



# Secure Software Development Lifecycle Fundamentals

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SBA Research

 Federal Ministry  
Innovation, Mobility  
and Infrastructure  
Republic of Austria

 Federal Ministry  
Economy, Energy  
and Tourism  
Republic of Austria



 FWF Austrian  
Science Fund



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# Training “Rules”

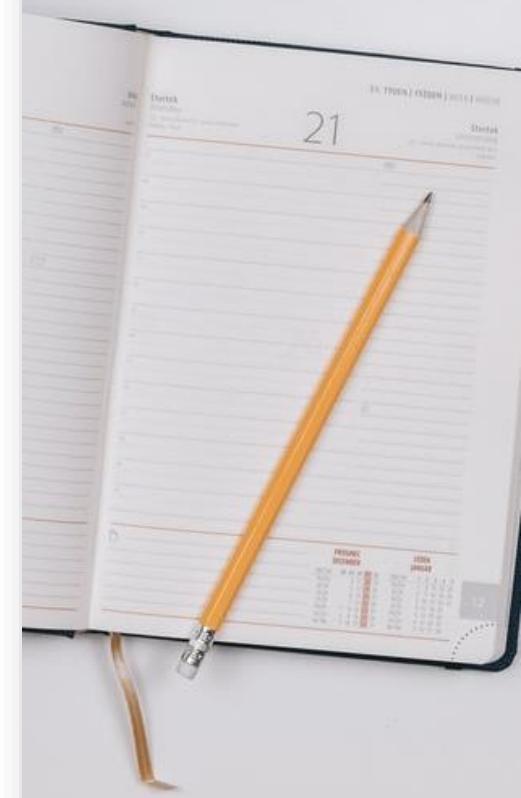
- Feel free to **interrupt!** Please **ask questions** any time. We have lots of content to cover but also time for discussions and to answer questions
- If you have made a **different experience** or have another opinion, **please share it.** Let's discuss it – Security is rarely entirely “black or white”
- If you **know more** about a specific topic or want to correct a statement, please do not hesitate!

# Secure Development Lifecycle Fundamentals

- The process, techniques and tools that enable you to create secure software
- We will not talk about *Secure Coding*
- Focusing on breadth, not depth
- Giving you many ideas and starting points for implementing Your SDLC

# Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Governance
3. Requirements
4. Design
5. Implementation
6. Verification
7. Operations



# Introduction

Why are we here?

# Why is Security Strategically Important?

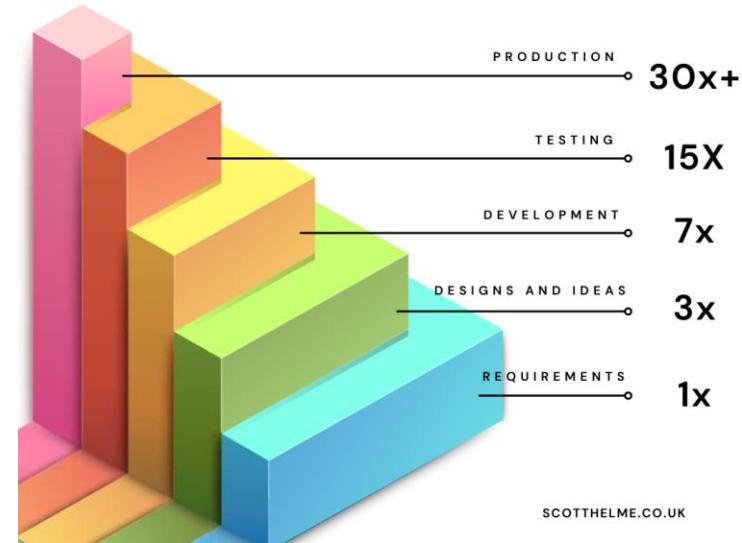
- Customer trust is invaluable, but fragile
- Digitalization increases the threat level
- The threat landscape evolves quickly
- Threats aren't just IT-related



# Security and Quality

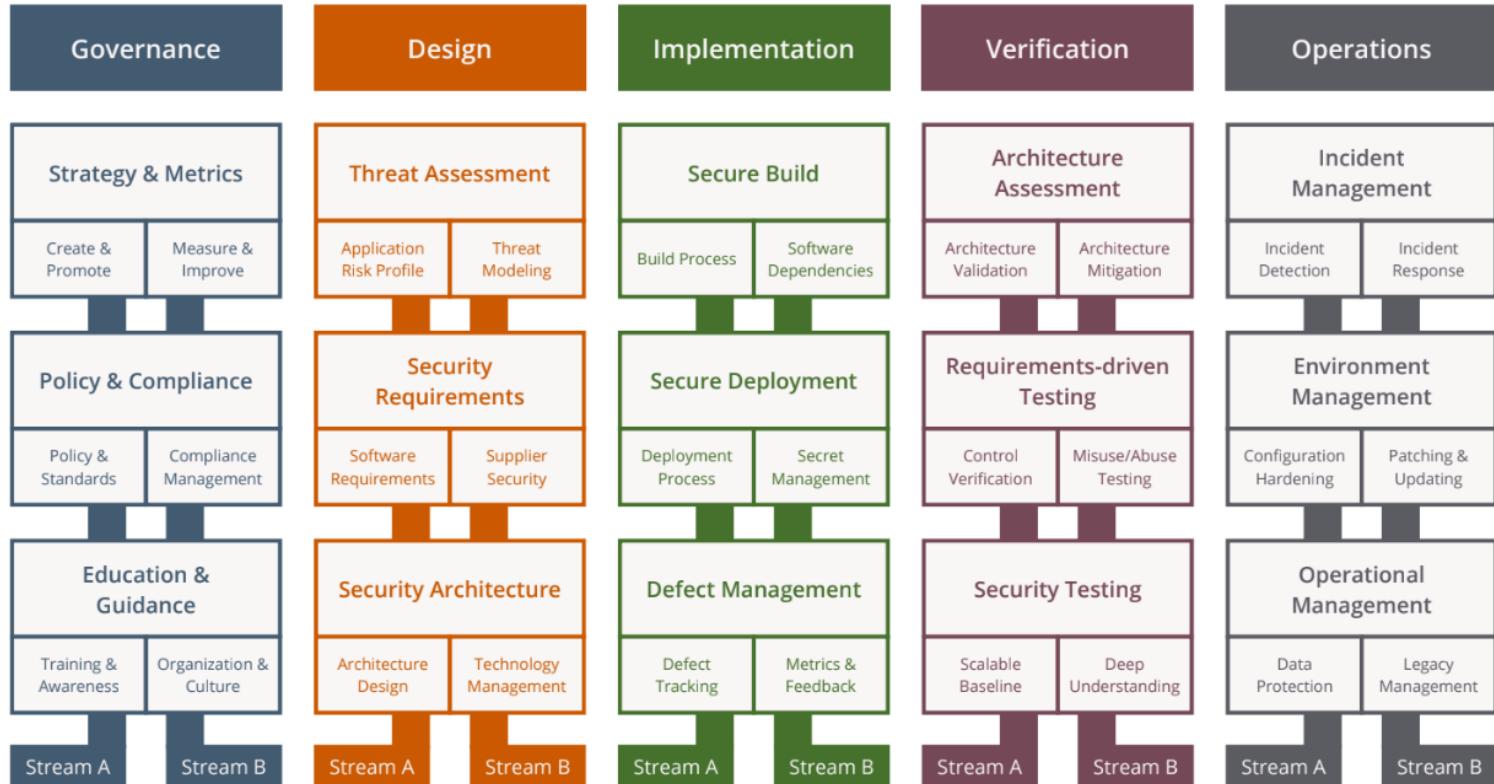
- Secure software is typically high-quality software
- Security as a usual quality requirement, not something “on top”
- Most cost-effective in the long term when considered from the start

COST TO FIX BUGS  
BASED ON DETECTION TIME



<https://scotthelme.co.uk/google-announce-new-minimum-viable-secure-product/>

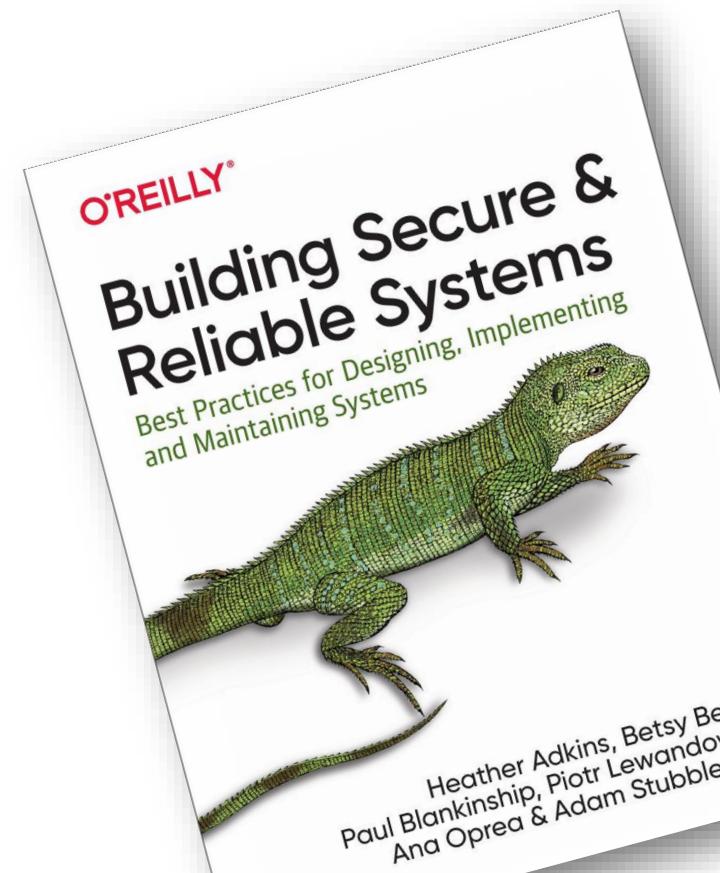
# OWASP SAMM



# Initial Velocity vs. Sustained Velocity

- „We'll add security later“ –  
**You probably won't.**
- You hope to gain initial velocity
- But you'll lose sustained velocity

**Book recommendation:** “Building Secure and Reliable Systems” by Heather Adkins et. al.





# Sustained Velocity By Example

You, having great  
test coverage  
and letting a bot  
do the updates

You, running behind with  
dependency updates by  
fear of breaking something

# Governance

Making software security manageable

# Let Me Ask You A Question

**How do you ensure security  
in your software?**

Try to answer that in 60 seconds.



# What Is Security Governance?

**Having overview and ability to control.**

- Responsibilities
- Risk, threats, vulnerabilities
- Strategy
- Skills and awareness
- Guidelines
- Budget
- Technical debt
- Metrics
- Continuous and economic improvement



# **Governance vs. Management**

## **Governance**

- Goals, direction
- Responsibilities
- Accountability frameworks

## **Management**

- Allocation of resources
- Overseeing day-to-day operations
- Aligned with governance



# Security Strategy

**Do you have a strategic plan and use it to make decisions?**

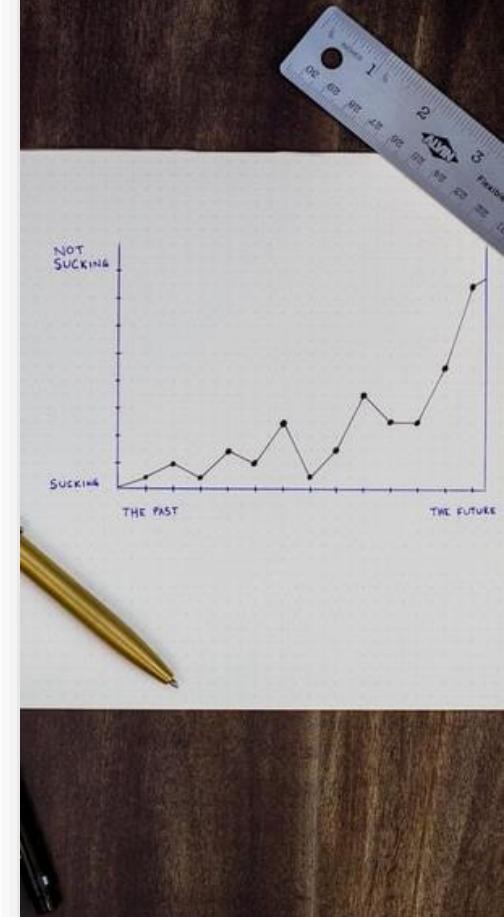
- Organization's priorities
- Milestones and budget
- Roadmap
- Stakeholder's approval



# Metrics

**Can you tell *with evidence* that security improved over time?**

- How can you tell?
- Do you have a complete picture?
- Do activities show effect?



# Metrics

## Bad metrics



Tweet



mcmullen  
@mcmullen

...

Reportedly, Elon stack-ranked Twitter engineers by "lines of code written in the last year" and fired the bottom X%, which likely means he's gotten rid everyone who worked on particularly challenging things, like security, privacy, performance, & reliability. 😬

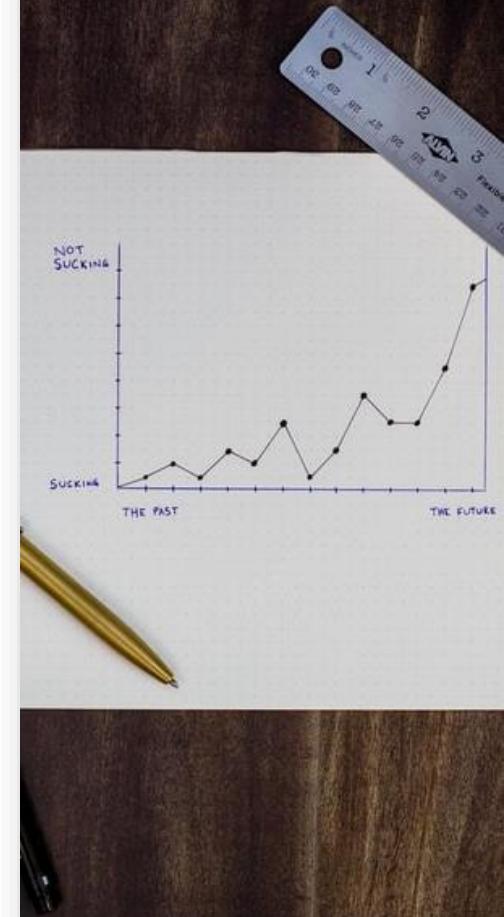


# Metrics

## Some metrics that matter

- Time to detection
- Time to remediation
- Average number of vulns per LoC

**After targeting vulns, do they decline?**



# Further Reading

- Keynote from Sec4Dev '21  
"Security Metrics That Matter" by Tanya Janca



[Tanya Janca](#)

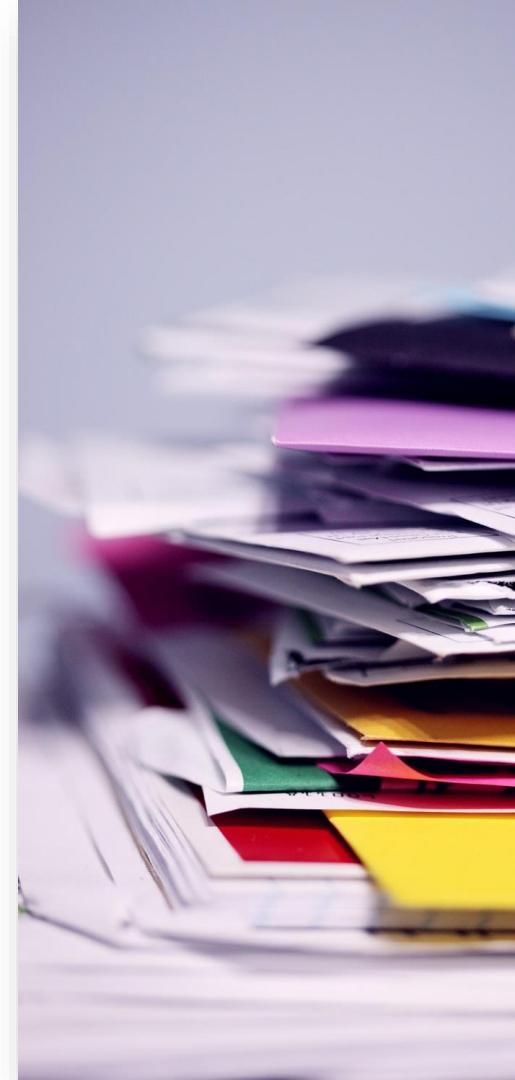
# What To Do With Metrics?

- Educate specifically on problematic areas
- Reduce error-proneness for common bug types
- **Feed insights back to other activities**
  - Secure coding guidelines
  - Security design patterns
  - Automation
  - ...

# Compliance

**Can you tell which internal or external obligations you have?**

- Laws and regulations
- Contracts
- Internal policies



# Compliance: Runbooks

**It's hard to tell for developers what's relevant and how to implement compliance requirements.**

- Create runbooks for software types
- Filter what's relevant
- Give advice on how to implement the requirements



# Technical Debt



# Technical Debt: Lehman's Laws

## Continuing Change

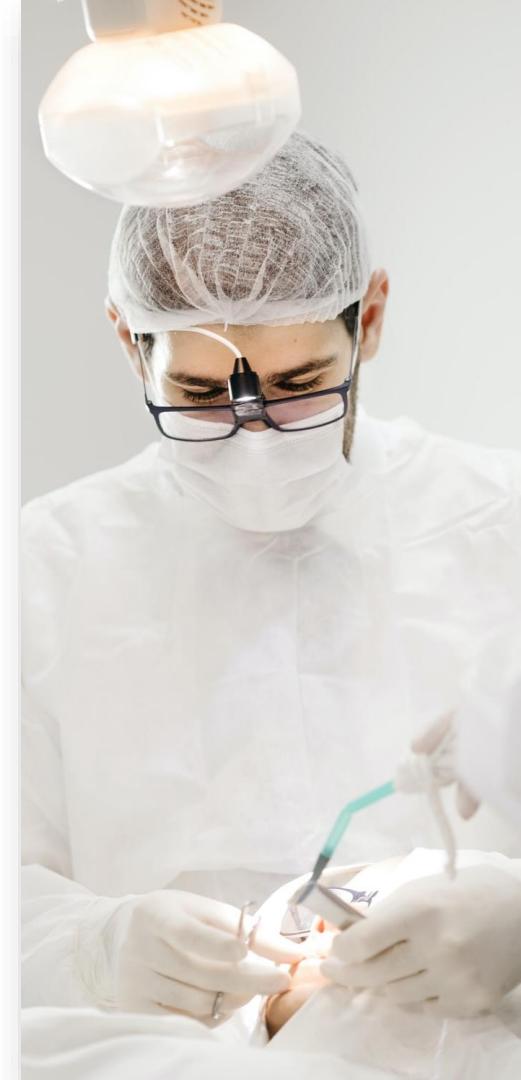
*"A system must be continually adapted, or it becomes progressively less satisfactory."*

## Increasing Complexity

*"As a system evolves, its complexity increases unless work is done to maintain or reduce it."*

# Symptoms of Technical Debt

- Long lead times
- Lack of predictability
- Bugs, vulnerabilities



# Technical Debt

**We improve on what we're measured.**

- Make sure to understand what behavior you reinforce by measurements.
- We need to find a trade-off between improving existing code and adding new features.
- Strive for locality of change.



## Recommended Watching

### **Prioritizing Technical Debt as if Time and Money Matters**

Adam Tornhill

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fl4aZ2KXBsQ>

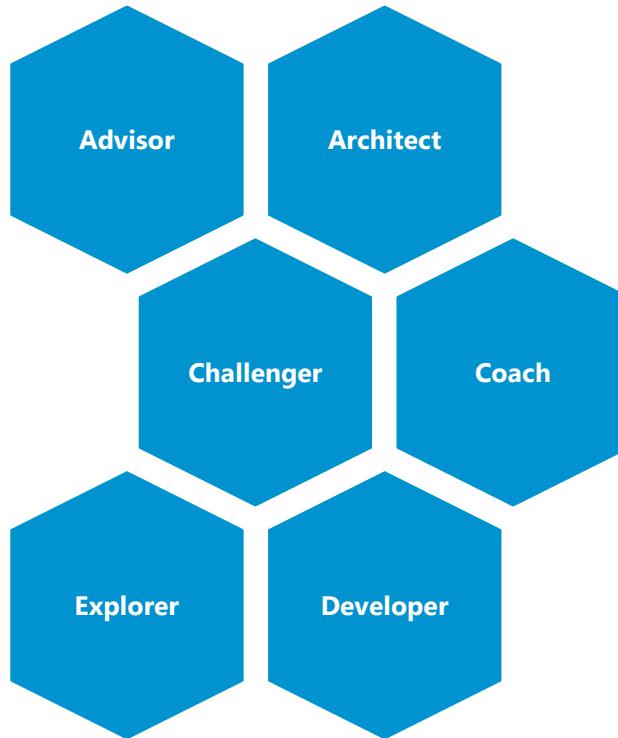
# Technical Debt: Quick Wins

**When you have implemented a feature and test are green, take some time to refactor and *keep* tests green.**

- This is the most efficient way to pay down technical debt.
- It's paid down before you start paying interest on it.
- Make it a cultural habit.



# Build Security Into Your Team: Security Champions



## Further Reading

[Software Security Takes a Champion:  
A Short Guide on Building and  
Sustaining a Successful Security  
Champions Program](#)

# Best ROI: Education

**Expert**

Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP)

Certified Secure Software Lifecycle Professional (CSSLP)

**Advanced**

Pick your  
area

C / C++ Security

Threat Modeling

Container Security

Cloud Security

Web App Security

IoT Security

**Basic**

Security Awareness

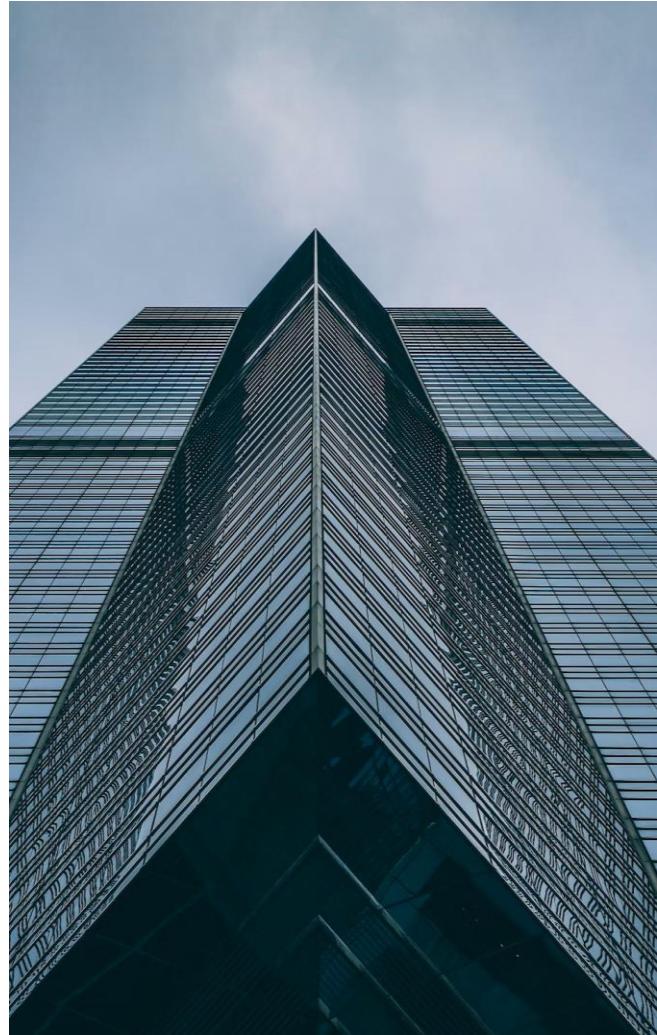
SDLC Fundamentals

You are here.

# Centralization

A *Secure Coding Center of Excellence* can help you centralize information and tasks

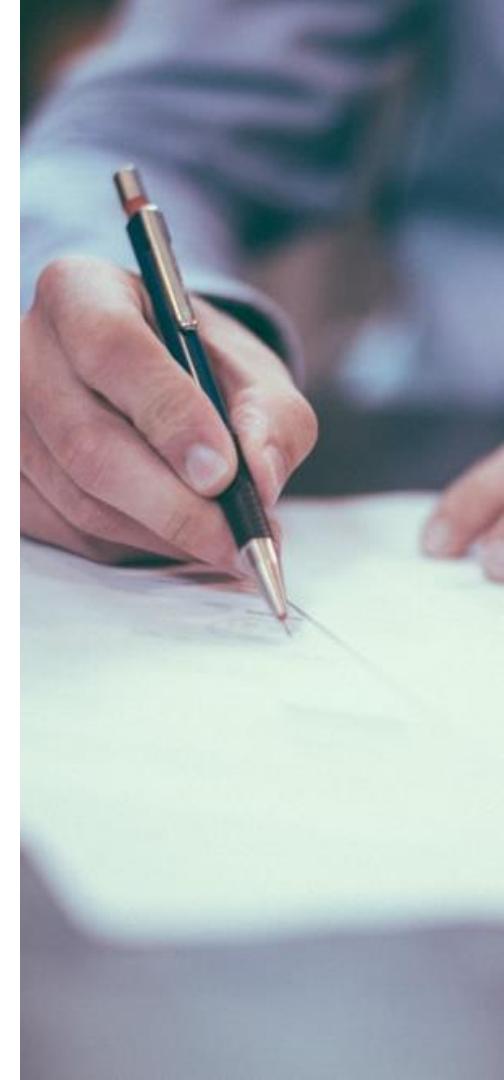
- Documentation
- Technology evaluation
- Education guidance
- Coding guidelines
- Reference architectures
- Security services



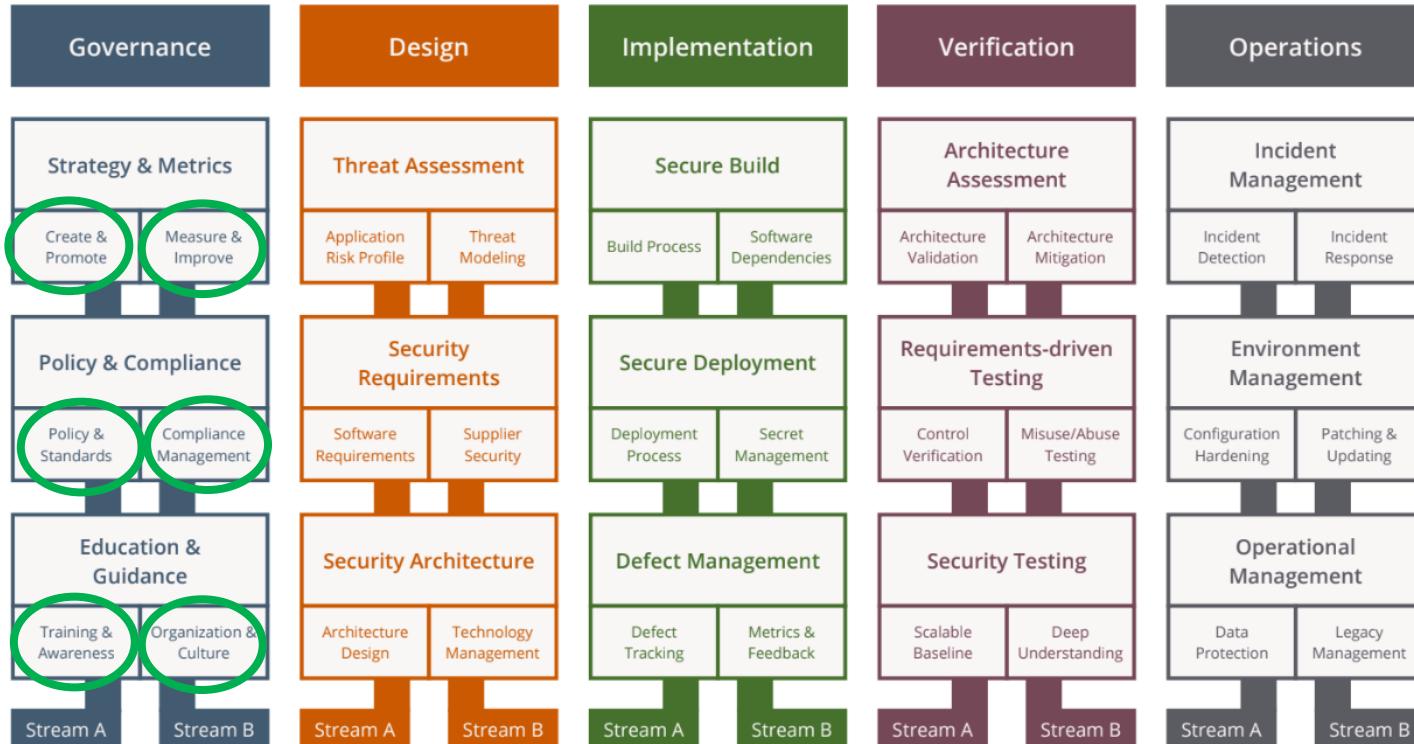
# **Governance Requires Documentation**

**There is nothing worse than documentation collecting dust on a hidden share.**

- Have it at an accessible place
- Force yourself to review it regularly
- Keep it slim

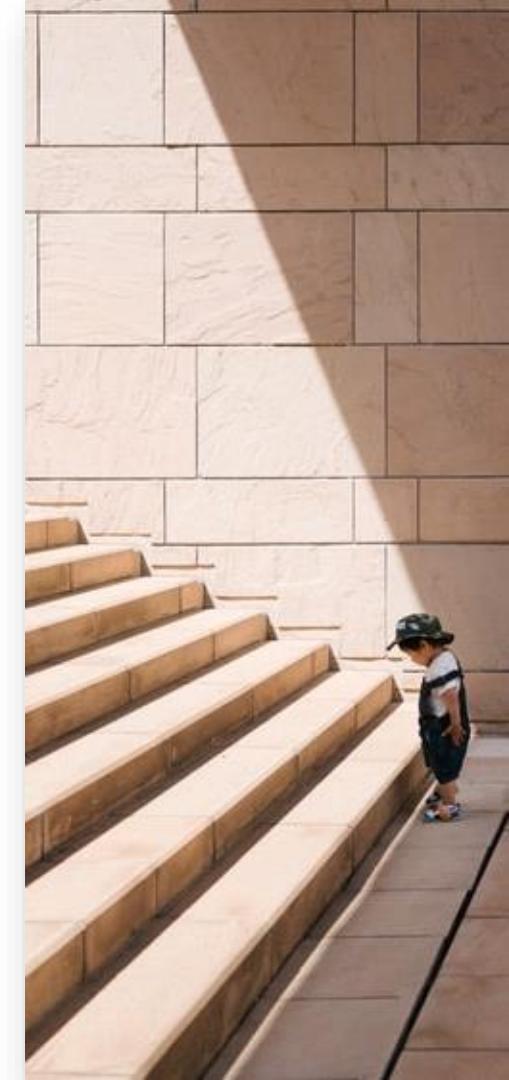


# Where Are We In OWASP SAMM?



# Essentials: Software Security Governance

- Have a strategy that all stakeholders agree upon, including developers.
- Collect metrics that prove that you're improving.
- Be fully aware of your compliance requirements.
- Create compliance runbooks to make their implementation easier.
- Track and pay down technical debt.
- Educate your team.
- Have documentation on an accessible place and force yourself to review it regularly.





# Quiz!

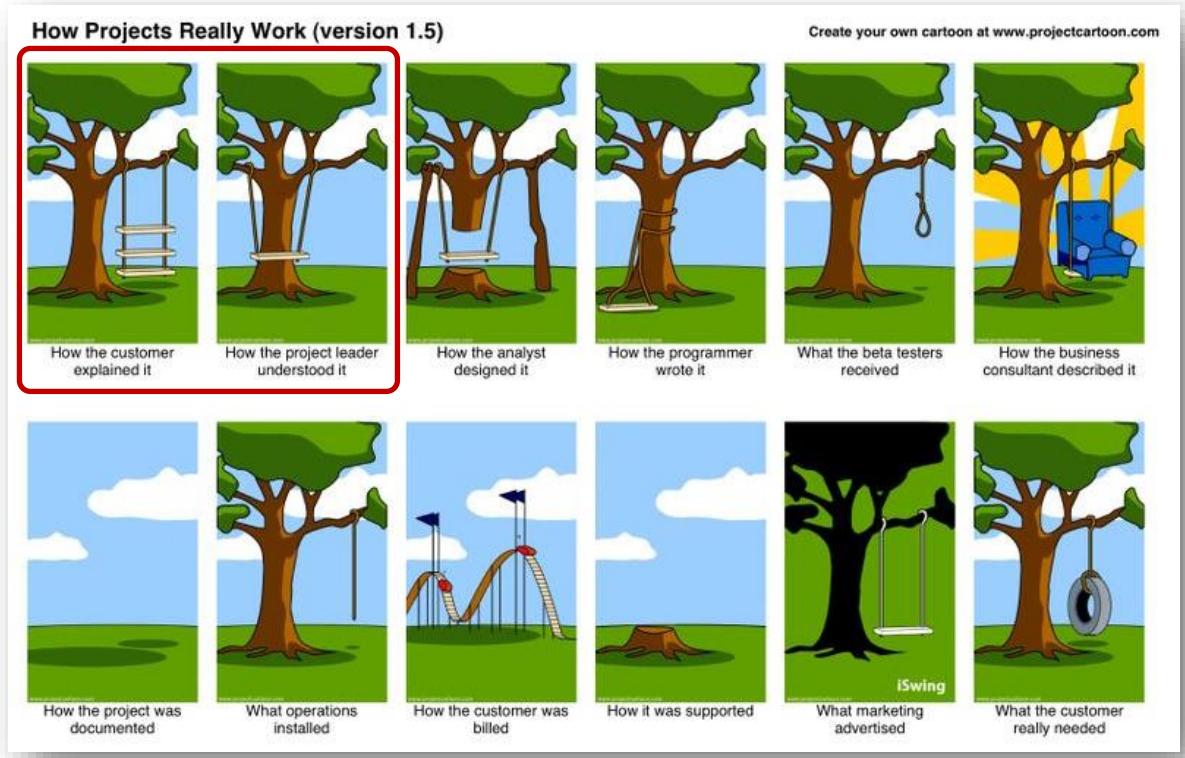
## **Software Security Governance**

Visit <https://kahoot.it> and enter the game pin I'll share with you!

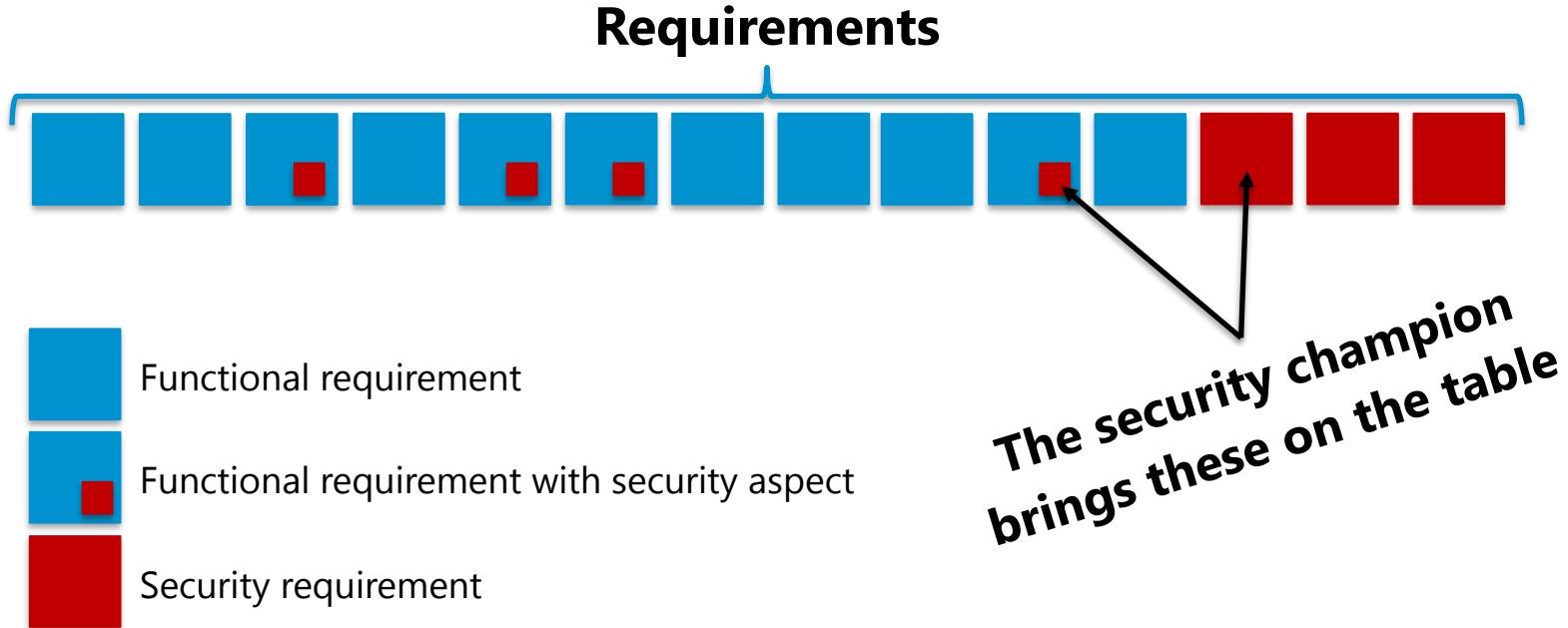
# **Software Security Requirements**

Why, what, how

# “Real-World Example”: Requirements



# Give a Security Perspective



# Sources of Security Requirements

**Here are some common sources.**

- Customer request and contracts
- Compliance regulations
- Internal (security) policies
- Security posture
- Standards (ASVS)
- Prior incidents
- Other security activities



# OWASP ASVS

## V6.2 Password Security

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The requirements in this section mostly relate to [§ 5.1.1.2 of NIST's Guidance](#).

#	Description	Level
6.2.7	Verify that "paste" functionality, browser password helpers, and external password managers are permitted.	1
6.2.8	Verify that the application verifies the user's password exactly as received from the user, without any modifications such as truncation or case transformation.	1
6.2.9	Verify that passwords of at least 64 characters are permitted.	2
6.2.10	Verify that a user's password stays valid until it is discovered to be compromised or the user rotates it. The application must not require periodic credential rotation.	2

# **Good (Security) Requirements Engineering**

**Bad (security) requirements are ignored or misinterpreted. Good requirements ...**

- ... describe the “what”, not the “how”.
- ... are specific, measurable, reasonable, traceable
- ... neither overdo nor underdo it.



# Good (Security) Requirements Engineering

**“Passwords need to be at least 12 characters long”**

- Not “Passwords need to be secure” (not specific)
- Not “Passwords need to be at least 50 characters long” (not reasonable)
- Not “Passwords need to be sufficiently long to prevent brute-force attacks” (not measurable)



# Requirements Example

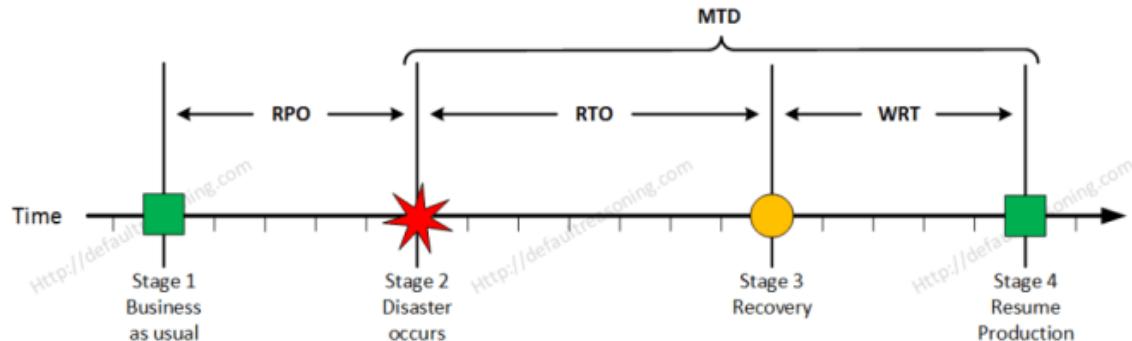
## **Category: Confidentiality and integrity**

- The application contents must be personalized, and users must only access their own datasets.
- Users must have the ability to explicitly share datasets with other users of the system.
- The application must integrate with the organization's SSO system.

# Requirements Example

## Category: Availability

- The application must be able to handle 200 concurrent users.
- If data needs to be restored, no more than 2 hours of work can be lost.



# Requirements Example

## Category: Compliance

- Users must be able to independently download all the PII that the system processes of them.
- Users must be able to delete their account, including all PII. Upon deletion, the data must be permanently deleted.
- Users must be able to independently correct any of their PII stored in the system.

# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

**Non-functional requirements are the responsibility of the “other side”.**

- Business takes security for granted.
- Devs take requirements completeness for granted.
- The result is a gap of misunderstanding.
- Don’t just quietly define hidden requirements.



# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

## **Focusing only on vulnerability classes.**

- It is common to see “we must protect against the OWASP Top 10”.
- This is rarely doable, nor worth doing.
- Relying only on this will leave your software open to flaws.
- You probably won’t spend your time wisely.



# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

## Throwing in whole standards.

- Same here: This is rarely doable, nor worth doing.
- This will let the effort estimation explode.
- Pick what's relevant.



# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

## **Not mapping security issues back to requirements.**

- Seeing the same security issue repeatedly might be a sign for misaligned requirements.
- Learn for the future.
- Share your experience.



# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

**Starting from zero for each project.**

- Security requirements tend to repeat themselves within project types.
- Don't start all over.
- Document blocks of common requirements and manage them centrally.



# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

## **Forgetting vendors.**

- There might be external code in your software.
- Don't forget this when defining requirements.



# Requirements: Common Pitfalls

## **Not tracking your requirements.**

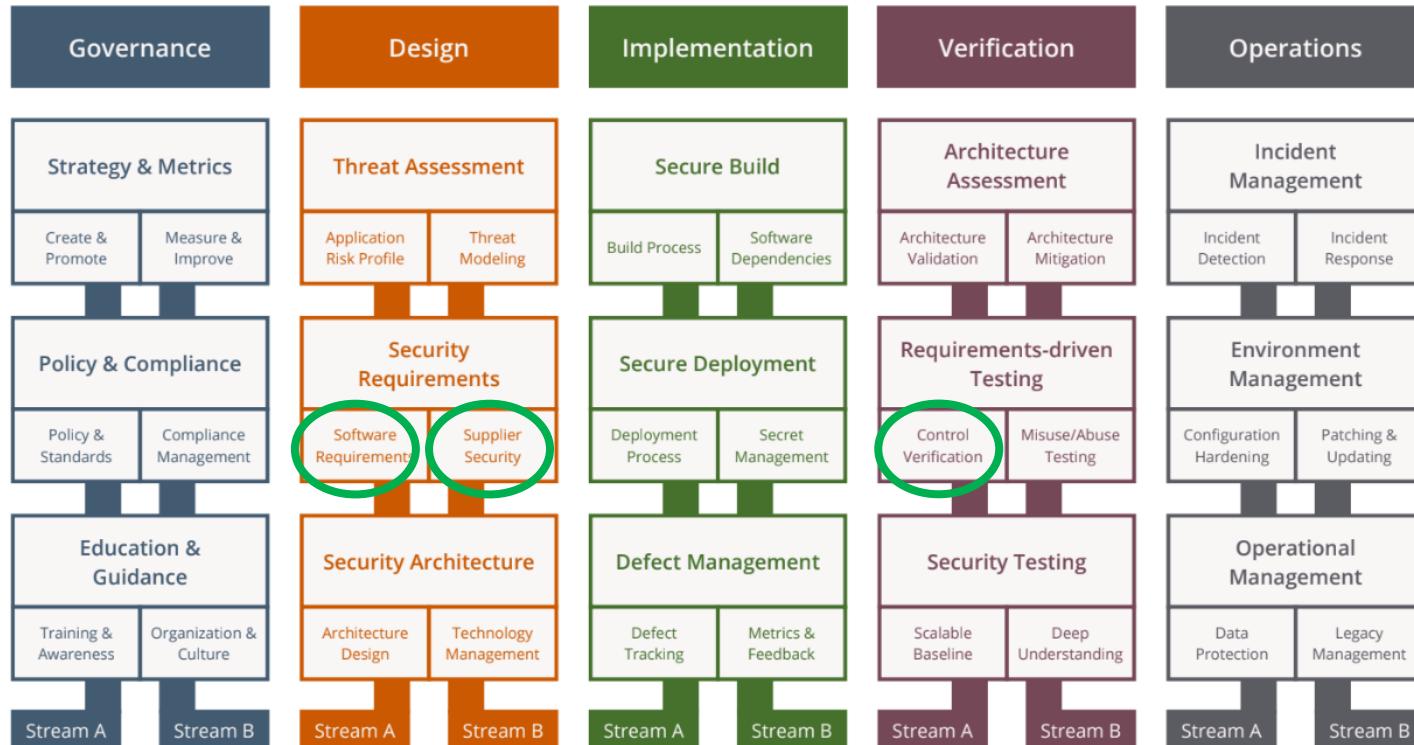
- Have an eye on tracing requirements.
- Be aware that not all requirements end up in code being produced.
- Link the place of its implementation.
- Serves for proofing your implementation both to customers and auditors.



# Requirements Traceability Matrix (RTM)

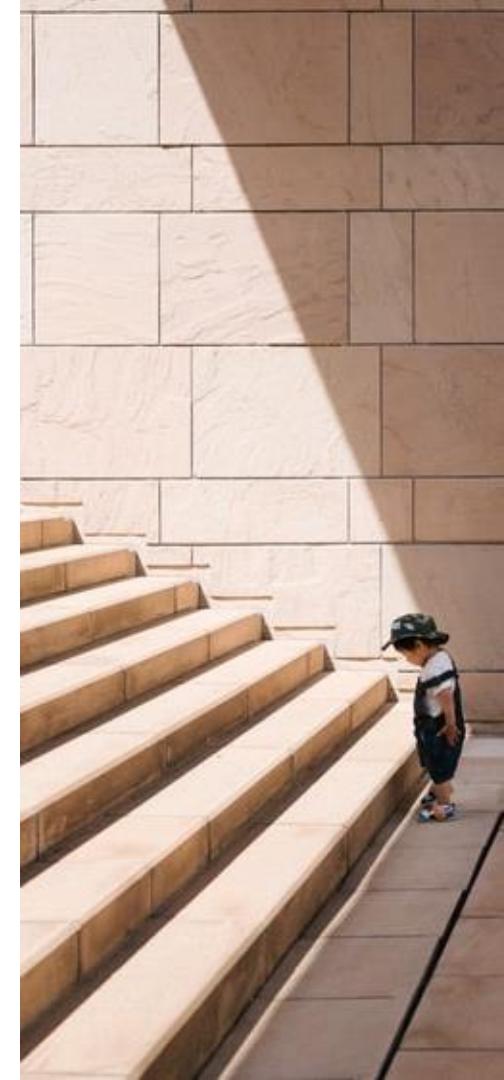
Requirement ID	Requirement Description	Category	Priority	Status	Linked Deliverables	Test Cases	Comments
REQ-001	Users must be able to log in using email and password.	Functional	High	In Progress	Login Module, User Manual	TC-001, TC-002	
REQ-002	Data must be encrypted when stored in the database.	Security	High	Planned	Database Schema, Security Policy	TC-010	Encryption method to be determined
REQ-003	The system should respond to requests within 2 seconds.	Performance	Medium	Open	Performance Improvement Plan	TC-020, TC-021	Requirement based on customer feedback
REQ-004	The system must support exporting reports in PDF format.	Functional	Medium	Under Review	Reporting Module, User Manual	TC-030	Must support PDF/A-1b for archiving
REQ-005	The system must ensure 99.9% availability per month.	Availability	High	In Progress	Maintenance Plan, SLA Documentation	TC-040	Including scheduled maintenance windows
REQ-006	Support multi-language user interface for English and Spanish.	Usability	Medium	Planned	UI Module, Localization Files	TC-050, TC-051	Important for market expansion
REQ-007	Implement role-based access control (RBAC) for system users.	Security	High	In Progress	Security Module, User Manual	TC-060, TC-061	Roles to be defined in collaboration with security team
REQ-008	System should integrate with external payment gateway XYZ.	Integration	High	Planned	Payment Module, Integration Test Plan	TC-070	Agreement with XYZ is pending
REQ-009	Allow users to reset their passwords via email verification.	Functional	High	In Progress	Login Module, Email Service Integration	TC-080	Must meet GDPR compliance
REQ-010	The system must be deployable on both AWS and Azure cloud platforms.	Deployability	Medium	Open	Deployment Scripts, Infrastructure as Code	TC-090	Ensure compatibility with both cloud services
REQ-011	Automated data backups should occur daily without user intervention.	Operational	High	Planned	Backup and Recovery Plan, Operational Manual	TC-100	Backup verification process required
REQ-012	The system must support at least 10,000 concurrent users.	Scalability	High	Open	Scaling Plan, Load Testing Results	TC-110	Based on projected growth over the next year

# Where Are We In OWASP SAMM?



# Essentials: Security Requirements

- ❑ Consider both security aspects of functional requirements and security requirements.
- ❑ Select requirements well.
- ❑ Make them measurable.
- ❑ Don't reinvent the wheel.
- ❑ Involve the organization.
- ❑ Trace and link the implementation.





# Quiz!

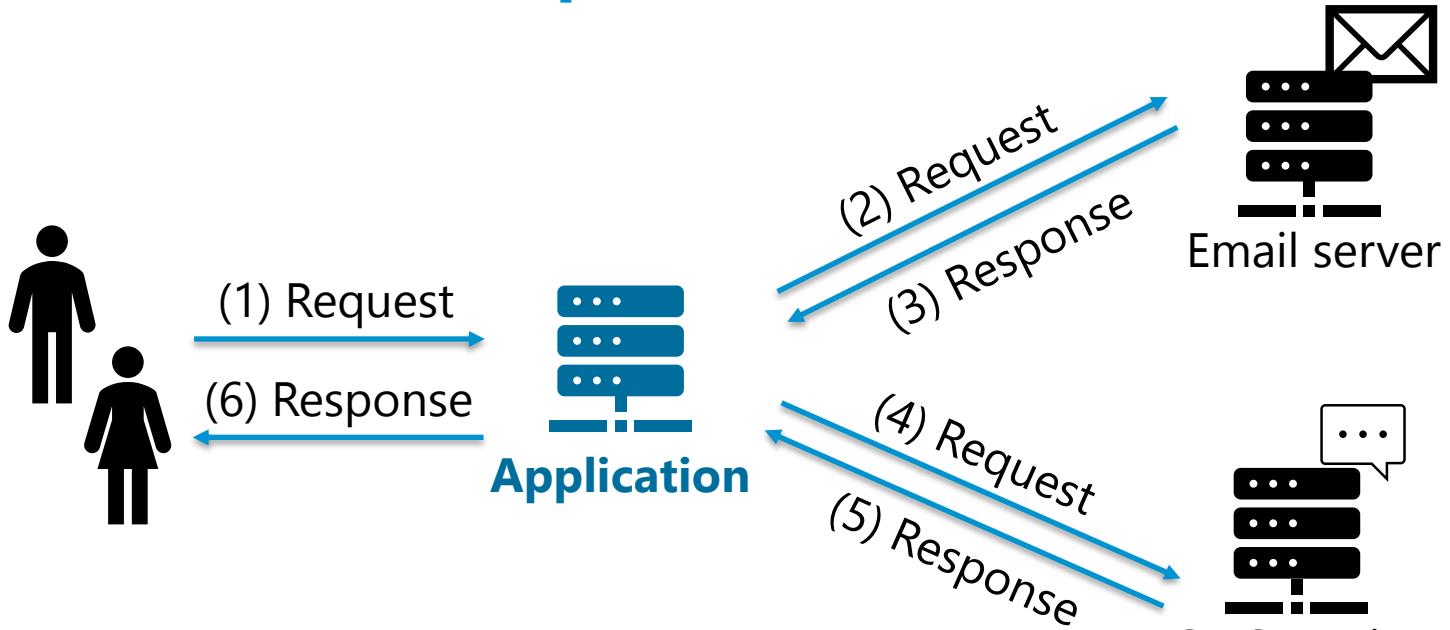
## Security Requirements

Visit <https://kahoot.it> and enter  
the game pin I'll share with you!

# Secure Software Design

The need for secure design, security design concepts,  
flaws vs. bugs, threat modeling

# Real-World Example



**Core issue: Synchronous multi-step process  
Architecture is prone to Denial of Service**

# How Much Is Enough?

**Prioritize your limited resources well!**

- How critical is the software?
- How critical is the data processed?
- How big is the attack surface?
- How bad is it if it fails?
- ...

# Software Risk Profile

## Classify applications according to risk

- Simple standardized set of questions
- “What happens if all goes wrong?”  
for CIA-triade
- Example: Mozilla’s Rapid Risk Assessment



# Software Risk Profile

## Data sensitivity

- Personally identifiable information (PII)
- Financial data
- Health data
- Other sensitive data



# Software Risk Profile

## Reachability and attack surface

- Internet
- Intranet
- Subnet
- Physical



# Software Risk Profile

## System and data availability

- Is it a threat to human wellbeing if the system goes down?
- How big would a financial loss roughly be after 1 minute, 1 hour, 1 day, 1 week?
- What is the maximum age of data restored from a backup?



# The Wobbly Milking Chair

- This milking chair is wobbly on uneven grounds
- **Question:** What can we do to improve the chair?



<https://l1.wp.com/berufe-dieser-welt.de/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/melkerin-kuh-1905.jpg?w=450&ssl=1>

# Solving the Wobbliness By Design

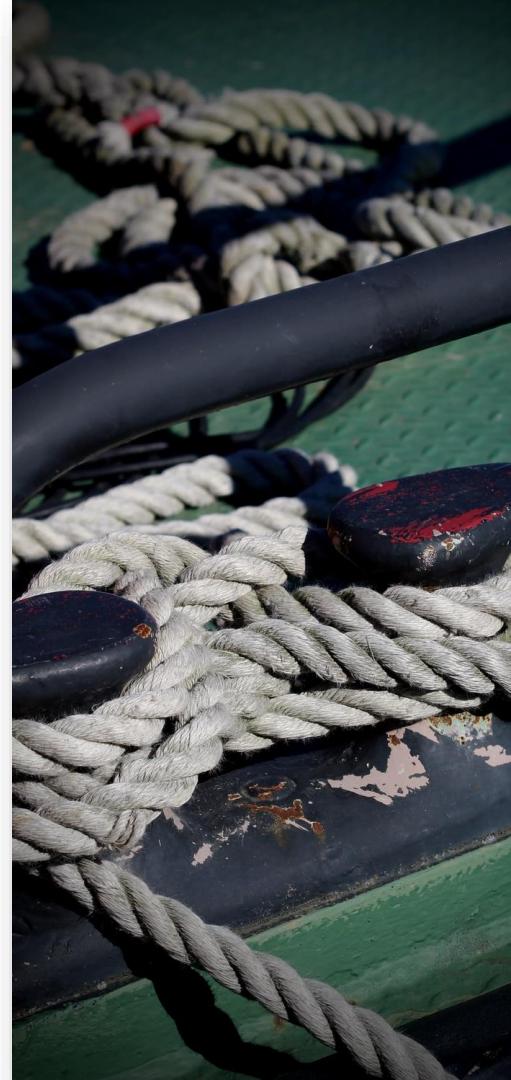
**Possible by-design solution:** Give it only three legs



# **“By Design” Means Negligible Room For Error**

## **A by-design solution**

- is not error-prone
- is secure by default
- requires an explicit decision to make it insecure



# Threat, Vulnerability, Flaw, Bug

## Vulnerability

- An abstract weakness
- Relates to implementation

## Threat

- What an organization is defending against
- Can relate to design or implementation
- Needs a *Threat Actor*
- Based on a weakness



# **Threat, Vulnerability, Flaw, Bug**

## **Flaw**

- Design weakness
- Tends to be harder to fix

## **Bug**

- Coding mistake
- Tends to be easier to fix



# Flaw vs. Bug



<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Tacoma-Narrows-Bridge>

# Implementation vs. Design Issues

	Implementation layer	Design layer
Defect name	Bug, vulnerability	Flaw
Best found	AST, DAST, penetration testing, code review	Threat modeling, architecture review
Best solved	In code, via configuration	At design, in architecture, via technology choice
Ease to fix	Easy	Hard

# Security Principles

- **Design Security Concepts**

- Least Privilege
- Separation of Duties
- Defense in Depth
- Fail Secure vs. Fail Safe
- Economy of Mechanisms (a.k.a KISS)
- Complete Mediation
- Open Design
- Psychological Acceptability
- Weakest Link
- Leveraging Existing Components



# Security Principles

- **Usage**

- Have a checklist of agreed upon  
*Security Principles*
- Share and understand the list
- Use it on every design decision



# Threat Modeling

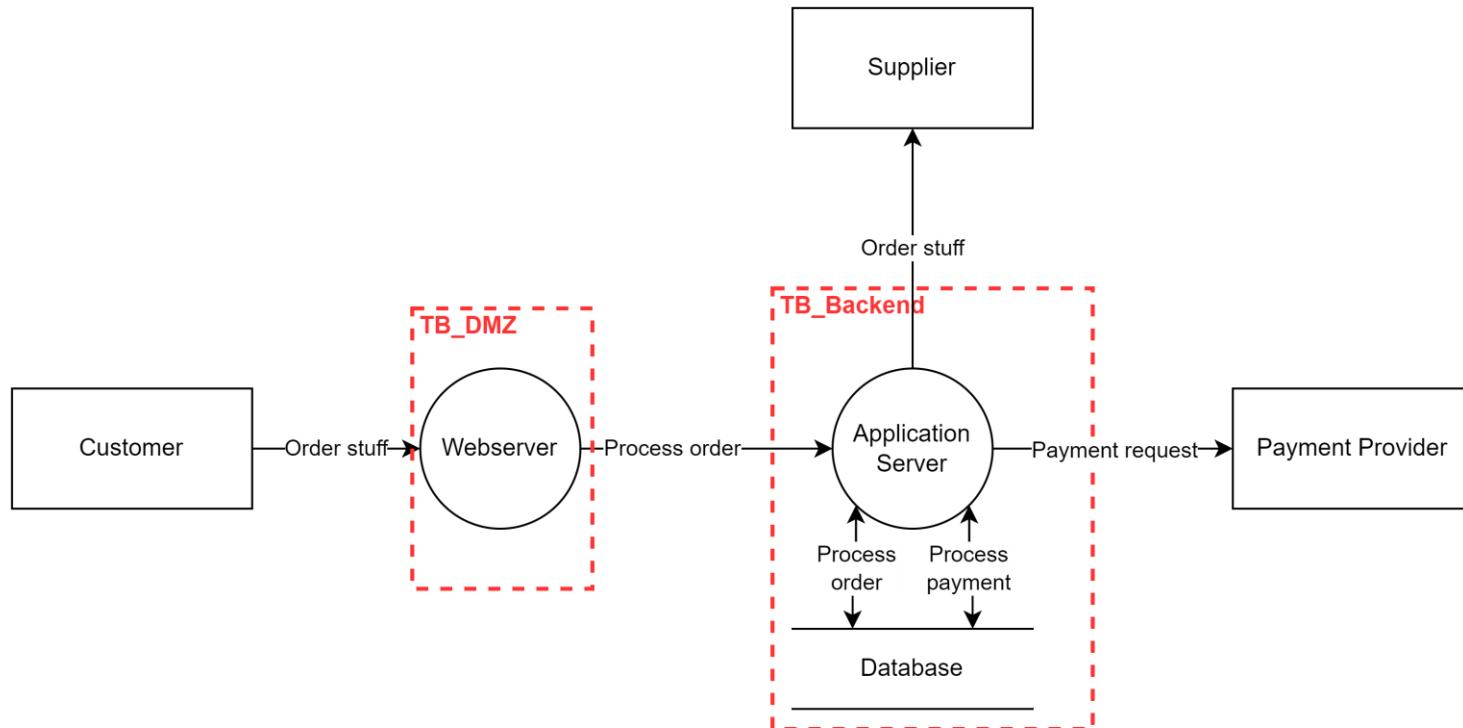
## Asking these questions

- What are we building?
- What could go wrong?
- What are we doing about it?
- Are we doing a good enough job?



# Threat Model: What Are We Building?

## Dataflow Diagram



# Threat Model: What Could Go Wrong?

Look for these threat classes wherever a **data flow crosses a trust boundary**.

Threat (STRIDE)	Desired Security Property
Spoofing	Authentication
Tampering	Integrity
Repudiation	Non-repudiation
Information Disclosure	Confidentiality
Denial of Service	Availability
Elevation of Privilege	Authorization

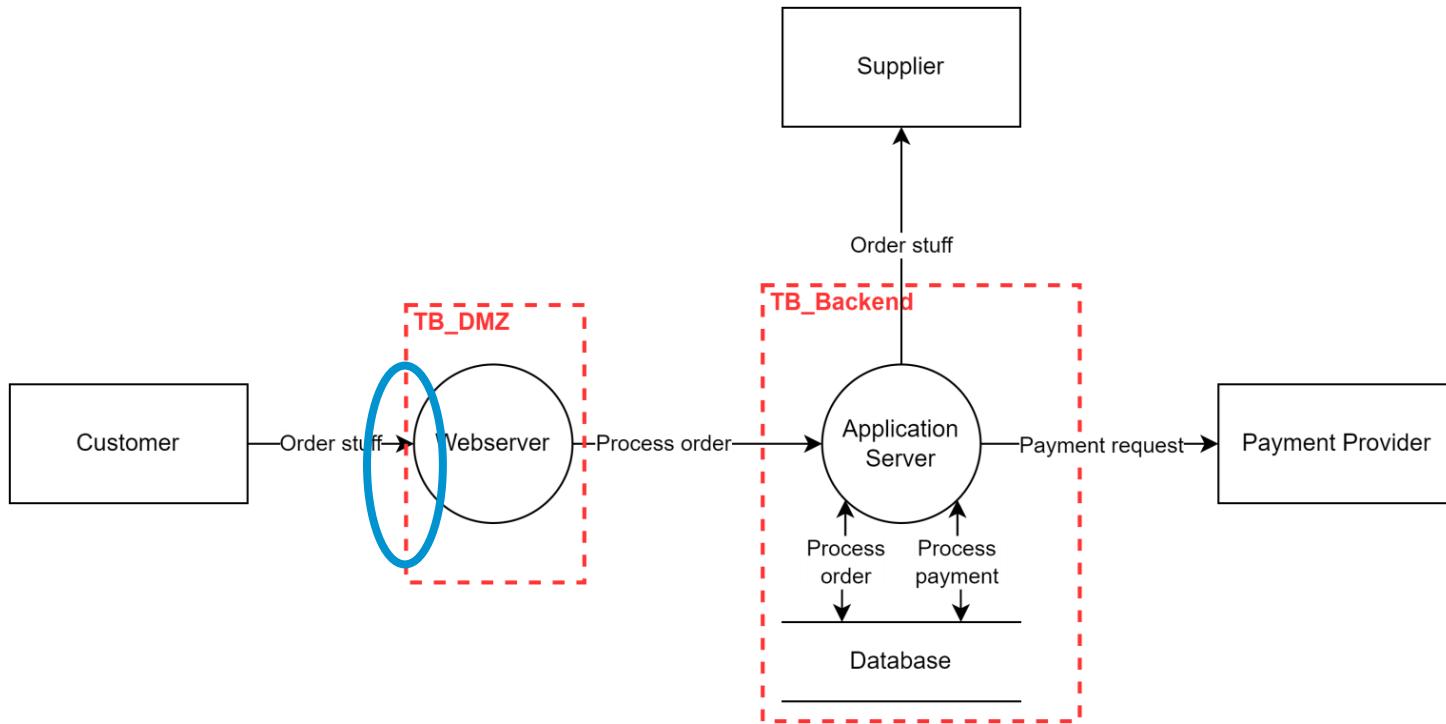
# Desired Property?

**It is not always that clear what's desired.**

- “**Repudiation**” is a **threat** from the security perspective
- But it might be a **desired property** from a privacy perspective



# Threat Model: Crossing Trust Boundaries



# Threat Model Example: Account Security

Threat modeling as part of the design process

Threat	Threat Actor	Severity <sup>1</sup>	STRIDE	Countermeasures
Password guessing	Internet user	High	Spoofing	(Temporary) user lockout, password policy, MFA, transparency (device lists and notifications, with Device Tokens)
Account lockout	Internet user	Medium	Denial of Service	Selective lockout (with Device Tokens)
Misuse of known passwords (public lists, other apps, ...)	Internet user	Medium	Spoofing	MFA, Have I Been Pwned (HIBP-API)
Someone dumps the DB on the Internet	DB-Admin	Medium	Spoofing	Proper hashes (Argon2id)
Enumerating valid usernames	Internet user	Low	Information disclosure	(Generic error messages, constant timing on all requests containing the username)

<sup>1</sup> The severity really depends on the classification of your data. Don't see them as absolute and unchangeable values.

# ATT&CK Framework

*MITRE ATT&CK® is a globally-accessible knowledge base of adversary tactics and techniques based on real-world observations. The ATT&CK knowledge base is used as a foundation for the development of specific threat models and methodologies in the private sector, in government, and in the cybersecurity product and service community.*

<https://attack.mitre.org>

# ATT&CK Framework

Describes *tactics*, *techniques* and *procedures* of real world threats

Home > Techniques > Enterprise > Brute Force

## Brute Force

Sub-techniques (4)

Adversaries may use brute force techniques to gain access to accounts when passwords are unknown or when password hashes are obtained. Without knowledge of the password for an account or set of accounts, an adversary may systematically guess the password using a repetitive or iterative mechanism. Brute forcing passwords can take place via interaction with a service that will check the validity of those credentials or offline against previously acquired credential data, such as password hashes.

Brute forcing credentials may take place at various points during a breach. For example, adversaries may attempt to brute force access to [Valid Accounts](#) within a victim environment leveraging knowledge gathered from other post-compromise behaviors such as [OS Credential Dumping](#), [Account Discovery](#), or [Password Policy Discovery](#). Adversaries may also combine brute forcing activity with behaviors such as [External Remote Services](#) as part of Initial Access.

ID: T1110

Sub-techniques: [T1110.001](#), [T1110.002](#), [T1110.003](#), [T1110.004](#)

○ Tactic: [Credential Access](#)

○ Platforms: Azure AD, Containers, Google Workspace, IaaS, Linux, Network, Office 365, SaaS, Windows, macOS

Contributors: Alfredo Oliveira, Trend Micro; David Fiser, @anu4ls, Trend Micro; Ed Williams, Trustwave, SpiderLabs; Magno Logan, @magnologan, Trend Micro; Mohamed Kmali; Yossi Weizman, Azure Defender Research Team

Version: 2.5

Created: 31 May 2017

Last Modified: 14 April 2023

[Version Permalink](#)

## Procedure Examples

ID	Name	Description
C0025	2016 Ukraine Electric Power Attack	During the 2016 Ukraine Electric Power Attack, Sandworm Team used a script to attempt RPC authentication against a number of hosts. <sup>[1]</sup>
G0007	APT28	APT28 can perform brute force attacks to obtain credentials. <sup>[2][3][4]</sup>
G0082	APT38	APT38 has used brute force techniques to attempt account access when passwords are unknown or when password hashes are unavailable. <sup>[5]</sup>

# **Threat Modeling: Common Pitfalls**

## **Burying the spirit under a pile of tools.**

- Start with a sheet of paper
- Put people into the center
- Optimize only when optimization is due
- Learn as you go



# Threat Modeling: Common Pitfalls

## Skipping the scoping part.

- Start small
- More abstract is usually better than more concrete
- Model a security-critical subsystem to gain confidence
- When the diagram gets too big, break it up into sub diagrams



# Threat Modeling: Common Pitfalls

**Loosing yourself in super-unlikely threat scenarios.**

- The nation-state attacker is likely not your biggest problem
- Stay within your area of influence
- Time-box your efforts, especially when getting started
- Document threats you won't mitigate to stop circulating around them



# **Threat Modeling: Common Pitfalls**

**Loosing yourself in discussions of just one threat.**

- It is important to be aware of threats
- Not to have the perfect severity rating / description / categorization
- Start small and moderate the discussions



# Threat Modeling: Common Pitfalls

## **Wanting to mitigate each threat.**

- A known, accepted risk is better than an unknown or ignored one
- Make deliberate recommendations about risk acceptance and let business make a written decision
- Abstract the matter as much as possible before presenting it to stakeholders



# Threat Modeling: Common Pitfalls

**Do it once and never again.**

- The threat model may change with your requirements, architecture, code, environment, users, and test results
- Do it on a regular basis
- Make it a part of your daily tasks



# Common Software Security Design Patterns

Pattern name	Problem(s) targeted	STRIDE
<b>Message queueing</b>	Backpressure (DoS)	<b>STRIDE</b>
<b>Data transfer objects</b>	Mass assignment, excessive data exposure	<b>STRIDE</b>
<b>Device tokens</b>	Account lock-out, credentials guessing, non-transparency	<b>STRIDE</b>
<b>Single sign-on</b>	Phishing susceptibility, account threats	<b>STRIDE</b>
<b>Replication</b>	Availability problems	<b>STRIDE</b>
<b>Sandboxing</b>	High attack blast radius	<b>STRIDE</b>

# Design Pattern: Message Queueing

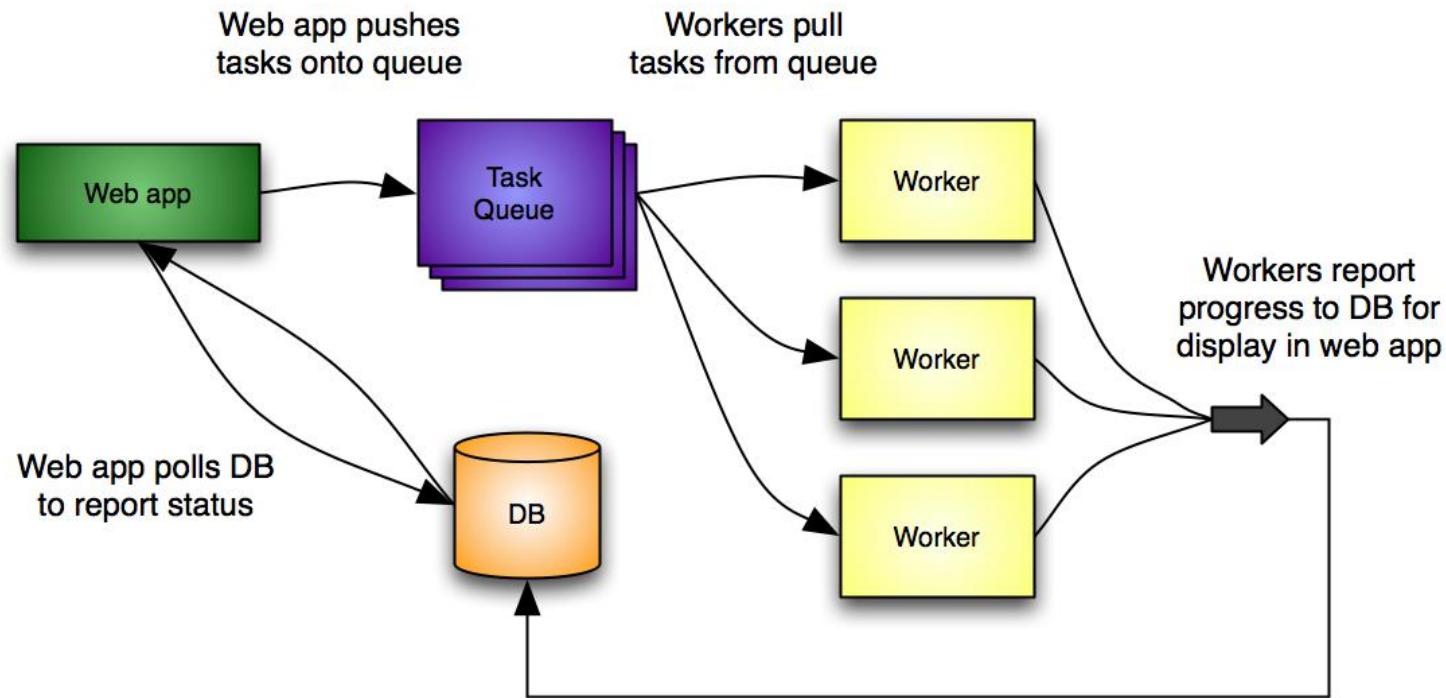
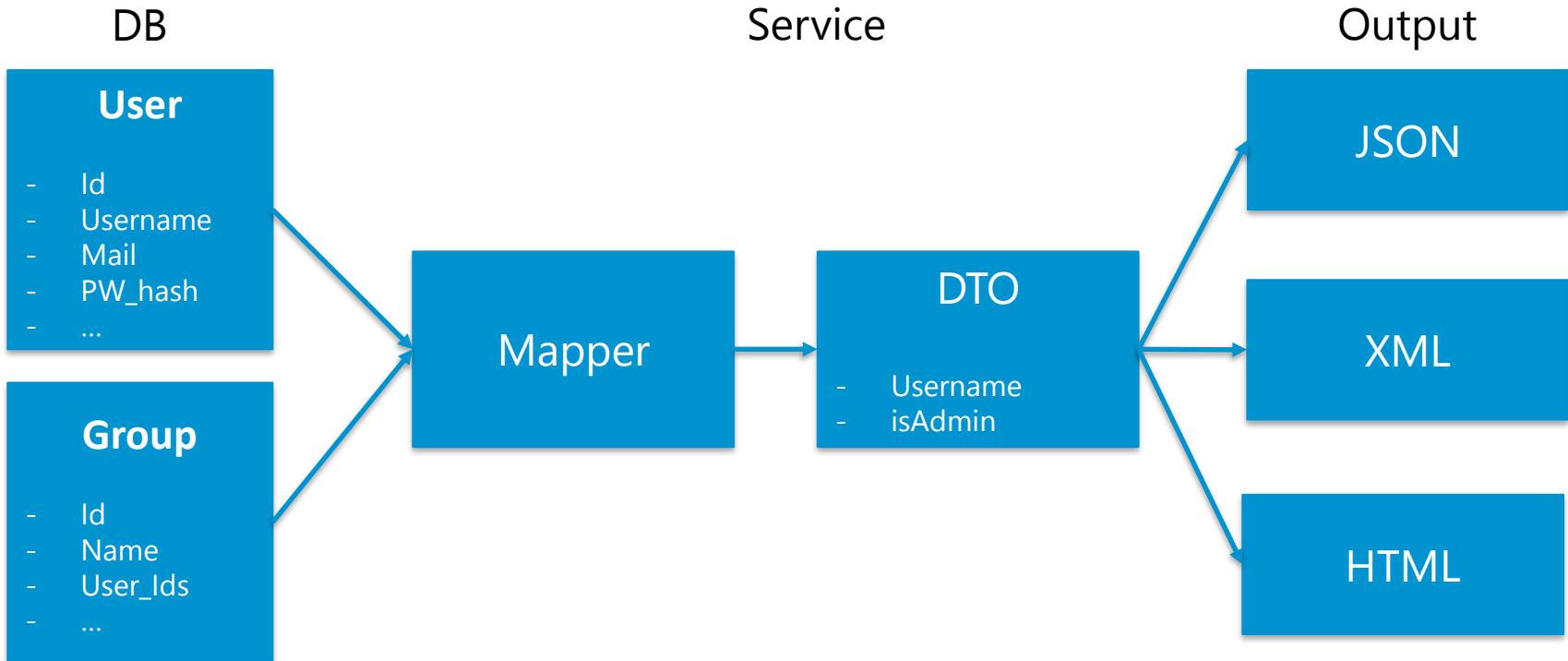


Image source: <https://digiteadslabnotebook.blogspot.com/2010/10/message-queues-with-python.html>

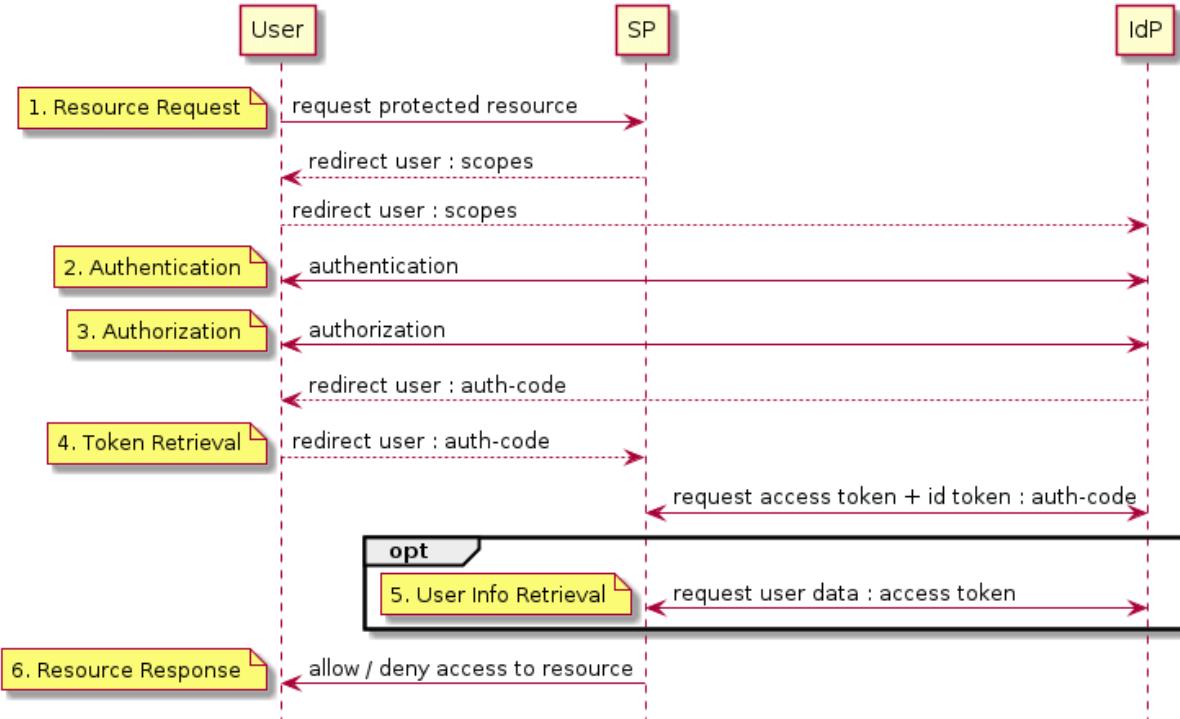
# Design Pattern: Data Transfer Objects (DTO)



# Design Pattern: Device Tokens



# Design Pattern: Single Sign-On



# Design Pattern: Replication

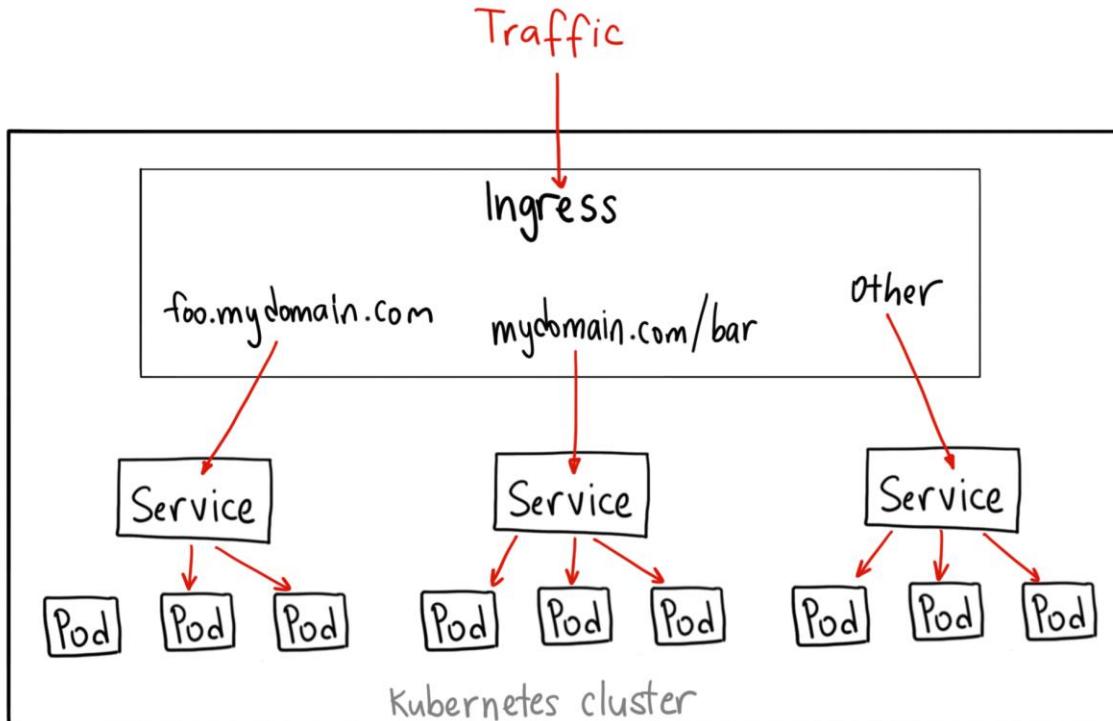


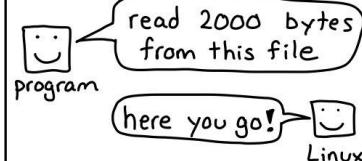
Image source: <https://medium.com/google-cloud/kubernetes-nodeport-vs-loadbalancer-vs-ingress-when-should-i-use-what-922f010849e0>

# Design Pattern: Sandboxing

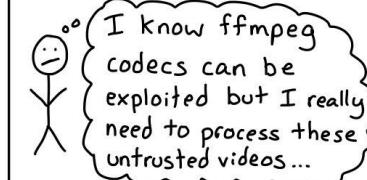
JULIA EVANS  
@b0rk

## seccomp-bpf

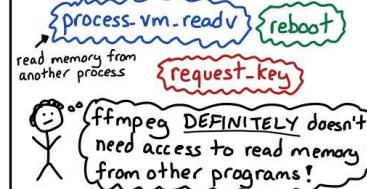
all programs use system calls



Some programs have security vulnerabilities



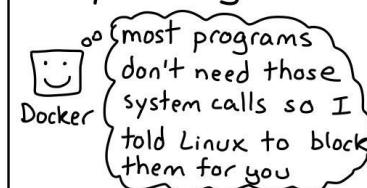
rarely used syscalls can help an attacker



seccomp-BPF: make Linux run a tiny program before every system call



Docker blocks dozens of syscalls by default



2 ways to block scary system calls

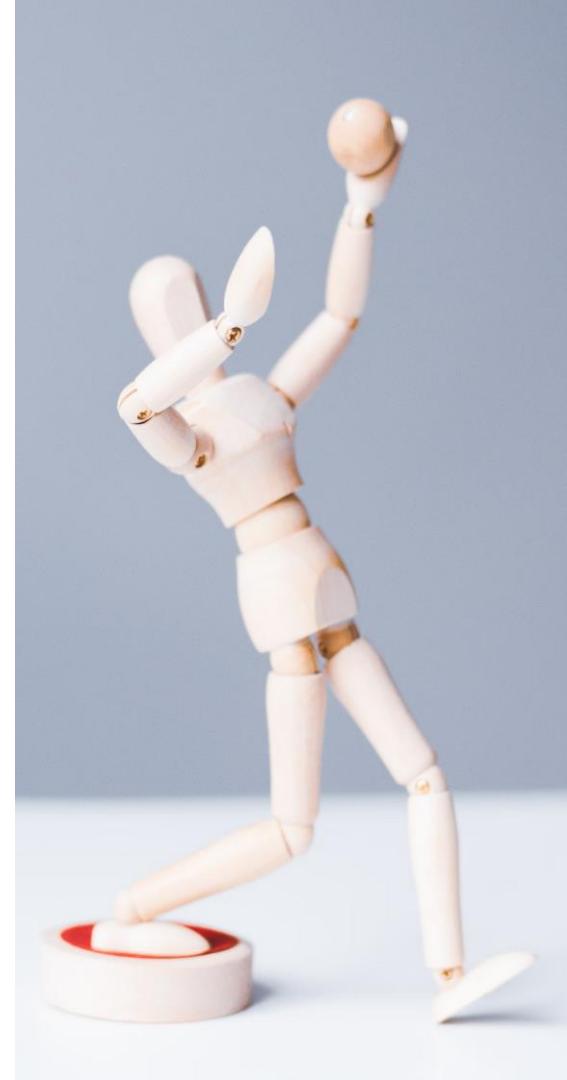
1. Limit a container's capabilities
2. Use a seccomp-BPF whitelist

Usually people do both!

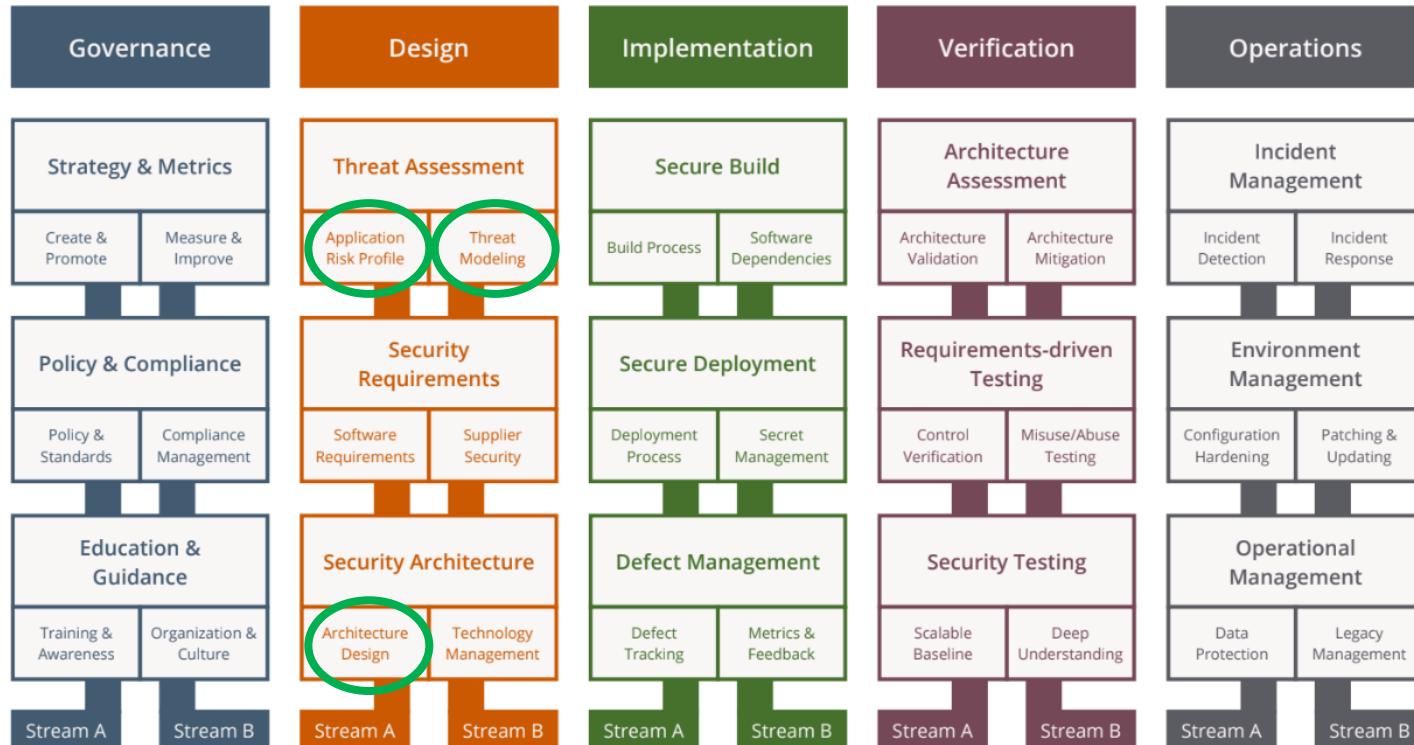
# It's Not Always About Threats

## Less can be more

- “We don’t even see your data because we use end-to-end encryption”
- “We do not process your credentials as we use a trusted identity provider”
- “Your system is completely separated from that of other organizations, so their potential breach won’t affect you”

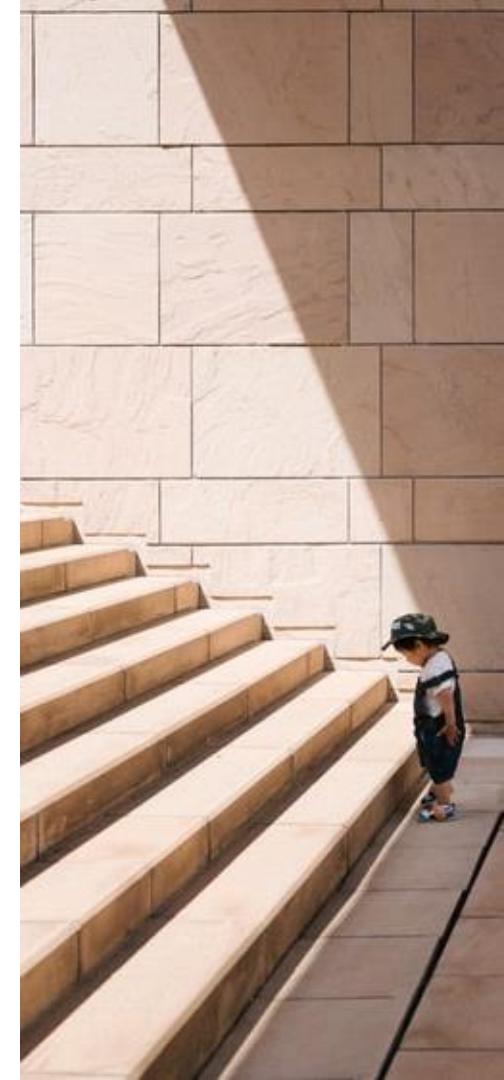


# Where Are We In OWASP SAMM?



# Essentials: Secure Software Design

- Create awareness about your software's risk profile
- Explicitly include security in your design considerations
- Have a threat model at least for security-critical subsystems
- Document and share patterns that solved security problems by design





# Quiz!

## Secure Software Design

Visit <https://kahoot.it> and enter the game pin I'll share with you!

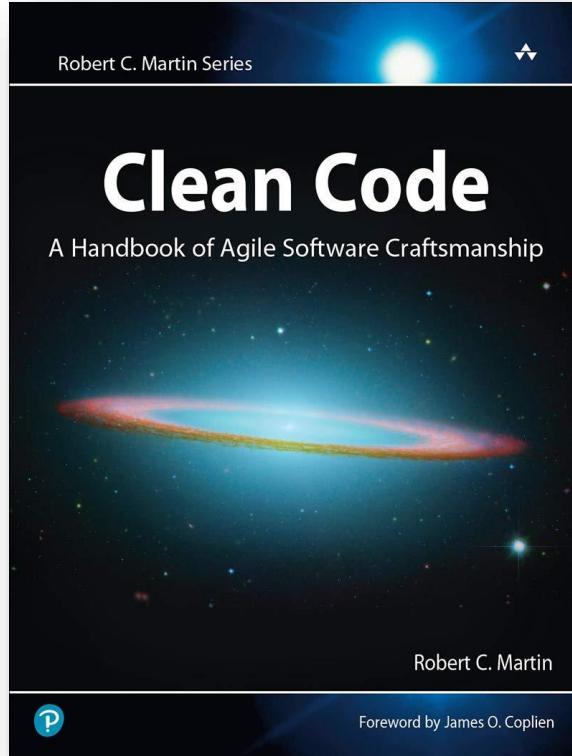
# **Secure Implementation**

Security at the coding level

# Secure Coding Practices

- Input handling
- Output handling
- Pitfalls in low-level languages
- The Principle of Complete Mediation
- Cryptography
- Session management
- Concurrency

# Book Recommendation: Clean Code



# Principles of Readable Code

1. Single responsibility
2. Well-structured
3. Thoughtful naming
4. Simple and concise
5. Comments explain „why”, not „how”
6. Continuously refactored for readability
7. Well-tested

Source: <https://blog.pragmaticengineer.com/readable-code/>

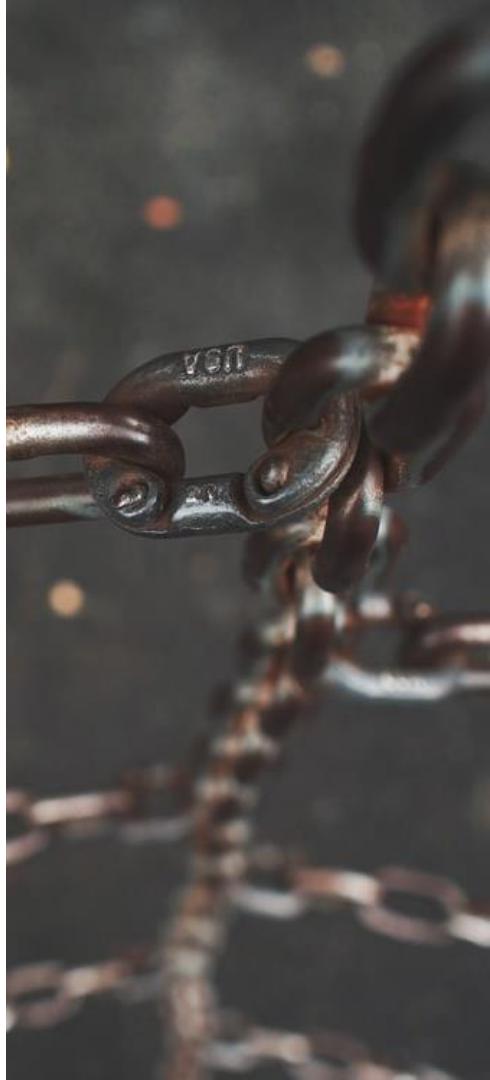
# Why Even Bother?

- **Unreadable code tends to be insecure**
  - Unreadable code is hard to understand
  - No understanding means creative thinking about how to circumvent security measures is basically impossible
- **Unreadable code adds to your technical debt**

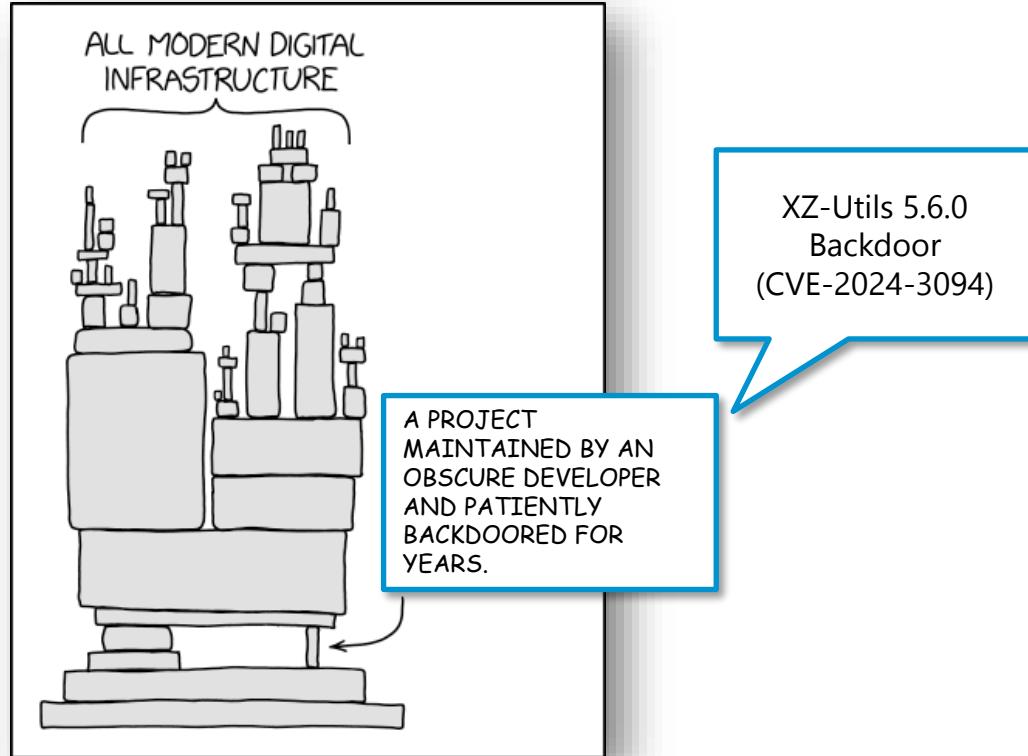


# Software Dependencies

- More specialization
- More division of tasks
- Longer supply chains with smaller chain links
- **This enables systemic risk!**



# Modern Digital Infrastructure



# What Is A Software Component?

The screenshot shows the Maven Repository homepage at <https://mvnrepository.com>. The main search bar at the top contains the query "WildFly: Threading Subsystem". Below the search bar, there's a chart titled "Indexed Artifacts (5.88M)" showing a growth trend from 2004 to 2017. On the left, a sidebar lists "Popular Categories" including Aspect Oriented, Actor Frameworks, Application Metrics, Build Tools, Bytecode Libraries, and Command Line Parsers. The central search results page displays two entries for "WildFly: Threading Subsystem", both version 3.0.0.Beta2, with 17 usages each. Each entry includes a thumbnail of the WildFly logo, the artifact name, its version, the number of usages, and two license buttons: "Public" and "LGPL". To the right, there's a sidebar titled "Indexed Repositories (195)" listing various repository sources like Central, Sonatype Releases, Spring Plugins, and Atlassian. At the bottom right, there's a section for "Popular Tags".

Maven Repository: Search | https://mvnrepository.com

Categories | Popular | Contact Us

Indexed Artifacts (5.88M)

What's New in Maven

WildFly: Threading Subsystem 17 usages

WildFly: Threading Subsystem 17 usages

Indexed Repositories (195)

Central

Sonatype Releases

Spring Plugins

Spring Libs

Atlassian

JBoss Releases

Nuxeo Releases

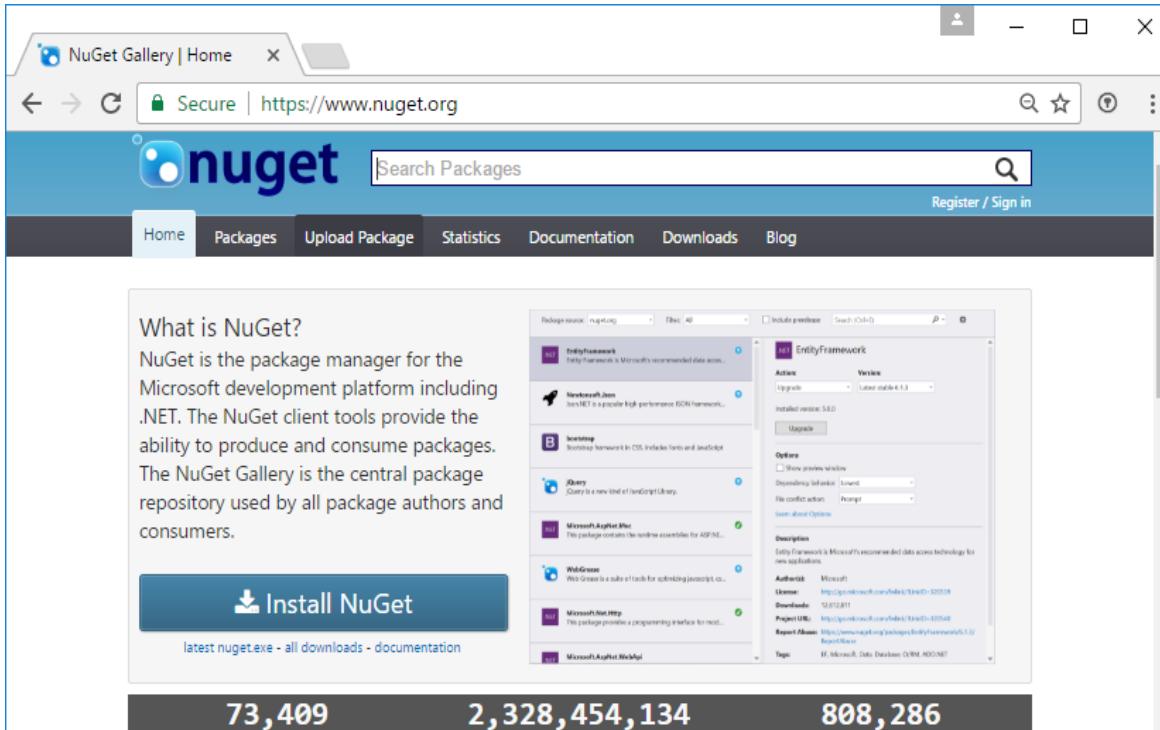
XWiki Releases

Apache Releases

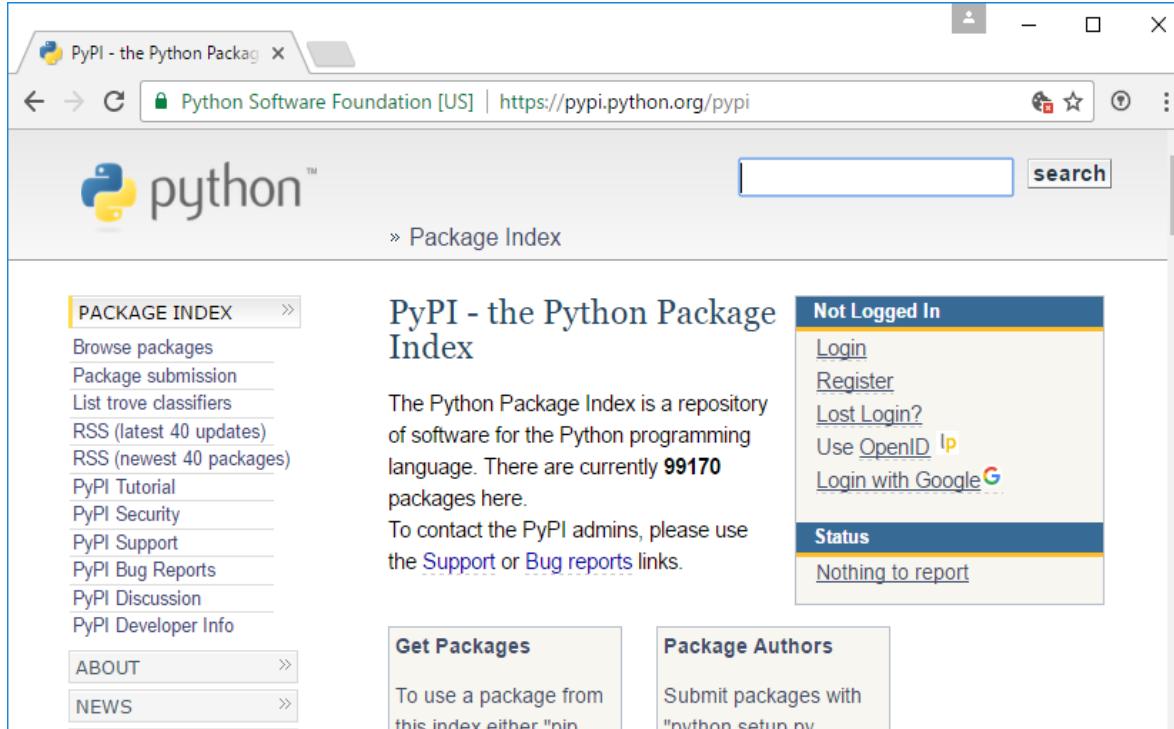
Clojars

Popular Tags

# What Is A Software Component?



# What Is A Software Component?



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the PyPI - the Python Package Index website. The URL in the address bar is <https://pypi.python.org/pypi>. The page features a large Python logo and navigation links for "PACKAGE INDEX", "ABOUT", and "NEWS". On the right, there's a search bar and a "Not Logged In" sidebar with links for "Login", "Register", "Lost Login?", "Use OpenID", and "Login with Google". Below the sidebar, a "Status" section indicates "Nothing to report". The main content area describes PyPI as a repository of software for Python, currently containing 99170 packages.

PyPI - the Python Package Index

The Python Package Index is a repository of software for the Python programming language. There are currently **99170** packages here.

To contact the PyPI admins, please use the [Support](#) or [Bug reports](#) links.

**Get Packages**  
To use a package from this index either "nin

**Package Authors**  
Submit packages with "python setup.py

# What Is A Software Component?

## Components in software

- Libraries
- Frameworks
- Runtimes (e.g. JVM)
- Base images (e.g. Docker)



# **Foreign Code Usually Prevails**

**Foreign code usually makes up for > 50 % of running code!**

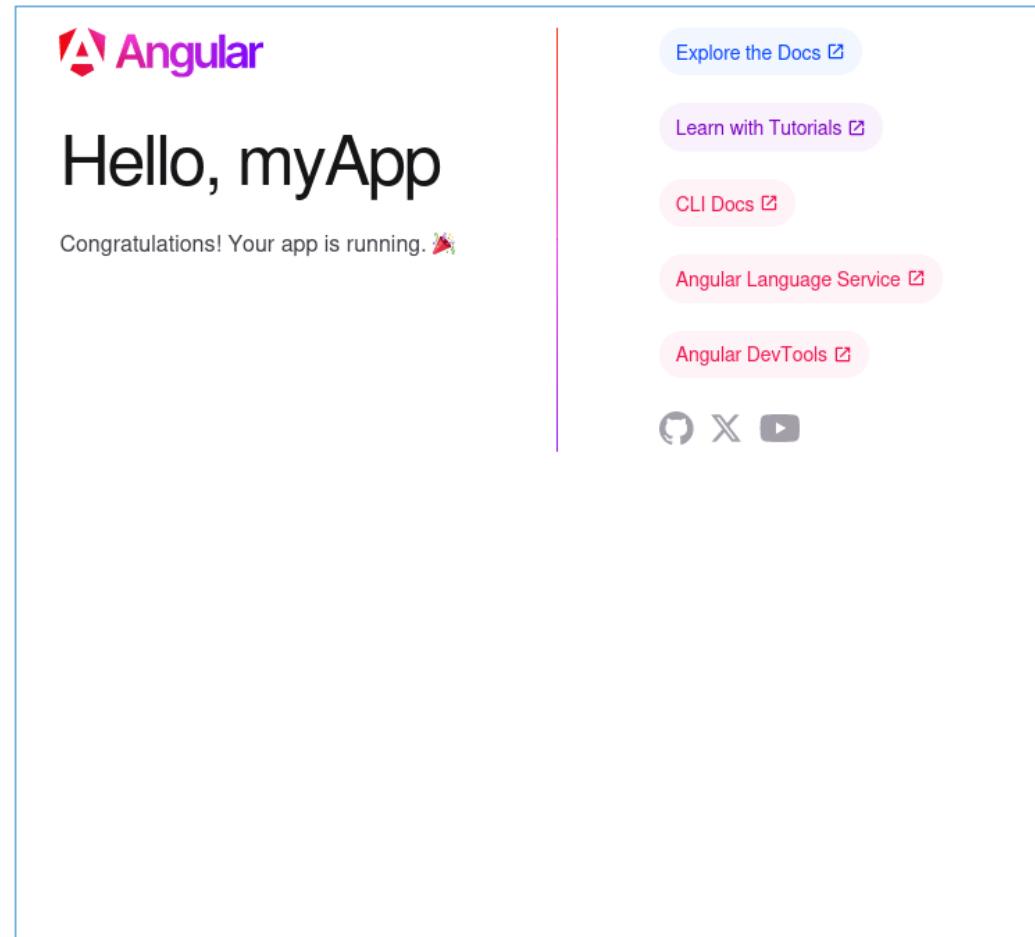
- We cannot check every line of code
- But we can check them for known vulnerabilities
- Dependencies must be declared machine-readable!

# Angular Project with Router and SCSS

```
$ npm install @angular/cli
$ node_modules/.bin/ng new --routing myApp
? Which stylesheet format would you like to use? Sass (SCSS)
? Enable Server-Side Rendering (SSR) and Static Site Generation (SSG/Prerendering)? Yes
$ ~/go/bin/scc myApp/node_modules
```

Language	Files	Lines	Blanks	Comments	Code	Complexity
JavaScript	12278	<b>2819766</b>	112262	332911	2374593	382431
TypeScript Typings	3869	<b>370244</b>	14382	190720	165142	69572
JSON	1388	170634	148	0	170486	0
Markdown	1243	220145	60367	0	159778	0
TypeScript	466	<b>43353</b>	3307	13439	26607	5032

*That's 3.2 M LOC  
in node\_modules*



<https://angular.io/guide/setup-local>

# Step 1: Transparency

You can't protect yourself, if you don't know what you have

## Good

- Machine-readable list of *declarative dependencies*

## Bad

- DLL, .so, JAR, etc. files spread over the codebase and checked into the repository

```
{} package.json x
1  {
2    "name": "sokrates-frontend",
3    "version": "0.0.0",
4    "scripts": {
5      "ng": "ng",
6      "start": "ng serve",
7      "build": "ng build",
8      "test": "ng test",
9      "lint": "ng lint",
10     "e2e": "ng e2e",
11     "fcm": "concat dist/sokrates-",
12   },
13   "private": true,
14   "dependencies": {
15     "@angular/animations": "^6.1.0",
16     "@angular/common": "^6.1.0",
17     "@angular/compiler": "^6.1.0",
18     "@angular/core": "^6.1.0",
19     "@angular/fire": "^5.0.2",
20     "@angular/forms": "^6.1.0",
21     "@angular/http": "^6.1.0",
22     "@angular/platform-browser": "6.1.0",
23     "@angular/platform-browser-dynamic": "6.1.0",
24     "@angular/pwa": "^0.7.5",
25     "@angular/router": "^6.1.0",
26     "@angular/service-worker": "6.1.0",
27     "@ng-bootstrap/ng-bootstrap": "6.1.0",
28     "@ng-select/ng-select": "^2.6.0",
29     "@toverux/ngx-sweetalert2": "6.1.0",
30     "bootstrap": "^4.1.3",
31     "chart.js": "^2.7.2",
32     "concat": "^1.0.3",
33     "core-js": "^2.5.4",
34     "firebase": "^5.5.1",
35     "jshint": "2.9.4",
36     "node-sass": "4.11.0",
37     "popper.js": "1.15.0",
38     "sass-loader": "7.1.0",
39     "style-loader": "1.1.3",
40     "ts-loader": "4.2.3",
41     "typescript": "3.1.6",
42     "uglifyjs-webpack-plugin": "1.2.7",
43     "webpack": "4.19.1",
44     "webpack-dev-server": "3.1.10"
45   }
46 }
```

# Software Bill of Materials

- We can build a *Software Bill of Material (SBOM)* for our applications
- Multiple formats, e.g., [CycloneDX](#)
- Lists all components which are part of the application in a structured way
  - Contains the whole *dependency tree*
- Can be analyzed for known vulnerabilities
- Compliance requirement (CRA, NIS2, US laws, ...)



# Software Bill of Materials

```
$ trivy repository --format=cyclonedx --output=bom.json .
$ cat bom.json

{
  "$schema": "http://cyclonedx.org/schema/bom-1.5.schema.json",
  "bomFormat": "CycloneDX",
  "specVersion": "1.5",
  "metadata": {
    "timestamp": "2024-04-08T09:31:57+00:00",
  [...]
  "components": [
    {
      "bom-ref": "pkg:npm/%40angular/animations@17.3.3",
      "type": "library",
      "group": "@angular",
      "name": "animations",
      "version": "17.3.3",
      "licenses": [{"license": {"name": "MIT"} }],
      "purl": "pkg:npm/%40angular/animations@17.3.3",
    }
  ]
}
```

## Step 2: Identifying Problems

- All components can have *known vulnerabilities*
- Those are identified by a *CVE (Common Vulnerability Enumeration) number* across all databases
- Databases list all known vulnerabilities
  - E.g., <https://www.cvedetails.com/>,  
<https://euvd.enisa.europa.eu/>, <https://osv.dev/>

# CVE

## CVE-2024-3094

[See a problem?](#)  
Please try reporting it to the source ↗ first.

<b>Source</b>	<a href="https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2024-3094">https://nvd.nist.gov/vuln/detail/CVE-2024-3094</a> ↗
<b>Import Source</b>	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/cve-osv-conversion/osv-output/CVE-2024-3094.json">https://storage.googleapis.com/cve-osv-conversion/osv-output/CVE-2024-3094.json</a> ↗
<b>JSON Data</b>	<a href="https://api.osv.dev/v1/vulns/CVE-2024-3094">https://api.osv.dev/v1/vulns/CVE-2024-3094</a> ↗
<b>Aliases</b>	GHSA-rxwq-x6h5-x525
<b>Related</b>	<a href="#">CGA-3r9w-5x9c-pwr7</a> <a href="#">CGA-xp9g-w4gg-2v78</a> <a href="#">UBUNTU-CVE-2024-3094</a> <a href="#">openSUSE-SU-2024:14017-1</a>
<b>Published</b>	2024-03-29T17:15:21Z
<b>Modified</b>	2025-02-06T18:59:09.699792Z
<b>Downstream</b>	<a href="#">openSUSE-SU-2024:14017-1</a>
<b>Severity</b>	10.0 (Critical) CVSS_V3 – CVSS:3.1/AV:N/AC:L/PR:N/UI:N/S:C/C:H/I:H/A:H <a href="#">CVSS Calculator</a> ↗
<b>Summary</b>	[none]
<b>Details</b>	Malicious code was discovered in the upstream tarballs of xz, starting with version 5.6.0. Through a series of complex obfuscations, the liblzma build process extracts a prebuilt object file from a disguised test file existing in the source code, which is then used to modify specific functions in the liblzma code. This results in a modified liblzma library that can be used by any software linked against this library, intercepting and modifying the data interaction with this library.
<b>References</b>	<a href="https://access.redhat.com/security/cve/CVE-2024-3094">https://access.redhat.com/security/cve/CVE-2024-3094</a> ↗ <a href="https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show_bug.cgi?id=2272210">https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show_bug.cgi?id=2272210</a> ↗ <a href="https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/urgent-security-alert-fedora-41-and-rawhide-users">https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/urgent-security-alert-fedora-41-and-rawhide-users</a> ↗

<https://osv.dev/vulnerability/CVE-2024-3094>

# Software Composition Analysis

*Software Composition Analysis (SCA) tools automatically identify vulnerable components*

```
$ trivy image finalgene/hadolint  
  
finalgene/hadolint (alpine 3.9.4)  
Total: 26 (UNKNOWN: 0, LOW: 4, MEDIUM: 14, HIGH: 6, CRITICAL: 2)
```

Library	Vulnerability	Severity	Version	Fixed Version	Title
libcrypto1.1	CVE-2020-1967	HIGH	1.1.1b-r1	1.1.1g-r0	[...]
	CVE-2021-23840			1.1.1j-r0	[...]
[...]					

# Software Composition Analysis

## Dependency Track

The screenshot shows the Dependency Track interface for the project 'myApp'. The top navigation bar includes 'Home / Projects / myApp'. On the left, there's a sidebar with various icons for navigation. The main dashboard displays a summary with a blue icon for 'myApp', five circular status indicators (1 red, 0 orange, 4 green, 0 blue), and a 'View Details >' button.

Below the summary, there are several tabs: Overview, Components (131), Services (0), Dependency Graph (1), Audit Vulnerabilities (5), Exploit Predictions (5), and Policy Violations (0). The Audit Vulnerabilities tab is selected.

Under the Audit Vulnerabilities tab, there are buttons for 'Apply VEX', 'Export VEX', 'Export VDR', 'Reanalyze', and a 'Show suppressed findings' checkbox. A search bar and a refresh/filter icon are also present.

The main content area is a table listing audit findings:

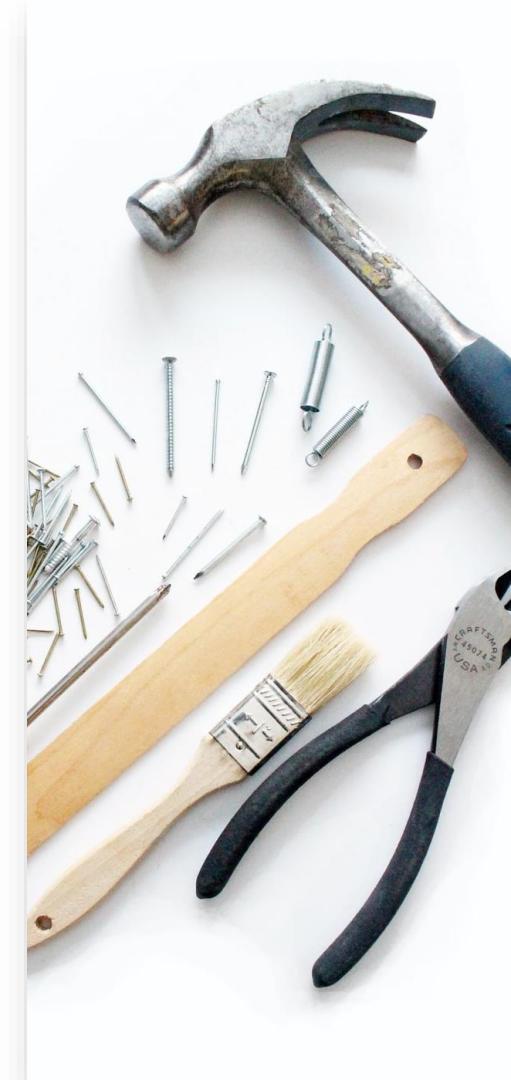
	Component	Version	Group	Vulnerability	Severity	Analyzer	Attributed On	Analysis	Suppressed
>	crypto-js	3.2.1	⚠️	NVD CVE-2023-46233	Critical	OSS Index	8 Apr 2024	-	
>	jquery	3.4.0	⚠️	NVD CVE-2020-11023	Medium	OSS Index	8 Apr 2024	-	
>	jquery	3.4.0	⚠️	NVD CVE-2020-23064	Medium	OSS Index	8 Apr 2024	-	
>	jquery	3.4.0	⚠️	NVD CVE-2020-11022	Medium	OSS Index	8 Apr 2024	-	
>	xml2js	0.4.19	⚠️	NVD CVE-2023-0842	Medium	OSS Index	8 Apr 2024	-	

At the bottom, it says 'Showing 1 to 5 of 5 rows'.

# Software Composition Analysis

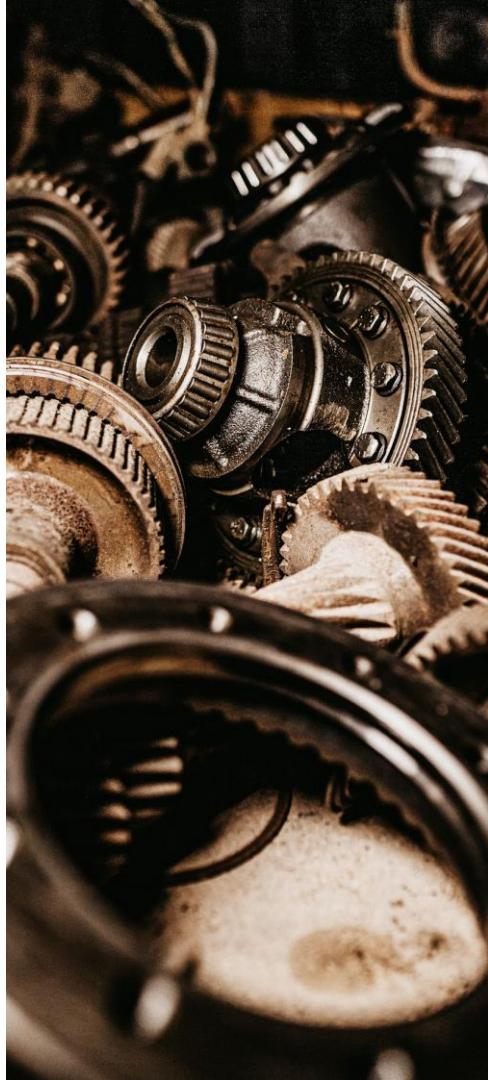
## Tools

- Generic
  - Trivy (Open Source)
  - OWASP Dependency Track (Open Source)
  - OWASP Dependency Check (Open Source)
  - GitLab Dependency Checker (Ultimate Feature)
  - GitHub (through Dependabot)
  - Snyk Open Source Security Management (commercial)
  - JFrog Xray (commercial)
  - Sonatype Nexus (commercial)
  - Black Duck (commercial)
- Language specific
  - npm audit (NPM)
  - composer audit (PHP, Composer)
  - NuGetDefense, dotnet CLI (.NET)
  - Safety, PyRaider (Python)
  - govulncheck (Go)
  - cargo audit, cargo deny (Rust)
  - bundler-audit (Ruby)



## Step 3: Automate

1. Generate SBOM in build pipeline
2. Check SBOM for known vulnerabilities with SCA tool directly in the pipeline or an external tool
3. Have a process to mitigate findings in a timely fashion
4. Bonus: Do it **regularly** even if no pushes happen!



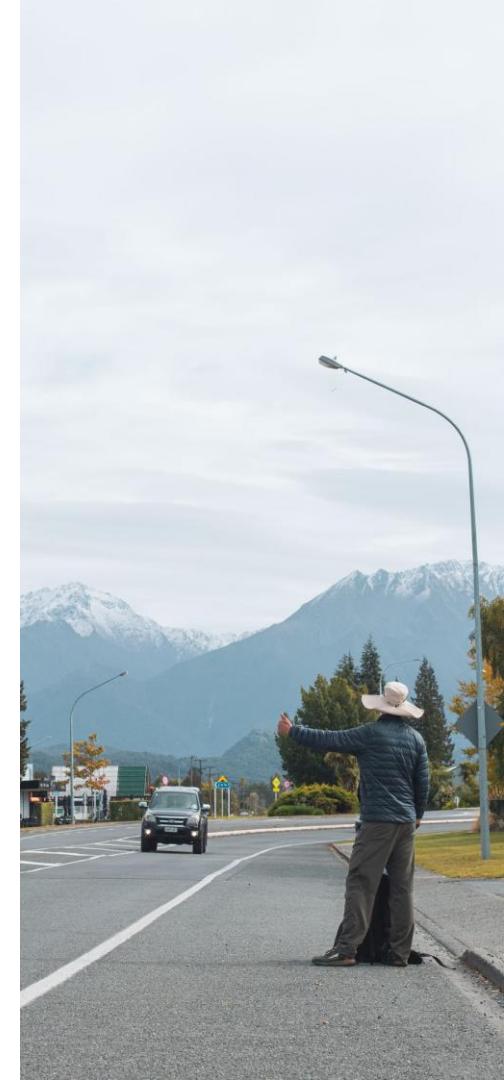
# Panic?



<https://grafana.com/blog/2023/05/25/how-to-manage-cve-security-vulnerabilities-with-grafana-mergestat-and-osv-scanner/>

# Don't Panic

- A vulnerability in a component is not necessarily a vulnerability in your application
- A vulnerability is not necessarily exploitable
- Severity ratings are probably not accurate



## Step 4: Act

After establishing the problem, you can pursue multiple roads:

- Update dependency
  - Preferably automated (e.g., *Dependabot*)
- If an update is not possible: Analyze vulnerability and react
  - Patch vulnerabilities yourself
  - Remove or replace dependency
  - Accept risk



# Analyze

## Distinguishing the Signal and the Noise

- Remove *False Positives*
  - Package imported?
  - Function used?
- Prioritize
  - Likelihood of exploitation
    - [Exploit Prediction Scoring System \(EPSS\)](#)
    - [Known Exploited Vulnerabilities \(KEV\) Catalog](#)
    - Local *Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT)* e.g., <https://www.cert.at/>
    - Age of vulnerability
  - Severity rating



# Step 0: Minimize Problem

# **Be picky with your libs!**

- Do not pull in a library for everything
    - Sometimes, Copy/Paste is your friend
  - Invest some time in quality checks
  - Check libraries for known vulnerabilities in an automated way



# Problematic Dependencies

- Quality of components varies
  - Activity
  - Security contact
  - Reaction to previous security issues
- Many packages become unmaintained
- License changes

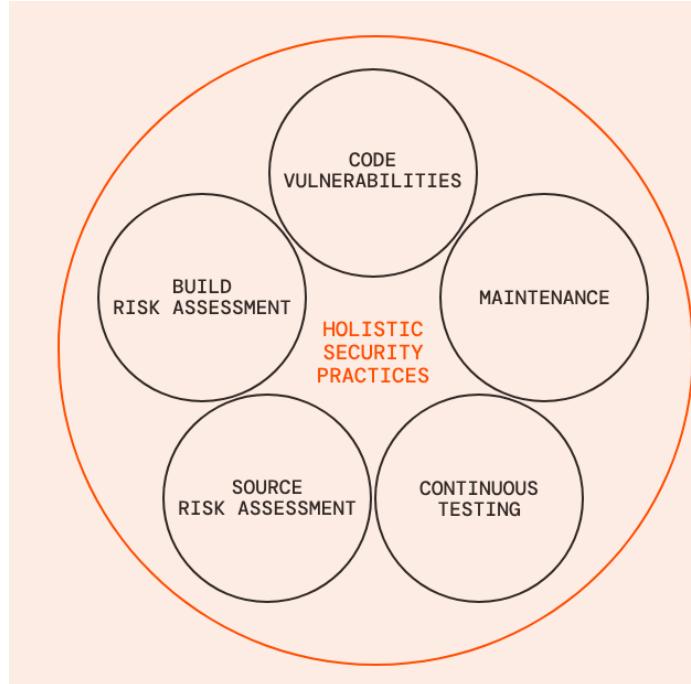


# Problematic Dependencies

## Security Scorecards

*Scorecard checks for vulnerabilities affecting different parts of the software supply chain including **source code**, **build**, **dependencies**, **testing**, and project **maintenance**.*

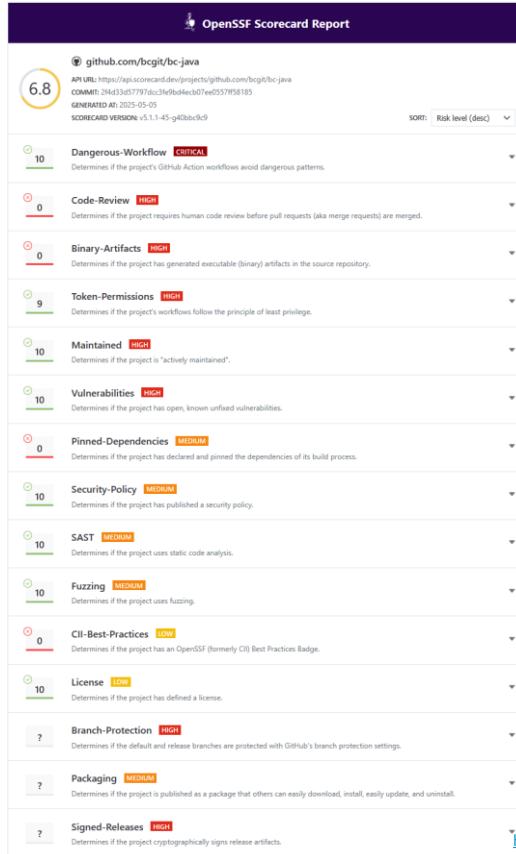
*Each automated check returns a **score out of 10** and a **risk level**. This score helps give a sense of the overall security posture of a project*



<https://securityscorecards.dev/>

# Problematic Dependencies

## Security Scorecards



# Dependency usage cycle



# Essentials: Dependencies

- Choose your dependencies wisely
- Have a declarative, machine-readable list of dependencies
- Produce and manage SBOMs
- Check your dependencies in an automated way
- Notify relevant stakeholders if there are severe vulnerabilities or incompatible license changes
- Rebuild and run checks regularly even if there is no push
- Advanced**
  - Have a good test coverage
  - A bot submits a pull request with updates
  - Use Dependency Cooldown
  - Merge it automatically if tests are green

# Secure Build

## Build Automation

**Have an automated, repeatable build process!**

- This lowers the error-proneness.
- It fosters continuous improvement.
- It eases the introduction of verifiable builds.
- Allows continuous testing
- Enables regular usage of security tooling



# Secure Build

## Build Automation

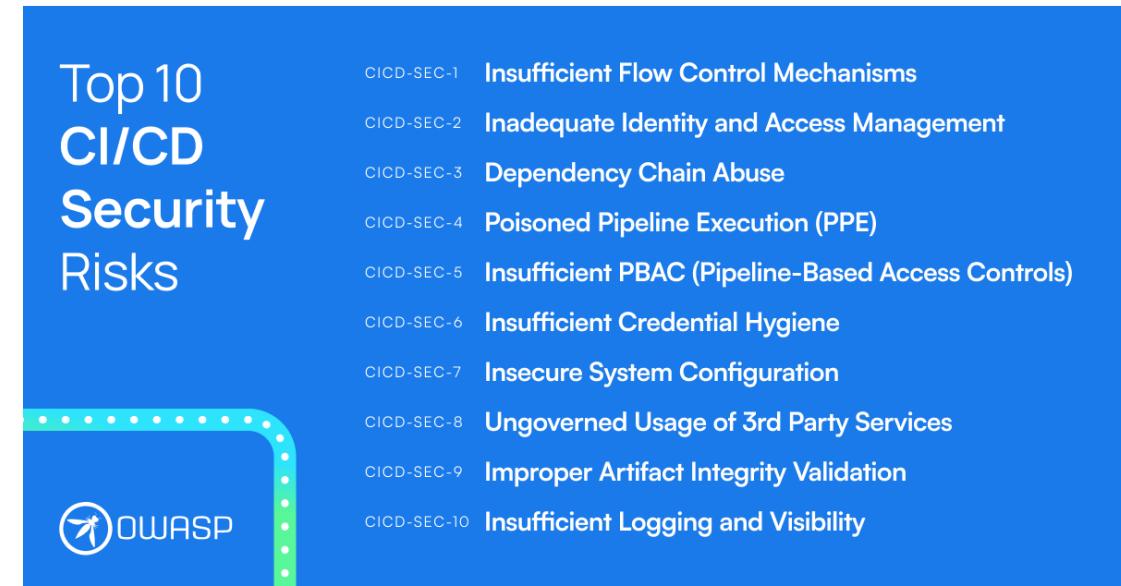
**Protect your code and build environment!**

- Is it reachable only via VPN?
- Is MFA enabled for everybody?
- Are only those able to commit code who need to?
- Are build artifacts protected from manipulation?



# CI Risks

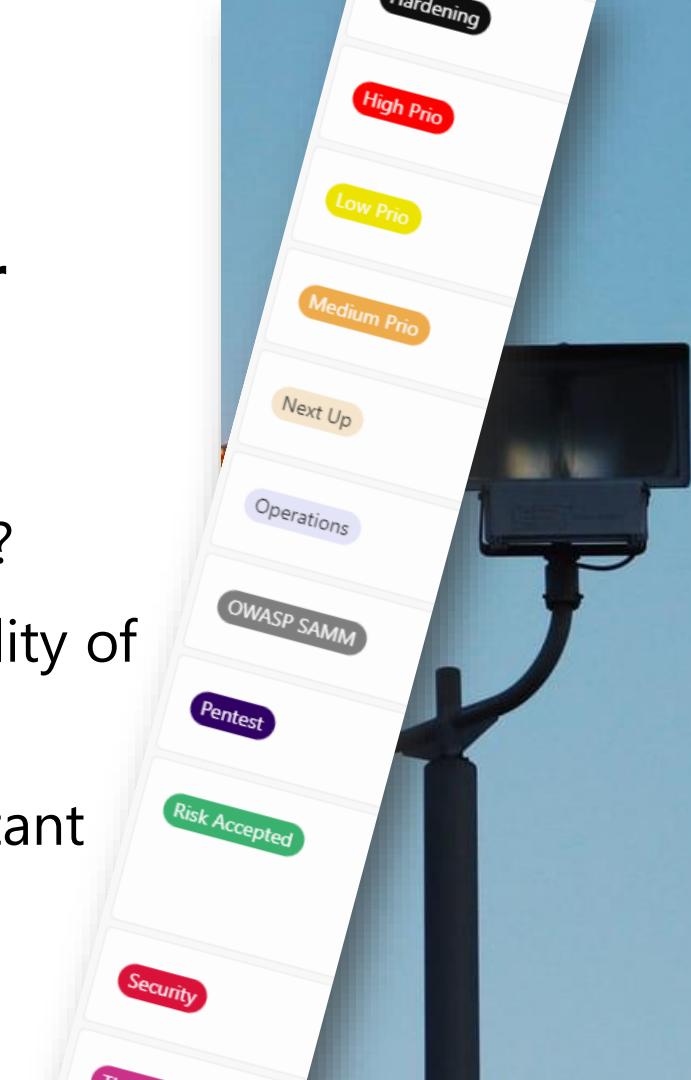
- CI systems are security critical!
- Especially if they do deployments as well
- [OWASP Top 10 CI/CD Security Risks](#)



# Defect Tracking

**Track security defects like any other defect, but label it as such.**

- We're all about making security an integral part of development, right?
- Easiest with the labelling functionality of your code management tool
- “What's currently your most important security problem?”



# Defect Tracking

## CVSS

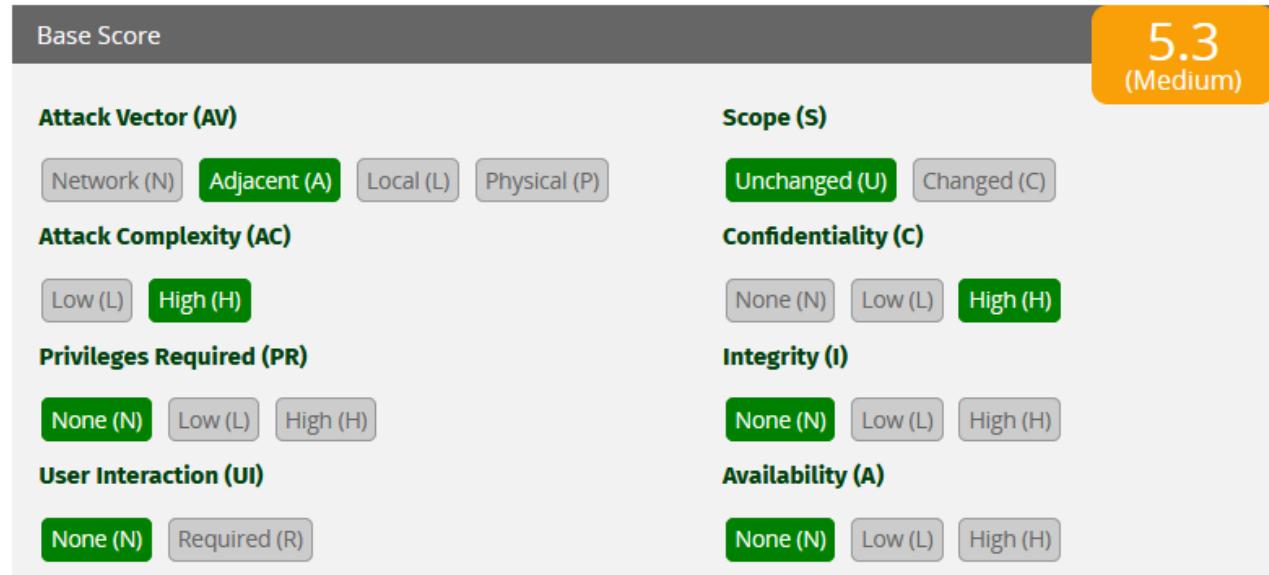
- „Common Vulnerability Scoring System“
- Grades the **severity** not the **risk**
- Risk must be graded afterwards
- 3 parts
  - Base Score
  - Temporal Score
  - Environmental Score



# Defect Tracking

## CVSS Example

A document management system on the intranet makes its file readable to anyone knowing the link e.g. <https://example.com/file/397rtfg2yisa8r3f> (*Insecure Direct Object Reference*).



# Defect Tracking

**Don't take severity levels as business impact.**

- Severity levels such as a CVSS 3.1 score are technical
- Tools cannot know the business impact
- Pentesters rarely know neither



# Secret Management

**Your build & deployment need  
*secrets*. Handle them well**

- Secure generation
- Secure Storage
- Access Rights
- Lifecycle management



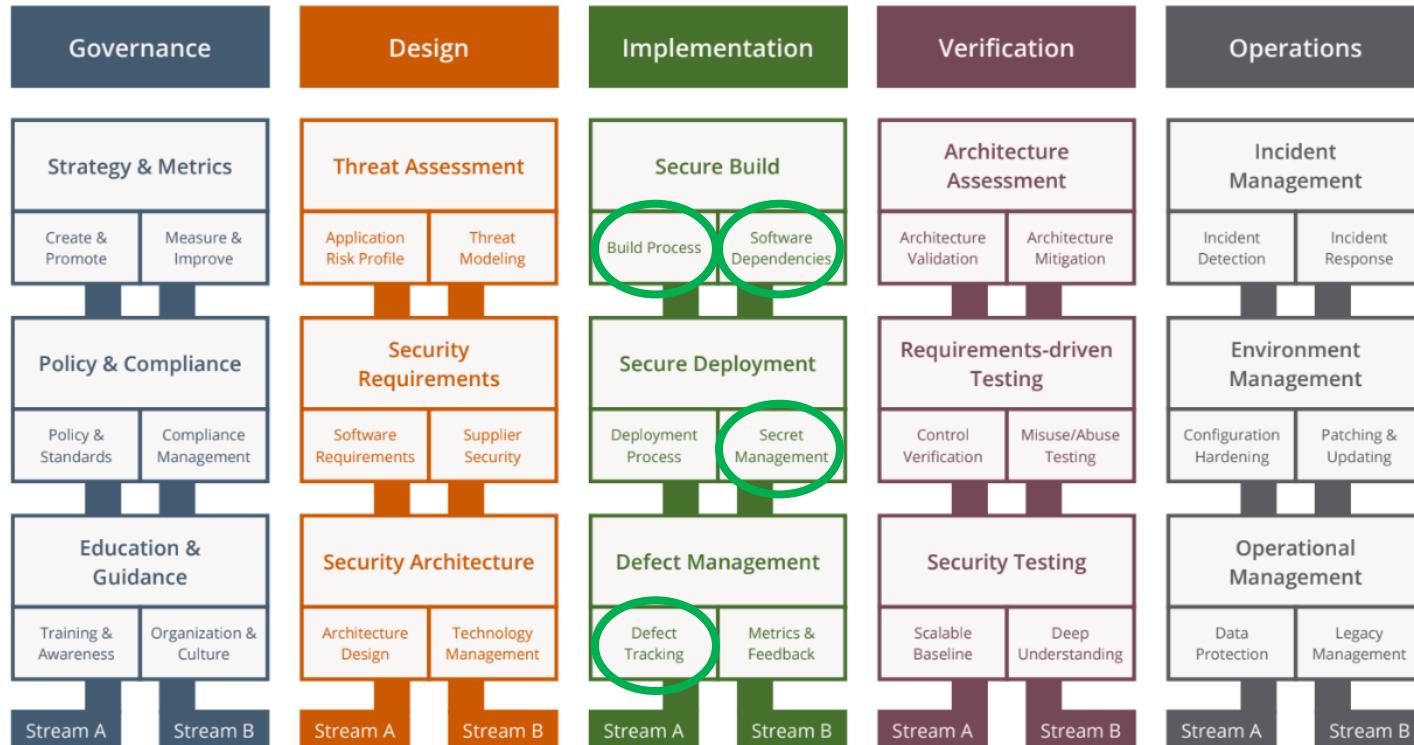
# Secret Management

## No secrets in the source code

- Never check any secrets into your version control system (VCS)
- Inject secrets during deployment
  - Configuration file
  - Environment variable
- Use *Secret Detection* tool in your pipeline



# Where Are We In OWASP SAMM?





# Quiz!

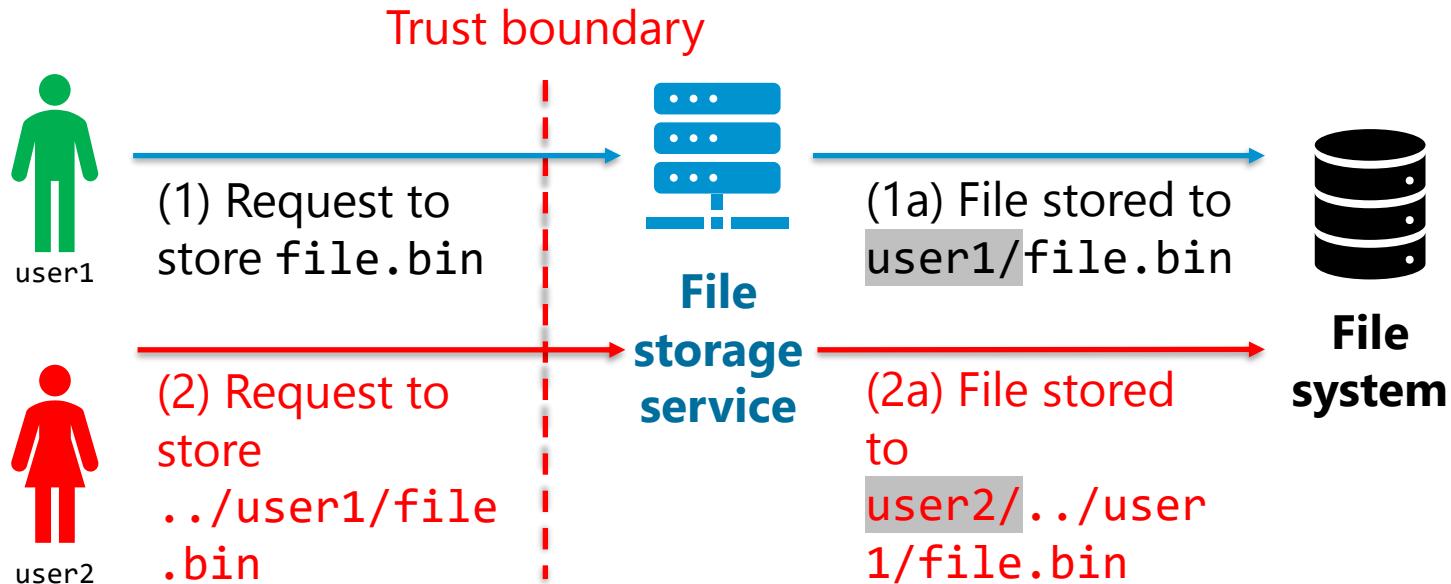
## Secure Implementation

Visit <https://kahoot.it> and enter the game pin I'll share with you!

# **Software Security Verification**

Types of software tests, strengths, weaknesses

# Real-World Scenario



**Core issue: Path traversal vulnerability**  
**Detectable by static analysis**

# Types of Software Tests

## Functional

Unit test

End-to-end test

Integration test

## Scalability

Load test

Stress test

Scalability test

## Tool-based

Static application security testing (SAST)

Dynamic application security testing (DAST)

Software Composition Analysis (SCA)

## Scenario-based

Penetration test

Red teaming

Disaster recovery test

## Unit Test vs. Integration Test

**Unit test vs. Integration test**



# Functional Tests

Unit tests and integration tests can (and should) be used for security purposes as well!

- Verify implementation of security requirements
- Authorization tests
- Don't restrict yourself to the *happy path*
- Write and test *abuse stories* as well



# Automated Tool Types

- **Static Application Security Testing (SAST)**
- **Dynamic Application Security Testing (DAST)**
- **Software Composition Analysis (SCA)**

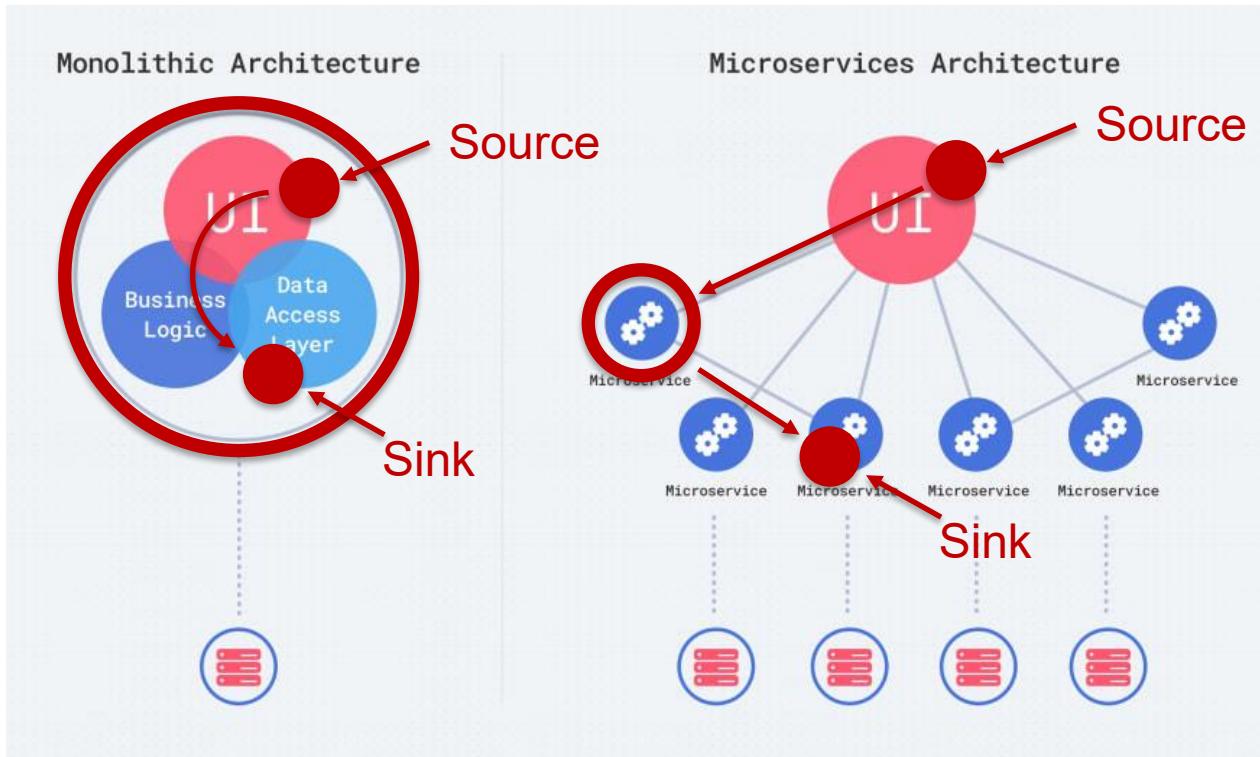
# Static Application Security Testing (SAST)

- Scans the source code
- No running application required
- Builds a so-called Abstract Syntax Tree (AST)
- **Approach:** Input – way through your code – sink

# Static Application Security Testing (SAST)

- **Advantages**
  - Reproducible results
  - Good code coverage
- **Disadvantages**
  - Usually only covers your own code
  - Can only detect a limited set of vulnerabilities
  - Lacks context when scanning microservices

# Microservices and Vulnerability Context



# **AST: Common Pitfalls**

**Not knowing what the tool can really find in the own environment.**

- Know the relevant vulnerability classes of your software
- Assess thoroughly whether AST can find (some of) them
- Make a deliberate decision on whether this is worth it



# SAST: Common Pitfalls

**Turning on all the bells and whistles of the tool from the start.**

- Expect the “security bump” to be big.
- Give your team digestible chunks of findings to work with.
- Start with critical findings only and work your way down to your goal.



# AST: Common Problem

- Classic tools are dinosaurs
- They're big, clunky, slow, do way too much
- Hardly compatible with an agile approach and CI/CD pipelines



# Semgrep: Lightweight SAST

- A bit like grep, but semantic-aware
- More lightweight
- Can be easily called on your code using a lightweight CLI tool or Docker container
- You must know what you're doing!

```
semgrep --  
config="https://semgrep.dev/c/r/javascript.angular.securi  
ty.detect-angular-trust-as-html-method.detect-angular-  
trust-as-html-method"
```

# Semgrep: Rules

```
- pattern-either:  
  - pattern: |  
      $RETURNTYPE $FUNC (... , @PathParam(...) $TYPE $VAR, ...) {  
      ...  
      new File(... , $VAR, ...);  
      ...  
    }  
  - pattern: |-  
      $RETURNTYPE $FUNC (... , @javax.ws.rs.PathParam(...) $TYPE $VAR, ...) {  
      ...  
      new File(... , $VAR, ...);  
      ...  
    }
```

Use with:

[semgrep CLI](#)

[Live Editor](#)

[GitHub](#)

[Deploy to Policy ▾](#)

# Semgrep

## Usage

- Prevent known vulnerabilities instead of finding unknown
- Fixate expected behavior
  - Vulnerability in application discovered
  - Find root cause in code
  - Create Semgrep template which detects the vulnerability
  - Run check on whole codebase
  - Integrate in build pipeline
- This allows you eliminate a *vulnerability class* instead of a single *vulnerability*

# Secure Guardrails

Change your application security program from reactive to proactive with this course on how to create secure guardrails! Learn all about paved roads, secure defaults, and creating technical controls to ensure your developers stay on the secure path!

Enroll for free

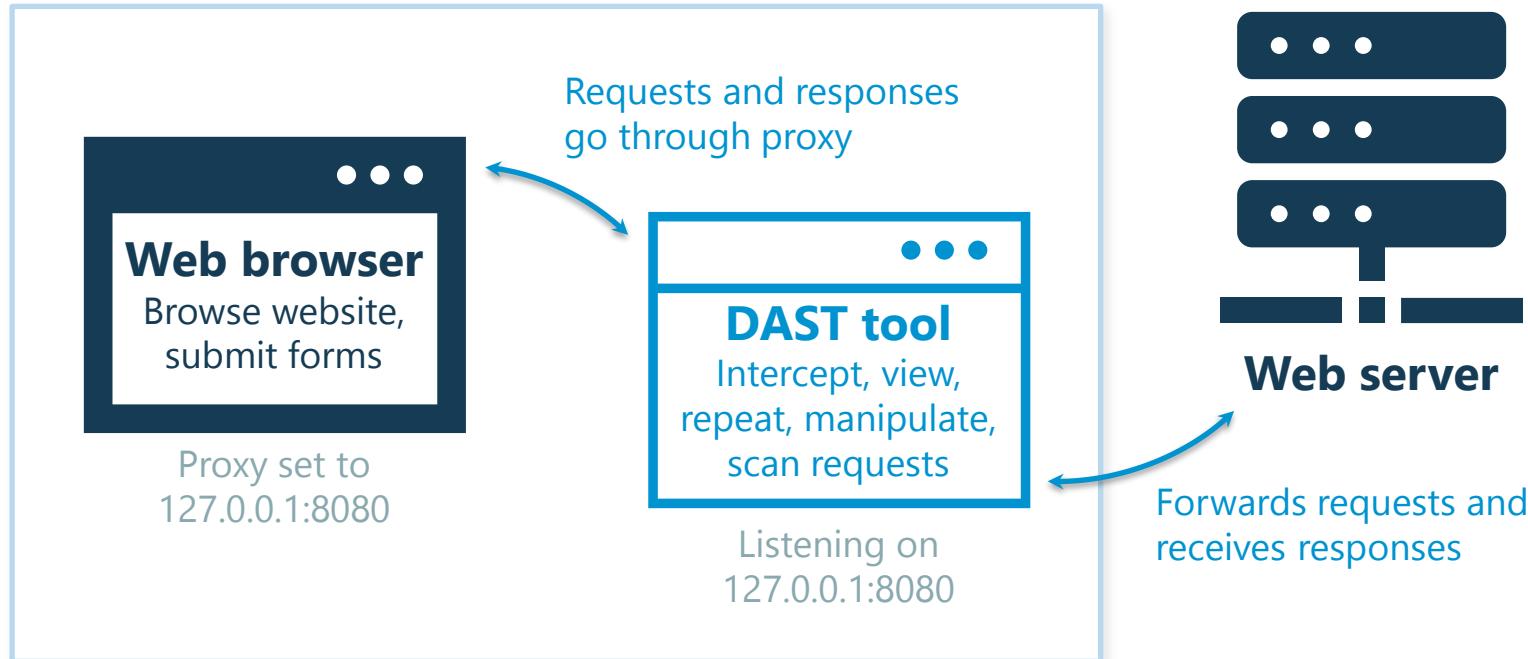
<https://academy.semgrep.dev/courses/secure-guardrails>

# Dynamic Application Security Testing (DAST)

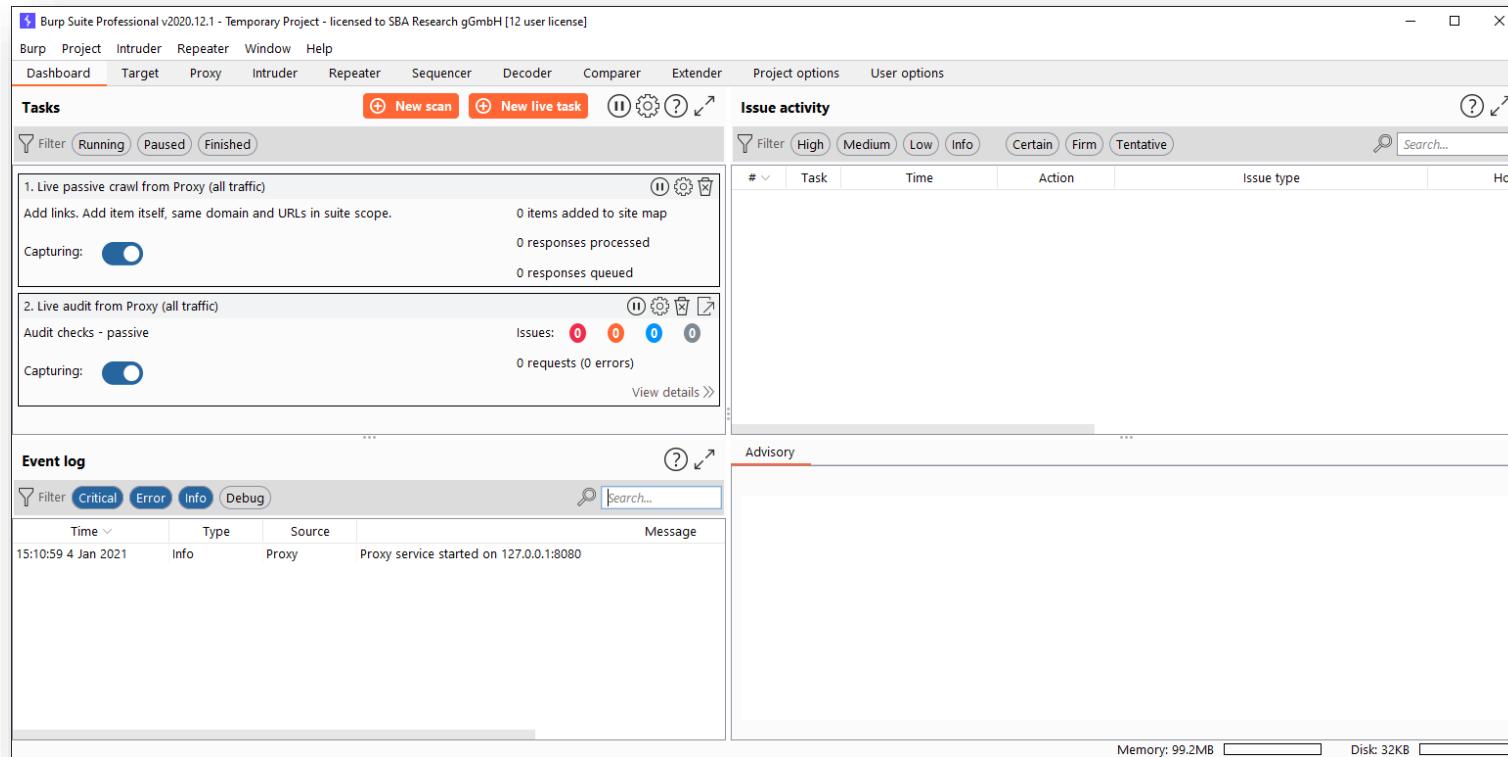
- Scans a running application
- Some tools have SAST elements built in
- **Approach:** Request – response
- Usage can be manual, automatic or semi-automatic

# How DAST Works

Your computer



# Burp Suite Professional



# Dynamic Application Security Testing (DAST)

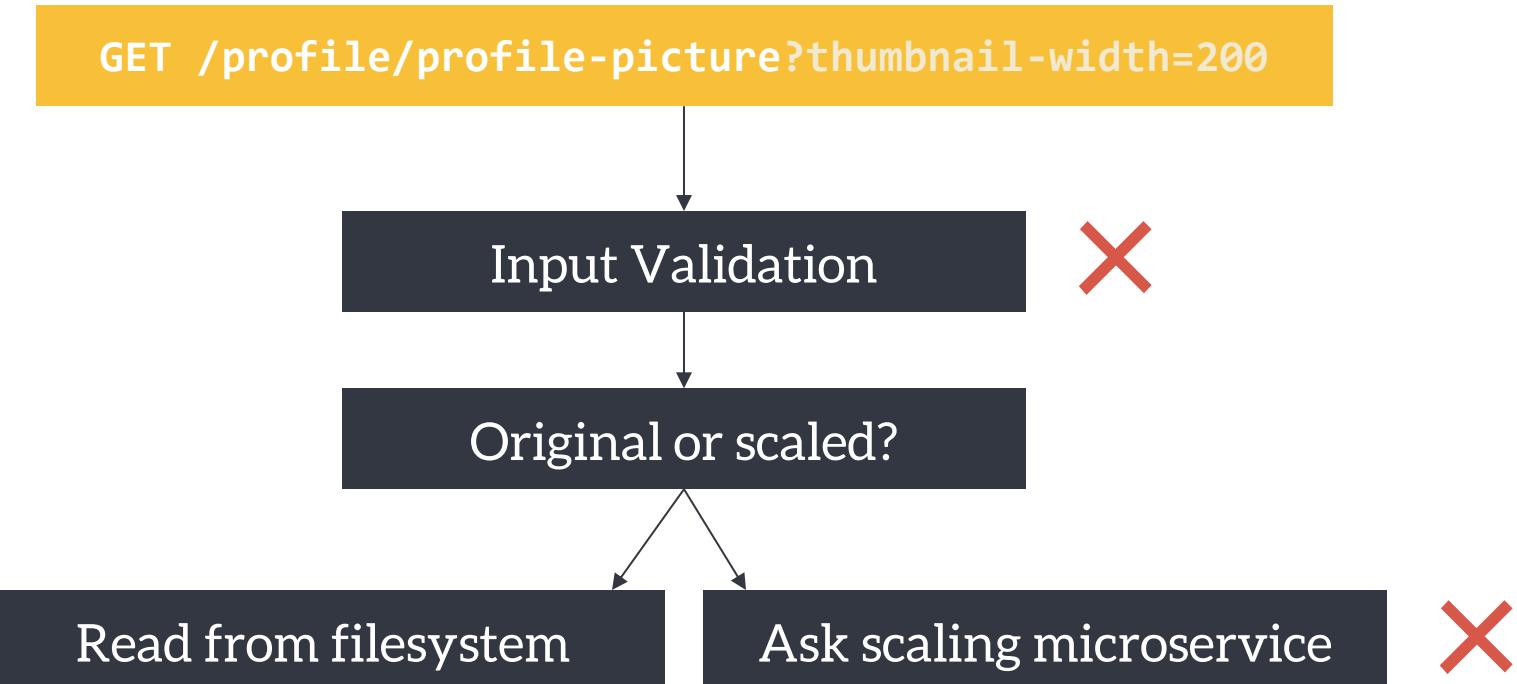
- **Advantages**

- Touches more parts of your stack
- Tends to have less false positives

- **Disadvantages**

- Can only detect a limited set of vulnerabilities
- SPAs require heavy lifting (headless browser)
- Hard to get good code coverage

# Dynamic Tests: Known-Good Requests



# SAST vs. DAST

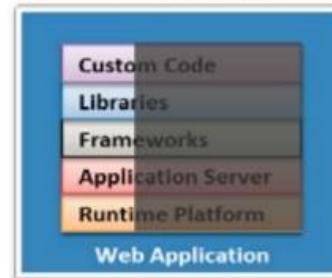
## SAST vs. DAST

Typical app has  
20% custom  
code



SAST

Typical scan gets  
30% code  
coverage



DAST

# DAST: Common Pitfalls

## **Ignoring code coverage.**

- Make sure your tool can deal with authentication, different roles, multi-step forms, state-heavy functionality.
- Find the right method to get Known Good Requests.
- Don't blindly trust, but measure.
- Keep it up with application changes.



# DAST: Common Pitfalls

## **Overestimating horizontal coverage of DAST.**

- With some vulnerability classes, DAST can have bad horizontal coverage.
- A common example is Stored XSS.
- Keep that in mind when creating your AST strategy.



# DAST: Common Pitfalls

**Just fixing that one occurrence.**

- DAST rarely has 100 % horizontal code coverage.
- Treat results as symptoms, not as the disease.
- Invest time in finding all occurrences in your code.



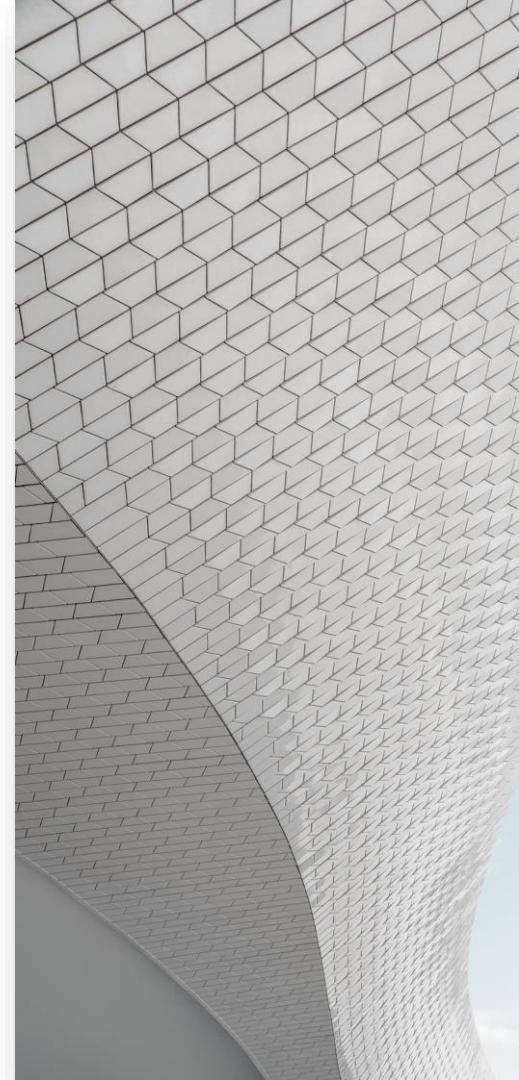
# What Are The Demands?

- This is often unclear
- **Commonly mentioned vulnerability lists**
  - OWASP Top 10
  - OWASP API Security Top 10
  - CWE Top 25

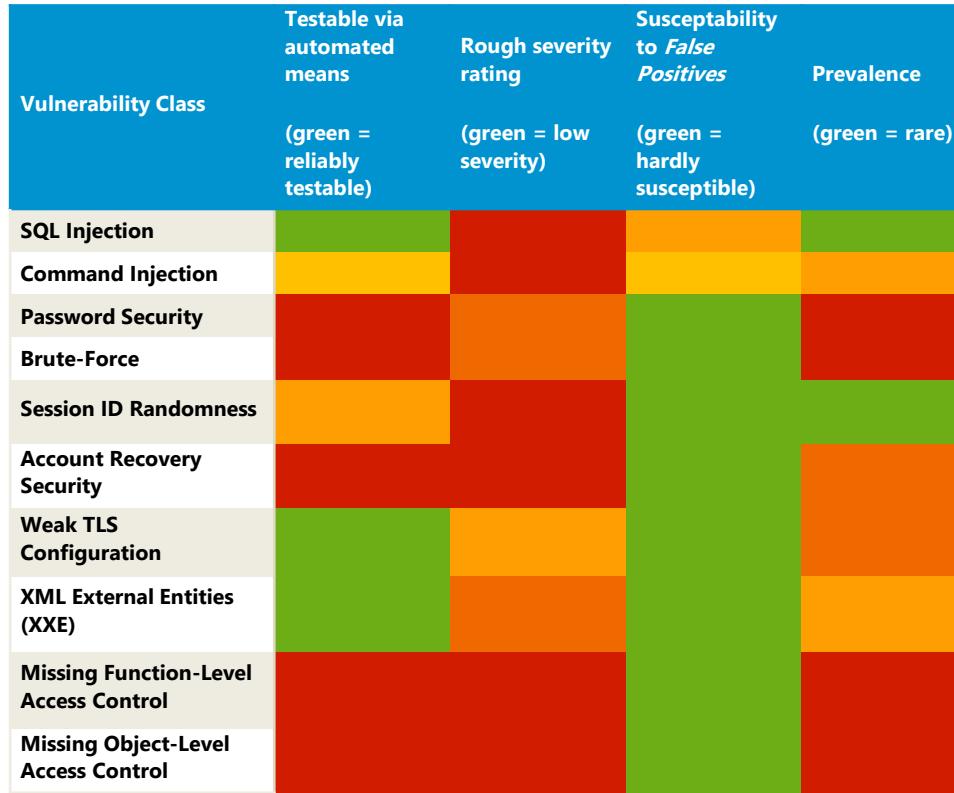
# Vulnerability Dimensions

**It's not one-dimensional!**

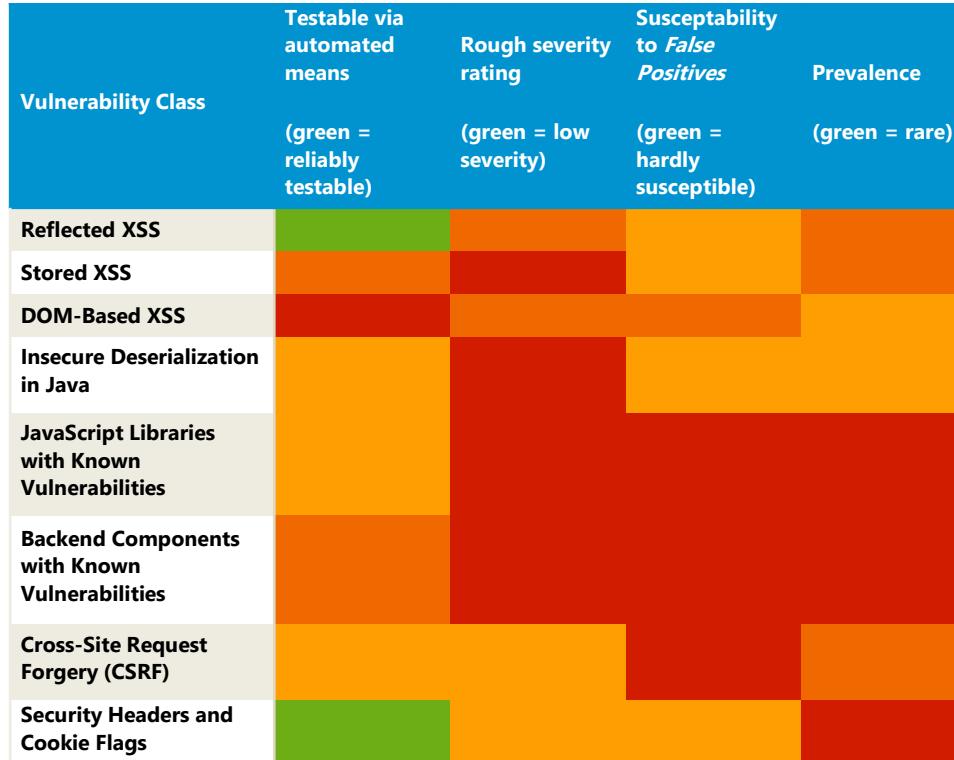
1. Error-proneness
2. Technology Support
3. Automated Testability
4. Verifiability
5. Stack Distribution
6. Availability of Defense in Depth
7. Specificity
8. Place of Best Mitigation
9. Place of Best Assurance



# Automated Testability of Vulnerabilities



# Automated Testability of Vulnerabilities



# General Tool Weaknesses

## Design flaws cannot be detected

- Tools might know that “injection is bad” but not that “this user must not see this dataset”
- How would a tool know what functionality a role can call?



# A More Sustainable Approach

**Embrace the fact that vulnerabilities aren't single-dimensional!**

1. Determine the impact of security incidents (BIA).
2. Document your tech stack.
3. Determine relevant vulnerability types for each component.

# Steps Towards More Targeted Protection

**For each vulnerability class, document**

1. how, if at all, technology helps,
2. how, if at all, it could still go wrong,
3. which is the best place for mitigation,
4. which is the best place for quality assurance,
5. whether defense in depth is available and in use,
6. what residual risk there is,
7. and how the vulnerability class relates to docs, standards, guidelines, and requirements (internal or external).

# Steps Towards More Targeted Protection

## Use tools to

1. Fixate known good behavior
2. Prevent regressions
3. Identify all instances of a vulnerability

## Example: Angular and XSS

- SPAs introduce good separation of concerns
- Only a small set of vulnerabilities is relevant
- **In short: It's mostly XSS**
  - via our own code, and
  - via dependencies

# Mitigation Tracking: Angular and XSS

<b>Vulnerability name</b>	Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
<b>Threat type (C/I/A/N)</b>	C/I/-/N
<b>Qualitative severity</b>	Medium to high
<b>How does technology help?</b>	Angular does automatic HTML encoding by default and comes with a sanitizer for [href] and [innerHTML] [1].
<b>What are edge cases?</b>	bypassSecurityTrust* [2] and direct DOM usage.
<b>Automated checks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- We use SAST to disallow bypassSecurityTrust* [3]</li><li>- We use a Linter to disallow DOM XSS sinks [4]</li></ul>
<b>Defense-in-depth measures</b>	We use a strong Content Security Policy [5].
<b>Residual risk</b>	Developers use untested insecure DOM APIs [6] directly.
<b>Links and references</b>	<i>Links above, internal policies and guidelines, requirements documents, ...</i>

## Advantages of This Approach

- You only mitigate what's relevant
- It serves as compact coding guidelines
- Countermeasures are traceable

# Automation: Common Pitfalls

## **Overestimating what tools can do.**

- Have a clear picture of what the tools are capable of.
- Only the baseline is scalable.
- Tools cannot take away the requirement of deep understanding of your software and environment.



# Automation: Common Pitfalls

**Expecting the possibility to “outsource security”.**

- It is tempting to buy an expensive tool and then blame it on the tool if it does not find a certain problem.
- Don't do that.
- Focus on tools that do little but do it well.



# Automation: Common Pitfalls

## **Not feeding back the findings to other security activities.**

- Don't let the same vulnerabilities fool you repeatedly.
- Often, they are symptoms for an underlying, bigger problem.
- Feed the results back into requirements, architecture changes, design documents, technology decisions.
- Share what you have learned.



# Penetration Test

**A penetration test is an attack simulation.**

- Active system analysis
- Perspective of a potential adversary
- Vulnerabilities often exploited for demonstration purposes



# Penetration Test

## A penetration test is

- A method of quality assurance
- Simulating the paths of least resistance

## A penetration test is not

- A test with 100 % code coverage
  - “Absence of evidence” ≠ “evidence of absence”
- A means to “test your system secure”

# Penetration Tests: Common Pitfalls

**Not giving the testers any information because “an attacker would not have it neither”.**

- Right, but the attacker has way more time.
- We’re here to find as many issues as possible.
- Share what you know.



# Penetration Tests: Common Pitfalls

**Not taking enough time to make the testers understand the system functionally.**

- No functional knowledge leads to wrong prioritization of testing efforts.
- What would an attacker be looking for?
- It also leads to worse coverage.



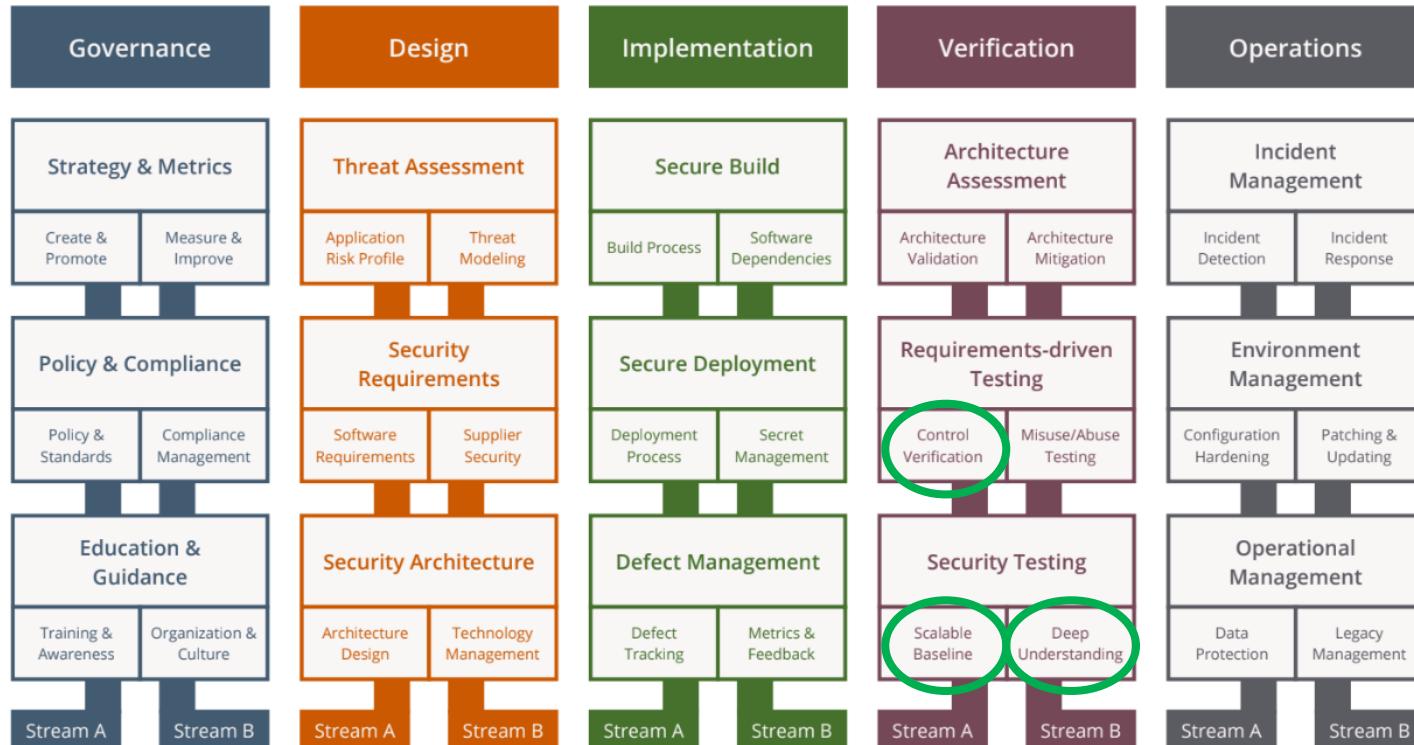
# **Penetration Tests: Common Pitfalls**

**Taking only the severity levels of the findings for prioritization.**

- It is a severity level, not a business risk.
- Translate the severity into what it means to your organization.
- Don't be afraid to accept risk but do it formally and involve stakeholders.

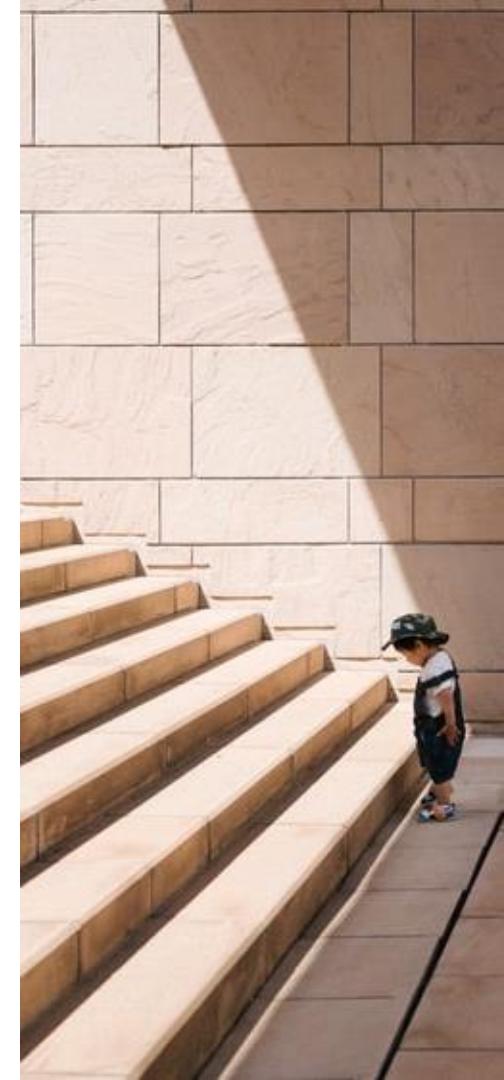


# Where Are We In OWASP SAMM?



# Essentials: Software Security Verification

- Know and document the relevant vulnerability classes for your software
- Know the strengths and weaknesses of automated tools
- Focus on relevance, speed, and integration
- Use regular penetration testing for checks and balances





# Quiz!

## **Software Security Verification**

Visit <https://kahoot.it> and enter the game pin I'll share with you!

# **Operations and Maintenance**

Security in the running environment

# Visibility

**You cannot react on  
what you do not see.**

- Logging
- Log collection
- Events
- Monitoring
- Alerts
- Incidents
- Incident response

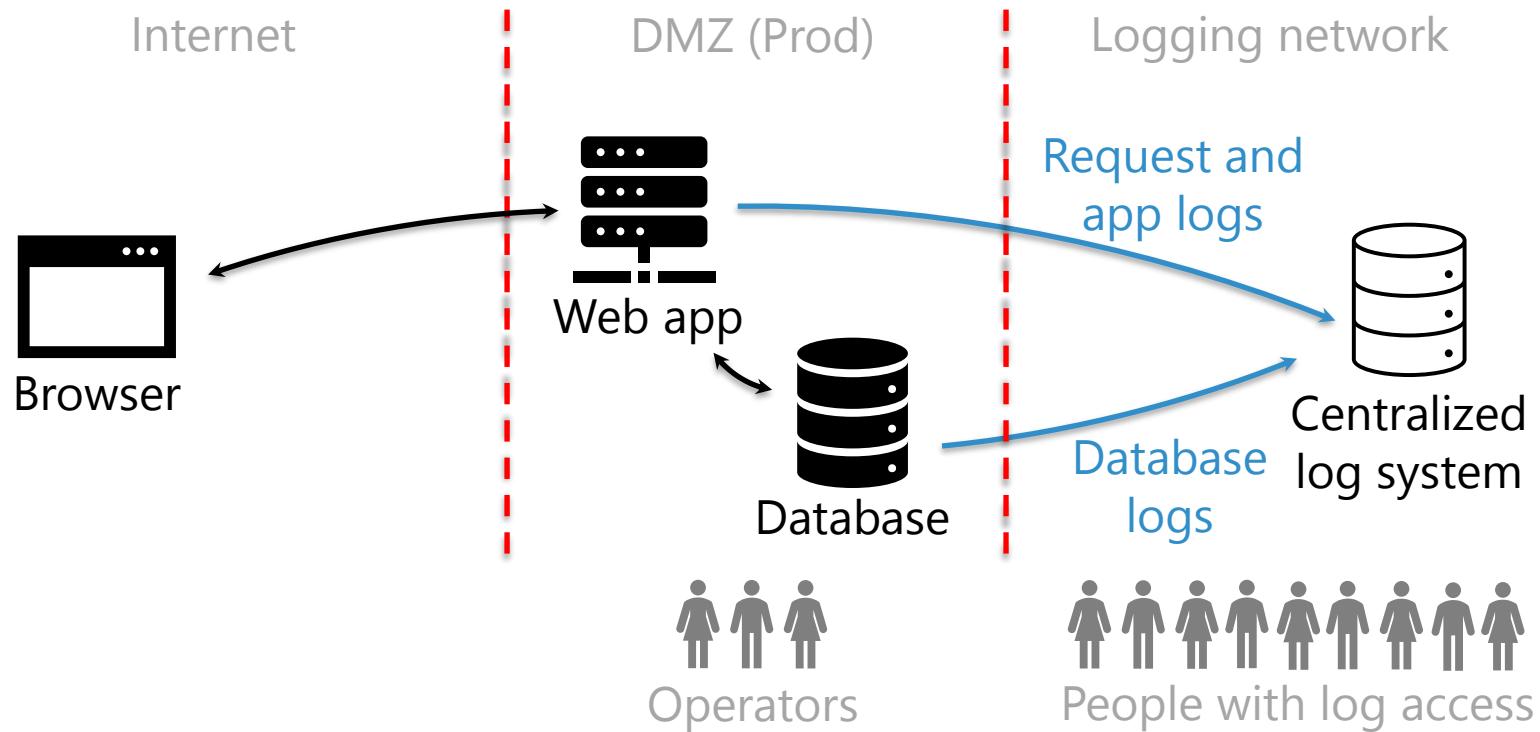


# Security-Relevant Events

- Validation failures
- Authentication events
- Authorization failures
- Session management failures
- Exceptions
- System start-ups and shut-downs
- Use of high-risk functionality
- Legal opt-ins



# Logs Outside the Trust Boundary



# What *Not* To Log?

**Logs might end up outside the **trust boundary** of your system. Don't log**

- PII
- Request bodies
- Session and security tokens
- API keys, passwords, connection strings, and other credentials
- Encryption keys and other secrets
- Data above the criticality level the logging system is designed for



# How To Log?

1. **When:** 2021-05-10 16:52:01 UTC
2. **Where:** Web shop instance on  
10.0.1.25, HTTPS via port 443, /login  
URL, POST method
3. **Who:** Public IP address 1.2.3.4, user id  
1389751
4. **What:** Level INFO, event ID  
auth.login\_successful, “User  
#1389751 logged in.”



# Logging: General Rules

1. Log in a structural format (e.g., JSON)
2. Standardize the timestamp format
3. Identify the origin via mandatory fields
4. Allow applications to add their own arbitrary data
5. Synchronize time over systems
6. Use request IDs



# OWASP Logging Cheat Sheet

The screenshot shows a web page titled "Logging Cheat Sheet" from the "OWASP Cheat Sheet Series". The page has a blue header bar with the title and a search bar. To the right, there's a sidebar with a "Table of contents" listing various sections. The main content area contains introductory text and a detailed explanation of application logging.

OWASP Cheat Sheet Series

Search

OWASP/CheatSheetSeries  
☆ 16.4k 2.4k

## Logging Cheat Sheet

### Introduction

This cheat sheet is focused on providing developers with concentrated guidance on building application logging mechanisms, especially related to security logging.

Many systems enable network device, operating system, web server, mail server and database server logging, but often custom application event logging is missing, disabled or poorly configured. It provides much greater insight than infrastructure logging alone. Web application (e.g. web site or web service) logging is much more than having web server logs enabled (e.g. using Extended Log File Format).

Application logging should be consistent within the application, consistent across an organization's application portfolio and use industry standards where relevant, so the logged event data can be consumed, correlated, analyzed and managed by a wide variety of systems.

### Table of contents

- Introduction
- Purpose
- Design, implementation and testing
  - Event data sources
  - Where to record event data
  - Which events to log
  - Event attributes
  - Data to exclude
  - Customizable logging
  - Event collection
  - Verification
  - Deployment and operation
    - Release
    - Operation

# Logging: Common Pitfalls

## **Not standardizing and synchronizing time.**

- Correlating logs can be a pain if timestamps differ
- The exact time is especially important when lots of logs are produced on different systems
- Strive for an organization-wide standard



# Logging: Common Pitfalls

## **Taking the wrong source IP address.**

- The source IP address of the TCP packet might be your reverse proxy
- Look out for the X-Forwarded-For header
- Make sure to take the right address



# Logging: Common Pitfalls

## Logging too much.

- Analysis is harder under a pile of meaningless logs
- Commercial log systems tend to get expensive on high log load
- Focus on what might be helpful for log analysis



# Logging: Common Pitfalls

## **Not seeing logs as production data.**

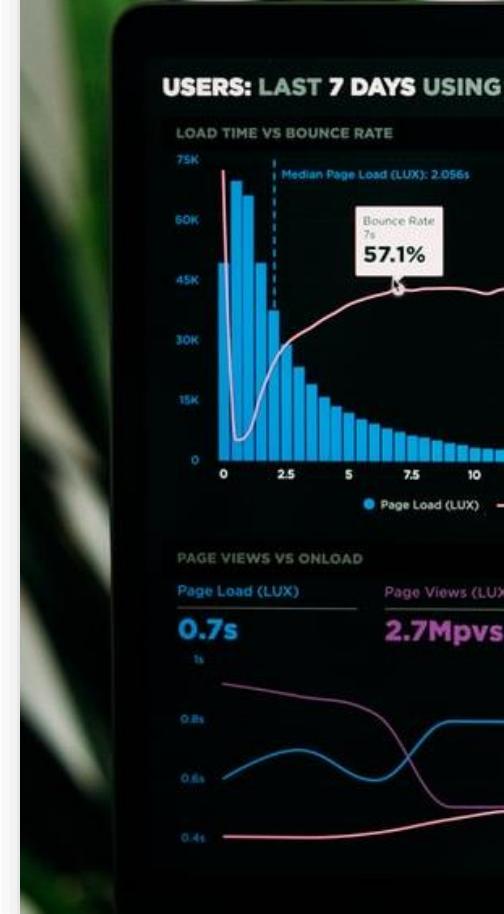
- Some sort of sensitive data will end up there.
- Centralized logging systems are rarely within the trust boundary.
- Account for that.



# Monitoring

**If an attack happens, is anyone going to notice it?**

- On average, compromises stay unnoticed for ~200 days on average [IBM]
- Logs are the base
- Monitoring and alerting brings logs to life



# Monitoring

## When should I alert?

- Security-related events that should rarely happen on normal usage
  - Access denied errors
  - Rare states (log them as WARN)
  - Unexpected exceptions



# Monitoring

## When should I alert?

- Security-related events that should not happen in huge amounts
  - Failed log-in attempts
  - “Not found” errors
  - Resource exhaustion



# Monitoring: Common Pitfalls

## **Not alerting at all.**

- Logs are good, but they're just the base.
- Ask yourself: Would we detect an attack?
- Start with few, important events.



# Monitoring: Common Pitfalls

## Over-alerting.

- Alerting too often will make people ignore the alerts.
- Start simple.
- Aim at detecting the obvious first.



# Incident Management

1. Preparation
2. Identification
3. Containment
4. Eradication
5. Recovery
6. Lessons Learned



# **Incident Management: Essentials**

**Here are some essential steps.**

1. Responsibilities must be clear.
2. Guidance on what to do in the case of an incident must be accessible.
3. Regular trainings and drills will increase the efficiency.



# Configuration Hardening

- Perform configuration hardening of your key components
- Use security best practices from vendors
- Follow established baselines
  - E.g., various [CIS Benchmarks](#) (Apache, nginx, Debian, Red Hat, Kubernetes, AWS, Azure, ...)



Mon

Tue

# Patching & Updating

- Introduce patch process
  - Regular (at least once a month)
- Risk-based approach
  - Patch critical systems first
  - Patch critical components first
  - Patch critical systems more often
- Know your software components ([SBOM](#),  
[CBOM](#), [HBOM](#), ...)
- Track known vulnerabilities (threat intelligence)



# Automate Your Patching

- Unattended OS updates
- Use automation tools e.g., Puppet or Ansible
- Use Infrastructure as Code (IaC)
- Use multiple environments
  - E.g., Test, Staging, Production
- Use automated regression testing



# Courses of Action

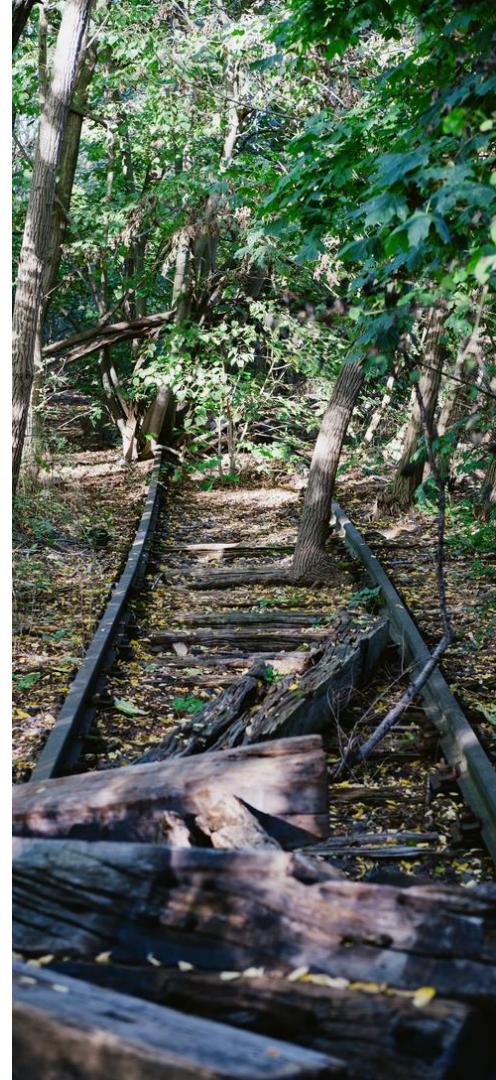
After analyzing the problem, you can pursue multiple roads:

- Update component or install vendor patch
- Remove or replace component
- (Patch vulnerabilities yourself)
- Implement compensating controls
- Accept risk

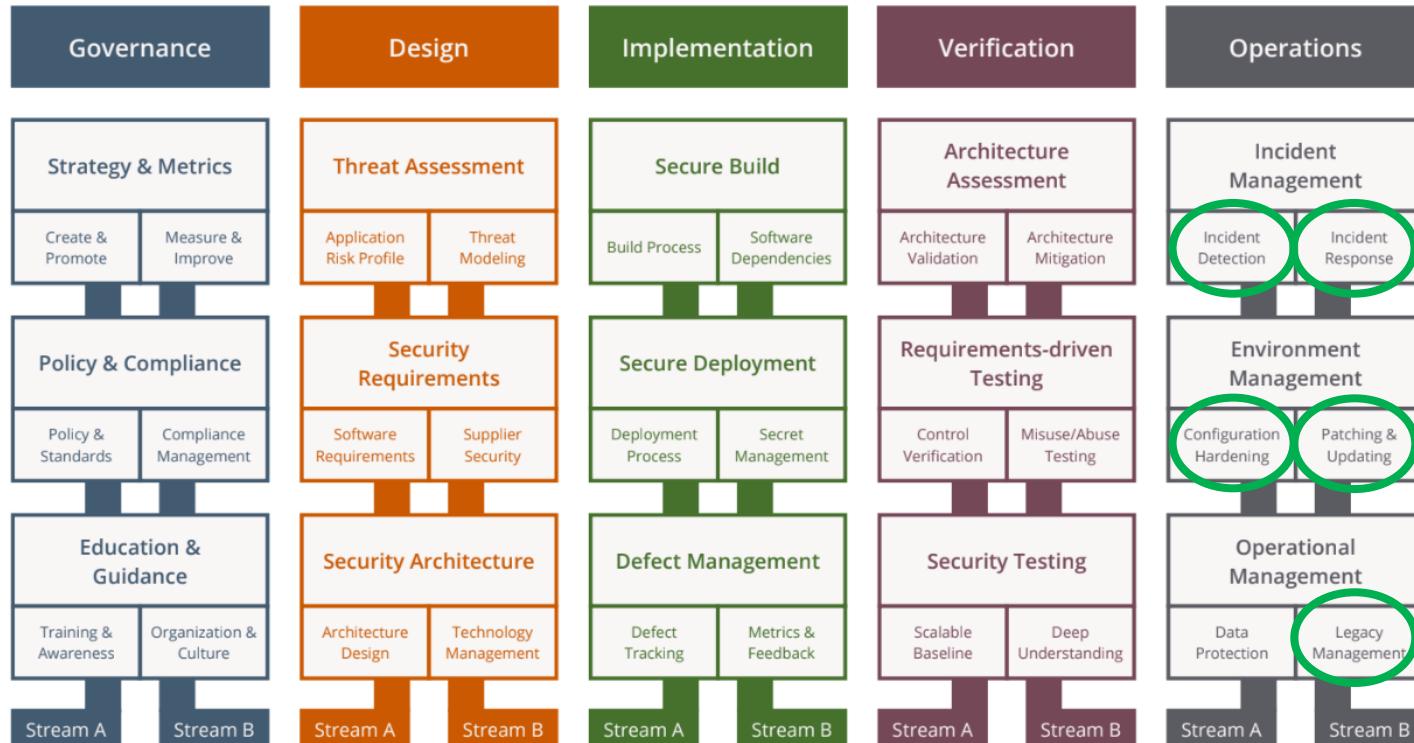


# Decommission & Legacy Management

- Identify unused components
- Track end-of-life (EOL) dates of your major components
- Plan your replacements and major upgrades in advance
- Migrate or disable legacy systems

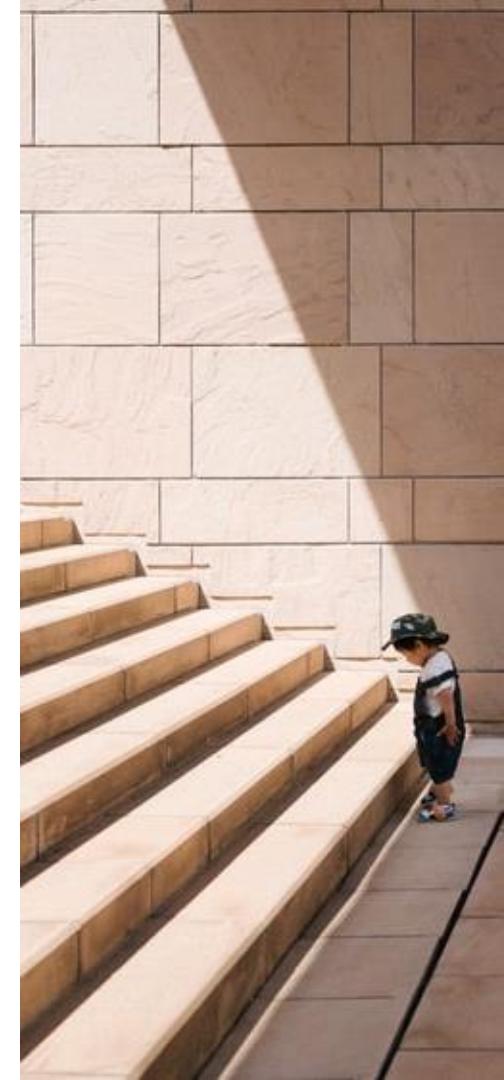


# Where Are We In OWASP SAMM?



# Essentials: Operations and Maintenance

- Agree on how and what to log; Centralize logging
- Normalize time and timestamps
- Treat log data as production data
- Alert on essential events, but don't over-alert
- Establish responsibilities, guidance, and training for incident response
- Introduce regular patching & updating
- Automate patching process
- Keep an eye on your legacy systems





# Quiz!

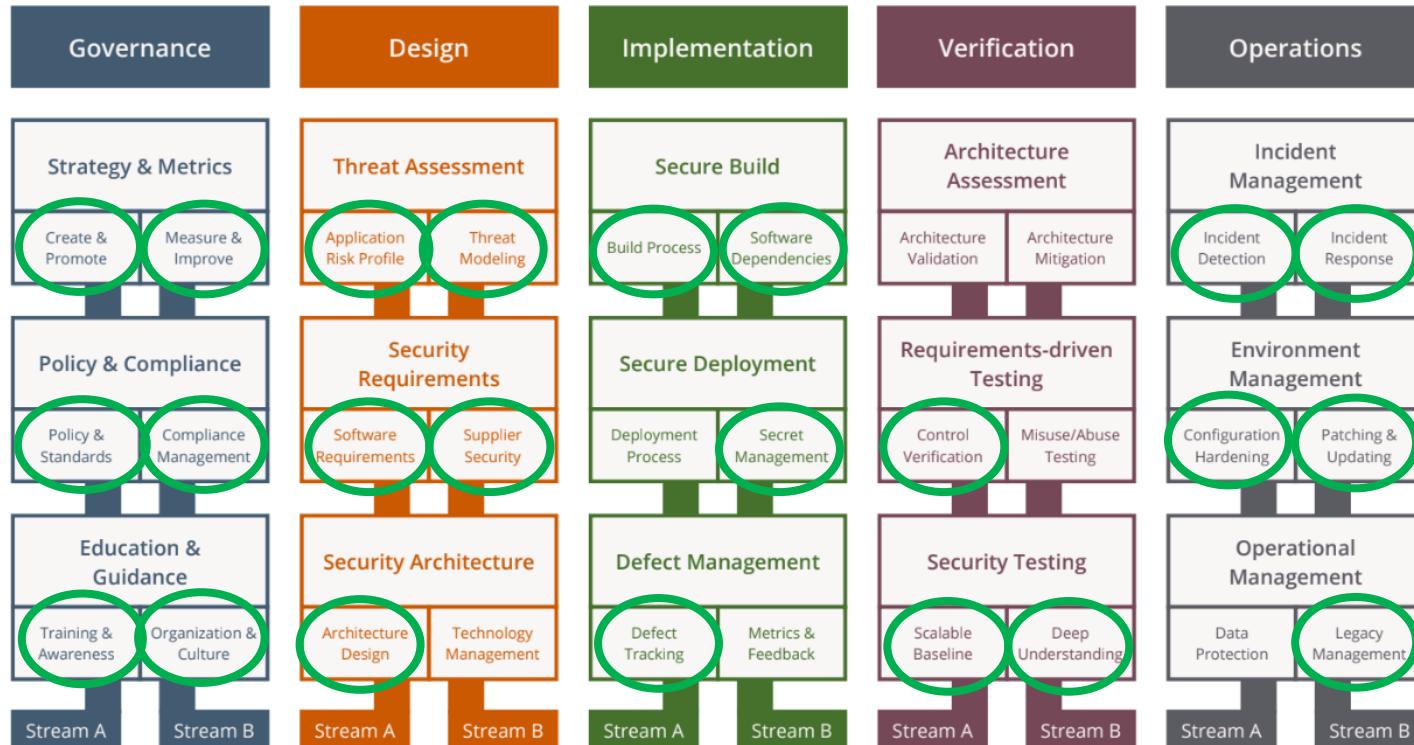
## **Operations and Maintenance**

Visit <https://kahoot.it> and enter the game pin I'll share with you!

# Wrapping Up

Areas covered in OWASP SAMM, key take-aways

# What Did We Cover?



# Key Take-Aways

1. Education has a good ROI.
2. Well-selected and well-tracked security requirements are a key to success.
3. Distinguishing bugs from flaws is key to understanding holistic software security.
4. Establishing trust boundaries is a necessity for many other security activities.
5. Tracking security issues outside the “normal” issues fosters a culture of treating security as “something separate”.

# Key Take-Aways

6. Knowing what tools can and cannot do for your stack will save you from mis-spending time and money.
7. A penetration test is a great assurance tool at the *end* of your test chain.
8. Logs must be treated as production data, unless one can prove otherwise.
9. An effective incident response process consists *at least* of responsibilities, guidance, and trainings.
10. There isn't That One Thing that will solve all your software security problems.



**There isn't That One Thing that will make your  
software security problems go away. Try, fail,  
improve one step, challenge your  
assumptions, learn, share.**

**It's going to be fun.**

# **Andreas Boll**

## **SBA Research**

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 Federal Ministry  
Innovation, Mobility  
and Infrastructure  
Republic of Austria

 Federal Ministry  
Economy, Energy  
and Tourism  
Republic of Austria



 FWF Austrian  
Science Fund

  
netidee  
FÖRDERUNGEN