

Project Proposal

by Alexander Tzafos

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Table of Contents

Introduction..... 3

Project Design 4

Resources and Planning..... 5

Introduction

For my final year project, I have decided to do it on **open-source Threat Intelligence analysis and automation**, and I will be using a mixture of literature to conduct research. This will range from academic, governmental, and industrial. Following on from this I will be referencing my sources and adding a reference list at the bottom of each assignment.

Threat intelligence is incredibly important as currently the internet is everywhere and being used 24/7, due to this it is incredibly important to keep safe and secure when using it as there is many different threats which are used to catch out unassuming users to gain information. The threat landscape has become increasingly complex and dangerous in today's digital age. Organizations and users of all sizes may face constant cyber threats that can result in data breaches, financial losses, and can even cause damage to their reputation. Organizations are turning to threat intelligence to combat these evolving threats as a vital component of their cybersecurity strategy. Threat intelligence is a process which involves collecting, analysing, and disseminating information about potential and current cyber threats to defend against them proactively. Threat intelligence is the knowledge and insights which is gained from analysing internal and external data sources that are related to potential cyber threats. This information identifies and mitigates risks, allowing organizations to defend themselves against malicious actors better. Threat intelligence involves various aspects, including the collection of data, its analysis, and the creation of actionable intelligence that helps organizations make informed decisions to protect their assets.

Personally, I believe that threat intelligence is very important due to the risks that can faced which were mentioned above, as keeping information safe and secure is among the interests of many organisations around the world. Alongside this it is a very interesting topic which is constantly evolving and changing, because of this there is a constant gap in the market for a new threat intelligence strategy to be used and implemented.

The purpose of this project is to firstly gain a greater understand on threat intelligence on the whole and then dive deeper into the testing the difference phases and technologies which are associated to threat intelligence.

Project Design

During my project I will be doing both product development and experimenting evaluating with existing systems. I will then be collecting the data that I have found and presenting in using various charts and tables which will be created with excel and other software's if necessary. For collecting of some of my data I will be using a number of different techniques, for example questionnaires where I will be asking students and lectures of the university several questions about threat intelligence, and I will be using reports which will be created from testing different tools.

Research methodologies are incredibly important as they are a way of explaining how a researcher will be intent to carry out research. It's a logical, systematic plan which is then used to resolve any problems faced when researching. Following on from this there are two main data methodologies qualitative and quantitative, when conducting research, it is important to work out which one is going to be used or if a mix will be used. No matter which type is used the data will be gathered in a mixture of words and numbers. Statistical analysis is a process of collecting and analysing a large volume of data to identify any trends and develop valuable insights. Within this there are two main types of statistical analysis descriptive and inferential. Descriptive will summarised the information within a data set without drawing any conclusions about its contents, when performing this data visualisation will be used to present the information in the form of graphs, tables, and charts. Inferential statistics will take the results from descriptive and take it one step further by drawing conclusions from the data and then go on to make recommendations. Legal and ethical issue are a very important component for modern research. As if the data is mishandled in anyway it could lead to a data breach or you could lose the respect of the participants. So I do believe that it is incredible important to take time when using data especially if it is personal and to not share it with anyone to keep the risks at a low.

Personally, I will be using the quantitative methodology, which is focusing on collecting, testing, and measuring any numerical data which is collected from large samples. The data is then analysed using statistical analysis and comparisons. To collect said data, I will be using a mix of surveys, questionnaires, test, etc. When using statistical analysis I will be conducting it using descriptive statistics as I will be creating different graphs and charts to display the data.

Resources and Planning

I will be using a number of different resources which are currently available, I'll be using a mix of free and open-sourced software's to conduct my research. Personally, I'd prefer to use more open-sourced, as its available often much cheaper than other software's which are out there it is also customisable meaning it can be much better to use.

Project Proposal

GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

GENERAL COMMENTS

31 /100

PROJECT PROPOSAL – ACCA6020 INDEPENDENT PROJECT

Student **Alexander Tzafos**

Mark 31

Intro / A&O (400 words)		
Project title; Identification of a specific problem to be investigated; Well-defined aims and SMART objectives; Explaining why this project is worth doing; Discussion of what the project needs to do in order to be a success; Description any deliverables that will be produced at the end of the project	20	10
- It lacks a specific problem statement or research question that would give the reader a clear understanding of the project's focus and objectives.		

Background to the Project / Literature Review (400 words)		
Description of how the work to be done by in the project relates to the work identified in the literature review; Discussion of any ethical issues raised by the project Identifying what has already been done within the field; Topic familiarity; Brief literature review using appropriate sources – 6-8 journal papers and book chapters rather than just websites; Selection of relevant models & concepts	20	0
Project Design (500 words)		
Clear statement of which development methods are to be used and why they are appropriate; Clear statement of which tools are to be used and why they are appropriate; Clear description of how data collected will be analysed - The section lacks a clear explanation of the research's experimental design. For example, it should describe how existing systems will be evaluated, what metrics will be used, and how	30	15

the data will be analyzed.		
Resources / Planning (200 words)		
List of any deliverables; Clear diagram showing both timing and resource use; Completed ethics form; Limited and relevant appendices - The section lacks details about the specific resources that will be employed, making it difficult to assess the project's feasibility and planning. It should provide a list of tools, software, and hardware resources required for the research.	15	0
Document Presentation		
Correct spelling, grammar and punctuation; Flow of narrative/fluency; Coherence; Word processed ; Correct use of referencing with bibliography; Strict word limit	15	6

TOTAL	100	31

PAGE 1

PAGE 2

PAGE 3

PAGE 4

PAGE 5