The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface, possibly a workbench or a cloth, covered with numerous open-end wrenches of various sizes. The wrenches are arranged in a somewhat random pattern, with some lying flat and others slightly angled. The lighting is soft, highlighting the metallic texture of the wrenches and the dark surface.

# Startup Engineering

## - *What can you do about security?*

Luis Diogo Couto & Ralph Depping

# Secure Startup Engineering



## Our Landscape

- Low bureaucracy
- Expected to do things
- Good zone of control



## Secure Software Dev

- Day to day pillar we control and affect
- Not covering ops, compliance, data protection, auth, soc2 etc.

**YMMV**

# Setup for Success

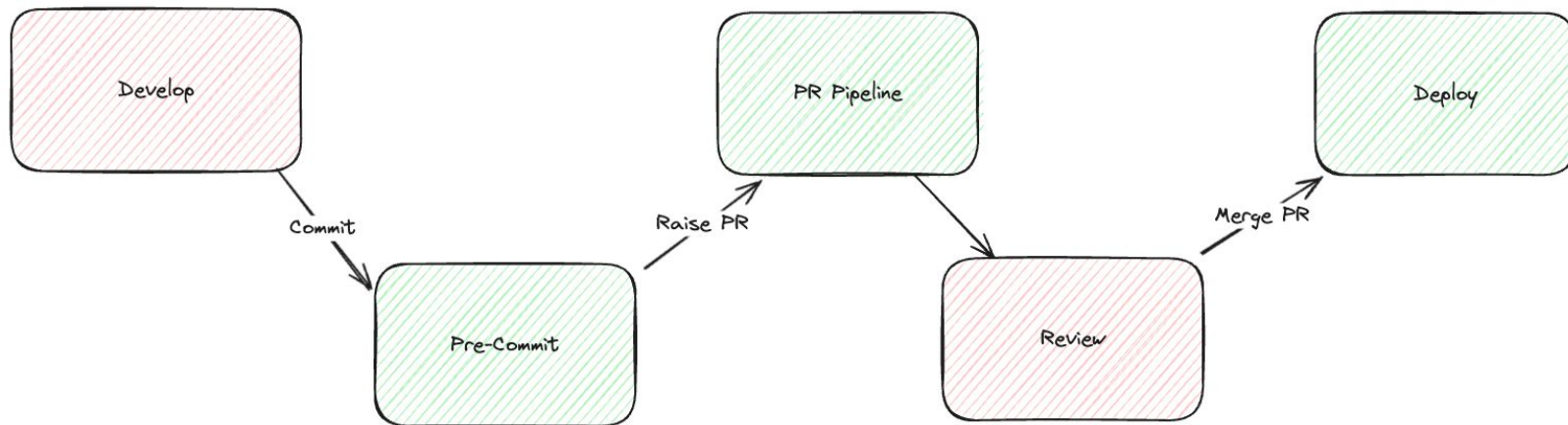
## Key Guiding Principles

1. Make things as simple as possible
2. Ship all the time
3. Build tidy things we can all understand
4. Shift left with a great local development experience





# Our Flow

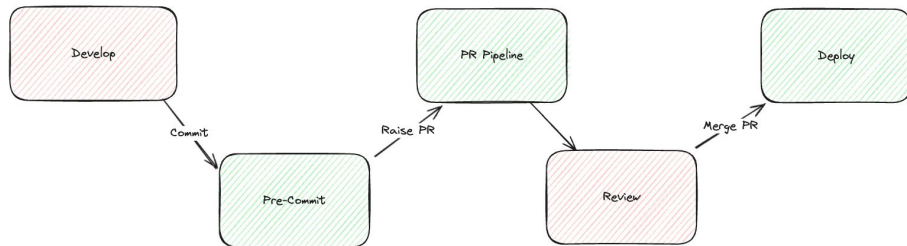


## Practices

- Unit and component tests
- Static code analysis in pre-commit and pipeline
- Dedicated AWS stack for each PR
- Judicious component testing



# Enter Docker



Ideas so far...

- 1 or 2 tools - in the right place
  - High signal to noise ratio
  - Don't slow down going to prod
- Low maintenance - right base image
- Lint your own stuff - hadolint pre-commit
- Non-gating vulnerability scans

# Secure Infrastructure

▶ **Controlling our own infrastructure is very good for flow**

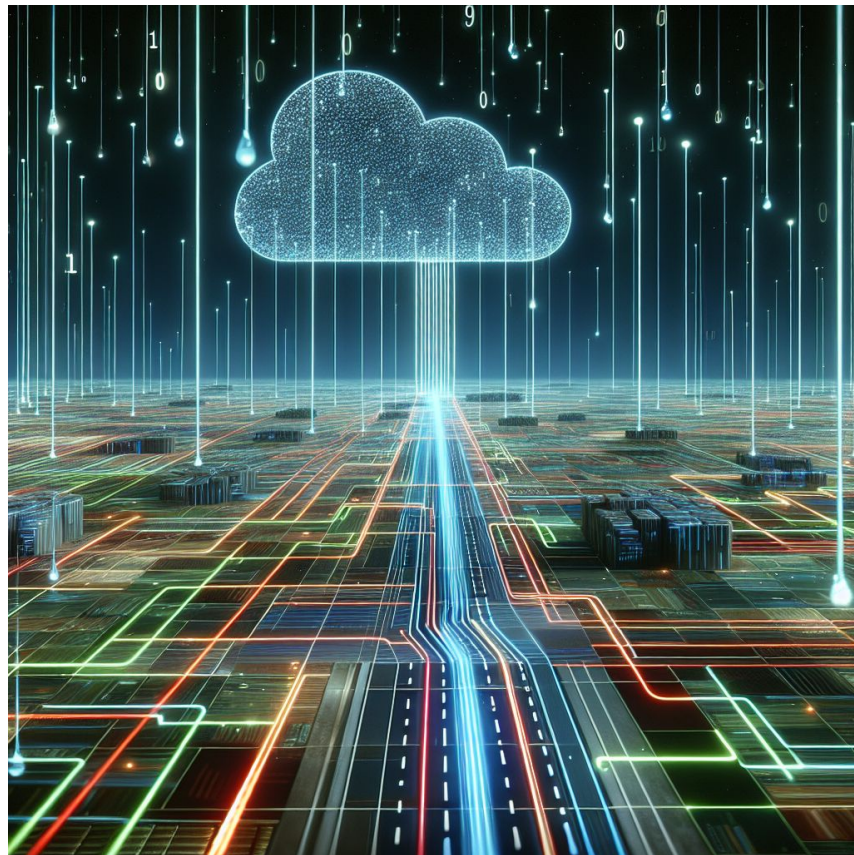
- What we need, when we need it

🔒 **Have to do it securely**

- Requires deep cloud knowledge

📝 **Infrastructure as Code**

- Fits beautifully with PRs
- Static Analysis



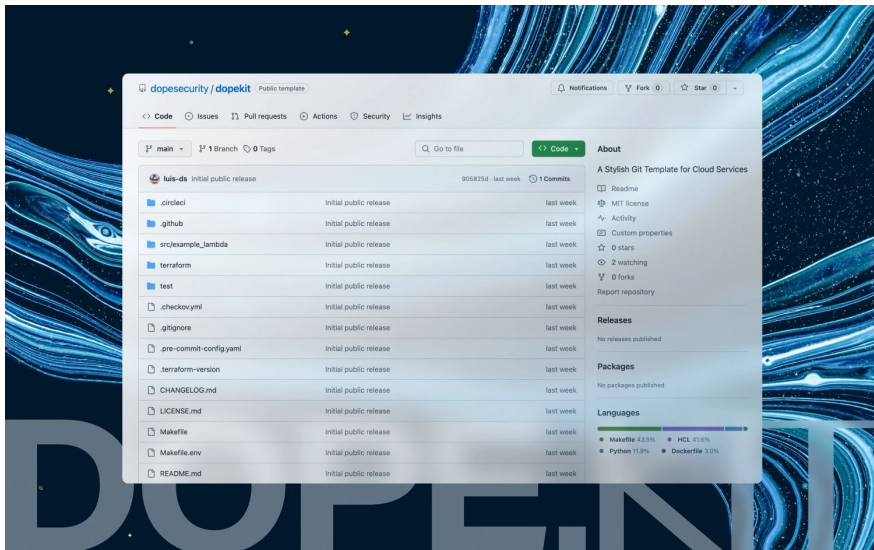
# Demo

```
ralphdepping@Ralphs-MacBook-Pro:~/github/dope/sh
~ (-zsh)  %1

shadow-finder on ʘ cork-sec-demo-2024 [$!?] is 📦 v0.1.0 via 🐍 v3.10.11 on ☁️ dope-dev (use2)
> make help
Available targets:
help                Show this help
display-env         Print makefile AWS_ENV variables
clean               Delete dependencies and other files
install             Install all dependencies for local development
build               Prepare lambda packages for deployment
unit-tests          Run unit tests on lambdas
update-deps         Call poetry update on all lock files
plan                Plan terraform deployment
deploy              Deploy planned infrastructure
destroy             Destroy deployment and terraform workspace
component-tests     Run component tests against deployed infrastructure
local_db_deploy     Deploy local DB
local_db_populate   Populate local DB
local_db_clean      Clean local DB of data (by dropping tables)
tf-force-init       Force terraform to re-initialize

shadow-finder on ʘ cork-sec-demo-2024 [$!?] is 📦 v0.1.0 via 🐍 v3.10.11 on ☁️ dope-dev (use2)
```

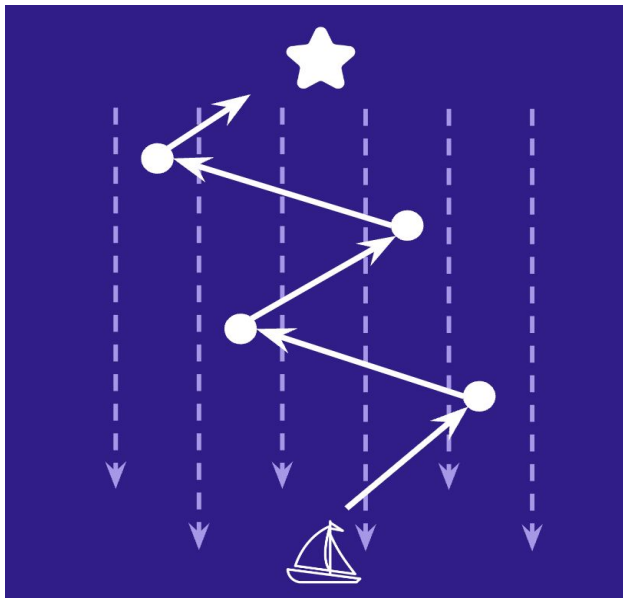
# dope.kit - stylish git template for cloud services



- <https://github.com/dopesecurity/dopekit>
- <https://dope.security/post/dopekit-a-stylish-git-template-for-cloud-services>



# Learnings



## Looking back...

- **“local stacks with make”** replaces “each dev has their own AWS region”
- **pre-commit** hooks
  - checkov - all or nothing
  - takes time to address warnings
- **docker hardening** “invest as you go”

# Bring people along



## Not always easy...

- People do get scared 😬  
...how do you **reassure** them?
- Just do it  
...**it'll work** and build trust
- Soft influence rarely shifts things  
...you have to “**have the juice**”

# Over to you 🙌

## **Zone of control**

- What things could you change today - *pretty much* - without asking?
- Improve those things

## **Where to Start**

- Look at pre-commit
- Starting a new service
  - ...don't just dive in...tidy and improve as you go
  - ... how can I make things better?

 ***You don't need permission to be a good engineer***

Questions?