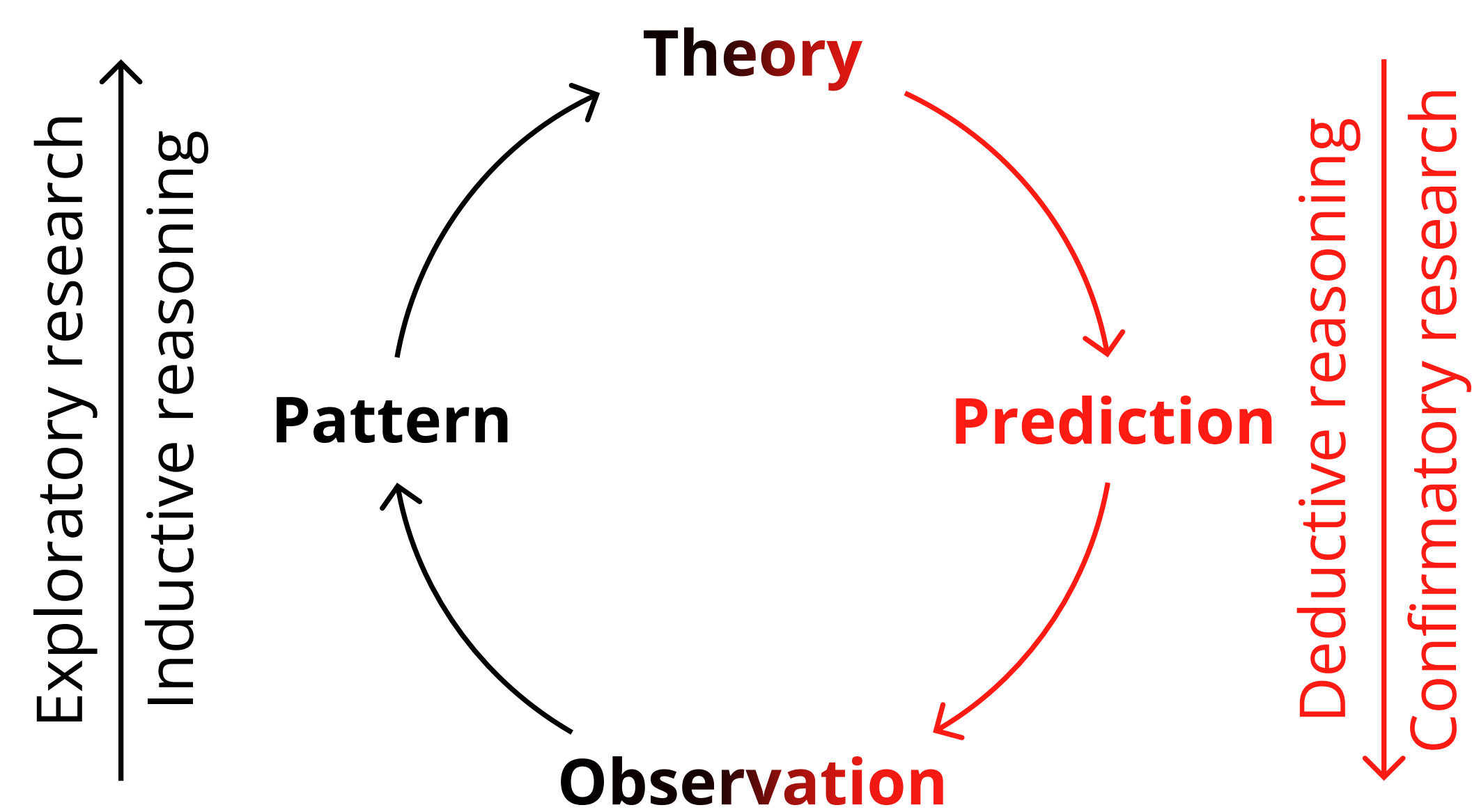


Our objective is to evaluate the theory of code review as communication network.

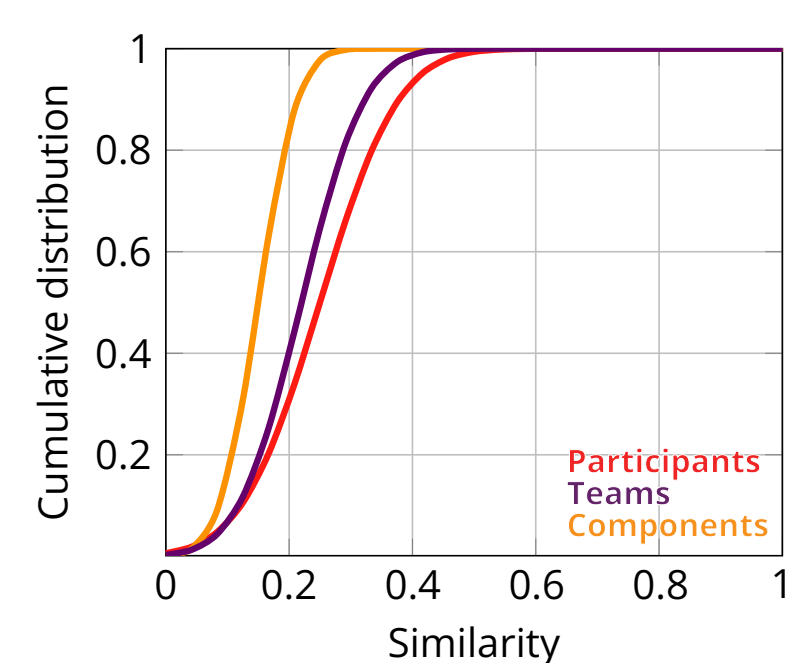


If code review is a communication network, information spreads across **social, organizational, and architectural boundaries**.

We approximate this information diffusion in code review at Spotify by measuring the similarity of **participants, affected components, and involved teams** of linked code reviews using

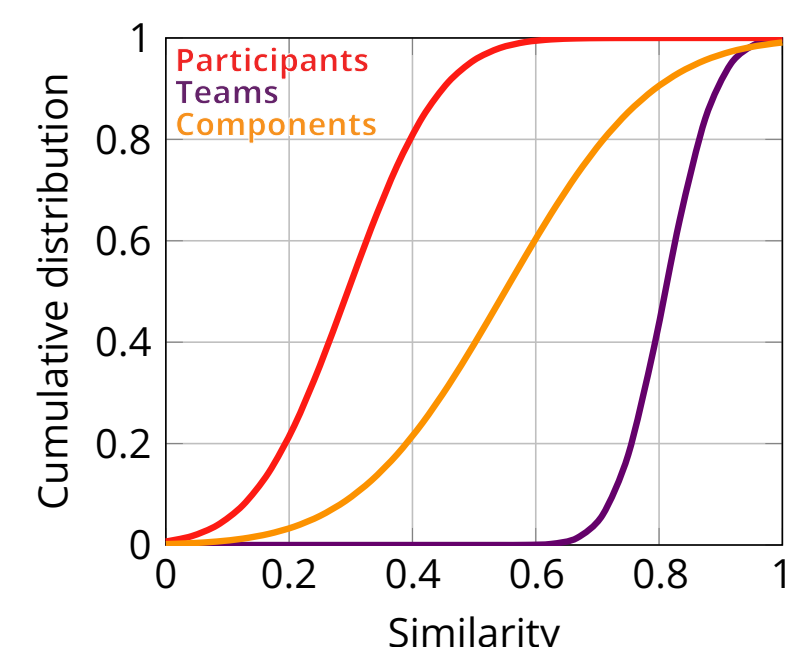
- **Jaccard index** for participants and teams
- **Graph edit distance** for components *LEVENSHTEIN DISTANCE FOR GRAPHS*

We evaluate the theory based on an **in-depth discussion** of our observations rather than statistical tests:



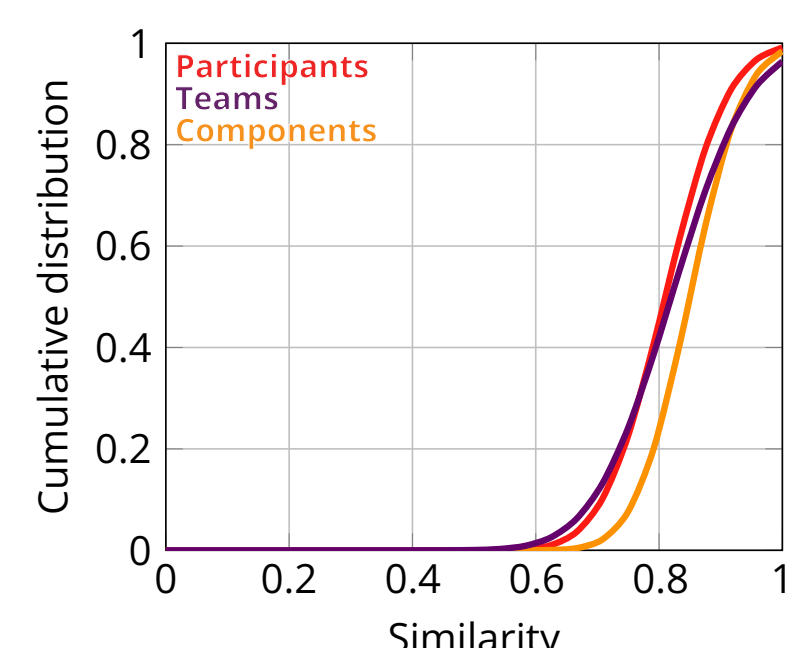
Significant dissimilarity across all dimensions (**participants, teams, components**) between linked code reviews suggests that information diffuses across all boundaries.

→ Theory is corroborated (cannot be falsified)



Significant dissimilarity among **participants** with a strong similarity between the **teams** involved suggests that information spreads more within teams than between them.

→ Theory can be falsified in its universality



High similarity across all three dimensions (**participants, teams, components**) indicates limited information diffusion between them.

→ Theory can be falsified

REGISTERED REPORT

Measuring Information Diffusion in Code Review at Spotify

LEARN MORE



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