

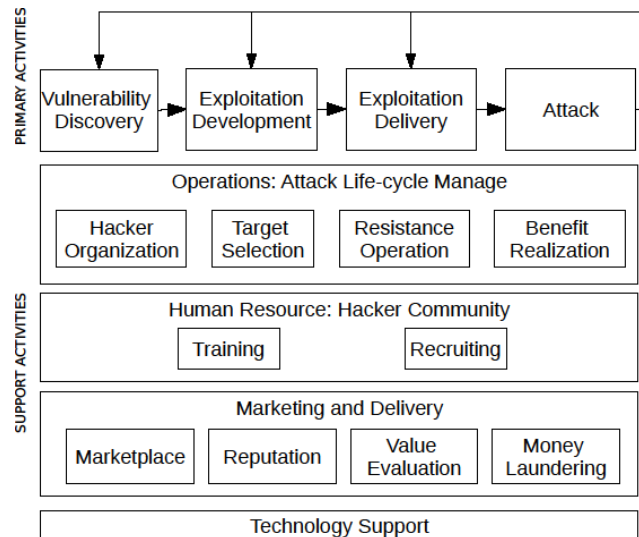
Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan brings together thought leaders from industry, academia and government with MIT faculty, researchers and students to address strategy, management, governance and organization of cybersecurity of critical infrastructure using an interdisciplinary approach.

*Cybercrime is now a \$445 billion business, and viewing it through the lens of a value chain highlights ways to disrupt the business.*

## The Cybercrime Business Has a Value Chain

One way to fight cyberattacks is to understand the processes that make up the business of the dark web. Counter to popular belief, the dark web is not just an unorganized group of hackers. It has moved beyond a nefarious hobby to become a way for criminals to earn a living. In 2017, cybercrime was estimated to be a \$445 billion business. By viewing the dark web as an ecosystem of as-a-service-options, managers can identify key points in this process to trigger alerts and responses. Cybersecurity at MIT Sloan is testing the use of the value-chain lens to categorize and organize dark web activities. This research uses academic literature, industry reports, interviews with experts, and historical cyber incidents to clarify the supply chain for cyber-attacks. Projects highlight appropriate interventions that managers and officials can take to foil future cyberattacks.

### Using the Value Chain to Describe the Dark Web as a Business



**IMPACT:** This study seeks to understand the ecosystem of the cyber-attack business using the value-chain lens to highlight patterns of offensive activities and identify interventions to foil future attacks.

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