

Abstract:

We present a variation of the visitor pattern which allows programmers to write visitor-like code in a shorter and simpler way. Our variant is derived from the Walkabout but does not suffer the same performance penalties and is even more expressive. We have successfully re-factored Kacheck/J, a tool that makes extensive use of visitors, to use the Runabout instead.

An implementation with a preliminary version of the paper is available on the Runabout webpage: <http://www.ovmj.org/runabout/>