

Economics of Reverse Engineering

The state of art of reverse engineering has advanced considerably, and it is now feasible, at least conceptually, to carry out almost all tasks (with varying degrees of precision). At this point, it would become useful to look at the economics of carrying out these tasks with the tools available, and look at alternatives. This talk looks at different possible applications of reverse engineering, and looks at the economics and viability of carrying out the tasks using these techniques.

Applications of reverse engineering such as refactoring to reduce complexity, moving to a new platform, externalizing rules or creating a service wrapper are examined. It provides indicative cost benefit analyses for these cases and indicates areas where reverse engineering techniques are likely to be used in industry.