

Such a weird processor messing with opcodes (...and a little bit of PE)

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28th October 2011



[@ange4771](#)
[@corkami](#) (news only)
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(if you read this without the presentation)

- introduce Corkami.com, a RCE site
- why correct disassembly is important for analysis,
 - why undocumented opcodes are a dead end
- a few examples of undocumented opcodes and CPU weirdness
- theory-only sucks, so I created CoST for practicing and testing.
- CoST also tests PE, but it's not enough by itself
- So I documented PE separately, and give some examples.

[version: release 1]

presented by...

- a reverse-engineering enthusiast
 - ...since dos 3.21
 - Corkami.com
 - Mame (the arcade emulator)
- a malware analyst

Corka-what ?

- RCE project, only technical stuff
- free to:
 - browse, download
 - test, modify, compile
- updated
- useful daily
- but.... only a hobby !

what is in Corkami ?

- wiki pages, cheat sheets
- many PoCs
 - hand-written (not generated), minimalists
 - binaries available
- on PDF, x86, PE...
- 100% open
 - BSD, CC BY
 - sources, images, docs

Story

0.CPU are electronic, thus perfect

1.tricked by a malware

2.back to the basics

3.documented on Corkami

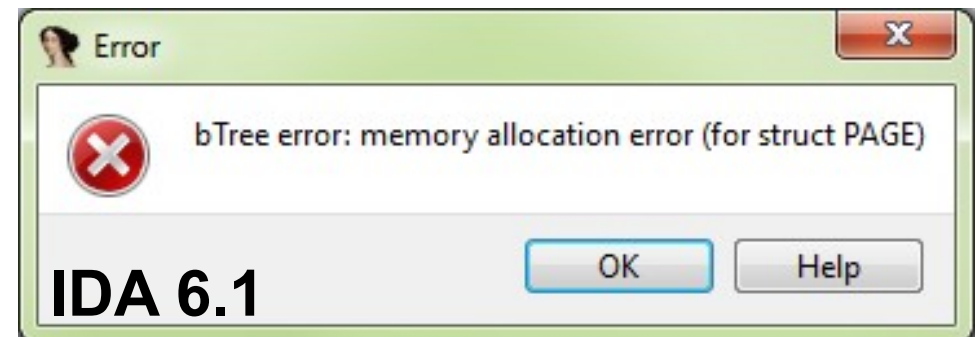
4.this presentation

“Achievement unlocked”



```
C:\Users\Ange\CoST.exe
.7EFD0000: 4D      dec     ebp
.7EFD0001: 5A      pop     edx
.7EFD0002: CE      into
the_dragon: #UD
.7EFD0006: E91501  jmp     3_Enter
```

Hiew 8.15



```
*** ERROR: module load completed but symbols cc
image7efd0000:
7efd0000 4d      dec     ebp
7efd0001 5a      pop     edx
7efd0002 ce      into
7efd0003 0f      ???
7efd0004 1838    sbb     byte ptr [eax]
7efd0006 e9db010000 jmp     image7efd0000+
7efd000b 0d436f5354 or      eax, 54536F43h
```

WinDbg 6.12.0002.633

(Authors notified, and most bugs already fixed)

Agenda

I. why does it matter ?

(an easy introduction, for everybody)

II. a bunch of tricks

(technical stuff starts now, for technical people)

III. CoST

IV. a bit more of PE

AWESOME ! LEET !



2011
EDITION

X86 ASSEMBLY

FOR

NEWBIES

**IMPRESS GIRLS
WITH LOW-
LEVEL STUFF
THAT NO ONE
UNDERSTANDS...**

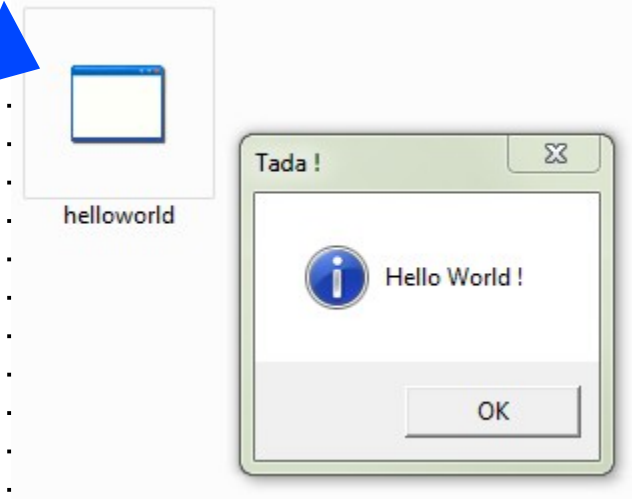
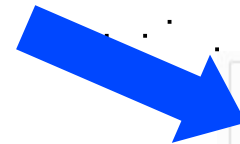
**CHANGED MY LIFE
FOR EVER !**



from C to binary

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"

int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR lpCmdLine,
                      int nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
    ExitProcess(0);
}
```



inside the binary

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"
```

```
int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR    lpCmdLine,
                      int       nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
00121000 6A 40                push     40h
00121002 68 F4 20 12 00      push     offset string "Tada !" (1220F4h)
00121007 68 FC 20 12 00      push     offset string "Hello World !" (1220FCh)
0012100C 6A 00                push     0
0012100E FF 15 AC 20 12 00    call     dword ptr [__imp__MessageBoxA@16 (1220ACh)]
    ExitProcess(0);
00121014 6A 00                push     0
00121016 FF 15 00 20 12 00    call     dword ptr [__imp__ExitProcess@4 (122000h)]
```

our code, 'translated'

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"
```

```
int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR    lpCmdLine,
                      int       nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
00121000 6A 40                push     40h
00121002 68 F4 20 12 00      push     offset string:"Tada !" (1220F4h)
00121007 68 FC 20 12 00      push     offset string:"Hello World !" (1220FCh)
0012100C 6A 00                push     0
0012100E FF 15 AC 20 12 00  call     dword ptr [__imp_MessageBoxA@16 (1220ACh)]
    ExitProcess(0);
00121014 6A 00                push     0
00121016 FF 15 00 20 12 00  call     dword ptr [__imp_ExitProcess@4 (122000h)]
}
```

opcodes <=> assembly

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"
```

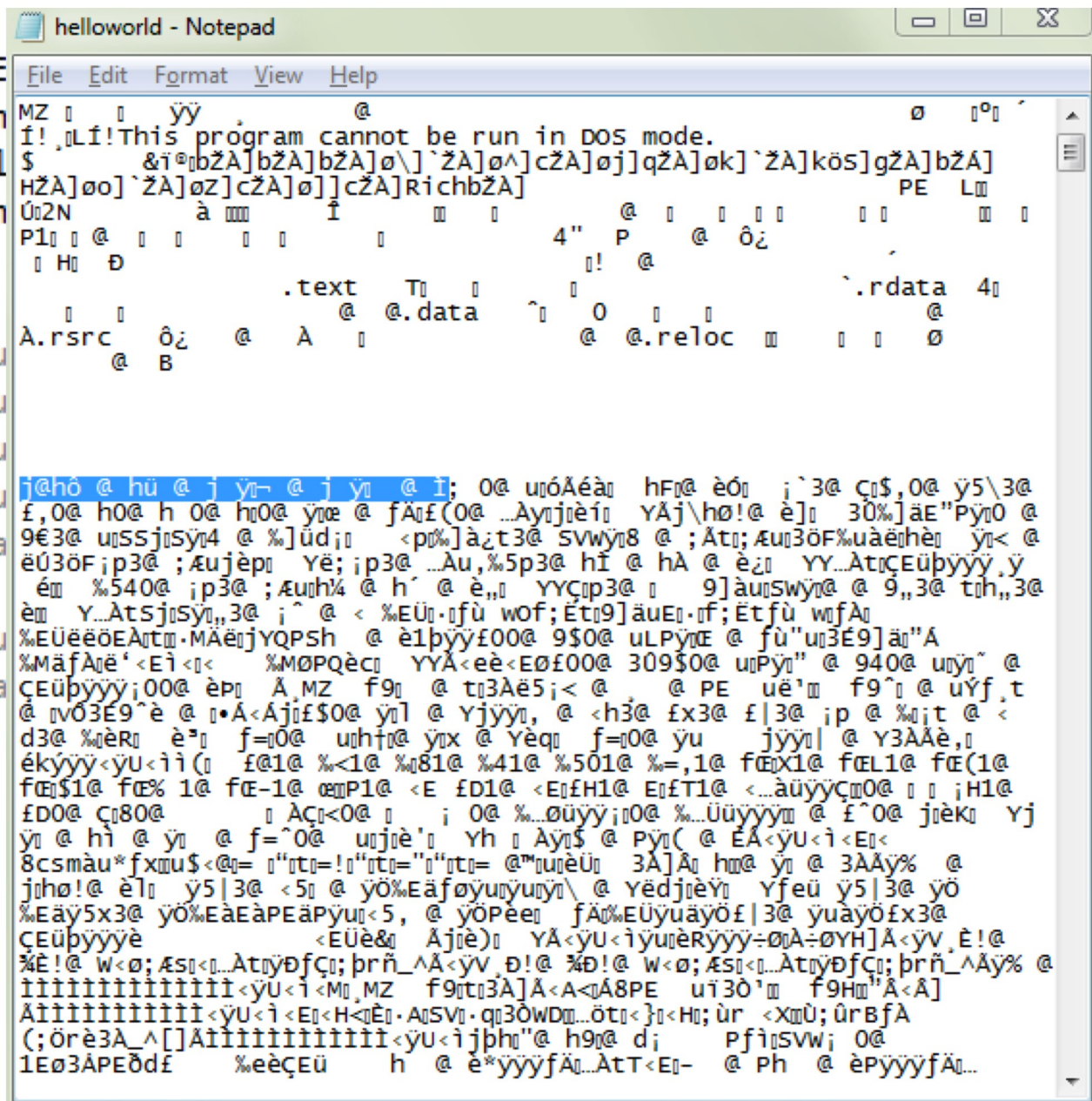
```
int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR lpCmdLine,
                      int nCmdShow)
```

```
{
```

```
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
```

00121000	6A 40	push	40h
00121002	68 F4 20 12 00	push	offset string "Tada !" (1220F4h)
00121007	68 FC 20 12 00	push	offset string "Hello World !" (1220FCh)
0012100C	6A 00	push	0
0012100E	FF 15 AC 20 12 00	call	dword ptr [__imp__MessageBoxA@16 (1220ACh)]
ExitProcess(0);			
00121014	6A 00	push	0
00121016	FF 15 00 20 12 00	call	dword ptr [__imp__ExitProcess@4 (122000h)]

```
int APIENTRY _twinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance, HINSTANCE hPrevInstance, LPTSTR lpCmdLine, int nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World", "Hello World", MB_OK);
    ExitProcess(0);
}
```



Assembly

- generated by the compiler
- executed directly by the CPU
- the only code information in a standard binary
 - what 'we' (analysts, hackers...) read
- disassembly is only for humans
 - no text code in the final binary



let's mess a bit now...

let's insert 'something'

```
{  
  __asm {__emit 0xd6}  
  MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);  
  ExitProcess(0);  
}
```



__asm {__emit 0xd6}			
00051000	??	db	d6h
MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);			
00051001	6A 40	push	40h
00051003	68 F4 20 05 00	push	offset string "Tada !" (500520F4h)
00051008	68 FC 20 05 00	push	offset string "Hello Worl" (500520FCh)
0005100D	6A 00	push	0
0005100F	FF 15 AC 20 05 00	call	dword ptr [__imp__MessageB

Table A-2. One-byte Opcode Map: (00H – F7H) *

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	ADD Eb, Gb Ev, Gv Gb, Eb Gv, Ev AL, Ib rAX, Iz						PUSH ES ⁱ⁶⁴	POP ES ⁱ⁶⁴
1	ADC Eb, Gb Ev, Gv Gb, Eb Gv, Ev AL, Ib rAX, Iz						PUSH SS ⁱ⁶⁴	POP SS ⁱ⁶⁴
2	AND Eb, Gb Ev, Gv Gb, Eb Gv, Ev AL, Ib rAX, Iz						SEG=ES (Prefix)	DAA ⁱ⁶⁴
3	XOR Eb, Gb Ev, Gv Gb, Eb Gv, Ev AL, Ib rAX, Iz						SEG=SS (Prefix)	AAA ⁱ⁶⁴
4	INC ⁱ⁶⁴ general register / REX ^{o64} Prefixes eAX REX eCX REX.B eDX REX.X eBX REX.XB eSP REX.R eBP REX.RB eSI REX.RX eDI REX.RXB							
5	PUSH ^{d64} general register rAX/r8 rCX/r9 rDX/r10 rBX/r11 rSP/r12 rBP/r13 rSI/r14 rDI/r15							
6	PUSHA ⁱ⁶⁴ / PUSHAD ⁱ⁶⁴	POPA ⁱ⁶⁴ / POPAD ⁱ⁶⁴	BOUND ⁱ⁶⁴ Gv, Ma	ARPL ⁱ⁶⁴ Ew, Gw MOVSD ^{o64} Gv, Ev	SEG=FS (Prefix)	SEG=GS (Prefix)	Operand Size (Prefix)	Address Size (Prefix)
7	Jcc ^{r64} , Jb - Short-displacement jump on condition O NO B/NAE/C NB/AE/NC Z/E NZ/NE BE/NA NBE/A							
8	Immediate Grp 1 ^{1A} Eb, Ib Ev, Iz Eb, Ib ⁱ⁶⁴ Ev, Ib				TEST Eb, Gb Ev, Gv		XCHG Eb, Gb Ev, Gv	
9	NOP PAUSE(F3) XCHG r8, rAX	XCHG word, double-word or quad-word register with rAX rCX/r9 rDX/r10 rBX/r11 rSP/r12 rBP/r13 rSI/r14 rDI/r15						
A	MOV AL, Ob rAX, Ov Ob, AL Ov, rAX				MOVS/B Xb, Yb	MOVS/W/D/Q Xv, Yv	CMPS/B Xb, Yb	CMPS/W/D Xv, Yv
B	MOV immediate byte into byte register AL/R8L, Ib CL/R9L, Ib DL/R10L, Ib BL/R11L, Ib AH/R12L, Ib CH/R13L, Ib DH/R14L, Ib BH/R15L, Ib							
C	Shift Grp 2 ^{1A} Eb, Ib Ev, Ib		RETN ^{r64} lw	RETN ^{r64}	LES ⁱ⁶⁴ Gz, Mp	LDS ⁱ⁶⁴ Gz, Mp	Grp 11 ^{1A} - MOV Eb, Ib Ev, Iz	
D	Shift Grp 2 ^{1A} Eb, 1 Ev, 1 Eb, CL Ev, CL				AAM ⁱ⁶⁴ lb	AAD ⁱ⁶⁴ lb	XLAT/ XLATB	
E	LOOPNE ^{r64} / LOOPNZ ^{r64} Jb	LOOPE ^{r64} / LOOPZ ^{r64} Jb	LOOP ^{r64} Jb	Jrcxz ^{r64} / Jb	IN AL, Ib eAX, Ib		OUT lb, AL lb, eAX	
F	LOCK (Prefix)		REPNE (Prefix)	REP/REPE (Prefix)	HLT	CMC	Unary Grp 3 ^{1A} Eb Ev	

What did we do?

- Inserting an unrecognized byte
 - directly in the binary
 - not even documented nor identified !!

it could only crash...

the CPU doesn't care

```
__asm {__emit 0xd6}  
MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);  
ExitProcess(0);
```



what happened ?

- $D6 = S[ET]ALC$
 - Set AL on Carry
 - $AL = CF ? -1 : 0$
- trivial, but not documented
 - unreliable or shameful ?

Intel: 'do what I do...'

Intel's XED

MS' WinDbg

F1	int1	??
D6	salc	??
F7C890909090	test eax, 0x90909090	??
0F1E84C090909090	nop dword ptr [eax+eax*8-0x6f6f6f70], eax	??
0F2090	mov eax, cr2	??
660FC8	bswap ax	bswap eax

the problem

- the CPU does its stuff
- if we/our tools don't know what's next, we're blind.
- no exhaustive or clean test set
 - deep into malwares or packers
 - scattered

let's start the real stuff...

a multi-generation CPU: standard...

English

let's go!

you win

sandwich

hello

f*ck

Assembly

push

mov

call

retn

jmp

...old-style...

thou

aaa

porpentine

xlat

enmity

verr

hither

smsw

unkennel

lsl

CE	INTO
6202	BOUND EAX,QWORD PTR DS:[EDX]
0F00E1	VERR CX
0F02C1	LAR EAX,ECX
0F00CA	STR DX
37	AAA
0F03C1	LSL EAX,ECX
0FAEF8	SFENCE
63C1	ARPL CX,AX
D40A	AAM
0FC9	BSWAP ECX
F0:0FC70E	LOCK CMPXCHG8B QWORD PTR DS:[ESI]
C51E	LDS EBX,FWORD PTR DS:[ESI]
D7	XLAT BYTE PTR DS:[EBX+AL]
27	DAA
0FC1C1	XADD ECX,EAX
0F0D00	PREFETCH QWORD PTR DS:[EAX]
00	ADD

...newest generation

tweet

crc32

poke

aesenc

google

pcmpistrm

pwn

vfmsubadd132ps

apps

rcpss

and *MOVBE*, the rejected offspring

registers

- Initial values (Windows)
 - `eax = <your OS generation>`
`version = (eax != 0) ? Vista_or_later : XP`
 - `gs = <number of bits>`
`bits = (gs == 0) ? 32 : 64`
- Complex relations
 - FPU changes FST, STx, Mmx (ST0 overlaps MM7)
 - changes CR0, under XP

smsw

- CR0 access, from user-mode
 - 286 opcode
- higher word of reg32 'undefined'
- under XP
 - influenced by FPU
 - eventually reverts

```
smsw      eax
cmp       ax, 03B ; ';'
jnz       bad  --↓1
fnop
smsw      eax
cmp       ax, 031 ; '1'
jnz       bad  --↓1
2 smsw    eax
cmp       ax, 031 ; '1'
jz        wait_loop --↑2
```

GS

- reset on thread switch (Windows 32b)
- eventually reset
 - debugger stepping
 - wait
 - timings

```
mov     ax, 3
mov     gs, eax
1mov     ax, gs
cmp     ax, 3
jz      gsloop  --↑1
```

nop

- *nop* is *xchg *ax, *ax*

- but *xchg *ax, *ax* can **do** something, in 64b !

87 c0: xchg eax, eax

.. **01 23 45 67 => 00 00 00 00 01 23 45 67**

- *hint nop* 0F1E84C090909090 *nop dword ptr [eax+eax*8-0x6f6f6f70], eax*
 - partially undocumented, actually 0f 18-1f
 - can trigger exception

mov

- documented, but sometimes tricky
 - *mov [cr0], eax* *mov cr0, eax*
 - mod/RM is ignored
 - *movsxd eax, ecx* *mov eax, ecx*
 - no REX prefix
 - *mov eax, cs* *movzx eax,cs*
 - 'undefined' upper word

bswap

rax

12 34 56 78 90 ab cd ef => ef cd ab 90 78 56 34 12

eax

.. 01 23 45 67 => 00 00 00 00 67 45 23 01

ax

.. 01 23 => 00 00

push+ret

```
.00401000:  push     next ; 'j@h4' --↓1
.00401005:  retn     ;  --^--^--^--^--^--^--^--^--^--
.00401007:  int      3
next:      1push     040 ; '@'
.0040100A:  push     000401034 ; 'Tada!' -
.0040100F:  push     00040103A ; 'Hello Wo
.00401014:  push     0
.00401016:  call     MessageBoxA --↓4
```

<ModuleE	\$	68 08	PUSH <ret.next>	
00401005	.	66:C3	RETN	RET used as a jump to next
00401007		CC	INT3	
<next>	>	6A 40	PUSH 40	
0040100A	.	68 34	PUSH ret.00401034	Style = MB_OK MB_ICONASTERISK MB_APPLMOD
0040100F	.	68 3A	PUSH ret.0040103A	Title = "Tada!"
00401014	.	6A 00	PUSH 0	Text = "Hello
00401016	.	E8 090	CALL ret.00401024	hOwner = NULL
0040101B	.	6A 00	PUSH 0	MessageBoxA
0040101D	.	E8 080	CALL ret.0040102A	ExitCode = 0
00401022		CC	INT3	ExitProcess
00401023		CC	INT3	
00401024	\$-	FF25 6	JMP DWORD PTR DS:[40	user32.Message
0040102A	.-	FF25 5	JMP DWORD PTR DS:[40	kernel32.ExitP
00401030		CC	INT3	
00401031		CC	INT3	
00401032		CC	INT3	
00401033		CC	INT3	
00401034	.	54 61	ASCII "Tada!",0	
0040103A	.	48 65	ASCII "Hello World!"	



...and so on...

- much more @ <http://x86.corkami.com>
 - also graphs, cheat sheet...
- too much theory for now...

Corkami Standard Iest

CoST

- <http://cost.corkami.com>
- testing opcodes
- in a hardened PE
 - available in easy mode

```
C>CoST.exe
CoST - Corkami Standard Test BETA 2011/09/xx
Ange Albertini, BSD Licence, 2009-2011 - http://corkami.com

Info: windows 7 found
Starting: jumps opcodes...
Starting: classic opcodes...
Starting: rare opcodes...
Starting: undocumented opcodes...
Starting: cpu-specific opcodes...
Info: CPUID GenuineIntel
Info[cpu]: MOVBE (Atom only) not supported
Starting: undocumented encodings...
Starting: os-dependant opcodes...
Starting: 'nop' opcodes...
Starting: opcode-based anti-debuggers...
Starting: opcode-based GetIPs...
Starting: opcode-based exception triggers...
Starting: 64 bits opcodes...
Starting: registers tests

...completed!
```

more than 150 tests

- classic, rare
- jumps (JMP to IP, IRET, ...)
- undocumented (IceBP, SetALc...)
- cpu-specific (MOVBE, POPCNT,...)
- os-dependant, anti-VM/debugs
- exceptions triggers, interrupts, OS bugs,...
- ...

```
mov     eax, 3
cmp     eax, 3
jz      .07EFD0593
```


a documented binary

exports + VEH = self commented assembly

```
CoST.exe          ↓FRO ----- a32 PE .7EFD0220 | Hiew 8.15
4_Main:          mov          d, [0CAFEBAE], 07EFD2CF7 ; 'Starting: jumps opco
.7EFD022A:        call         jumps --↓2
.7EFD022F:        nop
.7EFD0230:        mov          d, [0CAFEBAE], 07EFD2D14 ; 'Starting: classic op
.7EFD023A:        call         classics --↓4
```

a lot of DbgOutput

```
1 [trick] Adding TLS 2 in TLS callbacks list
2 [trick] the next call's operand is zeroed by the loader
3 CoST - Corkami Standard Test BETA 2011/09/XX
4 Ange Albertini, BSD Licence, 2009-2011 - http://corkami.com
5
6
7 [trick] TLS terminating by unhandled exception (EP is executed)
8 [trick] allocating buffer [0000ffff]
9 testing: NULL buffer
10 checking OS version
11 Info: Windows 7 found
12 [trick] calling Main via my own export
13 Starting: jumps opcodes...
14 Testing: RETN word
15
```



$$32+64 = \dots$$

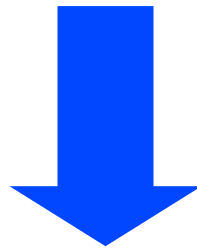
```

.7EFD2540:    mov     eax, 0F570D67C
.7EFD2545:    mov     ebx, 3
.7EFD254A:    push    cs
.7EFD254B:    push    end    --↓1
.7EFD2550:    push    033    ; '3'
.7EFD2552:    call    push_eip    --↓2
push_eip:    2arpl    ax, bx
.7EFD2559:    dec     eax
.7EFD255A:    add     eax, eax
.7EFD255C:    retf    ;    ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_
end:        1cmp     ebx, 0EAE1ACFC
.7EFD2563:    jz      next    --↓3
.7EFD2565:    call    bad     --↓4
next:       3cmp     eax, 0D5C359F8
.7EFD256F:    ;

```

same opcodes, different code

```
push_eip: 66D8 arpl          ax,bx  
.7EFD2559: 48      dec         eax  
.7EFD255A: 01C0    add         eax,eax  
.7EFD255C: CB      retf ; _^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_
```



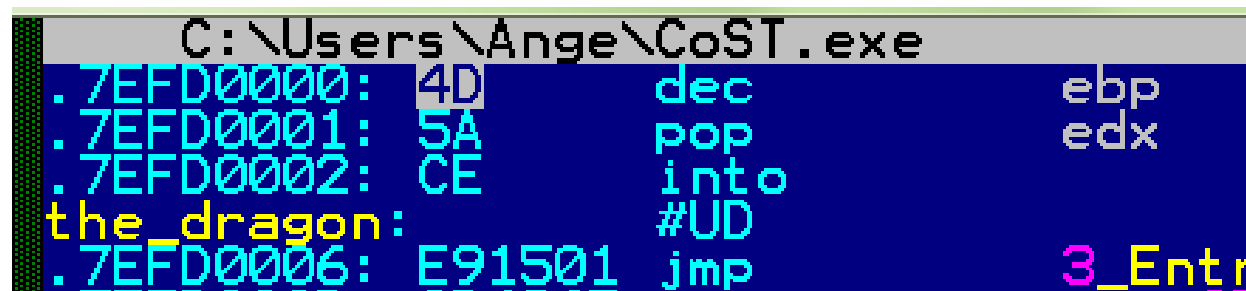
```
push_eip: 66D8 movsxd       rbx,eax  
.7EFD2559: 4801C0  add         rax,rax  
.7EFD255C: CB      retf ; _^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_
```

CoST vs WinDbg & Hiew

WinDbg 6.12.0002.633

```
*** ERROR: module load completed but symbols cc
image7efd0000:
7efd0000 4d          dec     ebp
7efd0001 5a          pop     edx
7efd0002 ce          into
7efd0003 0f          ???
7efd0004 1838       sbb     byte ptr [eax]
7efd0006 e9db010000 jmp     image7efd0000+
7efd000b 0d436f5354 or      eax,54536F43h
7efd0010 0001000000 ,
```

Hiew 8.15



```
C:\Users\Ange\CoST.exe
.7EFD0000: 4D          dec     ebp
.7EFD0001: 5A          pop     edx
.7EFD0002: CE          into
the_dragon: #UD
.7EFD0006: E91501     jmp     3_Enter
```

a hardened PE

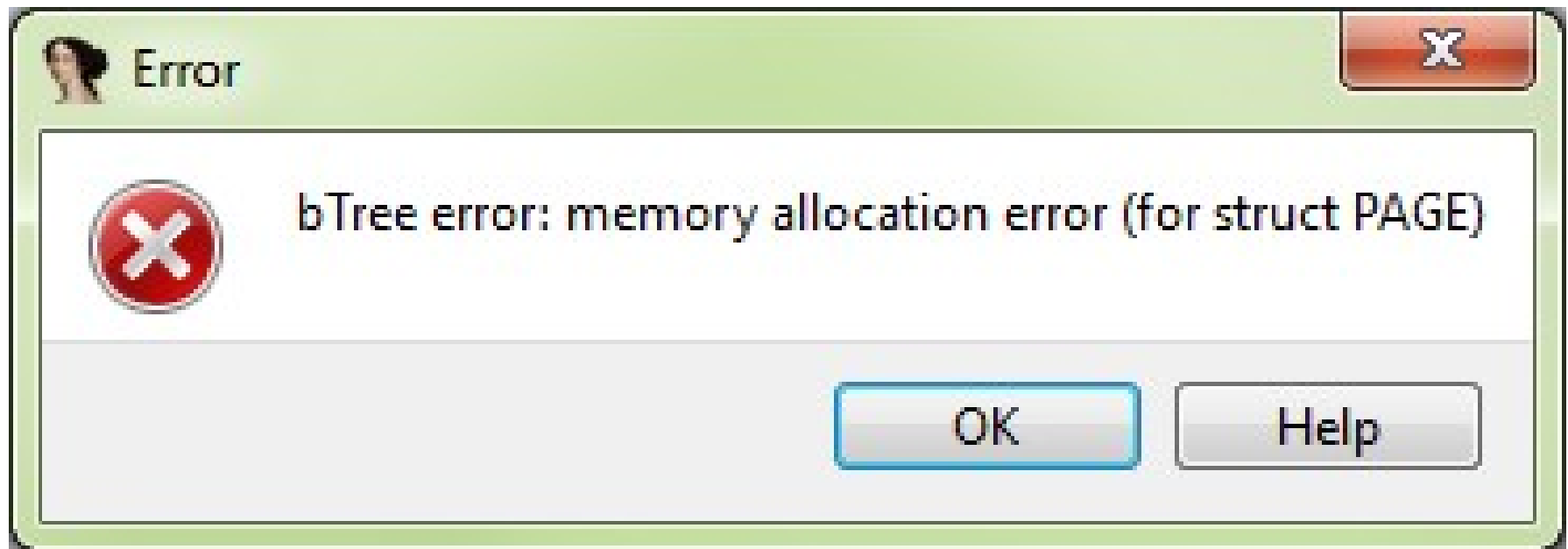
```
MZFF0†80 CoST
- Corkami Stand
ard Test BETA 20
11/09/XX DP
Ange Albertini,
BSD Licence, 20
09-2011 - http:/
/corkami.com → 'i
l$$ë•0L j YZ<≈T)
±Ij h- z~QW 5α
~SX' z~ aT♦ fha+ z
~QL t$♦Q T
♦ fff
jj SL' z~úα z~ fff
iT$†iéq fÜ8ffu
.Üx0ff•LUXÉi@PQ
ÿ P SP' z~ iT$†â
éq fff T♦ Éq
P T♦ Éh≡ z~j Q
z~b♥hff+ z~ SP' z~ff
```

Top

```
PE L0 6♣r2
ûu^•HüiQx08C
€m8ç+rûç f6±
†r-0N+Jf z~Q
Q B>Hf f6:♦ 7Q
jQ iQ mCff
♥ AP5Iff Q fff
Y hç→W&ü='≡<
xΩδJh' c*+U
91ffigT†δdJffüü
aJf' + L fff
â>Fë l+▲•Qir
θêRiQ 4ff S f
fOWR fff
ff QY=ôff f
ò%ffδyèW: fff 5ff
z~Qe» f %D' z~
%H' z~
```

PE 'footer'

CoST vs IDA



CoST vs Dumpbin

Microsoft (R) COFF/PE Dumper Version 10.00.30319.01
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Dump of file CoST.exe

File Type: EXECUTABLE IMAGE

LINK : fatal error LNK1248: image size (9B097F81)
exceeds maximum allowable size (80000000)

a bit more of PE...

PE on corkami

- some graphs
- a wiki page
 - <http://pe.corkami.com>
 - not “finished”
 - more than 100 PoCs
 - good enough to break <you name it>

virtual section table vs Hiew

VIRTSE~1.EXE ↓FR0 ----- 00000000 | Hiew 8.15 (c)SEN

00000000:	4D	5A	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	MZ
00000010:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
00000020:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
00000030:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-40	00	00	00	
00000040:	50	45	00	00-4C	01	52	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	PE
00000050:	00	00	00	00-58	02	02	01-0B	01	00	00-00	00	00	00	LOR
00000060:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-38	01	00	00-00	00	00	00	X
00000070:	00	00												8
00000080:	00	00												@
00000090:	00	00												◆
000000A0:	00	00												◆
000000B0:	00	00												♥
000000C0:	90	01												
000000D0:	00	00												
000000E0:	00	00												
000000F0:	00	00												
00000100:	00	00												
00000110:	00	00												
00000120:	00	00												
00000130:	00	00												
00000140:	02	40												
00000150:	20	2A												
00000160:	20	50												
00000170:	61	6C												
00000180:	20	28												
00000190:	D0	01												
000001A0:	10	02	00	00-D8	01	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
000001B0:	3D	02	00	00-18	02	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
000001C0:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
000001D0:	F0	01	00	00-00	00	00	00-FE	01	00	00-00	00	00	00	
000001E0:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
000001F0:	00	00	45	78-69	74	50	72-6F	63	65	73-73	00	00	00	

Signature 5A4D

Bytes on last page 0000

Pages in file 0000

Relocations count 0000

Paragraphs in header 0000

Minimum memory 0000

Maximum memory 0000

SS:SP setting 0000:0000

Checksum 0000

CS:IP setting 0000:0000

Relocations table address 0000

Overlay number 0000

Overlay length 00000248

NewExe offset 00000040

Entry point 00000000

hP@@ s↑

ow alignment

with a virtu

ection table

ExitProcess

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Folded header

Name	RVA	Size
Export	88660001	10009988
Import	86600010	01000998
Resource	66000100	00100099
Exception	6000100F	F0010009
Security	000100FF	FF001000
Fixups	00100FF0	0FF00100
Debug	0100FF05	20FF0010
Description	100FF055	220FF001
MIPS GP	100FF055	220FF001
TLS	0100FF05	20FF0010
Load config	00100FF0	0FF00100
Bound Import	000100FF	FF001000
Import Table	6000100F	F0010009
Delay Import	66000100	00100099
COM Runtime	86600010	01000998
(reserved)	88660001	10009988

Weird export names

- exports = <anything non null>, 0

```
00401000: 6A01                                push
00401002: 58                                  pop
00401000: 8BFF                                → retn
00401000: 8BFF                                → int
00401000: 8BFF                                → push
*****                                → call
* Insert subliminal message here *    → add
*****                                → retn ;
00401000: 8BFF                                → int
00401018: 202A                                1and
```

65535 sections vs OllyDbg



one last...

- TLS AddressOfIndex is overwritten on loading
- Import are parsed until Name is 0
- under XP, overwritten after imports
 - imports are fully parsed
- under W7, before
 - truncated

same PE, loaded differently
under different Windows

conclusion

- x86 and PE are far from perfectly documented
- still some gray areas of PE or x86
 - but a bit less, every day

official documentations lead to FAILURE

1. visit Corkami.com
2. download the PoCs
3. fix the bugs ;)

Thanks

- Peter Ferrie
- Candid Wüest

Adam Błaszczyk, BeatriX, Bruce Dang, Cathal Mullaney, Czerno, Daniel Reynaud, Elias Bachaalany, Ero Carrera, Eugeny Suslikov, Georg Wicherski, Gil Dabah, Guillaume Delugré, Gunther, Igor Skochinsky, Ilfak Guilfanov, Ivanlef0u, Jean-Baptiste Bédune, Jim Leonard, Jon Larimer, Joshua J. Drake, Markus Hinderhofer, Mateusz Jurczyk, Matthieu Bonetti, Moritz Kroll, Oleh Yuschuk, Renaud Tabary, Rewolf, Sebastian Biallas, StalkR, Yoann Guillot,...

Questions ?

Such a weird processor messing with opcodes (...and a little bit of PE)

Ange Albertini
28th October 2011



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Such a weird processor messing with opcodes (...and a little bit of PE)



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Ange Albertini
28th October 2011



Welcome !

I will talk about opcodes weirdness,
and also a little bit of PE files...

(if you read this without the presentation)

HIDDEN SLIDE

- introduce Corkami.com, a RCE site
- why correct disassembly is important for analysis,
 - why undocumented opcodes are a dead end
- a few examples of undocumented opcodes and CPU weirdness
- theory-only sucks, so I created CoST for practicing and testing.
- CoST also tests PE, but it's not enough by itself
- So I documented PE separately, and give some examples.

[version: release 1]

this extra slide to let you decide if you really want to read further ;)

Short summary =

1. I studied ASM and PE, from scratch
2. I failed all tools I tried: IDA, OllyDbg, Hiew, pefile, WinDbg, HT, CFF Explorer...
3. here is how...

presented by...

- a reverse-engineering enthusiast
 - ...since dos 3.21
 - Corkami.com
 - Mame (the arcade emulator)
- a malware analyst

I've been a reverse-engineering enthusiast for some time.

I created a website called Corkami
in the past, I worked on decrypted arcade games, in
Mame, the arcade emulator.

and professionally, I'm a malware analyst.

Corka-what ?

- RCE project, only technical stuff
- free to:
 - browse, download
 - test, modify, compile
- updated
- useful daily

- but.... only a hobby !

I have a hobby research project, called Corkami.

only technical stuff

No ads, no login required, no annoying licenses,
binaries available to test and learn immediately

it's now a wiki, so it's constantly updated...

Some cheat sheets and graphs to use daily at work...

I'm trying to make it good, but, it's only a hobby, so it's
not as good as I'd like it to be, and that's why it
doesn't look very professional!

what is in Corkami ?

- wiki pages, cheat sheets
- many PoCs
 - hand-written (not generated), minimalists
 - binaries available
- on PDF, x86, PE...
- 100% open
 - BSD, CC BY
 - sources, images, docs

So what's there ?

some wiki pages, and some cheat sheets on particular topics, such as PDF, x86, PE.

I create by hand (with no external tool) minimalists proof of concepts to focus on specific points.

these PoCs are open-source, and compilable with free tools, under a permissive license

Story

0.CPU are electronic, thus perfect

1.tricked by a malware

2.back to the basics

3.documented on Corkami

4.this presentation

the motivation behind this presentation is:

long ago, I was young and innocent, and believed that since CPU are made of electronic component, they should be perfectly logic.

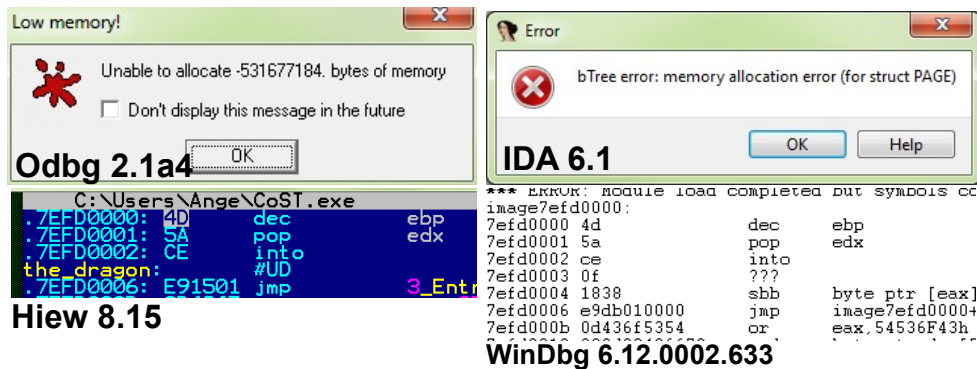
several years ago, I was tricked by a malware, using stuff undocumented at the time.

So I decided to go back to the basics, and study ASM and PE from scratch, and share my discoveries on the way, on Corkami.

and in the process, I failed all tools I tried in one way or another.

now, I'm presenting the result.

“Achievement unlocked”



(Authors notified, and most bugs already fixed)

but, if I was just a guy learning ASM, I probably wouldn't be presenting here at Hashdays.

So, here is why I'm here :)

Agenda

I. why does it matter ?

(an easy introduction, for everybody)

II. a bunch of tricks

(technical stuff starts now, for technical people)

III. CoST

IV. a bit more of PE

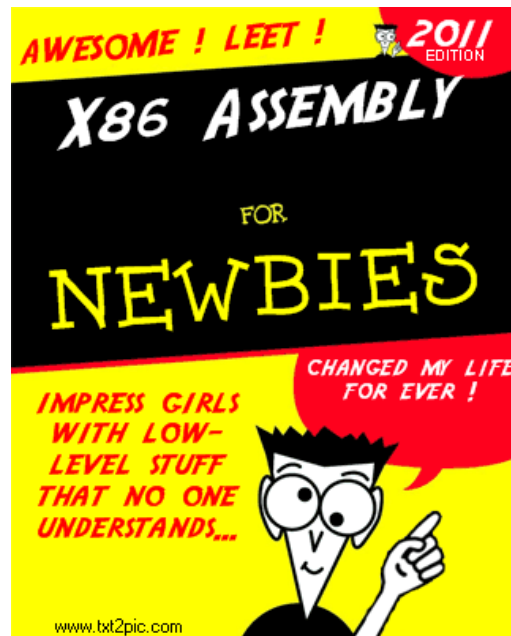
so, first, I'll start slowly, trying to introduce assembly to beginners, and make them understand the problem of undocumented opcodes.

then it will get more technical:

I'll cover a few assembly tricks, including some found in malware.

then I'll introduce my opcode tester, CoST.

and I'll also present my last project which deals with the PE format.



So, let's start and try to make everybody understand the problem of undocumented opcodes.

from C to binary

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"

int APIENTRY _twinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR lpCmdLine,
                      int nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
    ExitProcess(0);
}
```



so, we create a simple program in a language, such as C.

Here, in Visual Studio, Microsoft standard development environment.

this program shows a simple message box on screen, then terminates.

an executable is generated, and indeed does what we expected.

inside the binary

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"

int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR lpCmdLine,
                      int nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
    00121000 6A 40          push    40h
    00121002 68 F4 20 12 00  push    offset string "Tada !" (1220F4h)
    00121007 68 FC 20 12 00  push    offset string "Hello World !" (1220FCh)
    0012100C 6A 00          push    0
    0012100E FF 15 AC 20 12 00 call    dword ptr [__imp__MessageBoxA@16 (1220ACh)]
    ExitProcess(0);
    00121014 6A 00          push    0
    00121016 FF 15 00 20 12 00 call    dword ptr [__imp__ExitProcess@4 (122000h)]
}
```

what the Visual Studio compiler did from our C code is actually generate sequences of assembly code instruction that will generate the wanted actions.

our code, 'translated'

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"

int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR lpCmdLine,
                      int nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
00121000 6A 40          push    40h
00121002 68 F4 20 12 00  push    offset string:"Tada !" (1220F4h)
00121007 68 FC 20 12 00  push    offset string:"Hello World !" (1220FCh)
0012100C 6A 00          push    0
0012100E FF 15 AC 20 12 00 call    dword ptr [__imp__MessageBoxA@16 (1220ACh)]
    ExitProcess(0);
00121014 6A 00          push    0
00121016 FF 15 00 20 12 00 call    dword ptr [__imp__ExitProcess@4 (122000h)]
}
```

Here, you can see calls to MessageBox, then ExitProcess (the names are self-explaining), with the parameters above.

these assembly operations are stored in opcodes directly in the binary, as visible on the left.

opcodes <=> assembly

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "helloworld.h"

int APIENTRY _tWinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance,
                      HINSTANCE hPrevInstance,
                      LPTSTR lpCmdLine,
                      int nCmdShow)
{
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
00121000 6A 40          push     40h
00121002 68 F4 20 12 00 push     offset string "Tada !" (1220F4h)
00121007 68 FC 20 12 00 push     offset string "Hello World !" (1220FCh)
0012100C 6A 00          push     0
0012100E FF 15 AC 20 12 00 call     dword ptr [__imp__MessageBoxA@16 (1220ACh)]
    ExitProcess(0);
00121014 6A 00          push     0
00121016 FF 15 00 20 12 00 call     dword ptr [__imp__ExitProcess@4 (122000h)]
```

now you know that this is what is in the file itself.
this is how it's read by 'us' (reverse engineers,
malware analysts, exploit developers...).

the CPU itself only reads the hex.

as you can see, there is a relation:

68 - in hex - is used to push offsets

calls starts with FF 15...

and you can see the used addresses here (read them
backward).

so, you see the first byte determine the actual opcode.
and depending on each opcode, the length is variable.

```
#include "helloworld.h"
```

```
int APIENTRY _twinMain(HINSTANCE
```

```
h
```

```
h
```

```
h
```

```
h
```

```
{  
    MessageBox(0, "Hello World
```

```
00121000 6A 40
```

```
00121002 68 F4 20 12 00
```

```
00121007 68 FC 20 12 00
```

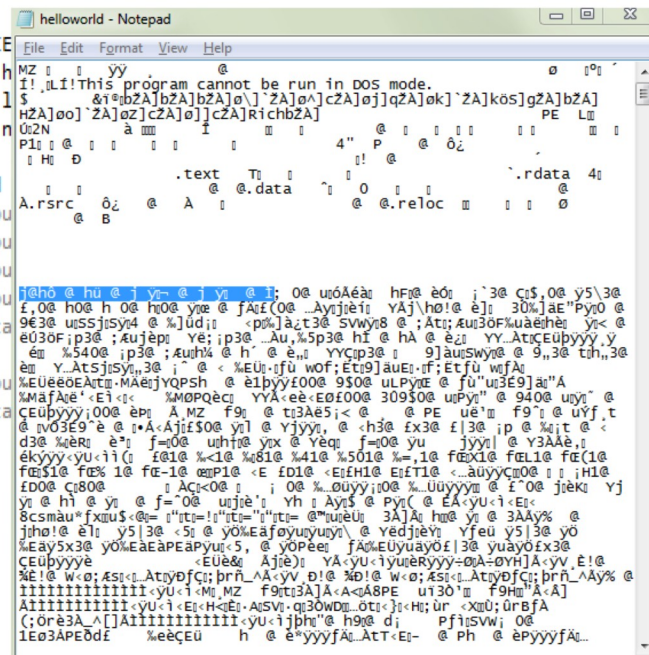
```
0012100C 6A 00
```

```
0012100E FF 15 AC 20 12 00
```

```
    ExitProcess(0);
```

```
00121014 6A 00
```

```
00121016 FF 15 00 20 12 00
```



This is what is actually in the file on the hard disk (the 'hex').

If you'd accidentally open the file in, say notepad - it doesn't really make sense, but at least you have that on your machine - you could find it here (remember, it's hex).

Note that it's actually a very tiny part of the whole file (<30bytes out of 56000).

Assembly

- generated by the compiler
- executed directly by the CPU
- the only code information in a standard binary
 - what 'we' (analysts, hackers...) read
- disassembly is only for humans
 - no text code in the final binary



so, the compiler translates our C to a series of assembly operations, which is itself encoded in opcodes.

the resulting executable only contains the opcodes, which are directly understood and executed by the CPU. If no error happens, what is here directly affects the behavior of the program, there is no 'man in the middle' from the OS.

so our C code will just eventually lead the CPU to read and execute

6A 40 68 F4 20 40 00 68 FC 20...


if, by any chance, there is some opcodes that we are not aware of, or doesn't do what we expect, the CPU doesn't care, it just knows what to do.

let's mess a bit now...

so now, let's interfere with the compiling process

let's insert 'something'

```
{
    __asm {__emit 0xd6}
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
    ExitProcess(0);
}
```



```
__asm {__emit 0xd6}
00051000 ??                db          d6h
    MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);
00051001 6A 40                push     40h
00051003 68 F4 20 05 00    push     offset string "Tada !" (!
00051008 68 FC 20 05 00    push     offset string "Hello Wor!
0005100D 6A 00                push     0
0005100F FF 15 AC 20 05 00    call     dword ptr [__imp_Message
```

let's add a command that will force a specific byte in the opcode.

this result is not known to visual studio, which only shows ??

Table A-2. One-byte Opcode Map: (00H – F7H) *

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
0	ADD							PUSH ES ⁶⁴
	Eb, Gb	Ev, Gv	Gb, Eb	Gv, Ev	AL, Ib	rAX, Iz		POP ES ⁶⁴
1	ADC							PUSH SS ⁶⁴
	Eb, Gb	Ev, Gv	Gb, Eb	Gv, Ev	AL, Ib	rAX, Iz		POP SS ⁶⁴
2	AND							SEG=ES (Prefix)
	Eb, Gb	Ev, Gv	Gb, Eb	Gv, Ev	AL, Ib	rAX, Iz		DAA ⁶⁴
3	XOR							SEG=SS (Prefix)
	Eb, Gb	Ev, Gv	Gb, Eb	Gv, Ev	AL, Ib	rAX, Iz		AAA ⁶⁴
4	INC ⁶⁴ general register / REX ⁶⁴ Prefixes							
	eAX REX	eCX REX.B	eDX REX.X	eBX REX.XB	eSP REX.R	eBP REX.RB	eSI REX.RX	eDI REX.RXB
5	PUSH ⁶⁴ general register							
	rAX/r8	rCX/r9	rDX/r10	rBX/r11	rSP/r12	rBP/r13	rSI/r14	rDI/r15
6	PUSHA ⁶⁴ / PUSHAD ⁶⁴	POPA ⁶⁴ / POPAD ⁶⁴	BOUND ⁶⁴ Gv, Ma	ARPL ⁶⁴ Ew, Gv MOVSI ⁶⁴ Gv, Ev	SEG=FS (Prefix)	SEG=GS (Prefix)	Operand Size (Prefix)	Address Size (Prefix)
7	Jcc ⁶⁴ Jb - Short-displacement jump on condition							
	O	NO	B/NAE/C	NB/AE/NC	Z/E	NZ/NE	BE/NA	NBE/A
8	Immediate Grp 1 ^{1A}			TEST			XCHG	
	Eb, Ib	Ev, Iz	Eb, Ib ⁶⁴	Ev, Ib	Eb, Gb	Ev, Gv	Eb, Gb	Ev, Gv
9	XCHG word, double-word or quad-word register with rAX							
	NOP PAUSE(F3) XCHG r8, rAX	rCX/r9	rDX/r10	rBX/r11	rSP/r12	rBP/r13	rSI/r14	rDI/r15
A	MOV							CMP ⁶⁴ /S ⁶⁴ /W ⁶⁴ /D ⁶⁴
	AL, Ob	rAX, Ov	Ob, AL	Ov, rAX	MOV ⁶⁴ /S ⁶⁴ /B ⁶⁴ Xb, Yb	MOV ⁶⁴ /S ⁶⁴ /W ⁶⁴ /D ⁶⁴ Xv, Yv	CMP ⁶⁴ /S ⁶⁴ /B ⁶⁴ Xb, Yb	CMP ⁶⁴ /S ⁶⁴ /W ⁶⁴ /D ⁶⁴ Xv, Yv
B	MOV immediate byte into byte register							
	AL/R8L, Ib	CL/R8L, Ib	DL/R10L, Ib	BL/R11L, Ib	AH/R12L, Ib	CH/R13L, Ib	DH/R14L, Ib	BH/R15L, Ib
C	Shift Grp 2 ^{1A}			Grp 11 ^{1A} - MOV				
	Eb, Ib	Ev, Ib	RET ⁶⁴ Iw	RET ⁶⁴	LES ⁶⁴ Gz, Mp	LDS ⁶⁴ Gz, Mp	Grp 11 ^{1A} - MOV	Ev, Iz
D	Shift Grp 2 ^{1A}			AAM ⁶⁴ Ib			AAD ⁶⁴ Ib	
	Eb, 1	Ev, 1	Eb, CL	Ev, CL				XLAT ⁶⁴ / XLATB
E	LOOPNE ⁶⁴ / LOOPNZ ⁶⁴ Jb	LOOPE ⁶⁴ / LOOPZ ⁶⁴ Jb	LOOP ⁶⁴ Jb	JCXZ ⁶⁴ Jb	IN	OUT		
				AL, Ib	eAX, Ib	Ib, AL	Ib, eAX	
F	LOCK (Prefix)		REPNE (Prefix)	REP/REPE (Prefix)	HLT	CMC	Unary Grp 3 ^{1A}	
							Eb	Ev

indeed, if we check Intel official documentation, there is nothing to see here...

What did we do?

- Inserting an unrecognized byte
 - directly in the binary
 - not even documented nor identified !!

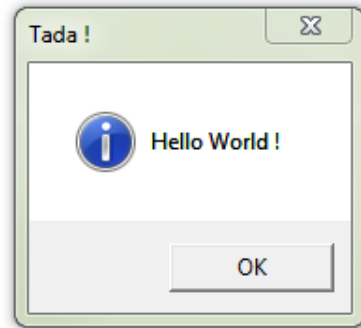
it could only crash...

so, we forced something that is not recognized by the most expensive Microsoft compiler to execute, which is not even in Intel's books.

We should only expect a crash, right ?

the CPU doesn't care

```
__asm {__emit 0xd6}  
MessageBoxA(0, "Hello World !", "Tada !", MB_ICONINFORMATION);  
ExitProcess(0);
```



but the CPU doesn't care about what YOU (or VS) know, and it just executes that mysterious D6 just fine (apparently)

it doesn't look like a big problem, but if like Microsoft, you base your judgment on Intel's documentation, you just don't know what happens next. No automated analysis, proactive detection, etc... and you need to understand that undocumented opcode.

You can't even skip it:

you don't know if it will jump, do nothing, trigger an exception... and because of variable instruction length, you can't even tell what would be the next instruction, so you can't guess easily backward from the next instruction.

what happened ?

- D6 = S[ET]ALC
 - Set AL on Carry
 - AL = CF ? -1 : 0
- trivial, but not documented
 - unreliable or shameful ?

so what did we do in reality ?

D6 will be decoded as SETALC, which is quite simple.

It doesn't interfere with the execution of this example (it could have, of course).

surprisingly, it's not documented by Intel, but it's documented by AMD.

anyone knows why ?
I'd be curious to know.

Intel: 'do what I do...'

	Intel's XED	MS' WinDbg
F1	int1	??
D6	salc	??
F7C890909090	test eax, 0x90909090	??
0F1E84C090909090	nop dword ptr [eax+eax*8-0x6f6f6f70], eax	??
0F2090	mov eax, cr2	??
660FC8	bswap ax	bswap eax

the funny thing is, even though Intel docs are full of holes, Intel free tools are fully aware of what to expect...

Sadly, Microsoft WinDbg decided to follow the official docs, which makes it a very bad tool against malware, which commonly use undocumented tricks.

the problem

- the CPU does its stuff
- if we/our tools don't know what's next, we're blind.
- no exhaustive or clean test set
 - deep into malwares or packers
 - scattered

So, you now know that the CPU knows things that the Intel documentations omits.

if we or our tools are not able to tell what the CPU will do, we're just blind.

let's start the real stuff...

Now, let's start the real stuff

but, before focusing on particular opcodes,
my first questions was:
what are actually all the supported opcodes ?

a multi-generation CPU: standard...

English	Assembly
let's go!	<i>push</i>
you win	<i>mov</i>
sandwich	<i>call</i>
hello	<i>retn</i>
f*ck	<i>jmp</i>

that's the problem.

like English language, assembly uses mainly always the same 'standard' opcodes.

which means, what everybody is used to hear or read:

Here, 'standard language'. What all generations understand.

most people would understand...

...old-style...

thou	<i>aaa</i>
porpentine	<i>xlat</i>
enmity	<i>verr</i>
hither	<i>smsw</i>
unkennel	<i>lsl</i>

but Intel CPU are from the 70's and still backward compatible...

here is an example of Shakespeare English and old x86 mnemonics

unknown to most people.
yet still fully working on a modern CPU.

CE	INTO
6202	BOUND EAX,QWORD PTR DS:[EDX]
0F00E1	VERR CX
0F02C1	LAR EAX,ECX
0F00CA	STR DX
37	AAA
0F03C1	LSL EAX,ECX
0FAEF8	SFENCE
63C1	ARPL CX,AX
D40A	AAM
0FC9	BSWAP ECX
F0:0FC70E	LOCK CMPXCHG8B QWORD PTR DS:[ESI]
C51E	LDS EBX,FWORD PTR DS:[ESI]
07	XLAT BYTE PTR DS:[EBX+AL]
27	DAA
0FC1C1	XADD ECX,EAX
0F0D00	PREFETCH QWORD PTR DS:[EAX]
00	CALL

example: a PoC on corkami

works on all CPU

comfortable to read ? how old are you ?!

...newest generation

tweet	<i>crc32</i>
poke	<i>aesenc</i>
google	<i>pcmpistrm</i>
pwn	<i>vfmsubadd132ps</i>
apps	<i>rcpss</i>

and *MOVBE*, the rejected offspring

new generation : english and opcodes.

probably unknown to most people

single opcodes for CRC, AES, string masking...

Fused Multiply-Alternating Subtract/Add of Packed
Single-Precision Floating-Point Values

Scalar Single-Precision Floating-Point Reciprocal

MOVBE = rejected offspring

netbook only. absent from i7

=> so much for backward compatibility

registers

- Initial values (Windows)
 - `eax = <your OS generation>`
`version = (eax != 0) ? Vista_or_later : XP`
 - `gs = <number of bits>`
`bits = (gs == 0) ? 32 : 64`
- Complex relations
 - FPU changes FST, STx, Mmx (ST0 overlaps MM7)
 - changes CR0, under XP

the basics of assembly are the registers...

before any operation, registers have the value assigned to themselves by the OS.

I collected these values

under windows, specific values it's not CPU specific, but the initial values of the register on process start-up, under windows, gives a few hint that are used by malwares.

`eax` can immediately tell if you're on an older OS or not.

While `GS` can tell you if the machine is 64b or not, even in a 32b process.

registers are overlapping.

unlike many documentations, `ST0 <> MM7`

smsw

- CR0 access, from user-mode
 - 286 opcode
- higher word of reg32 'undefined'
- under XP
 - influenced by FPU
 - eventually reverts

```
smsw      eax
cmp       ax,03B ; ';'
jnz       bad --↓1
f nop
smsw      eax
cmp       ax,031 ; '1'
jnz       bad --↓1
2 smsw    eax
cmp       ax,031 ; '1'
jz        wait_loop --↑2
```

smsw is an old 286-era mnemonic (before protected mode was 'complete'): it allows usermode access to cr0.

the higher word of a reg32 target is 'undefined', yet always modified (and same as cr0)

under XP, right after an FPU operation, the returned value is modified [bits 1 and 3, called MP (Monitor Coprocessor) and TS (Task switched)], but eventually reverted after some time.

too tricky ? redirection fails. any idea why ?

GS

- reset on thread switch (Windows 32b)
- eventually reset
 - debugger stepping
 - wait
 - timings

```
mov     ax, 3
mov     gs, eax
1mov     ax, gs
cmp     ax, 3
jz     gs loop --↑1
```

the GS trick is similar.

on 32b of windows, GS is reset on thread switch.

on 64b windows, it's already used by the OS (value non null at start)

ie wait long enough, it's null, whatever the value before.

if you just step manually, instantly lost.

after some time, but not a too short time, it's reset

nop

- *nop* is *xchg *ax, *ax*
 - but *xchg *ax, *ax* can **do** something, in 64b !
87 c0: xchg eax, eax
.. .. 01 23 45 67 => 00 00 00 00 01 23 45 67
- *hint nop* 0F1E84C090909090 nop dword ptr [eax+eax*8-0x6f6f70], eax
 - partially undocumented, actually 0f 18-1f
 - can trigger exception

xchg eax, eax is 90, which originally did nothing.
(xchg eax, ecx is 91)
thus 90 became nop
but 87 c0 is an xchg eax, eax that is not a nop and
does something in 64b, as it resets the upper dword.

hint nop gives hint of what to access next. it does
nothing, but it's multi-byte.
first, it's not completely documented by intel
and, being a multi-byte opcode, if it overlaps an invalid
page, it can trigger an exception!

mov

- documented, but sometimes tricky
 - *mov [cr0], eax* *mov cr0, eax*
 - mod/RM is ignored
 - *movsxd eax, ecx* *mov eax, ecx*
 - no REX prefix
 - *mov eax, cs* *movzx eax,cs*
 - 'undefined' upper word

Mov is documented, but has a few quirks.

- * to/from control and debug registers, memory operands are not allowed. but not rejected !
- * in 64b, with no REX prefix, *movsxd* can actually work to and from a 32b register, which is against the logic of 'sign extending'
- * on the contrary, *mov* from a selector actually affects a complete 32b register. the upper word is theoretically undefined, but actually 0 (used by malware to see if upper part is actually reset or if wrongly emulated as 'mov ax, cs'.)

bswap

rax

12 34 56 78 90 ab cd ef => ef cd ab 90 78 56 34 12

eax

.. 01 23 45 67 => 00 00 00 00 67 45 23 01

ax

.. 01 23 => 00 00

Bswap... is like an administration... rules prevent it to work correctly most of the time...

it's supposed to swap the endianness of a register.

but most of the time, it does something unexpected.

with a 64b register, it swaps the quadword around.
good.

with a 32b, it resets the highest dword. 'as usual', of course...

and on 16b, it's 'undefined' but it just clears the 16b register itself (the rest stays unchanged, of course)...

push+ret

```
.00401000: push     next ; 'j@h4' --↓1
.00401005: retn     ;  -^--^--^--^--^--^--^--^--^
.00401007: int      3
next:      1push     040 ; '@'
.0040100A: push     000401034 ; 'Tada!' -
.0040100F: push     00040103A ; 'Hello Wo
.00401014: push     0
.00401016: call     MessageBoxA --↓4
```


anyone knows what will happen here ?

push, ret.

put an address on the stack, pop it and jump to it.

no possible trick, right...

<ModuleE	\$	68 08	PUSH <ret.next>	
00401005	.	66:C3	RETN	RET used as a jump to next
00401007	CC	INT3		
<next>	>	6A 40	PUSH 40	
0040100A	.	68 34	PUSH ret.00401034	Style = MB_OK;MB_ICONASTERISK;MB_APPLMOD
0040100F	.	68 3A	PUSH ret.0040103A	Title = "Tada!"
00401014	.	6A 00	PUSH 0	Text = "Hello"
00401016	.	E8 09	CALL ret.00401024	hOwner = NULL
0040101B	.	6A 00	PUSH 0	MessageBoxA
0040101D	.	E8 08	CALL ret.0040102A	ExitCode = 0
00401022	CC	INT3		ExitProcess
00401023	CC	INT3		
00401024	\$-	FF25 6	JMP DWORD PTR DS:[4]	user32.MessageBox
0040102A	.-	FF25 6	JMP DWORD PTR DS:[4]	kernel32.ExitP
00401030	CC	INT3		
00401031	CC	INT3		
00401032	CC	INT3		
00401033	CC	INT3		
00401034	.	54 61	ASCII "Tada!",0	
0040103A	.	4B 65	ASCII "Hello World!"	



so, what happened ?

olly even auto-comments the ret!

the 66: before the RETN makes return to IP, not EIP.

so here we returned to 1008, not 401008.

the other problem is that while different, there is no official name for this ret to word, 'small ret', 'ret16'....

...and so on...

- much more @ <http://x86.corkami.com>
 - also graphs, cheat sheet...
- too much theory for now...

I won't enumerate them all.
they're already on Corkami, with some other x86 stuff
that might be useful to print.

too much theory with no practice never gives good
results...

Corkami Standard Test

so I created CoST.

CoST

- <http://cost.corkami.com>
- testing opcodes
- in a hardened PE
 - available in easy mode

```
C>CoST.exe
CoST - Corkami Standard Test BETA 2011/09/xx
Ange Albertini, BSD Licence, 2009-2011 - http://corkami.com

Info: windows 7 found
Starting: jumps opcodes...
Starting: classic opcodes...
Starting: rare opcodes...
Starting: undocumented opcodes...
Starting: cpu-specific opcodes...
Info: CPUID GenuineIntel
Info[cpu]: MOVBE (Atom only) not supported
Starting: undocumented encodings...
Starting: os-dependant opcodes...
Starting: 'nop' opcodes...
Starting: opcode-based anti-debuggers...
Starting: opcode-based GetIPs...
Starting: opcode-based exception triggers...
Starting: 64 bits opcodes...
Starting: registers tests

...completed!
```

an opcode tester, in a tricky PE.

available in easy mode compile (less tricky), as CoST
is quite difficult to debug :)

just run, and it roughly displays what happened.

more than 150 tests

- classic, rare
- jumps (JMP to IP, IRET, ...)
- undocumented (IceBP, SetALc...)
- cpu-specific (MOVBE, POPCNT,...)
- os-dependant, anti-VM/debugs
- exceptions triggers, interrupts, OS bugs,...
- ...

```
mov     eax,3
cmp     eax,3
jz      .07EFD0593
```

so, it contains a lot of various tests... (150 is the lower margin, depend how you count)

some trivial... some less trivial.

a documented binary

exports + VEH = self commented assembly

```
CoST.exe          ↓FRO ----- a32 PE .7EFD0220|Hiew 8.15
4_Main:          mov     d, [0CAFEBABE], 07EFD2CF7 ;'Starting: jumps opco
.7EFD022A:        call    jumps --↓2
.7EFD022F:        nop
.7EFD0230:        mov     d, [0CAFEBABE], 07EFD2D14 ;'Starting: classic op
.7EFD023A:        call    classics --↓4
```

a lot of DbgOutput

```
1 [trick] Adding TLS 2 in TLS callbacks list
2 [trick] the next call's operand is zeroed by the loader
3 CoST - Corkami Standard Test BETA 2011/09/XX
4 Ange Albertini, BSD Licence, 2009-2011 - http://corkami.com
5
6
7 [trick] TLS terminating by unhandled exception (EP is executed)
8 [trick] allocating buffer [0000ffff]
9 testing: NULL buffer
10 checking OS version
11 Info: Windows 7 found
12 [trick] calling Main via my own export
13 Starting: jumps opcodes...
14 Testing: RETN word
15
```

it's tricky, made by hand in assembly, so quite compact, yet 'commented' and self documented.

a VEH to add comments and one-line printing.

and internal exports to jump over sections of the file.

also, lots of detailed debug output.

32+64 = ...

```
.7EFD2540: mov     eax,0F570D67C
.7EFD2545: mov     ebx,3
.7EFD254A: push    cs
.7EFD254B: push    end --↓1
.7EFD2550: push    033 ; '3'
.7EFD2552: call    push_eip --↓2
push_eip: 2arpl  ax,bx
.7EFD2559: dec     eax
.7EFD255A: add     eax,eax
.7EFD255C: retf    ; --^--^--^--^--^--^--^--^--^
end:      1cmp     ebx,0EAE1ACFC
.7EFD2563: jz      next --↓3
.7EFD2565: call    bad --↓4
next:     3cmp     eax,0D5C359F8
.7EFD256F: ;
```

anyone sees what this is doing ?

executing code at push_eip...

then the same code with selector 33 (64b code)

so the same opcodes are executed twice, first in 32b mode, then in 64b.

same opcodes, different code

```
.push_eip: 68D8      arpl          ax,bx  
7EFD2559: 48           dec            eax  
7EFD255A: 01C0        add             eax,eax  
7EFD255C: CB         retf ; --^--^--^--^--^
```



```
push_eip: 63D8 movsxd    rbx,eax
.7EFD2559: 4801C0 add     rax,rax
.7EFD255C: CB      retf    ; _^_ ^_ ^_ ^_ ^_
```

and these opcodes gives exclusive mnemonics to each side...

works fine under a 64b OS, but Windows itself can't even debug that.

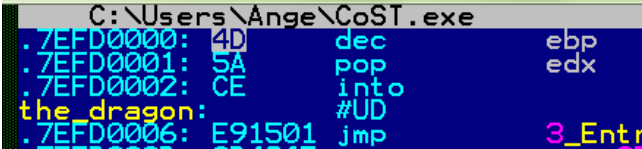
same EIP, same opcodes, twice, and different code.

CoST vs WinDbg & Hiew

WinDbg 6.12.0002.633

```
*** ERROR: module load completed but symbols cc
image7efd0000:
7efd0000 4d          dec     ebp
7efd0001 5a          pop     edx
7efd0002 ce          into
7efd0003 0f          ???
7efd0004 1838       sbb     byte ptr [eax]
7efd0006 e9db010000 jmp     image7efd0000+
7efd000b 0d436f5354 or      eax, 54536F43h
```

Hiew 8.15



```
C:\Users\Ange\CoST.exe
.7EFD0000: 4D          dec     ebp
.7EFD0001: 5A          pop     edx
.7EFD0002: CE          into
the_dragon: #UD
.7EFD0006: E91501     jmp     3_Enter
```

as you'd expect, WinDbg, following Intel docs too closely, will give you '??'

Hiew does that too a little.

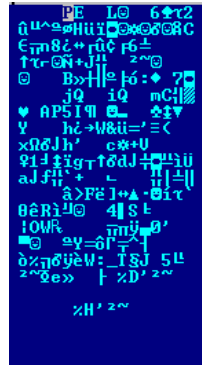
but honestly, I found bugs in all disassemblers I looked at, no exception AFAIR. Even a crash in XED.

a hardened PE



Hex dump of the top of a PE file. The text is displayed in a blue monospace font on a black background. It shows the CoST header information, including the version (1.0), the author (Corkami), and the license (BSD). The text is: MZ489 CoST - Corkami Stand ard test BETA 20 11/09/XX DP Ange Albertini, BSD Licence, 20 09-2011 - http:/ /corkami.com i l\$e+0L j Y2«z=) =I j h- z~ QW Sx ~ SX z~ at+ hã+ z ~ôL t\$+ô T ♦ H L' z~ Ux z~ H L i T\$ i é f u8 l + u . Ux 0 l l z u z é i @ + P ô y P s p z ~ i T \$ t â é h T + É j T + é h = T ~ j ô P T H L i x z ~ j i z ~ b h l + ~ s p , i l

Top



Hex dump of the PE footer of a PE file. The text is displayed in a blue monospace font on a black background. It shows the PE signature and the CoST header information. The text is: PE L 6 2 0 u ^ a a H i i 0 x 0 8 R C E m 8 6 + r u f 6 ± 1 t r 0 N + J u z ~ 0 0 B o t t o m 7 5 j 0 i 0 m C i y v A P 5 i q 0 = a z y y h c + W & u = ' = (x n 6 J h ' c x + 0 4 1 3 i g T 1 6 d J + u i u a J J u + l u l = l l a > F e 1 + A . 0 i r 0 e R i u 4 l l S e i O W R i m y 0 ' m 0 a y = 0 l T + 0 z % n 6 y e W : _ I S J 5 u z ~ 2 e » l z D ' z ~ % H ' z ~

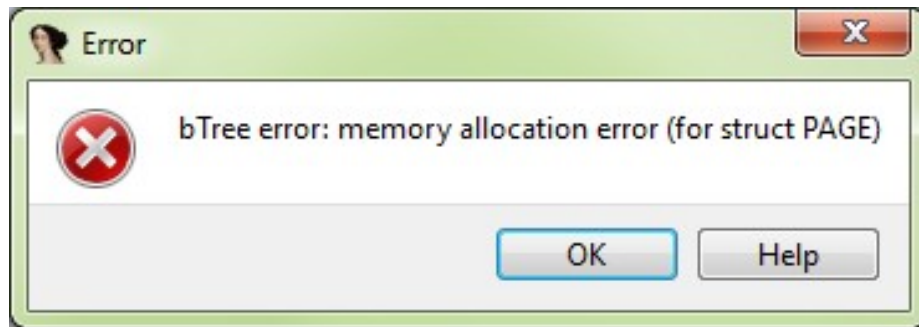
PE 'footer'

CoST was originally only an opcode tester.

then I added a few PE tricks...

have a look yourself, the top of the file, and the PE header (right at the bottom)

CoST vs IDA



As you can see, IDA didn't really like it at first (fixed, now)

So, if CoST helps you to find a few bugs in your program, I'm not really surprised.

CoST vs Dumpbin

HIDDEN SLIDE

Microsoft (R) COFF/PE Dumper Version 10.00.30319.01
Copyright (C) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Dump of file CoST.exe

File Type: EXECUTABLE IMAGE

LINK : fatal error LNK1248: image size (9B097F81)
exceeds maximum allowable size (80000000)

Cost vs MS's standard analysis tool...

what else would you expect ?



a bit more of PE...

but one single file, even full of tricks, is not enough to express all the possibilities of the PE file.

so I started my next project since I applied for Hashdays

PE on corkami

- some graphs
- a wiki page
 - <http://pe.corkami.com>
 - not “finished”
 - more than 100 PoCs
 - good enough to break <you name it>

I already made some useful graphs for PE files.

and I started a wiki page, with more than 100 PoCs, focusing, as usual, on precise aspects of the PE.

PE with no section, with 64k sections, with huge ImageBase, relocation encryption...

virtual section table vs Hiew



in low alignments, the section table is checked but not used at all.

so, if it's full of zeroes, it will still work – under XP.

thus, with `SizeOfOptionalHeader`, you can set it in virtual space...

Hiew doesn't like that.

check the picture, it doesn't even identify it as a PE.

Folded header

Name	RVA	Size
Export	88660001	10009988
Import	86600010	01000998
Resource	66000100	00100099
Exception	6000100F	F0010009
Security	000100FF	FF001000
Fixups	00100FF0	0FF00100
Debug	0100FF05	20FF0010
Description	100FF055	220FF001
MIPS GP	100FF055	220FF001
TLS	0100FF05	20FF0010
Load config	00100FF0	0FF00100
Bound Import	000100FF	FF001000
Import Table	6000100F	F0010009
Delay Import	66000100	00100099
COM Runtime	86600010	01000998
(reserved)	88660001	10009988

what do you think ?

when you can do ASCII art with the PE info, something dodgy is going on :)

this is ReversingLabs' dual PE header.

the PE header is partially overwritten (at exports directories) on loading.

the upper part is read from disk, the lower part, read in memory, is overwritten by the section that is folded over the bottom of the header.

Weird export names

- exports = <anything non null>, 0

```
00401000: 6A01                                push
00401002: 58                                  pop
00401000: 8BFF                                → retn
00401000: 8BFF                                → int
00401000: 8BFF                                → push
                                → call
                                → add
                                → retn ;
00401000: 8BFF                                → int
00401018: 202A                                1and
```

export names can be anything until 0, or even null.

Hiew displays them inline, so, well, here is the PoC of weird export names

one of the other names in this PoC is LOOOOONG enough to trigger a buffer overflow >:)

65535 sections vs OllyDbg



this is a 64k section PE against the latest Olly.

amazingly, it doesn't crash despite this funny message...

one last...

- TLS AddressOfIndex is overwritten on loading
- Import are parsed until Name is 0
- under XP, overwritten after imports
 - imports are fully parsed
- under W7, before
 - truncated

same PE, loaded differently
under different Windows

this one is not very visual, yet quite unique.

TLS Aol points to an Import descriptor Name member...

depending on Aol or imports happening first, this is a terminator or not...

so the same PE gets loaded with more or less imports depending on the OS.

conclusion

- x86 and PE are far from perfectly documented
- still some gray areas of PE or x86
 - but a bit less, every day

official documentations lead to FAILURE

1. visit Corkami.com
2. download the PoCs
3. fix the bugs ;)

unlike what I used to believe, cpus and windows binaries are far from perfectly logical nor documented

I can't pretend I know it all, but I'm progressing slowly, and fully sharing with everybody.

If you only follow the official doc, you're bound to fail. especially with the malware landscape out there.

so give Corkami PoCs a try – and send me a postcard if you found some bugs

I seriously hope that MS will put WinDbg back to a more reactive release cycle, and will update it...

Thanks

- Peter Ferrie
- Candid Wüest

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Questions ?

Eternal thanks to Peter Ferrie.
and I wouldn't be here if Candid didn't push me to.

a lot of people helped me in the process to make this
presentation and the content on corkami, in one way
or another.

Any questions ?

Such a weird processor messing with opcodes (...and a little bit of PE)

Ange Albertini
28th October 2011



@ange4771
@corkami (news only)
Creative Commons BY



Thanks for your attention!

you can catch me online

I'm open to suggestions, feedback, requests...