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Conference
2023

A glitch in the Matrix: Attack as Déjà vu

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28 de novembro de 2023





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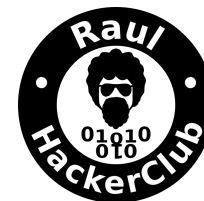
Introduction

Who am I, motivation and scope

\$ whoami



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SWARTZ



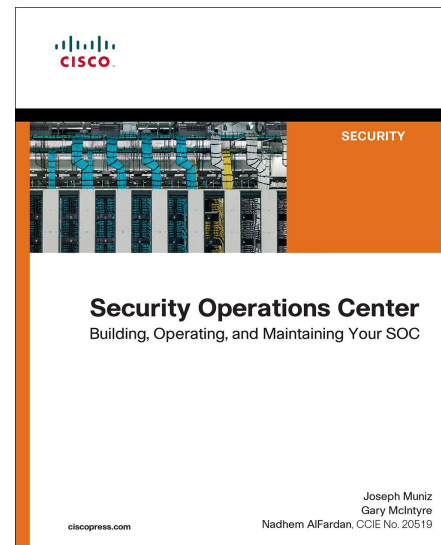
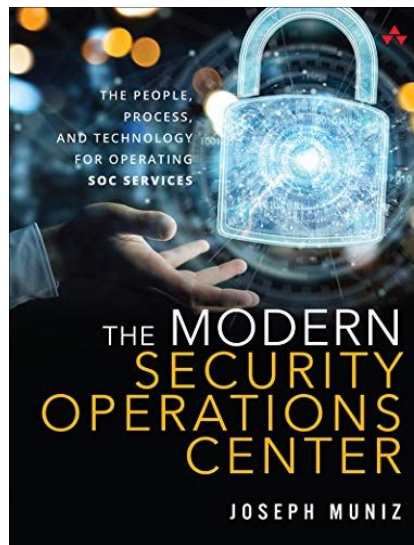
Motivation



Motivation



Scope





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Security Operations Center (SOC)

What is a SOC?

SOC, what is it?



SOC, what is it?

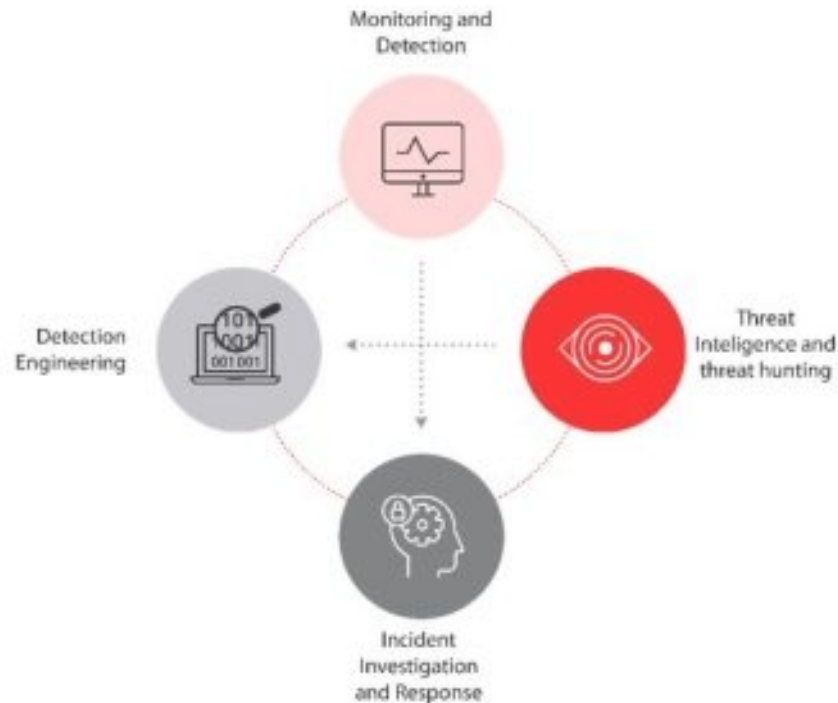
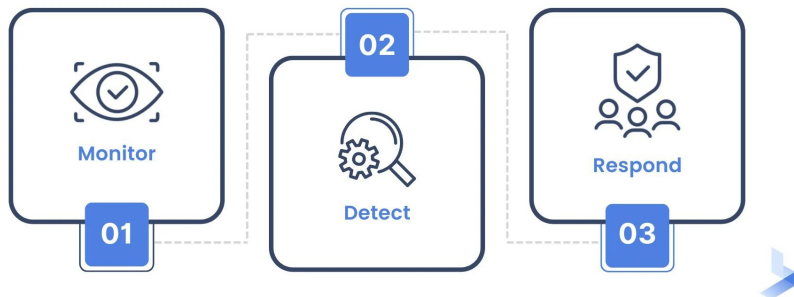
“SOC is not SIEM”

by someone smart

SIEM: Security Information and Event Management

SOC, more than MDR

THREE STEPS OF MANAGED DETECTION AND RESPONSE

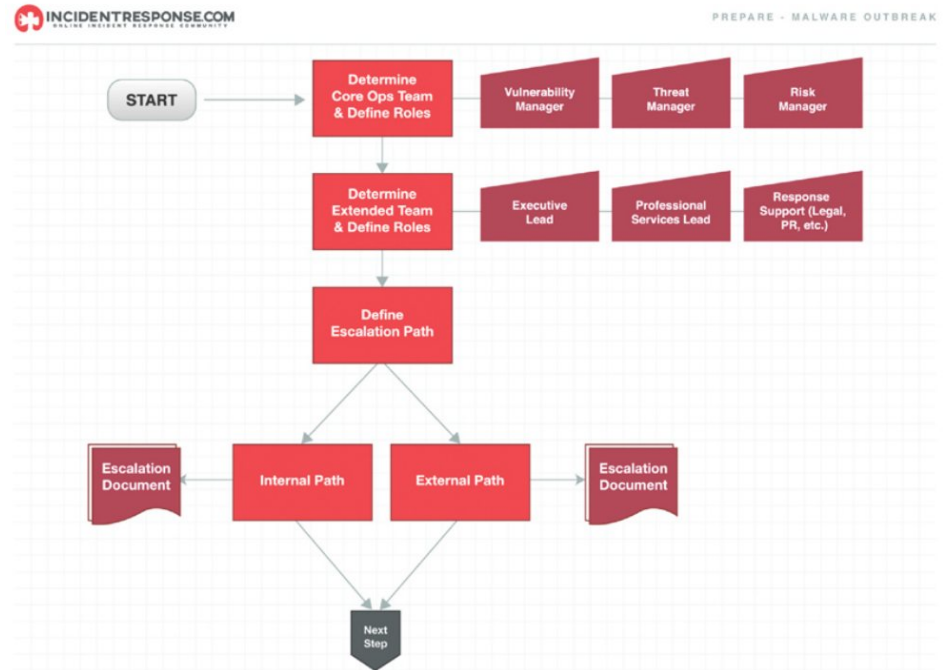
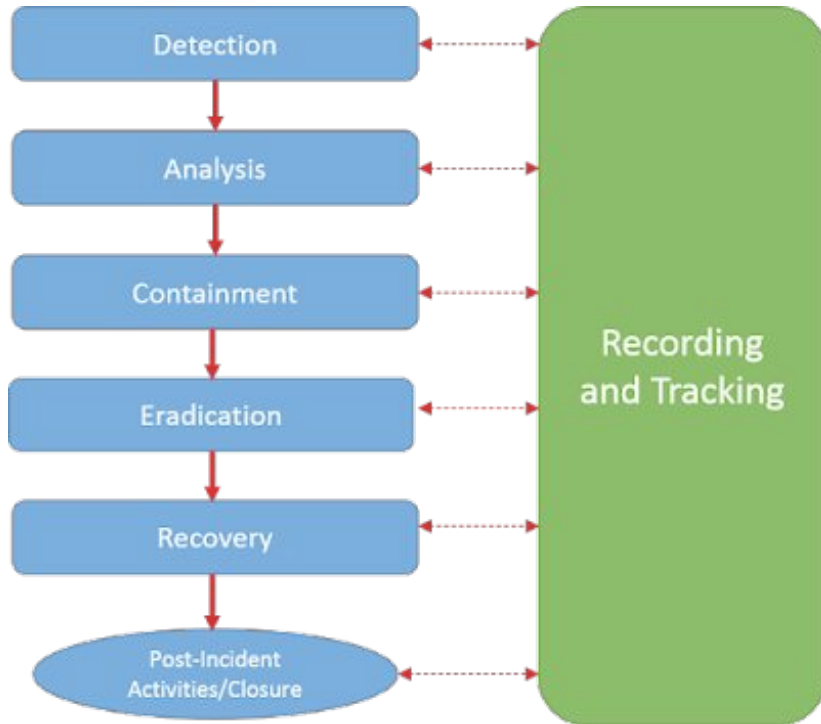


SOC, incident types

	Precursor	Indicator
Natural Disaster	Bad weather forecast	Multiple power interruptions
System Problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lag in response for multiple software services• Web server log entries that show vulnerability scanner usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multiple power interruptions• Noticeable period of fluctuation in power supply• Continuous period of temperature increase in direct current (DC)• Network intrusion detection sensor alerts when buffer overflow attempt occurs against database server
Man-made	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Announcement of new exploit that targets vulnerability of organization's mail server• A threat from a group stating that the group will attack the organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Antivirus software alerts when it detects that a host is infected with malware.• A system administrator sees a filename with unusual characters.

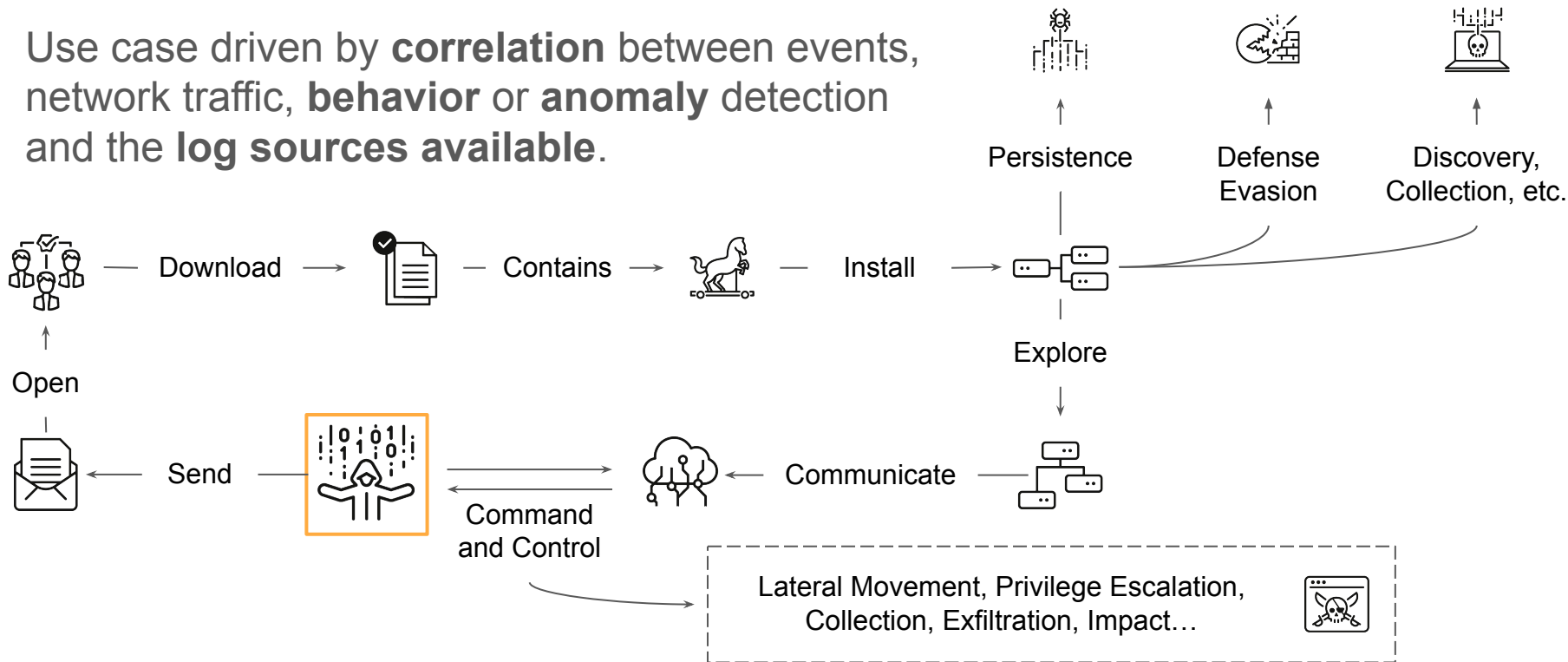


SOC, incident response and run/playbooks



SOC, attack path + intelligence

Use case driven by **correlation** between events, network traffic, **behavior** or **anomaly** detection and the **log sources available**.



SOC, incident characteristics and handling

Incident Prioritization Matrix

		Impact		
		High-System Wide Business Unit, Department, Location	Medium-Multiple Users Number of Users	Low-Single User Single User
Urgency	High Can no longer perform primary work functions	Critical	High	Moderate
	Medium Work functions impaired, the workaround in place	High	Moderate	Low
	Low Inconvenient	Moderate	Low	Low

- Severity (appropriate classification)
- Level / tag (enrichment);
- Incident handling (analysis);
- Runbook / Act / Call;
- Escalation (correlation / hunting);
- **Containment, Eradication, and Recovery;**
- Lessons learned.



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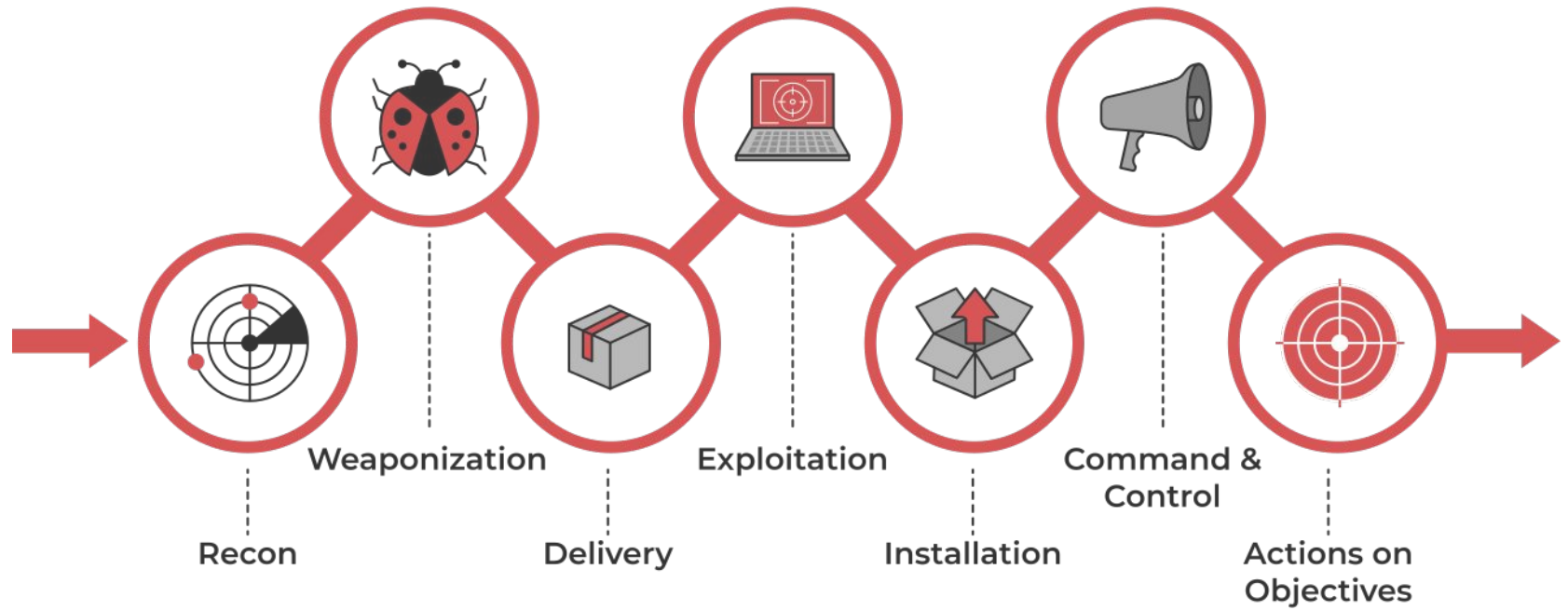
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Frameworks

Attacker thinking and some frameworks:

Cyber Kill Chain, Insider Threat Kill Chain and Mitre Att&ck.

Cyber Kill Chain, by stage



Insider Threat Kill Chain, by stage

THE INSIDER THREAT KILL CHAIN

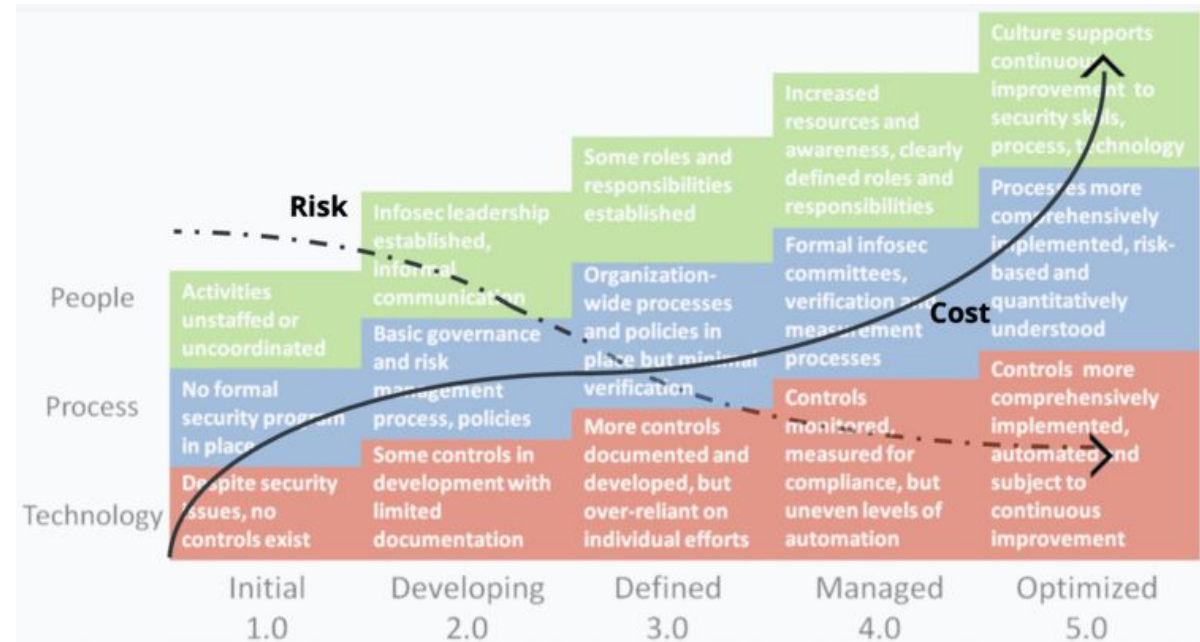


Mitre Att&ck, by tactics

MITRE ATT&CK Tactics in the Enterprise Matrix



Mitre Att&ck, disclaimer



Mitre Att&ck, the matrix



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Reconnaissance 10 techniques	Resource Development 7 techniques	Initial Access 9 techniques	Execution 12 techniques	Persistence 19 techniques	Privilege Escalation 13 techniques	Defense Evasion 39 techniques	Credential Access 15 techniques	Discovery 27 techniques	Lateral Movement 9 techniques	Collection 17 techniques	Command and Control 16 techniques	Exfiltration 9 techniques	Impact 13 techniques
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Active Scanning (2)Gather Victim Host Information (4)Gather Victim Identity Information (3)Gather Victim Network Information (3)Gather Victim Org Information (4)Phishing for Information (2)Search Closed Sources (2)Search Open Technical Databases (3)Search Open Websites/Domains (2)Search Victim-Owned Websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Acquire Infrastructure (4)Compromise Accounts (2)Compromise Infrastructure (4)Develop Capabilities (4)Establish Accounts (2)Obtain Capabilities (4)Stage Capabilities (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Drive-by CompromiseExploit Public-Facing ApplicationExternal Remote ServicesHardware AdditionsPhishing (2)Replication Through Removable MediaSupply Chain Compromise (3)Trusted RelationshipValid Accounts (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Command and Scripting Interpreter (4)Container Administration CommandDeploy ContainersExploitation for Client ExecutionInter-Process Communication (2)Native APIScheduled Task/Job (7)Shared ModulesSoftware Deployment ToolsSystem Services (2)User Execution (3)Windows Management Instrumentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Account Manipulation (4)BITS_JobsBoot or Logon Autostart Execution (14)Boot or Logon Initialization Scripts (5)Browser ExtensionsCompromise Client Software BinaryCreate Account (3)Create or Modify System Process (4)Event Triggered Execution (13)External Remote ServicesHijack Execution Flow (11)Implant Internal StageModify Authentication Process (4)Pre-OS Boot (3)Scheduled Task/Job (7)Server Software Component (3)Traffic Signaling (1)Valid Accounts (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (4)Access Token Manipulation (3)BITS_JobsBuild Image on HostDecompilate/Decode Files or InformationDeploy ContainerDirect Volume AccessDomain Policy Modification (2)Escape to HostEvent Triggered Execution (13)Exploitation for Privilege EscalationHijack Execution Flow (11)Process Injection (11)Scheduled Task/Job (7)Valid Accounts (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Abuse Elevation Control Mechanism (4)Access Token Manipulation (3)BITS_JobsBuild Image on HostDecompilate/Decode Files or InformationDeploy ContainerDirect Volume AccessDomain Policy Modification (2)Execution Guardrails (1)Exploitation for Defense EvasionFile and Directory Permissions Modification (2)Hide Artifacts (7)Hijack Execution Flow (11)Impair Defenses (7)Indicator Removal on Host (8)Indirect Command ExecutionMasquerading (4)Modify Authentication Process (4)Modify Cloud Compute Infrastructure (4)Modify RegistryModify System Image (2)Network Boundary Bridging (1)Obfuscated Files or Information (2)Pre-OS Boot (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brute Force (4)Credentials from Password Stores (2)Exploitation for Credential AccessForced AuthenticationForge Web Credentials (2)Input Capture (4)Man-in-the-Middle (2)Modify Authentication Process (4)Network SniffingOS Credential Dumping (4)Sniff Application Access TokenSteal or Forge Kerberos Tickets (1)Steal Web Session CookieTwo-Factor Authentication InterceptionUnsecured Credentials (7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Account Discovery (4)Application Window DiscoveryBrowser Bookmark DiscoveryCloud Infrastructure DiscoveryCloud Service DashboardCloud Service DiscoveryContainer and Resource DiscoveryDomain Trust DiscoveryFile and Directory DiscoveryNetwork Service ScanningNetwork Share DiscoveryNetwork SniffingPassword Policy DiscoveryPeripheral Device DiscoveryPermission Groups Discovery (2)Process DiscoveryQuery RegistryRemote System DiscoverySoftware Discovery (1)System Information DiscoverySystem Location DiscoverySystem Network Configuration Discovery (1)System Network Connections DiscoverySystem Owner/User DiscoverySystem Service Discovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Exploitation of Remote ServicesInternal SpearphishingLateral Tool TransferRemote Service Session Hijacking (2)Remote Services (8)Replication Through Removable MediaSoftware Deployment ToolsTaint Shared ContentUse Alternate Authentication Material (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Archive Collected Data (2)Automated CollectionClipboard DataData from Cloud Storage ObjectData from Configuration Repository (2)Data from Information Repositories (2)Data from Local SystemData from Network Shared DriveData from Removable MediaData Staged (2)Email Collection (2)Input Capture (4)Man in the BrowserMan-in-the-Middle (2)Screen CaptureVideo Capture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Application Layer Protocol (4)Communication Through Removable MediaData Encoding (2)Data Obfuscation (2)Dynamic Resolution (2)Encrypted Channel (2)Fallback ChannelsIngress Tool TransferMulti-Stage ChannelsNon-Application Layer ProtocolNon-Standard PortProtocol TunnelingProxy (4)Remote Access SoftwareTraffic Signaling (1)Web Service (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Automated Exfiltration (1)Data Transfer Size LimitsExfiltration Over Alternative Protocol (3)Exfiltration Over C2 ChannelExfiltration Over Other Network Medium (1)Exfiltration Over Physical Medium (1)Exfiltration Over Web Service (2)Scheduled TransferTransfer Data to Cloud Account	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Account Access RemovalData DestructionData Encrypted for ImpactData Manipulation (2)Defacement (2)Disk Wipe (2)Endpoint Denial of Service (4)Inhibit CorruptionInhibit System RecoveryNetwork Denial of Service (2)Resource HijackingService StopSystem Shutdown/Reboot

Multiple attack mapped by environment / sector to model threat scenarios with attacker mindset.



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Threat Scenarios

Modeling with knowledge of
business

Threat scenarios, what are they?

threat scenario

Definitions:



 A set of discrete threat events, associated with a specific threat source or multiple threat sources, partially ordered in time.

Sources:

[NIST SP 800-160 Vol. 2 Rev. 1](#) from [NIST SP 800-30 Rev. 1](#)

[NIST SP 800-161r1](#) from [NIST SP 800-30 Rev. 1](#)

[NISTIR 7622](#) under Threat Scenario from [NIST SP 800-30 Rev. 1](#)

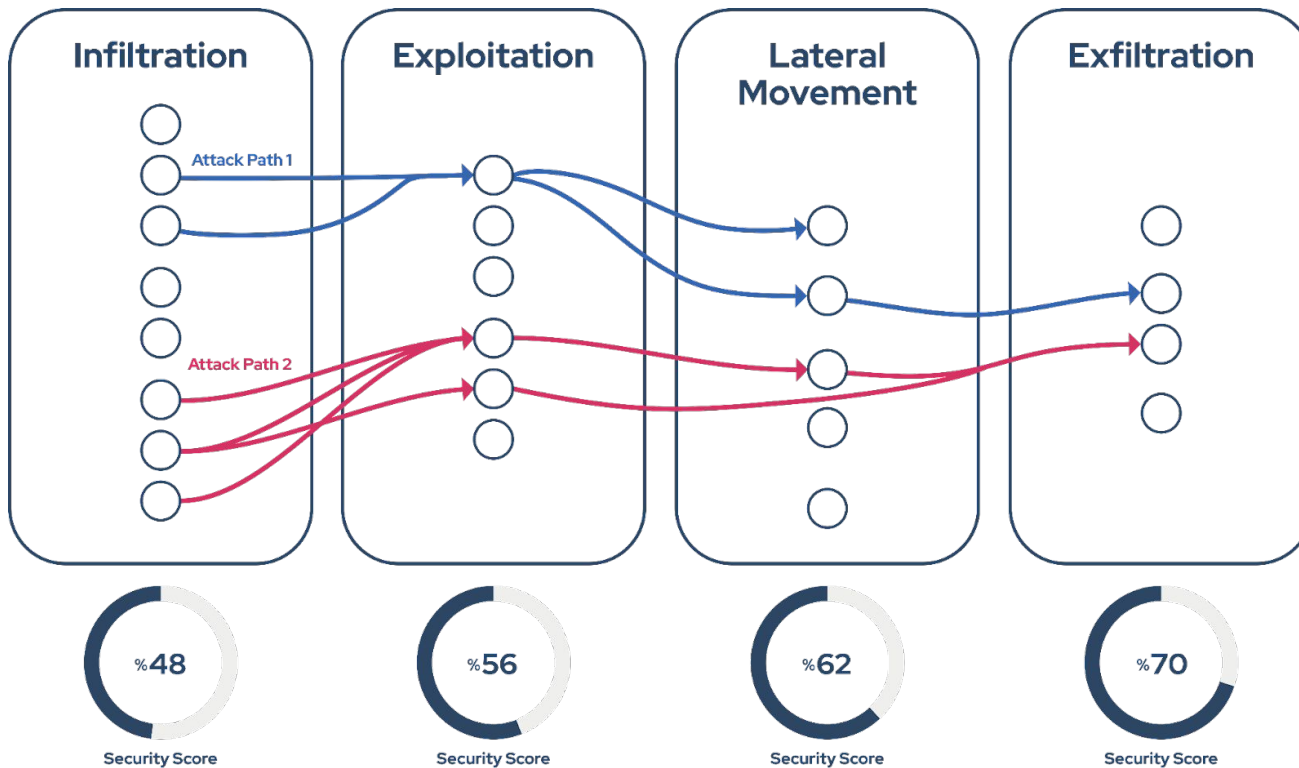
 A set of discrete threat events, associated with a specific threat source or multiple threat sources, partially ordered in time. Synonym for Threat Campaign. 

Sources:

[NIST SP 800-30 Rev. 1](#) under Threat Scenario

Campaign may
imply insistence

Threat scenarios, attack path and mindset



Threat scenarios, ex: phishing

- 1) Phishing detected with a **spreadsheet attached**, without macros, claiming to be confidential content for a specific department.
- 2) Phishing detected with a **link to a form** that may attempt to steal the user's credentials, to everyone.
- 3) Phishing detected with a **malware attached**, claiming to the execution.
- 4) Phishing detected **from a C-level account!!!**



Phishing, some techniques and tactics

[\(T1566\)](#)

Phishing

Tactic: **Initial Access**

Sub-techniques:

T1566.001,
T1566.002,
T1566.003,
T1566.004

[\(T1598\)](#)

Phishing for Information

Tactic: **Reconnaissance**

Sub-techniques:

T1598.001,
T1598.002,
T1598.003,
T1598.004

[\(T1534\)](#)

Internal Spearphishing

Tactic: **Lateral Movement**



Related tactics: Resource Development, Initial Access, Execution, Defense Evasion, Discovery, Lateral Movement... **always business-oriented!**

Threat scenarios, other scenarios



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```
./exp.sh: line 3: 40281 Segmentation fault      ./exploit
[i] Try 2837
[.] crafting payload...
[.] triggering heap overflow...
./exp.sh: line 3: 40282 Segmentation fault      ./exploit
[i] Try 2838
[.] crafting payload...
[.] triggering heap overflow...
./exp.sh: line 3: 40283 Segmentation fault      ./exploit
[i] Try 2839
[.] crafting payload...
[.] triggering heap overflow...
./exp.sh: line 3: 40284 Segmentation fault      ./exploit
[i] Try 2840
[.] crafting payload...
[.] triggering heap overflow...
[+] callback executed!
[+] we are root!
# id
uid=0(root) gid=0(root) groups=0(root)
# █
```

Threat scenarios, appropriate classification

Priority Code = Incident Scale	Incident Impact	Target Response Time	Target Resolution Time
1	Critical	< 5 min With a 24-hour response team	< 1 hour
2	High	< 15 mins during office hours < 2 hours after office hours for an office-hour response team. Otherwise, 4-8 hours depending on site.	< 4 hours
3	Medium	< 15 mins during office hours < 2 hours after office hours for an office-hour response team. Otherwise, 4-8 hours depending on site.	< 8 hours
4	Low	< 15 mins during office hours < 2 hours after office hours for an office-hour response team. Otherwise, 4-8 hours depending on site.	< 24 hours
5	Very Low	No response needed with system auto-filter.	--

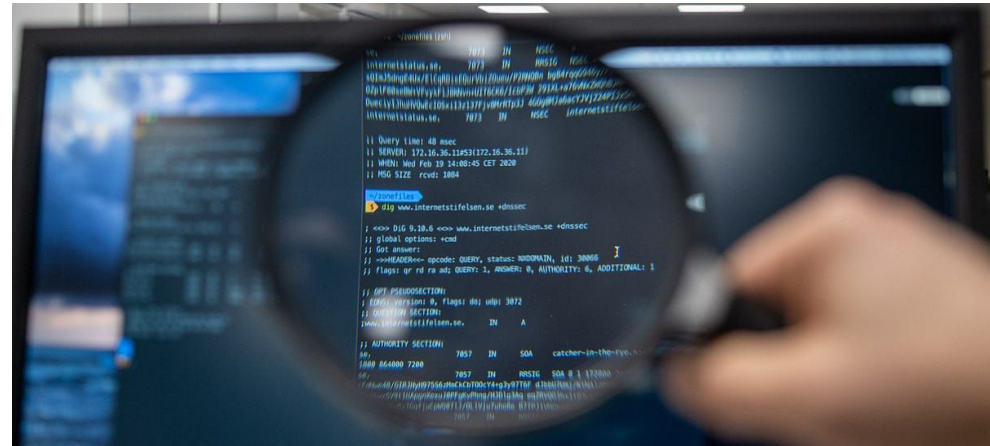
Considering:

- Priority;
- Impact;
- Responsible team;
- Resolution time;
- **Mitigation!**

Threat scenarios, business-oriented

- Knowledge of business;
- Specific behavior detection;
- Special anomaly detection;
- Cross-department correlation (DLP, NAC, etc.);

etc.





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Conclusion

Because conclusion is also important

Conclusion, complex and abstract



Conclusion, what have we learned?

- Appropriate classification <3;
- Threat modeling mapped by environment / sector;
- Balance between cost, risk and maturity;
- Attacker mindset is very useful;
- Use cases business-oriented;
- Deep details making the difference;
- Efficient and effective incident handling;
- There are no bugs in the matrix... really? :)

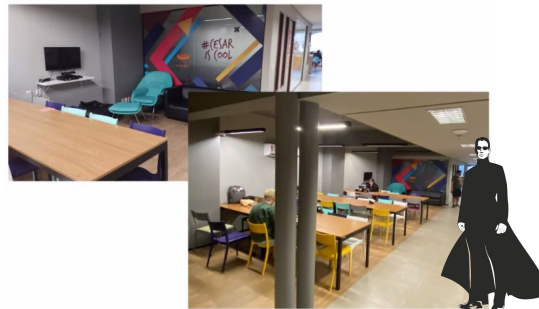


Thank you!

by Manoelito Filho ([LinkedIn](#))
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Suggestions and questions, ping me ;)



We are at “Ask the Experts” space!





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Let's deeper dive into :)

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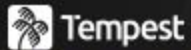
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