



Secure Software Engineering: Intro

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MSc Course Secure Software Engineering – Summer Semester 2022

Learning objectives

- What are **security** software processes?

Reading material

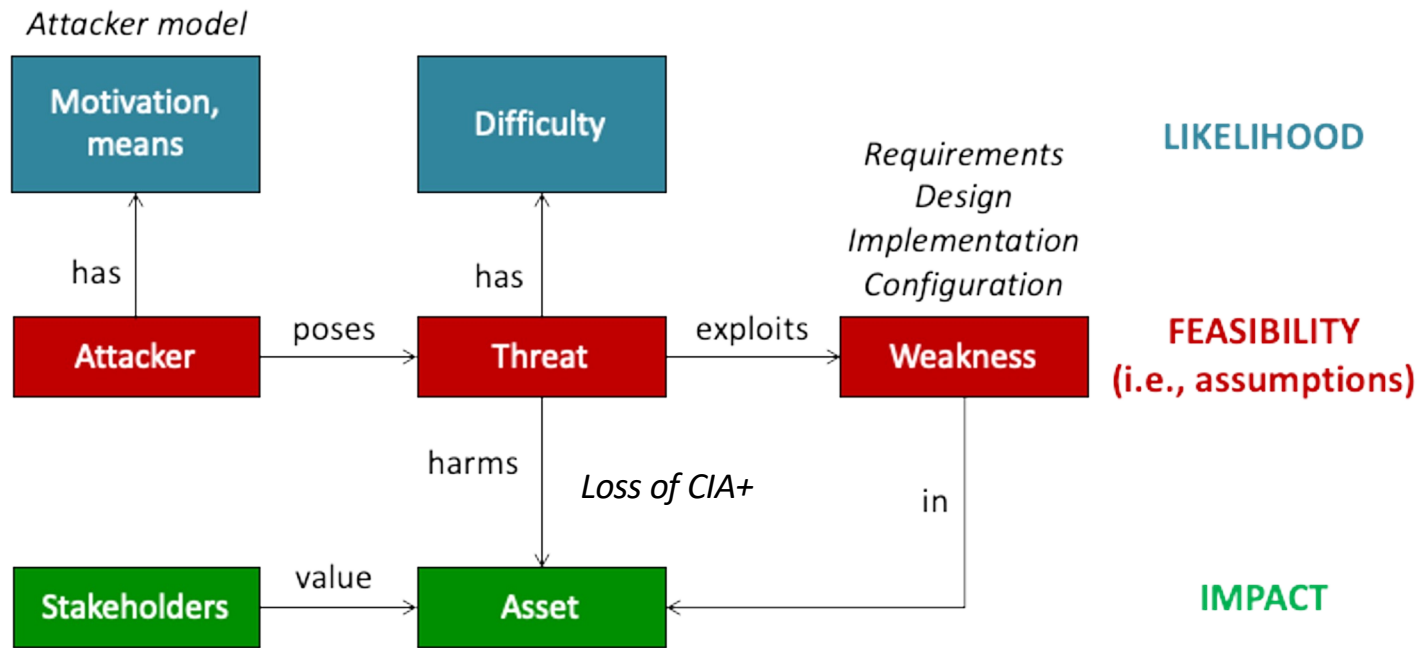
1) <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/securityengineering/sdl/practices>

2) B. De Win, et al., [On the secure software development process: CLASP, SDL and Touchpoints compared](#), IST, 2009

- What are **security** maturity models?

Security flaws

ISO/IEC 15408 (Common Criteria)





Code-level vulnerabilities



- Examples
 - Stack overflow
 - Command injection
 - SQL injection
 - Cross-site scripting (XSS)
 - Cross-site request forgery (CSRF)
 - ...
- MSc course "Software Security" in Winter Semester

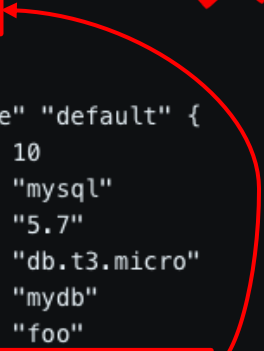



Not just functional code

- Lots of configuration code
 - Container config – **Docker, K8s**
(Scanning tools: Aqua, Trivy, Snyk...)
 - Cloud deployment scripts (IaC) – **Terraform, Ansible**
(Scanning tools: Snyk, Checov, Terrafirma, TFlint...)
- **Configuration vulnerabilities** as the new frontier
(cf. A. Rahman et al., The seven sins: security smells in IaC scripts, ICSE 2019)




Terraform scripting language

```
variable "password" {  
  type = string  
  default = "foobarbaz"  
}  
  
resource "aws_db_instance" "default" {  
  allocated_storage = 10  
  engine            = "mysql"  
  engine_version   = "5.7"  
  instance_class   = "db.t3.micro"  
  name             = "mydb"  
  username        = "foo"  
  password        = var.password  
  parameter_group_name = "default.mysql5.7"  
  skip_final_snapshot = true  
  db_subnet_group_name = aws_db_subnet_group.default.name  
}
```



```
# AWS Secrets Manager  
data "aws_secretsmanager_secret" "my_db_secret" {  
  name = "my_db_secret"  
}  
  
# secret version  
data "aws_secretsmanager_secret_version" "my_db_secret" {  
  secret_id = data.aws_secretsmanager_secret.my_db_secret.id  
}  
  
# store the value in a local variable  
locals {  
  password = jsondecode(data.aws_secretsmanager_secret_version.my_db_secret.secret_string)  
}  
  
# use it like:  
  
resource "aws_db_instance" "default" {  
  allocated_storage = 10  
  engine            = "mysql"  
  engine_version   = "5.7"  
  instance_class   = "db.t3.micro"  
  name             = "mydb"  
  username        = "foo"  
  password        = local.password  
  parameter_group_name = "default.mysql5.7"  
  skip_final_snapshot = true  
  db_subnet_group_name = aws_db_subnet_group.default.name  
}
```





Above the implementation/ops level

- Is the **architectural design** right?
- Are the **software requirements** right?



Architectural security issues

Security weaknesses due to wrong design choices



- Using Weak Authentication (e.g., “API keys”)
- Trust Boundary Violation (e.g., input validation)
- Unprotected Storage of Credentials
- Permission Re-delegation
- ...



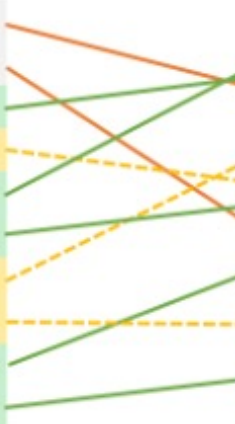
OWASP Top 10

2017

A01:2017-Injection
A02:2017-Broken Authentication
A03:2017-Sensitive Data Exposure
A04:2017-XML External Entities (XXE)
A05:2017-Broken Access Control
A06:2017-Security Misconfiguration
A07:2017-Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
A08:2017-Insecure Deserialization
A09:2017-Using Components with Known Vulnerabilities
A10:2017-Insufficient Logging & Monitoring

2021

A01:2021-Broken Access Control
A02:2021-Cryptographic Failures
A03:2021-Injection
{New} A04:2021-Insecure Design
A05:2021-Security Misconfiguration
A06:2021-Vulnerable and Outdated Components
A07:2021-Identification and Authentication Failures
{New} A08:2021-Software and Data Integrity Failures
A09:2021-Security Logging and Monitoring Failures
{New} A10:2021-Server-Side Request Forgery (SSRF)





But also...

- Wrong / missing **security assumptions**
 - Traffic is not accessible (CAN-bus ?)
 - Traffic is *always* encrypted (until it isn't)
- Wrong **perception of risks**
 - Low likelihood of malicious internal user
 - Physical access in IoT systems
- Wrong / missing **security requirements**
 - In safety-critical systems, ppl focus on integrity over confidentiality
(what is asset contains personal data?)



PROCESSES

“Shift Left” Paradigm

- Old days: deal with security **at the end** (patching, incident handling)
- New paradigm, **start early** in the dev **process**, and deal with security continuously
 - **Security-by-design**
- Beyond processes and activities?
(wait for last slide...)

Secure Development Life-Cycle (SDL)

- Security is not an add-on feature
- You don't write software and then make it "secure" by *adding a few security features* (authentication, etc)
- You don't write software and then make it "secure" by *removing vulnerabilities either* (buffer overflow, etc)
- Security is an ongoing concern throughout the **software life cycle**
 - Security requirements, Secure design, Secure development – deployment – maintenance (patching, new releases, ...)

Microsoft SDL: Historical note

- Bill Gates launched the **Trustworthy Computing** initiative on January 15, 2002
- **Email** sent to every full-time employee at Microsoft
- Emphasis on security in the company's strategy
 - “However, even more important than any of these new capabilities is the fact that it is **designed from the ground up to deliver Trustworthy Computing.**”
- Likely, a reaction to the **string of malware** that had affected Windows (Code Red, Nimda, Slammer...)



MS SDL evolution

- The SDL Progress Report – Progress reducing software vulnerabilities and developing threat mitigations at Microsoft (2004 – 2010)

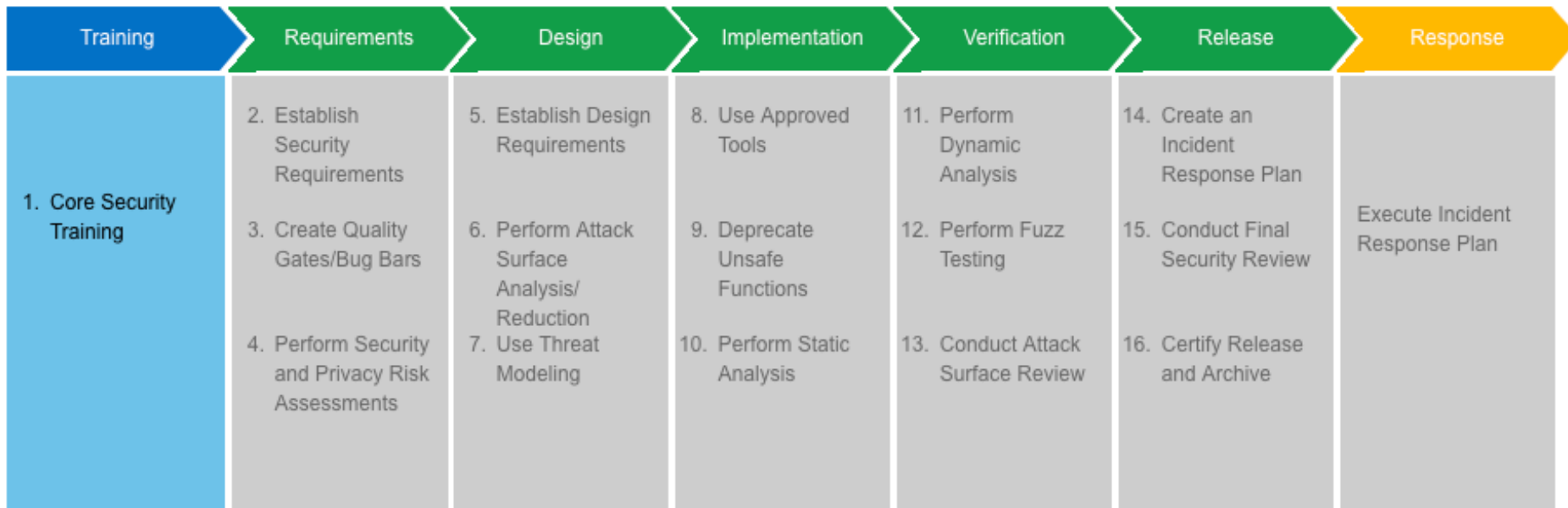
SDL Process Improvement Timeline



Latest version was 5.2 (2012)



Microsoft SDL



Reading material

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/securityengineering/sdl/practices>



Example question



- What is a secure software process, in general? What objectives does it pursue? What activities are central? An example?

Did it work ?

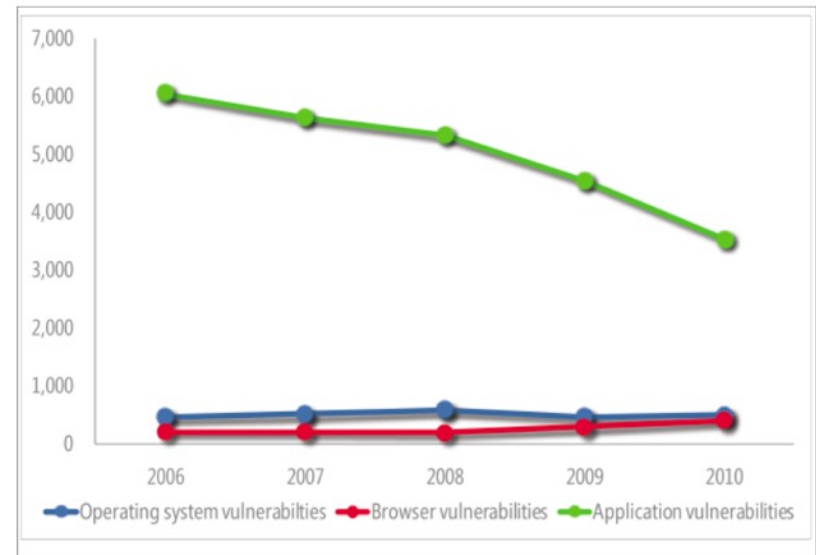
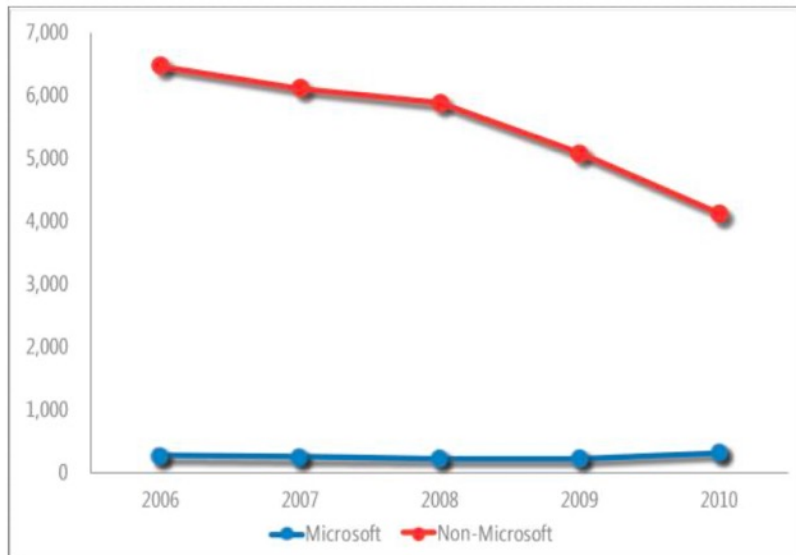


- MS SDL FAQ
- **Has the SDL improved the security of Microsoft products?**
- *As a company-wide initiative and a mandatory policy at Microsoft since 2004, the SDL has played a critical role in embedding security and privacy in Microsoft's culture and software. **The SDL has proven to be effective at reducing vulnerability counts of flagship Microsoft products after release.***
 - From “The SDL Progress Report – Progress reducing software vulnerabilities and developing threat mitigations at Microsoft (2004 – 2010)”

Did it work ?

- The SDL Progress Report – Progress reducing software vulnerabilities and developing threat mitigations at Microsoft (2004 – 2010)

Figure 2: *left*: Vulnerability disclosures for Microsoft and non-Microsoft products, 2006 – 2010; *right*: Industry-wide operating system, browser, and application vulnerabilities, 2006 – 2010



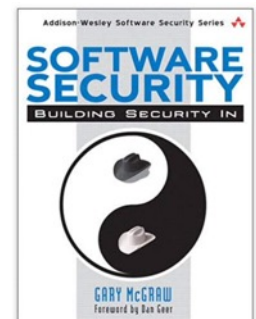


Historical note

- OWASP **CLASP** – Comprehensive, Lightweight Application Security Process
 - Many “open” resources provided to incentivize and simplify adoption
- Gary McGraw (famous security consultant) – **Touchpoints**
 - “Focus on threat modelling and static analysis” (prioritize quick wins)

Reading material

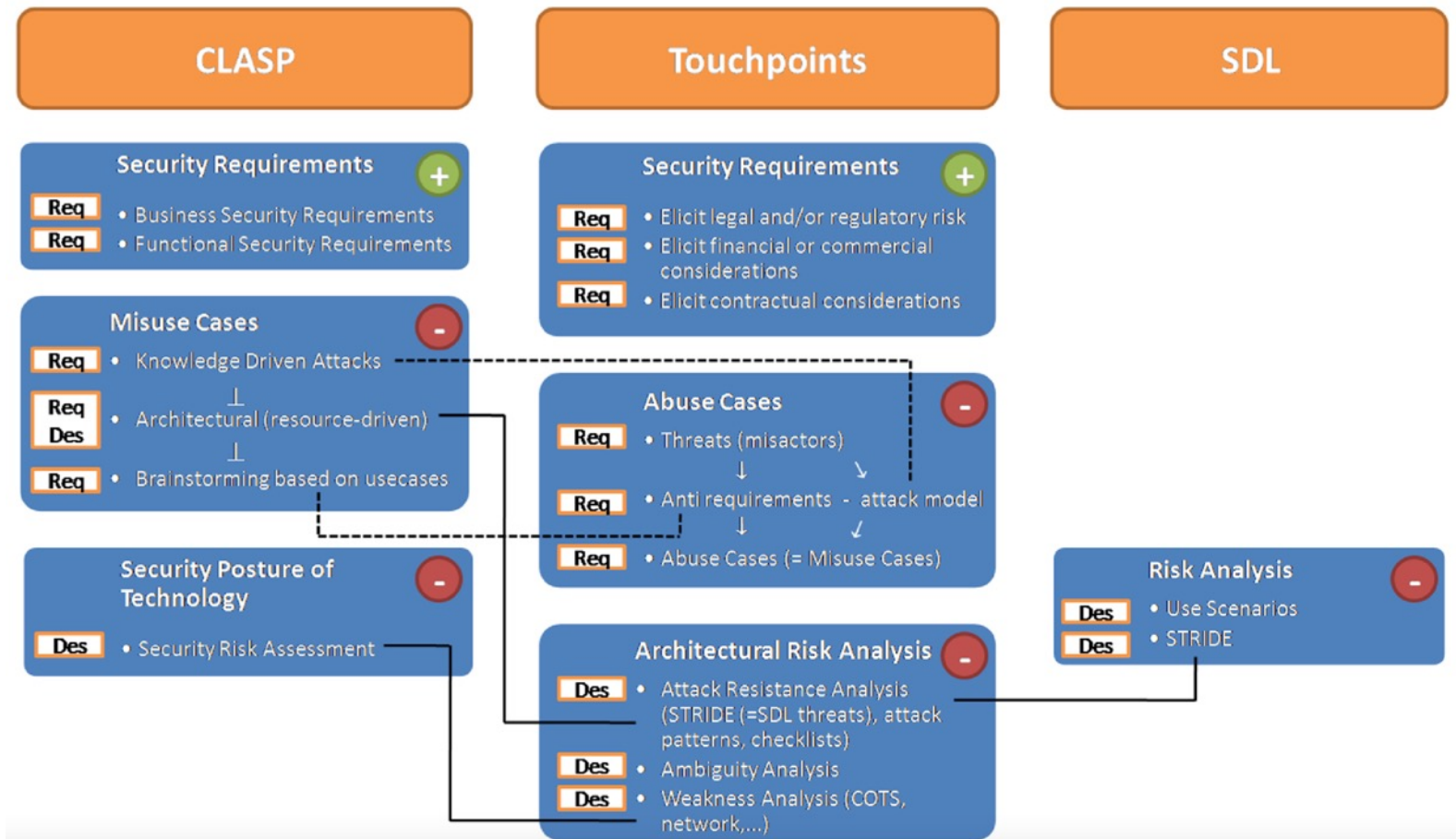
B. De Win, et al., **On the secure software development process: CLASP, SDL and Touchpoints compared**, 2009





CLASP/Touchpoints vs MS SDL

Shift left



Criticism on secure software processes

- Linear processes are rare (agility)
- Hard to integrate SDL into existing processes
 - Company has to figure it out
 - Some info where made available (limited)
- Compliance requires a big investment, no „growing into it“

Later trend: Maturity Models

- Instead of prescribing a process...
(sequence of activities and roles who perform them)
 - ... suggesting **areas of intervention** and **security activities**
-
- McGraw's Touchpoints → Digital BSIMM
 - <https://www.bsimm.com>
 - OWASP CLASP → SAMM
 - YouTube channel for SAMM:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEZDbvQrj5APg5cEET49A_g
 - SDL also evolved towards 12 security practices (simplified SDL)

Maturity models

- Activities can be performed with a **varying degree** of
 - thoroughness, automation, quality assurance, ...
- Company can decide in **which area to start / invest more**, depending on context, goals, regulatory frameworks, etc.



BSIMM



<https://www.bsimm.com>

Domains

Practices

Governance

1. Strategy & Metrics (SM)
2. Compliance & Policy (CP)
3. Training (T)

Intelligence

4. Attack Models (AM)
5. Security Features & Design (SFD)
6. Standards & Requirements (SR)

SSDL Touchpoints

7. Architecture Analysis (AA)
8. Code Review (CR)
9. Security Testing (ST)

Deployment

10. Penetration Testing (PT)
11. Software Environment (SE)
12. Configuration Management & Vulnerability Management (CMVM)

Meaning of “Levels of assurance”

- More activities, more thoroughly

SSDL Touchpoints

ARCHITECTURE ANALYSIS (AA)		
LEVEL 1		
ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITY #	PARTICIPANT %
Perform security feature review.	AA1.1	86%
Perform design review for high-risk applications.	AA1.2	37%
Have SSG lead design review efforts.	AA1.3	28%
Use a risk questionnaire to rank applications.	AA1.4	59%
LEVEL 2		
Define and use AA process.	AA2.1	15%
Standardize architectural descriptions (including data flow).	AA2.2	12%
Make SSG available as AA resource or mentor.	AA2.3	17%
LEVEL 3		
Have software architects lead design review efforts.	AA3.1	8%
Drive analysis results into standard architecture patterns.	AA3.2	1%



Domain: Governance

Practices help to organise, manage and measure a Software Security Initiatives (SII)

- Strategy & Metrics
- Compliance & Policy
- Training





GOVERNANCE

STRATEGY & METRICS (SM)	COMPLIANCE & POLICY (CP)	TRAINING (T)
<p>LEVEL 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SM1.1] Publish process and evolve as necessary. • [SM1.3] Educate executives on software security. • [SM1.4] Implement lifecycle instrumentation and use to define governance. 	<p>LEVEL 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [CP1.1] Unify regulatory pressures. • [CP1.2] Identify PII obligations. • [CP1.3] Create policy. 	<p>LEVEL 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [T1.1] Conduct software security awareness training. • [T1.7] Deliver on-demand individual training. • [T1.8] Include security resources in onboarding.
<p>LEVEL 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SM2.1] Publish data about software security internally and drive change. • [SM2.2] Verify release conditions with measurements and track exceptions. • [SM2.3] Create or grow a satellite. • [SM2.6] Require security sign-off prior to software release. • [SM2.7] Create evangelism role and perform internal marketing. 	<p>LEVEL 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [CP2.1] Build PII inventory. • [CP2.2] Require security sign-off for compliance-related risk. • [CP2.3] Implement and track controls for compliance. • [CP2.4] Include software security SLAs in all vendor contracts. • [CP2.5] Ensure executive awareness of compliance and privacy obligations. 	<p>LEVEL 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [T2.5] Enhance satellite through training and events. • [T2.8] Create and use material specific to company history. • [T2.9] Deliver role-specific advanced curriculum.
<p>LEVEL 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SM3.1] Use an internal tracking application with portfolio view. • [SM3.2] SSI efforts are part of external marketing. • [SM3.3] Identify metrics and use them to drive resourcing. • [SM3.4] Integrate software-defined lifecycle governance. 	<p>LEVEL 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [CP3.1] Create a regulator compliance story. • [CP3.2] Impose policy on vendors. • [CP3.3] Drive feedback from software lifecycle data back to policy. 	<p>LEVEL 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [T3.1] Reward progression through curriculum. • [T3.2] Provide training for vendors and outsourced workers. • [T3.3] Host software security events. • [T3.4] Require an annual refresher. • [T3.5] Establish SSG office hours. • [T3.6] Identify new satellite members through observation.



Domain: Intelligence

Practices result in collection and identification of corporate intelligence related with SSI

- Attack Models
- Security Features & Design
- Standards & Requirements





INTELLIGENCE

ATTACK MODELS (AM)	SECURITY FEATURES & DESIGN (SFD)	STANDARDS & REQUIREMENTS (SR)
LEVEL 1	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [AM1.2] Create a data classification scheme and inventory. • [AM1.3] Identify potential attackers. • [AM1.5] Gather and use attack intelligence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SFD1.1] Integrate and deliver security features. • [SFD1.2] Engage the SSG with architecture teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SR1.1] Create security standards. • [SR1.2] Create a security portal. • [SR1.3] Translate compliance constraints to requirements.
LEVEL 2	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [AM2.1] Build attack patterns and abuse cases tied to potential attackers. • [AM2.2] Create technology-specific attack patterns. • [AM2.5] Maintain and use a top <i>N</i> possible attacks list. • [AM2.6] Collect and publish attack stories. • [AM2.7] Build an internal forum to discuss attacks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SFD2.1] Leverage secure-by-design components and services. • [SFD2.2] Create capability to solve difficult design problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SR2.2] Create a standards review board. • [SR2.4] Identify open source. • [SR2.5] Create SLA boilerplate.
LEVEL 3	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [AM3.1] Have a research group that develops new attack methods. • [AM3.2] Create and use automation to mimic attackers. • [AM3.3] Monitor automated asset creation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SFD3.1] Form a review board or central committee to approve and maintain secure design patterns. • [SFD3.2] Require use of approved security features and frameworks. • [SFD3.3] Find and publish secure design patterns from the organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SR3.1] Control open source risk. • [SR3.2] Communicate standards to vendors. • [SR3.3] Use secure coding standards. • [SR3.4] Create standards for technology stacks.



Domain: SSDL Touchpoints

Essential security best practices required in Software development phases (SDLC)

- Architecture Analysis
- Code Review
- Security Testing





SSDL TOUCHPOINTS

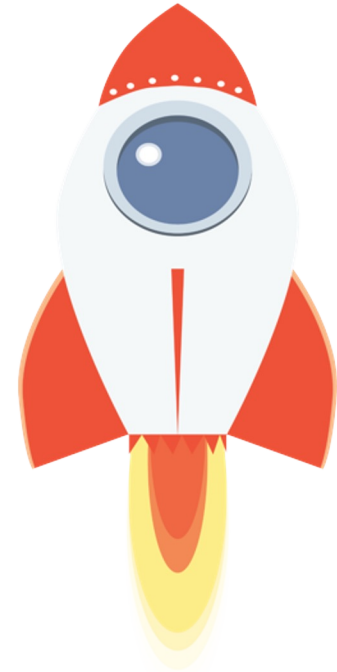
ARCHITECTURE ANALYSIS (AA)	CODE REVIEW (CR)	SECURITY TESTING (ST)
LEVEL 1	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [AA1.1] Perform security feature review. [AA1.2] Perform design review for high-risk applications. [AA1.3] Have SSG lead design review efforts. [AA1.4] Use a risk methodology to rank applications. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [CR1.2] Perform opportunistic code review. [CR1.4] Use automated tools. [CR1.5] Make code review mandatory for all projects. [CR1.6] Use centralized reporting to close the knowledge loop. [CR1.7] Assign tool mentors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [ST1.1] Ensure QA performs edge/boundary value condition testing. [ST1.3] Drive tests with security requirements and security features. [ST1.4] Integrate opaque-box security tools into the QA process.
LEVEL 2	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [AA2.1] Define and use AA process. [AA2.2] Standardize architectural descriptions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [CR2.6] Use automated tools with tailored rules. [CR2.7] Use a top <i>N</i> bugs list (real data preferred). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [ST2.4] Share security results with QA. [ST2.5] Include security tests in QA automation. [ST2.6] Perform fuzz testing customized to application APIs.
LEVEL 3	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [AA3.1] Have engineering teams lead AA process. [AA3.2] Drive analysis results into standard design patterns. [AA3.3] Make the SSG available as an AA resource or mentor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [CR3.2] Build a capability to combine assessment results. [CR3.3] Create capability to eradicate bugs. [CR3.4] Automate malicious code detection. [CR3.5] Enforce coding standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [ST3.3] Drive tests with risk analysis results. [ST3.4] Leverage coverage analysis. [ST3.5] Begin to build and apply adversarial security tests (abuse cases). [ST3.6] Implement event-driven security testing in automation.



Domain: Deployment

Practices that deals with network security and software maintenance requirements

- Penetration Testing
- Software Environments
- Configuration Management & Vulnerability Management





DEPLOYMENT

PENETRATION TESTING (PT)	SOFTWARE ENVIRONMENT (SE)	CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT & VULNERABILITY MANAGEMENT (CMVM)
LEVEL 1	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [PT1.1] Use external penetration testers to find problems. • [PT1.2] Feed results to the defect management and mitigation system. • [PT1.3] Use penetration testing tools internally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SE1.1] Use application input monitoring. • [SE1.2] Ensure host and network security basics are in place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [CMVM1.1] Create or interface with incident response. • [CMVM1.2] Identify software defects found in operations monitoring and feed them back to development.
LEVEL 2	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [PT2.2] Penetration testers use all available information. • [PT2.3] Schedule periodic penetration tests for application coverage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SE2.2] Define secure deployment parameters and configurations. • [SE2.4] Protect code integrity. • [SE2.5] Use application containers to support security goals. • [SE2.6] Ensure cloud security basics. • [SE2.7] Use orchestration for containers and virtualized environments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [CMVM2.1] Have emergency response. • [CMVM2.2] Track software bugs found in operations through the fix process. • [CMVM2.3] Develop an operations inventory of software delivery value streams.
LEVEL 3	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [PT3.1] Use external penetration testers to perform deep-dive analysis. • [PT3.2] Customize penetration testing tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [SE3.2] Use code protection. • [SE3.3] Use application behavior monitoring and diagnostics. • [SE3.6] Enhance application inventory with operations bill of materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [CMVM3.1] Fix all occurrences of software bugs found in operations. • [CMVM3.2] Enhance the SSDL to prevent software bugs found in operations. • [CMVM3.3] Simulate software crises. • [CMVM3.4] Operate a bug bounty program. • [CMVM3.5] Automate verification of operational infrastructure security. • [CMVM3.6] Publish risk data for deployable artifacts. • [CMVM3.7] Streamline incoming responsible vulnerability disclosure.



Example question



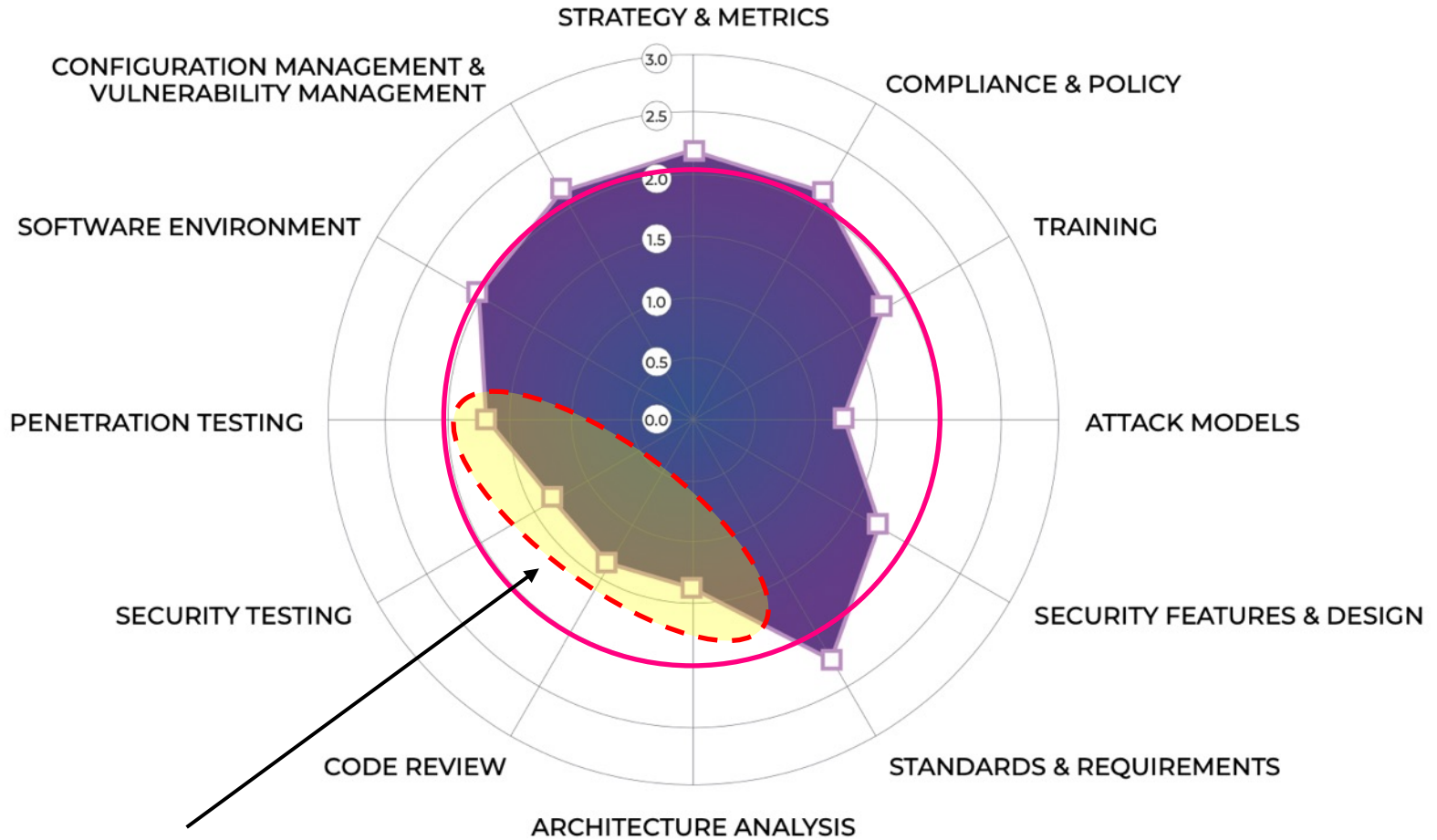
- Difference in the practices described by SDL and BSIMM? Philosophical difference between SDL and BSIMM?



Benchmarking

- Data from 128 of companies
 - Not disclosed !
 - Not independently validated !
- SAMM is creating a similar initiative
<https://owasp samm.org/benchmarking/>

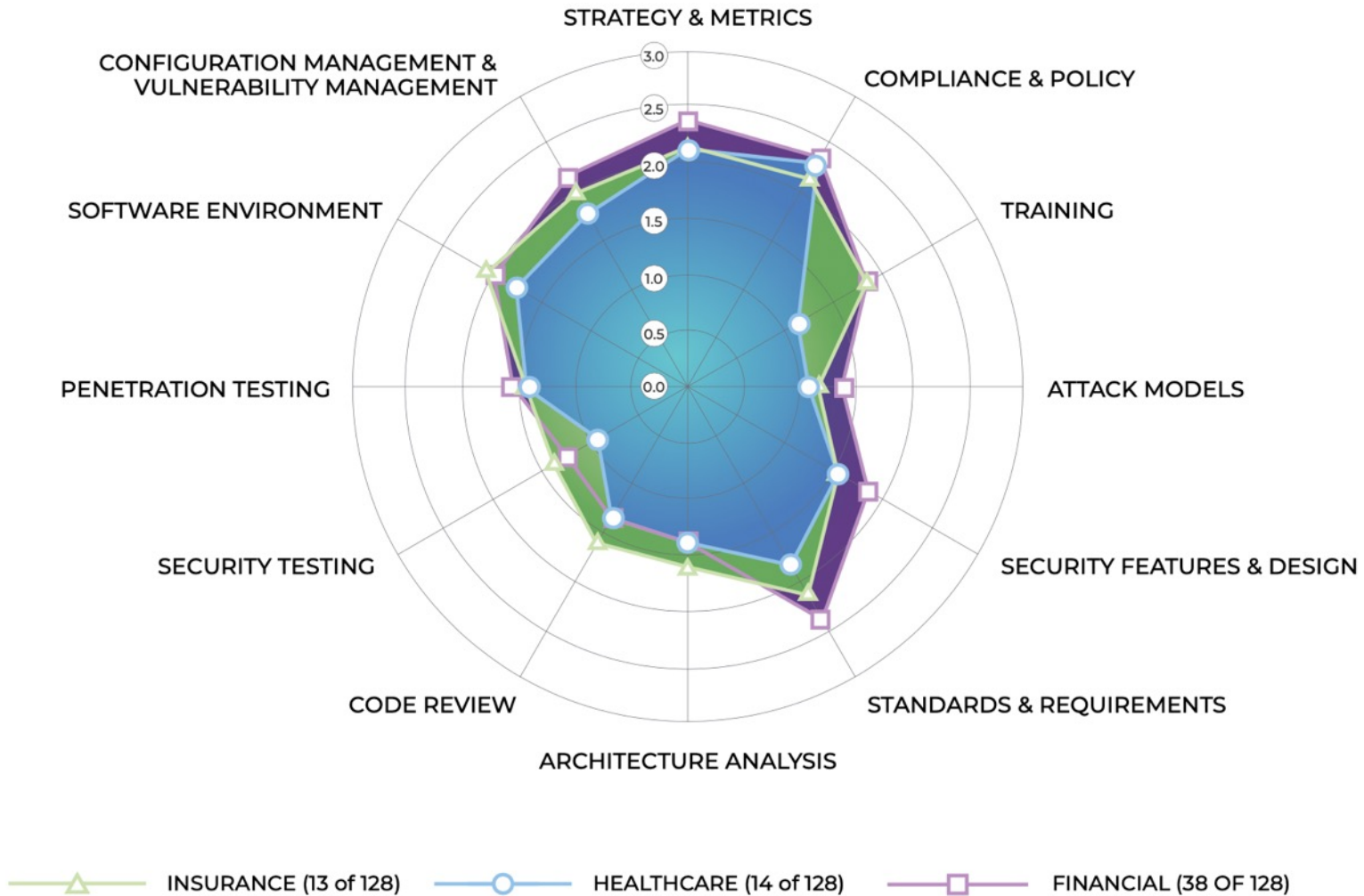
Benchmarking (all companies)



Long way to go 😞



Benchmarking (per domain)

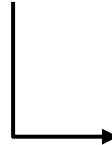




SAMM



BSIMM



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Governance

Design

Strategy and Metrics

Threat Assessment

Policy and Compliance

Security Requirements

Education and Guidance

Security Architecture

Implementation

Verification

Operations

Secure Build

Architecture Assessment

Incident Management

Secure Deployment

Requirements-driven Testing

Environment Management

Defect Management

Security Testing

Operational Management

Beyond processes

- Prior idea: “certifying” the process, as a way to provide security assurance
 - *Core Infrastructure Initiative (CII*)* follows the same principle but makes it more lightweight (badges for best practices)
 - Badges: Passing, Silver, Gold
 - The security part of the badge is rather product-focussed
 - <https://bestpractices.coreinfrastructure.org/en/criteria/0>
- Different focus: product/service and its development artifacts
 - Common Criteria had this right ;)
- Security Assurance Cases
 - Product-focuss and evidence-based



Latest trend: certification

- Regulation (EU) 2019/881 (Cybersecurity Act)
 - EU Cybersecurity Certification Framework
- EU Cybersecurity Certification scheme
 - Developed by ENISA (UE Agency for Cybersecurity)
 - Based on Common Criteria (and ISO standards)
 - Version V.1.1.1 (candidate)
 - 300 pages 😊

Learning objectives: checkpoint

- What are **security software processes**?
 - *Set of additional security-centric activities that are added to the phases of the software process (plus focus on training)*
- What are **security maturity models**?
 - *Areas of intervention that describe increasingly more thorough security activities to be carried out in an organization (focus on software development)*