

# Cyber Risk Engineering

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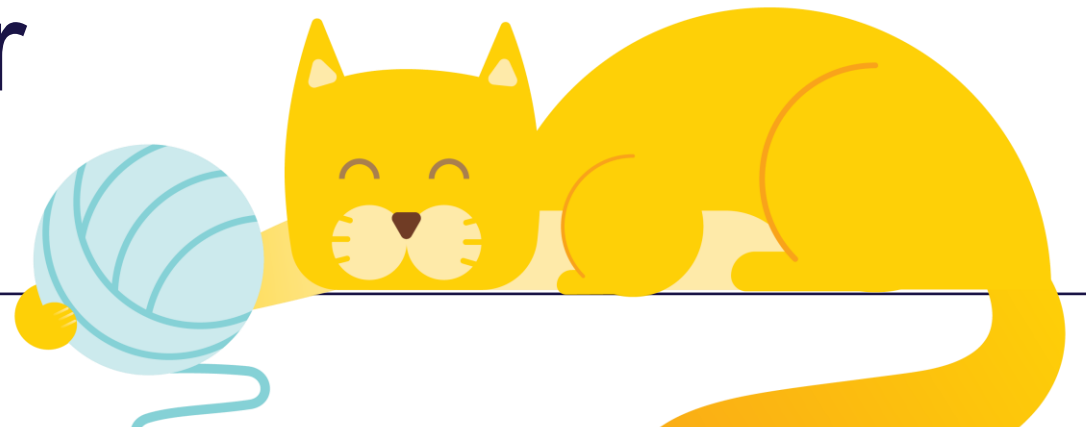
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# Whoami

- Fiber arts enthusiast
- Cat mom
- Retired Army Sergeant Major
- GIAC Security Expert (GSE)
- Cyber Risk Engineer



# Risk Management

Risk  
Reduction

Risk  
Avoidance

Risk  
Acceptance

Risk  
Transfer



# Risk Transfer



Transfer portion of potential financial consequences from one party to another



Idea started with “mutuals”



Not related to idea of outsourcing risk when you outsource functions

Still obligated to ensure functioning correctly  
Expertise may reduce risk, but risk inherently yours



# Cyber Insurance Process



# Players



**Insurance customer**

Usually CRO, CFO, GC  
(not CISO)



**Insurance broker**

Connect customers to carriers  
Advocate for customer

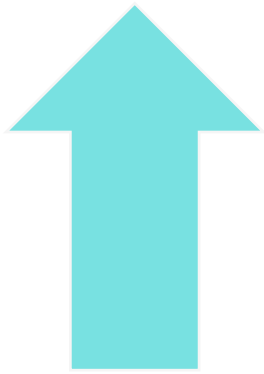


**Insurance carrier(s)**

Underwriters  
Risk engineers (that's me!)



# Insurance Tower



Less risk,  
premium,  
influence



More risk,  
premium,  
influence

3<sup>rd</sup> Excess (31-41M)

2<sup>nd</sup> Excess (21-31M)

1<sup>st</sup> Excess (11-21M)

Primary (1-11M)

Retention (0-1M)



# Insurance Types



**Cyber Insurance**  
1<sup>st</sup> Party Coverage



**Tech Errors and Omissions (E&O)**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Party Coverage



# The Challenge

- Data is key for making (risk) decisions
- Data comes in many forms
- Public data vs. Private data
- Data quality issues



How do you use data to make better decisions without blindly following the data?



# Data-Informed Risk Management



# Correlation

**Predictive Modeling:** five years of data trained to predict claims so that we can learn how things we can see predict the things we can't

The screenshot shows the Liberty Mutual Insurance CyRAT interface. At the top, there are logos for Liberty Mutual Insurance and CyRAT. Below the logos, there are navigation tabs for 'Company Overview' (selected) and 'Company Details'. A search icon is visible on the left. The main content area displays a green shield icon with a checkmark and the text 'Risk Segment: Protect'.

Indicator	Weighting ⓘ	Findings ⓘ
Tiscert No Revocation	⊗ 5.9%	99
TIs Weak Cipher	⊗ 5.7%	67



# Correlation Challenges

**Firmographics Impact:** revenue, industry, employee count often the most predictive factors

Indicator	Weighting ⓘ	Findings ⓘ
Industry	⊗ 17.8%	hospitality (Value Used)
Employee Count	⊗ 15.3%	5804 (Value Used)



# Correlation Challenges

**Lack of Direction:** can be difficult to say what organizations should do based on this data, inconsistent model weightings

**Visibility:** limited to the data that is currently being collected

Patching Cadence Medium

 11.5%

23

Patching Cadence Medium






 2.7%

0



# Causation

## Cyber Hazard Flags

Status	Flag/Control	Definition
	High Risk Vulnerabilities	The organization has vulnerabilities that are being actively exploited by threat actors.
	Organization Likely Compromised	There are not indicators that the organization has suffered or is likely to suffer some type of cyber incident.
	Exposed remote access services	The organization has exposed ports commonly associated with remote network access.
	High-risk open ports	The organization does not have exposed ports that are known to pose a significant risk.
	Asset Inventory Process	The organization does not have an adequate asset inventory.

Consider both Frequency and Severity



# Causation Challenges

 Pause: 1  Caution: 1  Selective: 0  Pass: 5  Data Not Sourced: 9 

**Automatability:** Different data sources are more or less automatable depending on their consistency and format

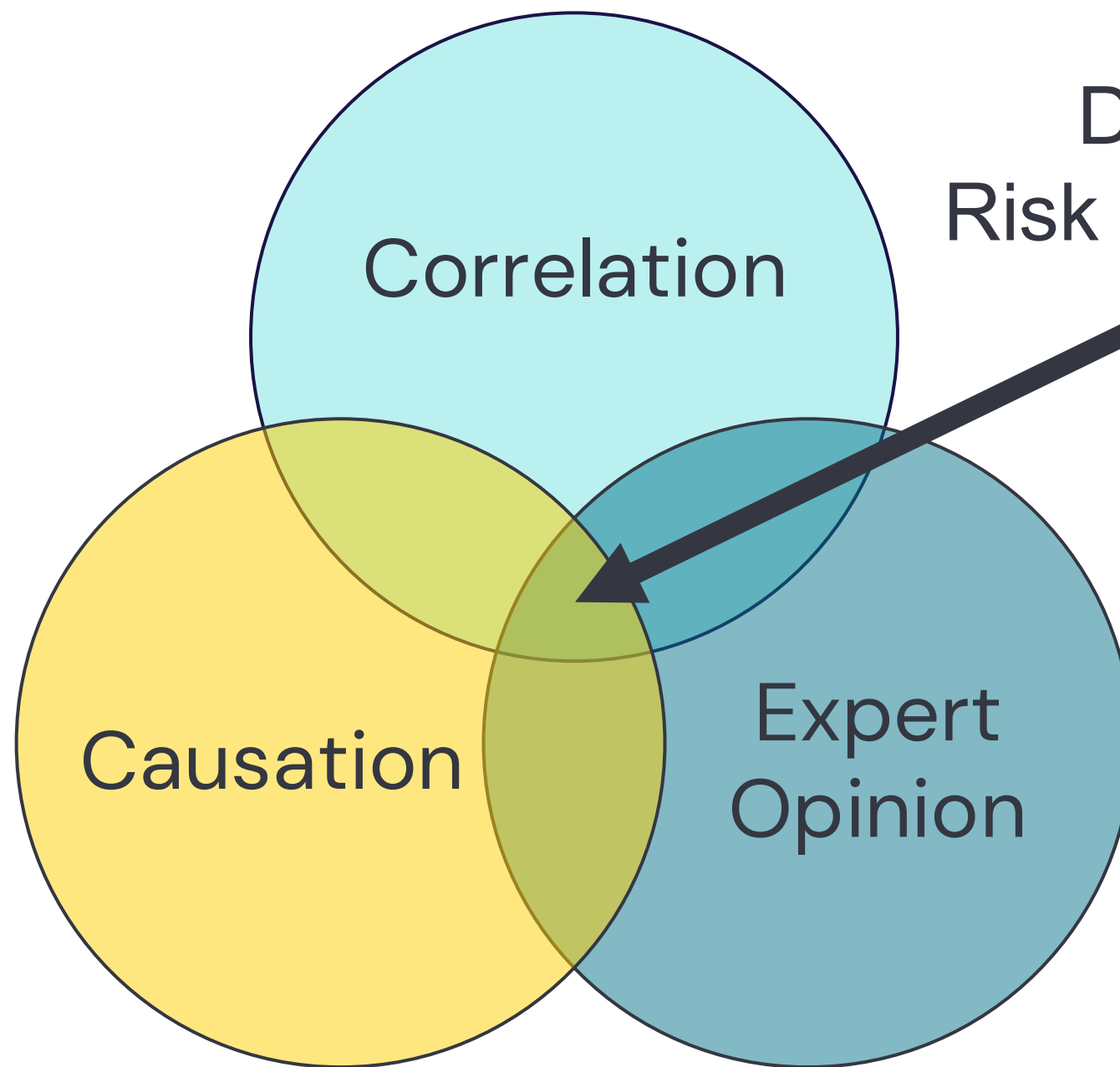


# Expert Opinion

- Data exists in conflict with itself; correlation and causation may give different answers
- Data lives in the context in which it was generated
- Organizational features
- Data collection method
- Qualitative data (e.g., leadership attitudes)



# Data-Informed Risk Management



What does the data say???



# Frequency



Root cause: read any of the major industry reports



Marsh self-assessment questionnaire: ability to apply critical vulnerabilities in less than 1 week



Firmographics count for a lot



Modeling based on outside-in scans (e.g., by Gallagher Re) tend to focus on correlation, not causation



# Severity

## Business Interruption

- Extended downtime
- Fragile supply lines
- Consider billing, ERP, other support systems

## Data Breach

- Regulatory fine vs. trial w/ jury (especially US)
- Costs of notification, credit monitoring per person
- Possible wrongful collection



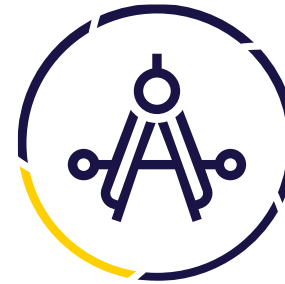
How I look at  
organizations



# Liberty Lenses



**Threat  
access**



**Security  
Planning &  
Engineering**



**Culture**



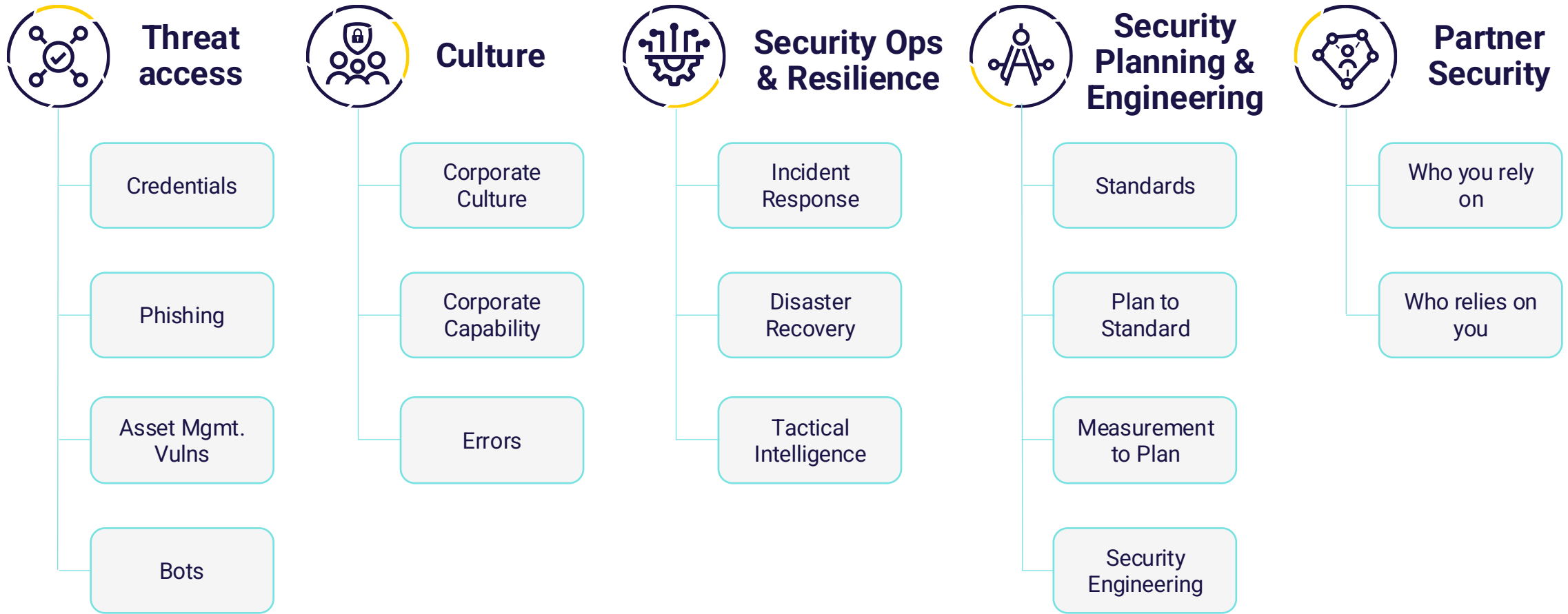
**Partner Security**



**Security Ops &  
Resilience**



# Focus Areas

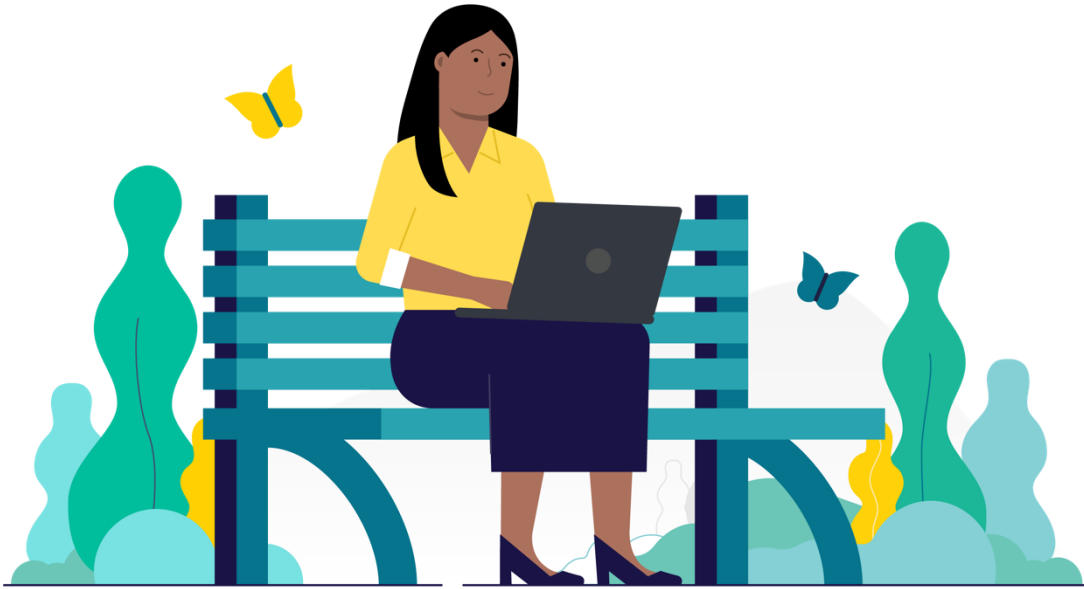


# Observables

- Keeping in mind our limited inputs
  - What can we observe?
  - Self reported vs. externally observable
- Correlation vs. causation
- Not mutually exclusive
- Expectations based on org type, size
- Examples:
  - MFA use
  - Exposed ports
  - Exposed vulnerabilities
  - Security Leader
  - Budget
  - IR, BC, DR plans exercised
  - Policies up-to-date
  - Roadmap



# Conclusions



- Risk Management all the way down
- Data is a liability
- Important to be able to make decisions in the absence of perfect data
- Never stop learning



# Questions?

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 <https://tindrasgrove.com/pages/links.html>





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