

## Research Article

# Detection Suspicious Activities on Network Package Traffic

Nunu Kustian, Anggit Ilham Tantowi, Herlinda, Dudi Parulian, Erlin Windia Ambarsari

Informatics Department, Universitas Indraprasta PGRI, Jakarta, Indonesia

**Abstract.**

One problem of computer network security was that unauthorized people had access to websites on the internet—the way to interject malicious programs that aim to send viruses and even commit data theft. Therefore, it was critical to understand the types of attacks in the different forms of crime that can not only harm organizational infrastructure but also affect financially. Detection of criminal activities was carried out with the help of Wireshark Software to view data packets, which indicated criminal programs carried out by intruders secretly on the official website. The capture packets on the running network had suspicious packets as evidence that led to malware infections. Therefore, both the owner and website users needed security protection by planning strategies to overcome criminal activities that infect websites.

**Keywords:** malicious programs, malware, network package traffic, Wireshark

Corresponding Author: Nunu Kustian; email: kustiannunu@gmail.com

Published 26 May 2023

Publishing services provided by Knowledge E

© Nunu Kustian et al. This article is distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use and redistribution provided that the original author and source are credited.

Selection and Peer-review under the responsibility of the ICASI Conference Committee.

## 1. Introduction

Technology has become a necessity daily for working, studying, and other activities that require an internet network. Therefore, the security of browsing sites needs monitoring [1]. Nevertheless, not all people pay attention to surfing sites that have a vulnerability. It makes an unauthorized persons benefit. The exposure of information made computer network users are required to be more alert of various threats that exist on the internet. One of them is the threat of malware (malicious software). The harm's impact varies, including data theft, data destruction, and even data deletion. Therefore, network traffic paves the way for malware to infiltrate and infect packets on websites [2]. Many packet loads, such as usernames, passwords, site addresses, user IPs, program support files, and others, are carried in network traffic. The reason is to discover and examine what packets are received and transmitted by a machine. The Wireshark program observes

 OPEN ACCESS

the activity of arriving and outgoing network packets on the computer, which captures all packet activity on network traffic. It is possible to scan malware.

As internet users must carefully browse a website, irresponsible persons' disclosure of sensitive information is a concern. When a website requests personal data, we must first verify its legitimacy. In malware-infected websites, it serves as a pointer to files that packets might deliver to computer users. As a result, to avoid malware crimes, we must seek to examine abnormalities on web pages.

## 2. Methods

When the malware installs itself in a system, it is preferable to perform a more thorough network traffic analysis, followed by network forensics to reconstruct the malware crime. Investigation with reconstructing network traffic occurrences shows that users had previously accessed malware [3], known as network forensics. We utilize a Wireshark application in this study, and the approach for gathering logs from network traffic is as follows.

### 2.1. Wireshark

Wireshark is a network troubleshooting program capable of recording, scanning, and capturing every log of data packets that run directly on the internet network and originate from various protocols and then show the findings in real-time. We may install Wireshark on various operating systems, including Windows, Mac OS, and LINUX [4]. Wireshark performs the following tasks:

- a. Packet Capture: Wireshark can listen to network connections in real-time and capture all packet data traffic-flow activities.
- b. Filtering: Filter function for selecting the data we wish to see.
- c. Visualization: Conversations in the network flow can visualize and insert directly into the middle of the running data packet network.

### 2.2. Malicious Programs

Irresponsible people create malicious programs to commit crimes that usually infiltrate websites and target website users.

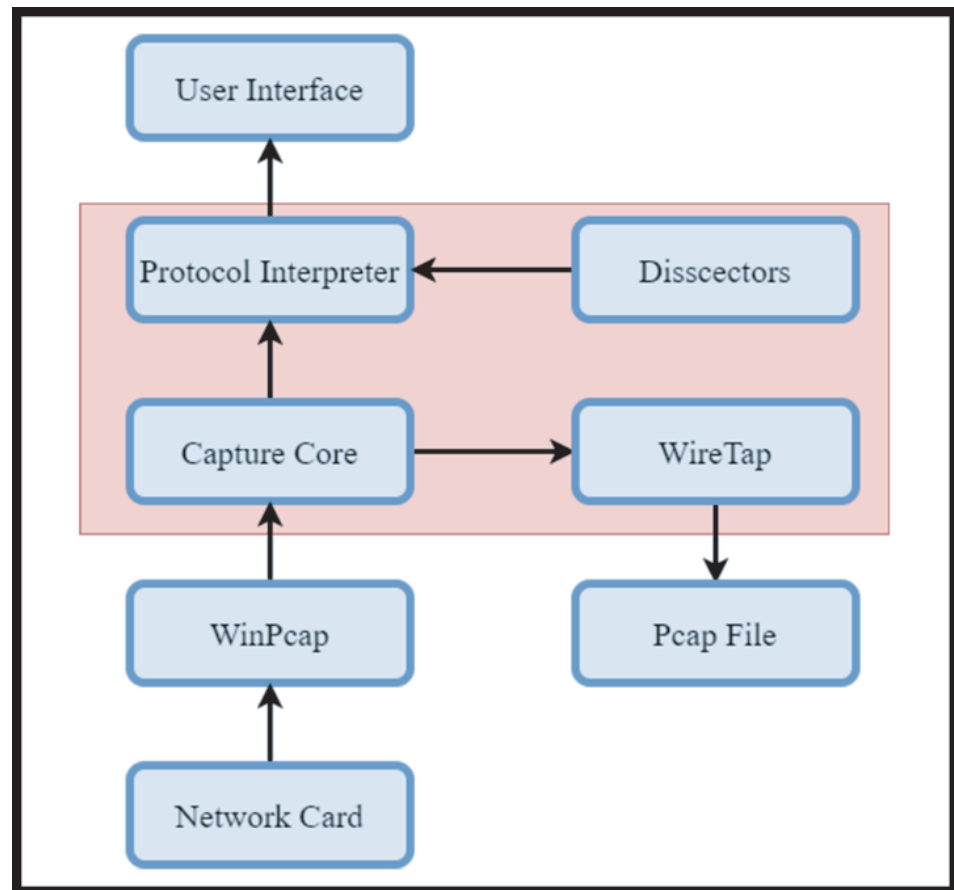


Figure 1: Wireshark Architecture[5].

### 2.3. Malicious Software

Malware is an application known as a malicious program designed to damage devices by accessing computers via the internet and stealing essential assets that are confidential [6], causing financial and life losses. Likewise, based [7], attackers create malicious software programs to spread infections security systems in the network that attackers can easily access and steal important information in achieving their malicious goals. Cyber attackers take many actions, which as sending junk mail and phishing.

### 2.4. Network Package Traffic

The vast amount of data available on the internet has a significant impact on both personal and business interests. When dealing with potentially hazardous data, network traffic analysis is critical. The volume of data that flows across a computer network at

any given moment is known as network traffic. It is converted into a data packet and transmitted before being reassembles by a cross-receiving device or computer [8].

## 2.5. Literature Review

The study of [9] performs protocol penetration testing on webmail [www.http://stmail.nptu.ed.tw](http://stmail.nptu.ed.tw), which used the Wireshark tool to capture the information in the webmail. Furthermore, it compared the data with the use of HTTP and HTTPS on the website tested. The result of the study is that the HTTPS protocol is more secure than HTTP. Data integrity, server authentication, and data confidentiality had more guaranteed in data transmission. The destination server interacts with each other and the data sent is transmitted with encryption techniques. It is imperative to maintain information when using usernames and passwords and even the data sent consistently to perform the encoding.

[10] research website with the link [www.abpweddings.com](http://www.abpweddings.com) using the Wireshark tool in testing to penetrate whether the website is safe or not. It discovered the system's vulnerability by analyzing data packets recorded through filters in the Wireshark tool with the packet sniffing method, namely filtering data packets against traffic, especially HTTP POST protocol activities. The results of this study prove that the analyzed web is not safe to visit. Therefore, it failed or experienced damage in the web system.

## 3. Result and Discussion

The foundational is observing the source and destination IPS connected with the protocol used and the information given. We analyze the results of the traffic report data packets captured using the Wireshark application, which displays several devices connected to several networks that we can monitor. We choose the WIFI network to use and capture the network device monitored. Therefore, It indicated that there was malware in the traffic, we searched for the report, and the results were as follows:

The first thing we have to do when receiving a capture in Figure 2 is to understand what kind of used protocol is in the traffic capture. For example, when we use the statistics menu, then obtain summarized information in Figure 3.

The windows display in Figure 3 shows a summary of protocol activity. For example, we observe IP version 6 and IP version 4, which traffic is 98%. The exciting part, i.e.,

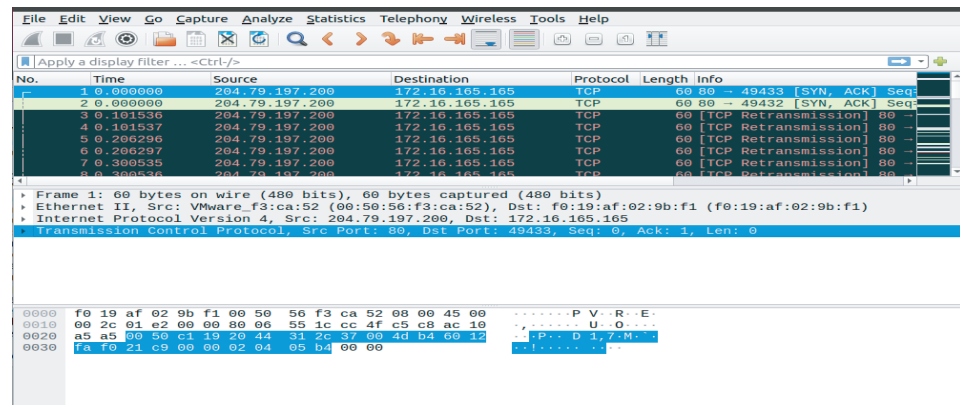


Figure 2: Window Traffic in Wireshark.

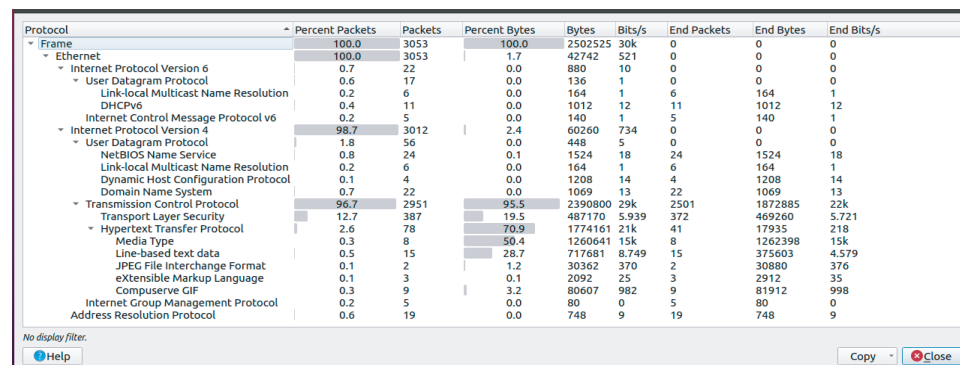


Figure 3: Protocol Hierarchy Statistics.

when we monitor TCP and UDP traffic, we know everything is going on. UDP can usually be used to acquire machine-related information such as DHCP and DNS requests. We observe the application-level traffic according to the graph. HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) activity shows that related to the web traffic. We took Dotnet malware traffic detection via packet capture, where all users were downloading malware. Therefore, we found it in HyperText Transfer Protocol. In the standard view, we can monitor all the protocols (Figure 2). However, since we detect HD traffic, we use “filter” by typing filter in the window in Figure 2. If the windows in Figure 3 are closed, the HTTP traffic and all the traffic associated with it are filtered and use a request method called HTTP point request so that the HTTP request filter shows the gateway for posting requests made from source to destination. The HTTP filter is as follows:

We can monitor all the protocol literature information with expands *Hypertext Transfer Protocol*. We were using the HTTP section, and when we image it, we can monitor it, which contain the actual hostname.

Figure 5.

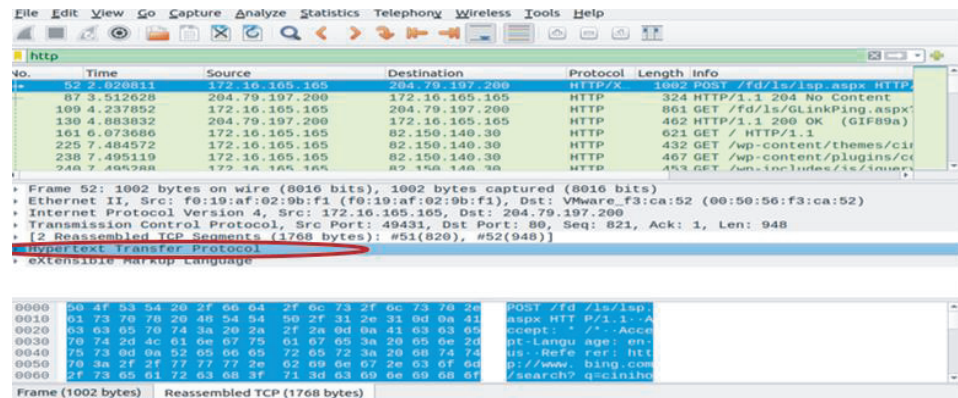


Figure 4: HTTP Filter.

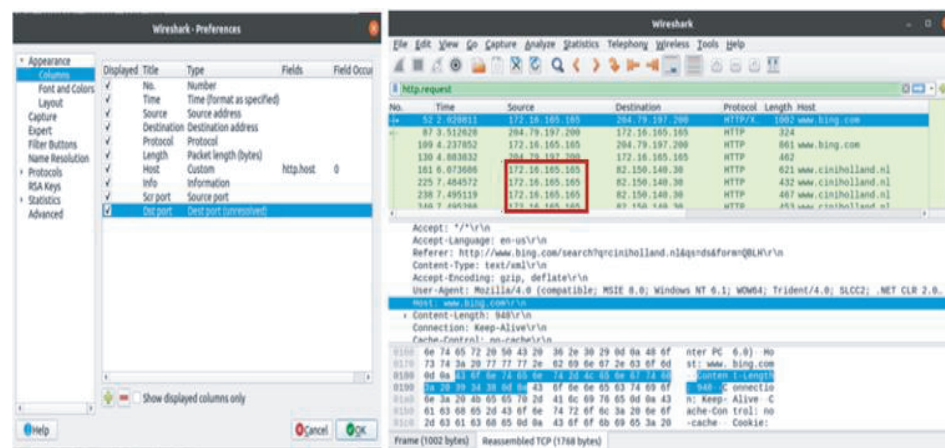


Figure 5: Wireshark Preference.

In Figure 5, The detected that the Window Virtual Machine got infected. The infecting IP address is 172.16.165.165, and based on Figure 6, the hostname of the Windows VM that got infected is K34EN6W3N-PC. We discovered through the NBNS or DHCP traffic and filtering with `udp.port.eq.67`.

Based on Figure 7, the MAC address of the infected is `f0:19:af:02:9b:f1`, and the IP address of the compromised website is `82.150.140.30`.

Figure 8 detected the IP address, and the domain name of the compromised website is `82.150.140.30`, `www.ciniholland.nl`. The IP address and domain name that shipped the Exploit Kit and malware is `37.200.69.143`, and the domain name that shipped the Exploit Kit and malware is `stand.trustandprobaterealty.com`

Based on Figure 9, the iframe code obtained from the malware source with the address `http://stand.trustandprobaterealty.com/PHPSESSID=njrMNruDMhvJFIPGKuXDSKVbMOC` and the redirect URL that points to the Exploit Kit (EK) landing page is `http://24-corp-shop.com/`. Search the URL that leads to the Exploit Kit (EK) page by typing the keyword

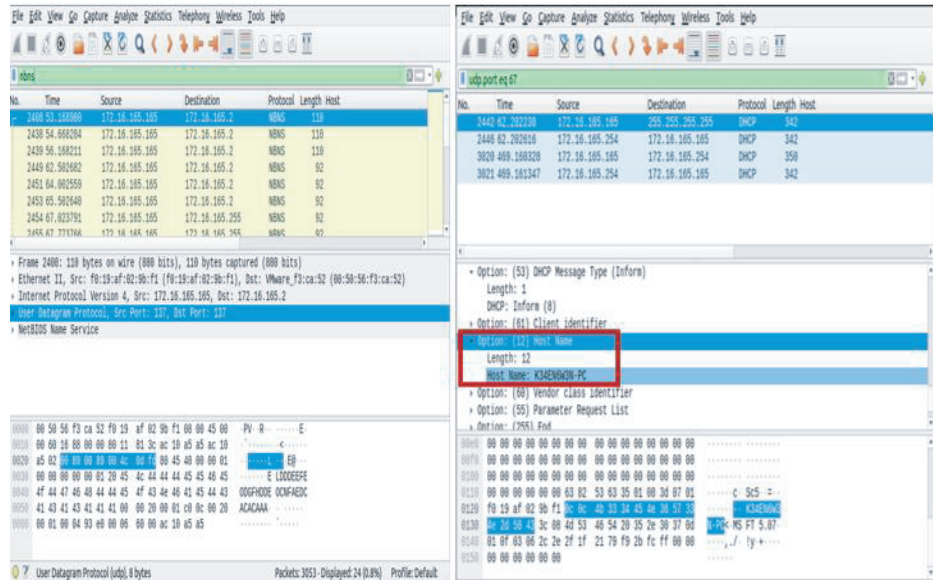


Figure 6: Infected VM Windows Detection Display.

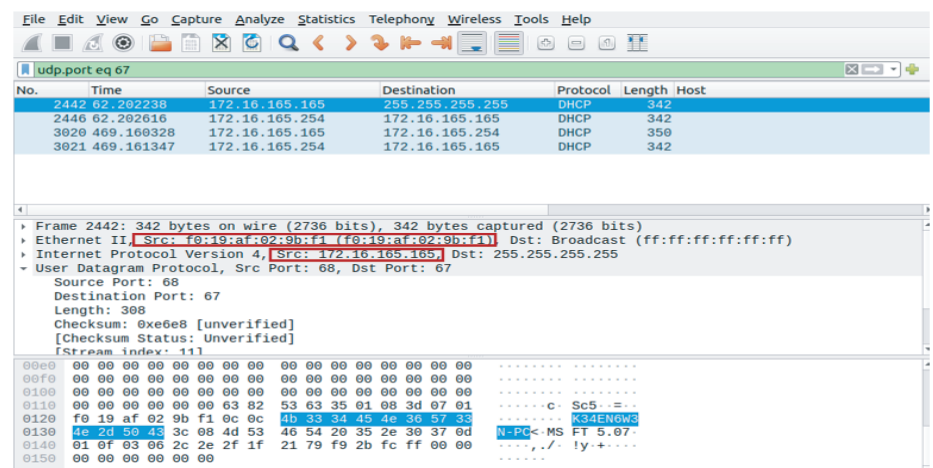


Figure 7: Display MAC Address and IP Address.

tcp.stream eq 18, then the HTTP protocol with the description 200 OK and the extension HTML. An exploit kit is a malicious program packaged in the form of encryption to carry out attacks and cause malware where the attack quickly infects the end user's system so that there are gaps in the weakness of the computer and avoid detection from the software security side. Exploit Kits designed by cybercriminals are usually easily obtained on black markets with many variations of Exploit Kits, one of which is Exploit Blackhole [11].

Figure 10 had indications of several suspected malware files; besides the landing page containing the IE Exploit CVE-2013-2551, the other types of exploits posted by EK, i.e., a Java Exploit and Flash Exploit, which detected by exporting objects. It indicated

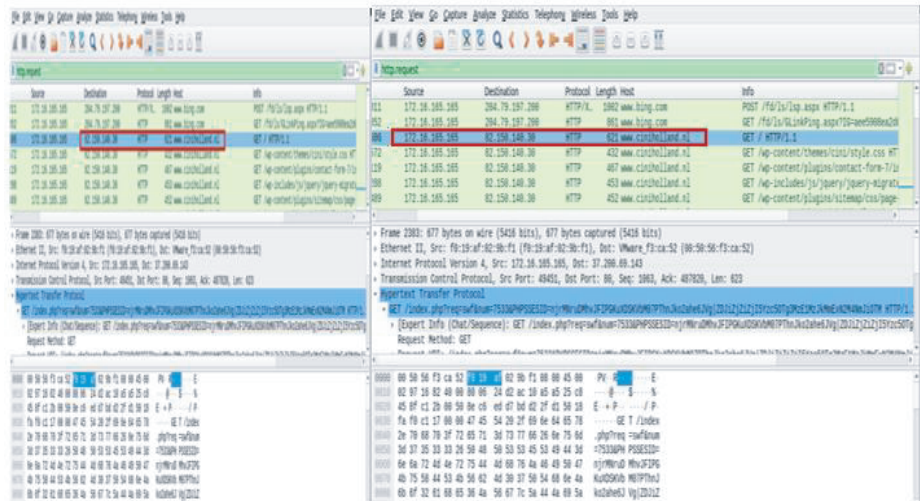


Figure 8: Display Domain Name and IP Address.

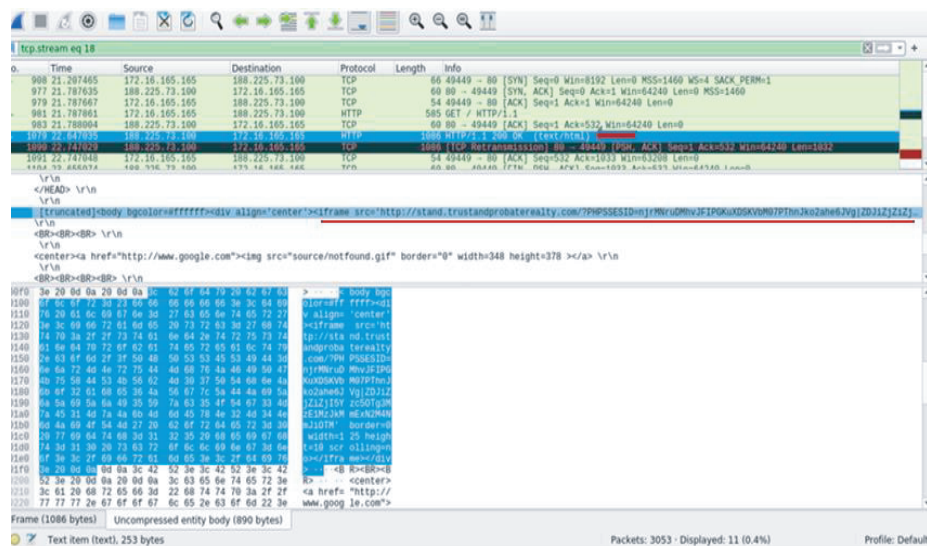


Figure 9: Display Preview Pane.

that the exploit payload was sent 3 times (payload is encrypted although created as x-msdownload). Figure 11 discovers how often the load was sent by typing the keyword HTTP containing “Content-Length: 401811”.

In Figure 12, observe the name of the Exploit Kit, and it displayed with the Snort warning by sending a pcap to VirusTotal (<https://virustotal.com>). VirusTotal is a free online service antivirus engine for analyzing URLs and files from worms, trojans, viruses, and various malicious programs.

<https://www.virustotal.com/gui/file/0e3fac547536f773bf1a21180a2294a10be97e956f091d24>  
detection

*ET CURRENT\_EVENTS Goon/Infinity URI Struct EK Landing May 05 2014*



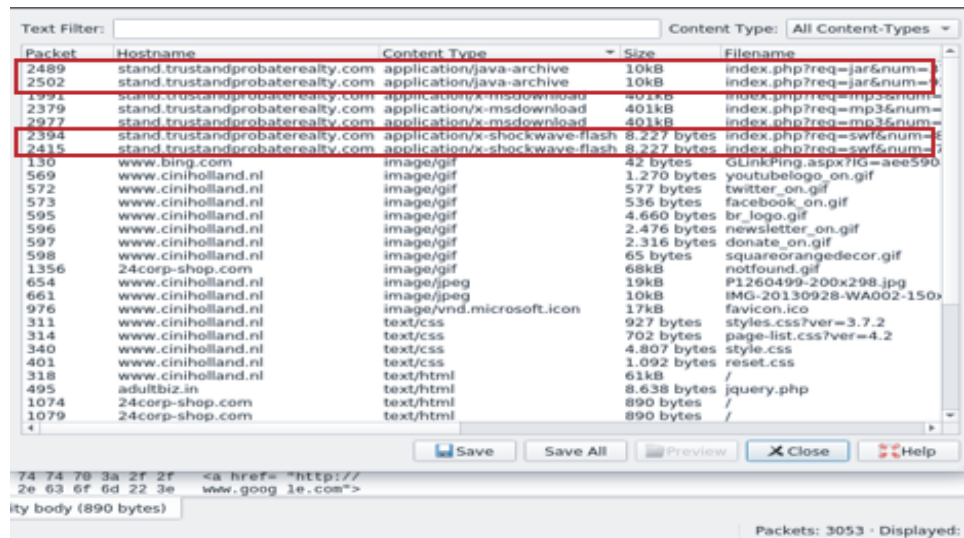


Figure 10: Display Capture Other Exploit(s).

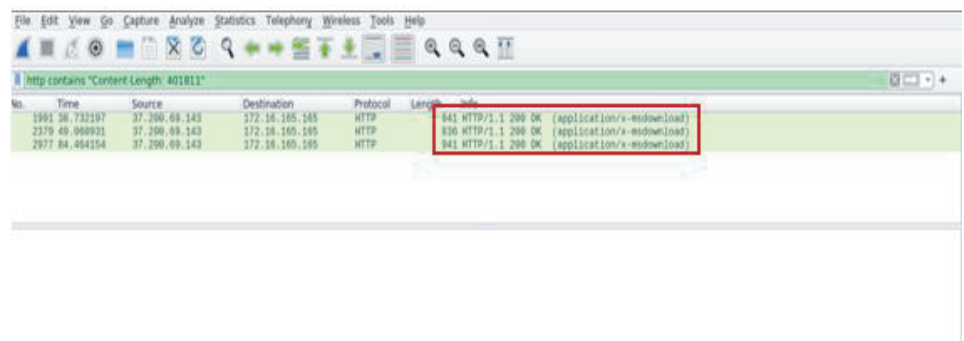


Figure 11: Payload Sent.

ET CURRENT\_EVENTS RIG EK Landing URI Struct

ET CURRENT\_EVENTS GoonEK encrypted binary (3)



Figure 12: Wireshark Software Report Result File Name.

The analysis results using VirusTotal that the copied pcap file was infected and dangerous because the infected contained HTML: Script-inf as suspect and Trojan.JS.Iframe and Trojan.Script Viruses. The use of Wireshark can be one of the analytical steps and to anticipate by looking at the packet load sent by the website and received by the user's computer. Knowing what is going through network traffic using Wireshark can be used to reference whether the website is safe from malware or not.

## 4. Conclusions

There are some circumstances that Wireshark is not an Intrusion Detection System (IDS). Wireshark cannot open encrypted data on network traffic and can not tell whether the IP used by the packet sender on the network traffic is genuine or not. We must know how network traffic operates and protocols to avoid irresponsible because human knowledge is better than many powerful tools. Likewise, owners so that irresponsible parties do not infiltrate them, it is better to carry out routine maintenance on the website and use anti-malware on the server so that when malware is detected entering the server, it is removed immediately by the anti-malware program.

## Acknowledgments

## References

- [1] Furnell S, Collins E. Cyber security: What are we talking about? *Comput Fraud Secur.* 2021;2021(7):6–11.
- [2] Sikos LF. Packet analysis for network forensics: A comprehensive survey. *Forensic Sci Int Digit Investig.* 2020;32:200892.
- [3] Avasthi D. "Network forensic analysis with efficient preservation for SYN attack." *Int J Comput Appl.* 2012;46(24):17–22. [Online]. Available: <http://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&btnG=Search&q=intitle:Network+Forensic+Analysis+with+Efficient+Preservation+for+SYN+Attack#0>
- [4] "Wireshark." <https://www.wireshark.org/>
- [5] Vancea CM, Dobrota V, Wireshark AP. "SNMP Agent for WLAN networks." no. 216041, 1998.

- [6] Sibi Chakkaravarthy S, Sangeetha D, Vaidehi V. A survey on malware analysis and mitigation techniques. *Comput Sci Rev.* 2019;32:1–23.
- [7] Babu NM, Murali G. “Malware detection for multi cloud servers using intermediate monitoring server.” *Int Conf Energy Commun Data Anal Soft Comput (ICECDS).* 2017;3609–3612. 2018.
- [8] Goli YD, Ambika R. “Network traffic classification techniques-A review.” *Proc Int Conf Comput Tech Electron Mech Syst (CTEMS)* 2018;219–222.
- [9] Navabud P. “Analyzing thewebmail using Wireshark.” pp. 1237–1239.
- [10] Sandhya S, Purkayastha S, Joshua E, Deep A. “Assessment of website security by penetration testing using Wireshark.” *2017 4th Int Conf Adv Comput Commun Syst (ICACCS)* 2017;4–7. <https://doi.org/10.1109/ICACCS.2017.8014711>.
- [11] Malecki F. Defending your business from exploit kits. *Comput Fraud Secur.* 2013;2013(6):19–20.