

Estimating Security Risk

Betty Biringer

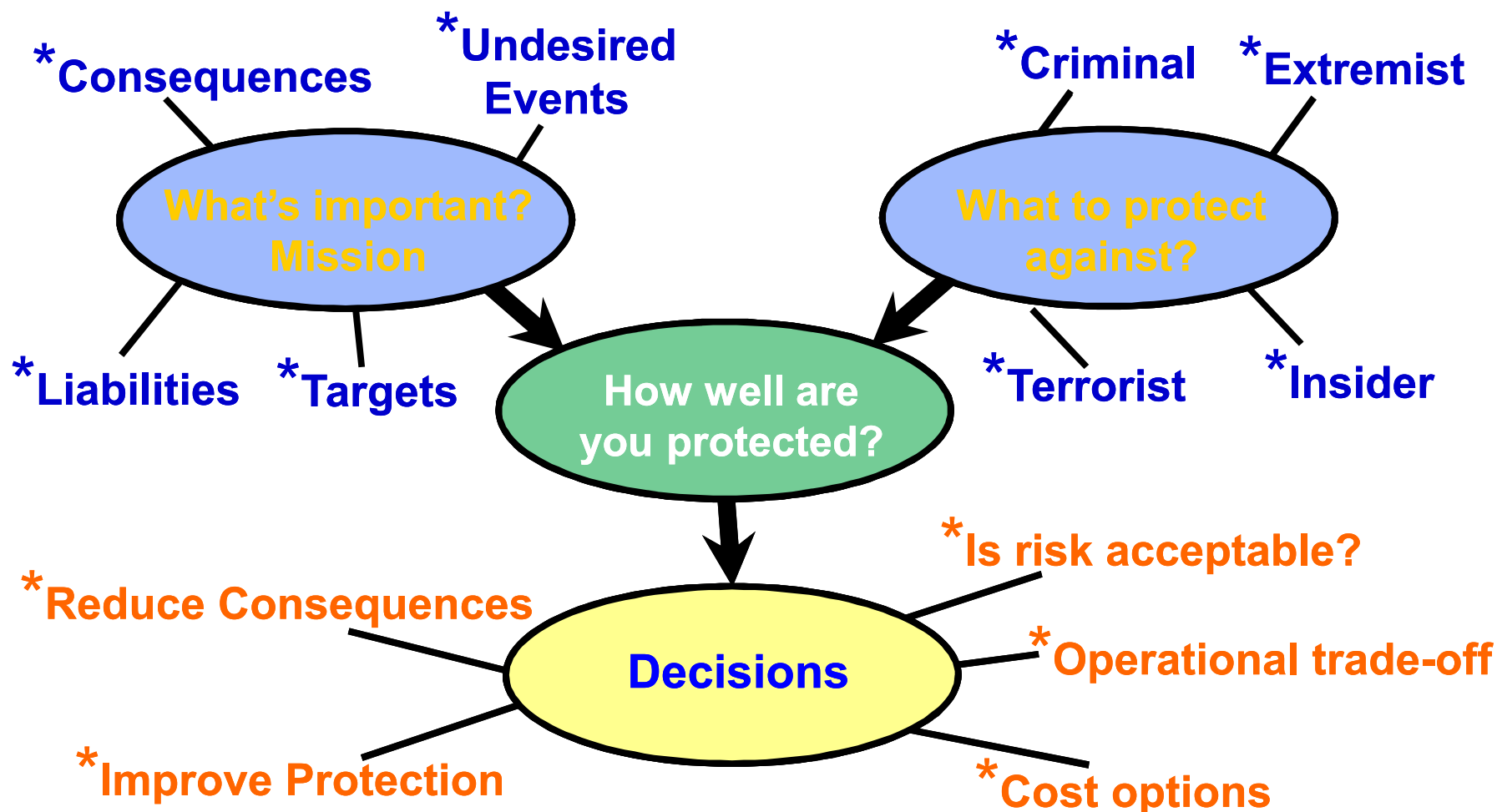
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How Much Security Is Enough?



Security Risk Equation

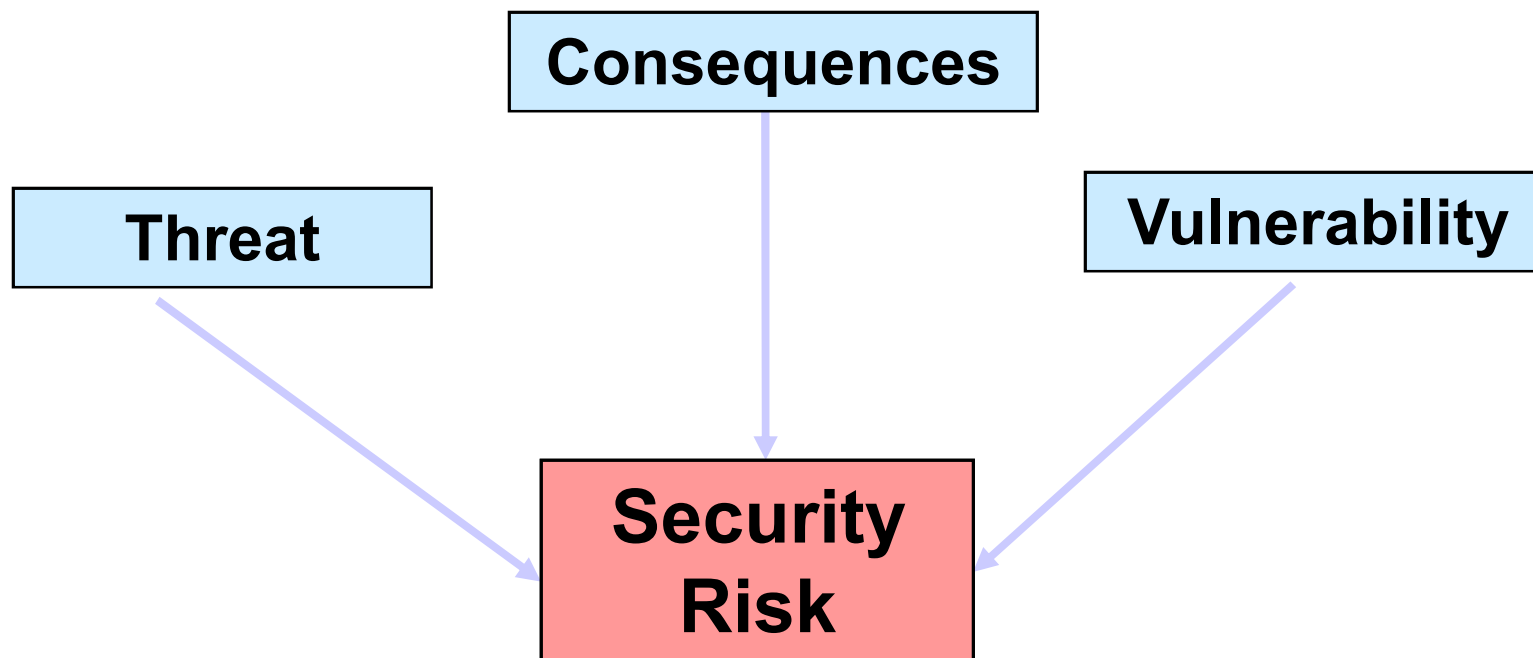
Security Risk → $R = P_A * \underbrace{[1 - P_E]}_{\text{Security System Effectiveness}} * C$

Likelihood of Attack → P_A

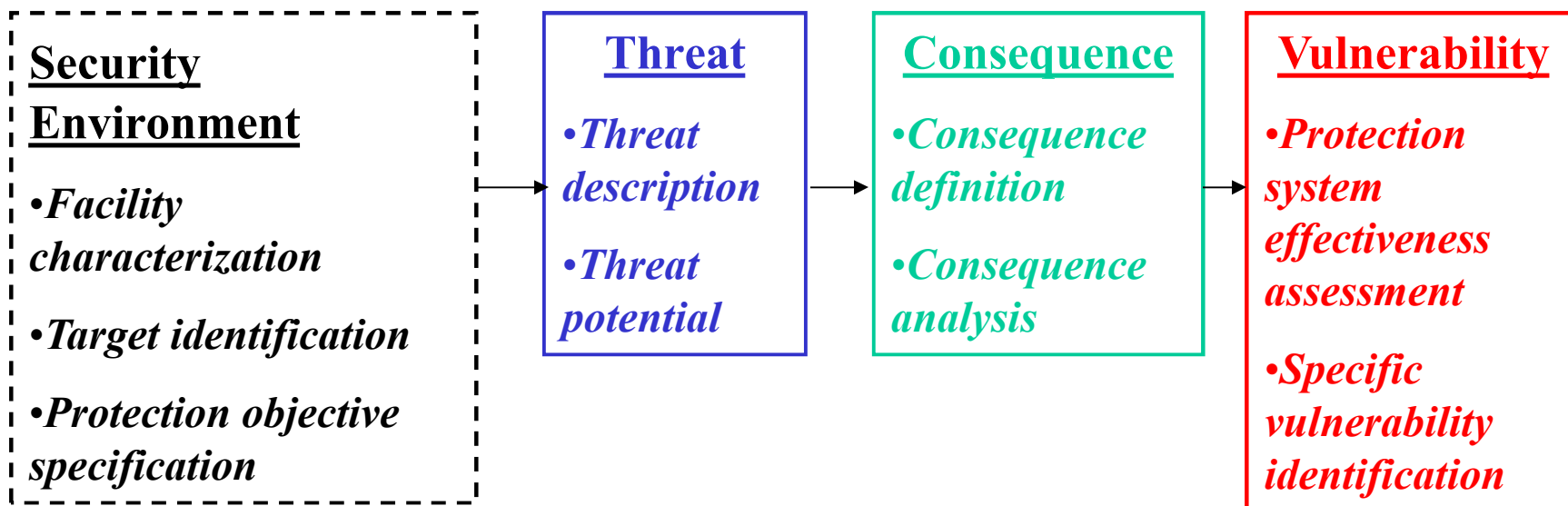
Likelihood of Adversary Success → $[1 - P_E]$

Consequences → C

Security Risk is a Function of:



Security Risk Assessment





Facility Characterization

- Facility description
 - Physical layout and description
 - Information system architecture (process control/SCADA)
 - Operations
 - Physical and cyber protection system features
 - Work force
- Undesired events - what events to prevent
- Targets – what items to protect
- Protection objectives – prevent events or mitigate consequences

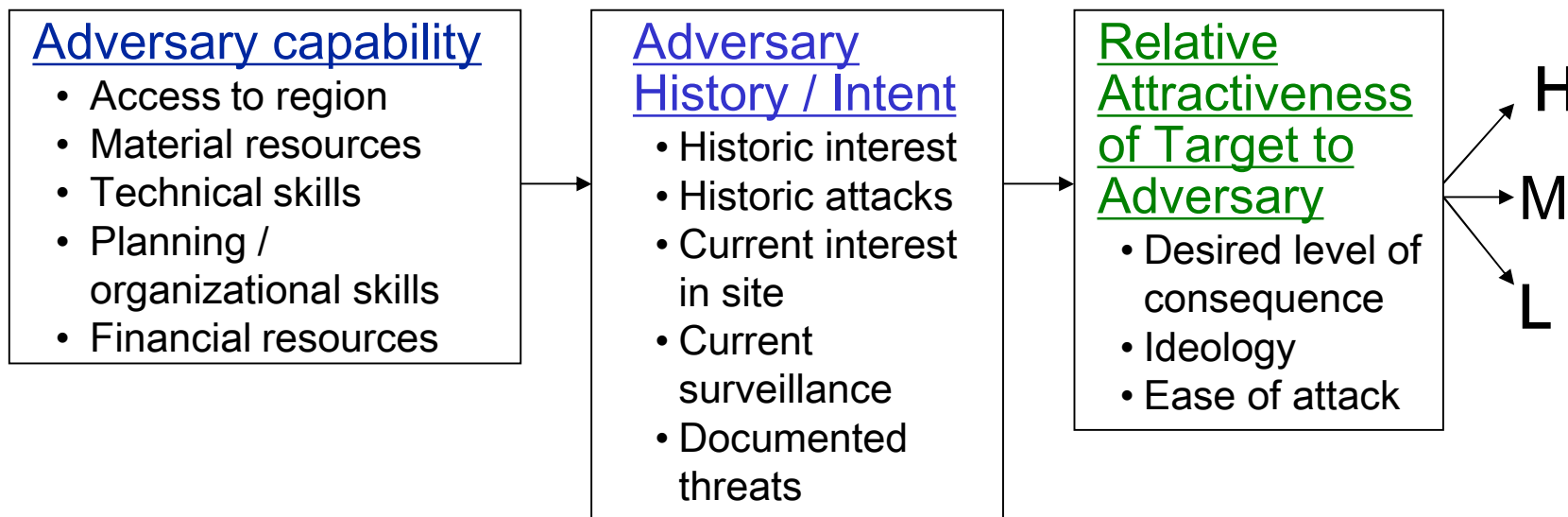


Threat Definition

- Type of adversary
 - *Terrorists, criminals, extremists, militia, insider*
- Potential actions
 - *Theft, bombing, sabotage, damage*
- Motivations
 - *Ideological, economic, personal*
- Capabilities
 - *Numbers, weapons, equipment, transportation, technical experience*

Threat Potential

- Relative score – not a probability
- Scored per undesired event and per adversary group



Consequence Assessment

- Consequence of loss of the target should be developed.
- Establish units of consequence
 - Loss of human life
 - Loss of dollars
 - Loss of asset
 - Loss of operations/activity
- Rank in order of importance/value
- Assign relative value to each consequence



Sample Consequence Table

Measure of Consequence	High	Medium	Low
Economic loss (property loss + revenue)	> \$5M	\$1 – 5M	< \$1M
Economic loss (users)	> \$5M	\$1 – 5M	< \$1M
Deaths	>3	1 - 3	0
Geographic Impact	National	Regional	Local

Prioritization

Consequence

High	Terrorist (sabotage)		Insider (theft)
Med		Insider (sabotage)	
Low	Vandal (graffiti)		Hacker (web deface)
	Low	Med	High

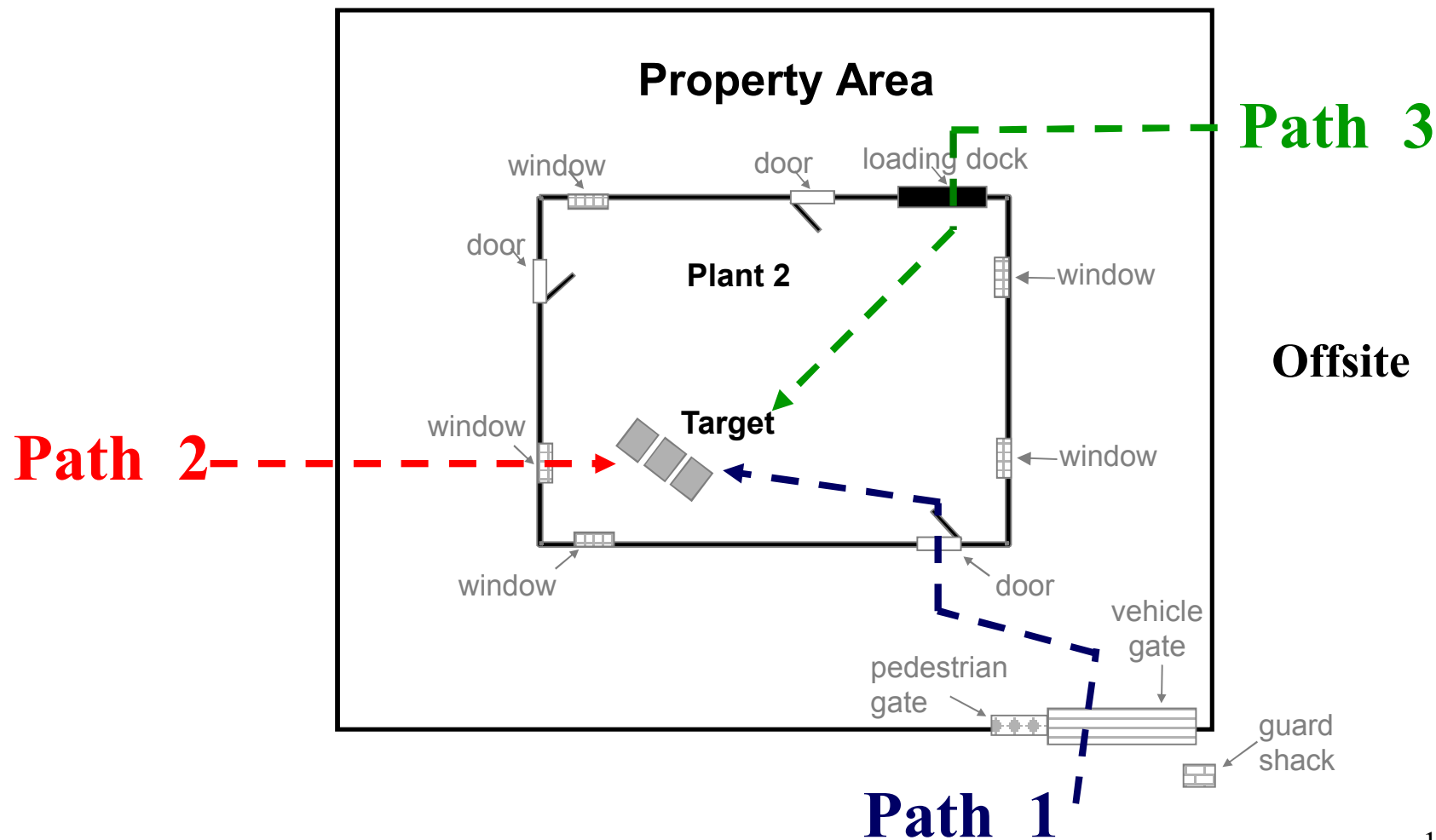
Threat

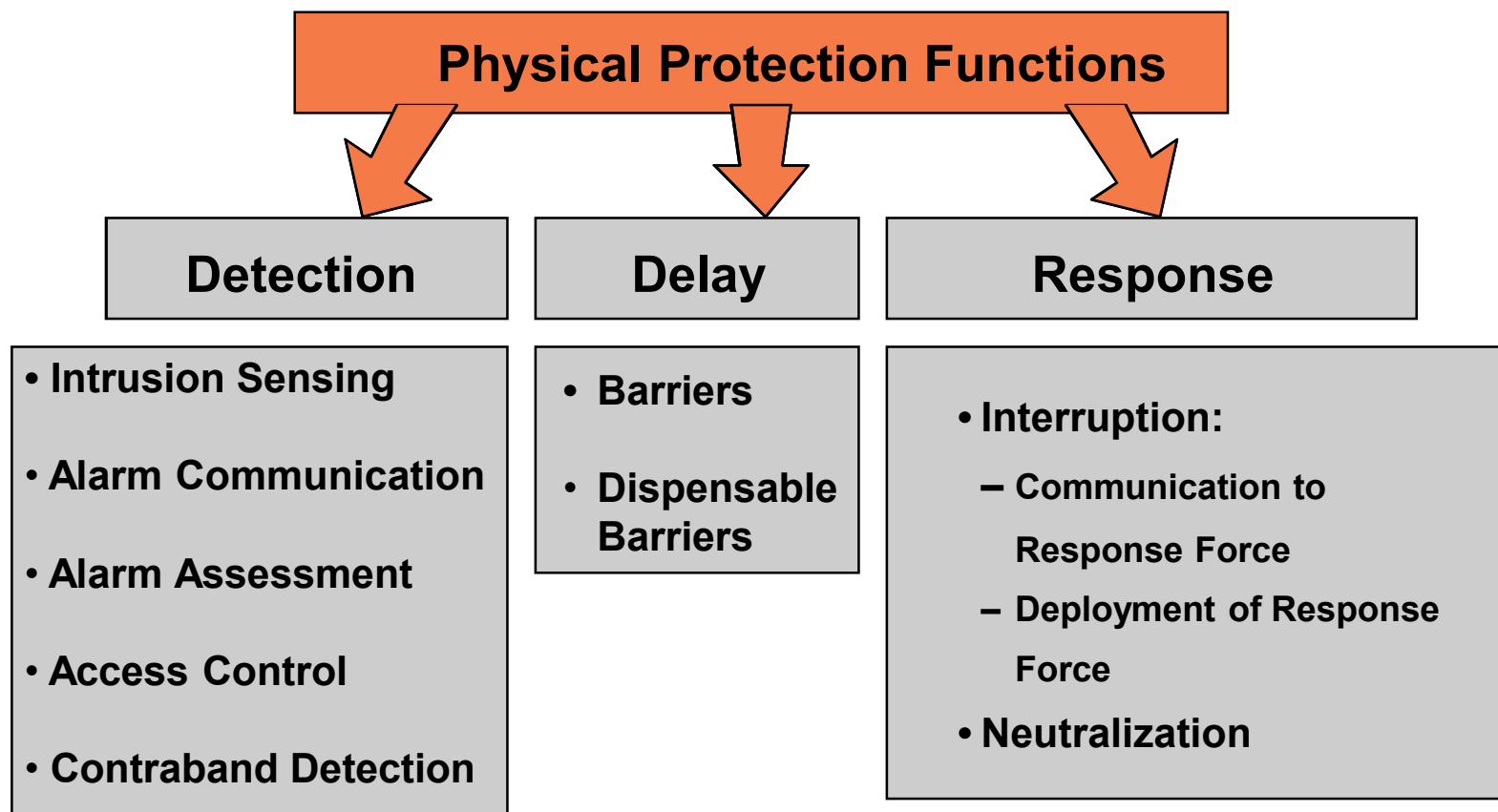


System Effectiveness

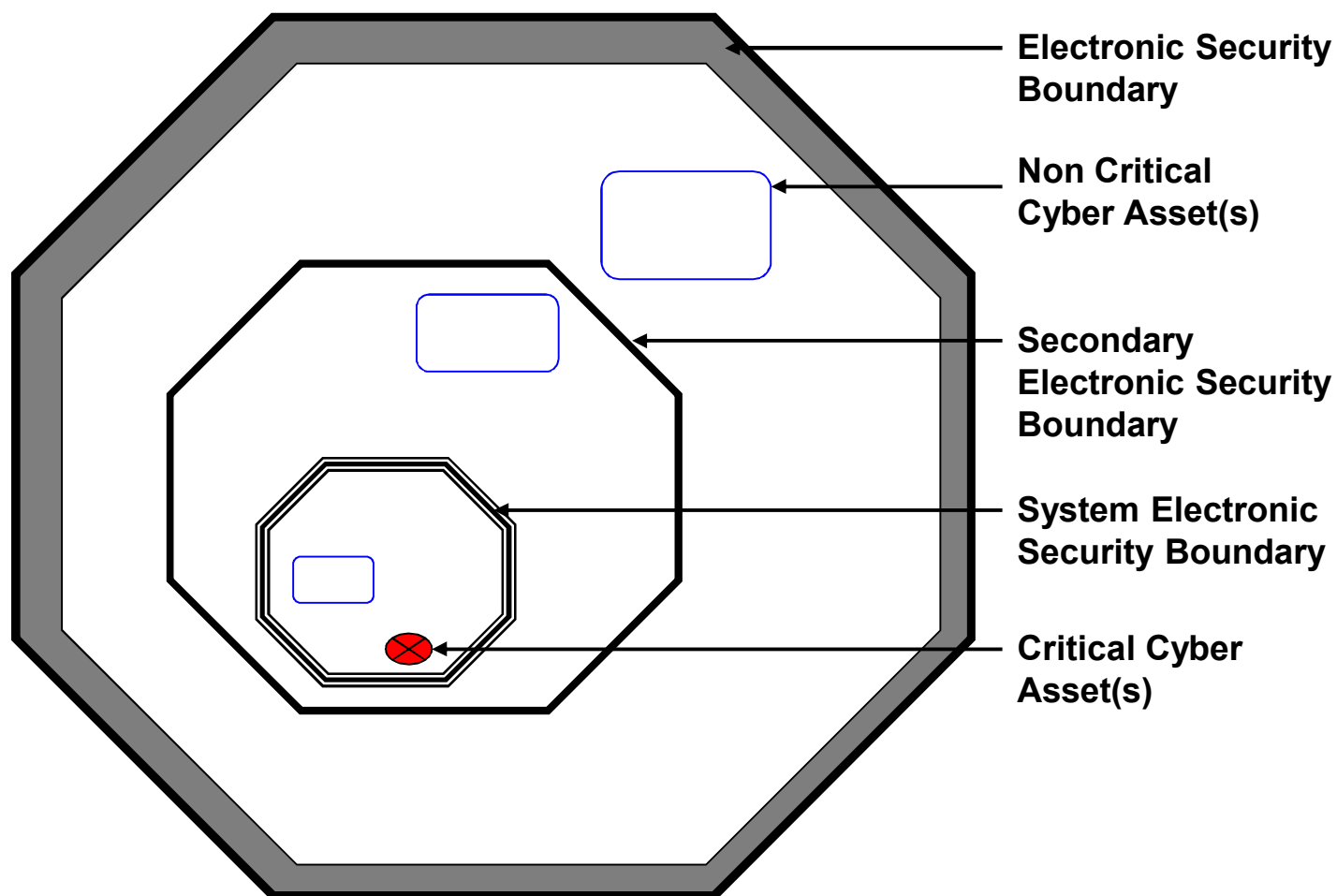
- A measure of how effectively security system meets protection objective(s):
 - Physical attack: Prevent undesired event(s) with functions of detection, delay, response
 - Cyber attack: Preserve confidentiality, integrity, and availability of critical data with functions of authentication, authorization, audit

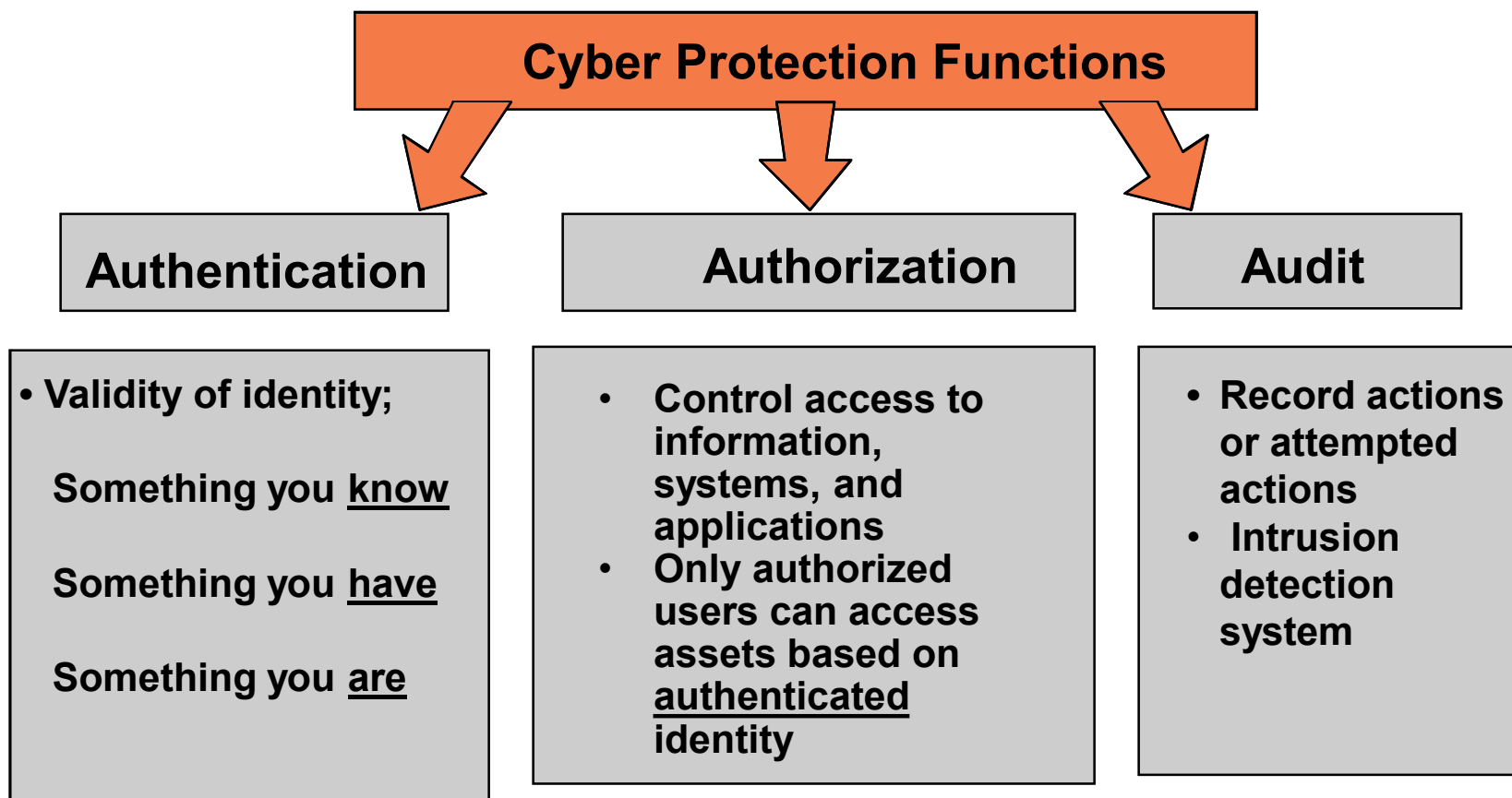
Physical Paths



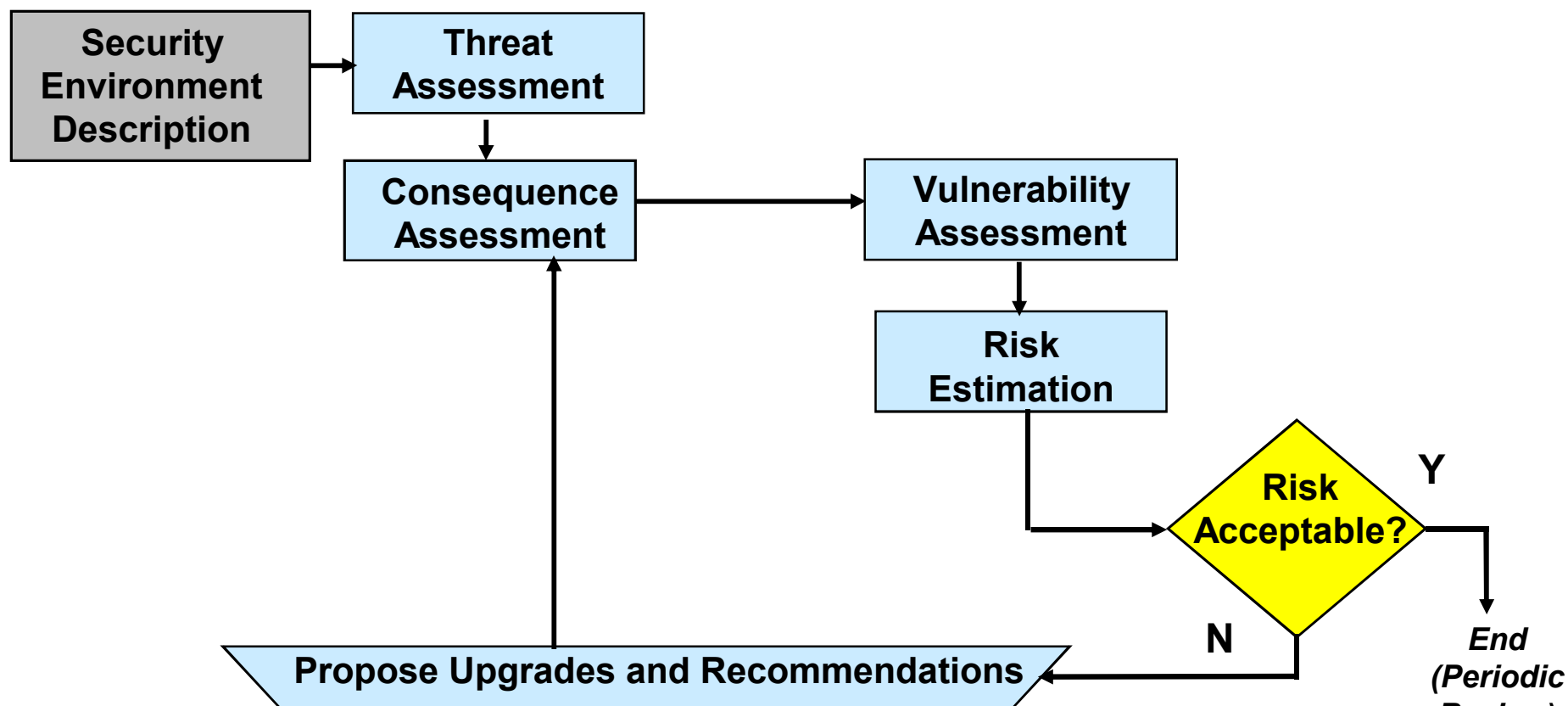


Cyber Paths





Security Risk Assessment





Reducing Security Risk

- Reduce Threat level
 - Deterrence
 - Difficult to measure
- Reduce Vulnerability
 - Detection, Delay, Response
 - Authentication, Authorization, Audit
- Reduce Consequence level
 - Mitigation features
 - Redundant equipment
 - Function transfer
 - Structural hardening
 - Improve emergency response

Summary

- Security risk assessment provides valuable information for risk managers
 - Total system approach
 - Metrics
 - Addresses physical and cyber attacks
 - Defendable results: repeatable & traceable to original assumptions
- Method has been applied to dams, electric power transmission, chemical facilities, energy infrastructure, municipal water systems, prisons, & communities



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