

GOTO **CHICAGO 2023**

#GOTOchgo

Catching Commits to Secure Infrastructure as Code

May 23, 2023

OWASP Secure Coding Practices

- Input Validation
- Output Encoding
- Authentication and Password Management
- Session Management
- Access Control
- Cryptographic Practices
- Error Handling and Logging
- Data Protection
- Communication Security
- System Configuration
- Database Security
- File Management
- Memory Management
- General Coding Practices

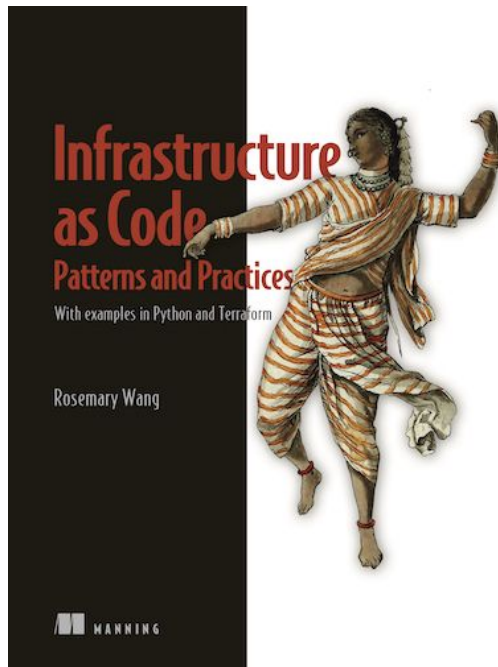
What about infrastructure as code?

Rosemary Wang

Developer Advocate, HashiCorp

joatmon08.github.io

@joatmon08



How do you write **secure**
infrastructure as code?

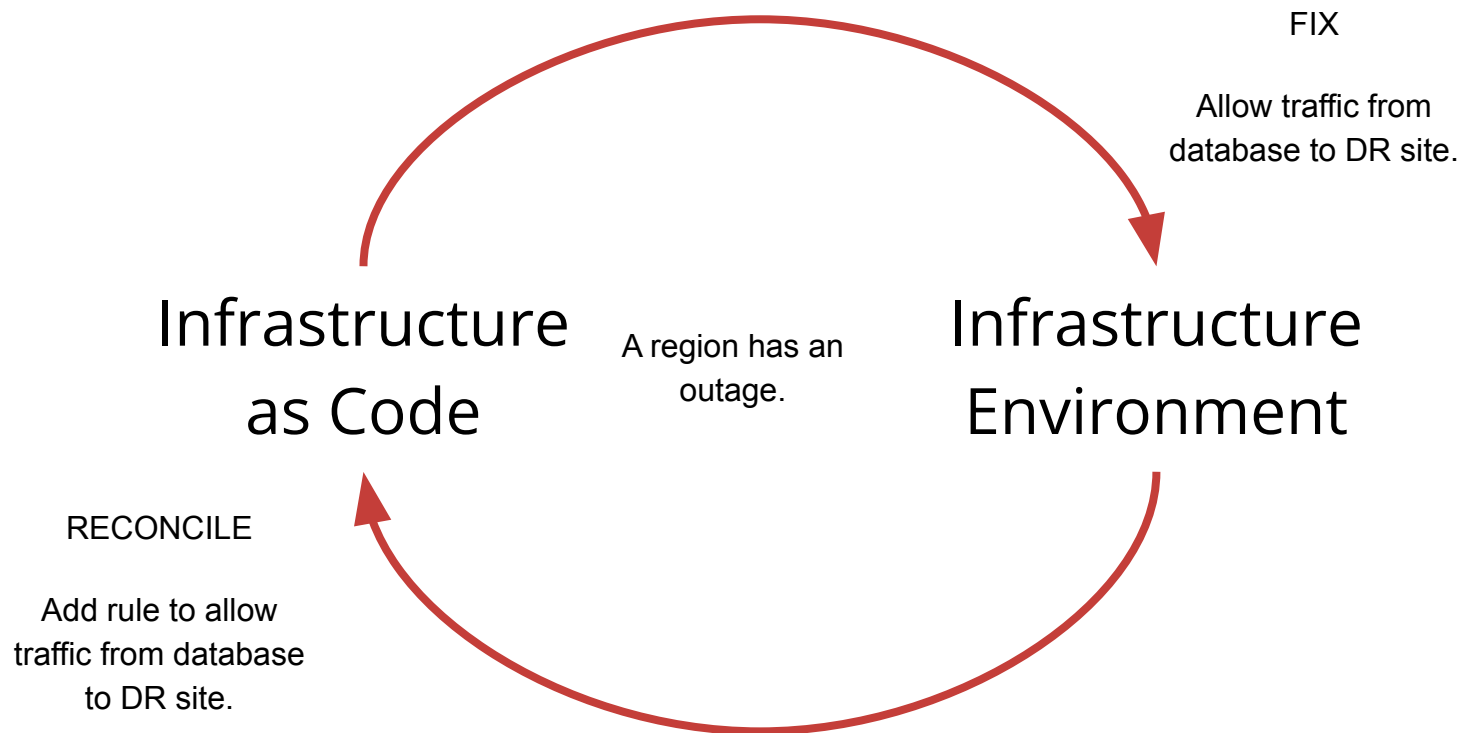
Security Testing

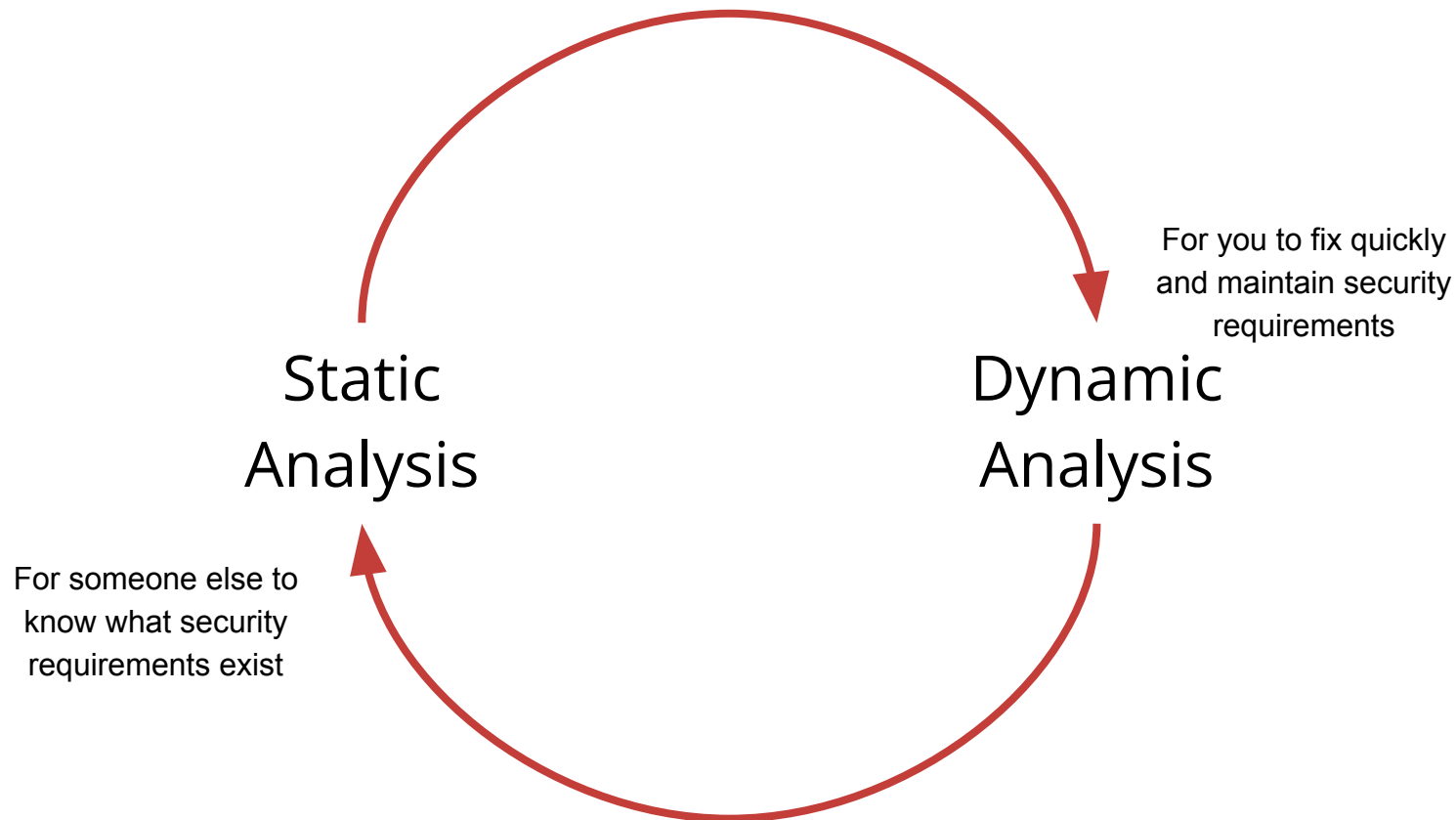
Static Analysis

- “Shift-left” security testing
- Policy as code
- Unit / contract testing for security

Dynamic Analysis

- Vulnerability scanning
- Continuous validation
- Security monitoring





Capture **security**
knowledge as tests.



inputs.rego



terraform.auto.tfvars



variables.tf X



infrastructure > variables.tf > variable "name"

Rosemary Wang, 11 months ago | 1 author (Rosemary Wang)

```
94 variable "additional_tags" {
95     type          = map(any)
96     default       = {}
97     description   = "Tags to add resources"
98 }
99
```

Rosemary Wang, 8 months ago | 1 author (Rosemary Wang)

```
100 variable "client_cidr_block" {
101     type          = list(string)
102     description   = "Client CIDR block"
103     sensitive     = true
104 }
105
```

Rosemary Wang, 6 days ago | 1 author (Rosemary Wang)

```
106 variable "datadog_api_key" {
107     type          = string
108     description   = "API Key for Datadog"
109     sensitive     = true
110     default       = ""
111 }
112
```

Rosemary Wang, 6 days ago | 1 author (Rosemary Wang)

```
113 variable "datadog_region" {
```



main



main



Rosemary Wang, 2 years ago

Ln 1, Col 1

Spaces: 2

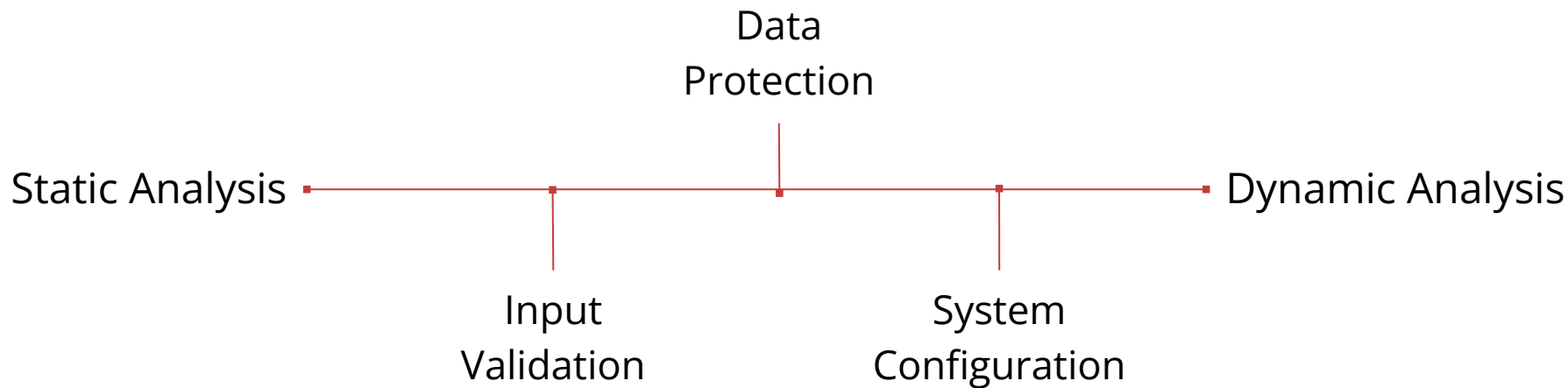
UTF-8

LF

{ } Terraform



What commits to catch?



Input Validation

Input Validation

Verify...

- Expected types
- Expected values
- Proper character sets
- Potentially insecure values

} Static analysis

Input Validation

Examples:

- Password should have at least 1 symbol and 1 uppercase character.
- Region should be in United States.
- Private CA certificate key should be marked as sensitive.
- Names should include standard environment.

Input Validation

Variable Validation

Better for...

- Team
- Provider
- Modules

Unit Test

Better for...

- Multiple providers
- Organizational policy
- Dependencies


```
variable "region" {  
  type          = string  
  description = "AWS Region"  
  
  validation {  
    condition      = can(regex("^us-", var.region))  
    error_message = "AWS Region must be in United  
                    States"  
  }  
}
```

```
resource "random_string" "boundary" {  
  ## omitted  
  lifecycle {  
    precondition {  
      condition      = random_string.boundary.length > 3  
      error_message = "HCP Boundary requires username to be  
                      at least 3 characters in length"  
    }  
  }  
}
```

```
deny[msg] {  
    r := tfplan.variables  
    r.aws_secret_access_key  
    msg := "do not define AWS secret access key as part of  
           variables, use AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY environment  
           variable instead"  
}
```

Data Protection

Data Protection

- Implement access controls to state
 - Data
 - State
- Encrypt in transit and at rest.
- Sanitize sensitive values in logs or outputs
- Ensure least privilege access to providers

} Static analysis

} Dynamic analysis

Data Protection

Examples:

- Database should be encrypted.
- Password should not be printed in output.
- Virtual machine resource should have attached IAM role.
- Infrastructure state should be limited to owners of workspace.

Data Protection

Static Analysis

Better for...

- Enforcement of secure practices
- Testing valid dependencies

Dynamic Analysis

Better for...

- Least-privilege API access
- Continuous enforcement
- Auditing data access

```
deny[msg] {  
    r := resource_changes[_]  
    r.type == "aws_db_instance"  
    r.change.after.storage_encrypted == ""  
    msg := sprintf("%v should have encrypted storage",  
        [r.address])  
}
```



```
deny[msg] {  
    outputs := planned_values.outputs  
    plaintext_password_outputs := [key |  
        outputs[key]  
        contains(key, "password")  
        not outputs[key].sensitive  
    ]  
    count(plaintext_password_outputs) != 0  
    msg := sprintf("%v should be marked as sensitive  
        outputs", [plaintext_password_outputs])  
}
```

```
resource "aws_db_instance" "products" {  
  ## omitted  
  storage_encrypted      = true  
  
  lifecycle {  
    postcondition {  
      condition      = self.storage_encrypted  
      error_message = "encrypt AWS RDS database storage"  
    }  
  }  
}
```

System Configuration

System Configuration

- Check versions or images
- Ensure least privilege network access
- Separate development and production
- Analyze vulnerabilities and access
- Assess drift
- Remove idle / unused resources

} Need dynamic analysis

System Configuration

Examples:

- Separate state for development and production.
- Verify network policies and secure versions.
- Tags should include environment.
- Image should include secure base.
- Scan running infrastructure for new vulnerabilities.

System Configuration

Static Analysis

Better for...

- Enforcement of secure practices
- Complex logic for validation
- Testing valid dependencies

Dynamic Analysis

Better for...

- Network auditing
- Continuous validation
- Drift detection

```
deny[msg] {  
    ## omitted logic to parse VPC  
    private_subnets := {r.values.id |  
        r := vpc_modules[_].resources[_]  
        r.type == "aws_subnet"  
        not r.values.map_public_ip_on_launch  
    }  
  
    public_subnets := cluster_subnet_ids - private_subnets  
  
    count(public_subnets) != 0  
    msg := sprintf("EKS cluster %v should be in private  
        subnets (%v are public subnets)",  
        [cluster_id, public_subnets])  
}
```



< infrastructure

Health

Drift

Continuous validation BETA

hashicorp-stack-demoapp / Projects & workspaces / infrastructure / Health / Continuous Validation

Continuous validation

Assessment in progress

Start health assessment

Last successfully checked a few seconds ago.

Continuous validation is currently a beta feature. [We'd appreciate any feedback you might have.](#)

Your infrastructure does not satisfy the assertions defined in your configuration. [Learn more about continuous validation.](#)

Failed **Passed** Unknown All

Search by assertion



ASSERTION

STATUS

MESSAGE

...

...

...





hcp_consul.tf

run-HXUZLqmsMEYiCd95-assessment-log.txt X



variables.tf



hcp_vault.tf



...



Users > rosemary > Downloads > run-HXUZLqmsMEYiCd95-assessment-log.txt

```
212 vel": "info", "@message": "module.eks.module.eks_managed_node_group[\"hashicups\"].aws_eks_node_group[\"hashicups\"]: Drift detected (update)", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n213 vel": "info", "@message": "module.eks.aws_iam_role.this[0]: Drift detected (update)", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n214 vel": "info", "@message": "module.eks.module.eks_managed_node_group[\"hashicups\"].aws_iam_role.this[0]: Drift detected (update)", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n215 vel": "info", "@message": "hcp_vault_cluster.main: Plan to update", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n216 vel": "info", "@message": "hcp_consul_cluster.main: Plan to update", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n217 vel": "info", "@message": "Plan: 0 to add, 2 to change, 0 to destroy.", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n218 vel": "info", "@message": "Outputs: 16", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n219 vel": "error", "@message": "Error: Resource postcondition failed", "@module": "terraform.ui", "@timestamp": "2023-05-19T14:30:00Z", "@version": 1}\n220 tition failed: failed running terraform plan (exit 1) [exit]
```



main



Ln 1, Col 1

Spaces: 4

UTF-8

LF

Plain Text



There's more!

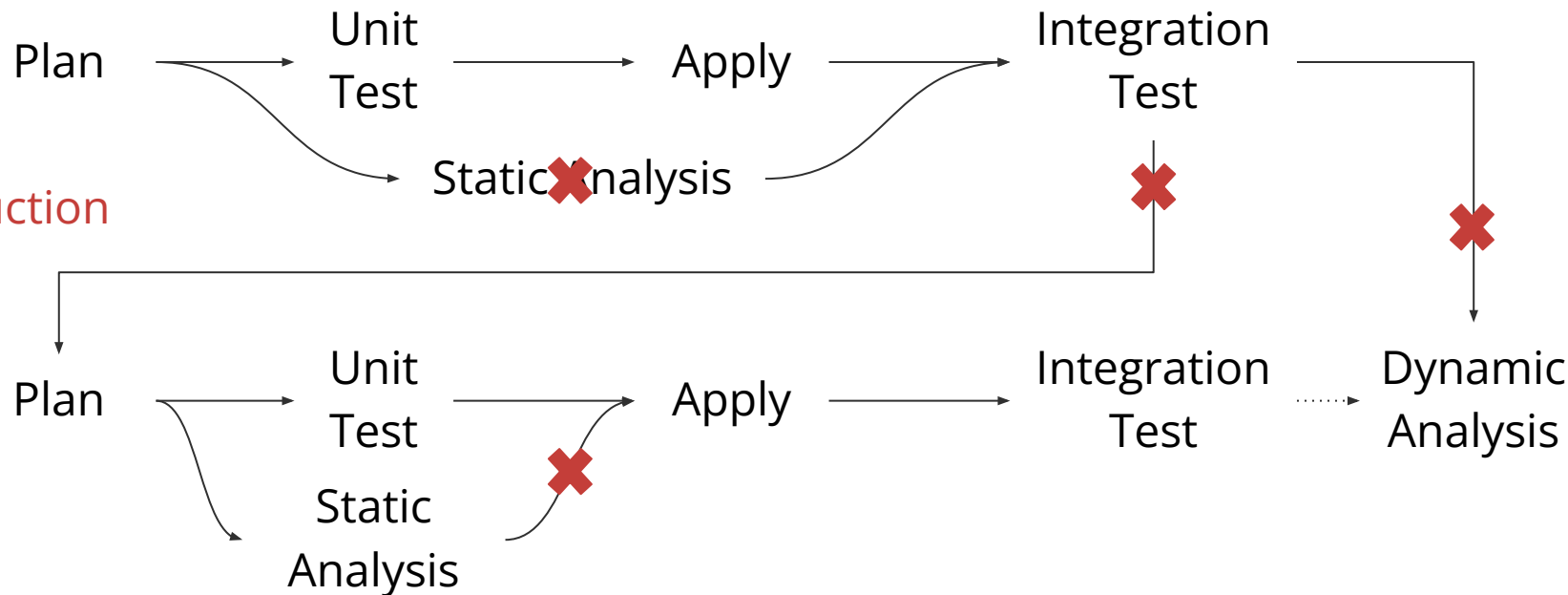
How do I share tests?

- Store tests in central location.
- Tag / name / number tests for relevance.
- Document secure configurations in tests.

How to catch commits?

Staging

Production



Do I write them all myself?

1

Use pre-written test suites or industry benchmarks.

Infrastructure modules

Production configuration

2

Create custom policy tests.

Divide by...

- Enforcement level
- Business unit
- Resource
- Type



< Workspaces

infrastructure

Overview

Runs

States

Variables

Health



Settings



hashicorp-stack-demoapp



Estimated cost change

None

Plan & apply duration

17 minutes

Resources changed

+1 -1 -0



rosemary triggered a run from UI 21 minutes ago

Run Details



Plan finished 20 minutes ago

Resources: 1 to add, 1 to change, 0 to destroy



Post-plan passed 19 minutes ago

1 passed, 1 failed (advisory)



Run tasks: Running 20 minutes ago > Passed 19 minutes ago

+ 1 passed

1 warning



prisma-cloud failed (advisory)

Details



Snyk passed (advisory)

Details



OPA policies passed 19 minutes ago



What is important?

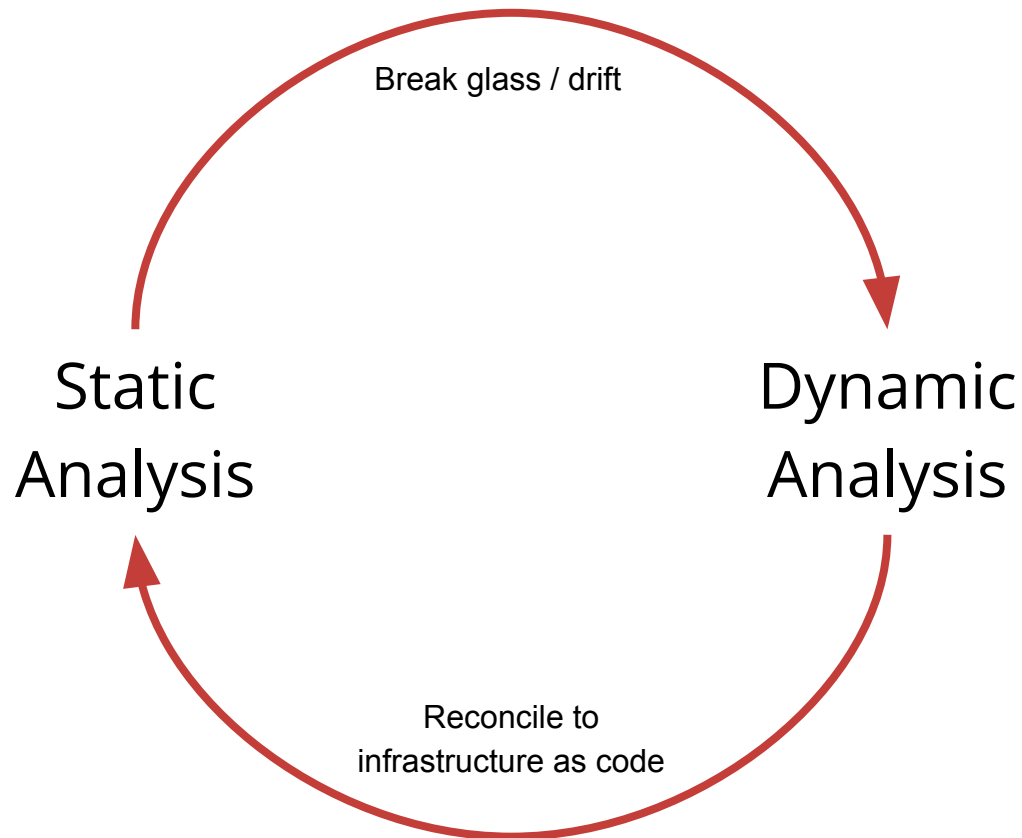
- Prefer secure defaults over tests.
- Choose a severity threshold.
 - Identify mandatory rules.
 - Use advisory as last resort.
 - Try to enforce development environments.
- Evaluate and make exceptions.

Conclusion

How do you write secure IaC?

- Capture practices into tests
- Share tests
- Catch commits using a pipeline
- Write what you must
- Choose what is important

Iterate



More **secure**
infrastructure as code over
time.

Thank you!

@joatmon08

- github.com/joatmon08/hashicorp-stack-demoapp
- developer.hashicorp.com/terraform/tutorials/cloud-get-started/policy-quickstart
- openpolicyagent.org/docs/latest/terraform/

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