# AML and Data Analytics

for the

16th Fraud Seminar

Dec 1st, 2017 Newark NJ

with special thanks to Sunder Gee,

author of

"Fraud and Fraud Detection"





## The AML Process

- MONEY LAUNDERING IS A FINANCIAL TRANSACTION SCHEME to conceal or attempt to conceal the identity of proceeds illegally obtained so that the proceeds appear to come from legitimate sources.
- IMF estimation: money laundering amounts to 2-5% of global GDP (<u>www.farf-gafi.org/faq/moneylaundering</u>) – 800 Billion to 2 Trillion dollars
- Money laundering disguises the illegal origin and legitimizes the funds so they can be openly used.
- Three main stages: placement, layering, and integration

# Placement: The riskiest phase

- Direct connection to money source
- Most legislation is developed to prevent/detect this stage
- Large amounts of cash are chunked or disguised to escape detection/alerts
  - "smurfing"/structuring: splitting larger amounts so as to avoid detection (below 10K)
  - Physically move money
  - Exchanging to alternative currencies
  - Purchasing gems, bitcoins, money orders, cashiers checks

# Layering: the most complex stage

- Where the origin of the money is being made difficult to trace.
- A number of transactions or layers need to be put between the original sources of the funds before they are brought back into the legal economy.
- Funds might be moved to foreign countries that usually have strong bank secrecy laws, moved into accounts in the name of others who are nominees, or moved to accounts held by offshore corporations where the beneficial ownership is hidden and the funds can be withdrawn and redeposited to a number of other accounts.
- Other layering tools and techniques include:
  - Bank secrecy laws
  - Offshore banks
  - Tax havens
  - Shell corporations
  - Trade-based laundering
  - Digital currencies

# Integration: Re-Introduction phase

- In the integration stage, the money enters back into the legitimate economy where it appears to have come from legal and normal transactions.
- Difficult to detect, unless there is a PAPER TRAIL
- Depending on the layering stage, the return may appear to come from a sale of assets such as real estate.
  - False loans from off-shore companies
  - False inheritances
  - False gambling winnings
  - Credit cards issued by off-shore banks
  - Salary from false business
  - Importing/exporting/distribution
  - Co-Mingling of funds with legitimate businesses (high cash based businesses)

An AML scheme cannot be successful unless the paper trail is eliminated or made very complex!

## Example:

Alberto Barrera ran a rather sophisticated structuring operation that involved bank accounts in cities all over the United States. Barrera and his accomplices would fly to different U.S. cities, traveling to various banks and purchasing cashier's checks and money orders in amounts less than \$10,000 (to avoid U.S. federal reporting requirements). They would then travel to banks in other cities, where they would deposit some of the purchased checks and money orders into accounts controlled by Barrera. Once the money was converted or deposited, it was transferred to banks in other countries.

# Money Laundering Methods

- Using a Front Business to Launder Funds
  - Seemingly legitimate business
  - Comings and goings will not stand out
  - Provides cover for delivery and transportation related to AML activities
  - Expenses from illegal activity can be concealed
- Overstating Revenues and Expenses
- Depositing, but NOT RECORDING, revenue



Luxury Antiques is a chain of antique stores with several locations within and around a major metropolitan center. It is locally owned. The bulk of its activity is in the sale of antique figurines. Luxury Antiques sells an average of 200 pieces per month.

Customers are encouraged to pay in cash and, when they do so, are usually pleased when they receive a "special discount" (which can be as high as 25 percent) off of the "official invoice price." The invoice the customer receives shows the full price rather than the discounted price. If a customer questions this practice, the store owner explains it is done for "competitive reasons."

Over the course of a year, Luxury Antiques sells 2,400 total figurines for an average "official invoice price" of \$4,000. This yields \$9,600,000 of recorded revenues. Actual cash received from customers falls short of that figure by 20 percent, for a total of \$7,680,000. The difference—\$1,920,000—is now available for laundering purposes. To take advantage of this situation, the owner simply deposits cash receipts of \$1,920,000 from his illicit sources as legitimate business income. The result is that \$1,920,000 has been successfully laundered.

Another way for Luxury Antiques to overstate reported revenues is to create fictitious sales with all the normal paperwork. If 50 fictitious sales are created each month at the average "official price" of \$4,000, an additional \$2,400,000 of laundered receipts are produced each year. The result is that \$2,400,000 of illicit funds can be disguised as legitimate business income. (Note that this method involves potentially more risk than the first because it involves completely fabricating all the elements of a sale rather than merely modifying one part of a normal sale.)

# Money Laundering Methods

- Overstating Expenses to make payoffs, buy illegal goods, other illegal investments
  - Padding expense accounts
  - Payments for supplies never received
  - Fees to suspicious consultants
  - Salaries for non-existent employees
  - Basically:
    - Fictitious employees
    - Fictitious fees or vendors
    - Inflated invoices

Luxury Antiques has six salespeople and two assistant sales managers on the payroll. All eight employees are fictitious. Their pay, as well as sales commissions paid to the fictitious sales managers, represents an annual expense inflation of \$500,000. Luxury Antiques' owner does not have to pay taxes on this \$500,000 and can take that amount of cash out of the business and put it into his own pocket.

#### EXAMPLE

Luxury Antiques has lawyers and consultants on "retainer" for a total of \$600,000 per year. They perform little or no business work, but they do submit invoices for fees on expensive stationery and with suitably vague descriptions of their activities. Once again, the money paid out is not taxed and can be put to illicit purposes.

### EXAMPLE

Luxury Antiques makes purchases from a supplier, who agrees to inflate invoices by 25 percent. The supplier then gives back four-fifths of the inflated amount, keeping the other one-fifth. On \$500,000 of actual purchases per year, Luxury Antiques reports expenses of \$625,000—an inflation of \$125,000.

#### **EXAMPLE**

A Luxury Antiques supplier, Import Associates, which provides 40 percent of the antiques sold by Luxury Antiques, sells figurines to Luxury Antiques in lots consisting of 150 to 200 pieces. The individual prices and the exact number of figurines in each lot are vaguely described in these "wholesale" bills of sale. As a result of its long association with Import, Luxury Antiques is able to arrange for the invoices to be inflated by an average of 30 percent. This gains Luxury Antiques about \$580,000 per year in inflated expenses (assuming 960 figurines at an average real cost of \$2,000 = \$1,920,000). By inflating the invoice by 30 percent, the invoice price will reflect a price of about \$2,500,000, the difference representing laundered expenses.

# Money Laundering Methods

- Depositing, but not recording, revenue (cash)
  - "Loan proceeds"
  - "Sale of property"
  - "Capital investments"
- Check documentation!

## EXAMPLE

Each month, an extra \$360,000 is deposited into Luxury Antiques' bank account. To offset the entry, sales are credited for the laundered cash by either being fictitious or marked up.

# Money Laundering Methods

Characteristics of Favorite Businesses for Hiding or Laundering Money

- Revenue:
  - Revenue base is difficult to measure
  - Cash transactions
  - Variable amounts
- Expense:
  - Variable and tough to measure
- History:
  - Ethnic ties
  - Supplier/customer ties

# Money Laundering Methods

- Bars, restaurants, and night-clubs
  - High or variable prices
  - Varied clientele
  - Lots of traffic
  - Cash
  - Fast food (although lower \$, mainly cash)

Examine traffic versus books



# Money Laundering Methods

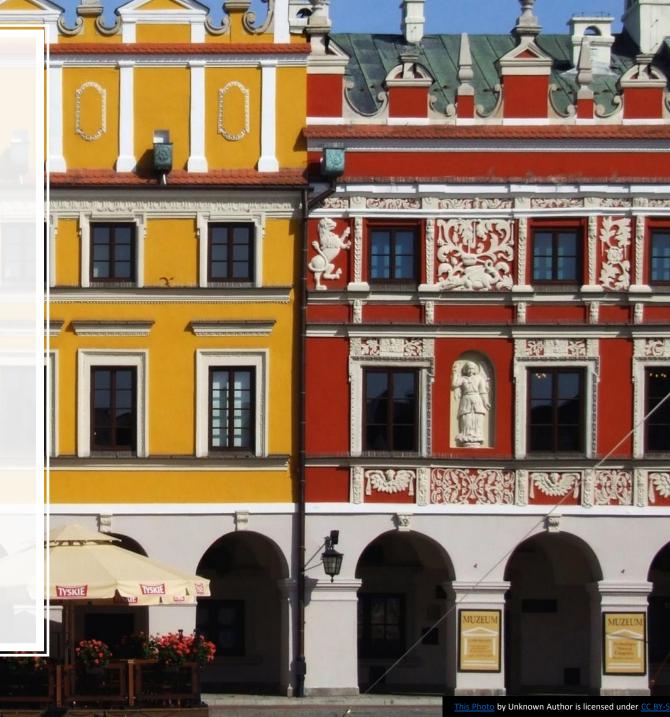
- Vending Machine Operations
  - Highly variable
  - Hard to measure volume of cash receipts amd expenses
- Wholesale Distribution
  - Diverse product line
  - Falsified invoices
  - Fake Vendors
  - Fake Customers
  - Expenses easy to inflate





- Present a broad range of options
- Multiple parties, layering is possible
  - Obscure funding source
    - Loan-back schemes
    - Back-to-loan schemes
    - Shell entities
    - Appraisal Fraud
    - Monetary Instruments
    - Mortgage schemes
  - Obscure identity of owner

But, documentation!





# ATMs

- Inexpensive
- Privately owned
- Easy to load
- ATM debits the cardholder and credits the ATM owner
- No requirement to check background of ATM owner
- No mandatory reporting procedures
- No rules for maintaining ATM sales records



# Mobile Banking

- Using an account associated with a mobile account...Samsung pay
  - Incomplete regulations
  - Transactions overseas hard to trace
  - Can move funds anywhere
  - Phone account owner can be anonymous



# Digital Currencies and Virtual Assets

Online payment service which accepts funds in a variety of ways to transfer funds to and from individuals/businesses

Exist and are traded in a digital format

- Growing in number
- Loosely regulated
- · Most transactions considered final
- International person-to-person
- No required customer identification, just the random "address"
- · Poor record-keeping
- Unlimited volume
- Transactions almost instant
- Liberty Reserve (May 2013): \$6 billion AML assets since 2000



# Another example:

The Seoul Metropolitan Police uncovered a money laundering ring that moved \$38 million from South Korea to China during the course of 18 months. The group purchased in-game gold of an online video game "farmed" by low-cost laborers in China, and then sold it to exchangers in South Korea. The criminals placed the money into accounts opened under fake or stolen identities, and then disguised wire transfers to a Hong Kong-based paper company as product purchases. To avoid detection, group members used technology to spoof their IP address and make it look like they were operating out of an Internet café in South Korea.

# Banks and MSBs (Money Services Businesses)

#### • Banks:

- Employee collusion
- In-effective policies and controls
- In some jurisdictions, may be a front

#### MSBs:

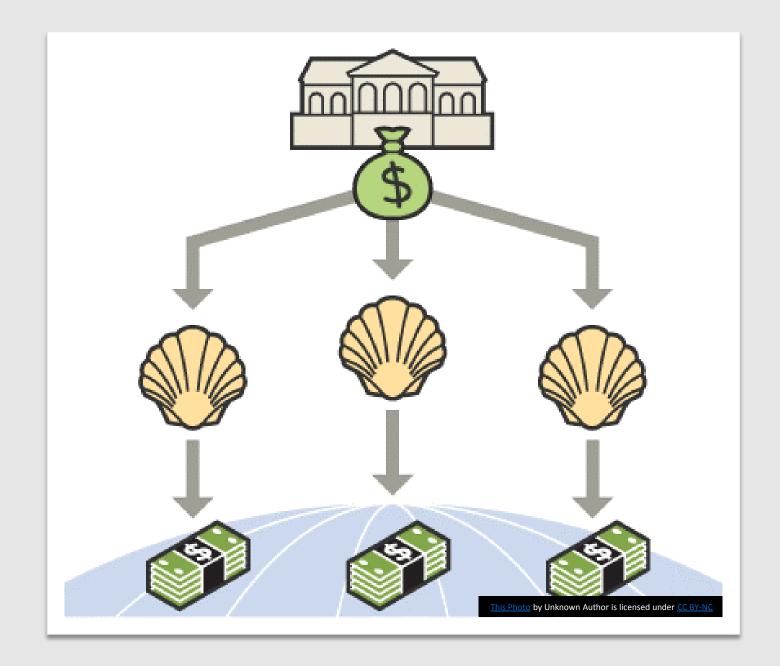
- Currency exchangers
- Check Cashers
- Issuers or redeemers of money orders, etc
- Money transmitters
- Prepaid access providers and sellers
  - Loose regulations
  - Lax ID requirements





# Shell Companies

- Hide ownership
- Mask financial details
- Conceal assets



# Charities and Non-profits: gifts to disguise illicit assets

In 2012, an orthodox rabbi from New York was sentenced to four years in prison for his involvement in a widespread money laundering and corruption scheme. The case was part of the FBI's "Bid Rig III" crackdown that involved the arrests of more than 40 people, including politicians and other religious leaders. The rabbi ran a collection of community charities known as gmachs. An undercover informant approached the rabbi and sought his assistance in laundering money through the charities. The rabbi deposited check donations of almost \$1 million into accounts owned by the charities. He then used an underground financial network that operated between the United States and Israel to convert the funds into cash. After taking a 10 percent commission, he physically delivered the cash to the undercover informant.





# Data Analytics: What does it actually mean?

- **Data Analytics** A process of inspecting, cleaning, transforming, and modelling data with the goal of highlighting useful information, suggesting conclusions, and supporting decision making.
- **Data Mining** is a particular data analysis technique that focuses on modelling and knowledge discovery for predictive rather than purely descriptive purposes.
- **Business Intelligence** Covers data analysis that relies heavily on aggregation (summarization), focusing on business information.
- **Predictive Analytics** focuses on application of statistical or structural models for predictive forecasting or classification.
- *Text Analytics* Applies statistical, linguistic, and structural techniques to extract and classify information from textual sources, a species of unstructured data.

# Application and Relevance To AML Prevention and Detection

Data analysis technology enables auditors and fraud examiners to:

- Analyze business data to test the effectiveness of internal controls
- Identify transactions that may indicate fraudulent AML activity

Data analysis also provides an effective way to fight against AML.

- Provides the ability to test 100% of the records or any size sample
  - Enables investigations professionals to focus investigation actions on those transactions that are suspicious or are identified as areas of weaknesses

Data analysis technology also enables organizations to:

- Conduct ad hoc analysis based on a report of wrongdoing or to perform repeatable automated procedures, for continuous auditing and monitoring
- Provide insight into the integrity of financial and business operations through transactional analysis.

Improves the ability to better assess and manage AML risk.

# Basic Data Analytical Process -Planning To Post Analysis Reporting

The standard process of analytics consists of the following phases / processes:

- Determine Scope & Requirements
  - Understand the purpose of the analysis, define the objectives & profile potential fraud schemes
- Identify & Extract Information Sources
  - Identify the relevant data sets, extract the data in a useable format (consider legal ramifications of data integrity if conducting and investigation and consider computer forensics) & verify the data as accurate after extraction
- Data Extraction & Preparation
  - Cleanse the data sets, de-duplication of data if relevant, reformat as required (maintaining records of all changes made to the data set), transform the data into the require sets for import into test tools.
- Testing & Interpretation
  - Determine testing regime to be applied, conduct standard and unique tests as per the objectives, record results (Note: Most commercial tools generate and audit log for this purpose)
  - Interpret the results of the data tests and identify potential issues, weaknesses or suspicious transactions and activities
- Post Analysis Phase
  - Prepare data testing report (if a consulting, investigation analysis or audit)
    - Determine required preventative tests to be applied on a schedule for fraud and corruption prevention activities as part of an overall data analysis program

# ACFE Data Analysis Process

## **Planning Phase**

- Understand the data
- Define examination objectives
- Build a profile of potential frauds
- Determine whether prediction exists



## **Preparation Phase**

- Identify relevant data
- Obtain, verify, cleanse, and normalize the data



### Post-Analysis Phase

- Response to findings
- Monitor the data



### Testing and Interpretation

• Analyze the data!

# Data Sources and Extractions

- Big Data: data of high volume, high velocity, and high variety that requires new and different forms of processing to enable enhanced decision making, insight discovery, and process optimization
- Continuous information source
- Qualitative Data
  - PDF documents
  - Twitter/Blog feeds
  - Audio and Video files
  - Emails, texts, corporate minutes
  - Mainframe and laptop software and logs
  - GPS data
  - Phone call meta-data
  - Receipts
  - Interview recordings/logs

#### Planning Phase

- Understand the Data
  - Availability
  - Structure
  - Dictionary
  - Links
- Define Examination Objectives and Scope
  - Purpose of exam and structure/size/resources/thresholds/limits
- Build a Profile of Potential Frauds
  - Also profile potential NON-FRAUD instances
- Determine Whether Prediction Exists: BASIS OF FRAUD EXAMINATION!
  - Totality of circumstances would lead a professionally trained and reasonable person to conclude that fraud might be occurring

## Preparation Phase

- Identify relevant data
- Obtain the data
- Verify the data:
  - Control totals
  - Correct periods
  - Gaps/missing fields
  - Reasonableness tests
- Cleanse/Normalize Data

# Testing and Interpretation Phase

- Analyze the data
  - Geo-location
  - Business unit
  - Time period
  - Dollar value
  - By Unique Identifier(s)
- Issues:
  - The Role of Concealment
  - Addressing False Positives
    - Data validity/integrity issues?
    - Data merging difficulties
    - Legitimate data that falls outside the norm

#### Post-Analysis Phase

- Respond to Analysis Findings
- Monitor the Data
- Spectrum of Analysis:
  - Ad-hoc testing
  - Repetitive testing
  - Continuous testing

#### Data Mining

- Searches and explores data for previously undiscovered instances
- Can be used preventatively and for detection
- Pattern analysis, trend ratios, matches, hidden connections
  - Employee/vendor
  - Duplicate bank accounts
  - Abnormal transaction days/times/amounts
  - Round numbers
  - Missing numbers
  - Benford's Analysis

### Five Advantages of Using Data Analysis Software

- 1) allows examiner to centralize an investigation
- 2) assures completion and accuracy
- 3) bases predictions about the probability of a fraudulent situation on reliable statistical information
- 4) allows searches of entire data files for red flags of possible fraud
- 5) assists in the development of reference files for ongoing fraud detection and investigation work

#### Core Data Analysis Functions in Software Packages

- Sorting
- Record Selection
- Joining Files
- Multi-file processing
- Correlation Analysis
- Trend Analysis
- Time Series
- Verifying multiples of a number
- Compliance verification
- Duplicate searches
- Expressions and Equations

- Graphing
- Filter and Display criteria
- Fuzzy logic matching
- Gap tests
- Pivot tables
- Regression Analysis
- Sort and index
- Statistical analysis
- Stratification
- Date functions
- Benford's Law analysis

#### Sorting

Arrange the data in a meaningful order for analysis

#### Sample Customer Sales Data

Date	Customer	Invoice	Amount
3/12/20X6	V45892	J54534	\$10,000
4/8/20X6	V45892	J54535	\$10,000
5/7/20X6	V78293	J70384	\$15,698
2/8/20X6	V90132	J37234	\$85,365
12/15/20X5	V10345	J12853	\$47,952
1/8/20X6	V78343	J26487	\$52,978

#### Data Sorted by Invoice Number

Date	Customer	Invoice	Amount
12/15/20X5	V10345	J12853	\$47,952
1/8/20X6	V78343	J26487	\$52,978
2/8/20X6	V90132	J37234	\$85,365
3/12/20X6	V45892	J54534	\$10,000
4/8/20X6	V45892	J54535	\$10,000
5/7/20X6	V78293	J70384	\$15,698

#### Data Sorted by Amount

Date	Customer	Invoice	Amount
3/12/20X6 V45892		J54534	\$10,000
4/8/20X6	V45892	J54535	\$10,000
5/7/20X6	5/7/20X6 V78293		\$15,698
12/15/20X5	V10345	J12853	\$47,952
1/8/20X6	V78343	J26487	\$52,978
2/8/20X6	V90132	J37234	\$85,365

PAY_BASIS	REGULAR_HOURS	REGULAR_GROSS_PAID	OT_HOURS	TOTAL_OT_PAI
) per Annum	1,355.00	27,540.90	50.25	1,012
) per Annum	1,825. <b>28</b>	46,779.24	109.00	2,391
per Annum	760.00	14,898.94	89.25	1,694
<b>p</b> er Annum	1,123.00	22,469.86	96.50	1,565
per AnnuRec	ord Selection.00	45,463.16	3.50	88
per Annum	1,830.00	46,285.89	15.00	352
) per Annum	1,830.00	33,692.76	9.00	209
) per Annum	1,830.00	54,647.32	96.75	3,507
) per Annum	1,830.00	64,690.62	18.75	670
per•Aselect specif	fic records for analysis 830.00	54,450.51	41.00	1,232
	mple: NYC Office of the Mayor	81,509.38	4.75	213
per Annum employ	ees with OT pay in 2016	21,981.72	26.75	525
) per Annum	1,830.00	40,565.28	168.00	3,756
per Annum	1,830.00	44,539.55	48.50	1,380
<b>p</b> er Annum	1,830.00	54,687.13	83.00	2,969
per Annum	1,827.15	39,350.97	63.75	1,418

#### Joining Files

- Connects fields from two sorted input files into a third file.
- Frequently used to match invoice data with A/R files, using common identifier

File 1

Customer	Account	Balance	Last Invoice
Jerry's Cleaners	555221	\$12,500	12/30/X6
Quality Garments	555658	\$9,283	11/15/X5
Beverly's Tailoring	554891	\$27,588	01/15/X6

File 2

Customer	Account	Balance	Last Invoice
Quality Garments	555658	\$9,283	11/15/X5
McCloud's Fabrics	556897	\$10,888	09/24/X6
Beverly's Tailoring	554891	\$27,588	01/15/X6

The JOINED Exception File

Customer	Account	Balance	Last Invoice
McCloud's Fabrics	556897	\$10,888	09/24/X6
Jerry's Cleaners	555221	\$12,500	12/30/X6

## Multi-file processing

 Allows the user to relate several files by defining their relationship without the use of join. For example, relate an outstanding invoice master file to A/R file using an account number. Can relate invoice numbers as well.

	ACCC	OUNTS PAYABLE	.IMD × Autl	norized Suppl	ier-Address.lM	ID × Comp	oare Databases.IMD 🗶
		SUPPNO	P_NRECS	P_TOTAL	S_NRECS	S_TOTAL	DIFFERENCE
П	1	JFM.1256	0	0.00	1	78,794.09	-78,794.09
Ш	2	000496CJW	0	0.00	1	64,592.51	-64,592.51
	3	000500CJW	0	0.00	1	60,539.44	-60,539.44
	4	000504CJW	0	0.00	1	24,308.55	-24,308.55
ı	5	000509CJW	0	0.00	1	56,863.54	-56,863.54
ı	6	000511CJW	0	0.00	1	7,988.72	-7,988.72
ı	7	000512CJW	0	0.00	1	86,376.13	-86,376.13
	8	000513CJW	0	0.00	1	48,672.02	-48,672.02
	9	000516CJW	0	0.00	1	92,231.51	-92,231.51
	10	000517CJW	0	0.00	1	16.80	-16.80
	11	000521CJW	0	0.00	1	637.93	-637.93

#### Correlation Analysis

Relationships in raw data

Examine correlations in data for deviations from expected

relationships

Independent Variable	Dependent Variable
Number of days traveling	Hotel cost
Number of documents printed	Reams of paper used
Number of houses built	Paint used

- Pair-wise relationship between two sets of data; each x has a unique y
- The strength of this relationship is measured by the correlation coefficient
- In excel, the CORREL(array1, array2) function returns this coefficient
- IDEA example

#### Trend Analysis

- Calculates the values of data over time and forecasts values into the future based on the assumption that the expected behavior will continue
- Beneficial for fraud examiners to benchmark future behaviors of accounts, persons, transactions types
- Seasonal data should be examined with Time Series Analysis
- Based on linear regression using the method of least squares
- Quantifies the trend of the data which department shows a supplies expense that exceeds past trends?
- IDEA Trend Analysis demo

#### Time Series Analysis

- Calculates the trend of data over time with a seasonal component
- Decomposition Method of Time Series Analysis is the most useful for FINANCIAL data
- Testing based on seasonality higher values at year end?
- IDEA example

#### Verifying Multiples of a Number

- Are numbers consistent with the regular or expected rate? Or, are transactions under or above the limit? Or, do they lie just below the limit?
  - IDEA limits tests/IDEA stratifications

Da	ta_PCard_Transactions-Sheet1.l	× Over 2000.IMD ×				
	TRANSACTION_NUMBER	ACC_EMPLOYEE_ID	DAILY_TRANSACTION_LIMIT A	ITEM_TOTAL_DOLLAR	TRANSACTION_TOTAL	ACC_
1	14	T1022	2,000.00	2,862.19	2,862.19	INCID
2	267	T9938	2,000.00	2,499.87	2,499.87	INCID
3	268	T9938	2,000.00	2,499.87	2,499.87	INCID
4	269	T9938	2,000.00	2,499.87	2,499.87	INCID
5	270	T9938	2,000.00	2,499.87	2,499.87	INCID
6	271	T9938	2,000.00	3,289.99	3,289.99	INCID
7	272	T9938	2,000.00	4,187.22	4,187.22	INCID
8	273	T9938	2,000.00	2,166.99	2,166.99	INCID
9	274	T9938	2,000.00	2,098.87	2,098.87	INCID
10	276	T9947	2,000.00	2,087.69	2,087.69	INCID
11	277	T9947	2,000.00	2,087.69	2,087.69	INCID
12	278	T9947	2,000.00	2,087.69	2,087.69	INCID
13	279	T9947	2,000.00	2,087.69	2,087.69	INCID
14	280	T9947	2,000.00	2,087.69	2,087.69	INCID

#### Compliance Verification

- Are controls/rules being observed?
- Feature/attribute/limits tests
- Can be scripted as apps (Excel, IDEA, ACL) to run upon command or automatically as part of a monitoring system

```
A1_PCard Test Cases with Dialog.iss

RiskDialog

A1_PCard Test Cases with Dialog.iss

RiskDialog

A1_PCard Test Cases with Dialog.iss

RiskDialog

RiskDialog

A1_PCard Test Cases with Dialog.iss

RiskDialog

A1_PCard Test Cases with Dialog

A2_PCard Test Cases

A2_PCard Test Cases

A2_PCard Test Cases

A3_PCard Test Cases

A3_PCard Test Cases

A3_PCard Test Cases with Dialog

A3_PCard Test Cases
```

#### Duplicate Searches

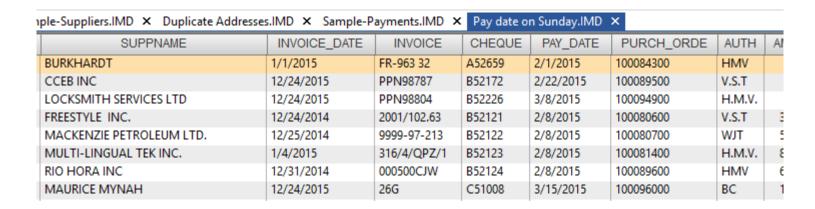
- Identify duplicate values in specified fields
- Single file or joined files
- Addresses, identifiers, days, amount

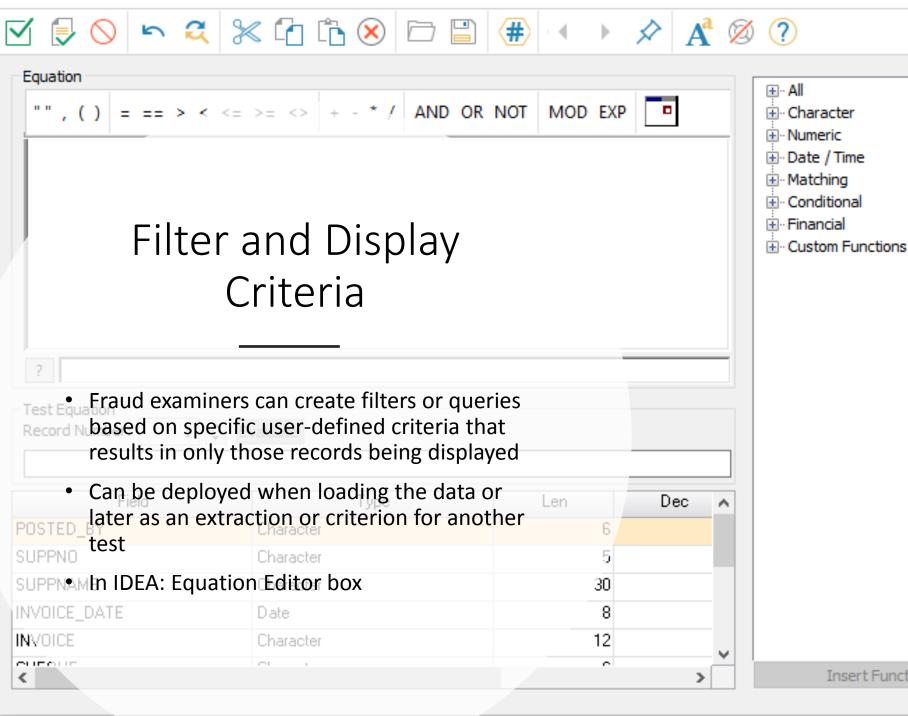
Sa	Sample-Employees.IMD × Sample-Suppliers.IMD × Duplicate Addresses.IMD ×									
	BRANCH	COUNTRY	FIRST_NAME	NAME	SALARY	CURRENCY	ADDRESS	CITY		
1	3	China	Zhang	Chu	360000	CHY	1469 Huaihai Zhonglu	Shanghai		
2	3	China	Liu	He	190000	CHY	1469 Huaihai Zhonglu	Shanghai		
3	1	U.S.A.	Alice	Saunders	19567	USD	215 N. Main Street	Houston		
4	1	U.S.A.	Anna	Philllips	62000	USD	215 N. Main Street	Knoxdale		
5	3	China	Yzhi	Le	600000	CHY	313 Mid-Changjiang Road	Hefei		
6	3	China	Wu	Niu	240000	CHY	313 Mid-Changjiang Road	Heifei		
7	2	Germany	Lea	Wagner	54000	EUR	lm Mühlenbruch 6	Georgsmarienhütte		
8	2	Germany	Leon	Newmann	37028	EUR	lm Mühlenbruch 6	Dueren		

#### Expressions and Equations

- Fraud examiners can build expressions and equations based on their knowledge and expectations of the data
- Also used with compliance testing









performing more complex operations such as date arithmetic, statistical calculations and text searches. IDEA functions begin with the '@' symbol. They are very similar in style and operation to functions found in other software packages such as Microsoft Excel and dBASE. Each @Function calculates a result based upon the parameters passed to the @Function, Parameters are passed in parentheses. For example, @Round (Amount) will round a field called "Amount" to the nearest whole number.

Additional help on @Functions is available by selecting the required @Function in the list to the left. The syntax,

#### Fuzzy Logic Matching

- Matching very similar attributes that might escape normal matching algorithms
- For example: First Street, First St, and 1st Street
- Very useful when the perpetrator has taken steps to mask steps
- May produce an increased number of false positives

S	Sample-Employees.IMD × Sample-Suppliers.IMD × Duplicate Addresses.IMD × Sample-Payments.IMD × Pay date on Sunday.IMD × Fuzzy Vendors.IMD ×									
	GROUP_ID	GROUP_NAME	SIMILARITY_DEGREE	RECORD_NUM	SUPPLIER_ADDR	SUPPNO	SUPPNAME	COUNTRY		
1	1	TWO MILE HILL ROAD	1.0000	1	TWO MILE HILL ROAD		A J FORSYTH & CO LTD	NIGERIA		
2	1	TWO MILE HILL ROAD	1.0000	7	TWO MILE HILL ROAD	11810	DKNY INC.	BARBADOS		
3	2	9 BOULEVARD SAN JUAN BOSCO	1.0000	64	9 BOULEVARD SAN JUAN BOS	CO 32002	GATUVIA JOYERIA	HONDURAS		
4	2	9 BOULEVARD SAN JUAN BOSCO	0.9630	67	99 BOULEVARD SAN JUAN BOS	SCO 32687	GUCCHI	HONDURAS		

#### Gap Tests

- Identifies items missing in expected sequences or series (check and invoice numbers)
- Finds sequences where none are expected to exist (employee government ID numbers, SSNs)

	From: CHEQUE			To: CHEQUE							
-	A52656			A52656	A52656						
			A52656								
					Total numb	er of items detected				1	
					Total numb	er of gaps detected				1	
17	SOUB	99999	O KAY YAHS	1/6/2	015	871456BUZ	A52653	1/29/2015	100081900	WJT	37,418.72
18		99999	MILES LONG	1/0/2		GR132 97	Δ52654	1/29/2015	100080400	HMV	26,340.30
19		99999	CARY S MATIC	1/3/2		5745M_C	A52655	1/36, 2015	100081800	HMV	17,304.80
20	MIA	92211	RICARDO BAL	1/8/2	015	BC 46 701 W	A52657	1/31/2015	100083700	H.M.V.	11,001.66
21	SOUB	20535	BURKHARDT	1/4/2	015	CS - 563 -97	MJE030	1/31/2015	100084500	H.M.V.	20,431.80
22	CW	20535	BURKHARDT	1/1/2	015	FR-963 32	A52659	2/1/2015	100084300	HMV	8,579.04

#### **Pivot Tables**

- Interactive data summarization tool found in Excel and also in IDEA
- It is used to sort, count, total, or give the average of specified data
- Assists in providing the "big picture"

Sum of Amount		Cour	ntry		
Salesperson	CAN	MEX	UK	USA	Grand Total
Carson	\$978	\$24,613			\$25,591
Grant	\$7,842		\$1,248		\$9,090
Hughes	\$6,777	\$1,203			\$7,980
Jamison		\$8,596		\$5,634	\$14,230
Jarrison		\$9,785	\$4,576	\$7,854	\$22,215
Miller		\$452	\$552	\$9,809	\$10,813
Parsons	\$9,846		\$2,458		\$12,304
Grand Total	\$25,443	\$44,649	\$8,834	\$23,297	\$102,223

#### Regression Analysis

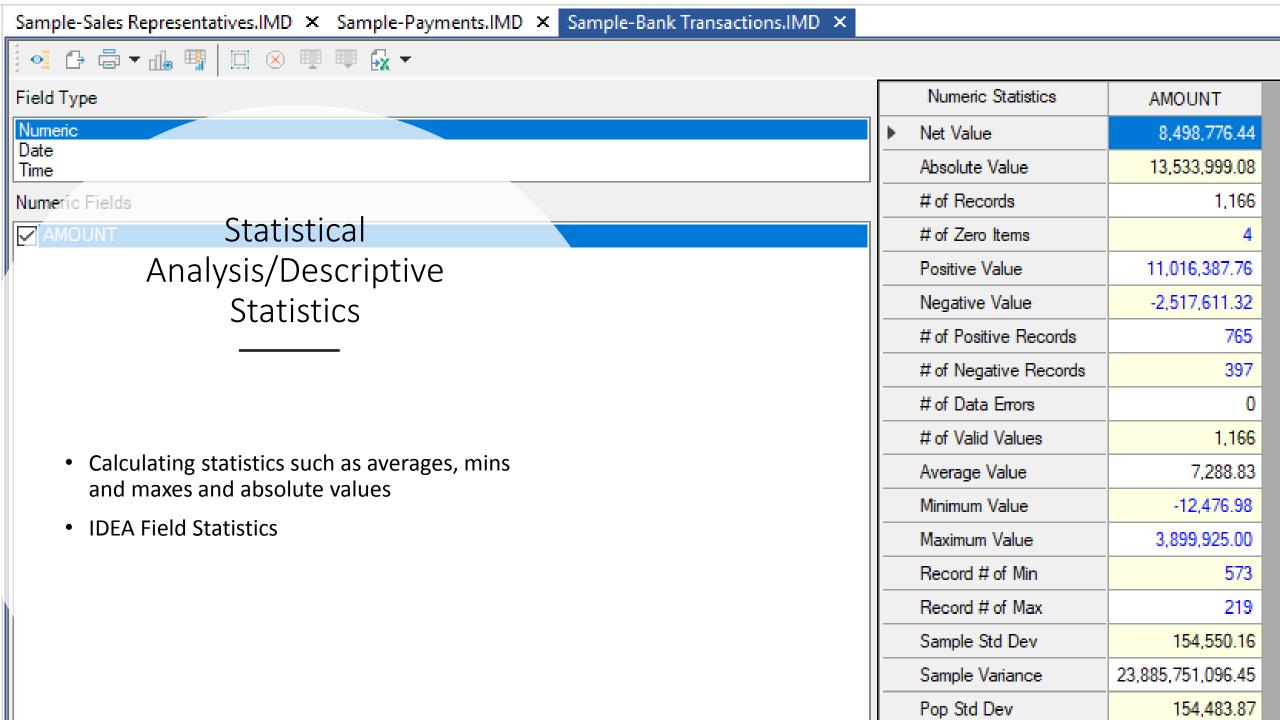
- Statistical method that uses a series of records to create a model relationship between a dependent variable and one or more independent variables
- Ex: Regression could be used to determine the number of widgets manufactured based on materials and labor numbers
- Periods where sales of widgets are higher or lower than expected would require analysis

#### Sort and Index

- Arranges the data in a manner that assists analysis ascending, descending
- Depending on the field type, could be alphabetically or numerically

Sample-Sales Representatives.IMD ×									
	SALESREP_NO	SALESREP_FIRST	SALESREP_LAST A	COMMISSION	SALARY				
1	103	JEAN	BINOCHE	15	34000				
2	113	YUDONG	CHENG	15	34000				
3	105	BOB	COLES	10	31000				
4	115	RENALDO	DICAPRIO	15	22000				
5	116	MARIA	ESCAYOLA	15	34000				
6	102	NANCY	EDICHNODNI	15	45000				

Sample-Sales Representatives.IMD ×								
	SALESREP_NO	SALESREP_FIRST	SALESREP_LAST	COMMISSION	SALARY 🔺			
1	112	YULY	LEE	15	12000			
2	109	KLAUS	SCHULZE	15	15000			
3	115	RENALDO	DICAPRIO	15	22000			
4	119	CLARA	TORO	15	24000			
5	101	MARK	SMITH	15	25000			
6	110	MIKYUNG	HA	25	26000			
7	106	CEUDGES	DEVCVN	15	20000			



#### Stratification

- Breaks the data down into intervals or strata
- Very useful for limits testing!

Invoice Amount	Count	Percent of Total	Total Amount
Less than \$1,000	87	10.5%	\$ 66,078.24
\$1,001-\$5,000	196	23.6%	\$ 782,089.00
\$5,001-\$10,000	359	43.2%	\$ 2,515,940.21
\$10,001-\$20,000	102	12.3%	\$ 1,427,527.74
\$20,001-\$50,000	68	8.2%	\$ 2,022,600.16
Over \$50,000	19	2.3%	\$ 1,298,874.96
Total:	831	100%	\$ 8,113,110.31

Amounts Outstanding									
ivoice imber	Customer Name	Amount Receivable	Amount Owed	1–30 Days	31–60 Days	61–90 Days	90–120 Days	120+ Days	
6987	McClintock Fabrics	\$1,250	\$250		\$250				
5365	ABC Incorporated	\$5,250	\$650	\$650					
8942	Riley's Pest Control	\$1,000	\$200			\$200_	unctior		
5410	Bob's Lawn Service	\$250	\$50		U	\$50	JNCUOI	15	
9463	Clean 4 You	\$750	\$300				analysis:	\$300	
	XYZ								

\$1,000

\$1,000

7156

Corporation

\$6,250

#### Benford's Test

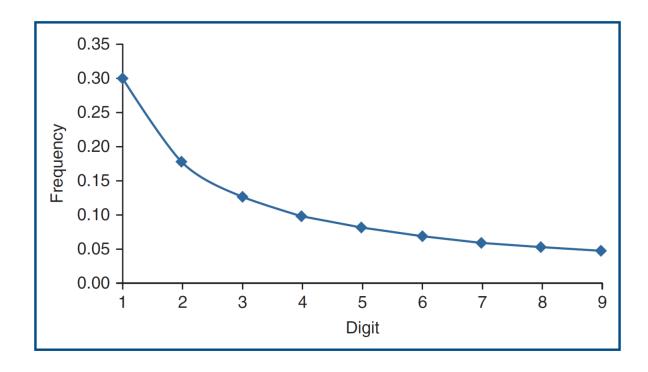
- Founded on counterintuitive observation that individual digits of multidigit numbers are not random, but follow a pattern
  - Describes expected frequencies of digits in numbers
  - UNTAMPERED NATURALLY OCCURING NUMBERS!
- Posits that distribution of first digits is positively skewed, or more heavily weighted toward smaller numbers
- Number series must follow a geometric sequence
  - Each successive number calculated as a fixed percentage increase over previous number
- Applications
  - Net income
  - Earnings per share
  - Income tax
  - Fraud detection

Benford's Test: expected Digital Frequencies

Digit	First	Second	Third	Fourth
0		.11968	.10178	.10018
1	.30103	.11389	.10138	.10014
2	.17609	.10882	.10097	.10010
3	.12494	.10433	.10057	.10006
4	.09691	.10031	.10018	.10002
5	.07918	.09668	.09979	.09998
6	.06695	.09337	.09940	.09994
7	.05799	.09035	.09902	.09990
8	.05115	.08757	.09864	.09986
9	9 .04576		.09827	.09982

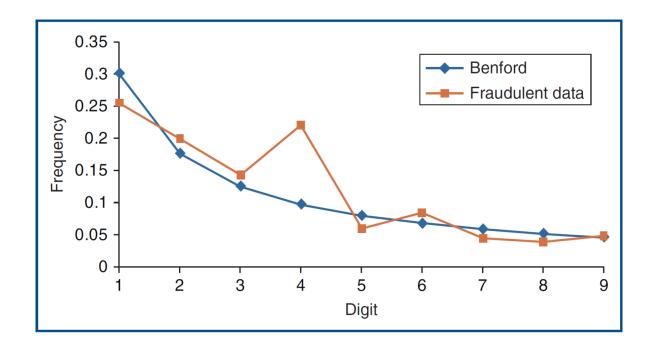
#### First Digit Test

 Compares the first-digit profile of a data set to Benford's first digit profile



#### First-Two-Digits Test

 Compares the first two digits of a data set with Benford's profile for the first two digits (purchases at \$300 threshold)



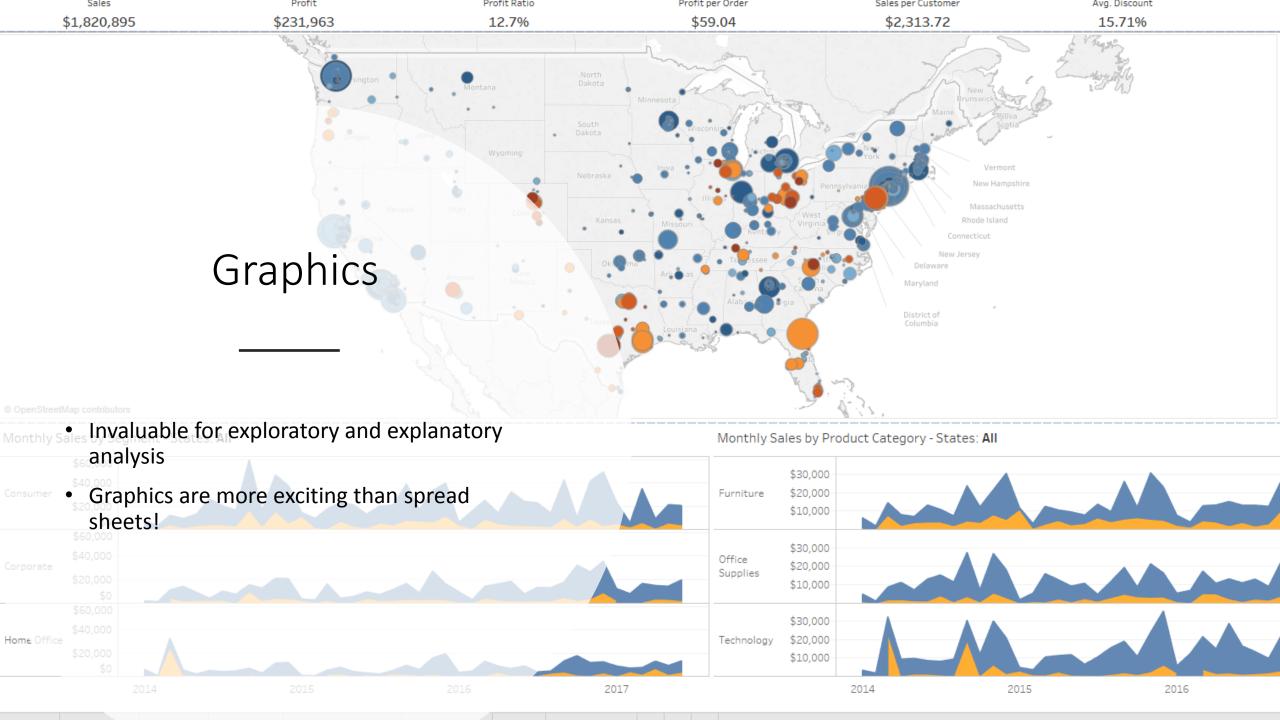
#### Last-Two-Digits Test

 Compares the last two digits of a data set with Benford's profile for the last two digits



# Points regarding Benford's Tests

- Data should describe the sizes of similar events (\$ of purchases)
- No built in Mins or Maxes in the data
- Only positive data should be analyzed
- Numbers should occur naturally, not be assigned
- Smaller amounts occurring more frequently
- Handy for identifying shell company schemes (AML or non-AML)
- Fictitious sales/checks/transactions
- Bid-splitting and other schemes involving limits (identifies concentrations)





# Examples of AML data analysis queries

- Benford's Law tests can be used to highlight abnormal duplications. These duplications may be the result of making up expense numbers to offset illicit funds recorded in revenue to avoid paying tax on the excess revenues.
  - The duplications may also be in the made-up revenue recorded in the sales register.
  - The first two digits test, the last two digits test, and the numbers duplication test of Benford's Law can be utilized.
- The relative size factor test can flag transactions in sales or expenses that are out of line for each customer or vendor.
- The same-same test and the same-same-different test can output specific duplications within selected fields, and those duplications with a selected difference field.
- The even amounts test/round numbers: payments paid in exactly even thousands or hundreds of thousands.

# Examples of AML data analysis queries

- Extract and review cash transactions from the payment register.
- Extract from sales or accounts receivable files high amounts paid with cash.
- Compare bank deposits with sales by joining electronic bank statement records with accounts receivable credits.
- Summarize sales from source categories for each year, join, and chart to determine unusual increases in revenue.
- Extract from the asset register significant additions and disposals and review.
- Test if transactions were at fair market value.
- Extract from the asset register items that are not normally associated with the nature of the business, such as works of art, precious metals, and so on.
- Extract from the liabilities loan accounts and review for unusual arrangements.
- Extract high-interest payments made and review.

# Examples of AML data analysis queries

- Extract related-party transactions from purchase and sales.
- Extract from the customer master file new additions and join to sales and summarize
- Extract from the vendor master file new additions and join to purchases and summarize
- Summarize sales by unit item. Summarize costs of goods sold by unit item and join to the summarized sales file. Calculate the gross margin and extract those with unusually high margins.
- Summarize sales by unit item and by customer and extract those customers who were charged significantly more than normal. The Z-score test would be appropriate here.
- Extract transactions with offshore entities.
- Create a list or file containing countries that are considered high risk for money laundering and extract transactions with those countries.

### Cash manipulation and AML

- Misappropriation of incoming cash and cash equivalents
  - Check washing: using chemicals to erase data from checks such as the payee name, the date, and the check amount

#### For AML:

- Altering amount of check received
- Altering amount of expenses to offset enhanced revenue



"Well, the boss told us to launder the money, didn't he?!"

#### Cash Manipulation

- Case study: "Sample Detailed Sales", "Sample Detailed Previous Year", 2015 and 2014 respectively, in the sample project
  - **Append** an 11<sup>th</sup> field called MONTH: @Month(INV\_DATE), to isolate month in each dataset
  - Summarize Sales Representative field and total on the sales before taxes
  - Set view vertically to display files side-by-side
  - Combine both files using JOIN feature, create a new joined file called "2014\_2015 by sales rep"
  - Visualize your results. Visualize the number of sales records per sales rep for the two years.
  - **Pivot Table:** for 2015, create pivot tables by sales rep, on month and then on month/custno.

#### Customer and Billing Schemes

- Submission of a false or an altered invoice
- Payables fraud (to shelter income):
  - Fake vendors (collusion required for goods, less so for services)
  - Altering and/or double paying non-complicit vendor's statements
  - Making personal purchases with company funds (ie procurement cards etc)
- Dummy or shell companies:
  - Post office box
  - No phone number
  - Duplication of employee data: addresses, names, phone numbers, bank accounts

#### Billing Schemes

- Case Study: using OK data set
  - Please extract 10,000 records from the dataset
  - Create a NEW PROJECT in IDEA: OK Vendor Payments\_2015
  - **Upload** your 10,000 row excel file into this project, please name the dataset "State Vendor Payments"
  - Open the file and perform field statistics
  - Payment amount and transaction type are most interesting
    - B—The voucher type for all the records is JRNL with PAYMENT\_AMOUNT as zero; it seems that these are journal entries
    - C—Contains both positive and negative amounts in the PAYMENT\_AMOUNT field
    - H—Contains negative amounts and are noted as Regular Voucher
    - P—Paid amounts
    - R—Refunds
    - W—Negative amounts

#### Billing Schemes

- Case Study, cont.:
- Extract all records that are paid to new file name: "Payments trans type P", by using the equation: TRANSACTION\_TYPE="P"
- Using this new paid file, perform **Benford's Tests** (pg 138) on the payment amounts.
  - Benford's First Digit test
  - Create a 3D bar chart of the first two digit tests
  - Create a 3D bar chart of the last two digit tests
- Using the same paid dataset, extract a new file called "Even Thousand Amounts" using this equation (pg 141):

(PYMNT\_AMT % 1000) = 0 .AND. PYMNT\_AMT <> 0

#### Check-Tampering Schemes

- The sheer volume of business payments still made by check today will maintain this as the preferred method of payment.
- The traditional check-tampering fraud schemes will continue to exist as long as check payments exist.
- Electronic-payment systems open the door to new types of fraud that must be guarded against.
- Many organizations use both traditional checks and electronic transfer payments.
- It is not unusual that an organization would use electronic direct deposits for their payroll and checks as payments for everything else.
- It is also not unusual for a business to use a hybrid system for receiving payments.

#### Check Tampering: The Payee

- Checks can be made out in favor of the fraudster, an accomplice, shell company, or even cash. They can also be made out to legitimate vendors to pay for personal items. Checks made payable to the fraudster, while easy to cash, are also easier to detect.
- If checks are already prepared, the payee name can be altered and replaced with the fraudster's name. Amounts can be also changed. Modification of the existing name by adding additional letters to the end of the payee line or setting up shell companies with similar names of legitimate vendors facilitate the conversion of checks to be cashed.
- If the fraudster has access to the payments system in updating or changing vendor names, this can be done just prior to a check being issued and then changed back afterward.
- Addresses may also be changed at the same time to divert the check to the fraudster or an accomplice.
- If the check is made out to a third party, then the fraudster would have to forge the endorsement also. Having matching identification may be an issue for the fraudster.

#### Case Study: Check Tampering

Open the Samples Project and use the Payments file for these tests.

- Normalize the inconsistent data in the AUTH file by APPENDING another field – name this field AUTHORIZED with the equation of @Strip(AUTH).
- 2) Next, test for separation of duties. Perform a direct extraction, creating a new dataset called SEP\_OF\_DUTIES, with the equation: AUTHORIZED==POSTED\_BY
- 3) Last, test for missing entries by creating a new dataset called BLANK\_ENTRIES, with the equation:

```
AUTHORIZED = = " " .OR. POSTED_BY = = " "
```

#### Payroll Fraud and AML

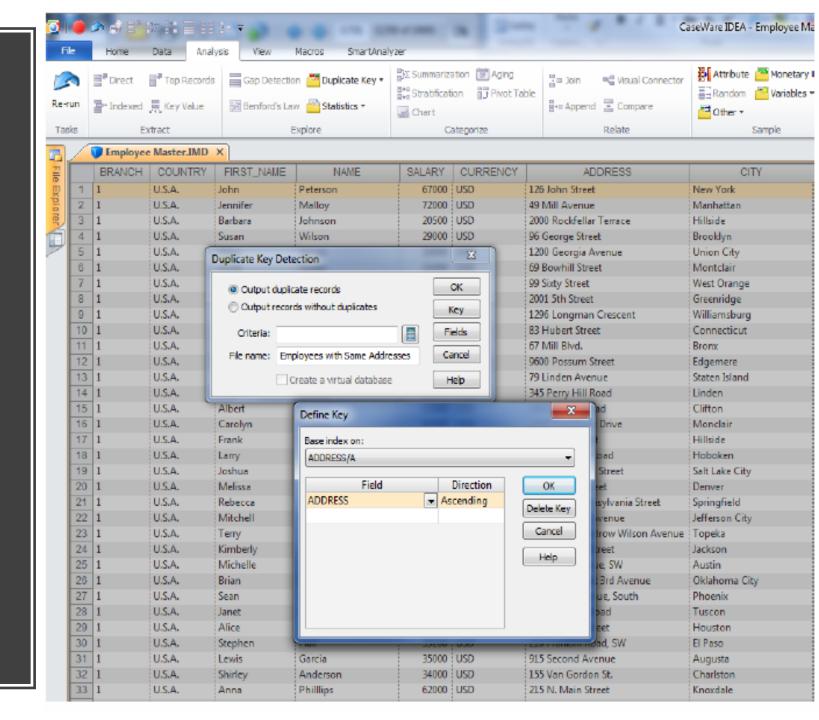
- Ghost Employees
- Falsified or Excess Overtime
- Fraud related to commissioned earnings



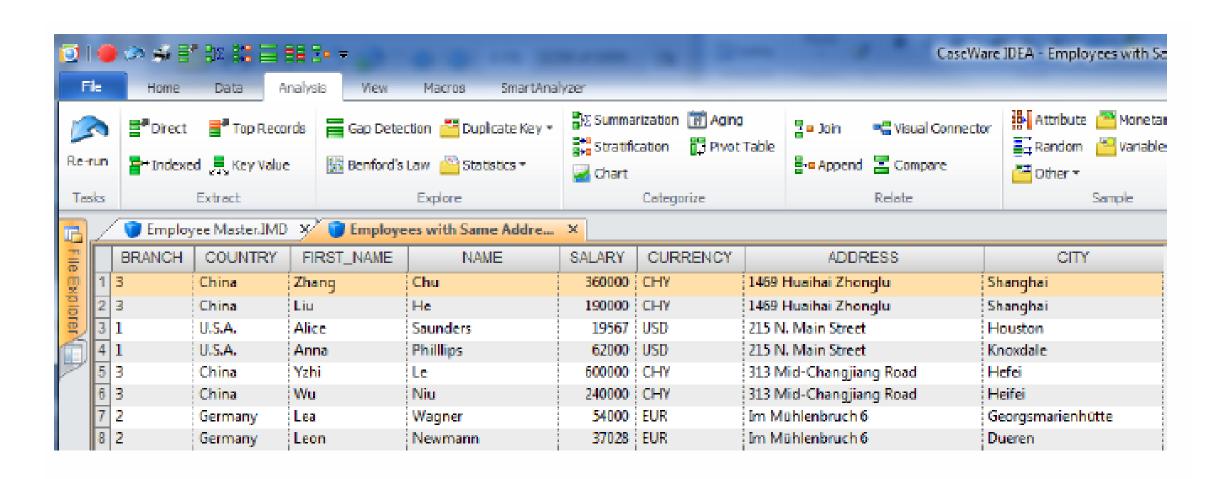
"Sure, I've got ghost employees, but they're as productive as my other employees."

"Sure, I've got ghost employees, but they're as productive as my other employees."

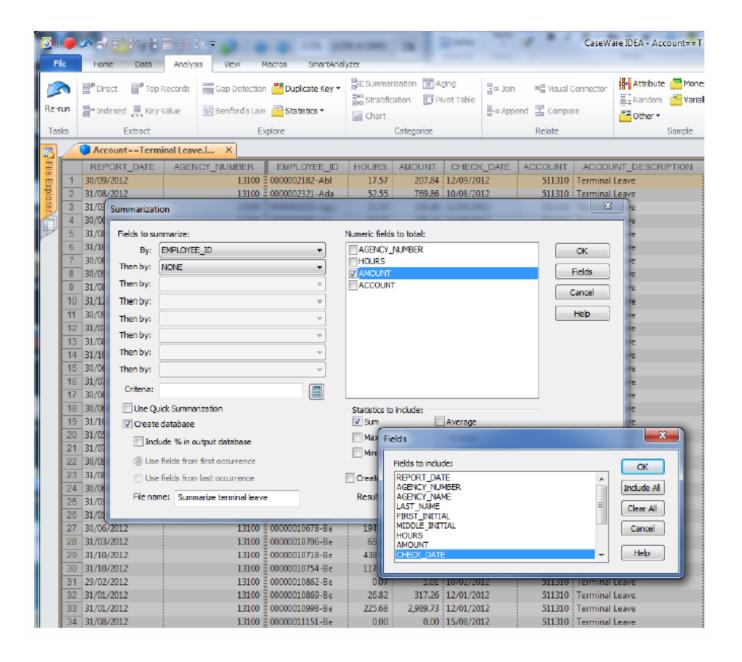
Case Study: Payroll
Fraud – test for
employees with the
same address



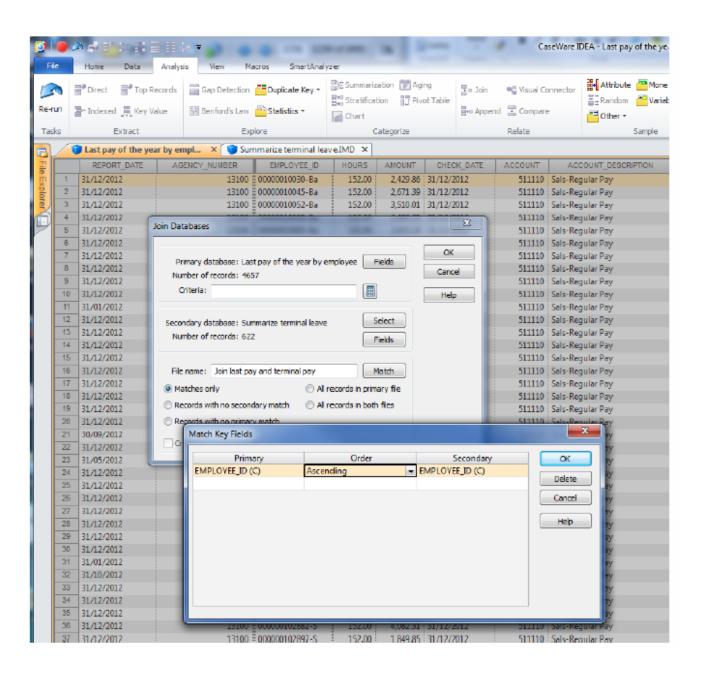
#### Result:



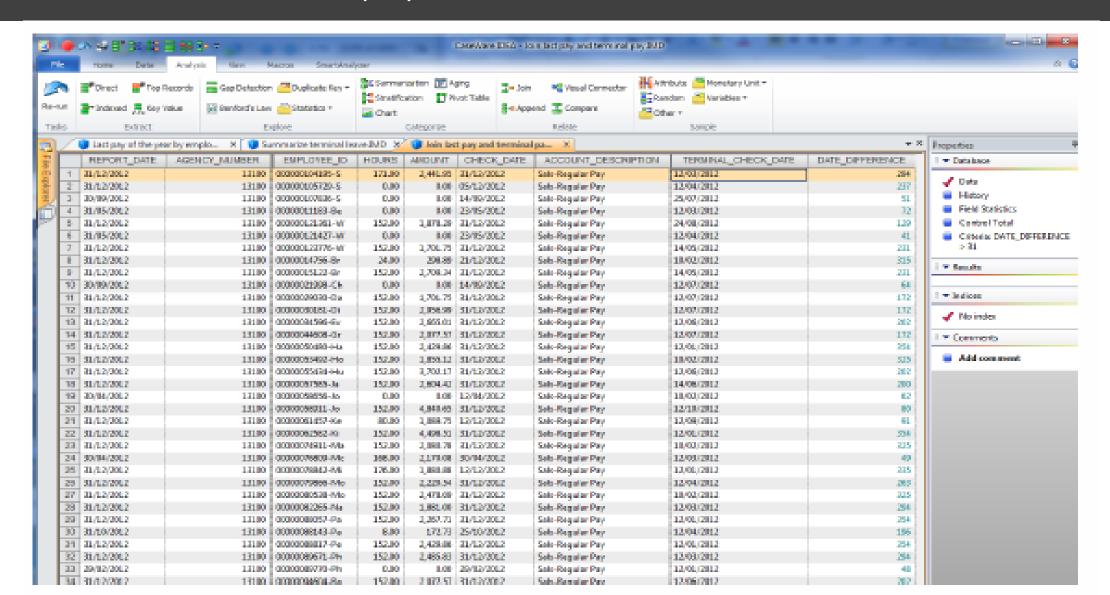
## Test for payments made after termination dates



### Test for payments made after termination dates



#### RESULT: Test for payments made after termination dates





Travel and Entertainment expenses

Procurement Cards

Improper Expense claims include:

- Personal items
- Expenses that never materialized or were subsequently canceled
- Fake or Altered Receipts

Fraudulent
Expense
reimbursements:

- Overstated Expense Reimbursements
- Mischaracterized Expense Reimbursements
- Multiple Reimbursements
- Fictitious Expense Reimbursements

salesreceiptstore.com salesreceiptstore Home Fake Receipts Receipt Printing **Hotel Receipts** Fake ATM Receipts FAQ Gallery Contact FAKE RECEIPTS - CUSTOM RECEIPT SERVICE y Store - Any Date - Any Amount My anding in NIVEA HAP O cannot be returned one-time price adjustme SPHM BR MAS PS IMP OF SNO within 7 days of purchase with an or 19 Inal receipt, All returns, exchanges READ MORE and price adjustments must be made in 14 ITEMS the country of or 19 inal purchase, Valla W. A SUBTOTAL photo ID is required for unreceipted GA 8. ON TAX returns and to receive redeem store TOTAL credits, F \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* cannot be returned the CHARLEST Factory Stores



Load the provided excel travel expenses file into IDEA as a managed project called Employee Travel Expenses\_Ch 11

Days Traveled Test: Create a field called DATE\_DIFF with the equation:

@Age(END\_DATE, START\_DATE)

Same Day Traveled with Accommodation Charges:

DATE\_DIFF = = 0 .AND. ACCOMMODATION > 0

Same Day Traveled with Flight Charges:

DATE\_DIFF = = 0 .AND. AIR\_FARE > 0

Same Day traveled with both fight and accommodation changes:

DATE\_DIFF = 0 .AND. AIR\_FARE > 0 .AND. ACCOMMODATION > 0

### Travel Expenses –

Traveled with Flight but No Accommodation Charges:

DATE\_DIFF > 0 .AND. AIR\_FARE > 0 .AND. ACCOMMODATION = 0

SAME-SAME (Duplicate Tests)

Using the main Travel Expenses data set, test for duplicates on START\_DATE and for EMPLOYEE\_NO.

Using the main Travel Expenses data set, test for duplicates on EMPLOYEE\_NO and AIR\_FARE, where AIR\_FARE is greater than 0.

Likewise, test for duplicates on EMPLOYEE\_NO and ACCOMMODATION, where ACCOMMODATION > 0.

Extraction bases on Audit Unit: Please extract the following, creating a new data set called Ass.Dep.Min.:

POSITION = = "Assistant Deputy Minister". Please display the result in a graphic format that you feel is most appropriate.

#### Types of Non-Cash Misappropriations

- ✓ Misuse and Abuse
- ✓ Unconcealed Misappropriations
  - ✓ In plain view
  - ✓ Suspicion only
  - ✓ Poor management/employee relationships
  - ✓ No whistleblowing process
  - ✓ Perpetrator hold management position
  - ✓ Lack of desire to get involved
- ✓ Transfer of Assets
- ✓ Proprietary Information



"For the right price, I could find a way to make bribes deductible."

### Concealment of Non-Cash Misappropriations for AML

Falsifying Sales or Purchase records

Create false sales and shipping docs

Inventory is increased

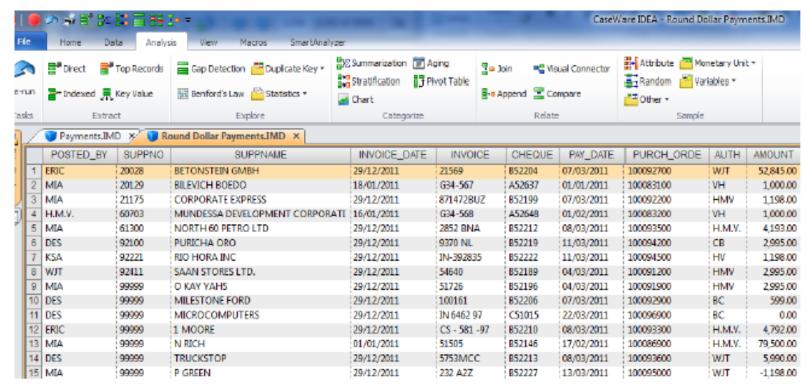
Fake sale occurs

Write-off subsequent A/R if needed

- Remove sales documents from files before shipping
- Overstate COGS and ship to an accomplice for billing adjustments
- Charging small sales to a customer with a large A/R balance
- Charging a larger sale into smaller chunks spread across several customers
- Discount/write-off the false sale to bad debt

#### Example: Round Dollar Payments





#### Data Analytics

#### **Data Files**

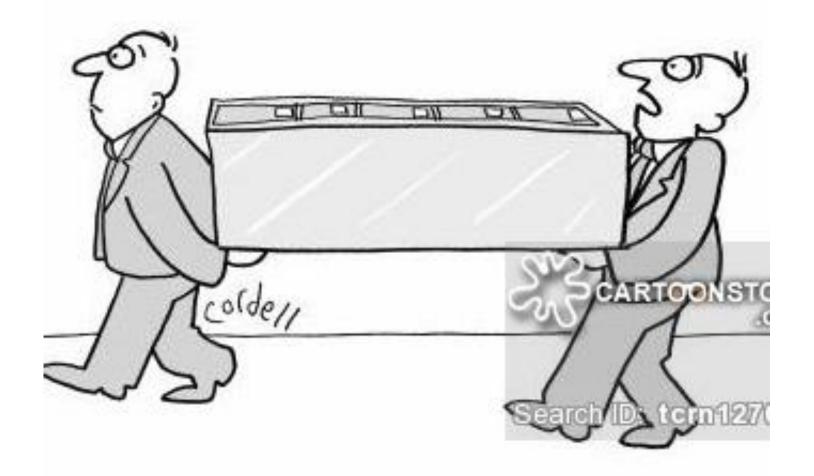
Ensure data validity

Consider data format and structure

Compare the cost and benefit of potential analysis

Consider the spectrum of distinct levels of aggregation at which fraud monitoring is required

BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND (will this algorithm hold up under intense scrutiny of a court case???)



"Surely there's an easier way of moving files?"

## Other Analytics for AML Schemes

- Social media/web-scraping
- Summarize per employee/vendor for links
- Analyze all bid/purchase data for reasonableness
- Match bid data to originals
- Look at successful bid trends
- Run duplicate tests for addresses, etc.

Concealments: Look at fields such as "Consulting fees", and "legal fees"

Look for personal relationships, family connections – more qualitative examination/investigation

CONCLUSION: Controls, right-to-audit, identify redflag transactions

#### Textual Analytics

- Social media Posts
- Instant Messages
- Videos
- Voice/audio files
- User Documents
- Mobile software apps
- News feeds
- Sales and marketing materials
- Presentations!

#### **Enhanced Text Mining:**

- Weighted fraud indicators
- Emotive tone
- Unethical behavior
- Entity Extraction
- Text link Analysis
- Social Network Analysis
- Fraud Triangle Analytics

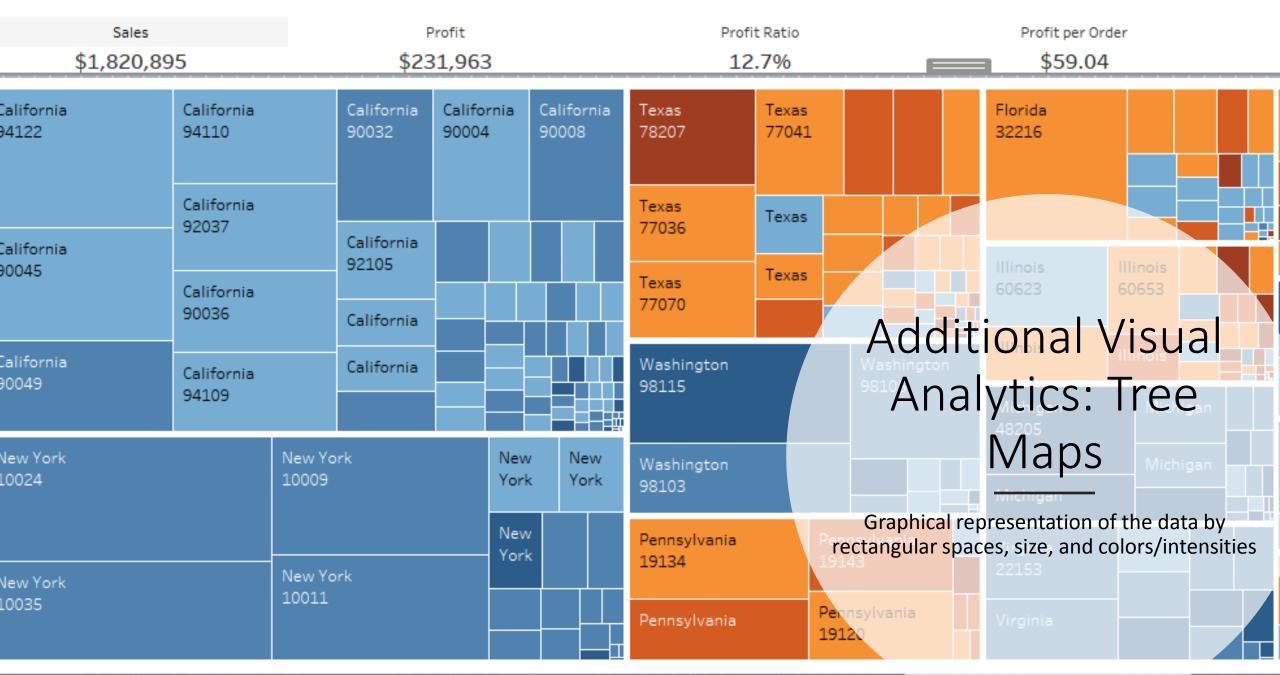
#### Suggested Fraud Keywords for AML

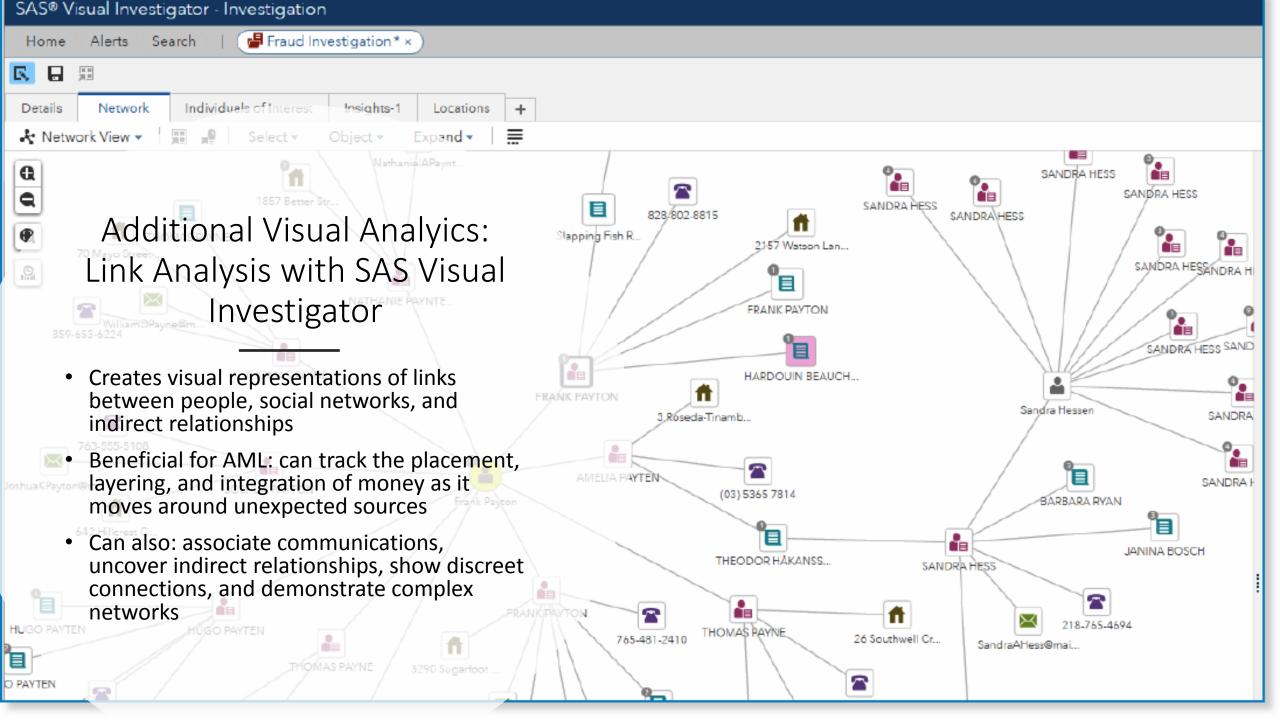
**Pressure:** deadline, quota, trouble, short, excessive, overage, problem, alert, concern, limits

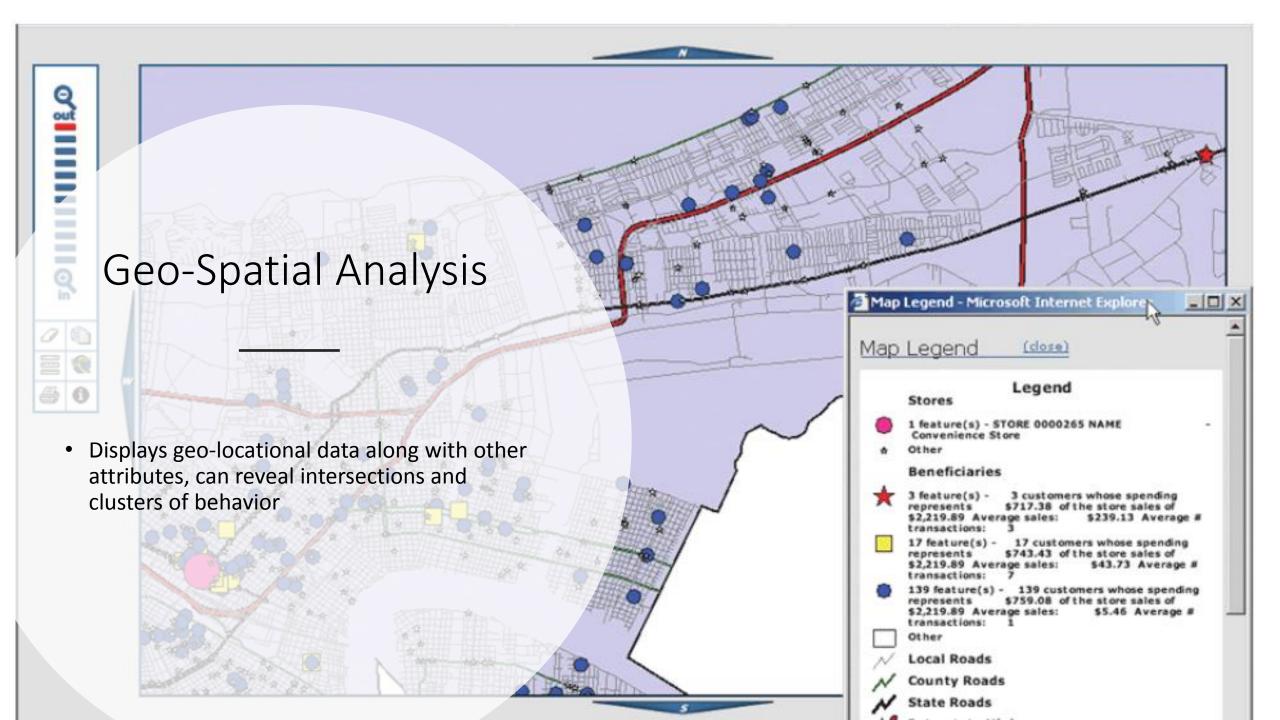
Opportunity: Override, inflate, revenue inflation, expense padding, adjust, reserves, new vendors, consulting fee, legal expense, incentive payment, donation, goodwill payment

Rationalization: reasonable, deserve, temporary

#### xecutive Overview - Profitability (AII)





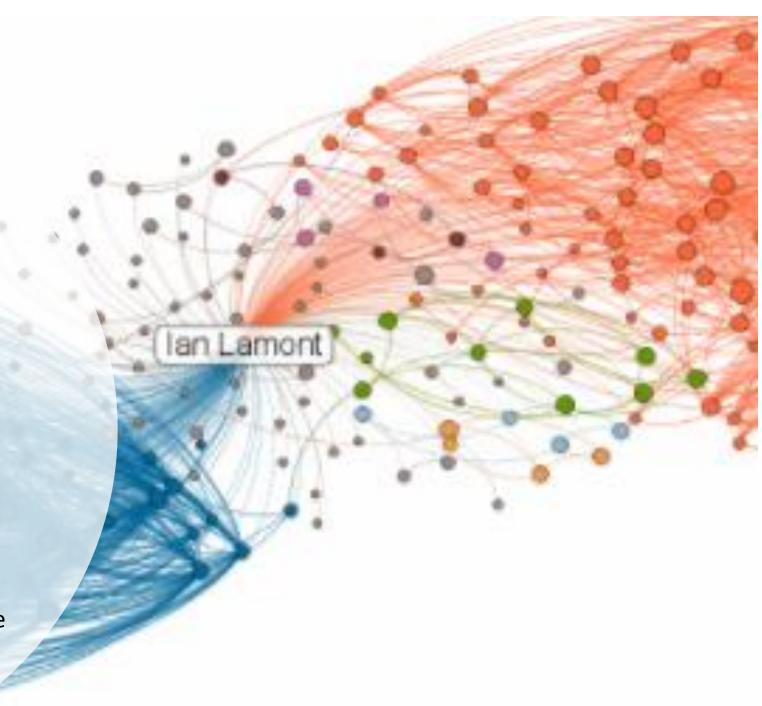


#### Clustering (with WEKA)

As defined by Sharma & Panigrahi (2013):

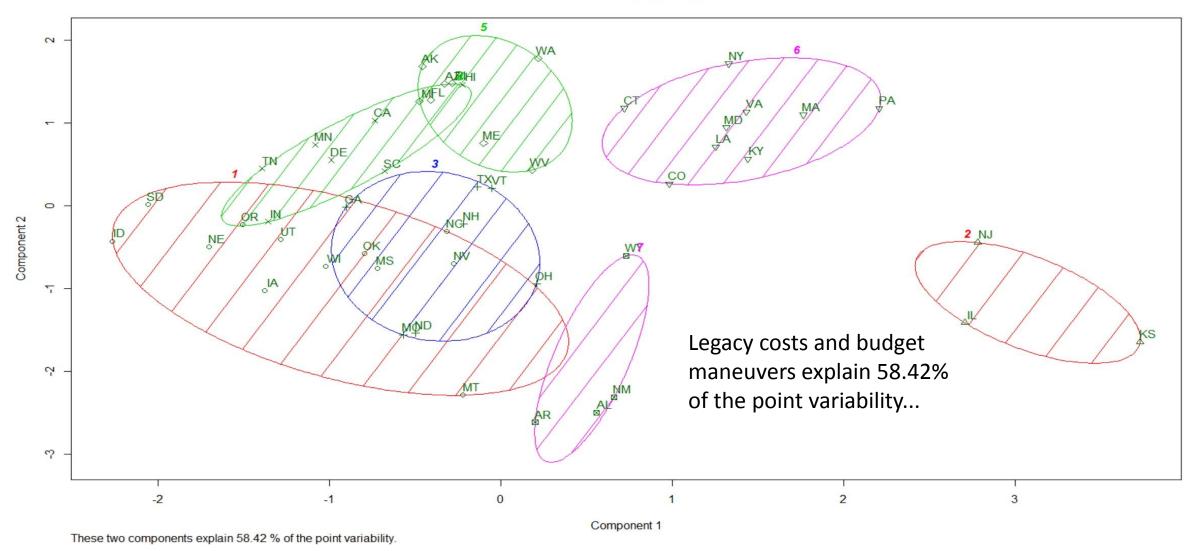
"is known as gaining insights and identifying interesting patterns from the data stored in large databases in such a way that the patterns and insights are statistically reliable, previously unknown, and actionable [3].

- Cluster analysis as a data mining technique helps finding similar objects in data.
  - Kaufman & Rousseeuw (2009) have defined cluster analysis as "the art of finding groups in data."



#### "Birds of a Feather Flock Together"

CLUSPLOT( mydata )



#### Artificial Intelligence and AML

- Artificial intelligence (AI) allows IT systems to imitate the cognitive ability of human – "problem solving", "reasoning", "planning" and "learning"
- All enabled systems possess inbuilt intelligence to sift through, aggregate, blend, and identify patterns and relationships that are buried within mountains of data - a large number and types of data sources.
  - Customer onboarding
  - Link analysis
  - Customer segmentation
  - Screening
  - Risk management
  - Transaction monitoring
  - Alert investigation, reporting and case management
- HSBC is partnering with Ayasdi, FinCEN has been using its own AI system FAIS

#### Blockchain and AML

• Bitcoin as digital currency is highly suspect, not on official books

"It essentially provides users with a digital public record of Bitcoin transactions (the digital currency through which these transactions are conducted) that have been executed by a particular entity. It is inherently difficult for hackers to manipulate"

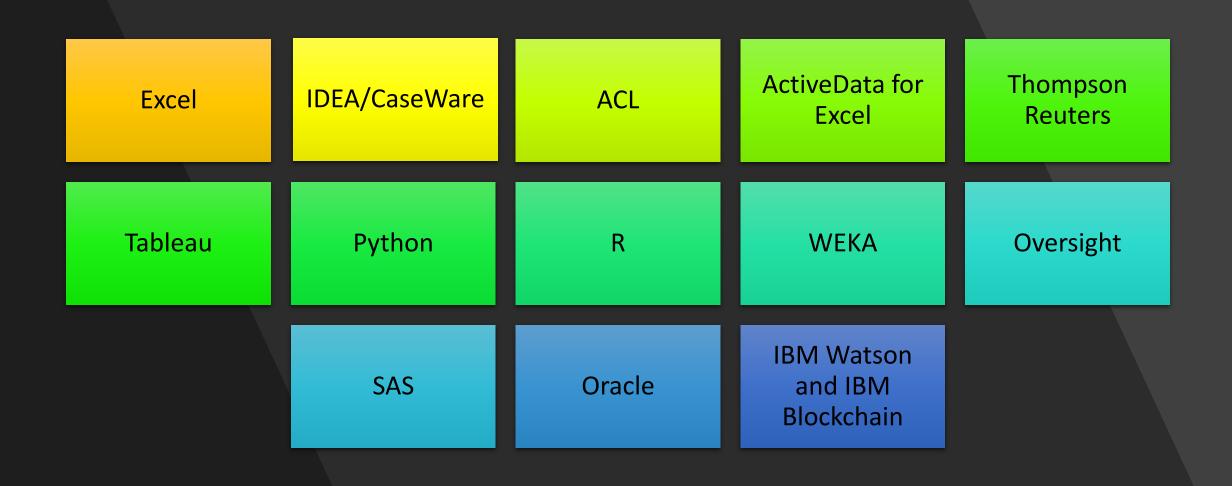
 Blockchain – semi-private? Peers? Impossible to change values without consensus....plus changes are recorded



## Evaluating Data Analysis Software

- Data import/export capabilities
- Data visualization
- Suite of tools?
- Tailoring:
  - Performance
  - Functionality
  - Usability
  - Support for additions

#### Possible data Mining and Analysis Software



Thank You! Questions? appelbaumd@ Montclair.edu 973-655-7689

