The Impact of Refactoring on Class and Architecture Stability

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Refactoring is used to improve the internal structure of the code without affecting its external behaviour. This is done by restructuring the components of the software, i.e. changing the internal structure within classes or changing the structure between classes. However, this may have an impact on class and architecture stability. In this paper we assess the impact of refactoring on class and architecture stability and then propose a classification for refactoring methods based on the impact of refactoring on class and architecture stability.

Keywords: Class stability; architecture stability; refactoring; refactoring classification

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