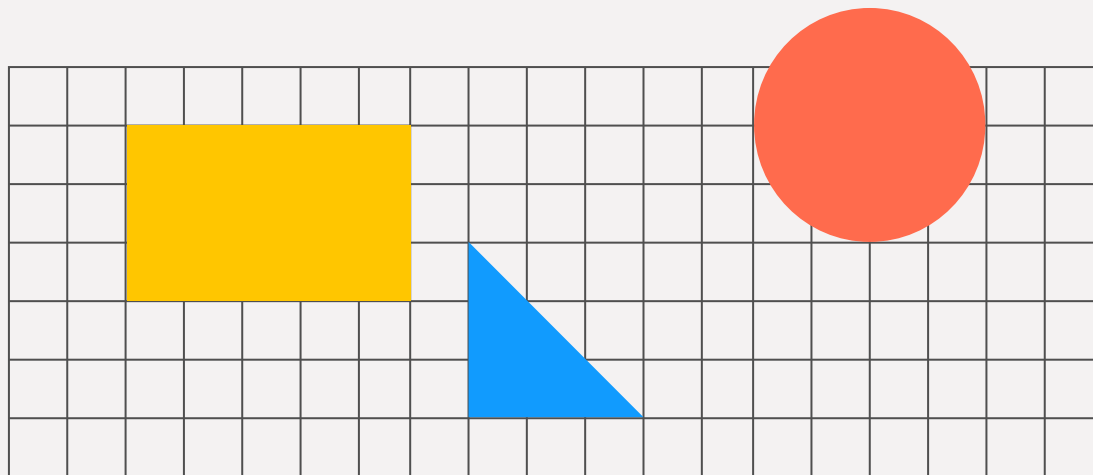
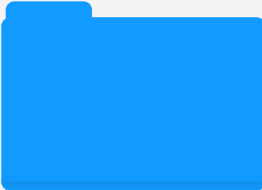


Ransomware Research And Simulation

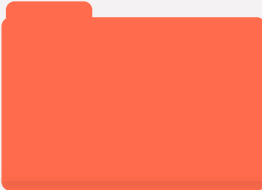




Lockbit



Wannacry



Locky

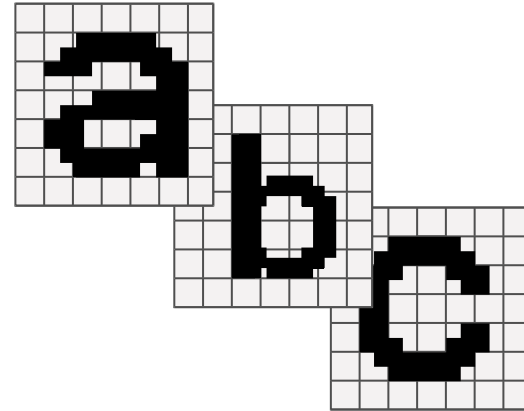


CryptoLocker

Learning Outcome

Outline

The learning outcome from ransomware research includes a comprehensive understanding of the operational mechanisms, propagation methods, and impacts of ransomware attacks. By studying specific ransomware such as WannaCry and LockBit, individuals gain insights into encryption techniques used by attackers, and the steps required for detection and prevention.



LockBit - Background



- ❖ **Evolution:** LockBit is a ransomware that was first identified in 2019 and operates as a Ransomware-as-a-Service (**RaaS**) **model**. This model allows even non-technical cyber-criminals carry out attacks. Lock It has went through multiple versions (2.0, 3.0, and 4.0), with each incorporating new advanced tactics like **double extortion**, **faster encryption**, and **evasion techniques**.
- ❖ **Notable Attacks:** High-profile victims include **Columbus McKinnon**(manufacturer of lifting and rigging equipment), **Accenture** (reportedly \$50M ransom demand), and **hospitals**. Started a trend of targeting high-value organizations for large financial and operational damage.
- ❖ **Impact:** LockBit's success has **professionalized ransomware** which has lead to the the increase targeting of larger organizations. This has caused a shift of **enhanced cybersecurity** measures to be put in place such as **Zero Trust models**. This evolution of ransomware shows that corporations globally will need to put in more resources to keep up with evolving cyber-threats.
- ❖ **Key Features:** LockBit is known for its efficiency with its use of **automated encryption**, "**living off the land**" techniques where it uses legitimate tools and system resources to move within a network, and threatens victims with **data leak sites** to maximize pressure to pay ransom.

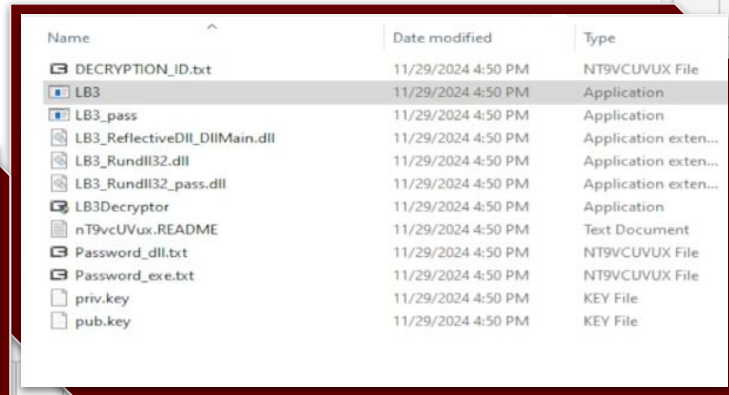
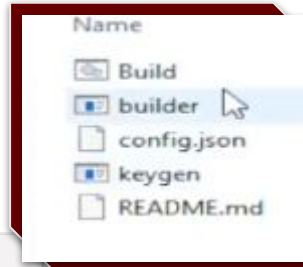
LockBit - Encryption

- ❖ **Build:** The **Build.bat** file will “automate the build” process which creates an “instance of ransomware”. “**keygen.exe** generates the public and private encryption keys”. The **config.json** file is used for additional configuration parameter for the attack. The **builder.exe** is “used to generate the different variations of the LockBit 3.0 ransomware by supplying different command line options”, **requires** existing config.json and pub.key/priv.key files generated.
- ❖ **Encryption:** Files are encrypted using a combination of **Salsa-20 algorithm** and **1024-bit RSA keys**. During the encryption threads, memory containing the private key is protected with **RtlEncryptMemory** and **RtlDecryptMemory** so that they are only decrypted when needed.

Additional Info:

priv.key – A private encryption key unique to this build that is used to encrypt victim files

pub.key – A public encryption key unique to this build that is used generate various strings that tie this instance of the ransomware to a victim.



Name	Date modified	Type
DECRYPTION_ID.txt	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	NT9VUVUX File
LB3	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Application
LB3_pass	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Application
LB3_ReflectiveDll_Main.dll	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Application exten...
LB3_Rundll32.dll	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Application exten...
LB3_Rundll32_pass.dll	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Application exten...
LB3Decryptor	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Application
nT9vcUVux.README	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	Text Document
Password_dll.txt	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	NT9VUVUX File
Password_exe.txt	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	NT9VUVUX File
priv.key	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	KEY File
pub.key	11/29/2024 4:50 PM	KEY File

LockBit - Delivery Methods

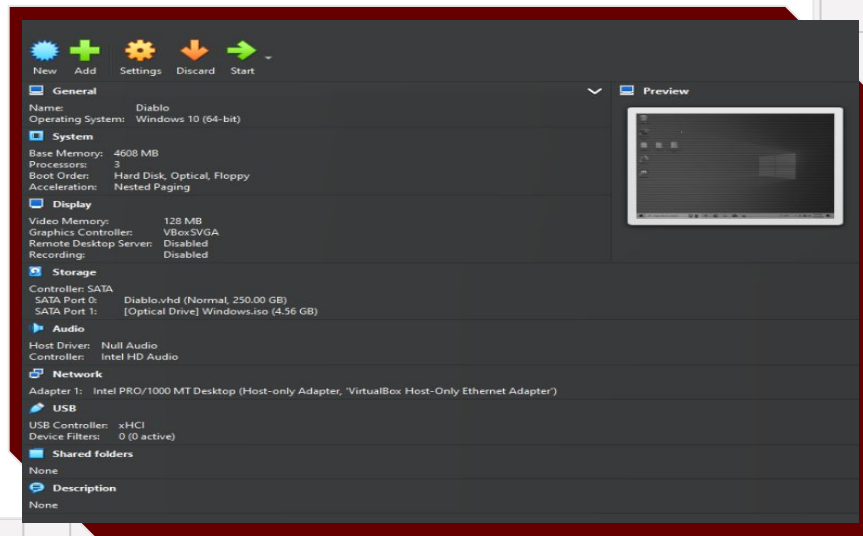


- ❖ **Attack Through Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP):** Source: <https://github.com/Tenessene/LockBit>
 - ***Requires** target system to have **RDP enabled & port forwarding** on the network
 - **Know the IP address** of your target or obtain it with NMAP
 - Make sure the **port 3389 is open** on the target's network with NMAP
 - Use a **brute force** tool such as Crowbar or Hydra
 - Connect using a client of your choice
 - **Copy the LockBit 3.0** files to the **remote machine** using your client, a cloud service, FTP, or any other method of your choice
 - **Execute Lockbit 3.0**
- ❖ **Attack Through Phishing Scheme:**
 - in Word, enter **dev mode** with **Alt+F8**
 - The macro in the guide works, but only for an executable already in the path. An easy way to copy and execute LockBit 3.0 is to **download and run the executable in the macro**.
 - **Send an email containing the document**, and when the **user opens and presses "Enable Editing"**, it should **execute LockBit 3.0**

LockBit - Methodology



- ❖ **Environment:** The test was conducted using the Virtualbox Hypervisor and a Windows 10 virtual machine.
- ❖ **Settings:** 3 Processors, ~4Gbs of memory, 250Gb of virtual storage, Host-only-Adapter (separates itself from the host network)
- ❖ **Setup/ Execution:**
 - Setup configurations of the virtual machine
 - Download lockbit and wireshark for further analysis
 - Configure lockbits settings,optional:
 - Parameters & Keys
 - Run LB3 and analyze encryption process
 - Test the decryption executable provided





Recycle Bin



Microsoft
Edge



gaming



school



Firefox



Discord



LockBit-main
(3)



Type here to search



58°F



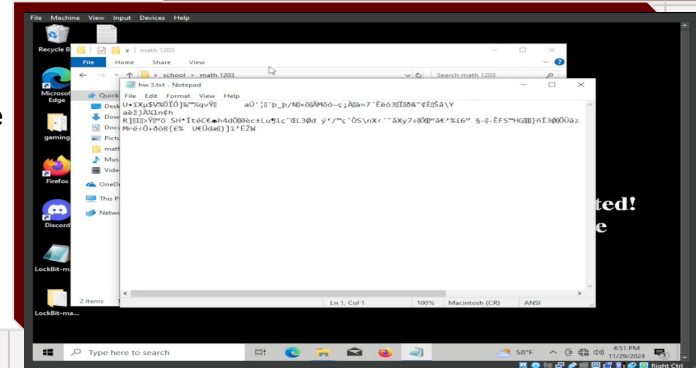
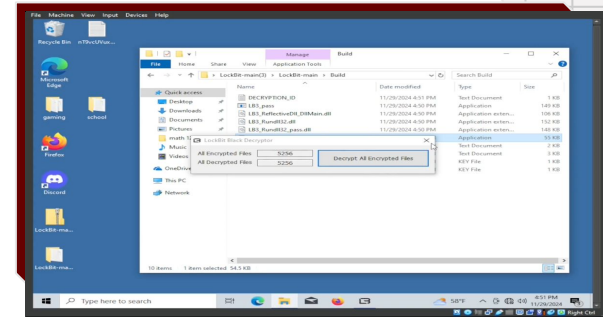
4:49 PM

11/29/2024

Right Ctrl

LockBit - Results

- ❖ The simulation was **successfully** able to show how **easily Lockbit** can be **set up and configured**.
- ❖ Executing the ransomware took **longer than anticipated** to encrypt files but is likely to do with it using **1024-bit RSA keys** which compared to other ransomware is not as efficient which you can see later this presentation.
- ❖ During encryption **programs are forced closed**, in my case Wireshark. This seems to **persist until decryption**. Strange as I changed config file to disable program/service shutdown.
- ❖ The LB3Decryptor.exe did **successfully decrypt files** and on the surface level operations seemed to be resumed as normal such as Wireshark.
- ❖ One notable change was that any files in the **recycle bin will be deleted** and won't be restored even after decryption.



WannaCry - Background



- **Emergence:** WannaCry ransomware was first detected in May 2017 and caused a global outbreak within days.
- **Propagation:** It exploited a vulnerability in Microsoft Windows systems (EternalBlue) and included a worm component, enabling rapid self-propagation across networks.
- **Notable Attacks:** High-profile victims included the UK's National Health Service (NHS), Telefónica in Spain, and FedEx. The attack disrupted critical services, leading to significant operational and financial losses.
- **Impact:** WannaCry infected over 230,000 computers in more than 150 countries within its first week, with damages estimated to exceed \$4 billion globally.
- **Key Features:** Utilized asymmetric encryption to lock files and demanded Bitcoin payments for decryption keys. A "kill switch" was discovered, slowing the spread but leaving lasting impacts on affected systems.

WannaCry - Encryption and Delivery

- **Encryption Methods:** Utilized a combination of AES-128 and RSA-2048 encryption to lock files. The AES key encrypts the data, and the RSA key encrypts the AES key, making decryption impossible without the private RSA key.
- **Targeted Files:** Scanned for files with specific extensions (.doc, .jpg, .mp4, etc.) to maximize impact and disrupt business operations.
- **Delivery Mechanism:** Exploited the **EternalBlue** vulnerability in Microsoft Windows systems, a leaked NSA exploit, to spread rapidly across unpatched machines.
- **Propagation:** Included a worm component, enabling it to spread autonomously to other devices on the same network, escalating its impact.
- **C2 Communication:** Sent encrypted data and ransom demands to its Command and Control (C2) server, awaiting Bitcoin payments for the decryption key.

WannaCry - Simulation Process



WannaCry - Simulation Result

- **Setup and Execution:**
The ransomware was downloaded and executed in a Windows 7 VM environment set up using VMOracle. The setup included file transfers and basic network connectivity via a lightweight Chromium-based browser (Supermium). Execution required bypassing a typical "unverified publisher" warning.
- **File Encryption:**
The ransomware immediately encrypted a set of pre-loaded files on the VM. The encryption process targeted specific file types (e.g., .docx, .jpg) while leaving certain system files untouched, ensuring the system remained operational. Files were renamed with a .WNCRY extension, rendering them inaccessible without decryption.
- **Network Traffic:**
Wireshark captured unusual SMB traffic during execution, including malformed commands like "TreeConnectAndX" and "WriteAndX". The ransomware also made repeated DNS queries to a hardcoded domain (iuqerfsodp9ifjaposdfjhgosurijfaewrgwea.com) and initiated TLSv1.3 traffic, indicating possible server communication attempts.
- **Impact on System:**
The desktop wallpaper was altered to display the ransom note, and a Bitcoin payment window popped up, guiding victims to purchase Bitcoin for decryption. The ransomware also generated "@Please_Read_Me@" files explaining the situation.
- **Extended Effects:**
Injecting a USB drive into the infected VM showed that WannaCry actively encrypted files on external devices, proving its ability to propagate beyond the initial infection point.
- **Anomalies Observed:**
While WannaCry attempted communication with external servers, no decryption process could be tested as this relied on actual ransomware server responses. Some files, such as .JSON and .pcapng, were left unencrypted, likely to maintain system functionality.

WannaCry - Prevention / Defense

- **Patch Management:**
 - Regularly apply updates and security patches, especially critical ones like Microsoft's MS17-010 for the SMB vulnerability.
 - Use automated patch management tools to ensure consistent updates across all systems.
- **Network Segmentation:**
 - Divide networks into isolated segments to prevent lateral movement of malware.
 - Disable outdated protocols, such as SMBv1, to eliminate unnecessary attack surfaces.
- **Behavior-Based Detection:**
 - Deploy advanced anti-ransomware tools that monitor for suspicious encryption or traffic patterns.
 - Use intrusion detection and prevention systems (IDPS) to identify and block malicious activity.
- **Data Backups:**
 - Maintain regular backups stored offline or in isolated environments to ensure quick recovery without paying a ransom.
 - Periodically test backup restoration processes to confirm reliability.
- **User Training and Awareness:**
 - Educate users to recognize phishing emails and suspicious links to reduce infection risks.
 - Conduct regular cybersecurity training and simulated attacks to improve preparedness.
- **Incident Response Plan:**
 - Develop and test a robust response plan to detect, contain, and mitigate ransomware incidents quickly.
 - Ensure clear communication and defined roles during incidents to minimize response time.
- **Endpoint Protection:**
 - Use endpoint security solutions with behavior monitoring and rollback features to detect and neutralize ransomware attacks in real-time.

Locky- Background



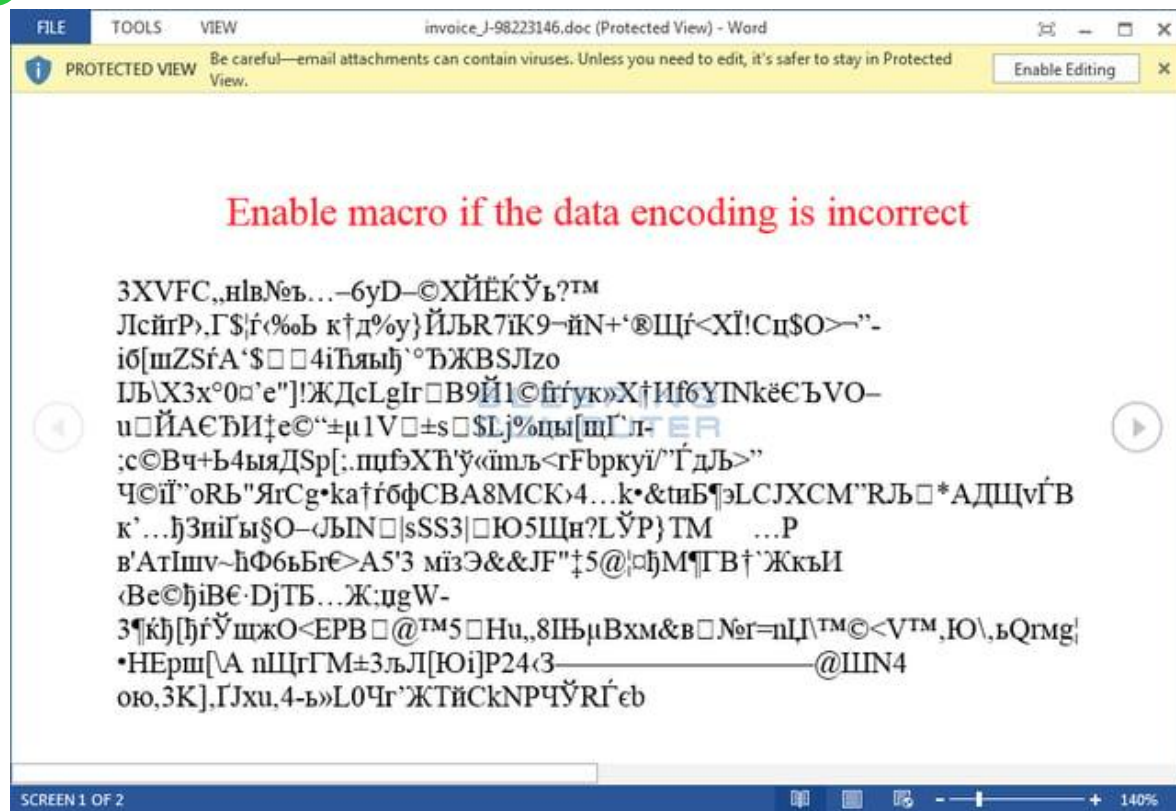
- Locky ransomware emerged in early 2016
- Locky was particularly notable for its rapid evolution, adding new features and obfuscation techniques to evade detection.
- It primarily targeted businesses and individuals globally, causing widespread disruption during its peak.
- It hit places such as Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center, and Dartford Science & Technology College.

Locky - Encryption and Delivery

- The original version of Locky, appended the ".locky" extension to encrypted files and employed RSA-2048 and AES-128 encryption
- It first scans for any files with certain extension to encrypt, such as .docx and .xlsx.
- It uses the AES-128 to encrypt these files and then the AES key is encrypted using RSA-2048's that are generated in every infection
- The private key that is required to decrypt the AES key is stored in the C2, Command and Control, Server which is a server ran by the attacker
- The Encrypted AES Key is then sent to the C2 Server and is only decrypted there where it waits for the ransom to be delivered before sending the decrypted key.

Locky - Encryption and Delivery

- Main method of Delivery for Locky was through social engineering, primary phishing emails.
- In these emails a document is attached which contains a macro which when macro is enabled it will execute the Locky encryption process.
- It kept evolving its delivery method and started using .docm and .js file disguised as .zip files and so on.
- Locky itself also kept evolving and had many variation created such as Zepto, Odin, Diablo6
- These variants were made for different reasons such as: evading detection, targeting new victims and adapting to defenses



Locky - Simulation Process



- Used VMware as the VM manager
- Tried two different Windows images, 10 and 7
- Downloaded multiple different locky malware executables from the internet
- Took a snapshot of the VM for quick restoration after testing.
- Monitored network using Wireshark while the locky was running
- Monitored what the locky.exe process was attempting to do with sysmon

Locky- Simulation Result

- Locky was not be able to successfully be simulated in the VM environment,
- This was most likely due to not having a fully successful communication with the C2 Server it was trying to communicate with.
- It tried to communicate with a DNS using its built in DGA generator.
- It failed and tried its built in hard coded IP address ,
- It keeps trying to establish a connection with the IP address, but it refuses and FIN, ACK are sent by the server.
- Without a proper communication it seems like Locky did not attempt to encrypt any files in the VM.



169	78.291110	10.0.2.15	10.0.2.3	DNS	74 Standard query 0x4a2d A ktwmpwuncbi.fr
170	78.291320	10.0.2.15	10.0.2.3	DNS	74 Standard query 0x42dc AAAA ktwmpwuncbi.fr
171	78.309056	10.0.2.15	10.0.2.3	DNS	74 Standard query 0x42dc AAAA ktwmpwuncbi.fr
172	78.309056	10.0.2.15	10.0.2.3	DNS	74 Standard query 0x4a2d A ktwmpwuncbi.fr
173	78.314434	10.0.2.3	10.0.2.15	DNS	132 Standard query response 0x42dc No such name AAAA ktwmpwuncbi.fr SOA a.nic.fr
174	78.314434	10.0.2.3	10.0.2.15	DNS	132 Standard query response 0x4a2d No such name A ktwmpwuncbi.fr SOA a.nic.fr
175	78.325463	10.0.2.3	10.0.2.15	DNS	132 Standard query response 0x42dc No such name AAAA ktwmpwuncbi.fr SOA a.nic.fr
176	78.327506	10.0.2.15	10.0.2.3	DNS	73 Standard query 0x5fd8 A cjqqsuatmo.tf
177	78.327707	10.0.2.15	10.0.2.3	DNS	73 Standard query 0x5800 AAAA cjqqsuatmo.tf
178	78.329450	10.0.2.3	10.0.2.15	DNS	132 Standard query response 0x4a2d No such name A ktwmpwuncbi.fr SOA a.nic.fr
179	78.344458	10.0.2.3	10.0.2.15	DNS	133 Standard query response 0x5fd8 No such name A cjqqsuatmo.tf SOA a.nic.fr
180	78.348436	10.0.2.3	10.0.2.15	DNS	133 Standard query response 0x5800 No such name AAAA cjqqsuatmo.tf SOA a.nic.fr
181	78.386370	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66 50503 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
182	78.529474	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60 [80 → 50503 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0



ip.addr == 86.104.134.144

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Length	Info
47	3.030414	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Port numbers reused] 49835 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
59	7.045875	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] 49835 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
60	8.544222	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49835 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
76	12.070072	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49830 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
83	15.061591	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Port numbers reused] 49835 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
116	21.284515	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49835 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
133	21.615764	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	49838 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
139	22.624103	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] 49838 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
141	22.816093	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49838 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
142	24.639145	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Port numbers reused] 49838 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
213	26.106599	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 49830 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
216	28.654825	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] 49838 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
227	30.404600	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49838 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
228	35.399887	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 49835 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
229	36.670296	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Port numbers reused] 49838 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
280	39.186329	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 49830 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
303	39.609309	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	49845 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
305	39.757101	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49845 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
307	40.623399	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Port numbers reused] 49845 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
308	42.623936	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] 49845 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
326	43.373696	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49838 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
330	46.370927	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49845 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
331	46.624280	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Port numbers reused] 49845 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
334	48.871467	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 49835 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
335	52.368128	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 49830 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
337	54.636827	10.0.2.15	86.104.134.144	TCP	66	[TCP Retransmission] 49845 → 80 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
338	56.135947	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	[TCP Retransmission] 80 → 49838 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0
341	59.322345	86.104.134.144	10.0.2.15	TCP	60	80 → 49845 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0



10

/ 96

Community Score

1

10/96 security vendors flagged this URL as malicious

Reanalyze Search Graph API

http://86.104.134.144/
86.104.134.144

Last Analysis Date
1 month ago

ip

DETECTIONDETAILSCOMMUNITY 2

Join our Community and enjoy additional community insights and crowdsourced detections, plus an API key to automate checks.

Security vendors' analysis ⓘ

Do you want to automate checks?

alphaMountain.ai	ⓘ Malicious	Antiy-AVL	ⓘ Malicious
BitDefender	ⓘ Malware	CRDF	ⓘ Malicious
CyRadar	ⓘ Malicious	G-Data	ⓘ Malware
Kaspersky	ⓘ Malware	Lionic	ⓘ Malicious
MalwareURL	ⓘ Malware	Webroot	ⓘ Malicious
Abusix	✓ Clean	Acronis	✓ Clean
ADMINUSLabs	✓ Clean	AILabs (MONITORAPP)	✓ Clean
AlienVault	✓ Clean	Artists Against 419	✓ Clean
benkow.cc	✓ Clean	BlockList	✓ Clean



Operational Number of events: 39				
Level	Date and Time	Source	Event ID	Task Category
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:27 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCre...
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:15 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:13 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:11 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCre...
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:11 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCre...
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:11 PM	Sysmon	1	Process Create (rule: ProcessCre...
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:10 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:10 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:52:10 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:51:51 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:51:51 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)
Information	11/27/2024 5:51:50 PM	Sysmon	22	Dns query (rule: DnsQuery)

Event 22, Sysmon

GeneralDetails

☒ Friendly View☐ XML View

+ System

- EventData

RuleName-

UtcTime2024-11-28 01:52:11.425

ProcessGuid{65bc6816-c734-6747-8a04-000000000700}

ProcessId5872

QueryNameembavssrrfvukl.in

QueryStatus9003

QueryResults-

ImageC:\Users\Inou\Desktop\locky\Locky.exe

UserDESKTOP-KGB3M4E\Inou

Locky- Defense

- Antivirus and Anti-Malware Updates
- Spam Filters, Attachment Scanning, Phishing Awareness
- Domain Blocking, Intrusion Detection and Prevention Systems (IDS/IPS)
- Regular Backups
- Running your system on a VM is also a good countermeasure.
 - **Snapshots**
 - **Natural protection against malware with VM detection**
 - **Controlled Network**

CryptoLocker- Background



- **Emergence:** First discovered September 2013
- **Impact:** The malware is capable of locating and encrypting files stored on shared network drives, USB drives, external hard drives, network file shares, and certain cloud storage systems. If a single computer on a network is infected, mapped network drives may also be compromised.

CryptoLocker- Encryption and Delivery

- **Encryption:** asymmetric encryption, only one party had the key, the HACKERS!!!
- **Delivery:** This malware was commonly sent through emails however it was also spread through USB flash drives.

2 attachments — [Download all attachments](#)

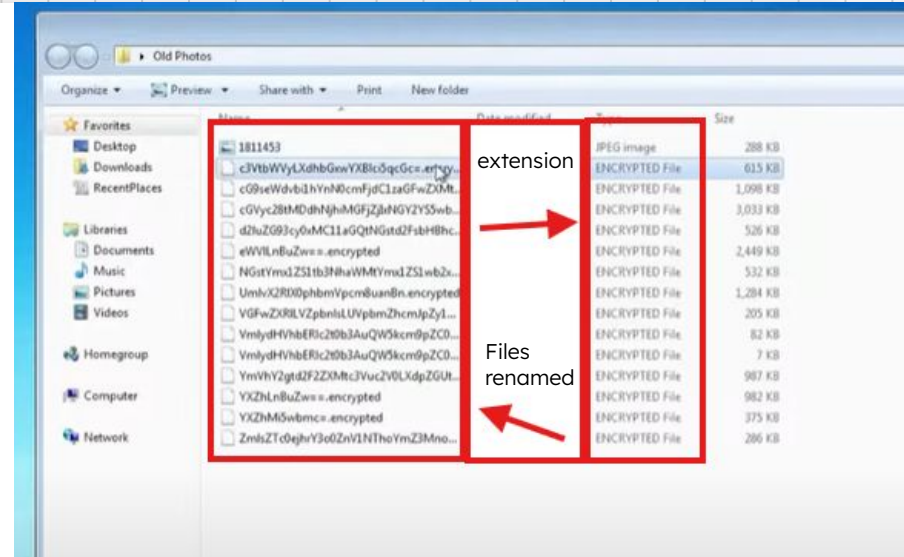
 **email_attachment.txt**
1K [View](#)

 **email_attachment.txt**
1K [View](#) [Download](#)



CryptoLocker- Results

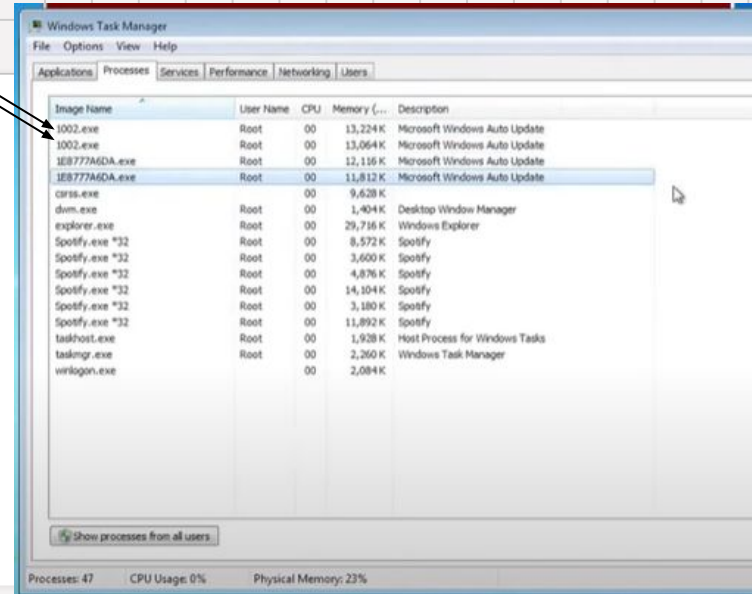
- CryptoLocker after executing the malware the files were shortly locked and given a new extension of “encrypted”
- Additionally the file names were changed. As seen in the picture to the left



- In the picture to the left you can see the pop-up that informs you that your personal key files have been encrypted and you have X amount of time to pay them to get the encryption key.

CryptoLocker- More thoughts

- Here is the task manager of the CryptoLocker files running, when trying to force stop these programs from running they immediately start right back up.



CryptoLocker- Mitigation

These are the following recommendations US-CERT suggests users and administrators take the following preventative measures to protect their computer networks from a CryptoLocker infection:

- Conduct routine backups of important files, keeping the backups stored offline.
- Maintain up-to-date anti-virus software.
- Keep your operating system and software up-to-date with the latest patches.
- Do not follow unsolicited web links in email.
- Use caution when opening email attachments.
- Follow safe practices when browsing the web.



Work Cited

- Behling, D. (2022, October 15). *LockBit 3.0: Also known as LockBit Black*. VMware Security Blog. Retrieved from

<https://blogs.vmware.com/security/2022/10/lockbit-3-0-also-known-as-lockbit-black.html>

- <https://github.com/Tennessene/LockBit>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sS6_1r5hxi8
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PEA0nFyc0Q>
- <https://www.knowbe4.com/locky-ransomware>
- <https://blog.avast.com/a-closer-look-at-the-locky-ransomware>
- <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/alerts/2013/11/05/cryptolocker-ransomware-infections>
-