Understanding (y)our evasions

Building an effective evasion methodology







Who We Are





Who We Are

Borch





Who We Are

Borch
ElephantSe41
Glenx





What Is This Talk About?

Learning what questions we need to ask ourselves to start bypassing security products





What This Talk is not About?

Being hacker stealthier 100% FUD 4K Megaupload

New secret technique

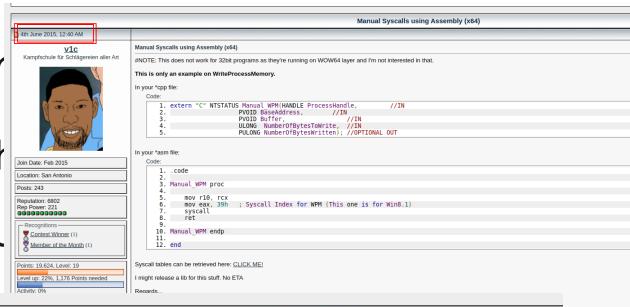


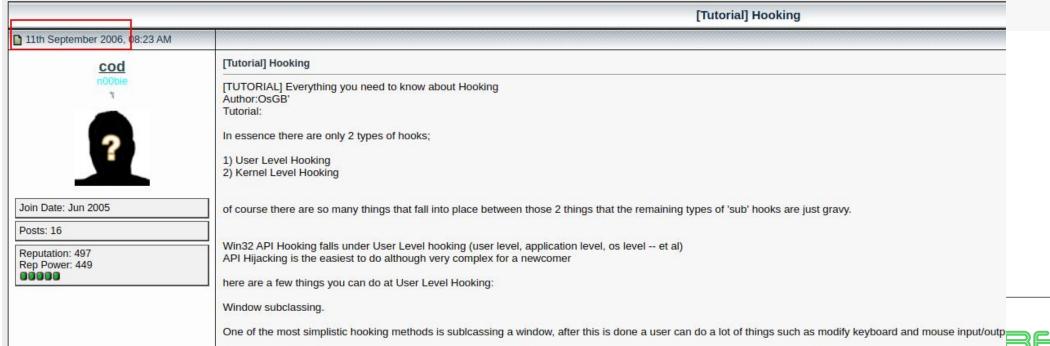


What This Talk is r

Being hacker stealth

New secret technique





A HWND Proc Hook is an example of a way to subclass a windows application and grab all of the input that a user sends it (keyevents, mouse, et al)

Motivation

Where do I start...?





Motivation

Where do I start...?

Understand the logic after the detection mechanisms and their bypasses so we can build an effective methodology

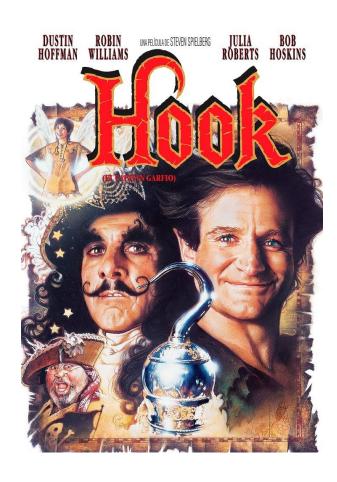


Motivation II

- Metadata
- Obfuscation
- Encription
- Entropy
- IAT magic
- PPID Spoofing
- Thread/Stack spoofing
- API Hooking
- Syscalling







(Software)Instrumentation

Involves having the tools and capabilities to observe modify or interact during the lifecycle of a program



- We use FRIDA for instrumentation
- EDRs implement their own ways of instrumentation





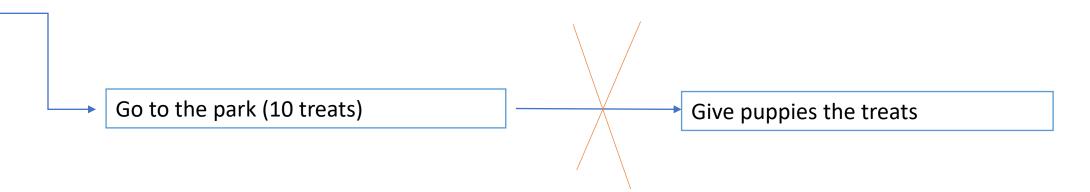
- We use FRIDA for instrumentation
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Go to the park (10 treats)

Give puppies the treats

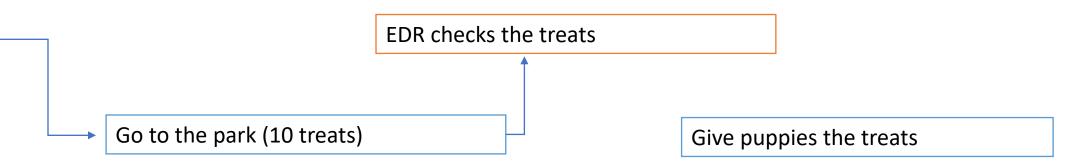


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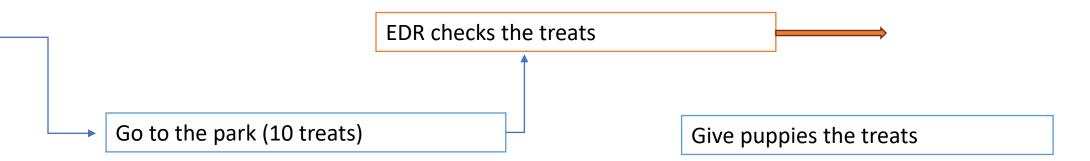


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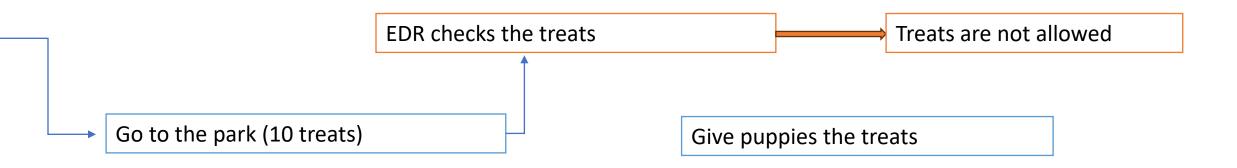


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- We use FRIDA for instrumentation.
- EDRs implement their own ways of instrumentation



Puppies get 0 treats 😊



- Security products need to be able to «understand» what is going on on a running process
- Where shall the hooks be placed in?





- API like any other
- Created for reusability and to be used by programmers
- Well documented

Create Handle

Create Process

Allocate Memory





- API like any other
- Created for reusability and to be used by pr
- Well documented





CreateProcessA function (processthreadsapi.h)

Article • 02/09/2023

♦ Feedback

In this article

Syntax Parameters

Return value

Remarks

Show 2 more

Creates a new process and its primary thread. The new process runs in the security context of the calling process.

If the calling process is impersonating another user, the new process uses the token for the calling process, not the impersonation token. To run the new process in the security context of the user represented by the impersonation token, use the CreateProcessAsUser or CreateProcessWithLogonW function.

Syntax

```
BOOL CreateProcessA(

[in, optional] LPCSTR lpApplicationName,
[in, out, optional] LPSTR lpCommandLine,
[in, optional] LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES lpProcessAttributes,
[in, optional] LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES lpThreadAttributes,
[in] BOOL bInheritHandles,
[in] BOOL bInheritHandles,
```





- API like any other
- Created for reusability and to be used by programmers
- Well documented

```
• • •
   CreateProcess( NULL, // No module name (use command line)
       "calc.exe", // Command line
       NULL,
                      // Process handle not inheritable
                      // Thread handle not inheritable
       NULL,
       FALSE,
                      // Set handle inheritance to FALSE
       0,
                      // No creation flags
       NULL,
                      // Use parent's environment block
       NULL,
                      // Use parent's starting directory
       &si,
                      // Pointer to STARTUPINFO structure
                      // Pointer to PROCESS_INFORMATION structure
```



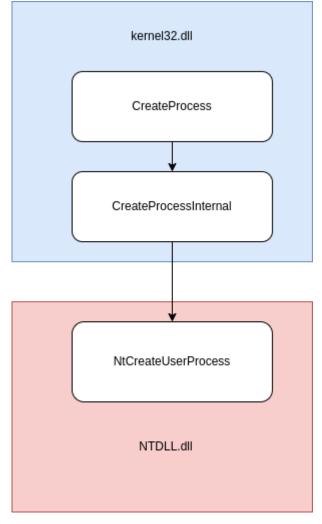




Let's hook every function on WinAPI



It is not that easy, CreateProcess is a **wrapper**







API Hooking: NTDLL.dll

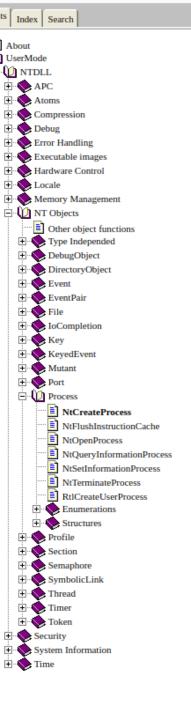
- Was not created to be used by high-level programmers
- Is the last library before calling the SYSCALL
- Is not documented





API Hooking About UserMode

- Was not created to be
- Is the last library before
- Is not documented





NTAPI Undocumented Functions

Undocumented functions of NTDLL

Nt Create Process

```
NTSYSAPI
NTSTATUS
NTAPI
NtCreateProcess(
  OUT PHANDLE
                        ProcessHandle,
                        DesiredAccess,
  IN ACCESS MASK
 IN POBJECT_ATTRIBUTES ObjectAttributes OPTIONAL,
  IN HANDLE
                        ParentProcess,
                        InheritObjectTable,
  IN BOOLEAN
  IN HANDLE
                        SectionHandle OPTIONAL,
                        DebugPort OPTIONAL,
  IN HANDLE
  IN HANDLE
                        ExceptionPort OPTIONAL );
```

<u>Requirements:</u>

Library: ntdll.lib

See also:

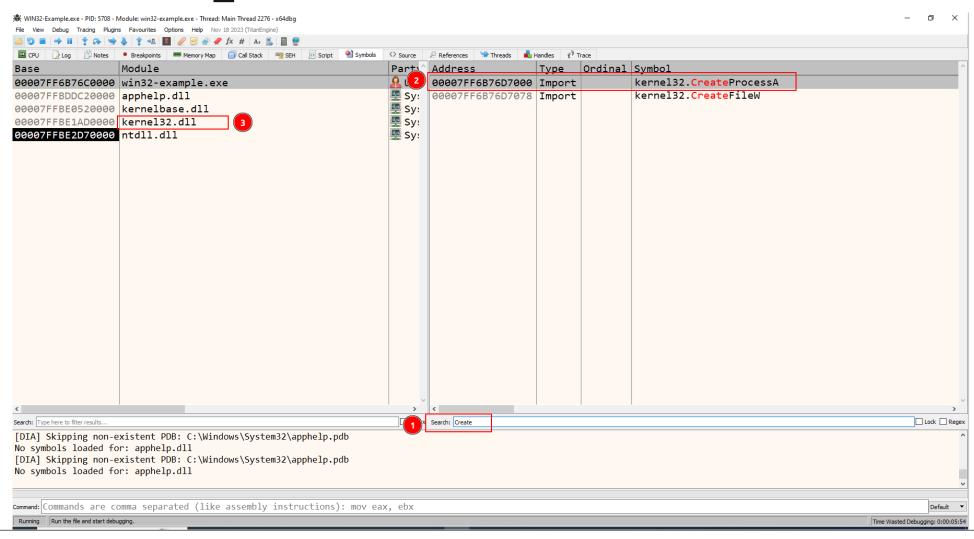
PsCreateSystemProcess NtTerminateProcess NtOpenProcess



```
#include <windows.h>
int main( int argc, char *argv[] )
   STARTUPINFO si;
   PROCESS INFORMATION pi;
   ZeroMemory( &si, sizeof(si) );
   si.cb = sizeof(si);
   ZeroMemory( &pi, sizeof(pi) );
   printf("Press Enter to begin the create process!");
   getchar();
   // Start the child process.
   CreateProcess( NULL, // No module name (use command line)
       "calc.exe",
                          // Command line
       NULL,
                       // Process handle not inheritable
       NULL,
                       // Thread handle not inheritable
       FALSE,
                       // Set handle inheritance to FALSE
                       // No creation flags
                    // Use parent' anvironment block
       NULL,
       NULL,
                     // Use parent's starting directory
                       // Pointer to STARTUPINFO structure
       &si,
                      // Pointer to PROCESS_INFORMATION structure
       &pi
```

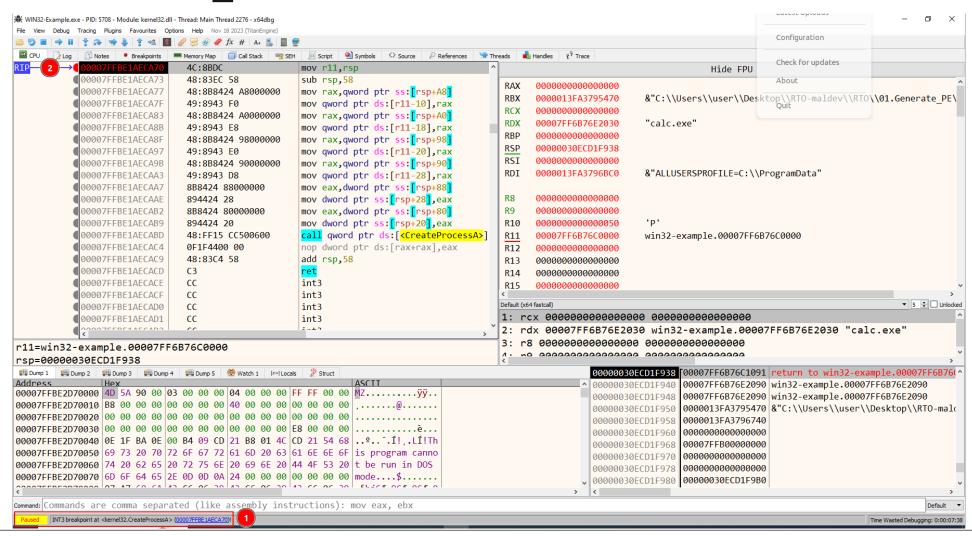






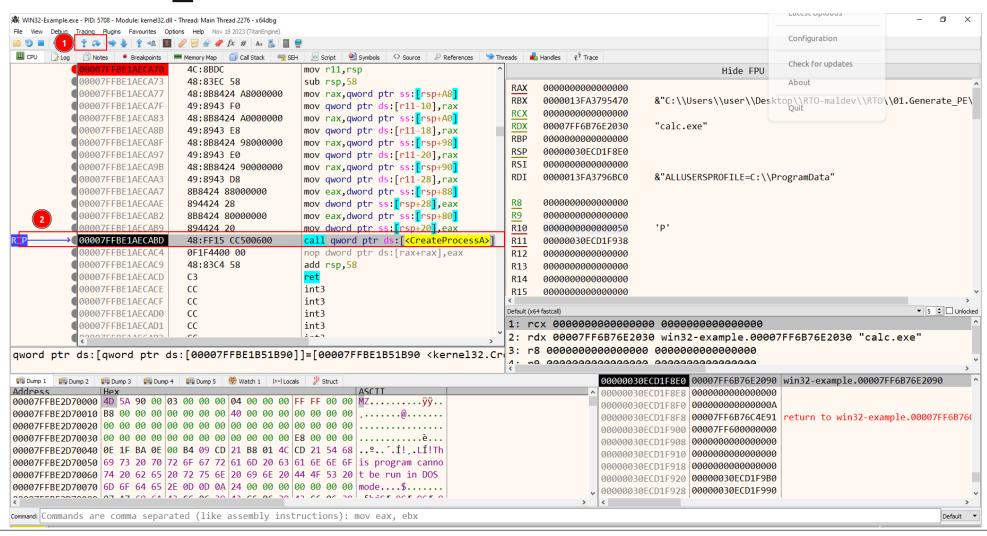






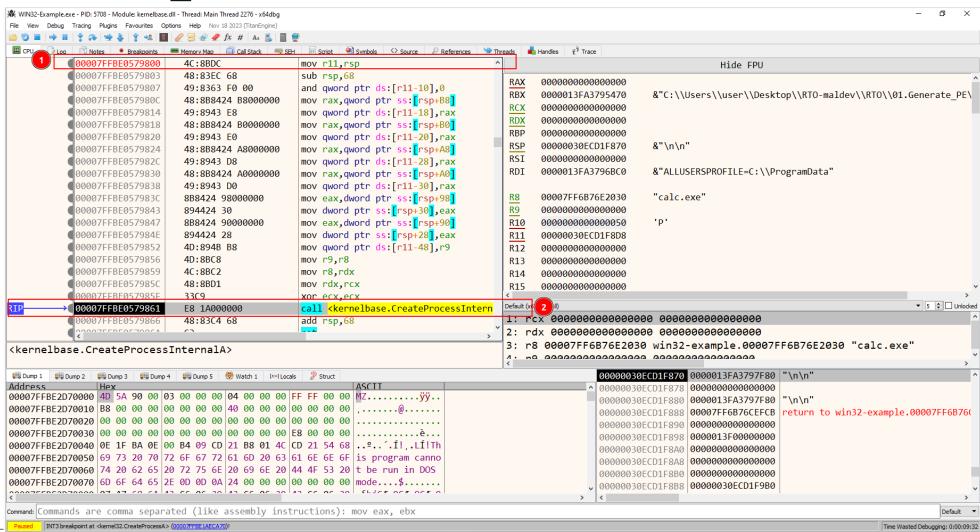






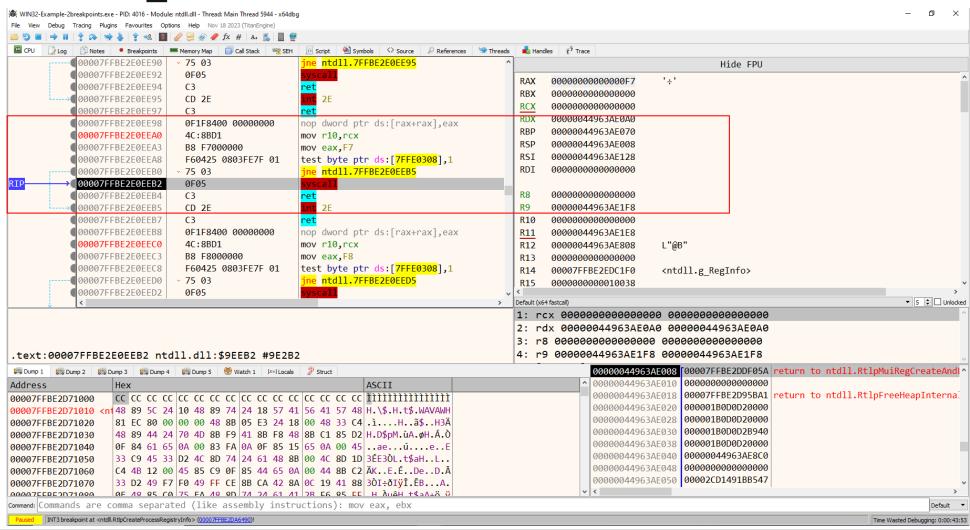






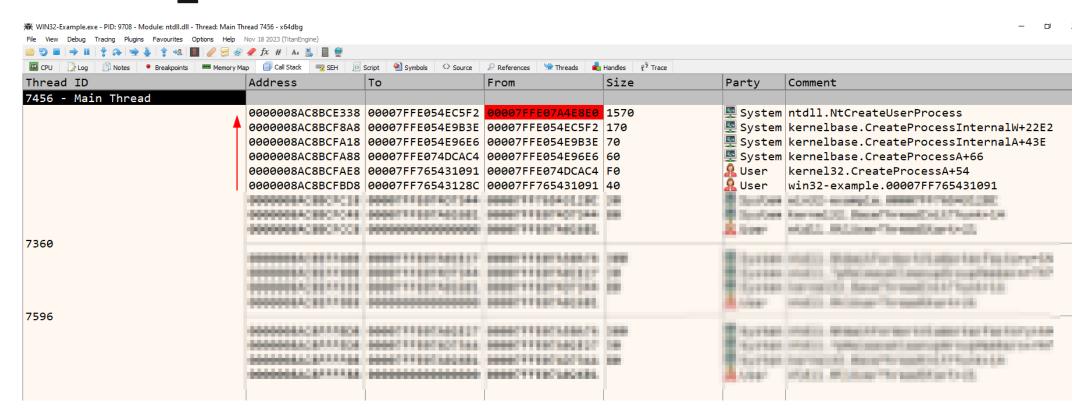








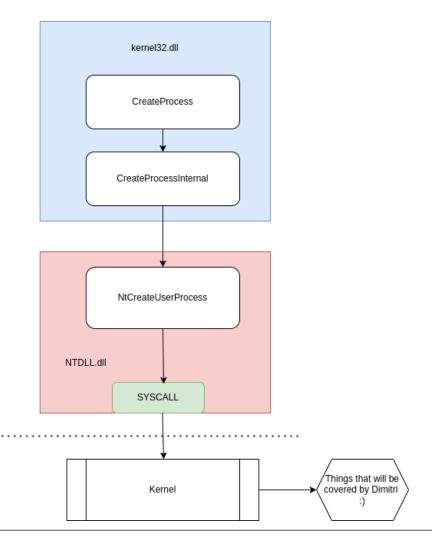








API Hooking: Where Shall the Hooks be placed?







API Hooking: When are the Hooks introduced and how can we evade that?

We need to understand

- What are DLLs
- User mode / Kernel mode
- What are the steps involved in process creation





API Hooking: DLLs

Almost the same as exe

- But, they need to be added into a process
- They contain functions!
- Made for reusability
- Functions can be set as export so they can be used externally. The EAT table contains these functions
- Logic is in the .text section





API Hooking: User mode / Kernel mode

Applications run in User Mode

- They interact at some point with the Kernel
- We can interact with our running applications (almost everything running under our context can be modified/checked)





API Hooking: Process creation

- Parameters validation
- The .exe is opened
- ..
- Process adress space is set up
- ...
- PEB is set up
- •
- Set up the first thread and its TEB
- Load Modules (LDR)
- Start execution of the first thread





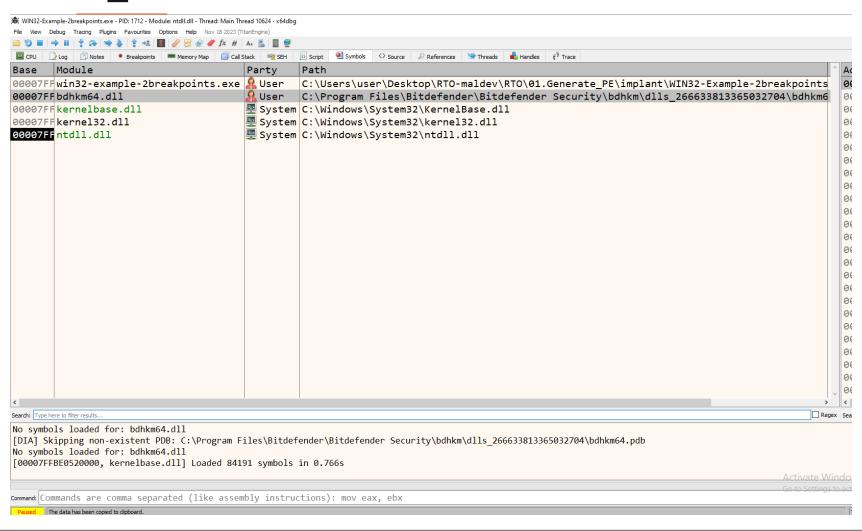
API Hooking: Process creation

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- Set up the first thread and its TEB
- Load Modules (LDR)
- Here!
- Start execution of the first thread





API Hooking: When are the Hooks introduced?







API Hooking: When are the Hooks introduced?

```
4C:8BD1 mov r10,rcx

B8 BA000000 mov eax,BA

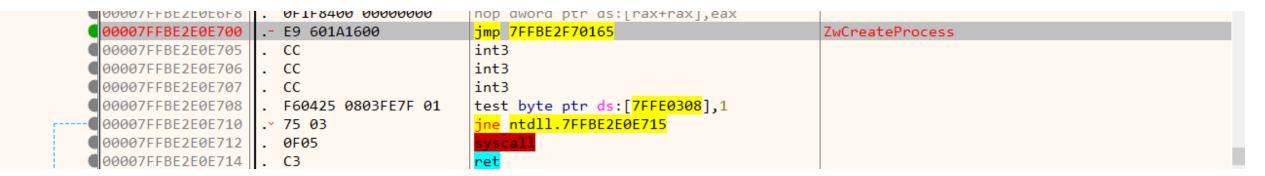
F60425 0803FE7F 01 test byte ptr ds:[7FFE0308],1

75 03 jne ntdll.7FFBE2E0E715

0F05 syscall

C3 c1

CD 2E int 2E
```







API Hooking – (Logical) Solutions out there

- Interfere with the code (Patching)
 - Process is running with in our User-Land, we can modify it if we want
 - How do we want to perform this operation?
 - Copy and Paste original NTDLL.DLL?
 - IOC: mapping of the fresh NTDLL (why would a process map NTDLL?)
 - IOC: mapping of the fresh NTDLL into our process (why would a process do this operation?)
 - Create a new process in a state where the hooks have not been applied yet and get the NTDLL from there





API Hooking – (Logical) Solutions out there

- Interfere with the code (Patching)
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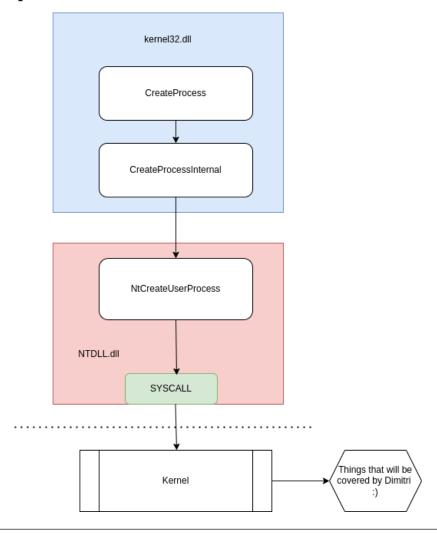
API Hooking – (Logical) Solutions out there

- Avoid the code. We need to «reconstruct» the method that we want to use
 - Dinvoke (C#)
 - Avoid having imports in the IAT
 - Runtime resolution of the NtCreateProcess function
 - Dinvoke creates function pointers to the resolved addresses of the target functions.
 - Instead of directly calling the function by name, DInvoke invokes the function indirectly through these function pointers.
 - IOC: we are loading DLLs (modload)
 - IOC: CLR
 - Use of direct Syscalls





Syscalls



- The Real OG
- Created for reusability
- Lowest form of execution before jumping into Kernel mode
- Syscalls are defined with a number, each OS changes the number
- Syscalls are not really magic, things happen in the Kernel, but you will need to wait for Dimitri's talk!





Syscalls – How are they called

```
Fill register B with "C:\Windows\System32\calc.exe"
Fill register C with process attributes (NULL)
Fill register D with thread attributes (NULL)
Fill register E with Inherited handles
Fill register F with creation flags
Fill register A with the number of the syscall number for create a process (0x67)

Call the "syscall" isntruction
syscall
```





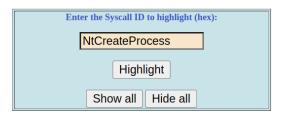
Syscalls — How to choose the syscall number Windows X86-64 System Call Table (XP/2003/Vista/2008/7/2012/8/10)

Author: Mateusz "j00ru" Jurczyk (j00ru.vx tech blog)

See also: Windows System Call Tables in CSV/JSON formats on GitHub

Special thanks to: MeMek, Wandering Glitch

Layout by Metasploit Team



System Call Symbol	Windows XP Server 2003 (show) (show)		3	Windows Vista (show)		Windows Server 2008 (show)		Windows 7 (show)	Windows Server 2012 (show)		8	dows } ow)				Windows 10 (<u>hide</u>)								
			ΤÍ	<u> </u>	П			Ť						1507	1511	1607	1703	1709	1803	1809	1903	1909	2004	20H2
NtAcceptConnectPort														0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002	0x0002
NtAccessCheck								Т						0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000	0x0000
NtAccessCheckAndAuditAlarm																							0x0029	
NtAccessCheckByType								Т						0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063	0x0063
NtAccessCheckByTypeAndAuditAlarm														0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059	0x0059
NtAccessCheckByTypeResultList			П											0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064	0x0064
NtAccessCheckByTypeResultListAndAuditAlarm								Т						0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065	0x0065
Nt Access Check By Type Result List And Audit Alarm By Handle														0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066	0x0066
NtAcquireCMFViewOwnership																								
NtAcquireCrossVmMutant								Т															0x0067	0x0067
NtAcquireProcessActivityReference																	0x0067	0x0067	0x0067	0x0067	0x0067	0x0067	0x0068	0x0068
NtAddAtom														0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047	0x0047
NtAddAtomEx								Т						0x0067	0x0067	0x0067	0x0068	0x0068	0x0068	0x0068	0x0068	0x0068	0x0069	0x0069
NtAddBootEntry														0x0068	0x0068	0x0068	0x0069	0x0069	0x0069	0x0069	0x0069	0x0069	0x006a	0x006a





Syscalls – How to choose the syscall number

interediernvalerialiespace									UXUUdC	UXUUdu	UXUUde	OYOODI	030002	OYOODS	OXOODS	UXUUU4	UXUUU4	OYOOO	OXOODO
Nt <mark>CreatePro</mark> cess									0x00ad	0x00ae	0x00af	0x00b2	0x00b3	0x00b4	0x00b4	0x00b5	0x00b5	0x00b9	0x00b9
Nt <mark>CreatePro</mark> cessEx									0x004d										
Nt <mark>CreatePro</mark> file									0x00ae	0x00af	0x00b0	0x00b3	0x00b4	0x00b5	0x00b5	0x00b6	0x00b6	0x00ba	0x00ba
Nt <mark>CreatePro</mark> fileEx									0x00af	0x00b0	0x00b1	0x00b4	0x00b5	0x00b6	0x00b6	0x00b7	0x00b7	0x00bb	0x00bb





Syscalls – Main problem

Inter-operability

Syscalls are different on every OS (even in different versions of the same OS)

Syscalls were not created to be directly used

However, using them avoids any kind of hooking

 $S_{\underline{rc:}}\ https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/ifs/filter-manager-concepts$





Syscalls – Solving the problem, approaches

We could hardcode the syscalls in the code however that brings us new problems (Syswhispers)

This is all about situational awareness. We need use the **meta** Information that we have available

The **PEB structure** is a meta structure whose address lives in the register GS of a process.

From there, we can walk the PEB, to search for the LDR, which has the addresses of the different DLLs loaded.

PEB -> LDR -> Get base address of NTDLL -> EAT



Syscalls – Solutions bring new problems

Walking a DLL that has already been hooked is tricky. We can't rely on use the same offsets (Hellsgate)

Same applies if important structures such as the EAT is hooked.

We need to be able to understand if we are hooked (inline vs EAT hooking):

- Are addressess successive?

S<u>rc:</u> https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/ifs/filter-manager-concepts





