CollaborateR: extract a collaboration graph from a version control system log

eRum 2020 – Parallel session 3 - Applications

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Wed June 17th, 2020

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Joint work with Mathijs Creemers, Mieke Jans, Benoît Depaire and Gert Janssenswillen



CollaborateR

 Support knowledge management for software engineering environments

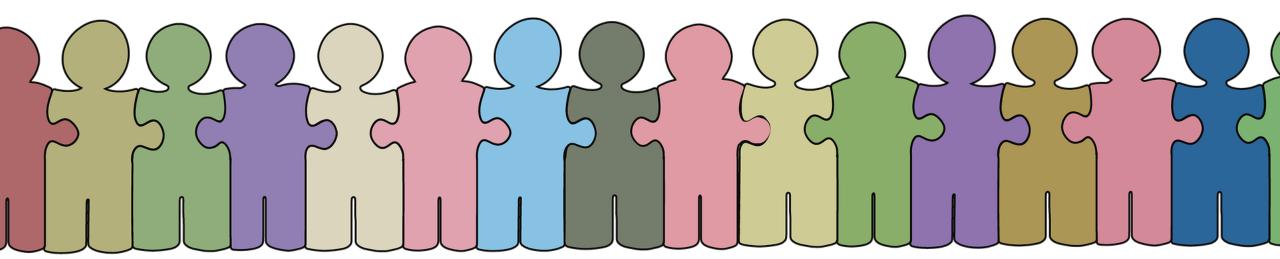
Constructs collaboration graph

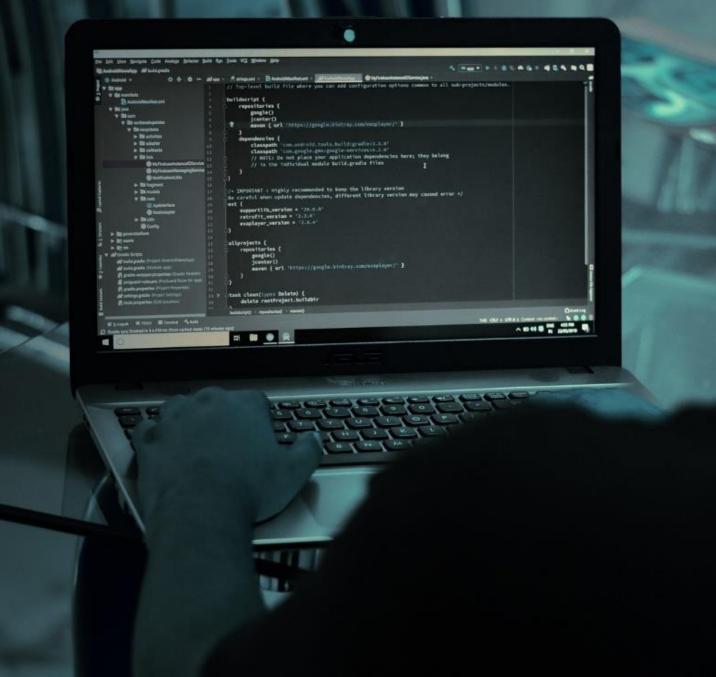
The Idea

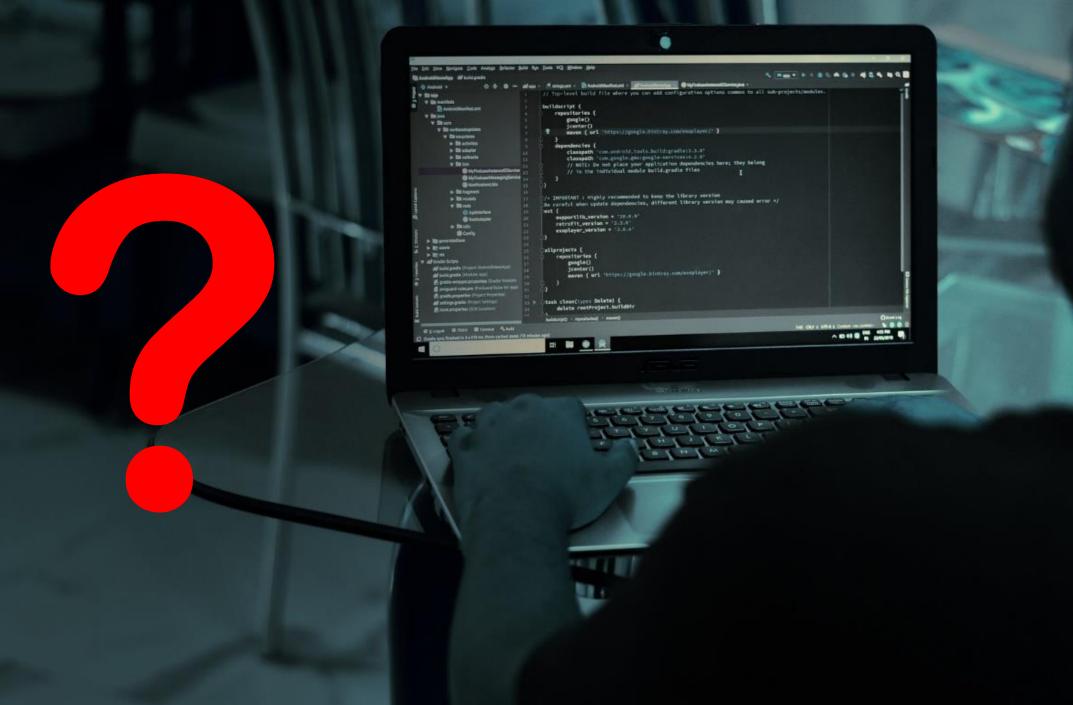
The Idea

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

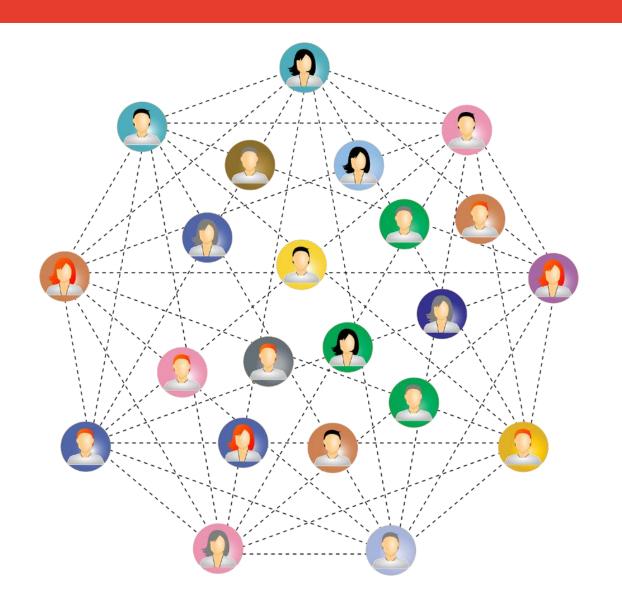
in software engineering environments







The Idea



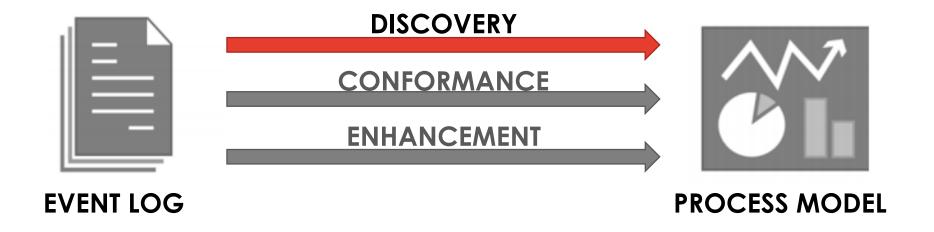
- Knowledge preservation
- General structure of collaboration
- Crucial Resources

The Data

The Data

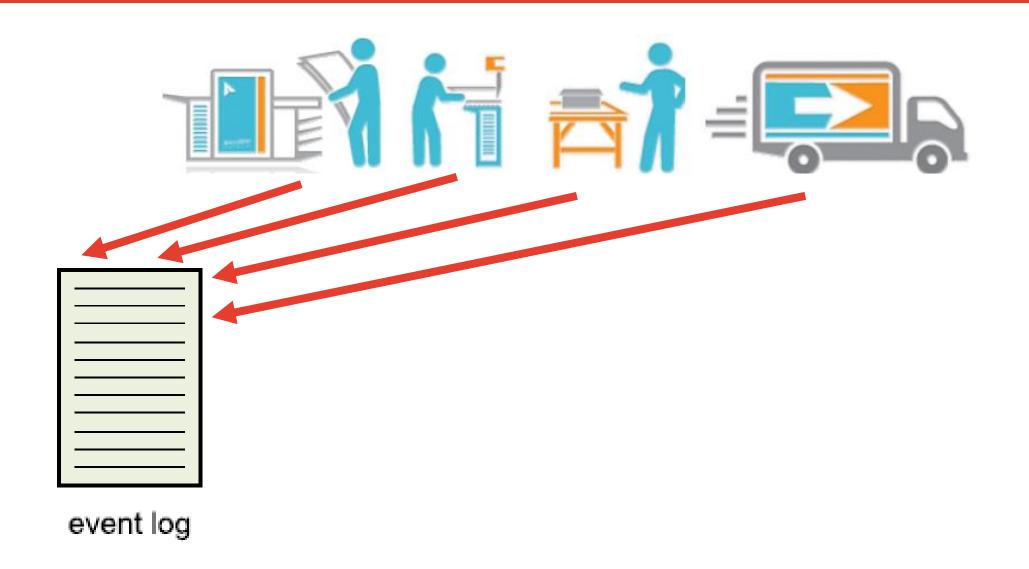


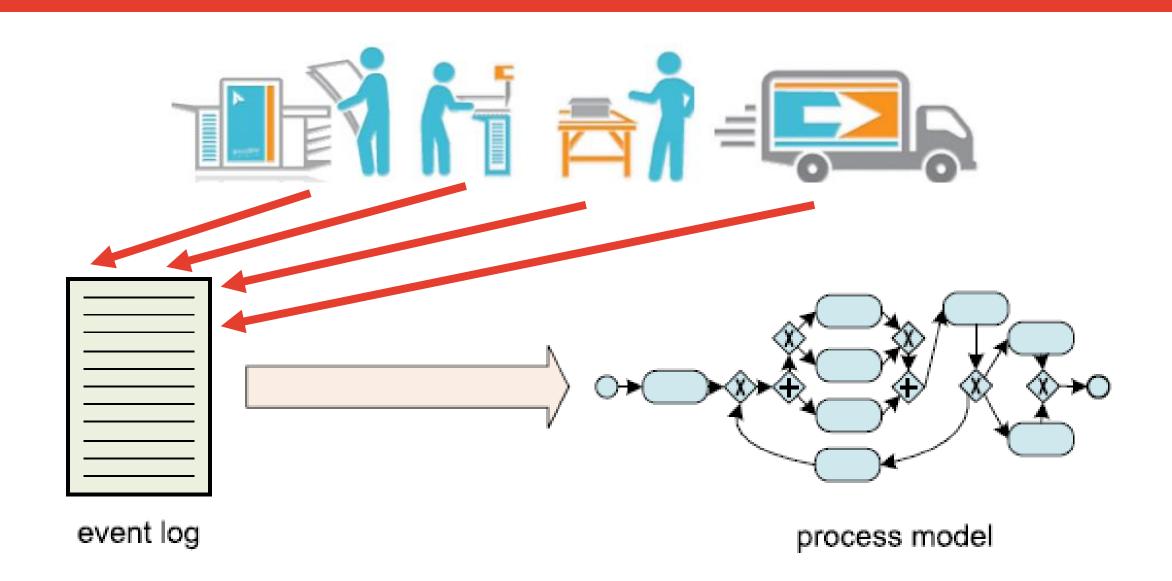


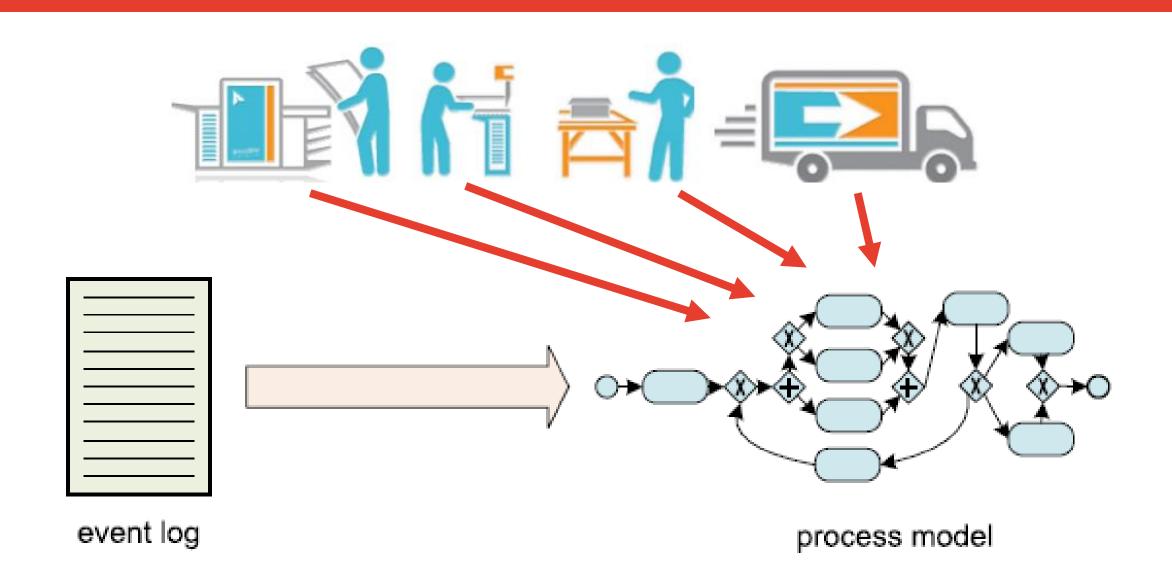


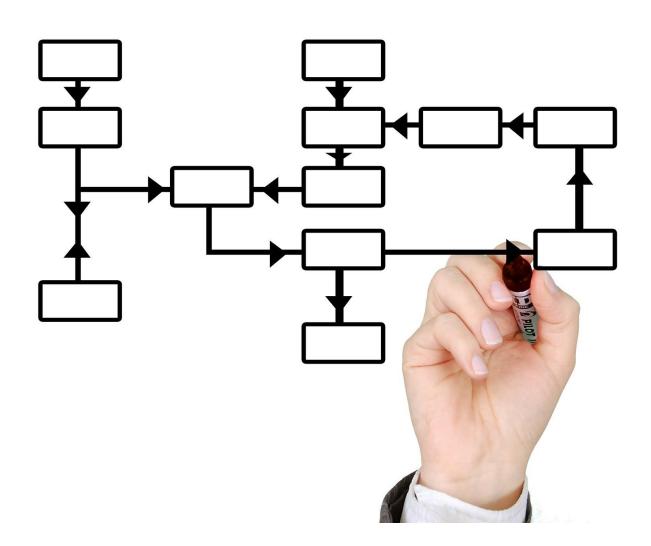


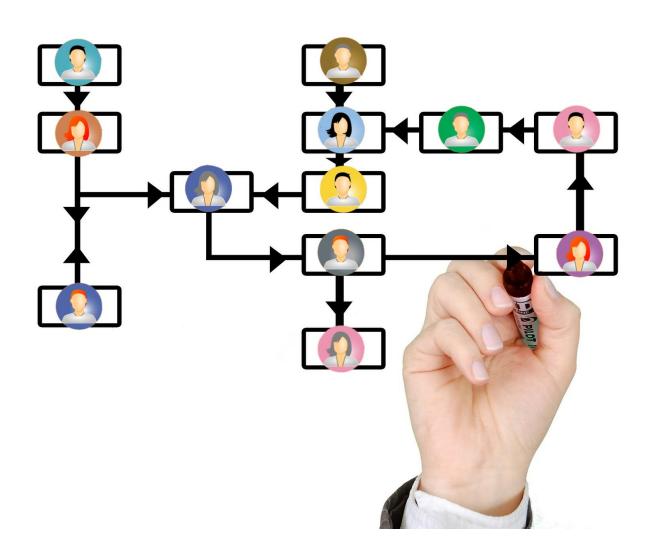
event log











The input



The input

FILE ID	ACTIVITY TYPE	TIMESTAMP	RESOURCE	REVISION	MODIFIER STATUS
1	Commit	25/03/2020 12:03:03	Jack Smidth	233	Modified
4	Commit	03/04/2020 16:37:12	Andy Joseph	234	Deleted
• • •	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••

The input

Business Process Analysis

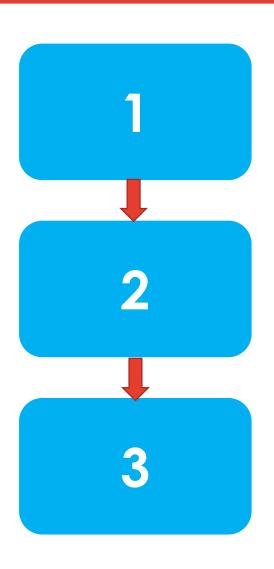


The output:

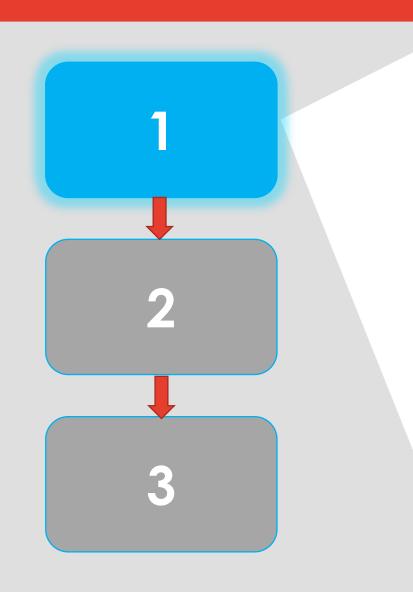
```
#read the log
log <- read vcs eventlog(filePath)</pre>
#build the graph
g <- build graph(log, ... optional parameters)</pre>
g$nodes
g$edges
#write graph to csv
writeGraphToCSV(g)
#visualize graph
visualizeGraph(g)
```

The Algorithm

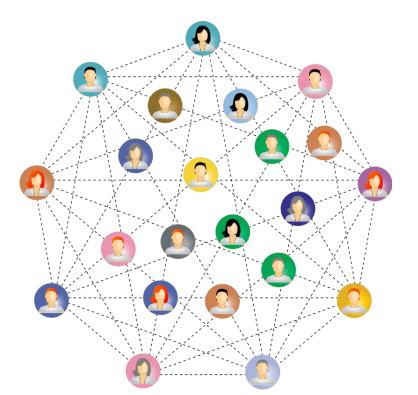
The Algorithm

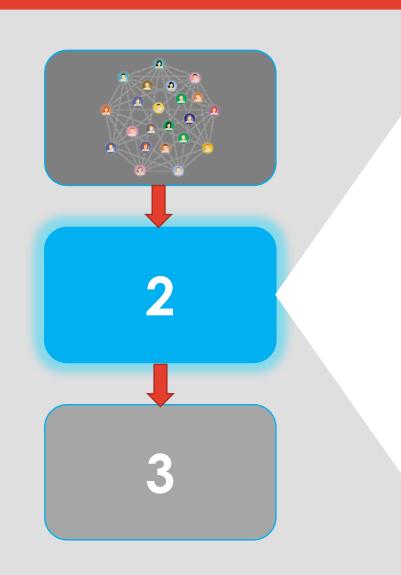


Step 1: Building the Base Graph



- Include every programmer
- Add edge if file in common

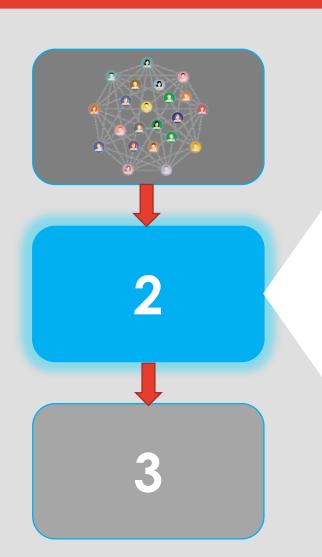




Purpose

1. Emphasis in the visualization

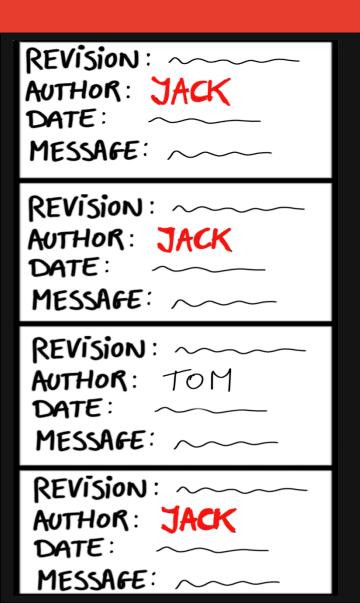
2. Simplification of the graph





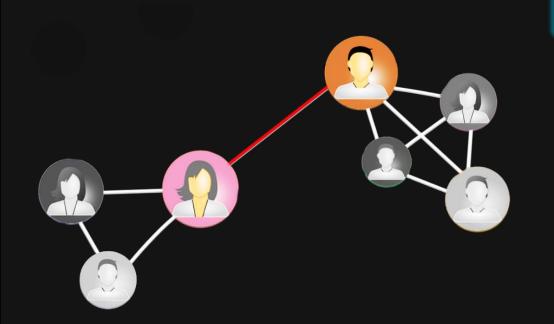
Importance of Programmer

Unary Frequency Significance
Betweenness Centrality
Eigenvector Centrality
Degree Centrality



Unary Frequency Significance

The more often a programmer appears in the log, the more significant he is.



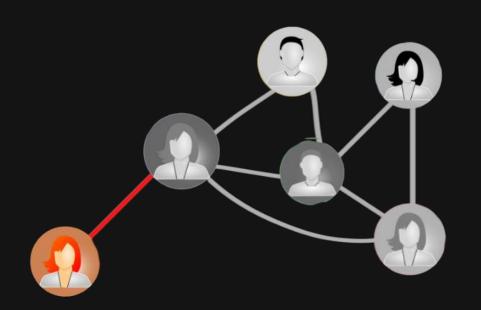
Betweenness Centrality

Handle programmers that are a part of several different teams.



Eigenvector Centrality

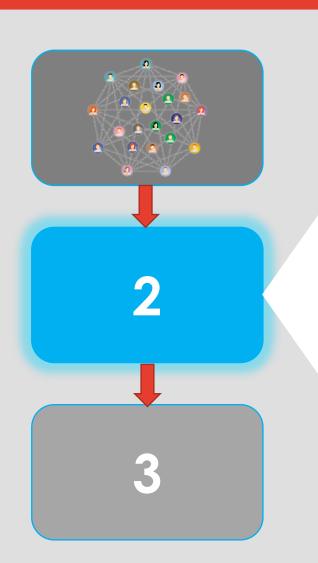
A node is highly important if many other highly important nodes link to it.



Degree Centrality

Number of edges incident upon the node.

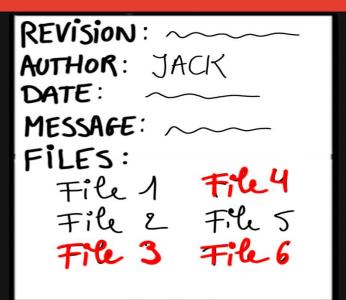
→ Identify isolated nodes

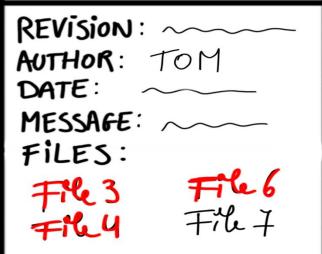




Importance of Collaboration

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} w_j \begin{cases} \bullet & \text{Binary Frequency Significance} \\ \bullet & \text{Proximity Correlation} \end{cases}$$





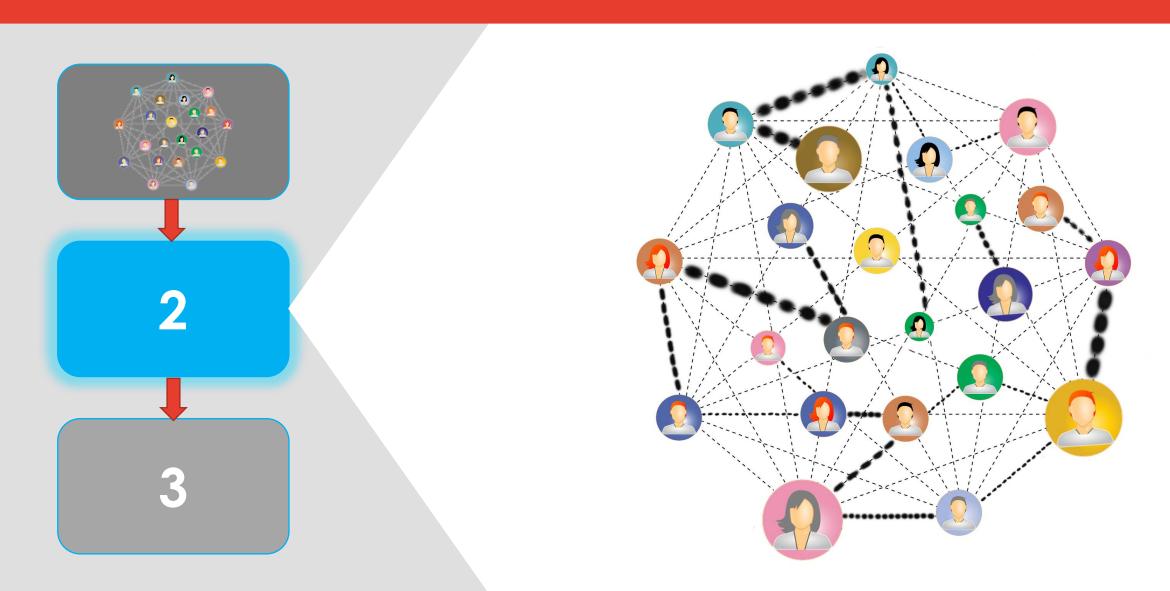
Binary Frequency Significance

The more files are worked on together, the stronger the relationship.

REVISION: ~~~~~ AUTHOR: JACK+TON DATE: ~~~ MESSAGE: ~~~
REVISION: ~~~~ AUTHOR: JACK DATE: ~~~ MESSAGE: ~~~
REVISION: ~~~~~ AUTHOR: TOM+JACK DATE: ~~~ MESSAGE: ~~~

Proximity Correlation

Pair programming as a closer collaboration



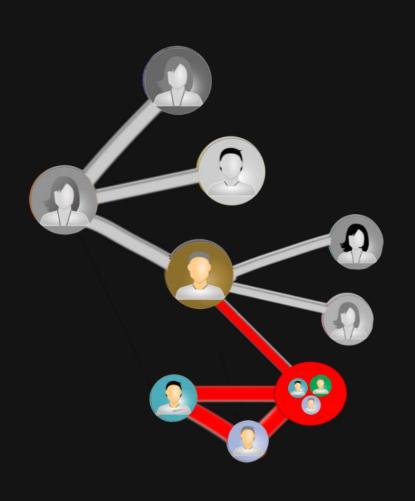
Step 3: Simplifying the Graph



Edge Filtering

Only the edges with the highest utility values are preserved

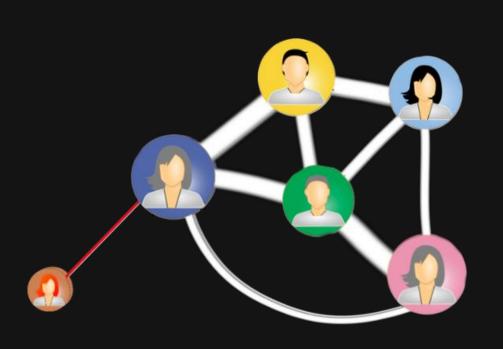
Step 3: Simplifying the Graph



Aggregation

Cluster less important but strongly connected programmers

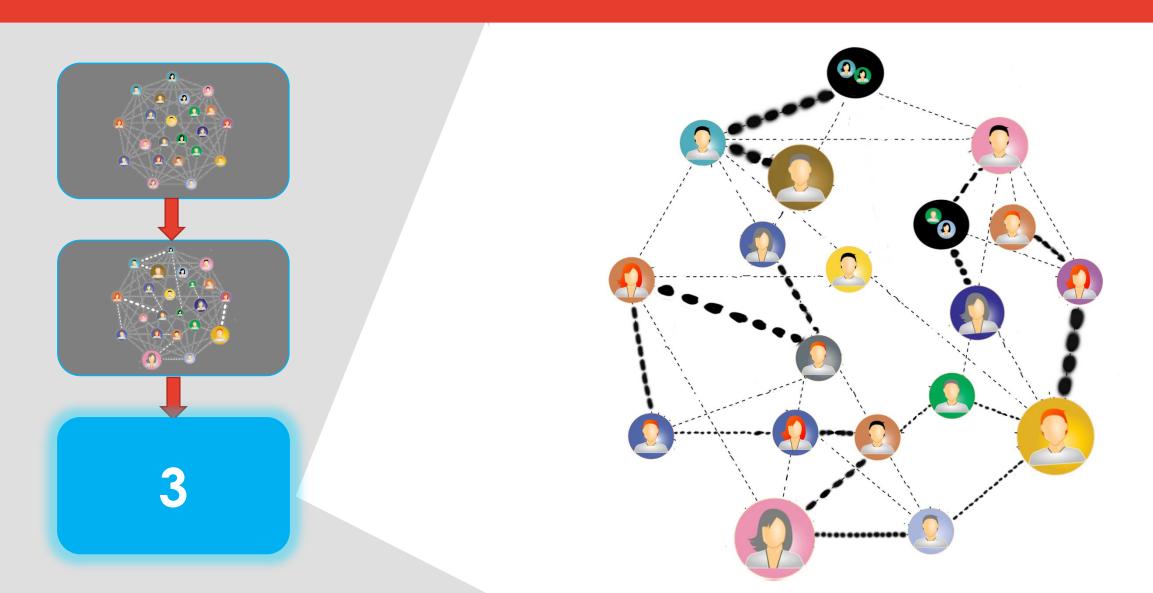
Step 3: Simplifying the Graph



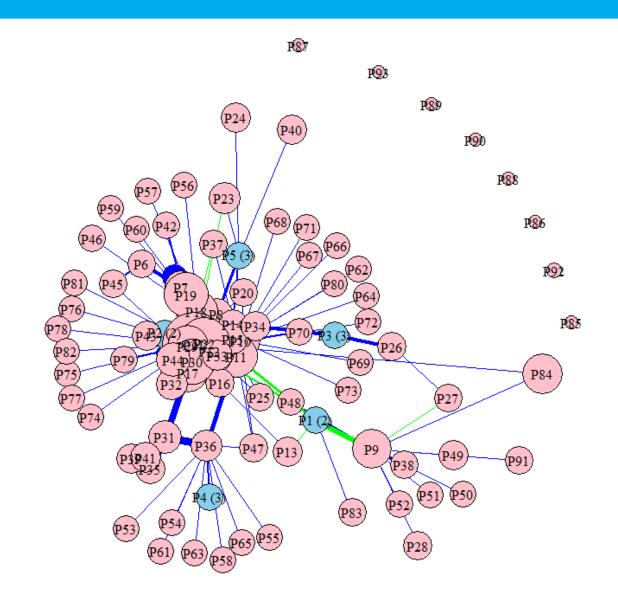
Abstraction

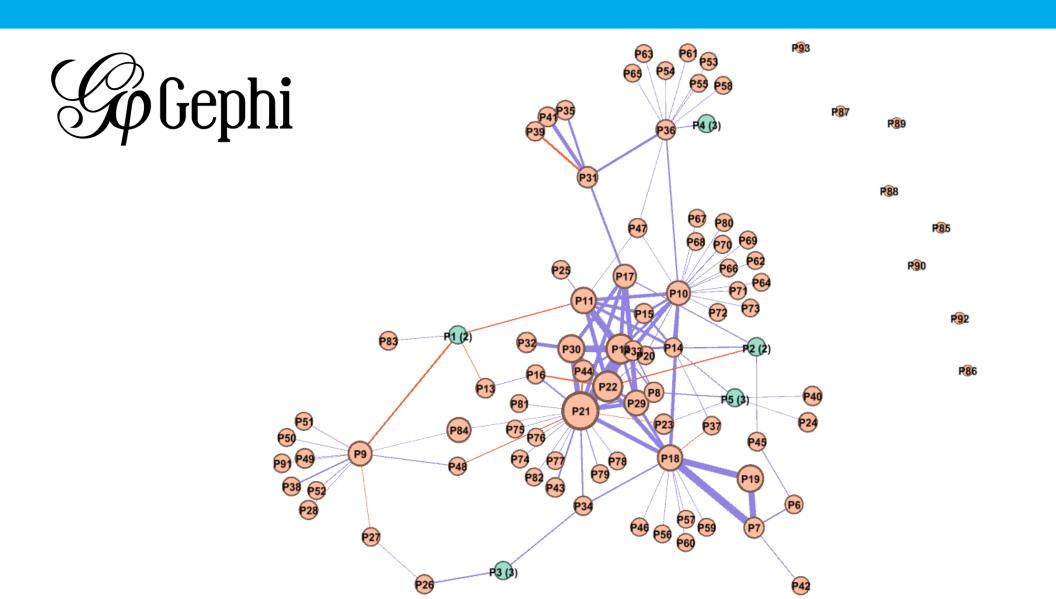
Abstract insignificant programmers that are weakly connected to the graph

Step 3: Simplifying the Graph



```
g <- build_graph(log)
visualizeGraph(g,anonymize = TRUE)
#direct access
g$nodes
g$edges
#create an igraph object
igraph <- createIGraphObject(g)
#write graph to csv
writeGraphToCSV(g)
```





```
g <- build_graph(log, AgVP = 0.25, AgCP = 0.15, AbVP = 0.7, AbCP = 0.3)
```

```
g <- build_graph(log AgVP = 0.25, AgCP = 0.15, AbVP = 0.7, AbCP = 0.3)
```

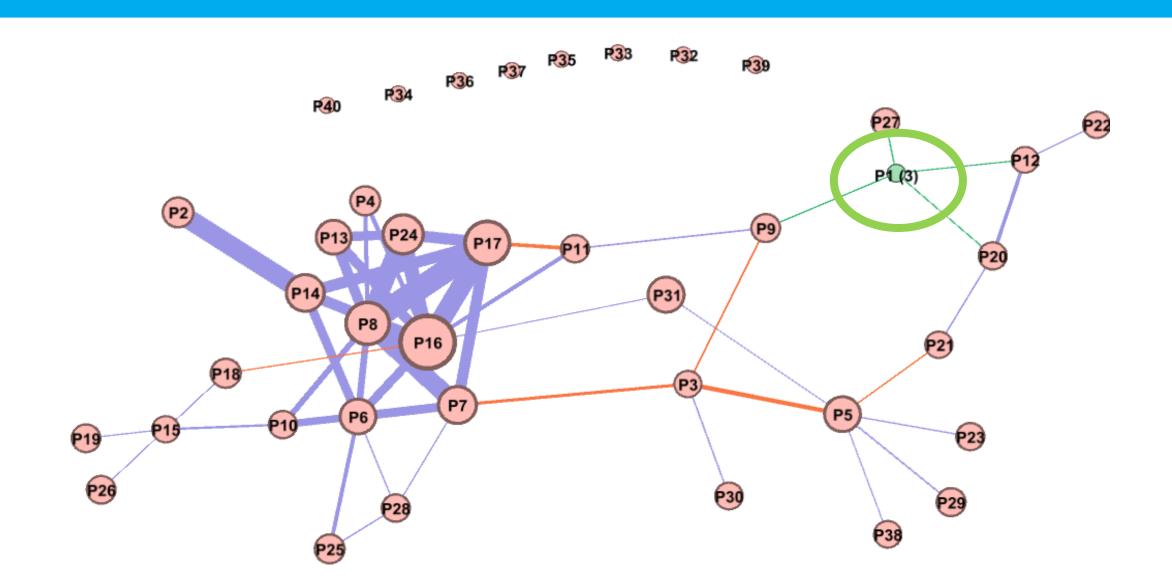
Clustering

- Control number of candidates
- Control strictness cluster condition

```
g <- build_graph(log, AgVP = 0.25, AgCP = 0.15, AbVP = 0.7, AbCP = 0.3)
```

Abstraction

- Control number of candidates
- Control strictness abstraction condition



```
g \leftarrow build graph(log, AgVP = 0.45, AgCP = 0.25, AbVP = 0.1, AbCP = 0.4)
```

```
g <- build_graph(log, AgVP = 0.45, AgCP = 0.25, AbVP = 0.1, AbCP = 0.4)
```

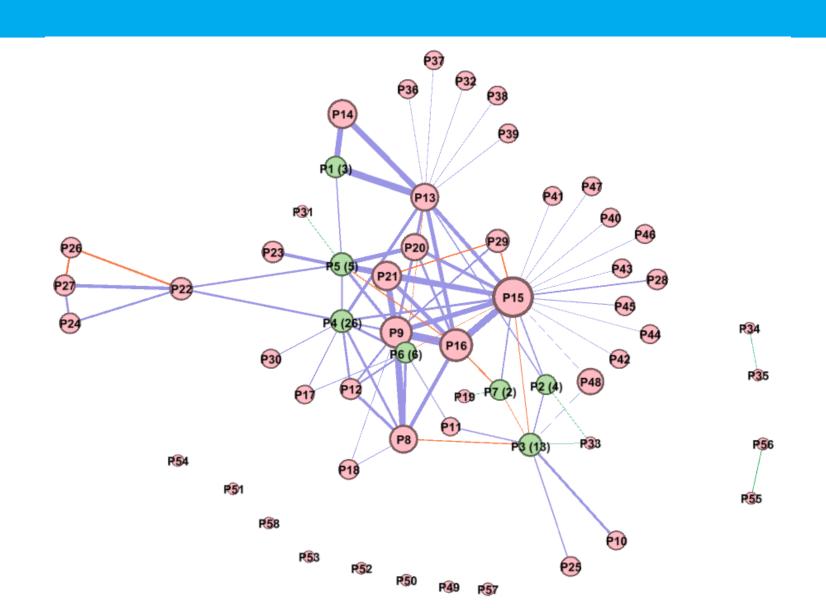
Clustering

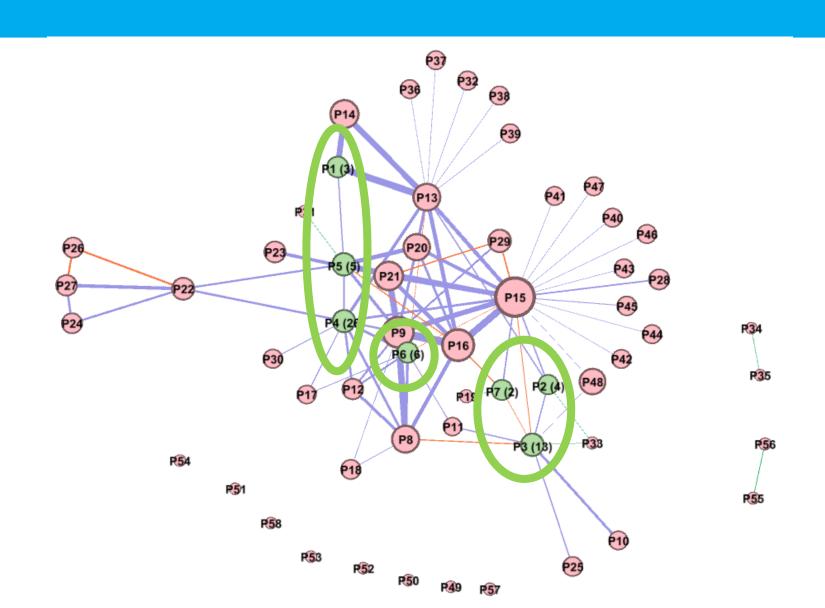
- More candidates
- More strict cluster condition

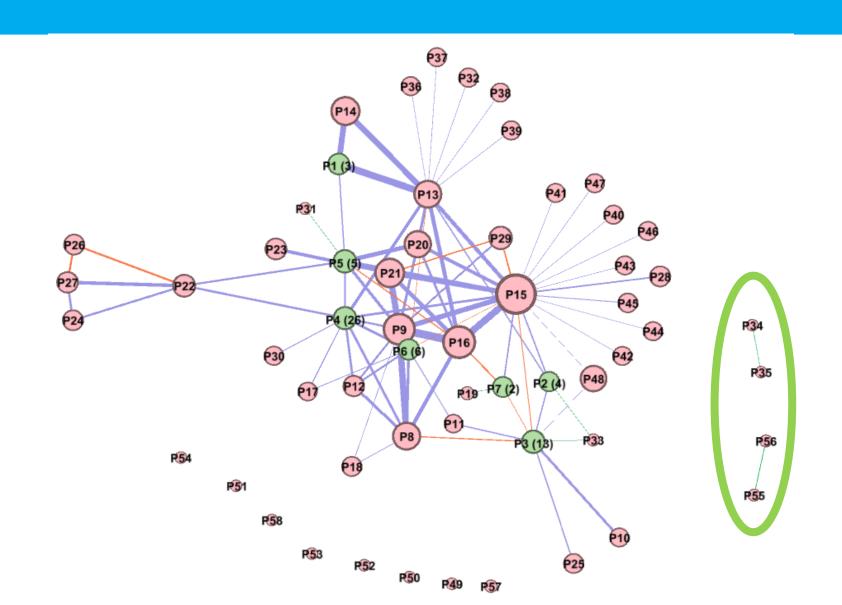
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g <- build_graph(log, AgVP = 0.45, AgCP = 0.25, AbVP = 0.1, AbCP = 0.4)
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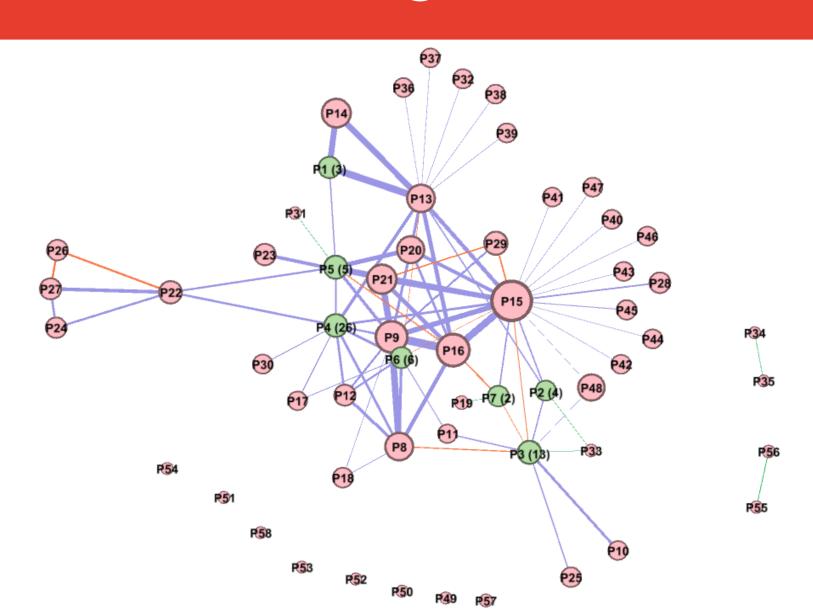
Abstraction

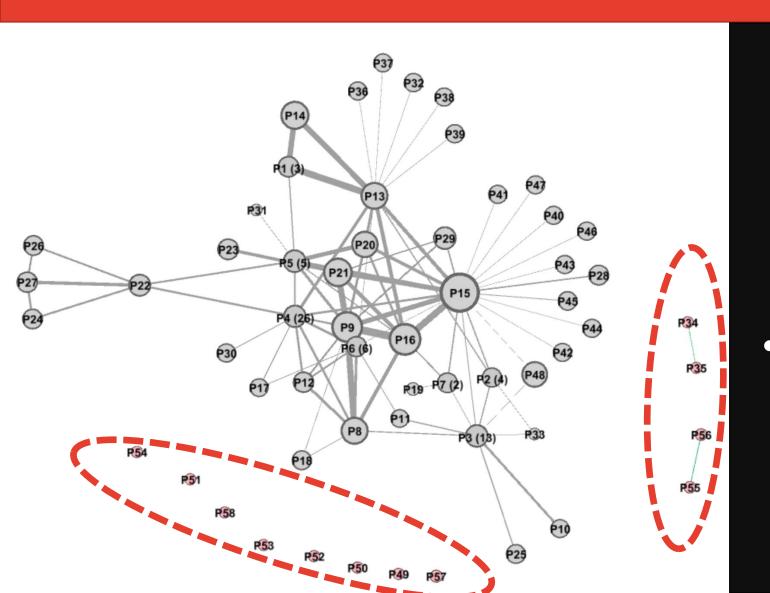
- Less candidates
- Less strict abstraction condition







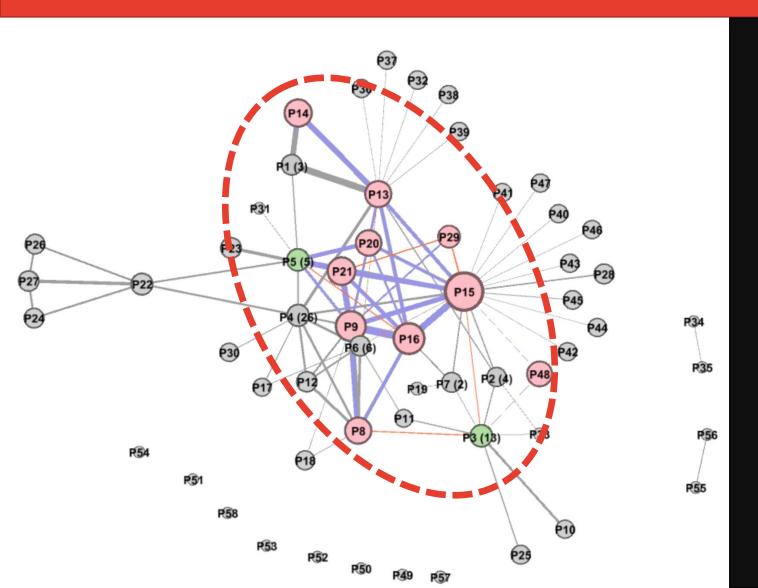




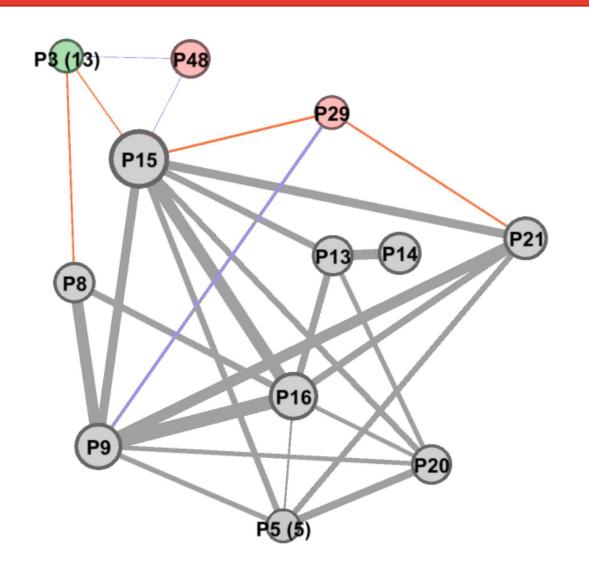
Isolated groups

Risky if:

- Few members
- Members have large importance

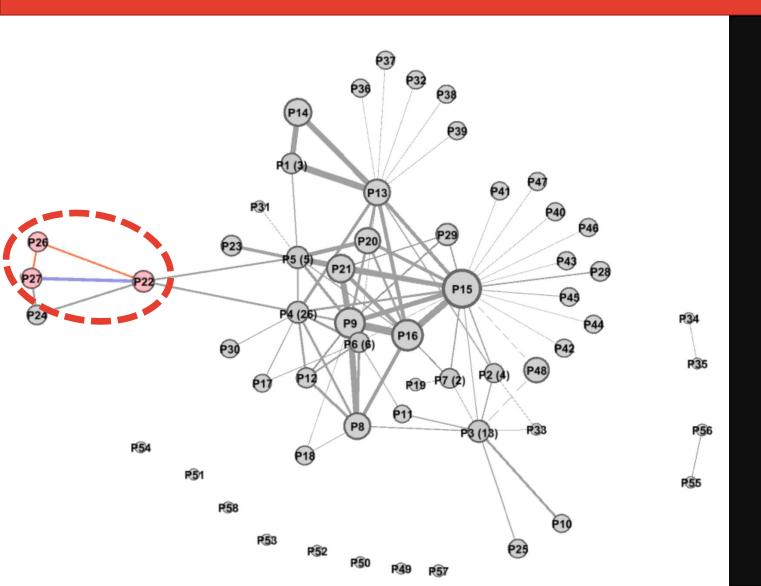


Core developers



Core developers

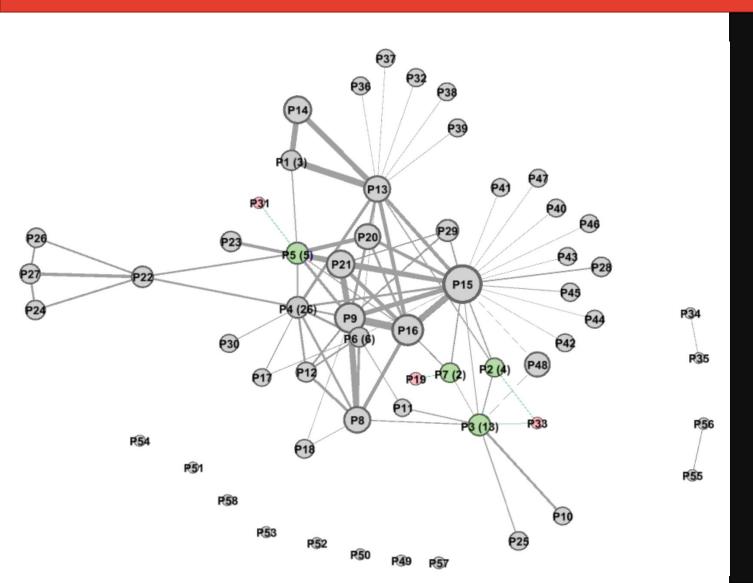
Risky because:
Important contribution
+
Weak collaboration



Striking relations

Strong disjunct programming relation:

The only ones working on a specific aspect of the code



Striking relations

Pair programming relation:

Teacher + Apprentice



Thank you

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https://github.com/bupaverse/collaborateR

