

# GROWTH LESSONS FROM THE REFACTORING COMMUNITY

Danny Dig

June 29, Virtual  
IWoR 2020



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Boulder

Go to [www.menti.com](http://www.menti.com) and use the  
code 80 08 24

On Aug 5, 2015 ...



**From personal success to significance**

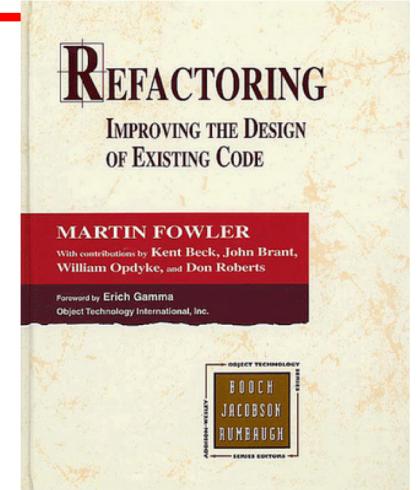


**From a ladder climber to a ladder holder**

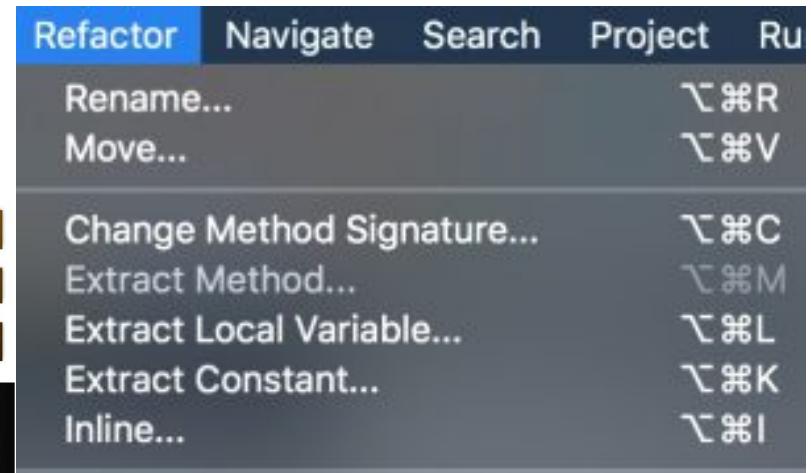


# What is Refactoring?

**"A change made to the **internal structure** of software to make it **easier to understand** and **cheaper to modify** without changing its observable behaviour" – M. Fowler [1999]**



Top-level menu in all modern IDEs



In 2000, I created the first open-source refactoring tool



In 2004, I joined the team

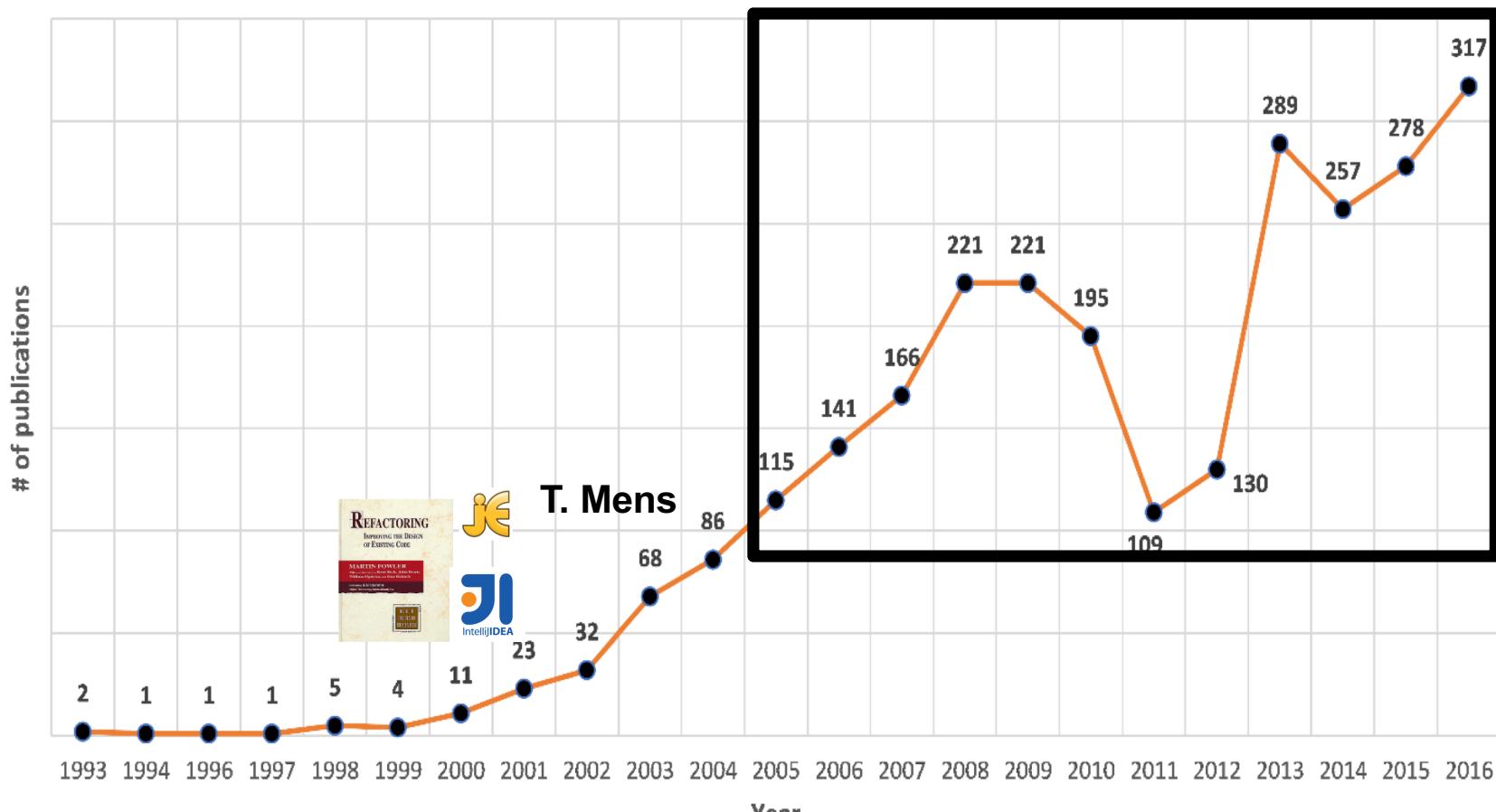


To go fast, go alone. To go far, go with others.

# A Decade of Refactoring Research

2,880 refactoring papers since 1990

2,442 papers between 2005-2016



# **Corpus of Papers**

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**Work done by Marouane Kessentini and his team at Michigan**

## **Scopus and Web of Science**

- "Refactoring" in title, abstract, and keywords
- yielded 3277 papers

## **Refactoring definition:**

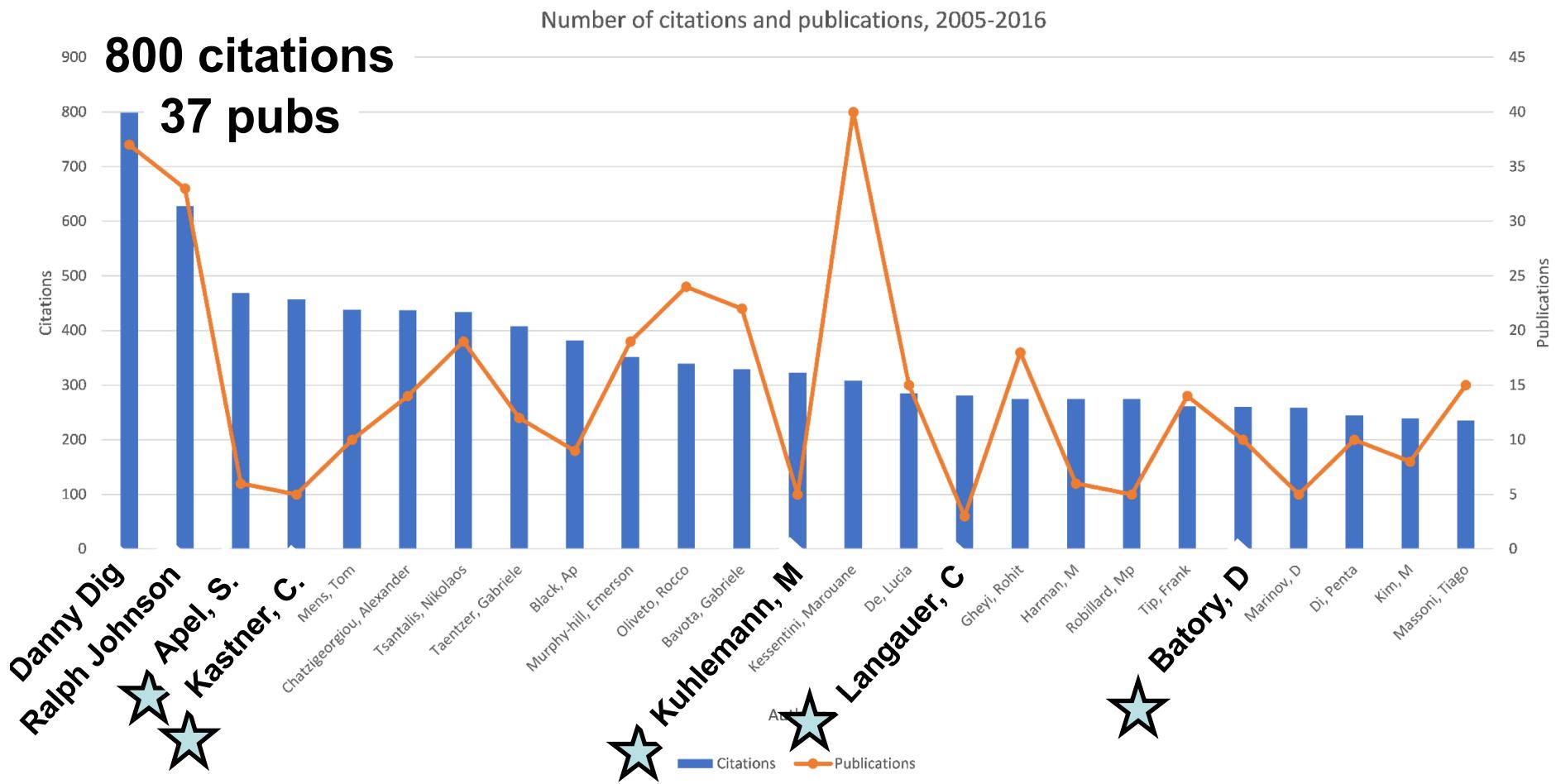
- transformation with behavior preservation

## **Manual validation of ALL papers:**

- each paper analyzed title, abstract (and sometimes content)
- 4 grad students who took a graduate class on Softw QA
- Kessentini (faculty) looked at the contentious papers

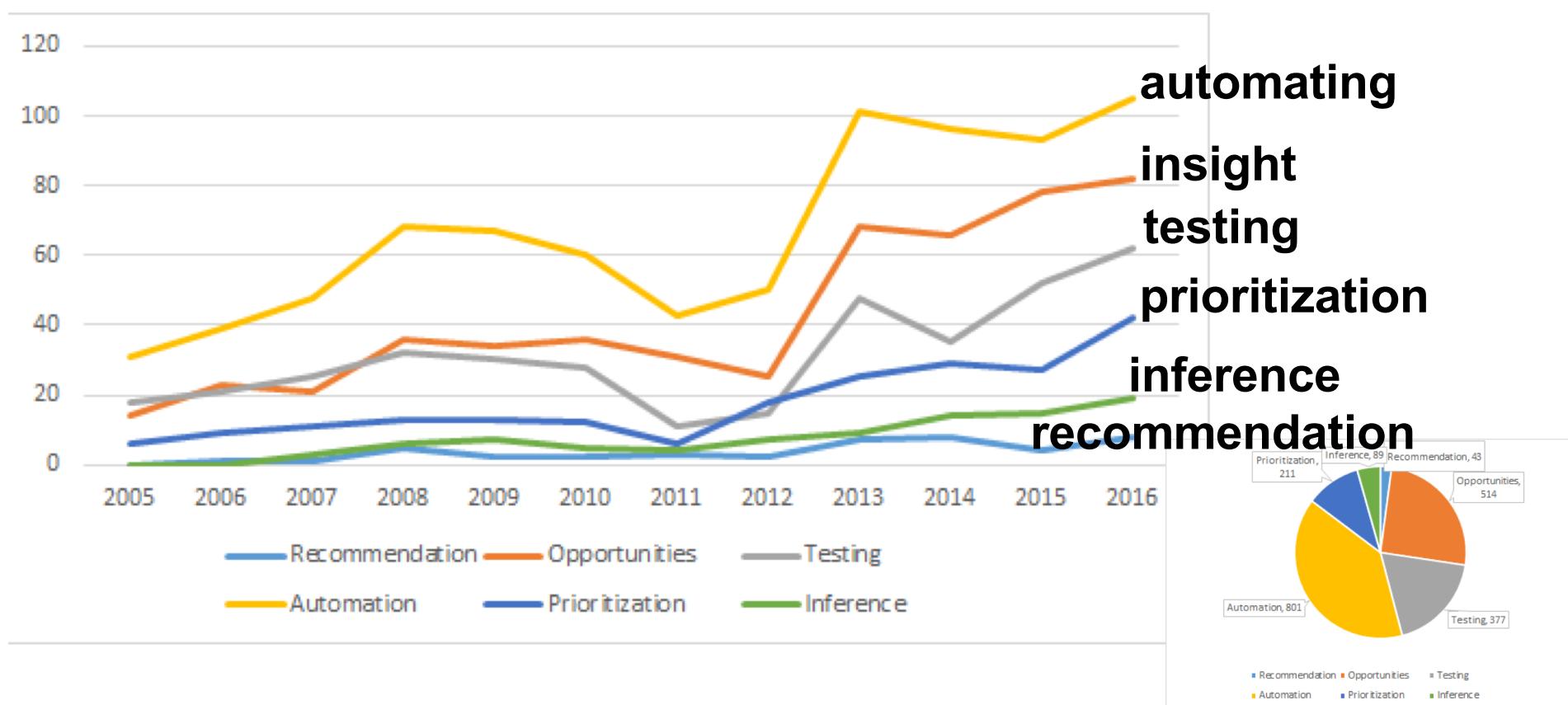
**In the end we removed 397 papers**

# O1: To Grow, Welcome Outsiders, Champions from Other Communities



For PhD committee, invite 1-2 outsiders of your area

## O2: To Grow, Expand Focus of Interest (the WHAT)



Expand to meet the needs of new audiences

# Our New Focus on Automation

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**Scalability 1.0: Refactoring to Design Patterns contain hundreds of lower-level refactoring steps [ICSE'16]**

- 10x faster than state-of-the-art IDE refactorings

**Scalability 2.0: Ultra-large scale refactoring for codebases of Hundreds of Millions LOC (e.g.,    Microsoft scale)**

- whole-program analysis is not feasible

**The next generation of global, distributed refactoring [ICSE19]**

- MapReduce on the cloud: scalable, safe, useful

# New Work on Inferring Refactorings

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**Nikos Tsantallis' RefactoringMiner:** commit-based detection [ICSE'18]

**No similarity thresholds**

**High accuracy:** 98% precision, 87% recall

**Ultra-fast:** 58ms on median per commit

**Better than previous state-of-the-art:** +22% precision, 7x faster

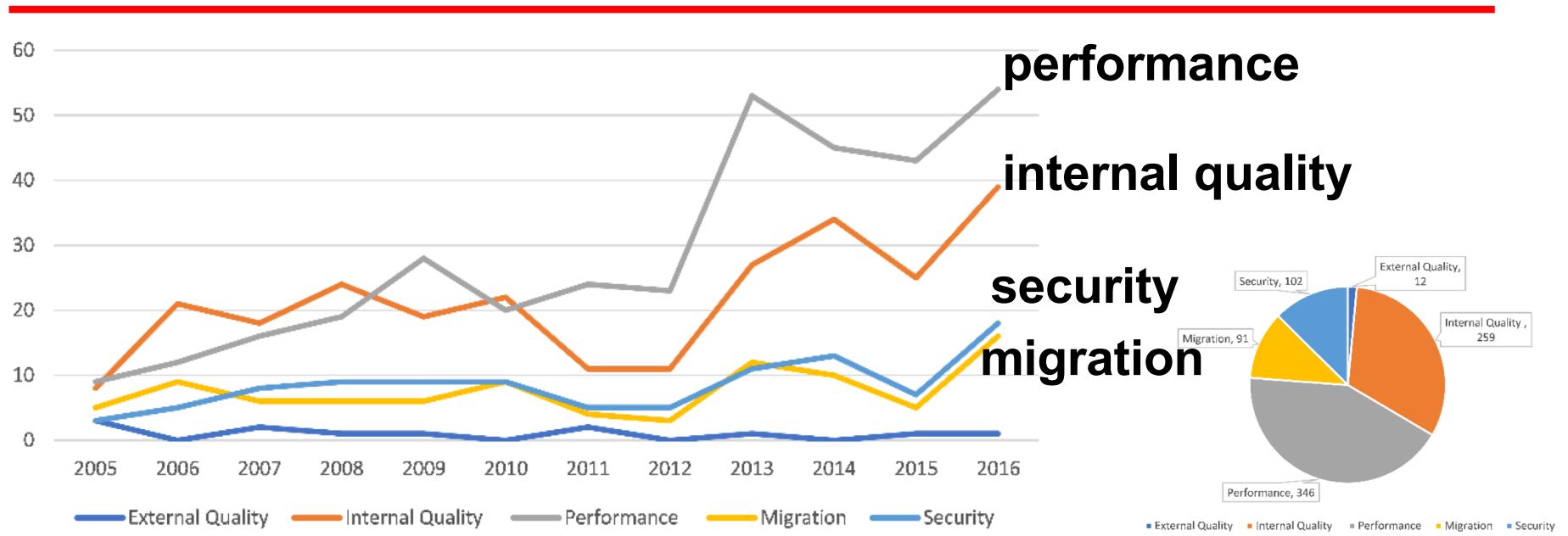
**Largest and least biased refactoring oracle up to date**  
**6K+ true refactoring instances, 185 open-source projects**

**Enabling other researchers:**

**21 papers by others, within 1 year of our release**



## O3: To Grow, Expand Objectives (the WHY)



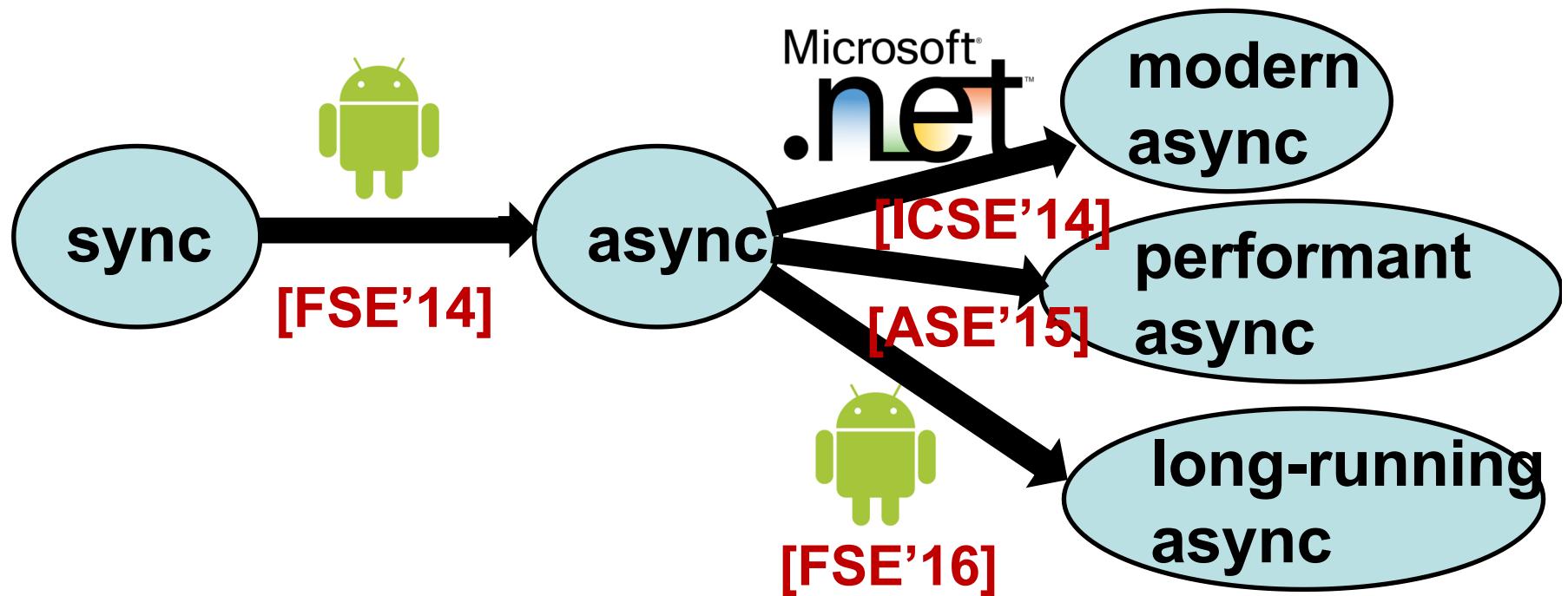
Expand Objectives: new refactoring research is to improve **performance, security, migration** (beyond internal quality)

# Overview of Our Refactorings for Asynchronous Programming for Mobile Apps

Slow operations freeze mobile apps and frustrate users

- 75% of performance bugs in Android [Li et al., ICSE'14]

Culprit: long running operations running in the main UI thread  
Solution: refactoring for asynchronous execution



# Overview of Our Refactorings for Parallelism

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## Refactorings for **thread-safety**

- make class immutable [ICSE'11]
- convert to **Atomic\*** classes [ICSE'09]
- use concurrent collections [ICSE'09]
- infer region annotations [ASE'09]
- atomic check-then-act operations [ICST'13]

## Interprocedural analyses:

- control, data-flow
- points-to
- constraint-based

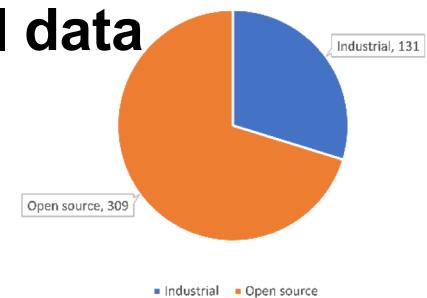
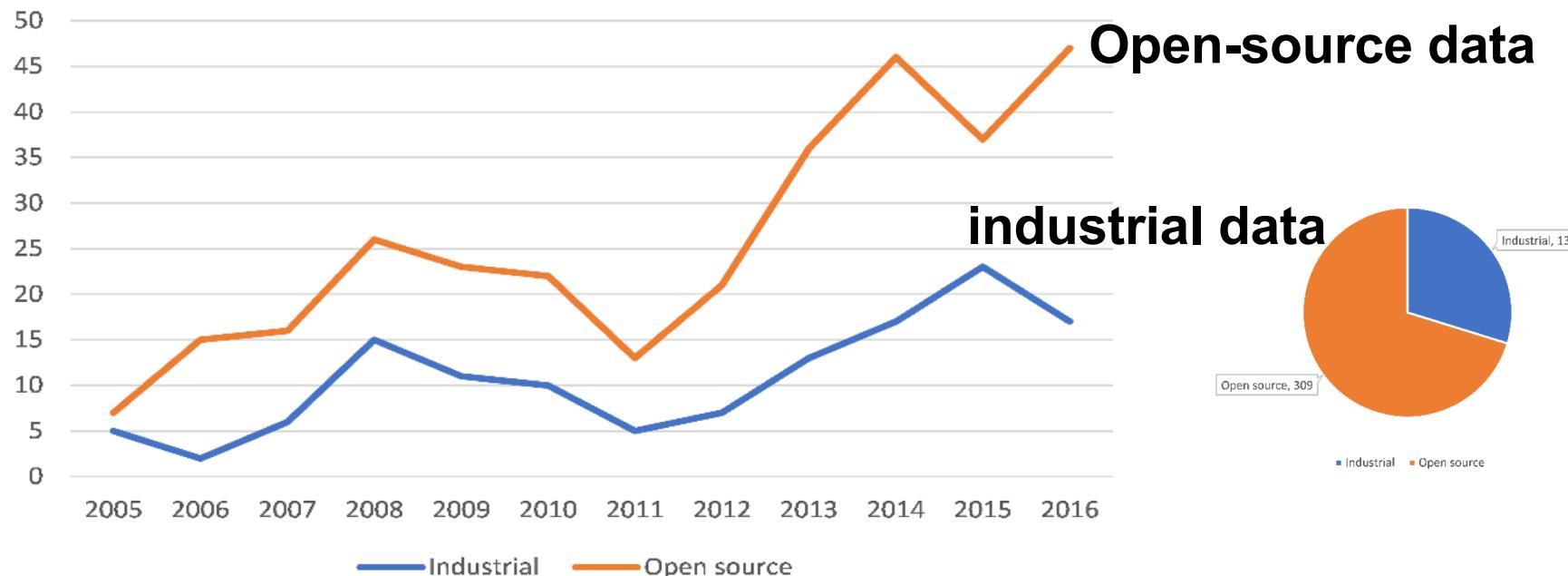
## Refactorings for **throughput**

- parallel recursive divide-and-conquer [ICSE'09]
- loop parallelism via ParallelArray [OOPSLA'10]
- loop parallelism via lambda functional operators [FSE'13]

## Refactorings for **scalability**

- **Atomic\***, concurrent collections [ICSE'09]

## O4: To Increase Practical Impact, Go the Extra Mile



### Industrial collaboration levels:

- surveys with practitioners
- tool validated on industrial codebase
- tool licensed to industry, adopted in products

***“There are no traffic jams on the extra mile”***



# What is Your Dream? Mine is Practical Impact on SW Development



Automating  
-ship with official



Visual Studio

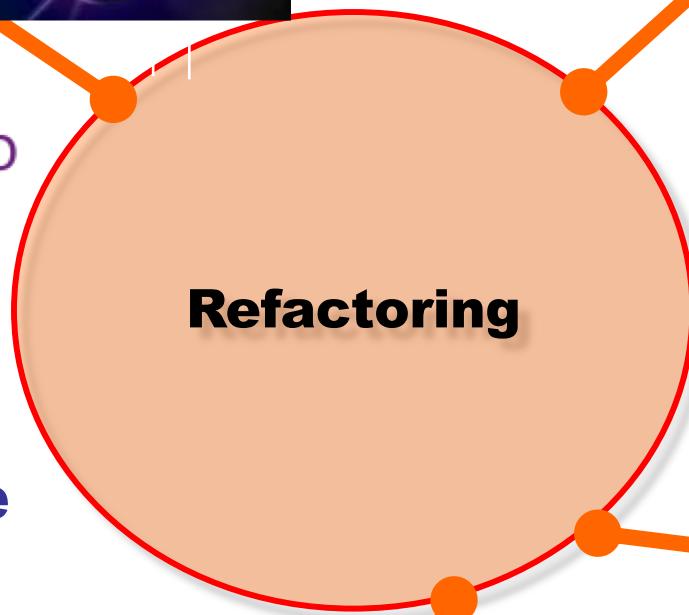
- hundreds of  
accepted patches



- first open-source  
refactoring



Google™



Testing  
ORACLE®

Inferring

- used at Google™  
IBM®  
- dozen labs

founded Workshop  
on Refactoring Tools,  
HotSwUp, Dagstuhl S.

Understanding

- shaped APIs in Java  
and .NET official  
concurrency libraries

-learnparallelism.net  
150,000+ visitors

# Big Growth of the Field: Expanding Definition

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**"A change made to the **internal structure** of software to make it **easier to understand** and **cheaper to modify** without changing its observable behaviour" – M. Fowler '99**



Expanded Focus, Objectives,  
Techniques

**"Automation/insight/testing/prioritization of changes to the **artifacts** of software to **improve non-functional requirements** and without changing its **proper, intended behaviour**" – Danny Dig '19**

Communities that grow are going to be more accepting of new ideas

# **Big Growth Enabled by Community Engineering**

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**Industry champions: Martin Fowler, Kent Beck, Ward Cunningham, Joshua Kerievsky, Michael Feathers, Uncle Bob**

**Complementary skills: tool builders, paper writers, curators**

**Mindset for industrial collaboration and adoption**

**Shared platform:**

- **Eclipse (Erich Gamma + Frank Tip), analysis frameworks**

**Community: 10 Refactoring Workshops, 1 Dagstuhl**

- **first workshop in 2007, 50+ participants, 32 posters**
- **invited all major IDE providers**
- **growing new leaders**

# Type Migration in Ultra-large-scale Codebases



Ameya  
Ketkar

Ali  
Mesbah

Davood  
Mazinanian

Danny  
Dig

Eddie  
Aftandilian



# Why perform type migration?

- **Better performance**

Function<Double, Double> -> DoubleUnaryOperator [Ketkar OOPSLA '17]  
Integer -> int

- **Improve Energy Efficiency**

HashMap -> ArrayMap -> SparseArray [Saborido et al., EMSE '18]

- **Better functionality**

T -> Optional<T>

- **Library Migration**

log4J -> sl4j [Teyton et al., JSEP '14]

- **Fixing API breaking changes**

Updating or moving fields and method [Dietrich et al., ICSME '14]

# Existing Refactoring Tools for Type Migration

Tool	Config-ility	Safety	Scalability
IntelliJ IDEA	●	●	●
Refactor by example (Refaster)	●	●	●
Type Constraints	●	●	●
T2R (Our approach)	●	●	●

**Configurability:** Custom type migrations

**Safety:** Type correctness, completeness of mappings

**Scalability:** 300M LOC

# Key Novel Idea 1: Decrease Search Space

```
private static final NumberFormat nf = new DecimalFormat("0.000");
public double minimize(Function<Double, Double> function, double tol, double low, double high) {
    this.tol = tol;
    this.low = low;
    this.high = high;
    return minimize(function);
}

public double minimize(Function<Double, Double> function) {
    double tol = this.tol;
    double low = this.low;
    double high = this.high;
    double fLow = function.apply(low);
    double fHigh = function.apply(high);
```

```
    while (true) {
        double mid = (fLow + fHigh) / 2;
        if (mid <= low || mid >= high) {
            if (low <= high) {
                return low;
            } else {
                throw new RuntimeException();
            }
        }
        double fMid = function.apply(mid);
        if (fMid <= fLow) {
            if (fMid <= fHigh) {
                System.out.println("Crossed at " + mid + ", value is " + nf.format(fMid));
                if (tol <= fMid) {
                    return mid;
                }
            } else {
                if (fMid <= fHigh) {
                    fHigh = function.apply(mid);
                } else {
                    fLow = function.apply(mid);
                }
            }
        } else {
            if (fMid <= fHigh) {
                fHigh = function.apply(mid);
            } else {
                fLow = function.apply(mid);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```
    double fMid = function.apply(mid);
    if (fMid <= fLow) {
        System.out.println("Crossed at " + mid + ", value is " + nf.format(fMid));
        if (tol <= fMid) {
            return mid;
        }
    } else {
        if (fMid <= fHigh) {
            fHigh = function.apply(mid);
        } else {
            fLow = function.apply(mid);
        }
    }
}
```

GoldenSectionLineSearcher

SVMLightFactory

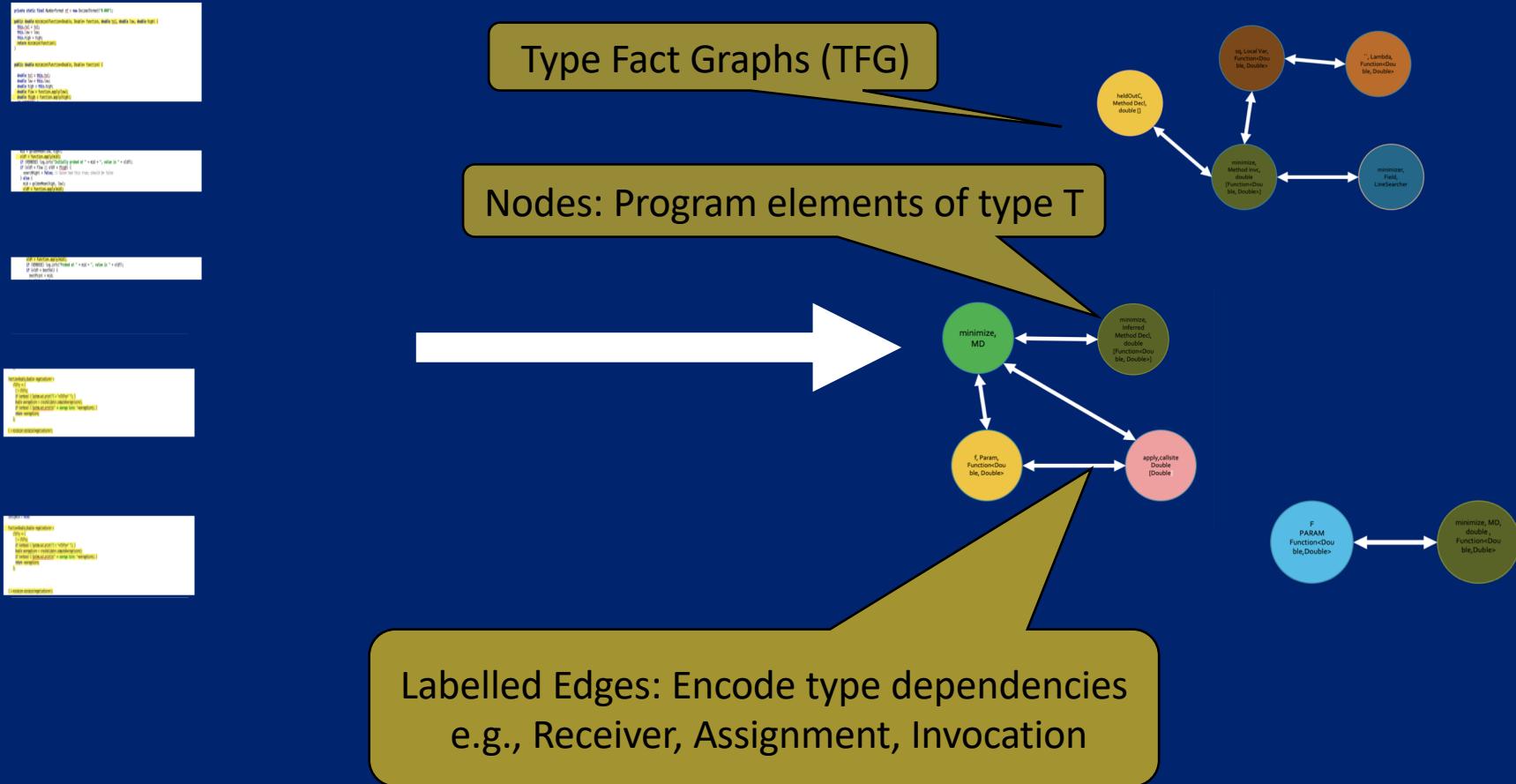
Reason about elements of the  
**"Source"** type of the migration



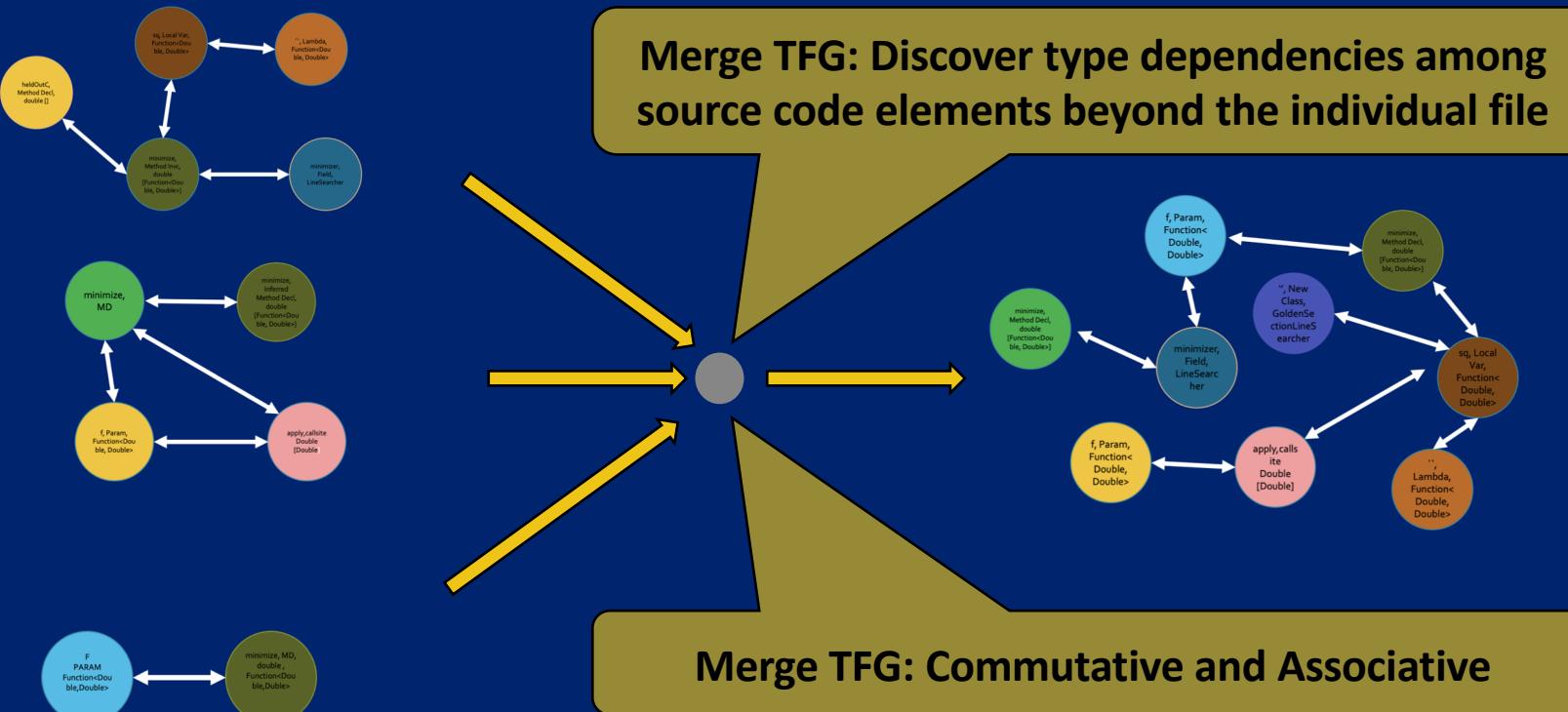
Reason about:

- Function<Double, Double>
- Double

# Key Novel Idea 2: Map-Reduce amenable

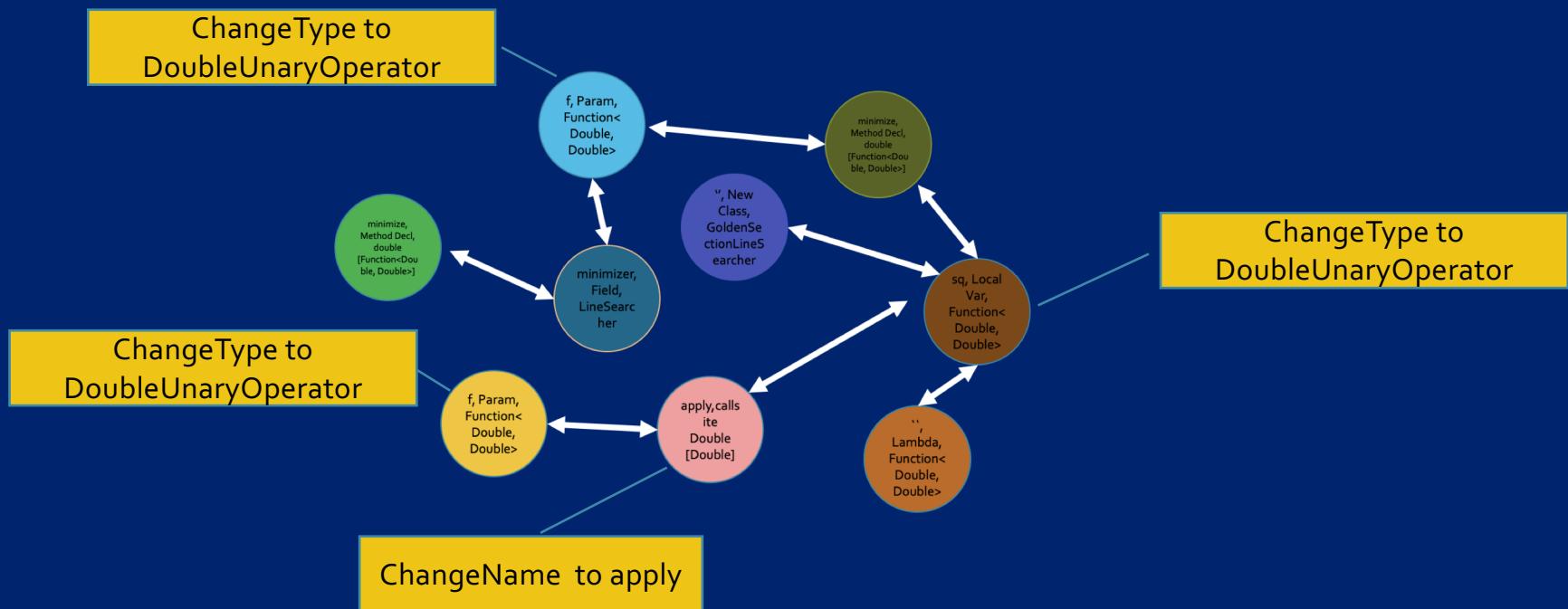


# Key Novel Idea 2: Map-Reduce amenable



# Apply Transformation Rules

`Function<Double, Double>` ➔ ChangeType to `DoubleUnaryOperator`  
`apply` ➔ ChangeName to `applyAsDouble`



# Empirical Evaluation

Used T2R to migrate 13 generic functional interface types to their specialized, performant types

**Open Source Corpus:** 7 best in class, performance-critical applications,  
2.6 MLOC

**Google Corpus** 300M LOC

➤ **RQ1: Applicability:** How applicable are T2R type migrations?

A: 139 type migrations in projects previously optimized for specialized functional types

➤ **RQ2: Scalability:** How scalable is T2R?

A: 33 minutes for Google's Java codebase

## RQ3: Usefulness Do developers find our type migrations useful in practice?

139 patches sent to the original developers as pull request.

126 patches were accepted and 10 still under review

- 2 patches rejected because developer did not like the name “Predicate”
- 1 patch rejected since it affected the public APIs



“This patch was deep inside the database and actually is very important for performance”



“Thanks for the nice contribution. The team would enjoy continuing the discussion.”



“Nice to be able to detect this automatically. Presumably, we have missed a number of them. ... You will get a “fame spot” in Speedment”

# Summary

A **MapReduce** amenable technique for type migration: emulates inter-procedural analysis at large scale

**Type Fact Graphs** – models type structure of a program

**T2R** – our implementation for **specializing Java's functional interfaces**

Evaluation of T2R on **7 open source** projects and **Google's Java code**

- Usability: 98% of the total patches generated were accepted
- Scalability: 300M LOC in 33mins

**T2R and corpus available for download**

# My Most Important Investment

---

Michael Hilton (PhD'17, now at CMU)

Semih Okur (PhD'16, now at Microsoft)

Yu Lin (PhD'15, now at Google)

Stas Negara (PhD '13, now at Google)

Ameya Ketkar (PhD)

Malinda Dilhara (PhD)

Tom Dickens (PhD)

Sruti Srinivasa (PhD)

Shane McKane (MS'17, now at Intel)

Mihai Codoban (MS '15, now at Microsoft)

Kendall Bailey (MS '15, now at Intel)

Cosmin Radoi (MS '13, now PhD student UIUC)

Sandro Badame (MS '12, now at Google)

Fredrik Kjolstad (MS 2011, now PhD student MIT)

Binh Le (MS 2009, SW developer)

Can Comertoglu (MS 2009, now at Microsoft)

Jacob Lewis (Summer'16 – '17)

Jonathan Harijanto (Summer'16 – '17)

Lily Mast (Summer'15)

Elias Rademacher (Summer'15 - current)

Nicholas Nelson (Summer 2014-15)

Sean McDonald (Summer'14 – Fall'15)

Hugh McDonald (Summer'14 – Fall'15)

Alexandria Shearer (Summer'12)

Kyle Doren (Summer'12)

Lyle Franklin (UIUC, Summer'12)

Alex Gyori (UIUC, Summer'12)

Yuwei Chen (UIUC, Spring 2012)

Anda Bereckzy (UIUC, Fall'11-Spring'12)

Alex Sikora (UIUC, Fall'11)

Jack Ma (UIUC, Summer'11)

Lorand Szacaks (UIUC, Summer'11)

Caius Brindescu (UIUC, Summer'11)

Mihai Codoban (UIUC, Summer '11)

Mihai Tarce (UIUC, Summer'09)

Cosmin Radoi (UIUC, Summer'09)

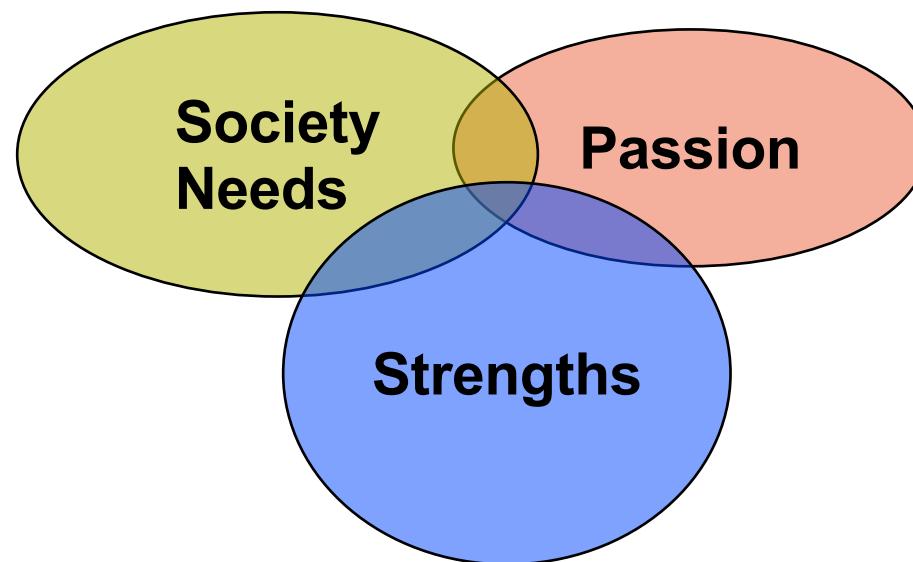
John Marrero (MIT, Spring'08 – Summer'08)



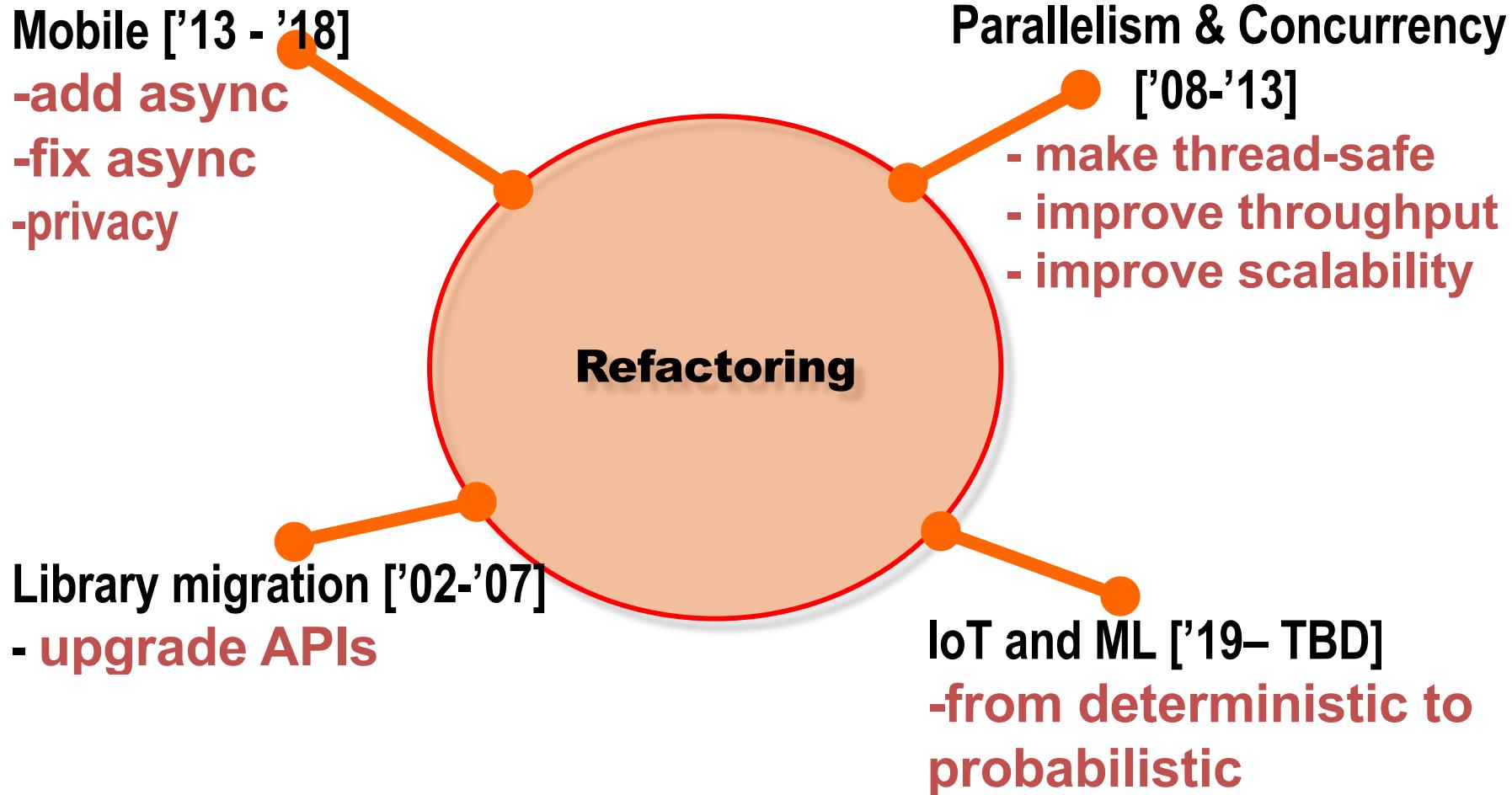
# Focus on the Students

***“Focus on the students, since graduating great students means you’ll produce great research, while focusing on the research may or may not produce great students” -- the late David Notkin***

**Helping students find their voice**



# Work in Your Strength Zone but Reinvent Yourself



Principles for changing between different programming models

# Center on Pervasive Personalized Intelligence



Oregon State  
University



Boulder



galois

<http://ppicenter.org>

# Listening to Industry during Discovery Visits



# Pervasive Personalized Intelligence (PPI)

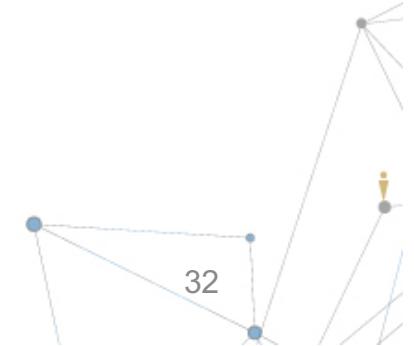
**From Reactive to Predictive Analytics:**

- City: resource utilization, new infrastructure
- Ag: predict diseases, harvest
- Industry 4.0: auto-diagnosis on device

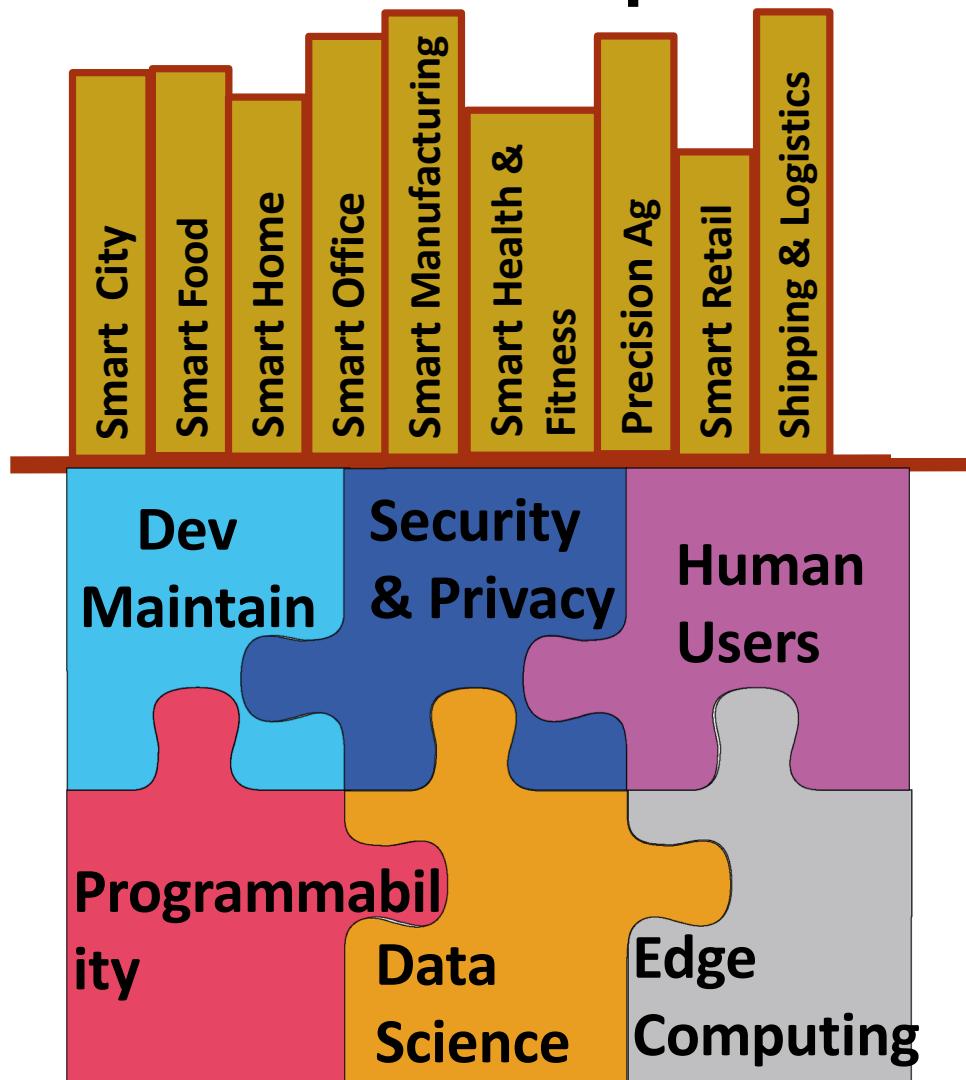


**Pervasive to the Edge**

**Personalized**

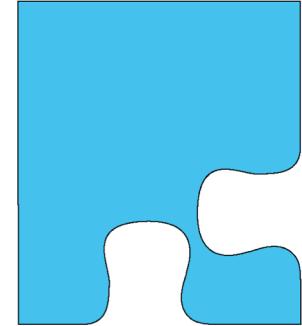


# Research Thrusts and Capabilities of PPI



# Our New Refactoring for ML Code

90% of software costs due to software evolution



ML algorithms are also code: they need to evolve

Understand ML evolution through formative studies

- quantitative (static analysis) and qualitative

Automate transformations:

- retrofit ML: from deterministic to probabilistic
- model transformations
  - e.g., Eager to Static in TensorFlow
  - evolve model when data changes, without retraining
- improve efficiency of code written by data scientist



# Want to Go Fast? Go Alone Want to Go Far? Go with Others

Learn more at <https://ppicenter.org>

Join our NSF Center, launching Sept 2020

Introduce us to your industry



partners so they join our Founding Members: | galois |



DAIMLER

Daimler Trucks North America

Schedule a Discovery Session with PPI Directors:

Danny Dig (OSU site) [danny.dig@colorado.edu](mailto:danny.dig@colorado.edu)

monthly webinar: [ppicenter.eventbrite.com](https://ppicenter.eventbrite.com)

How do you battle distractions (Mind Wandering, Negative Thinking, Uncertain anxiety) during crisis? Join our group  
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