

Unexplained Wealth Master Class FAQ

Analyst Questions

How do you handle entity resolution when investigating someone with a common name?

Entity disambiguation – that is, the process of determining whether multiple occurrences of the same name refer to a single real-world entity – can be complex, especially if you’re conducting research across multiple languages. The strongest disambiguations will use unique identifiers (e.g. passport, unique company ID), which are often publicly disclosed.

Entity disambiguation is tougher but still possible when unique identifiers are scarce. In those cases, we might look for combinations of non-unique identifiers (e.g. full name + date of birth + citizenship), as well as co-occurrence in relationships. If someone named “Riad Salame” appears on multiple companies, we can’t be certain from that information alone whether it is the same Riad Salame. But if “Riad Salame” and three other people all appear together on multiple companies, it’s much more likely they are the same.

Additionally, when looking at PEPs in particular, you can often find information published about their family members, their business activities, and their locations that can help pinpoint a disambiguation.

How can you search public records effectively when your target’s name frequently appears with different spellings?

This is a common challenge when searching for information on foreign nationals whose names may be spelled or transliterated multiple ways. Riad Salame’s son Nady is a great example of this: in Arabic the final ‘ee’ in his name could be represented as a ‘y’ (Nady) or an ‘i’ (Nadi).

If you can, always use [search operators](#) (e.g. fuzzy search) to query all spellings of a name. Major search engines, like Google, and advanced platforms, like Sayari Graph, will allow this. If you're looking at public records directly through the native registries, though, this probably will not be an option. Most government data portals do not support that kind of querying. In those cases, you need to understand the different ways the name could be transliterated (e.g. i vs. y) and try it both ways.

In all cases, understanding how name transliterations and translations work is a huge factor in finding what you're looking for, particularly when you're dealing with non-Roman characters. We've written a lot about this and other similar topics in [Sayari Learn](#), Sayari's open source due diligence and investigations toolkit. We recommend [this article](#) on how the order and spelling of Arabic names morph when they appear on public records in Latin America.

To what extent are government-published records reliable? Do you see governments changing or removing sensitive information from public records?

This usually isn't too much of a problem. It's important to remember that these records aren't just used for due diligence and third party investigations - they also exist for general business functions that require these disclosures to be accurate and they serve valid purposes in the market, whether it's attracting investors, applying for credit, and applying for contracts. There's a huge incentive and legitimate reasons why a government wouldn't want to restrict information. We have seen a couple situations in China, specifically, where sensitive corporate data mysteriously disappeared from the registry - but that's the exception, not the rule.

Otherwise, as with any other investigation, the key is to corroborate information with other public records to the greatest extent you can. Sometimes a single jurisdiction will have multiple public data sets that provide overlapping information - like federal and provincial corporate registries in China, or corporate and IP registries in Mexico. In other cases, you can look at datasets from different jurisdictions that provide insight into the same companies or individuals, particularly with large global networks like the ones we've been discussing today.

How can I access the dataset of the companies and individuals from the Riad Salame network that Ahmed mentioned in the Master Class?

You can [access that dataset here](#), free for your reference. Please let us know if you have any questions about the entities, relationships, or format! You can also read Ahmed's [written analysis of the Riad Salame network here](#).

Can you recommend any other examples of case studies into investigating PEPs, corruption, and/or unexplained wealth?

Yes! We would recommend:

- * [Tracking Bashar Al-Assad's Alleged Money Laundering Network in Sayari Graph](#)
- * [Associates of Ex-Chief of Mexico's State-Owned Oil Firm Connected to 22 Previously Unidentified Companies](#)
- * [Jordanian Businessman Implicated in Corruption Scheme Maintains Vast Real Estate Network in the UK](#)

We regularly publish new insights and investigations like these in [our Resource Center](#). For alerts, you can follow us on LinkedIn or sign up for our monthly newsletter [at the bottom of this page](#).

Sayari Graph Platform Questions

What data does Sayari Graph include?

Sayari Graph currently holds over 626 million records from 188 different sources across the globe, including from traditionally hard-target jurisdictions such as China, Russia, and Iran. You can see our complete coverage list [here](#).

What data does Sayari Graph include?

Sayari Graph offers [multiple translation and transliteration functions](#) to help you explore records in foreign languages. This is everything from on

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demand translation of record text to translating your search terms and results. We use a combination of Google Translate, translations and transliterations we generated ourselves based on internal deep learning models, and translations native to the original documents (for example, when Chinese companies disclose their names in English). We also provide region-specific tips and tricks through [Sayari Learn](#).

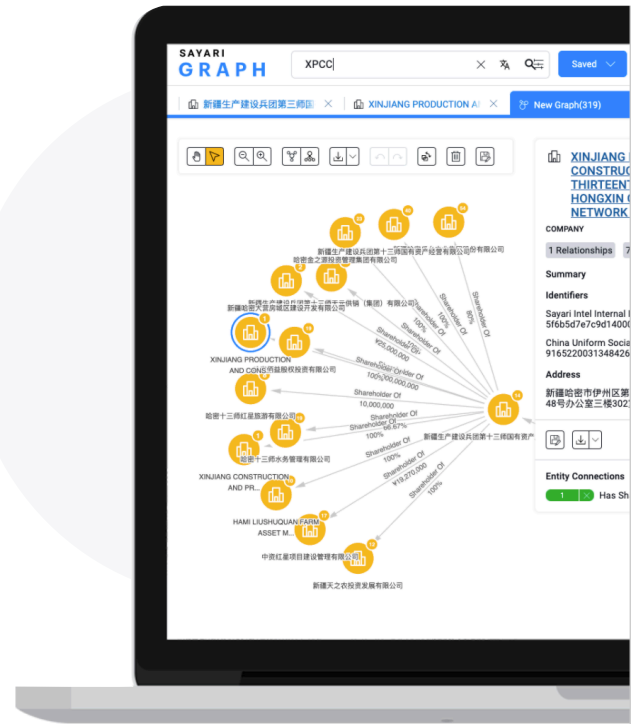
How up-to-date are the sources?

We are refreshing our data sources constantly. Each source runs on its own schedule to account for client usage, size, and complexity. All refreshes take place at least once per year, and typically more frequently than that for the average source.

SAYARI FOR

Financial Services

The world's largest specialized database of companies, their key people, and their most important relationships. Designed for express determination of ownership & related entity risk.



 **KYC, CDD & EDD**

 **AML, FIU & Investigations**

 **Sanctions & Embargoes**

Sayari powers investigative and analytical workflows across the financial crime compliance and risk management enterprise. Our mission is to put instant global corporate transparency directly into the hands of practitioners, maximizing visibility and minimizing the need for customer contact.

SAYARI

Sayari Global Data

Sayari provides instant access to authoritative business information worldwide, covering 391 million companies and 435 million of their key personnel in over 200 jurisdictions, all linked and resolved together into pre-built networks of ownership and control relationships. Sayari is available via cloud-hosted [User Interface](#), [API](#), or [Data Subscriptions](#).



CHECK OUT OUR COVERAGE LIST

1.3B

DOCUMENTS

462M

KEY PEOPLE

200+

JURISDICTIONS

717M

RELATIONSHIPS

401M

COMPANIES

3

DEPLOYMENT
OPTIONS

Sayari data is also available via pre-built partner integrations:

NICE · ACTIMIZE

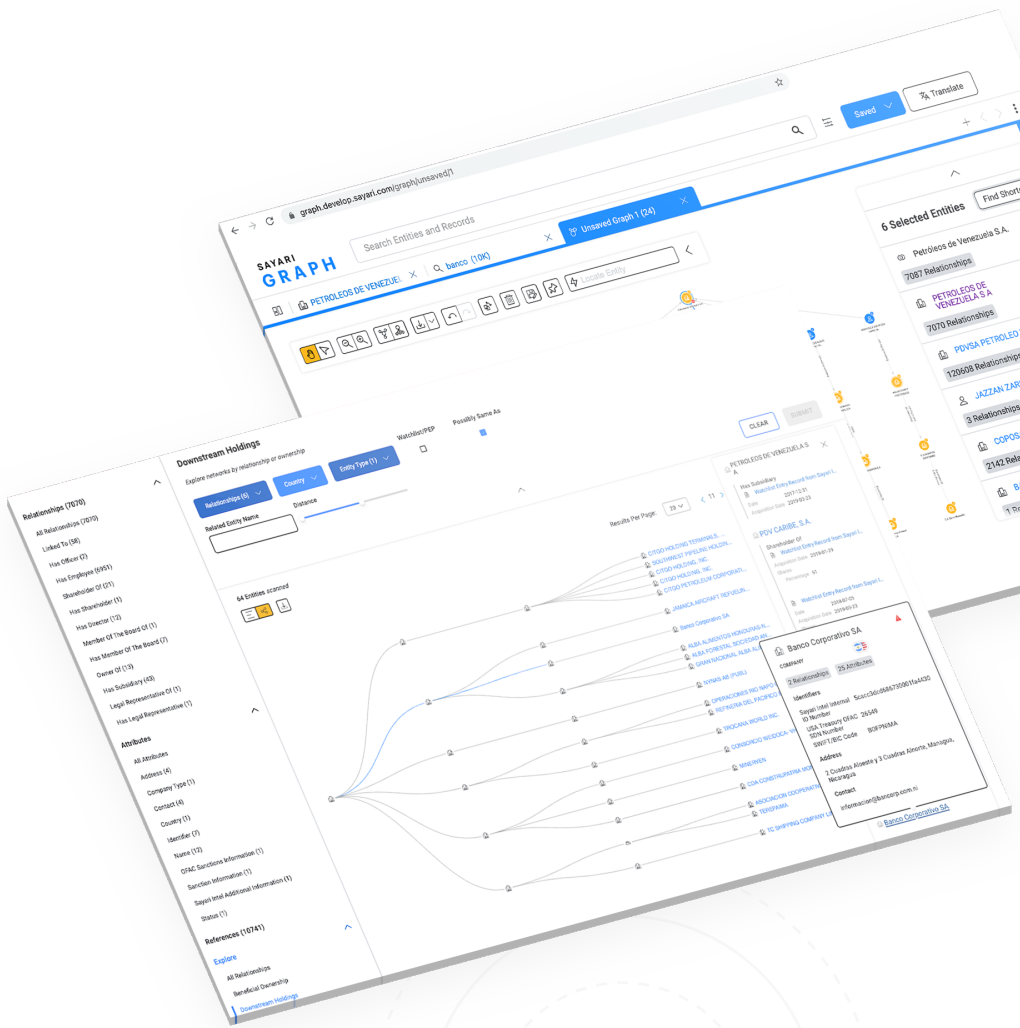
ORACLE



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Sayari Graph Platform



Visualization & Search

Hundreds of millions of pre-built profiles, corporate hierarchies, and network visualizations, searchable globally.

Financial Crime Graph Analytics

Preset and customizable financial crime graph analytics, powered by the most scalable database technology on the market.

Documentation & Sourcing

Full data provenance available in-app, with millions of exportable original source documents.

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GRAPH



Entities	401M	360M	365M
Key People	462M	100M	325M

Developed Markets

High-Risk, Emerging & Offshore Markets

Financial Crime Graph Analytics

In-App Official Documents

Direct Refresh from Official Sources

Rapid Contracting & Licensing

Cloud-Native Scale & APIs

Investigator User Interface

