getting the most our of freq and domainstats.py

@markbaggett



## Get-ADUser -Filter "Mark Baggett" | fl -Properties \*

- Mark Baggett
- Penetration Testing and Incident Response Consulting
- Senior SANS Instructor
- Author of SANS SEC573 Automating InfoSec with Python
- Masters in Information Security Engineering
- GSE #15
- DoD Advisor, Former CISO 18 years commercial

student@573:/opt/metasploit-framework\$ grep -Ri "mark baggett" | wc -l



## **Todays Topic**

- Using freq.py and freq\_server
  - Help Analysts Using Security Onion to interpret "FREQ SCORES"
  - Help Administrators "tweek" their configurations to do more with the tool that the "out of the box" configuration
- Same thing for domain\_stats.py



#### **Intro to Domain Stats**

- SEC555 "SEIM with Tactical Analysis" with Justin Henderson and Baby Domains
  - Malware domain are typically much "younger" than legitimate domains!
  - Looking up every domain via whois is slow and can get you blacklisted.
  - Querying whois from a SEIM is non-trivial
- Domain\_stats.py was born!
  - Solves problem by caching and prefetching common domains.
  - Provides an easy to use API for SEIM integration



#### "Normal" Domain Creation Dates

```
Terminal - student@573: ~
  Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
student@573:~$ whois google.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 1997-09-15T04:00:00Z
student@573:~$ whois youtube.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 2005-02-15T05:13:12Z
student@573:~$ whois reddit.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 2005-04-29T17:59:19Z
student@573:~$ whois slack.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 1992-10-21T04:00:00Z
student@573:~$ whois snapchat.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 2012-02-28T19:29:26Z
```

#### **Malware Domain Creation Dates**

```
Terminal - student@573: ~
  Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
student@573:~$ whois ukvkloytfaw.bid | grep "Creation"
Creation Date: 2017-10-28T02:02:08Z
student@573:~$ whois xct31.net | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 2006-07-27T20:36:16Z
student@573:~$ whois xcukrfpchsxn.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 2017-04-17T11:17:18Z
student@573:~$ whois ybrjldiexlqb.com | grep "Creation"
   Creation Date: 2018-01-30T06:48:07Z
student@573:~$ whois bbqqjejhd.bid | grep "Creation"
Creation Date: 2018-01-14T06:23:10Z
```

#### Installing and Running Domain\_stats

• Run "python -m pip install python-whois"

```
student@573:~/Desktop$ git clone http://github.com/markbaggett/domain_stats
Cloning into 'domain_stats'...
remote: Counting objects: 36, done.
remote: Total 36 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 36
Unpacking objects: 100% (36/36), done.
Checking connectivity....done.
student@573:~/Desktop$ cd domain_stats/
student@573:~/Desktop/domain_stats
$ python domain_stats.py --preload 50 8000
Server is Ready. http://127.0.0.1:8000/cmd/[subcmd/,]target
```

#### Query the Creation date from SEIM APIs

Now you can query whois via an easy web request



- Domains are cached locally for speed and minimizing use of whois servers
- So Security Onion can consume this data and present it to the analyst!
- Justin Henderson has config for many SEIM products

#### Not just CREATION\_DATE

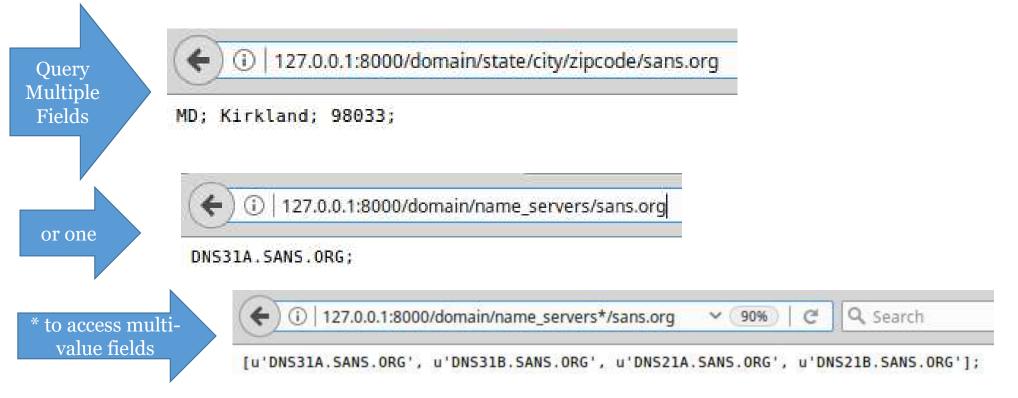
- Every field in the whois record is available via the API.
- You can ask for all of it
- You can ask for one field
- You can ask for multiple fields

```
Q Search
    (i) 127.0.0.1:8000/domain/sans.org > [2] 90%
{u'address': u'123 Data Protected',
u'city': u'Kirkland',
u'country': u'US',
u'creation date': datetime.datetime(1995, 8, 4, 4, 0),
u'dnssec': [u'unsigned', u'UNSIGNED'],
u'domain name': [u'SANS.ORG', u'sans.org'],
u'emails': [u'abuse@hostway.com',
            u'noreply@data-protected.net',
            u'ABUSE@DOMAINPEOPLE.COM'],
u'expiration date': datetime.datetime(2022, 8, 3, 4, 0),
u'name': u'Data Protected Data Protected',
u'name servers': [u'DNS31A.SANS.ORG',
                   u'DNS31B.SANS.ORG',
                  u'DNS21A.SANS.ORG',
                   u'DNS21B.SANS.ORG'],
u'org': [u'The SANS Institute', u'Data Protected'],
u'referral url': None,
u'registrar': u'DOMAINPEOPLE, INC.',
u'state': [u'MD', u'WA'],
u'status': [u'clientTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited',
            u'registrar-lock* https://www.icann.org/epp#registrar-lock*',
            u'clienttransferprohibited https://www.icann.org/epp#clienttransferprohibited'],
'time': 1539015097.993852,
u'updated date': [datetime.datetime(2017, 7, 19, 13, 5, 35),
                   datetime.datetime(2017, 7, 5, 0, 17, 3)],
u'whois server': u'WHOIS.DOMAINPEOPLE.COM',
u'zipcode': u'98033'}
```



#### You can ask for more than just CREATION\_DATE

Full API documentation on http://github.com/markbaggett/domain\_stats

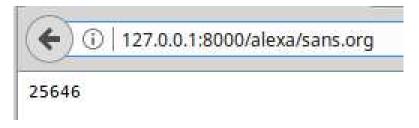


#### **Alexa Ranking of Domains**

• Use DOMAIN\_STATS to see what the Alexa rank of a domain is

```
python domain_stats.py -a top-1m.csv --preload 0 8000
```

- As soon as you give DOMAIN\_STATS an Alexa file it will attempt to preload its cache with most common domains
- Controllable with --preload



• Update Top 1M at http://s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/umbrella-static/index.html

#### **BETA TESTING A NEW FEATURE**

• Punycode/IDN Domain resolution:

```
$ curl http://127.0.0.1:8000/punycode/xn--n28h

⑤
$ curl http://127.0.0.1:8000/punycode/xn--g6h8599noea

⑥ ♥ ⑥
```

- Feature requests by N7FAA52318.
- Implemented but not committed to main branch
- If you are interested in this feature I am seeking testers.



## Performance Over Accuracy: Understanding the Cache

- By Default DOMAIN\_STATS preloads the top 1000 most frequently used domains from disk cache!
  - This is GREAT!! For CREATION\_DATE which doesn't change
  - Undesirable if the company changes their DNS servers
- Items stay in cache for as long as you are querying that domain at least once a week
- Run "update\_diskcache.py" at an interval you are happy with to make sure you have the latest data
- Requires that you restart your domain\_stats server.



## You: "Couldn't you do XYZ" Me: "Yes, but performance"

- You have control of caching options on the CLI
- You can disable local disk cache of top 1000

```
-d, --disable-disk-preload
```

Rely completely on online whois. Do not use offline (and possibly outdated) .dst file.

You can disable preloading common domains in background

```
--preload PRELOAD preload cache with this number of the top Alexa domai
```

You can control how long unused items are held in cache

```
-c CACHE_TIME, --cache-time CACHE_TIME

Number of seconds to hold a whois record in the cache
```

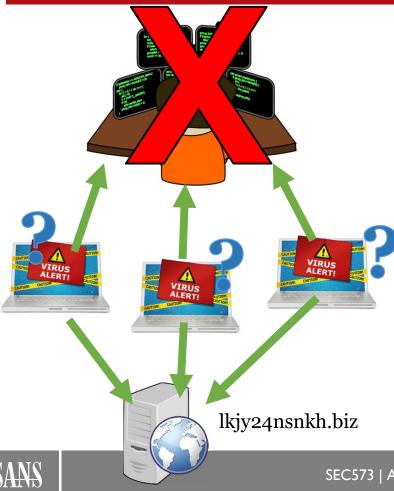
#### **GOALL IN!!**

• If you only need creation\_date then you don't need the online whois. PUMP UP THE DISK CACHE BABY!

student@573:~/Documents/domain\_stats\$ python3 update\_diskcache.py -h



#### What are DGAs



- Imagine all the attacker bots are talking to mybotnet.com
- Law enforcement takes down mybotnet.com
- · Network defenders block mybotnet.com
- Attackers would like bots to reconnect to new domain!
- New domain needs to be obscure enough to be available for purchase by the attacker. (ie, not already be owned)
- Need an almost infinite number of possibilities because defenders might keep blocking their domains!
- Use "Domain generation algorithms" to automatically choose new domains in a way that is predictable to the attacker.
- These domains typically look like random strings of characters
- Found in SSL certificates, DNS logs and HTTP headers more.

#### Intro to Freq.py and Freq\_server

• SEC511 "Continuous Monitoring and Security Operations" with Seth Misenar

C:>echo "reddit.com" | ent.exe Entropy = 3.640224 bits per byte. C:\>echo "ukvklo.bid" | ent.exe Entropy = 3.640224 bits per byte.

C:\>echo "youtube.com" | ent.exe Entropy = 3.625000 bits per byte. C:\>echo "ybrjl.com" | ent.exe Entropy = 3.664498 bits per byte.

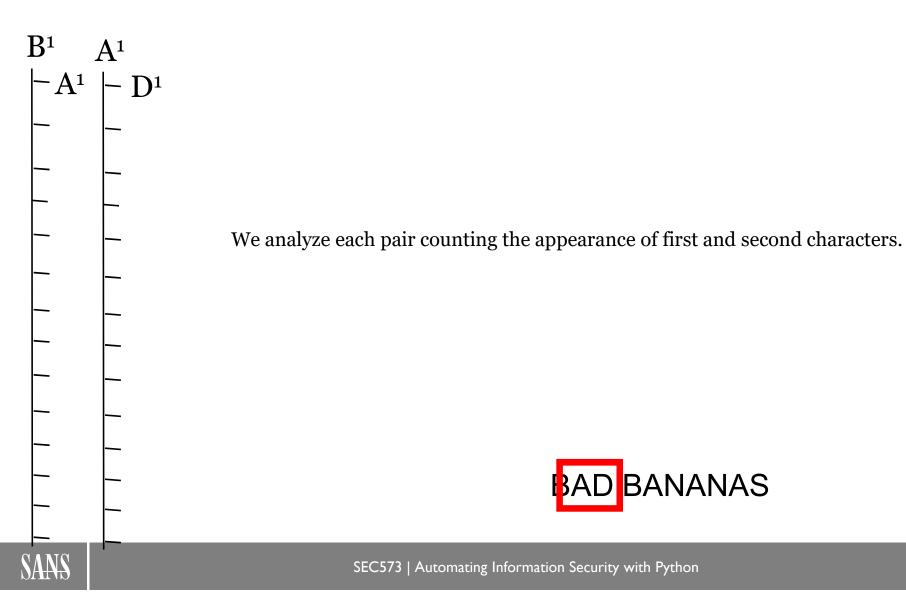
- freq.py and freq\_server.py were born!
  - Gives reliable "scores" to identify DGA domains
  - How does it work? Lets look.

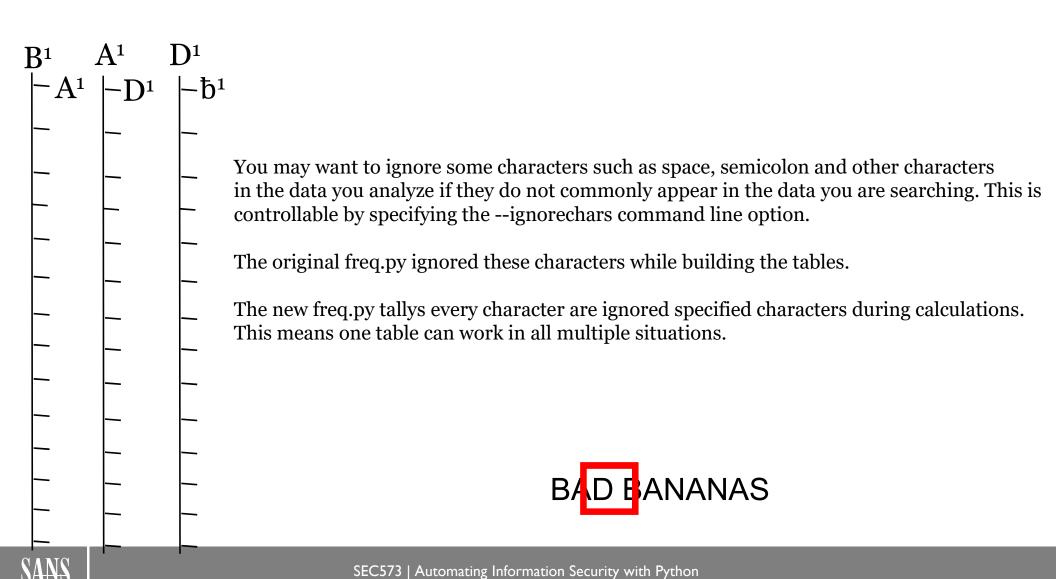


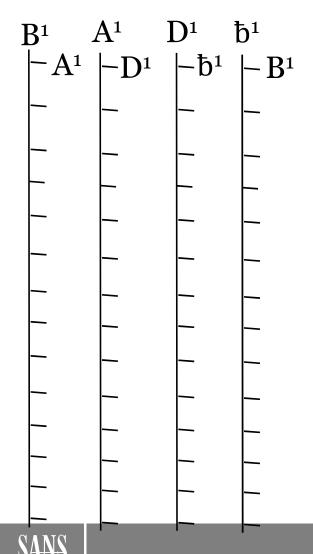


We analyze streams of legitimate text as character pairs to build a frequency table

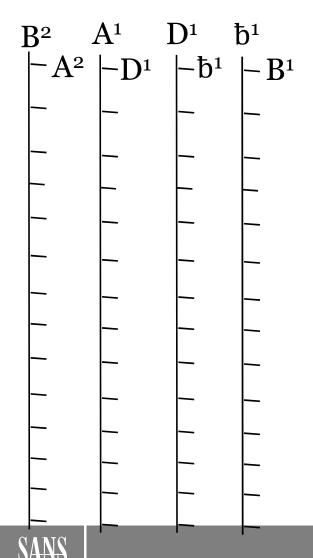




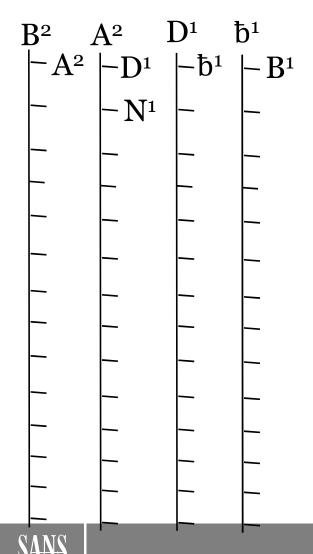




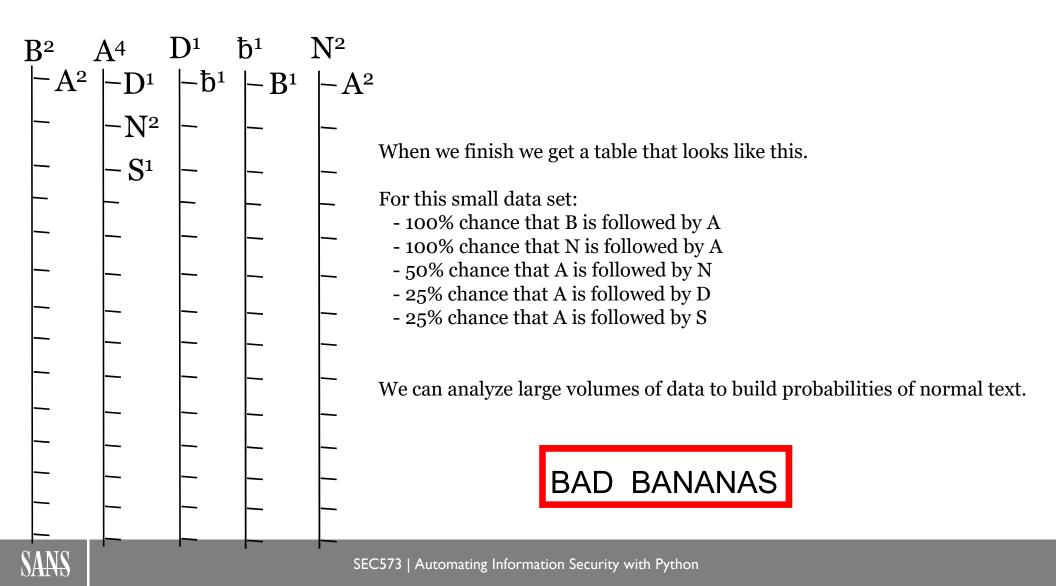








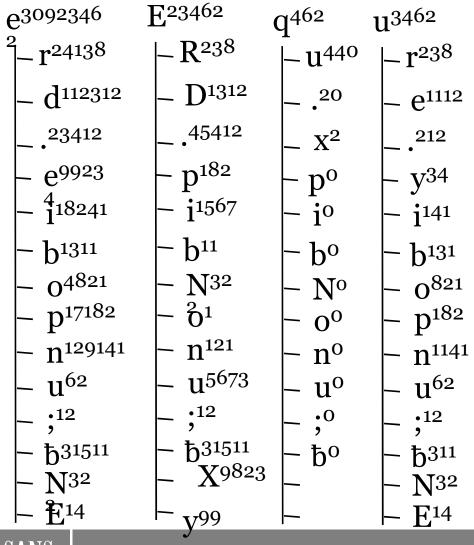




## Two methods of measuring "Normal" text

- Method 1 "Average Probability"
  - Built into Original freq.py
  - · Based on average probability of pairs
- Method 2 "Word Probability"
  - Only available in latest update
  - Based on probability of the entire word

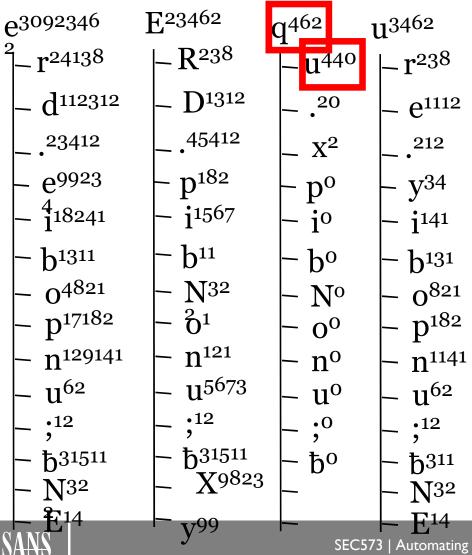




Here is what a portion of a complete table might look like.

Now lets measure probability of:

## queen



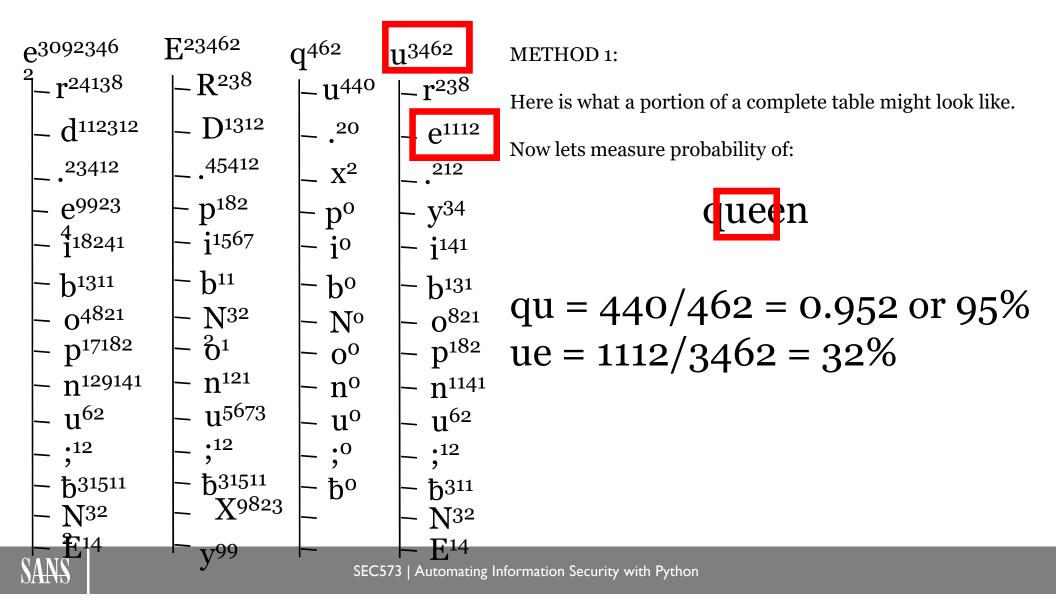
#### METHOD 1:

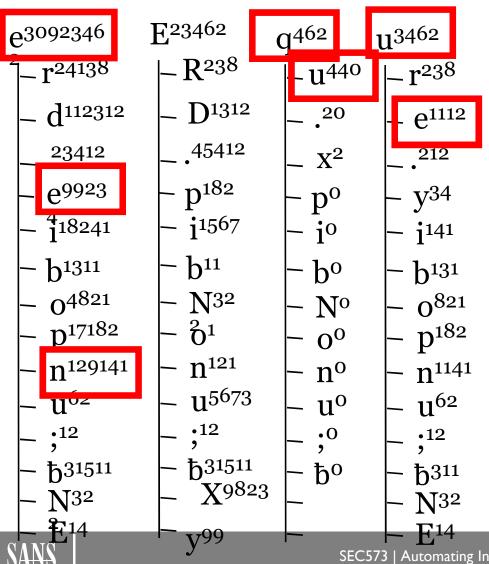
Here is what a portion of a complete table might look like.

Now lets measure probability of:



$$qu = 440/462 = 0.952 \text{ or } 95\%$$



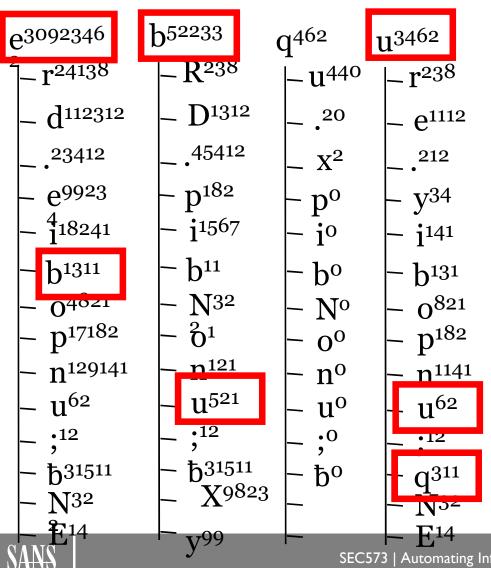


Here is what a portion of a complete table might look like.

Now lets measure probability of:

queen

Average Probability = 42%\*
\*put down calculators. All numbers are fictional examples



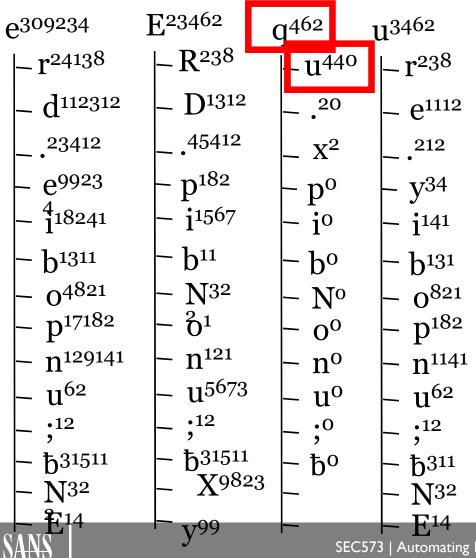
Here is what a portion of a complete table might look like.

Now lets measure probability of:

# ebuuq

Average Probability = 2.4%\*

\*put down calculators. All numbers are fictional examples



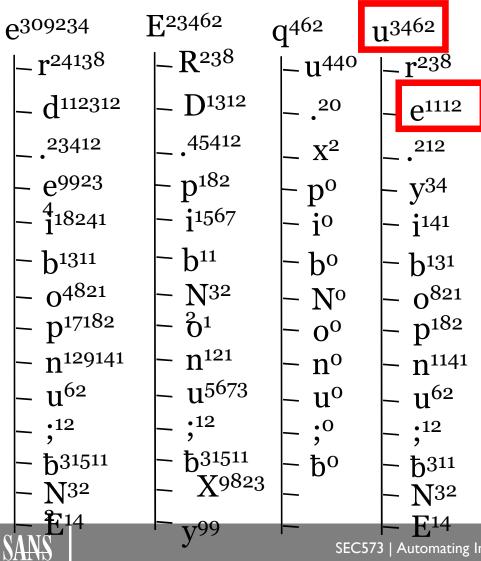
#### METHOD 2:

Here is what a portion of a complete table might look like.

Now lets measure probability of:

$$qu$$
, first = 462,  $sec = 440$ 

Total first = 462Total second = 440



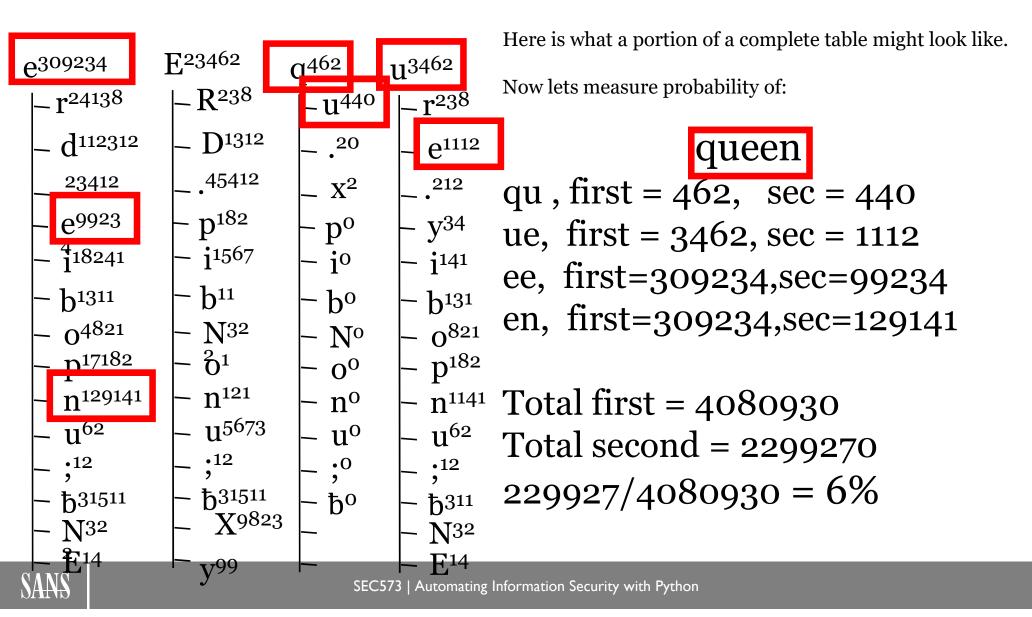
#### METHOD 1:

Here is what a portion of a complete table might look like.

Now lets measure probability of:



qu, first = 
$$462$$
, sec =  $440$   
ue, first =  $3462$ , sec =  $1112$ 



#### Where do "legit" domains score?

- Method 1 scores are greater than 5
- Method 2 scores are greater than 4

```
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m google.com freqtable2018.freq (6.6009, 4.9975) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m youtube.com freqtable2018.freq (10.3381, 6.881) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m reddit.com freqtable2018.freq (8.8356, 8.5714) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m slack.com freqtable2018.freq (5.7657, 5.189) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m instagram.com freqtable2018.freq (7.5582.7.3355)
```

#### Scores for malicious domains?

- Method 1 < 5
- Method2 < 4!

```
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m ukvkloytfaw.bid freqtable2018.freq (2.2847, 2.1507)
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m xcukrfpchsxn.com freqtable2018.freq (4.1311, 3.2014)
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m ybrjldiexlqb.com freqtable2018.freq (3.3749, 3.589)
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m bbqqjejhd.bid freqtable2018.freq (3.3332, 1.5073)
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python freq.py -m xct31.net freqtable2018.freq (4.8265, 3.3812)
```



## Why is Method 2 better?

• A single "qu" pair can make the un-probable probable.

```
**Terminal student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -m ybrjldiexlqb.com freqtable2018.freq (3.3749, 3.6452) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -m ybrjldiexlqu.com freqtable2018.freq (10.0476, 3.7604) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -m ukvkloytfaw.bid freqtable2018.freq (2.2847, 2.187) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -m qukvkloytfaw.bid freqtable2018.freq (8.7917, 2.3786)
```

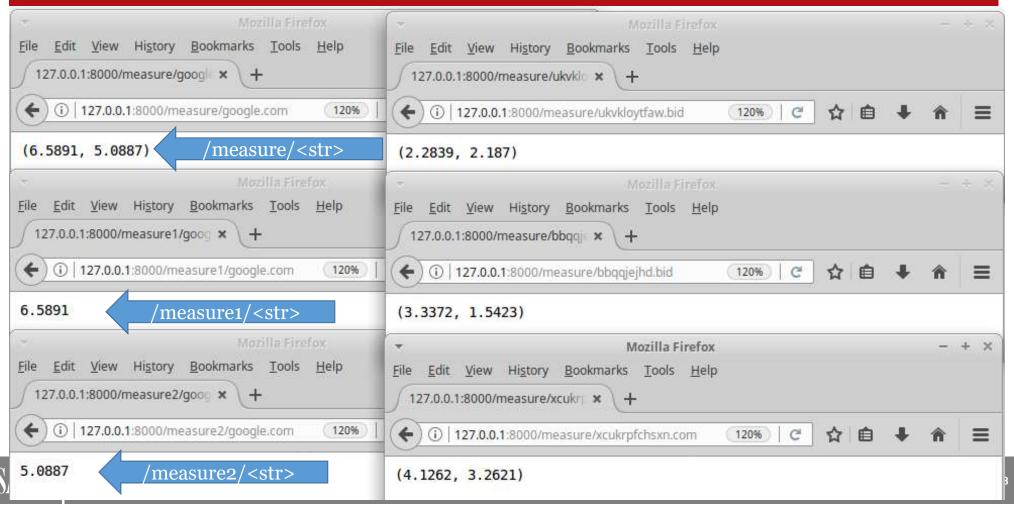
• Letters are weighted base on how common they are in normal text. So "rstlne" have more effect on score than "qxz"

#### Installing and starting freq\_server.py

No module dependencies. Just download and execute!

File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help

## SEIM can Access the Server with /measure[1,2]/domain



## Freq.py Makes freq\_server.py Much Better!

Customize your frequency tables for your specific environment!

```
student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -c mydomains.freq student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -n ./mydomains.txt mydomains.freq student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -m mark.com mydomains.freq (21.4286, 33.3333) student@573:~/Desktop/freq$ python3 freq.py -m lkajsdflkjsa.biz mydomains.freq (0.0, 0)
```

- Build new frequency tables
- Adjust values by adding domains to freqtable2018.freq
- Measure domains from the CLI and other tools



#### **Build Special Purpose frequency tables**

1) Use Powershell to create a list of all files on a file system

PS C:\> gci -recurse | select -Property Name | Out-File -FilePath c:\allfiles.txt -Encoding ascii

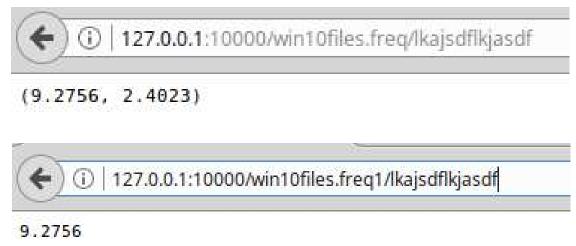
2) Create a custom frequency table for filenames

```
$ python3 freq.py -c win10files.freq
$ python3 freq.py -f ~/Desktop/allfiles.txt win10files.freq
$ python3 freq.py -m cmd.exe win10files.freq
(7.4876, 4.8509)
$ python3 freq.py -m aslkjfl.exe win10files.freq
(3.696, 2.9249)
```



## Use Special Purpose Tables with the API

- 1) You can pass multiple frequency tables to freq\_server
- \$ python3 freq\_server.py 8080 freqtable2018.freq win10files.freq
- 2) Replace measure, measure1 or measure2 with the table name!





## **Or Just Use Security Onion**

HTTP - Virtual Host Frequency Analysis	
Virtual Host \$	Frequency Score 🗢
www.w3.org	1.687
nrkuktxvn.myftp.org	2.332
epzqy.iphaeba.eu	2.374
<u>cs.gmu.edu</u>	2.469
jigsaw.w3.org	2.541
eytmxgnqlm.nirval.eu	2.743
tags.w55c.net	3.095
i.w55c.net	3.233
www.msftncsi.com	3.514
www.osu.edu	3.596



## What if the tool doesn't do exactly what you need?

- Let me know. I'm happy to support these
- Come check out SEC573 and I'll show you how to customize any Python program to do exactly what you need!



