



# CREATE YOUR CYBERSECURITY WITH OFFICE365 LOGS

“HOW CAN YOUR ORGANIZATION CREATE CYBERSECURITY VALUE FROM REGULAR  
OFFICE 365 LOGGING WITHOUT AZURE SENTINEL OR AN EXPENSIVE SEIM ?”

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# UP FRONT

Record away. All recording of me and this presentation is approved.

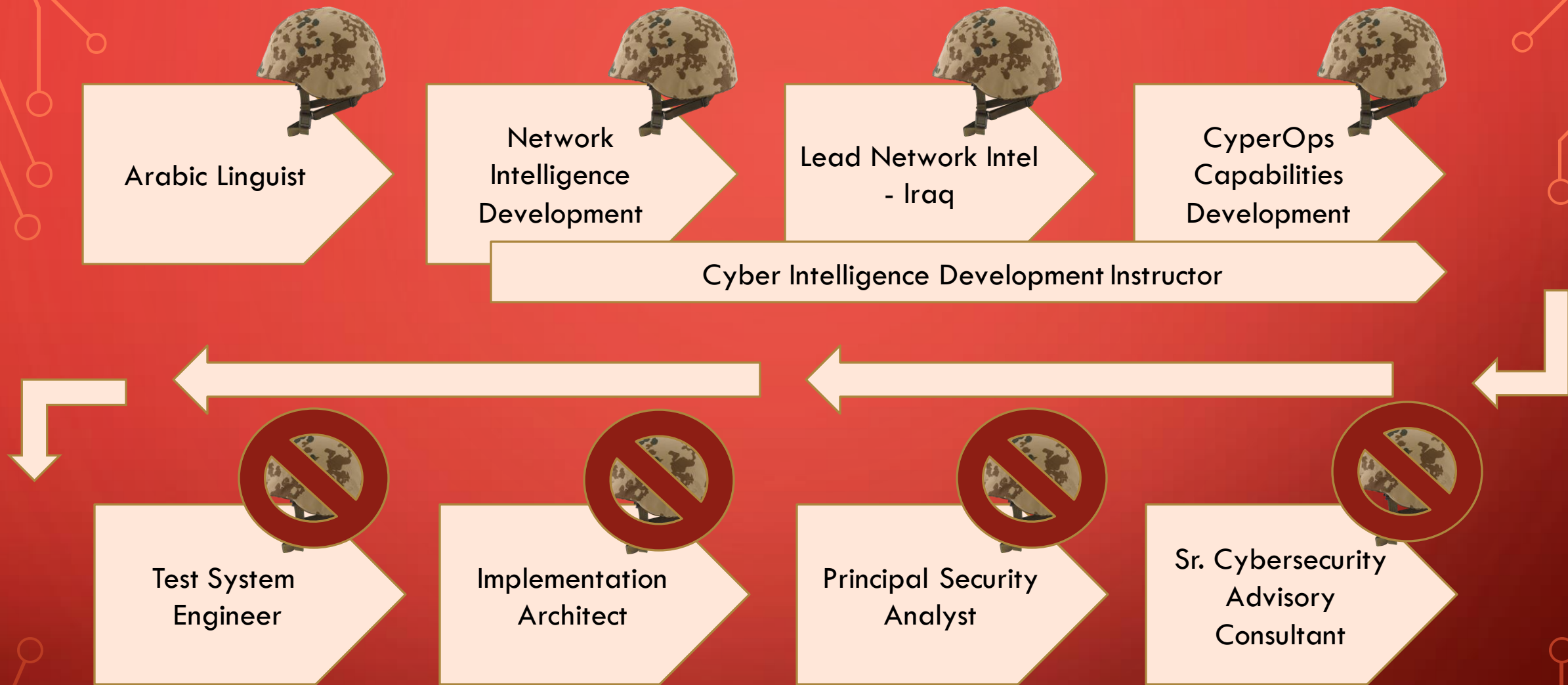
All references, slides, and code will be in github after the conference.

Find me here:

[@RyansNotAHacker](https://twitter.com/RyansNotAHacker)

[Github.com/ corkster919](https://github.com/corkster919)

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# AUDIENCE && GOALS

## Intended Audiences

- 1-Person "SOC"
- Small IT + No Security
- Analyst's that have only worked in SOC's or with fancy SIEMs

## Expected Goals to Meet

- Create value streams from logs
- Use Office365 json data

\*for examples

**But How??**

# GET YOUR LOGS!

So you don't have Sentinel or fancy SEIMs?

YOUR logs are still YOURS

Go get them!

Ref: [Export, configure, and view audit log records - Microsoft 365 Compliance | Microsoft Docs](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/compliance/export-view-audit-log-records?view=o365-worldwide)

- Here --> <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/compliance/export-view-audit-log-records?view=o365-worldwide>

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```
{
  "CreationTime": "2019-09-01T22:18:05",
  "Id": "3d2e4a09-570c-416e-ddf6-08d72f7a42ec",
  "Operation": "FileAccessed",
  "OrganizationId": "d3654362-5d1f-428d-1234-ec95e74c18af",
  "RecordType": 6,
  "UserKey": "i:0h.f|membership|10033fff9889f581@live.com",
  "UserType": 0,
  "Version": 1,
  "Workload": "SharePoint",
  "ClientIP": "155.135.13.15",
  "ObjectId": "https://theplace.sharepoint.com/_catalogs/theme",
  "UserId": "aperson@theplace.net",
  "CorrelationId": "4f88009f-001b-9099-080b-ffb11234de99",
  "EventSource": "SharePoint",
  "ItemType": "File",
  "ListId": "5f7c1115-c19b-422b-bd6c-b1f00e4f466c",
  "ListItemUniqueId": "5e854b097-6a92-4d66-8fd7-d7adba318440",
  "Site": "175613fd-afed-4903-a878-d44df8008ead",
  "UserAgent": "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/78.0.3930.162 Safari/537.36",
  "WebId": "7f50e7b8-cafc-4ca5-a19d-8600efa79a0c",
  "SourceFileExtension": "spcolor",
  "SiteUrl": "https://theplace.sharepoint.com/",
  "SourceFilename": "theme.spcolor",
  "SourceRelativeUrl": "_catalogs/theme/Themed/86DFB0FA"
}
```

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# LOGS CAN BE PAINFUL

**"Where is there value among all these fields?"**

....

**"Wait, there are hundreds more fields in the Extended Options for certain operations and assets?"**

Ref: [Detailed properties in the audit log - Microsoft 365 Compliance | Microsoft Docs](#)

Here --> <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/compliance/detailed-properties-in-the-office-365-audit-log?view=o365-worldwide>

# GOOGLE IT

- For real, google it

Office 365 is a massive resource that orgs use across the globe.



***"Someone has already asked your question." - Me***

# WHAT MATTERS IS SUBJECTIVE

Determine what matters most for your organization within your Office365 environment

- Incident Response ?
- SharePoint metrics ?
- Security Alerts ?
- User Behavior Monitoring\* ?

"What if they breach an Admin account?"

"What's the most active document each day?"

"Can we stop fake logins?"

"We shouldn't let regular users create new Teams."

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\* = Non-creepy



# OUR EXAMPLES HERE

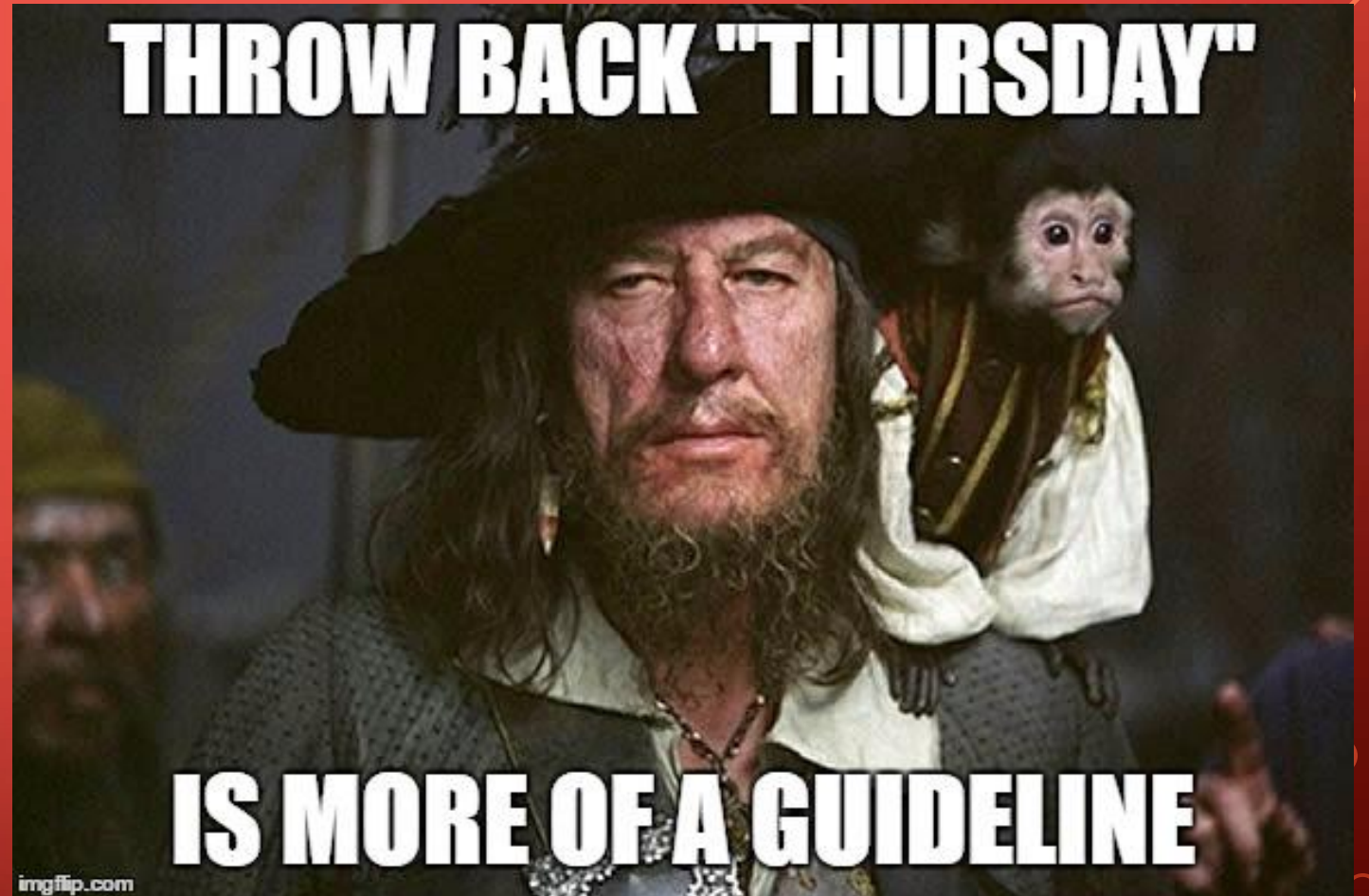
- Baseline your environment
  - Quick wins
  - 100% fidelity results
- Profile a User\*
  - Was there a breach?
  - Did the user's conduct merit a deep look into their activity logs?
  - Do. Not. Creep. You are a professional.
- "This will never occur" alerting
  - "...but when it does, let me know about it"

# METHODOLOGY

**!= "WHAT"**

**== "HOW"**

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# BASELINE EXAMPLES

## "IS THIS ACCOUNT IN OUR ORG?"

### HOW TO ANSWER

1. Find what field means "in your org"

The Microsoft docs highlight this field for "your org"

➤ **"OrganizationId": "abc54362-5d1f-428d-1234-ec95e74c18af"**

2. Add a query to find them and create an easy tag to identify "us vs them"

## BASELINE EXAMPLES (CONT)

### "IS THIS ACCOUNT IN OUR ORG?"

**Don't let an unknown stop you!**

But what if I don't know what our org IP is supposed to be ?

- *"I bet ~99% of logs have the same id. I'd also bet that's your id."*

How do I know what the other org ids are linked to ?

- *"That doesn't matter. Just identify 'not us' and start analyzing the other datapoints."*

## BASELINE EXAMPLES (2)

### "WHAT ACTIONS DO ADMINS TAKE ?"

#### HOW TO ANSWER

1. Find what actions mean "admin"
2. Find what groups use those actions
3. Make sure those groups are supposed to do admin stuff

## BASELINE EXAMPLES (2) (CONT)

### "WHAT ACTIONS DO ADMINS TAKE ?"

The items here under "**User Admin Activities**" is a good place to start.

- "Add user." .... Do all your admins use this ? Probably not, so who does ?
- "Change user license." .... Are they able to add new software for other users ?
- "Change user password." ... They didn't just reset it, they \*chose\* the password
- "Delete user." ... Any admin using this privilege better have a good reason!

"Admin activity should be consistent and predictable!"

"But admins also test new things a lot..."





# USERS DO THINGS

Sometimes you have to look up activities for a user.

*"What's the value in that?" - You*

*"There isn't any. It's on you to create that value from the data." - Me*

Break it down by key metrics

- 1) Physical == Geo Location by Time
- 2) Professional == Logins by Time
- 3) Activity == Operation counts per Day

**Nothing is perfect. Make  
simple-but-effective  
your new 'good enough'.**

# "IT DOESN'T HAPPEN" ALERTING

*What* should never happen ?

*Why* should it never happen ?

What attacker tactic '*makes*' that happen ?

**If you can answer these three questions, you can create a value-stream from your logs!**



# FIND THE HACKS!

*Did you find a new hack thing on twitter | reddit | otherplace ?  
Do you want to defend against it ?*

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..... NOW WHAT ?

HACKER TACTICS THAT CREATE EASY WINS

➤ " The program isn't supposed to do this. I just made it do this."

WHY IS THIS EASY ?

➤ The tester gives the security control you need in the title itself.

*How do we turn this into a valuable alert?*

# BARE KNUCKLE BRAWL WITH YOUR LOGS

What program did they use?

- Where does it log the thing they did ?

What does the hacked attack action look like ?

- How does this appear in that log ?

What does the intended (i.e. normal, not-hacked) action do ?

- How does this appear in the log ?



## LAST QUESTION

*Which do you think will be the best between those two alerts ?*

1. IF

`does_hack(log) == "true"`

2. IF

`log_action_  
matches_expectations(log) == "false"`



**TRUST YOURSELF**

**HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR CHOICE**

**WRITE DOWN WHY YOU CHOSE IT**

**The organization that reads what you wrote down is paying you because  
they find your words valuable.**

**Trust that expectation.**



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# EXAMPLE SCENARIO

## SETTING:

You are a 22-person startup, all located in an Austin, TX office.

## ATTACKER GOAL:

FIUO SharePoint Docs

## ATTACKER TACTIC:

Login with credentials from new 3rd-party breach

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**Step 1. Identify attacker actions that leave traces.**

- login attempts for users

**Step 2. Find a log that matches that specific attack type.**

- if you don't have one, the google does. I'd bet my house it does.

**Step 3. Identify datapoints that give attribution to the attacker.**

- MUST be "datapoint is 100% attacker-only"

**Step 4. Identify datapoints that are "never-an-expected-datapoint" that gives attribution to NOT 'Our Org'**

- Datapoint CANNOT be created by your organization or your users.

**Step 5. Create a value-stream from steps 1-4.**

- Also known as ADD YOUR RULES !!

# RULES

*\*in order of greatest fidelity for incident responses*

## **Attacker Matches:**

IF attacker\_unique\_datapoint\_value.in(log) == "true": ALERT!

## **Attacker-Only Possibilities:**

IF attacker\_datapoint\_key.in(log) AND datapoint\_value.for(key) != defender\_datapoint\_value: ALERT!

## **Defender-Impossible Matches:**

IF defender\_datapoint\_value == "A Unique Thing" AND datapoint\_value.in(log) == "false": ALERT!



## REAL SCENARIO

### "WHALING BEC ATTEMPTS"

ATTACKER TACTIC: Added keyword matches to delete email responses that would trigger suspicion in the user after breaching the email access remotely.

*Log Identified – office365 Mail logging*

*Find the specific logs – Update Inbox Rules*

*Find attacker log -- "keyword updates to rules; auto-delete  
'compromise | hack | re:<this\_email> | account | phish | security'*



# "WELL YEA OF COURSE THAT'S BAD. NOW WHAT ? "

Attacker Match – ALERT:

IF update\_inbox\_rules + keywords 'compromise | hack | etc'

Attacker-Only – ALERT:

IF update\_inbox\_rules + Non-US geo\_country

Never Our Org – ALERT:

IF update\_inbox\_rules + IP\_never\_seen\_before

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# LORDY THERE WAS REGEX

```
[^\\.\\da-zA-Z_-]+?(?<capture>[1-2^0]?[0-9]?[0-9]\\. [1-2^0]?[0-9]?[0-9]\\. [1-2^0]?[0-9]?[0-9]\\. [1-2^0]?[0-9]?[0-9])[^\\.\\da-zA-Z\\.\\w\\+]
```