



Identify & Neutralize the Insider: Vectra AI Detection & Metadata Traffic Analysis

Hybrid and Multi-cloud Threat Detection and Response
with AI-driven Attack Signal Intelligence™

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Agenda

- ▼ Introduction
- ▼ Background on Vectra AI: Why, What and How
- ▼ Let's talk about AI
- ▼ Uncovering a novel Insider Threat
- ▼ Taking Things Further
- ▼ Q & A

The one constant in security is MORE

Spiral of more



More Remote Users



More Cloud Services



More Cloud Vulnerabilities



More Account Compromise



More Network Devices



More Lateral Movement



spiral of more



More Attack Surface



More Evasive Attackers



More Blind Spots



More Attacker Exploits



More Alert Triage



More Analyst Workload

More SOC unknowns

The “we don’t know” of hybrid threat detection and response

More Attack Surface

Users: Anywhere

- Remote users
- User network

Data and apps: Hybrid cloud

- Public Cloud: AWS, Azure, Google Cloud
- SaaS: Salesforce, Workday, Microsoft 365, Suite, Zoom

Datacenter

We don't know where we are compromised - right now

More Evasive Attacker Methods

| Attackers | Access | Tooling |
|-------------------------|------------|----------------------|
| CONTI | log4shell | metasploit |
| REvil | Kaseya | ORBIT STRIKE |
| Nobelium Dark Halo | solarwinds | GOLDMAX Custom C2 |
| Hf Hafnium 178.49 | Exchange | NISHANG |

We don't know how to keep pace with modern threats

More People & Skills Needed

- 3.4M** Cybersecurity workforce gap ²
- 7/10** Analysts are burnt out ³
- 45%** Cloud-based breaches ³

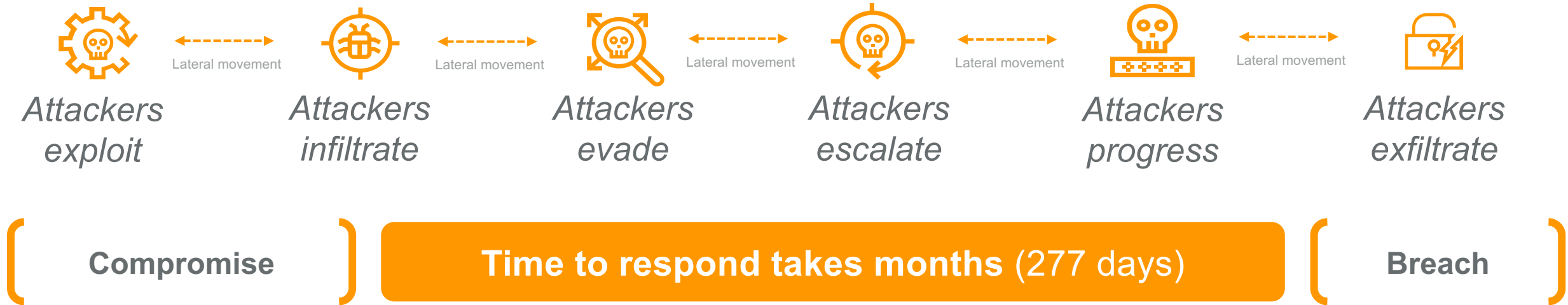
We don't know what threats are real – what alerts matter

¹ Vectra Research Study December 2022 | ² (ISC)2 Research 2022 | ³ IBM Security Research 2022 | ⁴ Vectra sponsored research: Enterprise Strategy Group study The Evolving Role of NDR, October 2022

More SOC latency, inefficiency

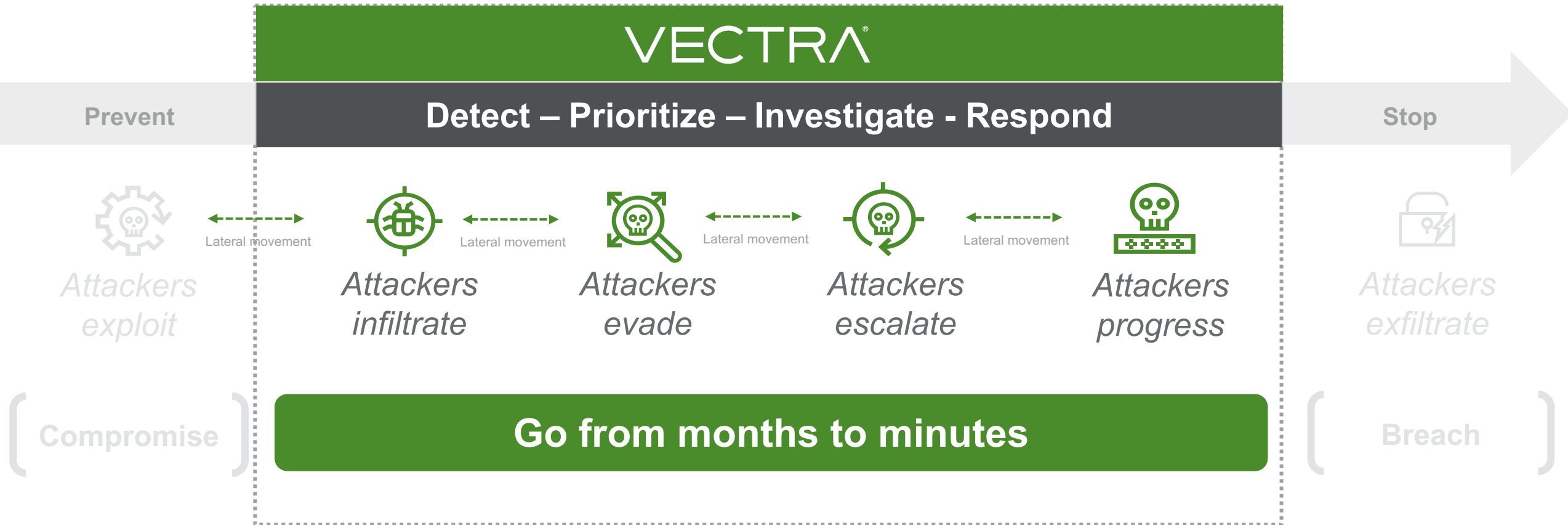
When cyber-attacks take minutes, response shouldn't take months

Cyber Attacks take minutes



Vectra solves for the unknowns

Remove latency, improve SOC efficiency



“Prevention is ideal, but Detection and Response is a must” - SANS

Vectra delivers SOC Efficiency

Case Study: Financial Services

Blackstone

“*Vectra’s platform has helped us strengthen our cybersecurity defense capabilities and has made our firmwide cybersecurity program **more efficient.***”

– Kevin Kennedy
Senior Vice President, Cybersecurity

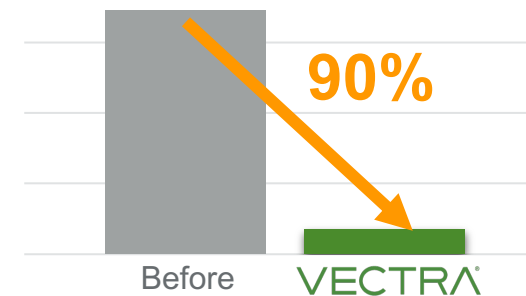
AI-driven Detection

50 new detections in 1 day



AI-driven Prioritization

90% reduction in alerts



“The signal-to-noise ratio from low fidelity to high fidelity is all done basically upstream by Vectra”

SOC efficiency gains:

- Automate and improve quality of threat detections over native tools
- Less detection engineering time, more MITRE coverage
- Higher fidelity, more accurate events in case management
- Faster MTTD, MTTI, MTTR measurement and metrics

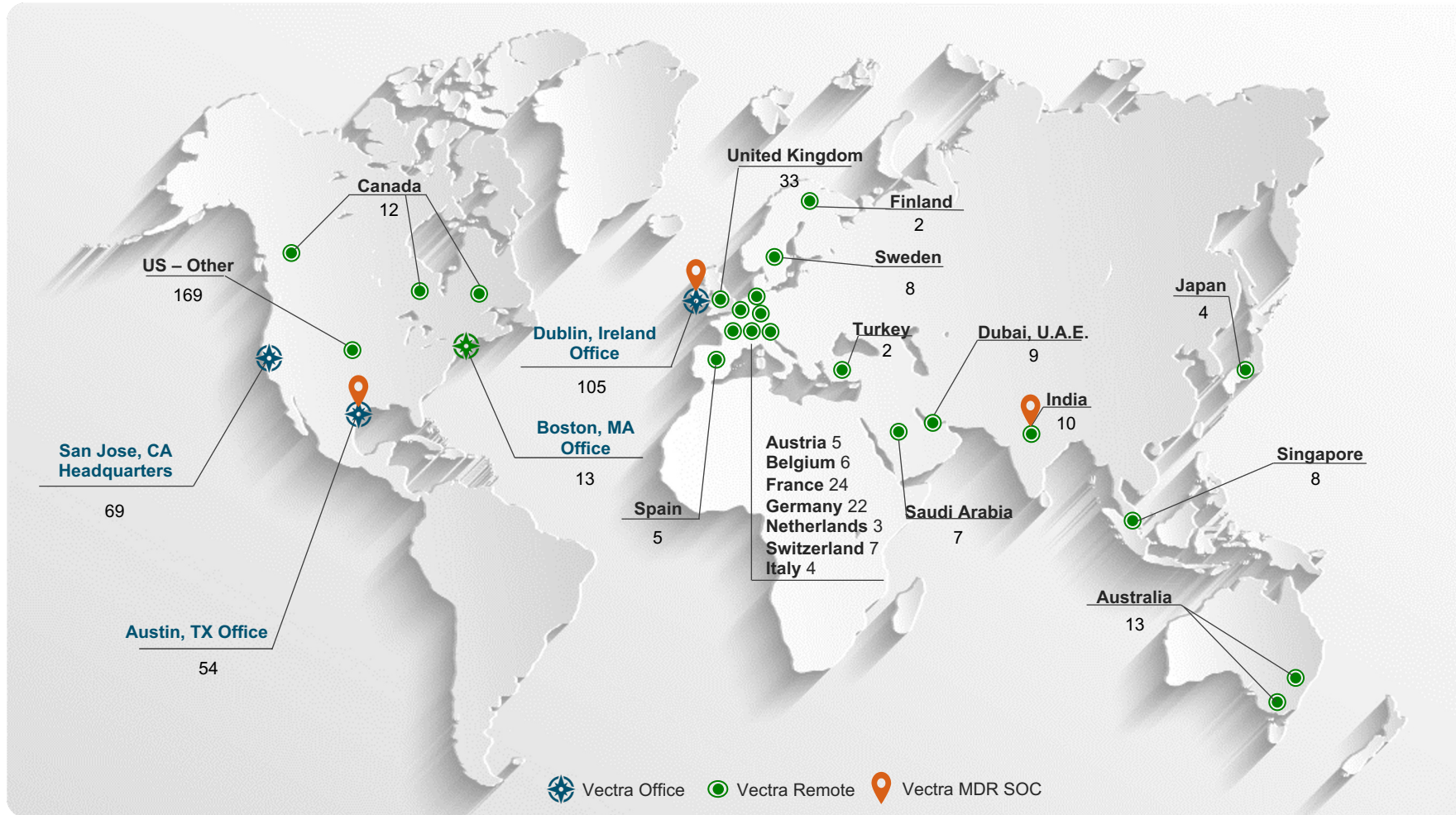


About Us, Our Customers & Partners

Optional slides

Vectra is the AI-driven partner you can trust

The pioneer and global leader in AI-driven cyber threat detection and response

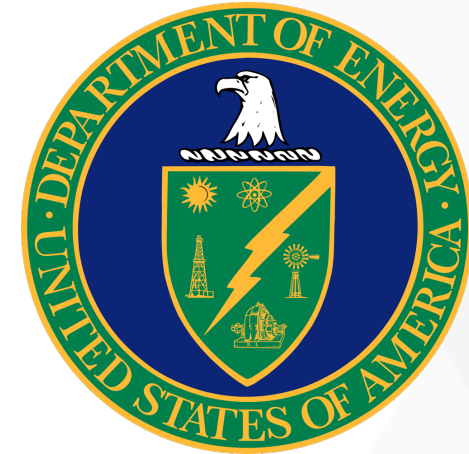


About us

- Founded 2011
- Privately held
- Global footprint
+ 600+ employees
+ 20+ countries
- 3 SOCs - follow the sun
+ Austin, TX
+ Dublin, Ireland
+ Bangalore, India
- 12 security AI patents
- 97% coverage for MITRE ATT&CK, with more MITRE D3FEND countermeasures than any other vendor
- >1000 enterprise customers
- >\$100M ARR





Vectra: Supporting Federal Customers



Our Partners

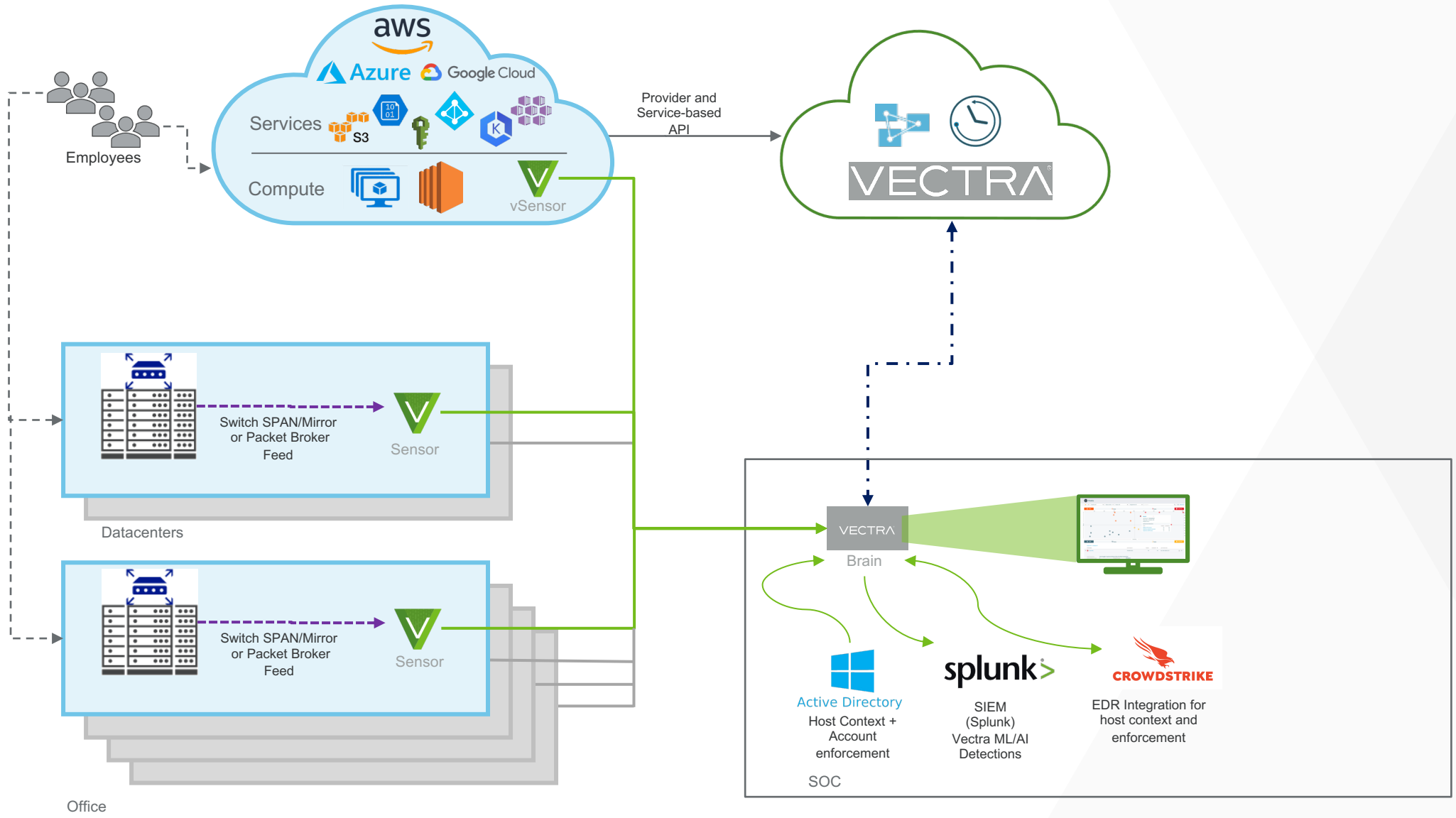
A broad ecosystem of alliance, integration, and services partners

| | | | | | |
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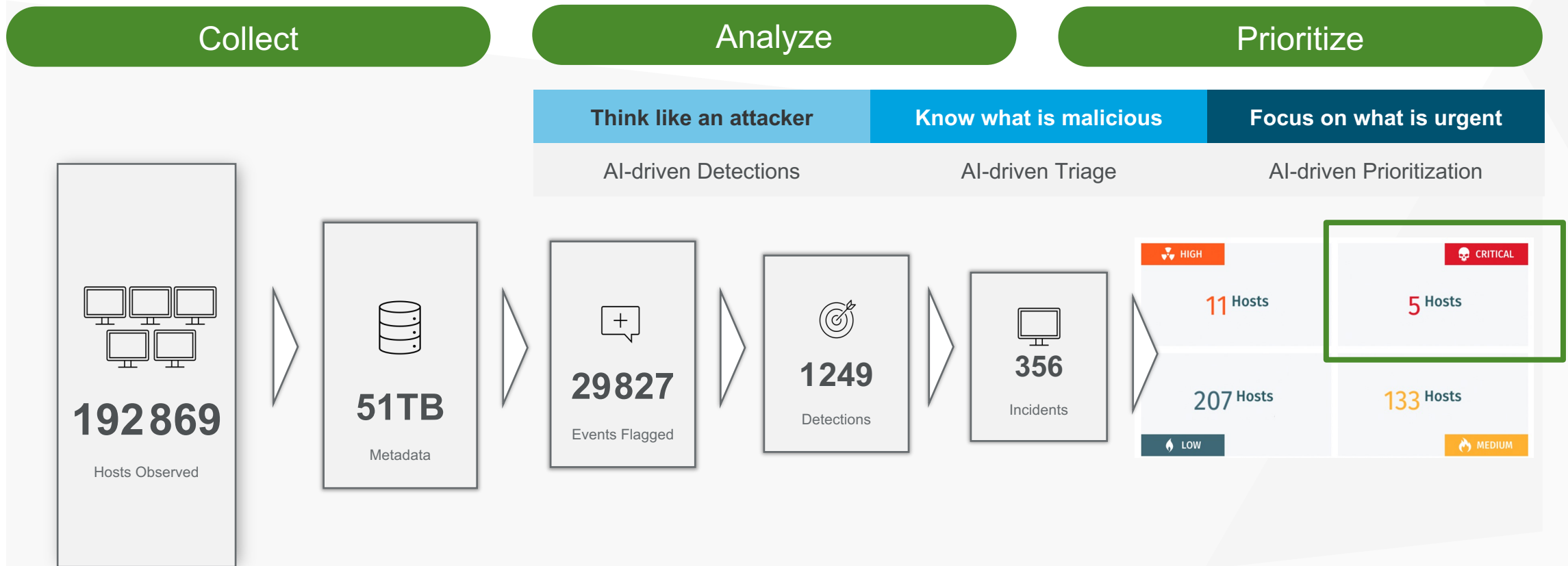
Attack Signal Intelligence™

Introduction to Vectra Attack Signal Intelligence



Only Vectra filters out the noise, prioritizes real threats

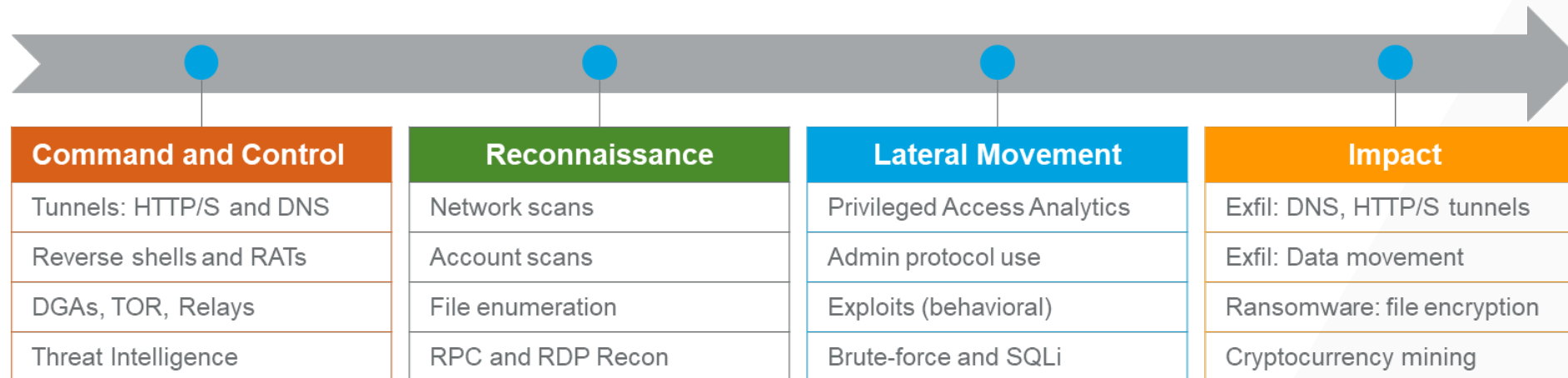
Attack Signal Intelligence - game changing signal clarity for NDR



2. Analyze metadata for attacker behaviors

150+ ready-built attacker behavior models, +97% coverage of Mitre ATT&CK*

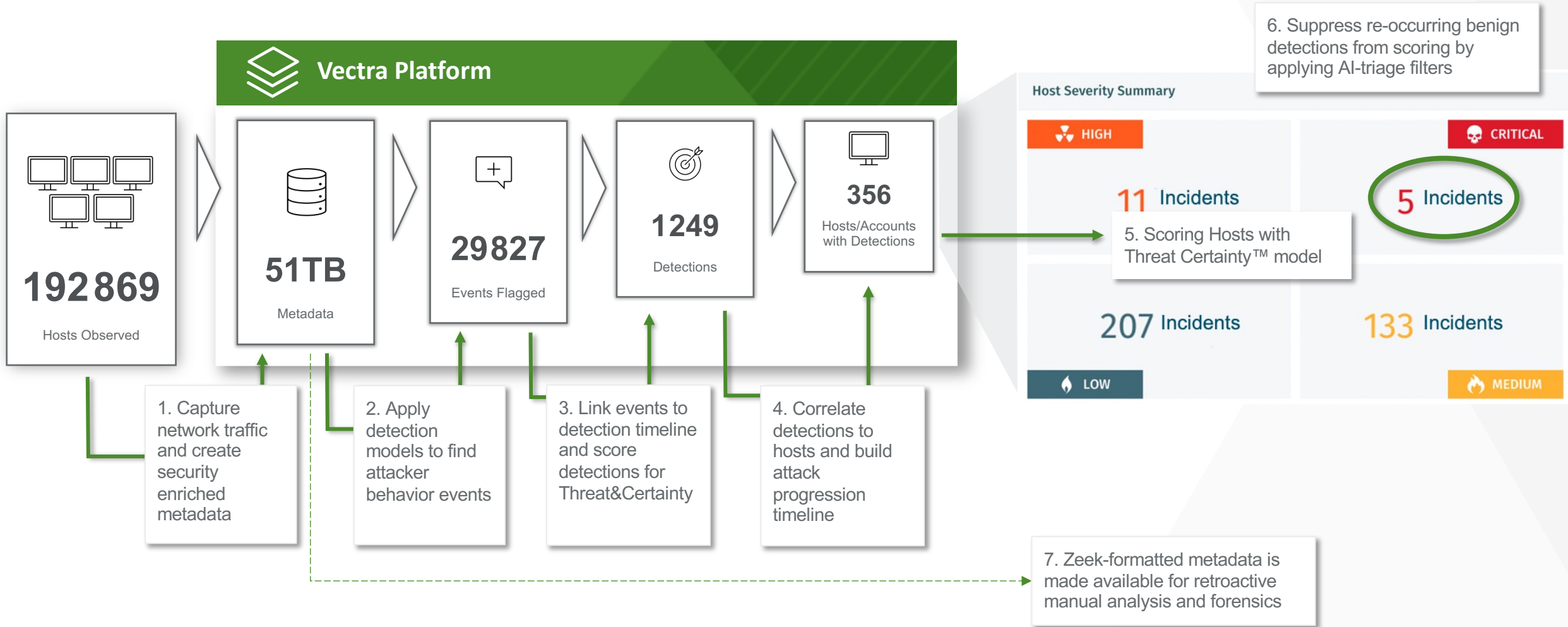
- ▼ Threat actors have 1000's of tools and tactics, but behaves similarly
 1. They establish a control mechanism into the compromised environment (C2)
 2. They snoop around to map out the compromised environment (Recon)
 3. They move laterally inside the compromised environment (Lateral movement)
 4. They steal, encrypt, alter and destroy (Impact)



* Source: <https://support.vectra.ai/s/article/KB-VS-1158>

3. Filter out the noise for unrivaled signal clarity

AI-driven Prioritization at scale through intelligent automation



Source: Customer environment in a large multinational enterprise, during a 30 day period

AI = a (short) Buzzword

Skepticism is thoroughly encouraged



Input / Signal is important...



“hacker in a datacenter”

Steps: 20, Sampler: Euler a, CFG scale: 7,
Seed: 1147051768, Size: 512x512

Input / Signal is important...

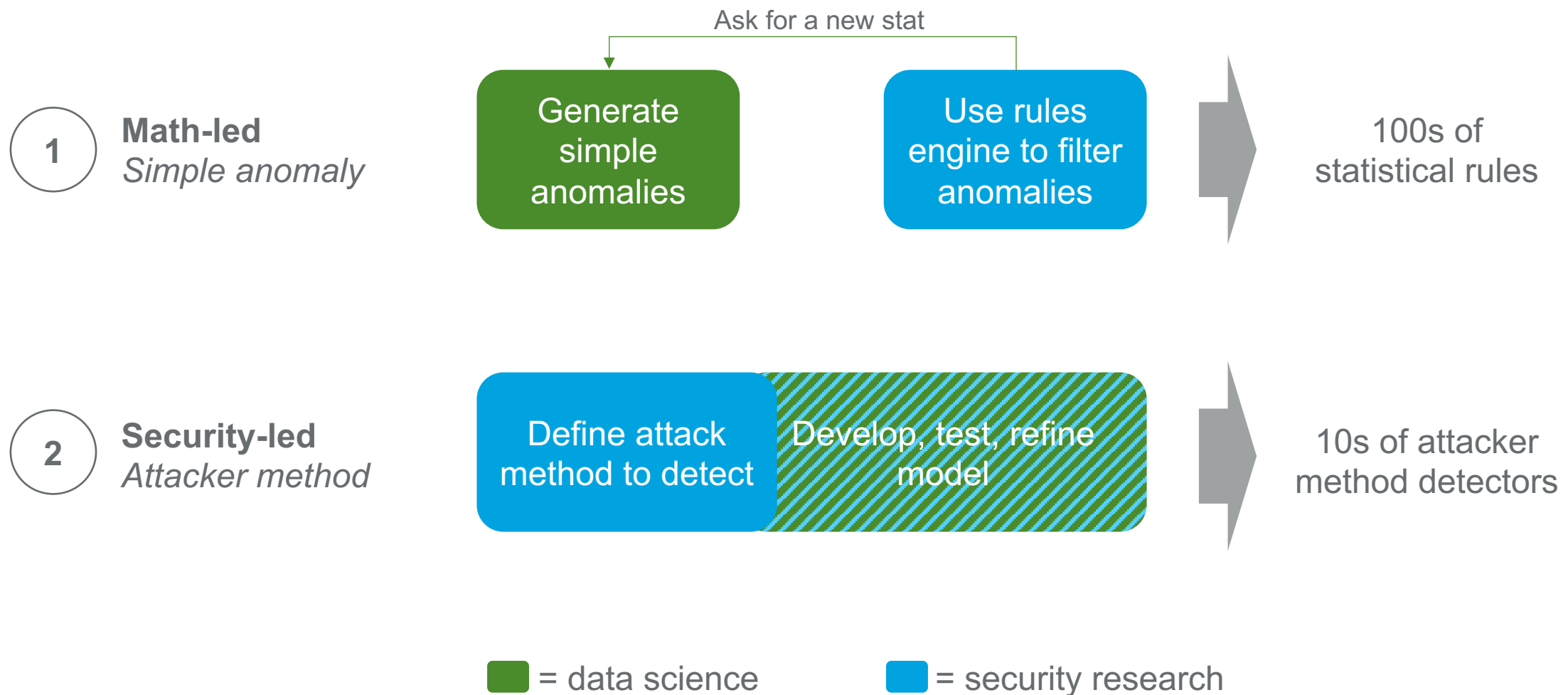


(((dark))) ((figure sitting on the floor)), (wearing a hooded jacket), in a glowing data center typing on an open (laptop), (((wires everywhere))) connected to rows of server computers, 8k, high resolution, ((high focus)), extreme detail, extreme focus, eerie lighting, hard edges, disturbing, frightening

Negative prompt: ugly, deformed, [[[[[bright light]]]], unrealistic, skewed perspective, awkward limbs, [[[[[blurry]]]], [fuzzy], diffuse, soft edges, round corners, bulging, (((logo))), cloudy, calming, (((peaceful))), nice, [[glowing edges]], color, incomplete hands, incomplete limbs, incomplete objects, strange objects, strange looking

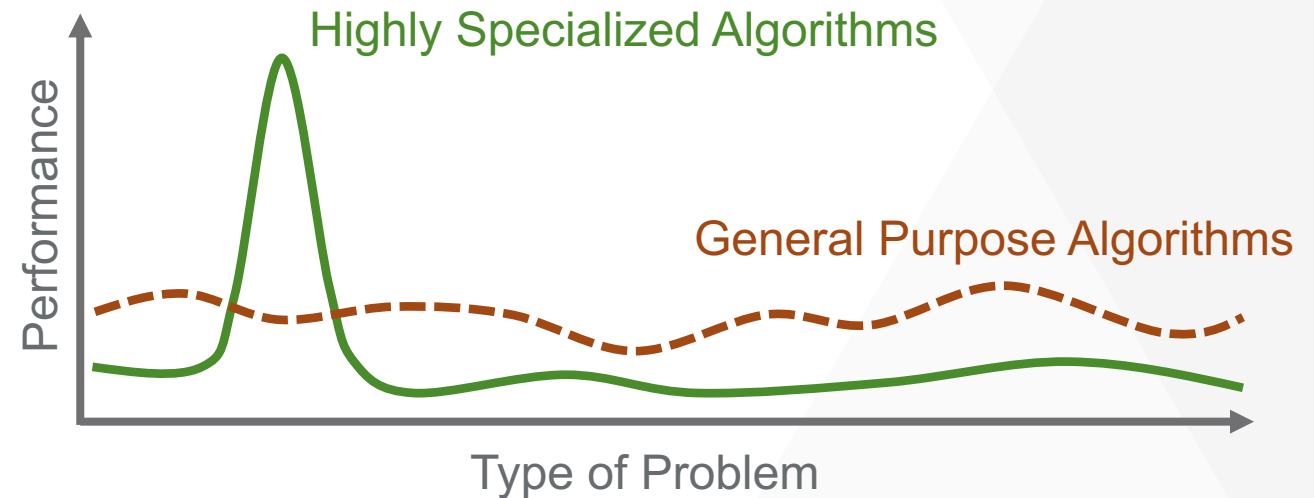
Steps: 90, Sampler: Euler a, CFG scale: 7, Seed: 3308590029, Size: 512x512

Two major philosophies in applying AI to threat detection



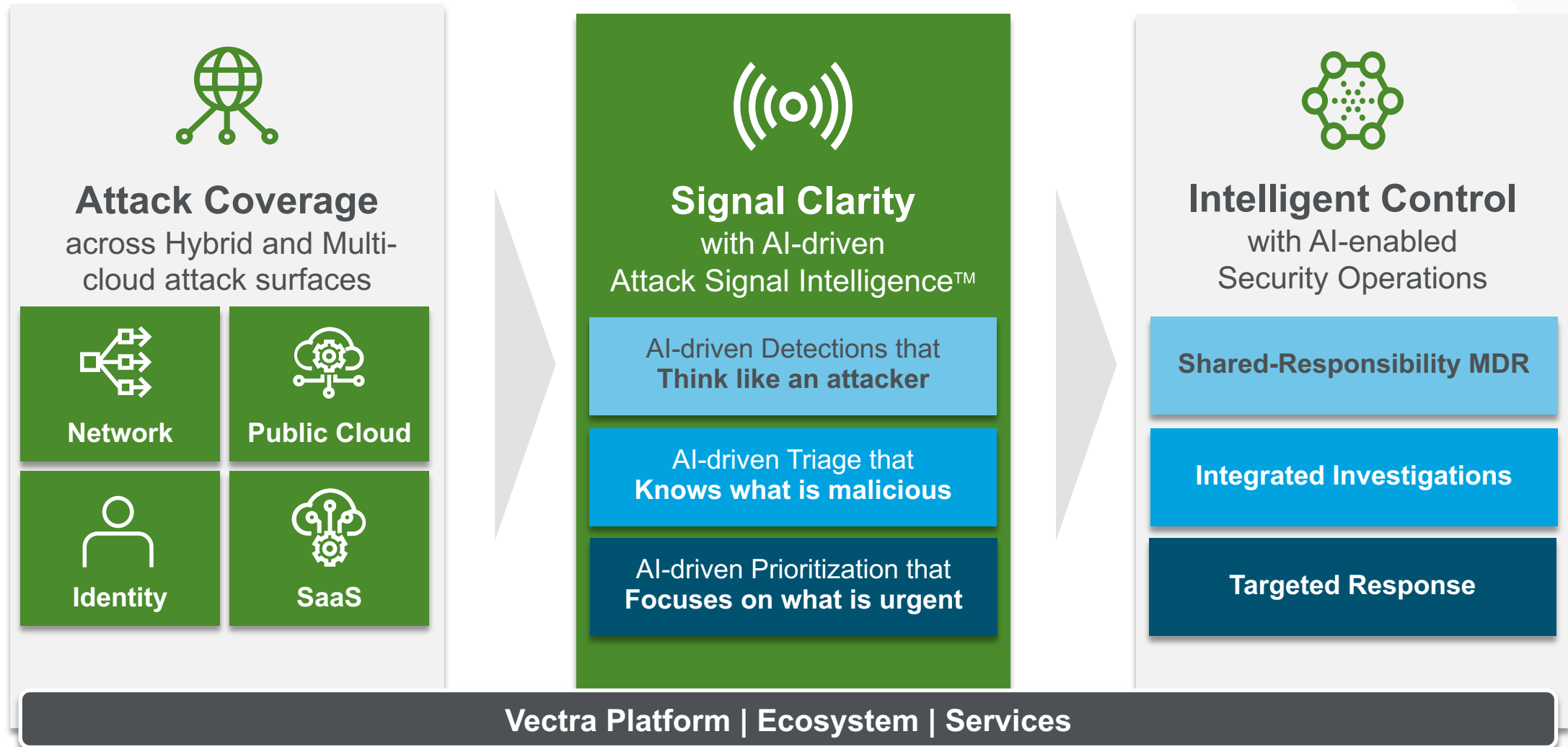
The “No Free Lunch” theorem

- ▼ Supervised – Global learning
 - Deep learning / neural networks
 - Natural language processing
 - Statistical modeling
- ▼ Unsupervised – Local learning
 - Clustering
 - Outlier detection
 - Graph analysis



AI-driven signal clarity is our core

Prioritize threats in places EDR can't and in ways legacy IDS and SIEM won't.



Only Vectra Security AI is optimized to detect attacker methods

With Attack Signal Intelligence™ behavior-based, AI-driven Detection

1

Analyze
attacker methods

MITRE | ATT&CK®

Per-domain analysis
enables deep coverage

2

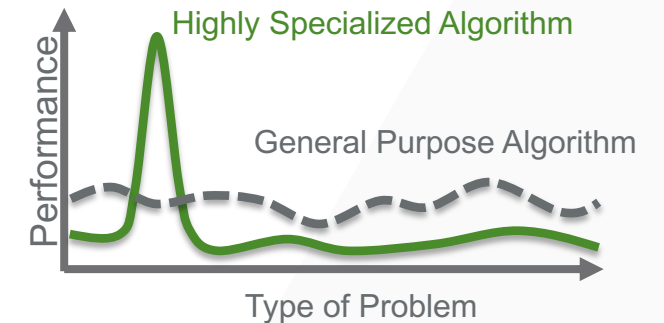
Define
countermeasures

MITRE | DEFEND™

Define techniques to
detect attack methods

3

Use the **optimal ML**
approach for each



Security-led approach to AI

Powered by cutting-edge ML

Outcome: more coverage and clarity, less noise
vs simple anomaly-based detection

What makes Vectra Security AI unique

How our Attack Signal Intelligence™ stands apart



Sees through encryption

Finds attackers without forcing decryption using the power of recurrent neural networks and deep learning



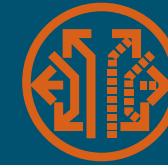
Learns account privilege

Zeroes in on credential attacks by automatically discovering and focusing on accounts most useful to attackers.



Analyzes in many dimensions

Sees real threats in a sea of “different” by considering feature interactions in a multi-dimensional space.

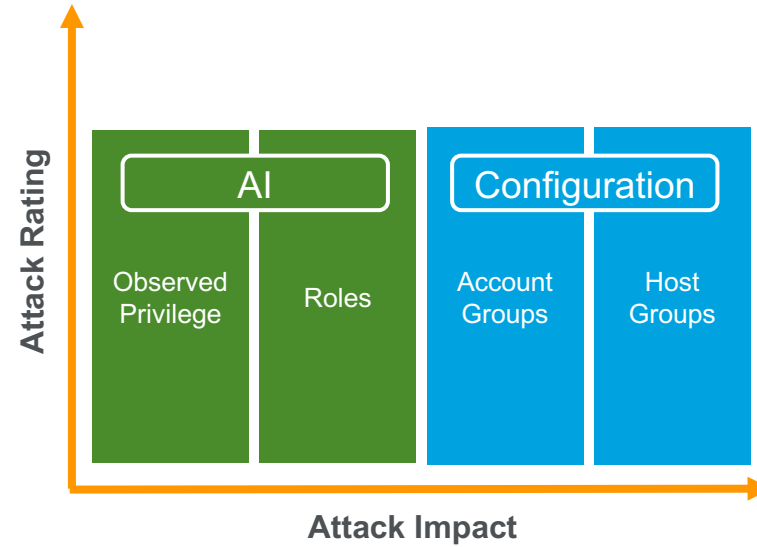
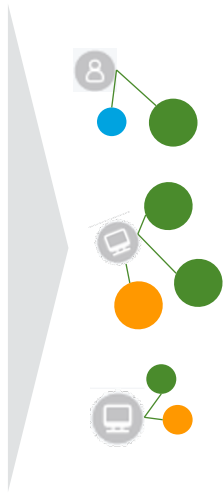
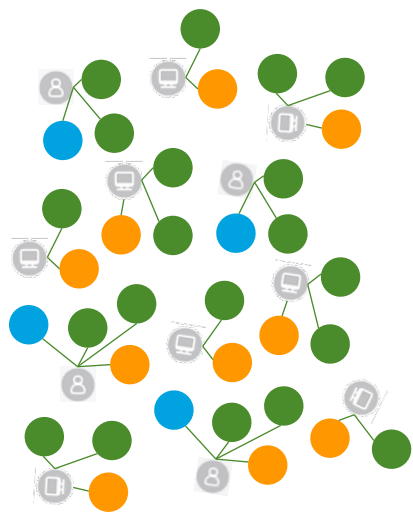
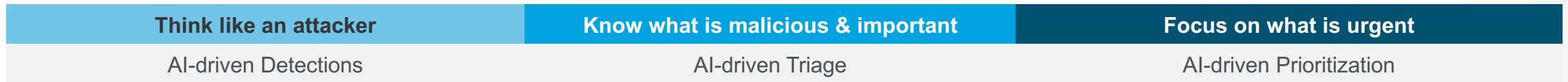


Sees attack progression

Focuses on what attackers do/use to hide and progress , e.g., M365 Power Automate or AWS admin API calls.

Vectra AI-driven Attack Signal Intelligence™

AI that Filters out the noise, prioritizes real threats



Knows what's malicious



Knows what's important

Only Vectra AI-driven Detections think like an attacker

Real-time, behavior-based detections across the cyber kill chain

Attack Progression

| Access | Persist | Command & Control | Escalate & Evade | Recon & Discover | Lateral Movement | Exfiltration & Disruption |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| New Host | MFA Disabled | Hidden HTTPS Tunnel | New Host Role | Kerberoasting (x2) | Privilege Access Anomaly (x6) | Smash and Grab |
| Suspected Compromise Access | Trusted IP Change | Hidden DNS Tunnel | Log Disabling Attempt | Internal Darknet Scan | Suspicious Remote Exec | Ransomware File Activity |
| Brute-Force Attempt/Success | Admin Account Creation | Hidden HTTP Tunnel | Disabling Security Tools | Port Scan | Suspicious Remote Desktop | Data Gathering |
| Disabled Account | Account Manipulation | Multi-homed Fronted Tunnel | Suspicious Mailbox Rule | Port Sweep | Suspicious Admin | Data Smuggler |
| TOR Activity | Redundant Access | Suspicious Relay | Log Disabling Attempt | SMB Account Scan | Shell Knocker | Hidden DNS Tunnel Exfil |
| Unusual Scripting Engine | Logging Disabled | Suspect Domain Activity | Suspect Privilege Escalation | Kerberos Account Scan | Automated Replication | Hidden HTTP/S Tunnel Exfil |
| Suspicious OAuth App | User Hijacking | Malware Update | Suspect Privilege Manipulate | Kerberos Brute-Sweep | Brute-Force | Botnet Abuse Behaviors |
| Suspicious Sign-On | ECS Hijacking | Peer-to-Peer | Suspect Console Pivot | File Share Enumeration | SMB Brute-Force | Crypto mining |
| Suspicious Sign-On with MFA Fail | Suspect Login Profile Manipulation | Suspicious HTTP | Suspect Cred Access EC2 | Suspicious LDAP Query | Kerberos Brute Force | External Teams Access |
| Suspicious Teams App | Security Tools Disabled | Stealth HTTP Post | Suspect Cred Access SSM | RDP Recon | SQL Injection Activity | Ransomware SharePoint Activity |
| Suspicious Credential Usage | SSM Hijacking | TOR Activity | Suspect Cred Access ECS | RPC Recon | Internal Stage Loader | Suspicious SharePoint Download |
| Root Credential Usage | | Novel External Port | Suspect Cred Access Lambda | RPC Targeted Recon | Suspicious Active Directory | Suspicious SharePoint Sharing |
| TOR Activity | | Threat Intel Match | | Unusual eDiscovery Search | Novel Admin Protocol | Exfil Before Termination |
| | | Vectra Threat Intel Match | | Unusual Compliance Search | Novel Admin Share Access | Suspicious Mailbox Forwarding |
| | | | | Suspect eDiscovery Activity | Risky Exchange Op | eDiscovery Exfil |
| | | | | User Permission Enumeration | Internal Spear phishing | Power Automate Activity (x3) |
| | | | | EC2 Enumeration | File Poisoning | Ransomware S3 Activity |
| | | | | S3 Enumeration | Mailbox Manipulation | Suspect Public S3 Change |
| | | | | Suspect Escalation Recon | DLL Hijacking | Suspect Public EBS Change |
| | | | | Organization Discovery | Privilege Operation Anomaly | Suspect Public EC2 Change |
| | | | | | | Suspect Public RDS Change |
| | | | | | | Suspect External Access Grant |

- Hybrid Network and Identity
- Identity: Azure AD
- Public Cloud: AWS
- SaaS: Microsoft 365

How AI Differentiates Vectra's Approach

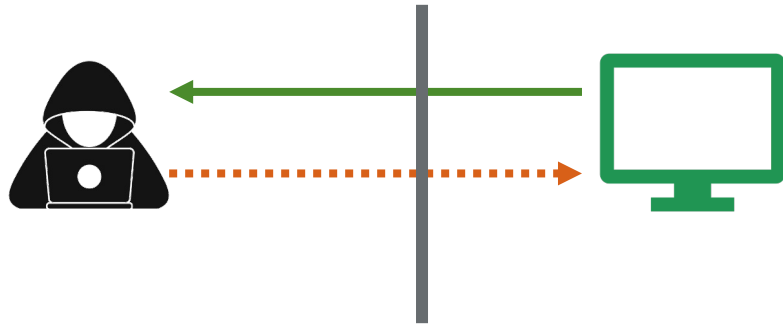
- ▼ True AI & ML
 - Patented AI models (150+) of supervised and unsupervised algorithms
- ▼ Natively Signatureless*...
 - Models and hashes change, underlying behaviors are constant
 - *Full Suricata engine available as of March 2023
- ▼ Agentless...
 - Passive on SPANs/packet brokers & in Azure/AWS Gov, and C2E (in process)
- ▼ Decryptionless...
 - Underlying payload not of interest, purely TCP header behaviors

AI Challenges



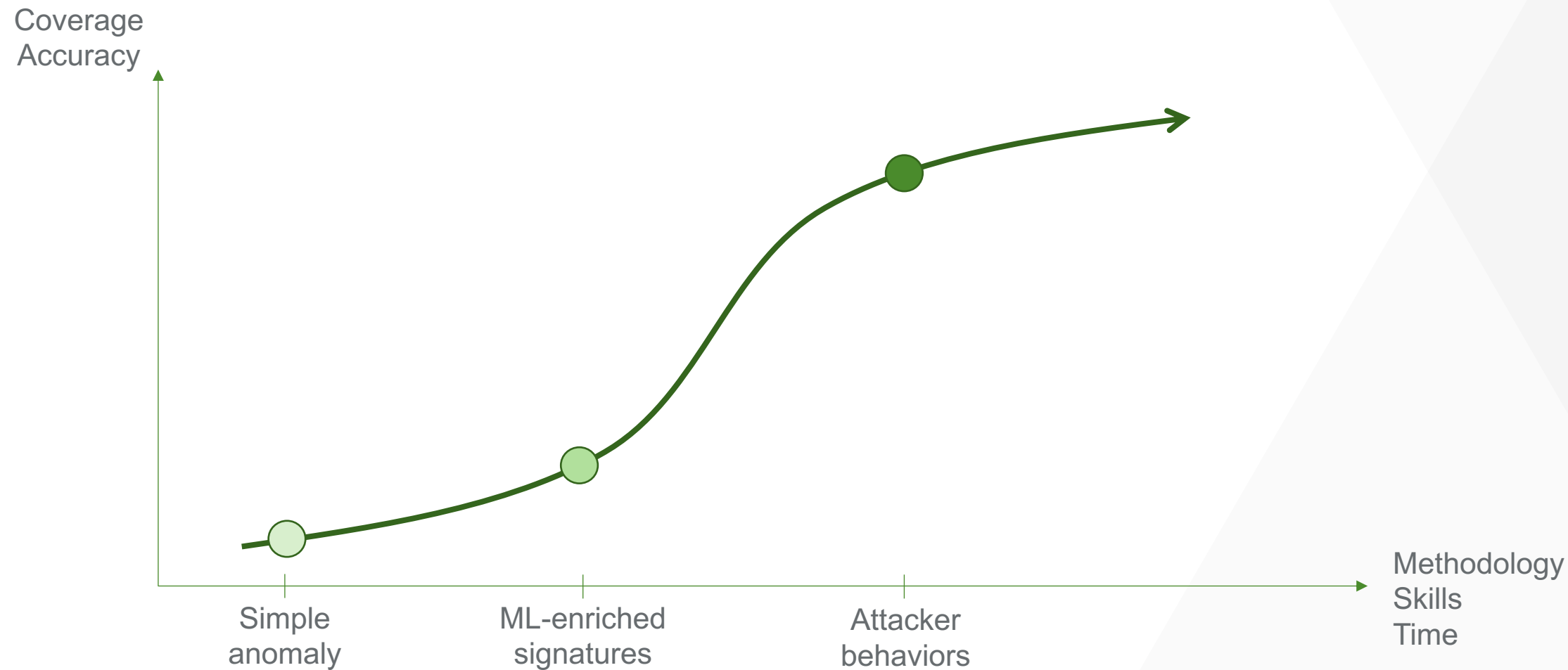
Challenge: Detect an HTTPS Tunnel

Core to every APT attack is their C2



- ▼ Designed to evade detection
- ▼ Attackers constantly evolve
- ▼ Benign networks constantly change

Perspective on approaches



Challenge: Detect an HTTPS Tunnel

Durability
Accuracy
Sophistication

AI model

Example

HTTPS Tunnel detector

Notes

Directly detect behavior of interest in an accurate way

ML-enhanced signatures

SSL beaconing to rare destination

Approximation of tunnel -> FP and FN problems

Simple anomalies + static IoCs

Unusual HTTPS connection count

FP: user browses more
FN: tunnel conns low relative to user

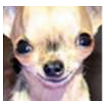
Vectra Hidden HTTPS Tunnel Model



1000s of labeled tunnel samples

- Many tools
- Many uses

Normal HTTPS traffic from dozens of customers



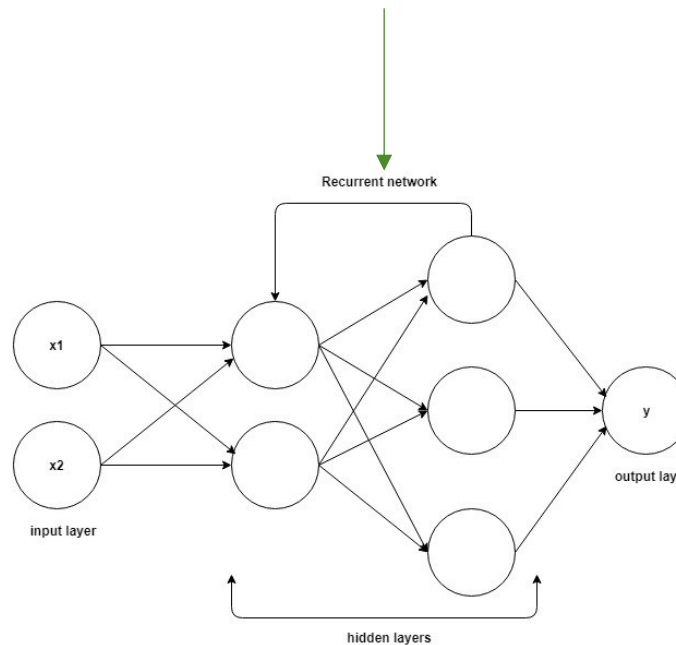
Train



Time series data.
Sub-second data transfer patterns.

Unique to Vectra.
Not in Zeek.

If the answer is incorrect,
the system is told to retrain.



Deep Learning:
LSTM Recurrent Neural Network

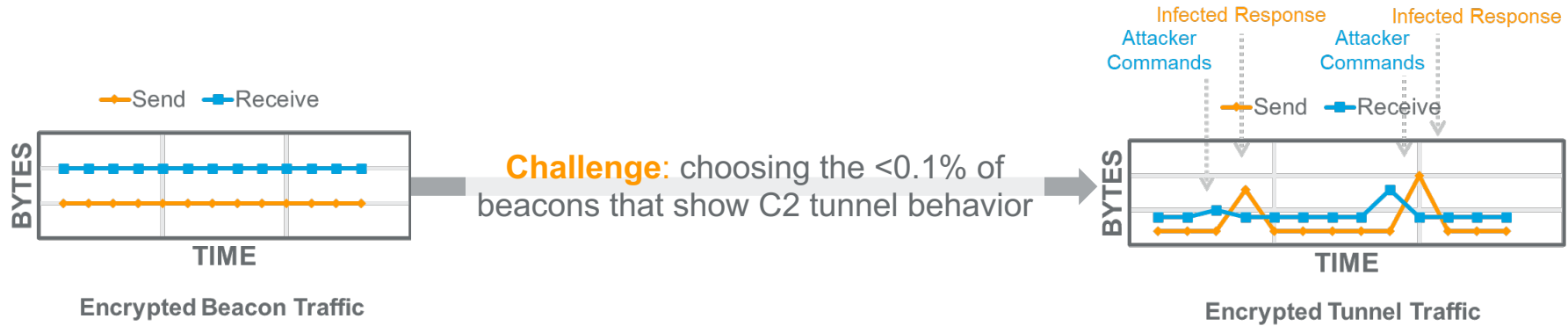
The output layer determines
the answer.

Example: This is a muffin.

Directly detects
behavior of
tunneling.
No whitelists.
No blind spots.

Visible Control in the data -- Sees through encryption

to reliably find C2 channels despite evasion attempts



Labeled (positive) tunnel samples

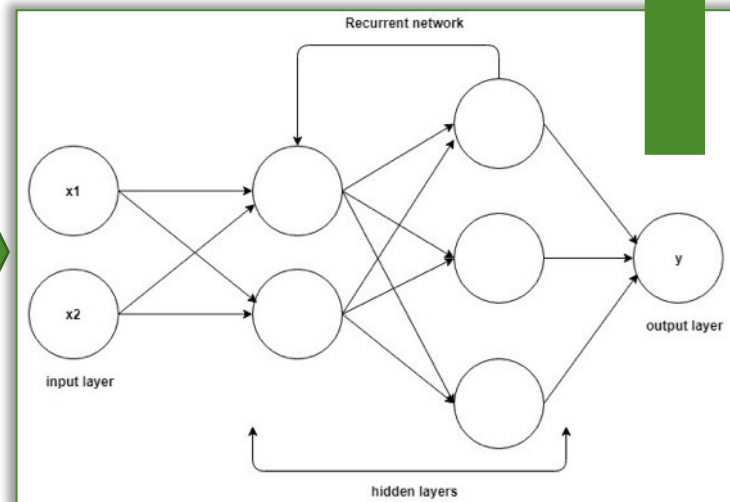


Time series. Sub-second data patterns.

Train



Normal (negative) HTTPS samples



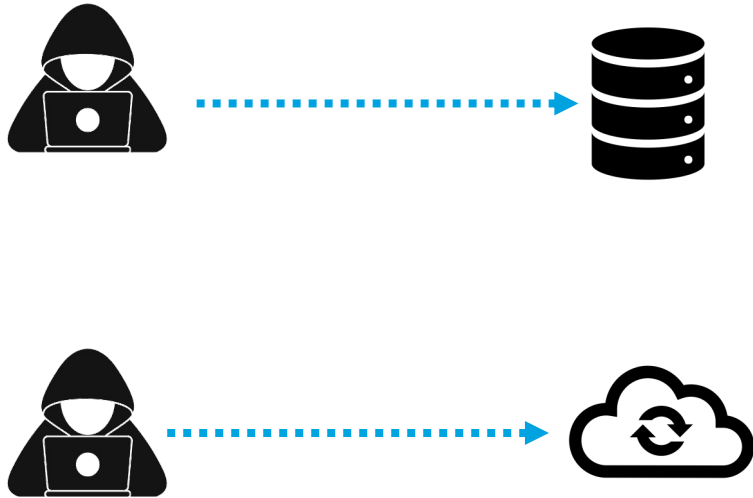
Identifies

No blind spots.
Evasion resistant.

Deep Learning:
Recurrent Neural Network

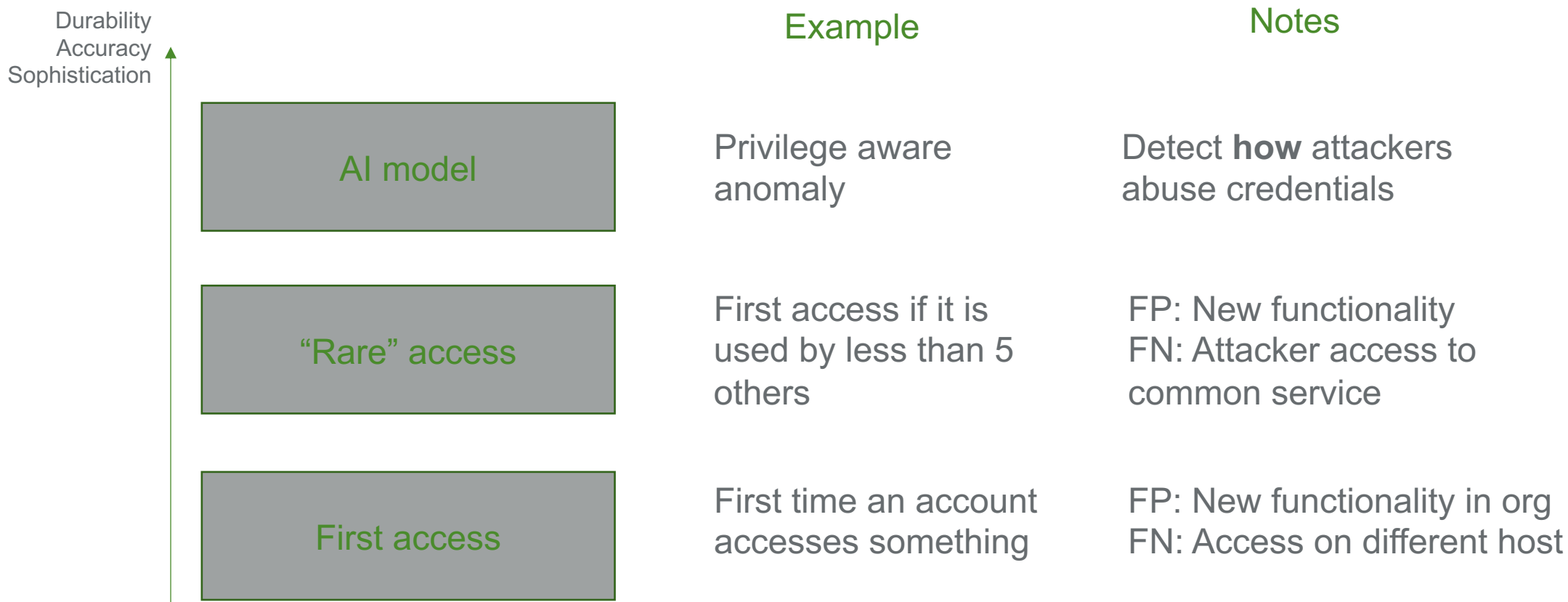
Challenge: Detecting the abuse of privilege credentials

Privilege accounts are high priorities for attacker



- ▼ Access to both **network** and **cloud**
- ▼ By definition, actions are **allowed** to happen
- ▼ Abnormal **is** normal

Perspective on approaches

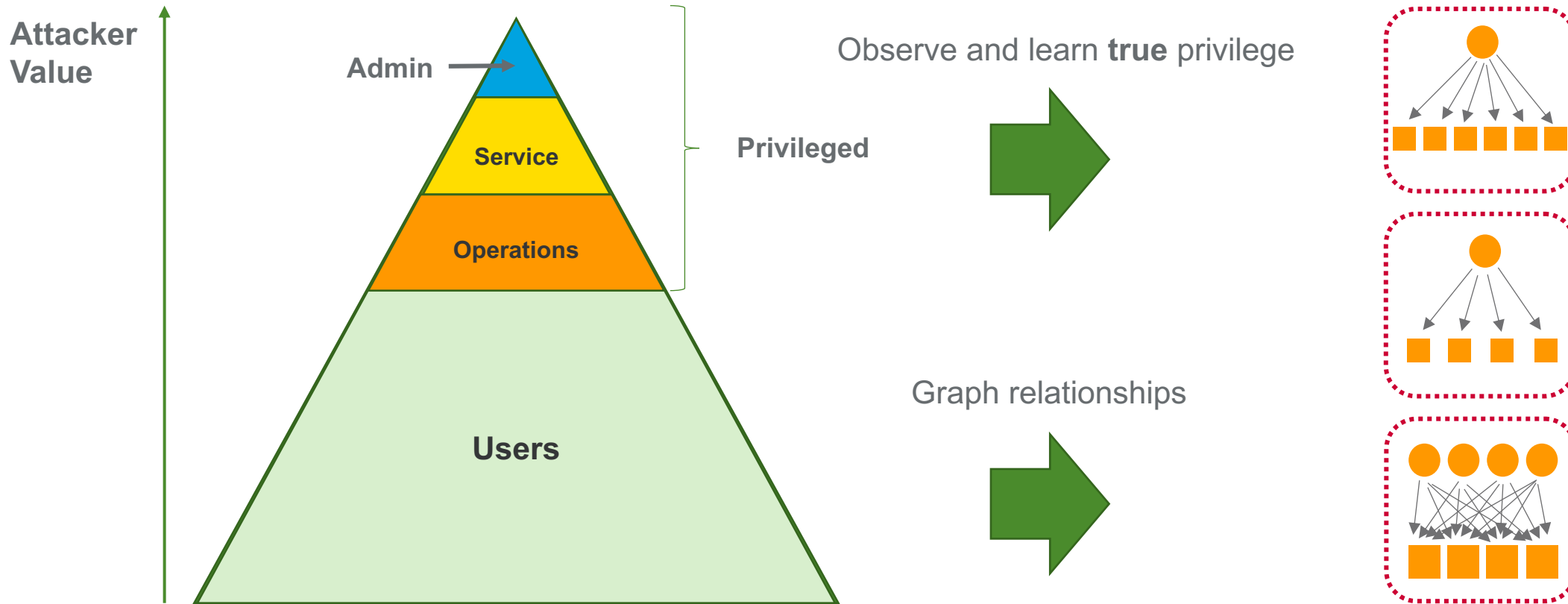


The attacker view of privilege

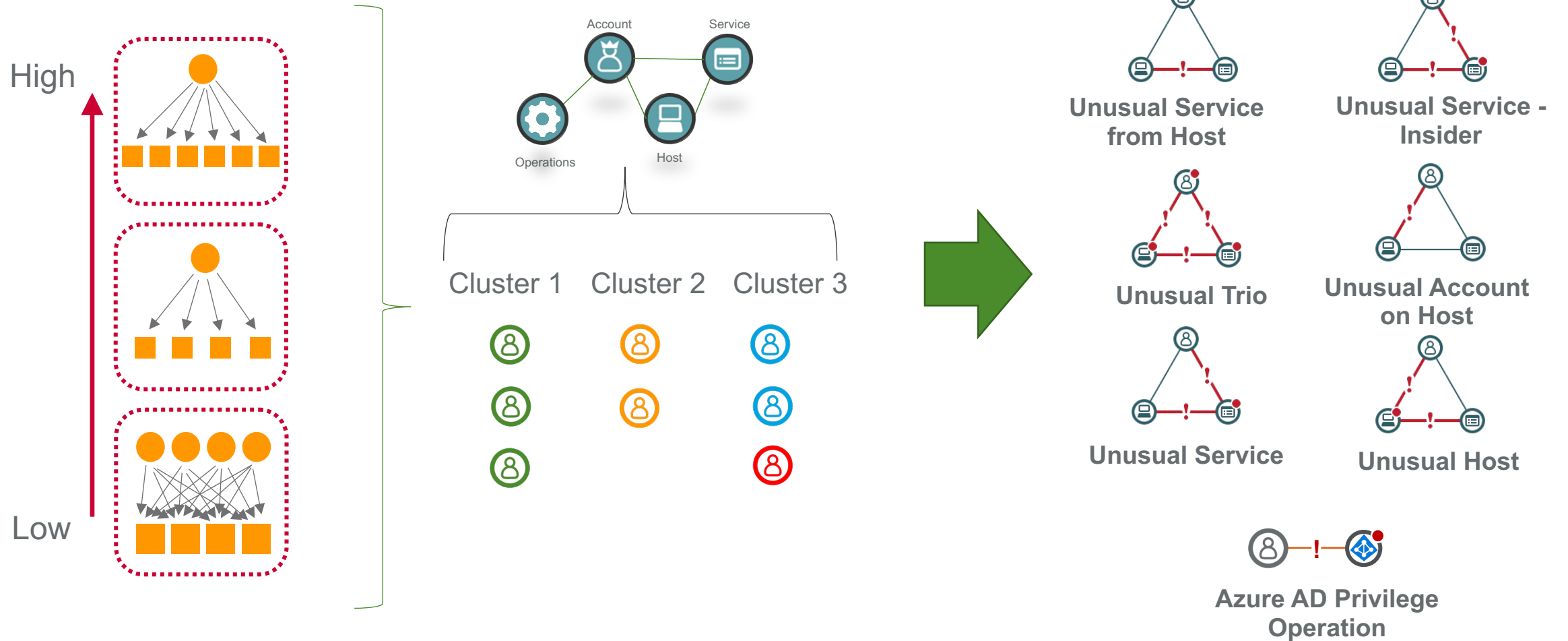
- ▼ Properly permissioning users is hard!
- ▼ Attacker abuse privilege gaps
- ▼ Vectra finds and protects the gap



Vectra's view of privilege



Vectra Privilege Anomaly Models





- Hosts
- Accounts
- Campaigns
- Detections
- Reports
- Data Sources
- Network Stats
- Manage
- Settings
- Resources
- My Profile

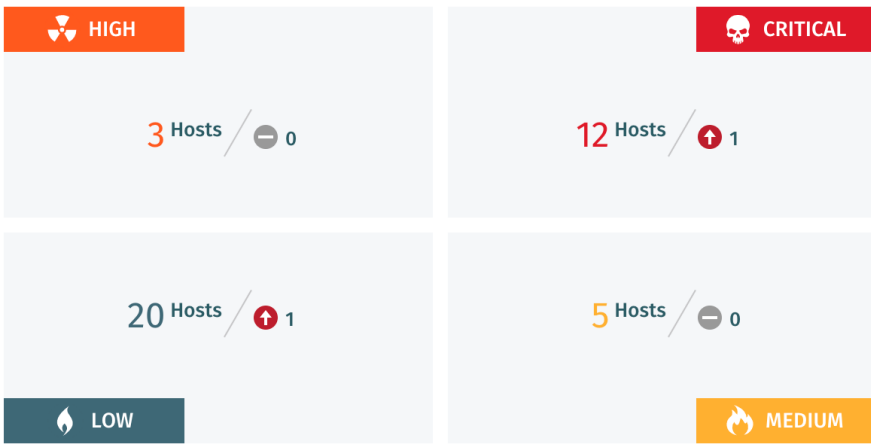
- Log Out
- Collapse

Last 24 hours

[Investigate in Cognito Recall](#) ?

Host Severity Summary

Currently analyzing 3271 concurrent IPs



Key Assets

| HOST | BOTNET | C&C | RECON | LATERAL | EXFIL |
|------------------|--------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| IP-10.234.50.200 | | | • | • | |
| IP-192.168.1.1 | | • | | | |
| leroy_brown | | | • | | |

Worst Offenders

| HOST | OBSERVED PRIVILEGE | THREAT | CERTAINTY |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|
| conrad-t480 | — | 87 | 88 |
| dc2-aws-us-west-01 | 1 - Low | 88 | 86 |
| leroy_brown | — | 82 | 87 |

Attack Campaigns

| CAMPAIGN | INTERNAL HOSTS |
|--|----------------|
| minutemen.vault-tech.org | 2 |
| badactor.net | 4 |
| snakeoil.biz-10 | 2 |

Active Detections by Category



Active Detections by Type





Hosts

Dashboard

Hosts

Accounts

Campaigns

Detections

Reports

Data Sources

Network Stats

Manage

Settings

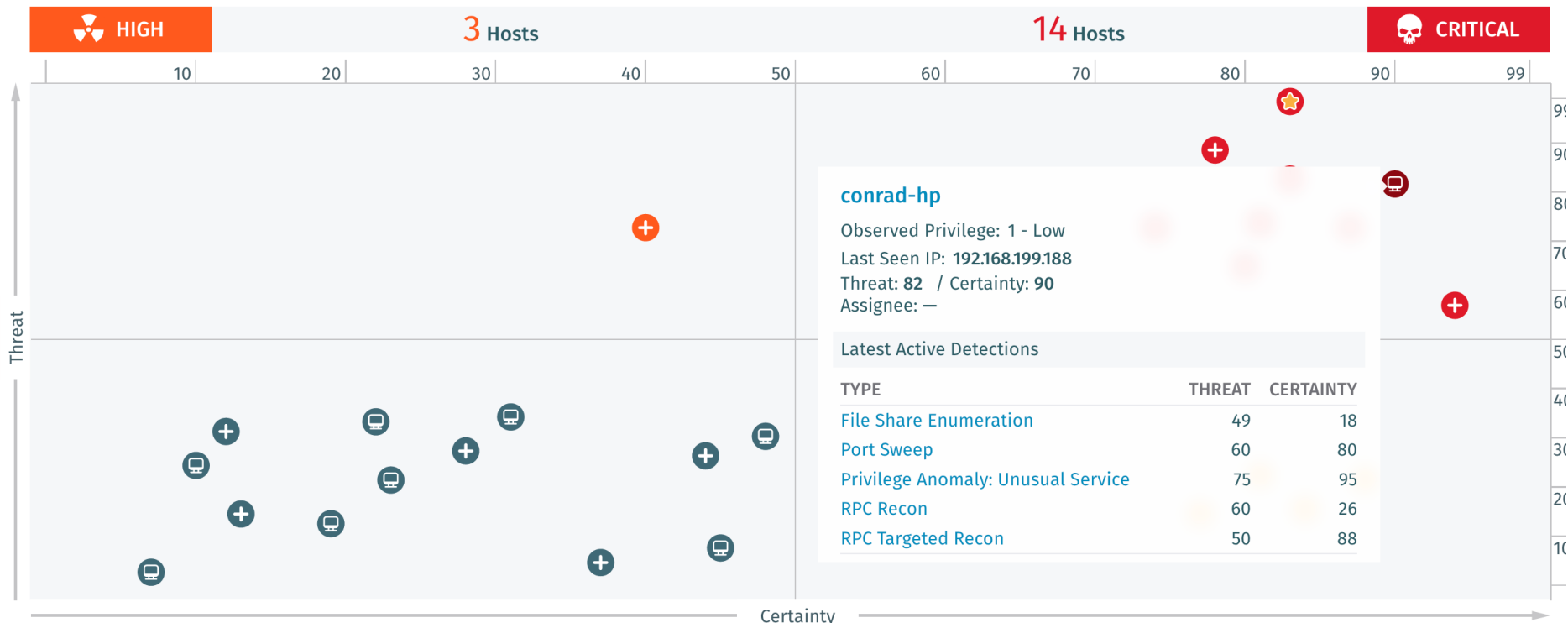
Resources

My Profile

Log Out

Collapse

Severity: All Status: Active Sensor: All Assign: All Group: All Contains



LOW 21 Hosts 5 Hosts MEDIUM

Expand All | Collapse All

| <input type="checkbox"/> | NAME | LAST SEEN IP | OBSERVED PRIVILEGE | THREAT | CERTAINTY | LAST DETECTED |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ▶ IP-192.168.7.229 | 192.168.7.229 | — | 7 | 45 | May 4th 2023 12:05 |

Attack Signal Intelligence at work

Finding and Stopping the Insider



Problem Statement

Inability to detect the unknown with legacy signature or “ML enabled” capabilities

Solution Statement

Vectra’s AI approach coupled with the integrated Suricata engine allow for detection of sophisticated nation states, insider, and threat actors while maintaining required GRC mandates

Make the unknown... known

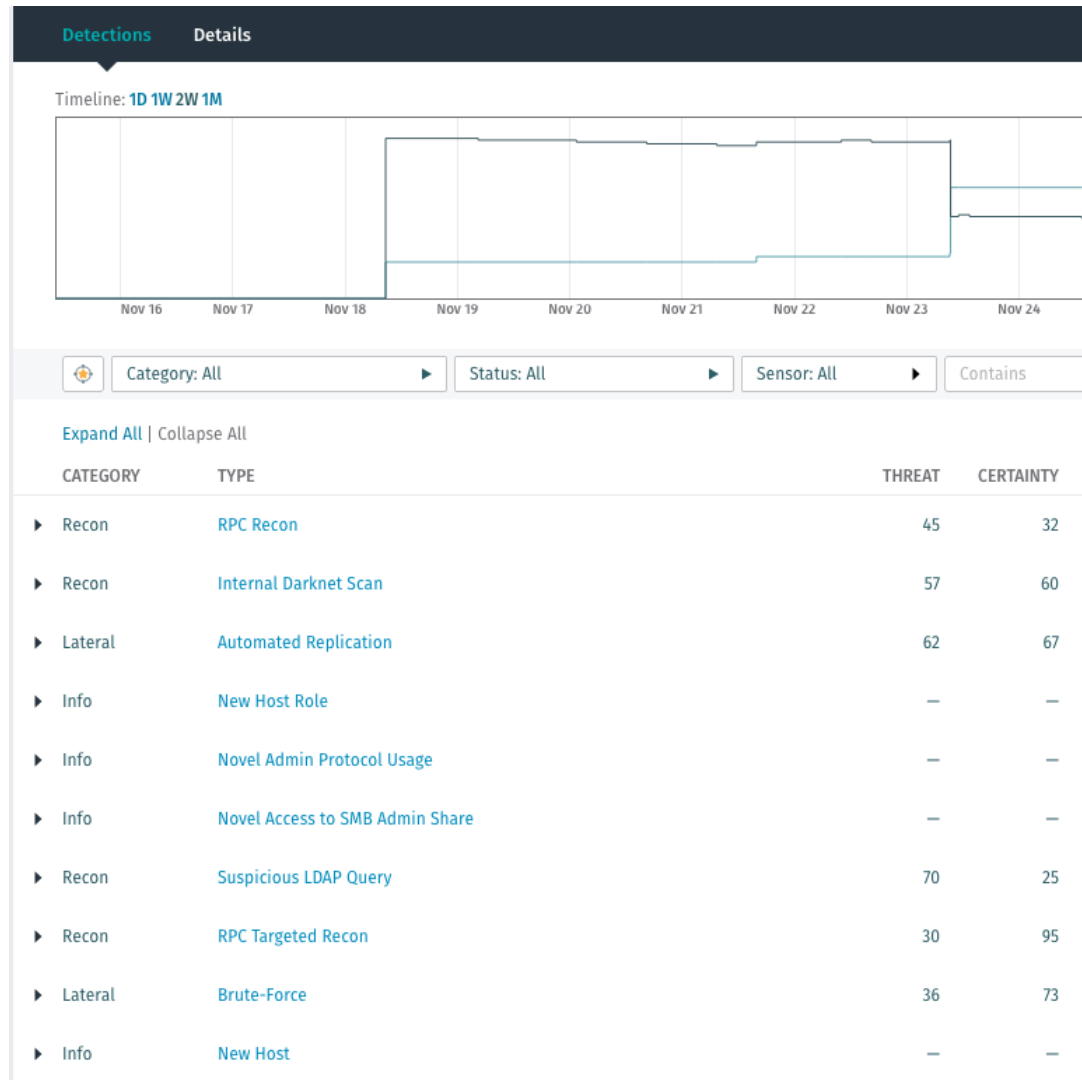
Disclaimer / Rules of Engagement

1. During this activity, no systems will be harmed or compromised.
2. The Vectra team will not access any files or systems outside the boundaries of the target hosts and cloud workload.
3. No manipulation, alteration, deletion, or encryption of any systems will be executed within this exercise.
4. At all times, the GDIT leads will have full visibility to the actions of the exercise and the ability to stop the simulation.
5. Any and all activities related to this exercise will only be discussed within the GDIT Team and the Vectra National Security team. No information derived from this exercise will be discussed, transmitted or other outside a pre-defined list of members of both teams. Any communication outside these predefined boundaries must be approved by both parties.

Goals

- ▼ Perform behavioral actions to simulate an insider threat
- ▼ Show the value of applying AI to security to detect real-time threats
- ▼ Distinguish Vectra against traditional Intrusion Detection / Intrusion Prevention systems
 - Identify behaviors faster than existing tools
 - Identify behaviors other tools do not

identifiedsystem01



Detection Profile: Insider Threat: Admin ?

Active detections are behaviors, if unauthorized, associated with administrator insider threat.

Positive Indicators

Automated Replication

Brute-Force (Lateral)

Internal Darknet Scan

RPC Recon

RPC Targeted Recon

[View more ▼](#)

Vulnerability Discovery

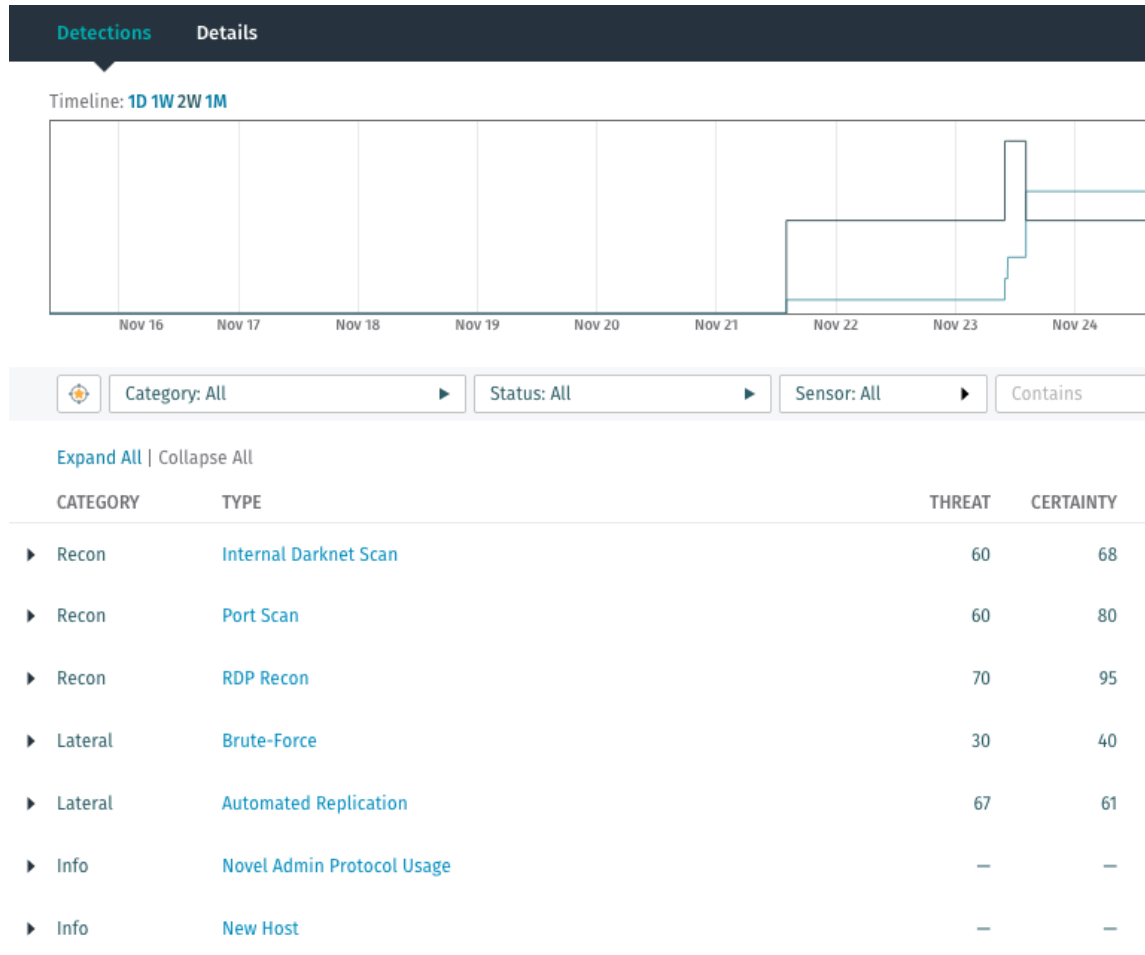
▼ General Behavioral Profile

- Discovery, Reconnaissance, Lateral movement, and/or Exploitation
- NOT PRESENT: External, persistent Command and Control and/or Data Exfiltration

▼ Possible Root Causes

- An adversary that has yet to exhibit the full range of malicious behaviors, or a limited scope penetration testing activity
- Vulnerability discovery and management infrastructure behaviors observed

identifiedsystem02



Detection Profile: Insider Threat: Admin ?

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Positive Indicators

Automated Replication

Brute-Force (Lateral)

Internal Darknet Scan

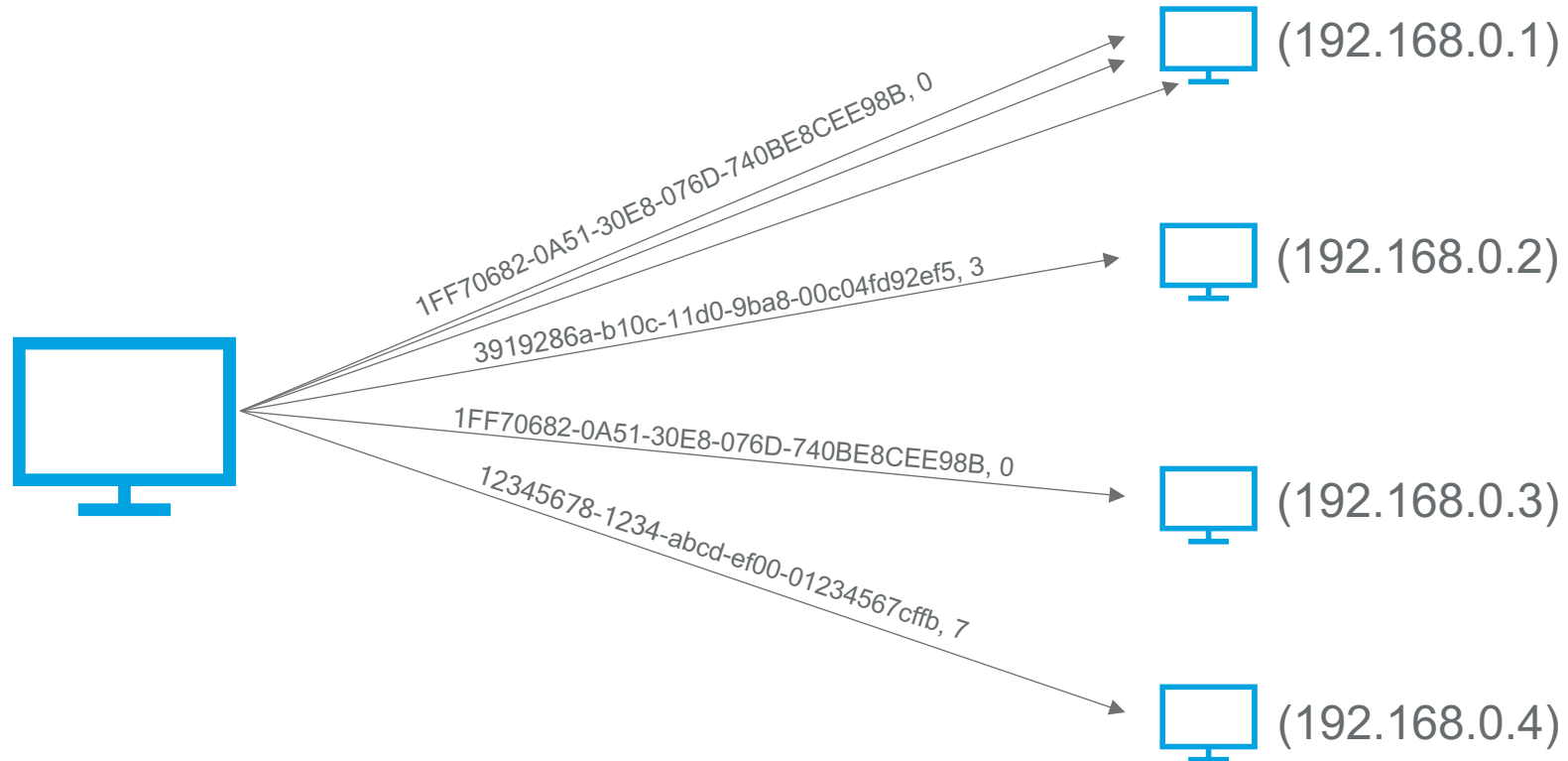
RPC Recon

RPC Targeted Recon

[View more](#) ▼

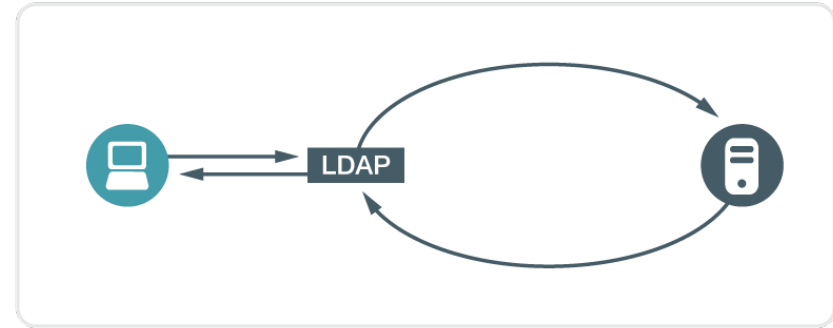
Detection Detail: RPC Recon

- ▼ Is the breadth of RPC activity on this host session abnormal?
 - Is it reaching out to far more than we expect given what was learned during the learning period?



Detection Detail: Suspicious LDAP Query

- ▼ A primary goal of an attacker is to elevate privileges or find existing credentials. Using existing credentials is desired but the attacker must first find the accounts they are interested in.
- ▼ Suspicious LDAP Query is designed to identify when an internal host is querying Active Directory using the LDAP protocol in a manner that appears like reconnaissance behavior.



Insider Threat: Admin

▼ General Behavioral Profile

- Technically sophisticated, objective-oriented activities
- Advanced discovery and lateral movement techniques
- NOT PRESENT: External Command and Control and/or Data Exfiltration

▼ Possible Root Causes

- Technically sophisticated insider threat with local network access
- Emerging External Adversary with an out-of-band communication
- An Admin has begun performing authorized activities that were previously unknown to the system

Summing It Up

- ▼ The Vectra System detected, labeled, and exposed behavior from a technically sophisticated actor.
- ▼ The operations included reconnaissance, lateral movement, and exfiltration
- ▼ In day-to-day operations, analysts working with the detections Vectra provided would stop the threat well before the exfiltration stage

But, What If...?





Hosts

Dashboard

Hosts

Accounts

Campaigns

Detections

Reports

Data Sources

Network Stats

Manage

Settings

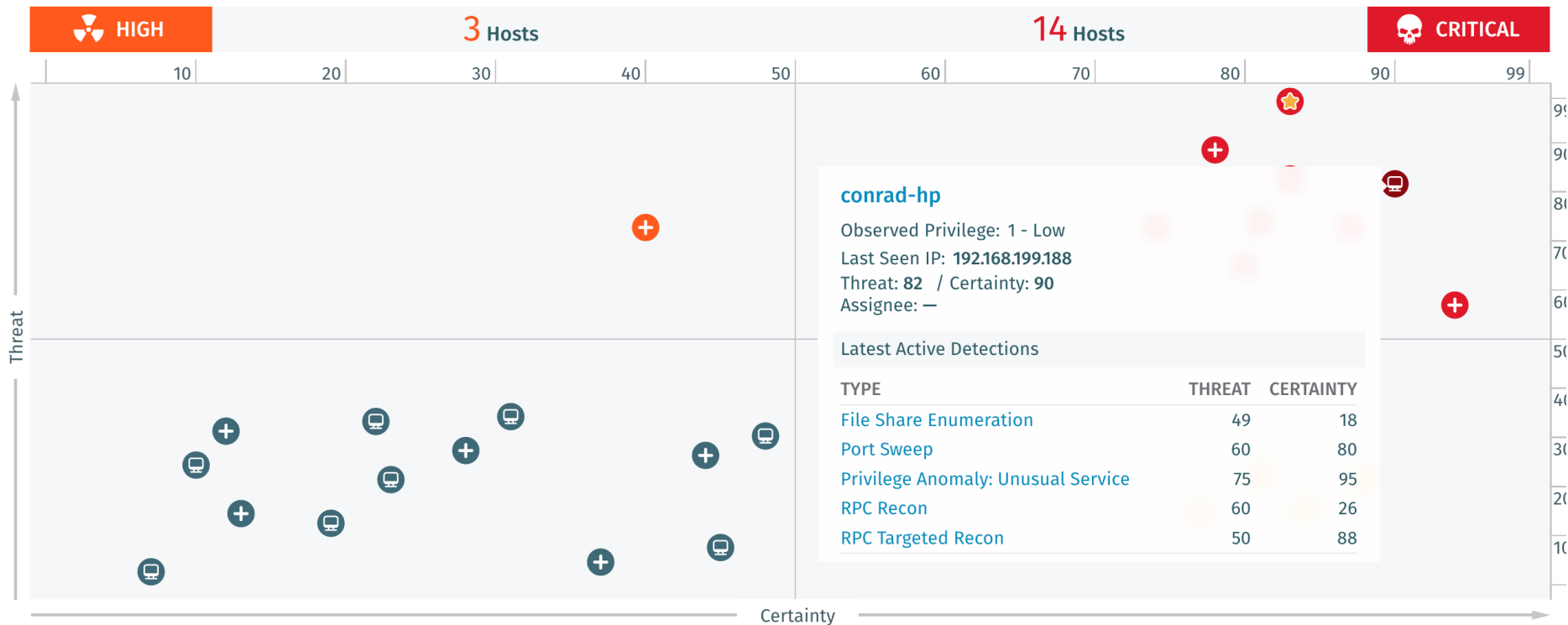
Resources

My Profile

Log Out

Collapse

Severity: All Status: Active Sensor: All Assign: All Group: All Contains



LOW 21 Hosts MEDIUM 5 Hosts

Expand All | Collapse All

| <input type="checkbox"/> | NAME | LAST SEEN IP | OBSERVED PRIVILEGE | THREAT | CERTAINTY | LAST DETECTED |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ▶ IP-192.168.7.229 | 192.168.7.229 | — | 7 | 45 | May 4th 2023 12:05 |



Dashboard

Hosts

Accounts

Campaigns

Detections

Reports

Data Sources

Network Stats

Manage

Settings

Resources

My Profile

Log Out

Collapse

Actions Group Tag Note Assign Share

Investigate in Cognito Recall

Host Information

Last Seen IP: 192.168.199.188
Sensor: vSensorCPG1-2-37w
Observed Privilege: 1 - Low
Last Seen: May 4th 2023 12:54
EDR: CrowdStrike, SentinelOne

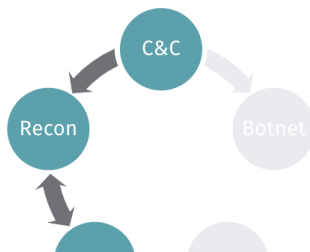
Show Details

Attack Profile: External Adversary

Active detections are behaviors associated with sophisticated, objective-oriented adversary.

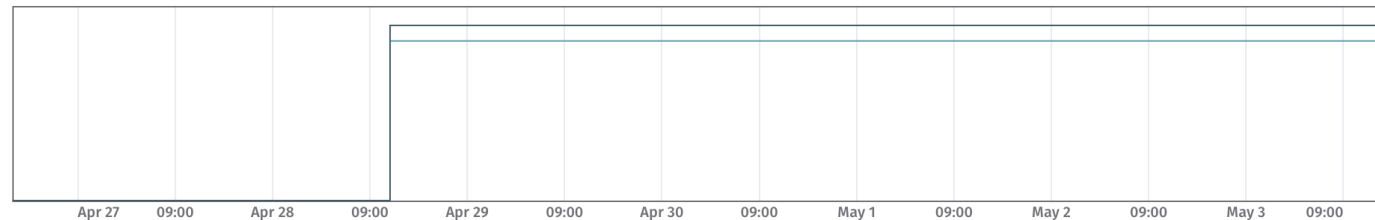
- Positive Indicators
External Remote Access
File Share Enumeration
Port Sweep
Privilege Anomaly: Unusual Service
RPC Recon
View more

Attack Phases



Detections Details

Timeline: 1D 1W 2W 1M



Category: All Status: All Sensor: All Contains Advanced

Expand All | Collapse All

Table with columns: CATEGORY, TYPE, THREAT, CERTAINTY, FIRST SEEN, LAST SEEN. Rows include C&C, Recon, Lateral, and File Share Enumeration.

Viewing 1-7 of 7



- Dashboard
- Hosts**
- Accounts
- Campaigns
- Detections
- Reports
- Data Sources
- Network Stats
- Manage
- Settings
- Resources
- My Profile
- Log Out

- Actions
- Group
- Tag
- Note
- Assign
- Share

Investigate in Cognito Recall

Host Information

Last Seen IP: 192.168.199.188
 Sensor: vSensorCPG1-2-37w
 Observed Privilege: 1 - Low
 Last Seen: May 4th 2023 13:22
 EDR: CrowdStrike, SentinelOne

[Show Details](#)

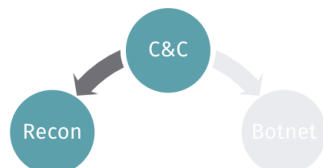
Attack Profile: External Adversary

Active detections are behaviors associated with sophisticated, objective-oriented adversary.

Positive Indicators

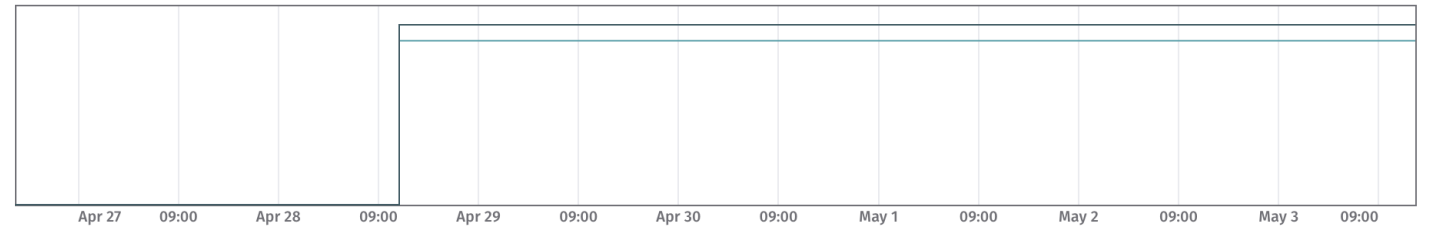
- External Remote Access
 - File Share Enumeration
 - Port Sweep
 - Privilege Anomaly: Unusual Service
 - RPC Recon
- [View more](#)

Attack Phases



Detections Details

Timeline: 1D 1W 2W 1M



- Category: All
- Status: All
- Sensor: All
- Contains
- Advanced

Expand All | Collapse All

| CATEGORY | TYPE | THREAT | CERTAINTY | FIRST SEEN | LAST SEEN |
|-----------|--|---|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ▼ C&C | External Remote Access | 70 | 10 | Apr 29th 2023 18:20 | Apr 29th 2023 18:20 |
| | IP When Detected | 192.168.199.188 | Sessions | 1 | |
| | Targets | ec2-18-222-195-3.us-east-2.compute.amazo... | Active Time | 0:00:00 | |
| | External Hosts | 35.161.92.208 | Bytes Sent | 51 MB | |
| | Unique Ports | 1 | Bytes Received | 77 MB | |
| | show on activity timeline | | | | |
| ▶ Recon | Suspicious LDAP Query | 70 | 25 | Apr 29th 2023 19:10 | Apr 29th 2023 19:10 |
| ▶ Recon | RPC Targeted Recon | 50 | 88 | Apr 29th 2023 19:10 | Apr 29th 2023 19:10 |
| ▶ Recon | RPC Recon | 60 | 26 | Apr 29th 2023 19:40 | Apr 29th 2023 19:40 |
| ▶ Lateral | Privilege Anomaly: Unusual Service | 75 | 95 | Apr 29th 2023 22:30 | Apr 29th 2023 22:30 |

Host: conrad-hp
 IP When Detected: 192.168.199.188
 Sensor: vSensorCPG1-2-29w

Triage(0) PCAP

Threat 70 / Certainty 10

Summary

Internal Host: conrad-hp
 External Hosts: 35.161.92.208
 Unique Ports: 1
 Sessions: 1
 Active Time: 0:00:00
 Bytes Sent: 51 MB
 Bytes Received: 77 MB

Infographic



Attack Phase

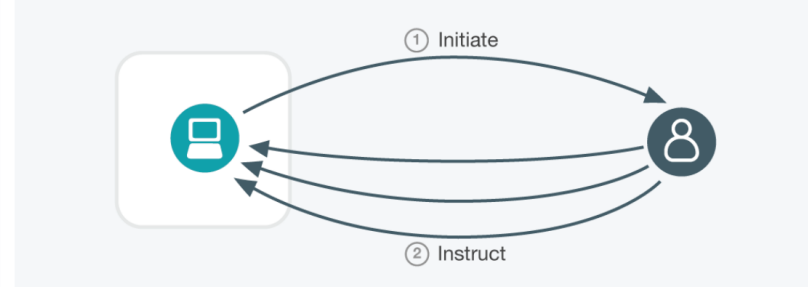
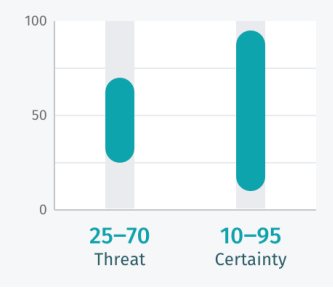


External Remote Access

External Remote Access

Download All

Command & Control



- MITRE | ATT&CK**
- T1219 Remote Access Tools
 - T1065 Uncommonly Used Port
 - T1048 Exfiltration Over Alternative Protocol
 - T1041 Exfiltration Over Command and Control Channel
 - T1105 Remote File Copy
 - T1061 Graphical User Interface
 - T1059 Command-Line Interface
 - T1108 Redundant Access

- Triggers**
- An internal host is connecting to an external server and the pattern looks reversed from normal client to server traffic; the client appears to be receiving instructions from the server and a human on the outside appears to be controlling the exchange
 - The threat score is driven by the quantity of data exchanged and longevity of the connection
 - The certainty score is driven by the ratio of data sent by the internal host compared to data received from the server and the longevity of the connection

- Possible Root Causes**
- A host includes malware with remote access capability (e.g. Meterpreter, Poison Ivy) that connects to its C&C server and receives commands from a human operator
 - A user has intentionally installed and is using remote desktop access software and is accessing the host from the outside (e.g. GotoMyPC, RDP)
 - This behavior can also be exhibited through very active use of certain types of chat software that exposes similar human-driven behavior

- Business Impact**
- Presence of malware with human-driven C&C is a property of targeted attacks
 - Business risk associated with outside human control of an internal host is very high
 - Provisioning of this style of remote access to internal hosts poses substantial risks as compromise of the service provides direct access into your network

- Steps to Verify**
- Look at the detection details and the PCAP to determine whether this may be traffic from chat software
 - Check if a user has knowingly installed remote access software and decide whether the resulting risk is acceptable
 - Scan the computer for known malware and potentially reimage it, noting that some remote access toolkits leave no trace on disk and reside entirely in memory

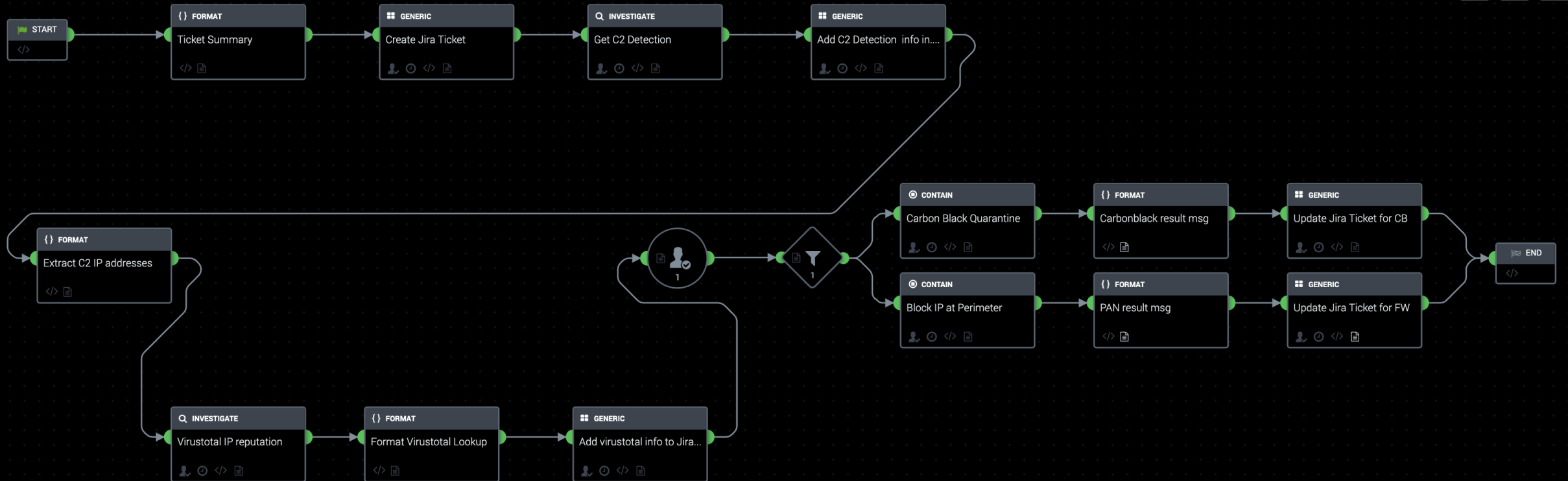
Investigate in Cognito Recall

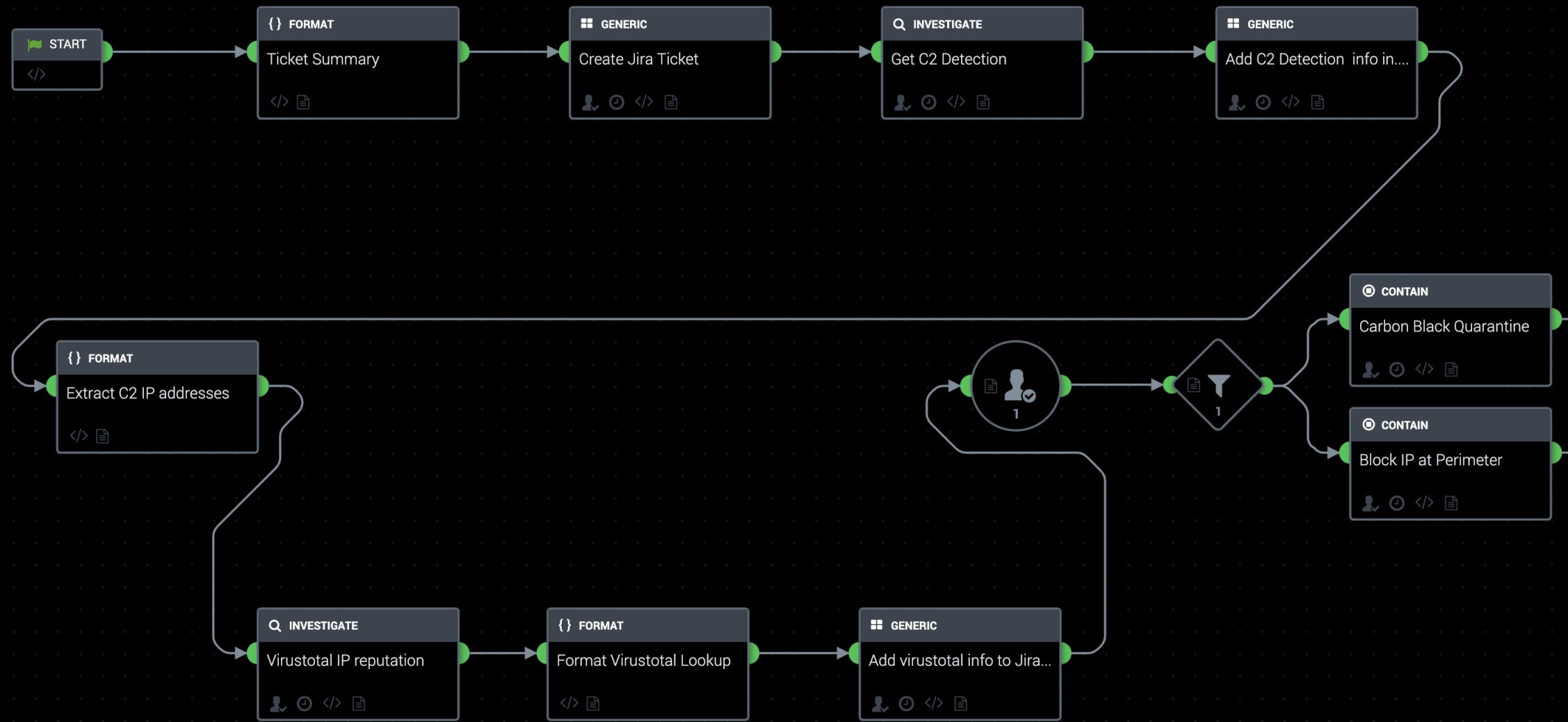
| BYTES RECEIVED | FIRST SEEN | LAST SEEN |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 77 MB | Apr 29th 2023 18:20 | Apr 29th 2023 18:25 |

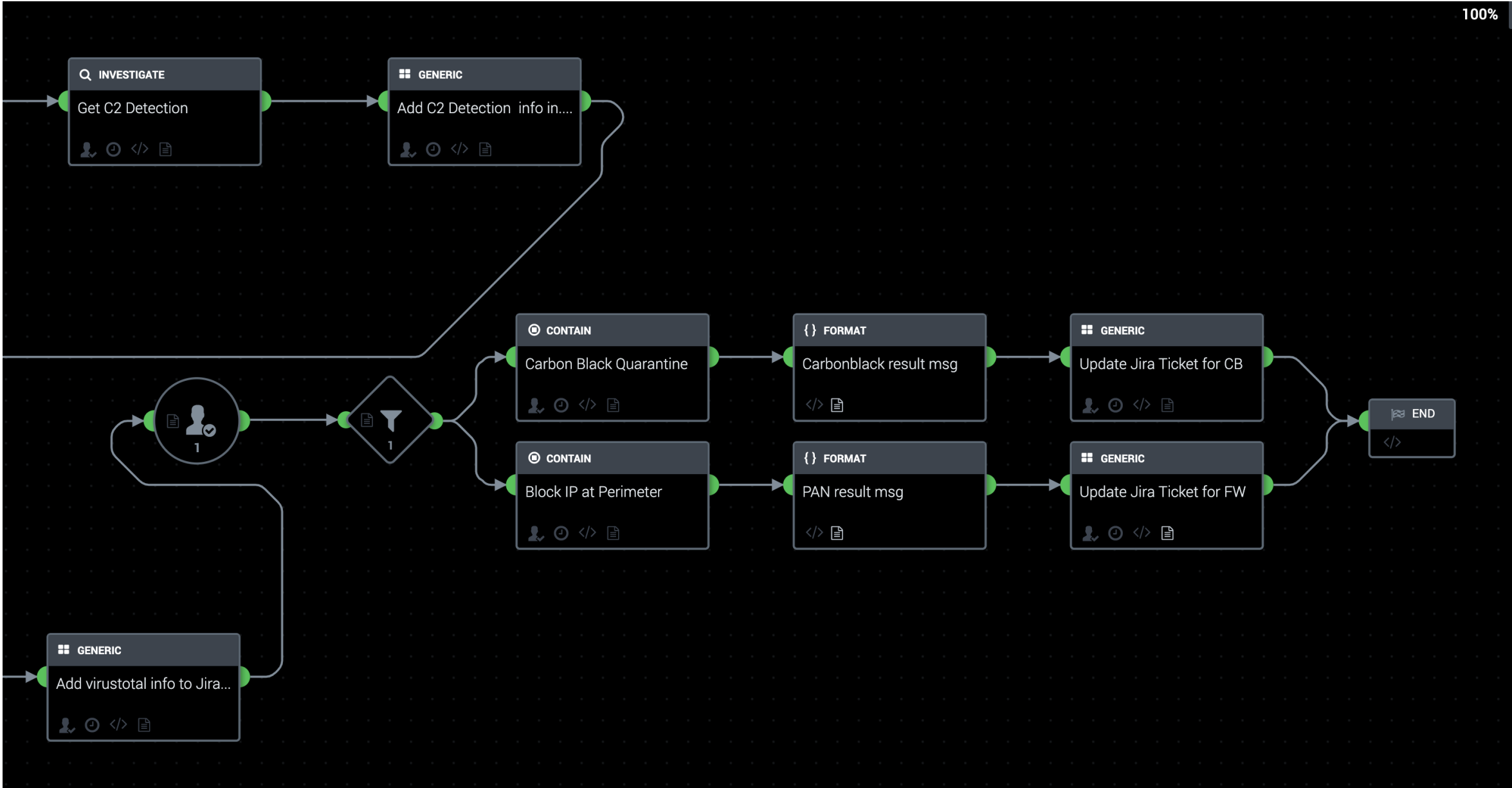
Viewing

But, What If...?









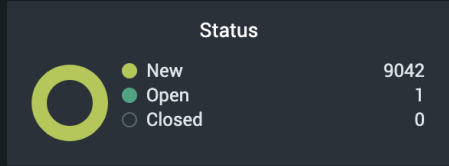
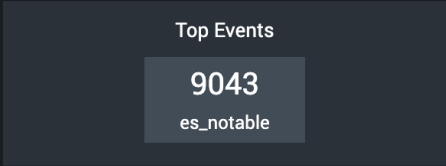
Sources

Events Indicators Cases Tasks

Search by event names or ID

Show Select a filter

+ EVENT IMPORT



Label: es_notable x CLEAR SAVE

Dynamic Updates Show Stats

| ID | NAME | LABEL | OWNER | STATUS | SEVERITY | SENSITIVITY | ARTIFACTS | CREATED |
|-------|---|------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------|-----------|----------------------|
| 10846 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 15th at 3:30 pm |
| 10845 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 12th at 10:30 pr |
| 10844 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 12th at 10:30 pr |
| 10843 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 12th at 10:30 pr |
| 10842 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 12th at 10:30 pr |
| 10841 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 12th at 10:30 pr |
| 10840 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 10th at 12:30 ar |
| 10839 | Threat - Vectra AI - Host in critical quadrant - Rule | es_notable | | New | HIGH | TLP: RED | 1 | Apr 9th at 11:30 pm |

vectra_detections ID: 10855 MEDIUM TLPAMBER
Block request: 192.168.199.188 [conrad-hp]

View Summary Analyst

HUD

EVENT INFO

Status: New

Playbooks Run: 1

Actions Run: 1

Artifacts: 1

DATES

Created: 12 minutes ago

Activity Start: 12 minutes ago

Last Updated: 12 minutes ago

SLA: 12 hours remaining

PEOPLE

Owner: Select...

Authorized:

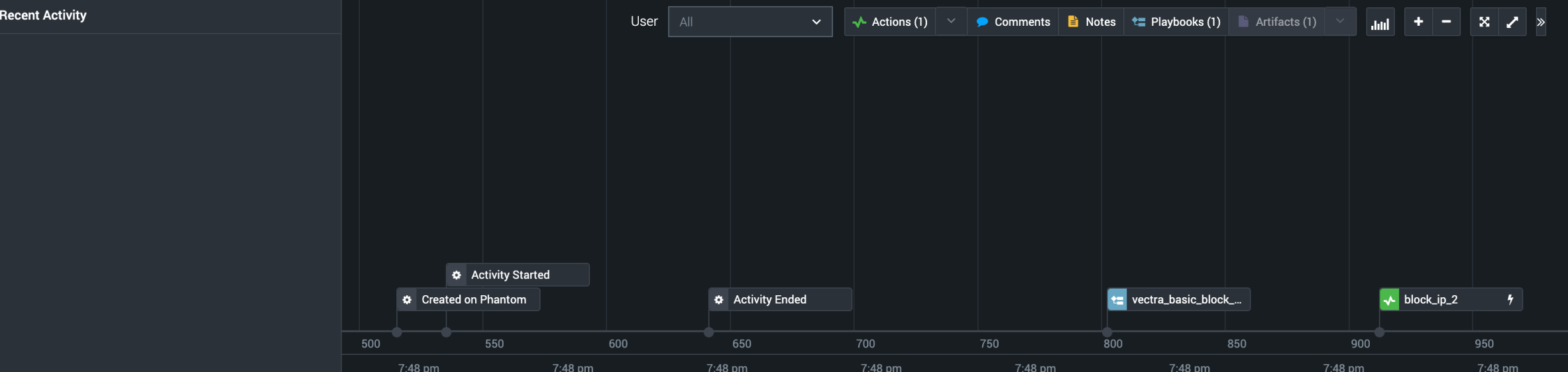
DETAILS

Source ID: vectra_block_request 192.168.199.188 05/04/2023 19:48

Tags:

Description: Automation container for hosts identified by Vectra appliance

Activity Workbook Guidance Timeline Artifacts Evidence Files Approvals Reports ACTION PLAYBOOK



automation 12 minutes ago

- vectra_basic_block_host ✓
- block_ip_2 ✓

Widgets Notes MANAGE WIDGETS

vecetra_detections ID: 10855 HIGH TLP:AMBER

Block request: 192.168.199.188 [co

Artifacts: 1

Activity Workbook Guidance

Recent Activity

automation 18 minutes ago

vecetra_basic_block_host ✓

Vectra Demo 5 minutes ago

Vectra Ransomware Respons... ✓

Create_Jira_Ticket ✓

Jira ✓

description = this host has been compromised. Inv...
project_key = SOC
summary = Host None in Critical
priority = High
issue_type = Task
Created ticket with id: 30376, key: SOC-20377

Get_C2_Detection ✓

Add_C2_Detection_info_into_Jira_Tick ✓

et

Virusotal_IP_reputation ✓

Add_virusotal_info_to_Jira_ticket ✓

Approve_blocking_of_an_active_threat

Respond to Prompt

Playbook local/Vectra Ransomware Response with CB Response and Virustotal executing on events Approval required as 10855 User

Due in 24 minutes and 39 seconds

Action name: Approve_blocking_of_an_active_threat
Message: ;Do you want to block IP address [35.161.92.208] ?
Category: COMMAND & CONTROL
Threat: 10
Certainty: 70

Response

Yes

Delegate

CANCEL

COMPLETE

ACTION

PLAYBOOK

STATUS

MANAGE

Show 5

MANAGE WIDGETS

- Releases
- Project pages
- Add shortcut
- Project settings

Activity

Show: All Comments History Work log

TA Add a comment...

Pro tip: press **M** to comment

FG Fabien Guillot 3 minutes ago
 Blocking 35.161.92.208 at the perimeter Firewall:

- Status: success
- Message: REST Api call succeeded. code: '19'

Edit · Delete ·

FG Fabien Guillot 3 minutes ago
 Quarantine of the Host None:

- Status: success

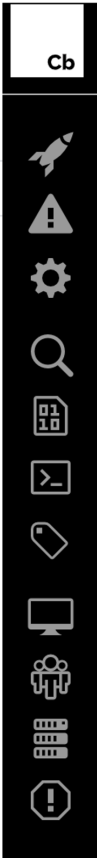
FG Fabien Guillot 9 minutes ago [🔗](#)

Status: success
 Analyzed IP: 35.161.92.208
 ASN: AMAZON-02
 Country: US
 Communicating samples: None
 Downloaded samples: None
 Detected URL: None
 Resolved domain: ec2-35-161-92-208.us-west-2.compute.amazonaws.com, testargos.site
 Summary: None
 result message: Detected urls: 0

Edit · Delete ·

FG Fabien Guillot 9 minutes ago

```
[[{'1': {'category': 'COMMAND & CONTROL', 'certainty': 10, 'dst': ['35.161.92.208'], 'id': 1, 'src': '192.168.199.188', 'state': 'active', 'tags': [], 'targets_key_asset': False, 'threat': 70, 'triage_rule': None, 'type': 'External Remote Access'}}]]
```



HUD

SENSORS [View all >](#)

Select Group ▼ Search by computer name or IP.....

Show Uninstalled Sensors

| <input type="checkbox"/> | HEALTH | ▲ HOST | STATUS | HEALTH MESSAGE | ACTIVITY | SENSOR VERSION |
|--------------------------|--------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 90 | COMET_CLIENT | Online | High memory usage | expected in 6 seco... | 6.2.5.91203 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 100 | CONRAD-HP | Offline - Isolated | Healthy | 21 minutes ago | 6.2.5.91203 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 100 | DESKTOP-39I0SMO | Online | Healthy | a few seconds ago | 6.2.5.91203 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 100 | DESKTOP-TJ6B90K | Offline | Healthy | 2 years ago | 6.2.5.91203 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 50 | JHANCOCK-PC | Offline | Excessive event loss | 3 years ago | 6.2.5.91203 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 100 | SANDBOX-CB1 | Offline | Healthy | 3 years ago | 6.2.5.91203 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 100 | SANDBOX-CB2 | Offline | Healthy | 3 years ago | 6.2.5.91203 |

Showing 7

Activity

Show: All Comments History Work log

20377



Dashboard ACC Monitor Policies Objects Network Device

Commit Save Search

Help

9 items

| Name | Tags | Type | Source | | | | Destination | | Application | Service | Action | Profile | Options |
|---------------------------|------|-----------|----------|-----------------------------|------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------------------|------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| | | | Zone | Address | User | HIP Profile | Zone | Address | | | | | |
| 1 Phantom IP Security ... | none | universal | any | any | any | any | any | any | any | application-d... | Deny | none | |
| 2 Phantom src IP Secu... | none | universal | any | Phantom Network List Source | any | any | any | any | any | application-d... | Deny | none | |
| 3 outbound_sec | none | universal | sec_zone | demoAD | any | any | lab_zone | any | any | any | Allow | none | |
| 4 carbonblack | none | universal | rat_zone | labScanner | any | any | lab_zone | any | Cb_server | ssl | Allow | none | |
| 5 outbound_trust | none | universal | rat_zone | comet7_client | any | any | lab_zone | any | 172.16.0.0-172... | any | Allow | none | |

FG Fabien Guillot 9 minutes ago

Status: succes

Analyzed IP: 3

ASN: AMAZON

Country: US

Communicati

Downloaded s

Detected URL

Resolved dom

Summary: No

result messag

Edit · Delete

FG Fabien Guillot 9 minutes ago

```
[{"1": {"category": "COMMAND & CONTROL", "certainty": 10, "dst": ["35.161.92.208"], "id": 1, "src": "192.168.199.188", "state": "active", "tags": [], "targets_key_asset": false, "threat": 70, "triage_rule": None, "type": "External Remote Access"}]}
```

- Addresses
- Address Groups
- Regions
- Applications
- Application Groups
- Application Filters
- Services
- Service Groups
- Tags
- GlobalProtect
- HIP Objects
- HIP Profiles
- External Dynamic Lists
- Custom Objects
- Data Patterns
- Spyware

| Name | Location | Members Count | Addresses |
|--|----------|---------------|--|
| Phantom Network List Source | | 2 | 172.16.199.72 Added By Phantom 192.168.150.100 Added By Phantom |
| VectraBlock | | dynamic | more... |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phantom Network List | | 1 | 35.161.92.208 Added By Phantom |

Block request: 192.168.199.188 [conrad-hp]

View Summary Analyst

Artifacts: 1

Activity Workbook Guidance Timeline Artifacts Evidence Files Approvals Reports ACTION PLAYBOOK

Recent Activity

automation 18 minutes ago

vecetra_basic_block_host

Vectra Demo 5 minutes ago

Vectra Ransomware Respons...

Create_Jira_Ticket

Jira

description = this host has been compromised. Inv...
project_key = SOC
summary = Host None in Critical
priority = High
issue_type = Task
Created ticket with id: 30376, key: SOC-20377

Get_C2_Detection

Add_C2_Detection_info_into_Jira_Tick

et

Virustotal_IP_reputation

Add_virustotal_info_to_Jira_ticket

Approve_blocking_of_an_active_threat

Enter comment or "/" to invoke command

Prompts

Table with columns: OWNER, OWNER TYPE, NAME, START TIME, STATUS. Row: Vectra Demo, User, Approve_blocking_of_an_active_threat, 5 minutes ago, MANAGE

1 Show 5

Widgets Notes

MANAGE WIDGETS

Widget titled 'block ip' showing a table with columns IP, STATUS, MESSAGE. Row: 192.168.199.188, success, REST Api call succeeded. code: '19'

1

Block request: 192.168.199.188 [conrad-hp]

View Summary Analyst

Artifacts: 1

Activity Workbook Guidance Timeline Artifacts Evidence Files Approvals Reports ACTION PLAYBOOK

Recent Activity

- Vectra Ransomware Respons...
 - Create_Jira_Ticket
 - Jira
 - description = this host has been compromised. In...
 - project_key = SOC
 - summary = Host None in Critical
 - priority = High
 - issue_type = Task
 - Created ticket with id: 30376, key: SOC-20377
 - Get_C2_Detection
 - Vectra Active Enforcement
 - src_ip = 192.168.199.188
 - state = active
 - dettypes = EXTERNAL_REMOTE_ACCESS
 - Successfully retrieved 1 detections
 - Add_C2_Detection_info_into_Jira_Ticket
 - Virustotal_IP_reputation
 - VirusTotal
 - ip = 35.161.92.208
 - Detected urls: 0
 - Add_virustotal_info_to_Jira_ticket
 - Jira
 - comment = Status: success Analyzed IP: 35.161.9...
 - internal = true
 - id = SOC-20377
 - Successfully added the comment

Approve_blocking_of_an_active_threat

Enter comment or "/" to invoke command

Prompts

| OWNER | OWNER TYPE | NAME | START TIME | STATUS |
|-------------|------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Vectra Demo | User | Approve_blocking_of_an_active_threat | 5 minutes ago | MANAGE |

1

Show 5

Widgets

Notes

MANAGE WIDGETS

block ip 192.168.199.188 [pademo]

| IP | STATUS | MESSAGE |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 192.168.199.188 | success | REST Api call succeeded. code: '19' |

1

Single Host Analyzer

Edit Export ...

Source hostname: conrad-hp Time span: 1 hour

Last 7 days

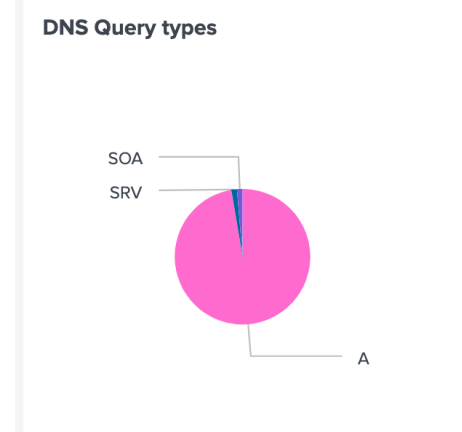
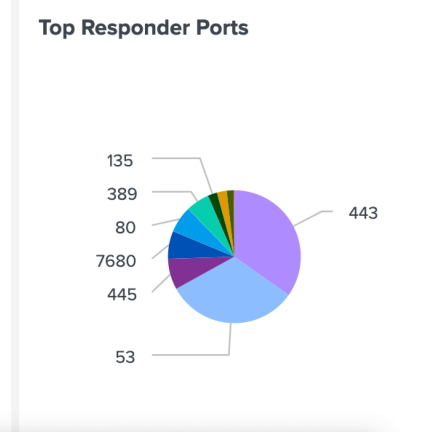
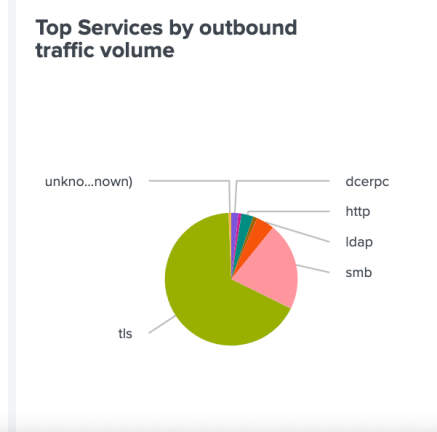
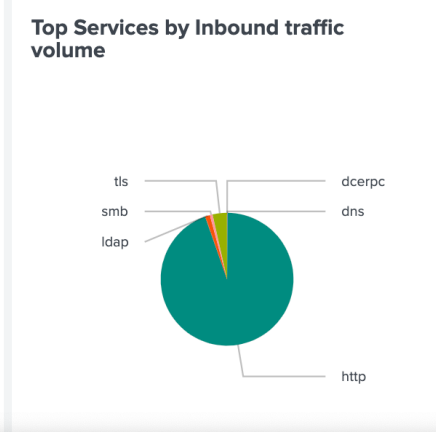
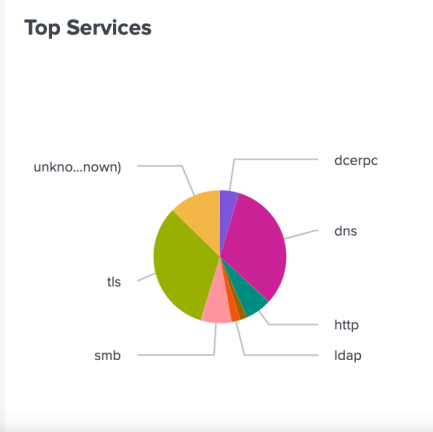
Submit

Hide Filters

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Total Outbound Traffic | Total Inbound traffic | Number of sessions | Total DNS sessions | Total HTTP Sessions | Total SSL sessions | Total Beacons | Host Privilege |
| 20 Mb | 531 Mb | 8,914 | 3,025 | <u>1,477</u> | 2,996 | 0 | 1 |

Q ⏏ i ↻ <1m ago

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Number of unique destination ports | Unique internal hosts | Unique external hosts | Threat Score (Detect) | Certainty Score (Detect) | Severity (Detect) |
| 13 | 5 | 192 | No results found. | No results found. | No results found. |



https://splunk.demo.vectra.io/en-US/app/Vectra_Cognito_Stream/stream_single_host_analyzer?form.field1.earliest=-7d&form.field1.latest=now&form.token_hostname=conrad-hp&form.time_span_tok=1h#

New Search

Save As Create Table View Close

```

1 `cognito_stream_index` metadata_type=metadata_issession conrad-hp
2 | stats dc(uid) as "Total sessions" dc(dest_ip) as "Number of Hosts" by dest_port
3 | sort - "Total sessions"

```

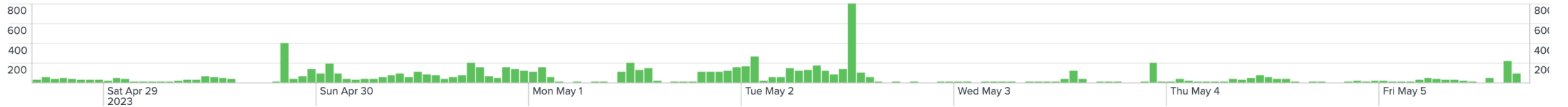
Last 7 days

8,793 events (4/28/23 4:39:16.000 PM to 5/5/23 4:39:16.000 PM) No Event Sampling

Job Pause Refresh Download Verbose Mode

Events (8,793) Patterns Statistics (11) Visualization

Format Timeline Zoom Out Zoom to Selection Deselect 1 hour per column



List Format 50 Per Page < Prev 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 ... Next >

| < Hide Fields | All Fields | i | Time | Event |
|---|------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| SELECTED FIELDS a conn_state 2 # dest_port 11 # duration 100+ a eventtype 1 a host 1 a id.orig_h 2 a id.resp_h 100+ a metadata_type 1 a orig_hostname 1 # orig_ip_bytes 100+ # orig_vlan_id 2 # session_start_time 100+ a sourcetype 1 INTERESTING FIELDS a app 8 # bytes 100+ # bytes_in 100+ # bytes_out 100+ a community_id 100+ # date_hour 24 # date_mday 8 | | > | 5/5/23 3:11:19.275 PM | <pre> { [-] community_id: 1:9f842f3b690976be077b1c8f57c5e612aefda972 conn_state: SF dir_confidence: 100 duration: 15039 first_orig_resp_data_pkt_time: 0 first_orig_resp_pkt_time: 1683299404236 first_resp_orig_data_pkt_time: 0 first_resp_orig_pkt_time: 0 id.ip_ver: ipv4 id.orig_h: 192.168.199.188 id.orig_p: 50714 id.resp_h: 192.168.53.188 id.resp_p: 443 local_orig: true local_resp: true metadata_type: metadata_issession orig_hostname: conrad-hp orig_huid: 6T7VIS4R orig_ip_bytes: 0 orig_pkts: 0 orig_sluid: oxp-ssQn orig_vlan_id: 199 </pre> |

Select Fields



Select All Within Filter

Deselect All

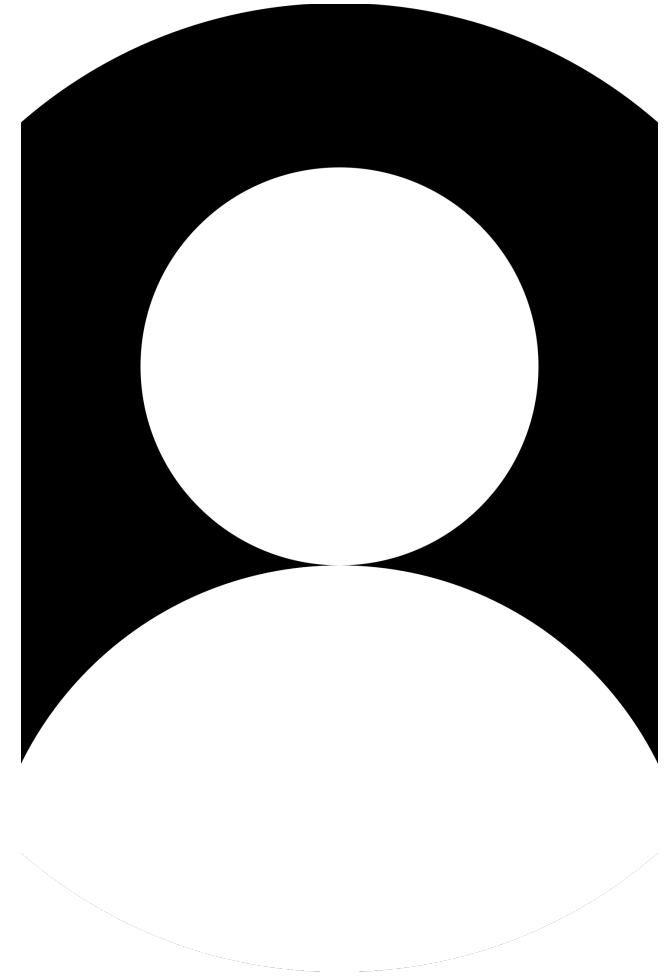
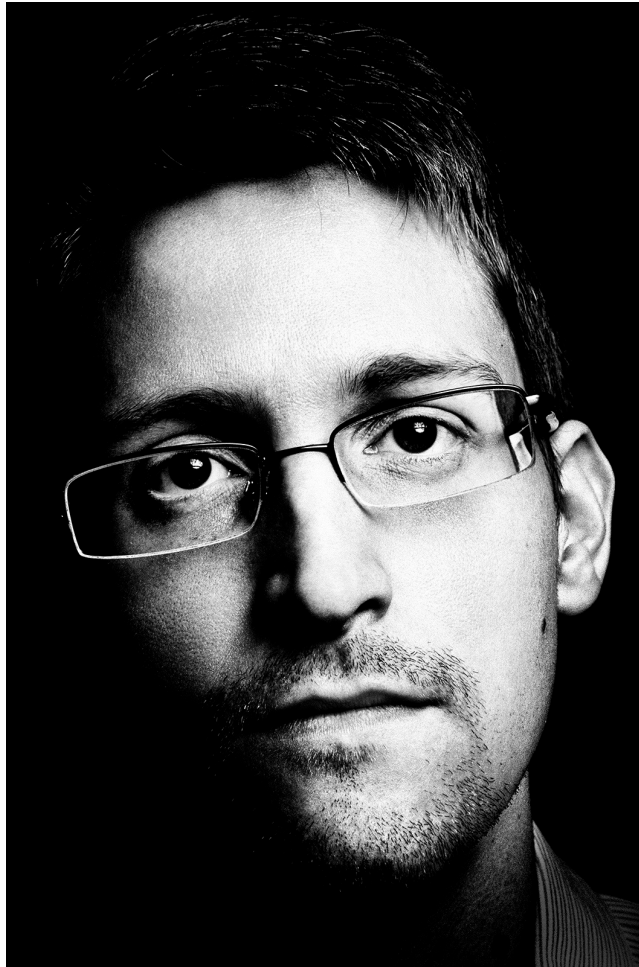
All fields ▾

Filter



+ Extract New Fields

| i | ✓ ▾ | Field ⇅ | # of Values ⇅ | Event Coverage ⇅ | Type ⇅ |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|--------|
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | conn_state | 2 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | dest_port | 11 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | duration | >100 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | eventtype | 1 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | host | 1 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | id.orig_h | 2 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | id.resp_h | >100 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | metadata_type | 1 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | orig_hostname | 1 | 100% | String |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | orig_ip_bytes | >100 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | orig_vlan_id | 2 | 99.99% | Number |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | session_start_time | >100 | 99.99% | Number |
| > | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | sourcetype | 1 | 100% | String |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | app | 8 | 99.99% | String |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | application() | 1 | 4.01% | String |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | bytes | >100 | 99.99% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | bytes_in | >100 | 99.99% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | bytes_out | >100 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | community_id | >100 | 100% | String |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | date_hour | 24 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | date_mday | 8 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | date_minute | 60 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | date_month | 2 | 100% | String |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | date_second | 60 | 100% | Number |
| > | <input type="checkbox"/> | date_wday | 7 | 100% | String |





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