



US-CERT: Netflow visualization

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#Agenda

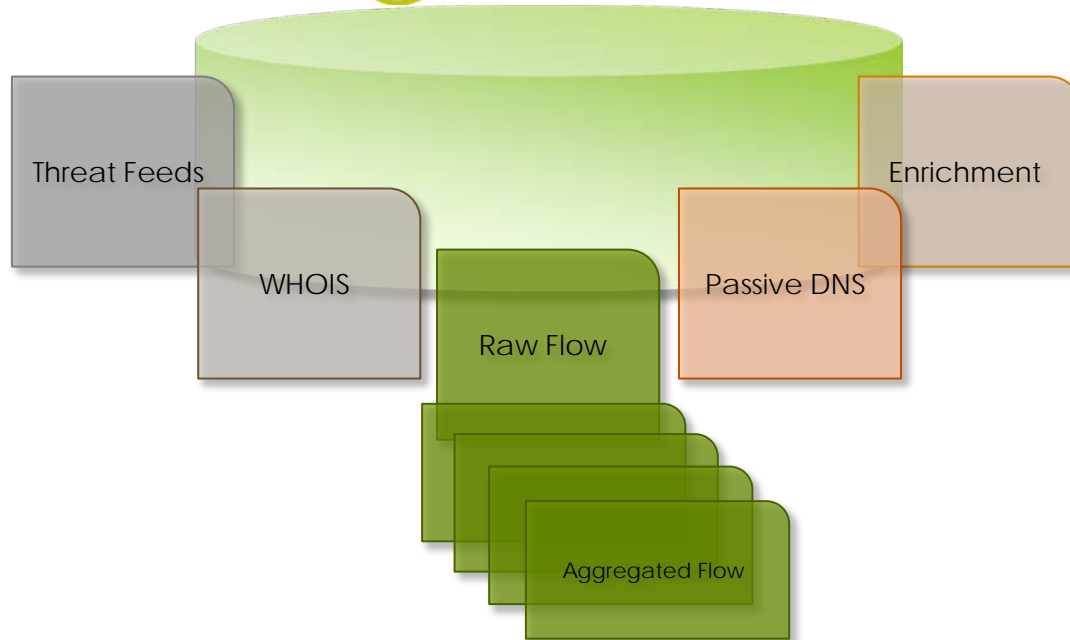
```
if($attendance > 0) {  
    print "- Introduction\n";  
    print "- The back-end\n";  
    print "- Things to consider\n";  
    print "- The front-end\n";  
    print "- The Good, Bad, and Ugly\n";  
    print "- Next steps\n";  
    print "Exiting\n";  
    exit(0);  
}  
else {  
    print "See ya! Going to Starbucks\n";  
}
```



The Back-end

- Don't worry, pretty pictures coming next...
- Netezza™ Database Appliance
 - OLAP, not OLTP
 - Billions of records and 100's thousands queries per day
 - Scales linearly on processing and storage
 - Open connectivity standards (ODBC, JDBC)
- Data enrichment to provide context
- Data aggregates or cubes

The Back-end (Crayola™ version)



Threat Feeds

WHOIS

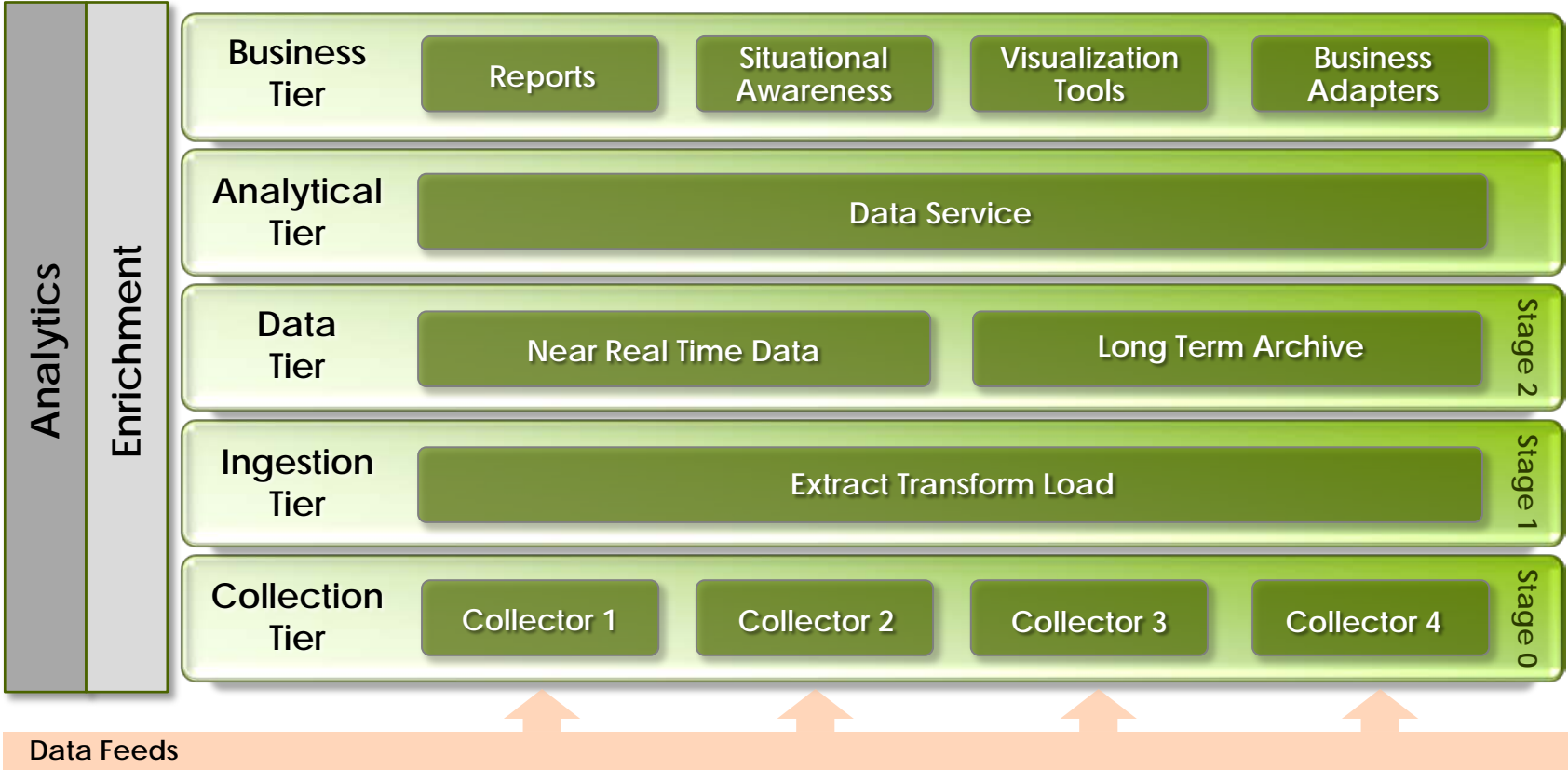
Raw Flow

Passive DNS

Enrichment

Aggregated Flow

Notional Data Flow/Architecture



Visualization Considerations

Speed

- Response Time
- Ingest
- Querying
- Maintenance

Low Latency

- Collection to Rest
- Near Real Time
- Retrospective

Easy to Use

- Easy to Develop
- Easy to Interpret
- Collaboration

Comprehensive

- Multiple Sources
- Common Data Model

**Augment the
Analysis
Mission**

Tool Considerations

- Client or Server Based
 - Where is the data?
 - What is the “state” of your data?
 - How responsive does the system need to be?
- What does the visualization do for you?
 - Provides an alternative way of viewing the problem
 - Confirm/refute suspected activity
 - You haven't seen what you haven't seen



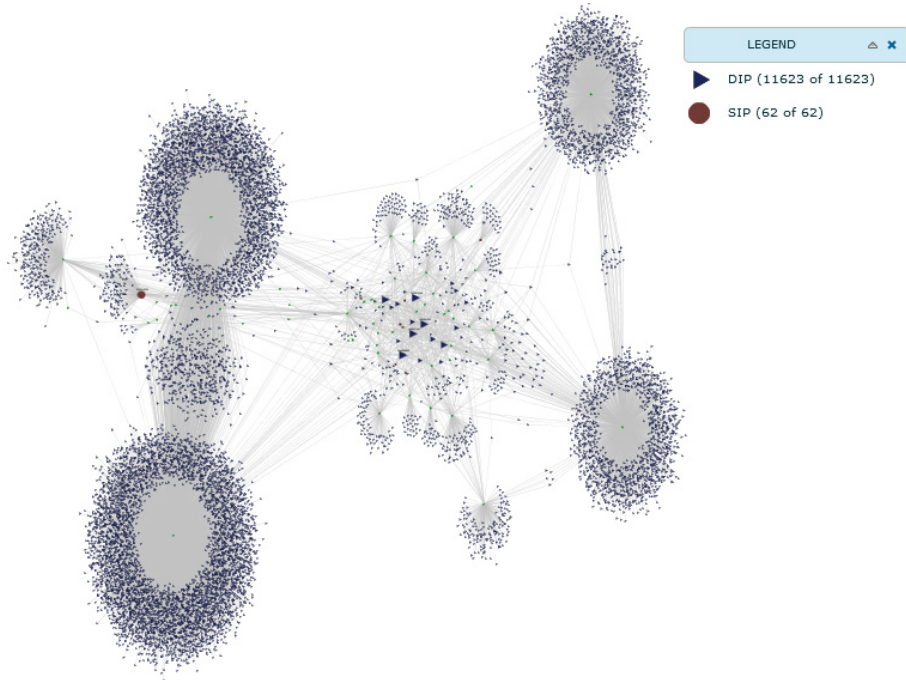
The Front-end

- Provides logical workflow
- Visual pattern recognition
 - Quick culling of benign traffic
 - Outliers stand out
 - Easier to see relationships
- Can be used to train junior analysts
- Repeatable results
- Interface can be tuned for different applications

The Front-end (Situational Awareness)



The Front-end (Link Analysis)



- Explore relationships
- Drill and pivot
- Identify bad and non-obvious actors
- Questions lead to more questions
- Minimize false positives
- Validate findings

The Good, Bad, and Ugly

- GOOD!
 - Single pane of glass
 - More efficient workflow
 - Shorter learning curve for junior analysts
 - Knowledge transfer from senior analysts
 - Pretty
- BAD!
 - Massive data-sets are still massive (even with fusion IO cards)
 - Less flexible than command-line
 - If what you want to look at is not pre-computed, go get a coffee, or five...
- UGLY!
 - Operating on the edge of what is possible
 - No one vendor provides an ideal front-end solution
 - Custom applications take time



Next Steps

- Settle on a front-end application
- Add white-listing on the fly
- Automate pattern recognition (got your slide-ruler?)
- Tighter integration with Indicator database



Questions?
