Contrast Application Security Testing (AST)

Monitor code as it runs. Identify vulnerabilities instantly.

Prioritize and address risks with faster application and API vulnerability detection and fewer false positives

As applications store and process sensitive data, they become prime targets for cyber attacks. Over two-thirds of organizations suffered an attack that resulted in the loss of critical data or operational disruption, and 79% of applications in development have an average of 20 or more high-risk vulnerabilities.[1] Therefore, ensuring robust application security is critical to help protect against breaches, data theft and other malicious activities that could compromise personal information, financial assets and even national security.

Vulnerabilities like SQL injection, Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) and expression injection can occur due to incorrect coding, but also new vulnerabilities can constantly appear.

Application security and testing programs ideally integrate security testing into CI/CD pipelines, and developers ensure that code is continuously tested for vulnerabilities early in the development lifecycle. In addition, testing in production environments is critical where application data flows and application logic can uncover vulnerabilities not seen in a development environment.

Application security teams provide specialized expertise to identify, assess and mitigate security risks throughout the Software Development Lifecycle (SDLC).

Contrast AST integrates with developer workflows and enables in-production testing to pinpoint vulnerable lines of code and data flows
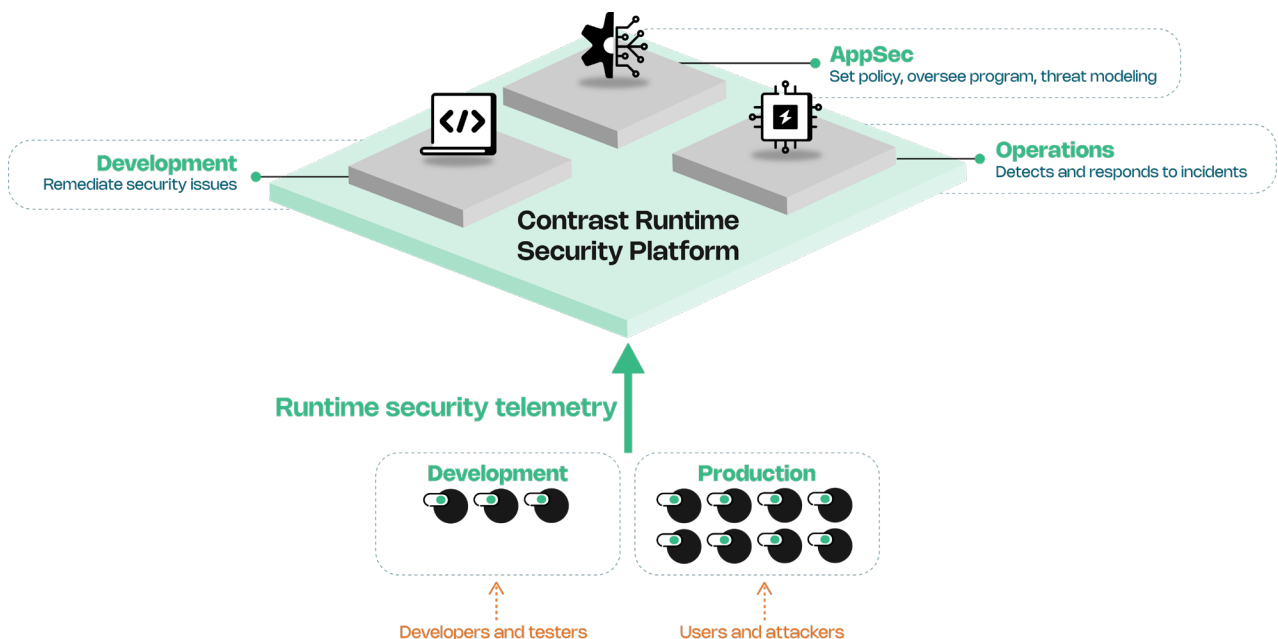
Deploy once, safeguard continuously

Integrated agent

The Contrast agent secures your applications by mapping data flows, including code scanning, library scanning, application instrumentation, configuration file scanning and other techniques. This helps accurately identify exploits by analyzing code paths at runtime, whether in development or production environments.

Secure applications and APIs in real time

Contrast AST detects vulnerabilities in real-time as code is written or executed in production. By continuously monitoring applications, it identifies security risks right down to the lines of code, providing actionable insights for faster remediation. This proactive approach ensures robust security, reducing risks and accelerating development without disrupting workflows.

Find and fix application and API vulnerabilities at runtime

Traditional security testing tools often lead to significant delays in the development process, because they result in a high number of false positives. They can be slow and cumbersome, and they may miss vulnerabilities that only appear when the application is running. Other tools scan running applications from the outside, but often lack the contextual understanding of the application's internal logic, leading to missed vulnerabilities and delayed feedback.

Contrast AST is designed for developers and application security teams by continuously detecting and prioritizing vulnerabilities at runtime, whether in development or in production environments, reducing disruptions and improving accuracy. With Contrast AST, your security team gets real-time alerts and dashboards to help prioritize vulnerabilities and targeted guidance on how to fix them.

Contrast embeds security within the application via a patented technology that monitors running applications in real time. This instrumentation performs code analysis directly in custom code and other elements of the application.

By aligning with developer workflows and delivering precision alerts, Contrast ensures that modern development maintains its pace without compromising on security. This approach provides highly accurate detection of vulnerabilities, ensuring that real security issues are identified and addressed.

Additional Contrast AST benefits:

◖ Continuously monitors code identifying vulnerabilities, even during production

◖ More accurate and contextual due to a deep understanding of application runtime behavior

◖ Faster, more reliable vulnerability detection and reduced false positives

◖ Does not require exploiting a vulnerability to discover it

◖ Supports a wide range of languages and frameworks, for securing diverse codebases

Application and API vulnerability backlogs lead to slow development. Contrast AST doesn't just detect vulnerabilities, it also provides deep insights into every facet of your application.

Learn more

[1] The State of DevSecOps Report