

System Administration

Week 11, Segment 3: System Security III
From the Attack Life Cycle to Zero Trust

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Defense in Depth

Security is like an onion:
the more layers you peel away, the more it stinks.

Never assume any one protection mechanism is sufficient.

Always assume the other protections you deployed
can be circumvented or broken.

The Attack Life Cycle



Initial Recon

The Attack Life Cycle



Initial Compromise



Initial Recon

The Attack Life Cycle



Establish Foothold



Initial Recon



Initial Compromise

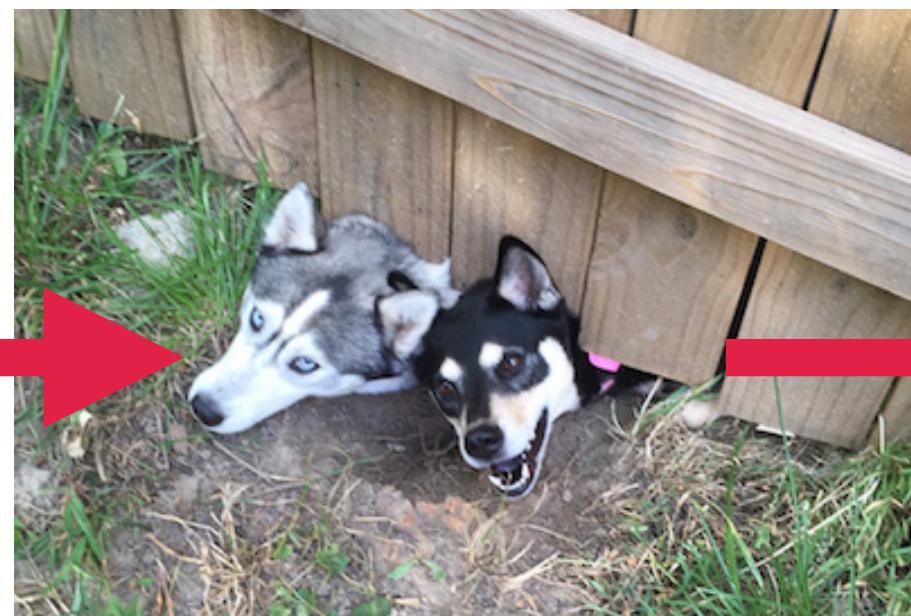
The Attack Life Cycle



Escalate Privileges



Initial Recon



Initial Compromise



Establish Foothold

Internal Recon

The Attack Life Cycle



Initial Recon

Initial Compromise

Establish Foothold

Escalate Privileges



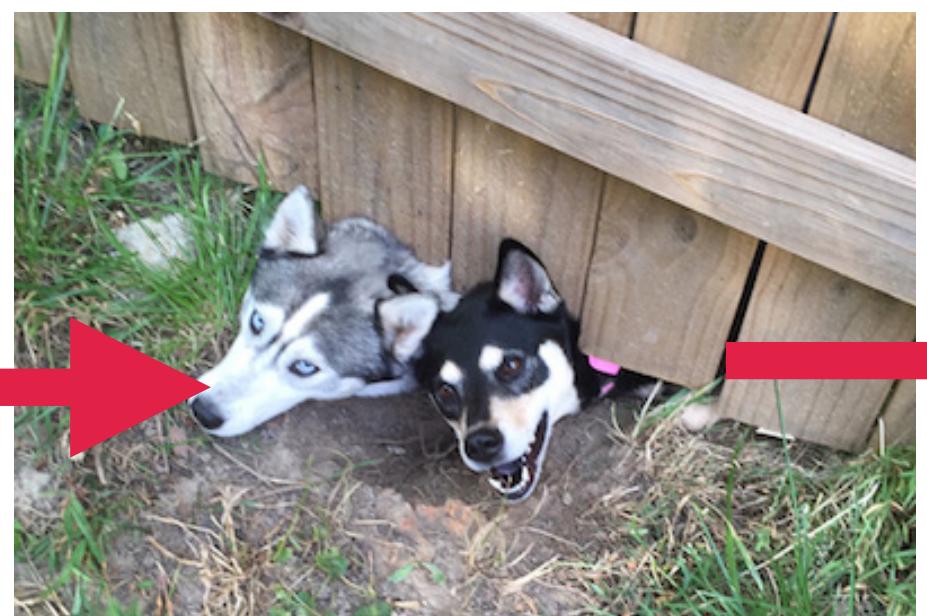
Lateral Move



Internal Recon



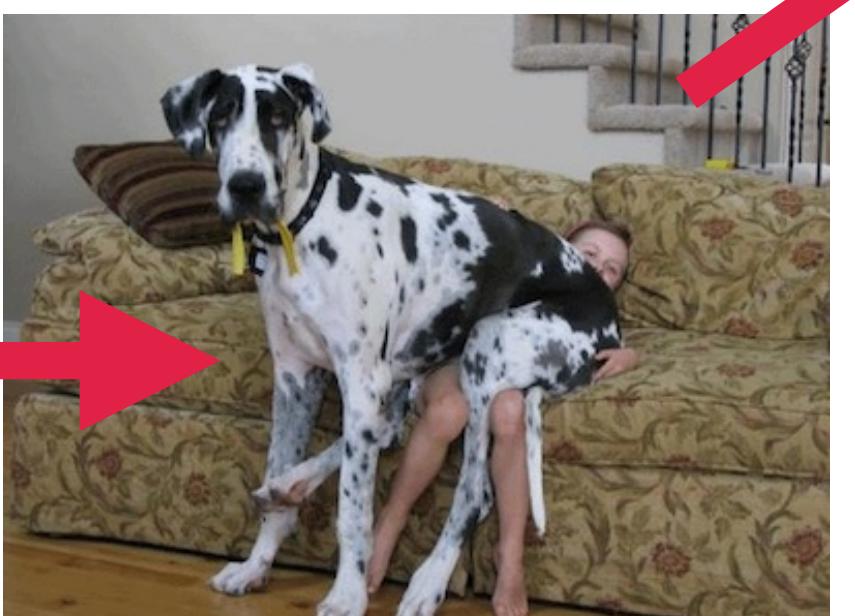
Initial Recon



Initial Compromise



Establish Foothold



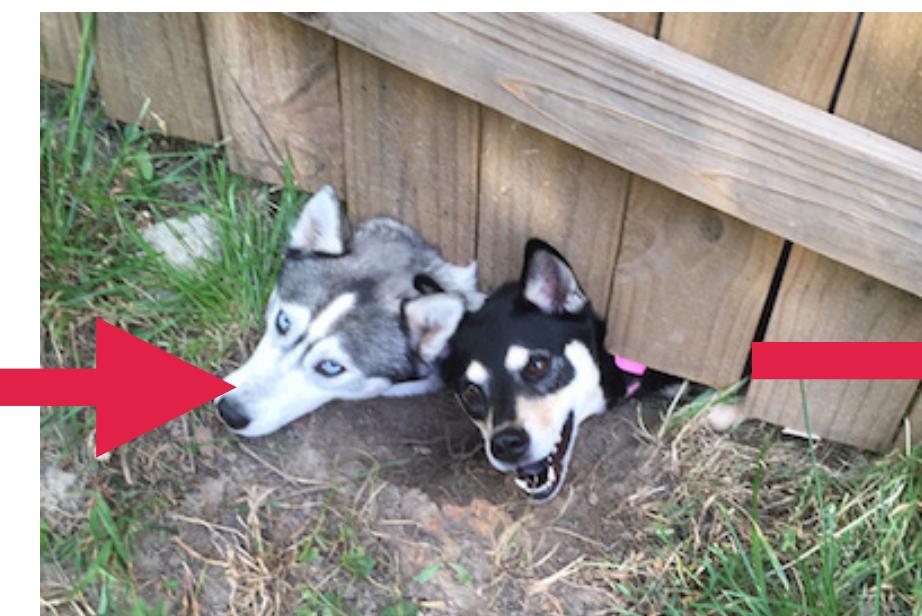
Escalate Privileges



Maintain Presence



Initial Recon



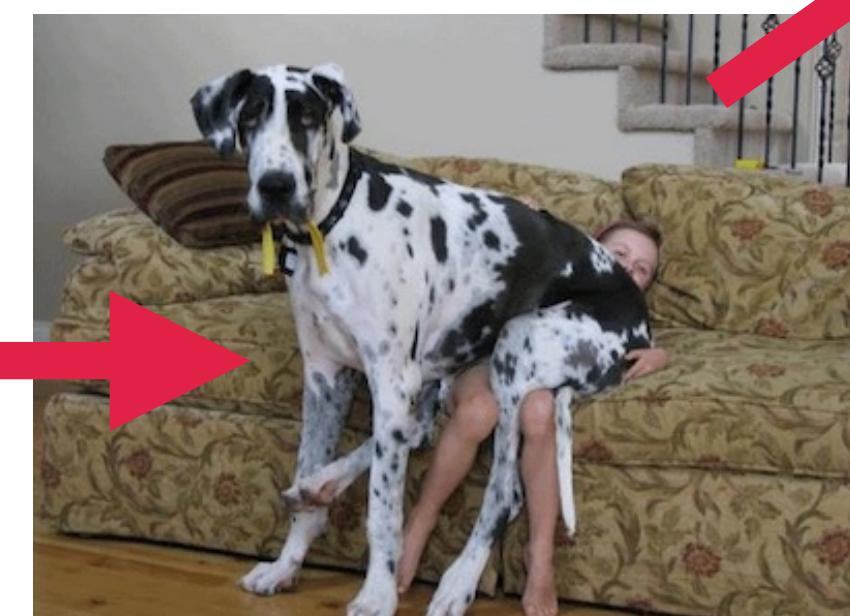
Initial Compromise



Establish Foothold



Lateral Move



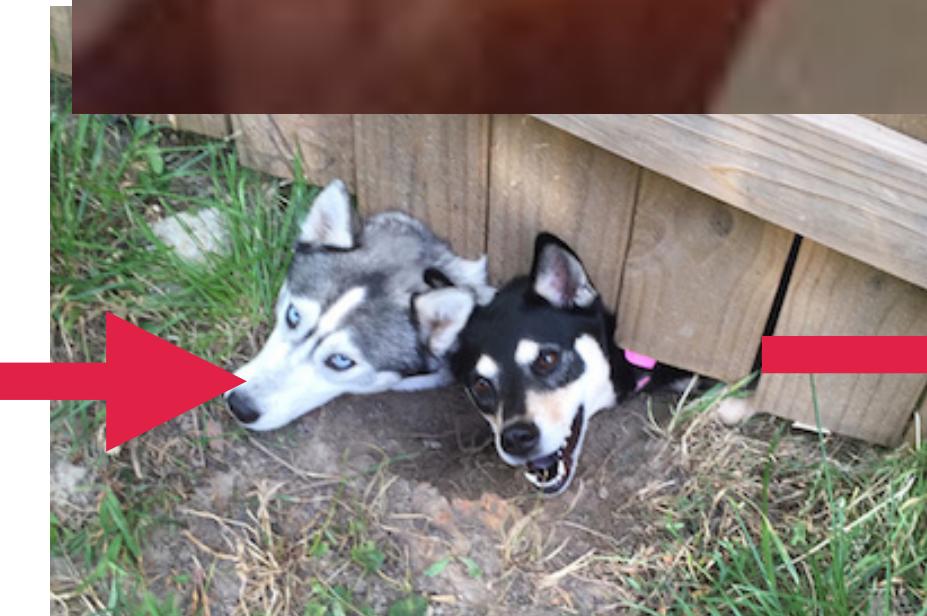
Escalate Privileges



Internal Recon

The Attack Line

Complete Mission



Initial Recon

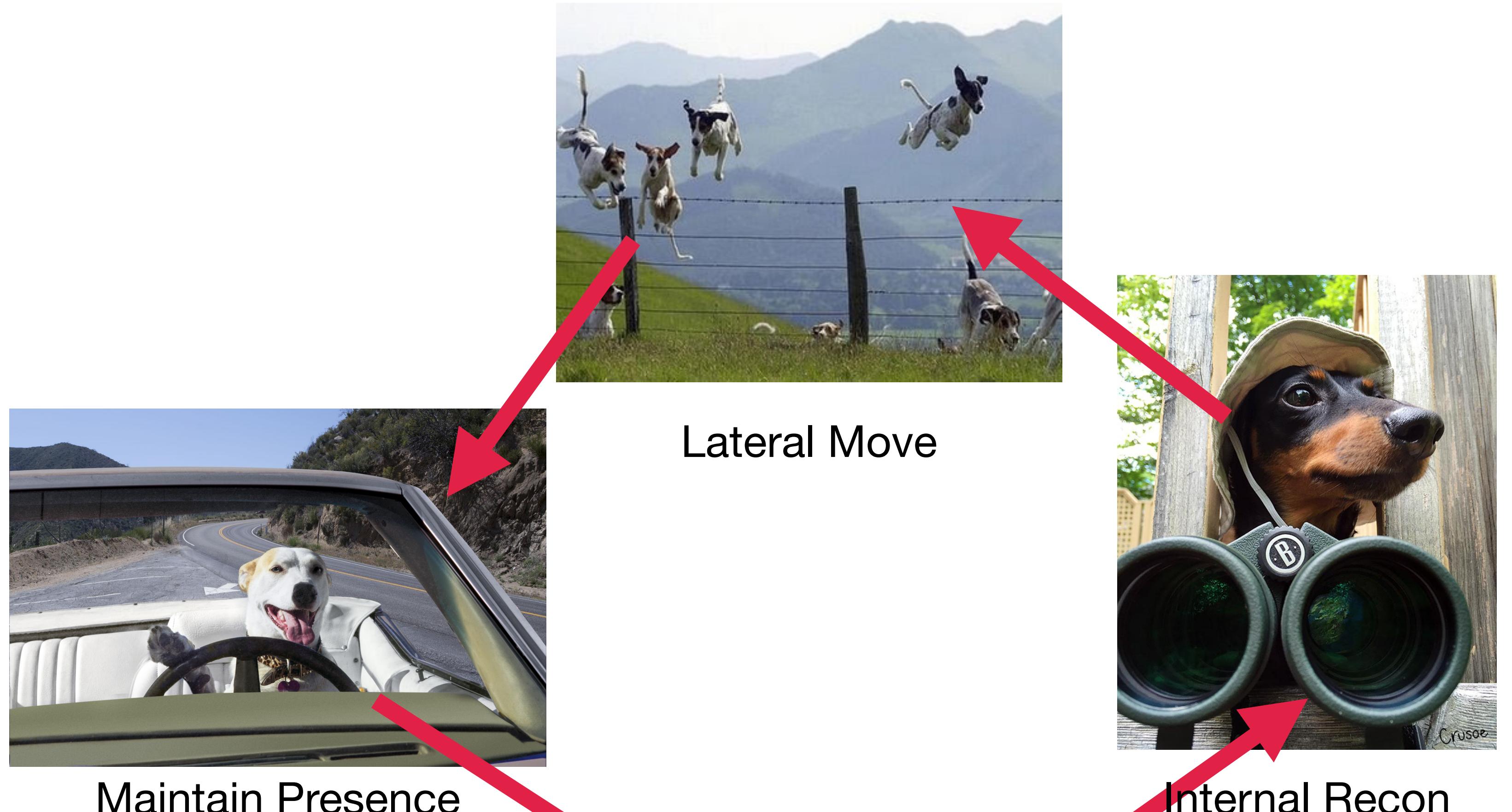
Initial Compromise

Establish Foothold

Escalate Privileges



The Attack Life Cycle



Initial Recon

Initial Compromise

Establish Foothold

Escalate Privileges

Complete Mission

Lateral Move

Internal Recon

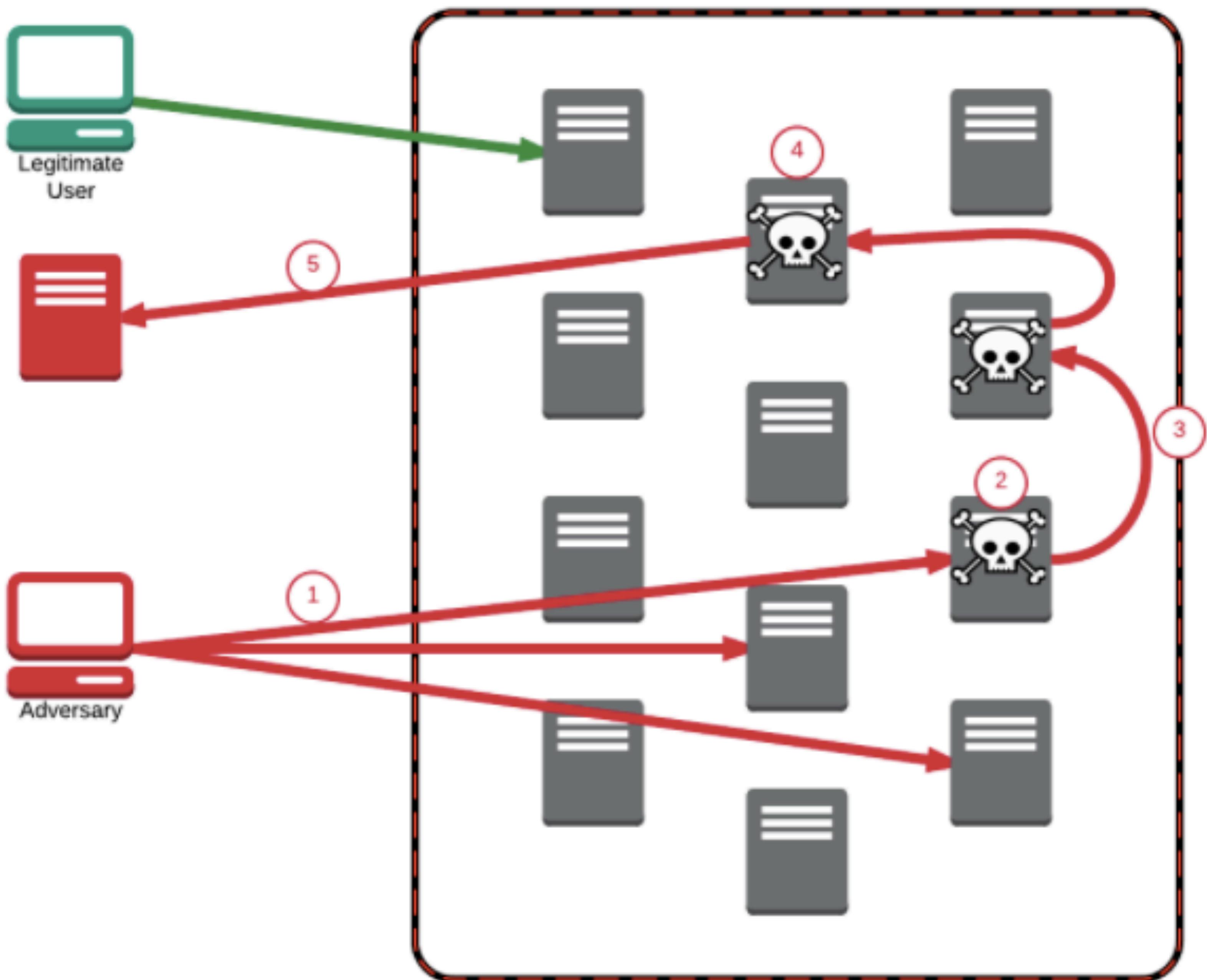
1. Initial Recon

2. Initial Compromise

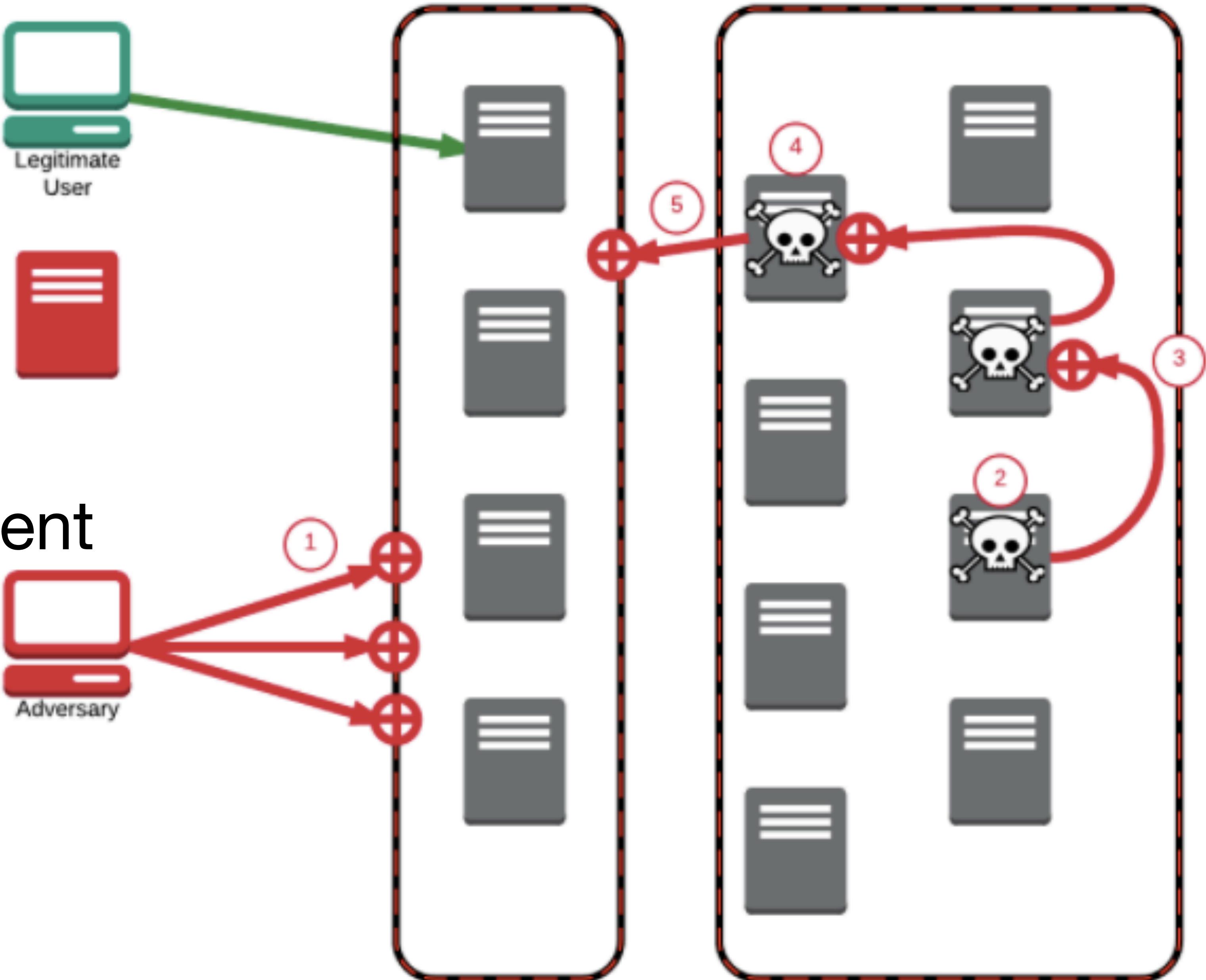
3. Lateral Movement

4. Complete Mission

5. Exfiltration



1. Reduced
Attack-Surface



2. Hardened Systems

3. Limit Lateral Movement

4. Protected Access

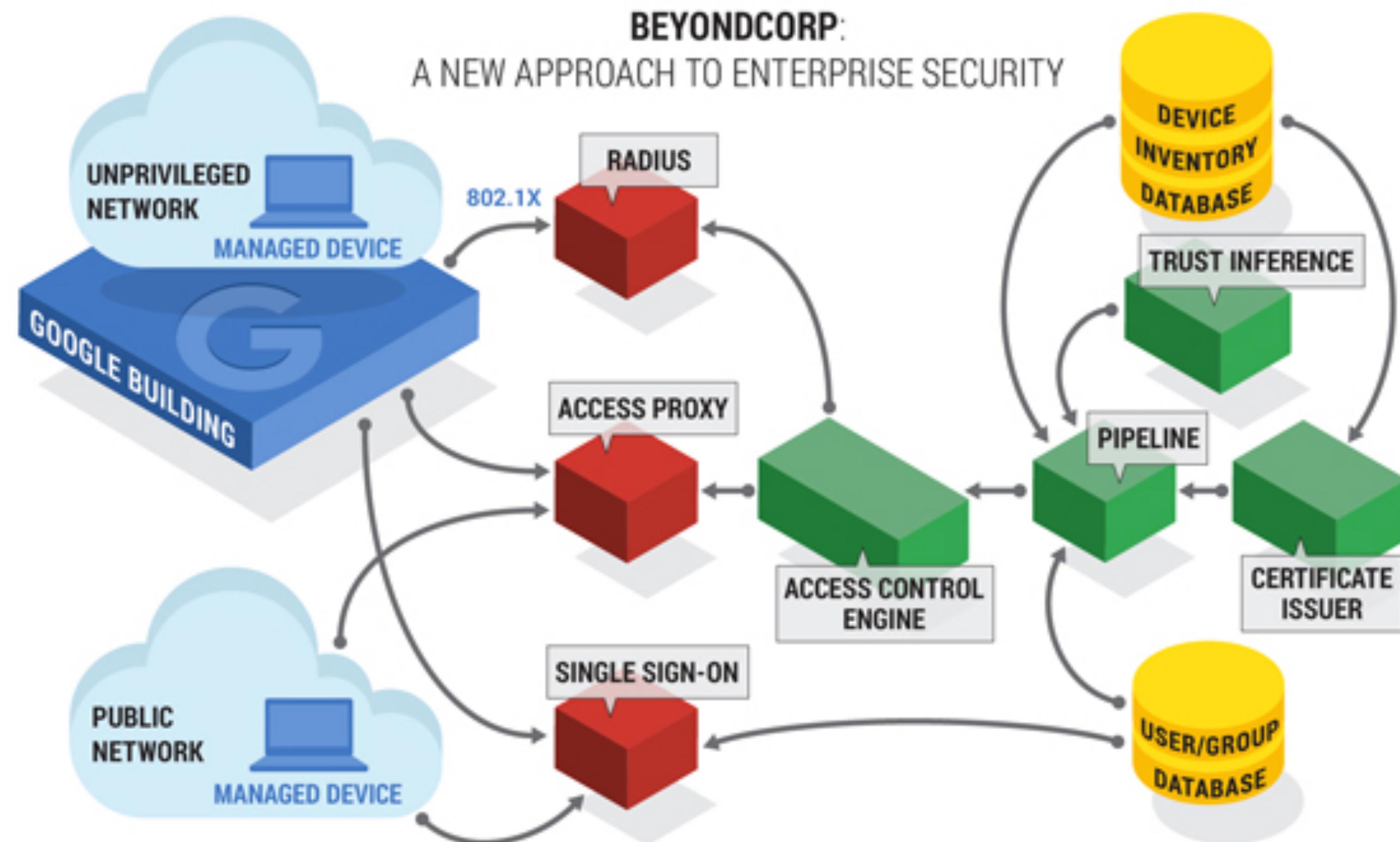
5. Restrict Egress

Zero Trust





Zero Trust



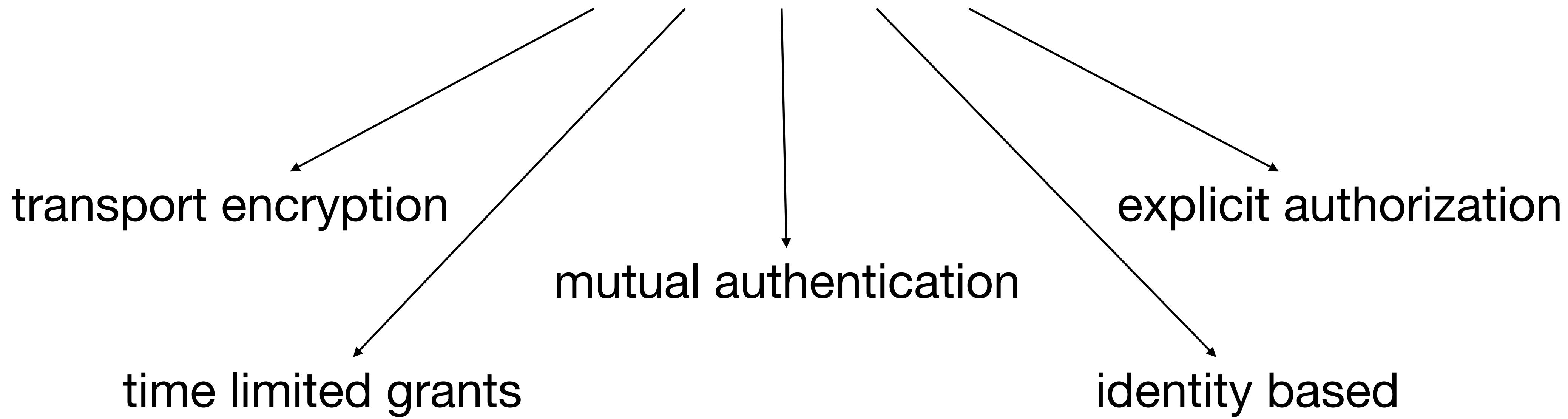
<https://www.beyondcorp.com/>

Zero Trust



Zero Trust

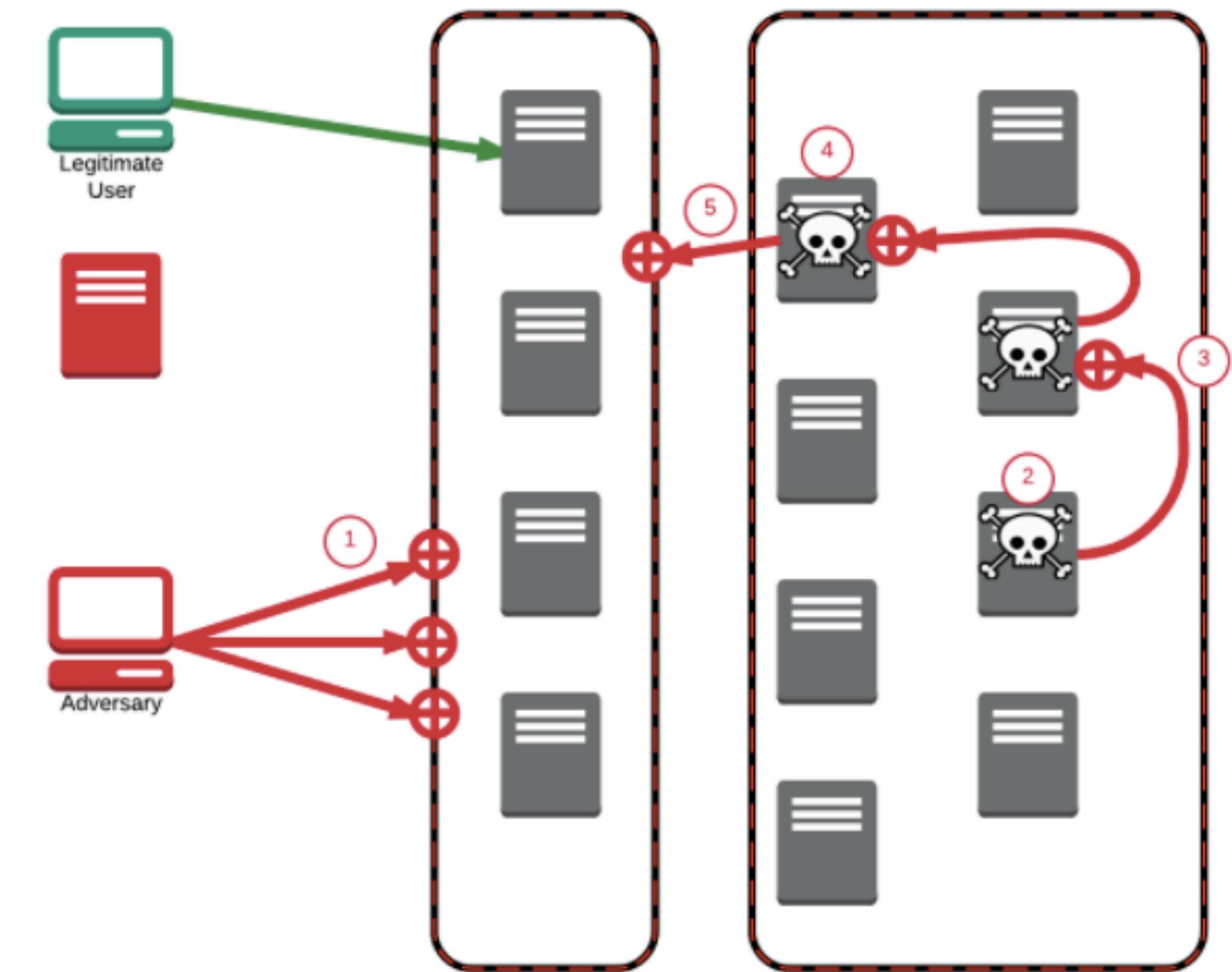
Core concept: the simple assumption of a
compromised or hostile environment.



Zero Trust

- not a product, but a *model*: **no inherent or assumed trust**
- assume all networks are hostile
- encrypt all traffic in transit
- users and clients are mutually authenticated
- actions are explicitly authorized
- authorizations are tightly scoped
- privileges are identity based and time limited

Reading Assignment:
“Reflections on Trusting Trust”



Links

- <https://www.fireeye.com/blog/executive-perspective/2014/04/zero-day-attacks-are-not-the-same-as-zero-day-vulnerabilities.html>
- <https://www.netmeister.org/blog/attack-life-cycle.html>
- <https://www.beyondcorp.com/>
- <https://twitter.com/jschauma/status/1324462203215499266>
- <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/358198.358210>