



Agentic AppSec
Unleashed '26
by Checkmarx

The Vulnerabilities Were Always There Now What?

How To Secure Yesterday's Debt and Getting
Ahead Of AI-Generated Code Risk

Jonathan Rende

Chief Product Office, Checkmarx

Eran Kinsbruner

VP Product Marketing, Checkmarx



Agenda

The Volume and Backlog Changed

The Economics of Exploitation

The Impact on AppSec
and Engineering

Can AI Help?

The Right Approach

AI-GENERATED CODE AS A RISK CLASS

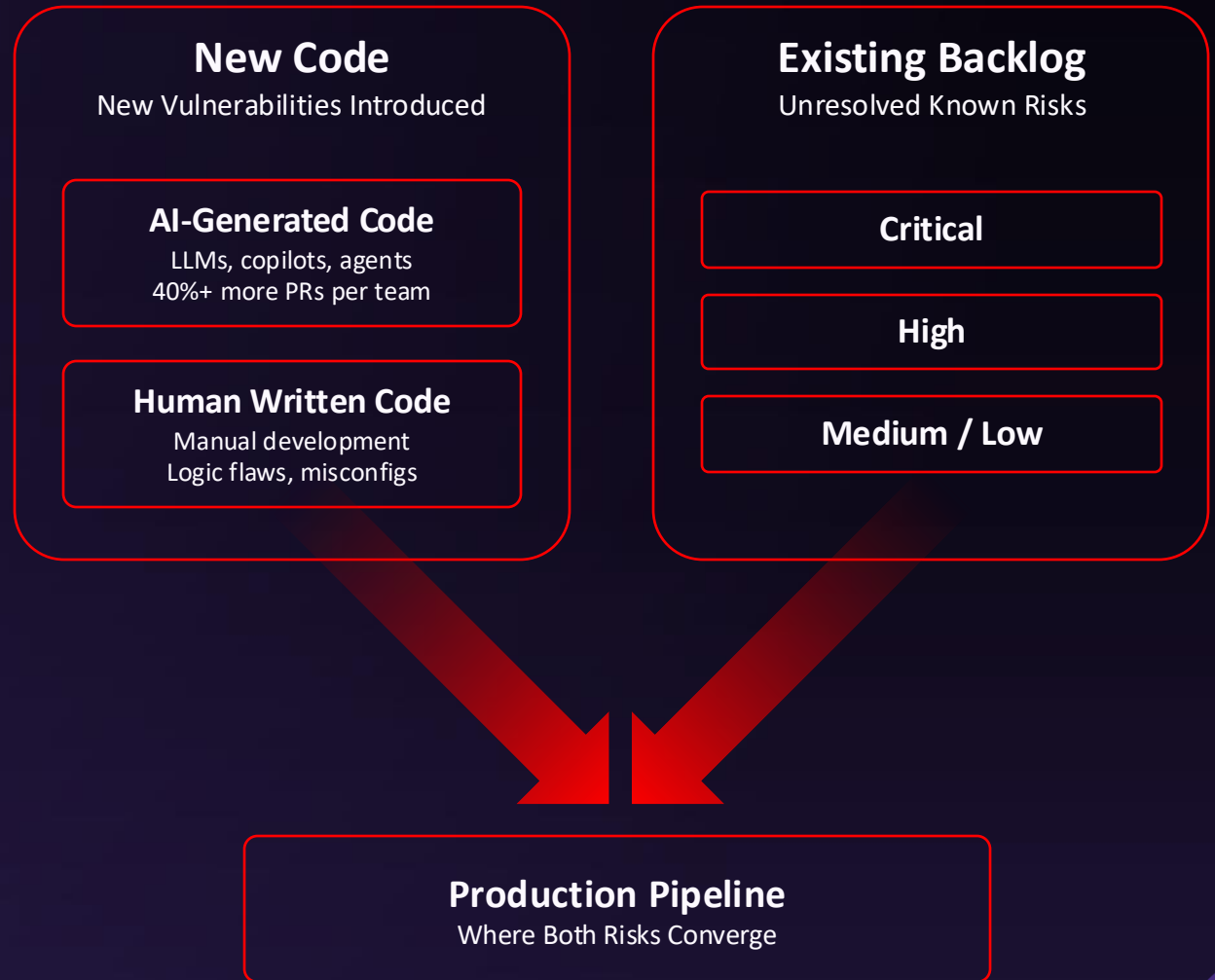
Volume of AI Generated Code And Risk Going Up

Even the Best Frontier Model Ships ~46% of Solutions Either Incorrect or Insecure



Sources: GitHub Octoverse 2024, GitLab DevSecOps Survey 2024, Stack Overflow Developer Survey 2024. 2025–2026 values are projections based on observed CAGR. Dashed lines indicate projected data.

Where Vulnerabilities Exist and Where They're Coming From





PART 1

The Economics of Exploitation

Permanently. In 2026.

AI-GENERATED CODE AS A RISK CLASS

The Hidden Cost of AI-Assisted Development

1.7x

More defects per unit
of code in AI-assisted dev.

5x

Net exploitable flaws
when 2–3× code volume
meets 1.7× defect rate.

81%

Of orgs knowingly ship code
with known vulns. Triage
overload is cited cause.

Weaponization: From 840 Days to 1.6 Days

AI-Generated CVE Exploits Cost ~\$1 and 10–15 Minutes of Compute



THE UNIT ECONOMICS OF ATTACK

Discovery is **No Longer the Constraint**

~\$1

Cost per working CVE exploit
10–15 min of compute,
fully automated.

72.4%

Frontier AI exploit success rate
On real-world targets. Near-zero
for prior generations..

1.6 Days

Median time-to-exploitation, 2026
Was 840 days in 2018. Patch
Tuesday is no longer a defense.



PART TWO

Impact:

**New Code and Risk is
Accelerating While the
Backlog is Filling Faster
Than We Can Drain It**

THE REMEDIATION BIFURCATION

Findings Up 76%. Fixes Down 46%.

THE DASHBOARD is Misleading
Discovery Scaled with AI, but Remediation Didn't

-80%

Mean time to
remediate (MTTR)

-73%

Critical MTTR

WHAT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENING
The Exposure Debt

+76%

Vulnerability submissions,
last 12mo

-46%

Monthly fixes shipped,
same period

25x

Growth in unresolved critical vulns



Agentic AppSec
Unleashed '26
by Checkmarx

PART THREE

So, Can AI Help?



THE STRUCTURAL ARGUMENT

Separation of Church and State is **Critical For Cybersecurity**

The Security Control Plane Must be Architecturally Independent of the AI Systems it Governs



Access Control

A system that manages its own permissions cannot be trusted. A compromised system grants itself elevated access.



Cryptography

A key management system that stores its own master keys is insecure by design.



Audit and Finance

External auditors are required by law — not because auditors are dishonest, but because structural integrity demands independence.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Three Properties of an **Independent Control Plane**

If a Security Architecture Lacks Any of These, It Inherits the Failure Modes of the System It's Supposed to Govern

1

Architecturally Separated

Operates from outside the trust boundary of the AI systems it governs. Compromise of the model under analysis does not compromise the analyzer.

2

Deterministic Floor

Includes a rule-based layer whose behavior is defined by explicit, auditable logic — not probabilistic inference. The floor is what cannot be hallucinated.

3

Model-Agnostic

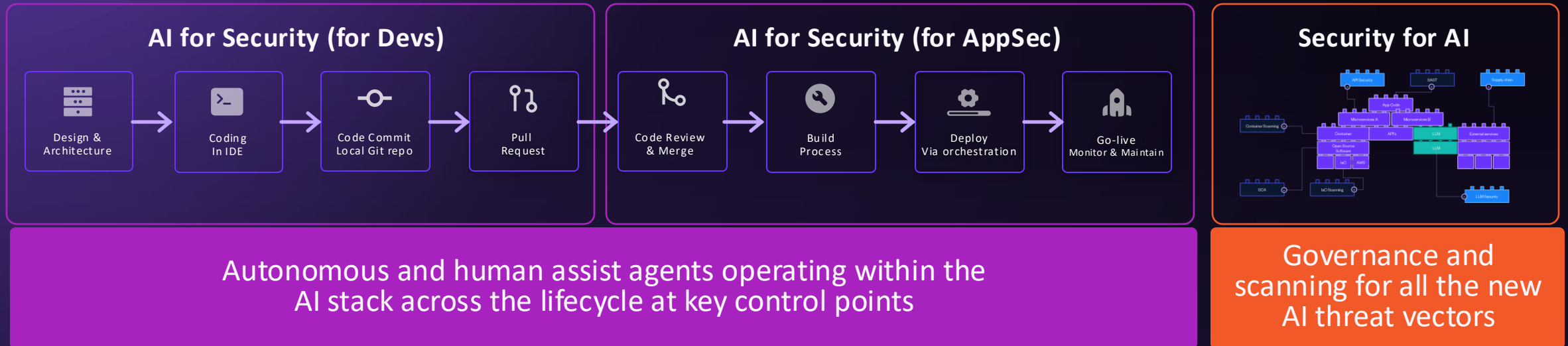
Capable of governing AI systems regardless of which foundation model underlies them. Single-provider concentration is an architectural risk.



PART FOUR

The Building Blocks for A Governance Framework for the Velocity We Have

What's Needed: An Agentic Orchestration Layer and Security for AI



What's Needed: A Hybrid Approach for Complete Coverage

Deterministic Ground Truth + AI-Augmented Reasoning +
Security Context. None Alone is Sufficient.

Delivers

The highest possible fidelity
Consistent scanning results
High velocity remediation
Complete visibility



EMPIRICAL VALIDATION

What's Needed: A Hybrid Approach for the Highest Fidelity

Checkmarx SAST vs. Claude Opus 4.7

747 Findings · Python, Go, C# · Production Codebases (Istio, Indico, Jellyfin) + ThreatByte

+11%

Higher true positive rate (Checkmarx SAST)

327

True positives Opus 4.7 missed entirely

0.49 ^{F1}
Score

Opus 4.7 and average SAST tools are at ~0.20

Opus 4.7 performed adequately only on ThreatByte — a vulnerable-by-design test project. Accuracy degraded across every production codebase. This is not a capability gap. The next model generation does not close it.

Checkmarx One: Unifying Application Security for the AI Era

AI SECURITY CONTROL POINTS

Code Creation Commit Pull Request Code Review & Merge Build Process Deploy Go Live

AI-Powered Security Agents – Checkmarx Assist

Developer Assist

Triage Assist new

Remediation Assist new

Checkmarx MCP new

Unified Risk Intelligence & Governance – Checkmarx ASPM

Risk Prioritization

Posture Management

Policy Enforcement

Risk Orchestration new

Hybrid Scanning Engines

Developer Security

AI SAST new
Secrets Detection
IaC
API Security

Supply Chain Security

Malicious Packages
SCA
Containers
Repository Health

Security For AI

AI BOM new
Model Scanning
MCP Scanning
Agent Scanning

Runtime Security

DAST for AI new

THE CHECKMARX ADVANTAGE

Five Pillars. One Platform. **Zero Compromise.**

The Only Platform That Combines Deterministic Precision, AI-Powered Discovery, and Enterprise-Scale Governance — Unified in Checkmarx One.



Completeness of Findings

Hybrid deterministic + LLM coverage across every attack surface — SAST, SCA, DAST, IaC, secrets, containers. N-day precision. Zero-day discovery. The superset of findings.



Highest Fidelity

Correlated findings with the highest true-positive rate and lowest false positives. ASPM prioritization by real exploitability and business impact — not raw severity.



Guided and Autonomous Remediation

Best-in-class agents across IDE, CLI, and PR close the weaponization window. Human-in-the-loop governance ensures speed without introducing new risk.



Security Context as First-Class

20 years of AppSec expertise. 1 trillion lines of analyzed code. The largest malicious OSS package database. Training foundations no frontier LLM can replicate.



Governance, Compliance and Policy

Built for enterprise scale — robust policy management, customizable guardrails, and enterprise-grade IAM. Designed to scale AppSec programs, not just individual developers.

Scan-to-fix velocity is the goal —
shifting from detection to
prevention and remediation of
new code issues is what will
reduce your risky backlogs.

Discovery is no longer
the binding constraint.

Remediation throughput is.



Agentic AppSec
Unleashed '26
by **Checkmarx**