

Motivation

- Branches are used frequently in Git
 - Reflect developer intent (branch is made to solve problems)
 - Workflows: short-lived topic branches and long-term stable branches
- Grouping commits into related logical change sets is critical for interpreting the historical information
 - Common grouping methods (based on author [Meng et al. ICSM'13], files or sliding time window [Zimmermann et al. TSE'05]) **approximate** developer intent
 - Commit branch origins **directly reflect** developer intent

Bird et al. [MSR'09] (part)

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|--------------------|---------|
| Repositories | 30 |
| Total Commits | 139,187 |
| Total Merges | 2,971 |
| Identified Origins | 2,909 |

