Epidigitalogy Surveying for Digital Diseases like an Epidemiologist

Efrain Ortiz, CISSP

Director, Market and Technology Innovation Group
Symantec

What does a 19th century doctor and CDC have to do with cyber security?

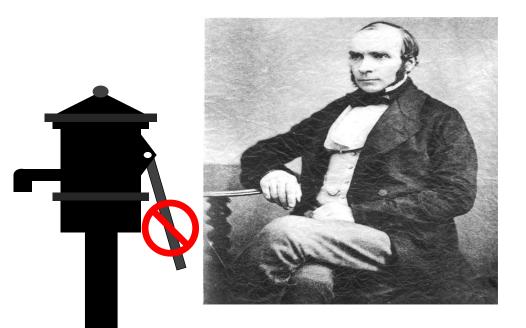




Image Attribution: wikipedia.org., CDC.gov

What is Epidigitalogy?

 "Epidigitalogy is the study of the distribution and determinants of digital-related states or events in specified populations, and the application of this study to the control of digital diseases." *

- paraphrased from CDC

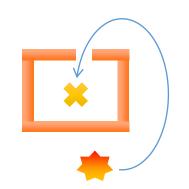
^{*} Center for Disease Control and Prevention definition

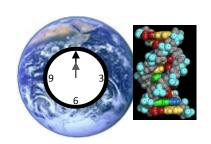
1+1=2
$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u &= d_u^2 \nabla^2 u + f(u) - \sigma v, \\ \tau \partial_t v &= d_v^2 \nabla^2 v + u - v \end{aligned}$$

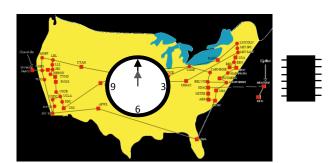




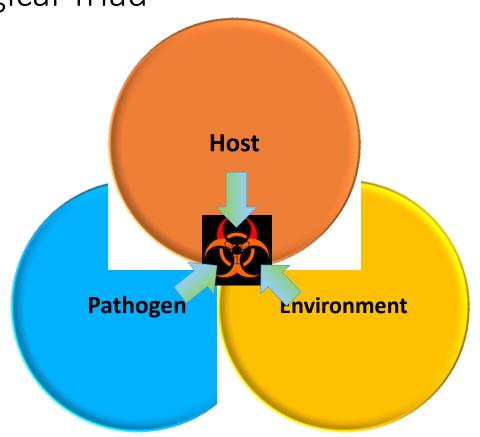
Epidemiology and Epidigitalogy What are the similarities?



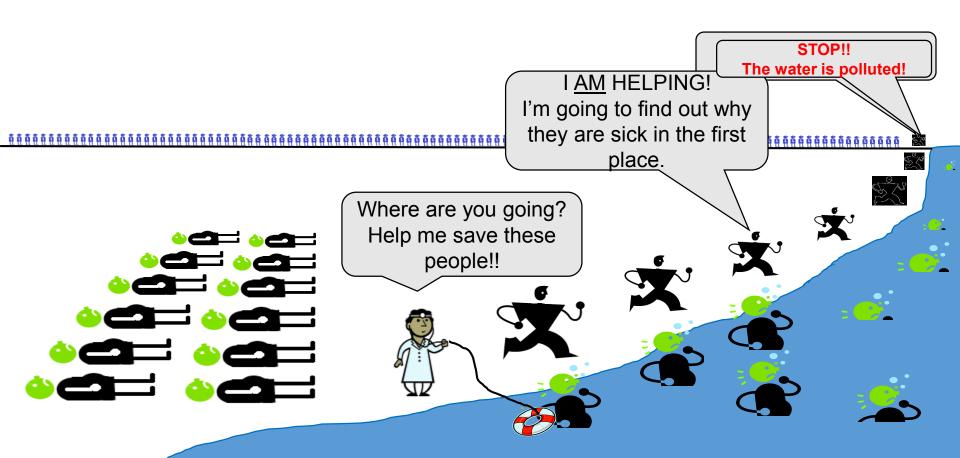




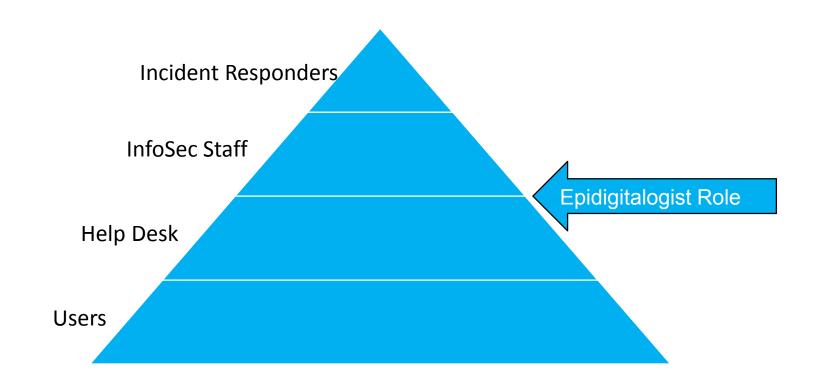
Epidigitalogical Triad



Why do you need an epidigitalogist?

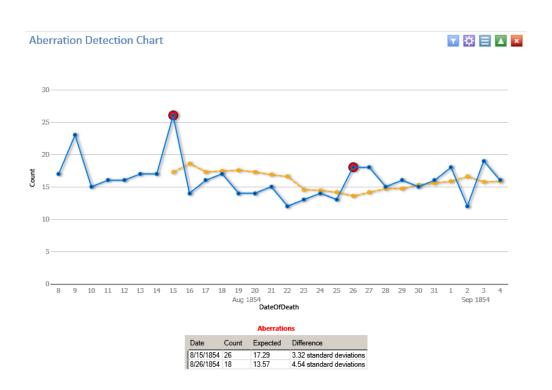


Where does an epidigitalogist fit in the organization?



Tools of the Epidemiology Trade

Let's get visual for faster time-to-know.



What happens when we feed Epiinfo 7 endpoint security data?

AV Log Events Frequency (Cases)

Frequency of Alert Types





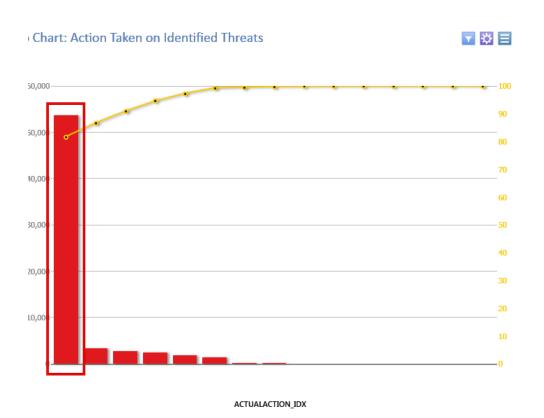




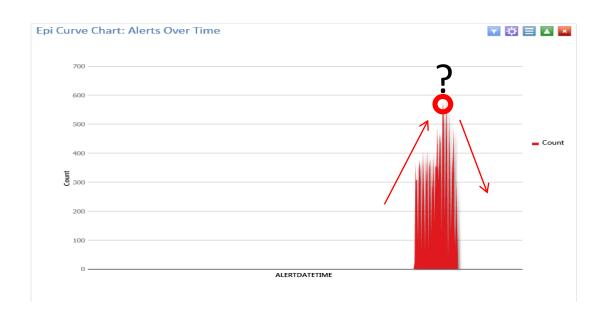


ALERT_IDX	Frequency	Percent	Cum. Percent	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper
Commercial application detected	516	0.23 %	0.23 %	0.21 %	0.25 %
Forced proactive threat detected	175774	76.88 %	77.11 %	76.71 %	77.05 %
Potential risk found	9433	4.13 %	81.23 %	4.04 %	4.21 %
Proactive detection now permitted	3773	1.65 %	82.88 %	1.60 %	1.70 %
Risk sample submitted to Symantec	10070	4.40 %	87.29 %	4.32 %	4.49 %
Security risk found	5335	2.33 %	89.62 %	2.27 %	2.40 %
Virus found	23733	10.38 %	100.00 %	10.26 %	10.51 %
TOTAL	228634	100.00 %	100.00 %		

Pareto (80/20 Rule) of Actions Taken (Cases)



EpiCurve of Events Frequency(Cases)

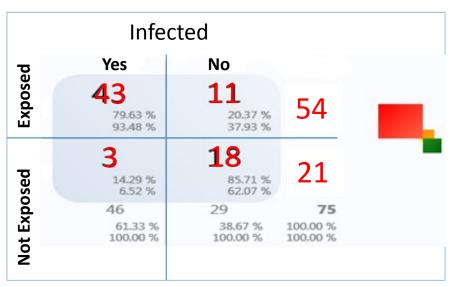


AV Risk Detected Frequency (Cases)

Frequency						▼ 🌣 🗏
Detected	Frequency	Percent	Cum. Percent	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	
W32.HLLP.Sality	271071	73 %	73 %	73 %	74 %	
W32.HLLP.Sality!inf	75576	20 %	94 %	20 %	21 %	
Backdoor.IRC.Bot	21594	6 %	100 %	6 %	6 %	
Dialer. Dial Platform	126	0 %	100 %	0 %	0 %	
Adware.GAIN	124	0 %	100 %	0 %	0 %	
W32.IRCBot.Gen	71	0 %	100 %	0 %	0 %	
		2.24	4000	~ ~	2.27	

Epi Info 7.0 Visual Dashboard (Case Control study)

^ Exposure							
Exposure	Outcome Rate Exposure	Outcome Rate No Exposure	Odds Ratio				
ADServer	0.6216	0.6216	1.000				
autorun#inf2	0.5319	0.7407	0.397				
Autorun1#inf	0.6750	0.5429	1.749				
CDROM	0.6129	0.6136	0.996				
File1#exe	0.6304	0.5862	1.204				
File2#exe	0.6667	0.5833	1.428				
HRServer1	0.5000	0.6197	0.613				
http://downl0ad5galore\#com	0.5625	0.6512	0.688				
http://download#latestcelebritynews#ru	0.7963	0.1429	23.454				
NetFiler1	0.6667	0.6087	1.285				
NetFiler2	0.6957	0.5769	1.676				
ocess1#exe	0.6047	0.6250	0.917				
Junkey1	0.6429	0.5957	1.221				
₹rver3	0.5417	0.6471	0.644				
LDBServer	0.5676	0.6579	0.682				

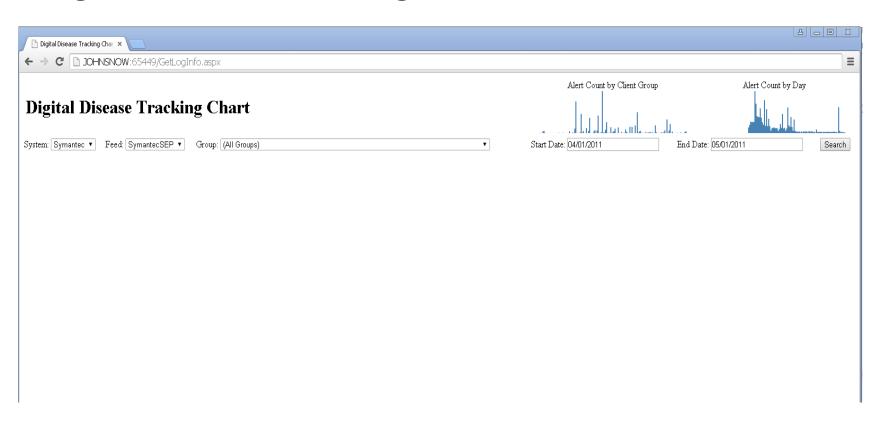


Clinical Trials Survey **Deploy Control** Analyze Measure Create a Effectiveness Control of Control Test the Control

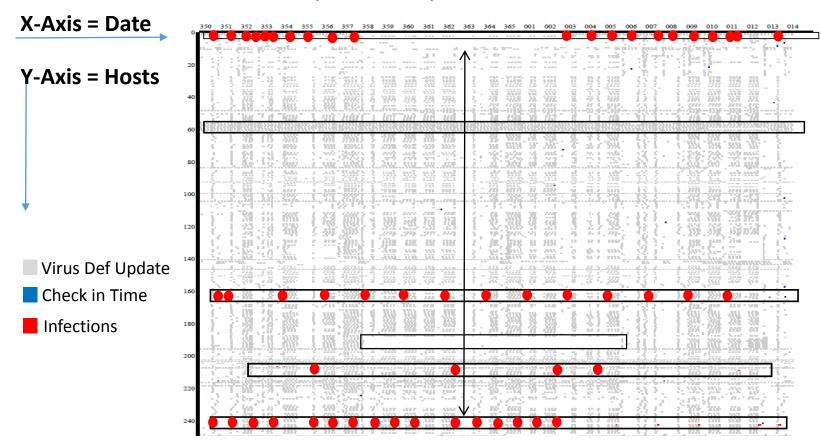
Digital Disease Tracking Web Portal

Proof of concept

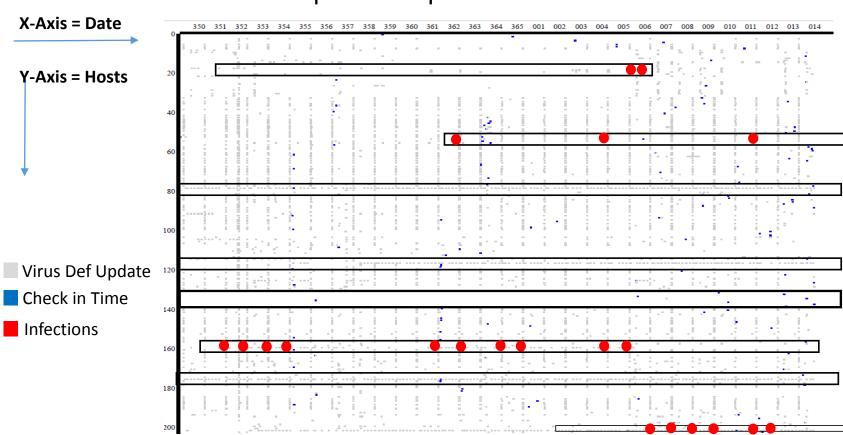
Digital Disease Tracking Web Portal



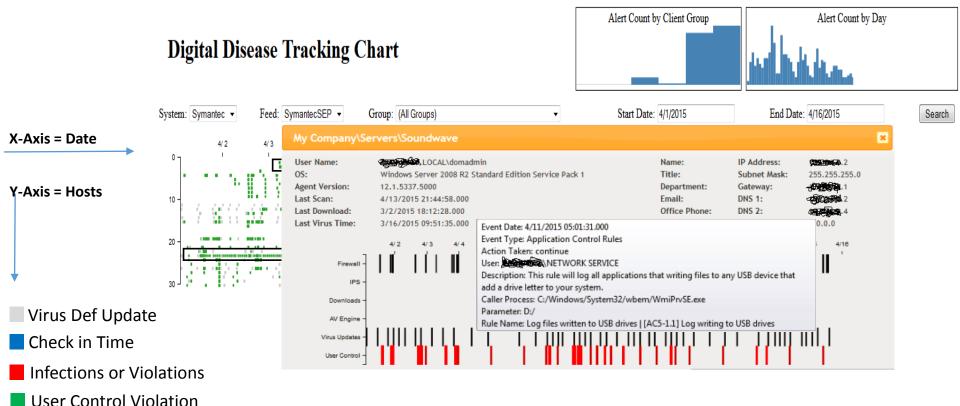
Proof of Concept: Endpoint Product 1



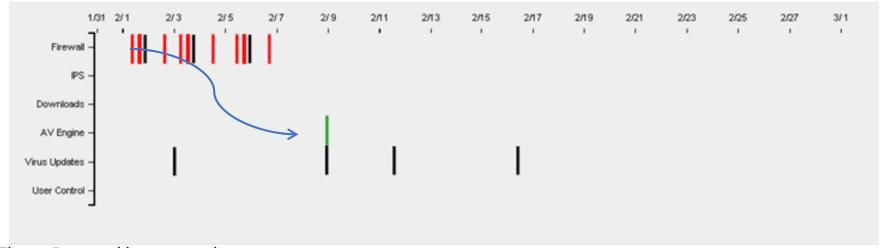
Proof of Concept: Endpoint Product 2



Proof of Concept: Endpoint Product 3

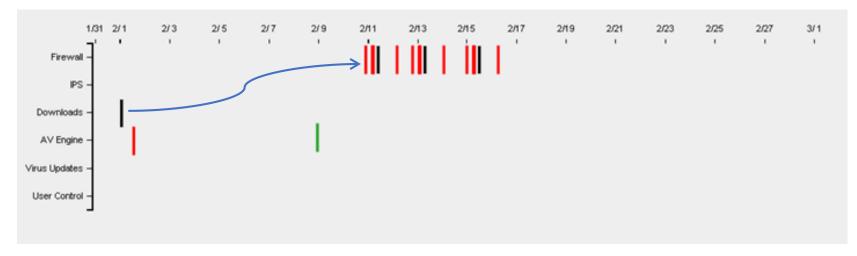


Possible Network Borne Digital Disease Pathogen



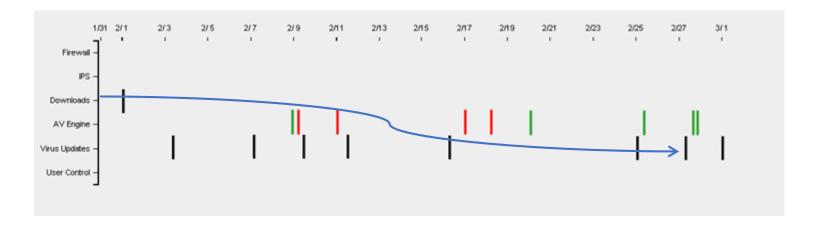
- Threat Detected but stopped
- Informational
- Violation or Failed to Stop

Possible Download Borne Digital Disease Pathogen



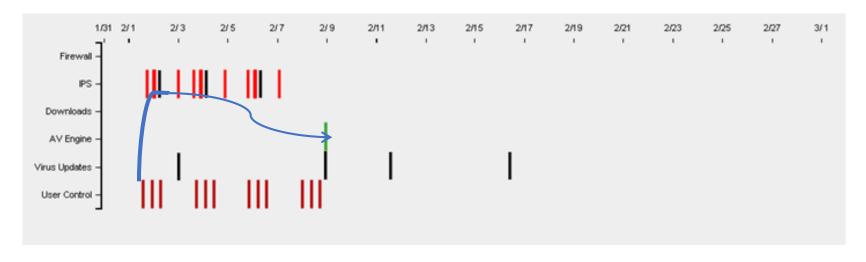
- Threat Detected but stopped
- Informational
- Violation or Failed to Stop

Possible Downloader Borne Digital Disease Pathogen



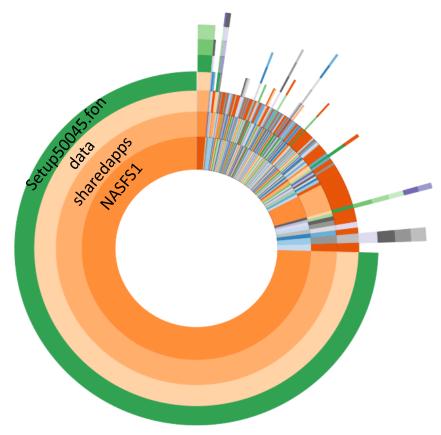
- Threat Detected but stopped
- Informational
- Violation or Failed to Stop

Possible USB Borne Digital Disease Pathogen

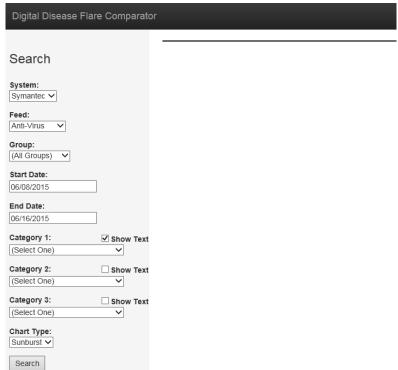


- Threat Detected but stopped
- Informational
- Violation or Failed to Stop
- Policy Violation

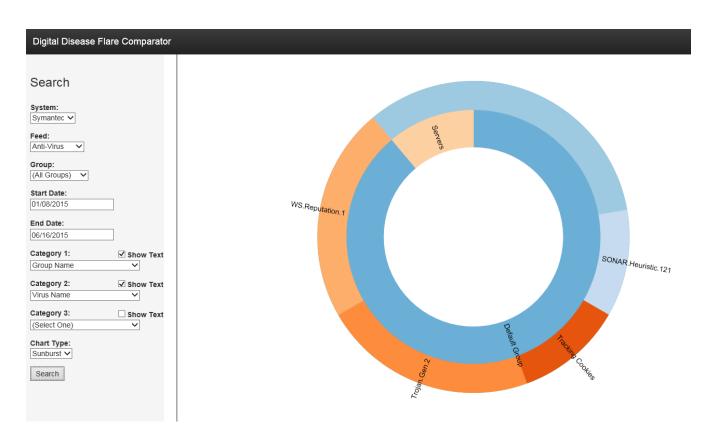
NAS Borne Infections Visualization



Digital Disease Flare Comparator



Comparing Group Name Count to Virus Count in Sunburst



Summary

- Actively Survey Population thinking like an epidemiologist
- Case/Control Studies
- Clinical Trials
- Visualize Your Data
- Repeat Process Ad Infinitum

Apply Epidigitalogy

- Within a week you should:
 - Read Epidigitalogy blog link at http://www.epidigitalogy.com/
- In the first three months following this presentation you should:
 - (1) Download (2) Customize and (3) Install Digital Disease Tracking Web Application and (4) Attach or customize to your endpoint environment.
- Within six months you should:
 - Assign someone to the epidigitalogist role.
 - Commence routine surveying of endpoint data in your environment using epidemiological survey techniques.

Existing Literature Mentioning Epidemiology and Security

Title	Author(s)		
Microsoft Exec: Infected PCs should be quarantined	Scott Charney's RSA Keynote 2010		
Applying Epidemiology in Computer Virus Prevention: Prospects and Limitations	By Weiguo Jin Univ of Auckland		
A genetic epidemiology approach to cyber-security	Santiago Gil, Alexander Kott & Albert-László Barabási		
The Application of Epidemiology to Computer Viruses	W.H. Murray (1988)		
Computer Viruses- Theory and Experiments	Fred Cohen (1984)		

Thank You

Director, Market and Technology Innovation Group

Efrain_Ortiz (at) Symantec (d0t) com

@ortizonline