Lecture 26

Empirical Studies of Clone Evolution
Clone Genealogies

Today's Agenda (I)

- Class Presentation
 - Meiru Che
 - Amal Banerjee
- Course Evaluation
 - I need a volunteer to collect and deposit course evaluation forms.

Today's Agenda (2)

- Discussion on practical implications of SE research
- Discussion on "An Empirical Study of Clone Genealogies"

Recap of CCFinder

- CCFinder is a robust and scalable clone detector.
- It transforms a program to a parameterized token sequence using language dependent transformation rules.
- It then use a suffix tree algorithm to find common contiguous subsequences.
- Its case studies show that CCFinder can be applied to industrial size programs.

Class Presentations

- Advocate: Meiru
- Skeptic: Amal

Course-Instructor Survey

- Instructor's Name: Kim, Miryung
 - This survey is for the instructor, not TA.
- Course Abbreviation and Number: EE382V Software Evolution
- Course Unique Number: 16730
- Semester and Year: Spring 2009

Discussion - Refactoring

What is a definition of refactoring?

- What did you learn from the class activity on refactoring?
 - (I) What do you need to consider before restructuring a program?

- What did you learn from the class activity on refactoring?
 - (2) What do you need to consider after restructuring a program?

• What is the Information Hiding Principle?

 How can you apply the Information Hiding Principle to your software design process?

Program Differencing

Which tool do you current use to compare program versions?

 Why is program differencing important in software evolution research?

Program Differencing

- In this colurse, you have studied many different types of program differencing tools, such as diff, AST-based diff, Jdiff, UMLDiff, and LogicalStructuralDiff.
 - (I) Pick one of the above tools and describe its key ideas and benefits of using it.

Program Differencing

- In this colurse, you have studied many different types of program differencing tools, such as diff, AST-based diff, Jdiff, UMLDiff, and LogicalStructuralDiff.
 - (2) How will you apply these key ideas in the absence of the program differencing tool that can run on your codebase?

Clone Genealogy

- An Empirical Study of Code Clone Genealogies, Kim et al. ESEC/FSE 2005
 - Studies of code clone evolution
 - Mining software repositories research
 - Its study results challenged one of the most widelyheld conventional wisdom about clones.

Conventional Wisdom

Code clones indicate <u>bad smells</u> of poor design. We must <u>aggressively refactor</u> clones.

```
public void updateFrom (Class c) {
   String cType = Util.makeType(c.Name());
   if (seenClasses.contains(cType)) {
      return;
   }
   seenClasses.add(cType);
   if (hierarchy != null) {
      ....
   }
   ....
}
```

```
public void updateFrom (ClassReader cr ) {
    String cType = CTD.convertType (c.Name());
    if (seenClasses.contains(cType)) {
        return;
    }
    seenClasses.add(cType);
    if (hierarchy != null) {
        ....
    }
    ....
}
```

Our Previous Study of Copy and Paste Programming Practices at IBM

[Kim et al. ISESE2004]

- Even skilled programmers often create and manage code clones with clear intent.
 - Programmers cannot refactor clones because of programming language limitations.
 - Programmers **keep** and **maintain clones** until they realize how to abstract the common part of clones.
 - Programmers often apply similar changes to clones.

Research Questions

How do clones evolve over time?

- consistently changed?
- long-lived (or short-lived)?
- easily refactorable?

Previous Studies of Code Clones

- automatic clone detection
 - lexical, syntactic (AST or PDG), metric, etc.
- studies of clone coverage ratio
 - gcc (8.7%), JDK (29%), Linux (22.7%), etc.
- studies of clone coverage change
 - changes of clone coverage in Linux [Antoniol+02], [Li+04]

These studies do not answer how individual clones changed with respect to other clones.

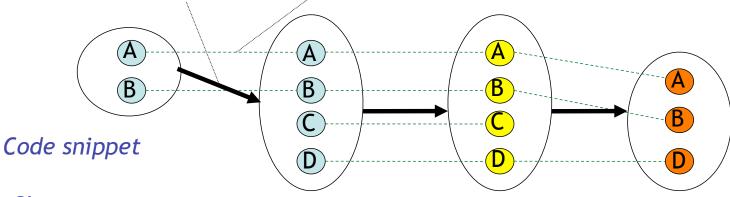
Outline

- **Imotivation**
- □clone genealogy: model and tool
- □study procedure and results

Model of Clone Evolution

Location overlapping relationship





Clone group

Version i

Version i+1

Version i+2

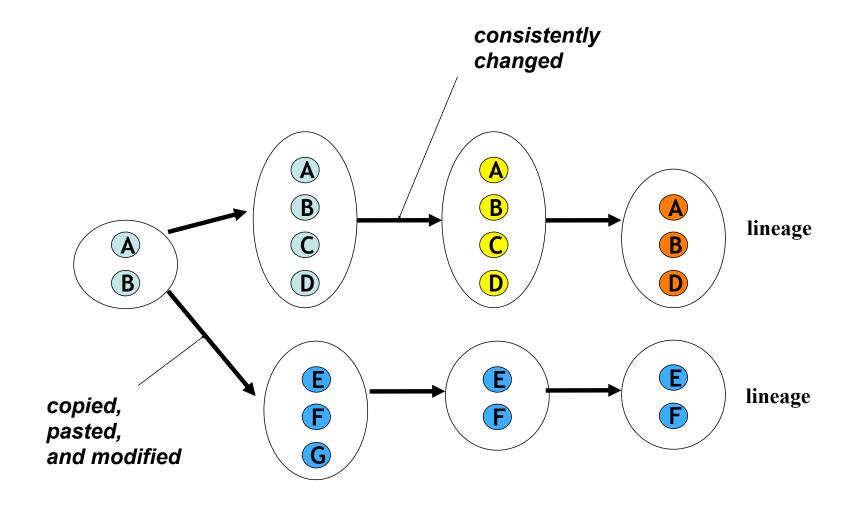
Version i+3

Add

Consistent Change Inconsistent Change

Evolution Patterns

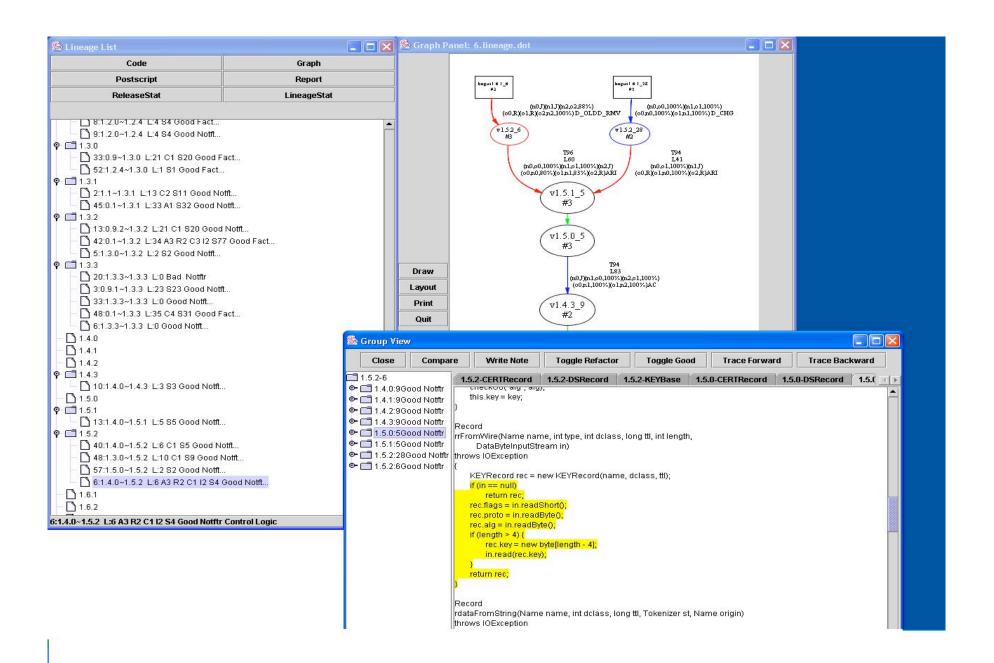
Clone genealogy is a set of clone groups connected by cloning relationships over time.



Clone Genealogy Extractor (CGE)

Given multiple versions of a program, V_k for $1 \le k \le n$.

- find clone groups in each version using CCFinder.
- find cloning relationships among clone groups of V_i and V_{i+1} using CCFinder.
- map clones of V_i and V_{i+1} using diff based algorithm.
- separate each connected component of cloning relationships (a clone genealogy).
- identify clone evolution patterns in each genealogy.



Outline

- **I**motivation
- ☑clone genealogy: model and tool
- □study procedure and results

Two Java Subject Programs

Program	carol	dnsjava
LOC	7878 ~ 23731	5756 ~ 21188
Duration	2 years 2 months	5 years 8 months
versions	37	224

versions: a set of check-in snapshots that increased or decreased the total lines of code clones