HTTP/2 In Action
Third Review Author Feedback Summary

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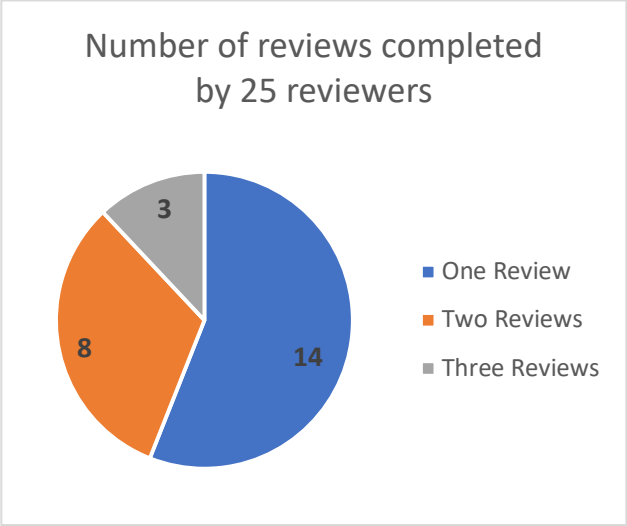
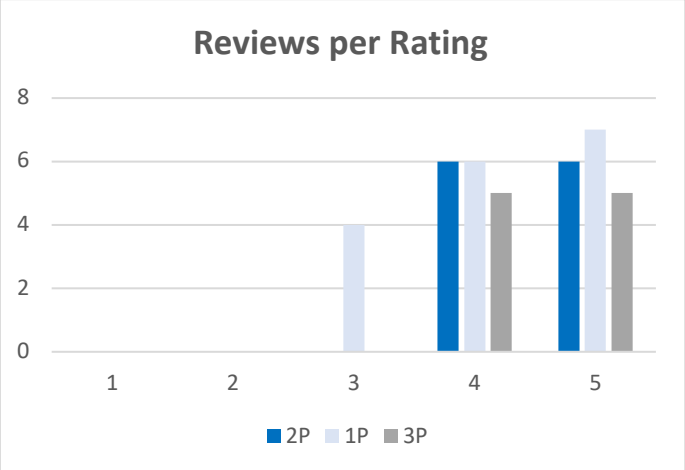
Overview and statistics

10 reviews were received from a variety of people, most of whom seems to fit the intended reader. One reviewer (reviewer 7) was suggested by myself as an expert in HTTP/2 to get additional feedback. Existing familiarity with the subject was more towards the higher end than previous with an average of 6.4 and only one reviewer rated themselves low (reviewer 6 rated themselves 3 on the subject). This is probably reflective of the more advanced nature which may not have been as much interest to more beginners in the subject. The number of reviewers went down to 10 (from 17 in the first review, 12 in the second).

There were a large number of new reviewers in this review (6 out of 10 of 60%). Not sure if this is normal, to do with the availability over summer, or a reflection on these chapters. Last review we had 16% new reviewers (2 out of 12).

Only 3 out of the original 17 took part in all 3 reviews. 7 reviewers dropped out between the first and second review and another 7 between the second and third reviews. 1 reviewer who joined in review two also took part in review three while the other new reviewer to review two did not complete review 3. The number of review completed by each reviewer is charted in below pie chart.





The "How many stars would you give it on Amazon" rating is showing in below graph with 5 ratings of 4 and 5 of 5 to give an Average of 4.5 which is very positive and identical percentages to the second review.

All 4 previous reviewers kept the same rating.

Notably there were no ratings of 1, 2 or 3 this time (or last) and in fact the reviews have never resulted in a 1 or 2 star rating.

The Amazon Star Rating given for all three reviews is shown in the below color-coded table:

Reviewer	Self-Rating	Review 1	Review 2	Review 3	# of Reviews
1	6	3	5		2
2	8	4	5		2
3	6	5			1
4	7	4	4	4	3
5	7	5	4		2
6	7	4	4	4	3
7	6	5	5	5	3
8	8	3			1
9	8	5			1
10	6	5			1
11	7	4			1
12	5	5			1
13	3	3	4		2
14	4	5	5		2
15	2	4	4		2
16	7	4	4		2
17	3	3			1
18	7		5	5	2
19	5		5		1
20	7			4	1
21	5			5	1
22	3			5	1
23	9			4	1
24	8			4	1
25	5			5	1
Average	***5.96***	***4.18***	***4.5***	***4.5***	***1.56***

So during the whole review only one reviewer reduced their rating (reviewer 5 rated it 5 in first review and 4 in second review) and overall the scores were very positive. The main concern with this would be if we are getting a skewed sample if the those who didn't rate the book didn't want to make the effort to give any feedback. Again would be good to know if the drop-out rate between reviews was normal.

There was correlation between a person's self-rated expertise in HTTP/2 and the rating they gave in any of the three reviews as shown in below table which seems to suggest the book is well placed to appeal to a broad category of readers (though this should be caveated with the fact that this is based on quite a small sample size, particularly in some categories):

HTTP/2 Expertise self-rating	Number of reviewers	Average star rating for Review 1	Average star rating for Review 2	Average star rating for Review 3
1				
2	1/1/0	4	4	
3	2/1/1	3	4	5
4	1/1/0	5	5	
5	1/1/2	5	5	5
6	4/2/1	4.5	5	5
7	5/5/4	4.2	4.2	4.25
8	3/1/1	4	5	4
9	0/0/1			4
	17/12/10	***4.18***	***4.50***	***4.50***

Perhaps a bigger area of concern is that there were few enough comments on the later chapters and two reviewers (reviews 5 and 10) specifically called out that they did not read chapters 8 or 9. Whether this is because they ran out of time or interest is not known but it certainly seems like the first 6 chapters have received most review and feedback.

What were the repeated themes for improvements?

I did not see any major themes for improvement in this review. Some mentioned there was too much detail (particularly in chapters 4 and 7) though others seemed pleased with the level of detail. Reviewer 2 thought some of the chapters may need splitting up, due to their length and reviewer 3 found some of the explanations too deep. A different question asked if it was too long and most said no to this ("I think its a perfect length") and nearly all said the book make learning the subject easy (the only two who didn't say this basically stated it would be easier to use to it to work though rather than just reading it). So given all that, and the fact that the table of contents question got positive feedback, particularly on structure and flow I do not think we should change this. I think copy-editing will tighten up the text and therefore should solve most of the issues here.

Pleasingly, again, there were very few comments about passages requiring repeated reading to understand and most said the writing was interesting and held their attention. I added some specific questions to the review this time asking for feedback on the level of technical detail (nearly all said it was "about right") and pacing (again nearly all said "about right").

The images and examples also got positive feedback ("I thought the figures and screenshots were some of the best parts.").

To Do list for each chapter

There were few enough changes coming out of this as discussed above. Reviewer 7 (an HTTP/2 expert suggested by myself) provided the most feedback, though I don't necessarily agree with all of it (discussed offline with the reviewer). Others mentioned small typos and minor issues, other than what was discussed above.

Chapter 1

- Add explanation of SSL, TLS and HTTPS as a sidebar. *Done*

Chapter 2

- No changes

Chapter 3

- No changes

Chapter 4

- Fix issue with length in table 4.8. *Done*
- Fix potential confusion with figures 4.3 and 7.1. *Will be done as part of getting diagrams ready for production.*
- Fix nghttpd priority claim. *Done*
- Review frame explanations. In fact still want to review this whole section (though pleasing that one reviewer who struggled with this previously stated "on a second read it was certainly clearer").

Chapter 5

- Review nodeJS code comments.
- Review diagrams for consistency of wording. *Will be done as part of getting diagrams ready for production.*
- Review H2PushResource and 103 Early hints, though initial re-read suggests it's fine to me and reviewer just read this wrong.
- Add reference provided. *Done*
- Correct 0.02% quote. *Done*
- Mention shimmercat and forward reference. *Done*

Chapter 6

- Review 99 designs case study.
- Mention HPACK with forward refernce. *Done*
- Add reference to removing prerender from Chrome. *Done*

Chapter 7

- Add a section on client conformance testing. *Done but deliberately kept this very short.*
- Review other references (e.g., Polaris, Vroom, Shandian, Wprof papers) though feel already have enough and perhaps this advice is more reflective of that reviewers academic background.

- Review figures. *Will be done as part of getting diagrams ready for production.*

Chapter 8

- Fix bytes/kilobytes typo. *Done*
- Add reference on lossy networks. *Done.*
- Correct spin-bit designation. *Done.*
- Correct net-internals URL. *Done.*

Chapter 9

- Remove duplicate of page 1. *Done*
- Typo on Patrick McManus's name. *Done*
- Add DoH reference. *Done*
- **Consider renaming chapter – "How HTTP will can evolve?"**

Appendix

- Minor typo fix (Cas instead of CAs). *Done.*

All

- Review wording of HTTPS and TLS.
- Review references to TLSv1.3 now it's standardised.
- Review all references to QUIC now it's close to standardisation.

Overall Assessment

Overall the general feedback seems to be positive. It is in depth, perhaps too in-depth for some, but others seem to appreciate this, and the extra additional footnotes and references for those that want to go even further. We are not missing any topics and the work count (118,209 words) is in line with the proposal and will likely come down as the copy-editors reign in my verboseness which might address some of the concerns above!

All reviewers said they would recommend it to their colleagues.

Will discuss with Kevin, but I feel the book is ready to enter production stage.