

EVIDENCE IS A CLAIM WITH RECEIPTS

A screenshot is not self-explanatory. Without subject, time, source, population, method, and custody, it can be visually persuasive and evidentially weak.

PRACTITIONER POSITION

Students should learn evidence as a structured relationship between a claim and observable facts. A good artifact identifies what it concerns, when it was produced, how complete the population is, who or what created it, how it was handled, what test used it, and what it cannot prove. The discipline transfers across security, audit, engineering, accounting, and risk work.

THE FIELD PATTERN

WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE IN PRACTICE

A fictional team submits a green dashboard and three screenshots to support the claim that all privileged access was reviewed. The images do not identify the complete population, review period, exclusions, reviewer, decision criteria, exceptions, or remediation. The problem is not file organization; it is missing claim lineage.

SIGNALS DETECTED

WHAT SHOULD MAKE YOU STOP

- The artifact has no declared claim.
- A sample is presented as a complete population.
- Creation time is mistaken for observation period.
- Failed items and exceptions disappear from the evidence package.

WHY IT MATTERS

THE COST OF LEAVING IT UNEXPLAINED

Write the claim before collecting the artifact.

Record subject, scope, period, population, source, collector, integrity, test, result, exceptions, and limitations.

Preserve negative and contradictory evidence rather than curating only successful outcomes.

Make the evidence independently understandable to a reviewer who did not collect it.

QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS THAT EXPOSE THE WACK

- 01 What exact claim does this artifact support?
- 02 What population and period does it represent?
- 03 How was it generated and handled?
- 04 What reasonable conclusion remains unsupported?

THE CLUSTER OF WACK

FIND / MAP / EXPLAIN / REDUCE / PROVE

ESCAPE THE WACK

01 / FIND

Choose one claim and collect its candidate evidence.

02 / MAP

Join claim, subject, period, population, source, test, exception, and reviewer.

03 / EXPLAIN

Describe support, limitations, and contradiction in plain language.

04 / REDUCE

Remove decorative artifacts and close material lineage gaps.

05 / PROVE

Package enough context for another learner to reproduce the reasoning.

THE FIELD LAW

THE LINE WORTH REMEMBERING

A FOLDER STORES FILES. EVIDENCE HYGIENE PRESERVES WHY A FILE DESERVES BELIEF.

Complete the Claim Evidence Matrix for one fictional access-review assertion.

START WITH THE SOURCE MATERIAL

These references ground the practitioner interpretation. They do not turn the metaphor or method into official PCI DSS terminology.

- WACK-SOURCE-0001 / PCI DSS v4.0.1 / PCI Security Standards Council / [Open source](#)

- WACK-SOURCE-0106 / Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard / PCI Security Standards Council / [Open source](#)

AUTHORITY CLASSIFICATION / PCI_SSC_SOURCE / PRACTITIONER_POSITION / PRACTITIONER_METHOD / AI_ASSISTED

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