



GREYNOISE

KNOW MORE NOISE



# Tracking Internet Noise to Reduce Alerts and Focus on Trending Exploits

Andrew Morris, Founder & CEO, Greynoise

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# Meet the Speaker



Andrew Morris

Founder and CEO  
GreyNoise Intelligence

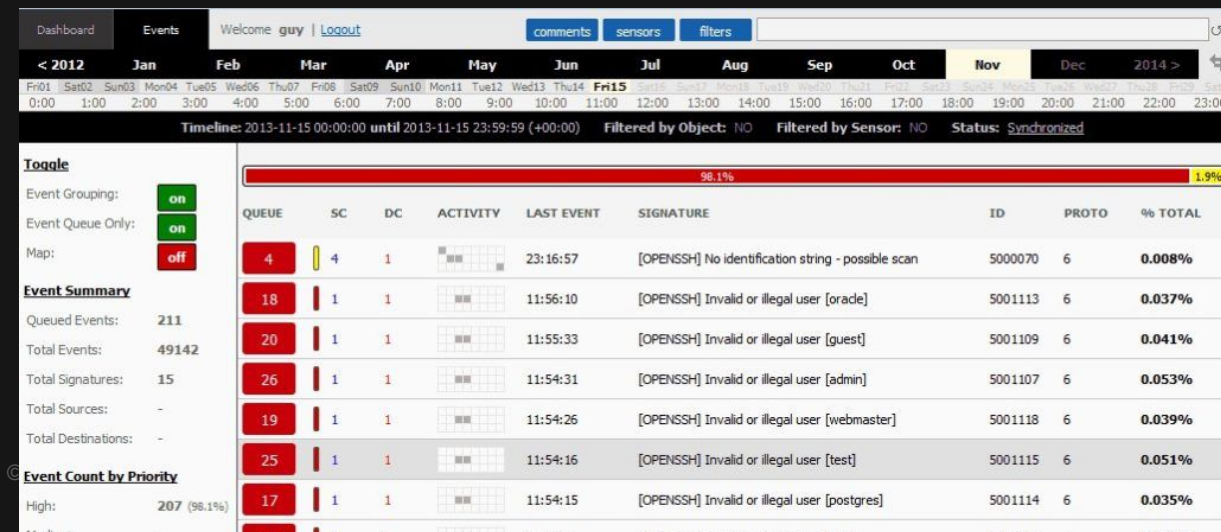
[@Andrew\\_\\_\\_Morris](#)

[andrew@greynoise.io](mailto:andrew@greynoise.io)

# EVERYONE IN THE SOC IS TOO BUSY



- Everything feels on fire all the time
- Every alert is critical, but lacking context
- There is not enough time to do meaningful work
- If every alert is urgent, then nothing is urgent



Is this what your IDS feels like?

# INTERNET NOISE IS PART OF THE PROBLEM



The internet is  
super noisy

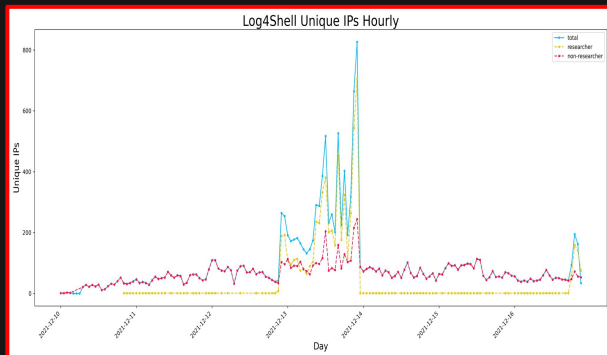


“Internet Noise” is spam targeting the SOC

- Every machine connected to the internet is exposed to scans and attacks from 1000's of unique IP addresses per day.
- This triggers thousands of events to be analyzed, many from benign sources.

Source: GreyNoise analysis, 2021

Opportunistic attacks are  
now the #1 attack vector



Every new CVE is a race against time

- The time delay is getting shorter between a CVE being disclosed and internet-wide exploitation starting.
- It's a race against time to see who can find vulnerable servers first.

Source: IBM X-Force Threat intelligence Index for 2021

False positives are  
driving alert fatigue

38%  
of security alerts  
are “noise”

Alert fatigue is making us less secure

- 45% of alerts are false positives
- 49% of analysts ignore alerts if the queue is full
- 10-50% analyst churn in the past year

Source: IDC, CriticalStart, HelpNet Security

# PROBLEM: The internet is super noisy



- No seriously, it's insanely noisy
- Have you ever used Shodan?
  - Censys?
  - BinaryEdge?
  - RiskIQ?
  - SecurityTrails?
  - BitSight?
  - Security Scorecard?
  - GOOGLE SEARCH?

The way that these technologies work has an unintended consequence...

# Suricata + Emerging Threats ruleset on some empty IPs (4 days)



signature	hits	ips
ET POLICY RDP connection request	707029	1450
ET SCAN NMAP -sS window 1024	352324	6048
ET DOS Microsoft Remote Desktop (RDP) Syn then Reset 30 Second DoS Attempt	101793	698
ET POLICY MS Remote Desktop Administrator Login Request	40519	66
ET TROJAN MS Terminal Server Single Character Login possible Morto inbound	25285	156
ET DROP Spamhaus DROP Listed Traffic Inbound group 14	17800	302
ET SCAN Suspicious inbound to MSSQL port 1433	15350	4684
ET POLICY RDP disconnect request	13354	19
ET DROP Dshield Block Listed Source group 1	13100	264
ET POLICY Reserved Internal IP Traffic	12678	1
ET POLICY SSH session in progress on Expected Port	10533	383
ET SCAN Sipvicious Scan	8982	99
ET SCAN Sipvicious User-Agent Detected (friendly-scanner)	8143	91
ET SCAN Behavioral Unusually fast Terminal Server Traffic Potential Scan or Infection (Inbound)	5650	67
ET SCAN Suspicious inbound to MySQL port 3306	3879	646
ET DOS Possible NTP DDoS Inbound Frequent Un-Authed MON_LIST Requests IMPL 0x03	3261	113
ET SCAN Suspicious inbound to PostgreSQL port 5432	3234	683
ET POLICY Lets Encrypt Free SSL Cert Observed	2761	6
ET SCAN Suspicious inbound to Oracle SQL port 1521	1928	424
ET POLICY Inbound RDP Connection with Minimal Security Protocol Requested	1585	113
ET POLICY SSH session in progress on Unusual Port	903	108
ET POLICY MS Terminal Server Root login	818	248
ET INFO Potentially unsafe SMBv1 protocol in use	805	554
ET EXPLOIT [NCC GROUP] Possible Inbound RDP Exploitation Attempt (CVE-2019-0708)	674	22
ET POLICY DNS Update From External net	479	1
ET SCAN Suspicious inbound to mSQL port 4333	378	64
ET DROP Spamhaus DROP Listed Traffic Inbound group 2	304	14
ET POLICY Inbound RDP Connection with TLS Security Protocol Requested	175	48
ET DROP Spamhaus DROP Listed Traffic Inbound group 33	150	2
ET VOIP Modified Sipvicious Asterisk PBX User-Agent	122	5
ET SCAN HID VertX and Edge door controllers discover	118	26
ET SCAN NMAP -sS window 4096	71	35
ET SCAN Malformed Packet SYN RST	70	8
ET SCAN Behavioral Unusually fast inbound Telnet Connections, Potential Scan or Brute Force	48	30
ET POLICY SSH Client Banner Detected on Unusual Port	46	5
ET SCAN Potential SSH Scan	45	13
ET EXPLOIT Eir D1000 Modem CWMP Exploit RCE	43	30
ET DROP Spamhaus DROP Listed Traffic Inbound group 3	39	4
ET SCAN Potential VNC Scan 5900-5920	36	17
ET DROP Spamhaus DROP Listed Traffic Inbound group 21	33	2
ET SCAN Potential VNC Scan 5800-5820	32	3
ET INFO Cisco Smart Install Protocol Observed	32	17
ET POLICY Inbound HTTP CONNECT Attempt on Off-Port	30	12
ET DOS Possible NTP DDoS Inbound Frequent Un-Authed MON_LIST Requests IMPL 0x02	23	1
ET DROP Spamhaus DROP Listed Traffic Inbound group 9	20	13
ET SCAN NMAP -f -sV	19	9

# How noisy?



- This gets really REALLY bad on large networks
- On a daily basis, every individual routable IP on the Internet sees:
  - ~3,000 unsolicited SYNs from...
  - ~1,000 distinct IP addresses
- Each /24 receives about 46mb of unsolicited network data from ~200,000 IP addresses from SYNs alone
- Why?
  - BAD: To do BAD STUFF to you, from the same place or somewhere else: Credential stuffing, proxy checking, brute forces, exploit vulnerabilities, etc
  - GOOD: Web search, asset discovery, third party risk, security research

This creates a huge noise problem.

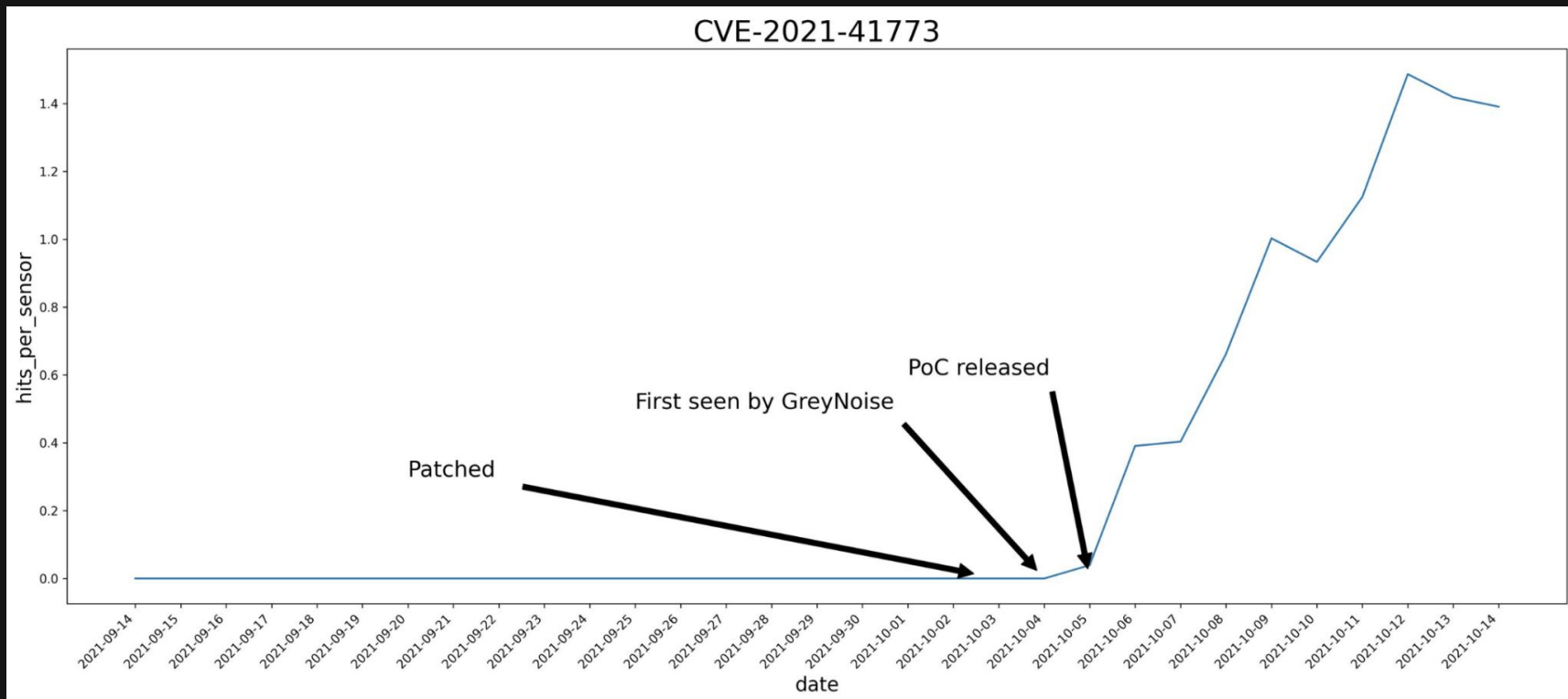


# PROBLEM: Newly disclosed vulnerabilities are quickly weaponized



- There is always some time delay between a vulnerability being disclosed and internet-wide exploitation starting
- This time delay is getting shorter and shorter
- Good guys, bad guys, and those somewhere in between know this and want to scan the internet to find vulnerable servers first
- Case study: Apache CVE-2021-41773
  - Sept 29, 2021: Patch submitted
  - Oct 03, 2021: GreyNoise observes first internet-wide vuln scan
  - Oct 04, 2021: Apache version update, patch is GA
  - Oct 05, 2021: Apache discloses vulnerability to CVE

# Apache CVE-2021-41773 vuln checks + exploitation



# Many SOC teams have no idea which “bad” to focus on



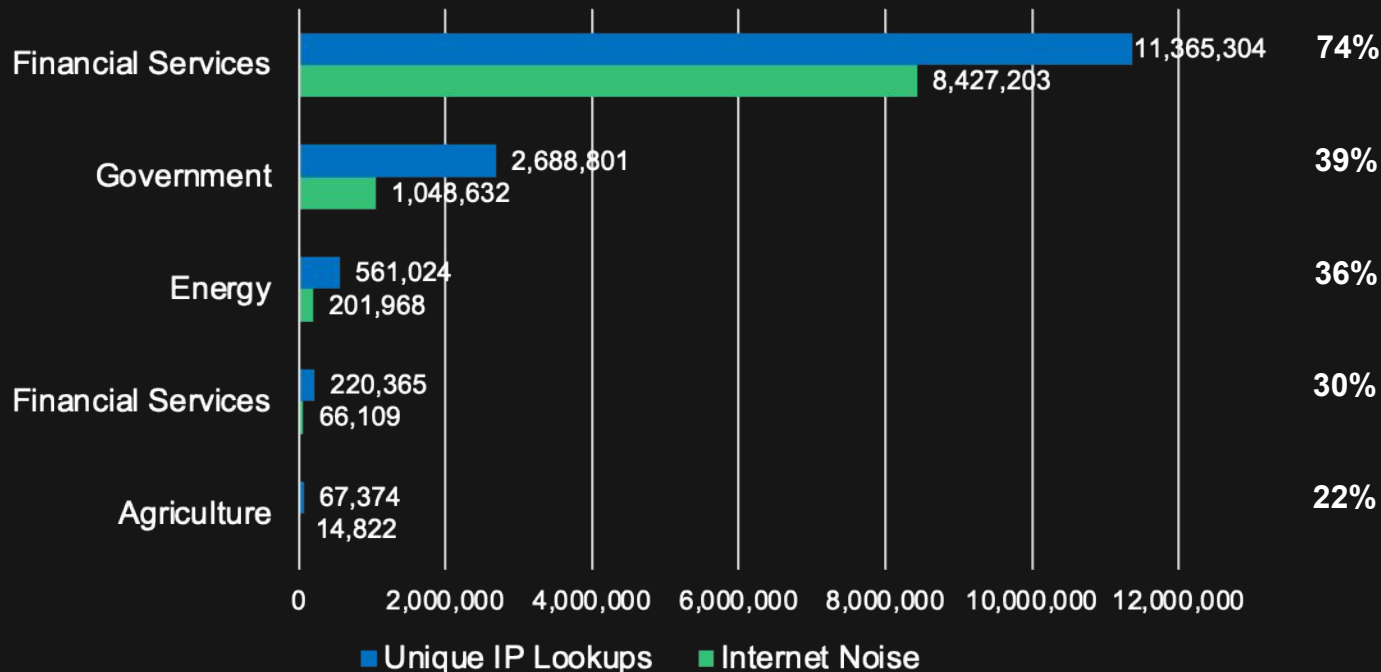
- There used to be some bad on the internet
- There is now an absolutely insane amount of bad on the internet
- Machine hours are cheap, human hours are expensive
  - More and more attacks are automated
- Old way: Bad guy starts with a target organization, identifies vulnerabilities, exploits them.
- New way: Bad guy starts with new vulnerabilities/exploits, finds targets on the Internet who are susceptible to them.
- Which bad should you focus on?

# PROBLEM: Internet Noise is a significant percentage of security alerts



Aggregate Noise %:

**38%**



# Vision for solving the problem of “internet noise”



What if we enumerate and classify internet traffic,  
filter out the “everywhere”,  
and investigate the outliers?

# “Good or Bad, Everywhere or Only You” Paradigm



The IPs that hit your network can be roughly separated into these quadrants:

## Categorizing the IPs that Hit your Network

Bad

- Mirai
- Bots
- Worms
- Credential bruteforcing
- Unsophisticated ransomware gangs

- Targeted bad guys
- APTs
- Sophisticated ransomware gangs

Good

- Google Search Engine
- Shodan / Censys
- ASR Companies (BitSight, Security Scorecard)

- Your users
- Your employees
- Your customers
- Your partners

Everywhere

Only You



GreyNoise provides the ground truth on internet noise, so your security team can

- Reduce noisy alerts in the SOC
- Defend against opportunistic attacks

GreyNoise is like noise-canceling headphones for the internet...

... or a spam filter for your SIEM.

# GREYNOISE INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION



	<b>NOISE</b> <i>(Internet-wide scanners and attackers)</i>	<b>RIOT</b> <i>(Common internet business services)</i>
	<b>Data set:</b>	
	<b>Context provided:</b>	
	<b>Examples:</b>	
<b>Data source:</b>	Internet-wide scanners with benign, malicious, and unknown intent.	IPs of common business services that are almost certainly not attacking you.
	Benign IPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shodan, Censys, researchers, and universities who scan in good faith</li></ul> Malicious IPs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Opportunistic attackers scanning for vulnerable systems</li></ul>	SaaS APIs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Microsoft O365, Google Workspace, Slack</li></ul> Business services <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CDNs, update servers, cloud security products</li></ul> Internet infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public DNS servers, NTP services</li></ul>
	GreyNoise's internet-wide sensor network passively collects packets from hundreds of thousands of IPs seen scanning the internet every day.	GreyNoise's RIOT data collection includes over 70 million IPs, leveraging a number of tactics and methods to acquire, track, curate and age-off data over time.

Our data is delivered through our [API](#), [integrations](#) and web-based [visualizer](#).



# What can you use GreyNoise to do?



## BEFORE GREYNOISE

- Show me failed login attempts and brute force attacks 😬
- Show me IPs attempting to exploit hosts on my perimeter 😬
- Show me IPs that are conducting recon on my network 😬

## AFTER GREYNOISE

- I see failed login attempts and brute force attacks *that are specifically hitting my network* 😎
- I see IPs attempting to exploit hosts on my perimeter *and not the rest of the internet* 😎
- I see IPs that are conducting recon on my network *and nobody else's network* 😎

# “Good or Bad, Everywhere or Only You” Paradigm



If you could focus on the threats that matter to YOU

You could spend LESS time chasing ghosts

- IP addresses that turn out to be Shodan or Googlebot...

And MORE time defending against the most dangerous targeted threats.

## Categorizing the IPs that Hit your Network

Bad

- Mirai
- Bots
- Worms
- Credential bruteforcing
- Unsophisticated ransomware gangs

- Targeted bad guys
- **Spend more time investigating these.**
- Sophisticated ransomware gangs

Good

- Google Search Engine
- Shodan / Googlebot
- ASR Companies (BitSight, Security Scorecard)

**Use GreyNoise to avoid wasting time on these.**

- Your users
- Your employees
- Your customers
- Your partners

Everywhere

Only You

# GreyNoise Stuff You Can Use Right Now



## Stuff you can use right now

Free web interface:

<https://greynoise.io>

The screenshot shows the GreyNoise web interface. At the top, there's a search bar with the text "Enter GNL query...". Below it, the IP address "192.35.168.16" is highlighted in green. To the right of the IP, there's a table with metadata: "FIRST SEEN: 2021-05-26", "LAST SEEN: 2021-10-18", "COUNTRY: United States", "REGION: Michigan", "CITY: Marquette", and "ASN: AS227". Below this, there's a section for "Observed Activity" which states: "Shows the ports & protocols that this IP scanned, along with the paths that this IP requested. In addition, fingerprints of the SSH & TLS negotiation between this IP and the GreyNoise sensor are shown." To the right of this section, there's a "Tags" section with a dropdown menu showing "Carries HTTP Referer" and "Activity".

Unauthenticated Community API:

```
[andrew] ~ $ curl -s https://api.greynoise.io/v3/community/192.35.168.16
{
  "ip": "192.35.168.16",
  "noise": true,
  "riot": false,
  "classification": "benign",
  "name": "Censys",
  "link": "https://viz.greynoise.io/ip/192.35.168.16",
  "last_seen": "2021-10-18",
  "message": "Success"
}
```

## How it works

- We operate a huge network of collector sensors located in hundreds of data centers across the globe
- They sniff “internet background noise”
- Our research team tags it with useful analytics
- Those analytics are displayed to our users in their SIEM, SOAR, TIP, CLI, etc.

## How you can use GreyNoise right now

Grab a list of IPs hitting your network and deploy it against our Analysis Page:

<https://greynoise.io/viz/analysis>

# DEMO



GREYNOISE

last\_seen:1d

TODAY

TAGS

TRENDS

ANALYSIS

ALERTS

ACCOUNT

LOGOUT

218,662 results

Export



## Top Countries

China	34,622
United States	24,515
Hong Kong	19,078
India	11,997
Russia	9,345

## Classification

Unknown	135,435
Malicious	79,843
Benign	3,384

Spoofable

> Malicious

ISP

> View IP Detail

Organization:

TE-AS

> Eternalblue

> SMBv1 Crawler

> IP: 197.44.154.90 Country: Egypt Last Seen: 2021-11-16

> rDNS: host-197.44.154.90-static.tedata.net

> Unknown

ISP

> View IP Detail

Organization:

CHINANET-BACKBONE

> IP: 118.239.9.208 Country: China Last Seen: 2021-11-16

> rDNS:

> Malicious

ISP

> View IP Detail

Organization:

Digital United Inc.

> ADB Check

> Mirai

> IP: 112.104.14.90 Country: Taiwan Last Seen: 2021-11-16

> rDNS: 112-104-14-90.adsl.dynamic.seed.net.tw

# What other cool stuff can you use GreyNoise for soon?



- What IPs are exclusively scanning/attacking a particular country?
- How many gigabytes of very low-value logs am I storing in \$SIEM?
- How many other organizations in my vertical are being attacked by this IP?
- How many other analysts are investigating this IP or have had an alert raised from this IP?

# What products support GreyNoise?



splunk>

CORTEX  
**XSOAR**  
BY PALO ALTO NETWORKS

spiderfoot



splunk>  
phantom

MISP  
Threat Sharing

Recorded  
Future

ANOMALI

ThreatConnect

graylog



SHODAN



THREATQ

POLARITY



TheHive

Siemplify

SWIMLANE

Resilient

Operationalize  
**GreyNoise**

Intelligence

into your research tools and  
security automation

- SIEM
- SOAR
- TIP
- Security controls
- Analyst tools

# Questions?



# Thank You!



Even after filtering and  
blocking, most networks see at  
least a 25% reduction in alert  
volume using GreyNoise

Create your free GreyNoise  
account today at  
<https://greynoise.io>

Andrew Morris  
Founder, CEO  
[@andrew\\_\\_\\_morris](https://twitter.com/andrew___morris)  
[andrew@greynoise.io](mailto:andrew@greynoise.io)  
<https://greynoise.io>

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