Intent

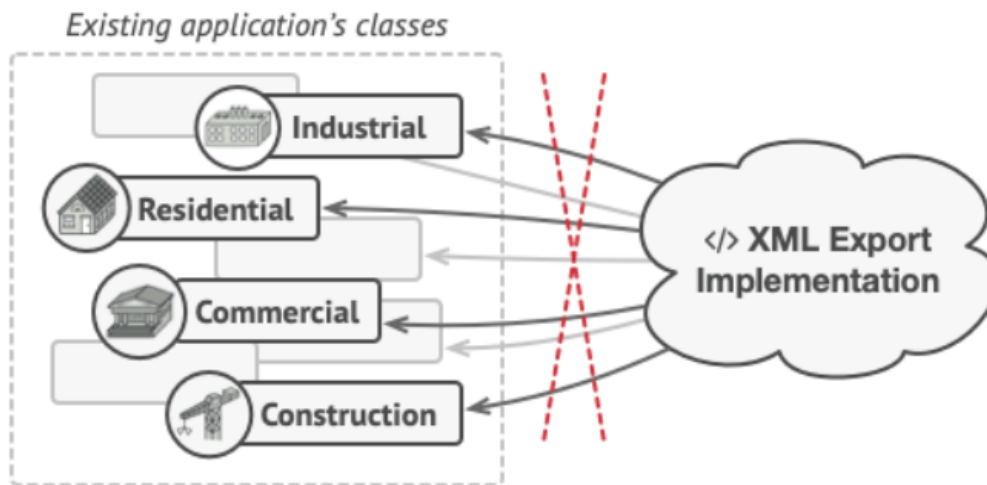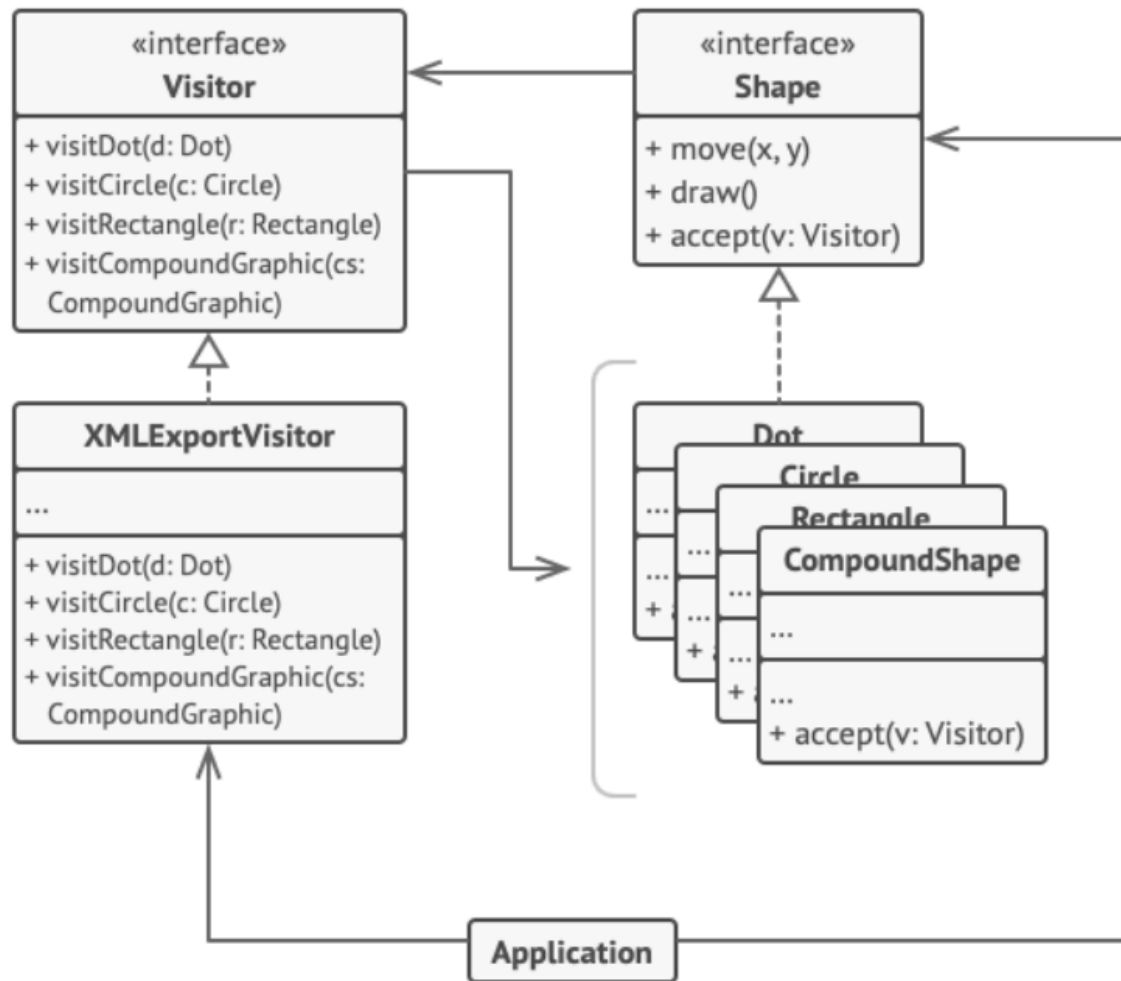**Visitor** is a behavioral design pattern that lets you separate algorithms from the objects on which they operate.

Problem & Solution

The XML export method had to be added into all node classes, which bore the risk of breaking the whole application if any bugs slipped through along with the change.

Exporting various types of objects into XML format via a visitor object.

Applicability

- Use the Visitor when you need to perform an operation on all elements of a complex object structure (for example, an object tree).

- Use the Visitor to clean up the business logic of auxiliary behaviors.

- Use the pattern when a behavior makes sense only in some classes of a class hierarchy, but not in others.