

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22/OWGV N 0216

Markup of revised draft language-specific annex for Fortran

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To: WG23
Subject: Draft Fortran Annex
From: Dan Nagle
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Draft of the Fortran Annex of the WG23 TR 24772

This Annex provides Fortran-specific advice for the items in clause 6, specifically using Annex F from n0191.

DRAFT

Language Specific Vulnerability Outline

Fortran This Annex provides Fortran-specific advice for the items in clause 6. Each vulnerability is addressed, even if only to indicate that the vulnerability does not apply to Fortran.

Fortran.1 Identification of standards
ISO/IEC 1539-1 (2010) "Fortran 2008"

Fortran.2 General Terminology
The Fortran standard specifies the forms of Fortran programs (source code) may take, and the rules for interpreting them. It also specifies the form of input and output files. A processor is a combination of a computing system and the mechanism by which programs are transformed for use on that computing system. The standard does not describe the processor, except that, if the program conforms to the standard then the processor shall interpret the program according to the standard.

A requirement expressed in ISO/IEC 1539-1 is a requirement on the program, not the processor, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

The processor is limited in its required ability to detect errors to those errors that can be found by reference to the numbered syntax rules and constraints of the standard.

A behavior not completely specified by ISO/IEC 1539-1 is said to be processor dependent.

Some features from earlier revisions of ISO/IEC 1539-1 are considered redundant and largely unused, and are designated decremental features. The two categories of decremental features are deleted features, which are no longer a part of the standard, and obsolescent features, which are part of the standard, but whose use is discouraged. There is a modern equivalent for every decremental feature that is considered easier to use and more clear in its meaning.

A Fortran processor optionally cooperates with one or more companion processors, that may be compilers of other languages. A processor is its own coprocessor, additional coprocessors may be compilers of other languages. The only requirement is that the other languages allow their data and procedures to be described in terms of C. The actions of routines written in a language other than Fortran are not subject to the rules of Fortran.

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Fortran.3.1 Obscure Language Features [BRS]

Fortran.3.1.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

Fortran.3.1.1 Fortran-specific terminology and features

<Decremental Feature>: A decremental feature is a feature defined by an earlier revision of the Fortran language and is considered redundant and largely unused by modern programs.

<Deleted Feature>: A deleted feature is a decremental feature that is not specified by the current revision of the standard.

<Obsolescent Feature>: An obsolescent feature is a decremental feature that is specified by the current revision of the standard. Its use is discouraged since a better alternative is specified by the current revision of the standard.

<Storage Association>: Storage association is the association of two or more data objects that occurs when two or more storage sequences share or are aligned with one or more storage units.

<Storage Sequence>: A storage sequence is a sequence of storage units. A storage unit is a numeric storage unit, a character storage unit, a file storage unit, or an unspecified storage unit.

<Common Block>: A common block is a block of physical storage.

<Common Statement>: A common statement specifies blocks of physical storage.

<Save Attribute>: The save attribute specifies that a local data entity retains its definition status between subsequent references to the program unit that declares it.

<Intrinsic Procedures>: Intrinsic procedures are procedures specified by the standard. A processor is allowed to extend the set of intrinsic procedures it supports.

Fortran.3.1.2 Description of vulnerability in Fortran

~~Not all programmers are familiar with code written to decades-old standards, nor are they familiar with extensions, once common, used to add missing features to archaic Fortran. Some of these extensions are the result of an incompletely-specified feature in an early revision of the standard which was later specified to be different than the feature supported by a processor. The use of these features is error prone and obscure. Some have unexpected changes of state that are likely to surprise modern programmers.~~

An original programmer decades ago may have understood use of a feature whose use was common at the time, but the entirety of effects of some archaic features decremental features, may not be known to modern programmers. These effects may produce semantic results not in accord with the modern programmer's intentions. They may be beyond the capability knowledge of modern code reviewers.

For example, supplying an initial value in the declaration of a local variable implies that the variable has the save attribute.

Also, a common statement may specify more than one common block, and the definition of a common block may be extended by a subsequent common statement in the same program unit.

Any of the above situations may be unexpected by a modern programmer.

Fortran.3.1.3 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

- Use the processor to detect and identify decremental features. All decremental features have modern counterparts that are safer, easier to understand, and more parallel to the semantics of other languages.
- Use the processor to detect and identify extensions. The modern alternative should be preferred.
- Use a tool to detect any of the above.

- Avoid the use of decremental features.
- Avoid the use of processor extensions, including processor-defined intrinsic procedures.
- Supply an external attribute for any name with the external attribute. This will prevent the processor from substituting its own intrinsic of the same signature.
- Place tThe entire definition of ~~one-a single~~ common block ~~should be entirely~~ within one-a single statement; one statement should define exactly one common block.
- Be aware that an initial value of a variable implies static storage.

Fortran.3.1.4 Implications for standardization of Fortran

Future standardization efforts should consider:

- Identifying and depreciating features whose use is problematic and where there is a safer and more clear alternative in the modern revisions of the language.

Fortran.3.1.5 Bibliography

None.

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Fortran.3.2 Unspecified Behaviour [BQF]

Fortran.3.2.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

Fortran.3.2.1 Fortran-specific terminology and features

<Unspecified Behaviour>: The use of any form or relation not specified by the Fortran standard is unspecified. The use of any form or relationship given a meaning not specified by the standard is unspecified.

Any behaviour not specified by the standard is unspecified behaviour.

Fortran.3.2.2 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

A Fortran processor is unconstrained unless the program uses only those forms and relations specified by the Fortran standard, and gives them the meaning described therein.

What a processor does with non-standard code is unpredictable. The behavior of non-standard code can change between processors, or between releases of the same processor. It is entirely unpredictable.

Fortran.3.2.3 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

- Use processor options to detect and report use of non-standard features.
- Use more than one processor to obtain diagnostics from more than one source.
- Do not use intrinsic procedures not specified in the standard.

Fortran.3.2.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Future standardization efforts should consider:

-Requiring processors to check character constants used as format specifiers.

Fortran.3.2.6 Bibliography

None.

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Fortran.3.3 Undefined Behaviour [EWF]

Fortran.3.3.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

This vulnerability is described by Fortran.3.2 Unspecified Behaviour [BQF] described above.

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Fortran.3.4 Implementation-defined Behaviour [FAB]

Fortran.3.4.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

Fortran.3.4.1 Fortran-specific terminology and features

<Implementation-defined>: Implementation-defined behavior is called processor dependent behavior by the Fortran standard.

See Annex A.2 of ISO/IEC 1539-1 for a list of processor dependencies.

Fortran.3.4.2 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Different processors may process different processor-dependencies differently. Relying on one behavior is not guaranteed by the Fortran standard.

Reliance on one behavior where the standard explicitly allows several is not portable, and is liable to change between releases of a single processor, or between different processors.

Fortran.3.4.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not rely on processor dependencies. See Annex A.2 for a complete list.

Fortran.3.4.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Future standardization efforts should consider:

-Requiring processors to diagnose more situations where the appearance of depending upon processor-dependent behaviour occurs.

Fortran.3.4.6 Bibliography

None.

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Fortran.3.5 Deprecated Language Features [MEM]

Fortran.3.5.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

Fortran.3.5.1 Fortran-specific terminology and features

<Decremental Feature>: A decremental feature is a feature defined by an earlier revision of the Fortran language and is considered redundant and largely unused by modern programs.

<Deleted Feature>: A deleted feature is a decremental feature that is not specified by the current revision of the standard.

<Obsolescent Feature>: An obsolescent feature is a decremental feature

that is specified by the current revision of the standard. Its use is discouraged since a better alternative is specified by the current revision of the standard.

Fortran.3.5.2 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Not all programmers are familiar with code written to decades-old standards, nor are they familiar with extensions, once common, used to add missing features to archaic Fortran. Some of these extensions are the result of an incompletely-specified feature in an early revision of the standard which was later specified to be different than the feature supported by a processor. The use of these features is error prone and obscure. Some have unexpected changes of state that are likely to surprise modern programmers.

An original programmer decades ago may have understood use of a feature whose use was common at the time, but the entirety of effects of some archaic features may not be known to modern programmers. These effects may produce semantic results not in accord with the modern programmer's intentions. They may be beyond the capability of modern code reviewers.

See Annex B of the standard for a complete list.

Fortran.3.5.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

- Do not use decremental features.
- Use the processor to detect and identify decremental features; then replace them with a modern synonym.
- Use processor options to require adherence to the latest standard.

Fortran.3.5.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

None.

Fortran.3.5.6 Bibliography

None.

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Fortran.3.6 Pre-processor Directives [NMP]

Fortran.3.6.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

The Fortran Standard does not specify a preprocessor.

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Fortran.3.7 Choice of Clear Names [NAI]

Fortran.3.7.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

2009Jul14 - Updated in light of n0202 meeting 11 DLN

Fortran.3.7.1 Fortran-specific terminology and features

Fortran is a single case language, upper case and lower case must be treated identically by the processor.

Fortran has keywords but no reserved words.

Fortran.3.7.2 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use of names differing only in capitalization, intended to be distinct, in fact are not distinct. While some processors have options to preserve case of names, others do not. In any case, using case to distinguish names directly contradicts the standard and should be shunned.

Use of a keyword as a name may be possible, but is confusing and should be shunned.

The name distinguished by case is not standard, and even if it works with one processor, is not portable.

Fortran.3.7.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

- Do not distinguish names by case only.
- Do not use keywords as names.

Fortran.3.7.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Future standardization efforts should consider:

- Requiring processors to detect and report the occurrence of names appearing to differ only in case.
- Requiring processors to detect and report the occurrence of names indistinguishable from keywords.

Fortran.3.7.6 Bibliography

None.

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Fortran.3.8 Choice of Filenames and other External Identifiers [AJN]

Fortran.3.8.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.8.1 Language-specific terminology

Filenames appearing in OPEN and INQUIRE statements, and character variables in references to the GET_ENVIRONMENT_VARIABLE intrinsic and the EXECUTE_COMMAND_LINE intrinsic, have trailing blanks removed.

Fortran considers any filename, environment variable name, or name specified on an INCLUDE line to be processor-dependent.

Fortran.3.8.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.8.3 Mechanism of failure

Filenames and environment variable names have trailing blanks removed before being passed to the operating system. Thus, two names differing only by trailing blanks cannot be distinguished.

Parameterize any directory name separators used.

Fortran.3.8.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not attempt to distinguish names by trailing blanks.

Fortran.3.8.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.8.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.9 Unused Variable [XYR]

Fortran.3.9.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.9.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.9.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.9.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.9.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use IMPLICIT NONE to require explicit declarations.
Use any available processor options to report unused variables.

Do not use common blocks, as the common may legitimately contain names of variables unused in one subprogram.

Use ONLY clauses on USE statements to indicate the names being accessed by use association. Use rename clauses to avoid name collisions.

Fortran.3.9.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider requiring processors to have the ability to detect and report the occurrence of unused variables.

Fortran.3.9.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.10 Identifier Name Reuse [YOW]

Fortran.3.10.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.10.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran names may contain up to 63 characters, all of which are significant. Thus, a name is either illegal or all its characters are used.

Fortran.3.10.2 Description of application vulnerability

Internal procedures access the names available in their hosts.
Module procedures access the names available in their module.
Blocks access the names available in their host.

Fortran.3.10.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.10.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not use BLOCKS. Do not use nested declarations in DO CONCURRENT blocks.
Use an ONLY clause on all USE statements. Check names in nested procedures.

Prefer placing subprograms in modules rather than as internal procedures. Use different modules for data and for procedures.

Fortran.3.10.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Consider adding a means to control host association.
Consider decrementing BLOCKS and declarations in DO CONCURRENT
statements.

Fortran.3.10.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.11 Type System [IHN]

Fortran.3.11.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.11.1 Language-specific terminology

A type defined by the standard is an intrinsic type.
A type defined by the programmer is a derived type.
Some derived types are defined in standard defined modules.

Fortran.3.11.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran promotes operands in expressions from smaller to larger
within a numeric type, and among types, from integer to real to complex.

Fortran expressions are evaluated without regard to context;
the type of an expression is converted as needed to the type
of the designator receiving the value.

Fortran.3.11.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.11.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Fortran.3.11.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Consider adding a capability to report, forbid, or control
automatic conversions.

Consider adding an inquiry intrinsic to provide the largest integer
a real kind is capable of representing exactly.

Fortran.3.11.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.12 Bit Representations [STR]

Fortran.3.12.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.12.1 Language-specific terminology

A bit representation might be made visible when the same storage location in a storage sequence has names with different types. This can occur when a common block has different names in different scopes, or when an equivalence has names of different types for the same location. Also, the TRANSFER intrinsic copies bits between variables without regard for their types.

Misuse of the Interoperability with C features of Fortran may result in a violation of the Fortran type system.

Fortran.3.12.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.12.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.12.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Always use the same definition for a common block in every scoping unit. Better, convert common blocks to modules. Use renames to retain previous names as needed.

Keep the same type for all variables in an equivalence set.

Do not use TRANSFER.

Ensure type consistency when passing pointers to coprocessor routines.

Fortran.3.12.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Processor might have the ability to detect and report the occurrence of storage locations with more than one type, and report the use of the TRANSFER intrinsic.

Fortran.3.12.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.13 Floating-point Arithmetic [PLF]

Fortran.3.13.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.13.1 Language-specific terminology

A floating point number is of type REAL. There are several (at least two)

kinds of type real supported by any processor. The type kind values parameterize the precision and range (of exponent) supported.

Concerns over floating point characteristics also apply to complex data and operations.

Possibly distinct type kind values are available via the IEEE intrinsic

modules.

Fortran.3.13.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.13.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.13.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Where precise control of floating point operations is required, use the IEEE intrinsic modules.

Use trusted libraries to perform common operations (such as linear algebra, Fourier transforms, minimax problems, and so on).

Fortran.3.13.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Processors might be required to have an option to detect and report the occurrence of tests for floating point equality.

Fortran.3.13.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.14 Enumerator Issues [CCB]

Fortran.3.14.0 Status and history

Fortran.3.14.1 Language-specific terminology

The Fortran enumerator type is designed solely for interoperability with the C enumerator type, and should not be used for other purposes.

Fortran.3.14.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.14.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.14.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.14.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider defining a standard enumerator type for uses beyond interoperability with C.

Fortran.3.14.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.15 Numeric Conversion Errors [FLC]

Fortran.3.15.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.15.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.15.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.15.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.15.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.15.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider adding a requirement that processors have the ability to detect and report conversions that might result in loss of data.

Fortran might consider adding an inquiry intrinsic to report the largest integer a real type can represent exactly.

Fortran.3.15.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.16 String Termination [CJM]

Fortran.3.16.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.16.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran has two varieties of character assignment: One has a truncate or blank fill semantic; the other causes a re-allocation of the target of the assignment when needed. No string terminator is used in the standard language.

Fortran.3.16.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.16.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.16.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.16.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.16.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.17 Boundary Beginning Violation [XYX]

Fortran.3.17.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.17.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran uses the term <rank> for the number of dimensions of an array.

An array of rank <n> is said to have <n> extents. Each extent has an upper and a lower bound. Using subscripts with values outside the bounds is prohibited. An index is called a subscript in Fortran.

Fortran.3.17.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.17.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.17.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use whole array operations and intrinsics where possible. Use inquiry intrinsics to determine upper and lower bounds. Choose upper and lower bounds that naturally describe the problem. Use assumed shape arrays when passing array arguments. Use allocatable, automatic, or fixed shape local arrays.

Fortran.3.17.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.17.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.18 Unchecked Array Indexing [XYZ]

Fortran.3.18.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.18.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.18.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.18.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.18.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use whole array operations and intrinsics where possible. Use inquiry intrinsics to determine upper and lower bounds. Choose upper and lower bounds that naturally describe the problem. Use assumed shape arrays when passing array arguments. Use allocatable, automatic, or fixed shape local arrays.

Fortran.3.18.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.18.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.19 Unchecked Array Copying [XYW]

Fortran.3.19.0 Status and history

Fortran.3.19.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.19.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.19.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.19.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use whole array operations and intrinsics where possible.
Use inquiry intrinsics to determine upper and lower bounds.
Choose upper and lower bounds that naturally describe the problem.
Use assumed shape arrays when passing array arguments.
Use allocatable, automatic, or fixed shape local arrays.

Fortran.3.19.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.19.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.20 Buffer Overflow [XZB]

Fortran.3.20.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.20.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.20.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.20.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.20.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use whole array operations and intrinsics where possible.
Use inquiry intrinsics to determine upper and lower bounds.
Choose upper and lower bounds that naturally describe the problem.
Use assumed shape arrays when passing array arguments.
Use allocatable, automatic, or fixed shape local arrays.

Fortran.3.20.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.20.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.21 Pointer Casting and Pointer Type Changes [HFC]

Fortran.3.21.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.21.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran pointers are strongly typed, and may point only to variables named as targets.

Fortran.3.21.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.21.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.21.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.21.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.21.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.22 Pointer Arithmetic [RVG]

Fortran.3.22.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.22.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran does not allow pointer arithmetic.

Fortran.3.22.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.22.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.22.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.22.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.22.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.23 Null Pointer Dereference [XYH]

Fortran.3.23.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.23.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.23.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.23.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.23.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use the ALLOCATED and ASSOCIATED intrinsics to guard against using pointers without targets.

Fortran.3.23.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.23.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.24 Dangling Reference to Heap [XYK]

Fortran.3.24.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.24.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.24.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.24.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.24.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use assignment statements to give variables initial values on entry to procedures. Be aware that an initial value in a declarative statement implies static storage.

Do not apply the SAVE attribute to allocatable local variables.

Fortran.3.24.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.24.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.25 Templates and Generics [SYM]

Fortran.3.25.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.25.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran does not support templates or generics.

Fortran.3.25.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.25.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.25.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.25.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.25.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.26 Inheritance [RIP]

Fortran.3.26.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.26.1 Language-specific terminology

A type that inherits from another type is said to be a child type that extends the parent type. Fortran supports single inheritance only. Polymorphic variables are limited to pointers, allocatable variables, and dummy arguments.

Fortran.3.26.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.26.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.26.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.26.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider adding class invariants.

Fortran.3.26.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.27 Initialization of Variables [LAV]

Fortran.3.27.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.27.1 Language-specific terminology

Supplying an initial value to a variable implies that static storage will be used, not that the variable

is initialized whenever the scope in which it is declared is entered.

Fortran.3.27.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.27.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.27.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use executable statements to supply initial values to procedure local variables.

Fortran.3.27.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider a way to supply an initial value for a variable every time the scope in which it is declared is entered.

Fortran.3.27.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.28 Wrap-around Error [XYY]

Fortran.3.28.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.28.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.28.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.28.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.28.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not use the same variables for bit operations and for arithmetic; instead, use separate variables and check values upon conversion.

Fortran.3.28.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider a separate type for bit operations.

Fortran.3.28.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.29 Sign Extension Error [XZI]

Fortran.3.29.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.29.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran does not have unsigned data types.

Fortran.3.29.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.29.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.29.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.29.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.29.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.30 Operator Precedence/Order of Evaluation [JCW]

Fortran.3.30.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.30.1 Language-specific terminology

Assignment is not an operator in Fortran.

Bit operations are intrinsic functions, so precedence is clear.

Fortran.3.30.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.30.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.30.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.30.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.30.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.31 Side-effects and Order of Evaluation [SAM]

Fortran.3.31.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.31.1 Language-specific terminology

A Fortran processor need not evaluate any part of an expression not needed to compute the value of the expression. Side effects of functions contributing to such portions of expressions are processor-dependent, and any values associated with such problematic evaluation is undefined.

Fortran.3.31.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.31.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.31.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not put functions in expressions where they might not be evaluated if the function has side effects.

Prefer to use pure functions where that will achieve the programming objective.

Fortran.3.31.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider an attribute to control function evaluation in expressions.

Fortran.3.31.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.32 Likely Incorrect Expression [KOA]

Fortran.3.32.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.32.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.32.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.32.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.32.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use variables to hold function results in complex expressions.

Fortran.3.32.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider an attribute to control function evaluation in expressions.

Fortran.3.32.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.33 Dead and Deactivated Code [XYQ]

Fortran.3.33.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.33.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.33.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.33.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.33.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.33.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider requiring processors to detect and report the presence of unreachable code.

Fortran.3.33.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.34 Switch Statements and Static Analysis [CLL]

Fortran.3.34.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.34.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.34.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.34.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.34.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.34.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider requiring processors to detect and report the presence of unreachable code.

Fortran.3.34.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.35 Demarcation of Control Flow [EOJ]

Fortran.3.35.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.35.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.35.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.35.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.35.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects

in Fortran

Note that the non-block form of the DO construct is a decremental feature, and as such, it should not be used.

Use the block form of the DO loop.

Fortran.3.35.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.35.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.36 Loop Control Variables [TEX]

Fortran.3.36.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.36.1 Language-specific terminology

It is not possible to modify the loop control variable of a DO loop in any way that the processor can detect. If the loop control variable is passed to a procedure, the processor might not be able to detect violations.

Fortran.3.36.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.36.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.36.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Fortran.3.36.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider an option to require all procedures called with loop variables as arguments to have explicit interface and argument intents, so the dummy argument receiving the loop control variable can be checked to be intent(in).

Fortran.3.36.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.37 Off-by-one Error [XZH]

Fortran.3.37.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.37.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.37.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.37.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.37.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Be clear about < versus <= and > versus >= operators.

Use inquiry intrinsics to determine the upper and lower bounds of array extents.

Fortran.3.37.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.37.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.38 Structured Programming [EWD]

Fortran.3.38.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.38.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.38.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.38.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.38.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not use alternate returns.

Do not use branches from input/output statements when status (error or end) conditions occur.

Fortran.3.38.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider an option to forbid branching from transfer statements, and alternate returns from subprograms.

Fortran.3.38.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.39 Passing Parameters and Return Values [CSJ]

Fortran.3.39.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.39.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran does not specify a mechanism for passing values

into or out of a subroutine. This is governed by argument association rules, together with argument intents.

Fortran.3.39.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.39.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.39.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Use argument intents.

Fortran.3.39.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider introducing a more complete set of argument intents, to cover all cases including pointers to constants versus constant pointers.

Fortran.3.39.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.40 Dangling References to Stack Frames [DCM]

Fortran.3.40.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.40.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.40.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.40.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.40.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Do not assign local targets to pointers whose longevity is longer than the function's execution.

Fortran.3.40.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider providing that processors shall detect and report where pointers declared outside a procedure are pointer assigned to procedure local targets.

Fortran.3.40.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.41 Subprogram Signature Mismatch [OTR]

Fortran.3.41.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.41.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.41.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.41.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.41.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Use modules to package procedures so they will have explicit interfaces.
Use interface bodies to describe external procedures, these might be
generated automatically by a tool, or by the processor.

Fortran.3.41.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider providing that processors shall have the ability
to require explicit interfaces for all procedures.

Fortran.3.41.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.42 Recursion [GDL]

Fortran.3.42.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.42.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.42.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.42.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.42.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Fortran.3.42.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.42.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.43 Returning Error Status [NZN]

Fortran.3.43.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.43.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.43.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.43.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.43.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Always check the STAT= or IOSTAT= specifier as appropriate.

Fortran.3.43.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider providing that processors shall have the ability to require all statements supporting a STAT= or IOSTAT= specifier to have one present on each occurrence.

Fortran.3.43.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.44 Termination Strategy [REU]

Fortran.3.44.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.44.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.44.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.44.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.44.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects in Fortran

Understand and use ALL STOP, STOP and SYNC IMAGES correctly.

Fortran.3.44.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.44.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.45 Extra Intrinsic [LRM]

Fortran.3.45.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.45.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.45.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.45.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.45.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects

in Fortran

Give all external names the external attribute,
or better, an explicit interface.

Fortran.3.45.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.45.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.46 Type-breaking Reinterpretation of Data [AMV]

Fortran.3.46.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.46.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.46.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.46.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.46.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Do not rely on different names with different types in storage sequences.
Do not use TRANSFER.
Do not cause storage association of objects of different type by
using common or equivalence.

Fortran.3.46.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider requiring processors to detect and report
when type breaking reuse of bits occurs.

Fortran.3.46.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.47 Memory Leak [XYL]

Fortran.3.47.0 Status and history

Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.47.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.47.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.47.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.47.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Use allocatable or automatic variables in local procedures.
Do not apply the SAVE attribute.

Fortran.3.47.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.47.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.48 Argument Passing to Library Functions [TRJ]

Fortran.3.48.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.48.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran.3.48.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.48.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.48.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Use explicit interfaces for libraries.
Use tools, if needed, to create interfaces for libraries.

Fortran.3.48.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.48.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.49 Dynamically-linked Code and Self-modifying Code [NYY]

Fortran.3.49.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.49.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran does not support self-modifying code.

Fortran.3.49.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.49.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.49.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Fortran.3.49.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.49.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.50 Library Signature [NSQ]

Fortran.3.50.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.50.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran has no self-modifying code.

Fortran.3.50.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.50.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.50.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Use explicit interfaces for libraries.
Use tools, if needed, to create interfaces for libraries.

Fortran.3.50.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran.3.50.6 Bibliography

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Fortran.3.51 Unanticipated Exceptions from Library Routines [HJW]

Fortran.3.51.0 Status and history
Original draft - DLN

Fortran.3.51.1 Language-specific terminology

Fortran does not support handling exceptions from libraries.

Fortran.3.51.2 Description of application vulnerability

Fortran.3.51.3 Mechanism of failure

Fortran.3.51.4 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects
in Fortran

Use explicit interfaces for libraries.
Use tools, if needed, to create interfaces for libraries.

Fortran.3.51.5 Implications for standardization in Fortran

Fortran might consider providing a way to handle exceptions.

Fortran.3.51.6 Bibliography

