

DECOUPLING CHANGE FROM DESIGN

*Addressing change by making
change within modules easier*

Michael VanHilst & David Notkin

University of Washington

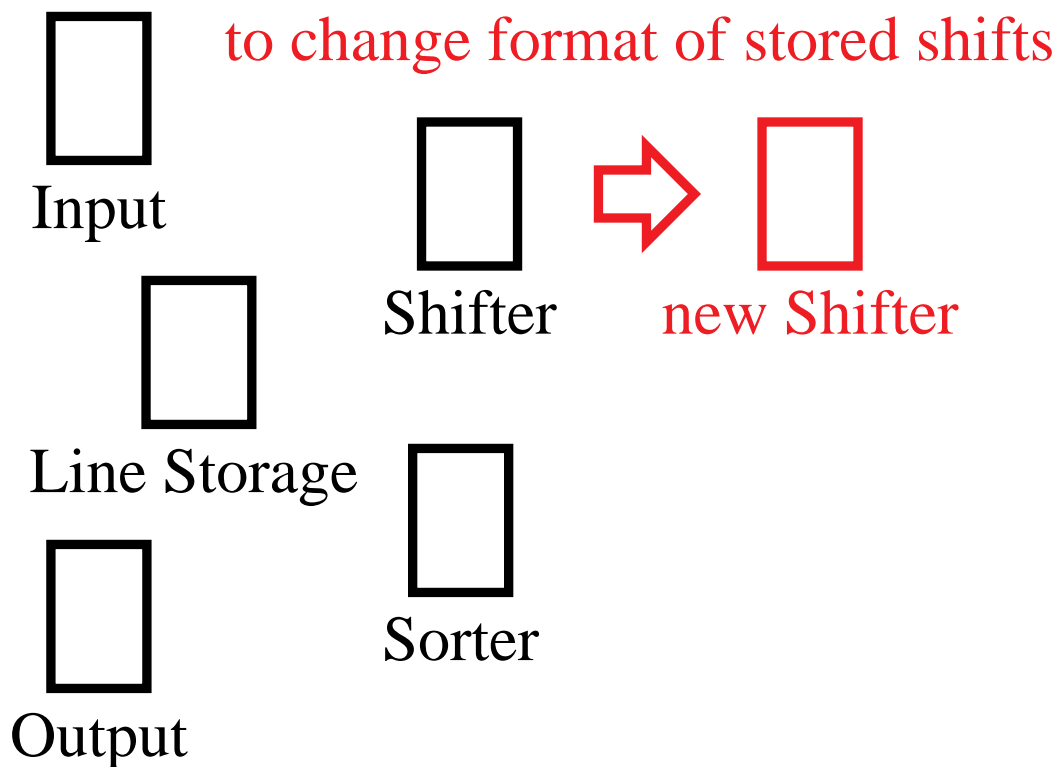
Seattle, Washington, USA

[vanhilst,notkin]@cs.washington.edu

- 1. Conventional wisdom**
- 2. Alternative approach**
- 3. Changes to KWIC**
- 4. Broader issues**

MODULARIZING FOR CHANGE

Begin by identifying decisions likely to change. Then design a modularization around those decisions.



Modular design of KWIC

ADDRESSING CHANGE BY BUILDING MODULES AROUND IT...

- **Specifically for anticipated change**

Forces designer to choose some future changes over others

It is hard to predict which decisions will change

- **Assumes changing any module is $O(1)$**

1000+ line modules are not uncommon

Within modules multiple decisions are commonly intermingled in the code

INTERMINGLED DECISIONS

```

class ShifterClass {
    LineStoreClass* linestore;
    List<Pair<int>> index;
public:
    void initShifts() {
        index.init();
        for(l=0; l<linestore->numLines(); l++)
            for(w=0; w<linestore->numWords(l); w++)
                index.append(Pair(l, w)); }

    String getLine(int i) {
        Pair p = index.element(i);
        String line = linestore->getLine(p.left);
        return assembleShift(line, p.right); }

    int numLines() { return index.elements(); }

    int numWords() { ... }
};

```

[shift algorithm](#)
[line source](#)
[shift storage](#)
[exported interface](#)

MAKING MODULES EASIER TO CHANGE

**Decompose modules into submodule
components for each decision**



Shifter

*Within a module submodule components
interact through inheritance interfaces*

IMPLEMENTING SUBMODULE COMPONENTS

Implement components as *extension layers* using parameterized inheritance

```
template <class SuperType>
class IndexShifter : public SuperType {
public:
    void initShifts() {
        resetShift();
        for(l=0; l<numLines(); l++)
            for(w=0; w<numWords(l); w++)
                addShift(l,w); }
    String assembleShift(int l, int w) { ... }
};
```

IndexShifter component as C++ template

MODULE COMPOSITION

Compose modules by binding inheritance parameters in separate declarations

```
class shifter1 : public GetLineImport<LineStore, obj> {};  
class shifter2 : public ShiftIndexStore<shifter1> {};  
class shifter3 : public IndexShifter<shifter2> {};  
class shifter4 : public GetShiftedLine<shifter3> {};  
typedef shifter4 Shifter;
```

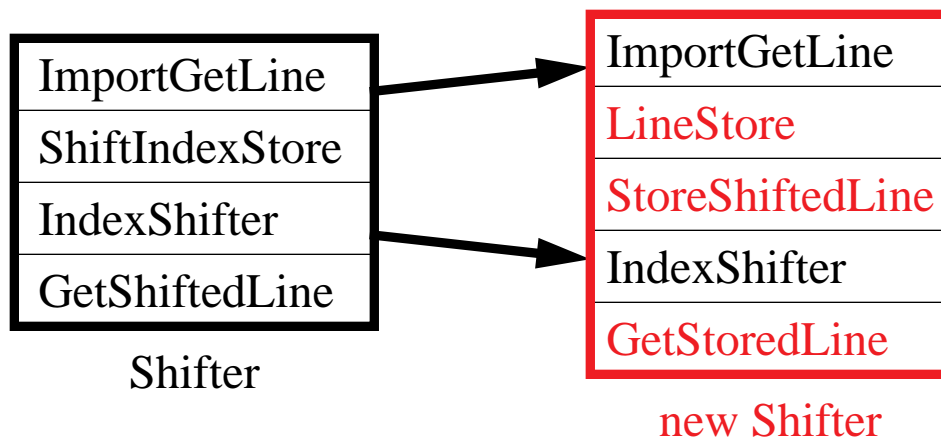
Declarations to compose Shifter module

Composition can be statically type checked and statically optimized

EVOLUTION USING SUBMODULE COMPONENTS

Submodule components narrow the focus of change

to change format of stored shifts

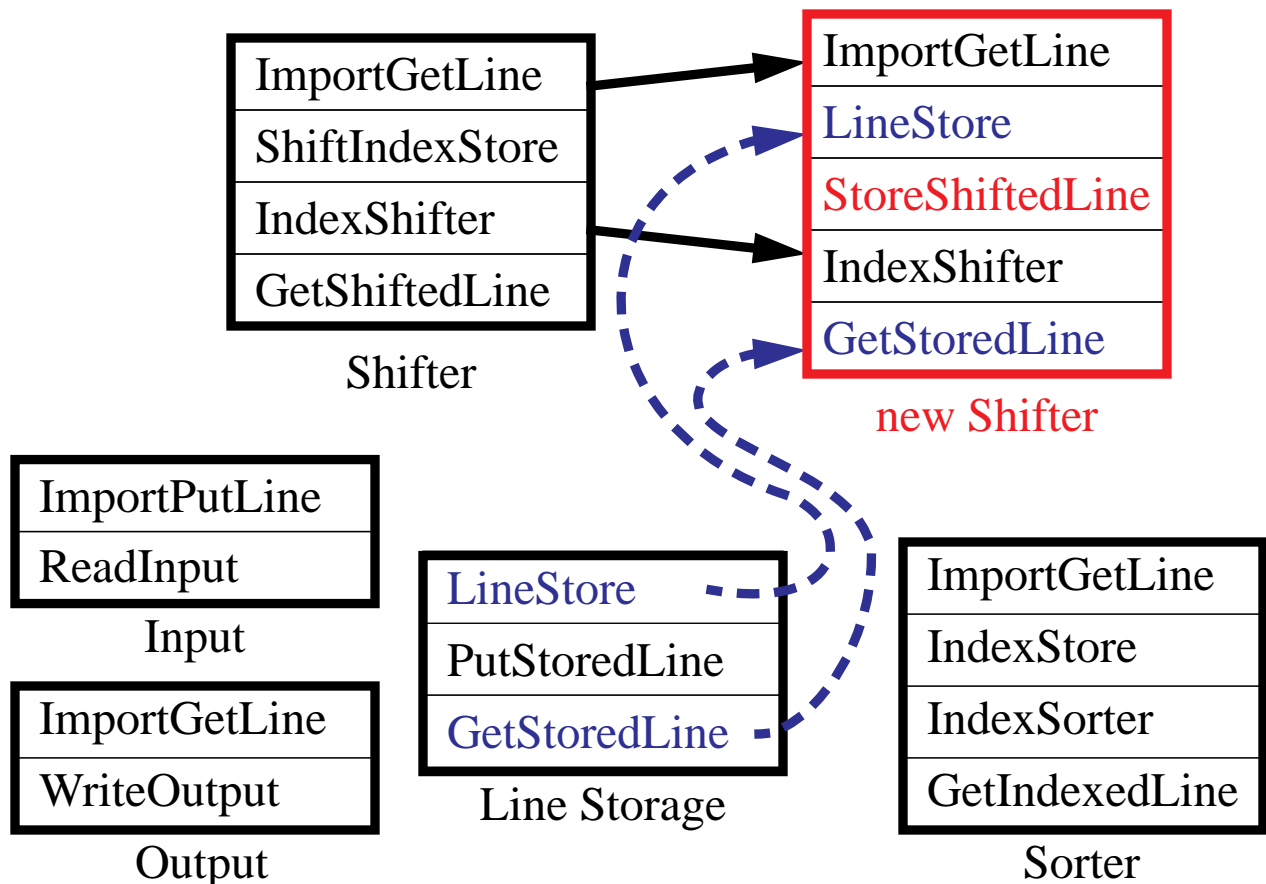


Decomposed KWIC Shifter module
and changes to store explicit lines

COMPONENT REUSE

Submodule components narrow the focus of change and support reuse

to change format of stored shifts



Decomposed KWIC modules

OTHER DESIGNS

LineStore
PutStoredLine
ReadInput
GetStoredLine
ShiftIndexStore
IndexShifter
GetShiftedLine
WriteOutput

Shift Filter

LineStore
PutStoredLine
ReadInput
GetStoredLine
IndexStore
IndexSorter
GetIndexedLine
WriteOutput

Sort Filter

pipe
and
filters
KWIC

PutLineClient
ReadInput

Input Client

LineStore
PutStoredLine
GetStoredLine
ShiftIndexStore
IndexShifter
GetShiftedLine
IndexStore
IndexSorter
GetIndexedLine
PutLineServer
GetLineServer

KWIC Server

client/
server
KWIC

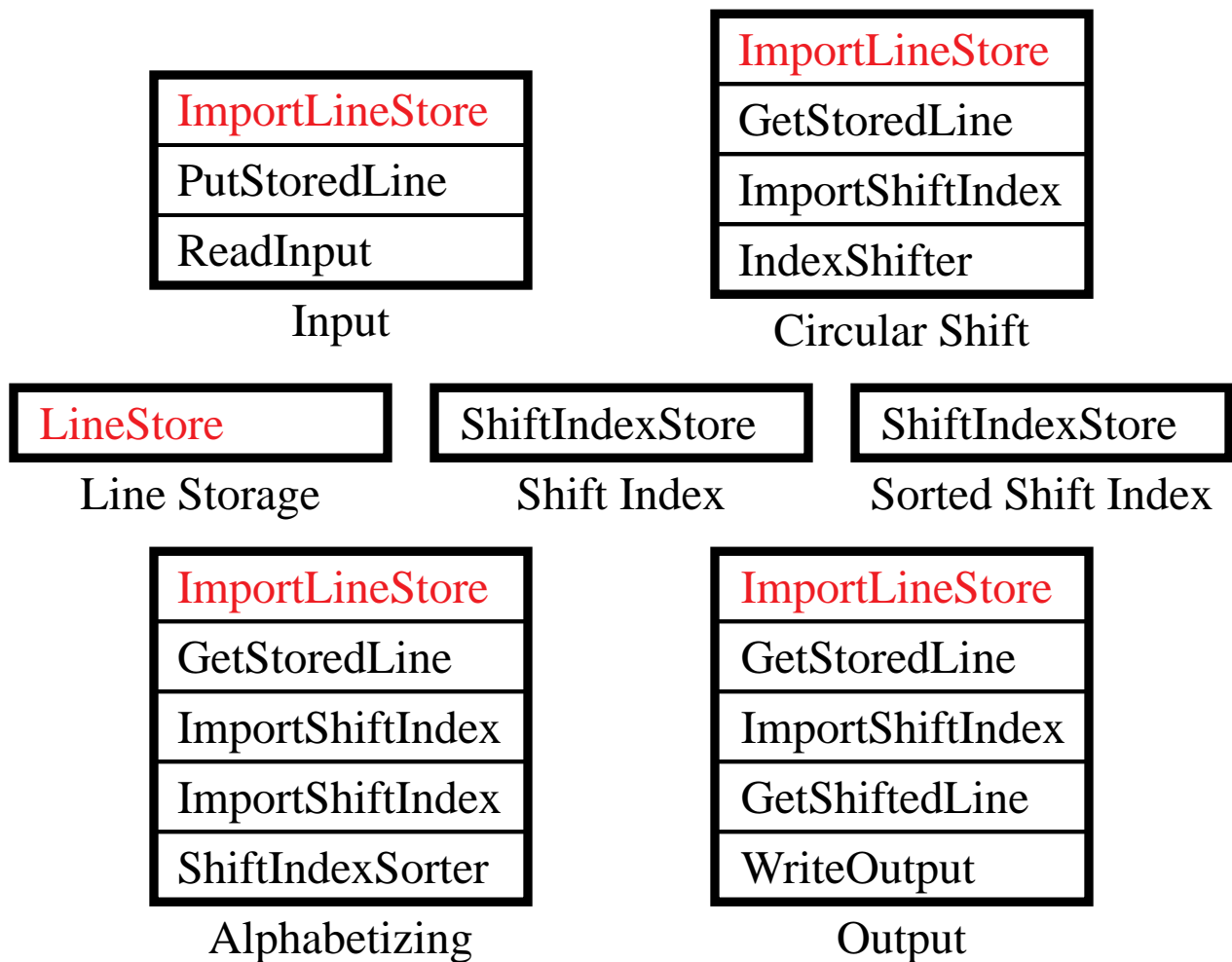
GetLineClient
WriteOutput

Output Client

“WORST CASE” CHANGE?

Reused subcomponents manage change

to change from uncompressed to compressed line storage



Functional modularization of KWIC

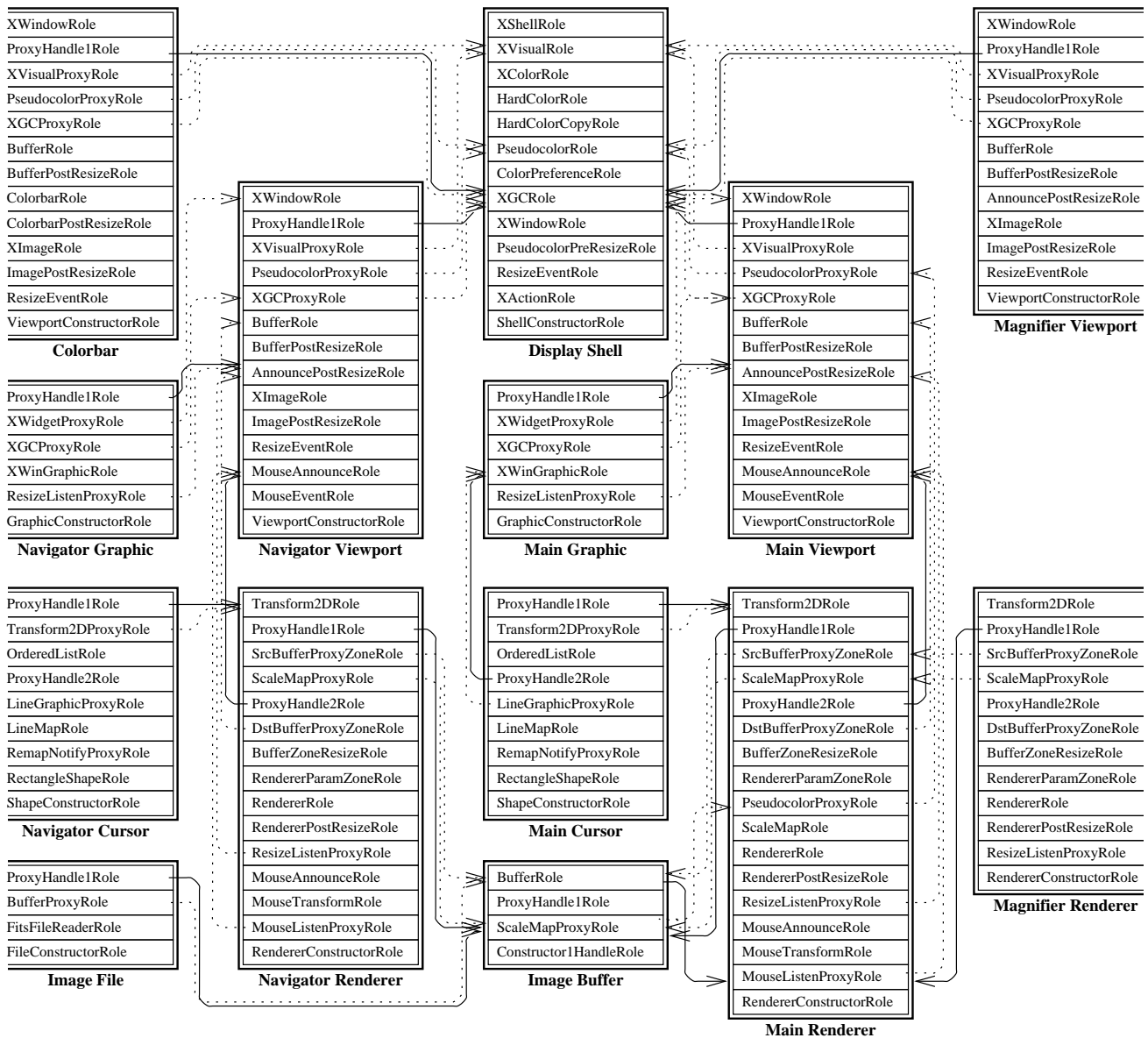
CHOOSING SUBMODULE COMPONENTS

Recursively subdivide components that contain more than one decision

- **order of subdividing is not critical**
- **order of composition is important**
- **guidelines can be used to implement different types of components**

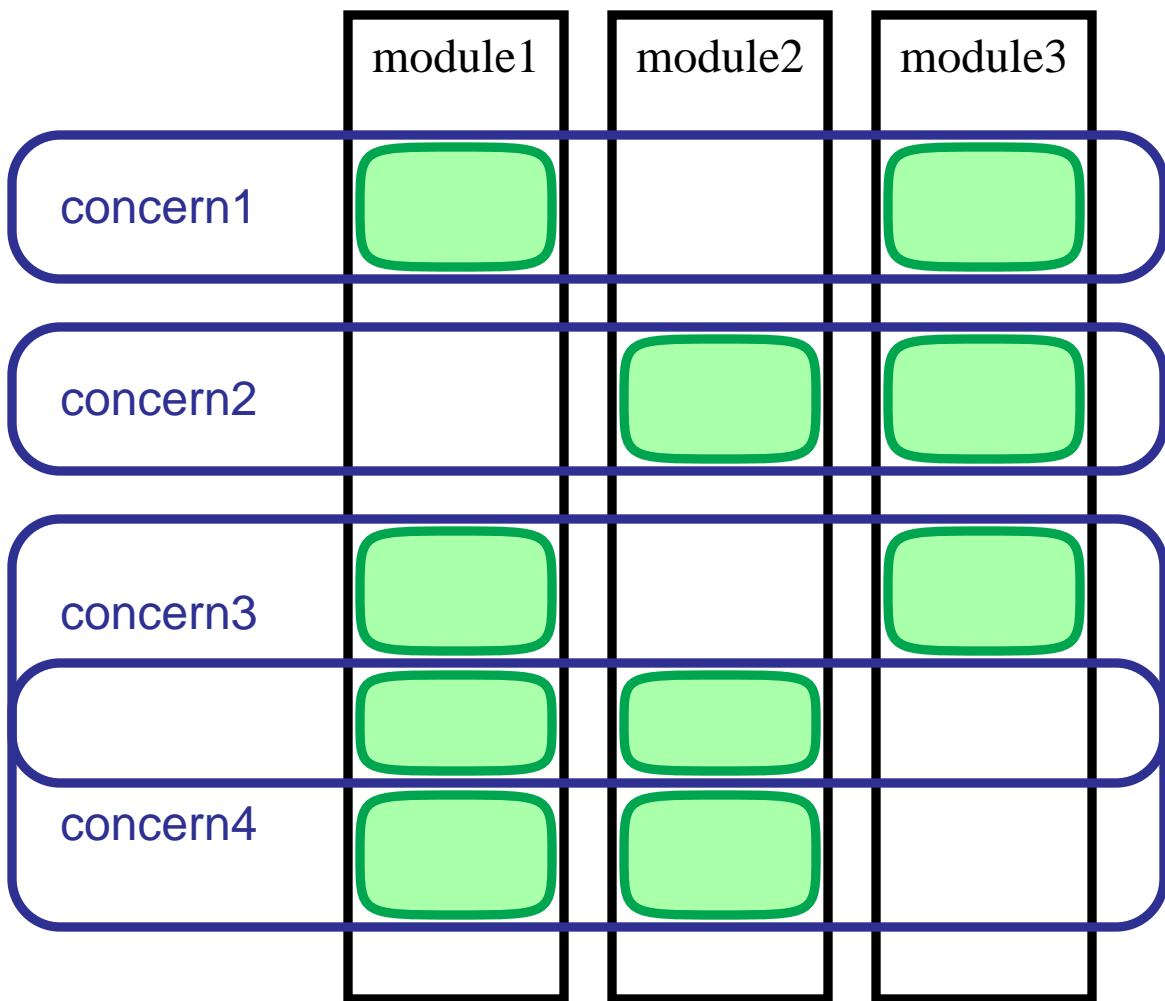
SCALABILITY?

Based on size of module, not application



THE BIG PICTURE

Submodule components capture intersections among modules and concerns



DECOMPOSING MODULES FOR CHANGE

Choose a modularization of the application that is best suited for the problem at hand. Then decompose the modules into submodule components to isolate the decisions that could change.

- **Addresses both anticipated and unanticipated change**
- **Efficient realization using inheritance and parameterization**