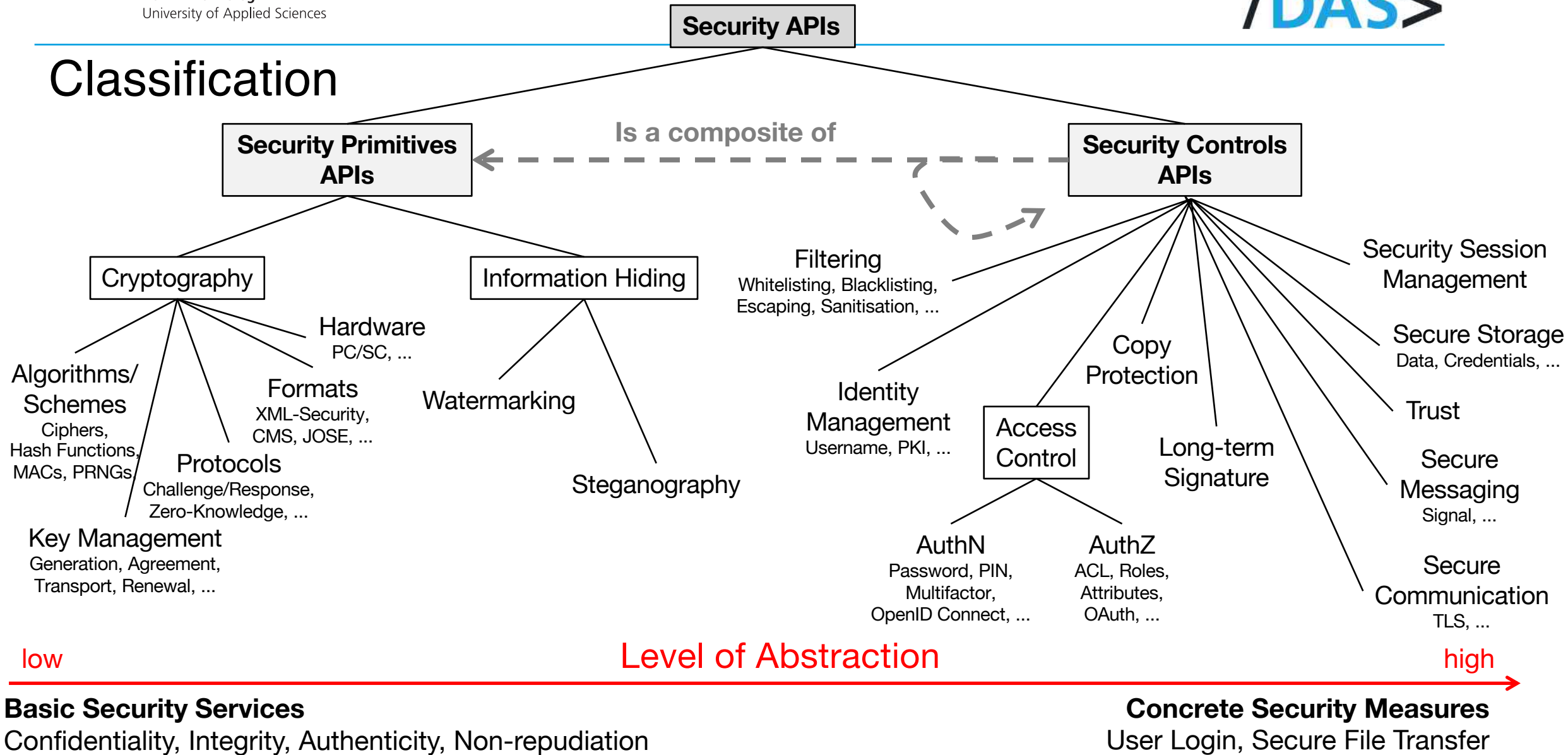


Classification



Incorrect Use of Cryptographic APIs

Hard-to-use cryptographic APIs increase the likelihood of software vulnerabilities.

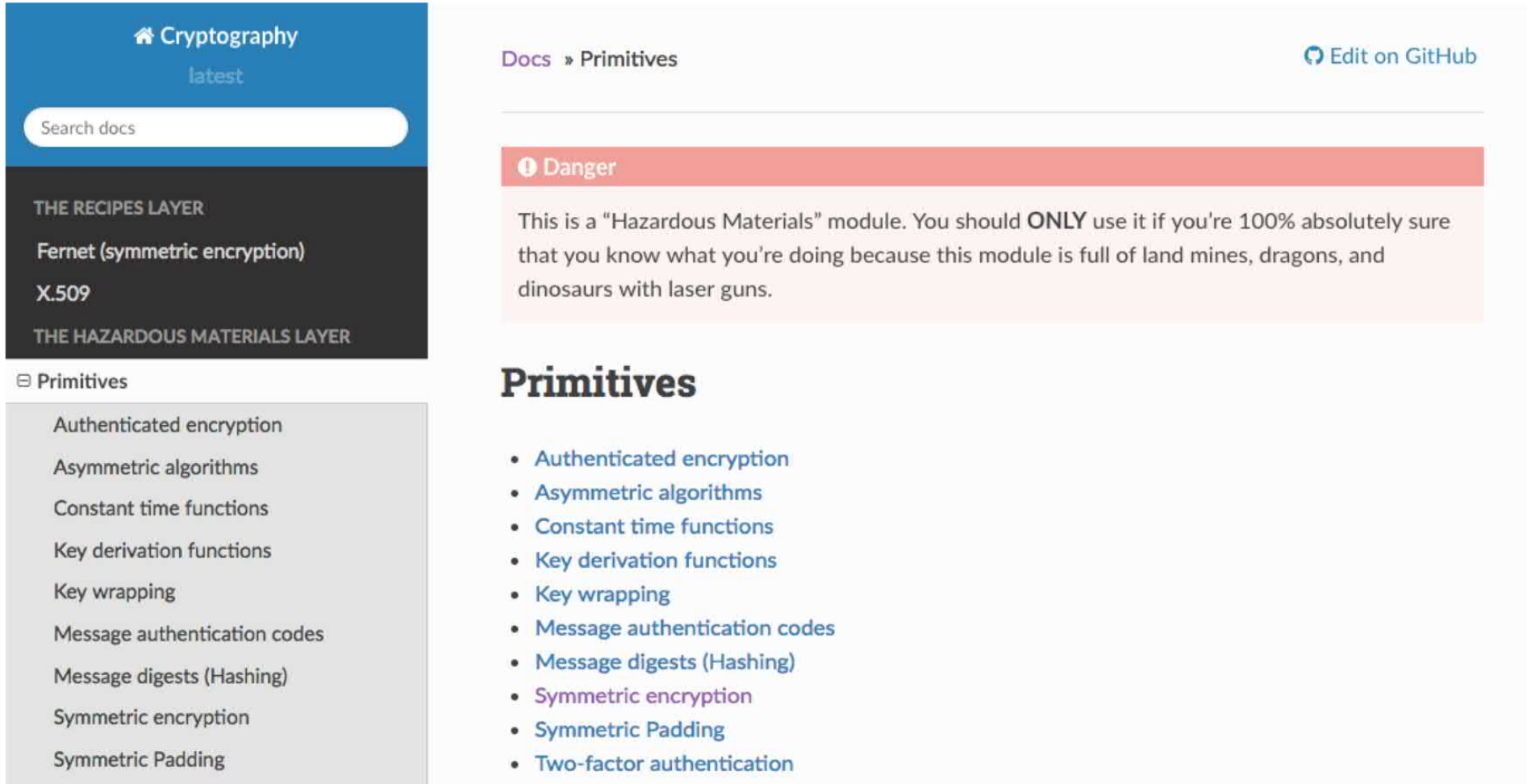
Y. Acar, M. Backes, S. Fahl, S. Garnkel, D. Kim, M. L. Mazurek, and C. Stransky.
Comparing the usability of cryptographic APIs.
In 2017 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP), pages 154 - 171, 2017.

A. Naiakshina, A. Danilova, C. Tiefenau, M. Herzog, S. Dechand, and M. Smith.
Why do developers get password storage wrong?: A qualitative usability study.
In Proceedings of the 2017 ACM SIGSAC Conference on Computer and Communications Security, CCS '17. ACM, 2017.

S. Nadi, S. Kruger, M. Mezini, and E. Bodden.
Jumping Through Hoops": Why do Java Developers Struggle With Cryptography APIs?
In Proceedings of the 37th International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2016), 2016.



Cryptography.io Documentation



The screenshot shows the Cryptography.io documentation interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with a search bar and a list of categories: 'THE RECIPES LAYER' (including Fernet and X.509) and 'THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS LAYER' (including Primitives). The 'Primitives' category is expanded, showing a list of topics. The main content area displays the 'Primitives' page, which features a prominent red 'Danger' warning box. The warning text states: 'This is a "Hazardous Materials" module. You should **ONLY** use it if you're 100% absolutely sure that you know what you're doing because this module is full of land mines, dragons, and dinosaurs with laser guns.' Below the warning is a list of primitive topics.

Navigation Sidebar:

- Cryptography (latest)
- Search docs
- THE RECIPES LAYER
 - Fernet (symmetric encryption)
 - X.509
- THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS LAYER
 - Primitives
 - Authenticated encryption
 - Asymmetric algorithms
 - Constant time functions
 - Key derivation functions
 - Key wrapping
 - Message authentication codes
 - Message digests (Hashing)
 - Symmetric encryption
 - Symmetric Padding

Main Content:

Docs » Primitives [Edit on GitHub](#)

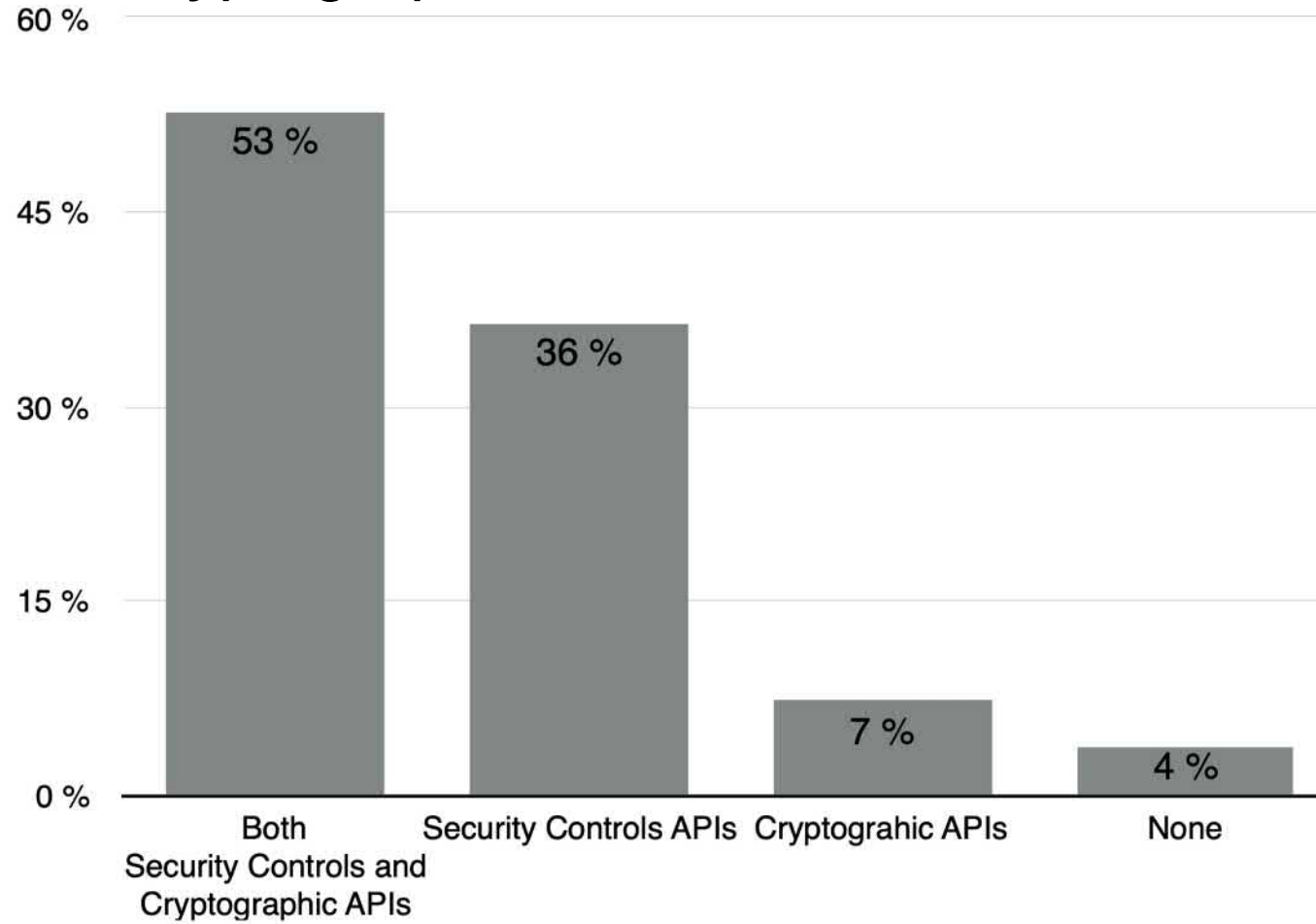
Danger

This is a "Hazardous Materials" module. You should **ONLY** use it if you're 100% absolutely sure that you know what you're doing because this module is full of land mines, dragons, and dinosaurs with laser guns.

Primitives

- Authenticated encryption
- Asymmetric algorithms
- Constant time functions
- Key derivation functions
- Key wrapping
- Message authentication codes
- Message digests (Hashing)
- Symmetric encryption
- Symmetric Padding
- Two-factor authentication

Security APIs vs Cryptographic APIs



PyCrypto Documentation

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the PyCrypto documentation for the ARC4 module. The browser's address bar shows the URL: `https://www.dlitz.net/software/pycrypto/api/current/`. The page has a navigation bar with links for `Home`, `Trees`, `Indices`, and `Help`. The main content area is titled `Module ARC4` and describes the ARC4 symmetric cipher. It includes a paragraph explaining that ARC4 is an implementation of RC4, designed by Ron Rivest in 1987, and that it was reverse-engineered and posted on Usenet in 1994. A red box highlights a warning: "New designs should not use ARC4. A good alternative is AES ([Crypto.Cipher.AES](#)) in any of the modes that turn it into a stream cipher (OFB, CFB, or CTR)." Below this, there is a code block showing a Python example of using ARC4 for encryption. The left sidebar contains a `Table of Contents` and a list of `All Classes` including `Crypto.Cipher.AES.AESCipher`, `Crypto.Cipher.ARC2_RC2Cipher`, `Crypto.Cipher.ARC4_ARC4Cipher`, and others.

Table of Contents

Everything

Modules

- Crypto
- Crypto.Cipher
- Crypto.Cipher.AES
- Crypto.Cipher.ARC2
- Crypto.Cipher.ARC4
- Crypto.Cipher.Blowfish
- Crypto.Cipher.CAST

Everything

All Classes

- Crypto.Cipher.AES.AESCipher
- Crypto.Cipher.ARC2_RC2Cipher
- Crypto.Cipher.ARC4_ARC4Cipher
- Crypto.Cipher.Blowfish.BlowfishCipher
- Crypto.Cipher.CAST.CAST128Cipher
- Crypto.Cipher.DES.DESCipher
- Crypto.Cipher.DES3.DES3Cipher
- Crypto.Cipher.PKCS1_OAEP.PKCS1OA
- Crypto.Cipher.PKCS1_v1_5.PKCS115 C
- Crypto.Cipher.XOR.XORCipher
- Crypto.Cipher.blockalgo.BlockAlgo
- Crypto.Hash.HMAC.HMAC
- Crypto.Hash.MD2.MD2Hash
- Crypto.Hash.MD4.MD4Hash
- Crypto.Hash.MD5.MD5Hash
- Crypto.Hash.RIPEMD.RIPEMD160Hash
- Crypto.Hash.SHA.SHA1Hash

Home Trees Indices Help

Package Crypto :: Package Cipher :: Module ARC4

Module ARC4

ARC4 symmetric cipher

[ARC4](#) (Alleged RC4) is an implementation of RC4 (Rivest's Cipher version 4), a symmetric stream cipher designed by Ron Rivest in 1987. The cipher started as a proprietary design, that was reverse engineered and anonymously posted on Usenet in 1994. The company that owns RC4 (RSA Data Inc.) never confirmed the correctness of the leaked algorithm. Unlike RC2, the company has never published the full specification of RC4, of whom it still holds the trademark. ARC4 keys can vary in length from 40 to 2048 bits. One problem of ARC4 is that it does not take a nonce or an IV. If it is required to encrypt multiple messages with the same long-term key, a distinct independent nonce must be created for each message, and a short-term key must be derived from the combination of the long-term key and the nonce. Due to the weak key scheduling algorithm of RC2, the combination must be carried out with a complex function (e.g. a cryptographic hash) and not by simply concatenating key and nonce. **New designs should not use ARC4. A good alternative is AES ([Crypto.Cipher.AES](#)) in any of the modes that turn it into a stream cipher (OFB, CFB, or CTR).** As an example, encryption can be done as follows:

```
>>> from Crypto.Cipher import ARC4
>>> from Crypto.Hash import SHA
>>> from Crypto import Random
>>>
>>> key = b'Very long and confidential key'
>>> nonce = Random.new().read(16)
>>> tempkey = SHA.new(key+nonce).digest()
>>> cipher = ARC4.new(tempkey)
>>> msg = nonce + cipher.encrypt(b'Open the pod bay doors, HAL')
```

Classes

ARC4Cipher
ARC4 cipher object

Incorrect Use of Cryptographic APIs

- "Real-world Android developers use Stack Overflow (and other Q&A communities) as a major resource for solving programming problems, including security- and privacy relevant problems"
- **Important Factor:** Degree of instantly understandable and actionable support (e.g. instructions, guidelines)



Y. Acar, M. Backes, S. Fahl, D. Kim, M. L. Mazurek, and C. Stransky.

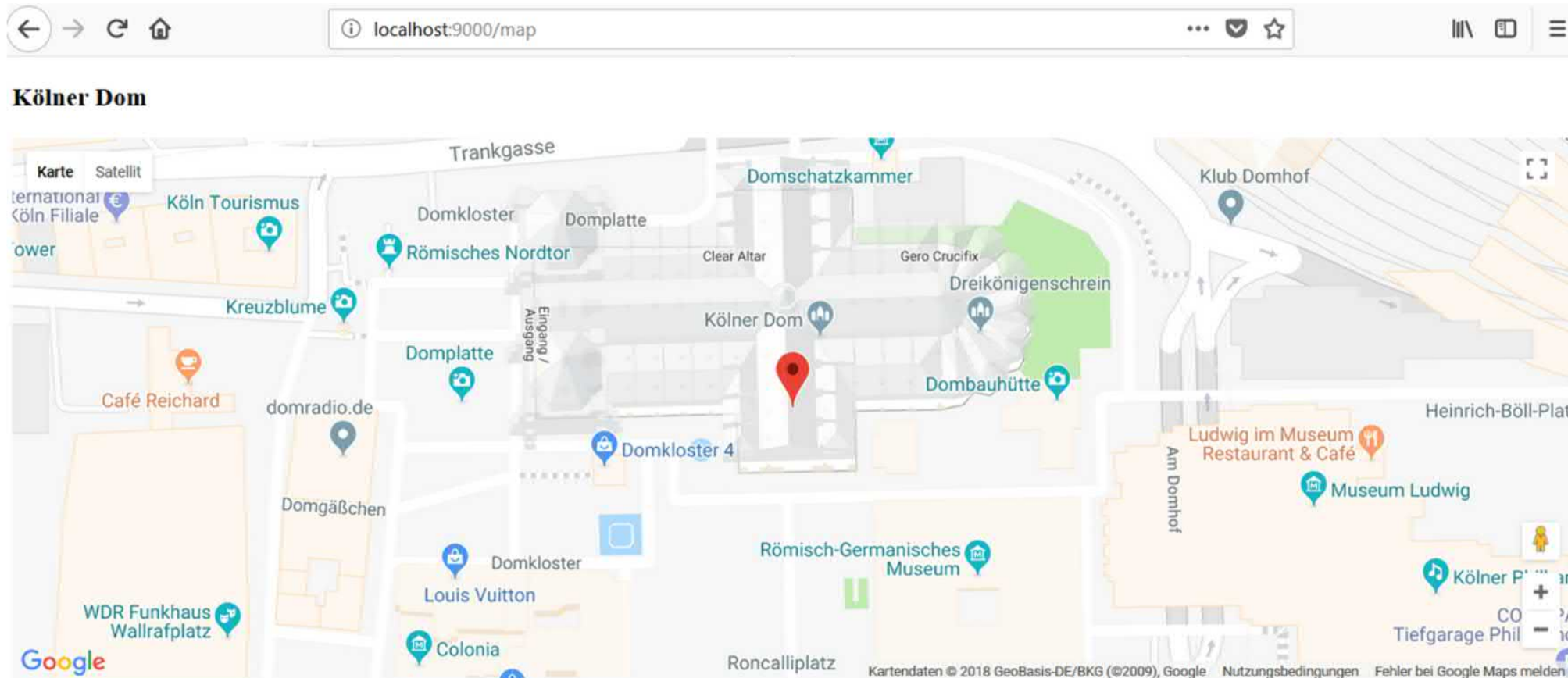
You get where you're looking for: The impact of information sources on code security.

In 2016 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP), pages 289 - 305, May 2016.

Why do developers make mistakes when storing passwords?

- Developers think about functionality first and security second.
- Requiring security can make a difference.
- Standards and recommendations are important.
- Opt-out rather than opt-in security.

Programming Task



Bildquelle: <https://www.google.de/maps>

Source: Peter Leo Gorski, Luigi Lo Iacono, Stephan Wiefeling und Sebastian Möller,
„Warn if Secure or How to Deal with Security by Default in Software Development?“,
12th International Symposium on Human Aspects of Information Security and Assurance (HAISA), 2018

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Luigi Lo Iacono
Internet | COINS Summer School 2021

CSP Violation Messages / Warnings

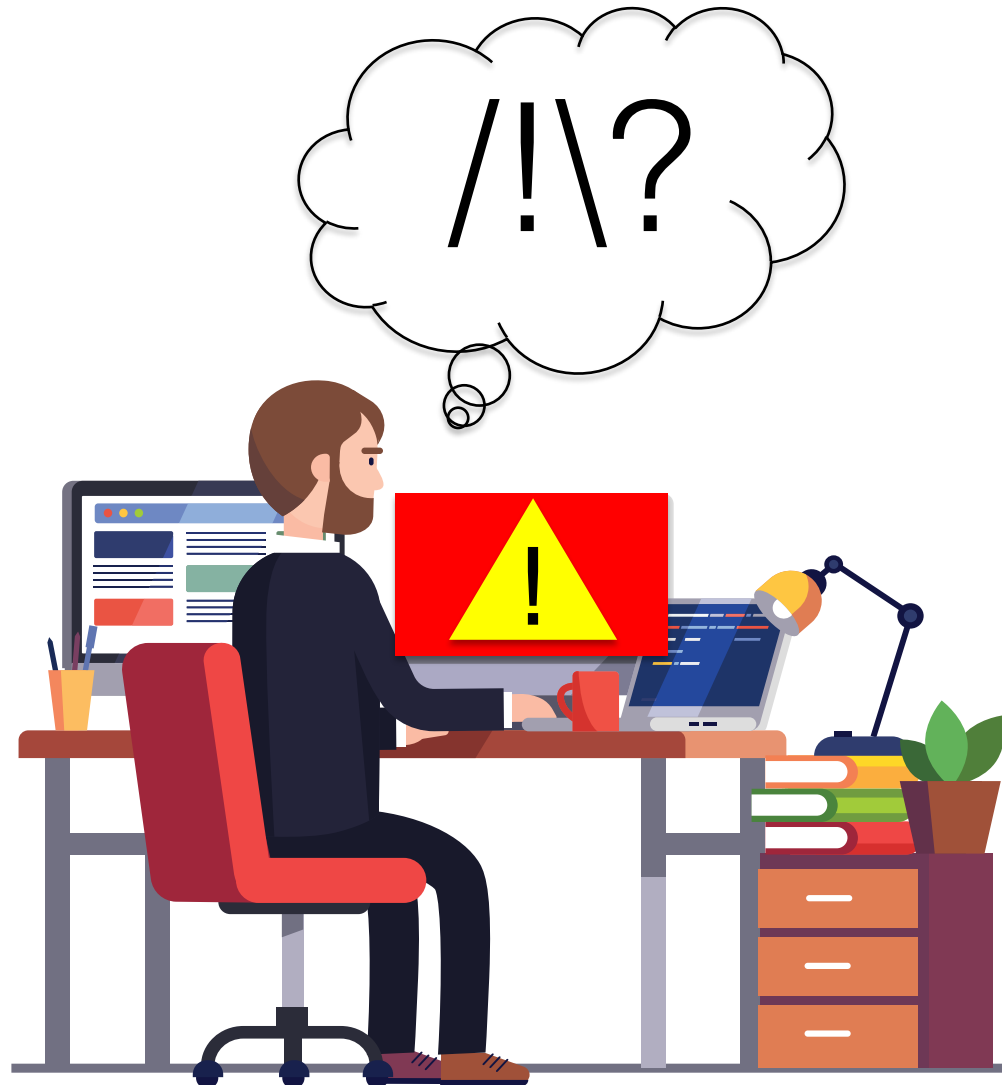


```
Elements Console Sources Network Performance Memory Application Security Audits
top Filter Default levels Group similar
Refused to apply inline style because it violates the following Content Security Policy directive: "default-src 'self'". Either the 'unsafe-inline' keyword, a hash ('sha256-2Y5bPrBHPsEp70awn20lwR/81vI55w+tfkA20ae+u5U='), or a nonce ('nonce-...') is required to enable inline execution. Note also that 'style-src' was not explicitly set, so 'default-src' is used as a fallback. map:4
Refused to execute inline script because it violates the following Content Security Policy directive: "default-src 'self'". Either the 'unsafe-inline' keyword, a hash ('sha256-pTH1sSKbUs/YR2o9uEdCsbP3S5VYPMI7CDSPwdmWrc8='), or a nonce ('nonce-...') is required to enable inline execution. Note also that 'script-src' was not explicitly set, so 'default-src' is used as a fallback. map:20
Refused to load the script 'https://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/js?key=AIzaSyD0IY7IEuMknI6AjRcCeNnxTfWn1HvaTK4&callback=initMap' because it violates the following Content Security Policy directive: "default-src 'self'". Note that 'script-src' was not explicitly set, so 'default-src' is used as a fallback. map:1
GET http://localhost:9000/favicon.ico 404 (Not Found) favicon.ico:1
```

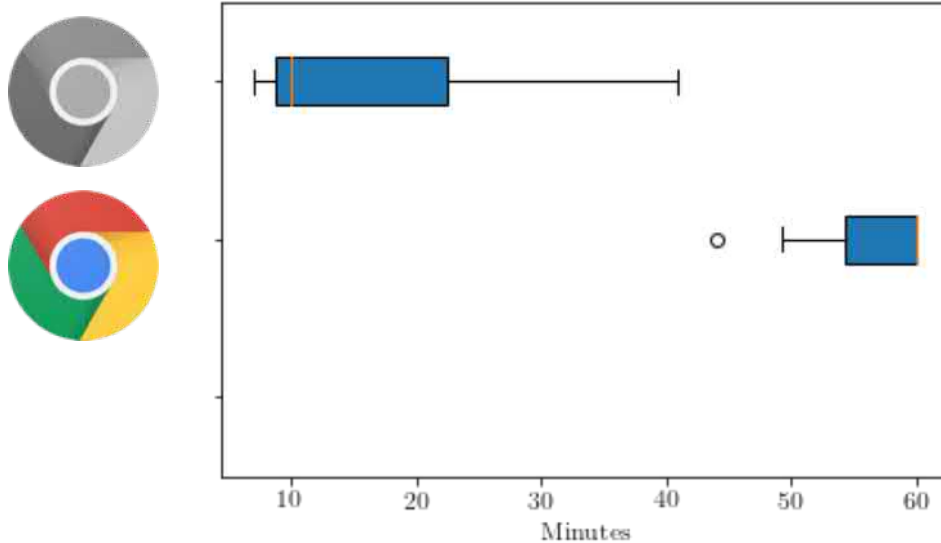


```
Inspector Console Debugger Style Editor Performance Memory Network Storage
Filter output Persist Logs
Loading failed for the <script> with source "https://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/js?key=AIzaSyD0IY7IEuMknI6AjRcCeNnxTfWn1HvaTK4&callback=initMap". map:38
Content Security Policy: The page's settings blocked the loading of a resource at self ("default-src"). Source: map:4
/* Set the size of the div eleme....
Content Security Policy: The page's settings blocked the loading of a resource at self ("default-src"). Source: map:20
// Initialize and add the map
....
Content Security Policy: The page's settings blocked the loading of a resource at https://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/js?key=AIzaSyD0IY7IEuMknI6AjRcCeNnxTfWn1HvaTK4&callback=initMap ("default-src").
```

Developers Deserve Security Warnings, Too



Total Time

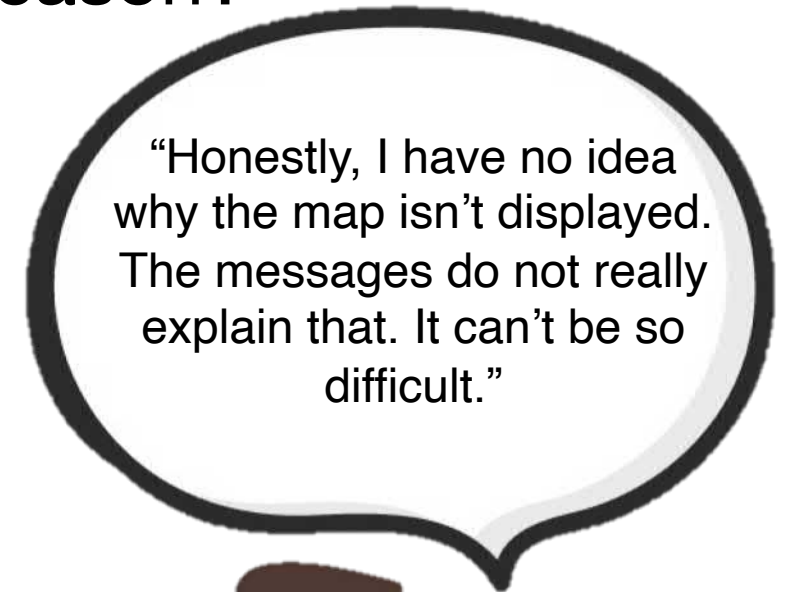
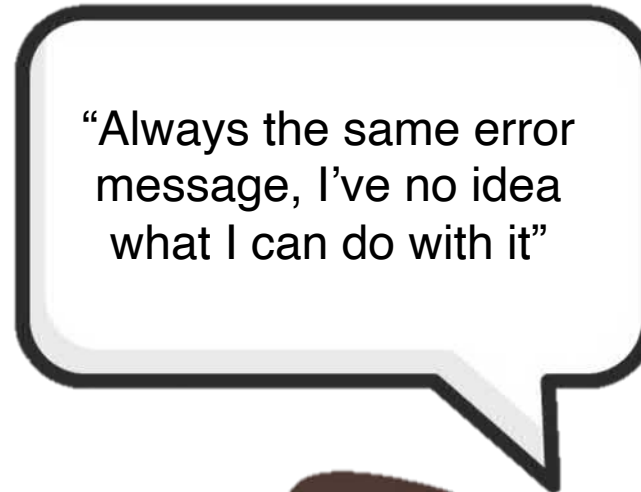


CSP	Browser	Mean	Median	60 min
No	Chrome	16 min	9.9 min	0/10
Yes	Chrome	56.6 min	60 min	7/10

Mann-Whitney U test; $U=0$; $p<0.001$

Participants trying to solve the task in the Chrome group being confronted with CSPs needed significantly more time than participants in the Control condition

What triggers the message and what is the reason?



Source: Peter Leo Gorski, Luigi Lo Iacono, Stephan Wiefeling und Sebastian Möller, „Warn if Secure or How to Deal with Security by Default in Software Development?“, 12th International Symposium on Human Aspects of Information Security and Assurance (HAISA), 2018

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Luigi Lo Iacono
Internet | COINS Summer School 2021

[Log in](#) | [Sign up](#) | [Forums](#)



DevOps

Here's a fab idea: Get crypto libs to warn devs when they screw up

Security is a process that requires hitting people over the head with their errors

By [Thomas Claburn](#) in [San Francisco](#) 14 Aug 2018 at 20:06 17 [SHARE](#) ▲



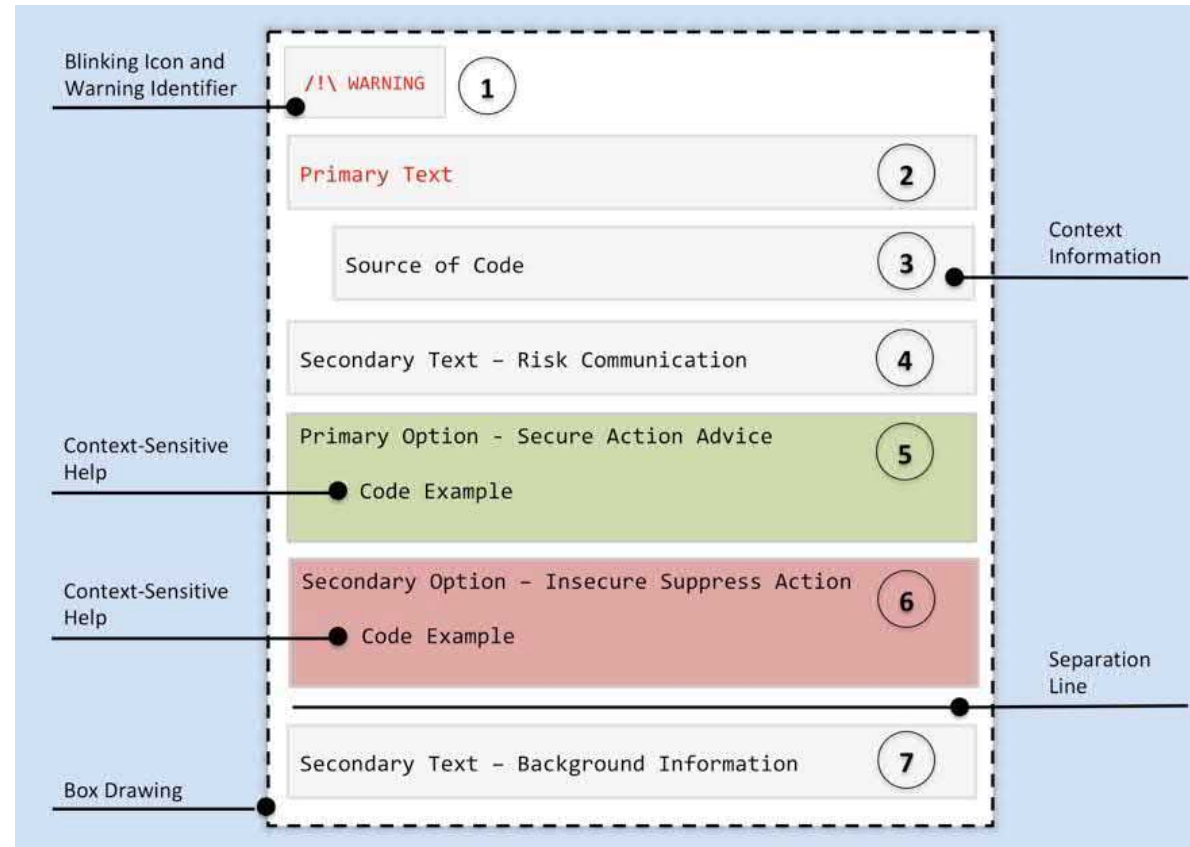
Building warnings into crypto libraries that alert developers to unsafe coding practices turns out to be an effective way to improve the security of applications.

At the USENIX Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS) 2018 this week, a group of researchers from several universities in

We use cookies to improve performance, for analytics and for advertising. You can manage your preferences at any time by visiting our [cookie policy](#). [Ok](#)

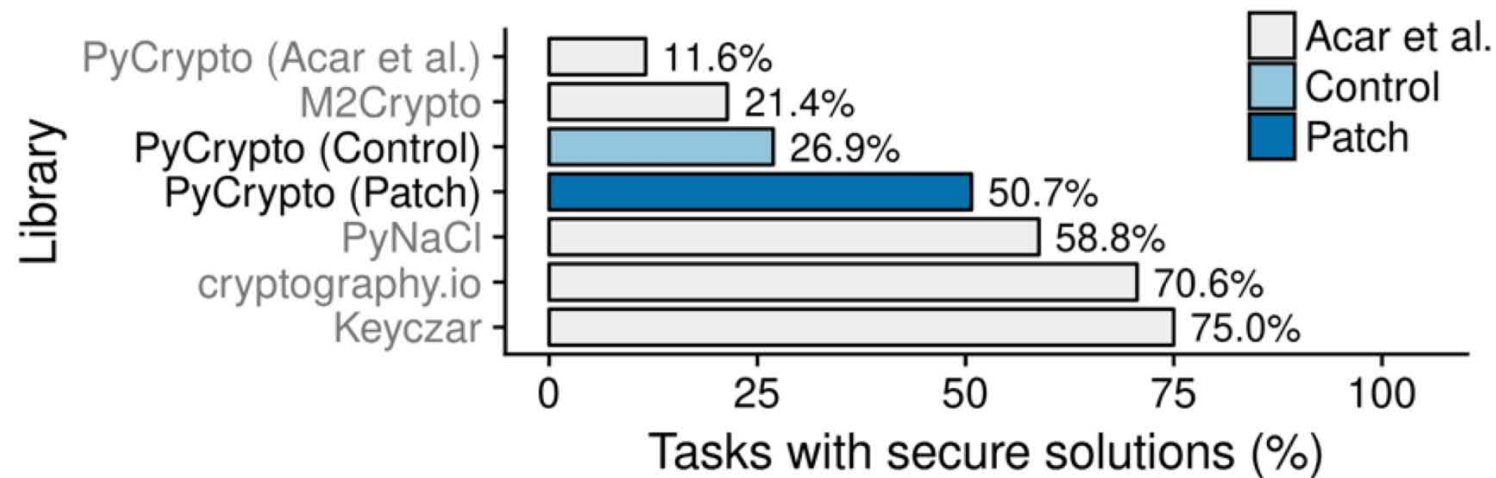
Source: The Register
https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/08/14/developers_crypto_training/

Integrated Design Approach for Security Recommendations



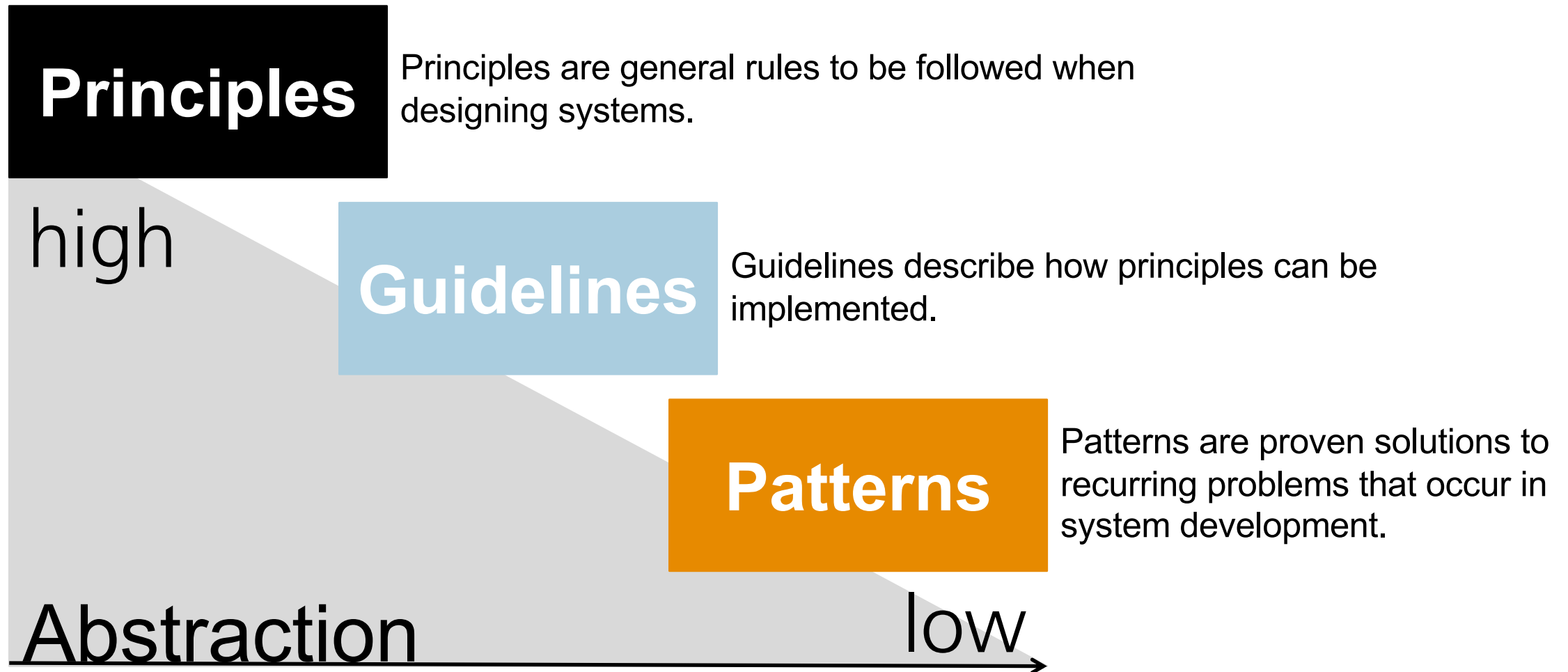
Results for Security

- 26.9% secure solutions in the PyCrypto condition
- 50.7% secure solutions in the PyCrypto patch condition





GUIDANCE



Source: L. Lo Iacono, M. Smith, E. v. Zezschwitz, P. L. Gorski, P. Nehren, "Consolidating Principles and Patterns for Human-centred Usable Security Research and Development" in: The 3rd European Workshop on Usable Security, EuroUSEC '18, London, England, April 23, 2018.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Luigi Lo Iacono
Internet | COINS Summer School 2021

<https://das.h-brs.de/usecured>



Pattern Example

Patterns


Search for Patterns

Sort by:

Active Warnings
Attractive Options
Complete Delete
Conveying Threats & Consequences
Create a Security Lexicon
Create Keys When Needed
Delayed Unrecoverable Action
Detailed Notifications About Security
Direct Access to UI Components
Disable by Default
Disable of Services
Disclose Significant Deviations
Distinguish Between Run and Open
Distinguish Internal Senders
Distinguish Security Levels
Email-Based Identification and Authentication
Explicit Item Delete
Explicit User Audit
Failing Safely
General Notifications About Security
Immediate Notifications
Immediate Options
Indirect Access to UI Components
Indirect Access to UI Components

Active Warnings

[en], [de]

Name	Active Warnings
Sources	(Egelman 2009)
Synonyms	None
Context	Passive warning styles that do not interrupt the user may go unnoticed and thus be rendered useless. Likewise, a warning may be passive if it can be dismissed without the user taking notice of it.
Problem	Some warnings fail in very critical situations because they were not prominent enough for the user to notice them.
Solution	<i>Active Warnings</i> should be used to grab users' attention by interrupting their primary tasks, thus forcing them to acknowledge the warnings by taking an action in order to proceed.
Examples	
Implementation	Active warnings must be designed to interrupt the primary task by either replacing the content users were expecting with the warning message, or by drawing attention away from the expected content.
Consequences	By interrupting users' primary tasks and forcing them to make a decision, significantly more users paid attention to the warnings and were ultimately protected from the phishing attack.
Dependencies	None
Relationships	[Attractive Options] [Immediate Notifications] [Conveying Threats & Consequences] [General Notifications About Security] [Immediate Options] [Separating Content]
Principles	[Convenience] [Clarity]
Guidelines	None
Check lists	None
Use cases	None
Tags	Active Warnings, Immediate Notifications, Warnings
Log history	[12/21/2015]: Added to repository

References

Egelman, Serge. 2009. *Trust Me: Design Patterns for Constructing Trustworthy Trust Indicators*. ProQuest. <http://reports-archive.adm.cs.cmu.edu/anon/isr2009/CMU-ISR-09-110.pdf>.

<https://das.h-brs.de/usecured>

Evaluation Methods

Expert Reviews



- Literature Search
- Cognitive Walkthrough
- Heuristic Evaluation
- Model-based evaluation
- ...

User Reviews

- Observation
- Interviews / focus groups
- Surveys / questionnaires
- Online studies
- Laboratory experiments
-



Evaluation Methods

(Expert) Heuristic Walkthrough

Prerequisite:

- At least two experts (better some more with different expertise)
 - Usability Experts
 - System designer
 - UI designer
 - Developers
 - ...

Evaluation Methods

(Expert) Heuristic Walkthrough

Step 1:

- Compile a list of prioritized user tasks
- Compile a list of heuristics (principles)

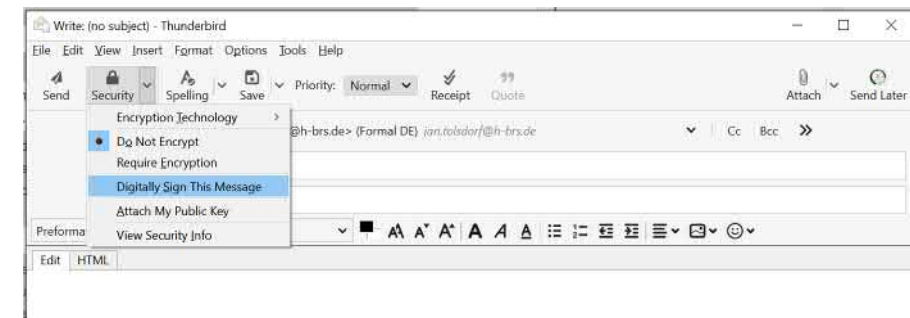
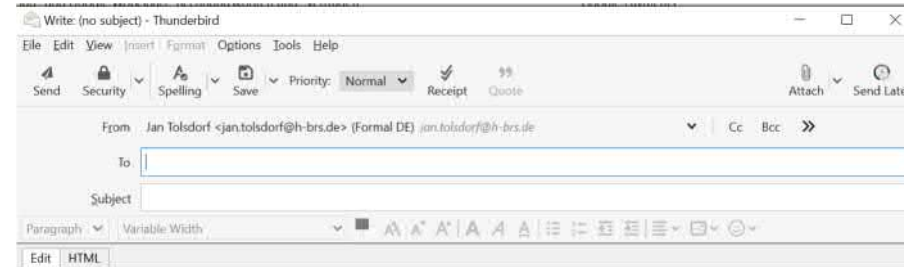
1. *Send an encrypted and signed email*
2. *Add a new public key*

Evaluation Methods

(Expert) Heuristic Walkthrough

Step 2:

- Pass 1: Apply adapted cognitive walkthrough
 - Will the users know what they **need to do next**?
 - Will users **notice** that there is a **control available** that will allow them to accomplish the next part of their task?
 - Will users know **how** to use the **control**?
 - Will users see that **progress** is being made towards completing the task?



Evaluation Methods

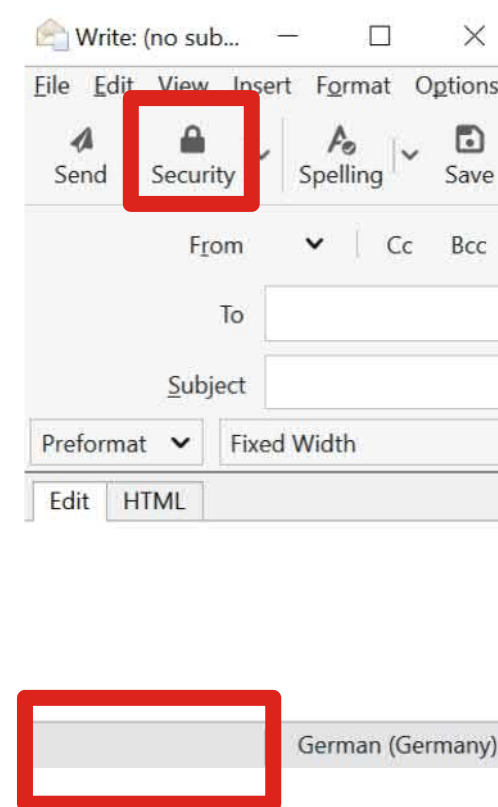
(Expert) Heuristic Walkthrough

Step 3:

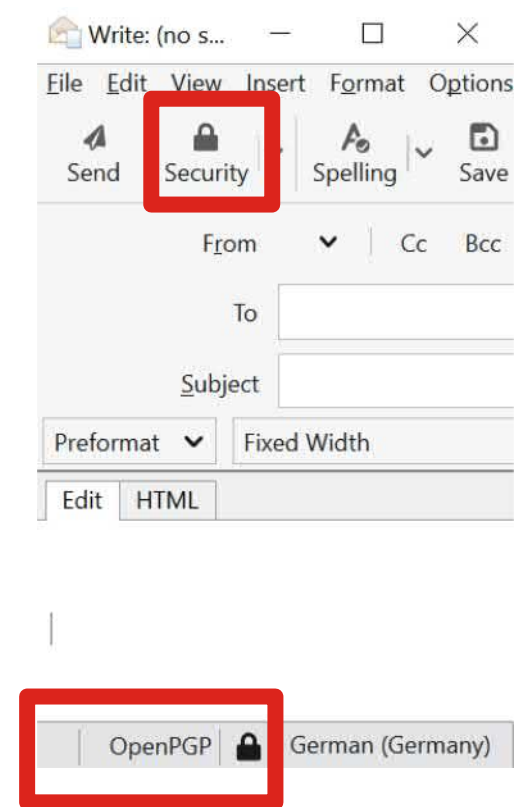
- Pass 2: Apply adapted heuristic evaluation

Name	Visibility
Sources	(Yee, 2002)
Synonyms	Visible (Furnell et al., 2006)
Intent	The system should give a clear indication of whether security is being applied.

unencrypted email



encrypted email



Evaluation Methods

(Expert) Heuristic Walkthrough

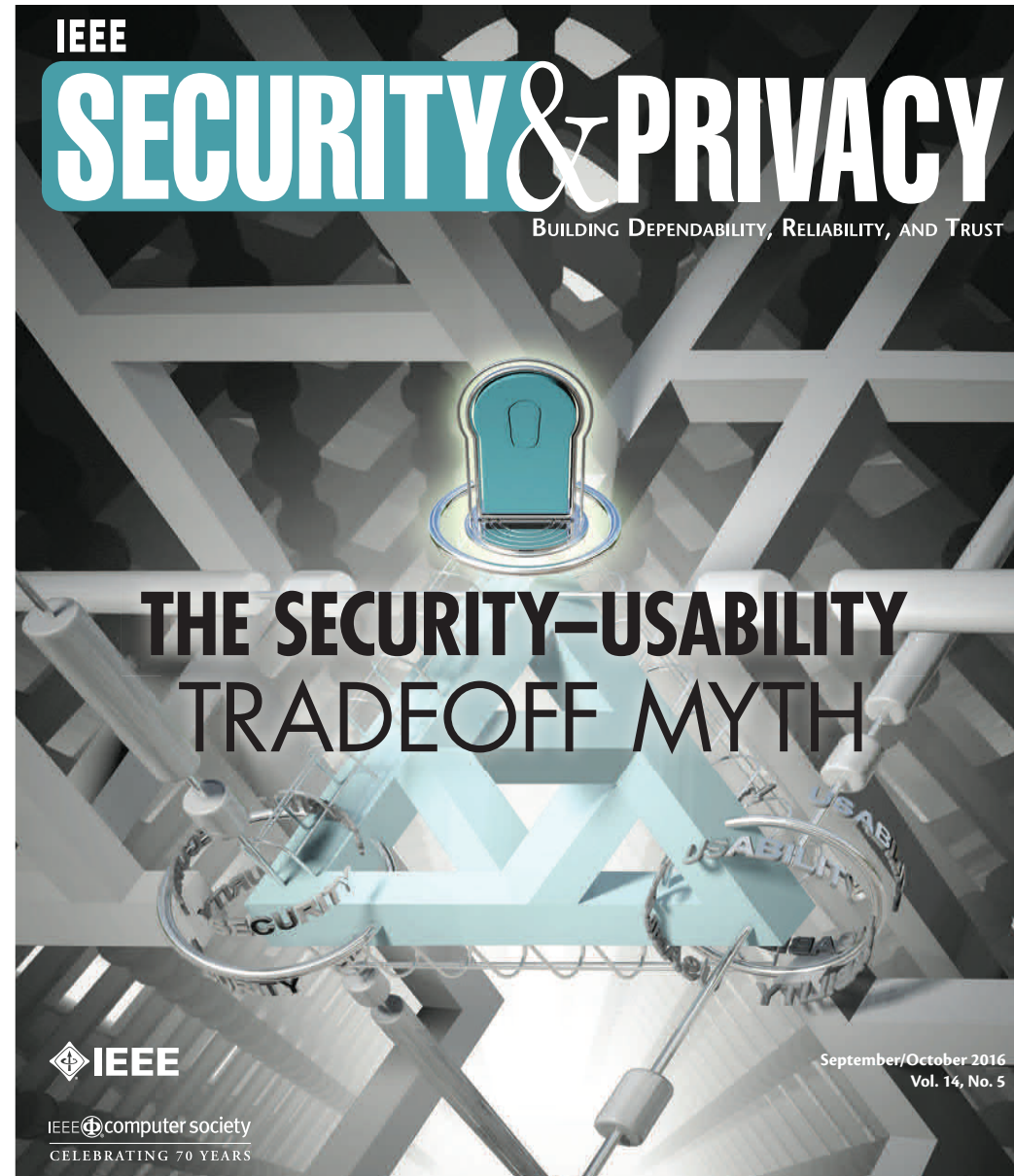
Step 4:

- Consolidate findings and compare results
- Rate problems

1. Send an encrypted and signed email

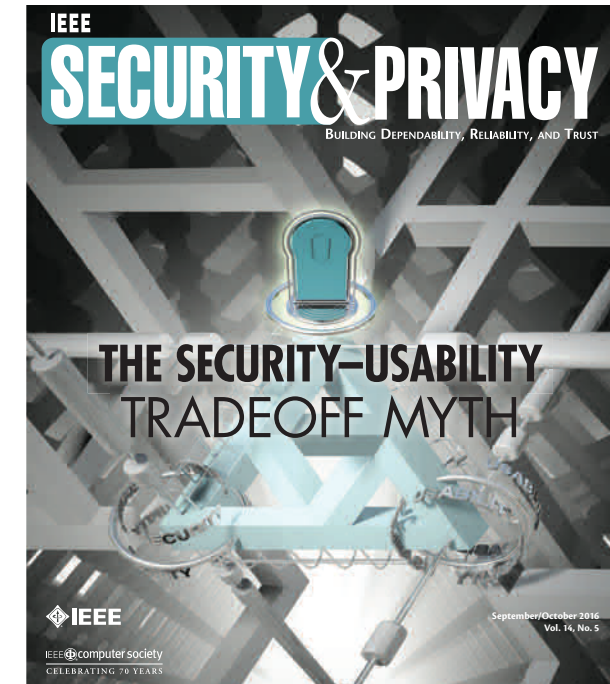
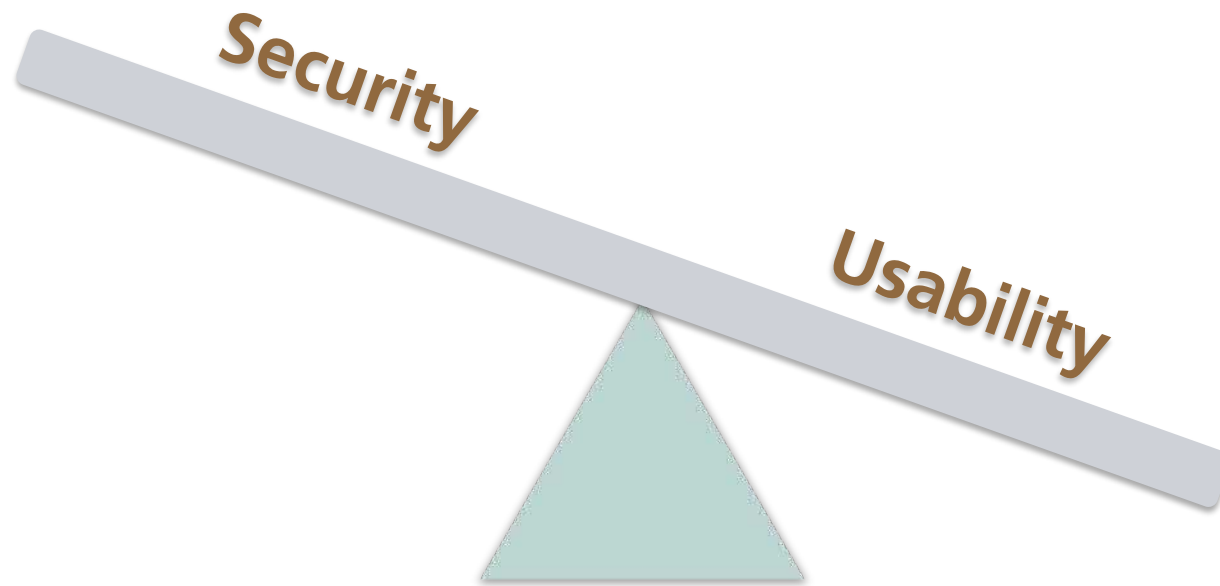
Problems:

- System status visibility is hidden: 3/5
- Menu button falsely suggests that encryption is enabled: 5/5



The Security-Usability Tradeoff Myth

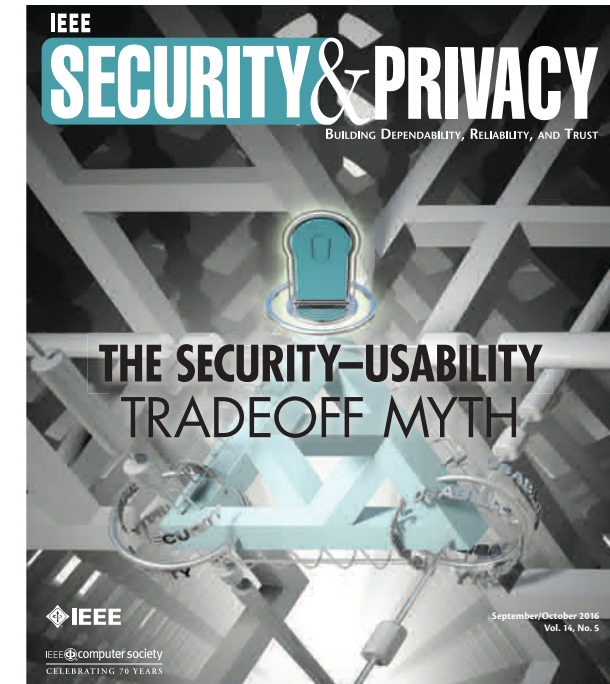
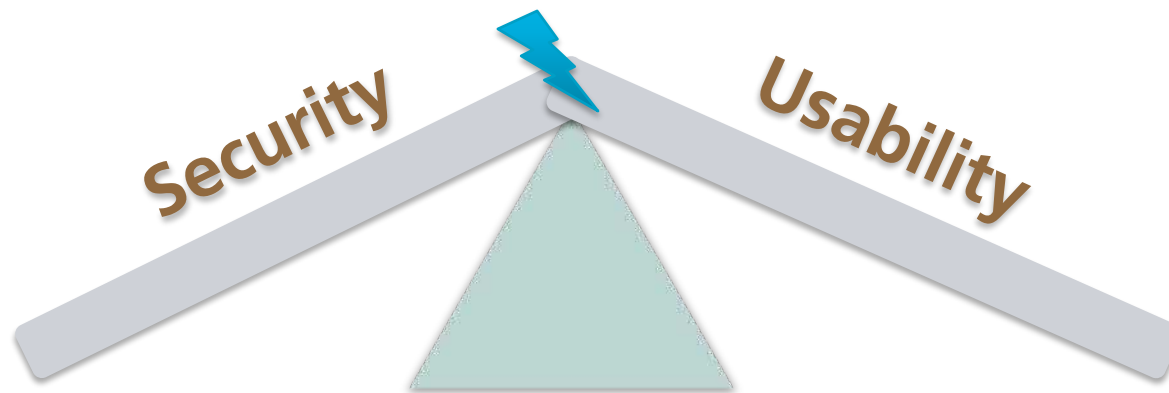
1. More security means less usability?



Source: M. A. Sasse, M. Smith, C. Herley, H. Lipford and K. Vaniea, "Debunking Security-Usability Tradeoff Myths," in IEEE Security & Privacy, vol. 14, no. 5, pp. 33-39, Sept. Oct. 2016

The Security-Usability Tradeoff Myth

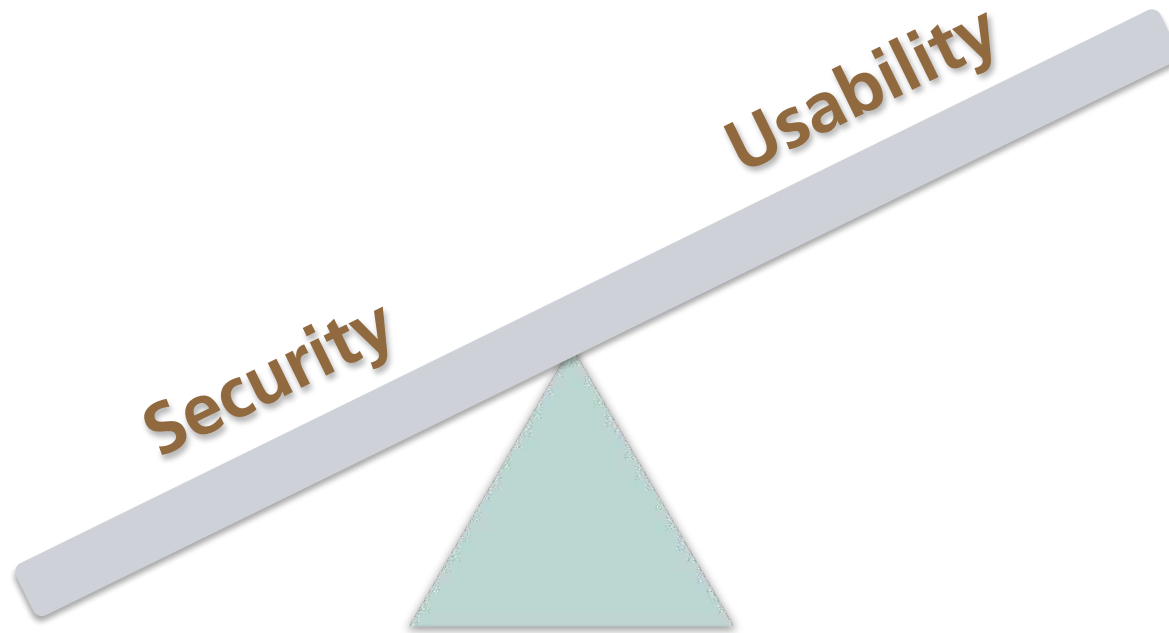
Security breaks when usability is
is not taken into account!



Source: M. A. Sasse, M. Smith, C. Herley, H. Lipford and K. Vaniea, "Debunking Security-Usability Tradeoff Myths," in IEEE Security & Privacy, vol. 14, no. 5, pp. 33-39, Sept. Oct. 2016

The Security-Usability Tradeoff Myth

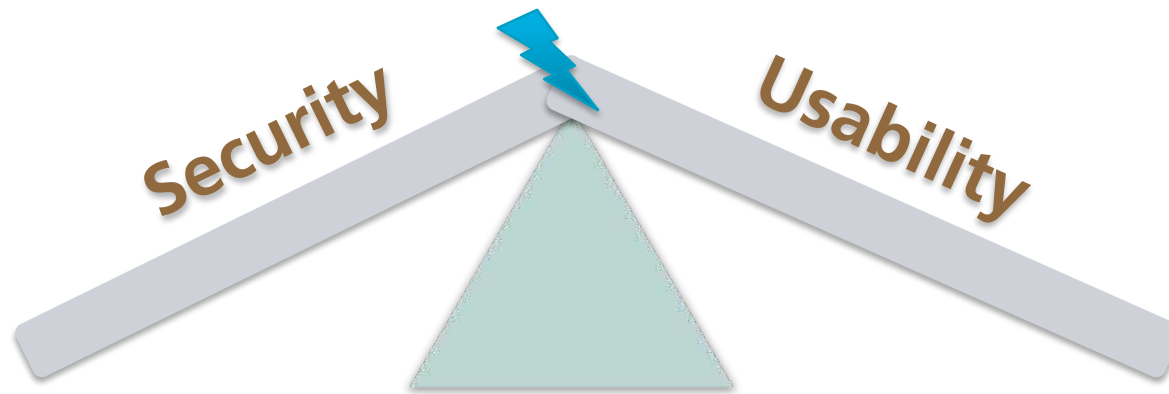
2. More usability means less security?



Source: M. A. Sasse, M. Smith, C. Herley, H. Lipford and K. Vaniea, "Debunking Security-Usability Tradeoff Myths," in IEEE Security & Privacy, vol. 14, no. 5, pp. 33-39, Sept. Oct. 2016

The Security-Usability Tradeoff Myth

Digital products cannot be used without security!

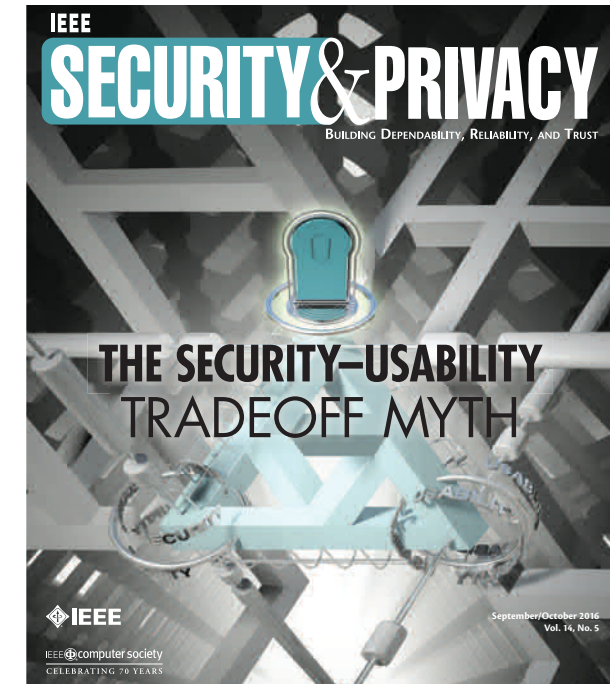
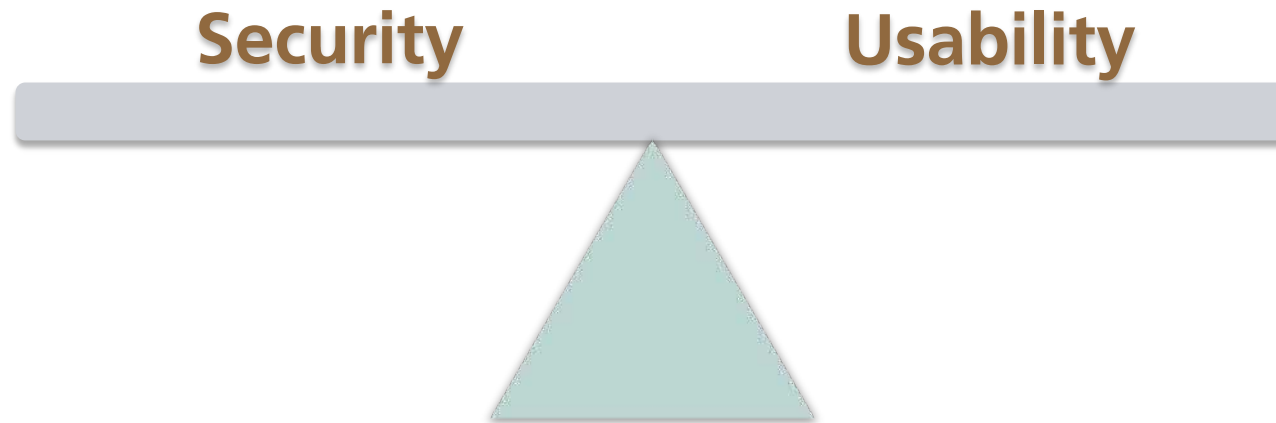


Source: M. A. Sasse, M. Smith, C. Herley, H. Lipford and K. Vaniea, "Debunking Security-Usability Tradeoff Myths," in IEEE Security & Privacy, vol. 14, no. 5, pp. 33-39, Sept. Oct. 2016

The Security-Usability Tradeoff Myth

Goal: Reflective Balance

When security features are fit for purpose, they are more likely to be used (correctly), improving overall security.



Elephant in the room Challenges

Secondary task

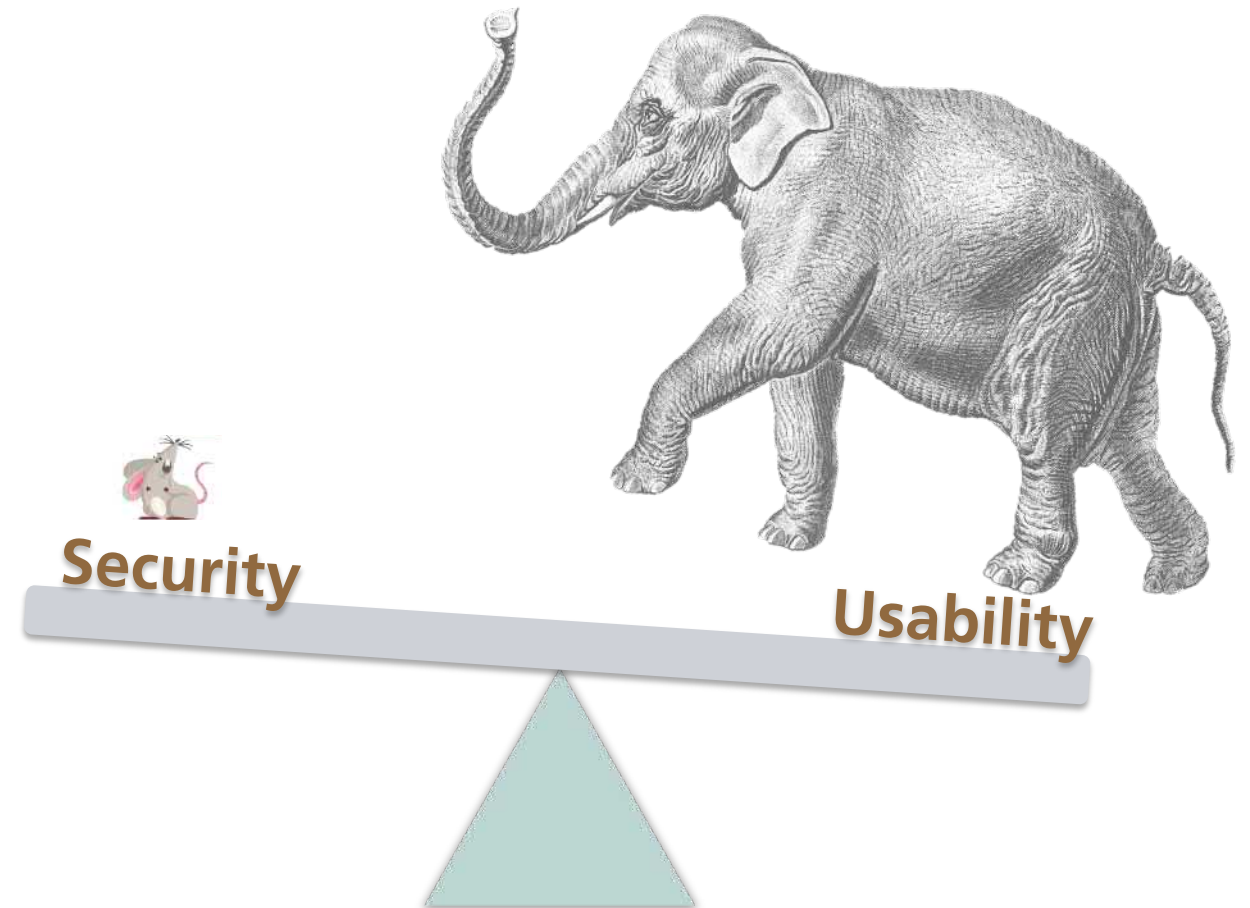
- Stress
- Physical condition
- Mental condition, concentration
- Least Effort

Resilience

- Attacking/countering
- Human characteristics
- (Cognitive abilities, habituation,
• mistakes)

Person types

- Perception of risk
- Security knowledge
- Security Behavior



Elephant: "Designed by rawpixel.com / Freepik"
Mouse: "Designed by Freepik"

Takeaways

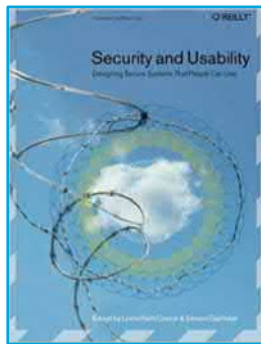
- (1) **The Security-Usability Tradeoff Myth**
- (2) **Empower people to become a strong link in Security**



Recommended Readings



„Usable Security: History, Themes, and Challenges“
Simson Garfinkel and Heather Richter Lipford, 2014



„Security and Usability: Designing Secure Systems that People Can Use“
Lorrie Faith Cranor and Simson Garfinkel, 2005

Conferences



International

Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security

<https://www.usenix.org/conference/soups2020>



Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium

<https://www.petsymposium.org/>



Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems

<https://chi2020.acm.org/>

Workshop on Usable Security and Privacy

<http://www.usablesecurity.net/USEC/usec21/>

Conferences

Europe

European Workshop on Usable Security

<https://eusec20.cs.uchicago.edu/>

Germany

Usable Security & Privacy Workshop

<https://das.h-brs.de/workshops/>





Picture: Peter Leo Gorski

Contact:
Luigi Lo Iacono



luigi.lo_iacono@h-brs.de



<https://das.h-brs.de/>