

Malicious Code Analysis

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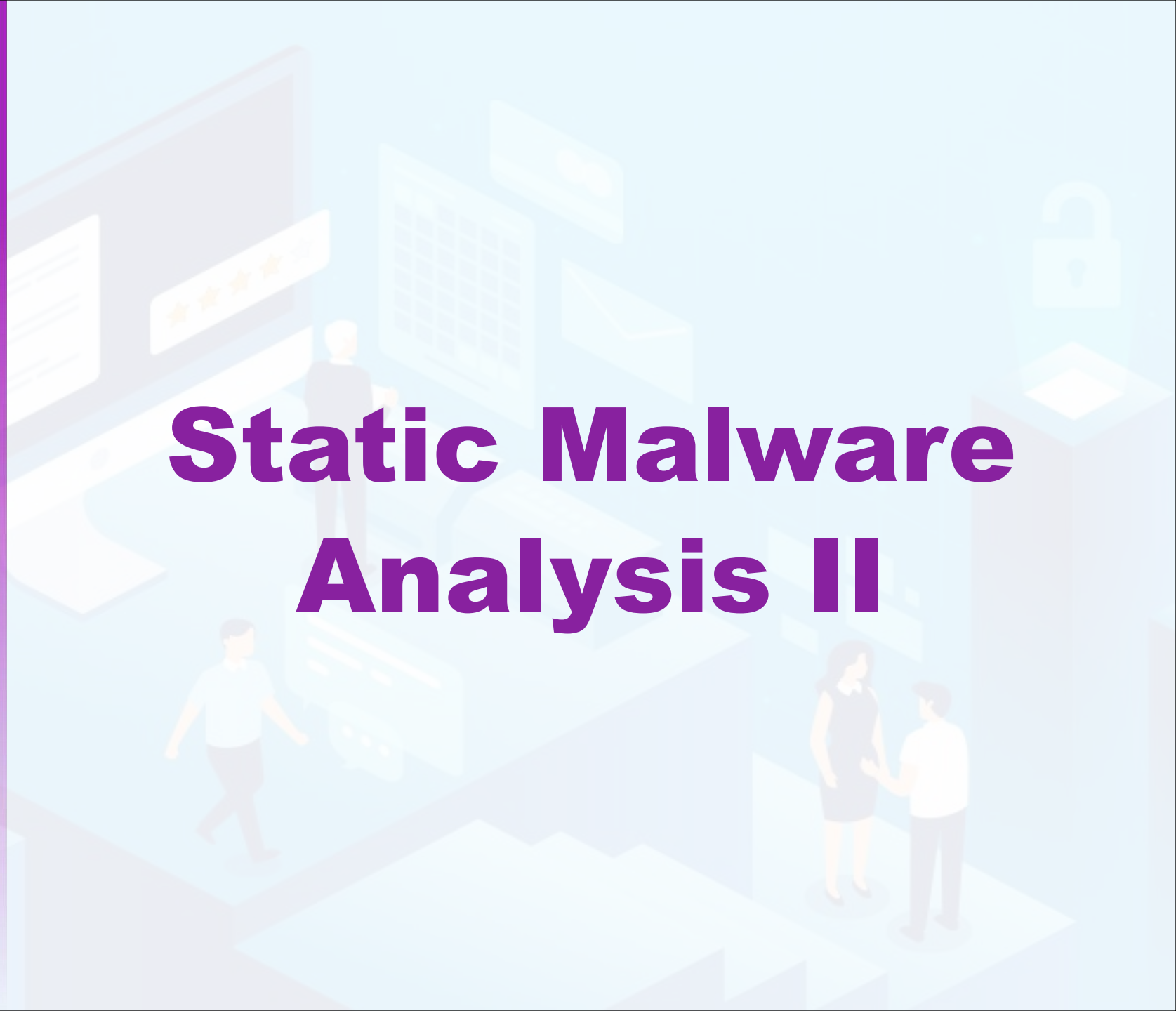




Part One

01

Static Malware Analysis II





Fixed-point Scanning

- Fixed-point scanning involves analyzing a specific point within the file that is known to be part of the legitimate code. This could be a function or other segment of the code. By analyzing the code at this fixed point, analysts can determine whether it has been modified or replaced with malicious code.



Entry-point-Stardust

Stardust.EXE

- DOS Header
- DOS stub
- NT Headers
 - Signature
 - File Header
 - Optional Header
- Section Headers
- Sections
 - .text
 - EP = 8B0
 - .data
 - .rdata
 - .pdata
 - .xdata
 - .bss
 - .idata
 - .CRT
 - .tls
 - .rsrc
 - .reloc
- compressedStardust.EXE
 - DOS Header
 - DOS stub
 - NT Headers
 - Signature
 - File Header
 - Optional Header
 - Section Headers
 - Sections
 - UPX0
 - UPX1
 - EP = 19D0
 - .rsrc

Disasm | **General** | **DOS Hdr** | **File Hdr** | **Optional Hdr** | **Section Hdrs** | **Imports** | **Resources** | **Exception** | **BaseReloc.** | **T**

Offset	Name	Value	Value
98	Magic	20B	NT64
9A	Linker Ver. (Major)	2	
9B	Linker Ver. (Minor)	27	
9C	Size of Code	1C00	
A0	Size of Initialized Data	4400	
A4	Size of Uninitialized Data	200	
A8	Entry Point	14B0	
AC	Base of Code	1000	
B0	Image Base	140000000	
B8	Section Alignment	1000	
BC	File Alignment	200	
C0	OS Ver. (Major)	4	Windows 95 / NT 4.0
C2	OS Ver. (Minor)	0	
C4	Image Ver. (Major)	0	
C6	Image Ver. (Minor)	0	
C8	Subsystem Ver. (Major)	5	
CA	Subsystem Ver. (Minor)	2	
CC	Win32 Version Value	0	
D0	Size of Image	D000	
D4	Size of Headers	400	
D8	Checksum	BA0E	
DC	Subsystem	2	Windows GUI
DE	DLL Characteristics	160	
		40	DLL can move

Stardust.EXE | compressedStardust.EXE



Entry-point-compressedStardust

PE-bear v0.5.5.7 [Users/zhong/Downloads/compressedStardust.EXE]

Stardust.EXE

- DOS Header
- DOS stub
- NT Headers
 - Signature
 - File Header
 - Optional Header
- Section Headers
- Sections
 - .text → EP = 8B0
 - .data
 - .rdata
 - .pdata
 - .xdata
 - .bss
 - .idata
 - .CRT
 - .tls
 - .rsrc
 - .reloc

compressedStardust.EXE

- DOS Header
- DOS stub
- NT Headers
 - Signature
 - File Header
 - Optional Header
- Section Headers
- Sections
 - UPX0
 - UPX1 → EP = 19D0
 - .rsrc

Disasm: Headers to [UPX1] General DOS Hdr File Hdr **Optional Hdr** Section Hdrs Imports Resources BaseReloc. T

Offset	Name	Value	Value
98	Magic	20B	NT64
9A	Linker Ver. (Major)	2	
9B	Linker Ver. (Minor)	27	
9C	Size of Code	2000	
A0	Size of Initialized Data	1000	
A4	Size of Uninitialized Data	C000	
A8	Entry Point	E7D0	
AC	Base of Code	D000	
B0	Image Base	140000000	
B8	Section Alignment	1000	
BC	File Alignment	200	
C0	OS Ver. (Major)	4	Windows 95 / NT 4.0
C2	OS Ver. (Minor)	0	
C4	Image Ver. (Major)	0	
C6	Image Ver. (Minor)	0	
C8	Subsystem Ver. (Major)	5	
CA	Subsystem Ver. (Minor)	2	
CC	Win32 Version Value	0	
D0	Size of Image	10000	
D4	Size of Headers	200	
D8	Checksum	0	
DC	Subsystem	2	Windows GUI
DE	DLL Characteristics	160	
		40	DLL can move
		100	Image is NX compatible
E0	Size of Stack Reserve	200000	
E8	Size of Stack Commit	1000	
F0	Size of Heap Reserve	100000	
F8	Size of Heap Commit	10000	

Loaded: /Users/zhong/Downloads/compressedStardust.EXE

Stardust.EXE compressedStardust.EXE



Skeleton Detection



Skeleton detection is a technique that identifies the core functionality or "skeleton" of a malware sample through its static attributes, such as its code, file structure, signature generation.





Skeleton Detection-Code analysis



It can help identify the main control flow and key functions used by the malware. This can include the identification of specific API calls or system functions used by the malware.

Stardust.EXE								
Disasm General DOS Hdr File Hdr Optional Hdr Section Hdrs Imports Resources Exception BaseReloc. TLS								
Offset	Name	Func. Count	Bound?	OriginalFirstThunk	TimeDateStamp	Forwarder	NameRVA	FirstThunk
3400	KERNEL32.dll	18	FALSE	8064	0	0	8720	8224
3414	msvcrt.dll	26	FALSE	80FC	0	0	8798	82BC
3428	USER32.dll	1	FALSE	81D4	0	0	87A8	8394
343C	WS2_32.dll	7	FALSE	81E4	0	0	87D0	83A4
WS2_32.dll [7 entries]								
Call via	Name	Ordinal	Original Thunk	Thunk	Forwarder	Hint		
83A4	WSACleanup	-	8680	8680	-	20		
83AC	WSASocketA	-	868E	868E	-	58		
83B4	WSAStartup	-	869C	869C	-	5A		
83BC	closesocket	-	86AA	86AA	-	A5		
83C4	connect	-	86B8	86B8	-	A6		
83CC	htons	-	86C2	86C2	-	B5		
83D4	inet_addr	-	86CA	86CA	-	B6		



Nearly Exact Identification



Nearly exact identification is a technique that identifies a specific variant or version of a malware sample. It involves comparing two or more versions of the same malware sample to identify differences between them.

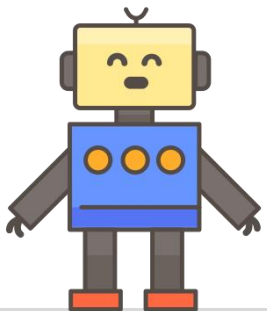




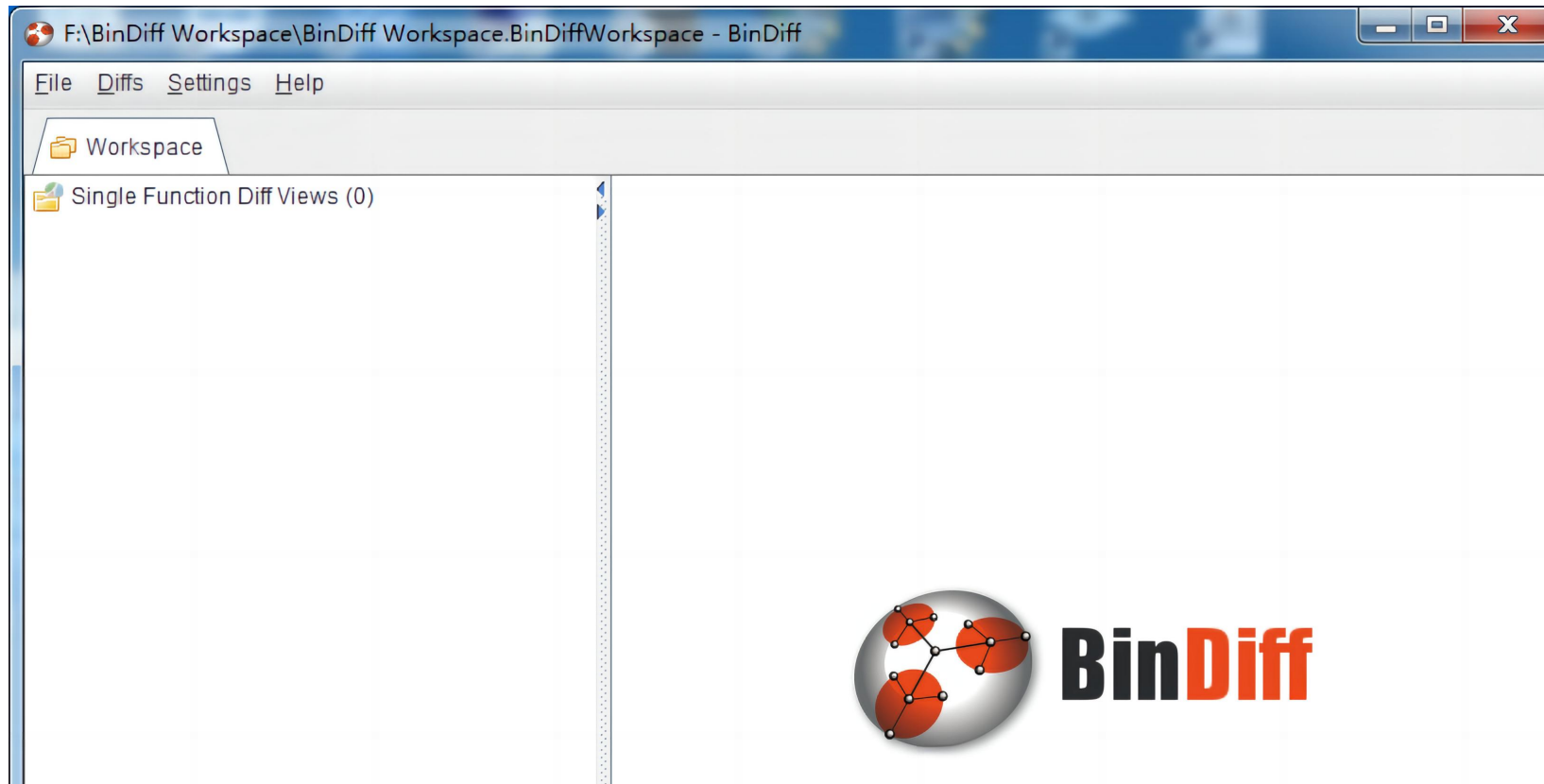
Nearly Exact Identification

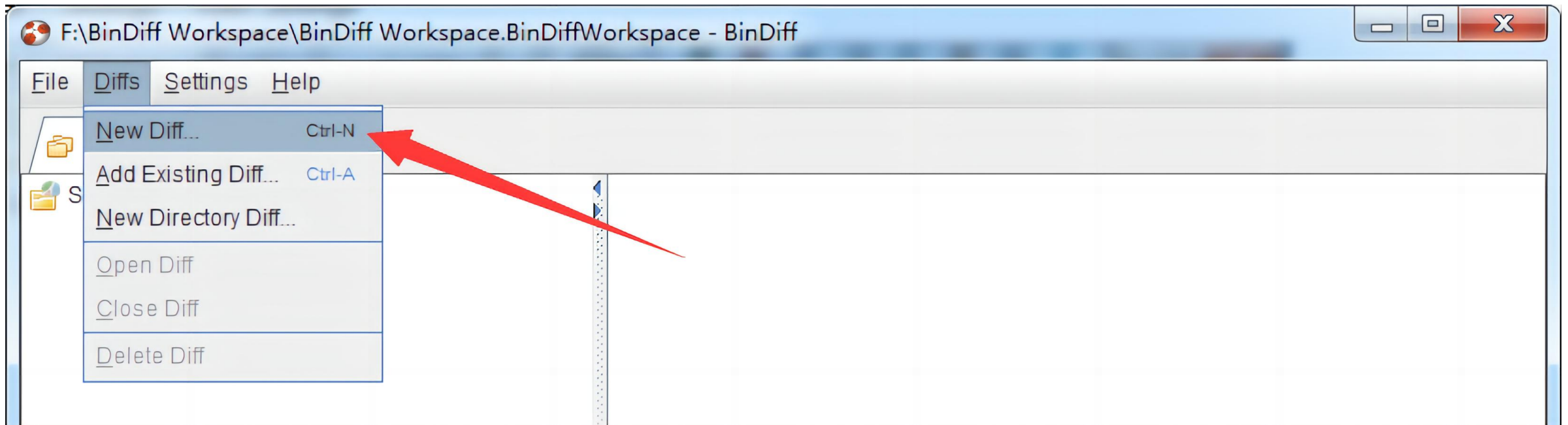


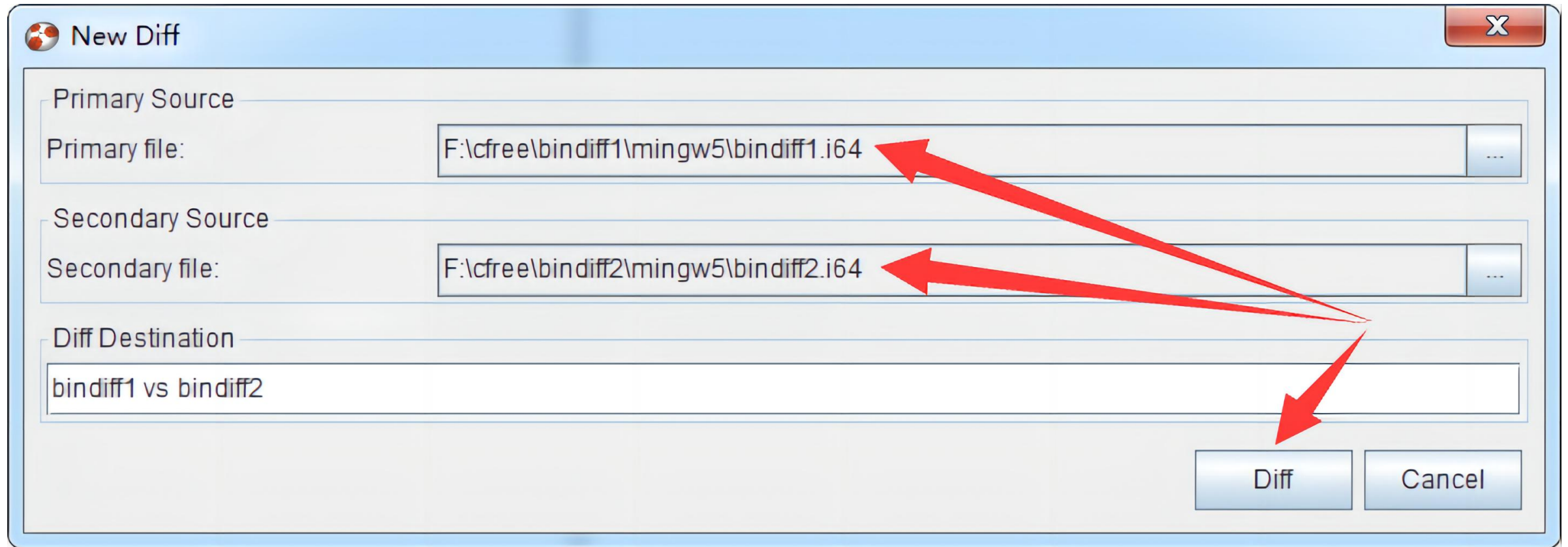
To perform nearly exact identification, analysts typically use techniques such as binary diffing, code comparison, or file comparison.



- 🏆 BinDiff uses a unique graph-theoretical approach to compare executables by identifying identical and similar functions.









BinDiff

F:\BinDiff Workspace\BinDiff Workspace.BinDiffWorkspace - BinDiff

File Diffs Settings Help

Workspace

Single Function Diff Views (0)

bindiff1 vs bindiff2

Call Graph (57/57)

Matched Functions (55)

Primary Unmatched Functions (2/57)

Secondary Unmatched Functions (2/57)

Overview

Basic Blocks 129.9% Jumps 125.2% Instructions -148.1% Similarity 0.99

174 129.9% 199 125.2% -800 124.0% -800 124.0%

Matched Functions

55 / 55 Matched Functions

☐ Show structural changes ☒ Show only instructions changed ☒ Show identical

	Similarity /	Confidence	Address	Primary Name	Type	Address	Secondary Name	Type	Basic Blocks	Jumps
	0.98	0.99	004012F0	main	No...	004012F0	main	No...	0 4 0	0 4 0
	1.00	0.99	00401150	_mingw_CRTS...	No...	00401150	_mingw_CR...	No...	0 8 0	0 11 0
	1.00	0.99	004050DC	imp_filbuf	Im...	004050...	imp_filbuf	Im...	-1 0 -1	-1 0 -1
	1.00	0.99	004050E4	imp_onexit	Im...	004050E4	imp_onexit	Im...	-1 0 -1	-1 0 -1
	1.00	0.99	004050F4	imp_free	Im...	004050F4	imp_free	Im...	-1 0 -1	-1 0 -1
	1.00	0.99	00405104	imp_signal	Im...	00405104	imp_signal	Im...	-1 0 -1	-1 0 -1
	1.00	0.97	004018E0	_malloc	T...	004018E0	_malloc	T...	0 1 0	
	1.00	0.97	004018A0	_signal	T...	004018A0	_signal	T...	0 1 0	
	1.00	0.97	004018D0	_assert	T...	004018D0	_assert	T...	0 1 0	
	1.00	0.99	00401550	_w32_sharedp...	No...	00401550	_w32_share...	No...	0 8 0	0 10 0
	1.00	0.99	004050C8	imp_p_env...	Im...	004050C8	imp_p_e...	Im...	-1 0 -1	-1 0 -1

+0 / -0 Added and removed Parent Functions calling the selected Functions

Simil...	Conf...	Address	Primary Name	T...	Address	Secondary Name	Type	Basic Blocks	Jumps
----------	---------	---------	--------------	------	---------	----------------	------	--------------	-------

+0 / -0 Added and removed Child Functions called from the selected Functions

Simil...	Conf...	Address	Primary Name	T...	Address	Secondary Name	Type	Basic Blocks	Jumps
----------	---------	---------	--------------	------	---------	----------------	------	--------------	-------



BinDiff

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
int get_num();
void print_bad();

int main() {
    int num;
    while(1) {
        num = get_num();
        if (num == 1337) {
            printf("Accepted!\n");
        }
        else {
            print_bad();
        }
    }
    return 0;
}

int get_num() {
    char buf[16];
    printf("Enter secret number : ");
    fgets(buf, 16, stdin);
    return atoi(buf);
}

void print_bad() {
    printf("Nope!\n");
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
int get_num();
void print_good();
void print_bad();

int main() {
    int num;
    while(1) {
        num = get_num();
        if (num == 1337 || num == 7331 || ((num*3+3321)*2 + 7331)/3 == 7333) {
            print_good();
        }
        else {
            print_bad();
        }
    }
    return 0;
}

int get_num() {
    char buf[16];
    printf("Enter secret number : ");
    fgets(buf, 16, stdin);
    return atoi(buf);
}

void print_good() {
    printf("Accepted!\n");
}

void print_bad() {
    printf("Nope!\n");
}
```




BinDiff-function

```
proj = angr.Project('bindiff_a', auto_load_libs=False)
cfg = proj.analyses.CFGFast()
proj2 = angr.Project('bindiff_b', auto_load_libs=False)
cfg2 = proj2.analyses.CFGFast()
anaz = proj.analyses.BinDiff(proj2, cfg_a=cfg, cfg_b=cfg2)

for func_addrs in anaz.differing_functions:
    addr1 = func_addrs[0]
    addr2 = func_addrs[1]
    print(cfg.kb.functions[addr1].name, cfg2.kb.functions[addr2].name)

for func_pair in anaz.identical_functions:
    print(proj.kb.functions[func_pair[0]].name, proj2.kb.functions[func_pair[1]].name)
```

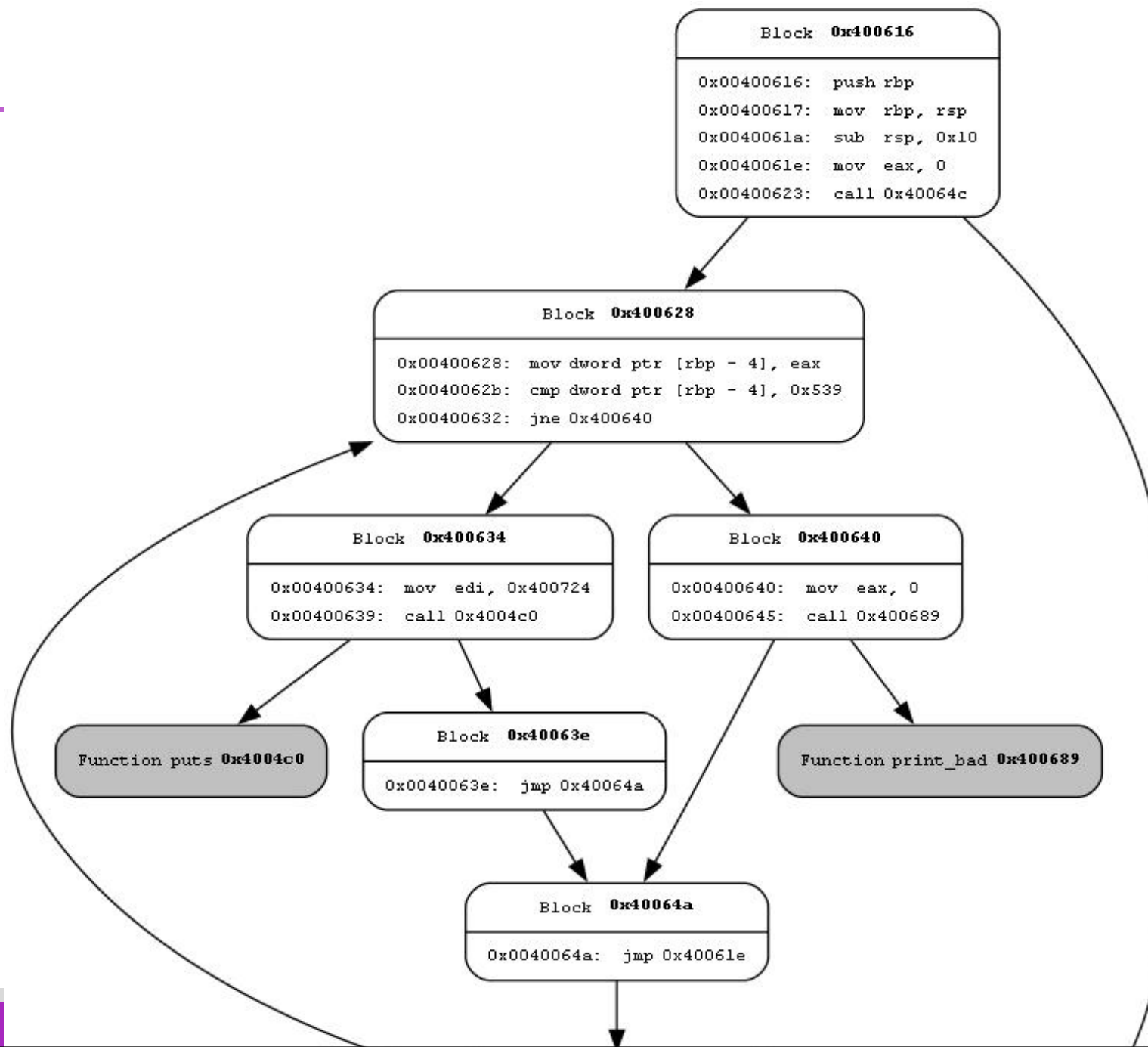


```
for blocks in anaz.differing_blocks:  
    block1, block2 = blocks  
    print(hex(block1.addr))  
    print(hex(block2.addr))  
    print(proj.factory.block(block1.addr).pp())  
    print(proj2.factory.block(block2.addr).pp())
```



BinDiff-block

```
def analyze(b, name):  
    for func in b.kb.functions.values():  
        if func.name.find(name) == 0:  
            plot_func_graph(b, func.transition_graph, "%s_%s_cfg" % (name, b.filename), asminst=True, vexinst=False)  
  
analyze(proj, "main")  
analyze(proj2, "main")
```



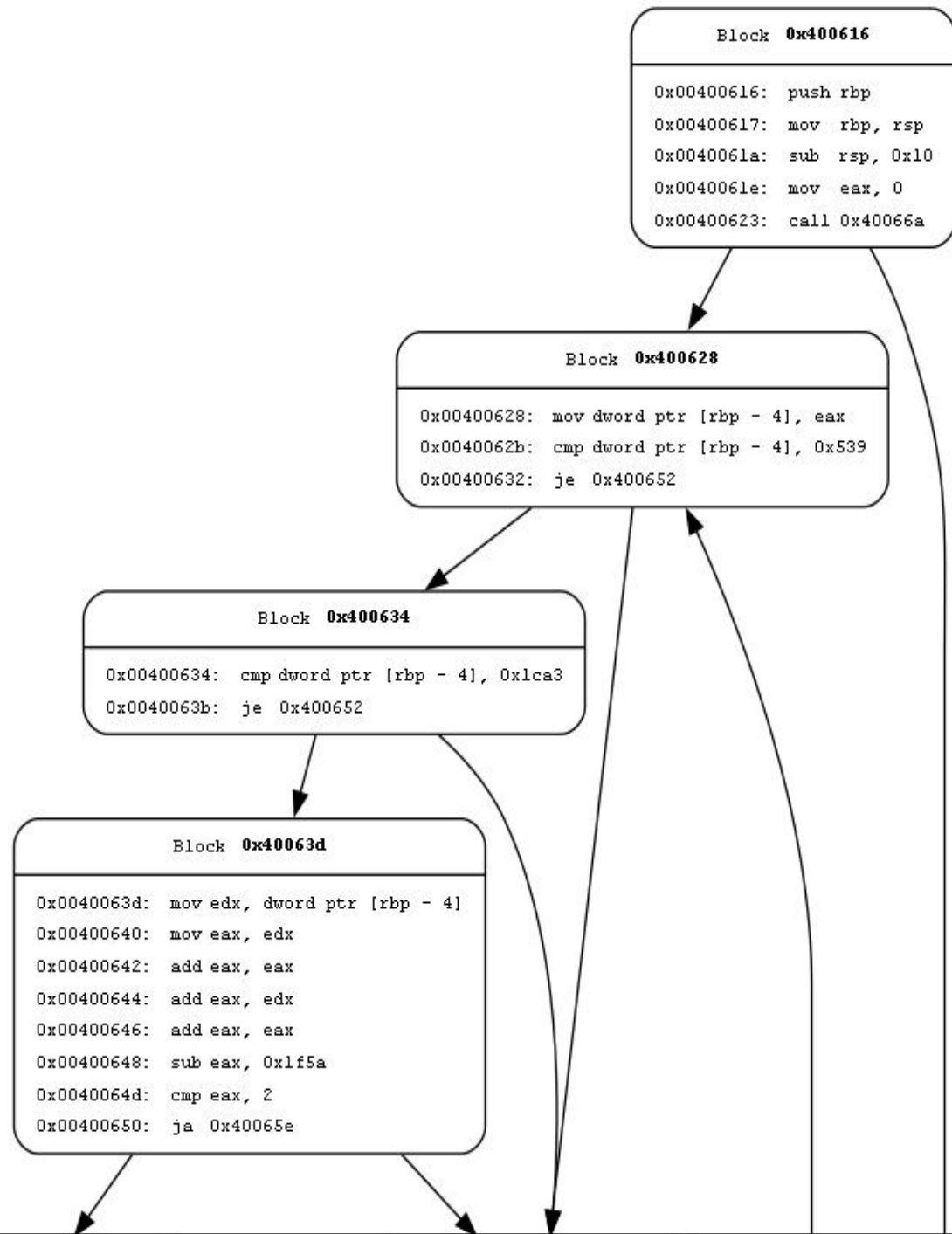




Image Based Method

- ❑ Image-based malware detection is a technique used to identify malware as an image file. This technique involves analyzing the contents of the image file to detect any embedded malicious code or hidden payloads.



Malware Samples to Images

Correspondence between the malware sample file size and the converted imaged width

File Size	Width	Height
≤10KB	32	(0, 312]
10KB-30KB	64	(156, 468]
30KB-60KB	128	(234, 468]
60KB-100KB	256	(234, 390]
100KB-200KB	384	(260, 520]
200KB-500KB	512	(390, 976]
500KB-1000KB	768	(651, 1302]
≥1000KB	1024	(976, ∞)

1

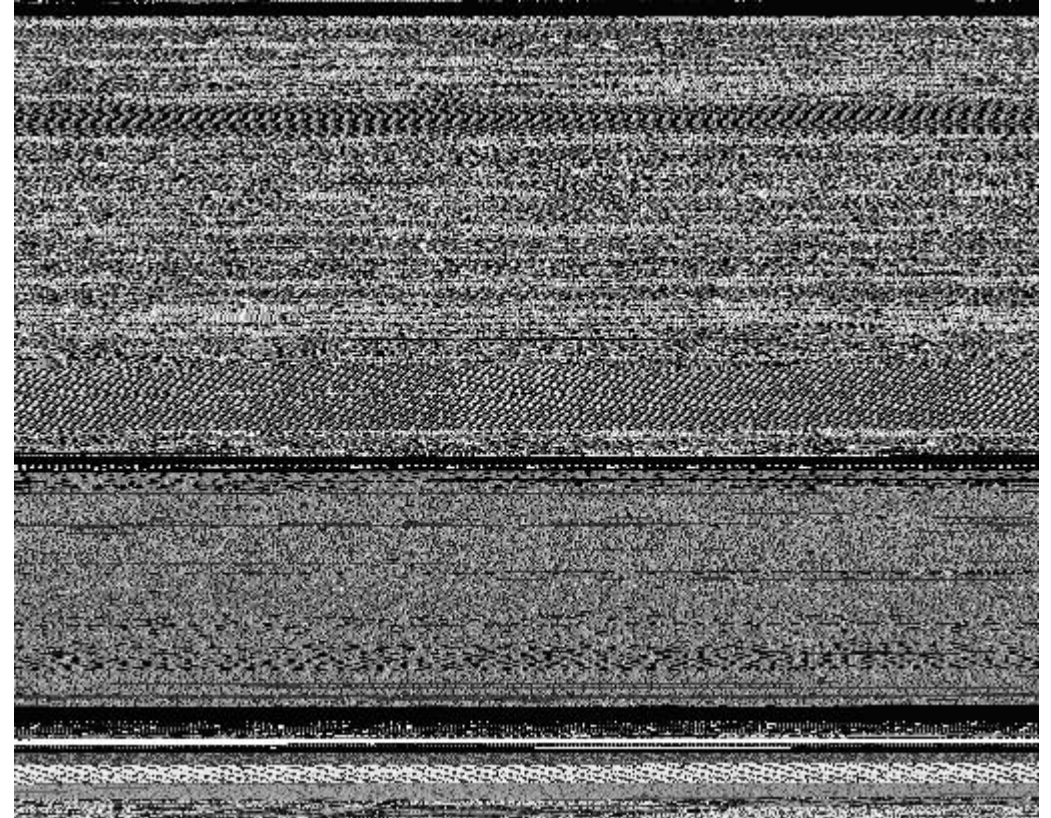
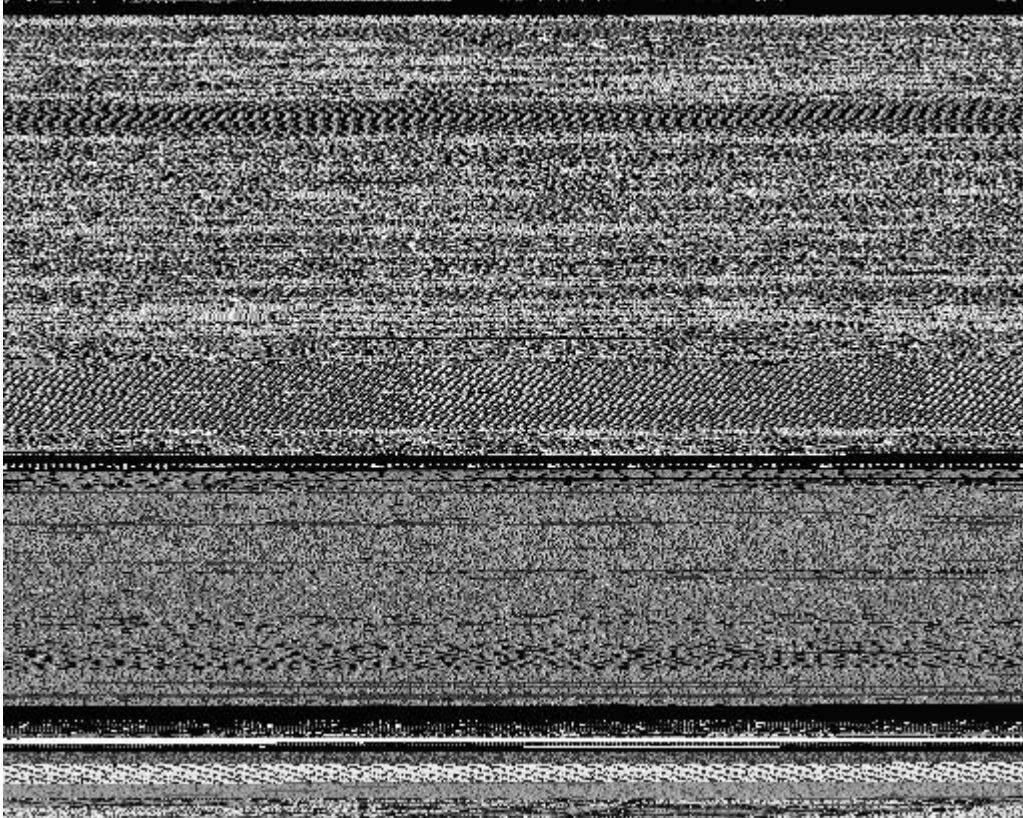
Sequentially reads the binary data in bytes and converts each byte into a number ranging in [0-255]

2

Reshape the image data by following a recommended fixed width with a variable height

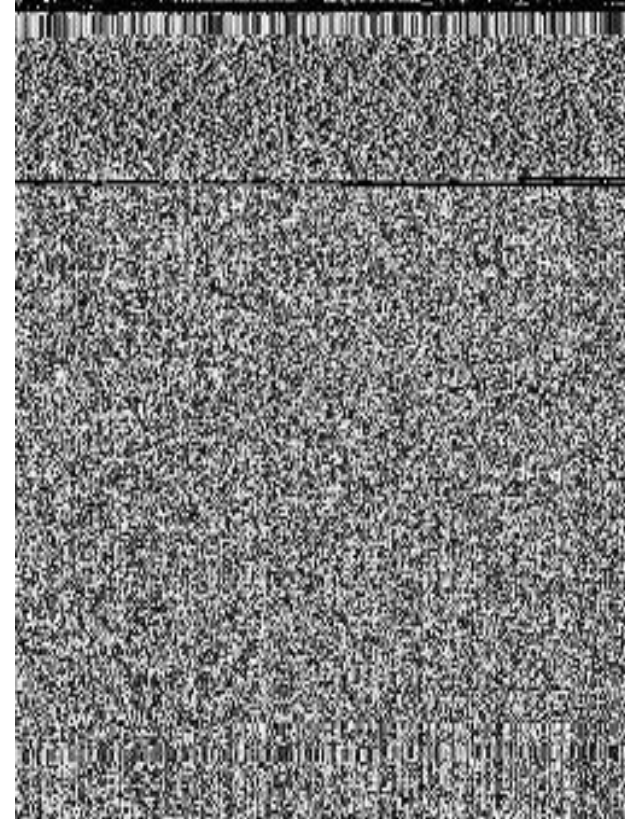
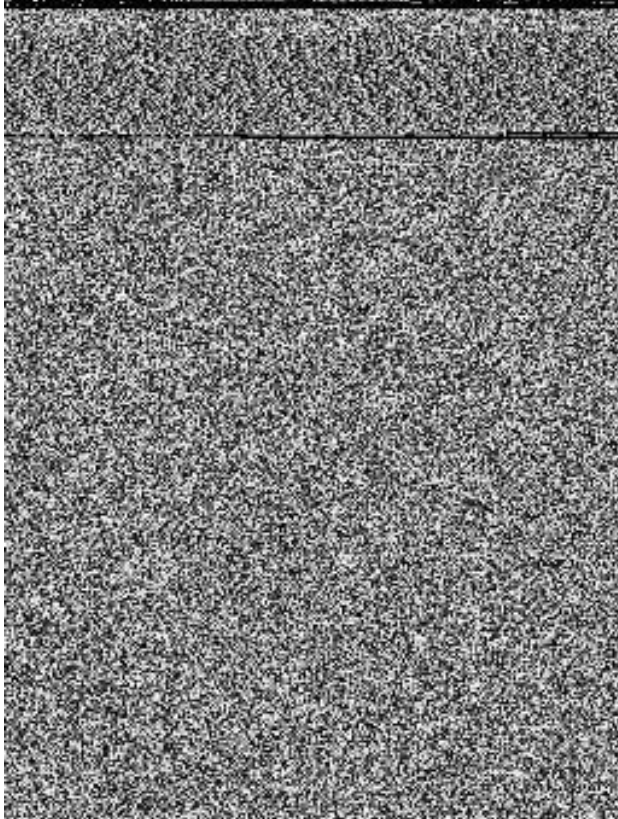


AdialerC7c2-AdialerC948





AllappleA43ad-AllappleAf4a



THE END

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