# Cisco Take Home Exam Malware Detection

by

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Tools used: PyCharm, LaTeX and Sublime Text

### **Table of Contents**

1	Problem Statement
2	Code
3	Unit Test

## **List of Figures**

Figure 2.1	A Screenshot of clean values saved in database	7
Figure 2.2	A Screenshot of invalid values shown in terminal	8
Figure 3.1	A Screenshot of test case pass in which both valid and invalid tests are passed	1:

#### Chapter 1

#### **Problem Statement**

You have a log file of JSON data that gives you information on files that were seen by users and whether it's safe or not (disposition). JSON format for data is given as follows:

```
ts: timestamp
pt: processing time
si: session ID
uu: user UUID
bg: business UUID
sha: sha256 of the file
nm: file name
ph: path
dp: disposition (valid values: MALICIOUS (1), CLEAN (2), UNKNOWN (3))
```

The JSON entries are not guaranteed to be valid. Your task is to write an application that processes each valid line in the file and then prints out a list of: sha, dp and count. Feel free to use any languages/tools you'd like. We like to see automated test coverage.

Ideally, you can send us a link to GitHub, GitLab, etc. You have one week from the time of receiving this email to submit your answer. Feel free to make reasonable assumptions.

#### Chapter 2

#### Code

Some of the assumptions made are

1. ts(timestamp) should be a valid time-stamp of 10 digits. It can't be null. As the precision of machine readable time-stamp is seconds, so we need to validate it ourself. For validating it, I converted it to a YYYY-MM-DD HH:MM:SS format using python's strftime() function. Further this human readable time is validated using the regex pattern written below. Pattern can further be complicated considering various special cases such as the leap year. But below regex is a basic one.

$$^{\d d d d - (0?[1-9]|1[0-2]) - (0?[1-9]|[12][0-9]|3[01]) \ (00|[0-9]|1[0-9]|2[0-3]) : ([0-9]|[0-5][0-9]) : ([0-9]|[0-5][0-9]) : ([0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-9]|1[0-$$

- 2. pt(processing time) is a non-null integer lying in range of 1-100 values.
- 3. si(session ID), uu(user UUID) and bg(business UUID) is 36 digit long non-null having lowercase hexadecimal-alphanumeric chars of 32 length adhering to below mentioned regex pattern.

$$\begin{tabular}{ll} $$ [a-f0-9]_{8} - [a-f0-9]_{4} - [1-5]_{a-f0-9}_{3} - [89ab]_{a-z0-9}_{3} - [a-f0-9]_{12} \\ $$ $$ $$$$

4. sha(sha256 of the file) is 64 digit, non-null, lowercase alphanumeric chars having following pattern.

$$[a-fA-F0-9]{64}$$
\$

5. nm is a filename which can consist of lowercase as well as uppercase alphanumeric chars with -(hyphen) and spaces allowed having below-written pattern. It can't be null. Also, the filenames in nm can have alphanumeric chars but no special chars.

$$[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$$
\$

6. pg is a file directory path structure having following pattern.

$$[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$$
\$

7. dp is a value which can be 1 or 2 or 3. It can't be null.

Note: As there are large number of values so, I have appended the valid values to sqlite database, as the terminal instance will not show all the values if we scroll up to see all of them in case of a large log values. As the invalid values are smaller in number, so I show them on terminal. Results are shown below:

Total logs	Clean logs	Invalid logs
100000	99943	57

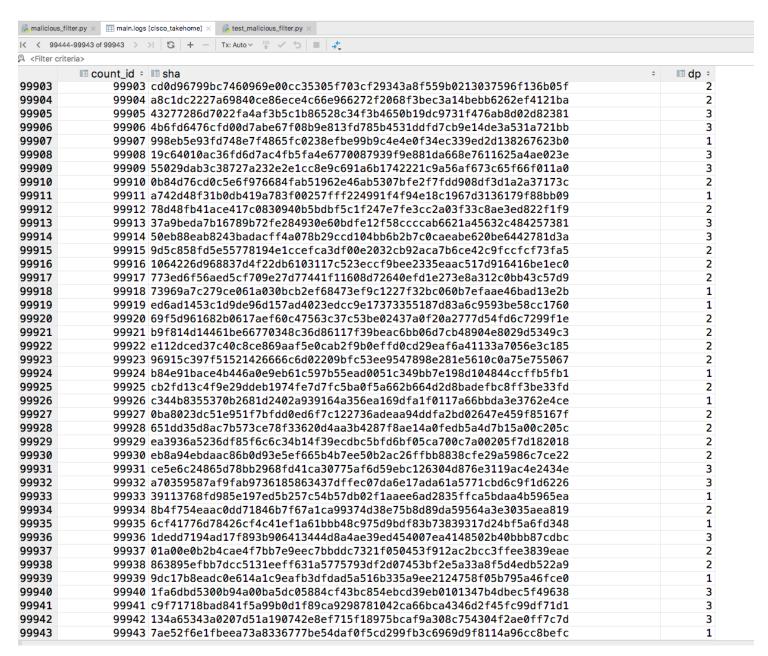


Figure 2.1: A Screenshot of clean values saved in database

```
[amars-MacBook-Pro:py_cisco amar$ python malicious_filter.py
                                4335: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
                                 6458: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
Error#
                   3,log# 10365: The value of dp should be 1 or 2 or 3 instead of 65534
Error#
                   4,log# 10915: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
                   5, \log \# 11900: The format of uu should follow <math>[a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern and the property of the format of uu should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\}
Error#
Error#
                   6,\log # 12230: The format of si does not follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12} pattern
Error#
                   7,log# 12618: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
                  8,log# 12710: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\[a-z43]+$ pattern
                  9,\log \# 16163: The format of si does not follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
Error#
                 10,\log^{\#} 17289: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
                 11,log# 18436: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
                 12,log# 19285: The format of si does not follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12} pattern
                 13,log# 19326: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                 14,\log^{\#} 19536: The format of si does not follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
                              19537: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
                 15,log#
Error#
                 16,log# 22551: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
                 17,log# 22795: The length of sha should be 64 instead of 40 for 4ba16304f848540cc59f2688a4396d726e3bab48 sha value
Error#
                 18,log# 24283: The length of sha should be 64 instead of 40 for 4523a51f3cec51bd41c4ba117ced371fc5d66d1a sha value
Error#
                 19,log# 26305: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                 20,log# 27392: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
                 21,\log = 27986: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
Error#
                 22, \log\# 36561: The format of uu should follow ^[a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\}$ pattern is a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the format of uu should follow a simple of the follow a simple of uu should follow a simple of the follow a simple of the follow a simple of uu should follo
Error#
                 23,log# 36712: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
                 24,log# 36771: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
                 25,log# 40609: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                 26,\log \# 41638: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\}$ pattern
                 27, log# 41649: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                 28,\log 43360: The format of uu should follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12} pattern
Error#
                 29,log# 45768: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
                 30,log# 49038: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
                 31,log# 50702: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
                 32, log# 52369: The value of dp should be 1 or 2 or 3 instead of 65534
Error#
                 33,log# 56660: The value of dp should be 1 or 2 or 3 instead of 65534
Error#
                 34,log# 59830: The value of dp should be 1 or 2 or 3 instead of 65534
                 35,log# 60260: The value of dp should be 1 or 2 or 3 instead of 65534
Error#
Error#
                 36,log# 60991: The format of sha should follow ^[a-fA-F0-9]$ pattern
Error#
                 37,\log# 63040: The format of si does not follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12}$ pattern
                 38,\log = 67104: The format of si does not follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
                 39,log# 67258: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
                              70266: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                              71185: The format of nm does not adhere to ^[a-zA-Z-]+\.[a-z43]+$ pattern
                 42,log# 71236: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                 43,log# 73441: The length of sha should be 64 instead of 40 for edf5676fb32babdd21551da56d2b734793de9362 sha value
                 44,\log^{\#} 75605: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
Error#
                 45,\log 80439: The format of uu should follow [a-f0-9]8\[-[a-f0-9]\{4\-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\-[a-f0-9]\{12\}$ pattern
                 46,\log 80957: The format of uu should follow [a-f0-9] [a-f0-9]
Error#
                 47,log# 84788: The length of sha should be 64 instead of 40 for 623e3c13a93a8880ac62c459f65df7f8fb63b834 sha value
Error#
Error#
                 48.\log# 85047: The format of uu should follow [a-f0-9]8-[a-f0-9]4\-[1-5][a-f0-9]3\-[89ab][a-z0-9]43\-[a-f0-9]43\-[a-f0-9]412\$ pattern
Frror#
                 49,log# 85115: The length of sha should be 64 instead of 40 for ee66860694ed8904108b029916c6c7cfa793e769 sha value
Error#
                 50,\log\# 85200: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12}$ pattern
                 51,log# 88079: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\[a-z43]+$ pattern
Error#
Error#
                 52,\log 88590: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\}$ pattern
Error#
                 53.\log 89554: The format of uu should follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12}$ pattern
Error#
                 54,\log = 90154: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]{8}-[a-f0-9]{4}-[1-5][a-f0-9]{3}-[89ab][a-z0-9]{3}-[a-f0-9]{12}$ pattern
Error#
                 55,\log = 92087: The format of bg should follow [a-f0-9]\{8\}-[a-f0-9]\{4\}-[1-5][a-f0-9]\{3\}-[89ab][a-z0-9]\{3\}-[a-f0-9]\{12\} pattern
Error#
                 56, log# 95552: The format of nm does not adhere to [a-zA-Z-]+\[a-z43]+$ pattern
                 57,log# 97151: The value of dp should be 1 or 2 or 3 instead of 65534
Frror#
```

100000 logs scanned from which 57 number of values have issues while 99943 entries reported clean DB connection closed successfully

Figure 2.2: A Screenshot of invalid values shown in terminal

#### Chapter 3

#### **Unit Test**

The unit test suite does 2 things

- 1. Assert that the valid logs return True when passed to the malicious\_filter.json\_validator().
- 2. Assert that the in-valid logs return False when passed to the malicious\_filter.json\_validator().

Thus there are 2 functions one of which generate the valid set of values and other one will generate invalid logs. The valid logs are generated using following code

```
ts = calendar.timegm(time.gmtime())
                                                                                                             # generate value of ts
sha = ''.join(random.choice(('abcdef') + string.digits) for i in range(64))
                                                                                                             # generate value of sha
pt = random.randint(1,100)
                                                                                                             # generate value of pt
si_uu_bg = ''.join(random.choice(('abcdef') + string.digits) for i in range(8)) + '-' \
           + ''.join(random.choice(('abcdef') + string.digits) for i in range(4)) + '-' \
           + ''.join(random.choice('12345') for i in range(1)) + ''.join(
            random.choice(('abcdef') + string.digits) for i in range(3)) + '-' \
            + ''.join(random.choice('89ab') for i in range(1)) + ''.join(
            random.choice(string.ascii_lowercase + string.digits) for i in range(3)) + '-' \
            + ''.join(random.choice(('abcdef') + string.digits) for i in range(12))
                                                                                                             # generate value of si, uu and bg
nm = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii.letters) for i in range(10)) + '- ' + '.' + \
        ''.join(random.choice(('43') + string.ascii_lowercase) for i in range(4))
                                                                                                             # generate value of nm
ph = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_letters) for i in range(10)) + '- /' + '.'+\
     ''.join(random.choice(('43') + string.ascii_lowercase) for i in range(4))
                                                                                                            # generate value of ph
dp = random.randint(1,3)
                                                                                                             # generate value of dp
```

```
valid_log_entry = {'ts': ts,'pt': pt,'si': si_uu_bg,'uu': si_uu_bg,'bg': si_uu_bg,'sha': sha,'nm': nm,'ph': ph,'dp': dp}
self.valid_log = valid_log_entry
```

Also, the invalid values are generated using below code

```
# — Generating invalid logs —
in_ts = random.randint(19, 199)
                                                                                                           # generate value of ts
in_sha = ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.digits) for i in range(62))
                                                                                                           # generate value of sha
                                                                                                           # generate value of pt
in_pt = random.randint(100, 200)
in_si_uu_bg = ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.digits) for i in range(8)) + '-' \
               + ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.digits) for i in range(4)) + '-'
               + ''.join(random.choice('1234234234245') for i in range(21)) + \
                ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.digits) for i in range(31)) + '-'
               + ''.join(random.choice('qwertyuiopasddg') for i in range(17)) +\
                ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_lowercase + string.digits) for i in range(3)) + '-'
               + ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.digits) for i in range(12))
                                                                                                           # generate value of si, uu and bg
in_nm = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_letters) for i in range(140)) + '- ' + '.' + \
        ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.ascii_lowercase) for i in range(42))
                                                                                                           # generate value of nm
in_ph = ''.join(random.choice(string.ascii_letters) for i in range(50)) + '- /' + '.' + \
        ''.join(random.choice(('qwertyuiopasddg') + string.ascii_lowercase) for i in range(46))
                                                                                                           # generate value of ph
in_dp = random.randint(1, 3)
                                                                                                           # generate value of dp
invalid_log_entry = {'ts': in_ts, 'pt': in_pt, 'si': in_si_uu_bg, 'uu': in_si_uu_bg, 'bg': in_si_uu_bg, 'sha': in_sha, 'nm': in_nm,'ph': in_ph, 'dp':
    in_dp}
self.invalid_log = invalid_log_entry
```

Then both of these values are tested x(10000) number of times as shown below

```
def test_json_validator(self):
    for i in range(10000):
        self.assertTrue(malicious_filter.json_validator(self.valid_log))  # testing the correct values

def test_json_invalidator(self):
```

```
for i in range(10000):
self.assertFalse(malicious_filter.json_validator(self.invalid_log)) # testing the in-correct values
```

A passed test case is shown below.

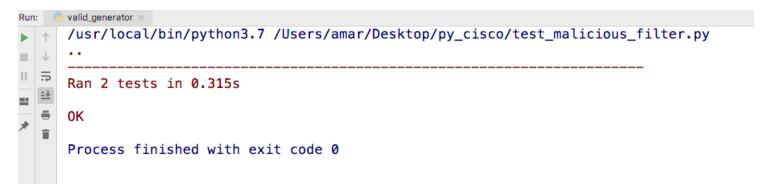


Figure 3.1: A Screenshot of test case pass in which both valid and invalid tests are passed