Incognia - An Exploratory Data Analysis

The main target of this notebook is to **analyze** and **understand** the **Incogia database**, discovering **patterns** ans raising **hypothesis** about **behaviors** that might be **fraudulent**.

Given that there is no information concerning:

- Events/devices that were, in fact, assessed as high risk
- · Events/devices that were, in fact, fraudulent

The data provided will be used to infer which devices and events could have been assessed as *high risk* and culminated in a *fraudlent action*.

For that, an attempt to replicate some of *Incognia's heuristics* will be done, then these devices and events will be better analyzed and *compaired to low risk entities*.

Analysis Plan

This analysis will be divided into:

- Cleaning and Transformation
- Overview
- Risk Assessment
- Hypothesis and Analysis
- Conclusions

Cleaning and Transformation

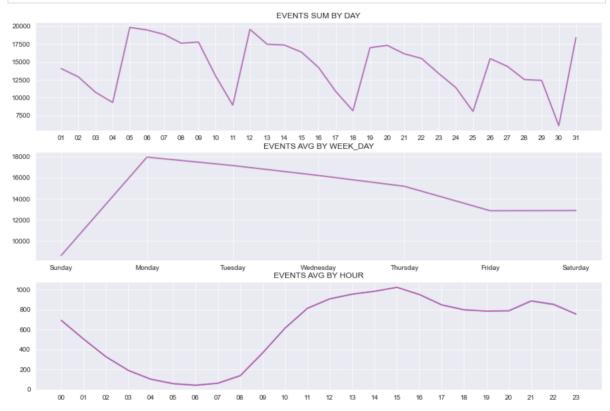
```
In [840... # import
    import pandas as pd
    import numpy as np
    import seaborn as sns
    from matplotlib import pyplot as plt

In [841... # SET OPTIONS
    sns.set_style('darkgrid')
    pd.set_option('display.float_format', lambda x: '%.2f' % x)
    #GET DATA
    df = pd.read_csv('./data.csv')
    df.info()
```

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
         RangeIndex: 444758 entries, 0 to 444757
         Data columns (total 10 columns):
             Column
                                             Non-Null Count Dtype
         ____
                                             _____
                                                             ____
                                             444758 non-null object
          0
             event id
          1
            event timestamp
                                             444758 non-null int64
             account id
                                             444758 non-null int64
             device
                                             444758 non-null int64
             distance_to_frequent_location 444080 non-null float64
                                             444758 non-null int64
          5
             device age days
                                            444758 non-null bool
          6
              is emulator
              has fake location
                                            444758 non-null bool
          7
              has root permissions
                                            444758 non-null bool
              app is from official store 444758 non-null bool
          9
         dtypes: bool(4), float64(1), int64(4), object(1)
         memory usage: 22.1+ MB
In [842...
          # TRANSFORM INT TO DATETIME
          df['event timestamp']= pd.to datetime(df['event timestamp'], unit='ms')
          # CHECK FOR ERROS
          df['event timestamp'].isnull().sum()
Out[842]: 0
In [843...
          # CALCULATE MONTHLY EVENTS DISTRIBUTION
          df['event timestamp'].dt.strftime('%Y-%m').value counts()
          2021-07
                    444758
Out[843]:
          Name: event timestamp, dtype: int64
In [844...
          # CREATE SEGMENTED COLUMNS FOR DATETIME
          units = { 'day': 'd', 'hour': 'H', 'minute': 'M', 'week day': 'A', 'week day
          for key, value in units.items():
              df[key] = df['event timestamp'].dt.strftime(f'%{value}')
```

Overview

In order to have a sense of the general baheavior, the volume of events are plotted segmented by different dimensions:



For the week_day and hour dimensions, the average amount of events was calculated in order to *mitigate a biased view* due to the different number of occurrences on week_days and a unusual concentration of events on a single hour.

For sake of simplicity *this risk was not totally avoid using median* as the meausere, since the purpose of these visuals is only providing a glance of *general behavior*.

- At the first graph a **weekly pattern** stands out, in which there are a relative low level of events on every 7 days with subsequential peaks.
- From that interpretation, analyzing the second graph it is possible to infer that the *highs occurs on mondays while the lows do on sundays*.
- The last graph shows a behavior that could be highly related to **bussiness hours**, especially considereing the previous graphs.

Risk Assessment

In this section some of the criterias used by Incognia in its heuristics are analyzed to replicate in some way the process of risk assessment.

Based on the data provided, the risk will be assessed and categorized following the topics:

• Device Integrity

- Location Risk: has_fake_location , is_emulator , has root permissions
- Malware Risk: has_root_permissions and app_is_from_official_store

• Device Behavior

- Multiple Account Devices
- Device Age
- Distance to Frequent Locations

• _AccountIntegrity

Unusual Concentration of Events

Device Interegrity

The available data concerning the *device integrity* will be explored to create an *watchlist* and *classify* risk for devices in this database.

It was observed on the previous sections that the distance_to_frequent_location is the single column in which some of the registers are *null*.

That may be a indication that during the occurrence of such events the **devices sensors** were turned off or the user had not given **location permissions** the app.

Thus a new column will be created to classify the risk related to the distance_to_frequent_location, and the registers mentioned before will be tagged as unknown

```
In [846...
          df.loc[df['distance to frequent location'].isnull(), 'device integrity'] =
In [847...
          # CREATE NEW COLUMN TO FACILITATE DATA MODELING
          df['app_not_from_official_store'] = df['app_is_from_official_store'].apply(
          interventions = ['is emulator', 'has fake location', 'has root permissions'
          # CALCULATE SHARE OF OCCURRENCES
          interventions distribution = df[interventions].apply(sum, axis=0)
          interventions distribution/interventions distribution.sum()
                                         0.00
          is emulator
Out[847]:
          has fake location
                                         0.03
          has_root_permissions
                                        0.42
          app_not_from_official_store
                                        0.55
          dtype: float64
```

Takeaways

has_root_permission and app_not_from_official_store constitute the majority of intervention ocurrences on device integrity.

That result is expected, given that they are not directly related to fraudsters, even though its occurrence *increases the device's vulnerability and the risk of an ATO*

Takeaways

The assesment made on the device's integrity shows a unbalanced database, which is a common aspect analyzing fraud events.

Takeaways

Calculating the number of concurrent interventions on a device during the same event points out that *rarely there is more than one intervention on a device*.

Thus, these cases will be quickly analyzed for a better understanding.

```
In [850... df.query('n_interventions > 1').sort_values(['device','event_timestamp'])
```

Out[850]:	event_id		event_timestamp	account_id	device	distance_to_frequent_loca
	174510	23814bb9- dac8	2021-07-06 17:05:45.651	957966161	40111468	51
	288515	e55c9740- 3aed	2021-07-25 16:18:16.835	1393282325	40111468	
	183518	58893316- 12eb	2021-07-08 12:47:33.611	1212353253	420849688	
	29645	275811e0- 17b7	2021-07-14 21:18:29.487	442820130	1425676062	1

Takeaways

Even though 2 different accounts were accessed from the same device, both interventions in these cases were more related to malware vulnerabilities. Whereas the last row of the dataframe shows an event in which the device is an emulator, the device_age_days is *O days* old and besides being nearly 15 meters to a trusted location, it has root permissions and could be *spoofing GPS location*

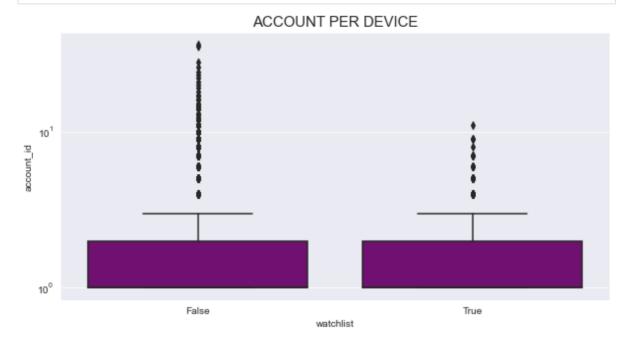
Takeaways

The number of accounts accessed by devices in the watchlist are almost the double of the latter.

At first, an *average number of accounts accessed from the same device* nearly to 2 seems regular.

However, the distribution across the different devices may point to some *outliers*, as well as increase risk assessed for some device/event. This *distribution* will be analyzed in the next section.

Device Behavior



```
in_watchlist = acc_p_devc.query('watchlist==True')['account_id']
   out_watchlist = acc_p_devc.query('watchlist==False')['account_id']

   devices = {'in watchlist' : in_watchlist, 'out watchlist' : out_watchlist}

   print('QUARTILES:\n25%,50%,75%')

   for key, value in devices.items():
        percentiles = np.percentile(value, (25, 50, 75))
        print(f'{percentiles} {key}')

QUARTILES:
   25%,50%,75%
   [1. 1. 2.] in watchlist
   [1. 1. 2.] out watchlist
```

Takeaways

Curiously, the boxplot shows an unexpected behavior:

- Devices that had its *integrity* assessed as high_risk have a very similar distribution.
- More than that, devices assessed as low_risk reach higher number of accounts accessed by the same device.

Given that, those devices that are considered outliers at the boxplot representation will be classified with a high_risk tag for device_behavior.

Since the distribution are very similar, they will be considered as one.

```
In [854...
# CREATE A FUNCTION TO CALULATE SUPERIOR OUTLIERS

def outliers (dist):
    q1 = np.nanpercentile(dist, 25)
    q3 = np.nanpercentile(dist, 75)
    iq = q3-q1
    sup_out = q3 + (1.5*iq)
    inf_out = q1 - (1.5*iq)
    return [inf_out,sup_out]
```

```
In [855...
          # CALCULATE INFERIOR AND SUPERIOR LIMIT FOR OUTLIERS
          out = outliers(in watchlist)
          out
Out[855]: [-0.5, 3.5]
In [856...
          # STORE DEVICES THAT ACCESS MORE THAN 2 ACCOUNTS TO BE CLASSIFIED
          acc p devc.reset index(inplace=True)
          devices_id = acc_p_devc.query('account_id > @out[1]')['device'].unique()
          devices id = np.array(devices id)
          #CHECKING AMOUNT OF OUTLIERS DEVICES
          len(devices id)
          14750
Out[856]:
In [857...
          #CALCULATE THE % OF DEVICES IN EACH GROUP THAT HAS A OUTLIER BEHAVIOR
          total devices = acc p devc.groupby('watchlist')['device'].nunique()
          deviant devices = acc p devc.query('device in @devices id').groupby('watchl
          (deviant devices/total devices)
          watchlist
Out[857]:
          False 0.05
          True
                  0.08
          Name: device, dtype: float64
```

Takeaways

The assessment of *device behavior* has a significantly *broader effect on the risk* assessment than device integrity assessment (high_risk rate $\sim 0\%$).

It is likely that the rate of *false positives* in this asssessment is higher than the previous as well.

Anyways, the *combined analysis* of both assessments will provide a result that is more robust than the individual analysis of each one.

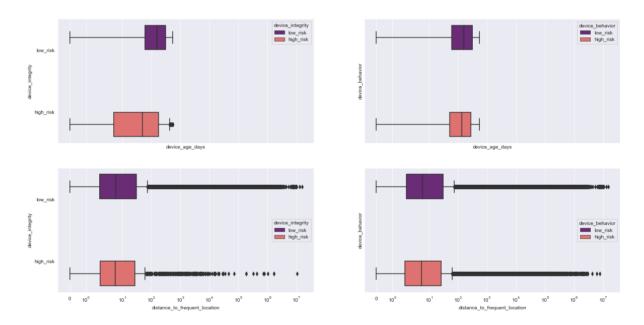
Takeaways

Besides, the percentage of devices that have a suspicious behavior being between 5% and 8%, the percentage os events executed through it represents 16% of the whole database.

It is because, by definition, the minimum value of accounts accessed by those devices is 3.5.

```
In [860...
          #CREATE LISTS TO SEGMENT AND PLOT GRAPHS
          dimensions = ['device_age_days', 'distance_to_frequent_location']
          risks = ['device integrity', 'device behavior']
          fig, axs = plt.subplots(2,2, figsize=(20,10), sharey=True, sharex=True)
          #LOOP THROUGH LIST TO PLOT
          for dim in dimensions:
              for risk in risks:
                  ax v=dimensions.index(dim)
                  ax h=risks.index(risk)
                  sns.boxplot(data=df,
                                   x = dim,
                                  y= risk,
                                  hue= risk,
                                  palette='magma',
                                  ax=axs[ax v][ax h])
                  axs[ax_h][ax_v].set(xscale='symlog')
          plt.suptitle('DEVICE RISK x DEVICE INFORMATION', fontsize=15);
```

DEVICE RISK x DEVICE INFORMATION



Takeaways

At this graphs is remarkable how the distribution of the $\ensuremath{\texttt{device_age_days}}$ differs from the $\ensuremath{\texttt{distance_to_frequent_location}}$.

It is possible to conclude:

- device_age_days:
 - Has a lower variability of values compared to the distance_to_frequent_location.
 - There is a high probability that devices accessing one account will be older than 100 days, apart from devices with high_risk of integrity.
 - The previous point strengthens the risk assessemnt of that kind of devices.
 - There is no evidence that differs device behavior *low and high risks* events

The median of high risk integrity devices will be used as baseline to classify device_age_days risk, once it is out of the general pattern.

- distance_to_frequent_location:
 - There are multiple outliers, which could be expected considering users mobility, but its scale depends much on the nature of the client's product/service.
 - In the same way, there is a high likelihood that an event will occur up to 100 meters from a trusted location.
 - There is no indication that differs device_behavior and device_integrity low risk events from high risk events
 - The outliers can be a good option for classifiyng *high risk distances* in order to scrutinize events.

```
# CALCULATING MEDIAN DEVICE_AGE_DAYS FOR HIGH RISK DEVICE INTEGRITY
devc_integrity = df.query('device_integrity=="high_risk"')
age_median = devc_integrity['device_age_days'].median()
```

Takeaways

As already observed, the median value of device_age_days for high_risk devices is lesser than the general pattern.

One hypothesis for this fact is that fraudsters avoid to access the same account for extended periods, which could decreases his/her risk exposition

```
In [883... #CLASSIFY AGE OUTLIERS
    df.loc[df['device_age_days']<age_median, ['age_outlier']] = True
    df.loc[df['device_age_days']>=age_median, ['age_outlier']] = False

In [884... # CALCULATE DISTANCE THAT ARE CONSIDERED OUTLIERS IN THE BOXPLOT
    distance_out = outliers(df['distance_to_frequent_location'])[1]
    distance_out

Out[884]: 74.12444401918893

In [885... # PERCENTAGE OF EVENTS THAT ARE OUTLIERS BASED ON TRUSTED LOCATIONS
    len(df.query('distance_to_frequent_location> @distance_out'))/len(df)

Out[885]: 0.20780739188502512
```

Takeaways

Apparently there is a strong trending of people executing an event in places around trusted locations.

However, the cases considered as outliers are equivalent to 20% of the events. This amount is relatively high, nevertheless the combination with other criterias may provide a more accurate risk assessment.

```
In [886... # CLASSIFY DISTANCE OUTLIERS
```

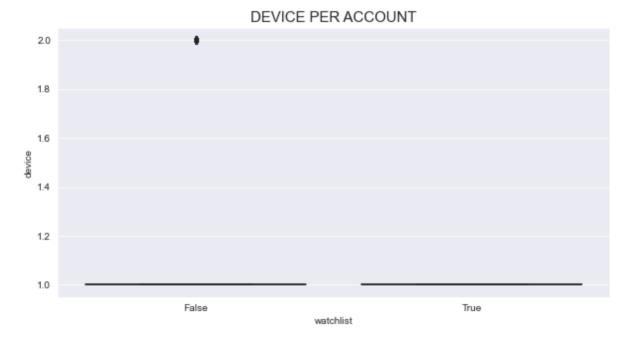
```
df.loc[df['distance_to_frequent_location']>distance_out, ['distance_outlier
df.loc[df['distance_to_frequent_location']<=distance_out, ['distance_outlier</pre>
```

The classfications of multiple account devices , distance to trsuted location and device age were all consolidated in one. For this, the cases in which all three attributes were tagged as high_risk or outlier were reclassified as high_risk as well

Account Integrity

The target of this section is understanding patterns about account usage and define unusual concentration of events that might be related to fraud attempts

```
In [888...
    devc_p_acc = df.groupby(['account_id', 'watchlist']).agg({'device':'nunique
    fig, axs = plt.subplots(1,1, figsize=(10,5))
    sns.boxplot(data=devc_p_acc, x='watchlist',y='device', ax=axs, color='purp
    axs.set_title('DEVICE PER ACCOUNT', fontsize=15);
```



Takeaways

At this boxplot it is clear that de amount of devices that access one account is roughly 1/account.

This behavior is interesting, because it was verified that the number of account per devices reachs values way bigger.

It could be, and probably is, a reflection of the **regular use** of the app.

Anyways, this fact stands out even more the cases of multiple account device, since these two relations *(device/account and account/device)* usually are nearly 1:1.

In conclusion, no high_risk classification will be done concerning this evidence.

```
In [889... # NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS THAT WERE ACCESSED BY MORE THAN 1 DEVICE devc_p_acc.query('device>1')['account_id'].nunique()
```

```
Out[889]: 36
```

There is a hypothesis that fraudster could act trying to perfom the same or different events in a small period of time, in order to execute as much events as they can.

Thus, it was calculated the amaount of events performed on the same account at the same day and hour.

```
In [100...
          # CALCULATE AMOUNT OF EVENTS THAT HAVE HAPPENED AT THE SAME DAY AND HOUR FO
          same hour acc events = df.groupby(['account id', 'day', 'hour']).agg(
                                                                              {'event id
                                                                               'device':
          same hour acc events.rename(columns={'event id':'number of events'}, inplace
          # PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION
          same hour acc events[['number of events']].value counts(normalize=True)
           number of events
Out[1006]:
                               1.00
                               0.00
           dtype: float64
In [100...
          #ABSOLUT DISTRIBUTION
          same_hour_acc_events[['number_of_events']].value_counts()
           number of events
Out[1007]:
                                444756
                                     1
           dtype: int64
```

Takeaways

Here we see that is the usually a regular usage of the application does not require more than two event triggerd within the same hour for the same account.

Takeaways

These last matrices shows that 99% of the events occur in different accounts, days and hours.

Similarly, for just 5 times there was a device that accessed the same account, at the same day and hour.

Thus, considering that the regular usage of the application requires 1 or 2 daily events at the same hour, the cases in which it happened 3 or 4 times will be taggged as high_risk

```
Out[1009]: low_risk 441379
high_risk 3379
Name: device_behavior, dtype: int64
```

Hypothesis and Analysis

An ATO can happen mainly by two manners:

- A Fraudster gets physical access to the victim's device
- A Fraudster gets virtual access to the victim's device

In the first case information about geolocation may be of great help, since the device will get out of the usual tracking.

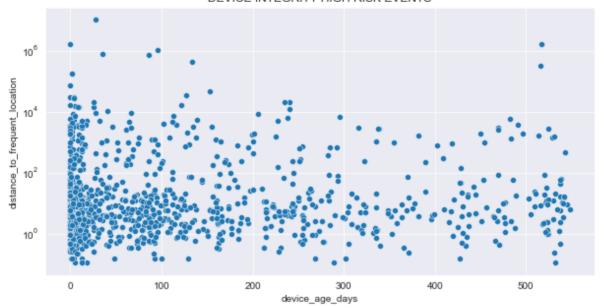
However, in the second case the geolocation will be probably forged.

Thus, device_behavior high_risk events will be used as an approximation to **physical fraudulent actions**, whilst device_integrity high risk events will be to **virtual frauds**.

```
In [101...
          # UNDERSTANDING HOW THE RISKS ARE DISTRIBUTED
          df[['device integrity', 'device behavior']].value counts()
           device integrity device behavior
Out[1010]:
           low risk
                            low risk
                                               440296
                            high risk
                                                 3368
           high_risk
                            low risk
                                                1083
                            high_risk
                                                   11
           dtype: int64
```

Virtual Frauds

DEVICE INTEGRITY HIGH RISK EVENTS



Takeaways

This graph displays how devices with high risk of integrity imitate some regular behaviors. However, a part from the distance_to_frequent_location being con centrate around 0 and 100 m, similarly to genuine events characteristics, the device age gives a hint that those events are suspicious. In other words, the devices' age are concentrate, around 0-100 days. Nevertheless, as analyzed before, most part of the events happens through devices older than 100 days.

```
# TOP 5 DAYS WITH THE BIGGEST VOLUME OF POSSIBLE FRAUDULENT EVENTS
((devc_int.groupby(['day', 'week_day']).agg({'event_id':'nunique'}))
/len(devc_int)
).reset_index().sort_values('event_id', ascending=False).head()
```

Out[1013]:		day	week_day	event_id
	19	20	Tuesday	0.05
	4	05	Monday	0.05
	30	31	Saturday	0.05
	5	06	Tuesday	0.05
	18	19	Monday	0.04

Takeaways

The table above brings the TOP 5 days in volume of suspicious events.

it might be a coincidence, given that some of the top days of the month are also the ones that are expected to be the top of the weeks.

Anyways, the first 3 days are usually payday in a significant amount of companies, which raises the hypothesis that our client could operate banking services, and these days of the month represent a bigger opportunity to profit.

Physical Frauds

```
In [101... #EVENTS OF DEVICES THAT HAVE BEHAVED SUSPISICOUSLY
    devc_behav = df.query('device_behavior=="high_risk"')

In [101... fig, axs = plt.subplots(1,2, figsize=(25,7))
    sns.scatterplot(data=devc_behav, x='device_age_days', y='distance_to_freque
    sns.scatterplot(data=devc_behav.query('watchlist==True'), x='device_age_day
    axs[0].set(yscale='log')
    axs[0].set_title('SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR EVENTS')
    axs[1].set(yscale='log')
    axs[1].set_title('SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR EVENTS (only watchlist)');
```

Takeaways

As mentioned before, the amount of suspicious device_behavior events is much bigger than device_integrity.

This is due to the way that the first was classified, once that the outliers were used to separate a group with higher likelihood to perform a fraudulent act. That is why we see, on the left, a graph that has no behavior pattern.

However, it is possible to use that information and narrow the perspective a bit more. That is done on the right, filtering just devices that were at the *watchlist*.

Once more, there is no relevant pattern. However the points are concentrate on the left bottom, as well as the points of the *Virtual Frauds* (previous topic)

Conclusions

The main conclusions of this analysis are that:

- Device Integrity is the strongest piece of evidence concerning a possibile fraud
- Within that sort of risk, the one that are more strongly related to *malwares* (rooting and apps from unoficial sources) represent more than 90% of the events.
- Still, rooting a device may be used to *spoof GPS location*. That fact stands out the importance to relate *risks that when combined generate higher scenario risk than individually*.
- Storing and processing a *watchlist* based on historic behavior *levarages the risk* assessemnt potentcial
- During the month analyzed (July-21), the **_highrisk** events have not presented any seasonal pattern (hourly, daily, weekly)
- Considering median values of application's regular usage, events tend to happen up to 100 meters from a trusted location and the devices used are aorund 100 days

years old as well, which may be related to the beginning of the devices data tracking

• Similarly, usually it is expected that one account will be accessed by only one device and that no more than 1 event happen within the same day and hour

As next steps of the analysis, it is important to learn about the client's business context, which could help to raise hyposthesis for better inference and understanding of data patterns. Finally, information about events that were, in fact, fraudlents and false positives are importante as well to a more accurate analysis.