

Cleartext Protocol Analysis: HTTP

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)

- It is the standard type of network activity to request/serve web pages, and by default, it is not blocked by any network perimeter.

HTTP/1.1 and HTTP/2 usually run over TCP

HTTP/3 runs over QUIC (UDP-based, faster handshake)

Browser sends an HTTP request.

- Method (what we want to do)
- Path
- Headers (metadata)
- Body (POST/PUT)

GET → fetch data

POST → send data

PUT/PATCH → update

DELETE → remove

HEAD → like GET but headers only

OPTIONS → "what is allowed"

Wireshark

Global search `http`
↳ specific `http2`
`http3`

HTTP request methods

GET → `http.request.method == "GET"`
POST `http.request.method == "POST"`
- all request `http.request`

HTTP Response Status Code

200 OK → Successful
301 Moved Permanently → moved to new URL
302 Moved Temporarily → temporarily moved to new URL
400 Bad Request → didn't understand the request
401 Unauthorized → URL need authorization
403 Forbidden → No access to the requested
404 Not Found → can't find the URL
405 Method Not Allowed → method is not suitable or blocked
408 Request Timeout → timeout
500 Internal Server Error → request not completed, unexpected
503 Service Unavailable → ~~re~~ server or service is down

`http.response.code == xxx`

HTTP parameter

- User agent : Browser or OS identification to a web
- Request URI : Points the requested resource from the server
- Full * URI : Complete URI information

URI = identifier (string that identifies a resource)

http.user-agent contains "nmap"
http.request-uri contains "admin"
http.request.full-uri contains "admin"

- Server = server name
- Host = hostname
- Connection = Status
- Line-Based text data : Cleartext data by the server
- HTML Form URL Encoded = web form information

http.server contains "apache"
http.~~host~~ contains "..."
http.host == "..."
http.connection == "Keep-Alive"
data-text-lines contains "keyword"

User Agent field is one of the great resources for spotting anomalies in HTTP traffic.

user agent Wireshark

Global search `http.user-agent`

~~Resource~~

Research outcomes

- ~~Same~~-Different user agent info from the same host in a short time
- Non-standart and custom user agent info
- Subtly spelling & differences
- Audit tools
- Payload data in the user agent field

Questions

- 1) Investigate the user-agent. What is the number of anomalous "user-agent" type?

6

Statistics → HTTP → Request

- 2) What is the packet number with a subtle spelling difference in the user-agent?

Mozilla/5.0 → 52

- 3) Locate the "Log4j" attack starting phase. What is the packet number?

Log4j → attack before launching Wireshark

→ attack starts with POST

→ known pattern "jndi:ldap" and "Exploit.class"

```
http.request.methodcode == "POST" && (frame contains "jndi" ||  
frame contains "Exploit") && (http.user-agent contains "$" ||  
http.user-agent contains "==" )
```

- 4) Locate the "Log4j" attack starting phase and decode the Base 64 command. What is the IP address contacted by the adversary?

62[.]210[.]130[.]250