

---

# **Model Based Verification of Cyber-Range Event Environment**

**Dr. Suresh Damodaran**

**November 4, 2015**

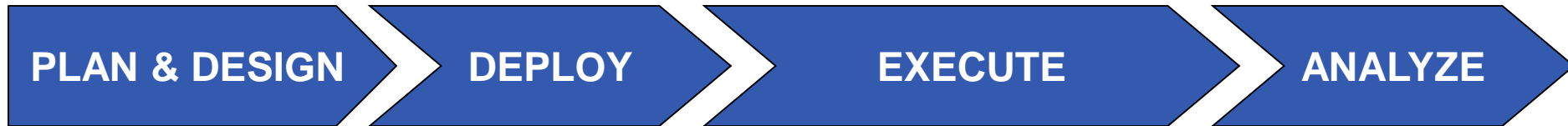


This work is sponsored by the Test Resource Management Center under Air Force Contract FA8721-05-C-0002. Opinions, interpretations, conclusions and recommendations are those of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by the United States Government.

---



# Cyber-Range Events



- **Configuration Errors**
  - Design of event environment
  - Deployment of event environment

**Every error adds to the cost and duration of event**

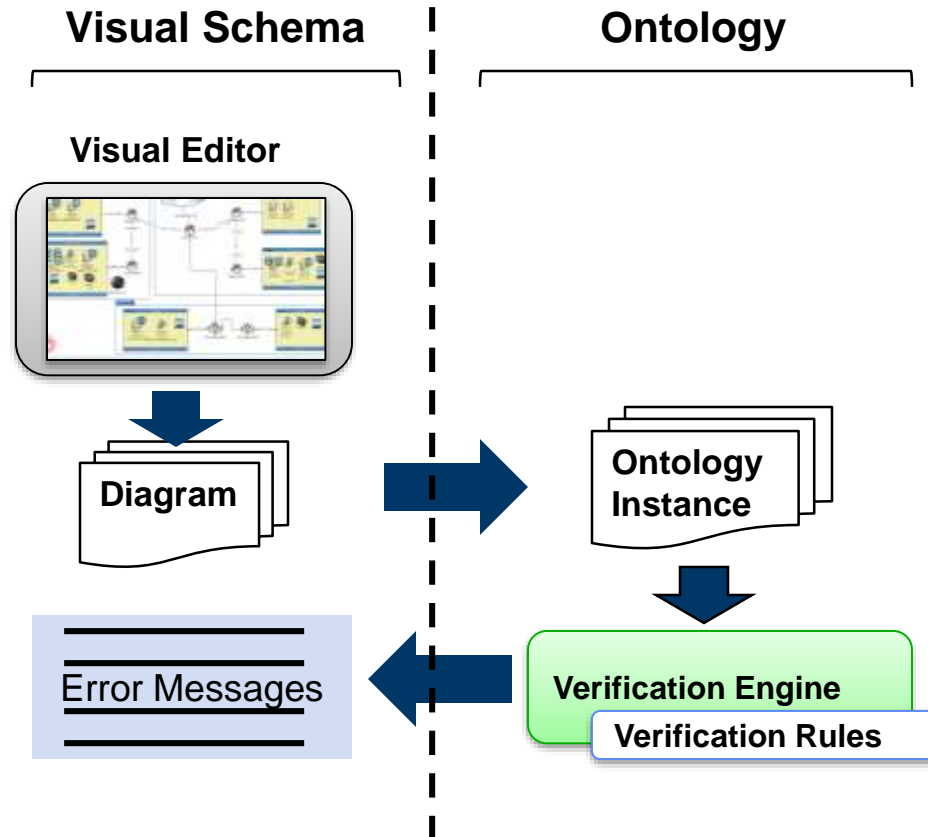


# Impact of Configuration Errors

- **Configuration Error is a dominant cause of system failures**
  - Yin et al. (2011)
- **Configuration errors account for 50% to 80% of the downtime and vulnerabilities in cyber infrastructure**
  - Narain et al. (2011)



# System Overview





# What is in the Diagram?



**User:** organizations, teams, and behaviors of users.



**Application & OS:** applications commonly found on enterprise office computers, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Outlook, and operating systems.



**Service:** multiple types of services such as DHCP, DNS, file, firewall, or proxy.



**IP Device:** devices with IP addresses such as Hosts or devices that support IP-based traffic such as Routers.



**Ethernet Device:** Ethernet devices, and technologies that support network traffic.

sw1-catalyst2550

**Physical Location:** the cyber range and the sites where it is located.

**Control Plane:** entities such as traffic generators



**Instrument Plane:** data collection services or probes.



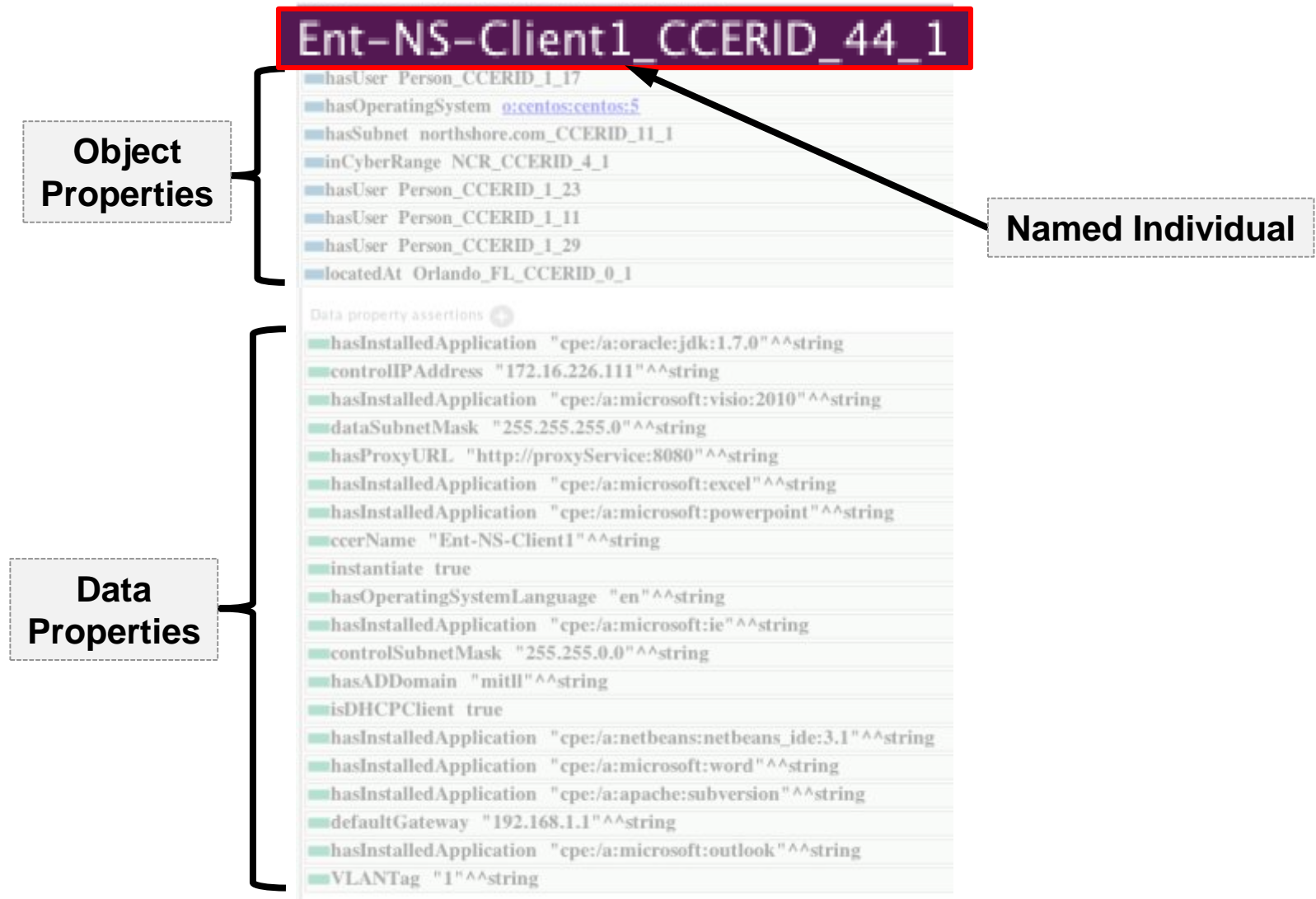
# CCER is an Ontology



- **CCER ontology is used for representing actual or simulation models of configurations of cyber (range) environment elements**



# Computer Ontology Instance





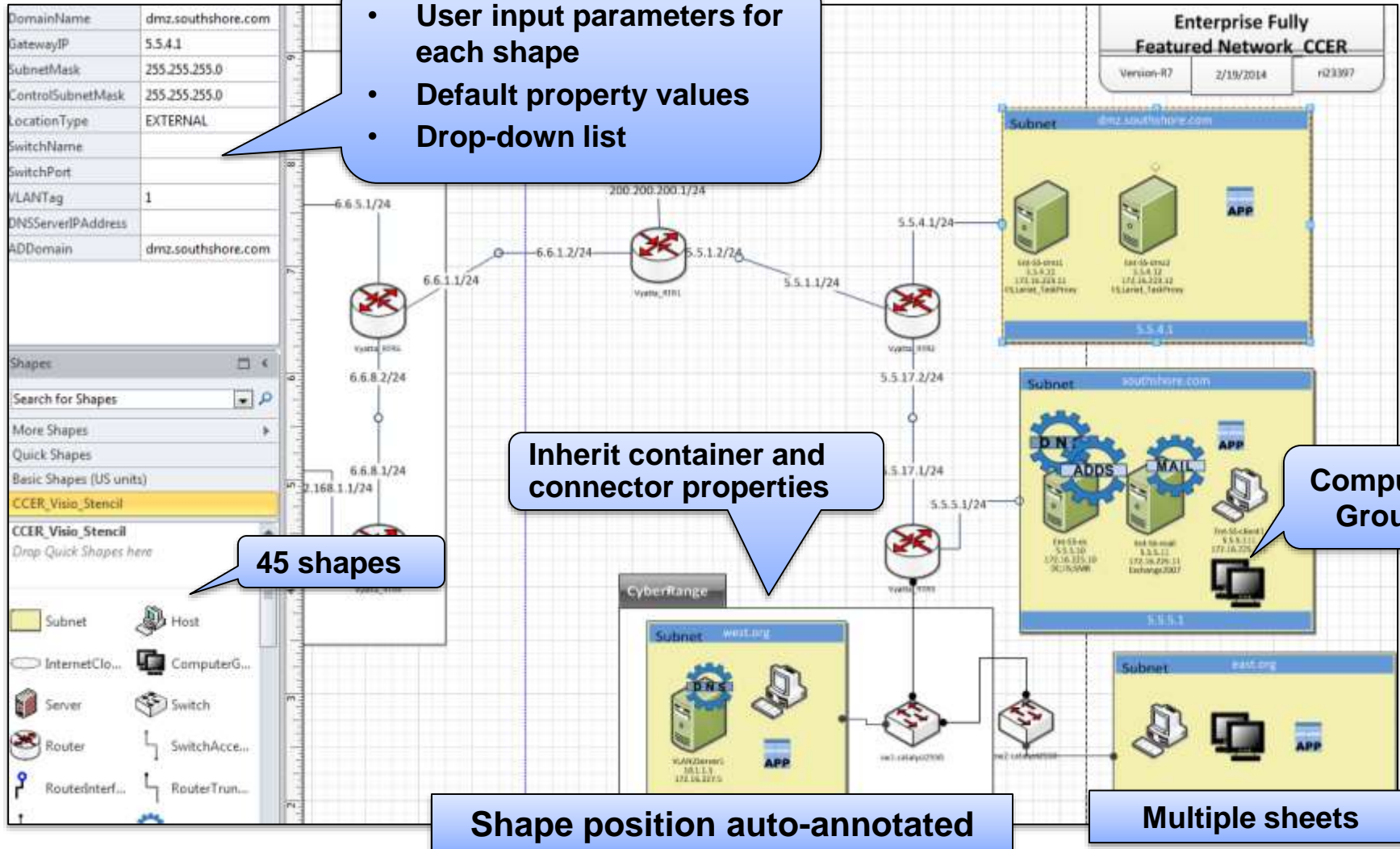
# Outline

- **System Overview**
- ➔ • **Visual Schema and Errors**
- **Methodology for Rules and Errors**
- **Case Study**





# CCER Visual Schema Summary





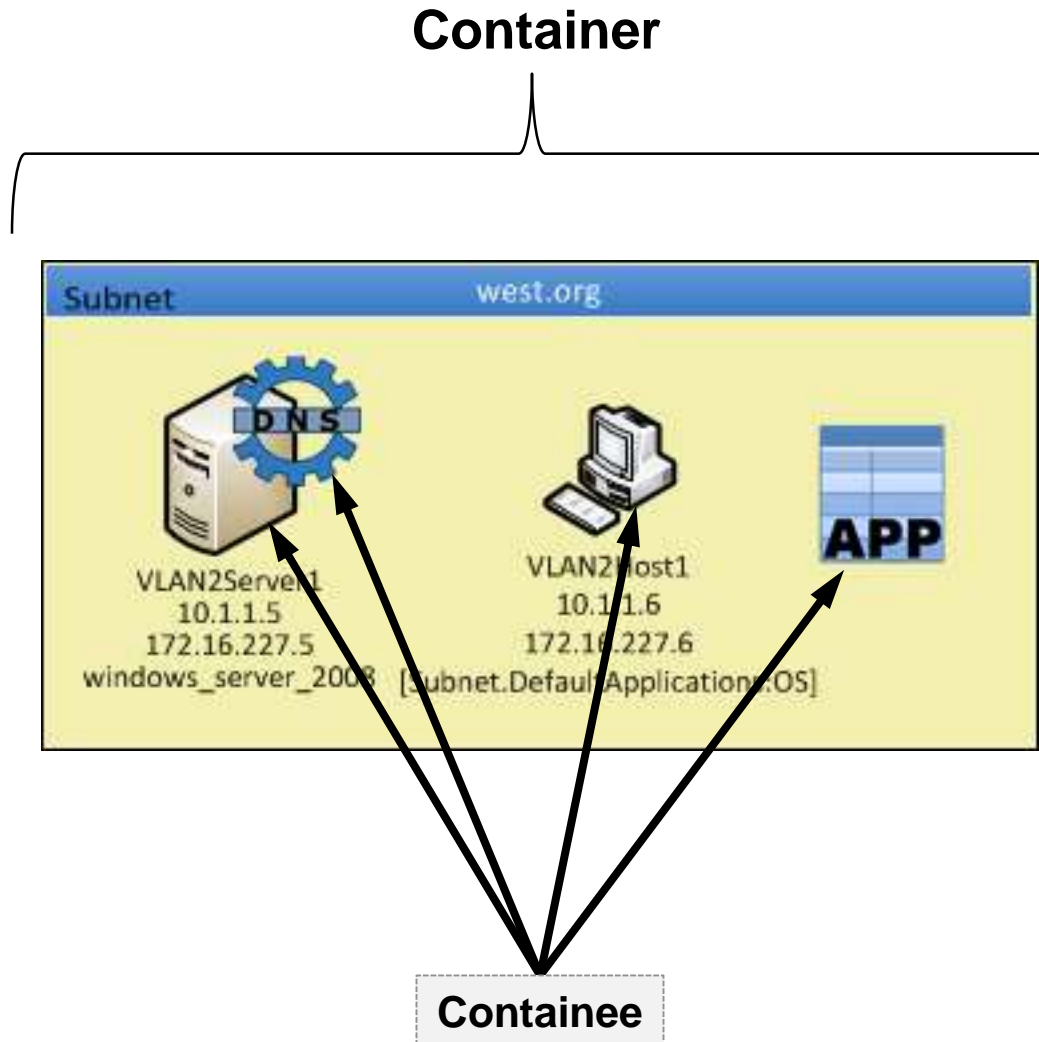
# Visual Schema: Aggregation



ComputerNameGenerationPattern	V3CG{i3}.{s}
MaximumNameLength	20
HostCount	5
DHCPClient	NO
StartingIPAddress	10.1.2.6
StartingControlIPAddress	172.16.228.6
OS	windows_8
OSLanguage	burmese (my)
Applications	[Subnet.DefaultApplicatio
AddedApplications	
ADDomain	[Subnet:ADDomain]
ProxyURL	[Subnet:ProxyURL]
Instantiate	TRUE

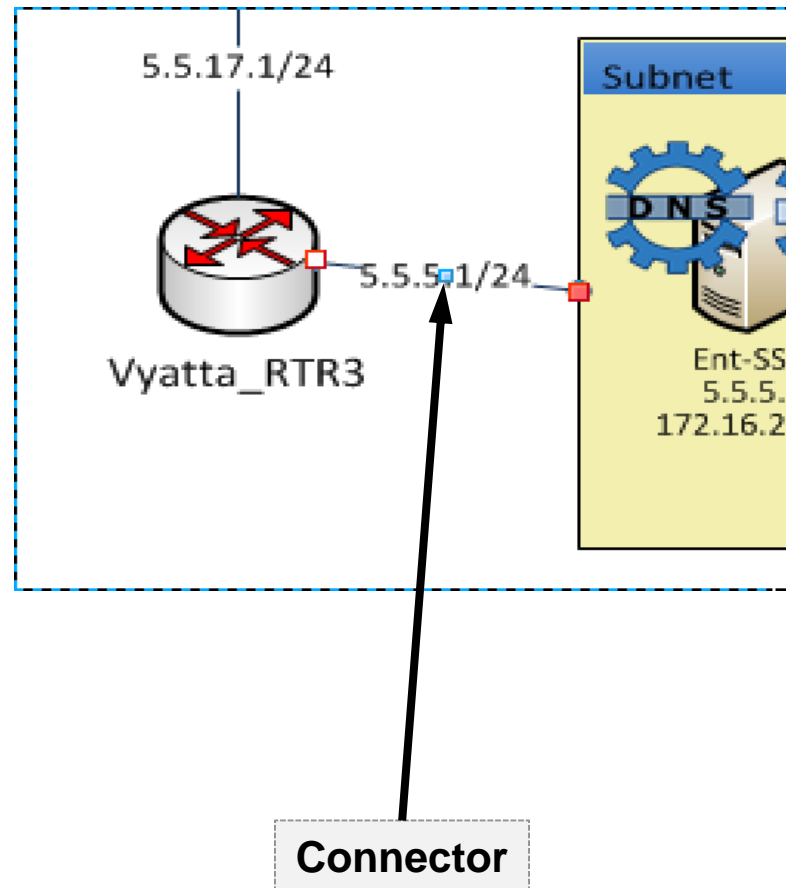


# Visual Schema: Container





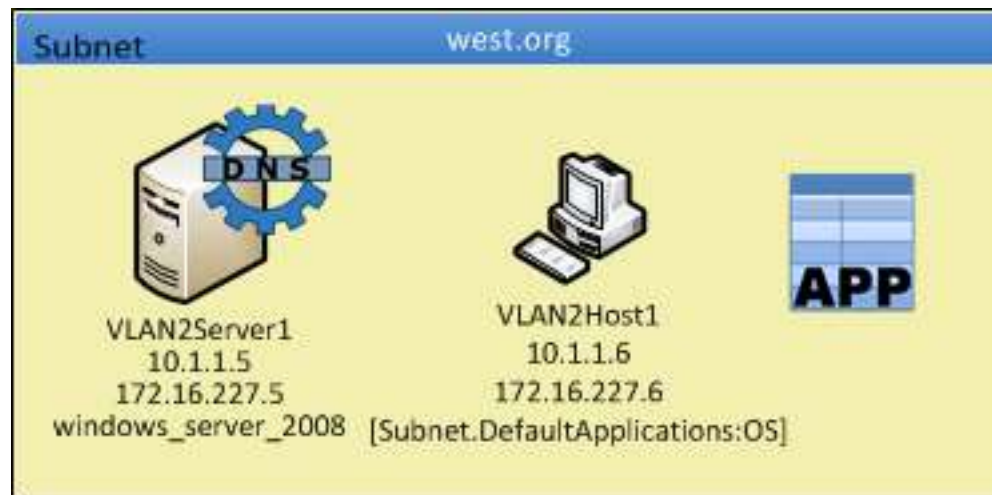
# Visual Schema: Connection





# Visual Schema: Scope

- **VLAN2Host1** is scoped within Subnet (west.org), if the processing of VLAN2Host1's fields is done by analyzing west.org, and all other shape instances that are scoped within west.org.





# Diagrams and Errors

- **Errors on diagram but processing with Ontology**
  - **Generating intuitive error messages is hard**
  - **1:1 relationship between shapes and OWL Classes may not exist**
- **Examples**
  - **Errors for Container Relationship**
  - **Errors for Aggregation Relationship**
- **CCER Tool suite needs to process error-free as well as erroneous diagrams (and should not crash!)**



# Outline

- **System Overview**
- **Visual Schema and Errors**
- ➔ • **Methodology for Rules and Errors**
- **Case Study**



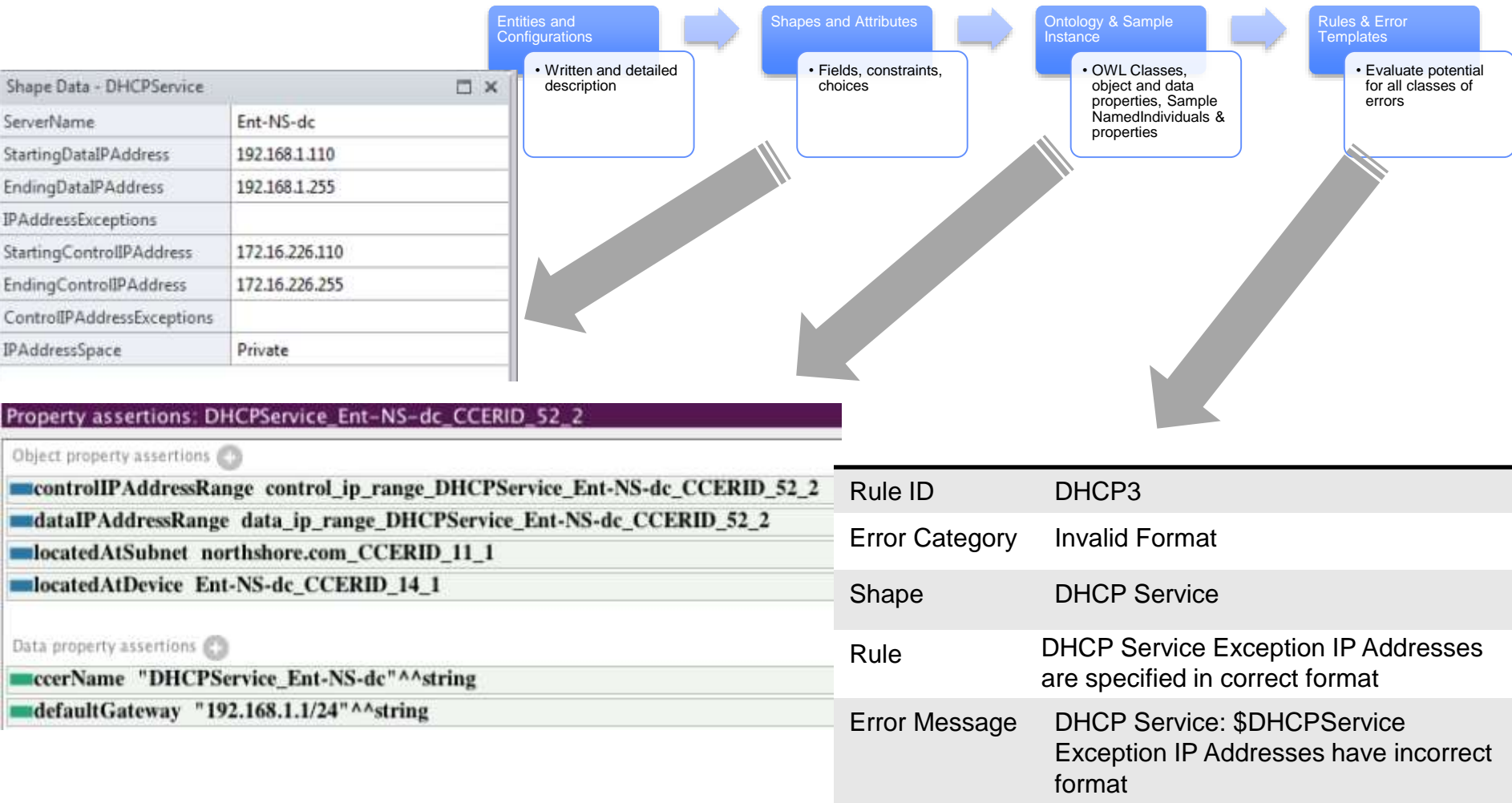
# Verification Error Classification

1. Invalid Format
2. Unspecified Value
3. Inconsistent Value
4. Out-of-range Value
5. Uniqueness Violation
6. Non-existent Reference (Direct)
7. Non-existent Reference (Indirect)
8. Unspecified Reference
9. Inconsistent Reference
10. Singleton Violation
11. Generational Insufficiency
12. Abnormal Specification





# Methodology for Rule Development





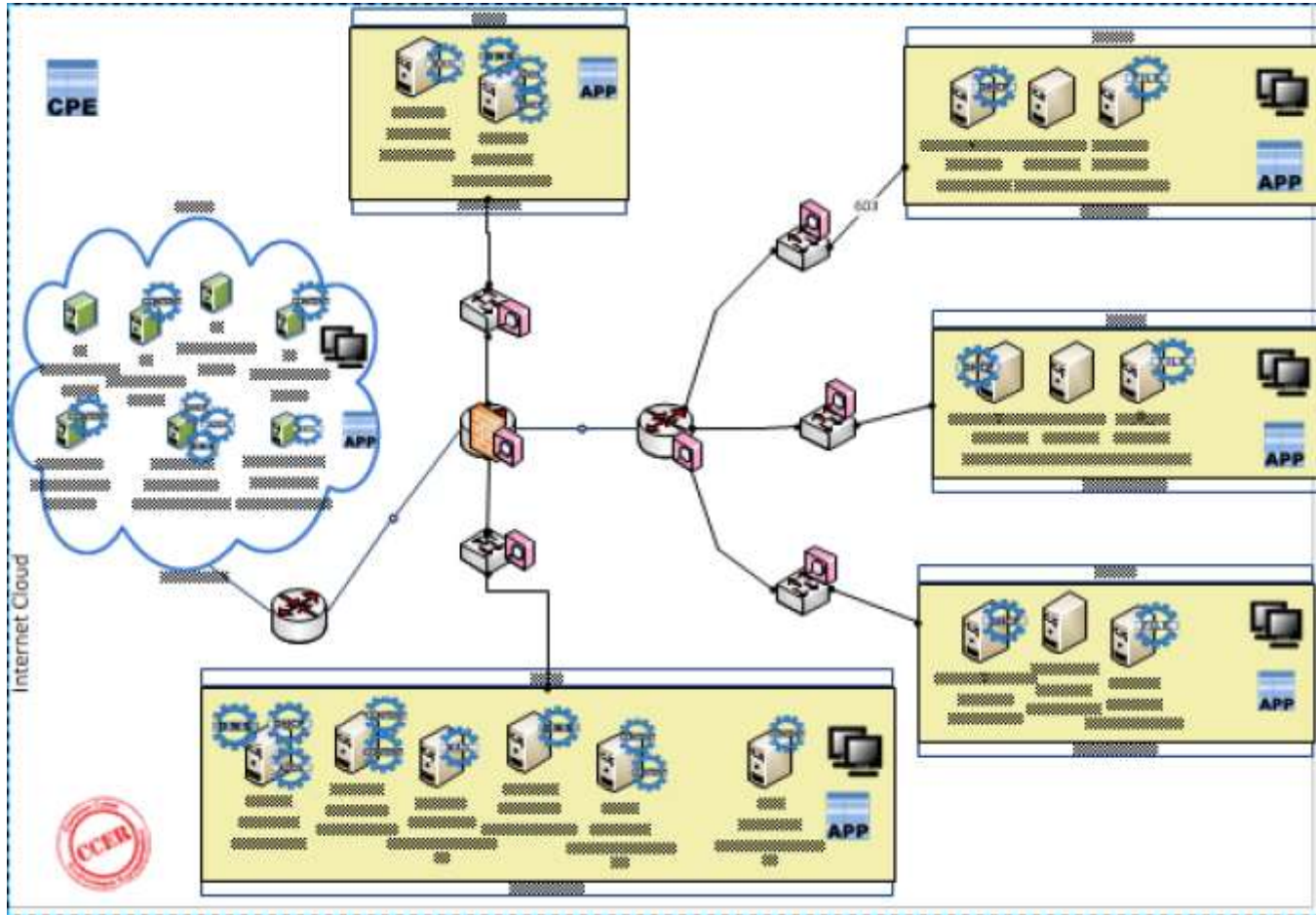
# Outline

---

- **System Overview**
- **Visual Schema and Errors**
- **Methodology for Rules and Errors**
- • **Case Study**



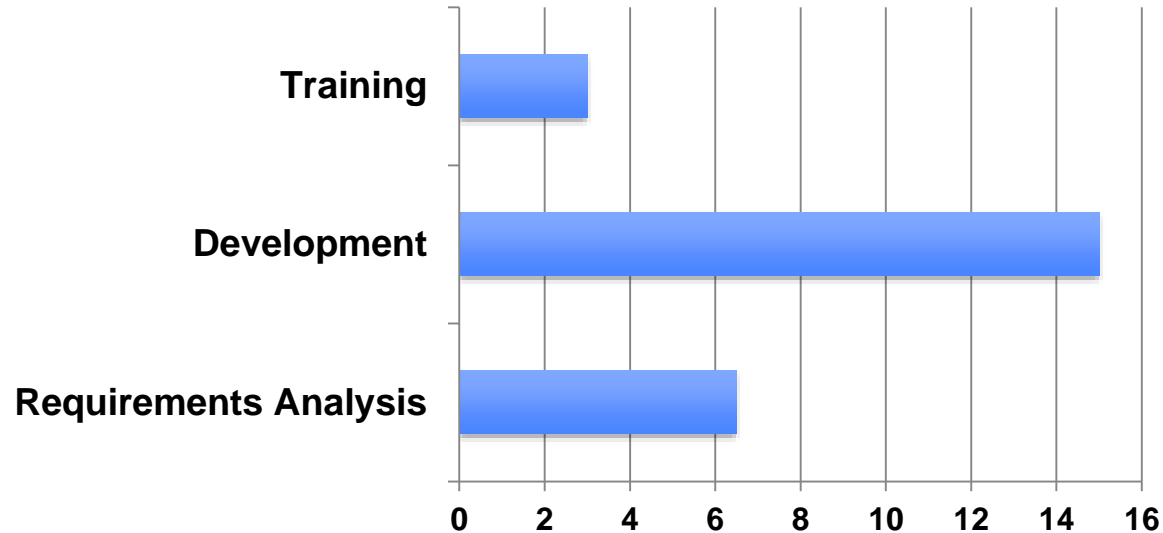
# Case Study: Environment Diagram



- 5 subnets
- 1 simulated Internet
- 3 routers
- 5 switches, and approximately 100 computers, users and 25 services



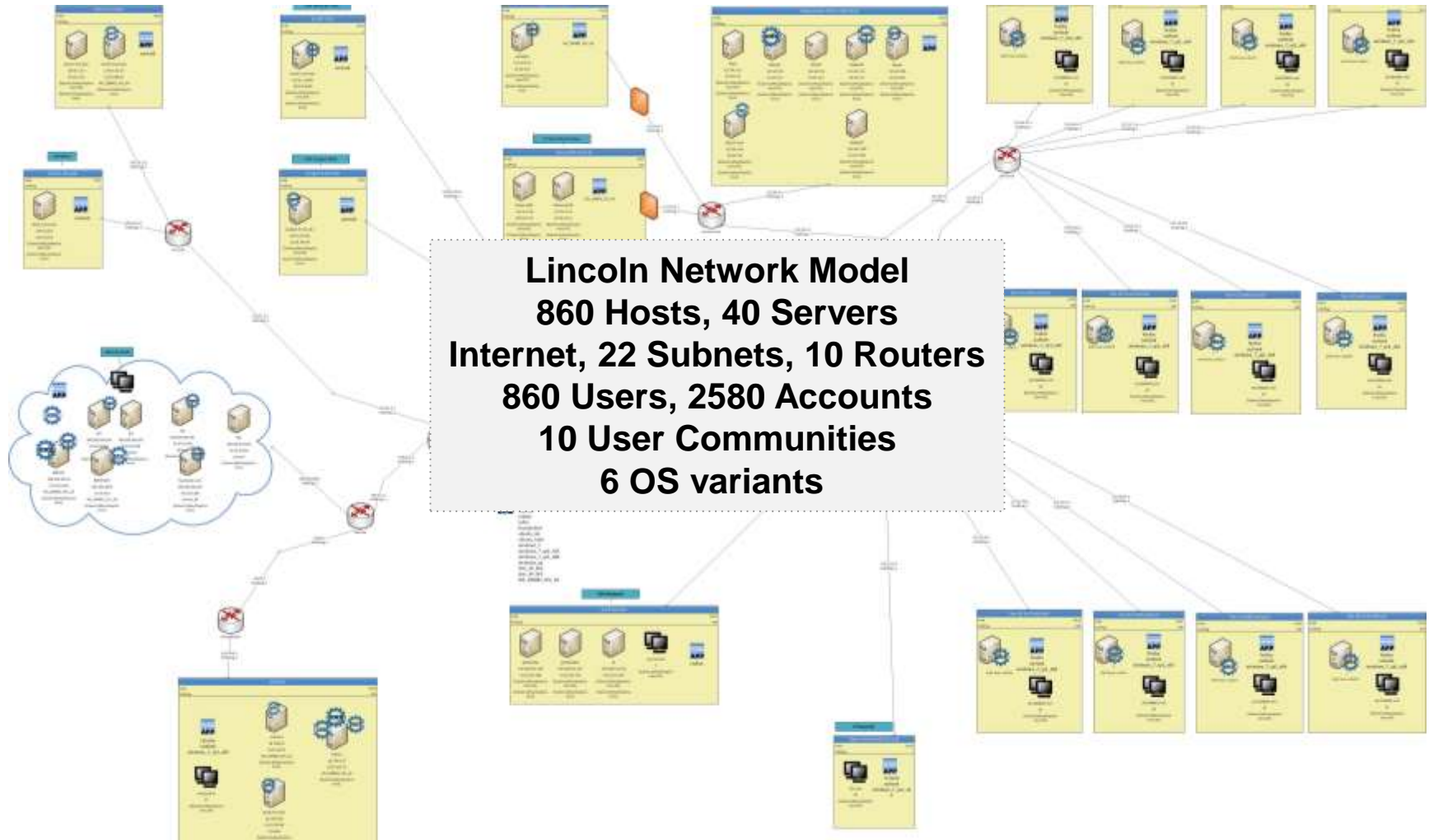
# Case Study: Time Allocation



- The X-axis is the actual time spent in hours on the activities shown on the Y-axis.



# Another Diagram





# Conclusion

- **Model-based verification approach is demonstrably useful in reducing configuration errors in cyber-range event environments**
  - **Visual Schema for relationships**
  - **Classification of verification errors**
  - **Methodology for developing new verification rules and errors for new domains**
- **Future Directions**
  - **Reducing the number of error messages**
  - **Making errors more intuitive**
  - **Expanding CCER to include more domains**
  - **Performance analysis**
  - **Dynamic visual schema**

---

# Questions?

**[suresh.damodaran@ll.mit.edu](mailto:suresh.damodaran@ll.mit.edu)**

