

Critical Infrastructure Attack Tree-Analysis Tool User Manual

Table of Contents

Acknowledgement.....	2
Tree Syntax.....	3
Decision Gate Nodes	4
Terminal Nodes.....	5
Accessing the Online Version	6
Start in Developer Mode.....	6
Generate Tree.....	7
Importing a Tree.....	9
View Attack Scenarios	14
View Recommendations	16
Export Report	18
Export Input File	20
Export Tree as SVG.....	23
Export Tree as PDF.....	24
Export Scenarios	25
Export Terminal Nodes.....	26
Export Scenario Report	27

Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that this work is supported by the Department of Defense. We would also like to acknowledge the work of Anandarajah Yathuvaran, Anil Menon, Dylan Leveille, Eric Leung, and Dr. Jason Jaskolka, their supervisor, of Carleton University who created the Attack Tree – Analysis Tool (AT-AT) which was the foundation for this project. This manual is a modified version of the manual they created for their AT-AT, which can be found at <https://github.com/yathuvaran/AT-AT/blob/main/Documentation/User%20Manual.pdf>.

Tree Syntax

The Critical Infrastructure Attack Tree-Analysis Tool uses specific syntax formats to generate attack trees. One of the formats uses DSL syntax shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

Figure 1 shows an example of the basic DSL syntax format. Each line represents a node on the tree. Nodes can be either decision gates(❶) or terminal leaves(❷). Semi-colons are used to delimitate between the name of the node to be displayed in the tree, the node type, and the different metrics, if provided.

❶	Open Safe;OR
	→ Pick Lock;o=0.13;a=0.4;t=0.2;d=0.4
❷	→ Learn Combo;OR
	→ → Find Combo;o=0.06;a=0.6;t=0.6;d=1
	→ → Acquire Combo;OR
	→ → → Threaten;o=0.05;a=1;t=0.8;d=0.8
❸	→ → → Eavesdrop;AND
	→ → → → Listen to conversation;o=0.08;a=0.8;t=0.4;d=0.4
❹	→ → → → Get target to say combination;o=0.07;a=0.8;t=0.6;d=0.4
	→ Cut Open Safe;o=0.1;a=0.8;t=0.8;d=0.2

Figure 1 – DSL Basic Tree Syntax

Figure 2 represents another DSL format option where the ‘O’ metric is calculated based on the weighted ‘A’, ‘T’, and ‘D’ metrics given. In the first line, the weights(❺) of the ‘A’, ‘T’, and ‘D’ metrics are listed, respectively. The three weights should add up to approximately 1, with the tool allowing a 0.03 margin for rounding. After the first line, each line represents a node on the tree. Semi-colons are used to delimitate between values.

❺	0.33;0.33;0.33
❶	Open Safe;OR
	→ Pick Lock;a=0.4;t=0.2;d=0.4
❷	→ Learn Combo;OR
	→ → Find Combo;a=0.6;t=0.6;d=1
	→ → Acquire Combo;OR
	→ → → Threaten;a=1;t=0.8;d=0.8
❸	→ → → Eavesdrop;AND
	→ → → → Listen to conversation;a=0.8;t=0.4;d=0.4
❹	→ → → → Get target to say combination;a=0.8;t=0.6;d=0.4
	→ Cut Open Safe;a=0.8;t=0.8;d=0.2

Figure 2 - DSL Weighted Tree Syntax

The tool can also use CSV syntax to generate attack trees (see Figure 3 and Figure 4).

Figure 3 shows an example of the basic CSV syntax format. Each line represents a node on the tree. The first column represents the type of the node, ‘O’ for OR decision gates, ‘A’ for AND decision gates, and ‘T’ for terminal leaves. Commas are used to delimitate between the node type, the node ID, the node name, and the different metrics, if provided.

❶	O,1,Open Safe
	T,1.1,Pick Lock,0.13,0.4,0.2,0.4
❷	O,1.2,Learn Combo
	T,1.2.1,Find Combo,0.06,0.6,0.6,1
	O,1.2.2,Acquire Combo
	T,1.2.2.1,Threaten,0.05,1,0.8,0.8
❸	A,1.2.2.2,Eavesdrop
	T,1.2.2.2.1,Listen to conversation,0.08,0.8,0.4,0.4
❹	T,1.2.2.2.2,Get target to say combination,0.07,0.8,0.6,0.4
	T,1.3,Cut Open Safe,0.1,0.8,0.8,0.2

Figure 3 - CSV Basic Tree Syntax

Figure 4 represents another CSV format option where the ‘O’ metric is calculated based on the weighted ‘A’, ‘T’, and ‘D’ metrics given. In the first line, the weights(❺) of the ‘A’, ‘T’, and ‘D’ metrics are listed, respectively. The three weights should add up to approximately 1, with the tool allowing a 0.03 margin for rounding. After the first line, each line represents a node on the tree. Commas are used to delimitate between values.

❺	0.33,0.33,0.33
❶	O,1,Open Safe
	T,1.1,Pick Lock,0.4,0.2,0.4
❷	O,1.2,Learn Combo
	T,1.2.1,Find Combo,0.6,0.6,1
	O,1.2.2,Acquire Combo
	T,1.2.2.1,Threaten,1,0.8,0.8
❸	A,1.2.2.2,Eavesdrop
	T,1.2.2.2.1,Listen to conversation,0.8,0.4,0.4
❹	T,1.2.2.2.2,Get target to say combination,0.8,0.6,0.4
	T,1.3,Cut Open Safe,0.8,0.8,0.2

Figure 4 - CSV Weighted Tree Syntax

Decision Gate Nodes

Decision-gate nodes require a logical operator (OR, Figure 5 or AND, Figure 6) and can be chained to create complex logical relationships (❶). Both examples “Open Safe” uses disjunction, meaning at least one child must be executed (❷). “Eavesdrop” uses conjunction, requiring all its children to be executed (❸).

In the DSL tree syntax, parent-child relationships are represented with tab indentation (❷, ❸, ❹). In the CSV tree syntax, parent-child relationships are represented in the second column in the IDs of the nodes (❶, ❷, ❸, ❹).

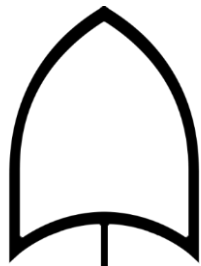


Figure 5 - OR Decision Gate

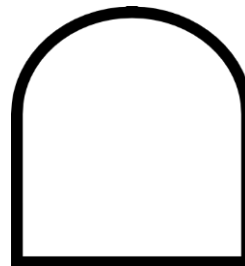


Figure 6 - AND Decision Gate

Terminal Nodes

In the DSL tree syntax, terminal leaf nodes follow the format `<node name>; o=#.# | a=#.# | t=#.# | d=#.# | none (4)`. In the CSV tree syntax, terminal leaf nodes follow the format `T, <node ID>, <node name>, <o> | <a> | <t> | <d> | none (4)`. The node name text is mandatory in both DSL and CSV formats and will appear inside a terminal node box (Figure 7). In the CSV format, the node type 'T' and the node ID are also mandatory. The optional metrics are o, a, t, and d. A leaf node can either have no metrics, the three a, t, and d metrics, or all four o, a, t, and d metrics. The value of o is always on a float scale of [0, 1]. The values of a, t, and d can be on a float scale of (0, 1] or an integer scale of [1, 5]. All leaf nodes within a tree must have the same number of metrics, and if they have metrics, the a, t, and d metrics must be on the same scale. o is the Occurrence Score, a relative likelihood metric which is calculated based on the weighted a, t, and d metrics. a is the Attack Cost, the perceived cost in terms of time and money to an attacker to accomplish the specific terminal node's actions. t is the Technical Difficulty for the attacker to accomplish the terminal node. d is Discovery Difficulty, how difficult it is for defenders to discover an attacker success for the terminal node, during or after the attempt.



Figure 7 - Terminal Node

In the DSL format, indentation represents the tree levels, while in the CSV format, the decimal points in the ID number represents the tree levels. "Pick Lock," "Learn Combo," and "Cut Open Safe" are children of "Open Safe." "Learn Combo" uses OR, so either "Find Combo" or "Acquire Combo" suffices. "Eavesdrop" uses AND, requiring both "Listen to conversation" and "Get target to say combination." For the root goal, either "Pick Lock," "Learn Combo," or "Cut Open Safe" must be achieved.

Accessing the Online Version

Users can access the most up-to-date release of AT-AT by visiting the website at <https://attack-tree-analysis-tool.onrender.com/>.

Start in Developer Mode

Users can initiate a developer application of AT-AT using the node package manager command 'npm run start'. This will initiate a React web application that can be edited in real time.

Generate Tree

Users can manually input text to generate an attack tree. Follow these steps to generate a tree:

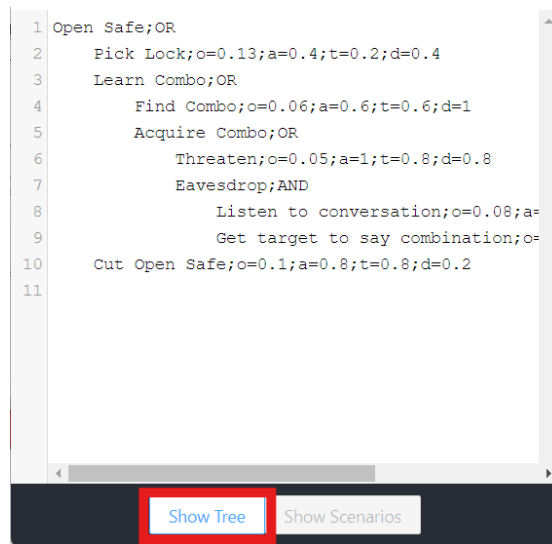
1. Enter text in the DSL format in the text area, such as:

```
Open Safe;OR
    Pick Lock;o=0.13;a=0.4;t=0.2;d=0.4
    Learn Combo;OR
        Find Combo;o=0.06;a=0.6;t=0.6;d=1
```

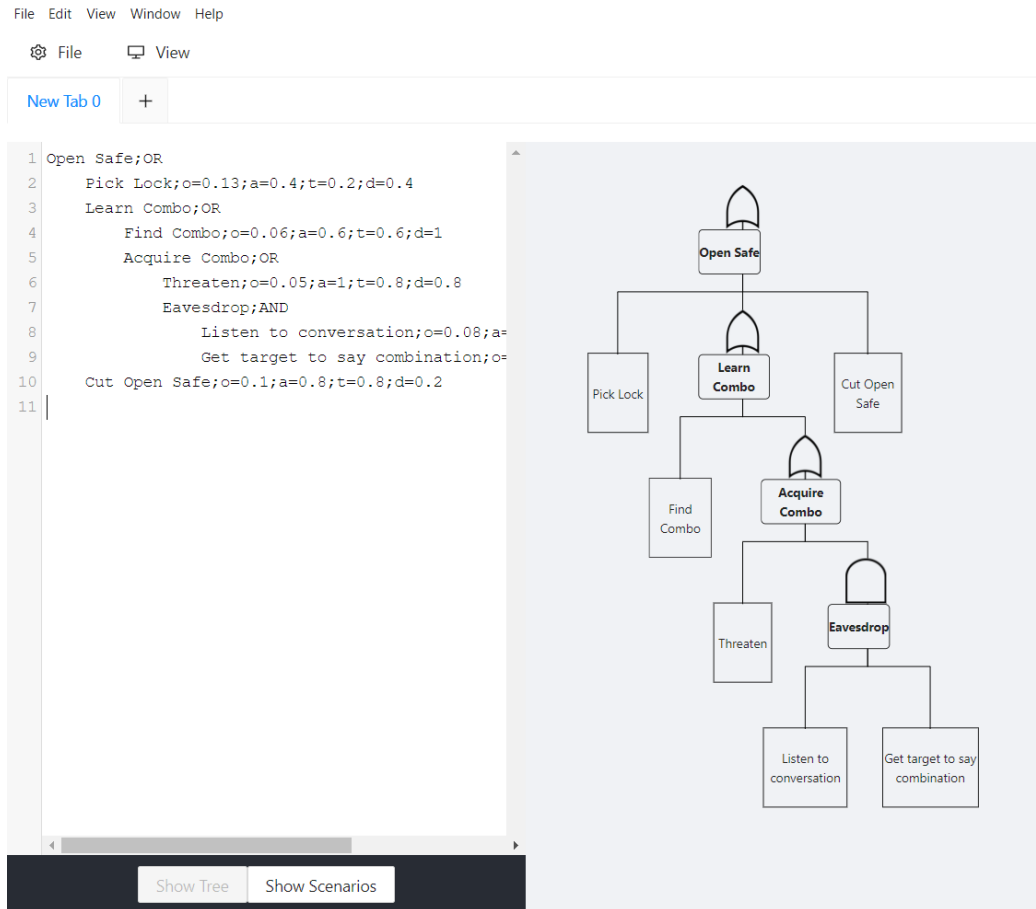
Text can also be entered in one of the CSV formats in the text area, such as:

```
O,1,Open Safe
T,1.1,Pick Lock,0.13,0.4,0.2,0.4
O,1.2,Learn Combo
T,1.2.1,Find Combo,0.06,0.6,0.6,1
```

2. Click “Show Tree”



3. The tree should now be displayed.

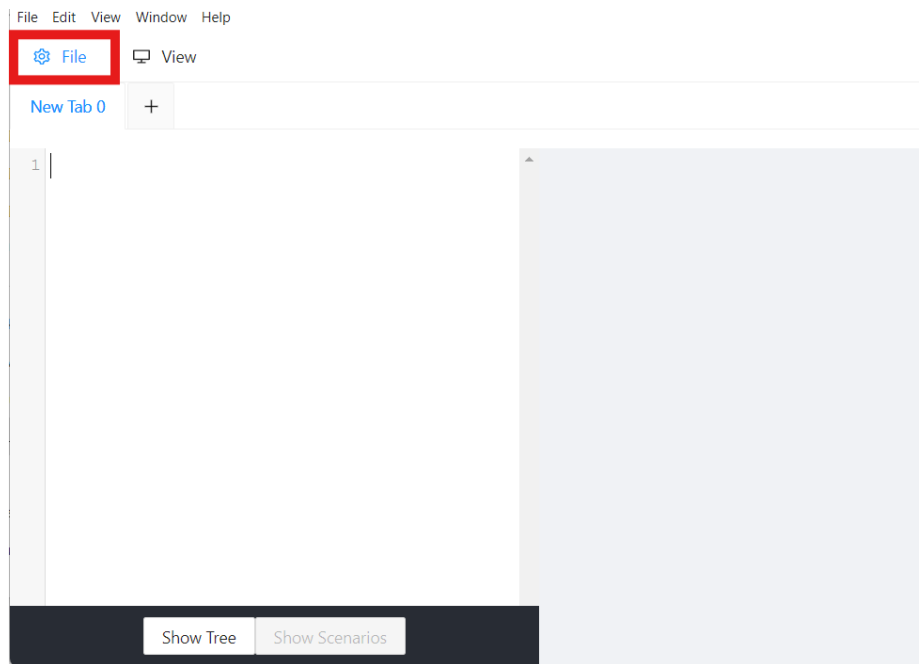


Importing a Tree

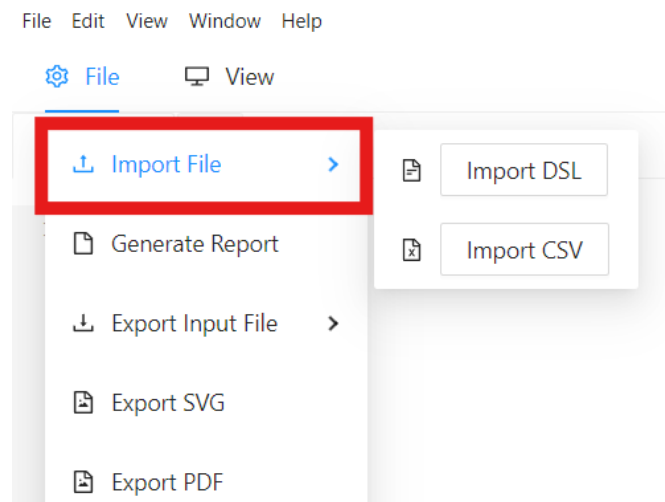
Users can automatically populate the text area by importing a file with the formatted DSL or CSV data.

To import a DSL, users can upload any plain text (i.e. .txt) file with the properly formatted data. Follow these steps to import the data and generate a tree from a DSL:

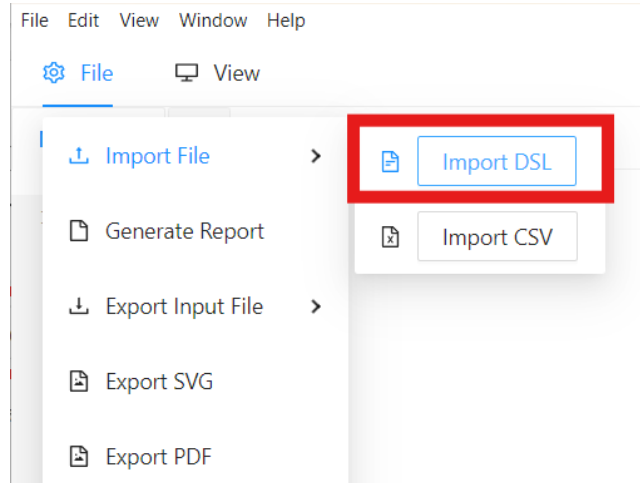
1. Click “File”



2. Click “Import File”

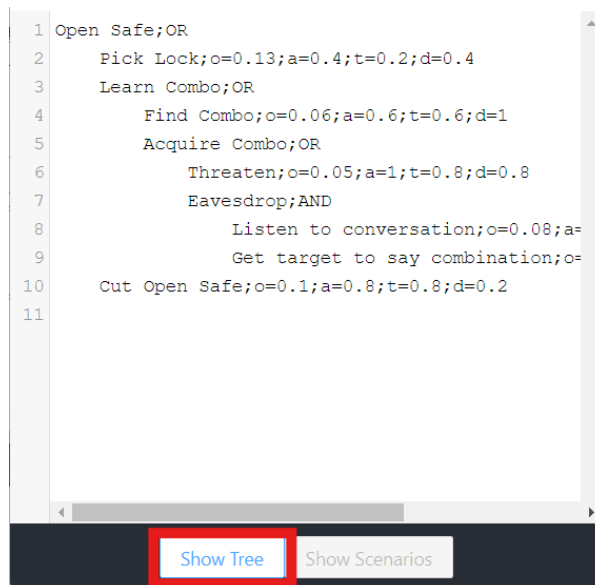


3. Select “Import DSL” (Figure 1 & Figure 2: Import DSL)

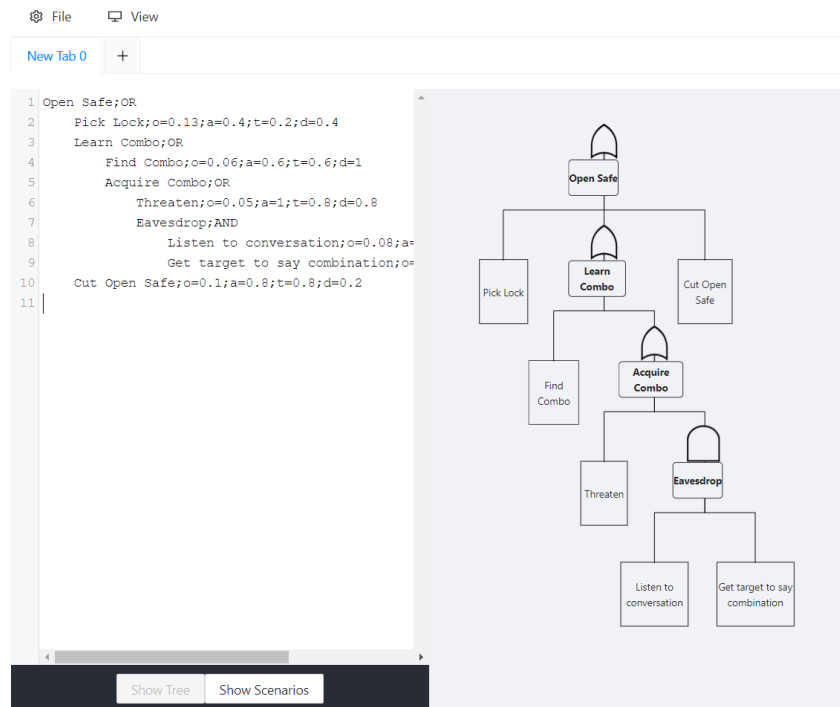


4. Choose your desired text file

5. Click “Show Tree”

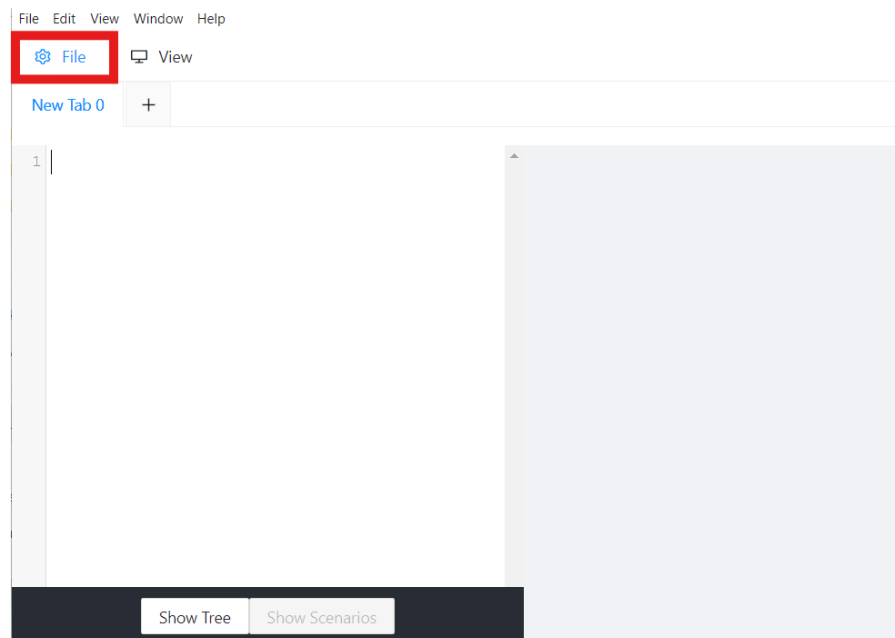


6. The tree should now be displayed.

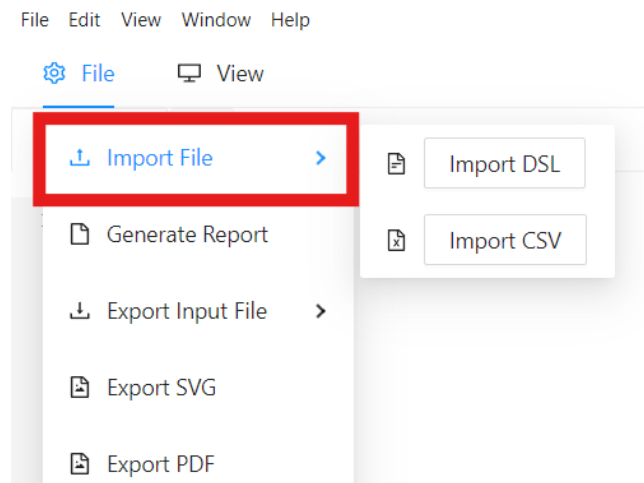


To import a CSV, users can upload any comma-separated values (i.e. .csv) file with the properly formatted data. Follow these steps to import the data and generate a tree from a CSV:

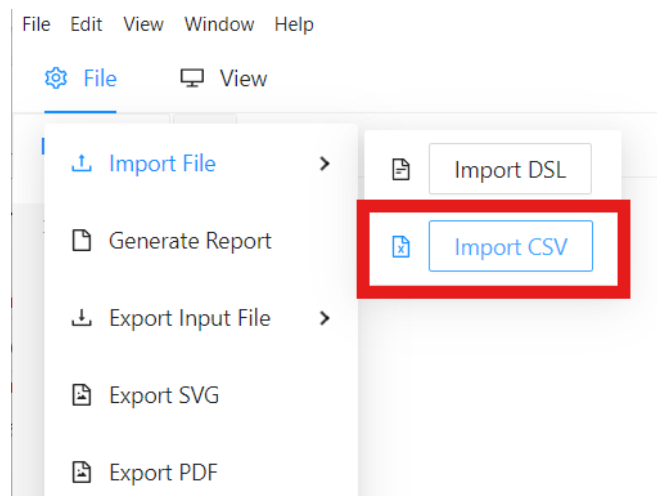
1. Click “File”



2. Click “Import File”

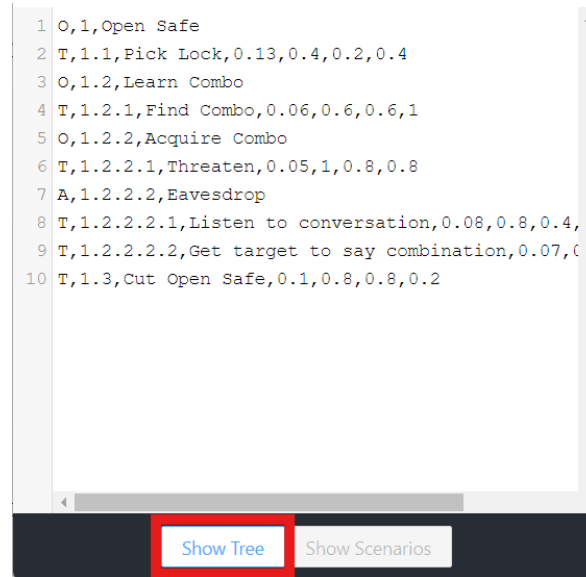


3. Select “Import CSV” (Figure 3 & Figure 4: Import CSV)

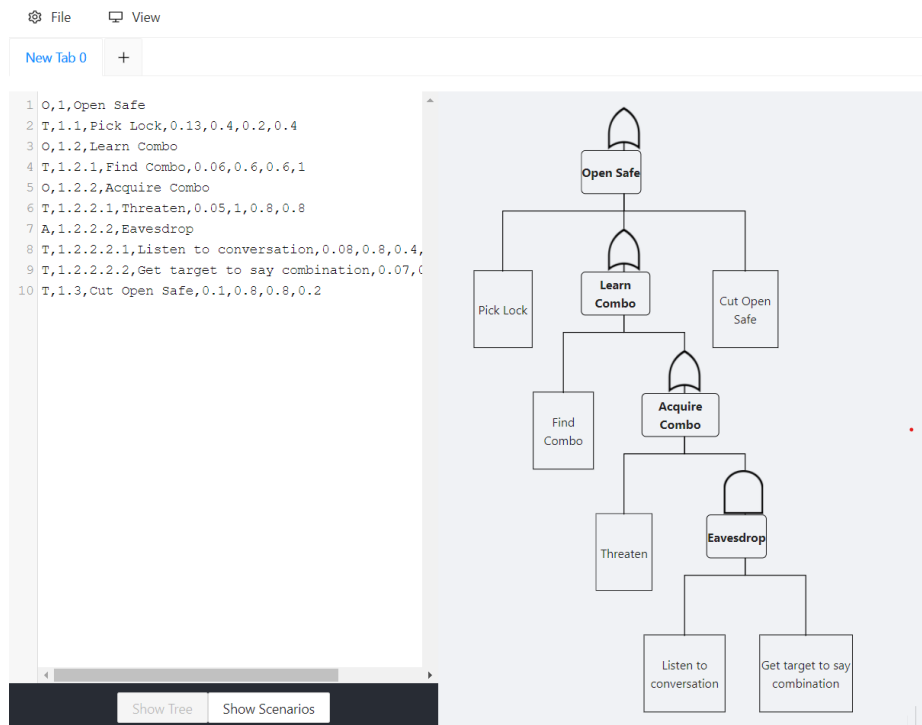


4. Choose your desired text file

5. Click “Show Tree”



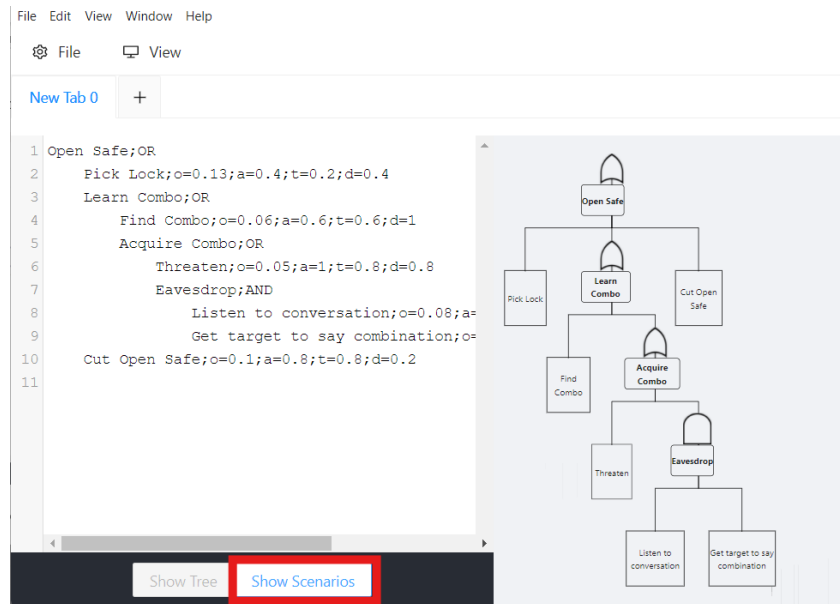
6. The tree should now be displayed.



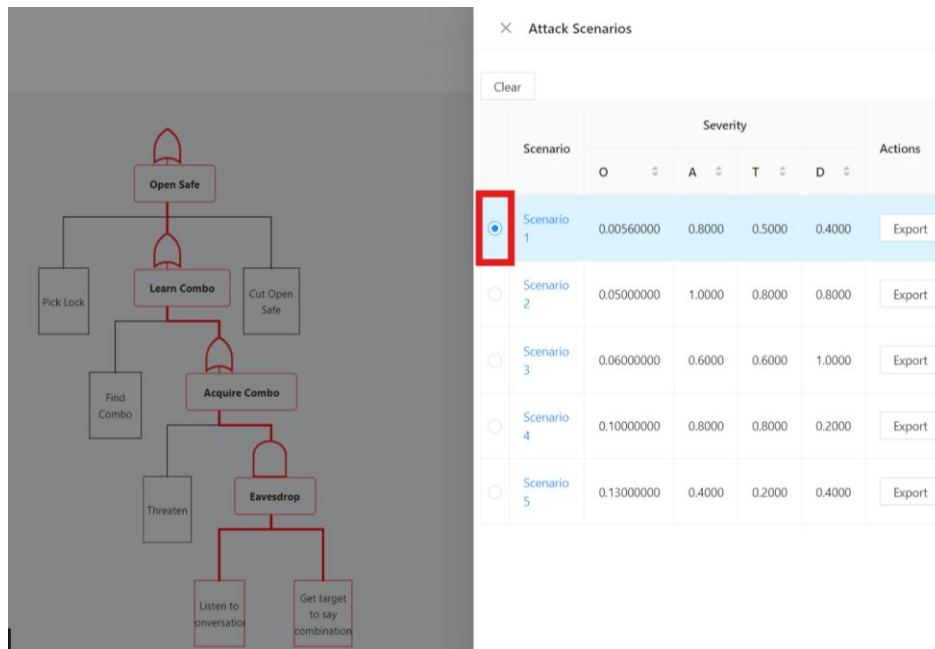
View Attack Scenarios

Once an input attack tree is generated, the AT-AT tool can also analyze it to produce a list of all possible attack scenarios. This list can be generated and accessed by clicking the “Show Scenarios” button:

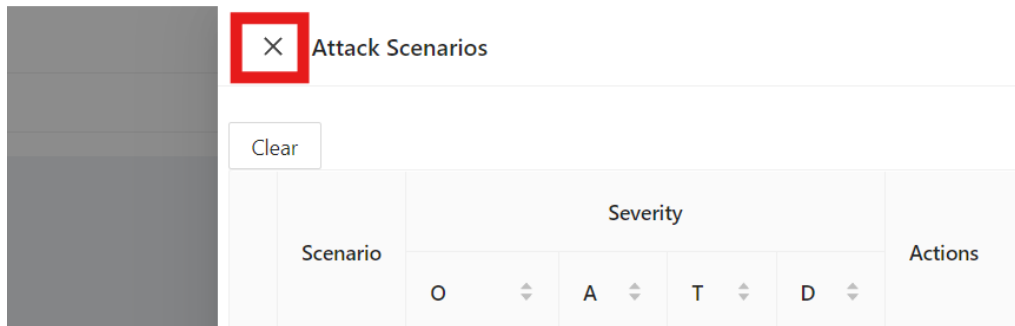
1. Display Scenarios: Click “Show Scenarios”



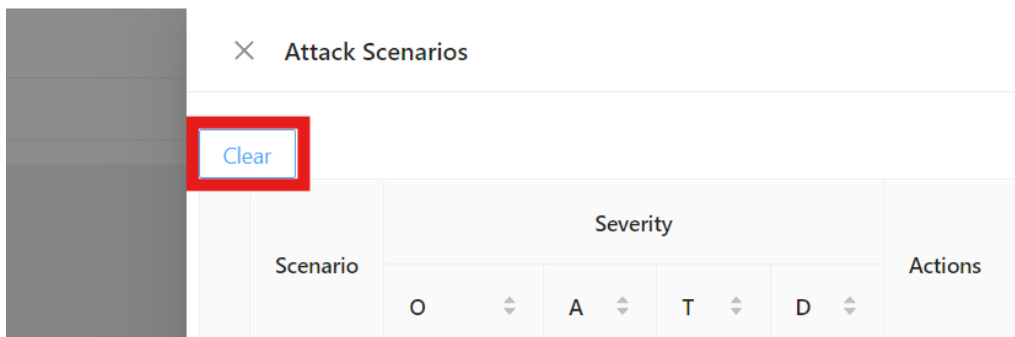
2. Select Scenario: Choose a specific scenario by clicking the radio button next to it. This action will highlight the path of the selected scenario in red.



3. The list can be closed by clicking outside the “drawer” component or by clicking the “X” button.



4. To display the attack scenarios list again, click “Show Scenarios.”
5. To remove the highlighted scenario and return to the default view, click the “Clear” button.

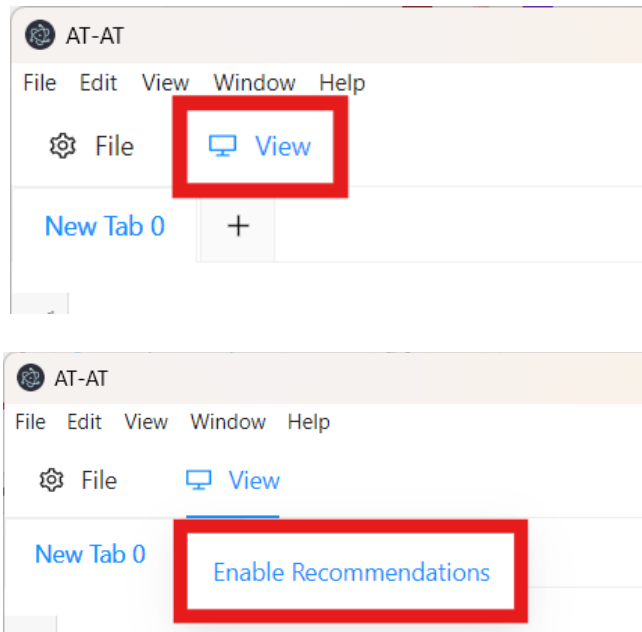


6. You can also select another scenario to be highlighted.

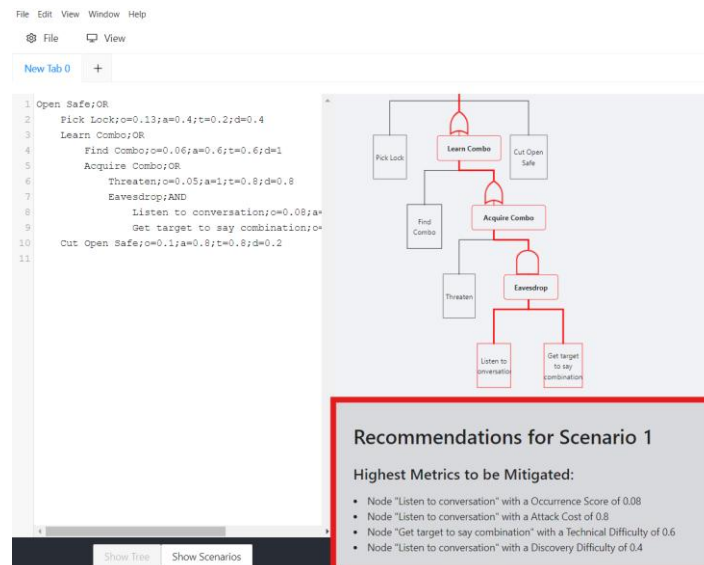
View Recommendations

To view recommendations for an attack scenario, first ensure the scenario is selected. Then, you can follow the steps below to view the recommendations:

1. **Enable Recommendations:** Click “View” and select “Enable Recommendations”

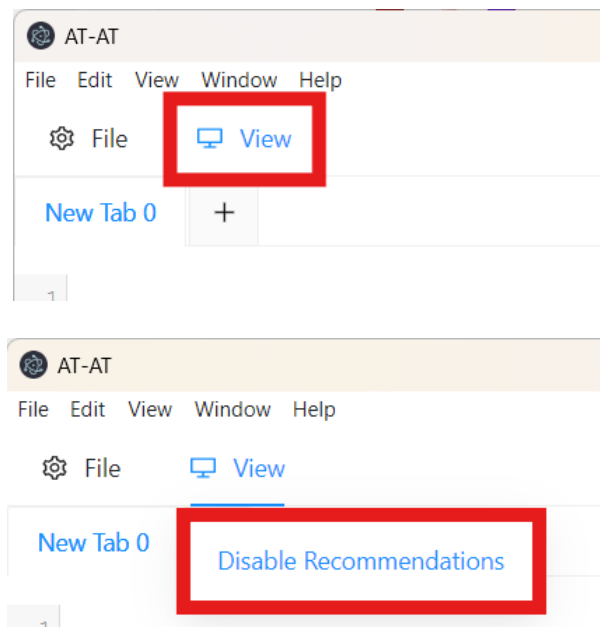


2. This action will display a box showing the recommendations for the selected scenario. An example is shown below.



The recommendations box provides information on the highest values of each metric in the attack scenario. It also suggests specific mitigations for common attacks identified within the scenario by analyzing the text in the nodes for common attack keywords. For example, if the term “phishing” is detected, recommendations for mitigating phishing attacks will be provided.

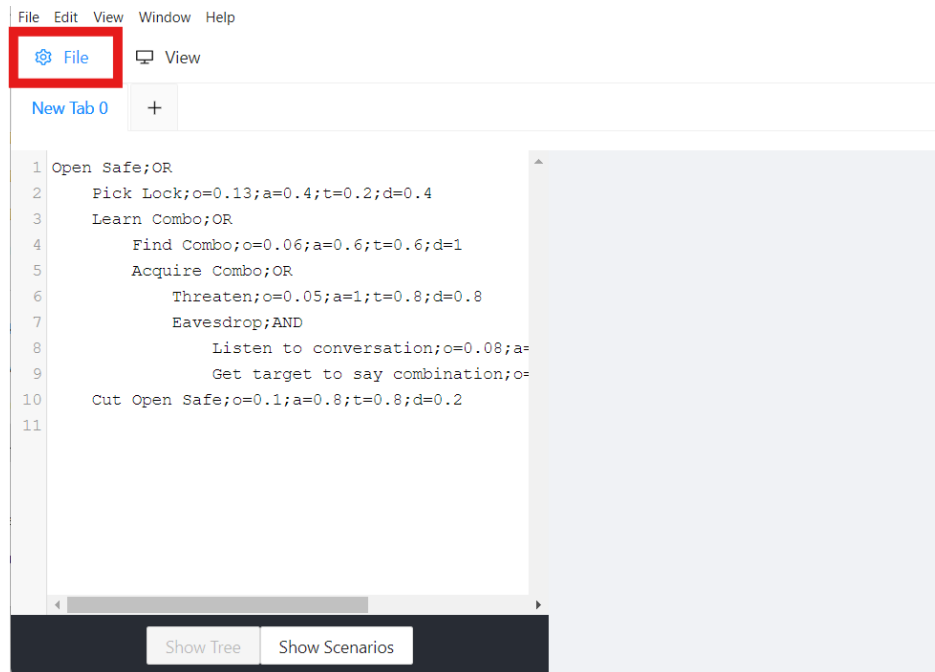
3. To remove the recommendations box, click the “View” button again and select “Disable Recommendations.” The box will disappear.



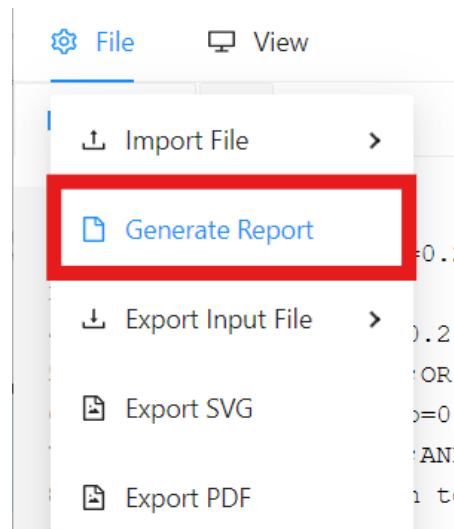
Export Report

Users can export their generated tree and all its scenarios into an HTML file, making it convenient to save and access the attack tree and its analysis anytime. Before exporting, the buttons “Show Tree” and “Show Scenarios” must be pressed at least once already. Here are the steps to export a report after the tree and its scenarios are generated:

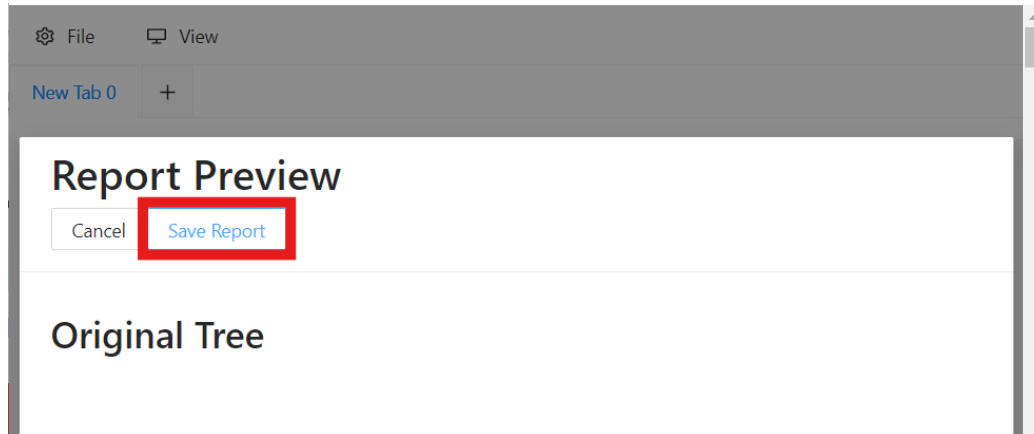
1. Click “File”



2. Select “Generate Report”



3. Click “Save Report”



4. Choose a destination folder
5. Ensure the filename ends with .html
6. Click “Save”

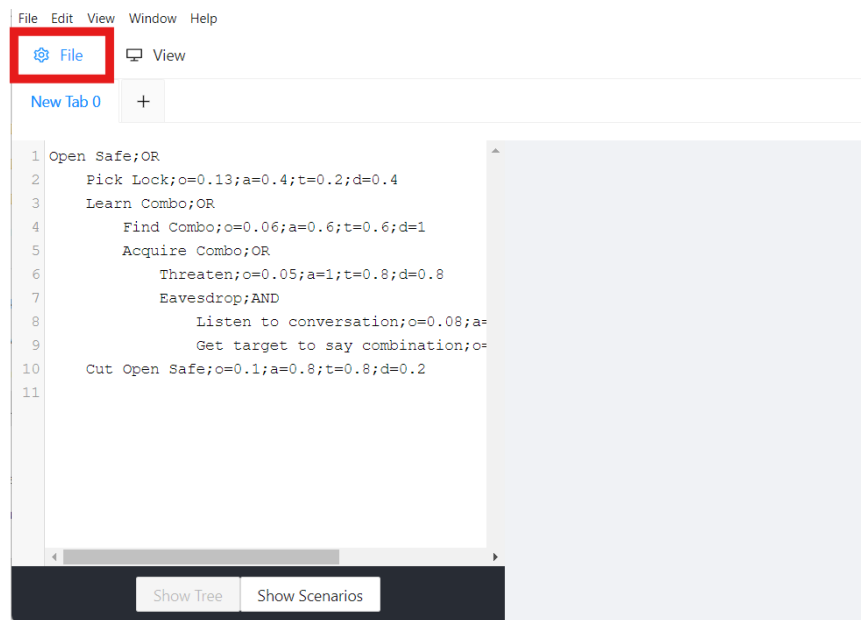
The report will be saved as an HTML file which can be opened by any web browser.

Export Input File

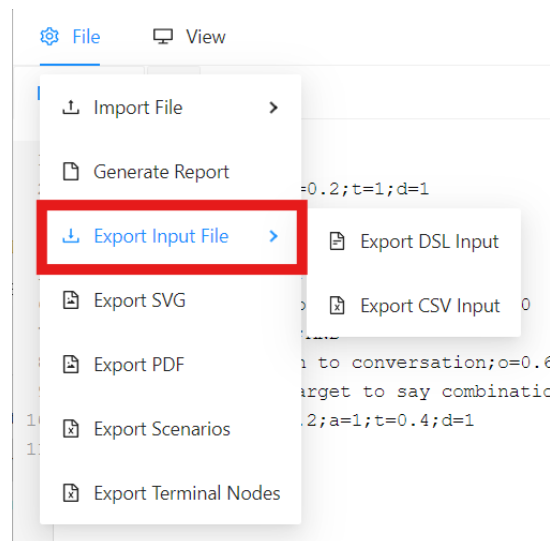
This tool allows users to export a generated tree to a DSL text file or a CSV file, which can then be imported later. A tree can be exported to either a DSL or CSV file regardless of whether the original text entered was in DSL or CSV format. Before exporting a tree, the button “Show Tree” must have been pressed for the tree to be generated.

Follow these steps to export the generated tree to a DSL text file:

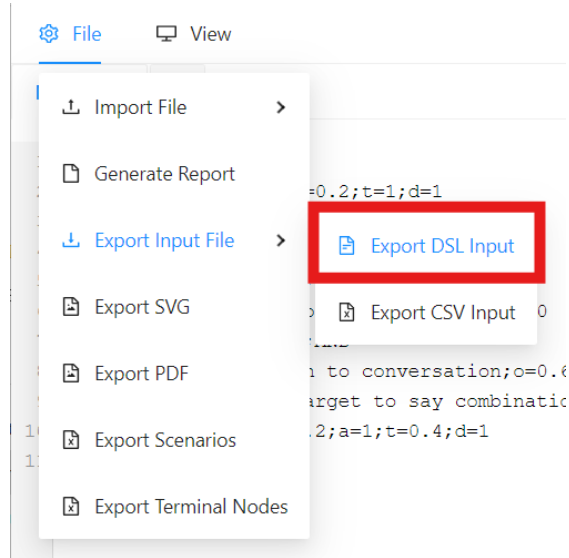
1. Click “File”



2. Click “Export Input File”



3. Select “Export DSL Input”

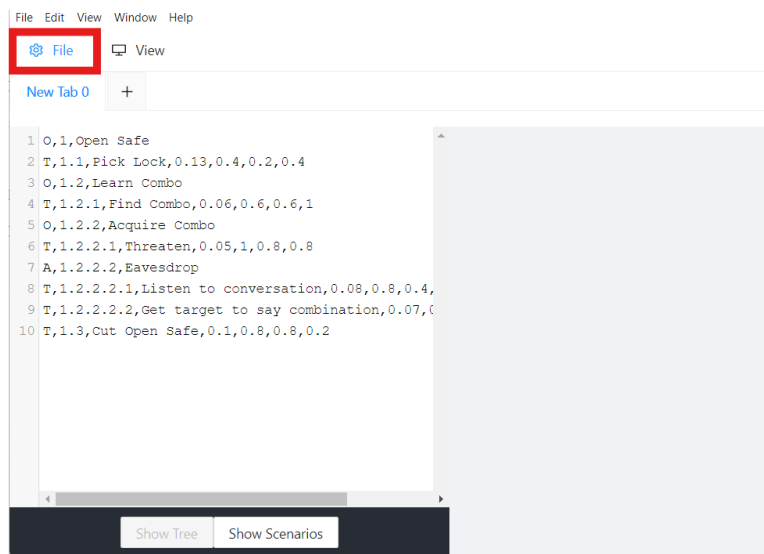


4. Choose a file name
5. Select a location
6. Click “Save”

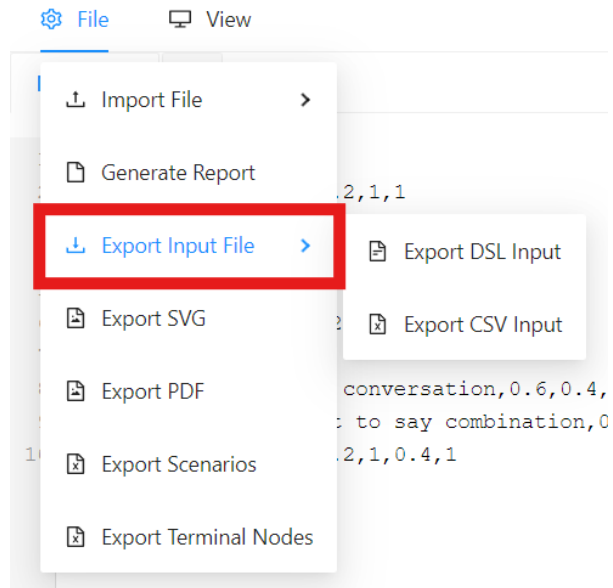
The file should now be generated and saved to the chosen location.

Follow these steps to export the generated tree to a CSV file:

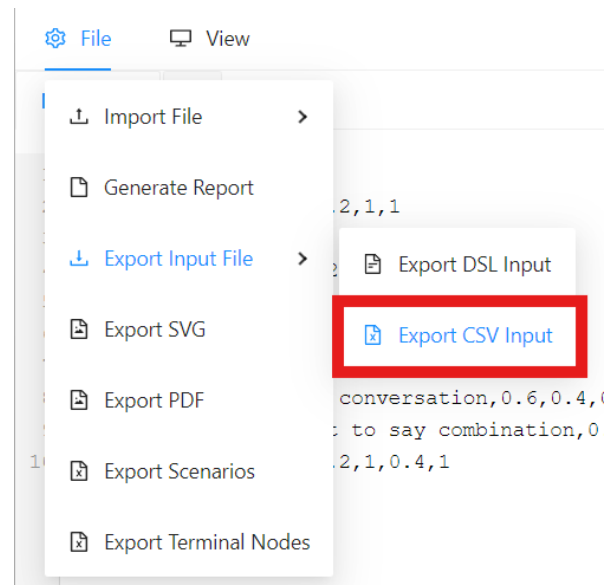
1. Click “File”



2. Click “Export Input File”



3. Select “Export CSV Input”



4. Choose a file name

5. Select a location

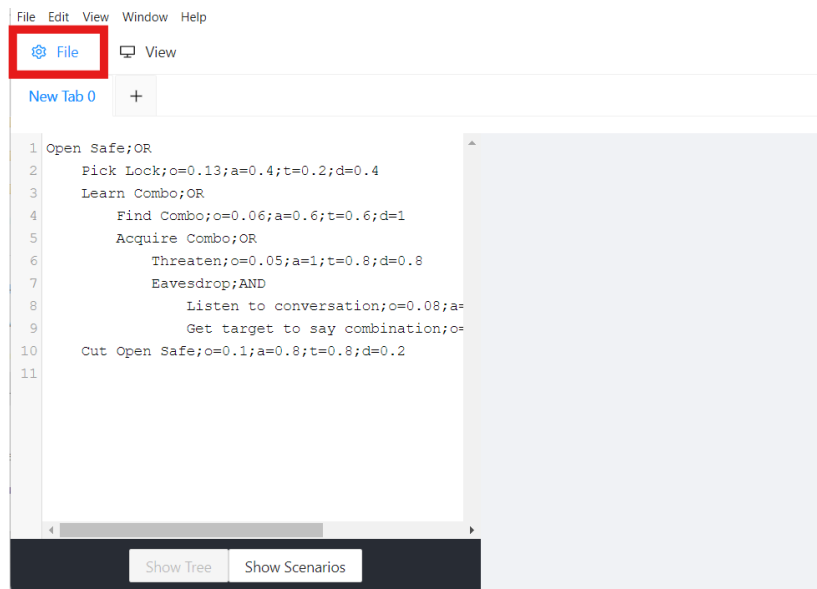
6. Click “Save”

The input file should now be generated and saved to the chosen location.

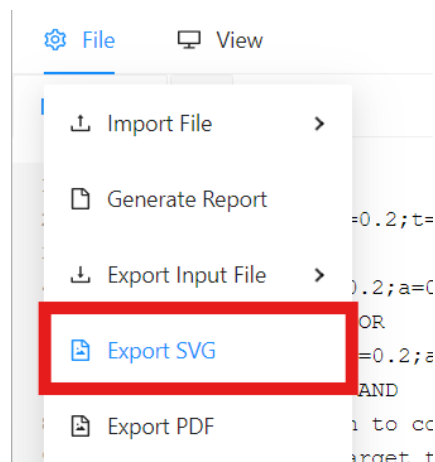
Export Tree as SVG

Users can export the visual representation of a generated tree as a SVG file, making it easy to save and access the attack tree. Before exporting a tree, the button “Show Tree” must have been pressed for the tree to be generated. Here are the steps to export the generated tree as an SVG:

1. Click “File”



2. Select “Export SVG”



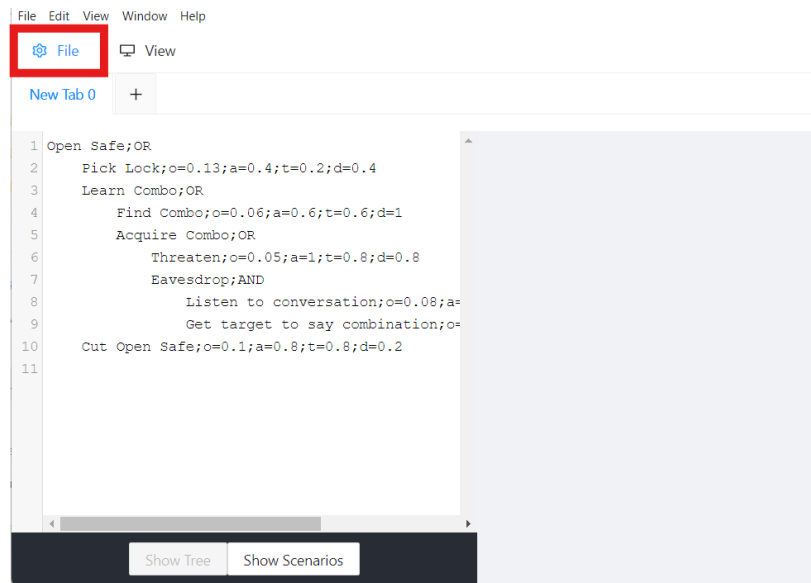
3. Choose a file name
4. Select a location
5. Click “Save”

The SVG file of the attack tree should now be generated and saved to the chosen location.

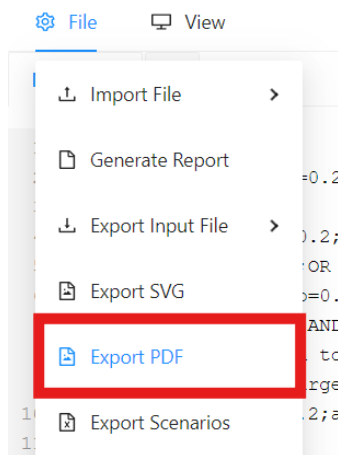
Export Tree as PDF

Users can export the visual representation of a generated tree as a PDF file. Before exporting a tree, the button “Show Tree” must have been pressed for the tree to be generated. Follow these steps to export the generated tree as a PDF:

1. Click “File”



2. Select “Export PDF”



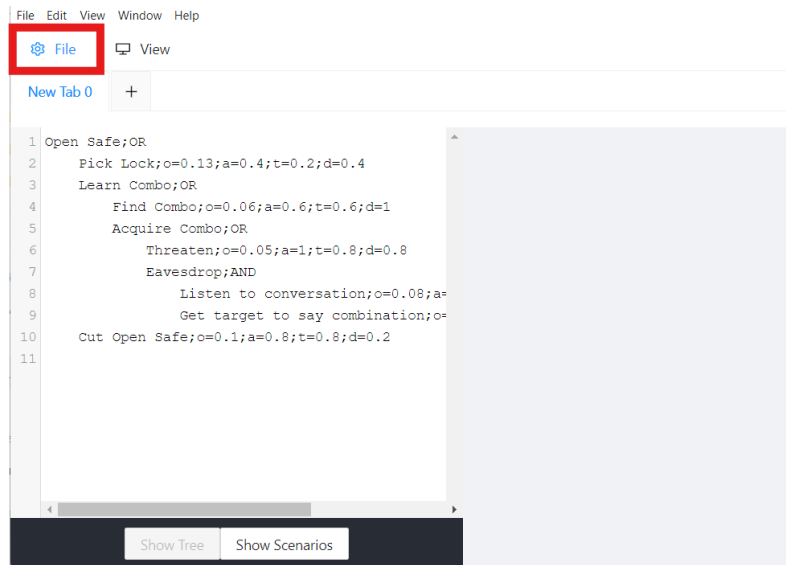
3. Choose a file name
4. Select a location
5. Click “Save”

The PDF file of the attack tree should now be generated and saved to the chosen location.

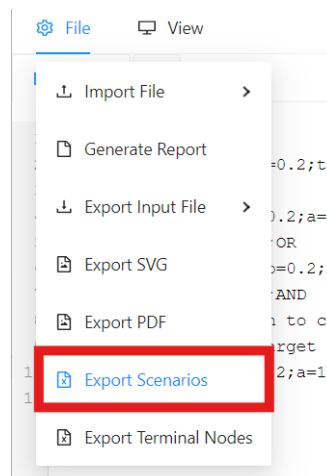
Export Scenarios

Users can export the list of scenarios, including their metrics and terminal nodes, to analyze the scenarios of a tree. Before exporting, the buttons “Show Tree” and “Show Scenarios” must be pressed at least once already. Here are the steps to export a file with a list of the scenarios after the tree and its scenarios are generated:

1. Click “File”



2. Select “Export Scenarios”



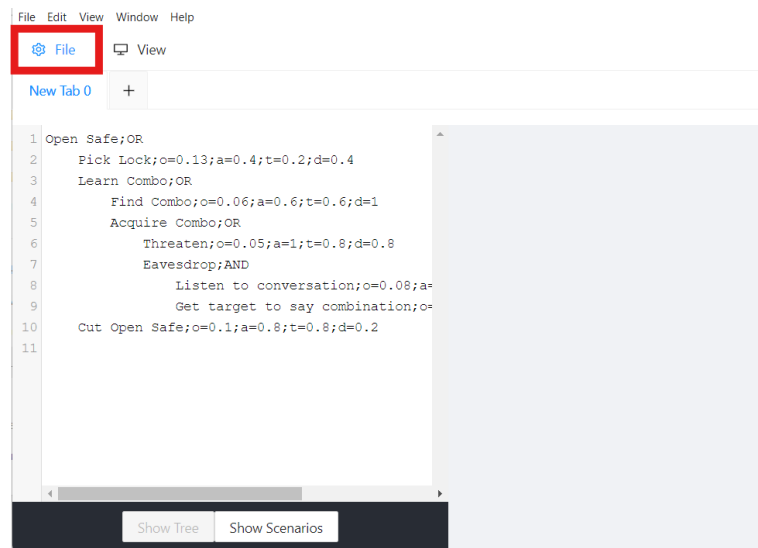
3. Choose a file name
4. Select a location
5. Click “Save”

The CSV file with the list of scenarios should be generated and saved to the chosen location.

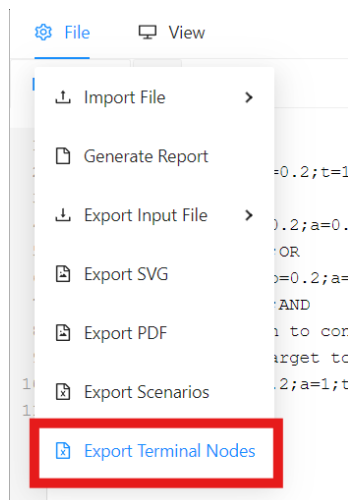
Export Terminal Nodes

Users can export the list of terminal nodes of a tree to review the nodes and their metrics. Before exporting a tree, the button “Show Tree” must have been pressed for the tree to be generated. Follow these steps to export a file listing the terminal nodes of a generated tree:

1. Click “File”



2. Select “Export Terminal Nodes”



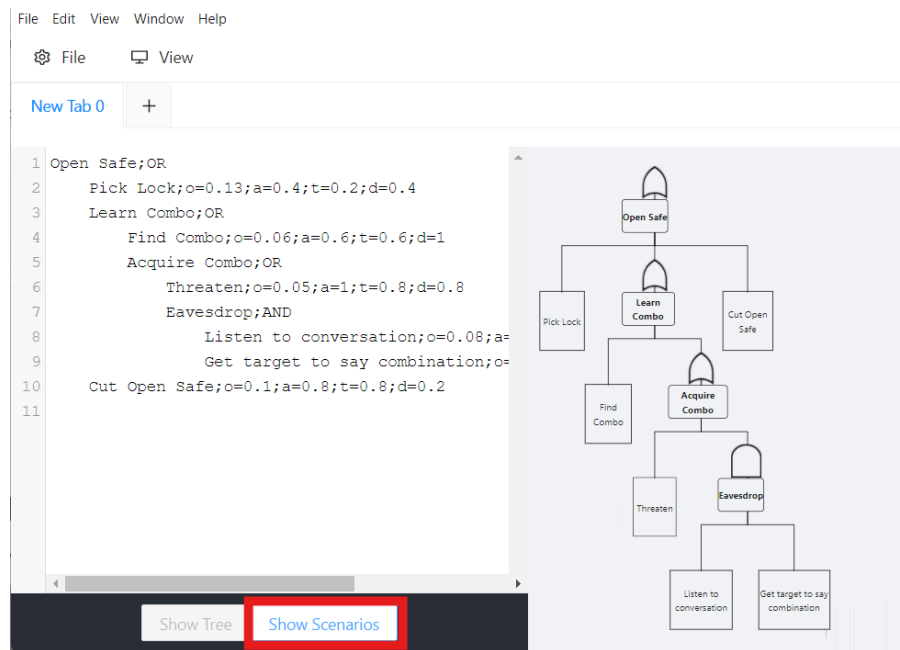
3. Choose a file name
4. Select a location
5. Click “Save”

The CSV file with the list of terminal nodes should be generated and saved to the chosen location.

Export Scenario Report

After a tree is generated by clicking “Show Tree,” users can export a scenario report to view the visual representation of the scenario and the list of the terminal nodes in the scenario. Here are the steps to export a report of a scenario:

1. Click “Show Scenarios”



2. Select the “Export” button in the Actions column of the scenario you want the report of

×

Attack Scenarios

Clear

	Scenario	Severity				Actions
		O	A	T	D	
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Scenario 1	0.00560000	0.8000	0.5000	0.4000	Export
<input type="radio"/>	Scenario 2	0.05000000	1.0000	0.8000	0.8000	Export
<input type="radio"/>	Scenario 3	0.06000000	0.6000	0.6000	1.0000	Export

3. Choose a file name
4. Select a location
5. Click “Save”

The PDF report of the scenario should now be generated and saved to the chosen location.