



APPSEC  
EUROPE

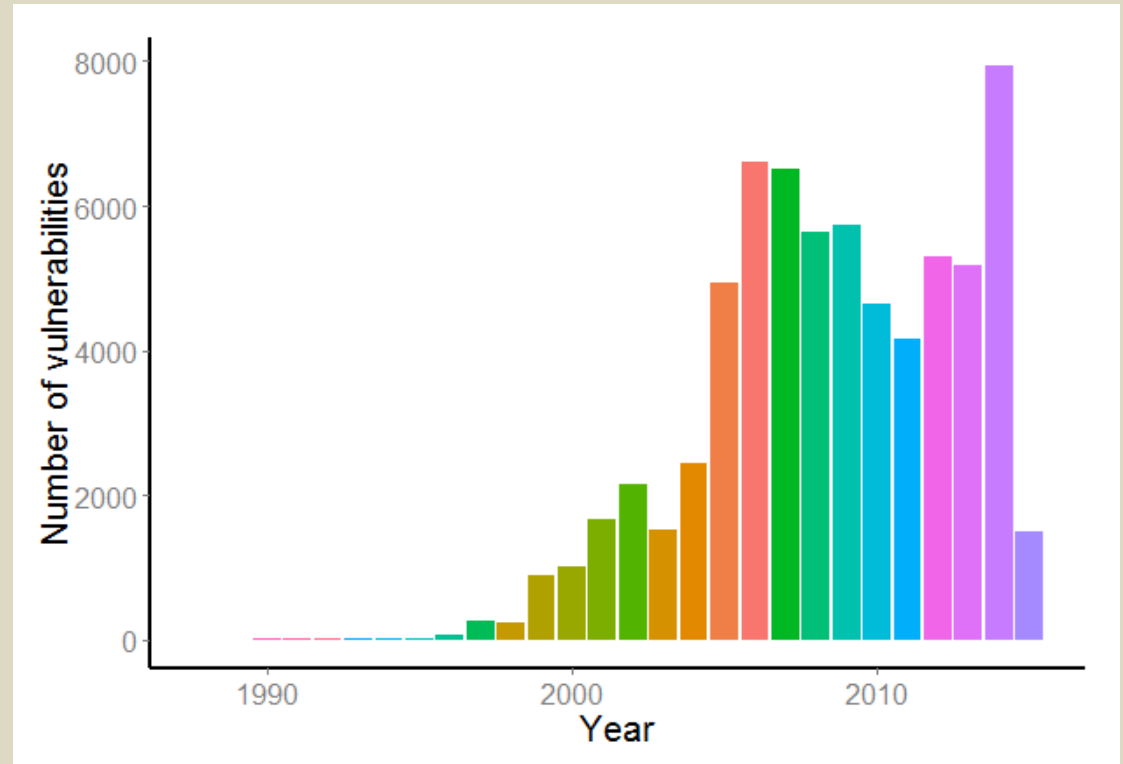
# Estimating Vulnerability Fix Time

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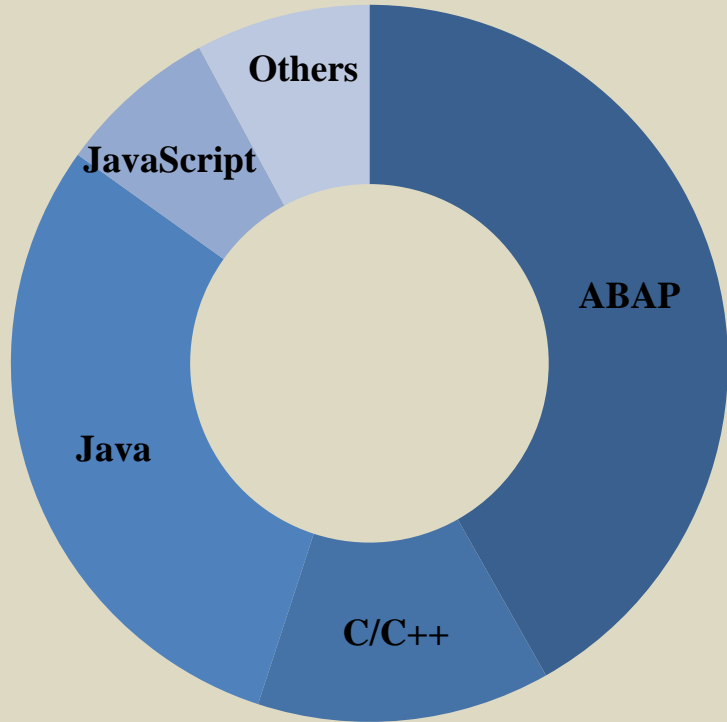
*In collaboration with  
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Petar Tsalovski, Achim Brucker (SAP)*

# Software Vulnerabilities

Up to 23.3.2015



# Security Testing at SAP



Language	Tool	Vendor
ABAP	CVA (SLIN_SEC)	SAP
C/C++	Coverity	Coverity
JavaScript, Ruby	Checkmarx	Checkmarx
Others	Fortify	HP

- Mandatory since 2010 for all products
- Multiple billions lines analyzed
- Constant improvements:
  - tool configuration
  - new tools and methods

# The Problem

Challenge: Predict the cost of fixing a given security vulnerability

⇒ Predict the duration of fixing security vulnerabilities?

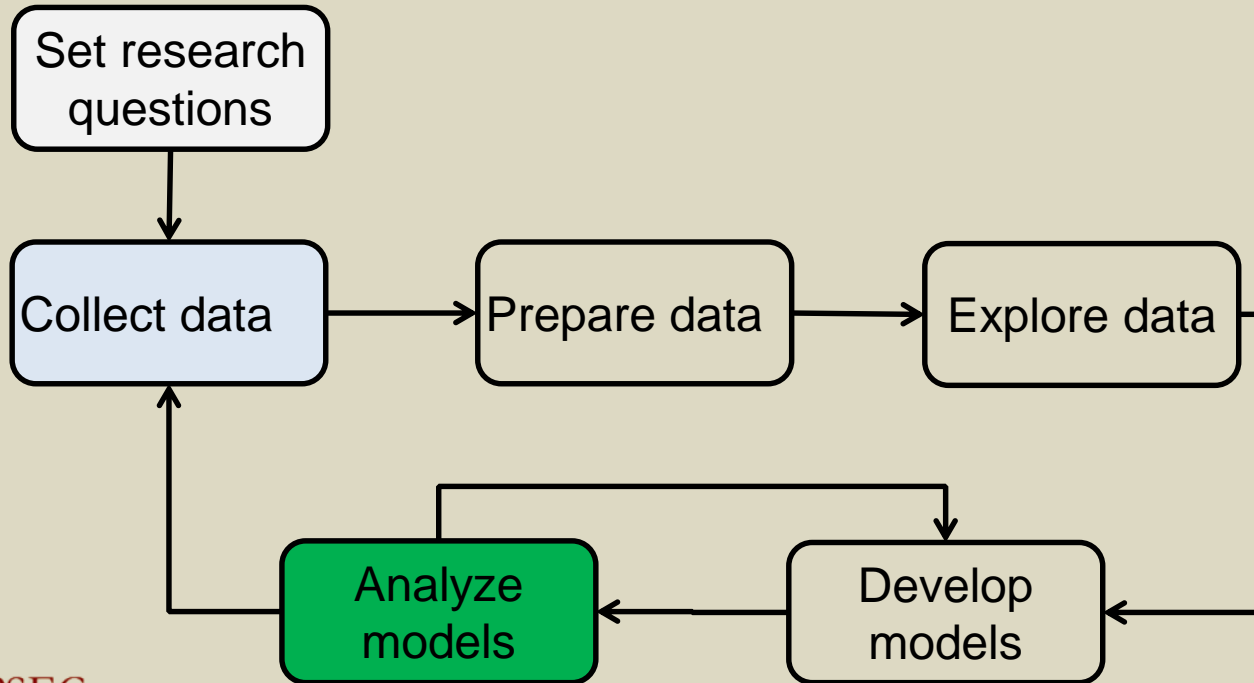
Let  $\text{vul\_fix\_time} = f(x_1, \dots, x_j)$

Given collected attributes  $x_j$ ?

Find out  $f$



# Research Method



# Data-Sets

1. Static analysis data of ABAP code (Data-set 1)
2. Static analysis data of Java and C Code (Data-set 2)
3. Security messages (Data-set 3)
  
4. Descriptive components data
5. Descriptive projects data



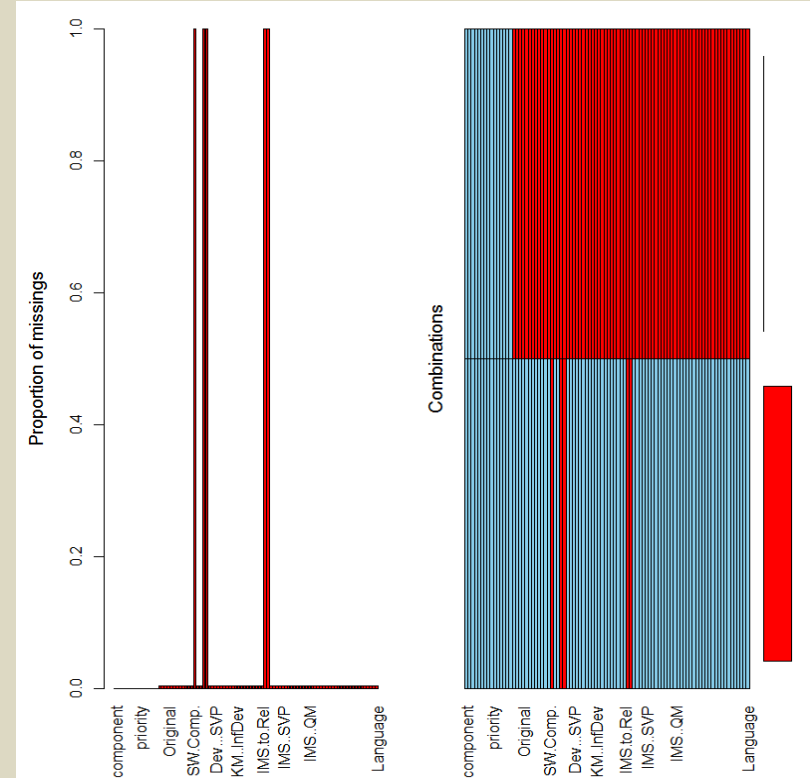
# Extended Data-sets

1. Pre-release issues data related to projects  
→ Extension of Java- and C-issues
2. Post-release issues data related to components  
→ Extension of security messages



# Data Preparation

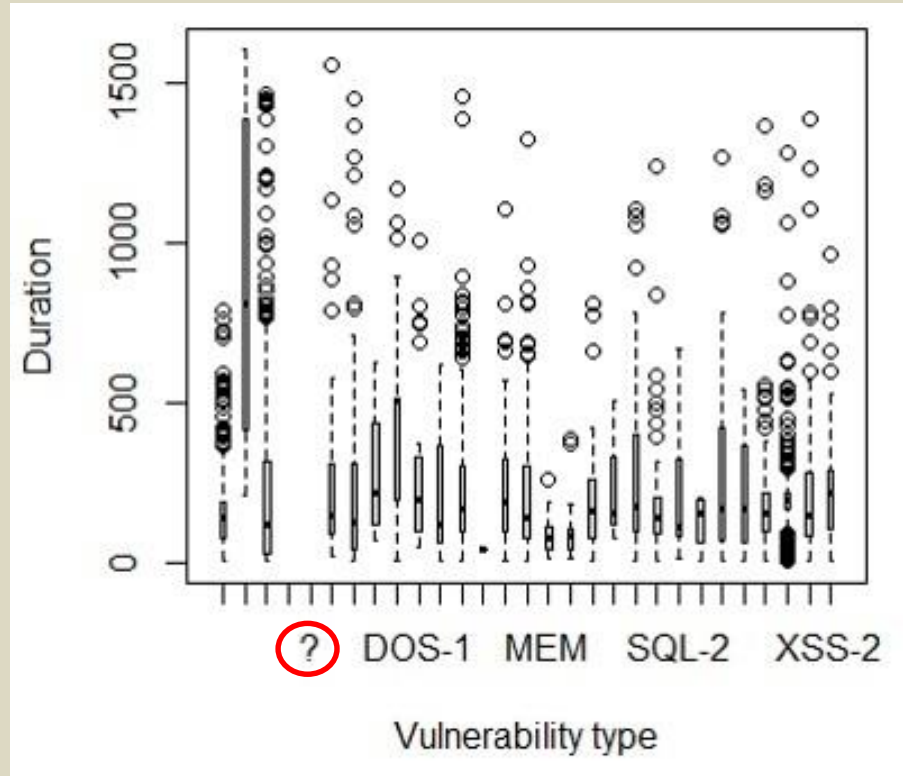
- Data cleaning
- Data transformation





# Data Exploration

Understand the data



# Regression Methods

1. Linear Regression (LR)
2. Tree-based regression (RPART)
3. Neural-networks regression (NN)



# Used Metrics

## 1. Prediction accuracy

1. Coefficient of determination
2. Prediction level (PRED)  $\leq 25\%$  error
3. Akaike Information Criterion – rate of info. Loss

## 2. Factors importance



# Results

## Output of data analysis

1. Prediction value
2. Accuracy of the prediction model
3. Most influencing factors



# Prediction Models (Parts)

Message source	Coef.
(Intercept)	249.17
Code scan tool	-50.04
Central security department	-38.05
Customers	-60.68
Ext. research organizations	-102.78
Int. development departments	-12.21
Test services	-124.74
Validation services	-21.88

84) vulnerabilitytype=,&OTHER,ACI-1,CDR-1,INF-1,MAC-1,MEM,XSS,XSS-2  
270 5063771.00 286.53700

168) Component=AP-RC-ANA-UI-XLS,BC-BSP,BC-CST-DP,BC-CST-I  
C,BC-CTS-SDM,BC-CTS-TMS,BC-DOC-HLP,BC-DOC-TTL,BC-I18,BC-JAS-A  
DM-MON,BC-JAS-DPL,BC-SEC,BC-SEC-DIR,BC-SRV-ARL,BC-SRV-FSI,BC-  
UPG-SLM,BC-UPG-TLS-TLJ,BC-WD-CMP-FPM,BC-XI-CON-AXS,BC-XI-IBD,B  
C-XI-IBF,BI-BIP-AUT,BI-OD-STW,BI-RA-WBI,BW-BEX-OT-MDX,CA-GTF-IC-B  
RO,CA-GTF-IC-SCR,CA-GTF-RCM,CRM-BF,CRM-BF-SVY,CRM-CIC,CRM-IC-  
EMS,CRM-IC-FRW,CRM-IPS-BTX-APL,CRM-ISA,CRM-ISA-AUC,CRM-ISE,CR  
M-LAM-BF,CRM-MD-PRO,CRM-MKT-DAM,CRM-MKT-MPL,CRM-MSA,FS-CM  
,FS-SR,IS-A-DP,IS-U-CS-ISS,LO-AB-BSP,LO-GT,MFG-ME,MOB-APP-EMR-A  
ND,PA-GE,PLM-PPM-PDN,PLM-WUI-RCP,PSM-GPR-SN,SBO-INT-B1ISN,SC  
M-EWM-RF,XAP-IC-IDM,XX-PROJ-CDP-TEST-296 119 1015233.00 205.823  
50 \*

169) Component=AP-CFG,AP-LM-MON-HC,AP-LM-SUP,AP-RC-ANA-  
RT-MDA,AP-RC-RSP,AP-RC-UIF-RT,AP-SDM-EXC,BC-CCM-MON-OS,BC-CC  
M-SLD-JAV,BC-CST,BC-CUS-TOL-CST,BC-DB-ORA-INS,BC-DOC-TER,BC-E  
SI-WS-ABA,BC-ESI-WS-JAV-RT,BC-FES-BUS-RUN,BC-JAS-ADM-ADM,BC-J  
AS-COR,BC-JAS-SEC-UME,BC-MID-RFC,BC-SEC-SAL,BC-SRV-COM,BC-SR  
V-COM-FTP,BC-SRV-KPR-CS,BC-SRV-MCM,BC-SRV-SSF,BC-WD-ABA,BC-  
WD-



# Accuracy of Prediction

DS \ Metric	Residual	AIC	PRED
<b>ABAP</b>	LR(0.526)	LR (122465)	LR (31.81%)
<b>C++ Java Cov./Fort.</b>	LR (0.461)	LR (334565)	NN (33.81%)
<b>Ext. C++ Java</b>	LR (1)	RPART(463)	LR (100%)
<b>Sec msg</b>	LR (0.944)	RPART(6507)	RPART (34.71%)
<b>Ext. sec msg</b>	LR (0.909)	RPART(6421)	NN (65.05%)



# Factor Importance

## Factors for data-set 3

Factor	Metric
Component	2.83
Processor	2.75
Reporter	1.78
Vulnerability type	0.83
Source	0.46
CVSS score	0.02

## Factor for data-set 1

Factor	Metric
Project ID	0.27
Vulnerability name	0.09
Vulnerability count	0.07
Priority	0.01

## Factor for data-set 2

Factor	Metric
Scan status	0.96
Project name	0.73
Vulnerability name	0.51
Priority	0.30
Scan source	0.25
Vulnerability count	0.08
Folder name	0.08

# Factor Importance

## Factors for extended data-set 3

Factor	Metric
Processor	2.98
Component	2.94
Reporter	1.69
Dev_comp_owner	1.27
Dev_prod_owner	1.09
Vulnerability type	0.60
Priority	0.06

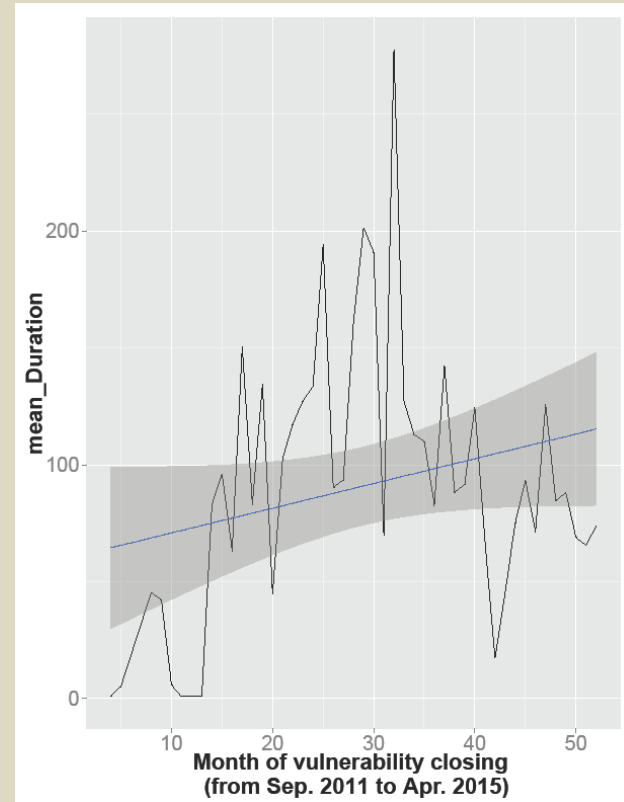
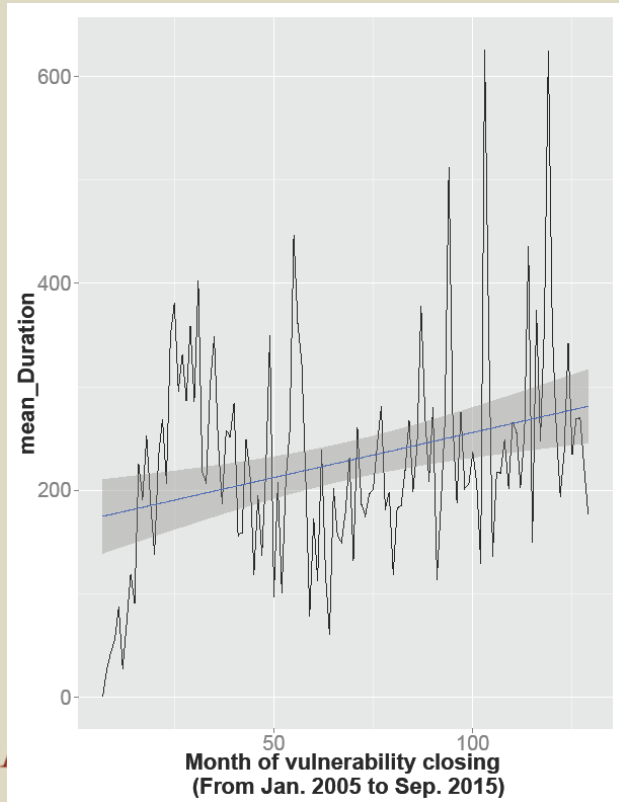
## Factors for extended data-set 2

Factor	Metric
FixToRelease_period	0.95
Dev_period	0.68
Int_prg_name	0.68
Prg_lead_resp	0.68
Risk expert	0.68
FoundToRelease_period	0.41
Vulnerability name	0.48
Vulnerability count	0.08
Folder name	0.04
Priority	0.02



# Evolution of The Average VFT

Sec. messages



Fort./Cov.



# Use of The Results

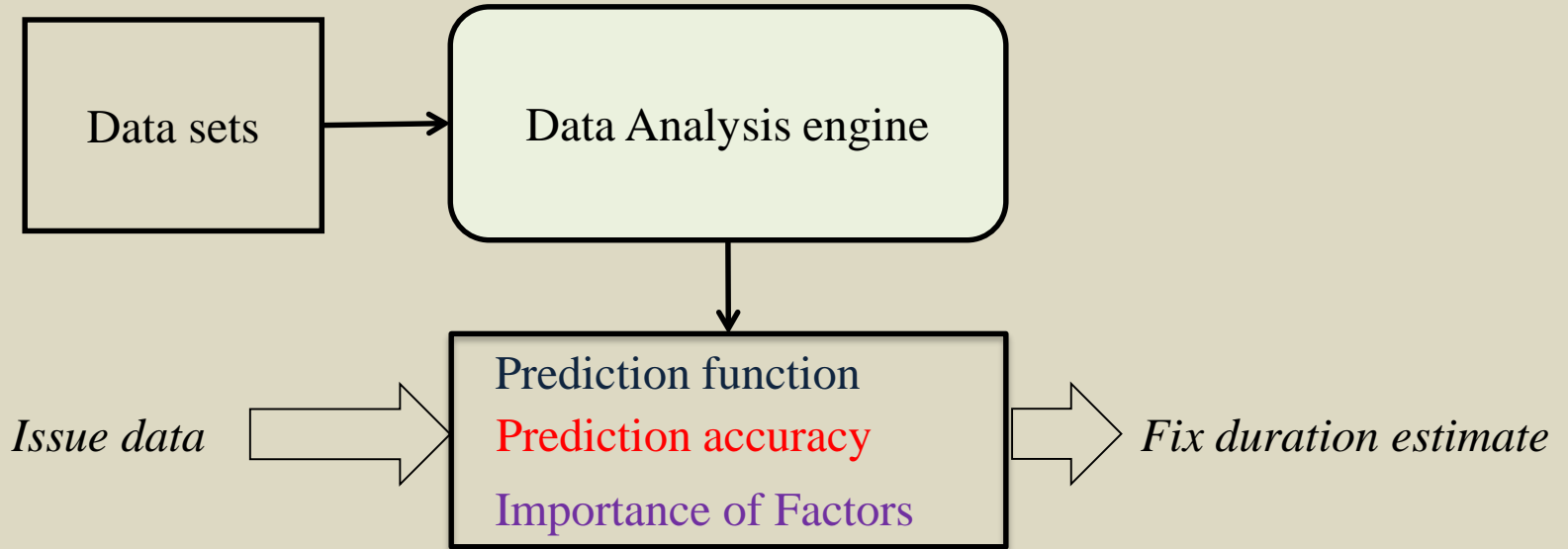
- We have  $Duration_i = \text{Predict}(\text{FIT}, \text{INPUT})$

=> Provide a set information about a new project and get a cost estimation of fixing security vulnerabilities

$$Total_{Cost}(in\ time) = \sum_j (count_j * cost_j)$$

# The Prototype

Provide estimate for fixing given issues



# Lessons Learned From the Data Analytics

- Dominant factors for pre-release
  - Project-related characteristics
  - Development-team
- Dominant factors for post-release
  - Components characteristics
  - Human-related factors



# Lessons Learned From the Data Analytics

- Difficult to choose among the machine learning methods
- Prediction models depend on the time frame of the data



# Further Use of The Results

- Results could be used:
  - as indicator to improve the process
  - to measure the impact of process changes
  - to justify decisions in secure development activities



# Conclusions

- Vulnerability type is not the most important factor that impacts the vulnerabilities fix time
- The software structure and human factors are dominant factors contributing to the vulnerabilities fix time



**Thank you!**

**ANY QUESTIONS?**

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