

# Threat Modeling Workshop Labs

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# Who am I?



## Robert Hurlbut

Principal Application Security  
Architect / Threat Modeling Lead  
@ Aquia, Inc. (<https://aquia.us>)



- Co-author of “Threat Modeling Manifesto” (2020)
- Co-founder of Threat Modeling Connect (2022)
- Microsoft MVP – Dev Sec / Dev Tech (2005 – 2009, 2015 - )
- (ISC2) CSSLP 2014-2023
- Founder / Leader two groups:  
Boston .NET Architecture Group (2004 - ) and Amherst Security Group (2016 - )
- Co-host Application Security Podcast with Chris Romeo (2016 - )

# Threat Modeling Lab 1:

## Review case study

## Draw a Data Flow Diagram (DFD)

# Objectives

Reinforce what you just learned

Build a complete threat model with optional diagram for a fictitious system

Work in independent groups

Even with a defined process, people come up with different threat models

The models converge over time but is not likely to happen right away

# Rare Books R Us

Fictitious mail-order bookseller specializing in rare and old book titles

Launching web-site: **Rare Books R Us**

**Security is important but need help in determining where it is needed**

Variety of data stores (Oracle, SQL Server, MySQL)

At some point, the company looks to move most of the data and operations to the cloud

# Rare Books R Us

## Business Goals:

- Provide online inventory of rare and old books
- Make searching and buying easy
- Security is important, but not sure how / where to apply it

## Technical Goals:

- System written with React front end, Java backend interacting with several DB inventories and systems

# Rare Books R Us

## **Data Stores:**

Customers

Orders

Invoices

## **Users:**

Customers (external)

Warehouse (internal)

## **Processes:**

Receive Order

Collect Payments

Ship Books

## **Data Flows:**

Orders

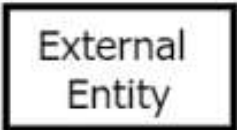


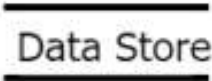


Billing information

Order details / shipping  
details

Etc.

# Data Flow Diagram (DFD)

## DFD Elements

	The external entity shape is used to represent any entity outside the application that interacts with the application via an entry point
	Represents a task that handles data within the application. The task may process the data or perform an action based on the
	Used to present a collection of subprocesses. The multiple process can be broken down into its subprocesses in another DFD.
	Represents locations where data is stored
	Represents data movement within the application. The direction of the data movement is represented by the arrow.
	Represent the change of privilege levels as the data flows through the application.



# Model the system

To model the system:

- Receive and review all artifacts

- Review the interview notes made by your colleagues

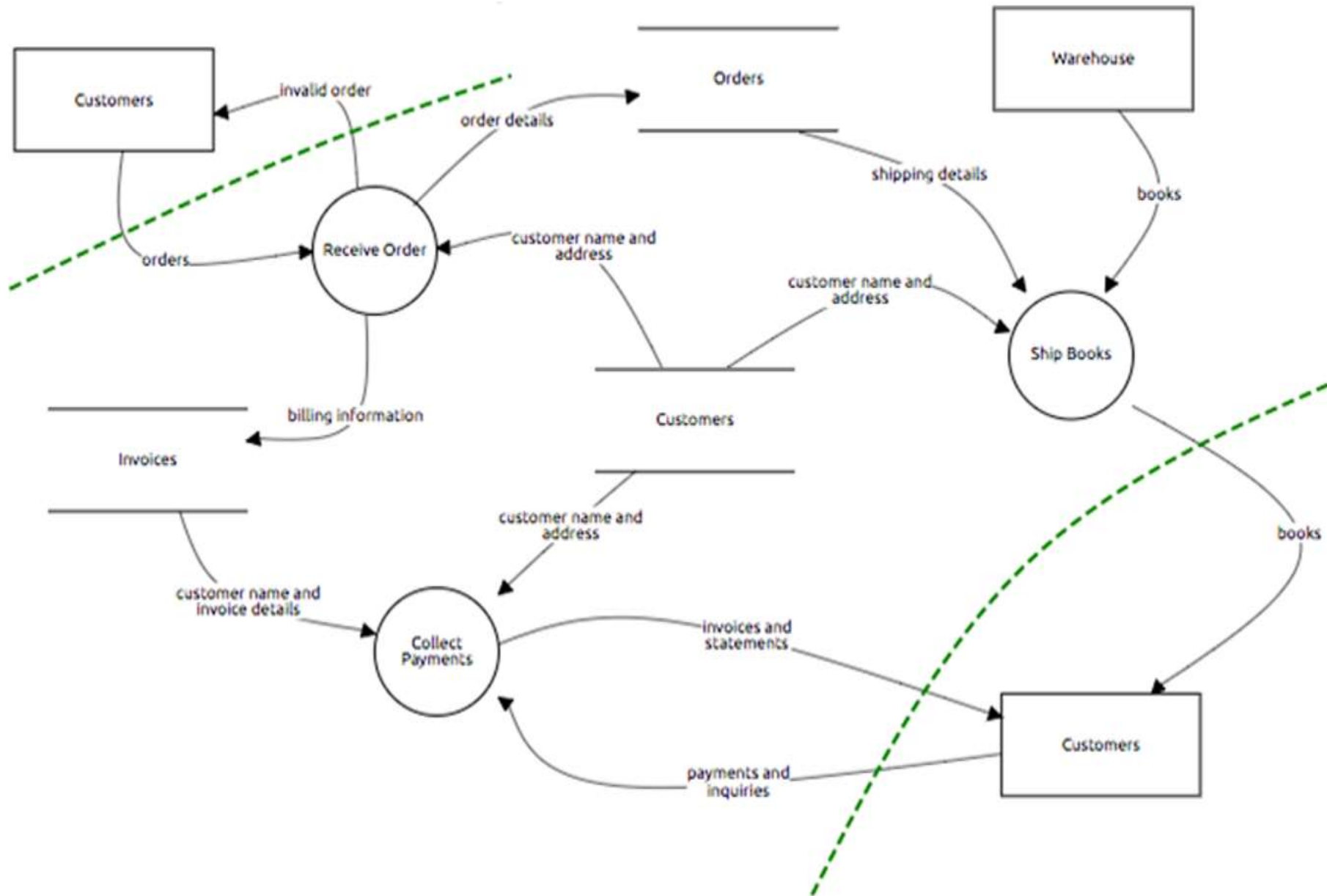
Create a component diagram

- OK to "flag" assets, controls, etc.

- Only draw a component / DFD diagram now!!**

Duration: 20 minutes (includes 10 min. to review)

# RareBooksRUs DFD



# Threat Modeling Lab 2:

## Identify threats

# Identify threats - STRIDE

## STRIDE

Threat	Description	Breaks
Spoofting	Pretending to be somebody else	Authentication
Tampering	Modifying data that should not be modifiable	Integrity
Repudiation	Claiming someone didn't do something	Non-Repudiation
Information Disclosure	Exposing information	Confidentiality
Denial of Service	Preventing a system from providing service	Availability
Elevation of Privilege	Doing things that one isn't supposed to do	Authorization

# Identity threats - Games

## OWASP Cornucopia

Suits:

Data validation and encoding

Authentication

Session Management

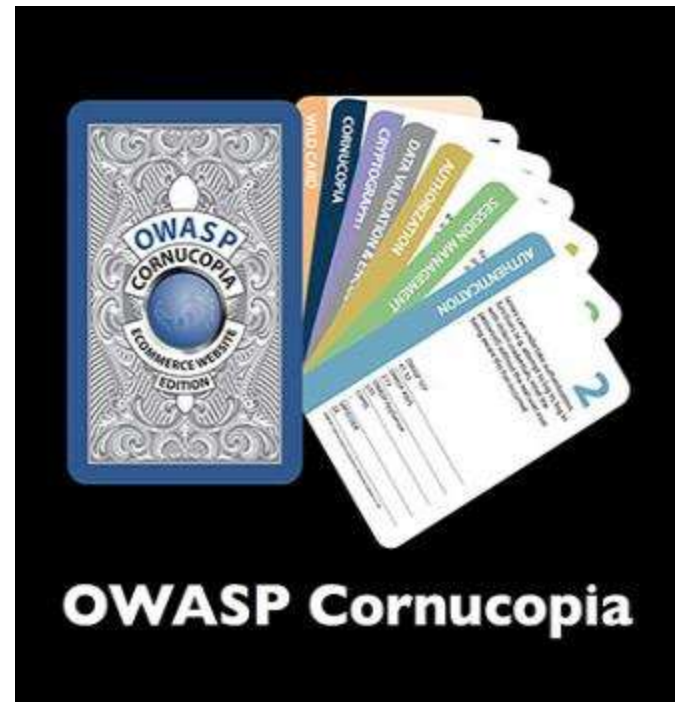
Authorization

Cryptography

Cornucopia

13 cards per suit, 2 Jokers

Play a round, highest value wins



# Identity threats - Games

## Elevation of Privilege (EoP)

The EoP game focuses on the following threats (STRIDE):

- Spoofing

- Tampering

- Repudiation

- Information Disclosure

- Denial of Service

- Elevation of Privilege



Identify threats

Base your work on **ONLY** the provided system model diagram!

Add threat possibilities to the model:

Using STRIDE or other methods

Duration: 20 minutes (includes 10 min. to review)

# Threat Modeling Lab 3:

## Determine mitigations



Determine mitigations

Base your work on **ONLY** the provided system model diagram!

Add mitigations to the model:

Security controls

Duration: 20 minutes (includes 10 min. to review)

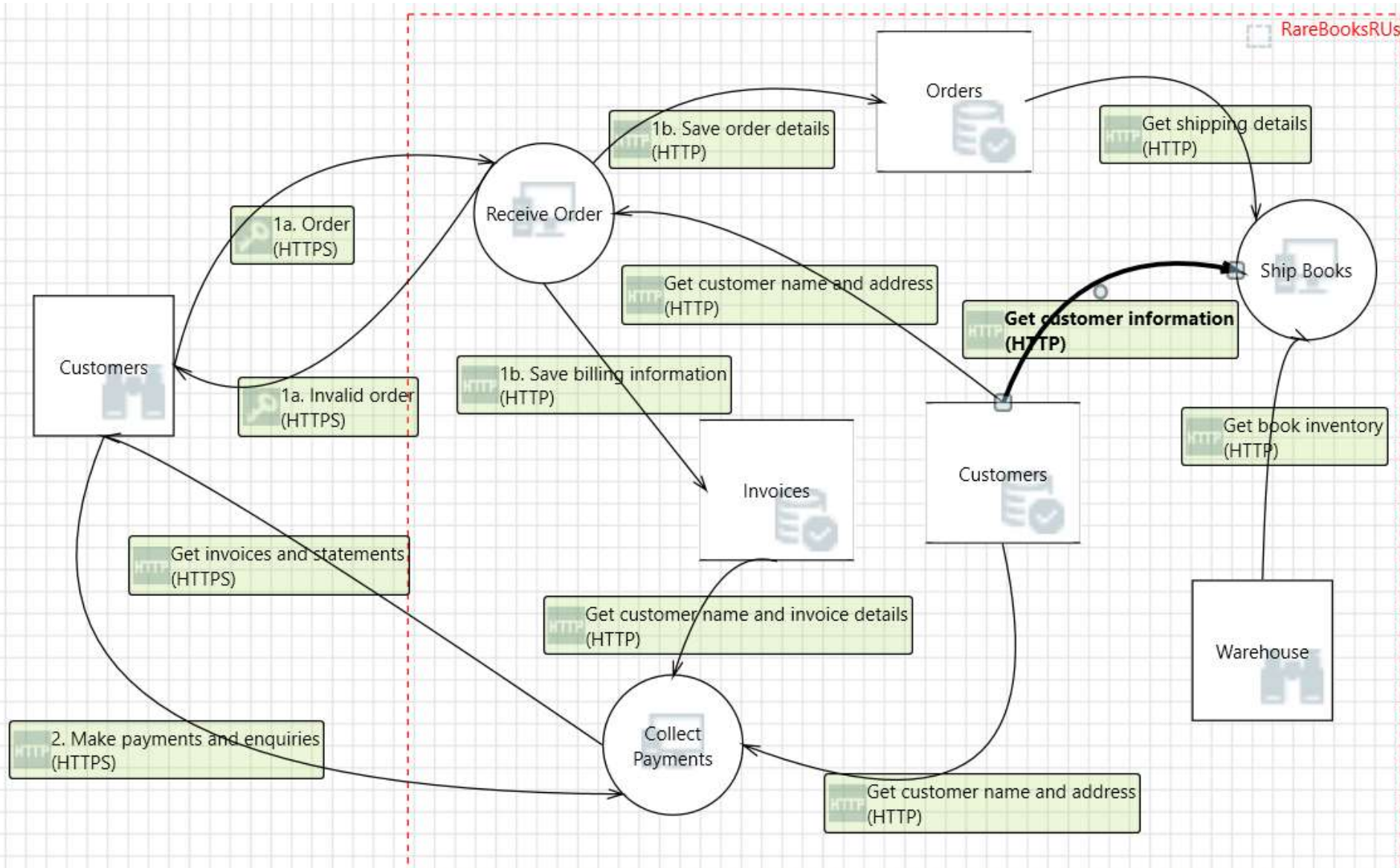
# Review

Let's review the threat models:

How different was each group's interpretation of the system?

What areas were identified where you need to get additional information?

# MS Threat Modeling Tool – RareBooksRUs DFD



# Resources – Threat Modeling Manifesto

## “Threat Modeling Manifesto” (2020)

<https://threatmodelingmanifesto.org/>

- Definition
- Values
- Principles
- Anti-Patterns

# Resources – Threat Modeling Connect

## Threat Modeling Connect (started Fall, 2022)

<https://www.threatmodelingconnect.com/>

- Support and insights from other Threat Modelers
- Monthly Community Meetups
- Threat Modeling Hackathons
- Threat Modeling Open Forum
- First Threat Modeling Conference – November, 2023

# Resources - Books

## Threat Modeling as a Practice:

Threat Modeling: A Practical Guide for Development Teams (2020)  
*Izar Tarandach and Matthew Coles*

Threat Modeling: Designing for Security (2014)

and

Threats: What Every Engineer Should Learn from Star Wars (2023)  
*Adam Shostack*

Securing Systems: Applied Architecture and Threat Models (2015)  
*Brook S.E. Schoenfield*

Risk Centric Threat Modeling: Process for Attack Simulation and Threat Analysis (2015)  
*Marco Morana and Tony UcedaVelez*

# Resources - Books

## Applied Threat Modeling:

Hacking Kubernetes: Threat-Driven Analysis and Defense (2021)

*Andrew Martin, Michael Hausenblas*

Playbook for Threat Modeling Medical Devices (2021)

MITRE: <https://www.mitre.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/Playbook-for-Threat-Modeling-Medical-Devices.pdf>

# Resources - Tools

Microsoft Threat Modeling Tool

<https://aka.ms/threatmodelingtool>

ThreatModeler – Web Based (in-house) Tool

<https://threatmodeler.com>

IriusRisk Software Risk Manager

<https://iriusrisk.com>

OWASP Threat Dragon

<https://owasp.org/www-project-threat-dragon/>



# Resources - Tools

Attack Trees – Bruce Schneier on Security

<https://www.schneier.com/attacktrees.pdf>

Elevation of Privilege (EoP) Game

<http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=20303>

OWASP Cornucopia

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP\\_Cornucopia](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Cornucopia)

OWASP Application Security Verification Standard (ASVS)

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Category:OWASP\\_Application\\_Security\\_Verification\\_Standard\\_Project](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Category:OWASP_Application_Security_Verification_Standard_Project)

OWASP Top 10 Proactive Controls 2018

[https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP\\_Proactive\\_Controls](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Proactive_Controls)

Questions?



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Thank you!