

# Triage Squid Alerts Using Typosquatting Algorithm

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## Triage Squid Events

Security event triage rules determine which events require further follow up and which events can be archived without further investigation. CCP processes many events every day so effective triage helps analysts focus on the most important events.

The two components of security event triage are:

- Determine if the event is an alert.
- If the event is an alert, assign a score. If the event is not an alert, it is not scored.

## Triage Squid Using the Typosquatting Algorithm

For this example, we use a simple triage rule to detect typosquatting. Typosquatting uses common domain misspellings to install malicious web content.

### Procedure

1. Determine the number of possible typosquat permutations.

To configure the Bloom filter you need to specify roughly how many elements are going into the Bloom filter and what kind of false positive probability you want. You can use the `CONSOLE` output mode of the `flatfile_summarizer.sh` to count the number of typosquatted domains across the entire document.

a) Create an `extractor_count.json` file at `$METRON_HOME/config` and populate it with the following:

```
{
  "config" : {
    "columns" : {
      "rank" : 0,
      "domain" : 1
    },
    "value_transform" : {
      "domain" : "DOMAIN_REMOVE_TLD(domain)"
    },
    "value_filter" : "LENGTH(domain) > 0",
    "state_init" : "0L",
    "state_update" : {
      "state" : "state + LENGTH( DOMAIN_TYPOSQUAT( domain ) )"
    },
    "state_merge" : "REDUCE(states, (s, x) -> s + x, 0)",
    "separator" : ",",
  },
  "extractor" : "CSV"
}
```

where

**columns**

Indicates the schema of the CSV. There are two columns, rank at the first position and domain at the second position.

**separator**

Use a comma to separate the columns.

**value\_transform**

For each row, transform each domain column by removing the TLD.

**value\_filter**

Only consider non-empty domains.

**state\_init**

Initialize the state, a long integer, to 0.

**state\_update**

For each row in the CSV, update the state, which is the running partial sum, with the number of typosquatted domains for the domain.

**state\_merge**

For each thread, we have a partial sum, we want to merge the partial sums into the total.

b) Run the extractor\_count.json file:

```
$METRON_HOME/bin/flatfile_summarizer.sh -i ~/top-10k.csv -e ~/
extractor_count.json -p 5 -om CONSOLE
```

The output should look similar to the following:

```
WARN extractor.TransformFilterExtractorDecorator: Unable to setup
zookeeper client - zk_quorum url not provided. **This will limit some
Stellar functionality**

Processing /root/top-10k.csv
17/12/22 17:05:20 WARN resolver.BaseFunctionResolver: Using System
classloader
Processed 9999 - \
3496552
```

## 2. Generate the Bloom filter on HDFS.

a) Create an extractor\_filter.json file at \$METRON\_HOME/config and populate it with the following:

```
{
  "config" : {
    "columns" : {
      "rank" : 0,
      "domain" : 1
    },
    "value_transform" : {
      "domain" : "DOMAIN_REMOVE_TLD(domain)"
    },
    "value_filter" : "LENGTH(domain) > 0",
    "state_init" : "BLOOM_INIT(3496552, 0.001)",
    "state_update" : {
      "state" : "REDUCE( DOMAIN_TYPOSQUAT( domain ), (s, x) ->
BLOOM_ADD(s, x), state)"
    },
    "state_merge" : "BLOOM_MERGE(states)",
    "separator" : ",",
  },
  "extractor" : "CSV"
}
```

Most of the parameters are same as the extractor\_count.json file, but there are three different parameters:

**state\_init**

We have changed our state to be a bloom filter, initialized with:

3496552 - The size calculated in the previous step

0.001 - The false positive probability (0.1%)

**state\_update**

Update the bloom filter (the state variable) with each typosquatted domain,

**state\_merge**

Merge the bloom filters generated per thread into a final, single bloom filter to be written.

- b) Generate the Bloom filter in HDFS at /tmp/reference/alexa10k\_filter.ser:

```
$METRON_HOME/bin/flatfile_summarizer.sh -i ~/top-10k.csv -o /tmp/reference/alexa10k_filter.ser -e ~/extractor_filter.json -p 5 -om HDFS
```

3. Apply your new filter to domains from the squid telemetry.

- a) Display the Management UI.  
 b) Select the Squid sensor from the list of sensors on the main window.  
 c)



Click the pencil icon in the list of tool icons for the sensor.

The Management UI displays the Squid sensor panel.

- d) Click the **Advanced** button.

e)



Click (expand window) next to the **RAW JSON** field.

- f) Replace the JSON information in the **SENSOR ENRICHMENT CONFIG** section with the following JSON information:

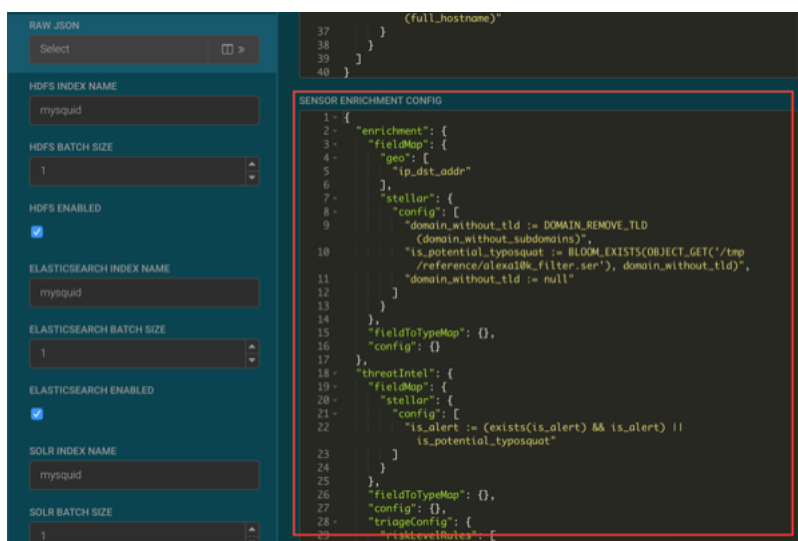
```
{
  "enrichment": {
    "fieldMap": {
      "geo": [
        "ip_dst_addr"
      ],
      "stellar": {
        "config": [
          "domain_without_tld := DOMAIN_REMOVE_TLD(domain_without_subdomains)",
          "is_potential_typosquat := BLOOM_EXISTS(OBJECT_GET('/tmp/reference/alexa10k_filter.ser'), domain_without_tld)",
          "domain_without_tld := null"
        ]
      }
    },
    "fieldToTypeMap": {},
    "config": {}
  },
  "threatIntel": {
    "fieldMap": {
      "stellar": {
        "config": [
          "is_alert := (exists(is_alert) && is_alert) || is_potential_typosquat"
        ]
      }
    },
    "fieldToTypeMap": {},
    "config": {},
    "triageConfig": {
      "riskLevelRules": [
        {
          "name": "Alexa 10k Typosquat Bloom",
          "comment": "Inspect a bloom filter with potentially typosquatted domains from the top Alexa 10k",
          "rule": "is_potential_typosquat != null && is_potential_typosquat",



```

```

    "score": 50,
    "reason": "FORMAT('%s is a potential typosquatted domain from the
top 10k domains from alexa', domain_without_subdomains)"
  },
  ],
  "aggregator": "MAX",
  "aggregationConfig": {}
},
},
"configuration": {}
}

```



- g) Click **SAVE** below the JSON information.
- h) Click **SAVE** at the bottom of the Squid sensor configuration panel.
4. After you identify a potential typosquatted domain, investigate it, and determined that it is legitimate, you can stop future alerts by using a domain whitelist enrichment.
  - a) In the Management UI, click the pencil icon next to the mysquid sensor.  
The Management UI displays the sensor configuration form.
  - b) Click the **Advanced** button.
  - c)  Click  (expand window button) next to the **RAW JSON** field.
  - d) Replace the **is\_potential\_typosquat** field value with the following:

```

"is_potential_typosquat := not (ENRICHMENT_EXISTS('domain_whitelist',
domain_without_tld, 'enrichment', 't')) && BLOOM_EXISTS(OBJECT_GET('/tmp/reference/alexa10k_filter.ser'), domain_without_tld)",

```

## RAW JSON

Select

## HDFS INDEX NAME

mysquid

## HDFS BATCH SIZE

1

## HDFS ENABLED



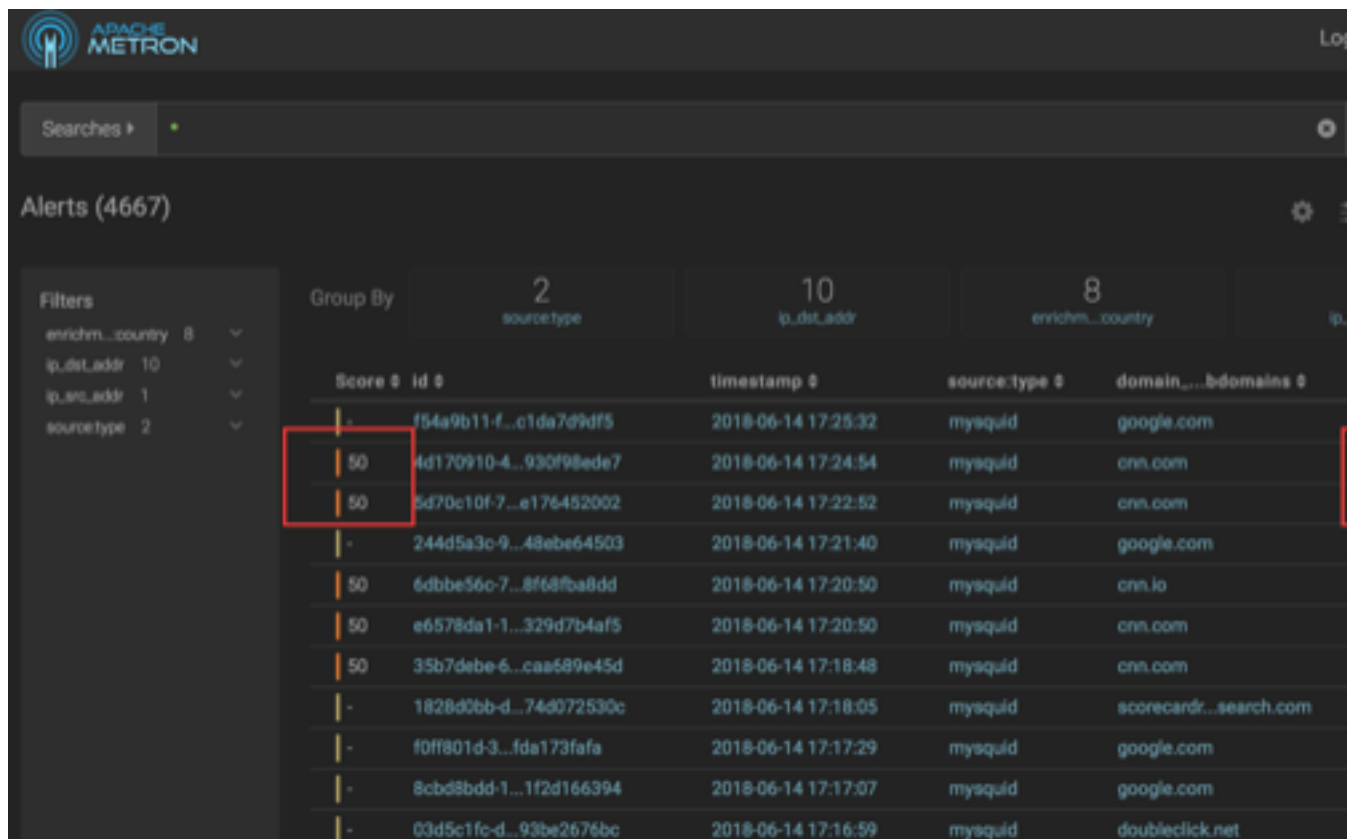
## ELASTICSEARCH INDEX NAME

mysquid



- e) Click **SAVE** below the JSON information.
- f) Click **SAVE** at the bottom of the Squid sensor configuration panel.
5. Ensure that the results appear in the Alerts UI.
  - a) Enter cnn.com or nsp.com in the browser connected to the HCP proxy.
  - b) Display the Alerts UI.

In the Score column, you should see events with non-zero scores and the **is\_alert** field set to **true**.



Score	id	timestamp	source: type	domain...b:domains
-	f54a9b11-f...c1da7d9df5	2018-06-14 17:25:32	mysquid	google.com
50	4d170910-4...930f98ede7	2018-06-14 17:24:54	mysquid	cnn.com
50	5d70c10f-7...e176452002	2018-06-14 17:22:52	mysquid	cnn.com
-	244d5a3c-9...48ebe64503	2018-06-14 17:21:40	mysquid	google.com
50	6dbbe56c-7...8f68fba8dd	2018-06-14 17:20:50	mysquid	cnn.io
50	e6578da1-1...329d7b4af5	2018-06-14 17:20:50	mysquid	cnn.com
50	35b7debe-6...caa689e45d	2018-06-14 17:18:48	mysquid	cnn.com
-	1828d0bb-d...74d072530c	2018-06-14 17:18:05	mysquid	scorecardr...search.com
-	f0ff801d-3...fda173fafa	2018-06-14 17:17:29	mysquid	google.com
-	8cbdbbdd-1...1f2d166394	2018-06-14 17:17:07	mysquid	google.com
-	03d5c1fc-d...93be2676bc	2018-06-14 17:16:59	mysquid	doubleclick.net

If you want to view the columns as they appear in the screen shot, click the gear icon to the left of the **Actions** button and unselect all fields except **Score**, **id**, **timestamp**, **source: type**, **domain\_withoutsub\_domains**, and **is\_alert** fields, then click **Save**.

- c) Click the **Score** header to sort the events ascending by Score.

Click again to sort descending by Score. A downward arrow appears next to the **Score** header when sorted descending by Score.

Alerts (4669)

Filters	Group By	2	10	8	
enrichm...country 8		source: type	ip...dst_addr	enrichm...country	
ip...dst_addr 10					
ip...src_addr 1					
source: type 2					

Score	id	timestamp	source: type	domain...
50	81a5245f-1...c6209aaf24	2018-06-14 14:42:43	mysquid	npr.org
50	a125d243-7...fe49d35dea	2018-06-14 14:43:42	mysquid	npr.org
50	2ad841b9-8...6eb1953010	2018-06-14 14:44:15	mysquid	cnn.com
50	20608706-0...91db51f1c0	2018-06-14 14:50:21	mysquid	cnn.com
50	24650ebf-6...5273de7a1b	2018-06-14 14:48:19	mysquid	cnn.com
50	a010d3de-2...5e512e9bdf	2018-06-14 14:58:29	mysquid	cnn.com

d) Click between the columns of one of the Scored alerts to view the alert details.

The fields beginning with **threat:triage:rules** show the results of all the triage rules. The **threat:triage:score** field is the aggregated score of the event. If there is more than one triage rule, this field will contain the score combining the results from all the rules. The **is\_alert** field is set only if the triage rules indicate the event is an alert.

uat	
method	CONNECT
source.type	mysquid
threat:trriage:rules:0	Inspect a bloom
:comment	filter with
	potentially
	typosquatted
	domains from the
	top Alexa 10k
threat:trriage:rules:0	Alexa 10k
:name	Typosquat Bloom
threat:trriage:rules:0	npr.org is a
:reason	potential
	typosquatted
	domain from the
	top 10k domains
	from alexa
threat:trriage:rules:0	50
:score	
threat:trriage:score	50
timestamp	1528987363820
url	media.npr.org:443

- e) To see all the alerts for a particular domain, click the domain name.  
The Alerts UI displays only the alerts with the selected domain name.

The screenshot shows the Apache Metron Alerts interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "domain\_without\_subdomains:npr.org" and a red arrow pointing to it with the label "Click on column value to add a predicate". Below the search bar, the "Alerts (118)" section is visible. On the left, there is a "Filters" panel with a list of filters: "enrichm...country", "ip\_dst\_addr", "ip\_src\_addr", and "sourcetype". The "Group By" section shows three groups: "sourcetype", "ip\_dst\_addr", and "enrichm...country". The main table displays a list of alerts with columns: "Score", "Id", "timestamp", "source: type", and "domain\_without\_subdomains". The "domain\_without\_subdomains" column is highlighted with a red box, and a red arrow points to it with the label "Click on column value to add a predicate".

Score	Id	timestamp	source: type	domain_without_subdomains
50	81a5245f-1...c6209aaf24	2018-06-14 14:42:43	mysquid	npr.org
50	a125d243-7...fe49d35dea	2018-06-14 14:43:42	mysquid	npr.org
50	20226cf0-1...8450c06c4a	2018-06-14 15:13:46	mysquid	npr.org
50	5585a502-5...50b8c811ad	2018-06-14 16:13:58	mysquid	npr.org
50	72d8bc08-6...a0f381d4ae	2018-06-14 16:44:01	mysquid	npr.org
50	2d6a1b69-e...7aaecf38e5	2018-06-14 17:14:06	mysquid	npr.org
50	b7acca5f-9...f6e34895a0	2018-06-14 17:43:13	mysquid	npr.org
50	c94815d7-6...4b4b241fdd	2018-06-14 14:42:43	mysquid	npr.org
50	84263126-8...c353ee117e	2018-06-14 15:42:52	mysquid	npr.org
50	ce51fcad-3...a4ecd33d10	2018-06-14 15:42:52	mysquid	npr.org
50	25d3169a-e...d8c9c71827	2018-06-14 16:12:58	mysquid	npr.org
50	66cd12c3-d...f0748ff8df	2018-06-14 17:43:13	mysquid	npr.org
50	e26bbf78-3...6ba57d8283	2018-06-14 17:43:13	mysquid	npr.org

- f) To remove a filter, click **x** next to the filter.  
To view all events, click **x** on the Searches field.

The screenshot shows the Apache Metron interface. At the top, the Apache Metron logo is visible. Below it, a search bar contains the query `domain_without_subdomains:npr.org`, with `npr.org` highlighted in a red box. Underneath the search bar, the text "Alerts (119)" is displayed. On the left, a "Filters" panel lists several filters: `enrichm...:country`, `ip_dst_addr`, `ip_src_addr`, and `source:type`, each with a count of 1 and a dropdown arrow. To the right of the filters, a "Group By" section shows `source:type` with a count of 1. Below this, a table displays alert results with columns for "Score", "Id", and "timestamp". Two rows are visible, both with a score of 50 and timestamps from 2018-06-1.

## Improve Scoring with a Domain Whitelist

Once you have identified and investigated a potential typosquatted domain and found that it is legitimate, you can stop future alerts by using a domain whitelist enrichment.

### Procedure

1. Display the Management module UI.
2. Select the Squid sensor from the list of sensors on the main window.
- 3.



Click the pencil icon in the list of tool icons for the Squid sensor.

4. Click **Advanced**.
- 5.



Click (expand window button) next to the **RAW JSON** field.

The screenshot shows the CCP Runbook interface with the following configuration fields on the left:

- RAW JSON:** A dropdown menu with "Select" and a red box around a "»" button.
- HDFS INDEX NAME:** A text input field containing "mysquid".
- HDFS BATCH SIZE:** A numeric input field containing "1".
- HDFS ENABLED:** A checkbox that is checked.
- ELASTICSEARCH INDEX NAME:** A text input field containing "mysquid".
- ELASTICSEARCH BATCH SIZE:** A numeric input field containing "1".
- ELASTICSEARCH ENABLED:** A checkbox that is checked.

On the right, there is a JSON configuration snippet for "SENSOR ENRICHMENT CONFIG":

```

37     (full_hostname)"
38   }
39 ]
40 }

1 - {
2 -   "enrichment": {
3 -     "fieldMap": {
4 -       "geo": [
5 -         "ip_dst_addr"
6 -       ]
7 -     },
8 -     "fieldToTypeMap": {},
9 -     "config": {}
10  },
11 -   "threatIntel": {
12 -     "fieldMap": {},
13 -     "fieldToTypeMap": {},
14 -     "config": {},
15 -     "triageConfig": {
16 -       "riskLevelRules": [],
17 -       "aggregator": "MAX",
18 -       "aggregationConfig": {}
19 -     }
20 -   },
21 -   "configuration": {}
22 - }

```

6. Replace the `is_potential_typosquat` information with the following:

```

"is_potential_typosquat := not (ENRICHMENT_EXISTS('domain_whitelist',
  domain_without_tld, 'enrichment', 't')) && BLOOM_EXISTS(OBJECT_GET('/tmp/
reference/alexal0k_filter.ser'), domain_without_tld)",

```

## RAW JSON

Select



## HDFS INDEX NAME

mysquid

## HDFS BATCH SIZE

1

## HDFS ENABLED



## ELASTICSEARCH INDEX NAME

mysquid

7. Click **SAVE** below the JSON panel.
8. Click **SAVE** at the bottom of the Squid sensor configuration panel.
9. Open [cnn.com](http://cnn.com) or [npr.com](http://npr.com) in the browser connected to the HCP proxy.
10. Open the Alerts UI.
11. Click on the **timestamp** column header until the events are sorted descending by timestamp.  
Proxy events to [cnn.com](http://cnn.com) and [npr.org](http://npr.org) are no longer alerts.