

ISO, OMG, Common Criteria and the Content Automation Efforts...

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DHS's Build Security In and SwA Websites

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Software Assurance

DHS Cyber Security

Software is essential to the operation of the Nation's critical infrastructure, intellectual property, consumer trust, and business operations and services applications and infrastructure, from process control systems to consumer electronic devices.

It is estimated that 90 percent of reported security incidents result from software. Therefore, ensuring the integrity of software is key to protecting vulnerabilities, and reducing overall risk to cyber attacks. In order to be critical to include provisions for built-in security of the enabling software.

Setting a Higher Standard for Software Assurance

Grounded in the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace, The Department Program spearheads the development of practical guidance and tools in cyber security. Significant new research on secure software engineering development issues from new methods that avoid basic programming when portions of the system software are compromised.

Through these efforts, Homeland Security seeks to reduce software vulnerabilities ways to improve the routine development and deployment of trustworthy enable more secure and reliable software that supports mission requirements infrastructure.

From Patch Management to Software Assurance

The key objective of the Software Assurance Program is to shift the focus of software assurance. This shift is designed to encourage software development from the start, rather than relying on applying patches to systems after the fact.

Recognizing that software security is fundamentally a software engineering way throughout the software development life cycle, Homeland Security public sector and private industry, to raise the standard on software security and academia will raise expectations for product assurance with required security methodologies and tools as a normal part of business.

Building Success through Collaboration

National Threat Advisory: ELEVATED
Significant Rise of Security Threats
The threat level in the airline sector is High or Orange.
Read more

Software Assurance
Community Resources and Information Clearinghouse

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HOME | PEOPLE | PROCESS | TECHNOLOGY | ACQUISITION | WORKING GROUPS

Software Assurance

What is Software Assurance?

Software assurance (SwA) is the process of identifying, preventing, and mitigating software vulnerabilities, either internally or externally, at any time during its life cycle (from CNSS 4009 IA Glossary).

As part of the DHS risk mitigation strategy, the Software Assurance Program seeks to reduce software vulnerabilities, improve the routine development of trustworthy software, and to improve diagnostic capabilities to address software vulnerabilities.

Working Groups

- Workforce Education & Training
- Processes & Practices
- Technology, Tools & Product Eval.
- Acquisition & Outsourcing
- Measurement
- Business Case
- Malware

Join a Working Group

US-CERT Software Assurance

Build Security In

Resources to help you build security into your systems in every phase of development.

What is Software Assurance?

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FOCUS AREAS

The SwA framework encourages the production, evaluation, and acquisition of better quality and more secure software, providing focuses in these four areas:

- **People:** Education and training for developers and users
- **Process:** Sound practices, standards, and practical guidelines for the development of secure software
- **Technology:** Diagnostic tools, cyber security R&D and measurement
- **Acquisition:** Specifications and guidelines for acquisition and outsourcing

The Software Assurance Forum and several working groups composed of volunteers from government, industry, and academia are helping the Software Assurance Program achieve its objectives in these focus areas.

Software Assurance Focus Area and Working Group Matrix

Working Group	People	Process	Technology	Acquisition
Workforce Education and Training	●	●	●	●
Processes and Practices	●	●	●	●
Technology, Tools and Product Evaluation	●	●	●	●
Acquisition and Outsourcing	●	●	●	●
Measurement	●	●	●	●
Business Case	●	●	●	●
Malware	●	●	●	●

WHY IS SOFTWARE ASSURANCE CRITICAL?

www.us-cert.gov/swa/



buildsecurityin.us-cert.gov/swa/

Overview

- ▶ **ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22/WG 23, ISO 24772
Programming Language Vulnerabilities**
- **ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 27/WG 3, NWP
Common Criteria TOE “update”**
- **SC 27 WG 1, ISO 15026**
- **OMG Systems Assurance Task Force**

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22/WG 23, ISO 24772

Programming Language Vulnerabilities

The Problem:

- Any programming language has constructs that are imperfectly defined, implementation dependent or difficult to use correctly.
- As a result, software programs sometimes execute differently than intended by the writer.
- In some cases, these weaknesses can be exploited by hostile parties, or can lead to failure in anticipated environments.
 - **Can compromise safety, security, privacy, dependability or other critical properties.**
 - **A vulnerability in any program can be used as a springboard to make additional attacks on other programs.**

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 22/WG 23, ISO 24772

Programming Language Vulnerabilities

Vulnerability Template:

- The major portion of Technical Report describes vulnerabilities in a generic manner, including:
 - **Brief description of application vulnerability**
 - **Cross-reference to enumerations and other classifications, e.g. CWE**
 - **Description of failure mechanism, i.e. how coding problem relates to application vulnerability**
 - **Applicable language characteristics**
 - **Avoiding or mitigating the vulnerability**
 - **Implications for standardization**
- Annexes will provide language-specific treatments of each vulnerability.

Example Description

6.17 Boundary Beginning Violation [XYX]

6.17.1 Description of application vulnerability

A buffer underwrite condition occurs when an array is indexed outside its lower bounds, or pointer arithmetic results in an access to storage that occurs before the beginning of the intended object.

6.17.2 Cross reference

[Cross references to CWE, JSF, MISRA, CERT, etc.]

Continued...

6.17.3 Mechanism of failure

There are several kinds of failures (in some cases an exception may be raised if the accessed location is outside of some permitted range):

- A read access will return a value that has no relationship to the intended value, e.g., the value of another variable or uninitialized storage.
- An out-of-bounds read access may be used to obtain information that is intended to be confidential.
- A write access will not result in the intended value being updated and may result in the value of an unrelated object (that happens to exist at the given storage location) being modified.
- When the array has been allocated storage on the stack an out-of-bounds write access may modify internal runtime housekeeping information (e.g., a functions return address) which might change a programs control flow.

Continued...

6.17.4 Applicable language characteristics

This vulnerability description is intended to be applicable to languages with the following characteristics:

- **Languages that do not detect and prevent an array being accessed outside of its declared bounds.**
- **Languages that do not automatically allocate storage when accessing an array element for which storage has not already been allocated.**

Continued...

6.17.5 Avoiding the vulnerability or mitigating its effects

Software developers can avoid the vulnerability or mitigate its ill effects in the following ways:.

- Use of implementation provided functionality to automatically check array element accesses and prevent out-of-bounds accesses.
- Use of static analysis to verify that all array accesses are within the permitted bounds. Such analysis may require that source code contain certain kinds of information, e.g., that the bounds of all declared arrays be explicitly specified, or that pre- and post-conditions be specified.
- Sanity checks should be performed on all calculated expressions used as an array index or for pointer arithmetic.

Some guideline documents recommend only using variables having an unsigned type when indexing an array, on the basis that an unsigned type can never be negative. This recommendation simply converts an indexing underflow to an indexing overflow because the value of the variable will wrap to a large positive value rather than a negative one. Also some language support arrays whose lower bound is greater than zero, so an index can be positive and be less than the lower bound.

In the past the implementation of array bound checking has sometimes incurred what has been considered to be a high runtime overhead (often because unnecessary checks were performed). It is now practical for translators to perform sophisticated analysis that significantly reduces the runtime overhead (because runtime checks are only made when it cannot be shown statically that no bound violations can occur).

Continued...

6.17.6 Implications for standardization

- Languages that use pointer types should consider specifying a standard for a pointer type that would enable array bounds checking, if such a pointer is not already in the standard.

6.17.7 Bibliography

[None]

WG 23 Participants

- **National Bodies**
 - Canada
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Japan
 - France
 - United Kingdom
 - USA
- **Other Groups**
 - RT/SC Java
 - MISRA C/C++
 - CERT
- **Language Standards Groups**
 - SC 22/WG 9
 - SC 22/WG14
 - SC 22/WG 5, INCITS J3 (Fortran)
 - SC 22/WG 4, INCITS J4 (Cobol)
 - MDC (Mumps)
 - ECMA (C#, C++CLI)

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ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 27/WG 3, NWP

“Secure software development and evaluation under ISO/IEC 15408 and ISO/IEC 18405”



- The way how the CAPEC and related CWE taxonomies are to be used by the developer, which needs to consider and provide sufficient and effective mitigation to all applicable attacks and weaknesses.
- The way how the CAPEC and related CWE taxonomies are to be used by the evaluator, which needs to consider all the applicable attack patterns and be able to exploit all the related software weaknesses while performing the subsequent AVA_VAN activities.
- How incomplete entries from the CAPEC are to be addressed during an evaluation.
- How to incorporate to the evaluation attacks and weaknesses not included in the CAPEC.

New Work Item Proposal

NP submitting

PROPOSAL FOR A NEW WORK ITEM

Date of presentation of proposal: YYYY-MM-DD	Prop
Secretariat: National Body	ISO/ ISO/

A proposal for a new work item shall be submitted to the secretariat committee concerned with a copy to the ISO Central Secretariat.

Presentation of the proposal

Title Secure software development and evaluation under ISO/IEC 15408

Scope

In the case where a target of evaluation (TOE) being evaluated, under ISO/IEC 15408, includes specific software portions, the TOE developer may provide technical rationale for mitigating software common attack patterns as defined in the latest revision of the Common Attack Pattern Enumeration and Classification (CAPEC) from <http://capec.mitre.org/>. The developer's technical rationale is evaluated in terms of mitigation techniques, from architectural properties to design features or other means.

This Technical Report (TR) provides guidance for the developer and the evaluator on CAPEC as a technical reference point during the TOE development and evaluation of TOE secure software under ISO/IEC 15408 and 18045, by addressing the following:

- A refinement of the IS 15408 Attack Potential calculation table and the entries contained in the CAPEC and their characterization.
- How the information for mitigating software common attack patterns used in an IS 15408 evaluation, in particular providing guidance on attack patterns and weaknesses are applicable to the TOE, including:
 - the TOE technology;
 - the TOE security problem definition;
 - the interfaces the TOE exports that can be used by the attacker;
 - the Attack Potential that the TOE needs to provide to the attacker.
- How the technical rationale provided by the developer for mitigating attack patterns and related weaknesses is used in the evaluation and development of test cases.
- How the CAPEC and related Common Weakness Enumeration (CWE) are used by the evaluator, who needs to consider all the applicable attack patterns and specific related software weaknesses while performing the security (AVA_VAN) activities on the TOE.
- How incomplete entries from the CAPEC are resolved during the evaluation.
- How the evaluator's attack and weakness analysis of the TOE and weaknesses not yet documented in the CAPEC.

The TR also investigates specific elements from the ISO/IEC 15026 and the guidelines being developed in the TR within the context of IS 15408.

Determining attack potential for current CAPEC attacks

Having assigned in the above the corresponding attack potential contribution numeric values wrt all the attack potential factors, summarized as follows, the CEM B.4.2.2 Annex section Table 4 "Rating of vulnerability and TOE resistance" is ready to determine the attack potential for the CAPEC attacks that are associated with specific [CWE](#) weakness(es).

Attack potential factor	Value
The CAPEC attack "elapsed time" is deemed as "less than one day"	0
The CAPEC schema description "high" for its "Attacker Skill or Knowledge Required" at most is mapped only to the CEM B.4.2.2 Annex section "proficient persons" for its "specialist expertise" factor	3
The CAPEC schema description "high" for its "Attacker Skill or Knowledge Required" at most is mapped only to the CEM B.4.2.2 Annex section "restricted information concerning the TOE" for its "knowledge of the TOE" factor	3
For those CAPEC attacks having related CWE weakness(es), their "windows of opportunity" is deemed as "unnecessary/unlimited access"	0
The CAPEC schema description "Resources Required" at most is mapped only to the CEM B.4.2.2 Annex section "standard equipment" for its "IT hardware/software or other equipment" factor	0
Total	6 (which is the sum of the above)

Since the total value due to all the attack potential factors is 6, the CEM B.4.2.2 Annex section Table 4 indicates that the attack potential for the CAPEC attacks that are associated with specific [CWE](#) weakness(es) is "basic".

Since an EAL2 TOE must demonstrate resistance to attacks with a "basic" attack potential in accordance with the ["Part 3: Security assurance components" of Common Criteria for Information Technology Security Evaluation, Version 3.1, Revision 2](#), any TOE attempting to claim EAL2 or higher must address the CAPEC attacks that are associated with specific [CWE](#) weakness(es).

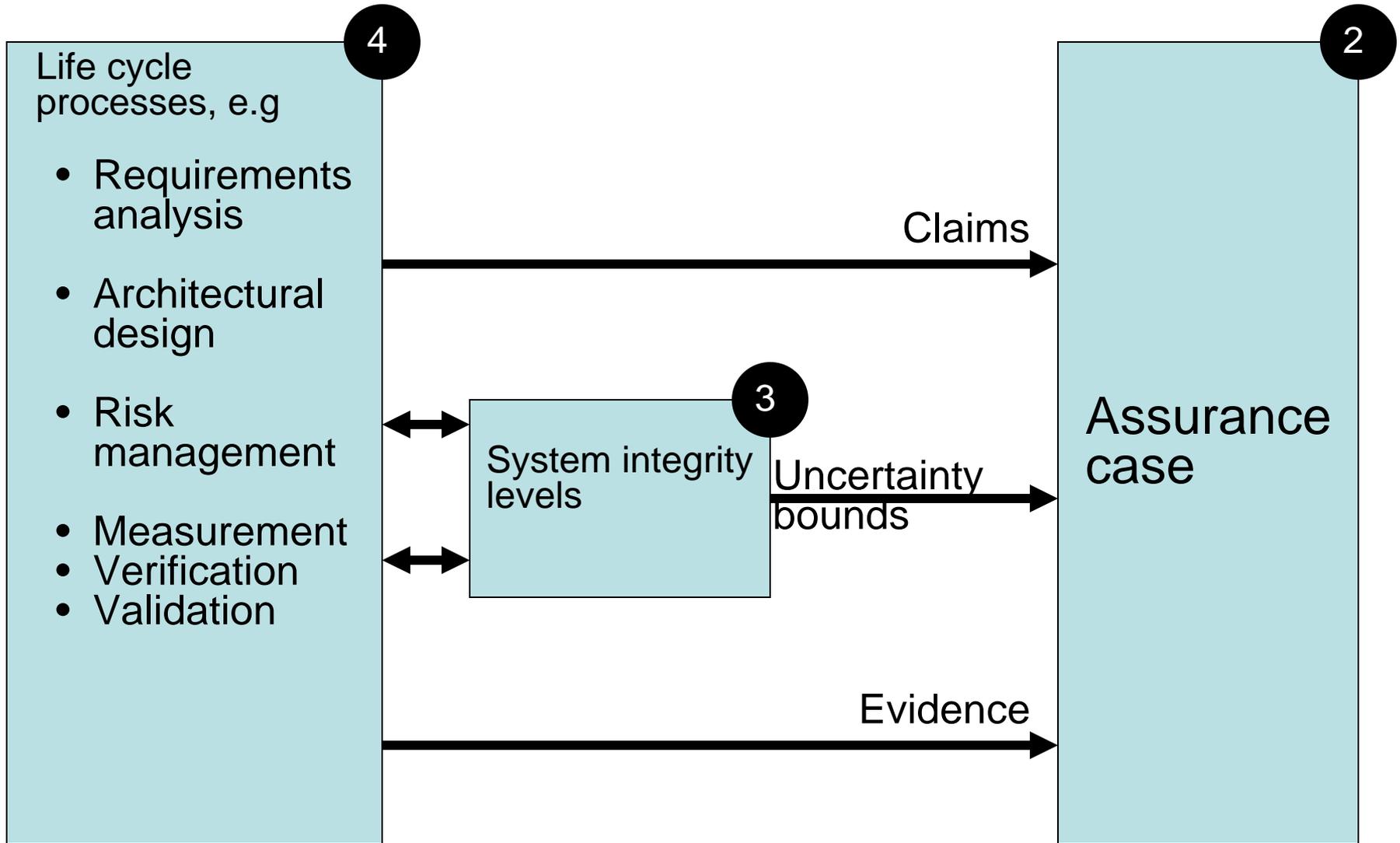
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ISO/IEC 15026: A Four-Part Standard

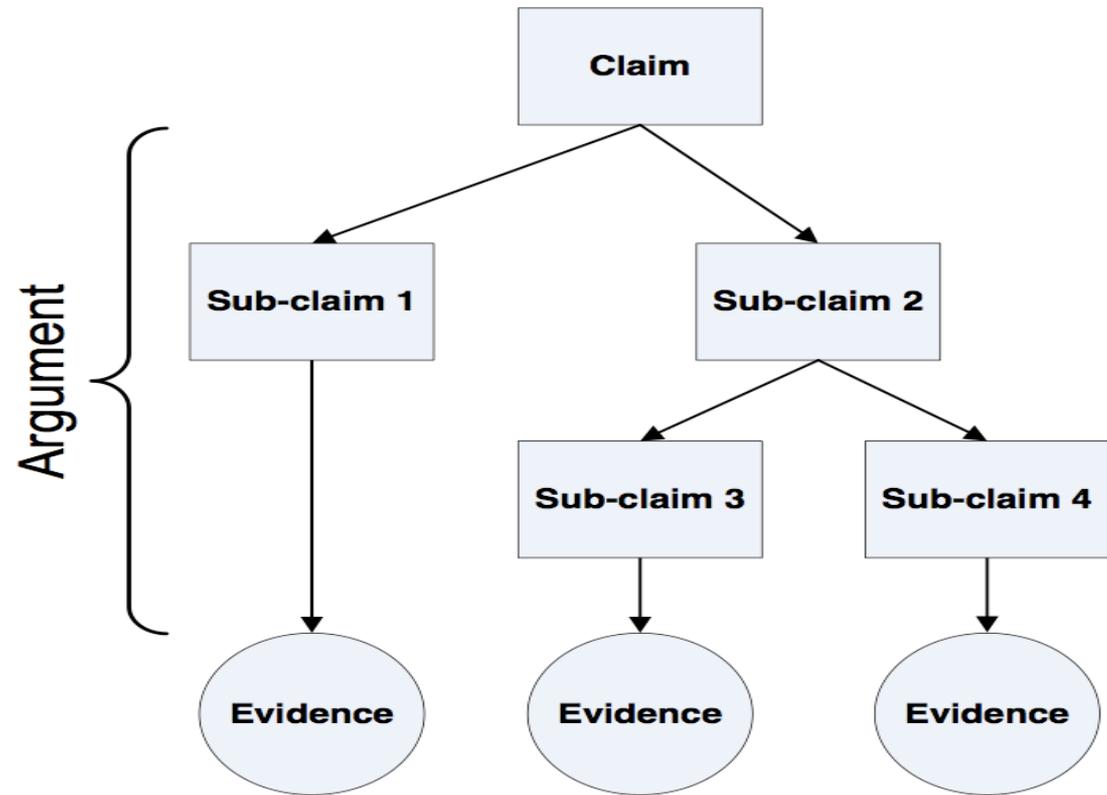
- **Planned parts:**
 - 15026-1: Concepts and vocabulary (initially a TR2 and then revised to be an IS)**
 - 15026-2: Assurance case (including planning for the assurance case itself)**
 - 15026-3: System integrity levels (a revision of the 1998 standard)**
 - 15026-4: Assurance in the life cycle (including project planning for assurance considerations)**
- **Possible additional parts as demand requires and resources permit, e.g.**
 - Assurance analyses and techniques**
 - Guidance documents**

ISO/IEC 15026: Examples of relationships among parts



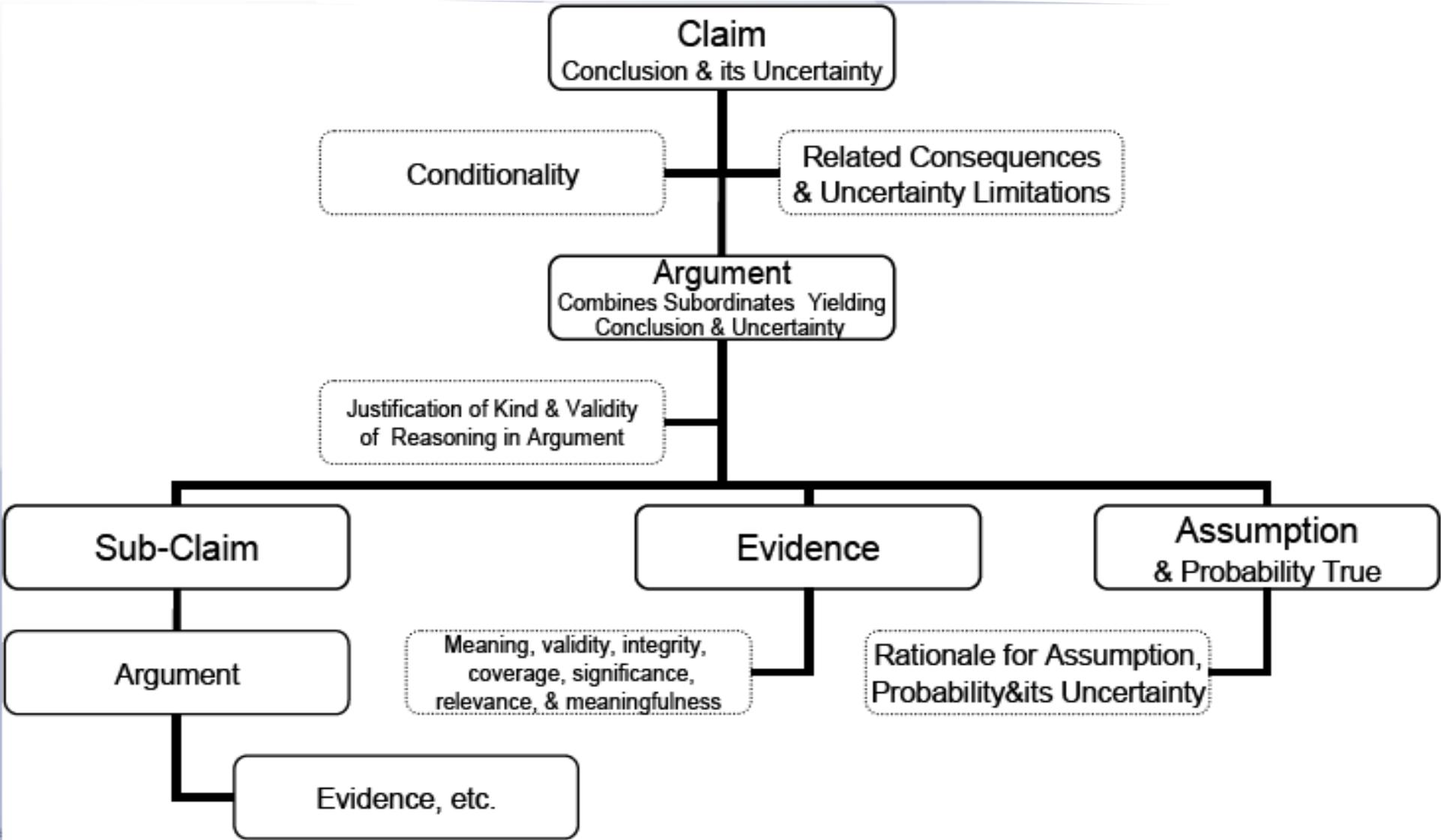
ISO/IEC 15026: Systems & Software Assurance

15026 Part 2: The Assurance Case (Claims-Evidence-Argument)



ISO/IEC 15026: Systems & Software Assurance

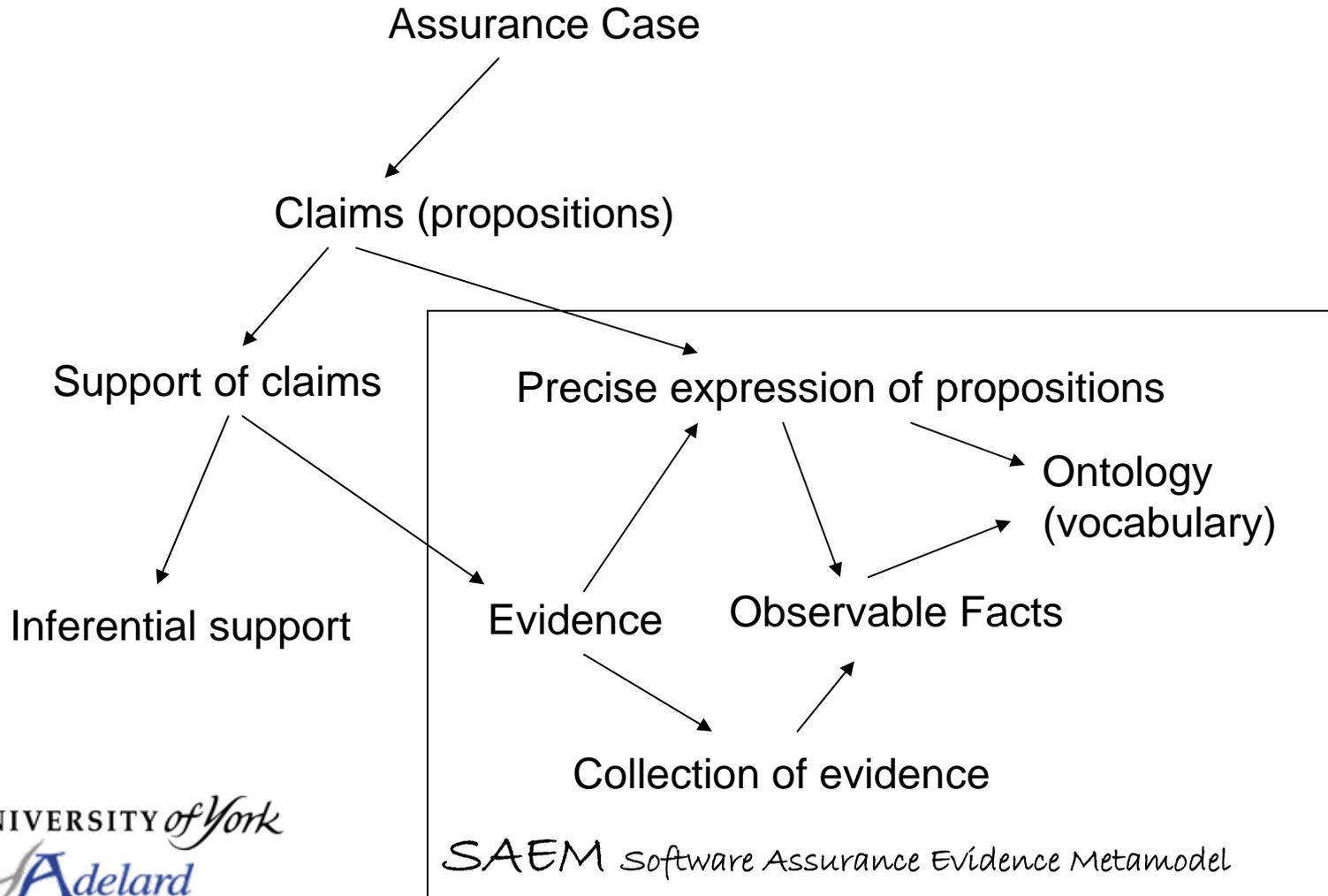
15026 Part 2: The Assurance Case (Claims-Evidence-Argument)



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OMG Systems Assurance Task Force Claims-Evidence-Arguments Overview



SBVR
Semantic
Business
Vocabulary
& Rules

SAEM Software Assurance Evidence Metamodel

KDM Knowledge Discovery Metamodel

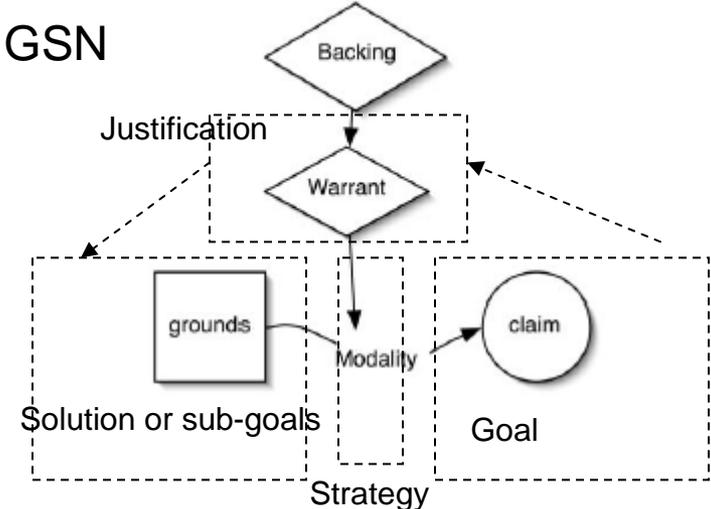
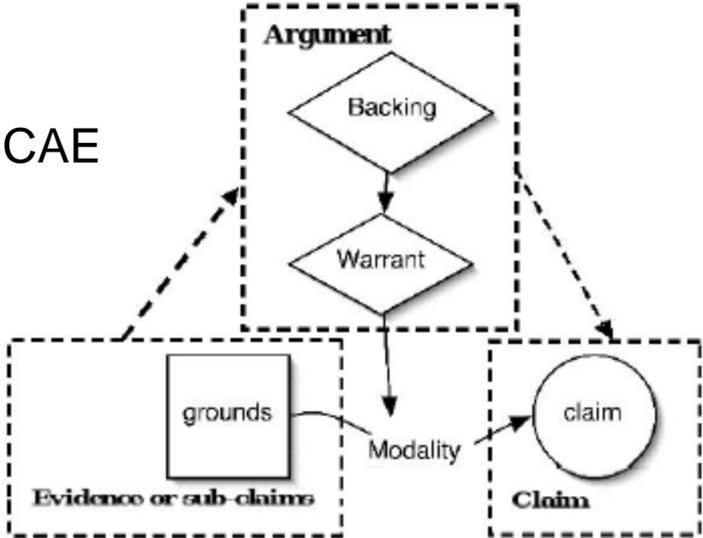
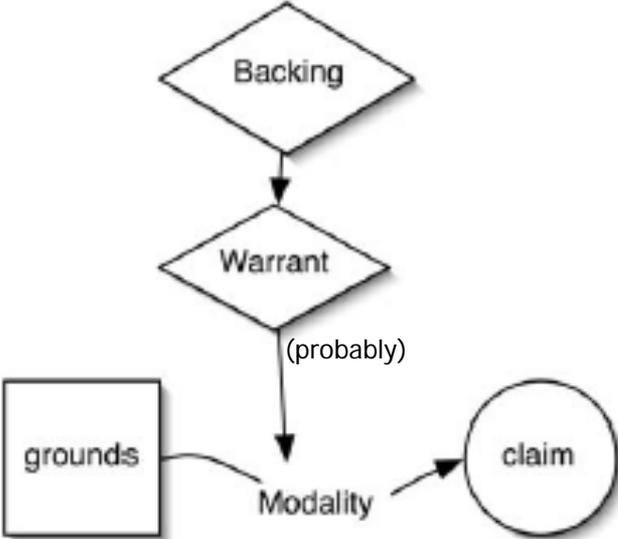
ARM Argumentation Metamodel

Support by 'Substantial' Reasoning

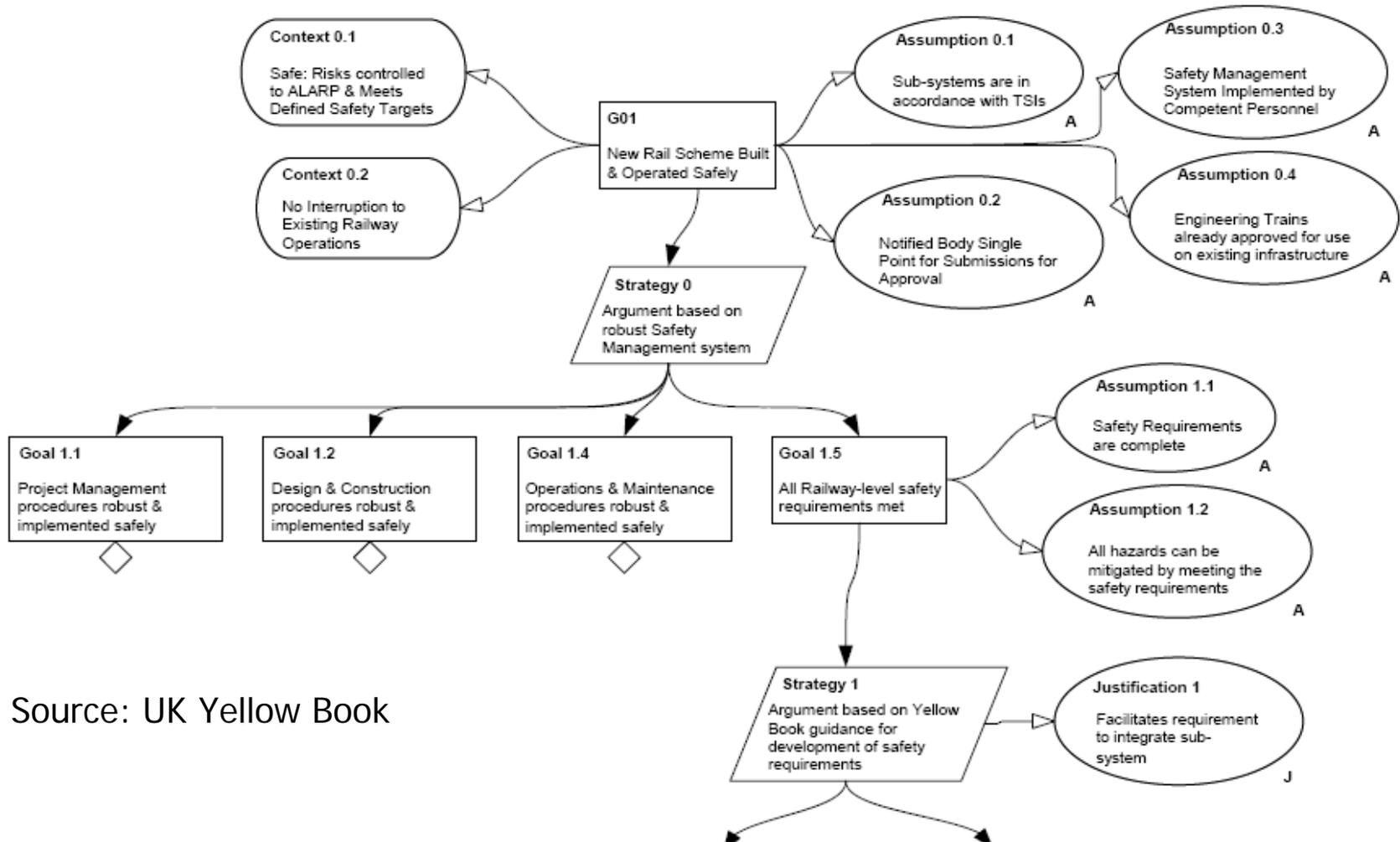


Stephen Toulmin, 1958

- Claims are assertions put forward for general acceptance
- The justification for claim is based on some grounds, the “specific facts about a precise situation that clarify and make good for a claim”
- The basis of the reasoning from the grounds (the facts) to the claim is articulated. Toulmin coined the term “warrant” for “substantial argument”. These are statements indicating the general ways of argument being applied in a particular case and implicitly relied on and whose trustworthiness is well established”.
- The basis of the warrant might be questioned, so “backing” for the warrant may be introduced. Backing might be the validation of the scientific and engineering laws used



GSN: Safety Case for a Railroad Signalling Scheme



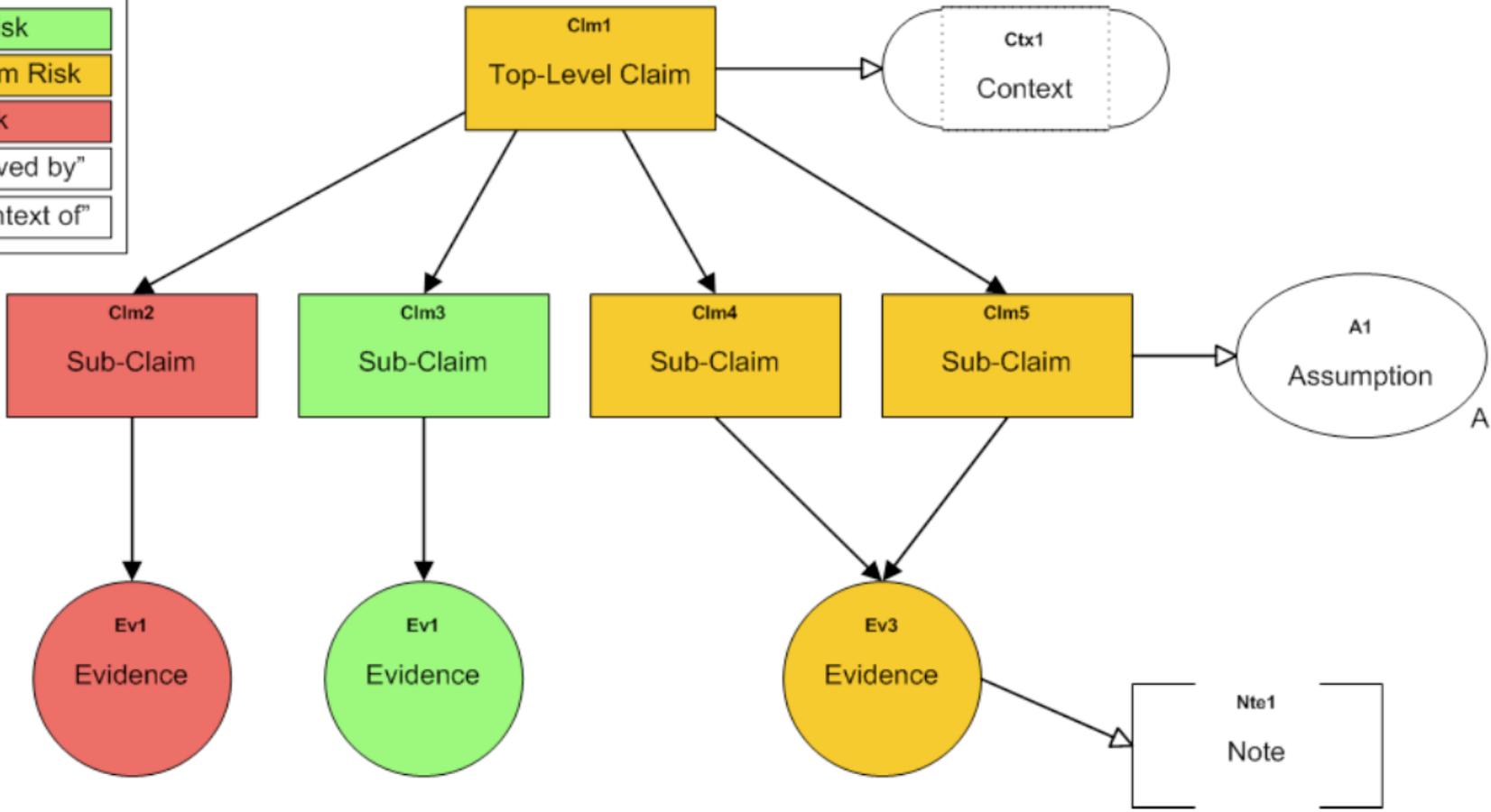
Source: UK Yellow Book

Safety Cases Based on Assurance Cases – Claims-Evidence-Argument in Use for <10 Years

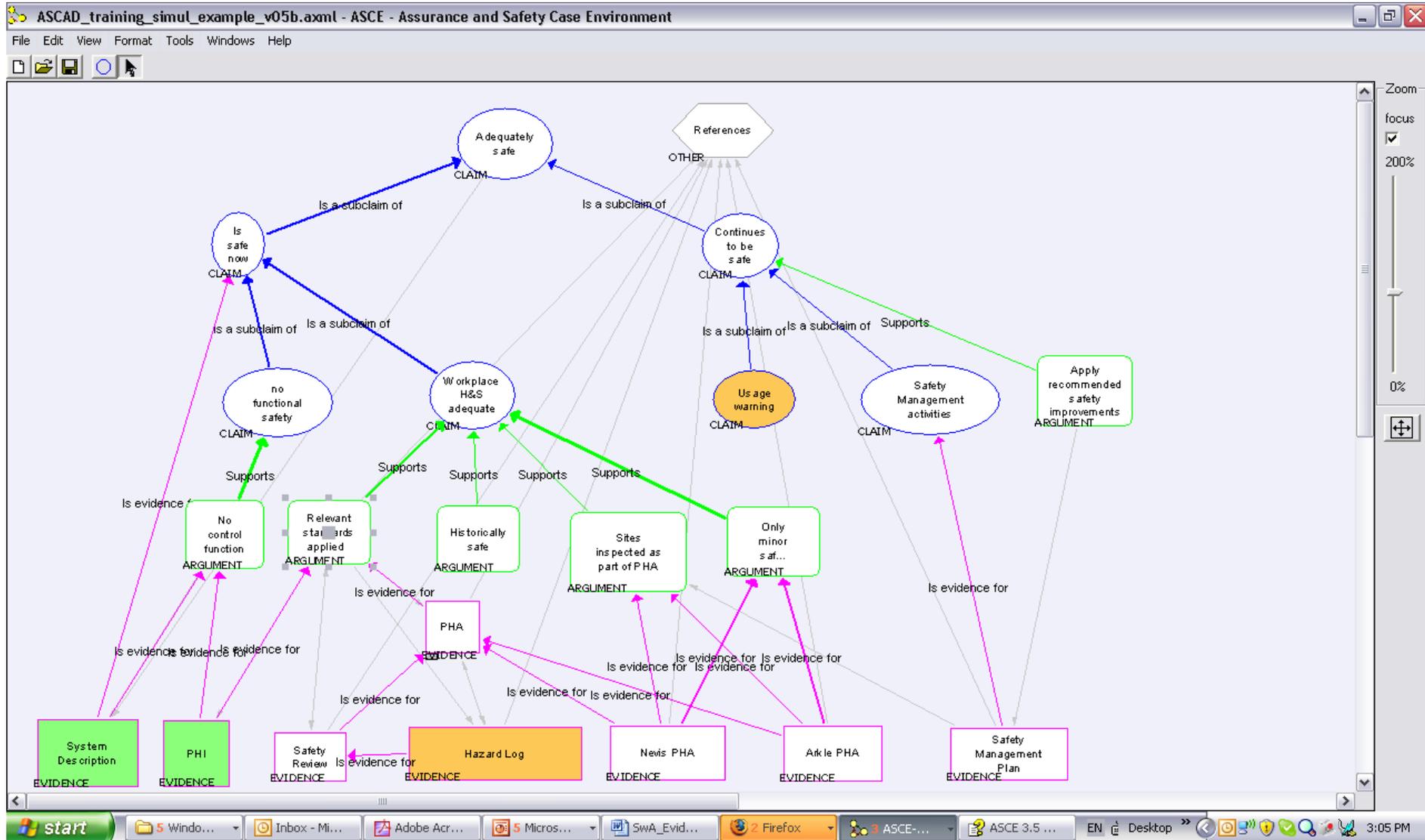
Legend:

- Green = Low Risk
- Yellow = Medium Risk
- Red = High Risk
- = "Is solved by"
- ▷ = "In context of"

CAE



Structured Safety Assurance tools are commercially available

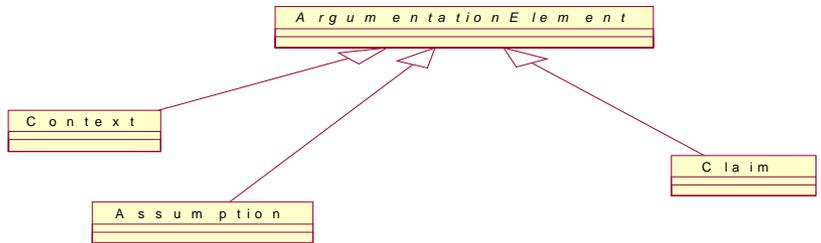


What is Evidence ?

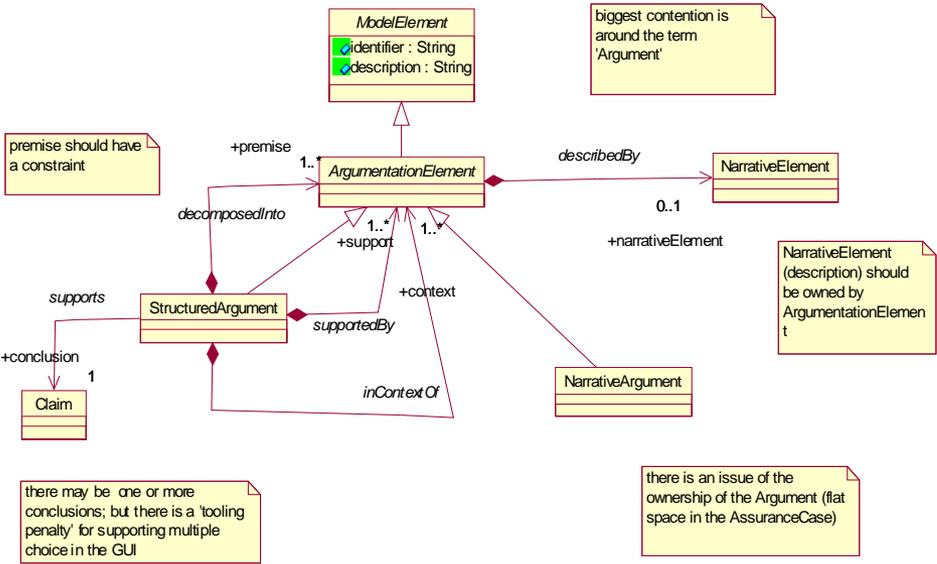
- **Evidence is data that supports certain claim**
 - Not assumptions, clarification or subclaims
- **Evidence can be diverse (various things may be produced as evidence)**
 - Documents as evidence
 - Test results as evidence (someone has to make the verdict)
 - Measurement results as evidence
 - Process, product
- **Evidence has provenance**
 - Source
 - Evidence acquisition involves certain processes (reviews, testing, analysis, etc.)
- **Evidence has “quality”**
- **Evidence is stored in evidence repositories**
- **Argument structure determines what evidence is acquired**
 - Also argument criticality determines evidence “quality”
- **Evidence can help partition arguments**
 - Evidence may provide context

The Assurance Case/Argument: OMG Evidence and Claims/Arguments Standards

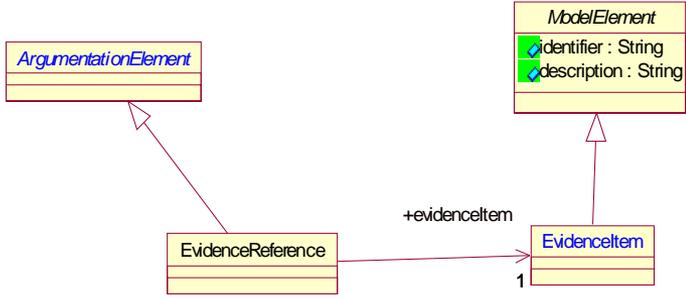
ARM:Claims



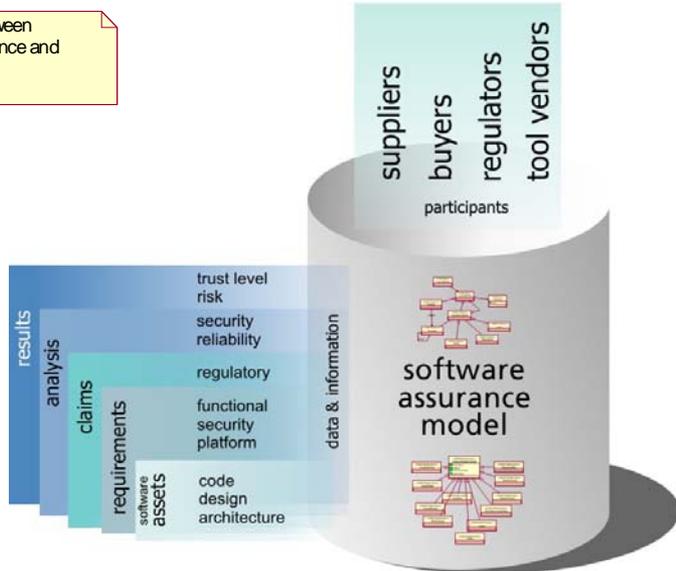
ARM:Arguments



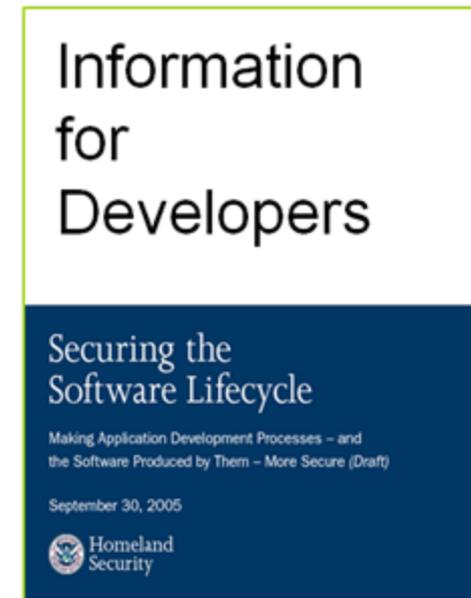
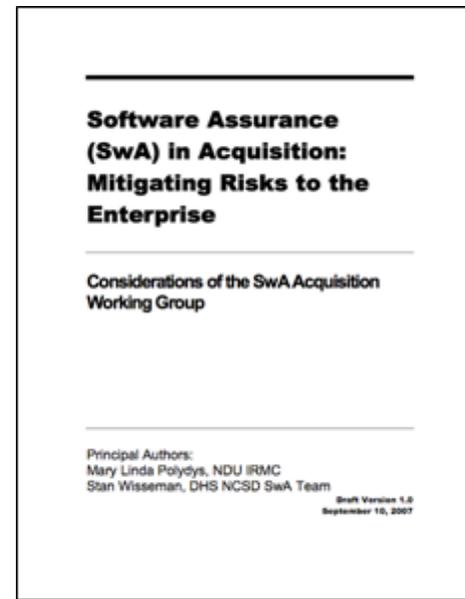
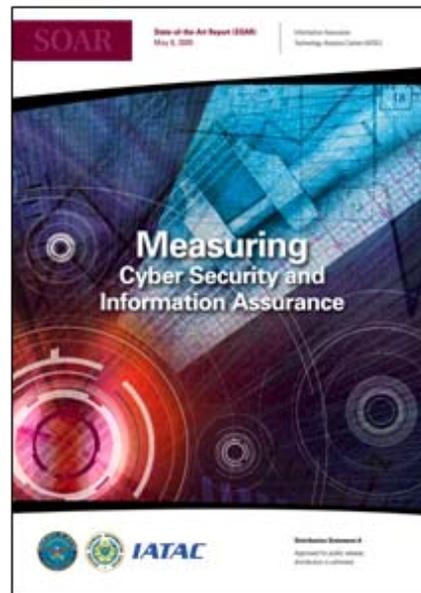
SAEM: Evidence



duplication between EvidenceReference and EvidenceItem



Software Assurance Community: Opportunities, and Items to leverage



Next SwA Forum:
2-6 Nov 09 – Crystal City Marriott

Questions?