

# Crypt-Oh No!

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4/12/18

Zach Grace, OSCP, GREM, CISSP  
@ztgrace

# # whoami

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- Hacker @ Northwestern Mutual
  - Leads pen testing and vulnerability management teams
- Previously
  - 403 Labs/Sikich – Manager of Penetration Testing
  - Metavante/FIS
    - Pen Tester
    - Java Developer
    - Windows/Linux/Solaris/VMware Administrator

## DISCLAIMER

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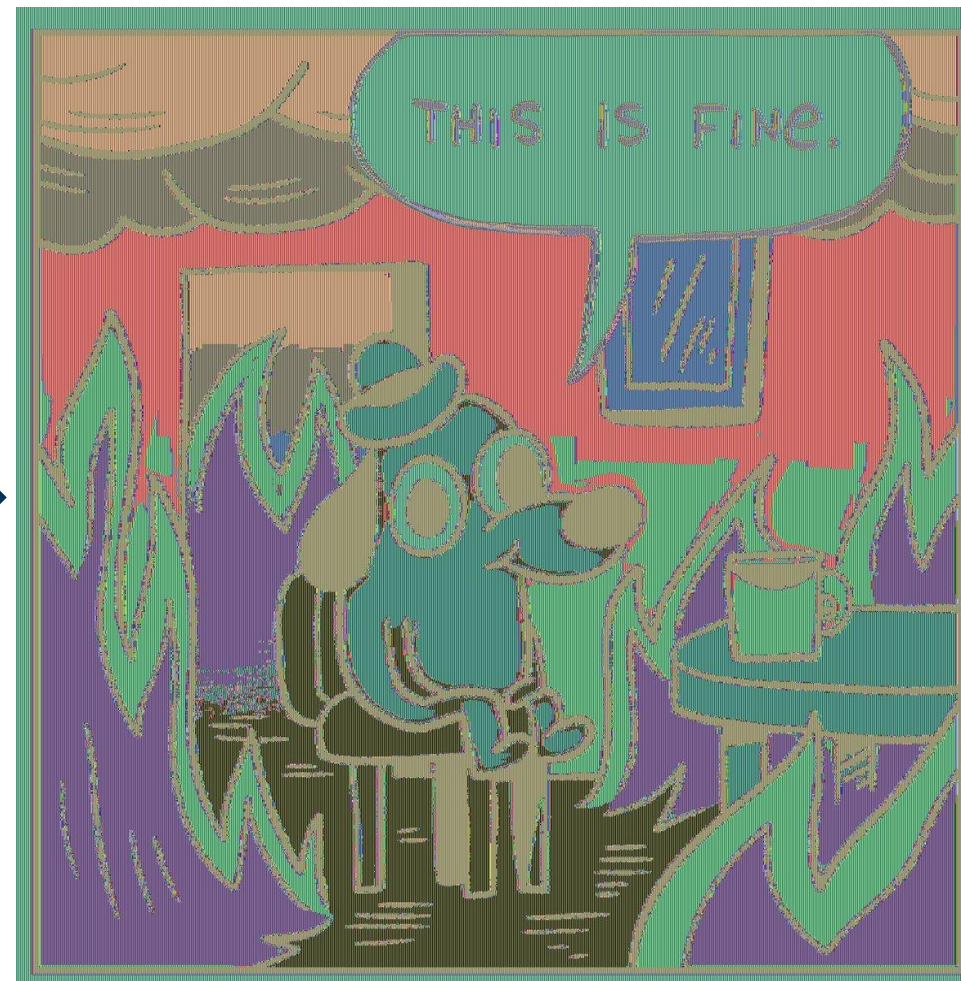
This presentation represents my personal opinions and not the official position of NM.

# CRYPTOGRAPHY INTENTIONS





# CRYPTOGRAPHY REALITY



# AGENDA

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- CIPHER RECOMMENDATIONS
- THREAT MODELING
- STUDY 1: SUBTLE IMPLEMENTATION FLAWS
- STUDY 2: RANDOMNESS
- STUDY 3: ROLL YOUR OWN “ENCRYPTION”
- KEY MANAGEMENT
- RECOMMENDATIONS

## CIPHER RECOMMENDATIONS

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Please read the **Cryptographic Right Answers** for specific cipher recommendations:  
<http://latacora.singles/2018/04/03/cryptographic-right-answers.html>

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PROTECT?

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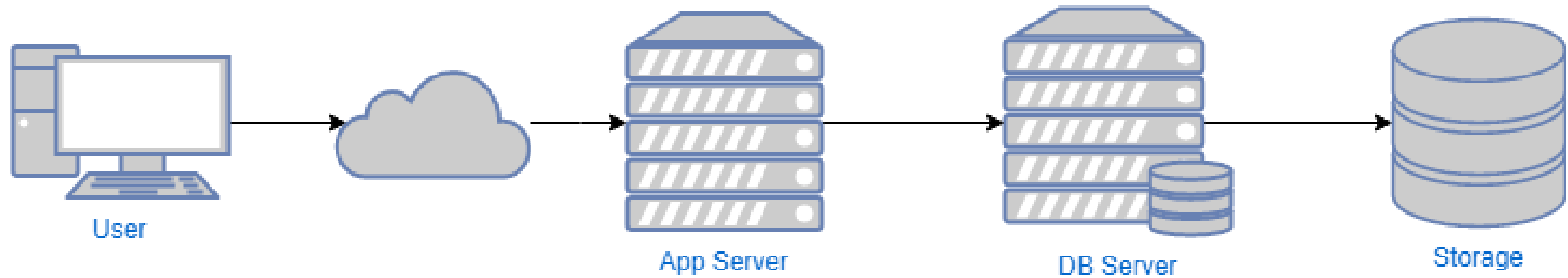
**ENCRYPT ALL THE THINGS!**



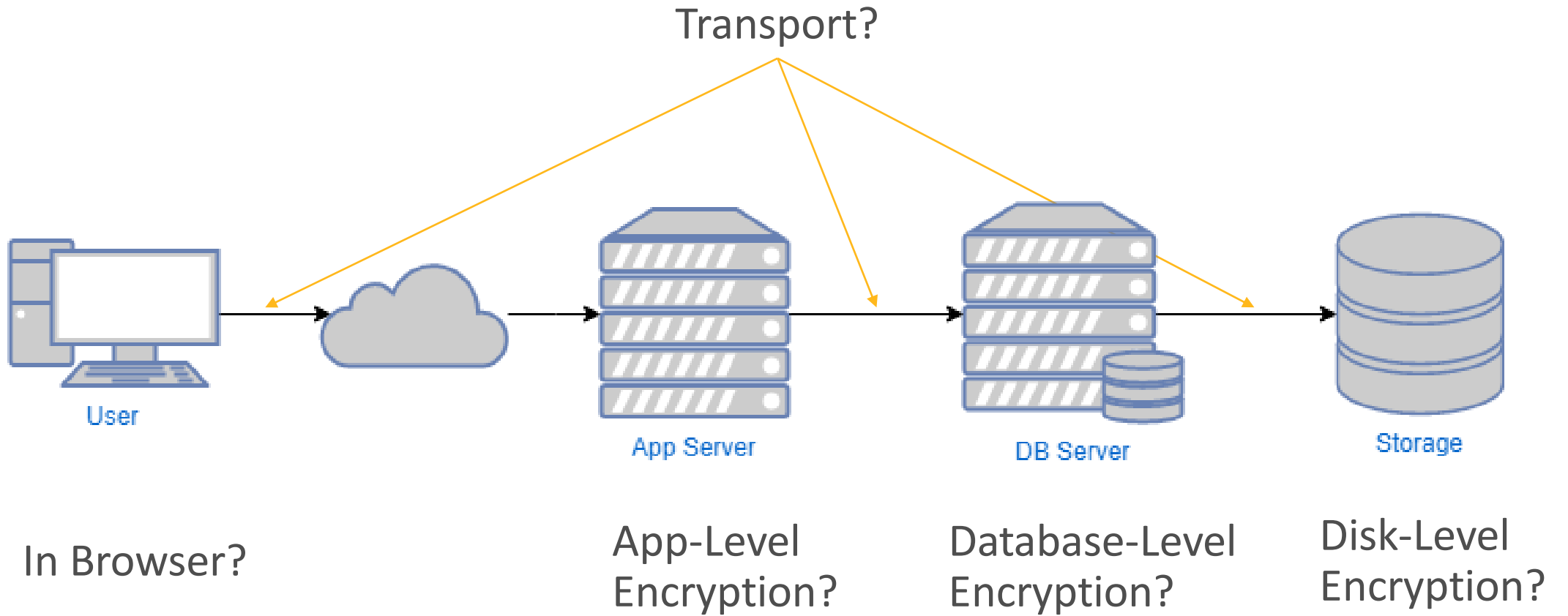


# BASIC WEB APP

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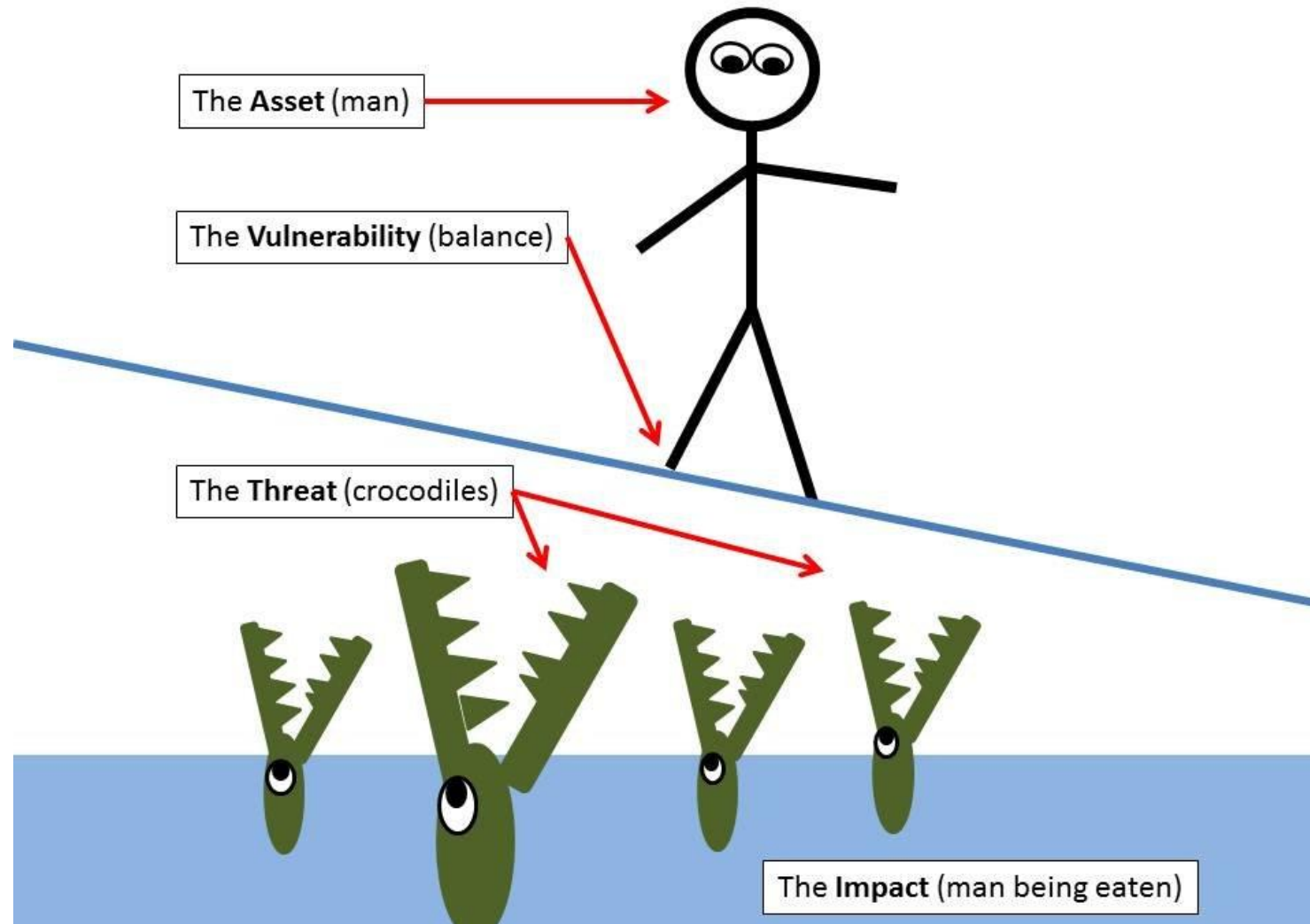


# WHERE TO ENCRYPT?



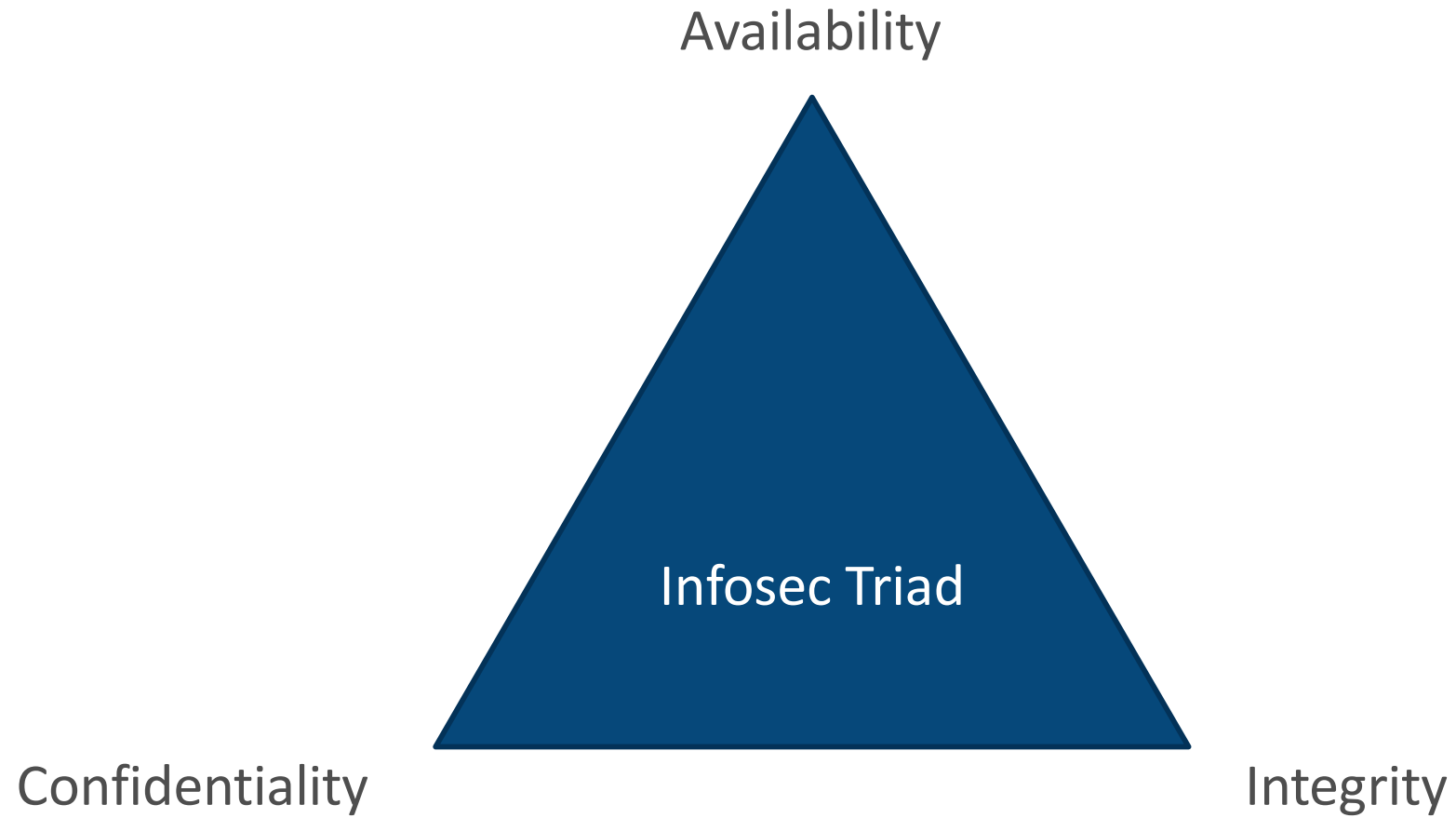
# THREAT MODELING

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# CIA TRIAD

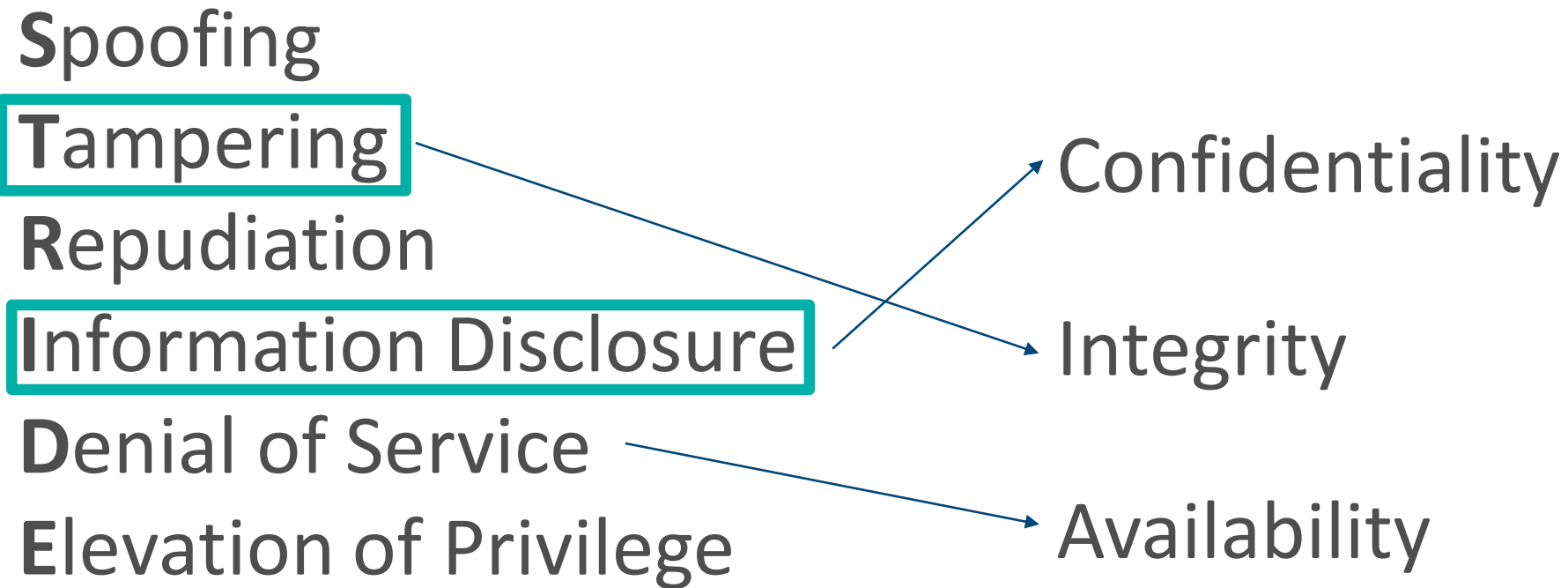
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# STRIDE

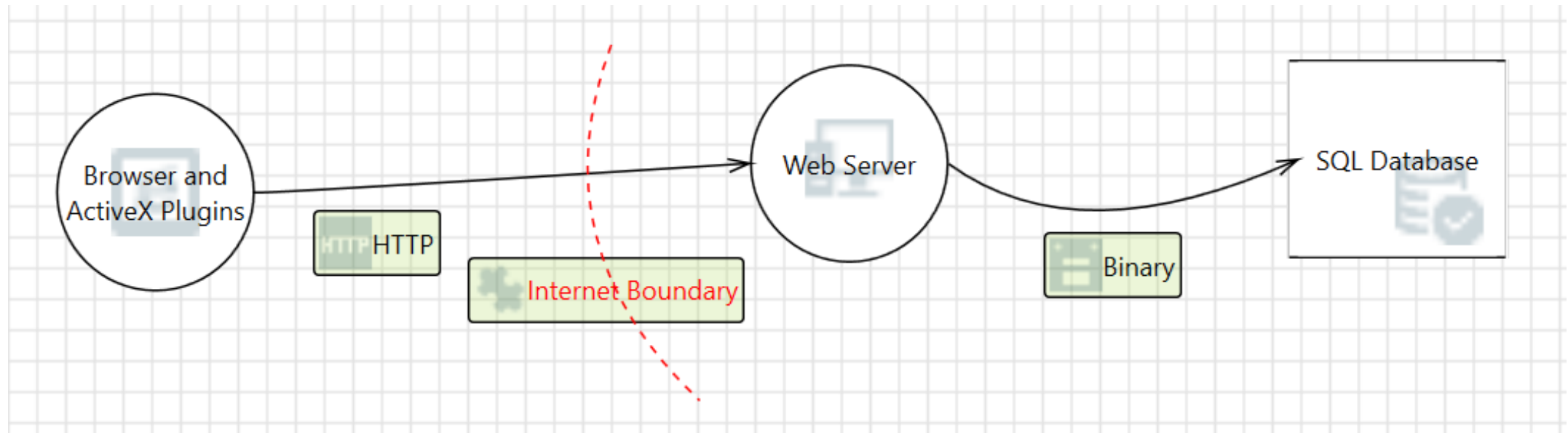
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A threat classification model developed by Microsoft.





# MICROSOFT'S THREAT MODELING TOOL



## PARTIAL LIST OF THREATS

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Threat	Category
Cross-Site Scripting	Tampering
Data Flow HTTP is Potentially Interrupted	Denial of Service
Data Flow Sniffing	Information Disclosure
Elevation by Changing the Execution Flow in Web Server	Elevation of Privilege
Elevation Using Impersonation	Elevation of Privilege
Potential Data Repudiation by Web Server	Repudiation
Potential SQL Injection Vulnerability for SQL Database	Tampering

# CLIENT-SIDE ENCRYPTION

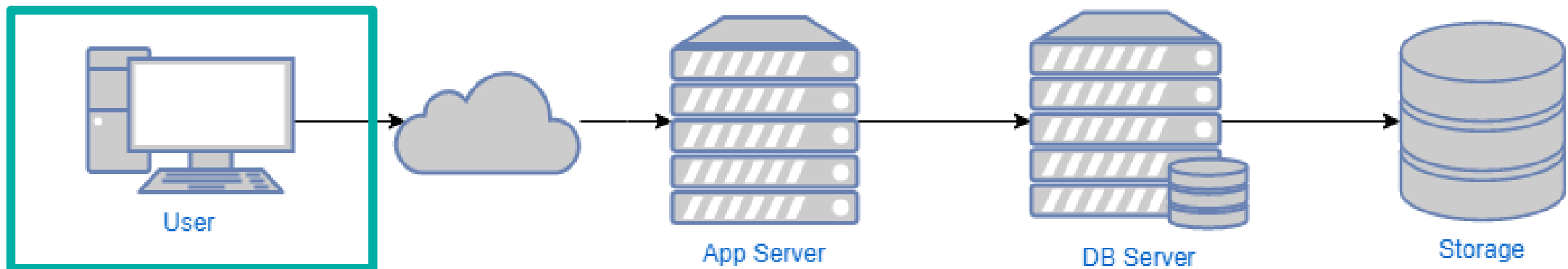
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## THREATS

- Data theft
- Sensitive data exposure

## USE CASES

- Preventing 3<sup>rd</sup> party (SaaS) access
- Secure messaging clients
- Cloud-based password managers



# APP SERVER

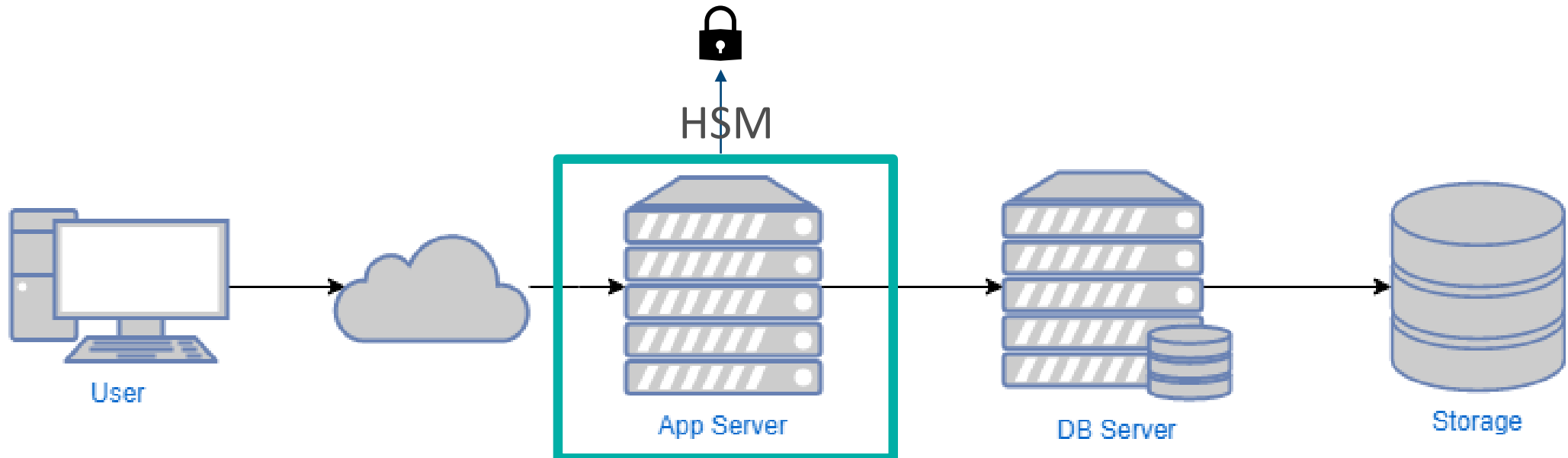
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## THREATS

- Database attacks, i.e. SQL injection (can steal the data, but not read it)
- Unauthorized access by admins

## USE CASES

- Web Apps/APIs
- Fine grained access control



# DATABASE-LEVEL ENCRYPTION

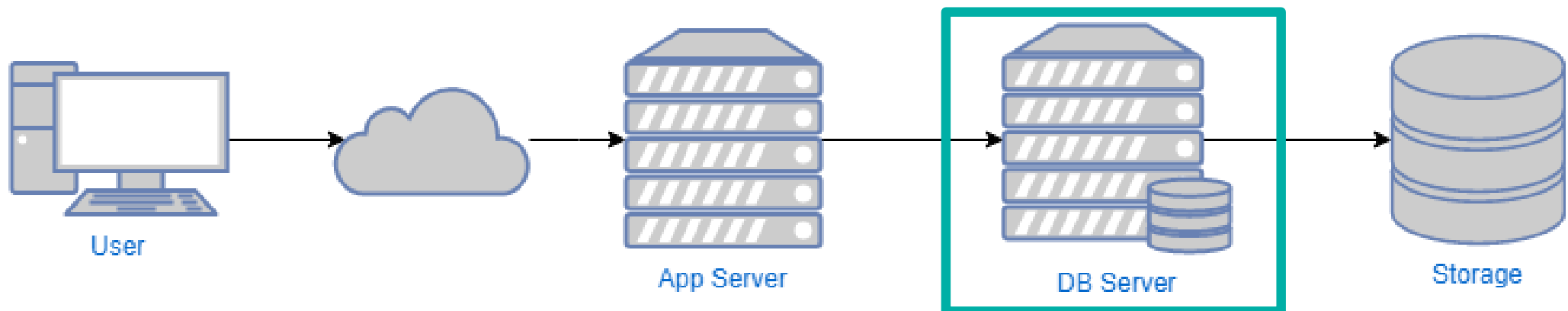
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## THREATS

- Theft/accidental exposure\*
- Unauthorized data access

## USE CASES

- Lost/stolen hard drives
- Segregation of duties
- Check box security (TDE)



# TRANSPARENT DATA ENCRYPTION

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...As mentioned earlier, it's important to identify the remaining attack surface even if TDE is enabled. A few to highlight are: **SQL injection attacks**, cross-site scripting that hijacks an administrator's permissions, code flaws that expose vulnerabilities, attacks by a high-privileged user with sysadmin privileges, attacks by an OS or machine administrator ("box admin"), or **attacks by anyone who has physical access to the machine or has access to the OS image and the data files**, just to name a few scenarios where attackers could obtain access through elevation of privileges. These are vulnerabilities that TDE does *not* cover, and you'll need to protect against these by other means.



# MEDIA-LEVEL ENCRYPTION

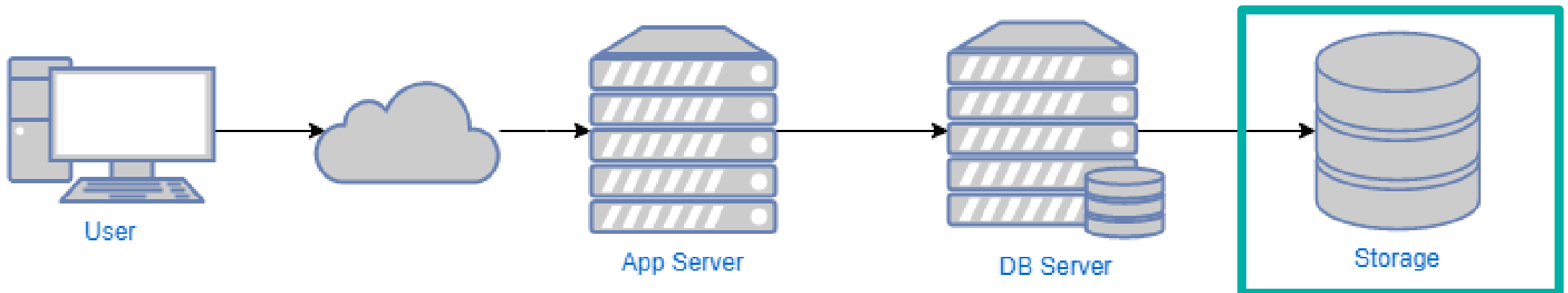
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## THREATS

- Accidental exposure
- Theft

## USE CASES

- Cloud Storage: AWS S3 & EBS
- Lost/stolen devices



# TRANSPORT-LEVEL ENCRYPTION

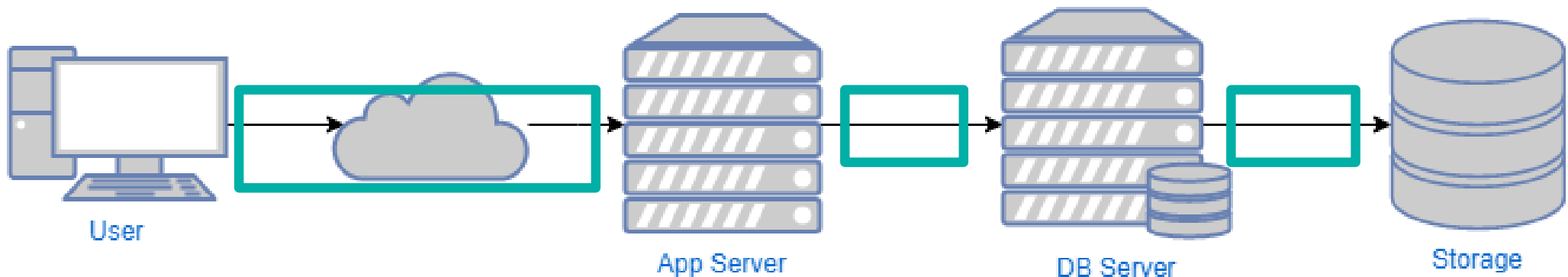
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## THREATS

- Man-in-the-middle attacks
- Network sniffing
- BGP hijacking

## USE CASES

Umm...just encrypt in transport everywhere and use mutual authentication where possible.





## Mozilla SSL Configuration Generator

Apache       Modern      Server Version   
 Nginx       Intermediate      OpenSSL Version   
 Lighttpd       Old      HSTS Enabled   
 HAProxy  
 AWS ELB

nginx 1.10.3 | intermediate profile | OpenSSL 1.0.1e | [link](#)  
Oldest compatible clients: Firefox 1, Chrome 1, IE 7, Opera 5, Safari 1, Windows XP IE8, Android 2.3, Java 7

# STUDY 1: SUBTLE IMPLEMENTATION FLAWS

# KEY GENERATION

```
1  "use strict";
2
3  import crypto from 'crypto-pbkdf2';
4  import sjcl from 'sjcl';
5
6  let salt = 'B78C39D1 F52E8A02';
7  const ITERATIONS = 4000;
8  const KEY_SIZE = 256;
9
10 function generateKey(pwd) {
11     let hash = crypto.PBKDF2(pwd, salt, ITERATIONS, KEY_SIZE);
12     console.log('hash: ' + hash.toString());
13     let key = sjcl.misc.pbkdf2(hash.toString(), salt, ITERATIONS, KEY_SIZE).join(' ');
14     console.log('key: ' + key);
15     return key;
16 }
17
18 }
19
20
```

← static salt

← enough iterations?

← same func, different libs?

Cryptopals Rule: Always operate on raw bytes, never on encoded strings. Only use hex and base64 for pretty-printing.

← changes key value

← Logging the keys. Ouch.

# STUDY 2: RANDOMNESS



# RANDOMNESS

```
1  const (  
2      characters = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ1234567890"  
3      label     = "kanali"  
4  )  
5  
6  apiKey := createRandByteSlice(32)  
7  
8  ciphertext, err := rsa.EncryptOAEP(sha256.New(), cryptoRand.Reader, publicKey, apiKey, []byte(label))  
9  c.Println(string(key))  
10  
11 func createRandByteSlice(length int) []byte {  
12     // generate new seed based on time  
13     mathRand.Seed(time.Now().UTC().UnixNano())  
14     // construct random string of characters  
15     s := make([]byte, length)  
16     for i := range s {  
17         s[i] = characters[mathRand.Intn(len(characters))]  
18     }  
19     return s  
20 }  
21  
22
```

Deterministic “random” number generator

“randomly” chooses a character from the *characters* string

- Limits key space to  $62^{32}$  ( $3.1 * 10^{33}$ )
- Rewritten to provide  $256^{16}$  ( $3.4 * 10^{38}$ )
- Approx 100000x increase in key space

# STUDY 3: PLEASE DON'T ROLL YOUR OWN "ENCRYPTION" ...

# UNNAMED CONSUMER DEVICE LOGIN FUNCTION

```
1  function encode(input)
2  {
3      var text = "";
4      var possible = "ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz0123456789";
5      var len = input.length;
6      var lenn = input.length;
7      for( var i=1; i <= (320-len); i++ )
8      {
9          if (0 == i % 7 && len > 0)
10             text += input.charAt(--len);
11         else if (i == 123)
12         {
13             if (lenn < 10)
14                 text += "0";
15             else
16                 text += Math.floor(lenn/10);
17         }
18         else if (i == 289)
19             text += lenn%10;
20         else
21             text += possible.charAt(Math.floor(Math.random() * possible.length));
22     }
23     return text;
24 }
```

“encode” function  
from  
PORC@MadSec

# OUTPUT OF THE ENCODE FUNCTION

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encode("aaaaaa")

Output:

v17o7B**a**wkqZwf**a**NAJIRK**a**g2hlzu**a**6p3tjn**a**4m7iy9**a**hrD5SS5VUiNUyrTkriwcvGktv4lxX  
p2yEWWbWEp0pKB04kcK2MzcyxwtCDzSQ0uDSPH2d2hCkLcSTV1**0**hr2xSelmvsMUgGIY  
8xqVMXC4M082MYJte6QPp87lsB8CeJqh1eu1wZBphqtxJBLgfusBwEC4ZUj6byRB4liSGI6j  
eyjdWPjb66v3gChUyERFnVU5ipOb4vr7jYHCxm0sQ7XoMkUyX8J4UPMbtWpzN7w881M  
FnNoqC4fOW**6**0kCleyNY95muoS6zFholqosTRlh5vb0

# KEY MANAGEMENT

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- Secrets should **never** be stored in plaintext, especially in repos
- Rotate your keys
- Use a vaulting solution! (seriously, just some something)
  - Hardware Security Module (HSM) /Hardware Security Appliance (HSA)
  - Amazon KMS
  - Azure Key Vault
  - Conjour
  - Ansible Vault

# RECOMMENDATIONS

# APPROACH

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1. Build a threat model of your application
2. Use your threat model to inform cryptographic choices
3. Implement appropriate crypto choices per [Cryptographic Right Answers](#)
4. Design proper key management and rotation as part of the implementation
5. Use cryptographically secure psuedo-random number generators (CSPRNG)
6. Always operate on raw bytes (no strings)
7. Profit!



## REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

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- Cryptographic Right Answers (<http://latacora.singles/2018/04/03/cryptographic-right-answers.html>)
- How To Safely Generate A Random Number - <https://sockpuppet.org/blog/2014/02/25/safely-generate-random-numbers/>
- Cryptopals - <https://cryptopals.com/>
- Serious Cryptography - <https://nostarch.com/seriouscrypto>
- Mozilla Server-Side Encryption - [https://wiki.mozilla.org/Security/Server\\_Side\\_TLS](https://wiki.mozilla.org/Security/Server_Side_TLS)

THANK YOU