

# RSAC<sup>®</sup>Conference2020

San Francisco | February 24 – 28 | Moscone Center

**HUMAN**  
ELEMENT

SESSION ID: DSO-T11

## DevSecOps State of the Union



**Clint Gibler**

Research Director

NCC Group

@clintgibler

#RSAC

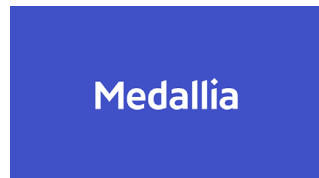
# Distill tips / insights from talks, blog posts, conversations



CHEF



JUPITER ONE



## About Me

- Technical Director and Research Director at NCC Group
- PhD in Computer Science from UC Davis

## Things I

- DevSecOps, security automation, scaling security
- Automated bug finding (static and dynamic analysis, fuzzing, ...)



## Before We Start - My Assumptions

- You've found SAST/DAST not that useful (operational time required & cost)
- You're willing to invest time now to reap big security wins later
- Your security team has at least a few people, but not dozens



# Agenda

- **Big Picture**
  - Mindsets and Principles
  - Choosing How to Invest Your Time
- **Scaling Your Company's Security**
  - The Fundamentals
  - Scaling Your Efforts
  - Security Endgame
- **Action Plan**



# Mindsets & Principles

- Automate as much as possible
  - Security teams are always time and person-limited, you need to scale
- Guardrails not Gatekeepers - minimize “no’s”
  - Netflix’s *Paved Road*. [Scaling Appsec at Netflix](#) by [@astha\\_singhal](#)
- Prefer high-signal, low-noise tools and alerting
  - It may be better to miss some issues than drown in triaging alerts that don’t matter



# Mindsets & Principles

- **Developers are your customers - UI and UX is important**
  - How can we fit into dev's existing tools and workflows?
  - Can we make the secure way easier, faster, or otherwise better than the current way?
  - Build in useful features (telemetry, logging, etc.)
- **Self-service security**
  - Provide tools and services devs can use without security team interaction
- See also: [Tech Beacon blog post](#) on mindsets / principles





# Choosing How to Invest Your Time

Now



Medium Term



Long Term





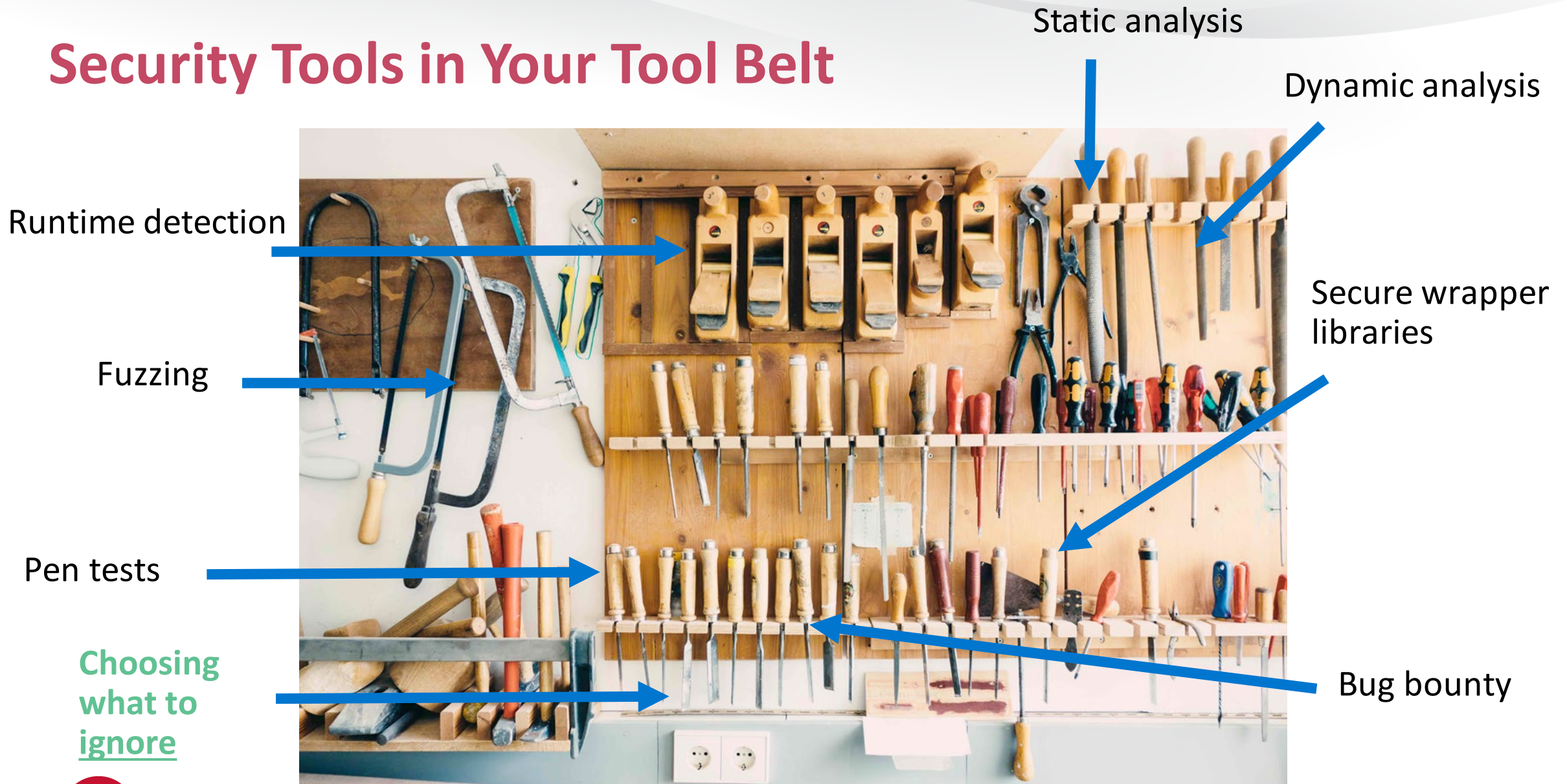
# Choosing How to Invest Your Time

## Ask Yourself

- Of my near / medium term tasks, which will provide the most **long-term strategic value**?
- Can I do a near term task a little bit **differently** to make it much **more useful later**?
- What (sub)problems can I solve with **high accuracy**, at **scale**?



# Security Tools in Your Tool Belt



# Targeting Vulns by Complexity / Class

## Easy

- Missing TLS
- No security headers
- Calling dangerous fxns
- Missing security controls

## Medium

- Standard OWASP bugs
- XSS, SQLi
- XXE, SSRF
- ...

## Hard

- Complex, multi-step bugs
- Business logic flaws
- Abuse



# Targeting Vulns by Complexity / Class

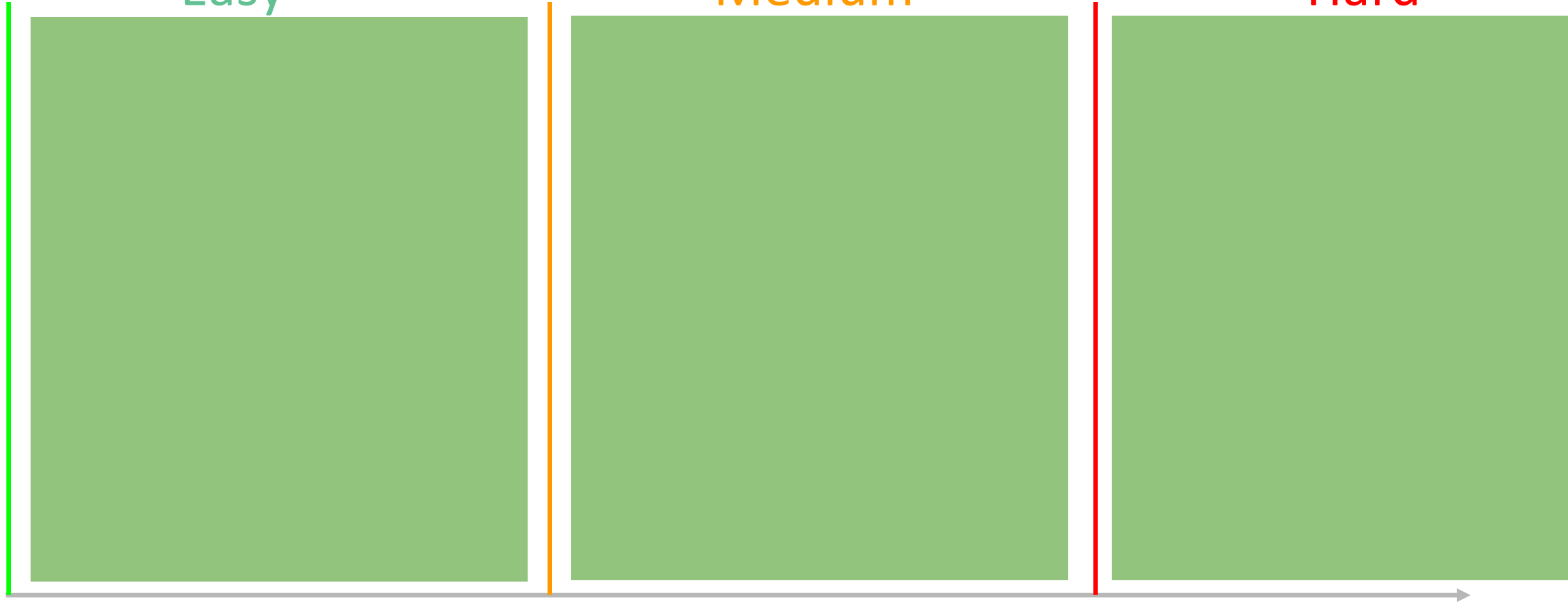
#RSAC

Secure defaults Automated tools Bug bounty Pen tests

Easy

Medium

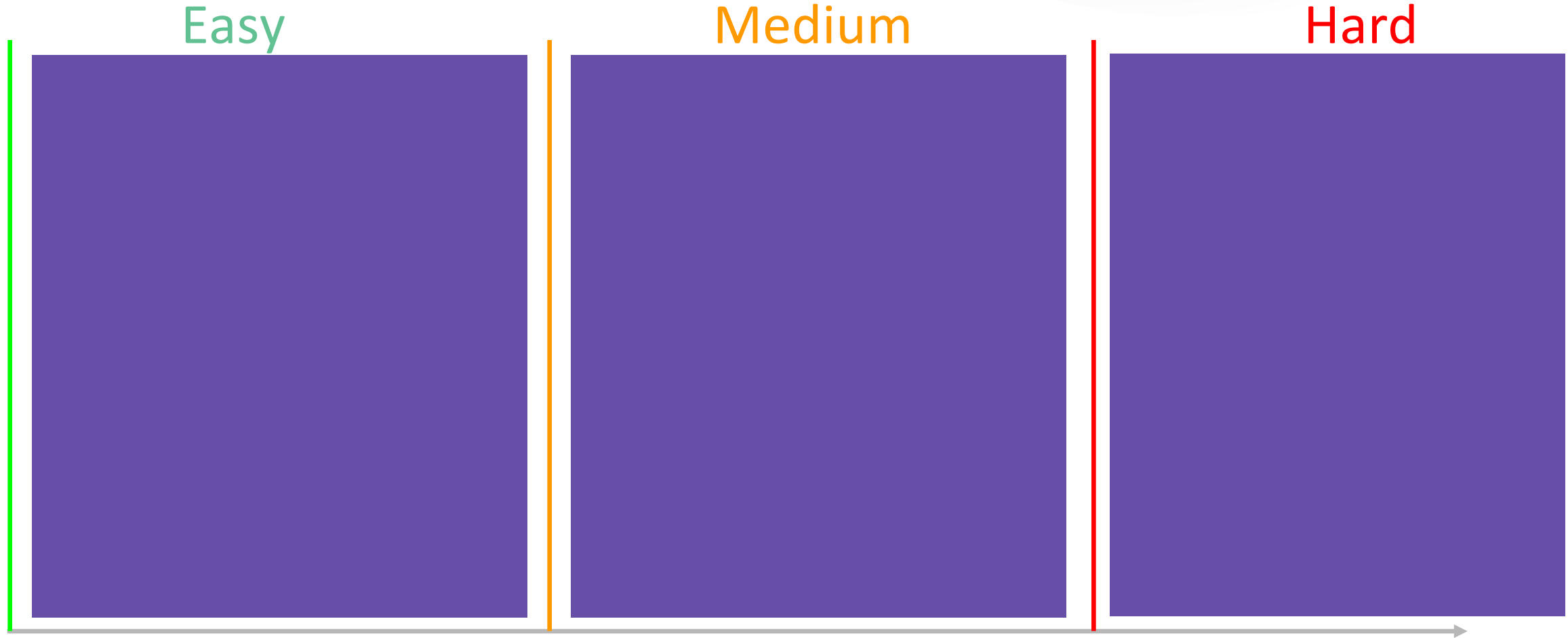
Hard



# Targeting Vulns by Complexity / Class

#RSAC

Secure defaults   Automated tools   Bug bounty   Pen tests



# Targeting Vulns by Complexity / Class

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# Targeting Vulns by Complexity / Class

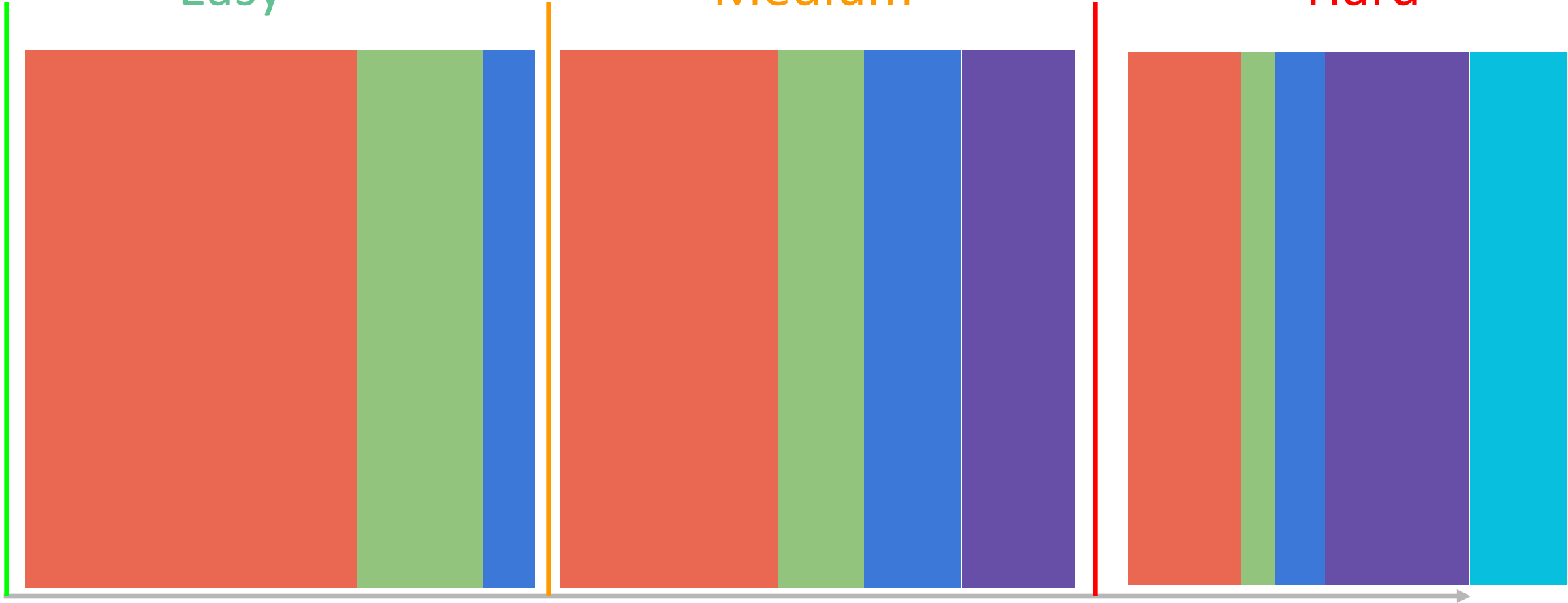
@clintgibler #RSAC

Secure defaults Automated tools Bug bounty Pen tests Runtime monitoring

Easy

Medium

Hard





# Targeting Vulns by Complexity / Class – Key Takeaways

- Solve as many of your problems as possible with **secure defaults**
- **Automated tools** won't solve all of your problems
- **Bug bounty** can provide decent coverage of low/medium hanging fruit
  - If you're building a new AppSec program, start with a private program with few researchers. Consider a pen test first and paying for triage.
- Use **pen testing** for the hard problems, where it provides best value
- **Runtime monitoring** for bugs that are too hard/inefficient to find in other ways



# We Come Bearing Gifts: Enabling Prod Security w/ Culture & Cloud

## AppSec Cali '18 | Patrick Thomas, Astha Singhal

### De-emphasized\*

Manual Testing  
Manual Code Review  
Per-App Threat Modeling  
Traditional Vuln Scanning

### Used With Reservations\*

Generic Static/Dynamic Scans  
3rd Party Pentesting  
Training

### Heavily Emphasized\*

Automated Visibility & Action  
Org-level Partnerships  
AuthN & AuthZ Everywhere  
Paved Road  
Self-Service  
Killing Bug Classes

\* This is the current mix. Wasn't always this way.



# A Pragmatic Approach for Internal Security Partnerships

## AppSec Cali '19 | Scott Behrens, Esha Kanekar

How is the future shaping up for us?

**Today**

Secure By  
Default

Self Service

Security Partnership

**Mid term**

Secure By Default

Self Service

Security  
Partnership

**Long term**

Secure By Default

Self Service

Security  
Partnership



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# The Fundamentals

Vulnerability Management

Continuous Scanning

Asset Inventory

# Vulnerability Management - Basics

Know your **current state** and if your future efforts **actually work**

## Success Criteria

- Minimal friction for devs and security
- All vulns tracked in the same system as normal bugs
- All vulns processed through the same workflow (bug bounty, pen testing, tools, internal tests)
- Track relevant meta data



# Vulnerability Management - Basics

## Track Meta Data

- Relevant code base (and team/org)
- Vuln class - access controls, XSS, SQLi, open redirect, ...
  - OWASP Top 10 is too broad, use a more detailed taxonomy, like [Bugcrowd's VRT](#)
- Risk, Severity, Impact
- How was the vuln found? (Pen test, bug bounty, internal testing, tool A, tool B...)





# Vulnerability Management - Leveling Up

- Automate as much of the vuln ingestion and triage process as possible
  - Tool -> Triage -> Jira
  - Bug Bounty -> Triage -> Assign to appropriate team
- Create a vuln/risk dashboard that's viewable by project, team, org
  - Where should I invest security engineering efforts?
  - Puts (friendly) pressure on teams / orgs to improve



# Vulnerability Management - Leveling Up

[The Art of Vulnerability Management](#) | Alex Nassar, AppSec Cali '19

Pro tips on creating a vuln management program that works for devs & security

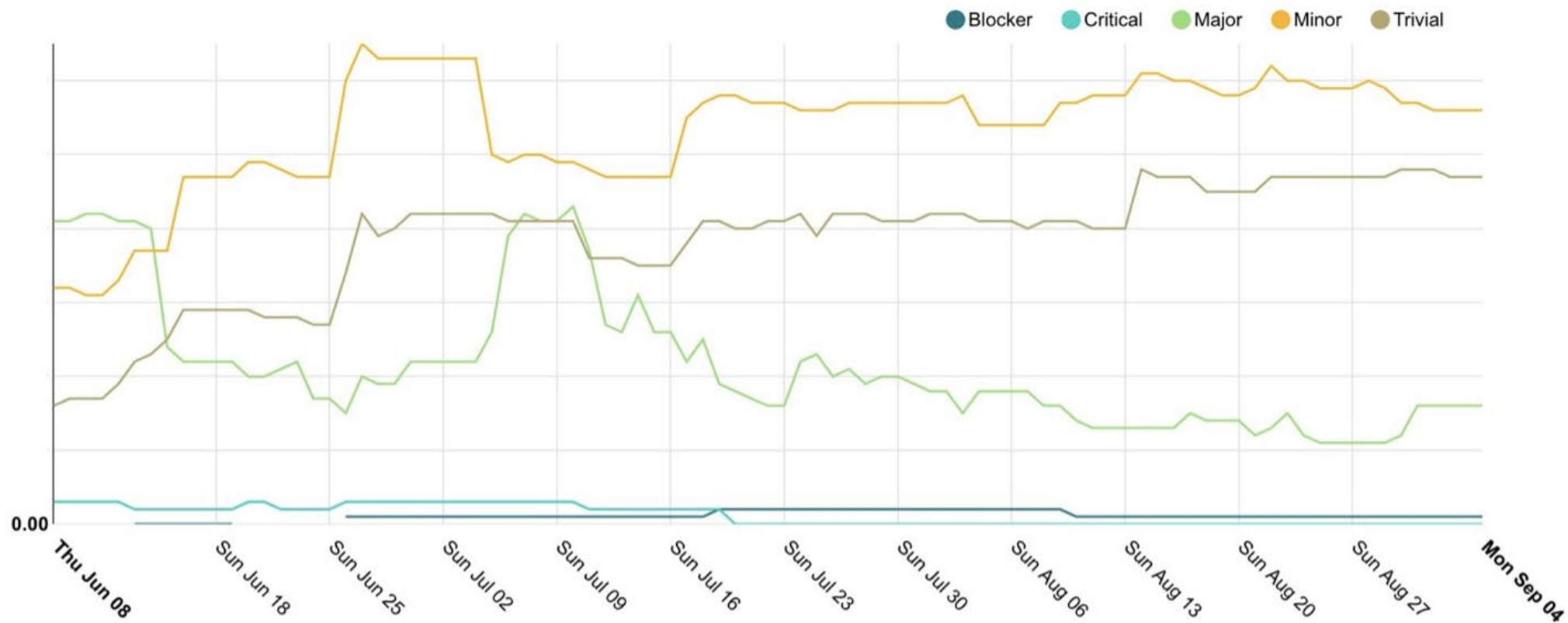
[Data Driven Bug Bounty](#) | Arkadiy Tetelman, BSides SF 2018

Use Bug Bounty data to inform where you invest AppSec time



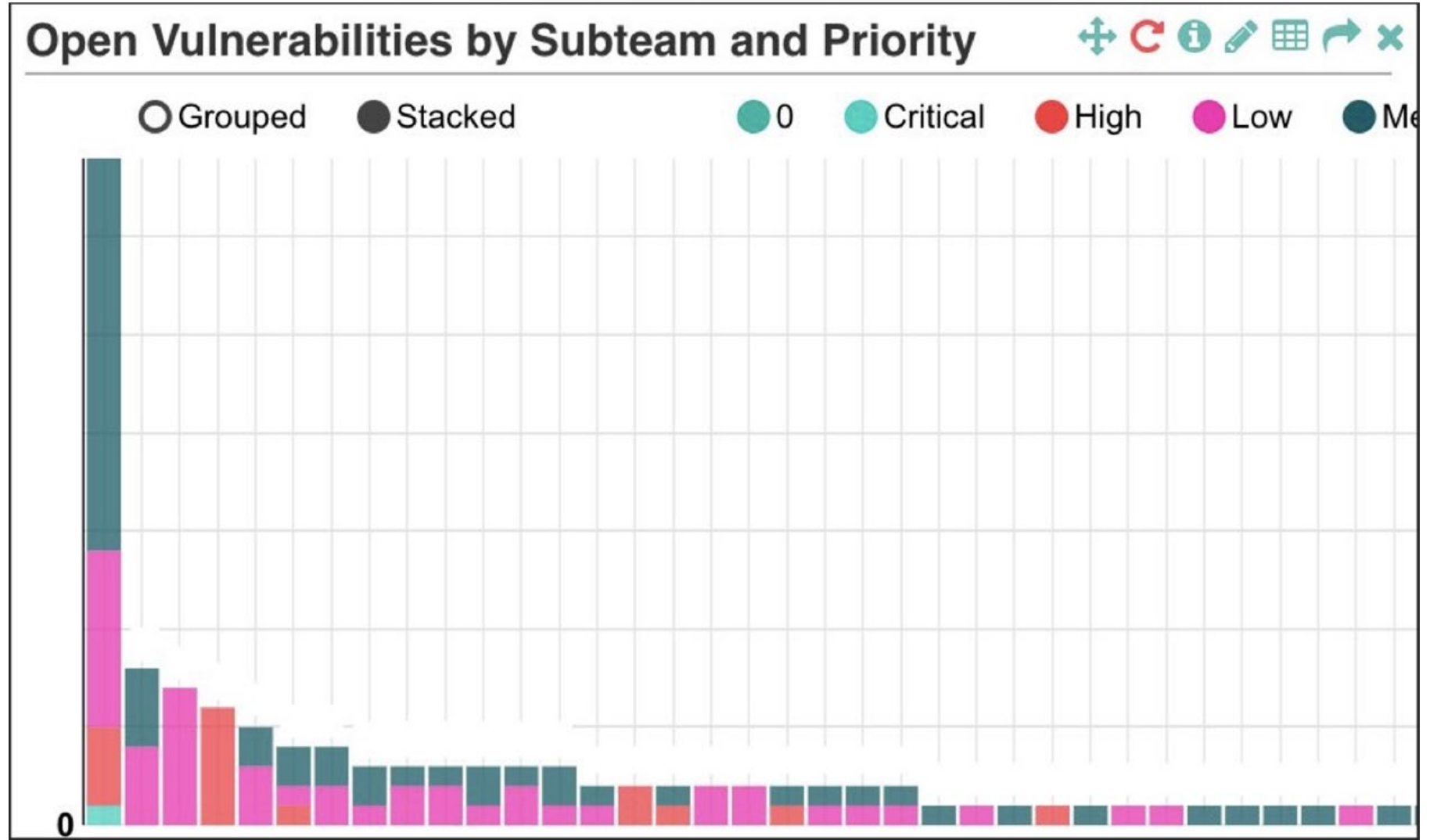
# Data Driven Bug Bounty - Open Vulns by Priority

Open Security Vulns (by priority, last 90 days)

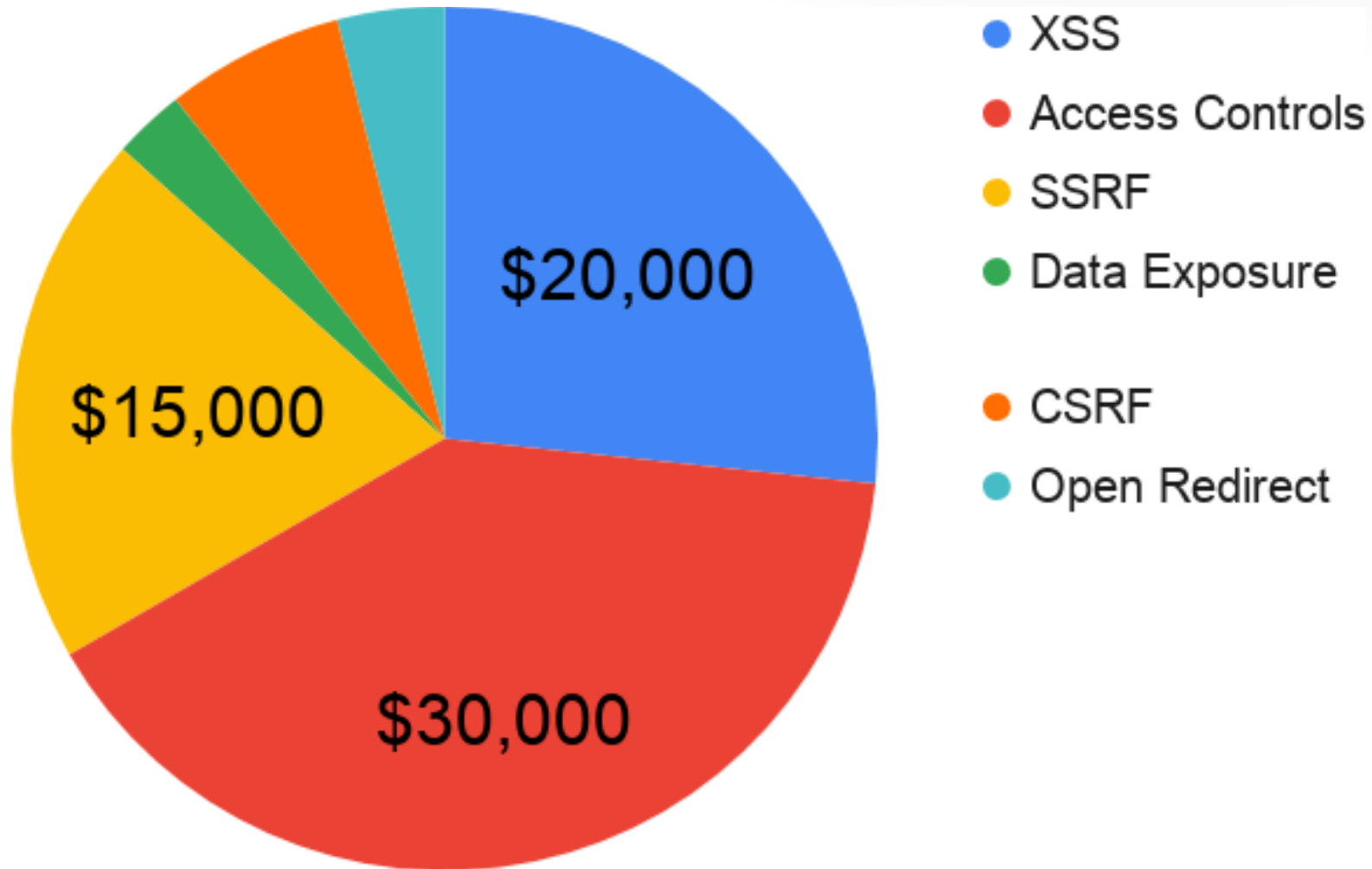


# Data Driven Bug Bounty

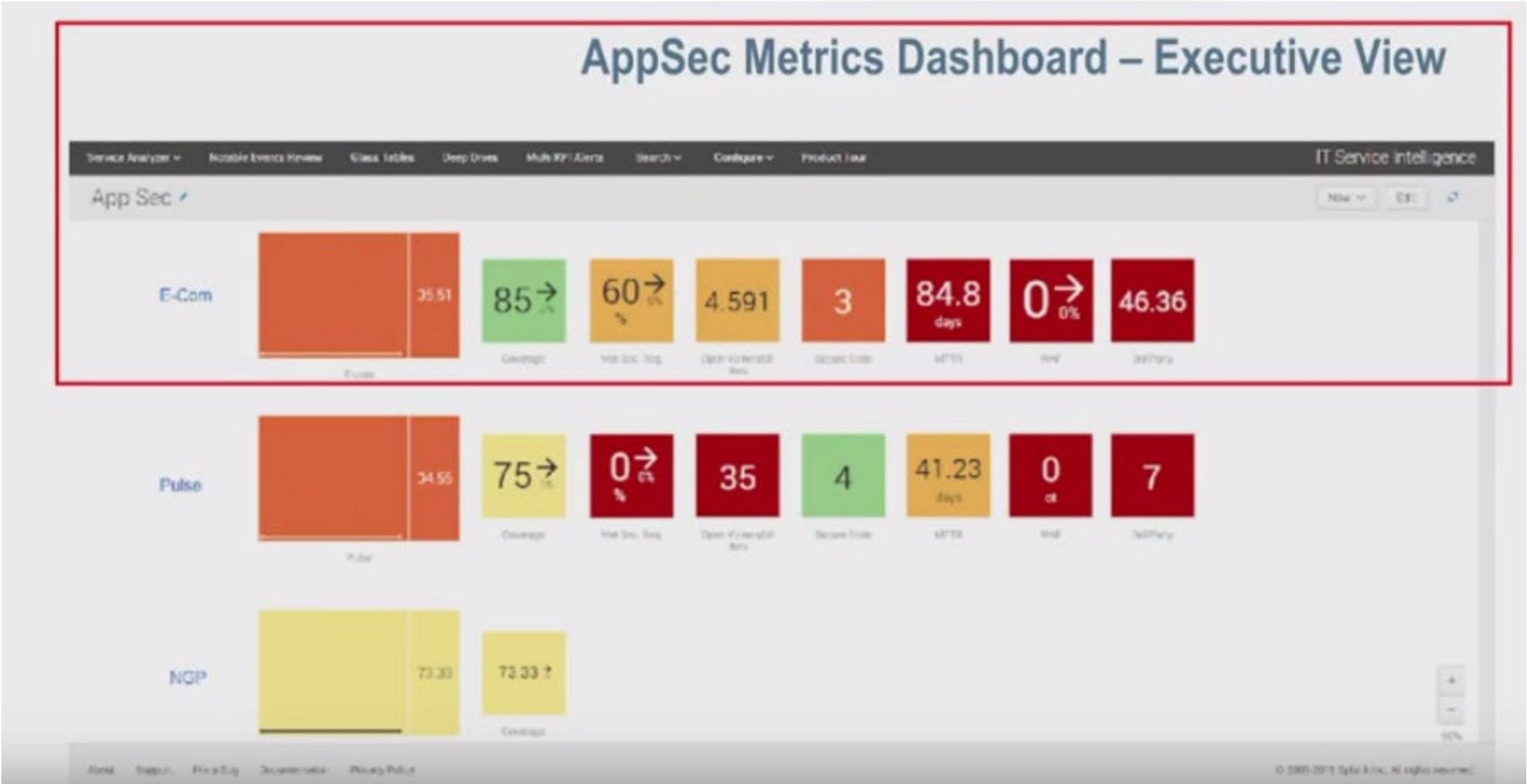
## Open Vulns By Subteam & Priority



# Bug Bounty Cost by Vulnerability Class



# Domino's Delivery of a Faster Response was No Standard Order



# A Pragmatic Approach to Internal Security Partnerships

## AppSec Cali '19 | Scott Behrens, Esha Kanekar

| Results <small>Displaying results 1 - 25 of 31 in total (10357 results filtered)</small> |            |                   |                |          |        |                     |                               |               |                       |   |
|--|------------|-------------------|----------------|----------|--------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | Name       | Updated At        | Meechum Policy | Metatron | Zoltar | Edge Classification | Instance Count Classification | BaseAMI Score | Risk Classification ▼ | Org Name  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 5 hours ago | true           | true     | true   | Yes                 | Medium                        | High          | High (260)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 5 hours ago | false          | false    | false  | Yes                 | Low                           | High          | High (255)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | false          | false    | false  | Yes                 | Medium                        | Medium        | High (240)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | true           | true     | false  | Yes                 | Medium                        | Medium        | High (235)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 5 hours ago | true           | true     | true   | Yes                 | Medium                        | Medium        | High (235)            | Production Engineering <a href="#">Show</a>       |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | true           | true     | false  | Yes                 | Low                           | Medium        | High (225)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | true           | true     | true   | Yes                 | Low                           | Medium        | High (225)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 5 hours ago | true           | true     | false  | Yes                 | Low                           | Medium        | High (225)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | false          | false    | false  | Yes                 | Medium                        | Low           | High (215)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | false          | false    | false  | Yes                 | Medium                        | Low           | High (215)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |
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| <input type="checkbox"/>   | ██████████ | about 6 hours ago | true           | true     | false  | Yes                 | Medium                        | Low           | High (210)            | Content Platform Engineering <a href="#">Show</a> |

### Filter

Name

Tags

Assignee

Status

Task (Search)

Metadata ⓘ

- × confidence\_analysis:running\_instances==true
- × confidence\_analysis:internet\_accessible==true
- × wp\_metadata:organization kevs:"Content Platform Engineering |





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# The Fundamentals

Vulnerability Management

Continuous Scanning

Asset Inventory

# Continuous Scanning - AppSec Pipeline

**Core idea:** continuously scan new code with static and dynamic analysis tools



**Developer Machines**  
Static Analysis (SAST)



**Code Hosting**  
Static Analysis (SAST)



**Test/QA Environment**  
DAST (scan web apps)  
Container scanning  
Network vuln scanning  
Fuzzing



# Continuous Scanning - AppSec Pipeline

**Core idea:** continuously scan new code with static and dynamic analysis tools



**Developer Machines**  
Static Analysis (SAST)  
(SAST)



**Code Hosting**  
Static Analysis (SAST)



**Test/QA Environment**  
~~DAST (scan web apps)~~  
~~Container scanning~~  
~~Network vuln scanning~~  
~~Fuzzing~~



# Continuous Scanning - AppSec Pipeline

## AppSec USA

 Put Your Robots to Work: Security Automation at Twitter | '12

 Providence: rapid vuln prevention ([slides](#), [blog](#), [code](#)) | '15

 Cleaning Your Applications' Dirty Laundry with Scumblr ([code](#)) | '16

 Scaling Security Assessment at the Speed of DevOps | '16

 SCORE Bot: Shift Left, at Scale! | '18



# Continuous Scanning - AppSec Pipeline



Salus: How Coinbase Sales Security Automation ([blog](#), [code](#)) DSC London '18



Orchestrating Security Tools with AWS Step Functions ([slides](#)) DeepSec '18



A Case Study of our Journey in Continuous Security ([code](#)) DSC London '19



Dracon- Knative Security Pipelines ([code](#)) Global AppSec Amsterdam '19



# Continuous Scanning - Trends & Best Practices

- Focus on **iteration speed** - adding/removing tools, testing new rules
- Scan unit: **pull requests** - every commit is too noisy, e.g. work in progress
- Scans should be **fast** (a few sec) - give dev feedback while context is fresh
  - Can do longer / more in depth scans daily or weekly
- Tool findings should be shown **within dev systems** (e.g. on PR as a comment)
  - Findings must always be **actionable** – how does the dev **fix** it?
- Focus on **high signal** checks - +95% true positives
  - Otherwise causes ill will with devs + too much security team operational cost
- Make sure to capture **metrics** - common finding types, FP rate, etc.
- You'll need to build some deduplication and whitelisting logic

Being able to **map/reduce** over all of your code & live systems is **really** useful



# Continuous Scanning - AppSec Pipeline

Good principles, mindsets, and perspectives

[Building a Secure DevOps Pipeline](#) | AppSec USA '17, M Tesauro, A. Weaver  
Case study and useful principles behind building a pipeline ([code](#))

[\\*AST In CI/CD – how to make it WORK!](#) | DSC Singapore '18

Ofer Maor gives a great overview of SAST, DAST, IAST, ... and their pros/cons





# Static Analysis by Complexity

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Easy

Medium

Hard

grep (regexes)

- Operates on strings

Control / Data flow analysis (SAST)

- Can reason about how data flows through system



# Static Analysis by Complexity

Easy

Medium

Hard

grep (regexes)

- Operates on strings

Pro: Fast

Con: Not expressive

Control / Data flow analysis (SAST)

- Can reason about how data flows through system

Pro: Expressive

Con: Slow, noisy (FP)



# Static Analysis by Complexity

Easy

grep (regexes)

- Operates on strings

Pro: Fast

Con: Not expressive

Watch this  
space!

Medium

Linting / Abstract  
Syntax Tree (AST)

- Source code aware

Middle ground:

- Fast
- Match source code structures, some control/data flow

Hard

Control / Data flow  
analysis (SAST)

- Can reason about how data flows through system

Pro: Expressive

Con: Slow, noisy (FP)



# Static Analysis – Security Linting

## Writing custom lightweight static analysis checks (AST matching)

[Practical Static Analysis for Continuous Application Security](#) - AppSec USA '16

Justin Collins on building custom, lightweight linting rules (Ruby, Python, JS)

[How to Write Custom, Lightweight Static Analysis Tools \(code\)](#) - ShellCon '19

Clint Gibler/Daniel DeFreez- AST matching Ruby (explore)/JS (RCE) w/ [semantic](#)

## Tools

- Useful multi-language parsers: [semantic](#), [bblfsh](#)
- Simply match code patterns (code-aware `grep`): [sgrep](#)



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# Continuous Scanning

What should we look for?

# Static Analysis - Code

```
open(request_uri,  
  {  
    ssl_verify_mode: OpenSSL::SSL::VERIFY_NONE  
  }  
)
```

- High signal vulnerability checks and security anti-patterns
  - E.g. Disabling TLS verification
- Block banned or dangerous functions
  - E.g. Calls to `exec()`, `eval()`
  - [mozilla/eslint-plugin-amo](#), [mozilla/eslint-plugin-no-unsanitized](#) - disallow `innerHTML()`, etc.
- Detect security-relevant code additions
  - “Looks like you’re adding some crypto-related code, let’s chat.”
- Alert on sensitive file changes
  - AuthZ/AuthN, login flow, things that should rarely change



# Open Source Static Analysis Tools

- C/C++ - [Clang Static Analyzer](#), [Phasar](#), [Cppcheck](#)
- C#/.NET - [Puma Scan](#), [Security Code Scan](#)
- Golang - [gosec](#), [glasgo](#)
- Java - [SpotBugs](#), Frameworks: [Soot](#), [WALA](#)
- JavaScript/Typescript - [NodeJsScan](#), [eslint](#), [tslint](#), [eslint-plugin-no-unsanitized](#)
- Python - [bandit](#), [dlint](#), [pyre-check](#) (data-flow analysis to find [web app bugs](#))
- Ruby - [Brakeman](#)

Massive list: [mre/awesome-static-analysis](#)



# Static Analysis – Out of Date Dependencies

[Automate the Discovery & Eradication of Open-Source Software Vulns](#) | BlackHat USA '19  
Netflix's [Aladdin Almubayed](#) on how to identify and eliminate open-source vulnerabilities across applications you own at scale ([slides](#))

**Tools:** [OWASP DependencyCheck](#), language-specific tools





# Static Analysis – Infrastructure as Code

[Static Analysis for Code and Infrastructure](#) | Nick Jones, DevSecCon London '16

Scan infra as code (Ansible, Puppet, Chef, ...) for insecure configs

## Security Linting Tools

- Terraform: [liamg/tfsec](#), [bridgecrewio/checkov](#), [cesar-rodriguez/terrascan](#)
- CloudFormation: [Skyscanner/cfripper](#), [stelligent/cfn\\_nag](#)
- AWS IAM policies: Parliament ([blog](#) | [code](#)) can detect cases like when a role could escalate its privileges



# Continuous Scanning - Key Takeaways

- Build the capability to **scan every**: PR, code base, deployed service
- **High signal** checks only
- Ensure a **security baseline** - don't try to find every bug
- Scan for (missing) **security controls, security-relevant changes**



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## The Fundamentals

Vulnerability Management

Continuous Scanning

Asset Inventory

# Asset Inventory - What is It?

Depends on who you ask!

A list of the things you own (code, servers, databases, employee devices, ...)

## Common Approaches

- Blackbox network-based - OSINT, certificate transparency, ...
- Whitebox network-based - Give tool read access to your cloud env
- Whitebox holistic - Integrations with cloud provider, code hosting, ...



# Asset Inventory - Basics

Know what you **own** and how they **connect**

## Success Criteria

- **Code**: Meta info file in repos containing owning team, team lead, security PoC, ...
- **Cloud**:
  - Live servers/databases/load balancers...
  - Services used
  - Credentials, secrets, API tokens
  - Roles, permissions
  - Network ACLs, segmentation



# Asset Inventory - Leveling Up

- Build capabilities to get visibility into other assets
  - Current employees
  - Employee phones and laptops
  - Deployment pipeline - track code from repo -> QA/staging -> production
- Enable querying crossing multiple knowledge domains



# Asset Inventory - Talks

[Lyft Cartography: Automating Security Visibility and Democratization](#) | BSidesSF '19  
Sacha Faust: Represent your assets as a graph, search across them ([code](#))

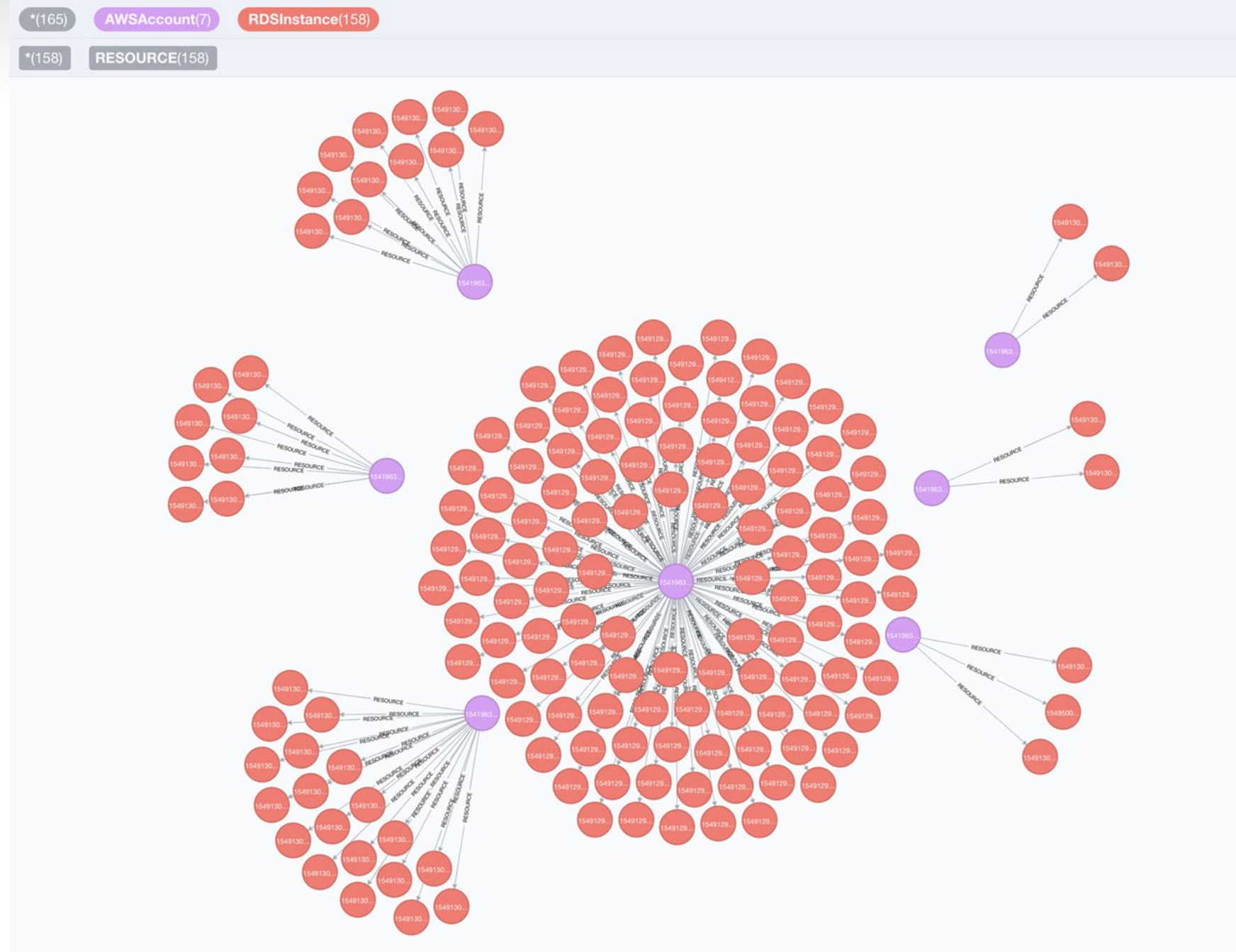
[Overcoming old ways of working with DevSecOps - Culture, Data, Graph, & Query](#)  
Erkang Zheng, DevSecCon Seattle '19 – Similar approach ^, security policy as code

[Expose Yourself Without Insecurity](#) | Art Into Science '20, Rob Ragan, Oscar Salazar  
Survey of asset inventory tools and approaches, inside/out vs. outside/in tradeoffs



# Lyft Cartography

Represents  
assets as a graph  
in Neo4J





# Asset Inventory - Examples

- Which RDS instances have encryption turned off?
- Which EC2 instances are directly exposed to the internet?

New Critical RCE!!1! #StrutsBleed



# STRUTS



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curl PoC



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  - [Scaling Your Efforts](#)
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# Scaling Your Efforts

Threat Modeling  
Security Engineering  
Detection & Response

# Threat Modeling

**Challenge:** Security team can't threat model every story. What do you focus on?

## Approaches:

1. Self-service security questionnaires
2. Add lightweight threat modeling to SDLC
3. Threat model as code

Then security engineers get involved in highest risk services and new features



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# Scaling Your Efforts

Threat Modeling  
Security Engineering  
Detection & Response

# Security Engineering - “Paved Road”

**Core idea:** Build libraries / tools that are secure by default for dev teams

Framework/tech choices matter

- Mitigate classes of vulns

## Areas to consider

- Managing secrets
- Anything related to crypto
- Authentication / Authorization
- SQL, file system access
- Shell `exec()`



# Security Engineering - Examples

- Port front end to React - ~~XSS~~
- Wrote data model wrapper library - ~~SQLi~~

## Key takeaways:

- “<X> is hard to do securely, have to be aware of threats 1, 2, and ...”
  - Build a secure by default implementation
- “Hitch your security wagon to developer productivity” - [Astha Singhal](#), Netflix
- The **secure** version should have an **even better dev UX** than the old way
- Integrate security at the **right points** (e.g. new project starter templates) to get automatic, widespread adoption with minimal effort



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# Scaling Your Efforts

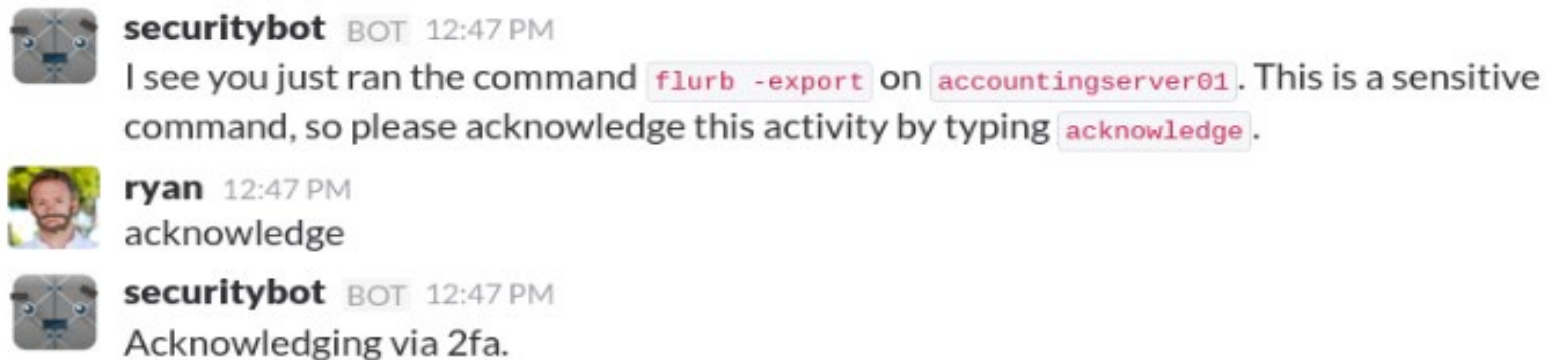
Threat Modeling  
Security Engineering  
Detection & Response



# Slack IR Bot

**Core idea:** When a fishy event occurs, prompt originating user with Slack bot question + 2FA. Only escalate if user did not initiate action.

**Motivation:** Push validation to devs to free up security engineer time.



An example interaction with securitybot.



# Slack IR Bot

**Core idea:** When a fishy event occurs, prompt originating user with Slack bot question + 2FA. Only escalate if user did not initiate action.

**Motivation:** Push validation to devs to free up security engineer time.

- Ryan Huber, Slack - [Distributed Security Alerting '16](#)
- Dropbox - [Meet Securitybot: Open Sourcing Automated Security at Scale 2017 \(code\)](#)
- [Empowering the Employee: Incident Response with a Security Bot](#)
  - Pinterest - Jeremy Krach, AppSec USA 2018



## How Dropbox Builds Tools for Threat Detection & IR

Something sketchy happened



Alerts via Kafka



Alertbox

Grabs context from disparate systems

- Users
- Hosts
- Processes
- ...

Returns & runs a Jupyter notebook corresponding to the alert



Forerunner



Covenant

Investigation happens in Jupyter notebook

- Repeatable
- Documented



# Automating SOC Security Runbooks

- Write security runbooks that define how to respond to a given event
  - AWS Lambdas spin up to call the relevant security products, custom scripts, etc

## Blog Posts

- [Twilio's SOCless: Automated Security Runbooks](#)
  - [Source code](#) | [Docs](#)
- [Auth0: Guardians of the Cloud: Automating the Response to Security Events](#)



# Detection & Response - Key Takeaways

- Push first line triage to originating user (as appropriate)
- Any **context** needed for human analyst to proceed - gather **automatically**
- Document **runbooks** for how you respond to different events - **automate**



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# Security EndGame

**Automating Least Privilege**

**Targeting Vuln Classes: Case Study**

**Enforce Invariants**

# Automating Least Privilege

- [Least Privilege: Security Gain without Developer Pain](#) | Enigma '18 ([code](#))
- New apps at Netflix are granted a base set of AWS permissions
- RepoKid gathers data about app behavior and automatically removes AWS permissions, rolls back if failure is detected
- Apps converge to least privilege with minimal security team interaction
- Unused apps converge to **zero**.





# Automating Least Privilege

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## policy\_sentry

IAM Least Privilege Policy Generator, auditor, and analysis database.

By Kinnaird McQuade of Salesforce ([blog](#)) ([code](#))



# Automating Least Privilege - Key Takeaways

- Ongoing **time requirements** from security team: **none** (some maintenance)
- **Security benefit / risk reduction**: **huge**

**Any time** you can find opportunities like this, **you should take them**.

=> Maximize ratio of **security ROI** to **ongoing time requirements** for sec team



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# Security EndGame

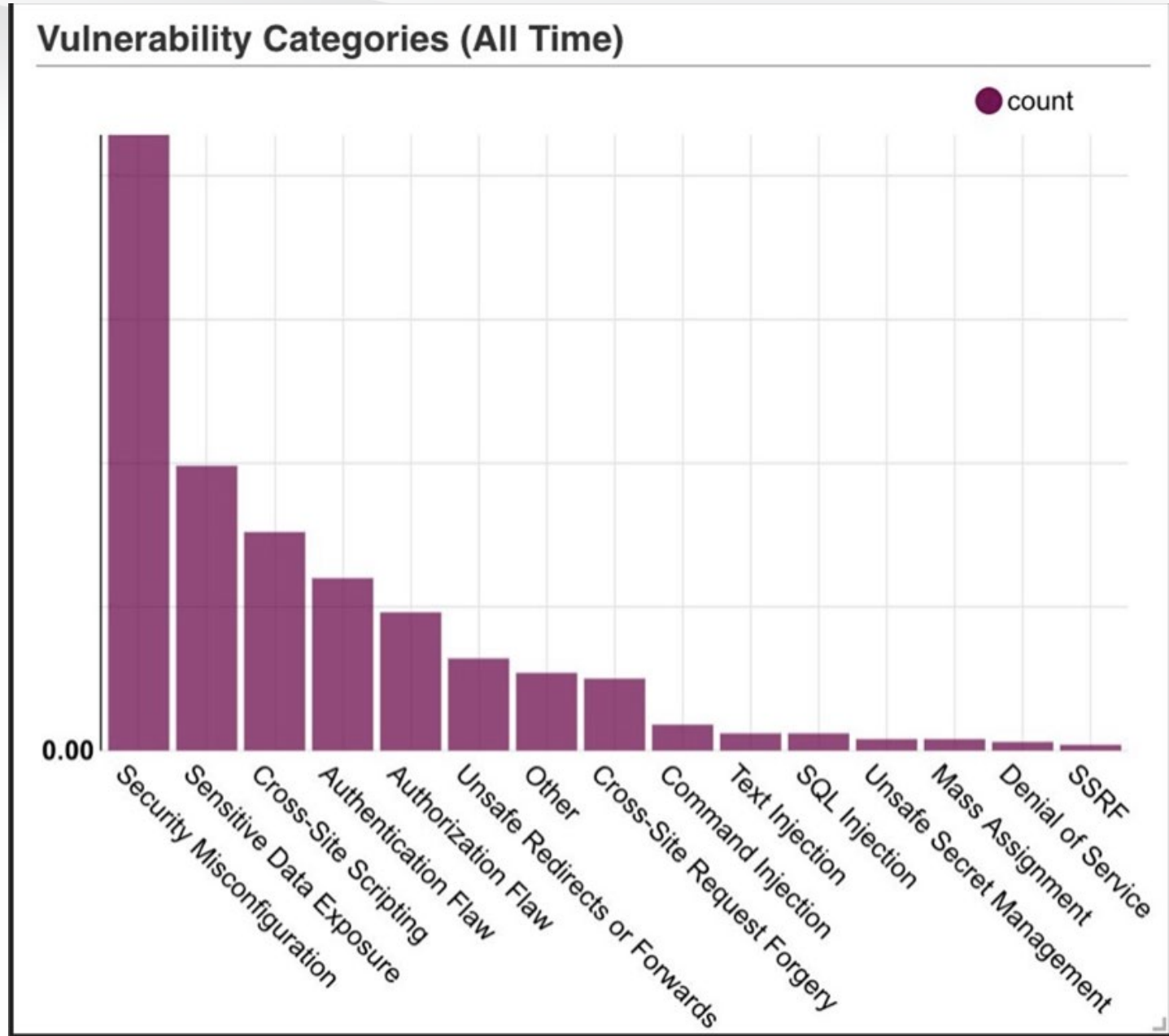
Automating Least Privilege

Targeting Vuln Classes: Case Study

Enforce Invariants

# Data Driven Bug Bounty

## Vulns by Category



# Help!

“We’re not getting much value out of <popular SAST tool>, can you review how we’re doing things and see what makes sense for us?”



# Eliminating Bug Classes: Scoping the Problem

“How do we get **more value** from <current SAST tool>?”

“How can we make our SAST tool find **more bugs** of **higher criticality** with **less manual time**?”

“How can we find bugs more efficiently **regardless of approach**?”

**At the end of the day:**

Given limited AppSec engineer **time** and **budget**, what’s the best way for us to **reduce overall risk**?

**Note:** Not tool or approach-specific



# How to Do This at Your Company

## Aggregate your vulns over the past N quarters

- Group by vuln class (access controls, XSS, SQLi, open redirect, ...)
- Group by how you found them (pen test, bug bounty, internal testing, ...)
- Weighted by severity/risk/impact



# How to Do This at Your Company

## Aggregate your vulns over the past N quarters

- Group by vuln class (access controls, XSS, SQLi, open redirect, ...)
- Group by how you found them (pen test, bug bounty, internal testing, ...)
- Weighted by severity/risk/impact

## Review the vulns, what can find / prevent them at scale?

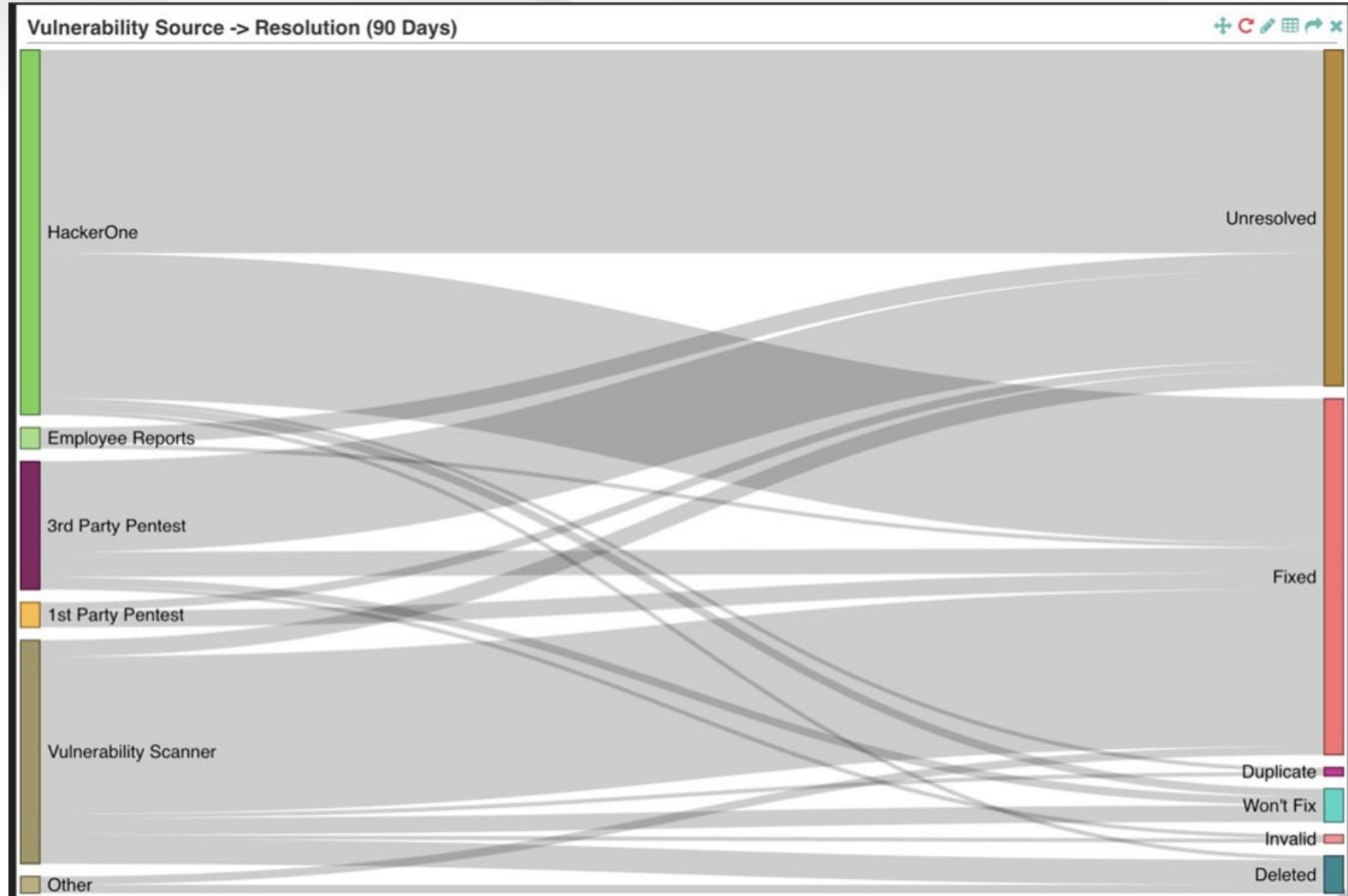
- **Goal:**
  - Minimize **cost** (bug bounty, pen test, tool licensing)
  - AppSec **time** (finding bugs manually, triaging tool results)
- Is one method finding most of your high severity vulns?
- What's worked well for your org or team in the past?
  - Any success stories for other vuln classes you can leverage?



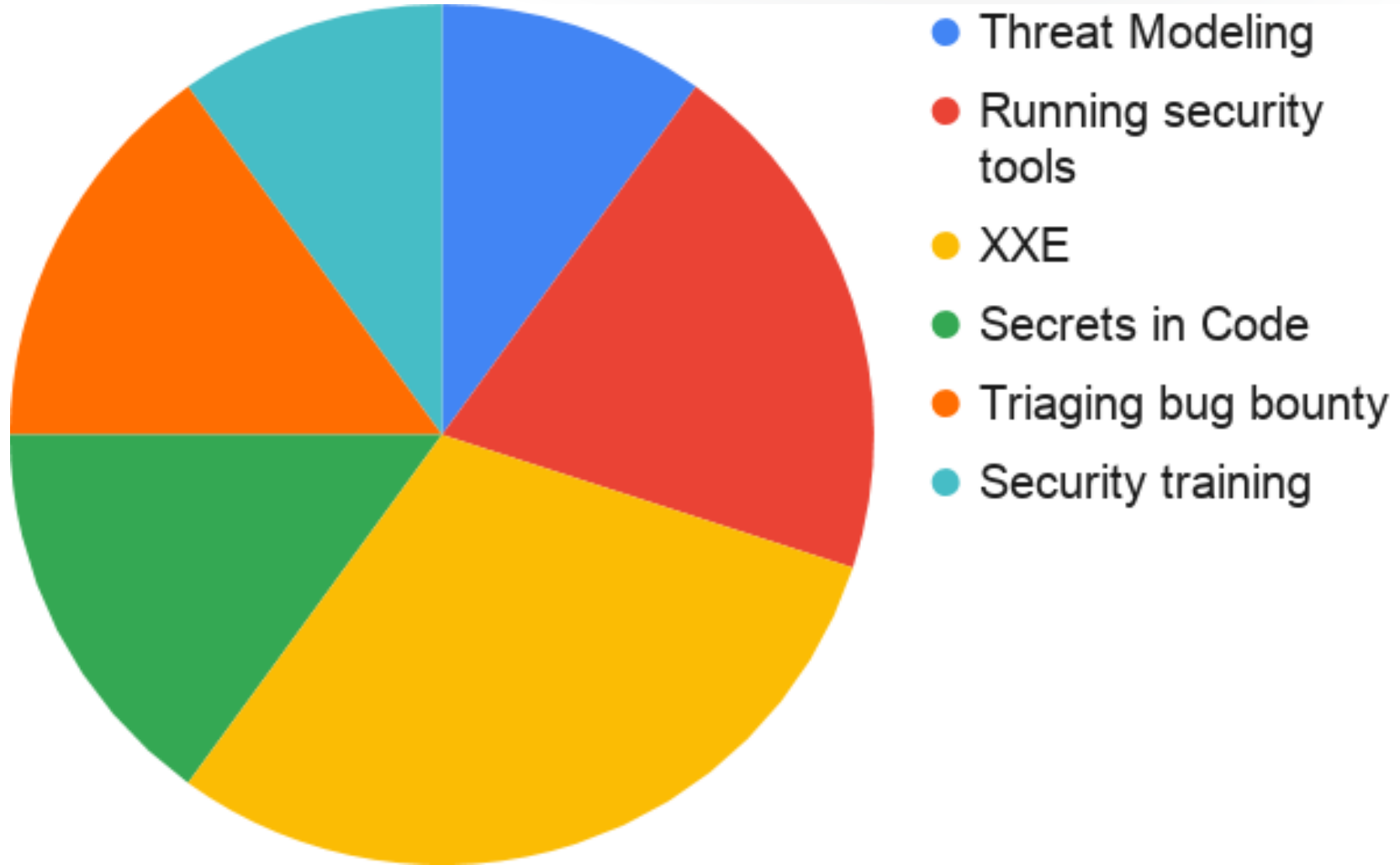


# Data Driven Bug Bounty

## Vuln Source To Resolution



# Your AppSec Time



# Your AppSec Time - XXE

## Current:

- Developer training: 2 hours / month
- Triaging XXE-related bug bounty submissions: 2 hours / week
- Working with devs to fix XXE issues: 3 hours / week
- Validating XXE fixes: 1 hour / week
- Configuring SAST scans for XXE, triaging results: 1 hour / week
- ... DAST ... : 1 hour / week
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- **Future:**

- Build a safe by default wrapper library for parsing XML that [disables DTDs](#) (External Entities)
- Teach devs about the new library and roll it out everywhere
- Scan every PR for XML parsing that doesn't use this library
- **Done**



# Ban Footguns: How to standardize how devs use dangerous aspects of your framework | ShellCon '19

Morgan Roman on how DocuSign eliminated Regex DoS, XXE, open redirects, SSRF via secure-by default libraries + ensuring their use.



# Your AppSec Time



# Your AppSec Time



Security Engineering is the compound  
interest of security.

 @clintgibler





# Targeting Vuln Classes - Key Takeaways

- Use **vulnerability history** to determine where to invest effort
- Consider: vuln classes, what's finding them, impact
- What's the most **effective** way (AppSec **time** / **\$**) to **reduce risk**?
- Solving **bug classes** amplifies your effectiveness



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# Security EndGame

Automating Least Privilege  
Targeting Vuln Classes: Case Study  
Enforce Invariants

# Enforce Invariants

**Core idea:** Enforce/Alert on things that should **always** or **never** be true

AWS instances should **never** be accessible on all ports to the whole Internet

[Improving Cloud Security Visibility with ChatOps](#) - Lambda auto shuts it down

Manual changes should **never** be made through the AWS Console

[Detecting Manual AWS Console Actions](#) (CloudTrail) [Arkadiy Tetelman](#)

We should **never** use these <regions> or <cloud services>

- Instances in other regions or use of other services are red flags
- Can go further and do this per-app / service
- [Netflix's Layered Approach to Reducing Risk of Cred Compromise](#)



# Enforce Invariants - Key Takeaways

What are things in your environment that should **always** or **never** be true?

- Cloud, security controls, code, AuthN/AuthZ, users, ...

Which of these can you programmatically **enforce** or **alert** on?

**No context** to make the decision -> **No operational time** for security team



# Enforce Invariants - Key Takeaways

What are thi

- Cloud, se

Which of the

No context to



- Threat Modeling
- Running security tools
- XXE
- Secrets in Code
- Triaging bug bounty
- Security training

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How is what we're doing **now** making  
us *more effective* in the **future**?

If it's **not**, consider **deprioritizing**



# Agenda

- Big Picture
  - Mindsets and Principles
  - Choosing How to Invest Your Time
- Scaling Your Company's Security
  - The Fundamentals
  - Scaling Your Efforts
  - Security Endgame
- Action Plan



# Action Plan: Apply



Next Week



3 – 9 Months



Future





# Apply – Next Week – Assess



- Evaluate your fundamentals
  - Vulnerability Management, Continuous Scanning, Asset Inventory
- Brainstorm with security leadership and SMEs
  - What vulnerability and asset inventory info would we like?
  - Promising projects?



# Apply – 3 to 9 Months – Build



- **Nail the fundamentals**
  - Build a solid foundation
- **Do a bite-sized project**
  - Based on historical vuln data and your company's business factors / risk



# Apply – Future – Scale



- Be more highly leveraged with your time (Target vuln classes)
- Invest in projects with high security ROI & minimal ongoing time requirements (Automating Least Priv, Invariants)
- Focus on areas that meaningfully raise your security bar



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**Wrapping Up**

<https://tldrsec.com/blog/appsec-cali-2019>

# What I Learned Watching All 44 AppSec Cali 2019 Talks



2 Days | 4 Rooms

~32 Hours of Talks





## Tl;dr sec Newsletter - <https://tldrsec.com>

- Talk [summaries](#) | [Tools & Resources](#) links | Original [research](#)



**Caleb Sima** • 1st

VP - Security at Databricks : Hiring in all positions - Review my experienc...  
20h



As a busy exec who's heart is still deep in tech. I have found it almost impossible anymore to keep up with latest good tools/talks in infosec. I have to give a shoutout to [Clint Gibler](#) 's newsletter tldr;sec which gives me a weekly email that is a curated view of the best stuff. It is absolute gold - keep up the good work Clint. I highly recommend people sign up:



# DevSecOps State of the Union

- Backup Slides: [@clintgibler](https://bit.ly/2020RSA_Gibler)



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/clintgibler/>

- **Uplevel** your security knowledge: <https://tldrsec.com>



## Next Week

Assess



## 3-9 Months

Build



## Future

Scale

- **Big Picture:** Mindsets & principles, using the right tool for the job
- **Fundamentals:** Vuln management, continuous scanning, asset inventory
- **Scaling Security:** Threat modeling, security engineering, detection & response
- **Security Endgame:** Automating least priv, targeting vuln classes, invariants



# Thanks

- Big thanks to all of the people and companies behind the talks, blog posts, and tools referenced - you're pushing the industry forward!
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