

# How Open is Open Source? Metrics for measuring software mutation

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## **Abstract**

Open source software is touted as being "openly accessible" to many people, thus allowing greater innovation and complex new methodologies. However, given the complexity of software and how difficult it is to design and implement, the question of whether or not secondary communities adapt and modify the software needs to be addressed. This paper will first summarize previous works regarding the structure of open source communities, discuss how useful or not useful previous attempts to quantify the "open-ness" of projects have been, and finally propose a metric for measuring how open a project is. We will conclude with a proposal for a technique to test the proposed metric.