

# Case study

## Open-source stack of tools for strategic security data analytics

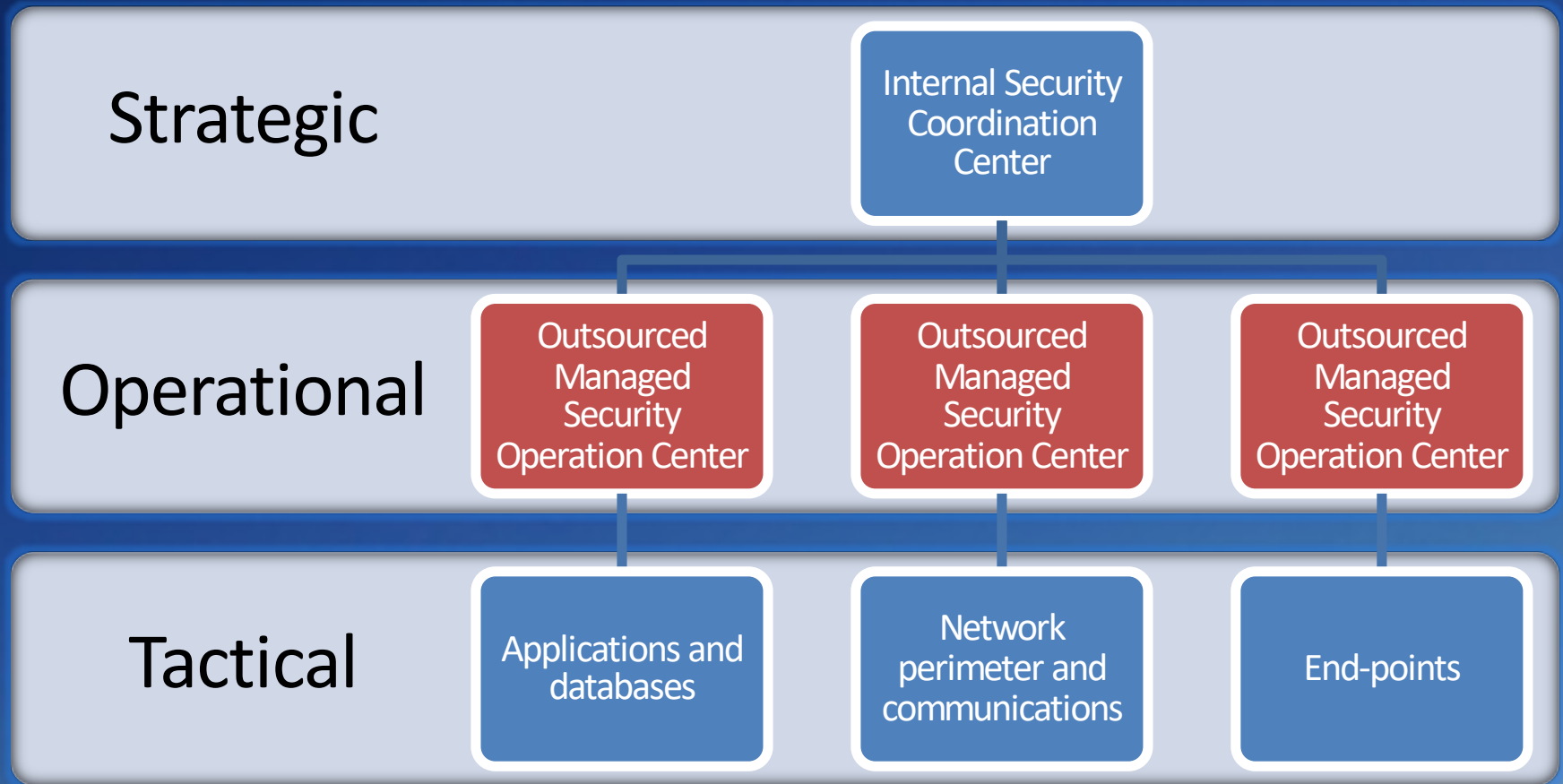
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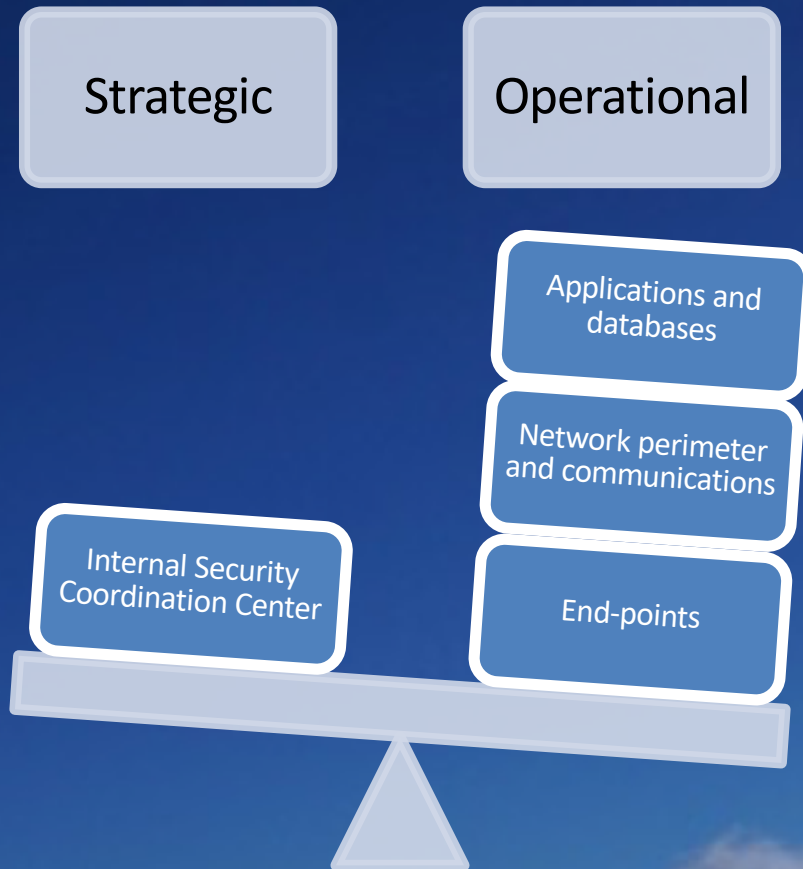
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# ISMS decision levels and risk intelligence



# ISMS decision levels data loads

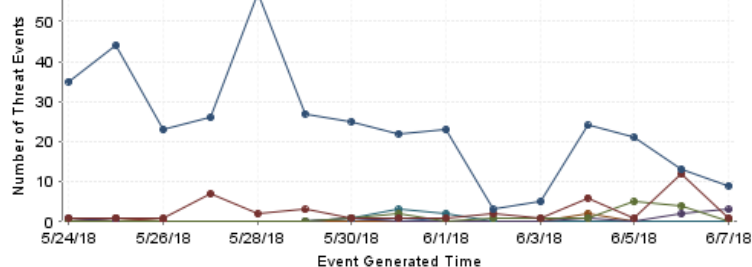


Operational data loads are higher in volumes and velocity because of log retention requirements and amount of signals before data enrichment.

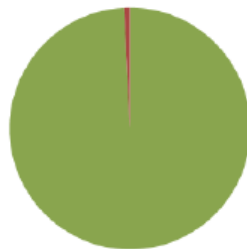
Data analytics automation is more effective within operational SoCs since data signals are grouped by technology.

# Managed SOC challenges

HIPS Detection blocked for the last month



Detection response summary



	Number of Threat Events
■ handled	9,112
■ not handled	76
Total	9,188

Dashboard Company Reports

Web Proxy Dashboard

Search

TOTAL

6.4 TB

DOWNLOADED VOLUME IN LAST 7 DAYS

Size represents volume

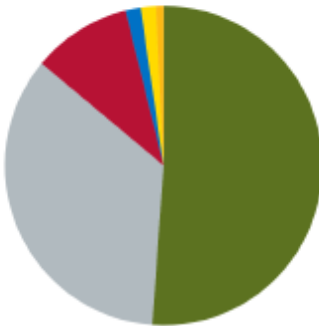
Commercial security data analytic solutions detect 95%\* of known threats but remaining 5% of unknowns are exploited by determined actors and bring a victim to the headlines and cost millions to investigate and resolve (and take years!)\*\*

\*personal liberal estimate based on effectiveness of machine learning based security technologies (anti-virus, anti-spam, firewalls/IDS, Internet filters,...)

\*\* based on post-mortem analysis of incidents targeting our agencies

# Risk intelligence challenges and solutions

ATD Reputations for the last month



ATD Reputation	Number of Files
Known Trusted	66
Unknown	45
Known Malicious	13
Not Set	2
Might be Malicious	2
Most Likely Malicious	1
Total	129

## Challenges

- Timeliness of threat intelligence
- Quality of intelligence data
- Usability of data (taxonomies)
- Relevance to organizational risk context

Leveraging the state of the art technology such as machine learning to resolve business problems (to manage innovation and opportunities requires using it also to manage related risks!

## Solutions

- Decision support based on factual data driven modelling
- Unknown unknowns (unforeseen and unexpected events) derived from threat intelligence supported data repositories (i.e. data enriched security logs)
- To be proactive, batch processing is gradually replaced by data streaming
- Open architecture and open data (with information security in mind!) is strategically critical for internal and external collaboration



# On-premise Security Coordination System Infrastructure



Spark  
SQL

Spark  
Streaming

Spark  
MLlib  
(machine  
Learning)

Spark  
GraphX  
(graph)



elastic



Apache Spark (cluster computing framework)

MapReduce (distributed processing)



Hadoop FS (distributed storage)



SRV 1

SRV 2

SRV 3

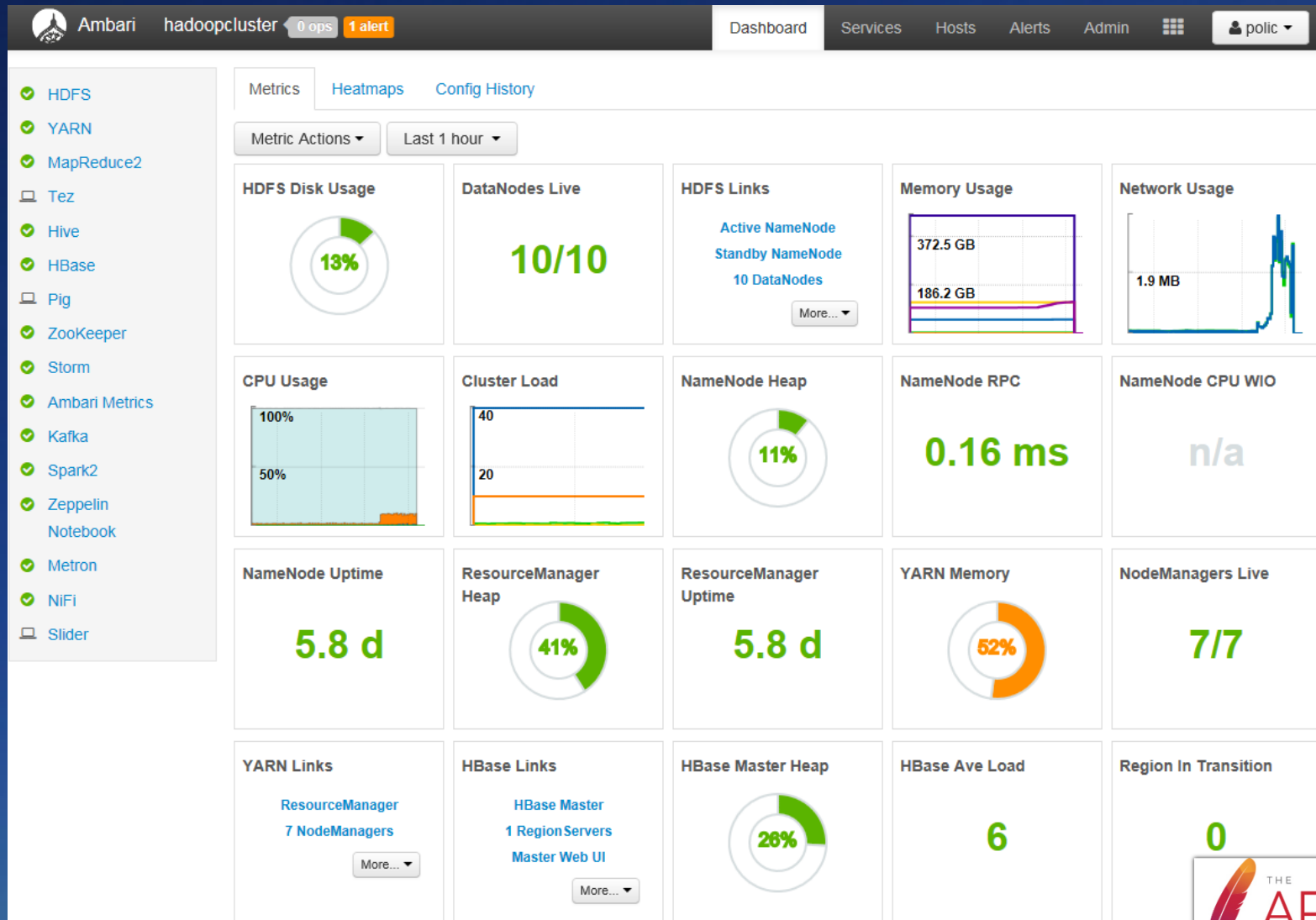
SRV 4

...

SRV 12

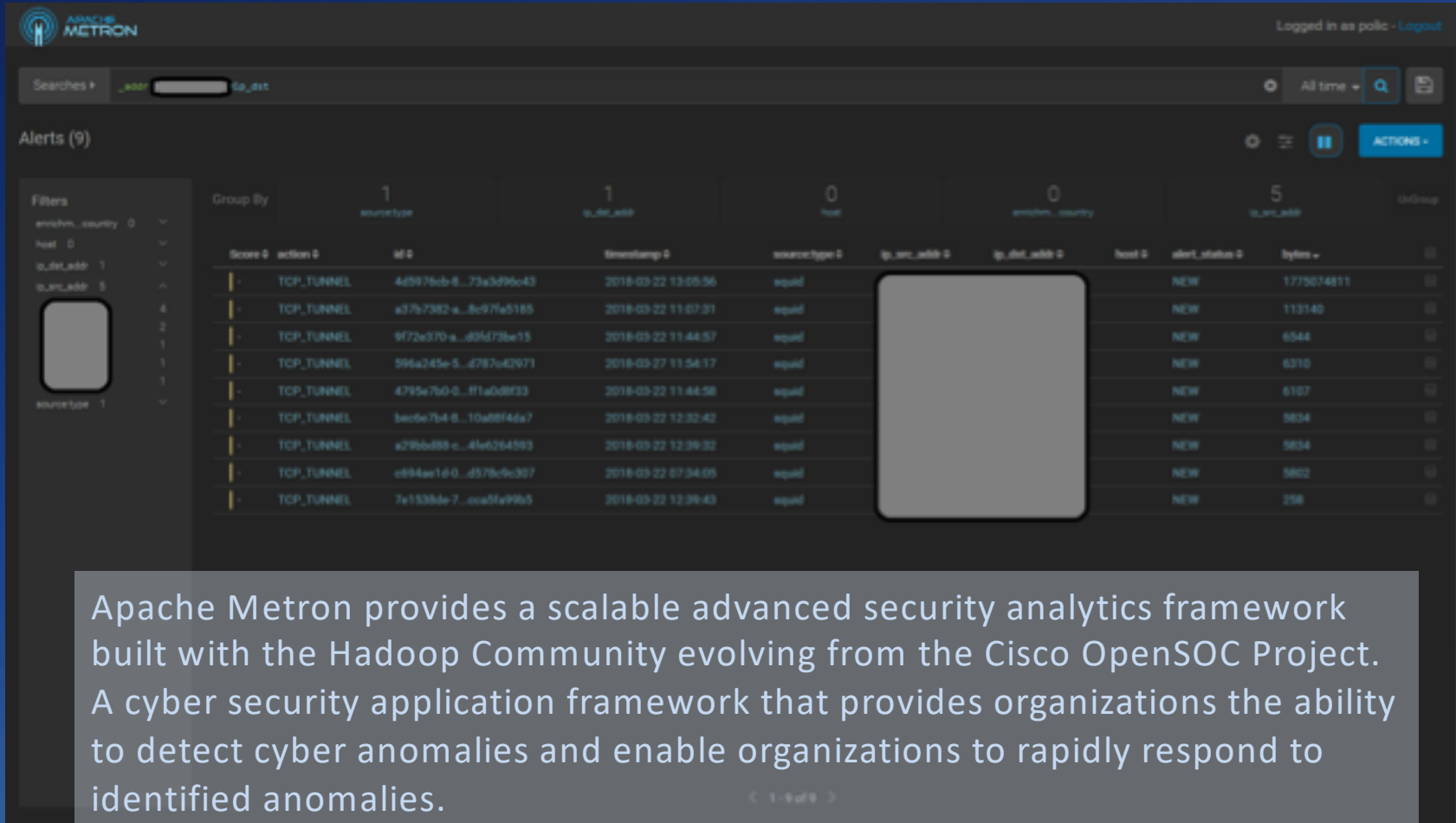


# 100% open-source based





# Open SoC and more...



The screenshot displays the Apache Metron web interface. At the top, the Apache Metron logo is visible on the left, and the user is logged in as 'polio' with a 'Logout' link on the right. Below the header, there is a search bar with the text 'Searches + \_add' and a 'Go' button. The main section is titled 'Alerts (9)' and features a table of alerts. The table has columns for 'Score', 'action', 'id', 'timestamp', 'sourceType', 'ip\_src\_addr', 'ip\_dst\_addr', 'host', 'alert\_status', and 'bytes'. The alerts are grouped by 'sourceType' with a count of 1 for each group. The table lists 9 alerts, all of which are 'TCP\_TUNNEL' and have a 'NEW' status. A large grey rectangular box is overlaid on the table, obscuring some of the data. At the bottom of the table, there is a pagination link '< 1-9 of 9 >'. A text box is overlaid on the bottom of the screenshot, providing information about Apache Metron.

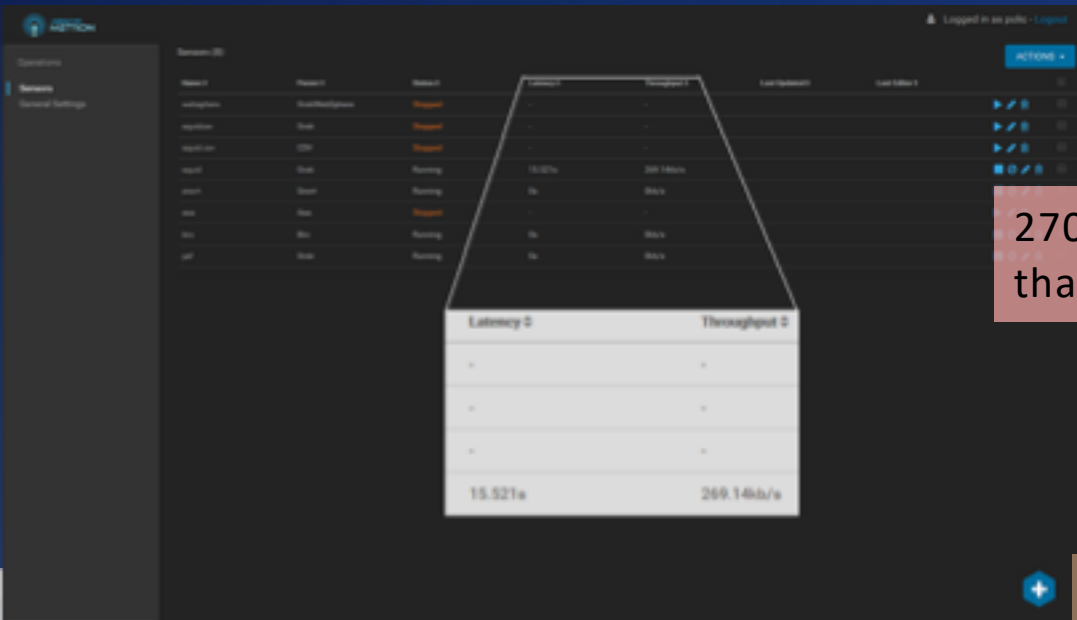
Apache Metron provides a scalable advanced security analytics framework built with the Hadoop Community evolving from the Cisco OpenSOC Project. A cyber security application framework that provides organizations the ability to detect cyber anomalies and enable organizations to rapidly respond to identified anomalies.

OpenSoC origins: <https://blogs.cisco.com/openatcisco/announcing-opensoc-1>

OpenSoC community: <http://opensoc.github.io/>

Apache Metron: <http://metron.apache.org/>

# Unknown unknowns



270kbps of unknown unknowns remain that represent 3% of all Internet traffic!



Internet traffic is analyzed in Network perimeter SoC and in End-point SoC

Web Proxy Dashboard



6.4TB of weekly Internet traffic represents 84.7 Mbps of signals to be analyzed in real time




# Remaining challenge - Finding people with right skills

## Skills required:

- Big data analytics (Mlib, GraphX, Solr, Kafka)
- Programming and data management (Java, R, Scala, Python, SQL)
- Information security risk analysis
- System integration (Hadoop/Spark, Linux, Security systems)

# Next step - Migrating Security Data Analytics to Cloud Computing Services

- 
- A hand holding a network cable against a blue sky with clouds.
- Increasing data processing capacity while maintaining recurrent expenditure levels and reducing capital expenditures (elastic resource provisioning)
  - Reducing infrastructure and platform administration overhead (Security data analysts shouldn't spend time on infrastructure administration)
  - Increasing availability
  - Implementing data segregation for security purposes (integrity of audit logs)
  - Standardization facilitates managed services (more service providers)



# No but really, why cloud?

- Lack of internal skills for big data analytics
- Zero-growth budget and increasing cybersecurity related work (95% vs. 5% threat detection)
- Externalization (outsourcing) of security data management – decentralized security operations
- Risk shifting to end users and end-point devices (they are mobile and globally dispersed)
- “Cloud first” organizational IT strategy – “crown jewels” data will be in the cloud
- Need to have 24/7 near real time alerting for unknown unknowns (unforeseen and unexpected events) in order to have a proactive security risk management



# Migration requirements

- Protect investment in in-house developed solution (Data LTE procedures, ML code, data visualization)
- Open architecture (data exchange, taxonomies, interoperability with 3<sup>rd</sup> party SaaS providers)
- Dynamic resource provisioning
- Availability of managed services for IaaS, PaaS
- Security requirements (data segregation, encryption, access auditing, log monitoring, high-availability)
- Specific organizational legal and contractual requirements (flexibility to select data jurisdictions/regions)

# Proof of Concept (PoC) methodology

- Stage 1 PoC – feasibility study
  - Replicate current on-premise platform into the cloud with light-weight optimization
  - Migrate test data sets for batch processing
  - Run 2 processing ML tests (LoF and k-means clustering) and compare metrics with on-premise results
  - Test data stream indexing, classification and search
  - Iterate through all selected SaaS vendors
  - Measure resources and costs
- Stage 2 PoC – resource scaling and optimization
  - Heavier optimization of all data management phases
  - Larger and more diverse data sets
  - More data analytics ML tests
  - Model resources and costs
  - Assess managed services (availability, quality and costs)

# Feasibility study findings

- Not all regions (data centers) allow dynamic resource provisioning and high-availability (important for data streaming)
- Optimization expertise consultancy is expensive and scarce
- Integration with 3<sup>rd</sup> party SaaS providers varies significantly which can lead to 4x higher dynamic resource utilization and costs!
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party SaaS providers don't support all PaaS data structures
- Multiple SaaS providers hybrid solution might be the best option
- Complex formula for Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) calculations:  
*data storage (including backup/restores and archiving) + data processing + bandwidth + operations + optimization + development - risk (including lost opportunities)*

# Contacts and further information

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