TURNING DATA INTO ACTIONABLE IN-**TELLIGENCE**

ADVANCED FEATURES IN MISP SUPPORTING YOUR ANA-

CIRCL / TEAM MISP PROJECT



NSPA



Turning data into actionable intelligence

TURNING DATA INTO ACTIONABLE IN





THE AIM OF THIS PRESENTATION

- Why is **contextualisation** important?
- What options do we have in MISP?
- How can we **leverage** this in the end?

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2022-08

☐ The aim of this presentation

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THE GROWING NEED TO CONTEXTUALISE DATA

- Contextualisation became more and more important as we as a community matured
 - ► **Growth and diversification** of our communities
 - ► Distinguish between information of interest and raw data
 - ► False-positive management
 - ► TTPs and aggregate information may be prevalent compared to raw data (risk assessment)
 - ► Increased data volumes leads to a need to be able to prioritise
- These help with filtering your TI based on your requirements...
- ...as highlighted by Pasquale Stirparo Your Requirements Are **Not My Requirements**

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The growing need to contextualise data

OBJECTIVES

- Some main objectives we want to achieve when producing data
 - ► Ensure that the information is **consumable** by everybody
 - ► That it is **useful** to the entire target audience
 - ► The data is **contextualised** for it to be understood by everyone
- What we ideally want from our data
 - ► We want to be able to **filter** data for different use-cases
 - ► We want to be able to get as much knowledge out of the data as possible
 - ► We want to know where the data is from, how it got there, why we should care

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└_Objectives

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DIFFERENT LAYERS OF CONTEXT

- Context added by analysts / tools
- Data that tells a story
- Encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage the above

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-Different layers of context

DIFFERENT LAYERS OF CONTEXT

■ Encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage the

EXPRESSING WHY DATA-POINTS MATTER

- An IP address by itself is barely ever interesting
- We need to tell the recipient / machine why this is relevant
- All data in MISP has a bare minimum required context
- We differentiate between indicators and supporting data

Turning data into actionable intelligence —Context added by analysts / tools

Expressing why data-points matter

EXPRESSING WHY DATA-POINTS MATTER

An IP address by itself is barely ever interesting

All data in MISP has a bare minimum required context

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BROADENING THE SCOPE OF WHAT SORT OF CONTEXT WE ARE INTERESTED IN

- Who can receive our data? What can they do with it?
- **■** Data accuracy, source reliability
- Why is this data relevant to us?
- Who do we think is behind it, what tools were used?
- What sort of **motivations** are we dealing with? Who are the **targets**?
- How can we **block/detect/remediate** the attack?
- What sort of **impact** are we dealing with?

Turning data into actionable intelligence —Context added by analysts / tools

-Broadening the scope of what sort of context we are interested in

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 - What sort of impact are we dealing with?

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TAGGING AND TAXONOMIES

- Simple labels
- Standardising on vocabularies
- Different organisational/community cultures require different nomenclatures
- Triple tag system taxonomies
- JSON libraries that can easily be defined without our intervention

	Tag	Events	Attributes	Tags
	workflow:state="complete"	11	0	workflow:state="complete"
	workflow:state="draft"	0	0	workflow:state="draft"
	workflow:state="incomplete"	55	10	workflow:state="Incomplete"
	workflow:state="ongoing"	0	0	workflow:state="ongoing"

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Context added by analysts / tools

Tagging and taxonomies



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GALAXIES

- Taxonomy tags often **non self-explanatory**
 - Example: universal understanding of tlp:green vs APT 28
- For the latter, a single string was ill-suited
- So we needed something new in addition to taxonomies Galaxies
 - ► Community driven **knowledge-base libraries used as tags**
 - ► Including descriptions, links, synonyms, meta information, etc.
 - ► Goal was to keep it simple and make it reusable
 - ► Internally it works the exact same way as taxonomies (stick to **JSON**)



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-Galaxies

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- Toward to the control of the control

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Rescenses galaxy
 Rescenses
 Rescenses

THE EMERGENCE OF ATT&CK AND SIMILAR GALAXIES

- Standardising on high-level **TTPs** was a solution to a long list of issues
- Adoption was rapid, tools producing ATT&CK data, familiar interface for users
- A much better take on kill-chain phases in general
- Feeds into our **filtering** and **situational awareness** needs extremely well
- Gave rise to other, ATT&CK-like systems tackling other concerns
 - ► attck4fraud ¹ by Francesco Bigarella from ING ► Election guidelines ² by NIS Cooperation Group

Turning data into actionable intelligence Context added by analysts / tools

> -The emergence of ATT&CK and similar galaxies

■ Gave rise to other, ATT&CK-like systems tackling of

https://www.misp-project.org/galaxy.html#_attck4fraud

²https: //www.misp-project.org/galaxy.html# election guidelines

DATA THAT TELLS A STORY

More complex data-structures for a modern age

- Atomic attributes were a great starting point, but lacking in many aspects
- MISP objects³ system
 - ► Simple **templating** approach
 - Use templating to build more complex structures
 - ▶ Decouple it from the core, allow users to **define their own** structures
 - ► MISP should understand the data without knowing the templates
 - ► Massive caveat: **Building blocks have to be MISP attribute** types
 - ► Allow **relationships** to be built between objects

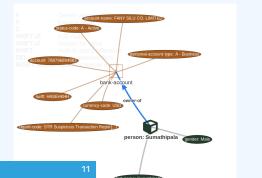
3https://github.com/MISP/misp-objects

Turning data into actionable intelligence Data that tells a story

> -More complex data-structures for a modern age

SUPPORTING SPECIFIC DATAMODELS

+	⊞ 0 ≍	Filters:	Al File Network Financial Propos	al Correlation Warnings	Include deleted attributes	Show context fields	Q		
Date Org	Category	Туре	Value	Tags	Galaxies	Comment		Correlate	Related Events
2018-09-28	Name: bank-acci References: 0 🖸								
2018-09-28	Other	status-code: text	A - Active		Add				
2018-09-28	Other	report-code: text	STR Suspicious Transaction Report		Add				
2018-09-28	Other	personal-account-type: text	A - Business		Add				
2018-09-28	Financial fraud	swift: bic	HASEHKHH	0	Add				3849 11320 11584
2018-09-28	Financial fraud	account: bank-account-nr	788796894883		Add				
2018-09-28	Other	account-name: text	FANY SILU CO. LIMITED		Add				
2018-09-28	Other	currency-code: text	USD		Add				



Turning data into actionable intelligence Lata that tells a story

Supporting specific datamodels



CONTINUOUS FEEDBACK LOOP

- Data shared was **frozen in time**
- All we had was a creation/modification timestamp
- Improved tooling and willingness allowed us to create a feedback loop
- Lead to the introduction of the **Sighting system**
- Signal the fact of an indicator sighting...
- ...as well as **when** and **where** it was sighted
- Vital component for IoC lifecycle management

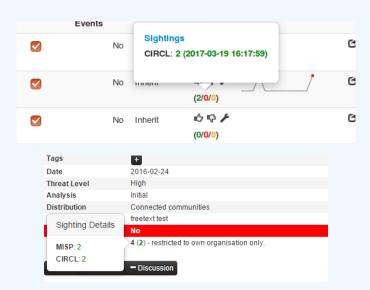
Turning data into actionable intelligence Data that tells a story

-Continuous feedback loop

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Data shared was frozen in time

CONTINUOUS FEEDBACK LOOP (2)



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Data that tells a story

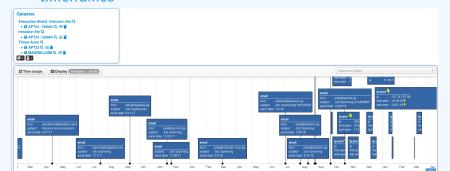
-Continuous feedback loop (2)

2022-

TOTAL TOTAL

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME - ADDING TEMPORALITY TO OUR DATA

- As Andreas said no time based aspect was painful
- Recently introduced **first_seen** and **last_seen** data points
- Along with a complete integration with the **UI**
- Enables the **visualisation** and **adjustment** of indicators timeframes



Turning data into actionable intelligence Late that tells a story

A brief history of time - Adding temporality to our data



THE VARIOUS WAYS OF ENCODING ANALYST KNOWLEDGE TO AUTOMATICALLY LEVERAGE OUR TI

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The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge
to automatically leverage our TI

VARIOUS WAYS OF ENCODIN LYST KNOWLEDGE TO AUTOMAT LY LEVERAGE OUR TI

FALSE POSITIVE HANDLING

- Low quality / false positive prone information being shared
- Lead to alert-fatigue
- Exclude organisation xy out of the community?
- FPs are often obvious can be encoded
- Warninglist system⁴ aims to do that
- Lists of well-known indicators which are often false-positives like RFC1918 networks, ...

LIST OF KNOWN IPV4 PUBLIC DNS RESOLVERS M 89 List of known Pv4 public Dv5 resolvers Description Character over more public Pv4 Dv6 resolvers as affitbule with an OD flags and Variation Variatio

4https://github.com/MISP/misp-warninglists

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The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge
to automatically leverage our TI
False positive handling



MAKING USE OF ALL THIS CONTEXT

- Providing advanced ways of querying data
 - ► Unified export APIs
 - ► Incorporating all contextualisation options into API filters
 - ► Allowing for an **on-demand** way of **excluding potential false positives**
 - ► Allowing users to easily **build their own** export modules feed their various tools

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The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage our TI

Making use of all this context

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- Incorporating all contextualisation options into API filters
 Allowing for an on-demand way of excluding potential fals
- Allowing users to easily build their own export mo their various tools

EXAMPLE QUERY

```
/attributes/restSearch
    "returnFormat": "netfilter",
    "enforceWarninglist": 1,
    "tags": {
      "NOT":
        "tlp:white",
        "type:OSINT"
      "OR":
        "misp-galaxy:threat-actor=\"Sofacy\"",
        "misp-galaxy:sector=\"Chemical\""
```

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The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage our TI

Example query

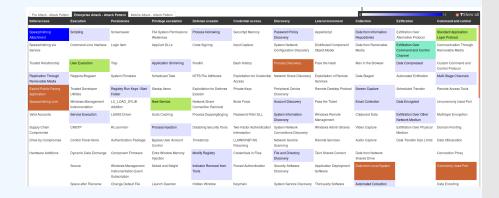


EXAMPLE QUERY TO GENERATE ATT&CK HEATMAPS

```
/events/restSearch
    "returnFormat": "attack",
    "tags": [
        "misp-galaxy:sector=\"Chemical\""
    "timestamp": "365d"
```

Turning data into actionable intelligence The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage our TI -Example query to generate ATT&CK heatmaps

A SAMPLE RESULT FOR THE ABOVE QUERY



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to automatically leverage our TI

A sample result for the above query



MONITOR TRENDS OUTSIDE OF MISP (EXAMPLE: DASHBOARD)



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The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge.

The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage our TI

dashboard)

-Monitor trends outside of MISP (example:



DECAYING OF INDICATORS

- We were still missing a way to use all of these systems in combination to decay indicators
- Move the decision making from complex filter options to complex decay models
- Decay models would take into account various available context
 - ► Taxonomies
 - Sightings
 - type of each indicator
 - Creation date

-Decaying of indicators

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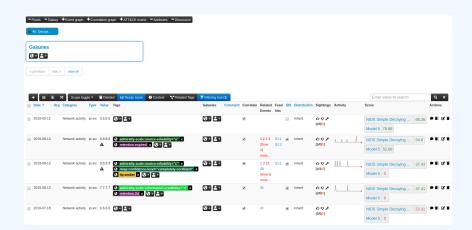
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—The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage our TI

We were still missing a way to use all of these systems in # Move the decision making from complex filter options

Decay models would take into account various available

IMPLEMENTATION IN MISP: Event/view



- Decay score toggle button
 - ► Shows Score for each *Models* associated to the *Attribute* type

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Implementation in MISP: Event/view



IMPLEMENTATION IN MISP: API RESULT

```
/attributes/restSearch
"Attribute": [
    "category": "Network activity",
    "type": "ip-src",
    "to ids": true.
    "timestamp": "1565703507",
    "value": "8.8.8.8",
    "decay score": [
        "score": 54.475223849544456,
        "decayed": false,
        "DecayingModel": {
          "id": "85",
          "name": "NIDS Simple Decaying Model"
```

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Implementation in MISP: API result

TO SUM IT ALL UP...

- Massive rise in user capabilities
- Growing need for truly actionable threat intel
- Lessons learned:
 - ► Context is king Enables better decision making
 - ► Intelligence and situational awareness are natural by-products of context
 - Don't lock users into your workflows, build tools that enable theirs

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The various ways of encoding analyst knowledge to automatically leverage our TI

To sum it all up...

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- Massive rise in user capabilities
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 Don't lock users into your workflows, build tools that enable
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GET IN TOUCH IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

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