



Grupo de Investigación en
Reutilización y Orientación a
Objeto

Dynamism in Refactoring Construction and Evolution

A Solution Based on XML and Reflection



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Outline



- Introduction
- MOON as Metamodel
- Running Refactorings
- Refactoring Construction and Evolution
- Current Work
- Conclusions and Future Work

Introduction



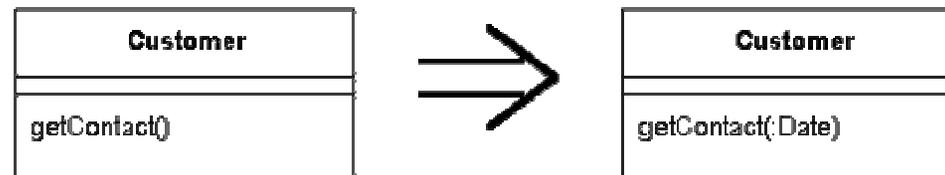
■ Introduction

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■ Refactoring [Fowler, 2000]

- *"Process of changing a software system in such a way that it does not alter external behavior of the code yet improve its internal structure"*
- *Example: Add Parameter* (275)



■ Open Research Trends

- Define new refactorings
- Identify code defects (*Bad Code Smells*)
- **Apply refactorings**
- **Tool support with certain language independence**
- etc.

Introduction



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■ Language Representation

- Abstract Syntax Tree (AST)
- Database
- Logical predicates
- XML
- **Metamodel**
 - Language independence

■ Goals

-  Aided refactoring construction
-  Refactoring evolution with low effort
-  Running refactorings with certain language independence
 - Reuse elements

MOON as Metamodel



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■ MOON [Crespo 2000]

■ Minimal Object-Oriented Notation

- abstractions for refactoring
- 50 classes

■ Storing:

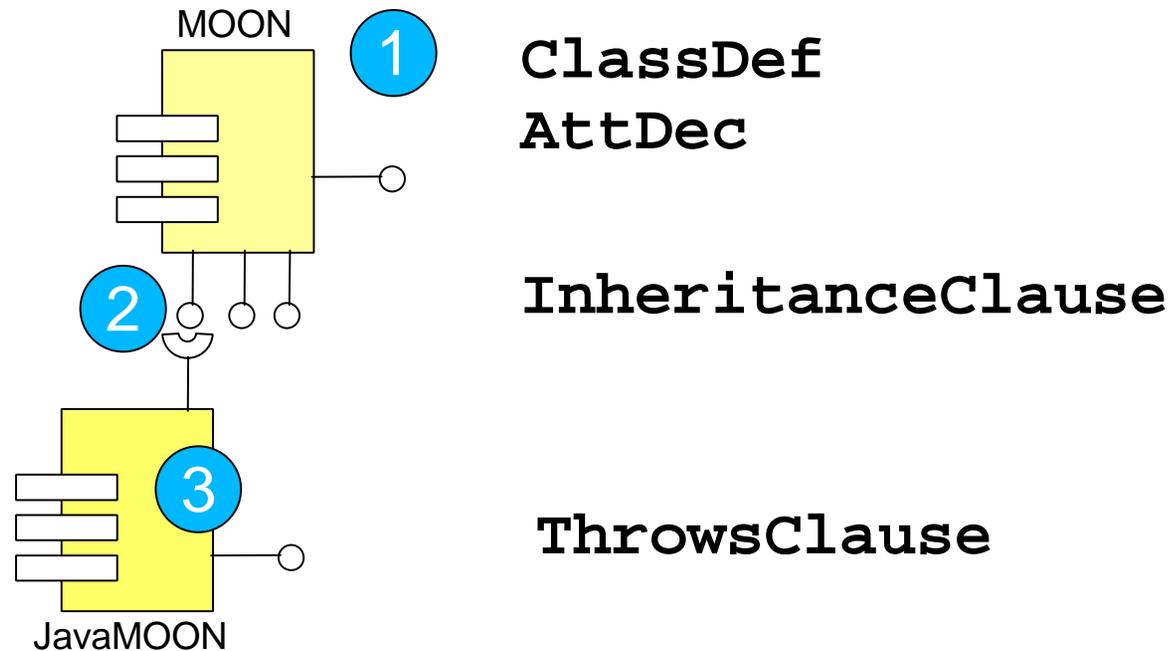
- Classes
- Relationships
- Variants on the type system
- Entities
 - Concepts in source code with type
 - *self reference, super reference, local variable, method formal argument, class attribute and function result*
- Expressions
- Instructions
 - *creation, assignment, call and compound instructions*

MOON as Metamodel

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- 1 General concepts: defined and implemented on MOON
- 2 Extensible:
 - Defined on MOON
 - Implemented on concrete language (framework instantiation)
- 3 Particular: defined and implemented on a concrete language



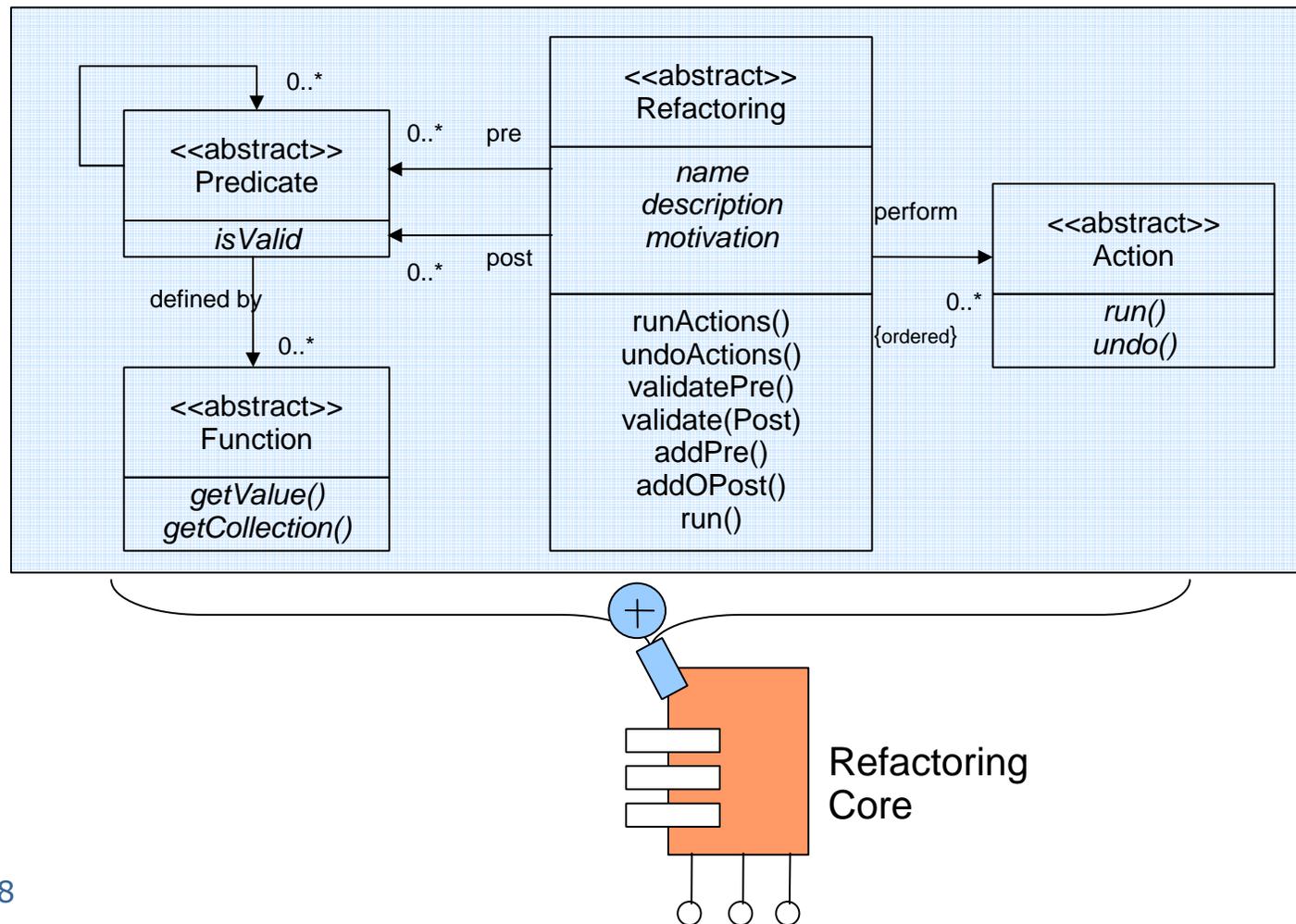
Running Refactorings

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■ Framework engine

■ Actions & Queries



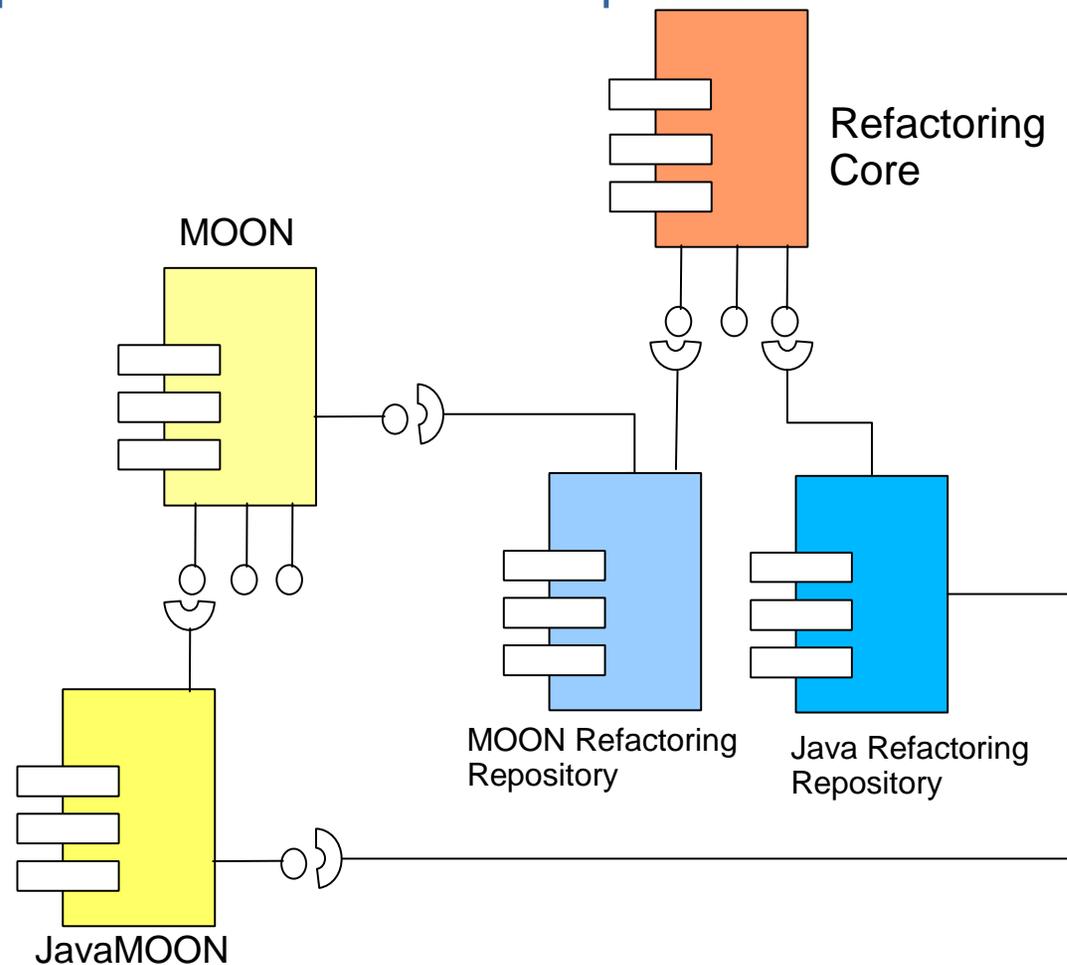
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■ Frameworks as solution

- Repositories with actions & queries

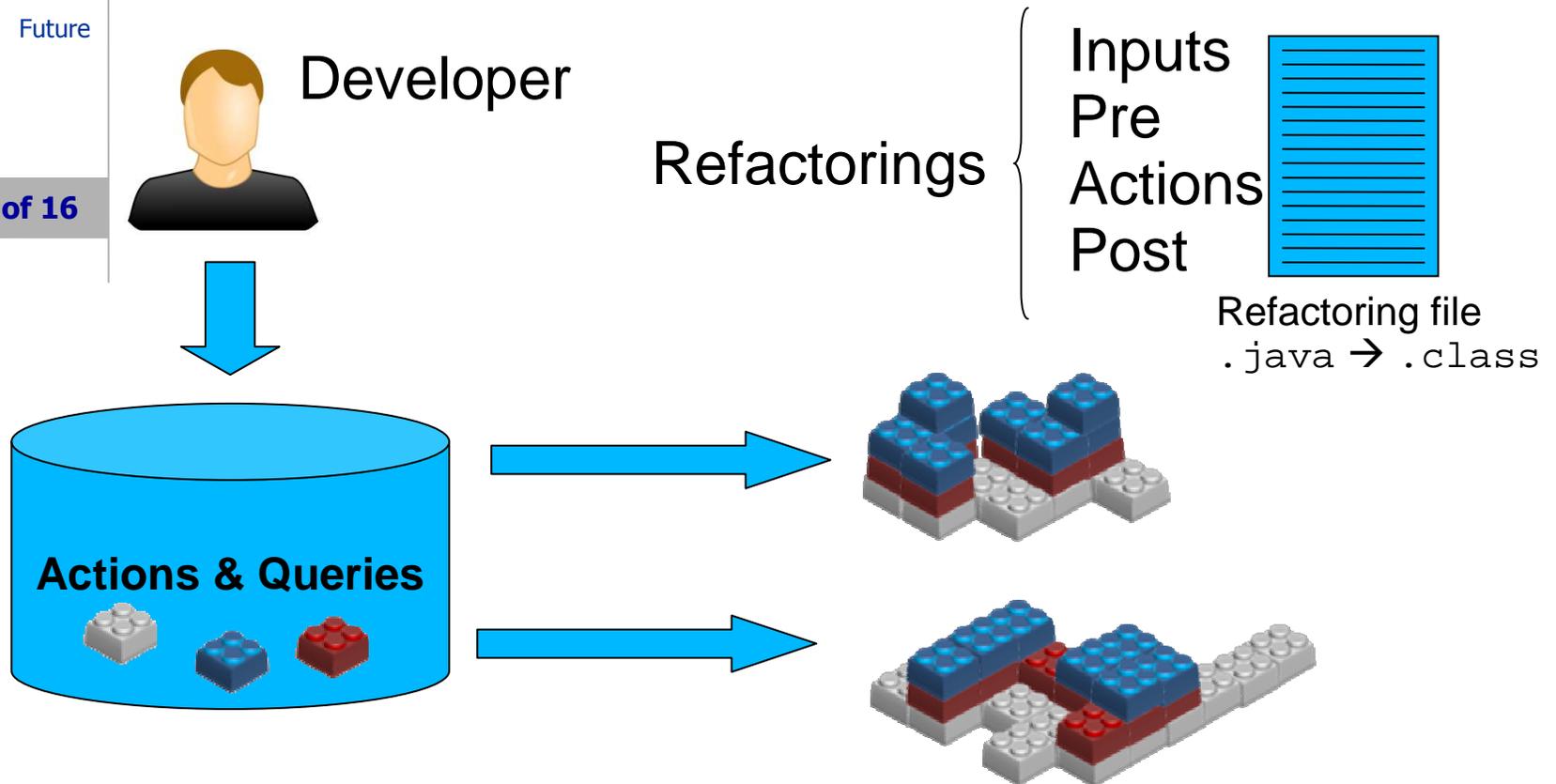


Refactoring Construction and Evolution

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- From hand coded refactorings ...
- To aided construction

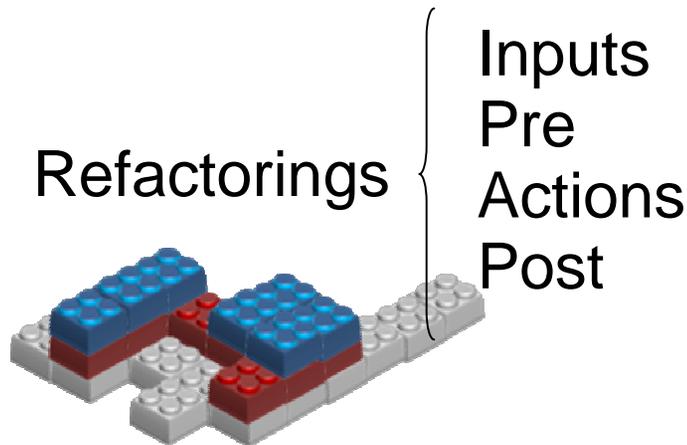


Refactoring Construction and Evolution

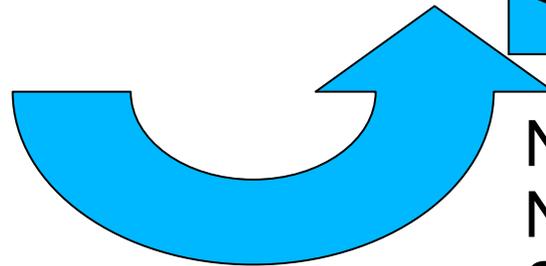
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■ Refactoring as XML file



```
<xml>  
  <refactoring>  
    <input>  
  </input>  
  ...  
  </refactoring>  
</xml>
```



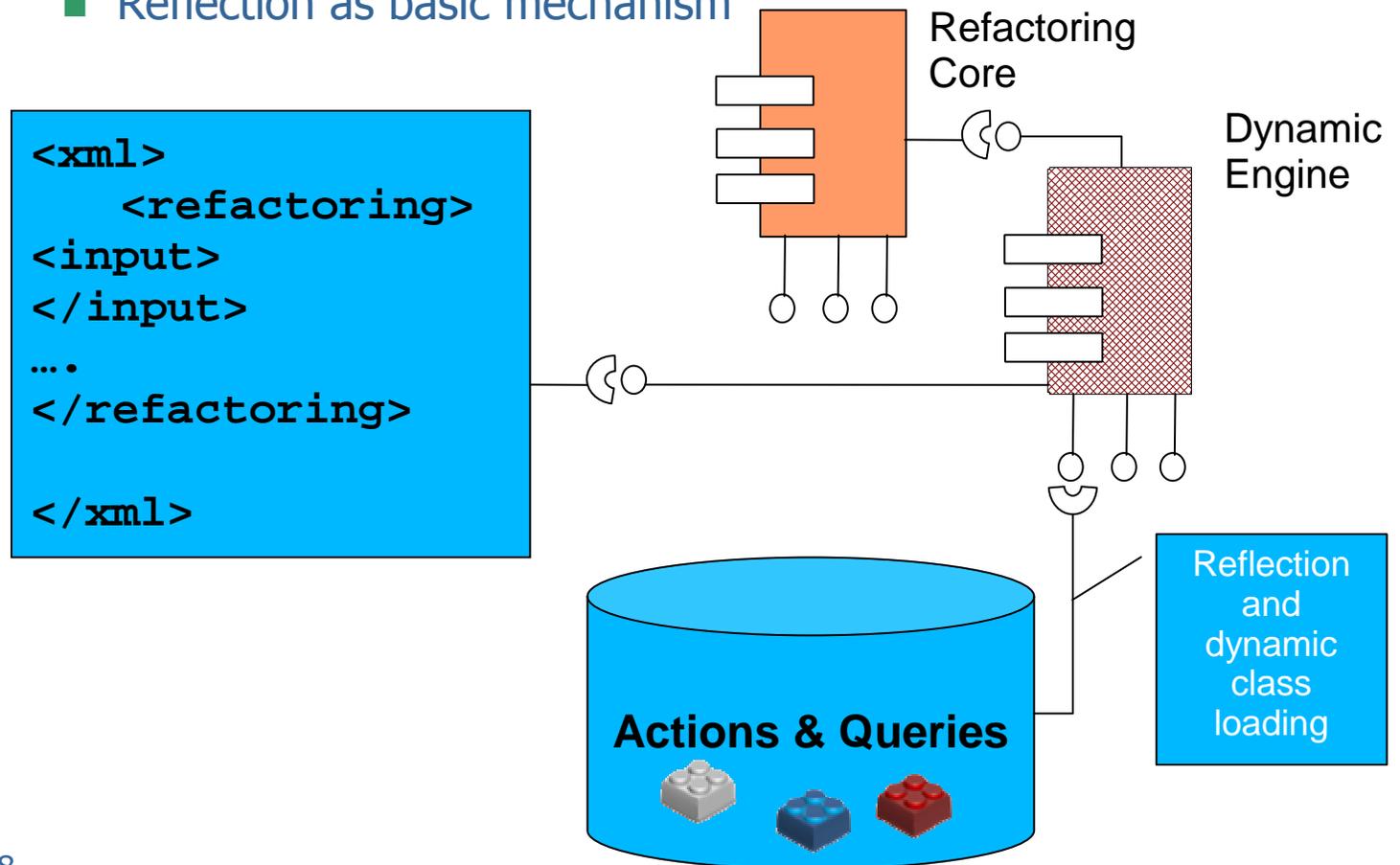
Not hand coded
Not compiled
Saved as XML

Refactoring Construction and Evolution

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- How can we run a refactoring from XML?
- Reusing the refactoring engine
 - Reflection as basic mechanism

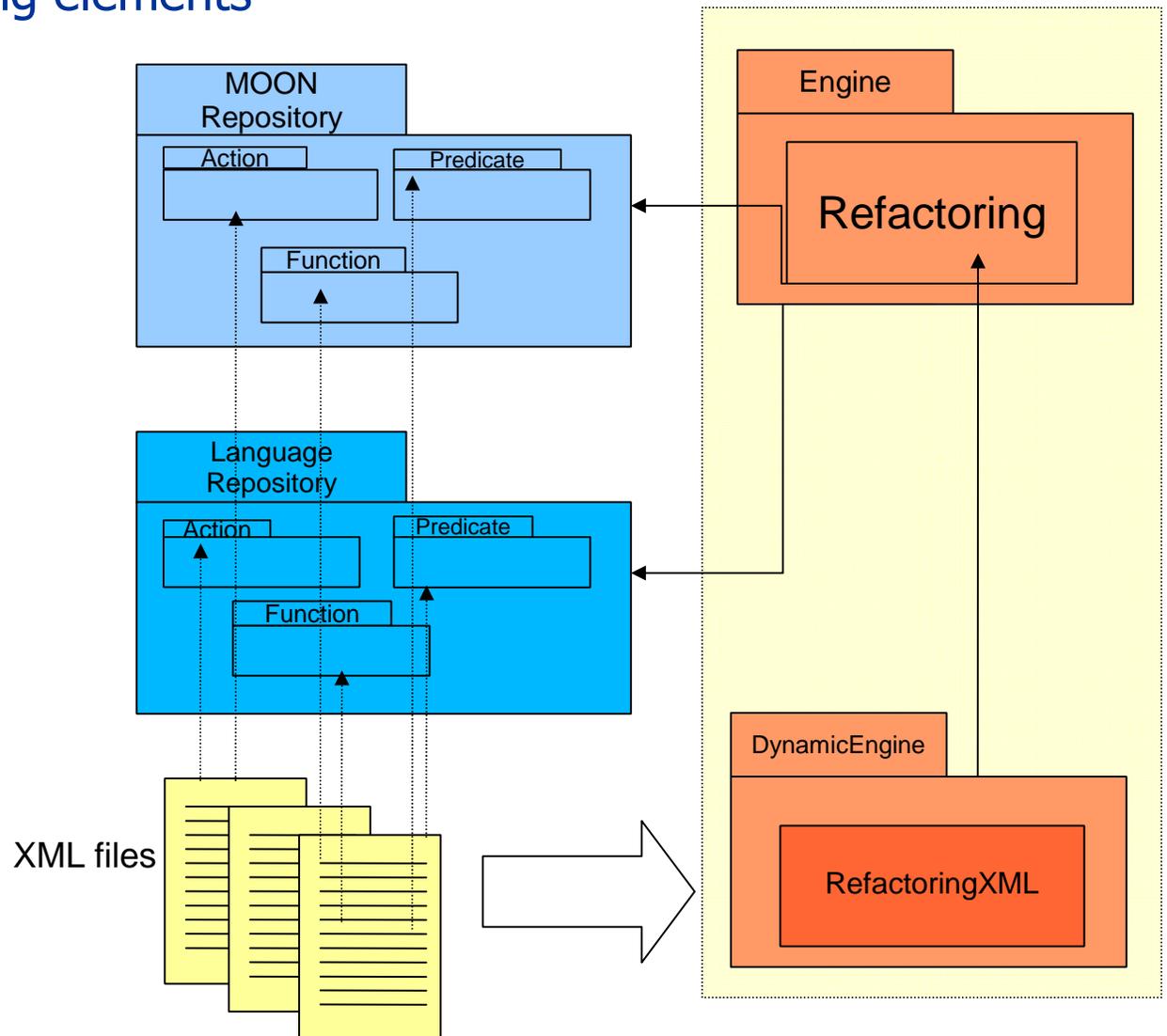


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■ Loading elements



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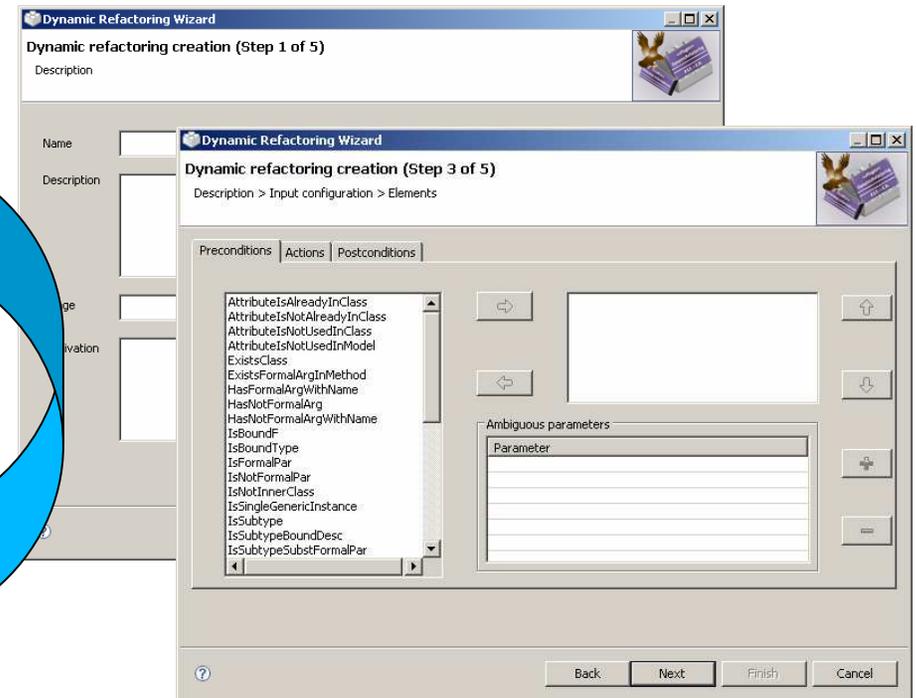
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■ Problem

- Solution is prone to failures building the XML file manually
- Wizard to assist the construction
 - Using reflection
 - Showing inputs, pre/postconditions (queries) and actions

```
<xml>
<refactoring>
<input>
</input>
...
</refactoring>
</xml>
```

```
<xml>
<refactoring>
<input>
</input>
...
</refactoring>
</xml>
```



Current Work

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First prototype (static solution)

■ Hand coded refactorings

- Add Parameter (275)
- Rename Method (273)
- Rename Class
- Rename Parameter
- Move Field (146)
- Move Method (142)
- Remove Parameter
- Refactorings on generic features...
 - Specialize Bound S
 - Etc.

■ Second phase:

- XML solution with wizard
- Reflection mechanism as solution

■ Current phase:

- Improving XML format
- Developing an Eclipse plug-in
 - Partial language support
 - Currently working with example codes

Conclusions and Future Work



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- Users can construct and evolve refactorings
 - Not re-compilation
 - Aided modification using wizard
- Reuse refactorings
 - As composition of items / elements
- New refactorings to measure the reuse level
- Apply refactorings to migrate libraries with new features

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Thank you very much



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