

# **Risk Analysis and Measurement with CWRAF**

IT Security Automation Conference

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# Software Assurance

The level of confidence that software is free from vulnerabilities either intentionally designed into the software or accidentally inserted at anytime during its life cycle and that the software functions as intended. *Derived From: CNSSI-4009*

“Making Security Measureable”:  
[measurablesecurity.mitre.org](https://measurablesecurity.mitre.org)

Sponsored by DHS

Resources provided for  
voluntary adoption

Open, community efforts that  
are *free* to use

XML-based

**Some important things to note**

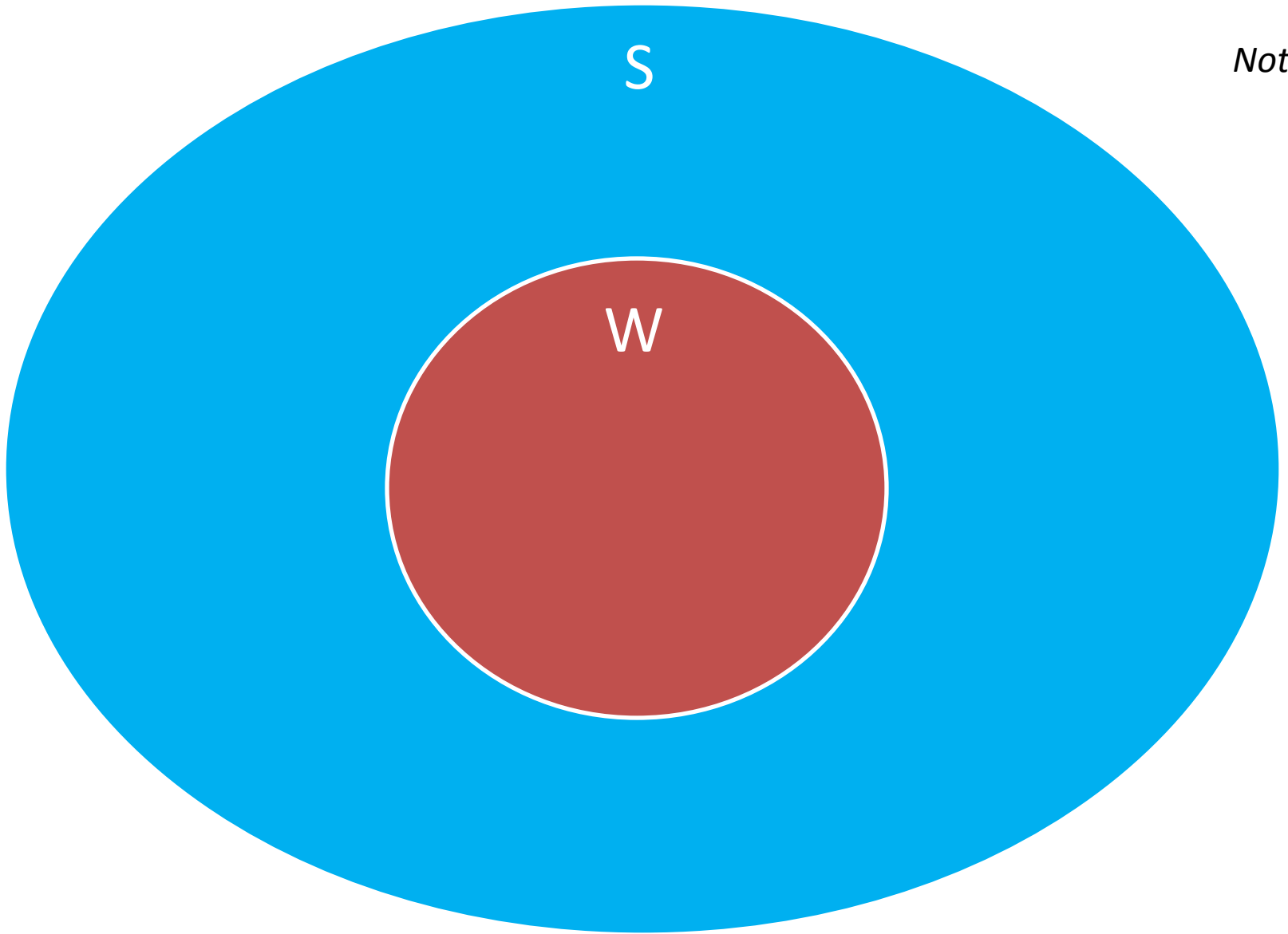
# What is the context?

Where can automation help - *today*?

What problems are we trying to solve?

Where do we start?

**S: The set of all software in existence at some point in time**

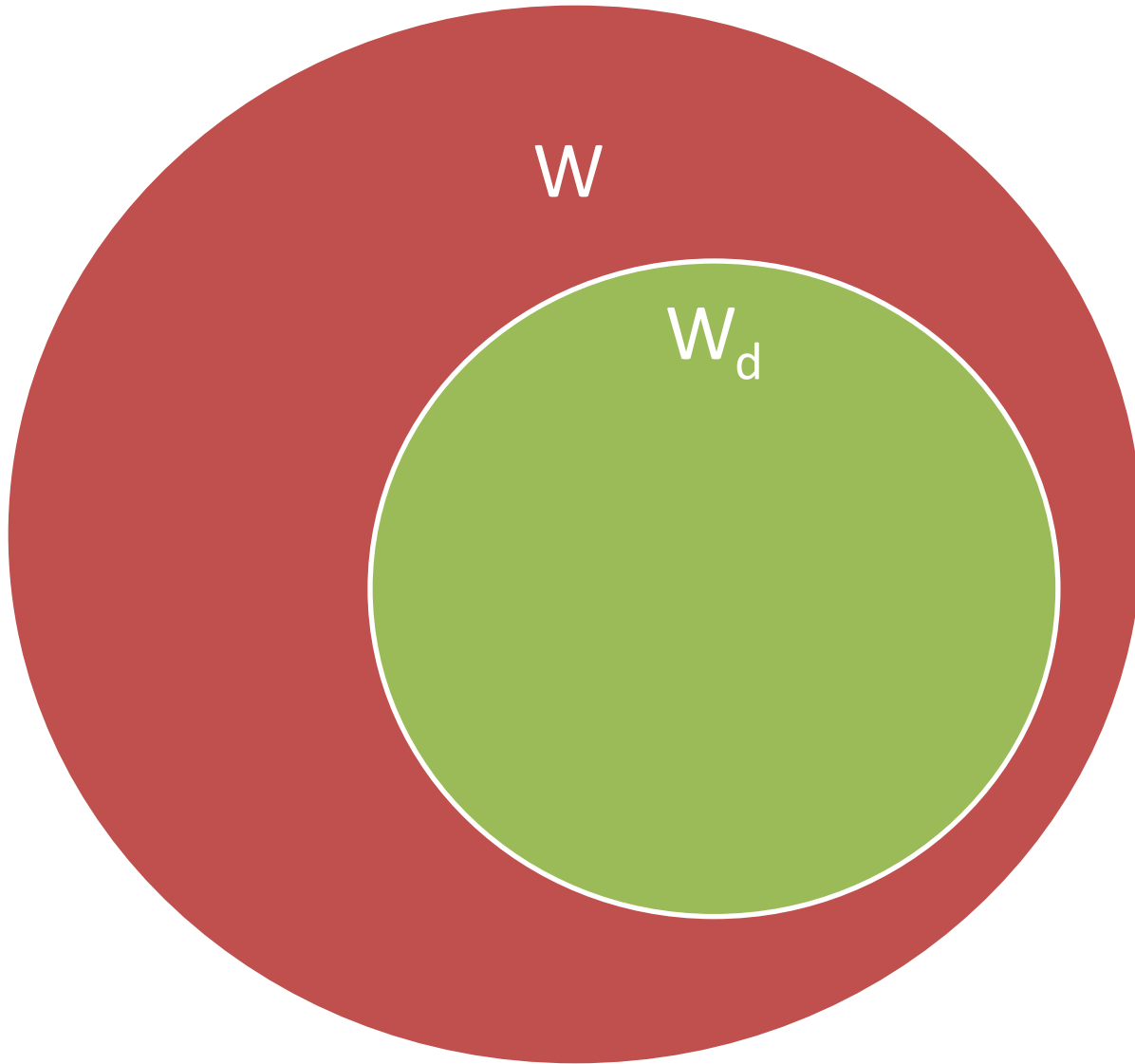


*Notional*

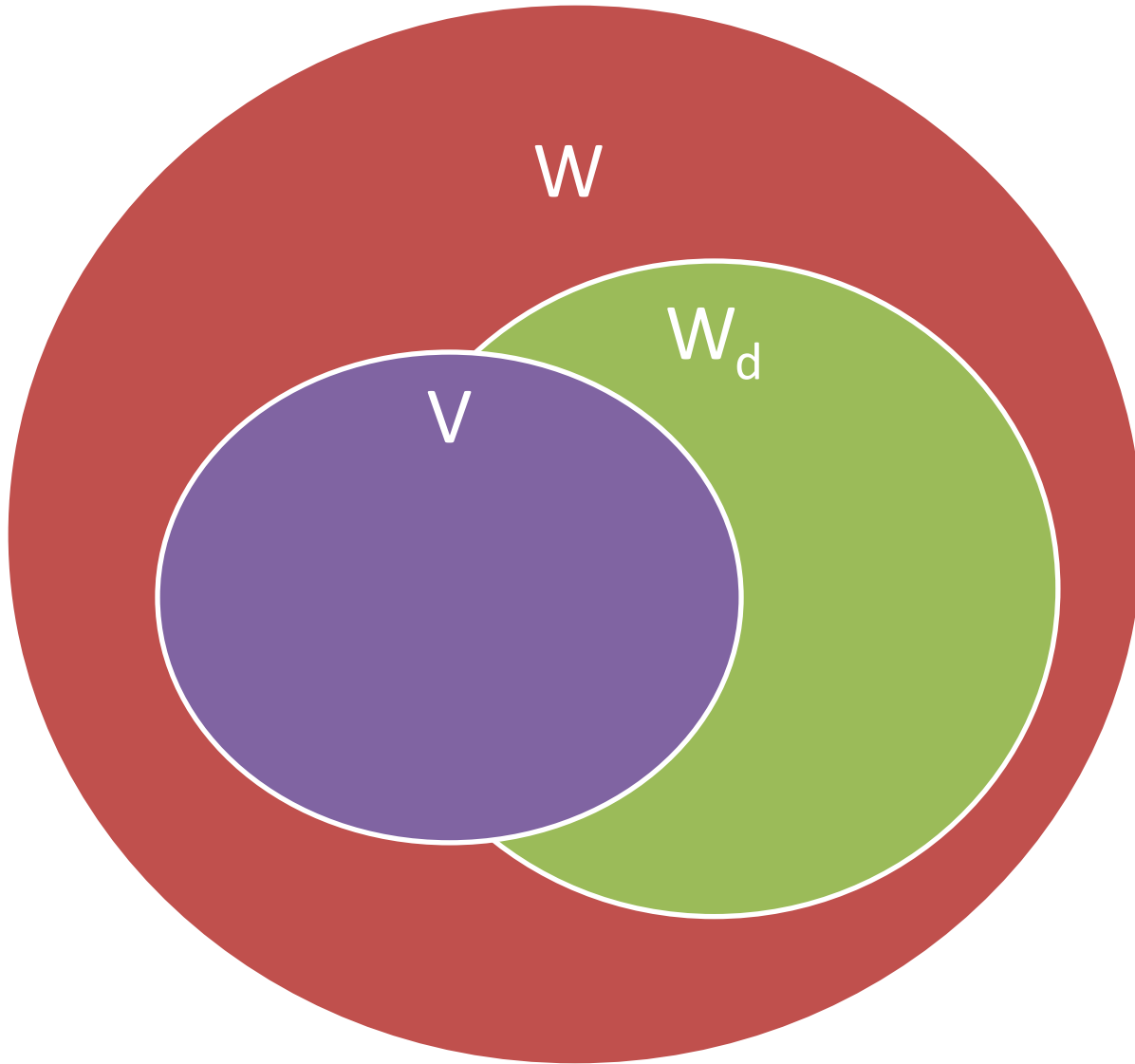
**W: The set of all instances of software weaknesses in S**

There are many definitions of “weakness.”  
What do we mean by weakness *in this context*?

A *(software) weakness* is a property of software/systems that, under the right conditions, may permit unintended / unauthorized behavior.



**$W_d$** : The set of all *discovered* software weaknesses in  **$W$**

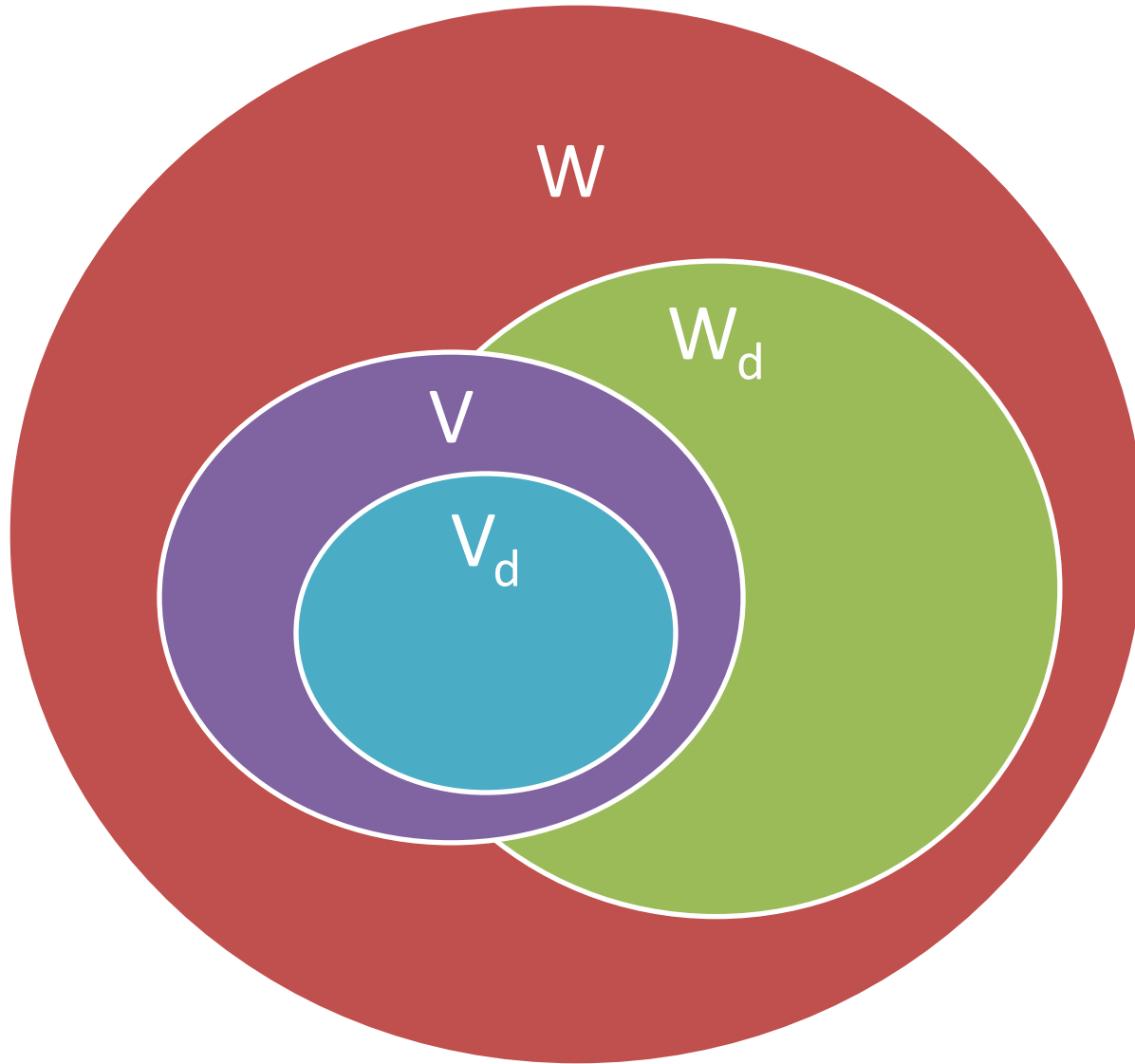


**V: The set of all vulnerabilities in W**



There are many definitions of “vulnerability.”  
What do we mean by vulnerability *in this context*?

A *(software) vulnerability* is a collection of one or more weaknesses that contain the right conditions to permit unauthorized parties to force the software to perform unintended behavior (a.k.a. “is exploitable”)



**$V_d$** : The set of all *discovered* vulnerabilities in  $V$

# Weakness vs. Vulnerability: Code Example

```
char *copyUserName (int nameSize, char *name) {
    int bufferSize;
    char *dupeName;

    /* CWE-20: Improper input validation */
    bufferSize = (nameSize * sizeof(char));
    /* Potential integer overflow (CWE-190) and incorrect buffer size calculation (CWE-131). */
    dupeName = malloc(bufferSize);
    /* CWE-252: Unchecked Return Value */
    strcpy(dupeName, name);
    /* Potential heap-based buffer overflow (CWE-122), NULL pointer dereference (CWE-476) */
    return(dupeName);
}
```

```
copyUserName(6, "Steve");
```

```
copyUserName(atoi(argv[1]), argv[2]);
```

```
Packet = ReadNetworkPacket(20);
```

```
Size = ParseInteger(Packet);
```

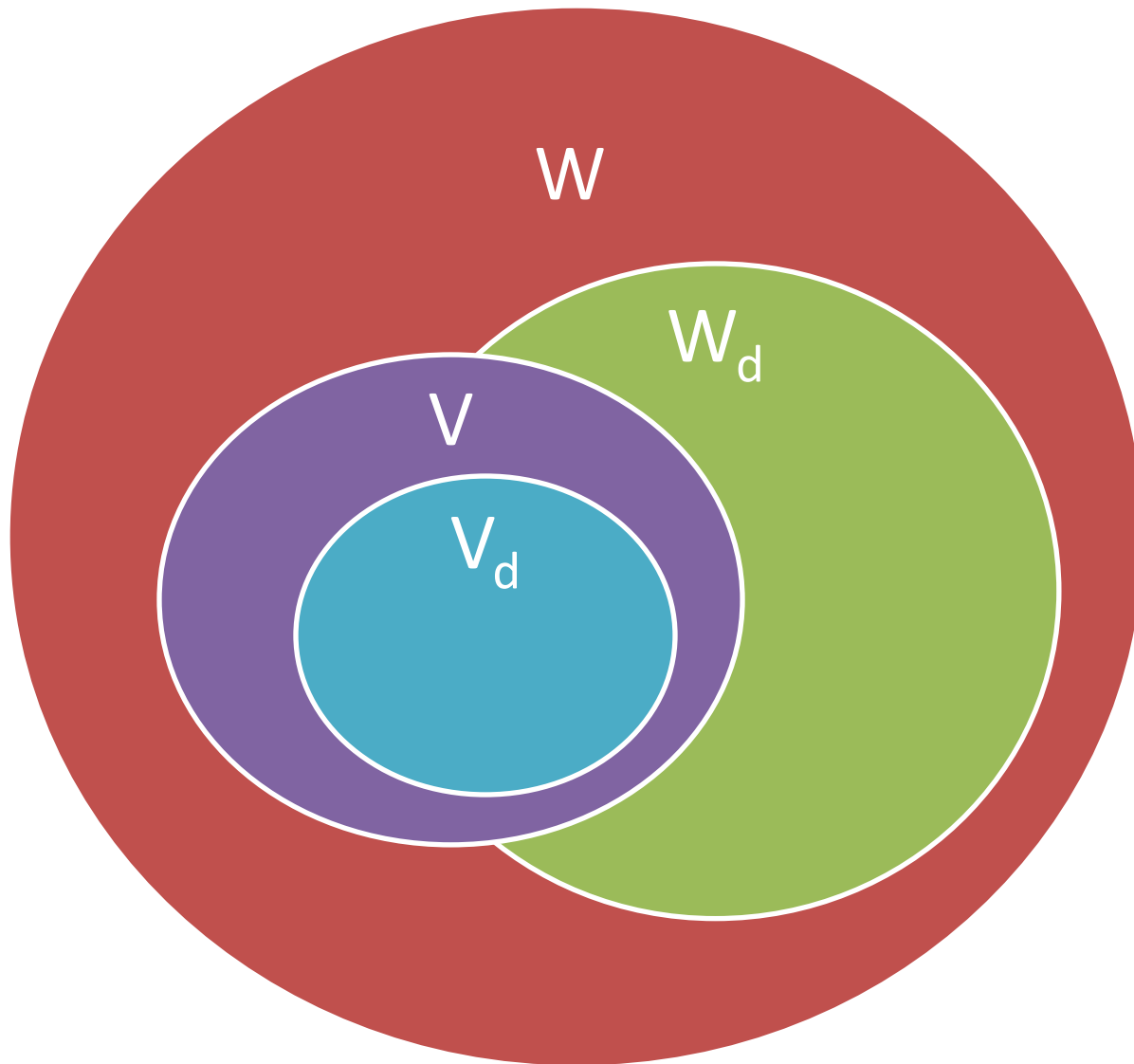
```
Name = ParseString(Packet);
```

```
copyUserName(Size, Name);
```

## Chain

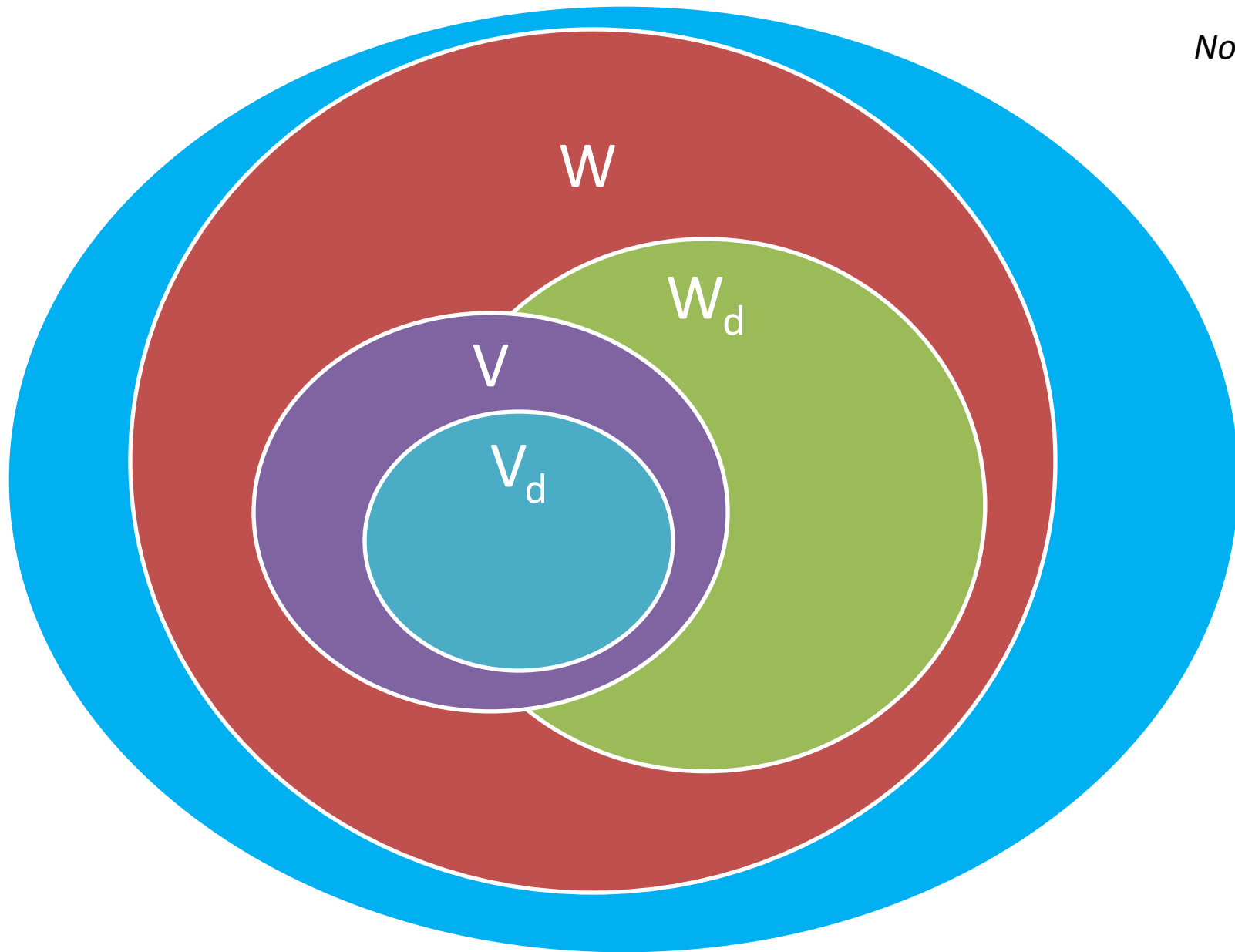
CWE-20 -> CWE-190 -> CWE-122

*Notional*



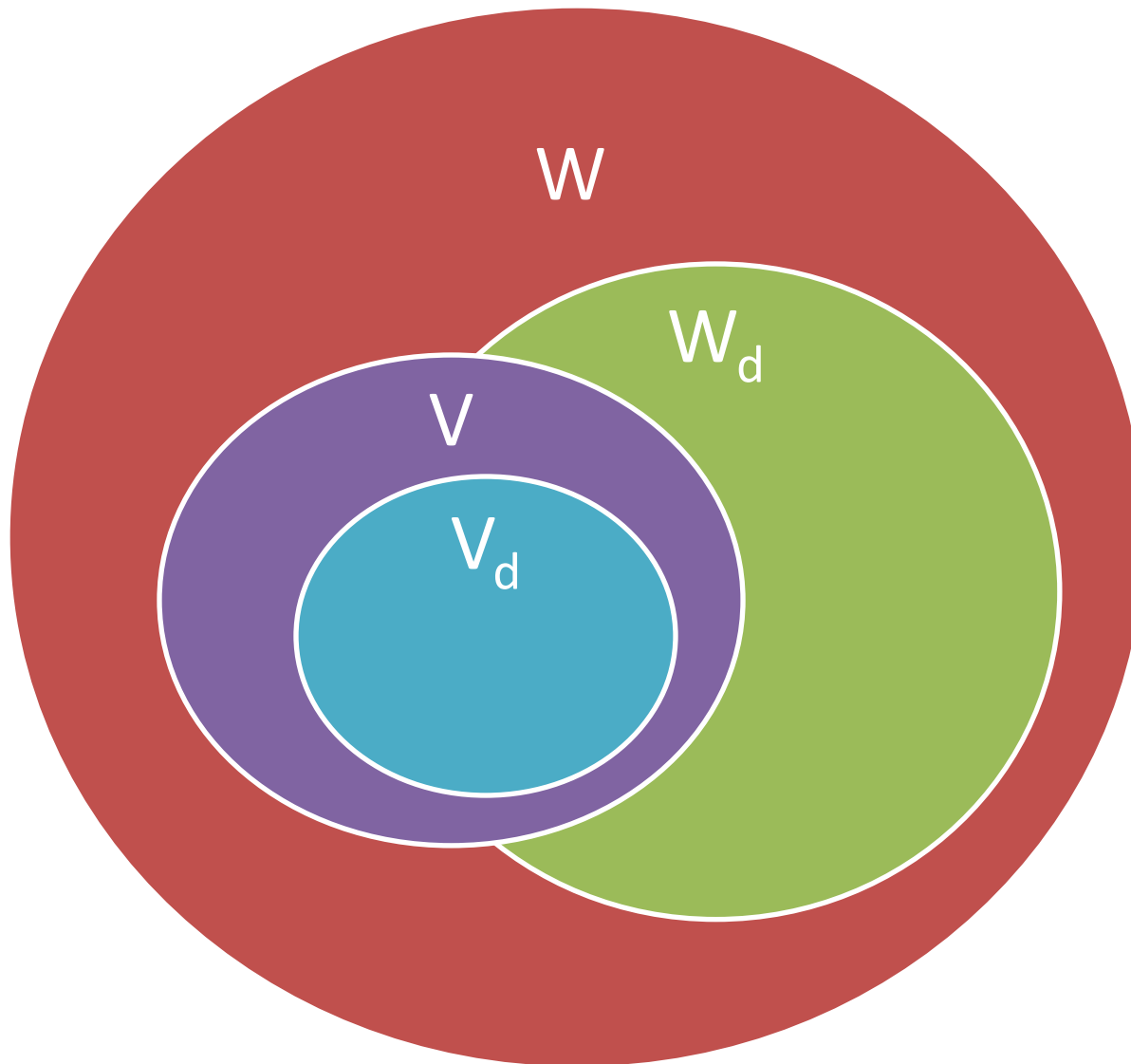
**What does the future hold?**

*Notional*



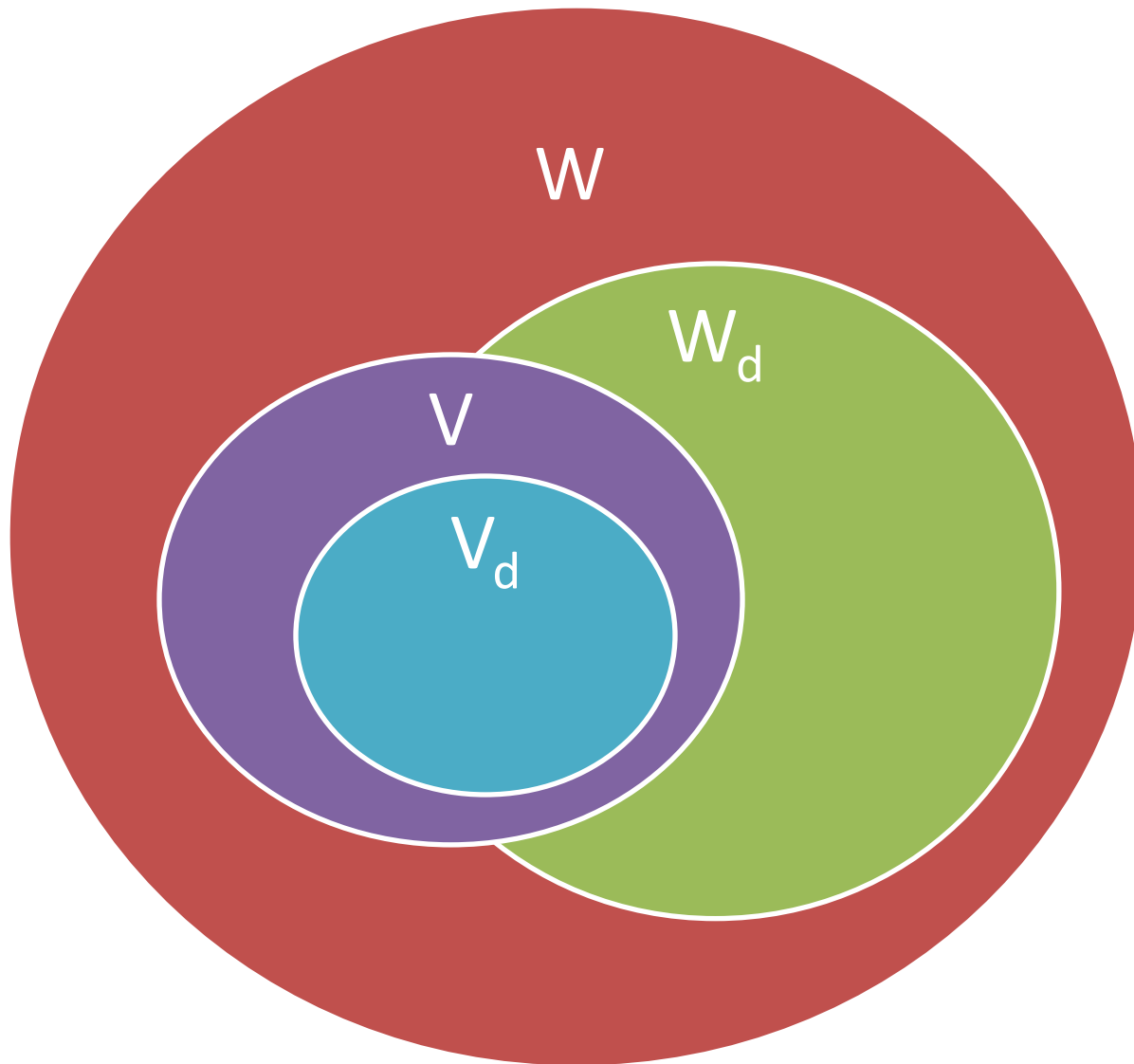
**We know it's *not* this, at least not in the near-term**

*Notional*



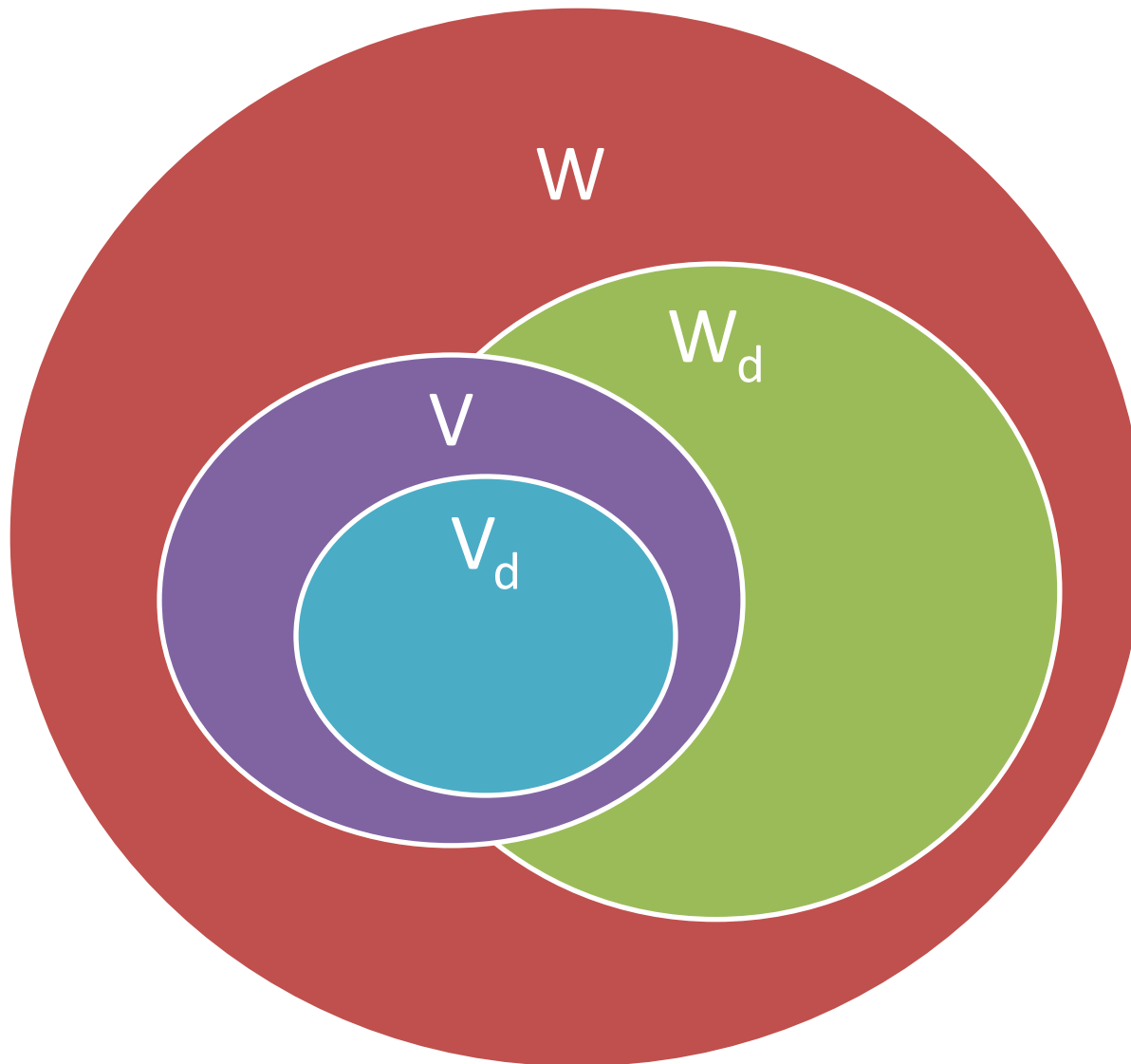
**Maybe the problem grows unbounded?**

*Notional*



**Maybe just some things get worse?**

*Notional*



**One reasonable near-term goal**

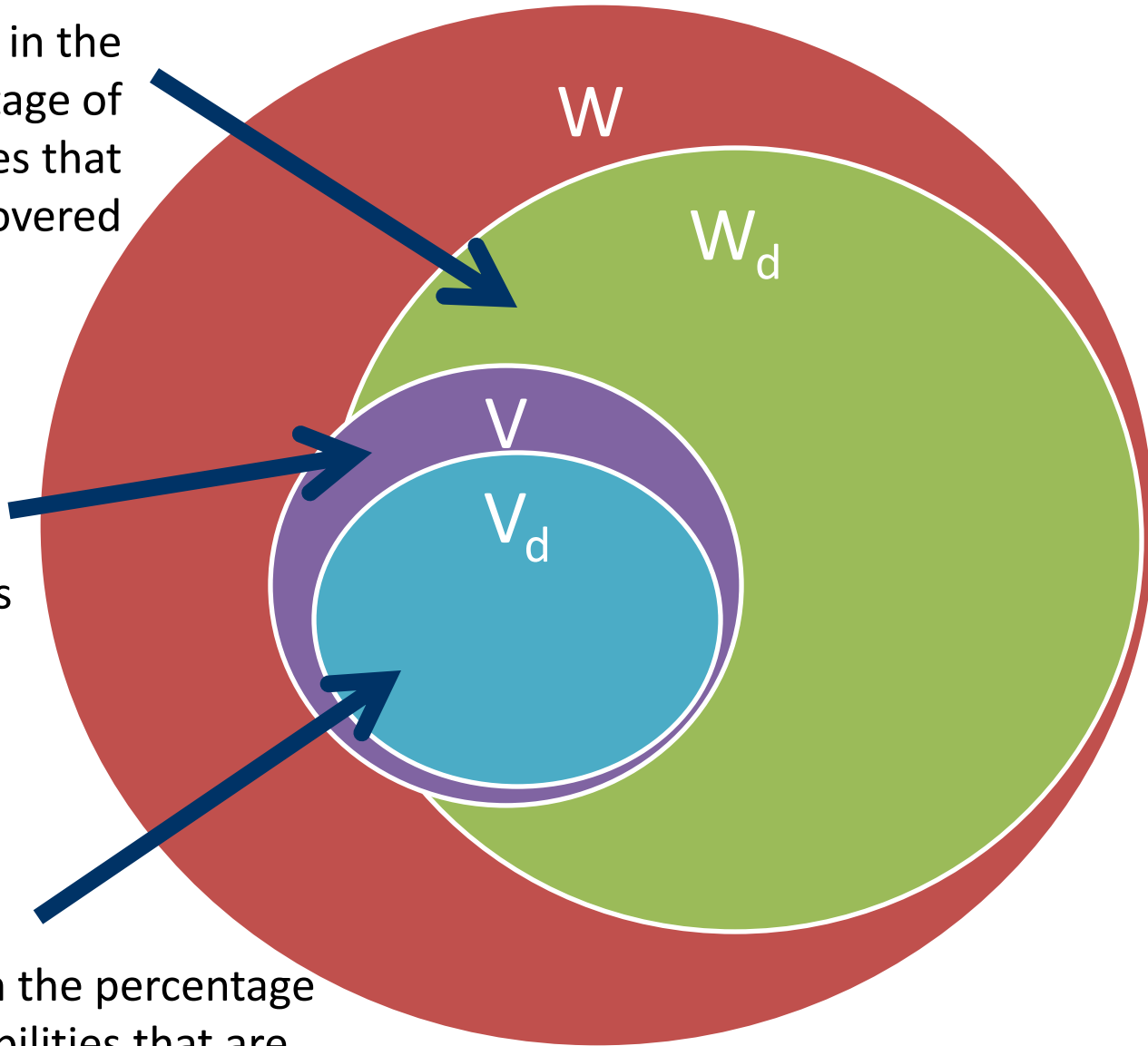


*Notional*

Increase in the percentage of weaknesses that are discovered

Decreased number of vulnerabilities

Increase in the percentage of vulnerabilities that are discovered

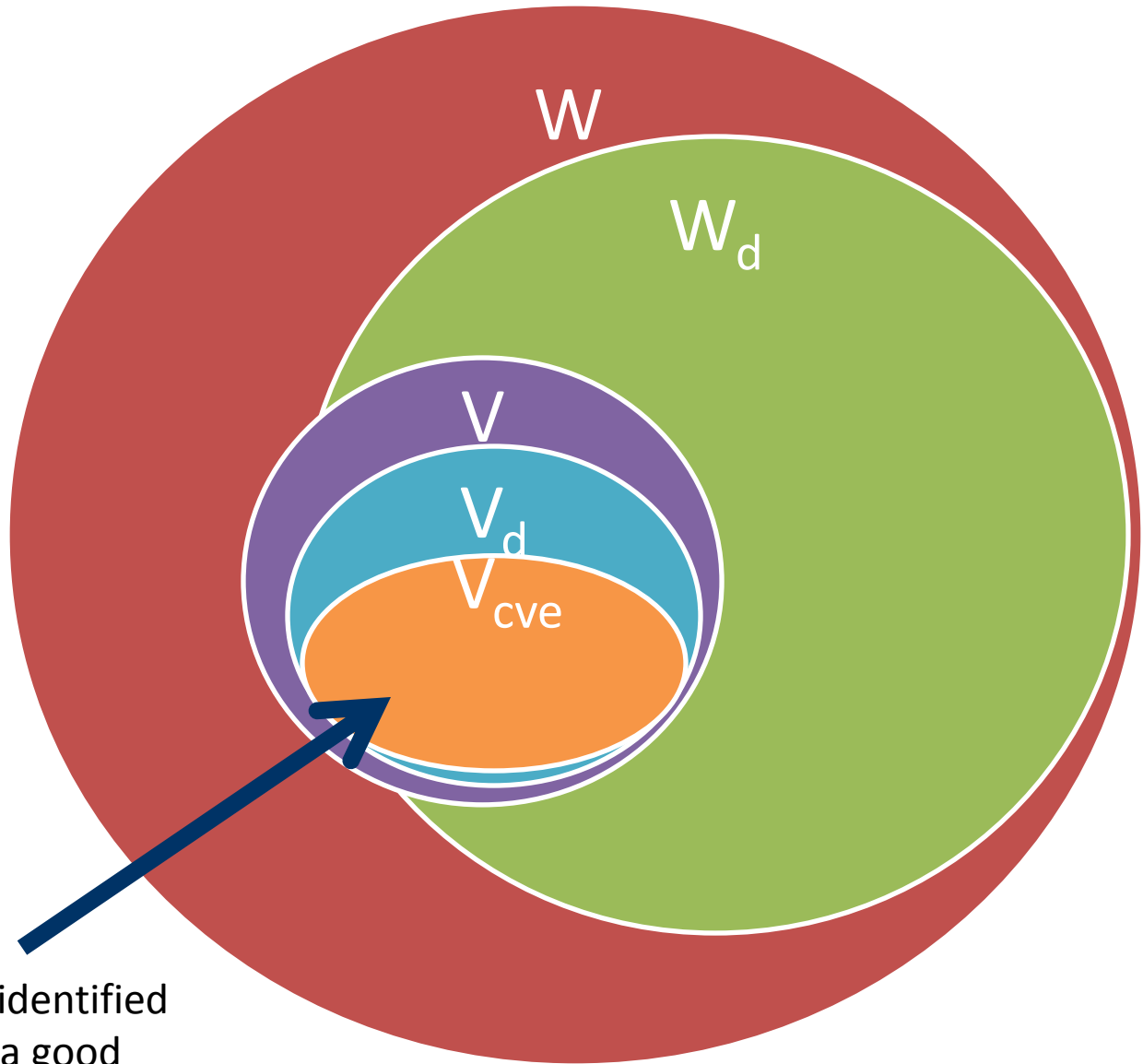


**Is this really better?**

**Yes**

# For the software we're responsible for

*Notional*



Vulnerabilities identified with a CVE are a good starting point

**where should we start?**

# Dictionary of software weakness *types*

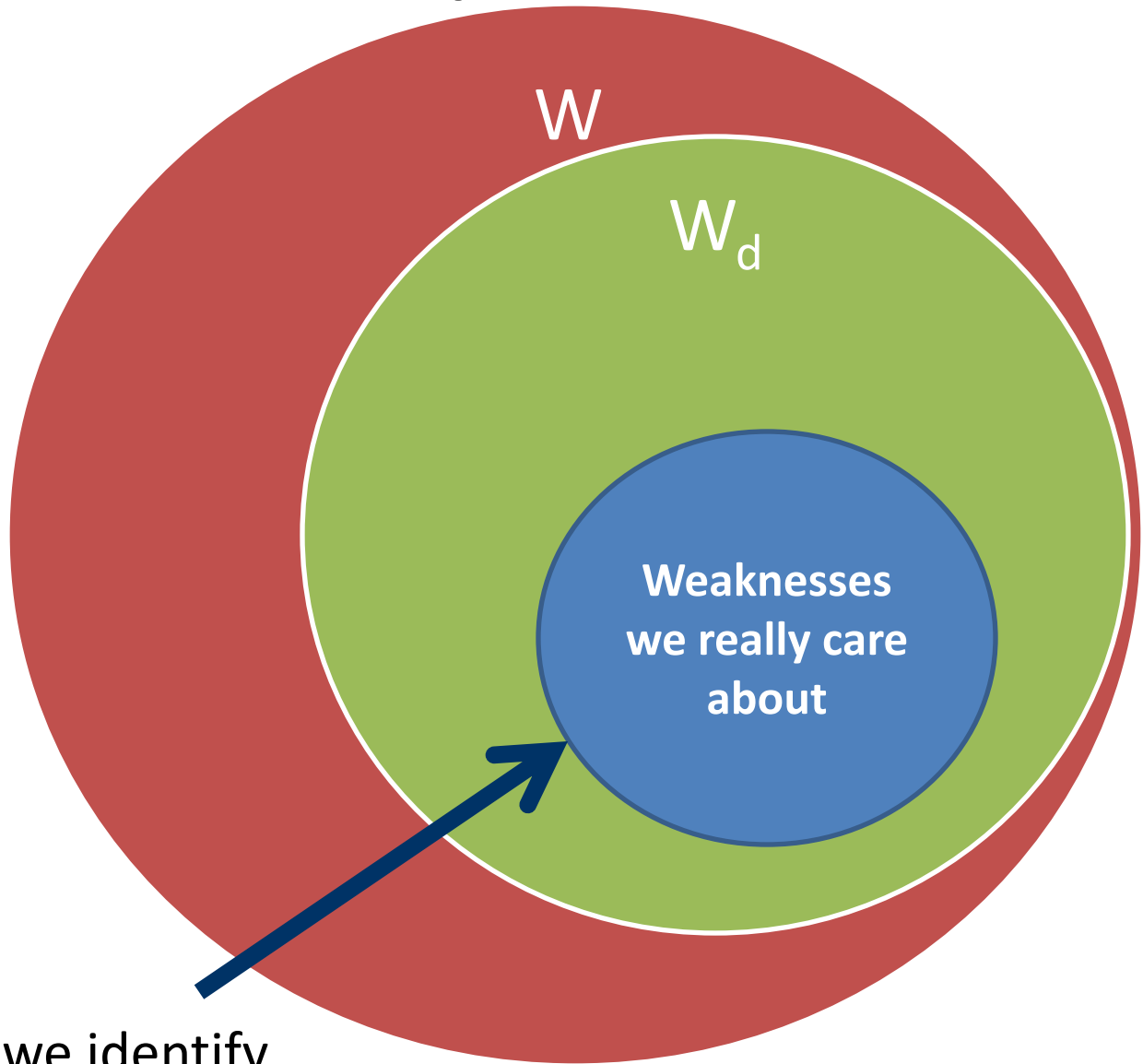
- CWE ID
  - Name
  - Description
  - Alternate Names
  - Applicable Platforms
  - Applicable Languages
  - **Technical Impacts**
  - Potential Mitigations
  - **Observed Instances (CVE's)**
  - **Related Attack Patterns (CAPEC's)**
  - Examples
- Plus much, much more*

860+ entries in a tree-structure

**Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE)**

# For the software we're responsible for

*Notional*



How do we identify these?

**which weaknesses are most important?**

# Prioritizing weaknesses to be mitigated



**OWASP**

The Open Web Application Security Project  
<http://www.owasp.org>

OWASP Top 10



CWE/SANS Top 25

Lists are a good start but they are designed to be broadly applicable

**We would like a way to specify priorities based on business/mission risk**

## Common Weakness Risk Analysis Framework (CWRAF)

*How do I **identify** which of the 800+ CWE's are most important for my specific business domain, technologies and environment?*

## Common Weakness Scoring System (CWSS)

*How do I **rank** the CWE's I care about according to my specific business domain, technologies and environment?*

**How do I identify and score weaknesses important to my organization?**

# Common Weakness Risk Analysis Framework (CWRAF)

## Technical Impacts

1. Modify data
2. Read data
3. DoS: unreliable execution
4. DoS: resource consumption
5. Execute unauthorized code or commands
6. Gain privileges / assume identity
7. Bypass protection mechanism
8. Hide activities

## Weightings

- W1=0
- W2=0
- W3=10
- W4=4
- W5=10
- W6=0
- W7=0
- W8=0



## Layers

1. System
2. Application
3. Network
4. Enterprise



Technical Impact  
Scorecard

Multiple pieces – we'll focus on "Vignettes"

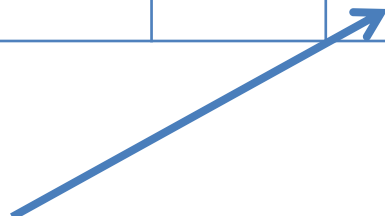
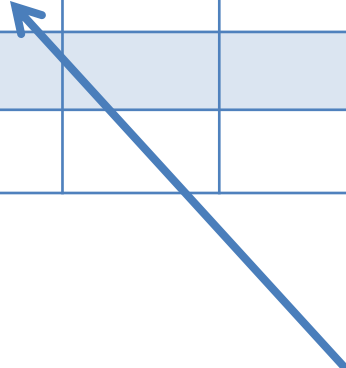
# CWRAF: Technical Impact Scorecard

and each technical impact

|             | MD | RD | UE | RC | EA | GP | BP | HA |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Application |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| System      |    | 8  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Network     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Enterprise  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 3  |

For each layer

assign a weighting from 0 to 10





# CWRAF: Technical Impact Scorecard

|             | MD | RD | UE | RC | EA | GP | BP | HA |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Application | 9  | 7  | 3  | 2  | 10 | 8  | 7  | 2  |
| System      | 8  | 8  | 4  | 2  | 10 | 9  | 5  | 1  |
| Network     | 9  | 5  | 6  | 2  | 10 | 5  | 7  | 1  |
| Enterprise  | 4  | 7  | 6  | 2  | 10 | 6  | 4  | 3  |

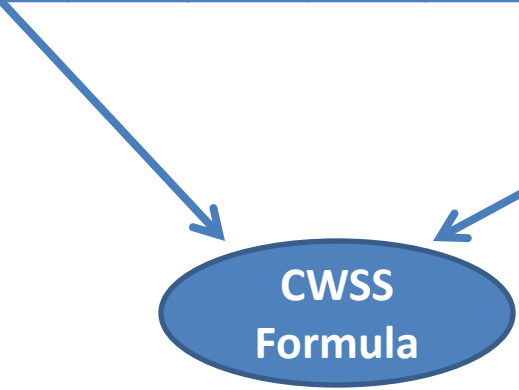
These weightings can now be used to evaluate individual CWE's based on each CWE's Technical Impacts

*Note: Values for illustrative purposes only*

Note: Values for illustrative purposes only

|             | MD | RD | UE | RC | EA | GP | BP | HA |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Application | 9  | 7  | 3  | 2  | 10 | 8  | 7  | 2  |
| System      | 8  | 8  | 4  | 2  | 10 | 9  | 5  | 1  |
| Network     | 9  | 5  | 6  | 2  | 10 | 5  | 7  | 1  |
| Enterprise  | 4  | 7  | 6  | 2  | 10 | 6  | 4  | 3  |

CWE-78  
Technical  
Impacts

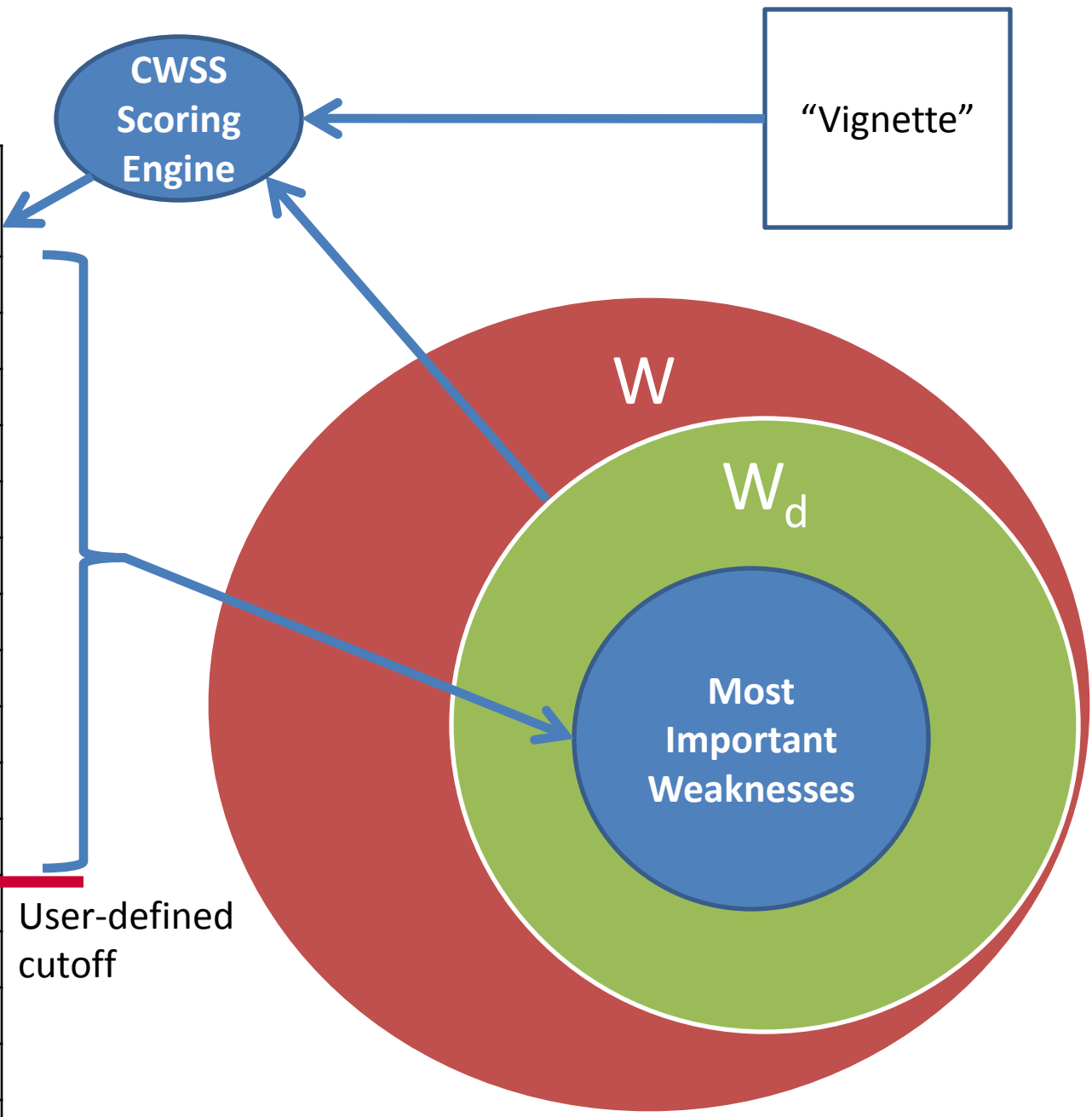


= 95

CWSS Score for CWE-78  
for this vignette

# Common Weakness Scoring System (CWSS)

| CWSS Score | CWE     |
|------------|---------|
| 97         | CWE-79  |
| 95         | CWE-78  |
| 94         | CWE-22  |
| 94         | CWE-434 |
| 94         | CWE-798 |
| 93         | CWE-120 |
| 93         | CWE-250 |
| 92         | CWE-770 |
| 91         | CWE-829 |
| 91         | CWE-190 |
| 91         | CWE-494 |
| 90         | CWE-134 |
| 90         | CWE-772 |
| 90         | CWE-476 |
| 90         | CWE-131 |
| ...        |         |



## CWRAF/CWSS in a Nutshell

***Organizations that have declared plans to work on CWRAF Vignettes and Technical Scorecards to help evolve CWRAF to meet their customer's and the community's needs for a scoring system for software errors.***

**CISQ**

**Trustwave**<sup>®</sup>  
SpiderLabs<sup>®</sup>



**DTCC**<sup>®</sup>

**EC-Council**

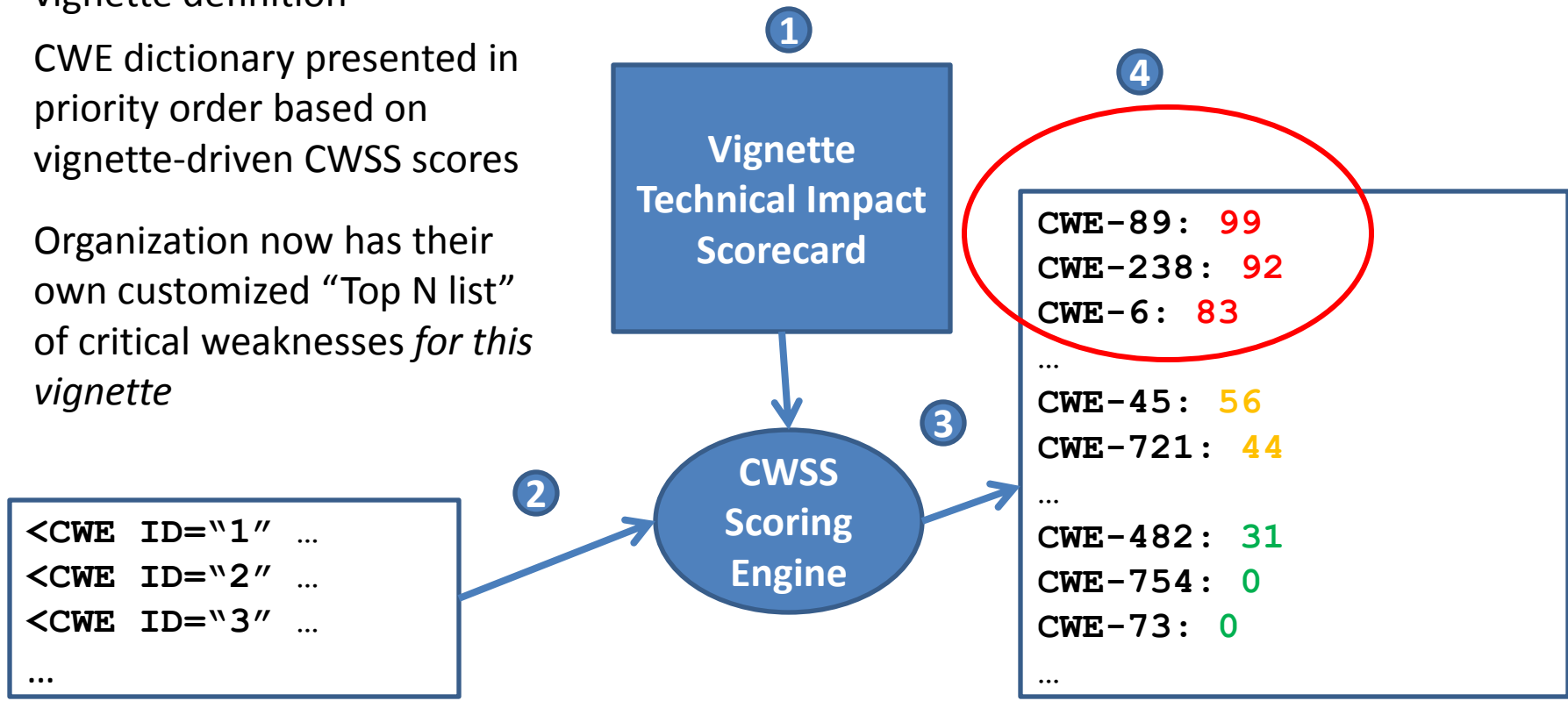
 **OWASP**  
The Open Web Application Security Project

**SAIC**<sup>®</sup>

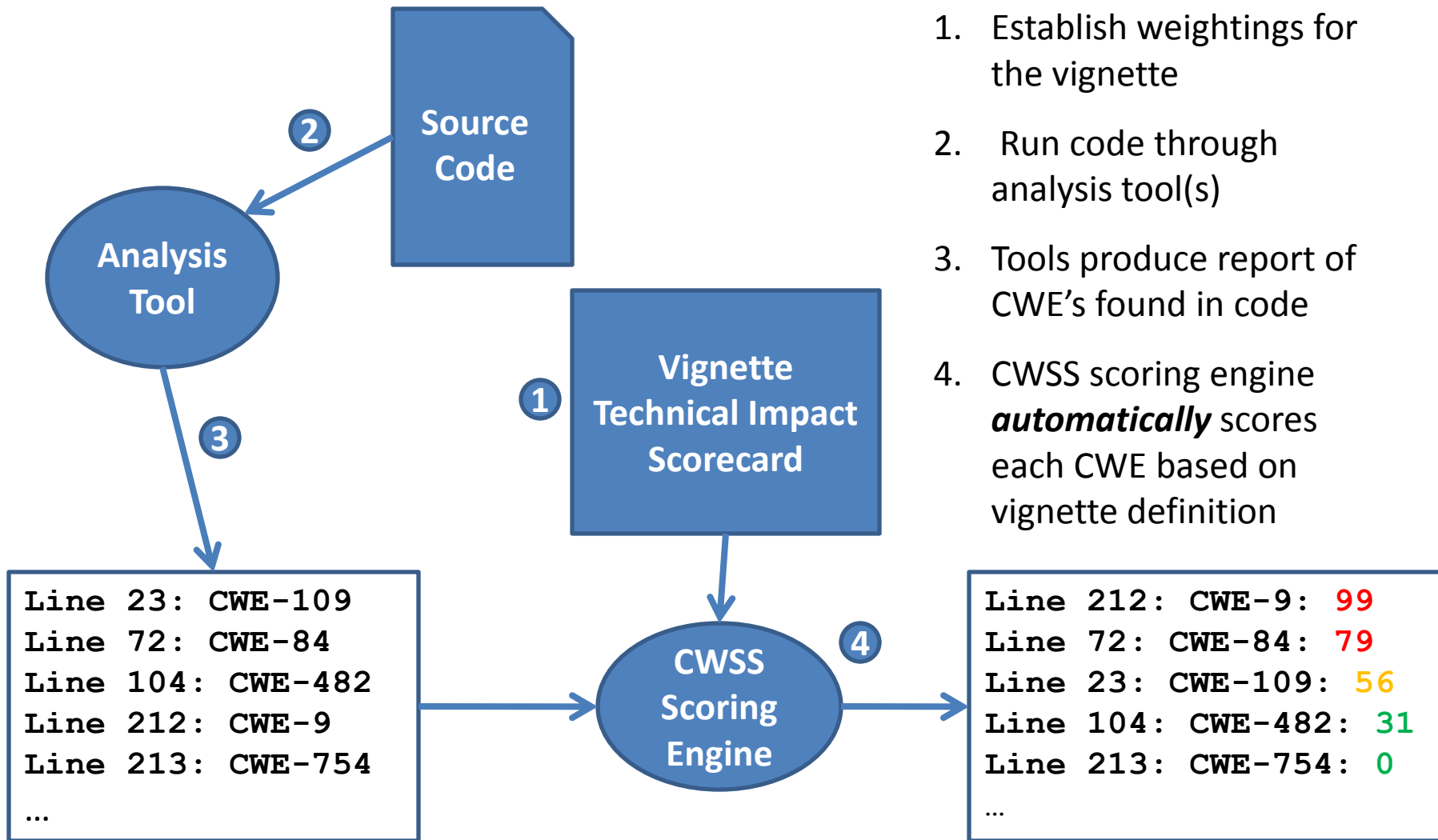
# How do you score weaknesses using CWSS?

1. Establish weightings for the vignette
2. CWSS scoring engine processes each relevant CWE entry and **automatically** scores each CWE based on vignette definition
3. CWE dictionary presented in priority order based on vignette-driven CWSS scores
4. Organization now has their own customized "Top N list" of critical weaknesses *for this vignette*

*Step 1 is only done once – the rest is automatic*



# How do you score weaknesses discovered in code using CWSS?



*Step 1 is only done once – the rest is automatic*

*Organizations that have declared plans to support CWSS in their future offerings and are working to help evolve CWSS to meet their customer's and the community's needs for a scoring system for software errors.*



# More Technical Details for CWSS and the Top 25



# CWSS Metric Groups

## Base Finding Group

- Technical Impact
- Acquired Privilege
- Acquired Privilege Layer
- Internal Control Effectiveness
- Finding Confidence

## Attack Surface Group

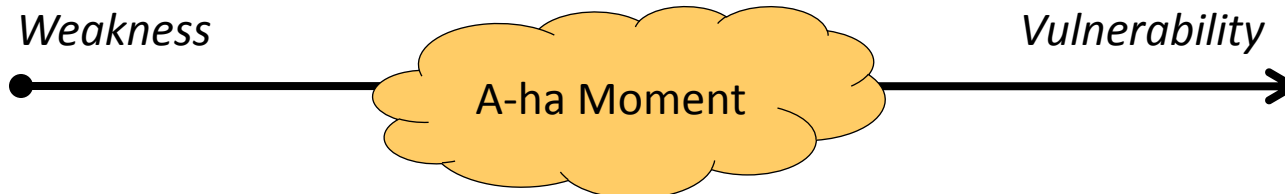
- Required Privilege
- Required Privilege Layer
- Access Vector
- Authentication Strength
- Authentication Instances
- Level of Interaction
- Deployment Scope

## Environmental Group

- Business Impact
- Likelihood of Discovery
- Likelihood of Exploit
- External Control Effectiveness
- Remediation Cost
- Prevalence

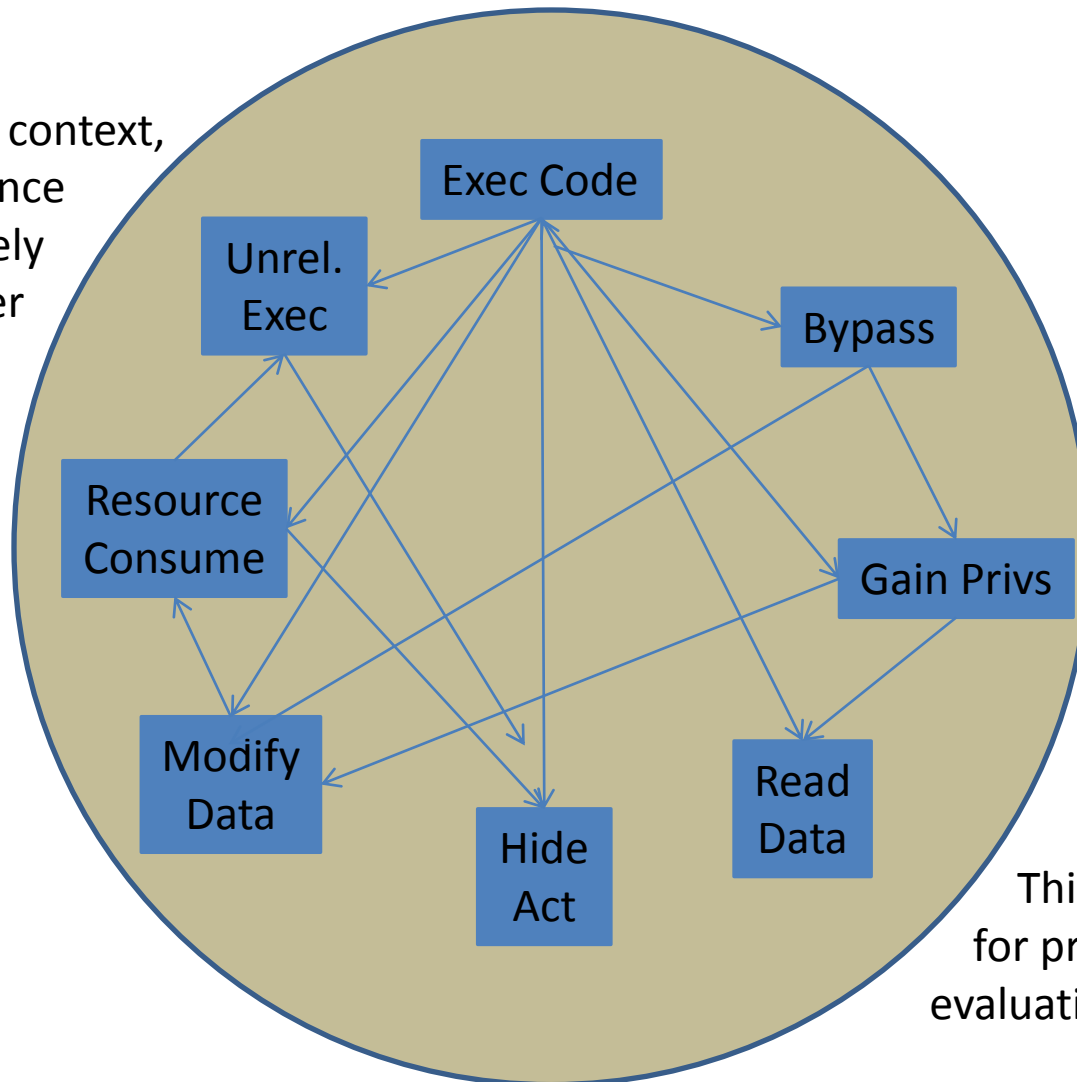
# CWSS vs. CVSS

| CVSS   | CWSS   |
|--|--|
| Mature   | New  |
| Focuses on impact to system                    | Considers impact to System, Application, Network, or Enterprise (SANE) |
| Used after vulnerability is discovered         | Applied the moment there is suspicion                                  |
| 1-50 per software package                      | Thousands of “findings” per package                                    |
| Must be manually performed                     | Can be partially automated   |
| Discrete-yet-numeric values                    | Finer-grained “quantitative” support                                   |
| Environment rarely considered                  | Environment/business considerations built-in                           |
| Applied once for Base score                    | Refined iteratively  |
| Difficult to apply with incomplete information | Explicitly supports incomplete information                             |



# A Hard Problem: The Circle of Technical Impacts

Depending on context,  
one consequence  
can immediately  
lead to another



This is a classic problem  
for prioritizing issues and  
evaluating multi-step attacks

# CWE/SANS Top 25

- 3 years running
- Latest version published in June 2011
- Survey results from over 25 organizations
- 41 CWE entries nominated
- CWSS 0.8 used to rank results
  - Technical Impact, Prevalence, Likelihood of Exploit
- Coming: pocket guide for mitigating the Top 25 (and other weaknesses, too)

| Rank | CWE ID                  | Name   |
|------|-------------------------|--|
| [1]  | <a href="#">CWE-89</a>  | Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an SQL Command ('SQL Injection')       |
| [2]  | <a href="#">CWE-78</a>  | Improper Neutralization of Special Elements used in an OS Command ('OS Command Injection') |
| [4]  | <a href="#">CWE-79</a>  | Improper Neutralization of Input During Web Page Generation ('Cross-site Scripting')       |
| [9]  | <a href="#">CWE-434</a> | Unrestricted Upload of File with Dangerous Type  |
| [12] | <a href="#">CWE-352</a> | Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)  |
| [22] | <a href="#">CWE-601</a> | URL Redirection to Untrusted Site ('Open Redirect')  |

## Risky Resource Management

| Rank | CWE ID                  | Name   |
|------|-------------------------|--|
| [3]  | <a href="#">CWE-120</a> | Buffer Copy without Checking Size of Input ('Classic Buffer Overflow')         |
| [13] | <a href="#">CWE-22</a>  | Improper Limitation of a Pathname to a Restricted Directory ('Path Traversal') |
| [14] | <a href="#">CWE-494</a> | Download of Code Without Integrity Check                                       |
| [16] | <a href="#">CWE-829</a> | Inclusion of Functionality from Untrusted Control Sphere                       |
| [18] | <a href="#">CWE-676</a> | Use of Potentially Dangerous Function  |
| [20] | <a href="#">CWE-131</a> | Incorrect Calculation of Buffer Size   |
| [23] | <a href="#">CWE-134</a> | Uncontrolled Format String   |
| [24] | <a href="#">CWE-190</a> | Integer Overflow or Wraparound   |

## Porous Defenses

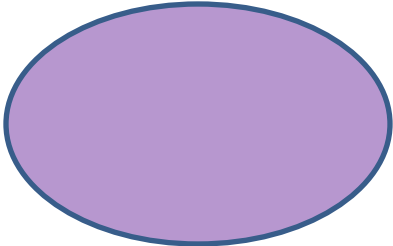
| Rank | CWE ID                  | Name  |
|------|-------------------------|---|
| [5]  | <a href="#">CWE-306</a> | Missing Authentication for Critical Function              |
| [6]  | <a href="#">CWE-862</a> | Missing Authorization                                     |
| [7]  | <a href="#">CWE-798</a> | Use of Hard-coded Credentials                             |
| [8]  | <a href="#">CWE-311</a> | Missing Encryption of Sensitive Data                      |
| [10] | <a href="#">CWE-807</a> | Reliance on Untrusted Inputs in a Security Decision       |
| [11] | <a href="#">CWE-250</a> | Execution with Unnecessary Privileges                     |
| [15] | <a href="#">CWE-863</a> | Incorrect Authorization                                   |
| [17] | <a href="#">CWE-732</a> | Incorrect Permission Assignment for Critical Resource     |
| [19] | <a href="#">CWE-327</a> | Use of a Broken or Risky Cryptographic Algorithm          |
| [21] | <a href="#">CWE-307</a> | Improper Restriction of Excessive Authentication Attempts |
| [25] | <a href="#">CWE-759</a> | Use of a One-Way Hash without a Salt                      |

- Mark J. Cox
- Carsten Eiram
- Pascal Meunier
- Razak Ellafi & Bonsignour
- David Maxwell
- Cassio Goldschmidt & Mahesh Saptarshi
- Chris Eng
- Paul Anderson
- Masato Terada
- Bernie Wong
- Dennis Seymour
- Kent Landfield
- Hart Rossman
- Jeremy Epstein
- Matt Bishop
- Adam Hahn & Sean Barnum
- Jeremiah Grossman
- Kenneth van Wyk
- Bruce Lowenthal
- Jacob West
- Frank Kim
- Christian Heinrich (Australia)
- Ketan Vyas
- Joe Baum
- Matthew Coles, Aaron Katz & Nazira Omuralieva
- National Security Agency (NSA) Information Assurance Division
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Cyber Security Division
- Red Hat Inc.
- Secunia (Denmark)
- CERIAS, Purdue University
- CAST Software
- NetBSD
- Symantec Corporation
- Veracode, Inc.
- Grammatech Inc.
- Information-Technology Promotion Agency (IPA) (Japan)
- IBM
- Ellumen, Inc.
- McAfee
- SAIC
- SRI International
- UC Davis
- MITRE
- White Hat Security
- KRvW Associates
- Oracle Corporation
- Fortify Software, an HP Company
- ThinkSec
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- Motorola Solutions
- RSA, the Security Division of EMC

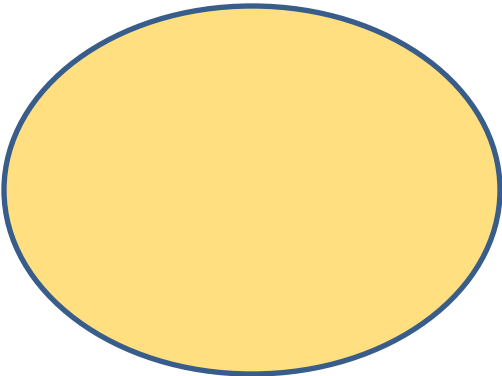
# CWE Coverage Claims Representation

Set of CWE's tool *claims* to cover

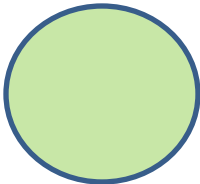
Tool A



Tool B



Tool C



**Which static analysis tools find the CWE's I care about?**

SwA Working Groups – Next meeting: Week of Nov 28 @ MITRE in McLean, VA

*All SwA Program events are free and open to the public*

SwA Forum – Next Forum: Week of March 26, 2012 @ MITRE in McLean, VA

SwA Websites: [www.us-cert.gov/swa](http://www.us-cert.gov/swa)

Making Security Measureable:  
[measurablesecurity.mitre.org](http://measurablesecurity.mitre.org)

Email: [software.assurance@dhs.gov](mailto:software.assurance@dhs.gov)

**Software Assurance Resources**



**Questions?**

**thank you.**

# Extra Slides

**me:**

**Richard Struse**

*Deputy Director*

*Software Assurance*

*National Cyber Security Div.*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

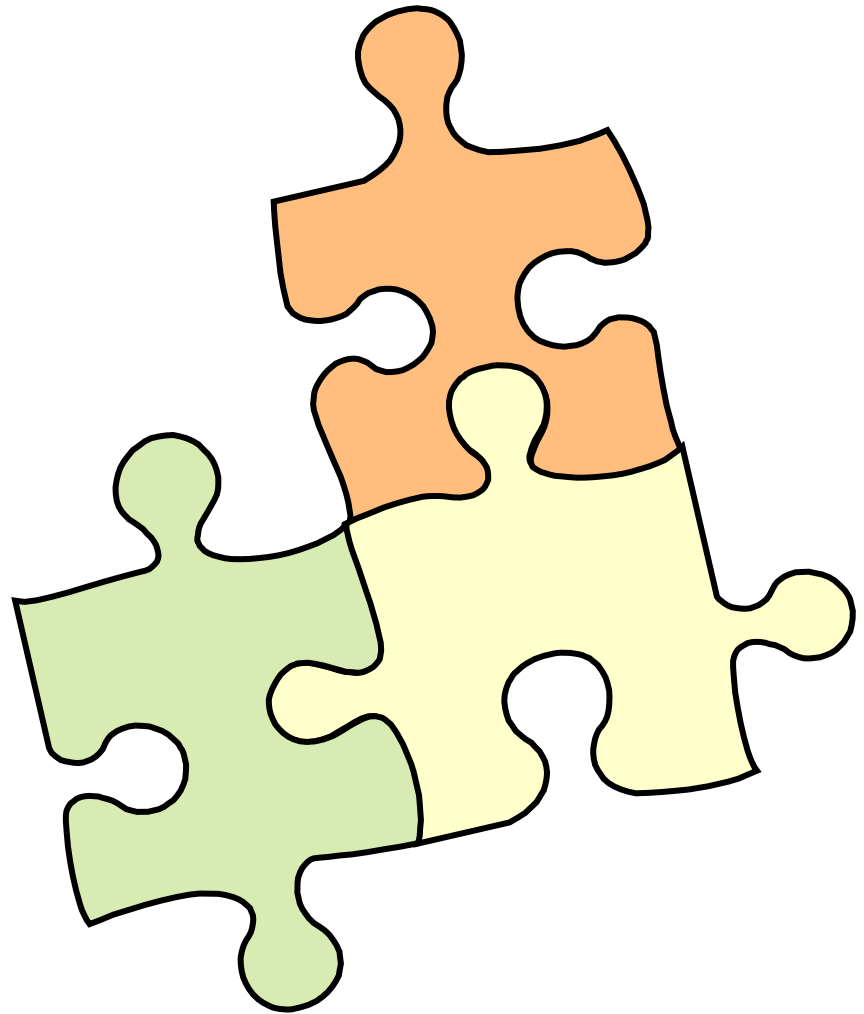
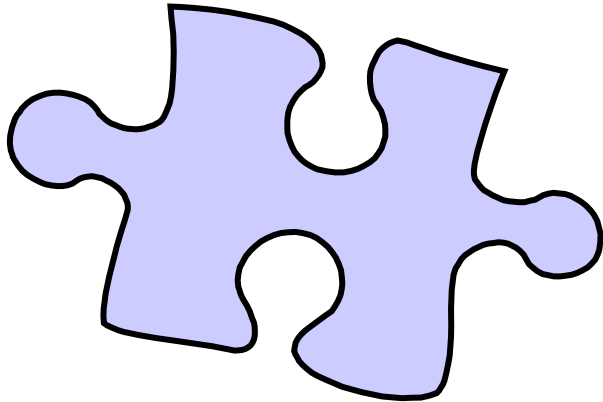
National Protection & Programs Directorate

[richard.struse@dhs.gov](mailto:richard.struse@dhs.gov)



**Homeland  
Security**

**Automation is *one piece***



**of the SwA puzzle.**

# automation can help...



## Construction

- Common Weakness Enumeration (**CWE**)
- Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (**CAPEC**)
- CWE Coverage Claims Representation (**CCR**)



## Verification

- Common Weakness Enumeration (**CWE**)
- Common Weakness Risk Analysis Framework (**CWRAF**)
- Common Weakness Scoring System (**CWSS**)
- Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (**CAPEC**)
- CWE Coverage Claims Representation (**CCR**)



## Deployment

- Security Content Automation Protocol (**SCAP**) Components, including:
  - Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (**CVE**)
  - Open Vulnerability Assessment Language (**OVAL**)

# Differing levels of maturity...

| <b>Effort</b> | <b>Maturity</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|
| CVE           | Very Mature     |
| OVAL          | Very Mature     |
| CWE           | Mature          |
| CAPEC         | Somewhat Mature |
| CWE CCR       | Brand-new       |
| CWSS          | Brand-new       |
| CWRAF         | Brand-new       |

We encourage you to get involved in these communities

# *Dictionary* of publicly-disclosed vulnerabilities with unique identifiers

- CVE ID
- Status
- Description
- References

Note: Each CVE entry is the result of expert analysis to verify, de-conflict and de-duplicate public vulnerability disclosures

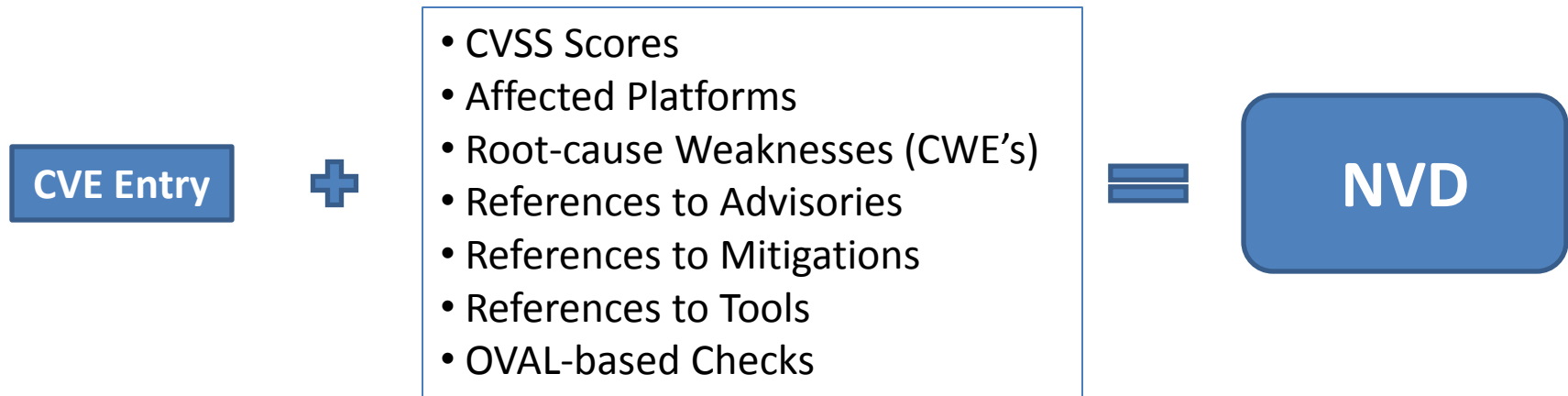
CVE entries feed into *NVD*

```
assert(CVE != Bug_Database);
```

47,258 entries (as of last week)

**Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures (CVE)**

# National Vulnerability Database (NVD)



U.S. government repository of  
standards-based vulnerability  
management data

website: [nvd.nist.gov](https://nvd.nist.gov)



# Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (CAPEC)

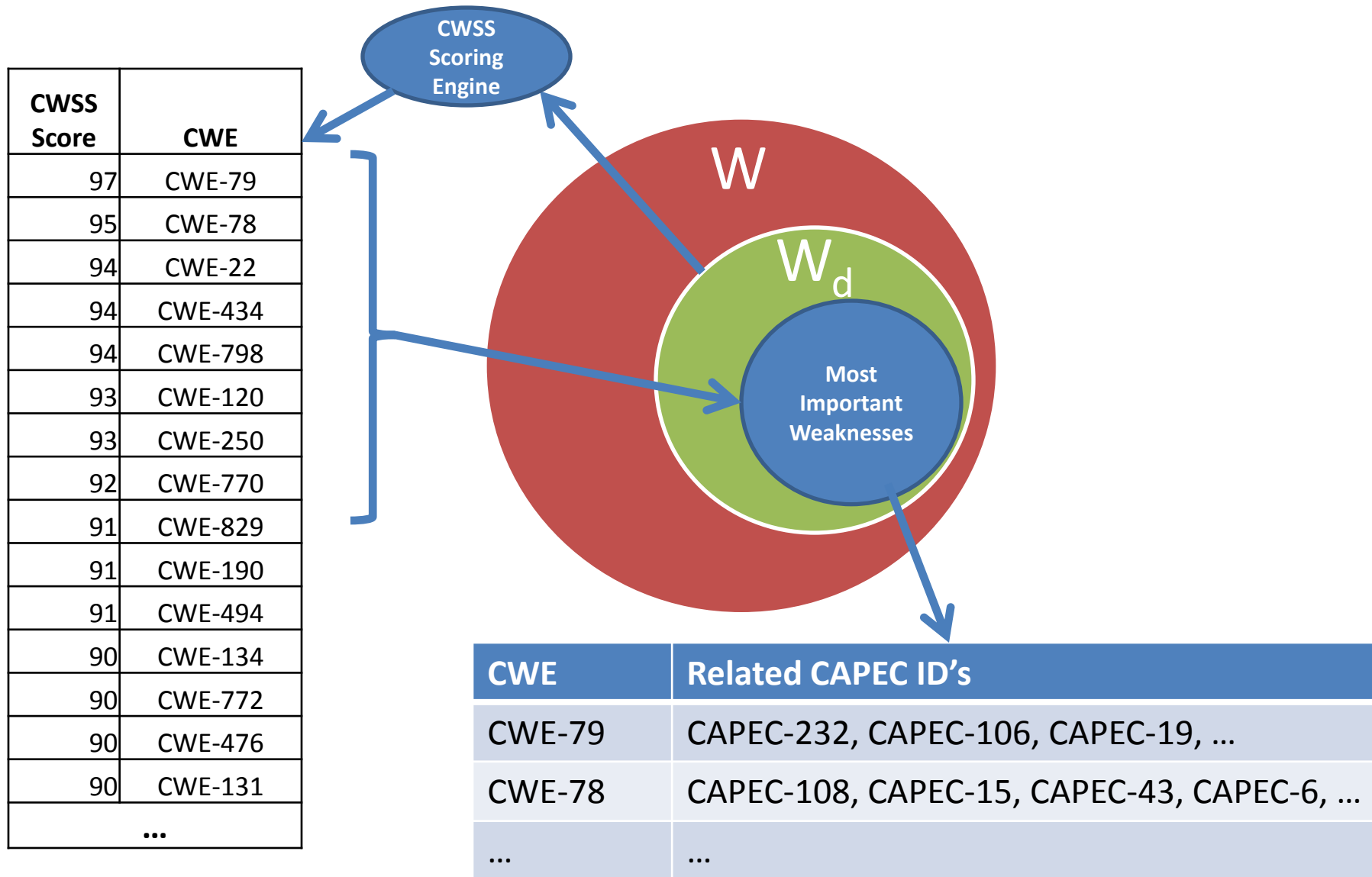
Dictionary of attack types (mostly software)

- CAPEC ID
- Name
- Description
- Attack Prerequisites
- Indicators of Attack
- Examples
- **Related Weaknesses (CWE's)**
- Mitigations

*Plus much, much more*

386 patterns, organized  
by categories, with views

# What types of attacks should I test my system against?



# automation can help - *today...*



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