

ENISA Trainings

Windows malware analysis

Investigation - Infection #1

Section objectives

1. Analysis of network flows
2. Analysis of system (sysmon) logs

Is good to know

- Add all necessary information to Hive
- Most of operating system events are noise (in this case):
 - Performance data
 - OS start / shutdown events
 - WMI events
- Most of network traffic is a noise:
 - Service & routing protocols
 - Auto configuration protocols
 - Telemetry
 - Advertisement networks & external service providers (in Web traffic analysis case)

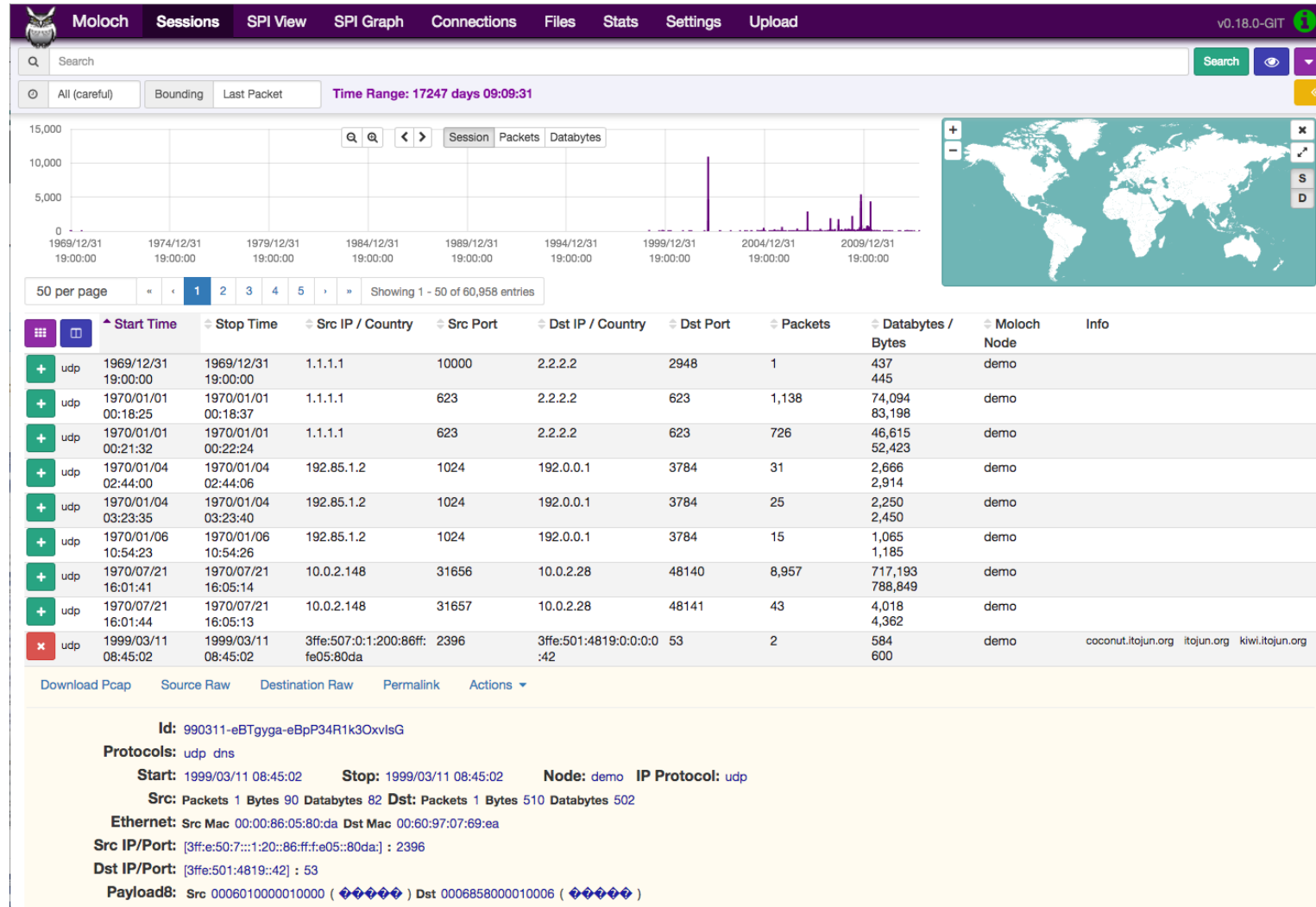
Context

1. Spear-phishing with malicious attachment:
Invoice_no_89685958466.pdf.exe
2. We have only system logs & network traffic from infected workstation

Exercise #1

Network flow analysis

Moloch



Moloch

Moloch is an open source, large scale, full packet capturing, indexing, and database system.

Features:

- Indexing all network traffic
- Displaying TCP & UDP sessions
- Stateful packet inspection (SPI)
- API for third-party apps

Exercise #1.1 – Network flow analysis

- Open **moloch.enisa.ex** in web browser
 - Log to Moloch with credentials: *admin/MOLOCH*
 - Navigate to *Sessions* tab
 - In Search textbox type: **dns.query.type == A** (All DNS requests)
 - Adding next condition (with AND) like **host.dns.cnt == 1** (number of server's IP from request) could help with manual packet filtering
 - Any unusual or evil domains?
 - A lot of network traffic!

Exercise #2

Windows (Sysmon) log analysis

Sysmon

Event 1, Sysmon

General Details

Process Create:
UtcTime: 2017-07-31 06:38:08.768
ProcessGuid: {e4cee641-d050-597e-0000-0010e9bf5200}
ProcessId: 136
Image: C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\mscorsvw.exe
CommandLine: C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\mscorsvw.exe -StartupEvent 5d4 -InterruptEvent 0 -NGENProcess 5d8 -Pipe 5d0
-Comment "NGen Worker Process"
CurrentDirectory: C:\WINDOWS\system32\
User: NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM
LogonGuid: {e4cee641-c4e1-597e-0000-0020e7030000}
LogonId: 0x3E7
TerminalSessionId: 0
IntegrityLevel: System
Hashes: MD5=2126829E51CDF327EAC041127E49DB79,SHA256=26175F1C85658BA787741FA7C7B297D105B985742E640201CB38FD6B3C17F038
ParentProcessGuid: {e4cee641-cac6-597e-0000-0010fb542c00}
ParentProcessId: 7672
ParentImage: C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\ngen.exe
ParentCommandLine: "C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\ngen.exe" ExecuteQueuedItems /LegacyServiceBehavior

Log Name: Microsoft-Windows-Sysmon/Operational
Source: Sysmon
Event ID: 1
Level: Information
User: SYSTEM
OpCode: Info
More Information: [Event Log Online Help](#)

Logged: 31.07.2017 08:38:08
Task Category: Process Create (rule: ProcessCreate)
Keywords:
Computer: DESKTOP-63KR1PU

Sysmon

“It provides detailed information about process creations, network connections, and changes to file creation time.” – from official site

- Works as a Windows system service and device driver
- Once installed on a system, remains resident across system reboots to monitor and log system activity to the Windows event log
- All logged events are stored in **Applications and Services Logs/Microsoft/Windows/Sysmon/Operational**

Sysmon

To monitor **network connections** and **hashes (MD5, SHA1)** for created processes:

- `sysmon -accepteula -i -n -h md5,sha1`

To monitor **lsass.exe** process with all **hashes**:

- `sysmon -accepteula -i -l lsass.exe -h *`

Sysmon

Our provided log contains events from infected workstation about:

- Process creation & termination (with file / image hashes)
- Network connections

In exercise context the most interesting things for us are process creation events - **potential malicious code execution**

Exercise #2.0 – Sysmon log analysis

Quick tips before start:

- Check **MISP** for possible IoCs and threat actor information
- Open **HIVE** in new tab
- Take notes for them before start of your analysis 😊

Exercise #2.1 – Sysmon log analysis

- When we have some IoCs – time to check logs for them
 - Process (image) names
 - Hashes
 - Domains
- Quick and dirty check for confirmed malicious hashes
 - On Linux machine in Terminal: `cat sysmon_logs.txt | grep <hash_from_MISP>`
 - If exists – analyzed system is infected

ENISA Trainings

Windows malware analysis

Investigation - Infection #2

Section objectives

1. Static malware analysis
2. Dynamic malware analysis
3. Malware decompilation

Before we start...

Is good to know:

- Add all necessary information to Hive
- Malware very often try to hide with names of system's executables or random names in %APPDATA% folders'
- At the beginning of analysis is worth to check autostart entries with, for example, Autoruns or Task Manager and run:
 1. Process Monitor
 2. Wireshark
 3. Process Explorer
 4. (If malicious binary found) pestudio

All will be introduced later

Context

Little reminder:

1. Spear-phishing with malicious invoice
 1. Malware #1 – mostly log analysis
2. Infected Wordpress instance
 1. Malware #2 (**We are here!**)

Must-Have Tools

- Windows Sysinternals suite
- Pestudio
- Wireshark
- Loki

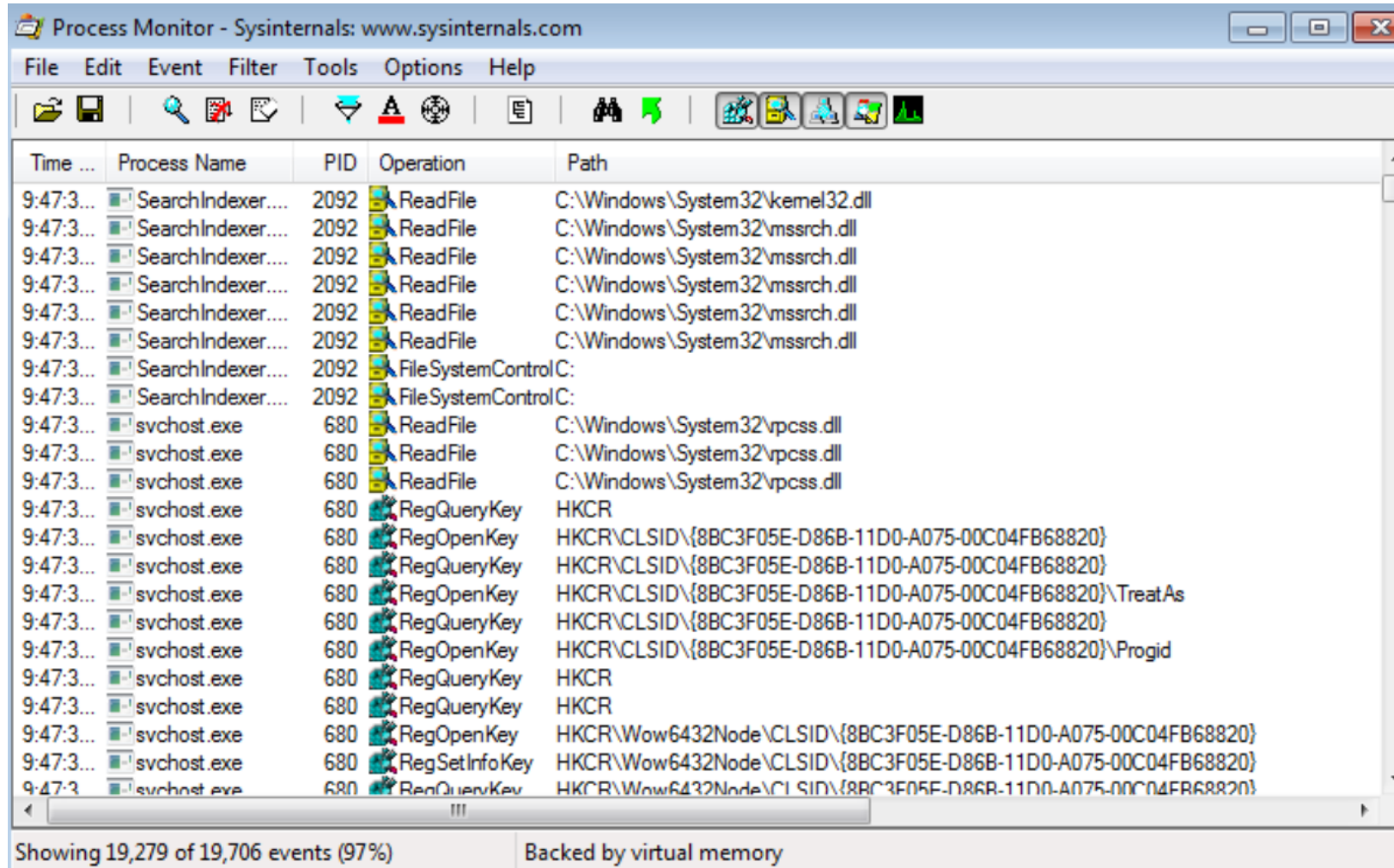
Windows Sysinternals

“Whether you’re an IT Pro or a developer, you’ll find Sysinternals utilities to help you manage, troubleshoot and diagnose your Windows systems and applications” – from official site.

Most useful tools for initial Windows’ malware research:

- Process Monitor
- Process Explorer
- Autoruns

Process Monitor



The screenshot shows the Process Monitor application window with the title bar "Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Event, Filter, Tools, Options, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations, search, and system monitoring. The main display area is a table with the following columns: Time, Process Name, PID, Operation, and Path. The table lists events for SearchIndexer.exe and svchost.exe. The status bar at the bottom indicates "Showing 19,279 of 19,706 events (97%)" and "Backed by virtual memory".

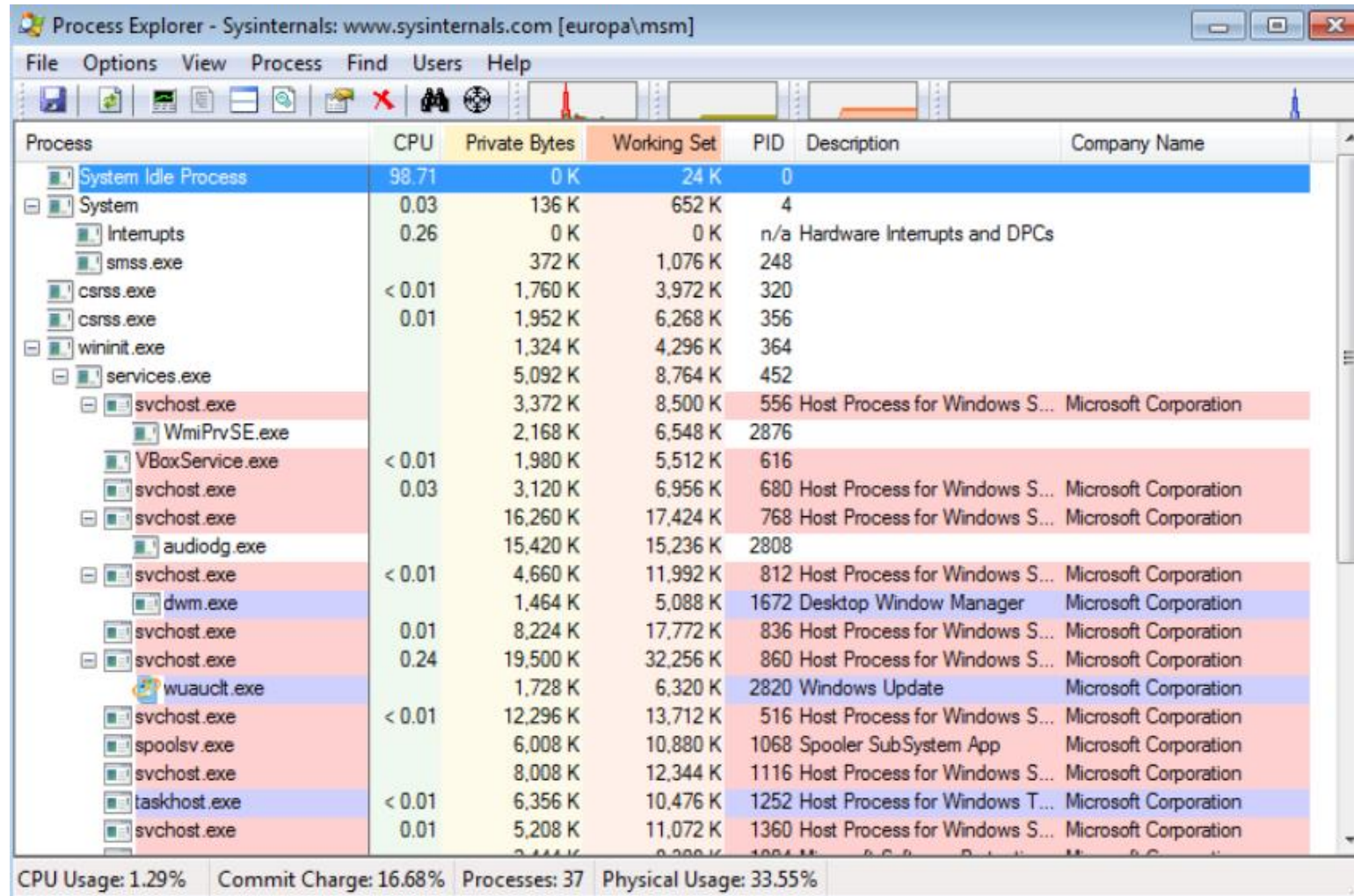
Time	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\kernel32.dll
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vmssrch.dll
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vmssrch.dll
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vmssrch.dll
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vmssrch.dll
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vmssrch.dll
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	FileSystemControlC:	
9:47:3...	SearchIndexer....	2092	FileSystemControlC:	
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vpcss.dll
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vpcss.dll
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\vpcss.dll
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegQueryKey	HKCR
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegOpenKey	HKCR\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegQueryKey	HKCR\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegOpenKey	HKCR\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}\TreatAs
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegQueryKey	HKCR\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegOpenKey	HKCR\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}\ProgId
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegQueryKey	HKCR
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegQueryKey	HKCR
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegOpenKey	HKCR\Wow6432Node\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegSetInfoKey	HKCR\Wow6432Node\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}
9:47:3...	svchost.exe	680	RegQueryKey	HKCR\Wow6432Node\CLSID\{8BC3F05E-D86B-11D0-A075-00C04FB68820}

Showing 19,279 of 19,706 events (97%) Backed by virtual memory

Process Monitor

- **Advanced monitoring tool for Windows that shows real-time file system, registry, network and process / thread activity**
- Output: lots of Windows internal mechanism information
 - Loaded libraries
 - Process and thread stacks
 - Operation status
- Unfortunately is difficult to use for beginners

Process Explorer



The screenshot shows the Process Explorer application window. The title bar reads "Process Explorer - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com [europa\msm]". The menu bar includes "File", "Options", "View", "Process", "Find", "Users", and "Help". The toolbar contains various icons for file operations and system functions. The main pane displays a list of processes with columns for "Process", "CPU", "Private Bytes", "Working Set", "PID", "Description", and "Company Name". The processes are organized in a tree view on the left, starting with "System Idle Process" and "System". The status bar at the bottom shows "CPU Usage: 1.29%", "Commit Charge: 16.68%", "Processes: 37", and "Physical Usage: 33.55%".

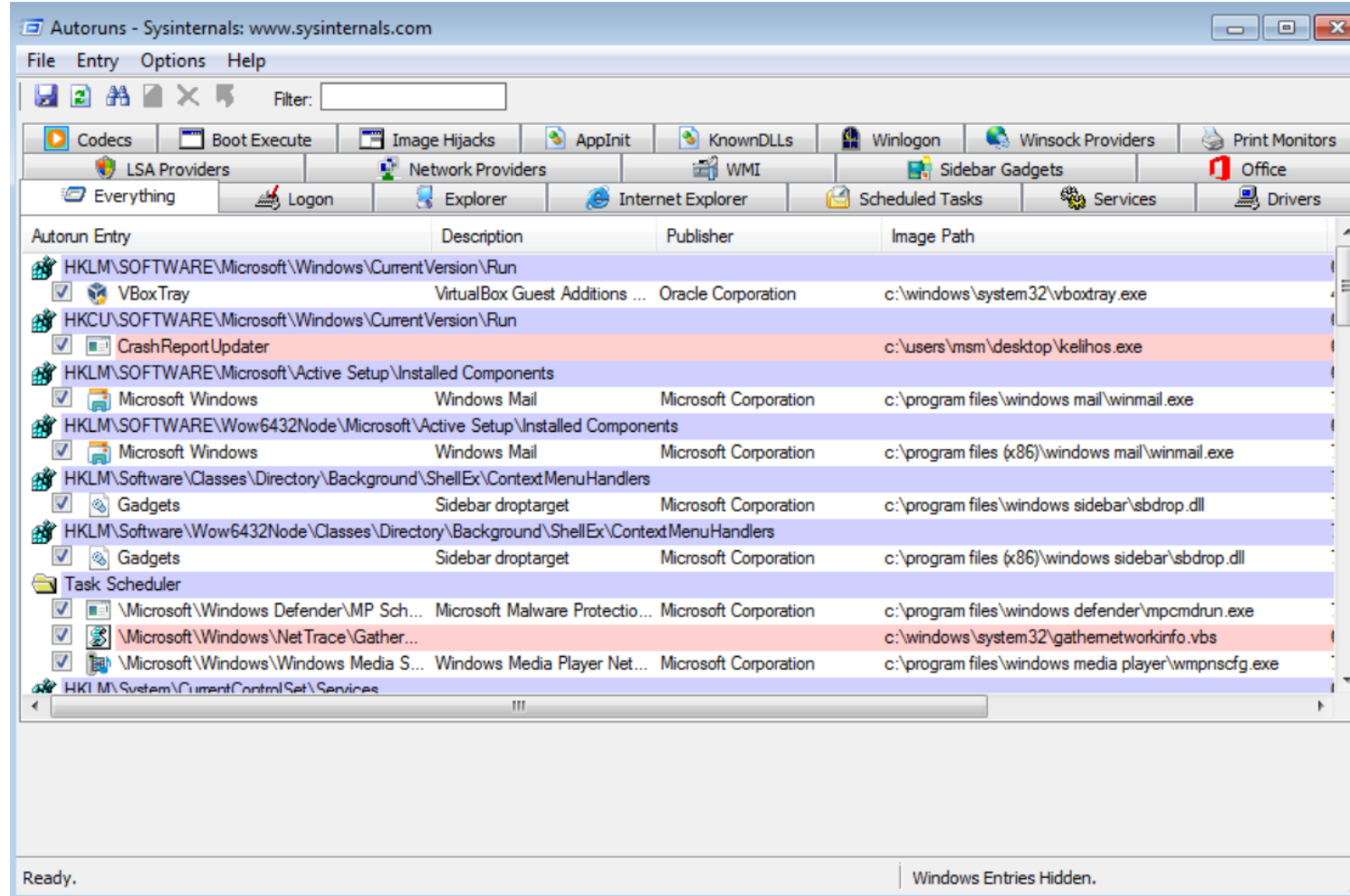
Process	CPU	Private Bytes	Working Set	PID	Description	Company Name
System Idle Process	98.71	0 K	24 K	0		
System	0.03	136 K	652 K	4		
Interrupts	0.26	0 K	0 K	n/a	Hardware Interrupts and DPCs	
smss.exe		372 K	1,076 K	248		
csrss.exe	< 0.01	1,760 K	3,972 K	320		
csrss.exe	0.01	1,952 K	6,268 K	356		
wininit.exe		1,324 K	4,296 K	364		
services.exe		5,092 K	8,764 K	452		
svchost.exe		3,372 K	8,500 K	556	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
WmiPrvSE.exe		2,168 K	6,548 K	2876		
VBoxService.exe	< 0.01	1,980 K	5,512 K	616		
svchost.exe	0.03	3,120 K	6,956 K	680	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		16,260 K	17,424 K	768	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
audiodg.exe		15,420 K	15,236 K	2808		
svchost.exe	< 0.01	4,660 K	11,992 K	812	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
dwm.exe		1,464 K	5,088 K	1672	Desktop Window Manager	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.01	8,224 K	17,772 K	836	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.24	19,500 K	32,256 K	860	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
wuauclt.exe		1,728 K	6,320 K	2820	Windows Update	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	< 0.01	12,296 K	13,712 K	516	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
spoolsv.exe		6,008 K	10,880 K	1068	Spooler SubSystem App	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe		8,008 K	12,344 K	1116	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
taskhost.exe	< 0.01	6,356 K	10,476 K	1252	Host Process for Windows T...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	0.01	5,208 K	11,072 K	1360	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation

CPU Usage: 1.29% Commit Charge: 16.68% Processes: 37 Physical Usage: 33.55%

Process Explorer

- **“Task manager on steroids”** 😊
- **Output:**
 - System resources statistics (CPU, memory, etc...)
 - Displays process's handles which includes:
 - Named mutants
 - Events
 - Sockets
 - Files
 - Registry keys
 - Creates dump of process memory

Autoruns

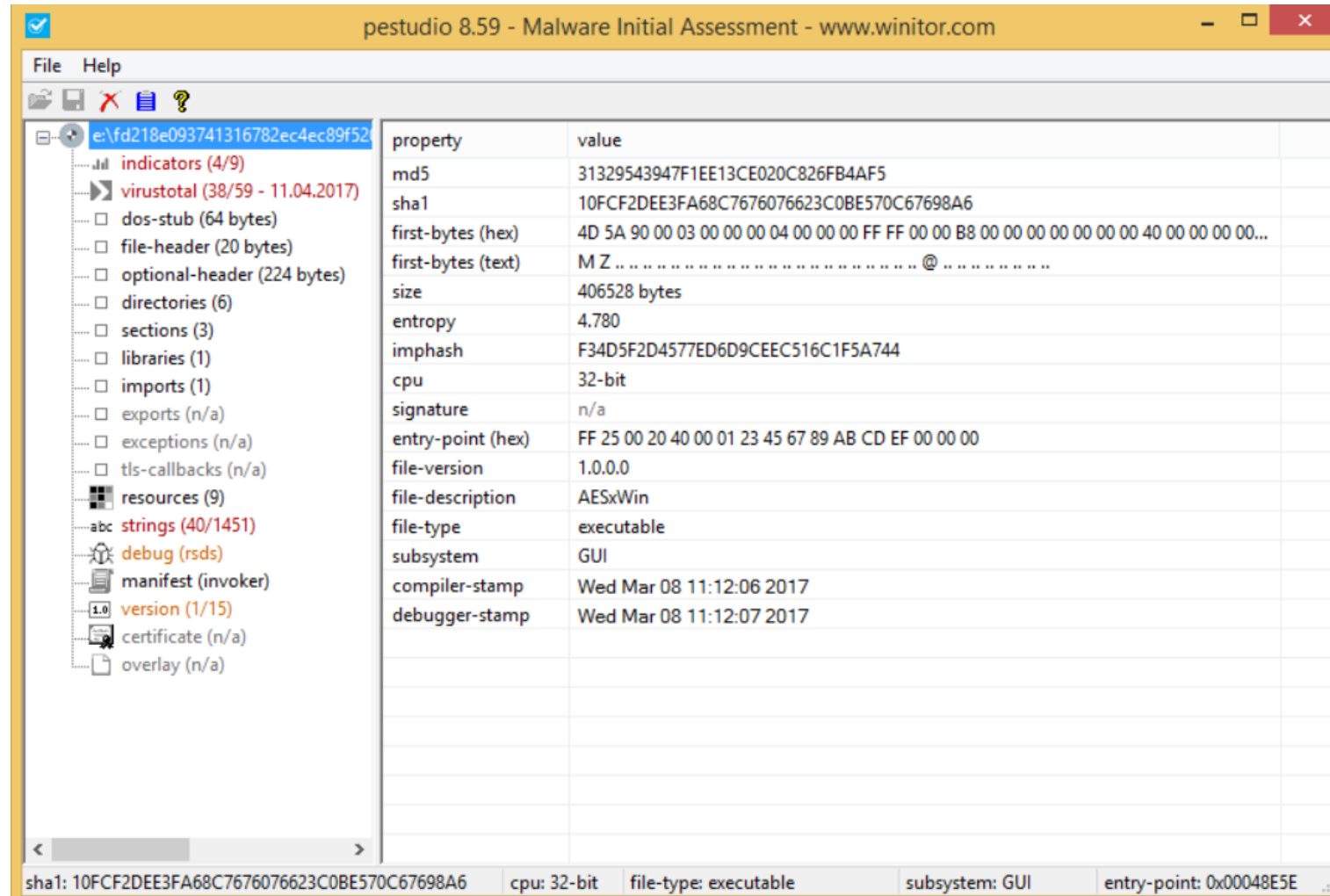


[DRAFT- CLASSIFIED]

Autoruns

- **Shows you what programs are configured to run during system bootup or login**
- **Output:**
 - Various Windows objects started at system boot:
 - Codecs
 - DLLs
 - Services
 - WMI objects
 - Scheduled tasks
 - Office sub-components

pestudio

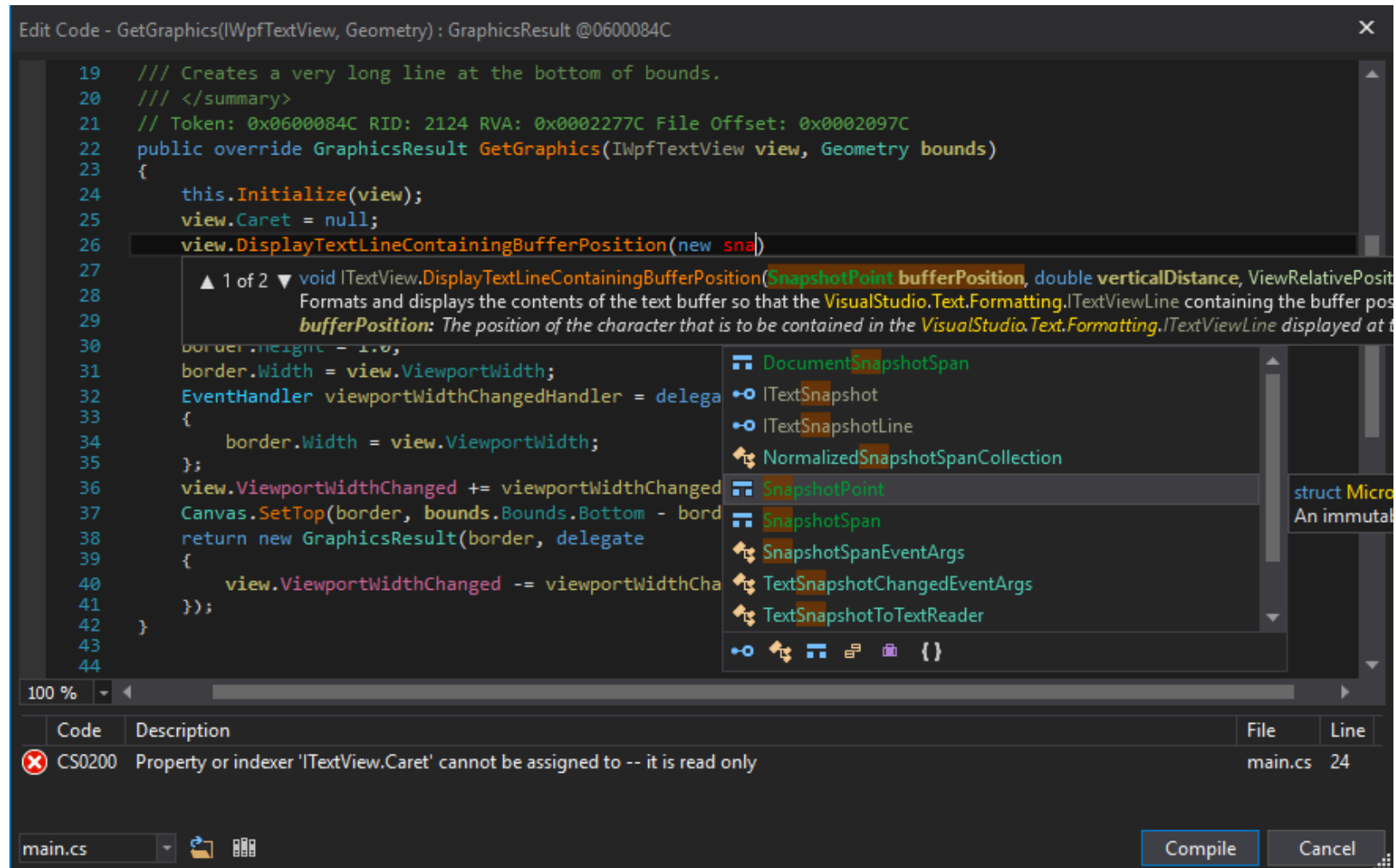


[DRAFT- CLASSIFIED]

pestudio

- **Initial malware assessment**
- Input: Windows application binary file
- Output:
 - VirusTotal report
 - PE format informations:
 - Imports / Exports
 - Resources
 - Strings
 - Manifest
 - Digital certificates

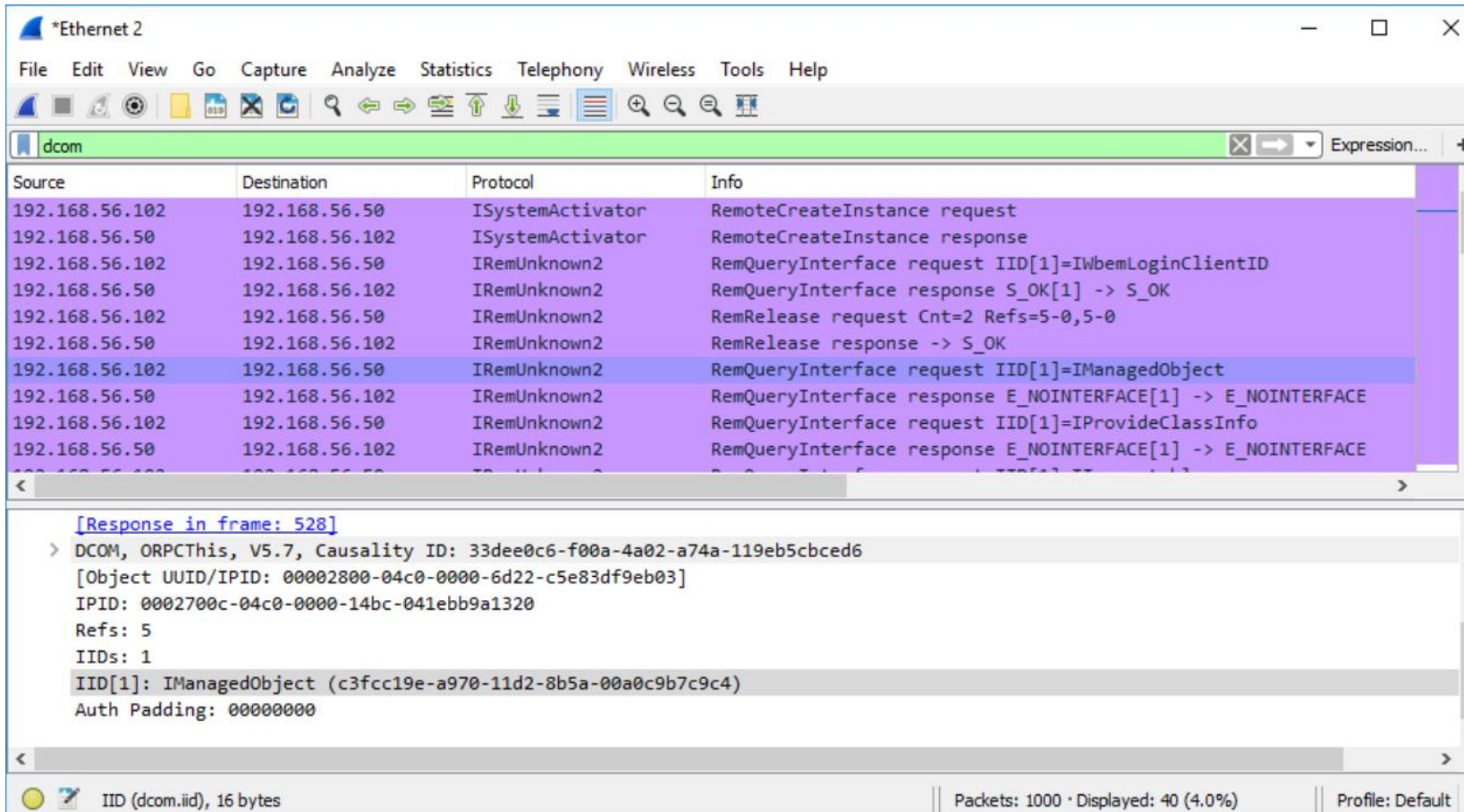
dnSpy & ILSpy



dnSpy & ILspy

- **.NET assembly browsers and decompilers**
- Input: C# application binary file
- Possible output:
 - Editing all metadata of types (classes), methods, properties, events, fields
 - Adding, removing, renaming any type (class), method, property, event, field
 - Editing, adding, removing .NET resources and saving them to disk
 - Debugging any .NET assembly, no source code required

Wireshark



Wireshark

- **Wireshark is the world's foremost and widely-used network protocol analyzer**
- Output:
 - Dumping traffic from a live network connection or read from a file of already-captured packets
 - Data display can be refined using a display filter (powerful!).
 - Plug-ins can be created for dissecting new protocols.

Exercise #1

Check for Windows infection

Exercise #1.0 – Monitoring Windows behavior

Quick tips (once again):

- Check **MISP** for possible IoCs and threat actor information
- Open **HIVE** in new tab
- Take notes for them before start of your analysis 😊

Exercise #1.1 – Monitoring Windows behavior

- Based on **MISP** information about threat actors try to find malicious process on infected machine:
 - Run **ProcessExplorer**
 - Click on *View*, choose *Select Columns...*
 - Tick checkbox: *User Name*
 - Check all processes for *User Name*
 - Is there any Windows binaries running on logged user rights?
 - Hint: Column *Company Name*
 - Open one or two processes properties and check if there is additional tabs
 - *.NET Assemblies*
 - *.NET Performance*

Exercise #1.2 – Monitoring Windows behavior

- Run **ProcessMonitor**
 - Wait about 1-2 minutes
 - Stop event capturing with keys: CTRL+X
- Filter Events
 - Add filter for found process na
 - Registry activity
 - Add another filter condition: *Result* is *Success*
 - File activity
 - Add new filter: *Operation* is *WriteFile*
 - Network activity
 - Add new filter: *Operation* contains *TCP*

Exercise #1.3 – Monitoring Windows behavior

- Open **moloch.enisa.ex** in web browser
 - Log to Moloch with credentials: *admin/MOLOCH*
 - Navigate to *Sessions* tab
 - In Search textbox type:
 - **dns.query.type == A** (All DNS requests)
 - **http.method == POST** (All HTTP POST requests)
 - **http.bodymagic == application/json** (All HTTP requests with JSONs)

Exercise #2

Analyze malicious binary

Exercise #2.1 – Analyze malicious binary

- Run **pestudio** and open found binary
- Click on tabs:
 - Indicators
 - VirusTotal
 - Strings
 - Version
- Is there any information about programming language in binary?
 - C / C++
 - C# / Java
 - Python

Exercise #2.2 – Analyze malicious binary

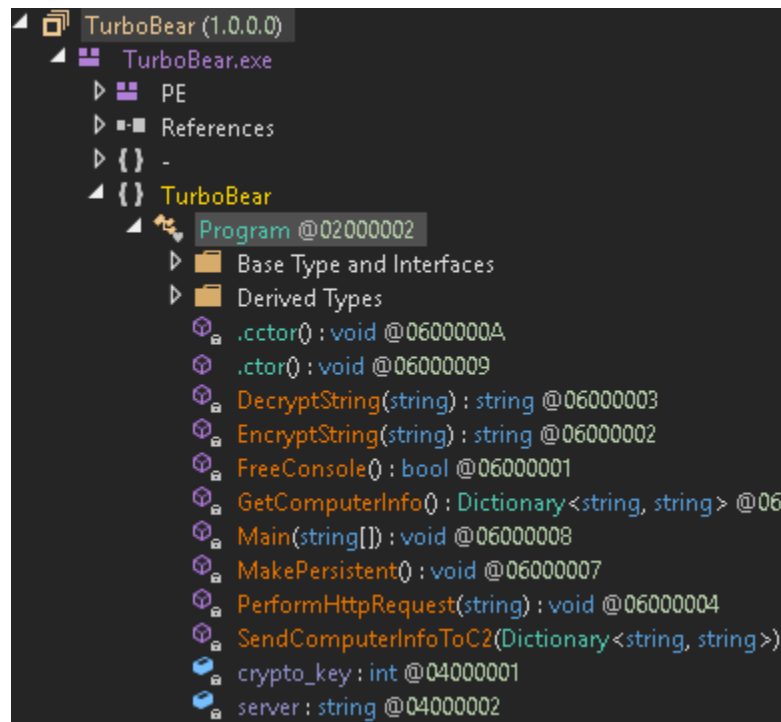
- What we know after quick look in previous tools?
 - Command-and-control servers?
 - Malware basic features?
 - How the network traffic is generated?
 - Persistence options?
 - Crypto keys & functions?
- Is this enough to create indicators of compromise?

(Optional) Exercise #3

Malicious binary decompilation

Exercise #3.1 – Malicious binary decompilation

- Run **dnSpy (C# decompiler)** and open found binary
 - Expand last position in menu (probably binary original name)



Exercise #3.2 – Malicious binary decompilation

- C# malware analysis tips & tricks
 - Windows autostart registry entry:
HKCU\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run
 - HTTP Requests
 - Request object creation:
HttpWebRequest httpWebRequest = (HttpWebRequest)WebRequest.Create(*address*);
 - Selecting request method (GET / POST): **httpWebRequest.Method = "POST";**
 - Setting *Content type*: **httpWebRequest.ContentType = "application/json";**
 - Dictionary object serialization:
string serialized_dict = new JavaScriptSerializer().Serialize(dict);
- Quick tip: Add this information to **HIVE** for further analysis

Exercise #3.3 – Malicious binary decompilation

- Click on *Search Assemblies* button (magnifier icon or CTRL+ Shift + K)
 - In *Options*, disable: *Search in GAC assemblies*
 - In *Search For:*, choose from list *Number / Strings* and *Selected Type*
 - Type in search bar:
 - Http
 - GET
 - POST
 - Windows
 - Change *Search For:* to *All of the Above*
 - Type in search bar:
 - crypto
 - server