



ATT&CK and Deception

Agostino Panico

vanlsh@protonmail.com

[@Vanlsh_BSidesIT](https://twitter.com/Vanlsh_BSidesIT)

Agenda

- Quick intro to cyber deception
- Common deception issues and risks
- Attacker targeting mindset
- Modern deception key points
- Conclusions
- Q&A

Deception Introduction

“Men are so simple of mind, and so much dominated by their **immediate** needs, that a deceitful man will always find plenty who are ready to be **deceived**.”

Niccolò Machiavelli

What's Cyber Deception

The goal of cyber deception is to more **effectively** detect attacks that have infiltrated an organization's network, to confuse and **misdirect** the attacker, and to understand what assets have been **compromised**.

What's Cyber Deception

Common Deception Focus Point:

- Manipulating the **One Thing** that Cyber Attackers Count On;
- Providing **Instant** Gratification;
- Going **Beyond** Common Security Implementation;
- **Simplifying** the implementation and the maintenance.

Cyber Deception Issues

Manipulating the **One Thing** that Cyber Attackers Count On.

- Relies on the common misconception that the attack is not correctly planned, and the **Offensive Cyber Operation** relies only on information gathered from the attack itself.
- Limited application:
 - *Script kiddies*;
 - *Hacktivist(??)*.

Providing **Instant** Gratification.

- Let's focus on the term **Gratification**:

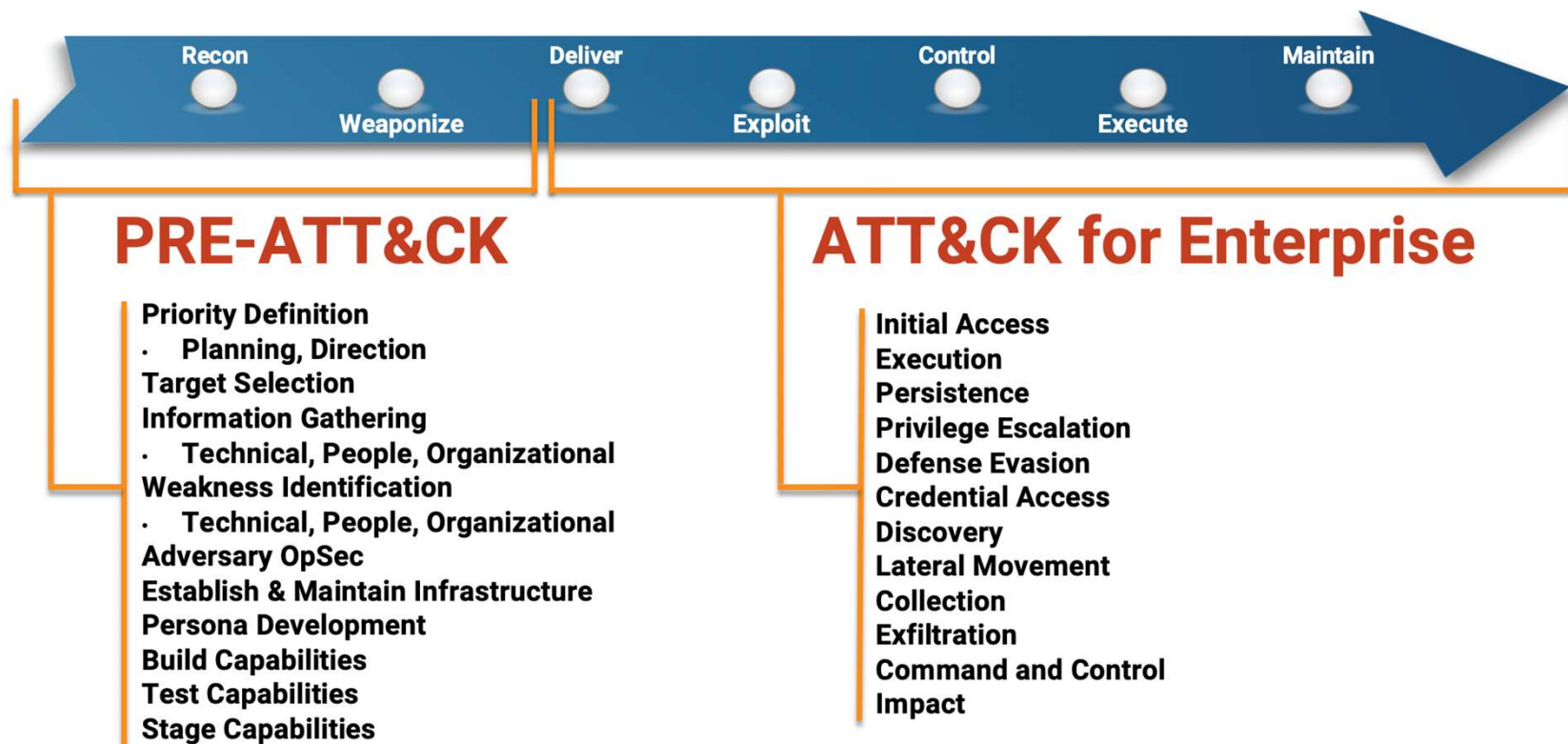
The definition of gratification is satisfaction or pleasure you feel when you get something you wanted or worked for.

- To correctly evaluate the gratification, we need to know the **target** of a specific **Offensive Cyber Operation**

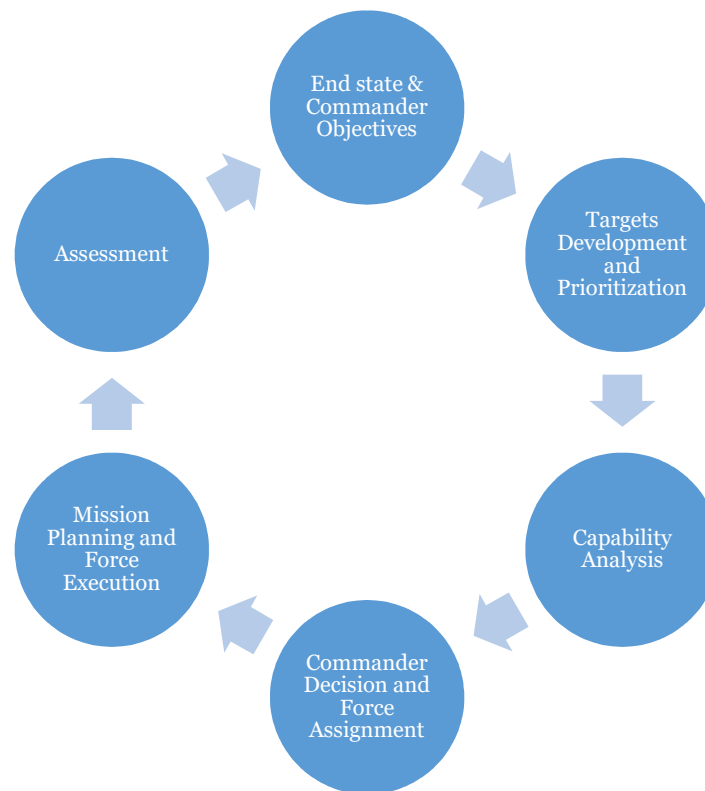
Advanced Persistent Threat Mindset

- Advanced
 - Logistics, **Planning**, Organization;
- Persistent
 - Focus on the long run goal, and not **immediate** gratification;

MITRE (PRE)-ATT&CK Framework

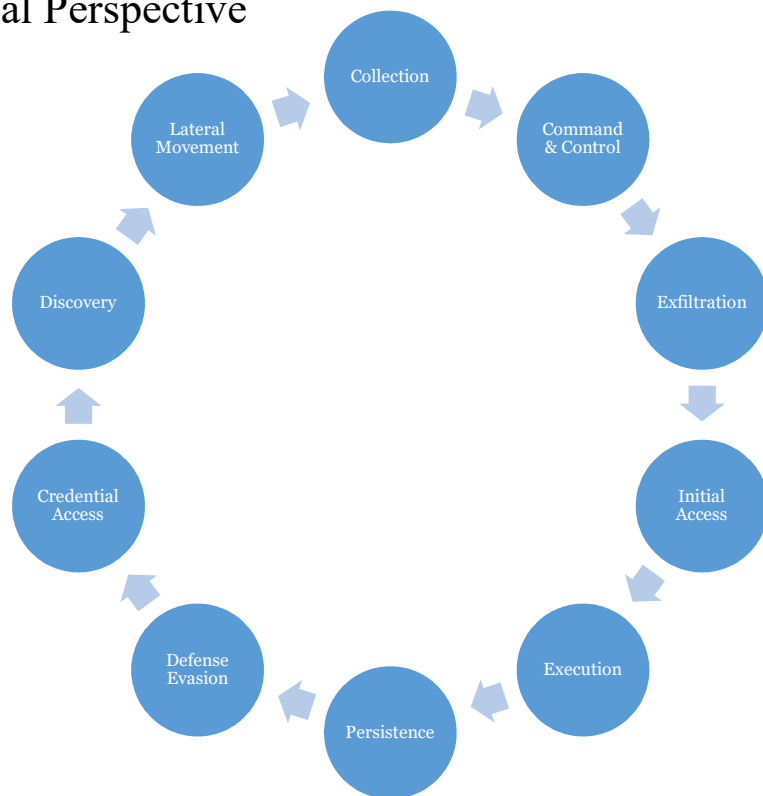


Targeting Cycle

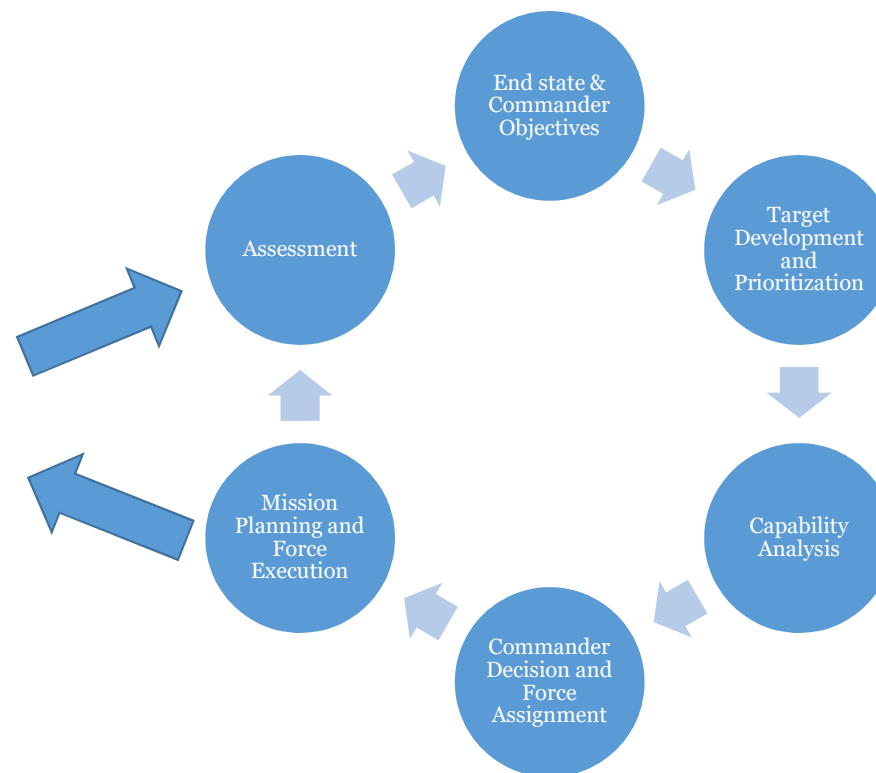


Targeting Cycle with ATT&CK Framework in OODA Loop Style

Tactical Perspective



Operational Perspective



Threat Model and Deception Path Example

| Initial Access | Execution | Persistence | Privilege Escalation | Defense Evasion | Credential Access | Discovery | Lateral Movement | Collection | Command And Control | Exfiltration |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|------------------------------------|---|---|
| 11 items | 28 items | 44 items | 23 items | 60 items | 18 items | 23 items | 16 items | 13 items | 21 items | 9 items |
| Drive-by Compromise | CMSTP | Accessibility Features | Access Token Manipulation | Access Token Manipulation | Account Manipulation | Account Discovery | Application Deployment Software | Audio Capture | Commonly Used Port | Automated Exfiltration |
| Exploit Public-Facing Application | Command-Line Interface | Account Manipulation | Access Token Manipulation | Binary Padding | Brute Force | Application Window Discovery | Component Object Model and Distributed COM | Automated Collection | Communication Through Removable Media | Data Compressed |
| External Remote Services | Compiled HTML File | AppCert DLLs | AppCert DLLs | BITS Jobs | Credential Dumping | Browser Bookmark Discovery | Clipboard Data | Clipboard Data | Connection Proxy | Data Encrypted |
| Hardware Additions | Component Object Model and Distributed COM | AppInit DLLs | AppInit DLLs | Bypass User Account Control | Credentials from Web Browsers | Domain Trust Discovery | Exploitation of Remote Services | Data from Information Repositories | Custom Command and Control Protocol | Data Transfer Size Limits |
| Replication Through Removable Media | Control Panel Items | Application Shimming | Application Shimming | CMSTP | Credentials in Files | File and Directory Discovery | Internal Spearphishing | Data from Local System | Custom Cryptographic Protocol | Exfiltration Over Alternative Protocol |
| Spearphishing Attachment | Dynamic Data Exchange | Authentication Package | Authentication Package | Code Signing | Credentials in Registry | Network Service Scanning | Logon Scripts | Data from Network Shared Drive | Data Encoding | Exfiltration Over Command and Control Channel |
| Spearphishing Link | Execution through API | BITS Jobs | BITS Jobs | Compile After Delivery | Exploitation for Credential Access | Network Share Discovery | Pass the Hash | Data from Removable Media | Data Obfuscation | Exfiltration Over Other Network Medium |
| Spearphishing via Service | Execution through Module Load | Bootkit | Bootkit | Compiled HTML File | Forced Authentication | Network Sniffing | Pass the Ticket | Data Staged | Domain Fronting | Exfiltration Over Physical Medium |
| Supply Chain Compromise | Exploitation for Client Execution | Browser Extensions | Browser Extensions | Component Firmware | Hooking | Password Policy Discovery | Remote Desktop Protocol | Email Collection | Domain Generation Algorithms | Exfiltration Over Physical Medium |
| Trusted Relationship | Exploitation for Client Execution | Change Default File Association | Change Default File Association | Component Object Model Hijacking | Input Capture | Peripheral Device Discovery | Remote File Copy | Input Capture | Fallback Channels | Scheduled Transfer |
| Valid Accounts | Graphical User Interface | Component Firmware | Component Firmware | Connection Proxy | Input Prompt | Permission Groups Discovery | Replication Through Removable Media | Man in the Browser | Multi-hop Proxy | |
| | InstallUtil | Component Object Model Hijacking | Component Object Model Hijacking | Control Panel Items | Kerberoasting | Process Discovery | Screen Capture | Screen Capture | Multi-Stage Channels | |
| | LSASS Driver | Create Account | Create Account | DCShadow | LLMNR/NBT-NS Poisoning and Relay | Query Registry | Shared Webroot | Video Capture | Multiband Communication | |
| | Mshta | DLL Search Order Hijacking | DLL Search Order Hijacking | Deobfuscate/Decode Files or Information | Network Sniffing | Remote System Discovery | Taint Shared Content | | Multilayer Encryption | |
| | PowerShell | External Remote Services | External Remote Services | Disabling Security Tools | Password Filter DLL | Security Software Discovery | Third-party Software | | Remote Access Tools | |
| | Regsvcs/Regasm | File System Permissions Weakness | File System Permissions Weakness | Execution Guardrails | Private Keys | Software Discovery | Windows Admin Shares | | Remote File Copy | |
| | Regsvr32 | Hidden Files and Directories | Hidden Files and Directories | Exploitation for Defense Evasion | Steal Web Session Cookie | System Information Discovery | Windows Remote Management | | Standard Application Layer Protocol | |
| | Rundll32 | Hooking | Hooking | Extra Window Memory Injection | Two-Factor Authentication Interception | System Network Configuration Discovery | | | Standard Cryptographic Protocol | |
| | Scheduled Task | Hypervisor | Hypervisor | File and Directory Permissions Modification | | System Network Connections Discovery | | | Standard Non-Application Layer Protocol | |
| | Scripting | Image File Execution Options Injection | Image File Execution Options Injection | File Deletion | | System Owner/User Discovery | | | Uncommonly Used Port | |
| | Service Execution | Logon Scripts | Logon Scripts | | | System Service Discovery | | | Web Service | |
| | Signed Binary Proxy Execution | LSASS Driver | LSASS Driver | | | System Time Discovery | | | | |
| | Signed Script Proxy Execution | Third-party Software | Third-party Software | | | Virtualization/Sandbox Evasion | | | | |

Modern Deception Key Points and Attacker Mindset

- Evaluating **Offensive Cyber Operation** merging **OODA**, **ATT&CK** and **Targeting** we have a clear picture of the key points of a deception system:
 - driving the attacker on a **deceive target**, according to the real target;
 - cannot be general purpose but should be **threat aware**;
 - **integrated** in the production environment, but should represent a preferential path to reach the deceive target;
 - constantly **maintained and updated** to match the threat TTPs and the threat target.

ATT&CK and Deception: Issues and Risks

Deception:

- is based on the **Threat Model**;
- to be effective should be design as **Threat-Aware**;
- relies on common **Security Mechanism**;
- is an extension of the **Attack Surface**;

Conclusion

- **Deception** is a key feature in your arsenal as **Threat Hunter**;
- The **Enterprise Maturity** level should be correctly evaluated, because you need to:
 - **Extend** Attack Surface;
 - **Integrate** in your current Cyber Defense Infrastructure;
 - **Understand** who is the threat you are facing.

Q&A

“Never attempt to win by force what can be won by deception.”

Niccolò Machiavelli

Contact:

email: van1sh@protonmail.com

twitter: [@Van1sh_BSidesIT](https://twitter.com/Van1sh_BSidesIT)

github: [poppopjmp](https://github.com/poppopjmp)

