



A Go micro language
framework for building
Domain Specific
Languages



whoami



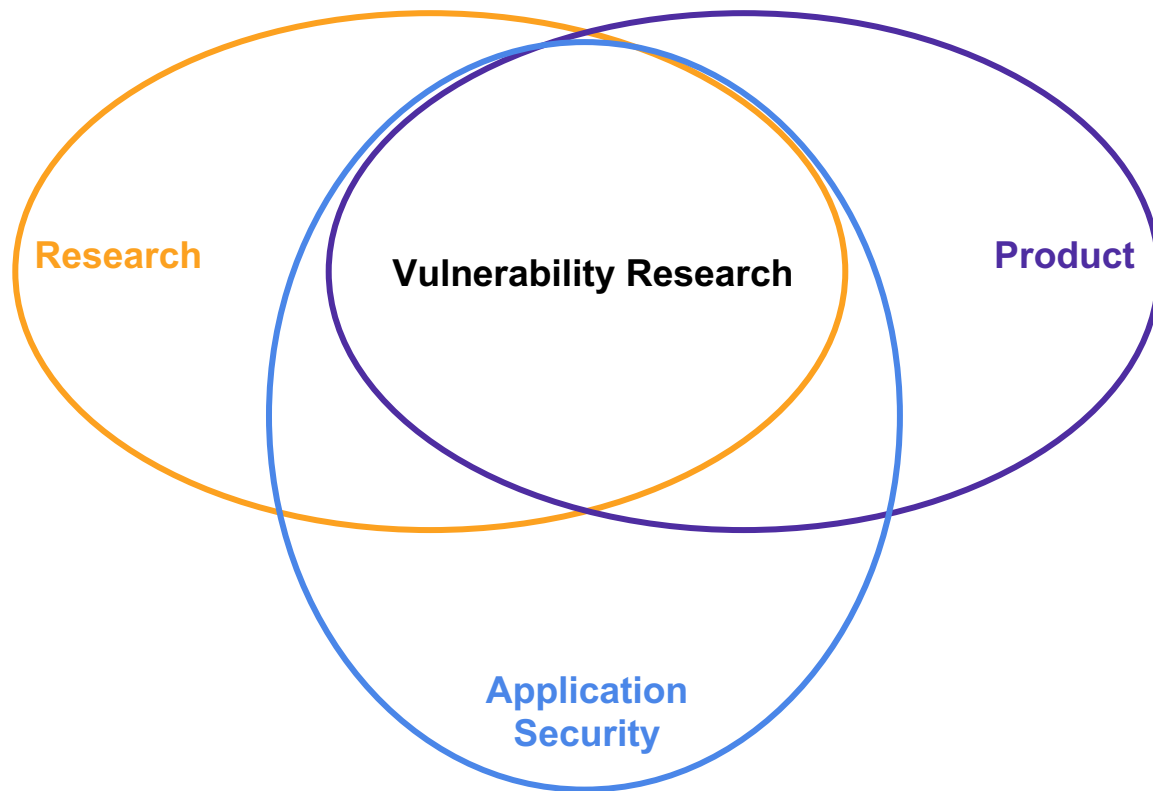
● Julian Thome

- Bitburg, Germany -> Zweibrücken (Dipl.-Inf. (FH)) -> Saarbrücken, Germany (MSc) -> Luxembourg (PhD)
- Areas of (research/engineering) interests:
 - Security
 - Programming Languages and Compilers
 - Symbolic Execution
- Vulnerability Research Engineer @ GitLab since 2019





Vulnerability Research @ GitLab





- **Mark Art - Vulnerability Research Manager**

- Australia
- Team & product direction



- **Isaac Dawson - Staff Vulnerability Research Engineer**

- Japan
- DAST/Browser specialist





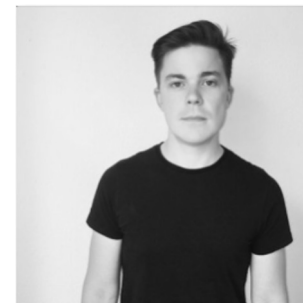
- **Dinesh Bolkensteyn - Sr. Vulnerability Research Engineer**

- Switzerland
- SAST specialist



- **Michael Henriksen - Sr. Vulnerability Research Engineer**

- Denmark
- Web application security specialist





- Experiment with technology
 - Advance GitLab's capabilities in Security
 - Proof-of-concepts (PoC's) to improve the product
- Curate and maintain the GitLab Advisory Database
- Facilitate the CNA (CVE Numbering Authority) relationship
 - We curate software vulnerability feeds in and out of GitLab



LinGo: A Go micro language framework for building Domain Specific Languages



- GitLab is a DevOps Platform.
- Main programming languages: Go, Ruby
- We are striving towards keeping the ECO systems we are working with as reduced as possible in order to prevent the build-up of technology or knowledge silos.

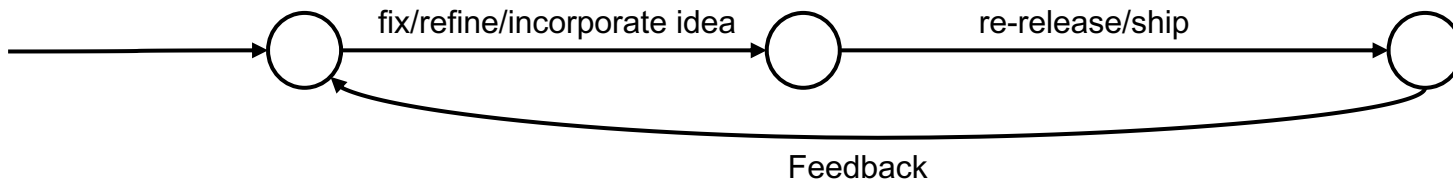


- GitLab ships a variety of different CI/CD tools (for example SAST/DAST) some of which are developed internally.
- We follow the configuration-as-code principle where our CI configuration format.

```
image: gradle:7.0.2-jdk16
include:
  - template: Security/SAST.gitlab-ci.yml
  - template: Security/Dependency-Scanning.gitlab-ci.yml
test:
  script:
    - gradle clean test
    - gradle clean build
```



- Tool for FP elimination.
- Iterator design.
- Parsing and evaluation potentially close.
- Language was developed iteratively from scratch.



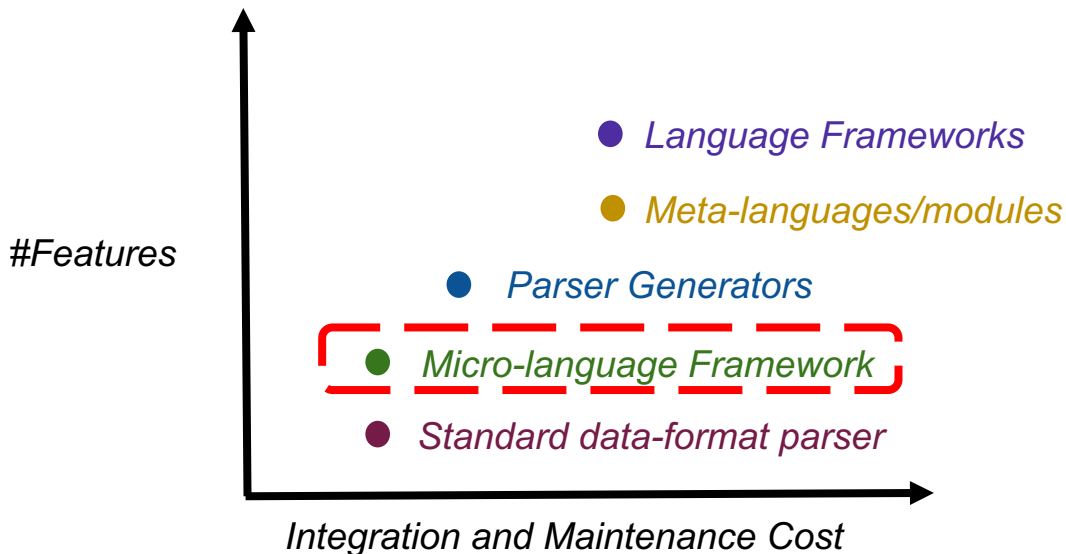


- 1. Stability:** Changes applied to the DSL should neither require any changes to the core lexer/parser implementation nor to the language processor implementation.
- 2. Flexibility/Composability:** New DSL concepts (data-types, functions) can be integrated via a simple plug-in mechanism.
- 3. Simplicity:** the language framework should have just enough features to provide a foundation that is powerful enough to implement and evolve a custom DSLs. In addition, the whole implementation of the micro language framework should be in pure Go so that it is easily embeddable in Go applications.



There are great tools that help with DSL development

- **Language frameworks/workbenches:** Xtext, MPS
- **Parser generators:** ANTLR, bison, tree-sitter, text-mapper
- **Meta-languages and interpreter modules:** Racket, go-lua, yaegi, zygomys





LinGo



1. Micro-language framework to design your **LISP-based Domain Specific Languages in Go**.
2. ~3K lines of pure Go code.
3. S-expressions in prefix notation.
4. Macro support.
5. Evaluator uses depth-first traversal in post-order.
6. Lingo is designed in such a way that new functions can be plugged-in by implementing an interface and registering the newly implemented function to make it available.



Demo

Demo - Random Text Generator: A data generation engine used for fuzzing



```
name, balance
Lisa, 100.30
Bert, 241.41
Maria, 151.13
```

balances.csv

```
#!/usr/bin/awk -f
```

```
BEGIN{FS=","}{sum+=$2}END{print sum}
```

computebalance.awk

```
#!/usr/bin/env ruby
```

```
exit(1) if ARGV.empty? || !File.exist?(ARGV[0])
```

```
sum = 0
```

```
File.foreach(ARGV[0]).each_with_index do |line, idx|
```

```
  next if idx == 0
```

```
  sum += Float(line.split(',')[1])
```

```
end
```

```
puts sum.round(2)
```

computebalance.rb



Our RTG language includes the following functions:

1. **(oneof s0, s1, ..., sN)**: randomly returns one of the parameter strings.
2. **(join s0, s1, ..., sN)**: joins all strings.
3. **(genfloat min max)**: generates a random float number and returns it.
4. **(times num exp)**: repeats the pattern generated by exp num times.

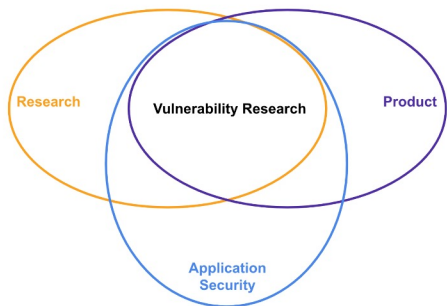


Summary

Summary



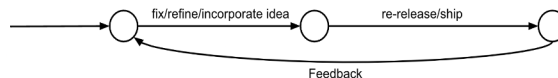
Vulnerability Research @ GitLab - Product Research and AppSec



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Motivation - Problem

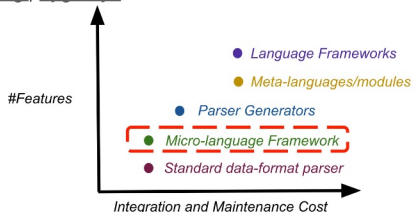
- Analysis tool for pattern extraction.
- Iterators for fetching data.
- Parsing and evaluation potentially close.
- Language was developed iteratively from scratch.



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Motivation - Available DSL tools

- There are great tools that help with DSL development
 - Parser generators: [ANTLR](#), [bison](#), [tree-sitter](#), [text-mapper](#)
 - Language frameworks/workbenches: [Xtext](#), [MPS](#)
 - Meta-languages and interpreter modules: [Racket](#), [go-lua](#), [yaegi](#), [zygomys](#)



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Thank You