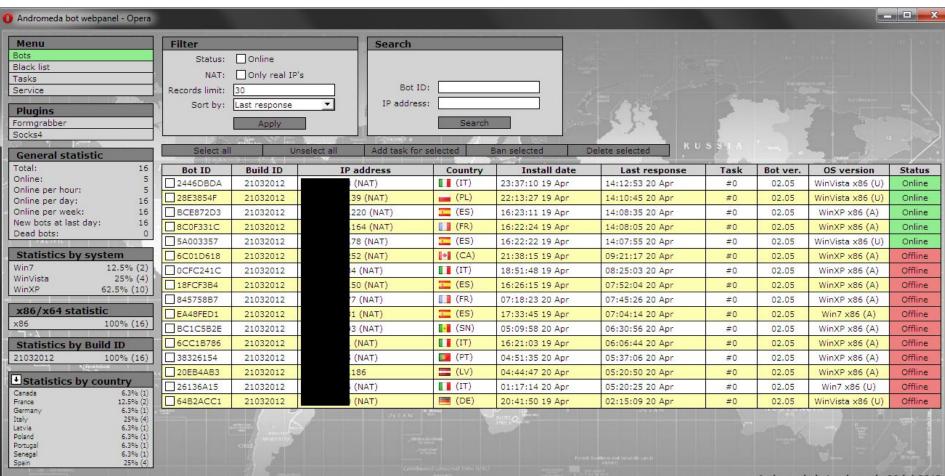
Malware

What is Malware?

Kinds of Malware

- Virus / Worm: spread infection to additional computers
- Rootkit: hide the existence of malware
- Spyware: collect information and send it to the attacker
 - Keyloggers, password hash grabbers, screen scrapers, use the webcam
- Backdoor: provide the attacker with access to the computer
- Botnet: infected computers communicate and coordinate actions
- {ad,scare,ransom,dox}ware: extract money from the victim



Andromeda bot webpanel v06 (c) 2012 Generation time 0.0119 sec.



Personal Antivirus



DANGER! Your PC is threatened by 1 potentially severe trojans and worms!

Viruses are programmed to damage the computer by damaging programs, deleting files, or reformatting the hard disk. As a result, they cause erratic behavior and can result in system crashes. In addition, many viruses are bug-ridden, and these bugs lead to system crashes and data loss.

Optimize and protect your system with advanced antivirus technology.

Before you register this program, please read the following carefully:

This is a one-time charge. Your credit card will never be rebilled and you will receive UPGRADES FOR FREE! Registration is immediate, and once registered. Personal Antivirus will remove all viruses, spyware, adware and other security risks and block them from accessing your system.

Our best-solution software has been already registered by 876,130 US citizens

> YOU CAN ALSO MAKE YOUR PC UP-TO-DATE!



You have an exclusive 40% discount, since US citizens are our most frequent buyers.



Malware "steps"

- 1. **Infect** the user's computer (drive-by-download, trojan, email attachment)
- 2. Perform some malicious operation (steal/encrypted data, install a rootkit, etc)
- 3. **Persist** within the system (file, autorun, registry, powershell scripts, etc)
- 4. **Spread** to other systems (local network, via email clients, etc)



Ransomware



Malware authors realized they can extract money directly from users by removing access to their data

- Encrypt all user .doc/.pdf/.png/.jpg/etc files with a generated public key
- 2. Force users to pay you in bitcoin
- 3. Decrypt their files with their private key

Security is ensured by crypto (if properly implemented)



To get the key to decrypt files you have to pay 750 USD/EUR. If payment is not made before decrypting files will increase 2 times and will be 1500 USD/EUR

Prior to increasing the amount left:

42h 48m 35s

Your system: Windows 7 (x64) First connect IP:

Total encrypted files.

the cost of

Refresh Payment FAQ Decrypt 1 file for FREE Support

We are present a special software - CryptoWall Decrypter - which is allow to decrypt and return control to all your encrypted files.

How to buy CryptoWall decrypter?



- 1. You should register Bitcon wallet (click here for more information with pictures)
- 2. Purchasing Bitcoins Although it's not yet easy to buy bitcoins, it's getting simpler every day.

Here are our recommendations:

Warning Message!!

We are sorry to say that your computer and your files have been encrypted, but wait, don't worry. There is a way that you can restore your computer and all of your files

0 years, 6 days, 00 hours, 45 min and 58 sec

Time remain when your files will lost forever!

Your personal unique ID: 0e72bfe849c71dec4a867fe60c78ffa5

Please send at least 1.0 Bitcoin to address 1LEiPgvh6S9VEXWV2dZTytSRd7e9B1bWt3

Click to check your Balance

Restoring your files - The fast and easy way

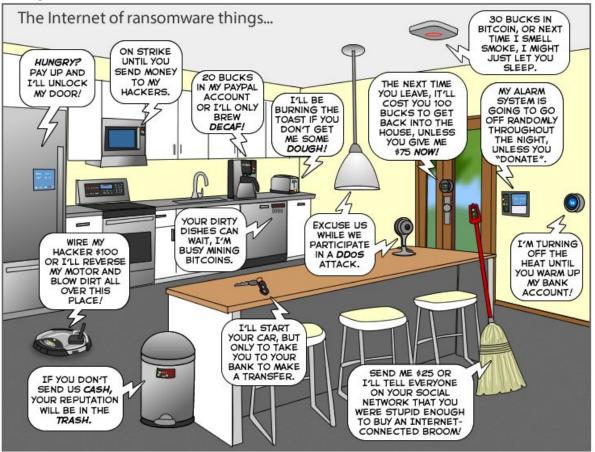
To get your files fast, please transfer 1.0 Bitcoin to our wallet address

1LEiPgvh6S9VEXWV2dZTytSRd7e9B1bWt3. When we will get the money, we will immediately give you your private decryption key. Payment should be confirmed in about 2 hours after payment made.

Restoring your files - The nasty way

Send the link below to other people, if two or more people will install this file and pay, we will decrypt your files for free.

https://3hnuhydu4pd247qb.onion.to/r/0e72bfe849c71dec4a867fe60c78ffa5



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Defending against malware

- Antivirus
- Dynamic Analysis



Signatures

File has been identified by at least one AntiVirus on VirusTotal as malicious

Tries to unhook Windows functions monitored by Cuckoo

Executed a process and injected code into it, probably while unpacking

Installs itself for autorun at Windows startup



_ O X ▼ Windows PowerShell Windows PowerShell Copyright (C) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. PS C:\> get-childitem C:\CD-DUD\w*iso | get-filehash MD5 Hash Path C:\CD-DUD\W2KSvrStd_x86.iso 9DDD017E995E66263109DA9A924AE789 C:\CD-DVD\Win7Pro_x64.iso C:\CD-DUD\Win7Pro_x86.iso C:\CD-DUD\WS03R2Std_x86_CD1.iso C:\CD-DVD\WS03R2Std_x86_CD2.iso C:\CD-DUD\WS03_Std_x64.iso D688D6AC0986A32D45B26E437A4259D2 C:\CD-DUD\WS08R2StdEnt_x64.iso 0207EF392C60EFDDA92071B0559CA0F9 PS C:\> _

[cberman@MS-DOS ~]\$ sha256sum hello there.

[cberman@MS-DOS ~]\$ sha256sum

hello there!

be3825966f46b982841ba286a10c0974427e7b3f6dc2fa20205ff59ecb3b43c0

d874711a0f5b480f86181c76d969e0193e67c950be5dcf311d66ea1d4031ac8b

YARA

```
rule silent_banker : banker
  meta:
    description = "This is just an example"
    threat_level = 3
    in_the_wild = true
  strings:
    $a = "<requestedExecutionLevel level="requireAdministrator"/>"
    $b = {8D 4D B0 2B C1 83 C0 27 99 6A 4E 59 F7 F9}
    $c = "UVODFRYSIHLNWPEJXQZAKCBGMT"
  condition:
    $a or $b or $c
```

Traditional Antivirus

Scan executable files on disk, in memory, downloads, etc for **signatures**, which are (ostensibly) unique identifiers for a piece of malware

When detected, attempt to either **defuse** the malware or **quarantine** it

If a fix is known, try to fix the system by reverting changes the malware is known to make

AV sucks

Any antivirus is basically a **blacklist** composed of executable signatures

We can have false positives if a program unintentionally matches a signature

To bypass an antivirus, all you have to do is change the bytes identified by the signature (add a nop somewhere?)

A blacklist fundamentally cannot be the solution when malware can be **generated programmatically**

Few protections against **unidentified threats** -- signatures cannot match something that the AV company has not encountered

Dynamic Analysis

Analyze executable operations at runtime to determine risk of being malicious

Usually performed in a VM so everything can be instrumented

Check for malicious URLs, files accessed, suspicious behavior, etc

https://malwr.com/analysis/YjI2OWE3Yzc1Y2Q0NDNhN2I5MTc1ZTY1MDZiMmVkZWY/

Network Analysis

http://malware-traffic-analysis.net/2016/10/12/index.html

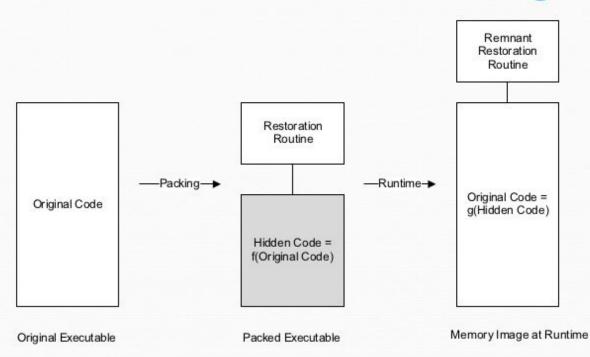
alert tcp any any -> 192.168.1.35 any (msg:"Traffic to 192.168.1.35";)

alert tcp any any -> any any (msg:"Possible exploit"; content:"|90|";)

Malware evasion techniques

- Packing
- DLL injection
- System profiling (checking for programs, etc)
- VM detection & escapes
- Polymorphism

Traditional Malware Packing



Overview Step 1 Attach Process A Process B OpenProcess(); Choose: DLL Path or Full DLL Step 2 Process A Process B Allocate Memory VirtualAllocEx(); Step 3 Copy DLL/Determine Process A Addresses Process B DLL WriteProcessMemory(); Full DLL: **DLL Path:** LoadLibraryA(); Get..Offset(); Step 4 Process A Execute Process B DLL CreateRemoteThread(); NtCreateThreadEx(); RtlCreateUserThread();

System profiling

Malware attempts to identify AV/analyst systems by looking for certain indicators

Presence of reversing tools (IDA), debuggers (WinDBG, Olly), VM software, etc can cause malware to not trigger to avoid dynamic analysis

Malware aimed at specific targets may require certain system details to trigger

ex: Stuxnet/Flame malware checked all files on the system against a given MD5 hash to identify the target system

VM Detection and escaping

Malware often checks for common **artifacts** on a system to detect whether they are running in a VM

Common artifacts include fingerprinting VM hardware, looking for specific files/registry keys, timings of certain operations, unimplemented API calls, etc

Malware can also leverage exploits to escape from a VM and infect the host system

Polymorphism

To avoid detection by signatures, malware will randomly permute its code each time it spreads itself

Malware can change which registers it uses, add dummy operations or nops, rearrange functions in memory, add layers of encryption, etc

```
mov eax, 3mov eax, 3mov edx, 9mov ebx, 3nopmov ecx, 3add eax, ebxmov ebx, 3sub edx, ecxnopadd eax, ebx
```

The APT: Advanced Persistent Threats

- What if nation states created malware?
- High level of sophistication
 - Covert communications across air gaps
 - Liberal usage of zero-day exploits
 - Encrypt all the things
- Maintain long-term access
 - "APT1 maintained access to victim networks for an average of 356 days. The longest time period APT1 maintained access to a victim's network was four years and ten months."
 (https://www.fireeye.com/content/dam/fireeye-www/services/pdfs/mandiant-apt1-report.pdf)



Homework

- You're given some (defused) ransomware and an file that has been encrypted by it
 - https://github.com/cnsatuva/modernsectopics/blob/master/4-6/ransomware.py
- Try to decrypt the file to recover the contents
- Send an email with the recovered data (and a 1-paragraph writeup) to <u>cm7bv@virginia.edu</u> with the subject "MST Assignment 10 - <YOUR_UVA_ID>"
- Tips
 - What *exactly* does the ransomware do?
 - Where does the encryption key come from?
- Don't hesitate to ask questions

GitHub repository

Note: our GitHub page for the class has moved to:

https://github.com/cnsatuva/modernsectopics

Additional Resources

 A source for pcap files and malware samples, traffic analysis exercises (http://malware-traffic-analysis.net)