Computer Science 491/691 Malware Analysis Homework 2

Assigned: February 16, 2019 Due: February 25, 2019

Submitted by

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How to turn this in for grading: You can edit your answers right into this file. Email it to the TAs as (will be) described in class. Make sure your name appears in the body of the document. Send your document to us with a name of the form LastnameFirstname.HW1.docx. You are free to use Open Office or Word, as you see fit.

Download and extract hw2.7z on a virtual machine. The password to the zip file is "infected", without the quotes. The file contains hw2.infected, which is a live malware sample.

Once you have downloaded the malware, use the network settings in VirtualBox to disconnect your VM from the internet. You should only run the malware while your VM is not attached to the network!

Hint: Chapter 3 of your Practical Malware Analysis textbook is a great resource, and other parts of your textbook may be helpful as well!

Part 1: Basic Static Analysis

Analyze the file at rest and answer the following questions:

1) What is the MD5 of hw2.infected?

MD5: 99392a1a364703ac314a46c410184c84

- 2) Select five of the imports from hw2.infected that you believe may be suspicious. For each import, describe what it does and why you selected it.
- a. VirtualAlloc: This a memory-allocation function that allots memory to a remote function. Malware uses this import function as a part of process injection, given the behavior of this import and other imports functions, this import is suspicious.
- b. CreateToolhelp32Snapshot: Creates snapshot of processes, threads and heaps. Mostly used in code that iterates through processes and threads. This enables the malware to create a list processes and threads, referred as snapshot. This function with the help of Process32Next/Process32First

- c. Process32Next/Process32First: This enumerates processes with the help of another import function CreateToolhelp32Snapshot to find a suitable process and inject itself into it. This import with the combination VirtualAlloc helps in process injection, thus suspicious.
- d. RegOpenKey: Opens a handle to a registry key so that it can be read and modified. Registry key contains operating system and application setting information, hence helps achieve persistence on host. All these features are required by a malware to find its way into the system, making this import function suspicious.
- e. WSAStartup: Initializes low level network functionalities to make use of internet and avoid detection at the same time. And this malware makes use of network functionalities making this import function suspicious.

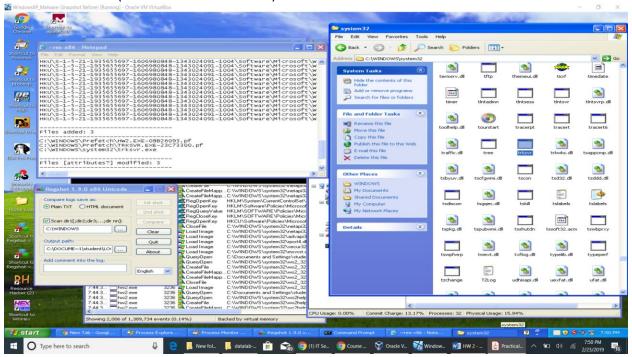
Part 2: Basic Dynamic Analyis

Ensure that your VM is disconnected from the internet. Rename hw2.infected to hw2.exe and run it. Answer the following questions.

3) Where does the malware copy itself to? Describe how you got your answer.

The malware copies itself into C:\WINDOWS\System32

To get the location I ran Regshot and took shots before and after running the malware, while comparing it's clear that a file (malware has been added) and this can be seen in the "Files added" section.



4) The malware installs itself as a service to gain persistence. What is the name of the service that it installs itself as? Provide both the <u>name</u> and <u>value</u> of the registry key that ensures that the malware is run as a service when the infected computer boots. Describe how you got your answer.

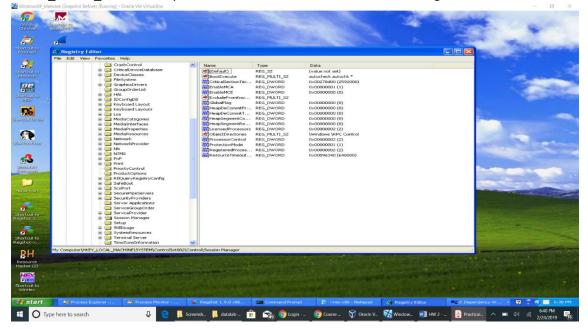
Name of the service that the malware installs itself as is Trksvr

This service can be found using the Registry key that have the keyword "service" in them.

"HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/System/ControlSet001/Services/Trksvr"

For a service to start on boot it should have key which goes by the name "BootExecute" with value "autocheck autochk*" This can be found using the registry key

"HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE/System/ControlSet002/Control/SessionManager"



5) What is a Windows Service Dependency? Which service is the malware dependent upon? Which service depends upon the malware? Describe how you got your answers.

Windows Service Dependency: This allows apps to call into platform-specific functionality from shared code. This functionality enables apps to do anything that a native app can do. It is also a service locator. In practice, an interface is defined, and it finds the correct implementation of that interface from the various platform projects.

Malware is dependent on a service "RpcSs", this can be found from the registry key "HKML\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Services\Trksvr\DependOnService: 52 00 70 00 63 00 53 00 73 00 00 00 00 00 00 00"

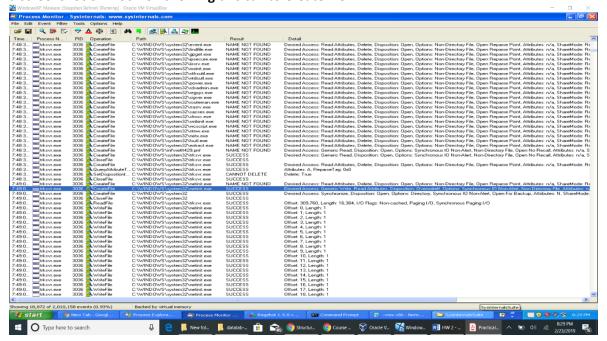
Service that depends upon malware is "lanmanworkstation", this can be found from the registry key "HKML\SYSTEM\ControlSet001\Services\lanmanworkstation\DependOnService: 54 00 72 00 6B 00 53 00 76 00 72 00 00 00 00"

Convert from Hex to ASCII to view the names of services.

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6) After running for a few minutes, the malware calls CreateFile to create the file netinit.exe. Provide a screenshot of ProcMon showing this call to CreateFile.



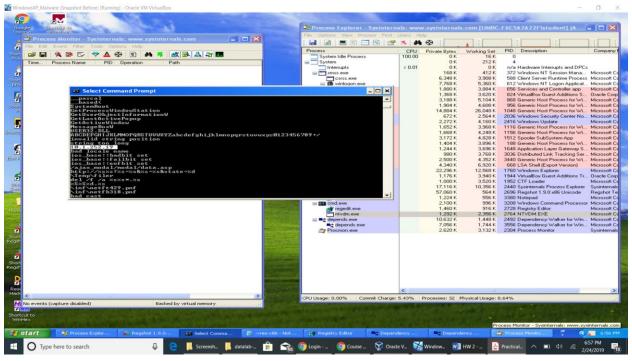
7) What is the full file path of netinit.exe? What is the MD5 of netinit.exe?

Full file path: C:/WINDOWS/System32

MD5: 43e9f09868c0471ab2a42678b8d3c686

8) Investigate the strings of netinit.exe. What IP address is hard-coded into the file?

IP Address: 10.1.252.19



9) EXTRA CREDIT What network shares does the malware try to access? Describe how you got your answer.

Network shares can usually be found in the registry key that have the word "Explorer" in them. Example of such registry key is "HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\....\".

In this case, after running the malware hw2.exe, use Regshot to capture snaps before and after running malware, then in values added you can see one registry keys that is added(containing the keyword Explorer) which give the network shares accessed by the malware.

Here the registry keys are: "HKEY_USER\S-1-5-21-1935655697-1606980848-1343024091-1004\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\UserAssist\{75048700-EF1F-11D0-9888-006097DEACF(}\Count\HRZR_EHACNGU:P:\\Qbphzragf naq Frggvatf\fgghqrag\Qrfxbbc\uj2.rkr: 05 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 C5 A2 D6 Ce D4 01:"