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Preface

OMG

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1 Scope

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this specification is to establish a standard measure of Performance Efficiency based on detecting violations of good architectural and coding practices that could result in inefficient operation such as performance degradation or excessive use of processor resources. Establishing a standard for this measure is important because such measures are being used in outsourcing and system development contracts without having an approved international standard to reference. They are also critical to other software-intensive OMG initiatives such as The Internet of Things. The Consortium for IT Software Quality (CISQ) was formed as a special interest group of OMG to create specifications for automating standard measures of software quality attributes and submit them to OMG for approval.

1.2 CISQ Background

This specification defines a method for automating the measurement of Performance Efficiency from violations of architectural and coding practice that affect an application's performance and resource usage. The violations included in the CISQ measure were selected from a large set of candidate violations related to Performance Efficiency issues. The final set of violations were chosen through a voting process among CISQ member organizations that resulted in a limited set of violations that member organizations believed were sufficiently severe that they had to be remediated. This process will be described more fully in a subsequent sub clause.

1.3 Overview of Software Quality Characteristic Measurement

Measurement of the internal or structural quality aspects of software has a long history in software engineering (Curtis, 1980). Software quality characteristics are increasingly being incorporated into development and outsourcing contracts as the equivalent of service level agreements. That is, target thresholds based on quality characteristic measures are being set in contracts for delivered software. Currently there are no standards for most of the software quality characteristic measures being used in contracts. ISO/IEC 25023 purports to address these measures, but only provides measures of external behavior and does not define measures that can be developed from source code during development. Consequently, providers are subject to different interpretations and calculations of common quality characteristics in each contract. This specification addresses one aspect of this problem by providing a specification for measuring one quality characteristic, Performance Efficiency, from the source code. This specification is one of four specifying source code level measures of quality characteristics. The other three specify quality characteristic measures for Reliability, Security, and Maintainability.

Violations of Good Architectural and Coding Practice—The most recent advance in measuring the structural quality of software is based on the analysis and measurement of violations of good architectural and coding practice that can be detected by statically analyzing the source code. The CWE/SANS 25 and OWASP Top Ten lists of security weaknesses are examples of this approach. These lists are drawn from the Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) repository maintained by MITRE Corporation. CWE contains descriptions of over 800 weaknesses that represent violations of good architectural and coding practice in software that can be exploited to gain unauthorized entry into a system. The Software Assurance community has been a leader in this area of measurement by championing the detection of code weaknesses as a way of improving one aspect of software quality—software security.

Unfortunately there are no equivalent repositories of weaknesses for Reliability, Performance Efficiency, or Maintainability. Knowledge of these weaknesses is spread across software engineering textbooks, expert blogs, and information sharing sites such as github. The CISQ measure for Performance Efficiency can fill the void for a consensus body of knowledge about the most egregious Performance Efficiency problems that should be detected and remediated in source code. Currently, no standards or guidelines have been developed for calculating component or application-level Performance Efficiency measures that aggregate weaknesses detected through static code analysis into application-level Performance Efficiency measures. CISQ will be providing recommendations for these aggregation and scaling techniques. However, these techniques are not part of this standard since different measurement objectives are best served by different scoring techniques.

Using violations of good architectural and coding practices in software quality metrics presents several challenges for establishing baselines. Growth in the number of unique violations to be detected could continually raise the bar for measuring quality, reducing the validity of baseline comparisons. Further, different vendors will detect different sets of violations, making comparisons difficult across commercial software quality measurement offerings. One solution to this problem is to create a stable list of violations that are used for computing a baseline for each quality characteristic. The Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure was developed by a team of industry experts to form the basis for a stable baseline measure.

1.4 Development of the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure

The original 24 CISQ member companies provided experts to working groups whose charter was to define CISQ measures. Violations of good architectural and coding practice that a high probability of causing Performance Efficiency problems were selected by an international team of experts drawn from the 24 organizations that joined CISQ in 2010. These organizations included IT departments in Fortune 200 companies, system integrators/outsourcers, and vendors that provide quality-related products and services to the IT market. The experts met several times per year for two years in the US, France, and India to develop a broad list of candidate Performance Efficiency weaknesses and then pare it down to a set they felt had to be remediated to avoid serious operational problems.

The work group began by defining Performance Efficiency issues, quality rules for avoiding these issues, and measures based on counting violations of these rules. They developed lists of issues and quality rules by drawing information from company defect logs, their career experience in different environments, and industry sources such as books and blogs. In order to reduce the work group's initial list to a critical set of Performance Efficiency violations, work group members individually evaluated the severity of each violation. High severity violations were judged to be those that must be fixed in a future release because of their operational risk or cost impact. The work group went through several rounds of eliminating lower severity violations and re-rating the severity of remaining violations until a final list was established as the quality measure elements to be incorporated into this specification.

1.5 Structure of the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure

ISO/IEC 25010 defines a quality characteristic as being composed from several quality sub-characteristics. This framework for software product quality is presented in Figure 1.1 for the eight quality characteristics presented in 25010. The quality characteristics and their sub-characteristics selected for source code measurement by CISQ are indicated in blue.

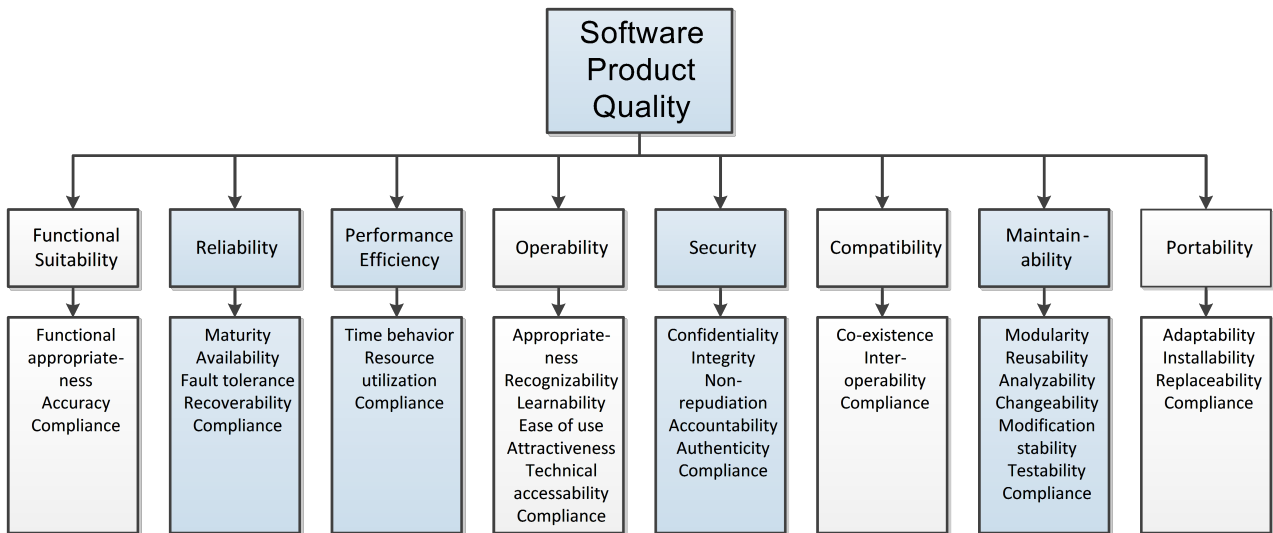


Figure 1.1 - Software Quality Characteristics from ISO/IEC 25010 with CISQ focal areas highlighted

ISO/IEC 25023 establishes a framework of software quality characteristic measures wherein each quality sub-characteristic consists of a collection of quality attributes that can be quantified as quality measure elements. A quality measure element quantifies a unitary measurable attribute of software, such as the violation of a quality rule. Figure 1.2 presents an example of the ISO/IEC 25023 quality measurement framework using a partial decomposition for the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure.

The non-normative portion of this specification begins by listing the Performance Efficiency issues that can plague software developed with poor architectural and coding practices. Quality rules written as architectural or coding practices are conventions that avoided the problem described in the Performance Efficiency issue. These quality rules were then transformed into software quality measure elements by counting violations of these architectural and coding practices and conventions.

The normative portion of this specification represents each quality measure element developed from a Performance Efficiency rule using the Structured Patterns Metamodel Standard (SPMS). The code-based elements in these patterns are represented in the Knowledge Discovery Metamodel (KDM). The calculation of the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure from its quality measure elements is then represented using the Structured Metrics Metamodel (SMM). This calculation is presented as the simple sum of quality measure elements without being adjusted by a weighting scheme.

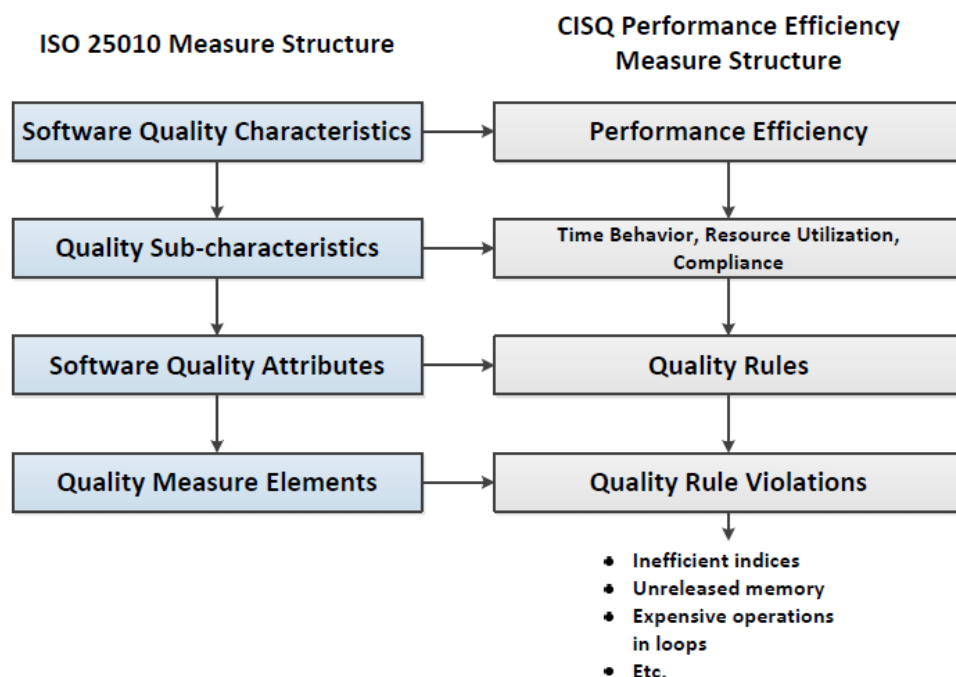


Figure 1.2 – ISO/IEC 25010 Framework for Software Quality Characteristics Measurement

There are several weighting schemes that can be applied in aggregating violation counts into structural quality measures. The most effective weighting often depends on the measure’s use such as assessing operational risk or estimating maintenance costs. The quality measure elements included in this specification were considered to be severe violations of secure architectural and coding practices that would need to be remediated. Therefore, weightings based on severity would add little useful information to the measure since the variance among weights would be small. In order to support benchmarking among applications, this specification includes a measure of the violation density. This measure is created by dividing the total number of violations detected by a count of Automated Function Points (Object Management Group, 2014).

1.6 Using and Improving This Measure

The Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure is a correlated measure rather than an absolute measure. That is, since it does not measure all possible Performance Efficiency-related weaknesses it does not provide an absolute measure of Performance Efficiency. However, since it includes counts of what industry experts considered high severity Performance Efficiency weaknesses, it provides a strong indicator of Performance Efficiency that will be highly correlated with the absolute Performance Efficiency of a software system and with the probability that it can experience outages, data corruption, and related problems.

Since the impact and frequency of specific violations in the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure could change over time, this approach allows specific violations to be included, excluded, amplified, or diminished over time in order to support the most effective benchmarking, diagnostic, and predictive use. This specification will be adjusted through controlled OMG specification revision processes to reflect changes in Performance Efficiency engineering while retaining the ability to compare baselines. Vendors of static analysis and measurement technology can compute this standard baseline measure, as well as their own extended measures that include other Performance Efficiency weaknesses not included as measure elements in this specification.

2 Conformance

Implementations of this specification should be able to demonstrate the following attributes in order to claim conformance—automated, objective, transparent, and verifiable.

- **Automated** – The analysis of the source code and the actual counting must be fully automated. The initial inputs required to prepare the source code for analysis include the source code of the application, the artifacts, and information needed to configure the application for operation, and any available description of the architectural layers in the application.
- **Objective** – After the source code has been prepared for analysis using the information provided as inputs, the analysis, calculation, and presentation of results must not require further human intervention. The analysis and calculation must be able to repeatedly produce the same results and outputs on the same body of software.
- **Transparent** – Implementations that conform to this specification must clearly list all source code (including versions), non-source code artifacts, and other information used to prepare the source code for submission to the analysis.
- **Verifiable** – Compliance with this specification requires that an implementation state the assumptions/heuristics it used with sufficient detail so that the calculations may be independently verified by third parties. In addition, all inputs used are required to be clearly described and itemized so that they can be audited by a third party.

3 References

3.1 Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions, which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this specification. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of any of these publications do not apply.

- Structured Patterns Metamodel Standard, version 1.0, formal/2015-10-01
- Knowledge Discovery Metamodel, version 1.3 (KDM), formal/2011-08-04
- Structured Metrics Metamodel, version 1.0 (SMM), formal/2012-01-05
- MOF/XMI Mapping, version 2.4.1 (XMI), formal/2011-08-09
- Automated Function Points (AFP), formal/2014-01-03
- ISO/IEC 25010 Systems and software engineering – System and software product Quality Requirements and Evaluation (SquaRE) – System and software quality models

4 Terms and Definitions

Automated Function Points - a specification for automating the counting of Function Points that mirrors as closely as possible the counting guidelines of the International Function Point User Group. (OMG, formal 2014-01-03)

Common Weakness Enumeration - a repository maintained by MITRE Corporation of known weaknesses in software that can be exploited to gain unauthorized entry into a software system. (cwe.mitre.org)

Cyclomatic Complexity - A measure of control flow complexity developed by Thomas McCabe based on a graph-theoretic analysis that reduces the control flow of a computer program to a set of edges, vertices, and their attributes that can be quantified. (McCabe, 1976)

Internal Software Quality - the degree to which a set of static attributes of a software product satisfy stated and implied needs for the software product to be used under specified conditions. This will be referred to as software structural quality, or simply structural quality in this specification. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Performance Efficiency – performance relative to the amount of resources or time used under stated conditions. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Quality Measure Element - a measure defined in terms of a software quality attribute and the measurement method for quantifying it, including optionally the transformation by a mathematical function. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Product - a set of computer programs, procedures, and possibly associated documentation and data. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Product Quality Model - a model that categorizes product quality properties into eight characteristics (functional suitability, reliability, performance efficiency, usability, security, compatibility, maintainability and portability). Each characteristic is composed of a set of related sub-characteristics. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality - degree to which a software product satisfies stated and implied needs when used under specified conditions. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Attribute - an inherent property or characteristic of software that can be distinguished quantitatively or qualitatively by human or automated means. (derived from ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Characteristic - a category of software quality attributes that bears on software quality. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Characteristic Measure - a software quality measure derived from measuring the attributes related to a specific software quality characteristic.

Software Quality Issue - architectural or coding practices that are known to cause problems in software development, maintenance, or operations and for which software quality rules can be defined that help avoid problems created by the issue.

Software Quality Measure - a measure that is defined as a measurement function of two or more values of software quality measure elements. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Measurement - (verb) a set of operations having the object of determining a value of a software quality measure. (ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Model - a defined set of software characteristics, and of relationships between them, which provides a framework for specifying software quality requirements and evaluating the quality of a software product. (derived from ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Property - measurable component of software quality. (derived from ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Quality Rule - an architectural or coding practice or convention that represents good software engineering practice and avoids problems in software development, maintenance, or operations. Violations of these quality rules produces software anti-patterns.

Software Quality Sub-characteristic - a sub-category of a software quality characteristic to which software quality attributes and their software quality measure elements are conceptually related. (derived from ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Performance Efficiency - the degree to which the performance of a piece of software minimizes its use of resources or time in accomplishing its specified functions under stated conditions. (adapted from ISO/IEC 25010)

Software Performance Efficiency Measure Element - a measure defined in terms of a quality attribute of software that affects its Performance Efficiency and the measurement method for quantifying it, including optionally the transformation by a mathematical function. (adapted from ISO/IEC 25023)

Structural Quality - the degree to which a set of static attributes of a software product satisfy stated and implied needs for the software product to be used under specified conditions—a component of software quality. This concept is referred to as internal software quality in ISO/IEC 25010

Violation – a pattern or structure in the code that is inconsistent with good architectural and coding practices and can lead to problems in operation or maintenance.

5 Symbols and Abbreviated Terms

- CISQ – Consortium for IT Software Quality
- KDM – Knowledge Discovery Metamodel
- SPMS – Structured Patterns Metamodel Standard
- SMM – Structured Metrics Metamodel

6 Additional Information (Informative)

6.1 Software Product Inputs

The following inputs are needed by static code analyzers in order to interpret violations of the software quality rules that would be included in individual software quality measure elements.

- The entire source code for the application being analyzed
- All materials and information required to prepare the application for production
- A description of the architecture and layer boundaries of the application, including an assignment of modules to layers

Static code analyzers will also need a list of the violations that constitute each quality element in the CISQ Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure.

6.2 Input Values for Thresholds in Measure Elements

Several of the weaknesses in the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency measure detect violations of good architectural or coding practice based on threshold values for a construct being exceeded. Table 6.1 lists the default threshold value used in specifying this measure. In using this measure, threshold values can be adjusted to different levels. However, when the threshold values are adjusted the results cannot be compared or benchmarked to data from other analyses that used the default values. In such cases it may be good to compute values for both the default and adjusted values.

Table 6.1 – Input Values for Thresholds in Measure Elements

| | |
|---|--|
| <DataAccessComponentList> list of components designated to manage data accesses | |
| <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> minimum value | The default value for <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> is 1000000. |
| <NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue> maximum value | The default value for <NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue> is 5. |
| <NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue> maximum value | The default value for <NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue> is 3. |
| <IndexRangeThresholdValue> maximum value | The default value for <IndexRangeThresholdValue> is 10. |
| <NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue> maximum value | The default value for <NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue> is 3. |
| <NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> maximal value | The default value for <NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> is 2 client-side, and 5 server-side. |
| <NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue> maximum value | The default value for <NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue> is 5. |

6.3 Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure Elements

The violations of good architectural and coding practice incorporated into the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure are listed and describe in Table 6.2. Some of the CWEs from the Common Weakness Enumeration repository that are included in the CISQ Security measure are also defects that can cause Performance Efficiency problems. In order to retain consistency across measurement specifications, the original CWE numbers and titles have been retained for these Performance Efficiency measure elements.

Table 6.2 - Performance Efficiency Patterns and Their Consequences, Objectives, and Measure Elements

| Performance Efficiency Pattern | Consequence | Objective | Measure Element |
|---|---|---|---|
| ASCPEM-PRF-1: Static Block Element containing Class Instance Creation Control Element | Software that is coded so as to execute expensive computations repeatedly (such as in loops) requires excessive computational resources when the usage and data volume grow | Avoid upfront initialization of software data elements | Number of instances where a storable data element or member data element is initialized with a value in the 'Write' action and is located in a block of code which is declared as static. |
| ASCPEM-PRF-2: Immutable Storable and Member Data Element Creation | Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources | Avoid unnecessary usage of additional immutable data elements | Number of instances where a named callable control element or method control element creates immutable text data elements via the string concatenation statement (which could be avoided by using text buffer data elements). |
| ASCPEM-PRF-3: Static Member Data Element outside of a Singleton Class Element | Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources | Avoid unnecessary up-front allocation of memory for all data elements | Number of instances where a static member element is declared as static but its parent class element is not a singleton class (that is, a class element that can be used only once in the 'to' association of a 'Create' action); it does not take into account final static fields. |
| ASCPEM-PRF-4: Data Resource Read and Write Access Excessive Complexity | Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources | Avoid overly complex data queries | Number of instances where the number of rows in a data table exceeds a threshold value, and where it is accessed by a data action whose number of joins between tables exceeds a threshold value, and its number of sub-queries exceeds a threshold value. The default value for the number of rows is 1000000, the default value for the number of joins is 5, and the default value for the number of sub-queries is 3. |
| ASCPEM-PRF-5: Data Resource Read Access Unsupported by Index Element | Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources | Avoid unnecessary full scans of data tables | Number of instances where the syntax of the 'ReadsColumnSet' action and the index configuration of an SQL table or SQL view causes the DBMS to run sequential searches. |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>ASCPem-PRF-6: Large Data Resource ColumnSet Excessive Number of Index Elements</p> | <p>Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources</p> | <p>Avoid too many indices on very large data tables</p> | <p>Number of instances where the number of rows in a data table exceeds a threshold value, and its number of indices exceeds a threshold value. The default value for number of rows is 1000000, and the default value for number of table indices is 3.</p> |
| <p>ASCPem-PRF-7: Large Data Resource ColumnSet with Index Element of Excessive Size</p> | <p>Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources</p> | <p>Avoid overly large indices on very large data tables</p> | <p>Number of instances where the number of rows in a data table exceeds a threshold value, and where the range value of its index exceeds a threshold value. The default value for number of rows is 1000000, and the default value for the index range is 10.</p> |
| <p>ASCPem-PRF-8: Control Elements Requiring Significant Resource Element within Control Flow Loop Block</p> | <p>Software that is coded so as to execute expensive computations repeatedly (such as in loops) requires excessive computational resources when the usage and data volume grow</p> | <p>Avoid resource consuming operations found directly or indirectly within loops</p> | <p>Number of instances where a control element that causes platform resource consumption is directly or indirectly called via an execution path starting from within a loop body block or within a loop condition.</p> |
| <p>ASCPem-PRF-9: Non-Stored SQL Callable Control Element with Excessive Number of Data Resource Access</p> | <p>Software that does not leverage database capabilities to efficiently run data processing (such as stored procedures and functions) requires excessive computational resources</p> | <p>Use dedicated stored procedures when multiple data accesses are needed</p> | <p>Number of instances where server-side non-stored callable control elements in a data manager resource embed a number of data resource accesses that exceed a threshold value. The default value for the number of data queries is 5.</p> |
| <p>ASCPem-PRF-10: Non-SQL Named Callable and Method Control Element with Excessive Number of Data Resource Access</p> | <p>Software that does not leverage database capabilities to efficiently run data processing (such as stored procedures and functions) requires excessive computational resources</p> | <p>Avoid software elements requiring too many data accesses outside of the data manager</p> | <p>Number of instances where a client-side control element named callable or method control element are not in any data manager resource and they embed a number of data resource access actions that exceed a threshold value. The default threshold for the number of data queries is 2.</p> |
| <p>ASCPem-PRF-11: Data Access Control Element from Outside Designated Data Manager Component</p> | <p>Software deployed in distributed environment that does not maintain redundancy of data (such as cache) and code increases the time with which they are accessed</p> | <p>Use dedicated and specialized data manager component(s)</p> | <p>Number of instances where a named callable control element or method control element executes a data action that is not executed through a dedicated central data manager component identified in the data access component list (the unlisted data access component can be either client-side or server-</p> |

| | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| | | | side, which means that not all server-side components are allowed to handle data accesses and that data access components can be developed using non-SQL languages; in essence, the data access does not follow the intended design). |
| ASCPEM-PRF-12: Storable and Member Data Element Excessive Number of Aggregated Storable and Member Data Elements | Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources | Avoid the creation of excessively large data elements | Number of instances where a data type of the storable data element aggregates a number of storable data elements with non-primitive data types that exceeds a threshold value. The default value for the number of aggregated objects is 5. |
| ASCPEM-PRF-13: Data Resource Access not using Connection Pooling capability | Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources | Share database connections via a connection pool | Number of instances where a named callable control element or method control element executes a data resource management action without using a connection pooling capability (the usage of connection pooling capability is technology dependent; for example, connection pooling is disabled with the addition of 'Pooling=false' to the connection string with ADO.NET or the value of 'com.sun.jndi.ldap.connect.pool' environment parameter in Java). |
| ASCPEM-PRF-14: Storable and Member Data Element Memory Allocation Missing De-Allocation Control Element | Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources | Avoid failure to release used memory | Number of instances where a memory resource is explicitly allocated via the 'ManagesResource' action to a storable or member data element which is used throughout the application, and for which the transformation sequence is composed of action elements with data relations some of which are part of named callable and method control elements, but none of which is a memory release statement. |
| ASCPEM-PRF-15: Storable and Member Data Element Reference Missing De-Referencing Control Element | Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources | Avoid failure to release used data elements | Number of instances where a method control element references via the access action a storable or member data element without invoking its finalize method. |

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7 SPMS Representation of the Performance Efficiency Quality Measure Patterns (Normative)

7.1 Introduction

This clause displays in a human readable format the content of the machine readable XMI format file accompanying this specification. The content of the machine readable XMI format file is the representations of the CISQ Performance Efficiency Measure Elements:

- using the framework of the Structured Patterns Metamodel Standard (SPMS)
- describing the source code entities within a measure element as entities contained in the Knowledge Discovery Metamodel (KDM) and embedding them within the SPMS patterns, so that the representation is both descriptive and formal.

SPMS

More specifically, the machine readable XMI format file accompanying this specification uses the SPMS Definitions Classes:

- **PatternDefinition (SPMS:PatternDefinition):** the pattern specification. In the context of this document, each CISQ Quality Measure Element is basically the count of occurrences of the described patterns.
- **Role (SPMS:Role):** “A pattern is informally defined as a set of relationships between a set of entities. Roles describe the set of entities within a pattern, between which those relationships will be described. As such the Role is a required association in a PatternDefinition. [...]. Semantically, a Role is a 'slot' that is required to be fulfilled for an instance of its parent PatternDefinition to exist.”
- **PatternSection (SPMS:PatternSection):** “A PatternSection is a free-form prose textual description of a portion of a PatternDefinition.” In the context of this document, there are several different PatternSections in use:
 - “Descriptor” to provide pattern signature, a visible interface of the pattern.
 - “Measure Element” to provide a human readable explanation of the measure.
 - “Description” to provide a human readable explanation of the pattern that is sought after, identifying “Roles” and KDM modeling information.
 - “Objective” to provide a human readable explanation of the intent to get rid of the occurrences of the pattern that is sought after.
 - “Consequence” to provide a human readable explanation of the issue the detection of the pattern is designed to solve.
 - “Input” to provide a human readable of the parameters that are needed to fine-tune the behavior of the pattern detection (e.g., the target application architectural blueprint to comply with).
 - “Comment” to provide some additional information (until now, used to inform about situations where the same measure element is useful for another one of the categories).

As well as some of the SPMS Relationships Classes:

- MemberOf (SPMS:MemberOf): “An InterpatternRelationship specialized to indicate inclusion in a Category.”
- Category (SPMS:Category): “A Category is a simple grouping element for gathering related PatternDefinitions into clusters.” In the context of this document, the SPMS Categories are used to represent the Quality Characteristic of Performance Efficiency.

KDM

More specifically, the machine readable XMI format file accompanying this specification uses KDM entities in the “Description” section of the pattern definitions. Descriptions try to remain as generic yet accurate as possible so that the pattern can be applicable and applied to as many situations as possible, such as different technologies and different programming languages.

This means:

- 1 The descriptions include information such as (code:MethodUnit), (action:Reads), (platform:ManagesResource), etc. to identify the KDM entities in the pattern definition.
- 2 The descriptions only elaborate the salient aspects of the pattern as the specifics can be technology- or language-dependent.

Table 7.1 presents a translation of KDM terms used in the current specification into the wording of their ordinary usage.

Table 7.1 – KEM Elements Incorporated into SPMS Patterns

| Ordinary term(s) | KDM description(s) |
|---|---|
| function, method, procedure, stored procedure, sub-routine etc. | named callable control element (code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular,' 'external,' or 'stored') or method control element (code:MethodUnit) |
| variable, field, member, etc. | storable data element (code:StorableUnit) or member data element (code:MemberUnit) |
| class | class element (code:StorableUnit with code:DataType code:ClassUnit) |
| interface | interface element (code:StorableUnit of code:DataType code:InterfaceUnit) |
| method | method element (code:MethodUnit) |
| field, member | member element (code:MemberUnit) |
| SQL stored procedures | stored callable control elements (code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'storec') in a data manager resource (platform:DataManager) |
| return code value | value (code:Value) of the return parameter (code:ParameterUnit of code:ParameterKind 'return') |
| exception | exception parameter (code:ParameterUnit with code:ParameterKind 'exception') |
| user input data flow | an external value is entered into the application through the 'ReadsUI' user interface ReadsUI action (ui:ReadsUI), transformed throughout the application along the 'TransformationSequence' sequence (action:BlockUnit) composed of ActionElements with DataRelations relations (action:Reads, action:Writes, |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| | action:Addresses), some of which being part of named callable and method control elements (code:MethodUnit or code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular,' 'external,' or 'stored'), and ultimately used as |
| execution path | execution path (action:BlockUnit composed of action:ActionElements with action:CallableRelations to code:ControlElements) |
| Libraries, etc. | deployed component (platform:DeployedComponent) |
| RDBMS | data manager resource (platform:DataManager) |
| loop body | loop body block (action:BlockUnit starting as the action:TrueFlow of the loop action:GuardedFlow and ending with an action:Flow back to the loop action:GuardedFlow) |
| loop condition | loop condition (action:BlockUnit used in the action:GuardedFlow) |
| singleton | class element (code:StorableUnit with code:DataType code:ClassUnit) that can be used only once in the 'to' association of a Create action (action:Creates) |
| checked | used by a check control element (code:ControlElement containing action:ActionElement with a kind from micro KDM list of comparison actions) |

Reading guide

Sub clause 7.2 represents the SPMS Category for the software quality characteristic covered in this specification. Starting with sub clause 7.3, each section numbered 7.x represents a new SPMS PatternDefinition member of this SPMS Category. SPMS PatternDefinition sub sections are:

- Pattern category: the “SPMS:Category” category the pattern is related to through a “SPMS:MemberOf” relationship.
- Pattern sections: the list of "SPMS:PatternSection" sections from the pattern:
 - “Descriptor”
 - “Description”
 - “Objective”
 - “Consequence”
and when applicable,
 - “Input”
 - “Comment”
- Pattern roles: the list of “SPMS:Role” roles used in the “Descriptor” and “Description” sub clauses above.

In the following sub clauses

- Data between square brackets (e.g., [key CISQ_PerformanceEfficiency]) identifies “xmi:id” that are unique and used to reference entities. They are machine-generated to ensure unicity.

- Data between parentheses (e.g., (code:MethodUnit)) identifies KDM modeling information.
- Data between angle brackets (e.g., <ControlElement>) identifies SPMS Roles in Description and Input sub clauses.

7.2 Category Definition of CISQ Performance Efficiency

[key ASCPEM-Performance Efficiency] CISQ_Performance_Efficiency

7.3 Pattern Definition of ASCPEM-PRF-1: Static Block Element containing Class Instance Creation Control Element

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-objective]

Avoid upfront initialization of software data elements

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-consequence]

Software that is coded so as to execute expensive computations repeatedly (such as in loops) requires excessive computational resources when the usage and data volume grow.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-measure-element]

Number of instances where a storable data element or member data element is initialized with a value in the ‘Write’ action and is located in a block of code which is declared as static.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-description]

This pattern identifies situations where a storable data element (code:StorableUnit) or member data element (code:MemberUnit) is initialized with a value in the <InitializationStatement> Write action (action:Write) located into the <StaticBlock> block of code (action:BlockUnit) which is declared as static.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-1(StaticBlock: staticBlock,InitializationStatement: initializationStatement)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-roles-staticBlock] StaticBlock

[key ASCPEM-PRF-1-roles-initializationStatement] InitializationStatement

7.4 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-2: Immutable Storable and Member Data Element Creation

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-objective]

Avoid unnecessary usage of additional immutable data elements.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-measure-element]

Number of instances where a named callable control element or method control element creates immutable text data elements via the string concatenation statement (which could be avoided by using text buffer data elements).

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <ControlElement> named callable control element (code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular,' 'external,' or 'stored') or method control element (code:MethodUnit) creates immutable text data elements (code:DataElement with code:DataType code:StringType) via the <StringConcatenationStatement> string concatenation statement (code:ControlElement using 2 action:Reads and 1 action:Writes on code:DataElement with code:DataType code:StringType), which could be avoided by using text buffer data elements.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-2(ControlElement: controlElement,StringConcatenationStatement: stringConcatenationStatement)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-roles-controlElement] ControlElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-2-roles-stringConcatenationStatement] StringConcatenationStatement

7.5 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-3: Static Member Data Element outside of a Singleton Class Element

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-objective]

Avoid unnecessary up-front allocation of memory for all data elements.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-measure-element]

Number of instances where a static member element is declared as static but its parent class element is not a singleton class (that is, a class element that can be used only once in the 'to' association of a 'Create' action); it does not take into account final static fields.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <StaticField> static member element (code:MemberUnit) is declared as static (code:StorableKind 'static') but its <ParentClass> parent class element (code:StorableUnit with code:DataType code:ClassUnit) is not a singleton class, that is, a class element that can be used only once in the 'to' association of a Create action (action:Creates); it does not take into account final static fields (code:MemberUnit with code:StorableKind 'static' and code:ExportKind 'final').

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-3(StaticField: staticField,ParentClass: parentClass)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-roles-staticField] StaticField

[key ASCPEM-PRF-3-roles-parentClass] ParentClass

7.6 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-4: Data Resource Read and Write Access Excessive Complexity

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-objective]

Avoid overly complex data queries.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-measure-element]

Number of instances where the number of rows in a data table exceeds a threshold value, and where it is accessed by a data action whose number of joins between tables exceeds a threshold value, and its number of sub-queries exceeds a threshold value. The default value for the number of rows is 1000000, the default value for the number of joins is 5, and the default value for the number of sub-queries is 3.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-description]

This pattern identifies situations the <DataTable> data table (data:ColumnSet) is considered as very large, based on its <NumberOfRows> number of rows which exceeds the <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> threshold value, and where it is accessed by the <QueryStatement> data actions (data:DataActions) which is considered to be too complex, based on its <NumberOfJoins> number of joins between tables which exceeds the <NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue> threshold value, and its <NumberOfSubQueries> number of sub-queries which exceeds the <NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue> threshold value.

The default value for <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> is 1000000.

The default value for <NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue> is 5.

The default value for <NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue> is 3.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-4(DataTable: dataTable,NumberOfRows: numberOfRows, NumberOfRowsThresholdValue: numberOfRowsThresholdValue, QueryStatement: queryStatement, NumberOfJoins: numberOfJoins, NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue: numberOfJoinsThresholdValue, NumberOfSubQueries: numberOfSubQueries, NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue: numberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-input]

<NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> minimum value

<NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue> maximum value

<NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue> maximum value

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-dataTable] DataTable

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-numberOfRows] NumberOfRows

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-numberOfRowsThresholdValue] NumberOfRowsThresholdValue

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-queryStatement] QueryStatement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-numberOfJoins] NumberOfJoins

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-numberOfJoinsThresholdValue] NumberOfJoinsThresholdValue

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-numberOfSubQueries] NumberOfSubQueries

[key ASCPEM-PRF-4-roles-numberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue] NumberOfSubQueriesThresholdValue

7.7 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-5: Data Resource Read Access Unsupported by Index Element

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-objective]

Avoid unnecessary full scans of data tables.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-measure-element]

Number of instances where the syntax of the 'ReadsColumnSet' action and the index configuration of an SQL table or SQL view causes the DBMS to run sequential searches.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the syntax of the <SelectSQLStatement> ReadsColumnSet action (data:ReadsColumnSet) and the index (data:Index) configuration of the <SQLTableOrView> SQL table (data:RelationalTable) or SQL view (data:RelationalView) causes the DBMS to run sequential searches.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-5(SelectSQLStatement: selectSQLStatement,SQLTableOrView: sQLTableOrView)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-roles-selectSQLStatement] SelectSQLStatement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-5-roles-sQLTableOrView] SQLTableOrView

7.8 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-6: Large Data Resource ColumnSet Excessive Number of Index Elements

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections**Objective**

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-objective]

Avoid too many indices on very large data tables.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-measure-element]

Number of instances where the number of rows in a data table exceeds a threshold value, and its number of indices exceeds a threshold value. The default value for number of rows is 1000000, and the default value for number of table indices is 3.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <DataTable> data table (data:ColumnSet) is considered as very large, based on its <NumberOfRows> number of rows which exceeds the <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> threshold value, and is considered to have too many indices (data:Index), based on its <NumberOfTableIndices> number of indices which exceeds the <NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue> threshold value.

The default value for <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> is 1000000.

The default value for <NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue> is 3.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-6(DataTable: dataTable,NumberOfRows: numberOfRows, NumberOfRowsThresholdValue: numberOfRowsThresholdValue, NumberOfTableIndices: numberOfTableIndices, NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue: numberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-input]

<NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> minimum value

<NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue> maximum value

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-roles-dataTable] DataTable

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-roles-numberOfRows] NumberOfRows

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-roles-numberOfRowsThresholdValue] NumberOfRowsThresholdValue

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-roles-numberOfTableIndices] NumberOfTableIndices

[key ASCPEM-PRF-6-roles-numberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue] NumberOfTableIndicesThresholdValue

7.9 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-7: Large Data Resource ColumnSet with Index Element of Excessive Size

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-objective]

Avoid overly large indices on very large data tables.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient SQL Query and Data Access constructs requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-measure-element]

Number of instances where the number of rows in a data table exceeds a threshold value, and where the range value of its index exceeds a threshold value. The default value for number of rows is 1000000, and the default value for the index range is 10.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <DataTable> data table (data:ColumnSet) is considered as very large, based on its <NumberOfRows> number of rows which exceeds the <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> threshold value, and where its <Index> index (data:Index) is considered as too large, based on its <IndexRange> range value which exceeds the <IndexRangeThresholdValue> threshold value.

The default value for <NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> is 1000000.

The default value for <IndexRangeThresholdValue> is 10.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-7(DataTable: dataTable,NumberOfRows: numberOfRows, NumberOfRowsThresholdValue: numberOfRowsThresholdValue, Index: index, IndexRange: indexRange, IndexRangeThresholdValue: indexRangeThresholdValue)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-input]

<NumberOfRowsThresholdValue> minimum value

<IndexRangeThresholdValue> maximum value

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-roles-dataTable] DataTable

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-roles-numberOfRows] NumberOfRows

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-roles-numberOfRowsThresholdValue] NumberOfRowsThresholdValue

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-roles-index] Index

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-roles-indexRange] IndexRange

[key ASCPEM-PRF-7-roles-indexRangeThresholdValue] IndexRangeThresholdValue

7.10 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-8: Control Elements Requiring Significant Resource Element within Control Flow Loop Block

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-objective]

Avoid resource consuming operations found directly or indirectly within loops.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-consequence]

Software that is coded so as to execute expensive computations repeatedly (such as in loops) requires excessive computational resources when the usage and data volume grow.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-measure-element]

Number of instances where a control element that causes platform resource consumption is directly or indirectly called via an execution path starting from within a loop body block or within a loop condition.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <ExpensiveControlElement> control element (code:ControlElement), whose nature is known to cause platform resource consumption (platform:PlatformActions with platform:ResourceType), is directly or indirectly called via the <ExecutionPath> execution path (action:BlockUnit composed of action:ActionElements with action:CallableRelations to code:ControlElements), starting from within the loop body block (action:BlockUnit starting as the action:TrueFlow of the loop action:GuardedFlow and ending with an action:Flow back to the loop action:GuardedFlow) or within the loop condition (action:BlockUnit used in the action:GuardedFlow).

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-8(LoopStatement: loopStatement,ExpensiveOperation: expensiveOperation, ExecutionPath: executionPath)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-roles-loopStatement] LoopStatement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-roles-expensiveOperation] ExpensiveOperation

[key ASCPEM-PRF-8-roles-executionPath] ExecutionPath

7.11 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-9: Non-stored SQL Callable Control Element with Excessive Number of Data Resource Access

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-objective]

Use dedicated stored procedures when multiple data accesses are needed.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-consequence]

Software that does not leverage database capabilities to efficiently run data processing (such as stored procedures and functions) requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-measure-element]

Number of instances where server-side non-stored callable control elements in a data manager resource embed a number of data resource accesses that exceed a threshold value. The default value for the number of data queries is 5.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the server-side <ControlElement> non-stored callable control elements (code:CallableUnit without code:CallableKind 'stored') in the data manager resource (platform:DataManager), embeds <NumberOfDataQueries> number of data resource access (data:DataActions), which is considered as too large because it exceeds the <NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> threshold value.

The default value for <NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> is 5.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-9(ControlElement: controlElement,NumberOfDataQueries: numberOfDataQueries, NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue: numberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-input]

<NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> maximal value

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-roles-controlElement] ControlElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-roles-numberOfDataQueries] NumberOfDataQueries

[key ASCPEM-PRF-9-roles-numberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue] NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue

7.12 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-10: Non-SQL Named Callable and Method Control Element with Excessive Number of Data Resource Access

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-objective]

Avoid software elements requiring too many data accesses outside of the data manager.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-consequence]

Software that does not leverage database capabilities to efficiently run data processing (such as stored procedures and functions) requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-measure-element]

Number of instances where a client-side control element named callable or method control element are not in any data manager resource and they embed a number of data resource access actions that exceed a threshold value. The default threshold for the number of data queries is 2.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the client-side <ControlElement> named callable and method control elements (code:MethodUnit or code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular,' 'external,' or 'stored'), not in any data manager resource (platform:DataManager), embeds <NumberOfDataQueries> number of data resource access (data:DataActions), which is considered as too large because it exceeds the <NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> threshold value.

The default value for <NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> is 2.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-10(ControlElement: controlElement,NumberOfDataQueries: numberOfDataQueries, NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue: numberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-input]

<NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue> maximal value

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-roles-controlElement] ControlElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-roles-numberOfDataQueries] NumberOfDataQueries

[key ASCPEM-PRF-10-roles-numberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue] NumberOfDataQueriesThresholdValue

7.13 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-11: Data Access Control Element from Outside Designated Data Manager Component

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-objective]

Use dedicated and specialized data manager component(s).

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-consequence]

Software deployed in distributed environment that does not maintain redundancy of data (such as cache) and code increases the time with which they are accessed.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-measure-element]

Number of instances where a named callable control element or method control element executes a data action that is not executed through a dedicated central data manager component identified in the data access component list (the unlisted data access component can be either client-side or server-side, which means that not all server-side components are

allowed to handle data accesses and that data access components can be developed using non-SQL languages; in essence, the data access does not follow the intended design).

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <ControlElement> named callable control element (code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular', 'external,' or 'stored') or method control element (code:MethodUnit) executes the <SQLStatement> data action (data:DataActions including data:ReadsColumnSet or data:WritesColumnSet) although it is not part of the <CentralDataManager> component (structure:Component) identified as one of the dedicated data access component from the <DataAccessComponentList> list. the <Component> component can be either client-side either server-side, which means that not all server-side components are allowed to handle data accesses. The data access component can be either client-side either server-side, which means that data access components can be developed using non-SQL languages. The pattern simply identifies situations where the implementation does not follow the intended design, regardless of the design.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-11(ControlElement: controlElement,SQLStatement: sQLStatement, DataAccessComponentList: dataAccessComponentList)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-input]

<DataAccessComponentList> list of components designated to manage data accesses

Comment

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-comment] Measure element contributes to Performance Efficiency and Reliability (as RLB-10)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-roles-controlElement] ControlElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-roles-sQLStatement] SQLStatement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-11-roles-dataAccessComponentList] DataAccessComponentList

7.14 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-12: Storable and Member Data Element Excessive Number of Aggregated Storable and Member Data Elements

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-objective]

Avoid the creation of excessively large data elements.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-measure-element]

Number of instances where a data type of the storable data element aggregates a number of storable data elements with non-primitive data types that exceeds a threshold value. The default value for the number of aggregated objects is 5.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the data type (code:DataType) of the <AggregatingDataElement> storable data element (code:StorableUnit) aggregates <NumberOfAggregatedDataElements> storable data elements with non-primitive data types (code:DataType from code:PrimitiveType), which is considered as too large because it exceeds the <NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue> threshold value.

The default value for <NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue> is 5.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-12(AggregatingDataElement: aggregatingDataElement,NumberOfAggregatedDataElements: numberOfAggregatedDataElements, NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue: numberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue)

Variable input

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-input]

<NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue> maximum value

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-roles-aggregatingDataElement] AggregatingDataElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-roles-numberOfAggregatedDataElements] NumberOfAggregatedDataElements

[key ASCPEM-PRF-12-roles-numberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue]

NumberOfAggregatedObjectsThresholdValue

7.15 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-13: Data Resource Access not using Connection Pooling Capability

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-objective]

Share database connections via a connection pool.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-measure-element]

Number of instances where a named callable control element or method control element executes a data resource management action without using a connection pooling capability (the usage of connection pooling capability is technology dependent; for example, connection pooling is disabled with the addition of 'Pooling=false' to the connection string with ADO.NET or the value of 'com.sun.jndi.ldap.connect.pool' environment parameter in Java).

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <ControlElement> named callable control element (code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular,' 'external,' or 'stored') or method control element (code:MethodUnit) executes the <SQLConnectionInitializationStatement> data resource management action (platform:ManagesResource with platform:DataManager) not using connection pooling capability.

The usage of connection pooling capability is technology dependent. As examples, connection pooling is disabled with the addition of 'Pooling=false' to the connection string with ADO.NET and the value of 'com.sun.jndi.ldap.connect.pool' environment parameter in Java.

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-13(ControlElement: controlElement,SQLConnectionInitializationStatement: SQLConnectionInitializationStatement)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-roles-controlElement] ControlElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-13-roles-sQLConnectionInitializationStatement] SQLConnectionInitializationStatement

7.16 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-14: Storable and Member Data Element Memory Allocation Missing De-allocation Control Element

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-objective]

Avoid failure to release used memory.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-measure-element]

Number of instances where a memory resource is explicitly allocated via the 'ManagesResource' action to a storable or member data element which is used throughout the application, and for which the transformation sequence is composed of action elements with data relations some of which are part of named callable and method control elements, but none of which is a memory release statement.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-description]

This pattern identifies situations where a memory resource (platform:RuntimeResource) is explicitly allocated via the <MemoryAllocationStatement> ManagesResource action (platform:ManagesResources) to the <DataElement> storable or member data element (code:StorableUnit or code:MemberUnit), which is used throughout the application, along the <TransformationSequence> sequence (action:BlockUnit) composed of ActionElements with DataRelations relations (action:Reads, action:Writes, action:Addresses), some of which being part of named callable and method control elements (code:MethodUnit or code:CallableUnit with code:CallableKind 'regular,' 'external,' or 'stored'), none of which being a memory release statement (platform:ManagesResource).

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-14(MemoryAllocationStatement: memoryAllocationStatement,TransformationSequence: transformationSequence)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-roles-memoryAllocationStatement] MemoryAllocationStatement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-14-roles-transformationSequence] TransformationSequence

7.17 Pattern definition of ASCPEM-PRF-15: Storable and Member Data Element Reference Missing De-referencing Control Element

Pattern Category

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-relatedPatts-Performance Efficiency] ASCPEM_Performance_Efficiency

Pattern Sections

Objective

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-objective]

Avoid failure to release used data elements.

Consequence

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-consequence]

Software featuring known under-efficient coding practices requires excessive computational resources.

Measure Element

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-measure-element]

Number of instances where a method control element references via the access action a storable or member data element without invoking its finalize method.

Description

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-description]

This pattern identifies situations where the <MethodElement> method control elements (code:MethodUnit) references via the <ReferenceStatement> access action (action:DataRelations) the <ReferencedObject> storable or member data element (code:StorableUnit or code:MemberUnit) without invoking its finalize method (code:MethodUnit with code:MethodKind 'destructor').

Descriptor

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-descriptor]

ASCPEM-PRF-15(MethodElement: methodElement,ReferenceStatement: referenceStatement, ReferencedObject: referencedObject)

Variable input

(none applicable)

Comment

(none applicable)

List of Roles

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-roles-methodElement] MethodElement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-roles-referenceStatement] ReferenceStatement

[key ASCPEM-PRF-15-roles-referencedObject] ReferencedObject

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8 Calculation of the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure and Functional Density (Normative)

8.1 Calculation of the Base Measure

A count of total violations of quality rules was selected as the best alternative for measurement. Software quality measures have frequently been scored at the component level and then aggregated to develop an overall score for the application. However, scoring at the component level was rejected because many critical violations of Performance Efficiency quality rules cannot be isolated to a single component, but rather involve interactions among several components. Therefore, the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure is computed as the sum of its 15 quality measure elements computed across the entire application.

The calculation of the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure begins with determining the value of each of the 15 Performance Efficiency measure elements. Each Performance Efficiency measure element is measured as the total number of violations of its associated quality rule that are detected through automated analysis. Thus the value of each of the 15 Performance Efficiency measure elements is represented as CISQ-PrfME_i where the range for i runs from 1 to 15.

$$\text{CISQ-PrfME}_i = \sum (\text{all violations of type CISQ-PrfME}_i \text{ detected through automated analysis})$$

The value of the un-weighted and un-normalized Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure (CISQ-Prf) is the sum of the values of the 15 Performance Efficiency measure elements.

$$\text{CISQ-Prf} = \sum_{i=1}^{15} \text{CISQ-PrfME}_i$$

Higher values of CISQ-Prf indicate a larger number of Performance Efficiency-related defects in the application.

8.2 Functional Density of Performance Efficiency Violations

In order to better compare Performance Efficiency results among different applications, the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure can be normalized by size to create a density measure. There are several size measures with which the density of Performance Efficiency violations can be normalized, such as lines of code, and function points. These size measures, if properly standardized, can be used for creating a density measure for use in benchmarking applications. However, the OMG Automated Function Points measure offers an automatable size measure that, as an OMG Supported Specification, is standardized, adapted from the International Function Point User Group's (IFPUG) counting guidelines, and commercially supported. Although other size measures can be legitimately used to evaluate the density of Performance Efficiency violations, the following density measure for Performance Efficiency violations is derived from OMG supported specifications for Automated Function Points and the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure. Thus, the functional density of CISQ Performance Efficiency violations is a simple division expressed as follows.

$$\text{CISQ-Prf-density} = \frac{\text{CISQ-Prf}}{\text{AFP}}$$

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9 Alternative Weighted Measures and Uses (Informative)

9.1 Additional Derived Measures

There are many additional weighting schemes that can be applied to the Automated Source Code Performance Efficiency Measure or to the Performance Efficiency measure elements that compose it. Table 9.1 presents several candidate weighted measures and their potential uses. However, these weighting schemes are not derived from any existing standards and are therefore not normative.

Table 9.1 - Informative Weighting Schemes for Performance Efficiency Measurement

| Weighting scheme | Potential uses |
|---|--|
| Weight each Performance Efficiency measure by its severity | Measuring risk of performance problems such as degraded response time or excessive resource use. |
| Weight each Performance Efficiency measure element by its effort to fix | Measuring cost of ownership, estimating future corrective maintenance effort and costs. |
| Weight each module or application component by its density of Performance Efficiency violations | Prioritizing modules or application components for corrective maintenance or replacement. |

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10 References (Informative)

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Annex A: CISQ

(informative)

The purpose of the Consortium for IT Software Quality (CISQ) is to develop specifications for automated measures of software quality characteristics taken on source code. These measures were designed to provide international standards for measuring software structural quality that can be used by IT organizations, IT service providers, and software vendors in contracting, developing, testing, accepting, and deploying IT software applications. Executives from the member companies that joined CISQ prioritized the quality characteristics of Reliability, Security, Performance Efficiency, and Maintainability to be developed as measurement specifications.

CISQ strives to maintain consistency with ISO/IEC standards to the extent possible, and in particular with the ISO/IEC 25000 series that replaces ISO/IEC 9126 and defines quality measures for software systems. In order to maintain consistency with the quality model presented in ISO/IEC 25010, software quality characteristics are defined for the purpose of this specification as attributes that can be measured from the static properties of software, and can be related to the dynamic properties of a computer system as affected by its software. However, the 25000 series, and in particular ISO/IEC 25023 which elaborates quality characteristic measures, does not define these measures at the source code level. Thus, this and other CISQ quality characteristic specifications supplement ISO/IEC 25023 by providing a deeper level of software measurement, one that is rooted in measuring software attributes in the source code.

Companies interested in joining CISQ held executive forums in Frankfurt, Germany; Arlington, VA; and Bangalore, India to set strategy and direction for the consortium. In these forums four quality characteristics were selected as the most important targets for automation—reliability, security, performance efficiency, and maintainability. These attributes cover four of the eight quality characteristics described in ISO/IEC 25010. Figure 1.1 displays the ISO/IEC 25010 software product quality model with the four software quality characteristics selected for automation by CISQ highlighted in blue. Each software quality characteristic is shown with the sub-characteristics that compose it.

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