

File 20100531.2012: I explained my thesis tonight to ATL over dinner because she asked me to. I went into quite a bit of detail about the horrible thought I had the other day (and the reason why I was emailing accreditors at 0100 this morning) that despite my theoretical model, could it happen that in practice there really is only one über accreditor (at the high water mark) and not several accreditors in the case of a CDS installation, as my model assumes? Andrea pointed out the dangers of assuming. I am on the edge of the world as far as my professors know; they can't help me any more and I am terribly afraid of going off in the wrong direction because I overlooked something.

I can spin this for my weekly activity report to Dr Martin as a cross-check and validation. Besides using the surveys to ask the 'right' questions now that I know what they must be, I can also use the survey to validate that my fundamental assumptions about the world are true. In fact, I can use the surveys to validate my original assumptions with respect not only to the US, but the UK and other Common Criteria countries also. What I said to Dr Cooper in my email last night still applies, and I said nothing that crosses what I want to argue. I just need to broaden my thesis a tad, back to where it was when I started this research, to apply not to US-only CDS accreditations but primarily to US-UK accreditations. It pulls the CC back into the mix, but that's all right. Dr Cooper can help me out with that.

So my thesis is still alive.

References