

How do core reviewers make a decision in Code Review Process

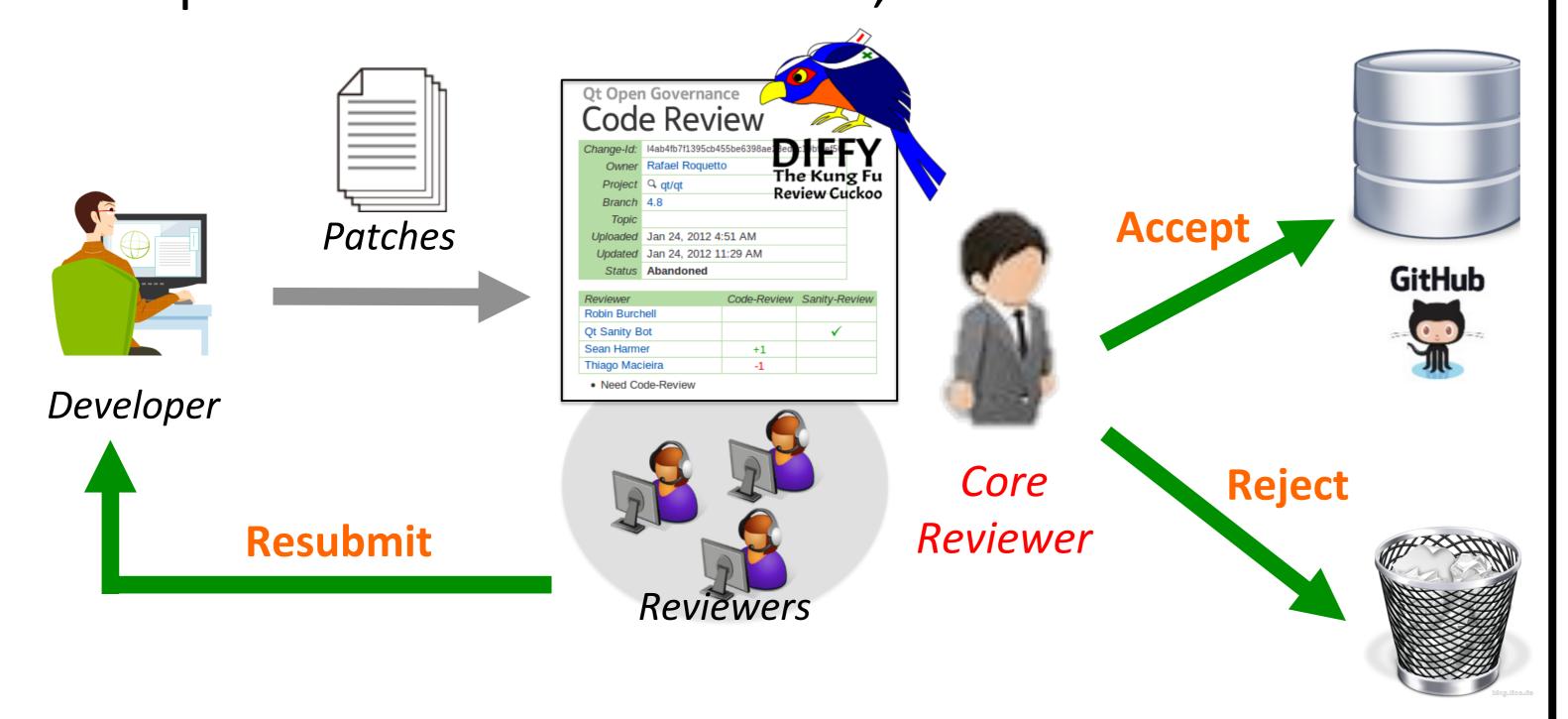
- A Pilot Study of Open Source Project Patches -

Toshiki Hirao, Akinori Ihara, Ken-ichi Matsumoto (Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Japan) {hirao.toshiki.ho7, akinori-I, matumoto} @is.naist.jp

Code Review Process

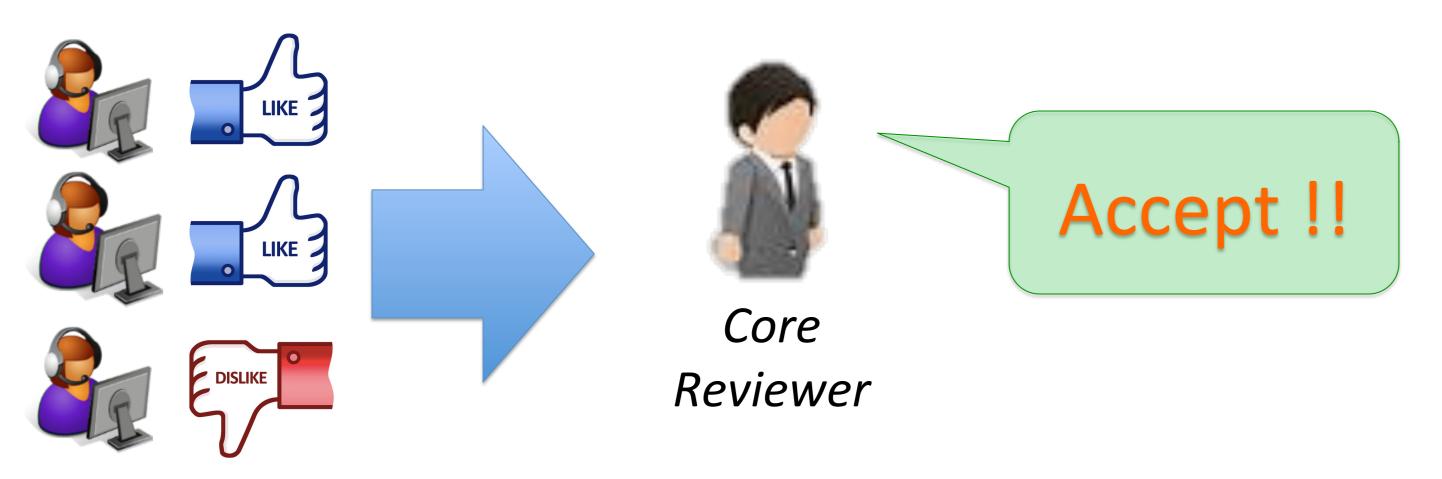
Core Reviewers decide Accept or Reject patches.

If the patches need to be revised, it will be Resubmitted



Motivation and Goal

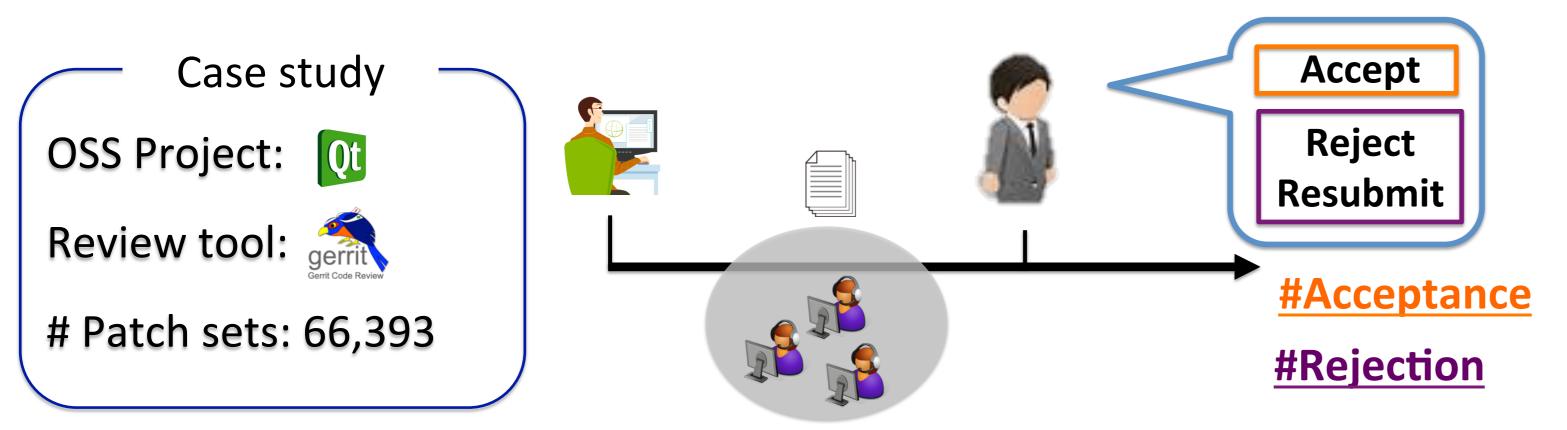
How do Core Reviewers make a decision?



- Their decision making follows Majority voting...?
- What leads to make a Final decision?

We build a prediction model to decide whether or not core reviewers can make a decision!

Preliminary Study



2 reviewers

Pattern	#Acceptances	#Rejection	Total
LIKE	26,293 (86.2%)	4207 (13.7%)	30,500
LIKE	18 (0.4%)		4,899
LIKE	363 (55.5%)	291 (44.4%)	654
DISLIKE	0 (0.0%)	447 (100%)	447

3 reviewers

Pattern	#Acceptances	#Rejection	Total
LIKE	5119 (87.4%)	737 (12.6%)	5,856
LIKE LIKE DISJIKE	40 (4.5%)	854 (95.5%)	894
LIKE	96 (43.6%)	124 (56.4%)	220
DISLIKE	268 (81.5%)	61 (18.5%)	329
LIKE DISLIKE DISLIKE	\	491 (100%)	491
DISLIKE DISLIKE DISLIKE	1 (1.8%)	55 (98.2%)	56
DISLIKE	3 (30.0%)	7 (70.0%)	10
DISLIKE	0 (0.0%)	50 (100%)	50

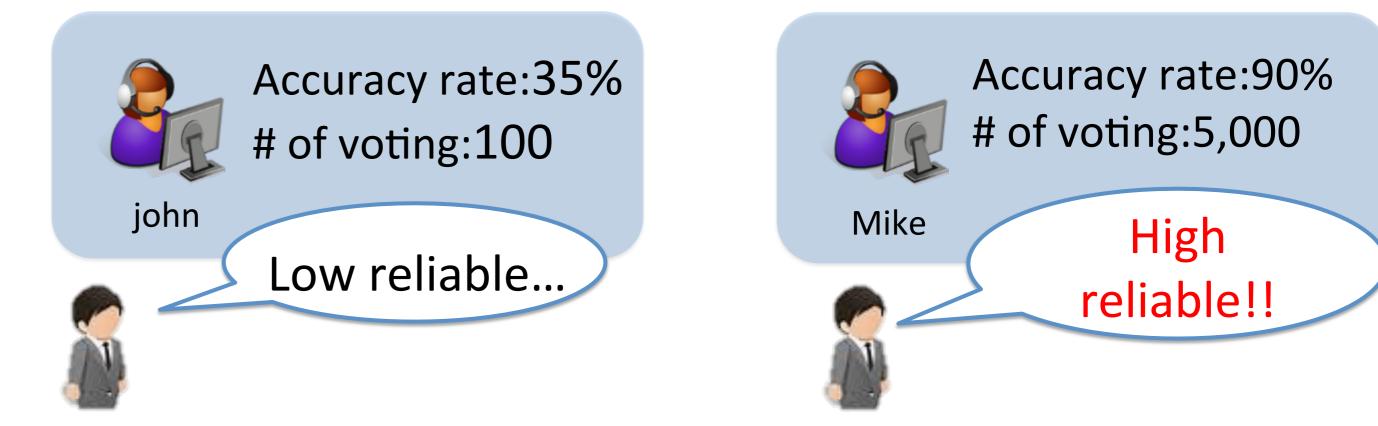
- The latter negative voting is stronger than the former one.
- Negative voting is stronger impact to the final decision than positive voting [1]

[1]Toshiki Hirao, Akinori Ihara, Ken-ichi Matsumoto, ``Pilot Study of Collective Decision-making in the Code Review Process," Proc.CASCON '15 (to appear).

Research Question & Future Work

RQ1: How is the reviewers' reliability effective?

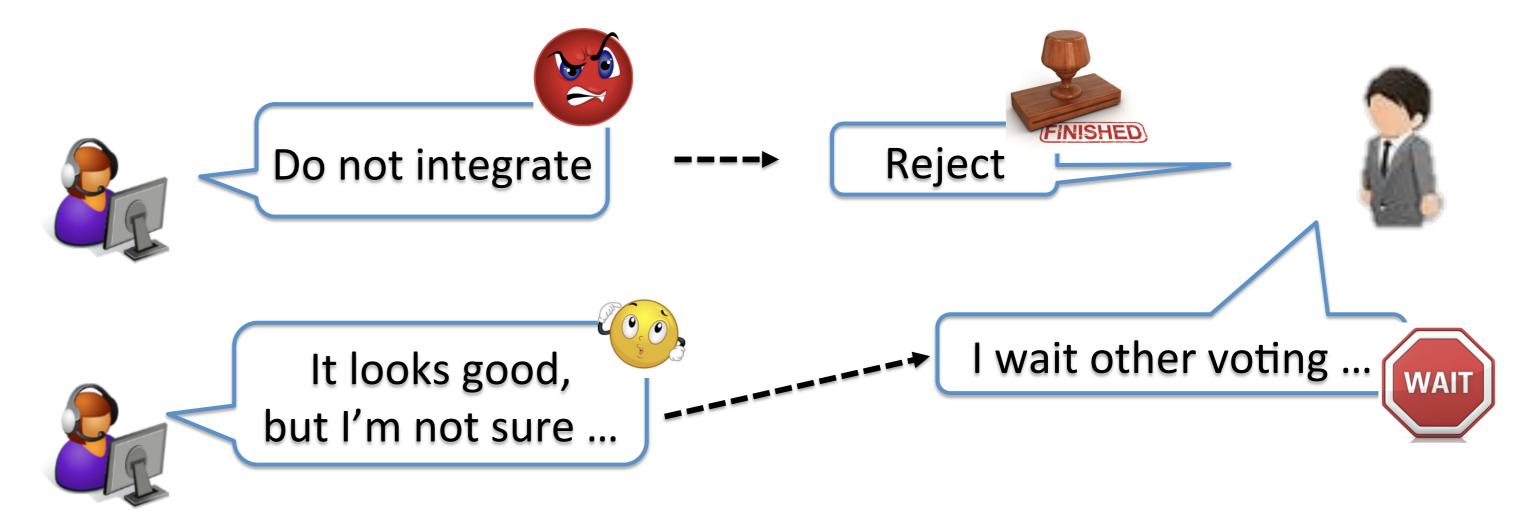
We define that the reviewer's reliability means the percentage of correct answer in their experience.



The higher reliability is likely to lead to make decision

- ✓ Whose voting do core reviewers believe?
- ✓ What experiences should core reviewers measure?

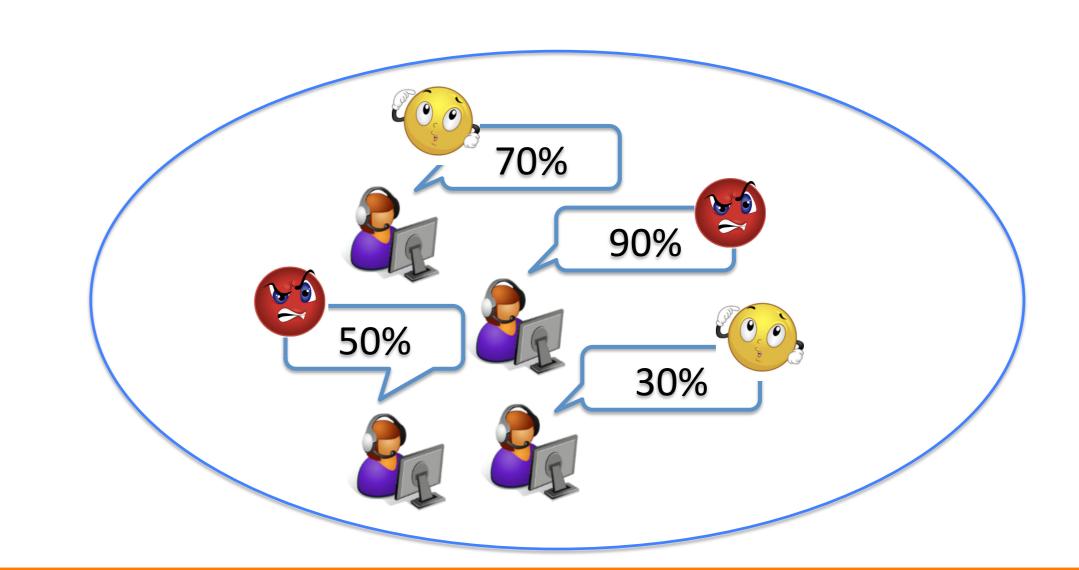
RQ2: How is a voting message's strength effective?



The stronger messages lead to make a decision

- ✓ What words are strong or weak meaning for the final decision?
- ✓ How do these strength impact to the final decision?

RQ3: How many reviewers' votes does core reviewers need?



The reliability and strength relate to reviewer's discussion quality

✓ How do the reliability and strength work for decision making in multiple review?

This work has been supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 26540029, and Program for Advancing Strategic International Networks to Accelerate the Circulation of Talented Researchers: Interdisciplinary Global Networks for Accelerating Theory and Practice in Software Ecosystem.



NARA INSTITUTE of SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY