Evidence Synthesis & Resolution

(KA-MOD-021)

The methodical integration of diverse data sources to build a coherent narrative, while actively resolving conflicts between pieces of evidence.

1. The Four Stages of Multi-Source Synthesis

1
Collect & Categorize

Gather all relevant data (e.g., logs, interviews, financial records). Group evidence by **type** and **relevance** to the hypothesis.

Sources are discrete and isolated.

2
Correlate & Map

Establish temporal and logical connections. Map events across sources using common identifiers (e.g., timestamps, user IDs, IP addresses).

Finding overlaps and sequences.

3
Consistency Check

Identify all points where Source A **supports** Source B, and, crucially, where Source C **contradicts** Source D. Flag all conflicts.

Isolate points of conflict.

4
Narrative Construction

Integrate the consistent data points into a single, cohesive timeline. Reserve all conflicting points for the resolution phase.

Building the final, coherent story.

🛑 CONFLICT!

When evidence disagrees, apply the Resolution Framework.

2. Conflict Resolution Framework

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Check Reliability Score

Prioritize the source with the highest **integrity and verifiable chain of custody**. Automated system logs (high) often outweigh unverified human testimony (low).

- Digital Forensics > Verbal Claim.
- Signed Document > Unsigned Memo.

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Seek Corroboration

The conflicting data point is discredited if the opposing claim is **supported by three or more independent sources**. Majority consensus often indicates veracity.

- Look for independent backups.
- Triangulate time and location data.

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Test Plausibility

Evaluate which claim is more plausible given the **known behavioral context** (KA-MOD-019). Does the conflicting data align with the suspect's established motives?

- Identify potential bias in the source.
- Re-examine the collection process.

3. Mandatory Documentation of Conflict

You must always report both the resolved conflict and the rejected evidence.

Reported Finding (The Resolution):
"The user accessed the server at 14:05 UTC (confirmed by System Log A and Network Trace C)."

Excluded Evidence (The Conflict):
"Interview B claimed the user was in a meeting at 14:00 UTC, but this testimony was discarded due to lack of corroboration and conflict with high-integrity system data."