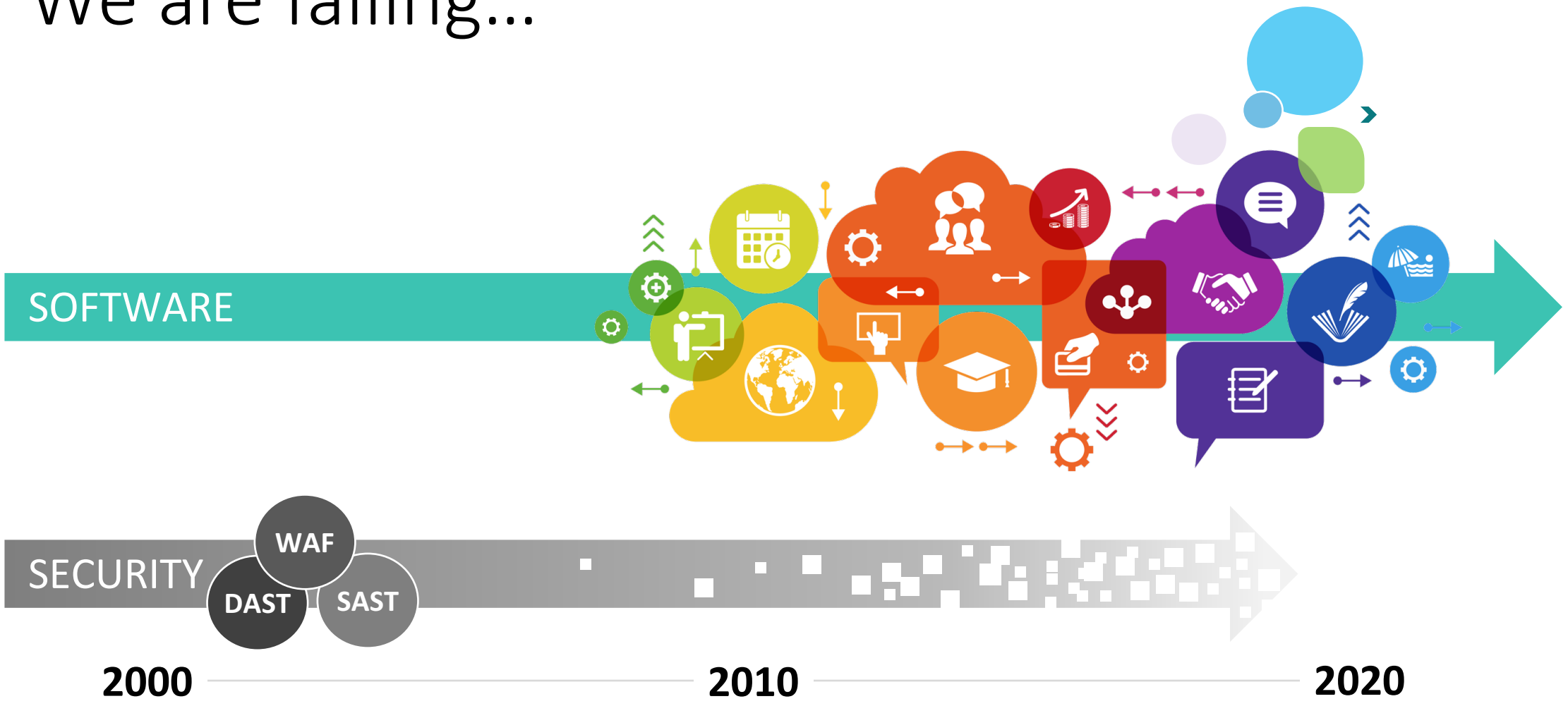
Jeff Williams, Co-founder and CTO
Contrast Security
@planetlevel

Turning Security into Code with Dynamic Binary Instrumentation

March 2017

We are failing…



You can’t scale appsec without highly accurate tools

(both true positives and true negatives)

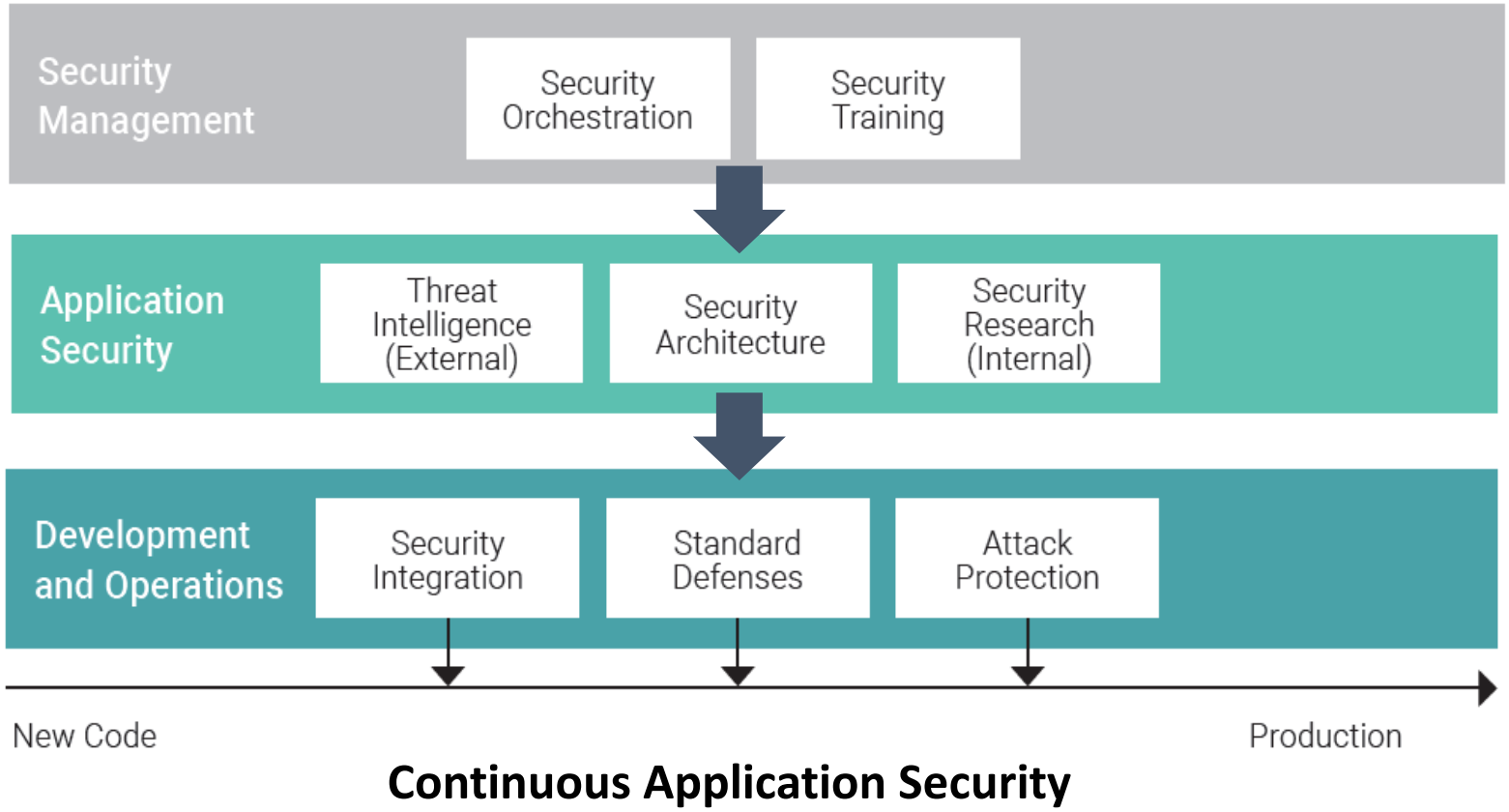
Because inaccuracies require experts…

…and experts don’t scale.

By turning security into code

--> we can get speed, coverage, and accuracy

--> which allows us to scale



Continuous Application Security

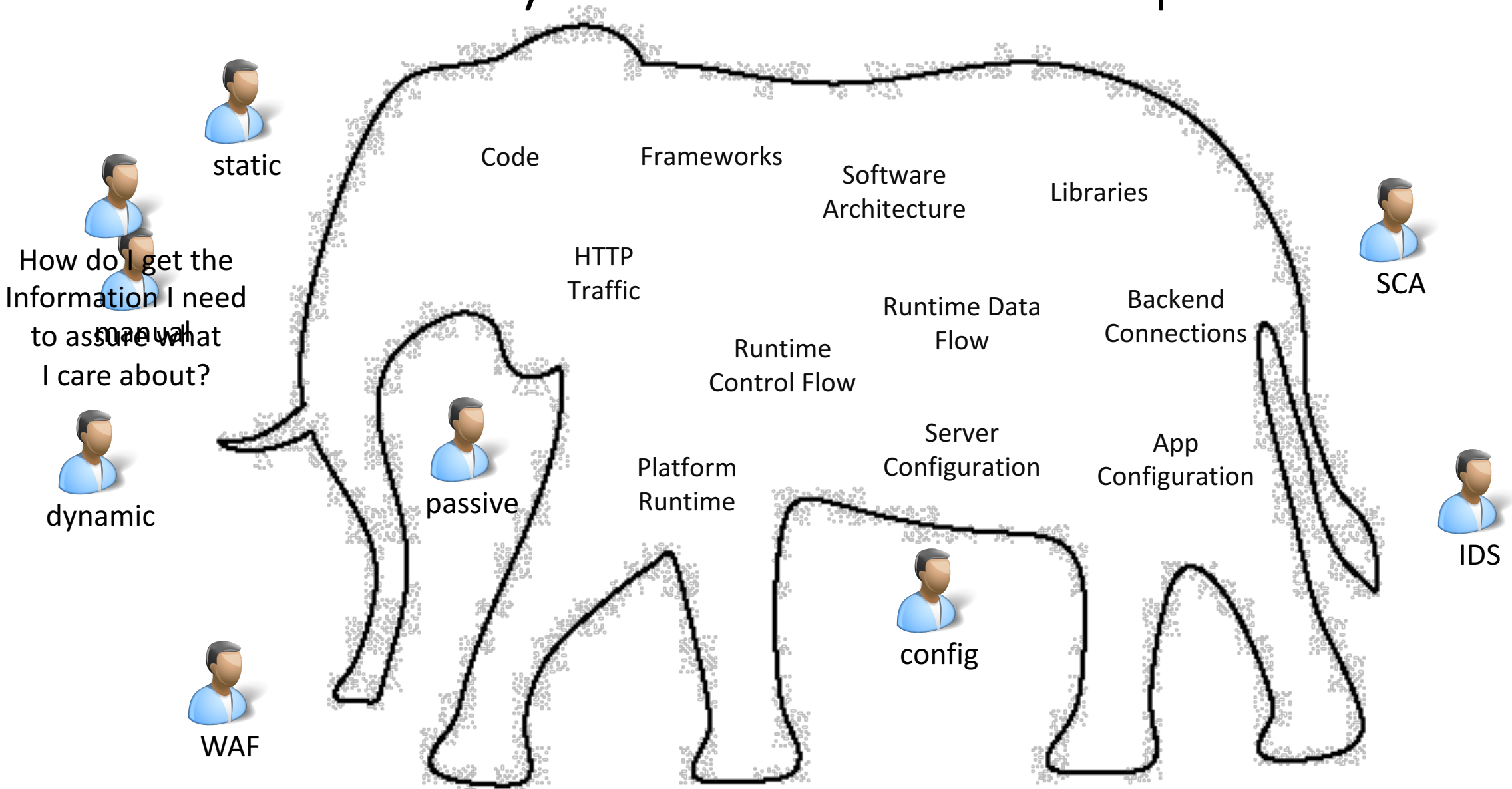
Level 3: Management makes informed decisions with detailed security analytics

Level 2: Security experts deliver security as code

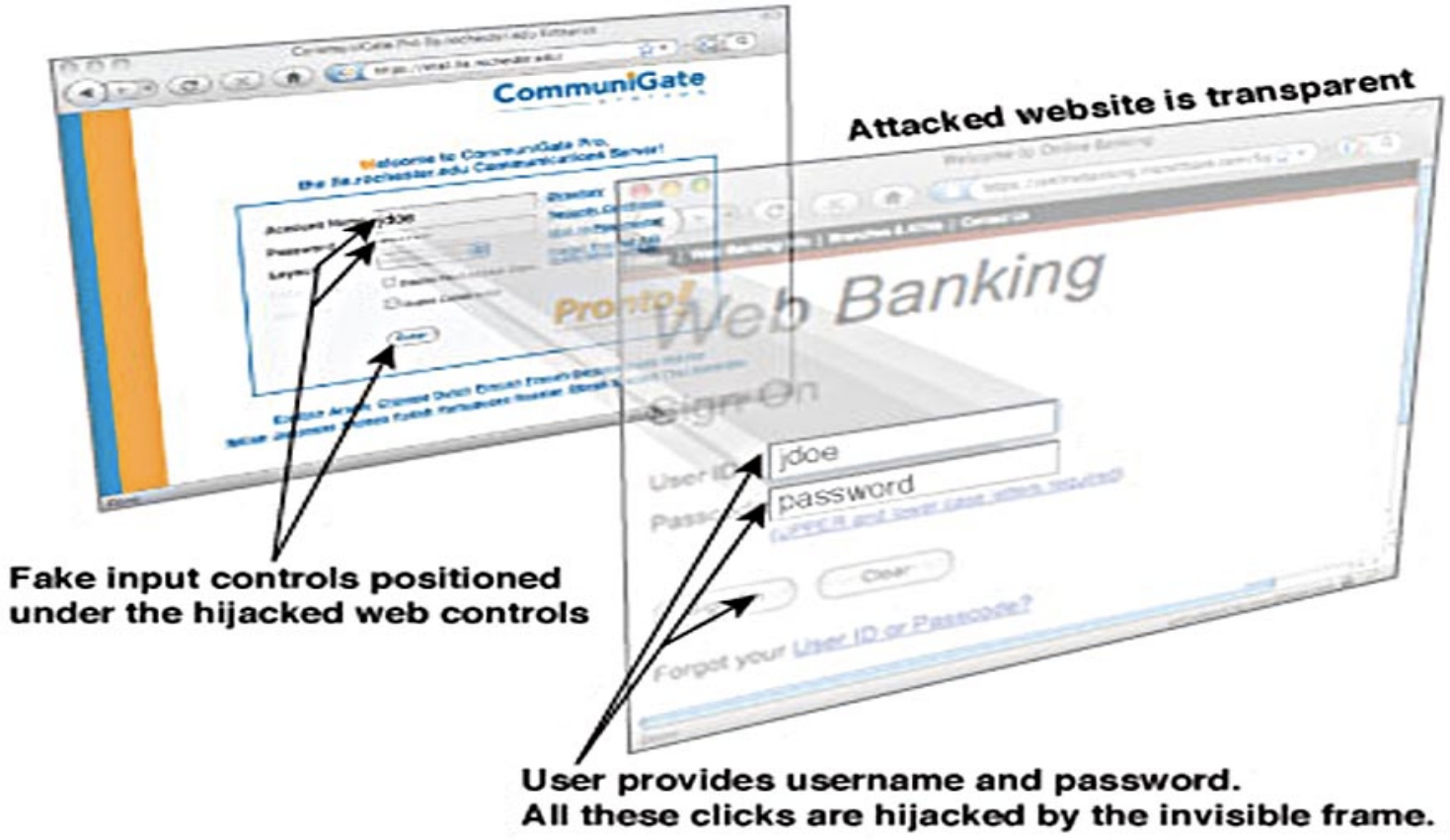
Level 1: Development and operations get fully automated security support

How do we turn “security into code”?

A better way to think about the problem…



Problem: Clickjacking



* Image: Igor Abade

Defend

Use X-FRAME-OPTIONS header to prevent frames

Assess

Check HTTP responses to ensure they all have X-FRAME-OPTIONS set.

Protect

Tough – looks like expected traffic.

Problem: Bypassing Verb-Based Auth'n and Auth'z (VBAAC)

```
<security-constraint>
<web-resource-collection>
    <url-pattern>/admin/*</url-pattern>
    <http-method>GET</http-method>
    <http-method>POST</http-method>
</web-resource-collection>
<auth-constraint>
     <role-name>admin</role-name>
</auth-constraint>
</security-constraint>
```

Defend

Ensure no unauthorized HTTP verbs can be used. GET and POST only.

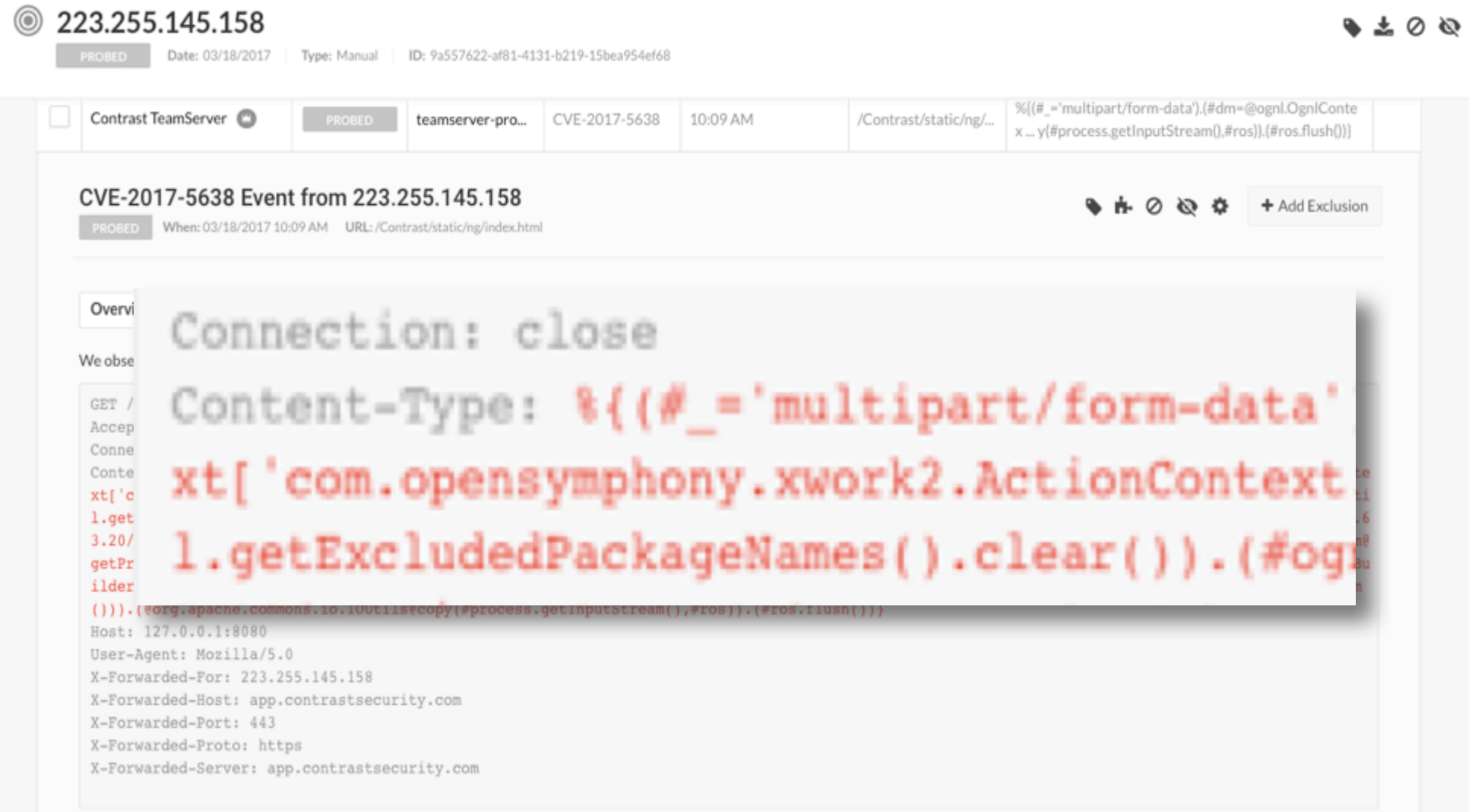
Assess

Use a tool to automatically analyze the logic of authentication and access control configurations.

Protect

Check HTTP to detect and block use of unauthorized verbs.

Problem: Insecure Libraries



Defend

Patch and upgrade quickly

Assess

Continuously assess libraries that are actually used for known vulnerabilities.

Protect

Deploy virtual patches that prevent vulnerability from being exploited.

Problem: Weak Crypto Algorithm

‘MD5’ is <u>everywhere</u>

Defend

Choose a strong algorithm

Assess

Watch cipher construction at runtime to ensure no weak algorithms selected.

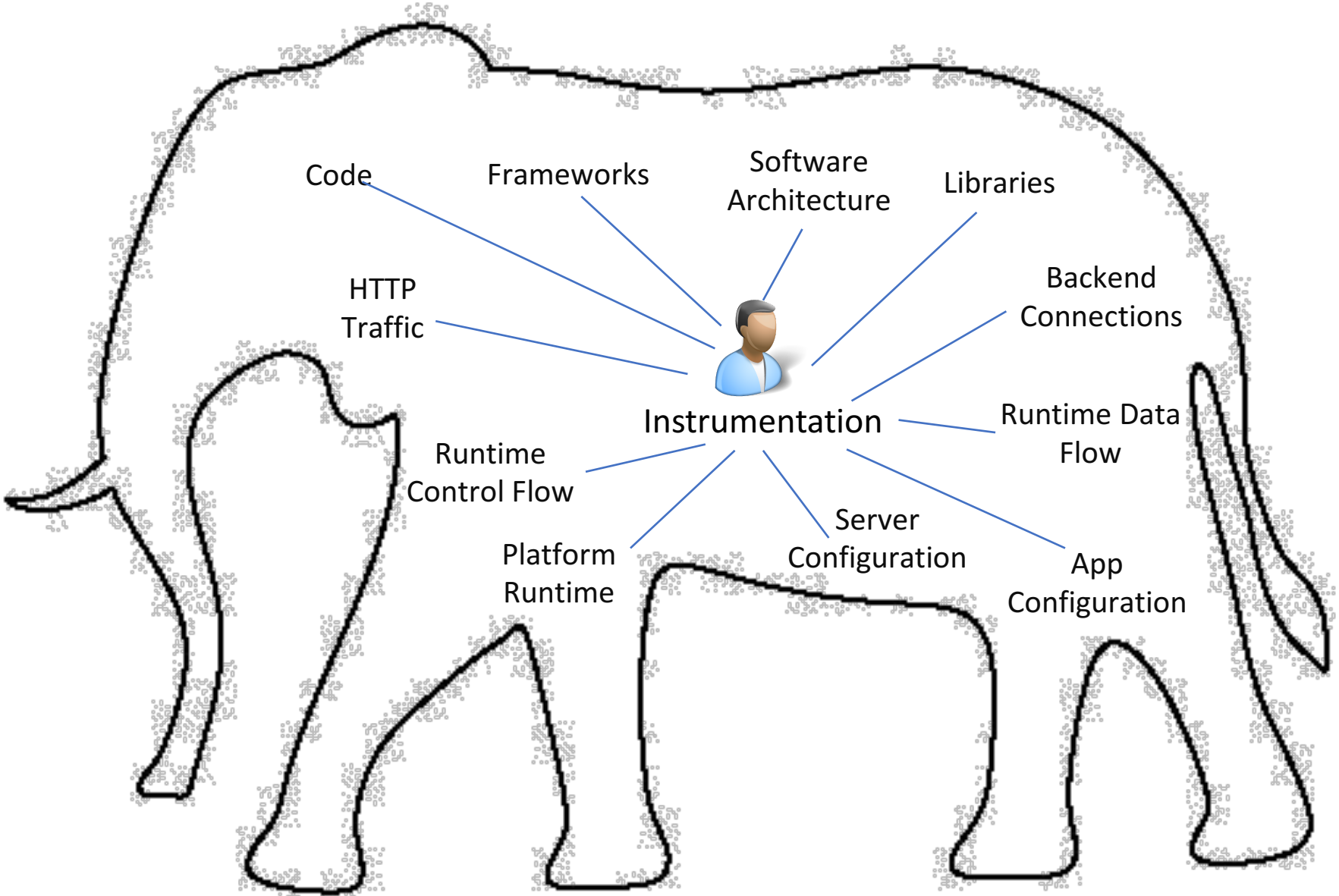
Protect

Watch running code for exceptions indicating padding oracle attacks, for example.

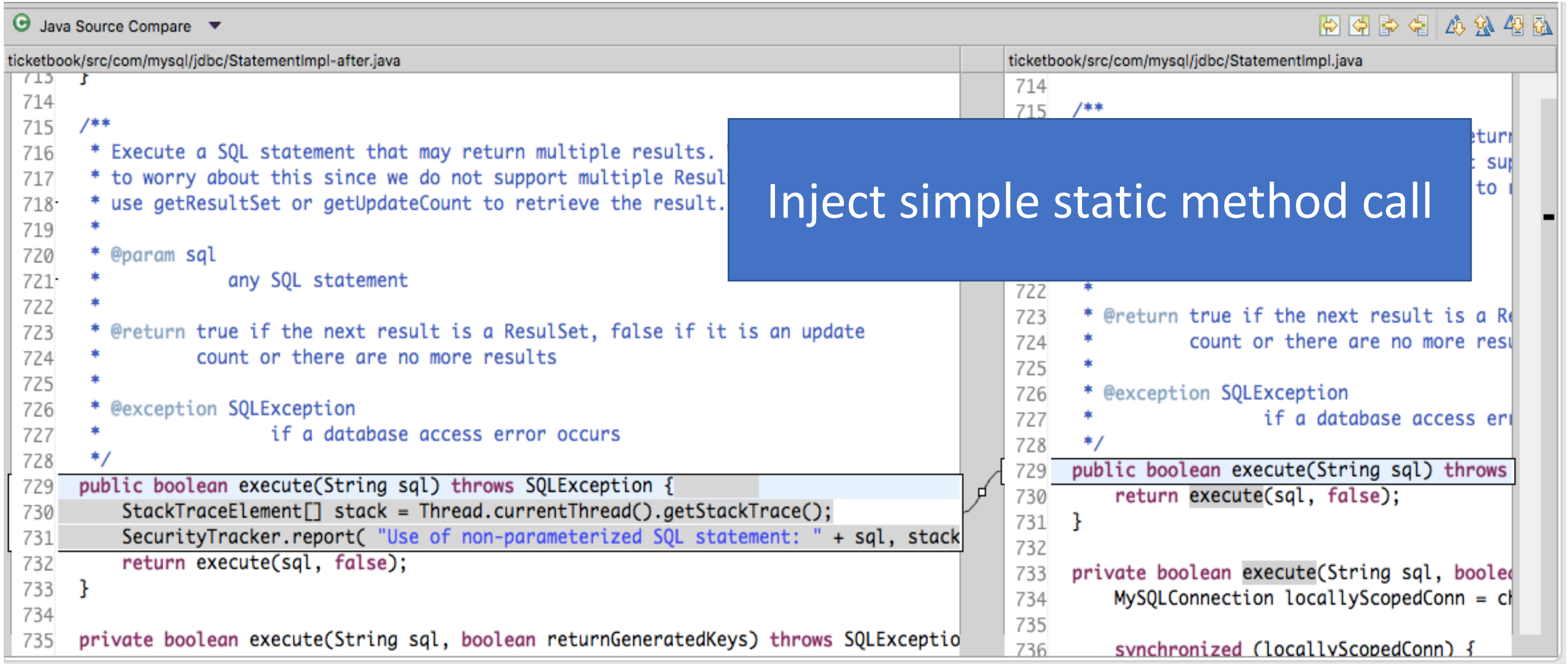
Summary so far…

- Clickjacking -> need HTTP headers
- Bypassable VBAAC -> need web configuration, HTTP to block
- Insecure Libraries -> need libraries, frameworks, servers, platform
- Weak Encryption -> need code, configuration, exceptions
- …

Great – so I have to run 50 tools? No.

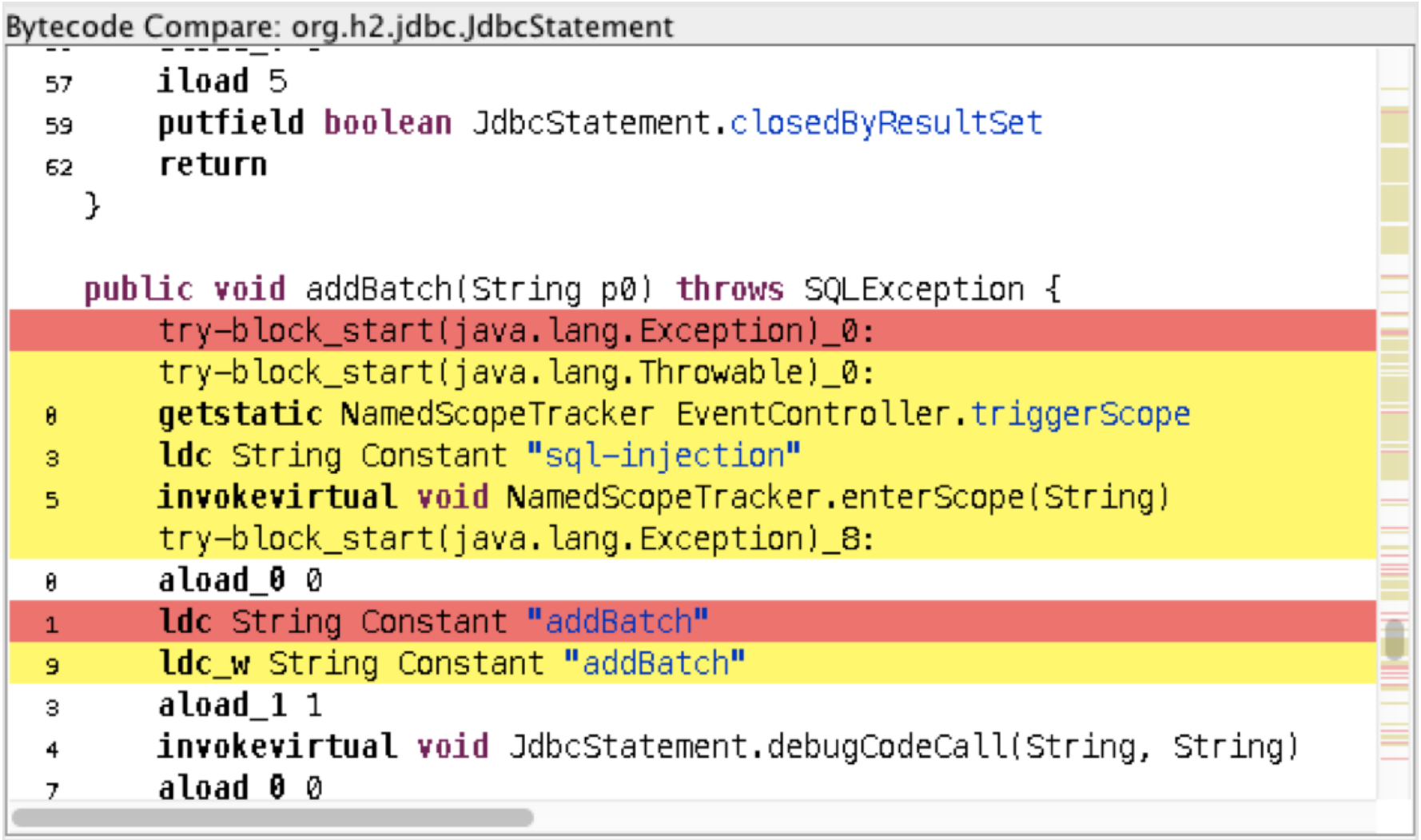


Source Instrumentation

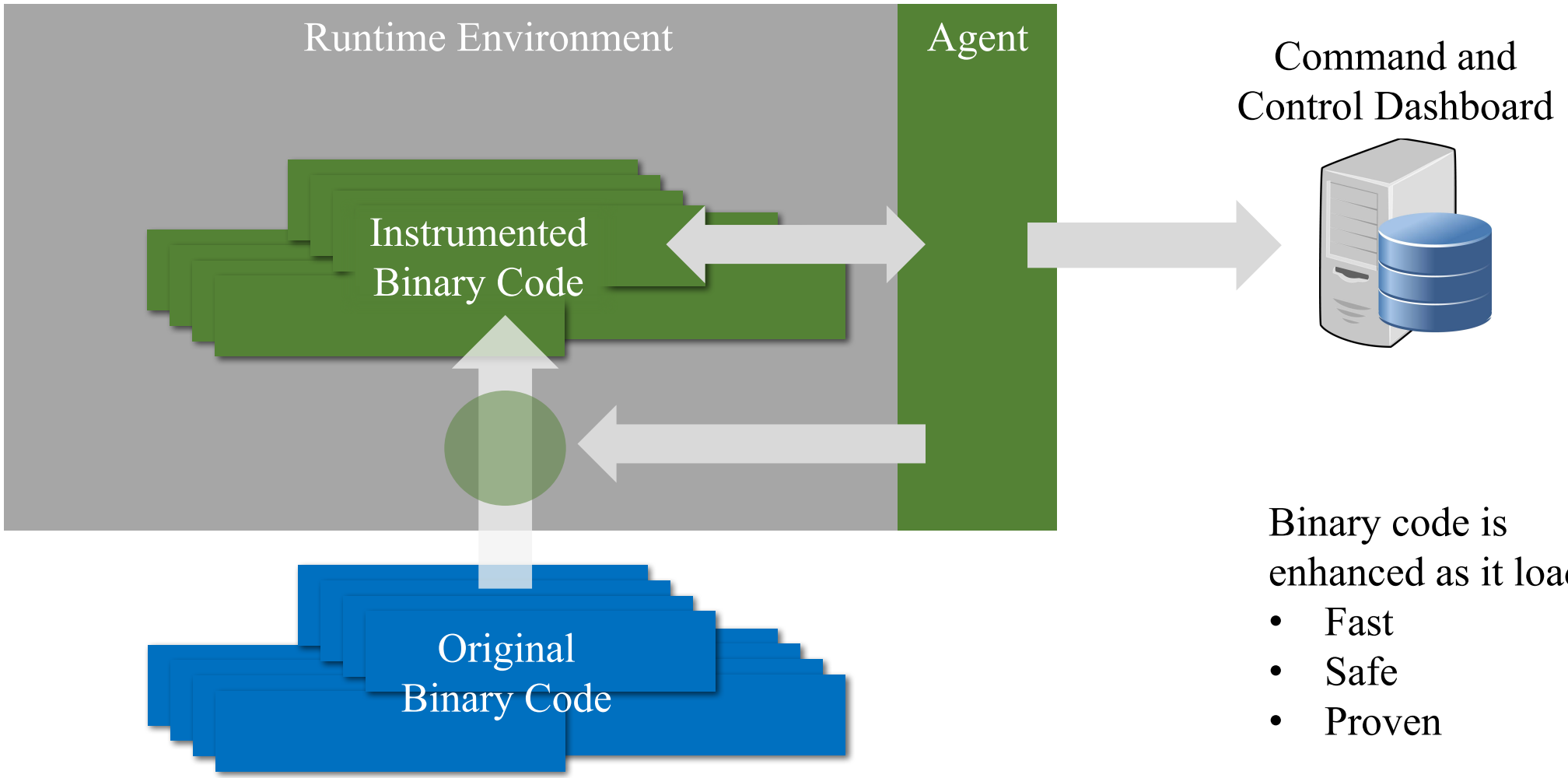


Binary Instrumentation

- Widely used
  - CPU Performance
  - Memory
  - Logging
  - Security
  - …
- Lots of libraries
  - ASM (Java)
  - BCEL (Java)
  - Javassist (Java)
  - MBEL (.NET)
  - RAIL (.NET)
  - …



Dynamic Binary Instrumentation!

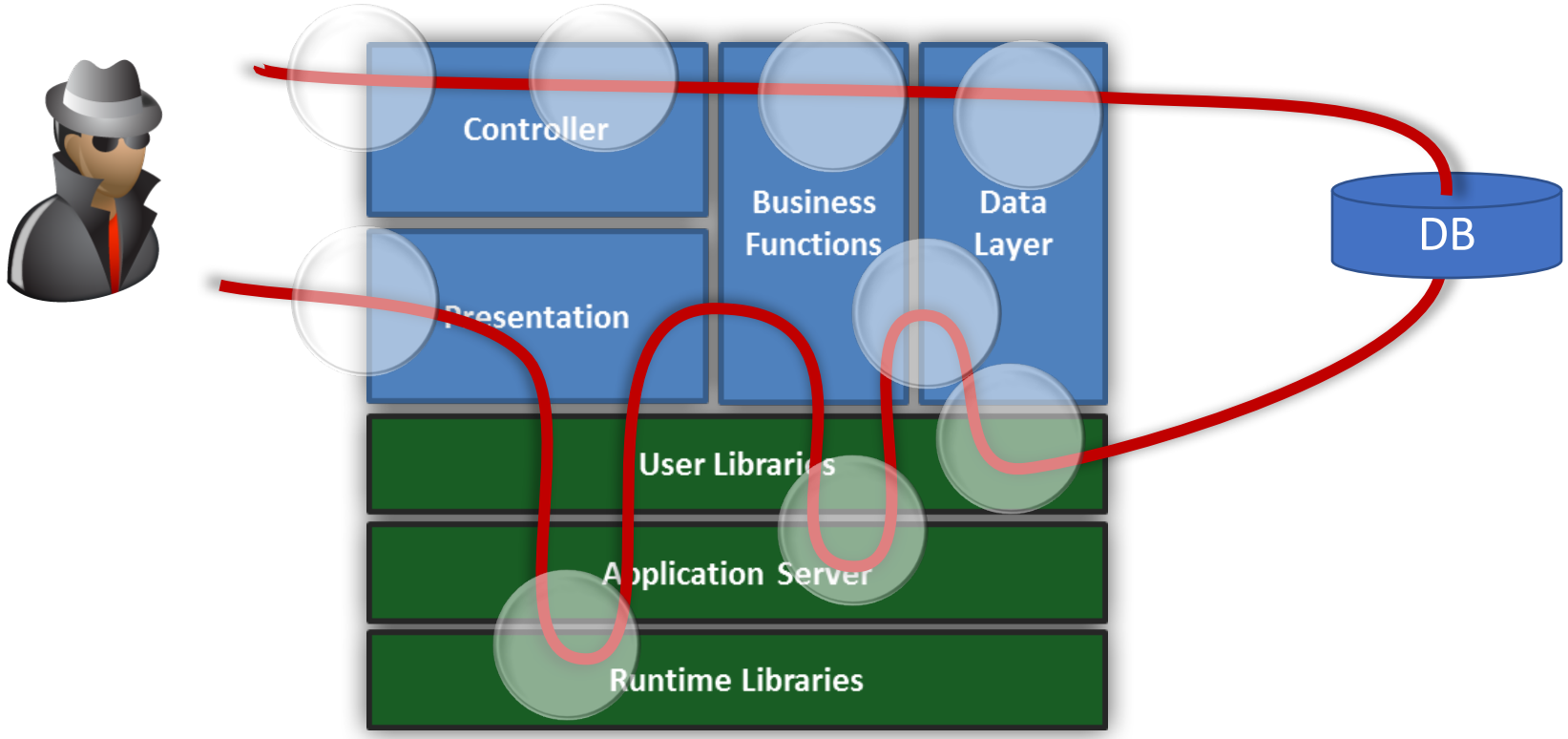


Binary code is enhanced as it loads:

- Fast
- Safe
- Proven

Problem: Injection (SQL, XSS, etc…)

- Attacker sends data that is passed to an interpreter (SQL, LDAP, EL, …)



Defend

Use escaping, parameterization correctly everywhere. Right.

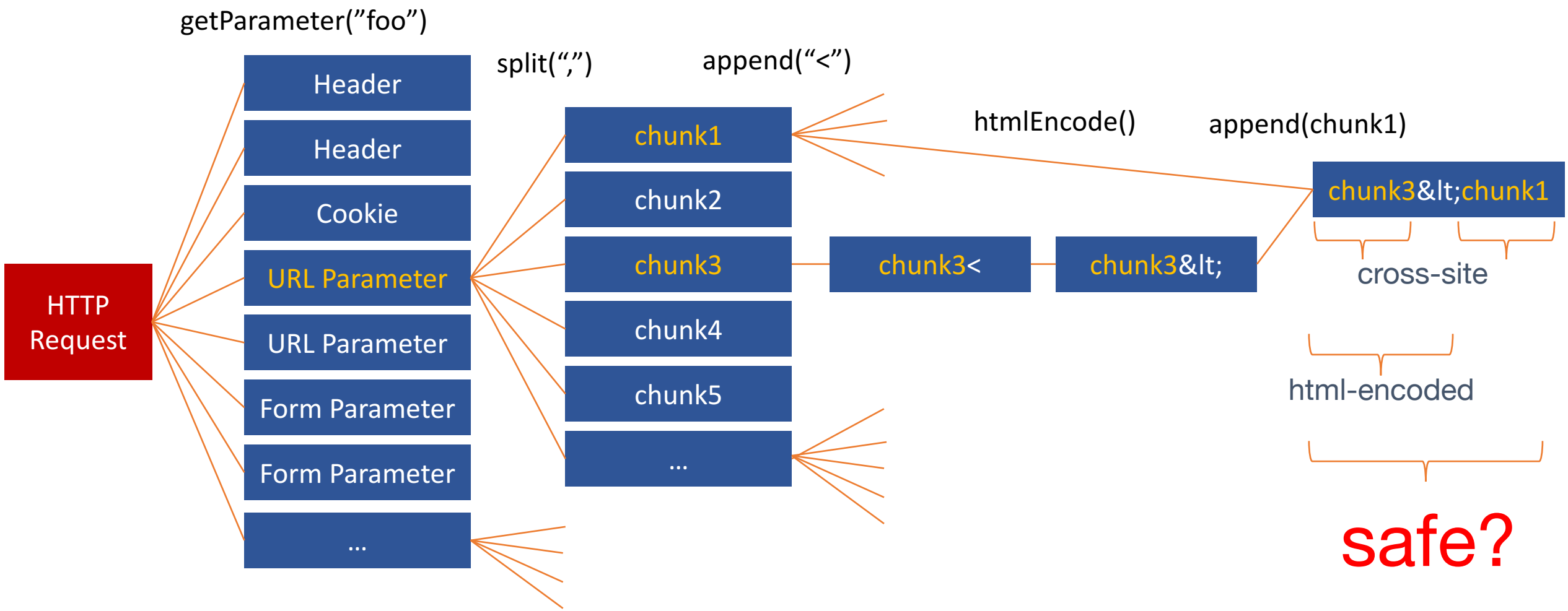
Assess

Use automated data flow analysis to track untrusted data to any queries.

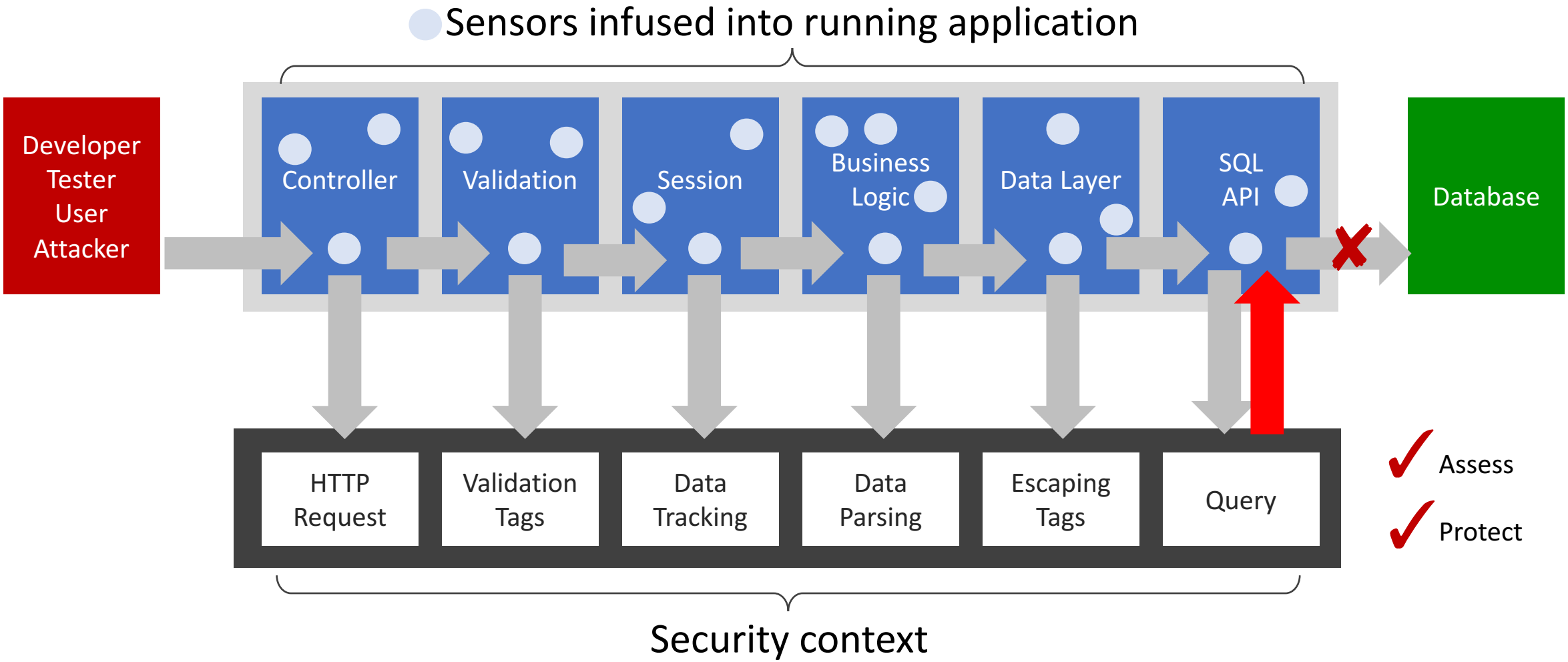
Protect

Analyze whether untrusted data flows to a query and modifies its meaning.

Data flow analysis (aka clusterbomb)



Solution: Instrumentation



Cross-Site Request Forgery

Defend

Add a token to links and forms. Verify token is present on transactions.

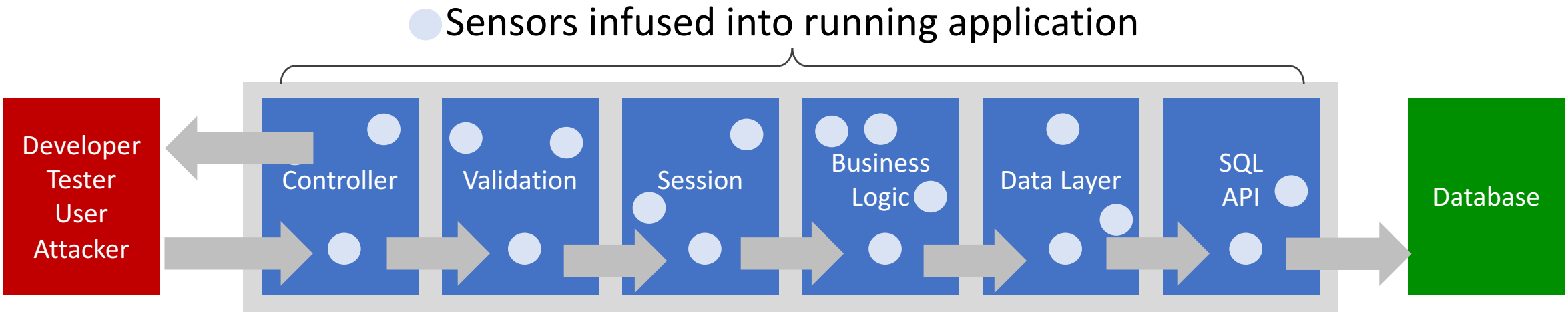
Assess

Verify non-XHR requests have token on non-idempotent transactions.

Protect

Application should detect and block use of unauthorized verbs.

Solution: Instrumentation



✓ Vulnerability

- Is not an XHR request?
- Token check fails
- Non-idempotent transaction

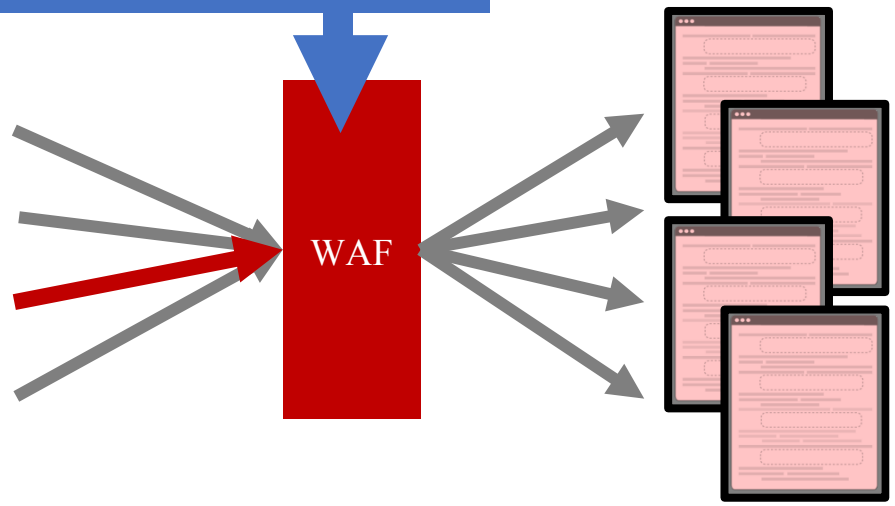
✓ Attack

- Add CSRF token to webpages
- Check for tokens on susceptible pages

WAF

PERIMETER DECISION POINT

GET
/foo?name='%20or%20%
20'1'='1 HTTP/1.0



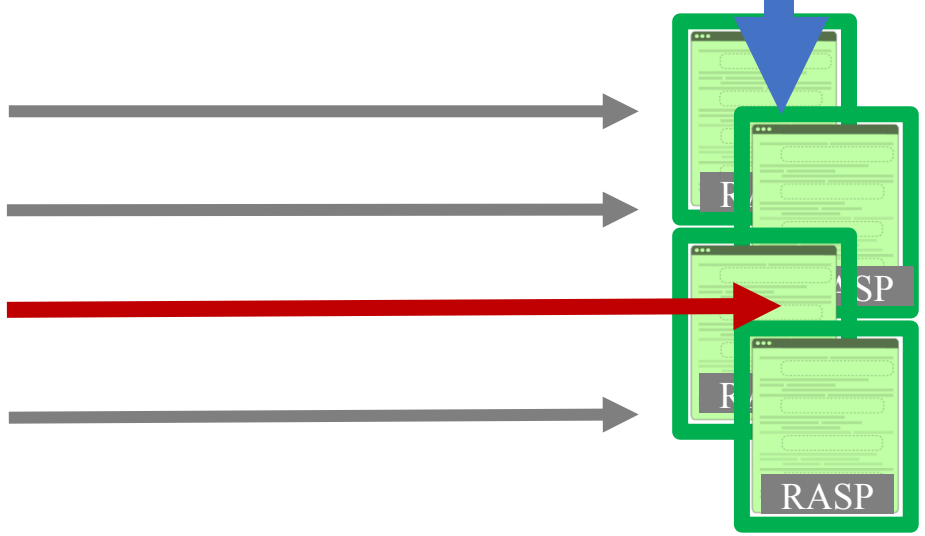
Three problems:

1) Bottleneck
2) No context
3) Impedance

RASP

APPLICATION DECISION POINT

GET
/foo?name='%20or%20%
20'1'='1 HTTP/1.0

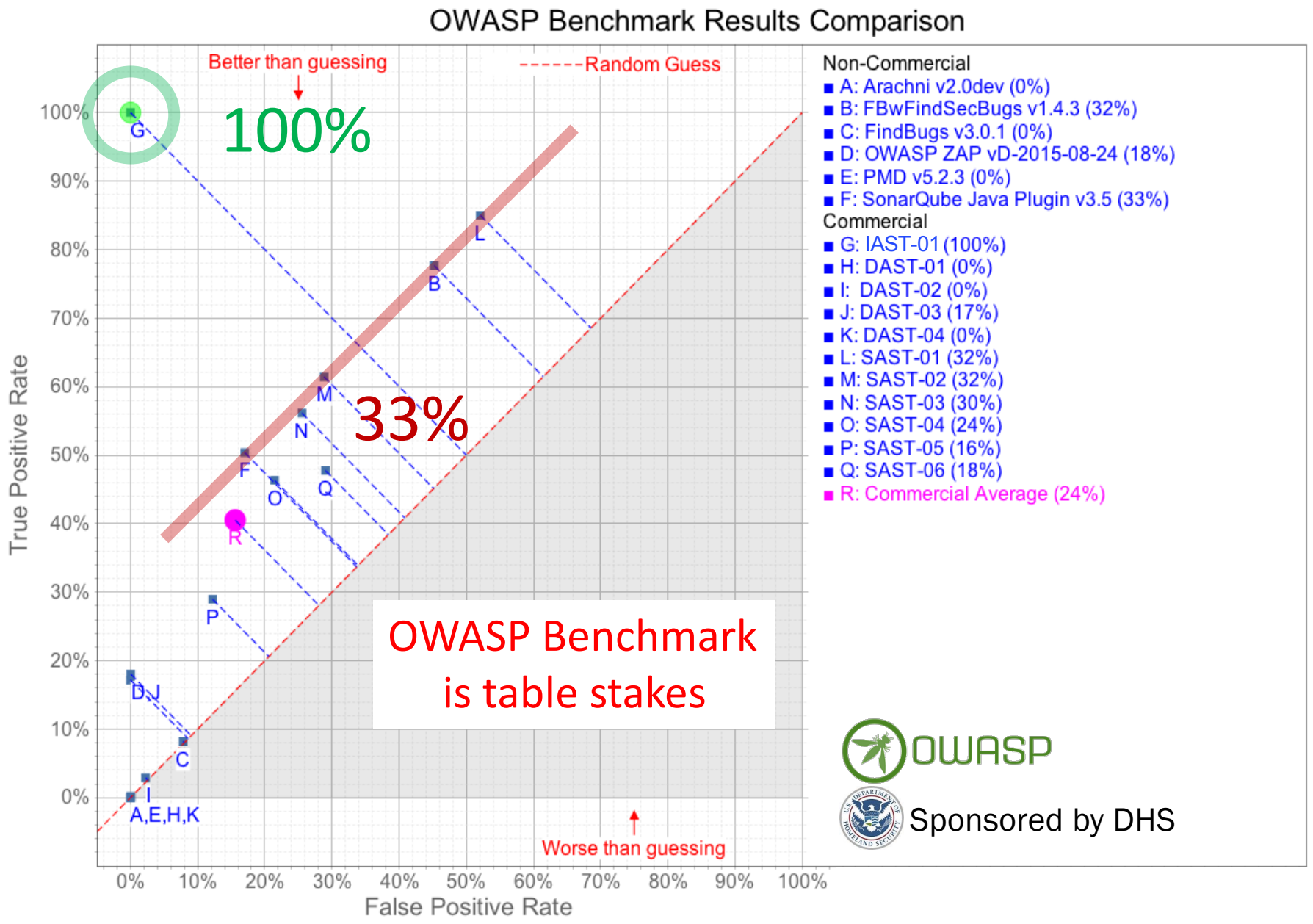


stmt.execute("select *
from table where id
='1' or '1'='1'");

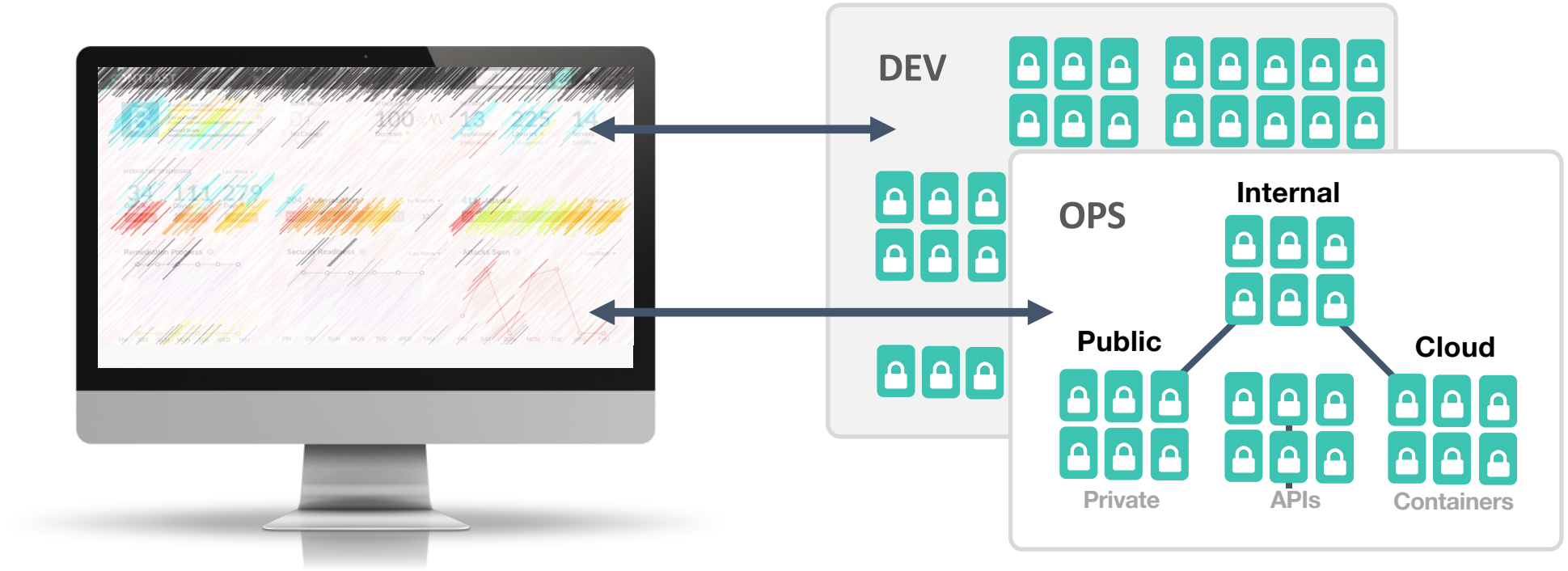
OWASP Benchmark – thousands of test cases across a range of true and false vulnerabilities

Free, open, reproduceable

Instrumentation speed and accuracy dominates SAST and DAST



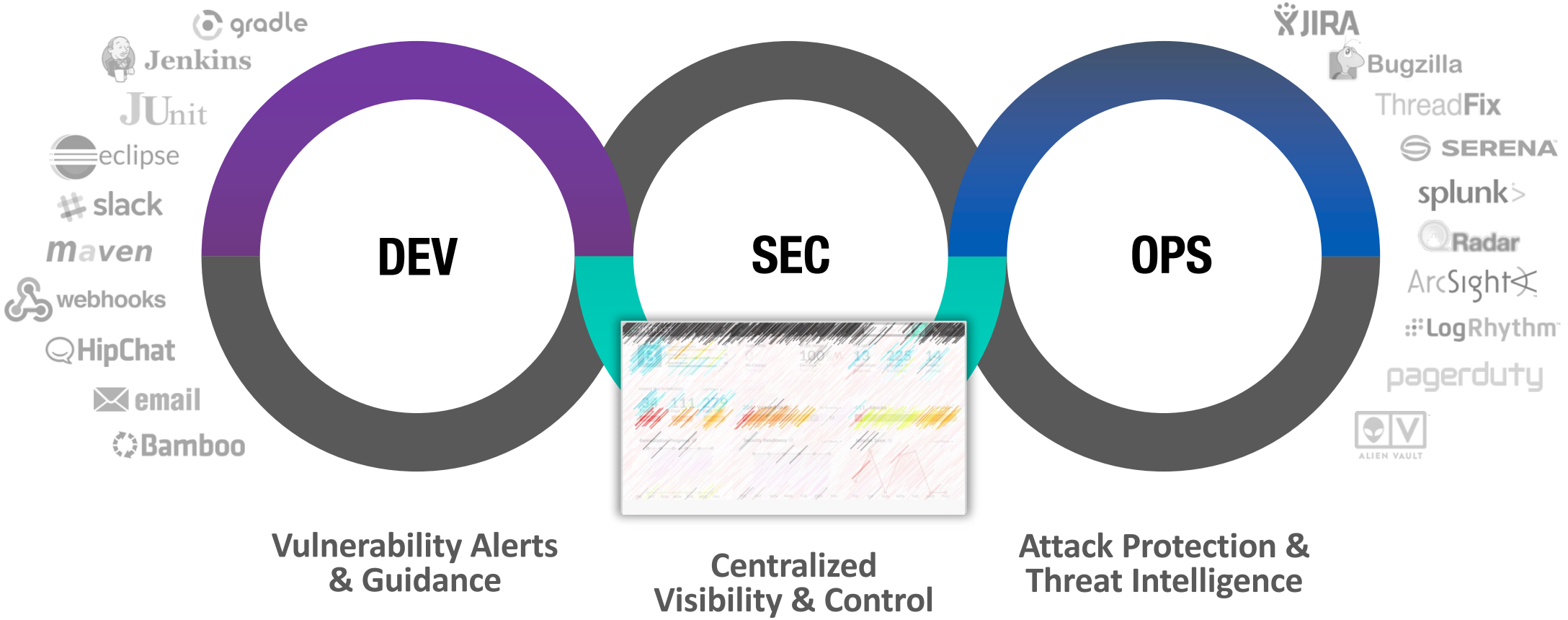
Distributed AppSec – In Parallel



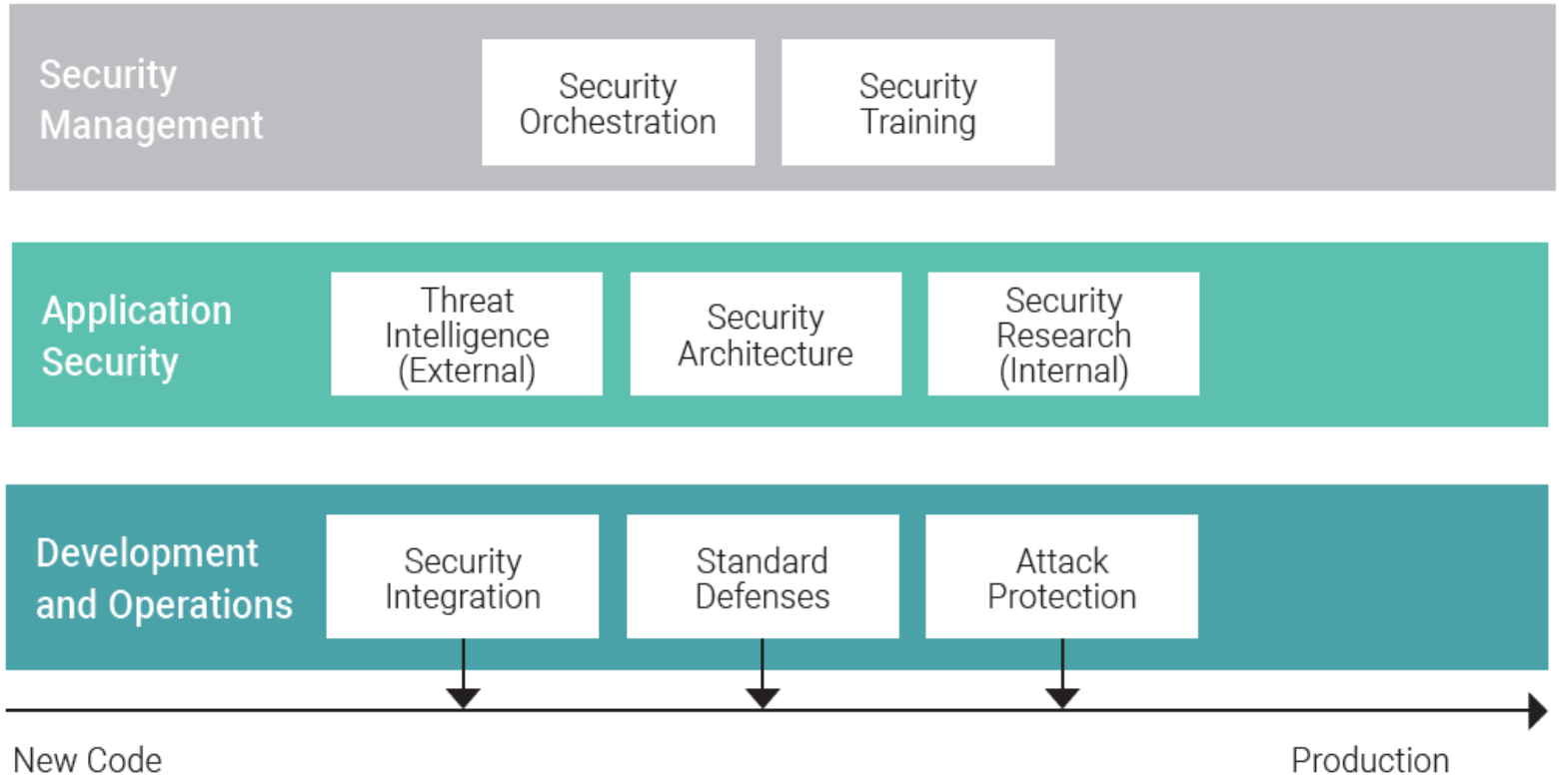
Centralized Visibility and Control

Continuous Assessment and Protection

Making DevSecOps Actually Work



Instrumentation Powers Continuous AppSec



Analytics across entire portfolio drive budget and priorities

A platform for modeling policy to enforce across portfolio

Instant accurate notification of problems via existing tools

Continuous Application Security

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THANK YOU

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