



# Web Application Security Strategies -- OWASP Taiwan 2008

**OWASP**

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# Agenda

- Security Problems and Statistics
- Analysis
- Strategic Planning
- Conclusion

# Yen-Ming Chen

- Director of Consulting, Northwest.
- Joined Foundstone in 2000
- 4 Contributing authorships: HE 3rd edition, HE of Web App, Win XP professional Security and HackNote Web security
- Dozens of articles in SecurityFocus, DevX, SysAdmin, PCWeek, CNET Taiwan, ITHome and other medias
- Invited speaker for world wide security conferences
- MSIN from C.M.U. Information Networking Institute (1999)

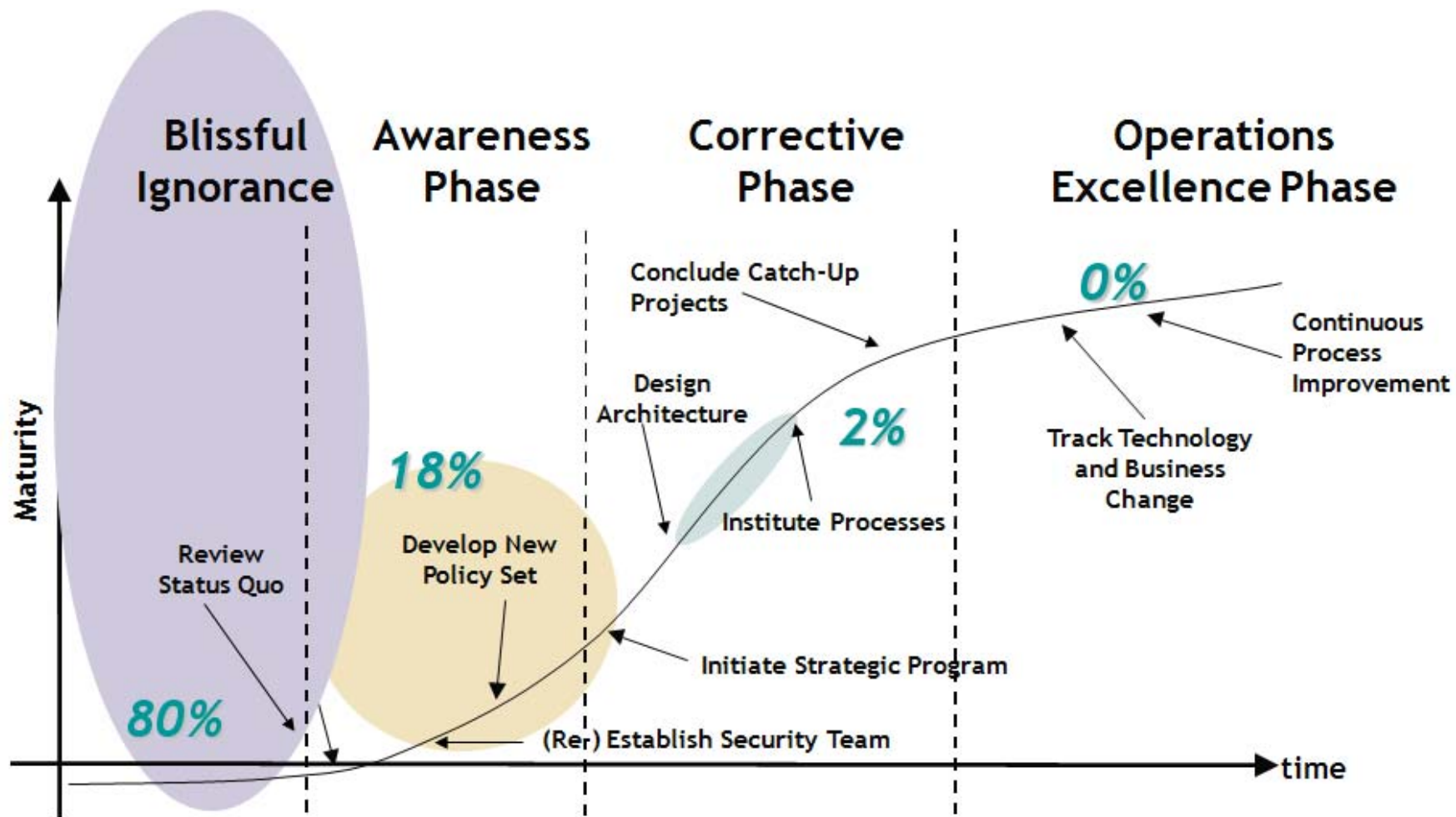
*Thus do many calculations lead to victory, and few calculations to defeat*

# SECURITY PROBLEMS

# Current Status

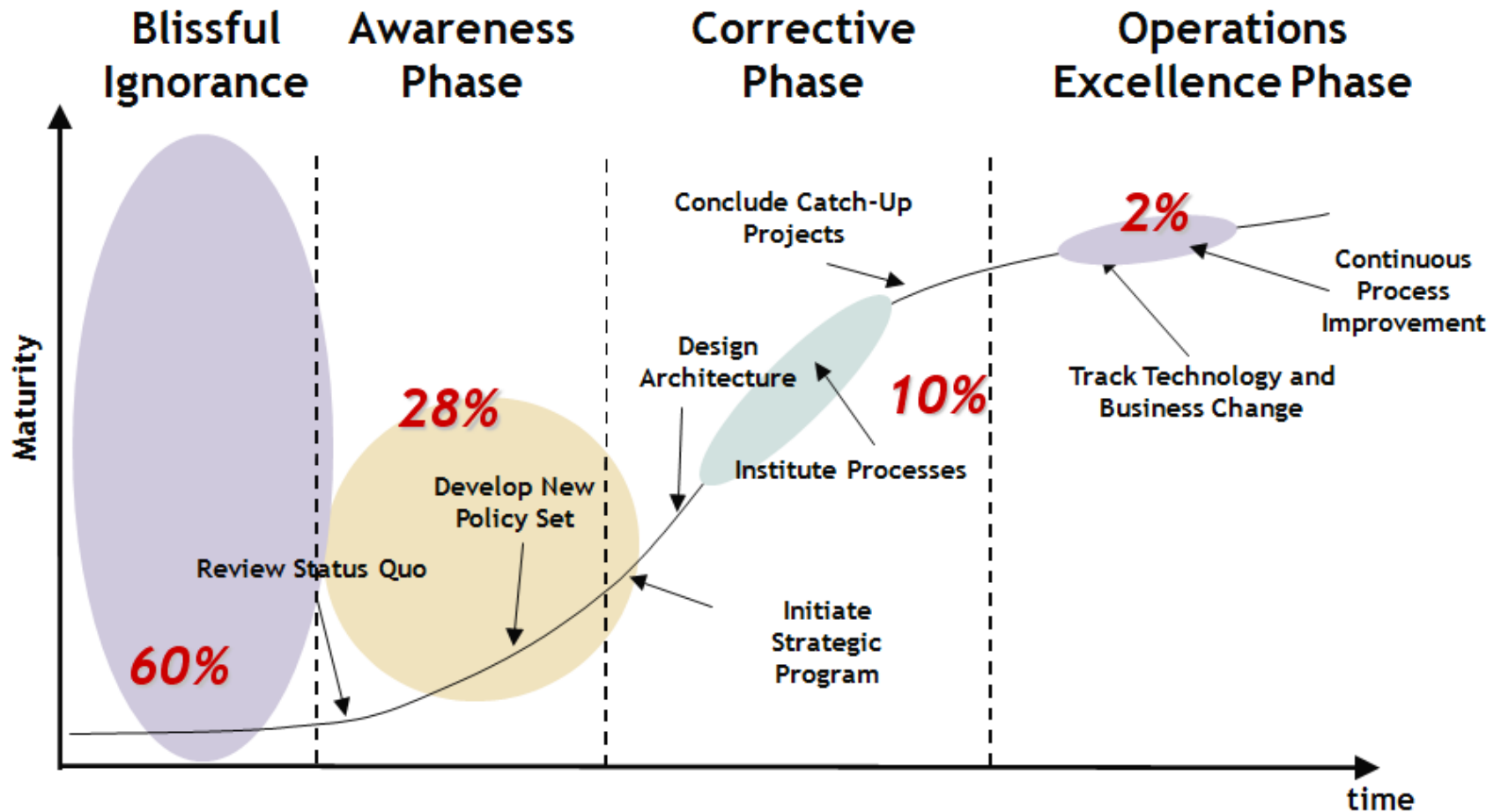
- Security Maturity
- Attack Target Shift
- Security Ecosystem
- SQL Injection
- Why You Still Can't Rely on Automated Tools

# Information Security Maturity: 1996



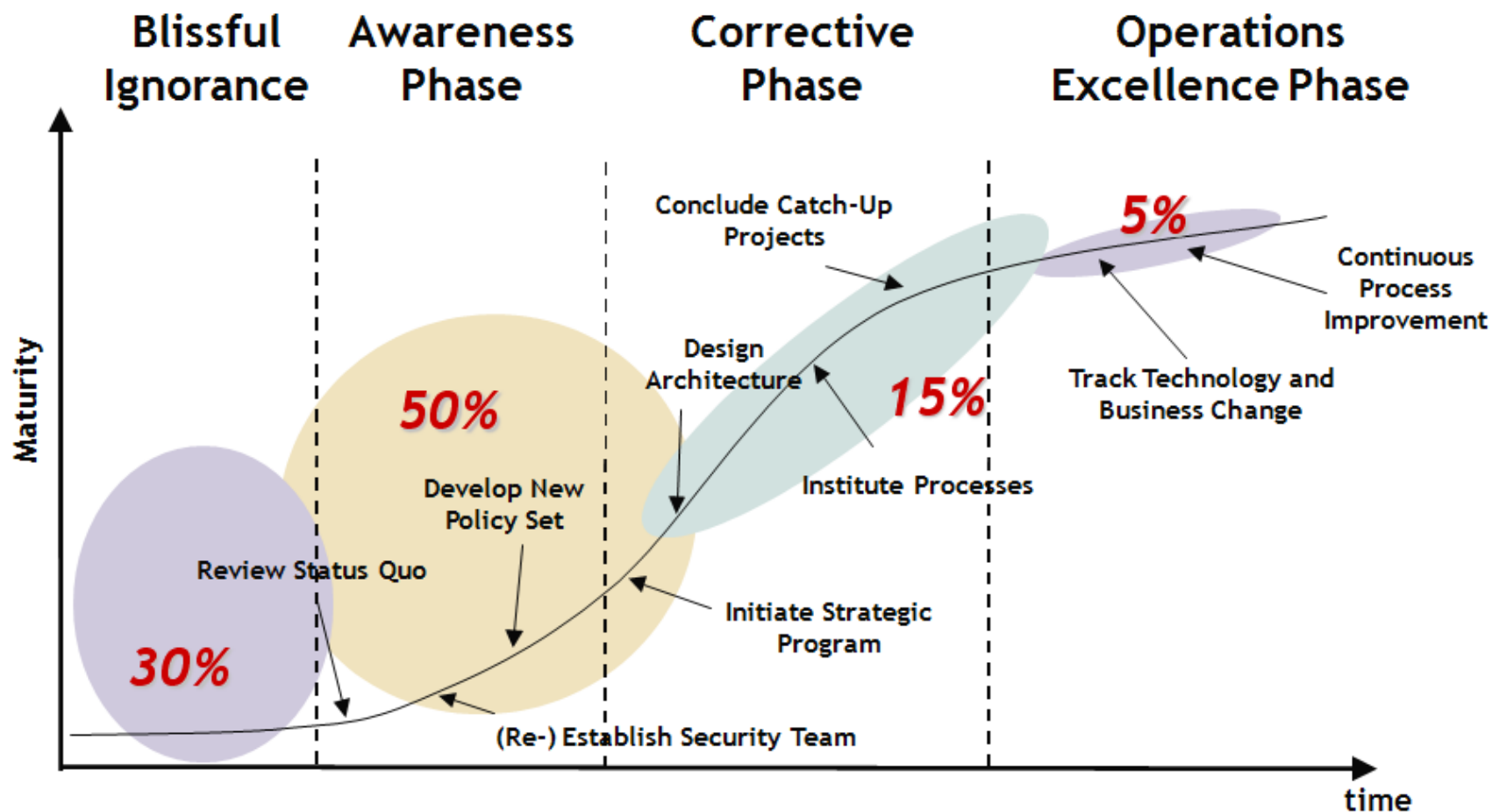
NOTE: Population distributions represent typical, large G2000-type organizations

# Information Security Maturity: 2000



NOTE: Population distributions represent typical, large G2000-type organizations

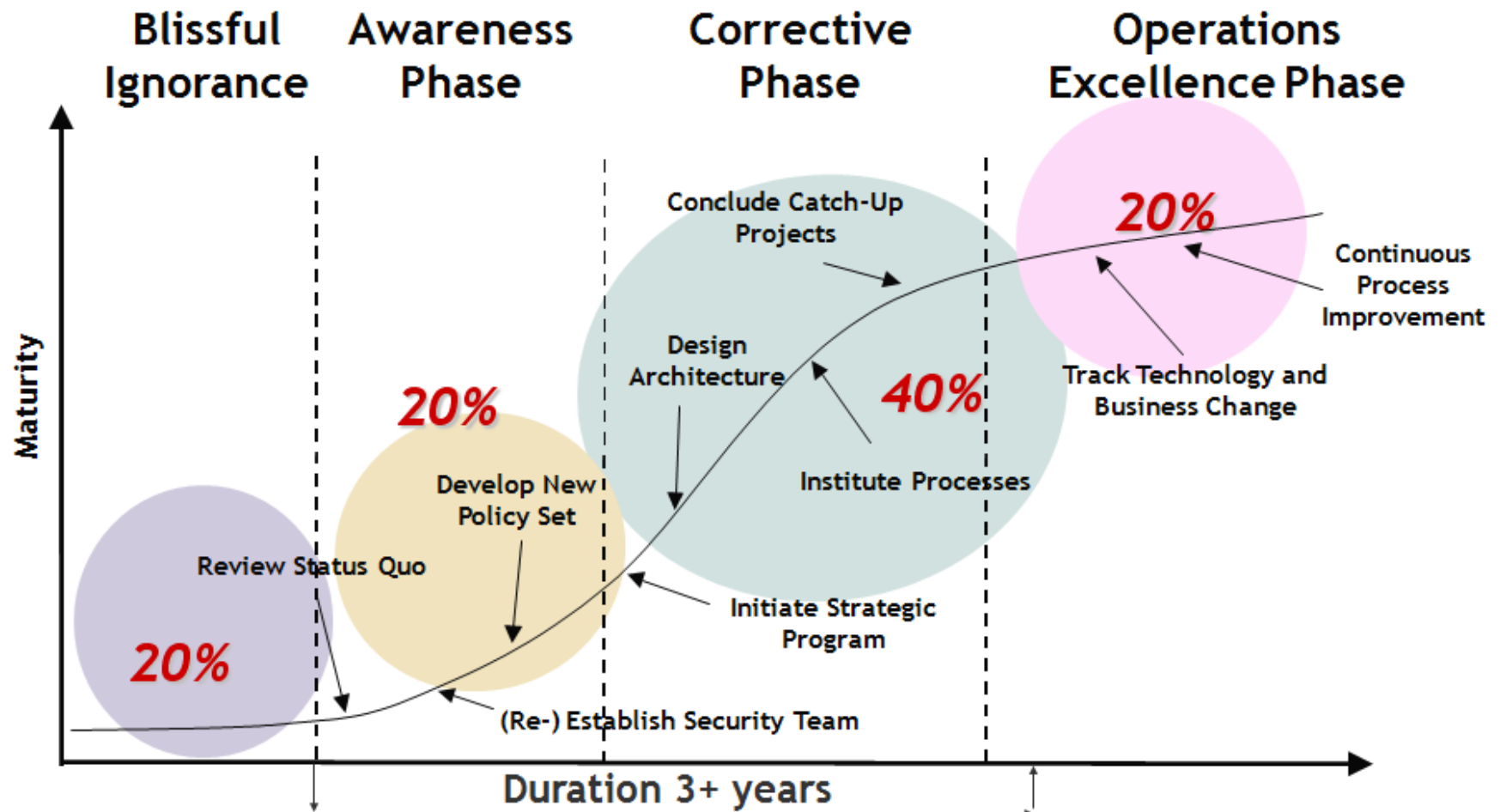
# Information Security Maturity: 2004



NOTE: Population distributions represent typical, large G2000-type organizations



# Information Security Maturity: 2008



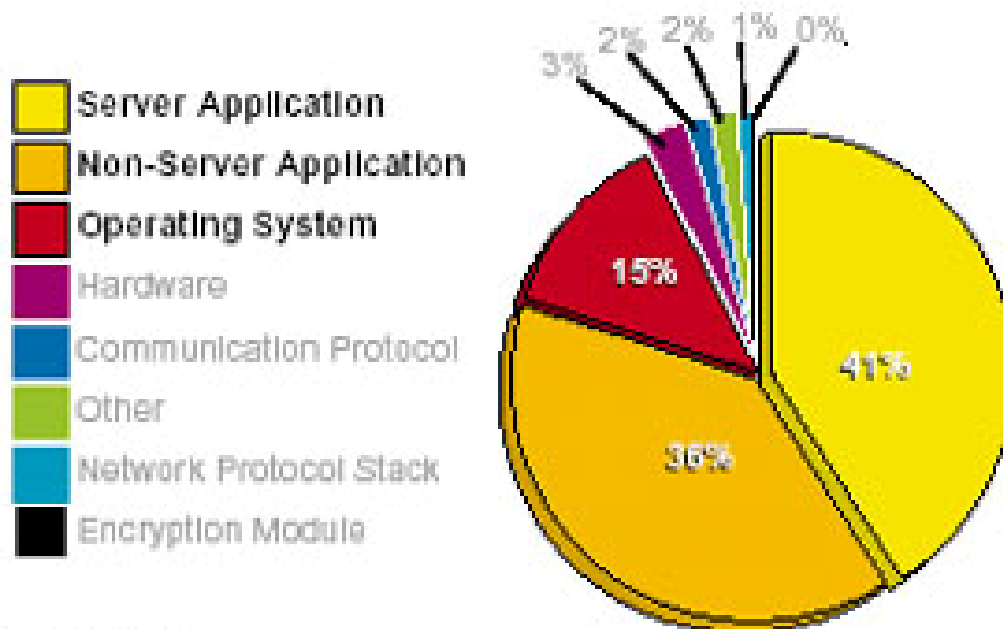
# Attack Target Shift

- From server to application; from corporate network to every user.

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## Target: Applications At Risk

92% of reported vulnerabilities are in applications, not networks

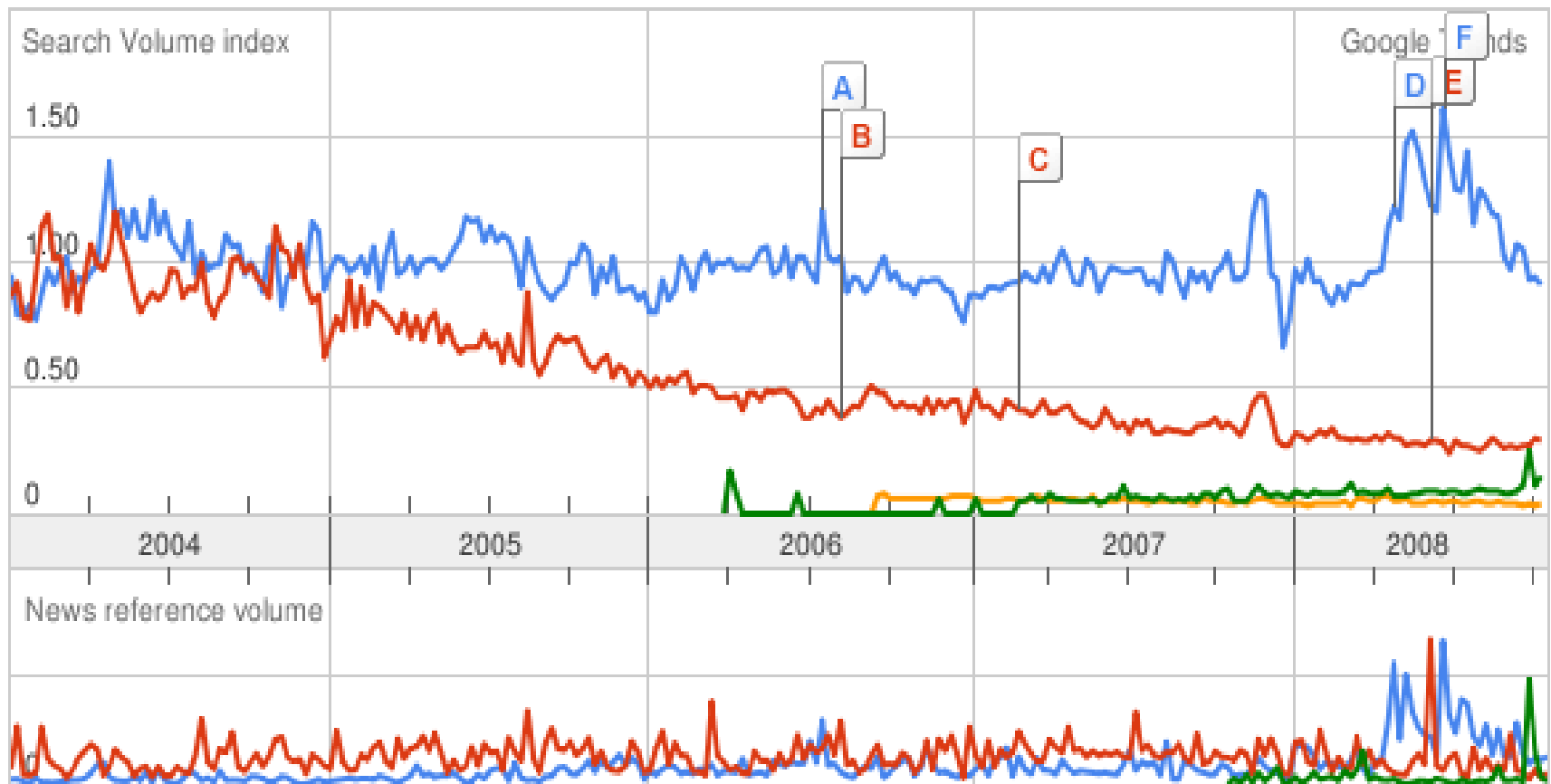


SOURCE: NIST

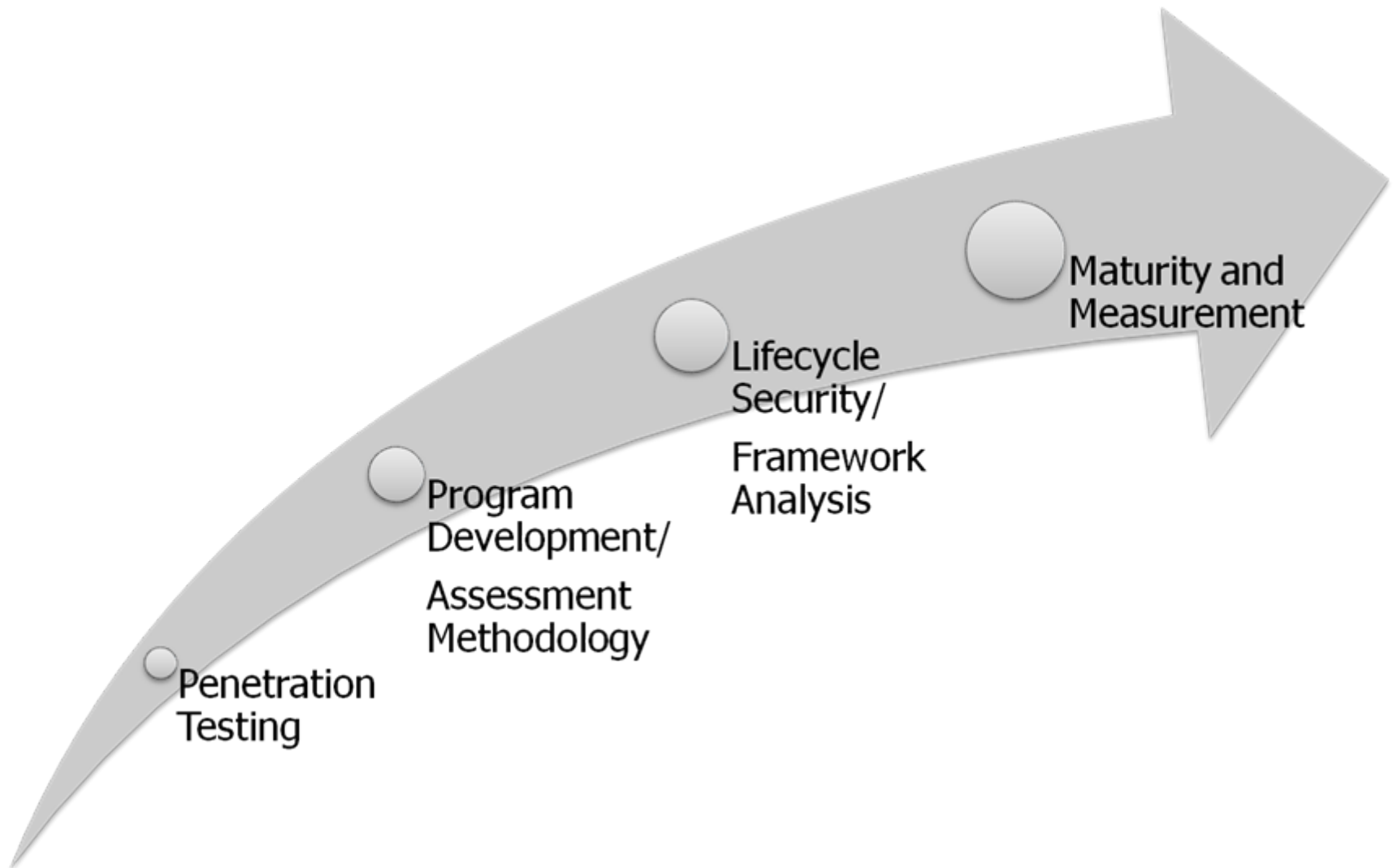


# Google Search Trend

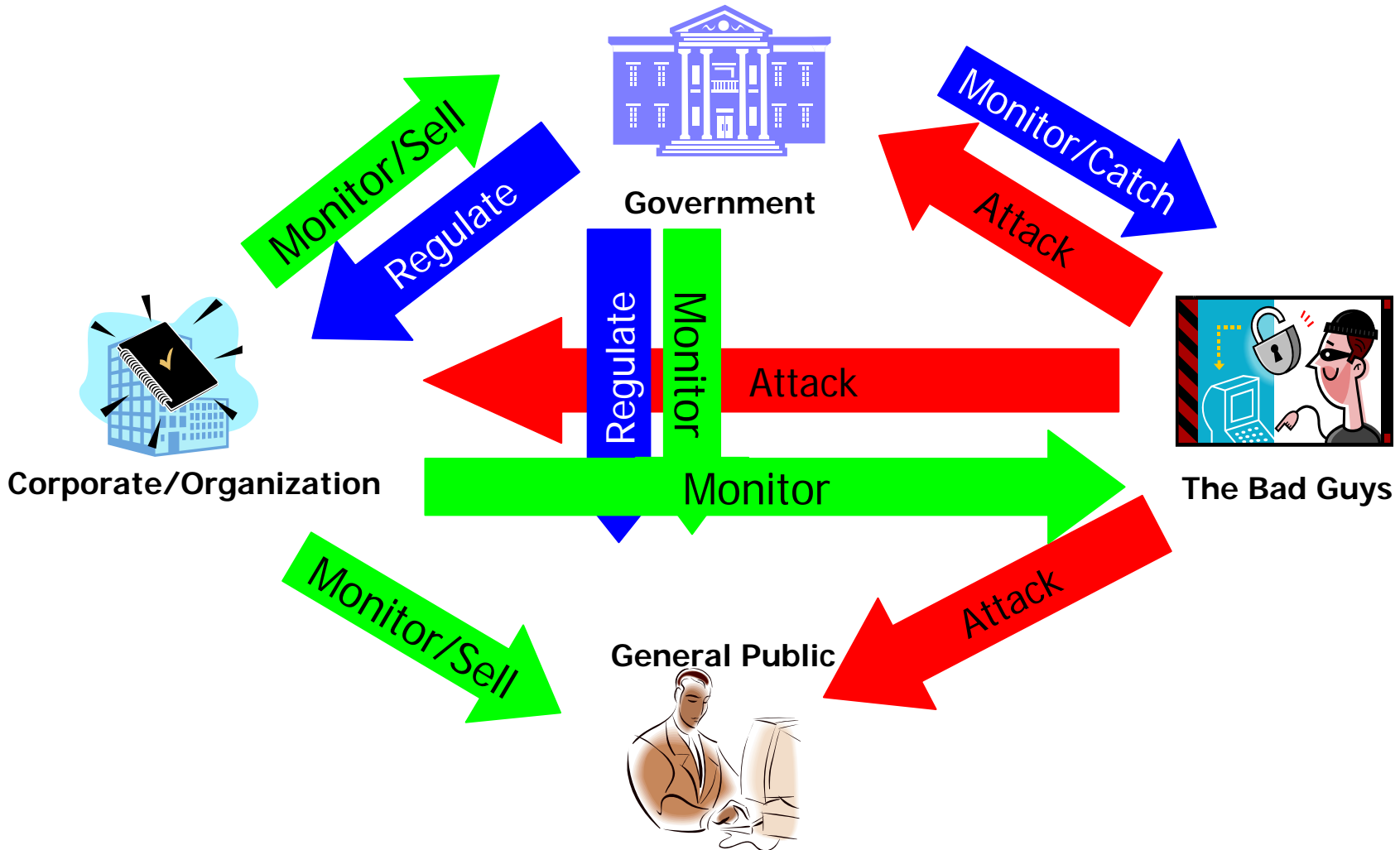
sql injection 1.00    buffer overflow 0.58    cross-site scripting 0.02  
csrf 0.03



# Hacking Evolved

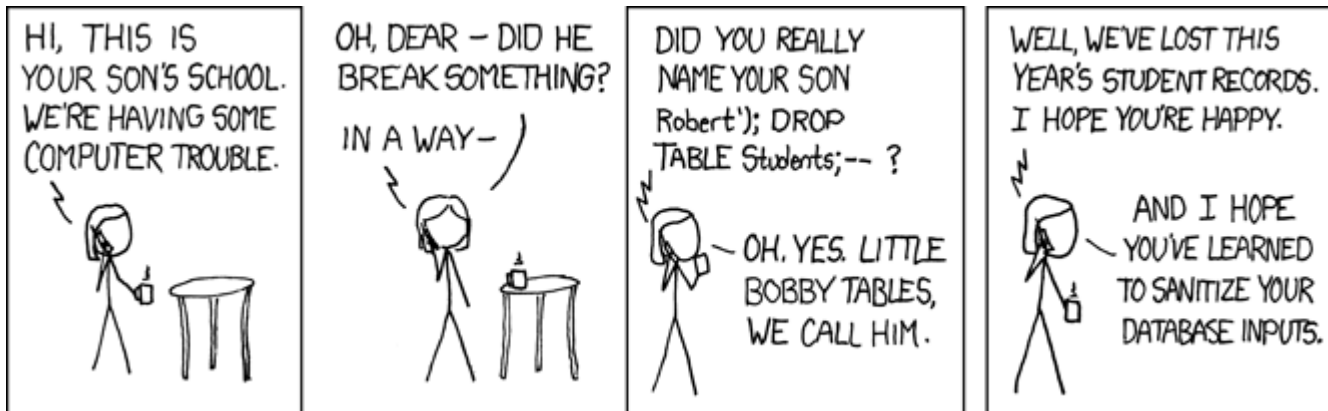


# Security EcoSystem



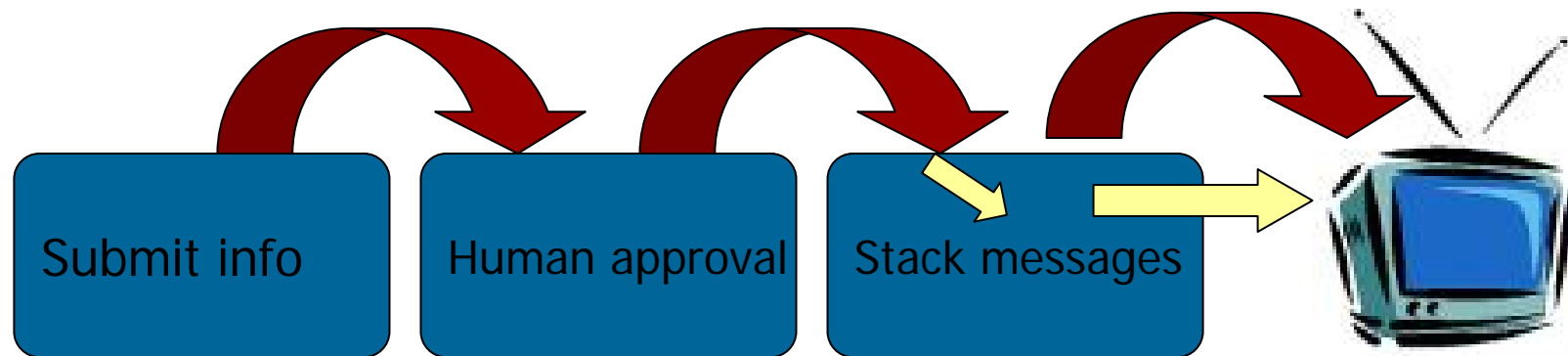
# SQL Injection

- RFP (Rain Forest Puppy) identified the problem in Phrack 54 (December 1998)
  - ▶ <http://www.phrack.org/issues.html?issue=54&id=8#article>
- In 2005, Cardsystem lost 40 million credit card info
- In 2008, an automated mass attack of 500,000 (estimated) web servers
  - ▶ Yes, using SQL Injection!
- Exploits of a mom (<http://xkcd.com/327/>):



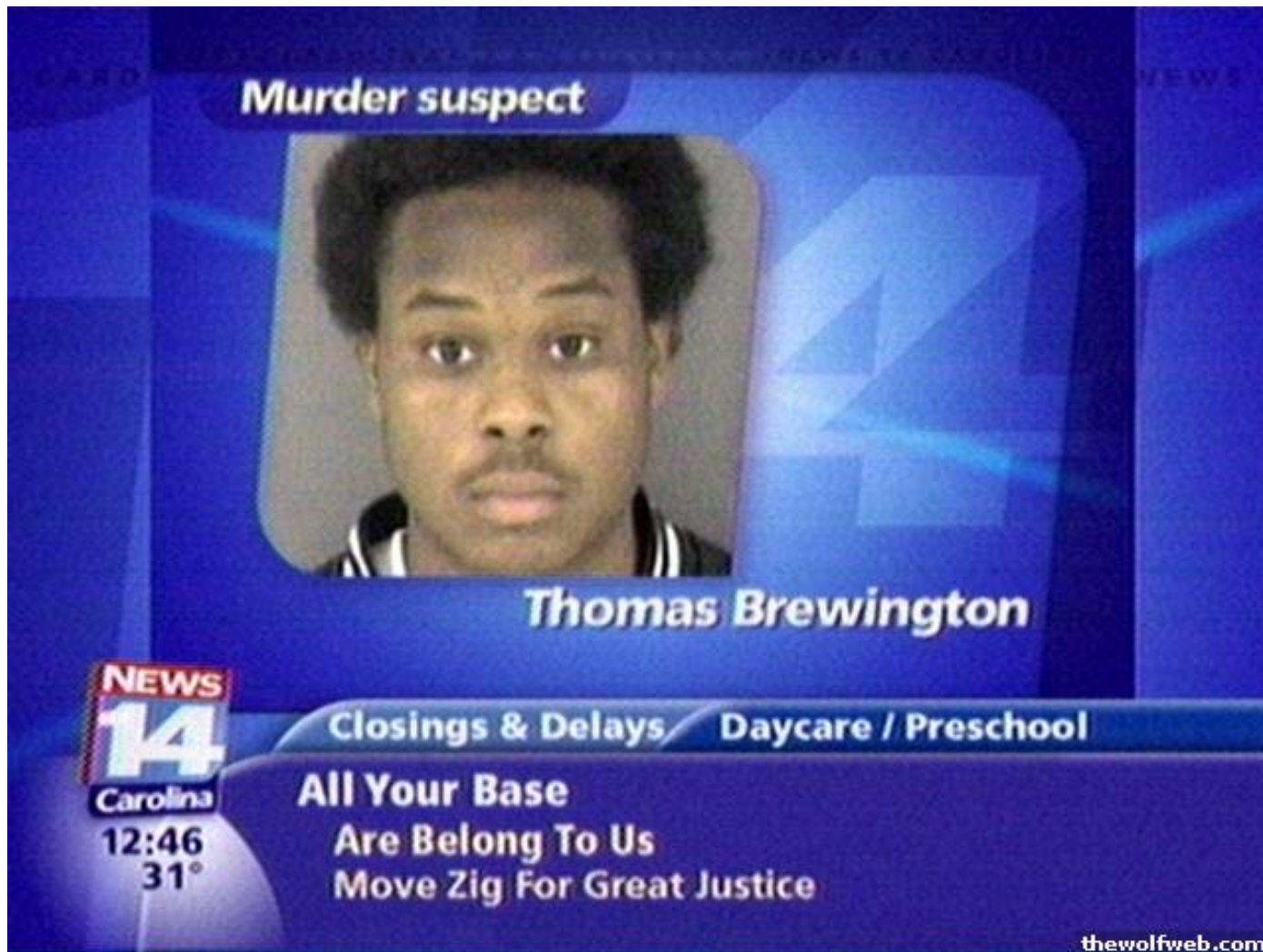
# Why You Still Can't Rely on Automated Tools?

- North Carolina News 13
- Web-based "closings" ticker for schools/businesses



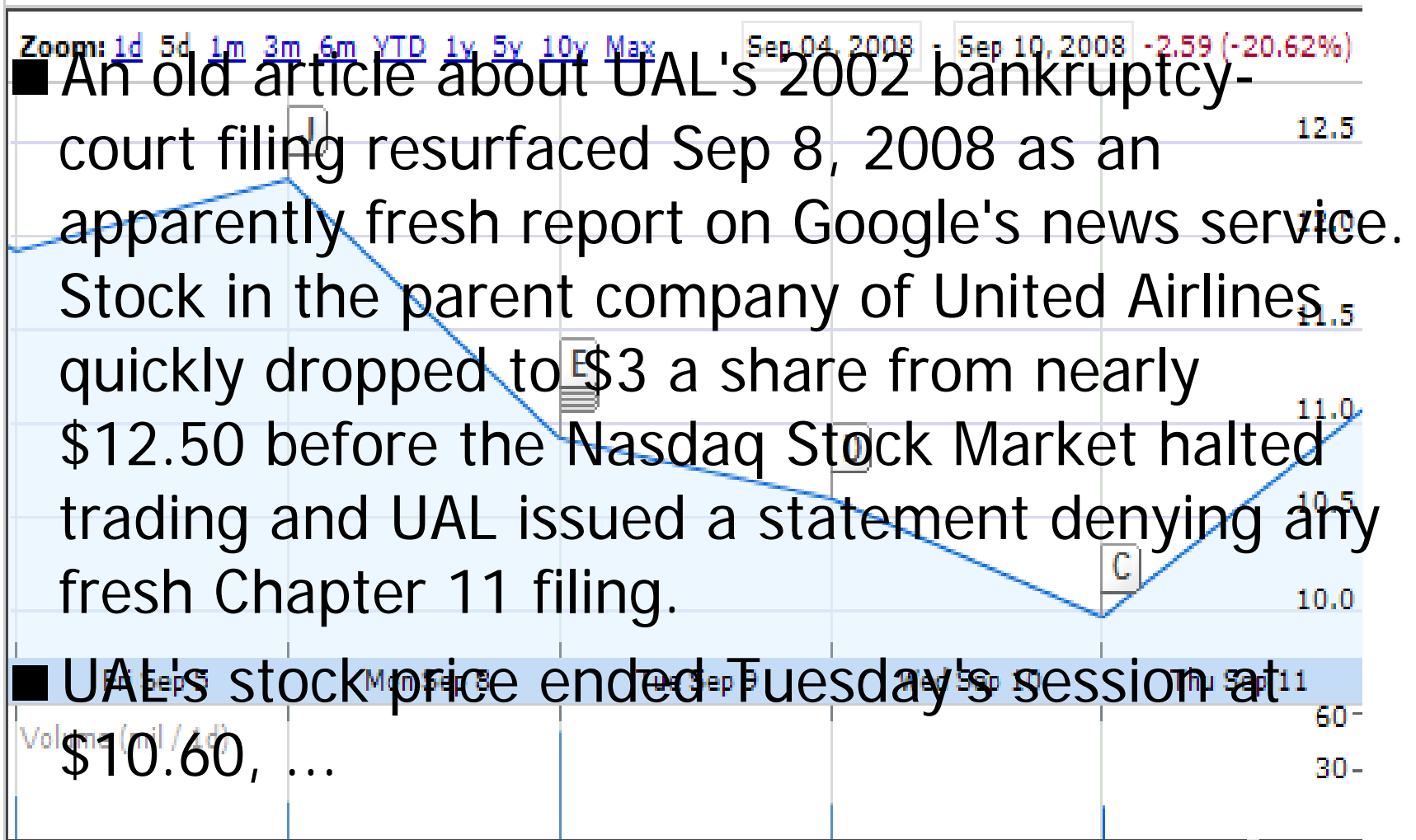
<http://tinyurl.com/pwpec>

# This is What You See...





# UAL vs. Google



# UAL vs. Google

Sep 6, 2008  
10:36pm PDT,

A new link to  
the UAL story  
was found

Sep 8, 2008

UAL stocks  
dropped from  
\$12 to \$3

**\$1.1 Billion market value  
disappeared in a few hours!!!**

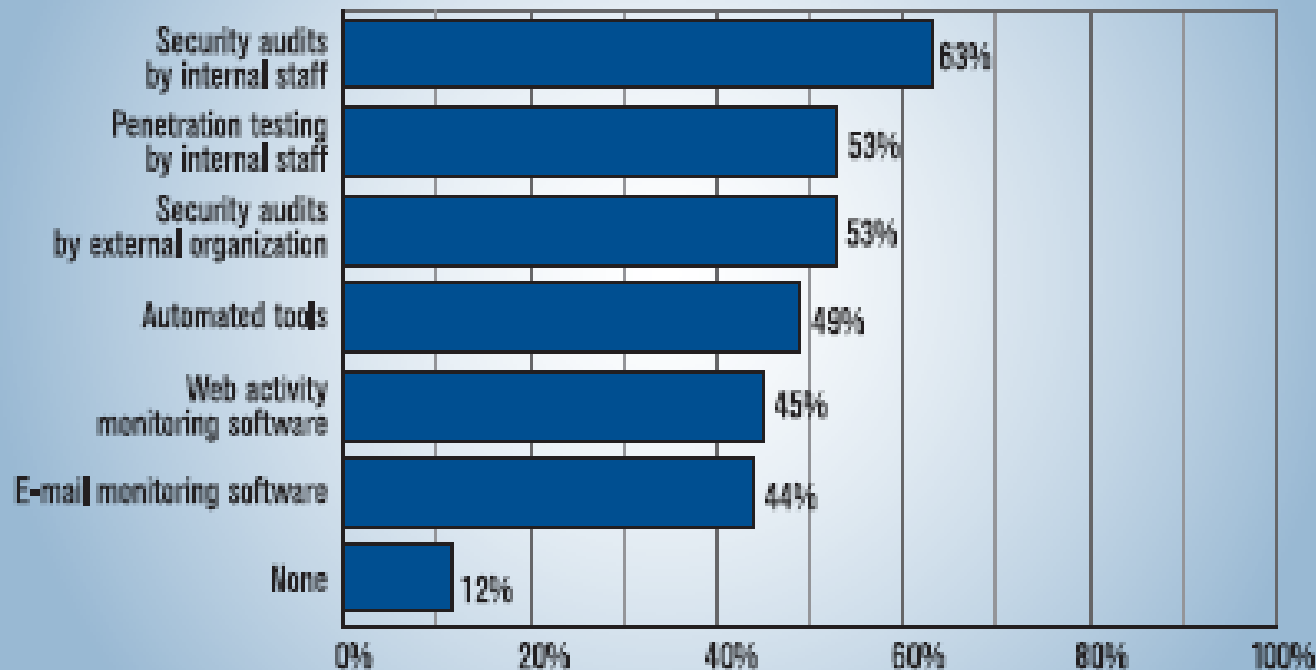
Google news  
took and  
indexed the link



# Some Survey Data

**Figure 20. Techniques Used to Evaluate Effectiveness of Security Technology**

By Percent of Respondents



CSI 2007 Computer Crime and Security Survey

Source: Computer Security Institute

2007: 475 Respondents

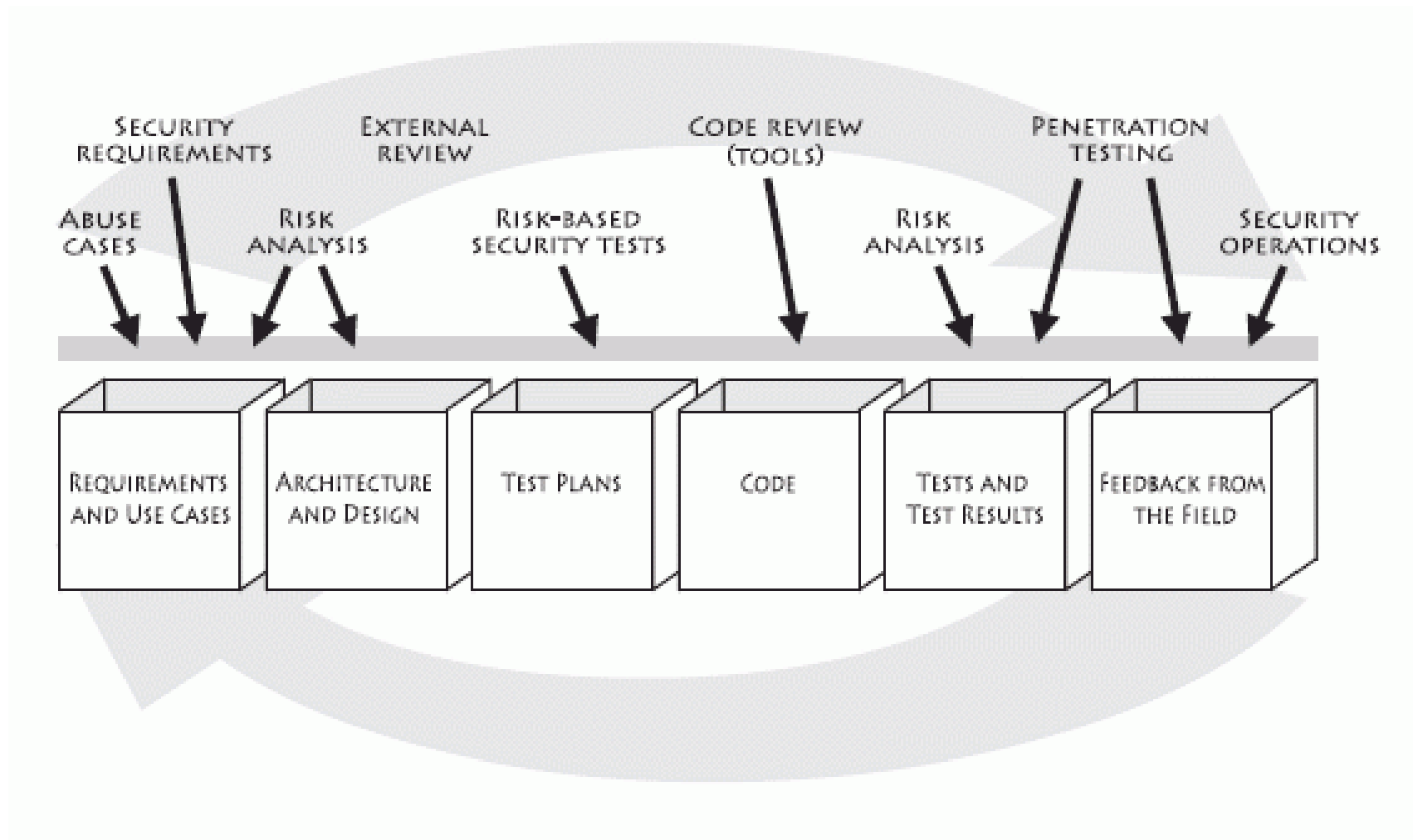
CSI 2007 Computer Crime and Security Survey  
Source: Computer Security Institute

Source: CSI respondents

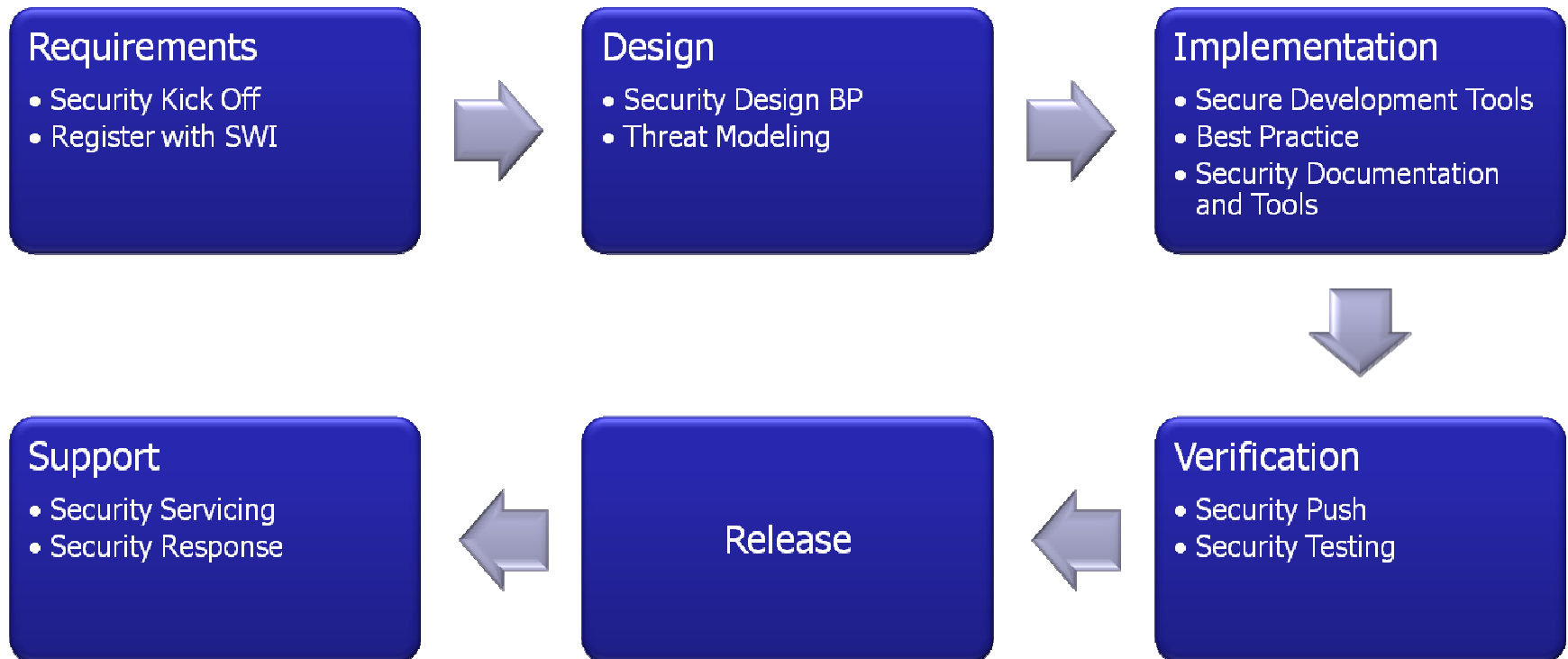
OWASP



# McGraw Touchpoint Secure SDLC



# Microsoft SDL



# Where are things going?

- Penetration testing is still how a lot of companies are going to assess their security
- Frameworks/libraries/etc are going to make shooting yourself in the foot harder (xss, SQLi, etc)
- “Silver Bullet” devices/technologies are always going to be around
- SDL is starting to show proven results





# What's Next?

- Security research is chasing after new technologies
  - ▶ New vulns on different products will happen daily
  - ▶ Better accuracies from security products
  - ▶ Slower to see new paradigm shift
- Integrate security into your daily life
  - ▶ Corporate M&A
  - ▶ Need better management on execution
  - ▶ New technologies to make it harder to make unsecure web applications
- Learn from other fields
  - ▶ Knowledge Discovery, Data Mining & Information Retrieval
  - ▶ Biology, Physics, Social Science and others



*Whoever is first in the field and awaits the coming of the enemy,  
will be fresh for the fight*

# WEB APPLICATION SECURITY

# 2007-2008 Analysis

- Collected 77 Applications in 5 industries
- Picked 27 out of them and did further study
- Arranged findings based on
  - ▶ Foundstone Security Framework,
  - ▶ Overall risk level and
  - ▶ Root cause in SDLC phases

# Foundstone Security Framework

## Configuration Management

- Secure deployment and hardening. Issues will include default deployment settings and administrative access

## Data Protection

- Handling of sensitive data as it is at rest in files and databases or as it is transmitted across the network

## Authentication & Authorization

- Access to protected resources and kinds of controls on such access. How identities are verified.

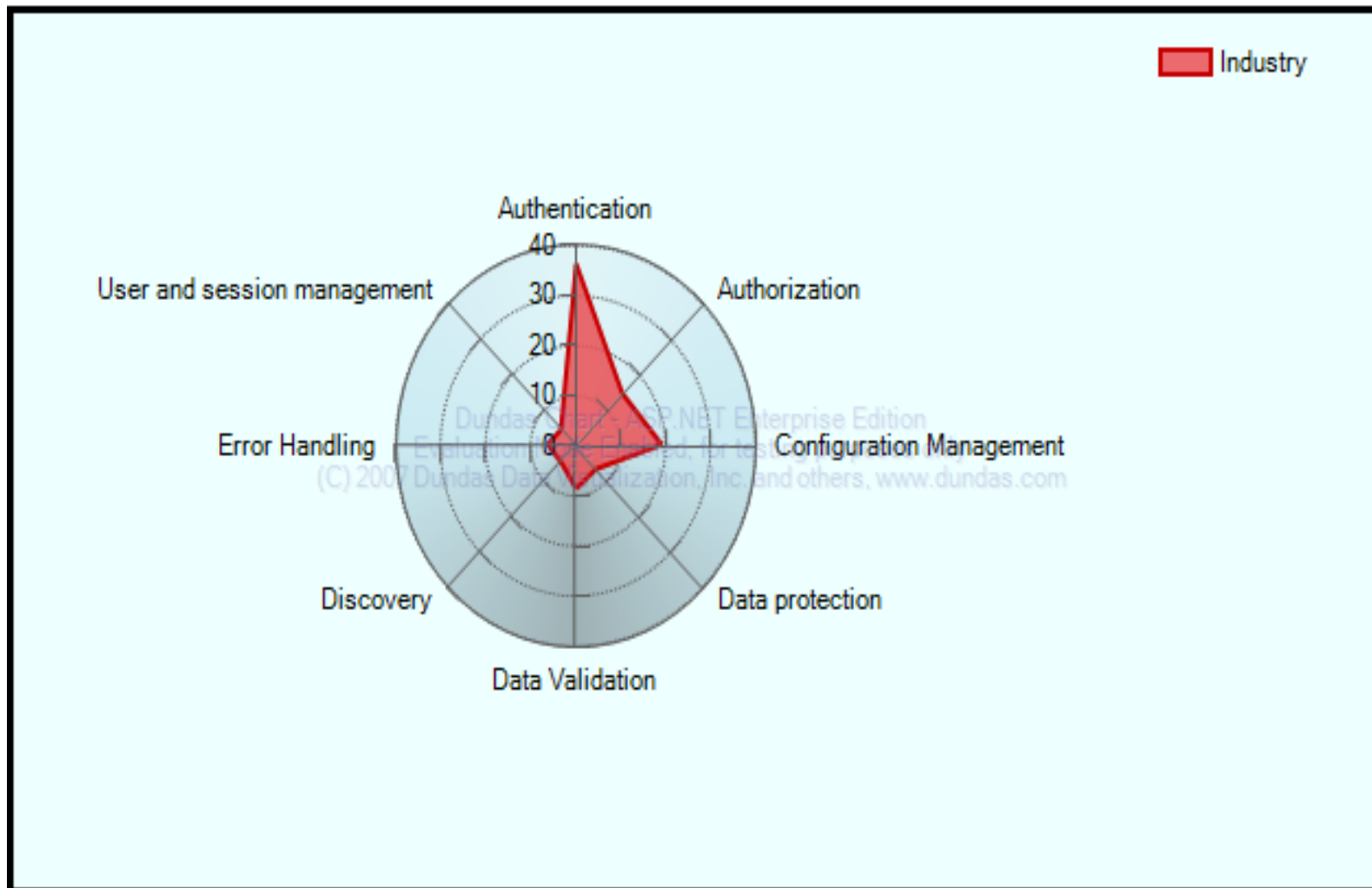
## Logging & Auditing

- What information is logged and where it is logged. Can information act as audit trail?

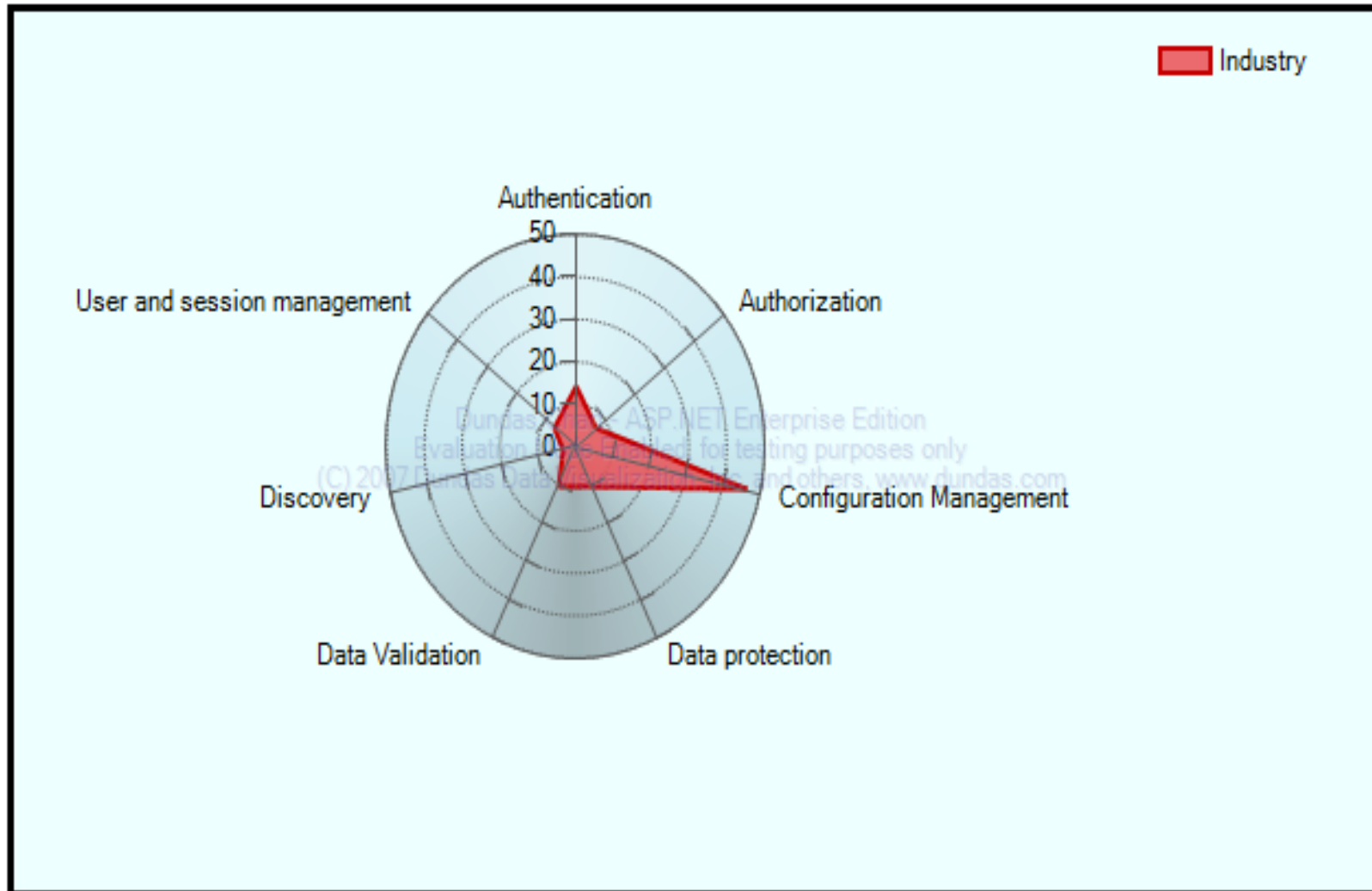
## Data Validation and Exception Management

- How the application performed data validation on both input and output and how exceptions are being handled without information leakage

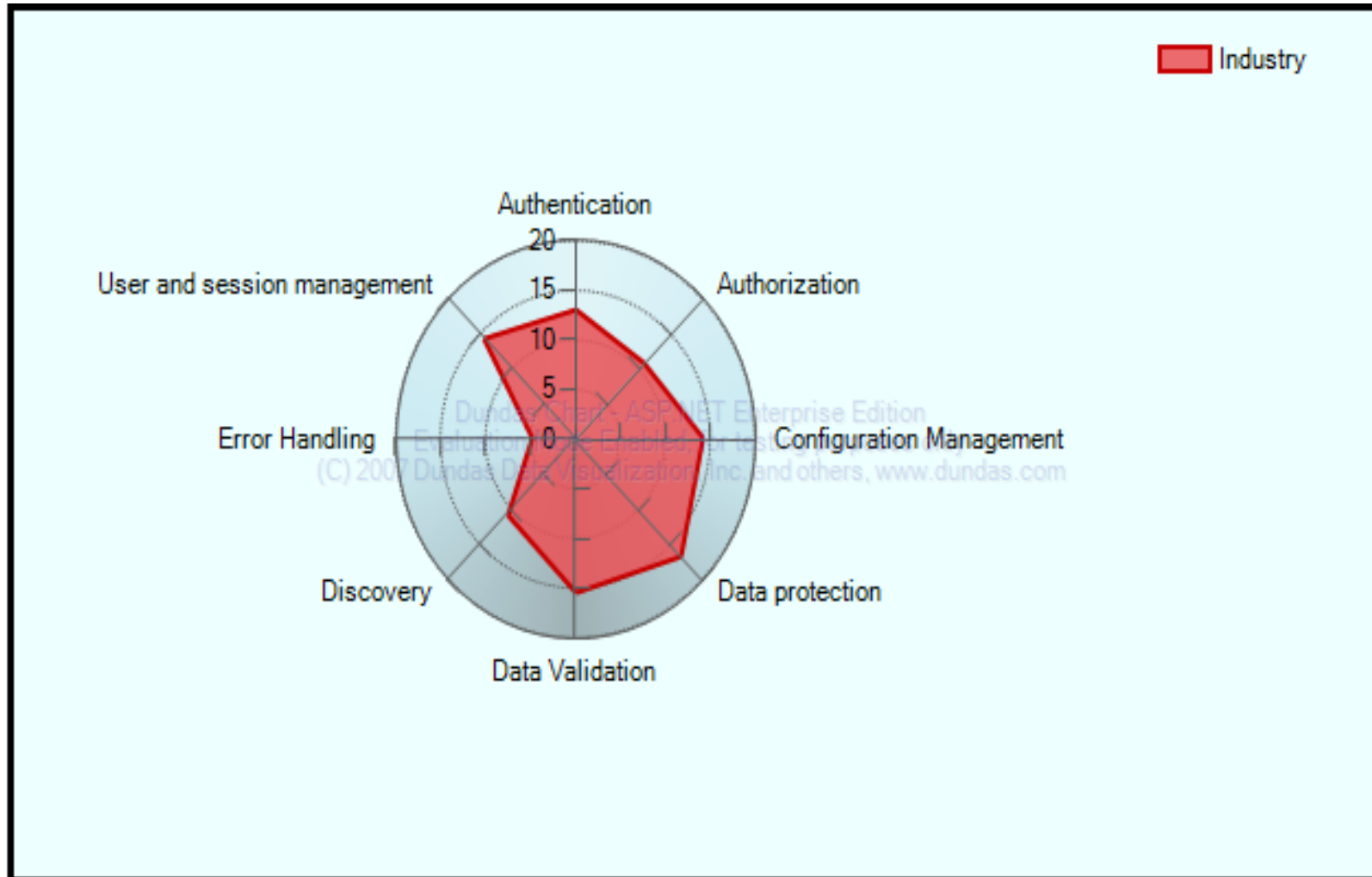
# Financial Services – 15 Apps



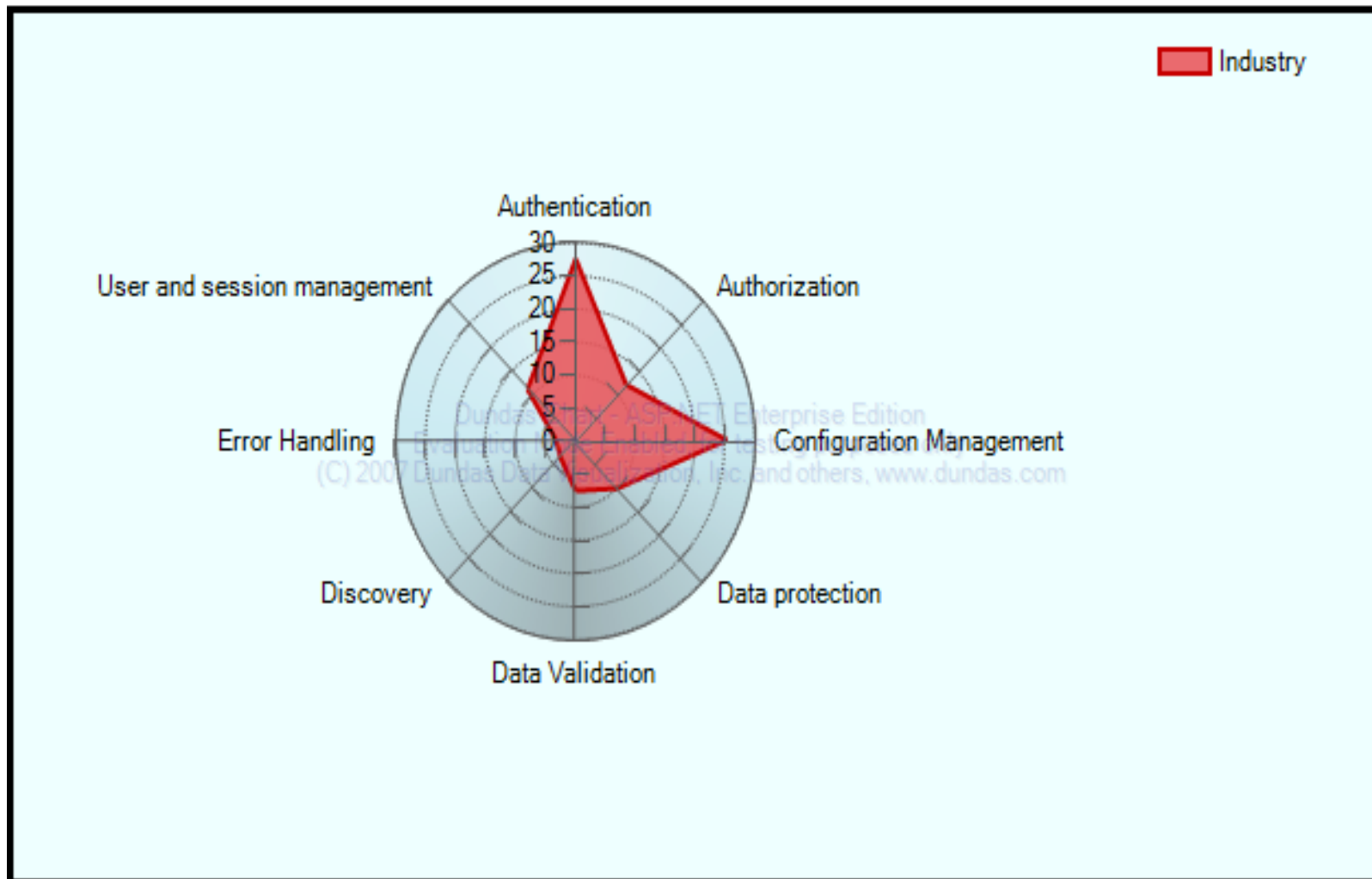
# Healthcare – 12 Apps



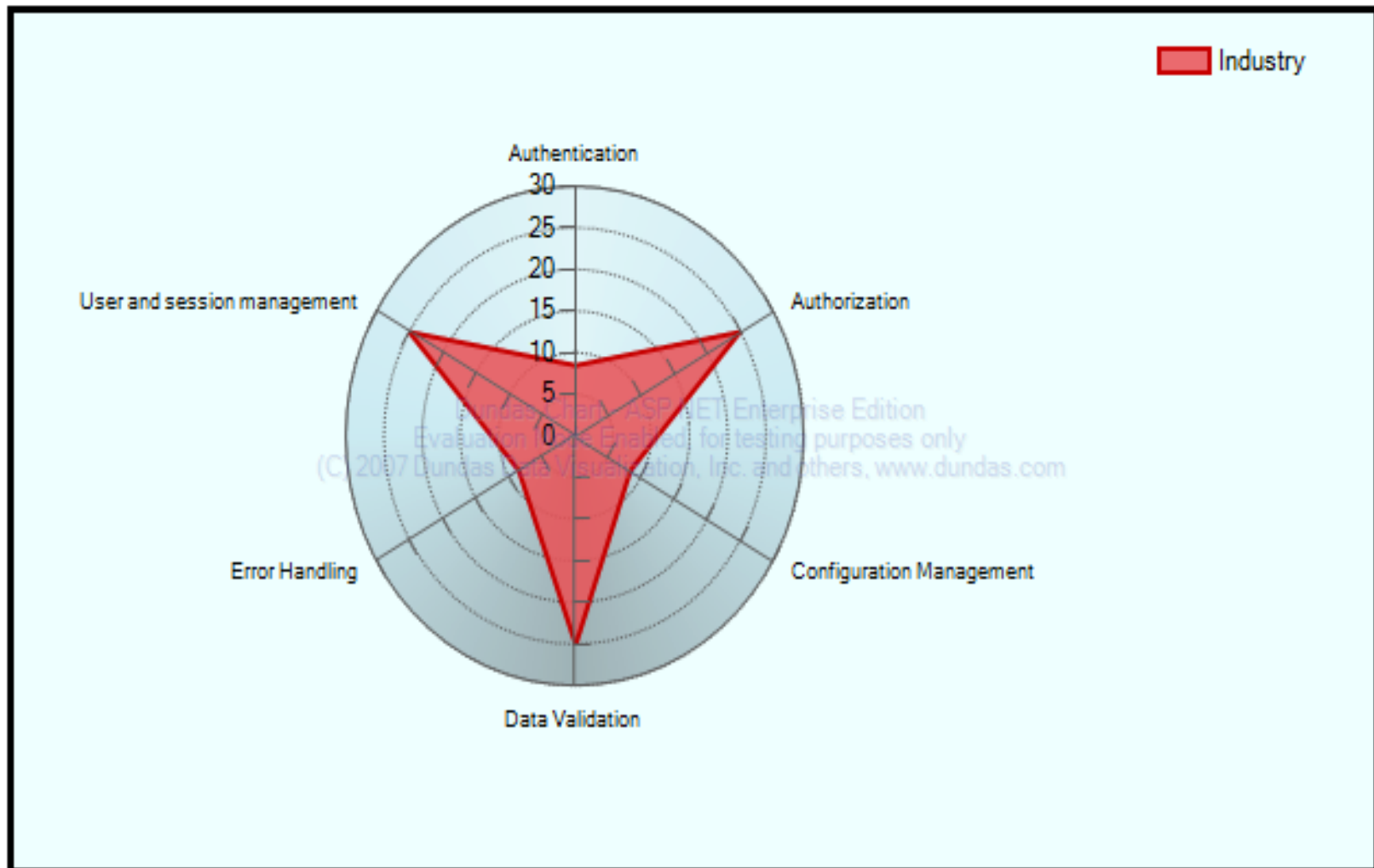
# Insurance – 27 Apps



# Retail – 17 Apps



# Utility – 6 Apps

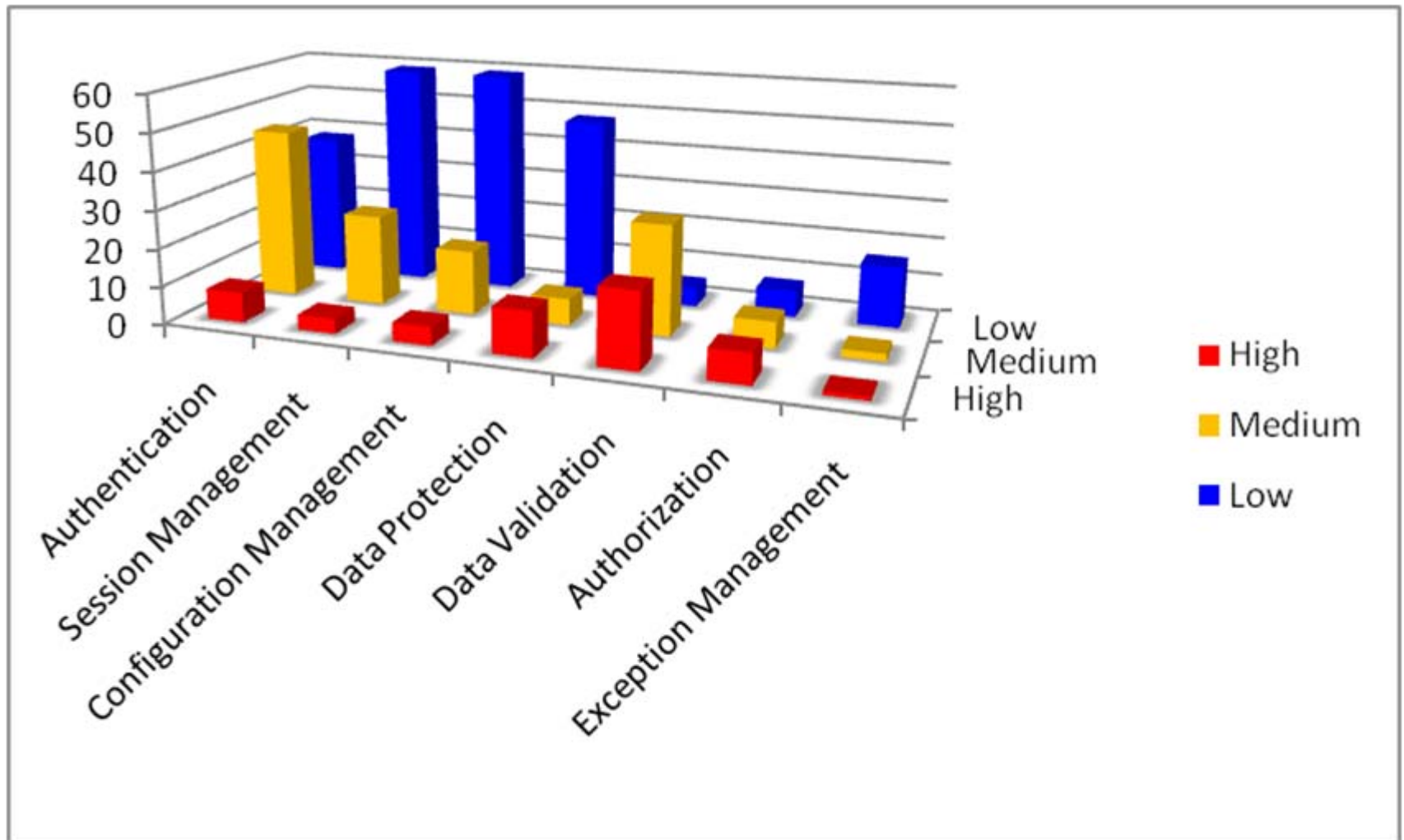




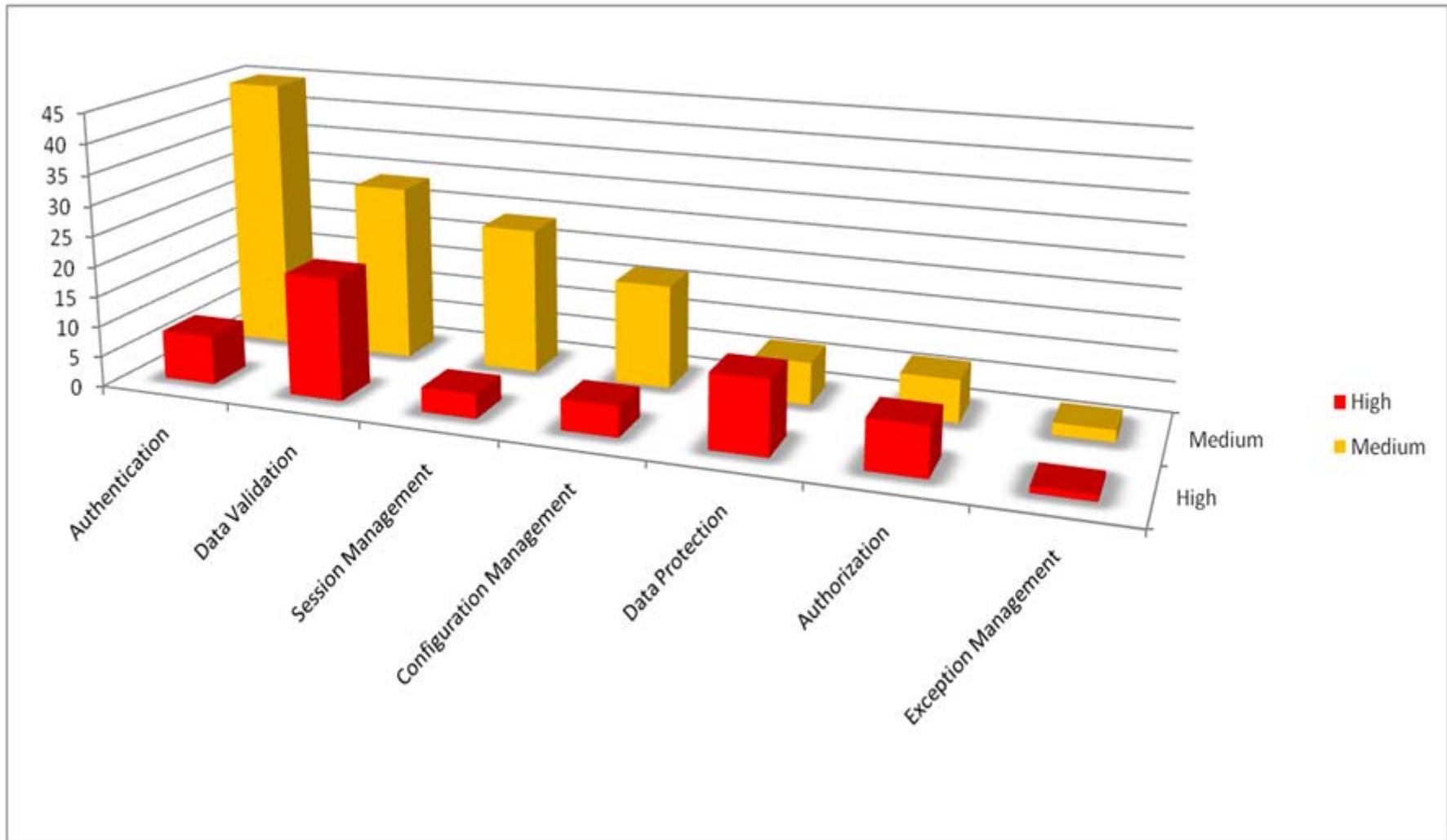
## 27 Applications

- 13 on Unix; 13 on Windows; 1 on Novell
- Total 421 findings

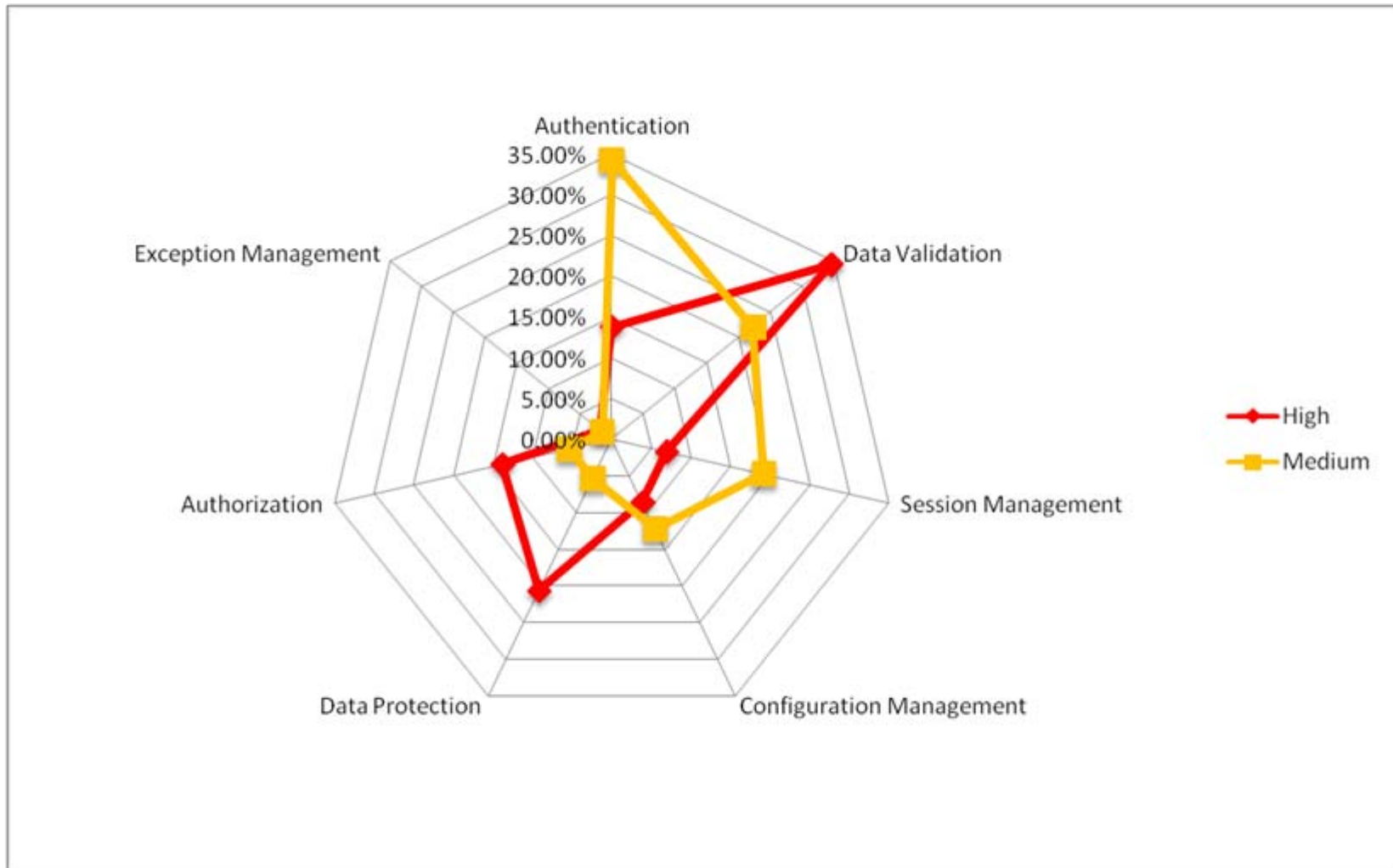
# Findings by Framework and Risk Level



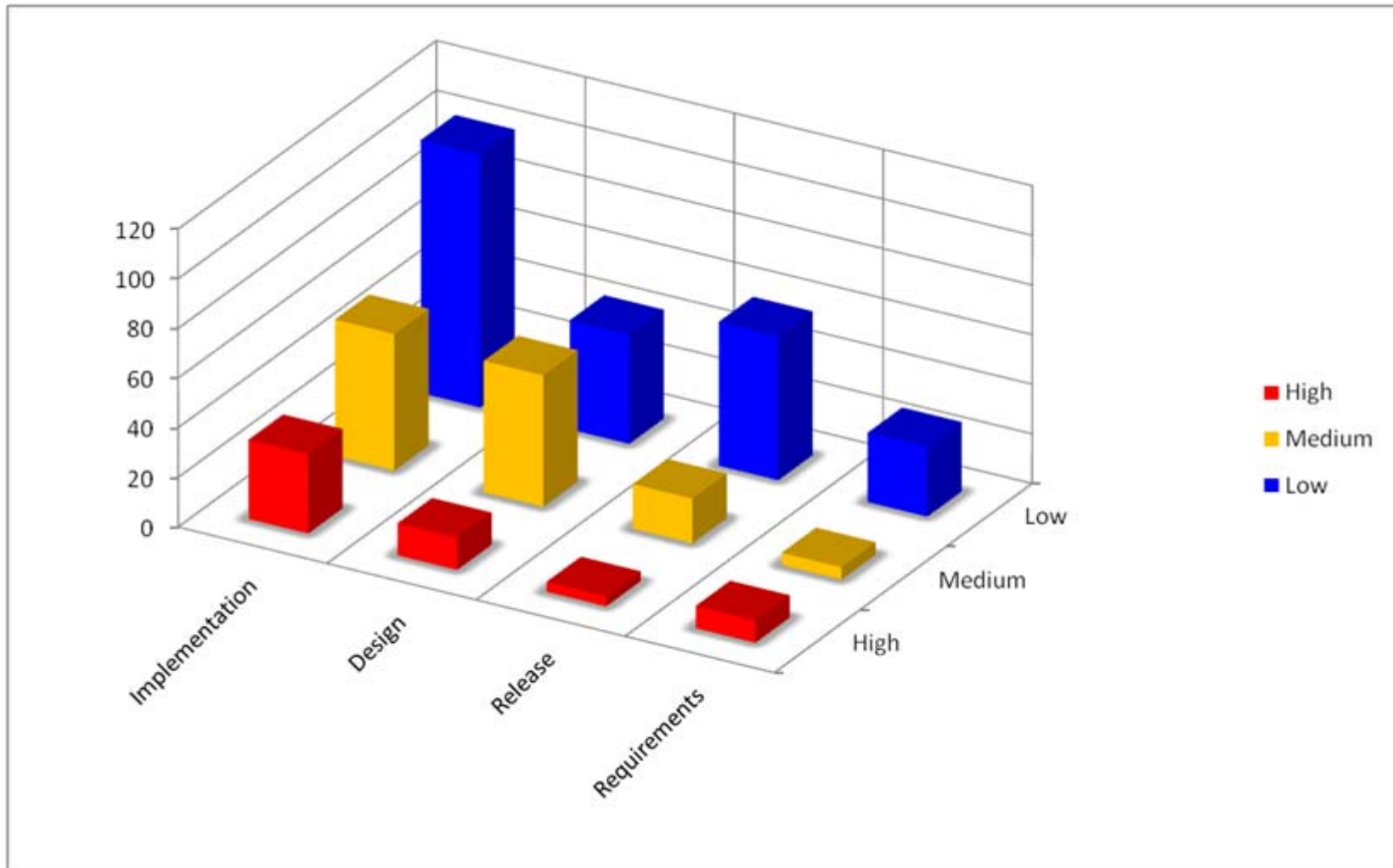
# High and Medium Risk Findings



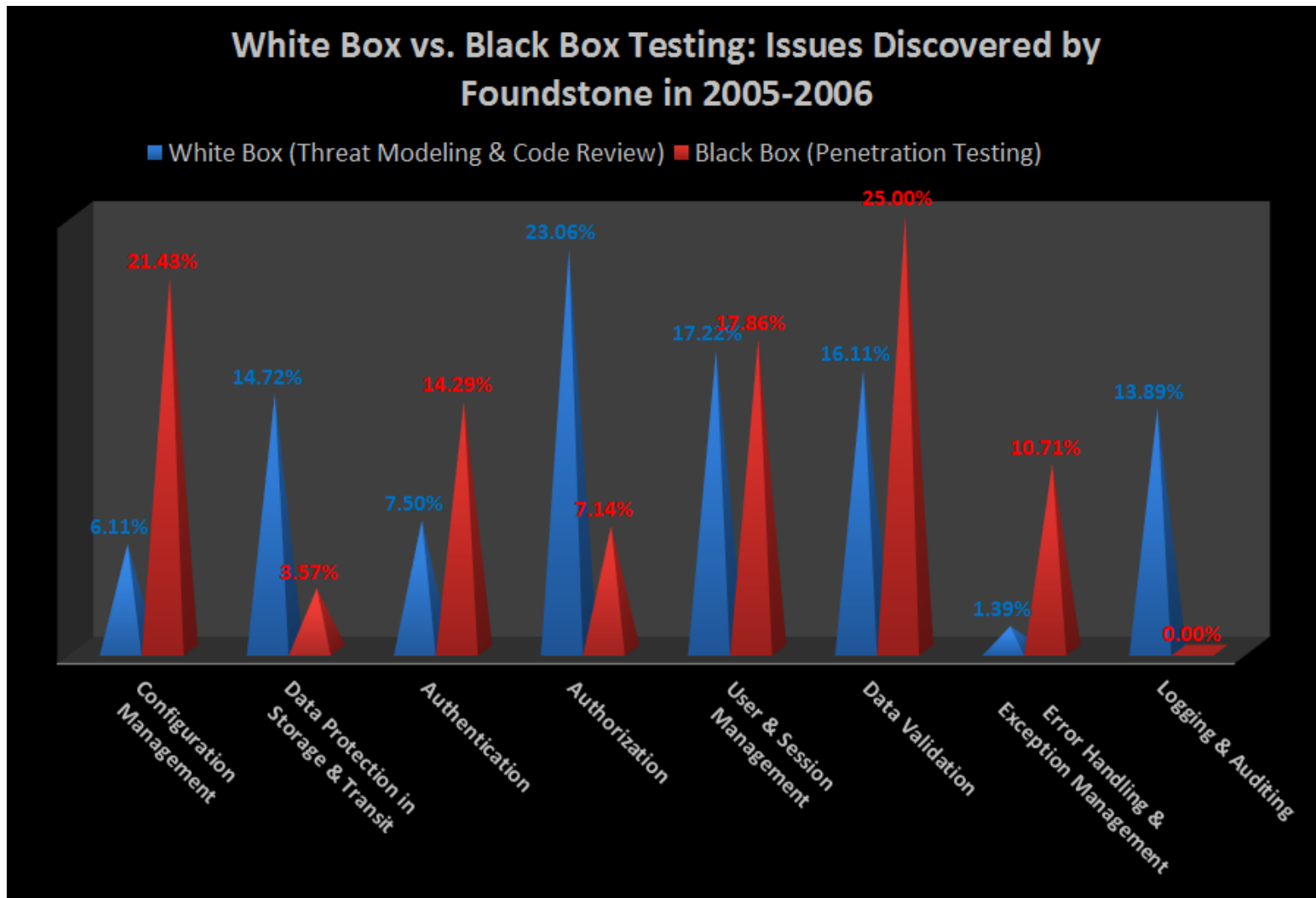
# Findings by Percentage



# Findings by SDLC Phases



# White Box vs. Black Box



# 10 Things To Secure Your Web App

## ■ Authentication

- ▶ Password policy
  - Reset password function, history, complexity and account lockout

## ■ Authorization

- ▶ Role/privilege mapping and enforcement
- ▶ Workflow/business logic authorization enforcement

## ■ Data Validation

- ▶ Do your validation on the server-side both on output and input!

## ■ Session Management

- ▶ Use random session ID and maintain the state on server-side. Do not depend on any state information on the client

## ■ Data Protection

- ▶ Protect your important data in storage and transit
- ▶ Choose your data protection solution wisely

## ■ Configuration Management

- ▶ Secure server configuration and patch it well!

## ■ Exception Management

- ▶ Handle all exception and return generic error messages

## ■ Logging and Auditing

- ▶ What to log and how/when to audit?

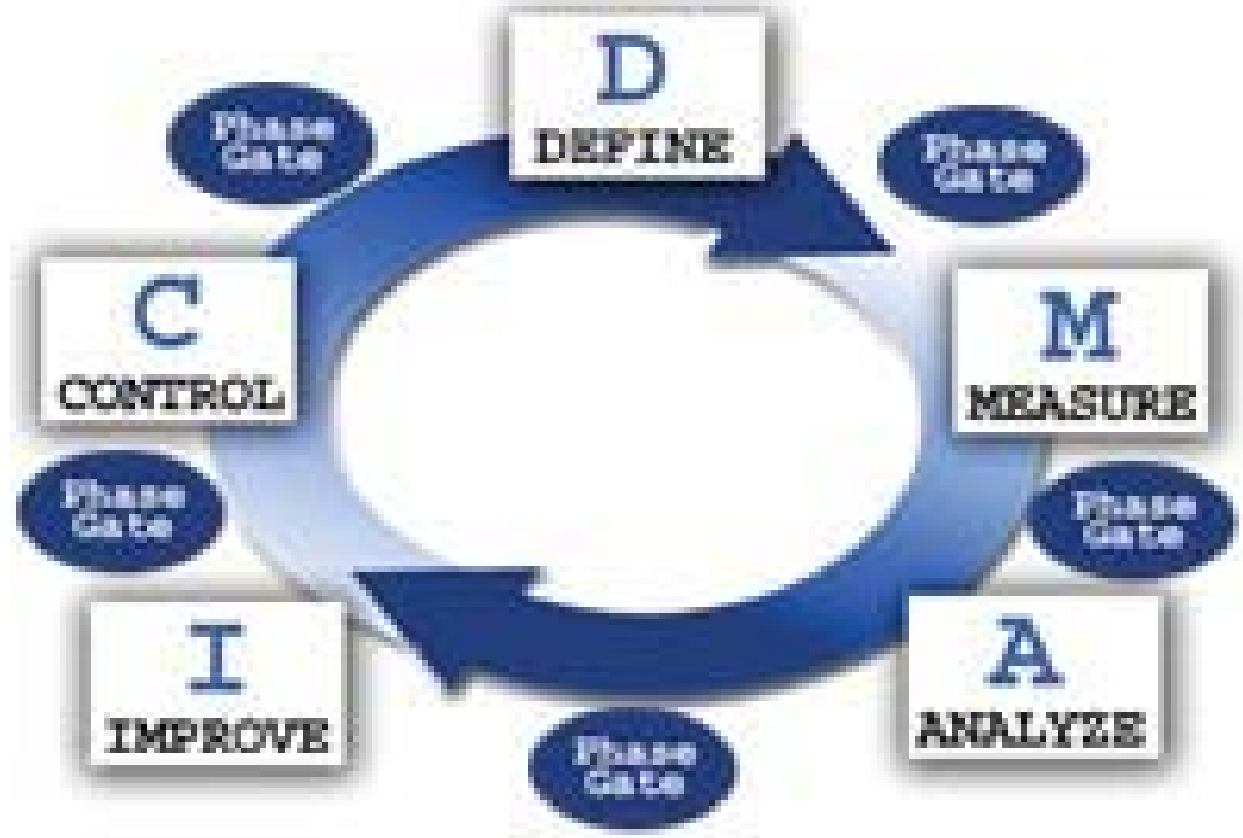
*If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles*

# STRATEGIC PLANNING



# Six Sigma Tactical Steps

- Define
- Measure
- Analyze
- Improve
- Control

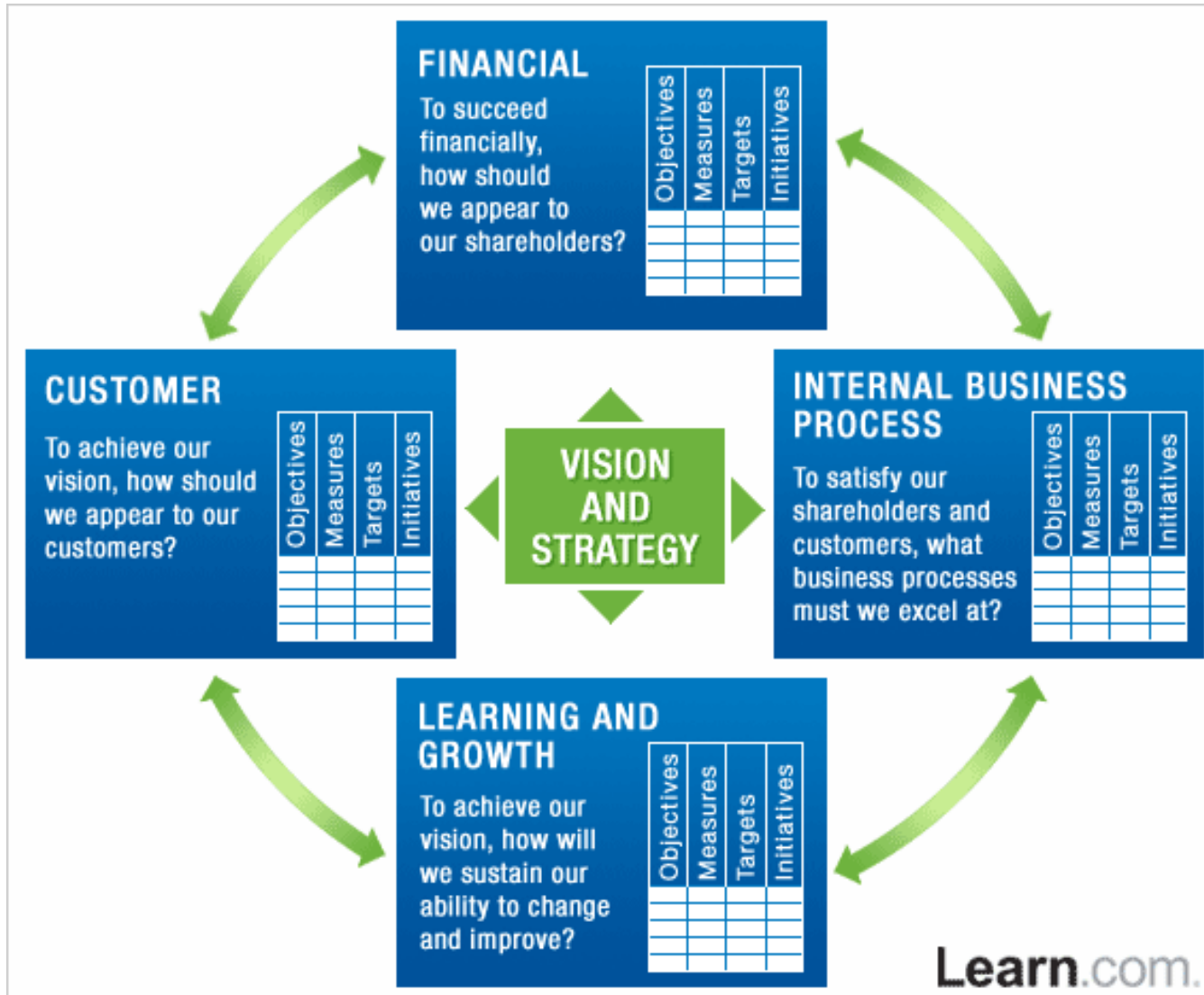


# What is Process Sigma?

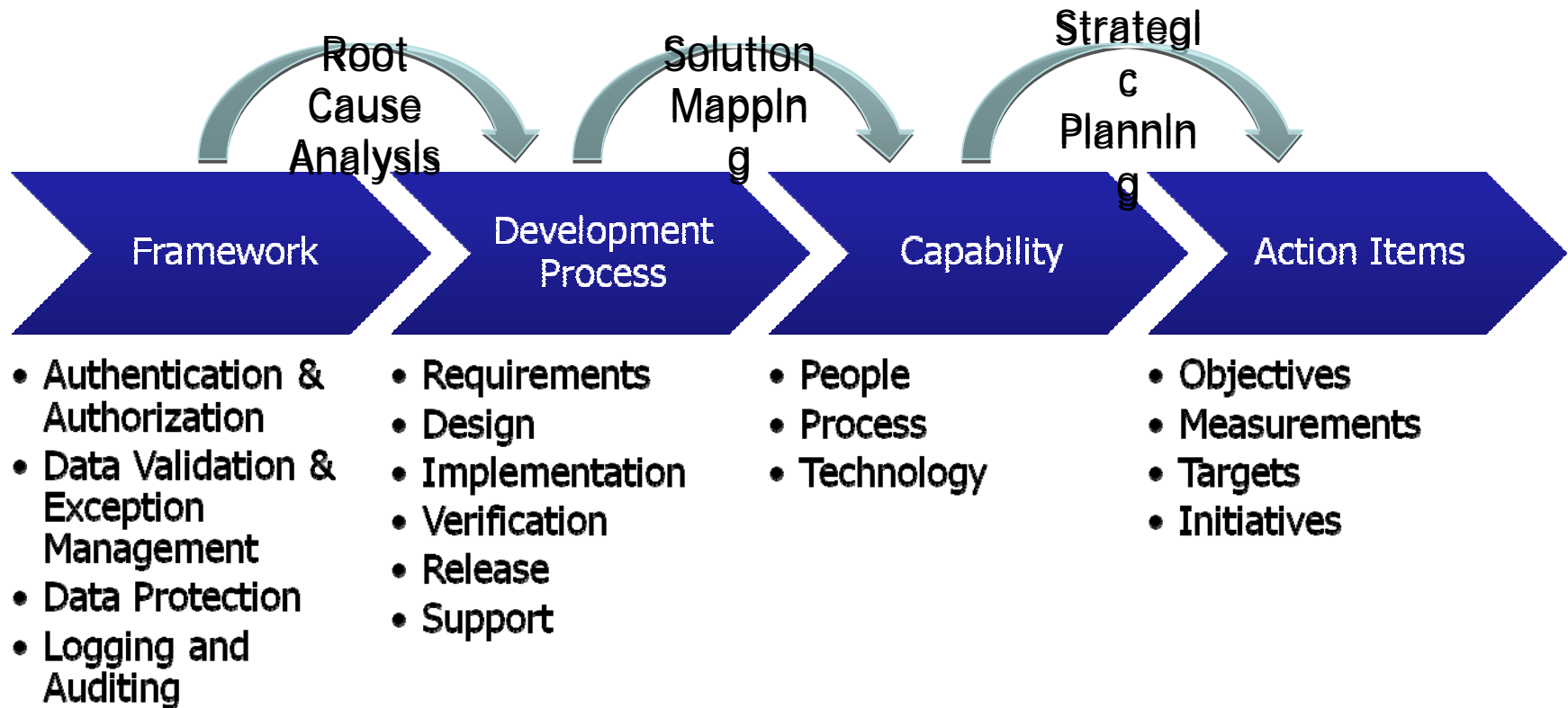
- Defects per Unit and Opportunities
- 3.4 defects per 1 million opportunities is Six Sigma

$$\frac{\text{Number of Defects}}{\text{Number of units} \times \text{Number of opps.}} \times 1,000,000$$

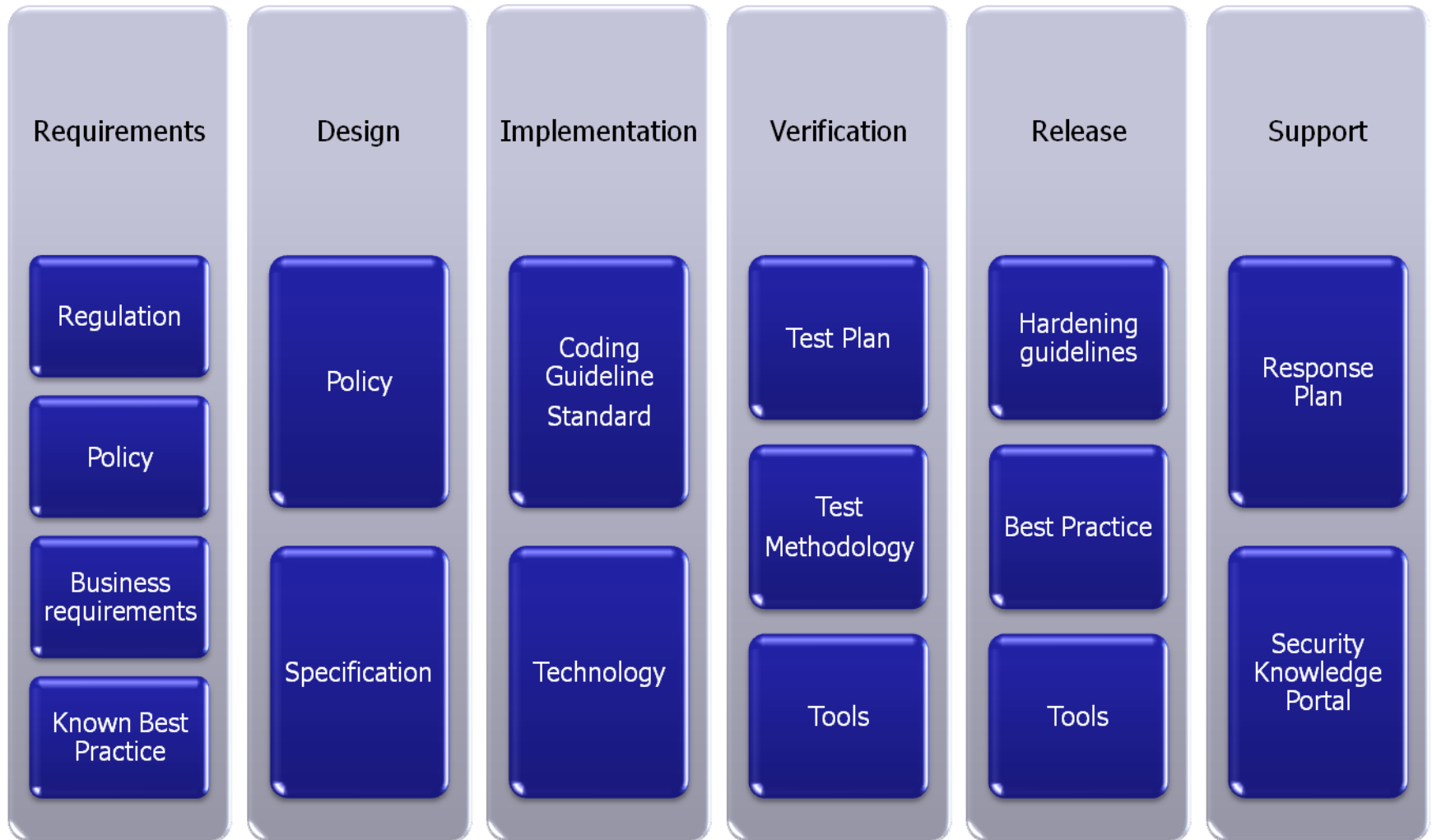
# Balanced Scorecard



# Methodology



# Solution



# Capability

## People

- Organization
- Training
- Budget

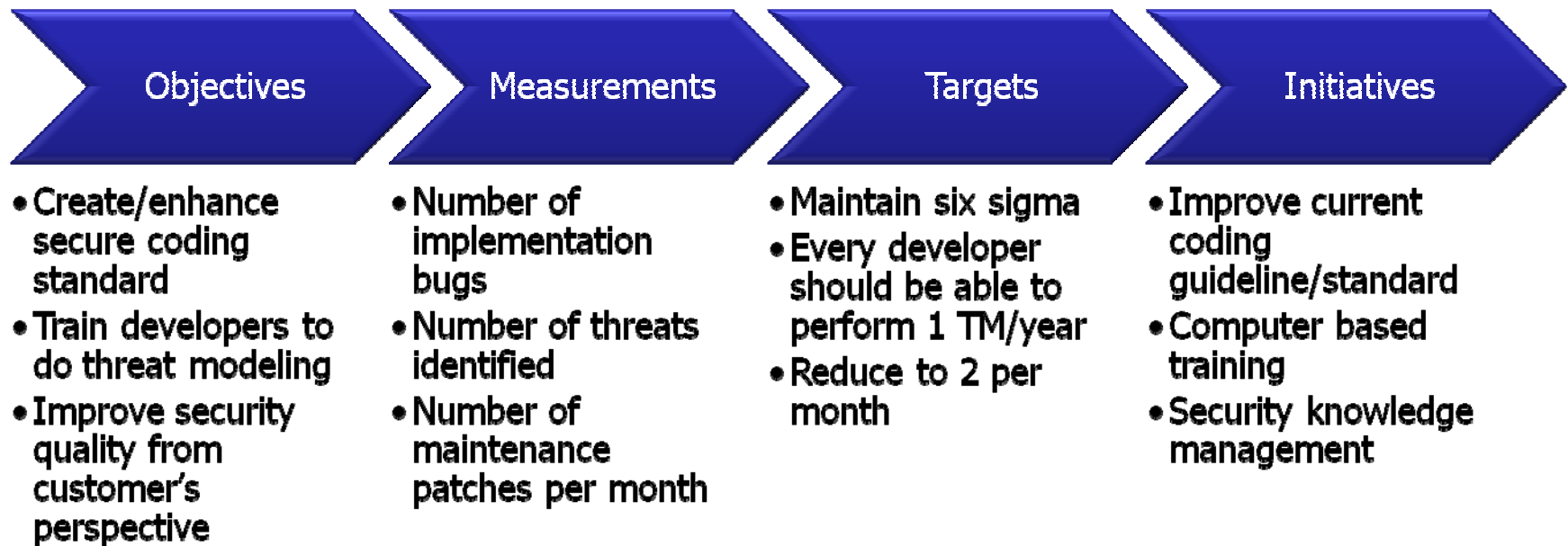
## Process

- Policy
- Guidelines
- Standards
- Best Practices
- Methodology
- Response

## Technology

- Tools
- Knowledge Repository

# Action Items



*In order to carry out an attack, we must have means available*

# CONCLUSION



# Summary

- We reviewed:
  - ▶ Current security status
  - ▶ Web application security statistics
  - ▶ Strategic planning to keep your web application secure
- Security is an on-going process that also requires people and technology to play important roles.

# No Silver Bullets or Easy Button!



# If Toyota Builds Your Web Applications...

- Modularization, Automation and Just-In-Time
- Reduce cost, maintain highest customer satisfaction
- Implementation phase will be automated and modularized
- Developers won't be able to use any insecure implementation techniques
- Web applications will be stick to the known best practice with high quality in security. When there is a serious flaw there will be a recall.



# Thank You

## OWASP

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