



OWASP

Open Web Application  
Security Project

# Red Teaming – OSINT – Phishing

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Company

# Outline

- Narcissistic Self-Reference
- Red Teaming
- OSINT
- Phishing

# Narcissistic Self-Reference

- PhD, “Insider Threat Prediction via Psychosocial Characteristics Extracted by Applying Security Data Science Techniques on OSN OSINT”, Athens University of Economics and Business
- Training in Counseling and Psychotherapy
- Red Team Analyst, focusing on OSINT, Social Engineering, Post-Exploitation, Physical
- Also interested in D&D, stand up comedy, science, philosophy



[https://twitter.com/\\_Zaknafein\\_](https://twitter.com/_Zaknafein_)



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kandiasm/>

# Red Team Definition

- Independently led team of diversely skilled people, with different backgrounds, experiences, opinions and ways at looking at problems.
- Humble in nature, co-operative, focused, disciplined and persistent enough to efficiently and effectively emulate the activities and thought processes of real world adversaries.
- Goal is to aid company in understanding what it is doing well, and where it has gaps and improvement opportunities across protect, monitor, and response.
- Help understand/predict likelihood of successful attack, and aid risk decision making. Red Teaming is threat centric, not vulnerability centric like many other forms of security assessment tend to be.

Definition from Dale Pearson's presentation "Building and Leading Corporate Red Teams" at 2018 x33fCon, available at: <https://www.slideshare.net/dalepearson/building-and-leading-corporate-red-teams>

Also take a look at: <http://www.subliminalhacking.net/2016/02/26/corporate-red-teaming-to-me/>

# Threat Centric Perspective

- Red Team should challenge ways of thinking, perceptions, assumptions, validate strengths, and identify weaknesses.
- Focus on organisation's ability to detect, monitor and respond effectively.
- Different and **NOT** better than other approaches.
- Findings relate to attack paths and could be anything from vulnerabilities to usage of internal tools.
- Might find known issues, but update their impact.
- Emulate the bad guys, go after crown jewels, learn, help fix, wash, rinse, repeat.

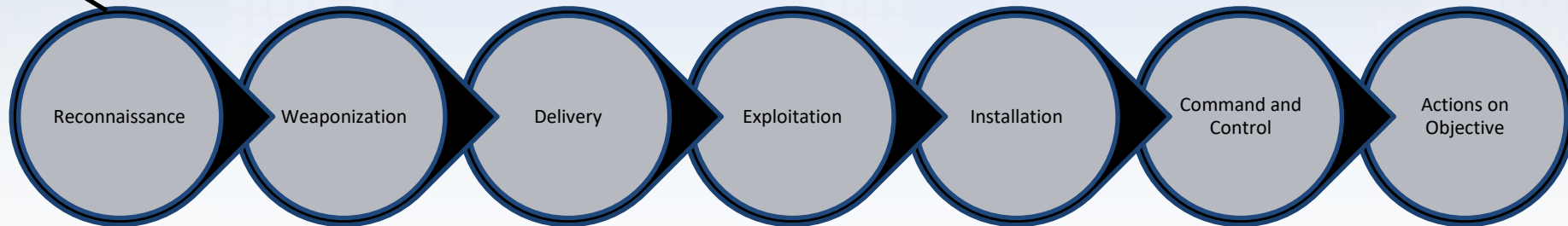
# Red Team Execution Process

1. Define objectives based on risk appetite, intelligence, and business parameters
2. Get what is needed from the client (i.e. breach points, info, targets etc.)
3. Get your attack infrastructure ready
4. Gather OSINT about your target
5. Deploy your phishing, physical, external attacks
6. Move on with breach simulation
7. Go after objectives. Internal recon, persistence, lateral movement, and privilege escalation may help
8. Report in a way that helps fixing stuff
9. Support remediation, verify fixes



# Cyber Kill Chain [1]

Harvesting email addresses,  
conference information, etc.



[1]. Lockheed Martin, 2015. Gaining the Advantage: Applying Cyber Kill Chain® Methodology to Network Defense. URL: [https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining\\_the\\_Advantage\\_Cyber\\_Kill\\_Chain.pdf](https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining_the_Advantage_Cyber_Kill_Chain.pdf)

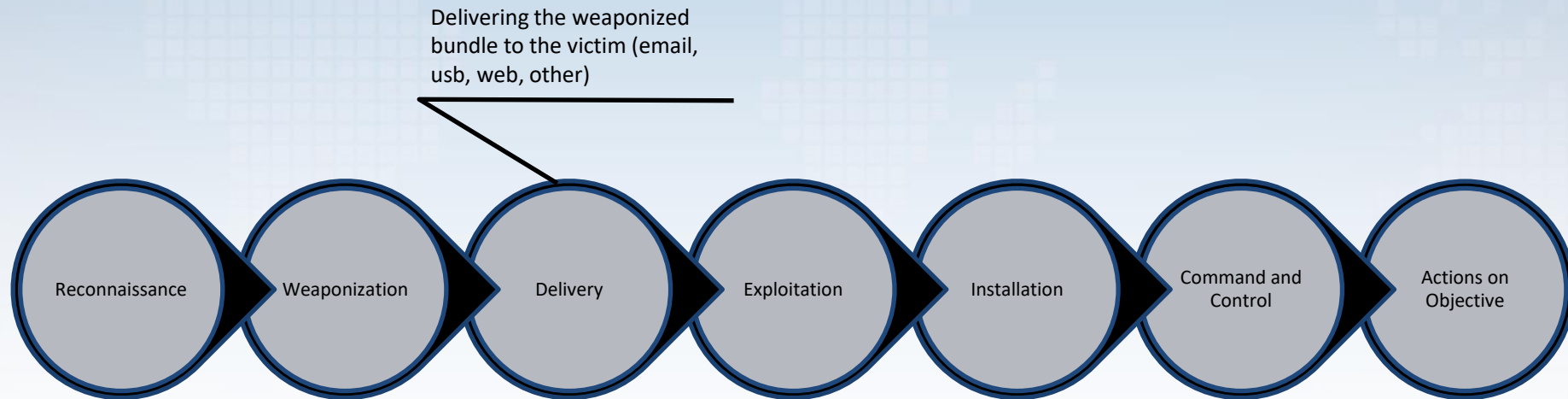
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[1]. Lockheed Martin, 2015. Gaining the Advantage: Applying Cyber Kill Chain® Methodology to Network Defense. URL: [https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining\\_the\\_Advantage\\_Cyber\\_Kill\\_Chain.pdf](https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining_the_Advantage_Cyber_Kill_Chain.pdf)

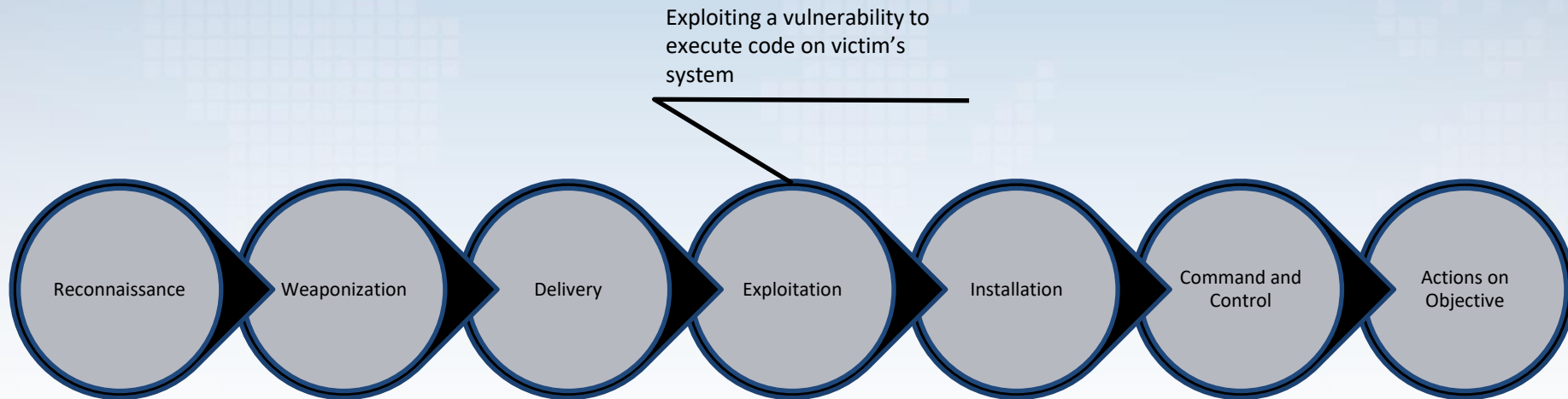


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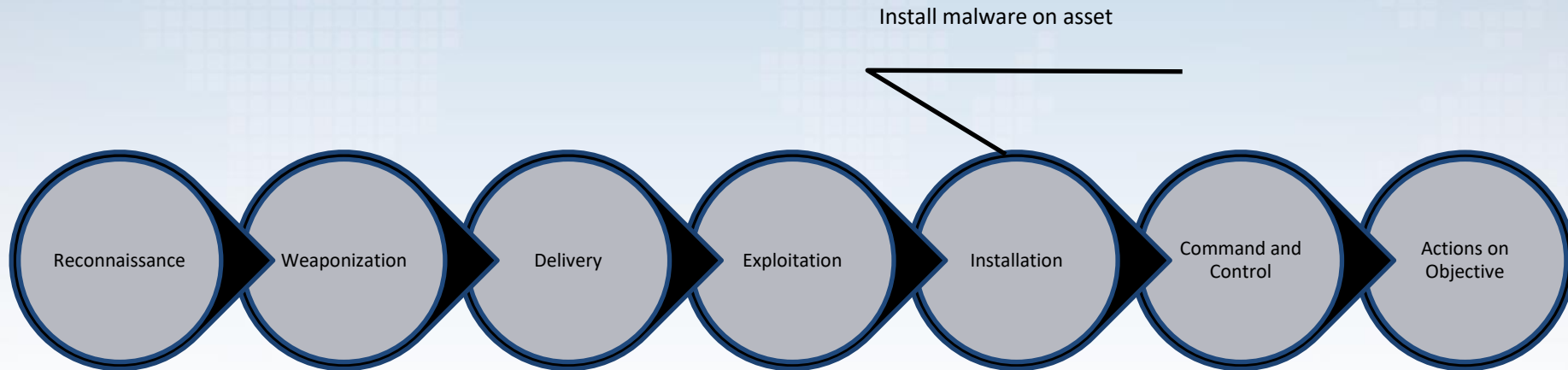
[1]. Lockheed Martin, 2015. Gaining the Advantage: Applying Cyber Kill Chain® Methodology to Network Defense. URL: [https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining\\_the\\_Advantage\\_Cyber\\_Kill\\_Chain.pdf](https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining_the_Advantage_Cyber_Kill_Chain.pdf)

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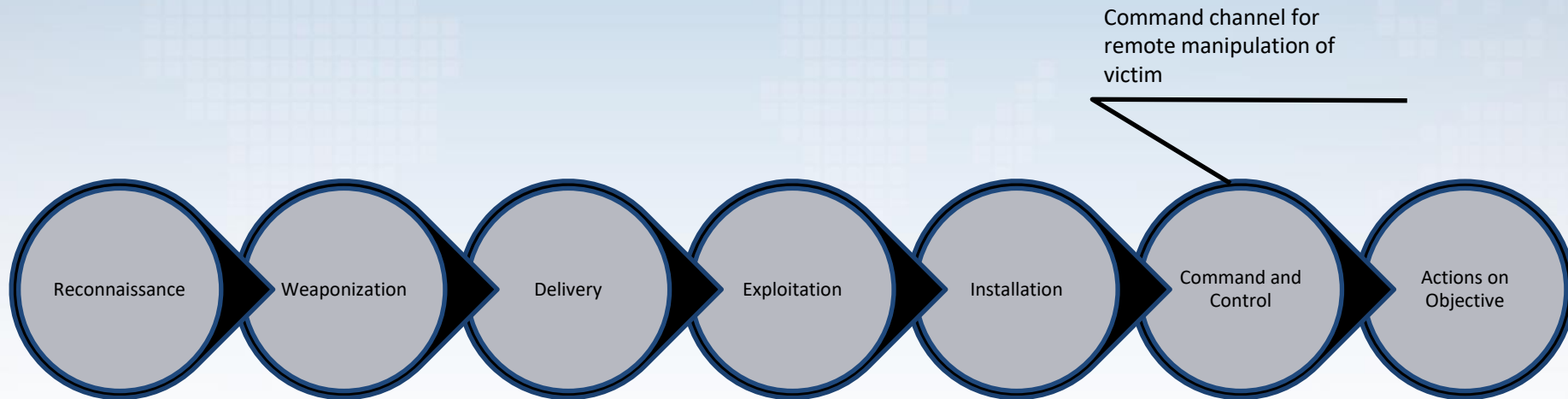
[1]. Lockheed Martin, 2015. Gaining the Advantage: Applying Cyber Kill Chain® Methodology to Network Defense. URL: [https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining\\_the\\_Advantage\\_Cyber\\_Kill\\_Chain.pdf](https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining_the_Advantage_Cyber_Kill_Chain.pdf)

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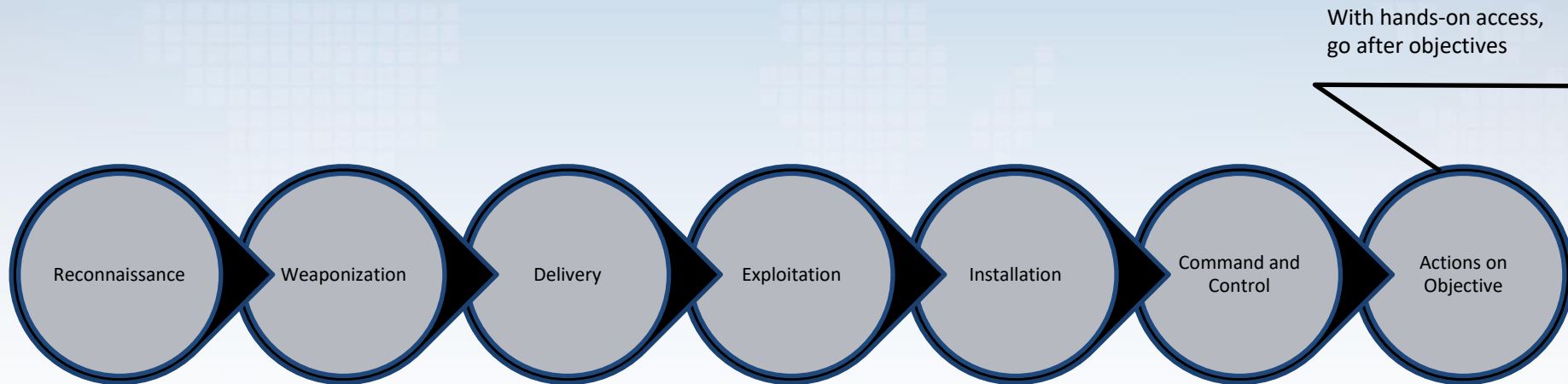
[1]. Lockheed Martin, 2015. Gaining the Advantage: Applying Cyber Kill Chain® Methodology to Network Defense. URL: [https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining\\_the\\_Advantage\\_Cyber\\_Kill\\_Chain.pdf](https://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed-martin/rms/documents/cyber/Gaining_the_Advantage_Cyber_Kill_Chain.pdf)

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# OSINT [2]

- Open Source Intelligence is produced from publicly available information, which is:
  - collected, exploited and disseminated in a timely manner,
  - offered to an appropriate audience and
  - used for the purpose of addressing a specific intelligence requirement.
- Publicly available information refers to (not only):
  - traditional media (e.g. television, newspapers, radio),
  - web-based communities (e.g. social networking sites, blogs),
  - public data (e.g. government reports, official data, hearings) and
  - amateur observation and reporting (e.g. amateur spotters, radio monitors).

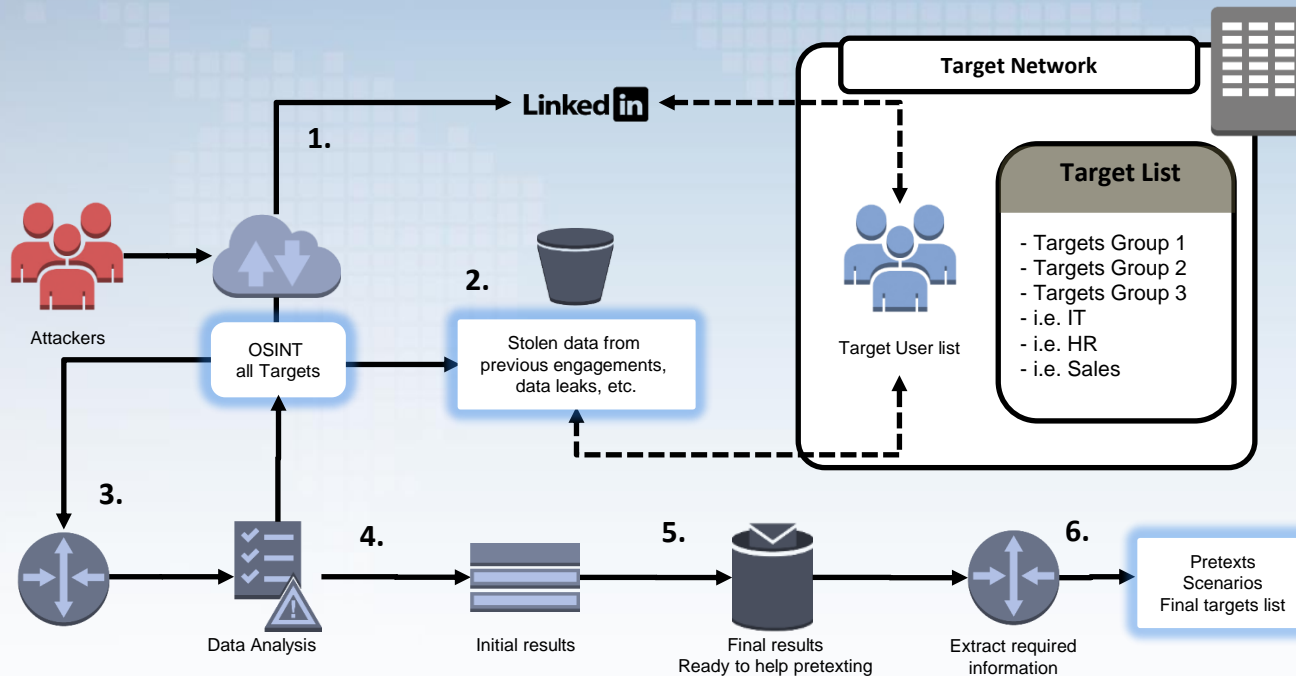
[2]. Congress, U.S., 2006. Public Law 109-163, Sec. 931, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006. URL: <http://uscode.house.gov/statutes/pl/109/163.pdf>



# Generic Approach

- Define your target, what are you after? (in our case creating pretexts for targets)
- Create initial set of sources (search engines, social media, other sources)
- Gather data
- Data cleanup and analysis, extract correlations, extract results
- Wash, rinse, repeat according to limitations
- Respect privacy, legislation, ethical boundaries

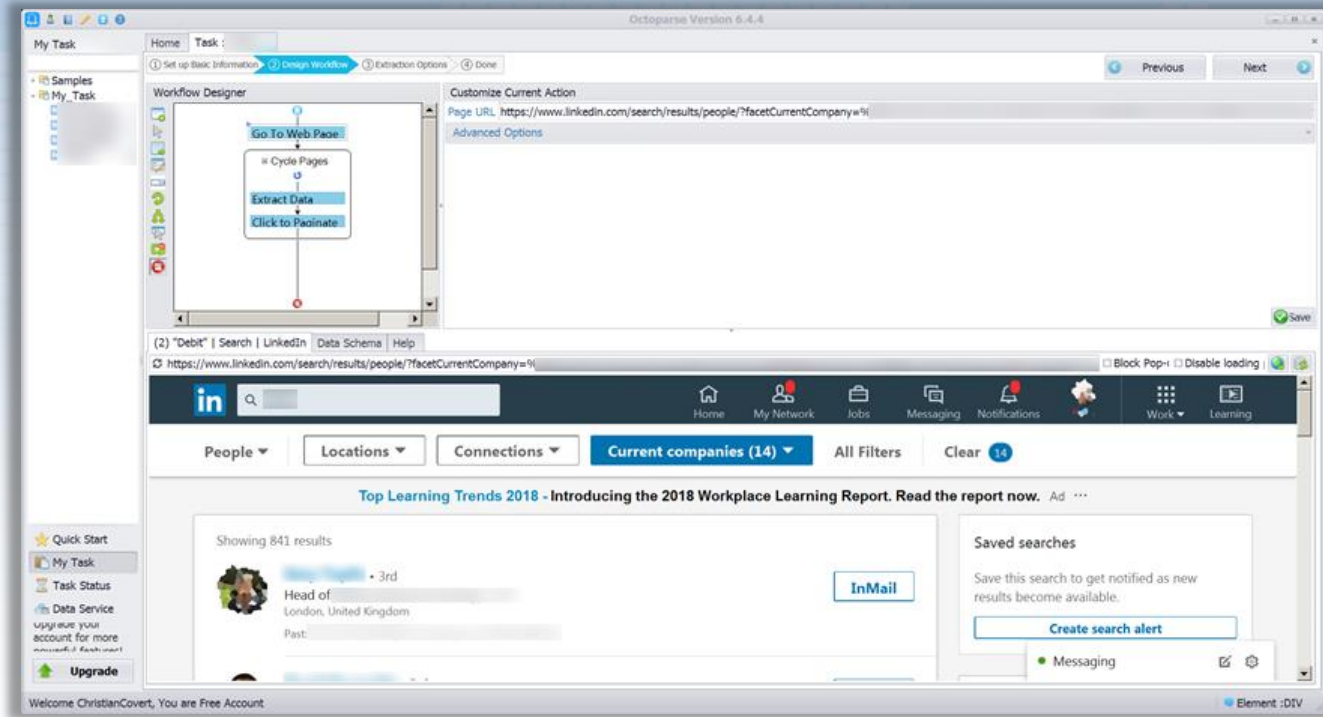
# OSINT Process



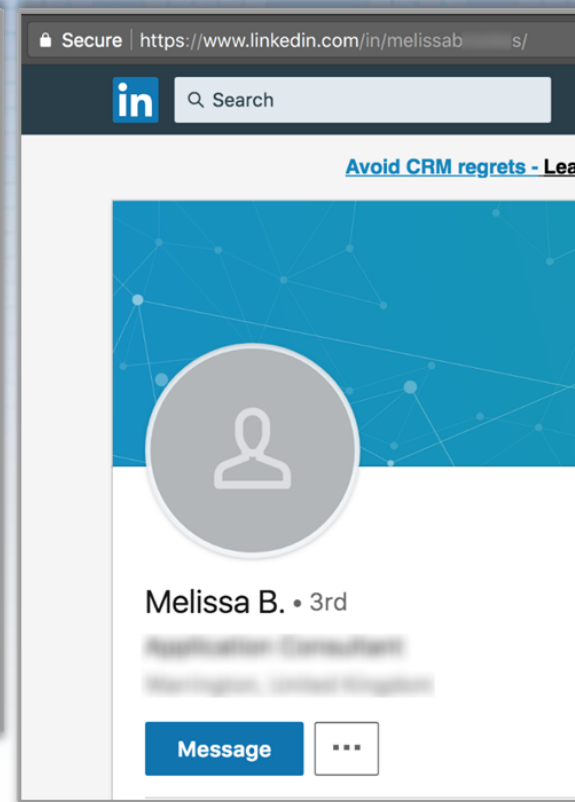
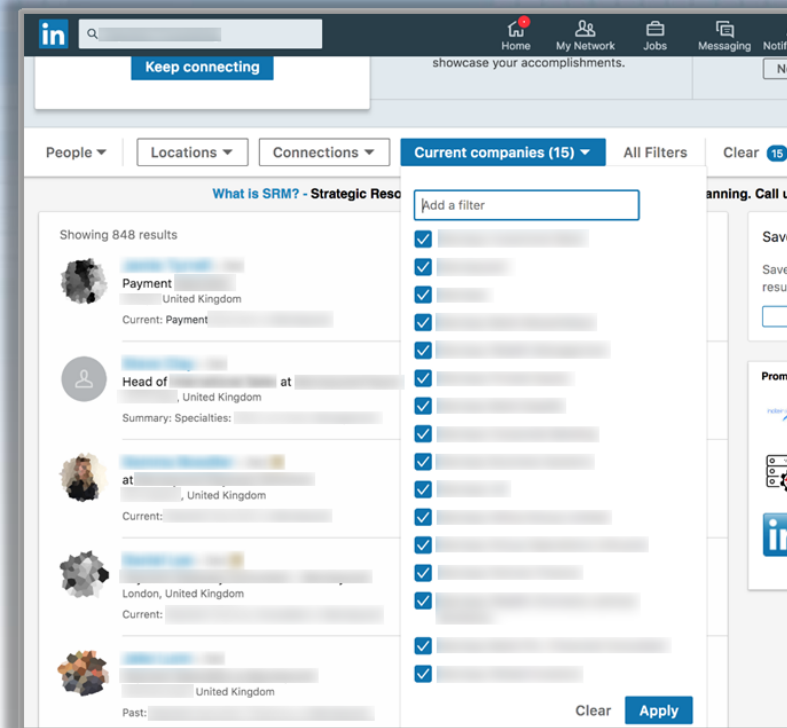
## Description

1. Conduct multiple queries on LinkedIn to detect presence in the medium.
2. Update the search capabilities and the depth/breadth of the searches utilising data from previous engagements.
3. Gather a pool of targets and start gathering further OSINT.
4. Analyse the results and update the OSINT gathering process. In every iteration, more and more precise searches conducted, resulting in less but more focused list of targets.
5. Manually analyse all gathered profiles, roles, descriptions, and related data. End up with a more focused list of targets and finalised data able to help with pretexting.
6. Take final decisions on targets, pretexts, and form scenarios.

# Examples



# Examples



# Examples

<b>Senior Business Analyst / Project Manager</b> [Redacted] [Redacted] United Kingdom - MiFID II - Product manager for GPX - BlockChain - Data Science	<b>Technical Domain Service Lead</b> [Redacted] [Redacted] United Kingdom Currently engaged to migrate CyberArk into a global operational Tier Zero platform for Privileged Account Management, [Redacted] Core Services manage DNS, LDAP, SMTP, DHCP, NTP, Kerberos, RSA SecurID and CyberArk.
<b>Security Engineer</b> [Redacted] United Kingdom BAU Operations, configuration, troubleshooting and migrations of following technologies: * Firewalls: Cisco ASA/FWSM, Palo Alto * DDoS mitigation services: Arbor * Vulnerability management, security assessment * IDS/IPS/IDP – Webscreen, Juniper IDP * NAC: Cisco ACS * Algosec See less	<b>Lead DevOps Consultant</b> [Redacted] United Kingdom Helping Digital transformation with one of [Redacted] go smoothly. Provisioning cloud agnostic platforms with terraform and ansible. Defining Jenkins2 CI/CD pipelines as a [Redacted] cobertura, sonar, pa11y, Sauce Labs and more. Encapsulating services in docker containers using packer. Running these in kubernetes cluster. Keeping an eye on all of the infrastructure with Prometheus and Heapster. Presenting result to the customers with Grafana and SpeedyDashboards. [Redacted]
<b>Systems Engineer</b> [Redacted] United Kingdom •Providing support to [Redacted], liaising directly with global, regional and local IT staff •As messaging engineer, administering/supporting/troubleshooting Office 365 and Skype for Business, managing multiple O365 tenants and assisting migrations. •Managing Office 365 with PowerShell for bulk changes/creations as well as troubleshooting etc. •Support and troubleshooting Active Directory, DNS, Exchange 2003/2007/2010, Windows servers 2003/2008/2012, [Redacted] •Providing documentations See less Migration, Cloud File Migration. AWS Exposure working with EC2, Load Balancing and Cloud formation. See less	<b>Relationship Support Manager -</b> [Redacted] [Redacted] London I maintain relationships with large corporate clients/ Key Accounts £25m+ acting as first point of contact in Relationship Director's absence. I work in the professionals team dealing with Solicitors, Accountants and Architects. I identify opportunities to cross sell solutions to Clients needs and also track and drive opportunities through to ensure sales opportunities completed. I maintain contacts with specialists in other departments, distributing leads accordingly and support the RD in joint meetings. [Redacted] also ensure clients are using the correct channels for their servicing needs and seek opportunities to grow income. [Redacted] prepare and implement strategic campaigns, attend customer meetings/events and hold regular meetings with [Redacted] I support with credit applications and post sanction fulfilment and prepare agendas for new business meetings, engaging all product specialists. I have to ensure that new Clients and products are set up on relevant systems and [Redacted]



# OSINT and Personality

- BIG5 [3] (or OCEAN)
  - **Openness**, depicting appreciation for art, adventure, novel ideas, curiosity, and variety of experience.
  - **Conscientiousness**, depicting tendency to be organised and dependable, being self-disciplined, achievement-oriented, and prefer planned rather than spontaneous behavior.
  - **Extraversion**, depicting being energetic, confident, sociable, talkative, and seeking stimulation in the company of others.
  - **Agreeableness**, depicting tendency to be compassionate, cooperative, trusting, and well-tempered.
  - **Neuroticism**, depicting the tendency to experience unpleasant emotions easily (anger, anxiety, depression, vulnerability etc.) along with emotional instability.
- Dark Triad
  - **Narcissism**, depicting grandiosity, entitlement, pride, egotism, and a lack of empathy.
  - **Machiavellianism**, depicting manipulation and exploitation of others, a cynical disregard for morality, and a focus on self-interest and deception.
  - **Psychopathy**, depicting antisocial behavior, impulsivity, selfishness, callousness, and remorselessness.
- Other Psychosocial Characteristics
  - Stress, depression, happiness, insecure, persuasive, adjusted, impulsive etc.
  - Predispositions toward several parameters
  - Health / food / leisure / work / religion / politics orientation

[3]. John, O.P. and Srivastava, S., 1999. The Big Five trait taxonomy: History, measurement, and theoretical perspectives. Handbook of personality: Theory and research, 2(1999), pp.102-138.

[4]. Paulhus, D.L. and Williams, K.M., 2002. The dark triad of personality: Narcissism, Machiavellianism, and psychopathy. Journal of research in personality, 36(6), pp.556-563.



# Correlation Examples

- Not causations!
- **Extraversion** and **neuroticism** significantly associated with social media usage [5].
- **Conscientiousness** negatively related to social media gaming, multiple romantic relationships, and intelligence [6].
- **Conscientiousness** greatly correlates to right-winged conservatism, authority respect, moral inhibitions, the complete opposite from openness [7].
- **Neuroticism** correlates with child trauma, avoid corresponding pretexts [8].
- **Neuroticism** correlates with bad circadian rhythm, observe times of online presence, contact accordingly before or after 16.00 local time [9].
- **Extraversion** (and not neuroticism) has strong correlation with happiness and well-being [10].
- **Agreeableness** correlates well with interpersonal skill, and will to help.
- Also take a look at Professor Michal Kosinski's amazing work: <https://www.michalkosinski.com/>

[5]. Correa, T., Bachmann, I., Hinsley, A.W. and de Zúñiga, H.G., 2013. Personality and social media use. In Organizations and social networking: Utilizing social media to engage consumers (pp. 41-61). IGI Global.

[6]. Bean, A.M., 2015. Video gamers' personas: A five factor study exploring personality elements of the video gamer. Pacifica Graduate Institute.

[7]. Sibley, C.G., Osborne, D. and Duckitt, J., 2012. Personality and political orientation: Meta-analysis and test of a Threat-Constraint Model. Journal of Research in Personality, 46(6), pp.664-677.

[8]. Moskva, V., Farmer, A., Swainson, V., O'leary, J., Gunasinghe, C., Owen, M., Craddock, N., McGuffin, P. and Korszun, A., 2007. Interrelationship of childhood trauma, neuroticism, and depressive phenotype. Depression and anxiety, 24(3), pp.163-168.

[9]. Duggan, K.A., Friedman, H.S., McDevitt, E.A. and Mednick, S.C., 2014. Personality and healthy sleep: The importance of conscientiousness and neuroticism. PloS one, 9(3), p.e90628.

[10]. Pavot, W., Diener, E.D. and Fujita, F., 1990. Extraversion and happiness. Personality and individual differences, 11(12), pp.1299-1306.

# OSINT Tools (indicative list)

- <https://inteltechniques.com/menu.html>
- <https://osintframework.com/>
- <https://github.com/laramies/theHarvester>
- <https://tinfoleak.com/>
- Python + Selenium or Octoparse if you are in a hurry
- <https://spiderfoot.net/>
- Maltego
- Recon-ng
- Shodan.io

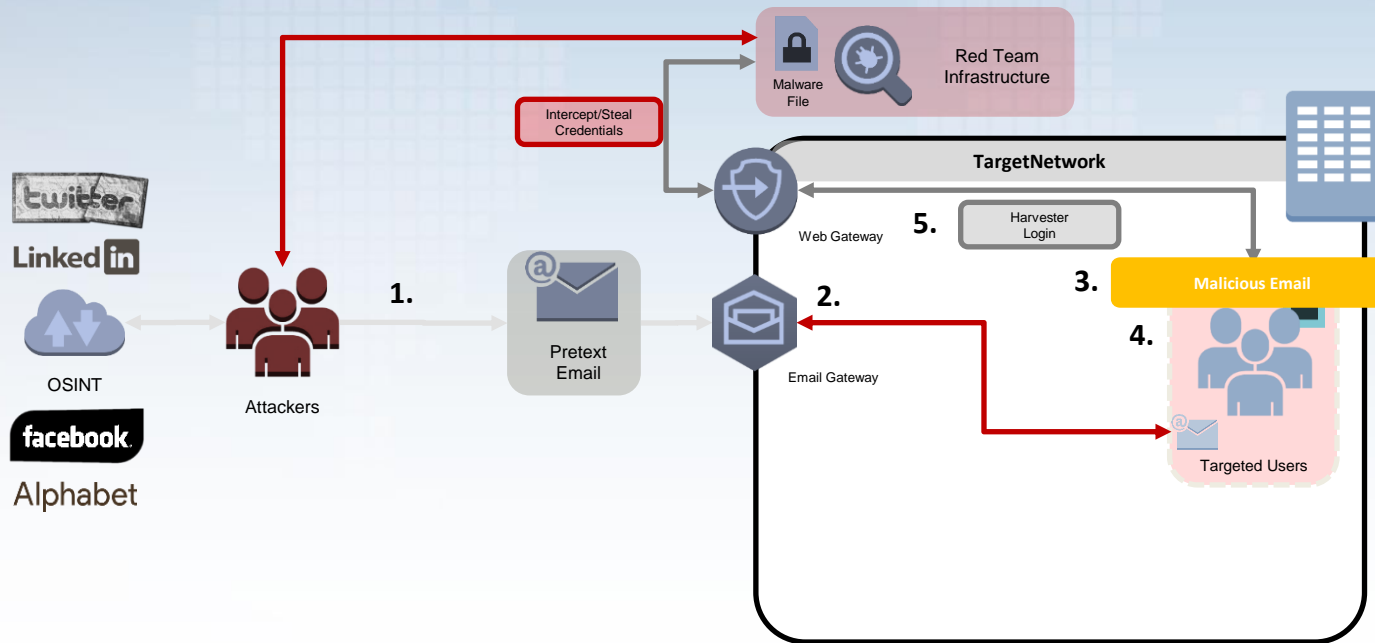
# Technical Resources

- <https://www.bellingcat.com/tag/osint/>
- <http://automatingosint.com/blog/>
- <https://www.osint.fail/>
- <https://webbreacher.com/>
- <https://osintframework.com/>
- <https://inteltechniques.com/>
- <https://www.exploit-db.com/google-hacking-database>

# Phishing

- Phishing is a well-known attack vector in which the adversary sends emails to targets in order to trick them into giving out personal information, or executing malicious code.
- In our case we would be mainly interested in the following:
  - Credential harvesting
  - Remote Code Execution
  - Information Gathering
  - Decoy attacks

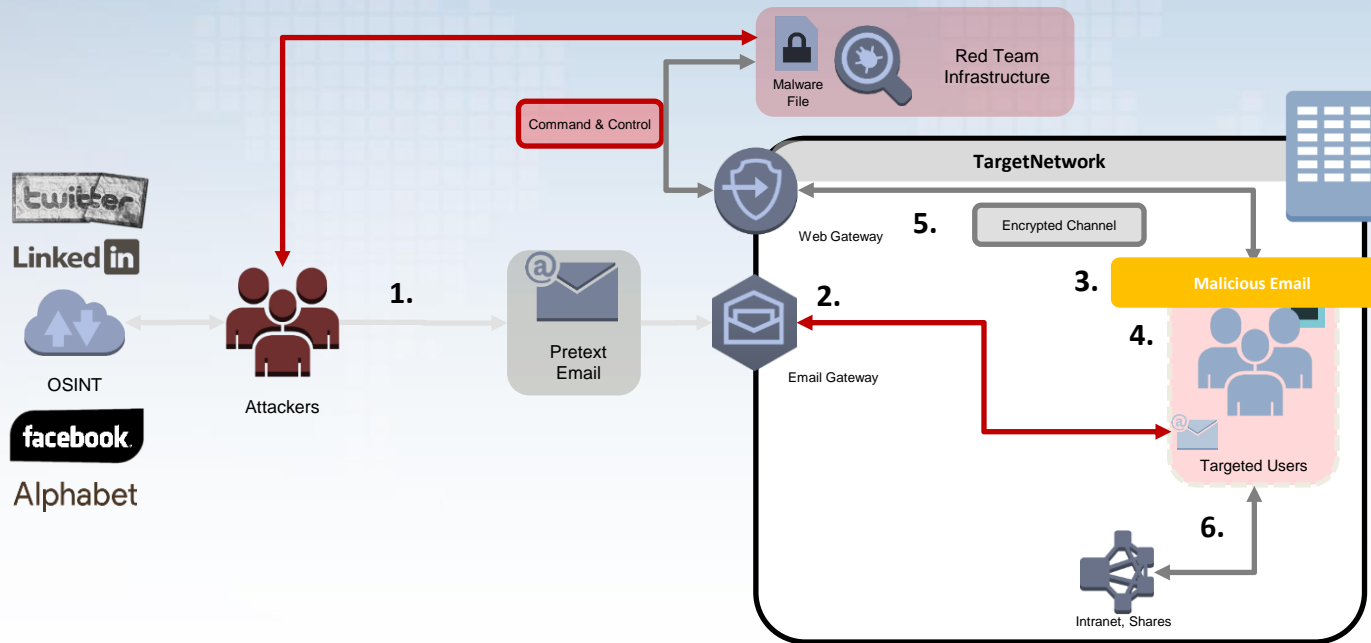
# Abstract Phishing Process



## Impact Statement

1. Based on the OSINT gathered, the Red Team prepares a luring email and sends it to the target.
2. The email is delivered to the target.
3. Target clicks on the malicious link and authenticates against our harvester, which can even be a Man-in-the-Middle attack.
4. Target downloads malicious file, executes it, and enables embedded OLE object / DDE / macro etc.
5. Malicious payload retrieves the malware file and executes it providing the Red Team with access to the internal network.
6. The Red Team gains access to the internal network, shares, might utilize harvested credentials to move laterally, etc.

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# Phishing Infrastructure

- Create a mail server as if you hate phishing and spam:
  - <https://www.linuxbabe.com/mail-server/ubuntu-16-04-iredmail-server-installation> OR
  - <https://www.linuxbabe.com/mail-server/ubuntu-18-04-iredmail-email-server>
- Now, according to your pretext and OSINT results, create sending profiles (email addresses to send phishing emails from).
- Create the web server that the targets will be asked to get to in the phishing email.
  - Generate a pretty page that looks legit.
  - Make sure the domain is categorised.
  - Letsencrypt will be handy.
  - Oh the wonders of .htaccess file
  - Create landing page, decoy pages, etc.
  - Take a look at Modlishka and EvilNginx
  - Also, check piwik <https://builds.piwik.org/piwik.zip> for clickstream analysis

# Malicious Documents

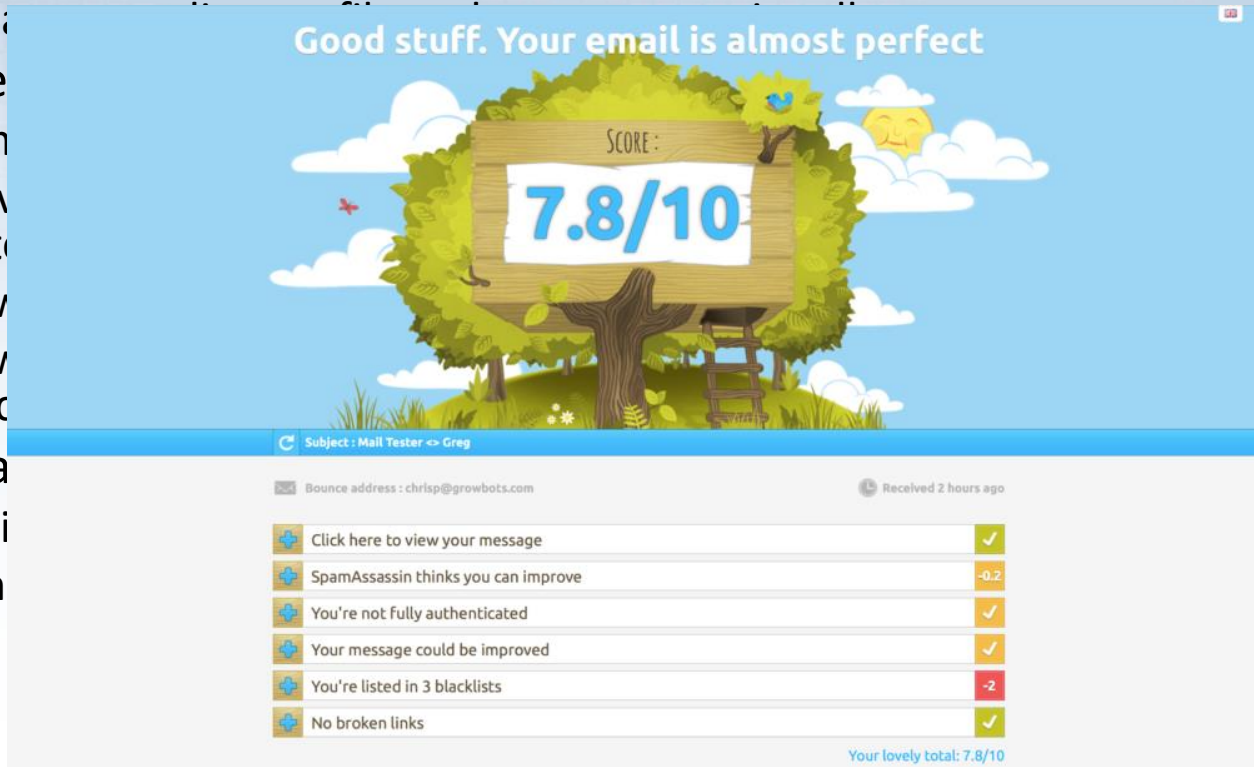
- There are several things you can try.
- Start with macros (Metasploit, Cobalt Strike, Empire, etc.)
  - Obfuscate with VBad <https://github.com/Pepitoh/VBad>
  - Also, several tricks out there, search and try them.
  - Also, check LoLBins: <https://lolbas-project.github.io/>
  - And maybe Invoke-DOSfuscation could be handy:  
<https://github.com/danielbohannon/Invoke-DOSfuscation>
  - <https://outflank.nl/blog/2019/05/05/evil-clippy-ms-office-maldoc-assistant/>
  - <https://outflank.nl/blog/2019/10/30/abusing-the-sylk-file-format/>
- Embedded OLE Objects
- Click-once applications, for a bit more advanced cases

# Final Steps

- Generate multiple pretexts (according to OSINT results)
  - You want to personalise but not too much
  - Change sending profile and pretext occasionally
- Create email templates, personalise, update with malicious links
  - Email templates can be anything between plain and very complex
  - Several templates online, especially from marketers (good at bypassing spam filters)
  - Always a good idea to personalise malicious links and landing page, too
  - Always test your email prior to sending, have used mail-tester.com with good success so far
- Send and wait
  - Phishing requires patience
  - Unless you want to combine it with vishing or smishing

# Final Steps

- Generate multiple pretexts (according to OSINT results)
  - You want to personalise but not too much
  - Check the email address and domain
- Create a good email
  - Email should be personal but not too much
  - Several filters to avoid being spam
  - Always use a valid domain
  - Always use a valid domain
  - Always use a valid domain
- Send a good email
  - Phil should be personal but not too much
  - Un

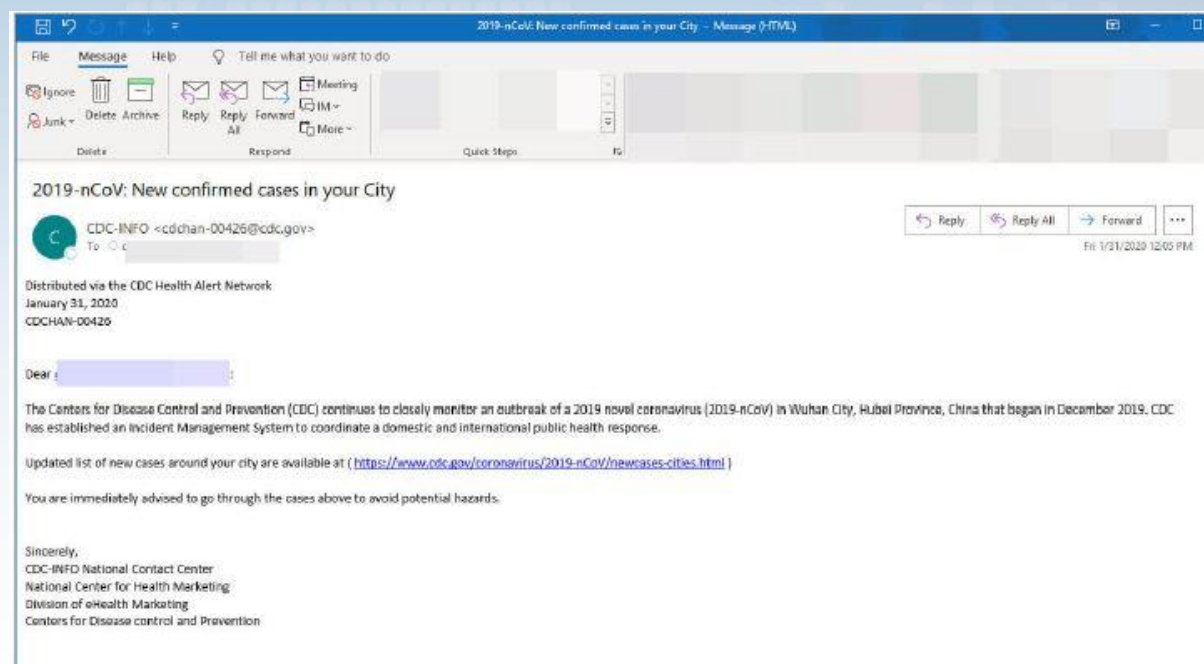


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with good

# Realistic (?) Scenario

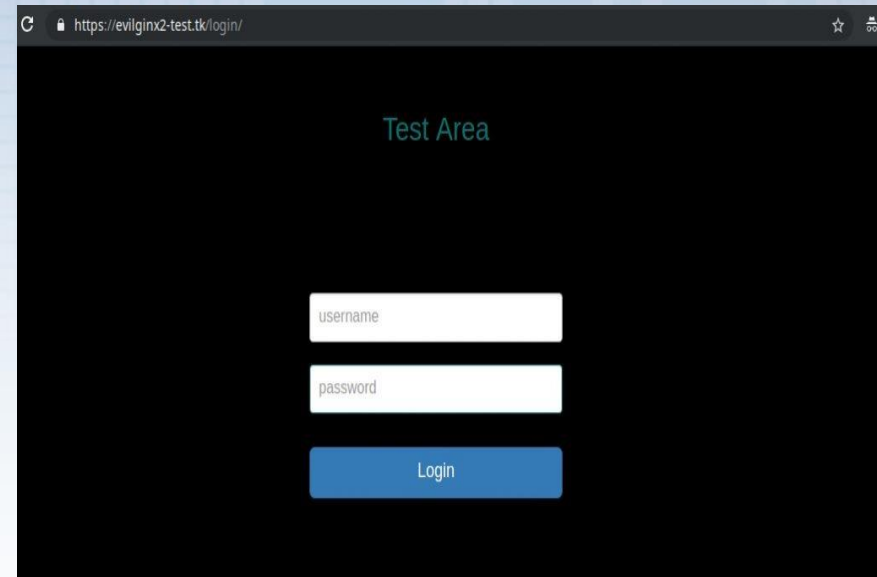
## 1. Send a luring email





# Realistic (?) Scenario

1. Send a luring email
2. Target clicks and is presented with fake-login / harvester





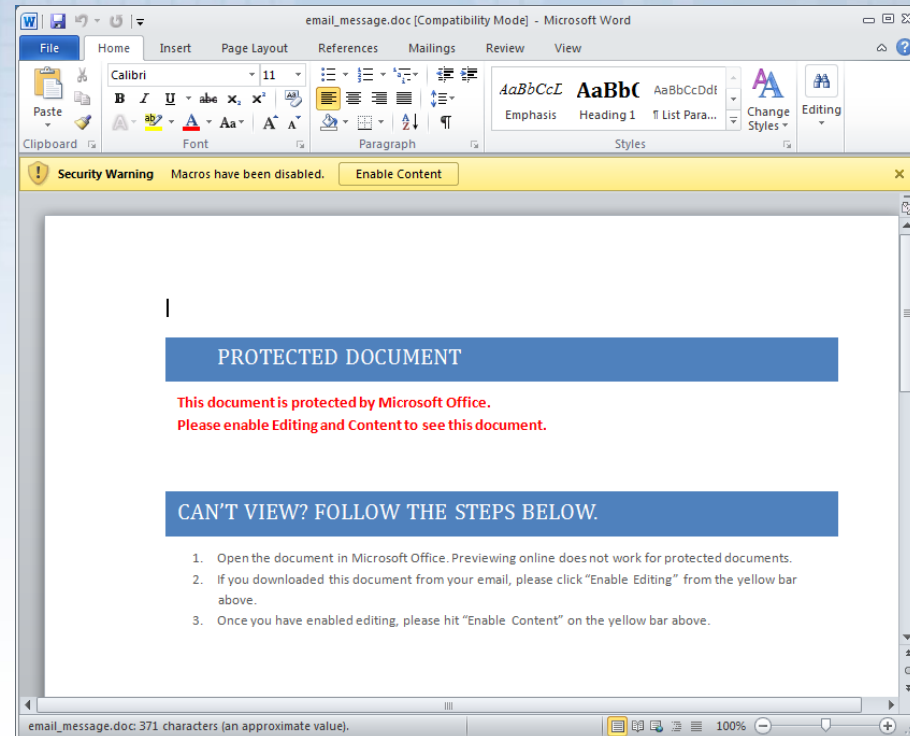
# Realistic (?) Scenario

1. Send a luring email
2. Target clicks and is presented with fake-login / harvester
3. Target is presented with a download button



# Realistic (?) Scenario

1. Send a luring email
2. Target clicks and is presented with fake-login / harvester
3. Target is presented with a download button
4. Downloaded document has some form of RCE (DDE, OLE Object, Macro, etc.)



# Red Team Code Of Conduct

- It is important to be as realistic as possible. However, there are ethical, moral, and legal boundaries to consider
- Never break local or regional law
- Big ethical decision on whether you are allowed to impersonate real individuals
- Don't mention/exploit friends and family of the targets
- Don't target personal emails, social media, phone numbers
- Don't share specifics on compromised accounts, avoid witch hunting
- Don't target 3<sup>rd</sup> party, providers, suppliers
- Be proactive with data, exfiltration, etc. GDPR still applies

*\* Exceptions to the above will only be conducted with prior validated approval, from individual and groups with appropriate authority.*

# Thank you :)

