Update and labels
11 messages

David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>   Mon, Feb 26, 2024 at 10:53 PM
To: Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>

Hi Matthias,
The sage-abuse committee met this afternoon. I think we made significant progress, and are now working on implementing some of the decisions we made. One of our todo items is a longer email to you, but I wanted to raise one issue with you in the short term.

You've created several PRs (#37482, #37453, #37450) where you've extracted commits from Tobias' PRs into something more focused. He then retaliated with #37476. While extracting undisputed parts of a larger PR might be a good idea in other contexts, there are a few aspects of this situation that make it not okay here.

* My understanding is that you are still blocking Dima and Tobias, meaning that they cannot comment on your PRs. I understand your reasons, and while I hope that we can alleviate the situation eventually to make this blocking unnecessary (since I think that it will be harmful for the Sage project in the long term), in the short term it means that you're taking Tobias' work and putting it in a context where he cannot make any comments on it. That's not acceptable.

* Relatedly, you've marked #37482 as positively reviewed without any discussion (and without Tobias having the ability to comment). This is not an acceptable variant of the standard practice of two developers coreviewing each other's work.

I would ask that you close all three of these issues, unless you intend to unblock Tobias so that he can discuss them. I will ask that he do the same with #37476.
David

Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>   Mon, Feb 26, 2024 at 11:02 PM
To: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>

Hi David,

On Mon, Feb 26, 2024 at 10:53 PM David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com> wrote:
> You've created several PRs (#37482, #37453, #37450) where you've extracted commits from Tobias' PRs into something more focused. He then retaliated with #37476.

That's absurd.

There's nothing wrong with his
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37476 extracting a commit.
I have not complained about it to anyone, and I don't see why I should.

Matthias
--
Matthias Koeppe -- http://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~mkoeppe

Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>   Mon, Feb 26, 2024 at 11:58 PM
To: sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

Just to keep everyone in the loop.
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Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 7:42 AM
To: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>
Cc: sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

Hi David and sage-abuse:
A follow-up on our Zulip DMs late last night with David in response to this.

1. David, publicly embracing the false narrative in
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37446#issuecomment-1965696397
(within hours of its posting) and asking me for immediate action --
that's unacceptable.
- Such false narratives are part of "playing the victim", a standard
technique of narcissistic abusers. It's not suitable to take them at
face value, and it's harmful to amplify this narrative in public.
- The unevenness of the response time -- note I have not even received
any acknowledgment of my reports of clear abuses after months.

2. Forgive me that such misguided actions fill me with skepticism
regarding what's to come. If it's not too much to ask, before you
craft the "longer email" to me that you announced, would you run the
key points by me? Also, any apologies can be kept to a minimum to
reduce the writing workload.

3. More public attacks using false narrative are happening, and swift
action and remedy is needed. 2. Most recently, in
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37287#issuecomment-1954939859, I
asked: @roed314 @jhpalmieri @williamstein @vbraun It appears some
guidance for the public is needed regarding the use of the "disputed"
label. In #36753, @tornaria set the PR to "positive review" despite
the "disputed" label, and @dimpase removed the "disputed" label.
- no such guidance was issued. In
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37446, Dima again removes a
"disputed" label; and comments '@mkoeppe has blocked me on GH - while
this is sorted out, we can proceed. And if it's not sorted out, we can
block him, why not...'
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37446#issuecomment-1966216495
A related public denunciation by Dima yesterday in the 'Unload
"blocker" label' thread:
https://groups.google.com/g/sage-devel/c/uWHaWK7b6H4/m/_o7_ICQ_AAAJ
Such denunciations cannot be left standing without comment.

Thanks
Matthias
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David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 8:34 AM
To: Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>
Cc: sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

I can't write more immediately, but we agree that the labeling problem you describe in 3 is out of control, and it is one of
our top priorities to address.
David
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John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:46 AM
To: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>
Cc: Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>, sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

Dear Matthias,

To clarify, we met and discussed https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452 before Tobias posted his comment, so our
discussion was based on seeing the record at #36503 and #37452, not anyone's complaints. In typical situations,
extracting parts of a commit is just fine, but I think it relies on good relations between the original author and the extractor.
In my view, creating #37452 was not at all a violation of our code of conduct, but it demonstrates poor judgment, because
Tobias' response (objecting to it and the ensuing labeling war) could, indeed should, have been anticipated. Furthermore,
I think that it is appropriate for the sage-abuse committee to try to take actions to "lower the temperature," and that's what

David was trying to do. Limiting interactions among you, Tobias, and Dima seems like a good way to work on that right now. So I completely disagree that this was somehow "misguided."

I'm puzzled, by the way, about your use of the word "public" in #1: in what way did David publicly do anything? I've only seen a message he wrote privately to you (because you forwarded it to sage-abuse), and now this discussion, none of which is public. Did I miss some piece of communication?

Regards,
  John

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John H. Palmieri

David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:50 AM
To: John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com>
Cc: Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>, sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 12:47 PM John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com> wrote:
> Dear Matthias,
>
> To clarify, we met and discussed https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452 before Tobias posted his comment, so our discussion was based on seeing the record at #36503 and #37452, not anyone's complaints. In typical situations, extracting parts of a commit is just fine, but I think it relies on good relations between the original author and the extractor. In my view, creating #37452 was not at all a violation of our code of conduct, but it demonstrates poor judgment, because Tobias' response (objecting to it and the ensuing labeling war) could, indeed should, have been anticipated. Furthermore, I think that it is appropriate for the sage-abuse committee to try to take actions to "lower the temperature," and that's what David was trying to do. Limiting interactions among you, Tobias, and Dima seems like a good way to work on that right now. So I completely disagree that this was somehow "misguided."
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> I'm puzzled, by the way, about your use of the word "public" in #1: in what way did David publicly do anything? I've only seen a message he wrote privately to you (because you forwarded it to sage-abuse), and now this discussion, none of which is public. Did I miss some piece of communication?

I posted a comment on Tobias' PR (#37452) asking Tobias to remove it, and undoing the positive review he had given it. After a discussion with Matthias on Zulip, I deleted my comment, but you can still see the "remove and then regrant positive review" interaction on #37452.
David
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Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:57 AM
To: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>
Cc: John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com>, sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:51 AM David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 12:47 PM John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com> wrote:
>> I'm puzzled, by the way, about your use of the word "public" in #1: in what way did David publicly do anything? I've only seen a message he wrote privately to you (because you forwarded it to sage-abuse), and now this discussion, none of which is public. Did I miss some piece of communication?

>
> I posted a comment on Tobias' PR (#37452) asking Tobias to remove it, and undoing the positive review he had given it. After a discussion with Matthias on Zulip, I deleted my comment, but you can still see the "remove and then regrant positive review" interaction on #37452.

More to the point, in that comment you also gave instructions to me to
close my PRs or some such.

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Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 10:42 AM
To: John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com>
Cc: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>, sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

Dear John,

On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:47 AM John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com> wrote:
> To clarify, we met and discussed https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452 before Tobias posted his comment, so
our discussion was based on seeing the record at #36503 and #37452, not anyone's complaints.

Yes, thanks. David made that clear in his initial email.

> In typical situations, extracting parts of a commit is just fine, but I think it relies on good relations between the original
author and the extractor.

Perhaps. But extracting and merging uncontroversial parts is also
something that would be done by project maintainers -- to remove
unnecessary friction.

> In my view, creating #37452 was not at all a violation of our code of conduct,

Glad that we at least agree on this point...

> but it demonstrates poor judgment, because Tobias' response (objecting to it and the ensuing labeling war) could,
indeed should, have been anticipated.

I have to disagree because you are disregarding the fact that I
clearly stated the intent to reduce the artificial friction AND copied
both Volker and David on it, 3 days ago.
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452#issuecomment-1962727679

It would have been easy for the committee to just embrace it as a
conflict resolution initiative. Or failing that, to react in any other
way that would give guidance, or even any indication of
acknowledgment.

Again it is the harmful inaction that gave the stage to the bad
actors, where they could spin their manipulative narrative.

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John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 11:08 AM
To: Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>
Cc: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>, sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 10:42 AM Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com> wrote:
  Dear John,

  On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:47 AM John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com> wrote:
  > To clarify, we met and discussed https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452 before Tobias posted his comment, so
  our discussion was based on seeing the record at #36503 and #37452, not anyone's complaints.

  Yes, thanks. David made that clear in his initial email.

And yet you keep talking about "their manipulative narrative," as if that played any role in how we responded. Please stop.

> In typical situations, extracting parts of a commit is just fine, but I think it relies on good relations between the original author and the extractor.

Perhaps. But extracting and merging uncontroversial parts is also
something that would be done by project maintainers -- to remove
unnecessary friction.

> In my view, creating #37452 was not at all a violation of our code of conduct,

Glad that we at least agree on this point...

> but it demonstrates poor judgment, because Tobias' response (objecting to it and the ensuing labeling war) could, indeed should, have been anticipated.

I have to disagree because you are disregarding the fact that I
clearly stated the intent to reduce the artificial friction AND copied
both Volker and David on it, 3 days ago.
https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452#issuecomment-1962727679

Just because you state that this is the intent does not mean that it will be successful. It does not mean that it will be well-received by Tobias. At this point, I would guess that any of your words and actions are likely to be viewed by him in the worst possible light, and so any interactions between the two of you are likely to raise the tension level, no matter how well-intentioned on your part. This PR illustrates this, as have many others. How many more illustrations do we need? We now have a ticket where he is listed as the author and he objects to merging the code. That is not a good situation.

It would have been easy for the committee to just embrace it as a
conflict resolution initiative. Or failing that, to react in any other
way that would give guidance, or even any indication of
acknowledgment.

Again it is the harmful inaction that gave the stage to the bad
actors, where they could spin their manipulative narrative.

Matthias
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Matthias Koeppe -- http://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~mkoeppe

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John H. Palmieri

Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com>   Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 11:14 AM
To: John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com>
Cc: David Roe <roed.math@gmail.com>, sage-abuse <sage-abuse@googlegroups.com>

On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 11:08 AM John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 10:42 AM Matthias Köppe <matthiaskoeppe@gmail.com> wrote:
>> On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 9:47 AM John Palmieri <jhpalmieri64@gmail.com> wrote:
>> > To clarify, we met and discussed https://github.com/sagemath/sage/pull/37452 before Tobias posted his comment, so our discussion was based on seeing the record at #36503 and #37452, not anyone's complaints.

Please, John, I did not say that *you* have been manipulated by it.

My concern is about Tobias' and Dima's words on the public stage.

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