**Cambridge Judge Business School** 

**Cambridge Centre for Risk Studies 2018 Risk Summit** 

### CYBER TERRORISM THREAT INTELLIGENCE AND LOSS MODELLING

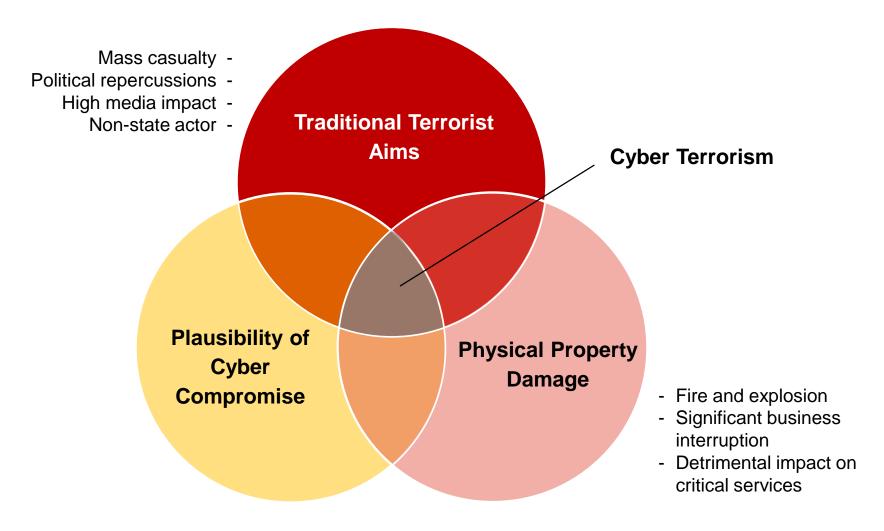
**Tamara Evan,** Research Assistant Centre for Risk Studies

Centre for **Risk Studies** 



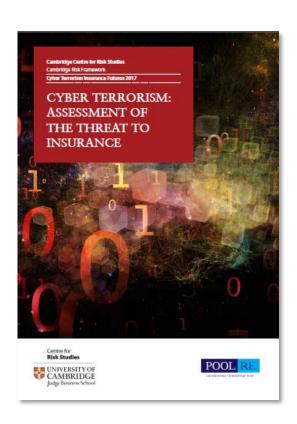


#### **Defining cyber terrorism**





#### Pool Re extends cover for losses from cyber terrorism



- 2016 -2017 Cyber Terrorism Insurance Futures methodology
  - Expert revision schemes for proposed scenario long-lists
  - Monitoring capabilities of terrorist threat groups
    - Quarterly updates on threat development and thematic changes
  - Creation of low-probability cyber terrorism scenarios
  - In-depth study of key loss processes
  - Treasury granted permission to Pool Re's extension of retrocession cover for losses from acts of cyber terror in August 2017
- 2017 Report: Cyber Terrorism: Assessment of the Threat to Insurance, launched November 2017

#### **November 28 Report and Schema Launch**





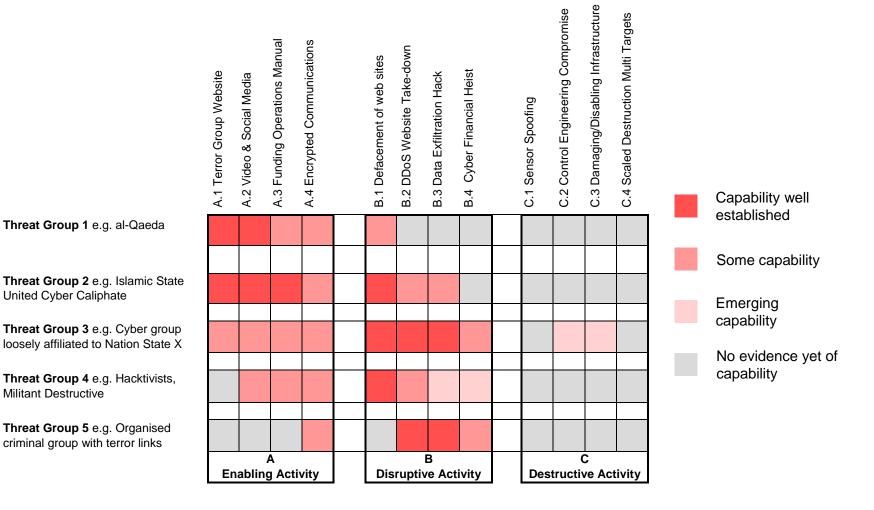


#### The cyber terrorism threat in 2018

- To date, there have been no known instances of cyber terrorism fitting this definition
- There is little evidence to suggest that current terrorist groups have invested significant time or capital into the development of sophisticated physical cyber attacks
- Several groups have proclaimed their intentions to attack the West digitally
  - Statements of intent do not necessarily suggest capability
- Given the generational lifetime of dominant terrorist threats, we would expect that any imminent development of destructive cyber capabilities would be carried out by currently active group
  - The most relevant groups pose a low-likelihood of inflicting severe physical damage through digital means



#### Tracking capability across cyber actor groups

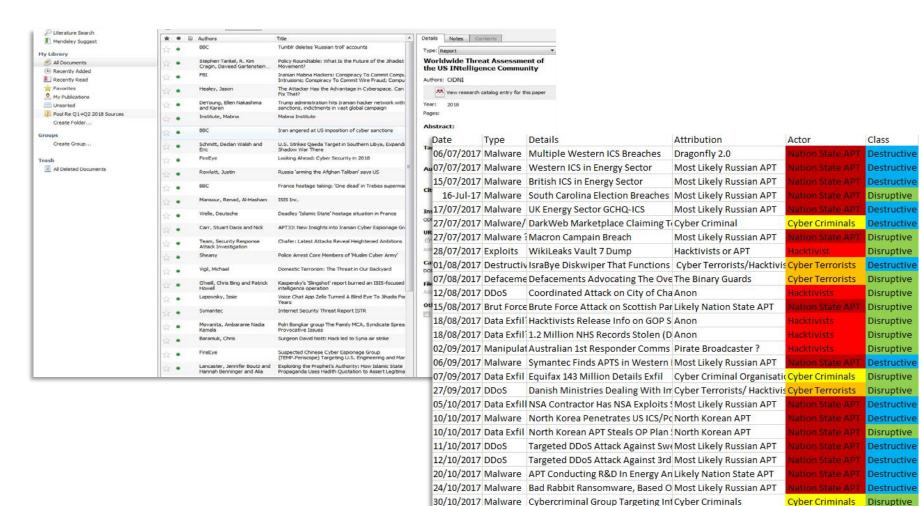




United Cyber Caliphate

Militant Destructive

#### Threat assessment and structure analytical techniques



31/10/2017 Ddos? Def Hacktivists Bring Down Several Sp Anonymous

Destructive

Disruptive

06/11/2017 Defaceme Team System Dz Multiple Defacer Team System Dz

14/12/2017 Malware TRITON Malware Attacks ICS and SLikely Nation State APT

Cyber Criminals

Cyber Terrorists

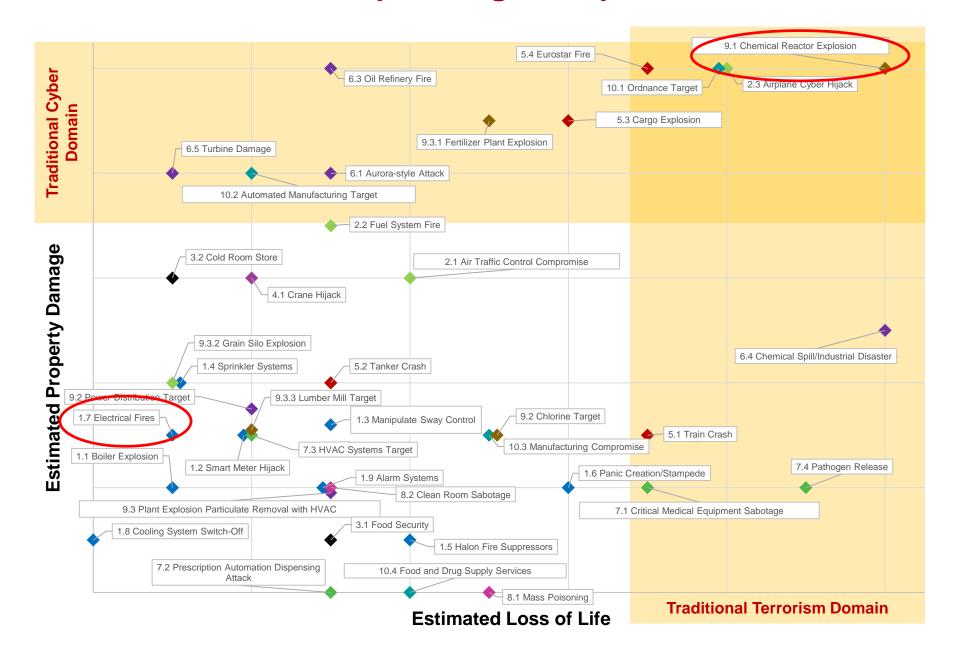
Disruptive

Disruptive

Cyber Terrorists



#### Scenario planning 2016-present



## Scenario: Cyber-Induced Explosion in a Major Chemical Processing Facility



'Fuel bomb' leak at major chemical facility (Chemical reactor explosion)



	Mortality Rate	Physical Damage	Media Impact	Plausibility	Scalability	Direct BI Potential	Overall Economic Impact
9.1 Chemical Reactor Explosion	10	10	10	9	2	3	1

	Standard Scenario (S1)	Scenario Variant (S2)	Extreme Variant (X1)		
Variant Profile Description	A significant fire causes physical damage at the facility	A major explosion at the facility with blast radius with 2km debris scatter	Chemical explosion with blast radius impacts key facility operations with 2km debris scatter		
Loss of Affected Site (Property)	50%	50%	Write-off (100%)		
Loss of Affected Site (Contents)	50%	50%	50%		
Surrounding Area of Business Affected	Facility only	2km radius	2km radius		
Total Loss Value	£ 507m	£ 625m	£ 1,132m		

## Scenario: Cyber-Induced Fires in Commercial Office Buildings



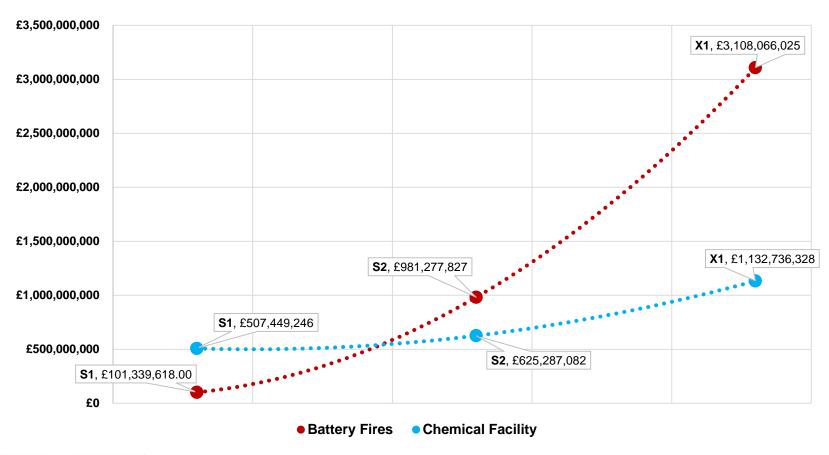
Cyber-Induced Fires in Commercial Office Buildings (Lithium battery fire induction)

	Mortality Rate	Physical Damage	Media Impact	Plausibility	Scalability		Direct BI Potential	Overall Economic Impact
1.7 Electrical Fires	1	6	6	3	8	$\parallel$	3	2

	Standard Scenario (S1)	Scenario Variant (S2)	Extreme Variant (X1)		
Variant Profile Description	In cases of a single laptop's destruction (LFD), 20% of affected businesses claim BI for one day. Other Fire damage variations affect 50% of Businesses.	In cases of a single laptop's destruction (LFD), 50% of affected businesses claim BI for one day. Other fire damage variations affect 75% of Businesses.	In cases of a single laptop's destruction (LFD), 75% of affected businesses claim BI for one day. Other fire damage variations affect 100% of Businesses.		
Business Interruption LF3 – LF5	50%	75%	100%		
Rate of workplace device ignition	0.11%	1.04%	3.12%		
Total Loss Value	£93m	£879m	£2,638m		

#### 2017 scenario comparison

Comparison of loss estimates highlights the significant threat of exponential losses resulting from a systemic cyber terrorism attack





#### The next challenge

- Future acts of cyber terrorism are likely to fall into one of two categories
  - Explosive, damaging single attacks on major physical assets
  - High-frequency attacks on a large attack surface
- Cyber terrorism will be most impactful when focused on scalability and severity
  - Rather than large singular events that have limited systemic ramifications
- Determining likelihood for extreme loss and high impact scenarios
  - Collaboration with the intelligence community
  - Advise on setting risk appetite for insurers



#### Cyber terrorism: strategic surprise

- Cyber terrorism is an emerging threat: a low-likelihood classification based on motivations and capabilities will not remain the norm
- Acts of cyber terrorism are possible, though the means to carry out attacks is currently unsupported
  - Shift from religiously motivated to politically subversive terrorism
  - Think in terms of strategic surprise
  - Generational divide in cyber knowledge will subside
  - Education in computer science will increase skills and capabilities while raising exposure to insider threats



# Centre for **Risk Studies**

