



西安交通大学  
Xi'an Jiaotong University

5th International Workshop on Emerging  
Trends in Software Metrics (WETSoM 2014)

# **In-Depth Measurement and Analysis on *Densification Power Law* of Software Execution**

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**China**

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# Outline

## 1. Introduction

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## 2. Densification Power Law & Calling Network Model

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## 3. Measurements & Discussions

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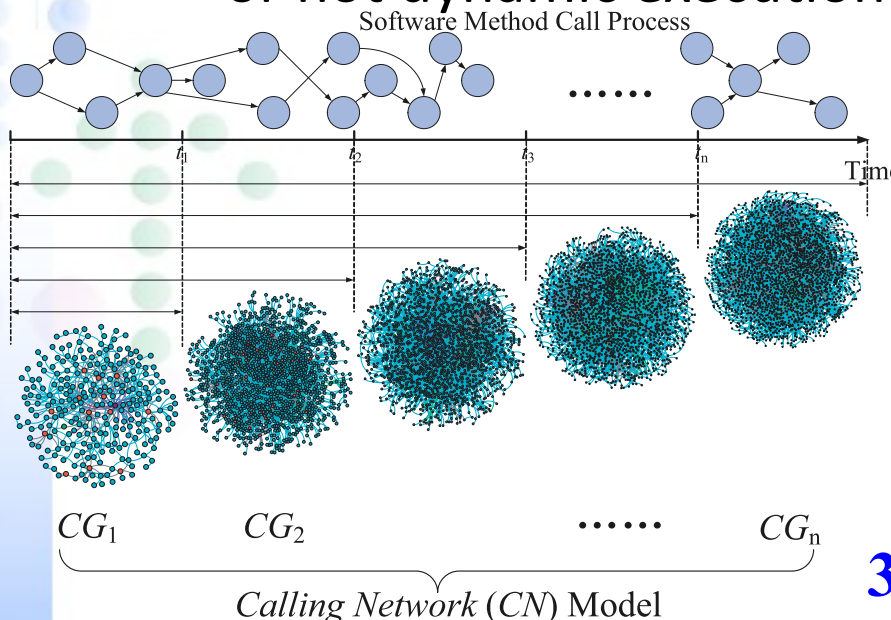
## 4. Conclusion & Future Work

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# Introduction

- ✓ *Complex Network* theory & *graph algorithms*: successfully applied to software measurement and modeling.
  - **But:** Only a few of them concentrate on dynamic execution.
- ✓ Many network growing models, e.g., *preferential attachment model*, have been proposed in *Complex Network* theory.
  - **But:** None of the existing research has investigated whether or not dynamic execution of software also obey such models.



Growing Process of **Makagiga's** (<http://sourceforge.net/projects/makagiga>) *dynamic Call Graph* during its execution.

# Introduction

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## ✓ Research Questions:

1. Is there **any common law** among different software systems' execution processes?
2. Can we discover **new metrics** for software execution from a **growing network** point of view?

## ✓ Contributions:

1. Based on 15 widely-used Java programs, we show the universality of an interesting feature – *Densification Power Law* (*DPL*) of software execution. Might be an appropriate metric for software execution process.
2. A comparison between **static Call Graph** and *DPL* is presented.
3. An *explanation* for DPL is given.



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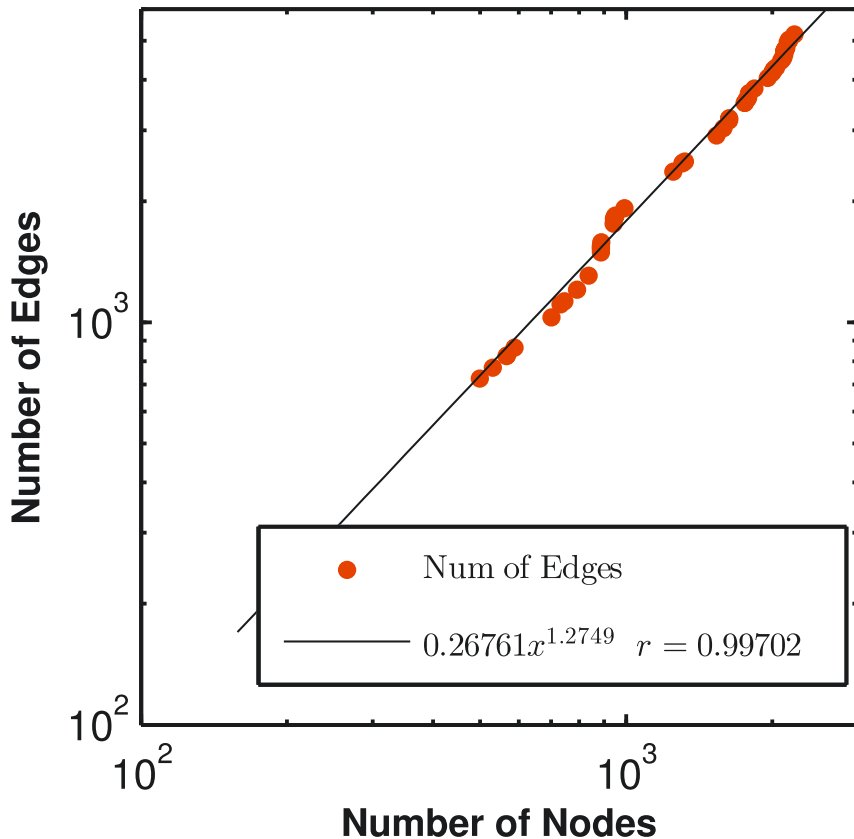
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# Densification Power Law

jEdit  $N_{Const} = 5000$



In recent years, it has been discovered that, real word networks' evolution often follows a pattern:

$$e(t) \propto n(t)^a, 1 \leq a \leq 2$$

Number of Edges    Number of Nodes

**Densification Power Law (DPL)**

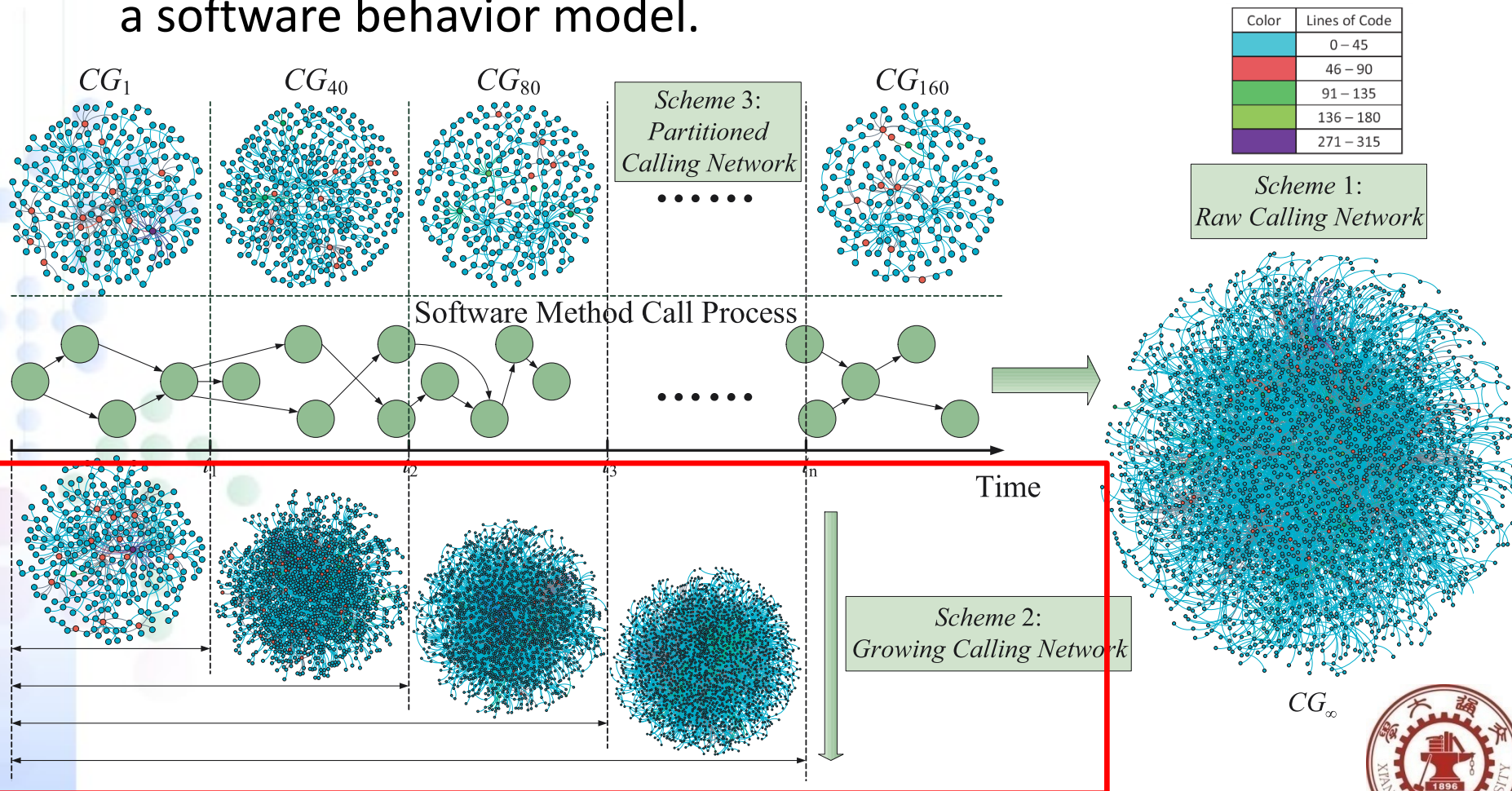
[Leskovec et al., KDD '05, ACM ToKDD '07]

Such phenomenon is not in accordance with traditional models, e.g., *preferential attachment model*, *copying model* etc.



# Calling Network Model

- ✓ In our previous research [Yu et al., SoftwareMining 13'], we have discovered **DPL** feature in software's **Calling Network (CN)**, CN is a software behavior model.

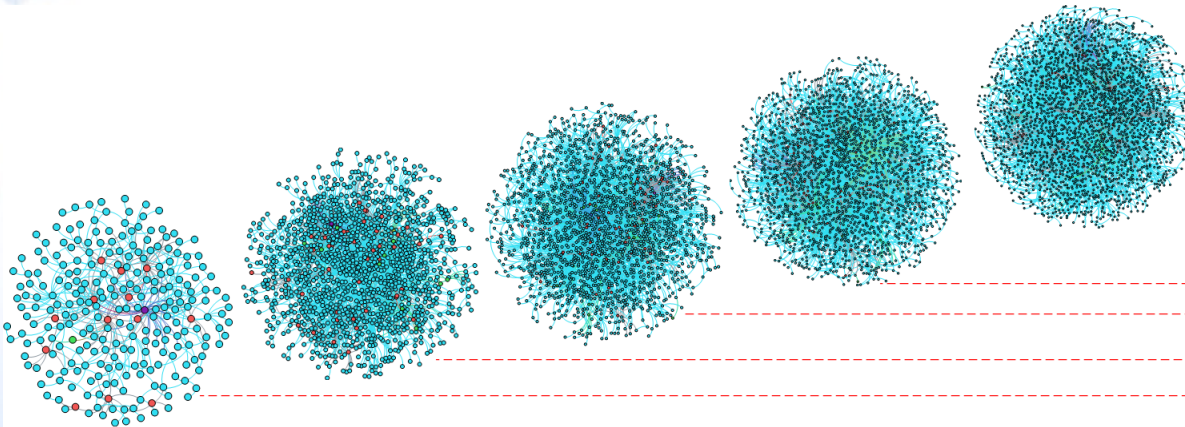




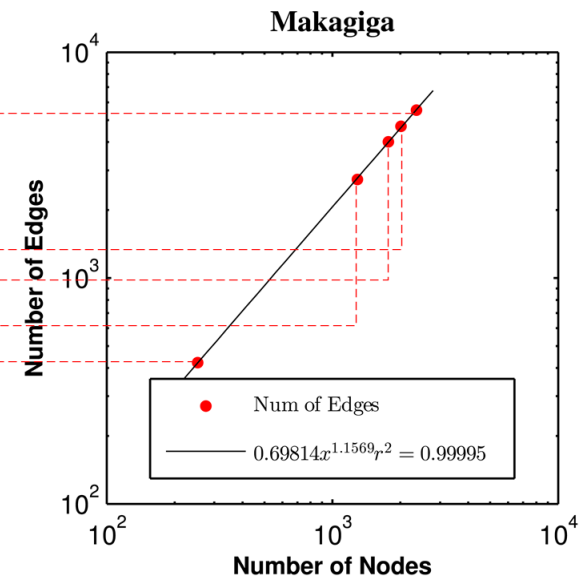
# Densification Power Law of *Growing CN*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} CN = \{CG_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}, \\ CG_i = f_{CG-Gen}(CB_i), CB_i \subseteq CB \text{ and} \\ CB_i = \{cb_k \mid (i-1) \cdot N_{Itv} \leq k \leq (i-1) \cdot N_{Itv} + N_{CG}\}, \\ CG = (V, E), w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, \\ CB = \{cb_k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}, \\ cb_k = (t_k, Caller_k, Callee_k, Param_k). \end{array} \right.$$

$$N_{Itv} = 0 \text{ and } N_{CG} = i \cdot N_{Const}$$



**Growing Process of Makagiga**



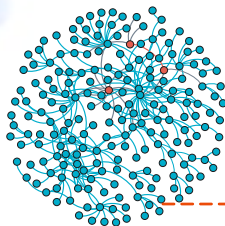


# Densification Power Law of *Growing CN*

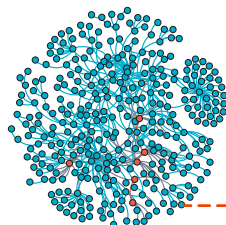
$$n(t) = 69$$
$$e(t) = 82$$



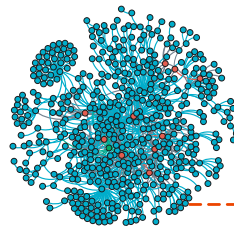
$$n(t) = 205$$
$$e(t) = 293$$



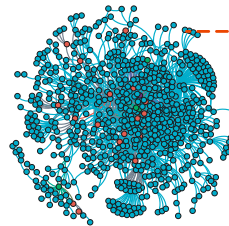
$$n(t) = 337$$
$$e(t) = 503$$



$$n(t) = 526$$
$$e(t) = 908$$

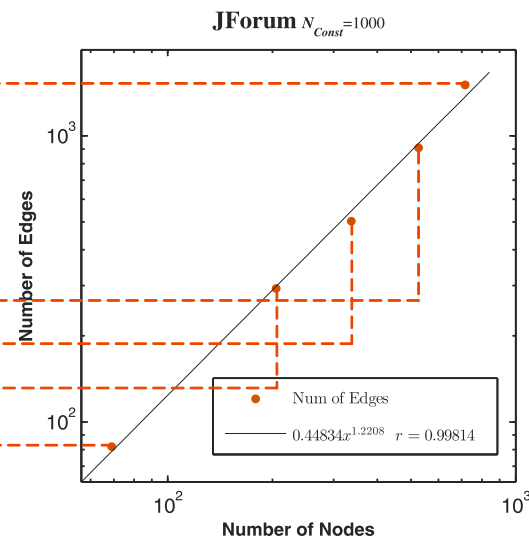


$$n(t) = 716$$
$$e(t) = 1,506$$



Growing Process of JForum (<http://jforum.net/>)

$$N_{Const} = 1,000$$



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# Data Set & Experiment Setup

Table 1: Experiment subject programs

Programs	Arch	Version	SLoC	# Method	CB	Website
DrJava	Desktop	5.7.5	162,416	10,593	447,842	<a href="http://www.drjava.org/">http://www.drjava.org/</a>
Endeavour	Web	1.21	18,312	1,706	39,322	<a href="http://sourceforge.net/projects/endeavour-mgmt/">http://sourceforge.net/projects/endeavour-mgmt/</a>
FreeMind	Desktop	0.9.0	53,669	5,974	192,694	<a href="http://sourceforge.net/projects/freemind/">http://sourceforge.net/projects/freemind/</a>
JabRef	Desktop	2.9.2	144,406	6,449	185,134	<a href="http://jabref.sourceforge.net/">http://jabref.sourceforge.net/</a>
jEdit	Desktop	5.1.0	185,569	7844	438,321	<a href="http://www.jedit.org/">http://www.jedit.org/</a>
JForum	Web	2.1.9	65,040	2,991	42,516	<a href="http://jforum.net/">http://jforum.net/</a>
JPetStore	Web	6.0	1,893	289	2,099	<a href="http://code.google.com/p/mybatis/">http://code.google.com/p/mybatis/</a>
Kunagi	Web	0.23	176,486	18,021	198,259	<a href="http://kunagi.org/">http://kunagi.org/</a>
LogicalDOC	Web	6.7.0	131,888	8,692	160,685	<a href="http://www.logicaldoc.com/">http://www.logicaldoc.com/</a>
Makagiga	Desktop	3.8.2	156,906	10,356	324,928	<a href="http://sourceforge.net/projects/makagiga/">http://sourceforge.net/projects/makagiga/</a>
OpenKM	Web	6.2.2	N/A	N/A	249,990	<a href="http://www.openkm.com/">http://www.openkm.com/</a>
OpenProj	Desktop	1.4	151,821	11,632	371,750	<a href="http://sourceforge.net/projects/openproj/">http://sourceforge.net/projects/openproj/</a>
OpenSyncro	Web	2.2	54,163	3,276	137,433	<a href="http://www.opensyncro.org/">http://www.opensyncro.org/</a>
Sweet Home 3D	Desktop	4.2	109,090	6,346	381,586	<a href="http://www.sweethome3d.com/">http://www.sweethome3d.com/</a>
Weka	Desktop	3.7.10	N/A	N/A	237,239	<a href="http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/">http://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/</a>

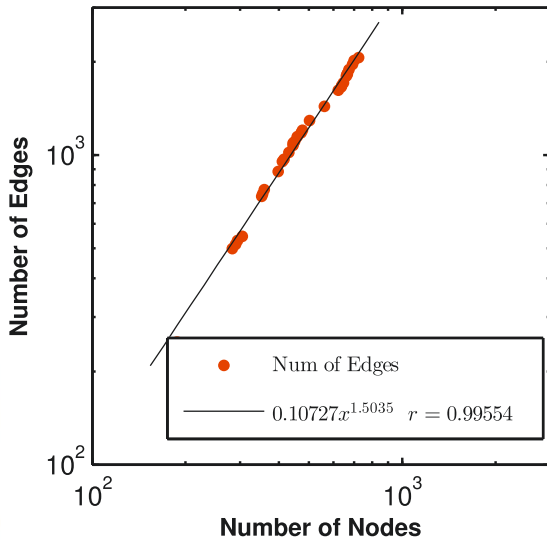
8 Desktop and 7 Web systems      CB: quantity of method call records

- ✓ A data set containing 15 real-world open-source Java programs are collected.
- ✓ The Kieker framework (<http://kieker-monitoring.net/>), which is an open-source dynamic monitoring framework based on AspectJ, is used as the instrumentation tool.

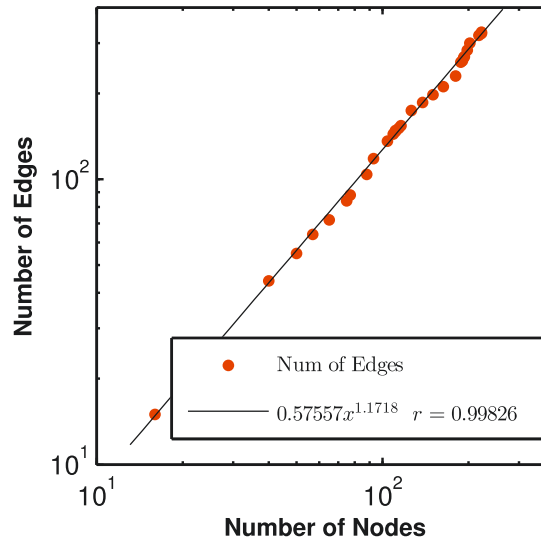


# DPL results (1)

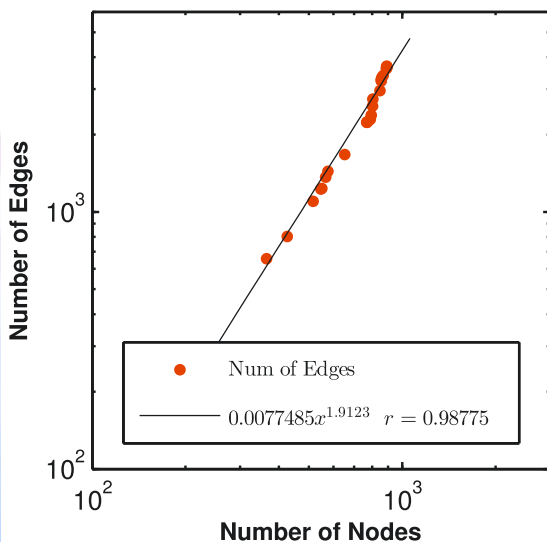
Endeavour  $N_{Const}=1000$



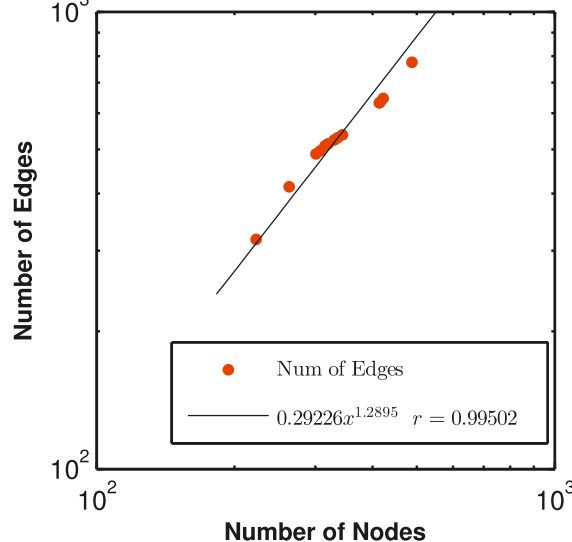
JPetStore  $N_{Const}=50$



LogicalDOC  $N_{Const}=2000$



OpenSyncro  $N_{Const}=3500$



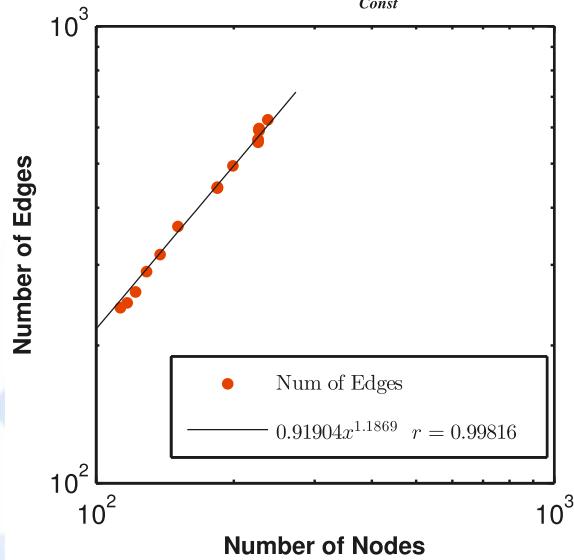
*DPL* results of 4 Web Programs.

Straight line is the linear regression fit result,  $r$  is correlation coefficient.

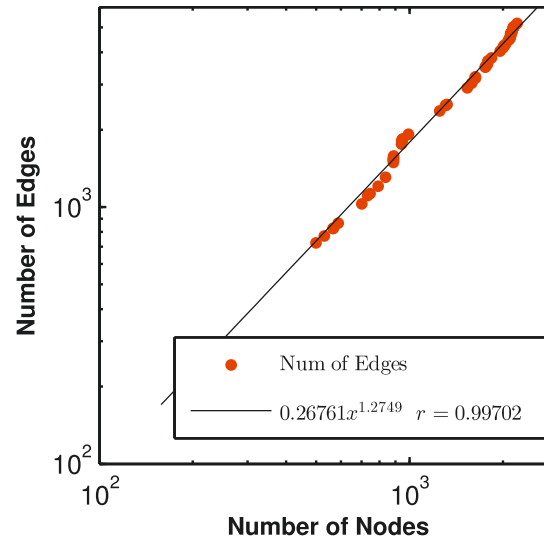


# DPL results (2)

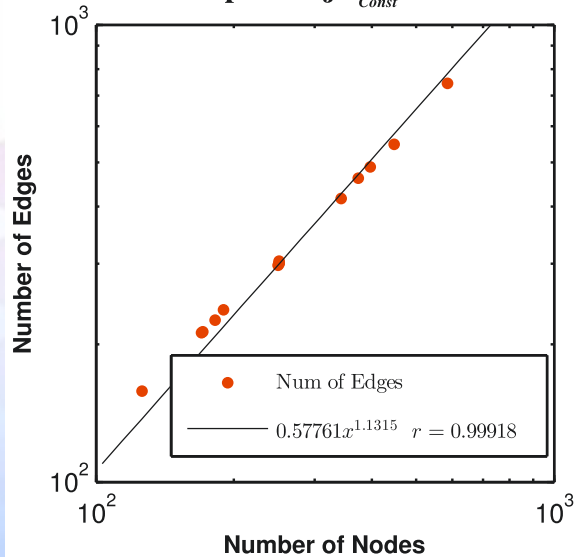
FreeMind  $N_{Const}=2500$



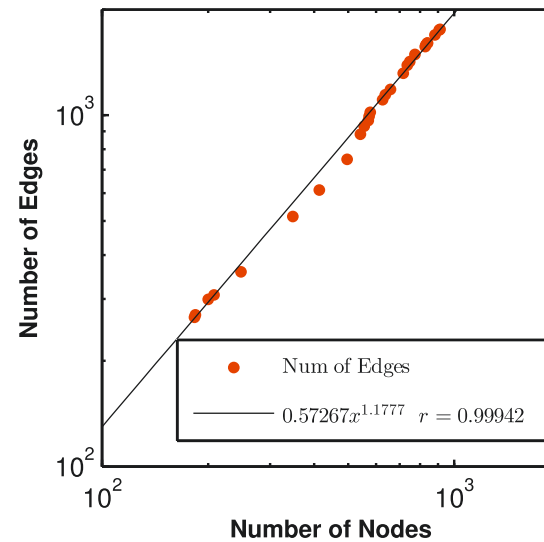
jEdit  $N_{Const}=5000$



OpenProj  $N_{Const}=2000$



Weka  $N_{Const}=4000$



DPL results of 4 Desktop Programs.



# DPL results (3)

Table 2: Densification Power Law results and comparison with *Static Call Graphs*

Programs	Equation	$N_{Const}$	$r$	$N_{highest}$	# Methods	$N_{static}$	$E_{static}$	$E_{equation}$	$\Delta E\%$
DrJava	$0.68431x^{1.1276}$	7,000	0.99956	1,701	10,593	6,204	13,346	12,938	-3.06%
Endeavour	$0.10727x^{1.5035}$	1,000	0.99544	723	1,706	1,468	3,331	6,189	85.8%
FreeMind	$0.91904x^{1.1869}$	2,500	0.99816	236	5,974	3,724	7,804	15,914	103.91%
JabRef	$0.67521x^{1.1477}$	4,000	0.99894	867	6,449	4,885	9,805	11,565	17.95%
jEdit	$0.26761x^{1.2749}$	5,000	0.99702	2,221	7,844	5,606	13,845	16,094	16.24%
JForum	$0.31046x^{1.2845}$	1,000	0.99341	715	2,991	2,051	5,749	5,579	-3.03%
JPetStore	$0.57557x^{1.1718}$	50	0.99826	221	289	97	124	122	-1.2%
Kunagi	$0.73925x^{1.1287}$	4,500	0.99858	780	18,021	12,583	24,699	31,349	26.92%
LogicalDOC	$0.0077485x^{1.9123}$	2,000	0.98775	891	8,692	5,932	14,112	127,270	801.82%
Makagiga	$0.47128x^{1.2075}$	1,500	0.99887	1,776	10,356	7,078	17,781	20,992	18.06%
OpenKM	$0.46685x^{1.1842}$	6,000	0.99963	1,389	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OpenProj	$0.57761x^{1.1315}$	2,000	0.99918	2,823	11,632	7,258	13,752	13,494	-1.87%
OpenSyncro	$0.29226x^{1.2895}$	3,500	0.99502	657	3,276	1,865	2,937	4,823	64.21%
Sweet Home 3D	$0.7917x^{1.1404}$	5,500	0.9995	1,117	6,346	4,547	11,219	11,744	4.68%
Weka	$0.57267x^{1.1777}$	4,000	0.99942	910	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

DPL equations





# DPL results (3)

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Different values of  
are used



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All the programs' growing processes obey *DPL* with very close correlation.



# DPL results (3)

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The total number of methods in subject programs.



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The number of nodes and the number of edges of the *static Call Graphs*.



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Table 2: Densification Power Law results and comparison with *Static Call Graphs*

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DrJava	$0.68431x^{1.1276}$	7,000	0.99956	1,701	10,593	6,204	13,346	12,938	-3.06%
Endeavour	$0.10727x^{1.5035}$	1,000	0.99544	723	1,706	1,468	3,331	6,189	85.8%
FreeMind	$0.91904x^{1.1869}$	2,500	0.99816	236	5,974	3,724	7,804	15,914	103.91%
JabRef	$0.67521x^{1.1477}$	4,000	0.99894	867	6,449	4,885	9,805	11,565	17.95%
jEdit	$0.26761x^{1.2749}$	5,000	0.99702	2,221	7,844	5,606	13,845	16,094	16.24%
JForum	$0.31046x^{1.2845}$	1,000	0.99341	715	2,991	2,051	5,749	5,579	-3.03%
JPetStore	$0.57557x^{1.1718}$	50	0.99826	221	289	97	124	122	-1.2%
Kunagi	$0.73925x^{1.1287}$	4,500	0.99858	780	18,021	12,583	24,699	31,349	26.92%
LogicalDOC	$0.0077485x^{1.9123}$	2,000	0.98775	891	8,692	5,932	14,112	127,270	801.82%
Makagiga	$0.47128x^{1.2075}$	1,500	0.99887	1,776	10,356	7,078	17,781	20,992	18.06%
OpenKM	$0.46685x^{1.1842}$	6,000	0.99963	1,389	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
OpenProj	$0.57761x^{1.1315}$	2,000	0.99918	2,823	11,632	7,258	13,752	13,494	-1.87%
OpenSyncro	$0.29226x^{1.2895}$	3,500	0.99502	657	3,276	1,865	2,937	4,823	64.21%
Sweet Home 3D	$0.7917x^{1.1404}$	5,500	0.9995	1,117	6,346	4,547	11,219	11,744	4.68%
Weka	$0.57267x^{1.1777}$	4,000	0.99942	910	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

The **difference** between total number of methods and  $N_{static}$  is significant. Complete and accurate **static Call Graph** is hard to construct. Frameworks like Spring make such task more difficult.



# DPL results (3)

Table 2: Densification Power Law results and comparison with *Static Call Graphs*

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The difference between static *Call Graph* and *DPL* equation is significant. *DPL's* properties can not be derived statically.

$$\Delta E = \frac{E_{equation} - E_{static}}{E_{static}}$$

What does the difference imply? Needs further research.



# Microscopic Discussions

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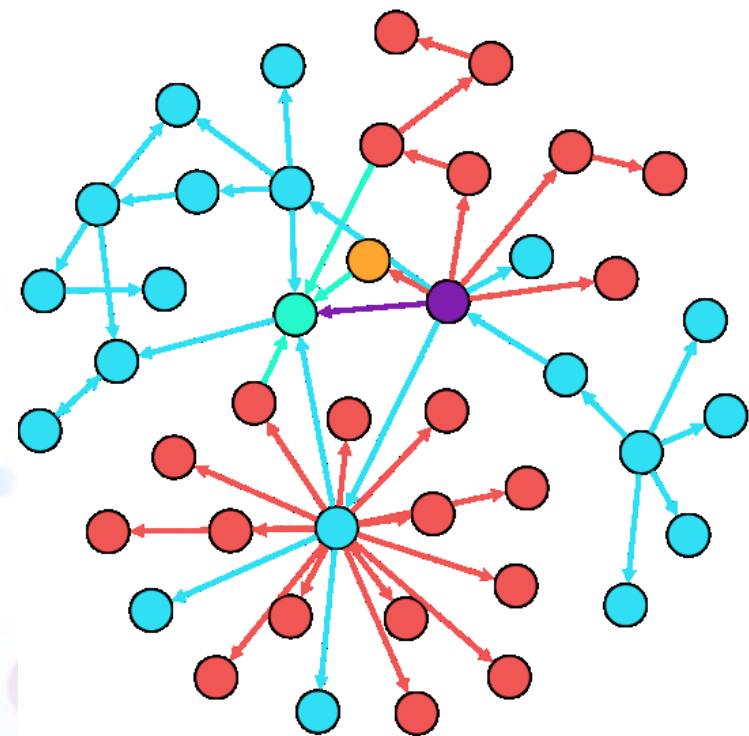
- ✓ **What** makes the difference between *DPL* of software systems and traditional *Complex Network* theory models?
- ✓ In traditional Complex Network models, when a new node arrives, it will connect to (or be connected by) old nodes following certain mechanisms:
  - **Preferential attachment model** [Barabási and Albert, 1999]:
    - Growth**: When a new node is added, it is connected to  $m$  existing nodes.
    - Preferential attachment**: Each new edge is connected to the old  $s$ th node with a probability proportional to its degree  $k_s$ .
- ✓ Leads to a constant average node degree.



# Microscopic Discussions

✓ Growing Details of JForum's *CN*

$$N_{Const} = 50$$



● ● ● Old Nodes

● ● New Nodes

● SystemGlobals.getValue

```
● SystemGlobals.getApplicationPath
public static String getApplicationPath ()
{
    return getValue(ConfigKeys.APPLICATION_PATH);
}
```

```
● JForumBaseServlet.init
public void init(ServletConfig config) throws ServletException
{
    super.init(config);

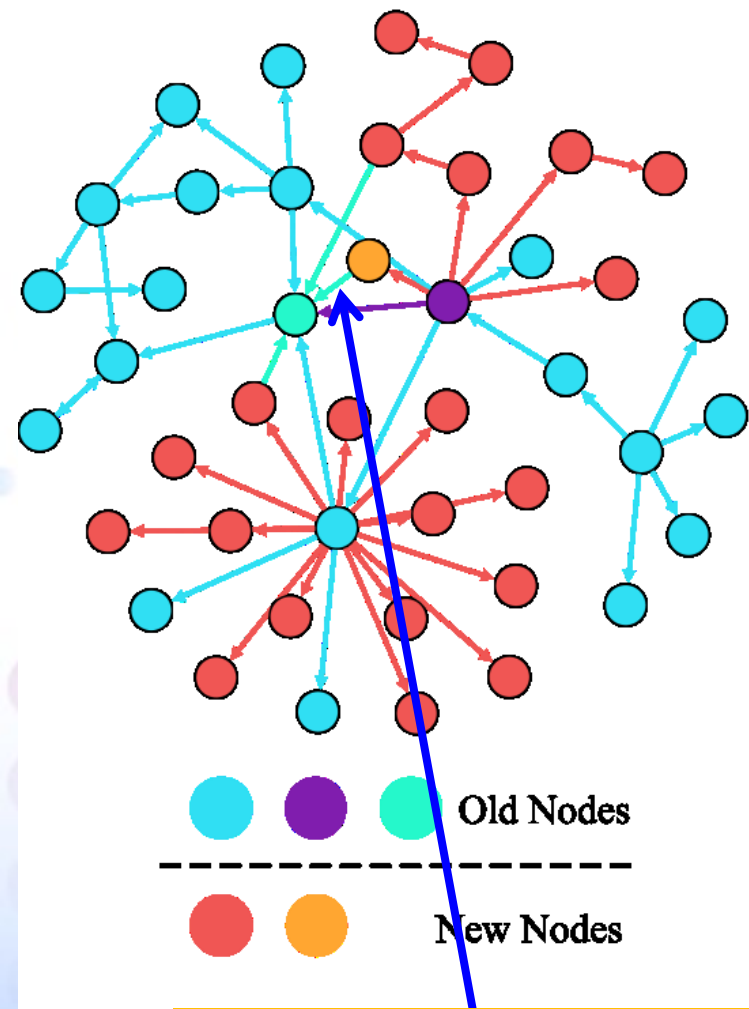
    try {
        //.....
        String defaultPath = SystemGlobals.getApplicationPath ();
        FileTemplateLoader defaultLoader = new FileTemplateLoader ();

        String extraTemplatePath = SystemGlobals.getValue ();
        //.....
    }
    catch (Exception e) {
        //.....
    }
}
```

# Microscopic Discussions

✓ Growing Details of JForum's CN

$$N_{Const} = 50$$



SystemGlobals.getValue

SystemGlobals.getApplicationPath

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public static String getApplicationPath ()  
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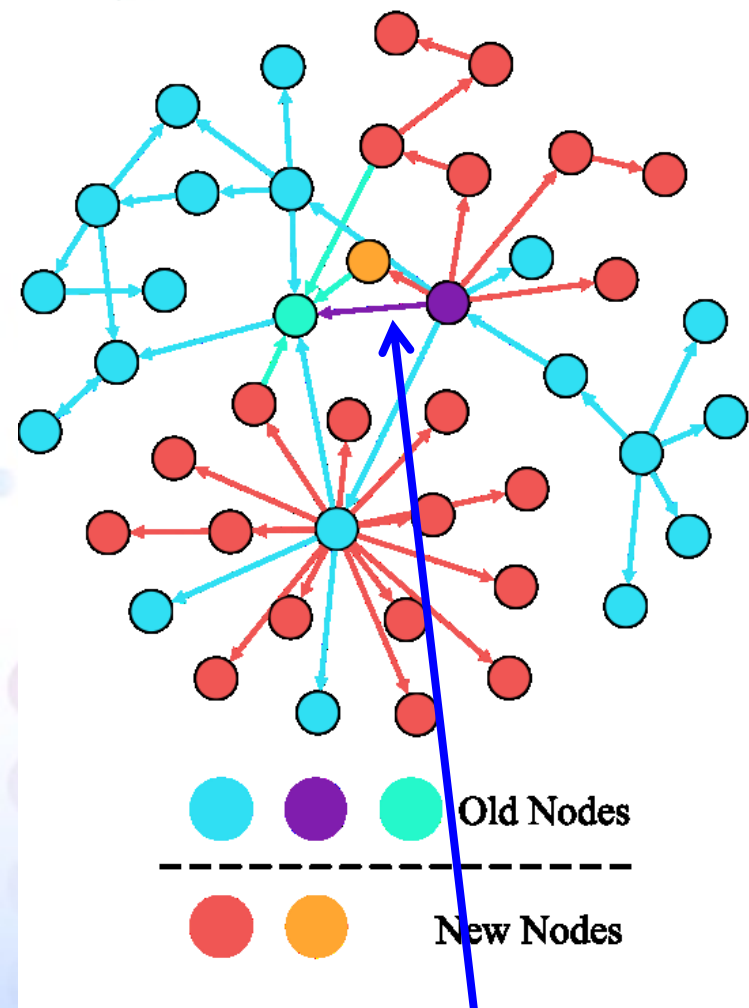
```
public void init(ServletConfig config) throws ServletException  
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    try {  
        //.....  
        String defaultPath = SystemGlobals.getApplicationPath ();  
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        String extraTemplatePath = SystemGlobals.getValue ();  
        //.....  
    }  
    catch (Exception e) {  
        //.....  
    }  
}
```

A "Passive" method call

# Microscopic Discussions

✓ Growing Details of JForum's *CN*

$$N_{Const} = 50$$



● SystemGlobals.getValue

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● SystemGlobals.getApplicationPath  
public static String getApplicationPath ()  
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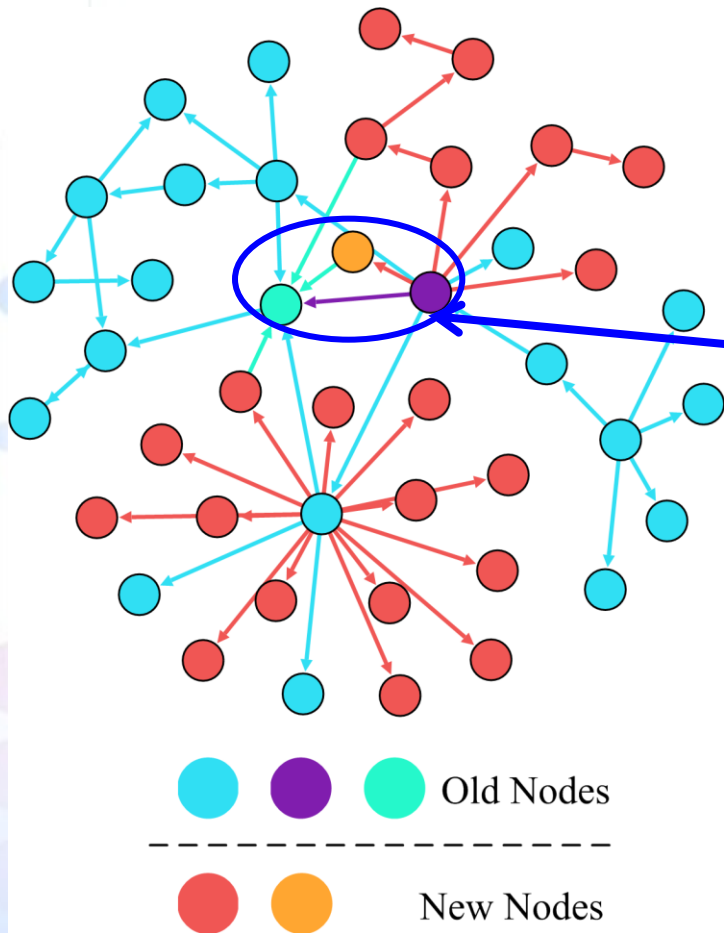
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        String extraTemplatePath = SystemGlobals.getValue();  
        //.....  
    }  
    catch (Exception e) {  
        //.....  
    }  
}
```

A new edge between 2 old nodes 25

# Microscopic Discussions

✓ Growing Details of JForum's  $CN$

$$N_{Const} = 50$$

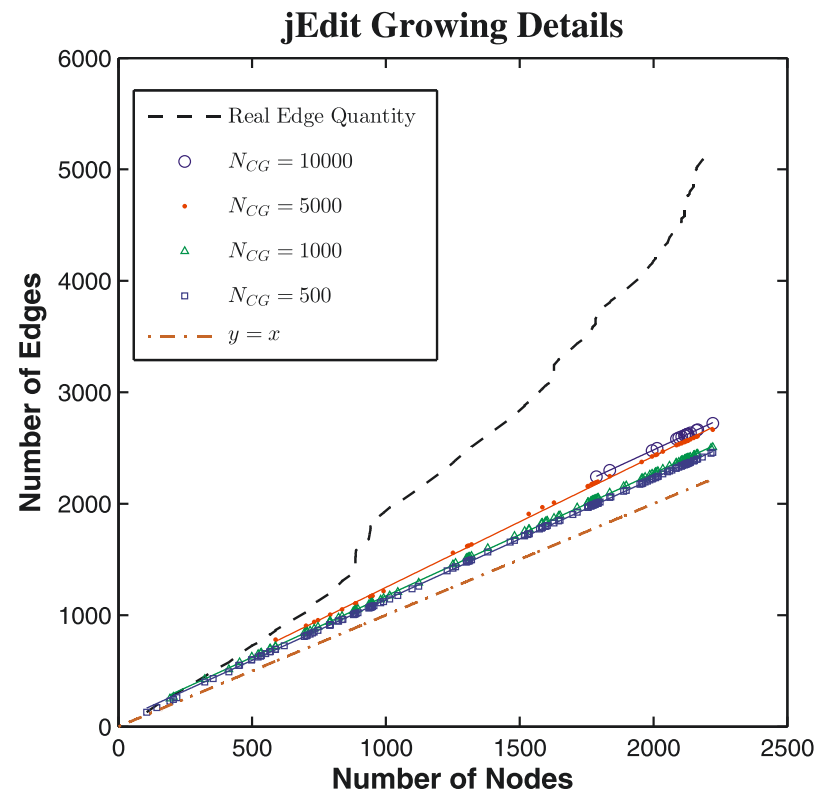
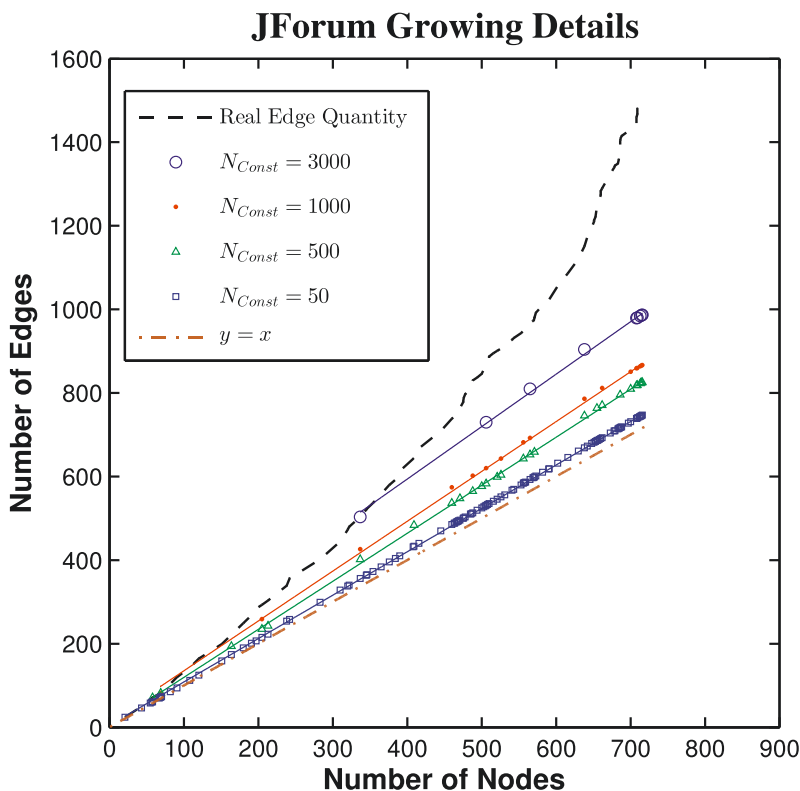


- The preceding Process added 3 new edges. The **red** one is an edge between old and new nodes.
- The **green** one is a *passive* edge.
- The **purple** one is a new edge between 2 old nodes.
- The latter 2 kinds are not considered in existing models



# Microscopic Discussions

- ✓ What if these edges are excluded? Whether we could derive a similar result with traditional models?
- ✓ *Answer:* After removing these edges, the results are consistent with existing models.
- ✓ *Conclusion:* *DPL* is caused by intensive method-reusing.



# Outline

## 1. Introduction

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## 2. Densification Power Law & Calling Network Model

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## 3. Measurements & Discussions

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## 4. Conclusion & Future Work

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# Conclusion

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- ✓ Based on 15 widely-used software systems, we have shown the universality of *Densification Power Law (DPL)* of software execution.
- ✓ The difference between *static Call Graph* and *DPL* has been presented.
- ✓ An explanation for *DPL* has been given: the **major cause** of the finding is the reuse of software methods. After removing these reusing method calls, the growth of *CN* is in accordance with traditional *Complex Network* models.
- **These measurements and findings will pave new research directions for software metrics.**



# Future work

- ✓ What does the difference between *static Call Graph* and *DPL* equation imply?

$$\Delta E = \frac{E_{equation} - E_{static}}{E_{static}}$$

- ✓ How can we take advantage of this interesting and universal feature in software engineering practice?
  - Fault Detection?
  - Structure Evaluation?
  - Redundant Code Size Estimation?
  - ...



# Thank you & Question?

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