



BLOCK NONCE #7: Making Peace With Snapshot Tests

What?

Snapshot tests - although not ideal - are sometimes useful, like when testing the gas cost of a fixed transaction.

Why?

When snapshot tests break, the new correct hard-coded values are often already known — the computer just printed them! So why should we fix them manually?

How?

All rise for the **expect-test** crate 🎉 — from now on, hard-coded values fix themselves with this magic fix command: `UPDATE_EXPECT=1 cargo test`. Instead of:

```
assert_eq!(computed_value, 7)
```

Write this (running the fix command will auto fix the “7” in the code):

```
expect![ "7" ].assert_debug_eq(computed_value);
```

Oh, you've got multiple test cases? No worries!

```
fn my_gas_test(#[values(2, 3)] gas_price: u8) {
    let result = execute_tx(gas_price).gas_price;
    if gas_price == 2 {
        expect![ "18" ].assert_debug_eq(result);
    } else {
        expect![ "27" ].assert_debug_eq(result);
    }
}
```

Wait, the expected output is in a file? No problem! Use `expect_file!` and the fix command will update the file contents:

```
expect_file![ "path_to_file.txt" ].assert_debug_eq(computed_value);
```

Call For Action! 🙌 💬

Remember that time you were copy-pasting expected values into a test, while quietly wondering why you spent 4 years studying for this?

Do your teammates a favor—go fix this code now!