Paterva

User guide

Addendum to guide for Maltego 3.0.2

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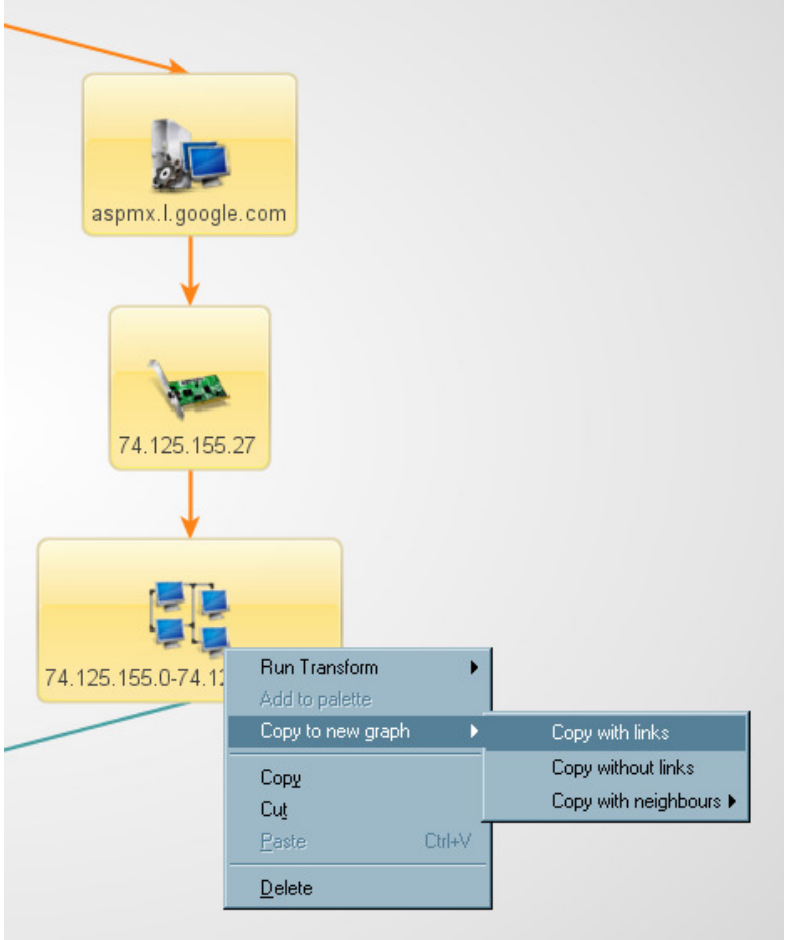
Introduction

Version 3.0.2 of Maltego addresses two particular issues – copy and paste and link properties. This brief document attempts to explain how to use these new features. We are about as keen on writing this document as you are reading it – so we've tried to keep out the waffle and show concise, to the point examples.

Copy and paste

Between graphs

Copy and paste was a bit of an ordeal prior to version 3.0.2 – all of this has been fixed. In version 3.0.2 when you right click on selected entities a context menu is displayed:



You can decide if you want the sub graph or just the entities that are selected ('**Copy with links**' vs. '**Copy without links**').

Another new feature is '**Copy with neighbours**'. This allows you to easily focus on the part of the graph that is interesting – by isolating nodes around the node of interest. There are three sub categories:

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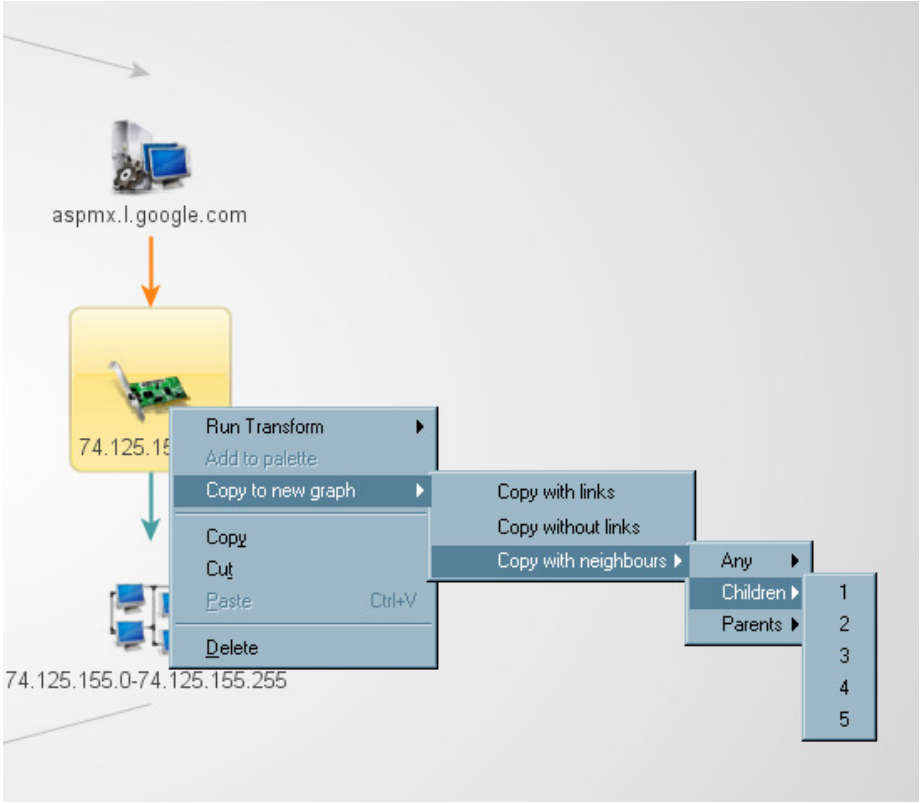
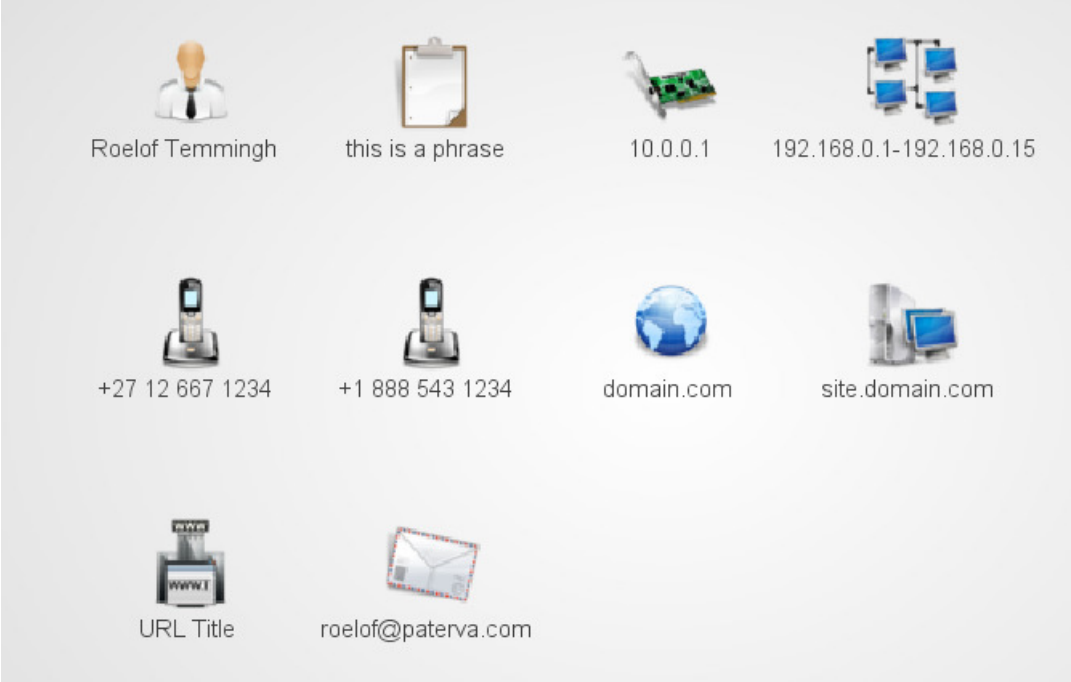


'Any' will select, copy and paste child and parent nodes to a new graph, '**Children**' will only select child nodes and '**Parents**' will only select parent nodes. The numeric field indicated how many level should be selected. Let's assume we want all the parents and children of the IP number selected in the example above. We'll use '**Any**' and the number '**1**'. This will result in a new graph that looks as follows:

From text

As in version 2, Maltego version 3.0.2 tries to identify the type of entity that is pasted from text. Consider the following example:

Copying and pasting all of the above text into Maltego leads to:



Note that the URL entity type displays the title of the URL – when pasted from text this is not displayed (but the entity will work as expected). You can also paste back from Maltego to text. Consider the following:

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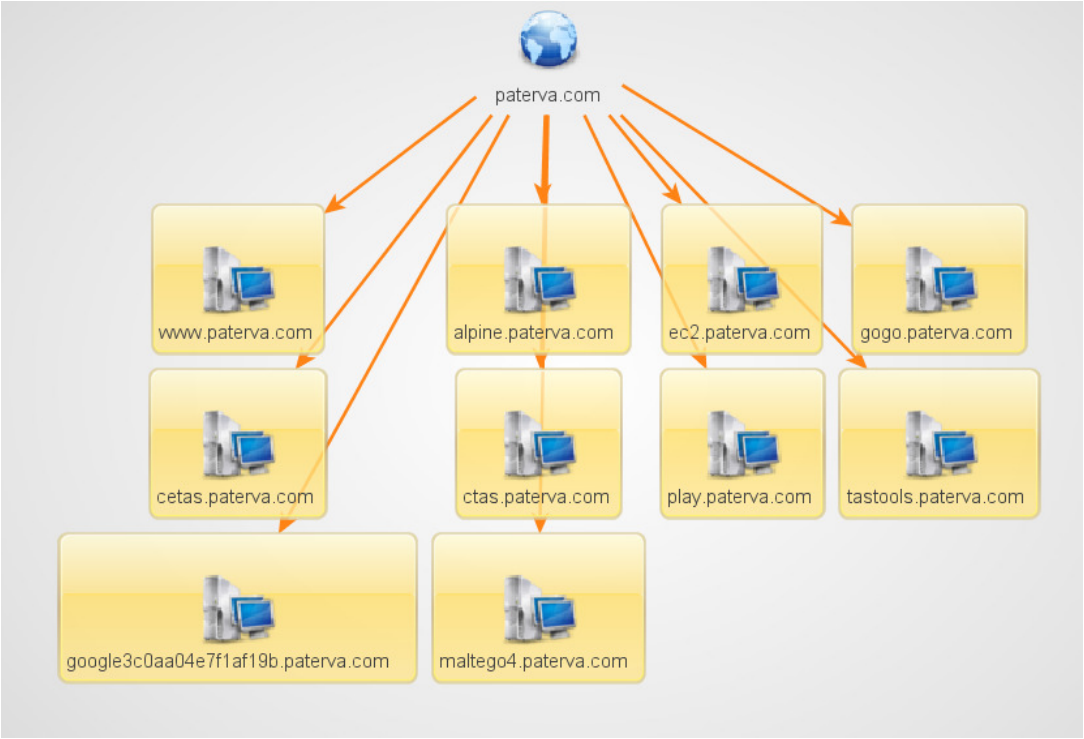
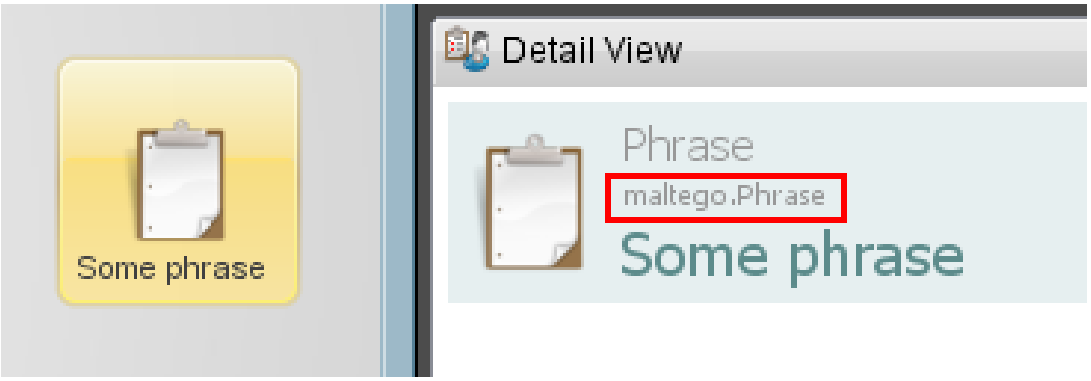


After the nodes has been selected and copied (Control C, or via the GUI buttons), pasting into a text editor renders the following:

Keep in mind that Maltego will fail at recognition of complex entities in some cases (think phone numbers!) In these cases my might want to tell Maltego what the entity type is. This can be done by appending the entity value with the entity type. Consider the following text:

When this is selected and pasted it results in the following graph:

Entity names (e.g. what's inserted before the #) can be obtained by dragging an entity to the graph and looking in the detail view at the entity type description (highlighted in red below)



Link selection, properties and link labels

One of the main improvements of 3.0.2 is dealing with links.

Link vs. entity mode

Maltego 3.0.2 can operate in two different modes – link selection mode, or entity selection mode. The default mode is entity selection mode. To switch between modes you can press **control M** or click on the mode selection icon at the top (this icon indicates the current mode):

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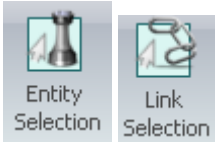
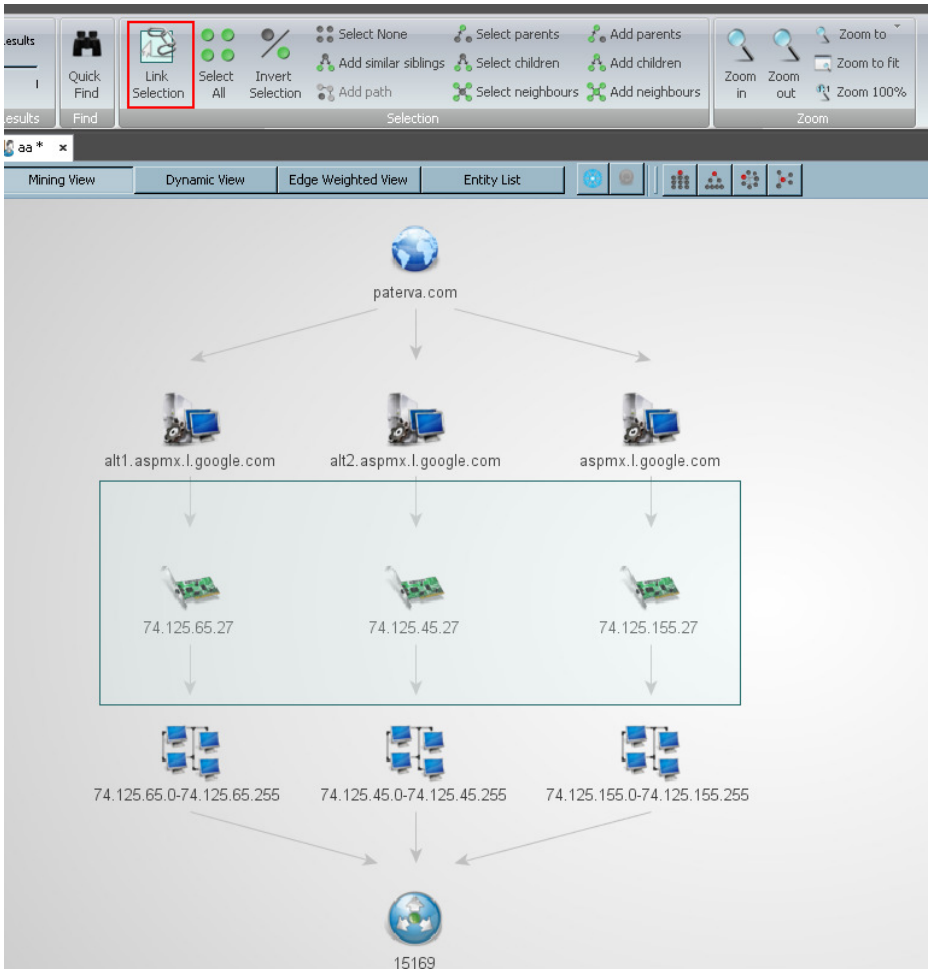


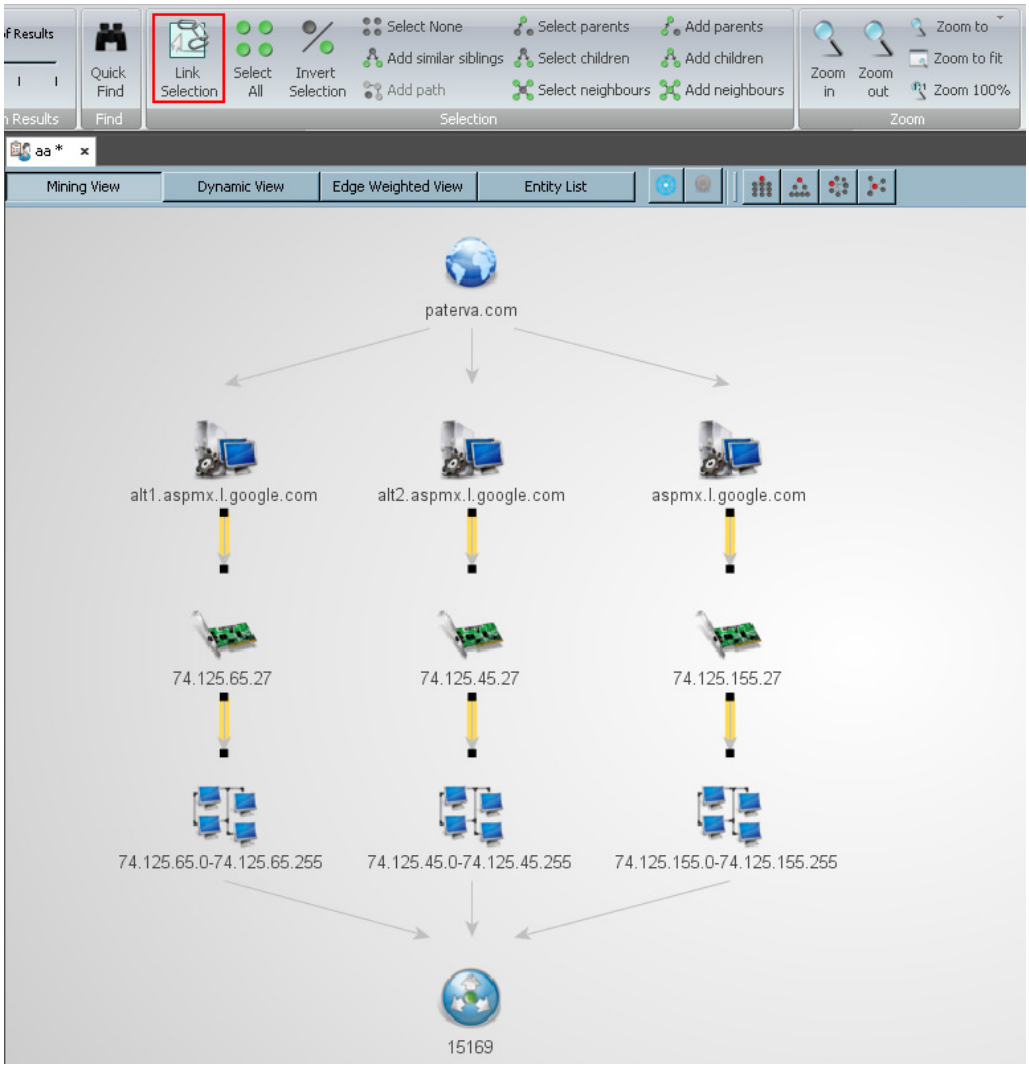
To quickly switch you can also press and hold the Control key while dragging or selecting.

Link mode – selecting links

In link selection mode you will be selecting links. Dragging a box around links will select multiple links:

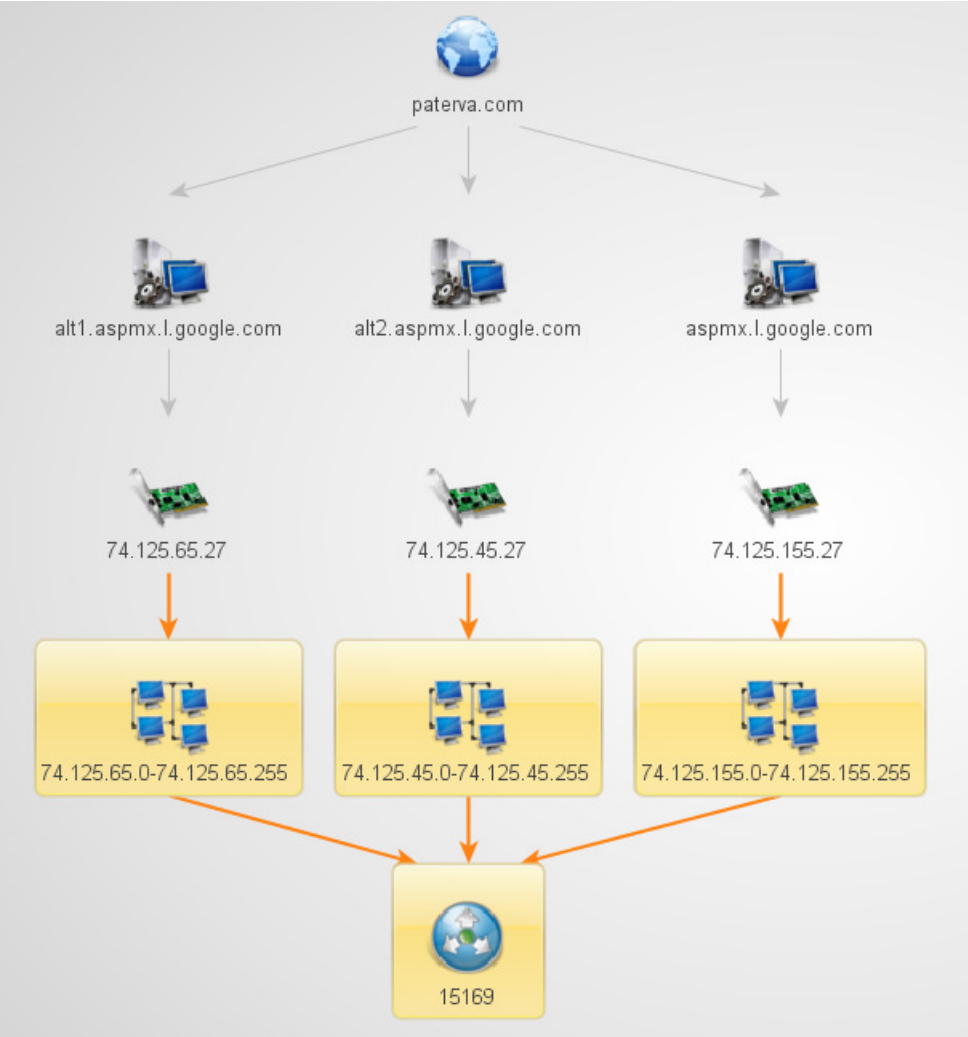


Will result in the following selection:

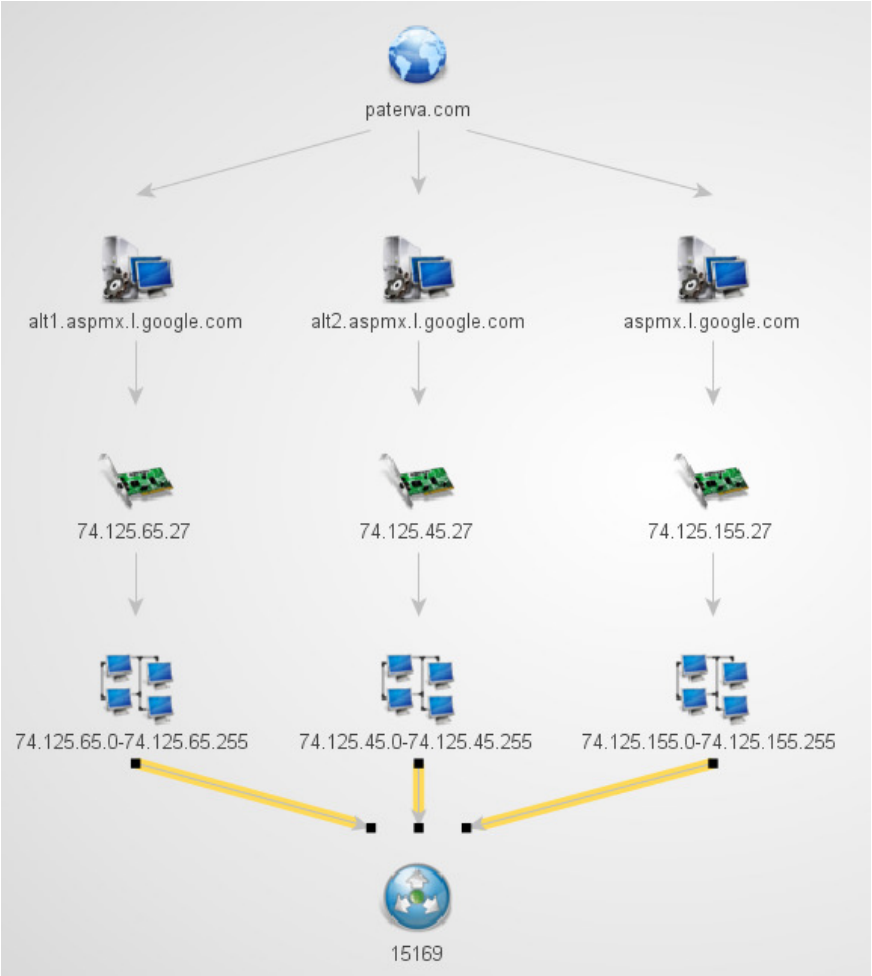


Note that link selection mode is enabled. Links can also be selected by selecting nodes (in entity selection mode) and then switching to link selection mode. This is super useful to select for instance all incoming links to an entity. Let's assume that we want to select all links coming into the AS 15169 in the graph above.

We select the AS node and then press **Control Up Arrow** (or click on the 'Add parents' button) to add the parents of this node. The graph ends up to looks like this:



Switching to Link Selection mode from here the incoming links are selected:



The 'select parent', 'select child' etc. functions also works for link selection.

Setting up manual links

Manual links can be established in two ways:

- Left click and hold on an unselected source entity, then drag link to target entity (as per 3.0.1)
- In link selection mode simply connect the two entities

Setting link properties

Link properties can be set in three ways:

1. When a manual link is created the link property dialog pops up per default
2. By double clicking on a single link (when in Link selection mode, or holding down Control key)
3. By setting the fields in the property view (multiple links)

The link property dialog is displayed in option 1 and 2 and looks as follows:

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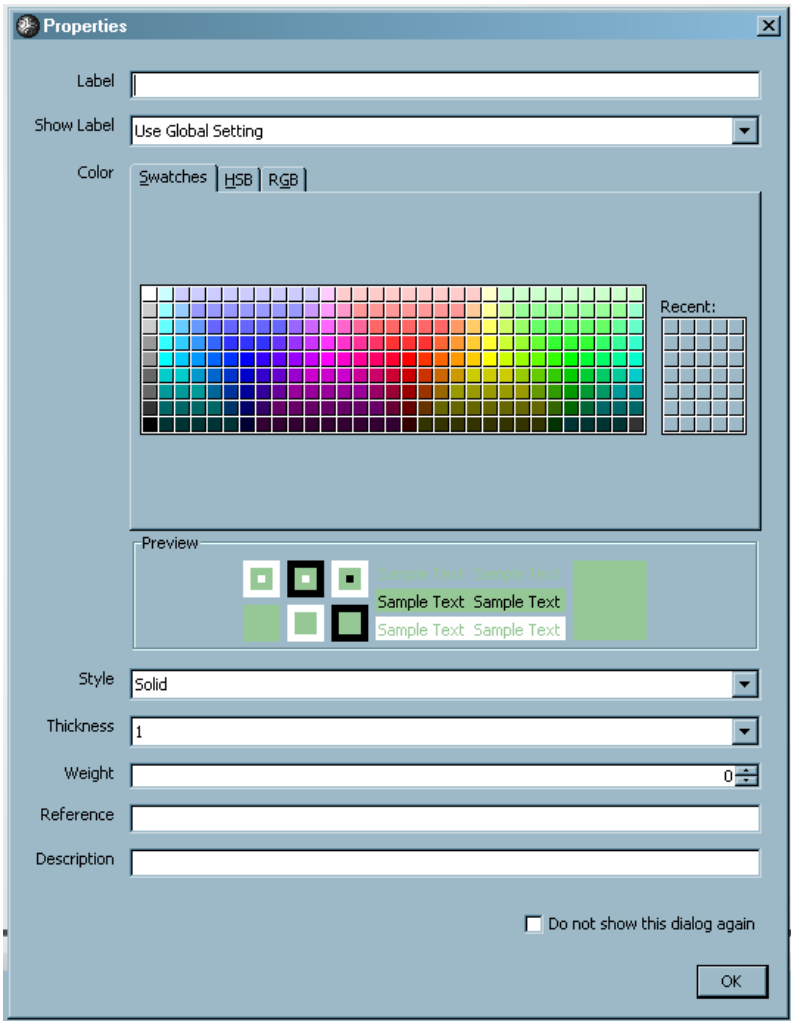

From here the user can select the label (the text that will be rendered on the link), set the color, style, thickness etc.

To set the properties of **multiple links** do the following:

- Select the links (using any of the methods described)
- Set the properties of the links in the property view (highlighted in the screenshot below)

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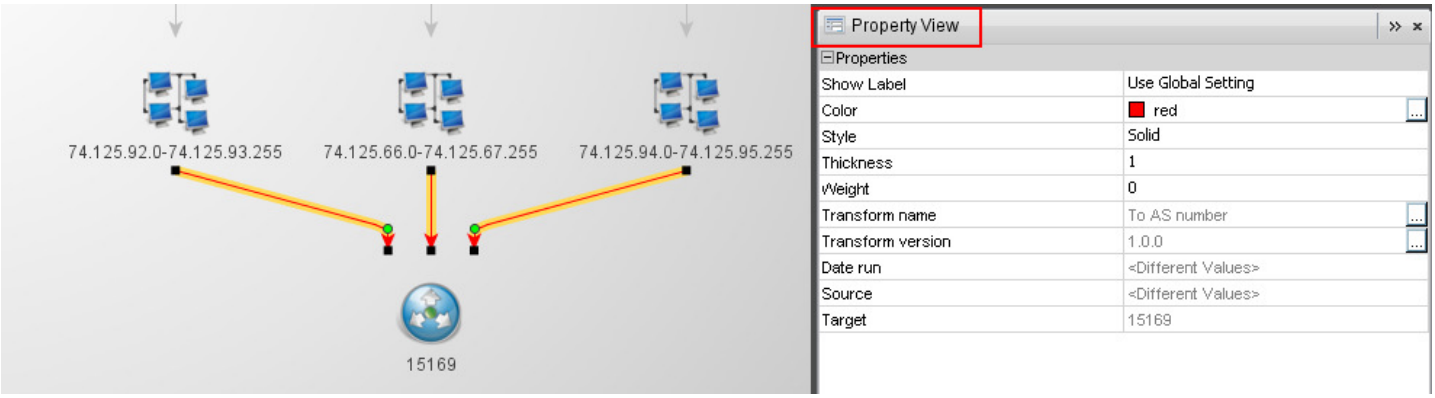
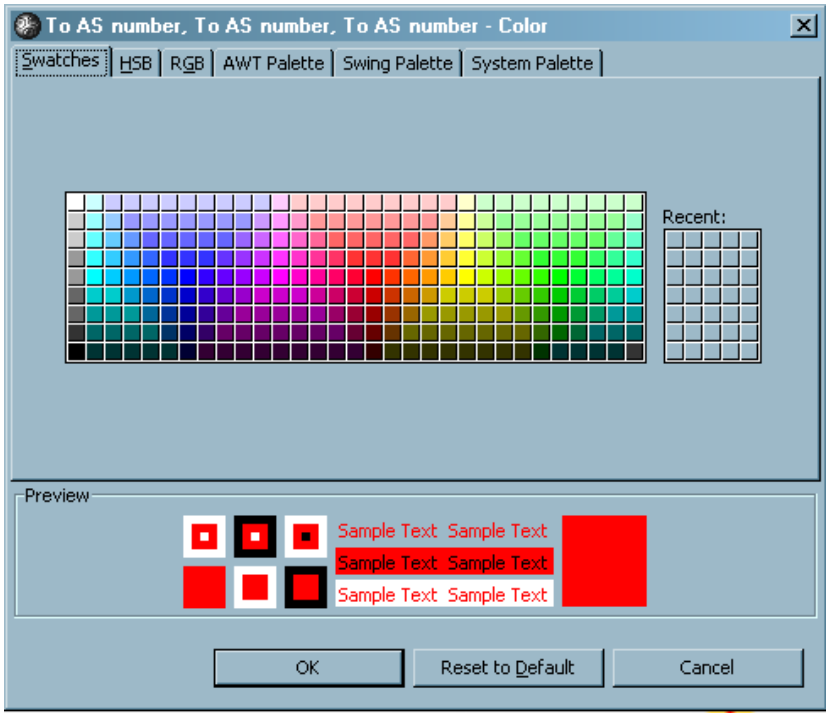
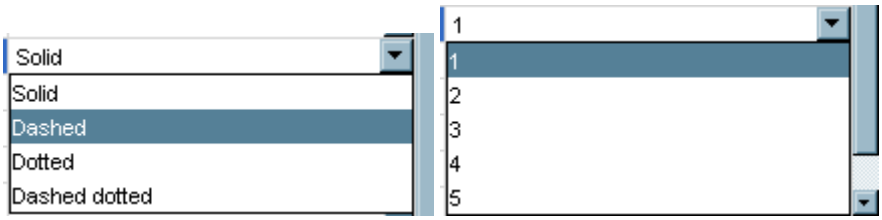


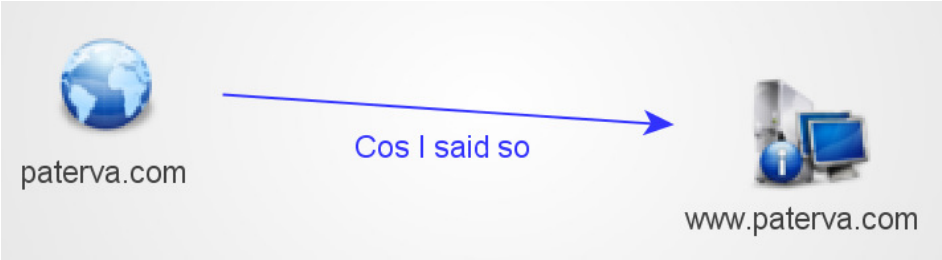
From the property view the style, thickness and color can also be configured:





Link labels

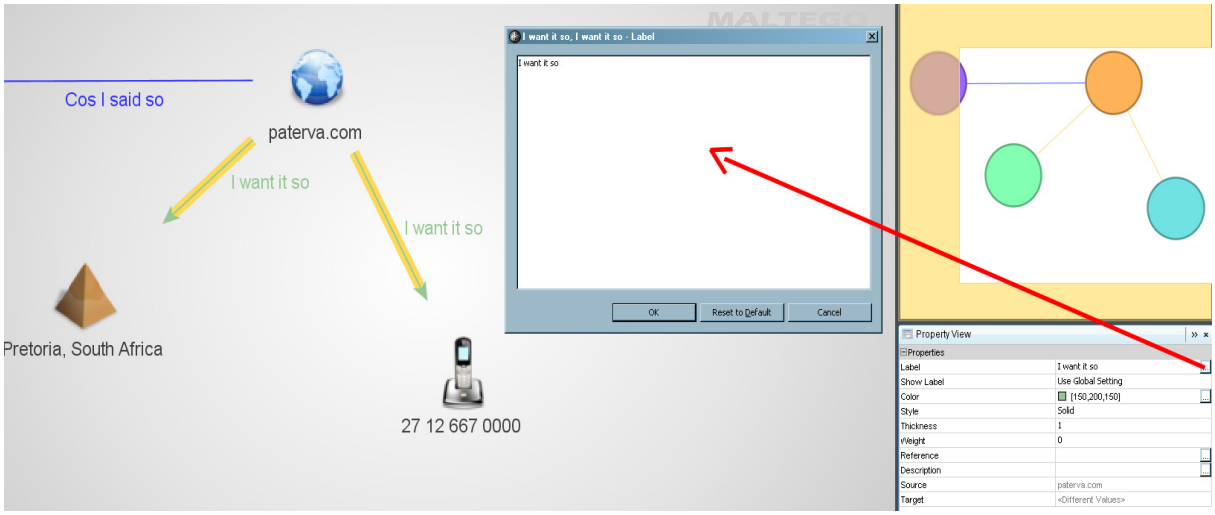
A link label is the text that is displayed on the link:



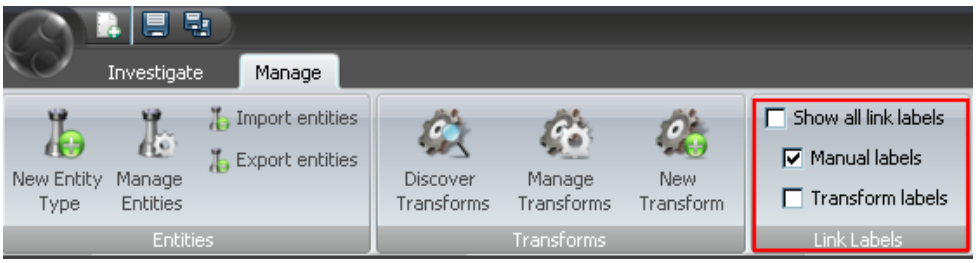
There are two types of labels:

- Those generated by transforms
- Those set up by the user

Labels generated by transforms cannot be edited by the user. Manual links can be edited by double clicking on the link (holding down Control, or when Link selection mode), and multiple links can be edited all at once by selecting them and editing in the Property view:



Link labels (both types) can be set to be visible or invisible. When working with a large graph you might not want to show all the transform link labels, as things get confusing real quick. By default transform link labels are set to be invisible in global settings (highlighted section).



Individual link labels can be set to be visible or not – independent of the global settings. This is done by selecting the link and double clicking on it (single link) or in the property view (multiple links):

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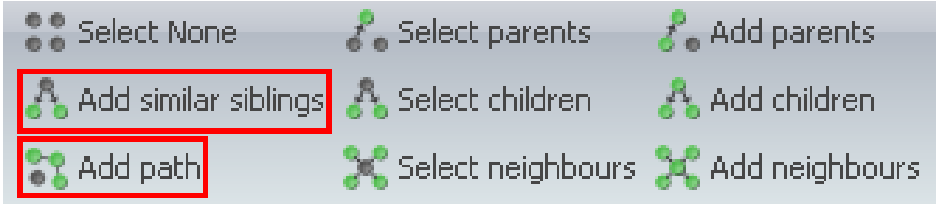
You can override the global setting per link by setting the 'Show label' to 'Yes' or 'No'. This applies to transform generated link labels as well as manual links.

New selection shortcuts

Two new selection shortcuts have been introduced:



Add path

The 'add path' selection shortcut is most useful. It selects the nodes in the path between multiple nodes and there is disabled unless multiple nodes are selected. This is best shown with an example. Let's assume the following nodes are selected:

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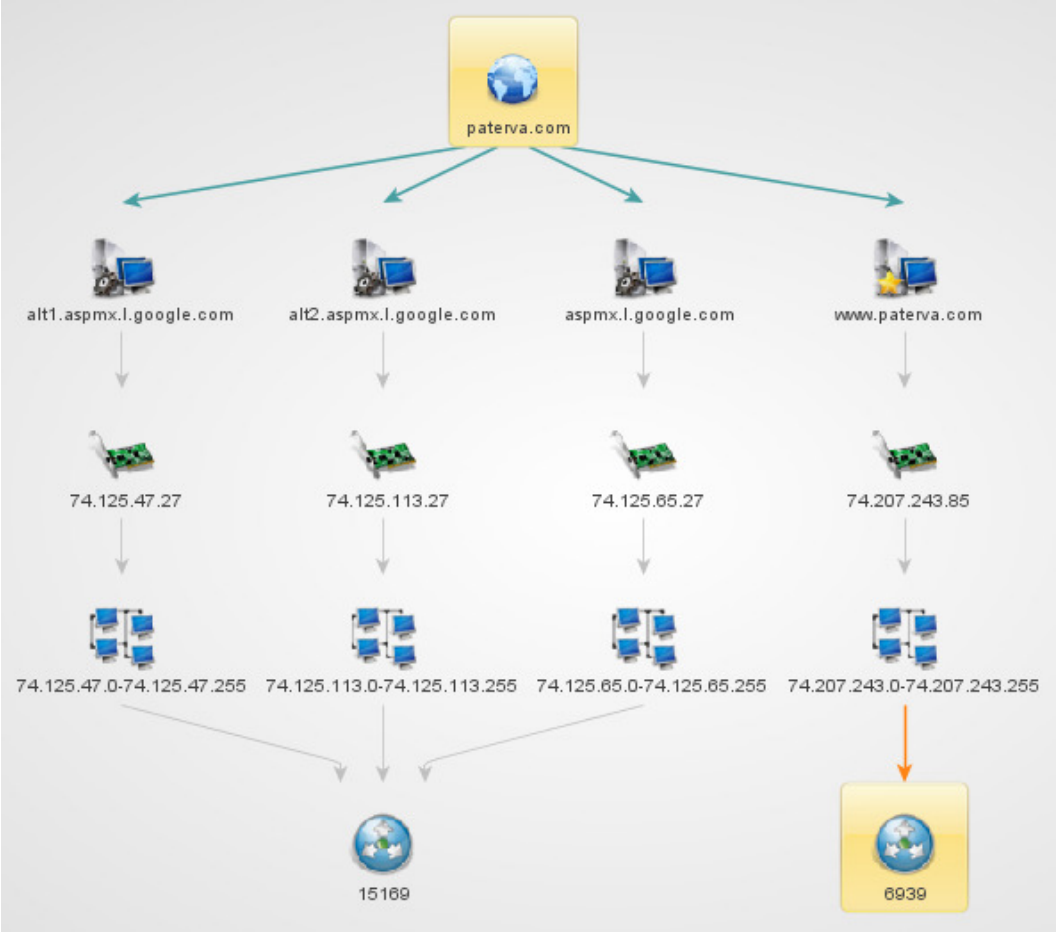
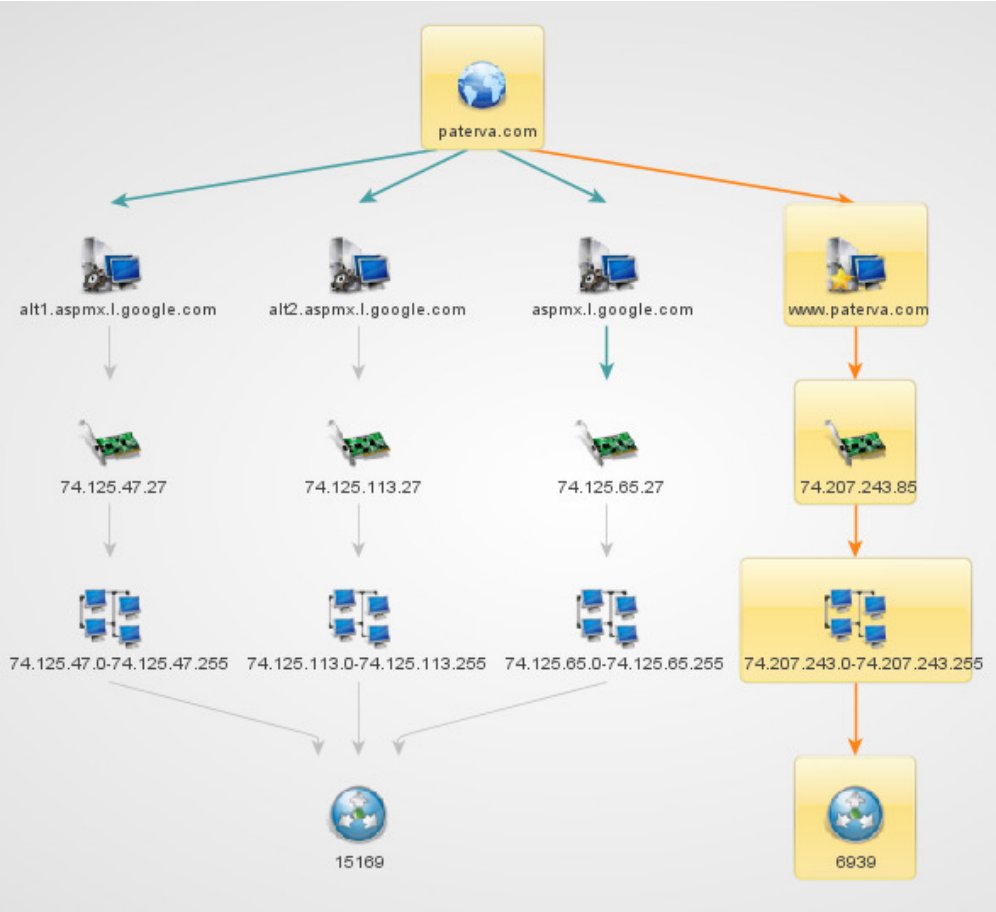
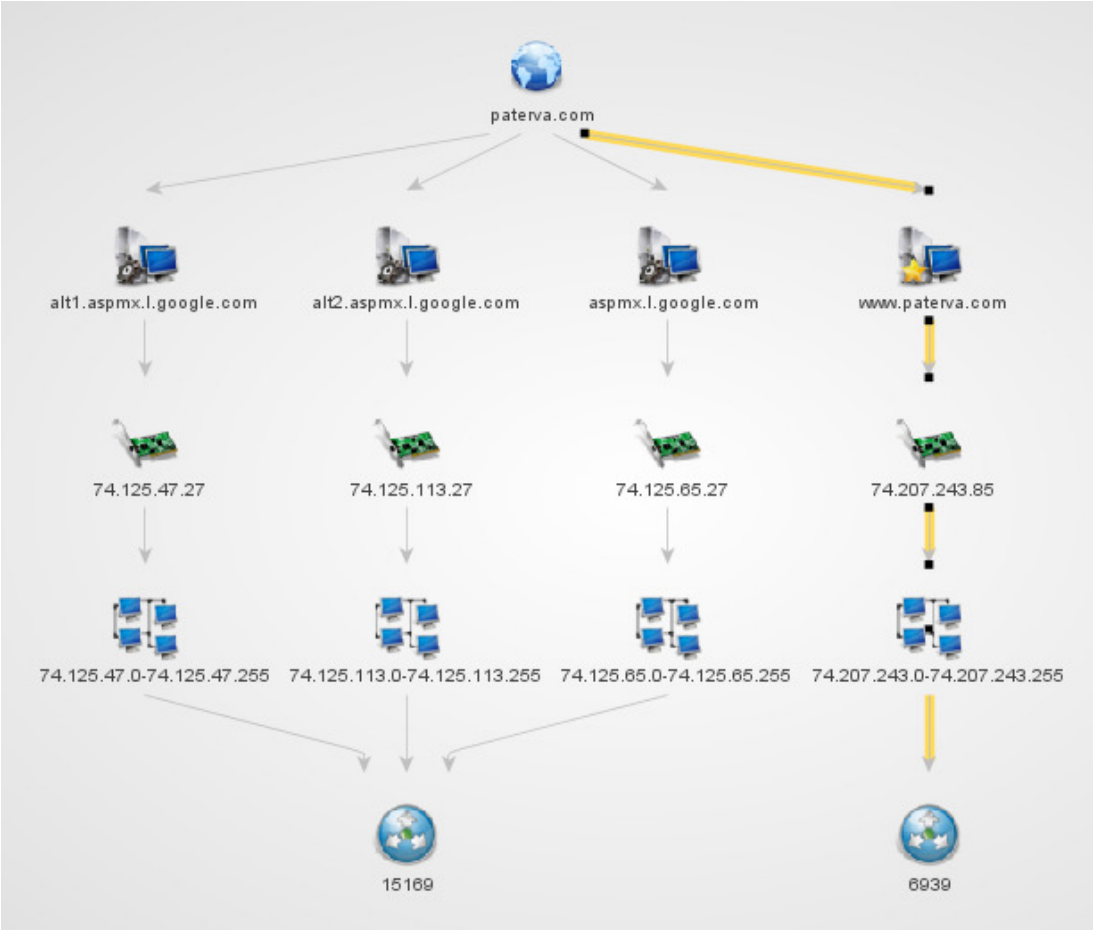


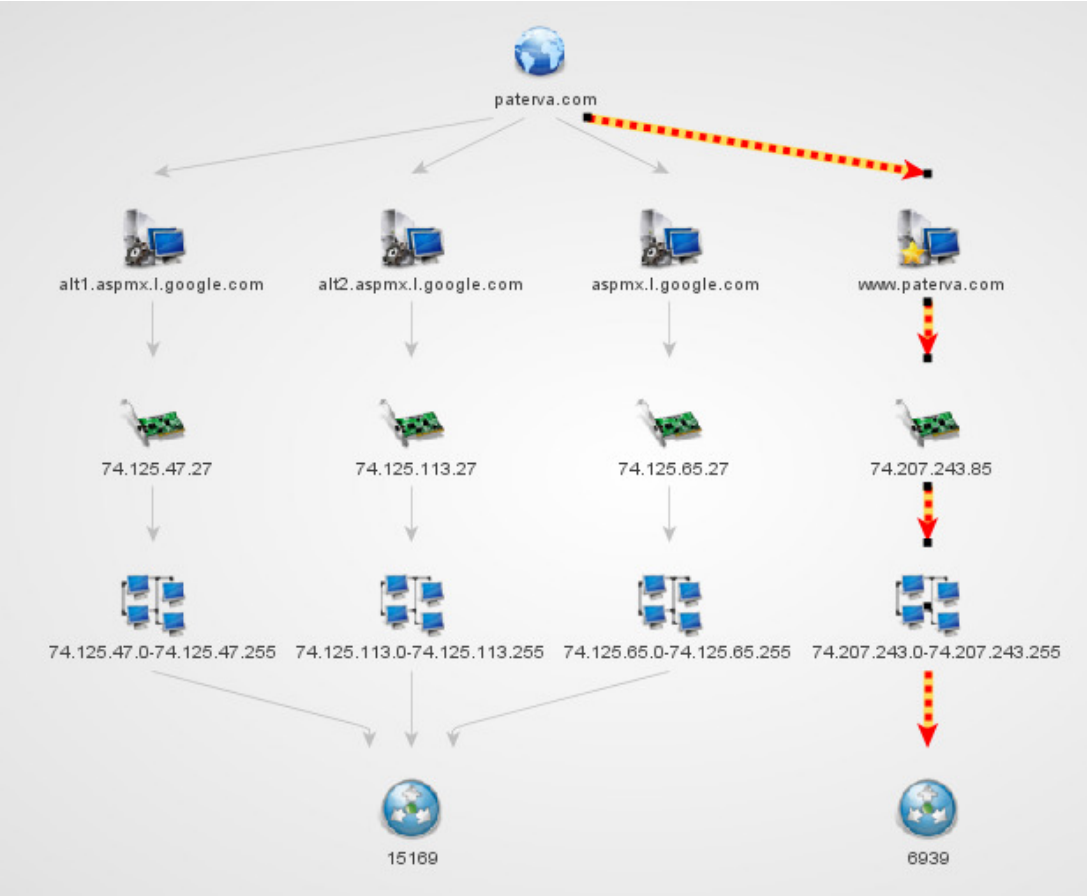
When these nodes are selected and the '**Add path**' button is clicked the following nodes will be selected (those along the path):



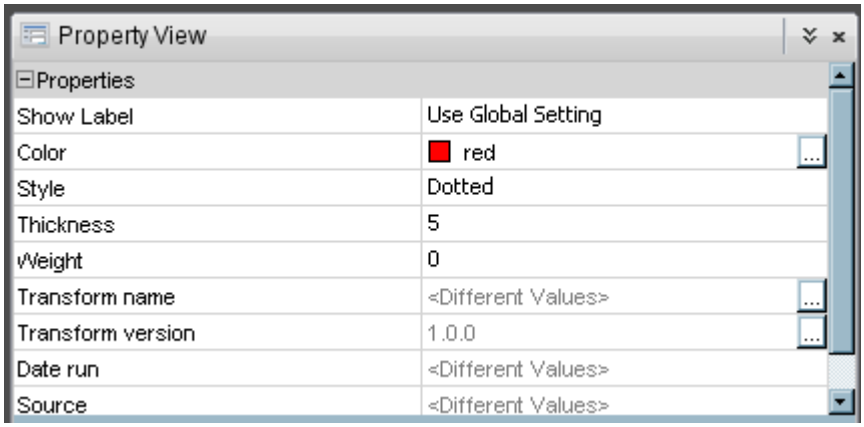
This is very useful when combined with the Link/Entity selection mode. If the above graph is switched to Link selection mode, the links between the highlighted entities are selected:



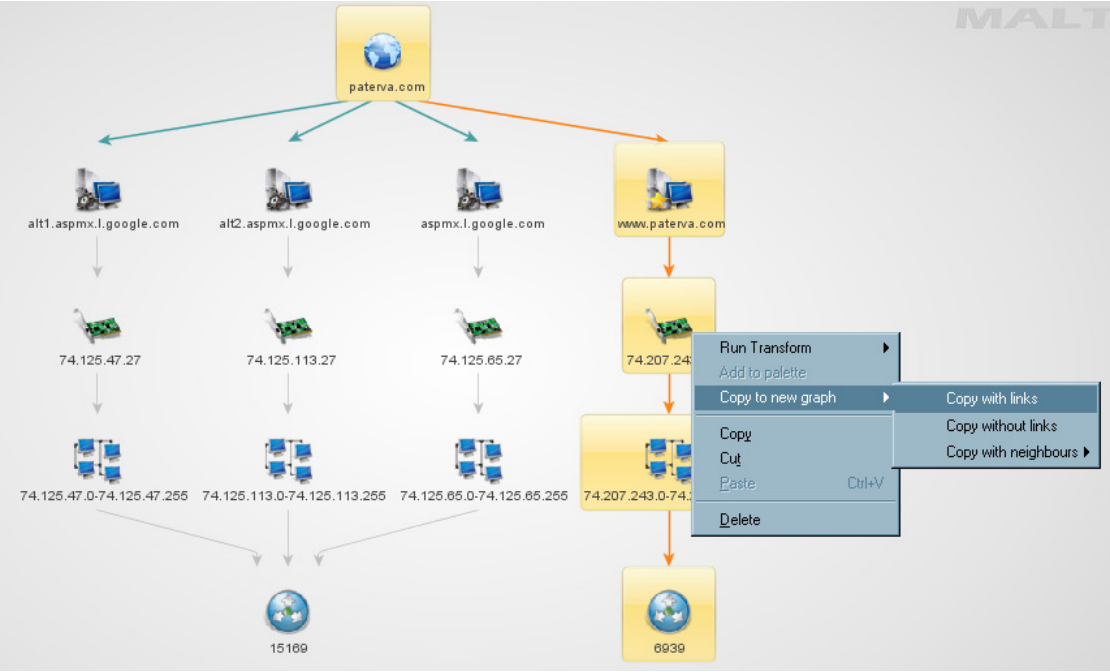
They can now be edited. Let's assume we want to mark the path between the entities with a thick, dotted red line:



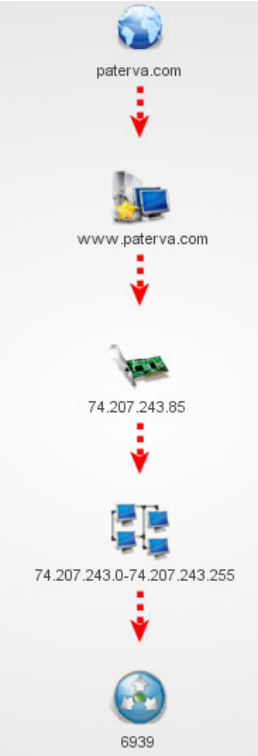
The Property View for these settings ends up looking like this:



We can also easily copy the selected path into a new graph. Switch back to entity selection mode and right click on any node – select **Copy to new graph**->**Copy with links**:



This results in a new graph with the path only:



The link parameters such as color, style and thickness is preserved in the new graph.