

# Promises and Perils of Porting Software Visualization Tools to the Web

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**Marco D'Ambros**

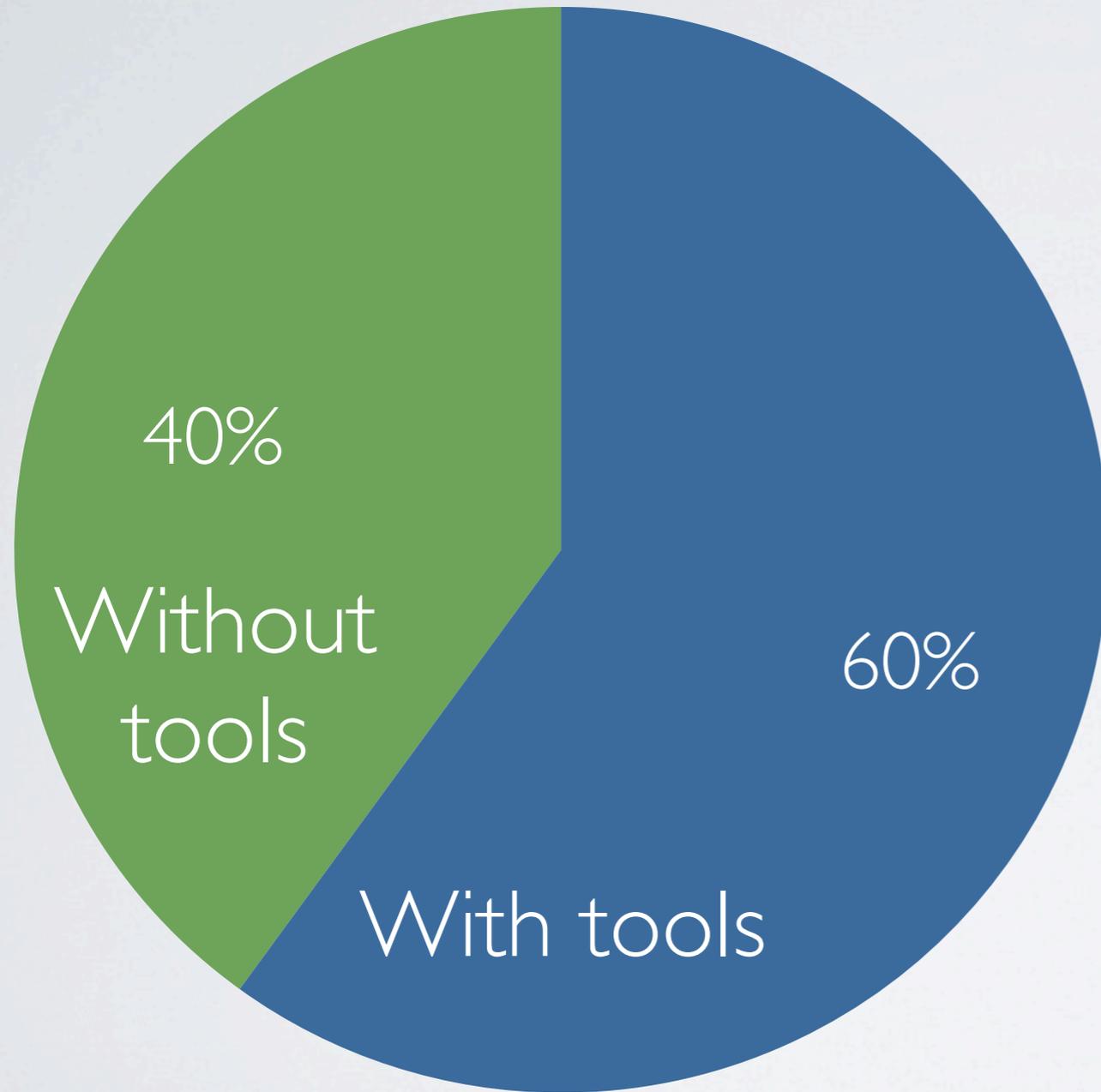
Michele Lanza

Mircea Lungu

Romain Robbes

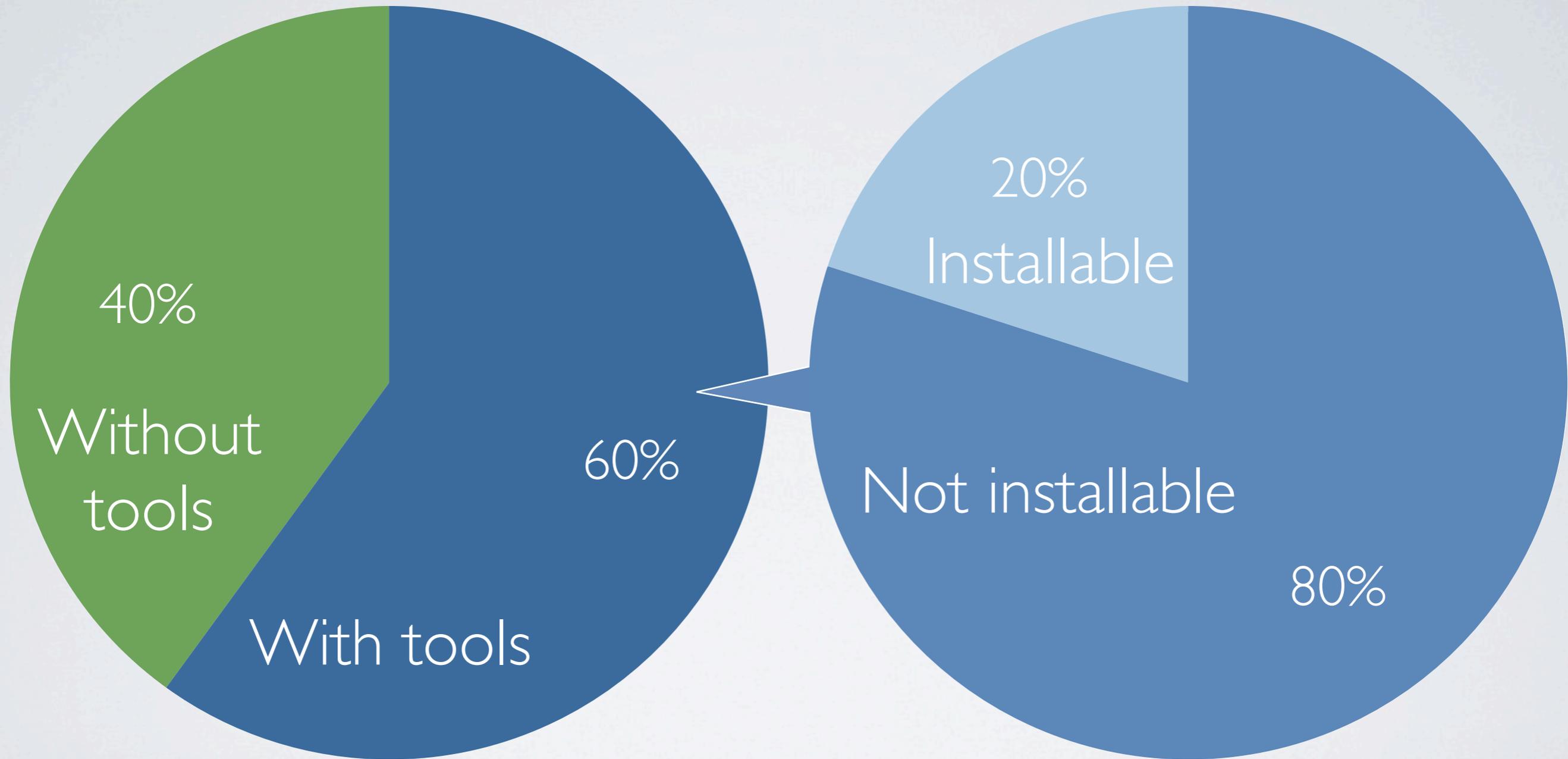
REVEAL @ University of Lugano

# TOSEM: 2000-2008



Source: ICSE keynote 2009

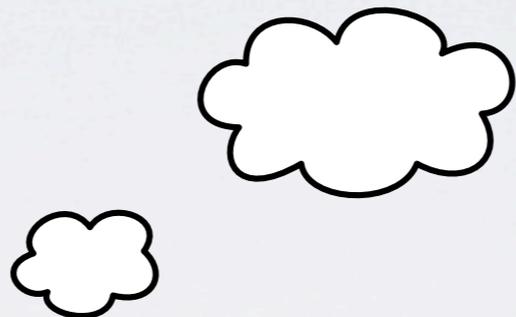
# TOSEM: 2000-2008



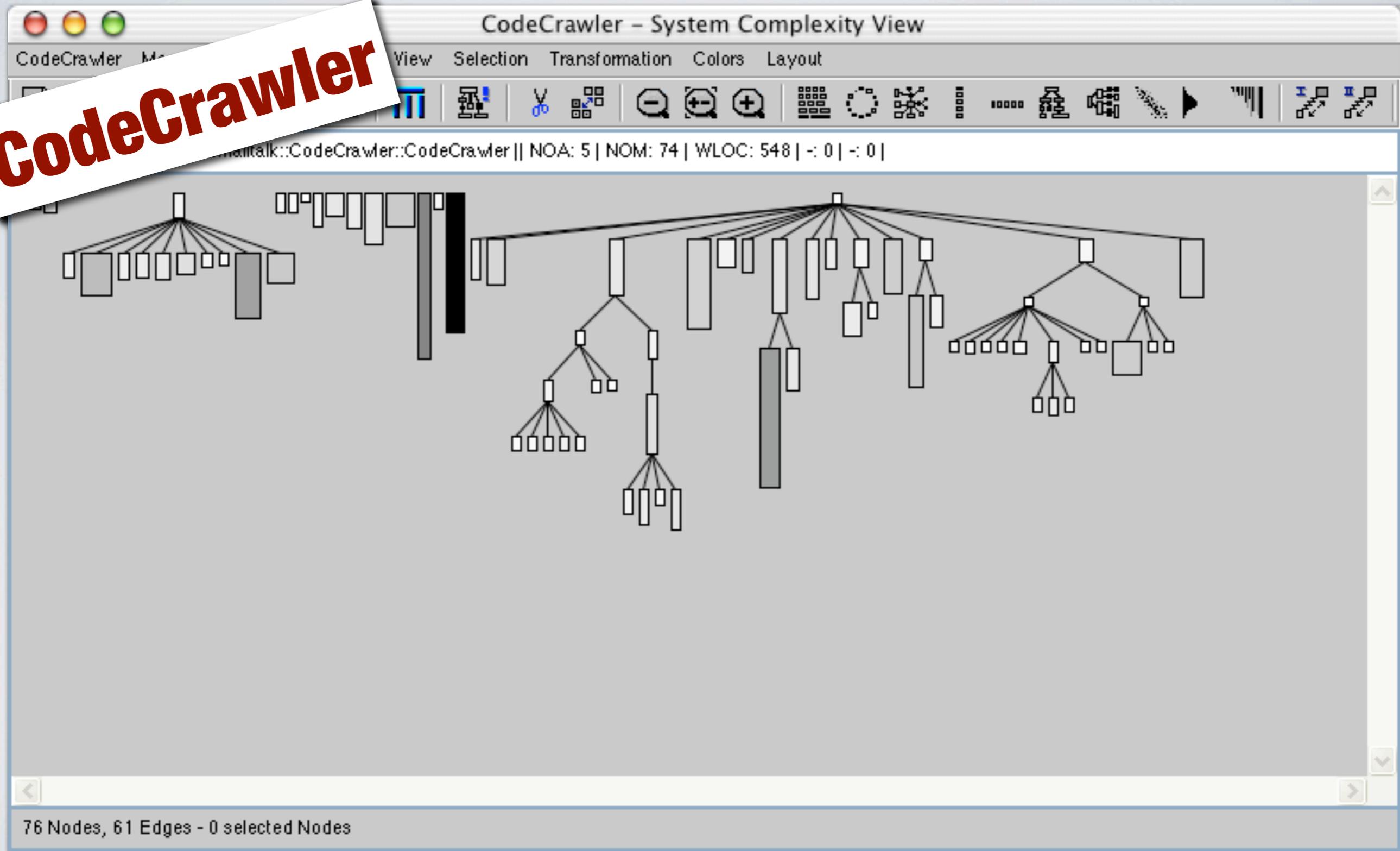
Source: ICSE keynote 2009



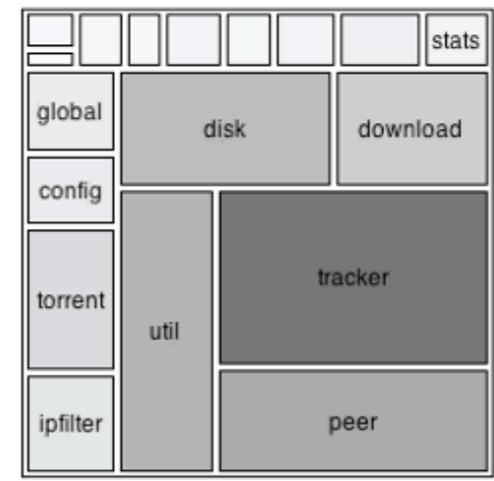
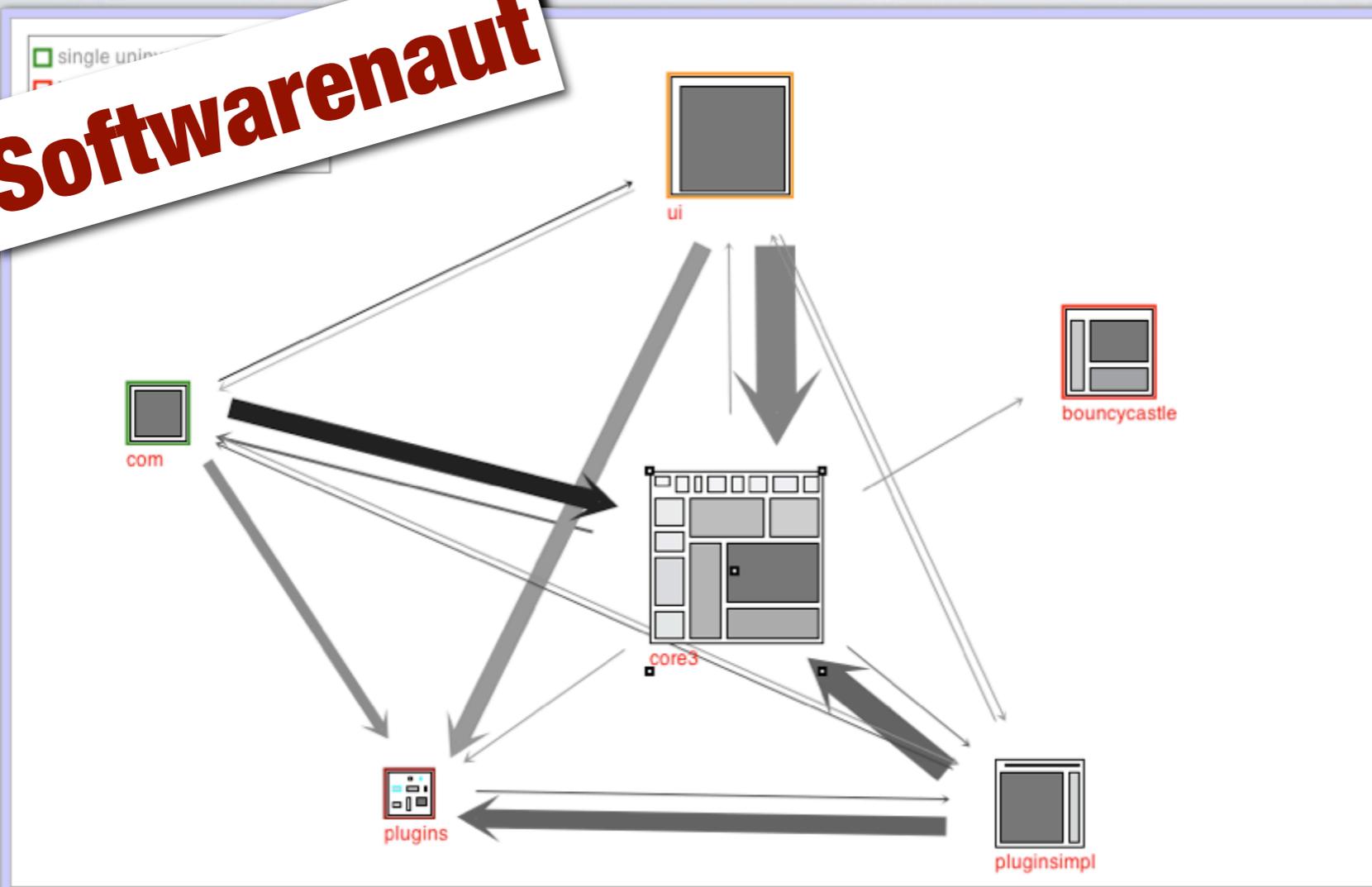
**Mmmhh...  
What about porting  
the tools to the  
web?**



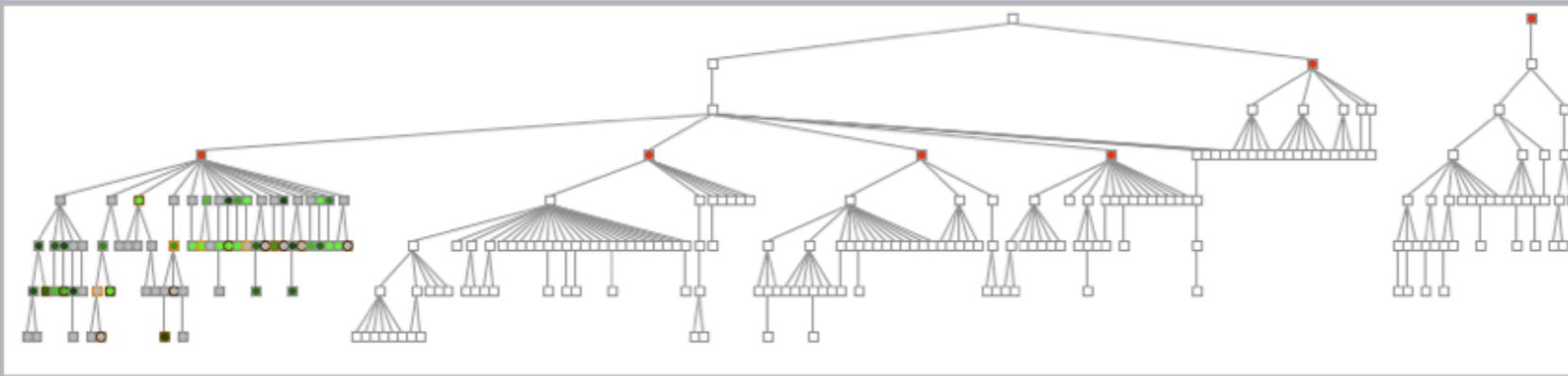
**CodeCrawler**



# Softwareonaut



org::gudy::azureus2::core3



Property	Value
-	0
ConsumerClasses	0
ConsumingProviderCl:	0
IncomingInvocations	0
InvocationsFON	3524
InvocationsTON	0
InvokedFONMethodCo	570
InvokedMethodsFONP:	0.151113
Name	#core3
NamespaceStability	100
NOA	0
NOCIs	0
NOM	0
OutgoingInvocations	0
ProviderClasses	0
RMC	3772
UniqueName	#'org::gudy::azureus2::x
WNOS	0

# Bugs Life

Bugs Life Clock View

Right sidebar details:

Bug id: 31174  
Bug short description: SSL requests not

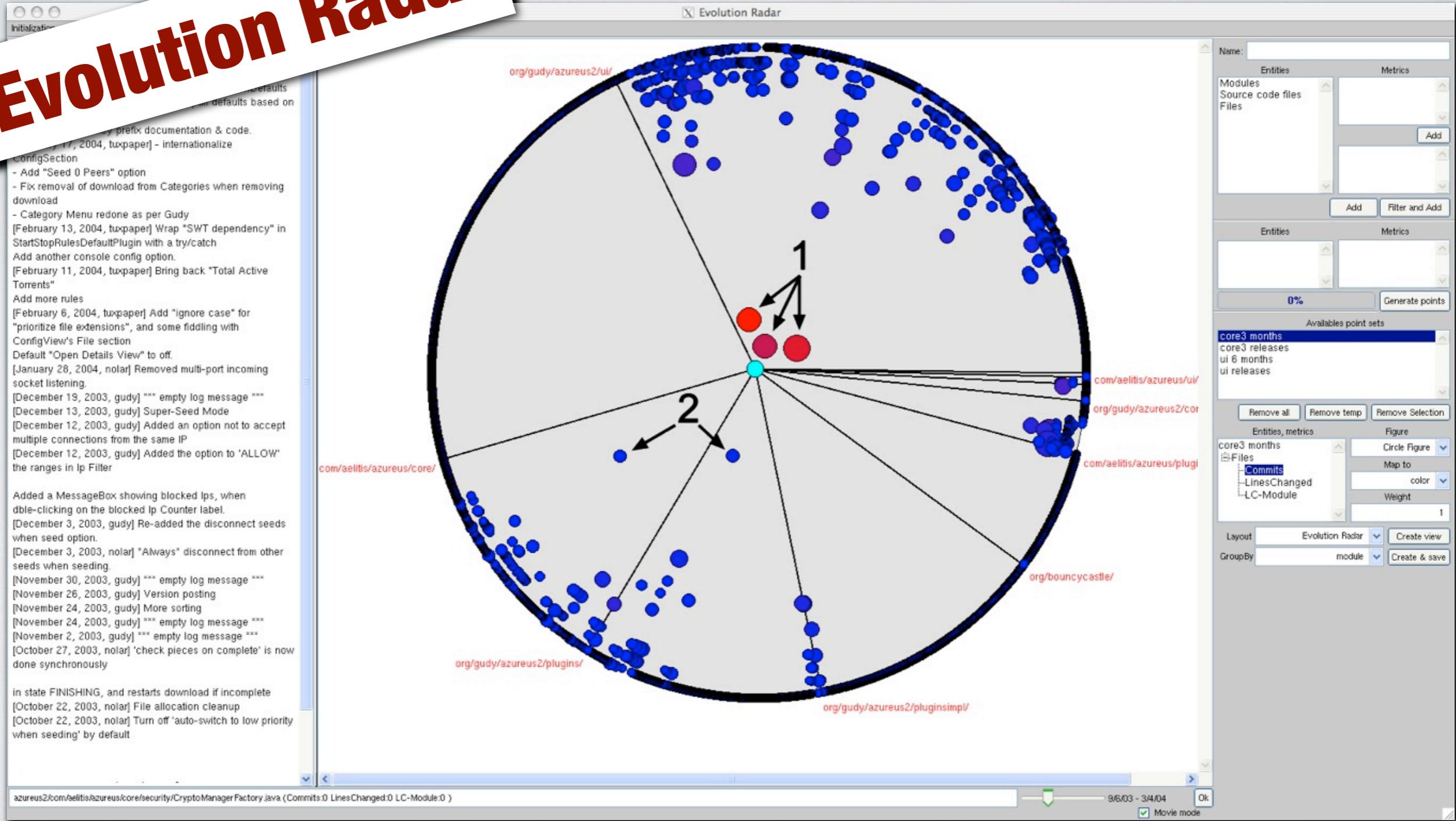
Bug statuses

NEW	[6/1/00 - 7/14/00]
RESOLVED	[7/14/00 - 7/15/00]
VERIFIED	[7/17/00 - 7/21/00]
REOPENED	[7/22/00 - 8/21/00]
ASSIGNED	[8/21/00 - 9/8/00]
RESOLVED	[9/8/00 - 9/12/00]
VERIFIED	[9/12/00 - 9/12/00]
REOPENED	[9/12/00 - 9/15/00]
RESOLVED	[9/15/00 - 9/15/00]
REOPENED	[9/15/00 - 9/15/00]
NEW	[9/19/00 - 10/1/00]
ASSIGNED	[10/12/00 - 10/12/00]
RESOLVED	[10/18/00 - 10/18/00]
VERIFIED	[10/19/00 - 12/2/00]
REOPENED	[12/6/00 - 12/6/00]
RESOLVED	[12/28/00 - 1/1/01]

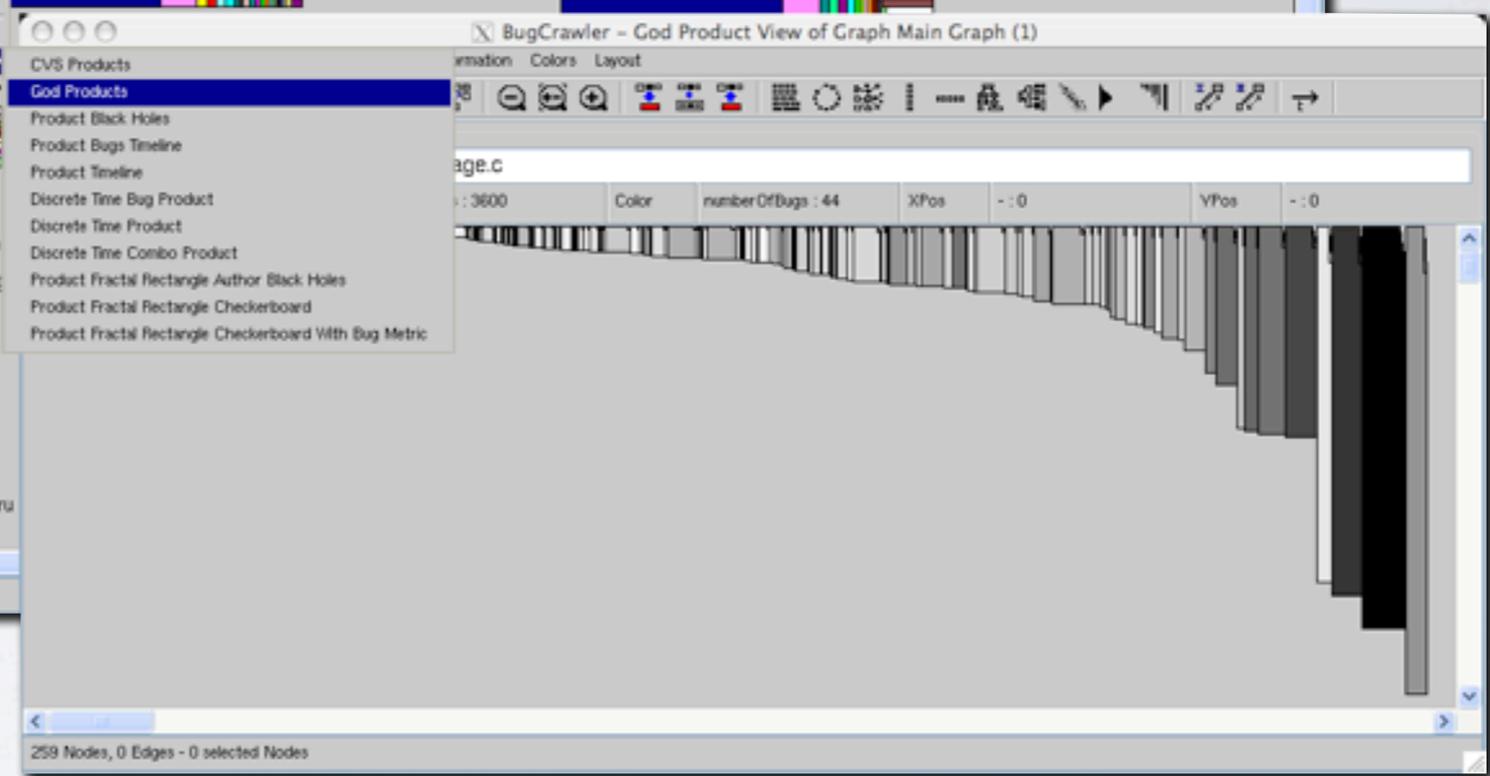
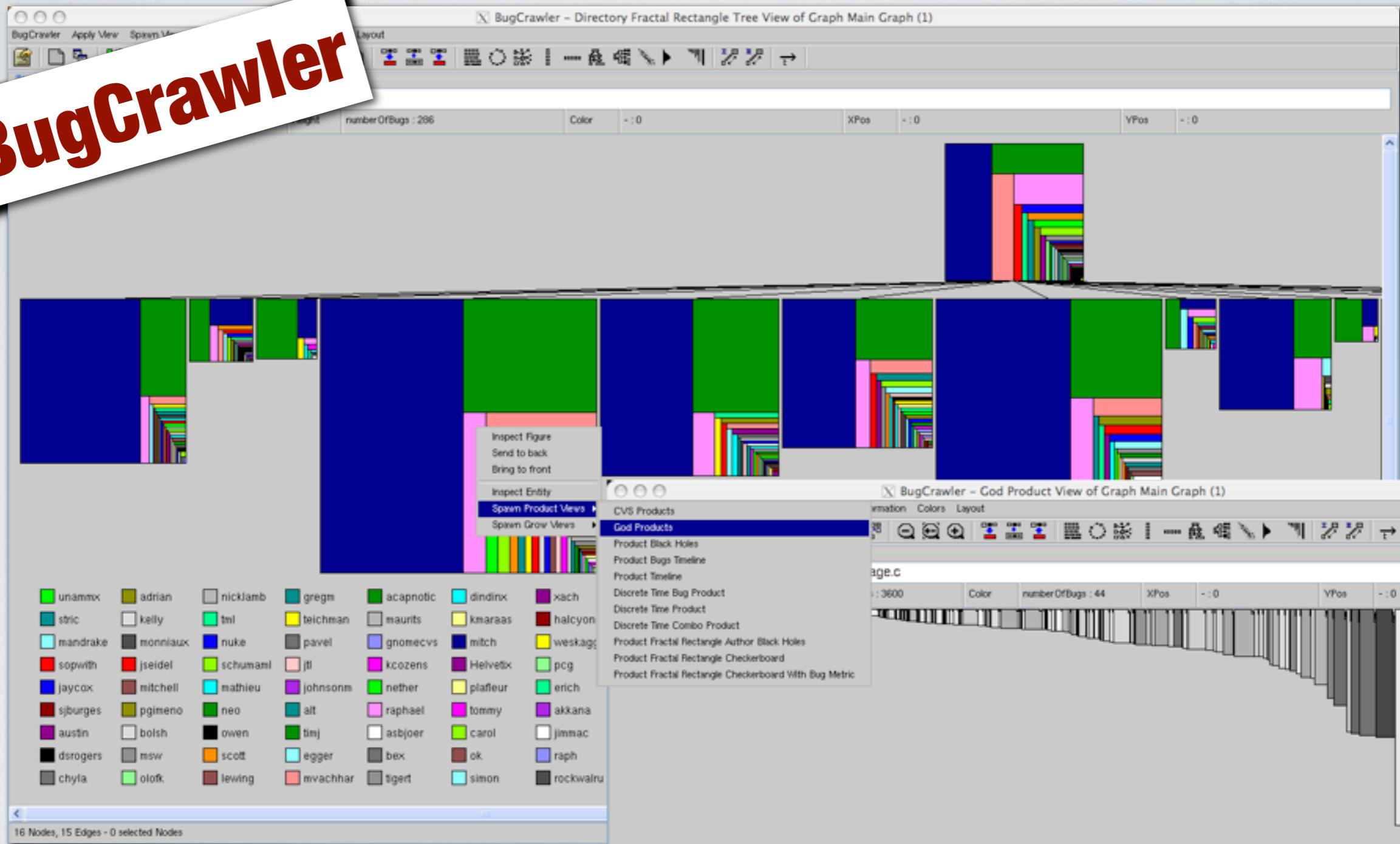
Bug activities

AssignedTo: dougt@ne  
QAContact: lord@nets  
Target Milestone: --- -> M17  
AssignedTo: valeski@n  
AssignedTo: gagan@ni  
Status: NEW -> R  
Status: RESOLVE  
Status: VERIFIED  
Status Whiteboard: [nsbeta2+]  
Status Whiteboard: [nsbeta2-]  
Status: REOPENE  
Status Whiteboard: [nsbeta2-]  
CC: ? sjlee@n  
Target Milestone: M17 -> M  
Version: 1.1 -> 1.3  
Status Whiteboard: [nsbeta2-]  
Status Whiteboard: [dogfood+]  
CC: ? ? -> ? ?  
Priority: P3 -> P1  
Status: ASSIGNED  
Status: RESOLVE  
Status: VERIFIED  
Status Whiteboard: [dogfood+]  
CC: ? ? -> ? ?  
Status: REOPENE  
Status: RESOLVE  
CC: ? rich.burr  
CC: ? ? -> ? ?  
AssignedTo: rustan@ne  
Status: REOPENE  
AssignedTo: gagan@ni  
AssignedTo: rustan@ne  
Severity: major -> b  
CC: ? pavlov@f  
CC: ? niting@r  
CC: ? nathan@f  
Status Whiteboard: [dogfood+]  
CC: ? mozilla@f  
Status Whiteboard: [dogfood+]  
CC: ? ? -> ? ?  
Component: Client Libr  
Product: PSM -> Browser [pavlo  
Version: 1.3 -> other [pavlo  
CC: ? lord@ne  
CC: ? ? -> ? ?  
CC: ? ? -> ? ?  
CC: ? justin@l  
Status Whiteboard: [dogfood+]  
CC: ? john.pan

# Evolution Radar



# BugCrawler

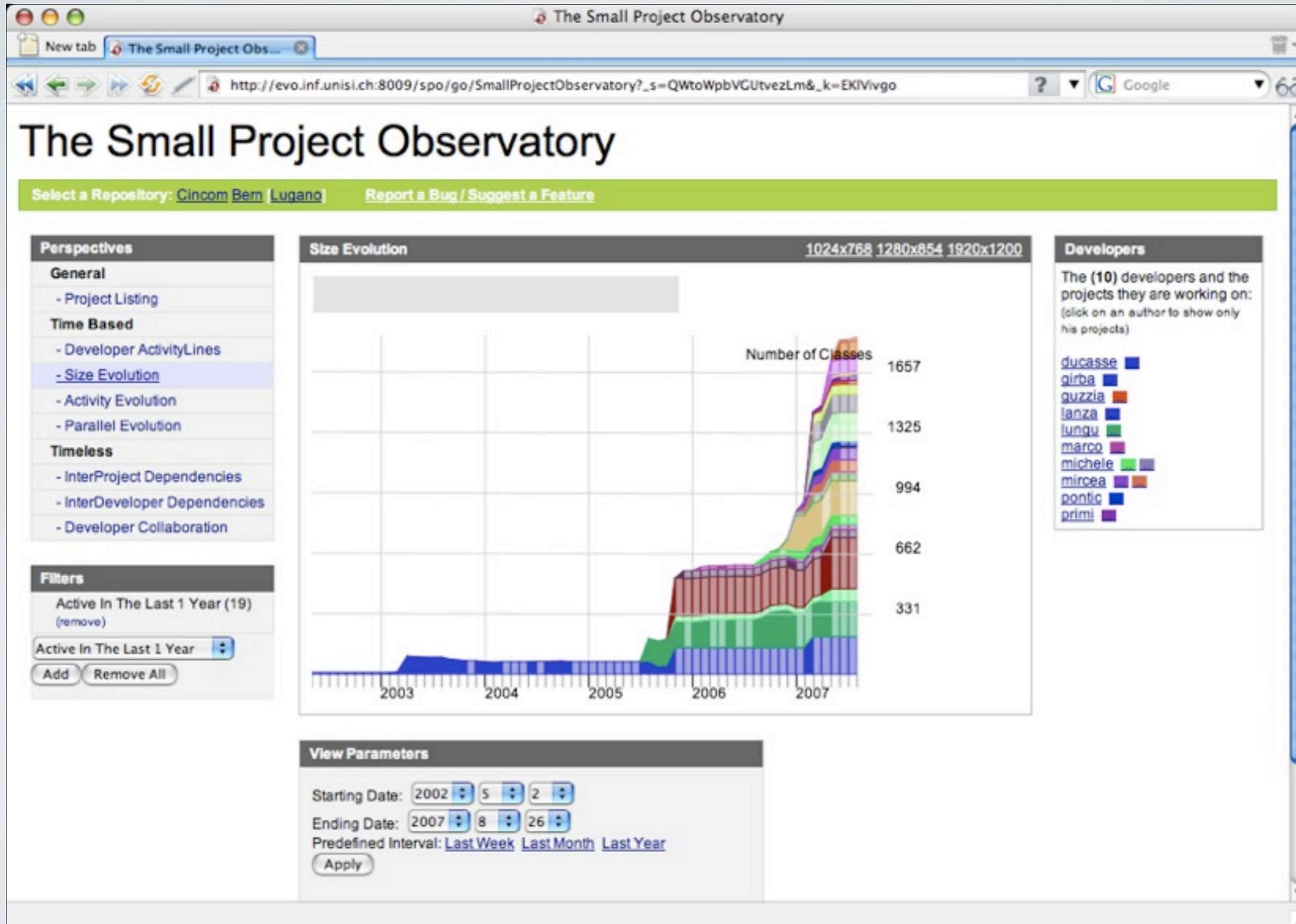


The screenshot shows the Churrasco web application interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays the URL `http://churrasco.inf.unisi.ch:8018/seaside/Churrasco?_s=jOivkJacQrotmkDT&_k=npkCPdmi`. The page title is "Episode" and the subtitle is "System complexity". The user is logged in as "Marco D'Ambros" (Log out). The interface features a central "System Complexity" diagram, which is an SVG Interactive Visualization of a system hierarchy. Surrounding the diagram are several panels and controls:

- Recent annotations:** A list of annotations with details like author (Michele Lanza), date (November 14, 2008), and time (2:34:04 am). It includes a "Reset the highlighting" button.
- Participants:** A list of participants (Michele Lanza, Marco D'Ambros) with a "Reset the highlighting" button.
- Create pdf report:** A section with a "Download the report" button.
- System Complexity:** The main diagram area, showing a hierarchy of nodes and relationships. A "Selected figure" is highlighted, and a "Context menu" is visible with options "Show annotations" and "Add annotation".
- Selected figure information:** A panel displaying details for the selected figure: Name (JavaRecognizer), Type (Churrasco.SFAMIXClass), # attributes (146), # methods (91), and WLOC (3406).
- Metrics mapping configurator:** A panel with "Metrics mapping" controls, including "Node width" (set to # attributes), "Node height" (set to # methods), and "Node color" (set to WLOC).
- Package selector:** A panel with "Apply view on packages" and a list of packages (application, application::api, application::configuration, application::events, application::helpers, application::modules).
- Regular expression matcher:** A panel with a "Regular expression matcher" input field and "Clear selection" and "Spawn selection" buttons.

Annotations and callouts are present throughout the interface:

- "Recent annotations added" points to the Recent annotations panel.
- "User" points to the user name in the top right.
- "SVG Interactive Visualization" points to the central diagram.
- "Report generator" points to the Create pdf report panel.
- "Selected figure information" points to the Selected figure information panel.
- "Metrics mapping configurator" points to the Metrics mapping configurator panel.
- "Package selector" points to the Package selector panel.
- "Regular expression matcher" points to the Regular expression matcher panel.
- "People participating to the collaboration" points to the Participants panel.
- "Selected figure" and "Context menu" point to the diagram and its context menu.





# Promises & Perils

Availability  
& privacy

Collaboration &  
performance

Error handling

Development



# Promises & Perils

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## **Availability**

Just a URL to use the tool



## **Privacy**

Sensible information on the web?



# Promises & Perils

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performance

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Development



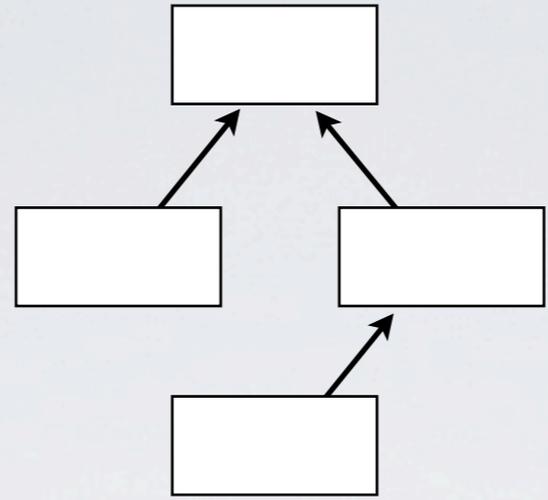
## **Collaboration**

- ✓ Increasing importance (e.g. IBM Jazz)
- ✓ Easier than in desktop application



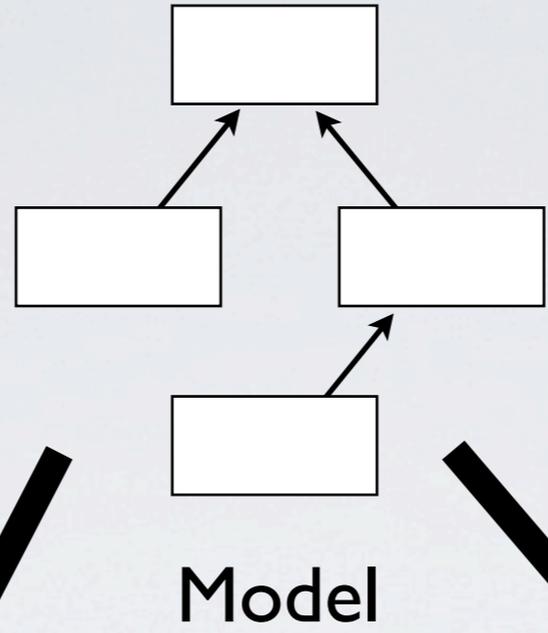
## **Performance & scalability**

- ⦿ Many users, one application
- ⦿ Large datasets to render
- ⦿ Latency of page refresh
- ⦿ Worse in a collaborative setting

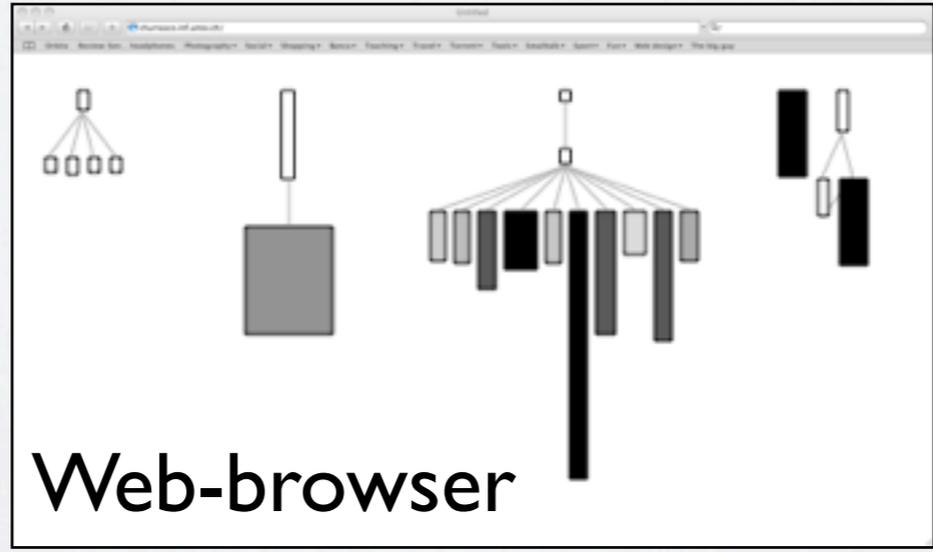
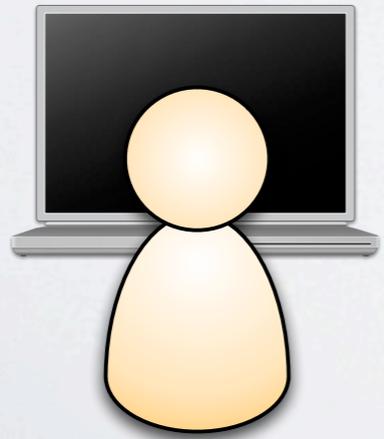
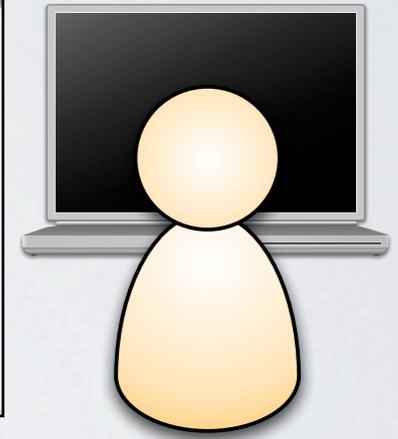
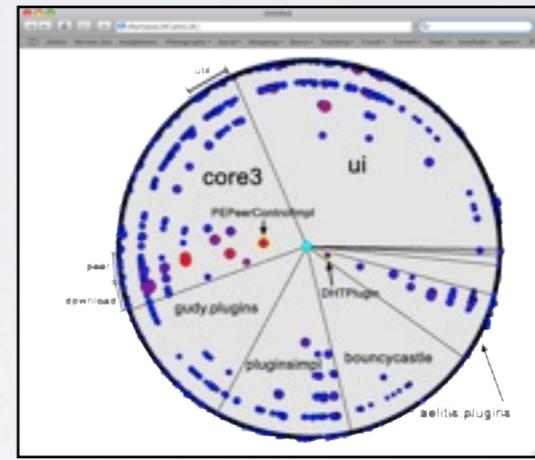
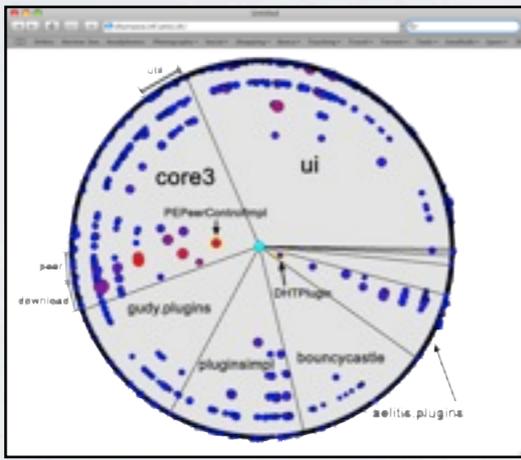
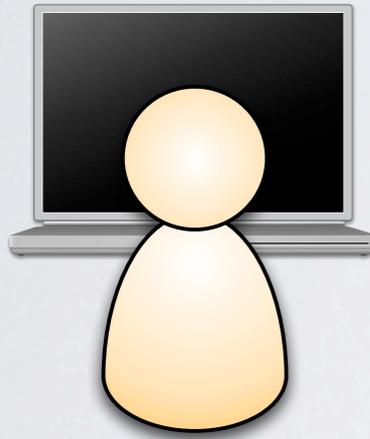


Model

Collaboration & performance

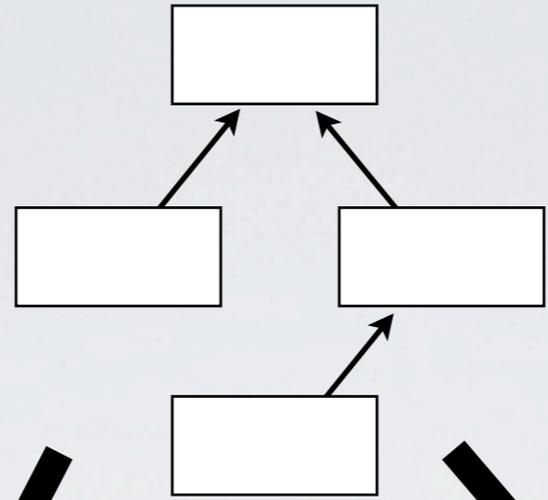


Model

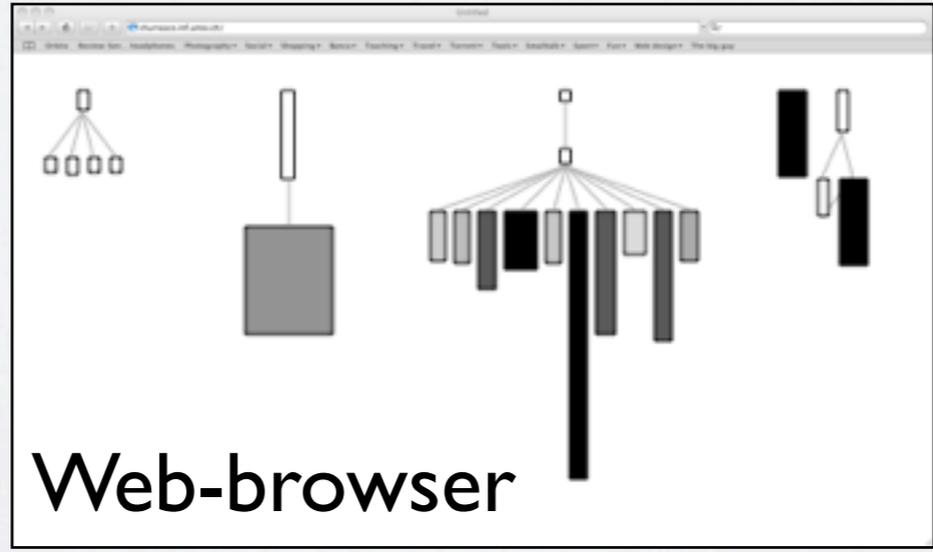
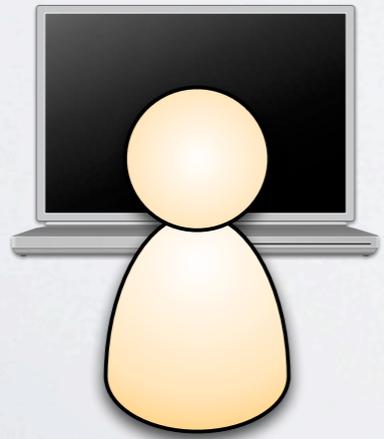
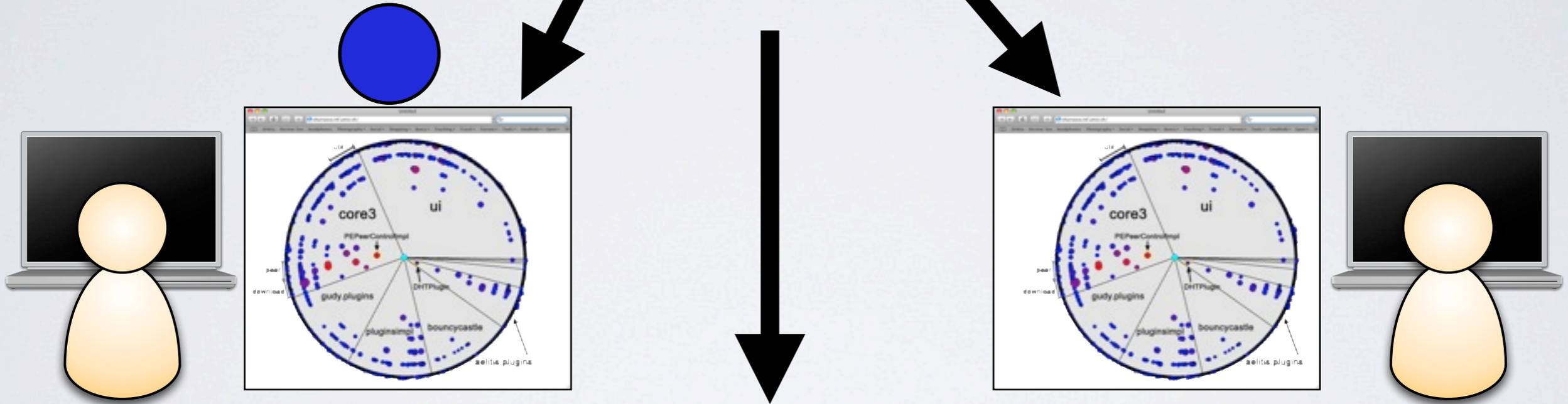


Web-browser

Collaboration & performance

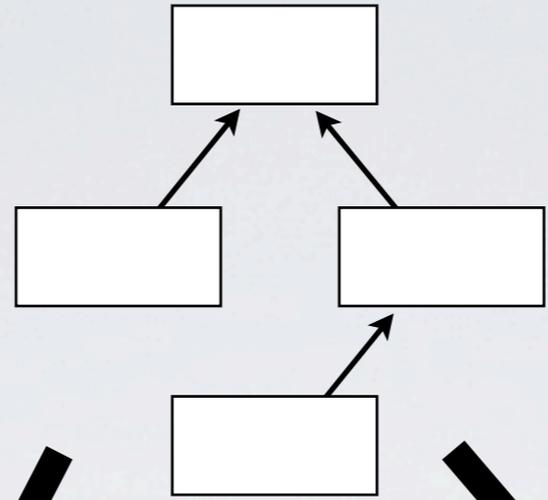


Model



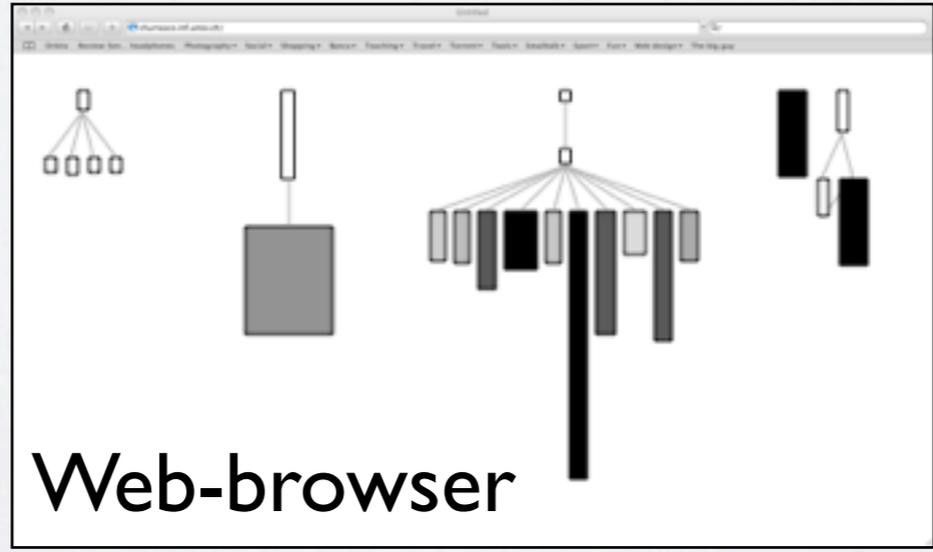
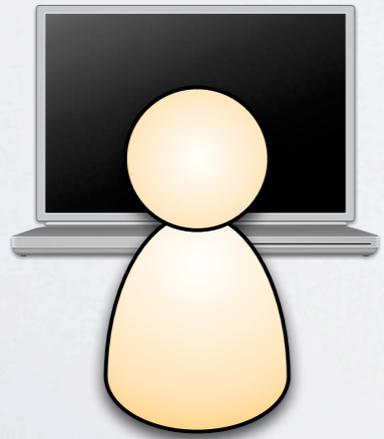
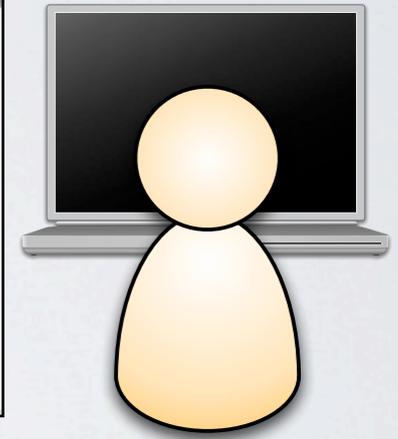
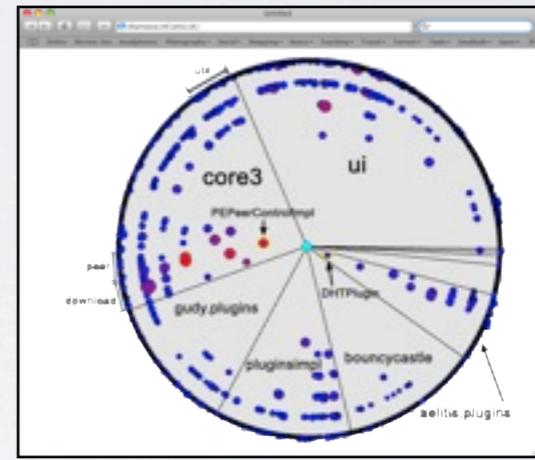
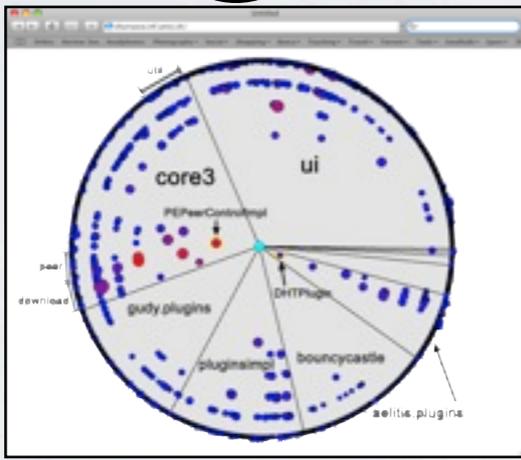
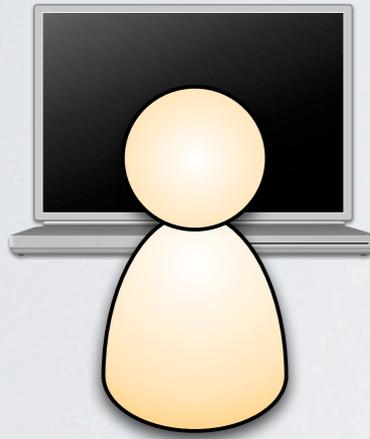
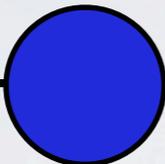
Web-browser

Collaboration & performance



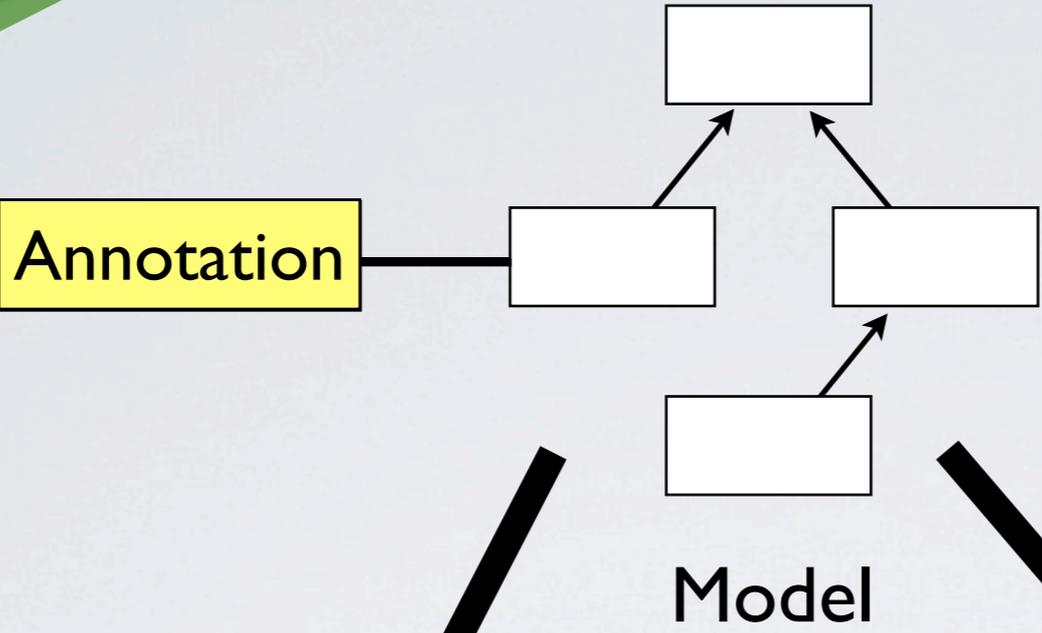
Model

Annotation

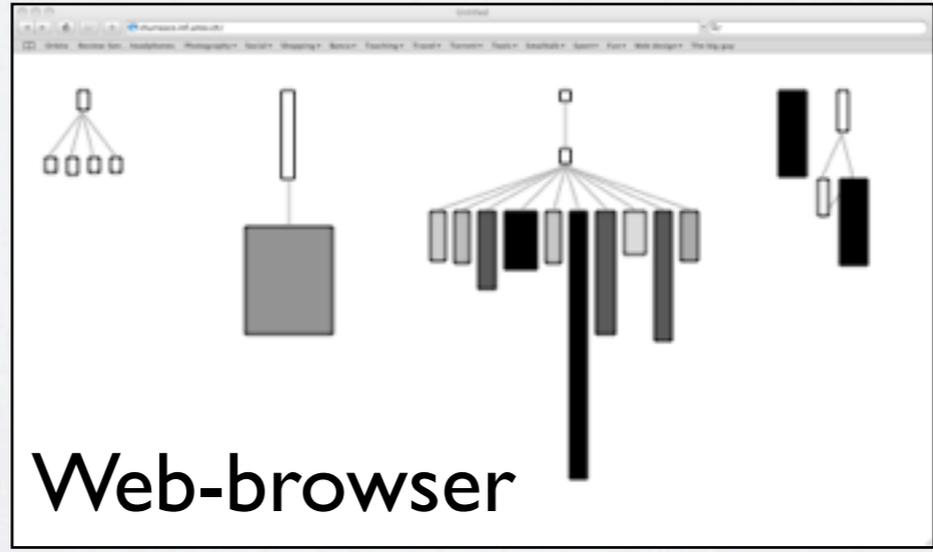
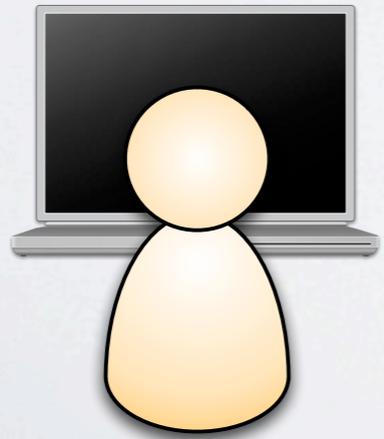
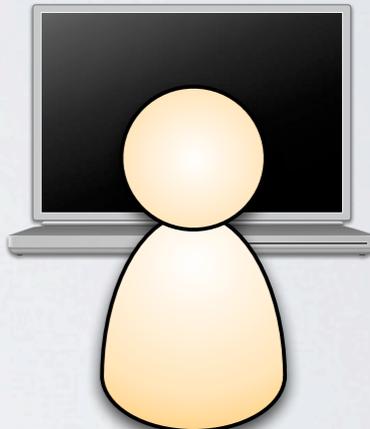
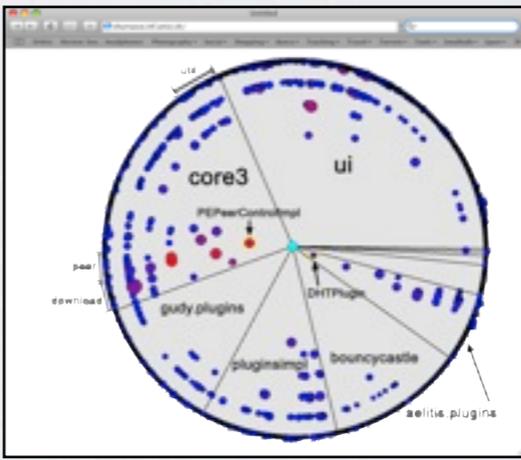
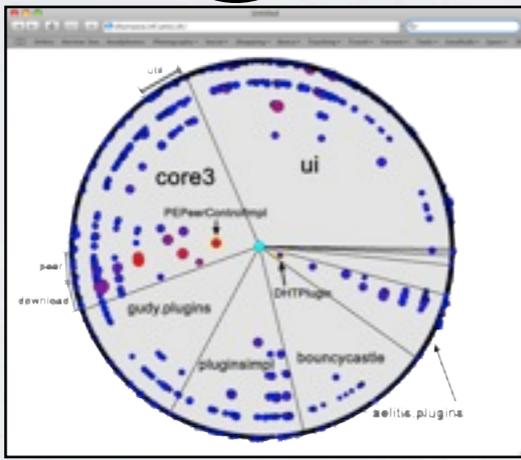
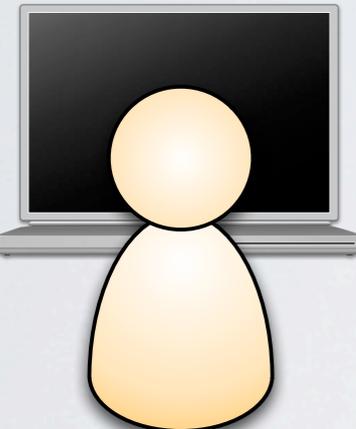
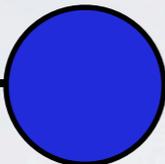


Web-browser

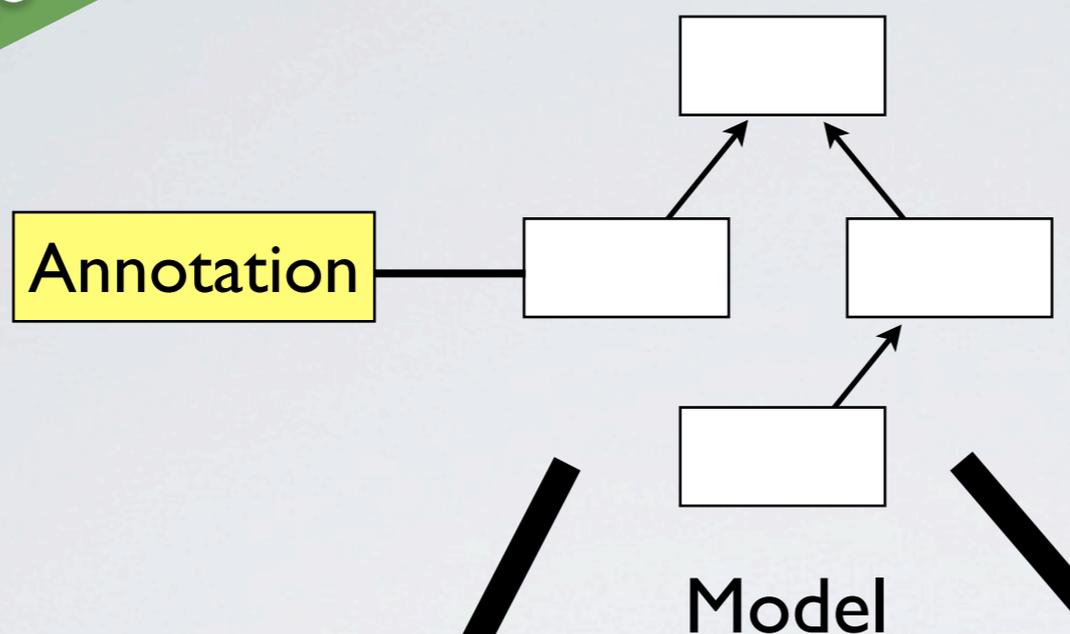
Collaboration & performance



Annotation



Collaboration & performance



Annotation

A user icon is shown at a laptop. The screen displays a circular visualization with various components and labels: core3, ui, PEPeerControlImpl, gudy plugins, DHTPlugin, pluginimpl, bouncycastle, selite plugins, download, paa, and uta.

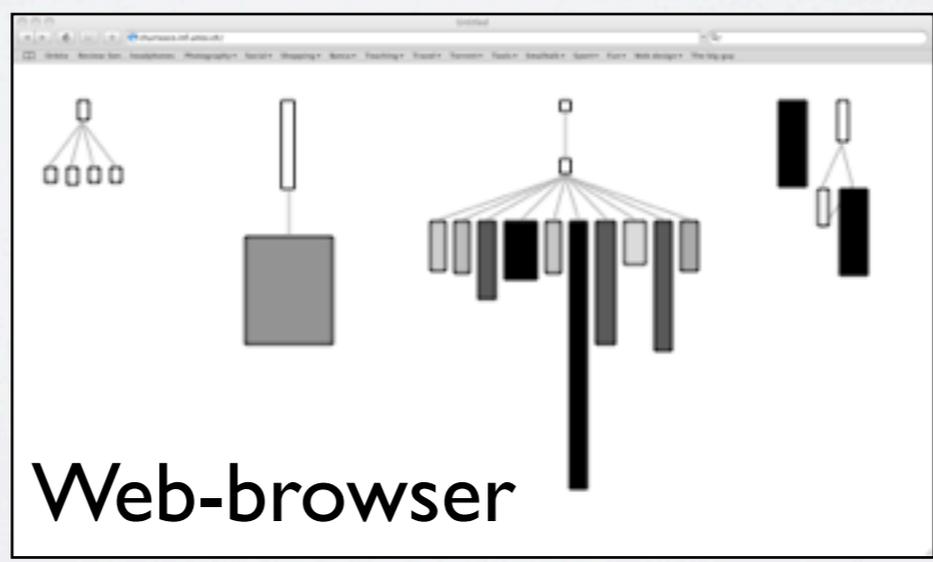
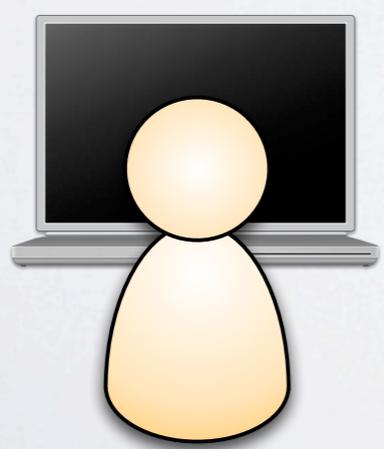
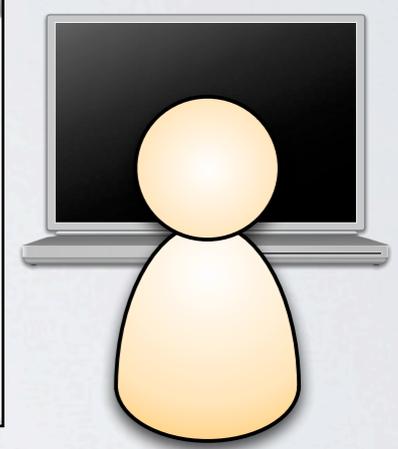
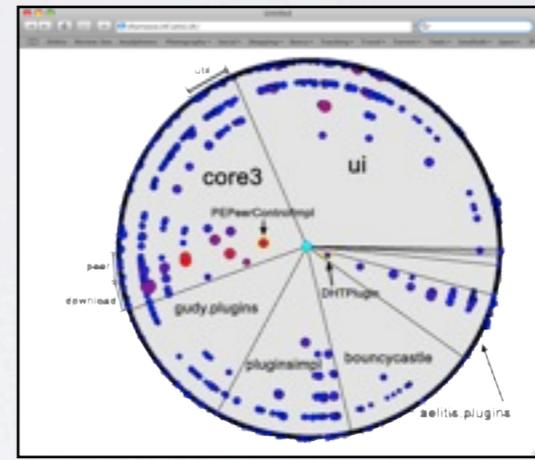
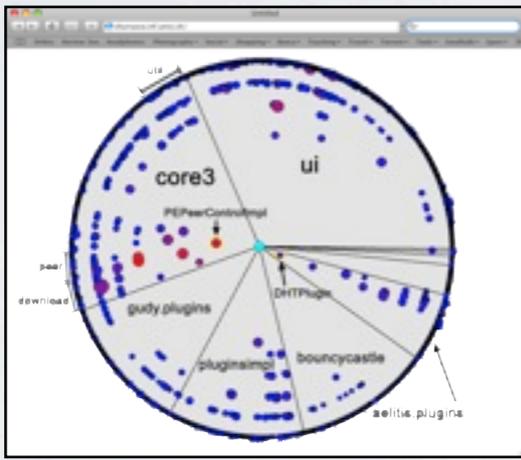
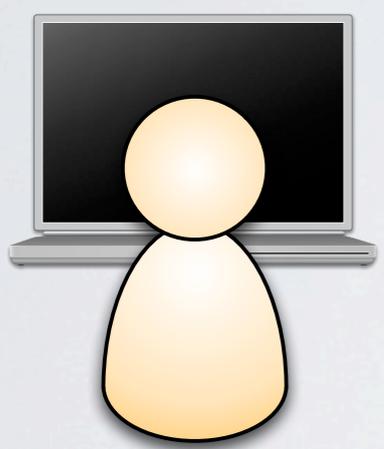
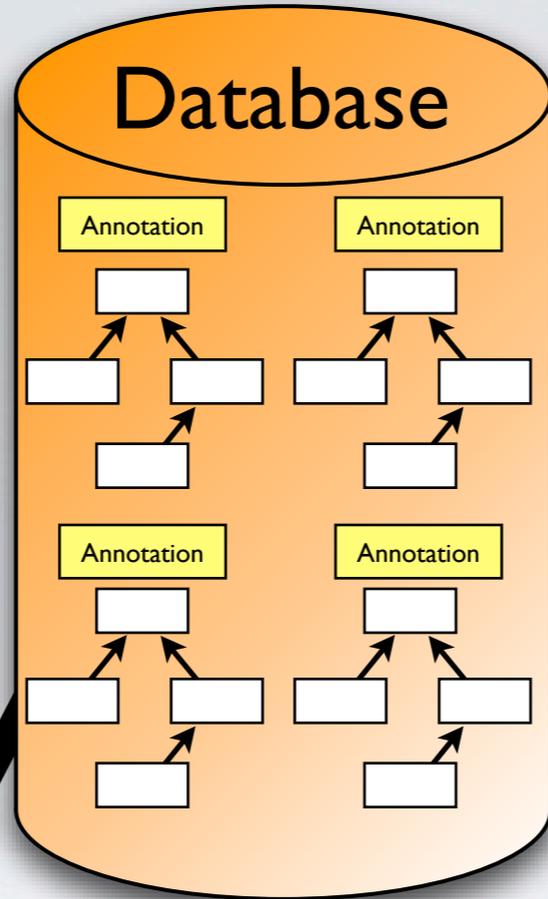
Annotation

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Annotation  
Web-browser

A user icon is shown at a laptop. The screen displays a web browser window showing a hierarchical tree structure with various nodes and branches.

Collaboration & performance





## Collaboration

- ✓ Increasing importance (e.g. IBM Jazz)
- ✓ Easier than in desktop application



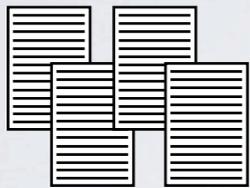
## Performance & scalability

- ⦿ Many users, one application
- ⦿ Large datasets to render
- ⦿ Latency of page refresh
- ⦿ Worse in a collaborative setting



## Incremental Results

- ✓ Possible because of shared data
- ✓ Cross-fertilization of results

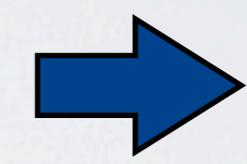
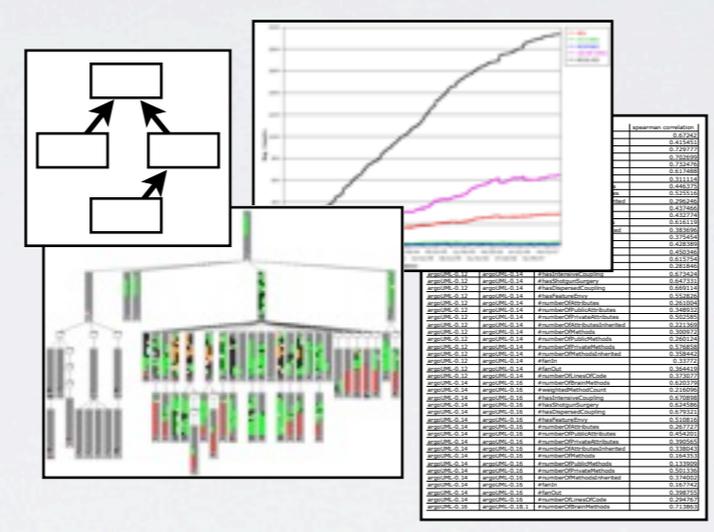
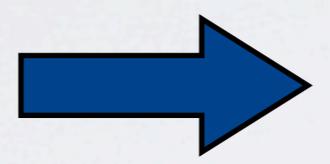


Collaboration & performance



# Incremental Results

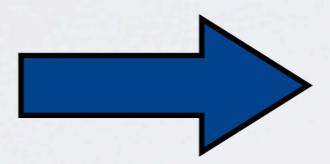
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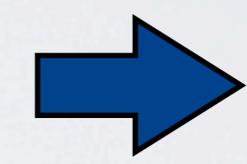


# Incremental Results

- ✓ Possible because of shared data
- ✓ Cross-fertilization of results



Iteration	Value 1	Value 2	Value 3
1	0.1234	0.5678	0.9012
2	0.2345	0.6789	0.0123
3	0.3456	0.7890	0.1234
4	0.4567	0.8901	0.2345
5	0.5678	0.9012	0.3456
6	0.6789	0.0123	0.4567
7	0.7890	0.1234	0.5678
8	0.8901	0.2345	0.6789
9	0.9012	0.3456	0.7890
10	0.0123	0.4567	0.8901



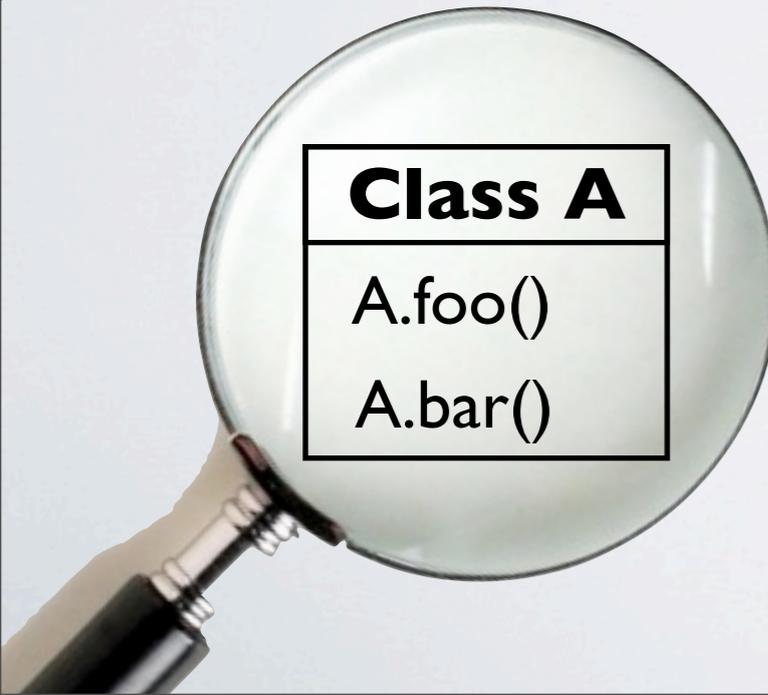
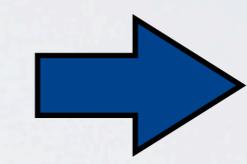
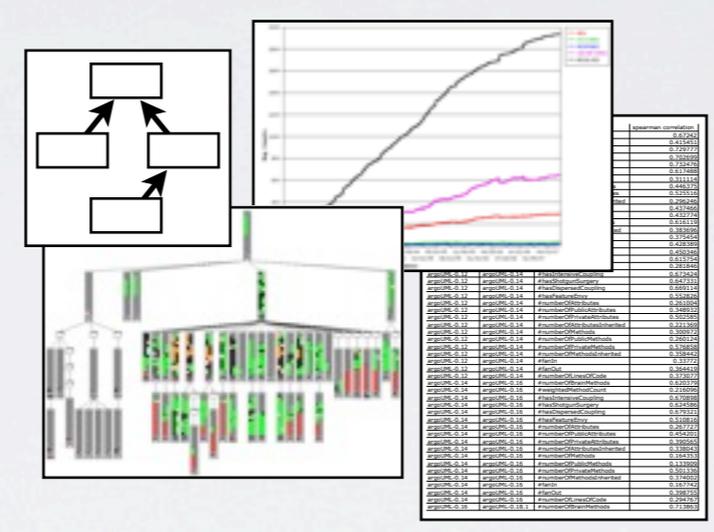
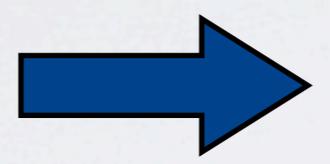
```
Class A  
A.foo()  
A.bar()
```

Collaboration & performance

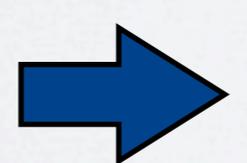


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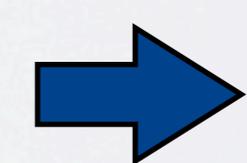


```
Class A  
A.foo()  
A.bar()
```



```
Class A  
A.foo()  
A.bar()
```

**CODE SMELL**



**Annotation**  
Is God Class

```
Class A  
A.foo()  
A.bar()
```



# Promises & Perils

Availability  
& privacy

Collaboration &  
performance

Error handling

Development



## **Single point of failure**

A crash impacts all users



## **Debugging & testing**

Harder than in desktop applications



## **Feedback**

Notification of bugs and deployment of fixes are easier than in desktop applications



## **Usage Report**

Easy by exploiting web statistics tools



# Promises & Perils

Availability  
& privacy

Collaboration &  
performance

Error handling

Development



# Interaction

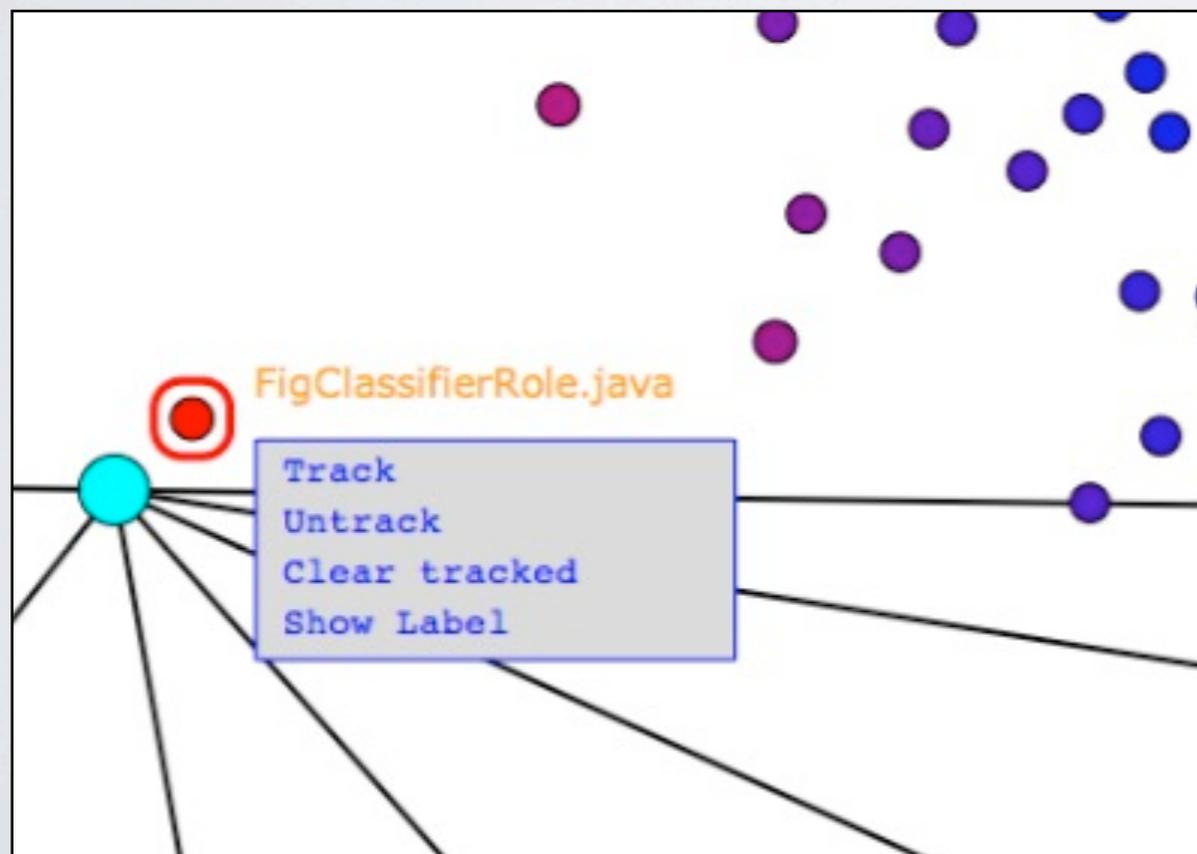
Basic features have to be implemented



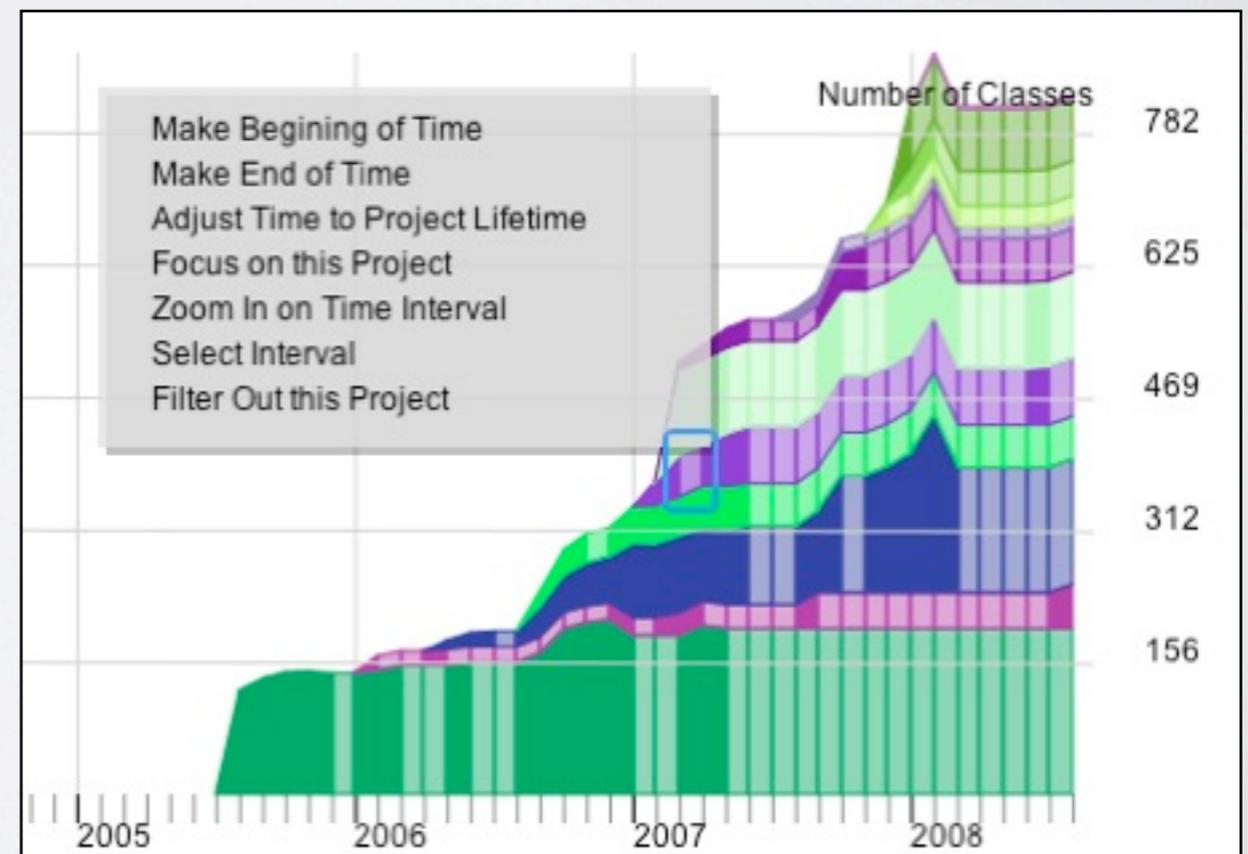
# Interaction

Basic features have to be implemented

## Example: context menu



Churrasco: SVG (server-side)



SPO: Javascript (client-side)



## **Interaction**

Basic features have to be implemented



## **Browser compatibility**

- Churrasco is fully functional only in Firefox
- Different JS/SVG performances



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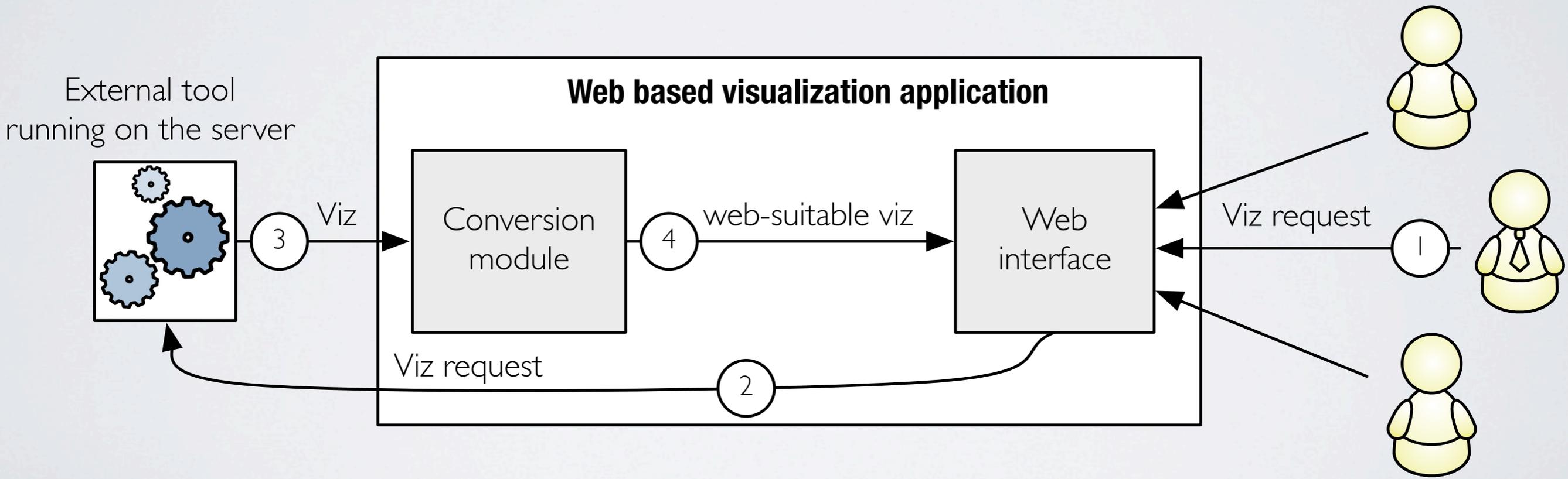
## **Rapid evolution**

Web technologies are moving fast (Flash, Javascript, JQuery, Scriptaculous, etc)



# Hiding tasks & exposing services

Use external tools and provide the results as services





Availability



Privacy



Collaboration



Performance & scalability



Hiding tasks &  
exposing services



Single point of failure



Feedback



Debugging & testing



Usage report



Interaction



Incremental results



Browser compatibility



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**Promises**



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Availability



Collaboration



Hiding tasks &  
exposing services



**I WANT YOU TO PORT  
YOUR TOOL TO THE WEB\***



Availability



Collaboration



Hiding tasks &  
exposing services



**I WANT YOU TO PORT  
YOUR TOOL TO THE WEB\***

\* After a careful evaluation of the mostly technical perils



Availability



Collaboration



Hiding tasks &  
exposing services



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