

ISSACK WAITHAKA
cs-sa07-24085

Introduction

When analyzing malware we should note:

- - Point of entry
- - To check if malware has been executed on a machine
- - How does the malware perform
- - How to stop it

Understanding Malware Campaigns

- Targeted – this type of malware attacks are created for specific purpose against a specific target.
- Mass Campaign – its purpose is to infect as many devices as possible.

Questions

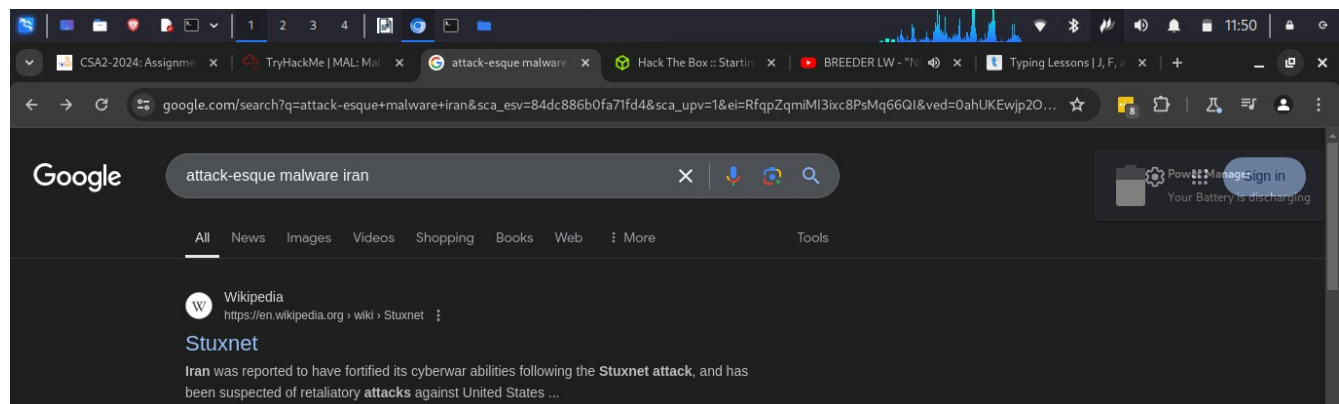
1.

Answer the questions below

What is the famous example of a targeted attack-esque Malware that targeted Iran?

Stuxnet

✓ Correct Answer

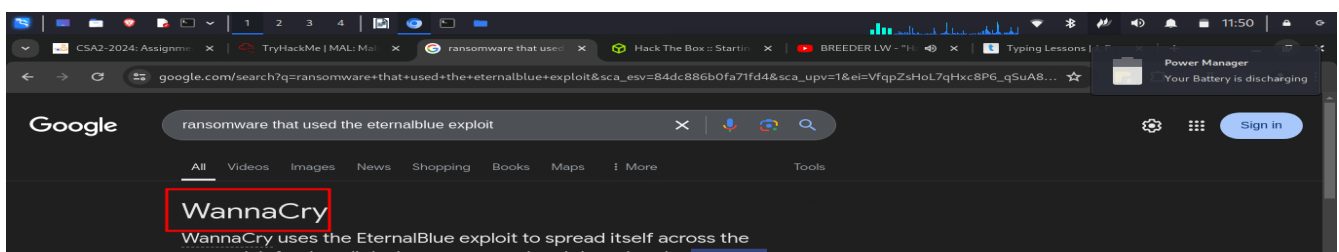


2.

What is the name of the Ransomware that used the Eternalblue exploit in a "Mass Campaign" attack?

Wannacry

✓ Correct Answer



Identifying if a malware attack has happened

- Malware attacks takes place in the following steps:

- - Delivery
- - Execution
- - Maintaining persistence
- - Propagation

Malware may leave behind two types of signatures which are:

1. Host-Base Signatures – These are the results of execution performed by the malware
2. Network-Based signatures – These are observations of any networking communication that took place

Questions

1.

Name the first essential step of a Malware Attack?

Delivery

✓ Correct Answer

2.

Now name the second essential step of a Malware Attack?

Execution

✓ Correct Answer

3.

What type of signature is used to classify remnants of infection on a host?

Host-Based Signatures

✓ Correct Answer

🔍 Hint

4.

What is the name of the other classification of signature used after a Malware attack?

Network-Based Signatures

✓ Correct Answer

🔍 Hint

Static vs Dynamic Analysis

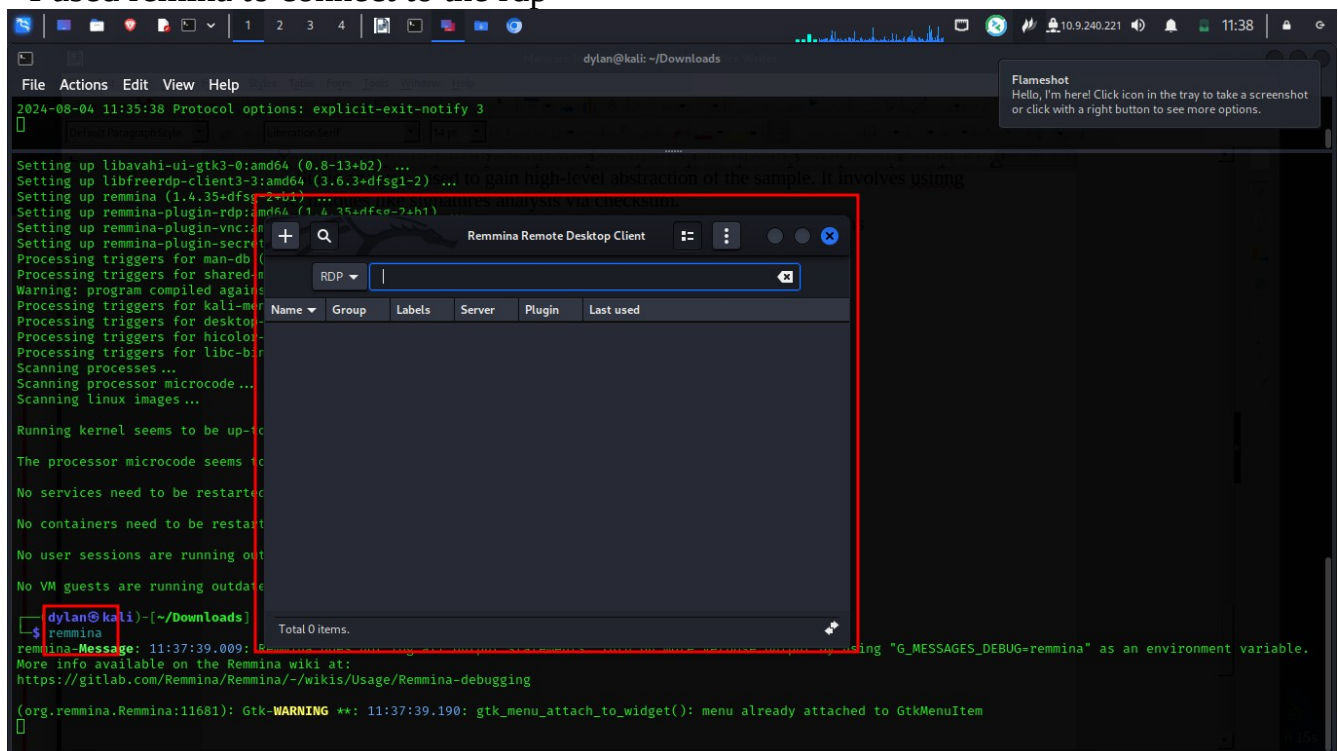
- Static analysis -used to gain high-level abstraction of the sample. It involves using techniques like signatures analysis via checksum.
- Dynamic Analysis – executing the sample and observing what happens

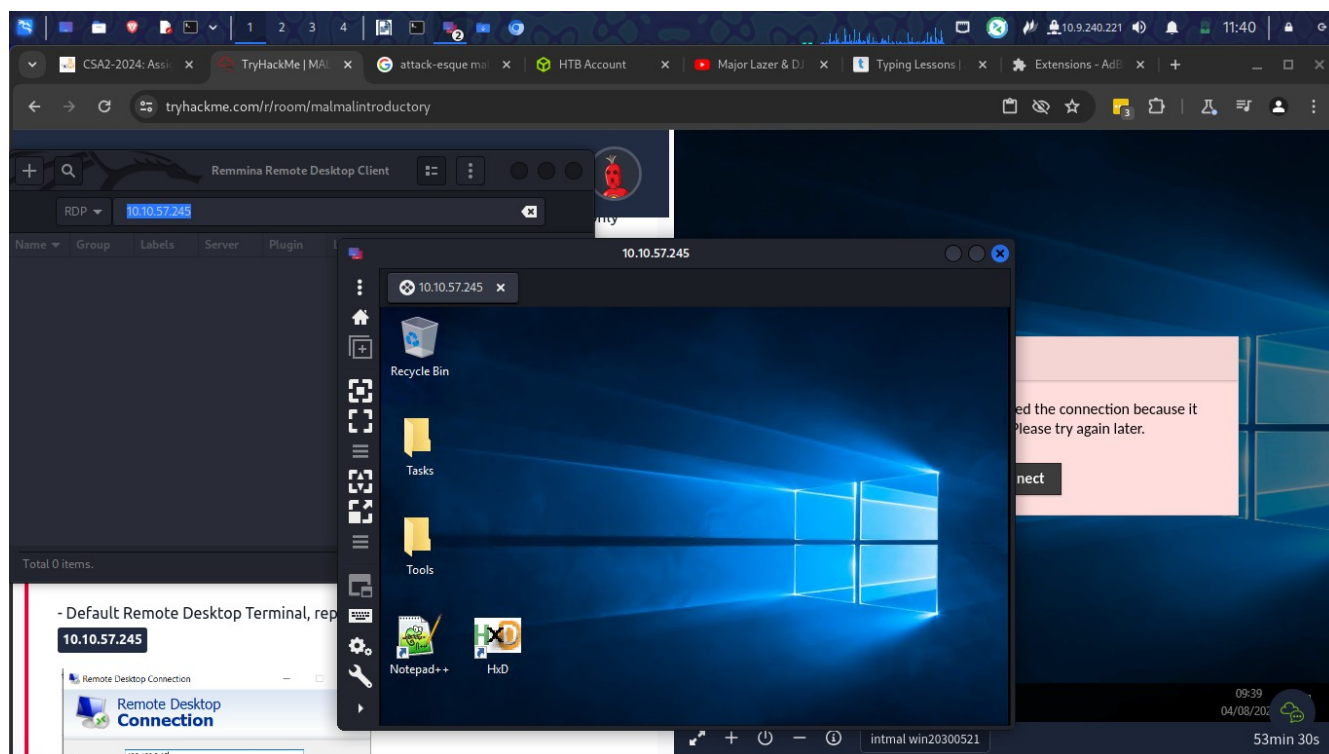
Discussion of provided Tools and their uses

- Here some tools we will use in the future were listed

Connecting to the windows Analysis Environment (Deploy)

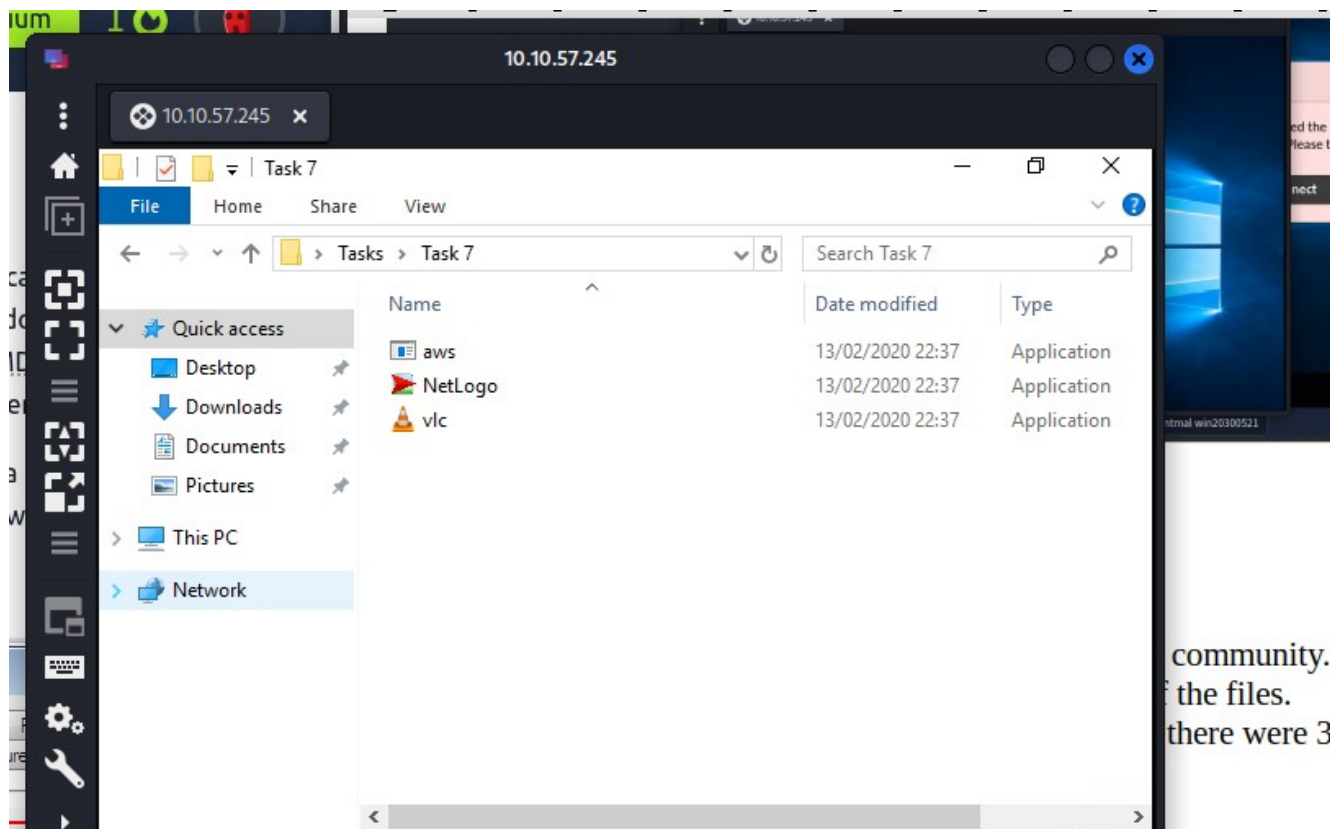
- I used remmina to connect to the rdp





Obtaining md5 checksum of Provided Files

- MD5 checksum are prominent attribute in the malware community.
- These MD5 checksum are cryptographic fingerprints of the files.
- I navigated to the tasks folder then went to task 7 where there were 3 files.



community.
the files.
there were 3

- The vlc app can be a malware that maybe renamed to a vlc app so to confirm we need to check the MD5 checksum
- I used the hash tab to check the checksum

Questions

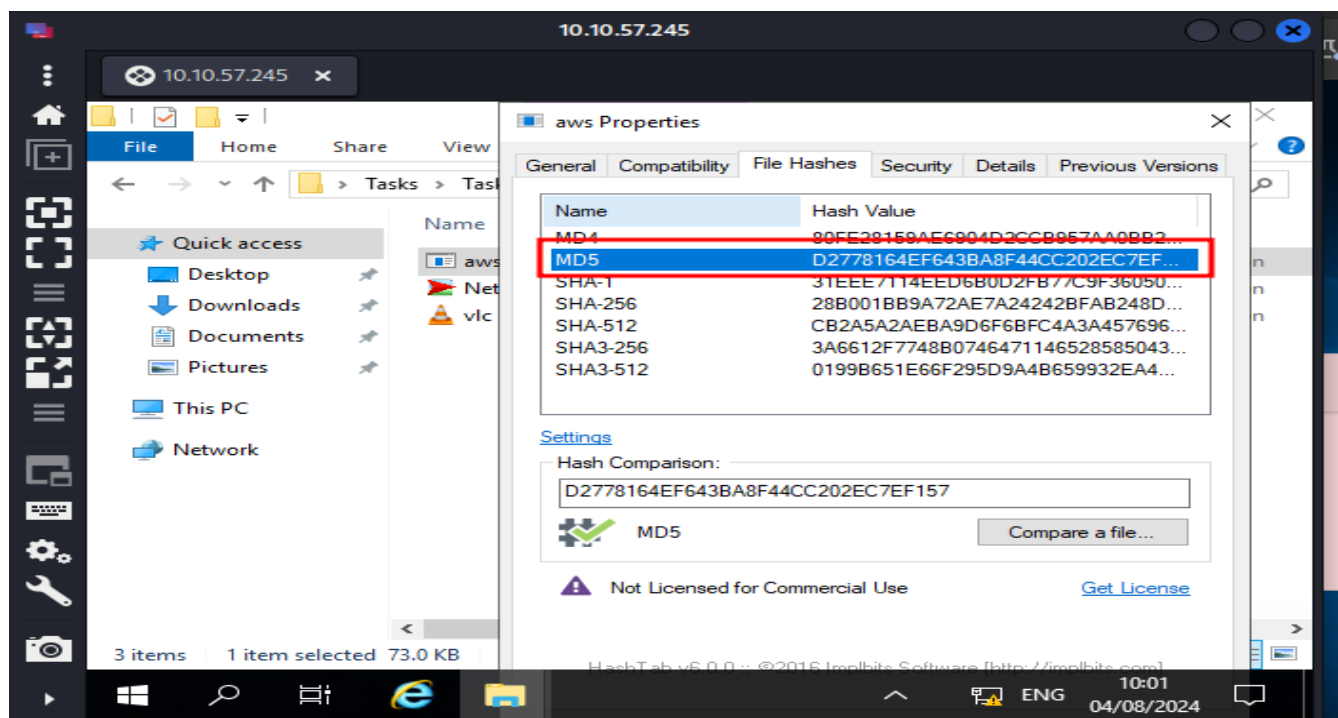
1.

Answer the questions below

The MD5 Checksum of aws.exe

D2778164EF643BA8F44CC202EC7EF

✓ Correct Answer

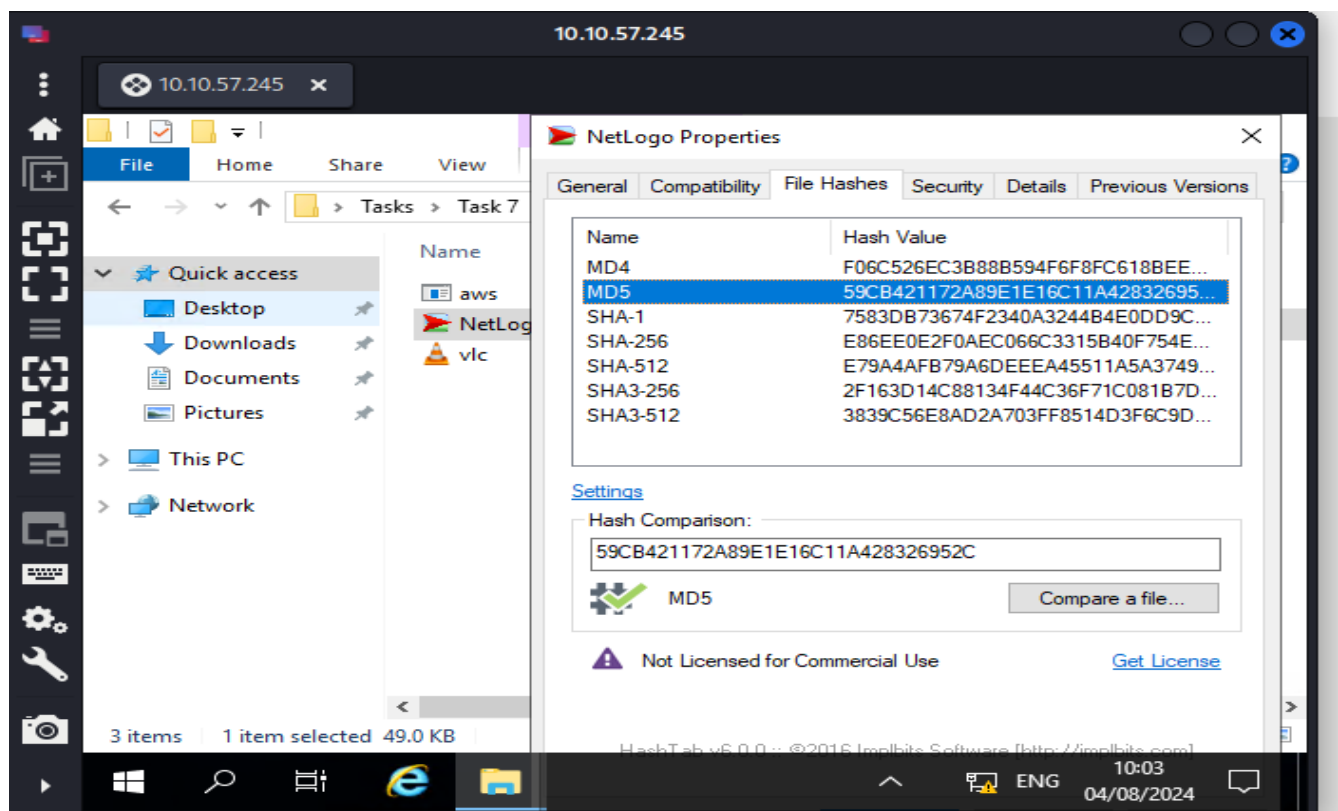


2.

The MD5 Checksum of Netlogo.exe

59CB421172A89E1E16C11A4283269!

✓ Correct Answer

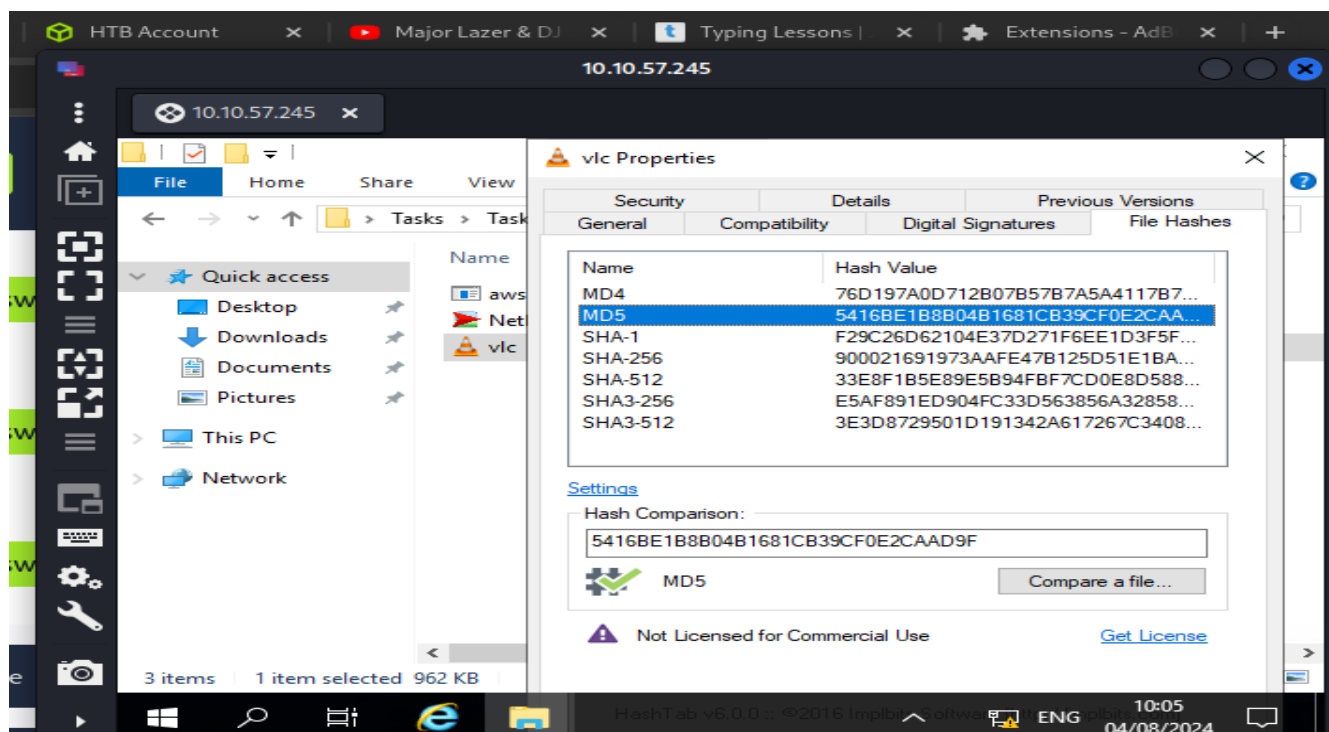


3.

The MD5 Checksum of vlc.exe

5416BE1B8B04B1681CB39CF0E2CA/

✓ Correct Answer



Now lets see if the MD5 checksum have been analysed before

Questions

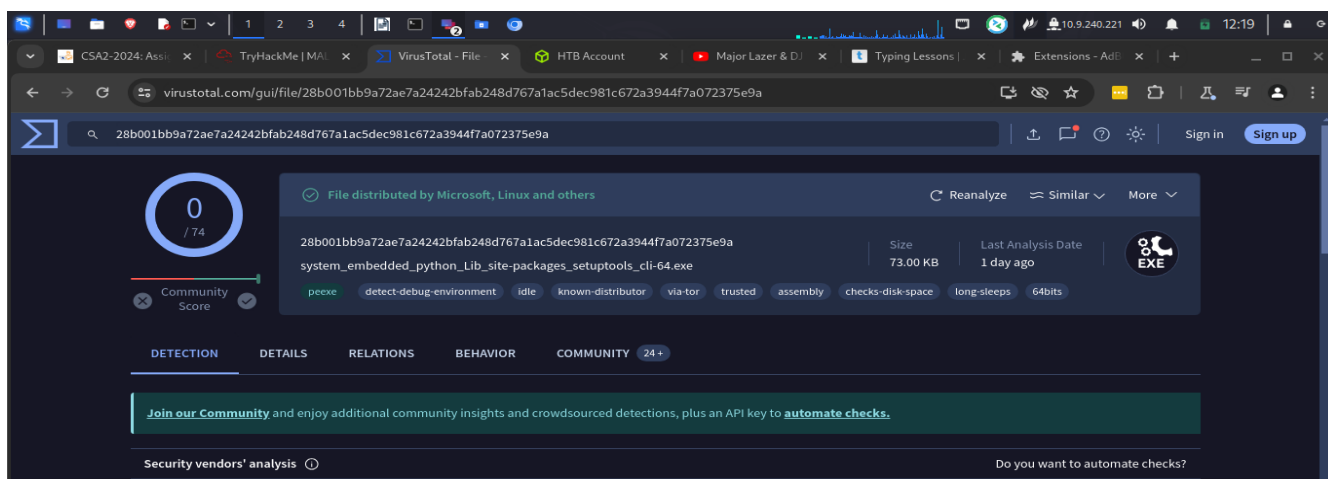
1.

Answer the questions below

Does Virustotal report this MD5 Checksum / file aws.exe as malicious? (Yay/Nay)

Nay

✓ Correct Answer

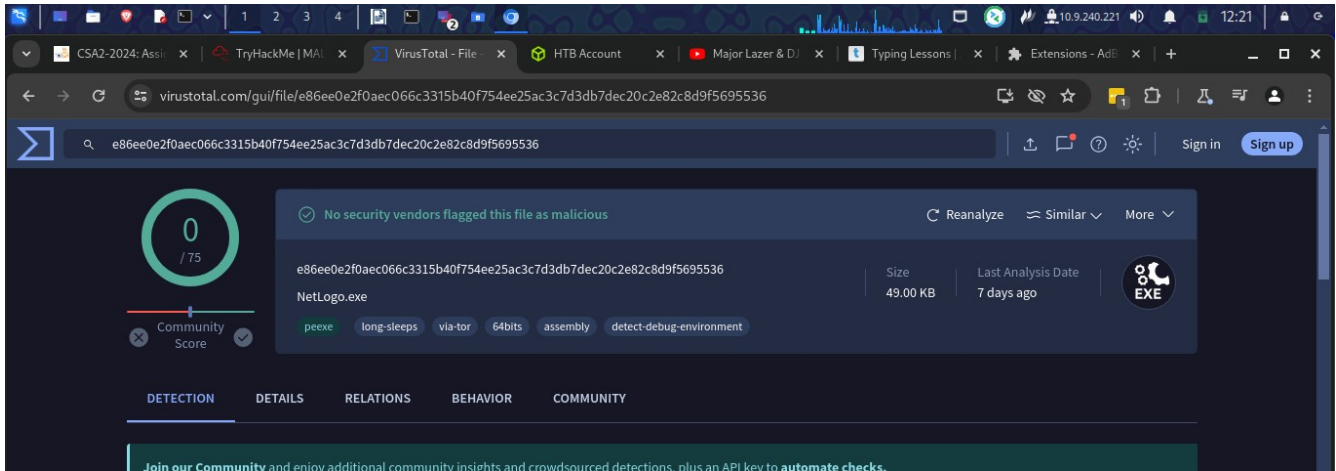


2.

Does Virustotal report this MD5 Checksum / file NetLogo.exe as malicious? (Yay/Nay)

Nay

✓ Correct Answer

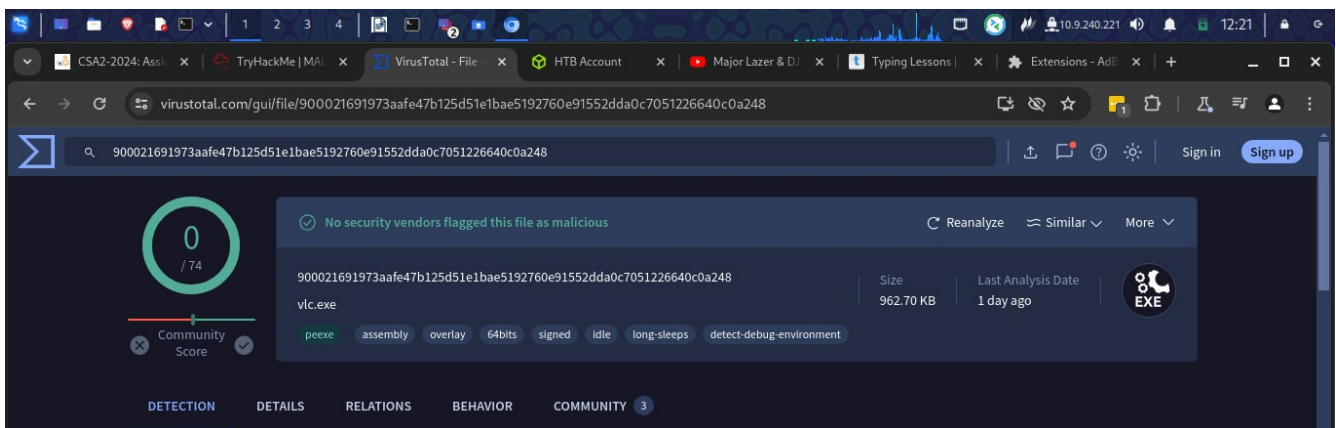


3.

Does Virustotal report this MD5 Checksum / file vlc.exe as malicious? (Yay/Nay)

Nay

✓ Correct Answer



Identifying if the executables are obfuscated/packed

- We are going to use PeID which has a huge database.
- A file can be executable even without the ".exe"
- An executable file has a hex value of '4D 5A' so even a jpg file with the same hex value can be executable

1.

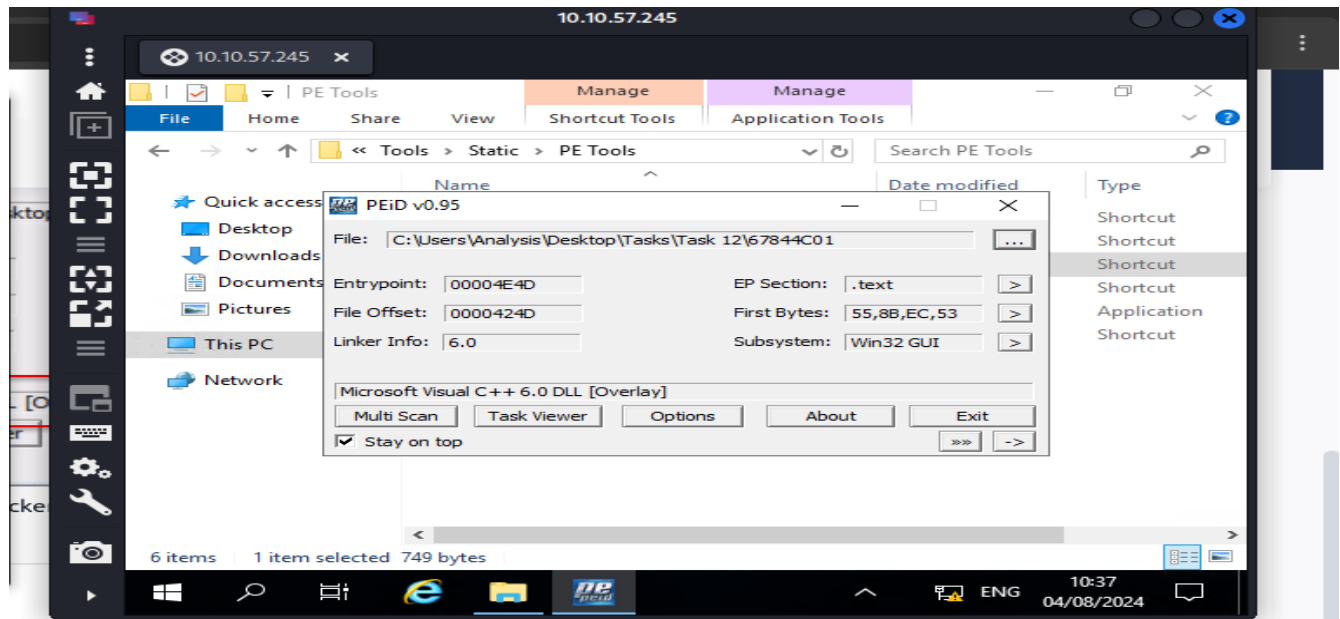
Answer the questions below

What does PeID propose 1DE9176AD682FF.dll being packed with?

Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0 DLL

✓ Correct Answer

 Hint



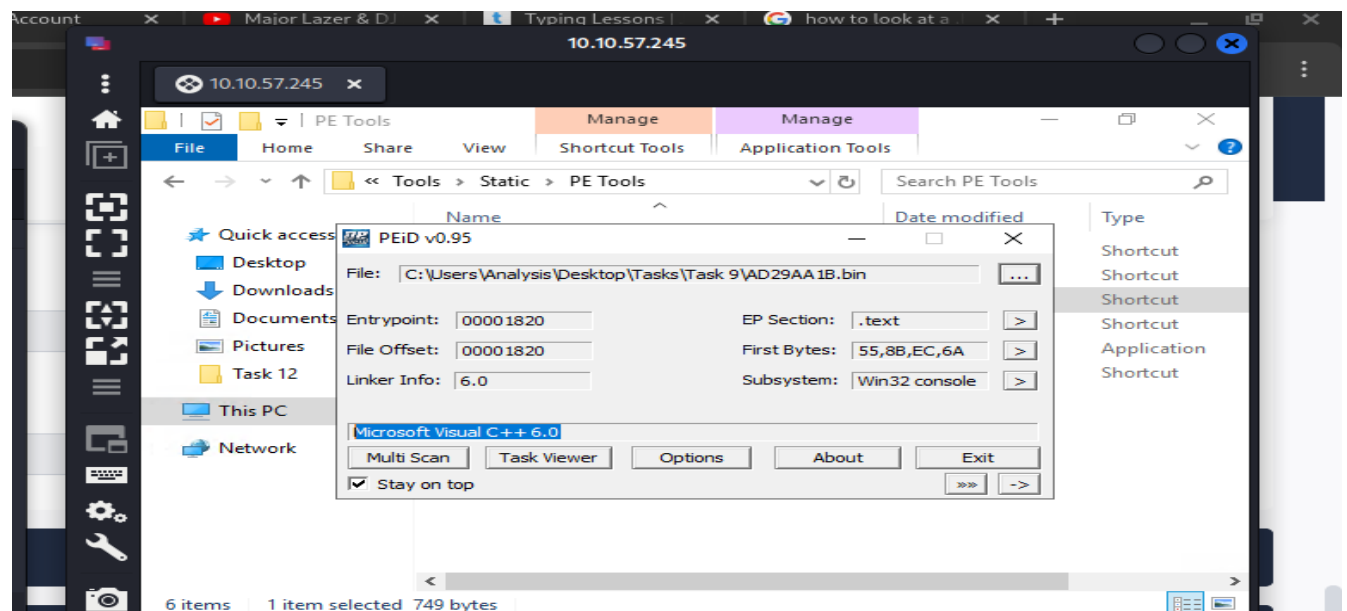
2.

What does PeiD propose AD29AA1B.bin being packed with?

Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0

✓ Correct Answer

For this I had to look for the file and I found it in task 9. I used PeiD which was in the tools folder.



What is Obfuscation/packing

- Packing is a form of obfuscation that malware authors use to prevent analysis of programmes
- For legitimate reasons it is used for protection of intellectual property
- On the other hand it is done to prevent the malware analyst to reverse it so that they can not know the behavior of the malware.

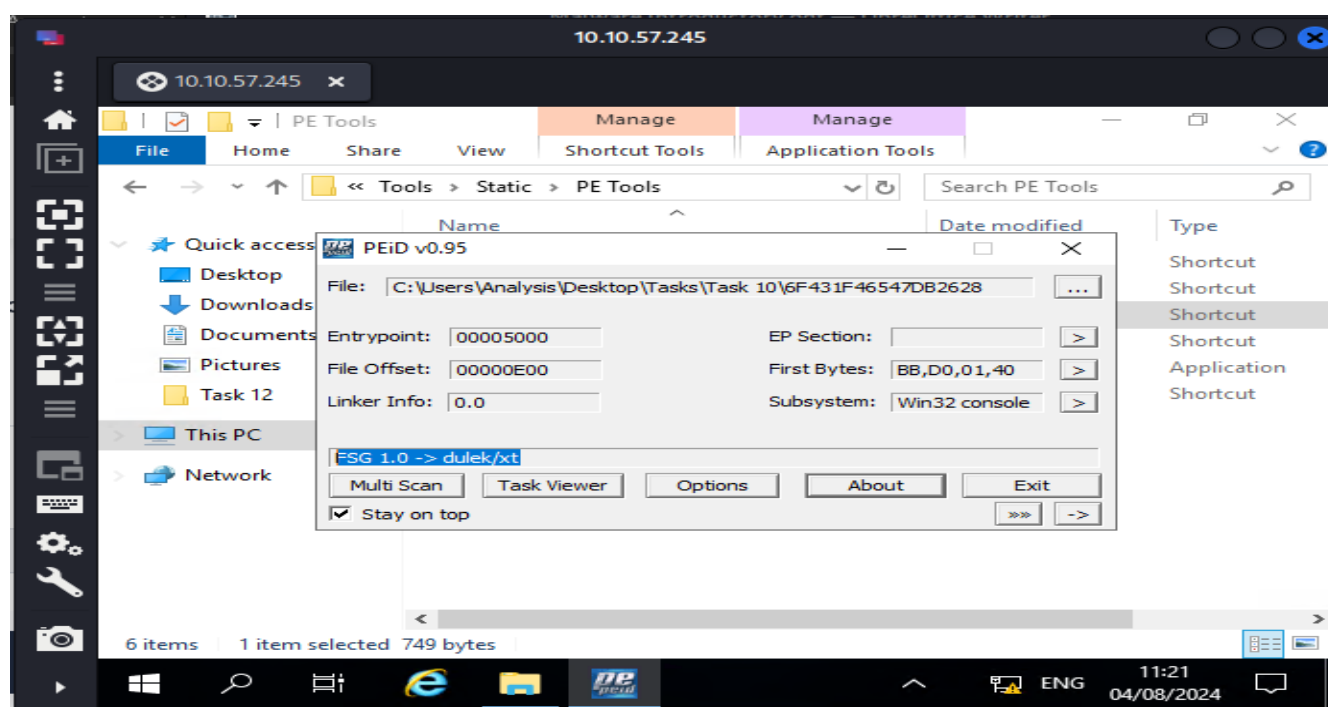
Questions

1.

What packer does PeiD report file "6F431F46547DB2628" to be packed with?

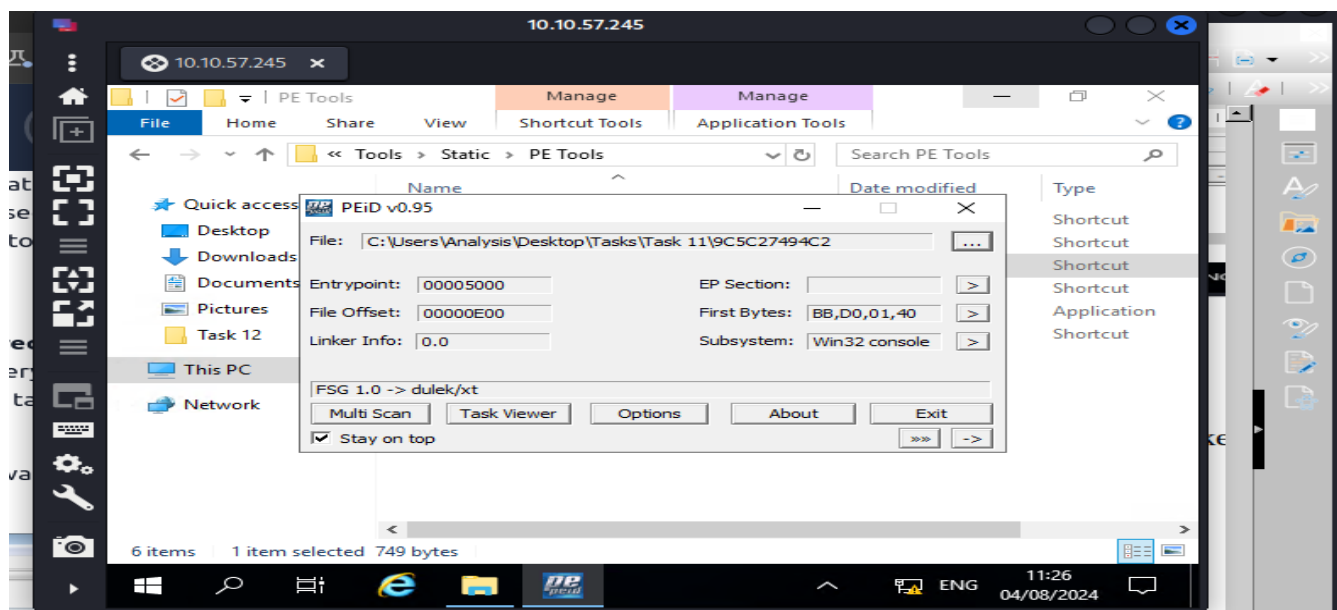
FSG 1.0 -> dulek/xt

✓ Correct Answer

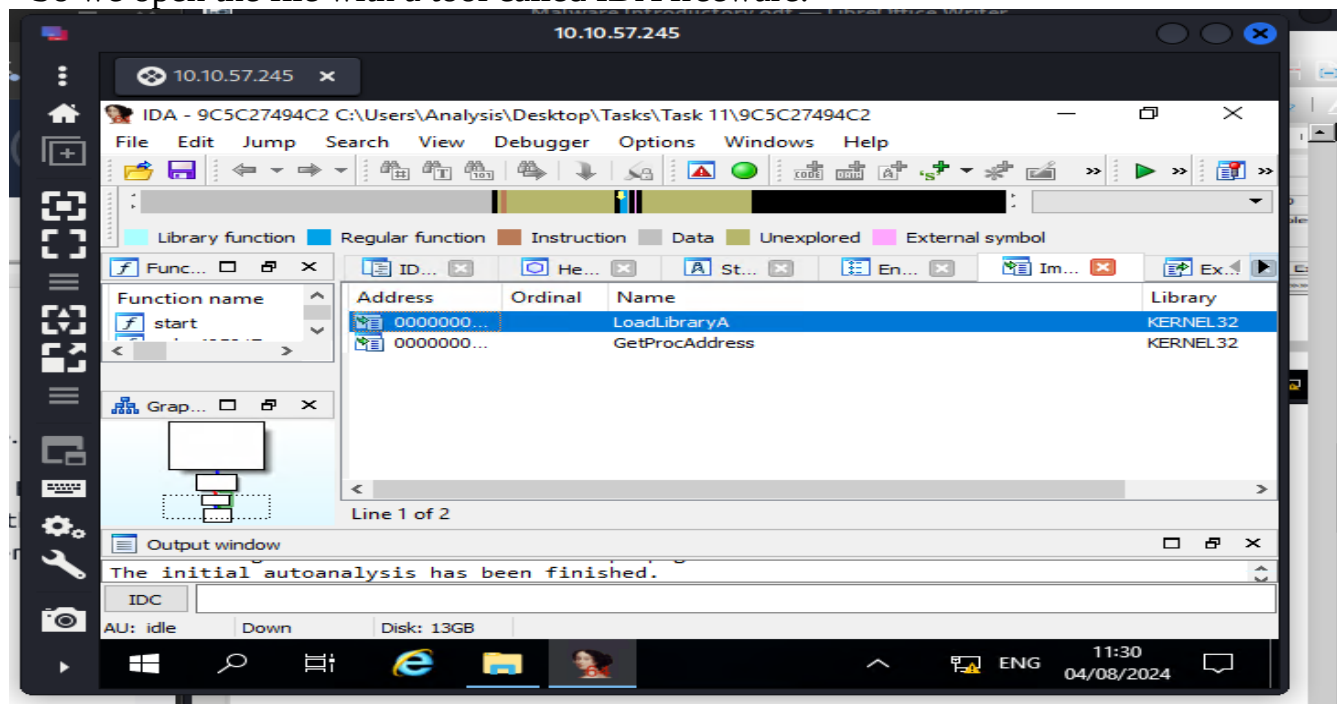


Visualizing the differences between packed and non-packed code

- Whilst the PeiD has a large database. It does not have every packer.
- So we navigate to task 11 where the PeiD was able to detect the packer being used but it was not able to de-obfuscate them



- So we open the file with a tool called IDA freeware.



- Two imports were noted
- We also had a flow of how the programs executed
-

Introduction to strings

- Strings are the ASCII/text contents of a programs
- In this section I was to open file Sysinternals suite in the command prompt

Questions

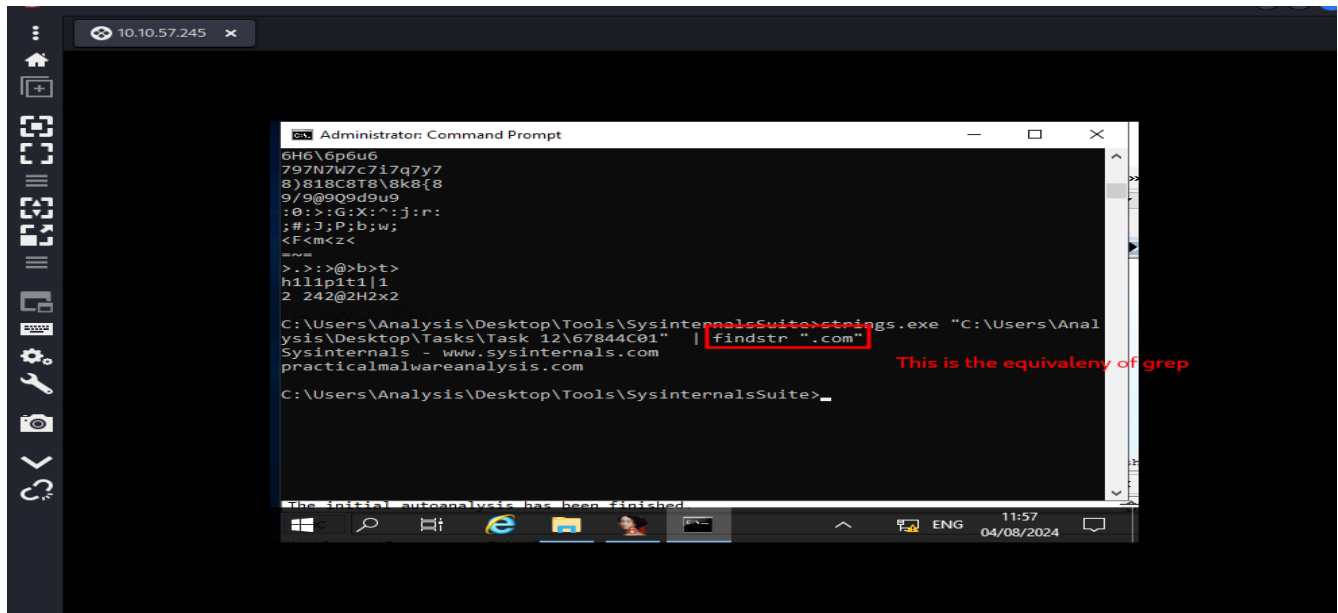
1.

Answer the questions below

What is the URL that is outputted after using "strings"

practicalmalwareanalysis.com

✓ Correct Answer



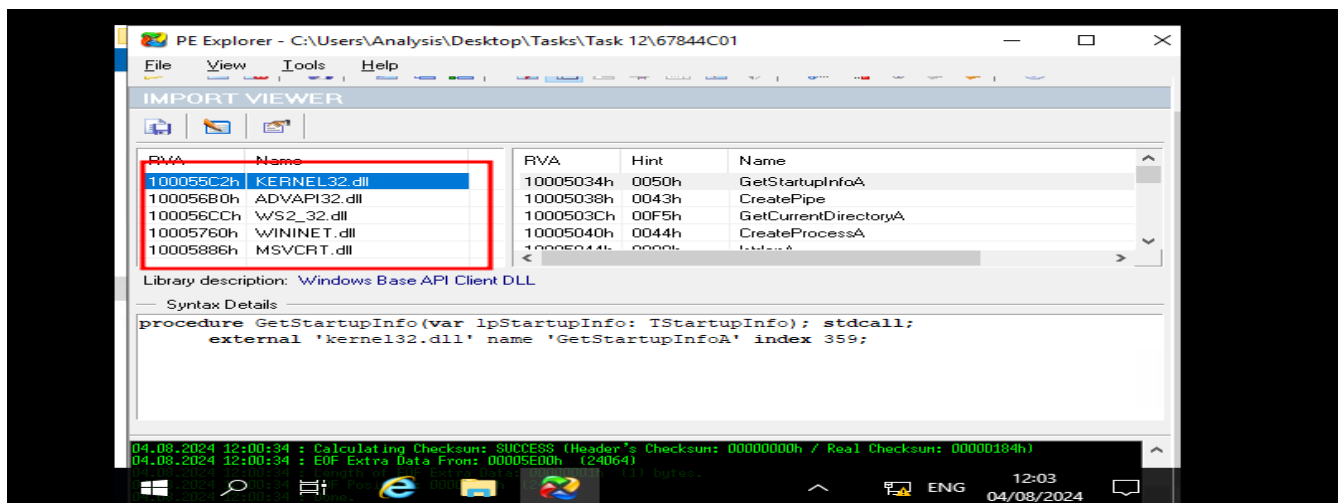
2.

How many **unique** "Imports" are there?

5

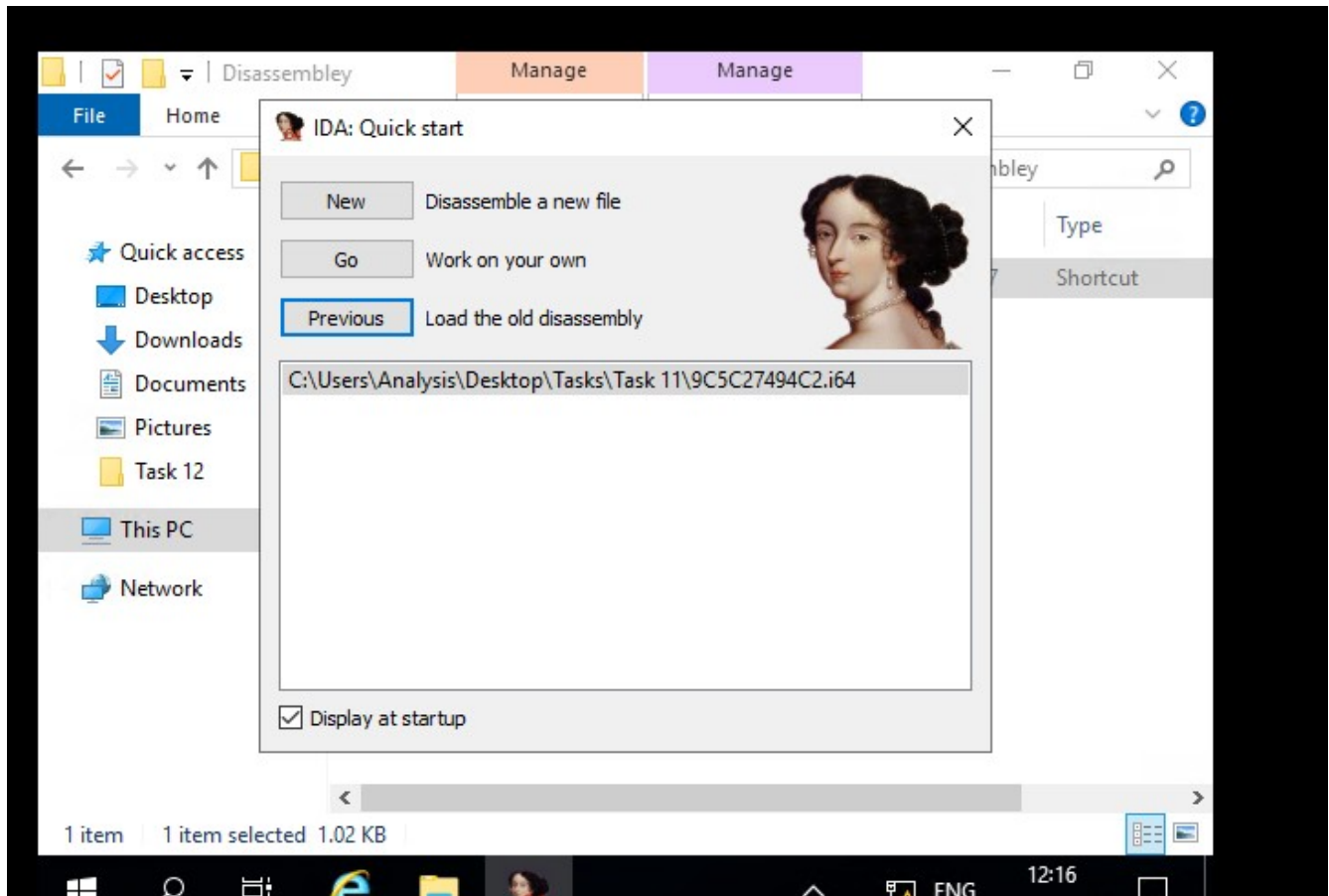
✓ Correct Answer

For this I had to open the PE Explorer and dropped the file there. I then navigated to the view tab where there was an option for imports



Introduction to imports

- IDA Freeware is a tool that can be used for both dynamic and static analysis
- Disassemblers reverse the compiled code of a program from machine code to human-readable.
- Debuggers work the same but it can view the changes made throughout each step
- To use we first launch the IDA Freeware and select import



- then I chose the file install.exe located at task 13
- Then you navigate to the view tab which contains the import options

Questions

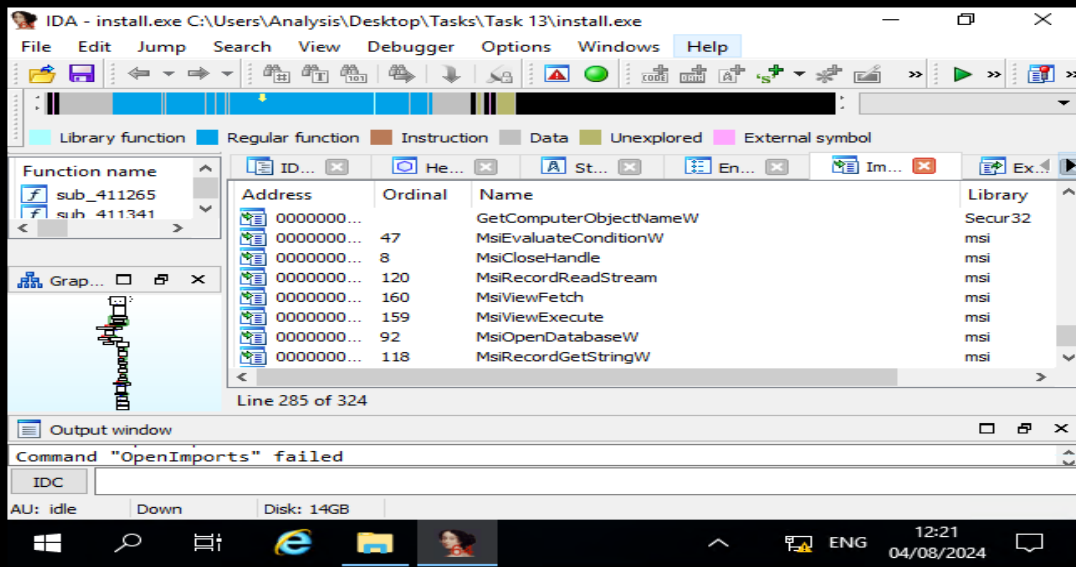
1.

Answer the questions below

How many references are there to the library "msi" in the "Imports" tab of IDA Freeware for "install.exe"

9

✓ Correct Answer



Practical Summary

1.

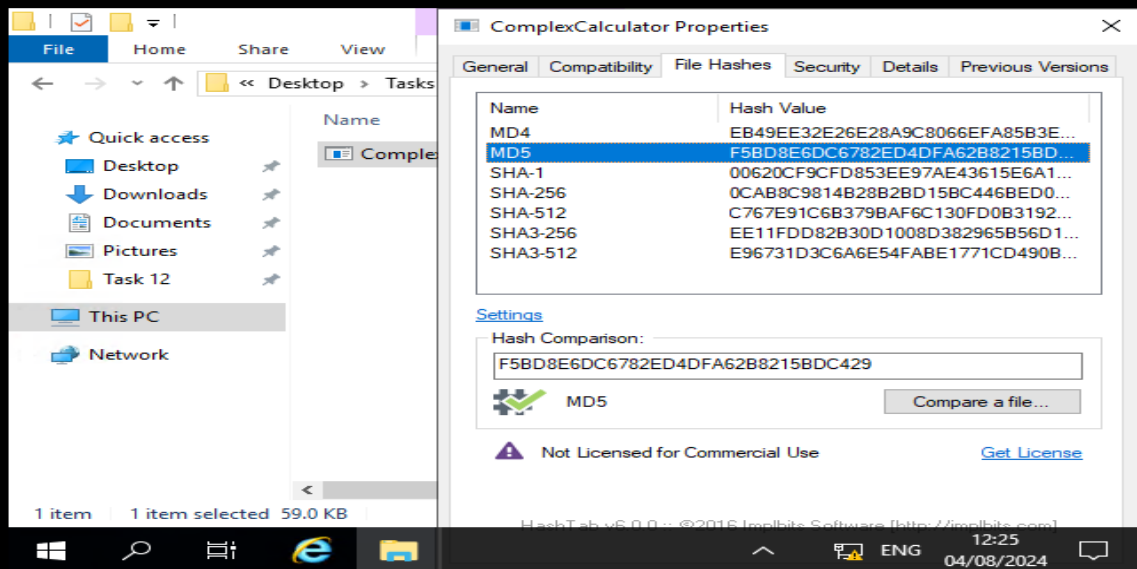
What is the MD5 Checksum of the file?

f5bd8e6dc6782ed4dfa62b8215bdc429

✓ Correct Answer

🔍 Hint

For this I used the Hash Tab which can be accessed by right clicking on the file then moving to file hashes



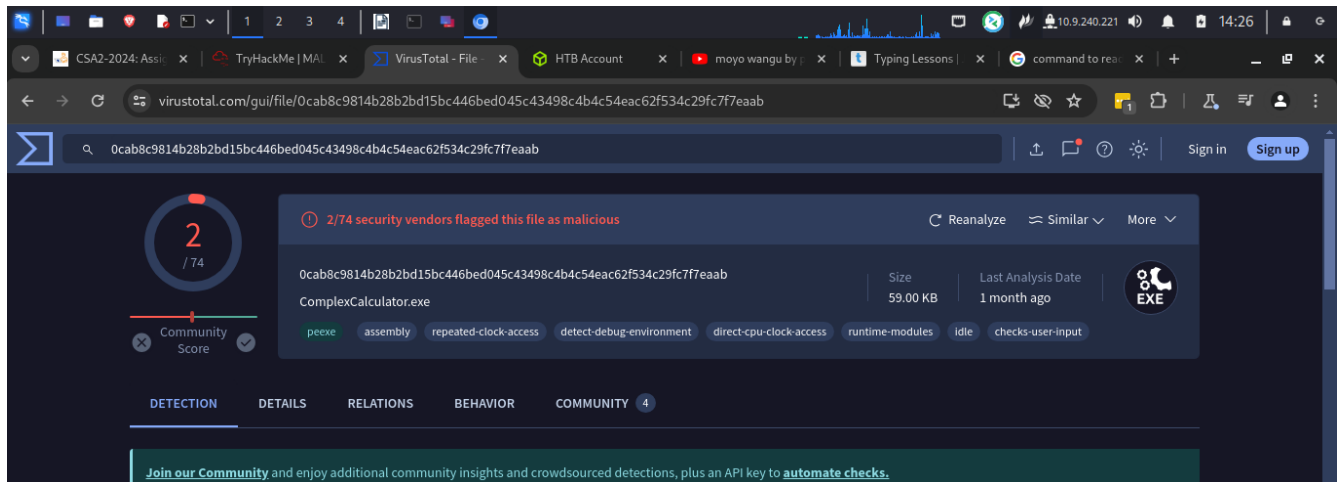
2.

Does Virustotal report this file as malicious? (Yay/Nay)

Yay

✓ Correct Answer

🔗 Hint



3.

Output the strings using Sysinternals "strings" tool.

What is the last string outputted?

d:h:

✓ Correct Answer

🔗 Hint

I used the command prompt
Here is the command

```
C:\Users\Analysis\Desktop\Tools\SysinternalsSuite>strings.exe "C:\Users\Analysis\Desktop\Tasks\Task 14\ComplexCalculator.exe"
```

And here is the answer



4.

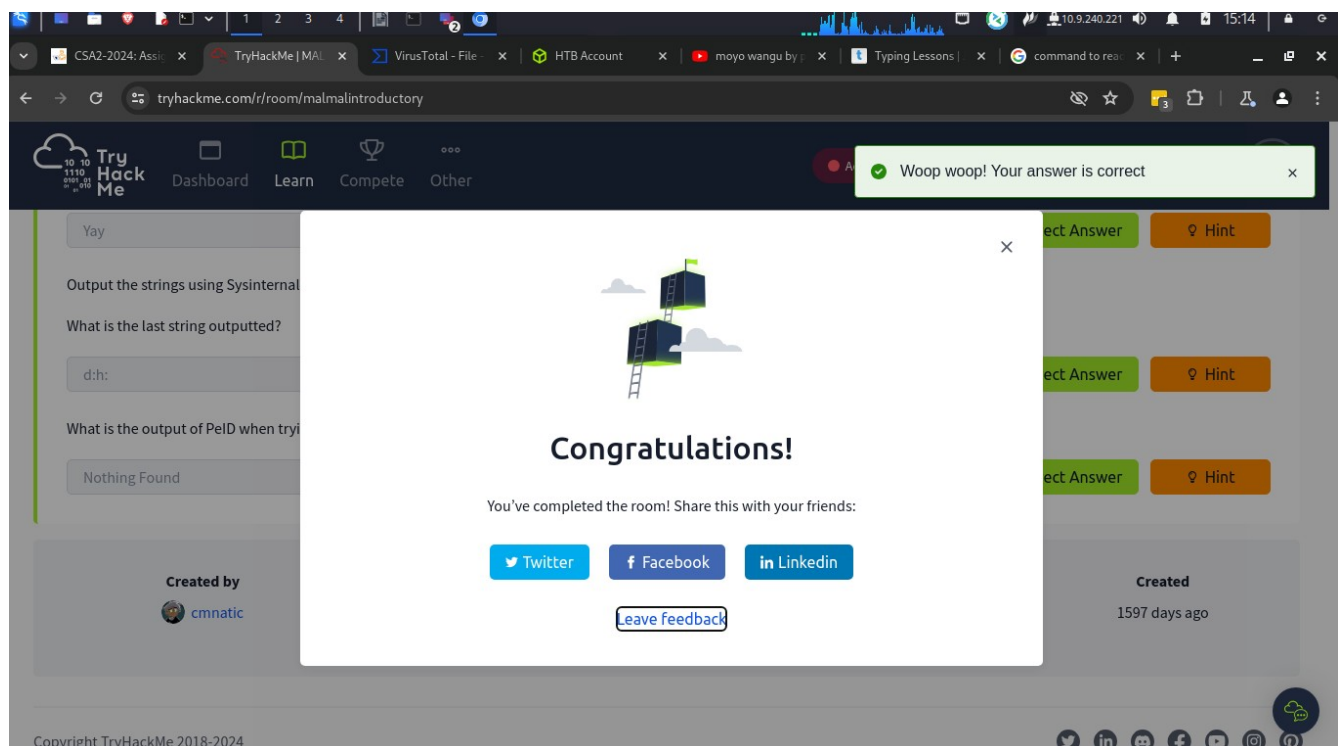
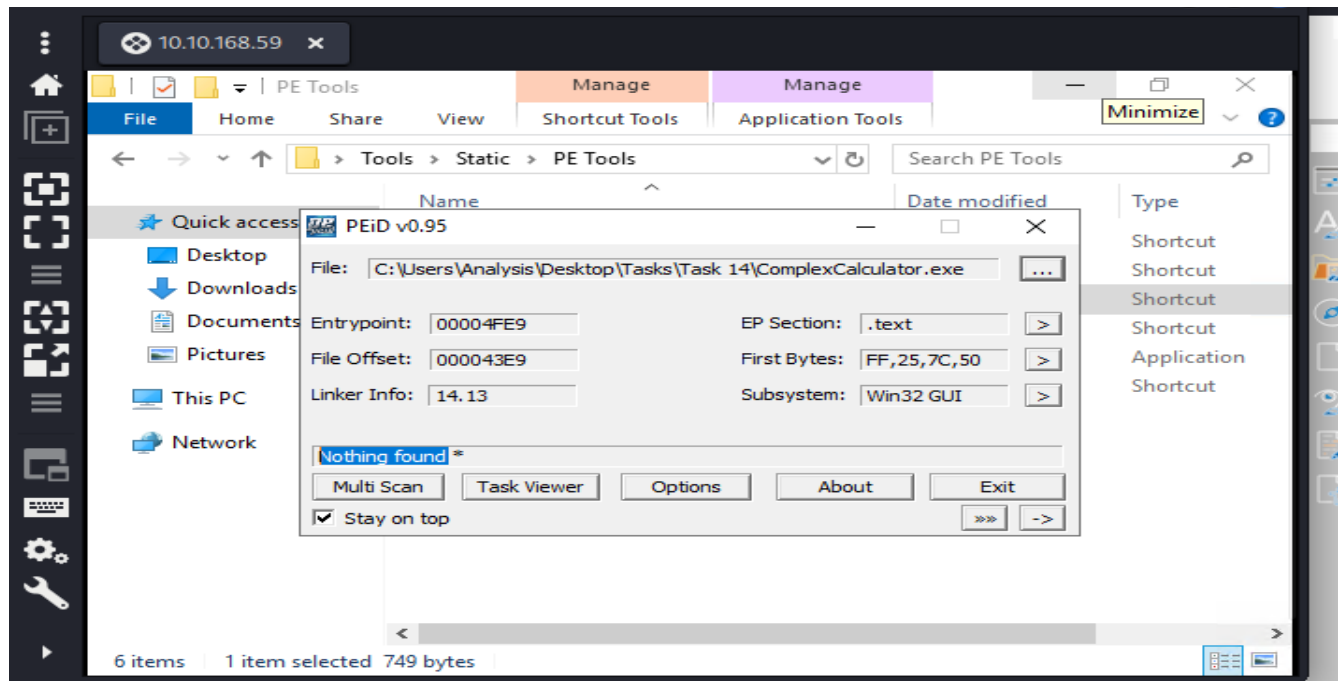
What is the output of PeiD when trying to detect what packer is used by the file?

Nothing Found

✓ Correct Answer

🔍 Hint

I used the PeiD tool for this



conclusion

In this room I was able to learn about the MD5 checksum which comes in handy when dealing with Malware. I also went through some the tools that can be used when analyzing a malware. It was a very interesting room.