This analysis was an attempt to blindly try to analyze an unknown pulled from MalwareBazaar for practice.

## **Analysis**

High entropy shown in Figure 1. indicates that it is packed. There is also a suspicious section labeled as .itext which also happens to be the entrypoint highlighted on PEStudio seen in Figure 2.

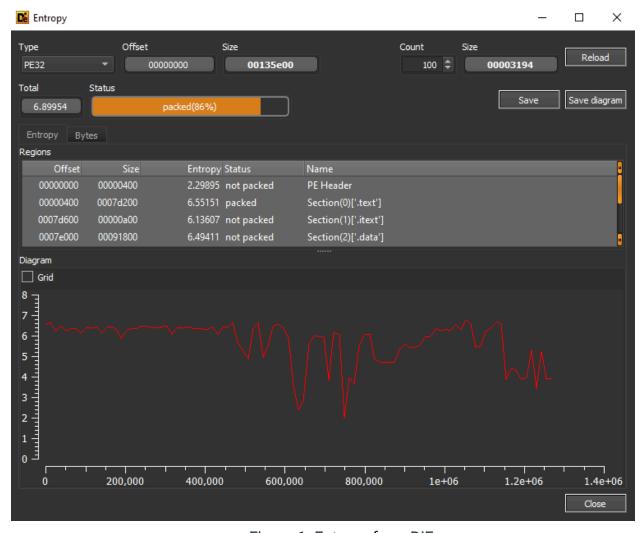


Figure 1. Entropy from DiE

From Figure 2. Below, it can be seen that the entry point of the executable is on the custom section .itext

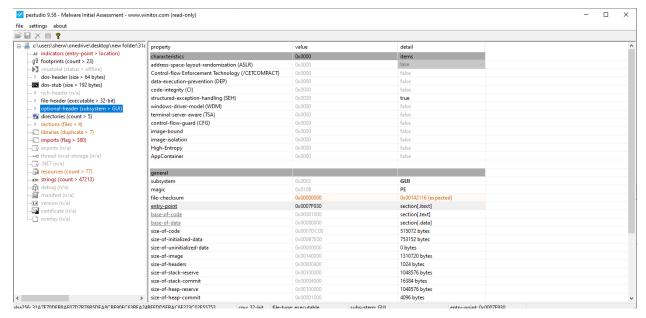


Figure 2. Suspicious Entry Point

## The breakpoints I used.

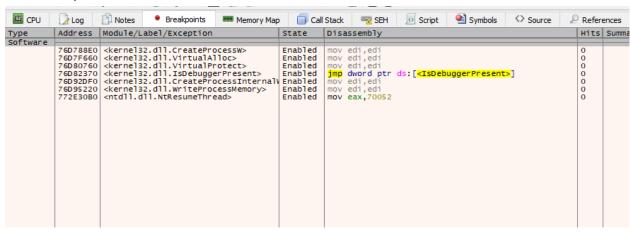


Figure 3. Breakpoints Set

After setting the breakpoints, the executable is then ran. The first breakpoint that was hit is VirtualAlloc. After hitting VirtualAlloc, I run until the return, then follow EAX in dump to see what is allocated in the region of memory.

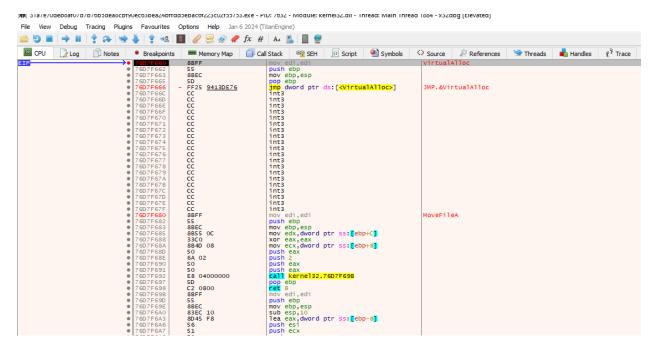


Figure 4. Repeated Hits in VirtualAlloc

During my debugging process; VirtualProtect has been hit for more than 40 times already and it is unlikely that this is the right API call to hook so in the next steps, I have removed this breakpoint instead to let the executable continue to run. Figure 5. Shows the current breakpoint hits but is not the total yet.



Figure 5. Breakpoint Hits

The succeeding VirtualAlloc calls fill a region in memory with 0x34h or "4"s.



Figure 6. Allocating 4s

The next VirtualAlloc call clears the memory and allocates something that starts to look like an executable payload. The GQ characters appear in most of the virtualalloc calls and might be useful in the future.

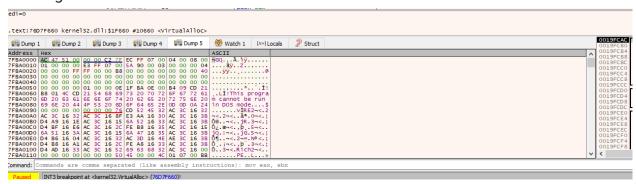


Figure 7. Possible Payload

Repeating the process eventually shows the MZ magic bytes. Interestingly the data does not start at the MZ but instead it looks like it starts at the GQ bytes instead.

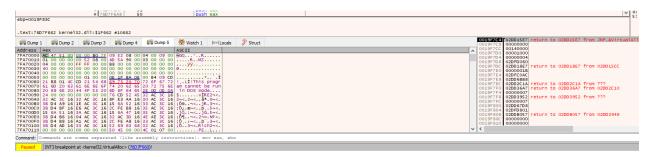
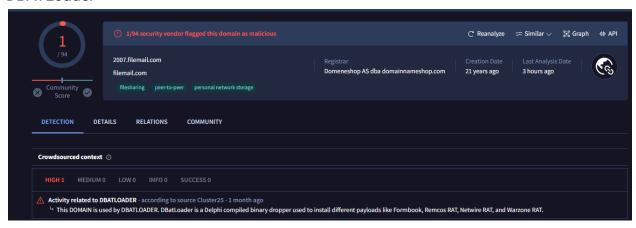


Figure 8. MZ Found

I am unable to unpack anything from this file; likely because I do not have an internet connection active on my virtual machine, but setting a breakpoint on CreateFileA shows something related to filemail[.]com which VT has a tag for being a domain used by DBATLoader



```
Host: ctldl.windowsupdate.com
    svchost.exe (2036) requested UDP 192.168.254.254:53
Received A request for domain '2007.filemail.com'.
31a7e70deb8af07d7b76b5dea8cbf90ec63bea24bffdd5ebac6f223c02f55753.exe (5216) requested TCP 192.0.2.123:443
    svchost.exe (2036) requested UDP 192.168.254.254:53
    Received A request for domain '2007.filemail.com'.
    31a7e70deb8af07d7b76b5dea8cbf90ec63bea24bffdd5ebac6f223c02f55753.exe (5216) requested TCP 192.0.2.123:443
    svchost.exe (2036) requested UDP 192.168.254.254:53
    Received A request for domain 'ctldl.windowsupdate.com'.
31a7e70deb8af07d7b76b5dea8cbf90ec63bea24bffdd5ebac6f223c02f55753.exe (5216) requested TCP 192.0.2.123:80
      GET /msdownload/update/v3/static/trustedr/en/authrootstl.cab?85a7e8f957c6b527 HTTP/1.1
      Connection: Keep-Alive Accept: */*
       User-Agent: Microsoft-CryptoAPI/10.0
       Host: ctldl.windowsupdate.com
80
    svchost.exe (2036) requested UDP 192.168.254.254:53
    Received A request for domain 'watson.events.data.microsoft.com'.
    program name unknown (924) requested TCP 192.0.2.123:443
   sychost.exe (2036) requested UDP 192.168.254.254:53
Received A request for domain 'ctldl.windowsupdate.com'.
program name unknown (924) requested TCP 192.0.2.123:80
GET /msdownload/update/v3/static/trustedr/en/authrootstl.cab?17a3747ca5796ec0 HTTP/1.1
       Connection: Keep-Alive
       Accept: */*
       User-Agent: Microsoft-CryptoAPI/10.0
```