

Quantitative Cyber-Security

Colorado State University

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CS559

Midterm Review



CSU Cybersecurity Center
Computer Science Dept

Midterm coming Tuesday

Will use canvas. Will need proper laptop/pc with camera.

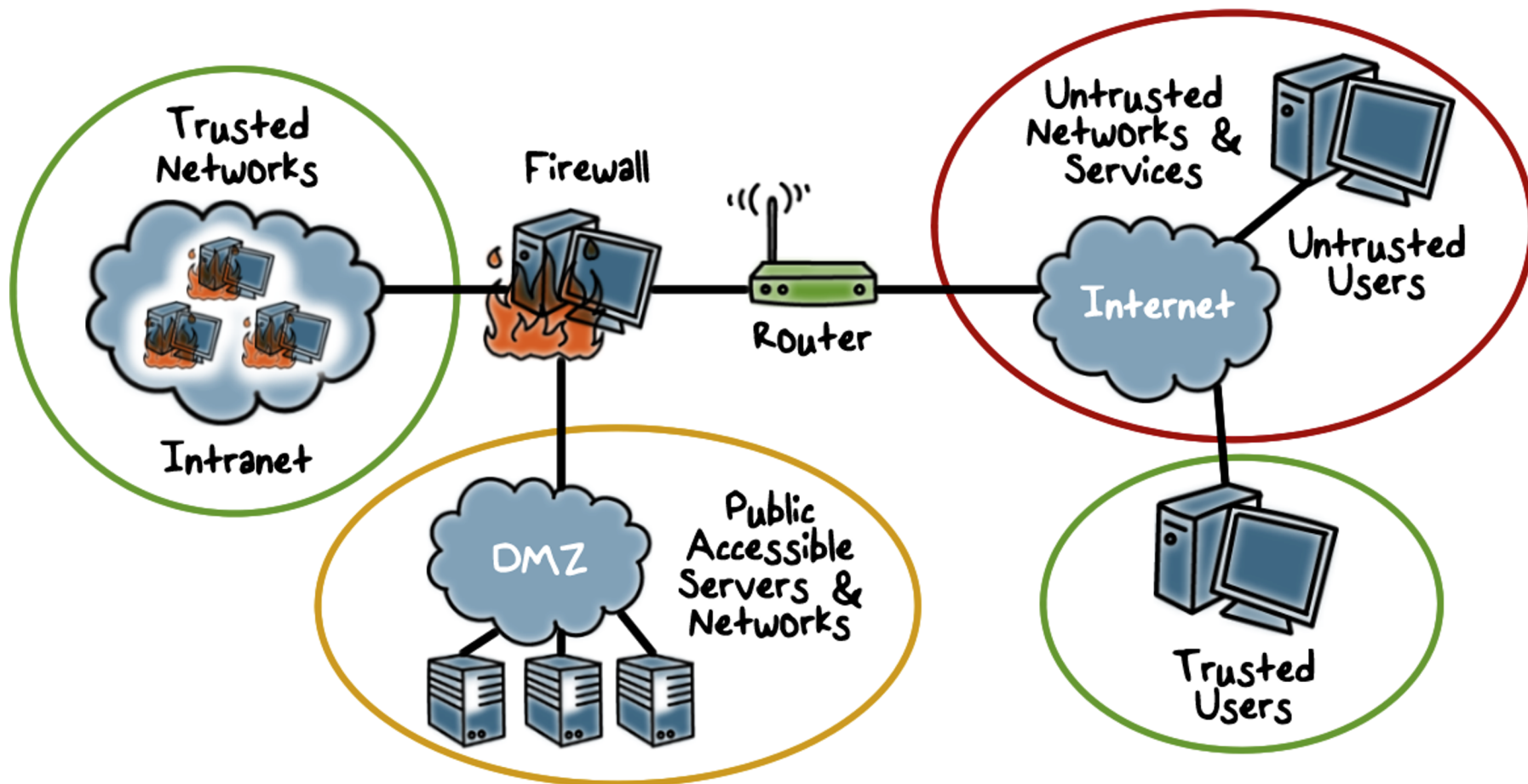
Update: Both sections will use [Respondus](#) proctoring.

- Sec 001: 3:30-4:45 PM. Tu.
- Sec 801:
 - 801 students local in Fort Collins need to take it during 3:30-4:45 PM. Tu.
 - Non-local 801 students: During 3:30-4:45 PM. Tu. – 3:30 PM Wed.
- Lockdown browser calculator permitted.
- Closed book, closed notes.

Main topics L1, L2

- Some numbers
- Security system architecture
 - Internet, trusted systems, firewalls, OSs, virtualization
- Assets, Threats, Vulnerabilities
- Cyber attack types, attack surfaces
- Malware: Viruses, worms etc
- Access Control:
 - Subjects, Objects, and Access Rights
 - Access Control Schemes
- Authentication

Firewalls



DMZ: “Demilitarized zone”, distributed firewalls, From Georgia Tech
Note multiple levels of trust.

Example: Access Control Matrix

| | | OBJECTS | | | |
|----------|--------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | File 1 | File 2 | File 3 | File 4 |
| SUBJECTS | User A | Own Read Write | | Own Read Write | |
| | User B | Read | Own Read Write | Write | Read |
| | User C | Read Write | Read | | Own Read Write |

(a) Access matrix

Access Control List (ACL): Every object has an ACL that identifies what operations subjects can perform. Each access to object is checked against object's ACL.

May be kept in a relational database. Access recorded in file metadata (inode).

Main topics L3

- How to do research
 - Literature search, sources, reading papers
 - Original research
 - Publication, significance, citations
- Security frameworks
- NIST Cybersecurity Framework
 - Functions and categories
 - Implementations and priorities
- CIS Critical Security Controls
 - Basic, Foundational, Organizational

Main topics L3

- $Risk_i = Likelihood_i \times Impact_i$

- Risk: Possible Actions

- Acceptance, mitigation, avoidance, transfer

$Likelihood_i = P\{A \text{ security hole}_i \text{ is exploited}\}.$

$= P\{\text{hole}_i \text{ present}\} \cdot P\{\text{exploitation} \mid \text{hole}_i \text{ present}\}$

- Annual loss expectancy (ALE)

$$ALE = SLE \times ARO$$

- Single loss expectancy $SLE = AV \times EF$

- AV value of the asset. EF exposure factor

- ARO is Annualized rate of occurrence

Main topics L3

- COUNTERMEASURE_VALUE
= (ALE_PREVIOUS – ALE_NOW) – COUNTERMEASURE_COST
- Return on Investment
= COUNTERMEASURE_VALUE / COUNTERMEASURE_COST

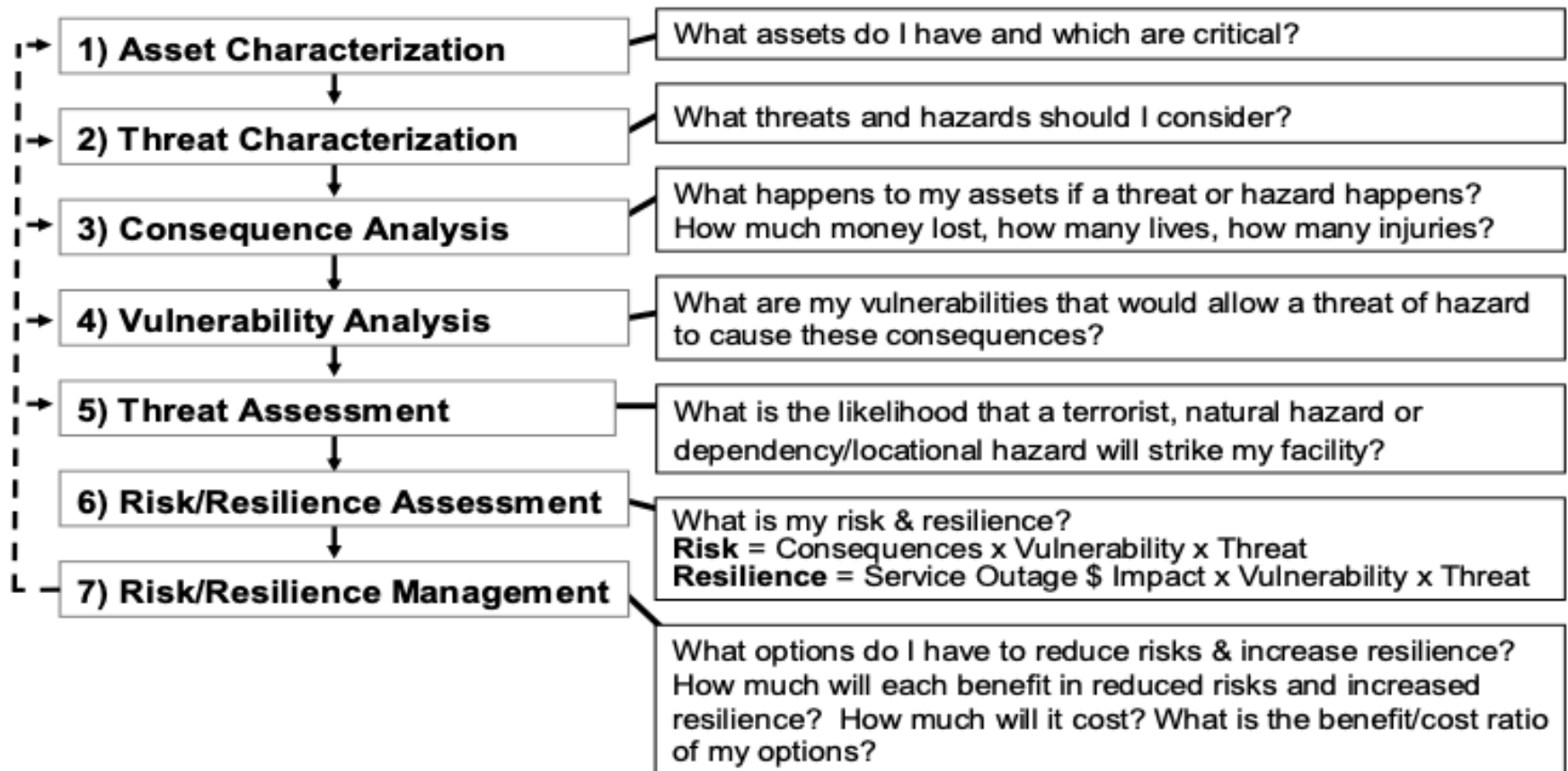
L3

- $\text{Log}(\text{Risk}) = \text{Log}(\text{Likelihood}) + \text{Log}(\text{Impact})$
 - Risk score = Likelihood score + Impact score

| Likelihood | Consequences | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------|----------|-------|--------|
| | Insignificant | Minor | Moderate | Major | Severe |
| Almost certain | M | H | H | E | E |
| Likely | M | M | H | H | E |
| Possible | L | M | M | H | E |
| Unlikely | L | M | M | M | H |
| Rare | L | L | M | M | H |

L4: RAMCAP

- RAMCAP Framework
 - Risk = Threat x Vulnerability x Consequence



L4: FAIR Framework

- **Factor Analysis for Information Risk**
- Risk = Probably Loss Magnitude x estimated Loss Event Frequency
 - Loss Event Frequency (LEF) = Threat Event Frequency x Vulnerability
 - Threat Event Frequency: table
 - Vulnerability (Vuln) = Threat Capability x lack of Control Strength
 - Threat Capability: table
 - Control Strength: table
- “Multiplication” achieved by using Matrices.

L4/5: Risk management strategies

- **Insurance: need**
- Law of large numbers
- Actuarially fair Premium: equal to expected claims
= probability of illness in a year x average no. of utilization of services per year x unit cost of each utilization
- The loss **ratio is** the ratio of incurred losses and loss adjustment expenses to premiums earned.
- Asymmetric information
- Cyber Insurance: coverage, market, costs

Random Variables

- A **random variable** (r.v.) may take a specific random value at a time. For example
 - X is a random variable that is the height of a randomly chosen student
 - x is one specific value (say 5'9")
- A random variable is defined by its **density function**.
- A r.v. can be **continuous** or **discrete**

| | | <i>continuous</i> | <i>discrete</i> |
|---|----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Density function | $f(x)dx$ | $P\{x \leq X \leq x + dx\}$ | $p(x_i)$ |
| “Cumulative distribution function” (cdf) | $F(x)$ | $\int_{x \min}^x f(x)dx$ | $\sum_{i=i \min}^{i \max} p(x_i)$ |
| Expected value (mean) | $E(X)$ | $\int_{x \min}^{x \max} x f(x)dx$ | $\sum_{i=i \min}^{i \max} x_i p(x_i)$ |

L5: Probability

- Disjoint, independent, conditional prob.
- Bayes' rule
- Confusion matrix
 - Sensitivity = $TP/(TP+FN)$
 - Specificity = $TN/(FP+TN)$
 - Precision = $TP/(TP+FP)$
 - Area under the ROC curve

| | | Actual | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | Disease + | Disease - |
| Predicted | Test +ve | TP | FP |
| | Test -ve | FN | TN |

Bayes' Rule

- Conditional probability

$$P\{A | B\} = \frac{P\{A \cap B\}}{P\{B\}} \text{ for } P\{B\} > 0$$

$P\{A|B\}$ is the probability of A, given we know B has happened.

- Bayes' Rule

$$P\{A | B\} = \frac{P\{B | A\}P\{A\}}{P\{B\}} \text{ for } P\{B\} > 0$$

- **Example:** A drug test produces 99% true positive and 99% true negative results. 0.5% are drug users. If a person tests positive, what is the probability he is a drug user?

$$\begin{aligned} P\{DU | P\} &= \frac{P\{P | DU\}P\{DU\}}{P\{P | DU\}P\{DU\} + P\{P | nDU\}P\{nDU\}} \\ &= 33.3\% \end{aligned}$$

L5: Distributions

- **Density and distribution functions**
 - Binomial, Poisson
 - Uniform
 - Normal, Lognormal
 - In Excel
 - Exponential, Weibull
- Variance & Covariance
- **Stochastic processes**
 - Markov process
 - Poisson process
 - Time between Two Events

L6: Intrusion detection Systems

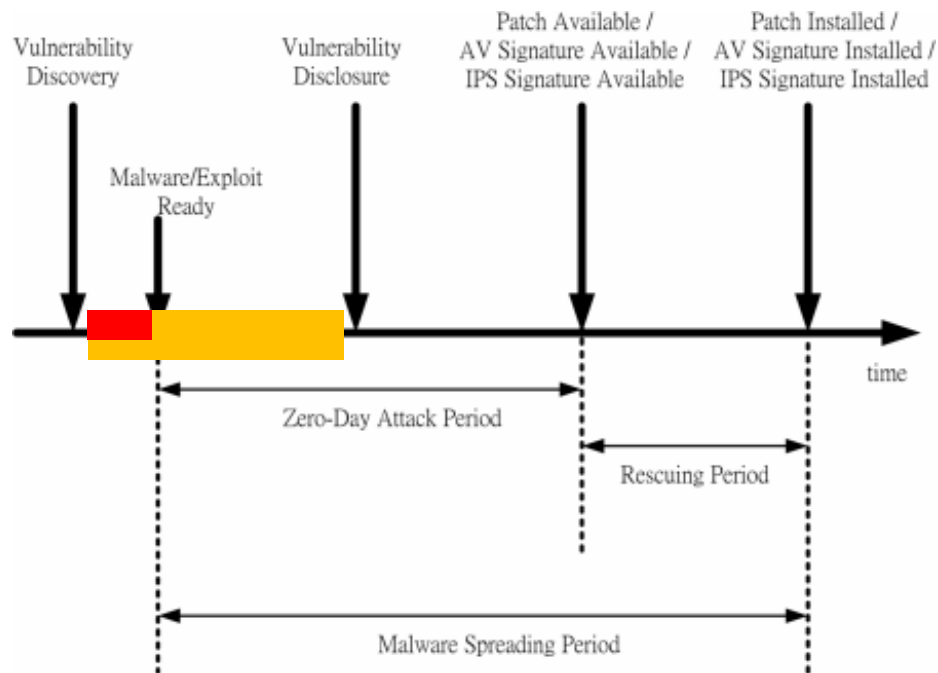
- IDS approaches
- Anomaly detection: Is this the normal behavior?
- Anomaly detection: Is this the normal behavior?
 - No clear dividing line between intruder vs authorized user activity
- Rule-based heuristic
- Detections vs prevention (IPS in the path of information flow)
- Host-Based Intrusion Detection (HIDS) vs Network based

L7: Presentations

- Patch management
 - Optimal timing, tools
- Security Economics
 - Gordon-Loeb model
- Mitre ATT&CK Framework
 - Tactics (initial access to Impact for enterprises) divided into many ⁹⁻³⁴ Techniques
 - Can be used to launch or foil attacks
 - Tools based on ATT&CK
- Ransomware
 - Attack types
 - Demand vs recovery costs

Discovery/Zero Day Timeline

- Life cycle of a zero-day vulnerability
- Time for exploitation
- Time window for developers to discover bug
 - Incredibly valuable for both attackers and defenders [1]



L7-L8: Presentations

- Phishing
 - Websites
 - Trends: significant increase
 - Defenses
- Vulnerability Discovery/Zero Day Timeline
 - Time to discovery
- Vulnerability markets
 - Testing and product development cycle
 - Reward programs
 - Black markets
 - Other markets

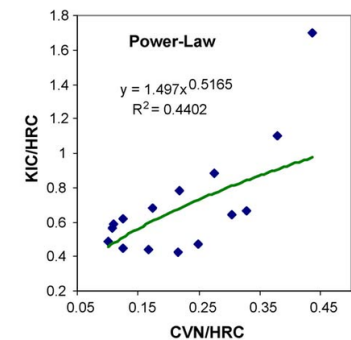
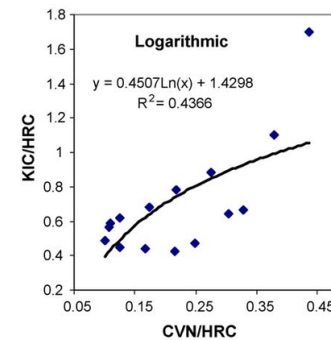
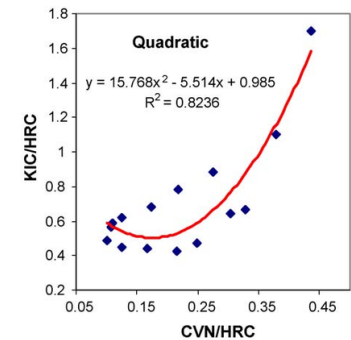
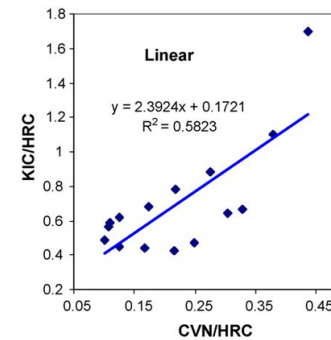
- Security Breach Costs
 - Breach timeline and costs
 - Industry dependence
 - Security Automation?
 - Costs to governments
 - Calculators and indices
- Schemes for discovering previously unknown vulnerabilities
 - Fuzzing: Black-box, white-box, gray-box
 - Fuzzer efficiency

L9: Modeling and regression

- Models: what (derived/empirical) and why
- Curve fitting, tools
- Visualization
- Linear and non-linear: polynomial, exponential, power
- Log for linearization

Empirical models

- Look at data
- See if it resembles a function
 - Linear, quadratic, logarithmic, exponential..
 - Involving 1, 2 or more parameters
- See if it fits
 - If not try something more complex
- If it fits, see if an interpretation of the parameters is possible
 - Not necessary but will be good.



- Defects vs vulnerabilities
- Types: software, system/physical, Personnel/procedures
- Components of Likelihood of Exploitation
 - Internal, external, interface
- Annual trends
- Vulnerability Lifecycle
- Vulnerability density and defect density
- Who discovers vulnerabilities?
- Classification of vulnerabilities

L10

- CVE numbering system
- Is it a vulnerability?
- Responsible Disclosure
 - Reward programs
 - Vulnerabilities for sale
- Data bases
- Vulnerability Lifecycle
 - Stochastic modeling
 - Zero-day attacks

L11/12

- Qualys “Laws of Vulnerabilities
 - Half-life, persistence, exploitation
- Modeling Vulnerability Discovery
- Using calendar time
 - AML model: derivation
 - Windows 98, NT
- Using equivalent effort
 - Market share
- Vulnerability density vs defect density

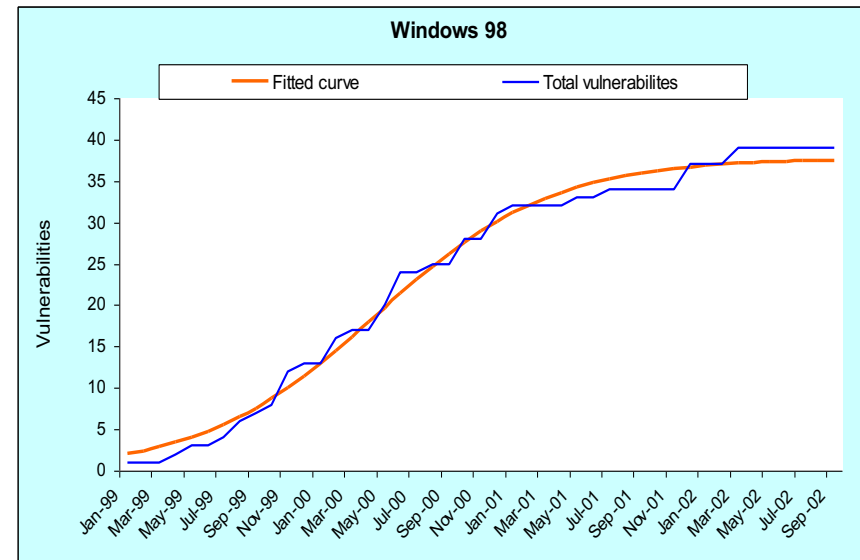
Time–vulnerability Discovery model

3 phase model S-shaped model.

- Phase 1:
 - Installed base –low.
- Phase 2:
 - Installed base–higher and growing/stable.
- Phase 3:
 - Installed base–dropping.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay(B - y)$$

$$y = \frac{B}{BCe^{-ABt} + 1}$$



L12: Software Reliability Modeling

- Static metrics
- Exponential SRGM
- Usage –based vulnerability Discovery model
- Nonlinear regression using solver
- Factors Impacting Vulnerabilities
- Seasonality: testing for seasonality
 - Seasonal index analysis with test
 - Autocorrelation Function analysis

L12/13

- Is hacking legal?
- Dimensions and Approximations
- What you should question
- Software Reuse
 - Software Evolution
- Vulnerability Discovery & Evolution
 - Code Sharing & Vulnerabilities
- Multi-version Vulnerability Discovery
 - Humps vs extended linear
- Linear model
- Long Term Trends
 - Size evolution: Linus kernel

L14 Metrics

- Scales: Nominal, ordinal, Interval, Ratio
- Pendleton et al's Survey on Security metrics
- Vectors: entities, vulnerabilities, security state
- Attack-defense interactions in a computer
- Metrics Classification
 - 1. *system vulnerabilities,*
 - 2. *defense strength and*
 - 3. *attack severity,*
 - 4. *situation*

Metrics for

- Measuring User (people) Vulnerabilities
- Measuring Interface-Induced Vulnerabilities
- Measuring Software Vulnerabilities
 - Evolution, lifetime, CVSS
- Measuring the Strength of Defenses
- Attack metrics
- Situation metrics
 - Incidents
 - Damage
 - investment

L14: CVSS

Objective: prioritize effort to address vulnerabilities

- Metrics: Components by levels translated into a numerical metric
- Scores: Computed score using a set of metrics as given by formulas
- Three metric groups and associated scores;
 - Base (mandatory): intrinsic to the vulnerability
 - Temporal: time-dependent variation in risk
 - Environmental: risk component dependent on the organization's environment

CVSS Base Scores: Ratings

| V 3.0 Severity Rating | Base Score Range |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| None | 0 |
| Low | 0.1-3.9 |
| Medium | 4.0-6.9 |
| High | 7.0-8.9 |
| Critical | 9.0 - 10.0 |

- CVSS Metrics: Data bases
- CVE Statuses in NVD

- Exploitability components:
 - Attack Vector (AV)
 - Attack Complexity (AC)
 - Privileges Required (PR)
 - User Interaction (UI)
 - Scope change
- Impact
 - Confidentiality Impact (C)
 - Integrity Impact (I)
 - Availability Impact (A)

CVSS system: How useful it is?

- What if they had multiplied exploitability and impact sub-scores instead of adding?
- Correlation among
 - CVSS Exploitability, Microsoft Exploitability metric, Presence of actual exploits: small or negative correlations
- Time to discovery? Some possible correlation
- Reward program? Significant correlation
- Time to patch: correlation
- Can metric/score determination be automated? Perhaps.
- VRP Cost effectiveness?

L15 Software testing

- Vulnerabilities are a subset of the defects (1-5%)
- Functional partitioning refers to partitioning the input space of a program.
- Structural partitioning requires the knowledge of the structure at the code level.
- A partition of either type can be subdivided into lower level partitions
- Testing: Functional (or Black-box), Structural, combined
- Random testing/fuzzing
- Coverage
- Input mix: Test Profile

How to prepare

- You have already been preparing
- Review lectures, slides, quizzes, assignments
- Focus on
 - Terms
 - Ideas and approaches
 - Solving problems
- If interested, locate references cited and read in more detail. This is a research-oriented class.
- Please review [Respondus](#) information, [video](#).
Download and install
- Note: weekend quiz likely