How to improve and speed-up DFIR with hashlookup

Indexing all the published software

CIRCL
Computer Incident
Response Center
Luxembourg

Alexandre Dulaunoy

TLP:WHITE

info@circl.lu

Unlock Your Brain, Harden Your System

ATT&CK Technique: Supply Chain Compromise (T1195)

- *Adversaries may manipulate products or product delivery mechanisms prior to receipt by a final consumer for the purpose of data or system compromise.*
- **Use verification of distributed binaries through hash checking** but is this easy? where to find those hashes?

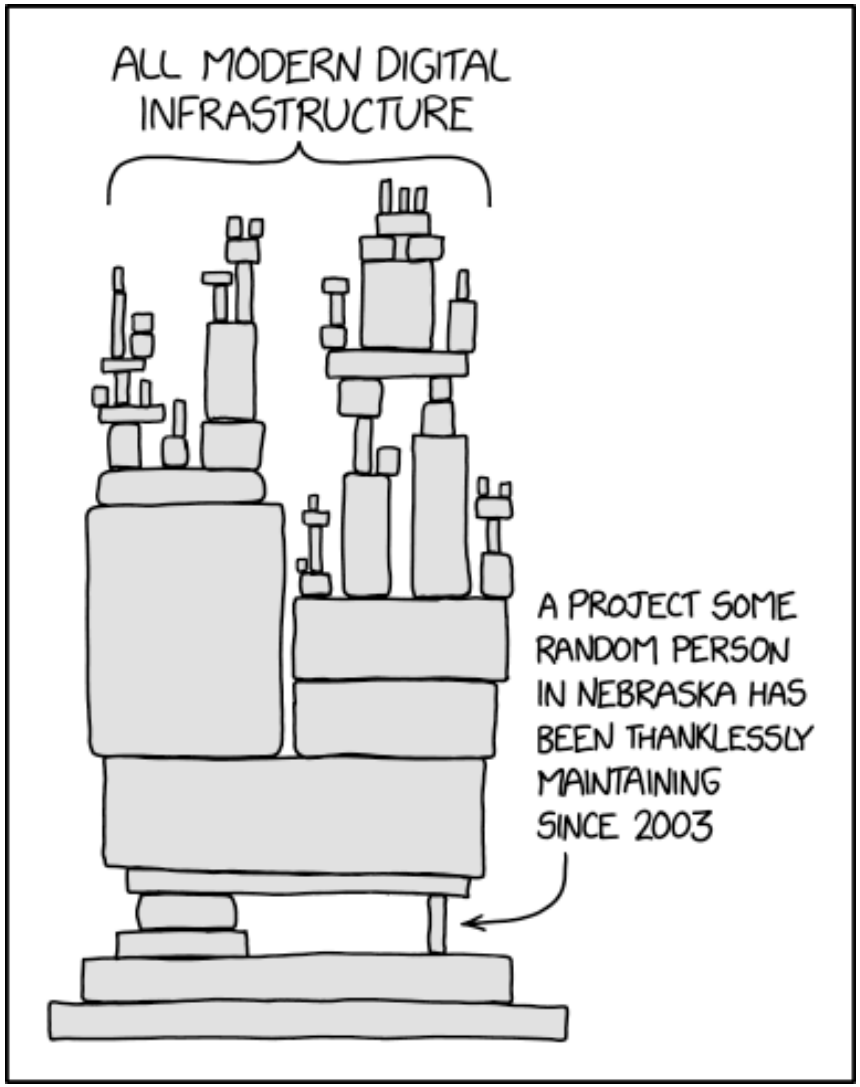
Mitigations

ID	Mitigation	Description
M1051	Update Software	A patch management process should be implemented to check unused dependencies, unmaintained and/or previously vulnerable dependencies, unnecessary features, comp
M1016	Vulnerability Scanning	Continuous monitoring of vulnerability sources and the use of automatic and manual code review tools should also be implemented as well.[8]

Detection

Use verification of distributed binaries through hash checking or other integrity checking mechanisms. Scan downloads for malicious signatures and attempt to test software and updates prior to deployment while t
Perform physical inspection of hardware to look for potential tampering.

Do you know about this little binary used everywhere?



Starting digital forensic investigation on a recent acquisition

- A single disk acquisition of a desktop or server operating system can contain at minima 150K files,
- Large portion of directories and files are not analysed due to a **lack of time**,
- Finding legitimate versus attacker-installed files can be difficult if the timeline is incorrect,
- Many legacy tools are used by attackers and mixed with custom binaries.

Known file filters - DFIR issues

- **State of current NIST NSRL**[1] databases and other known file filters (KFF),
- too few Operating Systems / Software available (e.g. OSX?, Linux distributions),
- nsrllookup.com / nsrlsrv use their own protocol, no ReST API
- nsrlsrv[2] only support MD5,
- many **sources are difficult to use** (e.g. NSRL ISOs), **ill-maintained** or **outdated** or **expensive**,
- MISP integration (malicious hashes versus known hashes).

[1] `https://www.nist.gov/itl/ssd/software-quality-group/national-software-reference-library-nsrl`

[2] `https://rjhansen.github.io/nsrlsvr/`

Indexing all published software?

- **Regular updates of Linux distribution** including security updates on multiple architectures,
- 800+ software releases per hour on GitHub,
- Bundling of software in **snap** images, **flatpak**, **AppImage**, etc.
- **Continuous release** of security updates,
- Microsoft Windows and Apple custom software distribution schemes.

Known file filters - improvements

- The need of a **public, open and easy** to use API for all sources (NSRL is not alone),
- a **global public instance of all known sources**,
- a common ReST API normalizes the access to several datasources,
- available for MD5, and SHA1 (and more),
- that includes fuzzy hashes,
- additional datapoints available through the **intersection of datasources**.

CIRCL hashlookup public service

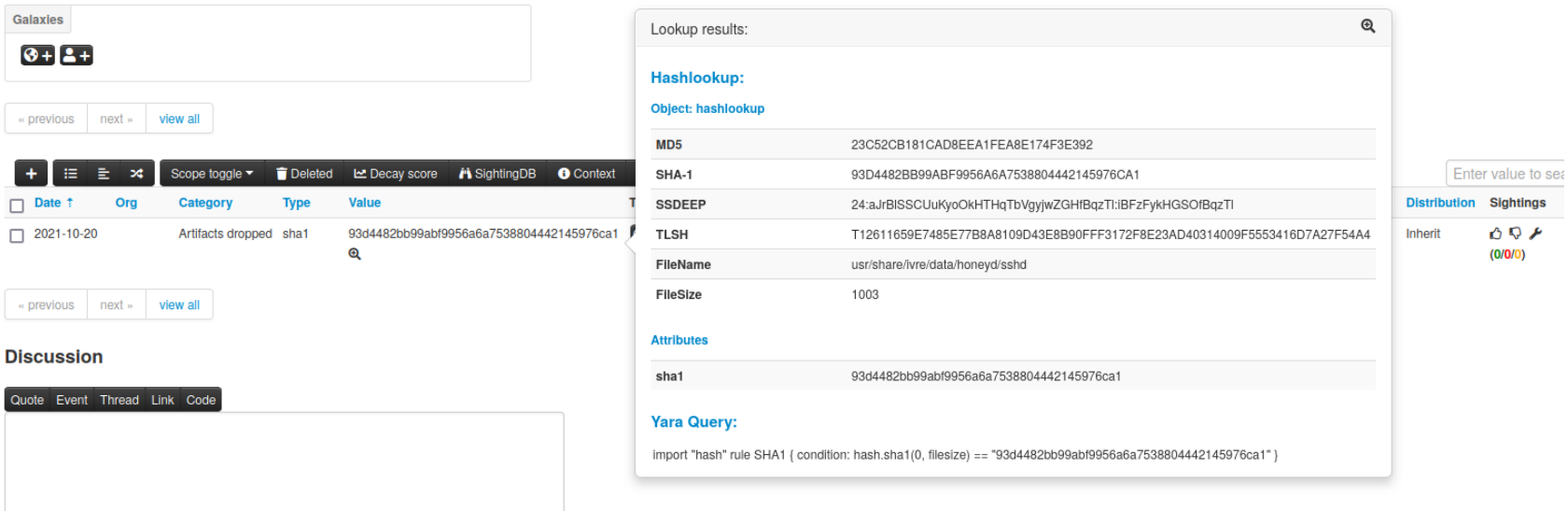
- https://hashlookup.circl.lu/[3] - **OpenAPI** Swagger[4]
- NIST NSRL - **all RDS hash sets** including current, modern, android, iOS and legacy,
- Ubuntu packages distribution,
- CentOS core OS distribution,
- Fedora project EPEL repository,
- CDNjs repository,
- Kali linux packages distribution, OpenSUSE distribution and **more**,
- **If you find it in a lot of trusted places, you may find that it's reasonable to trust it**.

[3] `https://hashlookup.circl.lu/`

[4] `https://hashlookup.circl.lu/swagger.json`

hashlookup MISP module

- A hover and expansion module[5] to quickly check if a hash is part of the known files of hashlookup:



[5] https://misp.github.io/misp-modules/expansion/#hashlookup

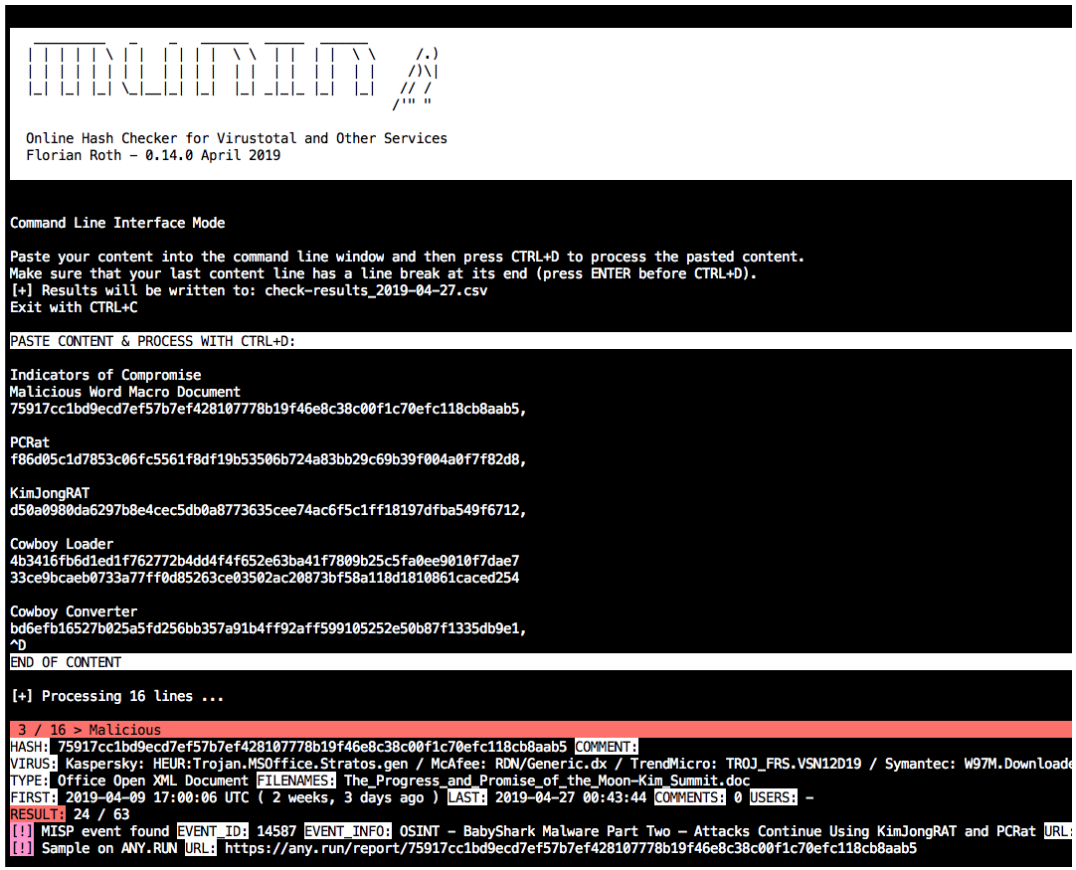
hashlookup MISP module - import

1)

2021-10-20	**Object name:** hashlookup **References:** 1					abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Payload delivery	**MD5:** md5	dbca7a6bbf7bf57fedac243d4b2cb340			abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Payload delivery	**SHA-1:** sha1	abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3			abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Payload delivery	**SSDEEP:** ssdeep	12288:uL2zSVW+L2vJuTNxhiQRmjfbDeEDHax+oljqHnqyaYu:uLpWlvl3hi Qifne0Nq			abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Payload delivery	**TLSH:** tlsh	t11f155c0ba3a214adc4d5c870876fd2336932f49491337e3f6a948a742e56f 34677eb21			abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Payload delivery	**FileName:** filename	./usr/sbin/sshd			abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Other	**FileSize:** size-in-bytes	876328			abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3: Enriched via the hashlookup module
2021-10-20	Artifacts dropped	sha1	abee0933f0de914267b8fb5a4d147b5fa54836d3			another sshd found in /tmp

Munin - Online hash checker

- Munin[6] is a online hash checker utility that retrieves valuable information from various online sources including hashlookup.



[6] https://github.com/Neo23x0/munin

Other services or tools using hashlookup API/db

- metalookup.com - Find published software by hashes,
- The Hive Project - Cortex analyser,
- **hashlookup-forensic-analyser**[7]: a script to analyse a forensic target,
- Add your tool? CIRCL hashlookup API is freely accessible.

[7] https://github.com/hashlookup/hashlookup-forensic-analyser

hashlookup references

- **hashlookup org on github**[8]:
  - **hashlookup-format**[9]: Common output format for hashlookup
- **Public API**: `https://circl.lu/services/hashlookup/`
- **hashlookup-format draft IETF** [10]
- Contact: info@circl.lu

[8] `https://github.com/hashlookup`

[9] `https://github.com/hashlookup/hashlookup-format`

[10] `datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-dulaunoy-hashlookup-format/`