

Dreamlab Technologies

The SAPPAN-project (Sharing And Automation for Privacy Preserving Attack Neutralization) and utilization of MITRE for attack emulation



2021



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Outline

High level overview on SAPPAN

Utilization of MITRE for attack emulation in the context of SAPPAN



SAPPAN – General Information

Sharing and Automation for Privacy-Preserving Attack Neutralization

H2020 Call SU-ICT-01-2018 (IA) - Dynamic countering of cyber-attacks:

- **scope:** Cyber-attacks management – advanced response and recovery.
- **timeline:** May 2019 until April 2022.

Abstract:

- **Platform for sharing** and automation of privacy preserving response and recovery using advanced data analysis and machine learning.
- **Decrease the effort required by a security analyst** to find optimal responses to and ways to recover from an attack.
- Within a single organization and across organisations through **privacy-preserving data processing** and sharing.



SAPPAN – Meet the Consortium

Coordinator:



Industrial Partners:



Academia:





High level overview



Motivation: Intrusion Detection Systems

Example scenario:

- Networks are monitored only within individual organizations.
- Suspicious patterns can trigger alerts.
- Alerts can be resolved by response and recovery actions (“playbooks”).
- New threats may cause new patterns.

Common IDS Challenges:

- Limited availability and processed data (e.g., SMEs have less IDS capabilities).
- Difficult to identify attacks with new patterns.
- Too many false positive alerts, security analysts get overwhelmed.
- Data sharing among organizations might lead to privacy/confidentiality leakage.

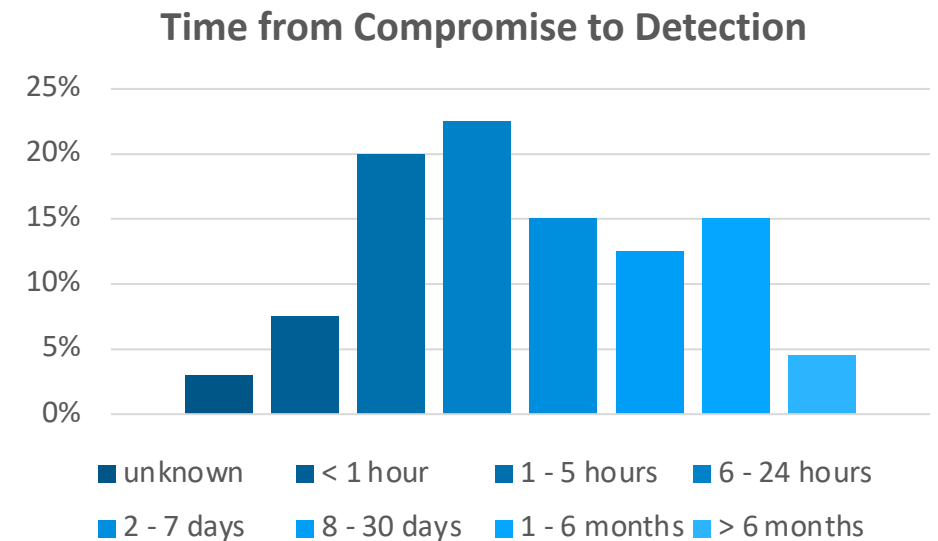


Motivation: Long delay in detection of intrusions in the real world

Detection time takes more than 5 hours for two thirds of the cases.

For 20% of cases detection takes more than one month.

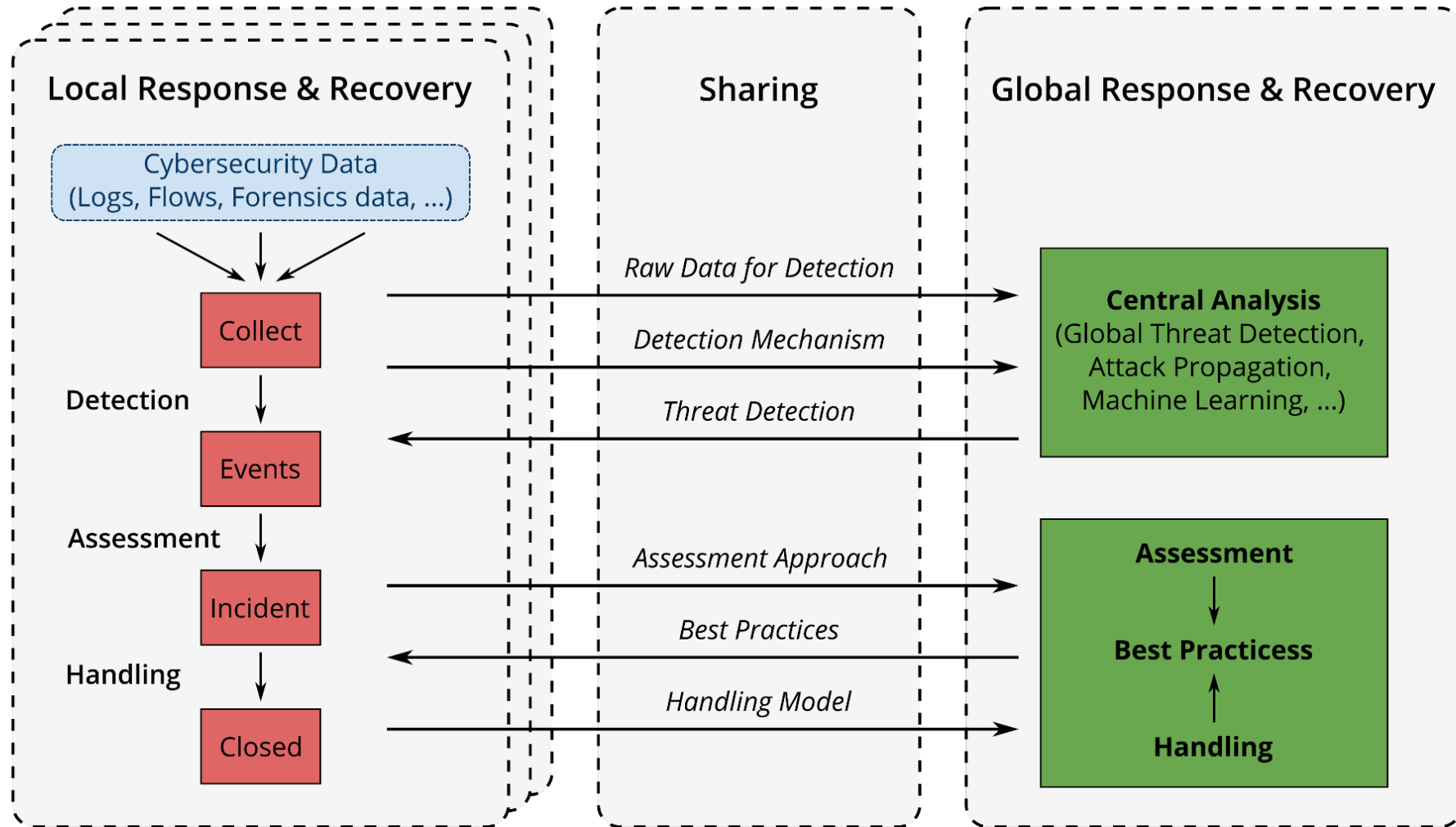
Sharing of detection models and actionable response and recovery information between companies could drastically reduce detection and response time.



The Show must go on – A SANS Survey by Matt Bromiley – Published 2017 by SANS Institute

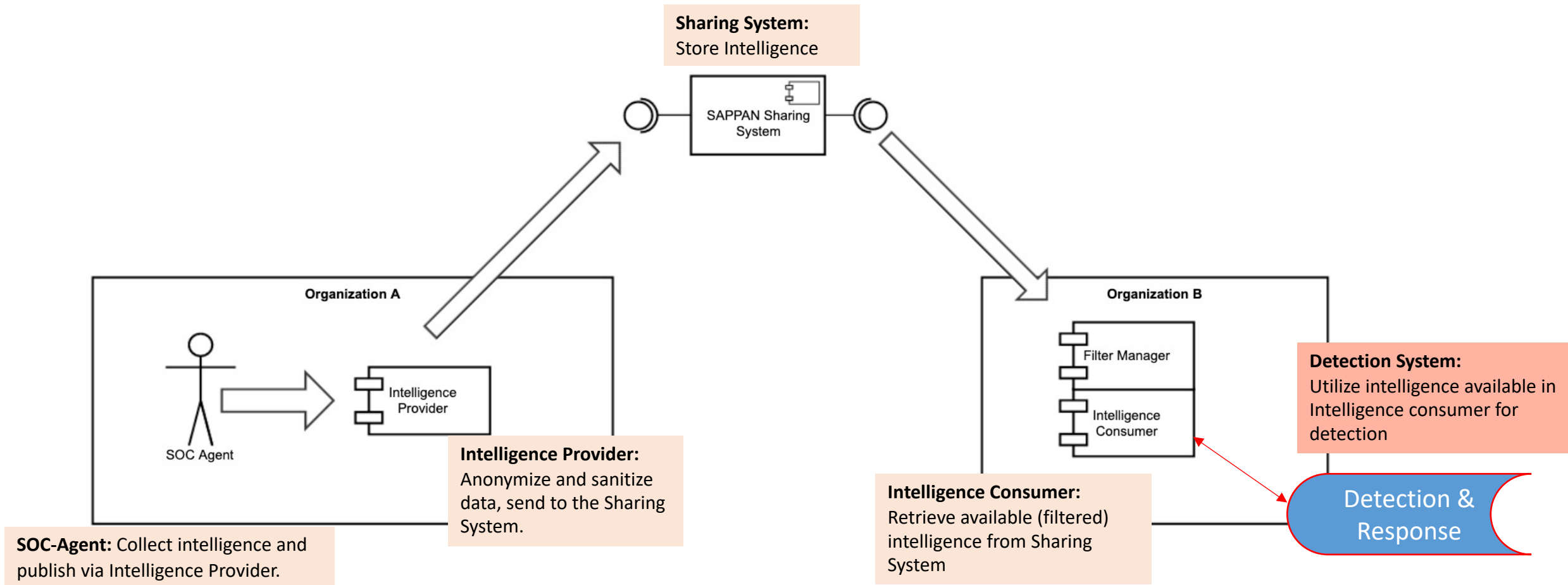


SAPPAN Concept





SAPPAN Architecture





SAPPAN – Current Progress

M27/M36

- ...
- Framework for machine readable playbooks containing response and recovery information
- Research on local detection methods
 - DGA-Detection
 - Classification of phishing URLs
 - Host- and application profiling based on network and endpoint-data
 - Anomaly detection based on network and endpoint-data
- Research on automation of playbooks for remediation of identified incidents
- Research on anonymization for sharing of information
- Research on federated machine learning
- ...



Utilization of MITRE for attack emulation in the context of SAPPAN





Anomaly detection based on network and endpoint-data

All SAPPAN stories start with local detection of security incident

Anomaly detection is a good, general approach to detect nefarious activities

New local detectors that utilize

- network (netflow, connection logs, and full-packet capture) data and
- endpoint data (e.g. process launches)

are developed.

Reliable, labeled test-data turned out to be somewhat hard to come by → Make our own

Based on what?

- Simple exploitation of SMB (Eternal Blue) and Drupal (Drupalgeddon) vulnerabilities
- “Internal” Scenario based on: <https://attackevals.mitre-engenuity.org/enterprise/APT29/>





Adoption of APT-29 Emulation Plan for SAPPAN experiment

- We utilized Scenario 1
- PoshC2 instead of Pupy RAT
- Utilization of "living off the land" binaries to avoid detection
 - Rundll32.exe
 - RuntimeBroker.exe



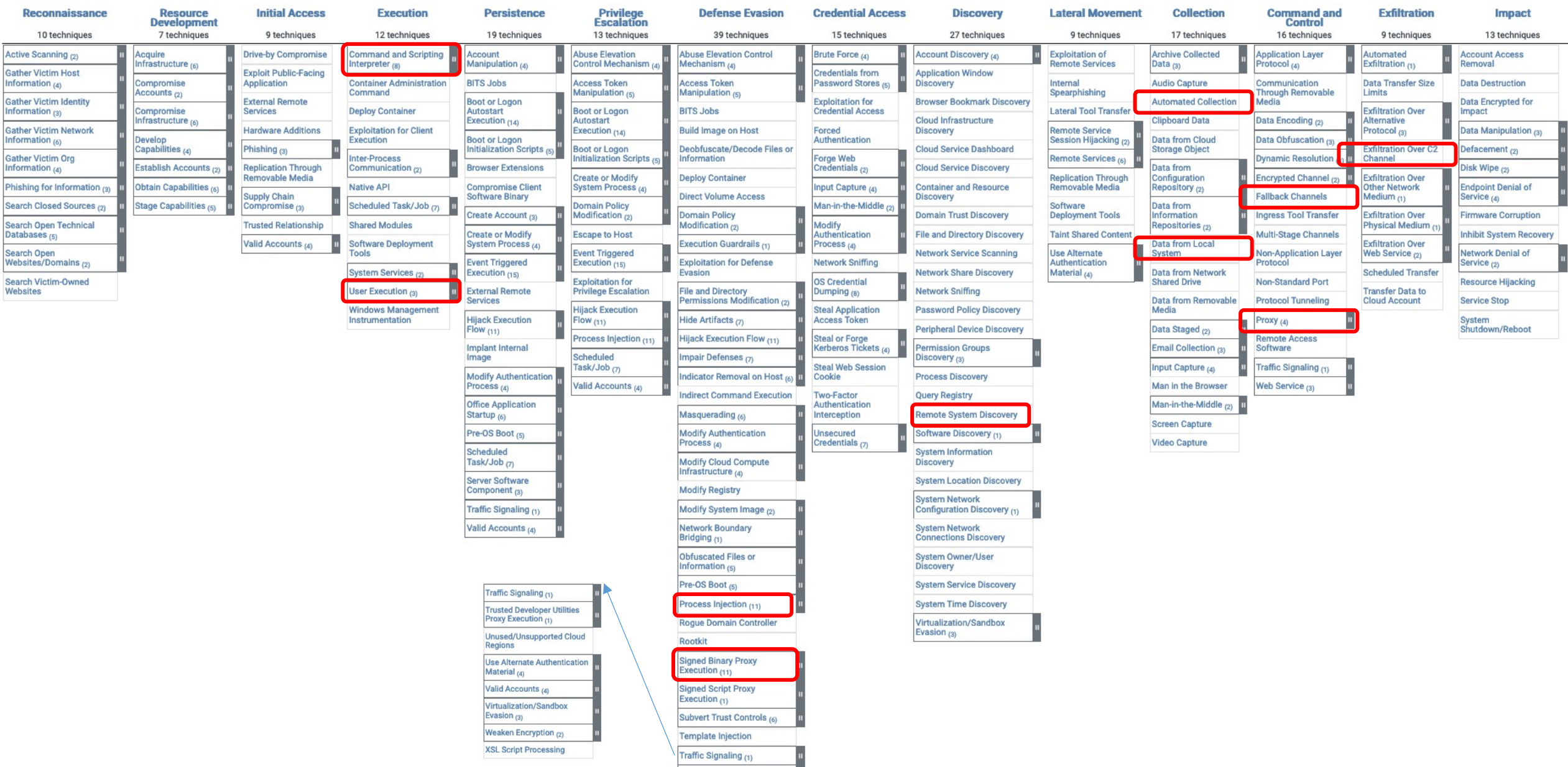
Red team experiment in SAPPAN

- Initial breach through user execution of malicious executable on **workstation 1** (T1204.002)
 - Posh_V4_dropper_x86_migrate.exe, configured to migrate into RuntimeBroker.exe through process injection (T1055.001)
 - Execution of Posh-dropper through rundll32.exe (signed binary proxying method, T1218.011)
- Utilization of communications-rotation for C2-beaconing using list of predefined URLs to avoid detection (T1008, T1090.002)
- Collection of interesting files (smash and grab) (T1005, T1119)
- Exfiltration of collected data through Posh C2-channel (T1041)
- Enumeration of additional machines by querying AD (T1018)
- 1: • RCE on **Workstation 2** through Powershell (“Invoke-Command”) to download and execute PoshC2-dropper (T1059.001)
- 2: • Killing all implants and end of experiment



Utilized MITRE-Att&ck Tactics

- T1204.002 - User Execution: Malicious File
- T1055.001 - Process Injection: DLL-Injection
- T1218.011 - Signed Binary Proxy Execution: Rundll32
- T1008: Fallback Channels
- T1090.002 - Connection Proxy: External Proxy
- T1119: Automated Collection
- T1005: Data from Local System
- T1041: Exfiltration Over Command and Control Channel
- T1018: Remote System Discovery
- T1059.001: Command and Scripting Interpreter: Powershell





Take aways

- MITRE Emulation Plans can be leveraged by a technically competent reader to simulate realistic attacks
- MITRE Emulation Plans helped our purpose by allowing for efficient adoption and customization

Next steps

- If necessary further red team experiments, e.g. compromise of active directory
- Utilization of the gathered data for detection experiments (based on network as well as endpoint data)
- Experimentation regarding automated remediation of detected attacks



Want to get involved? Participate in SAPPAN's end user committee

SPECIAL DEAL

Limited time offer!

*term and conditions apply



Become part of the SAPPAN end user committee!

What we need your help with:

- Interview after demonstration of SAPPAN results and discussion of achievements

How much time it all takes:

- 2 surveys + demonstration, 2 hours each

What you can expect in return:

- No cash
- Early access to results (papers)
- Early access to practical implementations (if open source)
- Access to new detectors as they are developed in showcases

What to do if you are interested:

- Hit me up: mischa.obrecht@dreamlab.net



Thank
You!

