BASIC TASKS:

- Document the date, start time and end time of the pcap in UTC (GMT).
- Document the IP address of the three hosts in the pcap.
- Document the mac address of the three hosts in the pcap.
- Document the type of computer (Windows, Mac, Android, etc) for each of the three hosts in the pcap.
- Determine which host(s) were infected.

ANSWERS:

Date, start time and end time of the pcap in UTC (GMT): 2017-02-11 02:47:04 UTC

1st host IP address: 10.3.14.131

1st host mac address: 00:25:64:18:4c:2a (Dell_18:4c:2a) 1st host description: Dell computer running Windows 10

2nd host IP address: 10.3.14.134

2nd host mac address: 14:da:e9:5b:42:1c (AsustekC 5b:42:1c)

2nd host description: Asus computer running Windows 7

3rd host IP address: 10.3.14.135

3rd host mac address: 00:26:bb:4c:6b:e1 (Apple 4c:6b:e1)

3rd host description: Apple computer running OS X

10.3.14.131 and 10.3.14.134 were infected. 10.3.14.131 was infected with Spora ransomware. 10.3.14.134 was infected with Cerber ransomware.

BASIC TASKS EXPLAINED:

All investigations are initiated due to some sort of alert on the network traffic, system logs, or other types of activity records. So the alerts are always a good place to start. You can quickly find two IP addresses in the image included with this exercise (2017-02-11-traffic-analysis-exercise-Suricata-alerts.jpg). The two IP addresses that generated alerts are 10.3.14.131 and 10.3.14.134.

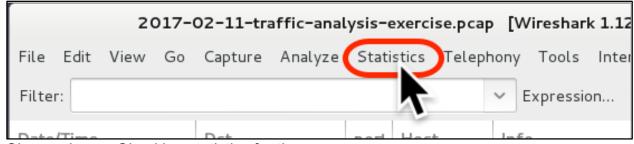
Those two IP addresses indicate the hosts we're investigating are all in the 10.3.14.0/24 address block. Since this exercise states there are three hosts, the remaining host will likely also start with 10.3.14. as its IP address.

As always, when reviewing pcaps in Wireshark, I suggest changing the default column display as discussed in this tutorial:

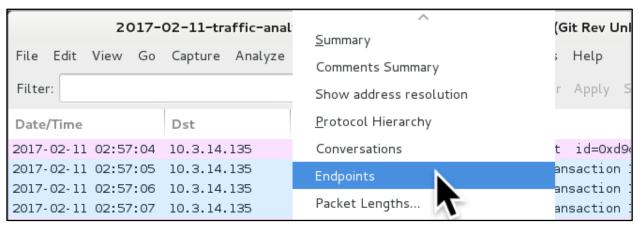
http://malware-traffic-analysis.net/tutorials/wireshark/index.html

Src IP	SPort	Dst IP	DPort	Pr	Event Message
10.3.14.134	51734	10.3.14.2	53	17	ET DNS Query to a *.top domain - Likely Hostile
10.3.14.134	49249	104.155.4.180	80	6	ET INFO HTTP Request to a *.top domain
104.155.4.180 80		10.3.14.134	49249	6	ET POLICY PE EXE or DLL Windows file download
104.155.4.180	0 80	10.3.14.134	49249	6	ET POLICY Binary Download Smaller than 1 MB Likely H
104.155.4.180	0 80	10.3.14.134	49249	6	ET CURRENT_EVENTS Likely Evil EXE download from MS
104.155.4.180	0 80	10.3.14.134	49249	6	ET TROJAN JS/WSF Downloader Dec 08 2016 M6
104.155.4.180	0 80	10.3.14.134	49249	6	ET INFO Possible EXE Download From Suspicious TLD
104.155.4.180	0 80	10.3.14.134	49249	6	ET INFO EXE - Served Attached HTTP
10.3.14.134	51735	91.119.56.0	6892	17	ET TROJAN Ransomware/Cerber Checkin M3 (4)
10.3.14.134	51735	91.121.56.30	6892	17	ET TROJAN Possible Downadup/Conficker-C P2P encryp
10.3.14.134	51736	91.119.56.0	.119.56.0 6892 17 ET TROJAN W32/Cerber.Ranson		ET TROJAN W32/Cerber.Ransomware CnC Checkin M4
10.3.14.134	49250	54.87.5.88	80	6	ETPRO TROJAN Cerber Blockchain Query
10.3.14.134	50205	10.3.14.2	53	17	ET TROJAN Ransomware/Cerber Onion Domain Lookup
67.210.245.241 80		10.3.14.131	49506	6	ET SHELLCODE UTF-8/16 Encoded Shellcode
67.210.245.24	41 80	10.3.14.131	49506	6	ET WEB_CLIENT Possible String.FromCharCode Javascri
10.3.14.131	49585	54.229.205.204	12080	6	ET POLICY HTTP Request on Unusual Port Possibly Hos
10.3.14.131	49585	54.229.205.204	12080	6	ET POLICY HTTP POST on unusual Port Possibly Hostile
10.3.14.131	64890	10.3.14.2	53	17	ET TROJAN Spora Ransomware DNS Query

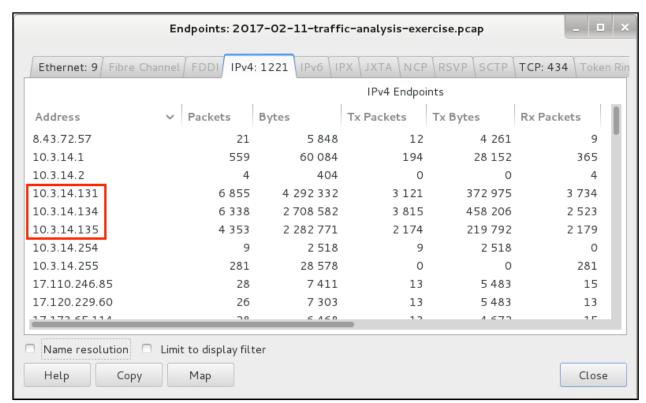
Shown above: Highlighting two of the hosts from the Suricata alerts.



Shown above: Checking statistics for the pcap.



Shown above: Selecting "Endpoints" from the Statistics menu.



Shown above: The three IP addresses we're concerned with.

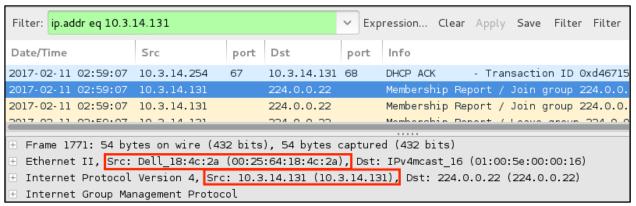
In the above image, I've highlighted the three IP addresses we're concerned with.

Why don't we want 10.3.14.254 and 10.3.14.255? The .254 address is related to DHCP traffic. The .255 address is a broadcast address for that address block. You can get an idea of the traffic by filtering on *ip.addr eq 10.3.14.254* in Wireshark for the DCHP-related traffic. Filter on *ip.addr eq 10.3.14.255* to get an idea of the broadcast traffic.

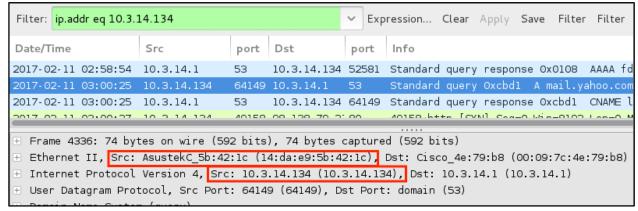
What about 10.3.14.1 and 10.3.14.2? 10.3.14.1 is a gateway for the 10.3.14.0/24 address block. This is the IP address network traffic for that block routes through to get at the regular Internet. It's also where you see DNS requests go to. The 10.3.14.2 address shouldn't be in there (thought I had edited that out of the pcap), and you'll only find 4 packets of ICMP traffic associated with that IP address.

If you don't fully understand what was discussed in the previous two paragraphs, you might need a better understanding of IPv4 networking. It's something you can learn more about in almost any study guide for CompTIA's Network+ certification (which is how I originally learned about it). That's something I cannot properly convey in these exercises, because it's really a basic building block for understanding malicious network traffic.

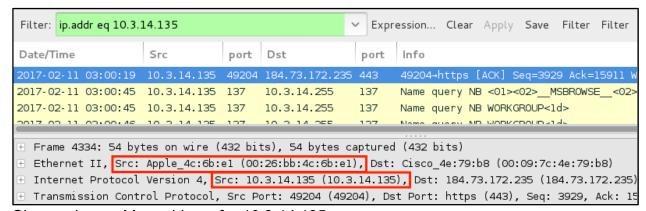
Meanwhile, finding the mac addresses for those three IP addresses is as easy as looking at the frame/packet details.



Shown above: Mac address for 10.3.14.131



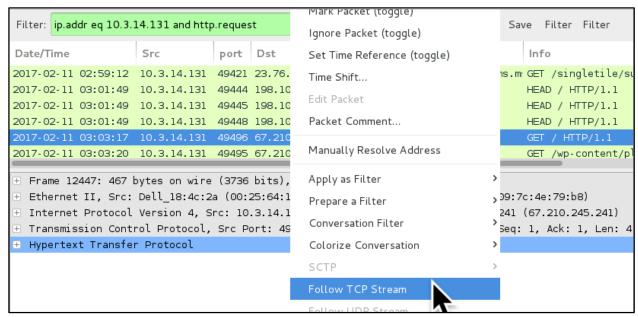
Shown above: Mac address for 10.3.14.134



Shown above: Mac address for 10.3.14.135

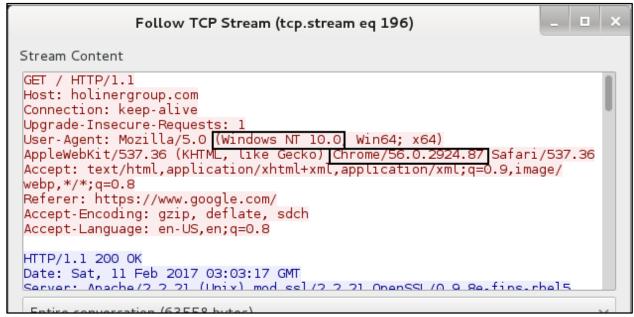
To figure out the operating system, you need to look at the headers for any HTTP traffic. First, try filtering on: *ip.addr eq 10.3.14.131 and http.request*

Then, right click on one of the HTTP GET requests and follow the TCP stream. For 10.3.14.131, you'll want to do an HTTP request for one of the URLs to holinergroup.com.



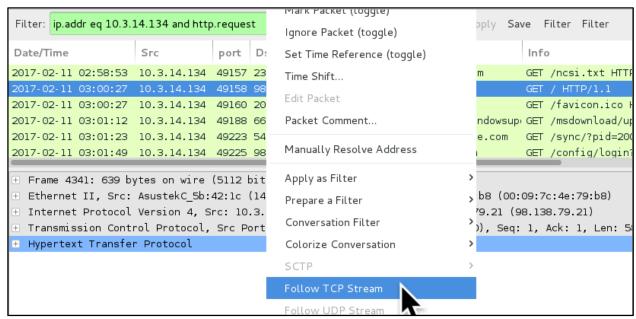
Shown above: Filter on HTTP requests for 10.3.14.131 and follow the TCP stream.

When following the TCP stream, you'll see the User-Agent string in the HTTP GET request headers. The User-Agent string indicates that computer (which we already know is a Dell desktop or laptop based on the mac address) is running Windows 10. It's also using Chrome as a web browser. The image below highlights the important parts of the User-Agent string showing it is Windows 10 on a Chrome web browser.



Shown above: HTTP requests using the Chrome browser on Windows 10.

Next, let's look at our second host, 10.3.14.134. For this one, you'll want to follow the TCP stream for the HTTP request to mail.yahoo.com.



Shown above: Filter on HTTP requests for 10.3.14.134 and follow the TCP stream.



Shown above: HTTP requests using the Internet Explorer 8 on Windows 7.

In the above User-Agent string, Windows NT 6.1 equates to Windows 7. The list breaks down as follows.

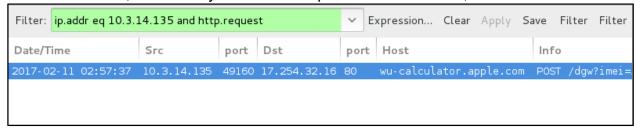
- Windows NT 10.0 = Windows 10
- Windows NT 6.3 = Windows 8.1

- Windows NT 6.2 = Windows 8
- Windows NT 6.1 = Windows 7
- Windows NT 6.0 = Windows Vista
- Windows NT 5.2 = Windows Server 2003 or Windows XP x64 Edition
- Windows NT 5.1 = Windows XP

For more information, see:

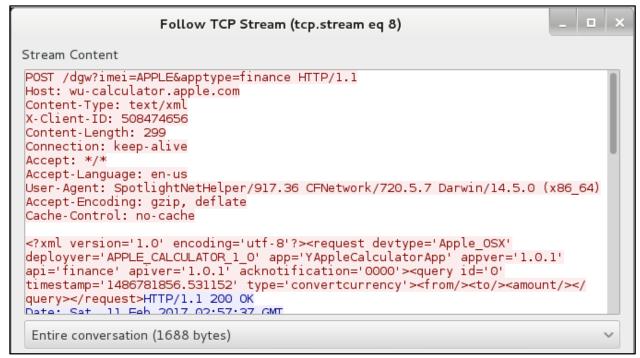
https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms537503(v=vs.85).aspx

For our final host, there's only one HTTP request for 10.3.14.135, as seen below:



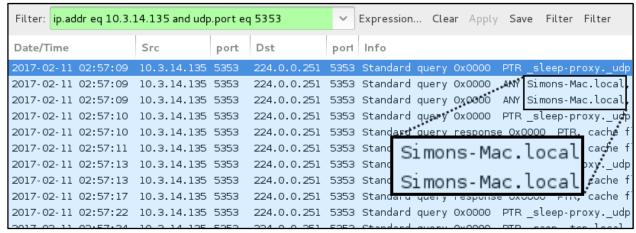
Shown above: Filter on HTTP requests for 10.3.14.135.

Based on the mac address, we already know this host is an Apple product. If you follow the TCP stream, you won't find any clear information that lets you know what type of Apple product it is.



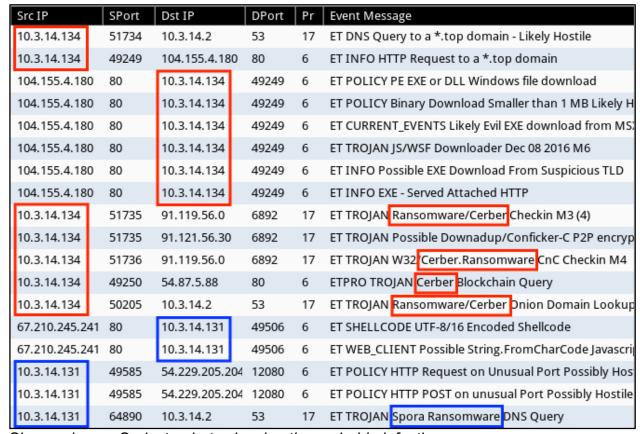
Shown above: Following the TCP stream for the single HTTP request by 10.3.14.135.

A bit of creative Wireshark filtering, and you'll find indicators the host is named "Simon's Mac" so this is likely a Mac-based product (Mac, Mac Mini, MacBook, MacBook Pro, etc).



Shown above: An indicator that 10.3.14.135 is some sort of Mac-based Apple product.

Finally, for the basic tasks, the alerts indicate 10.3.14.134 was infected (with Cerber ransomware), and 10.3.14.131 was infected (with Spora ransomware).



Shown above: Suricata alerts showing the probable infections.

MORE ADVANCED TASKS:

- Document the family (or families) of malware based on indicators from the pcap.
- Document the root cause for any infections noted in the pcap.

ANSWERS:

The first task above is easily answered from doing the basic tasks, based on the alerts we saw. Determining the root cause is a bit trickier.

For 10.3.14.131, if we filter on HTTP requests for that IP address, we first see HTTP traffic to *holinergroup.com* and end up with HTTP traffic to spora.biz.



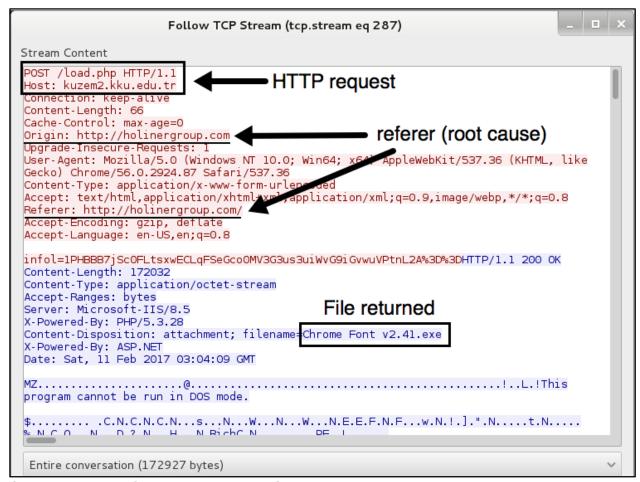
Shown above: First HTTP requests in the pcap from 10.3.14.131.



Shown above: Last HTTP requests in the pcap from 10.3.14.131.

That indicates the root cause was possibly *holinergroup.com*. A bit of searching through the pcap will show an HTTP POST request to *kuzem2.kku.edu.tr* that returned a file named *Chrome Font v2.41.exe*. Do a Google search on "holinergroup malware" and you'll find some blog entries on malware-traffic-analysis.net that describe what's happening here. The best one to read is probably this:

http://www.malware-traffic-analysis.net/2017/02/04/index.html



Shown above: TCP stream showing Spora ransomware being sent.

For 10.3.14.135, if we filter on HTTP requests for that IP address, we first see HTTP traffic to mail.yahoo.com, then we see HTTP requests associated with Cerber ransomware using the same IP address as found in the alerts.

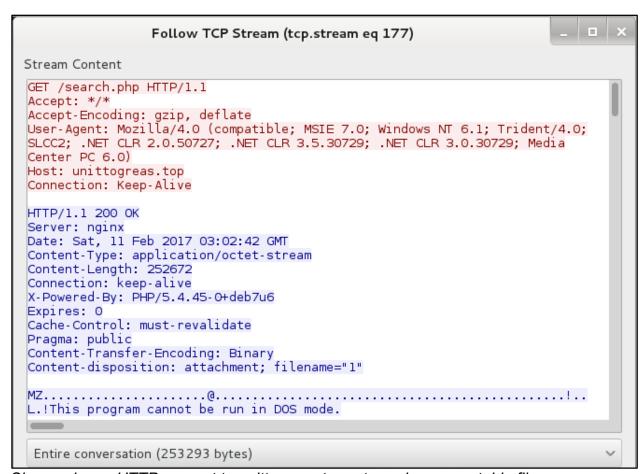
Filter: ip.addr eq 10.3.1	L4.134 and http.re	V Expression	Cle	ear Apply	Save	Filter	F	
Date/Time	Dst	рогі	Host	Info)			
2017-02-11 02:58:53	23.215.98.112	80	www.msftncsi.com	GET	/ncsi.txt	HTTP/	1.1	
2017-02-11 03:00:27	98.138.79.21	80	mail.yahoo.com	GET	/ HTTP/1.	1		
2017-02-11 03:00:27	204.79.197.200	80	www.bing.com	GET	/favicon.	ісо НТ	TP/1.1	
2017-02-11 03:01:12	66.61.164.127	80	www.download.windowsupdate	GET	/msdownlo	ad/upd	late/v3	/s
2017-02-11 03:01:23	54.153.44.108	80	mpp.vindicosuite.com	GET	/sync/?pi	d=2009	&pu=3W	J5
2017-02-11 03:01:49	98.138.79.21	80	login.yahoo.com	GET	/config/l	ogin?l	ogout=	16
2017-02-11 03:01:49	98.138.253.109	80	www.yahoo.com	GET	/ HTTP/1.	1		
2017 02 11 02:02:42	104 155 4 100	90	unittaanasa tan	СПТ	/aaanah n	ьь ілт	D/1 1	

Shown above: First HTTP requests in the pcap from 10.3.14.134.

Filter: ip.addr eq 10.3.	14.134 and http.re	quest	Expression	Clear	Apply	Save	Filter	F
Date/Time	Dst	роп	Host	Info				
2017-02-11 03.03.20	21/.12.200.1/	00	pz/dokiipzzii/iivgi . Iiiiii cq. cop					
2017-02-11 03:05:28	217.12.208.17	80	p27dokhpz2n7nvgr.1nmrtq.top	POST	/3402-	41D8-0	680-00	91
2017-02-11 03:05:29	217.12.208.17	80	p27dokhpz2n7nvgr.1nmrtq.top	GET	/3402-4	1D8-C6	80-009	1-
2017-02-11 03:05:34	217.12.208.17	80	p27dokhpz2n7nvgr.lnmrtq.top	GET	/media/	Vanill	aQR.mi	n.
2017-02-11 03:05:34	217.12.208.17	80	p27dokhpz2n7nvgr.lnmrtq.top	GET	/media/	images	/bitco	in
2017-02-11 03:07:49	217.12.208.17	80	p27dokhpz2n7nvgr.1nmrtq.top	GET	/3402-4	1D8-C6	80-009	1-

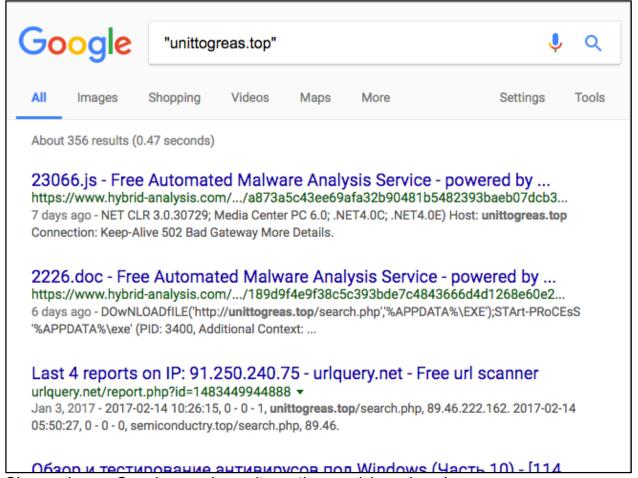
Shown above: Last HTTP requests in the pcap from 10.3.14.134.

Looking through these HTTP requests indicates that the root cause was possibly an email sent to the user's Yahoo email account. A bit of searching through the pcap will show an HTTP GET request to *unittogreas.top* that returned an executable file.



Shown above: HTTP request to unittogreas.top returned an executable file.

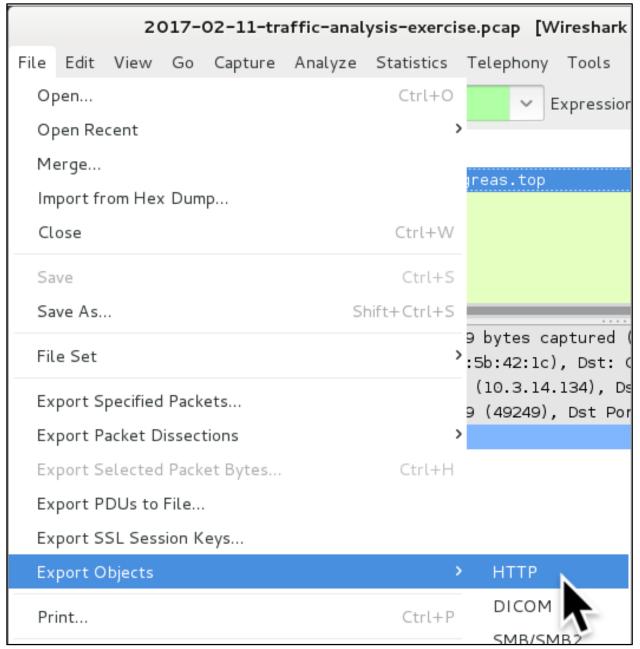
If you do a google search on that domain (make sure to put it in quotation marks when you do the search), you'll find it associated with a .js file and a .doc file. Reviewing the articles from those search results should confirm this domain is associated with Cerber ransomware.



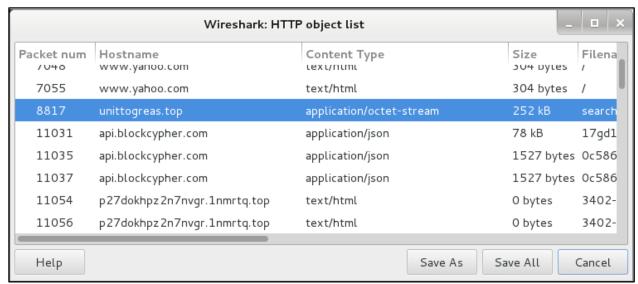
Shown above: Google search results on the suspicious domain.

If you're a regular reader of my malware-traffic-analysis.net blog, you'll find some blog posts this year titled "Ongoing malspam campaign spreading ransomware" that describes this type of ransomware infection.

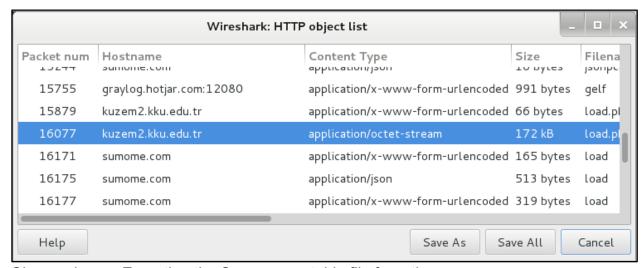
Furthermore, if you're curious, you can even extract the associated executable files for both the Spora and Cerber ransomware from the pcap. You can then submit them to VirusToral or test them in a controlled environment, assuming you have a controlled environment to run them in. However, be <u>very</u> careful if you actually extract the malware from this pcap, since those executable files will definitely infect a Windows host.



Shown above: Exporting HTTP objects from the pcap.



Shown above: Exporting the Cerber executable file from the pcap.



Shown above: Exporting the Spora executable file from the pcap.

FINAL TASK:

- Draft an incident report for the infected host(s).
- If more than one host is infected, draft a separate incident report for each host.

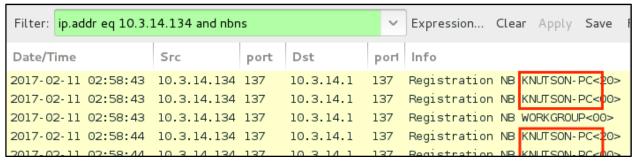
ANSWER:

On Saturday 2017-02-11 at approximately 03:02 UTC, a Windows host at 10.3.14.134 (host name: Knutson-PC) was infected with Cerber ransomware, probably from an email sent to the user's Yahoo email address and accessed through Yahoo's webmail. The user opened and executed an attachment from the malicious email that downloaded and ran the ransomware.

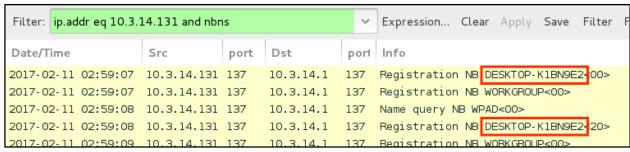
On Saturday 2017-02-11 at approximately 03:04 UTC, a Windows host at 10.3.14.131 (host name: DESKTOP-K1BN9E2) was infected with Spora ransomware after viewing compromised website holinergroup.com. The user was browsing with the Chrome browser and saw a fake pop-up that presented the ransomware as a Chrome font update. The user then downloaded the program and installed the ransomware.

NOTES:

Host names for the Windows computers can be found by filtering on nbns traffic for each of the IP addresses.



Shown above: Finding the host name for 10.3.14.134.



Shown above: Finding the host name for 10.3.14.131.