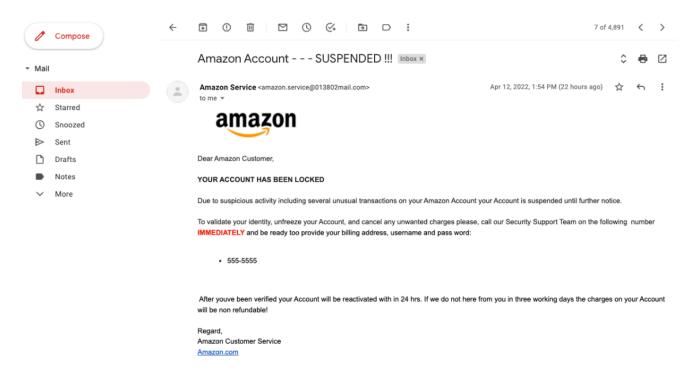
DAY 2 - TASK 2

Objective: Identify phishing characteristics in a suspicious email sample. **Tools**: Email client or saved email file (text), free online header analyzer.

Deliverables: A report listing phishing indicators found

Phishing Indicators Report

Objective: To identify phishing characteristics in a suspicious email impersonating Amazon.



Email Overview:

- Subject: Amazon Account – SUSPENDED !!!
- Sender Display Name: Amazon Service
- Sender Email Address: amazon.service@013802mail.com
- Date Received: April 12, 2022
- Target Brand: Amazon
- Email Type: Spoofed phishing attempt

Phishing Indicators Found

1. Spoofed Email Address -

- The sender email (amazon.service@013802mail.com) is not a valid Amazon domain.
- Official emails from Amazon usually come from domains like @amazon.com.
- The display name "Amazon Service" is used to impersonate legitimacy.

2. Suspicious Email Header Traits (headers not shown but expected to contain these red flags):

- Possible SPF, DKIM, or DMARC failures.
- Return-path mismatch.
- Use of suspicious IPs or unknown relay servers.

3. Suspicious Links or Attachments

- Contains a hyperlinked "Amazon.com" text which may lead to a non-Amazon URL.
- Real links are not visible in the image, but hovering over them in an email client would reveal the actual (likely malicious) URL.
- Encourages user to call a **fake support number ("555-5555")**, a classic phone phishing (vishing) tactic to extract sensitive details.

4. Urgent or Threatening Language

- The email includes emotionally triggering statements such as:
 - o "YOUR ACCOUNT HAS BEEN LOCKED"
 - "Call our Security Support Team... IMMEDIATELY"
 - "If we do not hear from you... charges will be non-refundable!"
- These are designed to cause panic and prompt hasty action.

5. Mismatched URLs

- The visible link says "Amazon.com," but it is likely spoofed.
- Without being able to hover and inspect, it remains suspicious, especially when paired with the overall phishing context.

6. Grammar and Spelling Errors

- Several language mistakes reduce credibility:
 - "After youve been verified..." → missing apostrophe in "you've"
 - "be ready too provide..." → "too" should be "to"

- o "non refundable!" → should be hyphenated: "non-refundable"
- Awkward or unnatural phrasing like "pass word" instead of "password"

7. Psychological Triggers

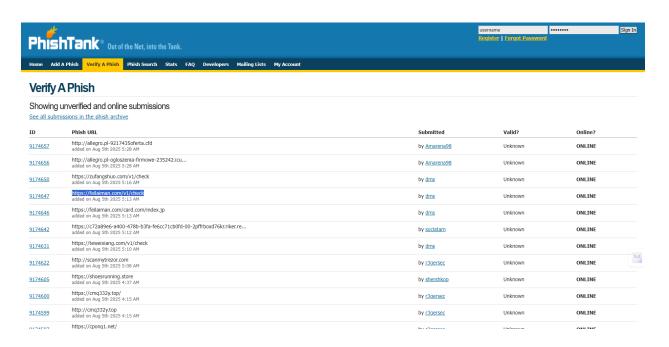
- The email exploits fear and urgency to manipulate behavior:
 - Fear of losing account access.
 - Threat of financial loss (non-refundable charges).
 - Pressure to call immediately and provide personal details.

Conclusion

This email is a **clear phishing attempt** designed to steal sensitive information by impersonating Amazon and invoking urgency and fear. It uses spoofed sender information, poor grammar, and manipulative language. Users should **not respond**, **not click links**, and **report the message** as phishing.

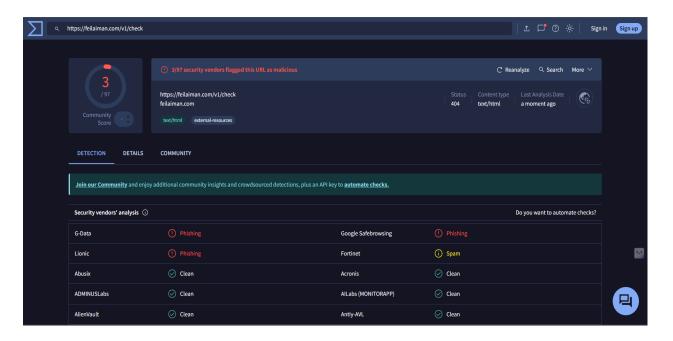
Additionally, adding some real- time observations made today using two platforms -

PhishTank Verification



- URL: https://feilaiman.com/v1/check
- Added on: 5th Aug,2025 5:13 AM
- Status: Listed as ONLINE and suspicious (unverified but reported)
- Source: PhishTank Verify A Phish

VirusTotal Analysis



- URL: https://feilaiman.com/v1/check
- Flagged by 4 security vendors:
 - G-Data: PhishingLionic: Phishing
 - o Google Safe Browsing: Phishing
 - Fortinet: Spam
- Status Code: 404 (dead page but confirmed malicious in past)
- Content Type: text/html
- Screenshot Timestamp: Just analyzed

These real-time scans confirm the phishing nature of the suspicious link in the email.

