

Comment on: "Reifying refactorings on software configuration management systems"

Unlike most other fields, software development is a *reflective* discipline. The same techniques and tools employed to build computable models of any domain can be used to analyze and improve the development processes themselves.

When building tools aimed to enhance the programming environment, the construction of software itself becomes the domain. Within that logic, refactoring activities play a central role because they guarantee the evolution of the software. Refactoring is essential and programmers must be encouraged to practice it whenever appropriate. However, extensive refactoring entails the potential risk of side effects because of the conflicts they are likely to produce.

A discussion on the reification of refactoring processes will surely be of great interest for anyone concerned with the management of software projects.

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