

Refactoring

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1 Refactoring

Refactoring is the systematic modification of code under the constraints of tests. If there are

The systematic modifications are available in a catalog:

<https://refactoring.com/catalog/>

They are of the type *Rename variable*, *Extract function*, *Inline function* and *Pull up field*. Some of them are not applicable in Python.

Pycharm is able to handle several of the refactoring recipes automatically within a project. Currently, it is the best IDE at doing so.

The refactorings fall in a few different categories:

All assume passing tests before we start

1. No interfaces change
 - Tests remain unchanged
 - Refactor
 - Assert that tests pass
2. The signature of a callable changes
 - We need to modify tests first
 - Assert that tests fail
 - Refactor
 - Assert that tests pass
3. A new interface is created (code is extracted from original callable)
 - Create test for new interface
 - Assert failing new test
 - Mock in tests of original callable
 - Assert original callable tests pass
 - Refactor
 - Assert that tests pass
4. An interface disappears
 - Modify tests for callable that absorbs the code
 - Assert that this test fails
 - Refactor
 - Assert that tests for absorbing callable passes
 - Assert that tests for disappearing callable fail
 - Remove tests for disappearing callable

5. Data structures get changed
 - *Assumes good code coverage*
 - Change data structures
 - Fix all failing tests

The quote at the top is my spoof of a friends Geology professor:

Mining is the profitable excavation of minerals from the earth. Note that it has to be profitable