Midterm Review
and
Speculative Analysis

1

Course updates

- Homework 3 due April 18
- Project Plan due April 20*

* If you need more time (until April 24), just ask

2

Today's plan

- Brief description of midterm + topics covered
- Lecture on speculative analysis

3

What's the midterm like?

- True / False questions
- Multiple choice questions
- Some reasoning questions (also multiple choice)

4

Topics to be covered

- Dynamic analysis
  - Daikon and Purify
- Testing and automated test generation
  - revealing domains, Korat, Chronicler, and BugRedux (field failures), mutation testing, delta debugging
- Testing
  - Coverage, revealing subdomains, black-box vs. glass, regression testing
- Automated program repair
  - How it works, what can go wrong
- Bias in software
  - Themis

5

Topics to be covered

- Speculative Analysis
  - Quick fix scout, Crystal, CodeHint, CodebaseReplication
- Visual data communication
- Machine Learning for Systems
- Provably sound synthesis for side-channel attacks
- Inclusive open-source projects
- Gradual verification
- Specification synthesis
- Trojans in DNNs

6

True / False Example

Automatically predicting collaboration conflicts, if applied properly, would eliminate the need for resolving conflicts, which would greatly improve software development productivity.

7

Multiple Choice Example

Rational Purify can find the following types of bugs (check all that apply):

A. Writing past the end of an array
B. Reading past the end of an array
C. Writing past the end of the first object in an array of objects
D. Null pointer exceptions
E. Using a different method than the developer intended

8

Reasoning

- Reasoning are the harder questions that require abstraction and application of what you learnt.
- Reasoning questions will largely cover the homework assignments

9

Implement a new feature?

Incorporate another developer's changes?

Fix a bug?

DECISION MAKING

Developers often make decisions based on experience and intuition.

Upgrade a library?

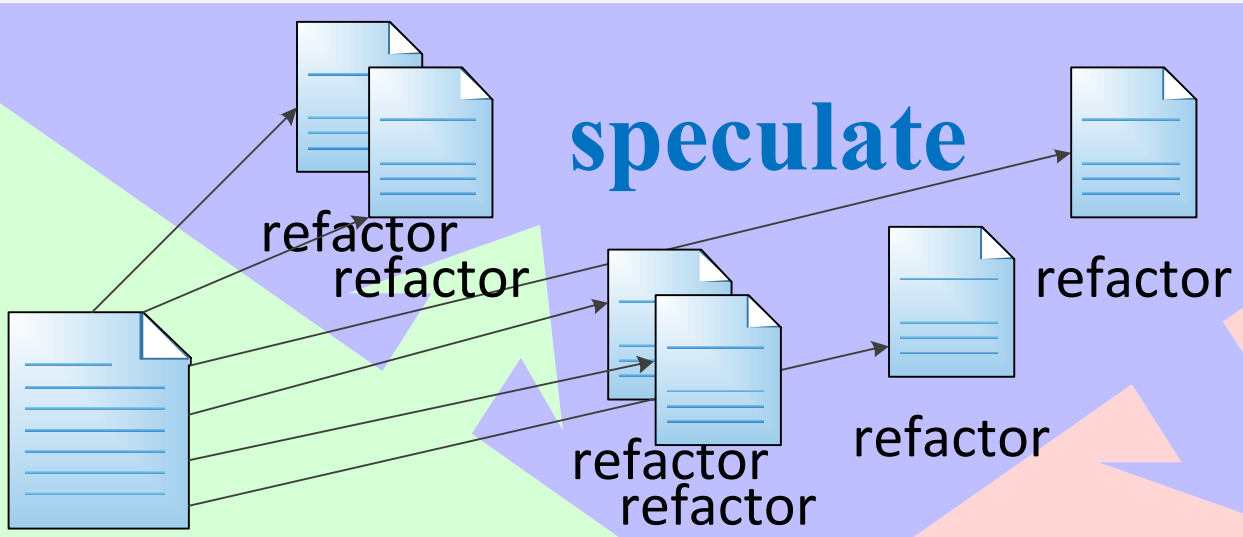
Refactor for code reuse?

Run tests?

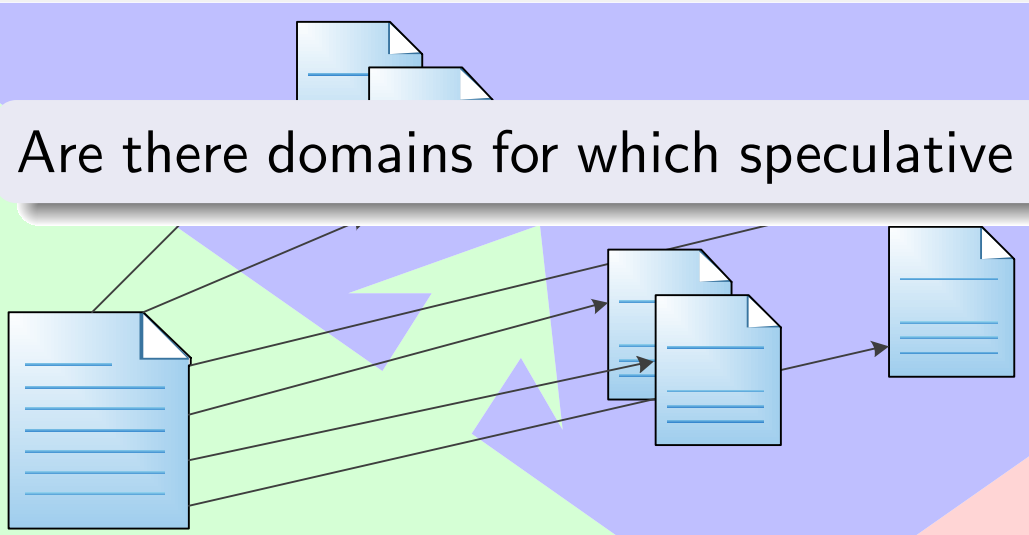
Can we predict the future

to help make decisions?

Speculative analysis: predict the future and analyze it



Speculative analysis: research questions



Are there domains for which speculative analysis is possible?

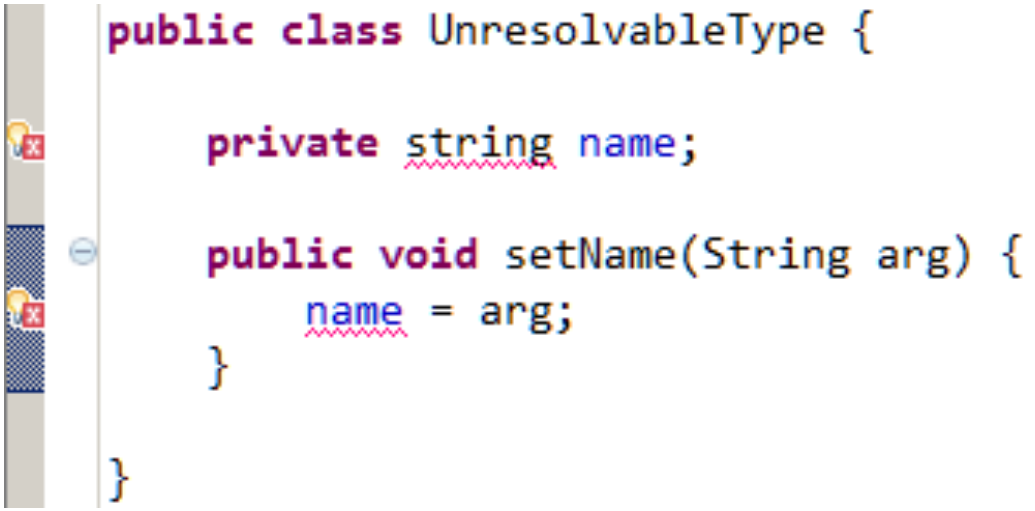
current program

Can speculative analysis be made computationally feasible?

Can speculative analysis help, and not overwhelm, developers?

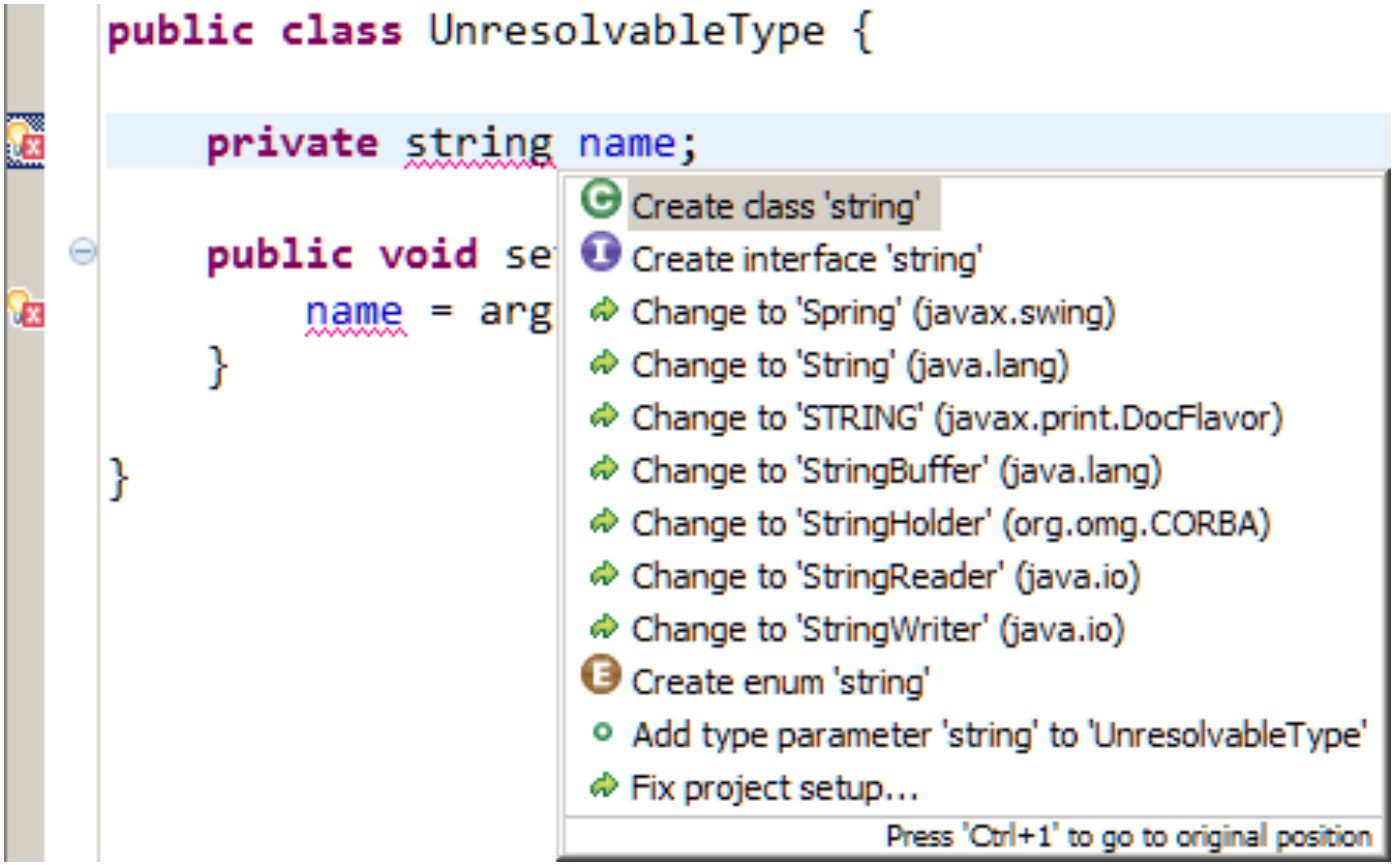
Quick Fix Scout

Collaborators: Kıvanç Muşlu, Reid Holmes, Michael D. Ernst, and David Notkin

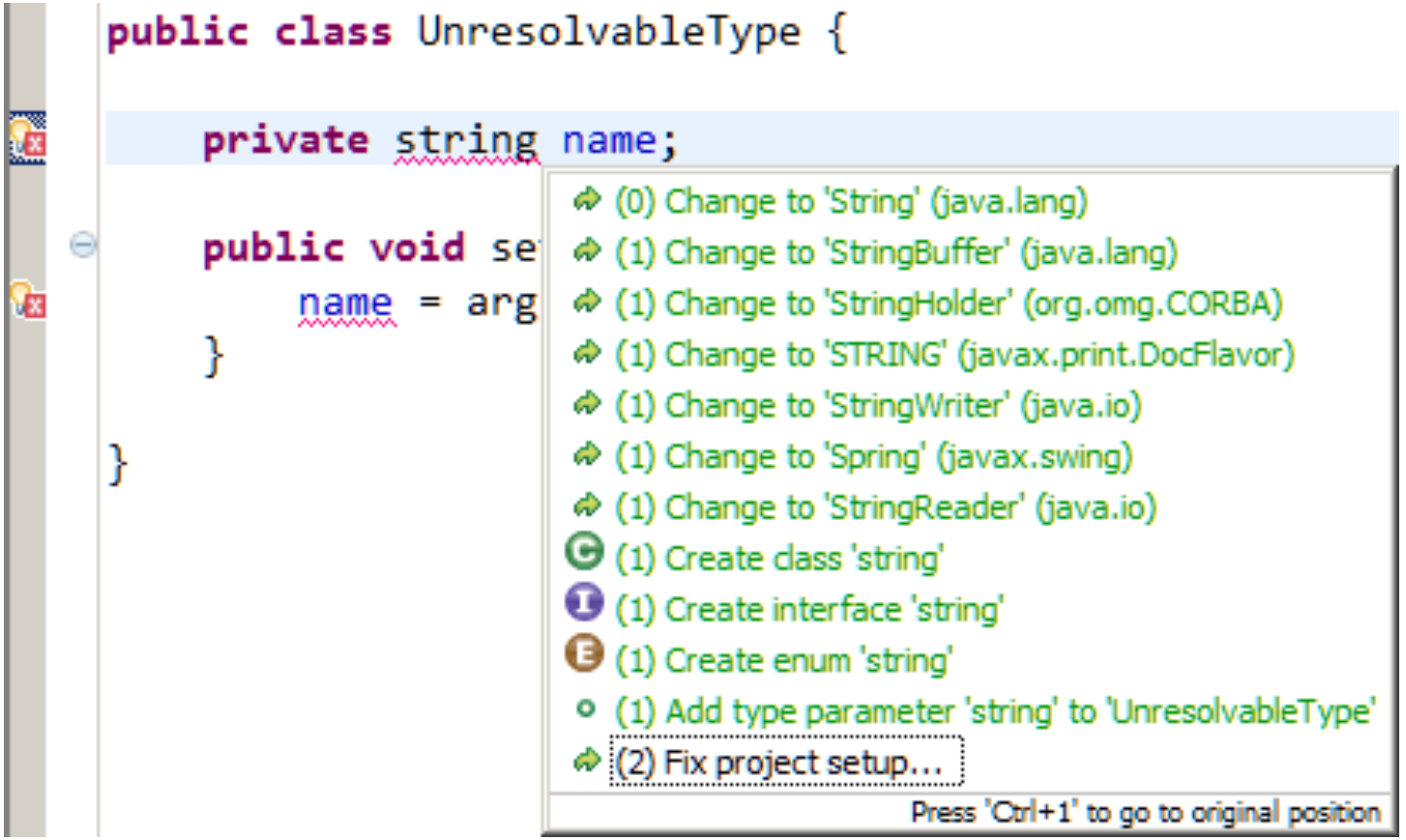


```
public class UnresolvableType {

    private string name;

    public void setName(String arg) {
        name = arg;
    }

}
```

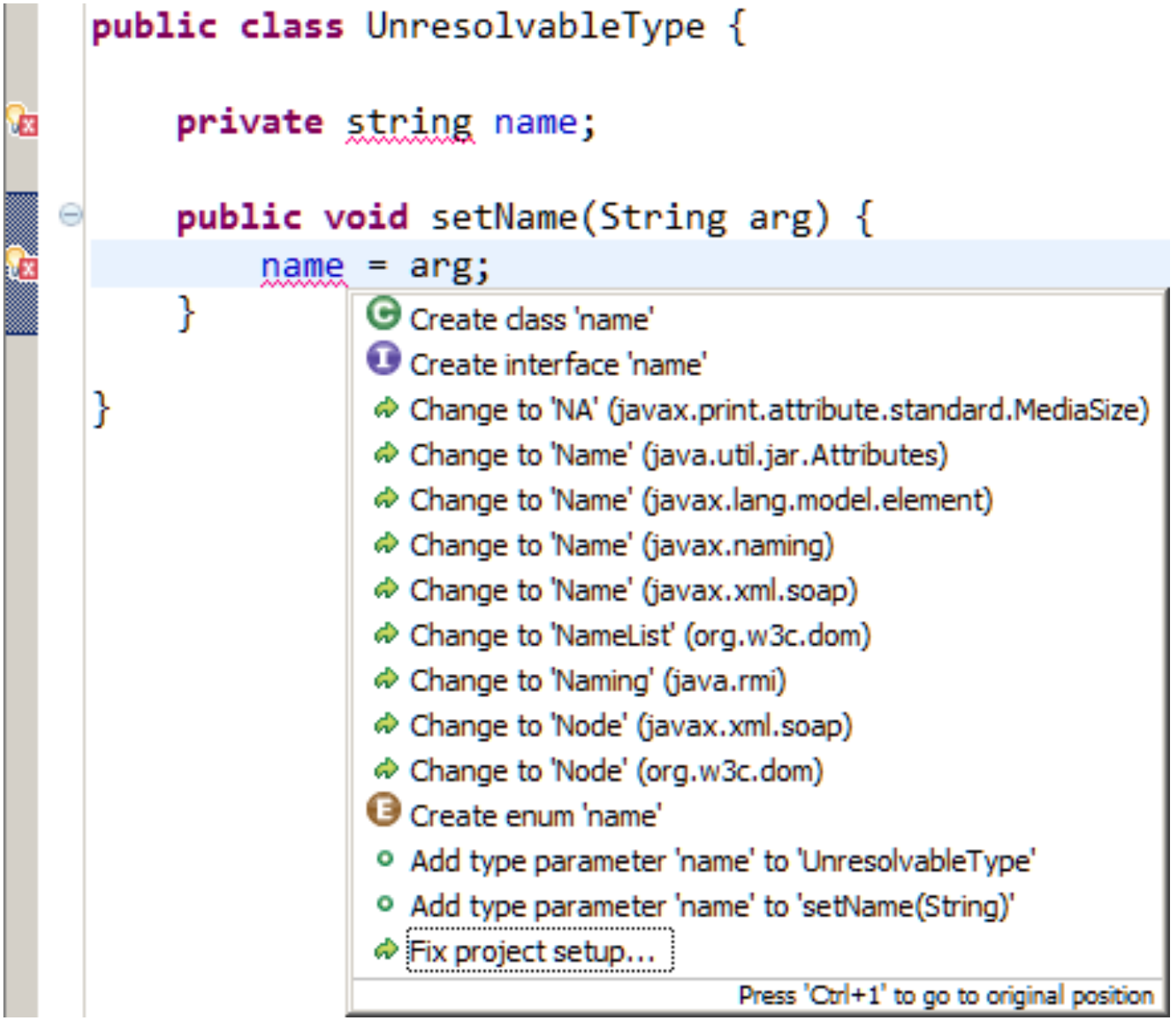
Eclipse provides Quick Fixes to resolve compilation errors.



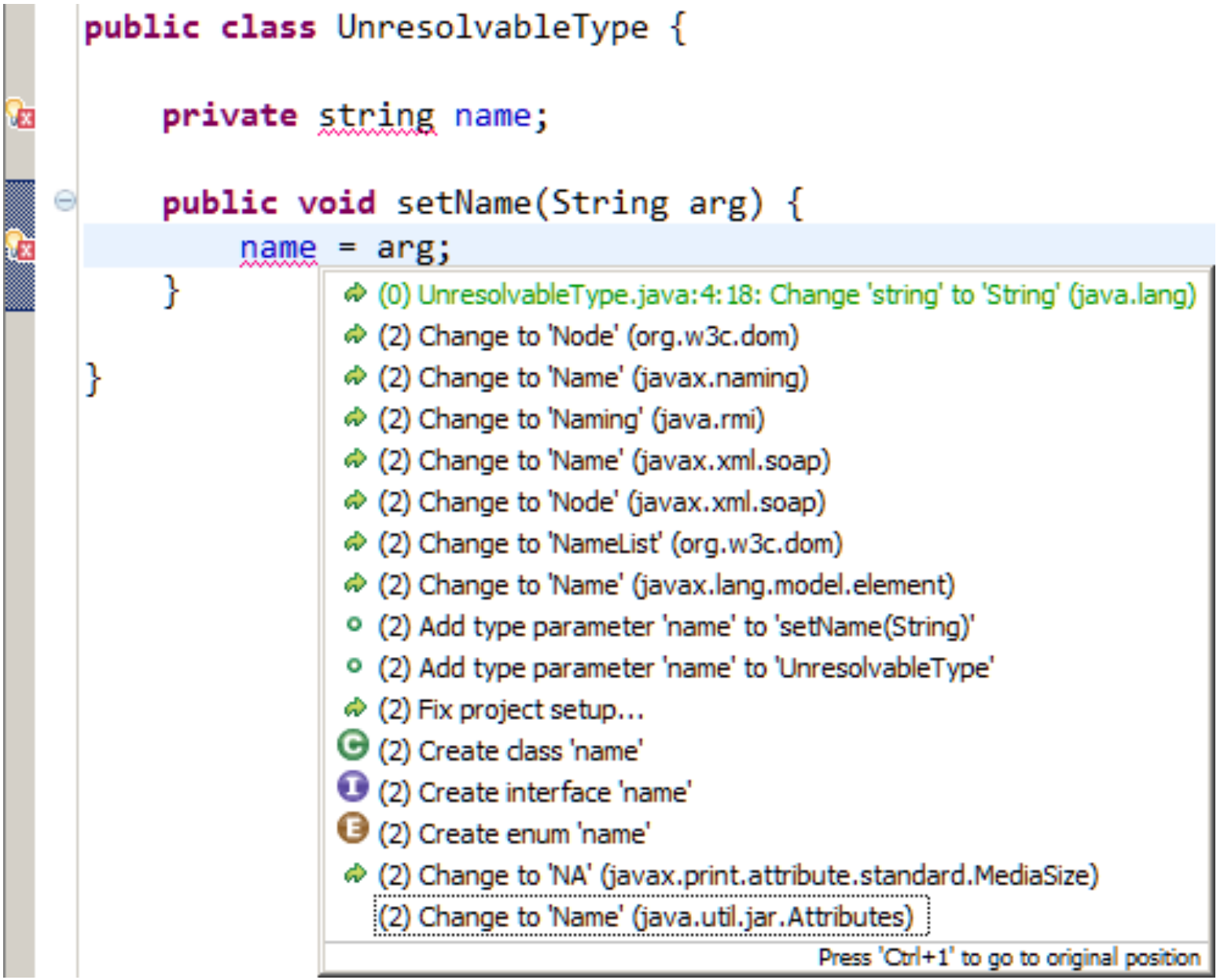
But Eclipse can't tell which fix is best.



We can speculatively apply each fix to find out how many errors remain.



Sometimes, local fixes cannot resolve an error.



Speculation can discover remote fixes that resolve errors.

Complex error dependencies

```
public class ExceptionalObject  {
    public void exceptionalMethod() {
        throw new MyException();
    }
}
```

. . .

```
public class SafeObject  {
    public void safeMethod() {
        try {
            ExceptionalObject eo =
                    new ExceptionalObject();
            eo.exceptionalMethod();
        } catch (MyException e) {}
    }
}
```

https://github.com/brunyuriy/quick-fix-scout

Complex error dependencies

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public class ExceptionalObject  {
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}
```

Remove catch clause
Replace catch clause with throws
Press 'Ctrl+1' to go to original position

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Complex error dependencies

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    }
}
```

(0) ExceptionalObject.java:6:12: Add throws declaration to 'exceptiona
(1) Replace catch clause with throws
(1) Remove catch clause
Press 'Ctrl+1' to go to o

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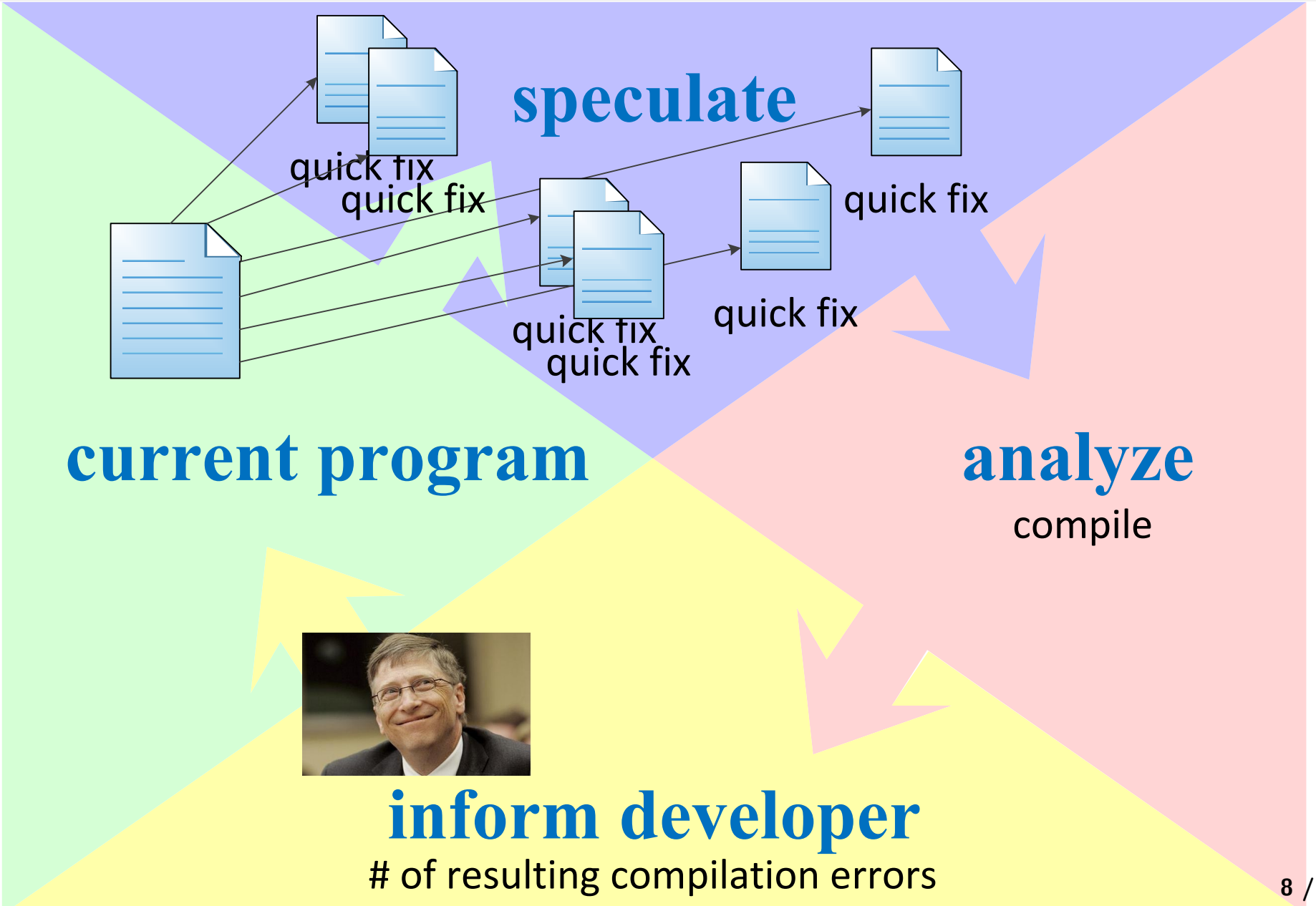
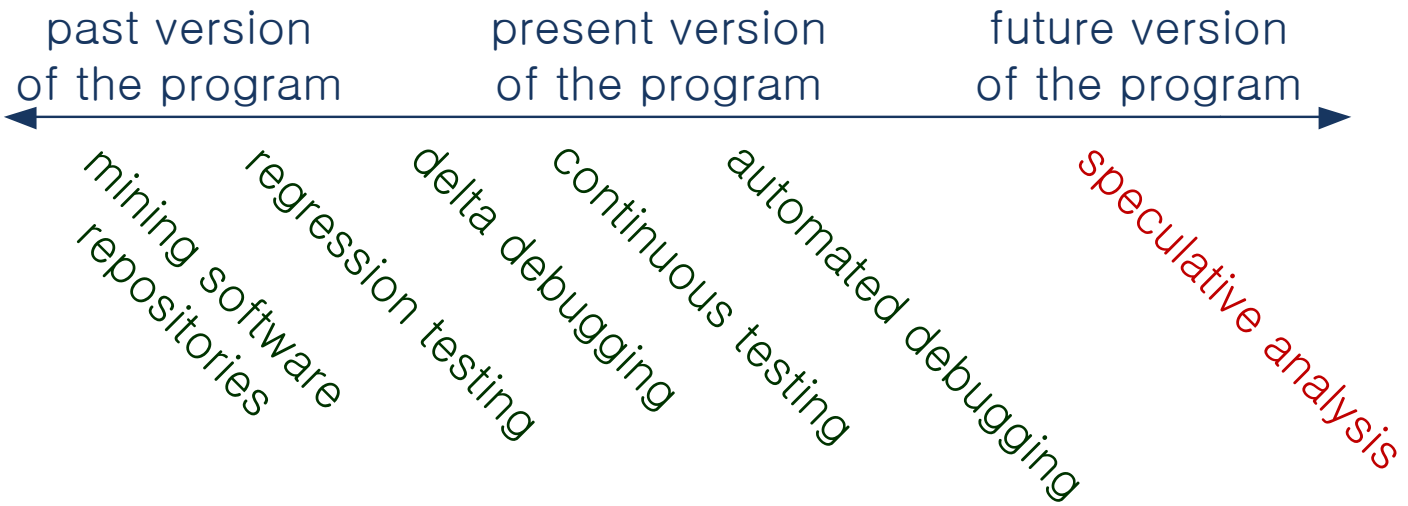
Speculative analysis for Quick Fix



Exploring the future



Continuous development

- compilation [Childers et al. 2003; Eclipse 2011]
- execution [Henderson and Weiser 1985; Karinthi and Weiser 1987]
- testing [Saff and Ernst 2003, 2004]
- version control integration [Guimarães and Rito-Silva 2010]

Speculative analysis is **predictive**.

Proactive detection of collaboration conflicts

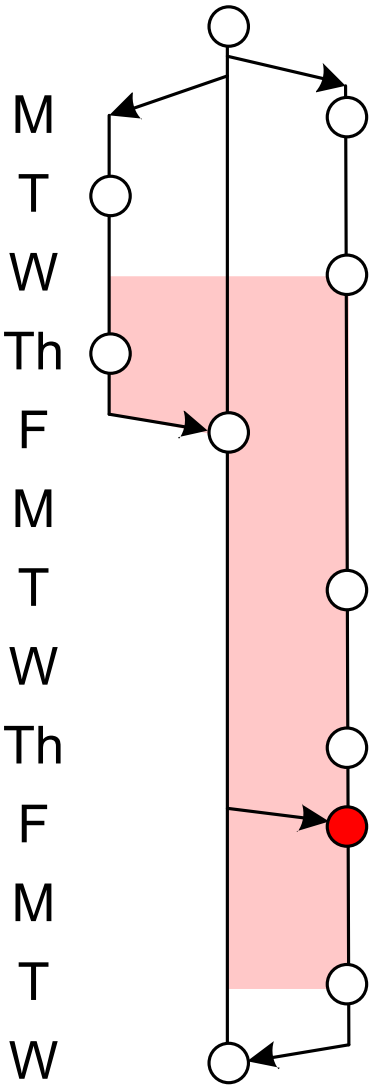
Collaborators: Reid Holmes, Michael D. Ernst, and David Notkin

Version-control terminology

Proactive conflict detection applies to both centralized and distributed version control.

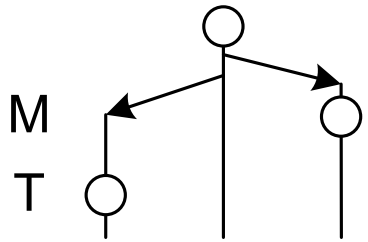
	distributed (hg, git)	centralized (cvs, svn)
local commit:	commit	save
incorporate:	pull and push	update and commit

The Gates conflict



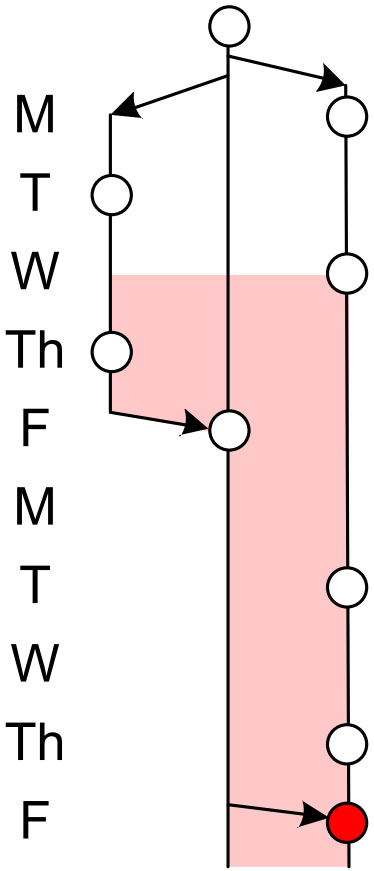
The information was all there, but the developers didn't know it.

What could well-informed developers do?



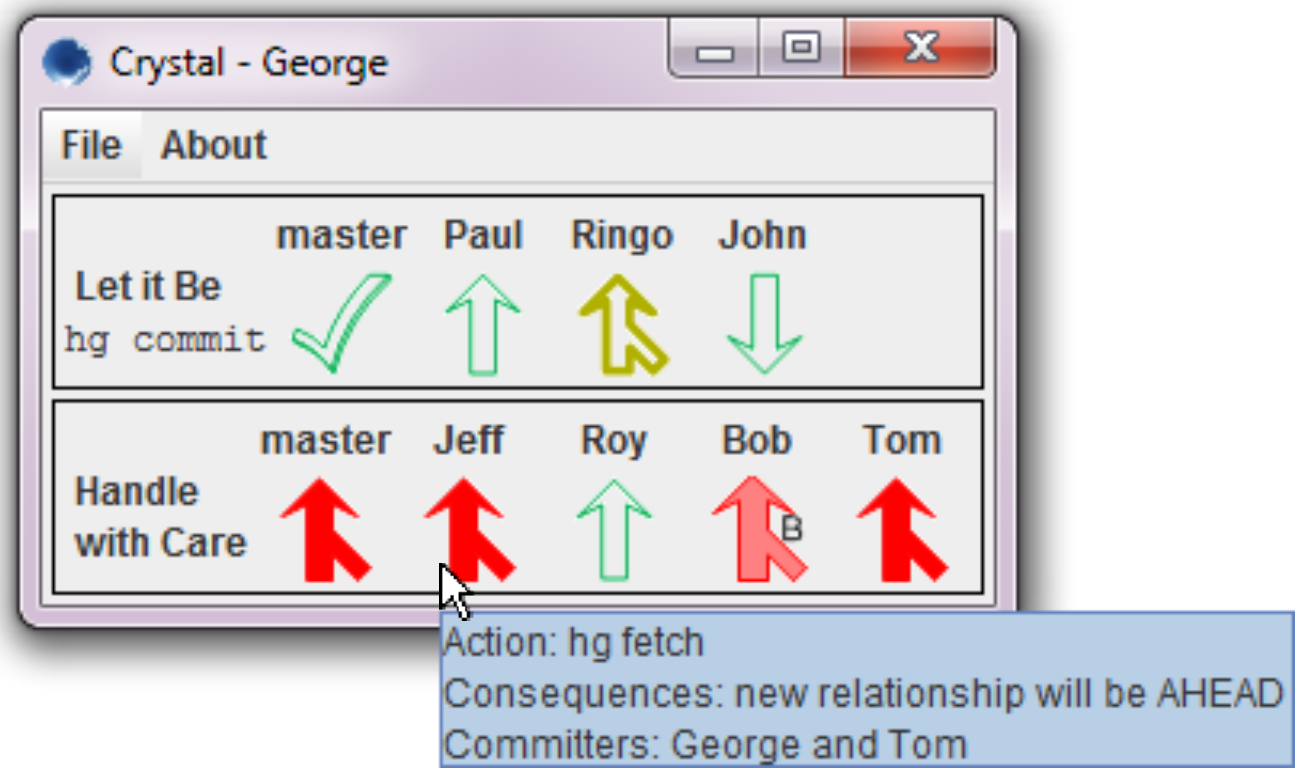
- avoid conflicts

What could well-informed developers do?



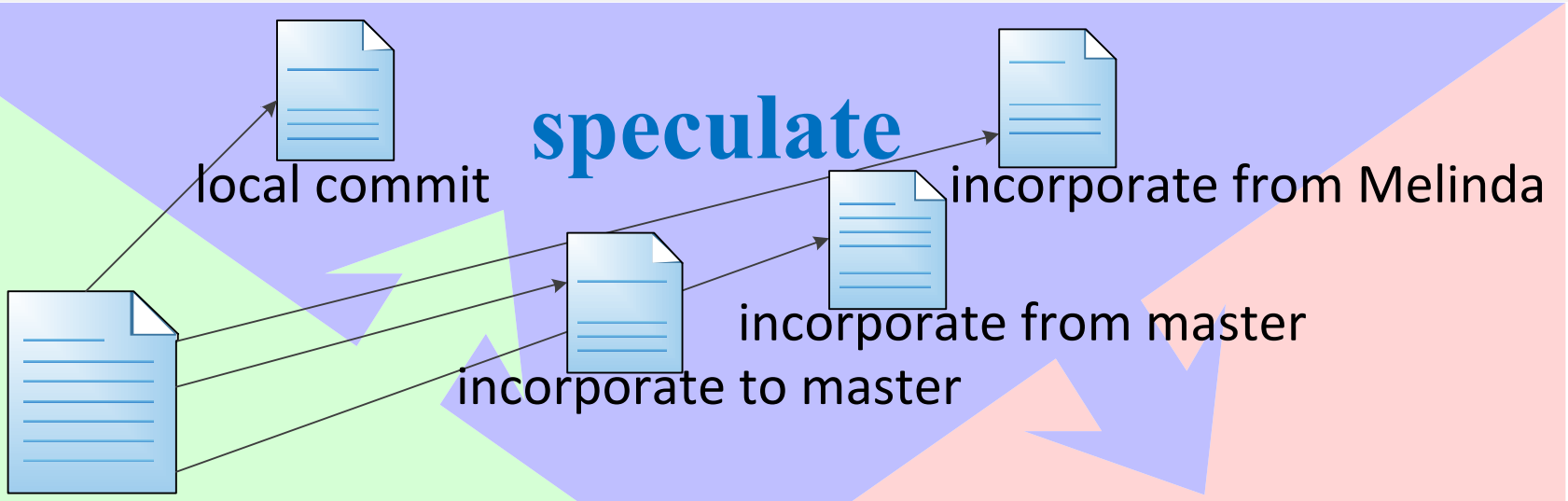
- avoid conflicts
- become aware of conflicts earlier

Introducing Crystal: a proactive conflict detector



https://github.com/brunyuriy/crystalvc

Speculative analysis in collaborative development



Reducing false positives in conflict prediction

Collaborative awareness

- Palantír [Sarma et al. 2003]
- FASTDash [Biehl et al. 2007]
- Syde [Hattori and Lanza 2010]
- CollabVS [Dewan and Hegde 2007]
- Safe-commit [Wloka et al. 2009]
- SourceTree [Streeting 2010]

Crystal analyzes **concrete artifacts**,
eliminating false positives and false negatives.

Utility of conflict detection

- Are textual collaborative conflicts a real problem?
- Can textual conflicts be prevented?
- Do build and test collaborative conflicts exist?

Are textual collaborative conflicts a real problem?

histories of 9 open-source projects:

size:	26K–1.4MSLoC
developers:	298
versions:	140,000

Perl5, Rails, Git, jQuery, Voldemort, MaNGOS, Gallery3, Samba, Insoshi

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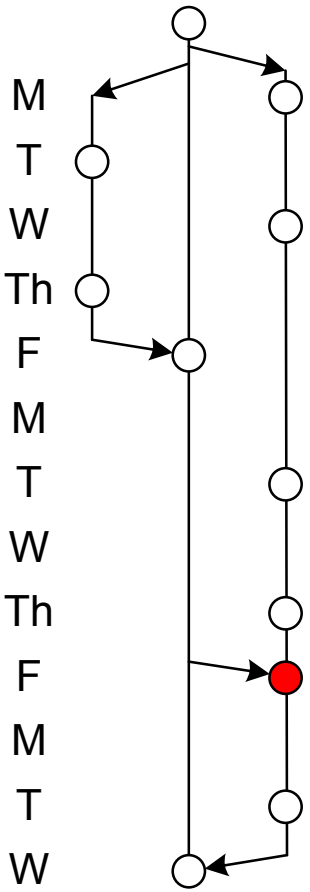

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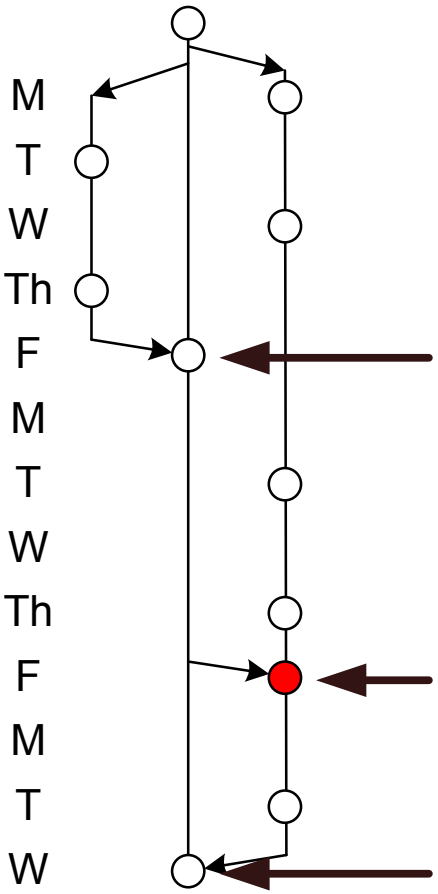
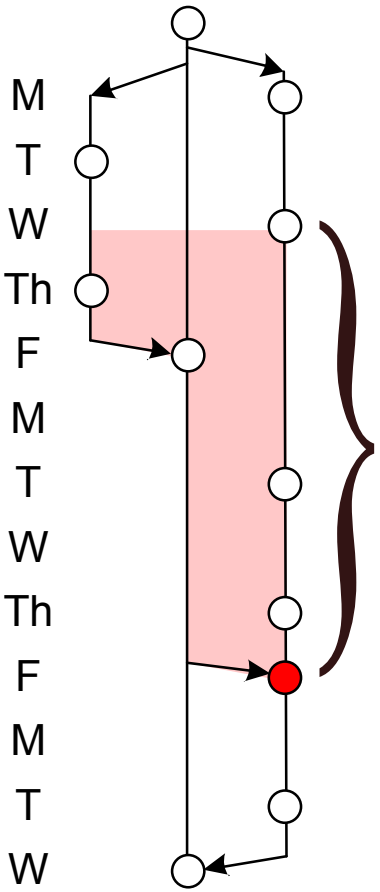


How frequent are textual conflicts?

16% of the merges have textual conflicts.

Are textual collaborative conflicts a real problem?



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How long do textual conflicts persist?

Conflicts live a mean of 9.8 and median of 1.6 days.
The worst case was over a year.

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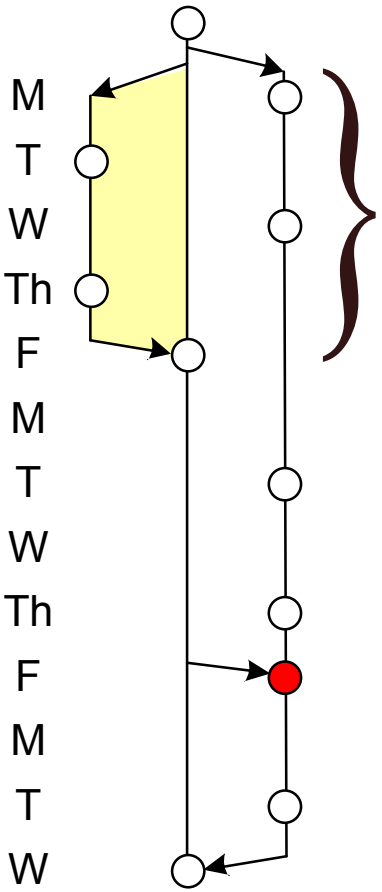

How frequent are textual conflicts?

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How long do textual conflicts persist?

Conflicts live a mean of 9.8 and median of 1.6 days. The worst case was over a year.

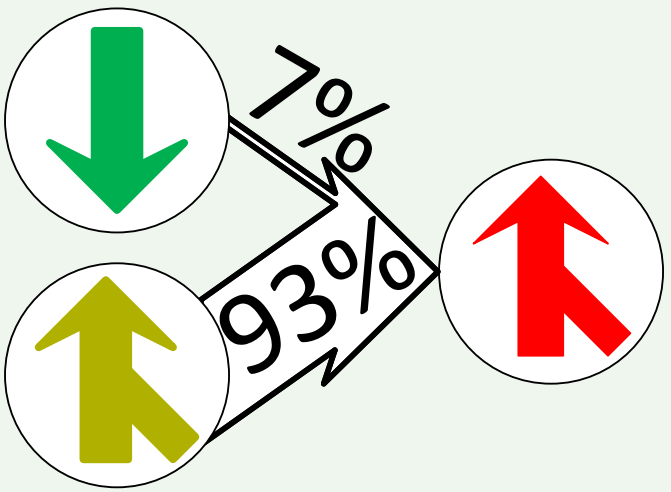
How long do textually-safe merges persist?

Textually-safe merges live a mean of 11.0 and median of 1.9 days.

Can textual conflicts be prevented?

Where do textual conflicts come from?

93% of textual conflicts developed from safe merges.



The information Crystal computes can help prevent conflicts.

Do build and test collaborative conflicts exist?

program	conflicts			safe merges
	textual	build	test	
Git	17%	<1%	4%	79%
Perl5	8%	4%	28%	61%
Voldemort	17%	10%	3%	69%

Does merged code fail to build or fail tests?

One in three conflicts are build or test conflicts.

Microsoft Beacon

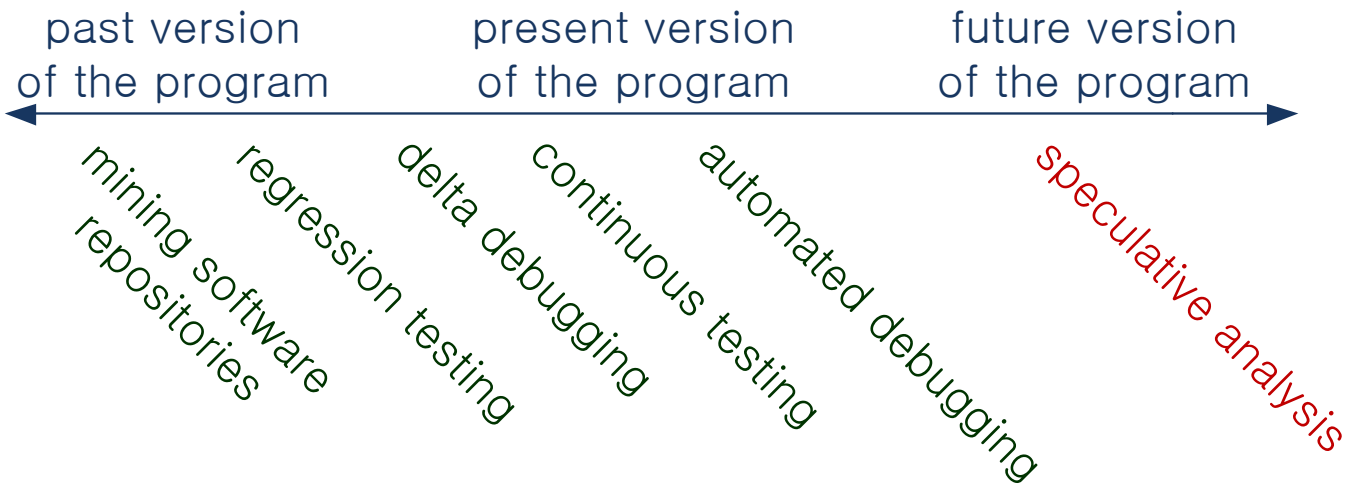
- A centralized version control-based tool.
- Microsoft product groups are using Beacon to help identify conflicts earlier in the development process.

Next steps:

- Measure Crystal's effect on conflict frequency and persistence
- Evaluate qualitative effects on user experience
- Identify what helps and what does not

Additional collaborators: Kıvanç Muşlu, Christian Bird, Thomas Zimmermann

Contributions of speculative analysis



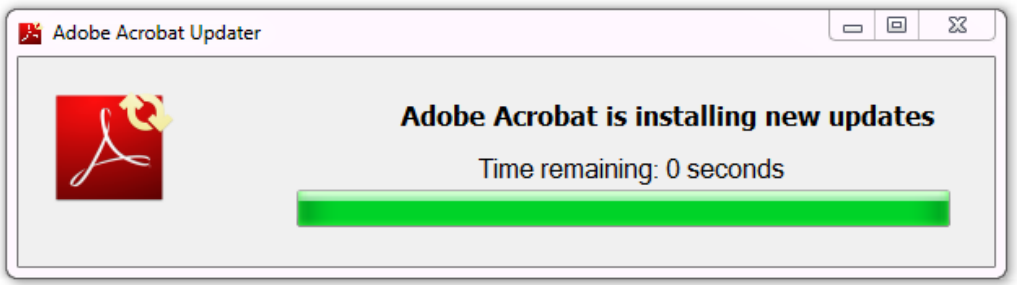
Improving developer awareness when making decisions

- compute precise, accurate information
- convert a pull mechanism to a push one

Expanding the space of speculative analysis

Identify a domain with:

- likely, automatable developer actions
- informative, efficient analyses
- inferable developer intent



Next speculations:

- automated fault removal
- code parallelization
- test generation and augmentation

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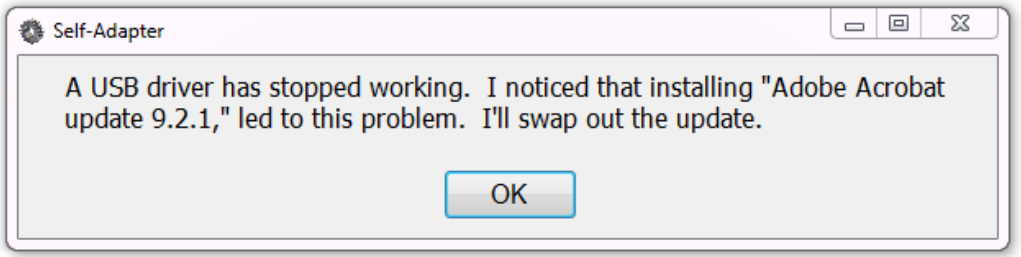

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Expanding the space of speculative analysis

Identify a domain with:

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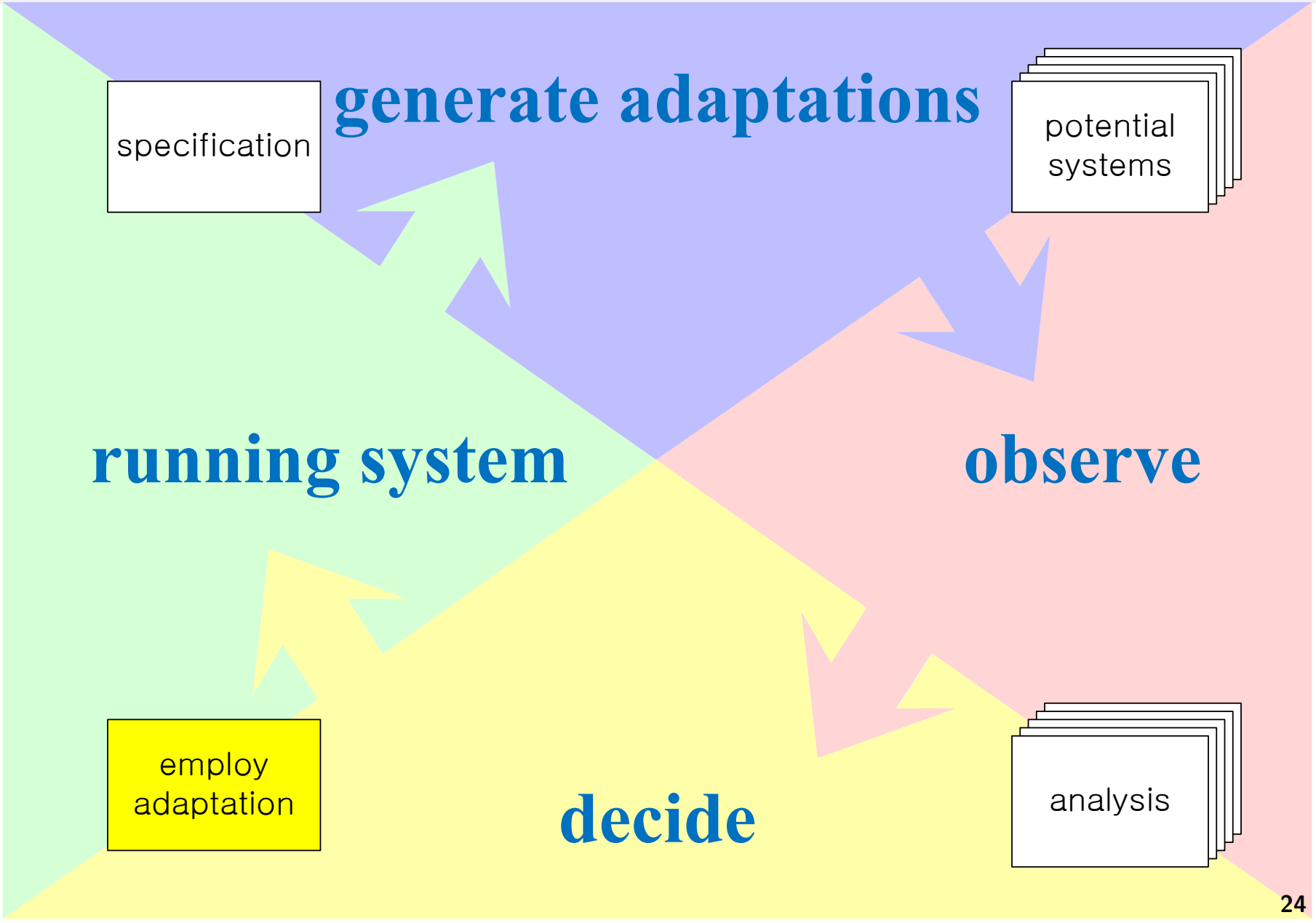
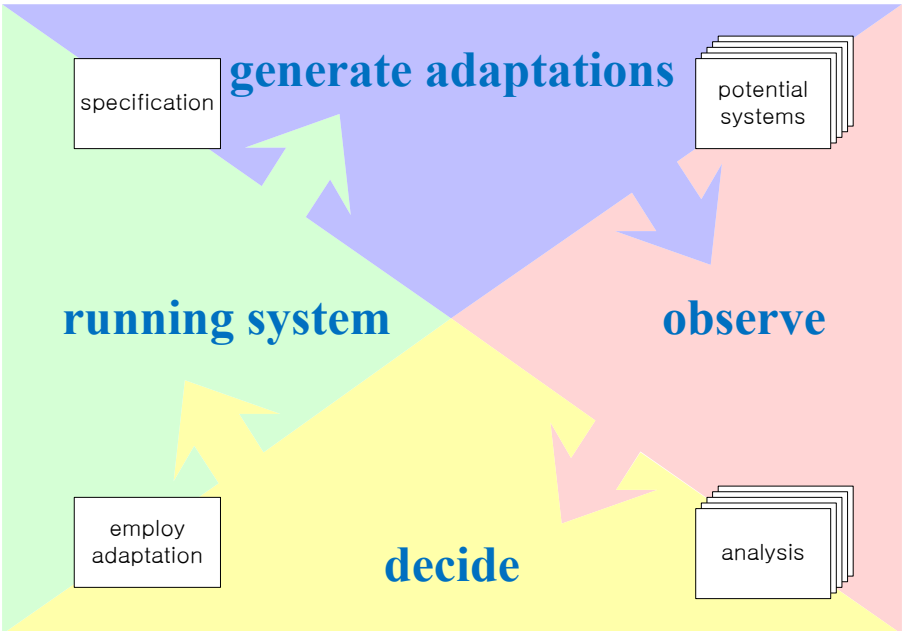
Automating decision making: self-adaptation



Future research: automation



1. Automating decision making: removing the developer
2. Using new automation to enrich speculative analysis
3. Bridging requirement specification and behavioral model inference

Jacob T. Biehl, Mary Czerwinski, Greg Smith, and George G. Robertson. FASTDash: A visual dashboard for fostering awareness in software teams. In *CHI*, pages 1313–1322, San Jose, CA, USA, Apr. 2007. ISBN 978-1-59593-593-9. doi: 10.1145/1240624.1240823.

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Anita Sarma, Zahra Noroozi, and André van der Hoek. Palantír: Raising awareness among configuration management workspaces. In *ICSE*, pages 444–454, Portland, OR, May 2003. ISBN 0-7695-1877-X.

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Jan Wloka, Barbara Ryder, Frank Tip, and Xiaoxia Ren. Safe-commit analysis to facilitate team software development. In *ICSE*, pages 507–517, Vancouver, BC, Canada, May 2009. ISBN 978-1-4244-3453-4. doi: 10.1109/ICSE.2009.5070549.