



CYBERSECURITY: SIEM

Sentinel Configuration,



14 SEPTEMBER 2025

Michael Musoke

Contents

Introduction	2
Topology	2
Configuration	2
What is Sentinel?.....	2
Create a Resource group (RG).....	2
Create a Virtual Network (Vnet)	3
Create a Virtual Machine (VM).....	4
Log in to VM.....	9
Configure Sentinel.....	11
Configure the collection rule	18
Plotting the IP address on a Map.....	22
Create a Scheduled Query	28
Threat Intelligence	37
Conclusion:	49
Key Learnings & Recommendations.....	49

Introduction

In this Security Operations Centre (SOC) simulation, a Honeynet environment is deployed in an Azure subscription and using a Windows 10 virtual machine exposed to the internet. The security event logs from the system are ingested into Microsoft Sentinel for monitoring and analysis. During the simulation, a brute force attack is detected, and an incident is manually generated, assigned to a SOC analyst, and investigated.

Topology

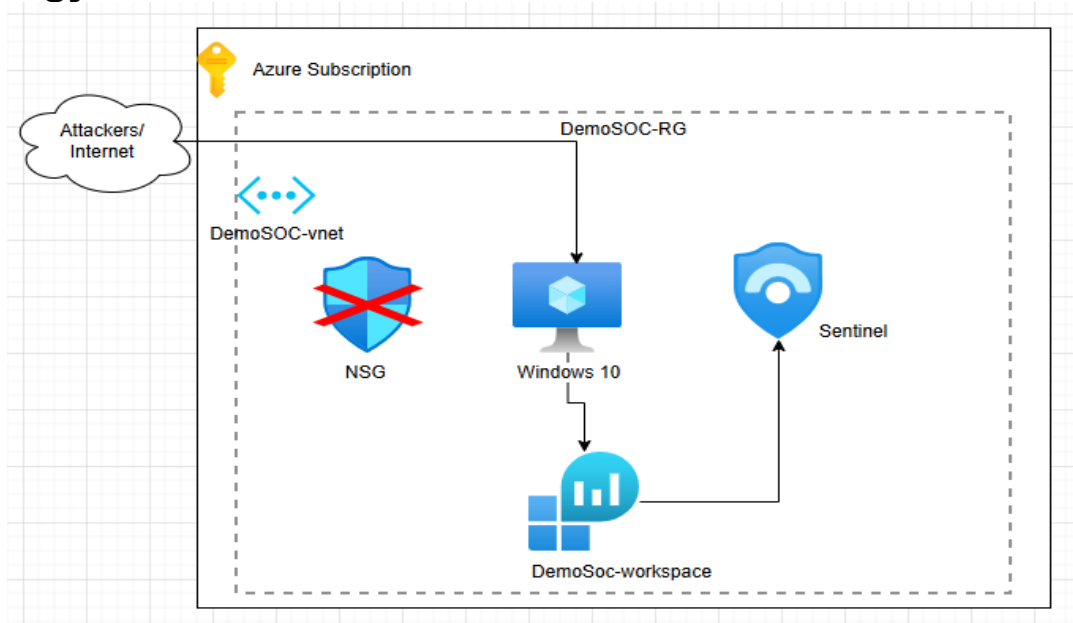


Fig 1

Configuration

What is Sentinel?

Microsoft Sentinel is a cloud-native Security Information Event Management (SIEM) system. It collects, normalises, and analyses security logs/events from across your environment (On-prem, Cloud, third party)

Sentinel is also a Security Orchestration Automation and Response (SOAR). It automates responses with playbooks, so incidents can be contained or remediated quickly without manual effort.

Create a Resource group (RG)

In an Azure account under and subscription, create a resource group. A resource group is a logical container that holds related Azure resources.

Create a resource group ...

Basics Tags Review + create

Resource group - A container that holds related resources for an Azure solution. The resource group can include all the resources for the solution, or only those resources that you want to manage as a group. You decide how you want to allocate resources to resource groups based on what makes the most sense for your organization. [Learn more](#)

Subscription * ⓘ	<input type="text" value="Azure subscription 1"/>
Resource group name * ⓘ	<input type="text" value="DemoSOC-RG"/>
Region * ⓘ	<input type="text" value="(Europe) UK South"/>

Fig 2

Create a Virtual Network (Vnet)

A Vnet is a logically isolated network inside Azure where you can securely run and connect Azure resources. Works the same way as an on-premises network but hosted in Azure.

Ensure the VNet is created under the resource group and region created in step 1

Create virtual network ...

Basics Security IP addresses Tags Review + create

Azure Virtual Network (VNet) is the fundamental building block for your private network in Azure. VNet enables many types of Azure resources, such as Azure Virtual Machines (VM), to securely communicate with each other, the internet, and on-premises networks. VNet is similar to a traditional network that you'd operate in your own data center, but brings with it additional benefits of Azure's infrastructure such as scale, availability, and isolation.

[Learn more.](#) [↗](#)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription *	<input type="text" value="Azure subscription 1"/>
Resource group *	<input type="text" value="DemoSOC-RG"/>

[Create new](#)

Instance details

Virtual network name *	<input type="text" value="DemSoc-vnet"/>
Region * ⓘ	<input type="text" value="(Europe) UK South"/>

[Deploy to an Azure Extended Zone](#)

Fig 3

Create a Virtual Machine (VM)

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription *	<div><div>Azure subscription 1</div><div>▼</div></div>
Resource group *	<div><div>DemoSOC-RG</div><div>▼</div></div> <div>Create new</div>

Instance details

Virtual machine name *	<div><div>HyperV-vm</div><div>✓</div></div>
Region *	<div><div>(Europe) UK South</div><div>▼</div></div> <div>Deploy to an Azure Extended Zone</div>
Availability options	<div><div>Availability zone</div><div>▼</div></div>

Fig 4

Create the VM in the resource group and region in Step 1

Image * ⓘ Windows 10 Pro, version 22H2 - x64 Gen2 (free services eligible) ▼
[See all images](#) | [Configure VM generation](#)

VM architecture ⓘ
☐ Arm64
☒ x64
 ⓘ Arm64 is not supported with the selected image.

Run with Azure Spot discount ⓘ ☐

ⓘ You are in the free trial period. Costs associated with this VM can be covered by any remaining credits on your subscription.
[Learn more](#) ↗

Size * ⓘ Standard_E2s_v3 - 2 vcpus, 16 GiB memory (\$113.88/month) ▼
[See all sizes](#)

Enable Hibernation ⓘ ☐
 ⓘ Hibernation is not supported by the size that you have selected. Choose a size that is compatible with Hibernation to enable this feature. [Learn more](#) ↗

Administrator account

Username * ⓘ demoUser1 ✓

Password * ✓

Confirm password * ✓

Fig 5

In the Size use at least 2vcpus. Anything less will be painfully slow.

Ensure to confirm you have a license; otherwise, the process will not continue.

Licensing

☒ I confirm I have an eligible Windows 10/11 license with multi-tenant hosting rights.

[Review multi-tenant hosting rights for Windows 10/11 compliance](#) ↗

Fig 6

In the Networking tab, select the Vnet created in the previous step.

Create a virtual machine

Help me choose the right VM size for my workload

Help me create a lov

Basics

Disks

Networking

Management

Monitoring

Advanced

Tags

Review + create

Define network connectivity for your virtual machine by configuring network interface card (NIC) settings. You can control ports, inbound and outbound connectivity with security group rules, or place behind an existing load balancing solution.

[Learn more](#)

Network interface

When creating a virtual machine, a network interface will be created for you.

Virtual network

DemSoc-vnet (DemoSOC-RG)

Edit virtual network

Subnet

(New) snet-uksouth-1

Edit subnet

10.0.1.0 - 10.0.1.255 (256 addresses)

Public IP

(new) HyperV-vm-ip

Create new

NIC network security group

None

Basic

Advanced

Public inbound ports

None

Allow selected ports

Select inbound ports

RDP (3389)

This will allow all IP addresses to access your virtual machine. This is only recommended for testing. Use the Advanced controls in the Networking tab to create rules to limit inbound traffic to known IP addresses.

Fig 6

Click on Review and Create. Once the validation is passed, click create and wait for the VM to be provisioned.

Virtual machines

Get started

+ Create

Switch to classic

Reservations

Manage view

Refresh

Export to CSV

Open query

Assign tags

Start

Restart

Stop

Delete

Ser

You are viewing a new version of Browse experience. Click here to access the old experience.

Filter for any field...

Subscription equals all

Type equals all

Resource Group equals all

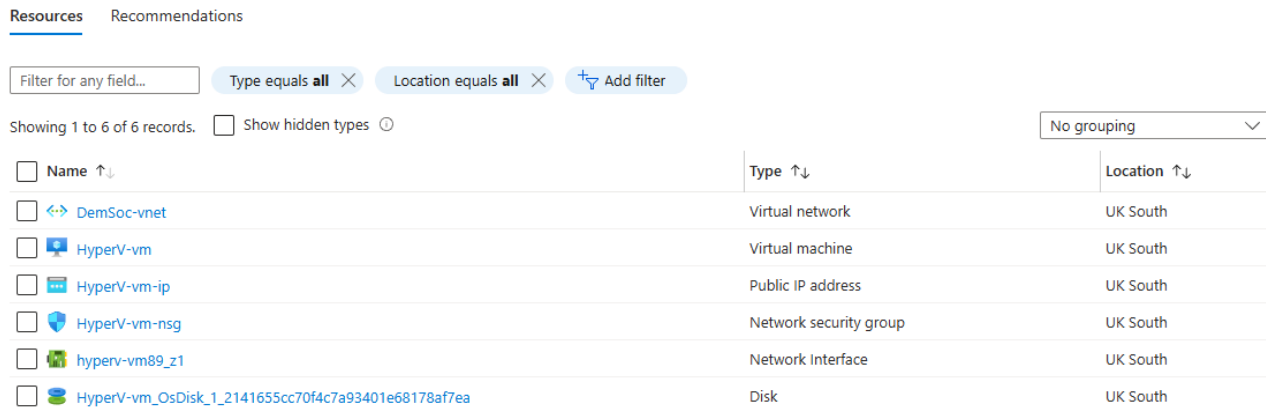
Location equals all

Add filter

	Name ↑	Subscription	Resource Group	Location	Status	Operating system	Size	Public IP address	
	HyperV-vm	...	Azure subscription 1	DemoSOC-RG	UK South	Running	Windows	Standard_E2s_v3	20.0.114.122

Fig 7

With the VM created. Navigate to Home and click on Resource group. The following resources should be listed.



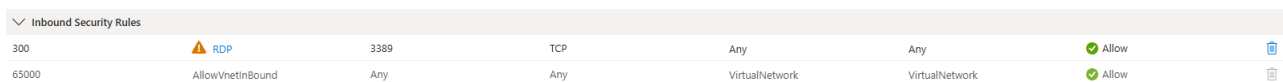
The screenshot shows the 'Resources' tab in the Azure portal. At the top, there are tabs for 'Resources' and 'Recommendations'. Below the tabs is a search bar and filter buttons: 'Type equals all', 'Location equals all', and 'Add filter'. It indicates 'Showing 1 to 6 of 6 records' and has a 'Show hidden types' checkbox. A 'No grouping' dropdown is on the right. The table lists the following resources:

Name	Type	Location
DemSoc-vnet	Virtual network	UK South
HyperV-vm	Virtual machine	UK South
HyperV-vm-ip	Public IP address	UK South
HyperV-vm-nsg	Network security group	UK South
hyperv-vm89_z1	Network Interface	UK South
HyperV-vm_OsDisk_1_2141655cc70f4c7a93401e68178af7ea	Disk	UK South

Fig 8

Two resources were automatically created with the VM – HyperV-vm-nsg and HyperV-vm89_z1. Interest is in the NSG (Network Security Group), which acts like the firewall. We need to allow inbound traffic.


Delete the inbound rule with Priority Value 300 and create a new rule allowing any traffic from any destination.



The screenshot shows the 'Inbound Security Rules' section of a Network Security Group. It contains two rules:

Priority	Name	Port	Protocol	Source	Destination	Action
300	RDP	3389	TCP	Any	Any	Allow
65000	AllowVnetInBound	Any	Any	VirtualNetwork	VirtualNetwork	Allow

Fig 9



Add inbound security rule

×

HyperV-vm-nsg

Source ⓘ

Any

Source port ranges * ⓘ

*

Destination ⓘ

Any

Service ⓘ

Custom

Destination port ranges * ⓘ

*

Protocol

☒ Any

☐ TCP

☐ UDP

☐ ICMPv4

☐ ICMPv6

Action

☒ Allow

☐ Deny

Priority * ⓘ

100

Name *

demoSoc

Description

Allow all traffic

Add

Cancel

 Give feedback

Fig 10

Log into VM

With the inbound rule in place, log in to the computer via RDP. A successful login will present a certificate as shown below.

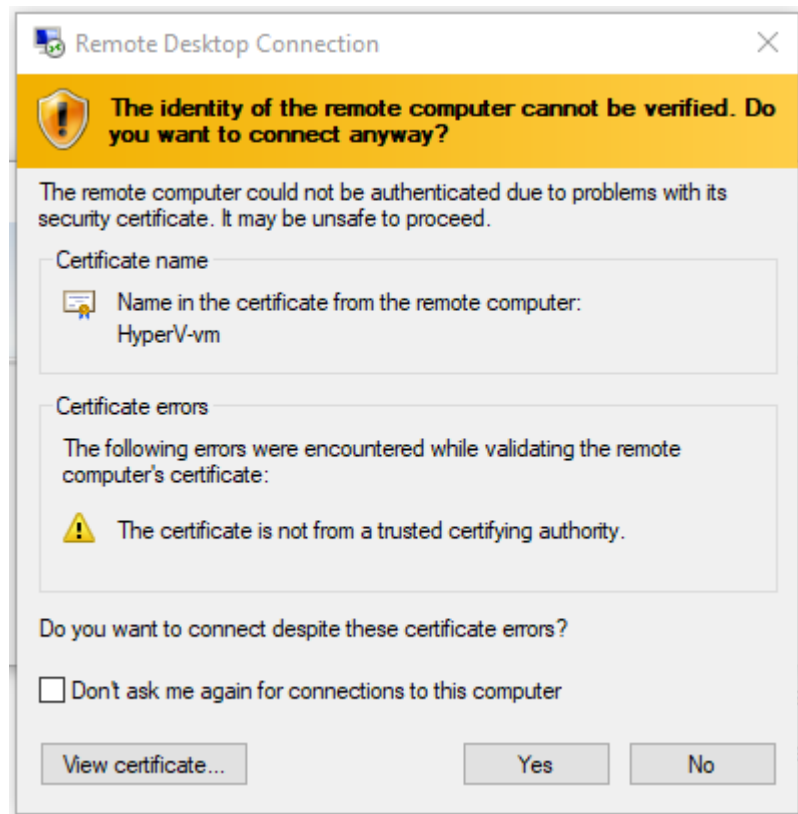


Fig 11

Click Yes on the Certificate, navigate to the Firewall settings, and deactivate the firewall. Right click on Windows Defender Firewall

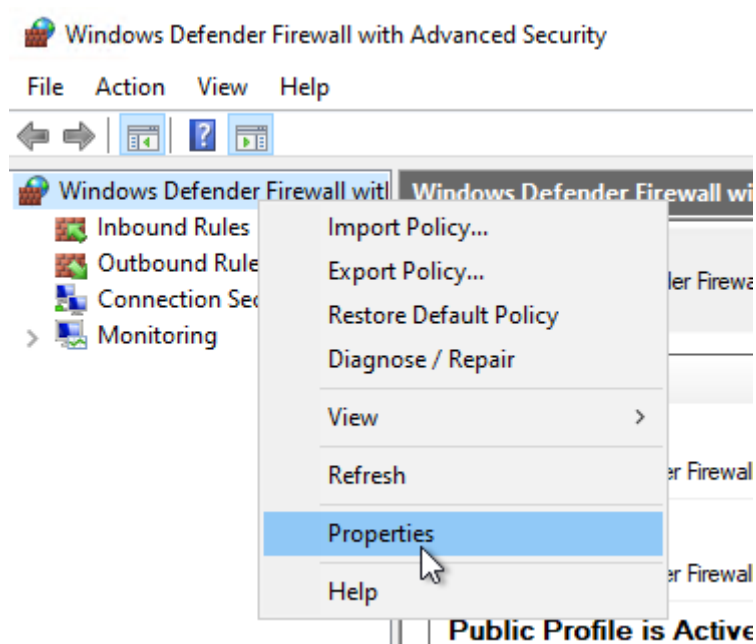


Fig 12

Disable the firewall state in all the tabs.

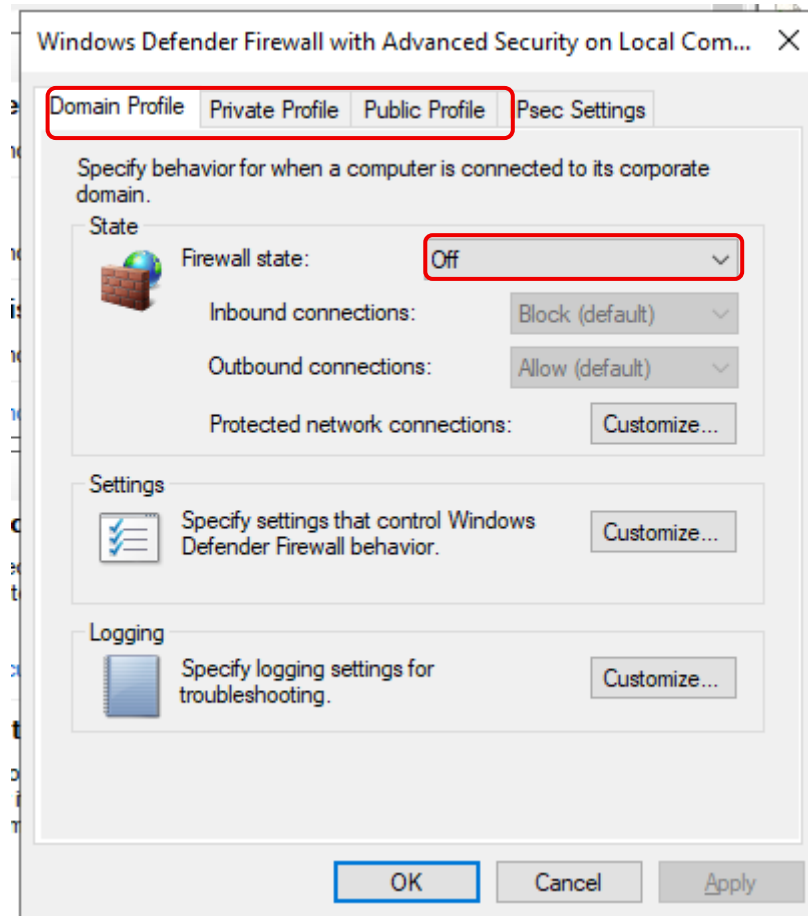


Fig 13

Test that you can reach the computer using a ping. This will show that if you can get a response, the public should be able to attack it.

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.6216]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\User>ping 20.0.114.122

Pinging 20.0.114.122 with 32 bytes of data:
Reply from 20.0.114.122: bytes=32 time=57ms TTL=112
Reply from 20.0.114.122: bytes=32 time=45ms TTL=112
Reply from 20.0.114.122: bytes=32 time=40ms TTL=112
Reply from 20.0.114.122: bytes=32 time=42ms TTL=112

Ping statistics for 20.0.114.122:
    Packets: Sent = 4, Received = 4, Lost = 0 (0% loss),
    Approximate round trip times in milli-seconds:
        Minimum = 40ms, Maximum = 57ms, Average = 46ms

C:\Users\User>
```

Fig 14

Navigate to the Event viewer. This is where the activities on the computer are logged

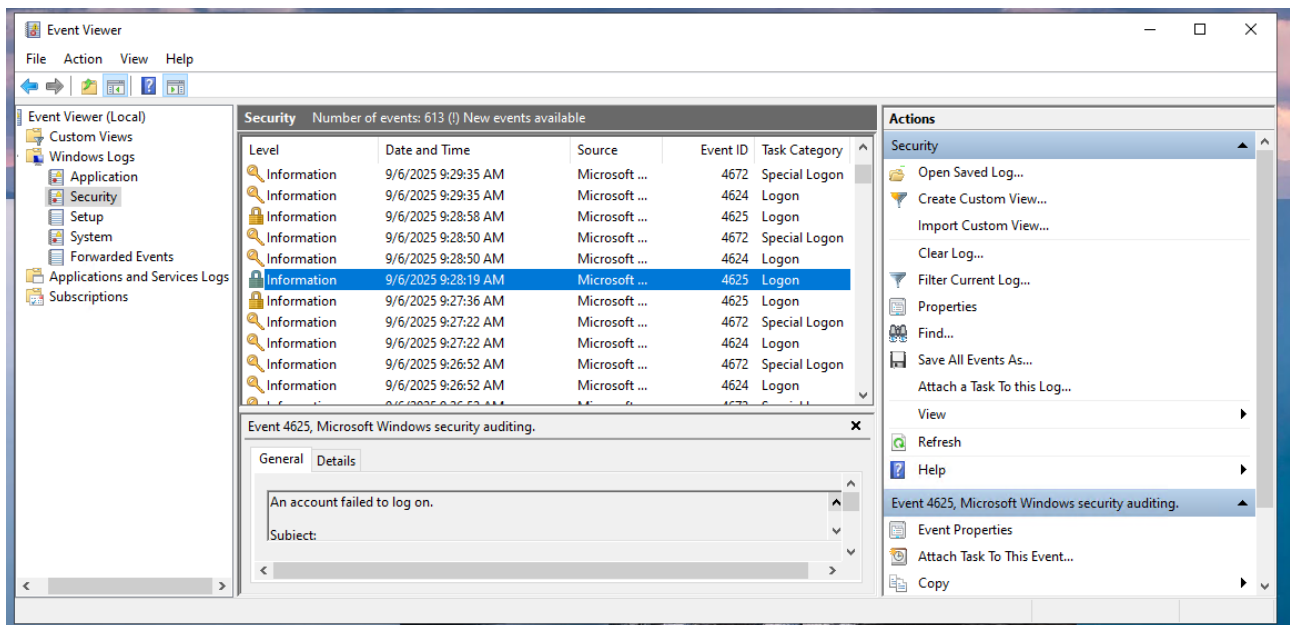


Fig 15

Under Event ID, notice different events. These are the events that will be ingested into Sentinel.

Configure Sentinel

In Azure, in the search type Log Analytics to create a workspace. Which is a requirement for Sentinel

Create Log Analytics workspace ...

Basics Tags Review + Create

i A Log Analytics workspace is the basic management unit of Azure Monitor Logs. There are specific considerations you should take when creating a new Log Analytics workspace. [Learn more](#)

With Azure Monitor Logs you can easily store, retain, and query data collected from your monitored resources in Azure and other environments for valuable insights. A Log Analytics workspace is the logical storage unit where your log data is collected and stored.

Project details

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all your resources.

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource group * ⓘ [Create new](#)

Instance details

Name * ⓘ ✓

Region * ⓘ

Fig 16

Create this in the same resource group and region as the VM

Delete Cancel Redeploy Download Refresh

✓ Your deployment is complete



Deployment name : Microsoft.LogAnalyticsOMS

Subscription : [Azure subscription 1](#)

Resource group : [DemoSOC-RG](#)

> Deployment details

✓ Next steps

[Go to resource](#)

Fig 17

With the workspace created in the search space type Sentinel, click create

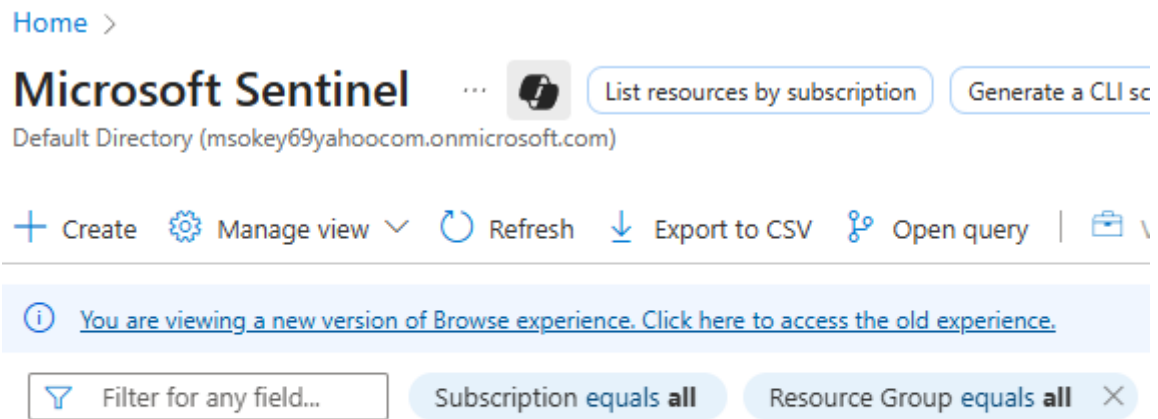


Fig 18

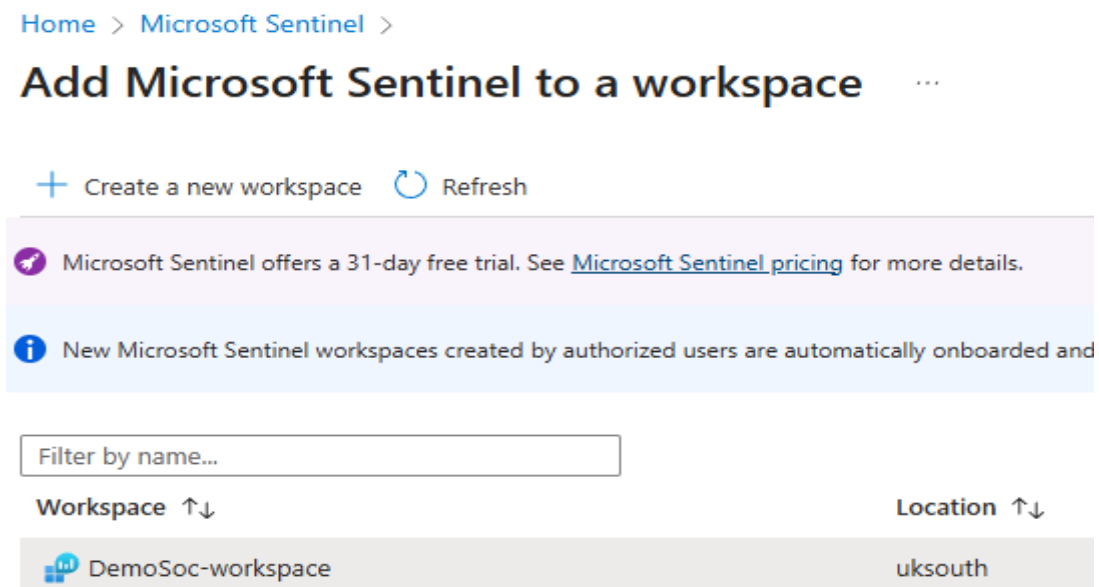


Fig 19

Select the workspace created shown above

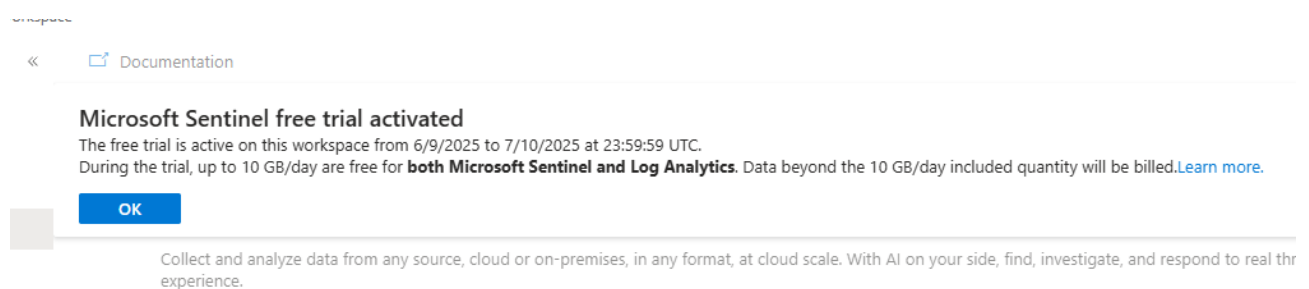


Fig 20

Navigate to the Content hub in Sentinel and search for security events

Home > Microsoft Sentinel > Add Microsoft Sentinel to a workspace > Microsoft Sentinel

Microsoft Sentinel | Content hub

Selected workspace: 'demosoc-workspace'

Refresh Install/Update Delete + SIEM Migration Guides & Feedback

General

Overview

Logs

Guides

Search

Threat management

Content management

Content hub

Repositories

Community

Configuration

419

Solutions

320

Standalone contents

0

Installed

0

Updates


Didn't find what you were looking for? We're showing a limited set of results. Try refining your search

Status : All Content type : All

<input type="checkbox"/>	Content title	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	▼ SlashNext Security Events	<input type="radio"/> Not installed
	SlashNextSecurityEventsforMicrosoftSentinel	<input type="radio"/> Not installed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	▼ Windows Security Events	<input type="radio"/> Not installed


Fig 21


Select Windows Security Events. At the bottom of the page, on the right-hand click on the install button.



Windows Security Events

Microsoft
Provider

 Microsoft
Support

 3.0.9
Version

in ingesting Security Events logs into your Log Analytics Workspace using the new Azure Monitor Agent. Learn more about ingesting using the new Azure Monitor Agent [here](#). **Microsoft recommends using this Data Connector.**


2. **Security Events via Legacy Agent** - This data connector helps in ingesting Security Events logs into your Log Analytics Workspace using the legacy Log Analytics agent.


NOTE: Microsoft recommends installation of Windows Security Events via AMA Connector. Legacy connector uses the Log Analytics agent which is about to be deprecated by **Aug 31, 2024**, and thus should only be installed where AMA is not supported.


Data Connectors: 2, Workbooks: 2, Analytic Rules: 20, Hunting Queries: 50


[Learn more about Microsoft Sentinel](#) | [Learn more about Solutions](#)

Content type ⓘ

 20
Analytics rule

 2
Data connector


 50
Hunting query

 2
Workbook

Category ⓘ

Security - Threat Protection

Pricing ⓘ

 Free

[Install](#)


[View details](#)

Fig 22

<input type="checkbox"/>	Windows Security Events	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	Security Events via Legacy Agent	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	Windows Security Events via AMA	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	New EXE deployed via Default Domain or ...	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	Gain Code Execution on ADFS Server via S...	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	Excessive Windows Logon Failures	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	Starting or Stopping HealthService to Avoi...	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	Process Execution Frequency Anomaly	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	AD FS Remote Auth Sync Connection	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection
	NRT Security Event log cleared	✓ Installed	Solution	Microsoft	Microsoft	Security - Threat Protection

Fig 23

Click on Manage



Windows Security Events

Microsoft Provider

Microsoft Support

3.0.9 Version

Description

Note: Please refer to the following before installing the solution:

- Review the solution [Release Notes](#)

The Windows Security Events solution for Microsoft Sentinel allows you to ingest Security events from your Windows machines using the Windows Agent into Microsoft Sentinel. This solution includes two (2) data connectors to help ingest the logs.

- Windows Security Events via AMA** - This data connector helps in ingesting Security Events logs into your Log Analytics Workspace using the new Azure Monitor Agent. Learn more about ingesting using the new Azure Monitor Agent [here](#). **Microsoft recommends using this Data Connector.**
- Security Events via Legacy Agent** - This data connector helps in ingesting Security Events logs into your Log Analytics Workspace using the legacy Log Analytics agent.

NOTE: Microsoft recommends installation of Windows Security Events via AMA Connector. Legacy connector uses the Log Analytics agent which is about to be deprecated by **Aug 31, 2024**, and thus should only be installed where AMA is not supported.

Data Connectors: 2, **Workbooks:** 2, **Analytic Rules:** 20, **Hunting Queries:** 50

[Learn more about Microsoft Sentinel](#) | [Learn more about Solutions](#)

Content type ⓘ

Manage

Actions ▾

[View details](#)


Fig 24

<input type="checkbox"/>	Content name		Created content	Conte...	Version	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Security Events via Legacy Agent		1 items	Data co...	1.0.0	 Install
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 Windows Security Events via AMA		1 items	Data co...	1.0.0	 Install
<input type="checkbox"/>	 AD FS Remote Auth Sync Connection		--	Analyti...	1.0.4	 Install
<input type="checkbox"/>	 AD FS Remote HTTP Network Connection		--	Analyti...	1.0.2	 Install
<input type="checkbox"/>	 AD user enabled and password not set within 48 hours		--	Analyti...	1.0.4	 Install

Fig 25

Configure the collection rule.



Click on Create data collection rule. This rule instructs the VM to forward the Event logs to the log analytics workspace



Configuration

Enable data collection rule

Security Events logs are collected only from **Windows** agents.

 Refresh
 

Rule name	Created by	Filter name
No results		

+Create data collection rule

Fig 26

Give the collection rule a name. select the resource group

Create Data Collection Rule

Data collection rule management

Basic Resources Collect Review + create

Select the subscription to manage deployed resources and costs. Use resource groups like folders to organize and manage all of your resources.

Rule details

Rule name *

Subscription * ⓘ

Resource group * ⓘ

Fig 27

Select the device whose event log will be ingested

Create Data Collection Rule

Data collection rule management

Basic Resources Collect Review + create

Choose a set of machines to collect data from. This set of machines will replace any previous selection, make sure to re-select any you'd like to keep. The Azure Monitor Agent will automatically be installed.

i This will also enable System Assigned Managed Identity on these machines, in addition to existing User Assigned Identities (if any). Note: Unless specified in the request, the machine will default to using System Assigned Identity for all other applications. [Learn more](#)

Subscriptions

Resource Groups

Resource Types

Locations

Selected: All

Selected: All

Selected: All

Selected: All

Show Selected

Scope	Resource Type	Location
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Azure subscription 1		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DemoSOC-RG		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HyperV-vm	microsoft.compute/virtualmachines	UK South

Fig 28

Ensure All security radio is checked.

Create Data Collection Rule

Data collection rule management

Basic Resources Collect Review + create

Select which events to stream. ⓘ

☒ All Security Events ☐ Common ☐ Minimal ☐ Custom

Fig 29

Review and create the rule.

Create Data Collection Rule

Data collection rule management

Basic Resources Collect Review + create

Validation passed

Basic

Data rule name

Data-Collection

Subscription

Azure subscription 1

Resource Group

DemoSOC-RG

Selected resources

Name	Type
hyperv-vm	microsoft.compute/virtualmachines

Selected events

AllEvents

Fig 30

Give the provisioning of the agent time to complete.

Extensions

VM Applications

+ Add

↻ Refresh

|

↑ Update

✓ Enable automatic upgrade

⌛ Disable automatic upgrade

🗨 Feedback

🔍 Search to filter items...

Showing all 1 items

<input type="radio"/>	Name	Type	Version	Latest Version	Status
<input type="radio"/>	AzureMonitorWindowsAgent	Microsoft.Azure.Monitor...	1.37.0.0	1.37.0.0	Provisioning succeeded

Fig 31

On the Log Analytics workspace page, click on Logs. In the right-hand corner of the drop-down menu, select KQL query

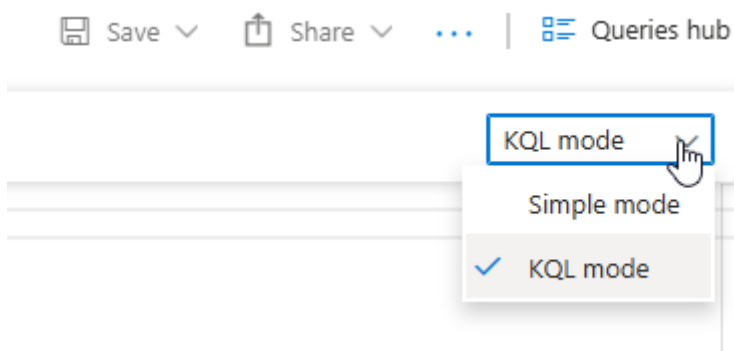


Fig 32

Write a query to display failed logins on the VM:
SecurityEvent
| where EventID == 4625

New Query 1*

...

+

Save

Share

...

Run

Time range: Last 24 hours

Show: 5000 results

1 SecurityEvent

2 | where EventID == 4625

Results

Chart

TimeGenerated [UTC] ↑↓	Account	AccountType	Computer	EventSourceName	Channel	...	Task	Level
> 9/6/2025, 10:46:50.690 AM	DESKTOP-ON6AJE5\demoUser1	User	HyperV-vm	Microsoft-Windows-Security-A...	Security		12544	0
> 9/6/2025, 10:46:21.882 AM	DESKTOP-ON6AJE5\Administra...	User	HyperV-vm	Microsoft-Windows-Security-A...	Security		12544	0
> 9/6/2025, 10:45:43.507 AM	DESKTOP-ON6AJE5\adminin	User	HyperV-vm	Microsoft-Windows-Security-A...	Security		12544	0
> 9/6/2025, 10:45:33.396 AM	DESKTOP-ON6AJE5\admin	User	HyperV-vm	Microsoft-Windows-Security-A...	Security		12544	0

Fig 33

Run a few more queries to make sure the data is being ingested.

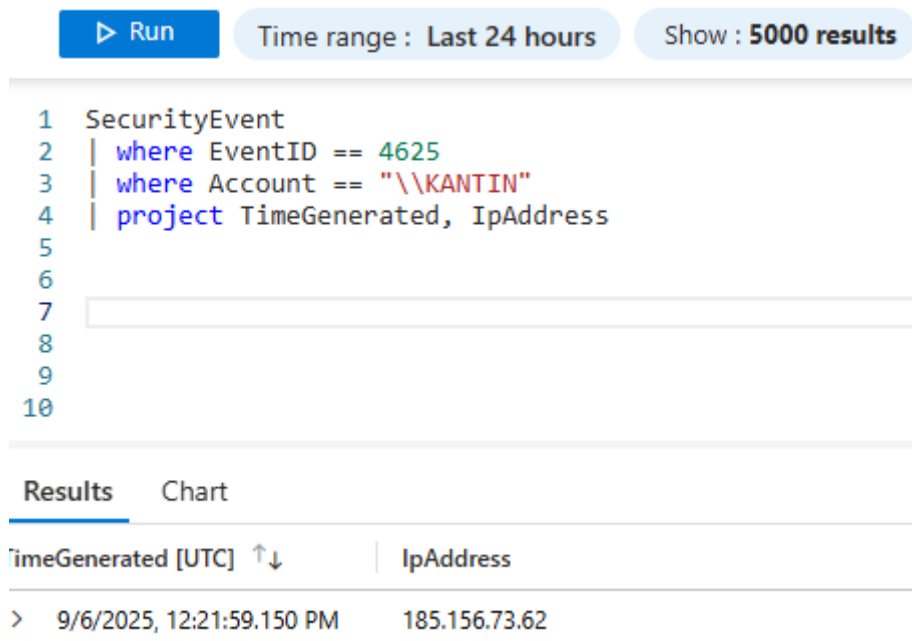


Fig 34

Plotting the IP address on a Map

To plot the IP address of the general area these IPs are originating from, we need to create a Watchlist.

Click on the Sentinel instance, under configure, click on Watchlist

The screenshot shows the 'Watchlist wizard' interface. On the left, there is a vertical navigation pane with three steps: 'General' (selected with a blue dot), 'Source' (marked with a red X), and 'Review + create' (marked with a circle). The main area on the right contains three input fields:

- Name ***: geoip
- Description**: Map IP Address
- Alias ***: geoip

Fig 35

Navigate to this GitHub, download the CSV file to your local device

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/joshmadakor1/lognpacific-public/refs/heads/main/misc/geoip-summarized.csv>

The CSV file helps map the IP location of the

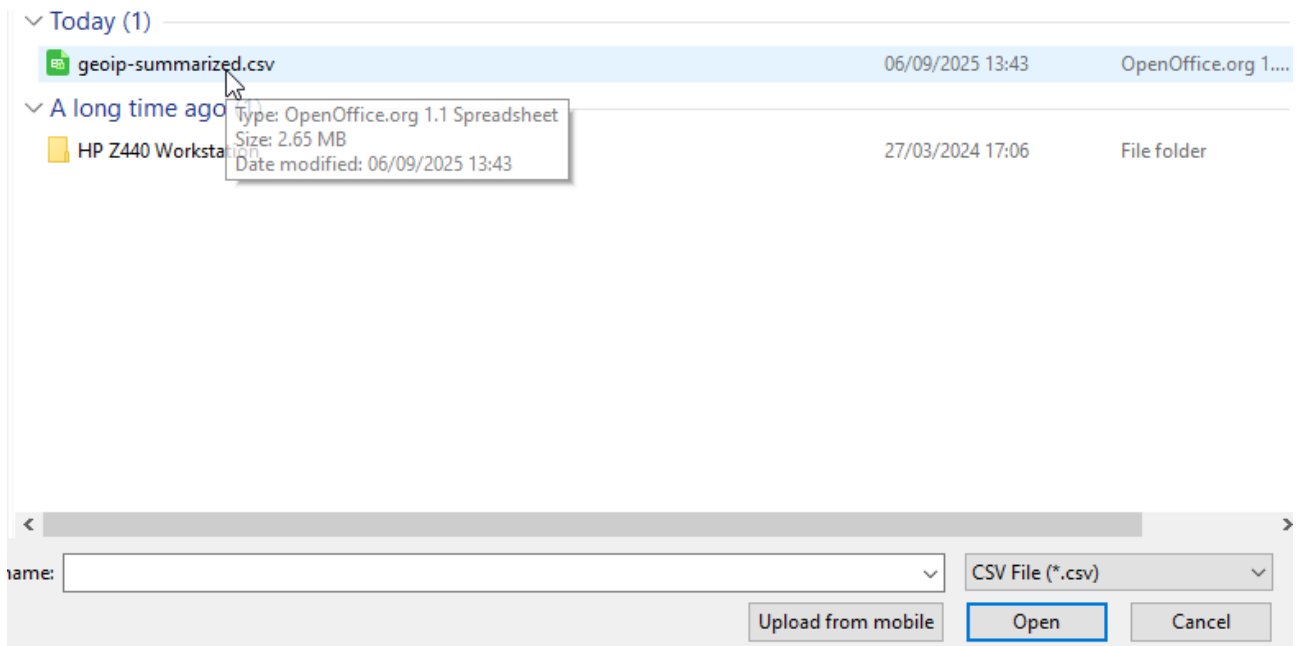


Fig 36

Source type *

Local file

File type *

CSV file with a header (.csv)

Number of lines before row with headings *

0

Upload file *

geoip-summarized.csv

Drag and drop the files or

Browse for files

SearchKey *

network


Reset




File preview | First 50 rows and first 5 columns

network	latitude	longitude	cityname	countryname
1.0.0.0/16	-33.494	143.2104		Australia
1.1.0.0/16	17.8148	103.3386	Ban Chan	Thailand
1.2.0.0/16	13.8667	100.1917	Nakhon Pathom	Thailand
1.3.0.0/16	13.8679	100.1891	Nakhon Pathom	Thailand
1.4.0.0/16	13.6687	100.579	Bangkok	Thailand
1.5.0.0/16	13.6659	100.5882	Bangkok	Thailand
1.6.0.0/16	12.9634	77.5855	Bengaluru	India
1.7.0.0/16	12.9691	77.5902	Bengaluru	India
1.8.0.0/16	12.9557	77.5843	Bengaluru	India
1.9.0.0/16	3.1539	101.7448	Ampang	Malaysia
1.10.0.0/16	17.8842	102.7394	Nong Khai	Thailand

Fig 37

In the watchlist, click on the geoip. Wait for the CSV to be ingested into azure


geoip

 Microsoft Provider	 0 Rows	 9/6/2025, 1:54:0... Created time
--	--	--

Description
Map IP Address

Source
geoip-summarized.csv

Created by
msokey69@yahoo.com

Last updated
9/6/2025, 1:54:08 PM

SearchKey
network






Status (Preview)
 Uploading (29.2%)

Fig 38


geoip

 Microsoft Provider	 55K Rows	 9/6/2025, 1:54:0... Created time
--	--	---

Description
Map IP Address

Source
geoip-summarized.csv

Created by
msokey69@yahoo.com

Last updated
9/6/2025, 1:54:08 PM

SearchKey
network


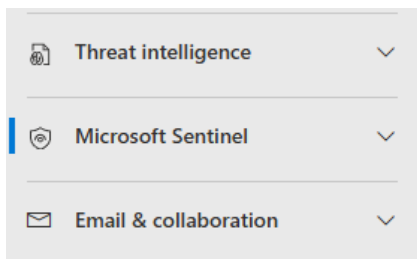
Status (Preview)
 Succeeded

Fig 39



My workbooks Templates

+ Add Workbook

Search

Add filter

Favorite

Name

Fig 40

On the right hand side click on edit remove all the contents in the workbook.

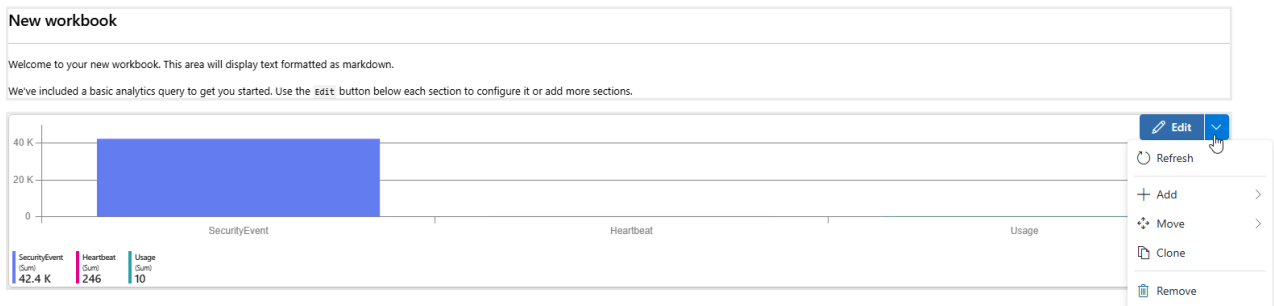


Fig 41

Click on Edit again Give the workbook a title and location. Click on save

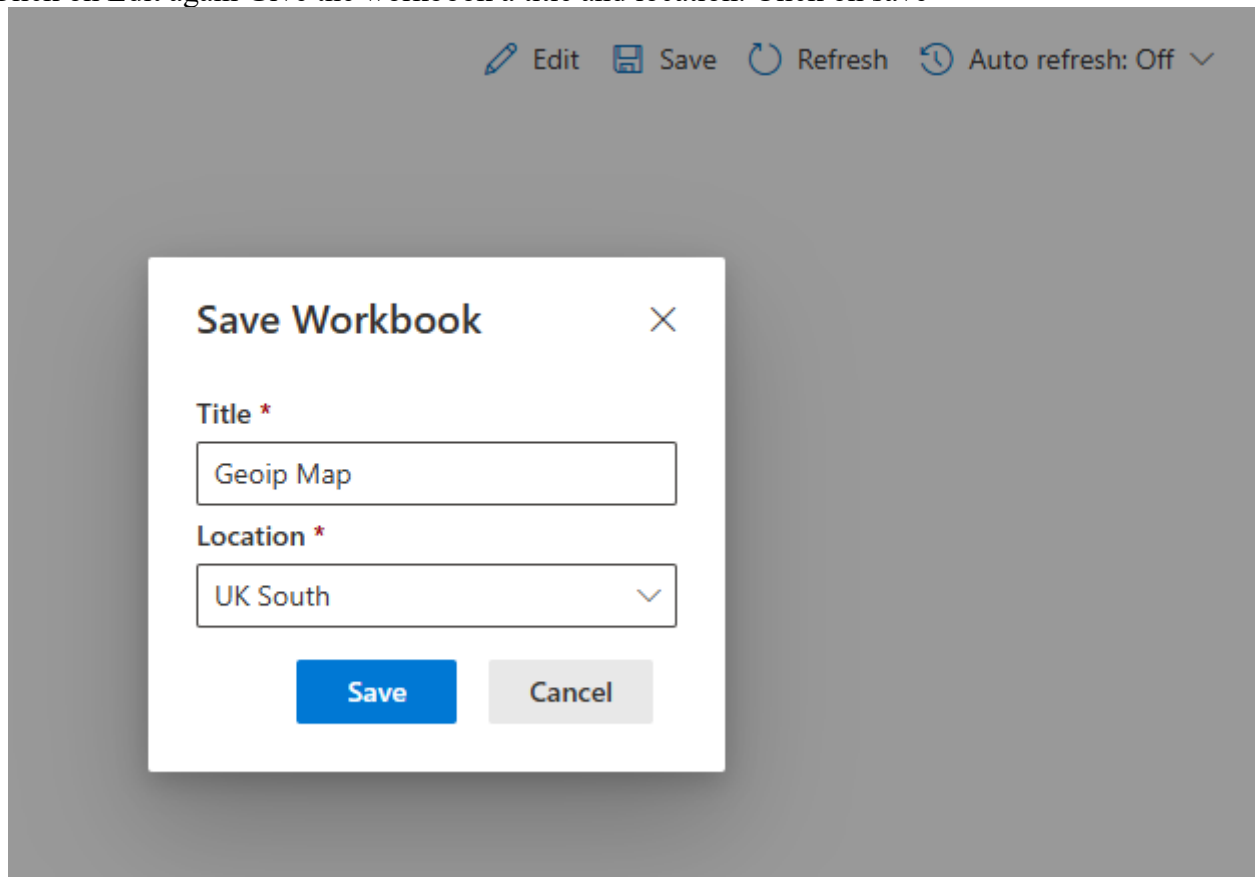


Fig 42

Click on Open in Azure. Click on edit. Select advanced query. Copy and paste the map.json contents.

Navigate to this website

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ErlVEK5cQjpGyOcu4T02xYy7F31dWuir/view?usp=drive_link and copy the map.json content to the advanced query and click done editing

```
{
  "type": 3,
  "content": {
    "version": "KqlItem/1.0",
    "query": "let GeoIPDB_FULL = _GetWatchlist(\"geoip\");\nlet
WindowsEvents = SecurityEvent;\nWindowsEvents | where EventID == 4625\n|
order by TimeGenerated desc\n| evaluate ipv4_lookup(GeoIPDB_FULL, IPAddress,
network)\n| summarize FailureCount = count() by IPAddress, latitude,
longitude, cityname, countryname\n| project FailureCount, AttackerIp =
IPAddress, latitude, longitude, city = cityname, country =
countryname,\nfriendly_location = strcat(cityname, \" (\", countryname,
\")\");",
    "size": 3,
    "timeContext": {
      "durationMs": 2592000000
    },
    "queryType": 0,
    "resourceType": "microsoft.operationalinsights/workspaces",
    "visualization": "map",
    "mapSettings": {
      "locInfo": "LatLong",
      "locInfoColumn": "countryname",
      "latitude": "latitude",
      "longitude": "longitude",
      "sizeSettings": "FailureCount",
      "sizeAggregation": "Sum",
      "opacity": 0.8,
      "labelSettings": "friendly_location",
      "legendMetric": "FailureCount",
      "legendAggregation": "Sum",
      "itemColorSettings": {
        "nodeColorField": "FailureCount",
        "colorAggregation": "Sum",
        "type": "heatmap",
        "heatmapPalette": "greenRed"
      }
    }
  },
  "name": "query - 0"
}
```

A map showing the general area from which the attacking Ips are originating will be displayed.

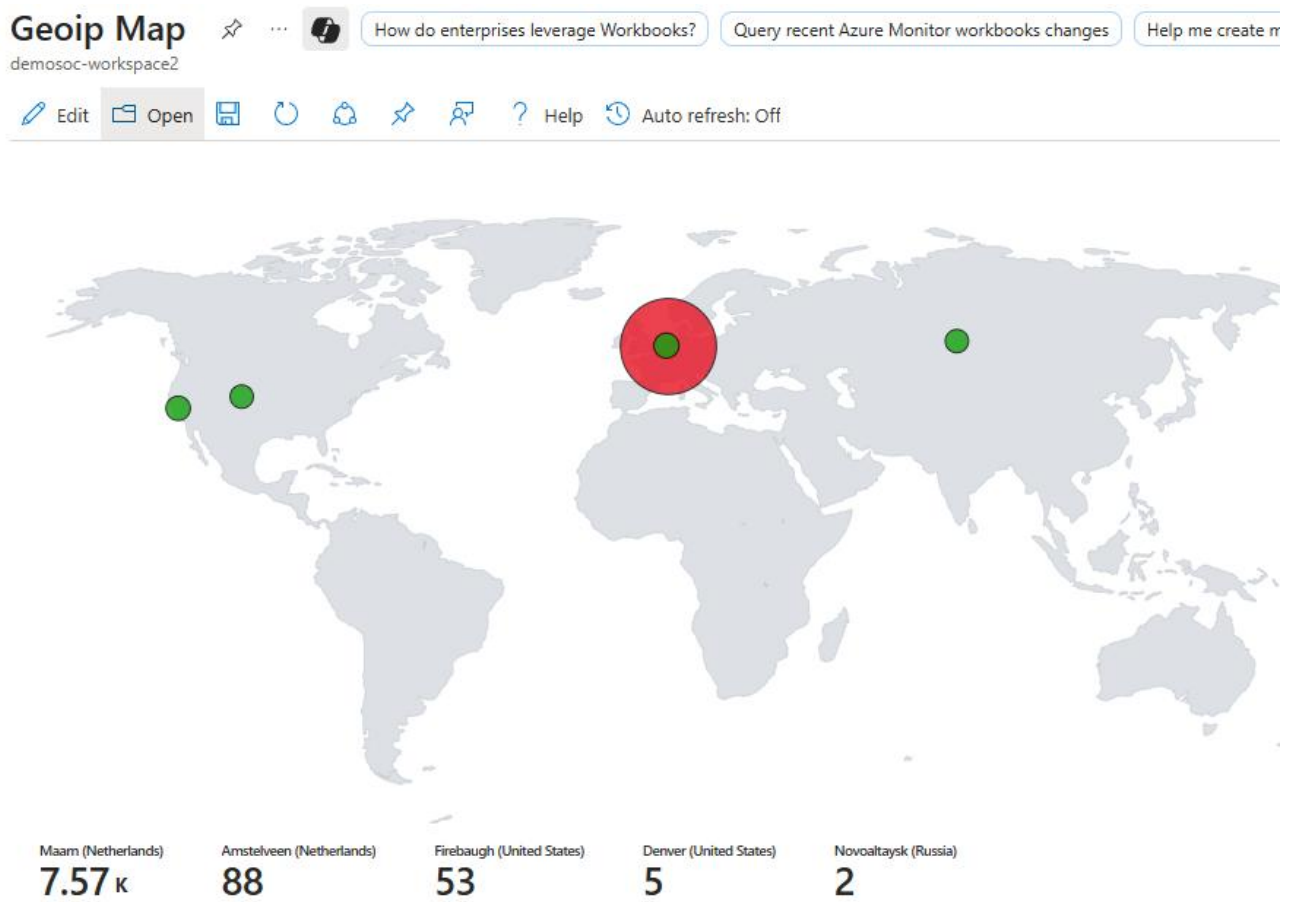


Fig 43

To get a variety of results, the VM needs to run for a period of time of more than 24 hrs at least.

With the results obtained, we can create an incident rule that will generate an alert. For the SOC to investigate and resolve.

To achieve this, we need to create a scheduled rule that will run, interrogate the logs, compare them to the rule, and if anything fails, an alert is generated.

On the Sentinel page, click on configuration. The new Sentinel page will direct you to the Microsoft Defender page. Under configuration, click on Analytics

Create a Scheduled Query.

Navigate to the analytics tab

Analytics rule wizard - Create a new Scheduled rule

General

Set rule logic

Incident settings

Automated response

Review + create

Create an analytics rule that will run on your data to detect threats.

Analytics rule details

Name *

Bruteforce Detection

Description

Detect any failed login attempts

Severity

Medium

MITRE ATT&CK

Select tactics techniques and sub techniques

Status

Enabled

Fig 44

Write the query that will determine if the rule has been violated by the event in the logs.

Define the logic for your new analytics rule.

Rule query

Any time details set here will be within the scope defined below in the Query scheduling fields.

```
SecurityEvent
| where EventID == 4625
| project TimeGenerated, EventID, Computer, IPAddress, Account, LogonType
| extend AccountEntity = Account
| extend IPEntity = IPAddress
```

Fig 45

Query Explained

SecurityEvent

- This specifies the table you're querying.
- In Azure Log Analytics, SecurityEvent contains Windows security event logs.
- These include things like logon attempts, privilege use, account management, etc.

| where EventID == 4625

- Filters the data to only include rows (events) where EventID is 4625.
- 4625 is the Windows Event ID for a failed logon attempt (due to a bad password, unknown user, etc.).

| project TimeGenerated, EventID, Computer, IPAddress, Account, LogonType

- This selects (projects) only the specific columns you want to see in the results:
 - TimeGenerated: When the event was logged.

- EventID: Should be 4625 in every row.
- Computer: Name of the machine where the event was logged.
- IPAddress: IP address from where the login was attempted.
- Account: The user account name used in the attempt.
- LogonType: Indicates the type of logon (e.g., interactive, remote, network).

| **extend AccountEntity = Account**

- Creates a new column called AccountEntity and copies the value from the Account column into it.
- This is often done for entity mapping in Microsoft Sentinel, where AccountEntity can be linked to identity analytics.

| **extend IPEntity = IPAddress**

- Similar to the above: creates a new column IPEntity with the same values as IPAddress.

This is for linking with network entity analytics, IP investigations, etc.

In the set rule logic, under the MITRE attack section, see fig 44, select the tactics, techniques, and sub-techniques. See fig 44

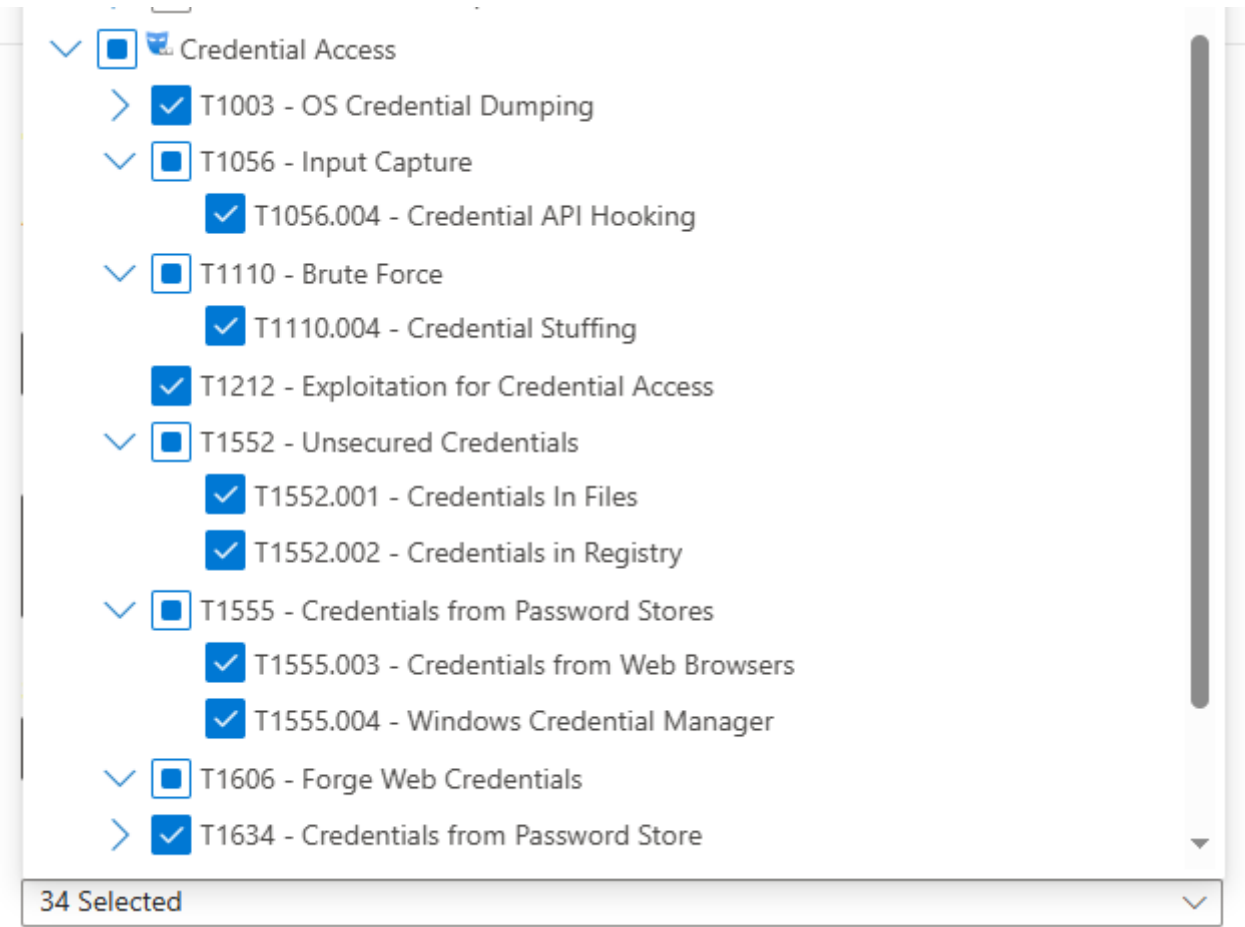


Fig 46

Set how often the rule will run.

Query scheduling

Run query every *

Lookup data from the last *

Start running ⓘ

- ☒ Automatically
- ☐ At specific time (Preview)

Fig 47

Incident settings

alerts can be grouped together into an Incident that should be looked into.
You can set whether the alerts that are triggered by this analytics rule should generate incidents.

Create incidents from alerts triggered by this analytics rule

☒ Enabled

Alert grouping

① Microsoft Defender correlation activities can link other alerts or merge existing incidents to the generated incident, regardless of the alert grouping settings defined in the analytics rule.

Set how the alerts that are triggered by this analytics rule, are grouped into incidents.
Grouping alerts into incidents provides the context you need to respond and reduces the noise from single alerts.

Group related alerts, triggered by this analytics rule, into incidents

☒ Enabled

① Up to 150 alerts can be grouped into a single incident. If more than 150 alerts are generated, a new incident will be created with the same incident details as the original, and the excess alerts will be grouped into the new incident.

Limit the group to alerts created within the selected time frame *

Group alerts triggered by this analytics rule into a single incident by

☒ Grouping alerts into a single incident if all the entities match (recommended)

☐ Grouping all alerts triggered by this rule into a single incident

Fig 48

Enable Alert grouping

After a while, an Incident will be created



Fig 49

Incidents

Most recent incidents and alerts

↓ Export

🔗 Copy list link

🔄 Refresh

📅 1 Week

1 Incident

Filter set:

💾 Save

Status: New, In progress

Alert severity: High, Medium, Low

Add filter

Reset all

Incident Id	Tags	Severity	Investigation state	Categories	Impacted assets	Active alerts	Service sources
1		Medium		Credential access	MovieStore	3/3	Microsoft Sentinel
		Medium		Credential access	MovieStore		Microsoft Sentinel
		Medium		Credential access	MovieStore		Microsoft Sentinel
		Medium		Credential access	MovieStore		Microsoft Sentinel

Fig 50



Bruteforce Detection involving one user

■ ■ ■ Medium

● Active

[Open incident page](#) [Manage incident](#) [Run playbook](#) ...

Incident details

Assigned to

Unassigned

Incident ID

1

Classification

Not set

Categories

Credential access

First activity

Sep 7, 2025 9:39:04 AM

Last activity

Sep 7, 2025 10:42:10 AM

Workspaces

demosoc-workspace2

Incident description

Detect any failed login attempts

Impacted assets

Users (1)

 \MovieStore

Active alerts in this incident (4/4)



[Open incident page](#)

Fig 51

Click on the Open Incident page, see fig 51 to manage the indent. Assign the incident to one of the Analysts.

Manage incident

Incident name

Bruteforce Detection involving one user

Severity

Medium

Incident tags

Type to find or create tags

Assign to

Unassigned

Suggested assignees



Assign to me
msokey69@yahoo.com



Michael Musoke
admin@msokey69yahoom.onmicrosoft.com

Not set

Fig 52

Bruteforce Detection involving one user

Medium Active Unassigned

Go Hunt queries launched from the entity menu now default to a time range starting from the incident's start time up to the execution day.

Attack story Alerts (5) Assets (1) Investigations (0) Evidence and Response (0) Summary

Alerts

Play attack story

Unpin all

Show all

Sep 7, 2025 9:39 AM

New

Bruteforce Detection

\MovieStore

Sep 7, 2025 9:39 AM

New

Bruteforce Detection

\MovieStore

Sep 7, 2025 9:39 AM

New

Bruteforce Detection

\MovieStore

Sep 7, 2025 9:39 AM

New

Bruteforce Detection

\MovieStore

Incident graph

Layout

Group simila

\MovieStore

Fig 54

Add task Preview

Name *

Bruteforce Investigation

Status

In progress

Priority

Low

Assign to

M msokey69@yahoo.com ×

Due date

9/9/2025



Due time

12:00 a.m.



Category

Investigate



Description



Normal



Arial



...

An alert generated about a brute force attempt on one of the devices on the 7th Sept 2025 at 10:53 AM.

The user will be contacted password will be changed.

Investigation still ongoing



Closing notes



Normal



Arial



...

Fig 55

Choose case to link to

Link

+ Create

1 selected

Customize columns

Last updated

Search

Filters:

Priority: Any

Status: Any

Assigned to: Any

Due on: Any

Created by: Any

Created on: Any

Add filter

Case ID ↓	Name	Priority	Status	Assigned to	Due on	Last updated on	Created by	Created on
<div><div>✓</div>1000</div>	Brute Force	<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> Low	<div><div></div>Open</div>	<div><div>M</div>msokey69@...</div>	Sep 10, 2025 12:...	Sep 7, 2025 11:5...	<div><div>M</div>msokey69@...</div>	Sep

Fig 56

The analyst will investigate the incident to completion and resolve the incident giving a brief report of what was done. If the incident needs to be escalated, then the analyst will include reasons why otherwise, the case can be closed.

Threat Intelligence

Threat Intelligence (TI) refers to the collection, analysis, and application of data about existing and emerging threats. This includes information on malicious IP addresses, domains, malware hashes, attack techniques, and threat actor behavior. The goal of threat intelligence is to provide actionable insights that help security teams anticipate, identify, and respond to cyber threats more effectively. In the context of a Security Operations Center (SOC), threat intelligence is a critical capability for the following reasons:

1. **Enhanced Detection Accuracy**

By enriching alerts and logs with threat intelligence feeds, SOC analysts can determine whether suspicious activity is linked to known malicious actors or infrastructure. This reduces false positives and ensures alerts carry meaningful context.

2. **Proactive Defense**

Threat intelligence allows SOC analysts to stay ahead of attackers by identifying emerging tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) based on frameworks such as MITRE ATT&CK. This enables proactive measures before an attack fully develops.

3. **Faster Incident Response**

When an incident occurs, threat intelligence provides context about indicators of compromise (IoCs), helping analysts quickly prioritize and respond to critical threats. For example, knowing that an IP address is part of a botnet can speed up containment decisions.

4. **Strategic Insights**

Beyond day-to-day detection, threat intelligence informs long-term security strategy by highlighting adversary groups targeting the industry, common attack vectors, and gaps in the organization's defenses.

5. **Integration with SOC Tools**

Modern SIEM and SOAR platforms like Microsoft Sentinel and Microsoft Defender XDR integrate directly with threat intelligence sources (e.g., Pulsedive, MISP). This seamless integration ensures that real-time threat data strengthens automated detection, hunting, and response capabilities.

Ingesting Pulsedive Data
Under Data connectors, select Content hub and search for Threatintelligence

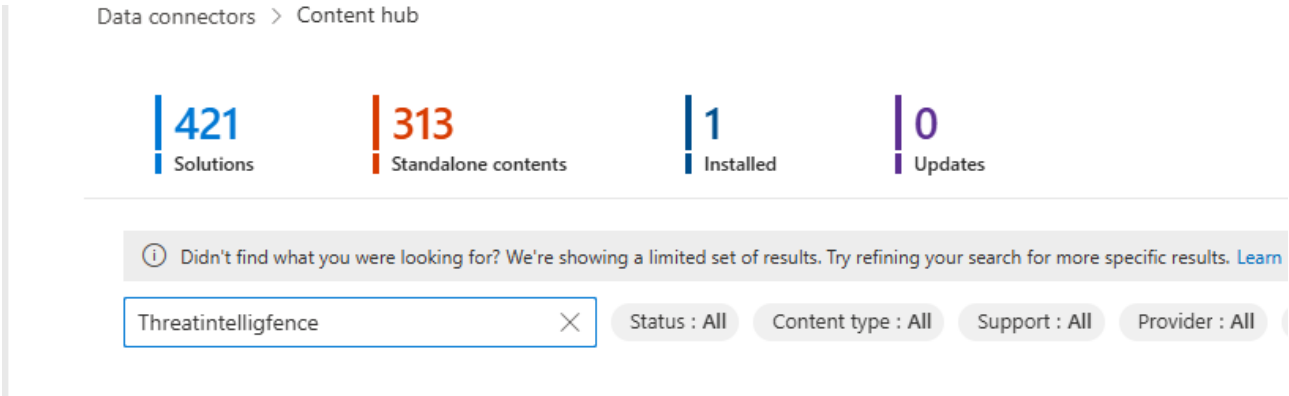


Fig 57

Select the first instance of Threat Intelligence

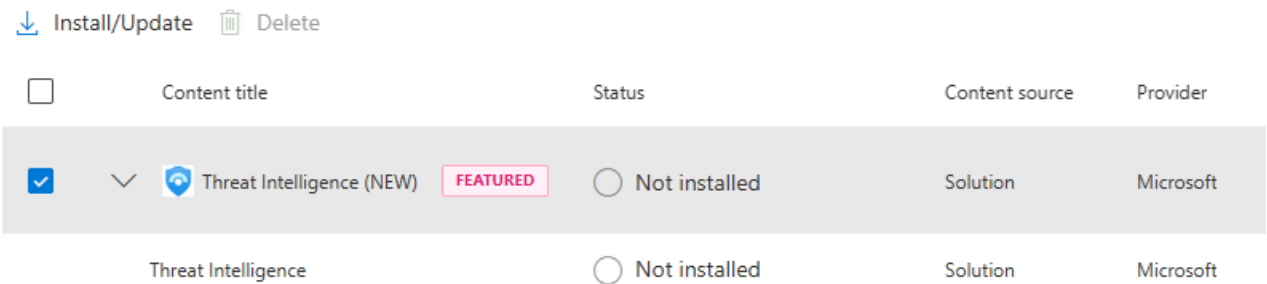





Fig 58

On the right-hand side of the screen, click on Install for the connector to be installed



Threat Intelligence (NEW)

Microsoft Provider	 Microsoft Support	 3.0.5 Version
-----------------------	--	---

Description

Note: Please refer to the following before installing the solution:






- Review the solution [Release Notes](#)
- There may be [known issues](#) pertaining to this Solution, please refer to them before installing.

Microsoft Sentinel has recently improved its threat intelligence hunting experience by incorporating support for STIX objects like Threat Actor, Attack Pattern, Identity, and Relationship. As a result, we have updated our TI Solutions to leverage the new ThreatIntelIndicator table. [Work with STIX objects and indicators to enhance threat intelligence and threat hunting in Microsoft Sentinel \(Preview\) - Microsoft Sentinel | Microsoft Learn.](#)

The Threat Intelligence solution contains data connectors for import of supported STIX objects into Microsoft Sentinel, analytic rules for matching TI data with event data, workbook, and hunting queries. Threat indicators can be malicious IP's, URL's, filehashes, domains, email addresses etc.

Data Connectors: 5, Parsers: 1, Workbooks: 1, Analytic Rules: 51, Hunting Queries: 5


Content type ⓘ

 51 Analytics rule	 5 Data connector	 5 Hunting query
 1 Parser	 1 Workbook	

Category ⓘ

Security - Threat Intelligence

Pricing ⓘ

 Free

Install


[View details](#) 


Fig 59

Click on Manage after the installation is completed



Threat Intelligence (NEW)

Microsoft
Provider

 Microsoft
Support

 3.0.5
Version

Description

Note: Please refer to the following before installing the solution:

- Review the solution [Release Notes](#)
- There may be [known issues](#) pertaining to this Solution, please refer to them before installing.

Microsoft Sentinel has recently improved its threat intelligence hunting experience by incorporating support for STIX objects like Threat Actor, Attack Pattern, Identity, and Relationship. As a result, we have updated our TI Solutions to leverage the new ThreatIntelIndicator table. [Work with STIX objects and indicators to enhance threat intelligence and threat hunting in Microsoft Sentinel \(Preview\) - Microsoft Sentinel | Microsoft Learn](#).

The Threat Intelligence solution contains data connectors for import of supported STIX objects into Microsoft Sentinel, analytic rules for matching TI data with event data, workbook, and hunting queries. Threat indicators can be malicious IP's, URL's, filehashes, domains, email addresses etc.

Data Connectors: 5, Parsers: 1, Workbooks: 1, Analytic Rules: 51, Hunting Queries: 5

Content type ⓘ



51
Analytics rule



5
Data connector



5
Hunting query



1
Parser



1
Workbook

Category ⓘ

Security - Threat Intelligence

Pricing ⓘ

 Free

Manage


Actions ▾

[View details](#) 

Fig 60

62
Installed content items

56
Configuration needed

 Threat Intelligence (NEW)

Microsoft
Provider

Microsoft
Support

3.0.5
Version

Description

Note: Please refer to the following before installing the solution:

- Review the solution [Release Notes](#)
- There may be [known issues](#) pertaining to this Solution, please refer to them before installing.

Microsoft Sentinel has recently improved its threat intelligence hunting experience by incorporating support for STIX objects like Threat Actor, Attack Pattern, Identity, and Relationship. As a result, we have updated our TI Solutions to leverage the new ThreatIntellIndicator table. [Work with STIX objects and indicators to enhance threat intelligence and threat hunting in](#)

Search...


Delete

Reinstall


☐

Content name


☐

 Microsoft Defender Threat Intelligence


☐

 Premium Microsoft Defender Threat Intelligence

☐

 Threat intelligence - TAXII

☐

 Threat Intelligence Platforms

☐


 Threat Intelligence Upload API (Preview)

Fig 61

On a new web page, open an account with Pulsedive. [Threat Intelligence - Pulsedive](#)

To receive data from Pulsedive an account is required.

Pulsedive test data

Collection ID: `981c4916-ebb2-4567-aece-54ae970c4230`

This is a test collection containing live, **sample indicator** objects.

It is available to anyone for free, for the purposes of testing, debugging, or even just learning about STIX and TAXII.

Fig 63

Server Information

Your TAXII client may ask for only one of these values.

Discovery URL `https://pulsedive.com/taxii2/`

API Root URL `https://pulsedive.com/taxii2/api/`

Authentication

Username `taxii2`

Password

Your API key

Collection IDs


Test collection `981c4916-ebb2-4567-aece-54ae970c4230`
FOR TESTING ONLY

Indicator collection `a5cffbfe-c0ff-4842-a235-cb3a7a040a37`



Threat collection `dc9ecfa5-7769-4cf3-b699-38a9776b431d`

Fig 64

On the Threat Intelligence page, click on Open connector page



Threat intelligence - TAXII

Disconnected Status	 Microsoft Provider	 -- Last Log Received
------------------------	---	---

Description

Microsoft Sentinel integrates with TAXII 2.0 and 2.1 data sources to enable monitoring, alerting, and hunting using your threat intelligence. Use this connector to send the supported STIX object types from TAXII servers to Microsoft Sentinel. Threat indicators can include IP addresses, domains, URLs, and file hashes. For more information, see the [Microsoft Sentinel documentation](#) >.

Last data received

--

Content source ⓘ

Version


Threat Intelligence (NEW)

1.0.0

Author

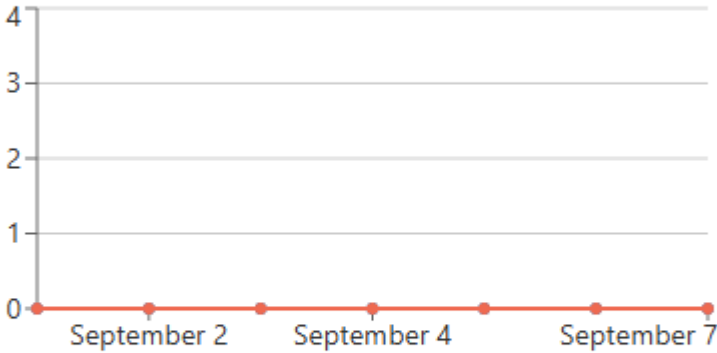
Supported by


Microsoft


[Microsoft Corporation](#)  | [Email](#)

Data received

[Go to query](#)



 ThreatIntelObjects

 ThreatIntelIndic...

Open connector page

Fig 62

Fill in the details required as shown in fig 64 and click Add

Configuration

Configure TAXII servers to stream STIX 2.0 or 2.1 STIX objects to Microsoft Sent

You can connect your TAXII servers to Microsoft Sentinel using the built-in TAXII connector. Enter the following information and select Add to configure your TAXII server.

Friendly name (for server) *

PulseDive

API root URL *

https://pulsedive.com/taxii2/api/

Collection ID *

981c4916-ebb2-4567-aece-54ae970c4230

Username

taxii2

Password

.....

Import indicators:

At most one day old



Polling frequency

Once an hour



Add

Fig 65

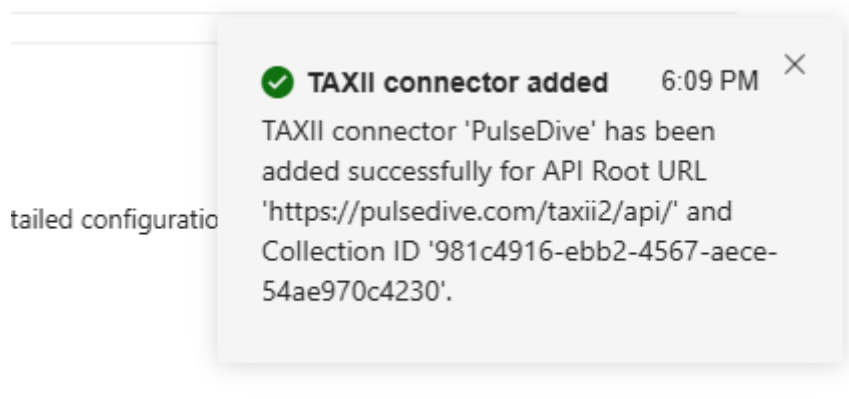





Fig 66


Threat intelligence - TAXII

Connected Status	 Microsoft Provider	 -- Last Log Received
-------------------------	---	---

Description

Microsoft Sentinel integrates with TAXII 2.0 and 2.1 data sources to enable monitoring, alerting, and hunting using your threat intelligence. Use this connector to send the supported STIX object types from TAXII servers to Microsoft Sentinel. Threat indicators can include IP addresses, domains, URLs, and file hashes. For more information, see the [Microsoft Sentinel documentation](#) >.

Last data received

--

Content source ⓘ	Version
Threat Intelligence (NEW)	1.0.0

Author	Supported by
Microsoft	Microsoft Corporation ⓘ Email

Related content

0
Workbooks

2
Queries

47
Analytics rules templates

Fig 67

After a while, data from Pulsedive will be ingested into Sentinel.

Indicators (88,948)							
Attack patterns (0)							
Identities (1)							
Threat actors (0)							
Relationships (0)							
+ New ▾ Add tags Delete Columns							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Values	Name	Types	Source	Confidence	Alerts	Tags
<input type="checkbox"/>	89.108.74.206	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	88.218.76.108	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	88.166.135.112	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	86.98.152.111	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	85.9.108.9	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	hls.tazieh.ir	Detection Pattern	🌐 Domain name	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	dl.tazieh.ir	Detection Pattern	🌐 Domain name	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	back.tazieh.ir	Detection Pattern	🌐 Domain name	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	87.237.226.247	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	87.225.40.249	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--
<input type="checkbox"/>	87.205.140.7	Detection Pattern	↔ IPv4 address	PulseDive	--	0	--

Fig 68

Data connectors

- ⓘ Data Connector with "content source = gallery content" have been removed. All the removed content and metadata have been moved to the Deleted Content Hub.

ⓘ Device specific AMA connectors have been deprecated. [Learn more >](#)


ⓘ Starting June 2, 2025, the Codeless Connector Platform (CCP) will be renamed to the Codeless Connector Platform (CCP).


8

Connectors

5

Connected

 More content at
Content Hub

 Search by name or provider

Providers : All

Data Types : .









Status	Connector name ↑
	Microsoft 365 Insider Risk Management (Preview) Microsoft
	Microsoft Defender Threat Intelligence Microsoft
	MISP2Sentinel MISP project & cudeso.be
	Premium Microsoft Defender Threat Intelligence Microsoft
	Security Events via Legacy Agent Microsoft
	Threat intelligence - TAXII Microsoft
	Threat Intelligence Platforms - BEING DEPRECATED (Preview) Microsoft
	Windows Security Events via AMA Microsoft

Fig 69

Indicators (88,998) Attack patterns (0) Identities (1) Threat actors (0) Relationships (0)							
+ New Add tags Delete Columns							
<input type="checkbox"/> Values	Name	Types	Source	Confidence	Alerts	Tags	
<input type="checkbox"/>	185.243.96.105	Microsoft Identified IOC	Network traffic	Microsoft Defender Threat...	100	0	honeypot
<input type="checkbox"/>	103.250.189.28	Microsoft Identified IOC	Network traffic	Microsoft Defender Threat...	100	0	honeypot
<input type="checkbox"/>	100.42.180.31	Microsoft Identified IOC	Network traffic	Microsoft Defender Threat...	100	0	honeypot
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	104.152.52.60	Microsoft Identified IOC	Network traffic	Microsoft Defender Threat...	100	0	honeypot
<input type="checkbox"/>	51.83.96.232	Microsoft Identified IOC	Network traffic	Microsoft Defender Threat...	100	0	honeypot
<input type="checkbox"/>	85.24.232.251	Microsoft Identified IOC	Network traffic	Microsoft Defender Threat...	100	0	honeypot

STIX ID
indicator--b8d7d0cf-fbb0-136a-1ffe-d98883b6adfb

Name
Microsoft Identified IOC

Types
Network traffic

Pattern
[network-trafficsrc_ref.value = '104.152.52.60']

Alerts
0

Tags
honeypot p:default ic100 vic100 +3

Description
MSTIC HoneyPot: An attacker used a brute force attack to gain access to a service or device

Fig 70

Conclusion:

The SOC simulation successfully demonstrated the process of detecting and responding to a brute force attack within a cloud-hosted environment. By deploying a Honeynet in Azure and integrating security telemetry into Microsoft Sentinel, the exercise highlighted the effectiveness of centralized log collection, monitoring, and incident management. The manual creation and assignment of an incident ticket reinforced the critical role of SOC analysts in the investigation workflow.

Additionally, configuring Pulsedive as a threat intelligence data connector provided valuable enrichment capabilities. This integration enhanced the detection process by correlating observed indicators with external threat intelligence, thereby improving the accuracy and context of incident analysis.

Overall, the simulation illustrated how cloud-native SOC tools and threat intelligence can be combined to strengthen proactive defense and incident response capabilities.

Key Learnings & Recommendations

Key Learnings

- Value of Centralized Monitoring:** Forwarding logs from the Honeynet to Microsoft Sentinel provided a unified view of system activity, demonstrating the importance of centralized monitoring for rapid threat detection.
- Detection of Real-World Threats:** The successful identification of a brute force attack emphasized Sentinel's capability to detect common adversarial techniques when properly configured.
- Role of Threat Intelligence:** Integrating Pulsedive enriched the investigation process by mapping observed indicators of compromise (IOCs) against external threat feeds, adding context and confidence to detections.
- Incident Handling Workflow:** The manual creation and assignment of incidents reinforced the structured workflow SOC analysts follow, from detection to investigation and resolution.
- Cloud-Native Security Advantage:** Leveraging Azure services showcased the flexibility and scalability of cloud-based SOC operations compared to traditional on-premises setups.

Recommendations

- Automate Incident Response:** Implement automation playbooks in Sentinel (via Logic Apps) to reduce manual effort in ticket creation and response.
- Expand Threat Intelligence Sources:** In addition to Pulsedive, connect other threat intelligence feeds (such as MISP or ThreatConnect) to further strengthen IOC enrichment.
- Enable Continuous Hunting:** Establish scheduled queries to automatically detect repeated attack patterns rather than relying solely on manual hunting.
- Broaden Honeynet Scope:** Consider deploying additional VM types or operating systems to simulate a more diverse attack surface and capture a wider range of threats.

- **Refine Alert Tuning:** Adjust analytics rules to reduce false positives while ensuring that genuine threats are escalated effectively.