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LEVITATION and the FFU Hypothesis



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What is LEVITATION?

- A behaviour-based target discovery project
- Multi-disciplinary team
- Prototyping and delivering advances in:
 - Behavioural tradecraft
 - Hypothesis tradecraft
 - Tradecraft automation



Current Hypotheses

Active

FFU



Sequential numbers

Obvious selector names

Web search terms

In Development

GPS waypoints

Devices close to places

Telephony gaps

Targets of foreign SIGINT agencies

Missed calls

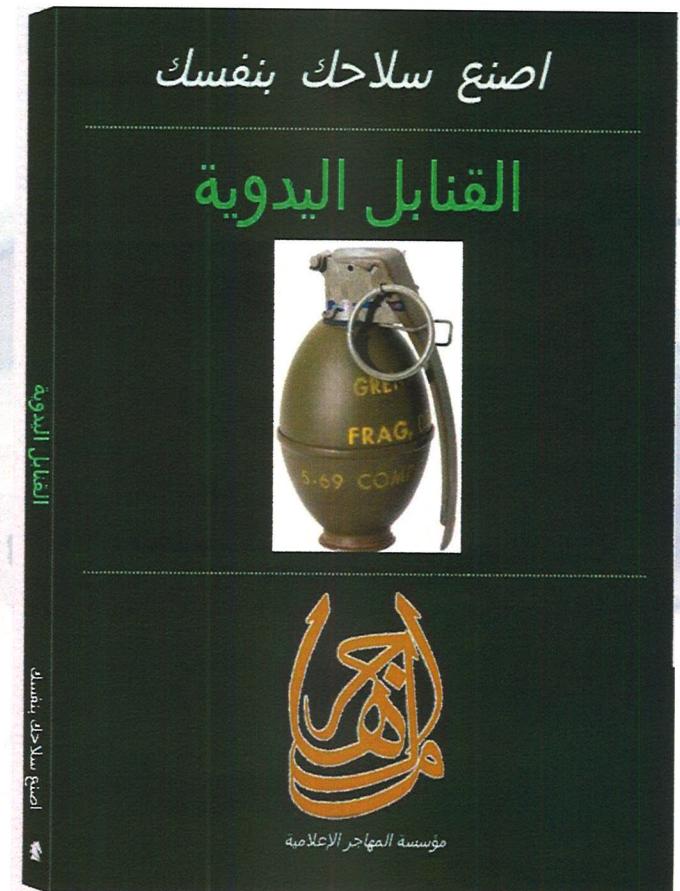


FFU Hypothesis

Extremists use Free File Upload (FFU) sites differently than the general public.

Al-Qaida uses FFU sites to distribute Jihadist propaganda

Extremists use FFU sites to distribute training materials





What do we need?

A list of suspect documents

A list of FFU URLs referring to those documents

A list of IPs downloading those URLs

New documents are found by CWOC (CSEC Web Operations Centre) retrieval from URLs, so that's the easy part.



New URLs

CSEC's web forums team

2nd Party reports & alerts

Machine Learning

Learning the textual
context for the URLs in
web forums

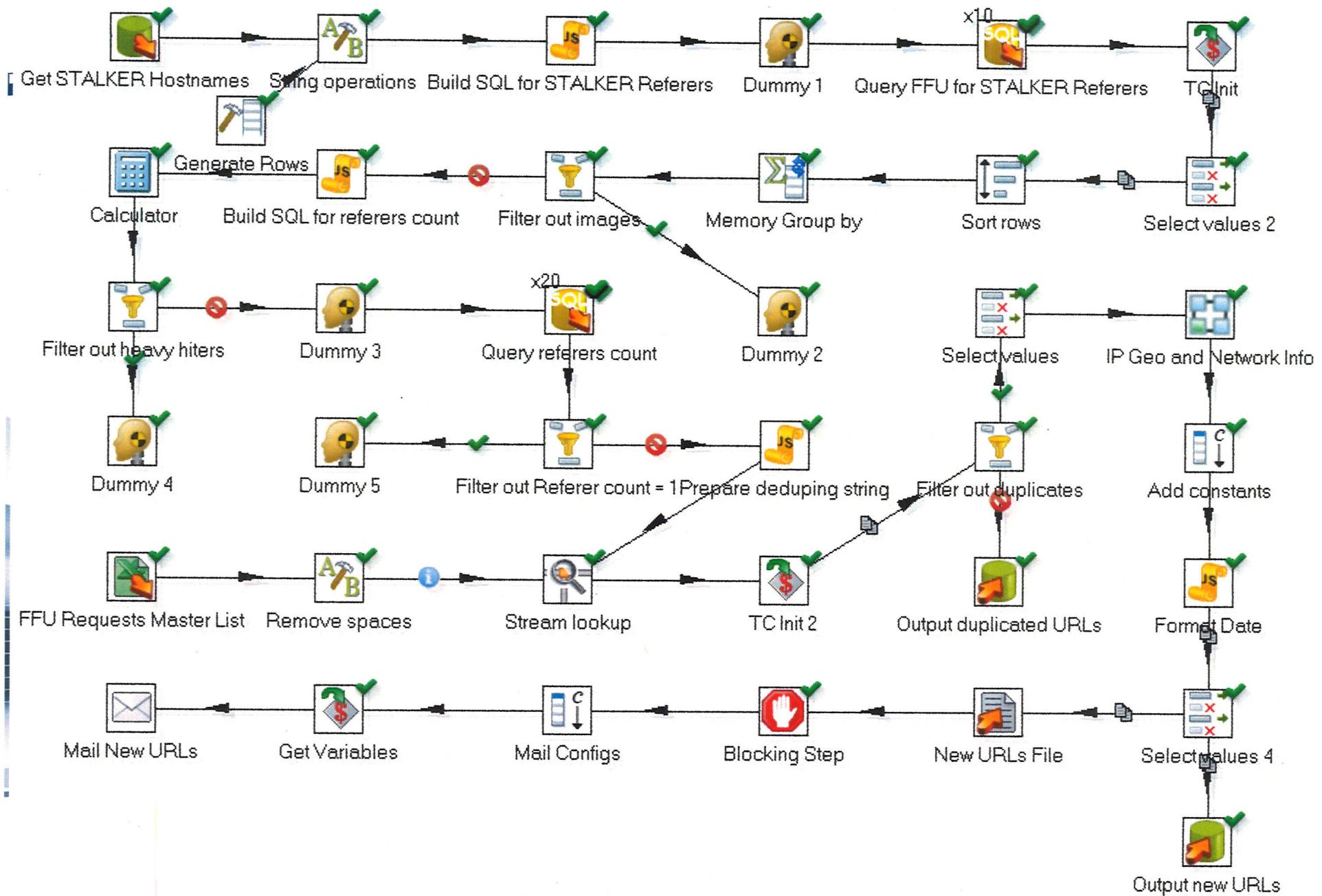
HTTP Referrers

Follow URL referrers back
to the originating site

Previous Correlations
analysis

Using tech techniques to
figure out what else that
user was up to at the
same time

e.g. Google analytics
cookies





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FFU Events Collection

ATOMIC BANJO (Special Source) is collecting HTTP metadata for 102 known FFU sites.



We see about 10-15 million FFU events per day
All the FFU Events are available thru OLYMPIA



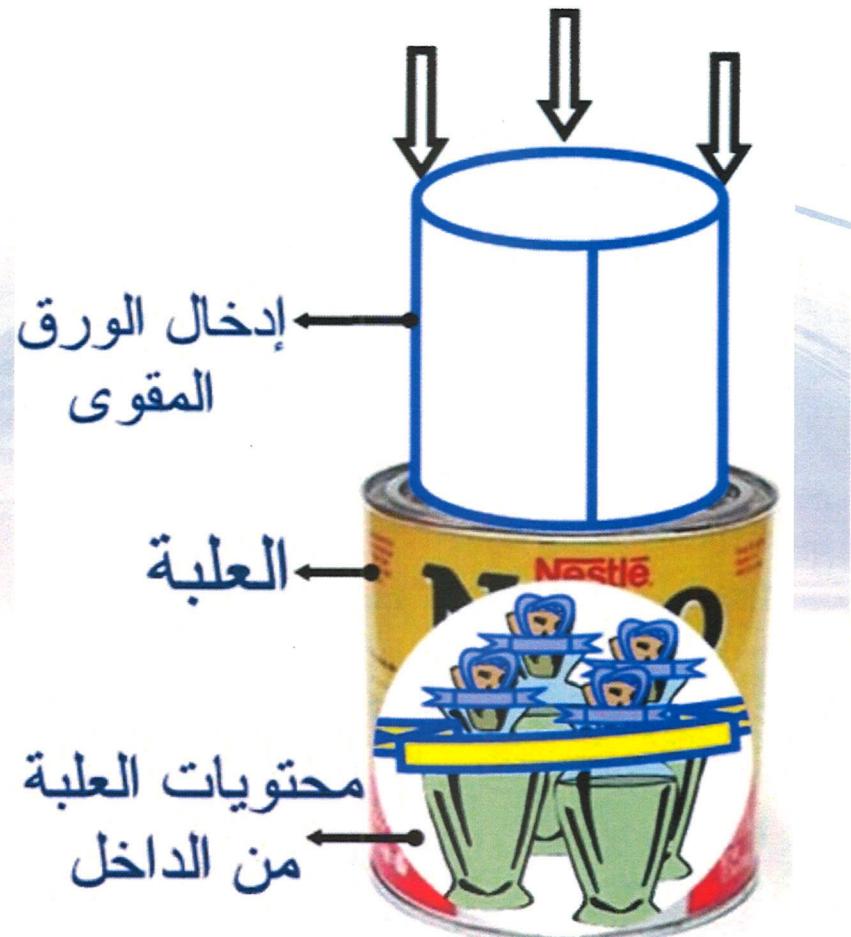
Looking for a few good documents

We only care about the 2,200 URLs
that point to documents of
interest.

e.g. How to make a gas bomb
www.sendspace.com/file/ [REDACTED]

Every day we sort through the 10–
15M events for the interesting
ones.

We're finding about 350 interesting
download events per month.





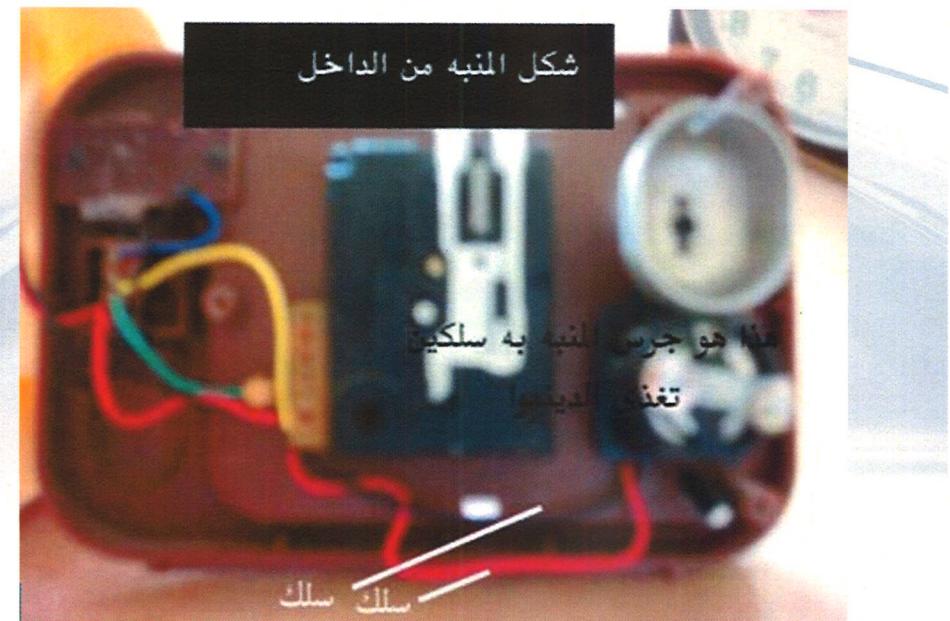
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Documents vary

Chloroform in a Lowes bucket



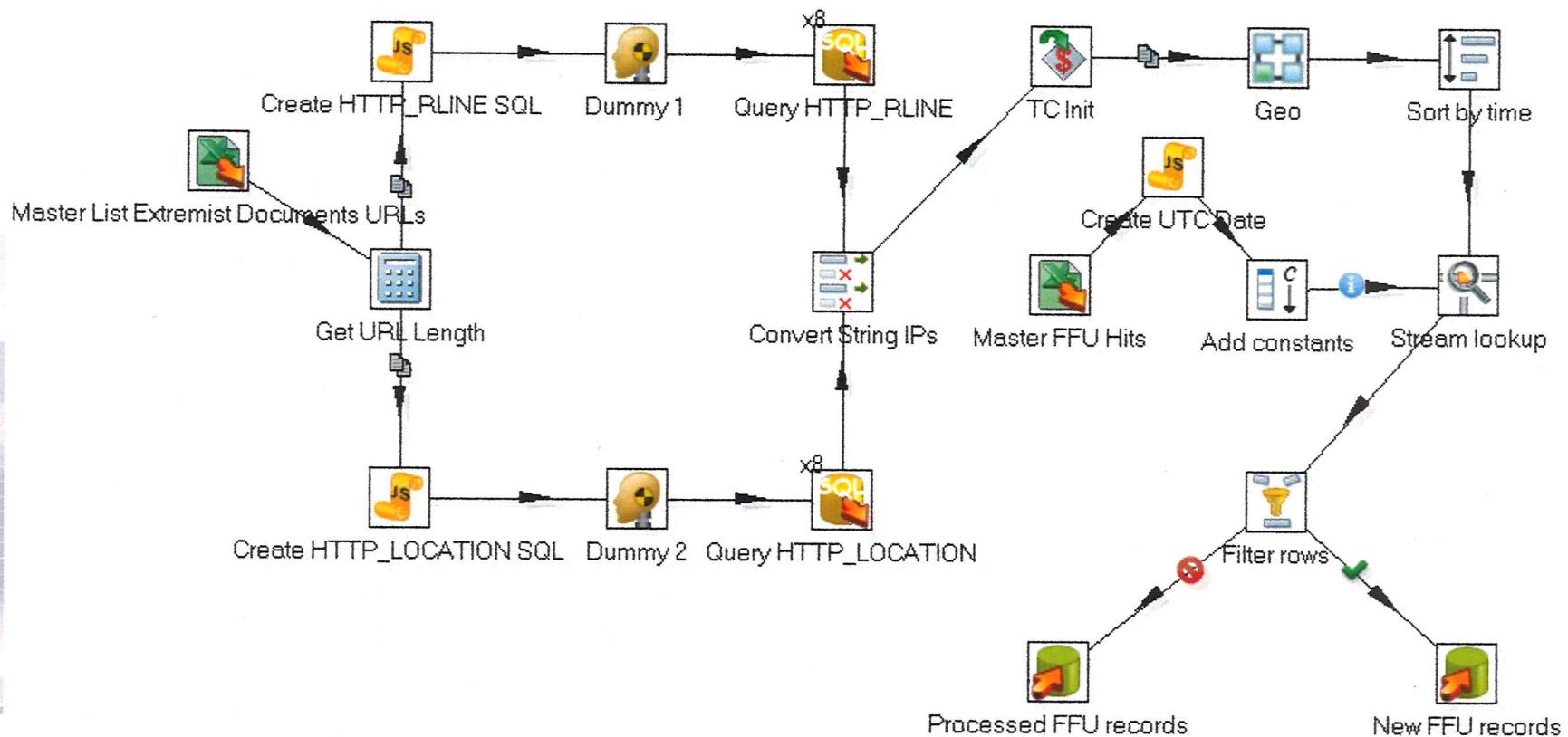
Bajadin Explosives Manual



And lots of pictures of cars on fire



Filtering out Glee Episodes





Resulting events

FFU Hits

Computer \shares (\corp) (R) \Share_1 \Levitation \FFU \FFU Hits

File Edit View Tools Help

Organize Open New folder

Favorites

- Desktop
- Downloads
- Recent Places
- Computer
- Windows (C:)
- DVD Drive (D:)
- \corp\users\csec_users (H:)
- shares (\corp) (R)
- Reserved
- Share_1
- Share_2
- Share_3
- Share_4
- Share_5
- Share_6
- Tempshare
- apps (\corp\groups\sigint) (S:)
- Network
- Control Panel
- Recycle Bin
- CERRID DM Extension
- SQL Developer
- XMind
- sqldeveloper-3.1.06.82

Search FFU Hits

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
01-20-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Iraq	06/03/2012 10:27 ...	File folder	
01-20-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Iraq	06/03/2012 8:32 AM	File folder	
01-20-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Saudi Arabia	07/02/2012 12:15 ...	File folder	
01-21-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Yemen	19/03/2012 11:47 ...	File folder	
01-21-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Occupied Palestinian Territory	08/03/2012 10:36 ...	File folder	
01-21-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Saudi Arabia	10/02/2012 1:41 PM	File folder	
01-22-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Occupied Palestinian Territory	07/02/2012 12:15 ...	File folder	
01-23-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Spain	09/02/2012 10:41 ...	File folder	
01-25-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Syria	06/03/2012 12:20 ...	File folder	
01-27-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] UK	06/03/2012 12:38 ...	File folder	
01-28-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Occupied Palestinian Territory	09/02/2012 10:54 ...	File folder	
01-31-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Syria	05/03/2012 10:26 ...	File folder	
02-01-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] US	05/03/2012 10:36 ...	File folder	
02-02-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Spain	07/02/2012 12:17 ...	File folder	
02-06-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Germany	08/03/2012 9:35 AM	File folder	
02-13-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Yemen	23/03/2012 10:02 ...	File folder	
02-13-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] US	08/03/2012 9:52 AM	File folder	
02-14-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Kuwait	05/03/2012 10:57 ...	File folder	
02-15-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Senegal	22/03/2012 12:25 ...	File folder	
02-17-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Bahrain	09/03/2012 8:57 AM	File folder	
02-18-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Canadian Anonymizer	05/03/2012 1:16 PM	File folder	
02-20-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Jordan	09/03/2012 8:55 AM	File folder	
02-22-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Morocco	09/03/2012 8:54 AM	File folder	
02-24-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Yemen	09/03/2012 9:50 AM	File folder	
02-28-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Qatar	09/03/2012 2:26 PM	File folder	
02-28-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Kuwait	20/03/2012 9:33 AM	File folder	
02-28-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Brazil	20/03/2012 9:53 AM	File folder	
03-01-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Jordan	22/03/2012 12:45 ...	File folder	
03-03-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Yemen	22/03/2012 1:18 PM	File folder	
03-03-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Portugal	27/03/2012 10:59 ...	File folder	
03-04-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Canadian Anonymizer	22/03/2012 1:29 PM	File folder	
03-07-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Kenya	27/03/2012 12:58 ...	File folder	
03-07-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Yemen	28/03/2012 11:07 ...	File folder	
03-10-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Jordan	28/03/2012 11:13 ...	File folder	
03-16-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Jordan	28/03/2012 1:09 PM	File folder	
03-20-2012 FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] Morocco	29/03/2012 11:18 ...	File folder	
FFU From Mathieu	09/03/2012 3:02 PM	Microsoft Excel W...	19 KB

01-20-2012 FFU Hit Selector Date modified: 06/03/2012 10:27 AM Offline status: Online
File folder Offline availability: Not available



Start analysis with event info

**FFU hit from selector [REDACTED] on
7/03/2012 7:46:51 geolocated to Kenya,
accessing The Explosives Course through
FFU site sendspace.com with HTTP user
agent Mozilla/5.0 (Ubuntu; X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:9.0.1) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/
9.0.1**



Correlating other selectors with the IP

FFU hit from selector [REDACTED] on
7/03/2012 7:46:51 geolocated to Kenya,
accessing The Explosives Course through
FFU site sendspace.com with HTTP user
agent Mozilla/5.0 (Ubuntu; X11; Linux
x86_64; rv:9.0.1) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/
9.0.1

Can we correlate any other selectors with this IP address?

Mutant Broth query on IP [REDACTED] for 5 hours on either side of 7/03/2012 7:46:51

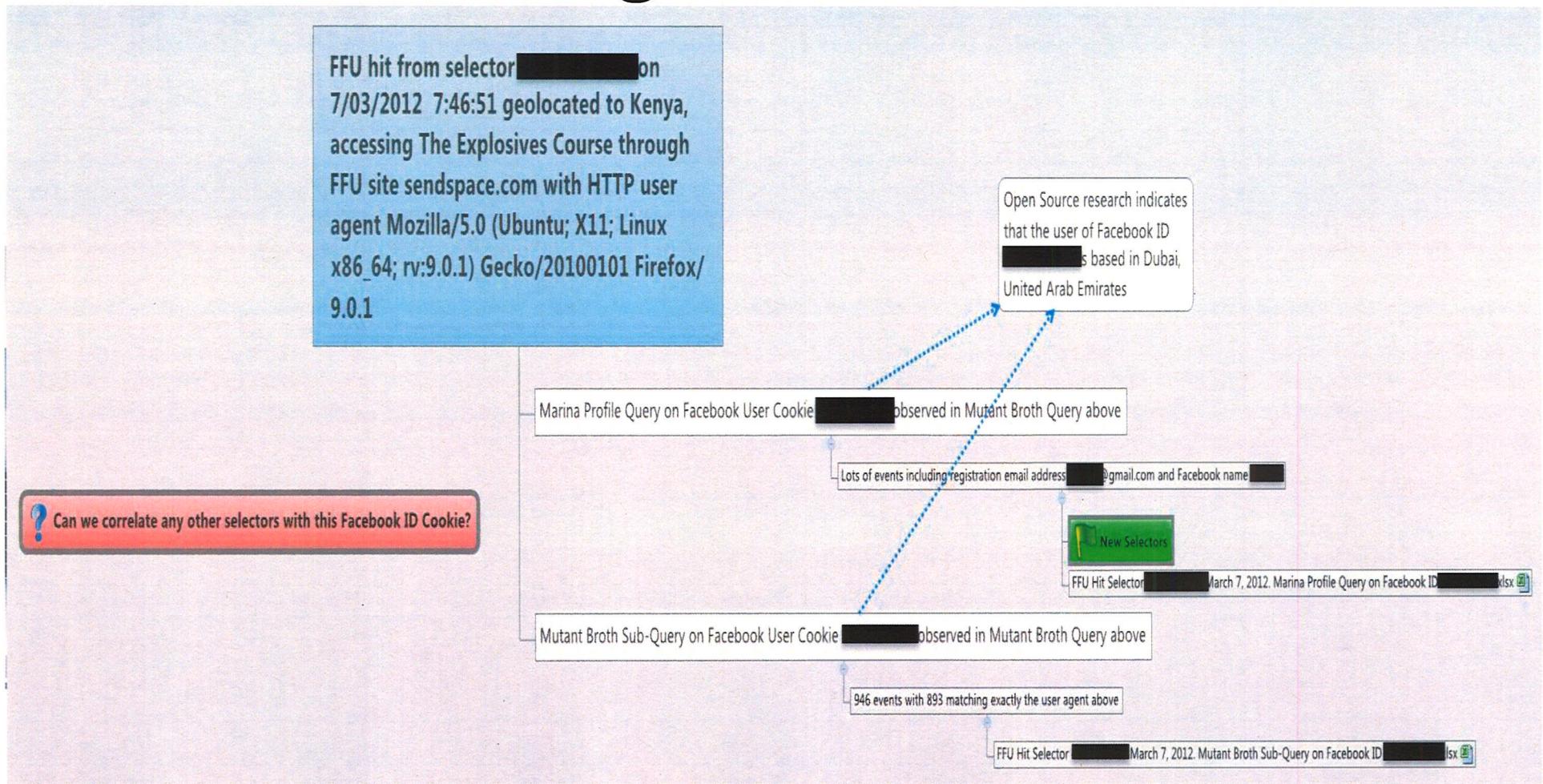
682 events including 77 with an exact match of the user agent above yielding
a Facebook ID [REDACTED] a Google Prefid Cookie [REDACTED] an
M_Adnx Uuid2 Cookie [REDACTED] an M_Quantserve Mc Cookie
[REDACTED] and a Google Prefid Cookie [REDACTED]

New Selectors

FFU Hit Selector [REDACTED] March 7, 2012. Mutant Broth query.xlsx [REDACTED]

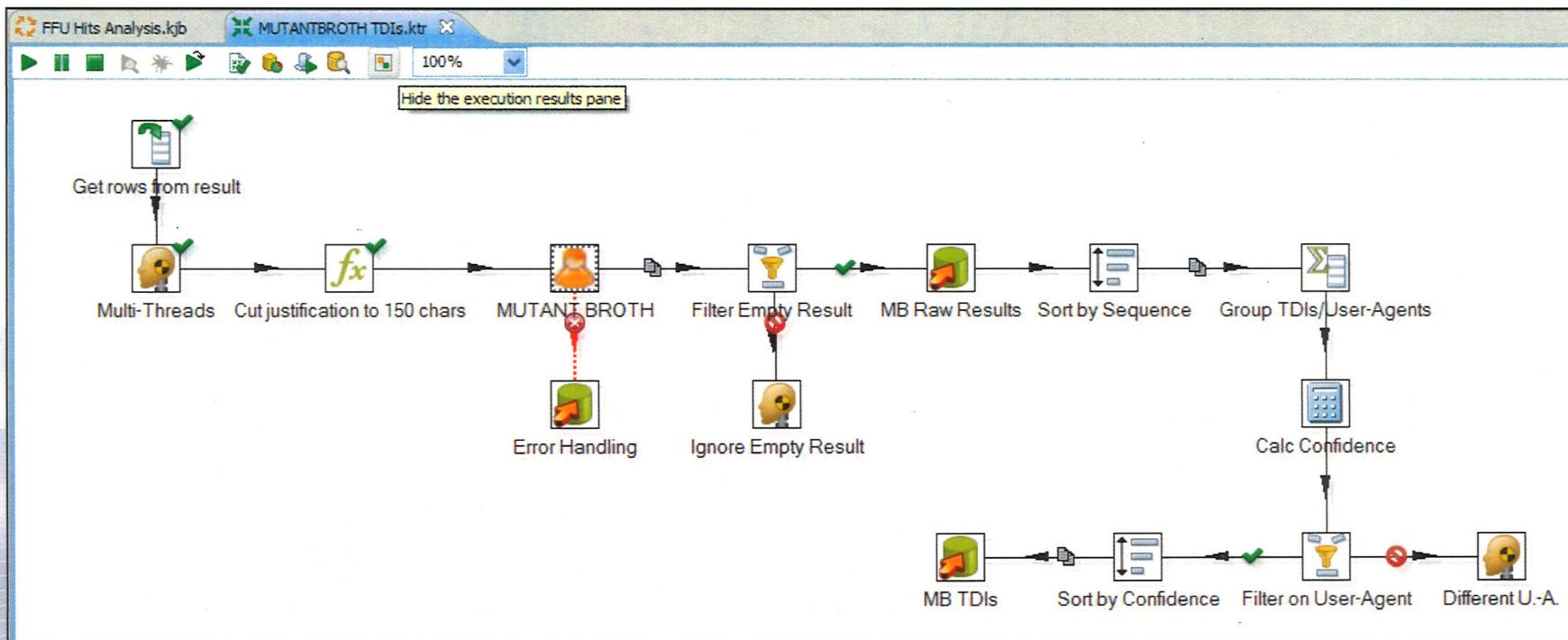


Correlating Facebook cookie





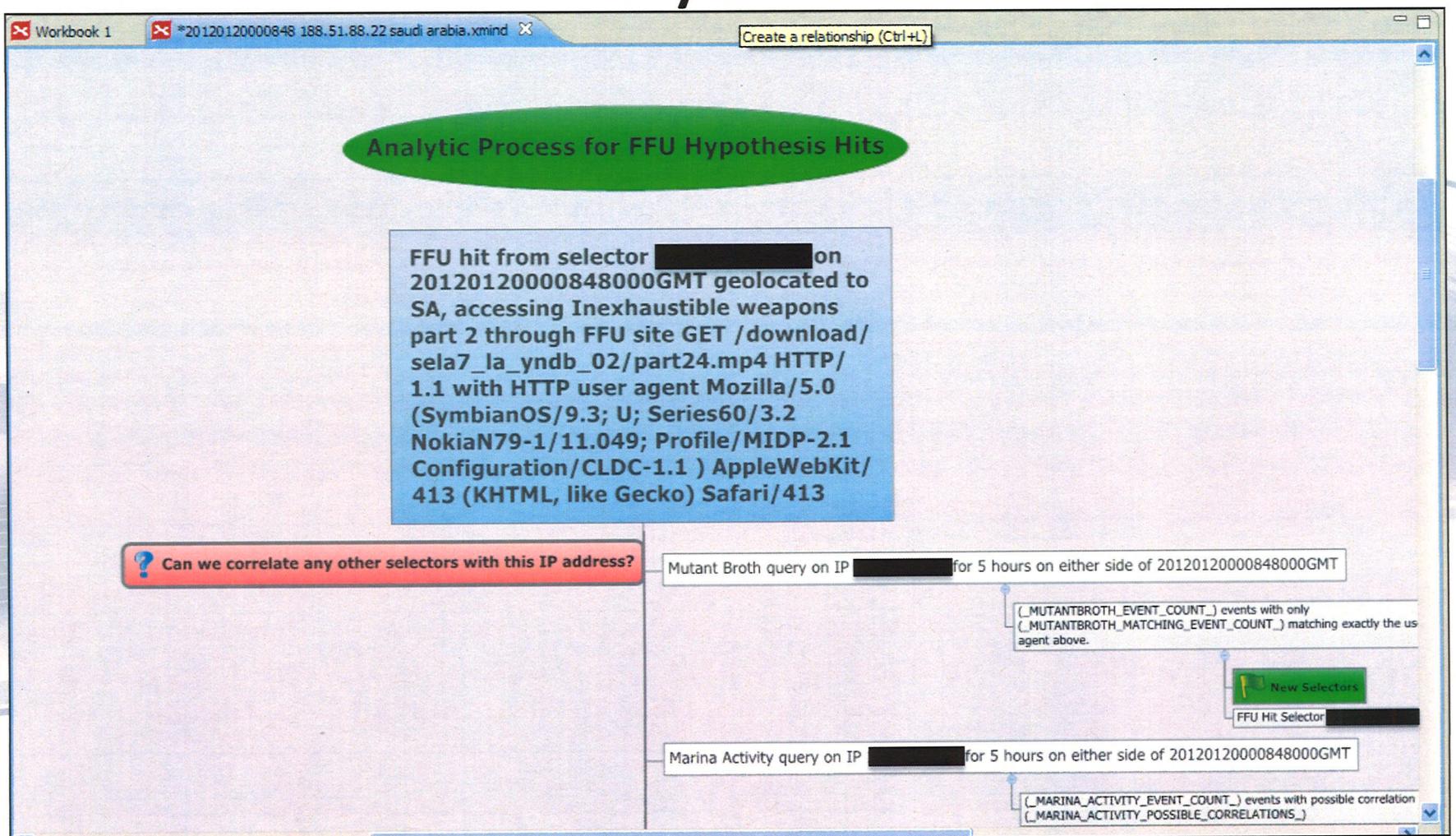
IP Correlation



Groups	Document_Link	Document_Title/Description	EVENT_TIMESTAMP	ACTIVITY_DATE	Confidence_Number	ACTIVE USER
(27)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:32:32 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:18:00Z	1.0	[REDACTED]
(27)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:32:32 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:18:00Z	1.0	[REDACTED]
(84)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:32:32 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:18:17Z	1.0	[REDACTED]
(12)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:23:42 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:09:27Z	0.5	[REDACTED]
Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 6.0; Wir [REDACTED] (2)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:23:42 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:09:27Z	0.5	[REDACTED]
(5)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:23:42 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:18:00Z	0.5	[REDACTED]
Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 8.0; Wir [REDACTED] (5)	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:23:42 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:18:00Z	0.5	[REDACTED]
	archive.org/almapl.mp4	German hostage video	Wed Mar 28 18:23:42 GMT 2012	2012-03-28T18:18:17Z	0.5	[REDACTED]



Automated analysis documentation





What happens then?

Compare control and experimental groups to show statistical differences

Analyse experimental group to determine statistical power of the hypothesis

Assemble selectors across all hypotheses

Rank selectors according to the number and power of the hypothesis behaviors they show

Deliver an ordered list of suspects to OCT



Scoreboard

		Hypotheses								
		FFU	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	...				Totals
Personae	Weights	0.6	0.55	0.52	0.48					
	P1	4	2	0	4					5.42
	P2	4	4	0	1					5.08
	P3	4	1	0	4					4.87
	P4	3	4	4	0					3.14
		...								
		Known	New							



Successes

An HTTP-referred URL gave us a German hostage video from a previously unknown target.

An [REDACTED] FFU upload event gave us an AQIM's hostage strategy. The resulting report was disseminated widely including by the CIA to their counterparts overseas.



The End

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Me: [REDACTED]
([REDACTED]@cse-cst.gc.ca)

