

Full text search.  
Heap-Only Tuples updates.  
XML support.  
Spread checkpoints.



European PostgreSQL User Group is born!



Maryland. PgEast & Portland. PgWest

Two US coasts. One growing community.

## 2009. PostgreSQL 8.4



Paris. PGConf.EU

Window functions. CTEs. Column-level permissions. Automatic per-relation Free space Map and Visibility Map.



Philadelphia. PgEast & Seattle. PgWest

## 2010. PostgreSQL 9.0



Stuttgart. PGConf.EU

Hot standby. Streaming replication. Postgres becomes a serious HA option.  
Extensions. GIN & GiST. Foreign data wrappers. Postgres becomes a platform.





## 2011. PostgreSQL 9.1



## Rapperswil. Swiss PGDay

Synchronous replication.  
Foreign data wrappers (FDW).  
Unlogged tables.  
Extensions system.



PGConf.EU → Amsterdam



## San Jose. PgWest

Final edition.

## 2012. PostgreSQL 9.2



## PgDay NYC

Launches.

JSON support – first shot at NoSQL.  
Index-only scans. Cascading replication.

PGConf.EU → Prague. PgEast → New York.

## 2013. PostgreSQL 9.3



## Chicago. PostgresOpen

Materialised views.  
Writeable foreign tables.  
Background worker processes.

PGConf.EU → Dublin.  
PgDay NYC continues.





2014. PostgreSQL 9.4



NY. PgConf.US & Stockholm. Nordic PGDay

JSONB – Binary JSON, fully indexable.  
Logical Decoding. ALTER SYSTEM.

The circuit expands rapidly.  
PGConf.EU → Madrid.

2015. PostgreSQL 9.5



pgDay Paris & San Francisco. PgConf.SV

UPSERT (INSERT ON CONFLICT).  
Row-level security. BRIN indexes. pg\_rewind.

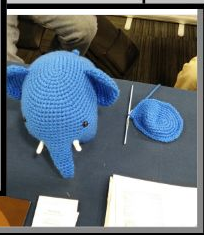
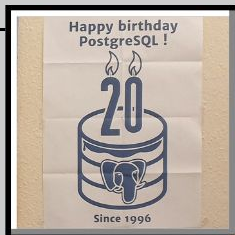
PGConf.EU → Vienna.  
Nordic PGDay → Copenhagen.  
Brazil, Russia, China joins the circuit.

2016. PostgreSQL 9.6



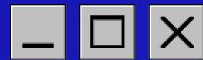
Bengaluru. PG Day India

Parallel Query.  
Synchronous replication.  
postgres\_fdw.



Singapore. FOSSASIA PGDay

PostgreSQL reaches Asia.  
PGConf.EU → Tallinn



## 2017. PostgreSQL 10



## Melbourn. PostgreSQL Down Under (PGDU)

Logical replication.  
Declarative partitioning.  
SCRAM authentication.  
New version numbering.



Australia joins the circuit.  
PGConf.EU → Warsaw  
PostgresOpenSV → San Francisco  
Nordic PGDay → Stockholm  
DBMS of the Year 2017 (DB-Engines)



## 2018. PostgreSQL 11



## The richest conference year ever

UPSERT (INSERT ON CONFLICT). Row-level security. BRIN indexes. pg\_rewind.



PGCon → Ottawa  
PGConf.EU → Lisbon (2018), Milan (2019)  
Nordic PGDay → Oslo (2018), Copenhagen (2019)  
PostgresOpenSV → South San Francisco (2018), PostgresOpen → Orlando (2019)  
pgDay Paris → Paris, Swiss PGDay → Rapperswil  
PGDU → Melbourne (2018), Sydney (2019)



## 2019. PostgreSQL 12

Pluggable storage API.  
Generated columns. JSON path queries.



Events across Europe, North America, Asia, and Australia.  
Nobody knows it's about to stop.





## 2020. PostgreSQL 13



## March 2020 COVID-19.



Deduplicated B-tree indexes.  
Incremental sorting.

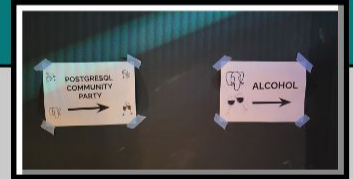


PGConf.EU cancelled (2020 & 2021)  
Nordic PGDay, pgDay Paris cancelled both years. PGCon moves online.  
PgDay San Francisco manages in 2020, cancelled in 2021.

## 2021. PostgreSQL 14



## New events still born



Pipeline mode for libpq.  
Multirange types.  
Performance for heavy workloads.

PgConf.NYC launches (2021).  
pgDay Austria launches – Vienna (2021).

## 2022. PostgreSQL 15



## Events return - with enormous energy

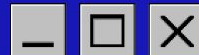


MERGE command.  
Logical replication improvements.  
Better sorting performance.

PGConf.EU: Berlin  
Nordic PGDay returns.  
PgConf.NYC & PGCon continue.

PostgreSQL ranked #1 among  
professional developers in  
the Stack Overflow survey.





**POSTGRES RANKED  
#1 IN STACK  
OVERFLOW SURVEY**



it is  
the most used DB  
among professional  
developers





### 2023. PostgreSQL 16



### PgDay Chicago & PGDay UK. London

Logical replication from standbys.  
More parallelism. pg\_stat\_io.



New events are still launching.  
The circuit is growing again.

### 2024. PostgreSQL 17



### PGConf.dev Vancouver & pgDay Lowlands

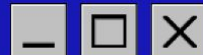
Incremental backup.  
400 major release contributors - a record.  
More efficient VACUUM. JSON improvements.

PGCon rebrands as PGConf.dev → Vancouver  
pgDay Lowlands launches in Amsterdam.  
PGConf.EU → Athens

~17 million developers  
use PostgreSQL

(according to Stack Overflow survey 2024 and  
estimated number of developers worldwide by  
Evans Data Corporation)





400+ contributors  
per release

1,778 unique  
individuals  
contributed across  
versions 10-18

The ever-present  
core: 45 people  
in every release





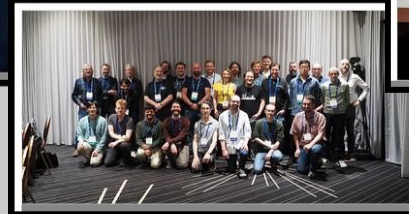
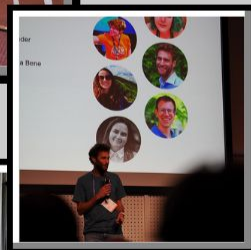
2025. PostgreSQL 18

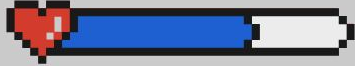


PGConf.EU Riga, PgDay Chicago, PgConf.NYC

Asynchronous I/O. UUID v7.  
Skip scan for B-trees.  
Virtual generated columns.  
The momentum continues.  
AI workloads drive unprecedented adoption.

PGConf.EU 2025 introduces Community Events Day.  
Nordic PGDay continues.  
pgDay Lowlands → Rotterdam (2025).





From one mailing list to ~17 million developers.  
From no conferences to events across 5 continents.

▶	May. PGConf.dev · Vancouver
▶	June. PG Day France · Toulouse
▶	June. PG DATA · Chicago
▶	June. PG Day Boston
▶	June. Swiss PGDay · Rapperswil
▶	Sep. PGDay UK · London

▶	Sep. pgDay Lowlands · Utrecht
▶	Sep-Oct. Postgres Summit US · NY
▶	Oct. PGConf.EU · Valencia, Spain
▶	Oct. PGDay Israel · Tel Aviv
▶	Oct. PG Down Under · Sydney

PostgreSQL events in 2026 span 5 continents, 15+ countries,  
and every corner of the globe.



Community events  
boosting Postgres development  
since 1996



**Who makes  
PostgreSQL  
events happen  
and why?**

# Who makes PostgreSQL events happen?

Companies



Organising teams



Speakers



Commercial Event Support

...and of course **Attendees**



# Companies

at PostgreSQL events



# What it entails?

## Resources



Pre-conference work

Onsite work

Post-conference  
follow up work

## Financial investment



# What companies get out of it?

## Talent



## Credibility, trust, brand recognition



## Deep technical expertise



*"A lack of time for attending conferences and meeting other contributors is definitely something that made me turn down offers."*

*"When engineers from a company are active in the community, speaking and contributing, it signals real expertise. Customers pay attention to those signals."  
— Gülçin Yıldırım Jelinek, Xata*

# What companies get out of it?

## Early Insight



*"We get to help define the direction of the projects we rely on and ensure their success. Additionally, we expand our own expertise and knowledge in the process, allowing us to better serve our customers..."*

— Dave Page, pgEdge

## Relationships & Collaboration



*"Healthy ecosystems depend on organizations that support long term contribution and understand that stewardship of the project ultimately belongs to the community itself."*

— Nat Aichele, AWS

## Ecosystem Investment



*"Customers want to know their vendor is not an open source parasite"*

— Bruce Momjian, EDB

# Speakers

at PostgreSQL events



# What it entails?

## Practical effort



- Writing talk proposal
- Weeks of preparation
- Travel
- Coordinating with organisers, meeting deadlines

## Emotional Effort



- Courage to submit your idea for a peer-review
- Presenting ... in front of other experts
- Imposter syndrome
- Vulnerability

# What speakers get out of it?



PGConf.DE  
Not Just  
Altruism: Selling  
PostgreSQL  
Contributions to  
Your Employer

## Extrinsic



*"I contribute because it benefits my career, pays better, or gets me noticed."*

## Intrinsic



*"I contribute because I love it. The problem-solving, the community, the craft."*

## Internalised extrinsic



*"I contribute because giving back to open source is part of who I am and what I believe in."*

# Organisers

at PostgreSQL events



# What it entails?

## Organising committee

- Attend regular organisers meetings
- Take care of:
  - planning, onsite logistics, venue liaison,
  - swag, T-shirts, speaker gif
  - social media
  - communication with speakers, sponsors and volunteers
- Handle Call for Sponsors (contracts, invoices), sponsor requests, questions
- Forming Program Committee
- Onsite work (volunteers, sponsors, speakers)



## Program Committee

- Attend review meetings
- Review the submissions
- Communicate decision to Org. Committee
- Give feedback to those who submitted
- Handle last minute cancellations/changes

## Code of Conduct Committee

- Have a process in place to handle reports
- Be on ready before, during and after the event to handle reports and support those affected

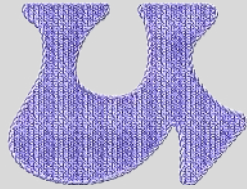
# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



## **Pride**

in being part of something bigger than yourself,

# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



## **Unity**

“a community within the community”

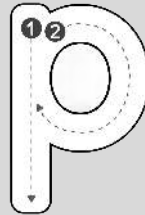
# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



## **Recognition**

social status earned through service to community

# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



## **Progress**

As an organiser you get a front-row seat to the community's evolution — year by year, city by city

# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



**Ownership**  
of the project you deeply care about

# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



## **Skills**

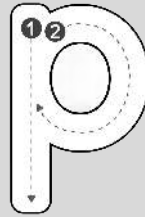
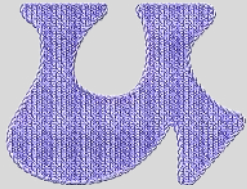
you acquire that go beyond  
your day-to-day work

# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



**Energy**  
you get from seeing  
it  
all  
coming  
together...

# Why do we keep "getting together for the gig"?



# Why we do it?

***"Being connected to others in the community is one of the things that is best about working with Postgres. Working regularly with others who are as committed to the success of the project is invigorating and exciting."***

*Stacey Haysler — PGX*

***"On a personal level, contributing is also what keeps the job engaging long-term. Without it, it would feel more like just using PostgreSQL rather than being part of its evolution."***

*Stefan Fercot — Data Egret*

***"I work almost exclusively on open source, so people in the community are my closest co-workers. It is wonderful to have a network of people spanning companies who I see regularly. Ultimately, Postgres provides me with purpose."***

*Melanie Plageman — Microsoft*

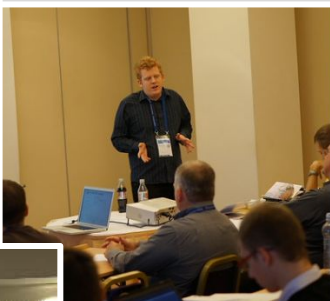
# Attendees

at PostgreSQL events



# Why attendees are coming to conferences?

To learn  
To be seen  
To explore  
To give back  
**To connect**



To meet clients  
To find a job  
To gather intelligence  
To send a message  
**To belong**



Tips for connecting  
during conferences  
connection\_builder for  
PostgreSQL  
community  
[PGConf.EU 2024](#)

**Can we improve?**

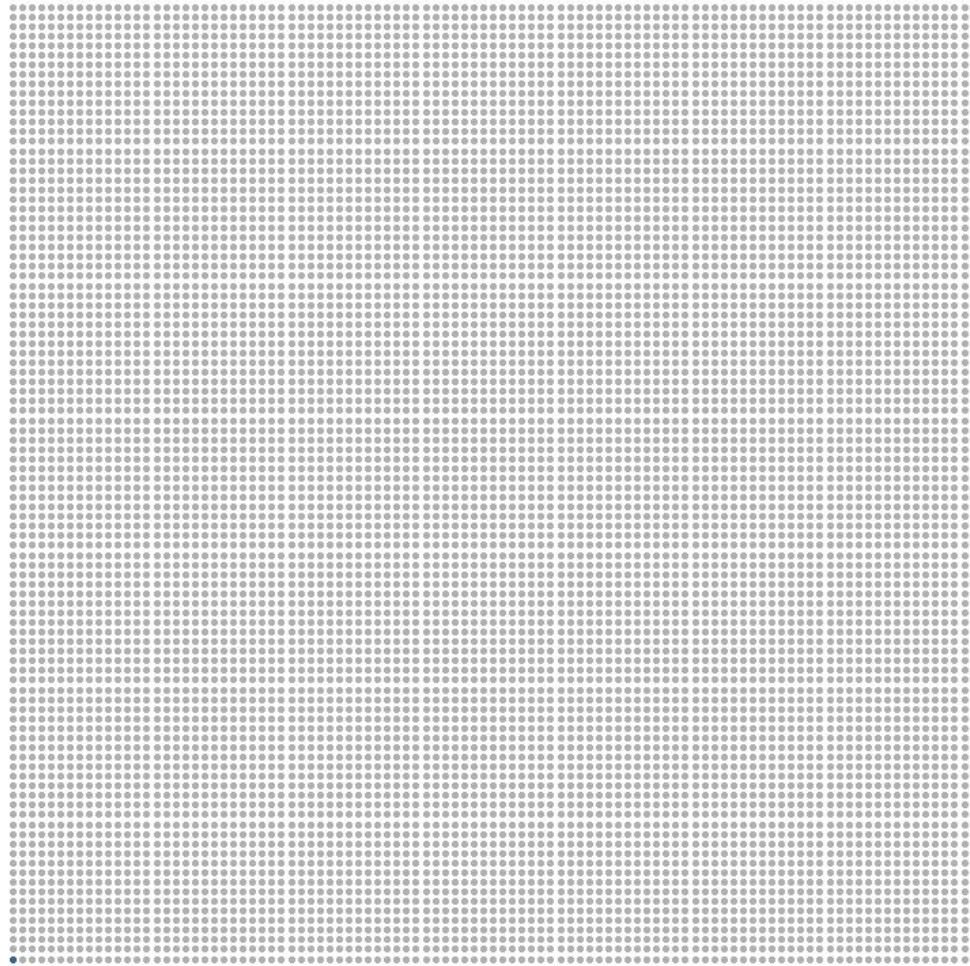
# Events - where we could improve?

- **Involve** more people in the organisation
- Encourage talk submissions from **new speakers and communities**
- Increase **diversity** among speakers and participants
- Streamline **sponsor** sign-up processes
- Better **recognise the contributions** of volunteers and conference organisers
- Expand to **new geographies** (e.g. PG Day Mexico, PG Day Madagascar)

and...



**Only 1 in 8,500**  
PostgreSQL users  
contributes to the  
project.



# Organisers - where we could improve?

Reach beyond the usual PostgreSQL bubble.

To users, adopters, and the world that runs on Postgres without even knowing it.



A Star Trek Enterprise shuttlecraft is shown in space, with two phasers positioned as if firing at it. The shuttlecraft has the registration number NCC-1701 on its side. The phasers are silver and have a grid of holes at their tips. The background is a dark starfield.

Here's to 30 more years of  
**PostgreSQL**

# Thank you!

Alastair Turner (Percona)  
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PGEU board  
PGconf.DEV and PgUS Diversity Committee  
My Employer

and other supportive and generous PostgreSQL folk!

