

## **Does Your Threat Model Consider Country and Culture?**

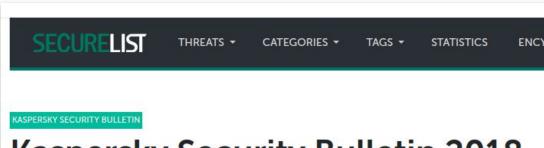
A Case Study of Brazilian Internet Banking Security to Show that it Should!





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#### The Year of...



## Kaspersky Security Bulletin 2018. Story of the year: miners

By Evgeny Lopatin on November 28, 2018. 10:00 am

- Kaspersky Security Bulletin 2018. Statistics
- Kaspersky Security Bulletin 2018. Top security stories
- Kaspersky Security Bulletin 2018. Threat Predictions for 2019

Cryptocurrency miners that infect the computers of unsuspecting users essentially operate according to the



Recommendations

## Companies will invest billions in...





#### In Brazil...



#### Years Later...





Implications

# The Brazilian Banking System

- Desktop-based Apps
- Web-based Apps
- Mobile-based Apps

# Let's Move Banking to Computers!



## Internet Banking Desktop Clients

- Local Background: Daily price changes due to high inflation. Hard to manually keep up with it.
- Technical Solution: Banks created Internet Banking Desktop apps with security configurations under their control.
- Attacker's Decision: Phishing Applications.



## **Internet Banking Desktop Clients**





**Implications** 

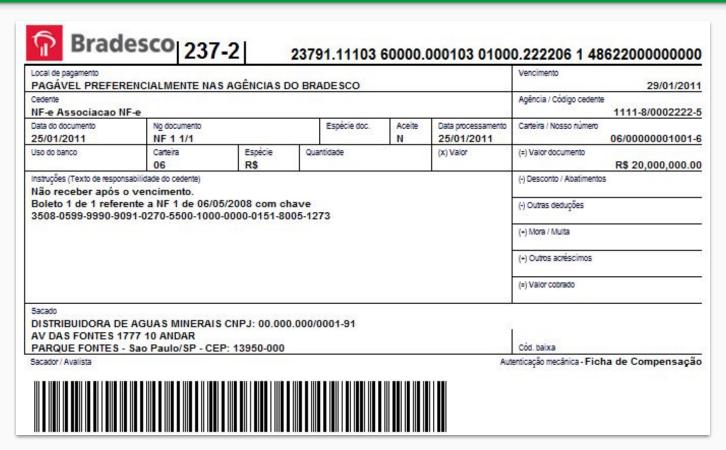
#### A Predictable Future

Today, 15:15

SUPORTE BB: Seu BB
PROTECAO Nao Foi
Ativado, Siga Orientacao no
awDG evite o
Cancelamento de seus acessos



#### The Boleto's case



## Boleto's Malware

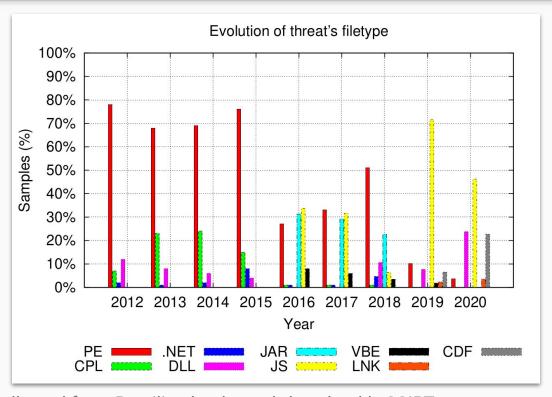
- Local Background: Banks were computerized, but the population was not.
- **Technical Solution:** A new payment method accessible both via digital and physical means.
- Attacker's Decision: Attackers created malware samples that modify the boleto's bar code before they are printed.



## Let's Move Banking to the Web!



### A Profusion of File Formats



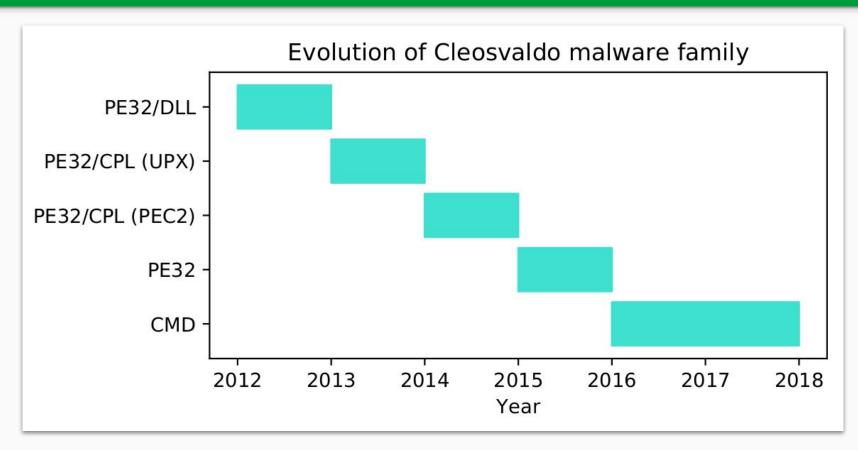
Source: 40K payloads collected from Brazilian bank user's by a bank's CSIRT. Paper: "One Size Does Not Fit All: A Longitudinal Analysis of Brazilian Financial Malware" ACM TOPS. 2020.

## Web-based Internet Banking

- Local Background: Not all bank customers have their own desktops, although some have access to the Internet via third party's computers.
- Technical Solution: Internet Banking moved to the Web via Java applets.
- Attacker's Decision: Attackers can now assume all computers have Java installed, so they developed Java malware.



## Tracking the Attackers



## Let's Move Banking to Mobile!



## The case of WhatsApp

- **Local Background:** Unrestricted data plans are expensive. Limited plans with unlimited Whatsapp access.
- Technical Solution: Let's support bank operations via Whatsapp messages.
- **Attacker's Decision:** Let's attack Whatsapp directly.



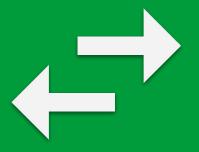
Paper: "The Internet Banking [in] Security Spiral: Past, Present, and Future of Online Banking Protection Mechanisms based on a Brazilian case study". ACM ARES 2019.

Saldo 11:35 V

11:35

Cc 11:36 V/

## Implications

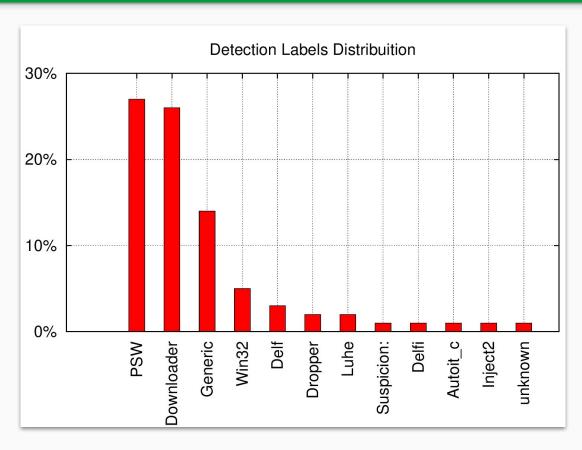


## A Scenarios Comparison

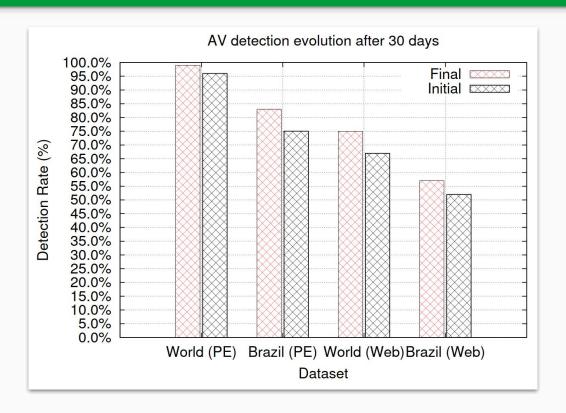
PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLES THAT EXHIBITED SPECIFIC BEHAVIORS IN [7]'S AND IN BR, US, AND JP 2017 DATASETS.

Behavior	Bayer et al.	BR	US	JP
Hosts file modification	1.97%	1.09%	0.04%	0.92%
File creation	70%	24%	64%	70%
File deletion	42%	12%	34%	34%
File modification	79%	16%	63%	46%
IE BHO installation	1.72%	1.03%	0%	0.59%
Network traffic	55%	96%	53%	52%
Registry key creation	64%	29%	48%	45%
Process creation	52%	16%	45%	50%
Setting AutoRun	35%	14%	22%	21%

### A Real Dataset



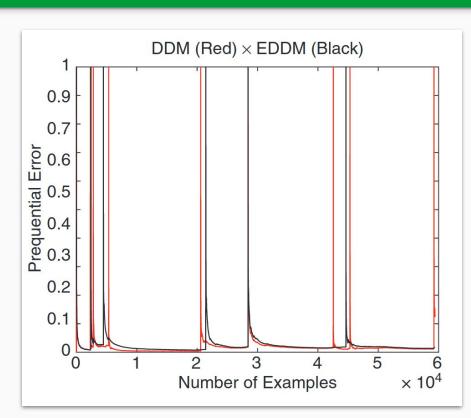
### Brazilian Malware vs. Antiviruses

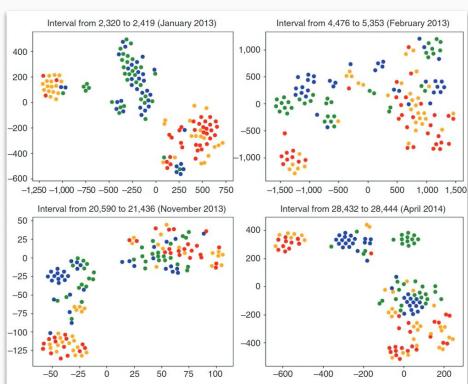


Paper: "We need to talk about antiviruses: challenges & pitfalls of AV evaluations" Computers & Security. 2020.

Recommendations

## Brazilian Malware vs. Machine Learning





Paper: "The Need for Speed: An Analysis of Brazilian Malware Classifiers" IEEE S&P Magazine 2018.

## Recommendations



## Recommendations

- Develop threat models that consider the regional and socio-cultural aspects of the targeted populations.
  - Representativity & Reproducibility guidelines
- Incentivize localized and focused research work with specific datasets.
  - More focused venues (e.g., ENIGMA)
- Promote security companies' local teams.
  - Easier when we are all Working From Home (WFH).
- Share local information with the World.
  - Where is your paper about the threat scenario in your country?



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## Thank you!

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