

Digital Forensics Report

Sumanth Vankineni
119351130

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1. Brief Summary of Information

This report presents the findings from the forensic analysis of a hard drive labeled 'ENPM687 Final XP,' which was confiscated from a suspect alleged to be involved in malware creation. The primary tool used for the analysis was Autopsy.

During the investigation, the initial assessment of the hard drive using Autopsy's Data Sources summary indicated its size to be 21 GB with a variety of file types. The hard drive's geolocation was identified as the United Kingdom. A detailed exploration of the 'Recent Files' tab revealed frequent access to the 'My Documents' folder, especially to a subfolder named 'code,' which contained Python-related files and executables. These executables, when executed, showed no immediate output but were found to be making server requests and establishing TCP connections to a remote system. Network traffic captured with Wireshark indicated that these executables were sending encrypted messages, with references to 'Obiwan Kenobi' and phrases like 'you're my only hope.'

Further analysis led to the discovery of significant items in the 'Downloads' folder, including ProcessExplorer, a Python installer, and a VeraCrypt folder. The 'My Music' folder also contained an unusual music file that appeared to be a part of the puzzle, linking back to the Star Wars theme found in other parts of the analysis. Using the key 'r2d2,' deciphered from the encrypted messages, the contents of the mp3 file were decrypted using VeraCrypt, revealing a folder named 'Death Star Plans' and an executable 'final-form.exe,' which transmitted messages suggesting possession of critical information.

This summary encapsulates the key findings from the hard drive analysis, indicating the presence of encrypted communications, potentially malicious software, and references to coded messages and plans. A full analysis is underway to uncover the complete extent and intent of the data found.

2.Tools Used in the Investigation Process

During the forensic investigation of the 'ENPM687 Final XP' hard drive, a variety of specialized tools were utilized, each contributing uniquely to the analysis process. The primary tools employed included Autopsy, Wireshark, and Veracrypt. Here is an overview of each tool, outlining its specific role in the investigation and the assumptions underpinning its usage:

1. Autopsy:

Purpose: Autopsy serves as a digital forensics platform, providing a graphical interface for The Sleuth Kit and other forensic tools. In this case, Autopsy was instrumental in the initial examination of the hard disk image. It was particularly useful for identifying and flagging suspicious files, including the encrypted MP3 file and executable files named 'obiwan.exe' and 'obiwan2.exe'.

Assumptions: The investigation relies on the presumption that Autopsy performs a comprehensive and accurate analysis of the disk image. Key to this reliance is the tool's capability to detect anomalies, potential malware, and encrypted files, forming the foundation for subsequent investigative steps.

2. Wireshark:

Purpose: Wireshark is a network protocol analyzer designed for capturing and inspecting the traffic on computer networks. It was deployed to monitor and analyze the network traffic generated by the executables 'obiwan.exe', 'obiwan2.exe', and 'final-form.exe'. Wireshark aided in identifying the nature of the remote connections these executables established, including the scrutiny of HTTP requests and responses.

Assumptions: The analysis assumes that Wireshark is capable of capturing all pertinent network traffic comprehensively. The accuracy of the findings is contingent on Wireshark's effectiveness in capturing and decoding network packets, which is vital for understanding the network behaviors of the executables.

3. Veracrypt:

Purpose: Veracrypt, an open-source disk encryption software, was employed for encrypting and decrypting files. In this investigation, it decrypted the 'not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3' file using the key "r2d2," uncovered earlier in the analysis. This decryption was a pivotal component of the investigation, revealing significant data concealed within the encrypted file.

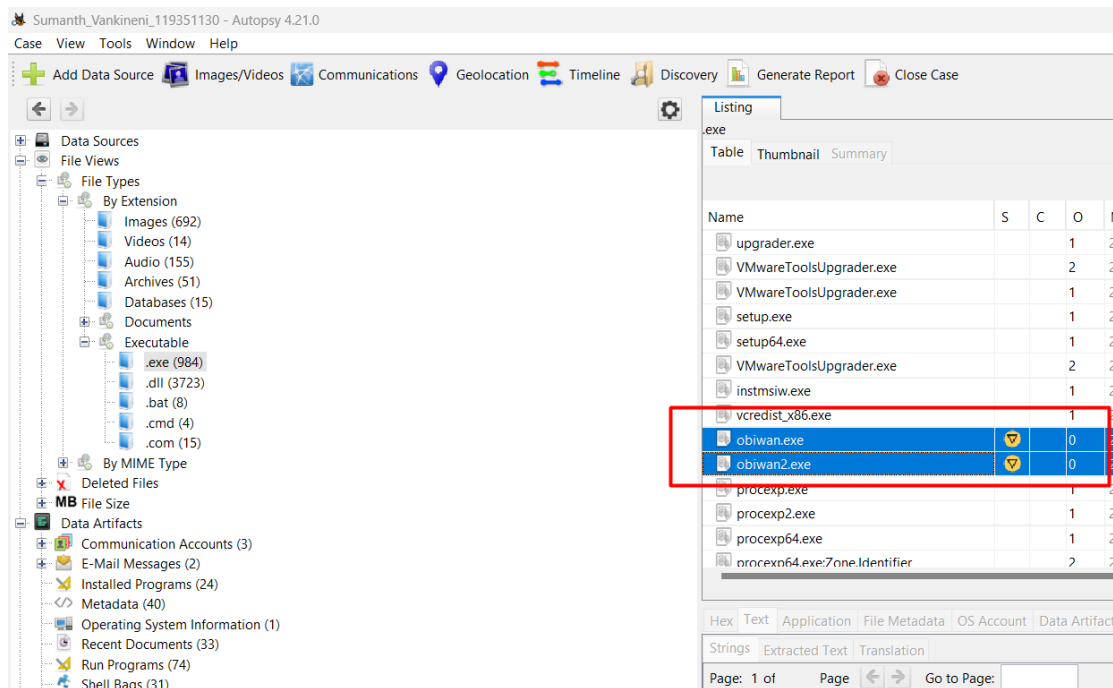
Assumptions: The tool's effectiveness hinges on the assumption that the encryption on the MP3 file is within Veracrypt's decryption capabilities. There is also an underlying assumption that the "r2d2" key is correct and that the file's encryption wasn't multi-layered beyond what Veracrypt can decrypt.

3.Repository #1 Analysis

a. Analysis of "obiwan.exe," "obiwan2.exe," "not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3," and "final-form.exe"

Extraction of "obiwan.exe" and "obiwan2.exe" from Autopsy

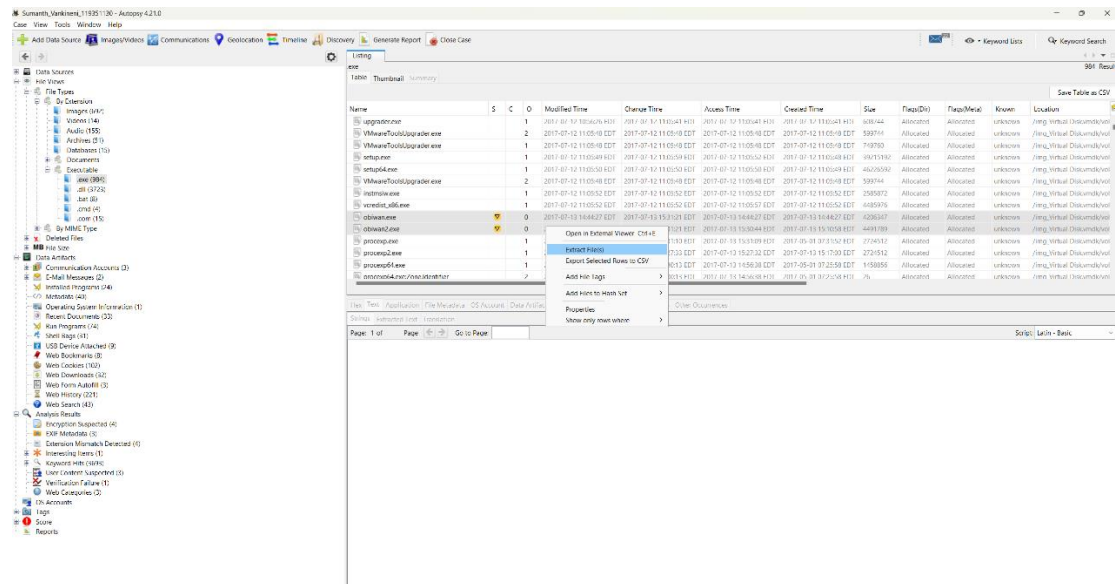
The first phase in the comprehensive analysis of the executable files "obiwan.exe" and "obiwan2.exe" involved their extraction from the hard disk image. This step was crucial in obtaining a replicable copy of each executable for thorough examination while upholding the integrity of the original disk image.



Extraction Process:

Using Autopsy: The executables "obiwan.exe" and "obiwan2.exe" were located within the hard disk image through the Autopsy forensic suite. Autopsy is recognized for its extensive capabilities in digital investigations, particularly in file identification and extraction.

Default Extract Option: For the extraction process, Autopsy's default extraction option was employed. This option is specifically designed to ensure a direct and secure method of file extraction, which is paramount in preserving the forensic validity of the evidence.



Name	Size	Modified Time	Change Time	Access Time	Created Time	Size	Flags(Dr)	Flags(Misc)	Known	Location
obiwan.exe	4,108 KB	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	4,108 KB	Allocated	Allocated	Unknown	File, Virtual Disk, Mounted
obiwan2.exe	4,387 KB	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	2017-07-12 11:05:48 EDT	4,387 KB	Allocated	Allocated	Unknown	File, Virtual Disk, Mounted

Name	Type	Size
3005-obiwan	Application	4,108 KB
3007-obiwan2	Application	4,387 KB

i. Analysis of "obiwan.exe"

Detailed Examination of "obiwan.exe" Execution and Network Activity

The analysis of "obiwan.exe" encompassed an in-depth review of both its execution behavior and network interactions. This process was bifurcated into two key stages: closely monitoring the execution and behavior of the executable and conducting comprehensive Wireshark analysis to decipher its network interactions.

Execution and Behavior:

Execution Monitoring: "obiwan.exe" was executed within a controlled environment, with vigilant monitoring of its activities. This approach was critical to observing the executable's real-time behavior and system interactions.

Process Explorer Analysis: Utilizing Process Explorer, the running status of "obiwan.exe" was meticulously tracked. This tool revealed that the executable was initiating requests to a remote server over the internet, providing insights into the nature of these requests and the executable's overall process behavior.

TCP Connections Observation: The TCP connections linked to "obiwan.exe" were examined in detail. By tracing the TCP stream, comprehensive information regarding the connections' characteristics and destinations was obtained, elucidating the network behavior of the executable.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1687	2.140095	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
1705	2.158979	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4626	4.721216	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
4642	4.739706	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
6351	7.269228	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
6357	7.287790	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8196	9.854277	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
8222	9.873259	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10208	12.546020	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
10227	12.565270	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
11680	15.086331	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
11693	15.105001	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13510	17.610141	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
13518	17.628756	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
15514	20.204877	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
15530	20.224301	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
18538	22.760772	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
18572	22.779349	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20775	25.264192	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
20792	25.282913	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22685	27.863602	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
22700	27.882268	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
24844	30.391863	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
24865	30.410362	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
27658	32.945161	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
27683	32.964445	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
29820	35.494577	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1

> Frame 1687: 189 bytes on wire (1512 bits), 189 bytes captured (1512 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43765EF},
 > Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekC_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd), Dst: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:6b:0c:02)
 > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 3.163.101.24
 > Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 56143, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 135
 > Hypertext Transfer Protocol

Wireshark Analysis:

Packet Capturing: Wireshark was leveraged to capture the network packets generated by "obiwan.exe," crucial for analyzing the data transmitted and received by the executable.

Follow TCP Stream: The TCP stream for the request to "www.umd.edu/help-me-obiwan-kenobi" was analyzed, revealing the full HTTP request and response cycle, including the server's "301 Moved Permanently" status code.

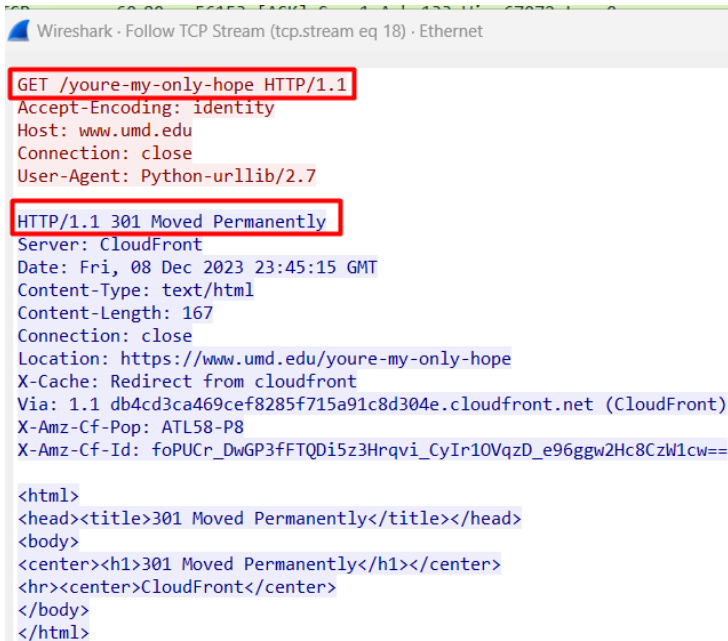
```

GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: www.umd.edu
Connection: close
User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: CloudFront
Date: Fri, 08 Dec 2023 23:45:08 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 167
Connection: close
Location: https://www.umd.edu/help-me-obiwan-kenobi
X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
Via: 1.1 878ee5a004f543d6f7b6be3abaddb5d2.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
X-Amz-Cf-Pop: ATL58-P8
X-Amz-Cf-Id: K1X3CF2H1xFcw258A92XiP6oocZL7Jma-_aWZkxdfXYtKXwxUzPvRA==

<html>
<head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
<body>
<center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
<hr><center>CloudFront</center>
</body>
</html>
  
```

Second TCP Stream Analysis: A similar approach was adopted for the request to "www.umd.edu/youre-my-only-hope," providing insights into the nature of this second HTTP request and the server's corresponding response.



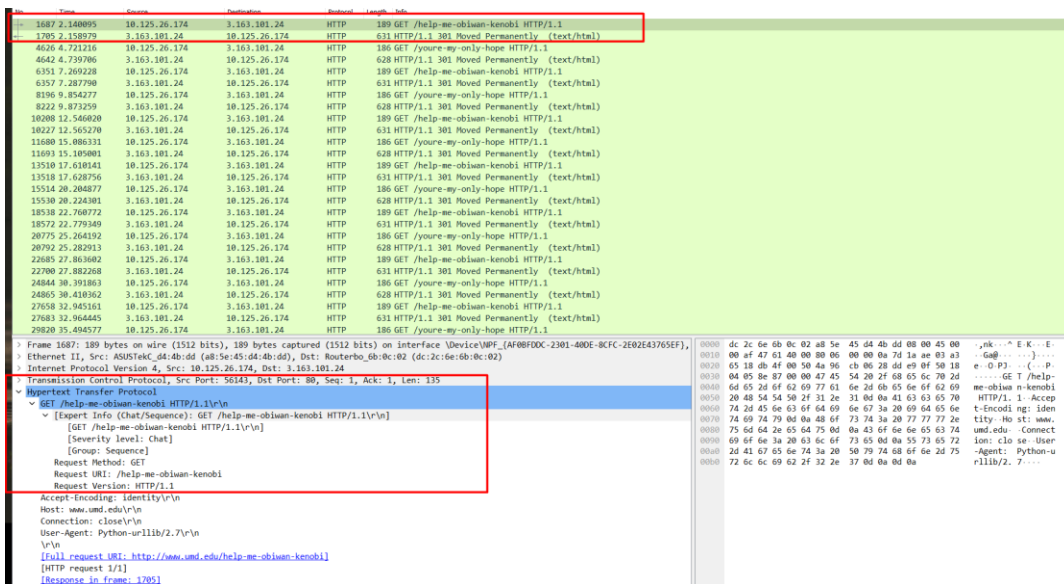
Wireshark - Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 18) - Ethernet

GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
 Accept-Encoding: identity
 Host: www.umd.edu
 Connection: close
 User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
 Server: CloudFront
 Date: Fri, 08 Dec 2023 23:45:15 GMT
 Content-Type: text/html
 Content-Length: 167
 Connection: close
 Location: https://www.umd.edu/youre-my-only-hope
 X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
 Via: 1.1 db4cd3ca469cef8285f715a91c8d304e.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
 X-Amz-Cf-Pop: ATL58-P8
 X-Amz-Cf-Id: foPUCr_DwGP3fFTQDi5z3Hrqvi_CyIr10VqzD_e96ggw2Hc8CzW1cw==

<html>
 <head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
 <body>
 <center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
 <hr><center>CloudFront</center>
 </body>
 </html>

HTTP Requests Examination: The investigation revealed that "obiwan.exe" consistently made specific HTTP requests to URLs on the "www.umd.edu" server, particularly to "www.umd.edu/help-me-obiwan-kenobi" and "www.umd.edu/youre-my-only-hope," indicating a pattern in the executable's network communication.



No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
1705	2.158879	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
4626	4.721216	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4642	4.729786	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
6351	7.269228	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
6357	7.267790	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8196	9.854277	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
8222	9.873259	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10208	12.546020	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
10227	12.565270	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
11680	15.086331	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
11693	15.105081	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13510	17.610141	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
13518	17.628756	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
15514	20.264877	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
15530	20.224301	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
18538	22.768772	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
18572	22.779349	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20775	25.264192	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
20792	25.282913	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22685	27.863682	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
22700	27.882268	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
24844	30.391863	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
24855	30.410362	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
27658	32.945161	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189	GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
27683	32.964445	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
29020	35.494577	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186	GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1

Frame 1705: 189 bytes on wire (1512 bits), 189 bytes captured (1512 bits) on interface vDevice\WFP_{AF0BFD0C-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43705EF}, 0000 dc 2c 6e 0b 0c 02 a8 5e 45 d4 4b dd 00 00 45 00 ..nk...^E.K...E..

Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekK44b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:dd), Dst: Routerbo_0b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:0b:0c:02), 0010 00 af 47 61 40 00 80 00 00 00 0a 7d 1a ae 03 a3 ..Ga@...-...-...

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 3.163.101.24, 0020 65 18 db 4f 00 50 4a 96 cb 06 28 dd e9 0f 50 18 e-0P3...[...P...

Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 56143, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 135, 0030 64 05 8e 87 00 00 47 45 54 20 2f 68 65 6c 70 2d ...GET /help-

Hypertext Transfer Protocol, 0040 6d 65 2d 6f 62 69 77 61 6e 2d 6b 65 6e 6f 62 69 me-obiwan-n-kenobi

GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1\r\n, 0050 20 48 54 54 50 2f 31 2e 31 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 HTTP/1.1 Acccep

[Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1\r\n], 0060 74 2d 45 6e 63 6f 64 69 6e 67 3a 20 69 64 65 6e t-encodE nq: iden

[GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1\r\n], 0070 74 69 74 79 0d 0a 48 6f 73 74 3a 20 77 77 77 2e tity:Ho st: www.

[Severity level: Chat], 0080 75 6d 64 2e 65 64 75 0d 0a 43 6f 6e 6e 65 63 74 umd.edu - Connect

[Group: Sequence], 0090 69 6f 6e 3a 20 63 6c 6f 73 65 0d 0a 55 73 65 72 Ion: clo se User

Request Method: GET, 00a0 2d 41 67 65 6e 74 3a 20 50 79 74 68 6f 6e 2d 75 -Agent: Python-u

Request URL: /help-me-obiwan-kenobi, 00b0 72 6c 6c 69 62 2f 32 2e 37 0d 0a 0d 0a rllib/2.7....

Request Version: HTTP/1.1

Accept-Encoding: identity\r\n

Host: www.umd.edu\r\n

Connection: close\r\n

User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7\r\n

\r\n

[Link request URL: http://www.umd.edu/help-me-obiwan-kenobi]

[HTTP request 1/1]

[Response in frame 1705]

4626	4.721216	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
4642	4.739706	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
6351	7.269228	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
6357	7.287790	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8196	9.854277	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
8222	9.873259	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10208	12.546020	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
10227	12.565270	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
11680	15.086331	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
11693	15.105001	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13510	17.610141	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
13518	17.628756	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
15514	20.204877	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
15530	20.224301	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
18538	22.760772	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
18572	22.779349	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20775	25.264192	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
20792	25.282913	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22805	27.863602	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
22700	27.882268	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
24844	30.391863	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
24865	30.410362	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
27658	32.945161	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
27683	32.964445	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
29820	35.494577	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1

> Frame 4626: 186 bytes on wire (1488 bits), 186 bytes captured (1488 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43765EF},
 > Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekC_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd), Dst: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:b0:c0:02)
 > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 3.163.101.24
 > Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 56147, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 132
 > Hypertext Transfer Protocol
 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1\r\n
 [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1\r\n]
 [GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1\r\n]
 [Severity level: Chat]
 [Group: Sequence]
 Request Method: GET
 Request URI: /youre-my-only-hope
 Request Version: HTTP/1.1
 Accept-Encoding: identity\r\n
 Host: www.umd.edu\r\n
 Connection: close\r\n
 User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7\r\n

Server Responses: The responses from the server consistently included a "301 Moved Permanently" status code, suggesting a redirection technique commonly used in web communication.

1687	2.140095	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
1705	2.158979	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4626	4.721216	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1
4642	4.739706	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	628 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
6351	7.269228	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	189 GET /help-me-obiwan-kenobi HTTP/1.1
6357	7.287790	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	631 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8196	9.854277	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	186 GET /youre-my-only-hope HTTP/1.1

Request Tab Findings: Further scrutiny in the Requests tab indicated a total of 11 requests directed to "www.umd.edu," pointing to a potentially programmed or automated behavior in "obiwan.exe."

Topic / Item	Count	Average	Min Val	Max Val	Rate (ms)	Percent	Burst Rate	Burst S
HTTP Requests by HTTP Host	102				0.0037	100%	0.1000	17.171
www.umd.edu	11				0.0004	10.78%	0.0100	1.889
/youre-my-only-hope	5				0.0002	45.45%	0.0100	4.446
/help-me-obiwan-kenobi	6				0.0002	54.55%	0.0100	1.889
[FF02::C]:1900	1				0.0000	0.98%	0.0100	23.458
*	1				0.0000	100.00%	0.0100	23.458
239.255.255.250:1900	90				0.0033	88.24%	0.0900	16.992
*	90				0.0033	100.00%	0.0900	16.992

Packet Counter Confirmation: The Packet Counter tab in Wireshark corroborated these observations, recording 11 requests and 11 corresponding responses, all marked with the "301 Moved Permanently" status code.

Wireshark · Packet Counter · Ethernet						
Topic / Item	Count	Average	Min Val	Max Val	Rate (ms)	Percent
▼ Total HTTP Packets	113				0.0041	100%
Other HTTP Packets	0				0.0000	0.00%
▼ HTTP Response Packets	11				0.0004	9.73%
??? : broken	0				0.0000	0.00%
5xx: Server Error	0				0.0000	0.00%
4xx: Client Error	0				0.0000	0.00%
▼ 3xx: Redirection	11				0.0004	100.00%
301 Moved Permanently	11				0.0004	100.00%
2xx: Success	0				0.0000	0.00%
1xx: Informational	0				0.0000	0.00%
▼ HTTP Request Packets	102				0.0037	90.27%
SEARCH	31				0.0011	30.39%
NOTIFY	60				0.0022	58.82%
GET	11				0.0004	10.78%

Export Attempts: Efforts to export objects from these requests were made for additional examination. However, continuous redirection of the web pages presented challenges in obtaining more detailed information.

ii. Analysis of "obiwan2.exe"

Detailed Examination of "obiwan2.exe" Execution and Network Activity

This section covers the analysis of the executable file "obiwan2.exe," focusing on its execution behavior and network interactions, conducted through a similar approach as with "obiwan.exe."

Execution and Behavior:

Execution Monitoring: "obiwan2.exe" was executed within a secure environment, allowing for close observation of its activities and behavior.

Process Explorer Analysis: Process Explorer provided valuable insights into the running status and system interactions of "obiwan2.exe," particularly focusing on its network requests.

TCP Connections Observation: The TCP connections associated with "obiwan2.exe" were carefully monitored to assess the nature and destinations of these connections.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
770	1.412087	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
775	1.417008	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
2943	3.956960	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
2947	3.961559	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4558	6.339679	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
4563	6.343758	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8141	10.431338	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
8144	10.435423	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10277	12.742661	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
10282	12.746574	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13312	15.106833	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
13318	15.110675	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16615	19.191504	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
16620	19.195650	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

> Frame 770: 199 bytes on wire (1592 bits), 199 bytes captured (1592 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-...
 > Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekC_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd), Dst: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:6b:0c:02)
 > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 18.160.46.53
 > Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 59010, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 145
 > Hypertext Transfer Protocol
 > GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1\n

Wireshark Analysis:

Packet Capturing: Network packets from "obiwan2.exe" were captured using Wireshark.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
770	1.412087	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
775	1.417008	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
2943	3.956960	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
2947	3.961559	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4558	6.339679	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
4563	6.343758	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8141	10.431338	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
8144	10.435423	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10277	12.742661	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
10282	12.746574	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13312	15.106833	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
13318	15.110675	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16615	19.191504	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
16620	19.195650	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

HTTP Requests Examination: Wireshark analysis of "obiwan2.exe" revealed three distinct HTTP requests made to the www.umd.edu server. These included:

A request to "http://www.umd.edu/All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us," suggesting a coded message.

A base64 encoded string in the request to "http://www.umd.edu/cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5," translating to "r2d2 is the key," hinting at the use of an encryption key or passphrase.

A request to "http://www.umd.edu/this-is-not-even-my-final-form," indicating the possibility of "obiwan2.exe" being part of a more extensive malware operation.

4558	6.339679	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188 GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
4563	6.343758	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8141	10.431338	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199 GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
8144	10.435423	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10277	12.742661	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200 GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
10282	12.746574	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13312	15.106833	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188 GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
13318	15.110675	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16615	19.191504	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199 GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
16620	19.195650	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

> Frame 4558: 188 bytes on wire (1504 bits), 188 bytes captured (1504 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43765EF},
 > Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTek_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd), Dst: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:6b:0c:02)
 > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 18.160.46.53
 > Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 59016, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 134

▼ Hypertext Transfer Protocol

GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1\r\n

▼ [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1\r\n]

[GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1\r\n]

[Severity level: Chat]

[Group: Sequence]

Request Method: GET

Request URI: /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5

Request Version: HTTP/1.1

Accept-Encoding: identity\r\n

Host: www.umd.edu\r\n

Connection: close\r\n

User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7\r\n

\r\n

[Full request URI: http://www.umd.edu/cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5]

[HTTP request 1/1]

[Response in frame: 4563]

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
770	1.412087	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
775	1.417008	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
2943	3.956960	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
2947	3.961559	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4558	6.339679	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
4563	6.343758	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8141	10.431338	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
8144	10.435423	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10277	12.742661	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
10282	12.746574	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13312	15.106833	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
13318	15.110675	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16615	19.191504	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
16620	19.195650	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

> Frame 8141: 199 bytes on wire (1592 bits), 199 bytes captured (1592 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43765EF},
 > Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTek_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd), Dst: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:6b:0c:02)
 > Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 18.160.46.53
 > Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 59021, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 145

▼ Hypertext Transfer Protocol

GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1\r\n

▼ [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1\r\n]

[GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1\r\n]

[Severity level: Chat]

[Group: Sequence]

Request Method: GET

Request URI: /this-is-not-even-my-final-form.

Request Version: HTTP/1.1

Accept-Encoding: identity\r\n

Host: www.umd.edu\r\n

Connection: close\r\n

User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7\r\n

\r\n

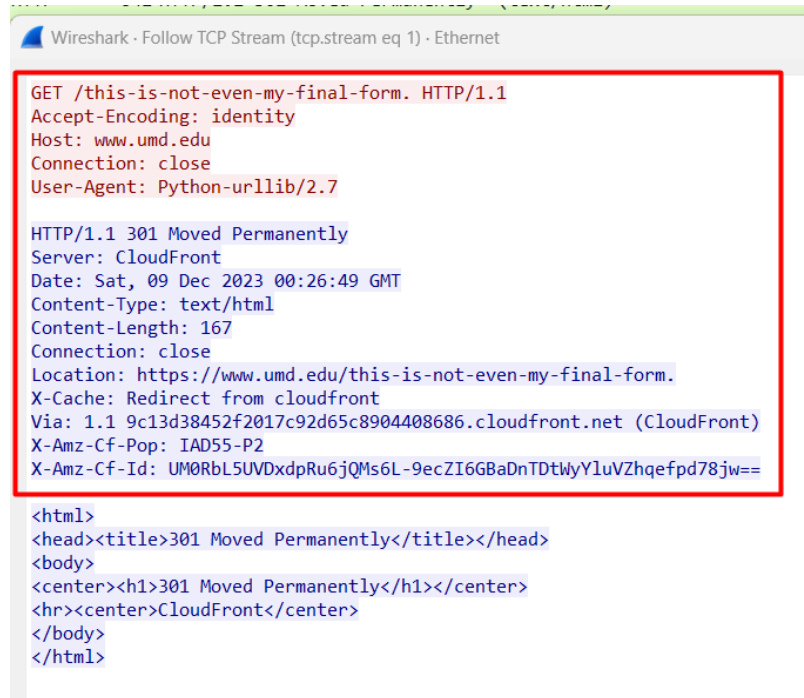
[Full request URI: http://www.umd.edu/this-is-not-even-my-final-form.]

[HTTP request 1/1]

[Response in frame: 8144]

Follow TCP Stream Analysis:

For the first request to "http://www.umd.edu/All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us," the TCP stream revealed a "301 Moved Permanently" server response, indicating redirection.



The image shows a Wireshark packet capture window titled "Wireshark · Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 1) · Ethernet". A red box highlights the HTTP request and response details. Below the box, the raw HTML of the response is visible.

```

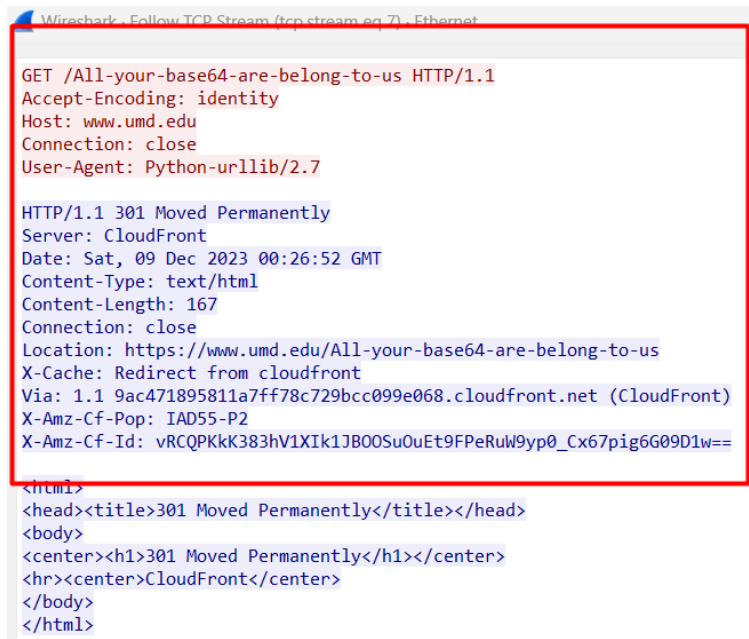
GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: www.umd.edu
Connection: close
User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: CloudFront
Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2023 00:26:49 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 167
Connection: close
Location: https://www.umd.edu/this-is-not-even-my-final-form.
X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
Via: 1.1 9c13d38452f2017c92d65c8904408686.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
X-Amz-Cf-Pop: IAD55-P2
X-Amz-Cf-Id: UM0RbL5UVDxpdRu6jQMs6L-9ecZI6GBaDnTDtWYyYluVZhqfPd78jw==

<html>
<head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
<body>
<center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
<hr><center>CloudFront</center>
</body>
</html>

```

The second request to "http://www.umd.edu/cjJkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5" followed a similar pattern with the server responding with a redirection status.



The image shows a Wireshark packet capture window titled "Wireshark · Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 7) · Ethernet". A red box highlights the HTTP request and response details. Below the box, the raw HTML of the response is visible.

```

GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: www.umd.edu
Connection: close
User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: CloudFront
Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2023 00:26:52 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 167
Connection: close
Location: https://www.umd.edu/All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us
X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
Via: 1.1 9ac471895811a7ff78c729bcc099e068.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
X-Amz-Cf-Pop: IAD55-P2
X-Amz-Cf-Id: vRCQPKkK383hV1XIk1JB00Su0uEt9FPeRuW9yp0_Cx67pig6G09D1w==

<html>
<head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
<body>
<center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
<hr><center>CloudFront</center>
</body>
</html>

```

The third request to "http://www.umd.edu/this-is-not-even-my-final-form" was also analyzed, confirming the pattern observed in the previous requests.

```

Wireshark · Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 11) · Ethernet

GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: www.umd.edu
Connection: close
User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: CloudFront
Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2023 00:26:54 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 167
Connection: close
Location: https://www.umd.edu/cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5
X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
Via: 1.1 bdf2aab533e801e16a7a135842a2ee18.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
X-Amz-Cf-Pop: IAD55-P2
X-Amz-Cf-Id: -6RMGZXdk0i4CrFpmmtC5RH14Rs4DpuWfTOX4K6g9kQcQE0G2iaNXg==

<html>
<head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
<body>
<center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
<hr><center>CloudFront</center>
</body>
</html>

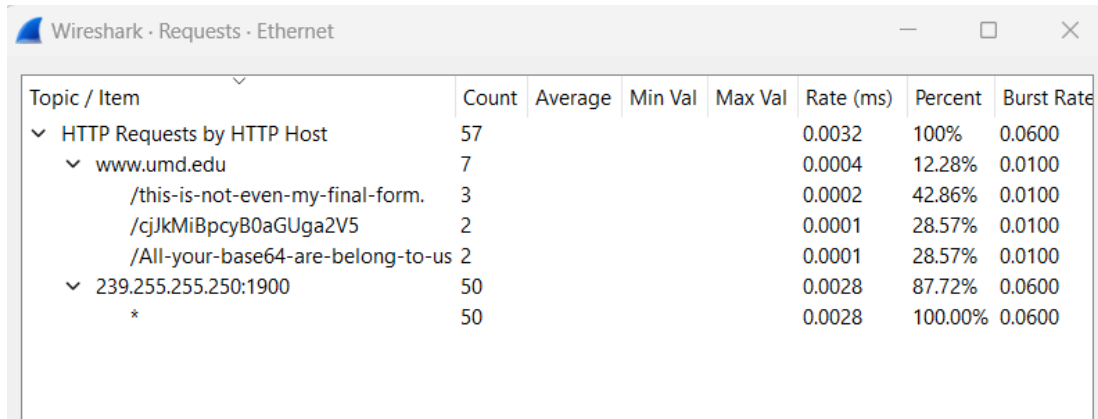
```

Server Responses: The server's responses to these requests consistently included a "301 Moved Permanently" status code, a typical redirection technique in web communication.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
770	1.412887	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
775	1.417008	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
2943	3.956960	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
2947	3.961559	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
4558	6.339679	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
4563	6.343758	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
8141	10.431338	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
8144	10.435423	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10277	12.742661	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	200	GET /All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us HTTP/1.1
10282	12.746574	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	642	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13312	15.106833	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	188	GET /cjkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5 HTTP/1.1
13318	15.110675	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	630	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16615	19.191504	10.125.26.174	18.160.46.53	HTTP	199	GET /this-is-not-even-my-final-form. HTTP/1.1
16620	19.195650	18.160.46.53	10.125.26.174	HTTP	641	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

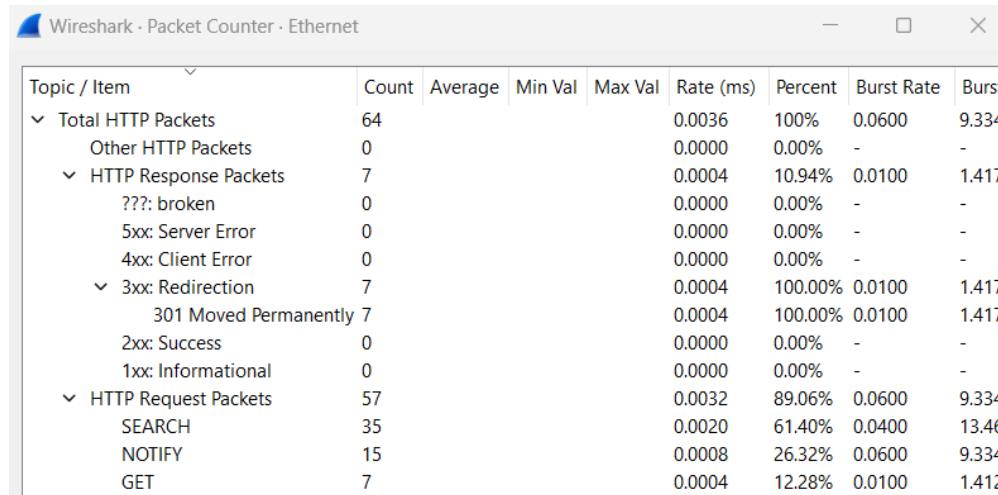
> Frame 4563: 630 bytes on wire (5040 bits), 630 bytes captured (5040 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43765EF}		0000	a8 5e 45 d4 4b
> Ethernet II, Src: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:6b:0c:02), Dst: ASUSTekC_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd)		0010	02 68 3b 1b 00
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 18.160.46.53, Dst: 10.125.26.174		0020	1a ae 00 50 e6
> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 80, Dst Port: 59016, Seq: 1, Ack: 135, Len: 576		0030	00 83 82 23 00
> Hypertext Transfer Protocol		0040	30 31 20 4d 6f
> HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently\r\n		0050	6e 74 6c 79 0d
[Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently\r\n]		0060	6f 75 64 46 72
[HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently\r\n]		0070	53 61 74 2c 20
[Severity level: Chat]		0080	20 30 30 3a 32
[Group: Sequence]		0090	6f 6e 74 65 6e
Response Version: HTTP/1.1		00a0	74 2f 68 74 6d
		00b0	4c 65 6e 67 74
		00c0	6e 6e 63 74 60

Request Tab Findings: The Requests tab in Wireshark showed a total of 7 HTTP requests made by "obiwan2.exe" to "www.umd.edu." This pattern of repeated communication suggests programmed or automated behavior, with each request targeting different URLs, implying a deliberate sequence of actions or messages.



Topic / Item	Count	Average	Min Val	Max Val	Rate (ms)	Percent	Burst Rate
HTTP Requests by HTTP Host	57				0.0032	100%	0.0600
www.umd.edu	7				0.0004	12.28%	0.0100
/this-is-not-even-my-final-form.	3				0.0002	42.86%	0.0100
/cjJkMiBpcyB0aGUga2V5	2				0.0001	28.57%	0.0100
/All-your-base64-are-belong-to-us	2				0.0001	28.57%	0.0100
239.255.255.250:1900	50				0.0028	87.72%	0.0600
*	50				0.0028	100.00%	0.0600

Packet Counter Confirmation: The Packet Counter tab in Wireshark recorded 7 requests sent to "www.umd.edu" and an equal number of responses received, all with the "301 Moved Permanently" status code, underscoring the sophisticated and potentially complex nature of "obiwan2.exe."



Topic / Item	Count	Average	Min Val	Max Val	Rate (ms)	Percent	Burst Rate	Burs
Total HTTP Packets	64				0.0036	100%	0.0600	9.334
Other HTTP Packets	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
HTTP Response Packets	7				0.0004	10.94%	0.0100	1.417
??? : broken	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
5xx: Server Error	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
4xx: Client Error	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
3xx: Redirection	7				0.0004	100.00%	0.0100	1.417
301 Moved Permanently	7				0.0004	100.00%	0.0100	1.417
2xx: Success	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
1xx: Informational	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
HTTP Request Packets	57				0.0032	89.06%	0.0600	9.334
SEARCH	35				0.0020	61.40%	0.0400	13.46
NOTIFY	15				0.0008	26.32%	0.0600	9.334
GET	7				0.0004	12.28%	0.0100	1.417

iii. Analysis of "not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3"

Decrypting and Examining the Encrypted MP3 File

This section details the procedure and findings from the analysis of the encrypted MP3 file "not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3," which involved crucial decryption using a key derived from the analysis of "obiwan2.exe" and the application of Veracrypt for the decryption process.

The screenshot shows the Autopsy 4.21.0 interface. On the left, the file tree shows the path: `/img/Virtual Disk/vol2/Documents and Settings/Administrator/My Documents/My Music`. The main pane displays a list of files with columns: Name, S, C, O, Modified Time, and Change Time. The file `not-the-droids-youre-looking-for.mp3` is highlighted. Below the list, the 'Analysis Results' section shows the following details:

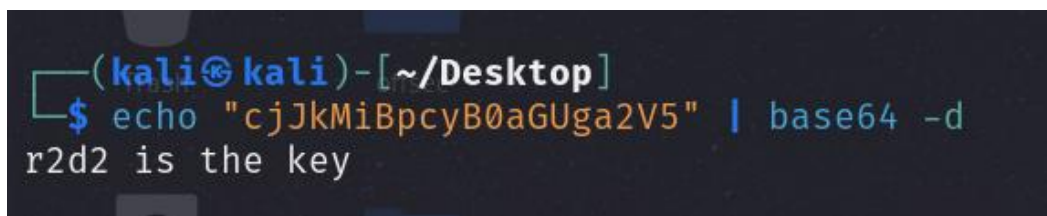
Item:	not-the-droids-youre-looking-for.mp3
Aggregate Score:	Likely Notable
Analysis Result 1	
Score:	Likely Notable
Type:	Encryption Suspected
Configuration:	
Conclusion:	
Comment:	Suspected encryption due to high entropy (7.999991).

Below this, another screenshot shows the 'Encryption Suspected' section with a table of source names and their scores:

Source Name	S	C	O	Source Type	Score	Conclusion
1cbdd1f8bc270c29b0400ab5dc828d319b87666b	0			File	Likely Notable	
not-the-droids-youre-looking-for.mp3	0			File	Likely Notable	
oembios.bin	2			File	Likely Notable	
oembios.bin	2			File	Likely Notable	

Decryption Process:

Base64 Decoded Key: The analysis of "obiwan2.exe" revealed a base64 encoded string. Once decoded, the string read "r2d2 is the key," which was hypothesized to be the decryption passphrase.



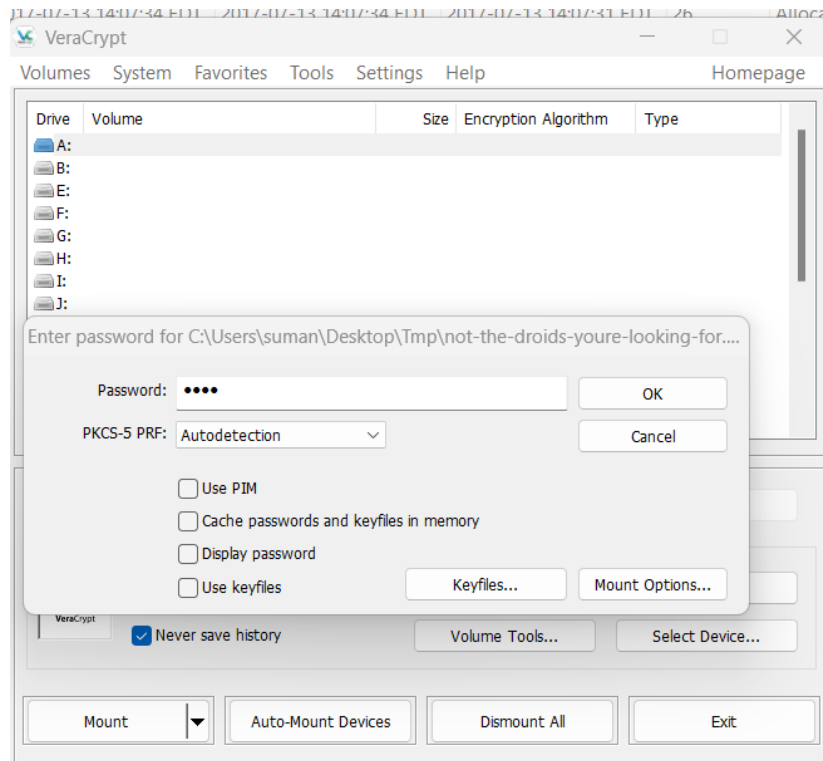
Using Veracrypt: Veracrypt, renowned for its powerful encryption and decryption capabilities, was employed to decrypt the MP3 file.

Decryption Steps:

The MP3 file was loaded into Veracrypt.

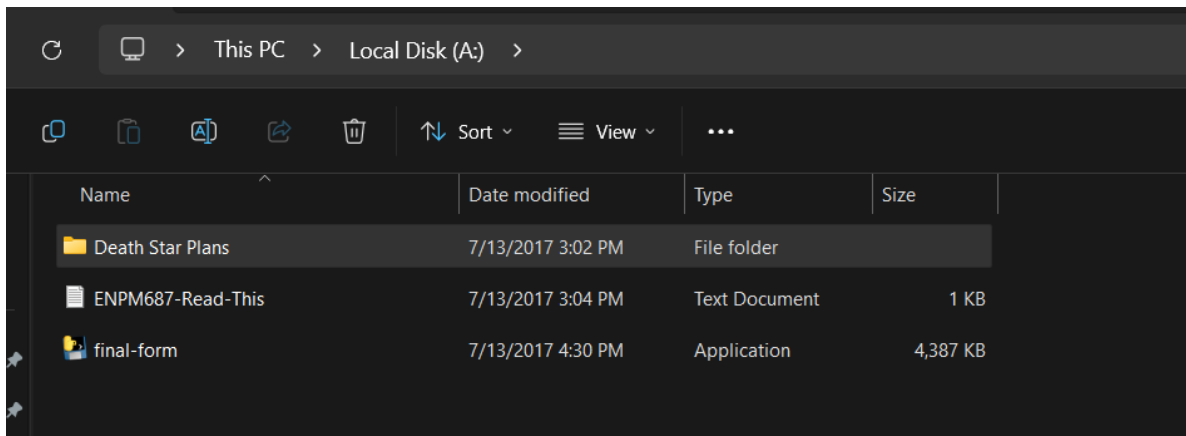
"r2d2," derived from the base64 decoded message, was input as the decryption passphrase.

The decryption was initiated, with its successful completion being meticulously monitored.



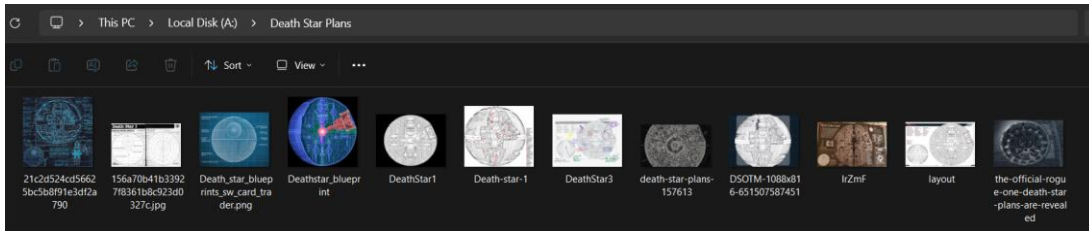
Post-Decryption Examination:

The successful decryption of "not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3" facilitated an in-depth exploration of its previously encrypted contents.

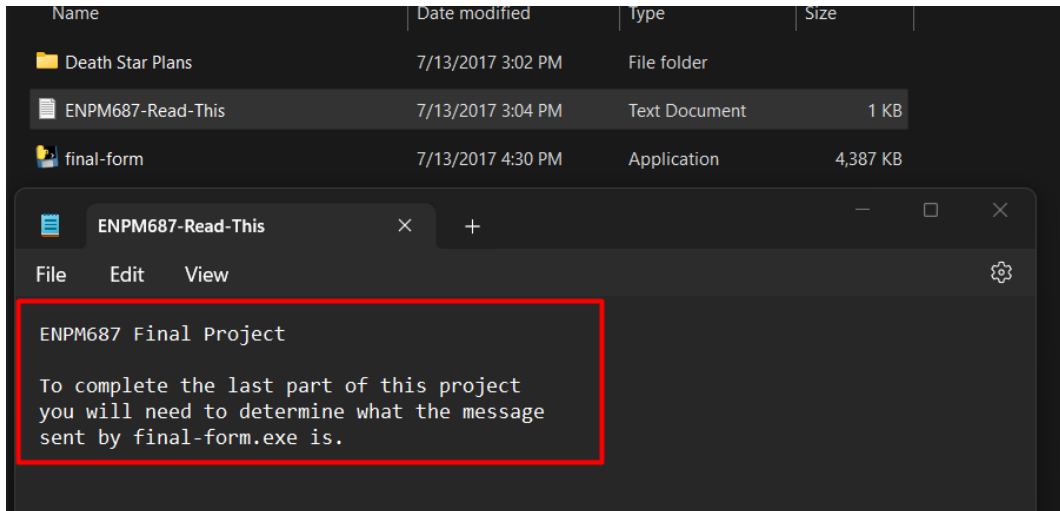


Contents of the Decrypted File:

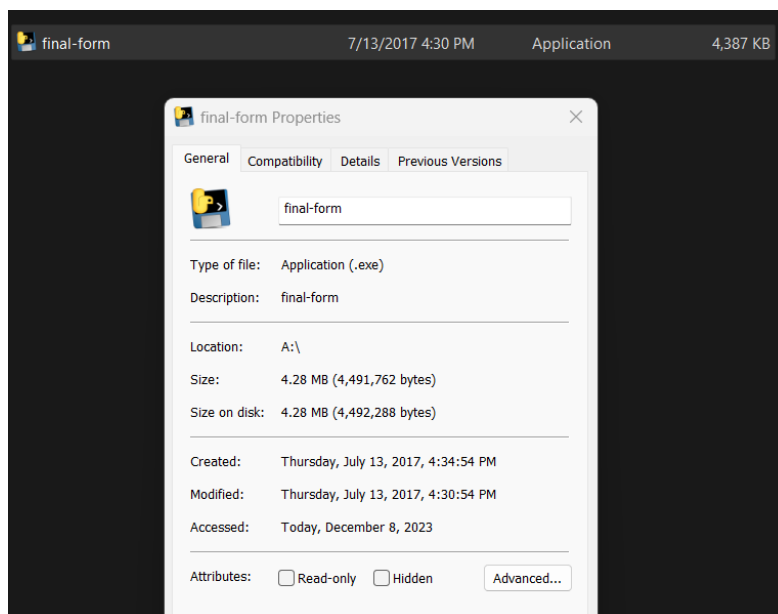
A folder titled "Death Star Plans" was discovered within the decrypted file, containing images and schematics of the Death Star. This finding indicated the file's utilization for covertly storing and transmitting sensitive information.



A significant discovery was a text file named "ENPM687-Read-This.txt," which contained directives to execute 'final-form.exe,' signifying additional steps in the ongoing investigation.



The presence of an executable named "final-form.exe" within the decrypted file was a notable finding. Its inclusion alongside other contents implied that it could be an integral component in deciphering the broader context and potential objectives of the data concealed within the MP3 file.



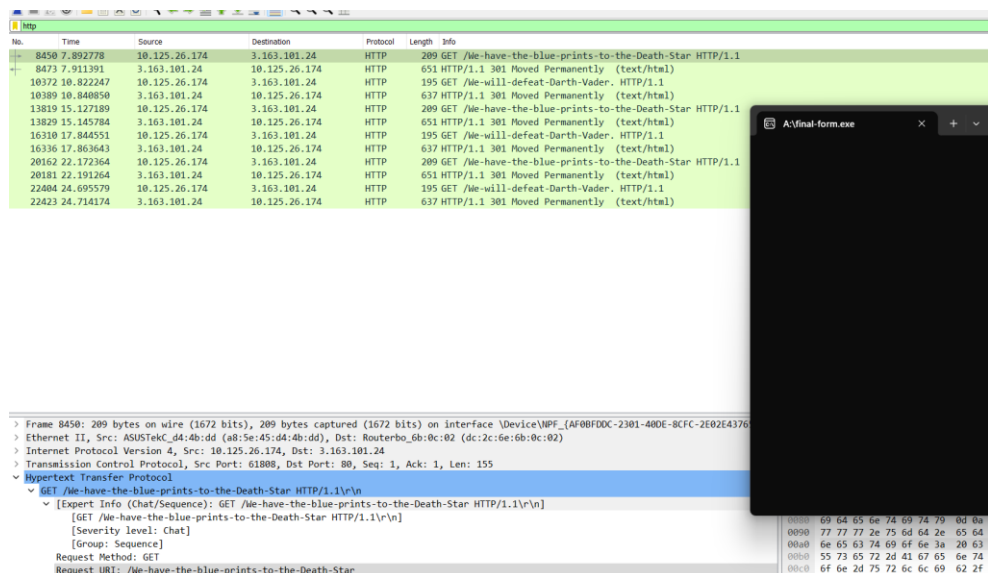
iv. Analysis of "final-form.exe"

Comprehensive Examination of "final-form.exe" Execution and Network Activity

This section outlines the procedure and findings from the analysis of "final-form.exe," focusing on its execution behavior and network interactions. The analysis was segmented into two primary areas: monitoring the execution and behavior of the executable, and conducting an in-depth Wireshark analysis to understand its network interactions.

Execution and Behavior:

Execution Monitoring: "final-form.exe" was executed within a controlled setting, allowing for close observation of its activities. This was essential for understanding the executable's real-time behavior and system and network interactions.



The screenshot displays a Wireshark network traffic capture. The main pane shows a list of HTTP packets. The selected packet (No. 8450) is expanded, showing the details of an HTTP GET request to 'http://10.125.26.174/Me-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star'. The packet details include the Ethernet II header, Internet Protocol Version 4, Transmission Control Protocol, and Hypertext Transfer Protocol. The Hypertext Transfer Protocol section shows the request method as GET and the request URI as /Me-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star. In the background, a Process Explorer window is visible, showing the execution of 'A:\final-form.exe'.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
8450	7.892778	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /Me-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
8473	7.911391	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10372	10.822247	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /Me-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
10389	10.840850	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13819	15.127189	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /Me-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
13829	15.145784	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16310	17.844551	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /Me-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
16336	17.863643	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20162	22.172364	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /Me-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
20181	22.191264	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22404	24.695579	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /Me-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
22423	24.714174	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

Process Explorer Analysis: Process Explorer was used to monitor the running status of "final-form.exe." This tool shed light on the executable's processes, particularly its attempts to establish connections to remote servers over the internet, providing a comprehensive view of its behavior.

TCP Connections Observation: The TCP connections related to "final-form.exe" were meticulously examined. Detailed information regarding the nature and destinations of these connections was gathered through TCP stream monitoring, aiding in deciphering the network behavior of the executable.

Wireshark Analysis:

Packet Capturing: Wireshark was used to capture the network packets from "final-form.exe," a vital step in analyzing the data being transmitted and received by the executable.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
8450	7.892778	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
8473	7.911391	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10372	10.822247	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
10389	10.840850	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13819	15.127189	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
13829	15.145784	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16310	17.844551	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
16336	17.863643	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20162	22.172364	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
20181	22.191264	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22404	24.695579	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
22423	24.714174	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

> Frame 8450: 209 bytes on wire (1672 bits), 209 bytes captured (1672 bits) on interface \Device\NPF_{AF0BFDDC-2301-40DE-8CFC-2E02E43765EF},	0000	dc	2c	6
> Ethernet II, Src: ASUSTekC_d4:4b:dd (a8:5e:45:d4:4b:dd), Dst: Routerbo_6b:0c:02 (dc:2c:6e:6b:0c:02)	0010	00	c3	7
> Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 10.125.26.174, Dst: 3.163.101.24	0020	65	18	f
> Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 61808, Dst Port: 80, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 155	0030	04	05	8
> Hypertext Transfer Protocol	0040	76	65	2
GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1\r\n	0050	74	73	2
[Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1\r\n]	0060	53	74	6
[GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1\r\n]	0070	63	63	6
[Severity Level: Chat]	0080	69	64	6
[Group: Sequence]	0090	77	77	7
Request Method: GET	00a0	6e	65	6
	00b0	55	73	6

Follow TCP Stream Analysis:

The TCP stream for the first HTTP request to "http://www.umd.edu/We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star" was analyzed, revealing the full HTTP request and response cycle, including a "301 Moved Permanently" status code from the server.

```

Wireshark · Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 4) · Ethernet

GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: www.umd.edu
Connection: close
User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: CloudFront
Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2023 01:31:02 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 167
Connection: close
Location: https://www.umd.edu/We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star
X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
Via: 1.1 94bfb7d862be49d4dc2eadc0fd2c452a.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
X-Amz-Cf-Pop: ATL58-P8
X-Amz-Cf-Id: cRNF9M2rgZ6-nOgjEHEXm6apxa5h_gOYtJksud6vppcKdmkE68a4dw==

<html>
<head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
<body>
<center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
<hr><center>CloudFront</center>
</body>
</html>

```

A similar approach was taken for the second HTTP request to "http://www.umd.edu/We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader," providing insights into the nature of this request and the server's identical response.

```

Wireshark · Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 8) · Ethernet

GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
Accept-Encoding: identity
Host: www.umd.edu
Connection: close
User-Agent: Python-urllib/2.7

HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently
Server: CloudFront
Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2023 01:31:05 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: 167
Connection: close
Location: https://www.umd.edu/we-will-defeat-Darth-Vader.
X-Cache: Redirect from cloudfront
Via: 1.1 5cfa3bf838414b2c366e22f44b738bfa.cloudfront.net (CloudFront)
X-Amz-Cf-Pop: ATL58-P8
X-Amz-Cf-Id: QD5UpTuTlnUtKatCAYuaDXrxnQCpKB1SBbSPMGnH8vIaqY-ObKR_Cg==

<html>
<head><title>301 Moved Permanently</title></head>
<body>
<center><h1>301 Moved Permanently</h1></center>
<hr><center>CloudFront</center>
</body>
</html>

```

HTTP Requests Examination: Analysis of the HTTP requests indicated that "final-form.exe" specifically targeted URLs on the "www.umd.edu" server, such as "http://www.umd.edu/We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star" and "http://www.umd.edu/We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader." This pattern suggested a deliberate communication strategy, potentially revealing the executable's objectives or operational tactics.

The image displays a Wireshark packet capture of an HTTP request. The packet list shows a 301 Moved Permanently response. The packet details pane shows the request method as GET and the request URI as /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star.

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
8459	7.892778	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
8477	7.912391	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	822	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10372	10.822247	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
10389	10.840850	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13819	15.127189	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
13822	15.145780	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16310	17.844551	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
16330	17.863643	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20162	22.172364	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
20181	22.191264	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22484	24.695579	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
22423	24.714174	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

Packet details for the selected packet (No. 8459):

- Acknowledgment number (raw): 2785128134
- 0101... = Header Length: 20 bytes (5)
- Flags: 0x018 (PSH, ACK)
- Window: 1029
- [Calculated window size: 263424]
- [Window size scaling factor: 256]
- Checksum: 0x0e0b [unverified]
- [Checksum Status: Unverified]
- Urgent Pointer: 0
- [Timestamps]
- [SEQ/ACK analysis]
- TCP payload (429 bytes)
- Hypertext Transfer Protocol
 - GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1\r\n
 - [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1\r\n]
 - [GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1\r\n]
 - [Severity level: Chat]
 - [Group: Sequence]
 - Request Method: GET
 - Request URI: /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star
 - Request Version: HTTP/1.1
 - Accept-Encoding: identity\r\n
 - Host: www.umd.edu\r\n
 - Connection: close\r\n

8873 7.911391	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10372 10.822247	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195 GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
10389 10.840850	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13819 15.127189	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209 GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
13829 15.145784	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16310 17.844551	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195 GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
16336 17.863643	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20162 22.172364	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209 GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
20181 22.191264	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22404 24.695579	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195 GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
22423 24.714174	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637 HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)

```

Acknowledgment number (raw): 3361657132
0101 .... = Header Length: 20 bytes (5)
> Flags: 0x018 (PSH, ACK)
Window: 1029
[Calculated window size: 263424]
[Window size scaling factor: 256]
Checksum: 0x8e8d [unverified]
[Checksum Status: Unverified]
Urgent Pointer: 0
> [Timestamps]
> [SEQ/ACK analysis]
TCP payload (444 bytes)
Hypertext Transfer Protocol
  GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1\r\n
  [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1\r\n]
    [GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1\r\n]
    [Severity Level: Chat]
    [Group: Sequence]
  Request Method: GET
  Request URI: /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader.
  Request Version: HTTP/1.1

```

Server Responses: The server's responses consistently included a "301 Moved Permanently" status code, suggesting permanent relocation of the requested resources. This redirection technique might indicate an attempt to conceal the true nature of the communication or to redirect to alternate resources.

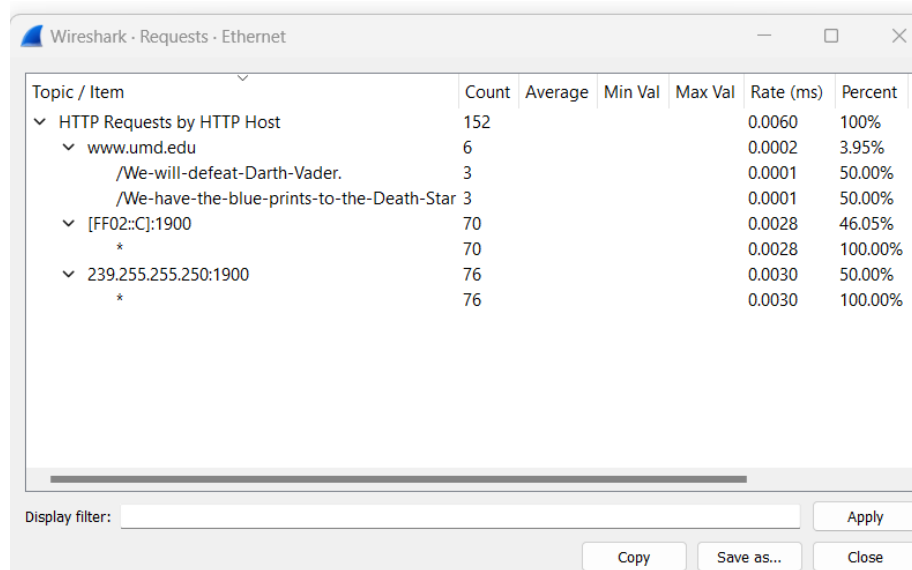
No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
8450	7.892778	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
8473	7.911391	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
10372	10.822247	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
10389	10.840850	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
13819	15.127189	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
13829	15.145784	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
16310	17.844551	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
16336	17.863643	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
20162	22.172364	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	209	GET /We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star HTTP/1.1
20181	22.191264	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	651	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)
22404	24.695579	10.125.26.174	3.163.101.24	HTTP	195	GET /We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader. HTTP/1.1
22423	24.714174	3.163.101.24	10.125.26.174	HTTP	637	HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently (text/html)


```

Acknowledgment number (raw): 2994148384
0101 .... = Header Length: 20 bytes (5)
> Flags: 0x018 (PSH, ACK)
Window: 131
[Calculated window size: 67072]
[Window size scaling factor: 512]
Checksum: 0xc52f [unverified]
[Checksum Status: Unverified]
Urgent Pointer: 0
> [Timestamps]
> [SEQ/ACK analysis]
TCP payload (582 bytes)
Hypertext Transfer Protocol
  HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently\r\n
  [Expert Info (Chat/Sequence): HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently\r\n]
    [HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently\r\n]
    [Severity level: Chat]

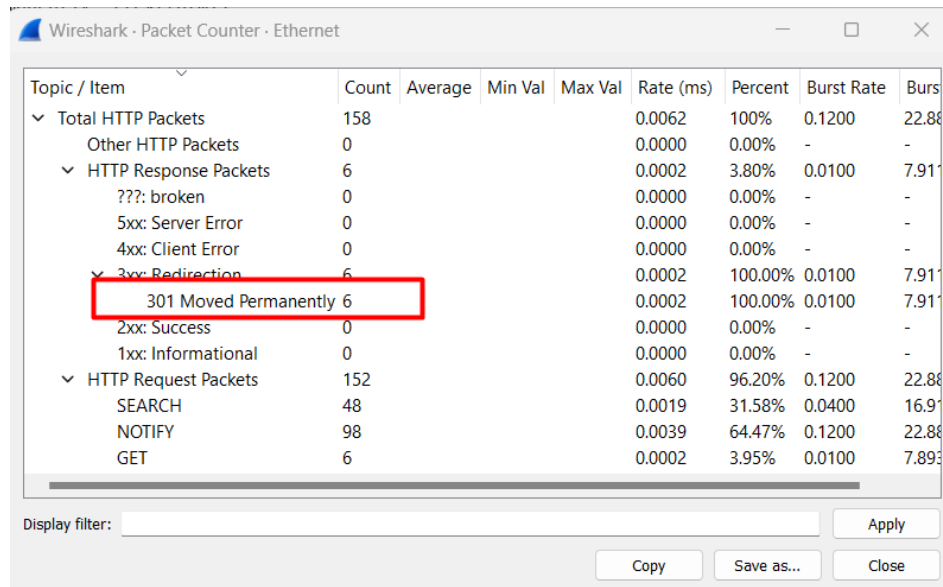
```

Request Tab Findings: The Requests tab in Wireshark showed a total of 6 HTTP requests made by "final-form.exe" to "www.umd.edu." This repetitive communication pattern suggested programmed or automated behavior, possibly designed for specific sequences or triggering certain server actions.



Topic / Item	Count	Average	Min Val	Max Val	Rate (ms)	Percent
HTTP Requests by HTTP Host	152				0.0060	100%
www.umd.edu	6				0.0002	3.95%
/We-will-defeat-Darth-Vader.	3				0.0001	50.00%
/We-have-the-blue-prints-to-the-Death-Star	3				0.0001	50.00%
[FF02::C]:1900	70				0.0028	46.05%
*	70				0.0028	100.00%
239.255.255.250:1900	76				0.0030	50.00%
*	76				0.0030	100.00%

Packet Counter Confirmation: The Packet Counter tab in Wireshark supported these findings, recording 6 requests and 6 corresponding responses, all marked with the "301 Moved Permanently" status code. This consistency reinforces the notion of an automated communication process.



Topic / Item	Count	Average	Min Val	Max Val	Rate (ms)	Percent	Burst Rate	Burst
Total HTTP Packets	158				0.0062	100%	0.1200	22.88
Other HTTP Packets	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
HTTP Response Packets	6				0.0002	3.80%	0.0100	7.91
??? broken	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
5xx: Server Error	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
4xx: Client Error	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
3xx: Redirection	6				0.0002	100.00%	0.0100	7.91
301 Moved Permanently	6				0.0002	100.00%	0.0100	7.91
2xx: Success	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
1xx: Informational	0				0.0000	0.00%	-	-
HTTP Request Packets	152				0.0060	96.20%	0.1200	22.88
SEARCH	48				0.0019	31.58%	0.0400	16.9
NOTIFY	98				0.0039	64.47%	0.1200	22.88
GET	6				0.0002	3.95%	0.0100	7.89

Export Attempts: Efforts were made to export objects from these requests for deeper analysis. However, due to continuous redirection, these attempts did not yield significant insights, complicating the retrieval of more detailed information.

4 Strategic Recommendations and Next Steps

Following the in-depth analysis of "obiwan.exe," "obiwan2.exe," "not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3," and "final-form.exe," we propose a comprehensive strategy for advancing the investigation:

Sophisticated Malware Lifecycle Analysis:

Conduct an in-depth behavioral analysis of the executables to delineate their life cycle, focusing on how they evolve, replicate, and persist within systems. Explore their methods of self-modification and replication to understand their adaptability and resilience.

Source and Distribution Path Exploration:

Investigate the origin of "obiwan.exe" by tracing its distribution channels. Collaborate with ISPs and use advanced forensic tools to track down the initial upload source or distribution networks, potentially uncovering the broader attack infrastructure.

Engagement with Key External Stakeholders:

Initiate a dialogue with the administrators of "www.umd.edu" to assess the server's security status during the periods of executable activity. This engagement could reveal whether there were any security incidents or unusual activities that align with the timeline of the malware's activities.

Intensive Network Traffic and Botnet Investigation:

Perform a comprehensive analysis of network traffic to detect patterns indicative of a larger network of compromised systems or a coordinated cyber attack. Be vigilant for signs of data being siphoned off or lateral movements within the network that could be attributed to the executables.

In-depth Examination of Affected Systems:

Expand the investigation to encompass systems that might have communicated with the compromised device. Analyze their network logs and system files for signs of similar intrusions or malware infections to gauge the extent of the threat.

Cybersecurity Policy Overhaul and Upgrades:

Based on the insights gained from this investigation, thoroughly reassess and upgrade existing cybersecurity policies and incident response frameworks. This could entail refining response strategies, updating configurations of security tools, and enhancing user access control mechanisms.

Key Challenges

Throughout this forensic investigation, I navigated several complex challenges:

Navigating Cryptographic Hurdles:

The process of decrypting the "not-the-droids-you-are-looking-for.mp3" file was a formidable challenge, particularly in accurately determining the decryption key "r2d2" and effectively applying it. This aspect highlighted the critical role of cryptographic expertise in digital forensic investigations.

Addressing Persistent Server Redirection Tactics:

The consistent redirection behavior by "obiwan.exe" and "final-form.exe" complicated the analysis, necessitating advanced network forensic techniques to track and understand the purpose of these redirections and their impact on the investigation.

Recommendation for Controlled Environment Execution:

While the executables have not been run in a controlled environment for this project, it is strongly recommended to do so for any actual investigative purposes. Executing potentially malicious files in a secure, isolated environment is crucial to prevent unintended network spread or activation of harmful payloads. This approach is vital for safely analyzing the behavior and impact of such files, especially in an educational or research setting.

Managing Extensive Data and Complexity:

The sheer volume of data, including diverse file types and extensive network logs, presented significant logistical challenges. This required strategic data management and advanced analytical methodologies to ensure thorough and accurate data interpretation.