

Chapter 5

Basic Dynamic Analysis

Mohd Zaki Mas'ud

Topic

- Malware Analysis in Virtual Machines
- Introduction to Dynamic Analysis
- Sandbox
- Running Malware
- ProcMon (Process Monitor)
- Process Explorer
- Faking a Network
- Using Inetsim
- Basic Dynamics Tool

MALWARE ANALYSIS IN VIRTUAL MACHINE

Dynamic Analysis

- Running malware deliberately, while monitoring the results
- Requires a **safe environment**
- Must prevent malware from spreading to production machines
- Real machines can be **airgapped** –no network connection to the Internet or to other machines

Real Machines

- Disadvantages
 - No Internet connection, so parts of the malware may not work
 - Can be difficult to remove malware, so re-imaging the machine will be necessary
- Advantage
 - Some malware detects virtual machines and won't run properly in one

Virtual Machines

- The most common method
- We'll do it that way
- This protects the host machine from the malware
 - Except for a few very rare cases of malware that escape the virtual machine and infect the host

VMware Player

- Free but limited
- Cannot take snapshots
- VMware Workstation or Fusion is a better choice, but they cost money
- You could also use VirtualBox, Hyper-V, Parallels, or Xen.

Configuring VMware

- You can disable networking by disconnecting the virtual network adapter
- Host-only networking allows network traffic to the host but not the Internet

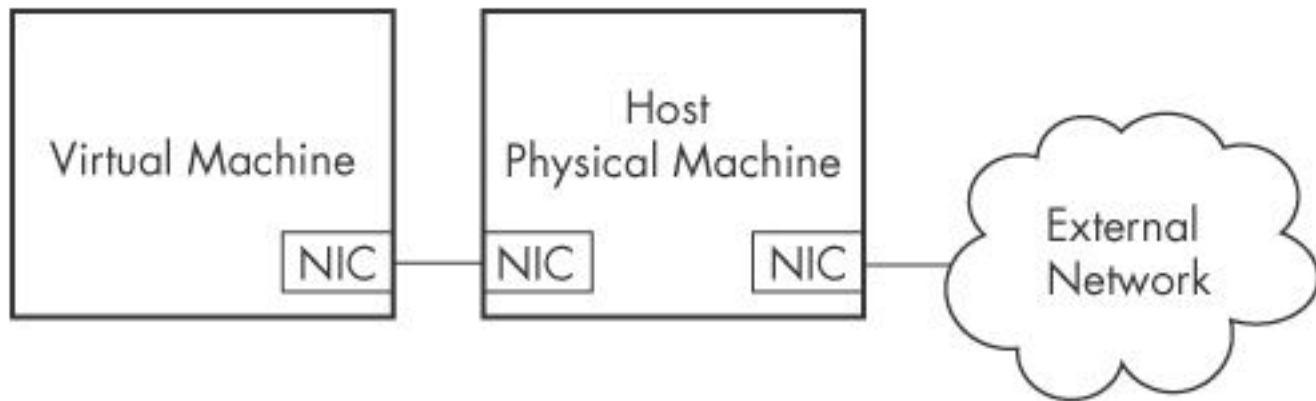


Figure 3-3. Host-only networking in VMware

Connecting Malware to the Internet

- NAT mode lets VMs see each other and the Internet, but puts a virtual router between the VM and the LAN
- Bridged networking connects the VM directly to the LAN
- Can allow malware to do some harm or spread – controversial
- You could send spam or participate in a DDoS attack

Snapshots

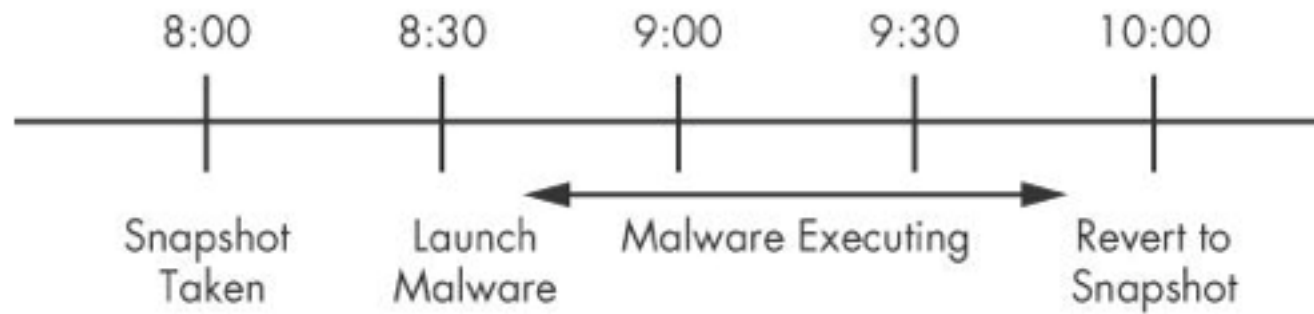


Figure 3-5. Snapshot timeline

Risks of Using VMware for Malware Analysis

- Malware may detect that it is in a VM and run differently
- VMware has bugs: malware may crash or exploit it
- Malware may spread or affect the host – don't use a sensitive host machine

PRACTICAL MALWARE ANALYSIS

Why Perform Dynamic Analysis?

- Static analysis can reach a dead-end, due to
 - Obfuscation
 - Packing
 - Examiner has exhausted the available static analysis techniques
- Dynamic analysis is efficient and will show you exactly what the malware does

SANDBOXES: THE QUICK-AND- DIRTY APPROACH

Sandbox

- All-in-one software for basic dynamic analysis
- Virtualized environment that simulates network services
- Examples: Norman Sandbox, GFI Sandbox, Anubis, Joe Sandbox, ThreatExpert, BitBlaze, Comodo Instant Malware Analysis
- They are expensive but easy to use
- They produce a nice PDF report of results



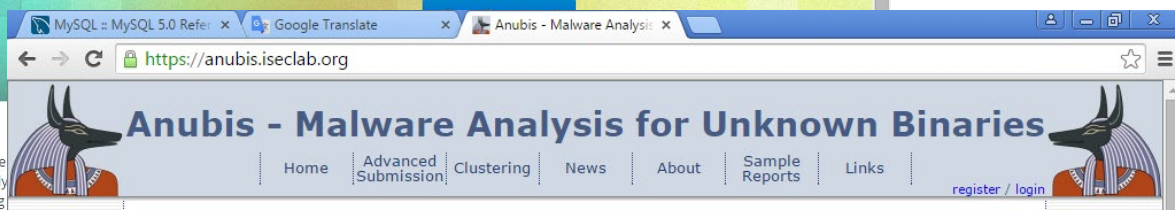
About

Being able to understand the operation is the key to properly analyze malware. Cuckoo Sandbox helps you achieving this in an automated fashion.

[Read more »](#)

Quick Links

- [Community](#)
- [Issue Tracker](#)
- [Malwr.com](#)



Welcome to Anubis

Anubis is a service for analyzing Windows executables. Submit your Windows executables for analysis. Alternatively, submit a suspicious Explorer process when visiting the website.

[twitter](#) Want notifications?

Announcement

We are proud to support APKs (codename: Anubis)

Like the core-Anu provides a detailed code loading and static analysis, you can also analyze APKs. To analyze APKs, you need to have the required permissions. [To analyze APKs, visit the Play Store!](#)

News

01.07.2015 We presented the new version [here](#).

mykotakpasir

b98af1b18eea93ac15cad758d204019f

MD5	b98af1b18eea93ac15cad758d204019f
SHA1	213f464abeb94e98afd33dec5f94629b8ea0aa5
SHA256	81db8297d30e9cad385936bf51ebf256efdb7d726469d917a7a1e840ed4571ab
Ssdeep	384:NVF6Kt5F/U8xrCdKcKAnBMtp7orfDvcB79G7KMQMh3bo30dhY:dhN6U6KcpnCPoLDv47o7KMJo3A
File Size	21504
File Type	application/x-msdownload
Time Stamp	2015-09-29 17:50:52

[Overview](#) [Network](#) [Alias](#) [Strings](#) [Files](#) [Process](#)

Attention: This section is temporarily unavailable.


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malwr 

400819
Total Analyses

57%
Shared Malware

250350
Unique Domains

Recent Analyses (see more)	
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:27 p.m.	a8989abfbcac39af842057ab64a20f73
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:25 p.m.	7c72df8f892e7aba8fbffac52f61e95f
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:25 p.m.	c3009ee63bc661d9ea75eae256448ca
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:25 p.m.	154ae702f5cb06c2879ad958d98aa985
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:20 p.m.	e2eb1efb65b6df467c2b4dfc1d45f710
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:13 p.m.	437689ebb831e28a0c58f777aa905183
Oct. 12, 2015, 7:05 p.m.	7babed57246d271e26ea3ab9b928d092
Oct. 12, 2015, 6:53 p.m.	f317f407dbec274acc03375f7284e8e5
Oct. 12, 2015, 6:48 p.m.	2b699cfe2ff1e9dee493fed8f3817e00

Recent Domains	
damdado.no-ip.info	
adsyndication.msn.com	
cx.msn.com	
images.adsyndication.msn.com	
www.copasa.com.br	
myip.dnsomatic.com	
www.download.windowsupdate.com	
cr1.verisign.com	
sf.symcb.com	

Potential Drawbacks

- Malware often detects when it is running in a virtual machine, and if a virtual machine is detected, the malware might stop running or behave differently. Not all sandboxes take this issue into account.
- Some malware requires the presence of certain registry keys or files on the system that might not be found in the sandbox. These might be required to contain legitimate data, such as commands or encryption keys.
- If the malware is a DLL, certain exported functions will not be invoked properly, because a DLL will not run as easily as an executable.
- The sandbox environment OS may not be correct for the malware. For example, the malware might crash on Windows XP but run correctly in Windows 7.
- A sandbox cannot tell you what the malware does. It may report basic functionality, but it cannot tell you that the malware is a custom Security Accounts Manager (SAM) hash dump utility or an encrypted keylogging backdoor, for example. Those are conclusions that you must draw on your own.

RUNNING MALWARE

Launching DLLs

- EXE files can be run directly, but DLLs can't
- Use Rundll32.exe (included in Windows)
 rundll32.exe *DLLname, Export arguments*
- The *Export* value is one of the exported functions you found in Dependency Walker, PView, or PE Explorer.

Launching DLLs

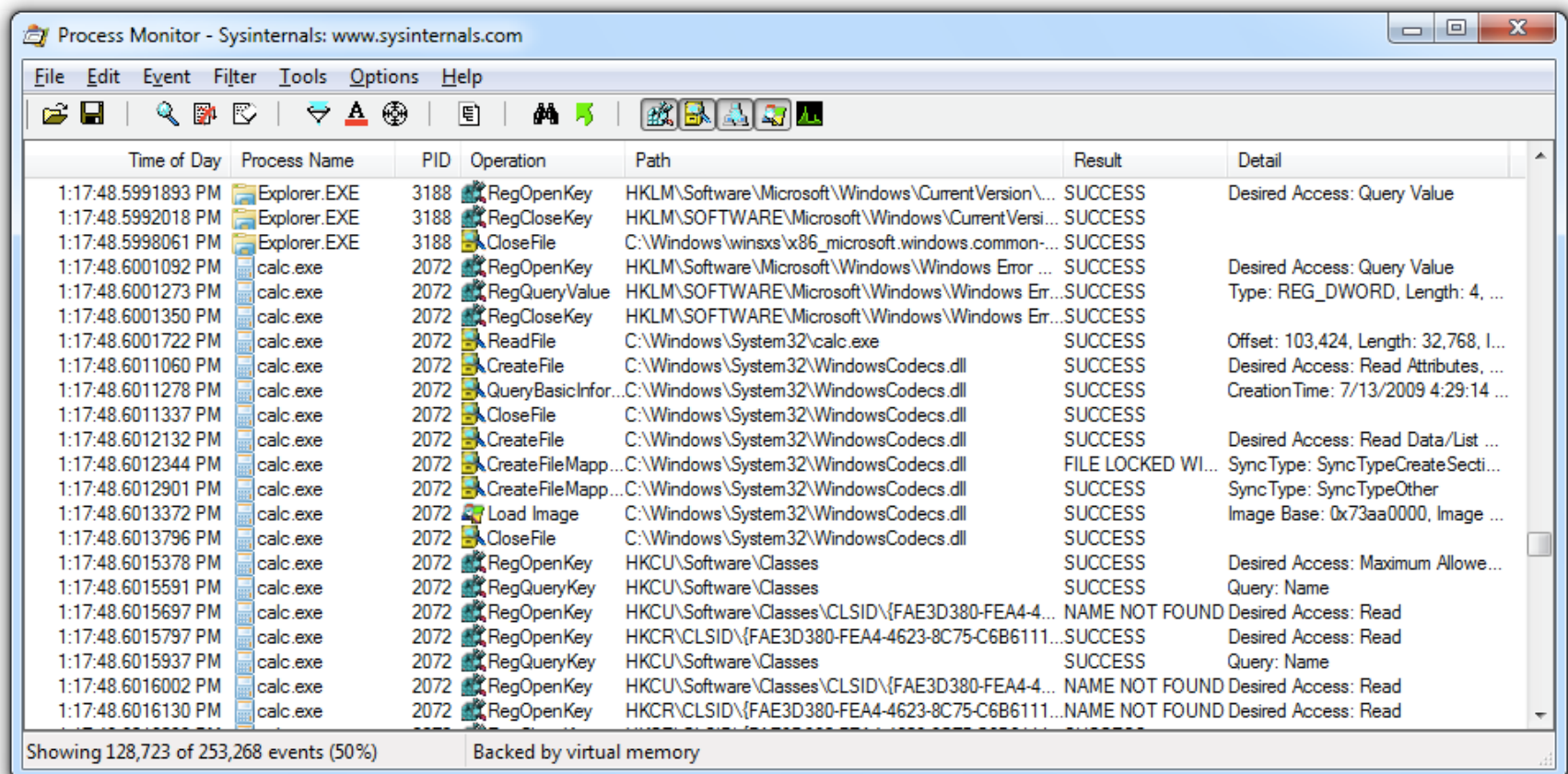
- Example
 - rip.dll has these exports: **Install** and **Uninstall**
 - `rundll32.exe rip.dll, Install`
- Some functions use **ordinal** values instead of names, like
 - `rundll32.exe xyzzy.dll, #5`
- It's also possible to modify the PE header and convert a DLL into an EXE

MONITORING WITH PROCESS MONITOR

Process Monitor

- Monitors registry, file system, network, process, and thread activity
- All recorded events are kept, but you can filter the display to make it easier to find items of interest
- Don't run it too long or it will fill up all RAM and crash the machine

Launching Calc.exe

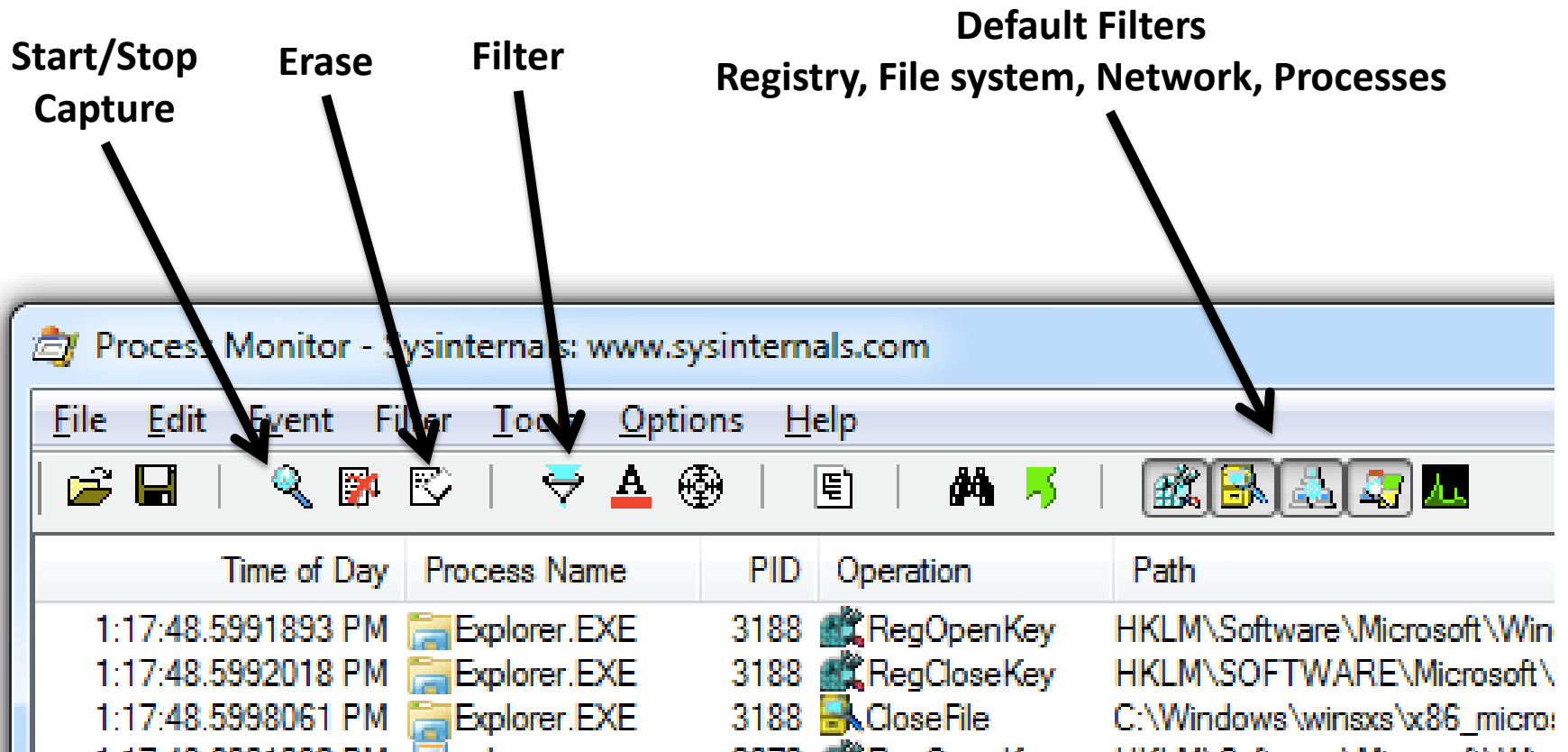


The screenshot shows the Process Monitor application window with the title bar 'Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com'. The menu bar includes File, Edit, Event, Filter, Tools, Options, and Help. The toolbar contains icons for file operations, search, and process management. The main table displays a list of system events, with the 'calc.exe' process highlighted in blue. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Showing 128,723 of 253,268 events (50%)' and 'Backed by virtual memory'.

Time of Day	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path	Result	Detail
1:17:48.5991893 PM	Explorer.EXE	3188	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: Query Value
1:17:48.5992018 PM	Explorer.EXE	3188	RegCloseKey	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersi...	SUCCESS	
1:17:48.5998061 PM	Explorer.EXE	3188	CloseFile	C:\Windows\winsxs\x86_microsoft.windows.common-...	SUCCESS	
1:17:48.6001092 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegOpenKey	HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Error ...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: Query Value
1:17:48.6001273 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegQueryValue	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Err...	SUCCESS	Type: REG_DWORD, Length: 4, ...
1:17:48.6001350 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegCloseKey	HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\Windows Err...	SUCCESS	
1:17:48.6001722 PM	calc.exe	2072	ReadFile	C:\Windows\System32\calc.exe	SUCCESS	Offset: 103,424, Length: 32,768, l...
1:17:48.6011060 PM	calc.exe	2072	CreateFile	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	Desired Access: Read Attributes, ...
1:17:48.6011278 PM	calc.exe	2072	QueryBasicInfor...	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	CreationTime: 7/13/2009 4:29:14 ...
1:17:48.6011337 PM	calc.exe	2072	CloseFile	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	
1:17:48.6012132 PM	calc.exe	2072	CreateFile	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	Desired Access: Read Data/List ...
1:17:48.6012344 PM	calc.exe	2072	CreateFileMapp...	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	FILE LOCKED WI...	SyncType: SyncTypeCreateSecti...
1:17:48.6012901 PM	calc.exe	2072	CreateFileMapp...	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	SyncType: SyncTypeOther
1:17:48.6013372 PM	calc.exe	2072	Load Image	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	Image Base: 0x73aa0000, Image ...
1:17:48.6013796 PM	calc.exe	2072	CloseFile	C:\Windows\System32\WindowsCodecs.dll	SUCCESS	
1:17:48.6015378 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegOpenKey	HKCU\Software\Classes	SUCCESS	Desired Access: Maximum Allowe...
1:17:48.6015591 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegQueryValue	HKCU\Software\Classes	SUCCESS	Query: Name
1:17:48.6015697 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegOpenKey	HKCU\Software\Classes\CLSID\{FAE3D380-FEA4-4...	NAME NOT FOUND	Desired Access: Read
1:17:48.6015797 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegOpenKey	HKCR\CLSID\{FAE3D380-FEA4-4623-8C75-C6B6111...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: Read
1:17:48.6015937 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegQueryKey	HKCU\Software\Classes	SUCCESS	Query: Name
1:17:48.6016002 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegOpenKey	HKCU\Software\Classes\CLSID\{FAE3D380-FEA4-4...	NAME NOT FOUND	Desired Access: Read
1:17:48.6016130 PM	calc.exe	2072	RegOpenKey	HKCR\CLSID\{FAE3D380-FEA4-4623-8C75-C6B6111...	NAME NOT FOUND	Desired Access: Read

Showing 128,723 of 253,268 events (50%) Backed by virtual memory

Process Monitor Toolbar

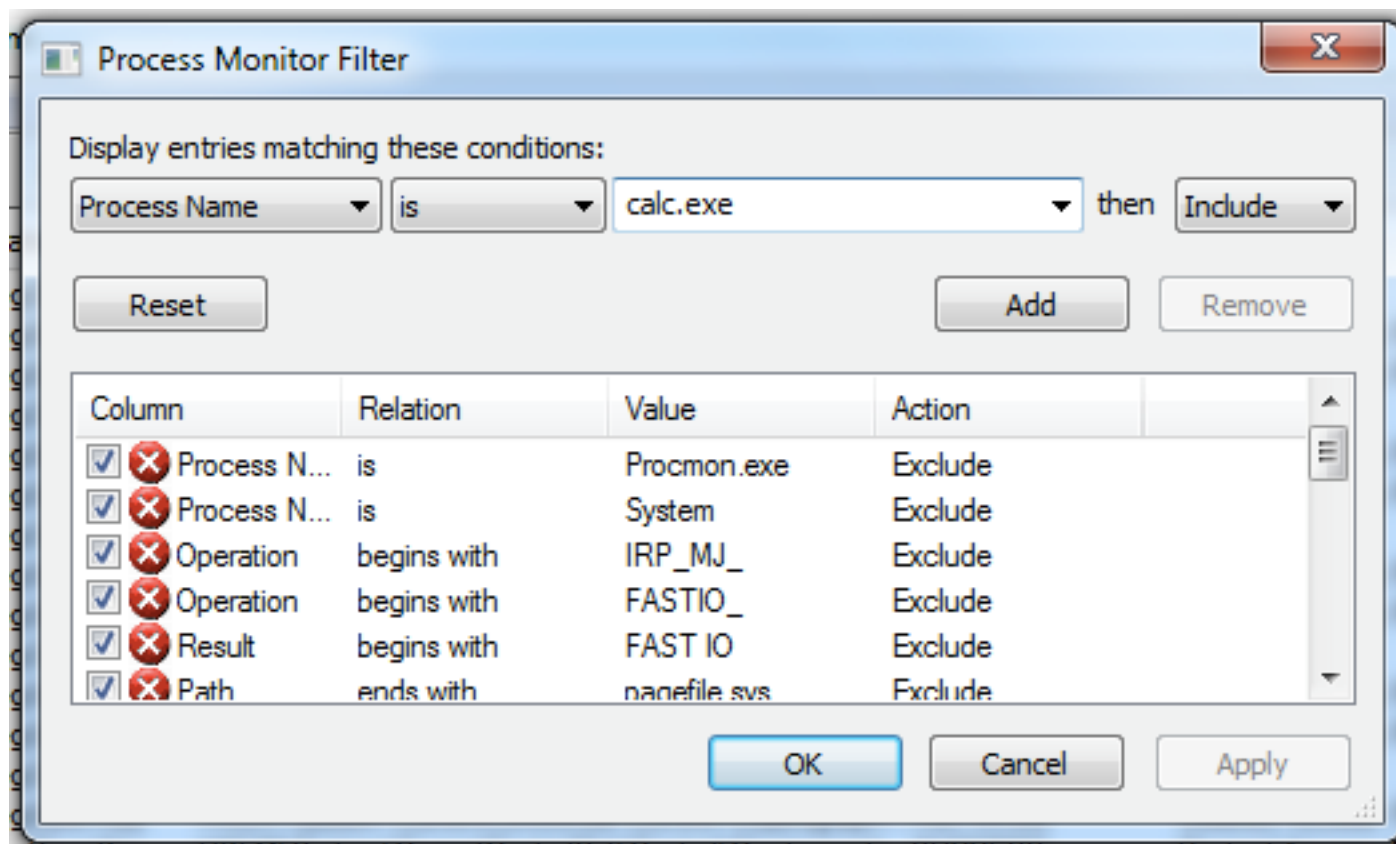


Filtering with Exclude

- One technique: hide normal activity before launching malware
- Right-click each Process Name and click **Exclude**
- Doesn't seem to work well with these samples

Filtering with Include

- Most useful filters: Process Name, Operation, and Detail



Procmon provides helpful automatic filters on its toolbar

- **Registry** By examining registry operations, you can tell how a piece of malware installs itself in the registry.
- **File system** Exploring file system interaction can show all files that the malware creates or configuration files it uses.
- **Process activity** Investigating process activity can tell you whether the malware spawned additional processes.
- **Network** Identifying network connections can show you any ports on which the malware is listening.

VIEWING PROCESSES WITH PROCESS EXPLORER

Process Explorer - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com [W7\student]

File Options View Process Find Users Help

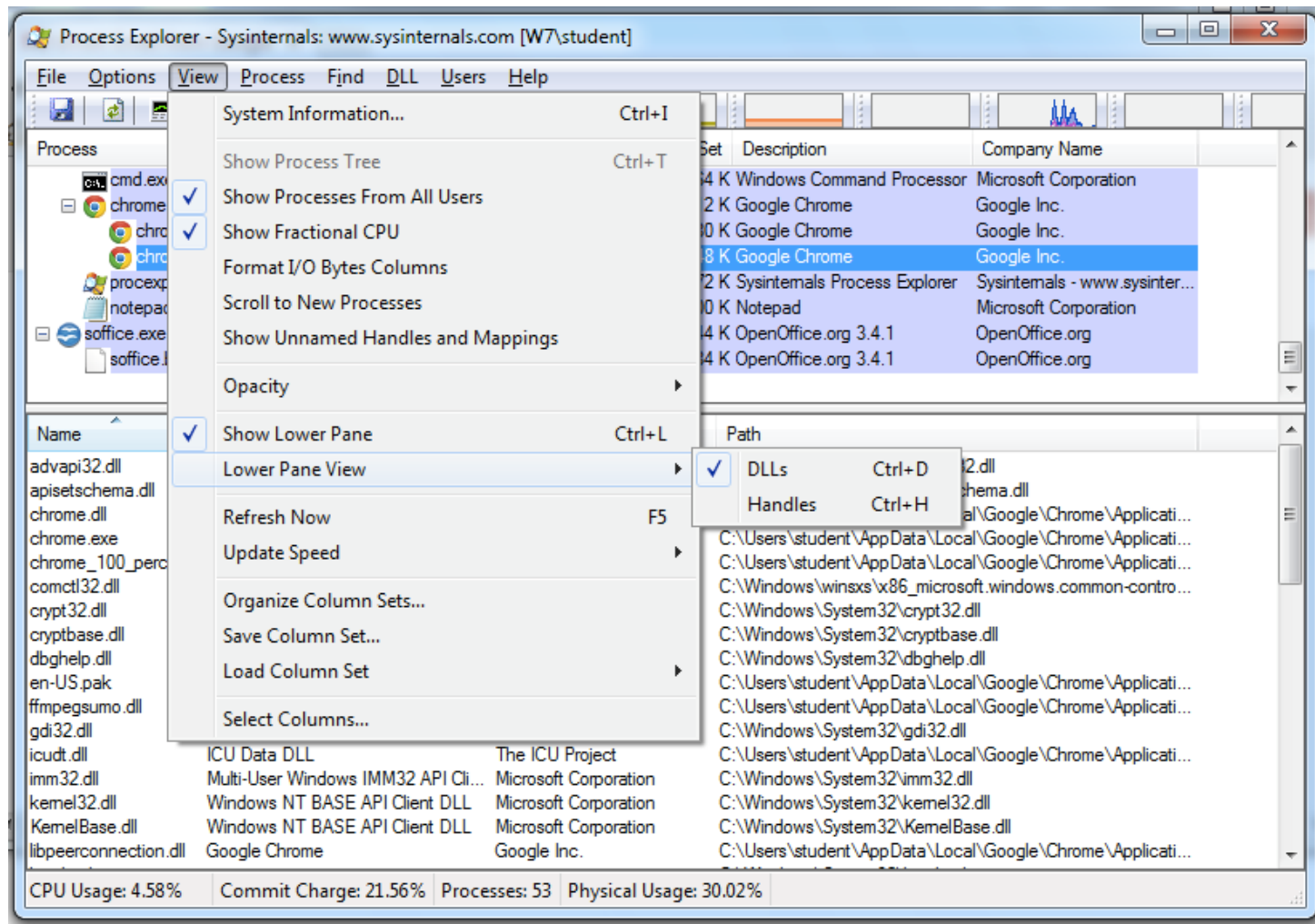
Process	PID	CPU	Private Bytes	Working Set	Description	Company Name
System Idle Process	0	96.81	0 K	24 K		
System	4	0.09	48 K	560 K		
Interrupts	n/a	0.88	0 K	0 K	Hardware Interrupts and DPCs	
smss.exe	260		224 K	748 K	Windows Session Manager	Microsoft Corporation
csrss.exe	348	< 0.01	1,252 K	3,164 K	Client Server Runtime Process	Microsoft Corporation
wininit.exe	400		892 K	3,084 K	Windows Start-Up Application	Microsoft Corporation
services.exe	504	0.01	3,972 K	6,640 K	Services and Controller app	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	652		2,700 K	6,024 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
dllhost.exe	1716		6,176 K	4,804 K	COM Surrogate	Microsoft Corporation
WmiPrvSE.exe	740		1,804 K	4,736 K	WMI Provider Host	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	724	< 0.01	2,972 K	6,012 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	772		13,776 K	11,760 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
audiodg.exe	3200		14,960 K	13,972 K	Windows Audio Device Grap...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	912		37,940 K	42,292 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
dwm.exe	3248	0.74	61,892 K	27,976 K	Desktop Window Manager	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	936	0.02	20,836 K	29,900 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	1116	0.03	5,136 K	8,340 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	1260	0.06	10,840 K	11,960 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
spoolsv.exe	1352		5,392 K	7,436 K	Spooler SubSystem App	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	1388		6,752 K	8,720 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
svchost.exe	1500		2,472 K	4,712 K	Host Process for Windows S...	Microsoft Corporation
gogoc.exe	1592	< 0.01	1,216 K	3,920 K	gogoCLIENT	gogo6, Inc.
vmtoolsd.exe	1728	0.07	7,260 K	10,368 K	VMware Tools Core Service	VMware, Inc.
svchost.exe						

CPU Usage: 3.19% Commit Charge: 21.92% Processes: 57 Physical Usage: 30.24%

Coloring

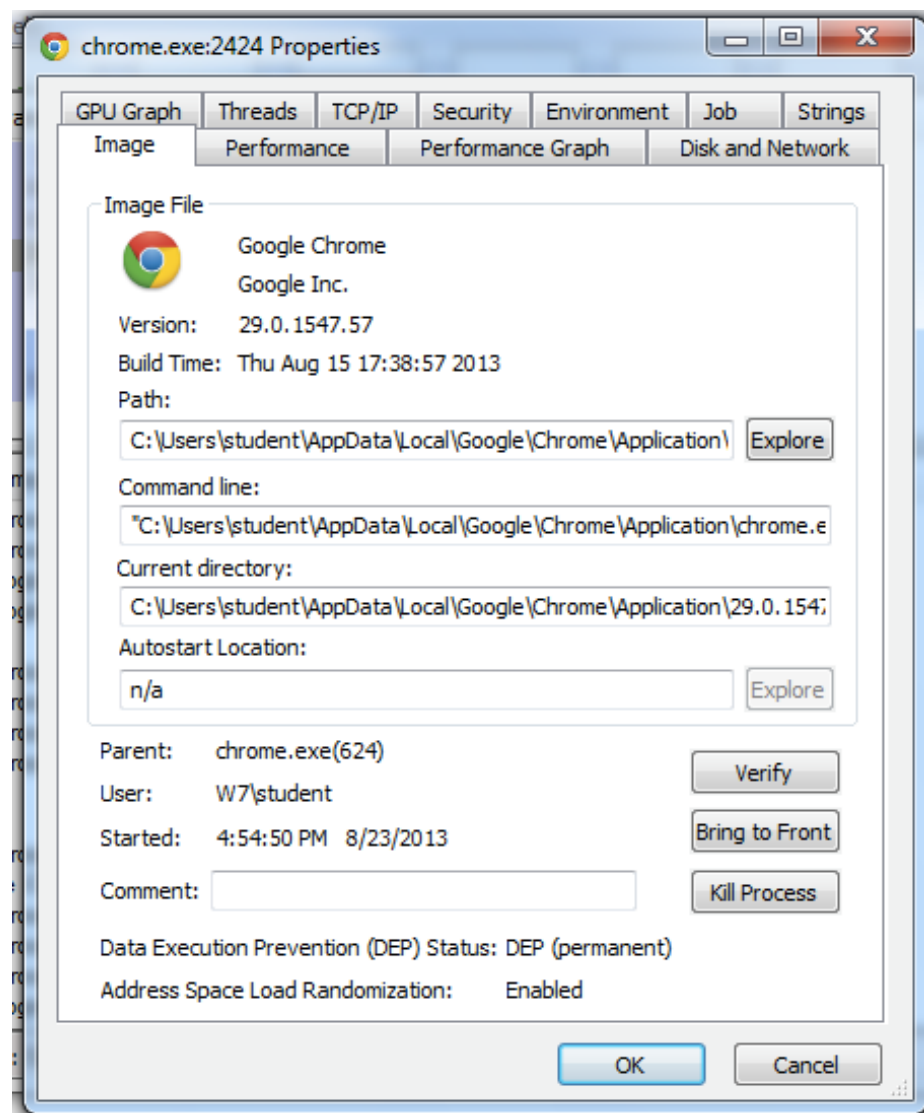
- Services are pink
- Processes are blue
- New processes are green briefly
- Terminated processes are red

DLL Mode



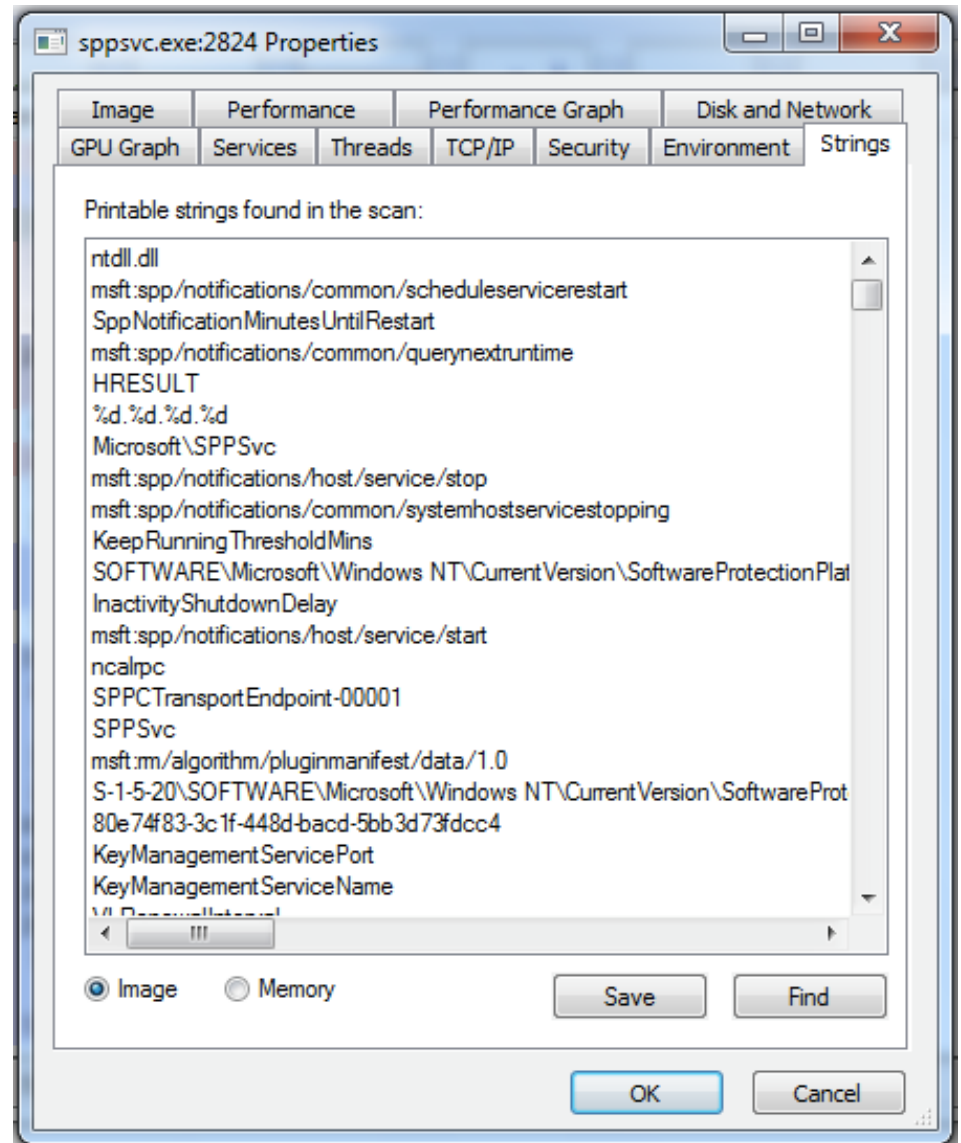
Properties

- Verify button checks the disk file's Windows signature
 - But not the RAM image, so it won't detect **process replacement**



Strings

- Compare Image to Memory strings, if they are very different, it can indicate process replacement

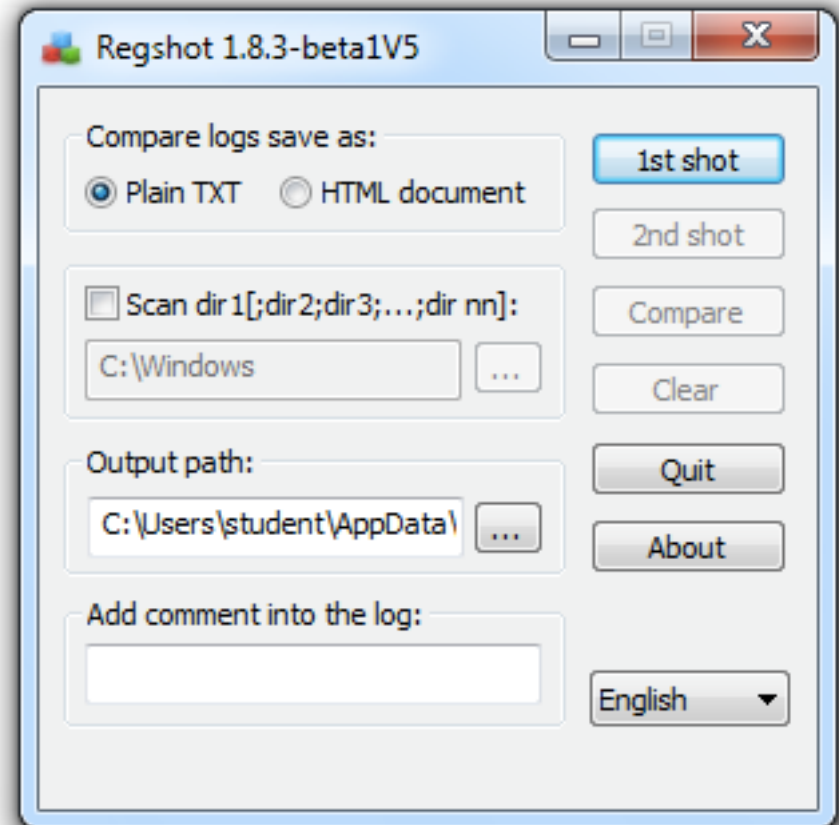


Detecting Malicious Documents

- Open the document (e.g. PDF) on a system with a vulnerable application
- Watch Process Explorer to see if it launches a process
- The Image tab of that process's Properties sheet will show where the malware is

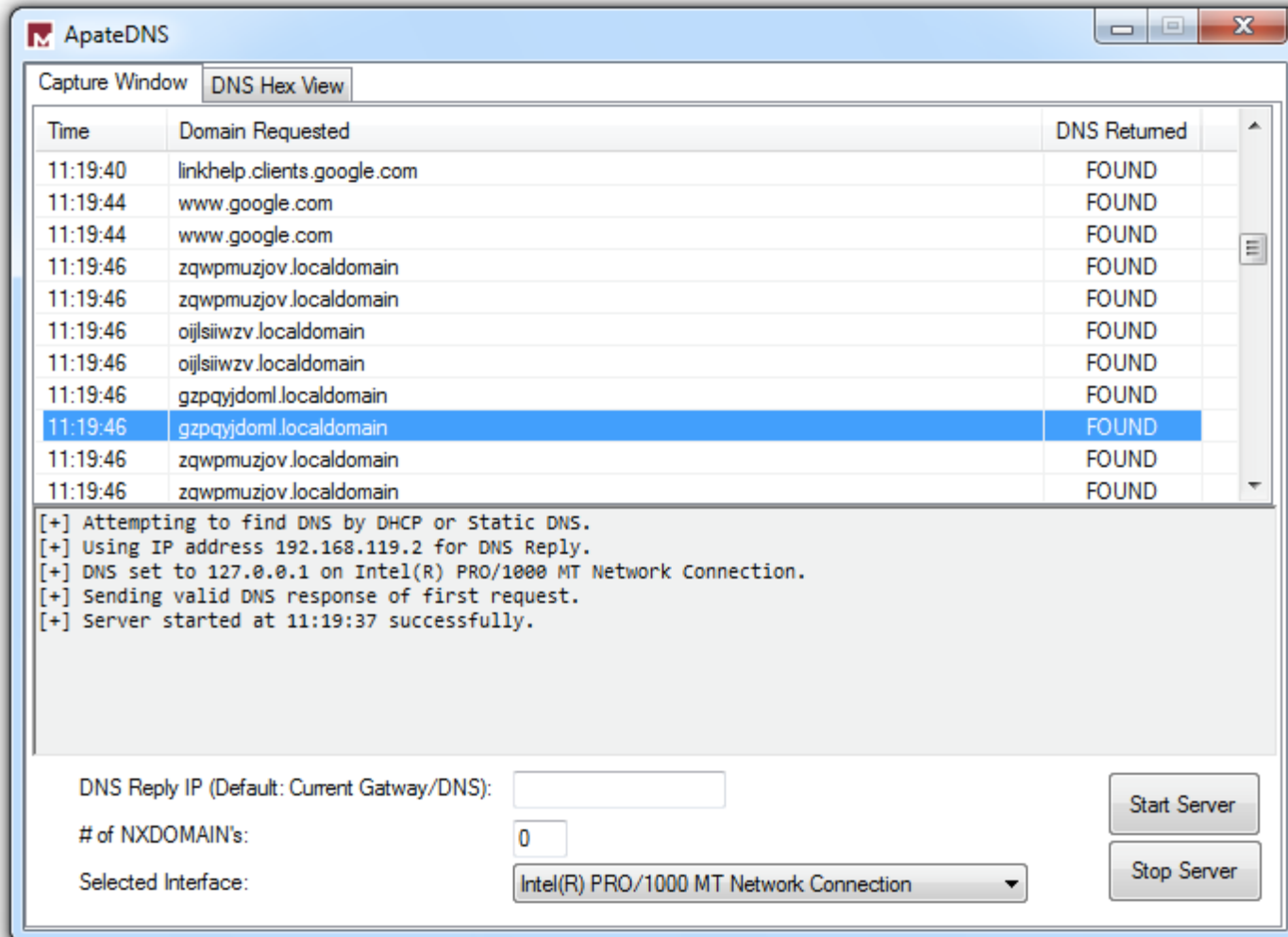
Comparing Registry Snapshots with Regshot

- Regshot is an open source registry comparison tool that allows you to take and compare two registry snapshots.
- To use Regshot for malware analysis, simply take the first shot by clicking the **1st Shot** button, and then run the malware and wait for it to finish making any system changes.
- Next, take the second shot by clicking the **2nd Shot** button. Finally, click the **Compare** button to compare the two snapshots.



FAKING A NETWORK

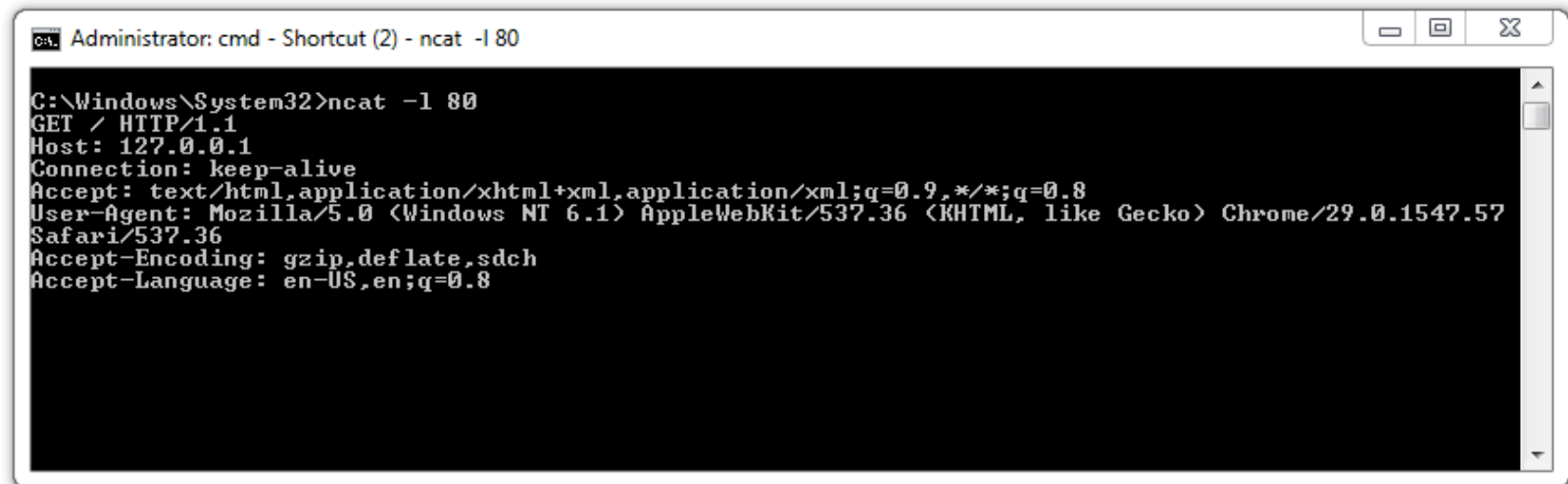
Using ApateDNS to Redirect DNS Resolutions



Problem with ApateDNS

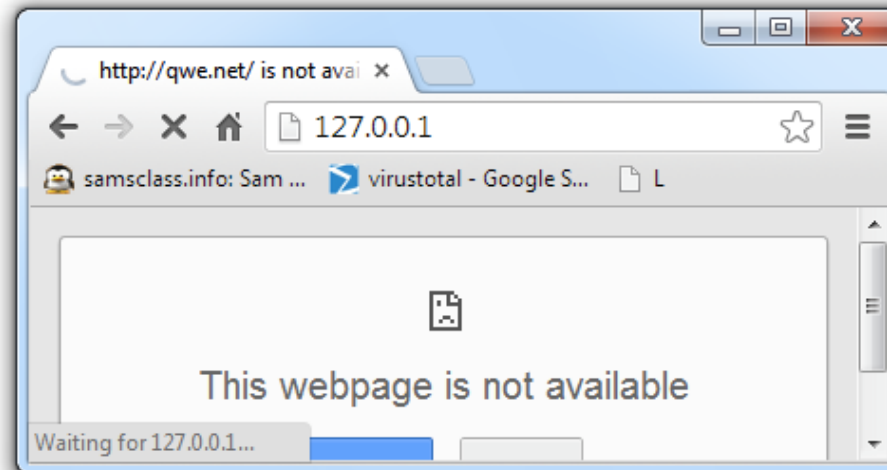
- I couldn't get it to redirect any traffic in Win XP or 7
- nslookup works, but you don't see anything in a browser or with ping

Monitoring with Ncat (included with Nmap)



```
Administrator: cmd - Shortcut (2) - ncat -l 80

C:\Windows\System32>ncat -l 80
GET / HTTP/1.1
Host: 127.0.0.1
Connection: keep-alive
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/29.0.1547.57 Safari/537.36
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, sdch
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8
```



Packet Sniffing with Wireshark

The image displays the Wireshark network protocol analyzer interface. The main window shows a list of captured packets, with a filter set to 'http'. The packet list includes various HTTP requests and responses, such as GET requests for images and HTML documents. The packet details pane shows the structure of the selected packet, including Ethernet II, Internet Protocol Version 4, and Hypertext Transfer Protocol. The packet bytes pane shows the raw data in hexadecimal and ASCII. In the background, a web browser window is visible, showing the 'samsclass.info' website with the name 'Sam Bowne' displayed.

Capturing from Intel(R) PRO/1000 MT Network Connection

Filter: http

No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
1101	7.515707	192.168.119.154	23.65.1.224	HTTP	GET /f.gif?_id=137745723/561
1106	7.537336	18.181.0.31	192.168.119.154	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (PNG)
1108	7.557449	93.184.216.139	192.168.119.154	HTTP	[TCP Retransmission] Cont
1110	7.590291	23.65.1.224	192.168.119.154	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (GIF89a)
1111	7.691258	23.65.1.224	192.168.119.154	HTTP	[TCP Retransmission] HTTP/
1189	36.858744	192.168.119.154	199.16.156.21	HTTP	GET /widgets/timelines/pag
1193	36.881799	192.168.119.154	199.16.156.21	HTTP	GET /widgets/timelines/pag
1196	36.954204	199.16.156.21	192.168.119.154	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (applicat
1199	37.045979	199.16.156.21	192.168.119.154	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (applicat
1369	96.750725	192.168.119.154	199.16.156.21	HTTP	GET /widgets/timelines/pag
1373	96.772892	192.168.119.154	199.16.156.21	HTTP	GET /widgets/timelines/pag
1376	96.846439	199.16.156.21	192.168.119.154	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (applicat
1381	96.944497	199.16.156.21	192.168.119.154	HTTP	HTTP/1.1 200 OK (applicat

Frame 48: 437 bytes on wire (3496 bits), 437 bytes captured (3496 bits)

Ethernet II, Src: Vmware_52:34:92 (00:0c:29:52:34:92), Dst: Vmware_e3:22:f1 (00:50:56:e3:22:f1)

Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 192.168.119.154 (192.168.119.154), Dst: 141.101.11

0000 00 50 56 e3 22 f1 00 0c 29 52 34 92 08 00 45 00 .PV."...)R4...E.
0010 01 a7 10 25 40 80 06 00 00 c0 a8 77 9a 8d 65 ...%@... ..w..e
0020 75 98 05 a9 00 50 0c 80 cd 2e dc ff 73 93 50 18 u....P... ..S.P.
0030 fa f0 3c da 00 00 47 45 54 20 2f 20 48 54 54 50 ..<...GE T / HTTP
0040 2f 31 2e 31 0d 0a 48 6f 73 74 3a 20 73 61 6d 73 /1.1..Ho st: sams
0050 63 6c 61 73 73 2e 69 6e 66 6f 0d 0a 43 6f 6e 6e class.in fo..Conn
0060 65 63 74 69 6f 6e 3a 20 6b 65 65 70 2d 61 6c 69 ection: keep-ali
0070 76 65 0d 0a 41 63 63 65 70 74 3a 20 74 65 78 74 ve..Acce pt: text
0080 2f 68 74 6d 6c 2c 61 70 70 6c 69 63 61 74 69 6f /html,ap plicatio
0090 6e 2f 78 68 74 6d 6c 2b 78 6d 6c 2c 61 70 70 6c n/xhtml1+ xml,appl
00a0 69 63 61 74 69 6f 6e 2f 78 6d 6c 3b 71 3d 30 2e ication/ xml:a=0.

Intel(R) PRO/1000 MT Network Connection: <live capture in pro... Packets: 1398 Dis... Profile: Default

samsclass.info: Sam Bowne x

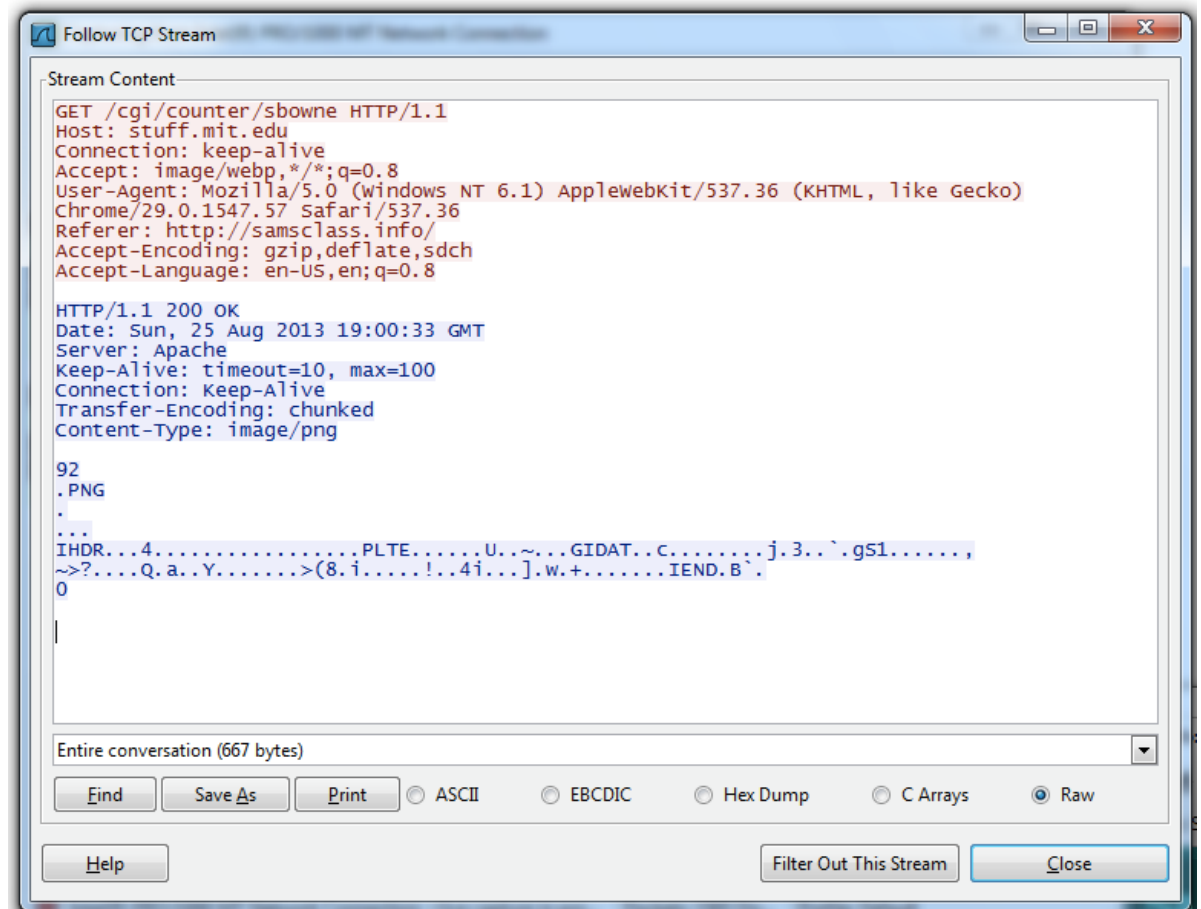
samsclass.info

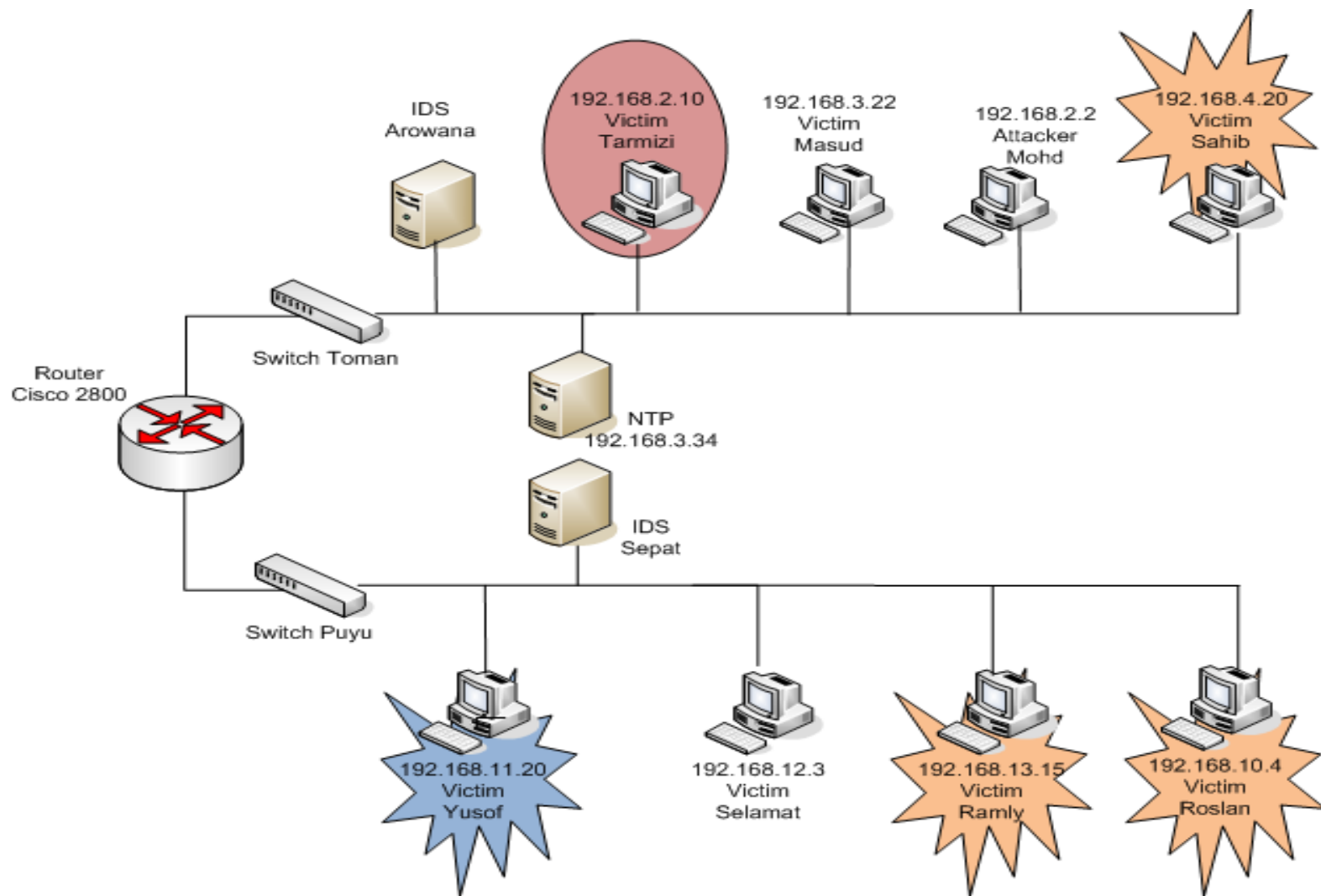
samsclass.info: Sam ... virustotal - Goc

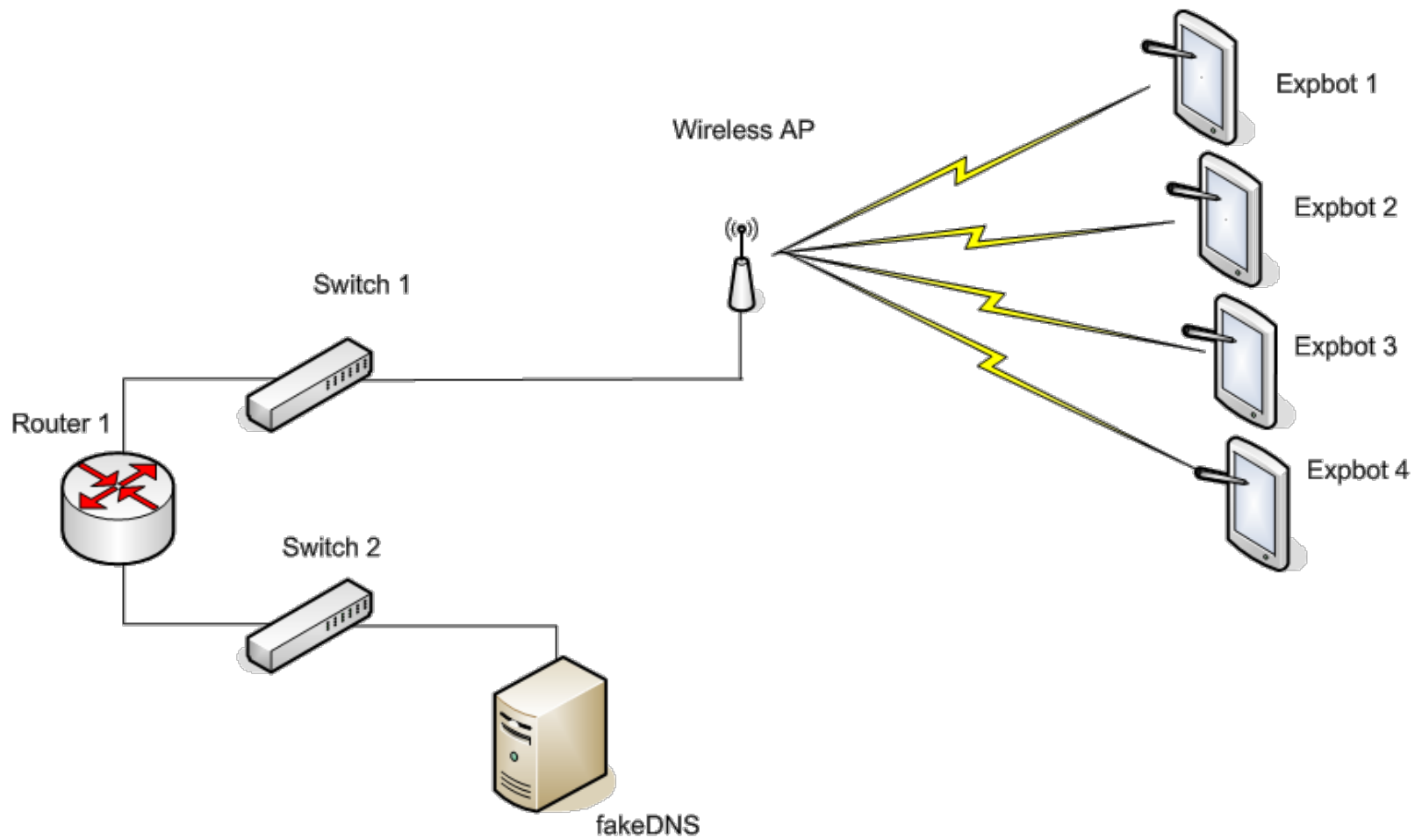
Sam Bowne

Follow TCP Stream

- Can save files from streams here too

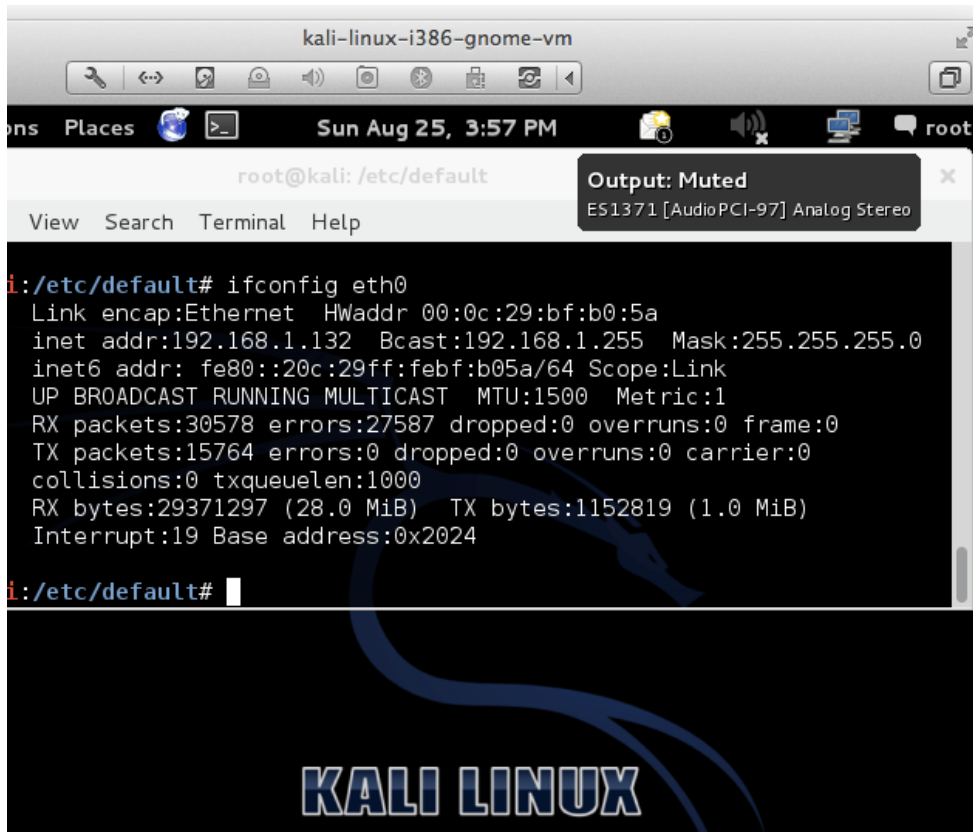






USING INETSIM

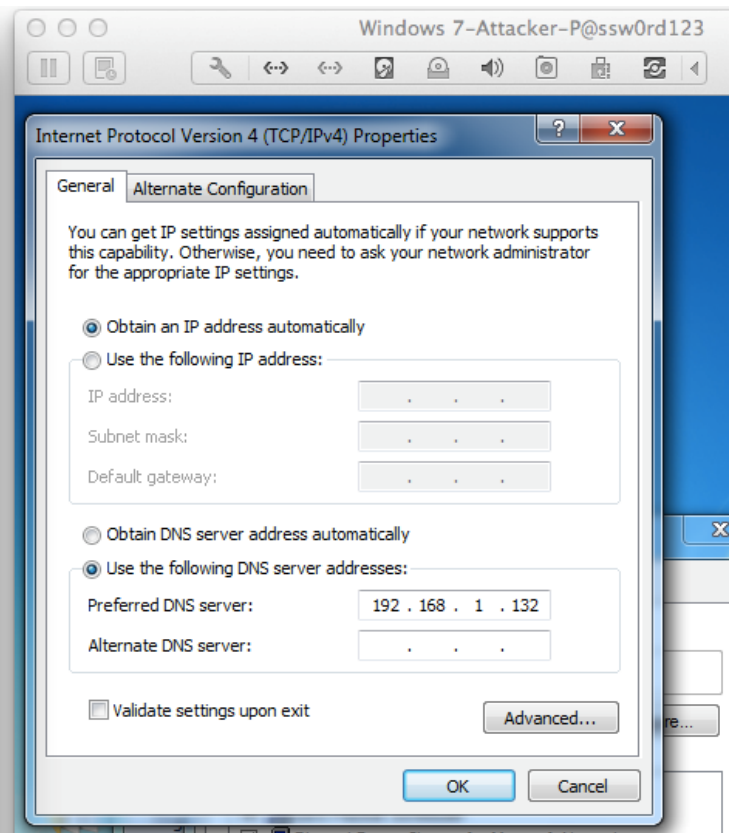
inetsim



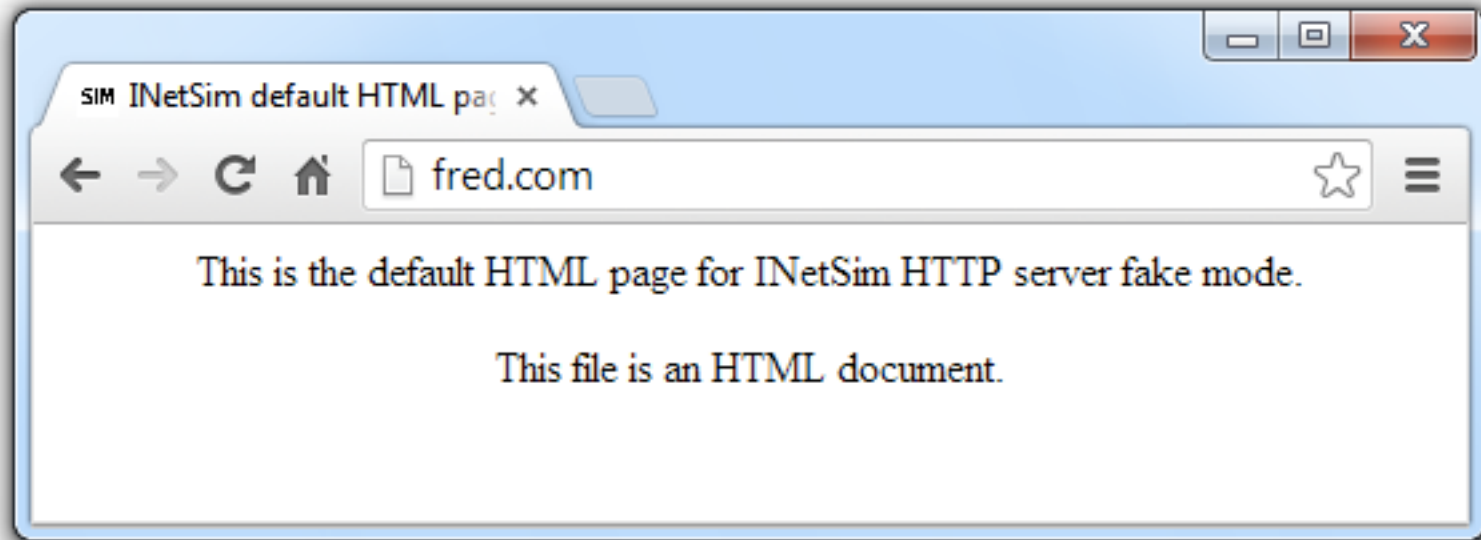
The screenshot shows a Kali Linux terminal window titled 'kali-linux-i386-gnome-vm'. The terminal prompt is 'root@kali: /etc/default'. The command 'ifconfig eth0' has been executed, displaying the following output:

```
Link encap:Ethernet HWaddr 00:0c:29:bf:b0:5a
inet addr:192.168.1.132 Bcast:192.168.1.255 Mask:255.255.255.0
inet6 addr: fe80::20c:29ff:febf:b05a/64 Scope:Link
UP BROADCAST RUNNING MULTICAST MTU:1500 Metric:1
RX packets:30578 errors:27587 dropped:0 overruns:0 frame:0
TX packets:15764 errors:0 dropped:0 overruns:0 carrier:0
collisions:0 txqueuelen:1000
RX bytes:29371297 (28.0 MiB) TX bytes:1152819 (1.0 MiB)
Interrupt:19 Base address:0x2024
```

The terminal window also shows a 'KALI LINUX' logo at the bottom.



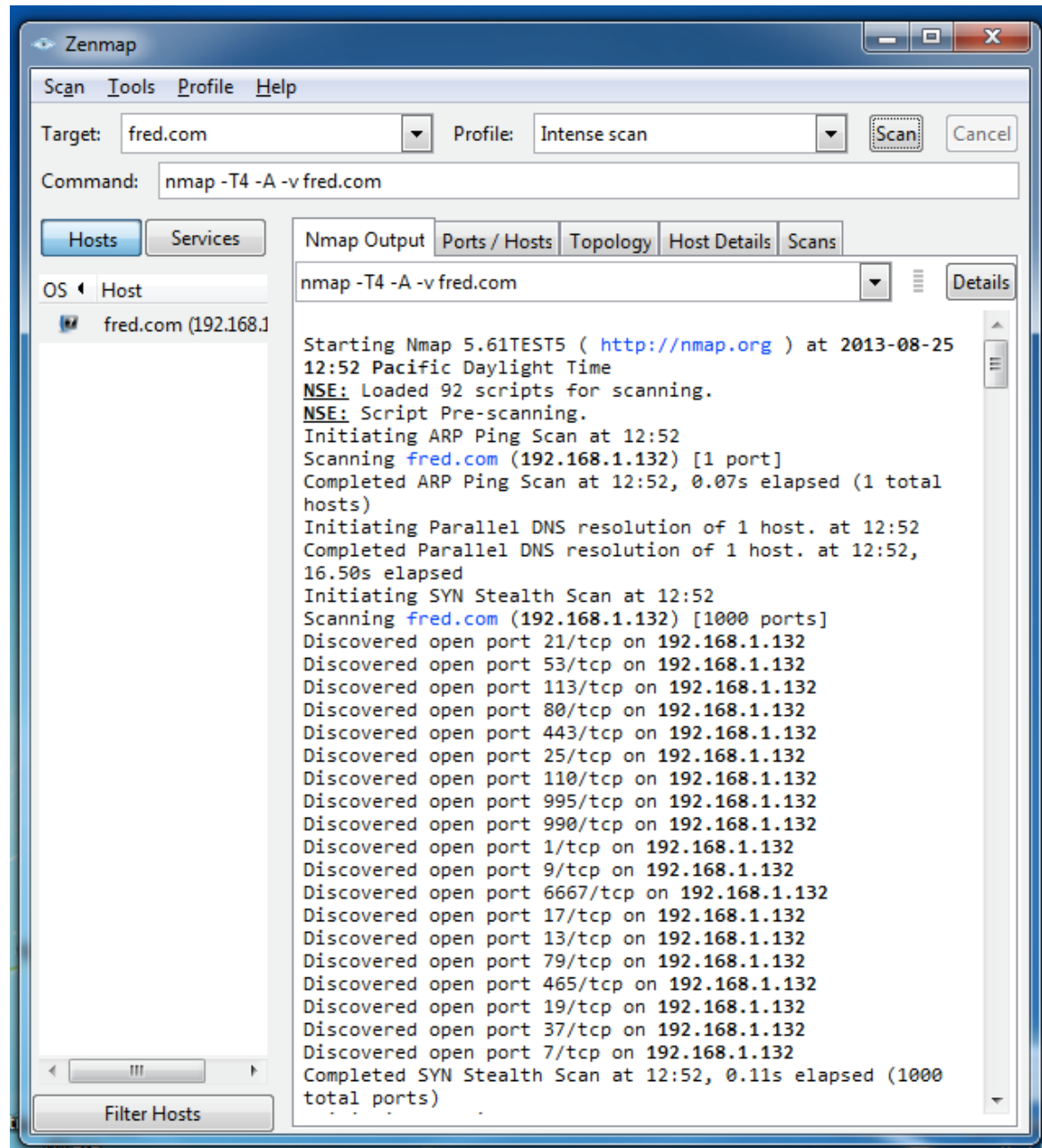
INetSim Fools a Browser



INetSim

Fools

Nmap



BASIC DYNAMIC TOOLS IN PRACTICE

Using the Tools

- Procmon
 - Filter on the malware executable name and clear all events just before running it
- Process Explorer
- Regshot
- Virtual Network with INetSim
- Wireshark
- Remnux (Distro for all Reverse Engineering Tool)

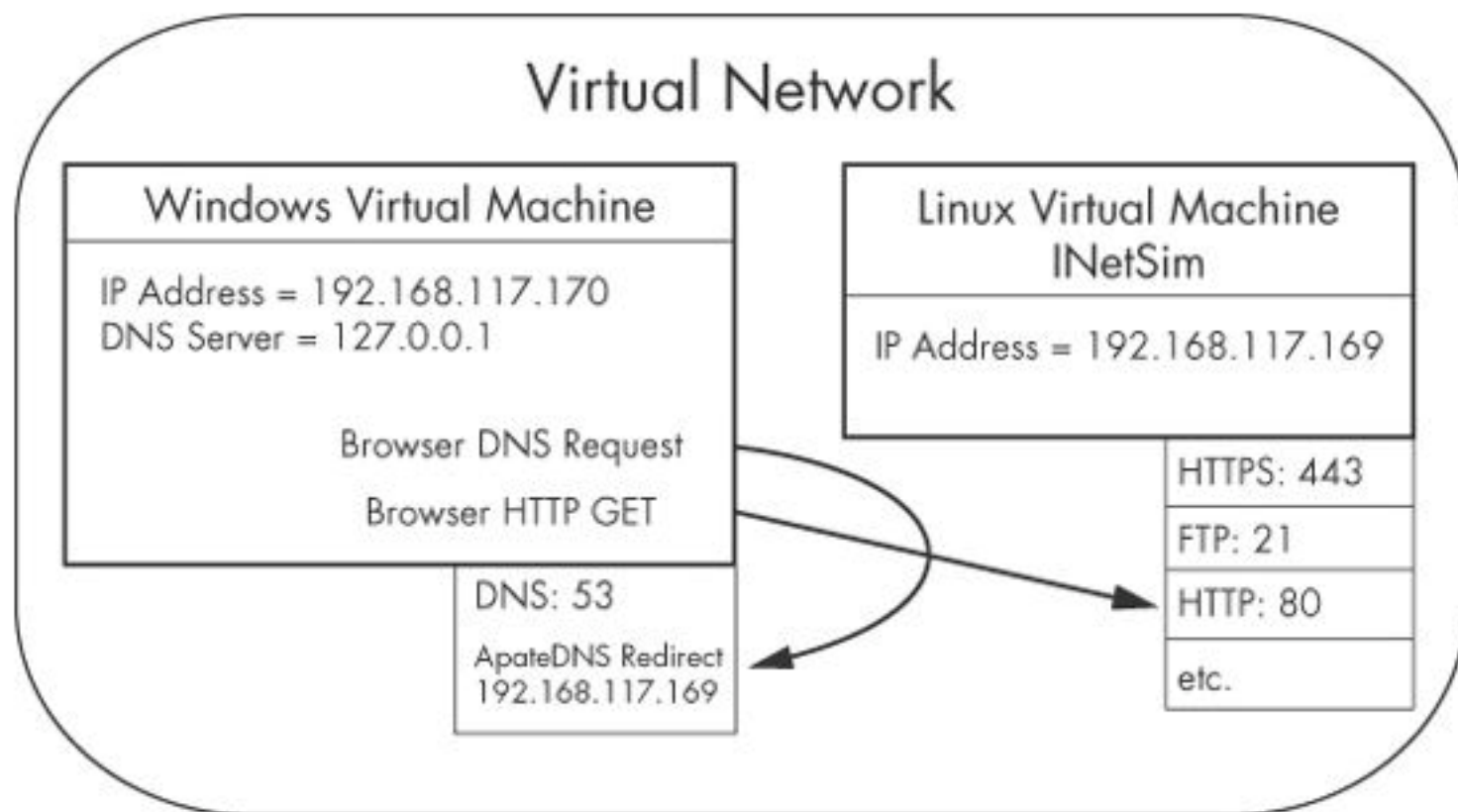


Figure 4-12. Example of a virtual network

SUMMARY

In Conclusion

- Setting up the isolated environment using VM is important in analysing malware sample
- In dynamic analysis we can observed the behaviour of malware during the execution, thus showing the real behaviour and traces.
- Sandbox is an automated tool for dynamic analysis, but the output report of the analysis might be to general
- There are several tool that a malware analyst can use to monitor the processes and activity of malware during execution.
- Linux distro like Kali and Remnux might help malware analyst in creating a simulated network complete with DNS, web server, ftp or other internet services.