

# 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  $\text{http}$   
↳ specific  $\text{http 2}$   
 $\text{http 3}$

## HTTP request methods

GET  $\rightarrow \text{http.request.method} == \text{"GET"}$   
POST  $\rightarrow \text{http.request.method} == \text{"POST"}$   
- all request  $\text{http.request}$

## HTTP Response Status Code

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

$\text{http.response.code} == \text{xxx}$

## HTTP parameters

- 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`

Resources

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 in the packet numbers?

Log4j → attack before launching Wireshark

→ attack starts with POST

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

http.request.<sup>method</sup>~~code~~ == "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