



Software Explorer

Explore your source code as never before

Description

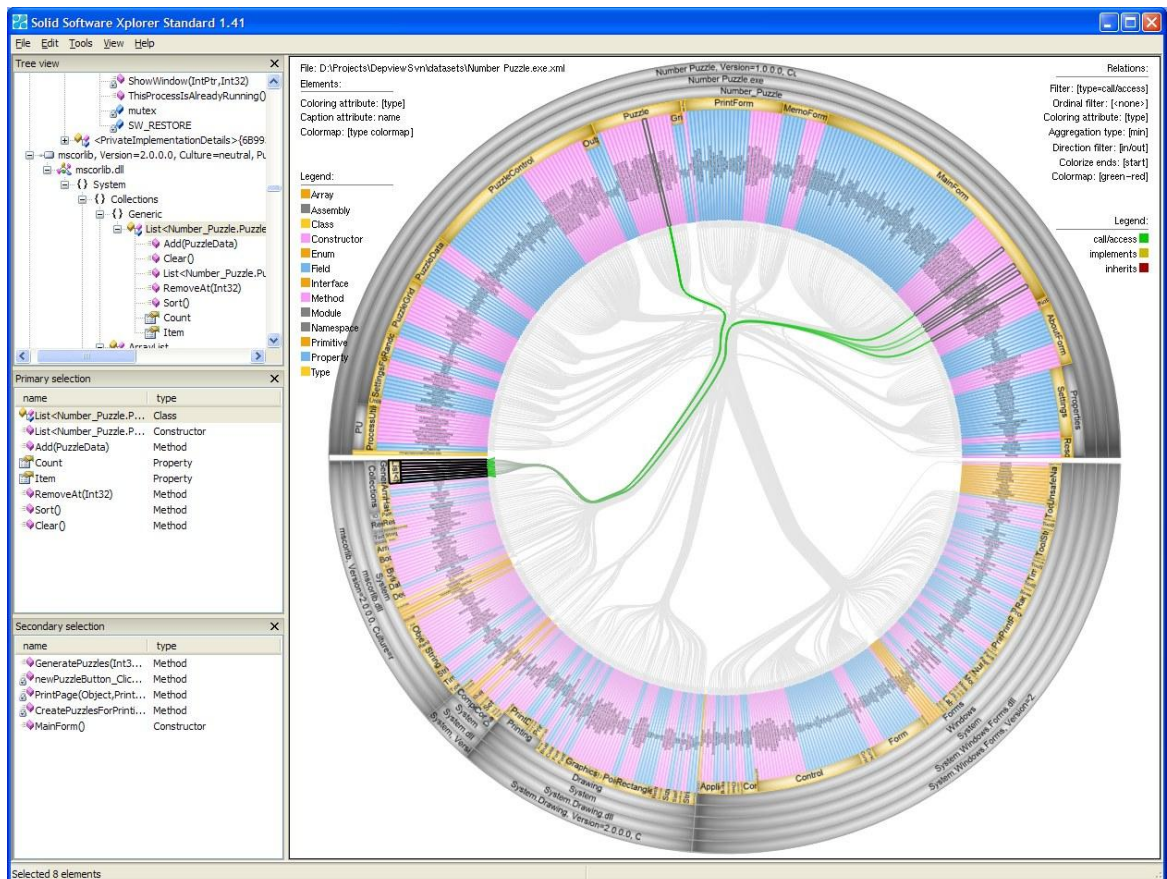
The [Software Explorer \(SolidSX\)](#) is a standalone Windows application that gives insight into the structure of large software systems. SolidSX creates high-quality visualizations that simultaneously show the structure, dependencies, and metrics on all types of source code elements (files, classes, methods, fields, etc.). By using hardware-accelerated graphics, SolidSX is able to display large amounts of information in a clear and concise manner and provides fast and easy exploration through large source code bases.

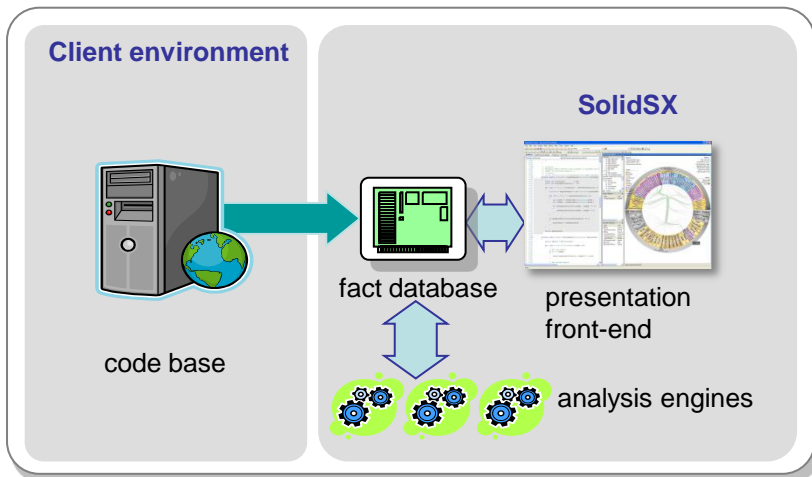
SolidSX can extract and visualize call graphs, class inheritance, type usage, field accesses and various code metrics, such as method complexity and number of casts. Explore large databases of tens of thousands of elements in real time, from packages to individual variables, using hardware-accelerated graphics for high quality presentation and smooth navigation.

SolidSX works as a standalone Windows application, but also comes with a plug-in to seamlessly integrate into Microsoft Visual Studio. By integrating into Visual Studio, you can navigate between source code and visualization with the click of a button. (NOTE: Requires Visual Studio 2008 Standard edition or higher.)

SolidSX is extremely easy to use. Just point and click in a simple, intuitive interface. Ready to use in less than 5 minutes (including installation).

Instead of displaying the code textually, SolidSX represents the software system graphically. The human visual system is known to have a high data bandwidth and throughput, and SolidSX uses this property to convey large amounts of information to the user by creating novel, high quality visualizations of the software. In that sense, SolidSX is better suited to gain code insight than classical text-based approaches.





SolidSX interaction with the client environment

Integration in client environment

SolidSX is a non-intrusive tool, easy to integrate in the client environment. SolidSX requires no changes to the existing development process. SolidSX can be installed side-by-side with existing IDEs such as Visual Studio, and can also run standalone. Also, there are no development risks associated with removing SolidSX from the client environment.

Example use cases

- **Getting acquainted with new software systems quickly:** Replace browsing hundreds of source files with a high-level visual overview. Bring new developers up to full productivity in far less time than before.
- **Predicting the impact of code changes before you make them:** Examine attributes such as size, complexity, throw/cast/variable count, and fan in/out.
- **Identifying low-quality code areas that may need refactoring:** Explore code duplication and clones from system to function level. Detect unused source code elements.

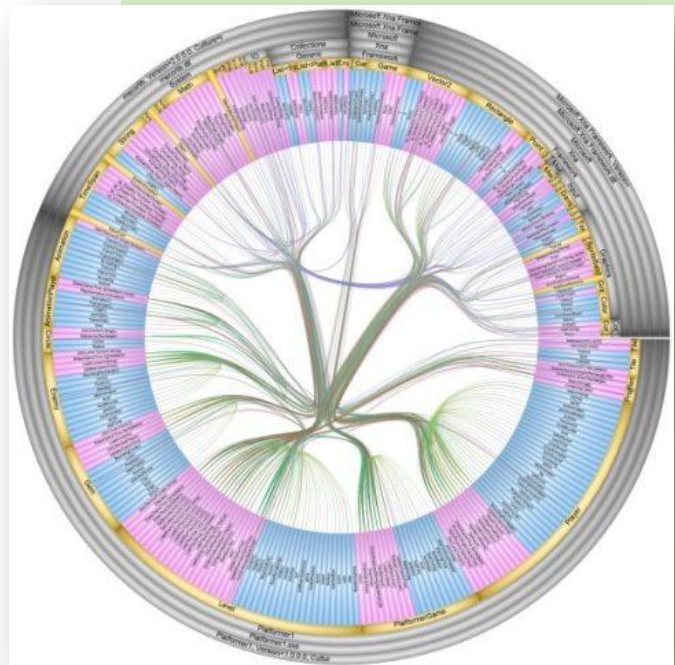
System Requirements

- PC compatible workstation (800MHz CPU, 1GB RAM, 50 GB HDD, depending on the analyzed project). A fast, OpenGL 1.1 compatible graphics card with at least 128 MB of RAM is recommended.
- Operating system: Microsoft Windows (SolidSX has been tested under Windows XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7)
- At least 50 MB of free disk space

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The radial view of SolidSX visualizes elements as (curved) boxes that are placed in concentric rings and relationships as curved arrows in the center. The nesting of the boxes reflects the hierarchical structure of the elements, with the outer ring containing the top-level elements of the hierarchy. The circle is divided into two halves. The top half contains elements from the user code, whereas the bottom half contains the external libraries on which the user code depends.

