

PostgreSQL 19: Autovacuum scoring

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What is it about?

- Automatic background cleanup (Autovacuum)
- Autovacuum has two main process types
 - Autovacuum-Launcher
 - Autovacuum-Worker
- Autovacuum-Launcher starts worker every `autovacuum_naptime/database_count`
- Autovacuum-Worker executes VACUUM or ANALYZE at tables... but in which order?

PostgreSQL 19 is introducing system for prioritization: Nathan Bossart
(<https://www.postgresql.org/message-id/E1w68wa-001iA8-2c%40gemulon.postgresql.org>)

What is PostgreSQL doing before Version 19?



1. Launcher starts worker for database
2. Worker checks statistics of tables in order of `pg_class`
3. VACUUM when:
 - dead tuples reach threshold or scalefactor
 - inserted tuples reach threshold or scalefactor
 - XID age reaches threshold (wraparound vacuum)
4. ANALYZE when reaching threshold with counted changes (INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE)

What is PostgreSQL doing in Version 19?



1. Launcher starts worker for database
2. Worker creates list of tables with scores using these criteria:
 - age of XID
 - age of MXID
 - Count of dead tuples (UPDATE, DELETE)
 - Count of inserts
 - Analyze-Score (INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE)
3. VACUUM or ANALYZE with descendig order

View "pg_catalog.pg_stat_autovacuum_scores"

Column	Type	Collation	Nullable	Default
relid	oid			
schemaname	name			
relname	name			
score	double precision			
xid_score	double precision			
mxid_score	double precision			
vacuum_score	double precision			
vacuum_insert_score	double precision			
analyze_score	double precision			
do_vacuum	boolean			
do_analyze	boolean			
for_wraparound	boolean			

Configuration

- `autovacuum_freeze_score_weight`
- `autovacuum_multixact_freeze_score_weight`
- `autovacuum_vacuum_score_weight`
- `autovacuum_vacuum_insert_score_weight`
- `autovacuum_analyze_score_weight`

Default weight is always 1.0

Thank you



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