

## DATA BREACH INTELLIGENCE: DOES HISTORY ALWAYS REPEAT ITSELF?

Jake Kouns

Open Security Foundation

Alex Hutton

Zions Bancorporation

Security in  
knowledge



# About This Talk

- ▶ What we want you to get out of it:
  - ▶ There is useful data out there
  - ▶ There is a better, data-driven way to run a security or risk management program than current standards support
  - ▶ There are people actually using data!

# About This Talk

- ▶ What we hope you'll want to do afterwards:
  - ▶ Incorporate data and data science techniques in your security program
  - ▶ Not be susceptible to *bias* or *dogma* common in our industry

# — Does History Repeat Itself?

# Does History Repeat Itself?

Figure 8. VERIS A\* Grid depicting the frequency of high-level threat events

		Malware			Hacking			Social			Misuse			Physical			Error			Environmental					
		Ext			Int			Ext			Int			Ext			Int			Ext			Int		
		Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt			
Servers	Confidentiality & Possession	381			518		1				9	8	1							2	1				
	Integrity & Authenticity	397			422		1				6	1	1												
	Availability & Utility	2			6						5														
	Confidentiality & Possession										1														
Networks	Integrity & Authenticity	1									1														
	Availability & Utility	1			1						1														
	Confidentiality & Possession	356			419						1				86										
User Devices	Integrity & Authenticity	355			355						1	1			86										
	Availability & Utility										1				3										
	Confidentiality & Possession												23								1				
Offline Data	Confidentiality & Possession																								
	Integrity & Authenticity																								
	Availability & Utility																								
People	Confidentiality & Possession							30	1																
	Integrity & Authenticity							59	2																
	Availability & Utility																								

▶ 2012

Figure 6. A\* Grid depicting the frequency of VERIS Threat Events across 2010 caseload

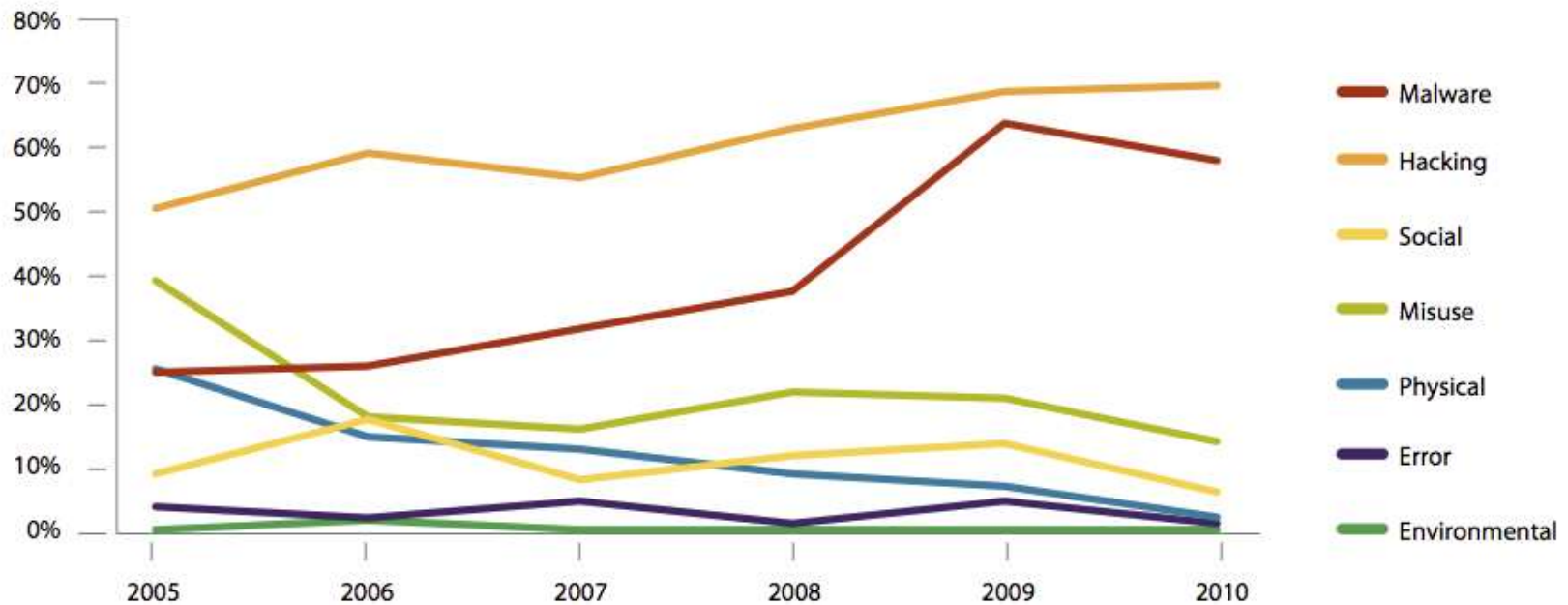
		Malware			Hacking			Social			Misuse			Error			Physical			Environmental					
		Ext			Int			Ext			Int			Ext			Int			Ext			Int		
		Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt			
Servers	Conf	319	1		369						10	90	1				1								
	Poss																								
	Integ	323	1		353	2					3	43													
	Auth	2			16	2					3	16													
	Avail	3			4						2	1													
Networks	Conf	1			1														11						
	Poss																								
	Integ	1			1														11						
	Auth																								
	Avail																								
User Devices	Conf	214	1		174						2	4							201						
	Poss																								
	Integ	214	2		171						3								201	4					
	Auth	2			2														2	1					
	Avail				2														1						
Offline Data	Conf	1										87							1	1					
	Poss																								
	Integ	1																							
	Auth																								
	Avail																								
People	Conf									8	1														
	Poss																								
	Integ									72	24														
	Auth																								
	Avail																								

▶ 2011



# Does History Repeat Itself?

Figure 16. Threat action categories over time by percent of breaches (Verizon cases)



Security in  
knowledge

Does History Repeat Itself?  
Data says “Pretty Much”



Security in  
knowledge



Does History Repeat Itself?  
Data says “Pretty Much”





**TYPES OF  
SECURITY  
PROFESSIONALS**  
(as they approach  
the use of data)



# Types of Security Professionals

- ▶ We don't have any data!



# Types of Security Professionals

- ▶ We don't have perfect data!



# Types of Security Professionals

- ▶ Data is great as long as it supports my decisions!



# Types of Security Professionals

- ▶ We have all the data we need!



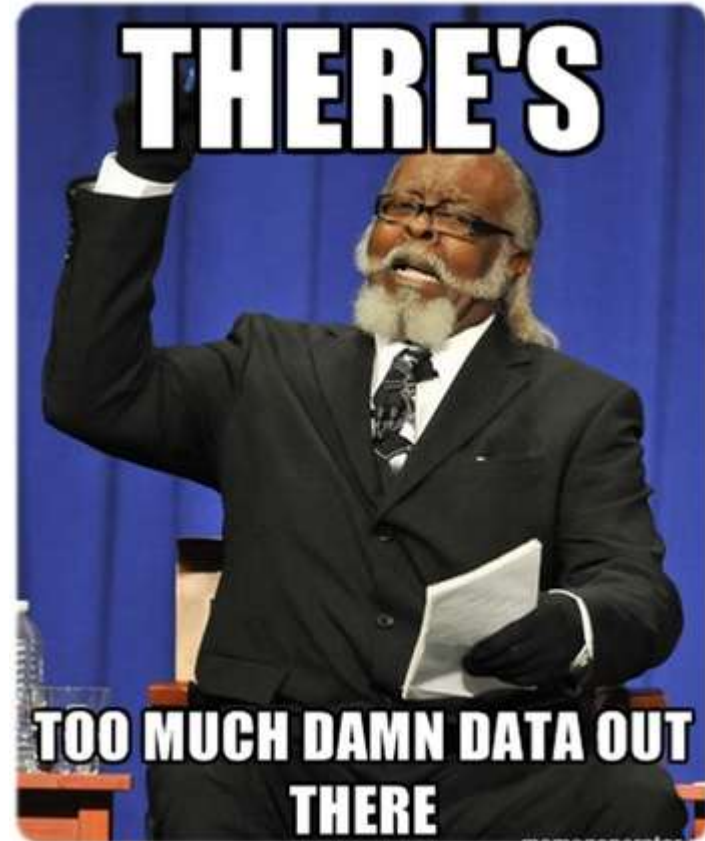
# Types of Security Professionals

- ▶ “It’s too scary to attempt to use data!”



# Types of Security Professionals

- ▶ We have too much data to handle!



Security in  
knowledge

## THE CASE FOR DATA



Session ID:

Session Classification:



Security in  
knowledge

THE CASE FOR DATA



# — What Is Risk Management

- ▶ Risk Management is about decisions
- ▶ Being able to clearly communicate risk decisions

Data helps us discuss the situation with a certain **focus**



# — Focus

Why do we need that focus?

# — Kouns/Hutton Security Metric Axiom 1

- ▶ Any security metric you present will **always** be interpreted in a risk model.
  - ▶ Either **formal** modeling
  - ▶ Or **informal** (gut-level interpretation) modeling

# — Kouns/Hutton Security Metric Axiom 2

- ▶ Without instituting *rational* decision making efforts, that risk model is subject to a myriad of cognitive biases
  - ▶ Gut-level interpretation (informal modeling) *rarely* accounts for these biases

# — Decisions Can Be Made By Many Means

Some are proven better than others;

- ▶ Usually, the more rational the better
- ▶ The less rational, the more susceptible to bias
- ▶ Bias can lead us to worry about the wrong things

# WHAT SHOULD YOU REALLY BE AFRAID OF?

Fear, as FDR noted in 1933, paralyzes those who succumb to it. And yet much of what we worry about today is based on hype rather than reality. Yes, media headlines are partially to blame. But some things (sharks!) are just downright scary. Using the most recent U.S. data available, we hereby present a list of unsettling threats and their far riskier counterparts.

**MURDERS**  
(2008) **14,180**

**CHILDREN ABDUCTED  
BY STRANGERS**  
(1999) **115**

**BURGLARIES**  
(2007) **2.2 MILLION**

**SHARK ATTACKS**  
(2009) **28**

**AMERICANS KILLED BY  
TERRORIST ATTACKS  
AROUND THE WORLD**  
(2008) **33**

**DEATHS BY ALLERGIC  
REACTION TO PEANUTS**  
**50-100\***

**WOMEN WHO DIE FROM  
BREAST CANCER**  
(2009) **40,170**

**FATAL AIRLINE ACCIDENTS**  
(2009) **321**

**AMERICANS  
AUDITED BY THE IRS**  
(2009) **1.4 MILLION**

**SUICIDES**  
(2006) **33,289**

**CHILDREN WHO  
DROWN IN POOLS**  
(2008) **288**

**IDENTITY THEFTS**  
(2005) **8.3 MILLION**

**DOG BITES**  
**4.5 MILLION\***

**AMERICANS WHO  
DIE FROM THE  
SEASONAL FLU**  
**36,171\***

**DEATHS BY UNINTENTIONAL  
POISONING**  
(2009) **27,531**

**WOMEN WHO DIE FROM  
CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE**  
(2009) **432,709**

**FATAL CAR CRASHES**  
(2008) **34,017**

**U.S.  
DEATHS**  
(2007) **2.4 MILLION**

\* ANNUAL AVERAGES  
AND ESTIMATES

SOURCES: AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY; AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION; CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION; CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION; FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION; INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; INTERNATIONAL SHARK ATTACK FILE; NATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM; NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION; NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD; NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Security in knowledge



BY NUMBER 17, NYC,  
CLAUDIA KALB, AND  
ELIZABETH WHITE

# — Evidence-Based Decisions – The Bias Killer!

- ▶ If you're looking for something to make decisions more objective, why not use data?





# Evidence-Based Practices

- ▶ EBPs are driven by data
- ▶ They are our most:
  - ▶ Rational, Logical, Ethical
- ▶ Means of making decisions
- ▶ The key to identifying, resisting, and/or challenging bias
- ▶ The institution of scientific method in decision making

## EVIDENCE-BASED RISK MANAGEMENT (EBRM)

Security in  
knowledge



# — Why Not Use Evidence?

- ▶ So if the best decisions are evidence-based;
  - ▶ Why not evidence-based risk management?
  - ▶ EBRM might be inevitable, see Axiom 1

## CAN OUR INDUSTRY \*DO\* EVIDENCE-BASED RISK MANAGEMENT (EBRM)?

Security in  
knowledge



# — First, We Have To Want It.



# — We Must Demand Systemic Change



- ▶ Regulatory Agencies & Standards Bodies Have to:
  - ▶ Dictate Taxonomy/Ontologies
  - ▶ Enforce Data Collection & Analysis (Hypothesis development) as a Key Control
  - ▶ Demand and Review for influence of a Feedback Loop

A person in a red robe is sitting in a meditative pose on a stone ledge in a lush, green forest. In the background, a waterfall cascades down a rocky cliff, and a stone staircase leads up a hillside. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a peaceful and contemplative atmosphere.

# We Must Also Be Brave Enough To Start With Ourselves

- ▶ Change our own program because it's the right thing to do for us, and for our organization.

What do we need  
for (EBRM)?

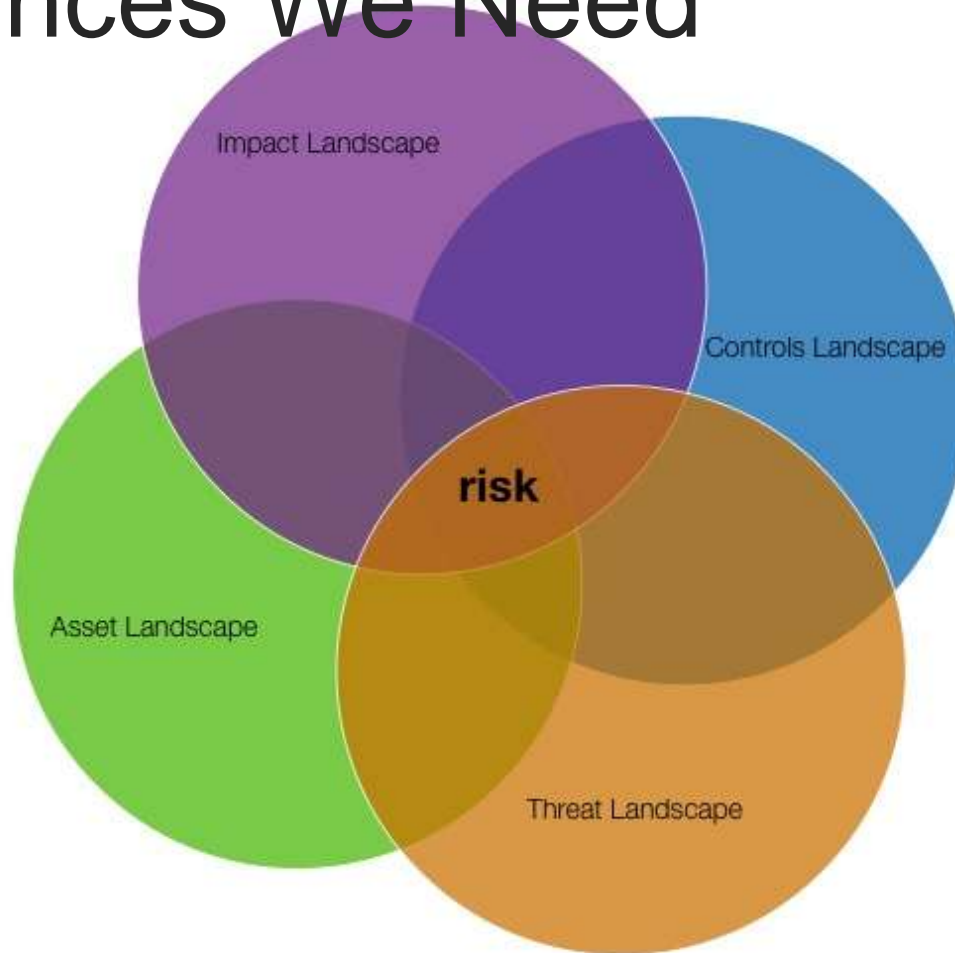




# — What Do We Need For EBRM?

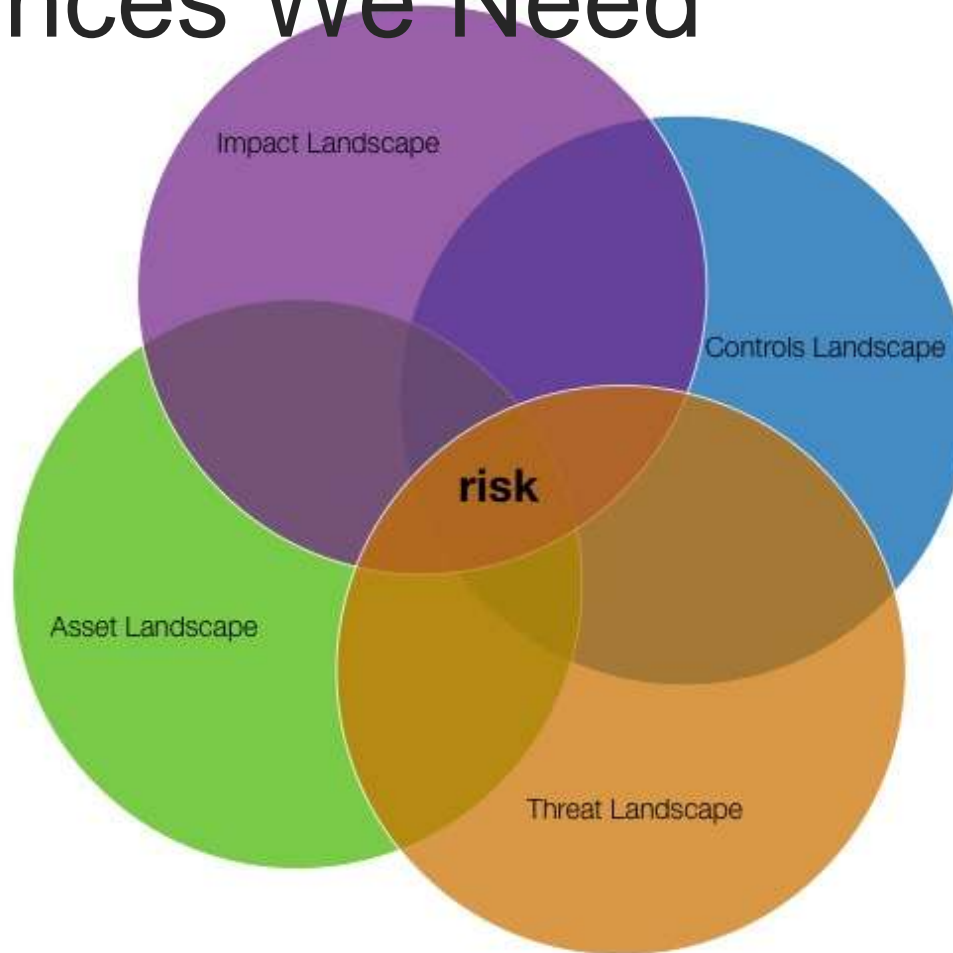
- ▶ Understand what evidences we need
- ▶ Understand the quality of those evidences

# Evidences We Need



including capabilities (skills, resources, decision quality...)

# Evidences We Need



- ▶ Again, Taxonomies/ Ontologies that describe these sets of information

including capabilities (skills, resources, decision quality...)

# Quality Of Evidences

- ▶ We can borrow from the UK Evidence-Based Medicine quality descriptions and ratings
- ▶ Deduction and Inference can help

# Evidence Quality Scales (UK)

## Evidence level D

“Expert opinion without explicit critical appraisal, or based on physiology, bench research or first principles.”

## Evidence level C

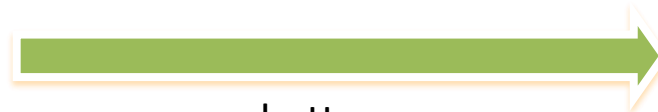
Case-series study or extrapolations from level B studies.

## Evidence level B

Consistent Retrospective Cohort, Exploratory Cohort, Ecological Study, Outcomes Research, case-control study; or extrapolations from level A studies.

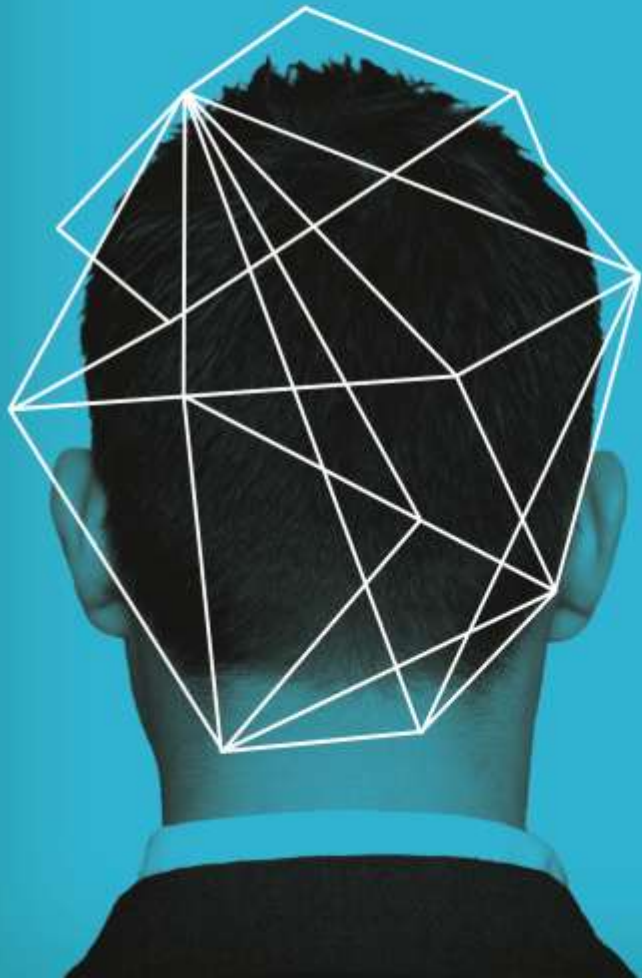
## Evidence level A

Consistent Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial, cohort study, all or none, clinical decision rule validated in different populations.



better

# EBRM – DO WE HAVE DATA?



- Data Risk Factors Are Either
  - ▶ Endogenous (from within)
  - ▶ Exogenous (from outside)

# — Data Risk Factors Are Either

- ▶ Endogenous (from within)

LOTS! (too much?)

- ▶ Exogenous (from outside)



# — Endogenic Sources

- ▶ Systems data
- ▶ Performance data
- ▶ Internally generated estimates for losses
- ▶ Internally generated estimates for threats

# — Data Risk Factors Are Either

- ▶ Endogenous (from within)

LOTS! (too much?)

- ▶ Exogenous (from outside)

NOT ENOUGH! (getting better?)

# Exogenic Sources

- ▶ Breach Reports
  - ▶ Open Security Foundation / DataLossDB.org
  - ▶ Verizon DBIR
- ▶ Threat Intel Sources
  - ▶ TrustWave, HP, Microsoft, McAfee, and others
- ▶ Industry Studies
  - ▶ Claims studies from cyber liability insurance companies
  - ▶ Benchmarking
- ▶ Industry Surveys
  - ▶ Ponemon
- ▶ Private Sharing Services



WE DON'T HAVE TO WAIT  
FOR EXOGENIC QUALITY  
TO START EBRM.

Security in  
knowledge





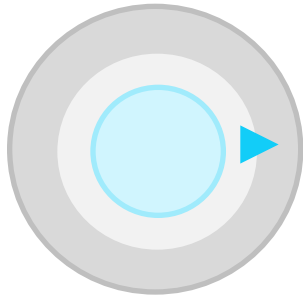
**INTEGRATING  
EVIDENCE –  
BASED  
DECISIONS INTO  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAMS**

EVERY ORGANIZATION IS  
PRESENTED WITH 3  
“LEVELS” OF DECISIONS -

Security in  
knowledge



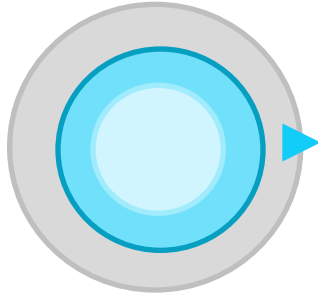
# 3 Levels Of Decisions



## Tactical

- ▶ Fraud Models
- ▶ Traffic Models (IDS, etc.)
  - ▶ THESE ARE CONTROLS IN AND OF THEMSELVES
    - ▶ Behavioral Alerting
    - ▶ Signature Alerting

# 3 Levels Of Decisions

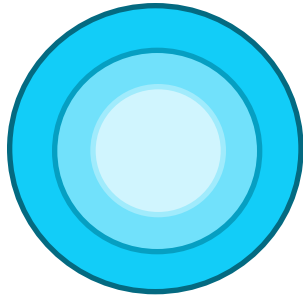


## Mid-Range

- ▶ Scenario-Based Analysis
  - ▶ (what our risk registers are made up of)



# 3 Levels Of Decisions



## ▶ Strategic (Systemic Risk?)

- ▶ Patterns in operations that create:
  - ▶ An understanding of the realization of scenario-modeling
  - ▶ The effectiveness of tactical modeling



**WE CAN USE  
THIS MODEL OF  
KNOWLEDGE  
(THESE LEVELS  
OF DECISIONS)  
TO CHANGE  
OUR PROGRAMS**

# — Tale Of Two Cases

- ▶ Big Company, Big Resources, Big Problems
- ▶ Little Company, Little Resources, Big Problems

# — EBRM In The Enterprise

## ▶ Ingredients:

- ▶ Data Scientist(s)
- ▶ Data Engineer(s)
- ▶ Something Like Hadoop
- ▶ A network architecture that supports data in stream
- ▶ A risk management program with incentives (formal, informal) to be data-driven
- ▶ Management that desires excellence

# — EBRM In The Enterprise

## ▶ Directions (1)

- ▶ First, Taxonomy vs. Available Data exercise
  - ▶ **Think of your controls not as P/D/R, but as data collection devices!**
  - ▶ Utilize a data collecting network architecture to, well, collect data
- ▶ Look for resources outside of IT (HR Systems are an awesome example)

# EBRM In The Enterprise

## ▶ Directions (2)

A cartoon illustration of a white bear with a red shirt, shouting with its mouth wide open. The bear is holding a paintbrush in its right hand and a microphone in its left hand. The background consists of yellow, jagged, sunburst-like shapes.

▶ **STORE ALL THE THINGS.**

# — EBRM In The Enterprise

## ▶ Directions (3)

- ▶ Make your processes/workflows accountable to support evidence-based decision making
- ▶ Security & Risk must work together to this end
- ▶ This is probably a policy change as much as a procedural one

# — EBRM In The Enterprise

## ▶ Directions (4)

- ▶ Transform Risk Management into an intelligence function
  - ▶ Around exogenic and endogenic data collection and processing
- ▶ Experiment with Metrics and Reporting
  - ▶ An actual visualization pro may help here



## — EBRM In The SMB

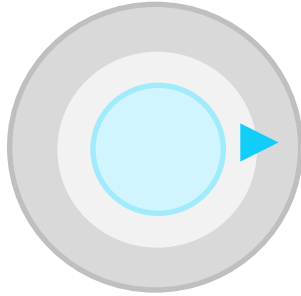
- ▶ But I don't have 18 full time analysts and an Alex Hutton.....

Now what?

# — EBRM In The SMB

- ▶ EBRM can be done at SMBs
- ▶ EBRM does not have to be an all or nothing proposition
- ▶ It is possible to right size EBRM

# — EBRM In The SMB – What You'll Be Missing



Tactical Tends to Be Outsourced!

- ▶ Fraud Models
- ▶ Traffic Models (IDS, etc.)
  - ▶ THESE ARE CONTROLS IN AND OF THEMSELVES
    - ▶ Behavioral Alerting
    - ▶ Signature Alerting

# EBRM in the SMB

## ▶ Ingredients:

- ▶ Vendors that support Data/Correlation
  - ▶ We're starting to see this happen!
- ▶ Time with your Business Analysts
  - ▶ Blue Dollars FTW!
- ▶ Information Designer for reporting
  - ▶ Most newly minted Graphic Design folks \*have\* to have a visualization bent these days
- ▶ Still probably want a data store, but that's optional
  - ▶ You'll just be stuck in Spreadmart

# Example Service: RiskI/O



# — EBRM In The SMB

## ▶ Directions (1)

- ▶ Consider seeking assistance
- ▶ Make your processes/workflows accountable to support evidence-based decision making
- ▶ Security & Risk must work together to this end
- ▶ This is probably a policy change as much as a procedural one

# — EBRM In The SMB

## ▶ Directions (2)

- ▶ Make the most of your commonly available Exogenic data
- ▶ Work backwards from your reporting opportunities into the data you have

# Exogenic Example: DBIR

Figure 8. VERIS A\* Grid depicting the frequency of high-level threat events

		Malware			Hacking			Social			Misuse			Physical			Error			Environmental			
		Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	Ext	Int	Prt	
Servers	Confidentiality & Possession	381			518		1				9	8	1					2	1				
	Integrity & Authenticity	397			422		1				6	1	1										
	Availability & Utility	2			6						5												
Networks	Confidentiality & Possession										1												
	Integrity & Authenticity	1									1												
	Availability & Utility	1			1						1												
User Devices	Confidentiality & Possession	356			419						1			85									
	Integrity & Authenticity	355			355						1	1		86									
	Availability & Utility										1			3									
Offline Data	Confidentiality & Possession											23									1		
	Integrity & Authenticity																						
	Availability & Utility																						
People	Confidentiality & Possession						30	1															
	Integrity & Authenticity						59	2															
	Availability & Utility																						



# — EBRM in the SMB

## ▶ Directions (3)

- ▶ Account for feedback loops
- ▶ Don't over complicate things!
- ▶ Risk Management is an Intel Function!

# — To Change We Must

- ▶ Embrace the data available
- ▶ Evaluate findings published
- ▶ Change or Augment our Current Standards
- ▶ Get Interested in Sharing Data
- ▶ Take the time to do the work

## DATA BREACH INTELLIGENCE: DOES HISTORY ALWAYS REPEAT ITSELF?

Jake Kouns

Open Security Foundation

Alex Hutton

Zions Bancorporation

Security in  
knowledge



— An example:

# Psychometricization of Vendor Management