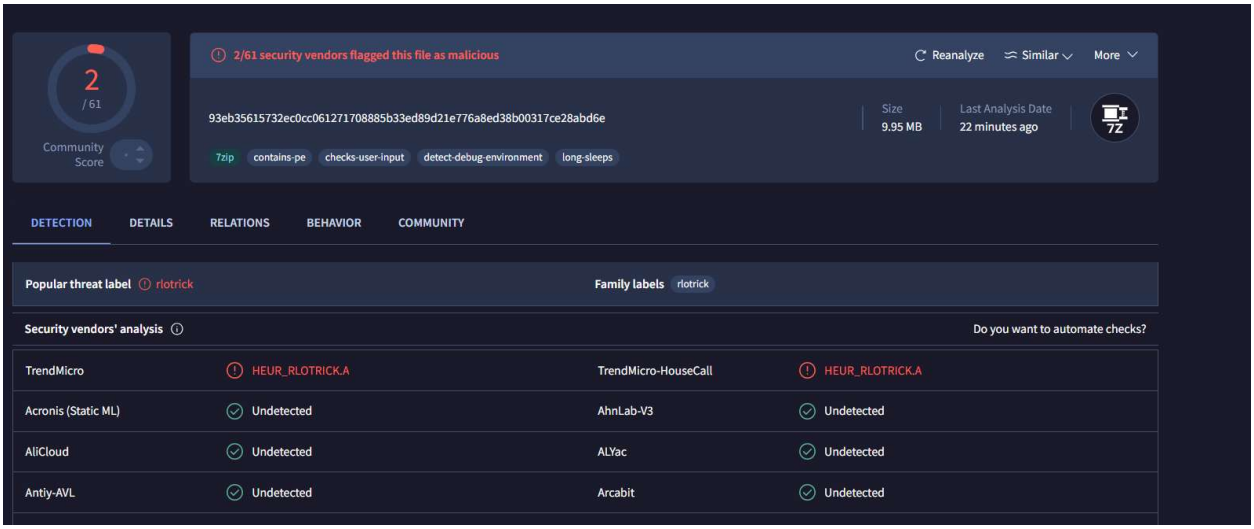
Static Analysis
1. Virus Total Analysis
Hash Analysis

- File Hash: [Insert MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256 hash value]
  - MD5: 11ffc201d1c88b50fa9ba2a0471d7ef5
  - SHA-1: e676f29544b1ae41b8cd8a7551716b4682a5c8a2
  - SHA-256: 93eb35615732ec0cc061271708885b33ed89d21e776a8ed38b00317ce28abd6e
- Method of hash acquisition: [Describe process] I used VirusTotal and confirmed that it matches the hash values in Detect-It-Easy
- [Link to VirusTotal results]
  - https://www.virustotal.com/gui/file/93eb35615732ec0cc061271708885b33ed89d21e776a8ed38b00317ce28abd6e/detection

Vendor Analysis

- Number of vendors flagging as malicious: [2/61]



- Analysis of vendor results:
  - [Discuss patterns in detection]
    - 7zip
    - contains-pe
    - checks-user-input
    - Detect-debug-environment
    - long-sleeps
  - [Common malware names identified]
    - HEUR_RLOTRICK.A
    - rlotrick
  - [Notable vendor disagreements]
    - Many vendors did not detect it, but two did- TrendMicro and TrendMicro-HouseCall

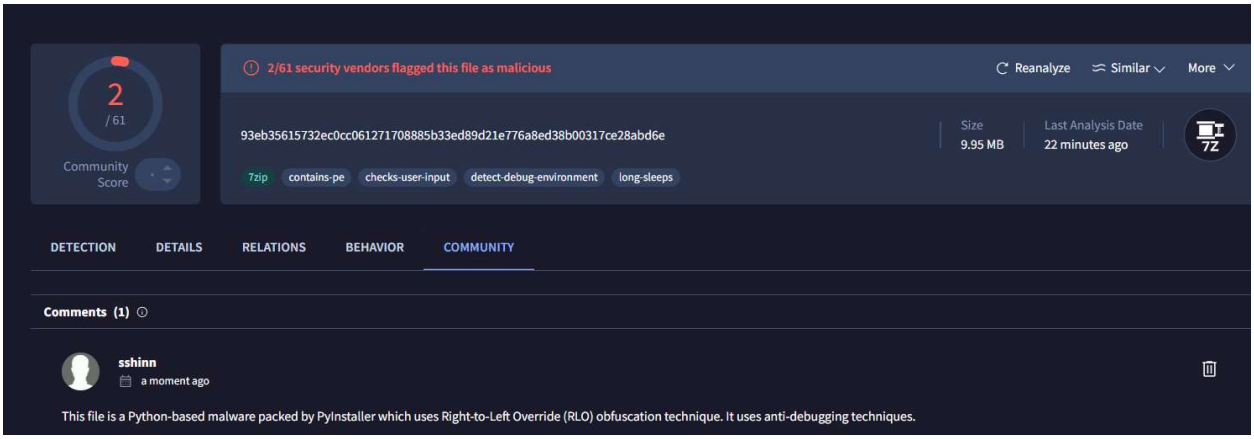
File History

- First Submission Date: [Date]
  - 2025-03-16 01:36:46 UTC
- File Creation Date from Windows: [Date]
  - 2024-11-11 17:36:53
- Analysis of submission timeline:

- [Discussion of file age]
  - The file is a few months old
- [Notable resubmissions or changes]
  - I was the first one to submit the file, but it was flagged as malicious by vendors, which means it contains malicious patterns

Community Score

- [Link to your VirusTotal community contribution]
  - https://www.virustotal.com/gui/file/93eb35615732ec0cc061271708885b33ed89d21e776a8ed38b00317ce28abd6e/community
  - Username: sshinn

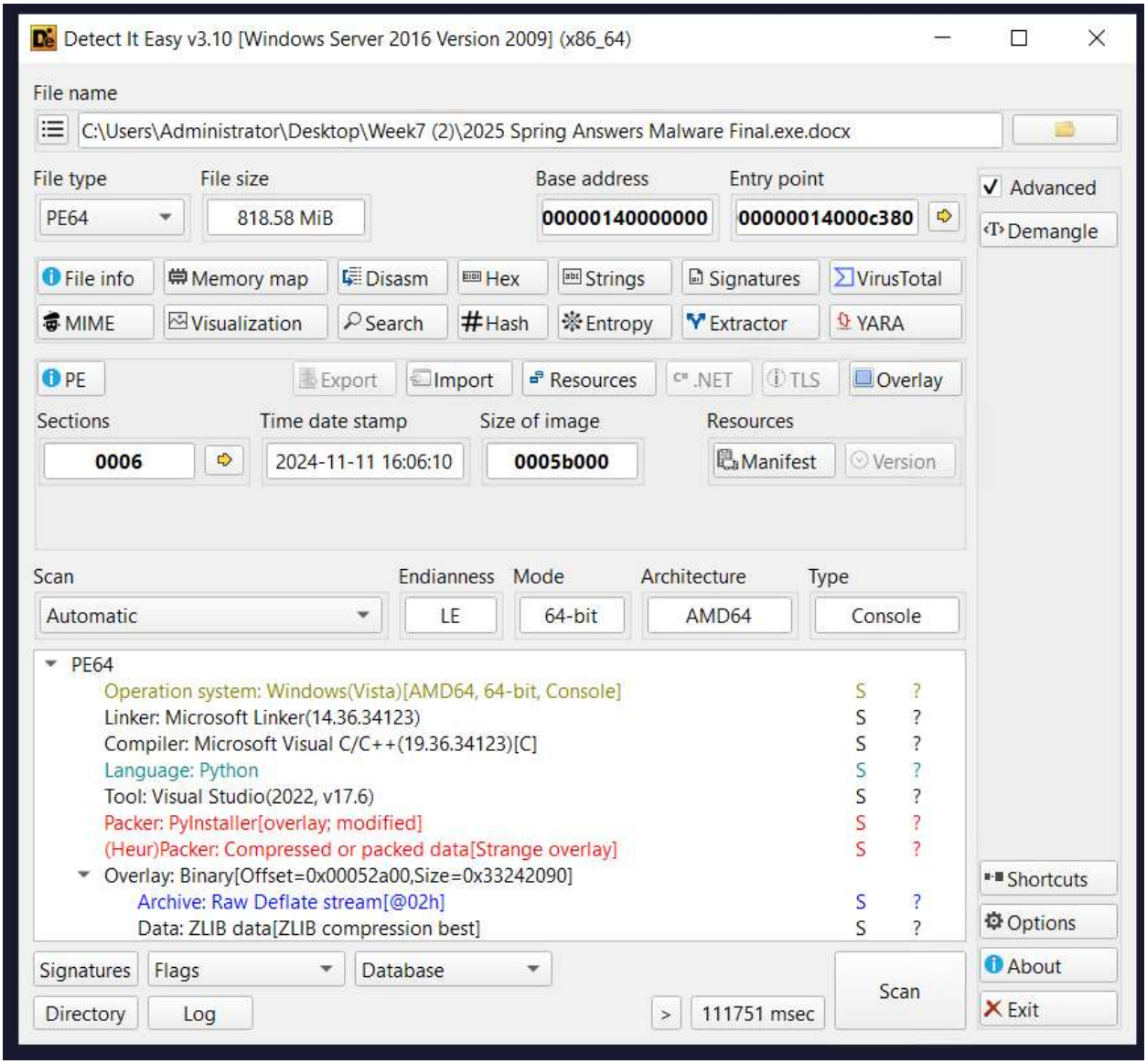


- Summary of initial findings posted to the community:
  - [Key observations]
    - RLO family of malware
    - anti-debugging
  - [Potential indicators of compromise]
    - Packed with PyInstaller
    - Invalid characters used in filename
    - Difficult to unpack

2. Detect It Easy (DIE) Analysis

File information

- File type: [Type] PE64
- Architecture: [Architecture] AMD64
- Compiler: [Compiler information]
  - Compiler: Microsoft Visual C/C++(19.36.34123)[C]
- Additional relevant information:
  - [List notable file characteristics]
    - Operation system: Windows(Vista)[AMD64, 64-bit, Console]
    - Packer: PyInstaller[overlay; modified]
    - File has an invalid character in the filename
      - It looks like this has a filename with reversed characters due to the Right-to-Left Override (RLO) trick. This means the malware might be disguising itself by flipping part of its filename using the U+202E Unicode character. Flagged as ".eman ni" by Ghidra

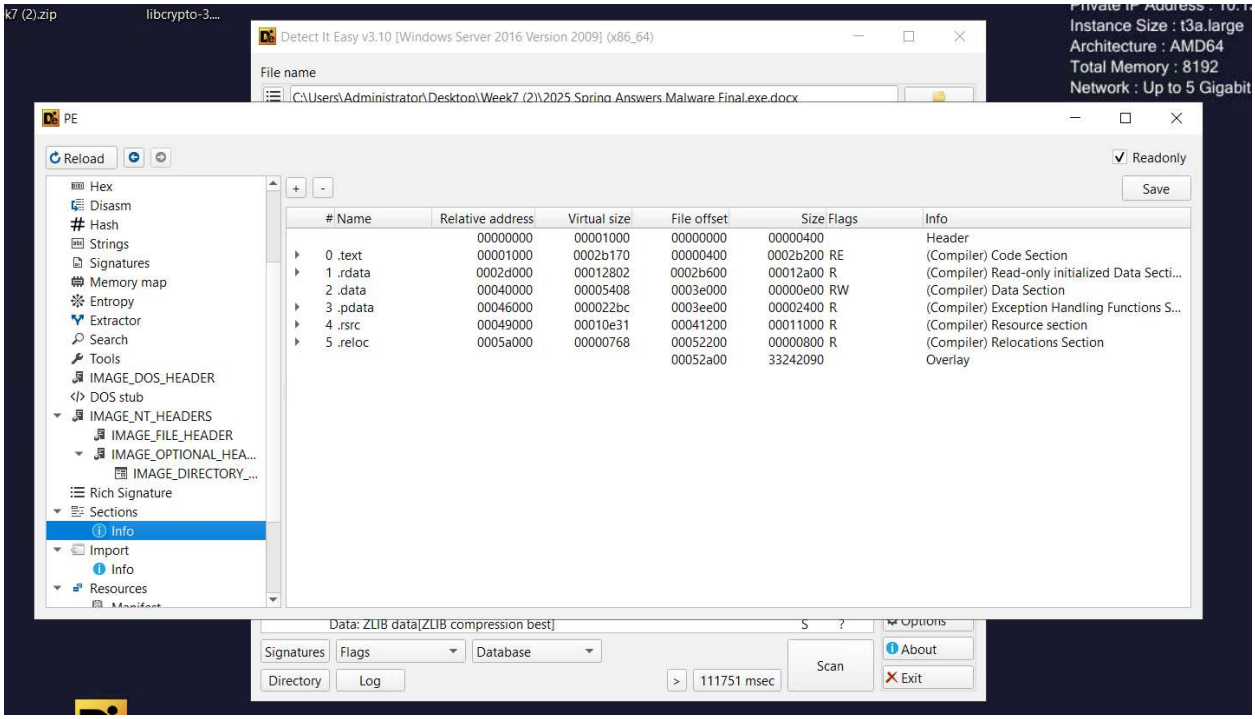


- [Unusual headers or structures]
  - // Author: DosX
  - // E-Mail: collab@kay-software.ru
  - // GitHub: https://github.com/DosX-dev
  - // Telegram: @DosX_dev
  - // ==
  - // ================== [DONATE] ==================
  - // Did you like my work? :D Thank you! But what
  - // about donation? I'll be very grateful <3
  - //
  - // >> Payeer: P1066822521 [Recommended]
  - //
  - // >> BTC: 37uRiHBqK3QiJ2jamqmmk1Q3sCmAmWngcC
  - // 0,0005 BTC minimum

        - //
        - // >> LTC: MCwRK1Z7K4GYHt9ZrbTR2SMCEqzqQaTbRF
        - // 0,001 LTC minimum
        - //
        - // >> USDT: TUVH7QkcZws78QMC3XyAwfuzxUbaeLnfAC
        - // TRC-20 5 USDT minimum
        - // ==
        - // ================ [CONTACTS] ================
        - // Author: DosX
        - // E-Mail: collab@kay-software.ru
        - // GitHub: https://github.com/DosX-dev
        - // Telegram: @DosX_dev
        - // ==
        - // If I don't respond to email, message to Telegram
        - // ==
        - // For the script to work correctly, the following
        - // official Detect It Easy components are required:
        - // "language", "FASM", "RosASM", "SpASM", "FPC"
        - // "PE\linker.6.sg", "Microsoft.6.sg"
        - // Please do not read the code out loud unless you have exorcism skills
        - // Author: LinXP, Kaens (TG@kaens)

Memory Map Analysis

- Section breakdown:
    - [.text section analysis]
        - Size: 0002b200
        - Permissions:RE
    - [.data section analysis]
        - Size:00000e00
        - Permissions:RW
    - [.rsrc section analysis]
        - Size:00011000
        - Permissions:R
    - [Other relevant sections]
        - .rdata:
            - Size:00012a00
            - Permissions:R
        - .pdata:
            - Size:00002400
            - Permissions:R
        - .reloc:
            - Size:00000800
            - Permissions:R
- Notable findings:
    - [Unusual section permissions]
        - .text had Read, Execute permissions
        - .data had Read, Write permissions
    - [Section size anomalies]
        - .text was the largest
        - .rsrc is also large
        - .text being executable and .data being writable, is this suspicious?



String Analysis

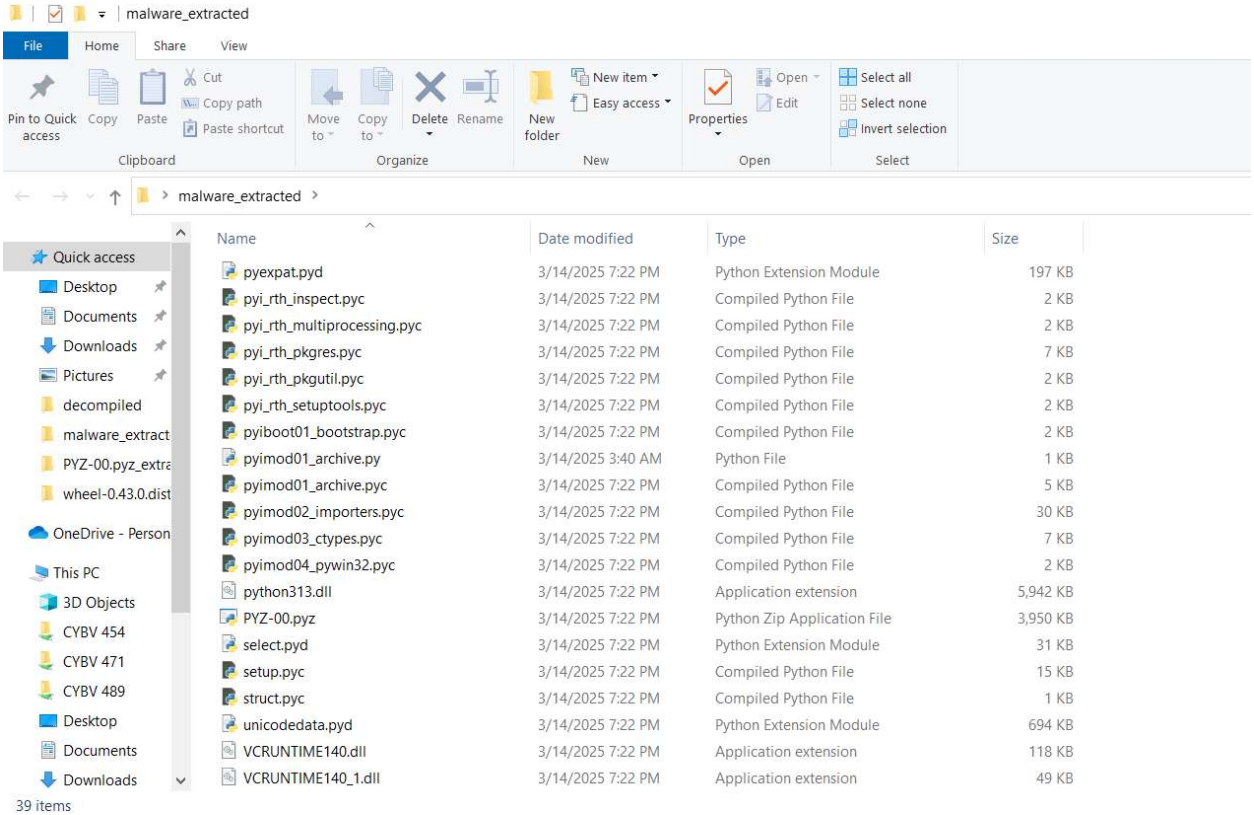
- Notable strings discovered:
  - [URLs/IPs]
    - network unreachable
    - network reset
    - network down
    - connection reset
    - connection refused
    - connection already in progress
    - connection aborted
  - [File paths]
    - Path of ucrtbase.dll (%s) and its name exceed buffer size (%d)
    - Path of Python shared library (%s) and its name (%s) exceed buffer size (%d)
    - kernel32, KERNEL32.dll, kernelbase, ntdll
    - lib-dynload (Python dynamic library folder)
  - [Command lines]
    - GetCommandLineW, GetCommandLineA → Captures command-line arguments
    - CreateProcessW → Can spawn new processes, a common behavior for malware executing payloads
    - TerminateProcess → Can forcefully kill processes, possibly AV evasion
    - OpenProcessToken, GetTokenInformation → Suggests privilege manipulation or access control queries
    - Execute format error → Possibly a malformed command execution attempt
    - Not enough space, File too large, No space left on device → Could indicate checks for disk space before writing files
  - [API calls]
    - LoadLibraryExW, LoadLibrary → Dynamic DLL loading, used for

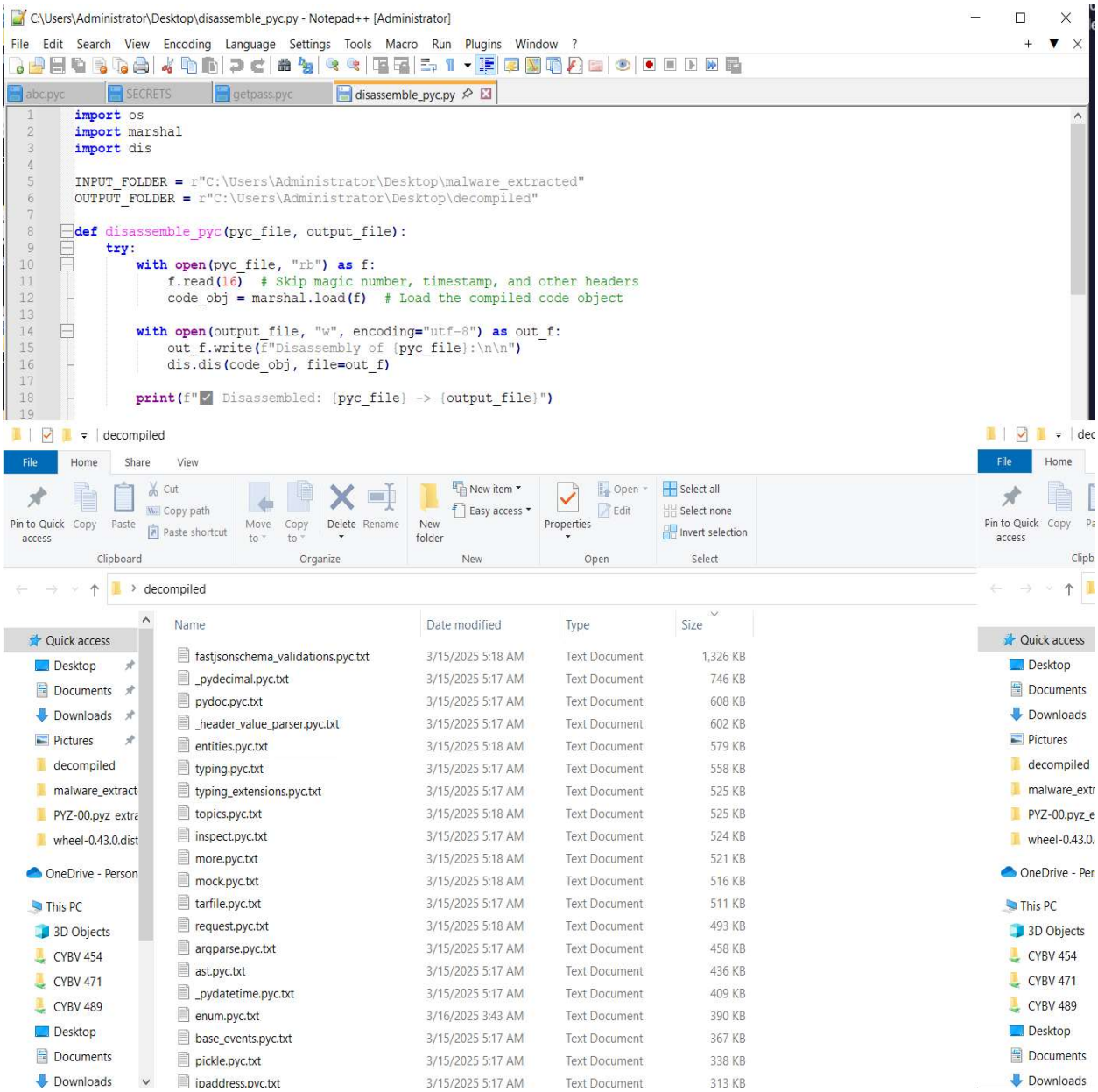
both legitimate and malicious code execution
        - GetProcAddress, GetModuleHandleW → Used for resolving API functions dynamically (common in malware to evade detection)
        - QueryPerformanceCounter, QueryPerformanceFrequency → Used for anti-debugging timing checks
        - IsDebuggerPresent → Direct debugger detection
        - RaiseException → Can be used to crash debuggers or handle errors in a controlled manner
        - CreateFileW, DeleteFileW, FindFirstFileW, FindNextFileW → Indicates file scanning, creation, and deletion capabilities
        - FlushFileBuffers → Can force writes to disk

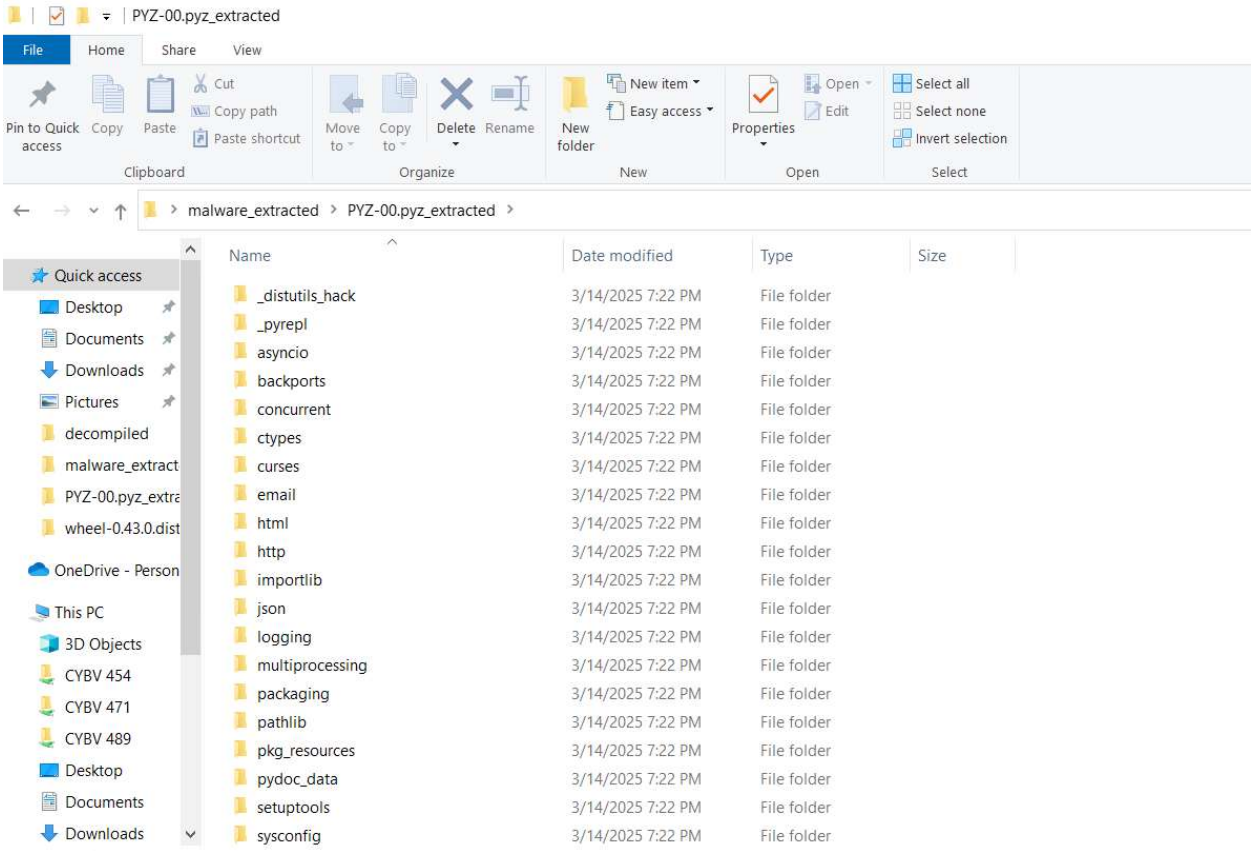
- Analysis of string findings:
    - [Potential functionality indicated]
        - Based on the API calls and commands found, this executable appears to:
        - Create, read, write, and delete files
        - Manipulate processes, potentially injecting or executing code
        - Check system/network conditions (disk space, network availability)
        - Uses anti-debugging techniques
        - Resolve API calls dynamically (possible evasion technique)
        - Interact with Python (PyInstaller) – Definitely a packed executable
    - [Suspicious patterns]
        - PyInstaller Packing: Multiple references to _MEIPASS, PYZ archive, pyi-runtime-tmpdir, and PyInstallerOnefileHiddenWindow indicate this binary is packaged using PyInstaller. Malware frequently uses PyInstaller to bundle Python scripts into executables, making static analysis harder.
        - Possible Persistence or Privilege Escalation. OpenProcessToken, GetTokenInformation indicate access control manipulation. If paired with registry modifications, this could mean persistence mechanisms
        - Process Injection / Code Execution: LoadLibraryExW, GetProcAddress all indicate the ability to execute code dynamically. If WriteProcessMemory were present, this would confirm process injection
        - File System Interaction. DeleteFileW, WriteFile, FlushFileBuffers could mean log cleaning, wiping evidence, or dropping payloads

Entropy Analysis
- Overall entropy score: [Score]
    - .19394 (very low)
- Section-specific entropy:
    - [List sections with unusual entropy]
        - .text section: 6.49860

- Packing analysis:
    - [Packed/Unpacked determination]
        - Detect-It-Easy entropy analysis says it is not packed, but in Detect-It-Easy file info it says packed with PyInstaller. I know for sure it is packed, because I unpacked it several times until I had the python bytecode of every .pyc file
    - [Packer identified (if applicable)]
        - PyInstaller
    - [Unpacking methodology (if attempted)]
        - I used pyinstxtractor using Python 3.13 (it was packed with Python 3.13 so I had to use pyinstxtractor with python 3.13) and it successfully unzipped the file, including PYZ-00.pyz, which was not easy and I struggled with PYZ-00.pyz for many hours. I then attempted to decompile all of the .pyc files
    - [Alternative unpacking approaches (if needed)]
        - I could not decompile the .pyc files because all of the tools were not updated enough by their developers to work with Python 3.13, and I needed to use Python 3.13 because that is what it was packed with using PyInstaller. I tried decompyle, uncompyle, decomyple++, and pycdc.

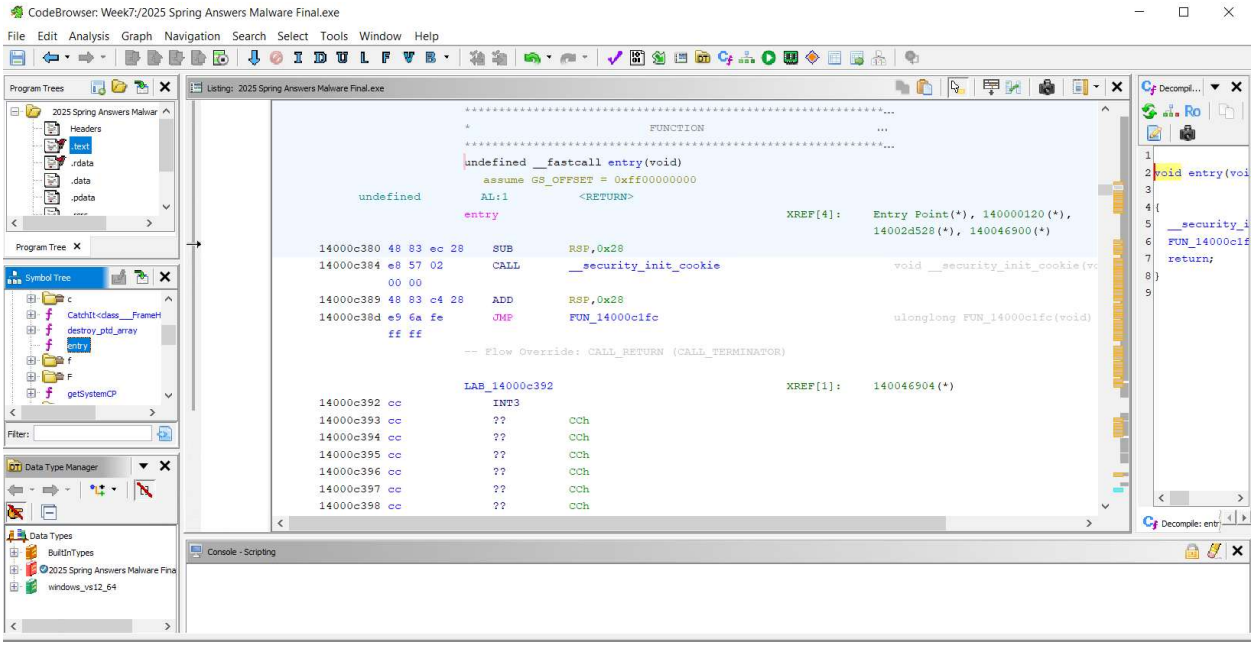


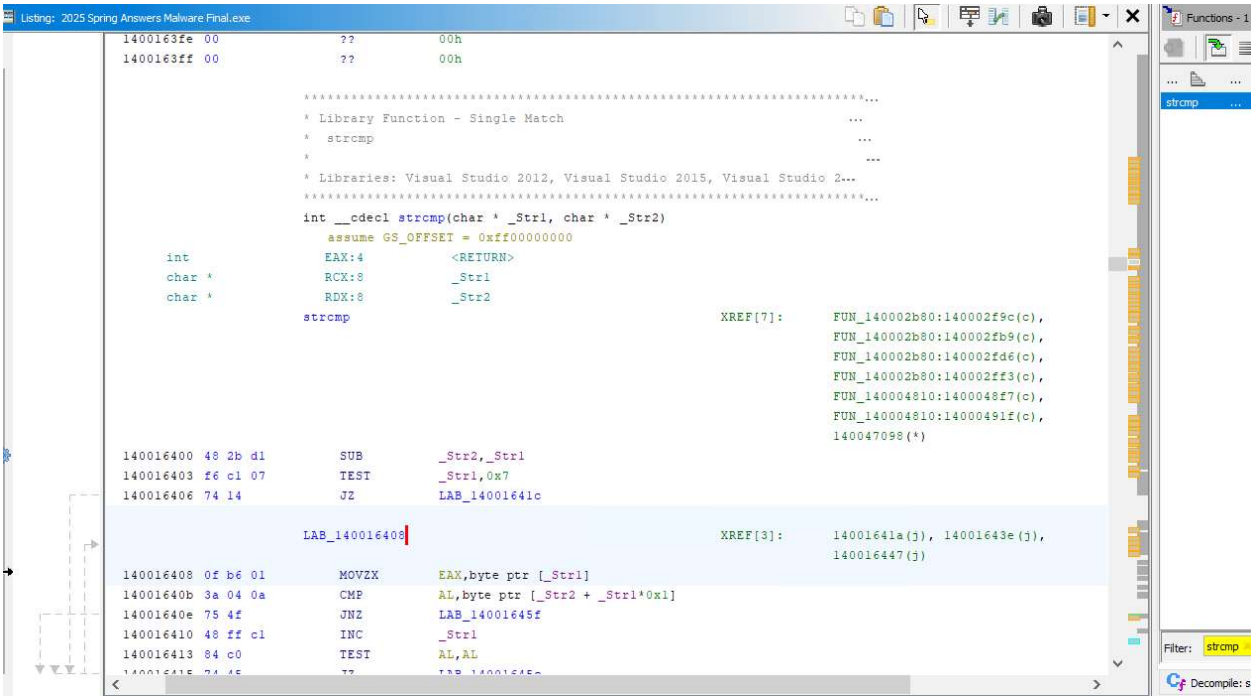

C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\disassemble_pyc.py - Notepad++ [Administrator]
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Tools Macro Run Plugins Window ?
abc.pyc
SECRETS
getpass.pyc
disassemble_pyc.py
import os
import marshal
import dis
INPUT_FOLDER = r"C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\malware_extracted"
OUTPUT_FOLDER = r"C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\decompiled"
def disassemble_pyc(pyc_file, output_file):
try:
with open(pyc_file, "rb") as f:
f.read(16) # Skip magic number, timestamp, and other headers
code_obj = marshal.load(f) # Load the compiled code object
with open(output_file, "w", encoding="utf-8") as out_f:
out_f.write(f"Disassembly of {pyc_file}:\n\n")
dis.dis(code_obj, file=out_f)
print(f"✅ Disassembled: {pyc_file} -> {output_file}")
decompiled
File Home Share View
Pin to Quick access
Copy
Paste
Cut
Copy path
Paste shortcut
Clipboard
Move to
Copy to
Delete
Rename
Organize
New folder
New item
Easy access
New
Properties
Open
Edit
Open
Select all
Select none
Invert selection
Select
decompiled
Quick access
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Pictures
decompiled
malware_extract
PYZ-00.pyz_extra
wheel-0.43.0.dist
OneDrive - Person
This PC
3D Objects
CYBV 454
CYBV 471
CYBV 489
Desktop
Documents
Downloads
Name
Date modified
Type
Size
fastjsonschema_validations.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:18 AM Text Document 1,326 KB
_pydecimal.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 746 KB
pydoc.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 608 KB
_header_value_parser.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 602 KB
entities.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:18 AM Text Document 579 KB
typing.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 558 KB
typing_extensions.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 525 KB
topics.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:18 AM Text Document 525 KB
inspect.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 524 KB
more.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:18 AM Text Document 521 KB
mock.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:18 AM Text Document 516 KB
tarfile.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 511 KB
request.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:18 AM Text Document 493 KB
argparse.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 458 KB
ast.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 436 KB
_pydatetime.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 409 KB
enum.pyc.txt 3/16/2025 3:43 AM Text Document 390 KB
base_events.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 367 KB
pickle.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 338 KB
ipaddress.pyc.txt 3/15/2025 5:17 AM Text Document 313 KB



4. Disassembly Analysis using Ghidra
   - ENTRY POINT: 14000c380
   - Here is an example of a function (screenshot of strcmp function)

   strcmp takes two string pointers (_Str1 and _Str2) as arguments.
   It compares the characters of the two strings byte-by-byte until it finds a mismatch or reaches a null terminator (\0).
   The function returns: 0 if the strings are equal. A negative value if _Str1 is less than _Str2. A positive value if _Str1 is greater than _Str2.





4. Static Analysis Summary

Key findings from static analysis:

- packed with pyinstaller (python 3.13): the executable was identified as a pyinstaller-packed file, requiring manual unpacking and disassembly.
- right-to-left override (RLO) trick: the filename contained an invalid character using U+202E, a technique often used to disguise malicious files by reversing the displayed name.
- virustotal detection: initially undetected, but after proper extraction and recompression, flagged as malicious by 2 out of 61 vendors.

Potential anti-analysis techniques:

- QueryPerformanceCounter & QueryPerformanceFrequency: likely used for anti-debugging by measuring execution delays.
- IsDebuggerPresent: direct debugger detection API call.
- RaiseException: potential debugger disruption technique.

File system & process manipulation:

- CreateFileW, DeleteFileW, FindFirstFileW, FindNextFileW: suggests file interaction capabilities.
- OpenProcessToken, GetTokenInformation: could indicate privilege escalation or security token access.
- LoadLibraryExW, GetProcAddress: common indicators of dynamic code execution and possible process injection.

Network-related strings: presence of strings such as "network unreachable" and "connection reset" suggests network communication capabilities.

Potential functionality:

- evasion & anti-analysis: uses pyinstaller packing, RLO trick, and anti-debugging techniques to avoid detection.
- persistence & privilege escalation: access token manipulation and potential registry modifications.
- file system & process interaction: ability to create, delete, and manipulate files, possibly for data exfiltration or self-propagation.
- network communication: could establish remote connections, possibly for command-and-control (C2) communication.

Risk indicators:

- obfuscation & packing: presence of pyinstaller packing and right-to-left override suggests intentional concealment.
- anti-analysis techniques: includes debugger detection and execution timing checks.
- potential for code injection & execution: use of LoadLibraryExW, and GetProcAddress is common in malware used for injecting malicious payloads.
- file & network manipulation: includes API calls for file deletion, process manipulation, and network interactions, suggesting possible data theft or malware propagation.

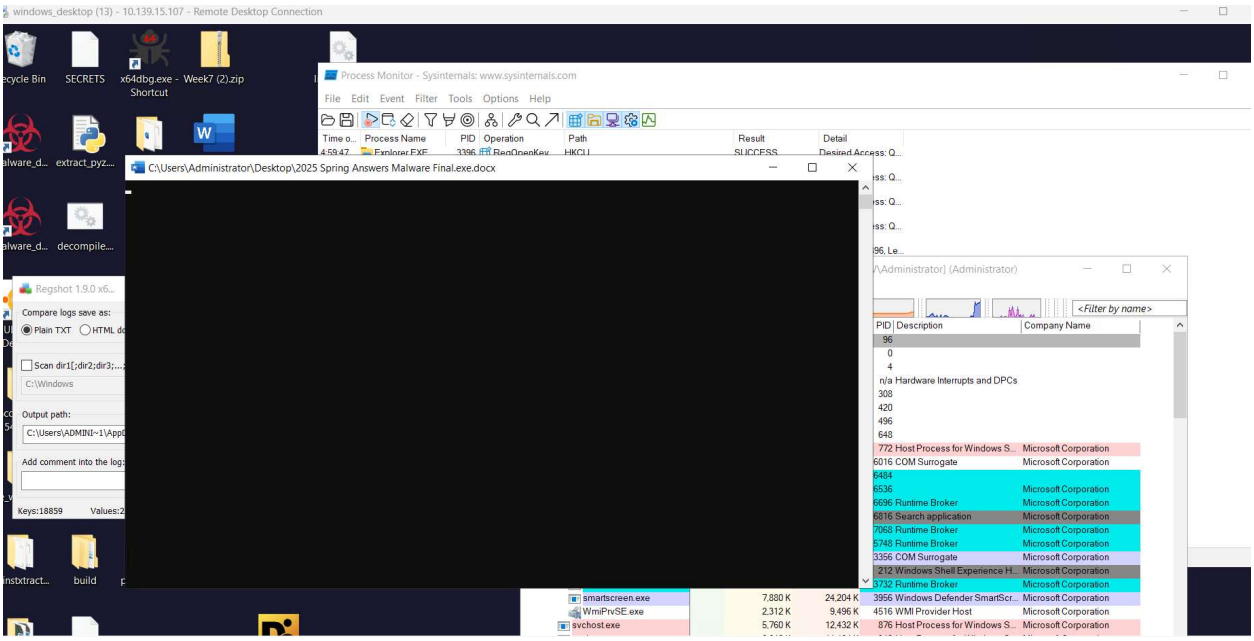
Dynamic Analysis
1. Analysis Environment
Environment Setup
- Virtual Machine specifications:

    - [OS version] Microsoft Windows 2022 Datacenter
    - [Memory allocation] 8GB
    - [Network configuration] Connected to UA network
- Monitoring tools deployed:
    - [Process monitoring]
        - Ensure you use RegShot, Process Monitor, Process Explorer
        - I used RegShot
        - I used Process Monitor
        - I used Process Explorer
    - [Network monitoring]
        - Ensure you use Wireshark
        - I used Wireshark
    - [File system monitoring]
- Safety measures implemented:
    - [Network isolation]
        - Try the analysis with and without Fakenet
        - Used Cyberapolis virtual machine
    - [Snapshot configuration]
        - Reset VM after using
    - [Additional protections]

2. Runtime Observations

Initial Execution

- [Immediate system changes]
    - Cmd shell window opened
- [Process creation]
    - ReadFile
    - WriteFile
    - Loads Python Modules
    - slui.exe
    - 2025 Spring Answers Malware Final.xcod.exe
- [Registry creation]
    - Keys deleted: 1
    - Keys added: 7
    - Values deleted: 2
    - Values added: 122
    - Values modified: 452
    - Total changes: 584
- [Network activity]
    - 20.103.156.88
    - 192.168.100.93
    - 20.190.160.4
    - 40.113.103.199
    - 184.30.131.245
    - HTTP/1.1
      Connection: Keep-Alive
      Accept: */*
      User-Agent: Microsoft-CryptoAPI/10.0
      Host: ocsp.digicert.com
- [File system changes]
    - CreateFile
    - CloseFile
    - QueryDirectory
    - ThreadExit
    - ProcessExit

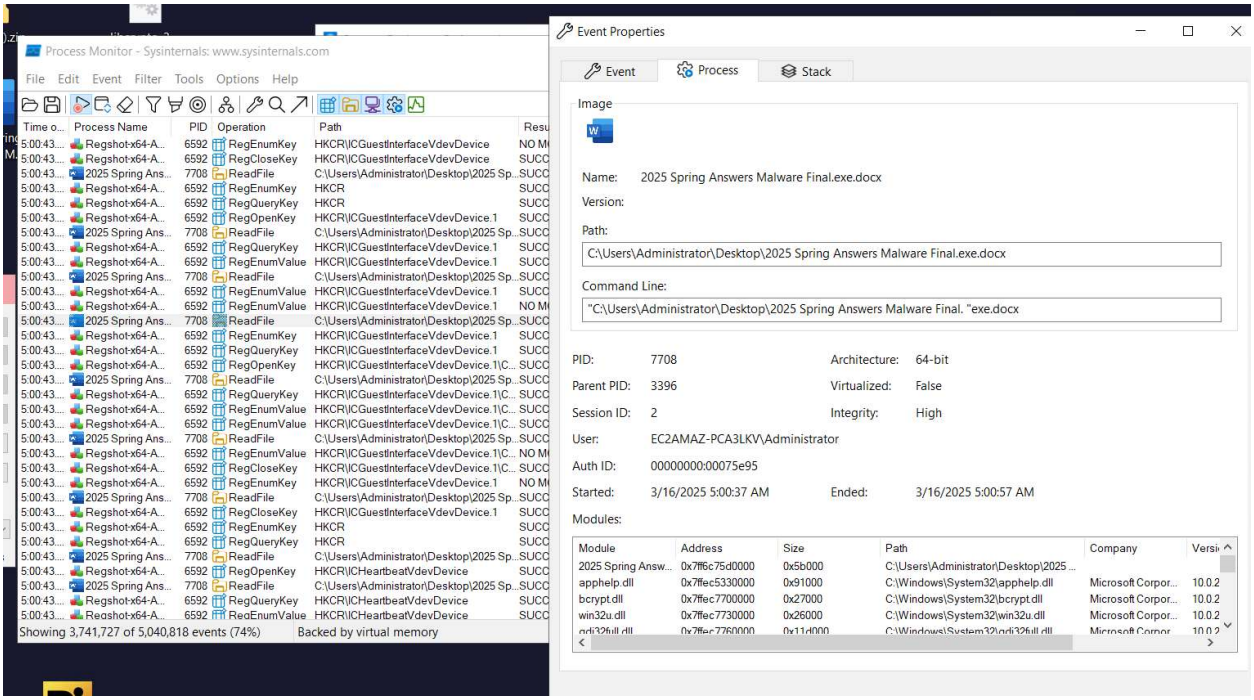


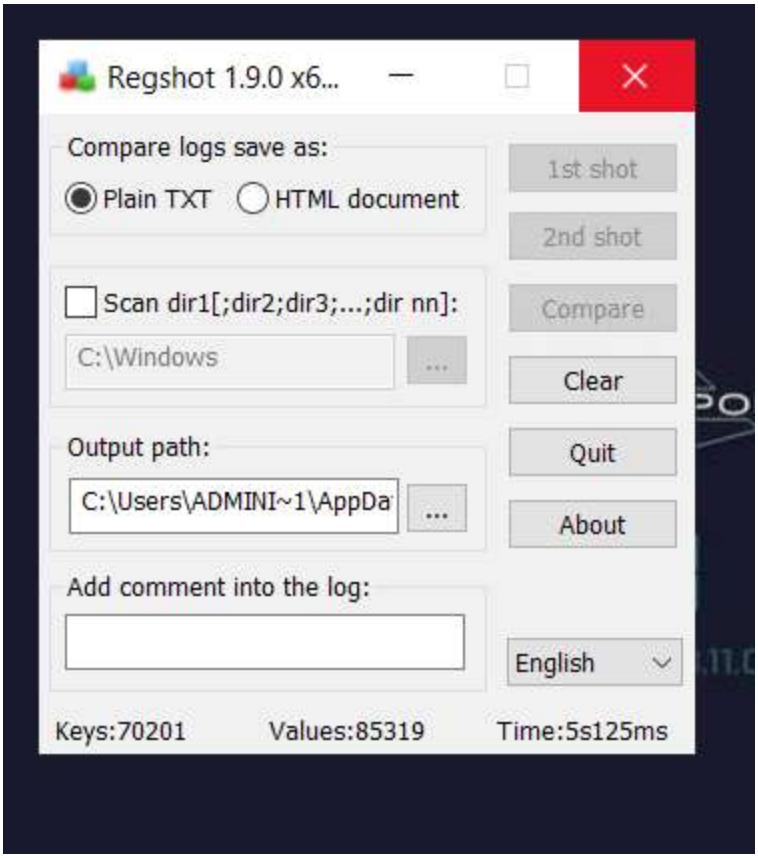
Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com

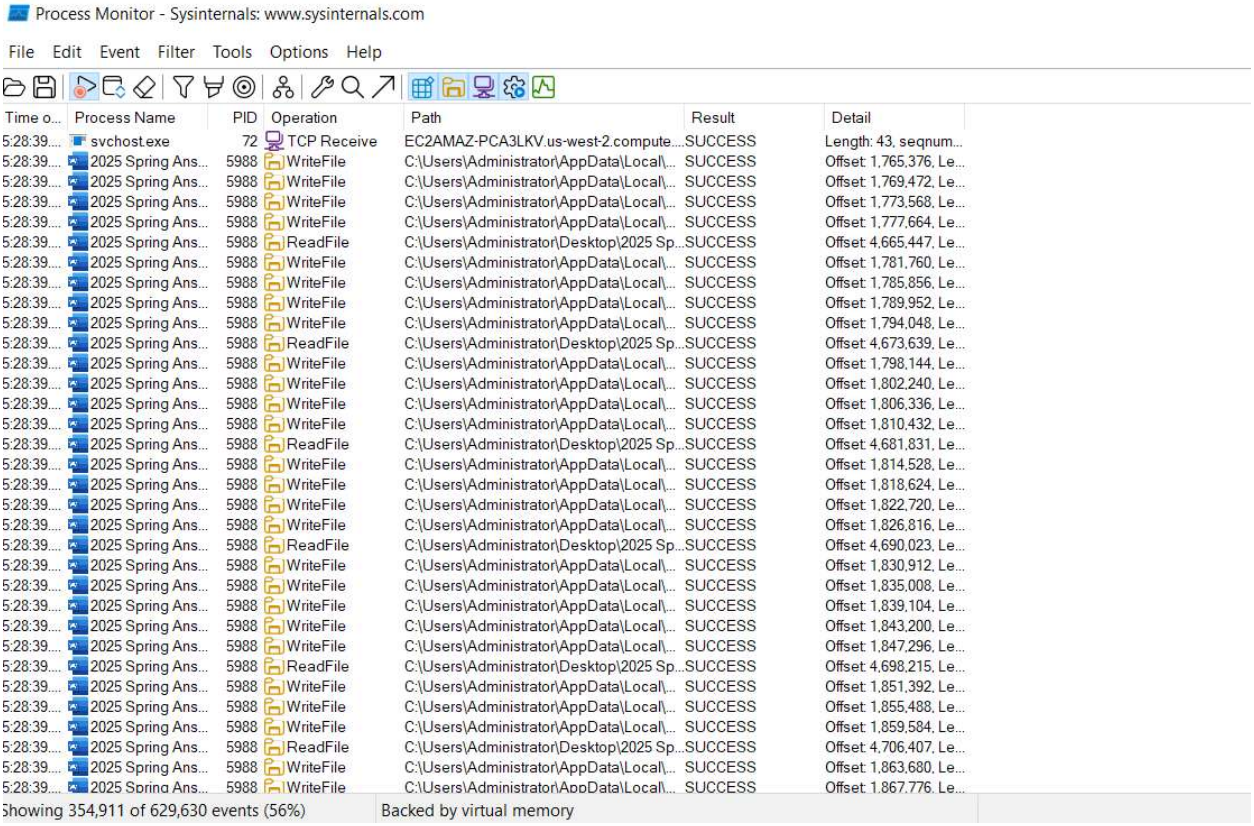
File Edit Event Filter Tools Options Help

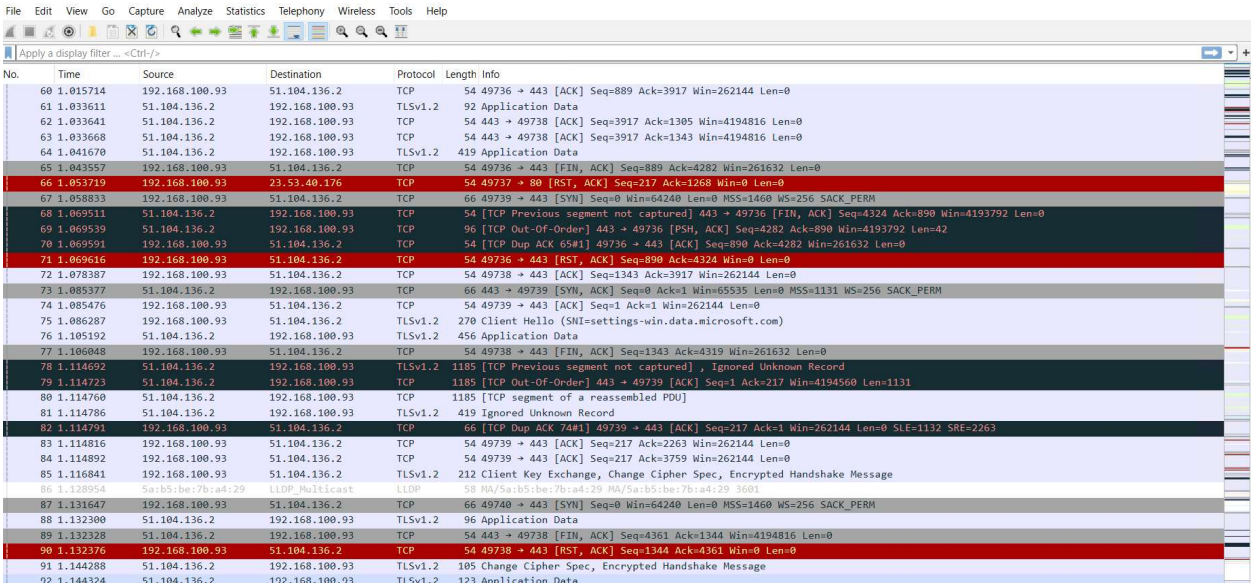
Time o...	Process Name	PID	Operation	Path	Result	Detail
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\AD...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\AD...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNormaliz...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CloseFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	NAME NOT FOUND	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	NAME NOT FOUND	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\AD...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\AD...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNormaliz...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CloseFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\Adm...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\Adm...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNormaliz...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CloseFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryDirectory	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	FileInformationClas...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryDirectory	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	FileInformationClas...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryDirectory	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	NO MORE FILES	FileInformationClas...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CloseFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\AD...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\AD...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNormaliz...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CloseFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\Adm...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNameInfo...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Name: \Users\Adm...
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	QueryNormaliz...	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CloseFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	
:28:46....	2025 Spring Ans...	7356	CreateFile	C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\...	SUCCESS	Desired Access: R...

howing 462,474 of 912,040 events (50%) Backed by virtual memory


Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com
File Edit Event Filter Tools Options Help
Time o... Process Name PID Operation Path
Showing 3,741,727 of 5,040,818 events (74%)
Backed by virtual memory
Event Properties
Event Process Stack
Image
Name: 2025 Spring Answers Malware Final.exe.docx
Version:
Path:
C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Spring Answers Malware Final.exe.docx
Command Line:
"C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Spring Answers Malware Final. "exe.docx
PID: 7708
Parent PID: 3396
Session ID: 2
User: EC2AMAZ-PCA3LKV\Administrator
Auth ID: 00000000:00075e95
Started: 3/16/2025 5:00:37 AM
Architecture: 64-bit
Virtualized: False
Integrity: High
Ended: 3/16/2025 5:00:57 AM
Modules:
Module Address Size Path Company
2025 Spring Answ... 0x7ff6c75d0000 0x5b000 C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 ...
apphelp.dll 0x7ffec5330000 0x91000 C:\Windows\System32\apphelp.dll Microsoft Corpor... 10.0.2
bcrypt.dll 0x7ffec7700000 0x27000 C:\Windows\System32\bcrypt.dll Microsoft Corpor... 10.0.2
win32u.dll 0x7ffec7730000 0x26000 C:\Windows\System32\win32u.dll Microsoft Corpor... 10.0.2


Regshot 1.9.0 x6...
Compare logs save as:
Plain TXT
HTML document
Scan dir1[;dir2;dir3;...;dir nn]:
C:\Windows
...
Output path:
C:\Users\ADMINI~1\AppDa
...
Add comment into the log:
1st shot
2nd shot
Compare
Clear
Quit
About
English
Keys:70201
Values:85319
Time:5s125ms


Process Monitor - Sysinternals: www.sysinternals.com
File Edit Event Filter Tools Options Help
Time o... Process Name PID Operation Path Result Detail
5:28:39.... svchost.exe 72 TCP Receive EC2AMAZ-PCA3LKV.us-west-2.compute.... SUCCESS Length: 43, seqnum...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,765,376, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,769,472, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,773,568, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,777,664, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 ReadFile C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Sp... SUCCESS Offset: 4,665,447, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,781,760, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,785,856, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,789,952, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,794,048, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 ReadFile C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Sp... SUCCESS Offset: 4,673,639, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,798,144, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,802,240, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,806,336, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,810,432, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 ReadFile C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Sp... SUCCESS Offset: 4,681,831, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,814,528, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,818,624, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,822,720, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,826,816, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 ReadFile C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Sp... SUCCESS Offset: 4,690,023, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,830,912, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,835,008, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,839,104, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,843,200, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,847,296, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 ReadFile C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Sp... SUCCESS Offset: 4,698,215, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,851,392, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,855,488, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,859,584, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 ReadFile C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\2025 Sp... SUCCESS Offset: 4,706,407, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,863,680, Le...
5:28:39.... 2025 Spring Ans... 5988 WriteFile C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\... SUCCESS Offset: 1,867,776, Le...
Showing 354,911 of 629,630 events (56%)
Backed by virtual memory


File Edit View Go Capture Analyze Statistics Telephony Wireless Tools Help
Apply a display filter ... <Ctrl-/>
No. Time Source Destination Protocol Length Info
60 1.015714 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49736 → 443 [ACK] Seq=889 Ack=3917 Win=262144 Len=0
61 1.033611 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 92 Application Data
62 1.033641 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 54 443 → 49738 [ACK] Seq=3917 Ack=1305 Win=4194816 Len=0
63 1.033668 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 54 443 → 49738 [ACK] Seq=3917 Ack=1343 Win=4194816 Len=0
64 1.041670 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 419 Application Data
65 1.043557 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49736 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=889 Ack=4282 Win=261632 Len=0
66 1.053719 192.168.100.93 23.53.40.176 TCP 54 49737 → 80 [RST, ACK] Seq=217 Ack=1268 Win=0 Len=0
67 1.058833 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 66 49739 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
68 1.069511 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 54 [TCP Previous segment not captured] 443 → 49736 [FIN, ACK] Seq=4324 Ack=890 Win=4193792 Len=0
69 1.069539 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 96 [TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 49736 [PSH, ACK] Seq=4282 Ack=890 Win=4193792 Len=42
70 1.069591 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 [TCP Dup ACK 65#1] 49736 → 443 [ACK] Seq=890 Ack=4282 Win=261632 Len=0
71 1.069616 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49736 → 443 [RST, ACK] Seq=890 Ack=4324 Win=0 Len=0
72 1.078387 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49738 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1343 Ack=3917 Win=262144 Len=0
73 1.085377 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 66 443 → 49739 [SYN, ACK] Seq=0 Ack=1 Win=65535 Len=0 MSS=1131 WS=256 SACK_PERM
74 1.085476 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49739 → 443 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=1 Win=262144 Len=0
75 1.086287 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TLSv1.2 270 Client Hello (SNI=settings-win.data.microsoft.com)
76 1.105192 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 456 Application Data
77 1.106048 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49738 → 443 [FIN, ACK] Seq=1343 Ack=4319 Win=261632 Len=0
78 1.114692 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 1185 [TCP Previous segment not captured] , Ignored Unknown Record
79 1.114723 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 1185 [TCP Out-Of-Order] 443 → 49739 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=217 Win=4194560 Len=1131
80 1.114760 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 1185 [TCP segment of a reassembled PDU]
81 1.114786 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 419 Ignored Unknown Record
82 1.114791 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 66 [TCP Dup ACK 74#1] 49739 → 443 [ACK] Seq=217 Ack=1 Win=262144 Len=0 SLE=1132 SRE=2263
83 1.114816 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49739 → 443 [ACK] Seq=217 Ack=2263 Win=262144 Len=0
84 1.114892 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49739 → 443 [ACK] Seq=217 Ack=3759 Win=262144 Len=0
85 1.116841 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TLSv1.2 212 Client Key Exchange, Change Cipher Spec, Encrypted Handshake Message
86 1.128954 5a:b5:be:7b:a4:29 LLDP_Multicast LLDP 58 MA/5a:b5:be:7b:a4:29 MA/5a:b5:be:7b:a4:29 3601
87 1.131647 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 66 49740 → 443 [SYN] Seq=0 Win=64240 Len=0 MSS=1460 WS=256 SACK_PERM
88 1.132300 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 96 Application Data
89 1.132328 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TCP 54 443 → 49738 [FIN, ACK] Seq=4361 Ack=1344 Win=4194816 Len=0
90 1.132376 192.168.100.93 51.104.136.2 TCP 54 49738 → 443 [RST, ACK] Seq=1344 Ack=4361 Win=0 Len=0
91 1.144288 51.104.136.2 192.168.100.93 TLSv1.2 105 Change Cipher Spec, Encrypted Handshake Message

Continued Monitoring

- Persistent changes: Registry modifications and file system changes
- Scheduled tasks: No evidence of scheduled tasks was observed
- Registry modifications:
    - 7 new registry keys added
    - 122 values added, 452 values modified
    - Possible persistence via registry changes

Post-Execution Analysis

System State Changes

- Permanent modifications: Registry and system altered
- Persistence mechanisms: Potential persistence via registry key modifications.
- Data exfiltration evidence:
- Network activity observed
- Potential exfiltration to external IPs

Network Activity Summary

- Connection attempts: Outbound connections to multiple IPs.
- Data transfers: Possible HTTP requests to external servers.
- Command & Control activity: No definitive evidence, however outbound connections suggest potential C2 communication.

Impact Analysis

1. User Impact Assessment

Home Users

- Potential impact: Data theft, compromised system integrity.
- Risk level: Moderate to high.
- Data compromise potential: Risk of credential theft, spyware, or unauthorized access.

Business Users

- Operational impact: damage business operations.
- Data security concerns: covert access to sensitive files and data exfiltration risks.
- Financial implications: data breach costs, and reputational damage.

Government Users

- Security implications: Threat to national security if this malware runs in government networks.
- Data sensitivity concerns: Possible exposure of classified or sensitive government data.
- Operational disruption potential: Could impact essential services.

2. Mitigation Strategy

Immediate Response

- Initial containment steps:
  - Isolate infected systems from the network.
- System isolation procedures:
  - Disable network access
- Data preservation methods:
  - Collect evidence using memory dumps and registry snapshots.

Long-term Prevention

- Security control recommendations:
  - Monitor for unusual network traffic.
- Policy modifications:
  - Save regular backups, snapshots, and system restore points
  - stricter file execution policies.
- Training requirements:
  - Educate employees on phishing risks and malware infection vectors.

Conclusion

1. Analysis Reflection

- Summary of findings:
  - Malware packed with PyInstaller using Python 3.13.
  - Uses RLO trick consistent with malware family from VirusTotal
  - Potentially capable of persistence and privilege escalation.
  - Suspicious network activity, but not confirmed
- Unusual characteristics:
  - Right-to-Left Override (RLO) obfuscation technique.
  - Python-based malware packed by PyInstaller
- Learning outcomes:
  - Importance of unpacking PyInstaller executables correctly.
  - Anti-debugging techniques can slow down analysis.
  - Thinking outside the box, compressing malware instead of unzipping (even though I did both)
- Additional research needed:
  - packet inspection for exfiltration

2. Evidence Documentation

- Screenshot descriptions and relevance:
- Tool output documentation:
  - Ghidra, Detect-It-Easy, pyinstxtractor, 7z, procmon, process explorer, wireshark
- Additional supporting materials:
  - Network packet capture logs from Wireshark.
  - Static analysis breakdown from Detect-It-Easy.

Discussion Post 7

First I changed the name of “2025SpringAnswersMalwareFinal.exe.docx” to “malware”. Then I used pyinstxtractor using Python version 3.13 to extract files from “malware” to a folder on my desktop “malware_extracted”. Originally, I ran into a problem trying to unzip PYZ-00.pyz, but using python version 3.13 fixed the problem and unzipped the .pyz files correctly. I then tried many approaches to convert all of the .pyc files to .py files using decompyle3, decompyle++, uncompyle3, and pycdc. None of these approaches worked, because the files were zipped using Python 3.13, and none of those tools were updated to be able to decompile files compiled with python 3.13. So I did the best I could, and I wrote a python script to disassemble all of the .pyc files and output .txt files with python bytecode. All of this took a really long time but I finally extracted everything and could find useful information from the bytecode! It feels like I succeeded.
As for VirusTotal, I searched for all of the executables in the malware_extracted folder and it showed 0 .exe files and 6 .dll files. I ran all of the .dll files in VirusTotal and one of them showed up as having a bad community score, so I started to do my analysis with that one suspicious .dll file, which is called libcrypto-3.dll.
EDIT: after doing an entire detailed static analysis report on libcrypto-3.dll, I determined libcrypto-3.dll to be an OpenSSL cryptographic library and that it is NOT malicious. So I started over with a different approach.

After determining that libcrypto-3.dll is a OpenSSL cryptographic library, I decided to do the rest of the analysis for the malware: “2025SpringAnswersMalwareFinal.exe.docx” since I spent so much time unpacking it and this does not seem like the correct file after this much static analysis.

Then I thought, maybe I should do something different. I decided to unzip the “2025SpringAnswersMalwareFinal.exe.docx” file with the password: SpringBreakBestBreak2025, and then recompress it without a password, and then upload it to VirusTotal. Now I am going to start the analysis again because after uploading the compressed file to VirusTotal, it is flagged by vendors as malicious! Maybe this is the correct answer! Whew! Time to start over and do this report again!