

# Proactive Threat Intelligence

Hi there, thank you for participating in our research about Threat Intelligence.

This research is executed as part of a REDACTED FOR BLIND REVIEW

Please note that all data and inputs collected will be used anonymously and solely for scientific research.

Should you have any questions or inquiries, please contact us at REDACTED FOR BLIND REVIEW

\* Indicates required question

1. Do you consent to participate in this survey and to the anonymous use of your data and input for scientific purposes? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

## Demographics

2. Gender \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Male  
☐ Female  
☐ Other

3. Work Area \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Role related to Threat Intelligence  
☐ Role not related to Threat Intelligence but to Cybersecurity

4. How would you rate your knowledge of Threat Intelligence (TI)? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Beginner: I have little or no knowledge about TI.  
☐ Intermediate: I have a basic understanding of TI.  
☐ Advanced: I have a solid understanding of TI and its practices.  
☐ Expert: I have extensive knowledge and experience in TI.

## Cybercriminals & AI

5. Would the question of *what cybercriminals think about using Artificial Intelligence (AI) for their malicious deeds* be of interest to you as a proactive cyber threat intelligence analyst? \*

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ 1 (not interesting)    Skip to question 6
- ☐ 2    Skip to question 6
- ☐ 3    Skip to question 7
- ☐ 4    Skip to question 7
- ☐ 5    Skip to question 7
- ☐ 6 (very interesting)    Skip to question 7

## Other Topics of Interest

6. What other trends that cybercriminals discuss are of interest to you? \*

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## Cyber Threat Analysis

7. Assume, that you are interested in the aforementioned question. In most cases, as an analyst, you have access to some kind of tool that provides access to different OSINT sources. Which of the following sources would you select to investigate what cybercriminals think about AI? \*

(If you are interested in other sources, please list them.)

*Tick all that apply.*

- ☐ Underground forums
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ News media
- ☐ Darknet websites
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Have you ever heard about CrimeBB? \*

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

9. OK, let's assume you have a data source that you are going to use as a basis to look for evidence on what cybercriminals think about using AI. How would you analyze such data? \*

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Manual analysis only. The analysis is completely qualitative.  
☐ I may build or rely on a "simple" script or tool for a more detailed analysis. The analysis is quantitative and qualitative, but the main part is still done manually.  
☐ I use a full-fledged and advanced tool or software product that does everything automatically. The analysis is quantitative and qualitative, with very low noise.  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

10. If you are already using any tool, could you share the ones you are using? If you cannot share this information, feel free to mention "NDA." \*

\_\_\_\_\_

11. How long would it take to investigate this question and make a confident statement about what cybercriminals think about using AI for their purposes? Please also account for the time used by your colleagues. \*

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ 1 working day or less  
☐ 2 to 4 working days  
☐ 1 working week  
☐ More than a working week

12. At a high level, would you be interested in a tool that identifies discussion trends among cybercriminals in underground forums or similar sources? \*

Mark only one oval.

1   2   3   4   5   6  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Not ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Very interested

13. Let's assume a tool exists that (i) identifies posts or discussions related to your topic of interest and (ii) provides a quantitative evaluation of how many posts were found for different sub-topics. Would the quantitative evaluation be of interest to you? \*

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

14. Please look at the below table. The table describes different topics related to AI and the percentages of posts discussing the specific topics in underground forums. Would this insight be of interest to you? \*

Topics	Underground forums (Aggregation of analysis results for 15+ different forums)
<b>Machine Learning Algorithms and their Development</b>	1 %
<b>Deep Learning Algorithms and their Development</b>	2%
<b>Natural Language Processing</b>	1%
<b>Time Series</b>	0.5%
<b>Model Training, Tuning, and Evaluation</b>	0.5%
<b>Data Preparation</b>	5%
<b>AI Education (e.g. how to learn more about AI)</b>	10%
<b>Discussions about AI/Python Setup</b>	7%
<b>Other topics (unrelated to AI)</b>	73%

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ 1 (not interested)    Skip to question 15  
☐ 2    Skip to question 15  
☐ 3    Skip to question 16  
☐ 4    Skip to question 16  
☐ 5    Skip to question 16  
☐ 6 (very interested)    Skip to question 16

#### Your opinion

15. Why is the table shown before not of interest to you? What could be done to make such a tool useful for you. Please specify. \*

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## Academic Research

16. Do you ever turn to research papers to improve your expertise in proactive cyber threat intelligence, e.g., to discover new methods/tools/solutions for data analysis?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ 1 (never) Skip to question 18
- ☐ 2 Skip to question 18
- ☐ 3 Skip to question 18
- ☐ 4 Skip to question 17
- ☐ 5 Skip to question 17
- ☐ 6 (very often) Skip to question 17

## Academic Value to Threat Intelligence

17. If you look at research papers, how many of the last ones you read did you consider to be 'valuable' for your task as a Threat Intelligence analyst? \*

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## Why not?

18. If you do not look at research papers, what is the main reason for this? \*

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