The Economics of Cybersecurity: Homework 1

Due: January 23 at 5:00pm

1 Paper 1 (5 points)

Read the paper "Dilemmas in a general theory of planning" by Rittel & Webber. Answer the following question:

1. Rittel & Webber list ten criteria for a problem to be considered a "wicked problem". Security may be considered to be such a problem. Which three criteria are the most applicable or relevant to security? Write one paragraph for each or ∼500 words total, defending your choices. Cite any sources used, including the use of generative AI tools.

2 Paper 2 (5 points)

Read the paper "Why information security is hard - an economic perspective". Come prepared to class ready to discuss the paper.

3 Systems Diagram (10 points)

1. Choose a security problem that you are interested in. Add your name and chosen topic to the spreadsheet here. You may draw from the provided list of suggested topics in the spreadsheet if you do not have a particular topic of interest. Please pick a topic that is different from the other students in the class.

2. Create a system-level diagram of the problem as demonstrated in class. Be prepared to present your work at the beginning of next class.

Notes:

- Systems are not processes! A process can be thought of as a path *through* a system. The implication here is that there should be no element of ordering or time involved in your systems diagram.