Creation and development of a PRP database

Arman Ahmed | Linac Coherent Light Source, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory,
2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA | minitti@slac.stanford.edu,
aymeric@slac.stanford.edu

Introduction

The first two months of summer were frankly a struggle: I attempted to jump into data analysis for past experiments by Mike Minitti using psana. There were times I couldn't even get my command prompt to open up. ☹

However, I was later given the opportunity to do something that struck major interest in me. I'm now working closely with Aymeric Robert on a database using Google scripts, and javascript…

Keywords: psana, data analysis, javascript, Google scripting, database.
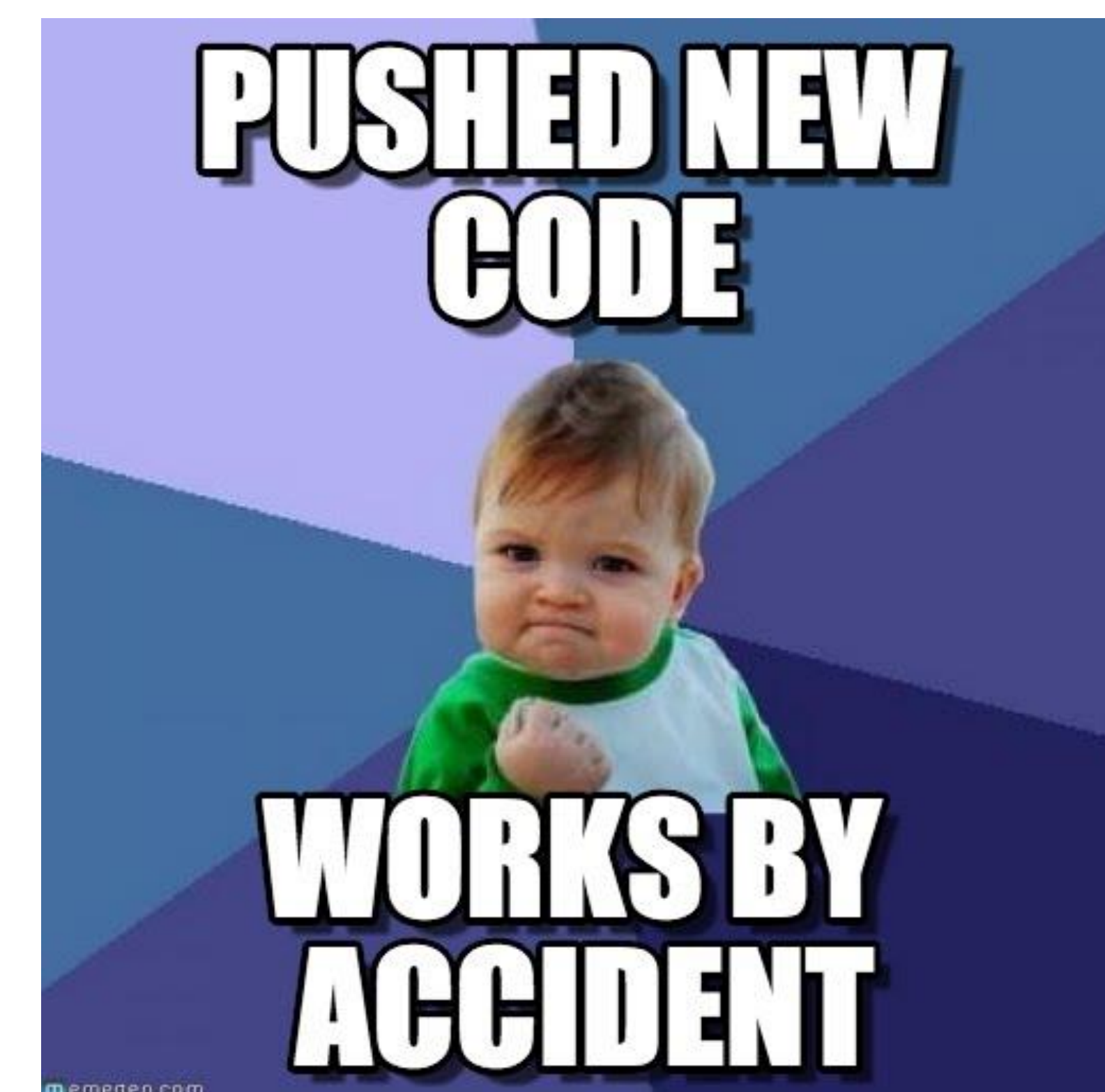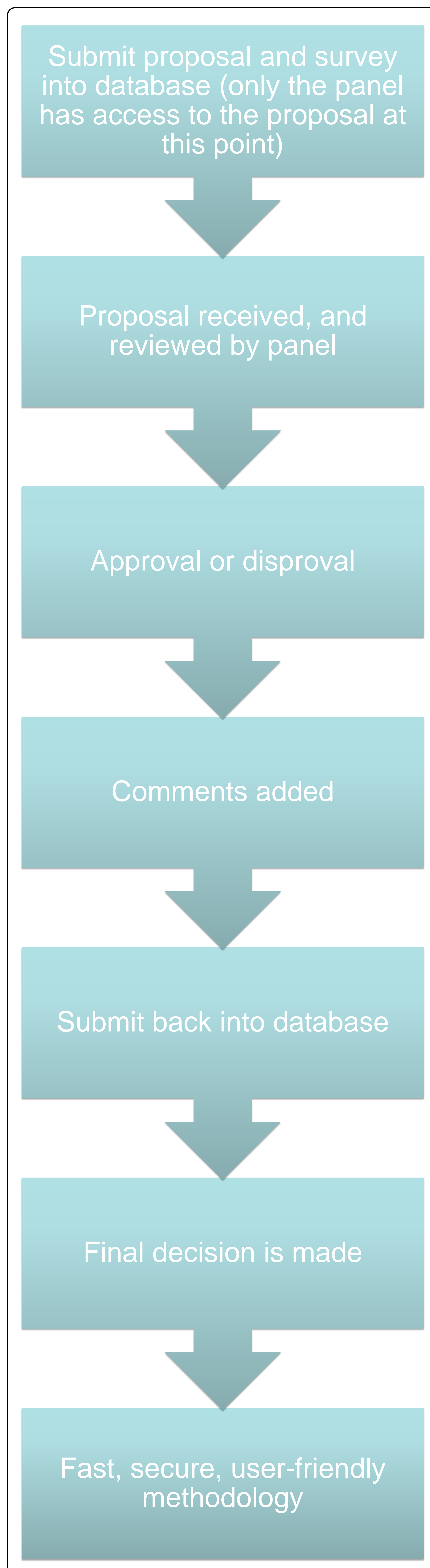
Research

To sum up the new project I'm working on, I'm now developing a new way for proposals to be submitted, reviewed, and processed with Aymeric Robert. We are essentially creating a huge database through Google scripts, which requires knowledge in javascript (a nightmare for a novice coder like myself).

Ideally, LCLS will be completely independent in terms of the entire proposal review process; everything we do will be internal. We are also aiming for a clean, user-friendly interface. No one should struggle to navigate through our database. We have high hopes for the outcome.

Rare picture of me and Aymeric working on the project

Submit proposal and survey into database (only the panel has access to the proposal at this point)

⬇

Proposal received, and reviewed by panel

⬇

Approval or disproval

⬇

Comments added

⬇

Submit back into database

⬇

Final decision is made

⬇

Fast, secure, user-friendly methodology

Me at 3 AM

Side notes:

You might be wondering how someone with almost no coding experience is now using javascript/Google scripts for development of an entire database…

Well, I'm inching along. I'm learning on the go. YouTube videos, tutorials from textbooks, and knocking heads with Aymeric have been helping out a ton.

With all this hands-on exposure to coding, I will definitely be enrolling in some other coding classes at school. I believe this is a passion-in-development for me.

Conclusions

It is difficult to go into full detail for the database project. Since I am learning on the go, I don't know what exactly I'm doing at times.

However, we are aiming for completion within the next few months, and things are looking great. We expect it to run smoothly.

I believe struggling with psana really opened up the door to coding. I've never been tech savvy, and I had very minimal coding experience prior to this summer. Seeing myself struggle made me want to do better. I guess all I needed was a more practical project.

Acknowledgments

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