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STEP-BY-STEP: APPLICATION SECURITY ARCHITECTURE





Rico Komenda

Who?

- Husband and father
- Senior Security Consultant @ adesso SE
- International trainer and speaker
- Consulting
 - AppSec, CloudSec, OffSec, AIsec

Mission statement:

Securing the digital world, one byte at a time

EFFECTS OF CYBER ATTACKS



2022: around 136,000 registered cybercrime offences in DE
Increase of +3% compared to the previous year

CYBERCRIME

How does it happen?

- > Strongly advancing digitalization
- > Increasing professionalization of perpetrators
- > Low barriers to entry through CaaS (Cybercrime-as-a-Service)

Cybercrime: professional business

PATH OF LEAST COST/RESISTANCE

a)



SECURITY IS A PROCESS



Security
REQUIREMENTS



Secure
DESIGN



Secure Coding
DEVELOPMENT

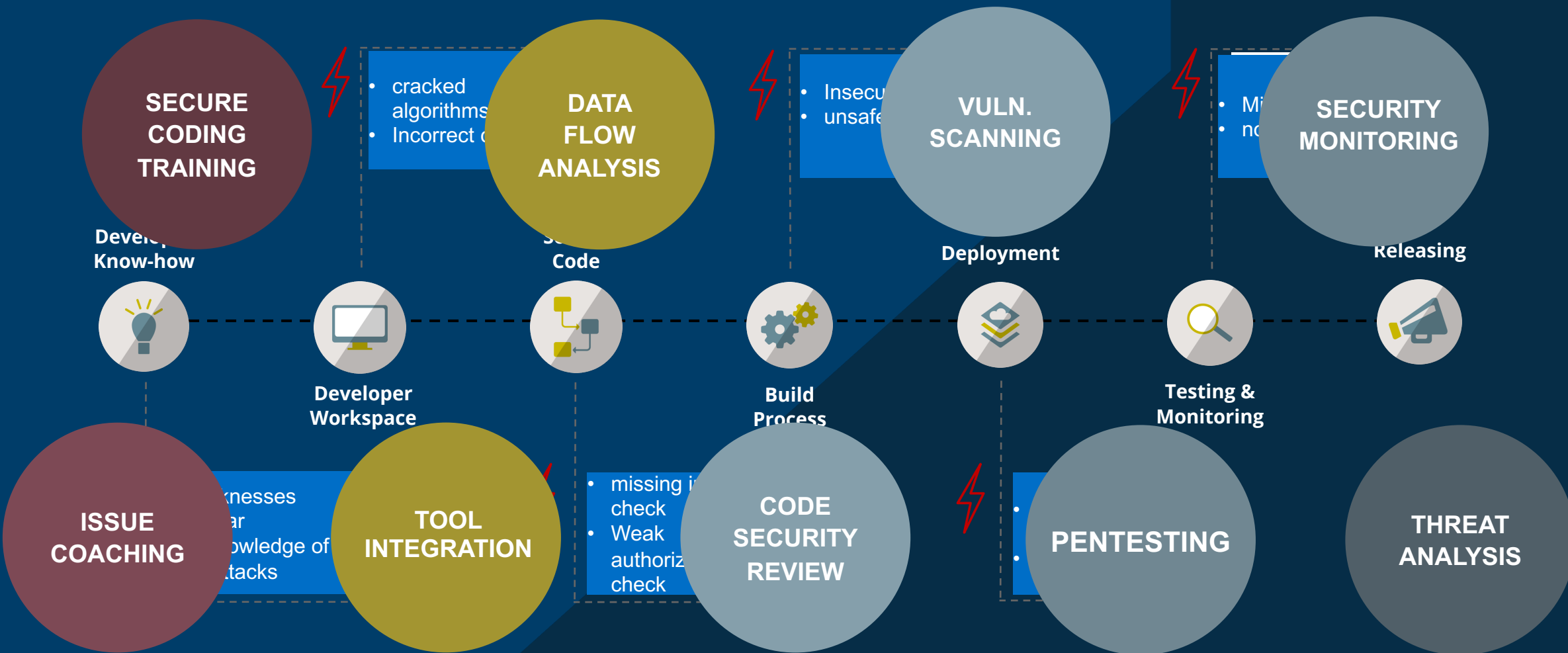


Security
TEST



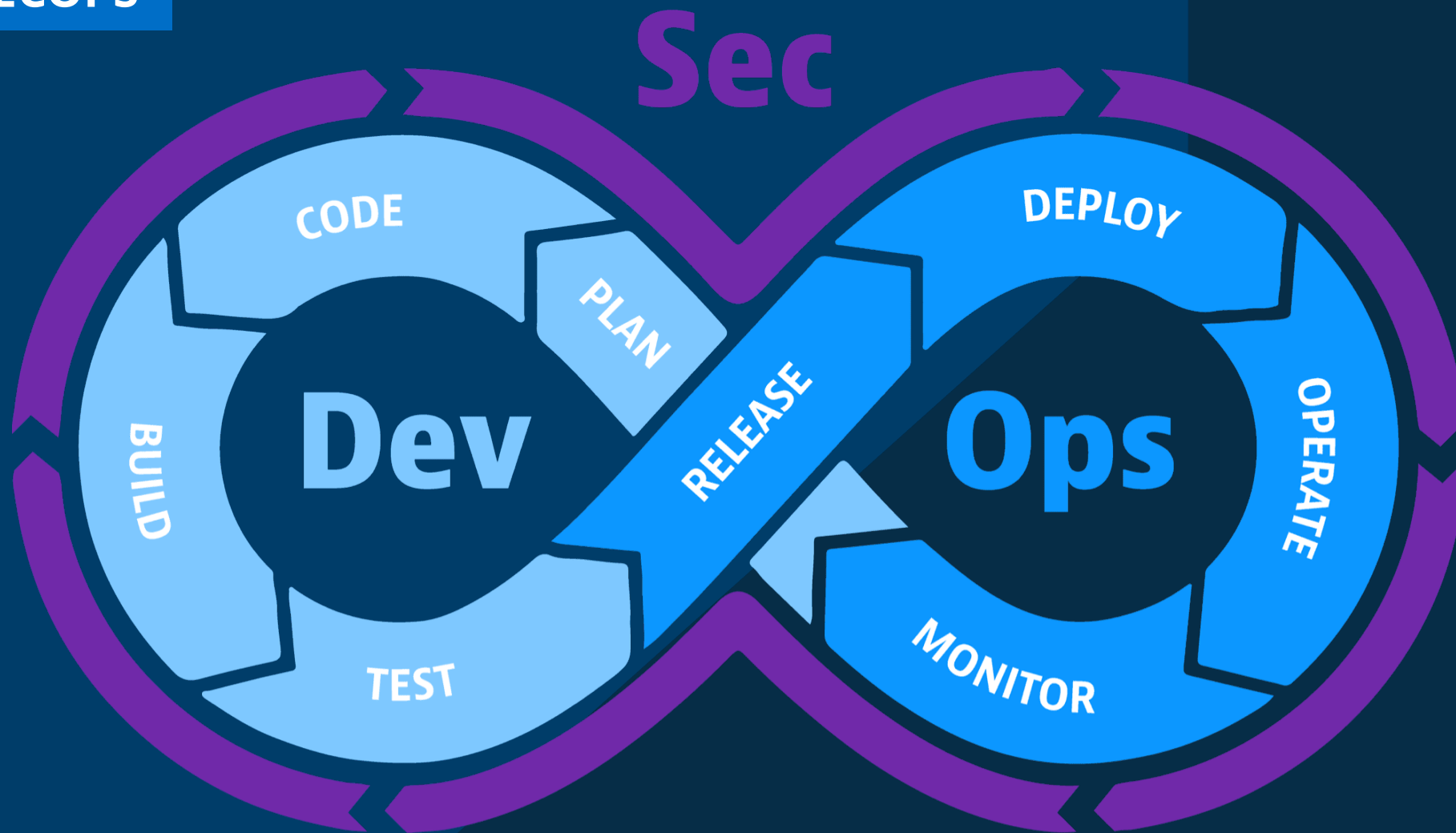
Secure Pipeline
DEPLOYMENT

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT LIFECYCLE

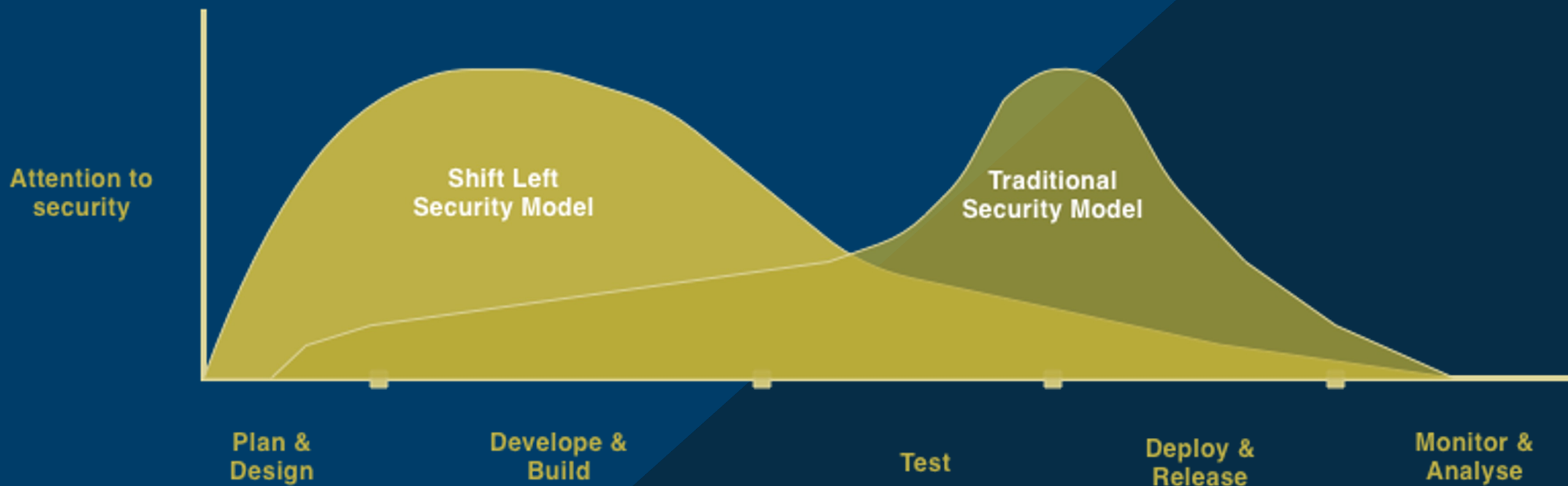


DEVOPS CYCLE





SECDEVOPS & SHIFT-LEFT



SECURITY CONCEPTS



1 Assume Breach & Zero Trust

2 Defense in Depth

3 Principle of least privilege

4 Principle of failing securely

5 Supply Chain Security

6 Security by Obscurity

7 Attack Surface Reduction

8 Useable Security



ASSUME BREACH & ZERO TRUST

ASSUME BREACH

**Design as you
though you
have already
been, or will be,
breached.**

**React as though
you have been
breached**

ZERO TRUST

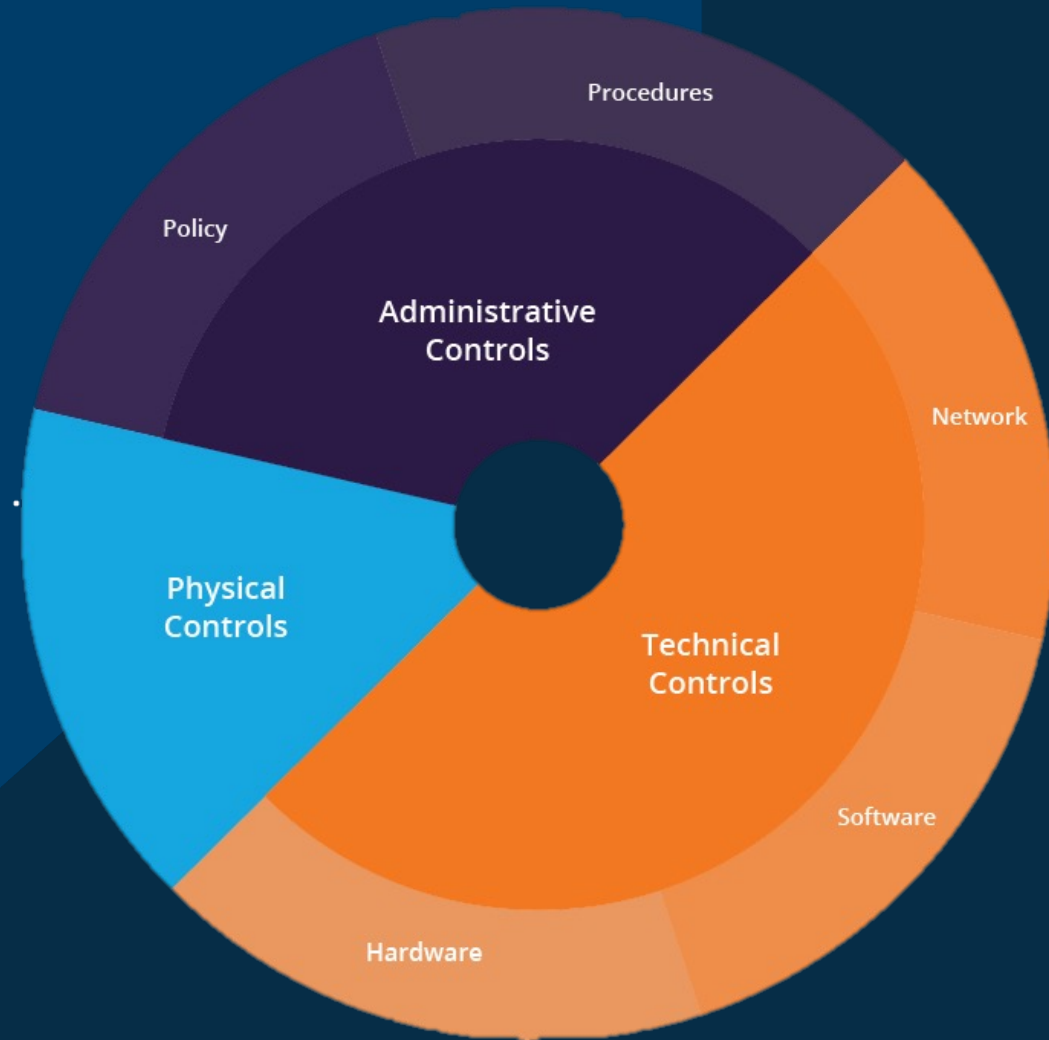
**No implicit
trust between
components,
apps, network,
system, users,
...**

DEFENSE IN DEPTH

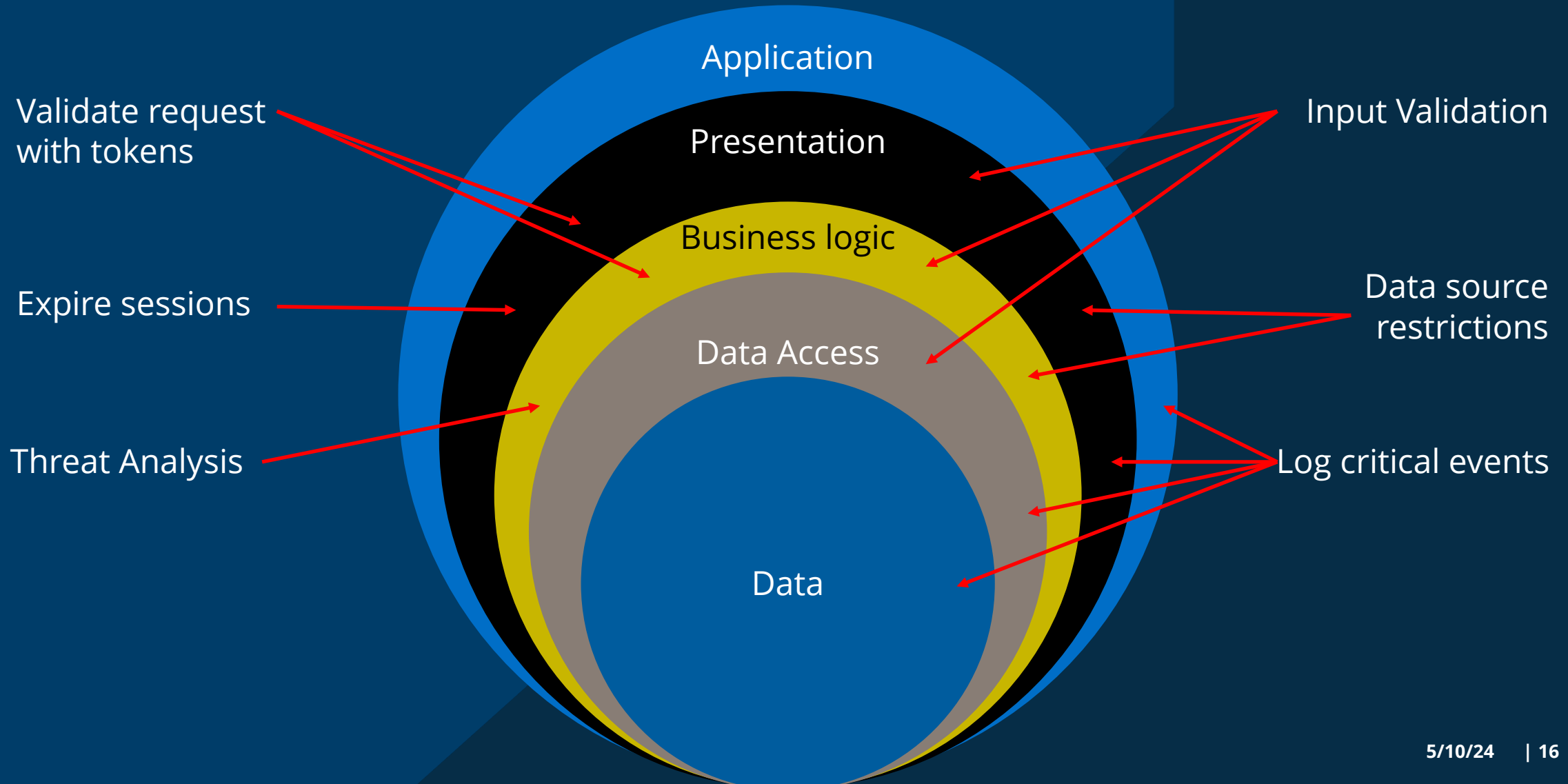
LAYERED DEFENSE IN DEPTH



- Layers of security, instead of only one defense, use several
- In case one layer fails, another will protect your system



DEFENSE IN DEPTH IN THE SOFTWARE LAYER



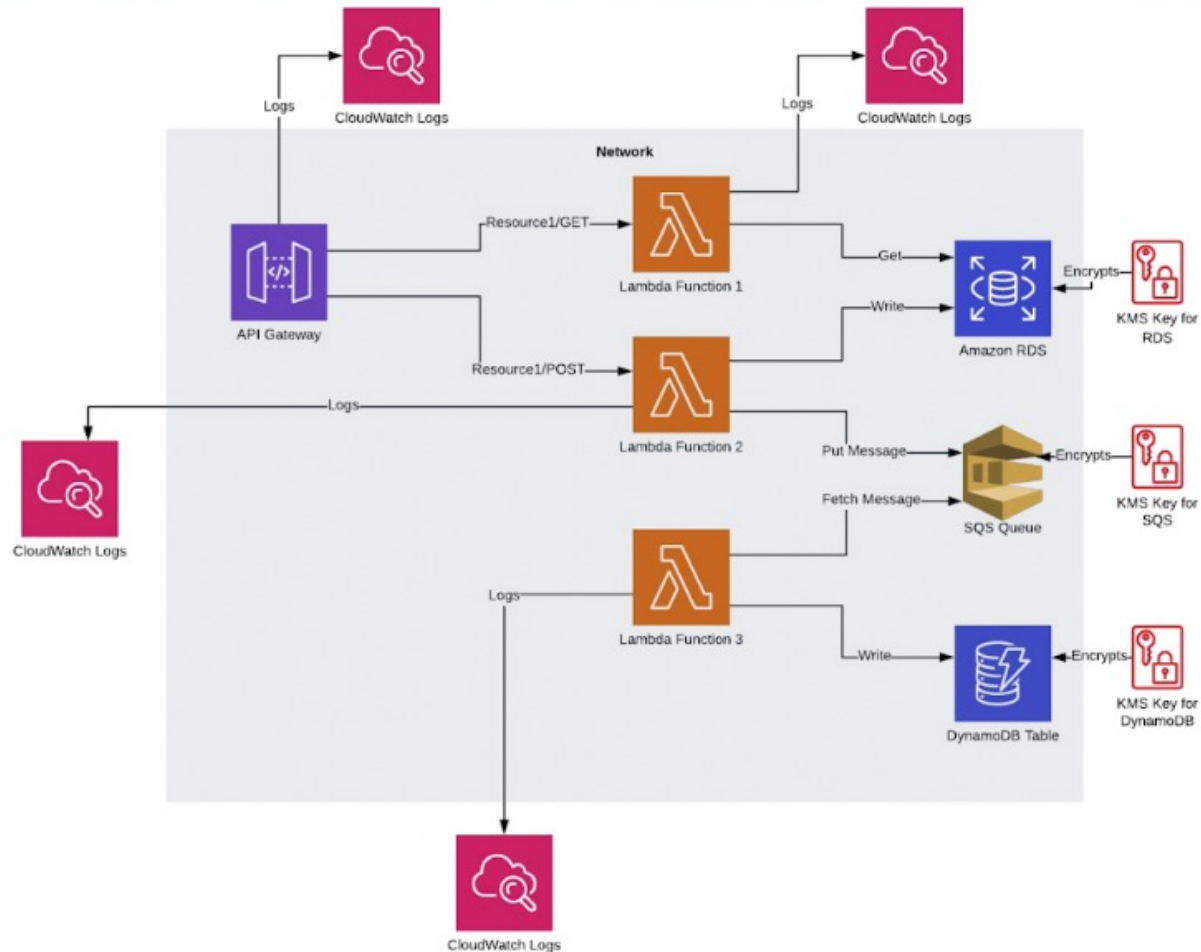
PRINCIPLE OF LEAST PRIVILEGE

PRINCIPLE OF LEAST PRIVILEGE



- Providing only the amount of access and permission required to perform a specific function and nothing more

EXAMPLE: AWS DYNAMODB



Permissions Sets:

- API
 - Resource Policy
- Lambda Functions 1, 2, 3
 - IAM Role + Policies
 - Resource Policy
- RDS Datastore
 - Security Group/s
- Message Queue
 - Access Policy
- NoSQL (DynamoDB) Database
- KMS Keys
 - Key Policy

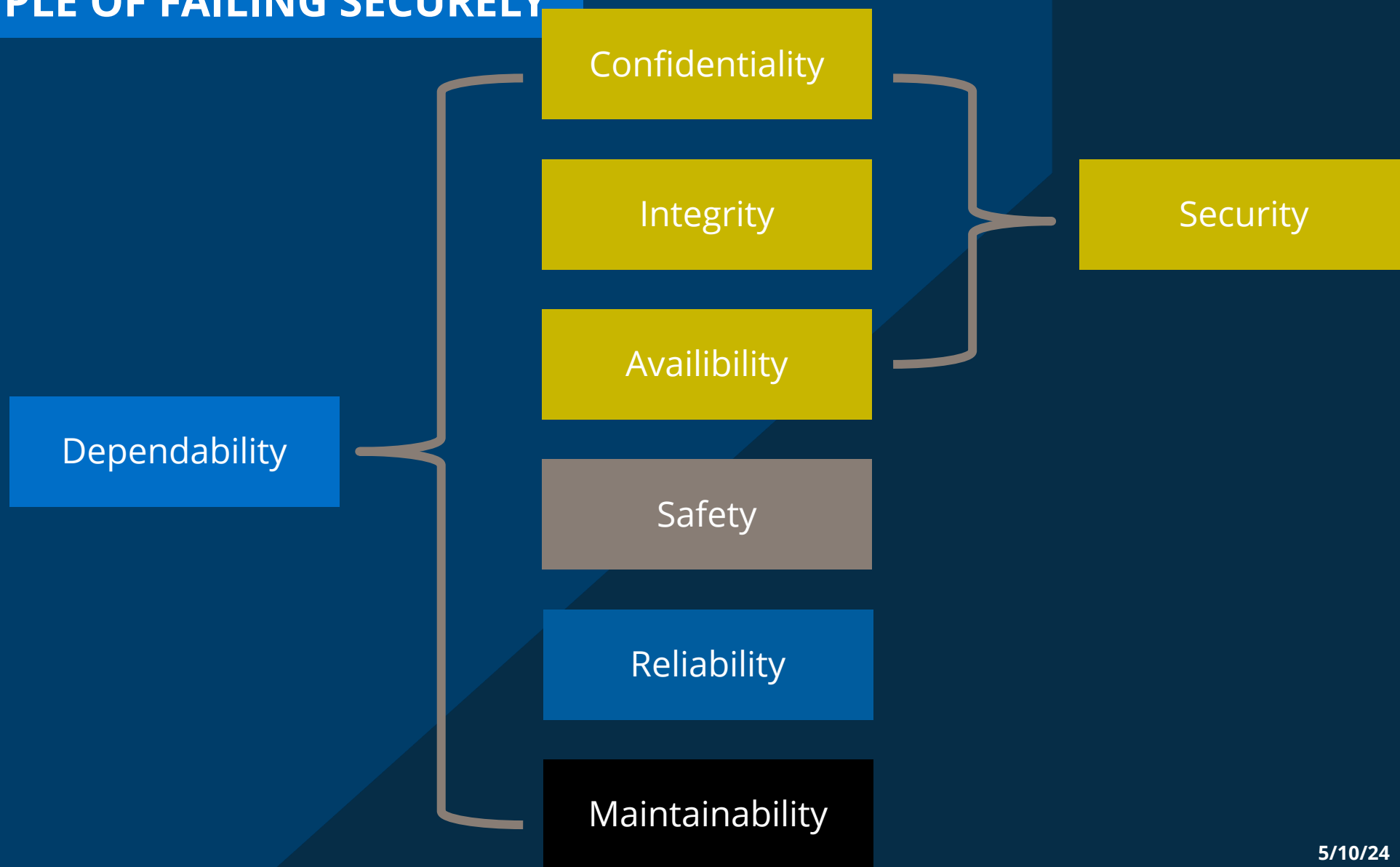
PRINCIPLE OF FAILING SECURELY



REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE:
DOOR-LOCK
FAILING OPEN VS. SECURELY

PRINCIPLE OF FAILING SECURELY

a)



SECURITY CHAOS ENGINEERING @ CLOUD



ID	Cloud Resource	Chaos Action	Description
AP1	User	create	create random user
AP2	User	delete	delete existing user
AP3	User	modify	change user configuration e.g. privileges, role or group
AP4	Policy	create	create new policies with random ACLs and attach to cloud resource(s)
AP4	Policy	modify	modify existing policy e.g. change ACL to deny original owner access to the resource
AP6	Policy	delete	detach policy from a resource, delete the policy
AP7	Role	create	create a new role
AP8	Bucket	make public	alter private configuration to public
AP9	Bucket	disable logging	stop logging API calls against bucket
AP10	Bucket	make unavailable	simulate bucket unavailability e.g. by changing bucket ACL from ALLOW to DENY



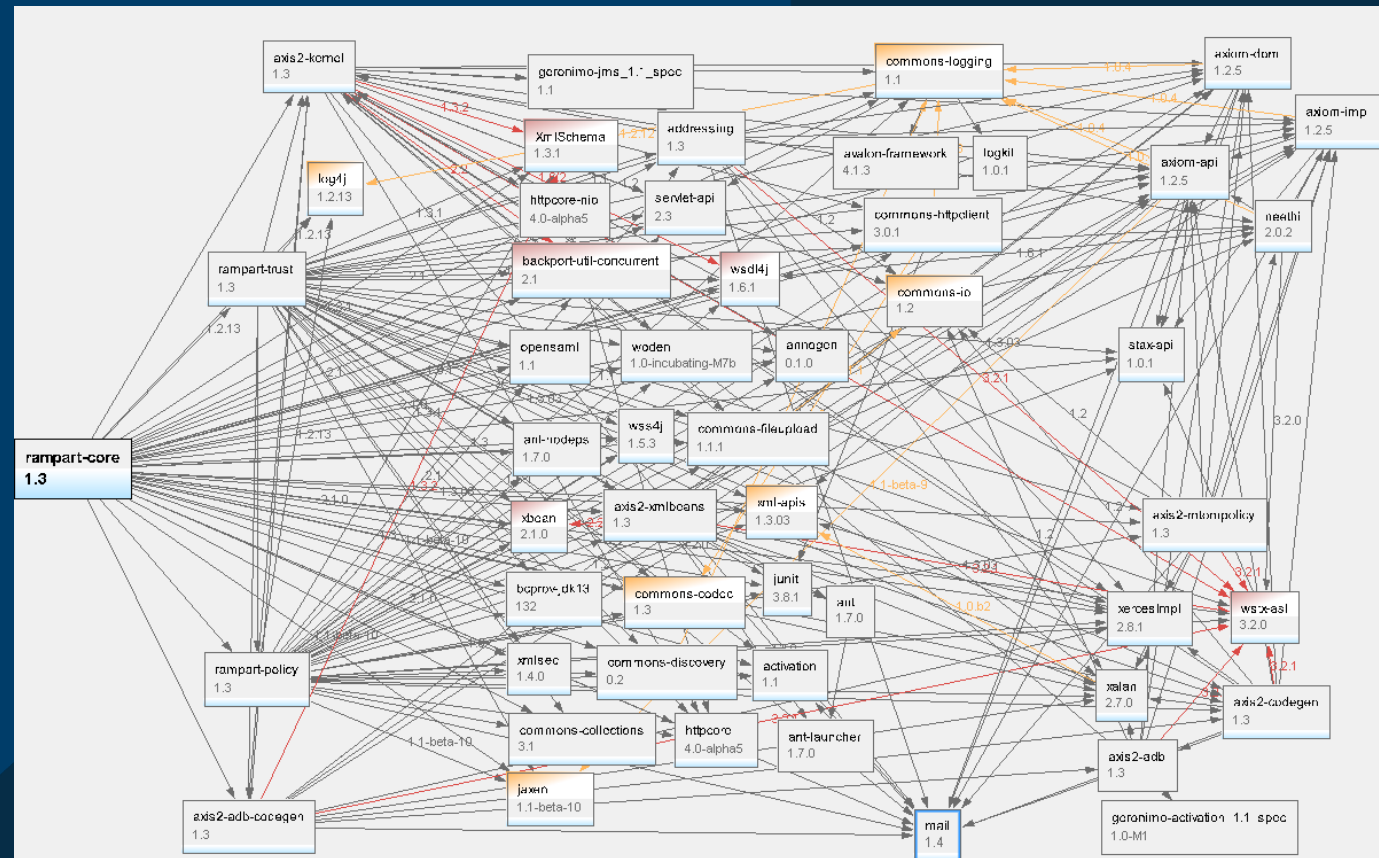
ChaosToolkit

SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

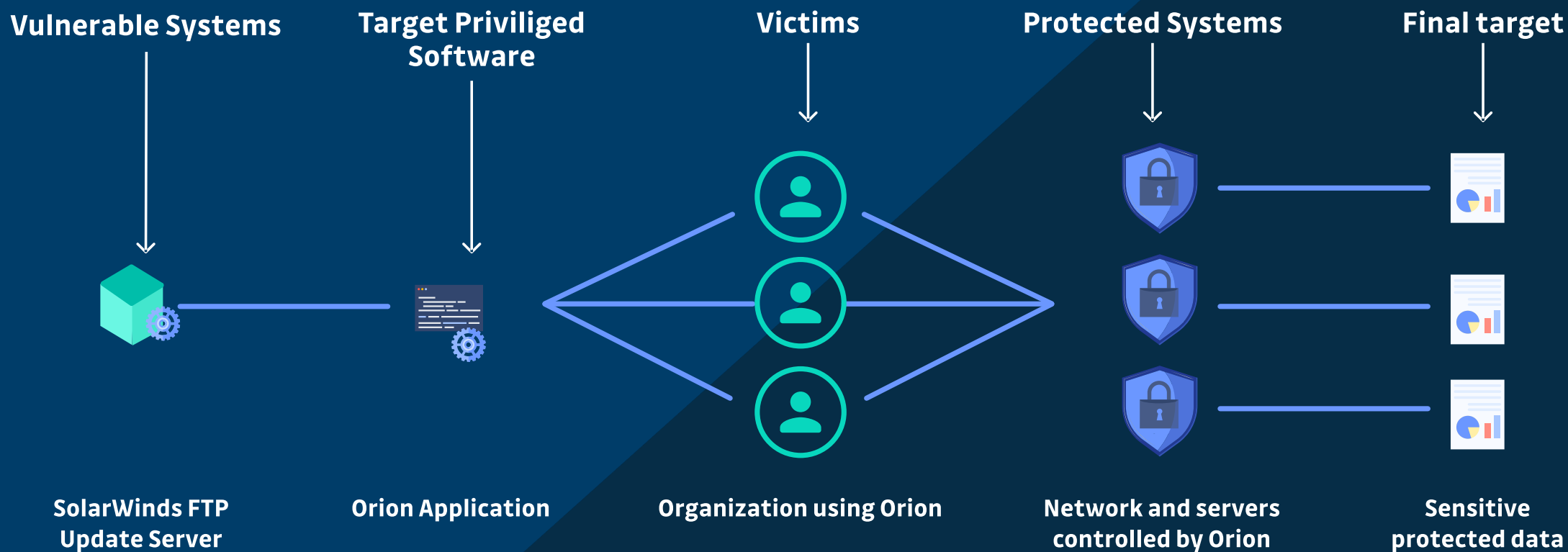
SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY



- All of the components, libraries, frameworks and any other code you did not write, that you put in your app make up your supply chain
- Each dependency needs to be secure



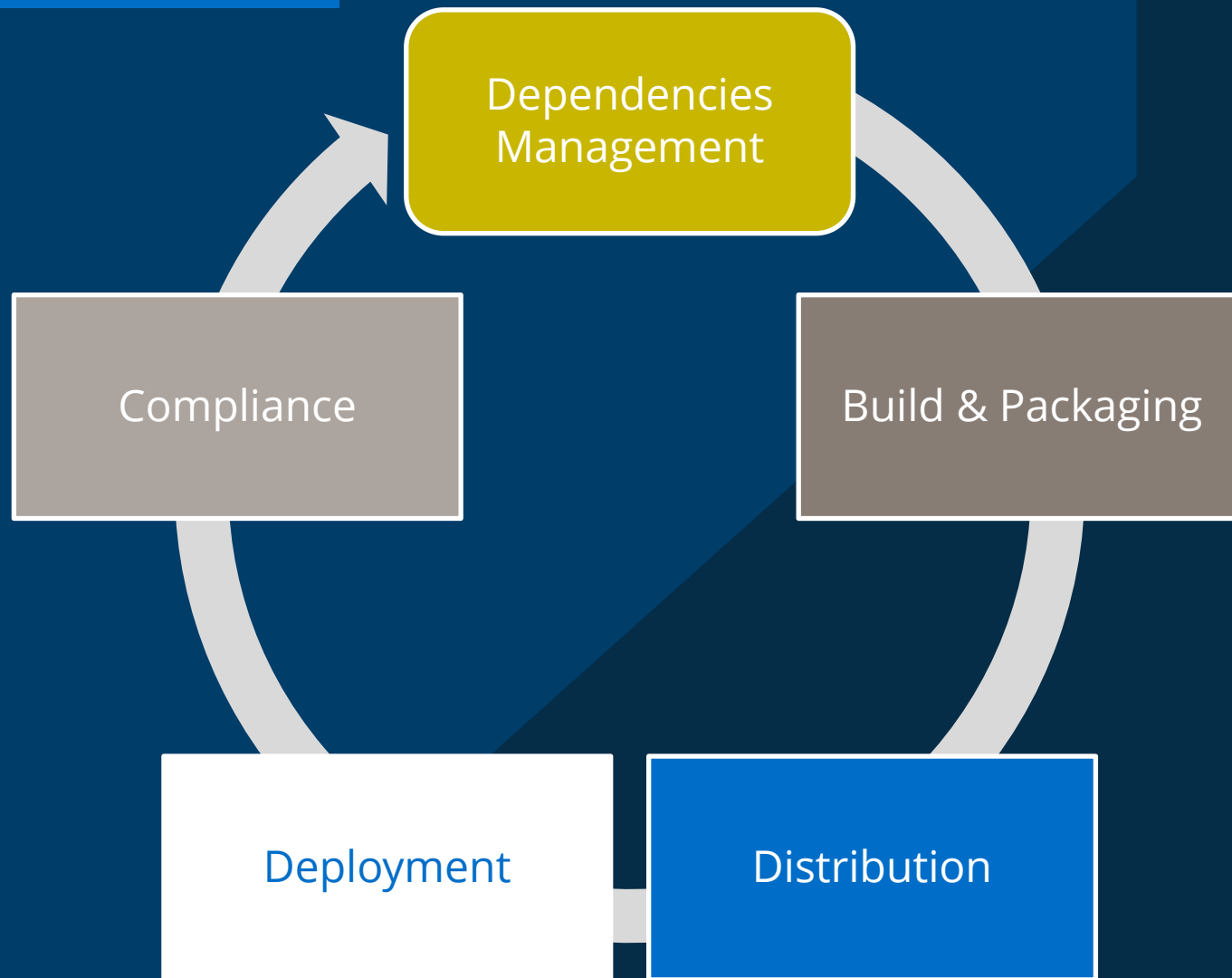
SolarWinds - Attack through a trusted system with privileged access



SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY



SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY



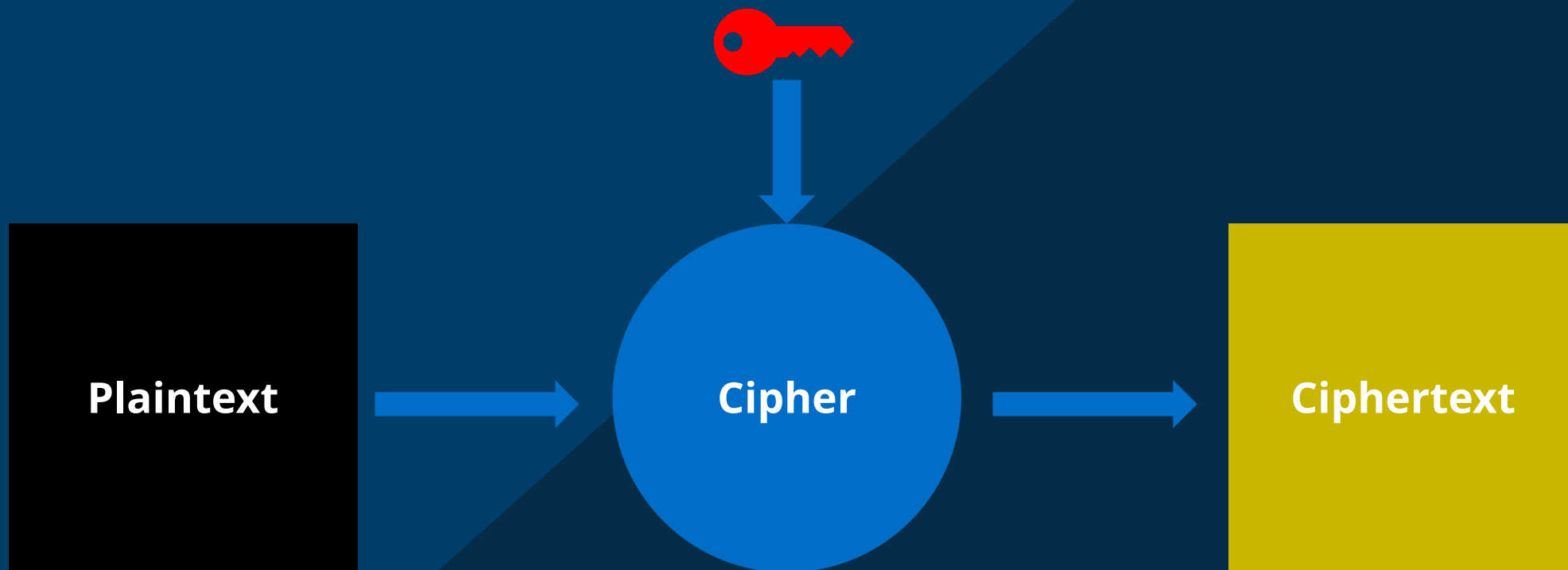
SECURITY BY OBSCURITY

HE WAS PREACHING
SECURITY-BY-OBSCURITY



The Kerchoff Principle

A cryptographic system should be secure even if everything about the system, **except the key**, is public knowledge





REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE:
PASSWORD ON PAPER
UNDER THE KEYBOARD

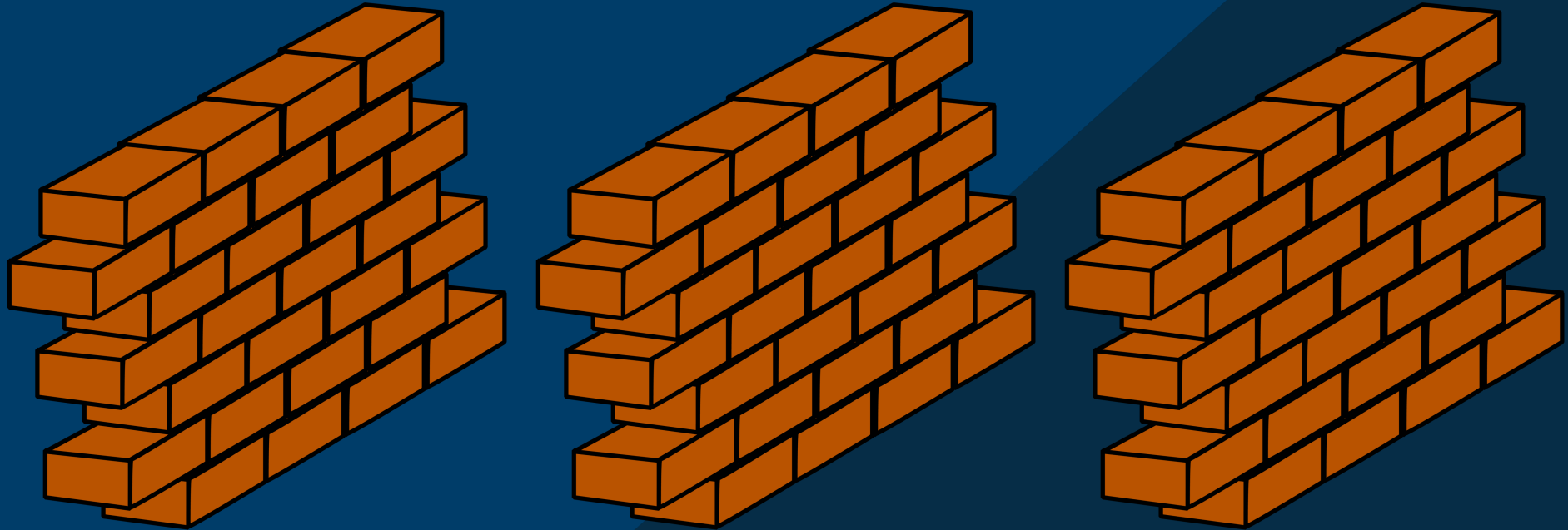
SECURITY BY OBSCURITY



PROS

CONS

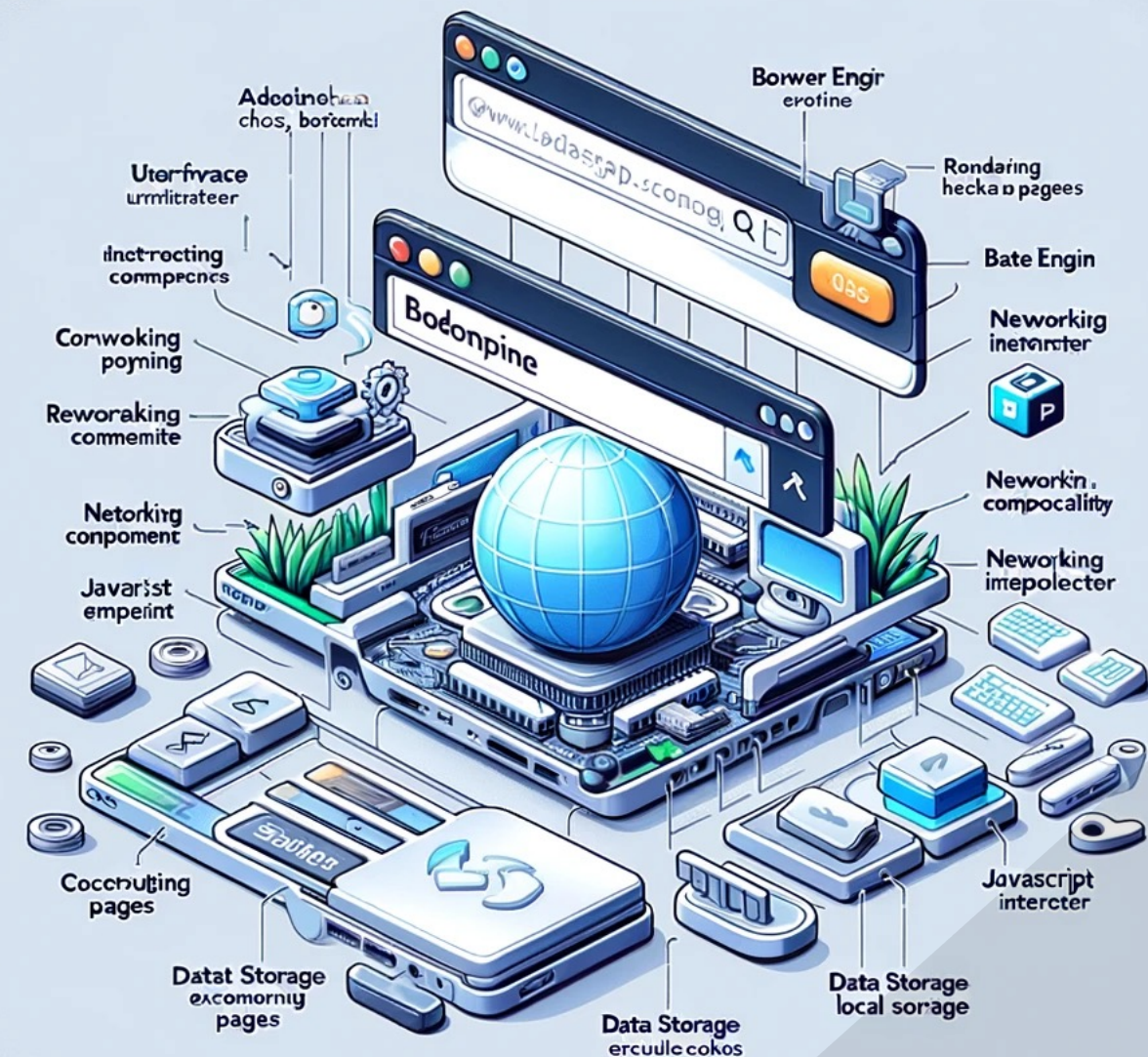
SECURITY BY OBSCURITY



ATTACK SURFACE REDUCTION



REMOVE ANY UNUSED
PARTS OF YOUR CODE



EVERY PART OF YOUR
APPS AND SYSTEM IS
PART OF YOUR ATTACK
SURFACE



THE LESS YOU HAVE, THE
LESS THERE IS TO
ATTACK

USEABLE SECURITY





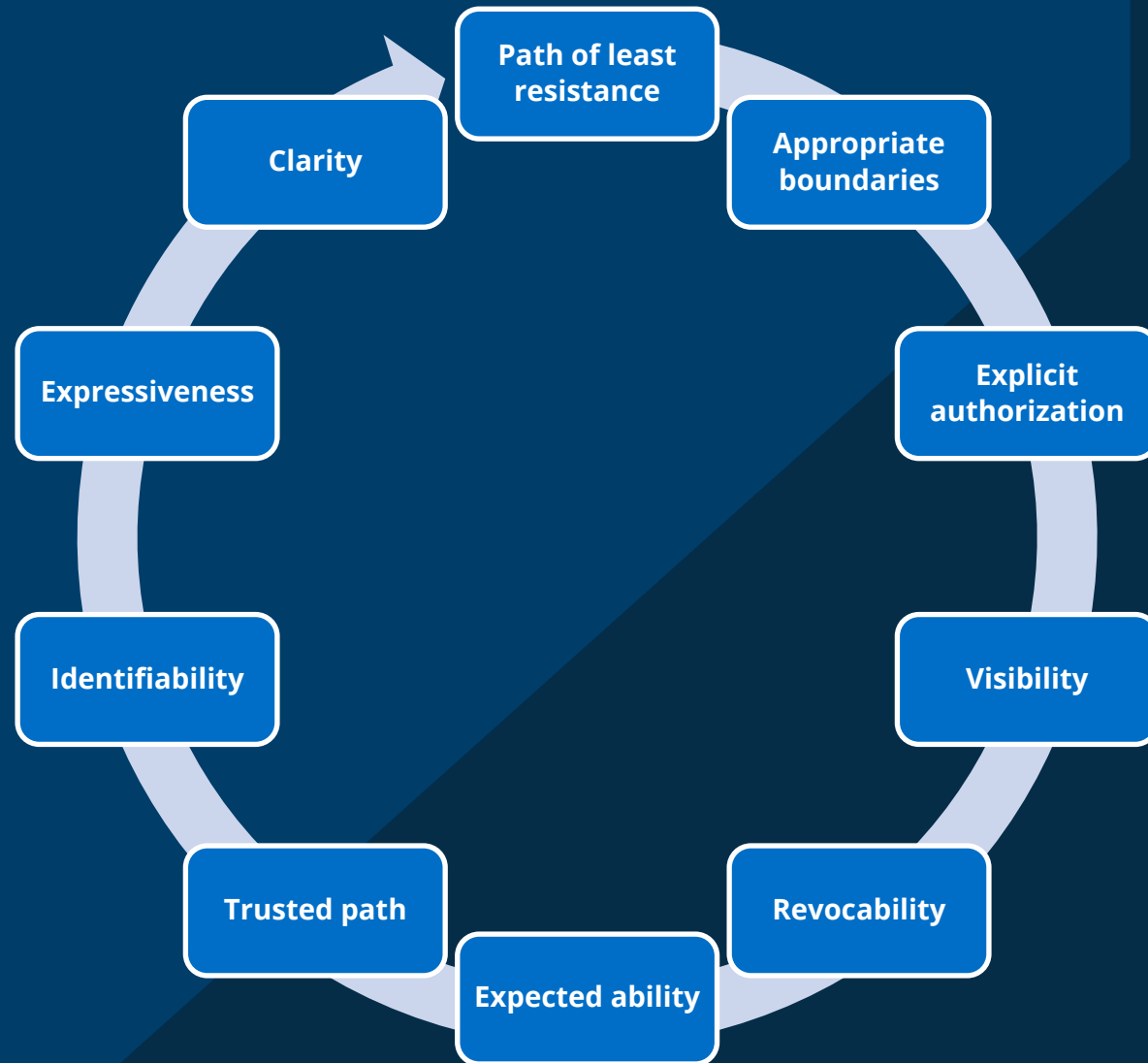


IF SECURITY FEATURES
CAUSE USER PROBLEMS,
THEY'LL FIND WAYS
AROUND THEM



COMPROMISES AND
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS
CAN LEAD TO
CUSTOMER DELIGHT
AND BETTER
COMPLIANCE

DESIGN PRINCIPLES, KAI- PING YEE



SOME TYPICAL APPSEC STUFF

OPEN SECURITY ARCHITECTURE



Architectural principles

Simplicity over
flexibility

Usability over
restriction

Defence in
depth

Implementation principles

Open
design

Secure coding
practices

Black box and
white box testing

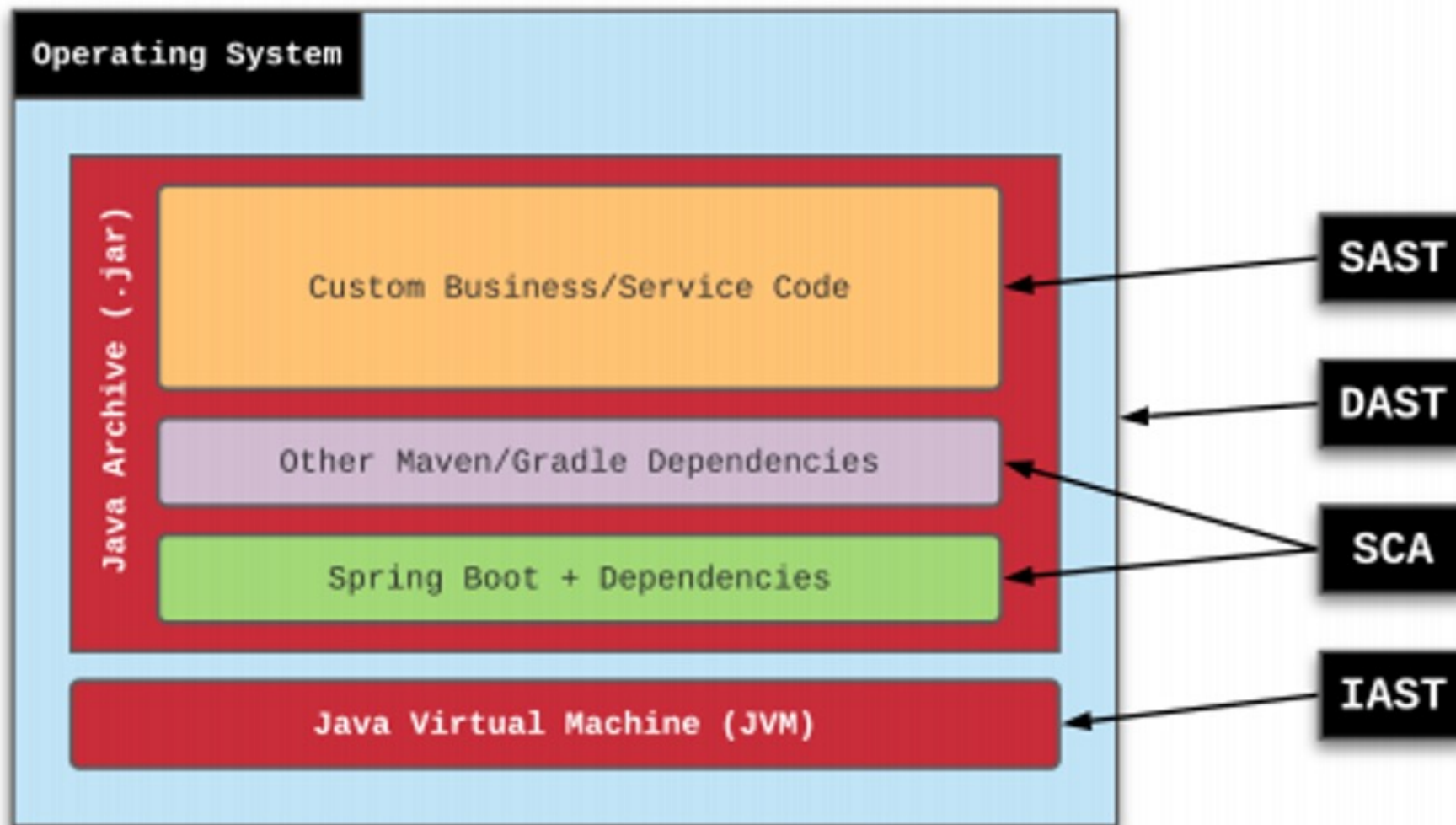
Operation and Configuration principles

Complete
mediation

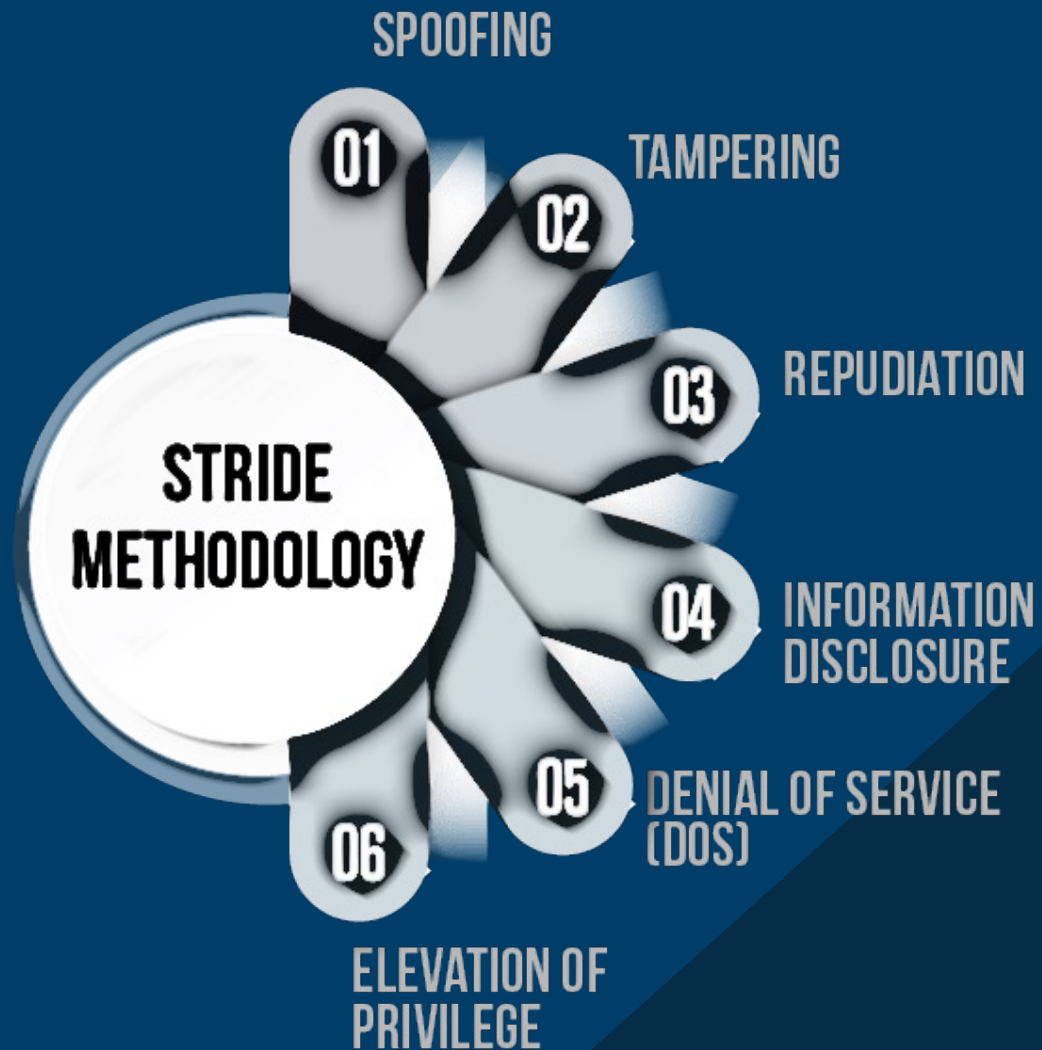
Least
privilege

Audit
trails

APPLICATION SECURITY TESTING



THREAT MODELLING



OWASP Application Security Verification Standard 4.0.2

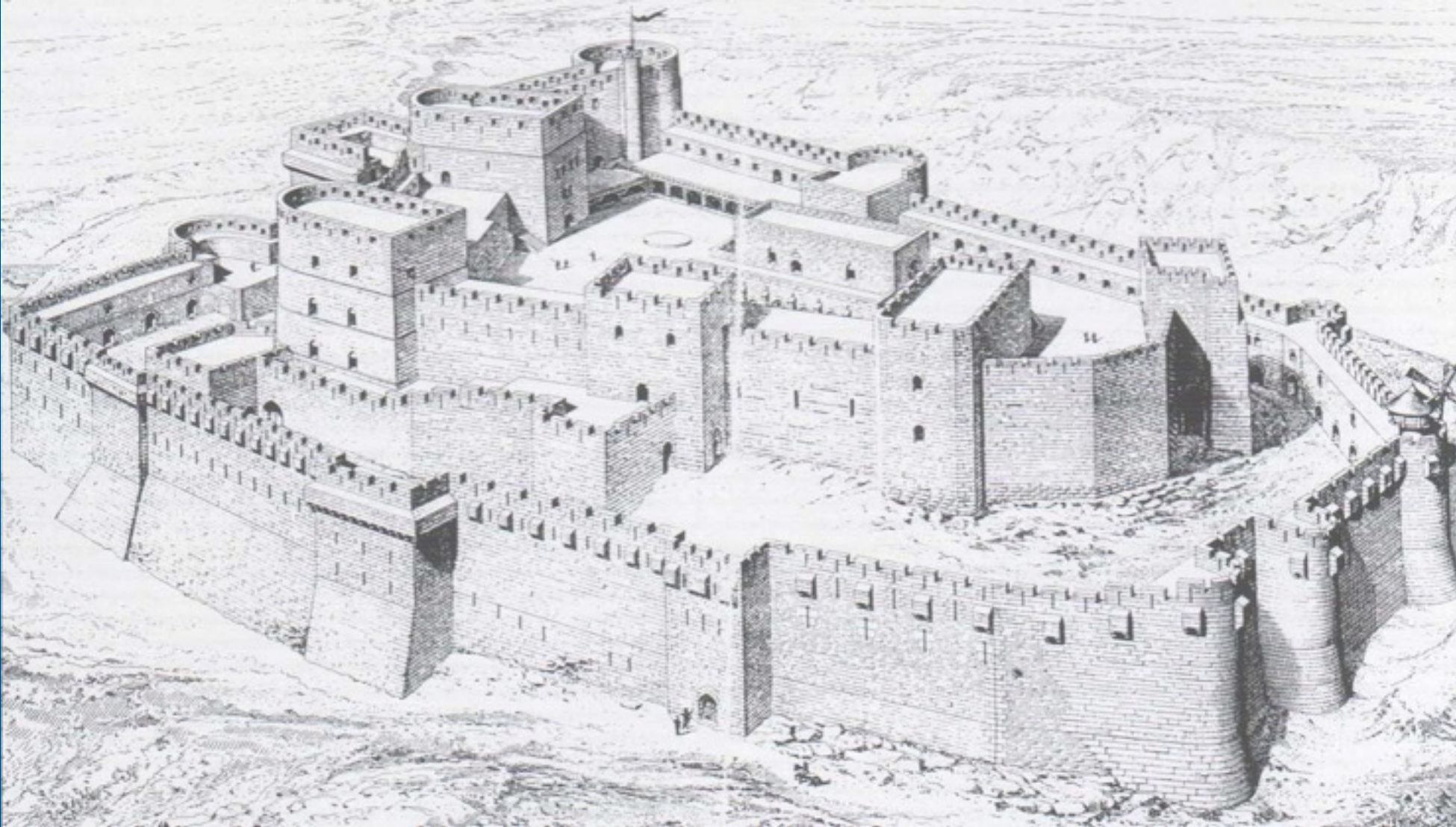


The OWASP Application Security Verification Standard (ASVS) Project provides a basis for testing web application technical security controls and also provides developers with a list of requirements for secure development.



	Applicability	Building			Building, Configuration, Deployment Assurance and Verification			Assurance and Verification	
Level 1	All apps		Secure Coding	Standards and checklists	Secure & Peer Code Review	DevSecOps	Unit and Integration Tests	Penetration Testing	DAST
Level 2	All apps	Security Architecture and Reviews	Secure Coding	Standards and checklists	Secure & Peer Code Review	DevSecOps	Unit and Integration Tests	Hybrid Reviews	SAST
Level 3	High Assurance	Security Architecture and Reviews	Secure Coding	Standards and checklists	Secure & Peer Code Review	DevSecOps	Unit and Integration Tests	Hybrid Reviews	SAST
Legend		Acceptable	Suitable						

OUR RESULT AT THE END



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!



Rico Komenda

⚡ IT-Security Ambassador ⚡ Securing the Digital
World, One Byte at a Time

