Lab 2: Exploratory Data Analysis of IP

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Part 1. Read the Chapter 4 materials and answer the following questions – 2%

Scope of reading: Chapter 4, Section "Dissecting the IP address" (Representing IP Addresses, Converting IP Addresses to/from, Segmenting and Grouping IP Addresses, Testing IPv4 Address Membership in a CIDR block, Locating IP Addresses).

The questions:

1. Why would you need to convert dotted-decimal presentation of IP address to integer form?

According to the text, by doing the conversion of an IP address helps to make the comparisons and calculation easier. For example, if I need to check the two ip address belong to a common range, it is much easier and faster to specify the number of range than must deal with the dotted decimal number. It allows to get the calculations much faster and simplex.

2. Why would you need to do segmenting, or grouping, of IP addresses?

Because helps to organize Ip address, especially in larger networks. The grouping could have server at one place and users' devices at another. As a result, it makes easier to manage traffic and improve security and routing. So, that information travels safely and efficiently through the network.

3. Explain CIDR prefix format.

It is called classless Interdomain Routing, that means of expressing IP address. It shows how many bites are being utilized for the Address network part. For example, if I consider an IP address 192.168.1.0/24 denotes that the first 24 bits are representing the network while the second part are used for individual devices. In fact, CIDR, allows for much flexibility than the previous model of dividing addresses into a hard-set class for usage allowing to get more efficient use of those IP addresses.

- 4. Explain what is AS and ASN. How it can be useful for segmenting or grouping task?

 Autonomous System (AS), consisting of a group of IP networks and routers that are under the control of a single entity. Autonomous system Number (ASN), is a unique identifier assigned to each AS. In fact, they are used while grouping Ip address, which allows for their organization and management on the basic of ownership or hierarchal control. For example, if I consider the identification of malicious traffic originating from a certain Autonomous System (SA) can assist in the network security as it can be indicative of corrupt systems or overall problem network.
- 5. Play with https://www.maxmind.com/en/home. Describe the value of the services and data provided (you are not supposed to buy anything there, just go through description)

According to the web MaxMind, it provides a range of services that can support businesses to improve their security and customer experience. Between the services mentioned are:

- 1. **Fraud Prevention:** It can help you spot and stop fraudulent activity in real time if you are running online services. Also, they provide risk scores that help you identify potentially suspicious transactions, saving you from dealing with fraudulent orders.
- **2. IP Geolocation:** if any business is looking to personalize their website experience for visitors, it is the best option. With IP geolocation, you can serve content based on the user's location, whether it's showing region-specific offers, ads, or ensuring you're compliant with local laws.
- **3. Proxy Detection:** it detects if someone is hiding their real IP behind a VPN or proxy. This is important for businesses that want to make sure only legitimate users are accessing their services.

Part 2. Implement the following Use Case – 2%

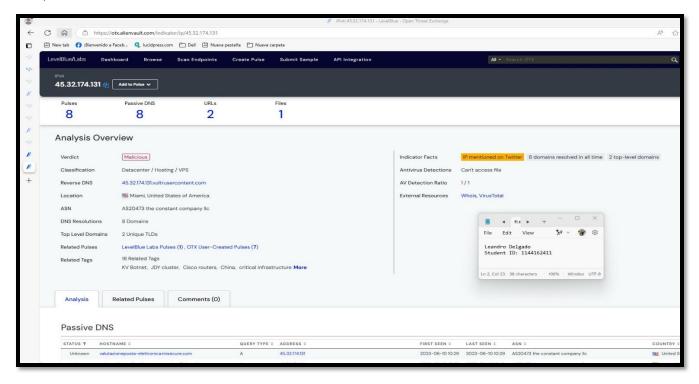
You are a security analyst of the AAA company, and you are given the task of investigating a group of IP addresses.

Your actions:

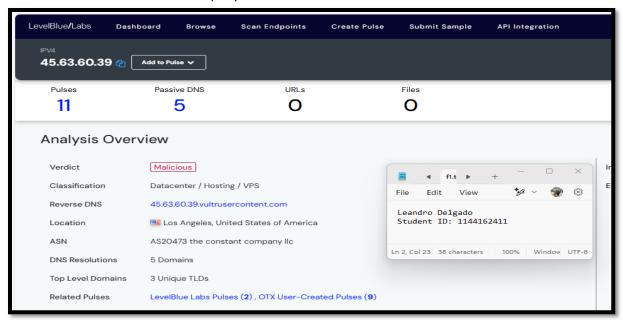
Step1. Connect to AlienVault site and retrieve network indicators:

https://otx.alienvault.com/pulse/678a92bdb1203066894a3c50?utm_userid=tato12344&utm_m_edium=InProduct&utm_source=OTX&utm_content=Email&utm_campaign=new_pulse_from_fol_lowing

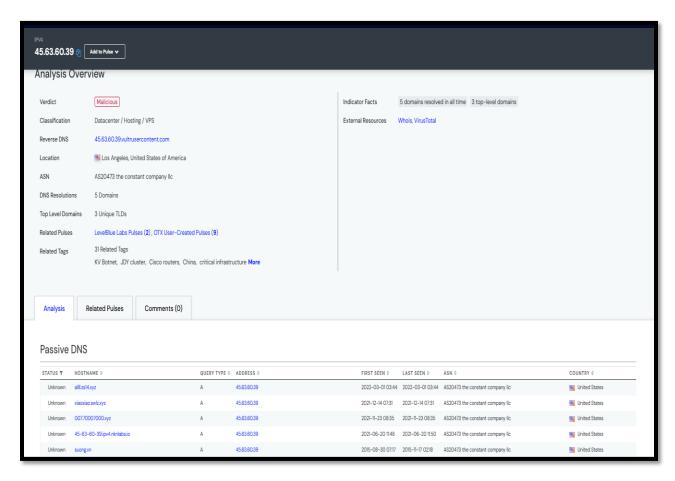
a) Is this IP address malicious? YE



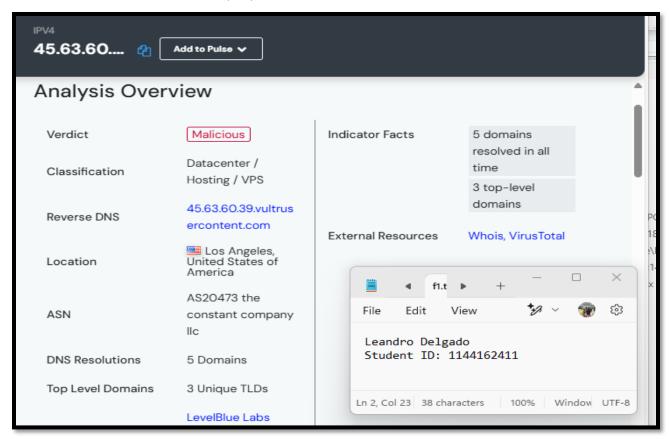
b) What company does it belong to? AS20473 the constant company llc



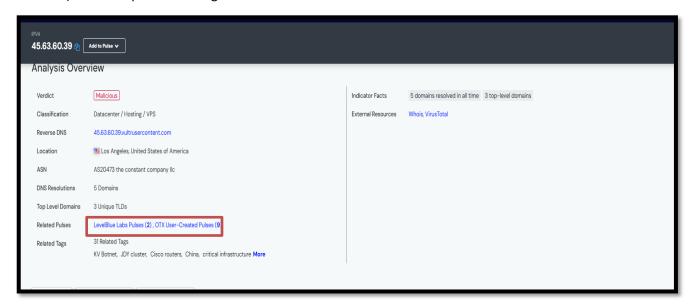
c) Is it a part of an Autonomous System (AS) group of IP addresses? YES



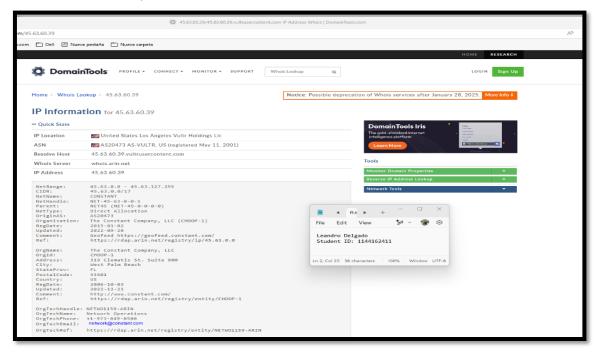
d) What is its ASN?AS20473 the constant company llc



e) What is potential danger associated with this AS?

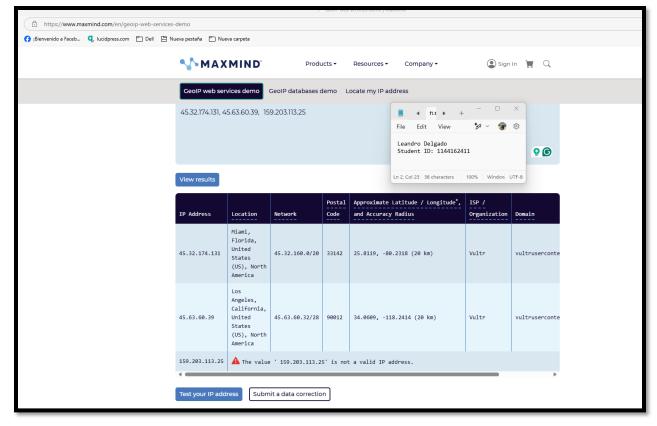


f) You see the links to other sources of information (Whois, VirusTotal). What other sources of information say about this IP?



Step2. Obtain IP geolocation via Maxmind service

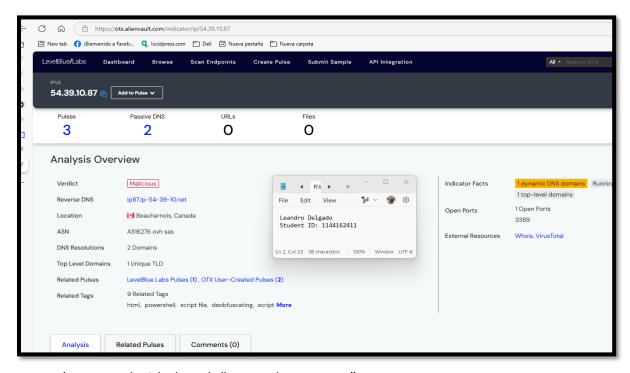
- GeoIP2 Web Service Demo | MaxMind
- Just copy/paste IPs to Maxmind service. Observe the result.



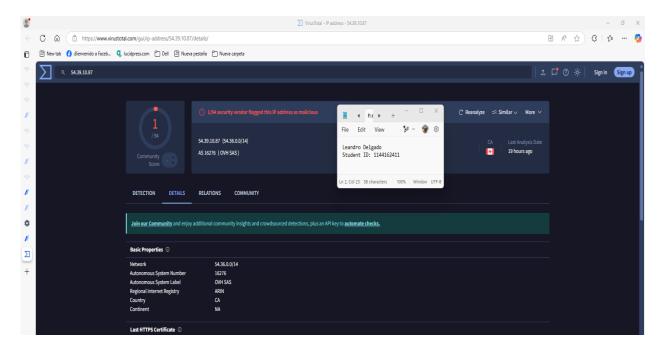
When checking the IP addresses, they point to various locations. For example, one of the IP addresses is linked to Miami, Florida.

Step3. Proceed with review

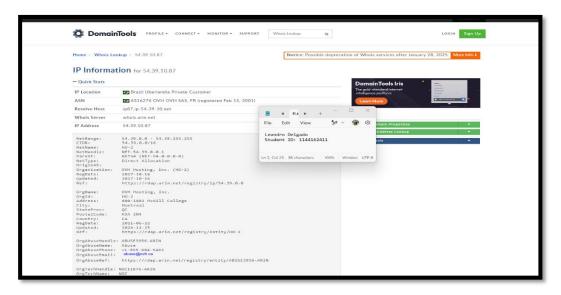
- a) Note that first network IOC is marked as scanning host.
- b) Open more detailed information. You notice the location of this IP is Canada.



- c) Proceed with the tab "External Resources":
 - Virus total: what is said there about location? What are ASN data? The location is Canadas



b. Whois: what is said about location? What is CIDR?



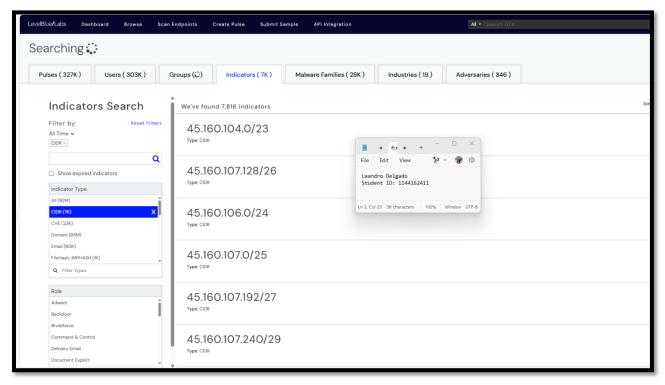
The location is Brazil and CIDR is 54.390.0/16

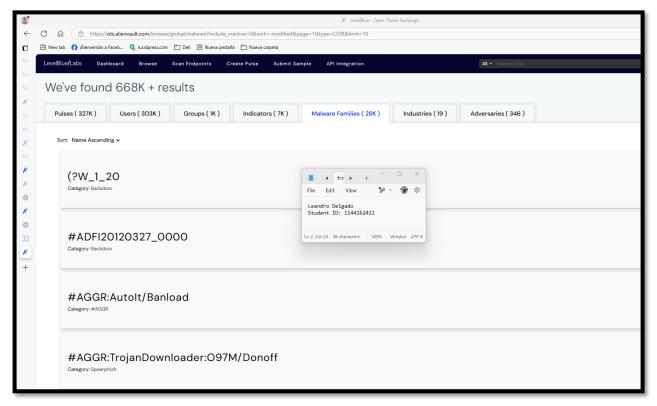
Step4. Proceed to

• AlienVault - Open Threat Exchange

Step5. Summarize your observations

The image shows a list of IP ranges (CIDR blocks) that might be linked to security threats. The platform helps organize and filter these indicators, making it easier to track and analyze potential issues in network security.





What IOC/group do you work on?

I focus on analyzing IP address indicators (CIDR blocks), which helps identify suspicious IP ranges that might be linked to cybersecurity threats. By looking at these IP ranges, I can track potential security risks like unauthorized access or breaches.

What threats are associated with it?

These IP indicators are usually connected to threats like adware, backdoor access, and brute force attacks. These types of activities are often carried out by cybercriminals trying to exploit weaknesses in a system.

What details have you found important?

I paid attention to the IP ranges, the ASN numbers (which show who owns the IP), and the geolocation of the IPs. These details are key to understanding where the threats are coming from and whether they're genuinely malicious or not.

What sources of information have you examined?

To get reliable data, I used platforms like MaxMind, DomainTools, VirusTotal, and LevelBlueLabs.

What can you say about consistency of data?

The data from these platforms is generally consistent, but sometimes there are small differences because each platform updates their data at different times.