

RSA®Conference2019 **Asia Pacific & Japan**

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BETTER.

SESSION ID: FLE-R04

Finding and Analyzing In-the-Wild UEFI Rootkits Assisted by Machine Learning

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#RSAC

Why should you care about UEFI malware?

- No longer theoretical
- Difficult to detect
- Difficult to eradicate

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UEFI Introduction

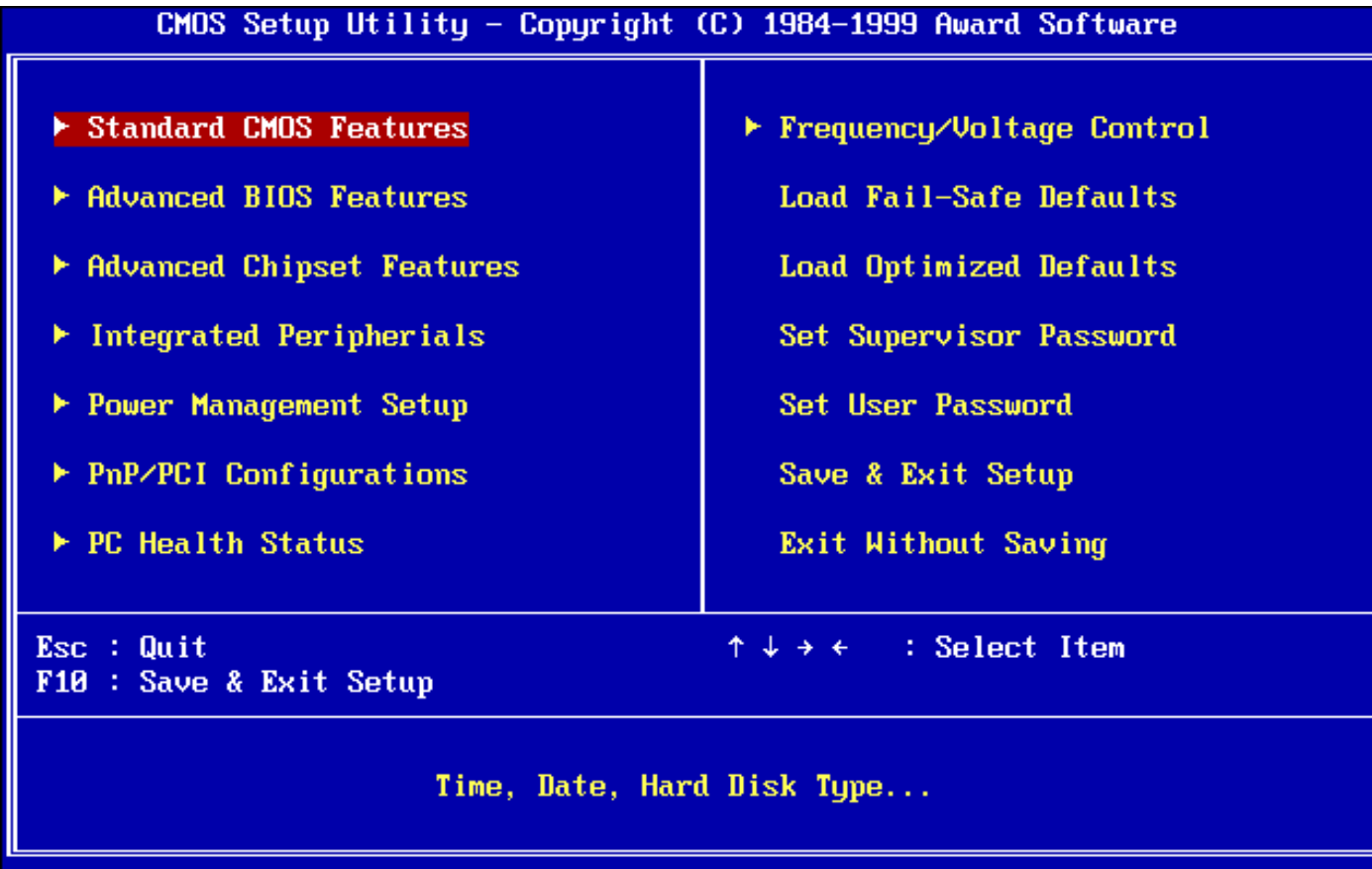




UEFI

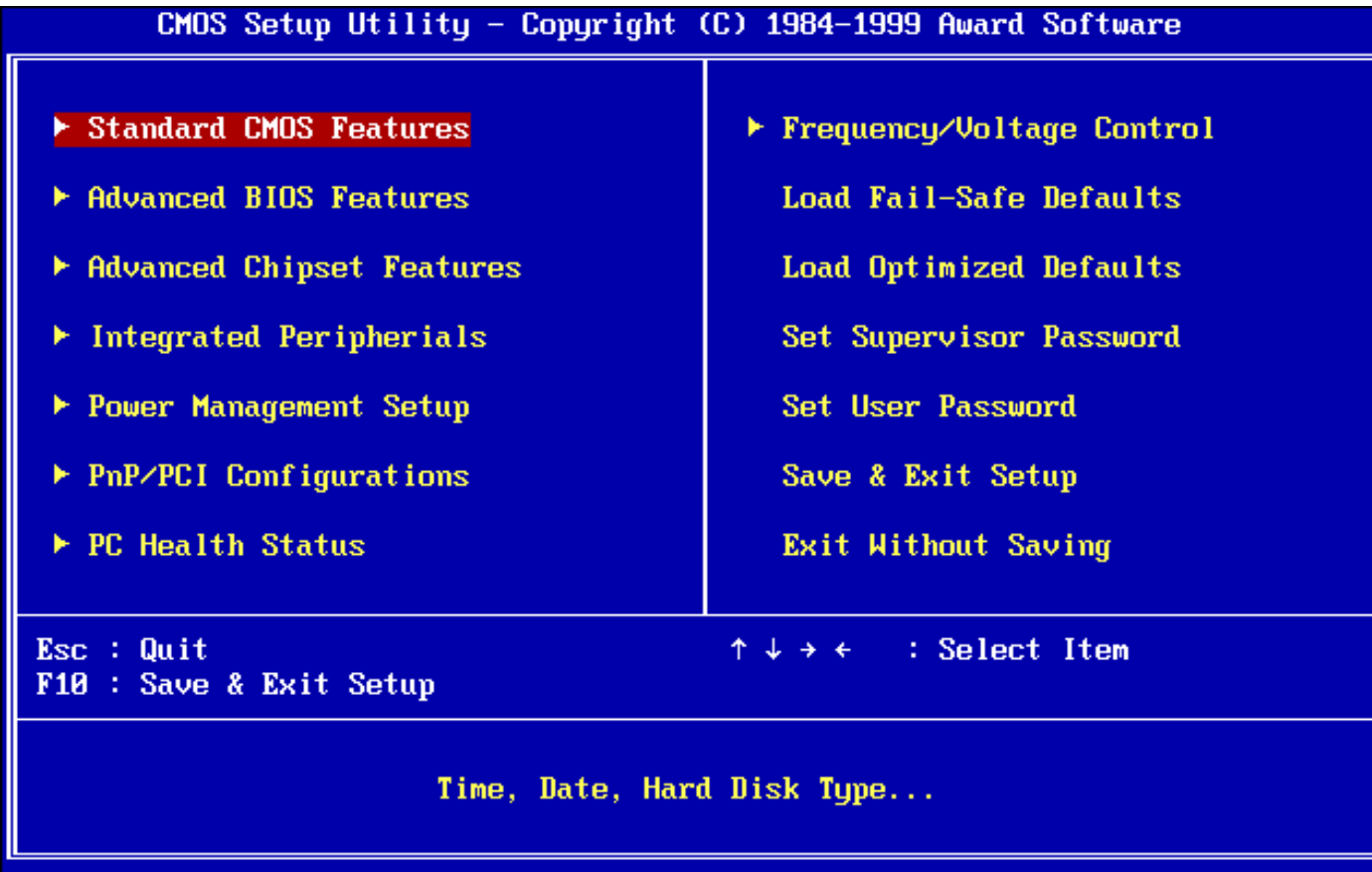
- Evolution
- < 2000: proprietary BIOS
- 2000: Intel creates the Extensible Firmware Interface (EFI)
- 2005: Industry coalition releases Universal Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI)

BIOS



Source: howtogeek.com

BIOS



UEFI



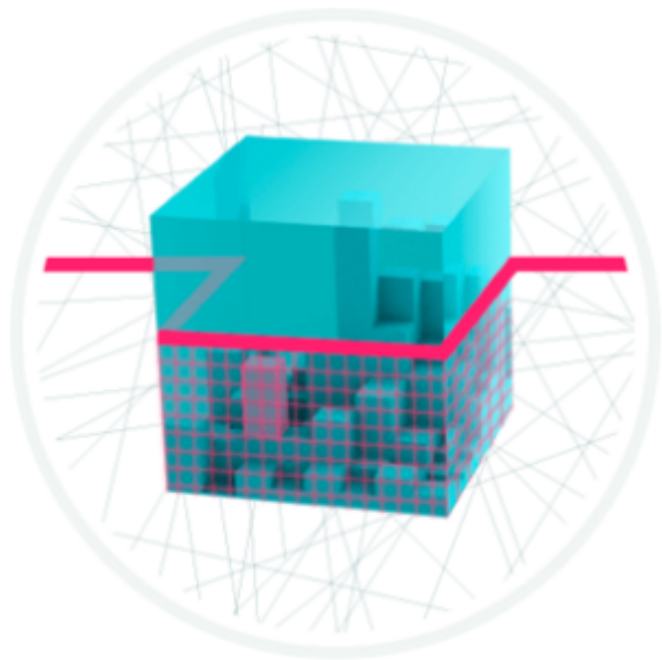
Driver Execution Environment (DXE) Drivers

- PE/COFF images
- Abstract the hardware
- Produce UEFI standard interface
- Register new services (protocols)
- Loaded during the DXE phase of the Platform initialization
- Loaded by the DXE dispatcher (DXE Core)

UEFI firmware layout

- Located in the BIOS region of the SPI flash memory
- Contains multiple volumes
 - Volumes contain files identified by GUIDs
 - File contain sections
 - One of these sections is the actual UEFI image
 - It's more complex than that but it suffices for our purpose





UEFI Scanner

ESET is the first internet security provider to add a dedicated layer into its solution that protects the Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI). ESET UEFI Scanner checks and enforces the security of the pre-boot environment that is compliant with the UEFI specification. It is designed to monitor the integrity of the firmware and in case modification is detected, it notifies the user.

[**⊕ Show more**](#)

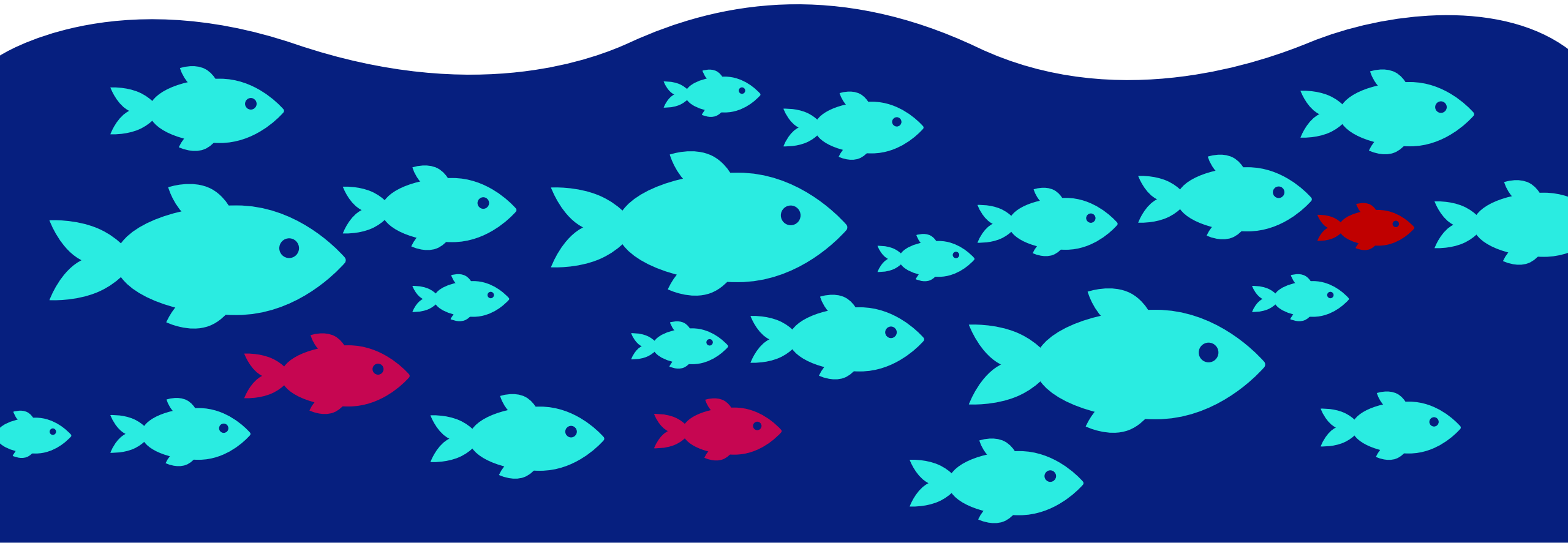
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**Using machine learning to find
needles in a haystack**

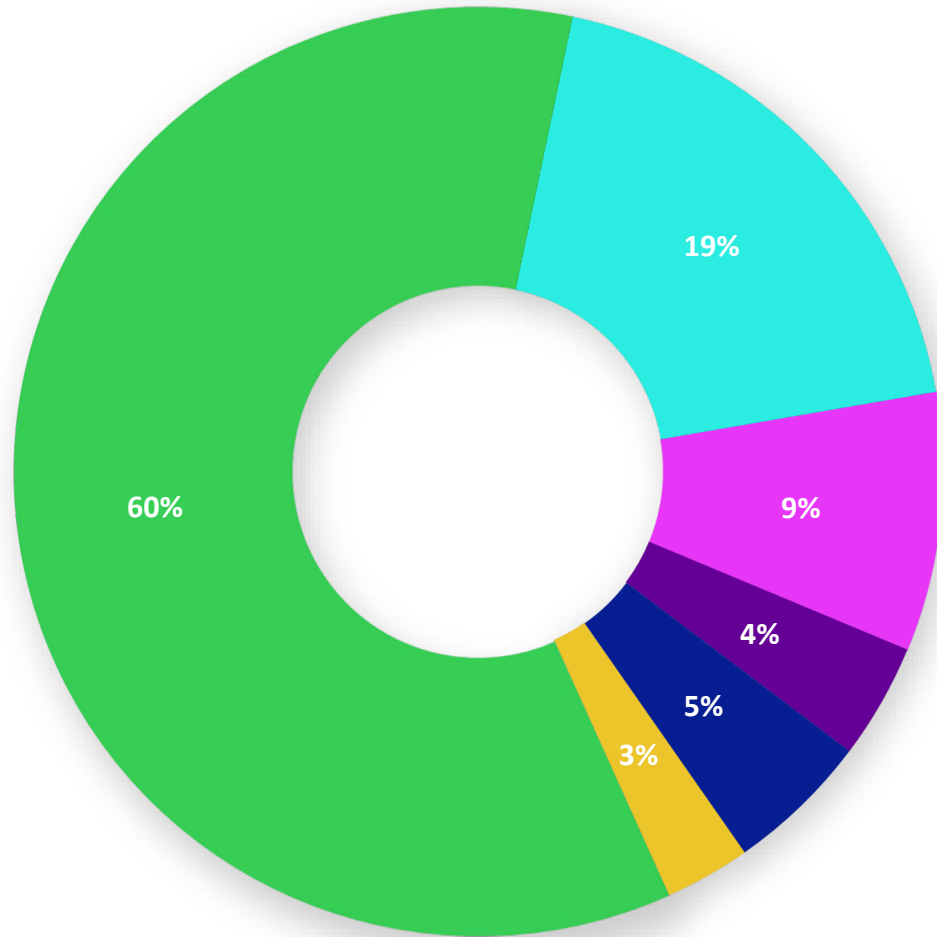


Motivation

- Millions of samples
- Finding malicious fish in a sea of UEFI executables



Everything is about data

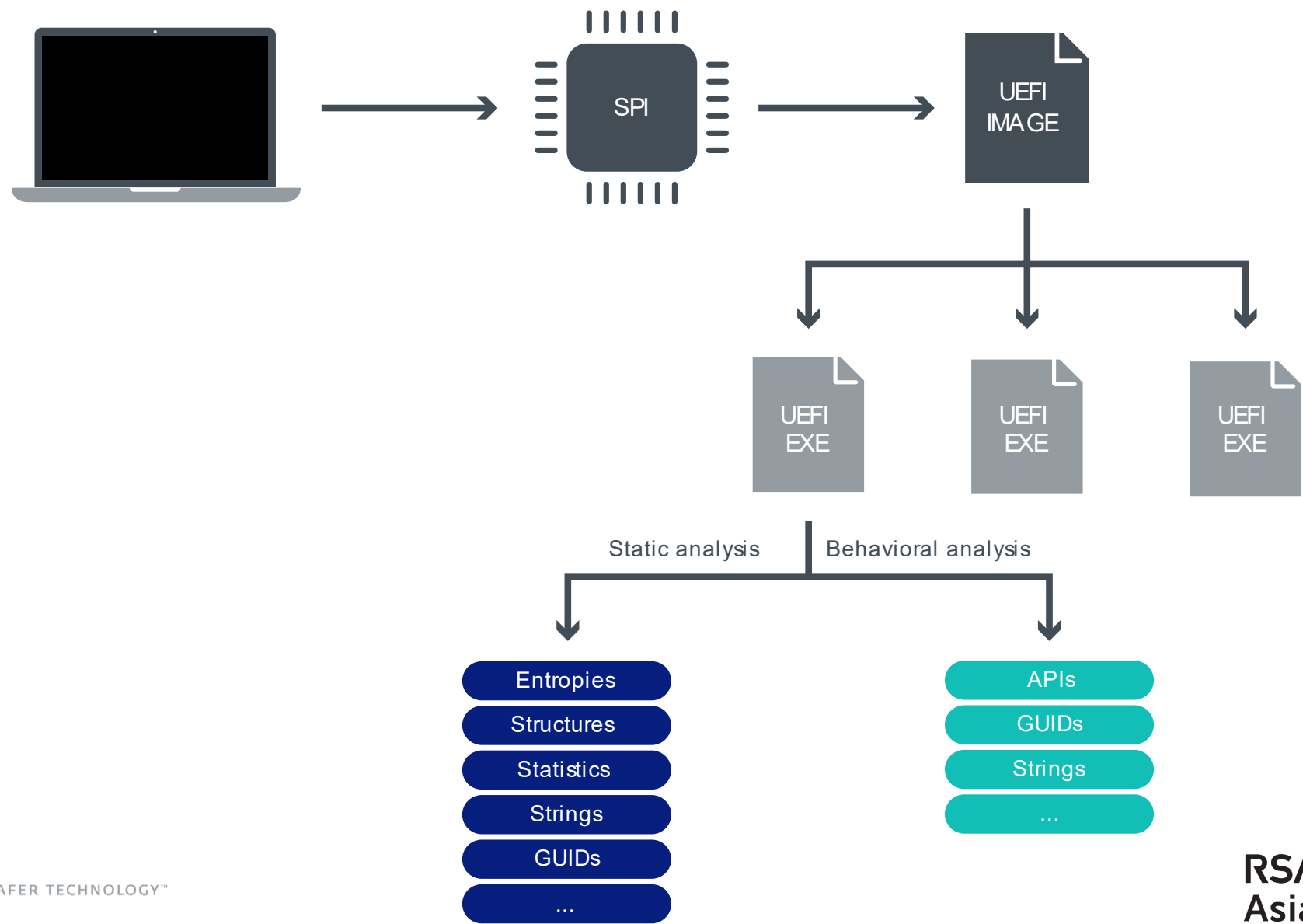


What data scientists
spend the most time doing

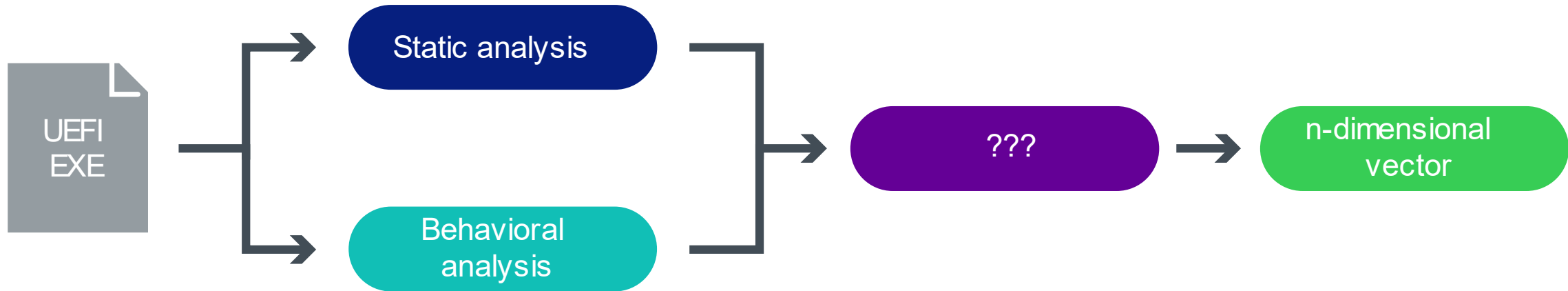
- Building training sets
- Cleaning and organizing data
- Collecting data sets
- Mining data for patterns
- Refining algorithms
- Other

Source: Forbes.com

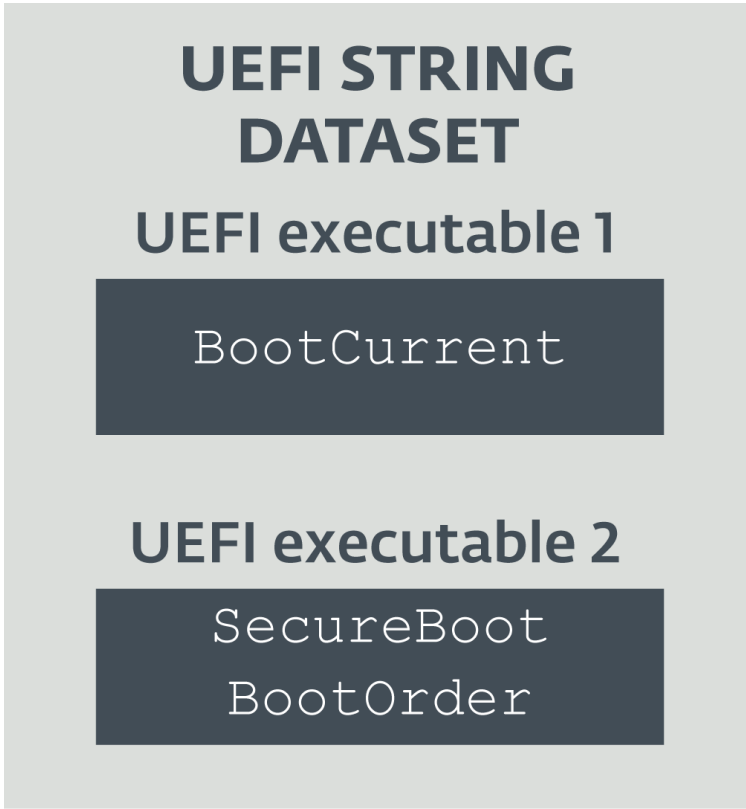
Everything is about data



Everything is about data



Strings transformation



Term-occurrence matrix

	boo	oot	cur	...	rde	der	...		
UEFI 1	1	1	1		0	0			
UEFI 2	2	2	0		1	1			
...									



LSA

Decomposed matrix

	V1	V2	...	Vn
UEFI 1	0.4	0.1		-0.3
UEFI 2	0.6	0.2		0.4
...				

Procedure statistics

Functions window

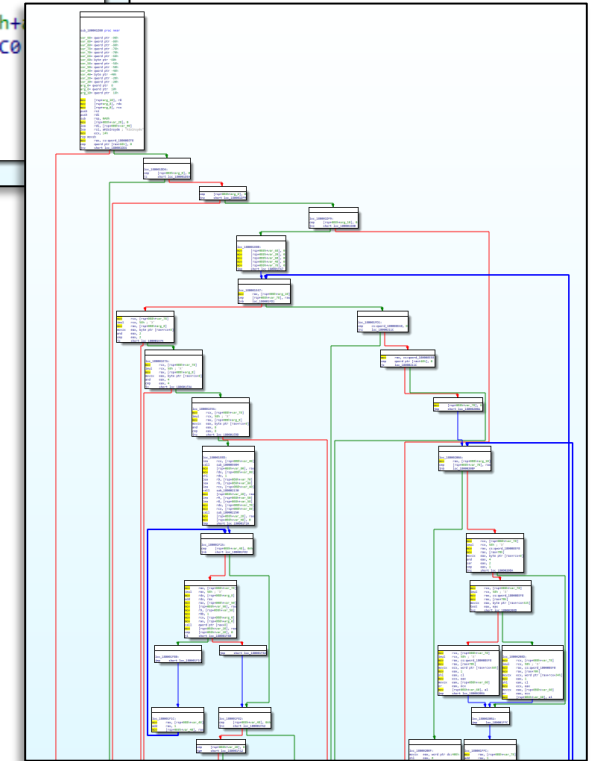
Function name	Segment	Start	Length	Locals	Arguments	R	F	L	S	B	T	=
sub_1800002A0	.text	00000001800002A0	000001DD	000000C8	00000040	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180000480	.text	0000000180000480	000000E1	00000078	00000000	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180000570	.text	0000000180000570	00000071	00000038	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800005F0	.text	00000001800005F0	0000002B	00000000	00000000	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180000620	.text	0000000180000620	00000052	00000018	00000011	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180000680	.text	0000000180000680	00000025	00000028	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800006B0	.text	00000001800006B0	000000CF	00000058	00000014	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180000780	.text	0000000180000780	00000159	00000238	00000008	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800008E0	.text	00000001800008E0	000000B4	00000048	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800009A0	.text	00000001800009A0	000000D6	000000F8	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001380	.text	0000000180001380	000000D3	00000038	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001460	.text	0000000180001460	00000138	00000038	00000018	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800015A0	.text	00000001800015A0	00000072	00000018	00000018	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001620	.text	0000000180001620	000000F5	00000038	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001720	.text	0000000180001720	00000091	00000000	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800017C0	.text	00000001800017C0	00000054	00000028	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001820	.text	0000000180001820	000000B6	00000038	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_1800018E0	.text	00000001800018E0	000001A0	00000038	00000028	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001A80	.text	0000000180001A80	00000113	00000038	00000019	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001BA0	.text	0000000180001BA0	00000098	00000048	00000028	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001C40	.text	0000000180001C40	00000098	00000048	00000028	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001CE0	.text	0000000180001CE0	00000098	00000048	00000028	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180001D80	.text	0000000180001D80	000003AE	000000B8	00000018	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180002130	.text	0000000180002130	00000112	00000048	00000020	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180002250	.text	0000000180002250	00000031	00000000	00000020	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180002290	.text	0000000180002290	00000168	00000058	00000030	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180002400	.text	0000000180002400	00000061	00000058	00000000	R	.	.	.	.	.	.
sub_180002470	.text	0000000180002470	00000059	00000038	00000010	R	.	.	.	.	.	.

```

sub_1800063D8 proc near
arg_10= qword ptr 18h
arg_18= qword ptr 20h





























mov     [rsp+arg_10], r8
mov     [rsp+arg_18], r9
sub     rsp, 28h
lea     r9, [rsp+28h+
call    sub_180005FC0
add     rsp, 28h
retn
sub_1800063D8 endp

```



Procedure statistics

Functions window

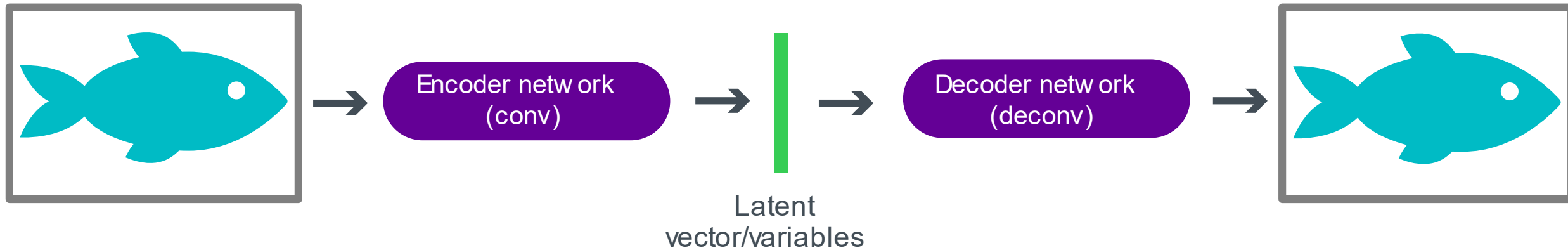
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 sub_180000620	.text	0000000180000620
 sub_180000680	.text	0000000180000680
 sub_1800006B0	.text	00000001800006B0
 sub_180000780	.text	0000000180000780
 sub_1800008E0	.text	00000001800008E0
 sub_1800009A0	.text	00000001800009A0
 sub_180001380	.text	0000000180001380
 sub_180001460	.text	0000000180001460
 sub_1800015A0	.text	00000001800015A0
 sub_180001620	.text	0000000180001620
 sub_180001720	.text	0000000180001720
 sub_1800017C0	.text	00000001800017C0
 sub_180001820	.text	0000000180001820
 sub_1800018E0	.text	00000001800018E0
 sub_180001A80	.text	0000000180001A80
 sub_180001BA0	.text	0000000180001BA0
 sub_180001C40	.text	0000000180001C40
 sub_180001CE0	.text	0000000180001CE0
 sub_180001D80	.text	0000000180001D80
 sub_180002130	.text	0000000180002130
 sub_180002250	.text	0000000180002250
 sub_180002290	.text	0000000180002290
 sub_180002400	.text	0000000180002400
 sub_180002470	.text	0000000180002470



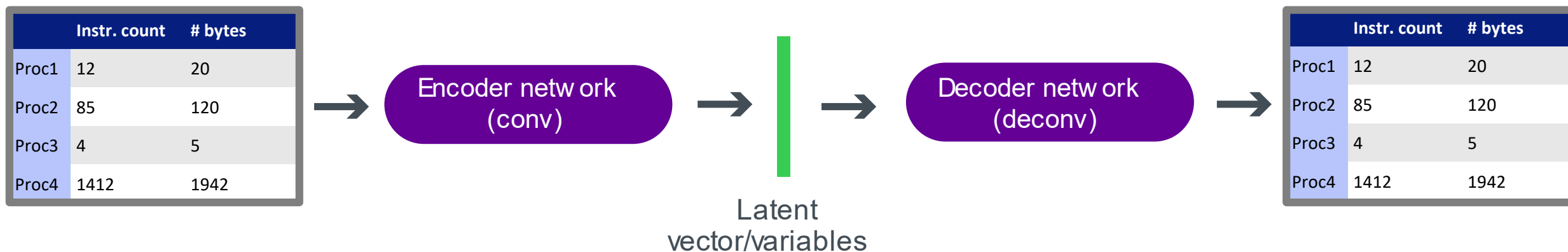
	Instr. count	# bytes	...	...	...	...
Proc1	12	20				
Proc2	85	120				
Proc3	4	5				
Proc4	1412	1942				
...						
...						
...						
...						

Huge!

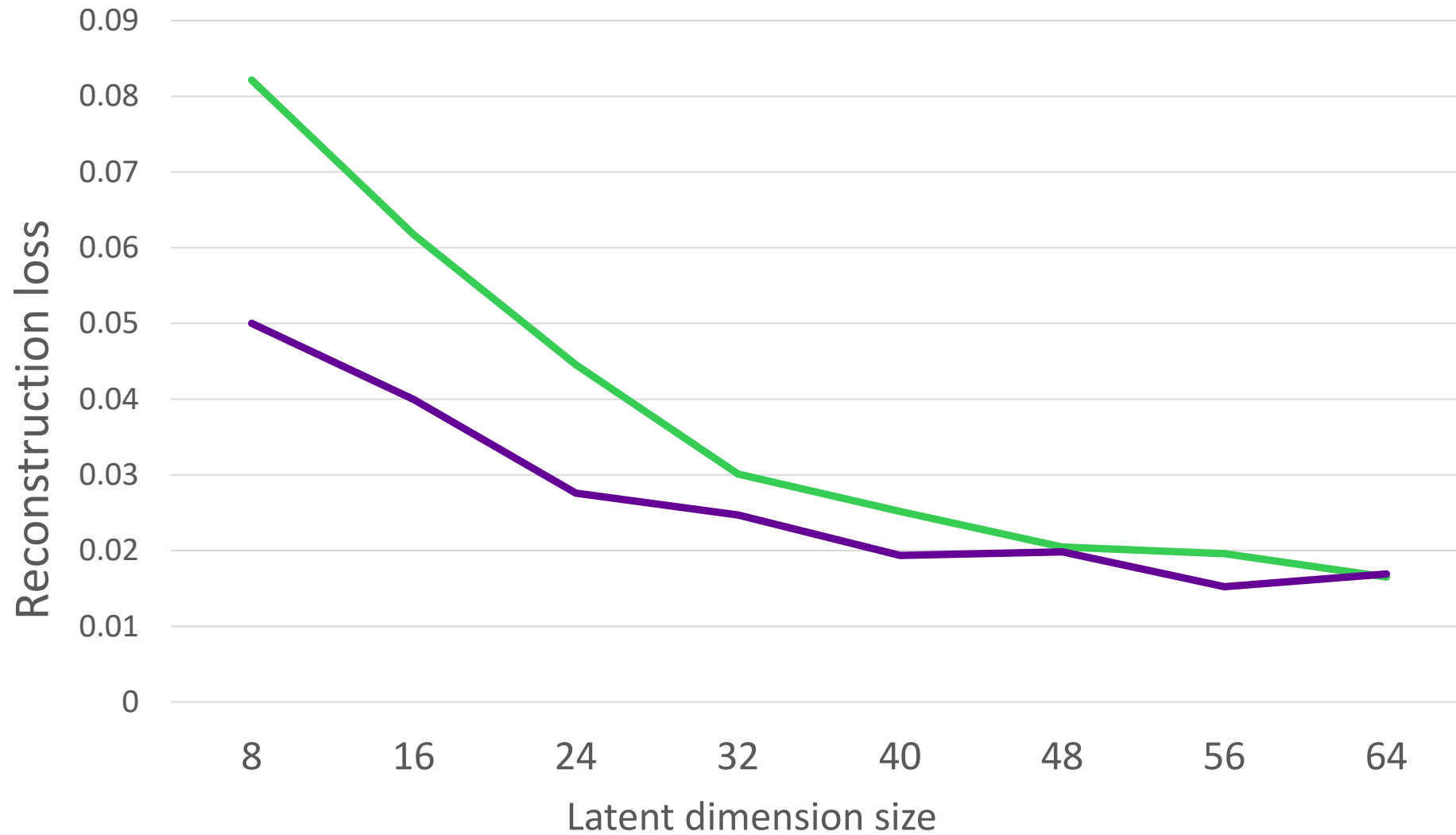
Procedure statistics



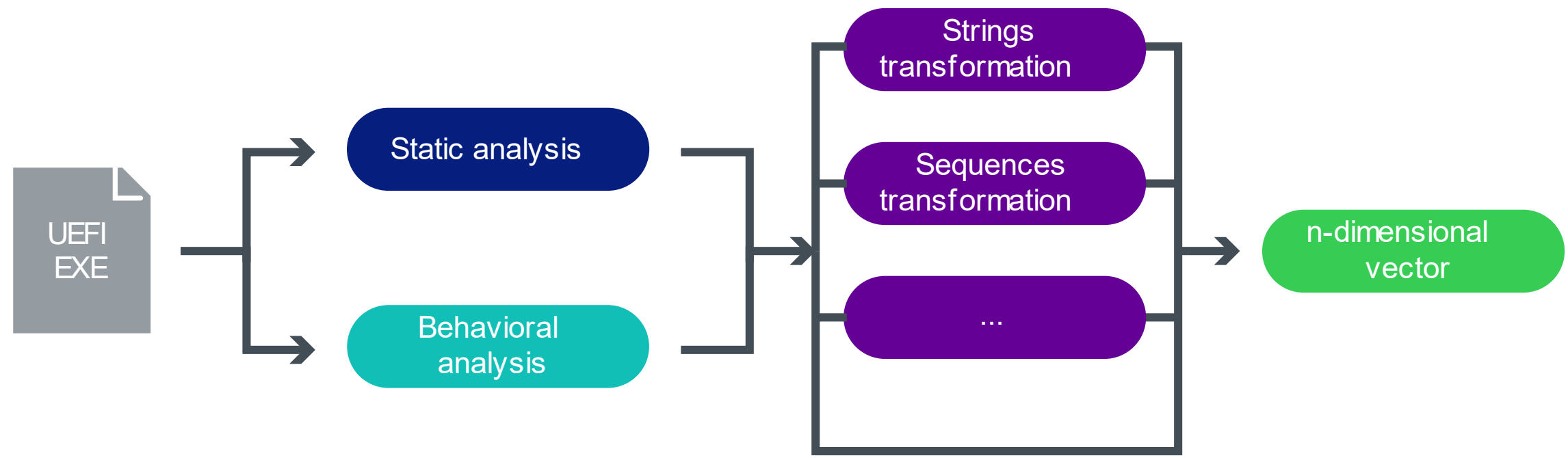
Procedure statistics



Procedure statistics



Final vector

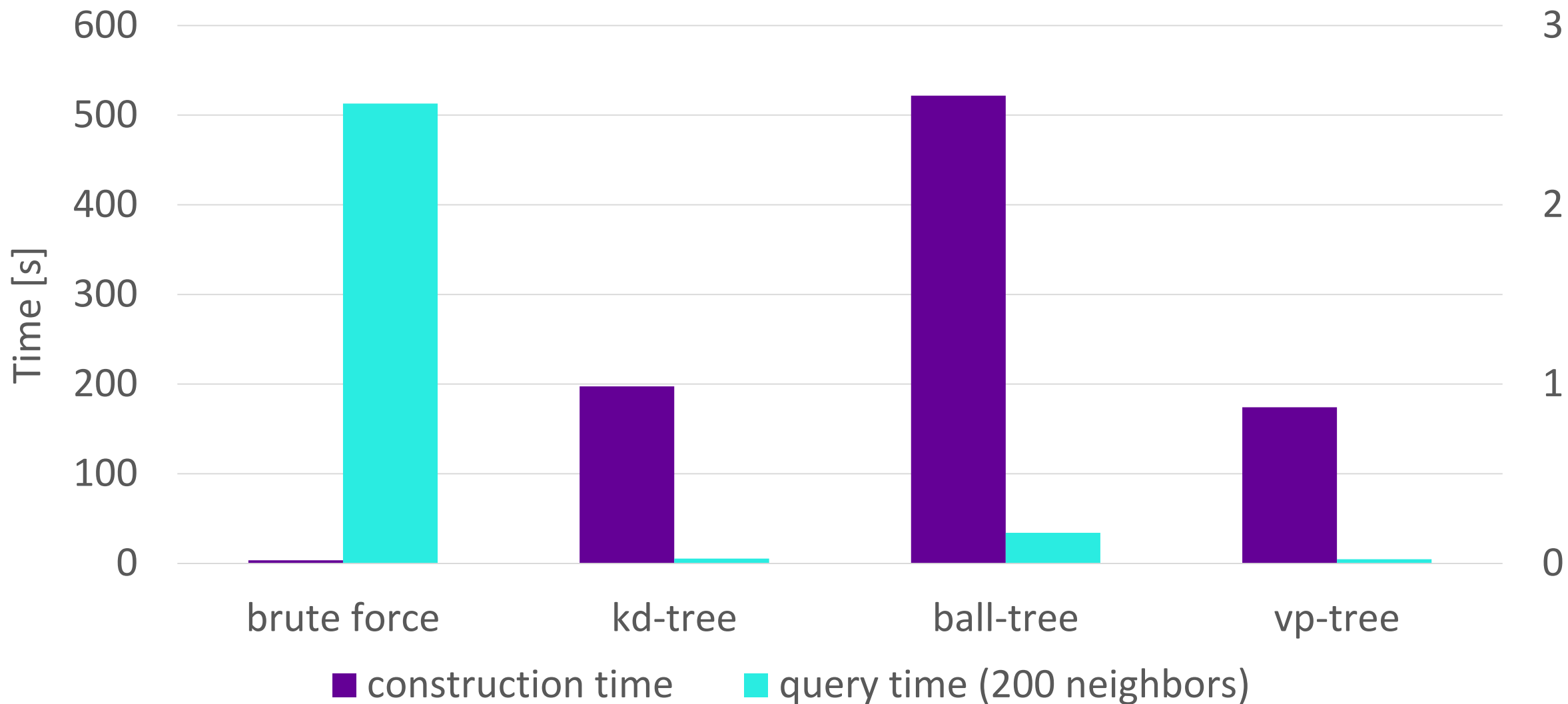


Trees to the rescue!

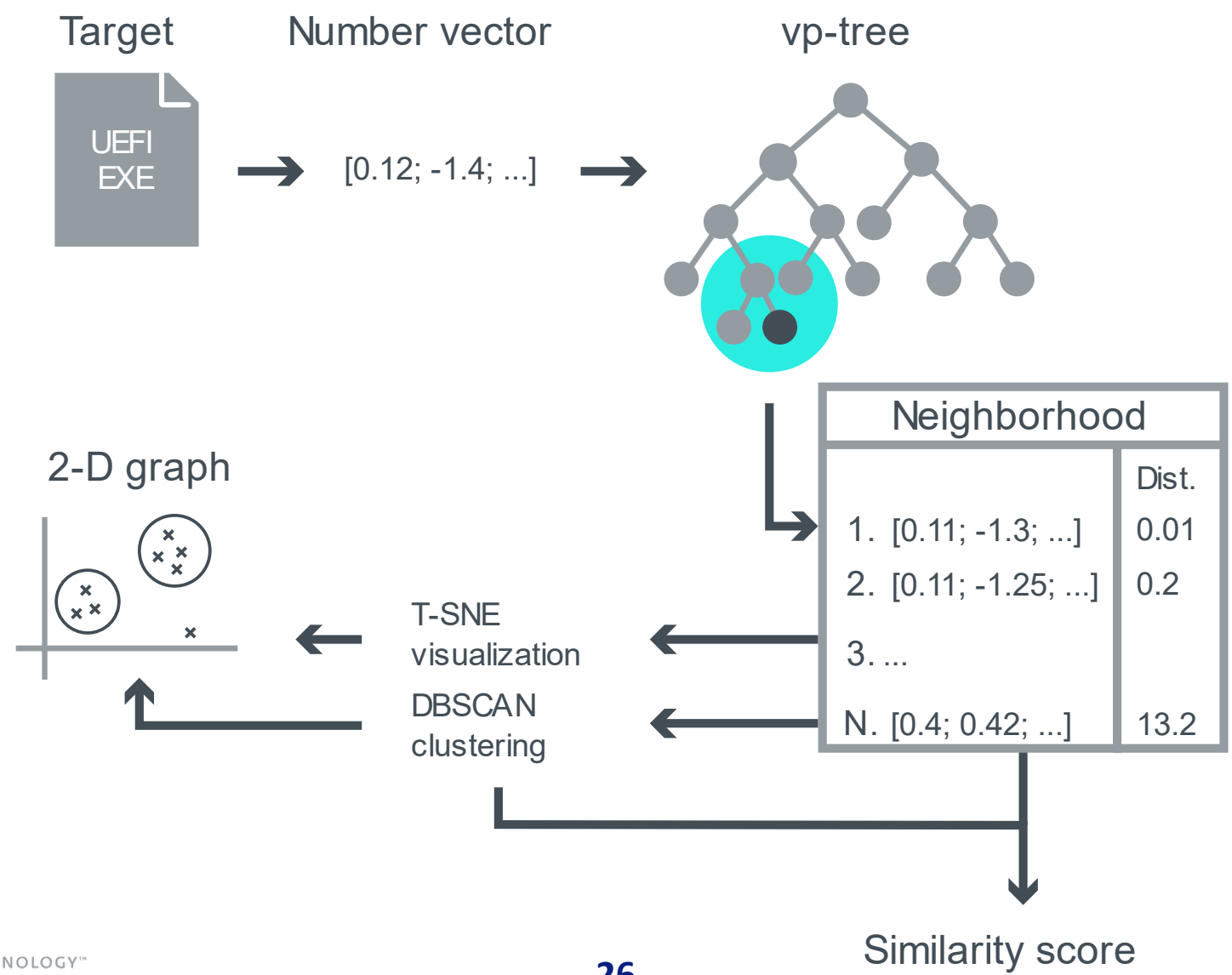


Image source: https://kajgana.com/sites/default/files/2013/05/30/88787/prirodni-pejzazhi-shto-nema-da-ve-ostavat-ramnodushni_96460.jpg

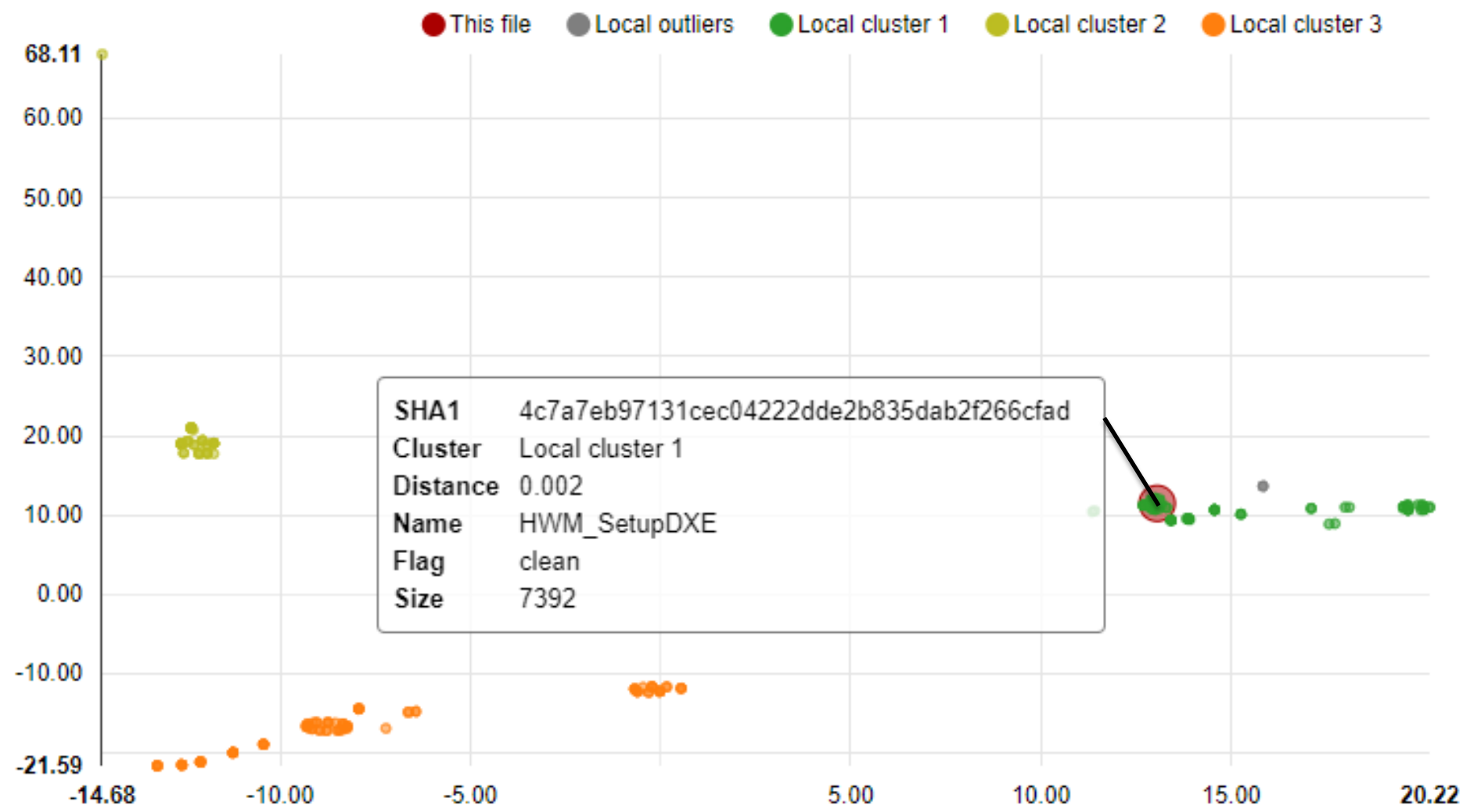
Trees to the rescue!



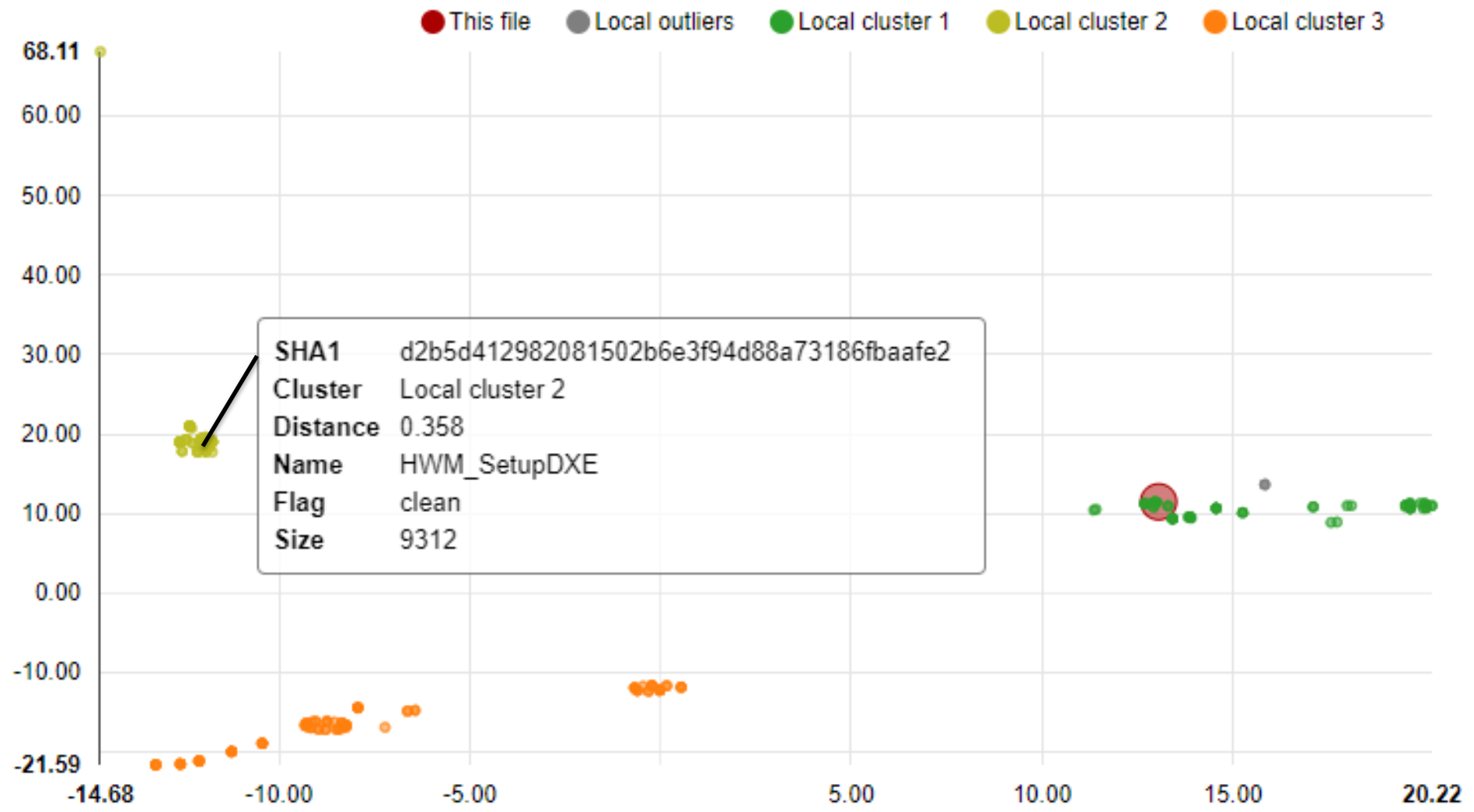
Processing pipeline



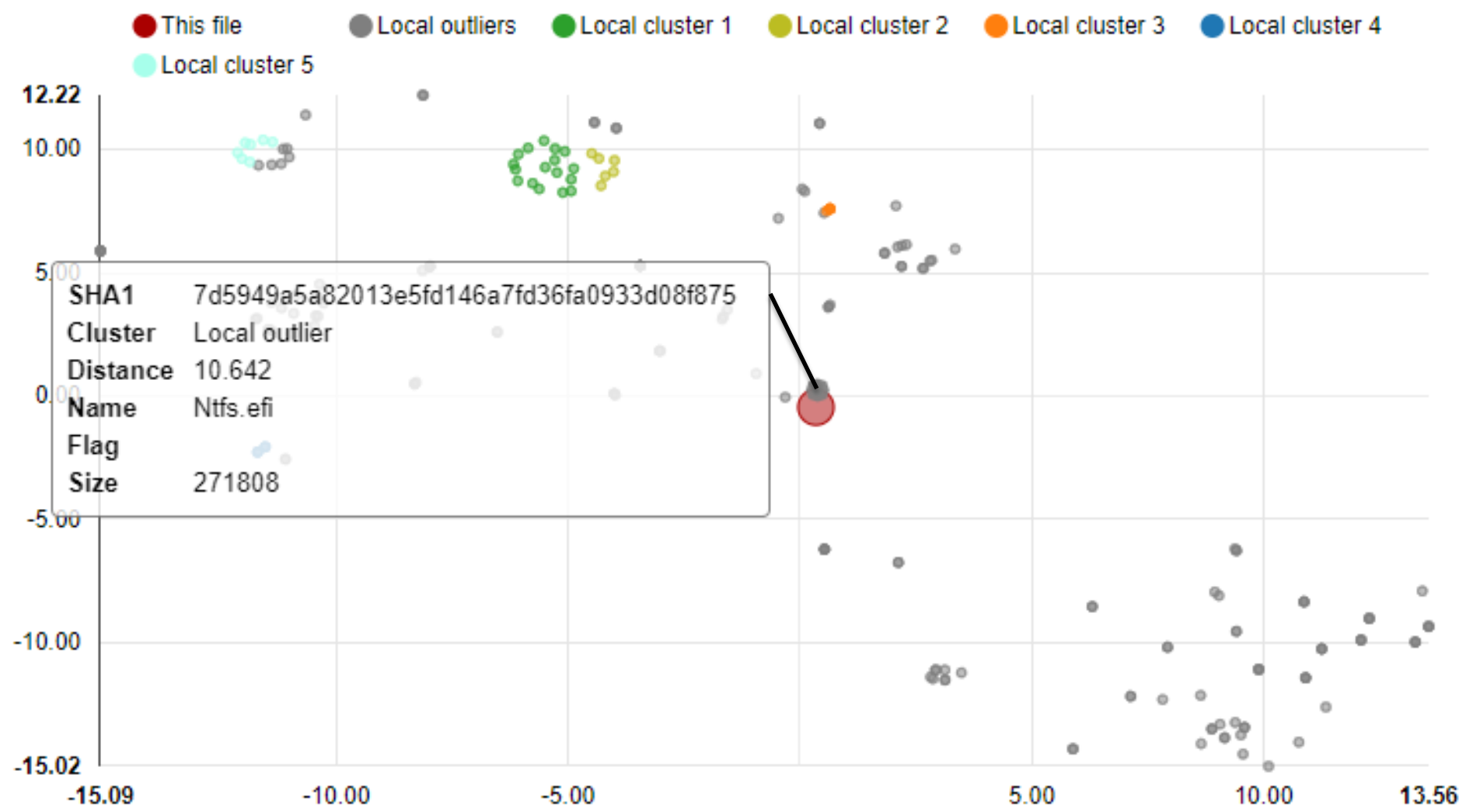
Visualization







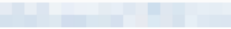



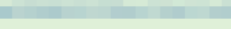


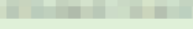
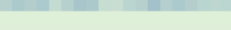


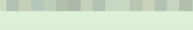
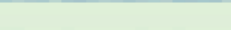


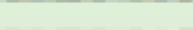



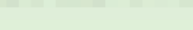


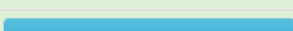

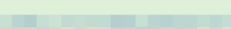

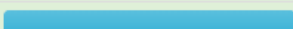

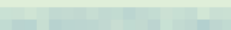



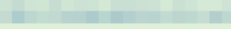


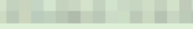
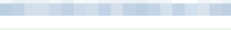



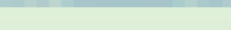


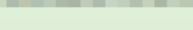



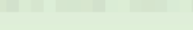
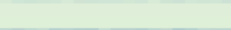



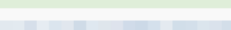





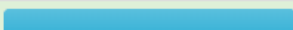

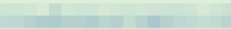


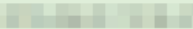
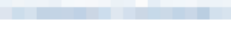



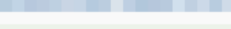



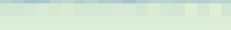

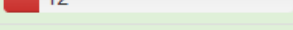
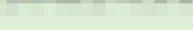
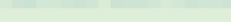

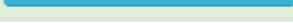
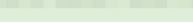
Visualization



Visualization



Results in real-time

SHA1	Filename	Size	Flag	Similarity	Time added	
 a698de949b9cc93039 	ReFlash	8.0 kB	clean		 (a few seconds ago)	quick info
 abda03a1f64cf995fa 	LPC47N207SioDxe.efi	40.9 kB		 1	 (a minute ago)	quick info
 2e796de45feab318d5 	WdtDxe.efi	3.1 kB	clean		 (a minute ago)	quick info
 4dc8a66b6ea13cdd64 	OEMDXE	4.7 kB	clean		 (2 minutes ago)	quick info
 faf4959cf01c0f5b60 	SMBIOSUpdateData	1.9 kB	clean		 (2 minutes ago)	quick info
 4f8cccc72a32e53fdd 	SecFlashUpdDxe	4.2 kB	clean		 (3 minutes ago)	quick info
 ea24cdbc622061fa9f 	IntelXtuDxe	2.7 kB	clean		 (4 minutes ago)	quick info
 3bd29c6bd9d92482ae 	MX25L3205AFflashPartDxe.efi	4.2 kB	clean		 (4 minutes ago)	quick info
 e879b75c41cfc41a06 	SBSMI	14.1 kB	clean		 (5 minutes ago)	quick info
 9e914f895e2a8f06f2 	AhciSmm	10.5 kB	clean		 (5 minutes ago)	quick info
 acc1cc4ccd0f11054e 	NetworkStackSetupScreen	3.2 kB	clean		 (5 minutes ago)	quick info
 9315a4358d2d9075c3 	AlertStandardFormatSmm.efi	6.0 kB			 (6 minutes ago)	quick info
 aa08135cb967664200 	AcpiFvi	3.0 kB	clean		 (6 minutes ago)	quick info
 3fa490b9aee111712b 	SmmOemActivation	5.5 kB	clean		 (7 minutes ago)	quick info
 363f4ec8446791c041 	SwitchableGraphicsDxe.efi	6.7 kB	clean		 (7 minutes ago)	quick info
 df438fe18170093d7e 	GD25Q32FlashPartDxe.efi	5.0 kB	clean		 (7 minutes ago)	quick info
 255032fab37ecaf2f1 	PchSpiWrap	3.7 kB		 73	 (8 minutes ago)	quick info
 d6eb71f446a48a6b33 	SleepSmi	12.1 kB	clean		 (8 minutes ago)	quick info
 319c5d82ec3e95281c 	AcpiModeEnable	18.1 kB	clean		 (9 minutes ago)	quick info
 07f19383b23597fd84 	6e5228f3-933e-4961-9573-0f1e61b522ac (LENOVO_SMBIOS_VPRO_GUID)	3.5 kB			 (9 minutes ago)	quick info
 d9af1cd59e2512c875 	MeFwDowngrade.efi	4.1 kB			 (9 minutes ago)	quick info
06ef2c272cab0dded2	AmiTcgPlatformDxe	34.9 kB	clean	12	(10 minutes ago)	quick info
5973d74fbd06a21c2f	SetTimerPeriodDxe	1.3 kB	clean		(10 minutes ago)	quick info

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Case studies



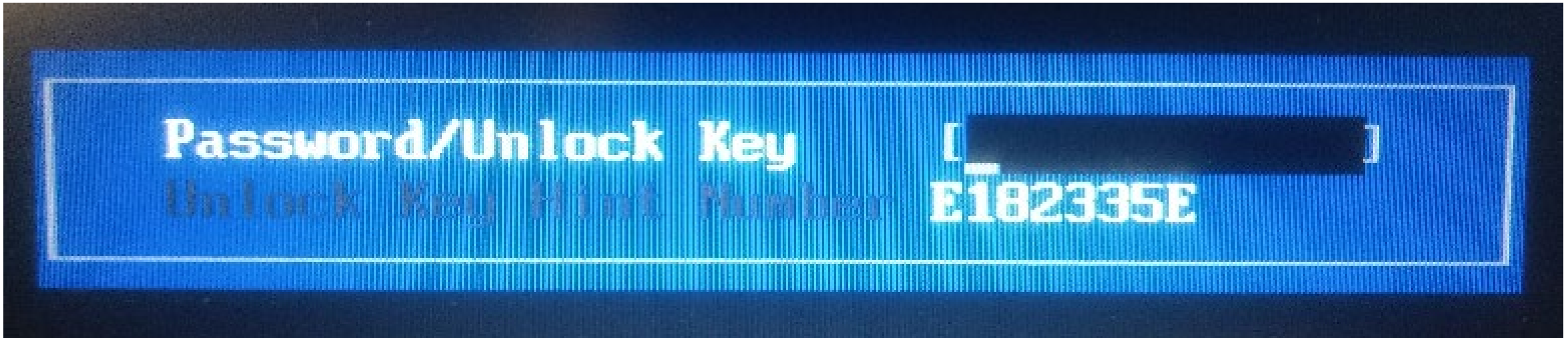
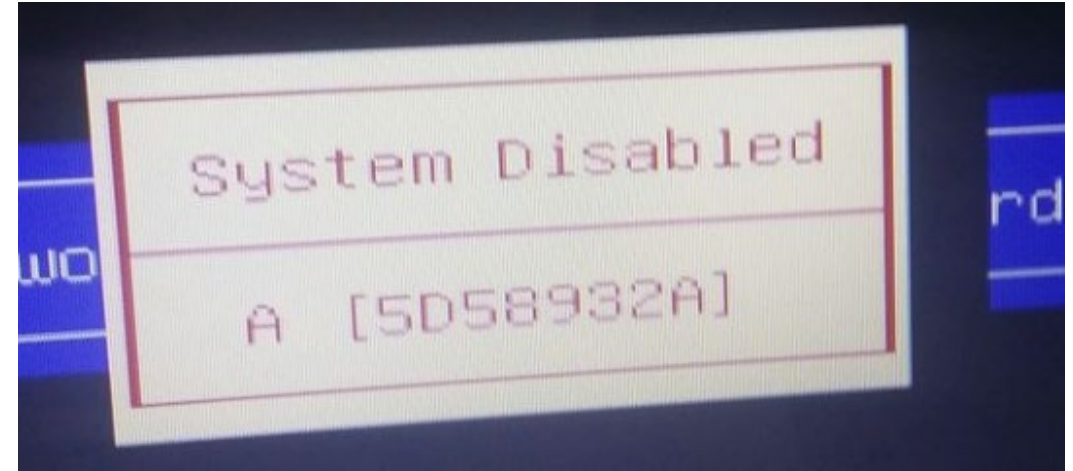
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UEFI Backdoors & OS Persistence



UEFI Backdoors

- Prevalent recovery mechanisms
- Usually can be triggered by a key combination or too many wrong attempts

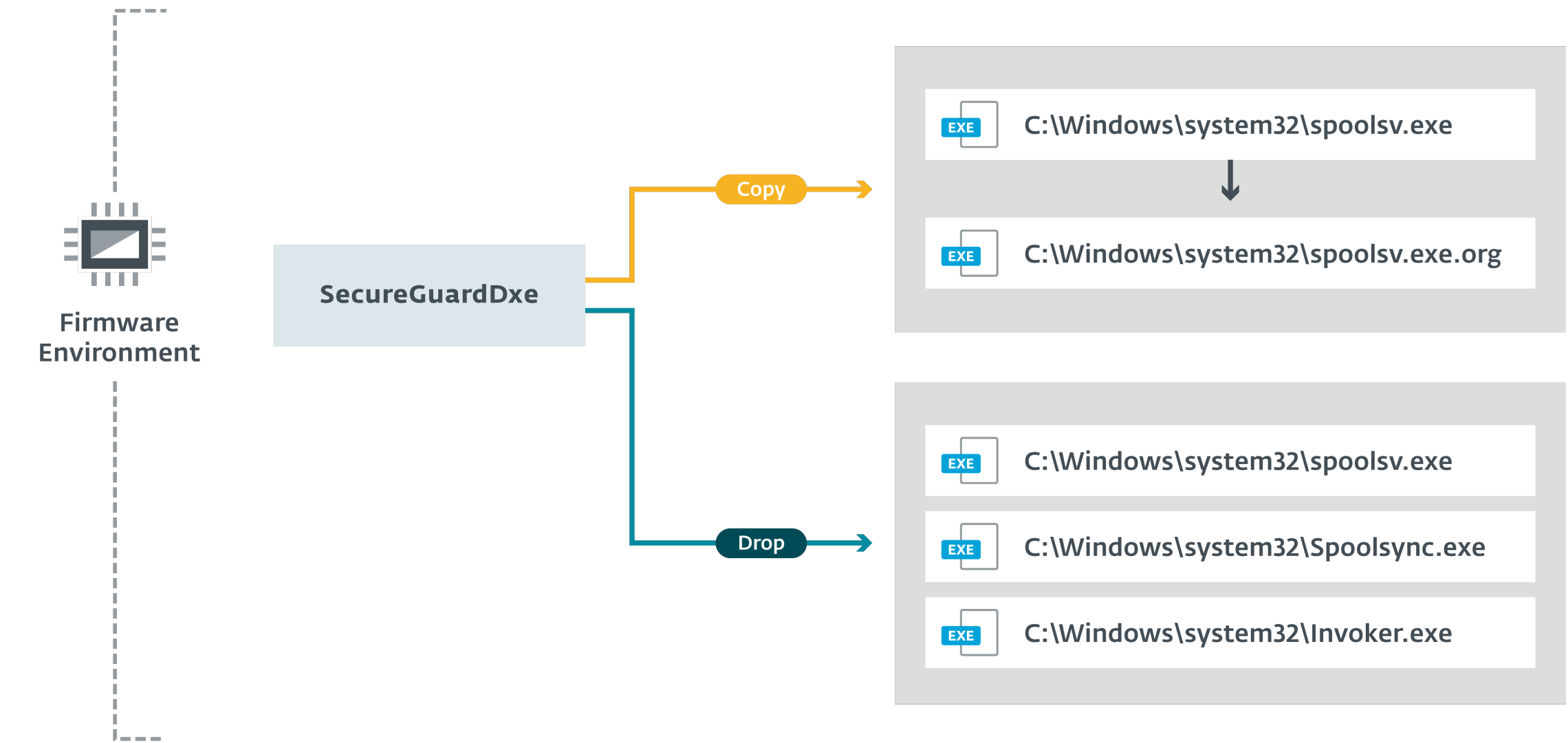


UEFI Backdoors

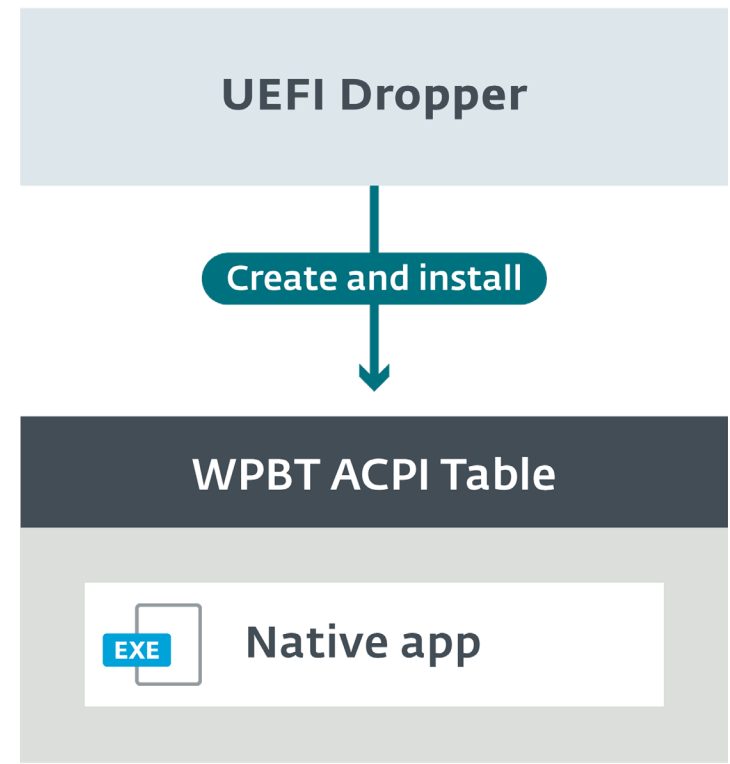
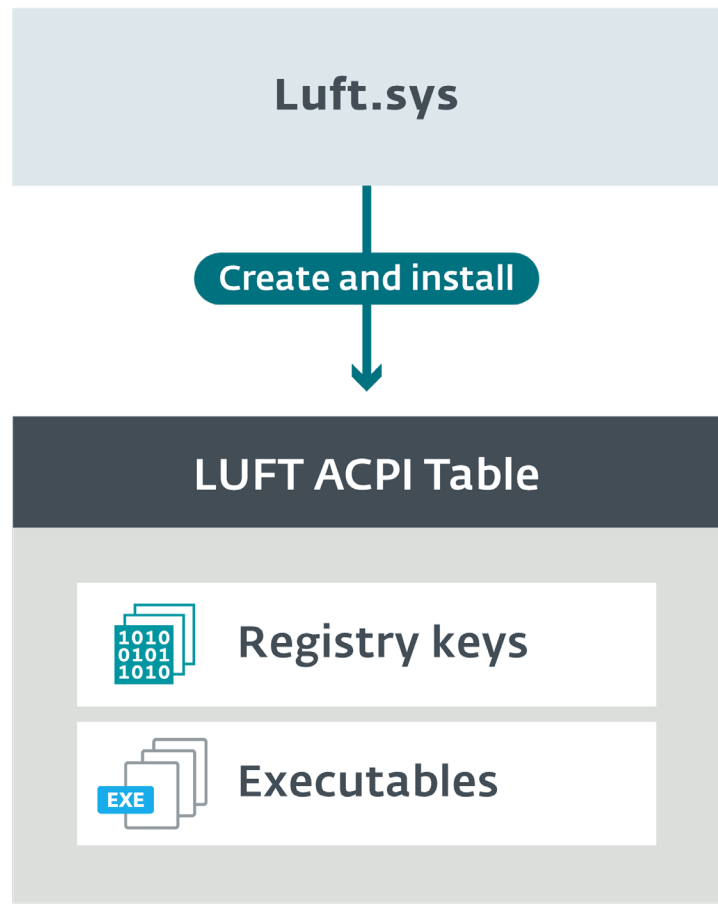
- Many password generators exist for different OEMs firmware

```
Key[0] = 0xB9u;  
Key[1] = 0xEDu;  
Key[2] = 0xF5u;  
Key[3] = 0x69;  
Key[4] = 0x9Du;  
Key[5] = 0x16;  
Key[6] = 0x49;  
Key[7] = 0xF9u;  
Key[8] = 0x8Cu;  
Key[9] = 0x5F;  
Key[10] = 0x7C;  
Key[11] = 0xB3u;  
Key[12] = 0x68;  
Key[13] = 0x3C;  
Key[14] = 0xD4u;  
Key[15] = 0xA7u;  
if ( (gRT->GetVariable(L"BackDoor", &VendorGuid, 0i64, &Size, &BackDoor) & 0x8000000000000000ui64) == 0i64 )  
{  
    StrToDword(&InputDword, UserInput, 0);  
    BackDoorChecksum = CalcChecksum(Key, &BackDoor);  
    if ( InputDword == BackDoorChecksum )  
    {  
        v16 = 3i64;  
        ResetAMITSE();  
    }  
}
```

OS Persistence – The Cowboy way



OS Persistence - WPBT



Security Implications – UEFI backdoors

- Physical access can bypass the password set by user
- Settings can be changed
 - SecureBoot
 - Lock device boot order
 - Chassis intrusion
 - etc
- Creates a false sense of security

Security Implications – OS Persistence

- Is this level of persistence really needed?
- System firmware is not updated regularly – vulnerabilities in application can linger for a long time (or forever)

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Where is the real malware?



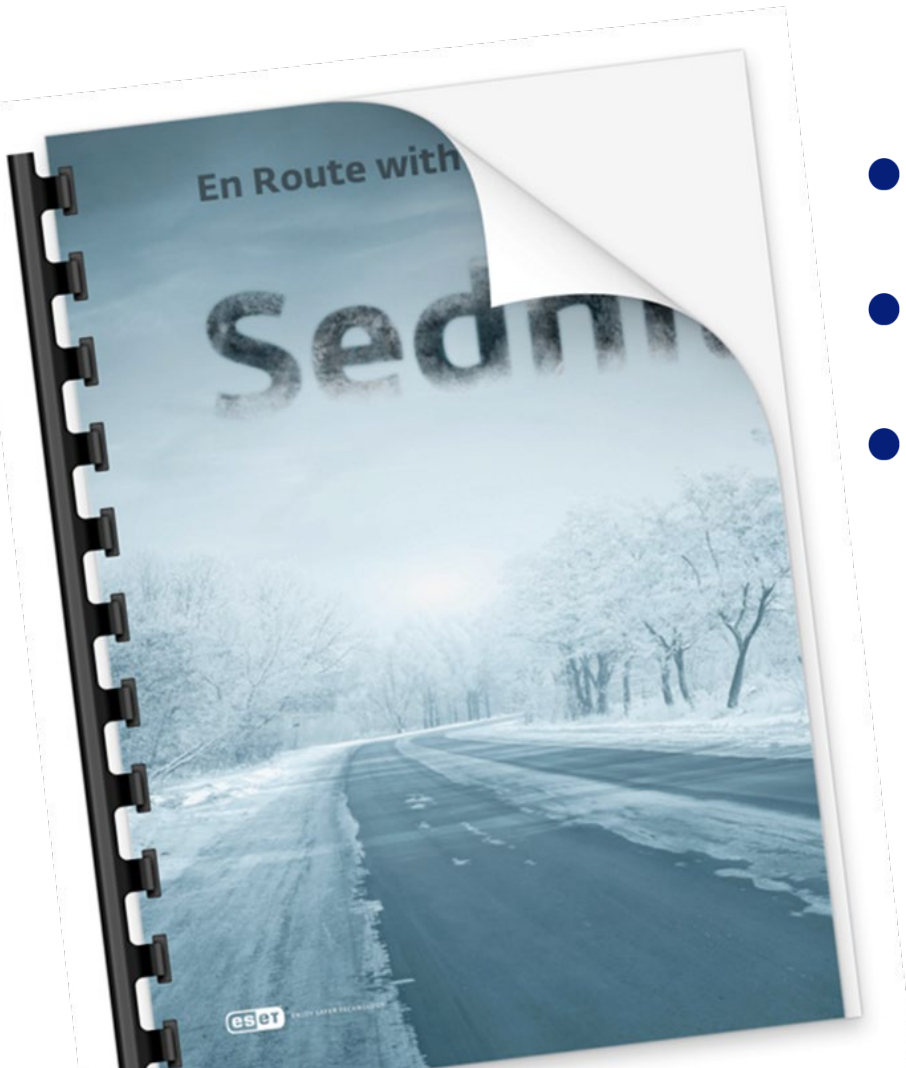
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LOJAX
LO  JACK



Sednit

(AKA Fancy Bear/APT28/STRONTIUM/etc)



- Espionage group active since the early 2000s
- Tens of custom-built malicious tools
- Regular usage of 0days
- Preferred targets: geopolitics actors, government employees, activists, journalists)

Absolute Software

The image is a screenshot of the Absolute LoJack website. The background is a dark, semi-transparent overlay on a photo of hands typing on a laptop keyboard. In the top right corner, there is a navigation bar with links: "English (North America)", "Report a Theft", "Renew", "Download", and "Login". The Absolute LoJack logo is in the top left. A hamburger menu icon is in the top right. The main headline reads "IT'S LIKE A PERSONAL SECURITY DETAIL FOR YOUR LAPTOP, TABLET or PHONE" in white, bold, serif font. Below it, in a smaller white font, is "The industry's only Investigations and Recovery Team". A white rectangular button with the text "GET ABSOLUTE LOJACK" is positioned below the headline. The overall aesthetic is professional and tech-oriented.

English (North America) | Report a Theft | Renew | Download | Login

Absolute | LOJACK

**IT'S LIKE A PERSONAL SECURITY DETAIL
FOR YOUR LAPTOP, TABLET or PHONE**

The industry's only Investigations and Recovery Team

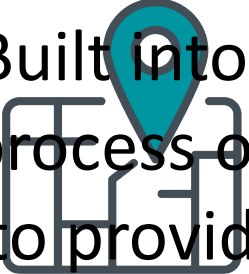



GET ABSOLUTE LOJACK

THE LEADER IN DATA AND DEVICE PROTECTION

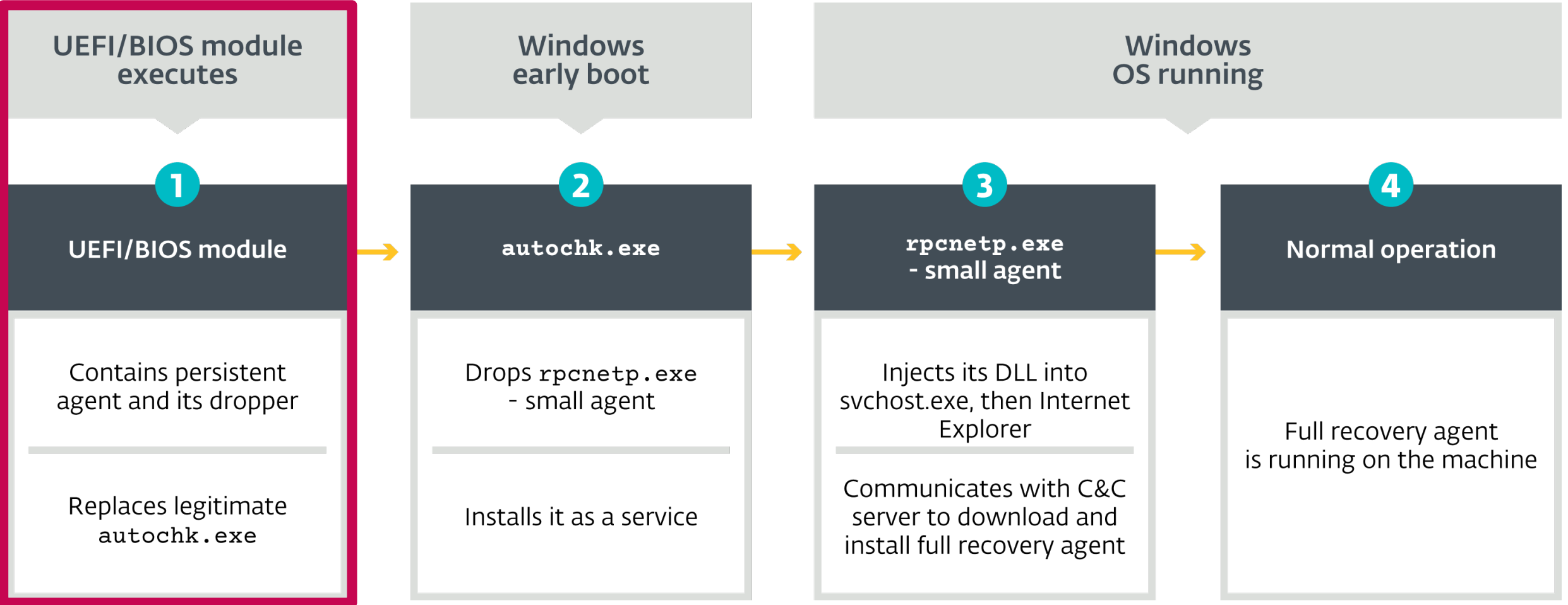
Absolute LoJack is the only persistent security solution that can **track and recover stolen devices**, while providing features that protect your personal information.

ABSOLUTE[®] | HOME & OFFICE

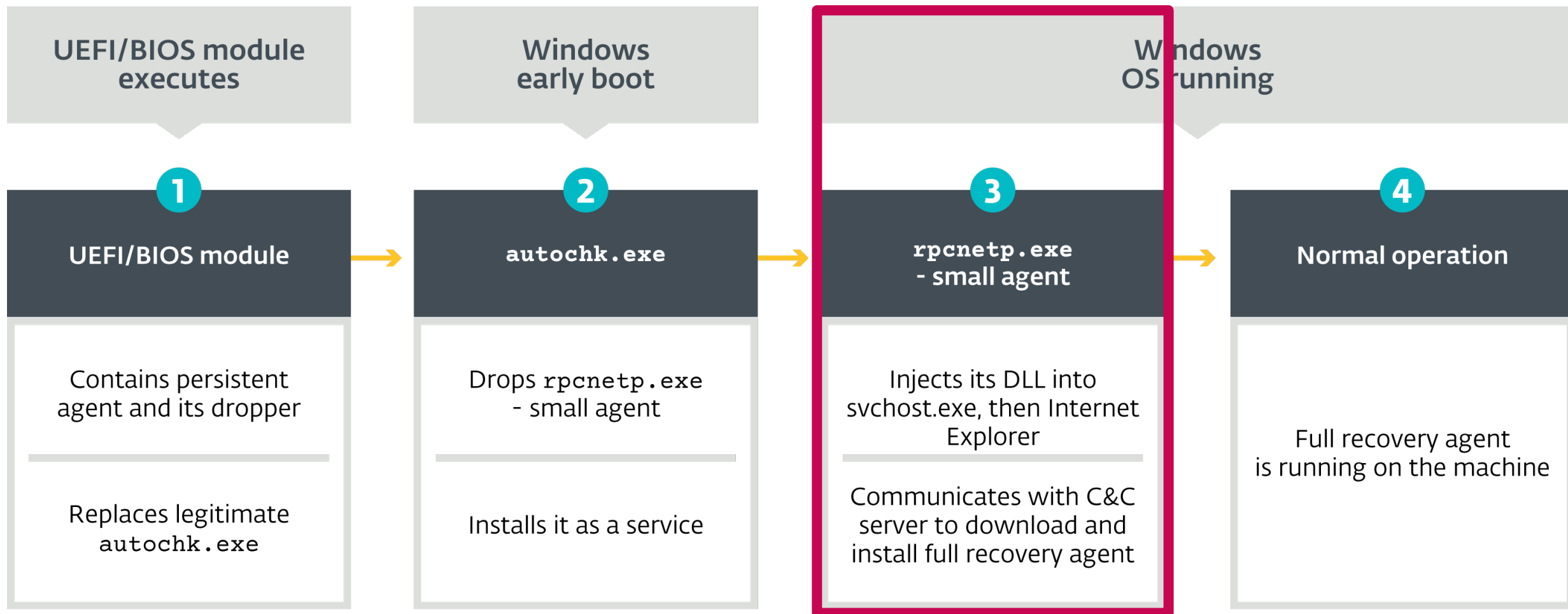
Built into the BIOS or firmware during the manufacturing process of most major device manufacturers, we are able to provide our customers with the only security solution that can withstand a factory reset, installation of a new OS or even a complete hardware replacement.

 **Locate**  **Lock**  **Delete**  **Recover**

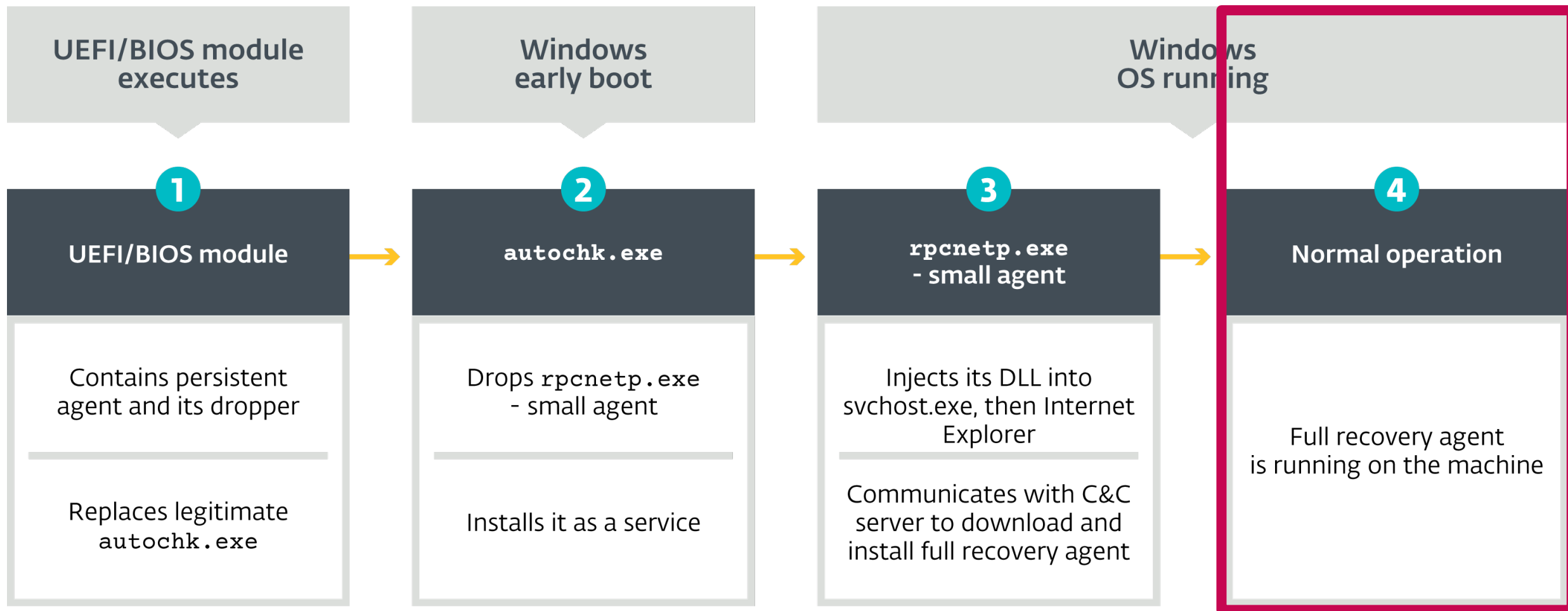
LoJack Architecture



LoJack Architecture



LoJack Architecture



Black Hat USA 2009

- Exposed design vulnerabilities in agent

Deactivate the Rootkit: Attacks on BIOS anti-theft technologies

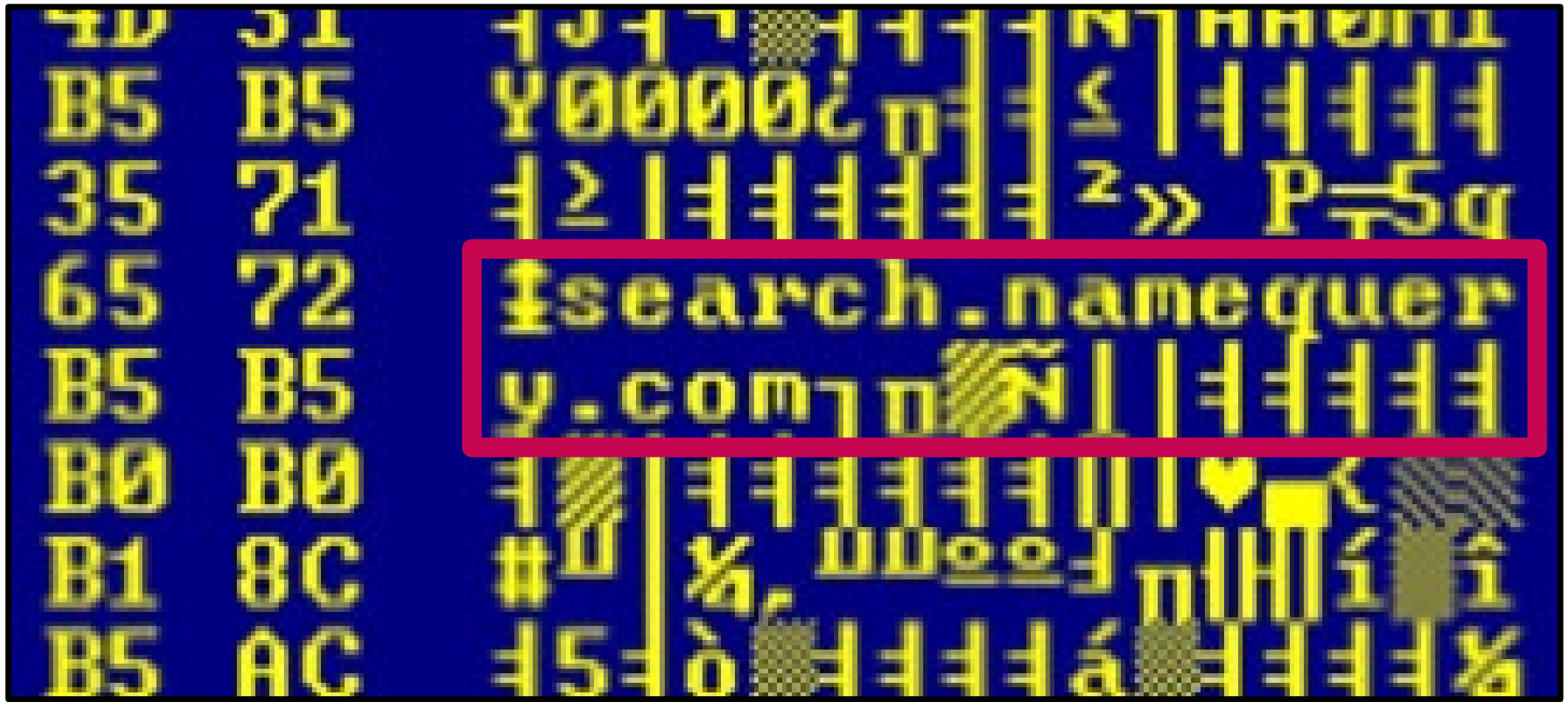
Alfredo Ortega, Anibal Sacco, Core Security Technologies

July 24, 2009

Configuration file vulnerability

00003C20:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
00003C30:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-B1	B7	B5	B5-35	AB	B1	B4	
00003C40:	B5	F5	B5	AA-B1	B5	B5	B5-B5	A5	BF	41-41	30	4D	31	5%
00003C50:	59	30	30	30-30	A8	B7	B5-B5	F3	B3	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5	AA0M1
00003C60:	B5	F2	B3	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5-B5	FD	AF	00-50	D1	35	71	Y00002
00003C70:	17	73	65	61-72	63	68	2E-6E	61	6D	65-71	75	65	72	z>P=5
00003C80:	79	2E	63	6F-6D	BF	B7	B2-A5	B3	B3	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5	search.namequer
00003C90:	B5	B2	B3	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5-B5	BA	B3	03-DC	7B	B0	B0	y.com
00003CA0:	23	BD	B3	AC-2C	BD	BD	A7-A7	BE	B7	D7-B6	A1	B1	8C	
00003CB0:	B5	35	B5	95-B1	B5	B5	B5-B5	A0	B1	B5-B5	B5	B5	AC	
00003CC0:	AE	B5	B5	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5	
00003CD0:	B5	B5	B5	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5-B5	B5	B5	B5-AF	B4	B5	AE	
00003CE0:	B3	B5	B5	B5-B5	B5	B5	98-B4	0D	98	B4-0D	86	B4	0D	
00003CF0:	9E	B1	41	54-44	54	9D	B6-B5	B5	B5	B4-8D	B4	54	58	
00003D00:	34	0D	86	B4-0D	9E	B1	41-54	44	54	9D-B6	B5	B5	B5	
00003D10:	B4	96	B4	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	
00003D20:	00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00-00	00	00	00	

Configuration file vulnerability



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LOJAX



Win32/LoJax – The cat is out of the bag

Lojack Becomes a Double-Agent

A [ASERT team](#) on May 1, 2018.

- Small agent config modifications
- Domains previously used as SedUploader C2
- SedUploader = Sednit

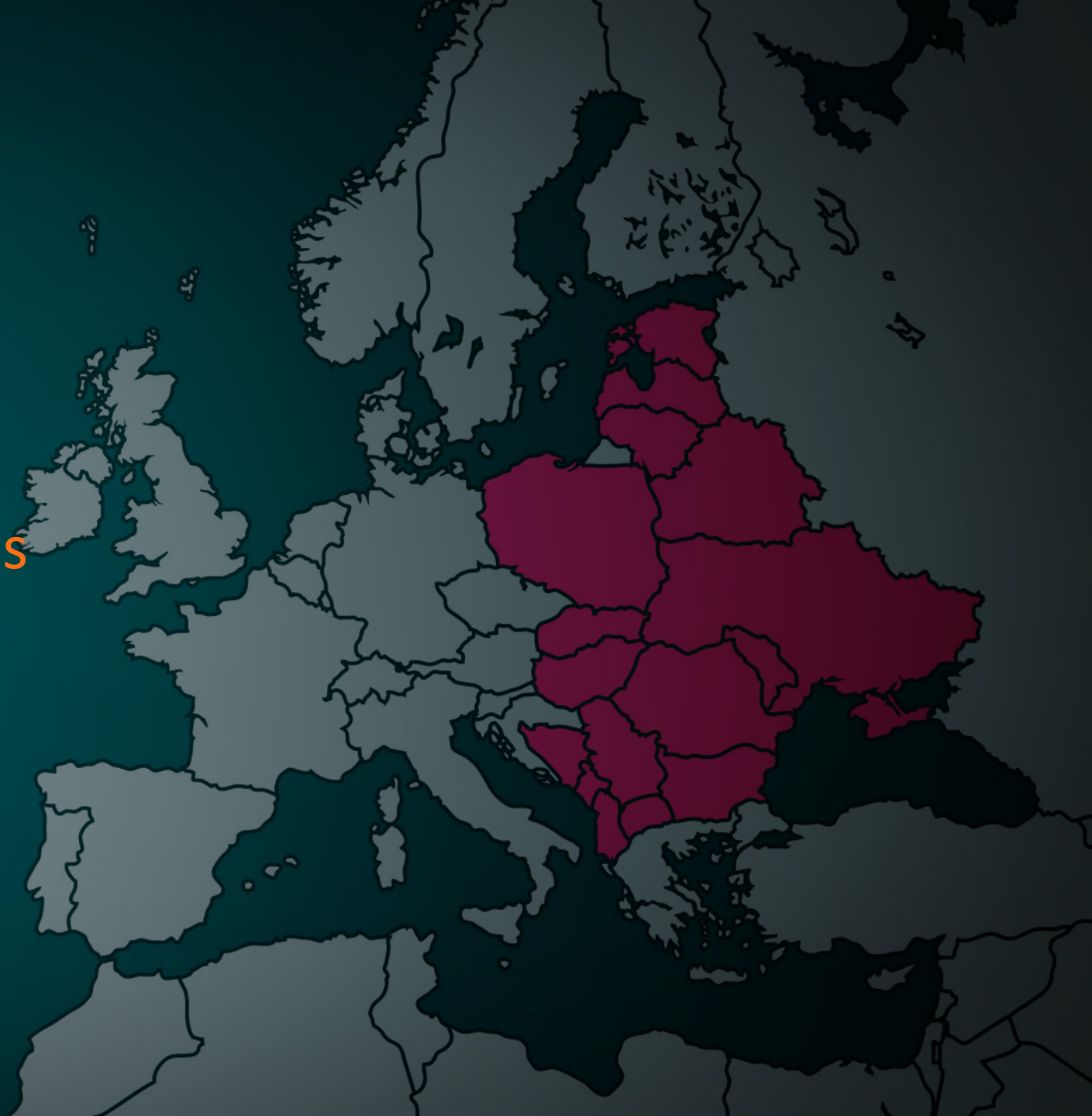
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The hunt begins



THE HUNT

- Several military and diplomatic organizations in the Balkans, Central and Eastern Europe hit
- Sednit tools present



1) info_efi.exe

- Custom tool found alongside LoJax
- Extract hardware information, including UEFI firmware vendor and version

Get SMBIOS..

SMBIOS:

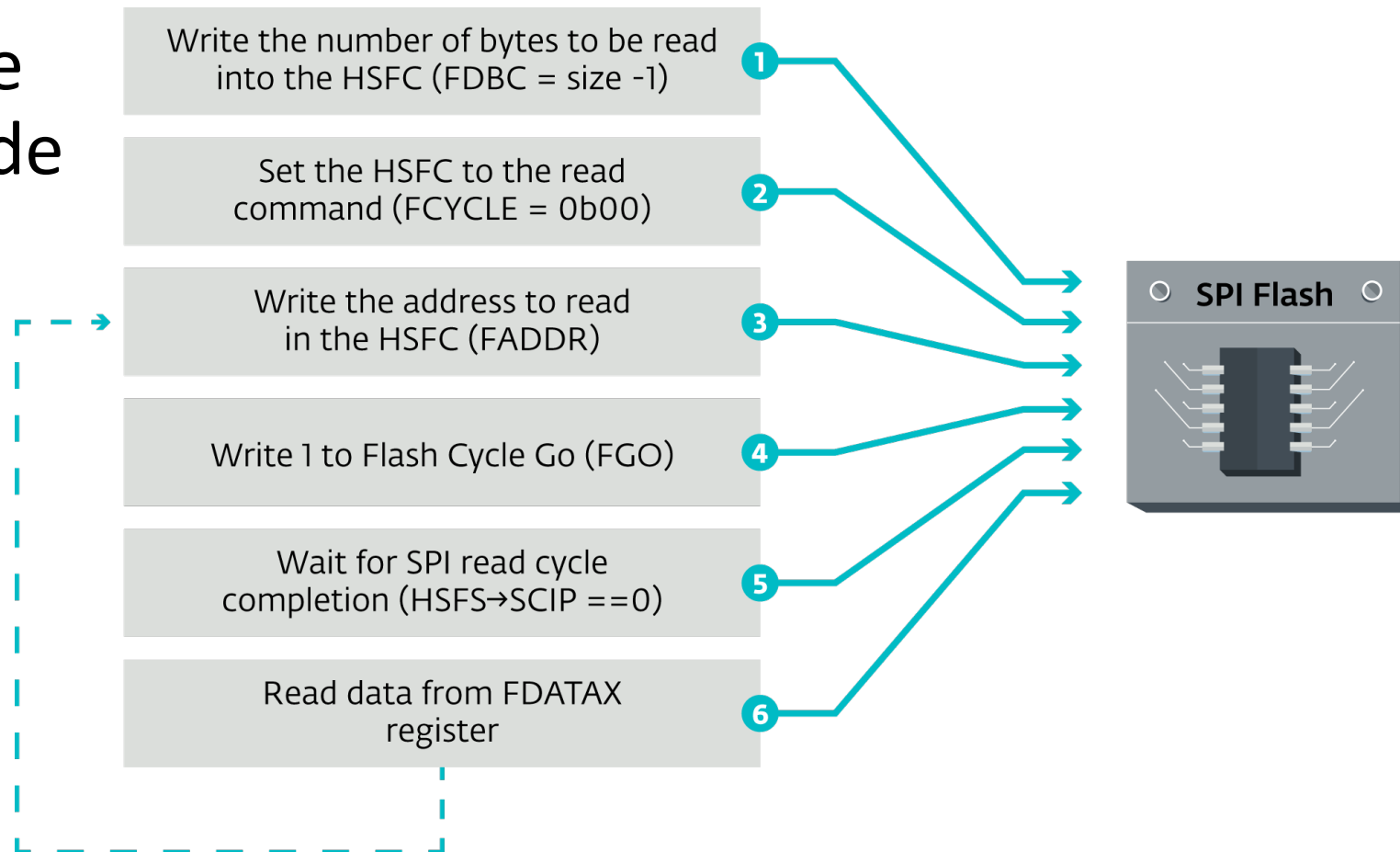
```

^@^X^@^@^A^BRê^C^@^B |^@^@^@^@^G^D^F^@^@Phoenix Technologies LTD^@6.00^@05/19/2017^@^@^A^[@^A^@A^B^C
^DUM^S^íÛW^MÓ\^T~-(F^F^@^@UMware, Inc.^@UMware Virtual Platform^@None^@UMware-
^@^@^B^O^B^@^A^B^C^D^@^@^@^@^@^A^@Intel Corporation^@440BX Desktop Reference Platf
orm^@None^@None^@^@^C^U^C^@^A^A^B^C^D^C^C^C^C4^R^@^@^@^@^@^@No Enclosure^@N/A^@None^@No Asset Tag^@^@^D*
^D^@^A^C^B^Bé^F ^@ÿÛ^O^C^B^@^@0u,^KA^D^U^@^U^@ÿÿ^@^@^@^A^A^@$^@B^@CPU #000^@GenuineIntel^@Intel(R) Cor
e(TM) i5-7400 CPU @ 3.00GHz^@^@^E.^E^@^C^D^C^C^O^L^@X^E^B^O^F^@G^@H^@
^@^K^@^L^@^M^@^N^@^O^@P^@Q^@R^@^S^@^T^@^D^@^@^F^L^F^@Aÿ^@^P^A

```

2) ReWriter_read.exe

- Tool to dump firmware content found alongside LoJax sample



3) ReWriter_Binary.exe

- Contains a UEFI rootkit: EFI/LoJax
- Infect the firmware image dumped by ReWriter_read.exe
- Write the trojanized image back to the target

4) EFI/LoJax

- Installs an NTFS driver

```

ControllerHandle_1 = ControllerHandle;
EfiDriverBindingProtocol = This;
LockedByMe = 0;
if ( fnNtfsAcquireLockOrFail() >= 0 )
    LockedByMe = 1;
Status = fnInitializeUnicodeCollationSupport(EfiDriverBindingProtocol->DriverBindingHandle);
if ( Status >= 0 )
{
    v4 = EFI_OPEN_PROTOCOL_GET_PROTOCOL;
    Status = (gEfiBootServices->OpenProtocol)(
        ControllerHandle_1,
        &gEfiBlockIoProtocolGuid,
        &gEfiBlockIoProtocol,
        EfiDriverBindingProtocol->DriverBindingHandle,
        ControllerHandle_1,
        v4);
    if ( Status >= 0 )
    {
        LODWORD(v6) = EFI_OPEN_PROTOCOL_BY_DRIVER;
        Status = (gEfiBootServices->OpenProtocol)(
            ControllerHandle_1,
            &gEfiDiskIoProtocolGuid,
            &gEfiDiskIoProtocol,
            EfiDriverBindingProtocol->DriverBindingHandle,
            ControllerHandle_1,
            v6);
        if ( Status >= 0 )
        {
            Status = fnNtfsAllocateVolume(ControllerHandle_1,
                EfiDiskIoProtocol, EfiBlockIoProtocol);
            if ( Status < 0 )
            {
                LODWORD(v7) = 4;
                Status = (gEfiBootServices->OpenProtocol)(
                    ControllerHandle_1,
                    &gEfiSimpleFileSystemProtocolGuid,
                    0x64,
                    EfiDriverBindingProtocol->DriverBindingHandle,
                    ControllerHandle_1,
                    v7);
                if ( Status < 0 )
                {
                    (gEfiBootServices->CloseProtocol)(
                        ControllerHandle_1,
                        &gEfiDiskIoProtocolGuid,
                        EfiDriverBindingProtocol->DriverBindingHandle,
                        ControllerHandle_1);
                }
            }
        }
    }
    if ( LockedByMe )
        fnNtfsReleaseLock(v3);
    return Status;
}

Status = NtfsAcquireLockOrFail ();
if (!EFI_ERROR (Status)) {
    LockedByMe = TRUE;
}

Status = InitializeUnicodeCollationSupport (This->DriverBindingHandle);
if (EFI_ERROR (Status)) {
    goto Exit;
}
Status = gBS->OpenProtocol (
    ControllerHandle,
    &gEfiBlockIoProtocolGuid,
    (VOID **) &BlockIo,
    This->DriverBindingHandle,
    ControllerHandle,
    EFI_OPEN_PROTOCOL_GET_PROTOCOL
);
if (EFI_ERROR (Status)) {
    goto Exit;
}
Status = gBS->OpenProtocol (
    ControllerHandle,
    &gEfiDiskIoProtocolGuid,
    (VOID **) &DiskIo,
    This->DriverBindingHandle,
    ControllerHandle,
    EFI_OPEN_PROTOCOL_BY_DRIVER
);
if (EFI_ERROR (Status)) {
    goto Exit;
}
Status = NtfsAllocateVolume (ControllerHandle, DiskIo, BlockIo);
if (EFI_ERROR (Status)) {
    Status = gBS->OpenProtocol (
        ControllerHandle,
        &gEfiSimpleFileSystemProtocolGuid,
        NULL,
        This->DriverBindingHandle,
        ControllerHandle,
        EFI_OPEN_PROTOCOL_TEST_PROTOCOL
    );
    if (EFI_ERROR (Status)) {
        gBS->CloseProtocol (
            ControllerHandle,
            &gEfiDiskIoProtocolGuid,
            This->DriverBindingHandle,
            ControllerHandle
        );
    }
}
Exit:
if (LockedByMe) {
    NtfsReleaseLock ();
}

```

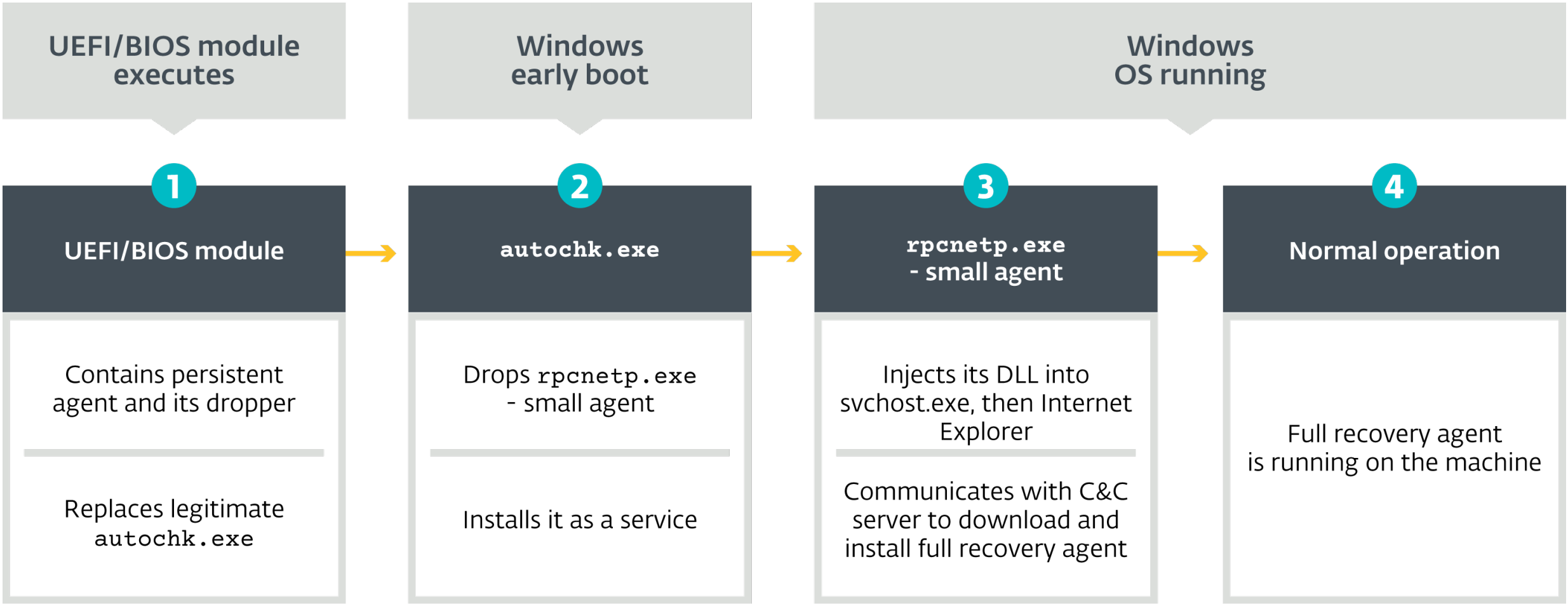
4) EFI/LoJax

- Writes Win32/LoJax binaries on the system partition

4) EFI/LoJax

- Writes Win32/LoJax binaries on the system partition
- Patch a value in the Windows Registry
- ..
- Profit!

LoJack Architecture



Let's take a step back

- Info_efi.exe
- collect details on firmware
- ReWriter_read.exe
- dump firmware memory
- ReWriter_Binary.exe
- Infect dumped memory with a custom UEFI module
- Write the image back

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First UEFI rootkit in the wild?





Vault 7: CIA Hacking Tools Revealed



Releases ▼

Documents ▼

Navigation: » [Latest version](#)

DerStarke 2.0

('toc' missing)

Building DerStarke (Developer)
Top-Level Builder (build.py)



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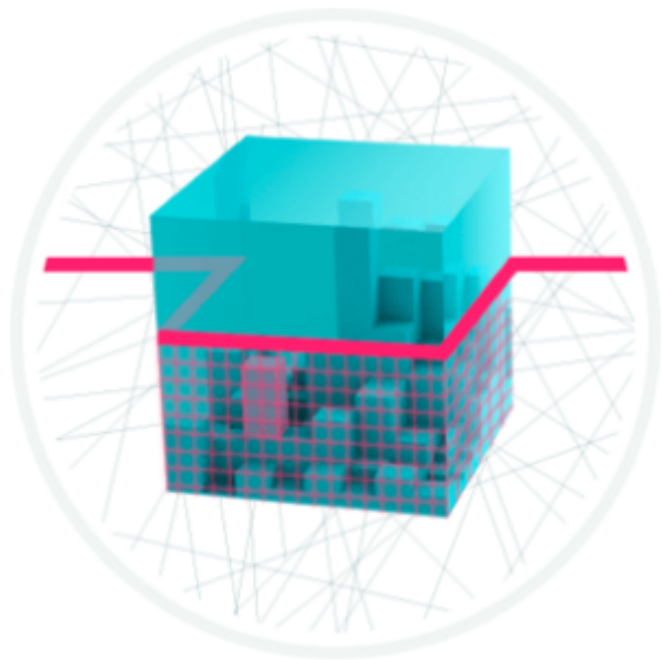
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Hacking Team Uses UEFI BIOS Rootkit to Keep RCS 9 Agent in Target Systems

Posted on: [July 13, 2015](#) at 10:13 am **Posted in:** [Malware](#), [Targeted Attacks](#)

Author: [Philippe Lin \(Senior Threat Researcher\)](#)



UEFI Scanner

ESET is the first internet security provider to add a dedicated layer into its solution that protects the Unified Extensible Firmware Interface (UEFI). ESET UEFI Scanner checks and enforces the security of the pre-boot environment that is compliant with the UEFI specification. It is designed to monitor the integrity of the firmware and in case modification is detected, it notifies the user.

[**⊕ Show more**](#)

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Prevention and Remediation



Prevention

- Keep your firmware up-to-date

Prevention

- Keep your firmware up-to-date
- Verify equipment's UEFI security

Prevention

- Keep your firmware up-to-date
- Verify equipment's UEFI security
- Firmware security assessments can be done with CHIPSEC
- Note that chipsec is a test tool and not intended for use on production systems.

Prevention

- Keep your firmware up-to-date
- Verify equipment's UEFI security
- Firmware security assessments can be done with CHIPSEC
- Note that chipsec is a test tool and not intended for use on production systems.
- Security solution that scans UEFI firmware memory

Remediation

- Reinstall Windows

Remediation

- ~~Reinstall Windows~~

Remediation

- ~~Reinstall Windows~~
- Replace harddrive

Remediation

- ~~Reinstall Windows~~
- ~~Replace harddrive~~

Remediation

- ~~Reinstall Windows~~
- ~~Replace harddrive~~
- Reflash firmware with a clean version from the vendor

Remediation

- ~~Reinstall Windows~~
- ~~Replace harddrive~~
- Reflash firmware with a clean version from the vendor
- If it's not an option...

Remediation

- ~~Reinstall Windows~~
- ~~Replace harddrive~~
- Reflash firmware with a clean version from the vendor
- If it's not an option...



Conclusion

- UEFI malware is no longer theoretical.
- It has to be present in current threat models.
- Machine learning is a usable method to find oddities in UEFI landscape

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Questions?

Big shout-out to: **Hamidreza Ebtehaj**
Martin Smolár
Frédéric Vachon