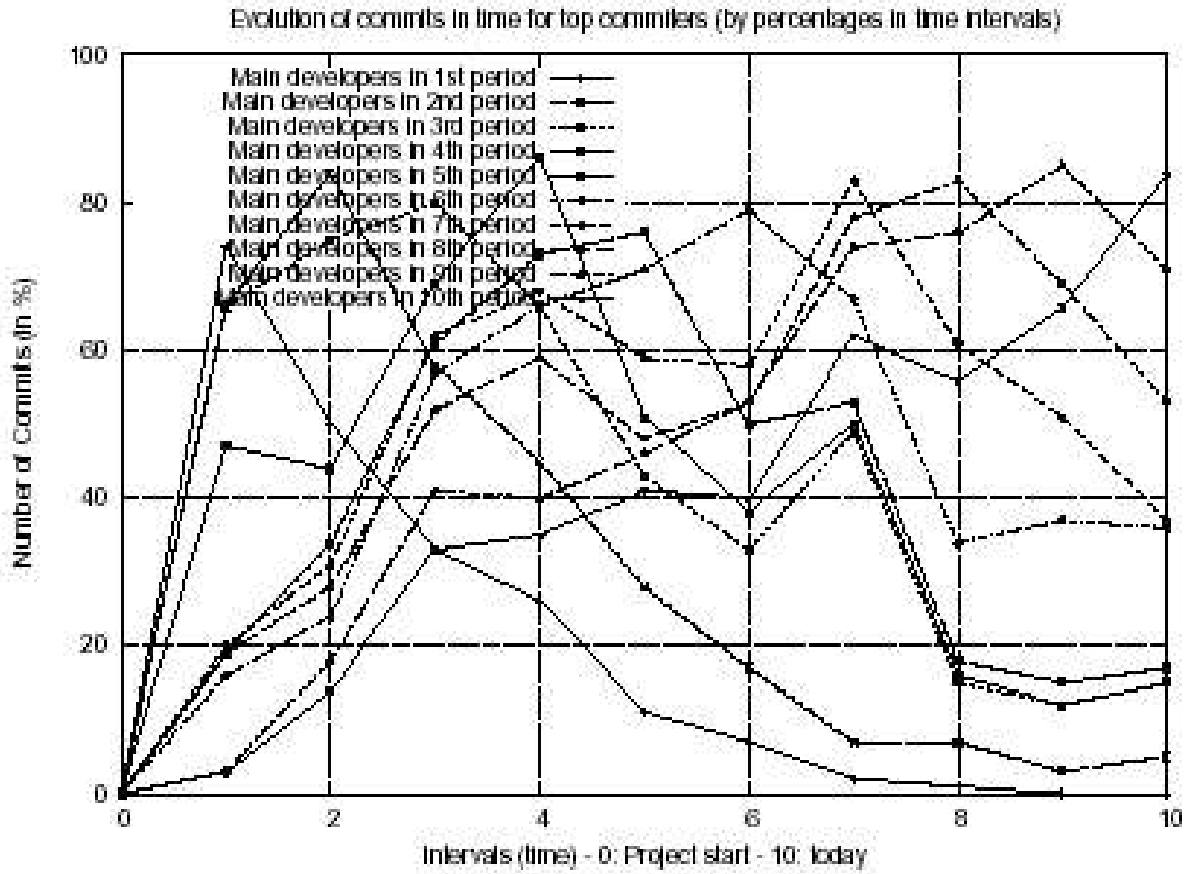
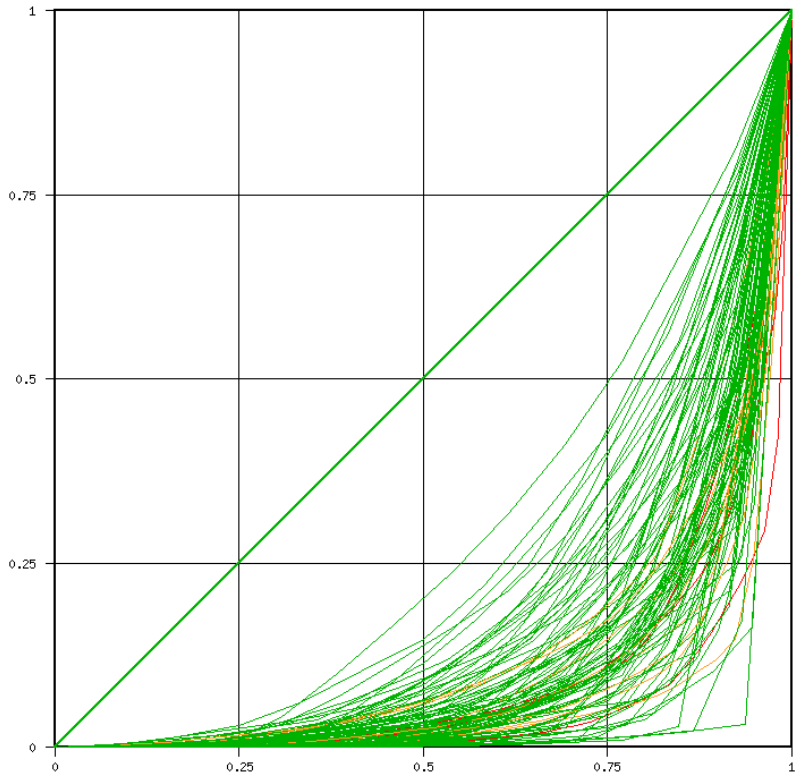


Figure 6: Fractional graph for the FreeBSD kernel

Each line represents the share of software contributed by the top 20% ("core") developers for a specific version of FreeBSD, plotted annually over a 10-year period. It can be seen that each year a new "core" of contributors emerges, only to be gradually replaced over the next few years, demonstrating a stable, sustainable, "train your successors" environment. Other projects can have quite different environments.



Left: distribution of code contribution across open source projects on SourceForge with >11 authors. This shows projects have a high and similar level of concentrated distribution of contributions; the level of concentration is correlated with the size of project.

Lines are Lorenz curves for individual projects (the vertical axis is the cumulative share of code contributed, the horizontal axis is the cumulative share of contributors). The 45-degree curve represents a uniform distribution – everyone contributes equally. Sharper curves represent more concentrated contribution. Green lines are for projects with <33 authors; Red is for >50 authors.