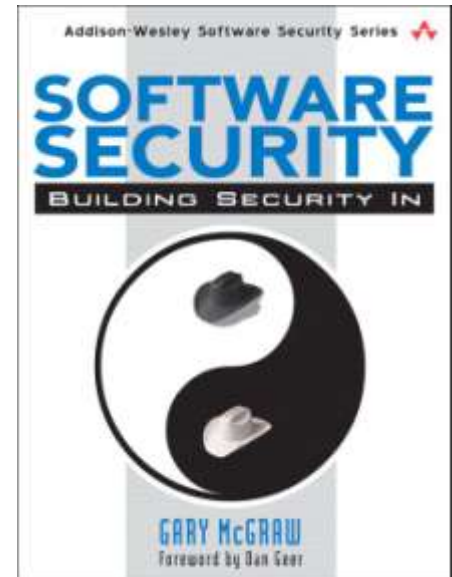




# Software Security Touchpoint: Architectural Risk Analysis

*Gary McGraw, Ph.D.  
Chief Technology Officer, Cigital*



- Founded in 1992 to provide software security and software quality professional services
- Recognized experts in software security and software quality
  - Widely published in books, white papers, and articles
  - Industry thought leaders





## ARA in Context: State of the Practice

# A shift from philosophy to HOW TO

- Integrating best practices into large organizations
  - Microsoft's SDL
  - Cigital's touchpoints
  - OWASP adopts CLASP



## What works: BSIMM

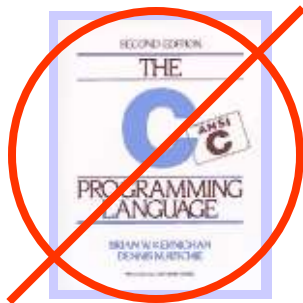
- Building Security In Maturity Model
- Real data from real initiatives



## Two kinds of security defects

### IMPLEMENTATION BUGS

- Buffer overflow
  - String format
  - One-stage attacks
- Race conditions
  - TOCTOU (time of check to time of use)
- Unsafe environment variables
- Unsafe system calls
- Cross-site scripting
- SQL injection



### ARCHITECTURAL FLAWS

- Misuse of cryptography
- Compartmentalization problems in design
- Privileged block protection failure (DoPrivilege())
- Catastrophic security failure (fragility)
- Type safety confusion error
- Insecure auditing
- Broken or illogical access control (RBAC over tiers)
- Method over-riding problems (subclass issues)
- Signing too much code

50%

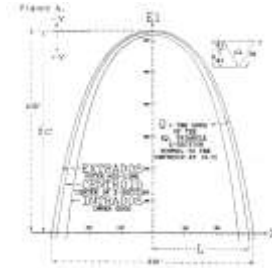
50%



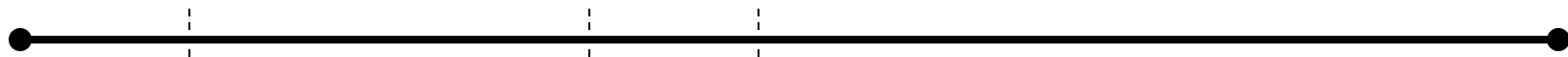
# The bugs/flaws continuum



gets ()



attacker in the middle

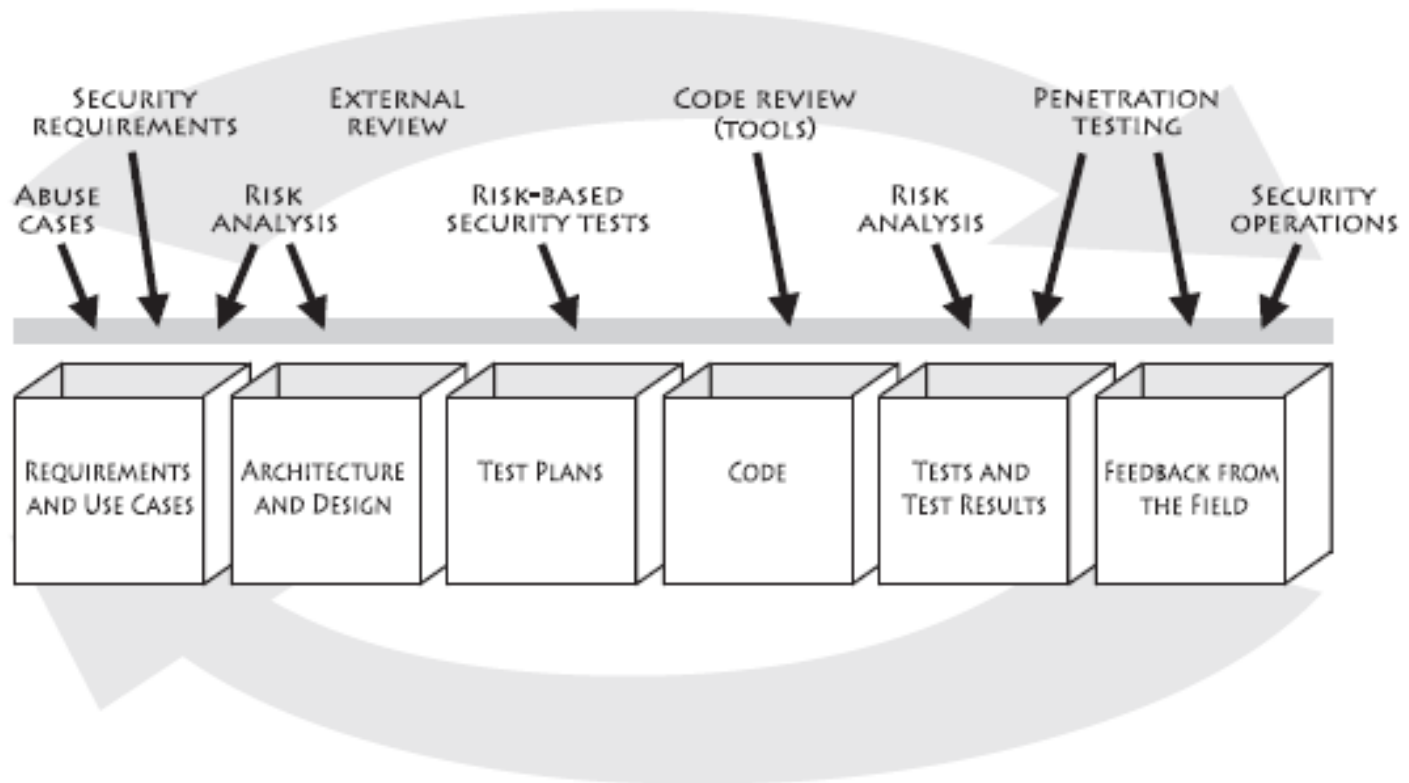


BUGS

FLAWS

- Open source tools: ITS4, RATS, grep()
- Commercial SCA tools: Fortify, Ounce Labs, Coverity
- Customized static rules (Fidelity)
- Architectural risk analysis

# Software security touchpoints







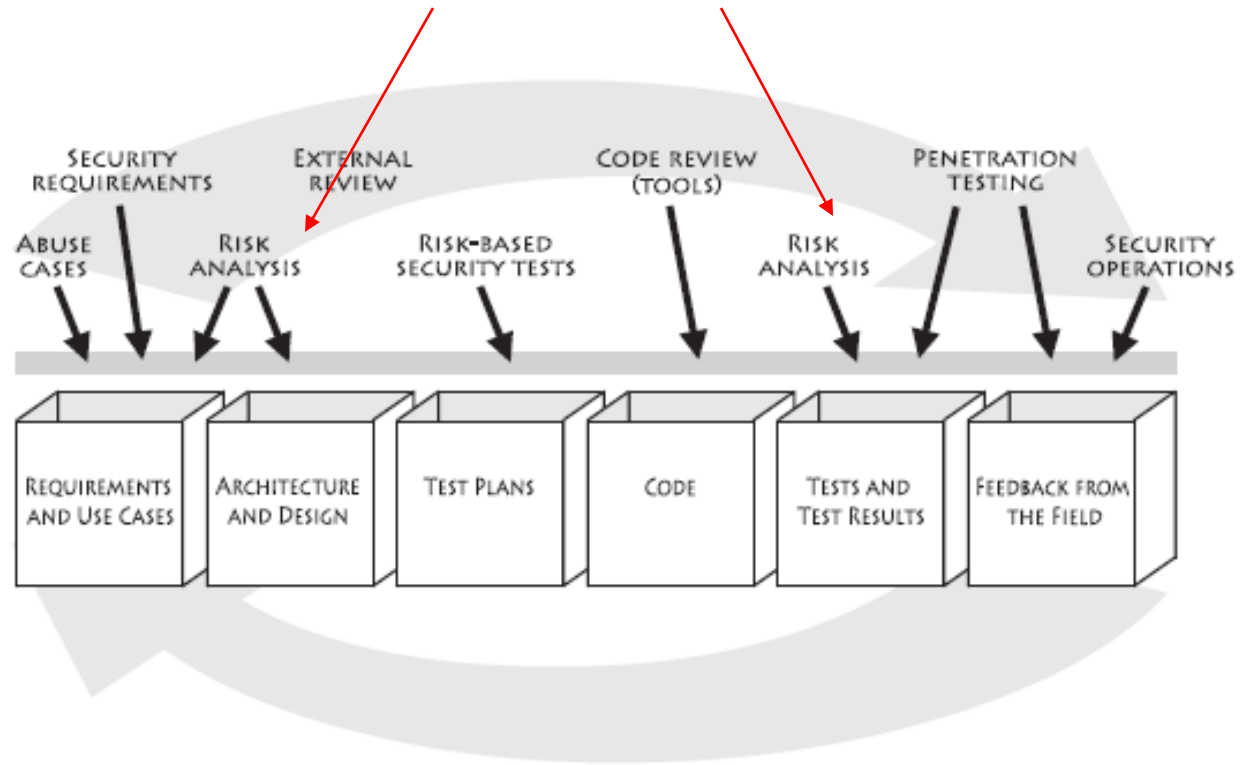
# Architectural Risk Analysis

## BSIMM: Ten surprising things

1. Bad metrics hurt
2. Secure-by default frameworks
3. Nobody uses WAFs
4. QA can't do software security
5. Evangelize over audit
6. **ARA is hard**
7. Practitioners don't talk attacks
8. Training is advanced
9. Pen testing is diminishing
10. Fuzz testing

- <http://www.informit.com/articles/article.aspx?p=1315431>

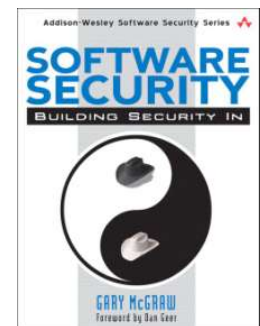
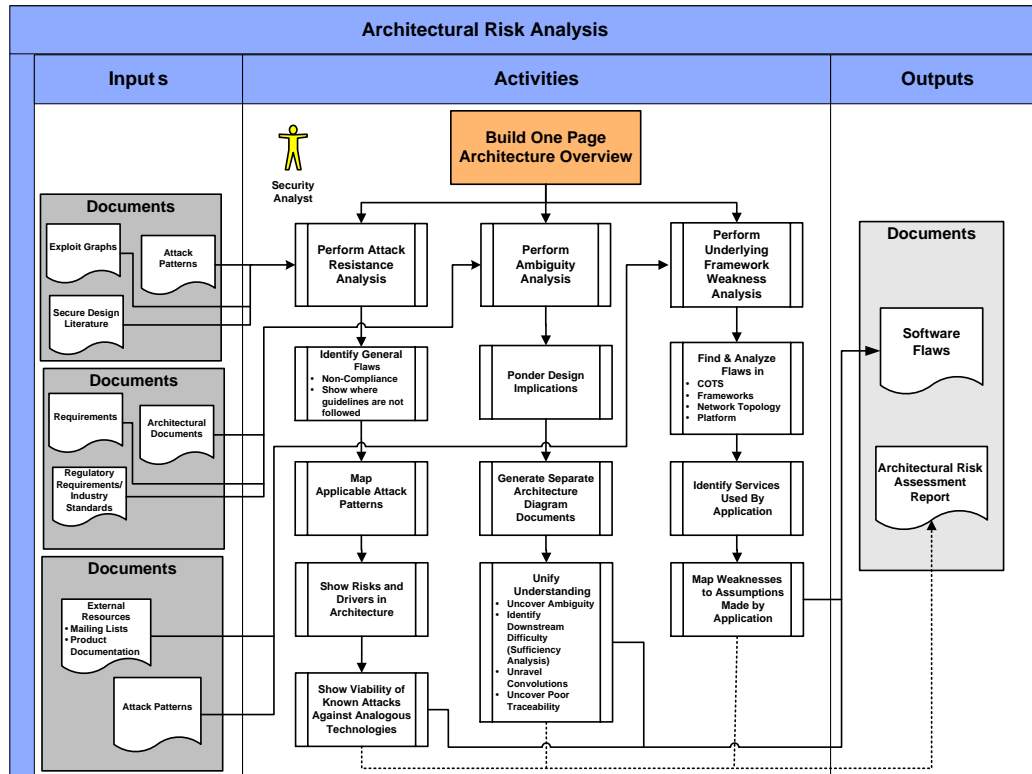
# Architectural Risk Analysis



For more information, see  
<http://www.cigital.com/services/security/>

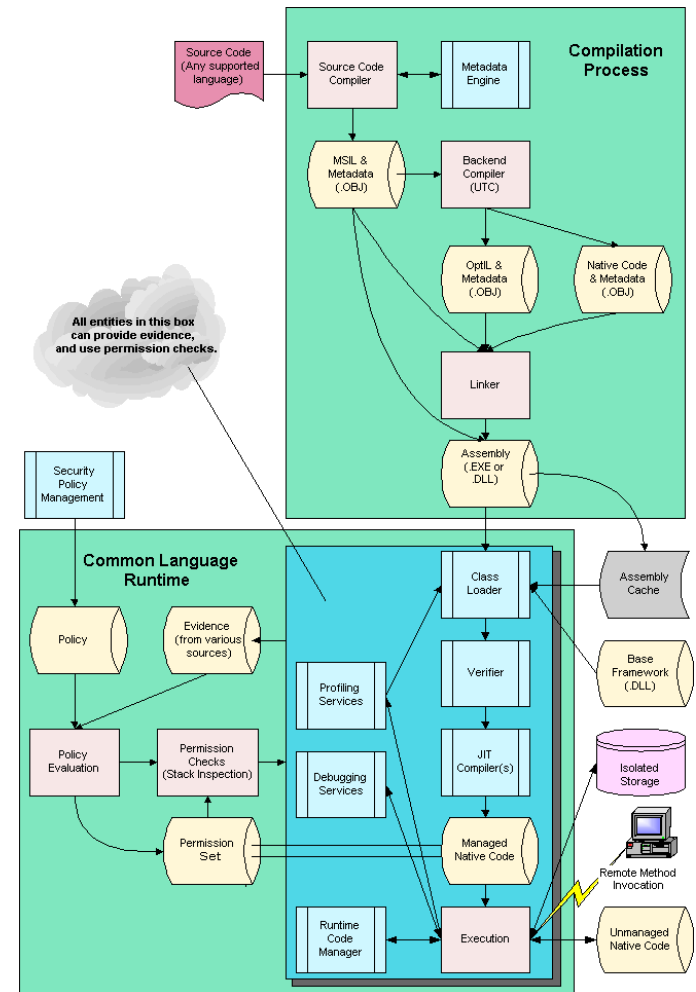
# Touchpoint: Architectural risk analysis

- Start by building a one-page overview of your system
- Then apply the three-step process
  - Attack resistance
  - Ambiguity analysis
  - Weakness analysis

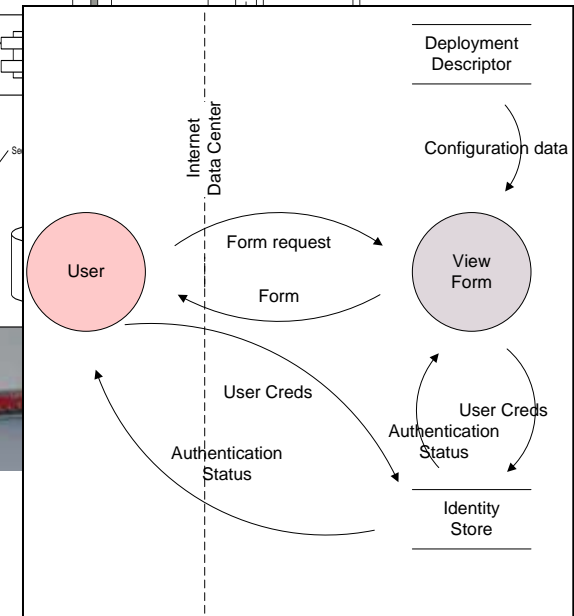
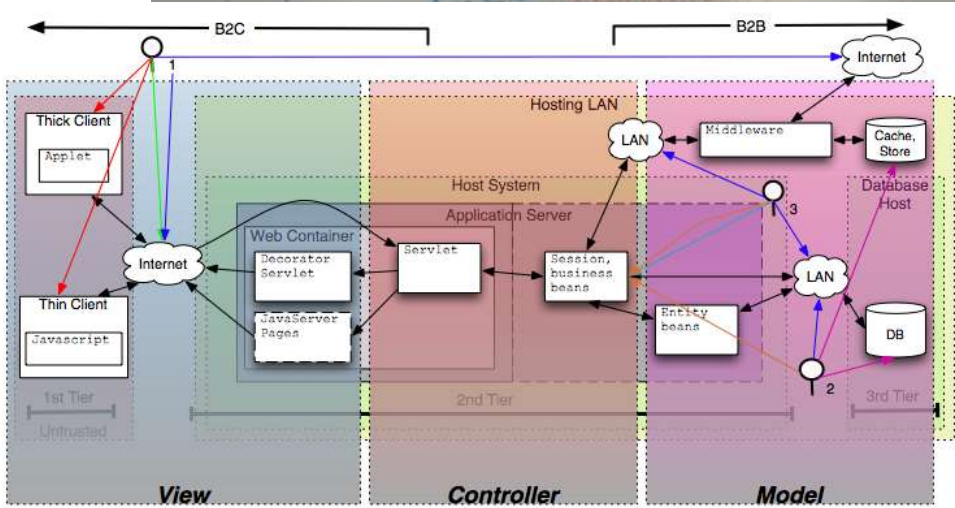
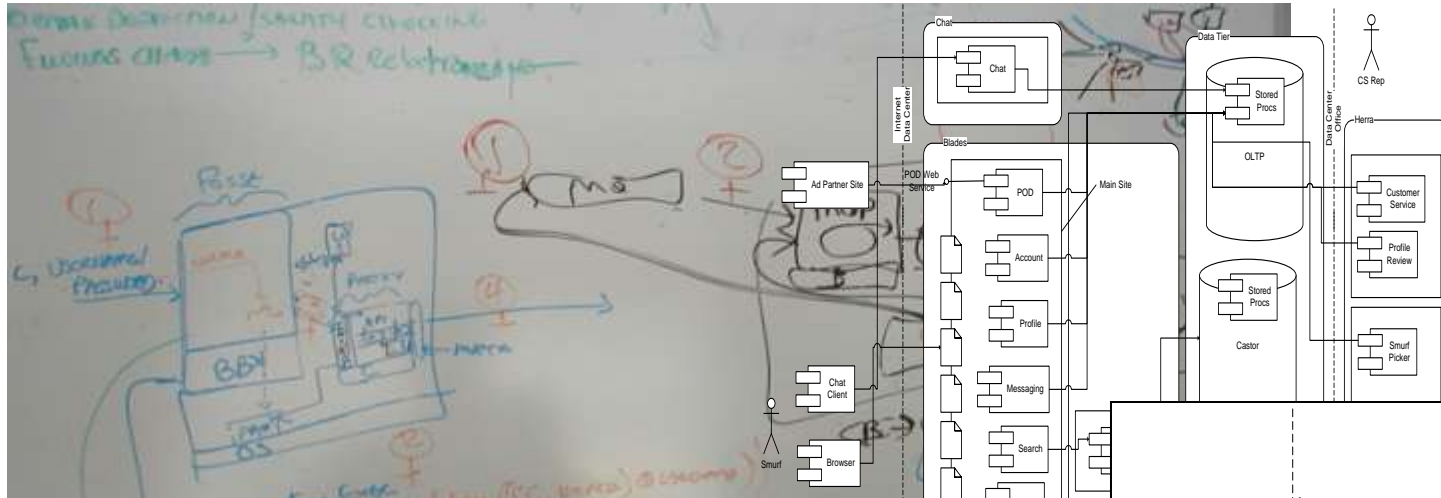


# Touchpoint: Architectural risk analysis

- Step one: get an architecture
- Forrest level view
  - Up out of the code
- Widespread use of common components helps (but also has security impact!)
  - Spring
  - Hibernate
  - Log4J
  - OpenSSL
- Design patterns also help



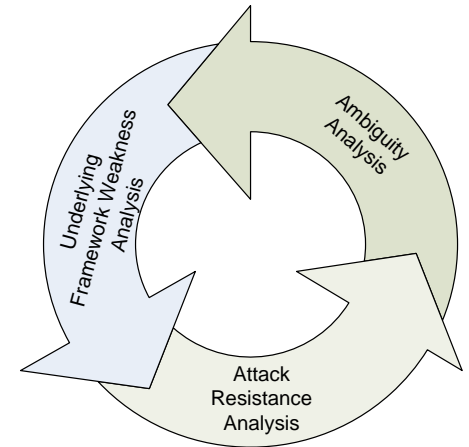
# Design diagrams need security too





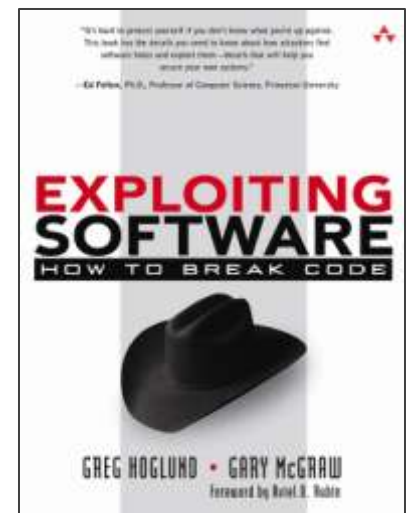
# Three steps to ARA

- Attack Resistance (use a CHECKLIST)
  - Apply a list of known attacks (like STRIDE)
  - Calculate risk-based impact
- Ambiguity Analysis (multiple PERSPECTIVES)
  - Find attacks based on how the system works
  - Expose invalid assumptions
- Weakness Analysis (DEPENDENCIES)
  - Think through dependencies: toolkits and frameworks
  - In, Over, Under, Outside



# Attack resistance: build an attack checklist

- Understand known attacks
  - Designers – what controls are needed to prevent common attacks?
  - Attackers – what to try again
- Example: Microsoft SDL's STRIDE model
  - Spoofing, tampering, repudiation, info disclosure, denial of service, elevation of privilege
- Start with common taxonomies
  - 7 Pernicious Kingdoms; McGraw
  - 19 Deadly Sins; Howard, LeBlanc, Viega
  - 48 Attack Patterns; McGraw/Hoglund
  - Common Weakness Enumeration
    - <http://cve.mitre.org/cwe>

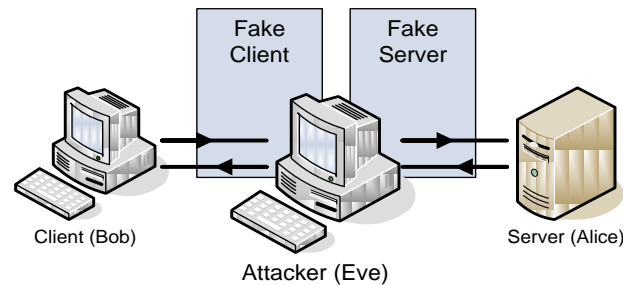


# Attack resistance: common design elements

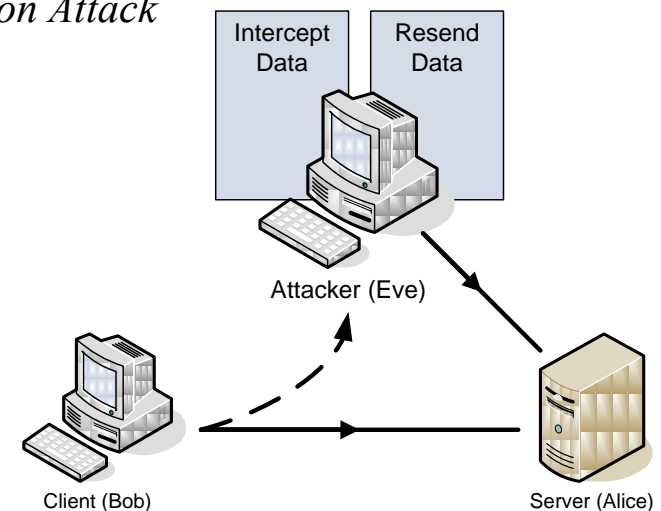
- Flag design elements that are historically vulnerable to attack
- Enterprise applications share many of the same design elements
  - Distributed architecture
  - Dynamic code generation and interpretation
  - APIs across stateless protocols
  - Rich Internet Applications
  - Service-oriented Architecture

# Example: distributed architecture risks

- Distributed systems are susceptible to network-based attacks
  - Eavesdropping
  - Tampering
  - Spoofing
  - Hijacking
  - Observing
- Relevant Attack Patterns
  - Interposition attacks
  - Network sniffing
  - Replay attacks



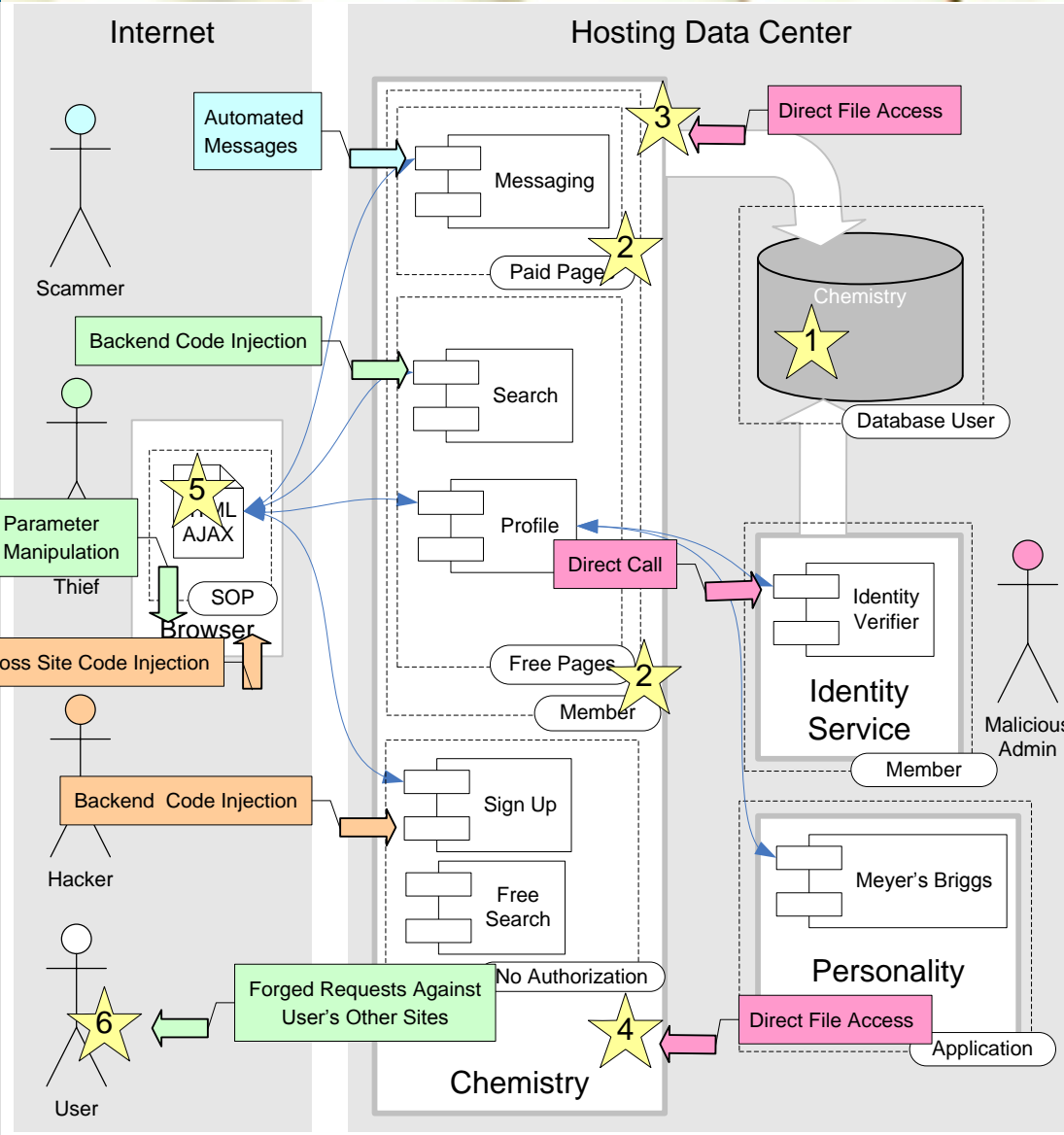
*Interposition Attack*



*Replay Attack*

## Ambiguity analysis: model your stuff

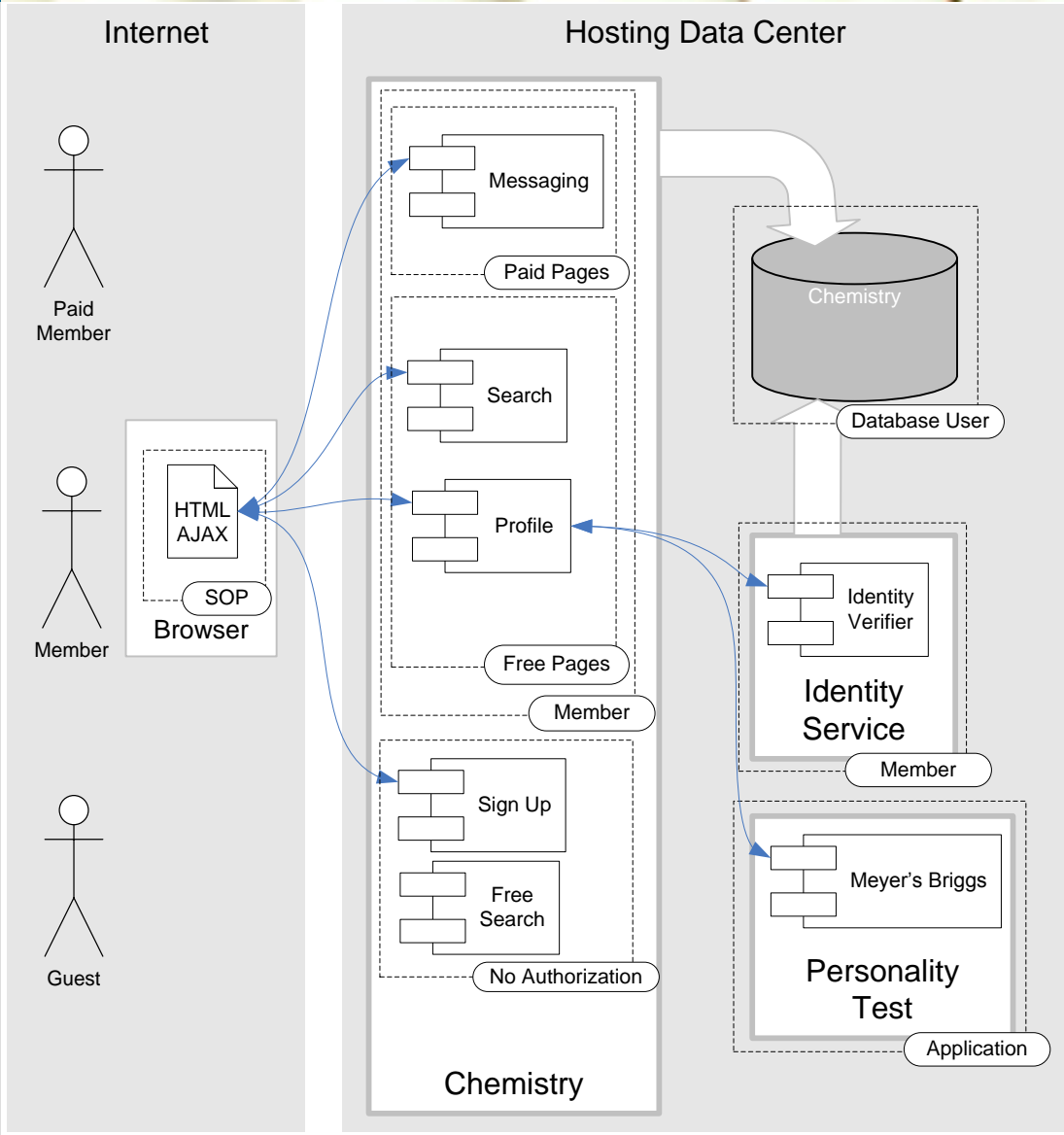
- Modeling techniques help expose an application's area of potential vulnerability
- Multiple points of view (and sets of experience) help
- **Trust Modeling** identifies the boundaries for security policy for function and data
- **Data Sensitivity Modeling** identifies privacy and trust issues for application data
- **Threat Modeling** identifies the attacker's perspective and areas of weakness



## Ex: Threat modeling

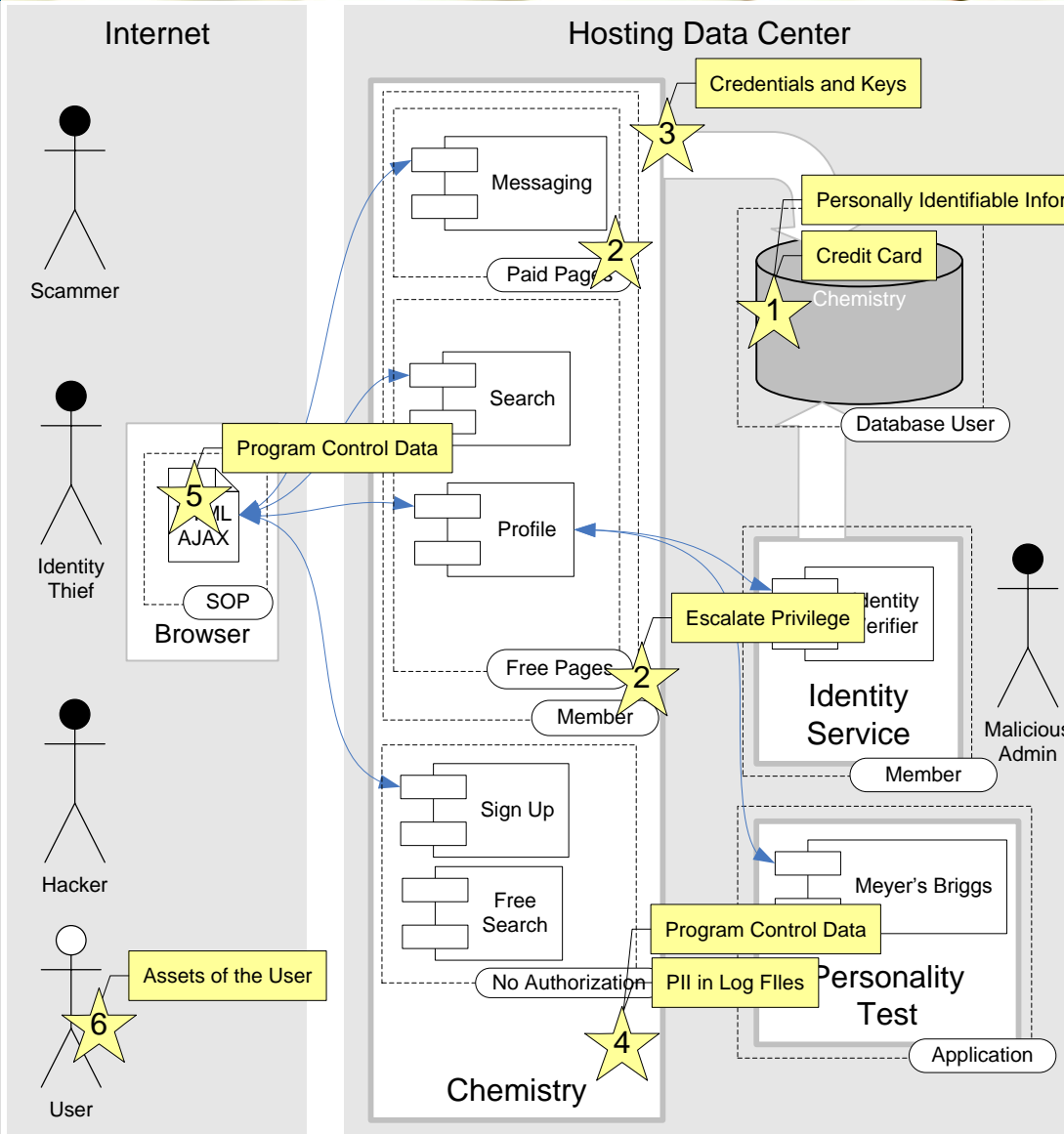
- Threat: agents of malicious intent
- Asset: function and data the threat desires
- Point of Attack: Design element requiring hardening and/or the method of attack





## Ex: modeling users

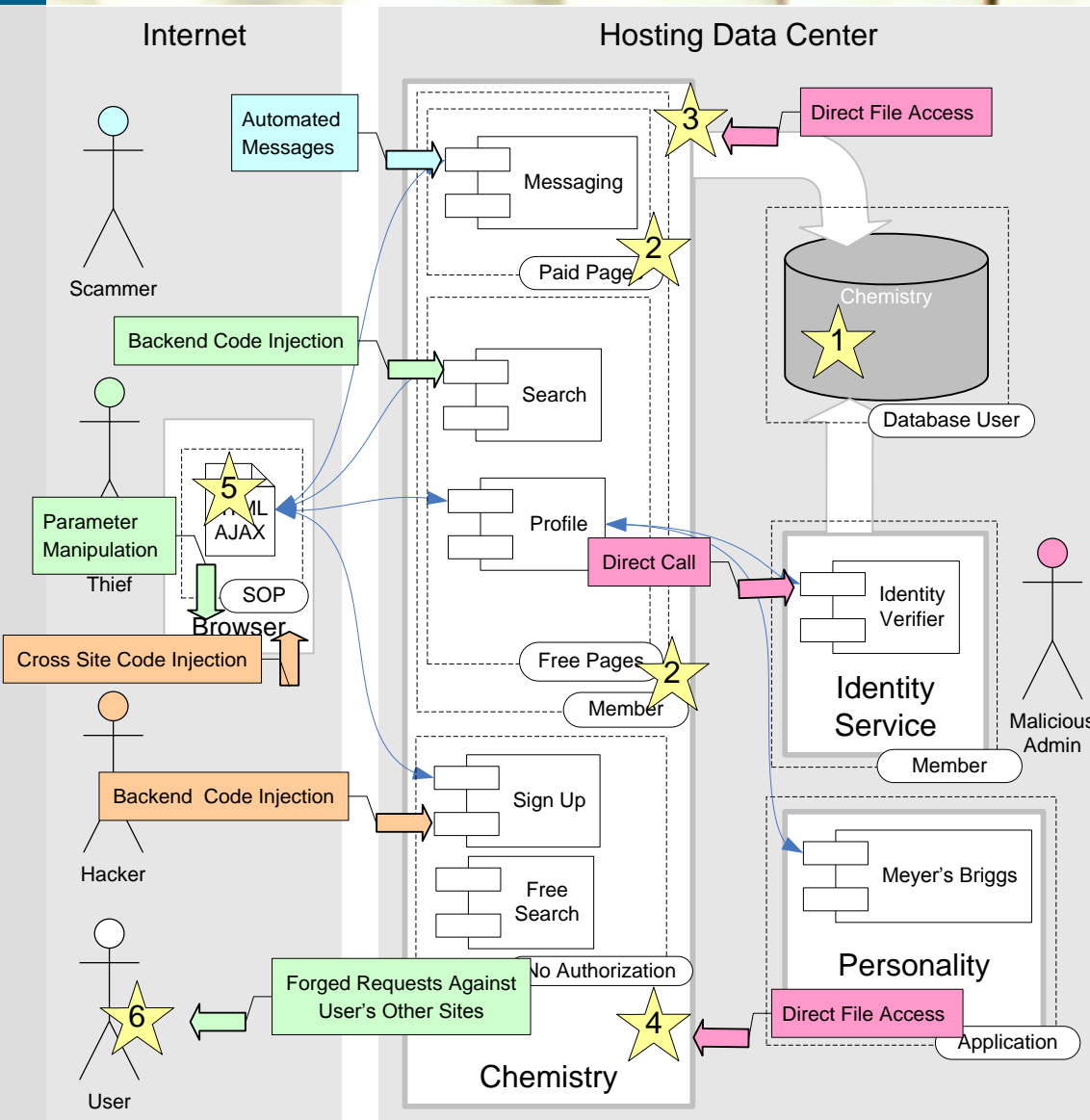
- Threats = malicious users
- Like users, they have capabilities within the system
- Threats have a goal that usually involves subverting a security control or finding a “loophole” in the system



## Ex: assets

Application's functions

- Sensitive data
- Data controlling the application's state
- Users and the assets of the other systems the users access

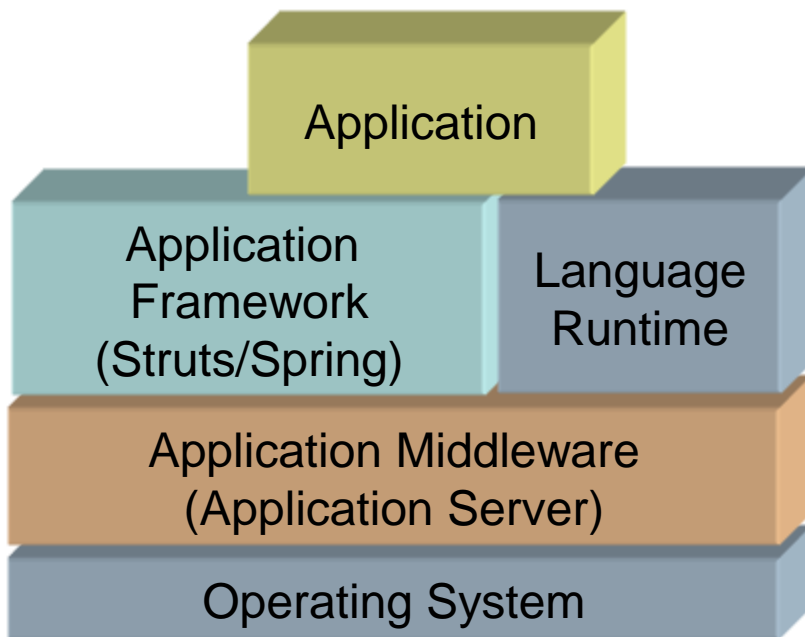


## Ex: points of attack

- Associate threat and assets (determine what the attacker can do)
- Ponder nearest, easiest targets first
- Designers: place controls around assets
- Attackers: start with direct attacks and graduate to multi-step

# Framework analysis

Software is built upon layers of other software



What kind of flaws exist?

- Known vulnerabilities in open-source or product versions
- Weak security controls provided with the framework
- Framework features that must be disabled or configured to their secure form

## Framework analysis: interfaces & contracts

- Place components or application relative to dependencies
  - It is important to see the relationship of an application or component with other callers of shared code and data
- Identify libraries and secure library versions
- Show runtime in diagram where there are security implications:
  - Framework controls
  - VM or other security sandboxes
  - Client-side runtime

# Framework security controls

- The application environment provides controls. What are the limitations?
  - Cryptography
    - Example: JCA
  - Authentication and Authorization
    - Example: JAAS
  - Input Validation and Output Encoding
    - .NET validateRequest
  - Sandboxing
    - JavaScript Same Origin Policy



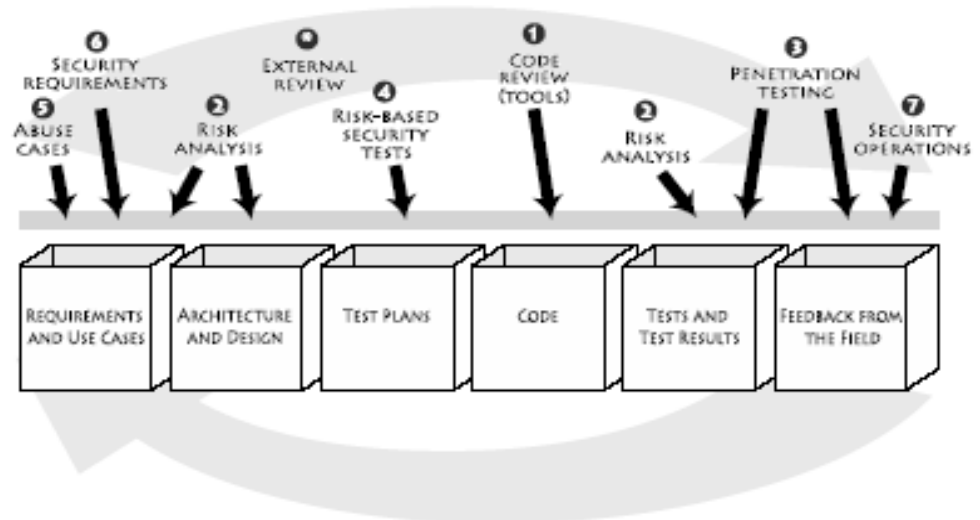
## Combine risks and rank

- Take all of your findings and consider business impact
- Rank the findings
- Come up with solutions
  
- See chapter 5 of “Software Security”
- <http://www.informit.com/articles/article.asp?p=446451>



# Touchpoints adoption

- Code review
  - Widespread
  - Customized tools
  - Training
- ARA
  - Components help
  - Apprenticeship
  - Training
- Pen testing
  - No longer solo
- Security testing
  - Training
- Abuse cases and security requirements
  - Training





Where to Learn More



## informIT & Justice League



- [www.informIT.com](http://www.informIT.com)
- No-nonsense monthly security column by Gary McGraw

- [www.cigital.com/justiceleague](http://www.cigital.com/justiceleague)
- In-depth thought leadership blog from the Cigital Principals
  - Scott Matsumoto
  - Gary McGraw
  - Sammy Miguez
  - Craig Miller
  - John Steven



## IEEE Security & Privacy Magazine + 2 Podcasts



- Building Security In
- Software Security Best Practices column edited by John Steven
- [www.computer.org/security/bsisub/](http://www.computer.org/security/bsisub/)

### The Silver Bullet Security Podcast with Gary McGraw



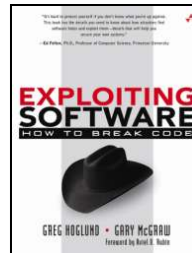
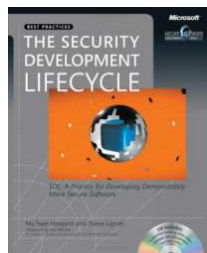
- [www.cigital.com/silverbullet](http://www.cigital.com/silverbullet)
- [www.cigital.com/realitycheck](http://www.cigital.com/realitycheck)



# Software Security: the book

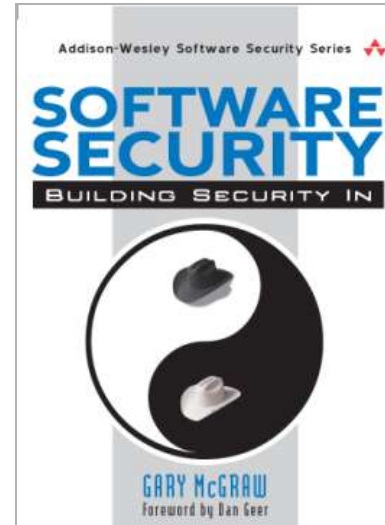


- How to DO software security
  - Best practices
  - Tools
  - Knowledge
- Cornerstone of the Addison-Wesley Software Security Series
- [www.swsec.com](http://www.swsec.com)





- Cigital's Software Security Group invents and delivers Software Quality Management
- **WE NEED GREAT PEOPLE**
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- Send e-mail: [gem@cigital.com](mailto:gem@cigital.com)



For more



*“So now, when we face a choice between adding features and resolving security issues, we need to choose security.”*

-Bill Gates

