

WannaCry Ransomware Analysis Report

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Executive Summary

SHA256 Hash 24d004a104d4d54034dbcffc2a4b19a11f39008a575aa614ea04703480b1022c

In the early summer of 2017, WannaCry was unleashed on the world. Widely considered to be one of the most devastating malware infections to date, WannaCry left a trail of destruction in its wake. It's a ransomware CryptoWorm, which means it has the ability to not only encrypt individual hosts but also spread itself through networks all on its own, amplifying its destructive reach with every infected node it encountered.

WannaCry creators leveraged the <u>EternalBlue Exploit</u> which is a family of critical vulnerabilities in Microsoft SMBvl server (CVE-2017-0143 to CVE-2017-0148) that helped them spreading this ransomware through networks. This technique allegedly developed by the NSA and was leaked by the "Shadow Brokers" in April 2017 along with other hacking tools that were developed by the NSA.

YARA signature rule is attached below.



High-Level Technical Summary

WannaCry is a 32-bit portable executable (PE) file, requiring administrative privileges for execution of its malicious payload. Upon execution, it attempts to establish a connection with a designated callback URL: "hxxp://www[.]iuqerfsodp9ifjaposdfjhgosurijfaewrwergwea[.]com". If a response is received from this URL, the malware refrains from executing its malicious payload, effectively acting as a kill-switch. However, if there isn't a connection to the specified URL, the malware proceeds with its destructive activities, which include:

- Encryption of files in the operating system with the ".WNCRY" file extension.
- Modification of the desktop background to display a black image containing information for the victim and instructions on how to recover their computer.
- Display of a window with a timer, demanding a Bitcoin payment to the attacker's Bitcoin wallet (WanaDecryptOr 2.0).
- Unpacking additional second-stage executable files by the WannaCry PE, placing them in a dedicated directory (C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094), and establishing persistence.
- Attempting to propagate through the network via SMB shares (port 445) to infect additional hosts, expand its encryption capabilities, and maximize profitability.



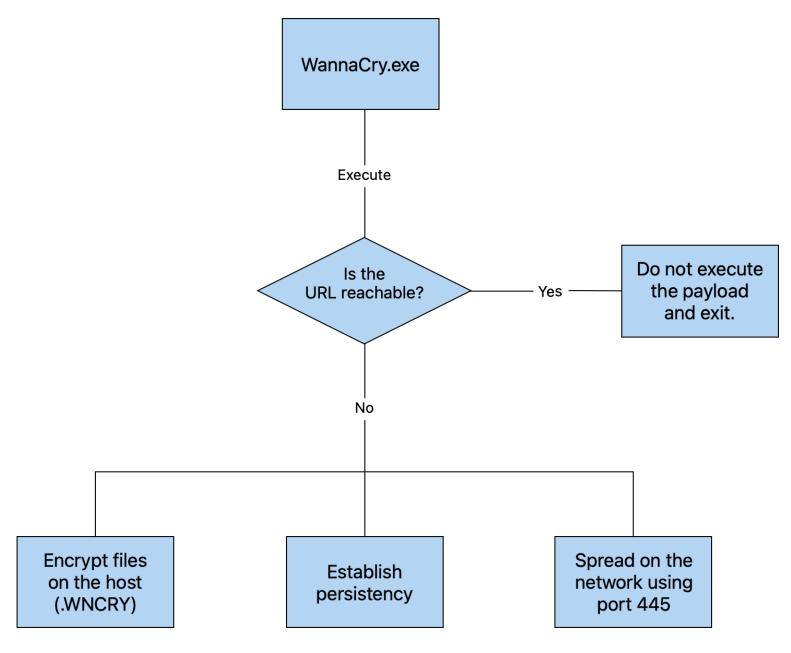


Figure 1 – Execution Diagram



Malware Composition

Additional details on the sample:

SHA256 Hash	24d004a104d4d54034dbcffc2a4b19a11f39008a575aa614ea04703480b1022c
MD5 Hash	db349b97c37d22f5ea1d1841e3c89eb4
Architecture	32-bit
Programing Language	C++
Original File Name	Ihdfrgui.exe

WannaCry.exe creates hidden directory in **C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094** which contains additional executables that were dropped after the initial detonation of the malware. This directory serves as the staging area for the WannaCry Ransomware.

File Name	SHA256 Hash
taskdl.exe	4a468603fdcb7a2eb5770705898cf9ef37aade532a7964642ecd705a74794b79
tasksche.exe	ed01ebfbc9eb5bbea545af4d01bf5f1071661840480439c6e5babe8e080e41aa
taskse.exe	2ca2d550e603d74dedda03156023135b38da3630cb014e3d00b1263358c5f00d
taskhsvc.exe	E48673680746FBE027E8982F62A83C298D6FB46AD9243DE8E79B7E5A24DCD4EB
@WanaDecryptor@.exe	B9C5D4339809E0AD9A00D4D3DD26FDF44A32819A54ABF846BB9B560D81391C25

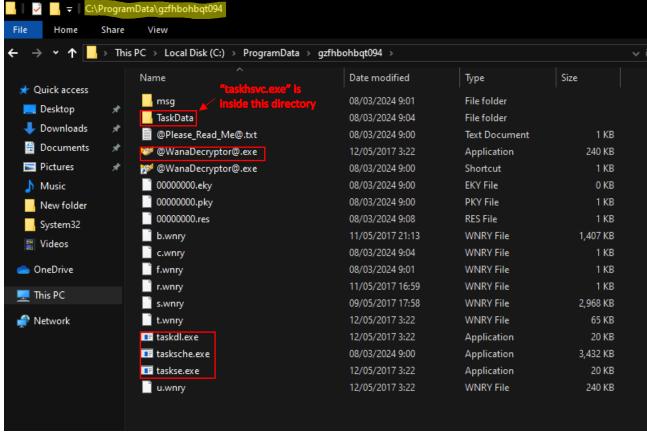


Figure 2 – Staging Area



tasksche.exe

This executable will be initiated in the second stage right after initiaing WannaCry ransomware and is resposible for initiating additional scripts and processes that will grant permissions, set the current directory to hidden, and ensuring persistence within the system (detailed below in <u>figure 23</u>).

taskdl.exe

Support tool for removing temporary files.

taskse.exe

Support tool for launch Decryption Tool.

taskhsvc.exe

opens port 9050 to a LISTENING state and attempts to connect to non-private remote addresses over HTTPS, attempts to contact the configured C2 hidden services.

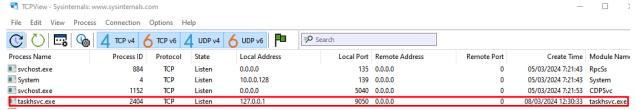


Figure 3 – taskhsvc.exe open listening port

taskhsvc.exe

opens port 9050 to a LISTENING state and attempts to connect to non-private remote addresses over HTTPS, attempts to contact the configured C2 hidden services.

@WannaDecryptor@.exe:

This executable features a graphical user interface (GUI) and appears in the center of the screen upon successful completion of the encryption process. Its primary function is to facilitate the decryption of the victim's files subsequent to their Bitcoin payment.



Static Analysis

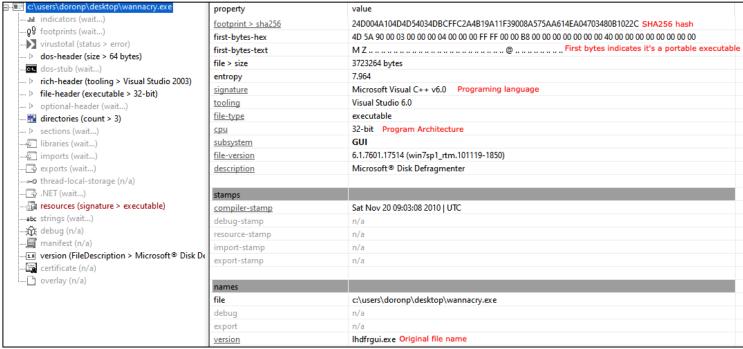


Figure 4 – PEStudio basic information

List of some of the interesting strings that were extraced from the PE:

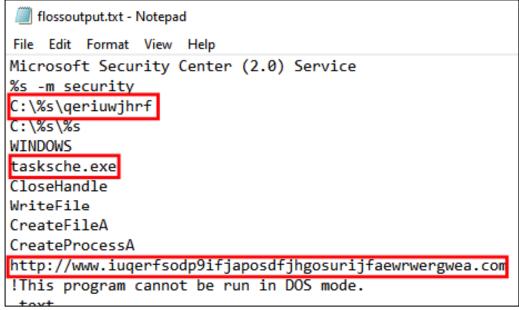


Figure 5 – Floss Output (1)



When examining the strings inside the PE, we can identify right away file path in the C:\ partition with "%s" in it, the "tasksche.exe" that was described earlier, which is an executable that will be dropped to the OS once detonating the malware, and long URL string that the malware will probably communicate with at some point.

• the "%s" in the file path is a placeholder typically used in programming/scripting languages to represent a variable or placeholder that will be replaced with a specific value at runtime.

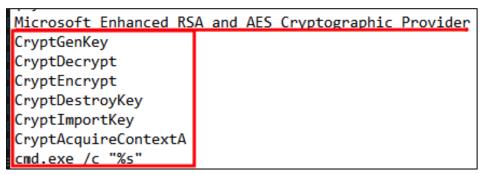


Figure 6 – Floss Output (2)

It looks like this malware is using cryptographic functions from the header <u>wincrypt.h</u>, probably to encrypt files. Additionaly there is a cmd command, again with "%s".

```
eqQM0Kw2qj/DimszVvNsbOvXA/4D5n[
 TREEID PLACEHOLDER
 USERID PLACEHOLDER @
J1JmIhC1Bsr
SMBr
PC NETWORK PROGRAM 1.0
LANMAN1.0
Windows for Workgroups 3.1a
LM1.2X002
LANMAN2.1
NT LM 0.12
SMBs
SMBr
PC NETWORK PROGRAM 1.0
LANMAN1.0
Windows for Workgroups 3.1a
LM1.2X002
LANMAN2.1
NT LM 0.12
SMBs
SMB+
```

Figure 5 – Floss Output (3)

strings that are related to the usage of the SMB (Server Message Block | 445) protocol which allows sharing resources (files and directories) through the local network between Windows machines.



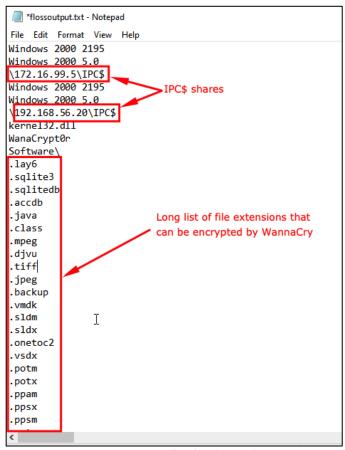


Figure 7 – Floss Output (4)

In this screenshot we can see two internal IP addresses with "IPC\$" at the end. IPC\$ share is also known as a null session connection. By using this session, Windows lets anonymous users perform certain activities, such as enumerating the names of domain accounts and network shares.

Additionally, we can see a long list of file extensions that can be encrypted by WannaCry ransomware.

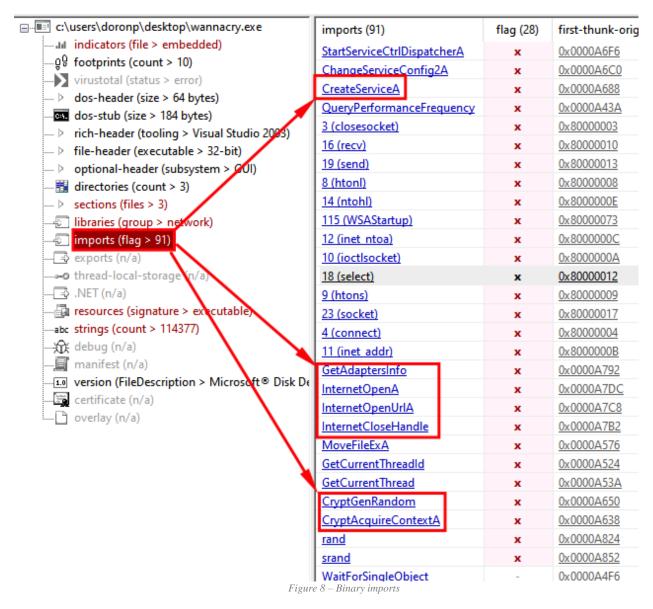


Full list of the file extensions that the WannaCry Ransomware is capable of encrypting:

.docx	.ppam	.sti	.vcd	.3gp	.sch	.myd	.wb2
.docb	.potx	.sldx	.jpeg	.mp4	.dch	.frm	.slk
.docm	.potm	.sldm	.jpg	.mov	.dip	.odb	.dif
.dot	.pst	.sldm	.bmp	.avi	.pl	.dbf	.stc
.dotm	.ost	.vdi	.png	.asf	.vb	.db	.SXC
.dotx	.msg	.vmdk	.gif	.mpeg	.vbs	.mdb	.ots
.xls	.eml	.vmx	.raw	.vob	.ps1	.accdb	.ods
.xlsm	.vsd	.aes	.tif	.wmv	.cmd	.sqlitedb	.max
.xlsb	.vsdx	.ARC	.tiff	.fla	.js	.sqlite3	.3ds
.xlw	.txt	.PAQ	.nef	.swf	.asm	.asc	.uot
.xlt	.csv	.bz2	.psd	.wav	.h	.lay6	.stw
.xlm	.rtf	.tbk	.ai	.mp3	.pas	.lay	.SXW
.xlc	.123	.bak	.svg	.sh	.cpp	.mml	.ott
.xltx	.wks	.tar	.djvu	.class	.C	.sxm	.odt
.xltm	.wk1	.tgz	.m4u	.jar	.cs	.otg	.pem
.ppt	.pdf	.gz	.m3u	.java	.suo	.odg	.p12
.pptx	.dwg	.7z	.mid	.rb	.sln	.uop	.csr
.pptm	.onetoc2	.rar	.wma	.asp	.ldf	.std	.crt
.pot	.snt	.zip	.flv	.php	.mdf	.sxd	.key
.pps	.hwp	.backup	.3g2	.jsp	.ibd	.otp	.pfx
.ppsm	.602	.iso	.mkv	.brd	.myi	.odp	.der
.ppsx	.sxi						



Inspecting the Import Address Table (IAT) of the WannaCry binary:



There are 91 imports used by this binary whilst **28 of them flagged as suspicious**. We won't describe all of them but the most suspicious, which are also related to the strings we found earlier.



Windows API Import	Description	Library	Associated Attack
InternetOpenA	used to initialize the use of WinINet functions.	Wininet.dll	Malicious Internet Activity
InternetOpenUrlA	used to open a resource specified by a complete FTP or HTTP URL.	Wininet.dll	Malicious Internet Activity
InternetCloseHandle	used to close an internet handle.	Wininet.dll	Malicious Internet Activity
GetAdaptersInfo	used to obtain information about the network adapters on the system. This function is commonly used by malware for enumeration purposes.	Iphlpapi.dll	Enumeration
CryptAcquireContextA	used to acquire a handle to a particular key container within a particular cryptographic service provider (CSP).	Advapi32.dll	Ransomware
CryptGenRandom	used to fill a buffer with cryptographically random bytes.	Advapi32.dll	Ransomware
CreateServiceA	Used to create a service object and adds it to the specified service control manager database. This function is commonly used by malware for persistence.	Advapi32.dll	Helper
LocalAlloc	used for heap allocation and manipulation.	Kernel32.dll	Injection

- The first three internet functions (InternetOpenA, InternetOpenUrlA, InternetCloseHandle) can be used to download malicious files, exfiltration or to interact with a C2. In our case it's related to the long URL string which will be used for communication and as a kill-switch.
- The GetAdaptersInfo function is commonly used by malware for enumeration tasks. Its usage is associated with certain strings previously identified, such as the IPC\$ share.
- CryptGenRandom, CryptAcquireContextA are standard cryptographic functions commonly utilized by ransomware, primarily for encrypting various types of files.
- CreateServiceA is frequently utilized by malware for establishing persistence. Essentially, its purpose is to generate a service.



⊒- wannacry.exe	pFile	Data	Description
IMAGE_DOS_HEADER	000001F0	2E 74 65 78	Name
MS-DOS Stub Program	000001F4	74 00 00 00	
⊞ IMAGE_NT_HEADERS	000001F8	00008BCA	Virtual Size
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .text	000001FC	00001000	RVA
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .rdata	00000200	00009000	Size of Raw Data
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .data	00000204	00001000	Pointer to Raw Data
IMAGE_SECTION_HEADER .rsrc	00000208	00000000	Pointer to Relocations

Figure 9 – PEView Header Size

	Size in Hexadecimal	Size in Decimal
Virtual Size	00008BCA	35,786
Size of Raw Data	00009000	36,864
Size Difference	436	1,078

Upon examining the sizes of the Image Secion Header, there's a minimal difference between the Virtual Size and the Raw Data Size, indicating that the binary is likely unpacked.

Inspecting the binary malicious capabilities using Capa:

ATT&CK Tactic	ATT&CK Technique
DEFENSE EVASION	Obfuscated Files or Information::Indicator Removal from Tools T1027.005
DISCOVERY	File and Directory Discovery T1083 System Information Discovery T1082 System Network Configuration Discovery T1016
EXECUTION	Shared Modules T1129 System Services::Service Execution T1569.002
PERSISTENCE	Create or Modify System Process::Windows Service T1543.003

Figure 10 – ATT&CK Details by Capa



MBC Objective	MBC Behavior	
ANTI-BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS	Conditional Execution::Runs as Service [B0025.007] Debugger Detection::Timing/Delay Check QueryPerformanceCounter [B0001.033]	
ANTI-STATIC ANALYSIS PC I	Executable Code Obfuscation::Argument Obfuscation [B0032.020] Executable Code Obfuscation::Stack Strings [B0032.017]	
COMMAND AND CONTROL	C2 Communication::Receive Data [B0030.002] C2 Communication::Send Data [B0030.001]	
COMMUNICATION SMB	HTTP Communication::Create Request [C0002.012] HTTP Communication::Open URL [C0002.004] Socket Communication::Connect Socket [C0001.004] Socket Communication::Create TCP Socket [C0001.011] Socket Communication::Create UDP Socket [C0001.010] Socket Communication::Get Socket Status [C0001.012] Socket Communication::Initialize Winsock Library [C0001.009] Socket Communication::Receive Data [C0001.006] Socket Communication::Send Data [C0001.007] Socket Communication::Set Socket Config [C0001.001] Socket Communication::TCP Client [C0001.008]	
CRYPTOGRAPHY	Generate Pseudo-random Sequence::Use API [C0021.003]	
DATA	Compression Library [C0060] SetSumenthreadd - Collins	
DISCOVERY	Code Discovery::Inspect Section Memory Permissions [B0046.002] File and Directory Discovery [E1083]	
EXECUTION	Install Additional Program [B0023]	
FILE SYSTEM	Move File [C0063] Read File [C0051] Molockellocoped	
PROCESS	Create Thread [C0038] Terminate Process [C0018] Terminate Thread [C0039]	

Figure 11 – Malware Behavior Catalog Details by Capa

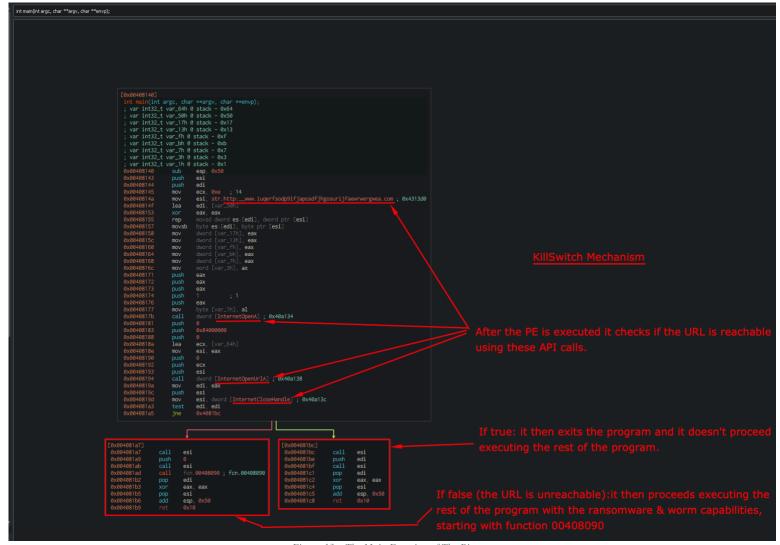


Capability	Namespace
check for time delay via QueryPerformanceCounter contain obfuscated stackstrings receive data (5 matches) send data (5 matches) connect to URL get socket status initialize Winsock library set socket configuration create UDP socket (4 matches) act as TCP client generate random numbers via WinAPI extract resource via kernel32 functions contain an embedded PE file get file size move file read file on Windows get number of processors terminate process run as service create service modify service start service create thread (4 matches) terminate thread link function at runtime on Windows linked against ZLIB inspect section memory permissions persist via Windows service	anti-analysis/anti-debugging/debugger-detection anti-analysis/obfuscation/string/stackstring communication communication communication/http/client communication/socket communication/socket communication/socket communication/socket/udp/send communication/tcp/client data-manipulation/prng executable/resource executable/subfile/pe host-interaction/file-system/meta host-interaction/file-system/read host-interaction/file-system/read host-interaction/hardware/cpu host-interaction/service host-interaction/service/start host-interaction/service/start host-interaction/service/start host-interaction/thread/create host-interaction/thread/create host-interaction/thread/create host-interaction/thread/terminate linking/runtime-linking linking/static/zlib load-code/pe persistence/service

Figure 12 – Capabilities Details by Capa



Statically debugging the binary into Assembly language level:



Figure~13-The~Main~Function~of~The~Binary

The **main** fundtion of the malware binary's primary function acts as a kill-switch, which includes a long URL string, Windows API calls to establish an internet connection and access the specified URL. It then saves the result of reaching the malicious URL, and based on the result, it determines whether to activate the malicious payload or not.

If the connection is successful, it will stop and exit itself, and if there **ins't** a connection it will proceed executing the rest of the program and move to function 00408090.



More in depth:

- The string of the killswitch URL is moved into ECX.
- The arguments for InternetOpenA are pushed onto the stack. The boolean result of InternetOpenA is moved into EAX.
- The arguments for InternetOpenUrlA are pushed onto the stack, including the killswitch URL.
 - The result of InternetOpenUrlA is moved into EAX. Then, this result is also moved into EDI.
- The handle is closed and the program evaluates the value of EDI.
- If the value is 0x0 (i.e, NULL), WannaCry makes a call to the first function (00408090) in the payload.
- Else, WannaCry exits without triggering the payload.

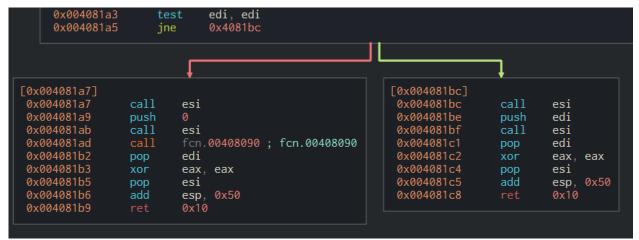


Figure 14 - Kill Switch

The result of wether the long URL is accessible or not will be saved (edi), and then in the test function, the edi value will test it against it self (edi, edi).

Based on that, if the value is **True** (the URL is accessible) the JNE (Jump Not Equal) will jump to the memory address 0x4081bc and exit the program.

If the value is **False** (there isn't a connection with the specified URL), it will proceed to function 00408090 and executes the payload.



Function 00408090, the starting point of the payload, has been called after a successful execution, which then starts modifying files in the currently running process and begins the attack.

```
n. ex-deces () var_3ch @ stack - 0x3c var const char *var_38h @ stack - 0x38 var int32_t var_34h @ stack - 0x34 var int32_t var_34h @ stack - 0x30 var int32_t var_2ch @ stack - 0x2c
      intaz_t var_zen e stack - oxec
const char #lpServiceStartTable @ stack - 0x28
int3z_t var_24h @ stack - 0x24
int3z_t var_26h @ stack - 0x20
int3z_t var_1ch @ stack - 0x1c
                                   esp, 0x10
0x104
                                    0x104 ; 260 ; DWORD nSize
data.0070f760 ; 0x70f760 ; LPSTR lpFilename
0 ; HMCDULE hModule
                                    dword [GetModuleFileNameA]; 0x40a06c; DWORD GetModuleFileNameA(HMODULE ...
dword [__p___argc]; 0x40a12c
                             fcn.00407f20 ; fcn.00407f20 esp, 0x10
                                                                                                                                                   '?' ; DWORD dwDesiredAccess
LPCSTR lpDatabaseName
LPCSTR lpMachineName
                                                                                                                                                                                 a010 ; SC_HANDLE OpenSCManagerA(LPCSTR lpMac..
                                                                                                                             edi, eax
                                                                                                                              ebx
                                                                                                                                       ssecsvc2.0; 0x4312fc; LPCSTR lpServiceName; SC_HANDLE hSCManager
                                                                                                                                                     rviceA] ; 0x40a028 ; SC_HANDLE OpenServiceA(SC_HANDLE hSCMan.
                                                                                                                                                                             ; '<' ; 60 ; SC_HANDLE hService ; int32_t arg_8h
                                                                                                                                                          fcn.
esp.
esi
ebx
                                                                                                                                                                                           ebx
esi
ebx
                                                                                                                                        call
pop
add
                                                                                                                               dword [StartServiceCtrlDispatcherA] ; 0x40a000 ; BOOL StartServiceCtrlDis...
                                                                                                                             esp, 0x10
```

Figure 15 - fcn.00408090



Dynamic Analysis

Detonation with internet connection:

In this phase, we'll detonate the malware while using InetSim to simulate an active internet connection.

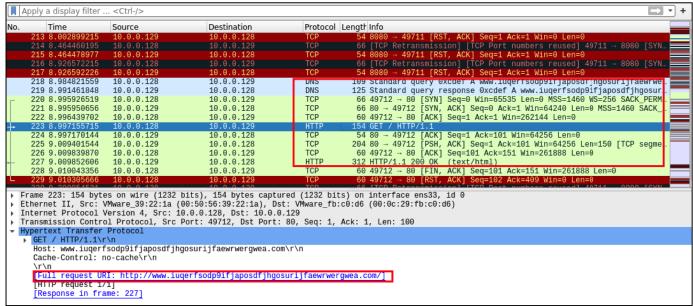


Figure 16 – Wireshark Network Traffic

Upon inspecting the network traffic after the initial detonation of the malware while there is an active internet connection, we can see that after the DNS request and TCP 3-Way Handshake, there's an HTTP traffic with GET response to the long URL that we saw earlier: hxxp://www[.]iuqerfsodp9ifjaposdfjhgosurijfaewrwergwea[.]com

Right after that, we see another HTTP traffic with status code of "200 OK" which indicates that the request has succeeded and the malware was able to reach this URL.

In this case, the malware will exit itself and won't proceed with executing the payload.



Detonating without internet connection:



Figure 17 – WannaCry initial Detonation

Few seconds after detonating the the malware, we can some of the symptoms of the malware:

- Files are getting encrypted with ".WNCRY" file extension.
- The desktop's wallpaper has been changed from the original wallpaper to black image with instructions to the victim on how to act in order to get his data back.
- The WannaDecryptOr.exe pops up with a timer and instructions on how to pay the attackers' wallet with Bitcoin.
- Appearance of new files on the desktop related to the WannaCry Ransomware.
 - .bmp image files, which replaced the original desktop's wallpaper.
 - WannaDecryptOr.exe which is shown on the center of the screen.
 - Text file with instructions on how to recover the files and how to pay to the attackers.



While inspecting the host-based indicators and filtering for file creation, we can see a lot of files are being created and located in "C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094", mainly by the process "tasksche.exe" (also shown in figure 2).

Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com Edit Event Filter Options Tools Time ... Process Name PID Operation Path Result Detail 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe Desired Access: R 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg SUCCESS 8:20:5... In tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg\m_swedish.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... tasksche.exe 1800 🐂 Create File C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... ** tasksche.exe Desired Access: R... 1800 CreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg SUCCESS Desired Access: R... tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... 8:20:5... • tasksche.exe 1800 🐂 Create File C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg\m_turkish.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5 Tasksche exe 1800 CreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbgt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R tasksche.exe 8:20:5... 1800 🐂 Create File C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe Desired Access: R... 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg SUCCESS 8:20:5... ** tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbgt094\msg SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\msg\m_vietnamese.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\r.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 CreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R. 8:20:5... • tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\s.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... ■ tasksche.exe SUCCESS 8:20:5... 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... ** tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbgt094\t.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... In tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile Desired Access: R C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS 8:20:5... tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\taskdl.exe SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... Tasksche exe SUCCESS 1800 CreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbgt094\taskse.exe Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094 SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... In tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\u.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5... tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\c.wnry SUCCESS Desired Access: G... 8:20:5 Tasksche exe Desired Access: G... C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\c.wnry SUCCESS 1800 TreateFile NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 🐂 Create File C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\attrib.exe 8:20:5... ■ tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\attrib.exe NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R... 8:20:5... In tasksche.exe C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\icacls.exe NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R... 1800 TreateFile 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\icacls.exe NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R... C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\CRYPTSP.dll 8:20:5... ■ tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\CRYPTBASE.dll 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe NAME NOT FOUND Disposition: Open C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\crypt32.dll 1800 CreateFile 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe 1800 🐂 Create File C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\t.wnry SUCCESS Options: Open Rep 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe Attributes: n/a 1800 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\MSVCP60.dll NAME NOT FOUND D ShareMode: Read 8:20:5... Tasksche.exe NAME NOT FOUND D 8092 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbgt094\00000000.dkv AllocationSize: n/a 8:21:0 Tasksche exe 8092 CreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\00000000.dky NAME NOT FOUND D 8:21:0... Tasksche.exe 8092 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\taskdl.exe SUCCESS Desired Access: R... 8:21:0... Tasksche.exe 8092 TreateFile C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\taskdl.exe SUCCESS Desired Access: R 8:21:0... In tasksche.exe C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\taskdl.exe Desired Access: R... 8092 TreateFile SUCCESS

Figure 18 - File Creation with Procmon



Another folder within the "gzfhbohbqt094" folder is the "msg" folder that contains .wnry files. These files are RTF files containing the ransomware information in different languages.

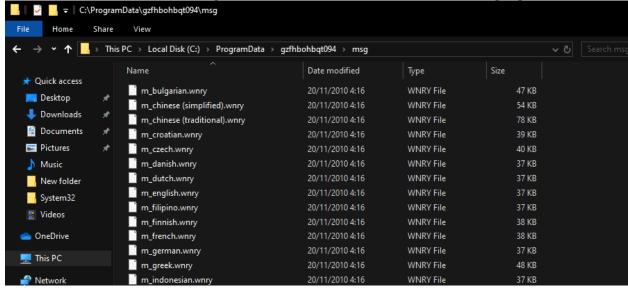


Figure 19 – msg Folder

Additional folder is the "Tor" folder that's located in "C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\TaskData\Tor" and contains two executables: "taskhsvc.exe" & "tor.exe" which have similar file size. "taskhsvc.exe" appears to be a copy of "tor.exe", probably to hide itself and be less easier to spot.

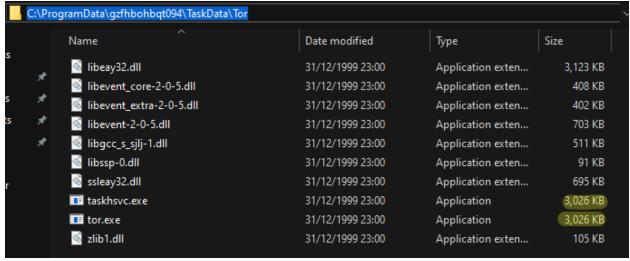


Figure 20 – Tor Folder



I've also extracted the file hash for both of them and these appears to be the same file.

C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\TaskData\Tor

λ sha256sum.exe taskhsvc.exe
e48673680746fbe027e8982f62a83c298d6fb46ad9243de8e79b7e5a24dcd4eb *taskhsvc.exe

C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\TaskData\Tor

λ sha256sum.exe tor.exe
e48673680746fbe027e8982f62a83c298d6fb46ad9243de8e79b7e5a24dcd4eb *tor.exe

Figure 21 – Same Hash for both of the files

Upon looking for network indicators, we've seen that the "taskhsvc.exe" process opens port 9050 to a LISTENING state (as shown above in <u>figure 3</u>) which belong to "tor-socks" service (www.torproject.org) and attempts to connect to non-private remote addresses over HTTPS, attempts to contact the configured C2 hidden services.

In order to find more network indicators, I also used TCPView as and Procmon and noticed that WannaCry was sending TCP Syn requests on port 445 to every IP address that's in the subnet of the infected machine (10.0.0.0/24).

What the malware is trying to do is to infect other machines through the use of the SMB protocol, leveraging the <u>EternalBlue Exploit</u> developed by the NSA. We can see that WannaCry is not only Ransomware but also has Worm capabilities.



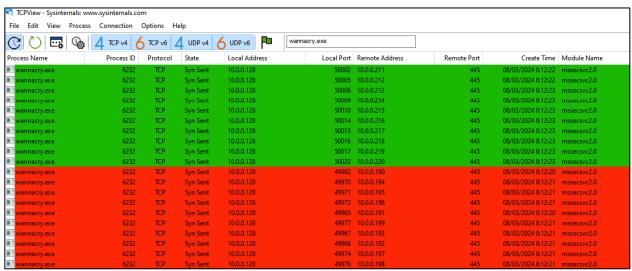


Figure 21 – SMB Connections by TCPView

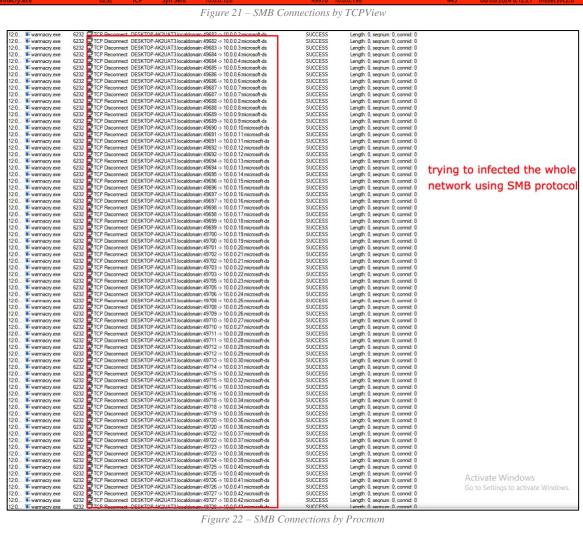


Figure 22 – SMB Connections by Procmon



During the review of the process tree to check the parent process and its subsequent child processes to gather more insights into the capabilities of this malware, I've observed the following:

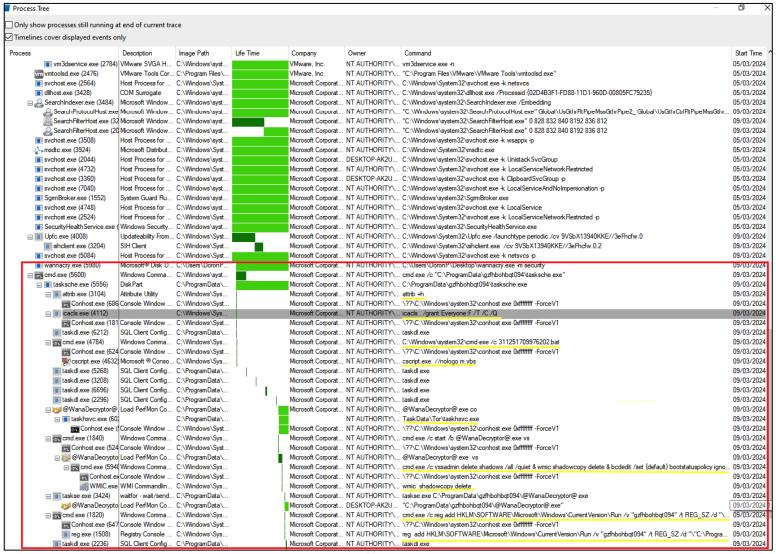


Figure 23 – Process Tree

Below is the explanation of these processes and what they are exactly doing:

- cmd.exe /c "C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\tasksche.exe"
 C:\Windows\SysWOW64\attrib.exe attrib +h .
 - Tasksche.exe was initiated after wannacry.exe's detonation which then set the directory it was initiated from to hidden using attrib.exe.



• C:\Windows\SysWOW64\icacls.exe icacls . /grant Everyone:F /T /C /Q

- → tasksche.exe used icacls.exe (ACLs Access Control Lists) to perform the following on the current directory (gzfhbohbqt094):
 - "/grant Everyone:F": This part of the command grants full control (F)
 permissions to the "Everyone" group. This essentially allows all users,
 including guests and unauthenticated users, full control over the directory
 and its contents.
 - "/T": This switch applies the specified permission changes to all subdirectories and files within the specified directory recursively.
 - "/C": This switch continues the operation even if errors occur during processing.
 - "/Q": This switch suppresses the display of success messages.

C:\Windows\SysWOW64\cmd.exe C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe /c 311251709976202.bat

- → taskdl.exe executes a batch file named "311251709976202.bat" using command interpreter.
- → "/c" flag tells cmd.exe to execute the command specified and then terminate.

• cscript.exe //nologo m.vbs

- → Runs a VBScript file named "m.vbs" without displaying the Windows Script Host logo.
- \rightarrow "//nologo" is an argument used to suppress the Windows Script Host logo during script execution.

C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\TaskData\Tor\taskhsvc.exe TaskData\Tor\taskhsvc.exe

- → taskhsvc.exe is executed which then opens port 9050 to a LISTENING state (screenshot above) and attempts to connect to non-private remote addresses over HTTPS.
- cmd.exe /c vssadmin delete shadows /all /quiet & wmic shadowcopy delete & bcdedit /set {default} bootstatuspolicy ignoreallfailures & bcdedit /set {default} recoveryenabled no & wbadmin delete catalog -quiet
 - → vssadmin delete shadows /all /quiet: Deletes all Volume Shadow Copies quietly.
 - → wmic shadowcopy delete: Deletes all remaining shadow copies using Windows Management Instrumentation Command-line (WMIC).
 - → bcdedit /set {default} bootstatuspolicy ignoreallfailures: Sets the boot status policy to ignore all failures.
 - → bcdedit /set {default} recoveryenabled no: Disables recovery options for the default boot entry.
 - → wbadmin delete catalog -quiet: Deletes the backup catalog quietly.

This command sequence is designed to remove or tamper with system backup and recovery mechanisms, possibly to cover tracks or hinder recovery efforts.



- cmd.exe /c reg add HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run /v
 "gzfhbohbqt094" /t REG_SZ /d "\"C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\tasksche.exe\"" /f
 - → cmd.exe /c: Initiates a command shell and executes the specified command before terminating.
 - → reg add HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run: Adds a new entry under the "Run" registry key, which specifies programs that should run automatically when the system starts.
 - → /v "gzfhbohbqt094": Specifies the name of the registry value to be created.
 - → /t REG_SZ: Specifies the data type of the registry value as a string (REG_SZ).
 - → /d "\"C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\tasksche.exe\"": Specifies the data to be stored in the registry value, which is the path to an executable file ("C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\tasksche.exe"). The double quotes around the path are escaped with backslashes.
 - → /f: Forces the creation of the registry entry without prompting for confirmation.

This command is likely attempting to add a new entry to the Windows registry to ensure that a specific executable (tasksche.exe) is executed every time the system starts (Persistence Mechanism).

The executable path indicates that it resides in the C:\ProgramData\gzfhbohbqt094\directory.

We can also see the persistence mechanism while reviewing the service manager within the OS and the new service that was created "gzfhbohbqt094" which will load whenever the system boots up.

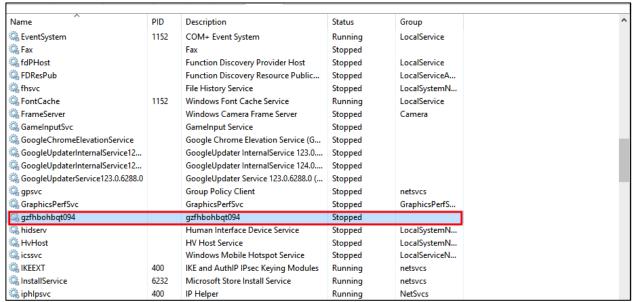


Figure 24 – New Service Indicating Persistency

List of Indicators of Compromise (IOCs)



Domain	hxxp://www.iuqerfsodp9ifjaposdfjhgosurijfaewrwergwea.com
	WNcry@2o17
	tasksche.exe
	taskse.exed
	taskdl.exe
	C:\%s\%s
Strings	C:\%s\qeriuwjhrf
	\172.16.99.5\IPC\$
	\192.168.56.20\IPC\$
	icacls . /grant Everyone:F /T /C /Q
	wncry
	.wnry
	24d004a104d4d54034dbcffc2a4b19a11f39008a575aa614ea04703480b1022c
	4a468603fdcb7a2eb5770705898cf9ef37aade532a7964642ecd705a74794b79
	ed01ebfbc9eb5bbea545af4d01bf5f1071661840480439c6e5babe8e080e41aa
Hashes	2ca2d550e603d74dedda03156023135b38da3630cb014e3d00b1263358c5f00d
	E48673680746FBE027E8982F62A83C298D6FB46AD9243DE8E79B7E5A24DCD4EB
	B9C5D4339809E0AD9A00D4D3DD26FDF44A32819A54ABF846BB9B560D81391C25



Yara Rules

```
rule WannaCry_Detector {
    last_updated = "2024-03-09"
    author = "Doron Pesahov"
    description = "Yara Rule for detectng WannaCry Ransomware on the host"
  strings:
    // Identifying strings and other criteria for WannaCry
    $URL = "www.iuqerfsodp9ifjaposdfjhgosurijfaewrwergwea.com" ascii
    $PE_magic_byte = "MZ"
    $common_file_ext1 = ".WNCRY"
    $common_file_ext2 = ".wnry"
    $dropped_exe1 = "WanaDecryptor"
    $dropped_exe2 = "tasksche.exe"
    $dropped_exe3 = "taskhsvc.exe"
    $dropped_exe4 = "taskdl.exe"
    $dropped_exe5 = "taskse.exe"
    $PE_magic_byte at 0 and ($common_file_ext1 or $common_file_ext2) and
    ($URL or $dropped_exe1 or $dropped_exe2 or $dropped_exe3 or $dropped_exe4 or $dropped_exe5)
```