## Elec 570 Project I: Investigating an Infected Machine

(Weight: 15%; Due June 8, 2017)

## **Case Description**

One of the managers of a company fell for a spearphishing scam, which was delivered through a spam email containing a file attachment. After opening the file, the manager did not notice anything; however, recently they have started experiencing unusual activity in the company's accounts. This triggered an investigation, where first responders were able to collect a memory image of the suspected infected machine.

As a forensics investigator, your mission is to analyze the memory image and report on any suspected activities found.

#### Task

Provide a report analysing suspicious activities by answering the following questions:

1. Identify running processes, and determine which ones look suspicious and justify why. Process is most likely responsible for the initial exploit. [4%]

Solution:

To identify running processes first we need to start Volatility as follows:

## Forensics Tools>Memory Forensics>Volatility

Then we need to find the image information so that we can extract the running processes as follows:

python vol.py -f /home/caine/Desktop/caineshared/project1-c/project1-c.vmem imageinfo

```
caine@Caine:/usr/share/caine/pacchetti/volatility$ python vol.py -f /home/caine/
Desktop/CaineShared/project1-c/project1-c.vmem imageinfo
olatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.4
Determining profile based on KDBG search...
          Suggested Profile(s) : WinXPSP2x86, WinXPSP3x86 (Instantiated with Win
(PSP2x86)
                     AS Layer1 : IA32PagedMemoryPae (Kernel AS)
                     AS Layer2 : FileAddressSpace (/home/caine/Desktop/CaineShar
ed/project1-c/project1-c.vmem)
                      PAE type : PAE
                              : 0x2fe000L
                          KDBG: 0x80545ae0
         Number of Processors
    Image Type (Service Pack)
                KPCR for CPU 0 : 0xffdff000
            KUSER SHARED DATA: 0xffdf0000
          Image date and time : 2012-07-22 02:45:08 UTC+0000
    Image local date and time :
                                 2012-07-21 22:45:08
aine@Caine:/usr/share/caine/pacchetti/volatility$
```

Here we can see that Image type is service pack 3, which points to WinXPSP2x86 as profile. Now we can see identify running processes.

For this we will export profile and location by setting environment variables, so that we don't have to give the folder location again and again.

# export VOLATILITY\_LOCATION=file:///home/caine/Desktop/caineshared/project1-c/project1-c.vmem

## export VOLATILITY\_PROFILE=WinXPSP3x86

Now identifying rogue processes by following command:

## python vol.py pslist

Platility Foundation Volatility (fset(V) Name		PPID	Thds	Hnds	Sess	Wow64 Start		Exit
823c89c8 System	4		53					
822f1020 smss.exe	368					0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:31 UTC+0000
822a0598 csrss.exe	584	368		326		0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:32 UTC+0000
82298700 winlogon.exe	608	368	23	519		0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:32 UTC+0000
81e2ab28 services.exe	652	608	16	243	k 0	0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:32 UTC+0000
81e2a3b8 lsass.exe	664	608	24	330		0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:32 UTC+0000
82311360 svchost.exe	824	652	20	194		0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:33 UTC+0000
81e29ab8 svchost.exe	908	652		226		0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:33 UTC+0000
823001d0 svchost.exe	1004	652	64	1118	0	0 2012-07	-22 02:	:42:33 UTC+0000
821dfda0 svchost.exe		1056	6	652	5	60	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
82295650 svchost.exe		1220		652	15	197	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:42:35 UTC+000
821dea70 explorer.exe		148	4 1	464	17	415	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+000
81eb17b8 spoolsv.exe		1512	2	652	14	113	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+006
81e7bda0 reader_sl.exe		1640	9 1	484	5	39	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+006
820e8da0 alg.exe		788	3	652	7	104	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:43:01 UTC+006
821fcda0 wuauclt.exe		1136	5 1	004	8	173	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:43:46 UTC+006
:8205bda0 wuauclt.exe		1588		004	5	132	Θ	0 2012-07-22 02:44:01 UTC+000

The columns display the offset, process name, process ID, the parent process ID, number of threads, number of handles, and date/time when the process started. If there is a process with 0 handle and 0 offset then that process is not alive. The **offset is a virtual address** by default, but the **physical offset** can be obtained with the -P switch:

## python vol.py pslist -P



	e:/usr/share/caine/pacc Foundation Volatility			/\$ pyth	on vol.	py psli	st -P		
Offset(P)				Thds	Hnds	Sess	Wow64	Start Exi	Ĺť
0x025c89c8	System	4		53	240				
0x024f1020	smss.exe	368	4		19			2012-07-22 02:42:31 UTC+0000	
0x024a0598	csrss.exe	584	368		326			2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+0000	
0x02498700	winlogon.exe	608	368	23	519			2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+0000	
0x0202ab28	services.exe	652	608	16	243			2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+0000	
0x0202a3b8	lsass.exe	664	608	24	330			2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+0000	
0x02511360	svchost.exe	824	652	20	194			2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+0000	
0x02029ab8	svchost.exe	908	652		226			2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+0000	
0x025001d0	svchost.exe	1004	652	64	1118			2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+0000	
0 <b>x</b> 023dfda0	svchost.exe	1056	652	5	60	Θ	0	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+0000	
0x02495650	svchost.exe	1220	652	15		197	0	0 2012-07-22 02:42:35 UTC+000	0
0x023dea70	explorer.exe	1484	1464	17	,	415	0	0 2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+000	0
0x020b17b8	3 spoolsv.exe	1512	652	14	1	113	0	0 2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+000	0
0x0207bda0	reader_sl.exe	1640	1484	5		39	0	0 2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+000	0
0x022e8da0	alg.exe	788	652	7	7	104	0	0 2012-07-22 02:43:01 UTC+000	0
0x023fcda0	) wuauclt.exe	1136	1004	8	3	173	0	0 2012-07-22 02:43:46 UTC+000	0
0x0225bda0	) wuauclt.exe	1588	1004	5	5	132	0	0 2012-07-22 02:44:01 UTC+000	0
caine@Cain	ne:/usr/share/caine/pa	cchetti	/volati	lity\$					

The processes are represented in the form of doubly linked list. Here in these figures locating parent process is difficult so we will display in tree format using **pstree** plugin.

## python vol.py pstree

me	Pid	PPid	Thds	Hnds	Time
v932c90c9+Suctom		θ	53	240	1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC+000
0x823c89c8:System 0x822f1020:smss.exe	368	4	3		2012-07-22 02:42:31 UTC+000
0x82298700:winlogon.exe	608	368	23		2012-07-22 02:42:31 UTC+000
. 0x81e2ab28:services.exe					
	652	608	16		2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+000
0x821dfda0:svchost.exe	1056	652	5		2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
0x81eb17b8:spoolsv.exe	1512	652	14		2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+000
0x81e29ab8:svchost.exe	908	652	9	226	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+00
0x823001d0:svchost.exe	1004	652	64	1118	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
0x8205bda0:wuauclt.exe	1588	1004	5	132	2012-07-22 02:44:01 UTC+000
θx821fcdaθ:wuauclt.exe	1136	1004	8	173	2012-07-22 02:43:46 UTC+00
0x82311360:svchost.exe	824	652	20	194	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+00
0x820e8da0:alg.exe	788	652	7	104	2012-07-22 02:43:01 UTC+00
0x82295650:svchost.exe	1220	652	15		2012-07-22 02:42:35 UTC+00
. θx81e2a3b8:lsass.exe	664	608	24		2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+00
0x822a0598:csrss.exe	584	368	9		2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+00
x821dea70:explorer.exe	1484	1464	17		2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+00
0x81e7bda0:reader_sl.exe	1640	1484	- 5		2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+00

Using pstree plugin we can find the suspicious processes. But nothing is exactly suspicious here. The only process which looks suspicious is explorer.exe and

# reader\_sl.exe because these both processes do not have any parent process ID which executes these processes from the system.



### File: explorer.exe

It can be a suspicious process as its parent ID is 1464 which is not of svchost. It might be possible that the machine is remotely operated and tried to install malicious software.



#### File: reader\_sl.exe

Its parent id is 1484 which is that of explorer.exe, if that is a suspicious process then this is also a suspicious process as it is child of that process.



2. Identify suspicious network connections from/to the victim machine, and determine which process(es) is(are) most likely responsible for the initial exploit, by refining the previous list of suspicious

processes.

[4%]

#### Answer:

To investigate further about suspicious connections we have to execute connections plugin

## Python vol.py connections

```
caine@Caine:/usr/share/caine/pacchetti/volatility$ python vol.py connections
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.4

Offset(V) Local Address Remote Address Pid

0x81e87620 172.16.112.128:1038 41.168.5.140:8080 1484
caine@Caine:/usr/share/caine/pacchetti/volatility$
```

This shows one active remote connection that is using **8080 port and its PID is 1484** which is the **parent ID of explorer.exe and reader\_sl.exe.** It means **explorer.exe and reader\_sl.exe** are suspicious processes because explorer cannot open web browser.



To list recent network connections using the connscan plugin as follows:

#### Python vol.py connscan

```
      caine@Caine:/usr/share/caine/pacchetti/volatility$ python vol.py connscan

      Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.4

      Offset(P) Local Address
      Remote Address
      Pid

      0x02087620 172.16.112.128:1038
      41.168.5.140:8080
      1484

      0x023a8008 172.16.112.128:1037
      125.19.103.198:8080
      1484
```

This shows 2 connections established by the machine to remote IP address 41.168.5.140 and 125.19.103.198.

Both connections were made by a process with PID=1484. Since this process is connecting to port 8080.

Using connscan plugin again it is confirmed **that explorer.exe and reader\_sl.exe are** most likely responsible for the initial exploit, by refining the previous list of suspicious processes.



Now, we have a service connecting to port 8080; which is abnormal. This means that there is a great chance that the process 1484 is malicious.

#### 3. Identify the IP addresses and locations of the suspicious machines involved. [1%]

Answer: IP addresses are found using connscan and are: 41.168.5.140 and 125.19.103.198.

Locations can be found using

https://www.iplocation.net/

here we can see that location is south africa and company name is Neotel Pty Ltd for 41.168.5.140.

Geolocation data from EurekAPI (Product: API, real-time)

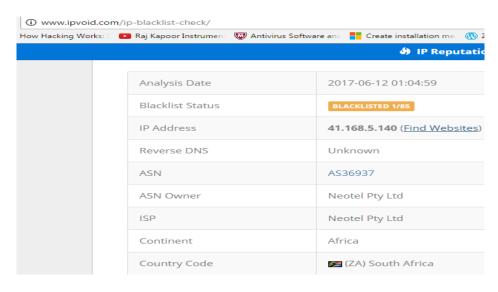
IP Address	Country	Region	City	
41.168.5.140	South Africa 🔀	Gauteng	Midrand	
ISP	Organization	Latitude	Longitude	
Neotel Pty Ltd	Neotel Pty Ltd	-25.9636	28.1378	

The second IP address is 125.19.103.198 which is located either in New Delhi or Rajasthan in INDIA with the owner name Shriram general insurance company and internet service provider is Bharti Airtel.

Geolocation data from ipinfo.io (Product: API, real-time)



To check if the IP address is blocked or not we can use www.ipvoid.com





## IP ADDRESS: 41.168.5.140

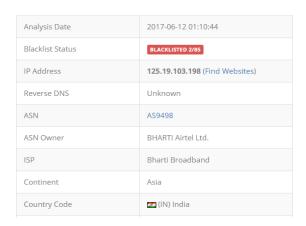
We have found in our database of already analyzed websites that there **is only**1 website hosted in the same web server with IP address 41.168.5.140.

Remember that it is not good to have too many websites located in the same web server because if a website gets infected by malware, it can easily affect the online reputation of the IP address and also of all the other websites.

Browse a list of websites hosted in 41.168.5.140 IP address:

#	Website
1	✓ support.tray-international.com

The second IP address is also blacklisted which is 125.19.103.198. and the website address is **poluicenotgo.ru** 



We have found in our database of already analyzed websites that there **is only 1 website** hosted in the same web server with IP address **125.19.103.198**.

Remember that it is not good to have too many websites located in the same web server because if a website gets infected by malware, it can easily affect the online reputation of the IP address and also of all the other websites.

Browse a list of websites hosted in 125.19.103.198 IP address:

IP ADDRESS: 125.19.103.198

#	Website
1	▲ poluicenotgo.ru

4. List the sockets involved, and identify suspicious ones by analyzing the timeline (i.e. created around incident timeline) [3%]

#### Answer:

To find the sockets involved sockscan plugin is used: python vol.py sockscan

By carefully analyzing, we can say that process ID 908 is suspicious. Because it is created at the same time. As in the pstree and sockscan. And after that connection is established between the machine and internet.exe is executed.



ine	Pid	PPid	Thds	Hnds	Time
0x823c89c8:System	4		53	240	1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC+000
0x822f1020:smss.exe	368			19	2012-07-22 02:42:31 UTC+000
0x82298700:winlogon.exe	608	368	23	519	2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+000
. 0x8le2ab28:services.exe	652	608	16	243	2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+000
0x821dfda0:svchost.exe	1056	652	5	60	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
0x81eb17b8:spoolsv.exe	1512	652	14	113	2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+000
0x81e29ab8:svchost.exe	908	652	9	226	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
0x823001d0:svchost.exe	1004	652	64	1118	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
0x8205bda0:wuauclt.exe	1588	1004		132	2012-07-22 02:44:01 UTC+000
0x821fcda0:www.uclt.exe	1136	1004		173	2012-07-22 02:43:46 UTC+000
0x82311360:svchost.exe	824	652	20	194	2012-07-22 02:42:33 UTC+000
0x820e8da0:alg.exe	788	652		104	2012-07-22 02:43:01 UTC+006
0x82295650:svchost.exe	1220	652	15	197	2012-07-22 02:42:35 UTC+000
. 0x81e2a3b8:lsass.exe	664	608	24	330	2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+000
0x822a0598:csrss.exe	584	368	9	326	2012-07-22 02:42:32 UTC+00
x821dea70:explorer.exe	1484	1464	17	415	2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+00
0x81e7bda0:reader_sl.exe	1640	1484	5	39	2012-07-22 02:42:36 UTC+00

5. Extract all executable (files) from the suspicious processes running on the victim's machine (as determined in question 2), and check whether some of these files are malicious using an online virus scanner. [1%]

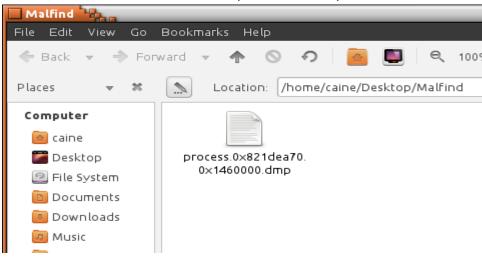
## **Answer:**

To extract all suspicious processes from the files we have to use malfind plugin python vol.py malfind -p 1484 --dump-dir /home/caine/Desktop/Malfind

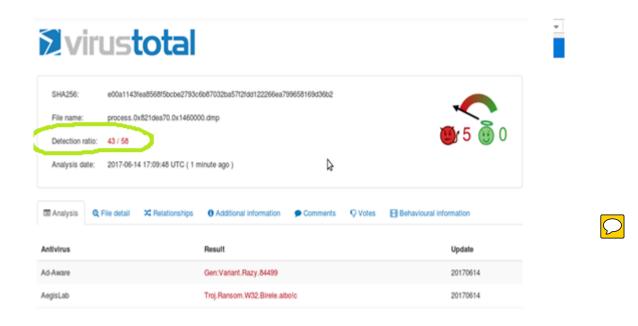


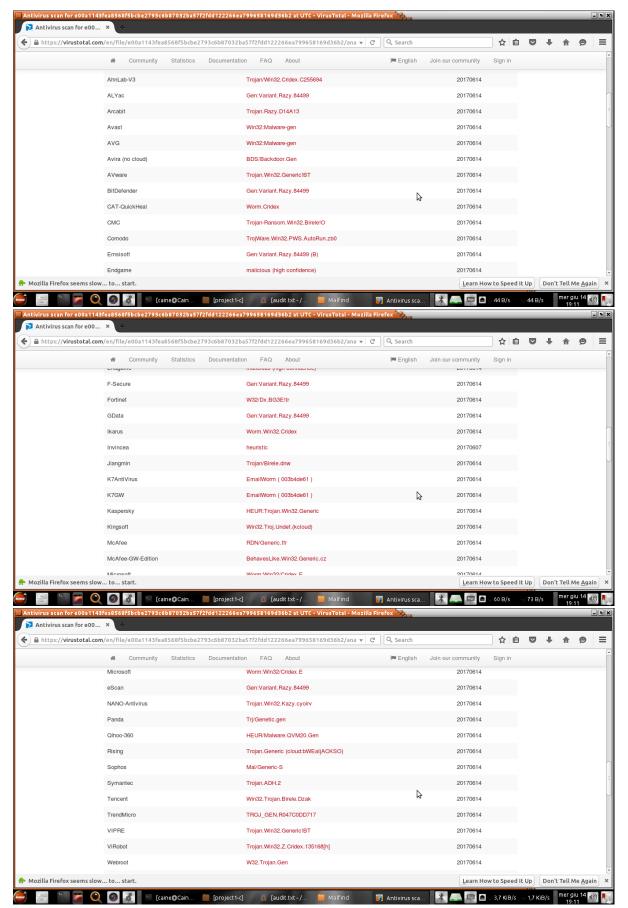


The extracted file will be stored in the specified directory.



In this case, one file is generated. We can check this file by uploading on online virus scanner, e.g., virustotal.com





The results indicate that 43/58 scanners have classified this file as malware.

6. Identify the URL for one of the financial institutions that may be in the suspected process(es) memory space. [1%]

**Answer:** 

strings /home/caine/desktop/1484.dmp | grep "http://"



```
3http://crl.usertrust.com/UTN-USERFirst-Hardware.crl01
http://188.40.0.138:8080/zb/v_01_a/in/cp.php
<!-- BEGIN Global Navigation table --->ctable cellspacing="0" cellpadding="0" border="0" class="fullwidth" summary="global navigation">ctr>ctd>ca href="http://www.chase.com/" id="siteLogo">cimg src="http://www.chase.com/" id="siteLogo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="mainter="logo">cimg style="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter="mainter=
```

We can see here that <u>www.chase.com</u> is the financial institution involved after doing google all the URL's shown above.



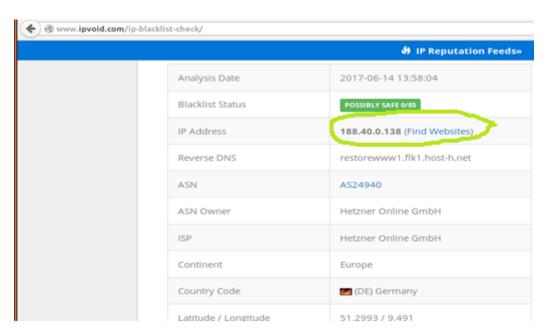
7. Identify at least one related IP address and corresponding location (in addition to the ones found earlier) that may be in the suspected process(es) memory space. [1%]

#### **Answer:**

The associated URL with this suspected process memory space is: 188.40.0.38 and location is **GERMANY** 

```
http://www.usertrust.com1
http://crl.usertrust.com/UTN-DATACorpSGC.crl0*
*http://ca.sia.it/seccli/repository/CRL.der0J
'http://www.certplus.com/CRL/class3P.crl0
http://www.usertrust.com1
http://www.usertrust.com/UTN-USEPFiret.Hardware.crl01
http://188.40.0.138:8080/zb/v_01_a/in/cp.php
```

Upon further investigation it is seen that this URL is safe but this suspicious process has been attached to it



## Following are the websites hosted using this IP address

Browse a list of websites hosted in 188.40.0.138 IP address:

#	Website
1	✓ campsbayaccommodation.info
2	✓ aubergealouette.com
3	✓ africantouchtours.com
4	✓ wind-rose.co.za
5	✓ capescape.co.za

Further the locations can be found at www.iplocation.net

Organization name is hetzner online GmbH





## Geolocation data from ipinfo.io (Product: API, real-time)

IP Address	IP Address Country		City		
188.40.0.38 Germany		Not Available	Not Available		
ISP	Organization	Latitude	Longitude		
Hetzner Online GmbH	hetzner Africa	51.2993	9.4910		