

SECURITY OBSERVABILITY 101: THINKING INSIDE THE BOX!

JEFF WILLIAMS, COFOUNDER AND CTO
@PLANETLEVEL

OWASP CHARLOTTE – OCT 2021



REAL WORLD APPSEC FACTS FROM LAST 12 MONTHS...

VULNERABILITY FACTS

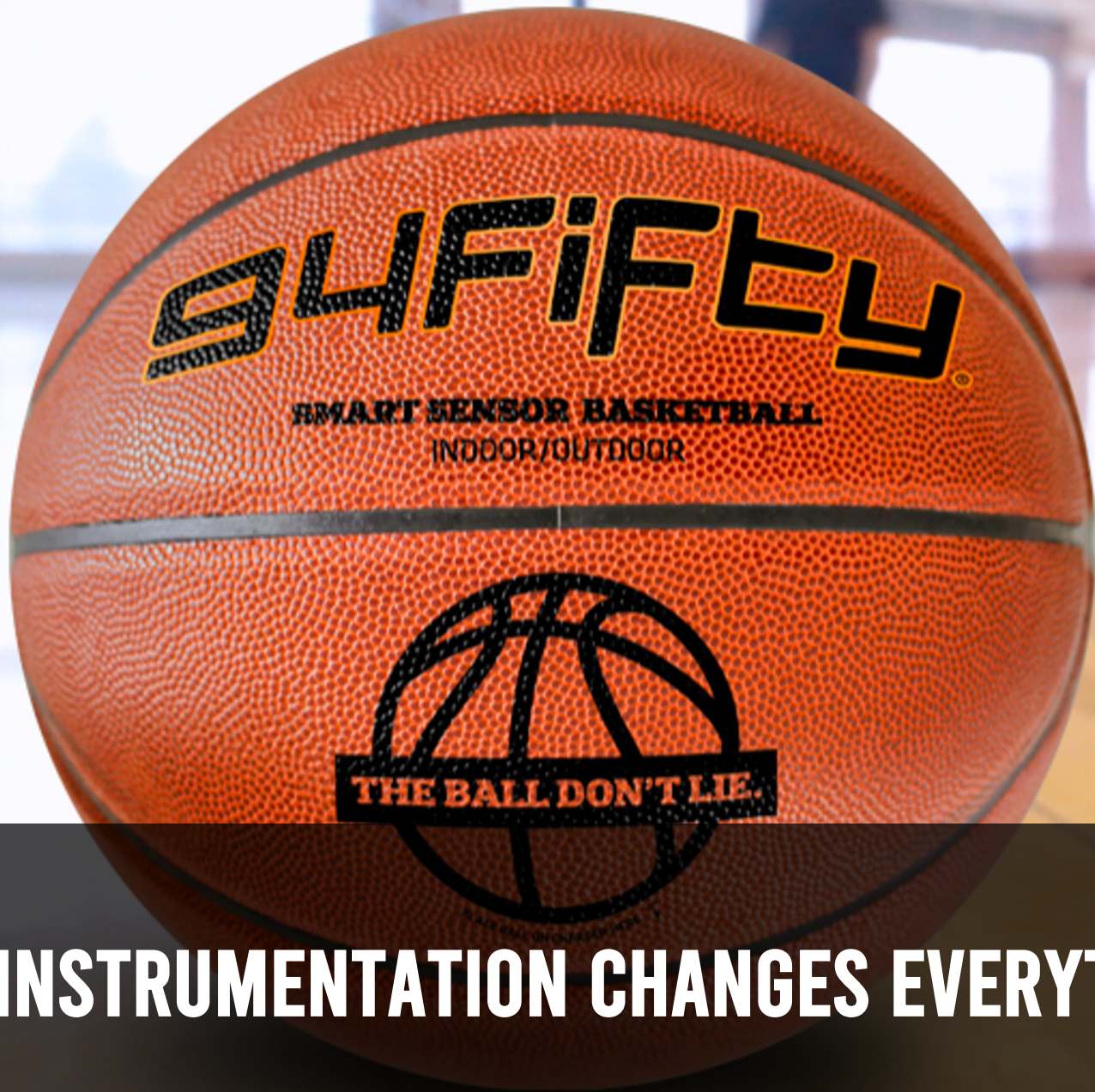
- 96% of applications have at least one vulnerability
- The average software project introduces 2-3 new vulnerabilities every month
- The average application has 30+ vulnerabilities and 2+ high or critical flaws in open source libraries
- Average application codebase:
 - 20% is custom code
 - 6% is OSS that actually runs
 - 74% is never used
- Only 14% of libraries are the latest version



Contrast 2021
AppSec Observability Report

ATTACK FACTS

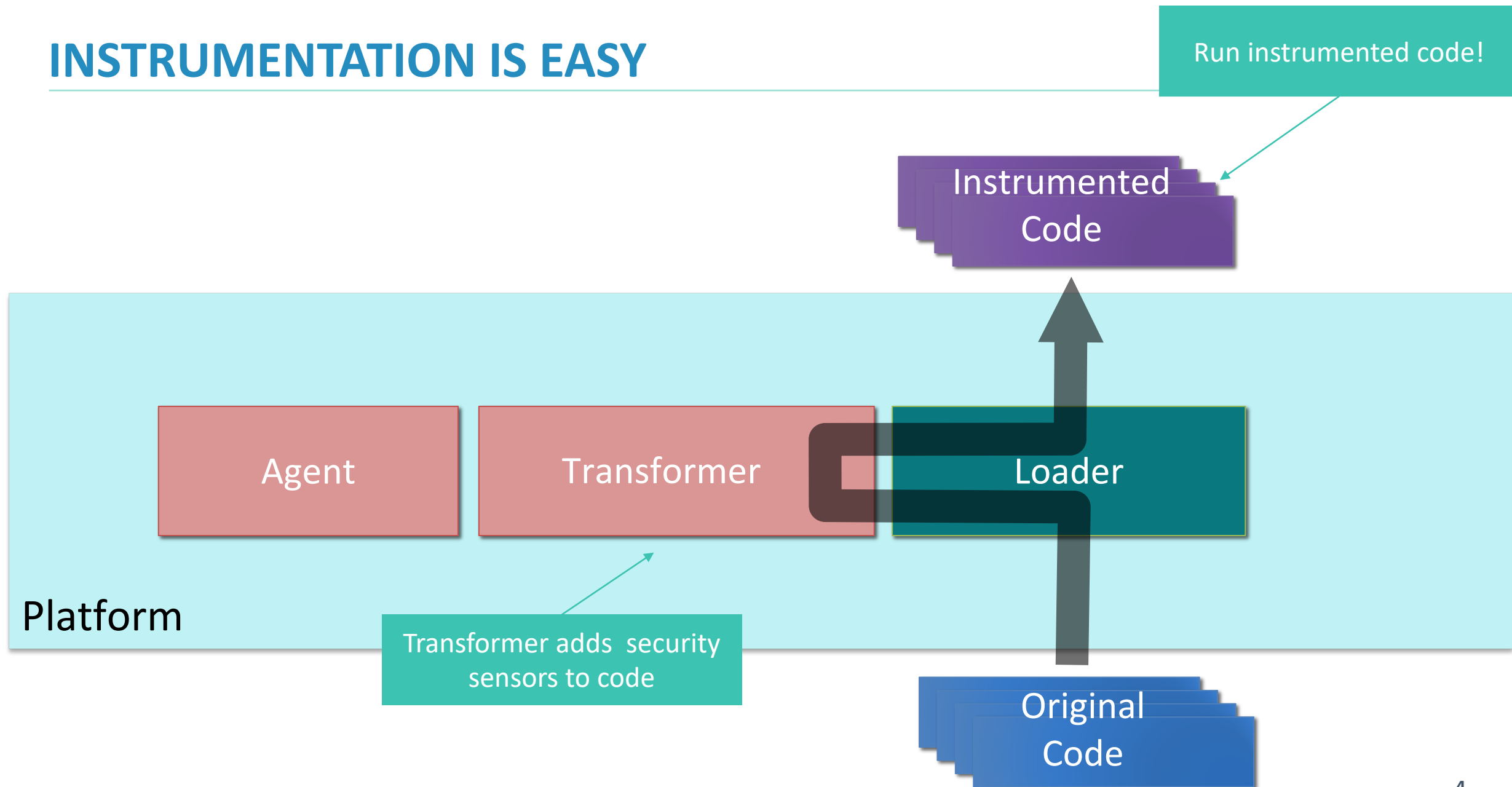
- The average application is attacked over 13,000 times a month
- Zero applications were not attacked every single month
- 99% of attacks do not connect with their intended vulnerability
- Attacks on all vulnerabilities are trending up over the last 12 months



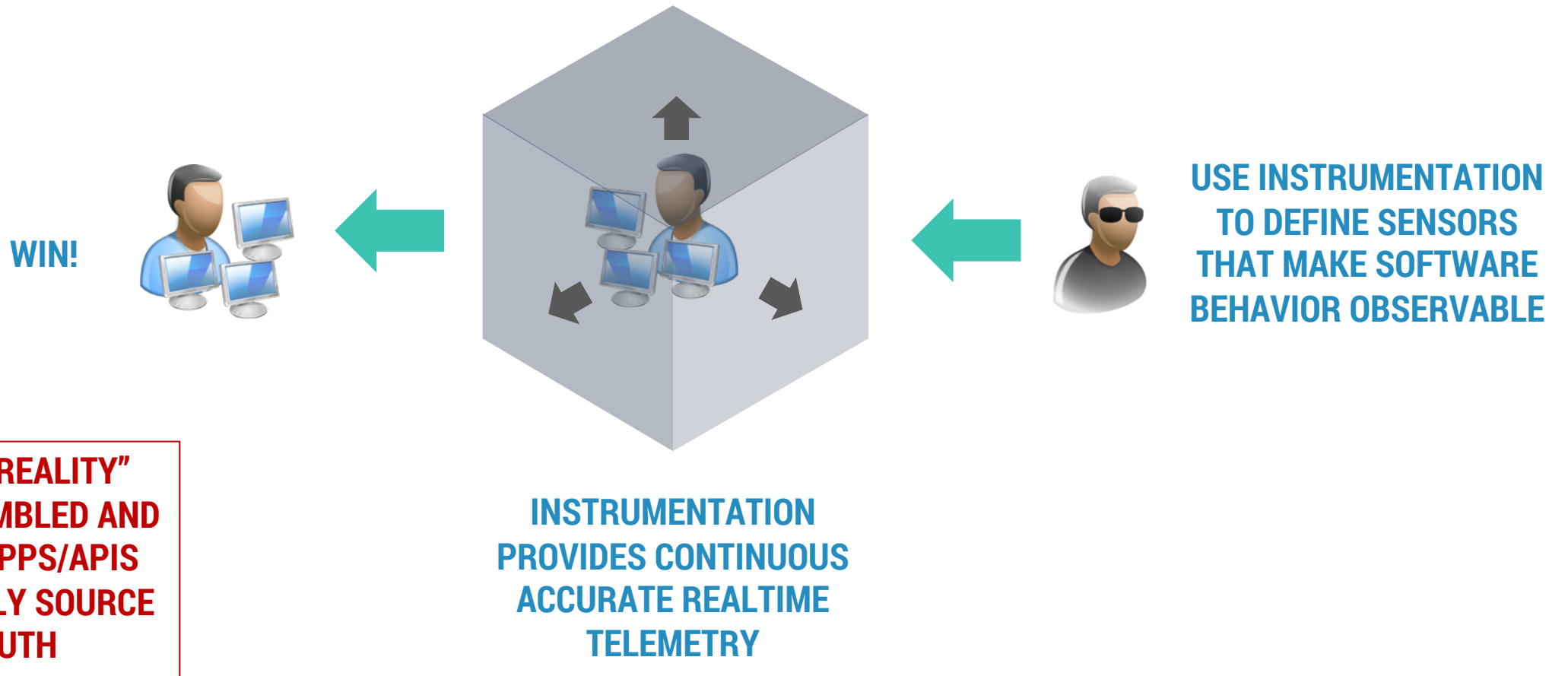
INSTRUMENTATION CHANGES EVERYTHING



INSTRUMENTATION IS EASY

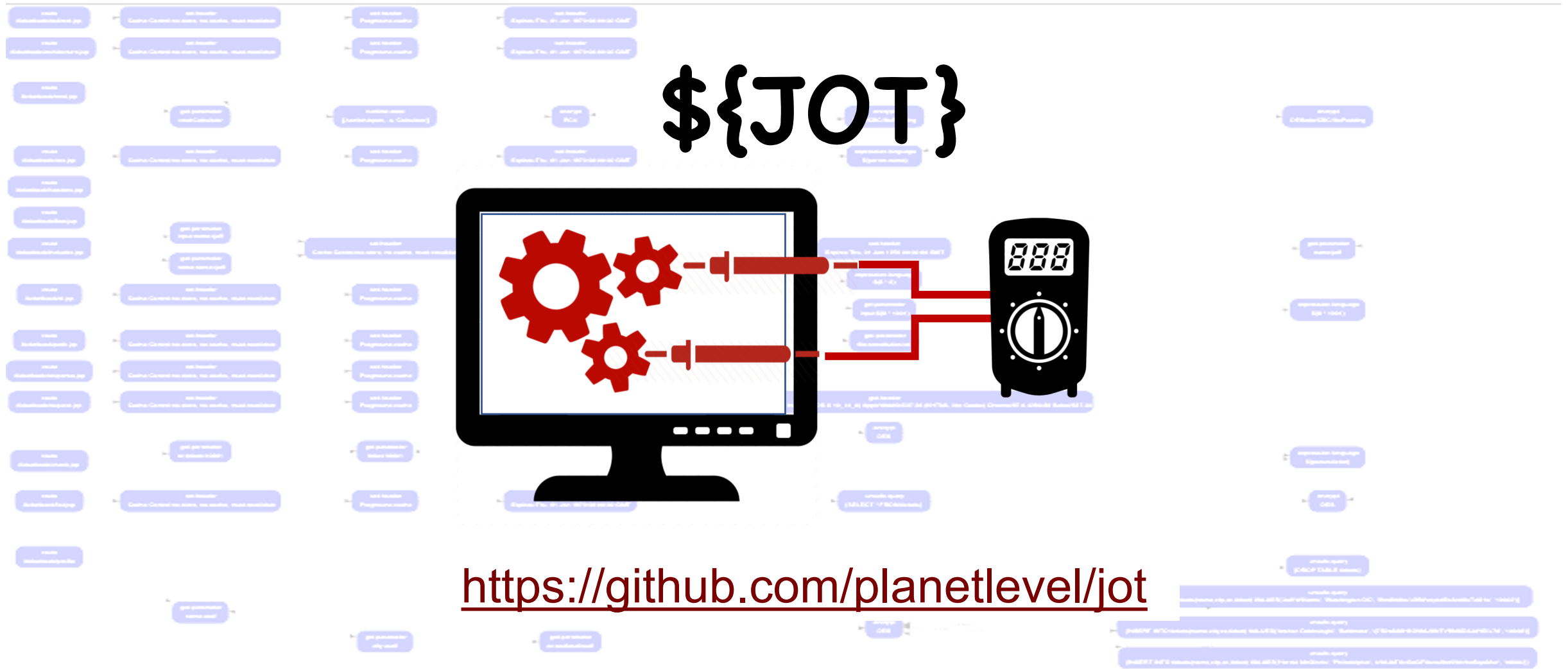


ADD IN SENSORS TO REVEAL SECURITY



THE JAVA OBSERVABILITY TOOLKIT (JOT)

FREE OPEN SOURCE INSTRUMENTATION



RIDICULOUSLY SIMPLE EXAMPLE: WEAK SQL QUERIES

sensors:

- name: "get-unsafe-queries"
- description: "Identifies unparameterized database queries"
- methods:
 - "java.sql.Statement.execute"
 - "java.sql.Statement.addBatch"
 - "java.sql.Statement.executeQuery"
 - "java.sql.Statement.executeUpdate"
- excludes:
 - "java.sql.PreparedStatement" # not vulnerable subclass
- captures:
 - "#ARGS"

```
$ export JAVA_TOOL_OPTIONS="-javaagent:jot-0.9.jar=rules/usql.jot"
```

```
TRACE-10001(1)
[JOT get-unsafe-queries] com.acme.ticketbook.Database.updateUnsafe(Database.java:173) [INSERT INTO tickets(name,city,cc,ticket) VALUES('Arshan Dabirsiaghi', 'Baltimore', '/j7B2e388H3GVMJNNTVRMXD2JAYEf+76', '10002')]
```

```
[JOT get-unsafe-queries] com.acme.ticketbook.Database.updateUnsafe(Database.java:173) [INSERT INTO tickets(name,city,cc,ticket) VALUES('Harold McGinnis', 'Philadelphia', 'uWtJbTHcGaGF/bvouf9w5WcVwSqa2Avr', '10003')]
```

```
[JOT get-unsafe-queries] com.acme.ticketbook.Database.updateUnsafe(Database.java:173) [INSERT INTO tickets(name,city,cc,ticket) VALUES('Chris Schmidt', 'Denver', 'JFEu+fcB7lwvRJ3KX1DDOWrsqmPDrPvn', '10004')]
```

```
[JOT get-unsafe-queries] com.acme.ticketbook.Database.queryUnsafe(Database.java:151) [SELECT * FROM tickets]
```


TRACE-10004(1)

```
[JOT get-unsafe-queries] com.acme.ticketbook.Database.queryUnsafe(Database.java:151) [SELECT * FROM tickets]
```

TRACE-10006(1)

```
[JOT get-unsafe-queries] com.acme.ticketbook.Database.queryUnsafe(Database.java:151) [SELECT * FROM tickets WHERE ticket='JOT FTW']
```


WHAT ENCRYPTION IS HAPPENING?



```
sensors:  
  - name: "get-ciphers"  
    description: "Identifies encryption ciphers"  
    methods:  
      - "javax.crypto.Cipher.getInstance"  
    captures:  
      - "#P0"  
  reports:  
    - name: "Encryption Usage"  
      type: "list"  
      cols: "get-ciphers"
```

In JOT, a “capture” is a “spring expression” (SPEL) that allows you to extract data using references to objects in the running app/API.

- #P0 is the first parameter to the method
- #OBJ is the object itself
- #RET is the return value from the method

You can call methods on these references!!!

```
$ export JAVA_TOOL_OPTIONS="-javaagent:jot-0.9.1.jar=jots/ciphers.jot"
```

Encryption Usage

```
com.acme.ticketbook.Ticket.encrypt(Ticket.java:125)  
java.base/sun.security.ssl.SSLCipher$T13GcmReadCipherGenerator$GcmReadCipher.<init>(SSLCipher.java:1858)  
java.base/sun.security.ssl.SSLCipher$T13GcmWriteCipherGenerator$GcmWriteCipher.<init>(SSLCipher.java:201)  
java.base/sun.security.ssl.SSLCipher.isTransformationAvailable(SSLCipher.java:510)  
org.apache.jsp.accessA_jsp._jspService(accessA_jsp.java:212)  
org.apache.jsp.accessA_jsp._jspService(accessA_jsp.java:213)  
org.apache.jsp.accessB_jsp._jspService(accessB_jsp.java:212)  
org.apache.jsp.accessC_jsp._jspService(accessC_jsp.java:212)  
org.apache.jsp.accessE_jsp._jspService(accessE_jsp.java:212)  
org.apache.jsp.accessE_jsp._jspService(accessE_jsp.java:213)
```

get-ciphers

```
DES  
AES/GCM/NoPadding  
AES/GCM/NoPadding  
AES/CBC/NoPadding,AES/GCM/I  
AES  
PBESWithMD5AndTripleDES  
DES  
DES/CBC/PKCS5Padding  
DESede  
AES
```

```
sensors:

- name: "get-routes"
  description: "Identifies the route for this HTTP request"
  methods:
  - "javax.servlet.Servlet.service"
  captures:
  - "#P0.getRequestURI()"

- name: "get-users"
  description: "Identifies user names"
  methods:
  - "javax.servlet.Servlet.service"
  captures:
  - "#P0.getRemoteUser() ?: \"Guest\""

- name: "get-role"
  description: "Identifies roles"
  methods:
  - "javax.servlet.ServletRequest.isUserInRole"
  captures:
  - "#P0"

reports:

- name: "Test Coverage Matrix"
  type: "compare"
  rows: "get-routes"
  cols: "get-users"

- name: "Access Control Matrix"
  type: "compare"
  rows: "get-routes"
  cols: "get-role"
```

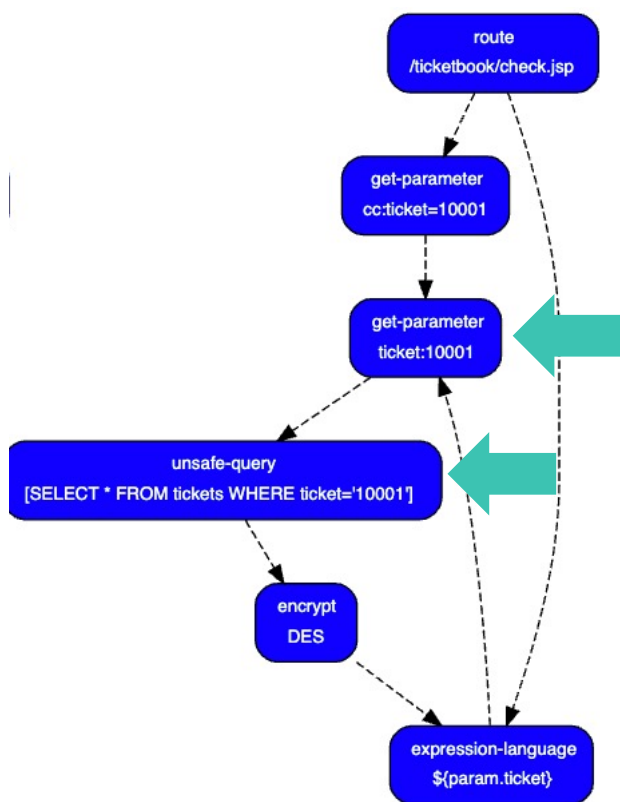
VERIFYING ACCESS CONTROL?

```
$ export JAVA_TOOL_OPTIONS="-javaagent:jot-0.9.1.jar=jots/access.jot"
```

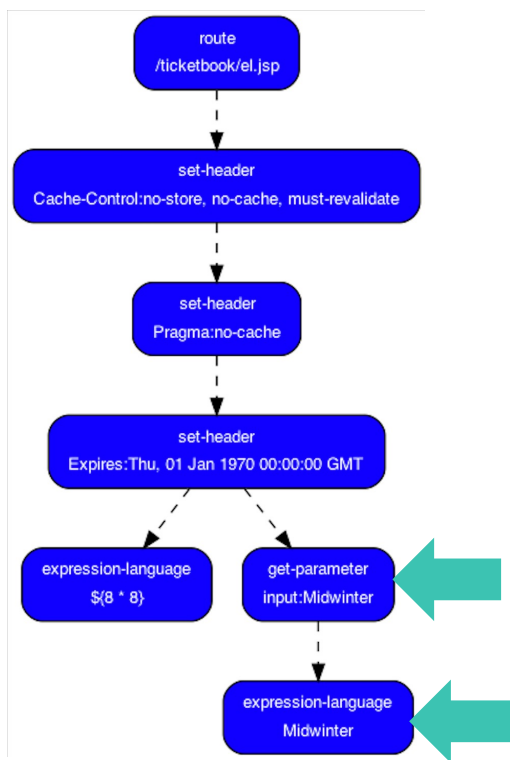
Test Coverage Matrix	Guest	UserB	UserC	UserD	UserE
/ticketbook/accessA.jsp	X	X		X	X
/ticketbook/accessB.jsp	X	X	X	X	
/ticketbook/accessC.jsp	X	X		X	
/ticketbook/accessD.jsp	X	X		X	X
/ticketbook/accessE.jsp	X				X
/ticketbook/architecture.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/cmd.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/forward.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/hash.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/redirect.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/xss.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/xxe.jsp	X				

Access Control Matrix	RoleA	RoleB	RoleC	RoleD	RoleE
/ticketbook/accessA.jsp	X				
/ticketbook/accessB.jsp		X			
/ticketbook/accessC.jsp			X		
/ticketbook/accessE.jsp	X			X	X

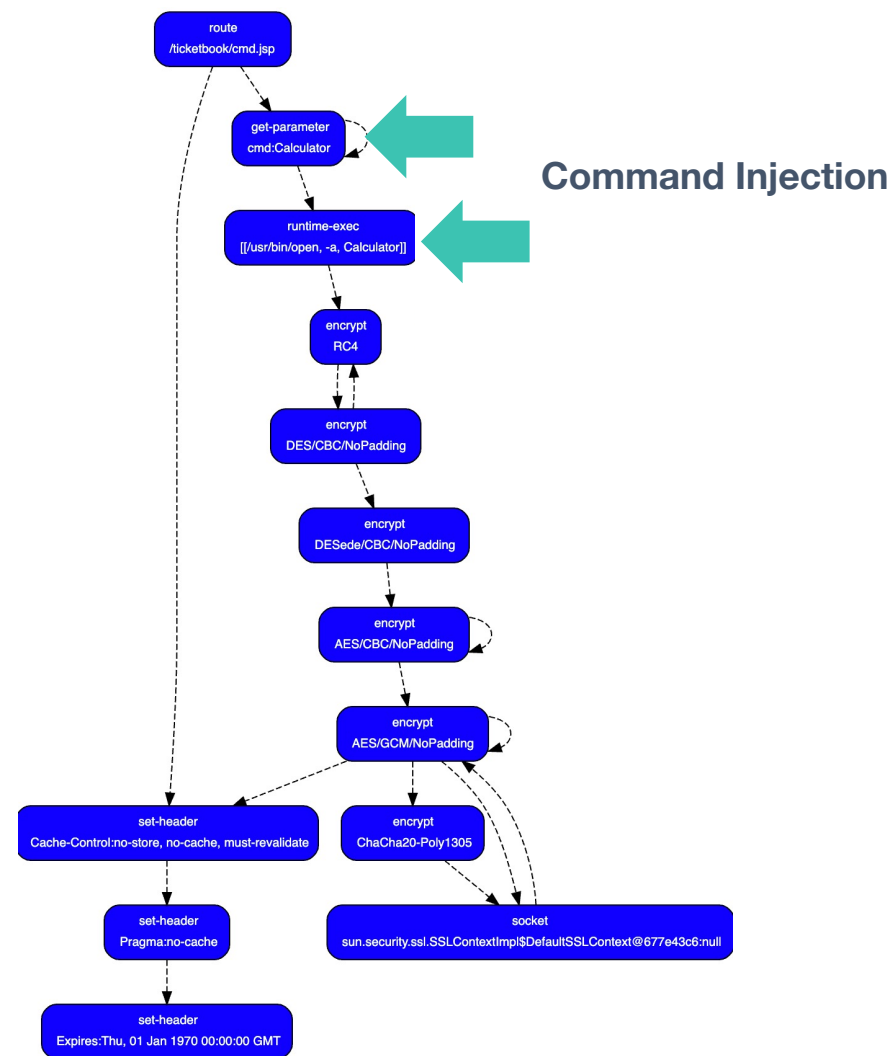
CHEATING AT PENTESTS FOR FUN AND PROFIT



SQL Injection



EL Injection




Command Injection

COMMUNICATING SECURITY VIA TEST FAILURES

Define this “scope” and add an exception. Now your normal test cases fail for security reasons if your sensor fires!

sensors:



```
- name: "ban-command-injection"
  description: "Fails any JUnit tests that cause banned methods to be invoked"
  methods:
    - "java.lang.ProcessBuilder.<init>"
  scopes:
    - "org.junit.platform.commons.util.ReflectionUtils.invokeMethod"
  exception: "To prevent command injection, Acme Corp security standard 27B/6 restricts the use
of operating system commands from within web applications. Please find a safer way to achieve
your goal. Contact security@acme.com for help."
```

```
[INFO] -----
[INFO]  T E S T S
[INFO] -----
[INFO] Running com.example.project.CalculatorTests
[ERROR] Tests run: 6, Failures: 0, Errors: 1, Skipped: 0, Time elapsed: 0.155 s <<< FAILURE! -
in com.example.project.CalculatorTests
[ERROR] executeRuntime, Time elapsed: 0.026 s <<< ERROR!
org.openolly.advice.SensorException: To prevent command injection, Acme Corp security standard
27B/6 restricts the use of operating system commands from within web applications. Please find
a safer way to achieve your goal. Contact security@acme.com for help.
    at com.example.project.CalculatorTests.executeRuntime(CalculatorTests.java:33)
```

sensors:

- name: "get-routes"
description: "Identifies the route for this HTTP request"
methods:
 - "javax.servlet.Servlet.service"captures:
 - "#P0.getRequestURI()"

- name: "sandbox-expressions"
description: "Prevents harmful methods from being executed"
methods:
 - "java.lang.ProcessBuilder.<init>"
 - "java.io.Socket.<init>"scopes:
 - "javax.el.ValueExpression.getValue"captures:
 - "#P0"exception: "Attempt to escape expression language sandbox prevented by JST rule 'sandbox-expressions'"

reports:

- name: "Expression Language Injection Attempt Log"
type: "series"
rows: "get-routes"
cols: "sandbox-expressions:13"

HOW CAN I PREVENT EXPRESSION LANGUAGE INJECTION FROM BEING EXPLOITED?

localhost:8080/ticketbook/el.jsp

HTTP Status 500 – Internal Server Error

Message javax.el.ELException: com.contrastsecurity.advice.SensorException: Attempt to escape expression language sandbox prevented by JST rule 'sandbox-expressions'

Description The server encountered an unexpected condition that prevented it from fulfilling the request.

Exception

```
org.apache.jasper.JasperException: javax.el.ELException: com.contrastsecurity.advice.SensorException: Attempt to escape expression language sandbox prevented by JST rule 'sandbox-expressions'
    org.apache.jasper.servlet.JspServletWrapper.handleJspException(JspServletWrapper.java:156)
    org.apache.jasper.servlet.JspServletWrapper.service(JspServletWrapper.java:147)
    org.apache.jasper.servlet.JspServlet.serviceJspFile(JspServlet.java:387)
    org.apache.jasper.servlet.JspServlet.service(JspServlet.java:430)
    javax.servlet.http.HttpServlet.service(HttpServlet.java:741)
    org.apache.tomcat.websocket.server.WsFilter.doFilter(WsFilter.java:52)
```

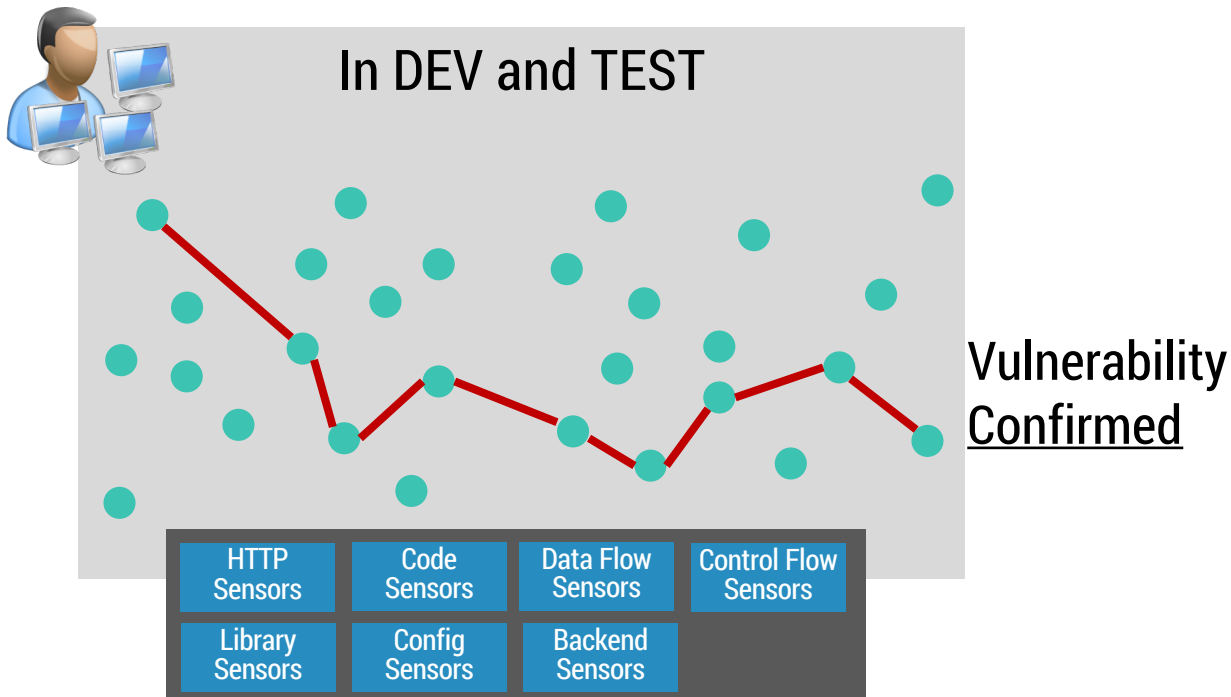
Root Cause

```
javax.el.ELException: com.contrastsecurity.advice.SensorException: Attempt to escape expression language sandbox prevented by JST rule 'sandbox-expressions'
```

Runtime Protection!

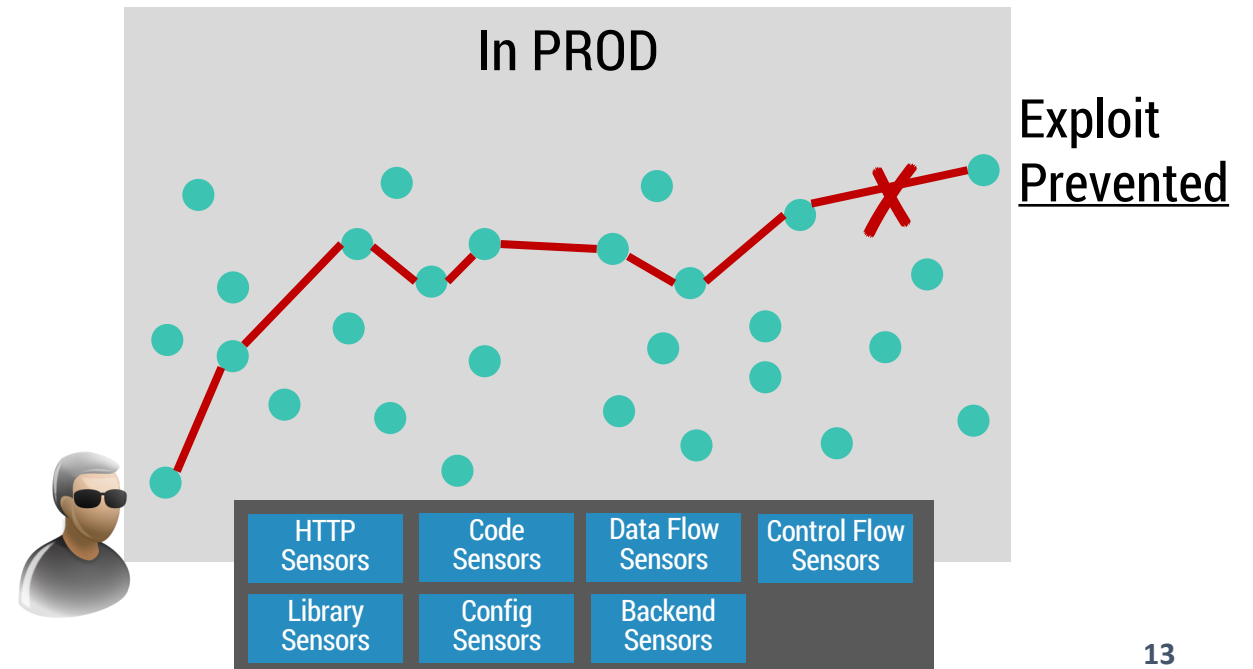
IAST

Interactive Application
Security Testing is simply
using instrumentation to
detect vulnerabilities.
USE IT IN DEVELOPMENT.



RASP

Runtime Application Self-
Protection is simply using
instrumentation to detect attacks
and prevent exploits.
USE IT IN PRODUCTION



THE MOVE TO MODERN

SOFTWARE SECURITY

LEGACY

SCAN AND FIREWALL MODEL

- Disruptive, bottleneck
- Can't keep up, even with army of experts
- After the fact, inaccurate
- Snapshot in time
- Tool soup, security silos

MODERN

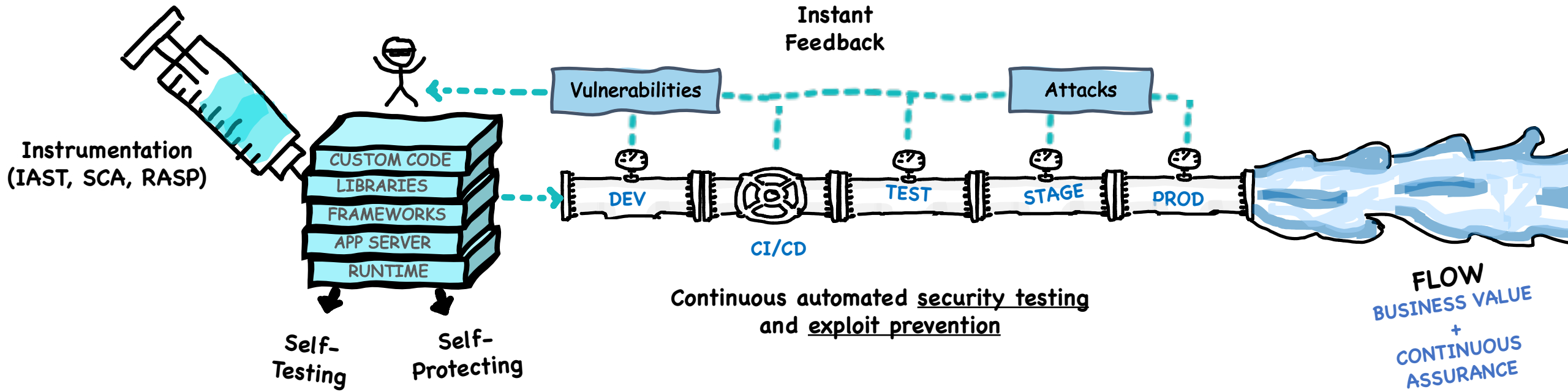
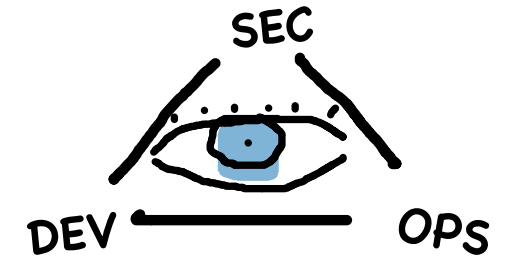
EMBEDDED MODEL

- Embedded, works in flow, frictionless
- Force multiplier, no experts required
- Direct observation, instant feedback
- Continuous, always-on
- One platform across dev, sec, ops



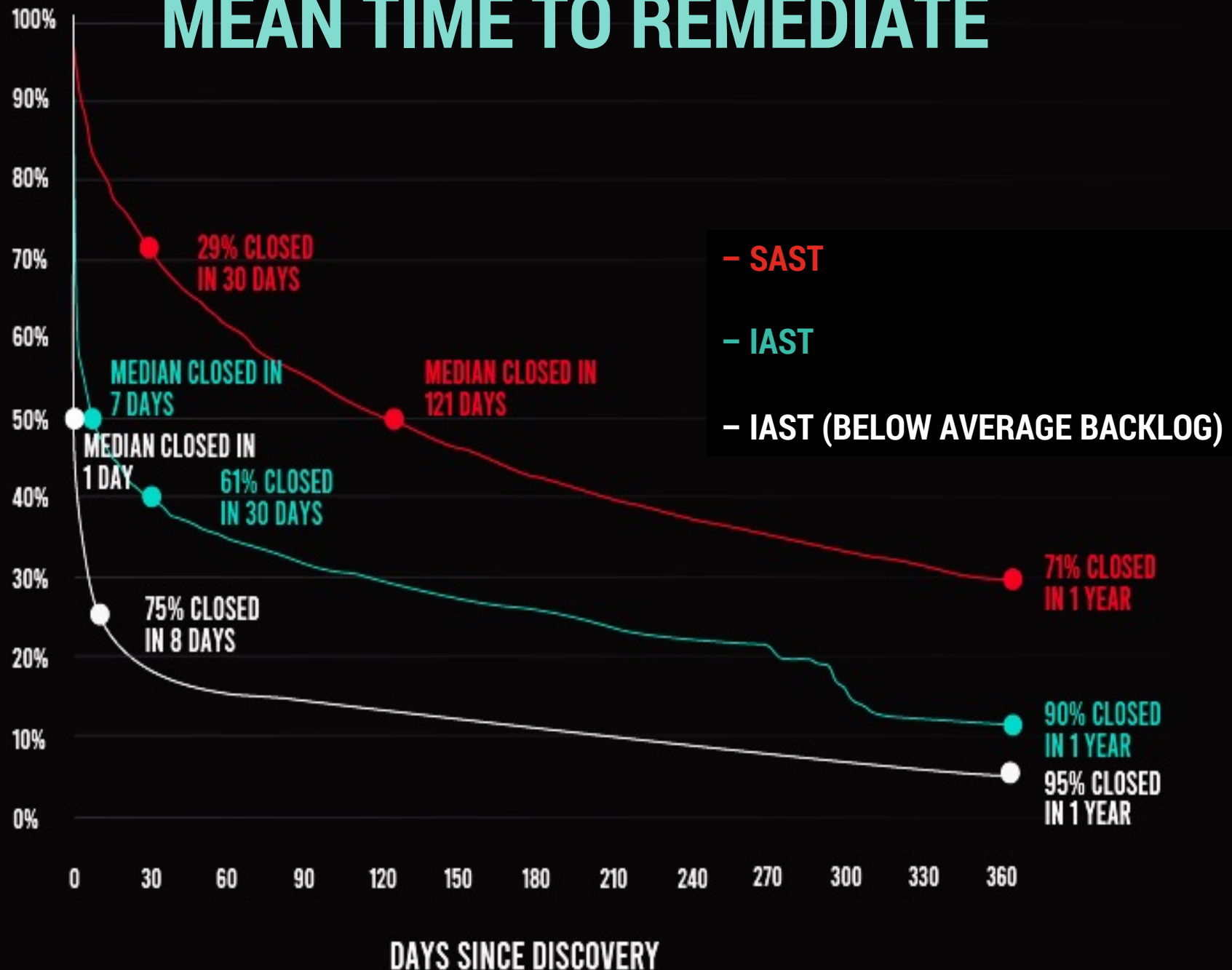
SECURITY OBSERVABILITY ACCELERATES INNOVATION

SECURITY
OBSERVABILITY
(INSIDE - OUT)



MEAN TIME TO REMEDIATE

% OF VULNERABILITIES REMAINING



OBSERVABILITY
YIELDS A
17X
IMPROVEMENT IN
MTTR OVER
SCANNING



“How to Vulnerability”

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-vulnerability-jeff-williams>

“Making Security in a Software Factory”



<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/making-security-software-factory-jeff-williams/>

ASK ME ANYTHING

JEFF WILLIAMS, COFOUNDER AND CTO

@PLANETLEVEL

OWASP CHARLOTTE – OCT 2021

