

| Name | Definition | Example | Differences |
|---|--|---|--|
| Big Integer Instantiation | Don't create instances of already existing BigInteger (BigInteger.ZERO, BigInteger.ONE) and for Java 1.5 onwards, BigInteger.TEN and BigDecimal (BigDecimal.ZERO, BigDecimal.ONE, BigDecimal.TEN). | FaultHunter-only true positives testValue(rootNode, 1.0d, 10.0f); testValue(rootNode, 1.0d, 10.0d); testValue(rootNode, 1.0d, new BigDecimal("1.0")); o1.setEstimatedPrice(new BigDecimal(1.0d)); BigDecimal refundTotal = new BigDecimal(0.0); | FaultHunter finds those BigInteger and BigDecimal initializations, which occur inside a method call, or which do not consist solely of digits (e.g. 1.0d). |
| Empty Catch Block | Empty Catch Block finds instances where an exception is caught, but nothing is done. In most circumstances, this swallows an exception which should either be acted on or reported. | FaultHunter-only true positives Thread t = new Thread(r); t.start(); t.join(); } catch (InterruptedException e) { // noop } finally { reconnectLock.unlock(); } | FaultHunter finds those empty catch blocks, which only contain a single one-line comment. |
| Empty If Stmt | Empty If Statement finds instances where a condition is checked but nothing is done about it. | FaultHunter-only true positives: if (jj_2_30(2)) { ; } else { | FaultHunter finds those empty if blocks, which only contain a single empty statement. |
| If Else Stmts Must Use Braces | Avoid using if..else statements without using curly braces. If the code formatting or indentation is lost then it becomes difficult to separate the code being controlled from the rest. | FaultHunter-only true positives: if (foo) else x = x-1; | FaultHunter finds those rule violations which are only considered "Empty If Statements" by PMD. |
| Avoid Instanceof Checks In Catch Clause | Each caught exception type should be handled in its own catch clause. | FaultHunter-only true positives catch(Throwable jjte000){ if (jjte000 instanceof RuntimeException) { {if (true) throw (RuntimeException)jjte000;} } | PMD doesn't find cases where RuntimeException is compared. |

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| Close Resource | Ensure that resources (like Connection, Statement, and ResultSet objects) are always closed after use. | PMD-only false positives <pre>ResultSet rs = pstmt.executeQuery(); List<PrimaryDataStoreVO> pools = newArrayList<PrimaryDataStoreVO>(); while (rs.next()) { pools.add(toEntityBean(rs, false)); }</pre> | If the resource is used as a parameter to a function or as a return statement, FaultHunter treats the connection as closed. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>PreparedStatement pstmt = null;</pre> | PMD misses the kind of types which are child classes of the specific types (e.g. PreparedStatement). |
| Position Literals First In Comparisons | Position literals first in comparisons, if the second argument is null then NullPointerExceptions can be avoided, they will just return false. | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>boolean connected = words[1].equals("0");</pre> | PMD cannot find cases where an element of an array is compared to a constant value using equals(). |
| | | <pre>if (!found&&f.getName().equals("template.properties")) { found = true; }</pre> | PMD cannot find cases where the caller is not an identifier, but a complex type. |
| | | <pre>(userPublicTemplateEnabled == null userPublicTemplateEnabled.equals("false") ? false : true));</pre> | PMD cannot find certain complex comparisons either. |
| | | <pre>if (cidr.equals(NetUtils.ALL_CIDRS)) { continue; }</pre> | FaultHunter finds cases where an object is compared with a static final variable. |

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| Preserve Stack Trace | Throwing a new exception from a catch block without passing the original exception into thenew exception will cause the original stack trace to be lost making it difficult to debug effectively. | PMD-only false positives <pre>} catch (NaException e) { throw new ServerException("Unabletocreatevolume", e);</pre> | PMD incorrectly finds cases where a custom Exception class is instantiated with an exception as parameter. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>}catch(java.lang.ClassCastException e){ // we cannot intantiate the class throw f; } catch (java.lang.ClassNotFoundException e) { // we cannot intantiate the class throw f;</pre> | FaultHunter finds cases when a specific exception is thrown many times. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>} catch (Exception e) { _selector.close(); throw new IOException("SSL: Failtoinit SSL! " + e); }</pre> | FaultHunter finds cases where the message of the caught exception is appended to the message of newly thrown exception. |
| Simple Date Format Needs Locale | Be sure to specify a Locale when creating SimpleDateFormat instances to ensure that locale-appropriateformatting is used. | PMD-only false positives <pre>import com.ibm.icu.text.SimpleDateFormat; ... SimpleDateFormat dateFormat2 = new SimpleDateFormat("yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss.SSS");</pre> | PMD incorrectly finds cases where the developer instantiates a different, custom SimpleDateFormat class not necessarily requiring a locale. |
| Unnecessary Local Before Return | Avoid the creation of unnecessary local variables: consider simply returning the value vs storing it in a local variable. | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>public int ulbr(){ int unnecessary = 6; // WARNING return unnecessary; }</pre> | FaultHunter only finds cases where the declaration of a variable is directly before the return statement and where the return operand is a simple identifier. |

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| Use Locale With Case Conversions | When doing String.toLowerCase()/toUpperCase() conversions, use Locales to avoid problems with languages that have unusual conventions, i.e. Turkish. | PMD-only false positives <pre>super(String.format("All of the following arguments must be set: %1\$s, %2\$s, %3\$s", "--" + CommandLineOptions.Client.WSDLDNS.toLowerCase(), "--" + CommandLineOptions.Client.WSDLPORT.toLowerCase(), "--" + CommandLineOptions.Client.ROOTCONTEXT.toLowerCase()));</pre> | PMD incorrectly finds cases where the toLowerCase method was not called on a String object. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>if (resourceAdapterId != newResourceId) {</pre> | PMD cannot find cases, where the caller expression is more complex than a simple identifier. |
| Method Naming Conventions | Method names should always begin with a lower case character, and should not contain underscores. | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>final public List<Object>JSONArray() throws ParseException {</pre> | In multiple cases PMD cannot find methods starting with capital letters and those which contain the underscore (_) character. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>public void Relnit(java.io.InputStream stream)</pre> | |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>private String _formatPackage(Strings Package_) {</pre> | |
| At Least One Constructor | Each class should declare at least one constructor. | PMD-only false positives <pre>public class StartTestRoundResponse { } </pre> | PMD incorrectly finds every empty class. |

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| Suspicious Hashcode Method Name | The method name and return type are suspiciously close to hashCode(), which may denote an intention to override the hashCode() method. | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>Public void hashCode(){ // WARNING int x = 5; return x; }</pre> | PMD only examines if the method name has typos or not (lowercase, uppercase character check). FaultHunter checks if there is a feedback between the hashCode() method and the object's hash code. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>public int hashCode(int i){ // WARNING int x = 5 + i; return x; }</pre> | |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>public int hashcode(){ // WARNING int x = 5; return x; }</pre> | |
| Array Is Stored Directly | Constructors and methods receiving arrays should clone objects and store the copy. This prevents future changes from the user from affecting the original array. | PMD-only false positives <pre>Token(TokenKind tokenKind, char[] tokenData, int pos, int endpos) { this(tokenKind, pos, endpos); this.data = new String(tokenData); }</pre> | PMD incorrectly finds cases where there is a member on the left side of the equation and a complex expression containing an array-parameter on the right. |
| | | PMD-only false positives <pre>public MockHttpRequestMessage(byte[] contents) { Assert.notNull(contents, "'contents' must not be null"); this.body = new ByteArrayInputStream(contents); }</pre> | |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives <pre>public void setTemplateLoaderPaths(String... templateLoaderPaths) { this.templateLoaderPaths = templateLoaderPaths; }</pre> | PMD can't find varargs (variable arguments). |

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| Avoid Catching NPE | Code should never throw NullPointerExceptions under normal circumstances. A catch block may hide the original error, causing other, more subtle problems later on. | FaultHunter-only true positives: } catch (java.lang.NullPointerException npe) { | PMD cannot find java.lang.NullPointerExceptions. |
| Avoid Catching Throwable | Catching Throwable errors is not recommended since its scope is very broad. It includes runtime issues such as OutOfMemoryError that should be exposed and managed separately. | FaultHunter-only true positives } catch (java.lang.Throwable ivjExc) { | PMD cannot find java.lang.Throwable. |
| Avoid Rethrowing Exception | Catch blocks that merely rethrow a caught exception only add to code size and runtime complexity. In cases when the rethrown exception can be caught by following catches are allowed. | PMD-only false positives } catch (CodecException e) { throw e; } catch (Throwable t) { throw new DecoderException(t); PMD-only false positives } catch (RuntimeException re) { throw re; } catch (Throwable t) { /* ignored */ } | FaultHunter doesn't indicate some throws on purpose, when the goal seems to be making the catch block ignore the given type of exception. |
| Avoid Throwing Null Pointer Exception | Avoid throwing NullPointerExceptions. These are confusing because most people will assume that the virtual machine threw it. Consider using an IllegalArgumentException instead; this will be clearly seen as a programmer-initiated exception. The rule also warns on null pointer exception instantiations. | PMD-only false positives: throw new ClassNotFoundException("null classname", new NullPointerException()); PMD-only false positives: result = handleException(currentJob(), new NullPointerException()); FaultHunter-only true positives: throw new java.lang.NullPointerException("Codingerror; Don't try to mark/rewind an indexed DTM"); | PMD incorrectly finds every new NullPointerException, for example if the NullPointerException is passed as a parameter. FaultHunter finds exceptions given with full package path. |

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| Avoid Throwing Raw Exception Types | Avoid throwing certain exception types. Rather than throw a raw RuntimeException, Throwable, Exception, or Error, use a subclassed exception or error instead. The rule also warns on raw exception instantiations. | PMD-only false positives data.errors = new Error [count]; | FaultHunter does not find error array initializations. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives } catch (javax.xml.stream.XMLStreamException e) { throw new java.lang.Exception(e); } | PMD can't find cases, when exceptions are given with the complete package path. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives if (resourceAdapterId != new ResourceId) { | PMD cannot find cases where comparing occurs with a non-literal. |
| Unused Imports | Avoid unused import statements. This rule will find unused on demand imports, i.e. import com.foo.*. | PMD-only false positives import static org.junit.Assert.*; ... assertNotNull(...); | PMD usually can't find imports given with wildcard. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives x 2 = (x1+x2)>>1; // WARNING | FaultHunter indicates cases which cannot be found by PMD. |
| | | FaultHunter-only true positives ObjectInfo info = new ObjectInfo(obj, new CoordinateSystem(orig, zdir, ydir, "Light "+(counter++)); | |
| Too Many Methods | A class with too many methods is probably a good target for refactoring, in order to reduce its complexity and find a way to have more fine grained objects. | FaultHunter identifies as getter: public String getString1() { return this.string1; } | PMD and FaultHunter recognize getters and setters differently. PMD scans for method names containing "get" and "set", while FaultHunter deems methods as getters or setters based on syntax. |
| | | FaultHunter identifies as setter: public void setString1(String string1) { this.string1 = string1; } | |