

Strategy : Bad Actors Modelling

Fundamentals of the strategy

What is the goal of this strategy ?

Minimize vulnerabilities from the beginning of software design through risk assessment and mitigation.

When to use it ?

This strategy can be applied during the **software design phase**, prior to any updates, during **audits** and **inspections**, as part of **incident response**, and while improving the software.

What is a Bad actor ?

A **“bad actor”** or **“threat actor”** is a person or group that will try to exploit a system to achieve their own **personal goals**.

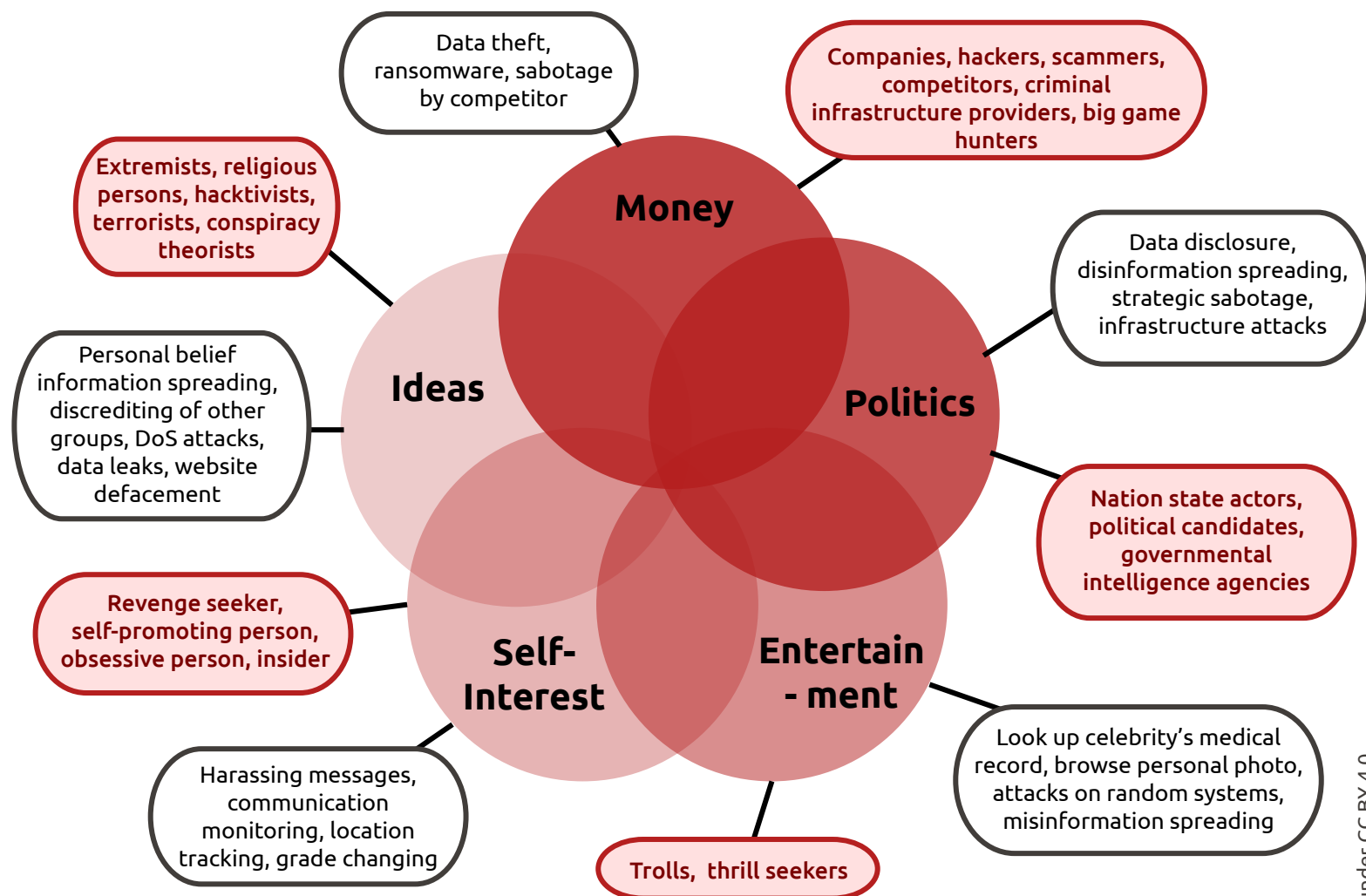
There are several types of bad actors, each driven by **different motivations**. A useful tool to understand and categorize these motivations are the **Bad Actors Motivation Categories** below.

Assessment questions

Who would like to use my software in a malicious way or in a way I didn't create it for ?

What would be the consequences ?

How could I prevent these negative consequences ?



Categories of **motivation overlap** and it is not always clear how to classify some types of actions, but it is not really important, the goal is to identify a range of possible scenarios that could create threats for your system (**security**) and for your users (**safety**).