

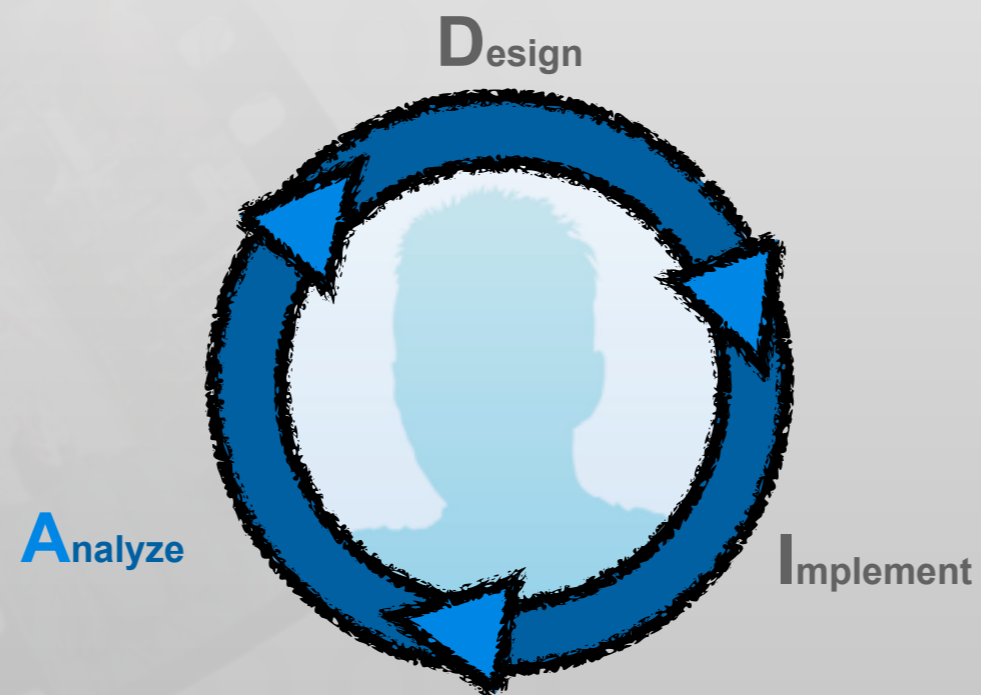
Research in Coding and IDEs

*Jan-Peter Krämer
Media Computing Group
RWTH Aachen University*

<http://hci.rwth-aachen.de/cthci>

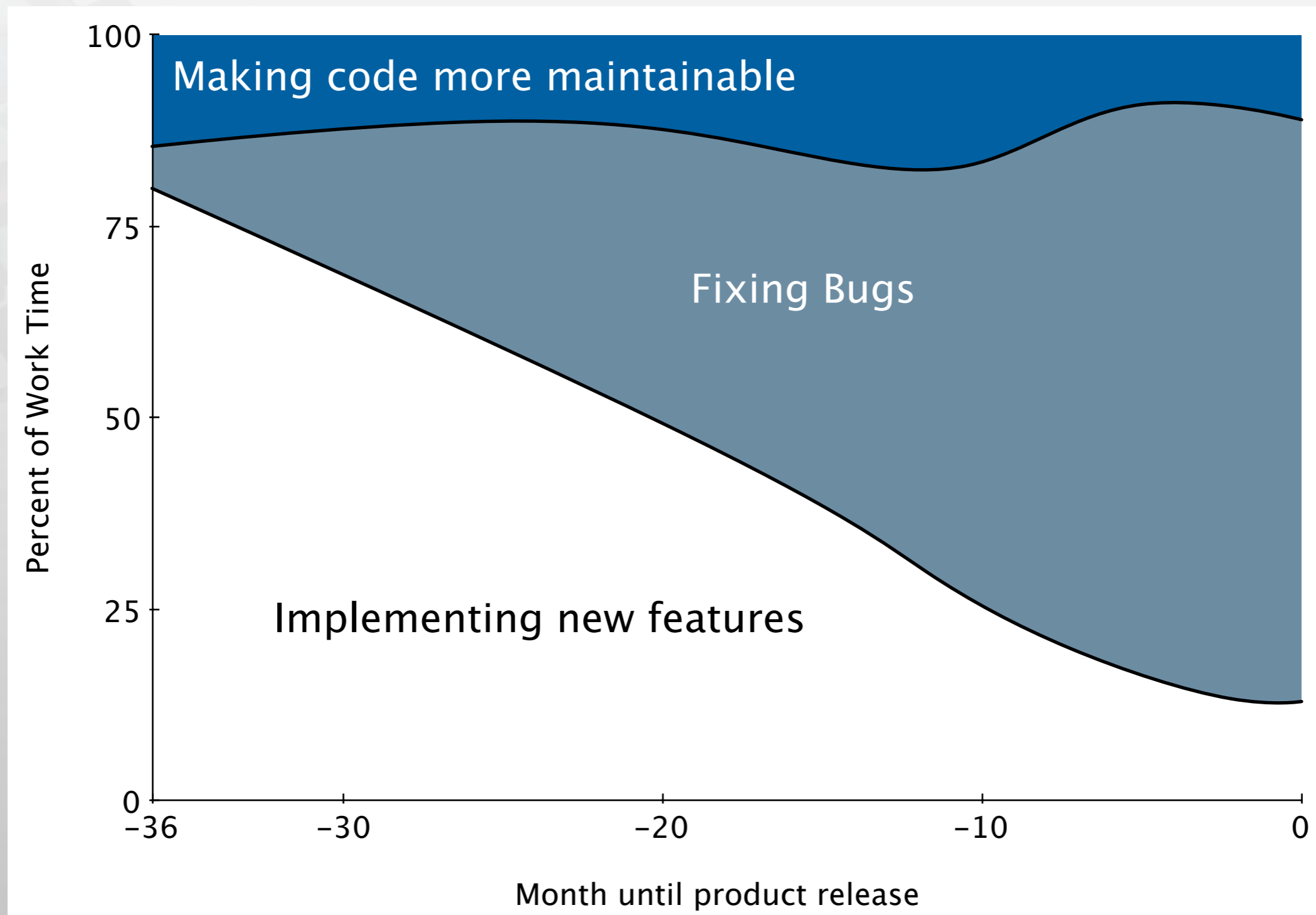


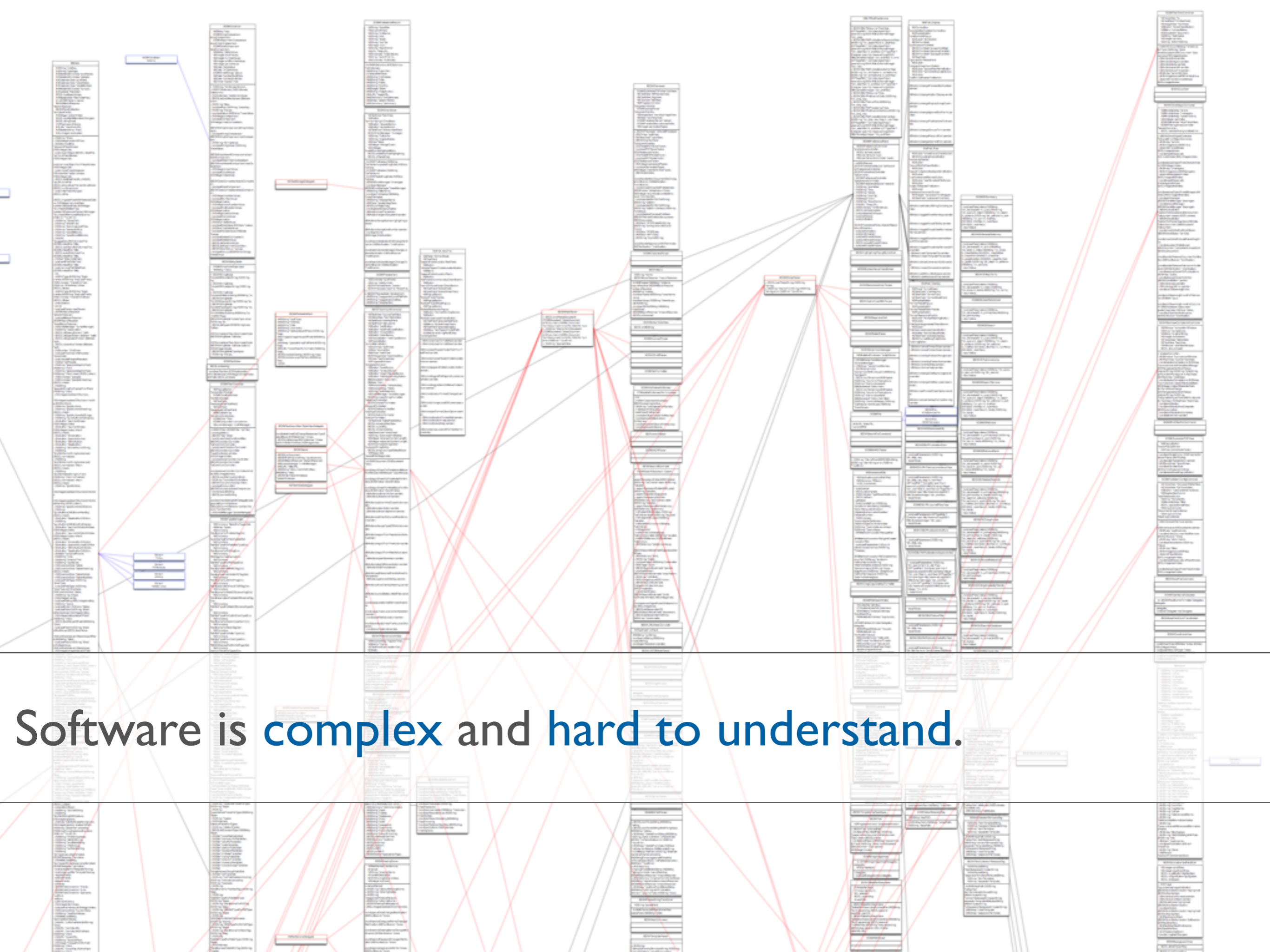
Status Quo



Time in Software Development

[LaToza2006, Maintaining mental models: a study of developer work habits]





Software is **complex** and **hard to understand**.

Task context

- What is relevant information?
- What strategies are applied to find information?

Models for Developer Strategies

[Ko2006, An Exploratory Study of How Developers Seek, Relate, and Collect Relevant Information during Software Maintenance Tasks]



31 Professional Java Developers



5 Maintenance tasks
(3 Bugs, 2 Enhancements)

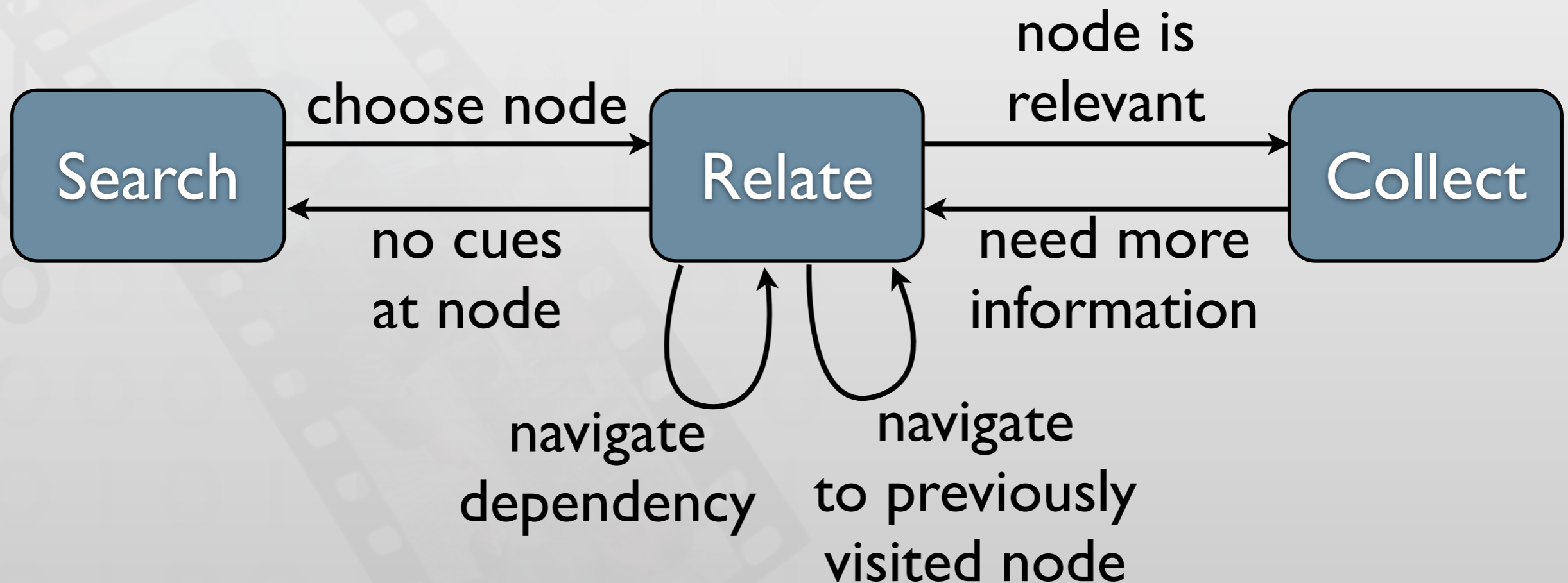


500 SLOC Java Paint
Application



Models for Developer Strategies

[Ko2006, An Exploratory Study of How Developers Seek, Relate, and Collect Relevant Information during Software Maintenance Tasks]



Models for Developer Strategies

[Sillito2008, Asking and Answering Questions during a Programming Change Task]



9 experienced developers (pair programming)



16 developers from industry



1 of 5 maintenance tasks per session



Real world change task



ArgoUML
60k SLOC

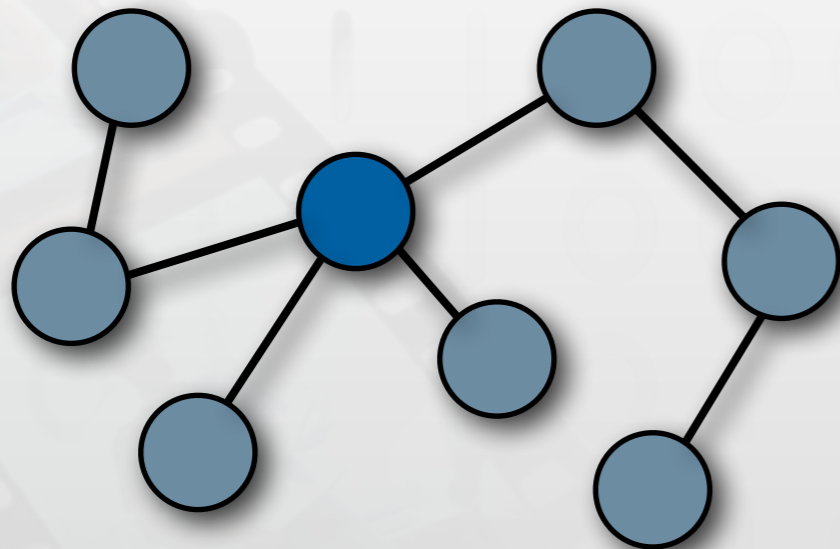


Real world sour code

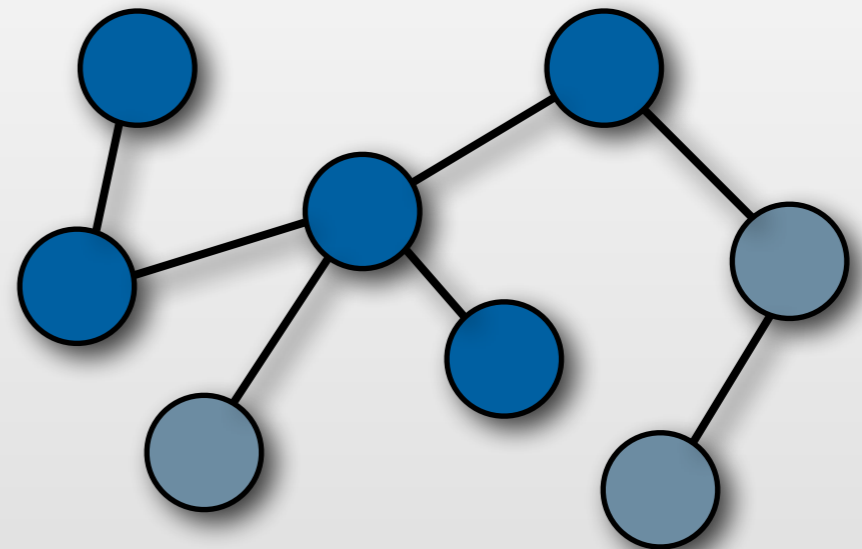


Models for Developer Strategies

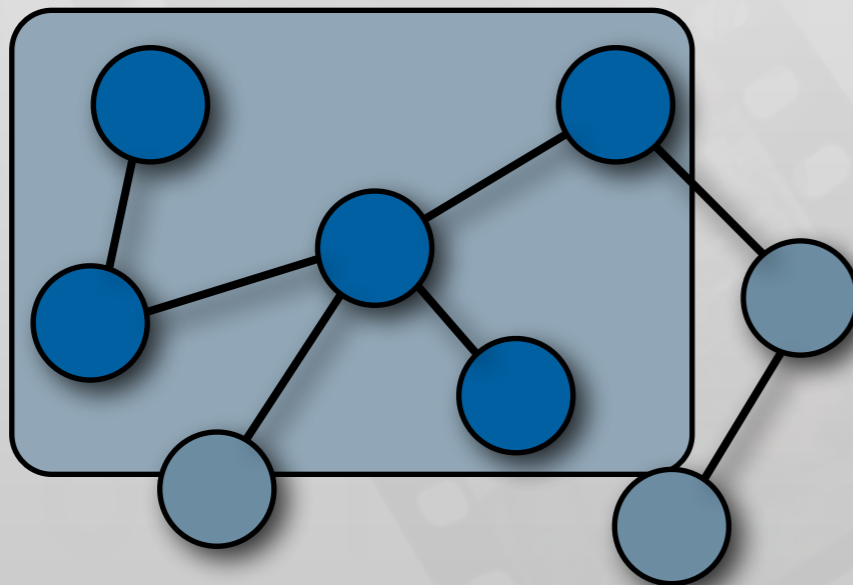
[Sillito2008, Asking and Answering Questions during a Programming Change Task]



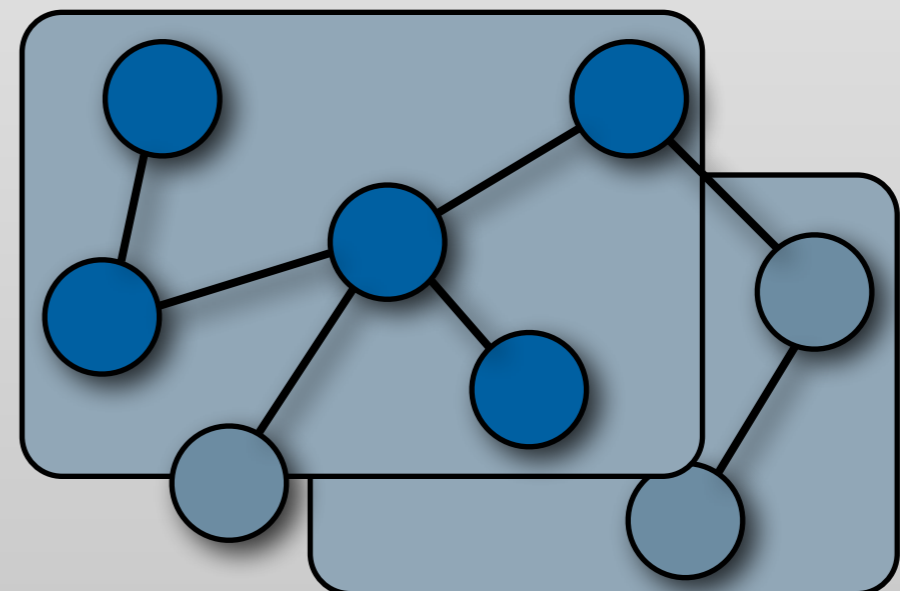
Finding focus points



Expanding focus points



Understanding a subgraph



Questions over groups of subgraphs



Java - jHotDraw/src/org/jhotdraw/contrib/DesktopEvent.java - Eclipse SDK - /Users/jpkraemer/Downloads/jhotdraw60b1

Package Explorer: org.jhotdraw, org.jhotdraw.applet, org.jhotdraw.application, org.jhotdraw.contrib, org.jhotdraw.contrib.dnd, org.jhotdraw.contrib.html, org.jhotdraw.contrib.zoom, org.jhotdraw.figures, org.jhotdraw.framework, org.jhotdraw.images, org.jhotdraw.samples, org.jhotdraw.samples.javadraw, org.jhotdraw.samples.javadraw Animator.java, BouncingDrawing.java, FollowURLTool.java, JavaDrawApp.java, JavaDrawApplet.java, JavaDrawViewer.java, MySelectionTool.java, PatternPainter.java, URLTool.java, JavaDrawAppletHelp.html, org.jhotdraw.samples.javadraw.sam, org.jhotdraw.samples.minimap, org.jhotdraw.samples.net, org.jhotdraw.samples.nothing, org.jhotdraw.samples.pert, org.jhotdraw.samples.pert.images, org.jhotdraw.standard, org.jhotdraw.test, org.jhotdraw.test.contrib, org.jhotdraw.test.figures, org.jhotdraw.test.framework, org.jhotdraw.test.samples.javadraw, org.jhotdraw.test.samples.minimap, org.jhotdraw.test.samples.net, org.jhotdraw.test.samples.nothing, org.jhotdraw.test.samples.pert, org.jhotdraw.test.standard, org.jhotdraw.test.util, org.jhotdraw.test.util.collections.jdk, org.jhotdraw.test.util.collections.jdk, org.jhotdraw.util, org.jhotdraw.util.collections.jdk11, org.jhotdraw.util.collections.jdk12, JRE System Library [JavaSE-1.6]

Editor: DesktopEvent.java

```
@(#)DesktopEvent.java

package org.jhotdraw.contrib;

import org.jhotdraw.framework.DrawingView;

/**
 * @author C.L.Gilbert <dnoyeb@users.sourceforge.net>
 * @version <CURRENT_VERSION$>
 */
public class DesktopEvent extends EventObject {
    private DrawingView myDrawingView;

    /**
     * Some events require the previous DrawingView (e.g. when a new DrawingView
     * is selected).
     */
    private DrawingView myPreviousDrawingView;

    public DesktopEvent(Desktop newSource, DrawingView newDrawingView) {
        this(newSource, newDrawingView, null);
    }

    public DesktopEvent(Desktop newSource, DrawingView newDrawingView, DrawingView newPreviousDV) {
        super(newSource);
        setDrawingView(newDrawingView);
        setPreviousDrawingView(newPreviousDV);
    }

    private void setDrawingView(DrawingView newDrawingView) {
        myDrawingView = newDrawingView;
    }

    public DrawingView getDrawingView() {
        return myDrawingView;
    }

    private void setPreviousDrawingView(DrawingView newPreviousDrawingView) {
        myPreviousDrawingView = newPreviousDrawingView;
    }

    public DrawingView getPreviousDrawingView() {
        return myPreviousDrawingView;
    }
}
```

Outline: org.jhotdraw.contrib, import declarations, DesktopEvent, myDrawingView : DrawingView, myPreviousDrawingView : DrawingView, DesktopEvent(Desktop, DrawingView), DesktopEvent(Desktop, DrawingView, DrawingView), setDrawingView(DrawingView) : void, getDrawingView() : DrawingView, setPreviousDrawingView(DrawingView) : void, getPreviousDrawingView() : DrawingView

Problems: Javadoc, Declaration, Call Hierarchy

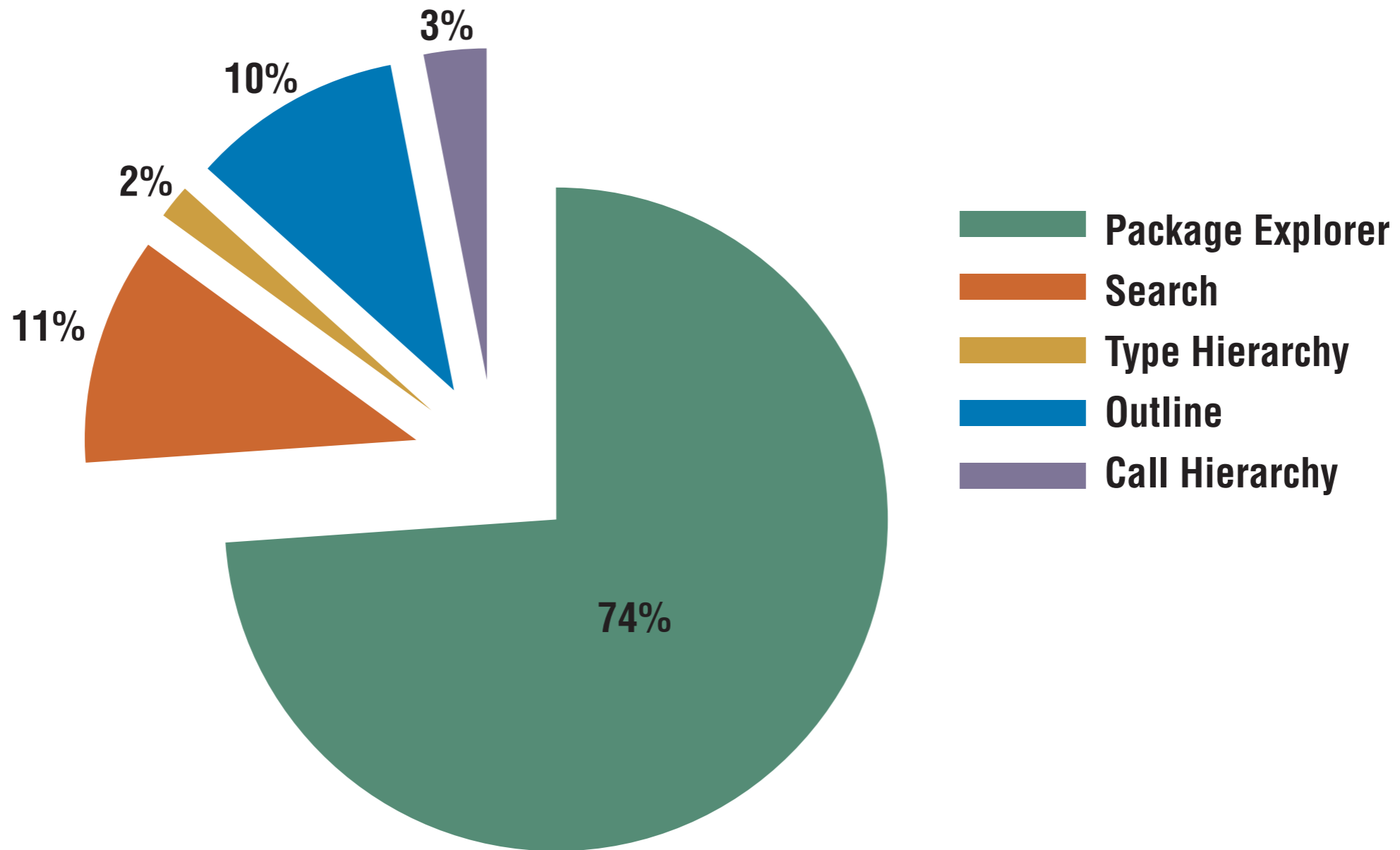
Calls from 'DesktopEvent(Desktop, DrawingView, DrawingView)' - in workspace

- DesktopEvent(Desktop, DrawingView, DrawingView) - org.jhotdraw.contrib.DesktopEvent
 - EventObject(Object) - java.util.EventObject
 - setDrawingView(DrawingView) : void - org.jhotdraw.contrib.DesktopEvent
 - setPreviousDrawingView(DrawingView) : void - org.jhotdraw.contrib.DesktopEvent

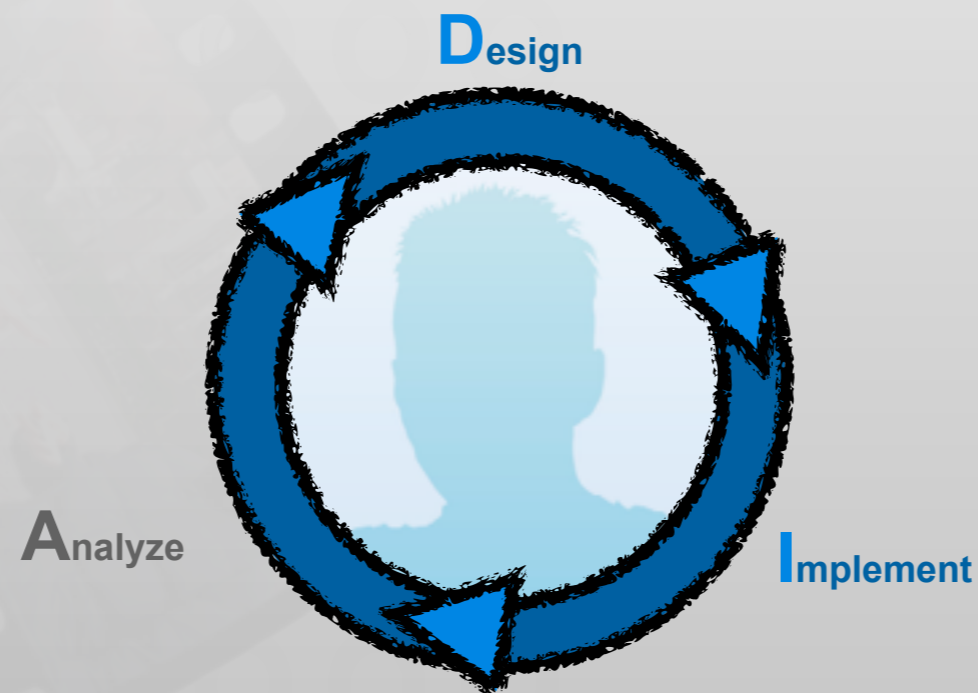
org.jhotdraw.samples.javadraw.Animator.java - jHotDraw/src

Tools Used in Eclipse

[Murphy2006, How Are Java Software Developers Using the Eclipse IDE?]



Easing Access to Task Context



Java - Attach error log entries into new bug reports - Eclipse SDK

File Edit Navigate Search Project Run Window Help

Package Exp Hierarchy BugzillaAttributeMapper.java *216640: Attach error log entries into new bug r

Bug 216640

Attach error log entries into new bug reports

P5 Status: NEW Bug: 216640 Opened: Jan 25, 2008 Modified: Jan 29, 2008 2:32 AM

Attributes Attachments (0) Description

Comments (1)

1: Mik Kersten, Jan 29, 2008 1:54 AM

New Comment

Looking into this now, see also related [bug 124224](#).

Actions

- ☐ Leave as NEW
- ☐ Accept (change status to ASSIGNED)
- ☐ Resolve as
- ☐ Duplicate of
- ☒ Reassign to
- ☐ Reassign to default

Submit

People

Assigned to: Mylyn Inbox <mylyn-inbox@e>
Reporter: William Mitsuda <wmitsuda@g>
QA Contact:
Add CC:

jacek.pospychala@pl.ibm.com
mik.kersten@tasktop.com

(Select to remove)

Task List

Find: All Allow to ed...

- Mylyn - Mik [Bugzilla]
 - 162335: [context] Allow "Make Landi
 - 267524: create Mylyn 3.2 release plan
- Mylyn - Rob [Bugzilla]
 - 124224: Allow to edit priorities in
- Project - Steffen [Trac]
 - 83: filter sort results
 - 84: upgrade ws api
 - 5: address web site nits
- Target - Rob [Atlassian]
 - PLE-290: logged in as wrong user wh
 - PLE-327: Documentation for Eclipse
 - PLE-172: Create Crucible review with
 - PLE-238: add an action to a cha

Synchronize

Change Sets for CVS (Workspace)

Allow to edit priorities in the task list

> org.eclipse.mylyn.bugzilla.core [dev]

streamline task attachments

Planning Context Bugzilla

[Kersten2006, Using Task Context to Improve Programmer Productivity]

Recommender Tools

[Singer2005, NavTracks: supporting navigation in software maintenance]

[DeLine2005, Easing program comprehension by sharing navigation data]

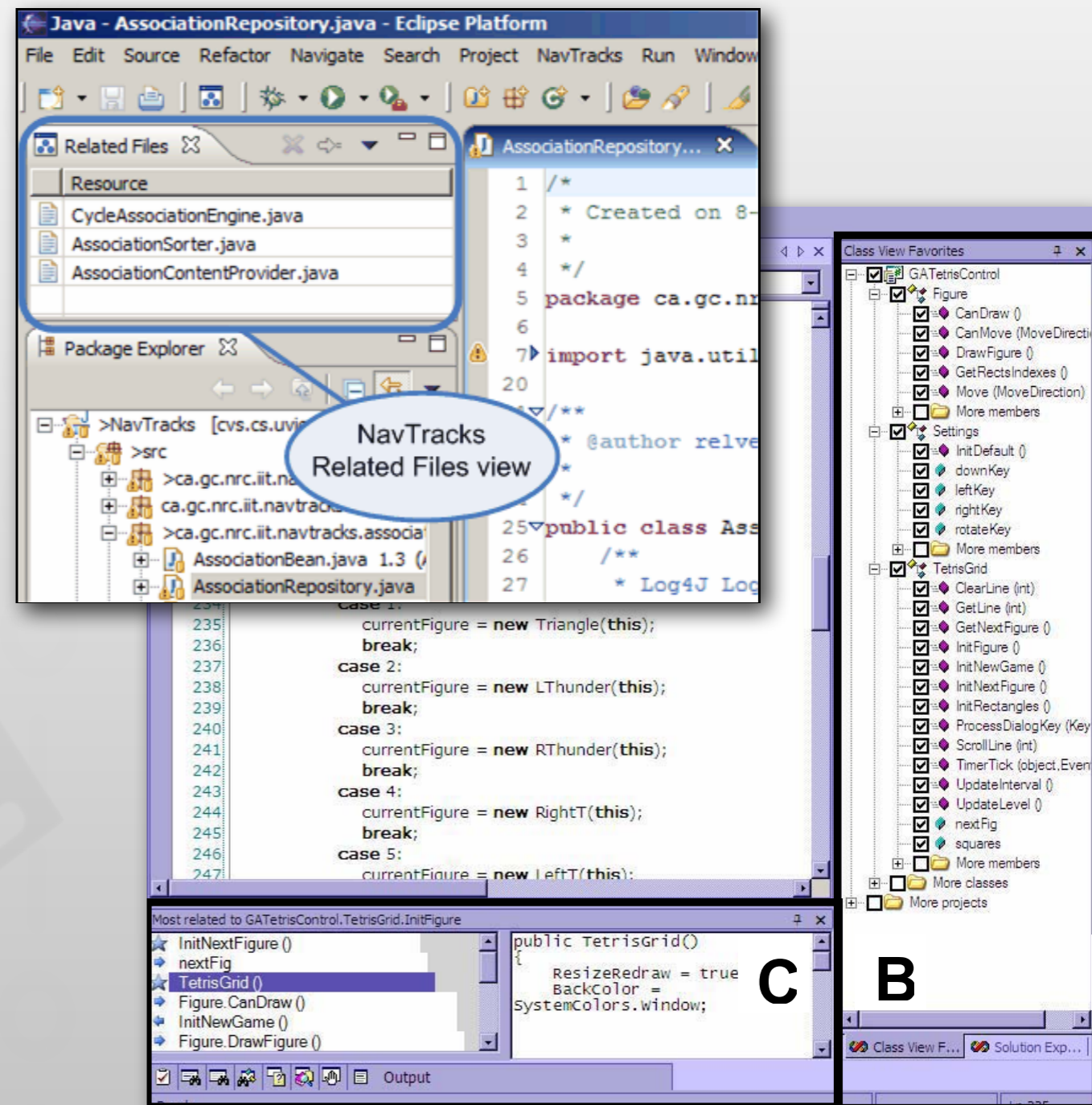
[Čubranic'2005, Hipikat: recommending pertinent software development artifacts]

- Calculate a Degree of Interest for source code elements based on:

- reading history
- editing history
- history of other team members
- information from version control systems

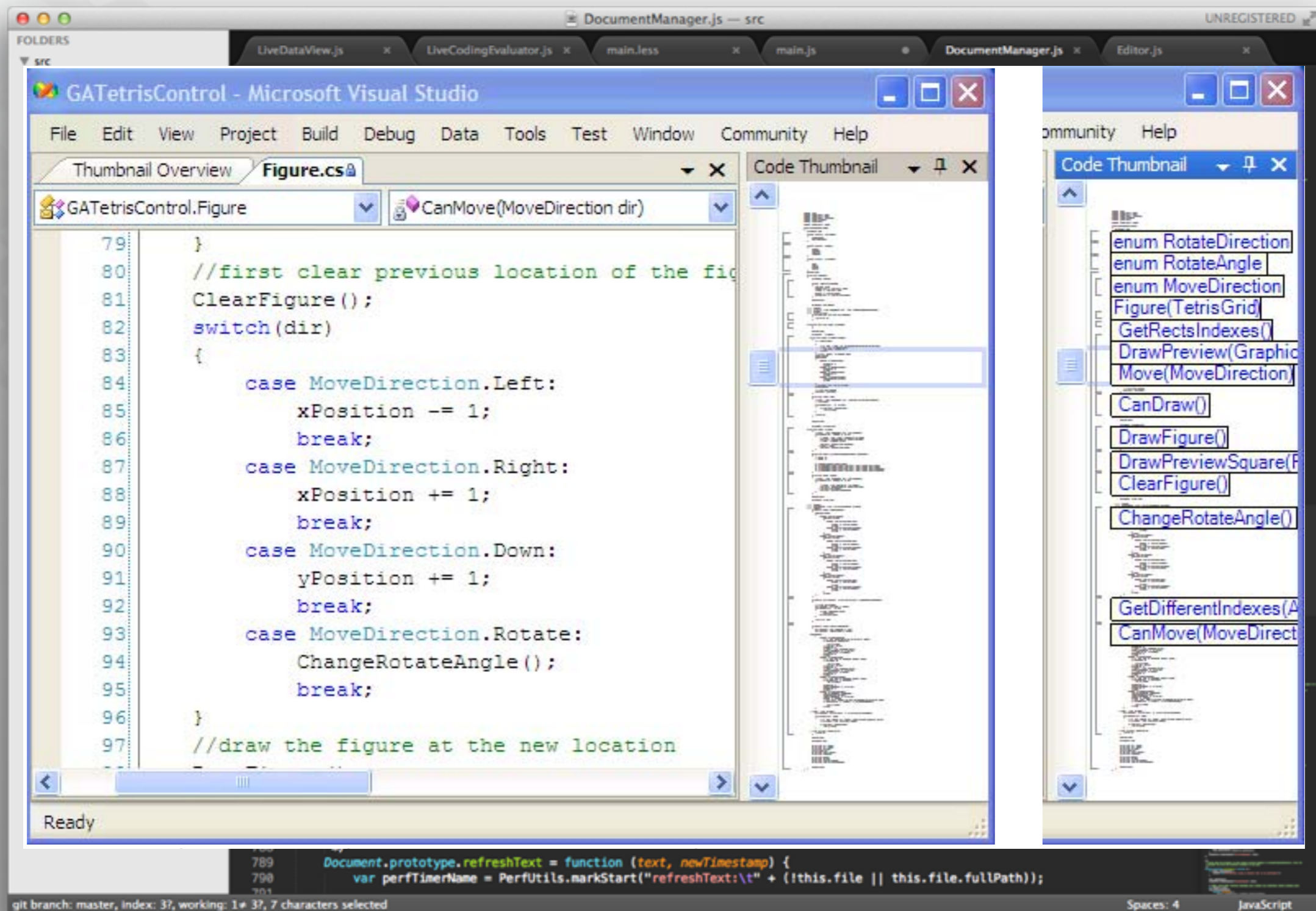
- Remaining Problems:

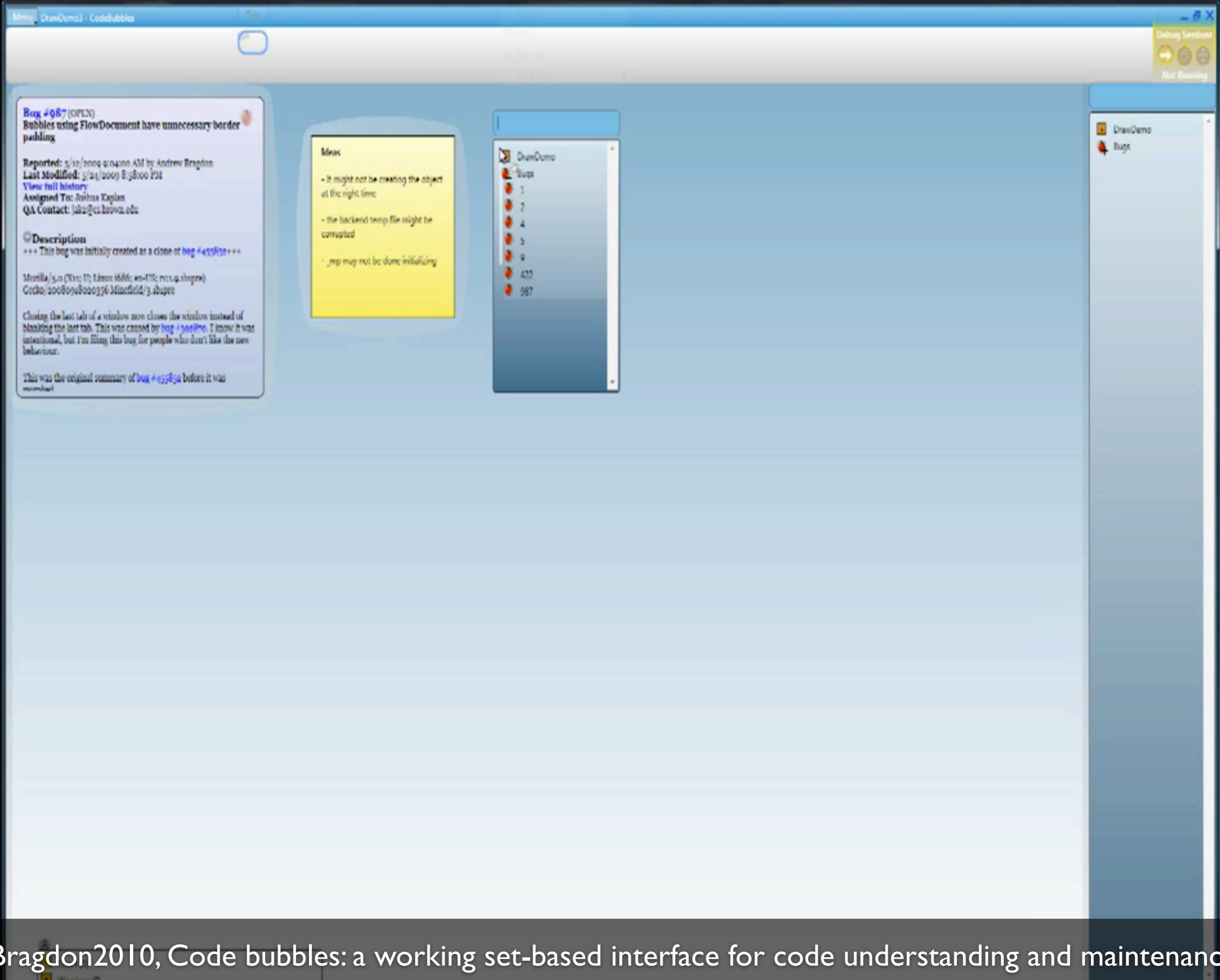
- Still only text-based visualization
- Recommendations for irrelevant code are still irrelevant

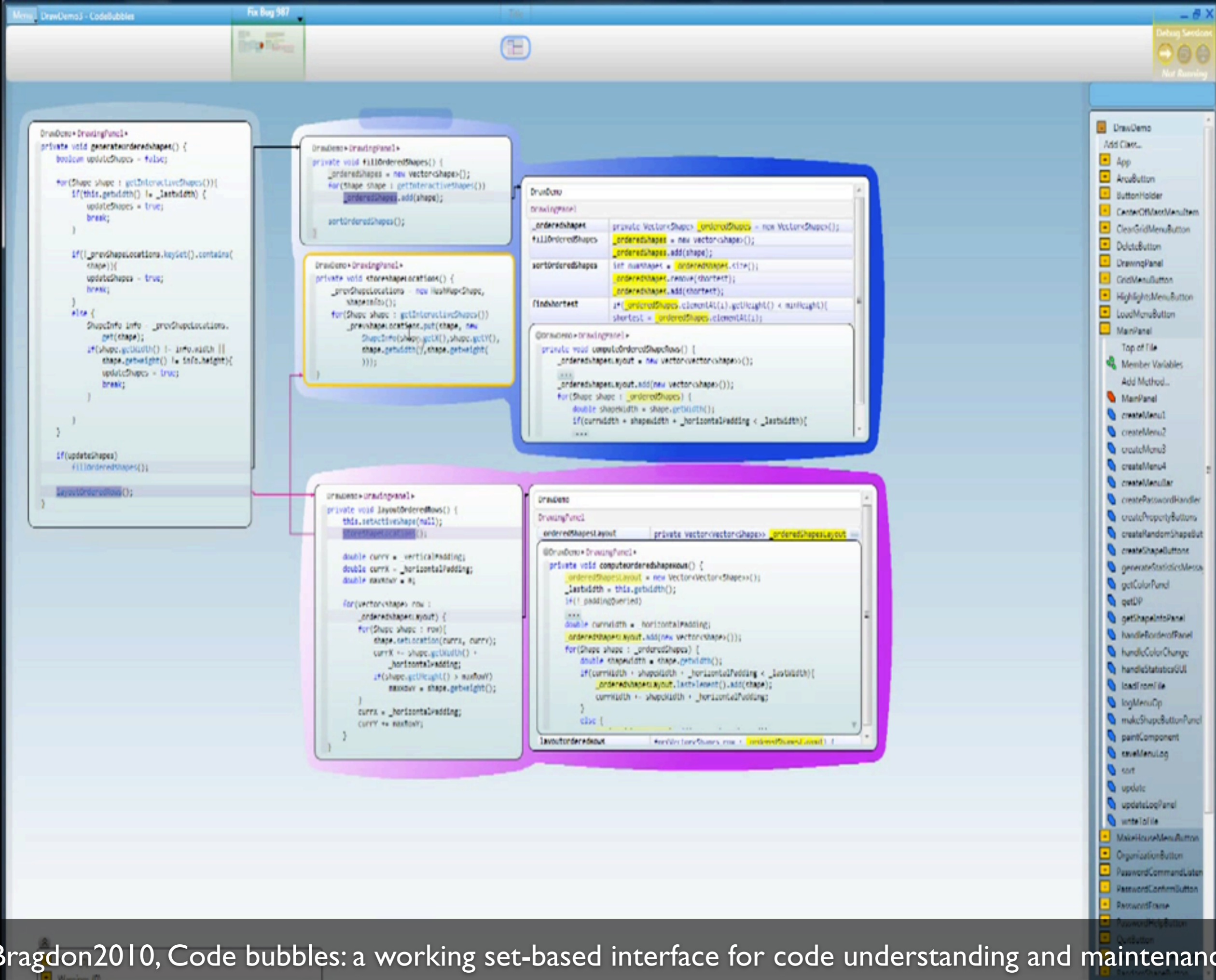


Changing the Presentation

[DeLine2006, CodeThumbnails2, Using Special Memory to Navigate Source Code]

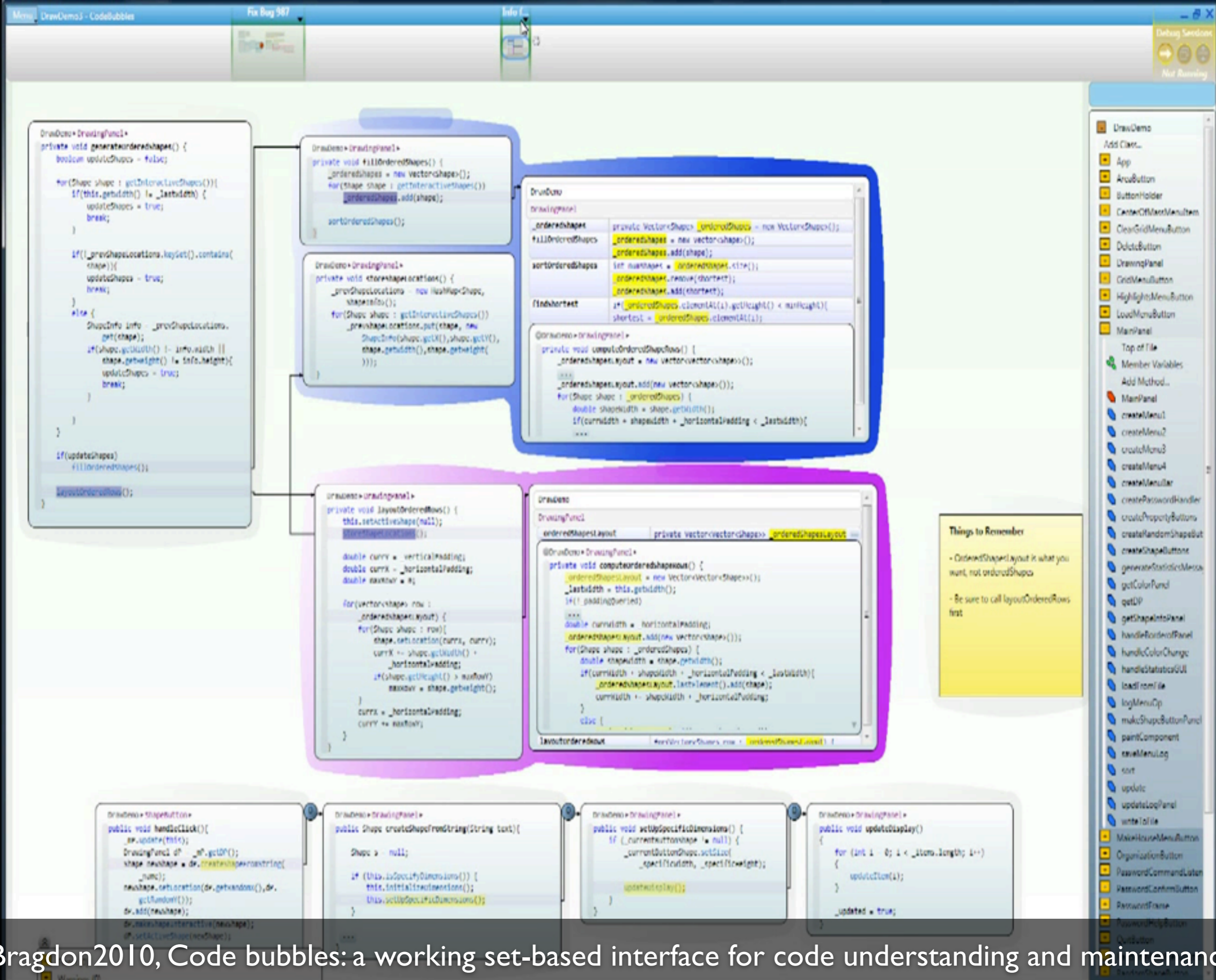


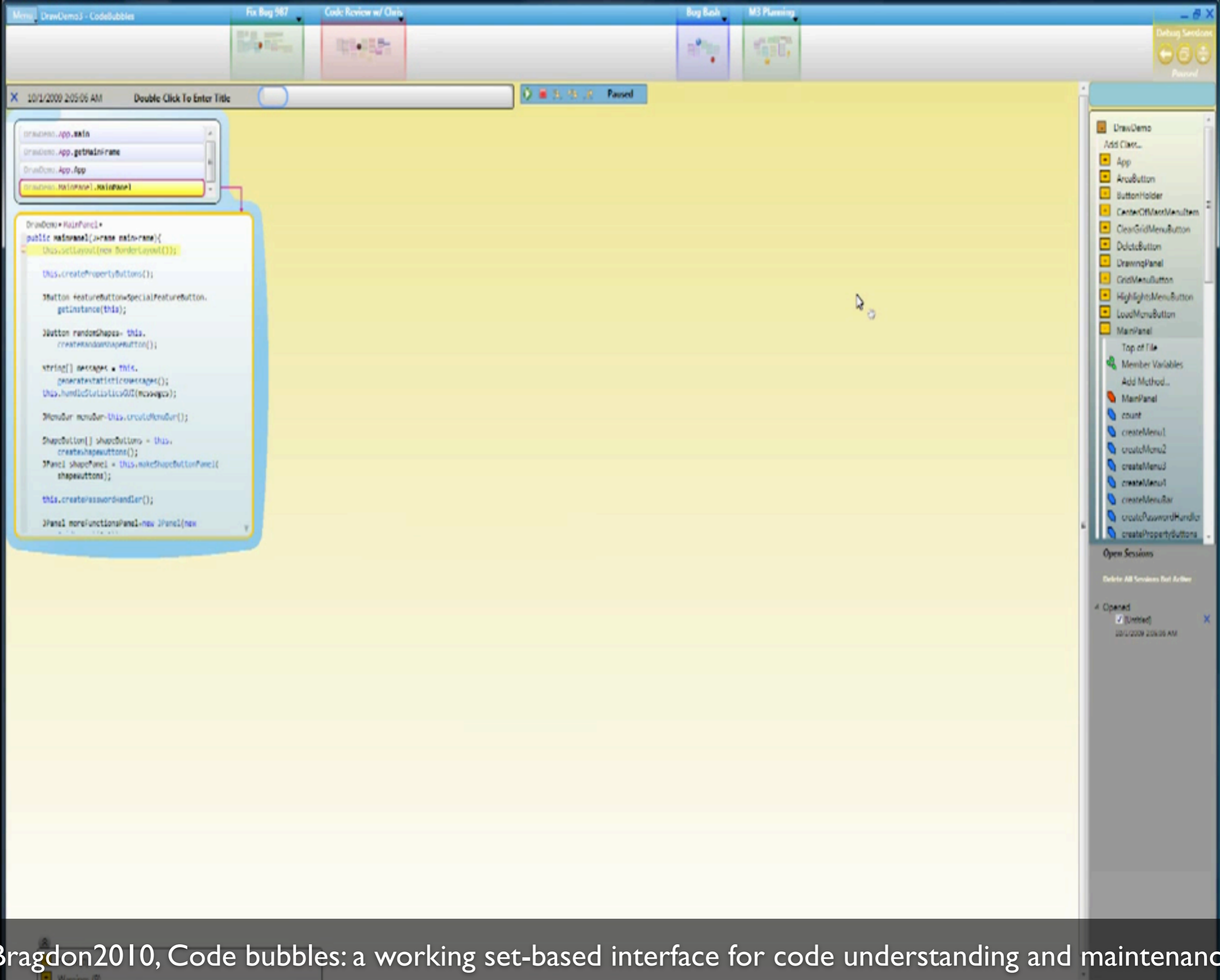




[Bragdon2010, Code bubbles: a working set-based interface for code understanding and maintenance]



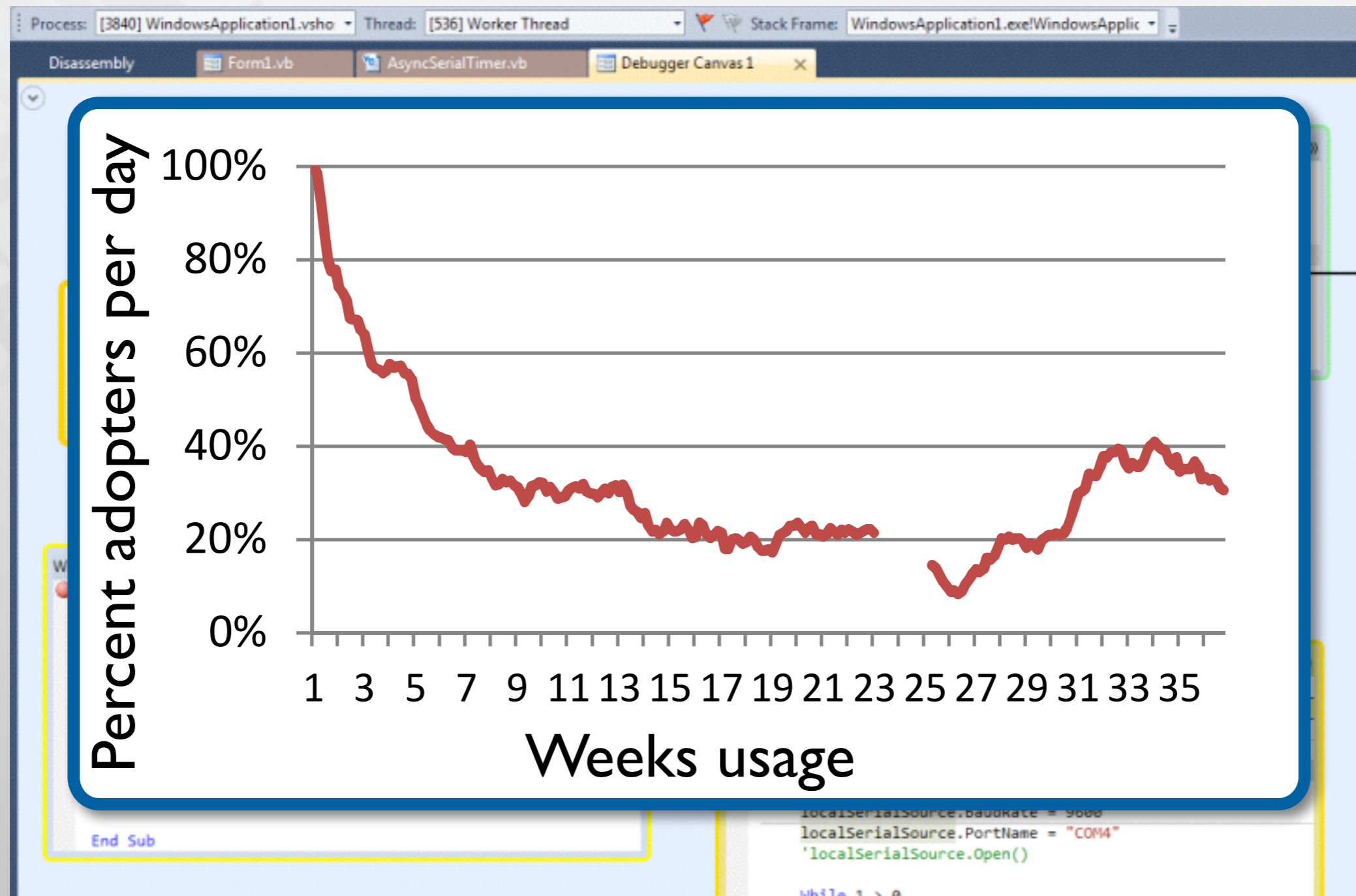




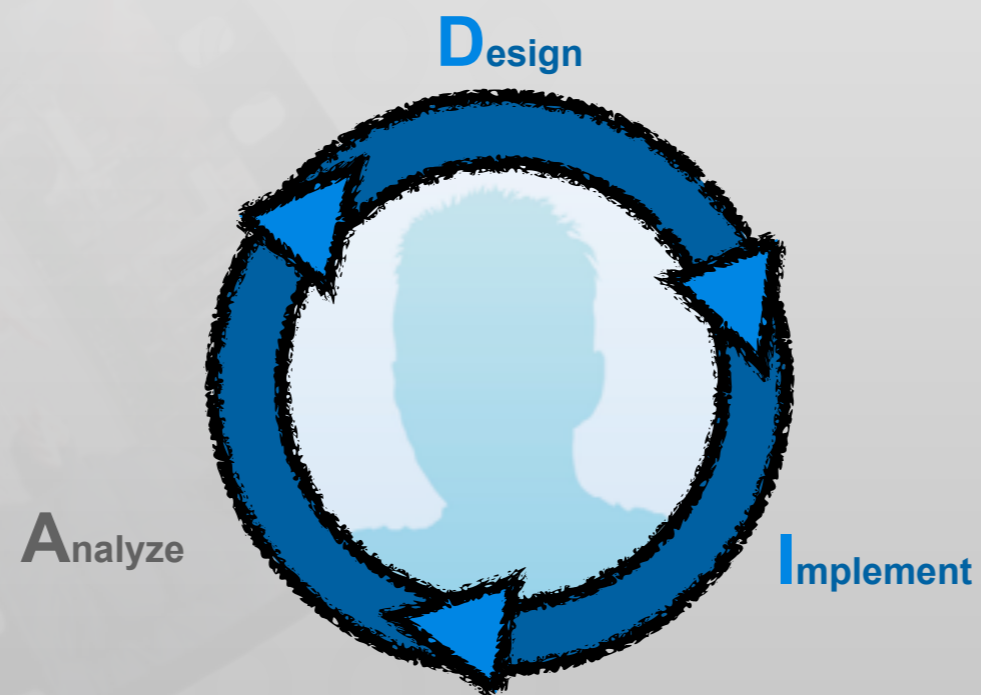
[Bragdon2010, Code bubbles: a working set-based interface for code understanding and maintenance]

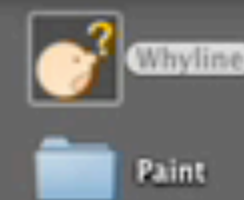
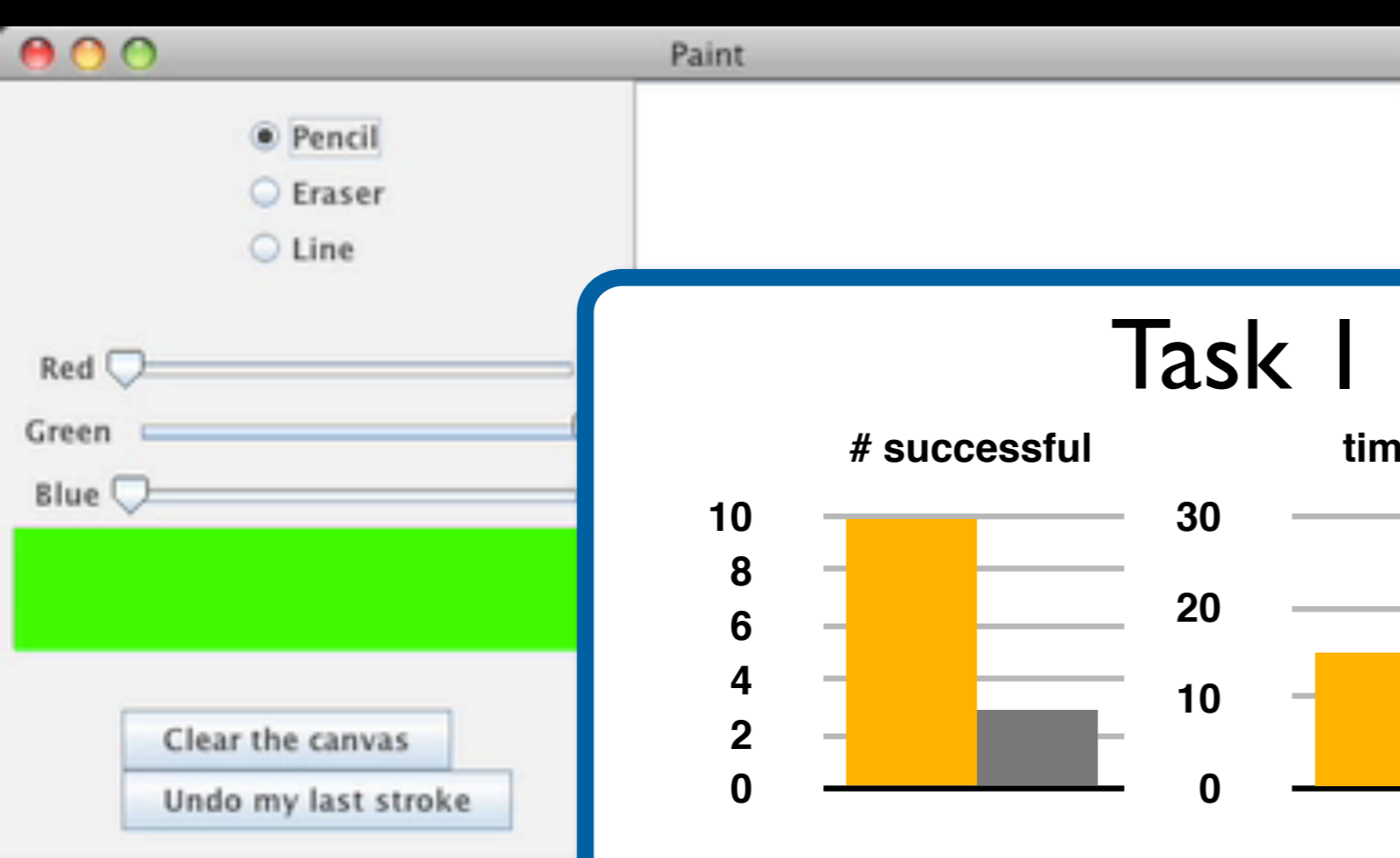
Canvas Interfaces in the Wild

[DeLine2012, Debugger Canvas: Industrial experience with the code bubbles paradigm]

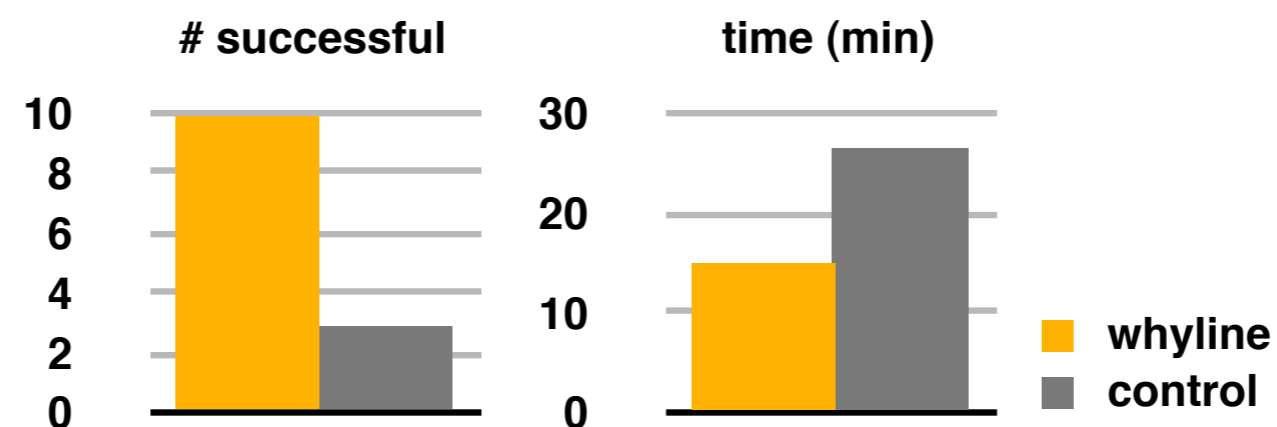


Utilizing the Call Graph

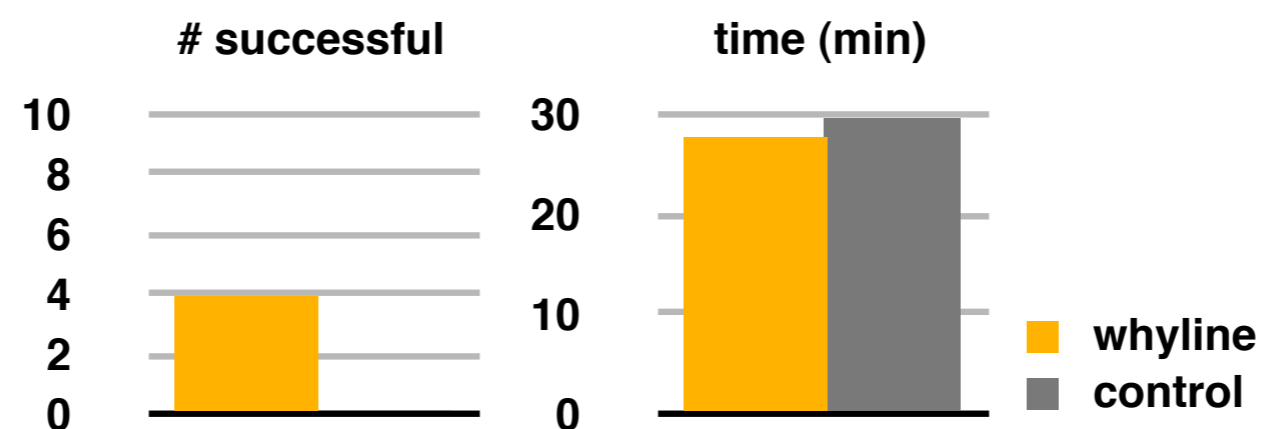




Task 1

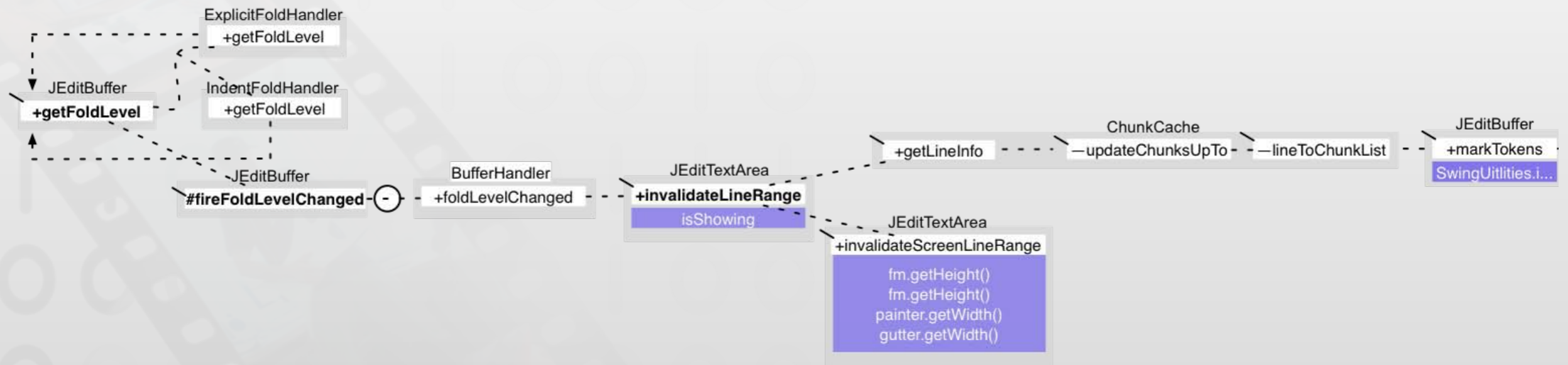


Task 2



Utilizing Call Graph Information

[LaToza2010, Searching Across Paths]



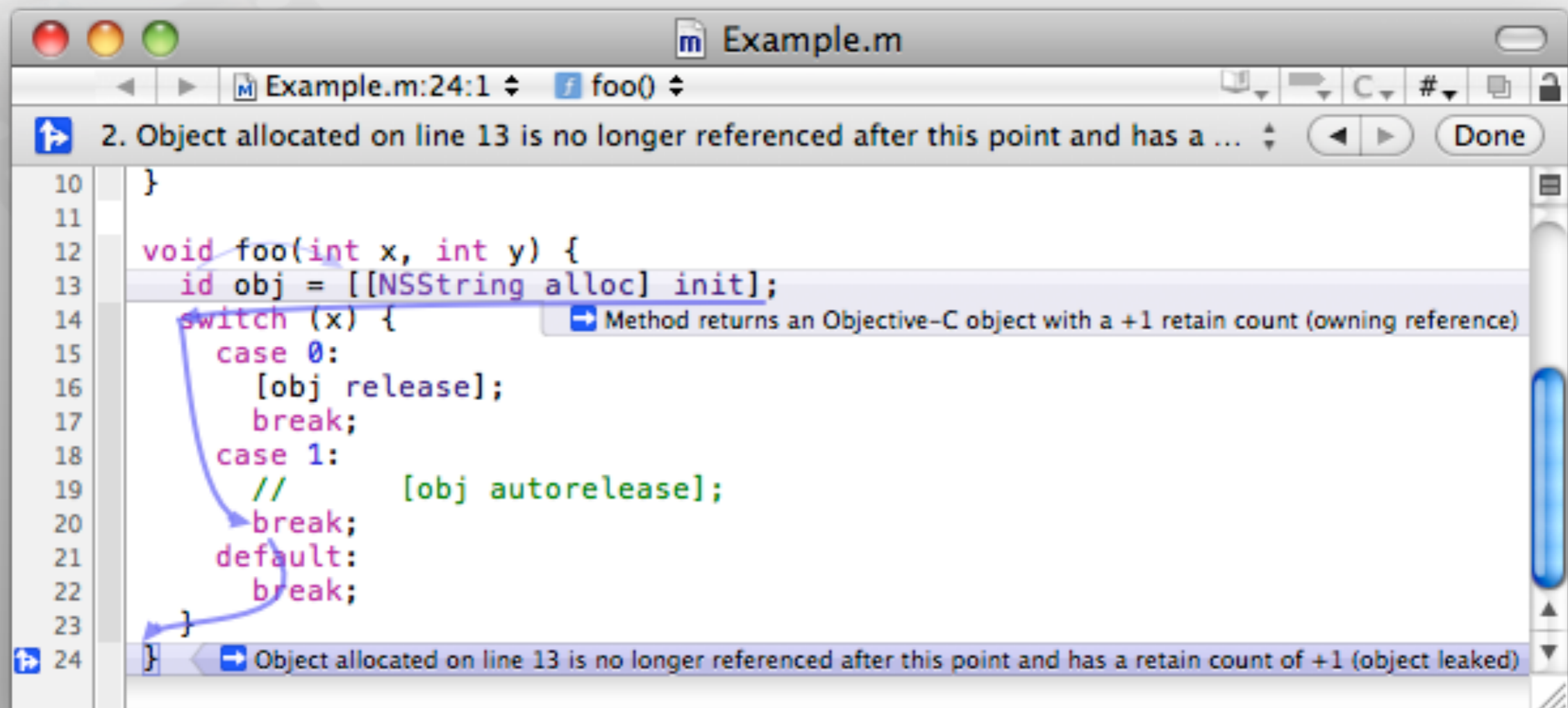
Legend

<code>+methodName</code>	public / protected / private method	————	method call that is always executed		recursive method call
<code>#methodName</code>	method visited by developer	-----	method call that might execute	paths of calls with hidden methods
<code>-methodName</code>	method with callers that are not shown	- - - - -	mutually exclusive method calls		data flow
<code>TypeName</code>	type with type name	- - - - -	method call in a loop		expression that matches search



Static Analysis in the Wild

[Clang Static Analyzer, <http://clang-analyzer.llvm.org/>]



The screenshot shows the Xcode IDE with a file named 'Example.m'. The code defines a function 'foo' that takes two integers, 'x' and 'y'. Inside the function, an 'NSString' object is allocated on line 13. A switch statement follows, with cases for 'x' being 0, 1, or default. In the case of 0, the object is released. In the case of 1, it is autoreleased. In the default case, it is broken. The object is not released in the default case, leading to a memory leak. The Clang Static Analyzer has identified this as a warning: 'Object allocated on line 13 is no longer referenced after this point and has a retain count of +1 (object leaked)'. A tooltip also shows: 'Method returns an Objective-C object with a +1 retain count (owning reference)'.

```
10 }
11
12 void foo(int x, int y) {
13     id obj = [[NSString alloc] init];
14     switch (x) {
15         case 0:
16             [obj release];
17             break;
18         case 1:
19             // [obj autorelease];
20             break;
21         default:
22             break;
23     }
24 }
```

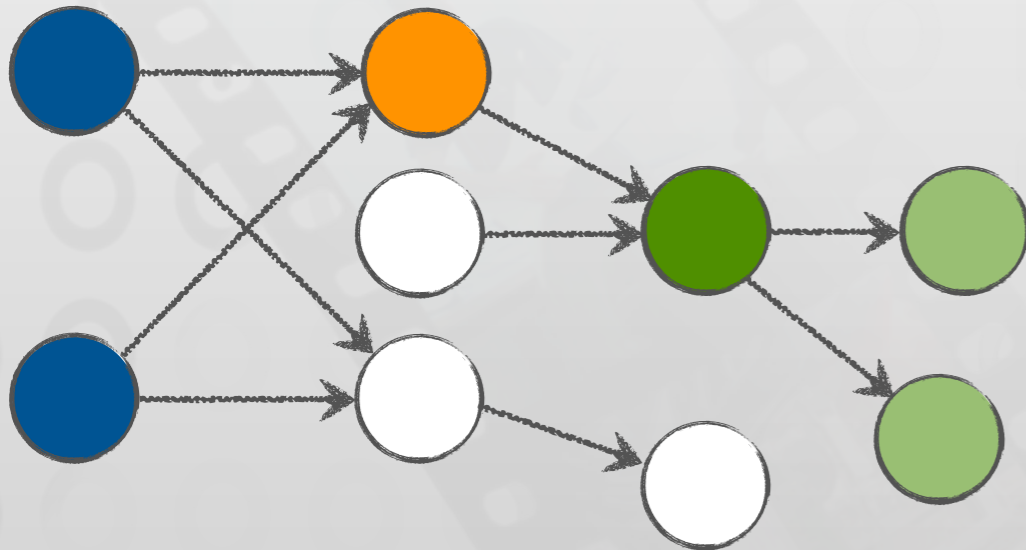
2. Object allocated on line 13 is no longer referenced after this point and has a ... Done

Method returns an Objective-C object with a +1 retain count (owning reference)

Object allocated on line 13 is no longer referenced after this point and has a retain count of +1 (object leaked)



Call Hierarchy

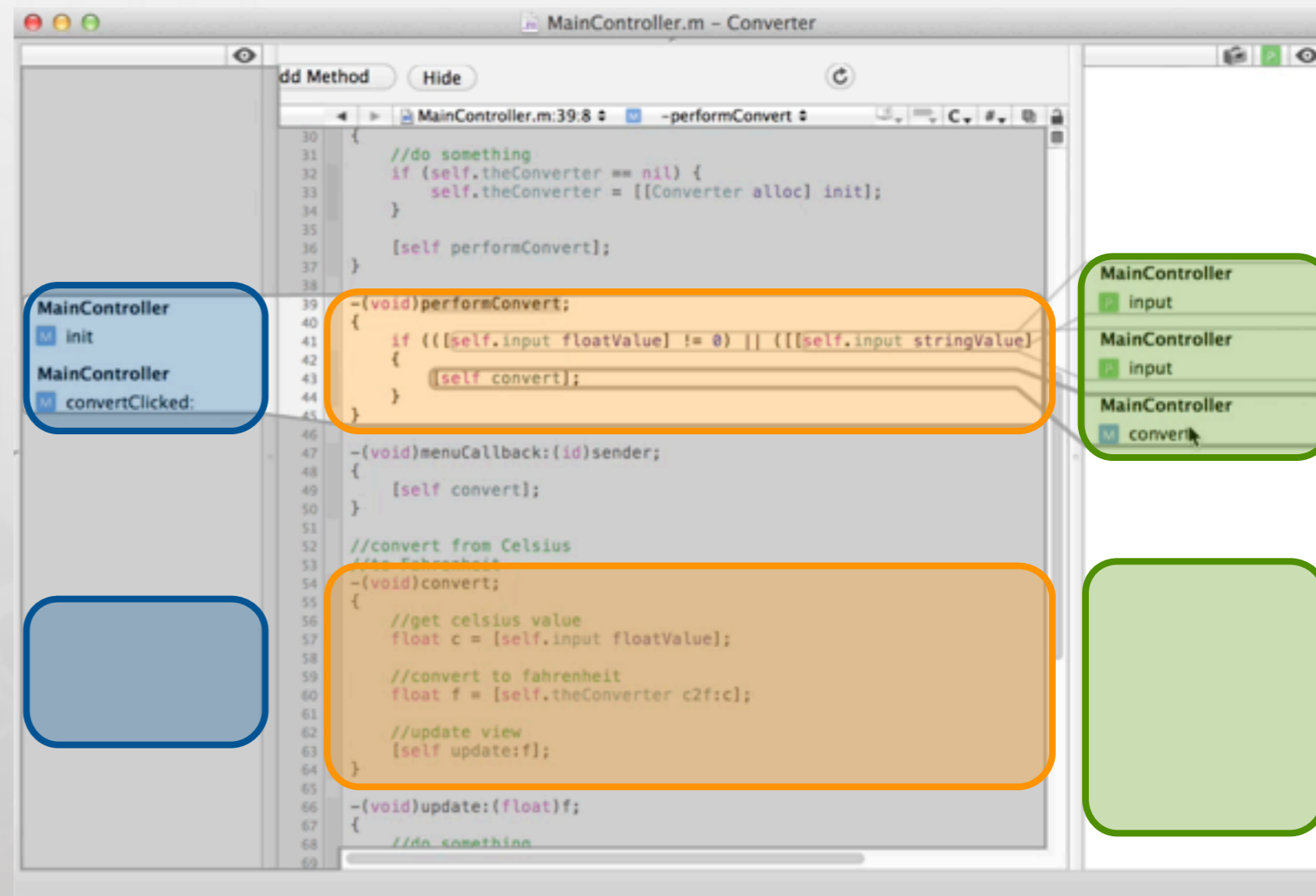
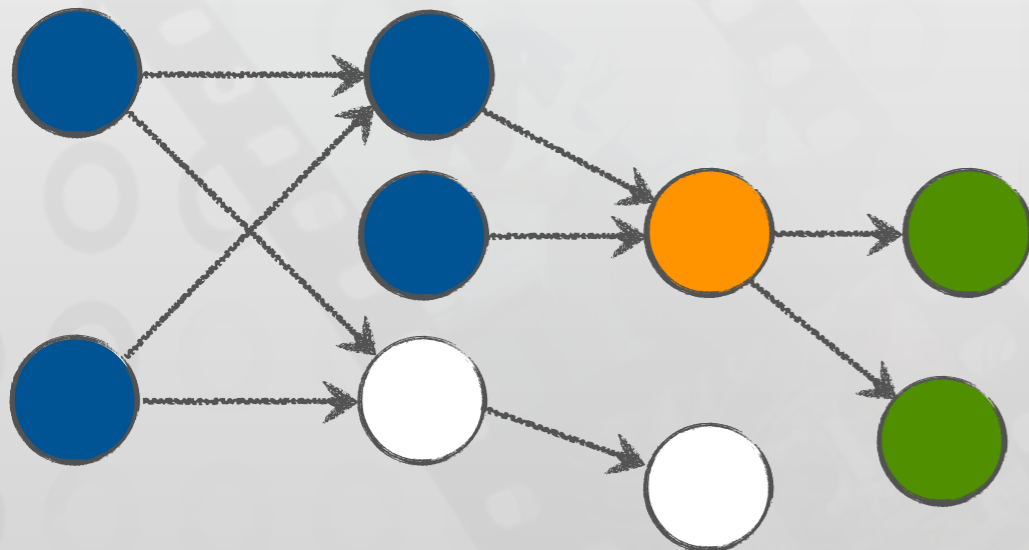


Converter.xcodeproj

```
29 -(void)convertClicked:(id)sender;
30 {
31     //do something
32     if (self.theConverter == nil) {
33         self.theConverter = [[Converter alloc] init];
34     }
35     [self performConvert];
36 }
37
38 -(void)performConvert;
39 {
40     if ([self.input floatValue] != 0) || ([self.input st
41     {
42         [self convert];
43     }
44 }
45
46 -(void)menuCallback:(id)sender;
47 {
48     [self convert];
49 }
50
51 //convert from Celsius
52 //to Fahrenheit
53 -(void)convert;
54 {
55     //get celsius value
56     float c = [self.input floatValue];
57
58     //convert to fahrenheit
59     float f = [self.theConverter c2f:c];
60
61     //update view
62     [self update:f];
63 }
64
65 -(void)update:(float)f;
66 {
67     //do something
68 }
69
70 @end
```

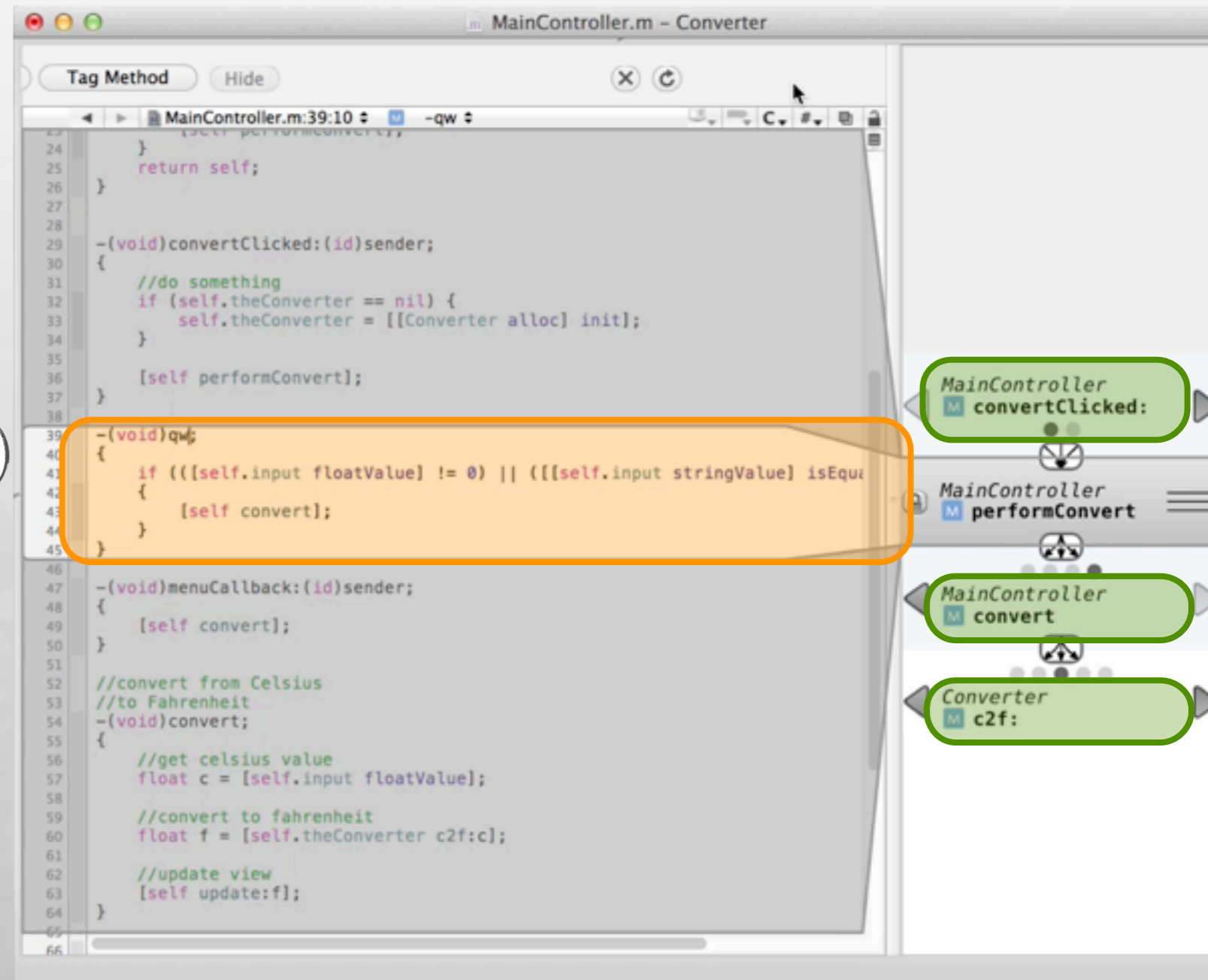
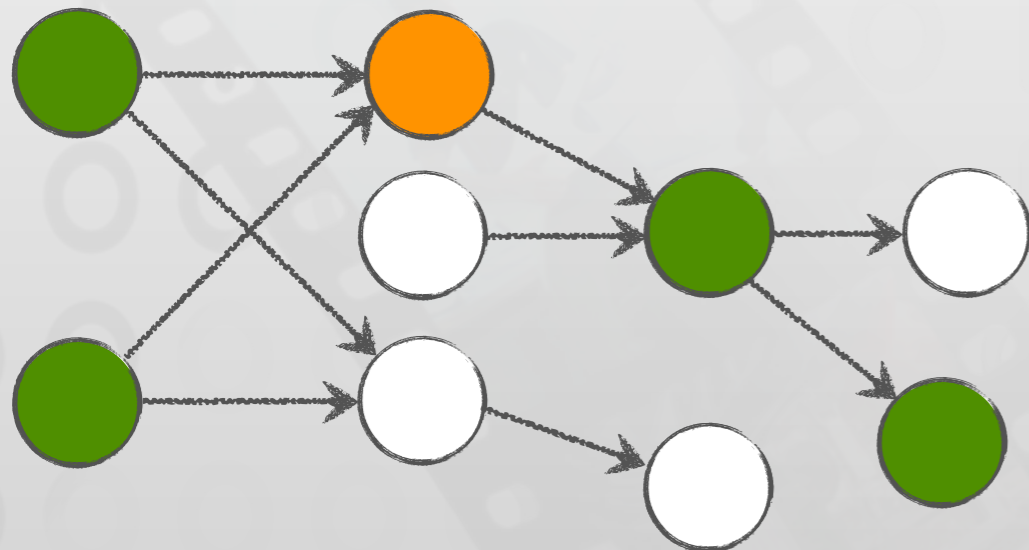
Stacksplorer

[Karrer2011, Stacksplorer: Call Graph Navigation Helps Increasing Code Maintenance Efficiency]

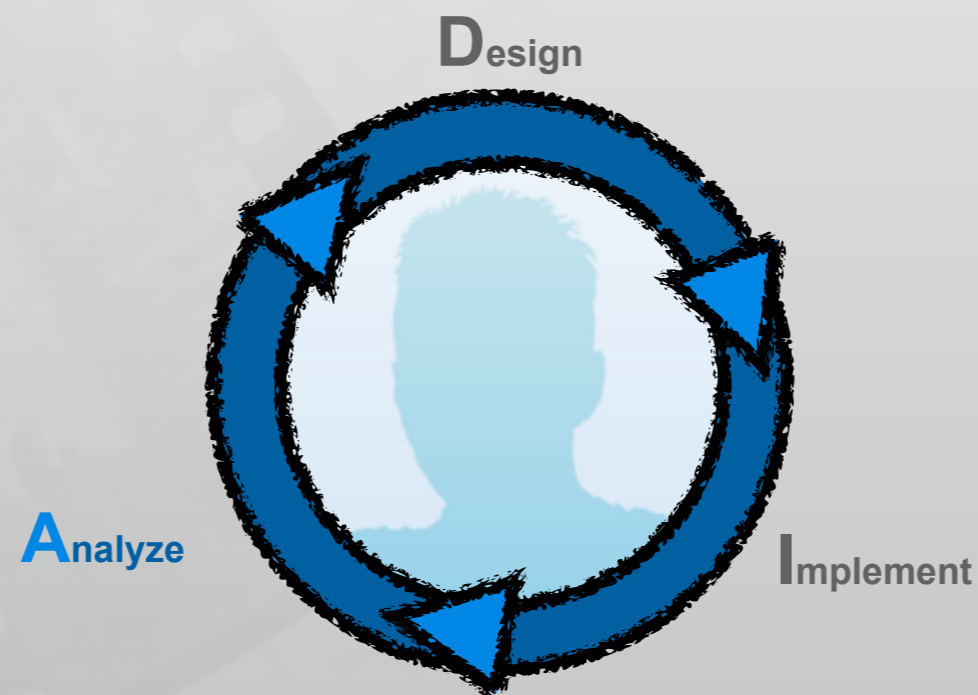


Blaze

[Krämer2012, Blaze: Supporting Two-phased Call Graph Navigation in Source Code]



Analyzing Navigation Behavior



Information Foraging Theory



Predator



Scent



Prey



Information Foraging Theory

[Lawrance2010, Reactive information foraging for evolving goals]



Predator



Scent

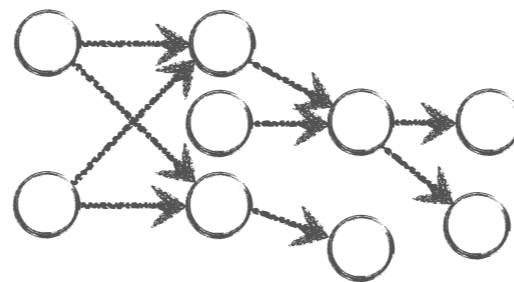


Prey



```
- (id)initWithBundle:(NSBundle *)plugin
{
    if (self = [super init]) {
        // reference to plugin's bundle, for resource access
        self.bundle = plugin;

        //register to notifications
        [[NSNotificationCenter defaultCenter] addObserver:self
        selector:@selector(onDidFinishSetup:) name:
        IDESourceCodeEditorDidFinishSetupNotification object:nil];
        [[NSNotificationCenter defaultCenter] addObserver:self
        selector:@selector(onTest:) name:
        DVTSourceExpressionSelectedExpressionDidChangeNotification
        object:nil];
    }
}
```



	Xcode	Call Hierarchy	Stacksplorer	Blaze
Find Change Location	Task Success Task Completion Time			
Side Effects of Change				



33 Developers



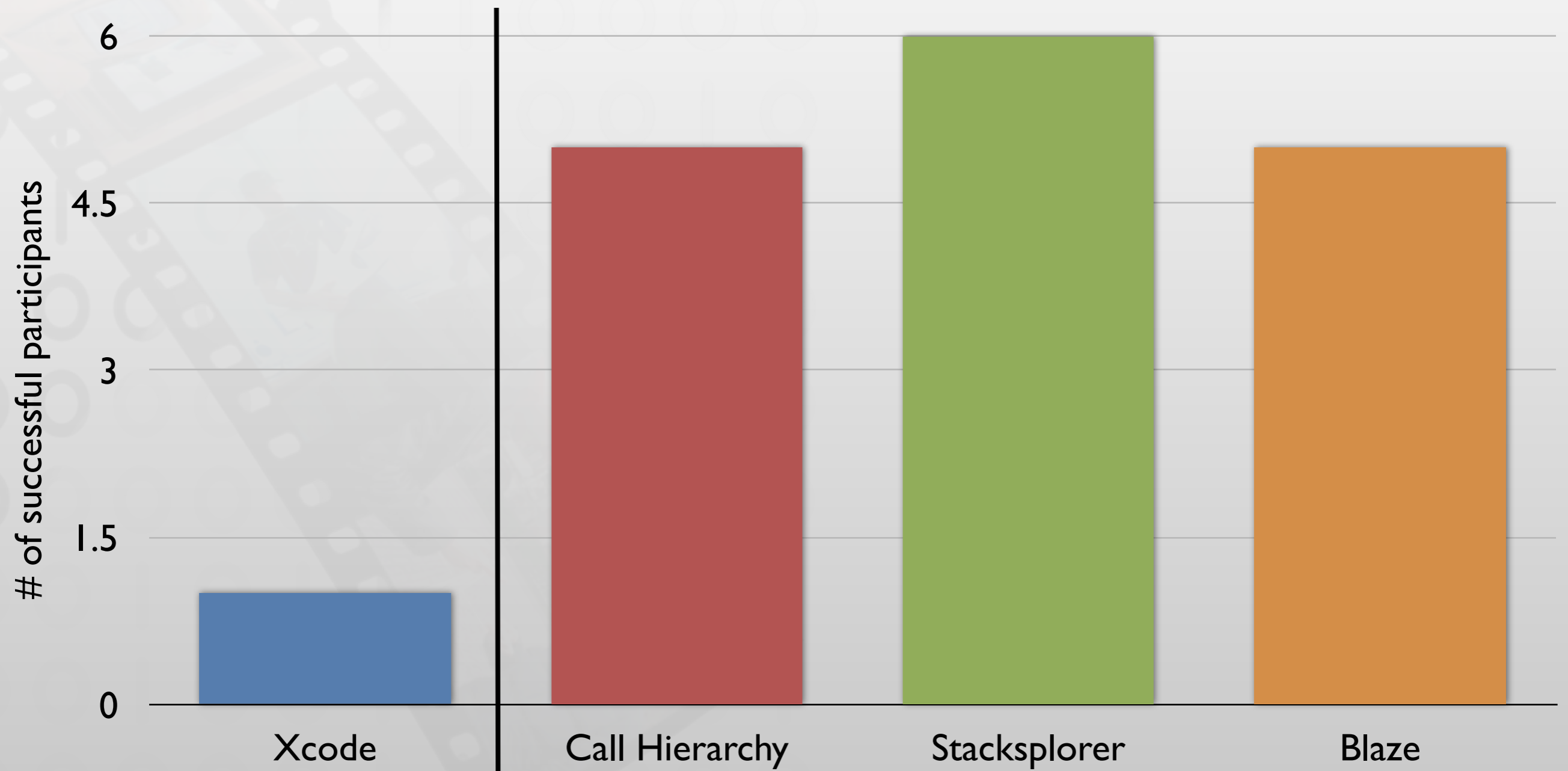
80.000 Lines of Code

[Krämer2013, How Tools in IDEs Shape Developers' Navigation Behavior]

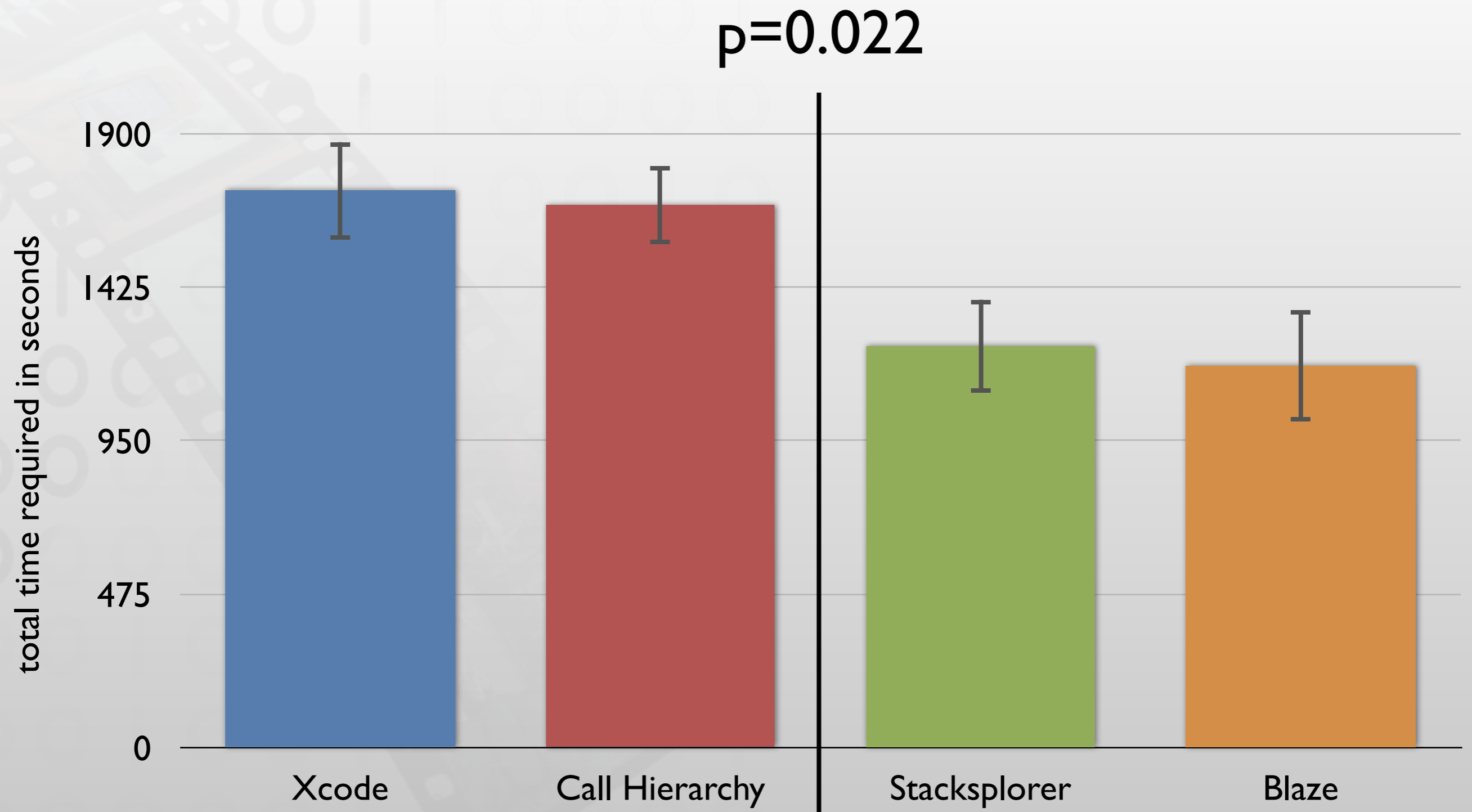


Task Success

$p = 0.015$



Task Completion Time



Effectiveness

Xcode

Call
Hierarchy

Stacksplorer

Blaze

Efficiency

Xcode

Call
Hierarchy

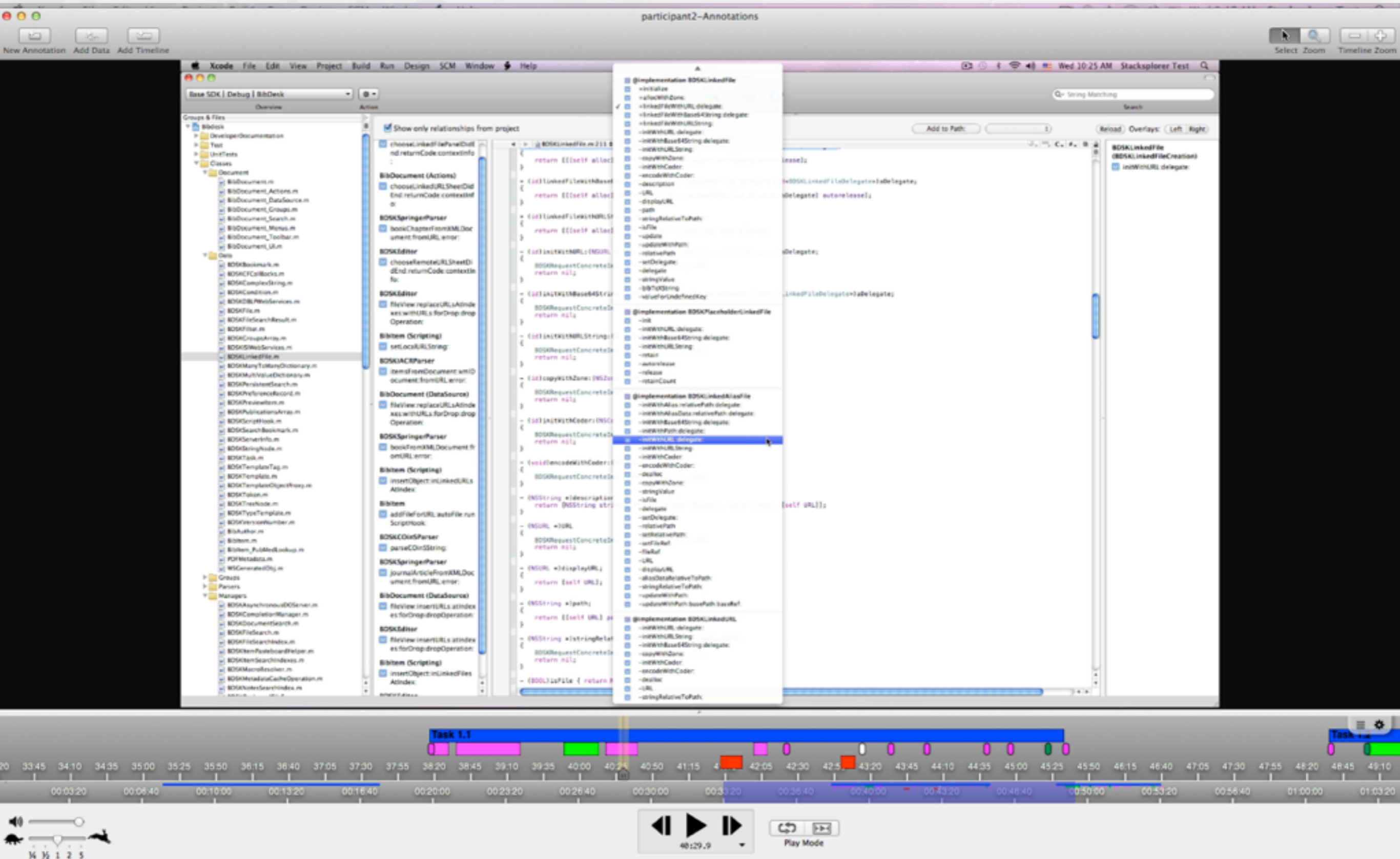
Stacksplorer

Blaze

Why?

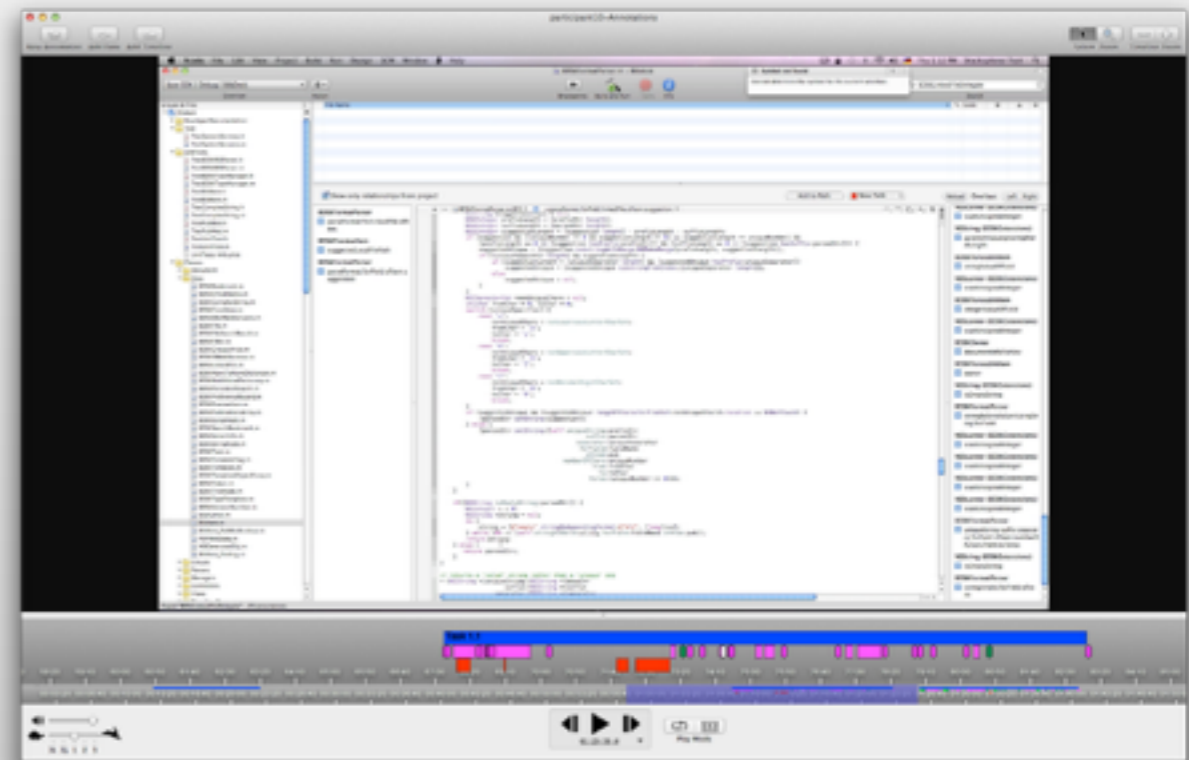
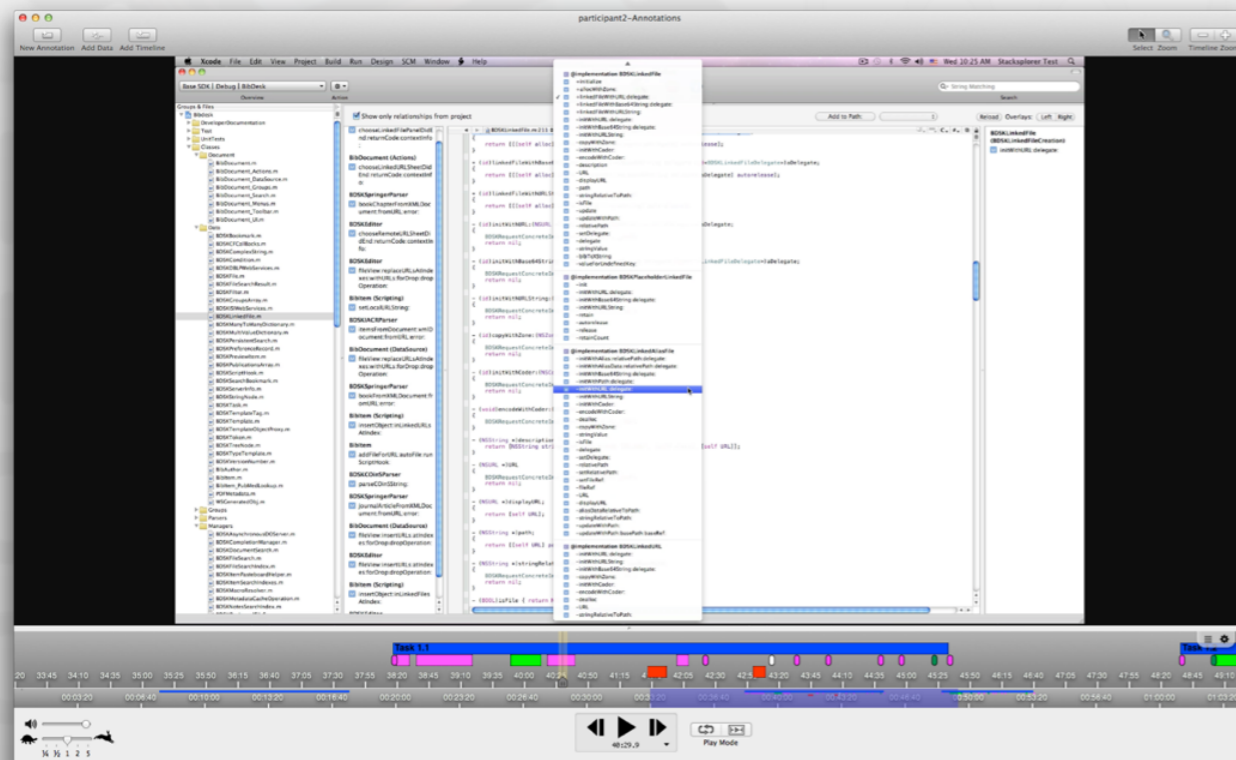
UI Differences

Navigation Behavior



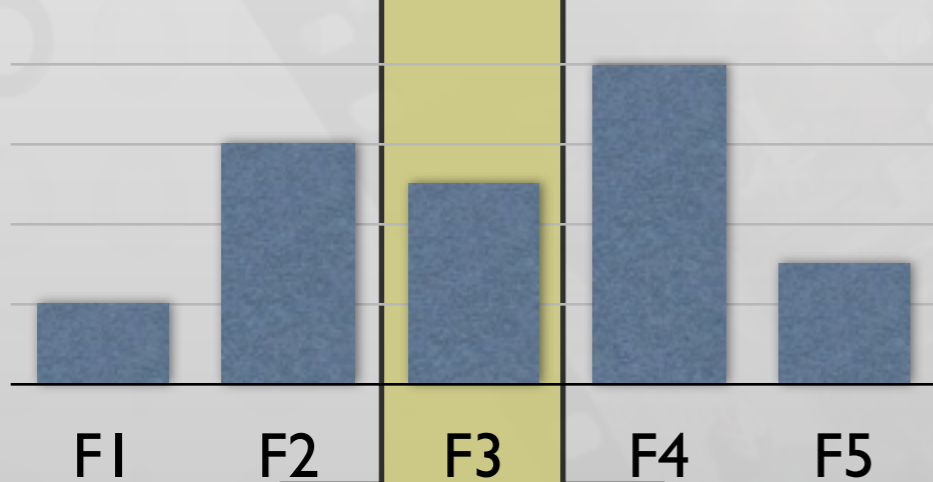
[Fouse2011, ChronoViz: A system for supporting navigation of time-coded data]

Comparing Navigation Behavior

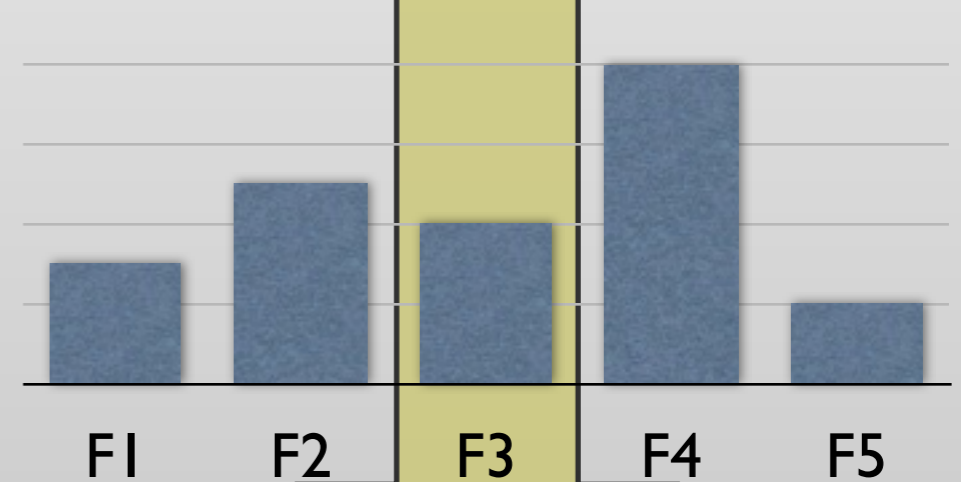




$$I_1 = (p_{1,1}, \dots, p_{640,480})$$



$$I_2 = (p_{1,1}, \dots, p_{1024,768})$$

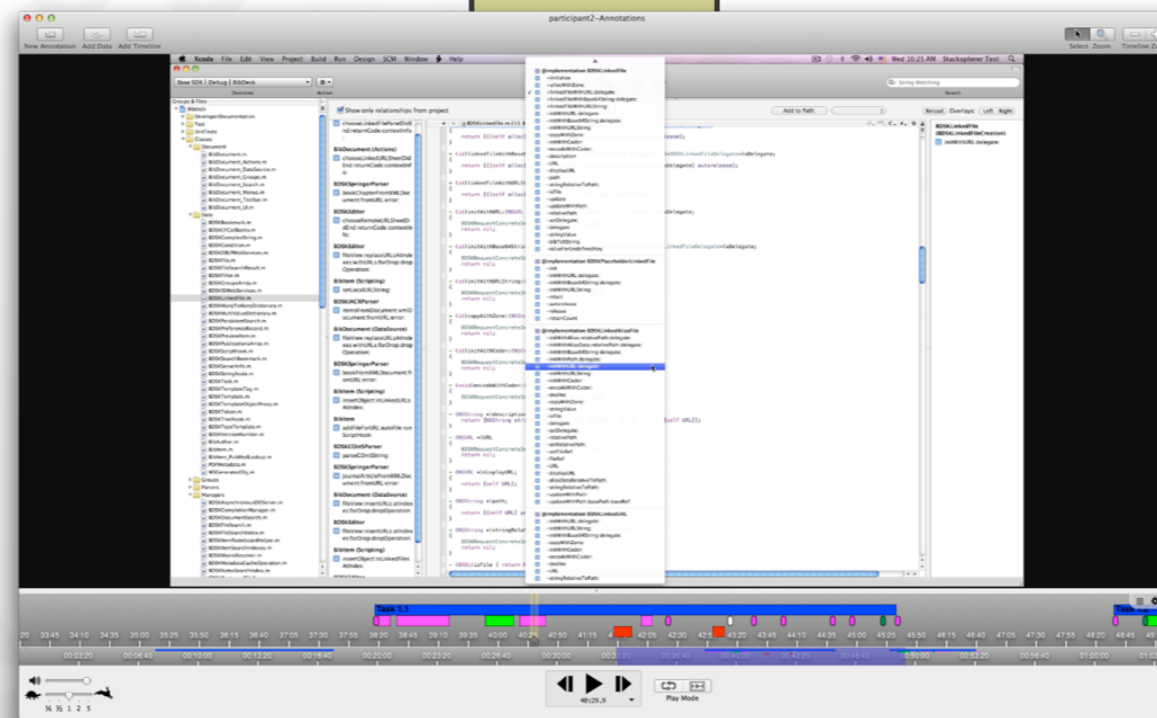


1. Features

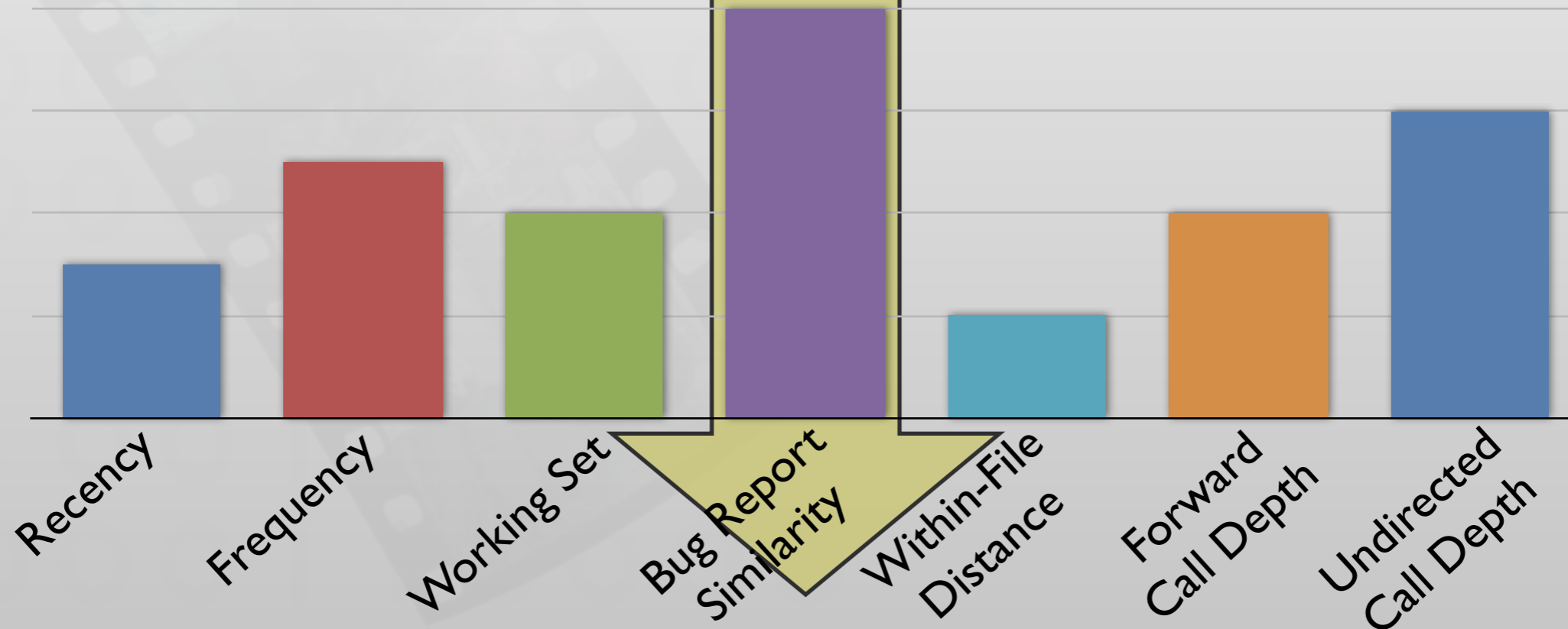
2. Transformations



[Piorkowski2011,
Modeling programmer
navigation: A head-to-
head empirical evaluation
of predictive models]



$$H = (m_1, \dots, m_i)$$



A Predictor

[Piorkowski2011, Modeling programmer navigation: A head-to-head empirical evaluation of predictive models]

$H=(m$

Navigation History

$H = (a, b, a, d)$

M

All methods known
to developer at time
 i

M

A

Activation value for
each method in

A

A

R

Rank-transformed
version of

R

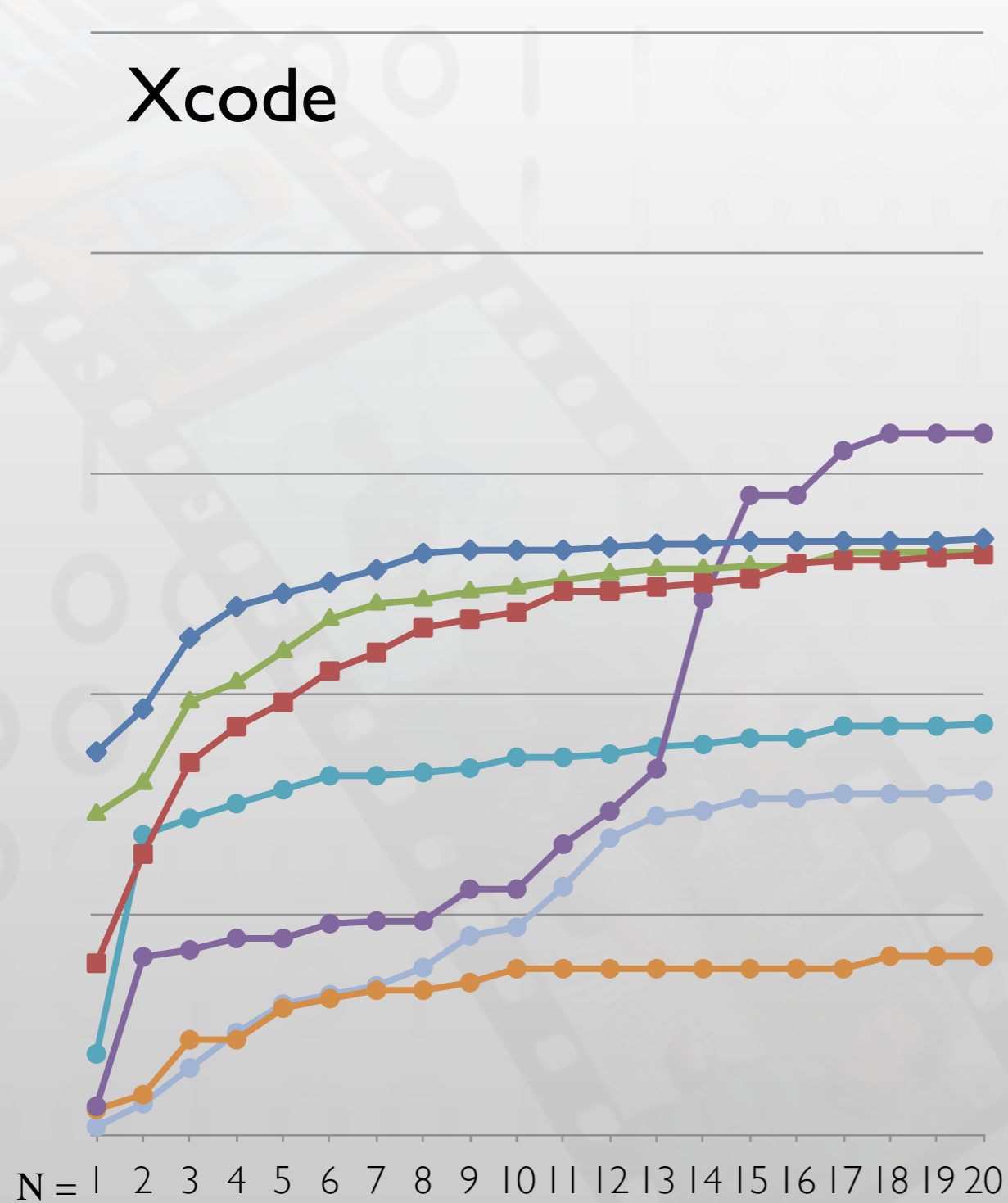
R

Result: N top-ranked methods

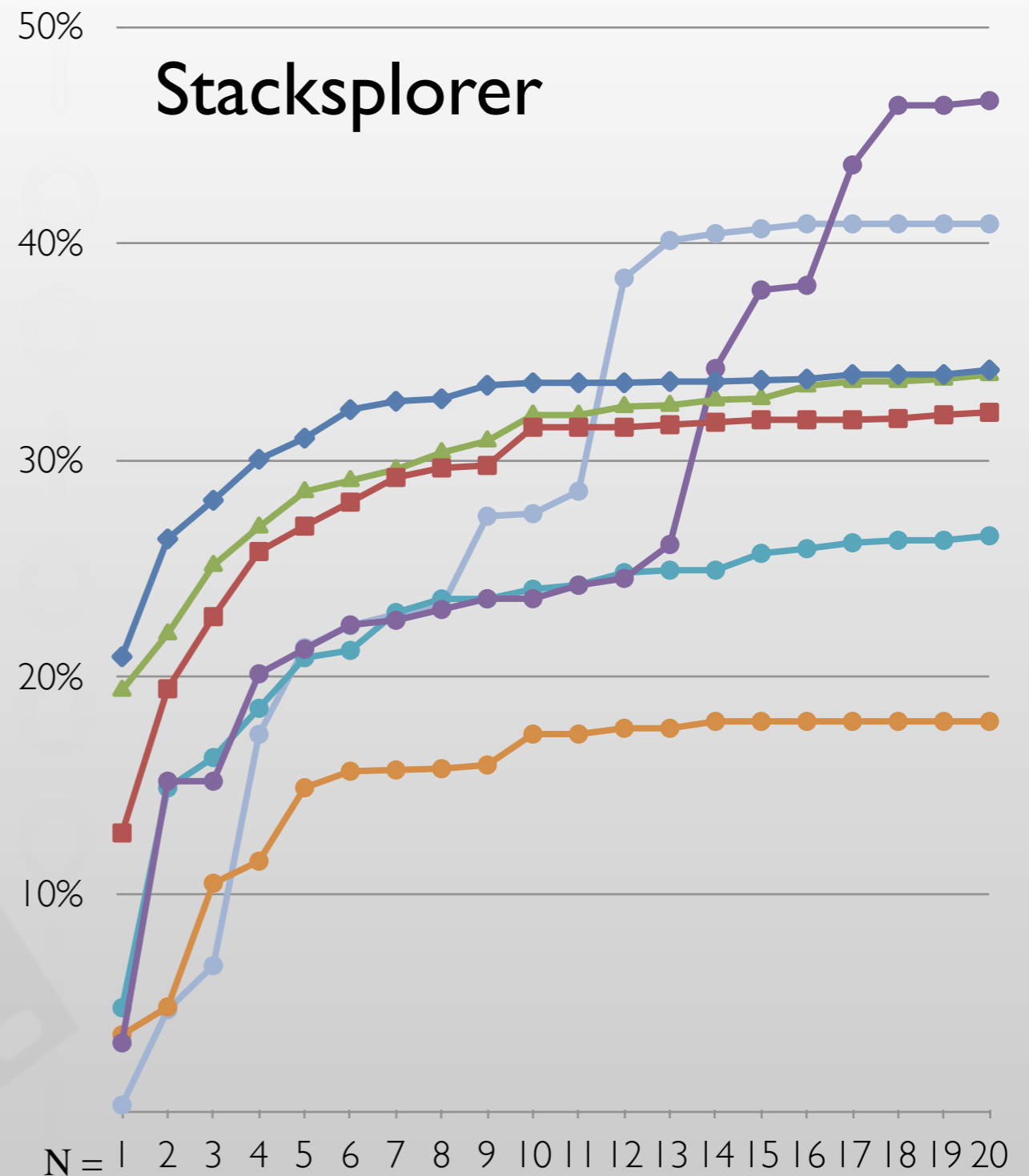


Prediction Accuracy

Xcode



Stacksplorer

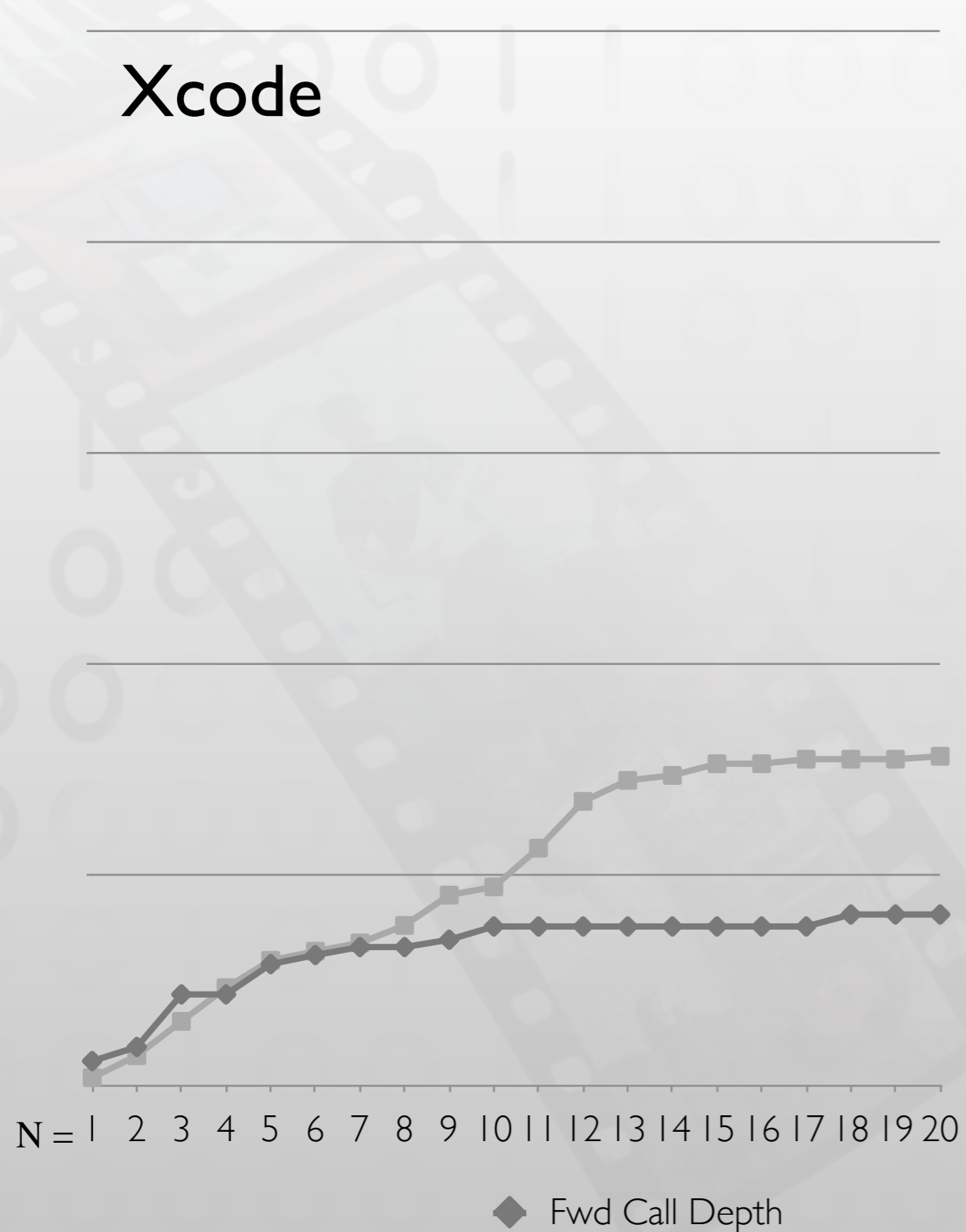


- Recency
- Frequency
- Working Set
- Bug Report Similarity
- Within File Distance
- Fwd Call Depth
- Undirected Call Depth

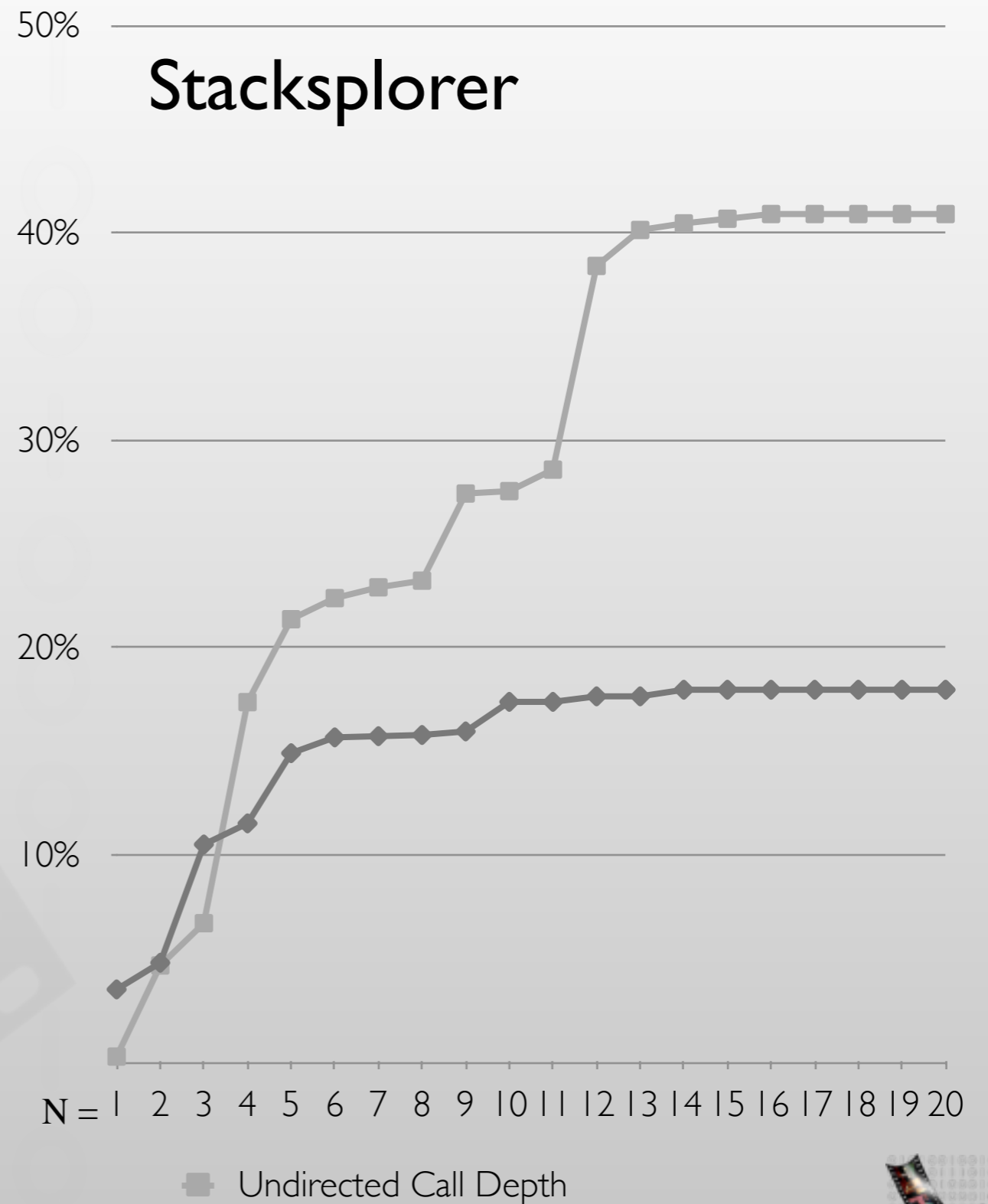


Prediction Accuracy

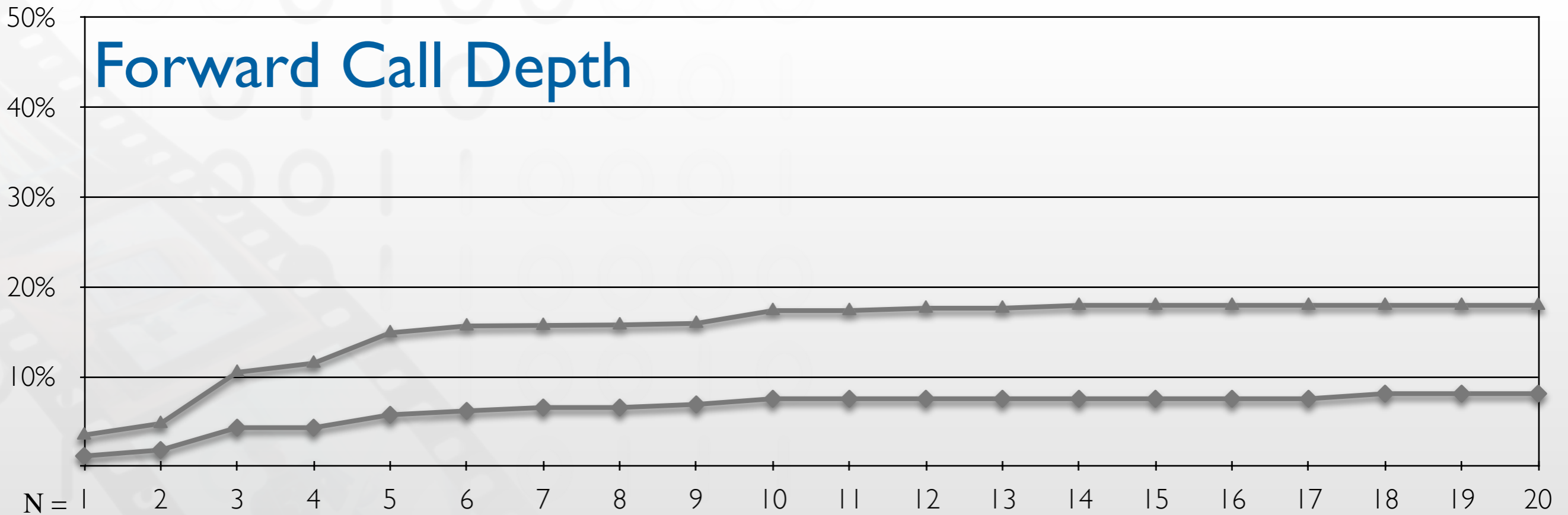
Xcode



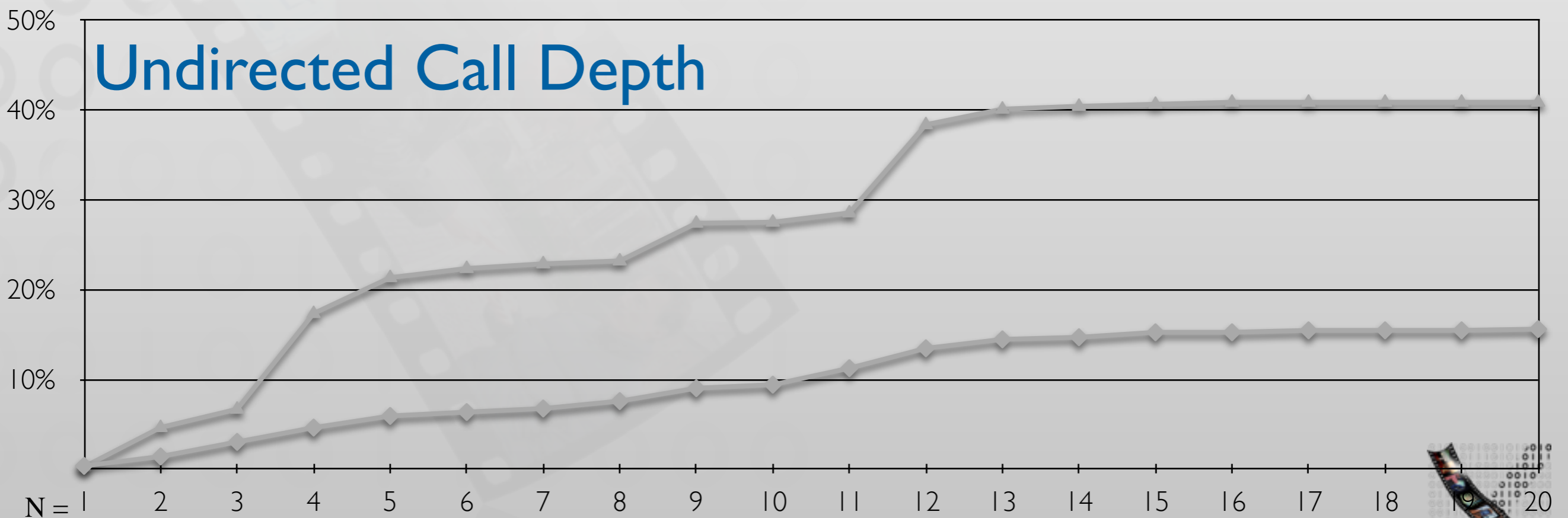
Stacksplorer

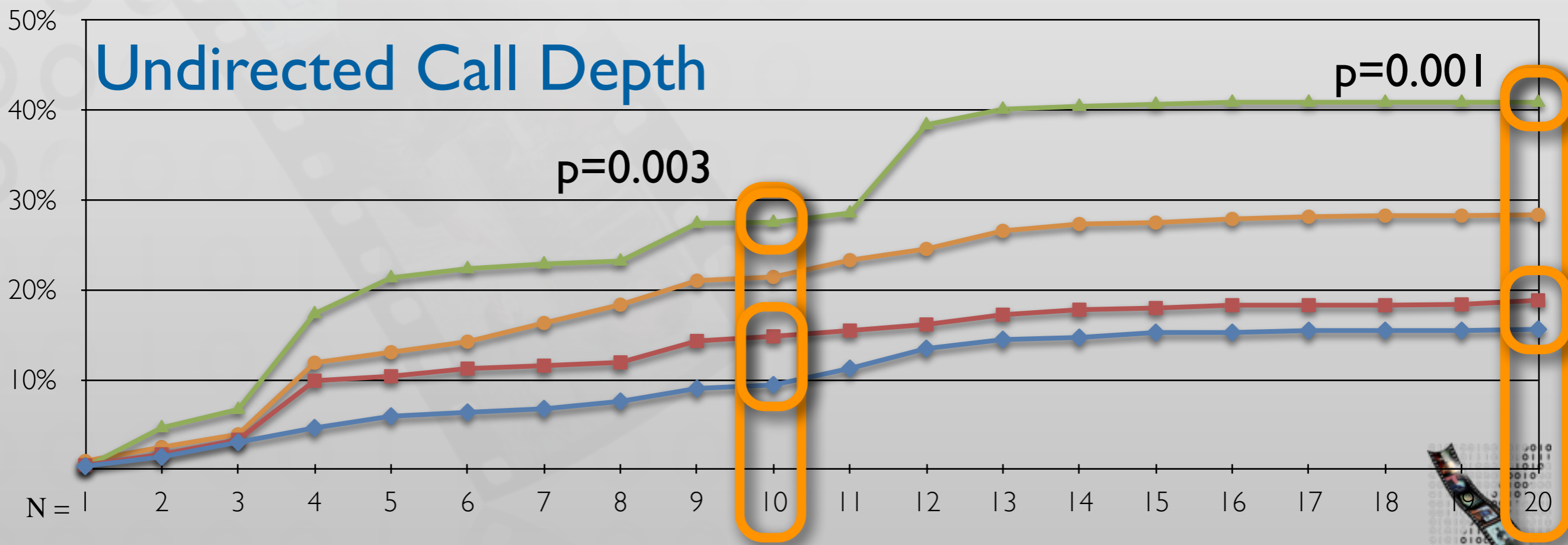
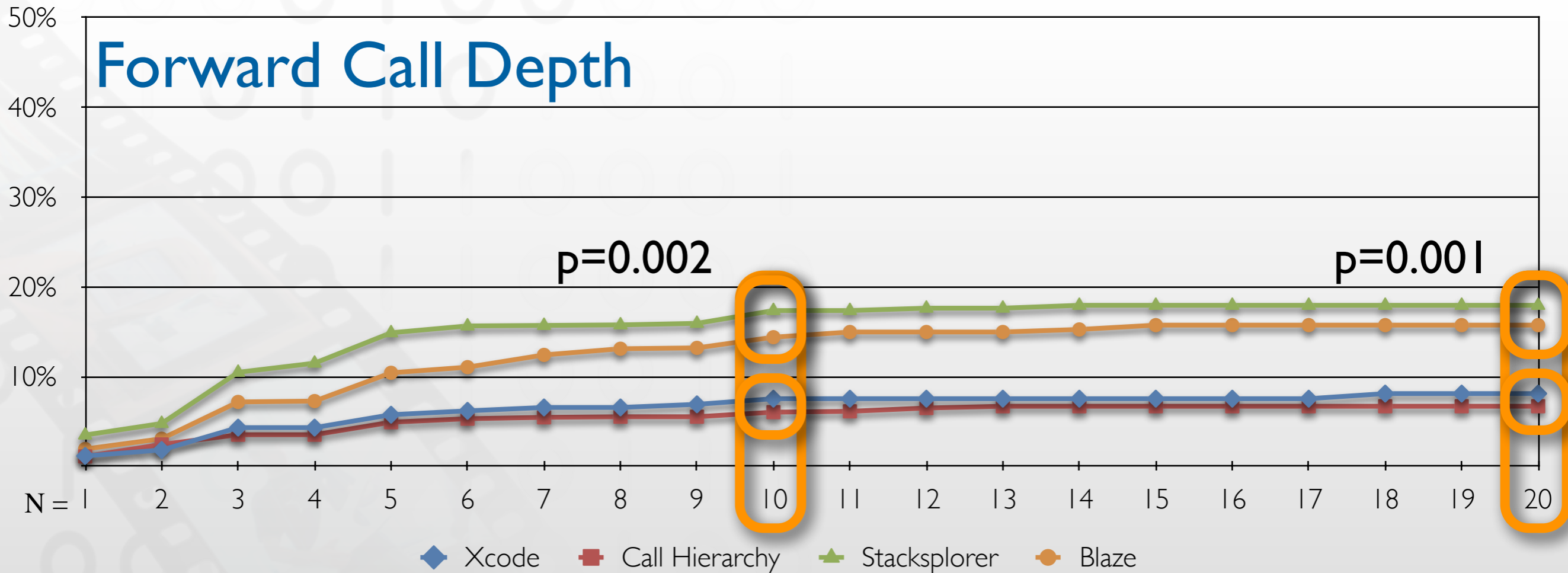


Forward Call Depth

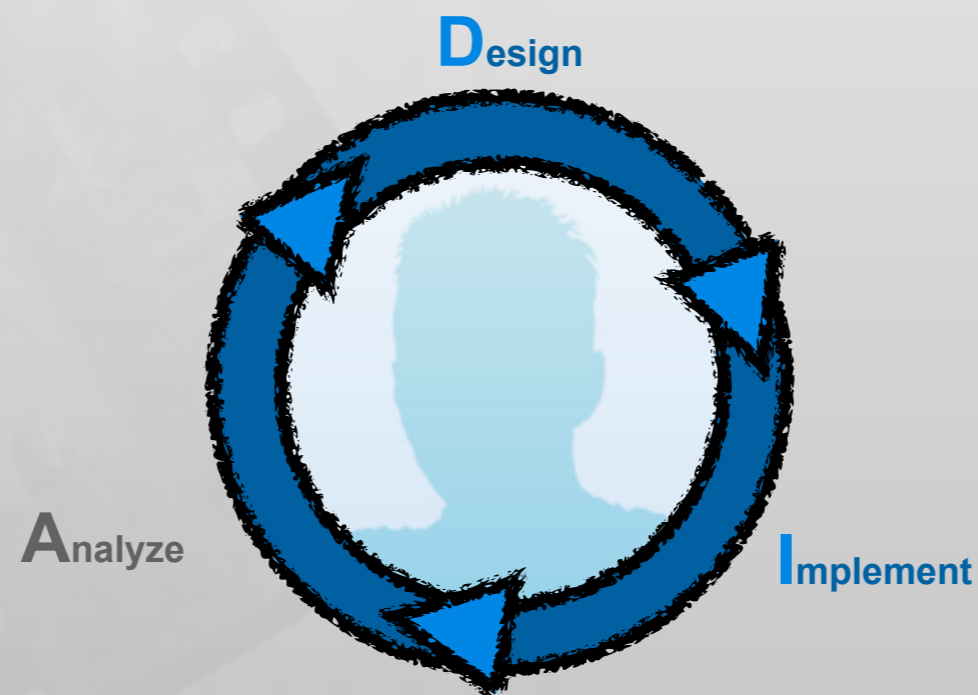


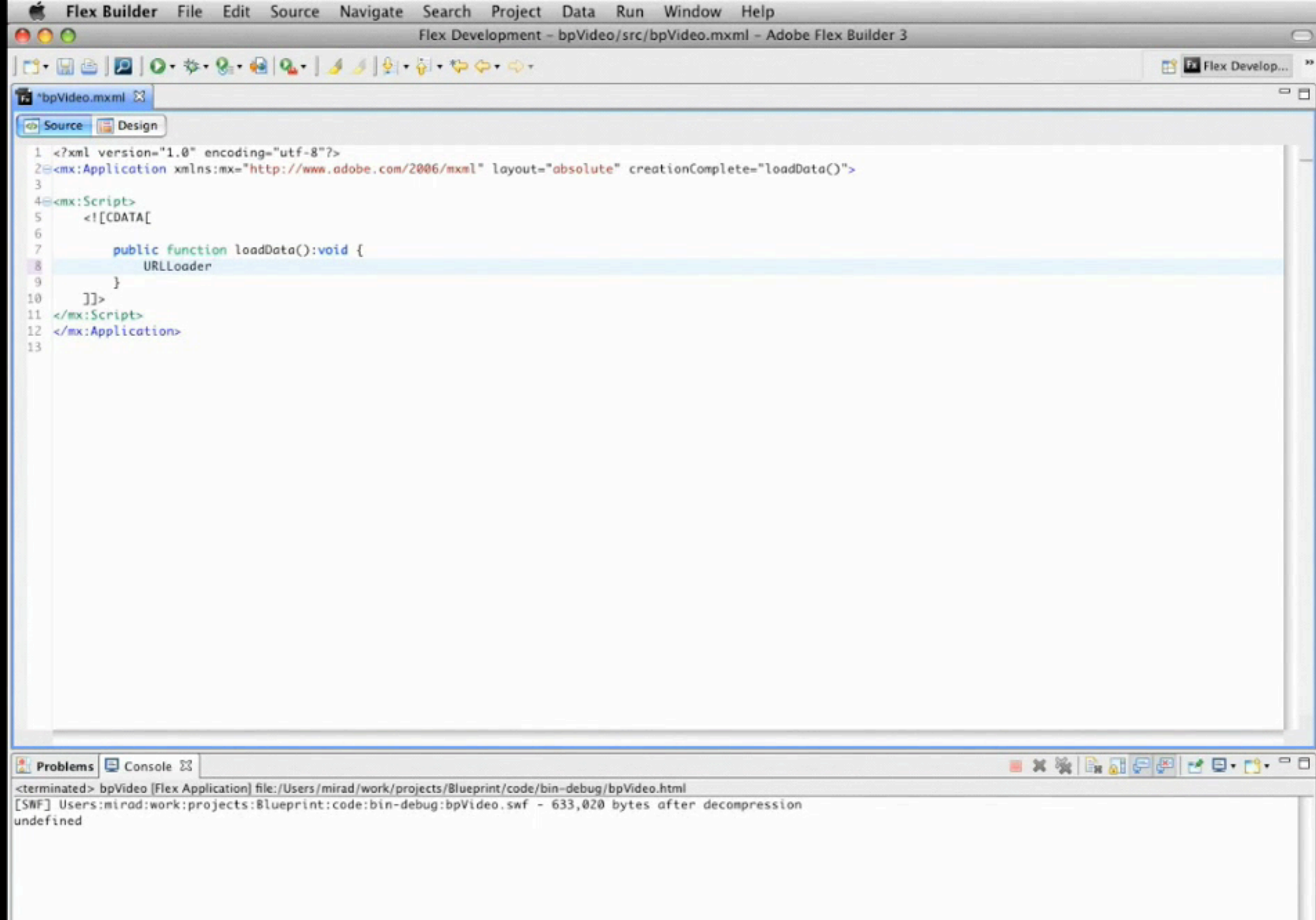
Undirected Call Depth





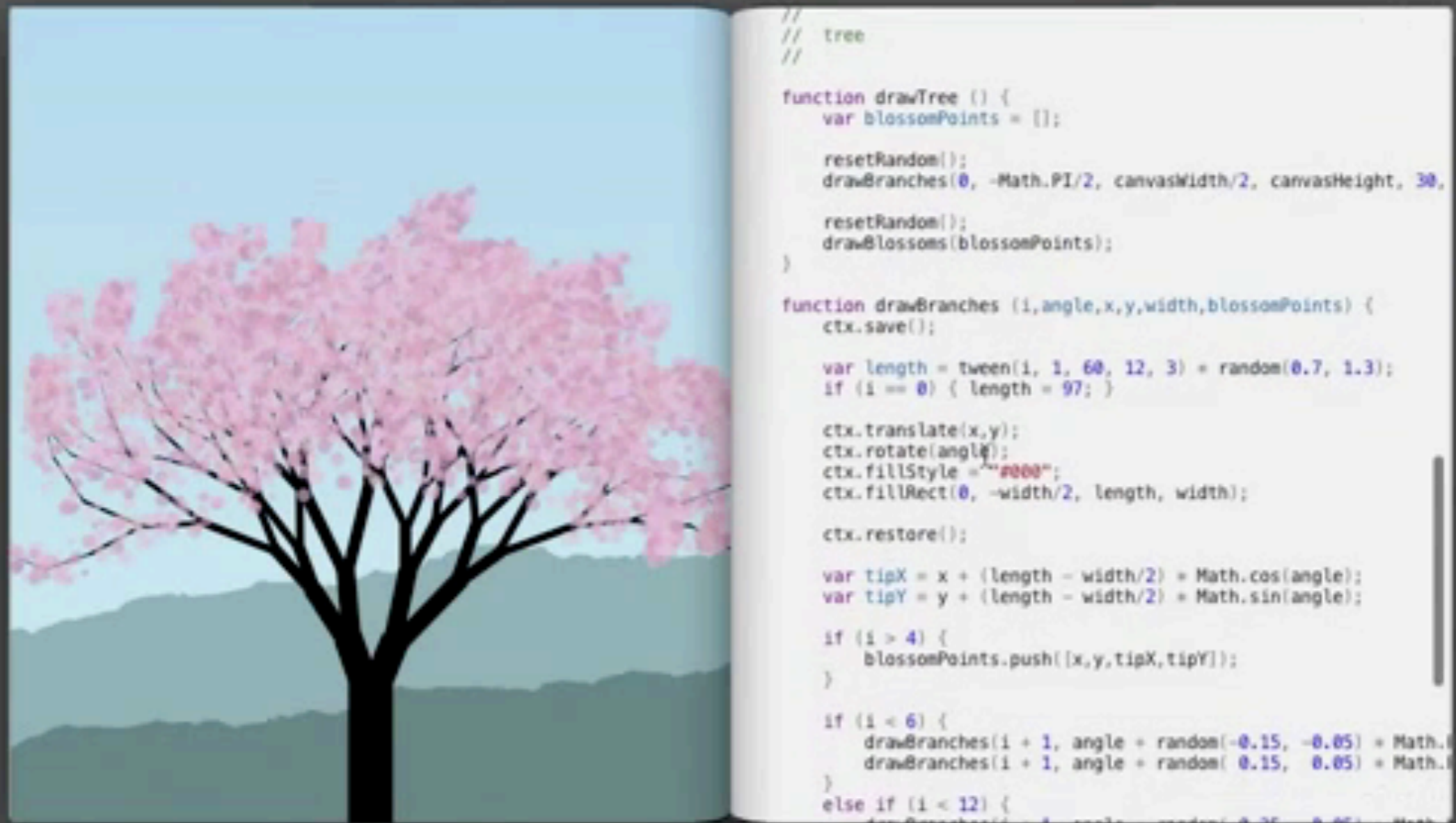
Away from static analysis only





[Brandt2010, Example-centric programming: integrating web search into the development environment]

// Introducing Codelets...

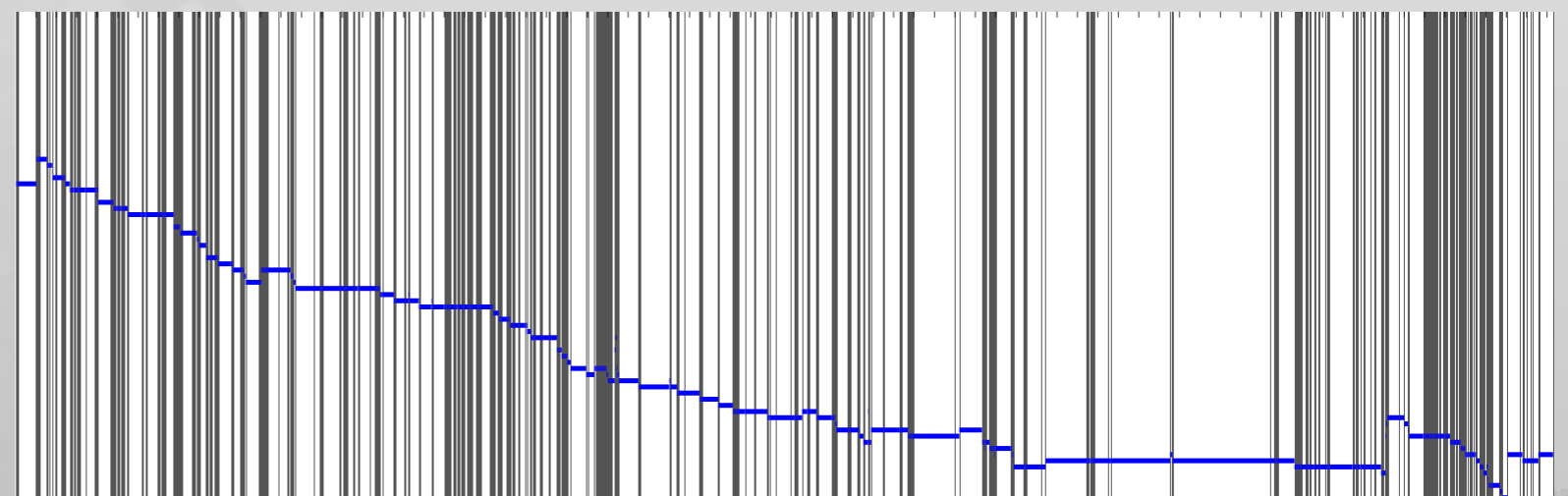
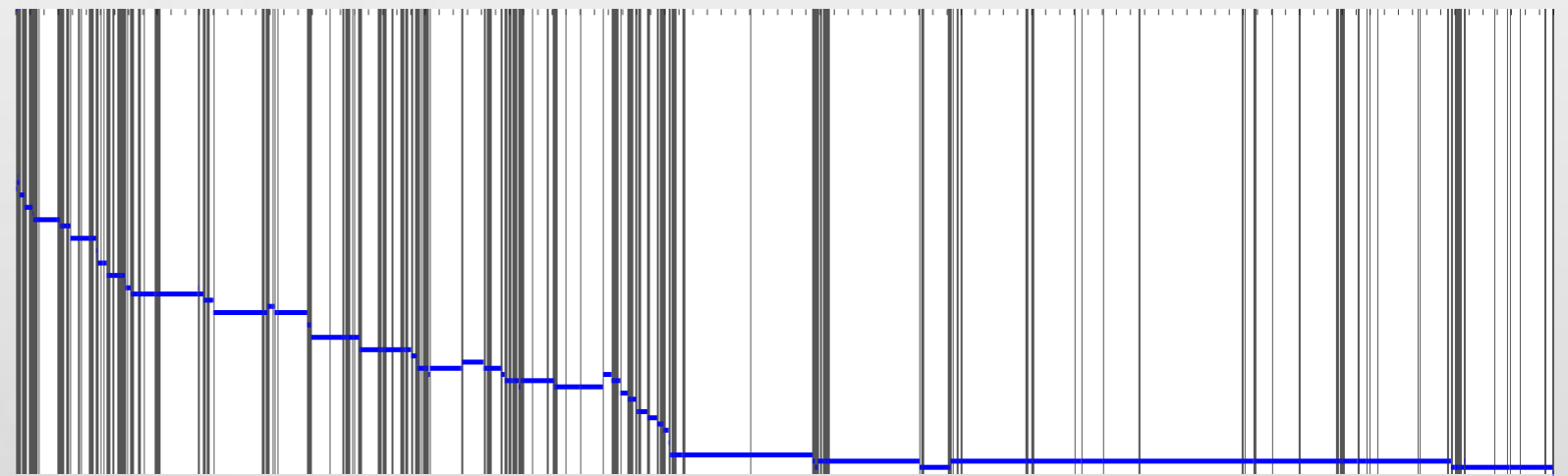
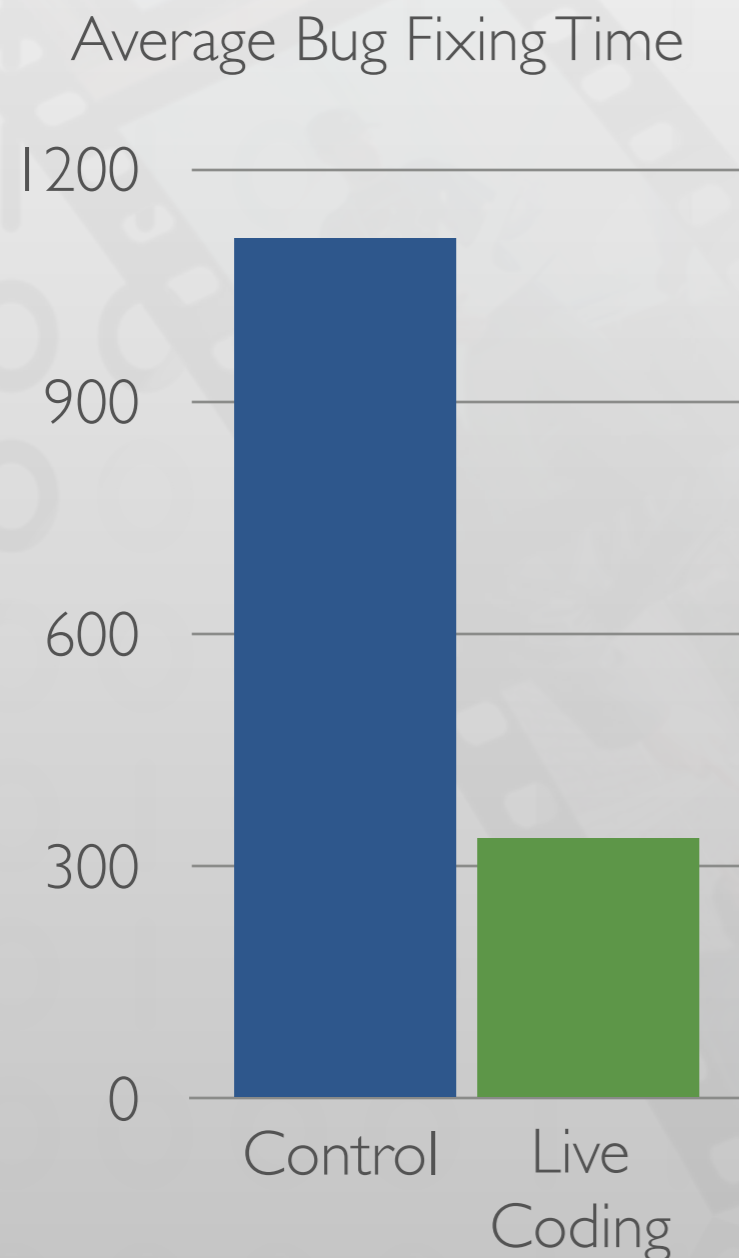


Demo

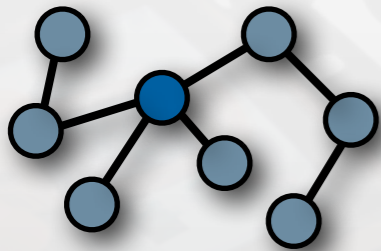


Live Coding Affects Coding Behavior

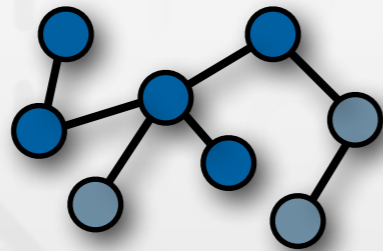
[Krämer2014, to appear, How Live Coding Affects Developers' Coding Behavior]



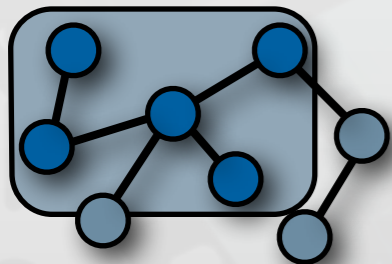
Summary



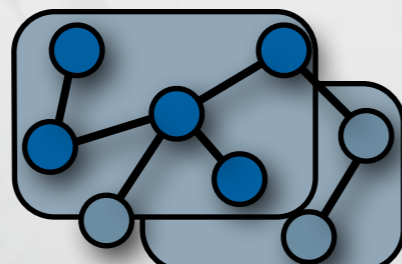
Finding focus points



Expanding focus points



Understanding a subgraph



Questions over groups of subgraphs

