

1. Lab Title & Source

Webstrike - Cyberdefenders

2. Objective

Analyze the PCAP file to determine the origins and determine the extent of the malicious activity.

3. Tools & Technologies Used

List all tools (include versions if possible).

- **Packet Analysis:** Wireshark 4.2
 - **IP Finder:** <https://ipgeolocation.io>
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4. Scenario Summary

Briefly describe the environment or the incident scenario.

Example:

A simulated corporate network experienced unusual outbound traffic to suspicious domains. PCAP logs were captured for analysis to determine if malware was present and what data may have been exfiltrated.

5. Methodology / Steps Taken

1. Loaded and filtered PCAP in Wireshark.
2. Mapped attacker's IP to geographic origin.
3. Extracted User-Agent from HTTP metadata.
4. Tracked upload of malicious web shell (`image.jpg.php`).
5. Located upload directory on server.

6. Identified reverse shell port (8080).
 7. Captured exfiltration attempt via `curl` posting `/etc/passwd`.
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6. Findings & IOCs

- **Attacker IP:** Originated from Tianjin, China.
 - **User-Agent:** Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:109.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/117.0 (used in malicious requests).
 - **Malicious File:** Web shell uploaded as `image.jpg.php`.
 - **Upload Directory:** `/reviews/uploads/`.
 - **Reverse Shell Port:** TCP port 8080 used for attacker communication.
 - **Targeted File for Exfiltration:** `/etc/passwd` accessed via `curl` POST request.
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 - **Tactics & Techniques:**
 - **T1190 – Exploit Public-Facing Application** (uploading malicious PHP shell through a vulnerable web form).
 - **T1059.003 – Command and Scripting Interpreter: Windows Command Shell** (executing commands via the uploaded shell).
 - **T1505.003 – Server Software Component: Web Shell** (maintaining access via the PHP shell).
 - **T1071.001 – Application Layer Protocol: Web Protocols** (reverse shell traffic over HTTP port 8080).
 - **T1041 – Exfiltration Over C2 Channel** (sending `/etc/passwd` over established connection).
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7. Skills Demonstrated

- **PCAP Analysis & Network Forensics** – Used Wireshark to filter traffic, follow streams, and identify malicious activity.
- **Indicator of Compromise (IOC) Extraction** – Pulled attacker IPs, malicious file names, ports, and User-Agent strings from network data.
- **Threat Actor Profiling** – Correlated IP with geolocation to help profile the attacker's origin.
- **Web Attack Detection** – Identified malicious PHP web shell upload via HTTP POST requests.
- **Command & Control (C2) Analysis** – Determined reverse shell traffic patterns and communication port (8080).
- **Exfiltration Detection** – Traced data theft activity (`/etc/passwd`) from attacker commands.
- **MITRE ATT&CK Mapping** – Mapped observed attacker behavior to relevant TTPs for structured reporting.
- **Incident Reporting** – Organized findings into a clear investigative sequence for escalation.