

DIPARTIMENTO DI ELETTRONICA INFORMAZIONE E BIOINGEGNERIA

Packers & Evasion

Mario Polino,

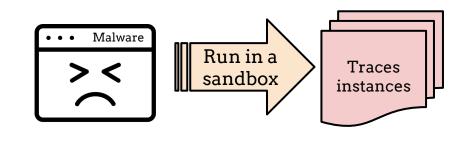
Malware Analysis

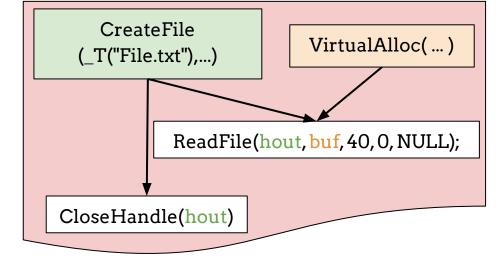


Malware Analysis

Static mov eax, esi mov edi.ebx mov ecx.14h rep stosd mov dword ptr [esp+0Ch], mov dword ptr [esp+8], 50h [esp+4], ebx mov dword ptr [esp], 0 call sub_8048C30 cmp eax, OFFFFFFFh jz short loc_80488F8 mov [esp],ebx loc 80488F8: call sub 8048A50 mov edx, [esp+6Ch] test eax, eax xor edx, large gs:14h jz short inz short loc_8048858 loc_804890D loc 8048858: cmp ds:dword_804C3C0,1 cmp ds:dword_804C3C0,1 mov [esp+8],ebx mov dword ptr [esp+4], 804960Bh mov dword ptr [esp+4], mov dword ptr [esp],1 offset aSInvalidComman sbb eax.eax sbb eax.eax not eax not eax add eax, 24h mov [esp+8], eax add eax, 24h mov [esp+0Ch], eax call ___printf_chk mov dword ptr [esp],1 jmp short loc_8048882 call ___printf_chk loc 8048882: mov eax, ds:stdout mov [esp], eax call fflush

Dynamic







Static & Dynamic Issues

Packers

Headers

.text(Packed)

Unpacking Stub

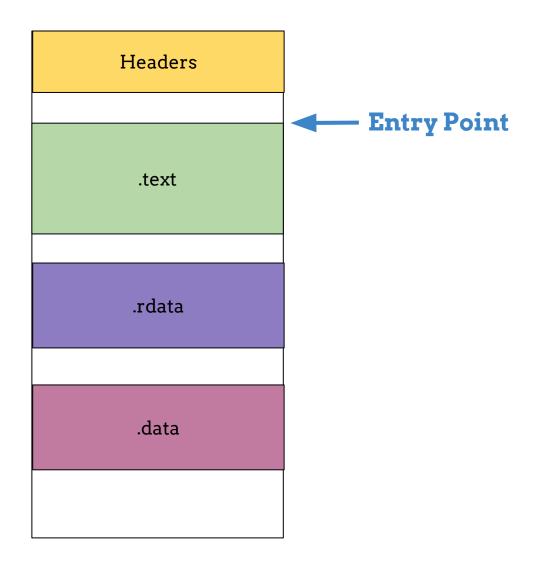
.rdata

.data

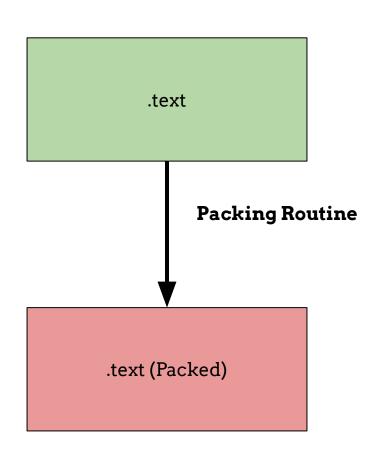
Evasive Malware

```
If (amIUnderAnalysis())
{
    die();
}
else
{
    beMalicious();
}
```

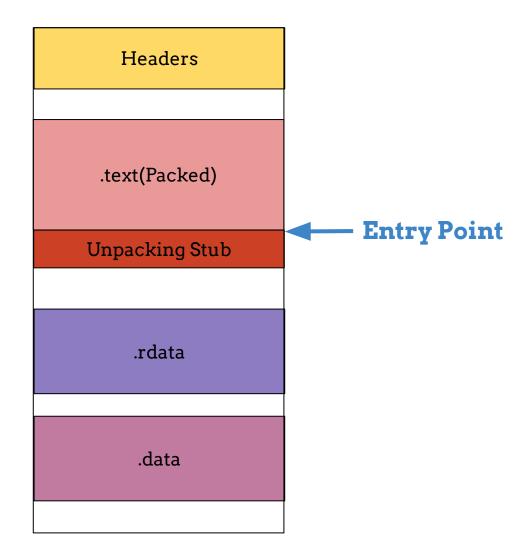












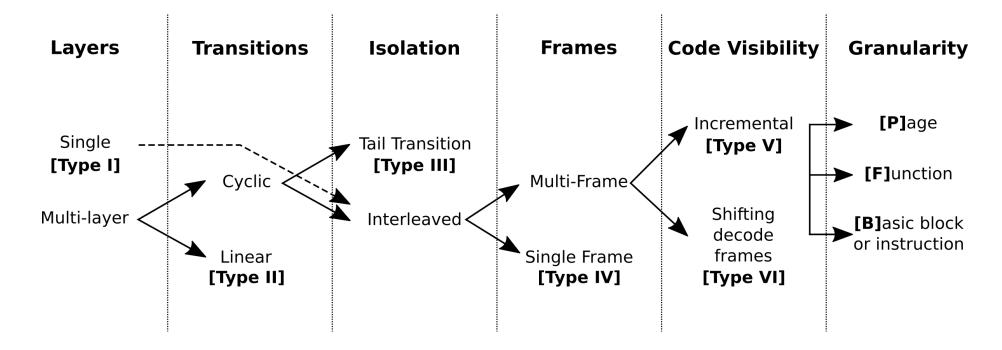


Headers .text(Unpacked) **Unpacking Stub Instruction Pointer** .rdata .data



Packers Complexity

From **Unpacked** to **Custom VM** there is a huge **gray** area

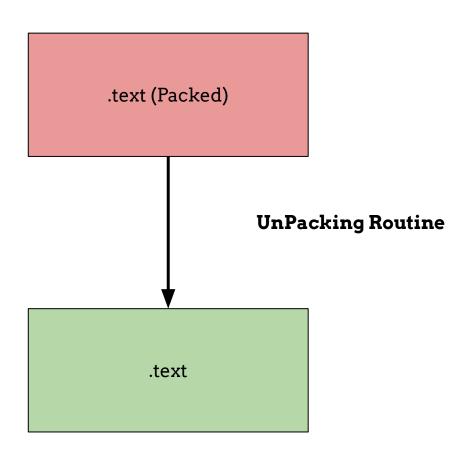


SoK: Deep Packer Inspection: A Longitudinal Study of the Complexity of Run-Time Packers

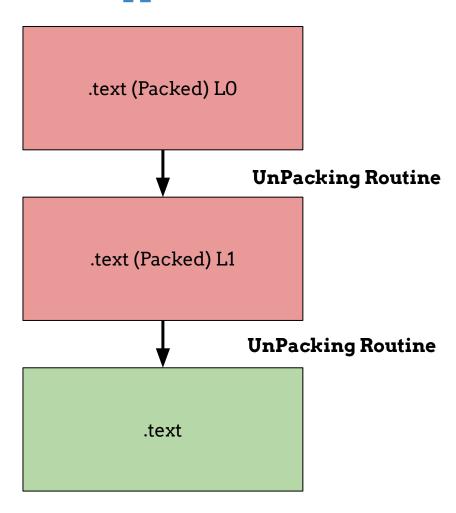


Layers

Type I



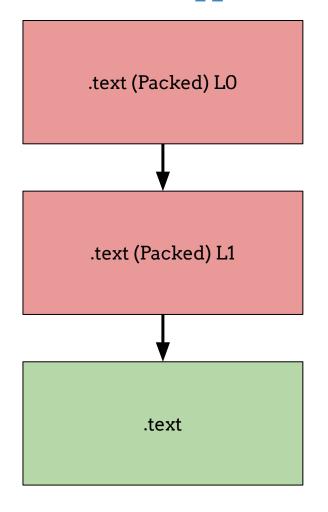
Type >= II



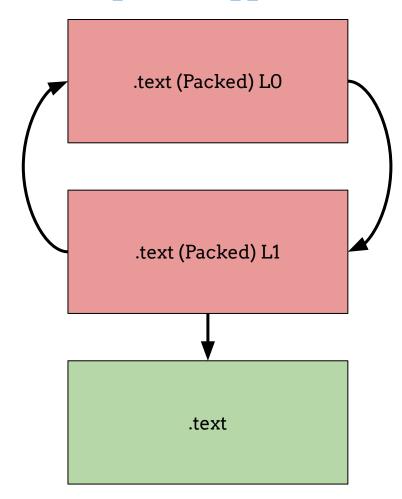


Transaction & Isolation

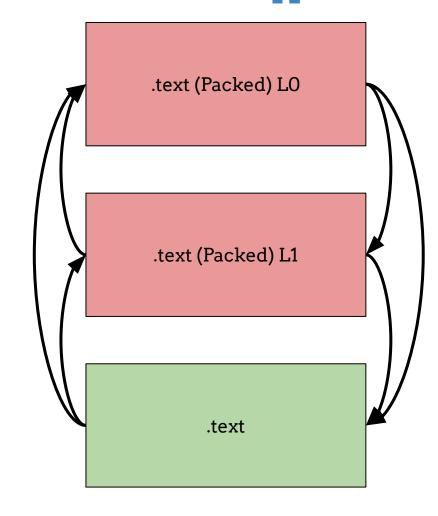
Linear: Type II



Cyclic: Type III



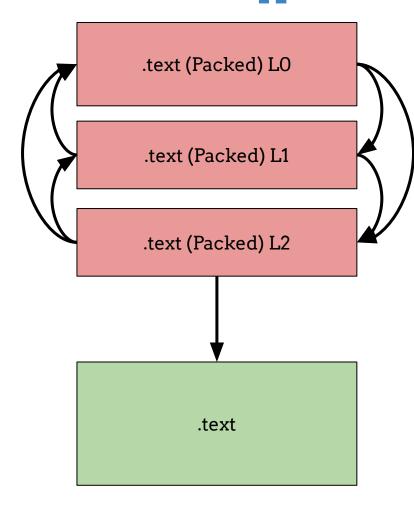
Interleaved: Type >= IV



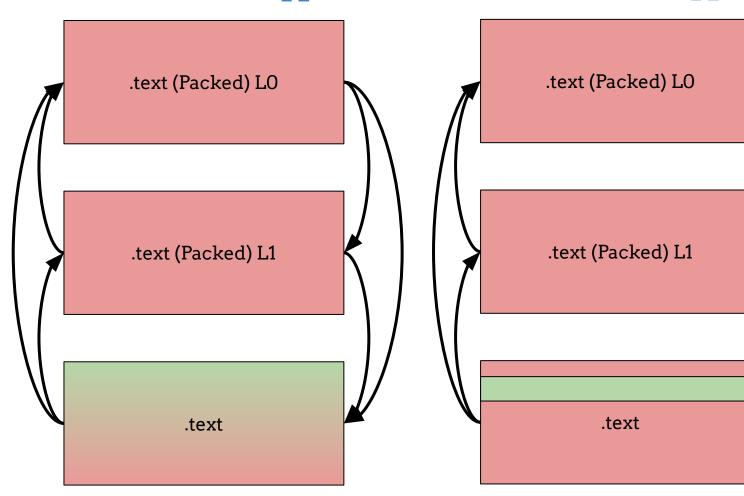


Code Visibility

Full Code: Type IV



Incremental: Type V



Shift Frame: Type V



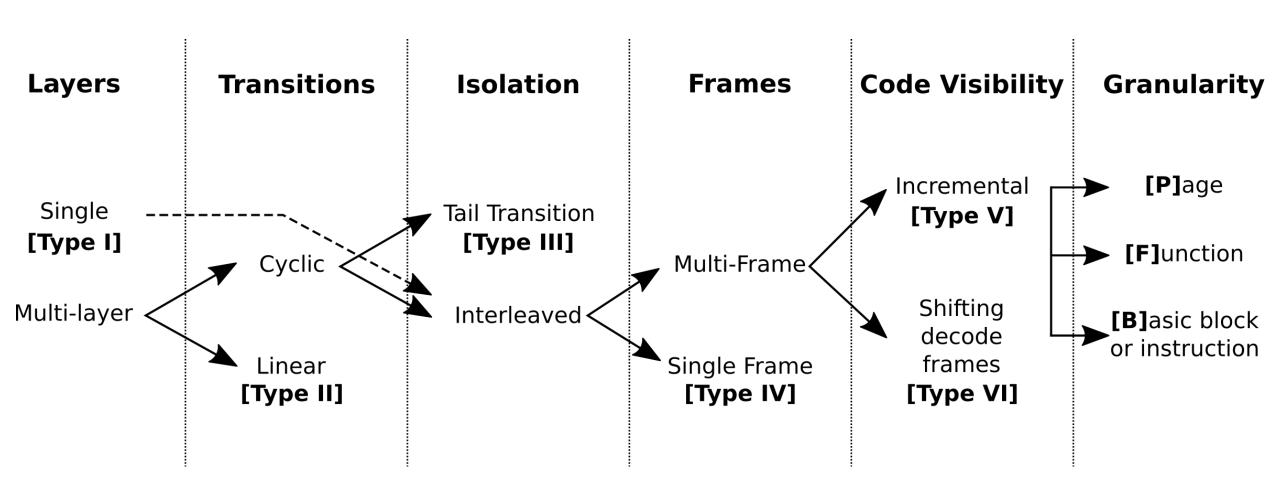
Granularity

- Pages
- Functions
- Basic Blocks
- Instructions





Packers Complexity





Examples of Packers

Туре		Packer
I	Single Layer	UPX
II	Linear Multi Layer	Custom Packer
III	Cyclic Multi Layer	Themida
IV	Interleaved Single Frame	Upack
V	Incremental Multi-Frame	Beria
VI	Shifting Frames	Armadillo



Usage of Packers

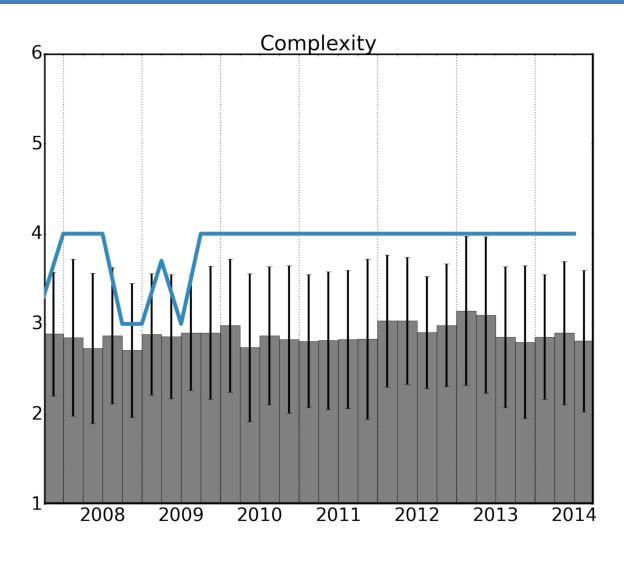
Туре	Off-the-Shelf	Custom Packer
I	25.3 % (173)	7.3% (443)
II	8.2 % (56)	12.4% (752)
III	51.4 % (352)	65.6 % (3993)
IV	12.6% (86)	13.8% (843)
V	0.9% (6)	0.8% (46)
VI	1.8% (12)	0.2% (11)



Usage of Packers

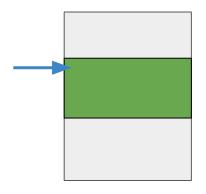
Туре	Off-the-Shelf	Custom Packer
I	25.3 % (173)	7.3% (443)
II	8.2 % (56)	12.4% (752)
III	51.4 % (352)	65.6 % (3993)
IV	12.6% (86)	13.8% (843)
V	0.9% (6)	0.8% (46)
VI	1.8% (12)	0.2% (11)

Packers Timeline

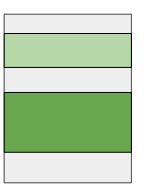




Unpacking Approach









Detect W and X memory regions

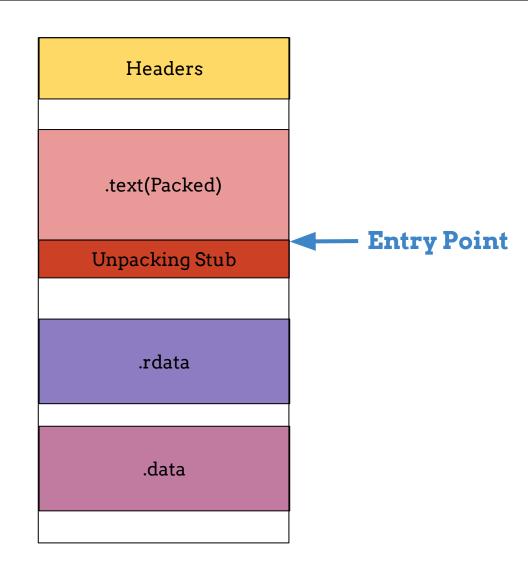
Dump the Program

Deobfuscate the Import Address Table

Recognize the correct dump

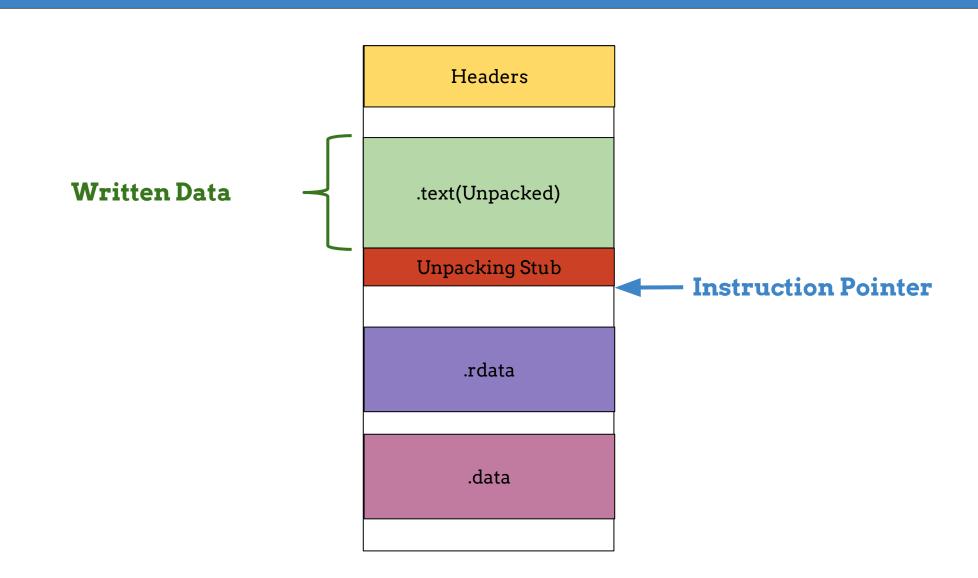






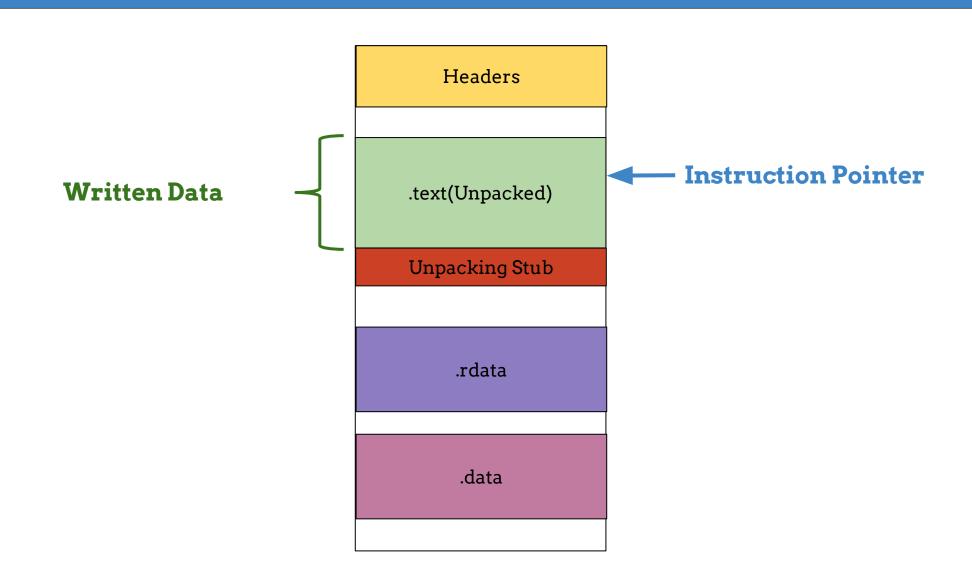






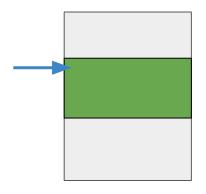




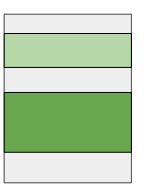




Unpacking Approach









Detect W and X memory regions

Dump the Program

Deobfuscate the Import Address Table

Recognize the correct dump

POLITECNICO Experiment 1: known packers

	Upx	FSG	Mew	mpress	PeCompact	Obsidium	ExePacker	ezip
MessageBox.exe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	•	✓	✓
WinRAR.exe	√	\checkmark	✓	✓	\checkmark		\checkmark	✓

	Xcomp	PElock	ASProtect	ASPack	eXpressor	exe32packer	beropacker	Hyperion
MessageBox.exe	✓	•	•	✓	·	✓	✓	✓
WinRAR.exe	✓	•	•	\checkmark		✓	✓	\checkmark

Original code dumped but Import directory not reconstructed

POLITECNICO Experiment 2: wild samples

Number of packed (checked manually) samples 1096

	N°	%
Unpacked and working	669	63
Unpacked but not executable	139	13
Not unpacked	258	24

Other Anti-Static Analysis

- String Obfuscation
- IAT Obfuscation
- Dynamic Loading
- etc.

Malware Evasive

```
If (amIUnderAnalysis())
   die();
else
  beMalicious();
```

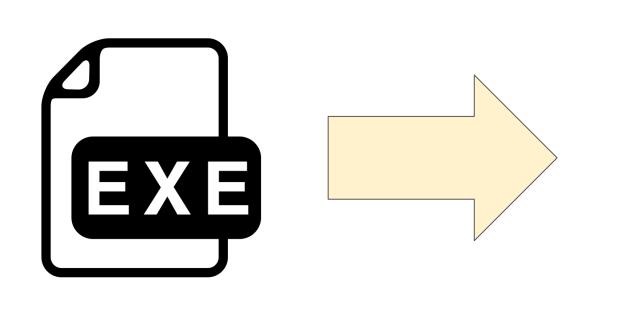


Malware Evasive

```
If (amIUnderAnalysis())
Artifacts
                die();
            else
               beMalicious();
```

Dynamic Binary Instrumentation





.text

.rodata

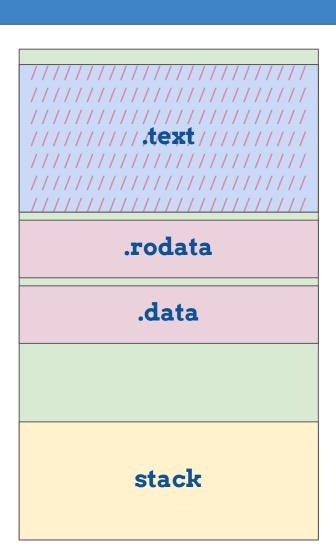
.data

stack

Memory

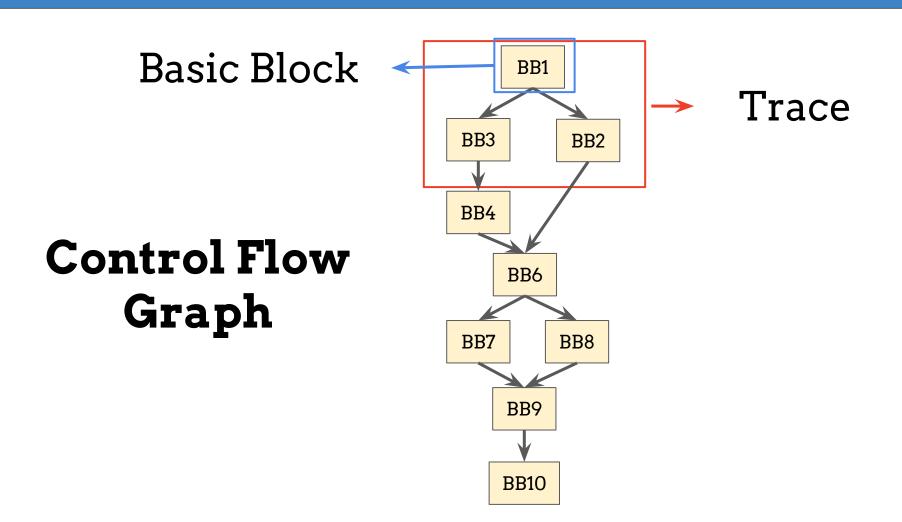




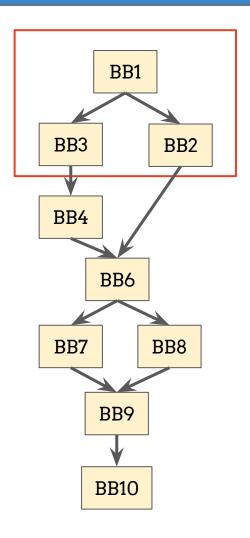


Memory

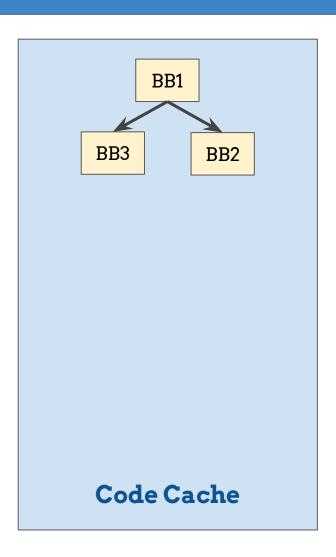




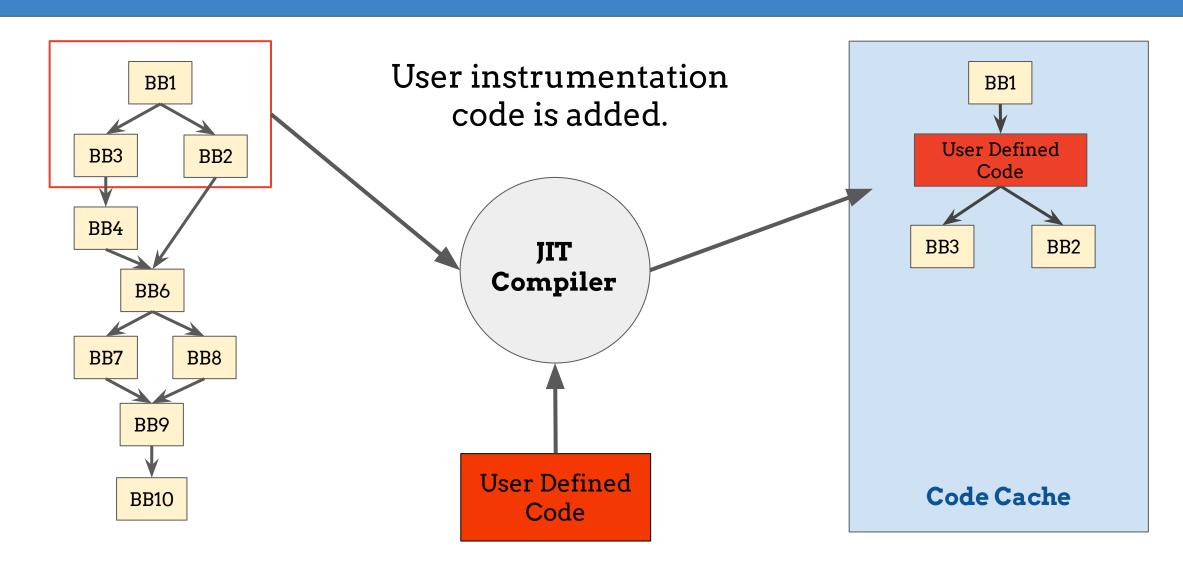




Trace is copied in the code cache







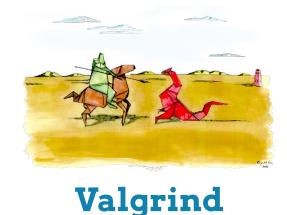


DBI - Evasive Malware





DynamoRIO







DBI - Evasive Malware









Artifacts



DBI - Evasive Malware



Code Cache
Artifacts



JIT Compiler Detection



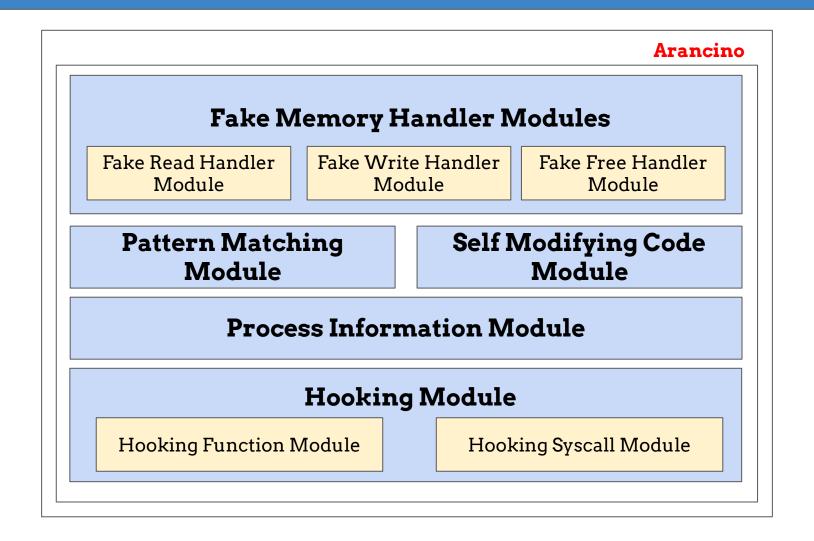
Environment Artifact



Overhead Detection



Arancino





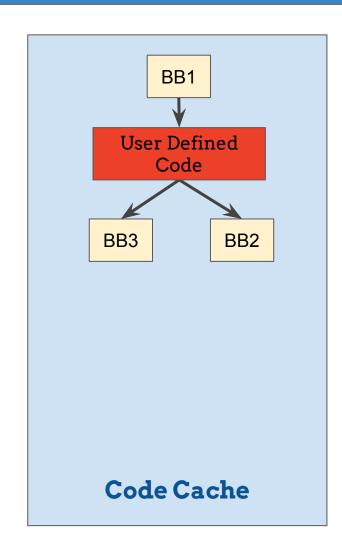


Code Cache Artifacts

All those artifacts caused by having a Code Cache

IP Detection

Self-Modifying Code



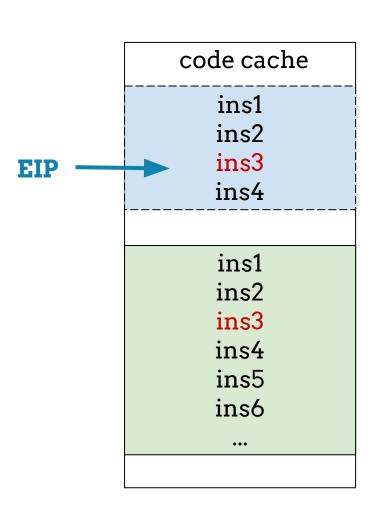


Nt Sycall (EIP -> EDX)

int 2e

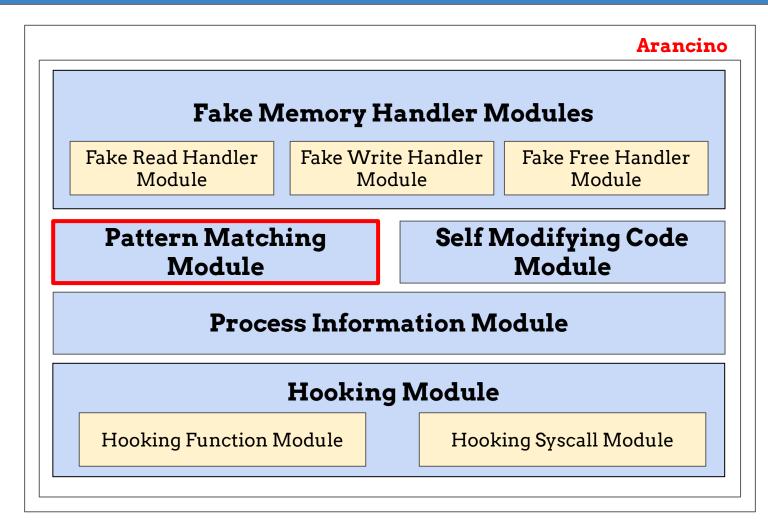
Floating Point Context on the Stack

fsave/ fxsave/ fstenv





- PatchMap: List of instructions and func pointers
- PatchDispatcher: check and add patch to instructions during trace building.

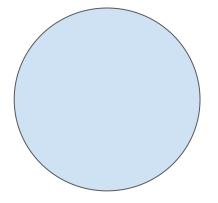




TRACE

add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c

PATCH DISPATCHER



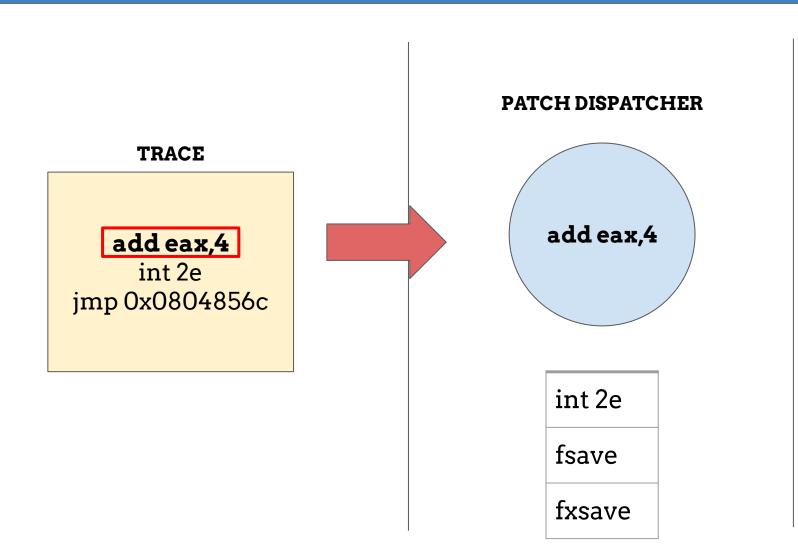
int 2e

fsave

fxsave

PATCHED TRACE



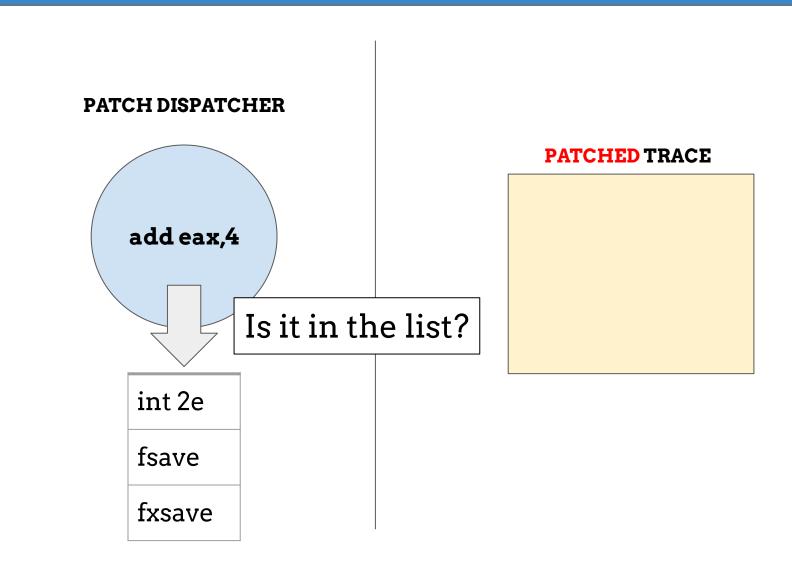


PATCHED TRACE



TRACE

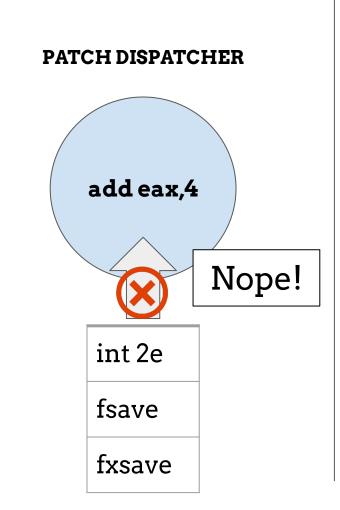
add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c





TRACE

add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c

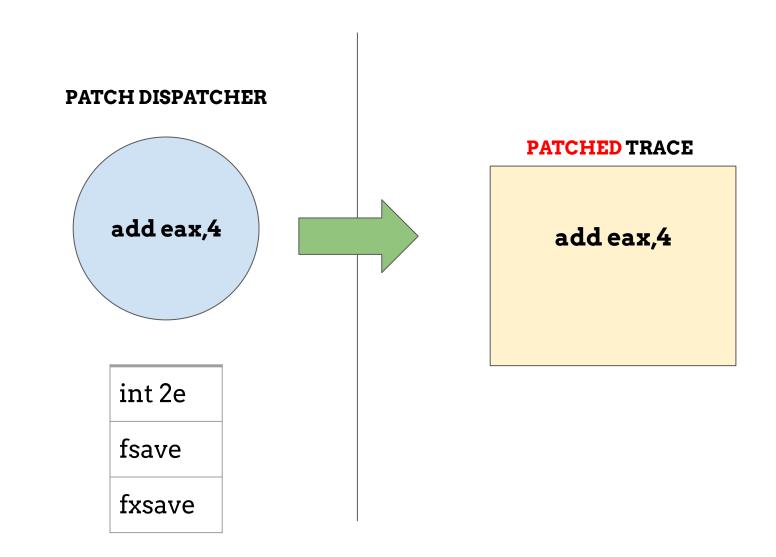


PATCHED TRACE

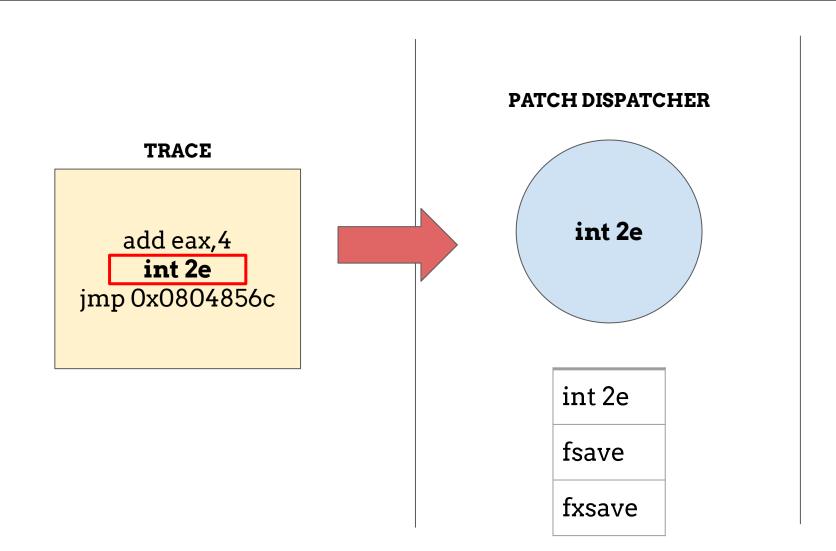


TRACE

add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c







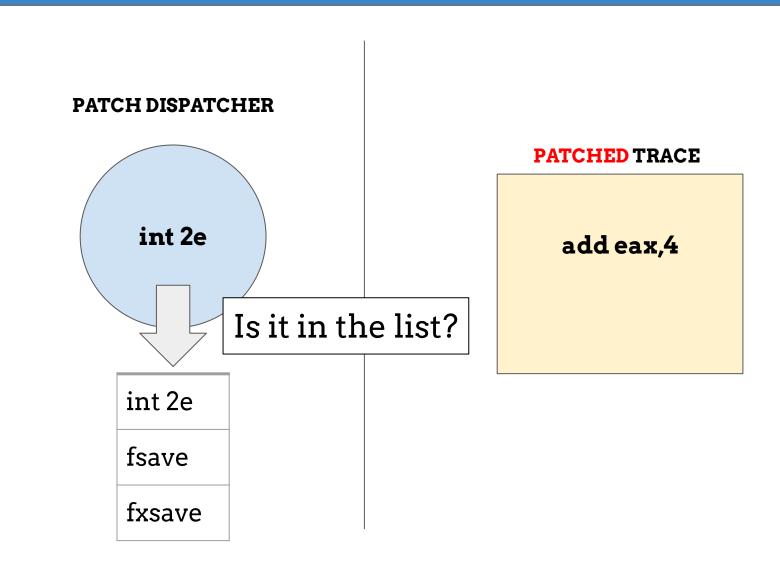
PATCHED TRACE

add eax,4



TRACE

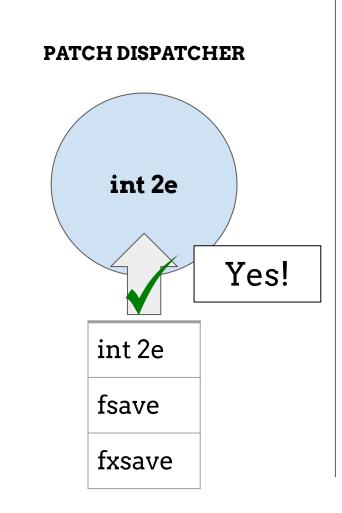
add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c





TRACE

add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c



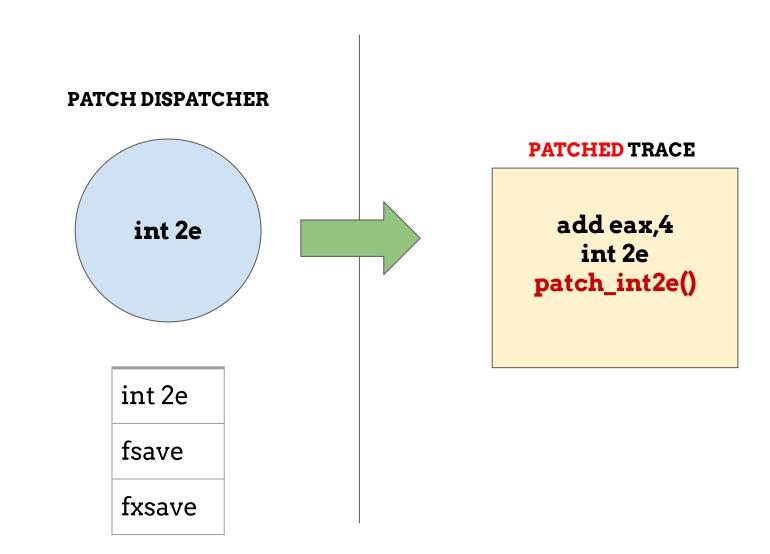
PATCHED TRACE

add eax,4

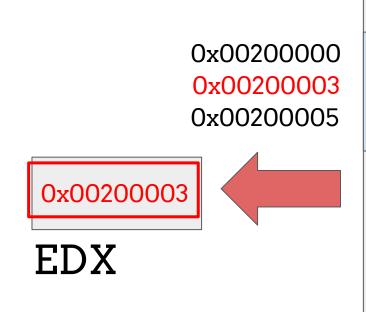


TRACE

add eax,4 int 2e jmp 0x0804856c







add eax,4
int 2e
patch_int_2e()
Jmp 0x0804856c

Code Cache

0x00400000 0x00400003 0x00400005 add eax,4 int 2e Jmp 0x0804856c [...]

Main module

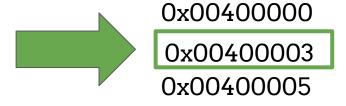


0x00200000 0x00200003 0x00200005

0x00400003



EDX



add eax,4 int 2e **patch_int_2e()** Jmp 0x0804856c

Code Cache

add eax,4 int 2e Jmp 0x0804856c

Main module

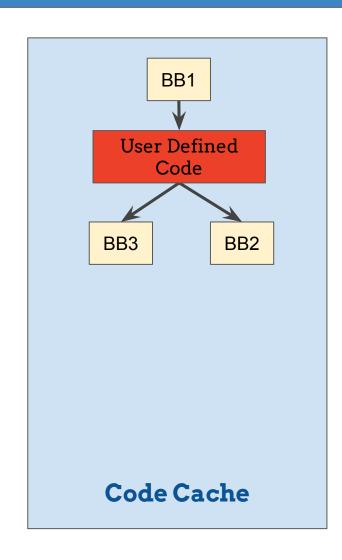


Code Cache Artifacts

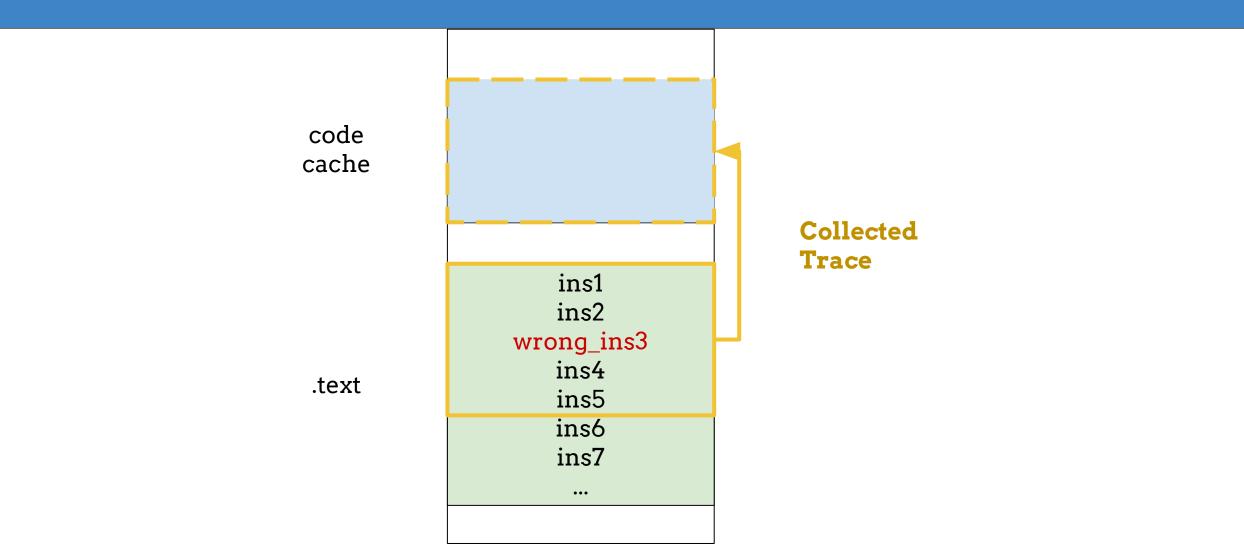
All those artifacts caused by having a Code Cache

IP Detection

Self-Modifying Code









code cache

.text

ins1
ins2
wrong_ins3
ins4
ins5

ins1 ins2 wrong_ins3 ins4 ins5

> ins6 ins7

> > •••

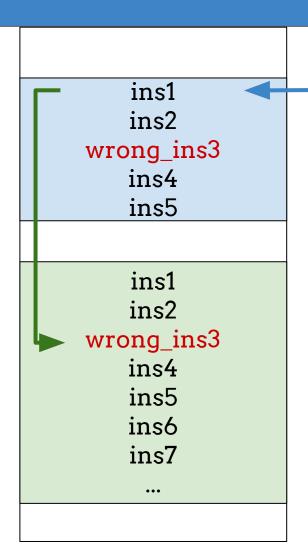
Collected Trace



code cache

Patch

.text

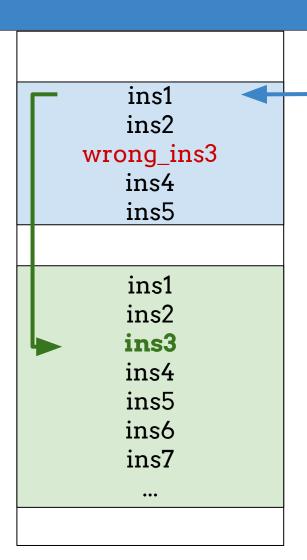




code cache

Patch

.text





code cache

.text

ins1 ins2 wrong_ins3 ins4 ins5

ins1
ins2
ins3
ins4
ins5
ins6
ins7



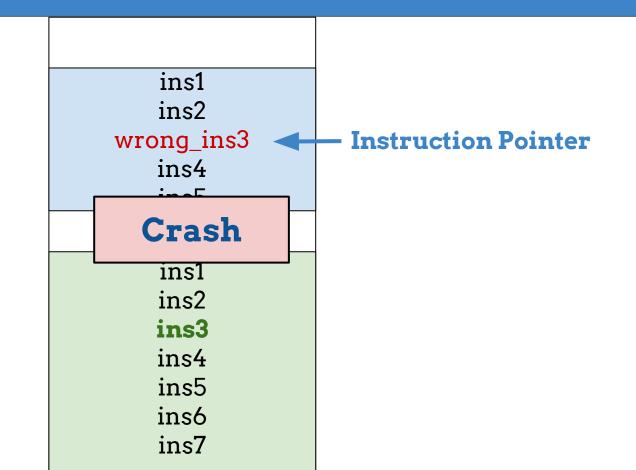
code cache

.text

ins1 ins2 wrong_ins3 ins4 ins5

ins1
ins2
ins3
ins4
ins5
ins6
ins7
...



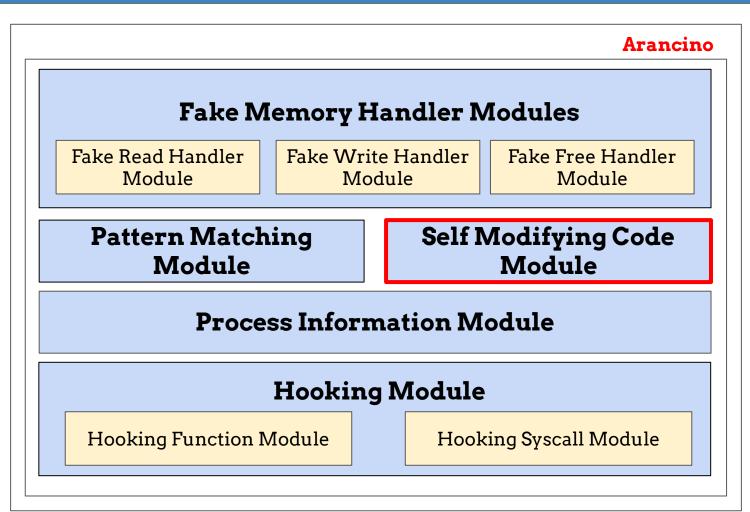


code cache

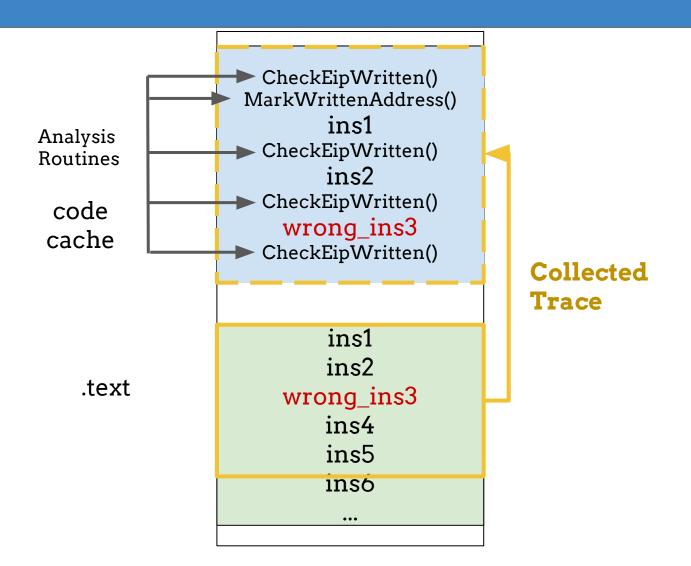
.text



- MarkWrittenAddress: store which address has been overwritten
- CheckEIPWritten: check if next instruction has been overwritten.









code cache

.text

CheckEipWritten()
MarkWrittenAddress()

ins1
CheckEipWritten()
ins2
CheckEipWritten()
wrong_ins3
CheckEipWritten()

ins1
ins2
wrong_ins3
ins4
ins5
ins6
...



code cache

.text

CheckEipWritten()
MarkWrittenAddress()
ins1
CheckEipWritten()
ins2
CheckEipWritten()
wrong_ins3
CheckEipWritten()

ins1
ins2
wrong_ins3
ins4
ins5
ins6

address_ins3

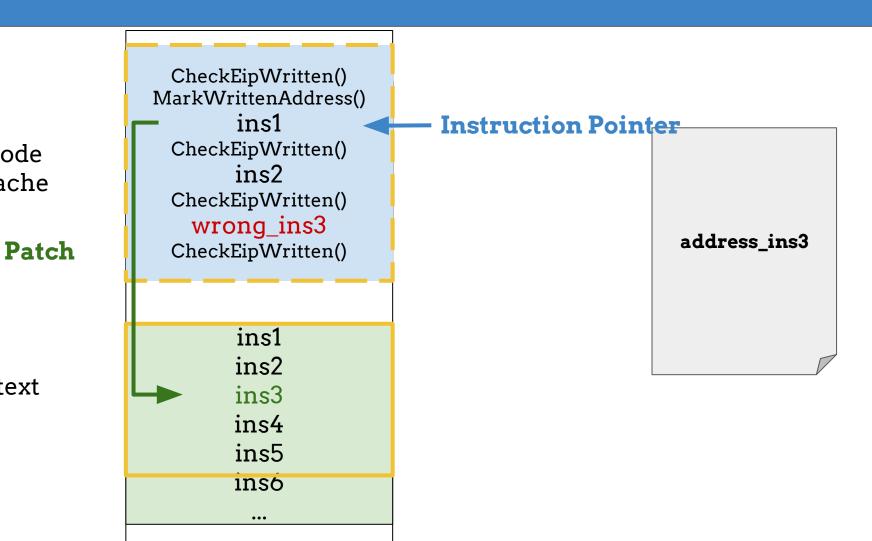


code

cache

.text

CCA - Self Modifying Code





code cache

.text

CheckEipWritten()
MarkWrittenAddress()
ins1
CheckEipWritten()
ins2
CheckEipWritten()
wrong_ins3
CheckEipWritten()

ins1
ins2
ins3
ins4
ins5
ins6

Instruction Pointer

address_ins3



CheckEipWritten()
MarkWrittenAddress()
ins1
CheckEipWritten()
ins2
CheckEipWritten()
wrong_ins3
CheckEipWritten()

ins1
ins1
ins2

ins3

ins4

ins5

ınso

.text

code

cache



code cache

.text

CheckEipWritten()
MarkWrittenAddress()
ins1
CheckEipWritten()
ins2
CheckEipWritten()
wrong_ins3
CheckEipWritten()

ins1

ins2

ins3

ins5

inso

•••

Instruction Pointer

address_ins3



code cache

.text

CheckEipWritten()
MarkWrittenAddress()
ins1
CheckEipWritten()
ins2
CheckEipWritten()
wrong_ins3
CheckEipWritten()

ins1
ins2
ins3
ins4
ins5
ins6

Instruction Pointer

address_ins3

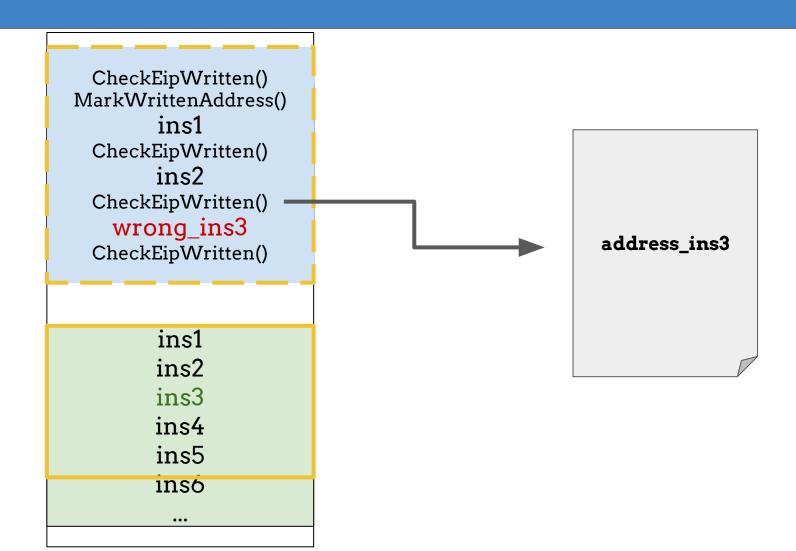


code

cache

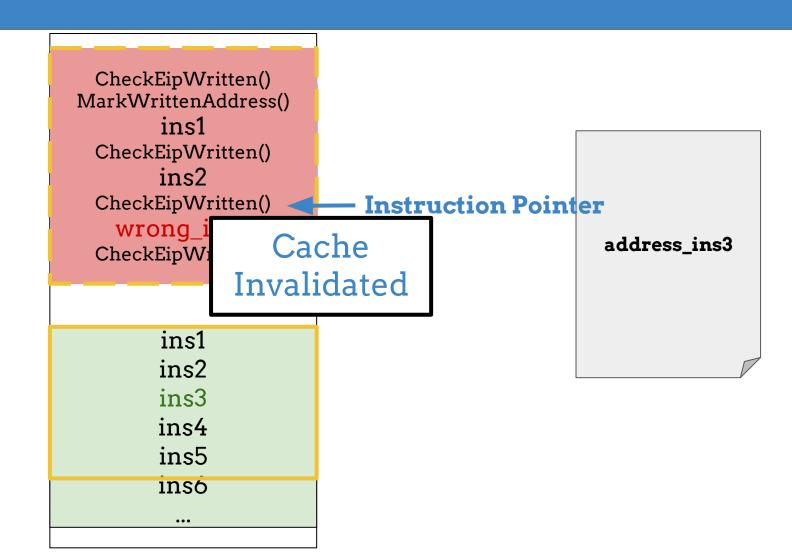
.text

CCA - Self Modifying Code





CCA - Self Modifying Code

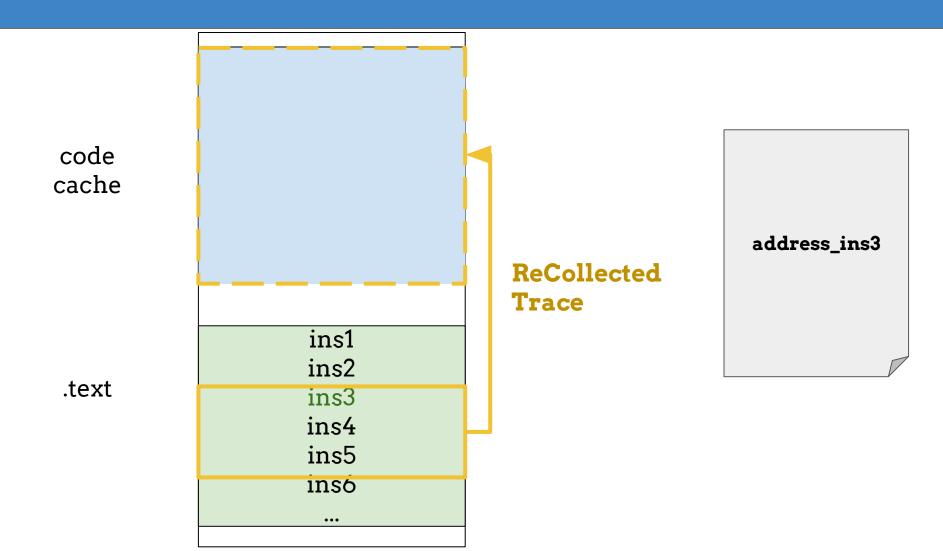


code cache

.text



CCA - Self Modifying Code





CCA - Self Modifying Code

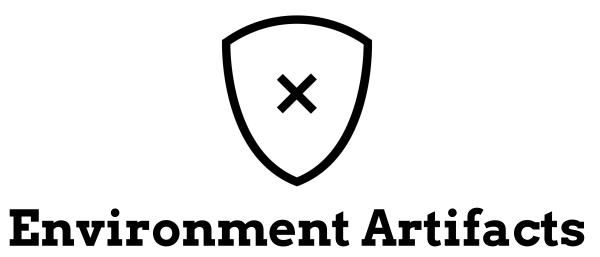
code cache

.text

CheckEipWritten()
ins3
CheckEipWritten()
ins4
CheckEipWritten()
ins5

ins1 ins2 ins3 ins4 ins5 ins6 ReCollected Trace

address_ins3





Environment Artifacts

Parent Detection



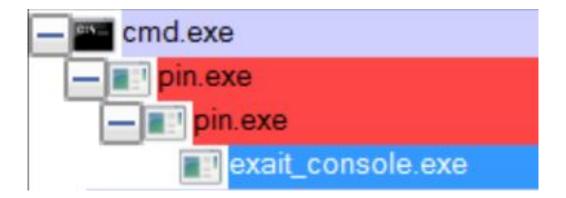
Memory Fingerprinting



EA - Parent Detection

Malware can check which is the process father.

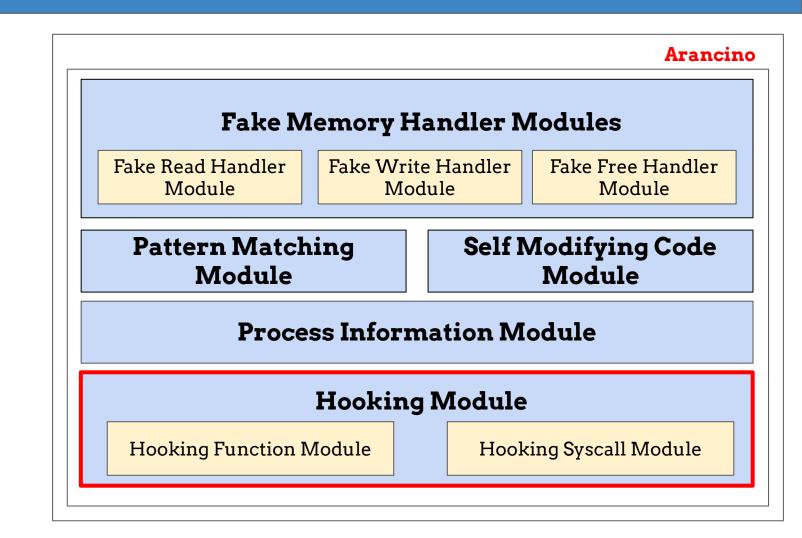
- NtQuerySystemInformation
- CSRSS.exe





Arancino - Hooking Module

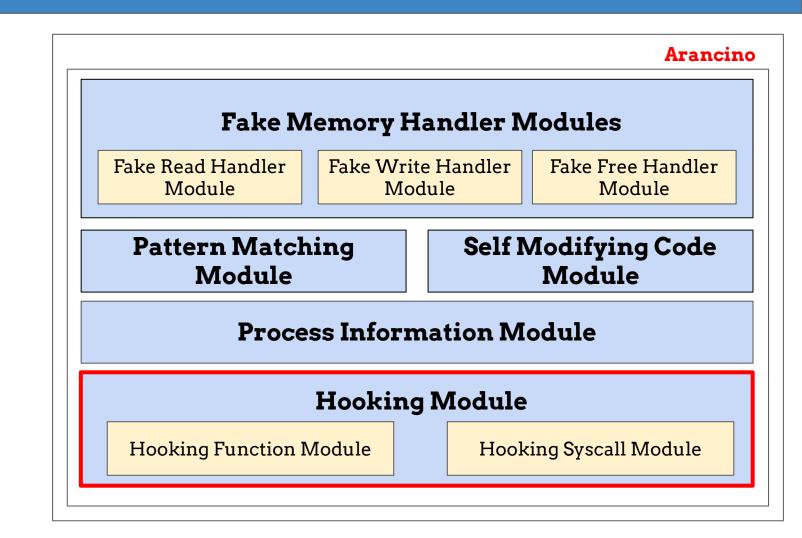
- Hooking Function
 Module: Install an
 Hook on dll's
 Functions
- Hooking Syscall
 Module: Install an
 Hook on dll's
 Functions



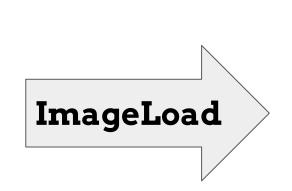


Arancino - Hooking Module

- Hooking Function
 Module: Install an
 Hook on dll's
 Functions
- Hooking Syscall
 Module: Install an
 Hook on dll's
 Functions





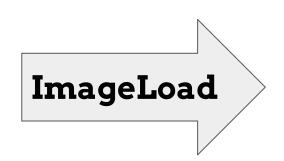


.text

Memory

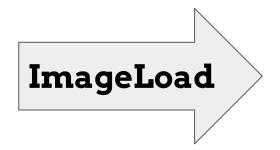
Pintool.dll





.text new.dll Pintool.dll







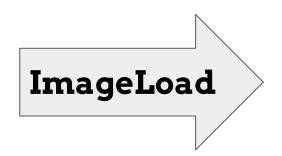


VirtualFree VirtualQueryExtext

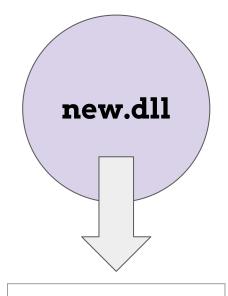
new.dll

Pintool.dll









VirtualFree

VirtualQueryEx

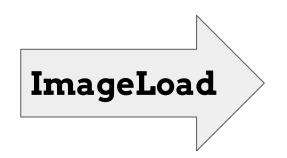
•••

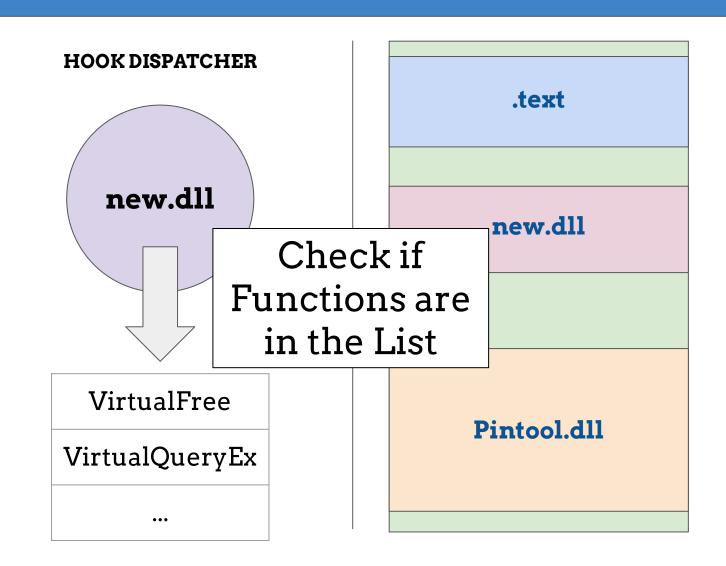
.text

new.dll

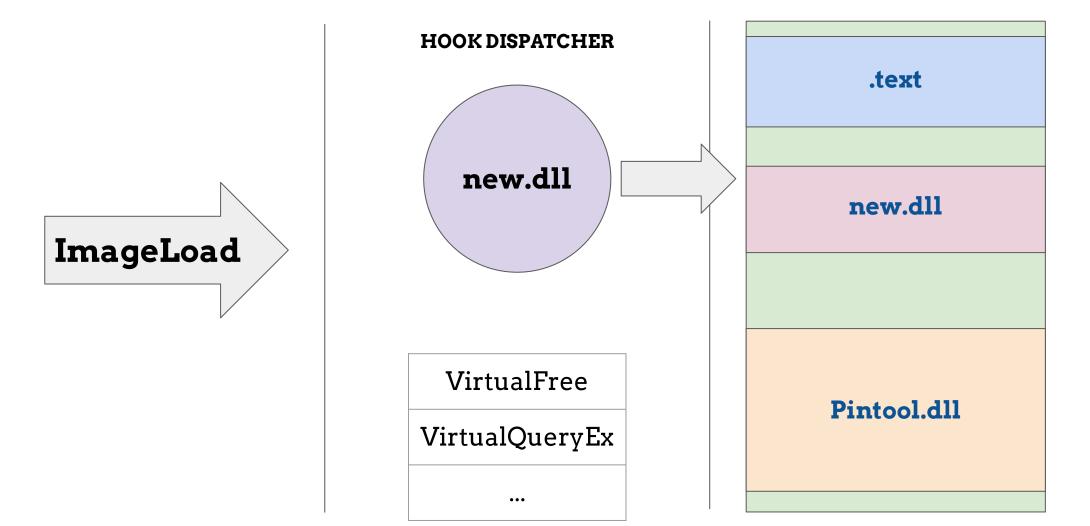
Pintool.dll



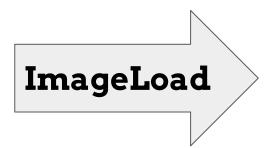






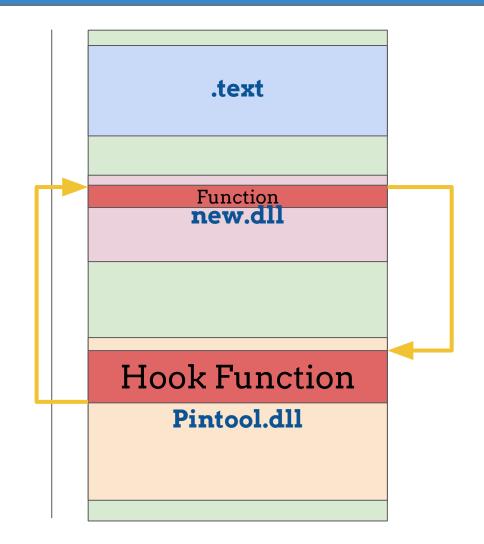








VirtualFree
VirtualQueryEx
...



EA - Parent Detection

Hooked NtQuerySystemInformation

pin.exe -> cmd.exe

Hooked NtOpenProcess

to deny access to CSRSS. exe



Environment Artifacts

• Parent Detection



Memory Fingerprinting



.text

new.dll

Pintool.dll

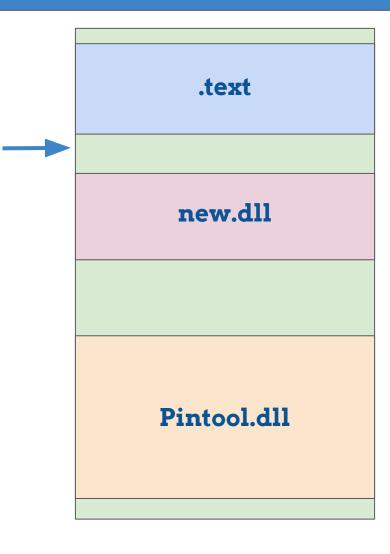


.text

new.dll

Pintool.dll





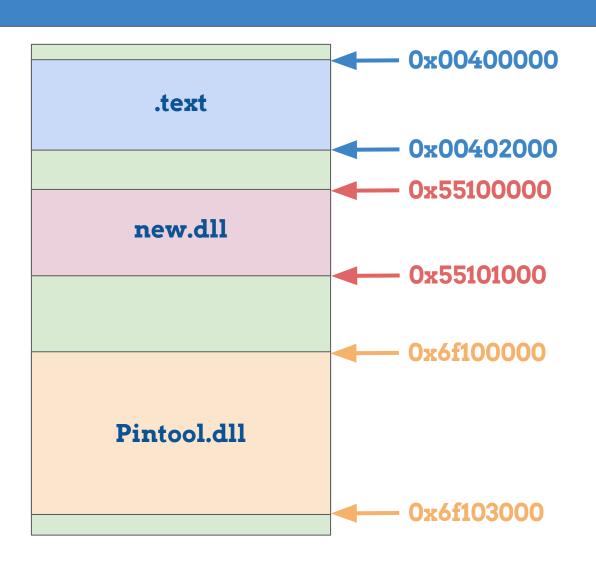


.text new.dll Pintool.dll

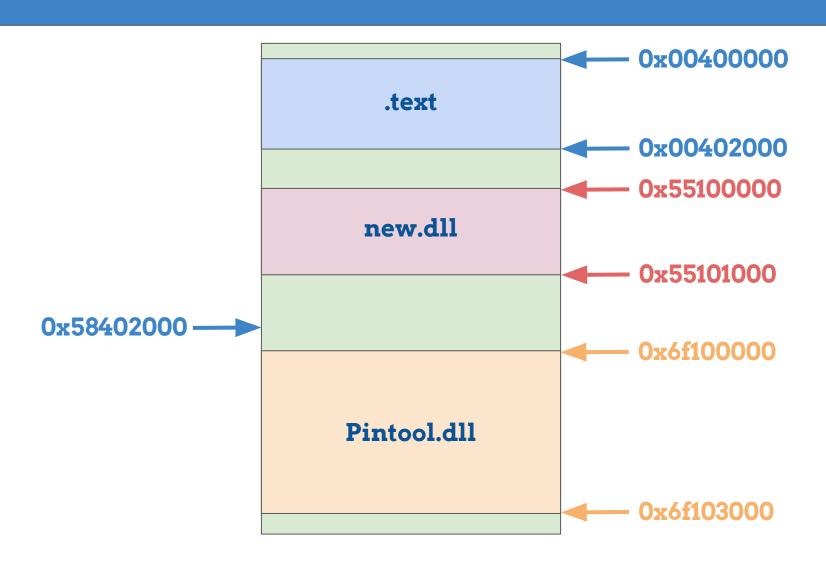


.text new.dll Pintool.dll

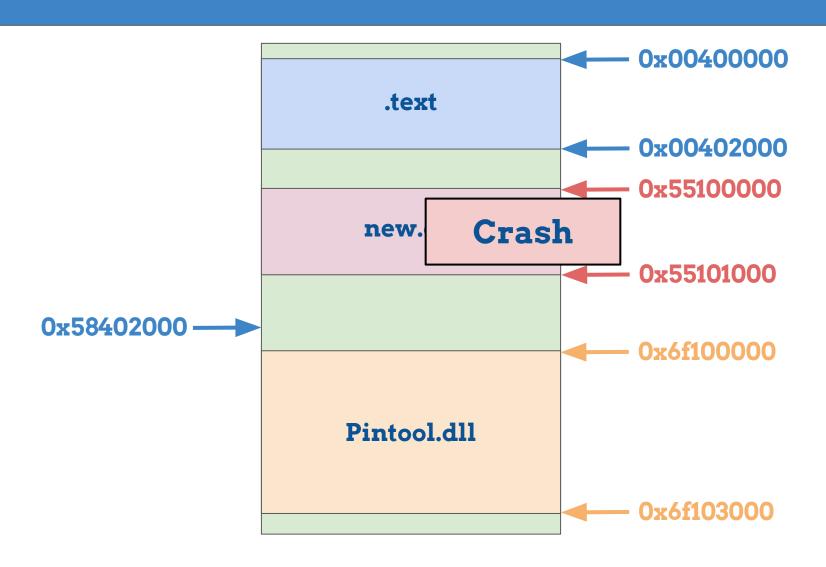














.text

new.dll

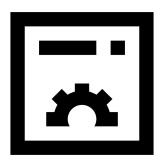
Pintool.dll

VirtualQuery

We Hook **NtQueryVirtualMemory**

We create a Whitelist of accessible memory regions updated at runtime.

- **Main Module**
- Libraries
- Heap and Stack
- PEB, TEB, etc.
- Mapped files



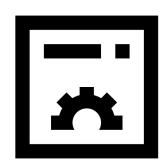
JIT Compiler Detection



JIT Compiler Detection

- Memory Page Permissions
 - Checks if there are WX pages

DLL Hook Detection



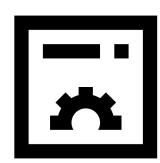
Memory Allocations



JIT Compiler Detection

- Memory Page Permissions
 - Checks if there are WX pages

DLL Hook Detection



Memory Allocations



JITC Detection - DLL Hook

A process can search through memory for discrepancy caused by Hooks.

```
77C76F58 8D8424 DC020000 LER EAX, DWORD PTR SS: [ESP+2DC]
77C76F5F 64:8B0D 0000000 MOV ECX, DWORD PTR FS: [0]
77C76F66 BA 406FC777 MOV EDX, ntdll.77C76F40
77C76F6B 8908 MOV DWORD PTR DS: [EAX], ECX
```

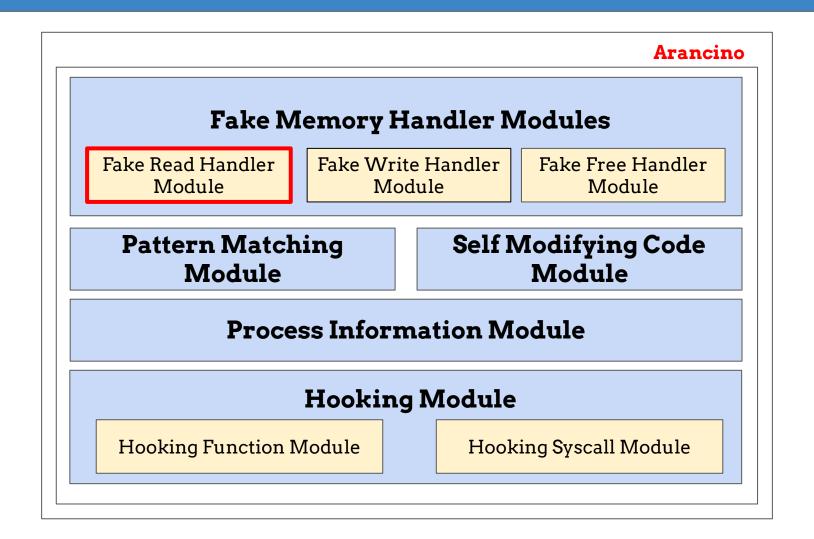
KiUserApcDispatcher - normal execution

```
77C76F58 E9 839CA0E3 JMP 58680BE0
77C76F5D 0000 ADD BYTE PTR DS:[EAX],AL
77C76F5F 64:8B0D 0000000 MOV ECX,DWORD PTR FS:[0]
77C76F66 BA 406FC777 MOV EDX,ntdll.77C76F40
```

KiUserApcDispatcher - Instrumented execution

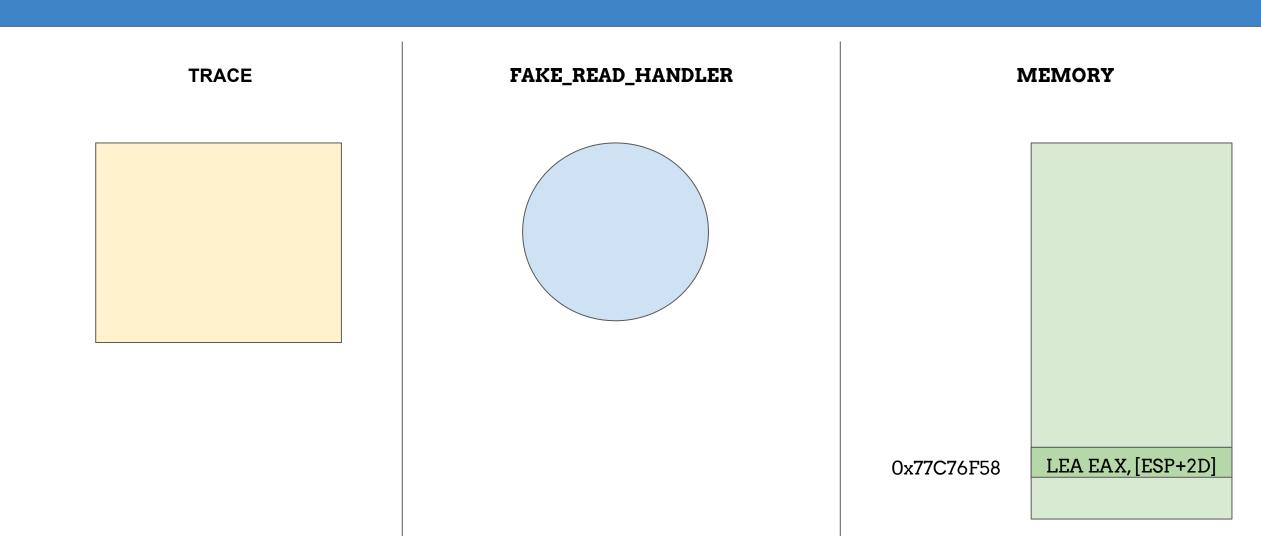


Arancino



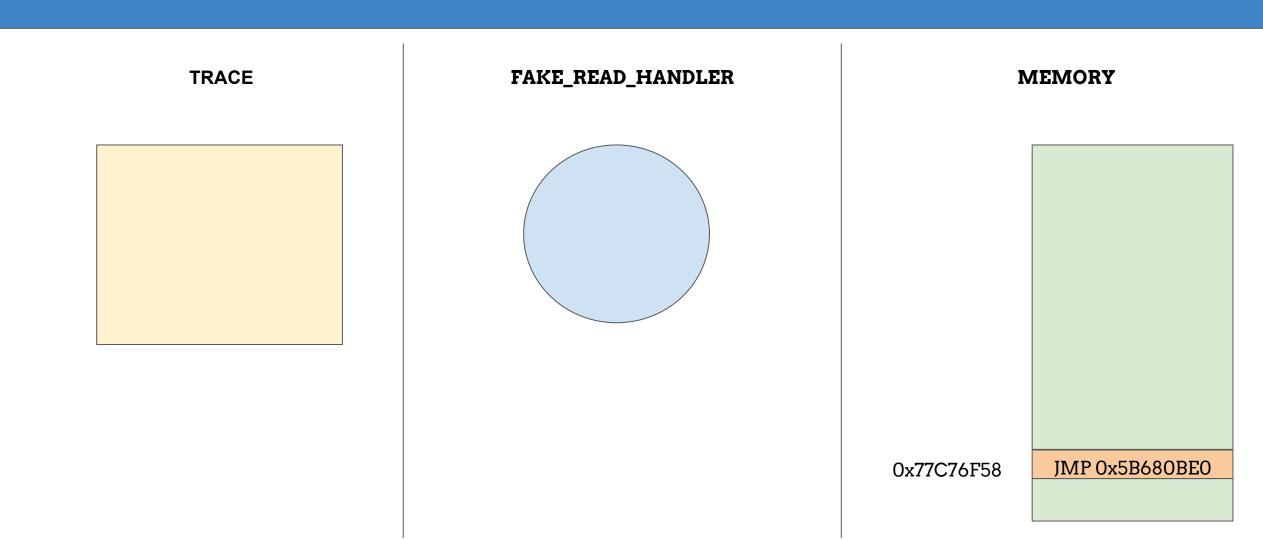


POLITECNICO JITC Detection - DLL Hook



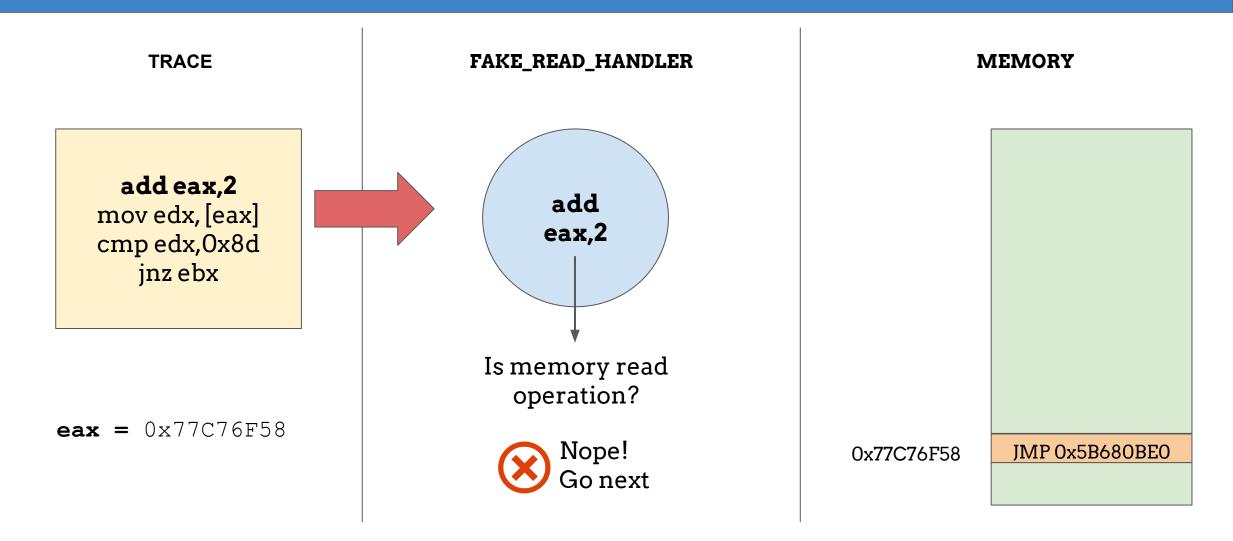


POLITECNICO JITC Detection - DLL Hook



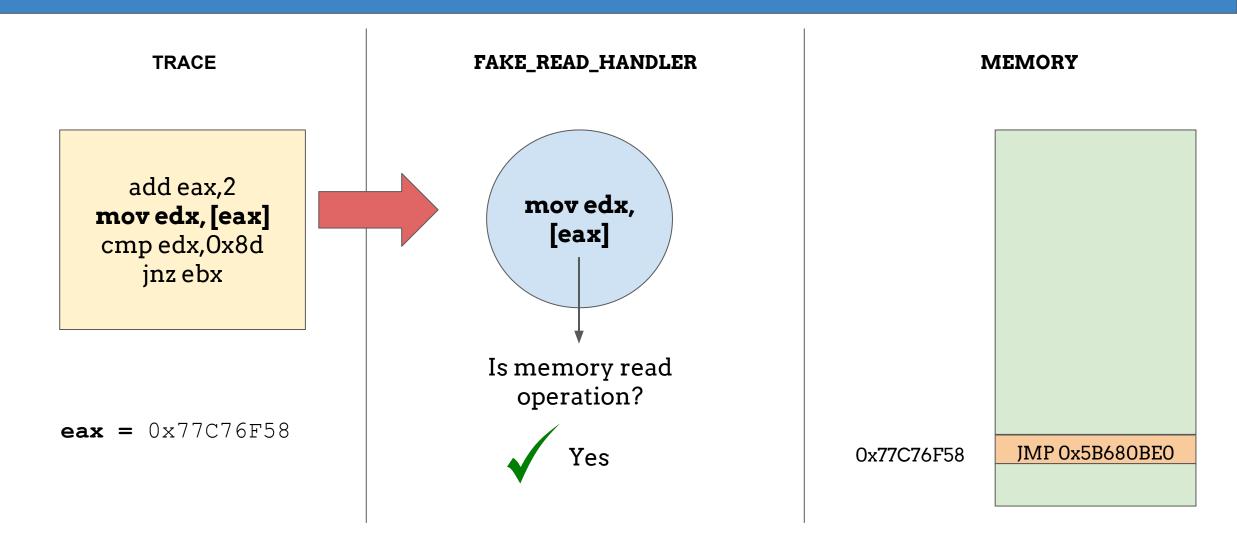


JITC Detection - DLL Hook



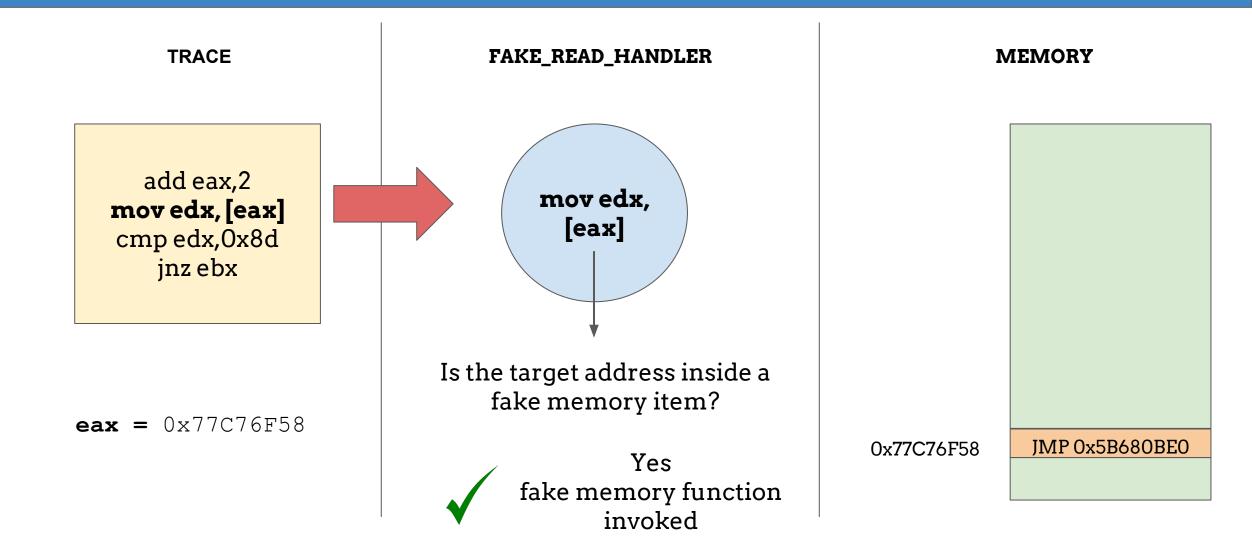


JITC Detection - DLL Hook





JITC Detection - DLL Hook



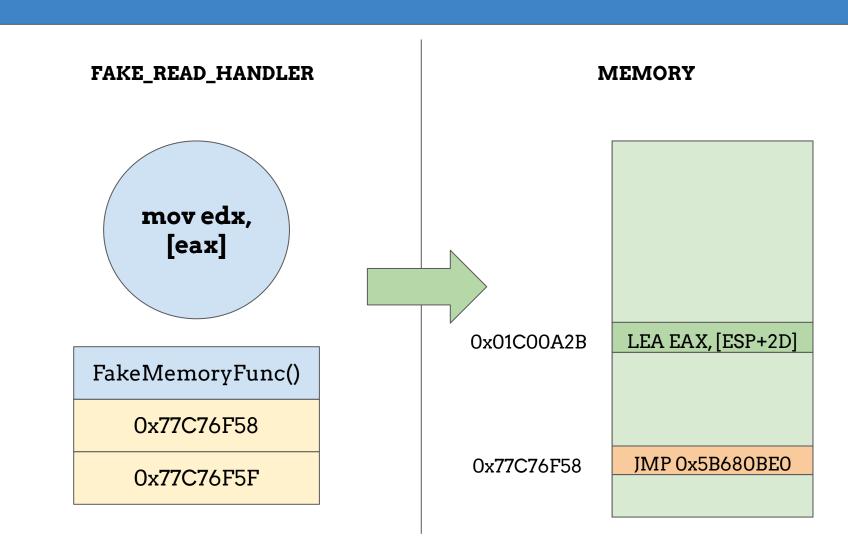


JITC Detection - DLL Hook

TRACE

add eax,2
mov edx, [eax]
cmp edx,0x8d
jnz ebx

eax = 0x77C76F58





JITC Detection - DLL Hook

TRACE

add eax,2 mov edx, [eax] cmp edx,0x8d jnz ebx

Instrumented process read the fake value: LEA EAX, [ESP+2D] and doesn't detect PIN FAKE_READ_HANDLER

mov edx, [eax] **MEMORY**

0x01C00A2B

0x77C76F58

JMP 0x5B680BE0

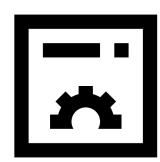
LEA EAX, [ESP+2D]



JIT Compiler Detection

- Memory Page Permissions
 - Checks if there are WX pages

DLL Hook Detection



Memory Allocations

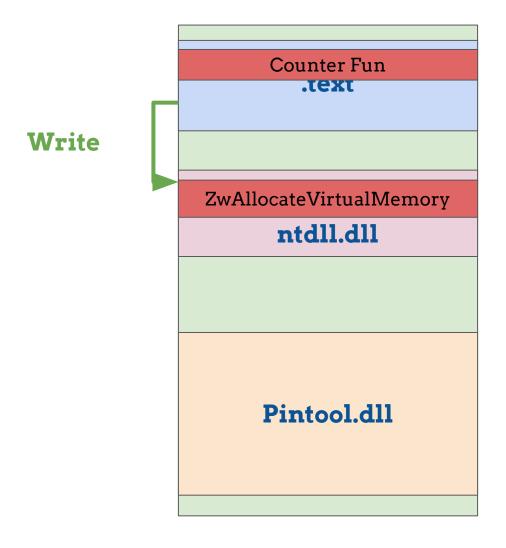
JIT Compiler needs **Memory** to perform the compiling

We can monitor the allocation by Hooking at **ZwAllocateVirtualMemory**



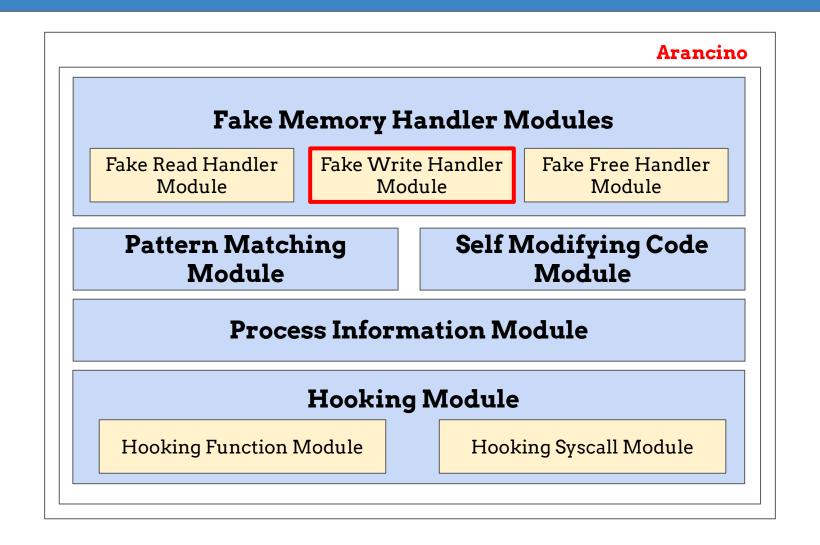
Counter Fun .text ZwAllocate Virtual Memoryntdll.dll Pintool.dll



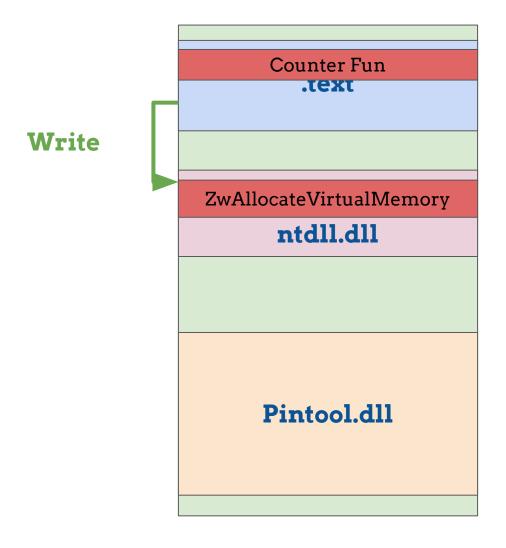




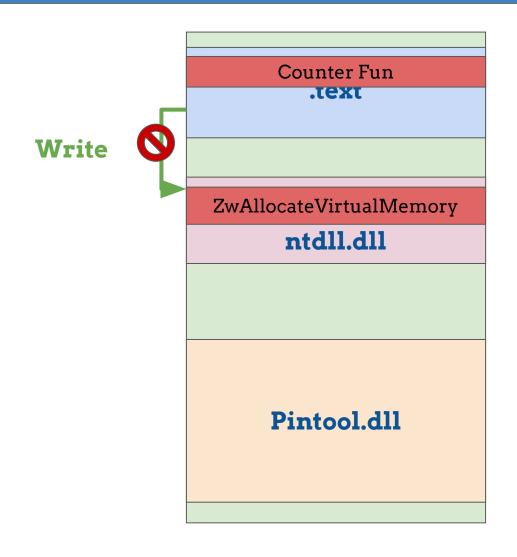
Arancino



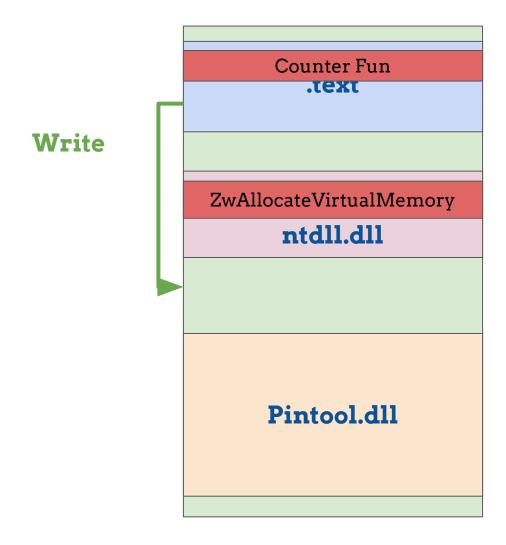




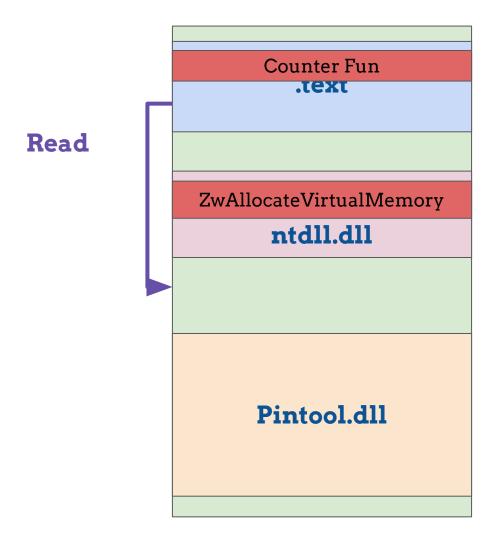


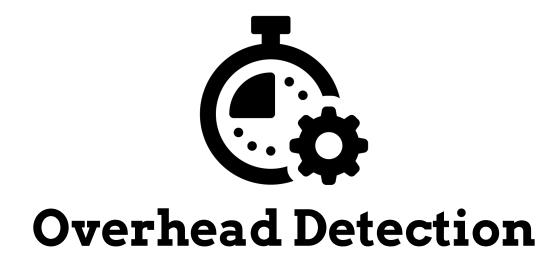










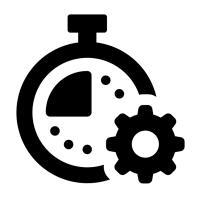




Overhead Detection

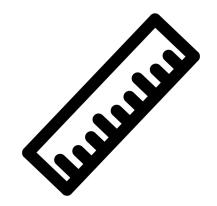
Windows Time

- Use windows API
 - GetTickCount and timeGetTime
- Or Windows Structures
 - KUSER_SHARED_DATA.



• CPU Time

Count CPU cycles (rdtsc)



Evasive Malware Measurement



Anti-Instrumentation Measurement

Dataset

- **7006** Binaries
- Virus Total Intelligence (3+ AV Detection)
- From October 2016 to February 2017



Anti-Instrumentation Measurement

Environment Setup

- Virtual Machine (VirtualBox)
- Windows 7 (64-bit)
- Custom Apps (Adobe Reader, Chrome, and media players)
- User Data (saved credentials, browser history, etc.)
- Basic User Activity (moving the mouse, launching applications)
- 5 min run



Evasive Malware

At least one evasive behavior: 1,093 / 7006 (15.6%)

Family Name [1]	Samples	Evasive	Techniques
virlock	619 (8.8%)	600 (96.9%)	2
confidence	505 (7.2%)	68 (13.5%)	4
virut	242 (3.5%)	13 (5.4%)	2
mira	230 (3.3%)	9 (3.9%)	1
upatre	187 (2.7%)	2 (1.1%)	1
lamer	171 (2.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0
sivis	168 (2.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0



Top Evasive Malware

At least one evasive behavior: 1,093 / 7006 (15.6%)

Family Name [1]	Samples	Evasive	Techniques
sfone	19	19 (100.0%)	1
unruy	11	11 (100.0%)	1
virlock	619	600 (96.9%)	2
vilsel	13	8 (61.5%)	2
urelas	18	9 (47.4%)	2
confuser	52	8 (44.4%)	1
vobfus	29	19 (36.5%)	1

Top Techniques Used

At least one evasive behavior: 1,093 / 7006 (15.6%)

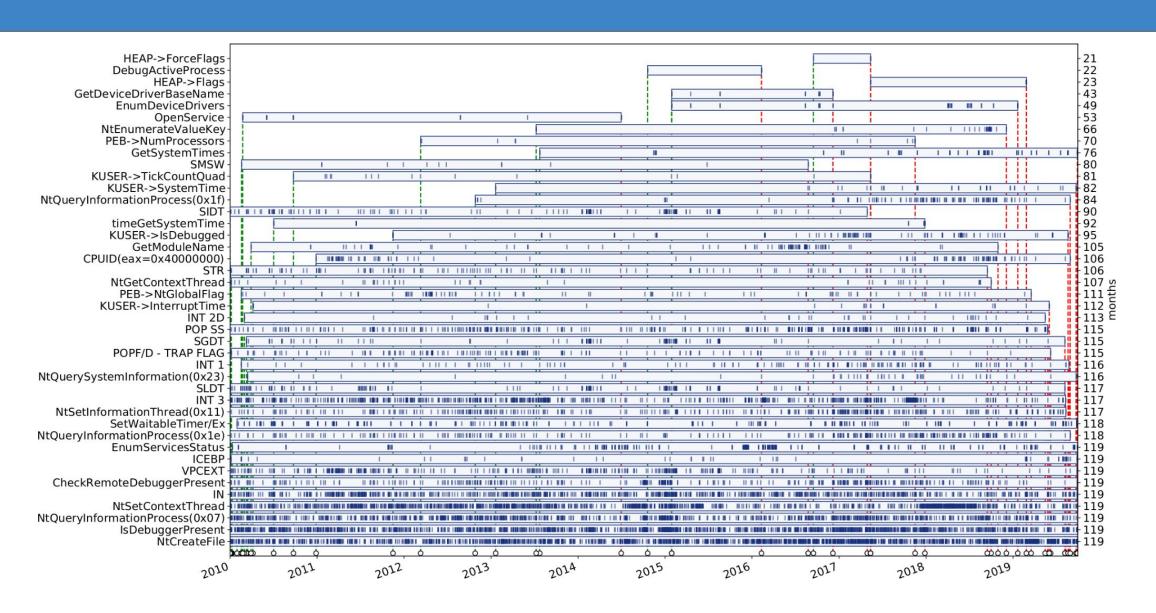
	Technique	#
Code Cache Artifacts	Self-modifying code	897
Environment Artifacts	Parent detection	259
JIT Compiler Detection	Write on protected memory region	40
Environment Artifacts	Check DEBUG flag	5
Environment Artifacts	Memory fingerprinting	3



Overhead

	Pin time [ms]	Arancino [ms]	Arancino overhead [%]	Module activated
Parent Detection	850	870	2%	Hooking Module
EIP Detection - int2e	710	1,150	62%	Pattern Match Module
Memory Fingerprinting	2,000	7,090	254,5%	Fake Read Module
Memory Allocations	2,000	2,900	45%	Fake Write Module + Hooking Module

Evasive Malware Timeline



Thanks!

https://github.com/necst/arancino

Mario Polino mario.polino@polimi.it

Questions?

https://github.com/necst/arancino

Mario Polino mario.polino@polimi.it



Credits

- Icons, CC from Noun Project:
 - Vicons Design
 - Aya Sofya
 - o Adnen Kadri
 - Stock Image Folio
 - Icon Fair
 - Creative Stall
 - Gregor Cresnar