

Questions:

1. What are the most common TTPs in three attack actors? If not, why?
2. What are the unique TTPs for each attack actors?
3. What procedures are utilised for the unique techniques in each case (listing 3 procedures with one procedure for each technique, in other words, 3 techniques for one attack actor)?
4. Following the above question (Q3), what might be the mitigation and detection methods? (List 2-3 techniques for each technique)

Solutions:

1. There is no overlapped TTPs involved. Because different attack actors may have different characteristics, for instance, APT29 has gained access to a global administrator account in Azure AD and has used Service Principal credentials in Exchange (T1078.004 Cloud Account), while adversaries utilized two vulnerabilities in Ivanti Connect Secure and Ivanti Policy Secure gateways to implant web shells, including GLASSTOKEN and GIFTEDVISITOR on internal and external-facing web servers (T1203 Exploitation for Client Execution).
2. **APT29:** T1110 Brute Force etc.
Infamous Chisel: T1569 System Services etc.
Ivanti: T1059.001 Scripting Interpreter: PowerShell etc.
3. You may find the detailed introduction of the techniques when you right-click the button on that technique and select the “view technique”.

| Persistence | | Privilege Escalation | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 20 techniques | | 14 techniques | |
| Initialization | Scripts (0/5) | Scripts (1/037) | Deobfuscate/Files or Inform |
| | Browser Extensions | pin/unpin tooltip | Deploy Contai |
| | Compromise Host Software Binary | add to selection | Direct Volume |
| | Event Triggered Execution (0/16) | remove from selection | Domain or Ter Policy Modific |
| | Create Account (0/3) | select all | Execution Gua |
| | Create or Modify System Process (0/5) | deselect all | Exploitation for |
| | External Remote Services | invert selection | Defense Evasi |
| | Hide Artifacts | select annotated | File and Direc |
| | Hide Artifacts | select unannotated | missions |
| | Hide Artifacts | select all techniques | Modification (|
| Privilege Escalation | Hide Artifacts | deselect all techniques | Hide Artifacts |
| | Hide Artifacts | view technique | Hijack Executi |
| Escape to Host | | view tactic | (0/13) |

APT29: *T1110 Brute Force etc.*

- **Procedures:** using Ncrack to reveal credentials; used the tool GET2 Penetrator to look for remote login and hard-coded credentials; using John the Ripper to crack the password of the system.

Infamous Chisel: *T1569 System Services etc.*

- **Procedures:** using svchost.exe to execute a malicious DLL; using Windows services as a way to execute its malicious payload; using PsExec to perform remote service manipulation to execute a copy of itself as part of lateral movement

Ivanti: *T1059.001 Scripting Interpreter: PowerShell etc.*

- **Procedures:** executing PowerShell commands to delete system volume shadow copies; using PowerShell on victim systems to download and run payloads after exploitation; using PowerShell to execute malicious code.

4. **APT29:** *T1110 Brute Force*

- **Mitigations:** Account Use Policies; Multi-factor Authentication; Password Policies.
- **Detections:** Application Log; Executed Command Monitor; User Account Authentication.

Infamous Chisel: *T1569 System Services*

- **Mitigations:** Antivirus/Antimalware; Disable or Remove Feature or Program; Privileged Account Management
- **Detection:** File Modification Monitor; Process Creation Monitor; Service Creation Monitor

Ivanti: *T1059.001 Scripting Interpreter: PowerShell*

- **Mitigations:** Privileged Account Management; Restrict File and Directory Permissions; User Account Management
- **Detection:** Script Execution Monitor; Process Creation Monitor; Module Load Monitor.

Questions:

5. What are the most common TTPs in ransomware attacks?
6. What are the unique TTPs for each ransomware attack case?
7. What procedures are utilised for the unique techniques in each case (listing 3 procedures with one procedure for each technique, in other words, 3 techniques for one attack actor)?
8. Following the above question (Q3), what might be the mitigation and detection methods? (List 2-3 techniques for each technique)

5. The common TTPs involved in three cases are:
T1133 External Remote Services, *T1078 Valid Accounts* for **Initial Access** and *T1486 Data Encrypted* for **Impact** under the **Impact** tactic.

6. **Lockbit:** *T1189 Drive-by Compromise (Under Initial Access)*
Play: *T1570 Lateral Tool Transfer (Under Lateral Movement)*
BianLian: *T1098 Account Manipulation (Under Persistence)*

In different ransomware threat cases, the adversary may exploit different strategies based on their prior knowledge. For instance, in the Lockbit ransomware case, LockBit affiliates gain access to a system through a user visiting a website over the normal course of browsing, which is unique to this case.

7. **Lockbit:** *T1189 Drive-by Compromise (Under Initial Access)*
- **Procedures:** using watering hole attacks, often with zero-day exploits, to gain initial access to victims within a specific IP range; leveraging a watering hole to serve up malicious code; compromising targets via strategic web compromise (SWC) utilizing a custom exploit kit.
- Play:** *T1570 Lateral Tool Transfer (Under Lateral Movement)*
- **Procedures:** using remote shares to move and remotely execute payloads during lateral movement; copying tools between compromised hosts using SMB; copying files to other machines on a compromised network.
- BianLian:** *T1098 Account Manipulation (Under Persistence)*
- **Procedures:** adding permissions and remote logins to all users.; granting privileges to domain accounts; adding a user named DefaultAccount to the Administrators and Remote Desktop Users groups.

8. **Lockbit:** *T1189 Drive-by Compromise (Under Initial Access)*
- **Mitigations:** Application Isolation and Sandboxing; Restrict Web-Based Content; Update Software
 - **Detection:** Application Log; Network Traffic; File Creation Monitor
- Play:** *T1570 Lateral Tool Transfer (Under Lateral Movement)*
- **Mitigations:** Filter Network Traffic; Network Intrusion Prevention
 - **Detection:** Command Execution Monitor; Network Traffic Flow Monitor; Process Creation Monitor;
- BianLian:** *T1098 Account Manipulation (Under Persistence)*
- **Mitigations:** Multi-factor Authentication; Network Segmentation; User Account Management
 - **Detection:** File Modification Monitor; File Modification Monitor; User Account Modification Monitor

Questions:

9. Comparing it with the previous two combined layers, what techniques are also listed in the layer we just created for the summary?
10. What procedures are utilised to implement these techniques, if possible, list with procedure examples?
11. Following the above question, what might be the mitigation and detection methods? (List 2-3 defence techniques for each)

9. For instance, ***T1068 Exploitation for Privilege Escalation*** (Under Privilege Escalation tactic). The ACSC has identified the use of the *RottenPotato* exploit to gain SYSTEM level privileges on vulnerable systems. The exploit works by tricking the *NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM* account into authenticating via *NTLM* to a compromised TCP endpoint. A man-in-the-middle attack is performed on the authentication process, allowing an actor to impersonate the SYSTEM security token.¹

10. ***T1068 Exploitation for Privilege Escalation***

- ***Procedures:*** deploying a malicious kernel driver through exploitation of CVE-2015-2291 in the Intel Ethernet diagnostics driver for Windows (iqvw64.sys); leveraging a vulnerability in Windows containers to perform an Escape to Host; exploiting vulnerabilities in the VBoxDrv.sys driver to obtain kernel mode privileges.

11. ***T1068 Exploitation for Privilege Escalation***

- ***Mitigations:*** Application Isolation and Sandboxing; Threat Intelligence Program; Exploit Protection
- ***Detection:*** Driver Load Detection; Process Creation Monitor.

¹ <https://www.cyber.gov.au/about-us/advisories/summary-tactics-techniques-and-procedures-used-target-australian-networks>