Artificial Intelligence in Cybersecurity

3 – 7 September 2019@Snellius

Below you find a short report on our findings:

Description and aims

The aim of the Artificial Intelligence in Cybersecurity workshop was to build a community of researchers from the academic world and the intelligence community (in particular the Dutch Joint Sigint Cyber Unit DJSCU), to develop collaborative research plans that focus on practices by the intelligence community. During the workshop three research themes were discussed, i.e. operations research for intelligence, cyber approaches to understanding adversary regimes and understanding terrorist networks.

Outcome

The half of the workshop participants were from the academic community and the other half was from the intelligence community. During the breakout groups many research problems were identified. The plenary sessions at the end of the day distilled the most important ones from this list resulting in several important research questions at the end of the workshop. Several bilateral relations and small working groups resulted, with the aim of working on these research questions for the coming year

Workshop format

The workshop consisted of a few talks each morning and many breakout groups during the day. Especially these breakout groups were found to be very productive according to most participants. They provided the time and means to discuss modelling topics with respect to intelligence analysis in depth. Furthermore, at the end of each day the different discussion were brought together and synthesised into several research questions that resonated throughout the workshop.

Further Comments

The workshop had great impact within the community of practitioners. It does not occur every day that these intelligence practitioners discuss their work with 'outsiders'. Because the setup of the Lorentz center, it's comfort and closed setting the partitioners very soon felt at ease. Inside the intelligence community the workshop was greatly appreciated and started new avenues for technological innovation. There will be more of such workshop in the future for sure.

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