



# Hands on Case Study: Applying Dynamic Network Analysis to Temporal Netflow Data

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June 2020



**CarnegieMellon**

Center for Computational Analysis of  
Social and Organizational Systems  
<http://www.casos.cs.cmu.edu/>



## Overview

- Graduate
- Apply for jobs
- Land a new job
- Get direction from your customer
- Do your job (the hands on part)



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# Graduate



Ph.D.

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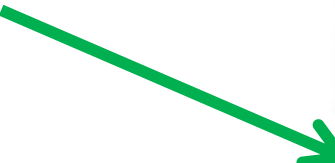
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jobview.monster.com/Principal-Network-Research-Engineer-Scientist-Job-Burlington-MA-US-168029814.aspx?mesoid=1700190001001&jobPosition=2

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Job information	Job Description
<p><b>Job Title:</b> Principal Network Research Engineer/Scientist</p> <p><b>Company:</b> BAE Systems</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Burlington, MA 01803</p> <p><b>Job Category:</b> Engineering</p> <p><a href="#">Submit Resume</a></p>	<p>Cutting-edge networking and communication research impacting real-world problems.</p> <p><b>Who we are:</b> The BAE Systems' Cyber &amp; Communications Technologies Research (CTR) Group is a leading multidisciplinary organization dedicated to cyber, networking and communications R&amp;D. CCTR is the cyber and communications R&amp;D engine for all of BAE Systems North America, yet it runs like a boutique firm. It's the best of both worlds combining a small-company feel, in its own facility, with access to a large company's technology transition paths, customer base, and other resources. CCTR executes a variety of scientific and engineering R&amp;D efforts. <b>Join us for amazing R&amp;D challenges and work on revolutionary networking and communication technologies that make a direct real-world impact.</b></p> <p><a href="#">APPLY</a></p>

Back to Job Search Results


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## Land a new job

Company	BAE Systems
Job Title	Senior Researcher, Network Science
Workcenter	Cyber Situational Awareness Cell
Job Description	Apply network science techniques and expertise to the Cyber Situational Awareness Cell of a multibillion dollar international corporation



Source: Rutgers.edu


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## Get direction from your customer



Source: Youtube

“We have thousands of computers connected all over the world, and we know all about them...but we don't know how the **network is behaving!!!.....HELP!**”

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## Do your job



Source: Temple.edu

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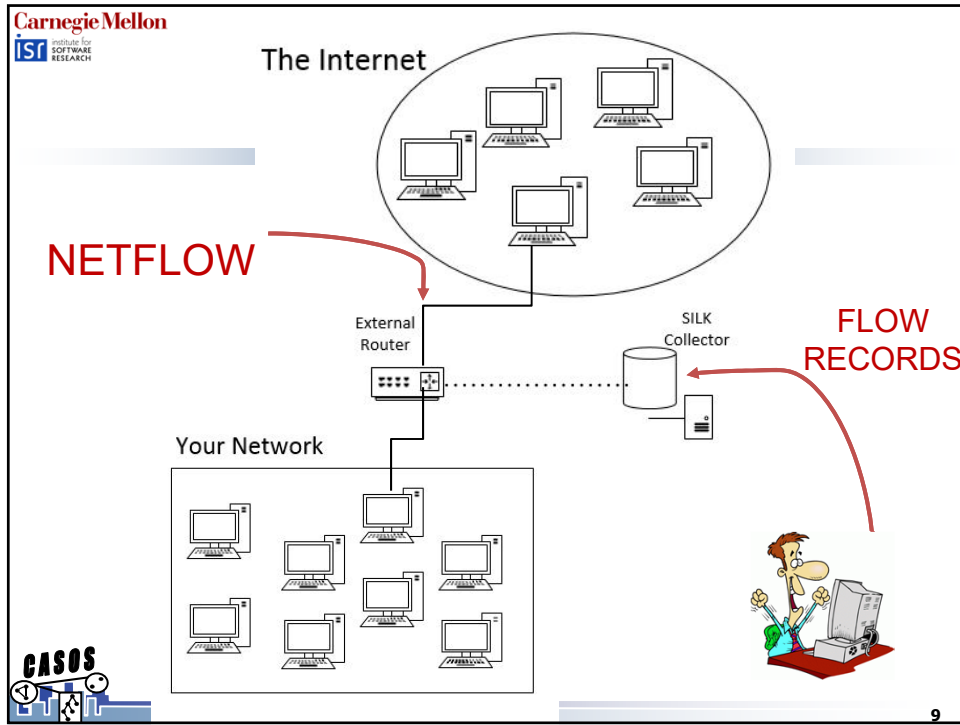
## Do your job

- Collect Netflow data
- Conduct Dynamic Network Analysis
- Gain better Cyber Situational Awareness

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The screenshot shows the SiLK website. At the top, it features the Carnegie Mellon ISI logo and the title 'SiLK' in large blue letters. Below the title is a navigation menu with links for 'Documentation', 'Downloads', 'Release Notes', 'FAQ', 'License', 'Credits', and 'Reference Data'. The main content area is titled 'CERT NetSA Security Suite' and 'Monitoring for Large-Scale Networks'. It includes a 'SiLK' section with a description: 'SiLK, the System for Internet-Level Knowledge, is a collection of traffic analysis tools developed by the CERT Network Situational Awareness Team (CERT NetSA) to facilitate security analysis of large networks. The SiLK tool suite supports the efficient collection, storage, and analysis of network flow data, enabling network security analysts to rapidly query large historical traffic data sets. SiLK is ideally suited for analyzing traffic on the backbone or border of a large, distributed enterprise or mid-sized ISP.' It also mentions that the installation consists of a packing system and an analysis suite, and that the code is implemented in C, Perl, or Python. The footer of the page includes the copyright notice '© 2006-2020 Carnegie Mellon University' and the contact information 'Legal Info | netsa-help@cert.org'. The slide also features the CASOS logo in the bottom left, the name 'Geoffrey Dobson' in the bottom center, and the number '10' in the bottom right.



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# SiLK

Count	Contents	Octet Position	Octet Length	Description	SiLK Field
1	srcaddr	0-3	4	Source IP address	sIP
2	dstaddr	4-7	4	Destination IP address	dIP
3	nexthop	8-11	4	IP address of next hop router	nhIP
4	input	12-13	2	SNMP index of input interface	in
5	output	14-15	2	SNMP index of output interface	out
6	dPkts	16-19	4	Packets in the flow	packets
7	dOctets	20-23	4	Total number of Layer 3 bytes in the packets of the flow	bytes
8	First	24-27	4	SysUptime at start of flow	sTime
9	Last	28-31	4	SysUptime at the time the last packet of the flow was received	eTime
10	srcport	32-33	2	TCP/UDP source port number or equivalent	sPort
11	dstport	34-35	2	TCP/UDP destination port number or equivalent	dPort
12	pad1	36	1	Unused (zero) bytes	-
13	tcp_flags	37	1	Cumulative OR of TCP flags	flags
14	prot	38	1	IP protocol type (for example, TCP = 6, UDP = 17)	protocol
15	tos	39	1	IP type of service (ToS)	n/a
16	src_as	40-41	2	Autonomous system number of the source, either origin or peer	n/a
17	dst_as	42-43	2	Autonomous system number of the destination, either origin or peer	n/a
18	src_mask	44	1	Source address prefix mask bits	n/a
19	dst_mask	45	1	Destination address prefix mask bits	n/a
20	pad2	46-47	2	Unused (zero) bytes	-

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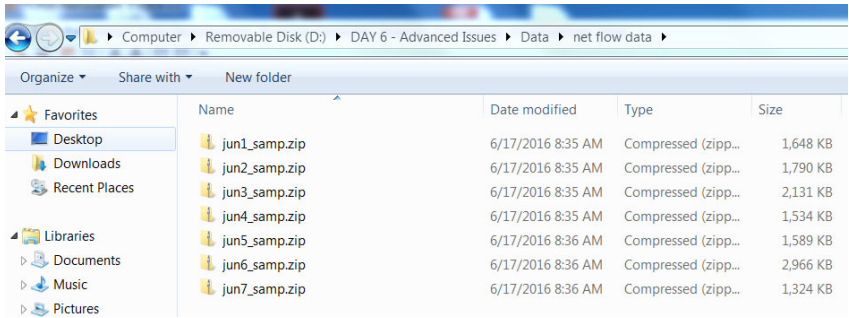
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# Collect Netflow Data

1. Go Data -> net flow data



The screenshot shows a Windows File Explorer window with the address bar set to 'Computer > Removable Disk (D:) > DAY 6 - Advanced Issues > Data > net flow data'. The main pane displays a list of files with columns for Name, Date modified, Type, and Size. The files are all zip files named 'jun' followed by a number and '\_samp.zip', with dates ranging from 6/17/2016 8:35 AM to 8:36 AM and sizes between 1,324 KB and 2,966 KB.

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
jun1_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,648 KB
jun2_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,790 KB
jun3_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	2,131 KB
jun4_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,534 KB
jun5_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:36 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,589 KB
jun6_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:36 AM	Compressed (zipp...	2,966 KB
jun7_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:36 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,324 KB

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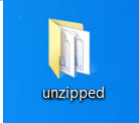
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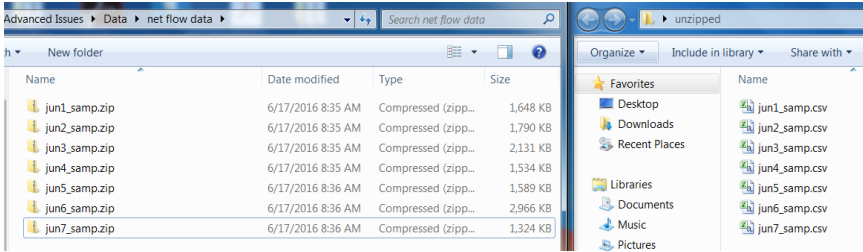
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## Collect Netflow Data

2. Create New Folder on Desktop called "Unzipped"



3. Go to Data drive and right click on each zip file, and extract to Unzipped Folder



Advanced Issues > Data > net flow data

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
jun1_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,648 KB
jun2_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,790 KB
jun3_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	2,131 KB
jun4_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:35 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,534 KB
jun5_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:36 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,589 KB
jun6_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:36 AM	Compressed (zipp...	2,966 KB
jun7_samp.zip	6/17/2016 8:36 AM	Compressed (zipp...	1,324 KB

unzipped

jun1\_samp.csv  
jun2\_samp.csv  
jun3\_samp.csv  
jun4\_samp.csv  
jun5\_samp.csv  
jun6\_samp.csv  
jun7\_samp.csv

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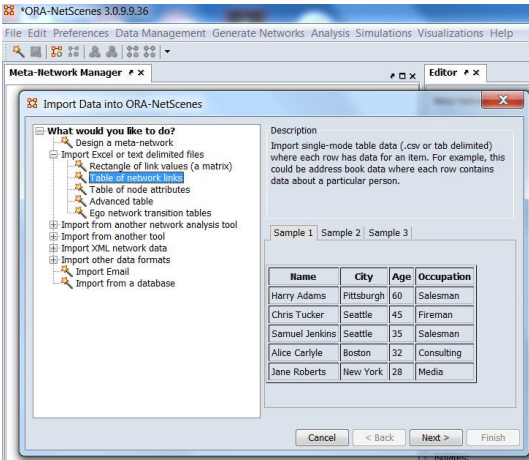
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## Collect Netflow Data

4. Open Import Wizard and select Table of network links



\*ORA-NetScenes 3.0.9.36

File Edit Preferences Data Management Generate Networks Analysis Simulations Visualizations Help

Meta-Network Manager Editor

Import Data into ORA-NetScenes

What would you like to do?

- Design a meta-network
- Import Excel or text delimited files
  - Rectangle of link values (a matrix)
  - Table of network links**
  - Table of node attributes
  - Advanced table
  - Ego network transition tables
- Import from another network analysis tool
- Import XML network data
- Import other data formats
- Import Email
- Import from a database

Description  
Import single-mode table data (.csv or tab delimited) where each row has data for an item. For example, this could be address book data where each row contains data about a particular person.

Sample 1 Sample 2 Sample 3

Name	City	Age	Occupation
Harry Adams	Pittsburgh	60	Salesman
Chris Tucker	Seattle	45	Fireman
Samuel Jenkins	Seattle	35	Salesman
Alice Carlyle	Boston	32	Consulting
Jane Roberts	New York	28	Media

Cancel < Back Next > Finish

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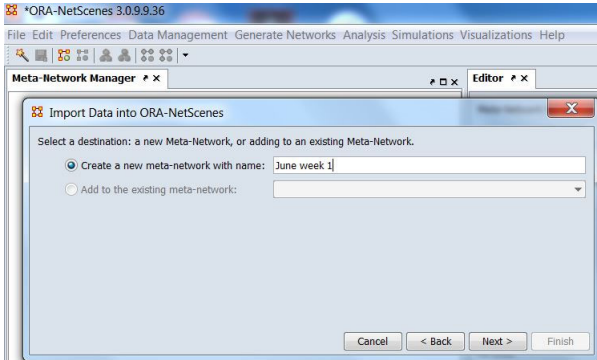
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# Collect Netflow Data

5. Name the Meta Network



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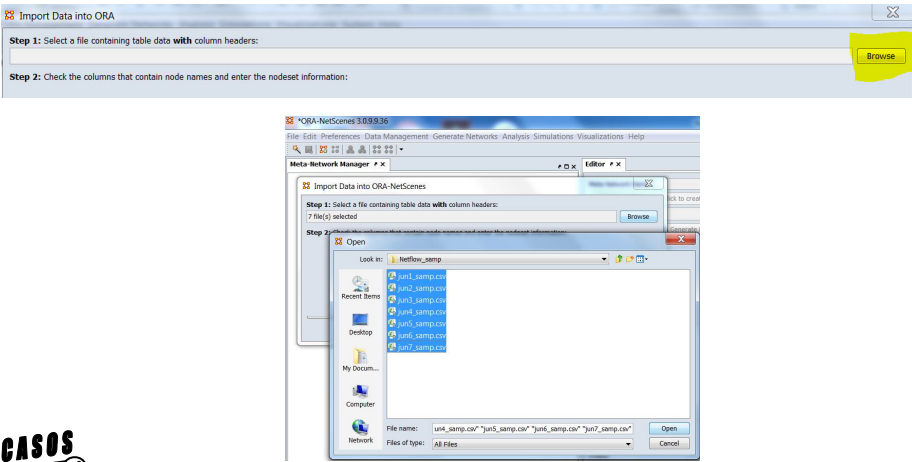
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# Collect Netflow Data

6. Browse to files



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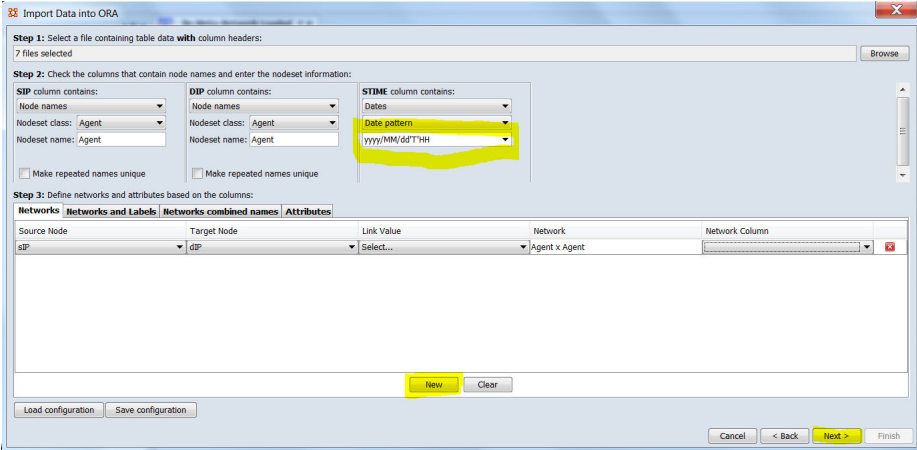




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# Collect Netflow Data

## 7. Configure input data



Step 1: Select a file containing table data with column headers:  
7 files selected

Step 2: Check the columns that contain node names and enter the nodeset information:

SIP column contains:  
Node names: [dropdown]  
Nodeset class: Agent  
Nodeset name: Agent

DIP column contains:  
Node names: [dropdown]  
Nodeset class: Agent  
Nodeset name: Agent

STIME column contains:  
Dates  
Date pattern: yyyy/MM/dd'T'HH

Step 3: Define networks and attributes based on the columns:

Source Node	Target Node	Link Value	Network	Network Column
sIP	dIP	Select...	Agent x Agent	[dropdown]

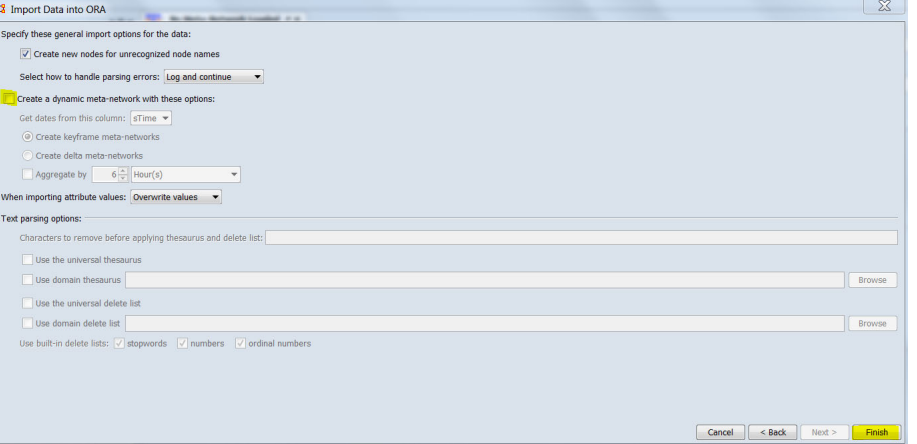
Buttons: Load configuration, Save configuration, New, Clear, Cancel, < Back, Next >, Finish

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# Collect Netflow Data

## 8. Uncheck "Create a dynamic meta-network.." and Finish



Specify these general import options for the data:

Create new nodes for unrecognized node names

Select how to handle parsing errors: Log and continue

**Create a dynamic meta-network with these options:**

Get dates from this column: sTime

Create keyframe meta-networks

Create delta meta-networks

Aggregate by: 6 Hour(s)

When importing attribute values: Overwrite values

Text parsing options:

Characters to remove before applying thesaurus and delete list: [text box]

Use the universal thesaurus

Use domain thesaurus [text box] Browse

Use the universal delete list

Use domain delete list [text box] Browse

Use built-in delete lists:  stopwords  numbers  ordinal numbers

Buttons: Cancel, < Back, Next >, Finish

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## Understand your data

- Describe your network data:
  - Undirected single mode network
  - Agent by Agent meta network
  - Bipartite graph
  - Flow records per day?
    - ~200,000
  - Links per day?
    - ~ 130,000
  - Nodes per day?
    - ~ 22,000

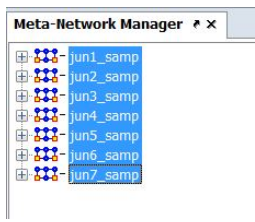
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## Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

1. Create a dynamic meta-network



Meta-Network Manager

- jun1\_samp
- jun2\_samp
- jun3\_samp
- jun4\_samp
- jun5\_samp
- jun6\_samp
- jun7\_samp

CASOS

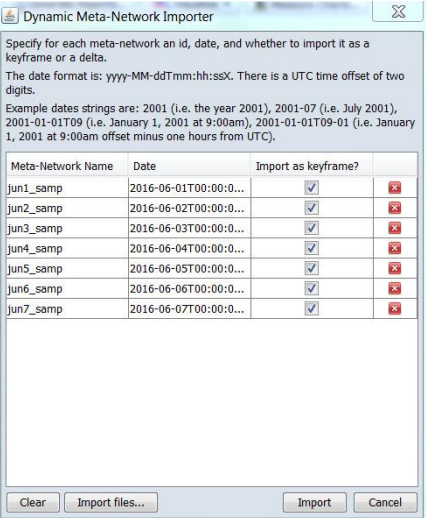
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# Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

2. Fill in Date field



Meta-Network Name	Date	Import as keyframe?
jun1_samp	2016-06-01T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
jun2_samp	2016-06-02T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
jun3_samp	2016-06-03T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
jun4_samp	2016-06-04T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
jun5_samp	2016-06-05T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
jun6_samp	2016-06-06T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
jun7_samp	2016-06-07T00:00:00...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Clear Import files... Import Cancel

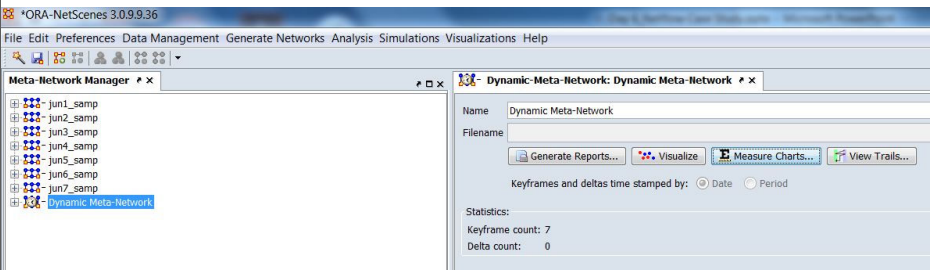
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# Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

3. Click Measure Charts



\*ORA-NetScenes 3.0.9.9.36

File Edit Preferences Data Management Generate Networks Analysis Simulations Visualizations Help

Meta-Network Manager

- jun1\_samp
- jun2\_samp
- jun3\_samp
- jun4\_samp
- jun5\_samp
- jun6\_samp
- jun7\_samp
- Dynamic Meta-Network

Dynamic Meta-Network: Dynamic Meta-Network

Name: Dynamic Meta-Network

Filename:

Generate Reports... Visualize Measure Charts... View Trails...

Keyframes and deltas time stamped by:  Date  Period

Statistics:

Keyframe count: 7

Delta count: 0

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# Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

4. Select the Dynamic Meta Network

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# Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

5. Select Custom: Density and Network Centralization, Total Degree, Click Run

Measure Title	Network L...	Node Level	Computati...
Density, Clustering Coefficient	true	true	normal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Density	true	false	fast
Density, Weighted	true	false	fast

Measure Title	Network L...	Node Level	Computati...
Network Centralization, Betweenness	true	false	slow
Network Centralization, Closeness	true	false	slow
Network Centralization, Eigenvector	true	false	slow
Network Centralization, In-Closeness	true	false	slow
Network Centralization, In-Degree	true	false	fast
Network Assortativity	true	false	fast
Network Centralization, Out-Degree	true	false	fast
Structural Holes, Effective Network ...	false	true	normal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Network Centralization, Total Degree	true	false	fast

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# Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

6. Add Measure, then view various results

Measures Over Time

Recompute Measures Save Computed

Measure Selector

Network Level Agent Level

Use the Add and Clear buttons below to display measures.

Add Measure Clear Measure

Measures Over Time

Recompute Measures Save Computed Measures

Measure Selector Restrictor

Network Level Agent Level

Start: 2016-06-01 00:00:00 Skip: 0 End: 2016-06-07 00:00:00

Select a me... Input: Density Agent x Agent

Add Measure Clear Measure

Charts

Measure values Fast Fourier Transform Change Detection Color Grid

Value

Date

Density : Agent x Agent

Show scaled measure values Display Options... Save Chart As... Date markers... Close

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# Perform Dynamic Network Analysis

6. continued

Measures Over Time

Recompute Measures Save Computed

Measure Selector

Network Level Agent Level

Use the Add and Clear buttons below to display measures.

Add Measure Clear Measure

Charts

Measure values Fast Fourier Transform Change Detection Color Grid

Value

Date

Network Centralization, Total Degree : Agent x Agent

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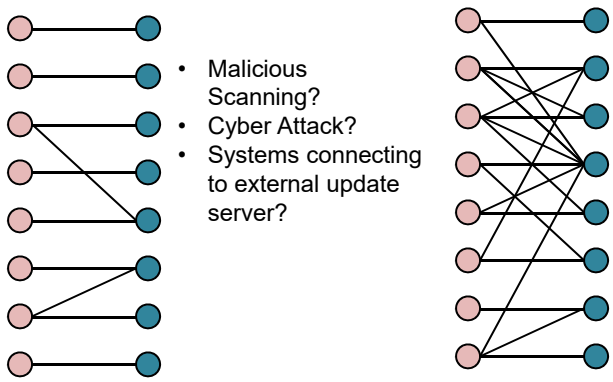
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## Gain Cyber SA

- What could huge increase in Total Degree Centralization mean?



- Malicious Scanning?
- Cyber Attack?
- Systems connecting to external update server?

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## More Analysis?

- Keep library of known nodes and compare against?
- Other measures that could provide better SA?
  - Weighted density?
  - In degree centralization on nodes inside the network?
    - Could identify targeted attacks
- Periodicity? Days of the week, etc

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