

WRITING GOOD SIGMA RULES

Thomas Patzke

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INTRODUCTION

MOTIVATION

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...it's about writing *good* Sigma rules.

SIGMA RULE PULL REQUESTS

We get a lot of pull requests (PRs) - and we're happy about *every* one!

 24 Open ✓ 505 Closed

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A screenshot of a GitHub pull request status bar. It shows a small icon of two people, followed by the text '24 Open', a checkmark icon, and '505 Closed'.

👤 24 Open ✓ 505 Closed

There's a lot of QA before a PR gets merged:

- Will there be false negatives?
- How likely are false positives?
- Is the detection efficient?
- But also: spelling, clean form, ...

TWO SHADES OF PULL REQUESTS

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The Sigma open source repository runs CI tests for each PR. This includes:

SHADE 1: CI TESTS PASS

 Added new rules ✓

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 Added new rules ✓

- Such a PRs meets the test requirements.
- It's likely that the QA process is finished quickly.
- It's more likely that the rule is merged quickly.

SHADE 2: CI TESTS FAIL

 New rules ✖

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Delays cause frustration at both sides: contributors
and maintainers.

WHAT'S A GOOD SIGMA RULE?

There's a rule creation guide:

<https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/wiki/Rule-Creation-Guide>

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It includes:

- a template
- Instructions for each attribute
- Common pitfalls

HANDS-ON

STARTING POINT

Lets take a look at CrackMapExec:

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This tool contains some very distinctive command lines.

CRACKMAPEXEC: WMI EXECUTION


Link to file:

<https://github.com/byt3bl33d3r/CrackMapExec/blob/main/execution/wmi/execution.py>

INTERESTING LOCATIONS

```
20         self.__output = None
21         self.__outputBuffer = b''
22         self.__share_name = share_name
23         self.__shell = 'cmd.exe /Q /c '
24         self.__pwd = 'C:\\'
25         self.__aesKey = aesKey
26         self.__kdcHost = kdcHost
27         self.__doKerberos = doKerberos
```

```
91     def execute_remote(self, data):
92         self.__output = '\\Windows\\Temp\\' + gen_random_string(6)
93
94         command = self.__shell + data
95         if self.__retOutput:
96             command += ' 1> ' + '\\\\127.0.0.1\\%s' % self.__share + self.__output + ' 2>&1'
97
```



DEVELOPING A SIGNATURE

The command line looks as follows:

- It starts with: `cmd.exe /Q /c`
- It contains: `1> \\127.0.0.1\\`
- Which is followed by: `\\Windows\\Temp\\`
followed by some random characters.
- It ends with: `2>&1`

LET'S WRITE THE SIGMA RULE!

1. Copy & paste the template
2. Write the rule
3. Test the rule
4. Contribute!

TEST THE RULE

- Run Sigma converter (quick)
- Run CI tests (complete)

CONTRIBUTE OR PUBLISH

- To the Sigma main repository:
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- Perhaps offensive tool developers are happy about directly providing signatures for their released tools in *their* project repositories?

SUMMARY

WRITING A GOOD SIGMA RULE

- Use the template!
- Keep the title short, omit obvious
- Provide context ad tags, references and descriptions
- Try to omit regular expressions, they are expensive
- Minimize usage of wildcards
- Do testing!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

GitHub Issues:

<https://github.com/Neo23x0/sigma/issues/new>

Or directly:

E-Mail: thomas@patzke.org

My Twitter: <https://twitter.com/blubbfiction>

Florians Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cyb3rops>