



Building
Cybersecurity
from the Ground
Up

Secure Coding Frameworks

For the Development of Safe, Secure and Reliable Code

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Who Am I?

- Tim Kertis, Software Engineer/Software Architect
- Chief Software Architect, Raytheon IIS, Indianapolis
- Master of Science, Computer & Information Science, Purdue
- Software Architecture Professional through the Software Engineering Institute (SEI), Carnegie-Mellon University (CMU)
- 30 years of diverse Software Engineering Experience
- Advocate for Secure Coding Frameworks (SCFs)
- Author of the JAVA Secure Coding Framework (JSCF)
- Inventor of Cybersecurity thru Lexical And Symbolic Proxy (CLaSP) technology (patent pending)

Top 5 Cybersecurity Concerns ...

- **1 - Application Vulnerabilities**
 - 2 - Malware
 - 3 - Configuration Mistakes
 - 4 - Mobile Devices
 - 5 - Hackers
- According to the 2015 ISC(2) Global Information Security Workforce Study (Paresh Rathod)

Worldwide Market Indicators 2014 ...

Number of Software Developers:

- 18,000,000+ (www.infoq.com)

Number of Java Software Developers:

- 9,000,000+ (www.infoq.com)

Software with Vulnerabilities:

- 96% (www.cenzic.com)

Total Cost of Cyber Crime:

- \$500B (McCafee)

Cost of Cyber Incidents:

- Low \$1.6M
 - Average \$12.7M
 - High \$61.0M
- (Ponemon Institute)

Research Conducted

- **SEI Secure Coding Standard**

- Rules and Recommendations
- Priorities and Levels
- Vulnerabilities and Remedies

- **Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE)**

- Common Software Weaknesses

- **Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP)**

- Language-Agnostic/
Framework-Agnostic Developer
Guide

- **Top 10 Programming Languages**

- C, C++, C#, Objective-C, Java, JavaScript, Perl, PHP, Python, VB
- Primitives, Operators and Standard Libraries

- **The Ada Programming Language**

- Range Constraints
- Real-Time Constructs

SEI CERT Coding Standards

■ Overview

- This site supports the development of coding standards for commonly used programming languages such as C, C++, Java, and Perl, and the Android™ platform.
- These standards are developed through a broad-based community effort by members of the software development and software security communities.

■ Website

- <https://www.securecoding.cert.org/confluence/display/seccode/SEI+CERT+Coding+Standards>

SEI Secure Coding Standard for Java

■ Rules

- 00 Input Validation and Data Sanitization (IDS)
- 01 Declarations and Initialization (DCL)
- 02 Expressions (EXP)
- 03 **Numeric Types and Operations (NUM)**
- 04 Characters and Strings (STR)
- 05 Object Orientation (OBJ)
- 06 Methods (MET)
- 07 Exceptional Behavior (ERR)
- 08 Visibility and Atomicity (VNA)
- 09 Locking (LCK)
- 10 Thread APIs (THI)
- 11 Thread Pools (TPS)
- 12 Thread-Safety Miscellaneous (TSM)
- 13 Input Output (FIO)
- 14 Serialization (SER)
- 15 Platform Security (SEC)
- 16 Runtime Environment (ENV)
- 17 Java Native Interface (JNI)
- 49 Miscellaneous (MSC)
- 50 Android (DRD)

■ Recommendations

- 00 Input Validation and Data Sanitization (IDS)
- 01 Declarations and Initialization (DCL)
- 02 Expressions (EXP)
- 03 Numeric Types and Operations (NUM)
- 04 Characters and Strings (STR)
- 05 Object Orientation (OBJ)
- 06 Methods (MET)
- 07 Exceptional Behavior (ERR)
- 13 Input Output (FIO)
- 15 Platform Security (SEC)
- 18 Concurrency (CON)
- 49 Miscellaneous (MSC)
- AA References
- BB Definitions
- CC Analyzers

Secure Coding Frameworks

Rule 03: Numeric Types and Operations (NUM)

■ Rules

➤ **NUM00-J. Detect or prevent integer overflow**

- NUM01-J. Do not perform bitwise and arithmetic operations on the same data
- NUM02-J. Ensure that division and remainder operations do not result in divide-by-zero errors
- NUM03-J. Use integer types that can fully represent the possible range of unsigned data
- NUM04-J. Do not use floating-point numbers if precise computation is required
- NUM07-J. Do not attempt comparisons with NaN
- NUM08-J. Check floating point inputs for exceptional values
- NUM09-J. Do not use floating point numbers as loop counters
- NUM10-J. Do not construct BigDecimal objects from floating-point literals
- NUM11-J. Do not compare or inspect the string representation of floating-point values
- NUM12-J. Ensure conversions of numeric types to narrower types do not result in lost or misinterpreted data
- NUM14-J. Use shift operators correctly

NUM00-J. Detect or prevent integer overflow

- Programs must not allow mathematical operations to exceed the integer ranges provided by their primitive integer data types. According to *The Java Language Specification* (JLS), [§4.2.2, "Integer Operations" \[JLS 2015\]](#):
- The built-in integer operators do not indicate overflow or underflow in any way.**
- Integer operators can throw a **NullPointerException** if unboxing conversion of a null reference is required.
- Other than that, the only integer operators that can throw an exception are the integer divide operator / and the integer remainder operator %, which throw an **ArithmeticException** if the right-hand operand is zero, and the increment and decrement operators ++ and -- which can throw an **OutOfMemoryError** if boxing conversion is required and there is insufficient memory to perform the conversion.

Root Cause Analysis & Resolution

■ Issue

- Integer Overflow/Underflow is Ignored (in Java)

■ Possible Root Cause

- Java Application Source Code
- Java Programming Language Implementation
- Java Programming Language Specification
- Java Virtual Machine Implementation
- Java Virtual Machine Specification
- Integer Math Processor Unit
- IEEE Standard 754

■ Conclusion

- Integer overflow/underflow indicator bits provided in IEEE 754 are ignored in the Java Programming Language Specification
- Java has flaws in INT primitive and operators +, -, *, /, >>>, >>, <<, etc.

■ Resolution(s)

- Use an infinitely ranged integer
- Raise a run-time constraint violation

SEI provides a full discussion of the Integer vulnerability and remedy in:
As-If Infinitely Ranged Integer Model, Second Edition, April 2010

Top 10 Programming Languages

■ TIOBE Index (2015)

— #1	Java	(19.565%)
— #3	C++	(15.621%)
— #4	C#	(6.782%)
— #5	Python	(3.664%)
— #6	PHP	(2.530%)
— #7	JavaScript	(2.342%)
— #8	VB .NET	(2.062%)
— #9	Perl	(1.899%)
— #10	Objective-C	(1.821%)

<http://www.tiobe.com/index.php/content/paperinfo/tpci/index.html>

... based on number of web page references.

■ PYPL Index (2014)

— #1	Java	(25.5%)
— #2	PHP	(11.4%)
— #3	Python	(11.1%)
— #4	C#	(9.2%)
— #5	C++	(7.7%)
— #6	JavaScript	(7.3%)
— #7	Objective-C	(5.3%)
— #13	VB .NET	(2.1%)
— #15	Perl	(1.3%)

<https://sites.google.com/site/pydata/pypl/python-is-the-language-of-the-year>

... based on number of Google searches.

Conclusions

The following problems were diagnosed as the root cause of the majority of cybersecurity vulnerability types (and safety/reliability issues) in software applications:

■ Programming Language Flaws

- Silent integer underflow/overflow in math operations
- Silent floating point floors/ceilings in math operations
- Silent loss of magnitude, sign and/or precision in numeric type casts

■ Programming Language Weaknesses

- Lack of user-defined range constraints and subsequent bounds checking on numeric data types to support input validation
- Lack of bounds checking on array indexing resulting in buffer overflow
- Lack of adequate built-in memory management of primitives to eliminate null pointer dereferencing

■ Standard Library Weaknesses

- Lack of specialized strings for filtering and validating characters and sequences in character strings (filenames, database names, SQL, URL, HTTP, LDAP, XSS, etc.)

The Secure Coding Framework

Problem:

- Mainstream programming languages have significant security vulnerabilities and weaknesses and their component libraries also have weaknesses that can be exploited
- To remedy this, developers can apply static analysis tools and rework software in accordance with the SEI Secure Coding Standards
- Developing secure code this way can be prohibitively difficult and expensive
- Mainstream programming languages were not designed for the development of secure applications

Solution:

- Provide developers with a Secure Coding Framework (SCF) protecting against the programming language's inherent security vulnerabilities and component library flaws and/or misuse
- Replace (by wrapping) primitives and operators with secure classes and methods
- Use the SCF to simplify and expedite the development of safe, secure and reliable code
- Provide developers with a platform for the development of safe, secure and reliable software applications from the ground up

Mainstream Programming Language Lexical vs. JSCF Class Substitute ...

Lexical (Primitives):

- byte, byte[]
- char, char[]
- short, short[]
- int, int[]
- long, long[]
- float, float[]
- double, double[]
- String (class)

Classes:

- SecureByte, SecureByteArray
- SecureCharacter, SecureCharacterArray
- SecureShort, SecureShortArray
- SecureInteger, SecureIntegerArray
- SecureLong, SecureLongArray
- SecureFloat, SecureFloatArray
- SecureDouble, SecureDoubleArray
- SecureString, SecureSQLString, SecureURLString, etc.

Mainstream Programming Language Symbolic vs. JSCF Method Substitute ...

Symbolic (Operators):

- =
- +, -, *, +=, -=, *=
- /, %, /=, %=
- ==, !=
- <, <=, >, >=
- >>, <<, >>>
- ++, --
- &, |, ^

Methods:

- equal()
- add(), subtract(), multiply(),
- divide(), modulo()
- equalTo(), EQ(), notEqualTo(), NEQ()
- lessThan(), LT(), lessThanOrEqualTo(), LTE(), greaterThan(), GT(), greaterThanOrEqualTo(), GTE(),
- rightShift(), leftShift(), rightShiftZero()
- increment(), decrement()
- bitwiseAnd(), bitwiseOr(), bitwiseXor()

JSCF Typecasting Methods ...

Syntax:

- (byte)
- (char)
- (short)
- (int)
- (long)
- (float)
- (double)

JSCF Methods:

- toByte()
- toCharacter()
- toShort()
- toInteger()
- toLong()
- toFloat()
- toDouble()

Other Useful Methods of JSCF ...

Constructors:

- SecureByte(), SecureByteArray()
- SecureCharacter(), SecureCharacterArray()
- SecureShort(), SecureShortArray()
- SecureInteger(), SecureIntegerArray()
- SecureLong(), SecureLongArray()
- SecureFloat(), SecureFloatArray()
- SecureDouble(), SecureDoubleArray()
- SecureString()

User-Defined Ranges:

- range()
- minimum(), maximum()
- isByte(), isCharacter(), isShort(), isInteger(), isLong(), isFloat(), isDouble()

Interface to Legacy Code:

- value() – returns primitive/literal
- init() – init with primitive/literal
- index() – index with primitive/ literal value

Assignment Statement Example

Java vs JSCF

■ Java

```
import java.lang.System.out;
...

int inputAngle = 360;
...
public static final int MIN_ANGLE = 0;
public static final int MAX_ANGLE = 359;
int angle = 0;
...
if (inputAngle >= MIN_ANG && inputAngle <=
MAX_ANG) {
    angle = inputAngle;
} else {
    System.out.println("Invalid input detected.");
    System.out.print("ANGLE =");
    System.out.println(inputAngle);
}
```

■ JSCF

```
import jscf.SecureInteger;
import jscf.RangeConstraintException;
...
SecureInteger inputAngle = new SecureInteger(360);
...
SecureInteger angle =
    new SecureInteger(0, 359);
...

try {
    angle.setEqualTo(inputAngle);
} catch (RangeConstraintException e) {
    e.printStackTrace();
}
```

Exception Handling in JSCF ...

Vulnerability:

- Integer Overflow
- Integer Underflow
- Floating Point Floor
- Floating Point Ceiling
- Loss of Sign
- Loss of Magnitude
- Loss of Precision
- Range Constraint
- <etc> ...

Exceptions:

- IntegerOverflowException
- IntegerUnderflowException
- <etc> ...

Mainstream Programming Language Vulnerability vs. SCF Remedy Tactic ...

Vulnerability:

- Silent Integer Overflow / Underflow in Math Ops
- Silent Floating Point Floor / Ceiling in Math Ops
- Silent Loss of Sign / Magnitude / Precision in Narrowing Implicit / Explicit Type Conversions

Remedy Tactic:

- Exception Thrown / Handling for Integer Overflow / Underflow
- Exception Thrown / Handling for Floating Point Floor / Ceiling
- Exception Thrown / Handling for Loss of Sign / Magnitude / Precision in Narrowing Explicit Type Conversion
- No Implicit Type Conversions

Mainstream Programming Language Vulnerability vs. SCF Remedy Tactic ...

Vulnerability:

- Uninitialized Memory
- Memory Leaks
- Arbitrary Code Execution
- Stack Overflow/Overrun
- Heap Overflow/Overrun
- Null Pointer Dereferencing
- Dangling Pointers

Remedy Tactics:

- Constructor(s) Initialization
- Destructor/Finally/Other Deallocation
- Array Index Checking
- Array Index Checking
- No Pointers/No Primitives
- No Pointers/No Primitives
- No Pointers/No Primitives

Mainstream Programming Language Vulnerability vs. SCF Remedy Tactic ...

- Invalid Parameter Inputs
- Direct Filename References *
- Direct Database References
- Network Functions *
- SQL Injection *
- URL Injection
- HTTP Injection
- LDAP Injection
- Cross-Site Scripting
- Cross-Site Request Forgery
- User-Defined Range Constraint
- Text Filters/Filename String Class
- Text Filters/Database String Class
- Network SSL Functions
- Text Filters/SQL String Class
- Text Filters/URL String Class
- Text Filters/HTTP String Class
- Text Filters/LDAP String Class
- Text Filters/XSS String Class
- Text Filters/HTTP String Class

Mainstream Programming Language Gap vs. SCF New Feature ...

Gaps:

- Vulnerable Primitives and Operators
- Lack of User-Defined Range Constraints on Primitive Values
- Lack of Character Filters on Strings & String Derivatives
- Limitations on Long Integer Values
- Limitations on Double Values
- No Type for Currency
- No Instrumentation

New Features:

- Secure Classes and Methods replace Vulnerable Primitives and Operators
- Exception Handling for User-Defined Range Constraints
- Exception Handling for Violations of Character Filters on Strings
- BigInteger Class with No Limits
- BigDecimal Class with No Limits
- Big Decimal Class
- Exception Handling-based Instrumentation Hooks

Exception Handling and Instrumentation Hooks ...

- Trigger Alerts
- Trigger Error Messages
- Trigger Event Log
- Trigger E-Mail
- Trigger IPC Message
- Identify Programmer Errors
- Feedback to Software Vendor
- Support Application Monitoring
- Support Application Monitoring in the Cloud
- Support Application Monitoring across the Enterprise
- Situational Awareness across Product Deployment Area
- Identify Malicious Behavior
- Automated Real-Time Bug Reporting and Patch Management

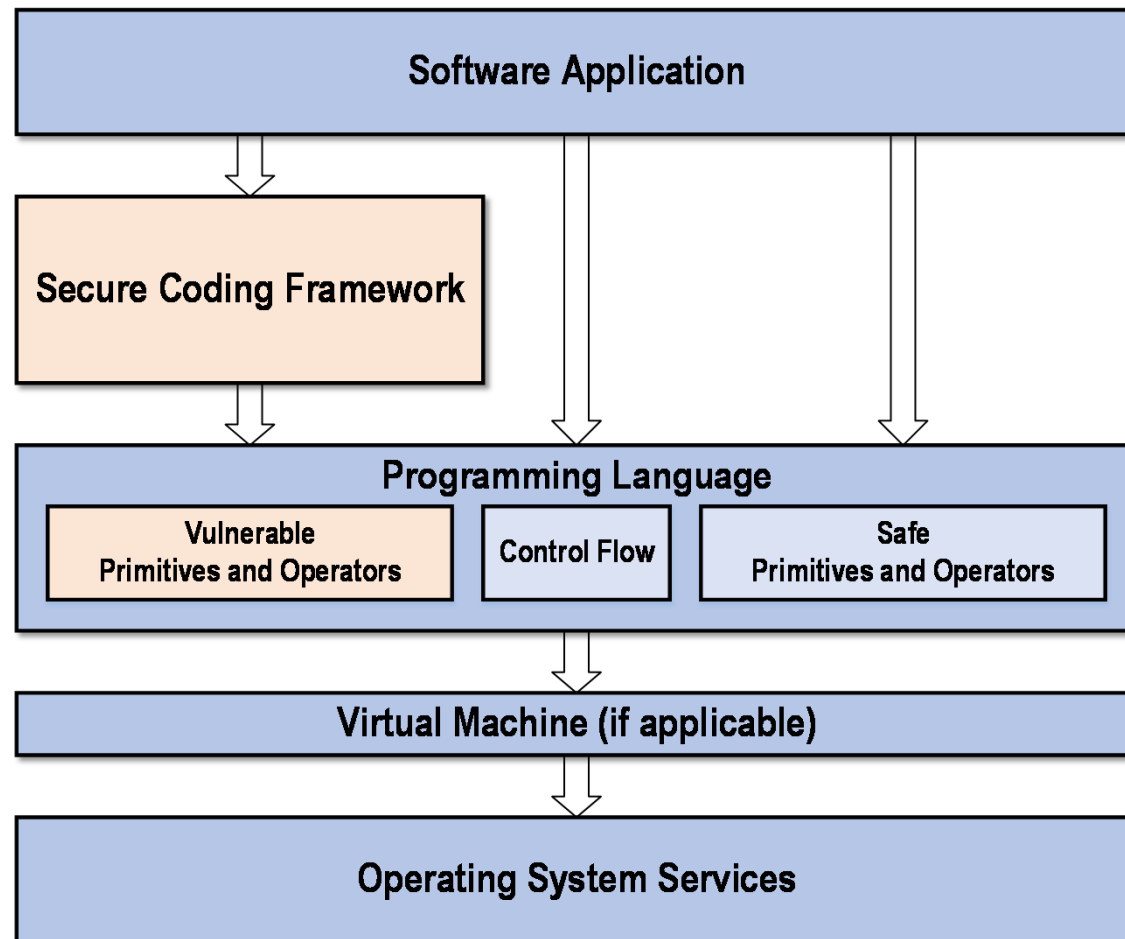
Intellectual Property ...

- **Cyber security thru Lexical and Symbolic Proxy (CLaSP)**
- Encapsulates and Substitutes Lexical Elements (private primitives) with Safe Classes
- Encapsulates and Substitutes Symbolic Elements (public operators) with Safe Methods
- Applies only to Object-Oriented (OO) Programming Languages
- **CLaSP** is the patentable idea that defines the entire process of transforming any general purpose OO programming language (with inherent cyber security vulnerabilities) into a safe, secure and reliable coding platform.
- Security is the #1 priority software quality attribute of the Secure Coding Framework.
- USPO patent is pending.

Benefits of SCF ...

- Assures safe, secure and reliable source code in area of addressed vulnerabilities
- Reduces/eliminates the need for static analysis in area of addressed vulnerabilities
- Easy integration of new SCF code with legacy code
- No need to learn a new programming language
- Easy to learn
- Class and method naming conventions that echo that of the primitives and operators
- SCF source code baseline that conforms to the SEI Secure Coding Standard
- Supports SEI Secure Coding Standards for new development

SCF Software Architecture



Secure Coding Frameworks