Automatic Detection and Classification of Renamings

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Outline

- Context and Motivation
- * Thesis Statement
- Taxonomy of Renaming
- DetectionClassification

Conclusion and Future Works

Context and Motivation

Identifiers are added, deleted, or modified, i.e., renamed.

Why identifiers are renamed?

- Improve consistency
- * Adjust naming convention
- Correct typos

Context and Motivation

* Developer A:

"There's a <u>balance</u> to be struck: - identifiers are <u>communication</u>, and as the code is refactored it is critical that identifiers continue to <u>correctly</u> describe their <u>purpose</u> - changing identifiers tends to <u>break</u> APIs, and sometimes they're used for unintended purposes, <u>over-frequent change is not good."</u>

❖ *Developer B*:

"I encountered a problem when my colleague wrote Java code which uses reflection. I <u>avoided renaming</u> some classes/methods which will be inspected by the reflection, since doing so can introduce unpredictable bugs."

Examples of Renaming

```
e -> t parameter, Exception -> Throwable

g -> generalization local var, MGeneralization -> Object

length -> 1 local var, int

sessState -> sessionState local var, SessionState

jj_3R_70 -> jj_3R_69 method, private, boolean, final

verifyAXFR -> verifyStream method, public, byte
```

rebuildTypesAffectedByMissingSecondaryTypes ->

rebuildTypesAffectedBySecondaryTypes

MicroContainerNotAdvisedAnnotationOverrideProxyAdvisorTestCase ->
 MicrocontainerAdvisedAnnotationOverrideProxyAdvisorTestCase

Developers Opinion on Renamings

Invited: 739 developers

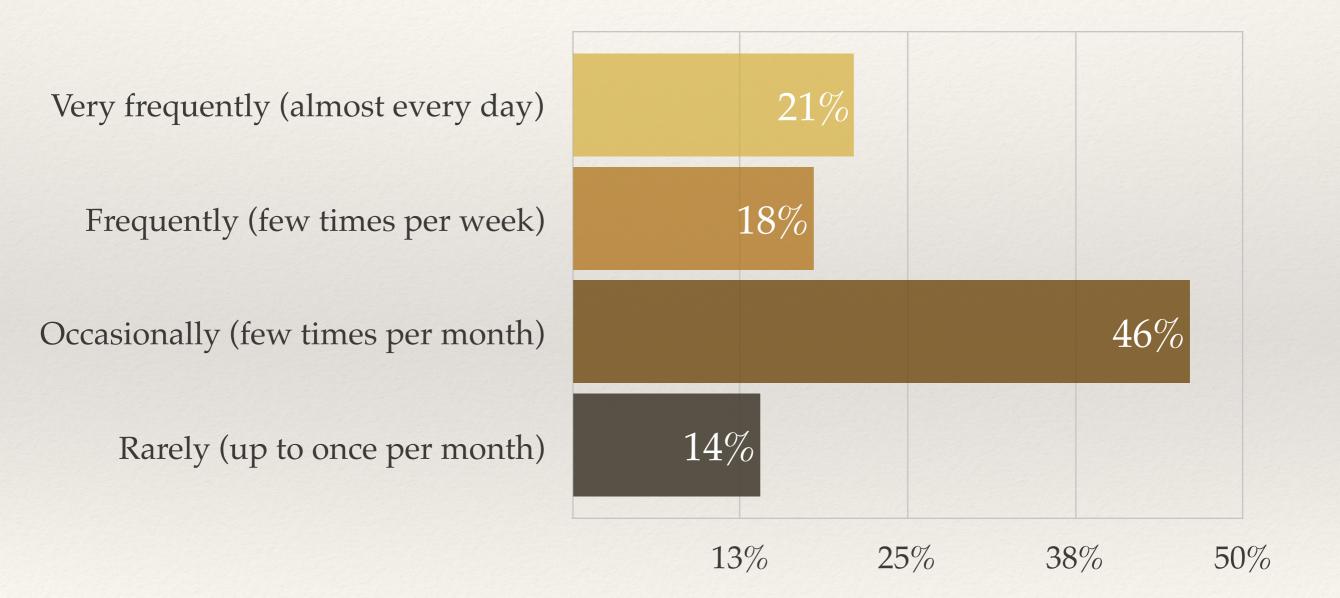
Open-source and industrial programs

Object-Oriented

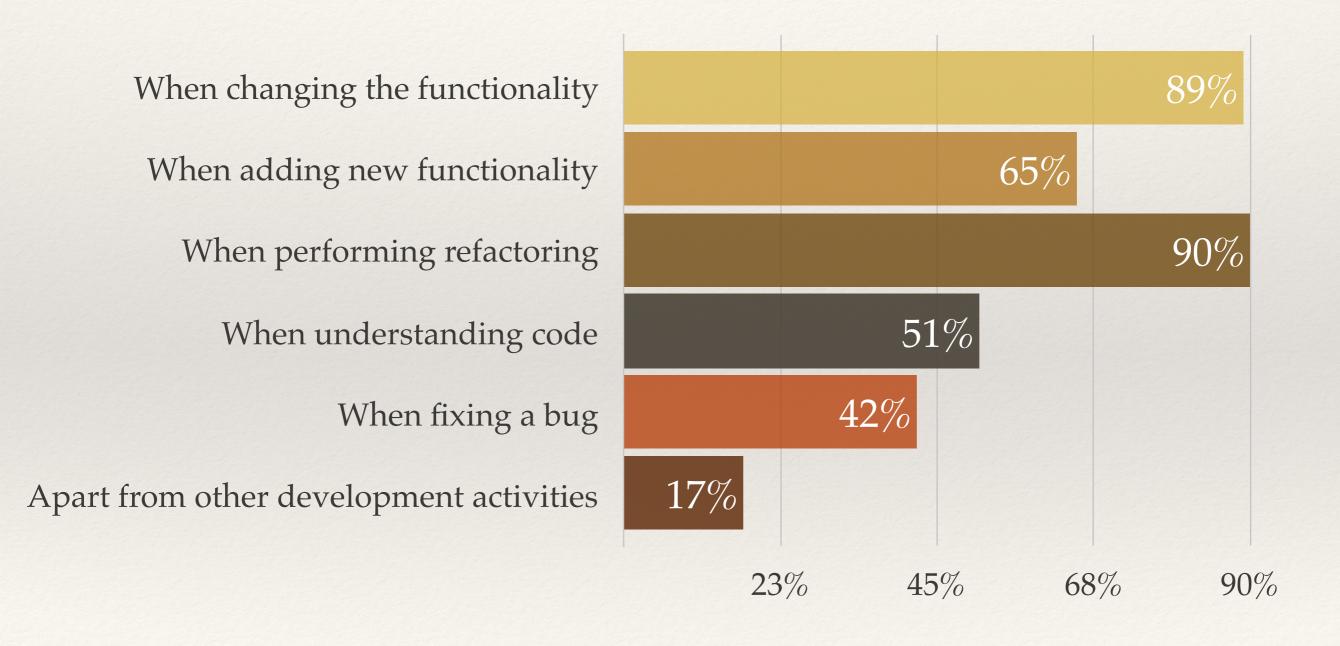
Participated: 71

- * How often do developers rename?
- * When do they rename?
- * Is renaming straightforward?
- * Already postpone a renaming?

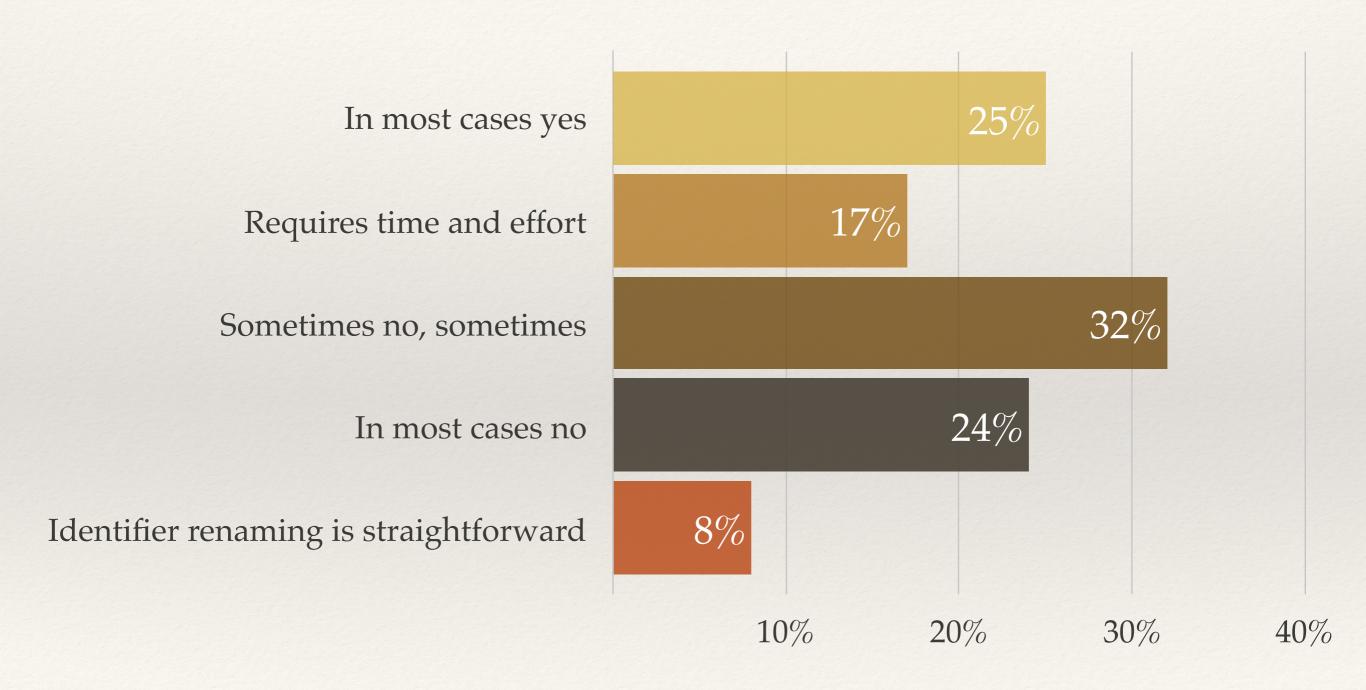
How often do developers rename?



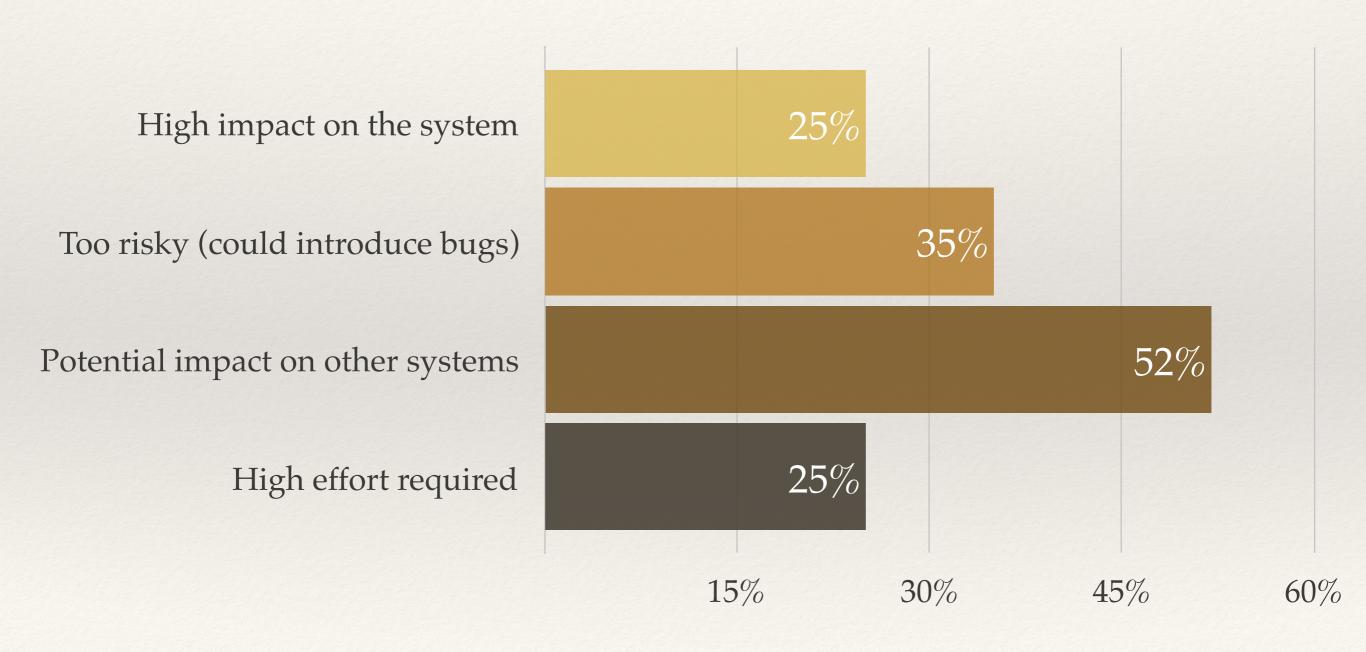
When do the developers rename?



Is renaming straightforward?



Already postponed a renaming?



Thesis Statement

Goal: To understand when, why, and how developers rename identifiers.

Detection and linguistic analysis of identifier renamings provides valuable insight on how, why, when developers rename identifiers.

Tool supports, programming language, and naming convention are factors that impact renamings frequency.

- ❖ We defined a Taxonomy of renaming based on grounded-theory approach [Strauss, 1987; Glaser, 1992].
- * We manually analyzed 500 renaming to identify dimensions of renaming [Eshkevari *et al*, Arnaoudova *et al*].

Entity kind

Form of renamings

Semantic changes

Grammar changes

Entity kind

package
class
method
field
constructor
parameters
local vars

Form of renamings

simple
complex
formatting only
term reordering

Semantic changes

preserve meaning change meaning narrow meaning broaden meaning add meaning remove meaning none

Grammar changes

part of speech change none

hypernym color hyponym red

holonym tree meronym trunk

```
Form of renamings
```

```
Semantic
                       changes
                                                                                                                                                                                                        synonym
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                isPotentialMatch -> isPossibleMatch
                                                                                                                                                                                                      synonym phrase notyisible Reference enable Lookups 
  preserve meaning
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               sourceField -> fiieldInfo
  isNotPrimitiveType -> isPrimitiveType
collab -> collaboration
   change meaning
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                OPAR THE TRUE SECOND IN THE SE
                                                                                                                                                                                                      whole-part phrase Path -> FileAndDirectory

specialization phrasegettAncessReptitetion -> getAccessRuleSet

dinfelated expressionModel -> scriptModel

generalization phrase eventName -> name
narrow meaning
broaden meaning-
add meaning _
                                                                                                                                                                                                          flags -> typeAndFlags
 remove meaning -
                                                                                                                                                                                                      removedPackagePath -> packagePath
 none --> extension -> Extension
```

```
Grammar changes
```

```
part of speech change — petUpdatedSize -> updateFigGroupSize none — isPotentialMatch -> isPossibleMatch
```

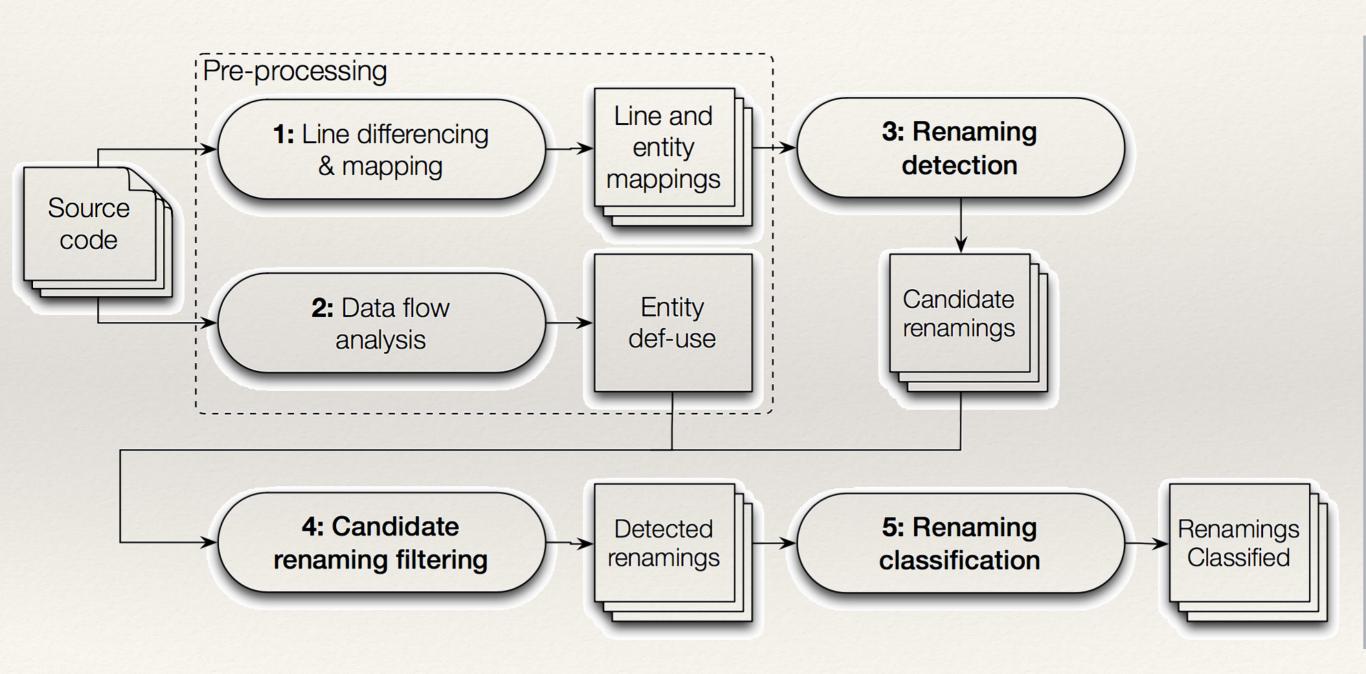
Example

```
private int invParamsPtr =-1;
private int invalidParamReferencesPtr=-1;
```

invParamsPtr -> invalidParamReferencesPtr

Entity Form of Semantic Grammer kind changes changes renamings plural to singular field complex preserve meaning add meaning

Detection and Classification Approach



Detection

Line mapping 02
Entity mapping

01

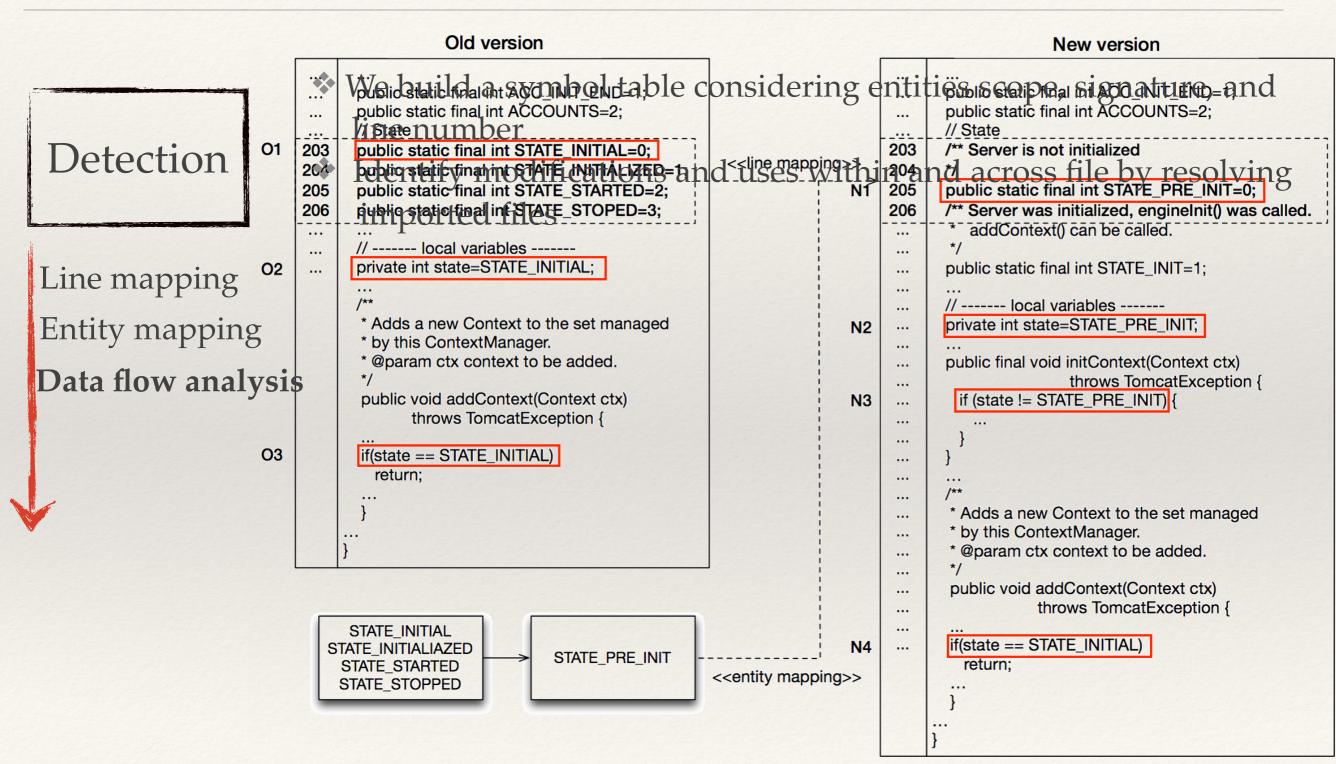
03

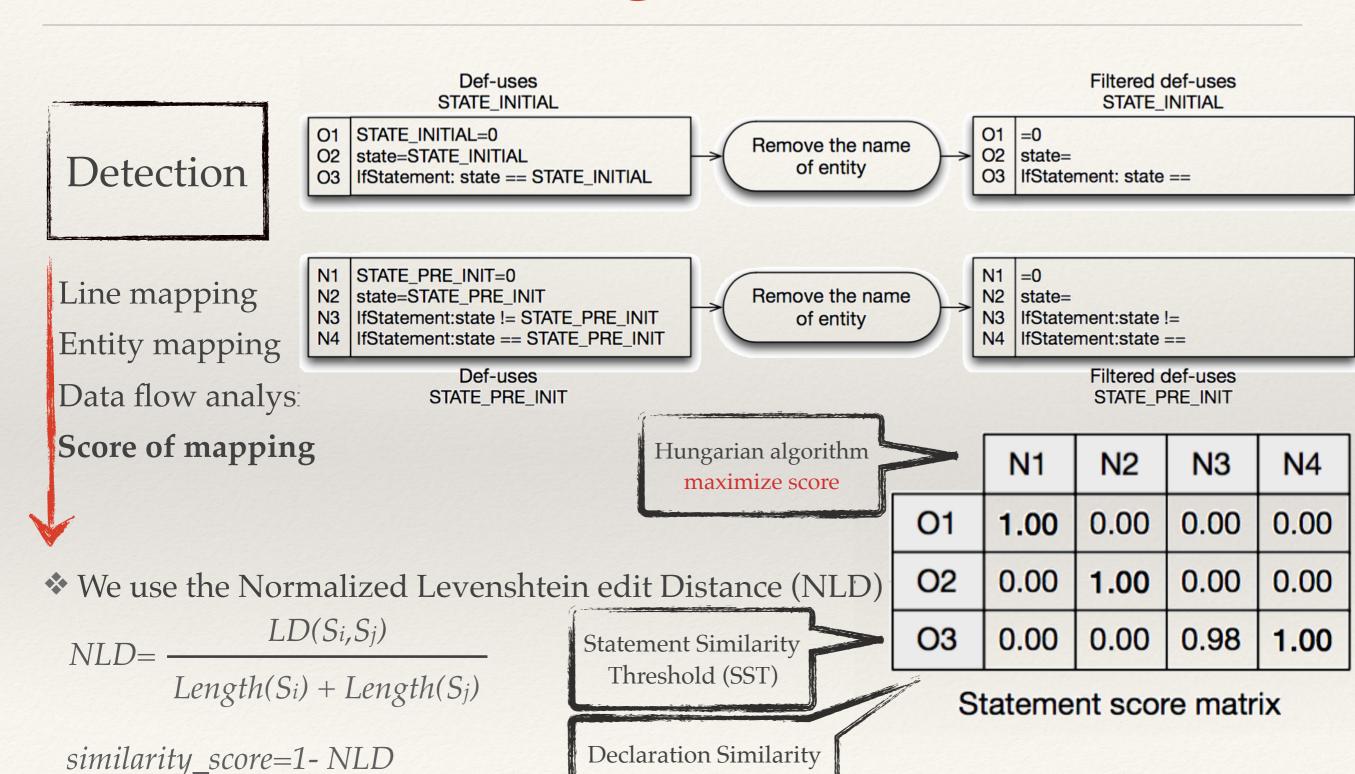
```
public static final int ACC_INIT_END=1;
       public static final int ACCOUNTS=2;
...
       // State
       public static final int STATE_INITIAL=0;
203
204
       public static final int STATE INITIALIZED=1;
205
       public static final int STATE_STARTED=2;
206
       public static final int STATE STOPED=3;
       // ----- local variables -----
       private int state=STATE_INITIAL;
        * Adds a new Context to the set managed
        * by this ContextManager.
        * @param ctx context to be added.
        public void addContext(Context ctx)
              throws TomcatException {
       if(state == STATE_INITIAL)
         return:
```

Old version

New version

```
public static final int ACC_INIT_END=1;
                              public static final int ACCOUNTS=2;
                              // State
                              /** Server is not initialized
                      203
<<li>emapping>>
                      204
                      205
                              public static final int STATE_PRE_INIT=0;
                      206
                              /** Server was initialized, enginelnit() was called.
                                addContext() can be called.
                       ...
                              public static final int STATE_INIT=1;
                              // ----- local variables -----
                              private int state=STATE_PRE_INIT;
                N<sub>2</sub>
                       ...
                              public final void initContext(Context ctx)
                                               throws TomcatException {
                               if (state != STATE_PRE_INIT) {
                N3
                       ...
                       ...
                       ...
                               * Adds a new Context to the set managed
                              * by this ContextManager.
                              * @param ctx context to be added.
                       ...
                       •••
                              public void addContext(Context ctx)
                                          throws TomcatException {
                              if(state == STATE_INITIAL)
                N4
                                return;
```





Threshold (DST)

Detection

Line mapping
Entity mapping
Data flow analysis
Score of mapping

score(E1,Ek)=

01 -> N1 02 -> N2 03 -> N4

	N1	N2	N3	N4	
01	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
O2	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	
О3	0.00	0.00	0.98	1.00	

Statement score matrix

score(STATE_INITIAL,STATE_PRE_INIT)=1+1+1=3

score=sum(Si,j)
i,j ∈ mapped statements

score=0

numMatched >= NST

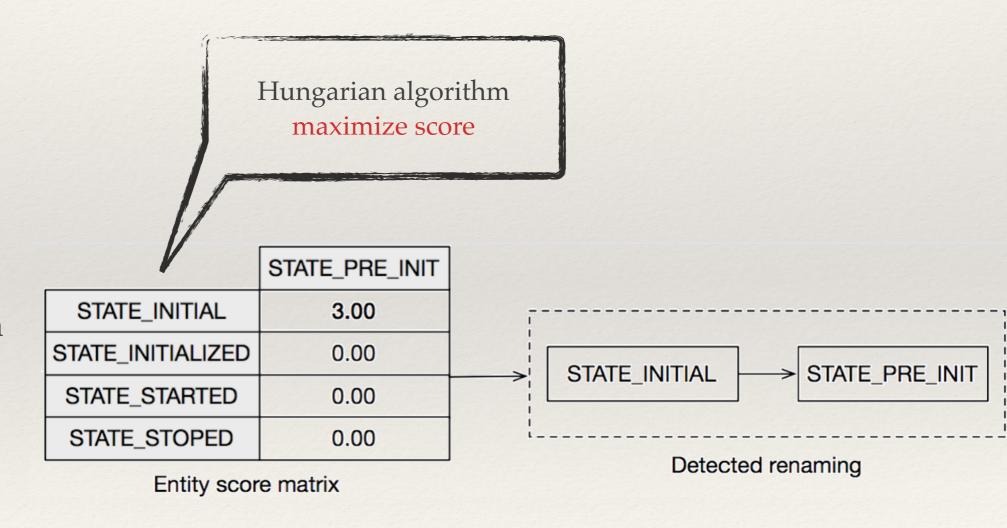
matched Statement Threshold

Number of

numMatched < NST

Detection

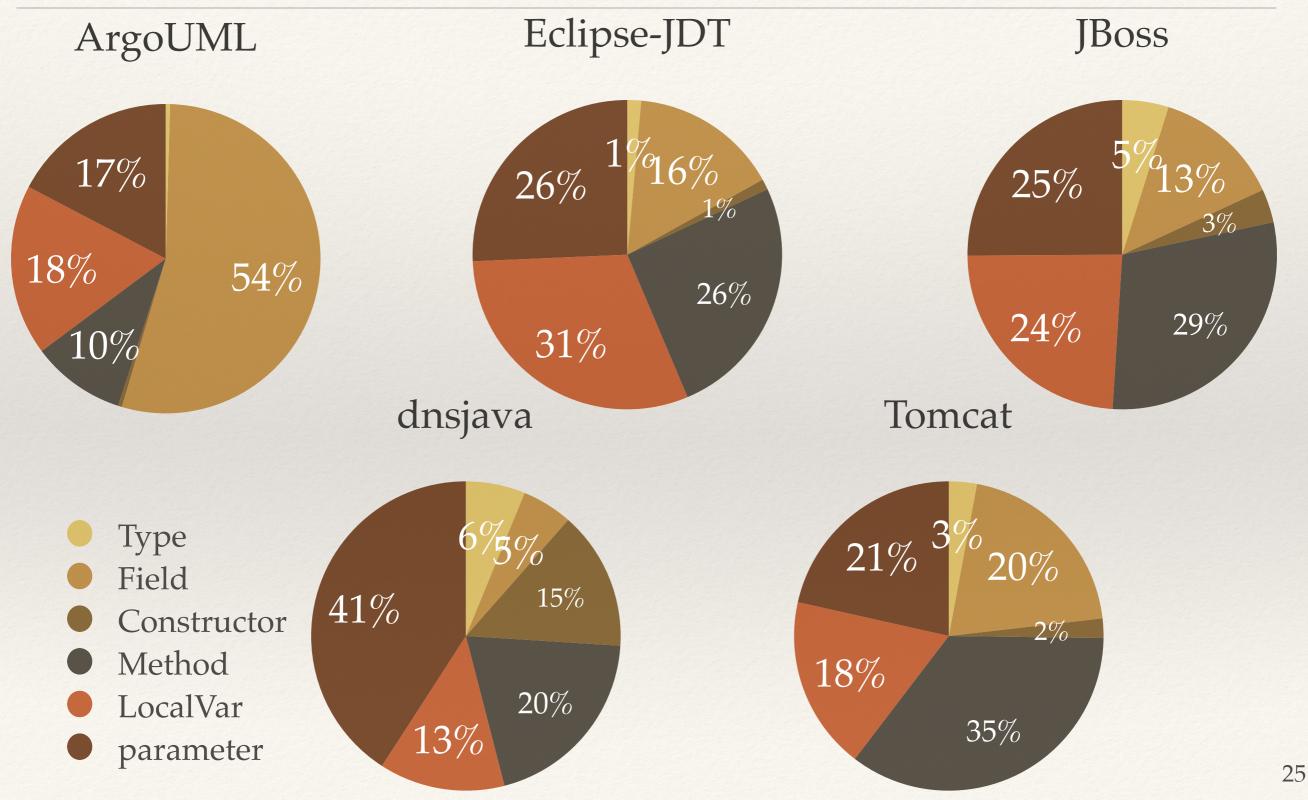
Line mapping
Entity mapping
Data flow analysis
Score of mapping
Renaming detection



Analyzed Programs

	Programs	Period	Total files		Revisions
	Tomcat	1999–2006	12,205		46,498
	Eclipse-JDT	2001–2006	5,758		54,571
	ArgoUML	1998-2012	300		68,400
	JBoss	1999–2011	40,003		25,028
The state of the s	dnsjava	1998–2011	365	-	1,415

Detection Results



Detection Accuracy

How accurate is the set of renamings detected by REPENT?

- \$ Sample size, 95%, $\pm 5\% = 1,723$
- * Two evaluators, voting, conflict resolved by third evaluator

$$Precision = \frac{|TPS|}{|TPS| + |FPS|} = 88\%$$

Low precision in detection of parameter:

dnsjava: 54%

Tomcat: 67%

Not enough parameters when calibrating the thresholds

ProgramsPrecisionTomcat80%Eclipse-JDT94%ArgoUml97%JBoss91%dnsjava78%

Detection Accuracy

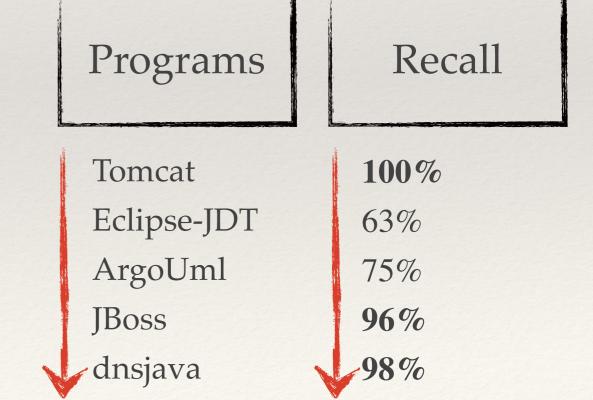
How complete is the set of renamings detected by REPENT?

Commit logs "renam", remove false positives

Recall =
$$\frac{|DCR \cap DR|}{|DCR|}$$
 = 92%

Eclipse-JDT: Failed to identify Class renamings due to missed file renamings.

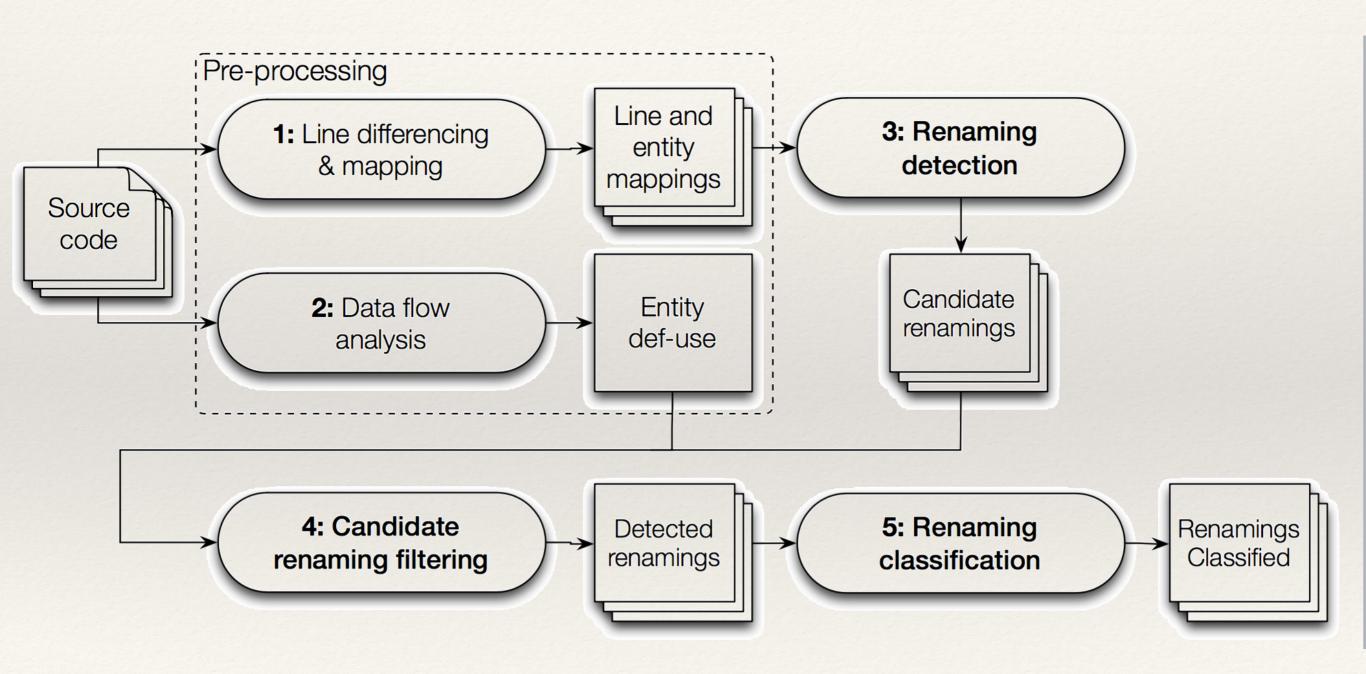
ArgoUML: 3/4 documente renamings is identified. The missed case was a combination combination of renaming and refactoring



Detection Summary

- * We identify 33,812 renamings in five open source programs.
- ❖ We manually validated a sample size (95% +- 5%) of 1,723 renamings.
- * The overall precision of detection is 88%.
- * The overall recall of detection is 92%.
- * The high precision and recall make our approach suitable for identifying renamings.

Detection and Classification Approach



Entity kind

package
class
method
field
constructor
parameters
local vars

Form of renamings

simple
complex
formatting only
term reordering

Semantic changes

preserve meaning change meaning narrow meaning broaden meaning add meaning remove meaning none

Grammar changes

part of speech change none

Classification

invParamsPtr -> invalidParamReferencesPtr

inv Params Ptr invalid Param References Ptr

Identifier splitting

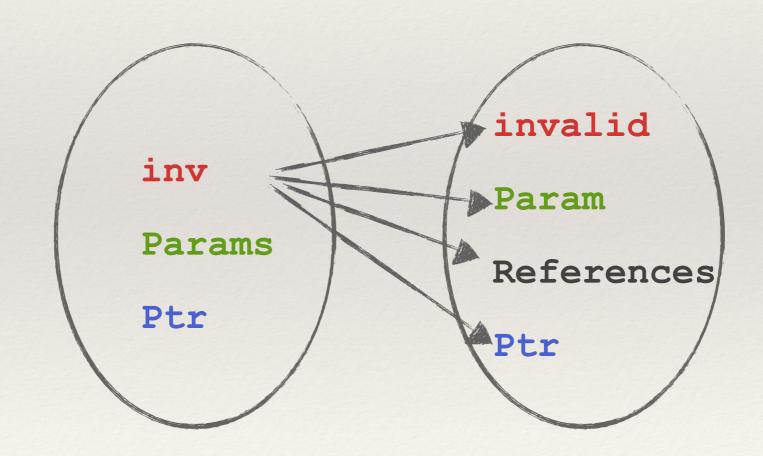
Classification

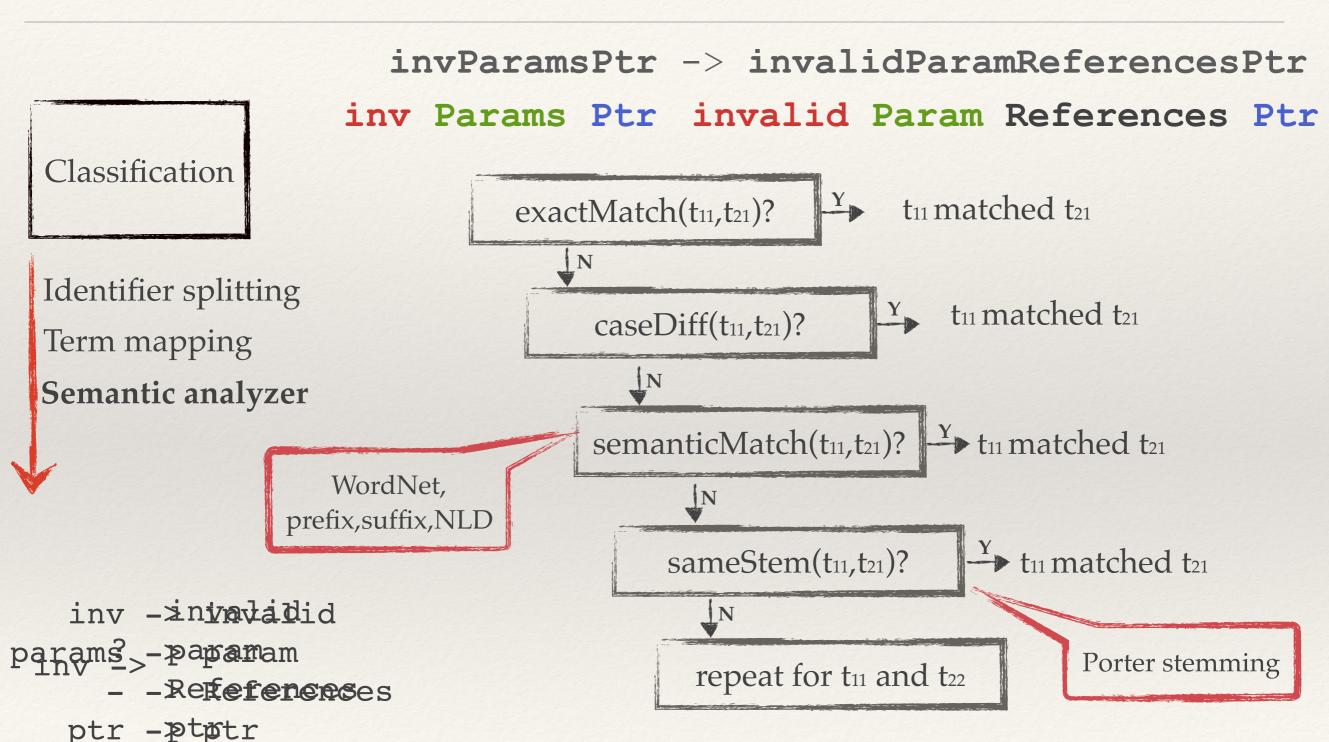
Identifier splitting

Term mapping

invParamsPtr -> invalidParamReferencesPtr

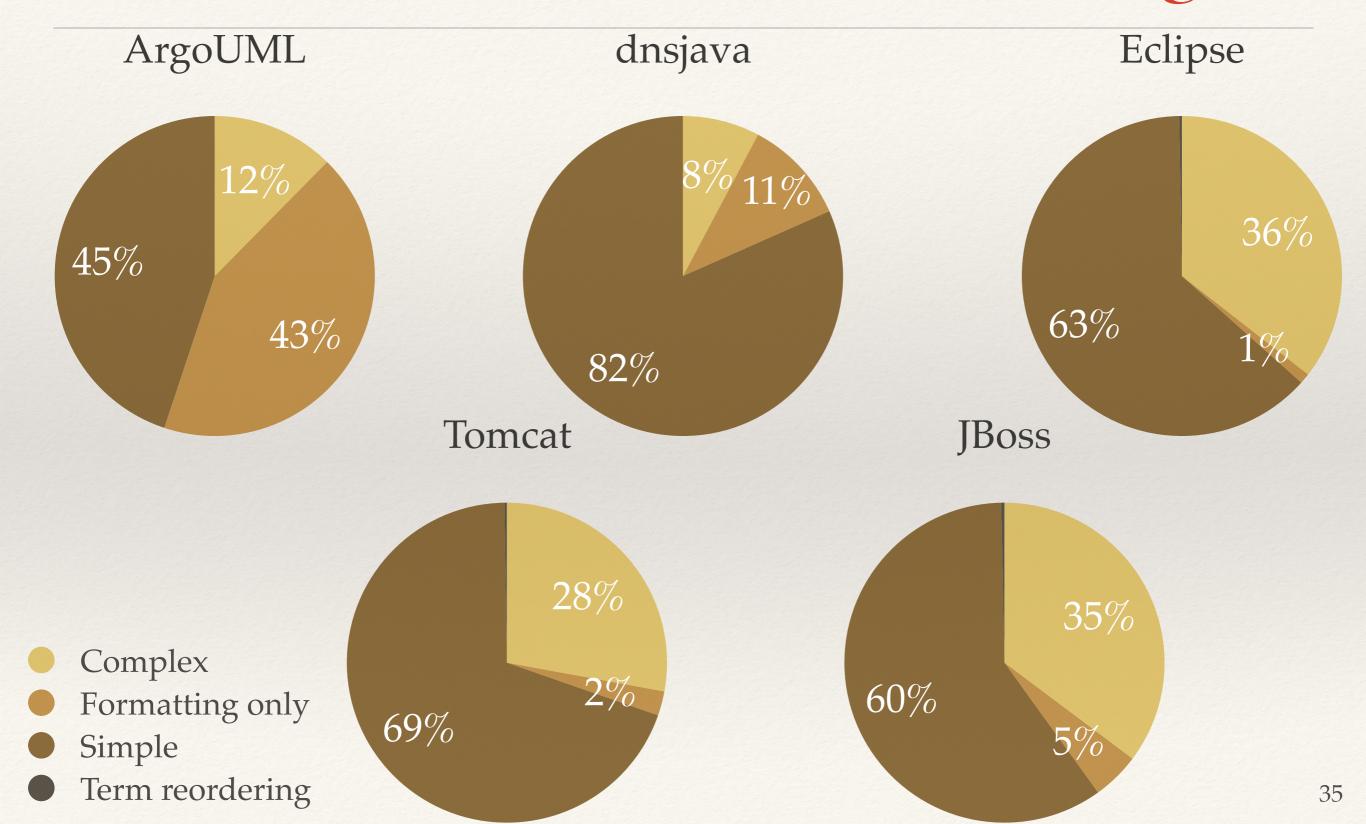
inv Params Ptr invalid Param References Ptr



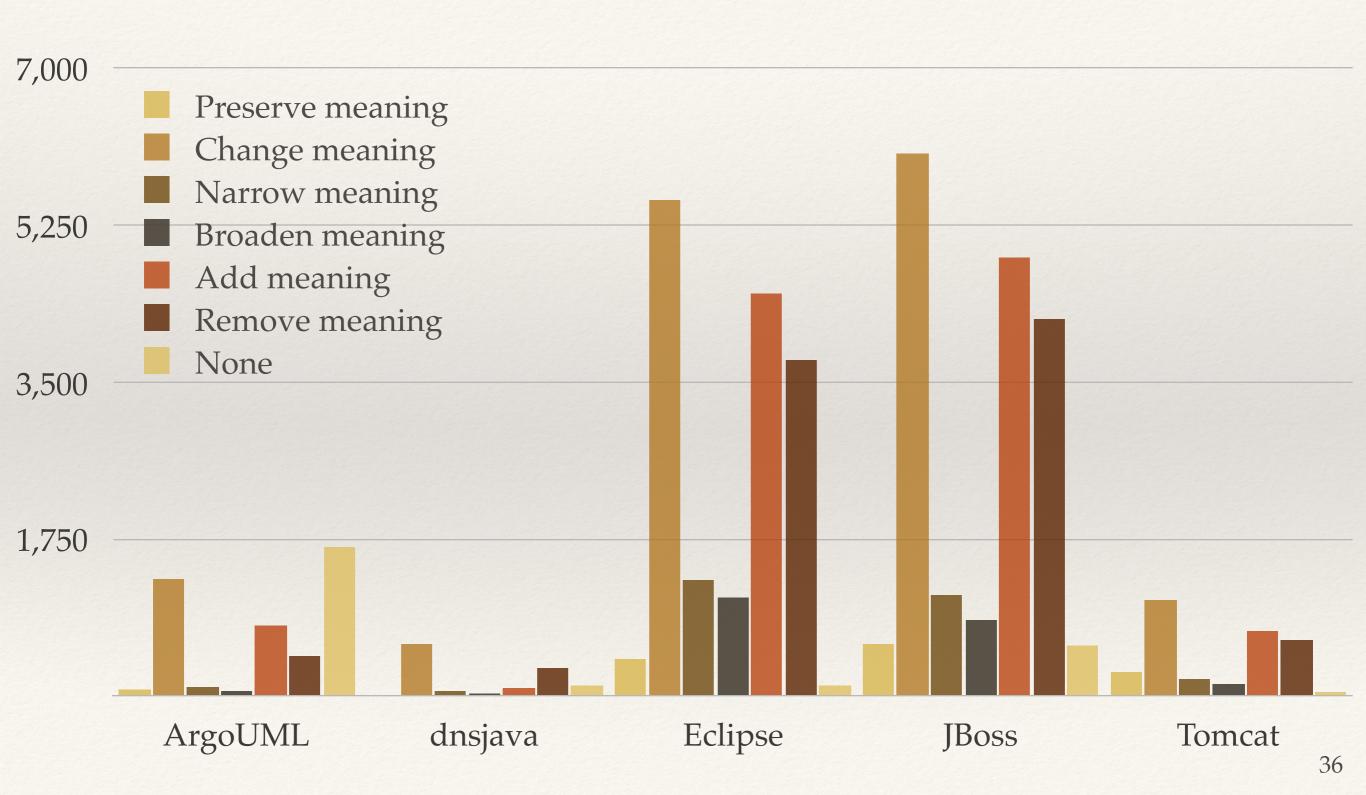


invParamsPtr -> invalidParamReferencesPtr Classification inv Params Ptr invalid Param References Ptr Identifier splitting NN NNS **VBP NNS VBP** NN Term mapping Semantic analyzer POS tagger Stanford Part-of-Speech Analyzer inv -> invalid expansion, POS change expansion params -> param plural to singular related - -> References added added ptr -> ptr exact match exact match

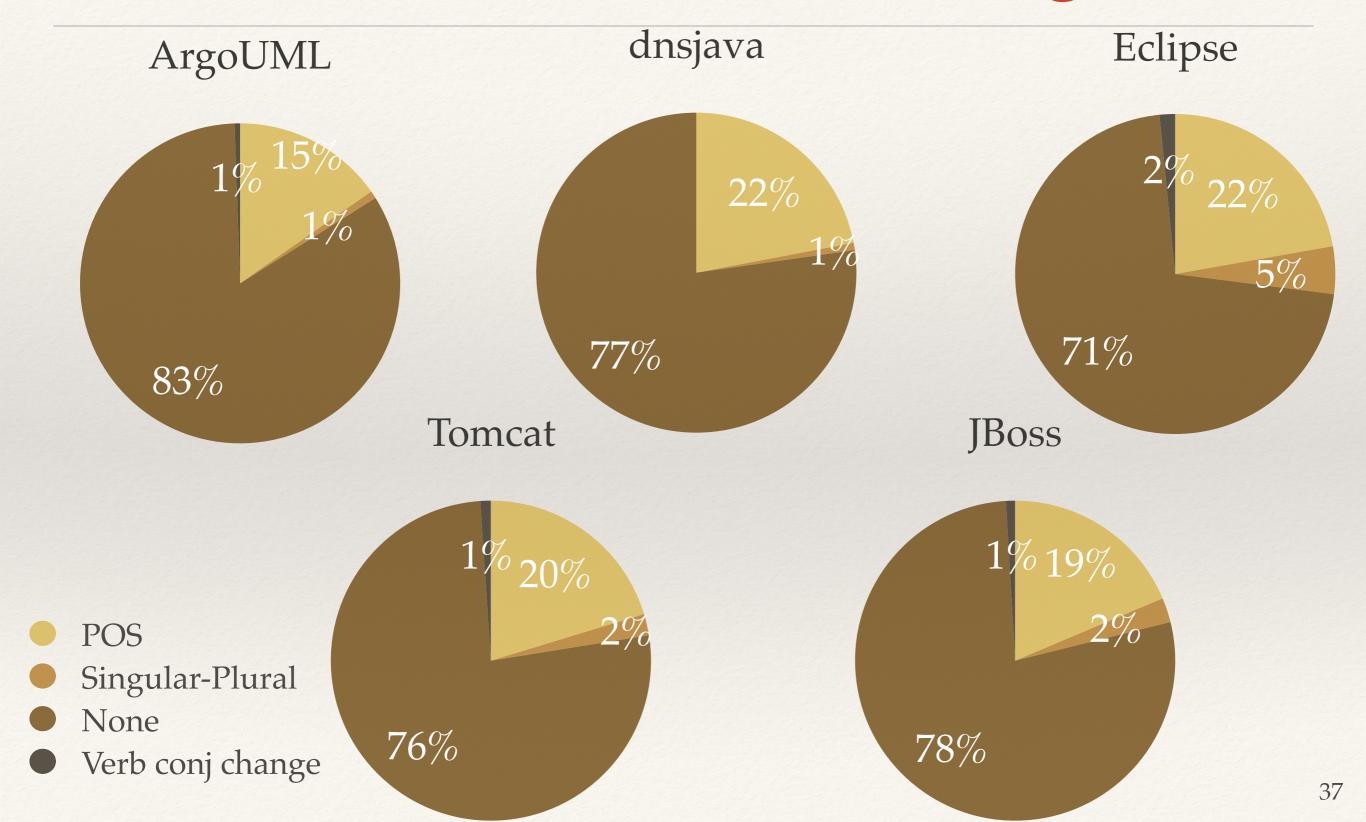
Results for Form of Renaming



Results Semantic changes



Results Grammar Change



Classification Accuracy

How accurate is the set of classified renamings?

- \clubsuit Sample size, 95%, \mp 10%, for each level of dimension
- * 330, 1102, 355, for each dimension respectively.
- * Two evaluators, voting, conflict was resolve

Programs	Form of renaming	Semantic changes	Grammar changes
Tomcat	96%	72%	61%
Eclipse-JDT	96%	82%	75%
ArgoUML	100%	88%	88%
JBoss	98%	79%	72%
dnsjava	100%	92%	100%

Classification Accuracy

Programs

Tomcat

Eclipse-JDT

ArgoUML

JBoss

dnsjava

Form of renaming

96%

96%

100%

98%

100%

Semantic changes

72%

82%

88%

79%

92%

Grammar changes

61%

75%

88%

72%

100%

wrong term mapping

narrowrenbroademanticiansingular/plural is -> get hyponym

- wrong splitting dyalchowter in werb conj change long - short antonym

- wrong terrn-mapping ision in other POS

- wrong relations between terms

Applicability to other languages

- * Java is a statically type and object-oriented language.
- * We are interested to investigate the applicability of our approach to a language different from Java.
- * We choose PHP as it is a popular language, it is a dynamically type language and it allows scripting, procedural and object-oriented programming.

Challenges!!

Entity kind

Form of renaming

Semantic changes

Grammar changes

package namespace

class class

method method

field field

constructor constructor

parameters parameters

local vars vars

function

Renamings Detection

- -Line mappings
- -Extracting entity declarations
- -Extracting def-uses

- All entities except variables have declaration
- Assignments are considered as declarations of variables
- Access entities defined in other files
- Java: import, fixed location
- PHP: include, any location

PHP Renamings Detection

Detection

Line mapping
Entity mapping
Data flow analysis
Score of mapping
Renaming detection

Fixed point algorithm:

- Eclipse PDT tool to expect AST
- Heuristic
- Symbolic execution

- Resolve the include
- Resolve the type, method/function binding
- Perform inter/intra procedural, flow sensitive- context insensitive analysis to extract the def-uses

- We use same thresholds SST,NST, DST as calibrated for Java programs

Challenges!!

Entity kind

namespace

class

method

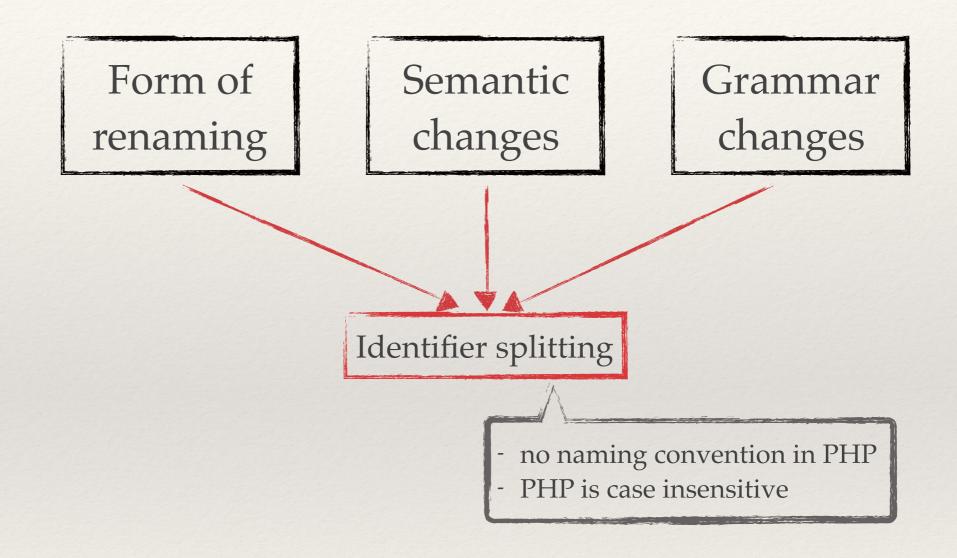
function

filed

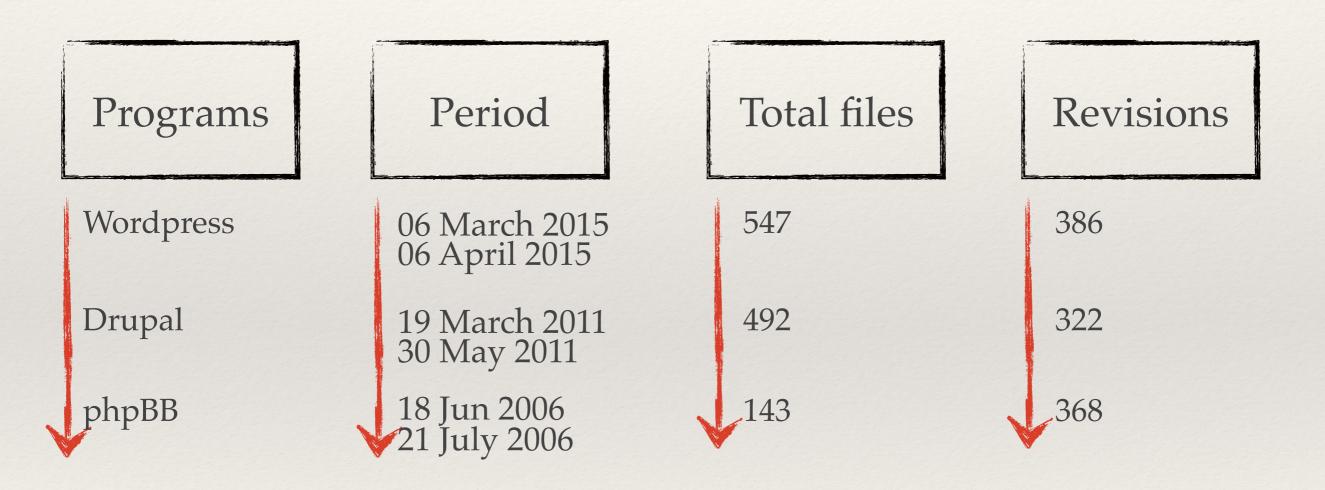
constructor

parameters

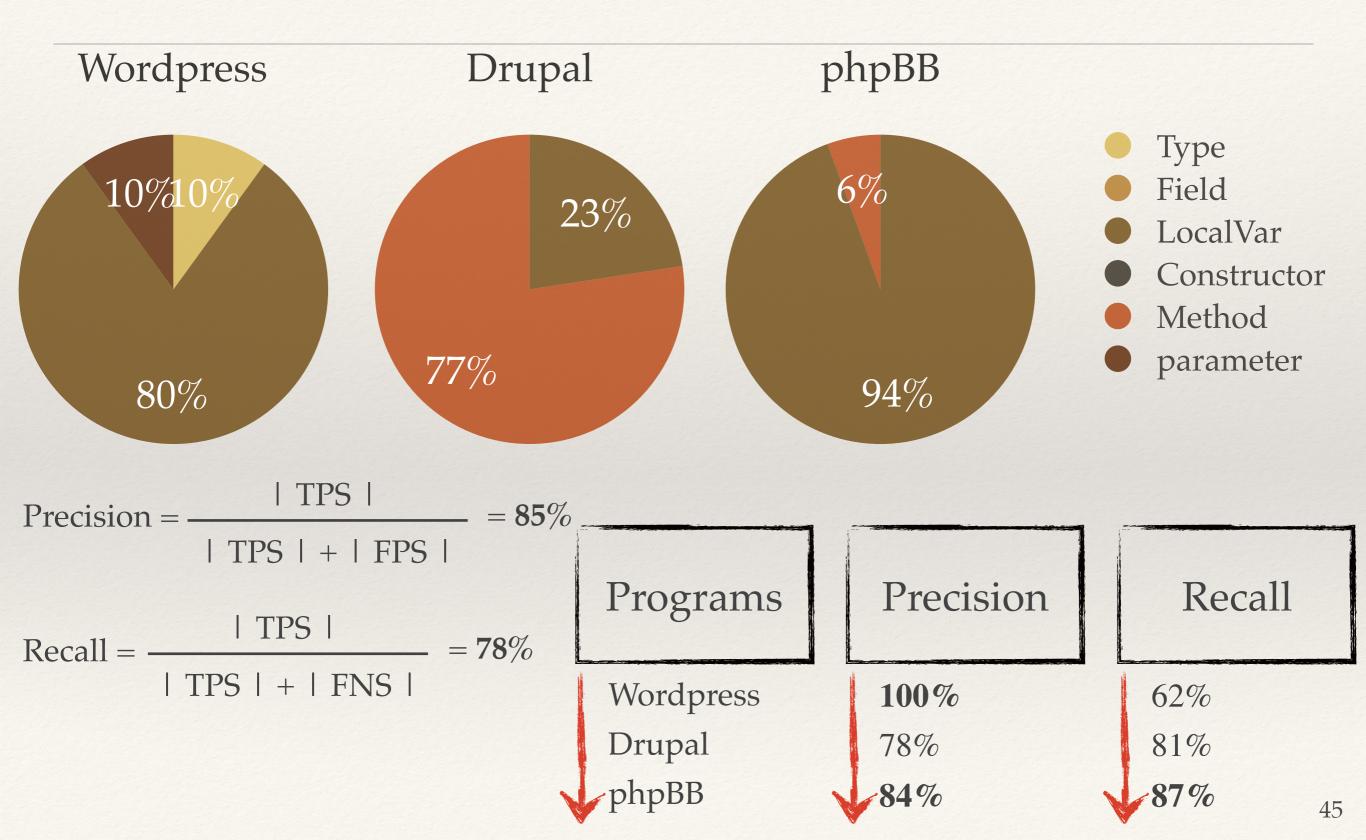
local vars



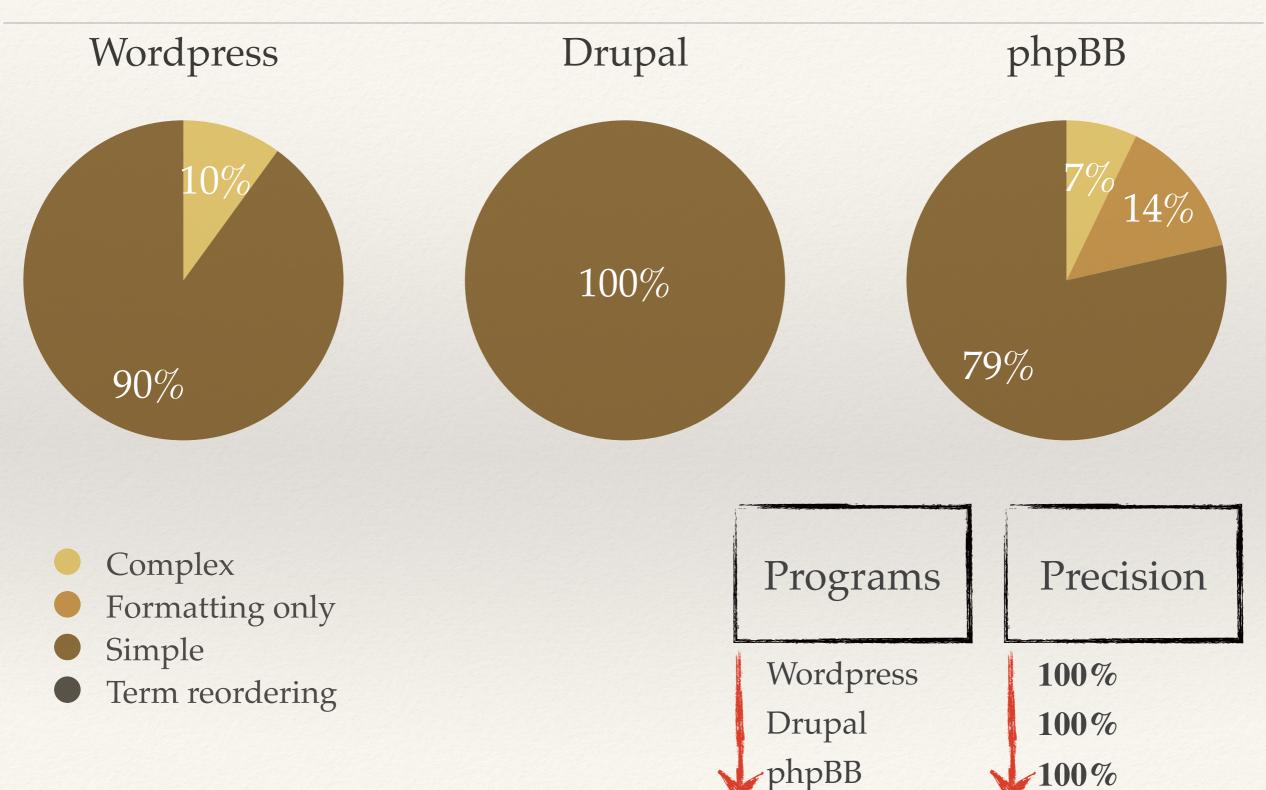
Analyzed Programs



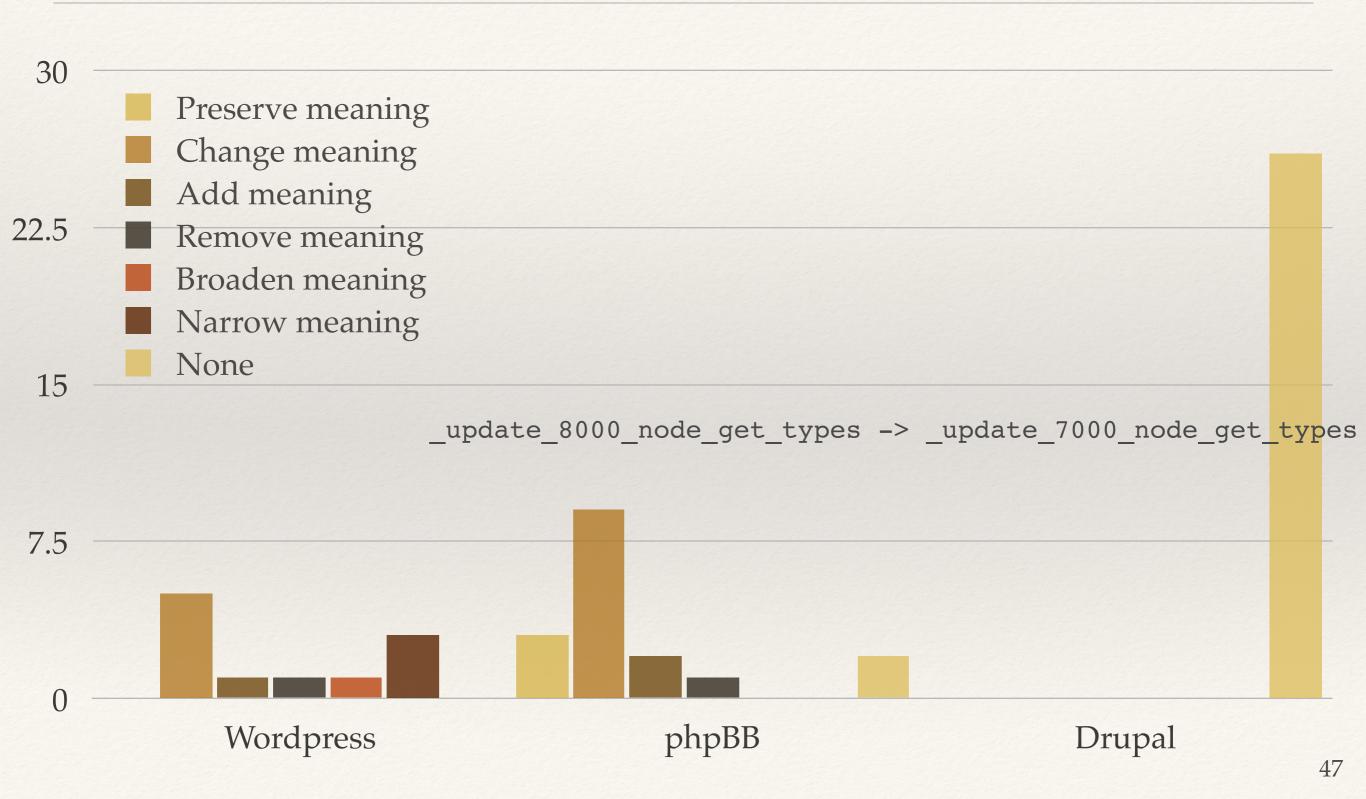
Detection Results



Results for Form of Renaming



Results Semantic changes

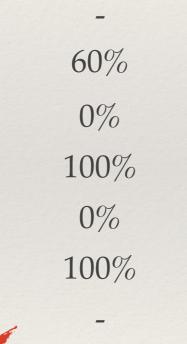


Precision of Semantic Change

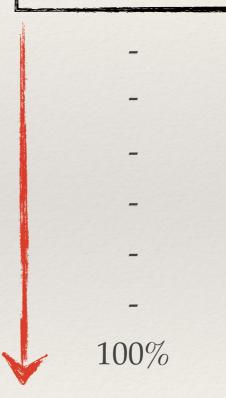
Semantic change

Preserve meaning
Change meaning
Remove meaning
Add meaning
Broaden meaning
Narrow meaning
None

Wordpress



Drupal



phpBB

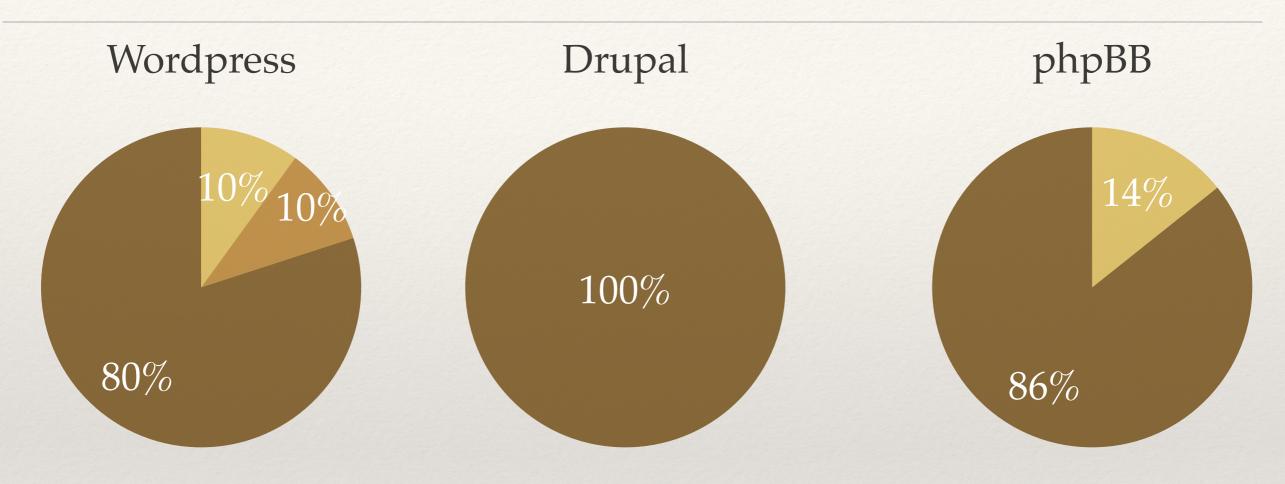
```
100%
57%
100%
50%
-
-
100%
```

title->link_text

ACL_NO->ACL_NEVER

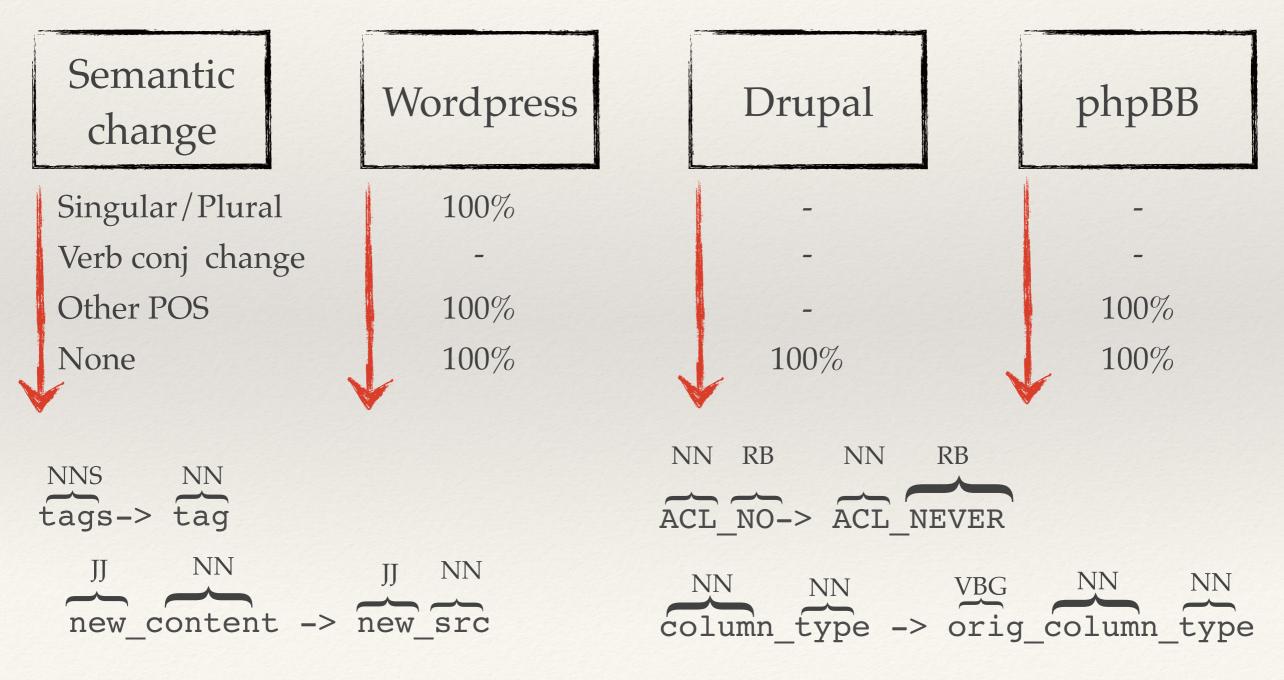
WP_Customize_Upload_Control->WP_Customize_Media_control

Results Grammar Change



- POS
- Singular-Plural
- None
- Verb conj change

Precision of Grammar Change



Limitations of Detection

Construct validity:

- * File renamings: thresholds 60%, CVS verging system
- Precision: human errors, subjectiveness
- * Recall: small number of documented renamings

Internal validity:

* Calibration of thresholds, different results with different thresholds

External validity:

* Five open-source Java programs, different domain and size

Limitations of Classification

Construct validity:

- * Precision and recall of detection
- * Precision: human errors, subjectiveness

Internal validity:

 Use of threshold for term mapping, abbreviation and expansion

External validity:

* Generalization, Java and PHP, different trends

Lesson Learned



Conclusion

Goal: To understand when, why, and how developers rename identifiers.

- * We know that renaming is quite a frequent activity during program evolution.
- * It is mostly done when functionality of entities are changed and also during refactoring.
- * Though sometimes there is an urge for renaming, it is avoided due to its cost and efforts.
- * Developers tends to add and remove terms to rename identifiers, while keeping the part of speech intact.

Future Works

- * Recommending a name for a new entity or an entity being renamed.
- * Extends the study to other programming languages.
- Support automatic renamings in PHP programs.

Thank you:)



Examples of Renaming

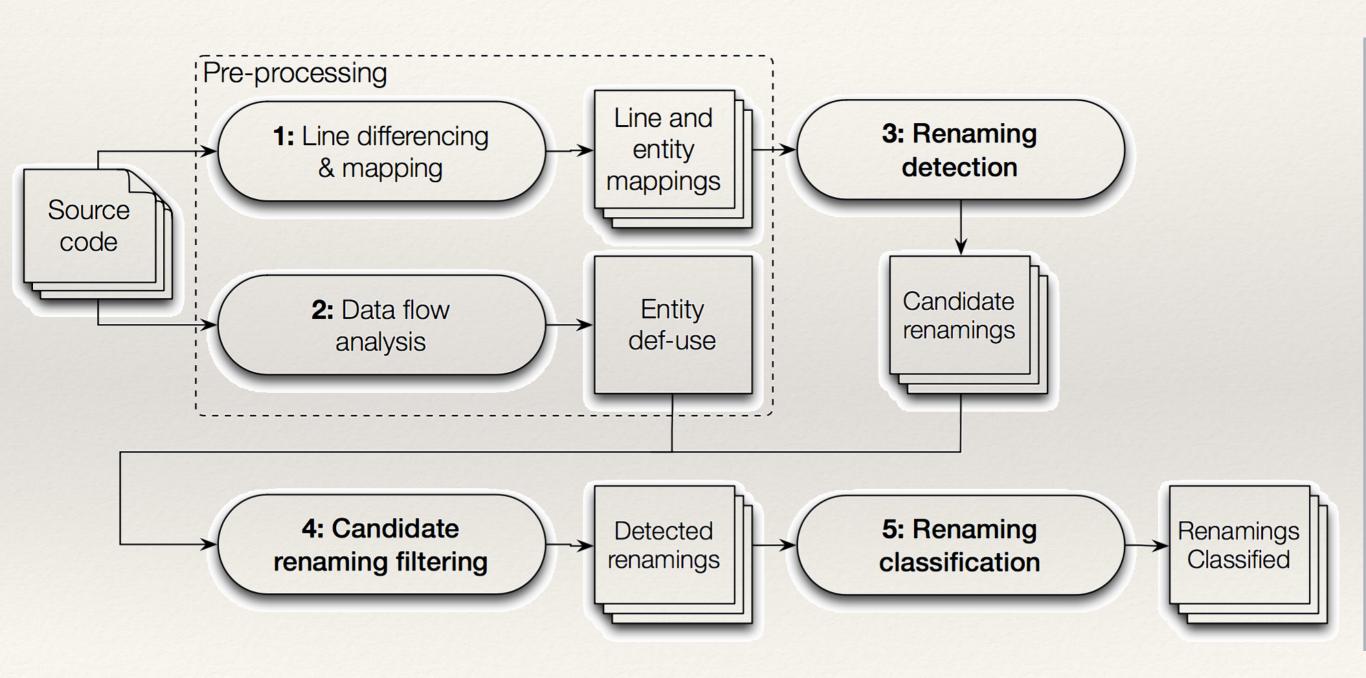
```
e -> t
                                parameter, Exception -> Throwable
g -> generalization
                                local var, MGeneralization -> Object
                                local var, Vector -> List
v -> list
sessState -> sessionState
                                local var, SessionState
length -> 1
                                local var, int
jj 3R 70 -> jj 3R 69
                                method, private, boolean, final
                              method, public, byte
verifyAXFR -> verifyStream
method, protected, void
rebuildTypesAffectedByMissingSecondaryTypes ->
                           rebuildTypesAffectedBySecondaryTypes
```

MicroContainerNotAdvisedAnnotationOverrideProxyAdvisorTestCase ->

MicrocontainerAdvisedAnnotationOverrideProxyAdvisorTestCase

58

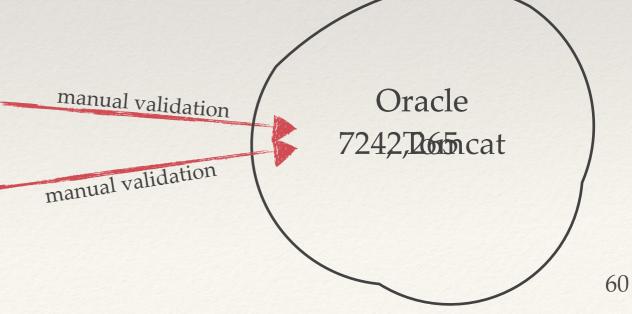
Detection and Classification Approach



Thresholds for Detection

Declaration Similarity Threshold (DST) -> 0.7 Number of matched Statement Threshold (NST) -> [0,1] step +0.1 Statement Similarity Threshold (SST) -> for each fixed NST, [0,1] step +0.1

 $INTERSECT = DR_1 \cap DR_2 \cap ... DR_9 \cap DR_{10}$ $UNION = DR_1 \cup DR_2 \cup ... DR_9 \cup DR_{10}$ COMPLEMENT = UNION - INTERSECT



DR₁

DR₂

DR9

DR₁₀

Include Statements

```
  include("./f1.php")

  include_once ("./" . "f1.php")

  require (PATH. "f1.php")

  require once (getRoot(). "f1.php")
```

Include Resolution

```
Fixed point algorithm:
  - Eclipse PDT tool to expect AST
 - Heuristic
 - Symbolic execution
                                                                  <?php
                                      <?php
<?php
                                      pos = 3;
define('CWD', "/");
                                                                  calc($pos);
include (CWD. "f2" . ".php");
$pos =7;
                                                                  Function calc($v){
                                      Function create (){
$index =$pos + 35;
                                                                  print (" pos: " . $pos."\n");
print (" index: " . $index ."\n");
                                      include ('./f3.php');
```

Experiment

Programs

Wordpress

Akismet

YARPP

Jetpack

NextGen Gallery

Contact Form 7

Google XML Sitemap

SEO by YOAST

W3 Total Cache

WP Sitemap Page

Google XML Sitemaps for qTranslate

Release

3.6 - 3.7

2.5.6 - 2.5.9

3.5 - 4.4.1

2.7 - 2.3.5

1.9.3 - 2.0.40

3.2 - 3.6

3.2.7 - 3.3.1

1.1.7 - 1.4.22

1.0.12 - 1.0.12

0.9.2.4 - 0.9.3

3.2.7.1 - 3.3.1

Includes statements

629 - 649

3 - 3

17 - 26

95 - 126

114 - 144

16 - 19

5 - 5

22 - 42

592 - 436

1 -1

6 -6

Unknown

37 - 37

0 - 0

16 - 23

37 - 63

26 - 37

15 - 18

2 - 2

18 - 35

335 - 168

1 -1

2 - 2

Experiment

Programs

Wordpress

Akismet

YARPP

Jetpack

NextGen Gallery

Contact Form 7

Google XML Sitemap

SEO by YOAST

W3 Total Cache

WP Sitemap Page

Google XML Sitemaps for qTranslate

Includes statements

3 - 3

17 - 26

95 - 126

114 - 144

16 - 19

5 - 5

22 - 42

592 - 436

1 - 1

6 - 6

Unknown

37 - 37

0 - 0

16 - 23

37 - 63

26 - 37

15 - 18

2 - 2

18 - 35

335 - 168

1 -1

2 - 2

Resolved

2 - 2

0 - 0

11 - 19

22 - 43

14 - 15

11 - 13

2 - 2

16 - 33

290 - 135

1 -1

2 - 2

Limitation of Static Resolution

Scenario Discovered % Unknown 4 17 (13%) 3 9 (7.3)% 3 31 (25%) 4 13 (10%) 5 12 (9.7%) Overall 33 (26%)			
1 17 (13%) 2 9 (7.3)% 3 31 (25%) 4 13 (10%) 5 12 (9.7%)	Scenario	Discovered	%
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Unknown	
3 31 (25%) 4 13 (10%) 5 12 (9.7%)	1	17	(13%)
4 13 (10%) 5 12 (9.7%)	2	9	(7.3)%
5 12 (9.7%)	3	31	(25%)
	4	13	(10%)
Overall 33 (26%)	5	12	(9.7%)
	Overall	33	(26%)

Dynamic analysis

-Use TXL to instrument the include statements

- Installed wordpress 3.6 with all 10 plugins
- Five simple scenarios
- Logged the actual files at run time

Program	Path contains		
	variables	function calls	
WP 3.6	73	12	
WP 3.7	89	8	

Context and Motivation

Software lexicon:

- * Identifiers
- * Comments
- * Literal

Importance of lexicon

- * Program comprehension
- Traceability links
- Concept location

Lesson Learned

- * Methods and parameters renamings are unavoidable due to evolution, i.e., constant changes in requirements.
- * Using APIs without planning for change can cause ripple effect on the client lexicon.
- *It is important to choose the naming conventions for each specific project in an early stage of the development process and following it consistently.
- * It is worth taking the effort to identify the right order of terms constituting an identifier to clarify its meaning and avoid possible misunderstandings.
- * To avoid the need for a sequence of renamings towards spelling error correction, it is worth taking the time to spellcheck the identifier name when creating or modifying an entity.

Lesson Learned

- * It is worth investigating which one of the two, an abbreviation or its English alternative, is more common and thus should be used
- * Identifiers that contain negation tend to be renamed towards positive names.
- * The majority of semantic changes during renamings change, narrow, broaden, add, or remove a meaning to the identifier, as part of the evolution process and thus cannot be avoided.
- *It is worth the effort to assure consistency between, on the one hand, the name of an entity, and, on the other hand, its functionality, type, or other entities.