

Where code acts: passionate imitation, infrastructures and programming work

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Code as abstract object?

The experience of the transcendence of scientific objects, especially mathematical ones, that essentialist theories invoke is the particular form of *illusio* which arises in the relationship between agents possessing the habitus socially required by the field and symbolic systems capable of imposing their demands on those who perceive them and operate them, and endowed with an autonomy closely linked to that of the field (which explains why the sense of transcendent necessity rises with the capital of accumulated resources and the qualifications demanded for entry) [Bourdieu_2000, 113-114].

is there any way of making a more general assessment of software?

[Thrift & French, 'The Automatic Production of Space,' 2002, 311-312]

1. the most obvious, the large and complex **geography of the writing of software** – of the production of lines of code – a geography that takes in many different locations and many different languages and which has been built up progressively since the invention of programming in the 1940s [Thrift & French, 2002, 323].
2. in essence, we can say that it [software] consists of **rules of conduct** able to be applied to determinate situations [325]
3. the general profusion of software, its increasing complexity and consequent emergent properties, all count as means of producing playful idioms that have not been captured by dominant orders. Software's very indeterminacy and lack of closure provide a means of **creating new kinds of order** (328)

'Take just the case of coded cities understood as a whole.

Should we think of them simply as projections of an autistic **capitalist power** in which all consequences are externalized? ... as entities gathered around **matters of prescribed concern** and uninterested in much that lies outside them? ... as tied into a kind of ethic of care by the need to roll over systems which demand resilience? ... as having an **increasingly involved dream life**, based on projection and retrojection of all the searches, blogs and tweets that are continually being generated? ... as **geometric beings**, born out of constant requests for navigation? ... as the **result of newly found abilities to represent** arising out of advances in visualization?

There is no set format or single cause but what is clear is that it is **increasingly possible for these entities to learn – in however a limited way – to transform themselves**, to author themselves either through emergent tendencies arising out of complexity or through simple happenstance which places them in unexpected situations which require adaptation'

[Thrift, 2014, 13]

> Software is more like a kind of traffic between beings, wherein one sees, so to speak, the effects of the relationship. What transpires becomes reified in actions, body stances, general anticipations. We would argue, then, that software is best thought of as a kind of absorption, an expectation of what will turn up in the everyday world.

[Thrift & French, 2002, 312]

Gabriele Tarde on imitative fluxes

'coadaptation of imitative fluxes, a cooperation, even in an individual brain, but always a multitude of agents social and infinitesimal, and their ordinary ideas' (Tarde 1902, 270).

Knorr-Cetina on 'post-social objects'

Since these markets are exteriorized and concentrated on screen, traders not only participate in these markets, they relate to them as a complex 'other' with which they are strongly, even obsessively, engaged. The term 'postsocial relationships' refers to new kinds of bonds such as those constructed between humans and objects.
(Knorr-Cetina & Brueggers, 2002, 162)

Git

git(1) Manual Page

NAME

git - the stupid content tracker

SYNOPSIS

```
git [--version] [--help] [-C <path>] [-c <name>=<value>]
[--exec-path[=<path>]] [--html-path] [--man-path] [--info-path]
[-p|--paginate|--no-pager] [--no-replace-objects] [--bare]
[--git-dir=<path>] [--work-tree=<path>] [--namespace=<name>]
<command> [<args>]
```

DESCRIPTION

Git is a fast, scalable, distributed revision control system with an unusually rich command set that provides both high-level operations and full access to internals.

See [gettutorial\(7\)](#) to get started, then see [Everyday Git](#) for a useful minimum set of commands. The [Git User's Manual](#) has a more in-depth introduction.

After you mastered the basic concepts, you can come back to this page to learn what commands Git offers. You can learn more about individual Git commands with "git help command". [gitcli\(7\)](#) manual page gives you an overview of the command-line command syntax.

Formatted and hyperlinked version of the latest Git documentation can be viewed at <http://git-helptexts.googlecode.com/git/git.html>.

OPTIONS

--version

Prints the Git suite version that the *git* program came from.

--help

From git to Github: code in traffic



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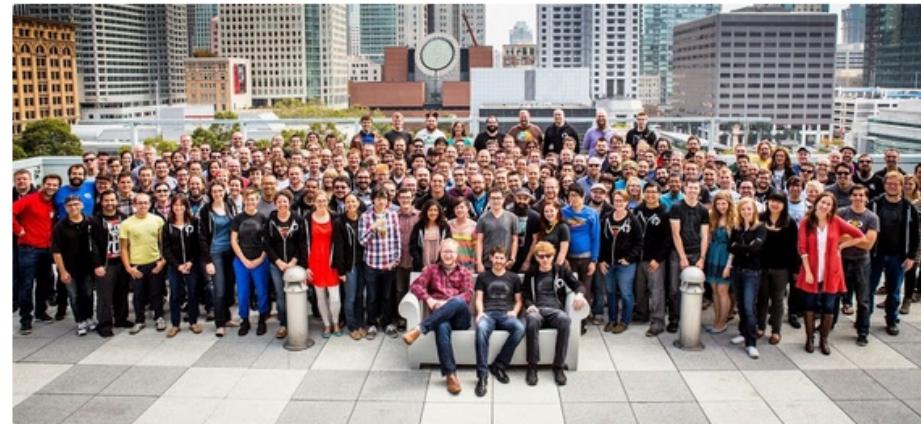
FOUNDED
2008

HOME BASE
San Francisco

HUBBERS
239

LOVEABLE MASCOT
The Octocat

GitHub is the best place to share code with friends, co-workers, classmates, and complete strangers. Over five million people use GitHub to build amazing things together.



With the collaborative features of GitHub.com, our [desktop](#) and [mobile apps](#), and [GitHub Enterprise](#), it has never been easier for individuals and teams to write better code, faster.

Originally founded by [Tom Preston-Werner](#), [Chris Wanstrath](#), and [PJ Hyett](#) to simplify sharing code, GitHub has grown into the largest code host in the world.



Search or type a command

Explore Gist Blog Help



rian39



About GitHub

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There are **6.1M** people collaborating right now across **13.2M** repositories on GitHub. Developers from all around the world are building amazing things together. Their story is our story.

[GitHub: Innovations That Mattered in 2013](#)

GovLoop, December 12, 2013

[GitHub's Tom Preston-Werner: How We Went Mainstream](#)

ReadWriteWeb November 18, 2013

press@github.com

[GitHub Fact Sheet](#)

Copied names as affective imitation: forks, mirrors

FORKCOUNT: 4,468128 (approximately 4.5 million repos are forks)

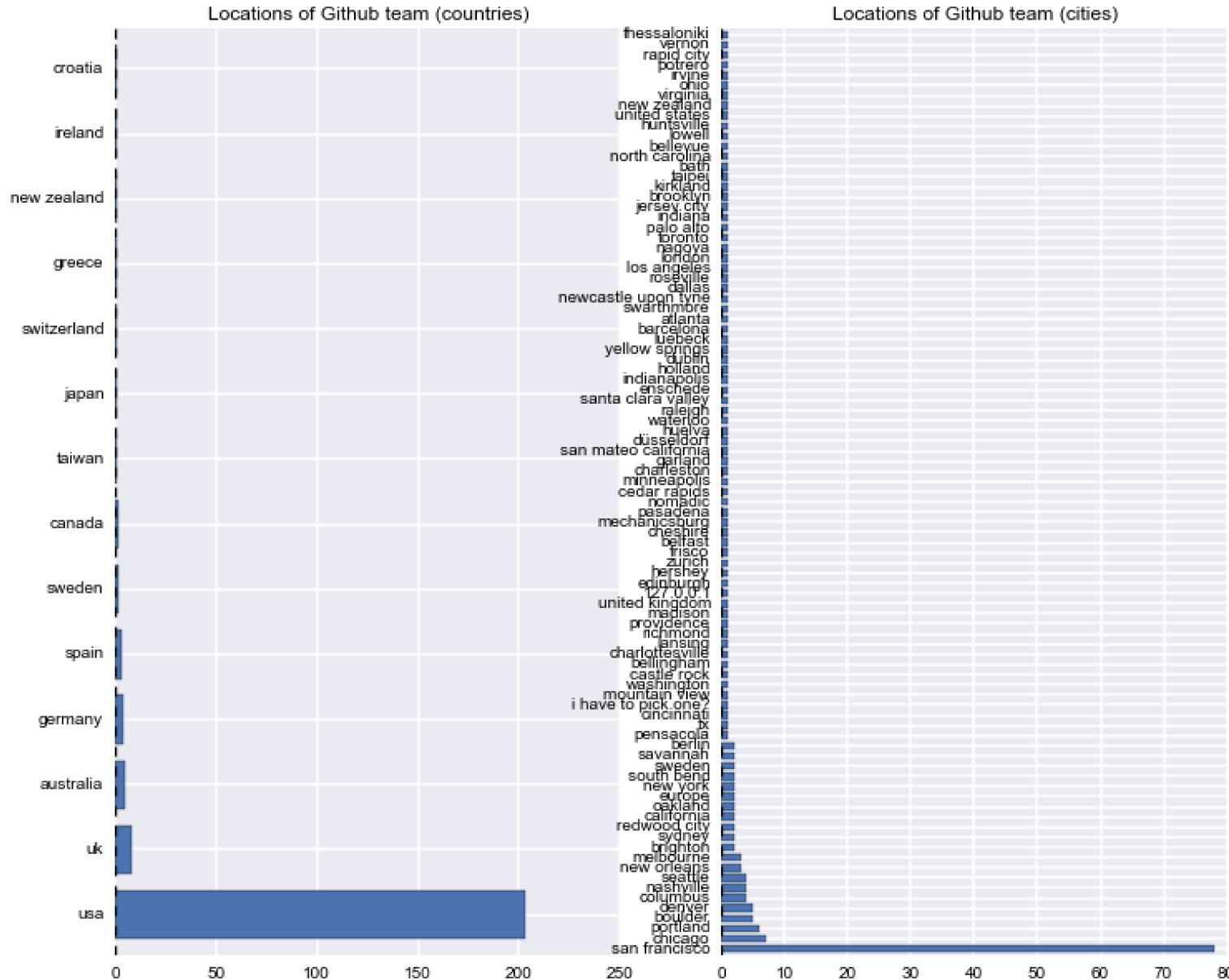
```
SELECT count(*) as fork_count FROM [metacommunities:github_proper.repo_list]  
where fork=1
```

UNIQUE NAMES: 5,323,230 (approximately 5.3 million repos have unique names, so 7 million names are imitations)

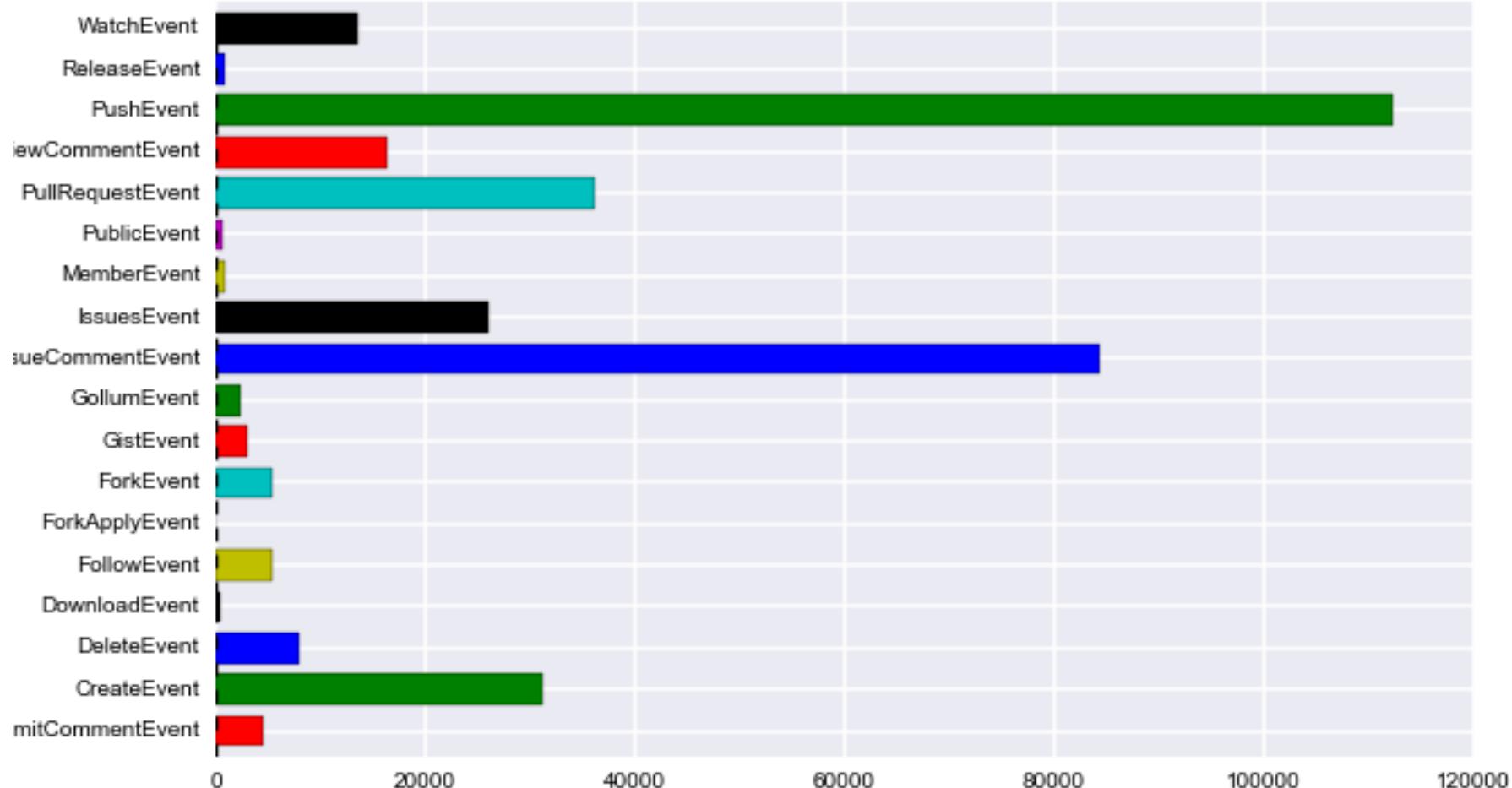
```
SELECT count(distinct(repository_name)) as name_count FROM  
[githubarchive:github.timeline] LIMIT 1000;
```

'incorporation into collectivities involves **affective imitation**' (Gatens & Lloyd, 1999)

Geographies of 'Hubbernauts'



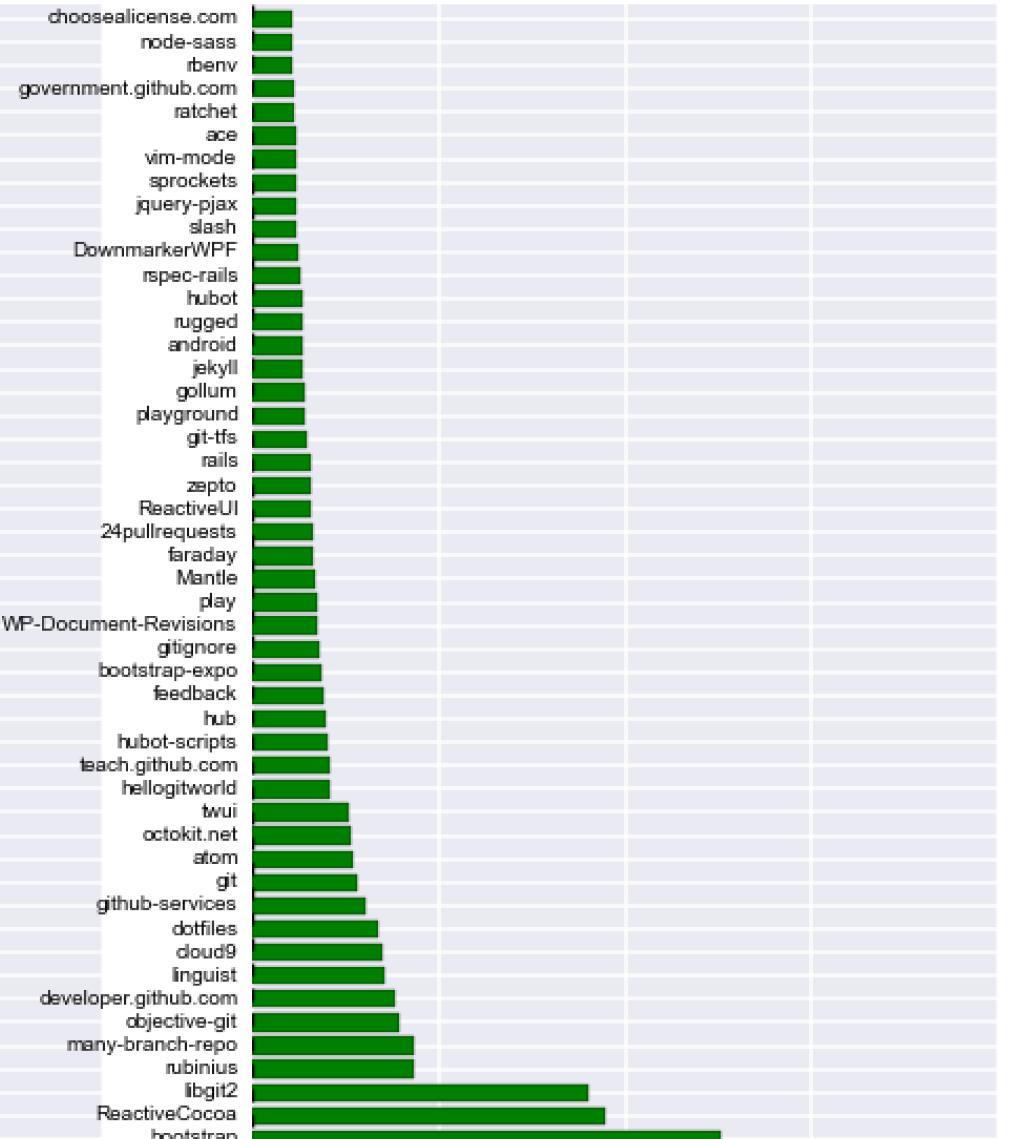
Event counts for Github team



Repositories worked on by Github team (since 2012)



Unique Repositories worked on by Github team (since 2012)



dpackcartonmachine/3layer-5layer-7layer-corrug...
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--817258
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--854402
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--709152
dpackcartonmachine/5-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/7-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/7-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/3-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/3-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/5-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--529003
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--058569
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--564559
dpackcartonmachine/semi-automatic-four-color-p...
dpackcartonmachine/3layer-5layer-7layer-Corrug...
dpackcartonmachine/3layer-corrugated-box-machi...
dpackcartonmachine/3layer5layer7layer-corrugat...
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--408286
dpackcartonmachine/3layer-5layer-7layer-Corrug...
dpackcartonmachine/corrugated-box-machine--952283
dpackcartonmachine/7-layers-corrugated-box-mac...
dpackcartonmachine/7-layers-corrugated-box-mac... 4

Early repositories (c. 2008)

1 mojombo/grit
2 wycats/merb-core
3 rubinius/rubinius
4 mojombo/god
5 vanpelt/jsawesome
6 wycats/jspec
7 defunkt/exception_logger
8 defunkt/ambition
9 labria/restful-authentication
10 technoweenie/restful-authentication
11 technoweenie/attachment_fu
12 topfunky/bong
13 anotherjesse/s3
14 anotherjesse/taboo
15 mojombo/glowstick
16 wycats/merb-more
17 macournoyer/thin
18 jamesgolick/resource_controller
19 defunkt/cache_fu
20 bmizerany/sinatra
21 rtomayko/sinatra
22 jnewland/gsa-prototype
23 defunkt/mofo
24 schacon/ruby-git
25 mmower/simply_versioned
26 abhay/calais
27 mojombo/chronic
28 al3x/git-wiki
29 schacon/git-wiki
30 sr/git-wiki
31 queso/signal-wiki
32 drnic/ruby-on-rails-tmbundle
33 danwrong/low-pro-for-jquery
34 mojombo/yaws
35 grempe/amazon-ec2

Recent repositories (c. 2014)

1 2m1tsu3/practice
2 tylerdmace/ledomme
3 yehiaelghaly/xssya
4 istvan-antal/commandjs
5 JohnKrigbjorn/ObjectOne
6 chenx/Ci35_1
7 mohsenbezanj/AI_Project
8 Dineshkarthik/blogengine
9 sapanbhuta/Sapari
10 gwoodroof/chat-gwoodroof
11 tryuichi/Hello-World
12 prateek0020/NepTravelMate
13 discoverfly/discoverfly.github.io
14 evan-007/ng-wikiful
15 sanemat/zipcode-jp
16 donreamey/PJKiller
17 discoverfly/discover
18 jkkorean/MIUI-KK
19 Artofacks1/ionic-app
20 jkkorean/MIUI-JB
21 tycho01/rails-i18n
22 Oksisane/Websockets
23 chenxiruanhai/XScrollView
24 jhonM17/footer-fixed-bootstrap
25 McPringle/workshops
26 JosemyD/testing-laravel
27 wngravette/FlogResources
28 Ethico/temp
29 Tripod2K/cse223p
30 Parbhat/tango_with_django_1.6
31 ManuelAlanis/ios
32 kowito/pnxstudio
33 raimana/activiti_merger
34 dylanling/connect_four
35 yinseo2014/game-cho-android

'passionate imitation'

Names as bundles

repository_url
https://github.com/mantrala/twitter_clone
https://github.com/estebistec/django-twitter-bootstrap
https://github.com/notonalot/LoL-twitter-stats
https://github.com/sherzberg/twitter-stream-learning
https://github.com/RouxRC/TwitterApiDocumentationRSS
https://github.com/stephenturner/twitterarchive
https://github.com/imausrokihi/twitter-activator
https://github.com/sferik/sign-in-with-twitter
https://github.com/konstandino-a/twitter-analyser
https://github.com/thecodepath/ios_twitter
https://github.com/jacurtis/twitter_clone
https://github.com/nst/STTwitter
https://github.com/Nodejs-Colorado/node-twitter-sentiment-promises
https://github.com/mjhea0/node-twitter-sentiment-generators
https://github.com/spiritdead/Twitterizer
https://github.com/mjhea0/node-twitter-sentiment
https://github.com/tonytonyjan/ruby-conf-tw-2014-twitter-wall
https://github.com/mjhea0/node-twitter-sentiment-promises
https://github.com/yusuke/twitter4j
https://github.com/margaritoCajero/twitter
https://github.com/kathrynsiegel/twitterbot
https://github.com/cwhittemore1/TwitterAPI
https://github.com/marek5050/TwitterScrap
https://github.com/AvianFlu/ntwitter
https://github.com/jamesfebin/meteor-twitter-api
https://github.com/mrbellek/twitterbot
https://github.com/tchu88/diff-twitter

Most common repository names

test	85404
try_git	67393
dotfiles	39928
first_app	34772
sample_app	33848
demo_app	30076
bootstrap	25814
spoon-knife	24603
hello-world	19989
bitstarter	13076
blog	11392
helloworld	10362
android	9722
homebrew	8305
rails	8281
jquery	7540
angular.js	6778
myrepo	6555
node	6499
testrepo	6320
html5-boilerpla	6188
scripts	6109
test1	6054
demo	5890
projects	5718
git	5706
github	5681
phonegap-star	5667
testing	5494
sandbox	5474

the importance of suggestion and imitation in social life, and the limits of forms of analysis which confine themselves to the study of representation or inscription. (Barry and Thrift, 2007: 511)

Most forked repositories on Github (January 2013)

forks	repository
1478	bootstrap
1276	Spoon-Knife
763	dotfiles
504	rails
426	html5-boilerplate
410	jquery
375	homebrew
345	linux
343	android
291	phonegap-plugins
280	node



Bootstrap is the most popular HTML, CSS, and JS framework for developing responsive, mobile first projects on the web.

[Download Bootstrap](#)

Currently v3.2.0



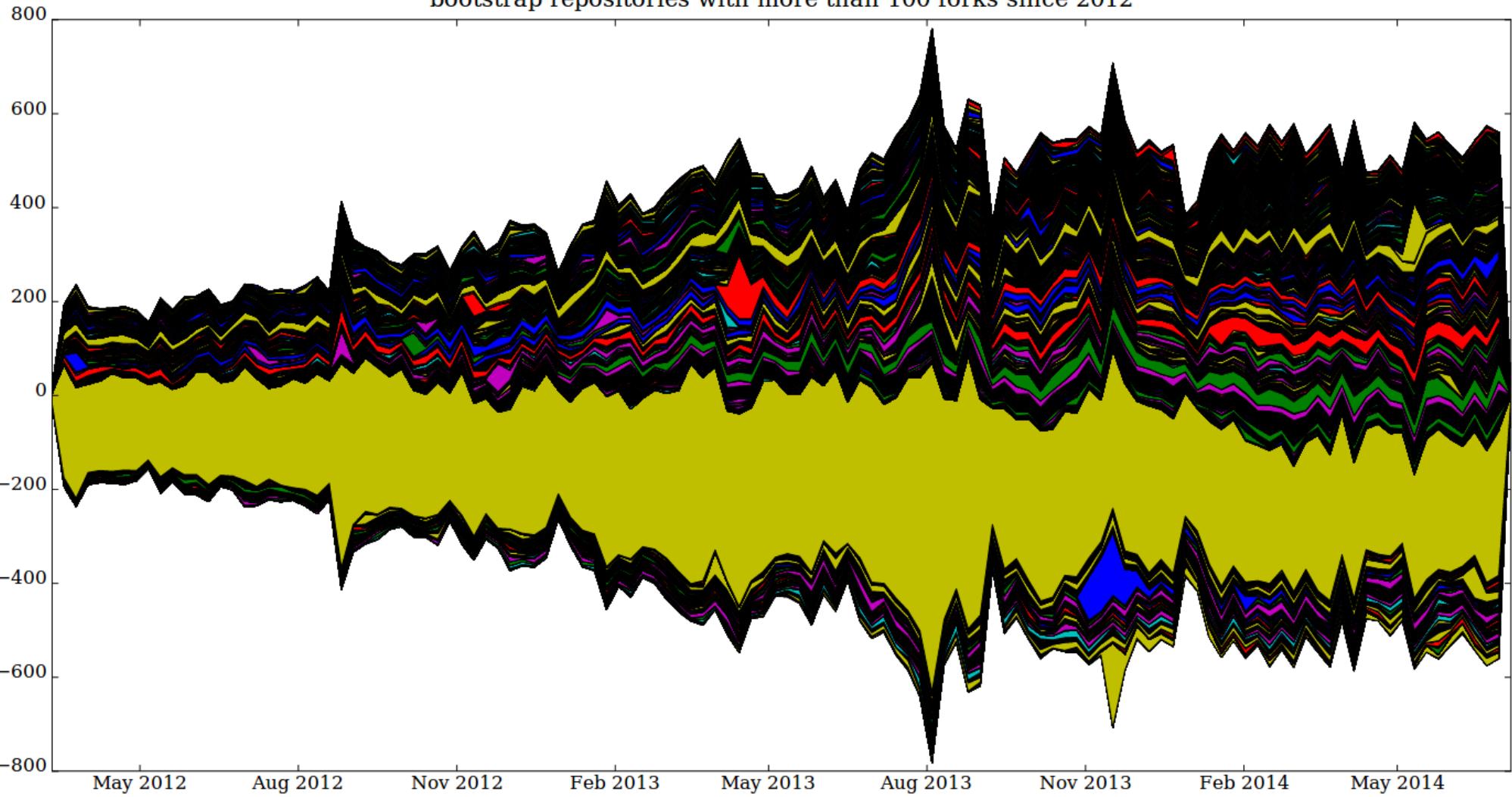
Free web app
performance monitoring
and shirt when you try
New Relic.

ads via Carbon

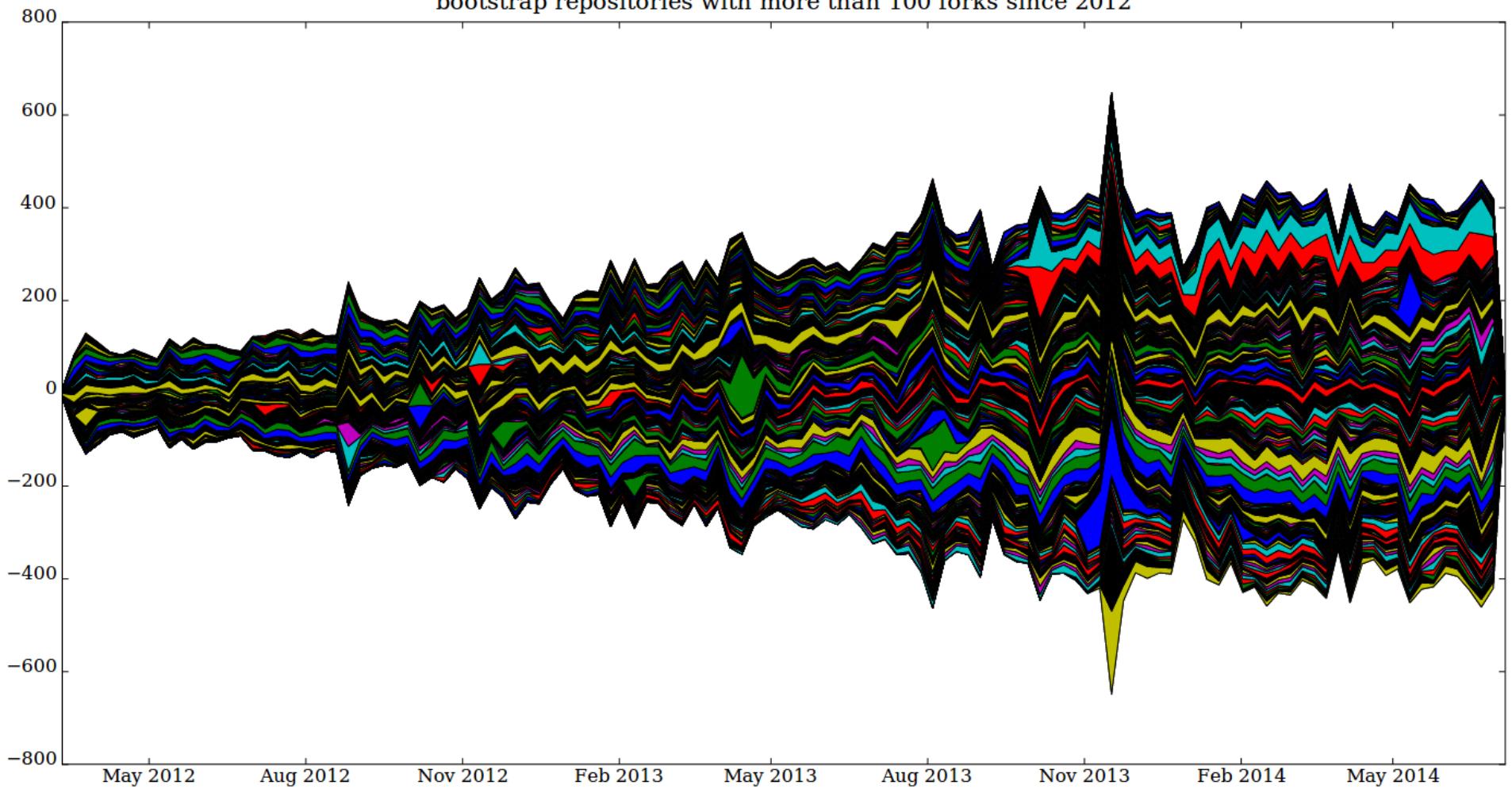
Bootstrap-related forks (January 2013)

forks repo
1478 bootstrap
109 bootstrap-datepicker
84 jekyll-bootstrap
60 bootstrap-wysihtml5
54 bootstrap-tour
48 twitter-bootstrap-rails
48 bootstrap-sass
46 bootstrap-datetimepicker
43 jquery-ui-bootstrap
42 bootstrap-modal
40 wordpress-bootstrap
36 bootstrap-daterangepicker
31 sass-twitter-bootstrap
31 Bootstrap-Image-Gallery
26 rails3-bootstrap-devise-canCan
26 bootstrapwp-Twitter-Bootstrap-for-WordPress
24 metro-bootstrap
24 bootstrap-timepicker
23 bootstrap-toggle-buttons
23 MopaBootstrapBundle
19 twitter.bootstrap.mvc
19 bootstrap-switch
18 google-bootstrap
18 Bootstrap-IE6
17 gwt-bootstrap
17 django-bootstrap-toolkit
17 bootstrap-magic
17 android-bootstrap
16 sinatra-bootstrap
16 CodeIgniter-Bootstrap

bootstrap repositories with more than 100 forks since 2012



bootstrap repositories with more than 100 forks since 2012



Conclusion: code-crowd?

**Github platform as passionnal assemblage that
seeks to recursively urbanise code**

vs.

**Coding as convolutional imitation with crowd
dynamics**

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