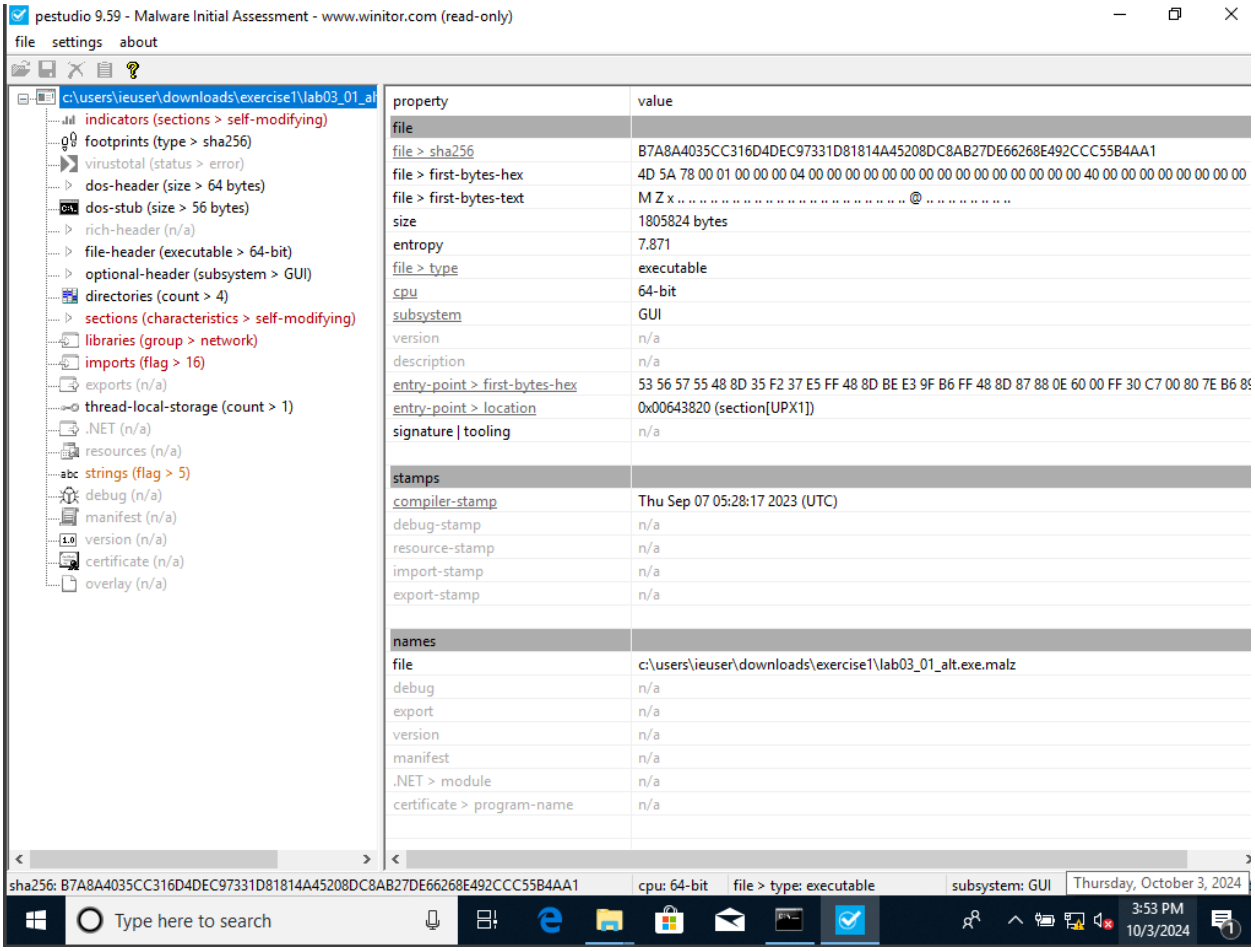
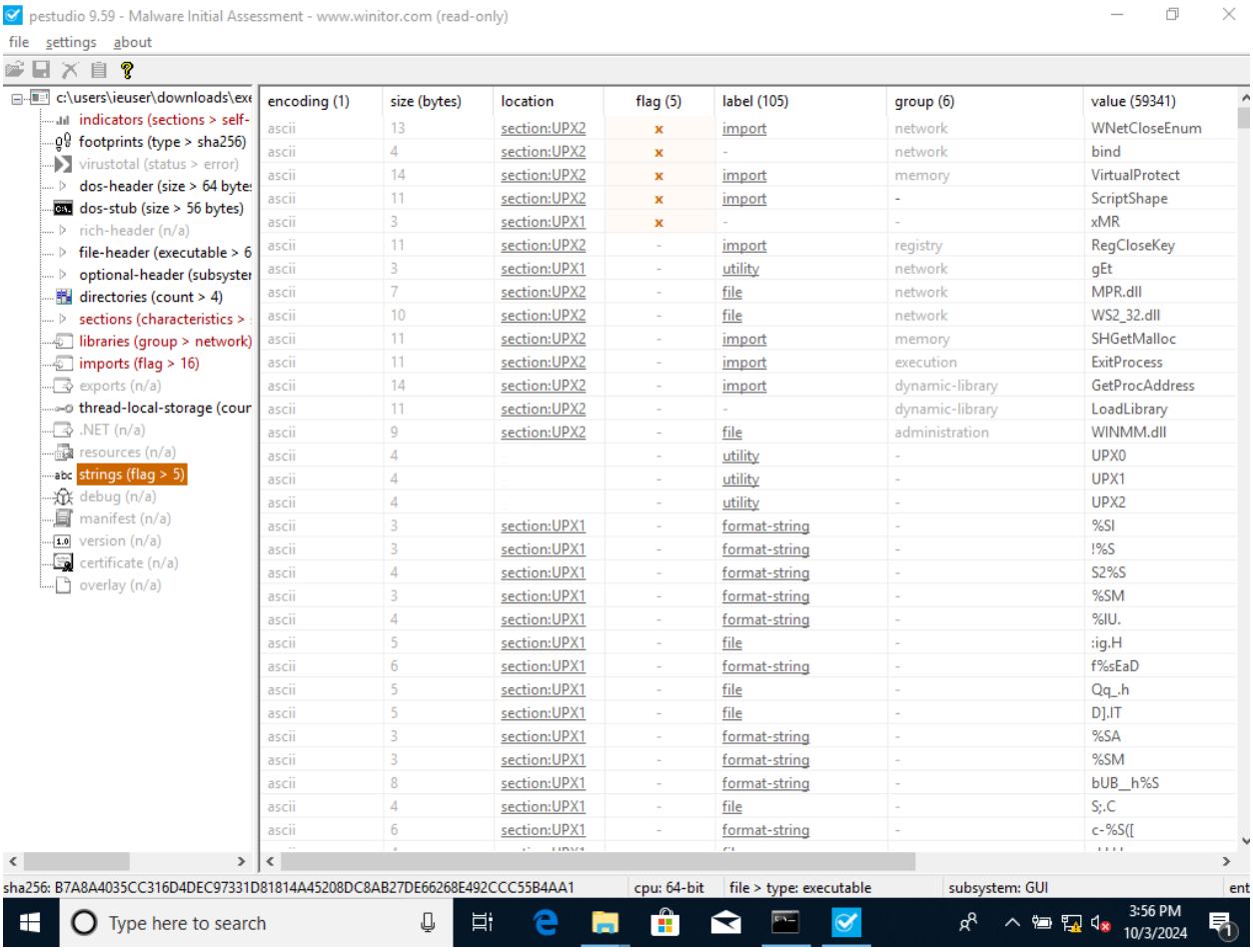
CPSC 458-01 Lab 3-1

Wayne Muse

Question 1: What are this malware's imports and strings?





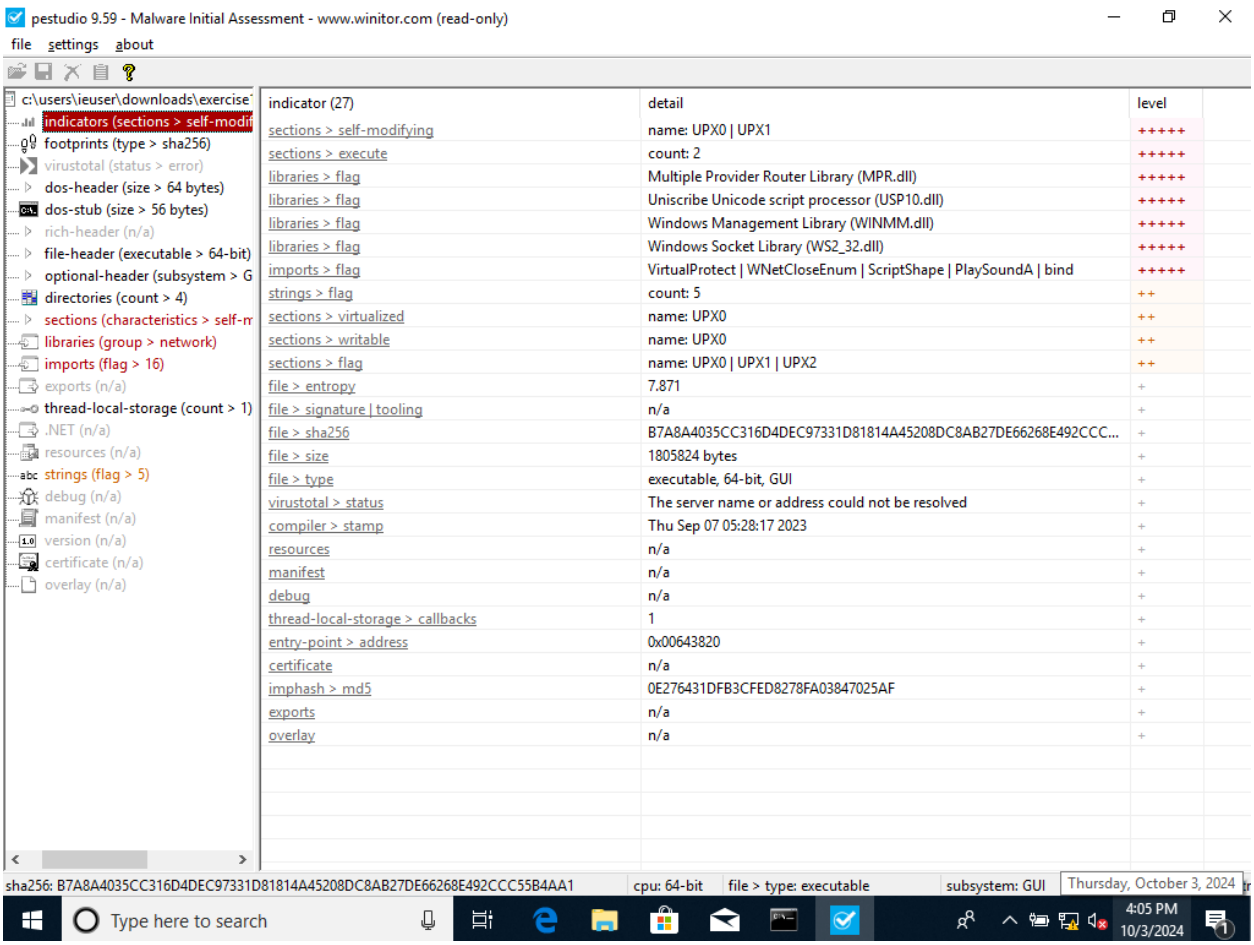
imports (16)	flag (5)	first-thunk-original (INT)	first-thunk (IAT)	hint	group (0)
WNetCloseEnum	x	n/a	0x00000000006502F8	0 (0x0000)	network
bind	x	n/a	0x000000000065034A	0 (0x0000)	network
VirtualProtect	x	n/a	0x00000000006502E8	0 (0x0000)	memory
PlaySoundA	x	n/a	0x000000000065033E	0 (0x0000)	administration
ScriptShape	x	n/a	0x0000000000650330	0 (0x0000)	-
RegCloseKey	-	n/a	0x000000000065028E	0 (0x0000)	registry
SHGetMalloc	-	n/a	0x000000000065031A	0 (0x0000)	memory
ExitProcess	-	n/a	0x00000000006502BC	0 (0x0000)	execution
LoadLibraryA	-	n/a	0x00000000006502DA	0 (0x0000)	dynamic-library
GetProcAddress	-	n/a	0x00000000006502CA	0 (0x0000)	dynamic-library
PrintDlgA	-	n/a	0x000000000065029C	0 (0x0000)	-
Arc	-	n/a	0x00000000006502A8	0 (0x0000)	-
ImmNotifyIME	-	n/a	0x00000000006502AE	0 (0x0000)	-
acos	-	n/a	0x0000000000650308	0 (0x0000)	-
DoDragDrop	-	n/a	0x000000000065030E	0 (0x0000)	-
GetDC	-	n/a	0x0000000000650328	0 (0x0000)	-

technique (2)	type (2)	ordinal (1)	library (0)
-	implicit	-	MPR.dll
-	implicit	-	WS2_32.dll
T1055 | Process Injection	implicit	-	KERNEL32.DLL
-	implicit	-	WINMM.dll
-	implicit	-	USP10.dll
-	implicit	-	ADVAPI32.dll
-	implicit	-	SHELL32.dll
-	implicit	-	KERNEL32.DLL
T1106 | Execution through API	implicit	-	KERNEL32.DLL
T1106 | Execution through API	implicit	-	KERNEL32.DLL
-	implicit	-	comdlg32.dll
-	implicit	-	GDI32.dll
-	implicit	-	IMM32.dll
-	implicit	-	msvcrt.dll
-	implicit	-	ole32.dll
-	implicit	-	USER32.dll

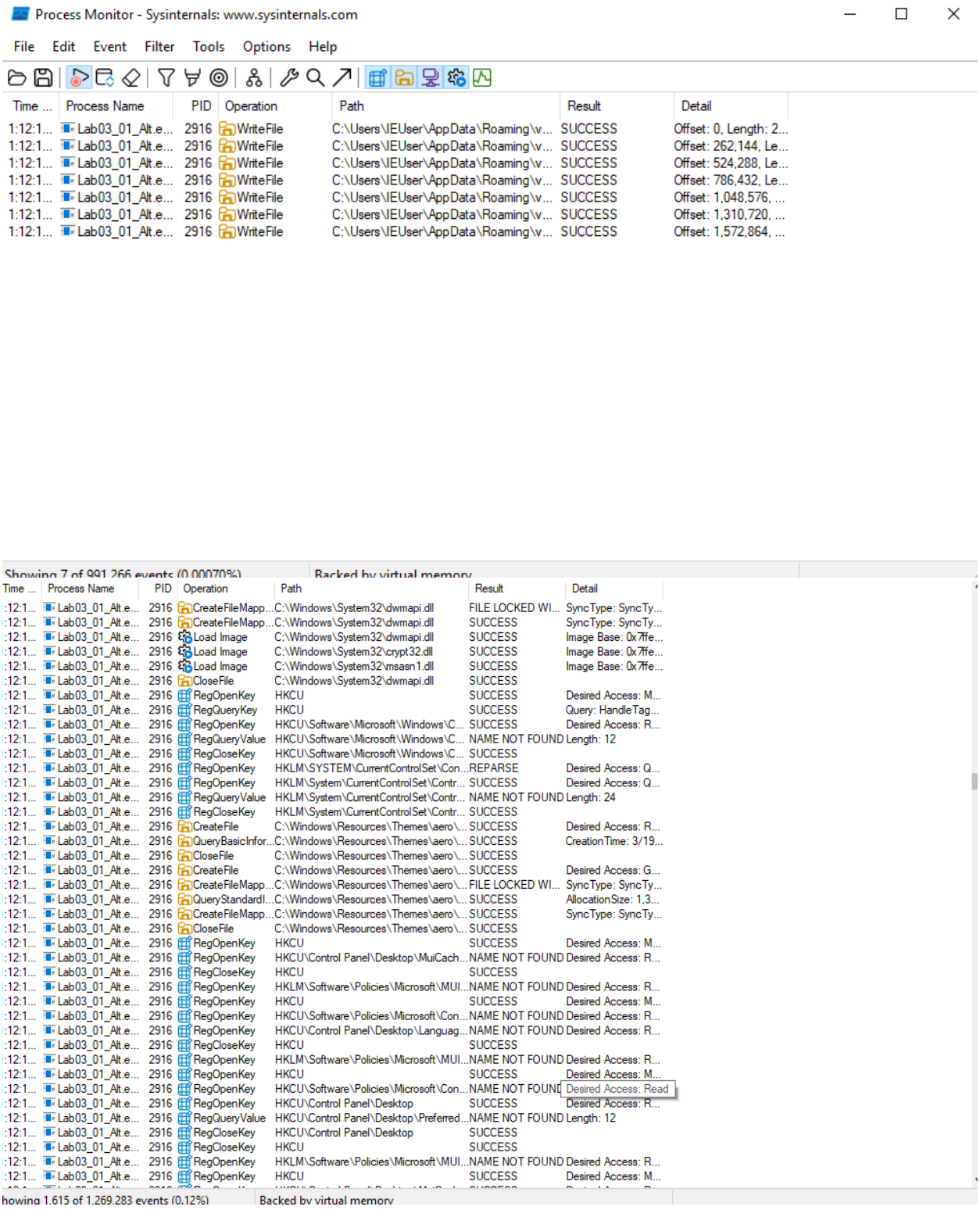
PEStudio has flagged 5 of the 16 imports. From the imports, it appears that the malware is attempting to access and write to the machine's memory. Additionally, it appears to affect

network connections by importing WnetCloseEnum. This import is responsible for closing network connections implying that this malware sample establishes or hijacks some network connection.

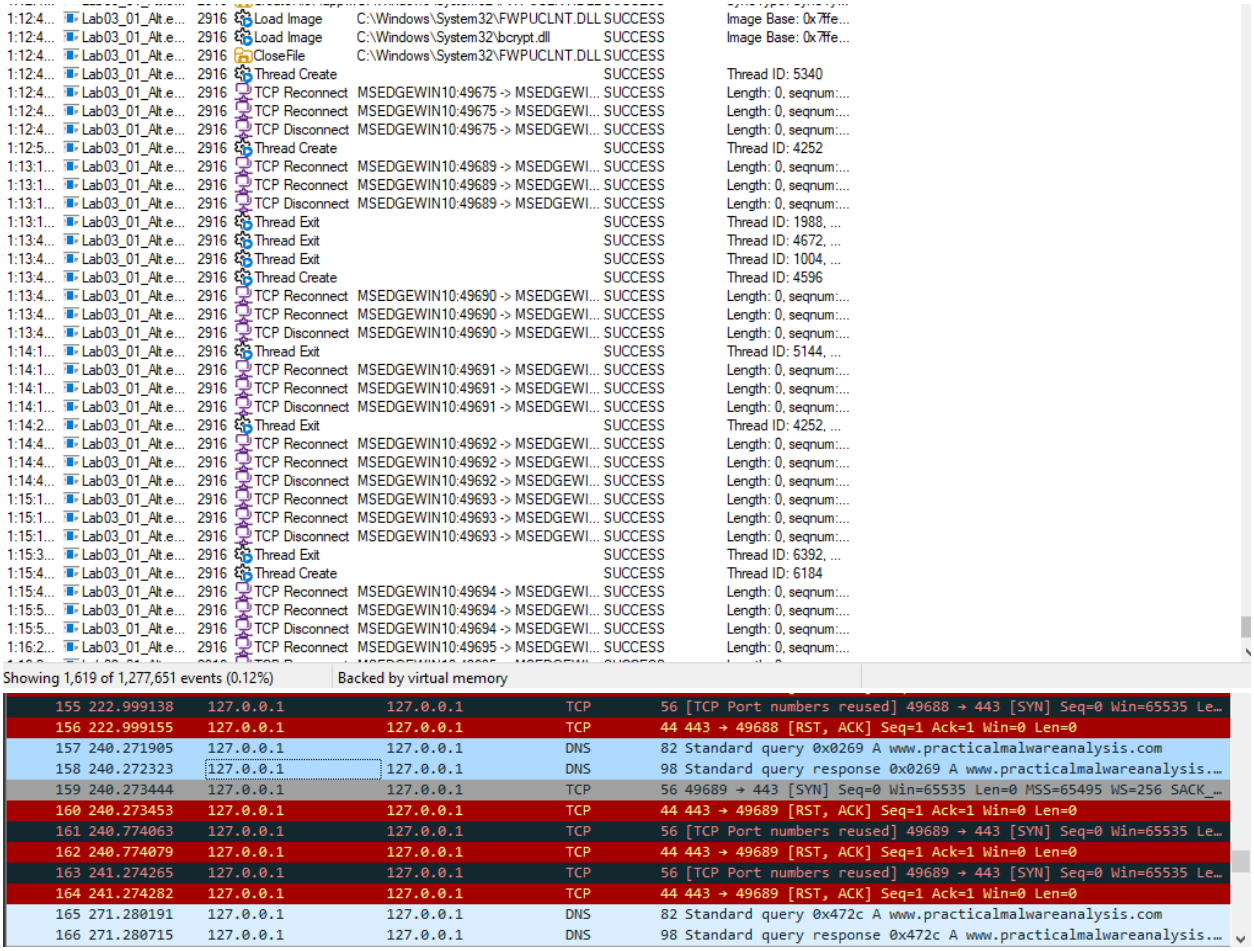
Question 2: What are the malware's host-based indicators?



Using PEStudio again to find the malware's host-based indicators there are 7 highly suspicious indicators and 4 mildly suspicious. From the indicators it seems that this code is self-modifying and accesses various networking processes such a WS2_32.dll which creates a socket and MPR.dll which handles computer communication between the OS and multiple network providers. We see in screenshots below that under a Dynamic Analysis, the malware writes to C\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\vmx32to64.exe which allows it run on start up and establish a network connection.


Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com
File Edit Event Filter Tools Options Help
Time ... Process Name PID Operation Path Result Detail
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 0, Length: 2...
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 262,144, Le...
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 524,288, Le...
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 786,432, Le...
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 1,048,576, ...
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 1,310,720, ...
1:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 WriteFile C:\Users\IEUser\AppData\Roaming\v... SUCCESS Offset: 1,572,864, ...
Showing 7 of 991,266 events (0.00070%)
Backed by virtual memory
Time ... Process Name PID Operation Path Result Detail
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CreateFileMapp... C:\Windows\System32\dwmapi.dll FILE LOCKED WI... SyncType: SyncTy...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CreateFileMapp... C:\Windows\System32\dwmapi.dll SUCCESS SyncType: SyncTy...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 Load Image C:\Windows\System32\dwmapi.dll SUCCESS Image Base: 0x7ffe...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 Load Image C:\Windows\System32\crypt32.dll SUCCESS Image Base: 0x7ffe...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 Load Image C:\Windows\System32\msasn1.dll SUCCESS Image Base: 0x7ffe...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CloseFile C:\Windows\System32\dwmapi.dll SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU SUCCESS Desired Access: M...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegQueryKey HKCU SUCCESS Query: HandleTag...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\C... SUCCESS Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegQueryValue HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\C... NAME NOT FOUND Length: 12
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegCloseKey HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\C... SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKLM\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Con... REPARSE Desired Access: Q...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Contr... SUCCESS Desired Access: Q...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegQueryValue HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Contr... NAME NOT FOUND Length: 24
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegCloseKey HKLM\System\CurrentControlSet\Contr... SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CreateFile C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 QueryBasicInfor... C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS CreationTime: 3/19...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CloseFile C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CreateFile C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS Desired Access: G...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CreateFileMapp... C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... FILE LOCKED WI... SyncType: SyncTy...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 QueryStandardI... C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS AllocationSize: 1,3...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CreateFileMapp... C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS SyncType: SyncTy...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 CloseFile C:\Windows\Resources\Themes\aero\... SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU SUCCESS Desired Access: M...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU\Control Panel\Desktop\MuiCach... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegCloseKey HKCU SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKLM\Software\Policies\Microsoft\MUI... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU SUCCESS Desired Access: M...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Con... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU\Control Panel\Desktop\Languag... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegCloseKey HKCU SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKLM\Software\Policies\Microsoft\MUI... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU SUCCESS Desired Access: M...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Con... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: Read
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU\Control Panel\Desktop SUCCESS Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegQueryValue HKCU\Control Panel\Desktop\Preferred... NAME NOT FOUND Length: 12
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegCloseKey HKCU\Control Panel\Desktop SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegCloseKey HKCU SUCCESS
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKLM\Software\Policies\Microsoft\MUI... NAME NOT FOUND Desired Access: R...
:12:1... Lab03_01_Alt.e... 2916 RegOpenKey HKCU SUCCESS Desired Access: M...
howing 1,615 of 1,269,283 events (0.12%)
Backed by virtual memory

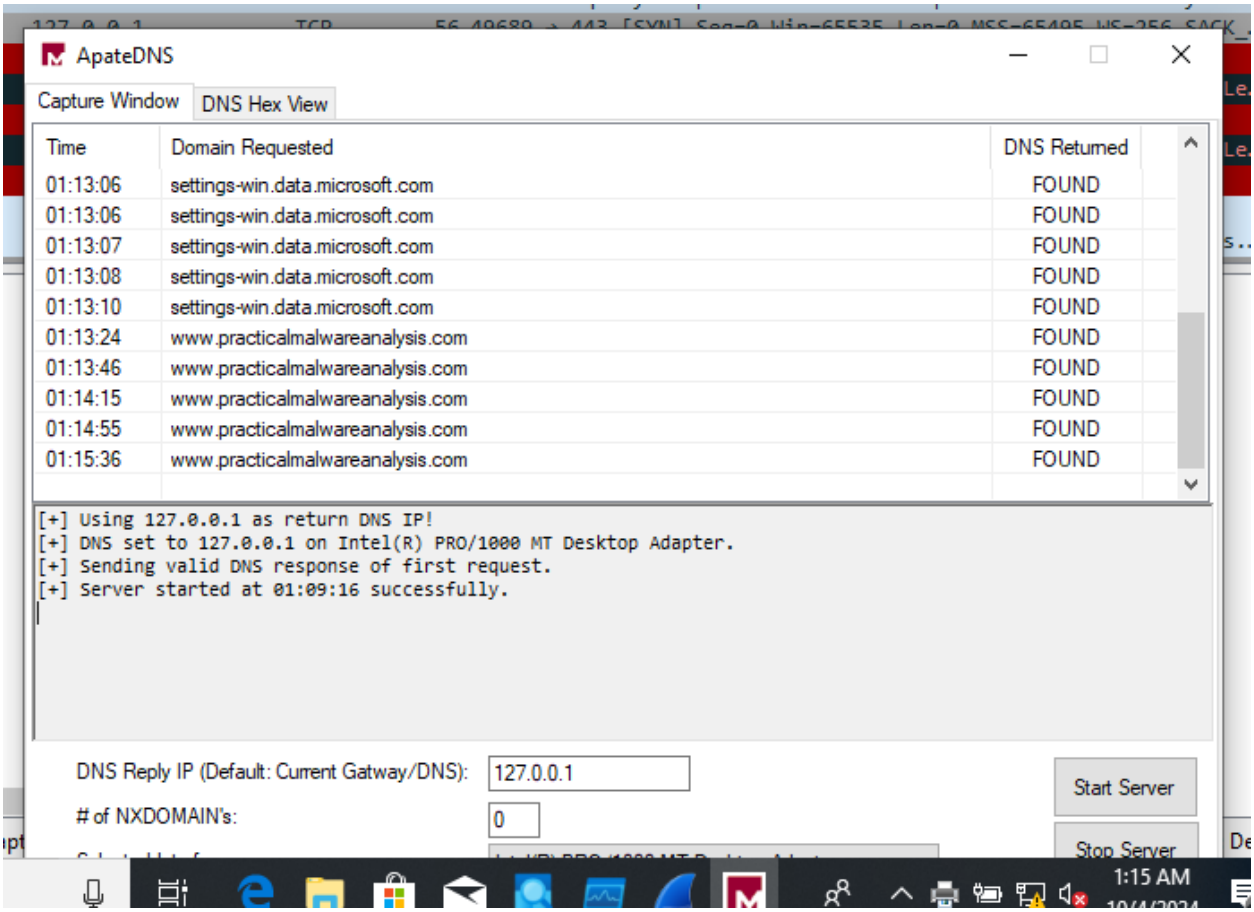
Question 3: Are there any useful network-based signatures for this malware? If so, what are they?



1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Load Image	C:\Windows\System32\FWPUCLNT.DLL	SUCCESS	Image Base: 0x7ffe...
1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Load Image	C:\Windows\System32\bcrypt.dll	SUCCESS	Image Base: 0x7ffe...
1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	CloseFile	C:\Windows\System32\FWPUCLNT.DLL	SUCCESS	
1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Create		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 5340
1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49675 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49675 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:12:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49675 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:12:5...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Create		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 4252
1:13:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49689 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:13:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49689 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:13:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49689 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:13:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Exit		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 1988, ...
1:13:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Exit		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 4672, ...
1:13:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Exit		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 1004, ...
1:13:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Create		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 4596
1:13:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49690 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:13:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49690 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:13:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49690 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:14:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Exit		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 5144, ...
1:14:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49691 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:14:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49691 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:14:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49691 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:14:2...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Exit		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 4252, ...
1:14:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49692 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:14:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49692 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:14:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49692 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:15:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49693 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:15:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49693 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:15:1...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49693 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:15:3...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Exit		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 6392, ...
1:15:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	Thread Create		SUCCESS	Thread ID: 6184
1:15:4...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49694 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:15:5...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49694 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:15:5...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Disconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49694 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...
1:16:2...	Lab03_01_Alt.e...	2916	TCP Reconnect	MSEDGEWIN10:49695 -> MSEDGEWI...	SUCCESS	Length: 0, seqnum:...

Showing 1,619 of 1,277,651 events (0.12%) Backed by virtual memory

155	222.999138	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	56 [TCP Port numbers reused] 49688 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Le…
156	222.999155	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	44 443 → 49688 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
157	240.271905	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	DNS	82 Standard query 0x0269 A www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com
158	240.272323	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	DNS	98 Standard query response 0x0269 A www.practicalmalwareanalysis.…
159	240.273444	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	56 49689 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=65495 WS=256 SACK_…
160	240.273453	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	44 443 → 49689 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
161	240.774063	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	56 [TCP Port numbers reused] 49689 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Le…
162	240.774079	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	44 443 → 49689 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
163	241.274265	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	56 [TCP Port numbers reused] 49689 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=65535 Le…
164	241.274282	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	TCP	44 443 → 49689 [RST, ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=0 Len=0
165	271.280191	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	DNS	82 Standard query 0x472c A www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com
166	271.280715	127.0.0.1	127.0.0.1	DNS	98 Standard query response 0x472c A www.practicalmalwareanalysis.…



This malware is similar to the sample from the book because both attempts to request the www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com domain. I opened ApateDNS and created a fake DNS server, I opened wireshark to capture any packets and used process monitor and filtered for malware. The malware attempts to establish a TCP connection likely trying to download something from practicalmalwareanalysis website.