



Universitat
Oberta
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A Comparison Between Social Coding and Citizen Participation Platforms: The Decidim Case

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MOTIVATION



- ① **Understanding participation across socio-technical contexts**
- ② **Bridging civic tech and open-source research**
- ③ **Informing platform design with empirical evidence**

CONTRIBUTION



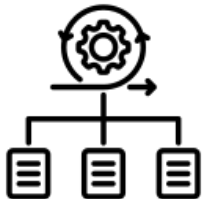
Cross-platform comparison

A data-driven analysis of participation across GitHub, MetaDecidim, and Decidim Barcelona.



Mixed-methods insight

Combines quantitative metrics with qualitative interviews to understand participation dynamics.



Design framework

Proposes indicators to guide inclusive and evidence-based platform governance.

Research Questions



RQ1. To what extent do participation patterns differ across the three platforms?

Focus: activity volume, user engagement, and inequality distribution.

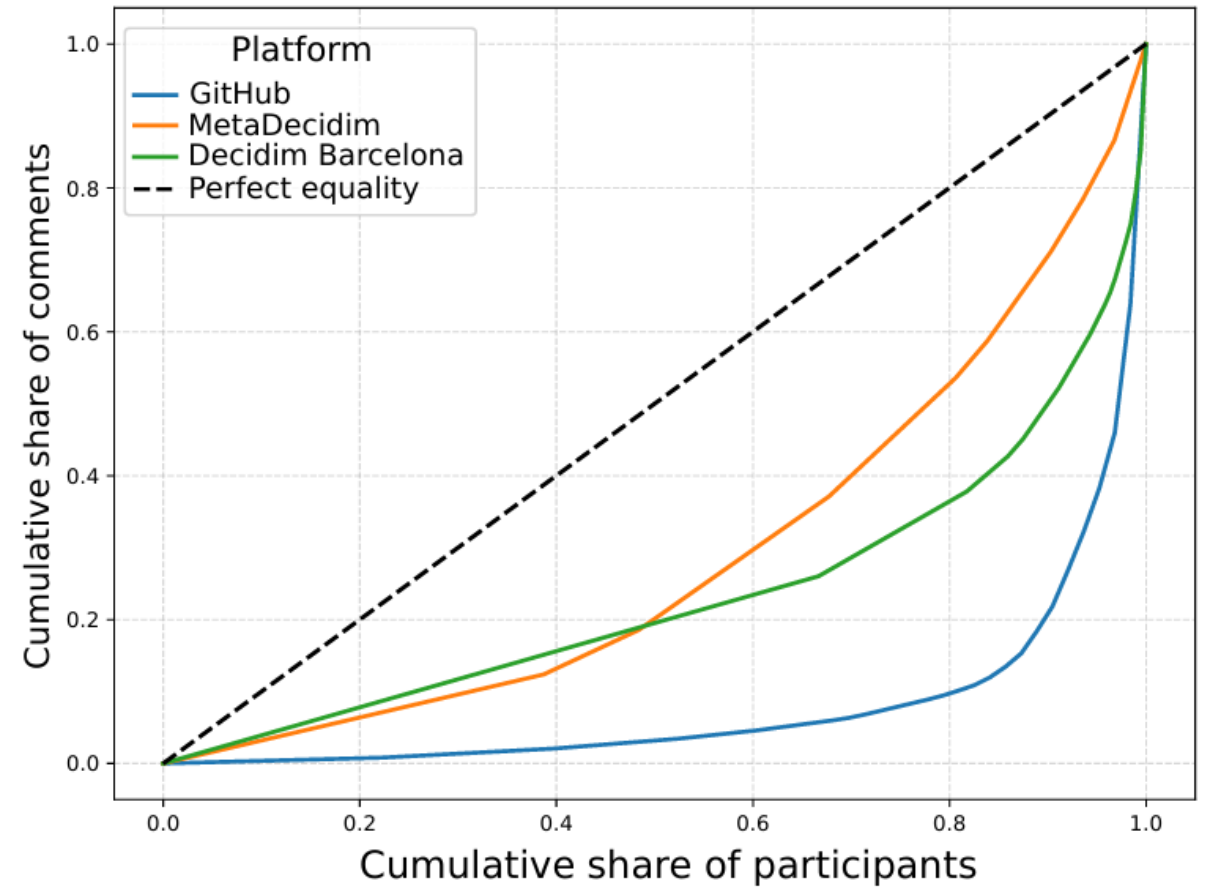
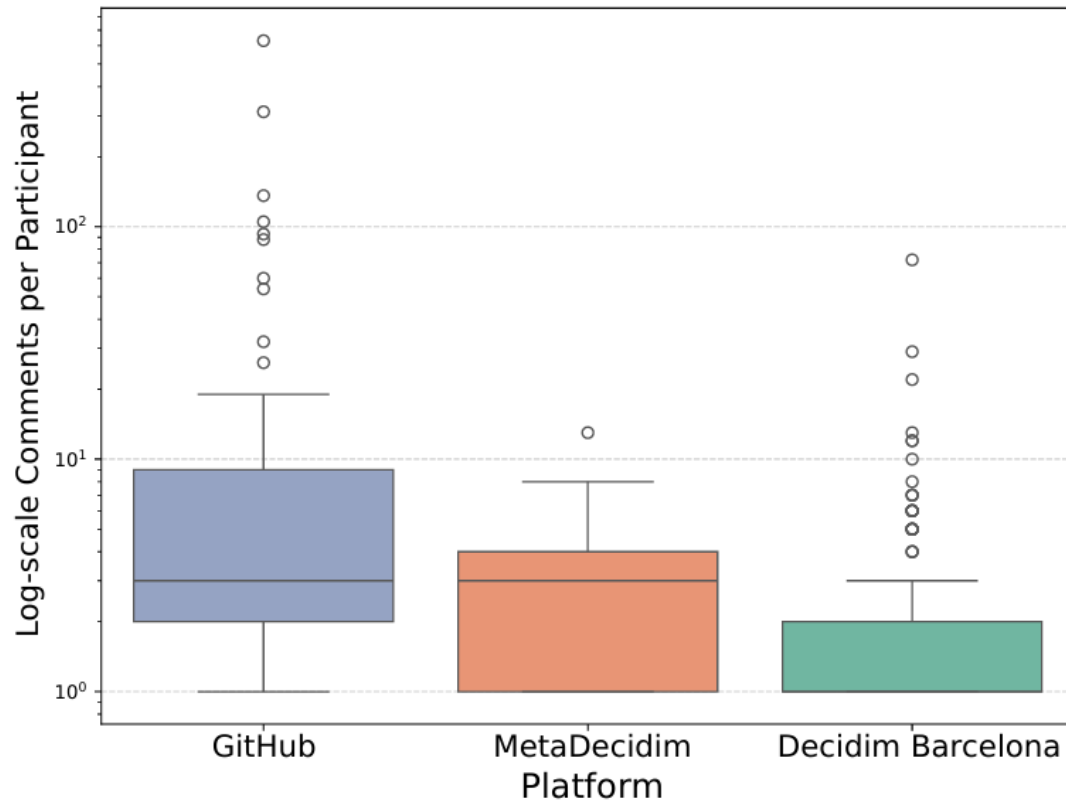
RQ2. What are the differences in the interaction network structures across the three platforms?

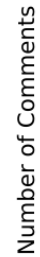
Focus: centrality, reciprocity, and fragmentation metrics.

RQ3. How does MetaDecidim perform as an intermediary platform?

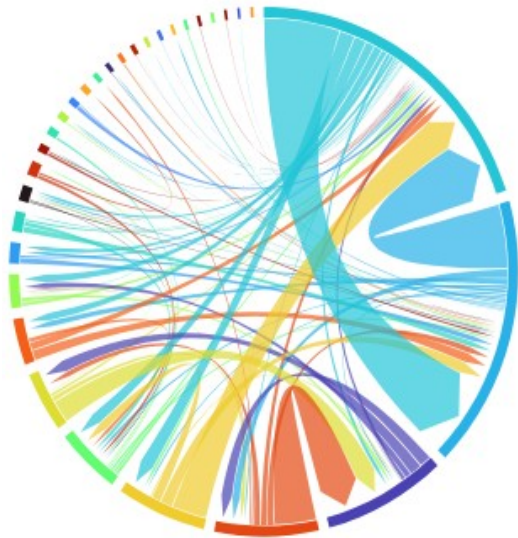
Focus: Bridging role between GitHub and Decidim Barcelona.

RQ1. Distribution Analysis





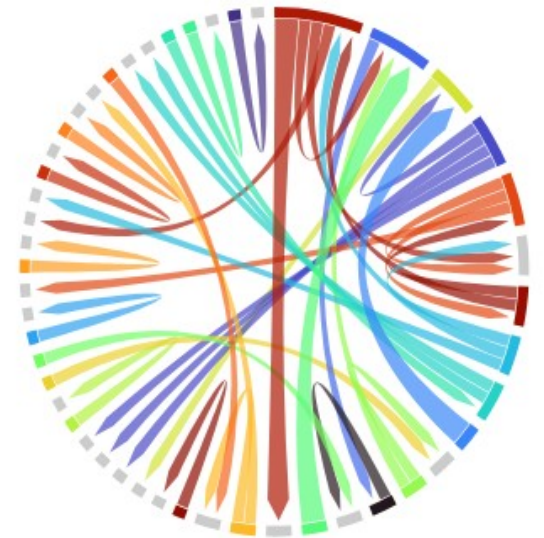
RQ2. Structure of Interaction



**GitHu
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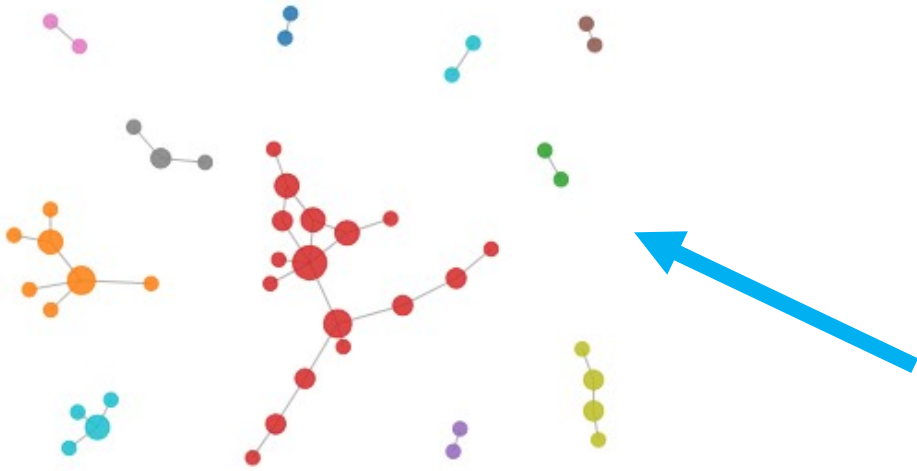


**MetaDedic
im**



**Decidim
Barcelona**

RQ2. Fragmentation and Reciprocity



Platform	# Components	Largest Component Size	Proportion
GitHub	1	58	1.00
MetaDecidim	2	18	0.82
Decidim Barcelona	11	17	0.36



Platform	Reciprocity	Reciprocal #Edges	% Nodes
GitHub	0.6734	67	71
MetaDecidim	0.231	3	27
Decidim Barcelona	0.051	1	4

RQ3. MetaDecidim as a bridge platform

GitHub  MetaDecidim  Decidim
Barcelona



MetaDecidim combines open-source logics with participatory governance.

