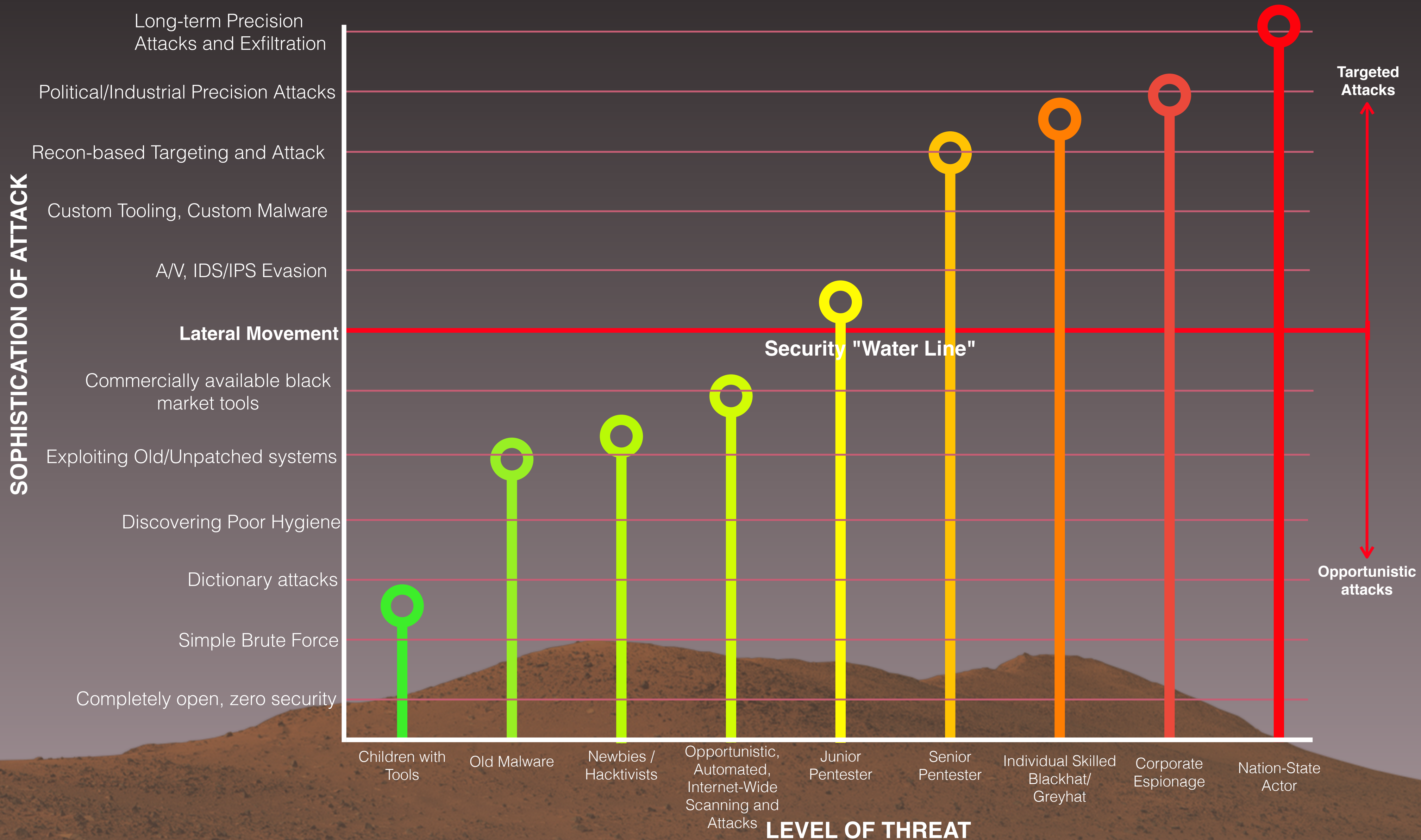


The Information Security Posture "Water Line"



The "Waterline" describes the point at which opportunistic attacks turn into targeted attacks.

Viral outbreaks and trojan infestations will fall on either side of the line, depending on if they are targeted or not.

Directed attacks will fall above the line, having some driving force, be it political or ideological in nature, or another definitive reason to precipitate an attack.

Below the line is what we often call "low hanging fruit". If random scanners can find and attack old unpatched systems automatically without human intervention, a breach is practically guaranteed.

If it takes a human to understand the complexity of the environment, simple one-shot automated tools won't do the job, and in larger scale circumstances, attacks are team-based, and at the nation state level attackers run like businesses, with staff that come into an office, their own internal IT departments, and support staff.