Malware Dynamic Analysis
Part 6

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http://opensecuritytraining.info/MalwareDynamicAnalysis.html

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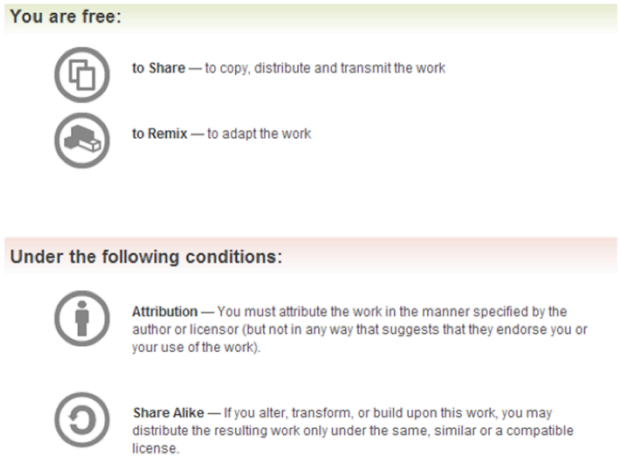

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Where are we at?

- Part 5: Using an all-in-one sandbox
  - Cuckoo Sandbox
  - Malware Attribute Enumeration and Characterization (MAEC)
  - Different sandbox results comparison
- Part 6: Actionable output
  - Yara
  - Snort

See notes for citation

Yara

- Open source tool to identify and classify malicious files based on textual or binary patterns
- Light-weight way of performing signature checks
- Can be used for any binary data (exe, pdf, pcaps, etc)
- Useful in an email server for tip-offs, and filtering

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[References]

- yara-project, http://code.google.com/p/yara-project/

Yara Signature (1)

```
rule silent_banker : banker
{
    meta:
      description = "This is just an example"
      thread_level = 3
      in_the_wild = true

    strings:
      $a = {6A 40 68 00 30 00 00 6A 14 8D 91}
      $b = {8D 4D B0 2B C1 83 C0 27 99 6A 4E 59 F7 F9}
      $c = "UVODFRYSIHLNWPEJXQZAKCBGMT"

    condition:
      $a or $b or $c
}
```

http://code.google.com/p/yara-project/

Yara Signature (2)

- Identifier
  - Any alphanumeric characters and underscores but cannot start with a number
- String definition
  - A string identifier starts with $ followed by alphanumeric character and underscores
  - Values
    - Text strings enclosed by double quotes
    - Hex strings enclosed by curly brackets
    - Regular expression enclosed by slashes

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[References]

- Víctor Manuel Álvarez, YARA User's Manual 1.6, http://code.google.com/p/yara-project/downloads/detail?name=YARA%20User%27s%20Manual%201.6.pdf

Yara Signature (3)

- Condition operators
  - Boolean
    - and, or, not
  - Relational
    - >=, <=, <, >, ==, !=
  - Arithmetic
    - +, -, *, /
  - Bitwise
    - &, |, <<, >>, ~
- Counting strings
  - strings:
    - $a = “text”
  - condition:
    - #a == 6

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Bot classification

- We will make a Yara signature for a bot malware in this lab

1) Identify characteristic strings from the agobot sample
   - $ strings ~/MalwareClass/samples/agobot/malware.exe > /tmp/agobot.txt
2) Make an Yara signature using combination of the identified strings
   - Create a file (e.g. detection.yar) for the signature
3) Run Yara
   - $ yara detection.yar ~/MalwareClass/samples/agobot/malware.exe

One possible answer

```
rule Agobot
{
   strings:
      $msg = "PhatBNC" nocase
      $conf1 = "ddos_maxthreads"
      $conf2 = "scan_maxsockets"
      $conf3 = "scan_maxthreads"
      $cmd1 = "do_stealth"
      $cmd2 = "do_avkill"
      $cmd3 = "do_speedtest"
      $cmd4 = "bot_topiccmd"
      $cmd5 = "bot_meltserver"
      $cmd6 = "bot_randnick"
   condition:
      (#msg > 10) and $conf1 and $conf2 and $conf3
       and (any of ($cmd1, $cmd2, $cmd3, $cmd4, $cmd5, $cmd6))
}
```

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- Part 5: Using an all-in-one sandbox
  - Cuckoo Sandbox
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Snort (1)

- Open source network intrusion detection/prevention tool (NIDS/NIPS)
- 3 modes
  - Sniffer: read packets off the network and display on the screen
  - Packet Logger: logs the packets to a log file
  - NIDS: analyze network traffic and match with user-defined signatures and make actions (e.g. alert, drop, etc.)

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[References]

- Snort, http://www.snort.org/
- Snort Users Manual 2.9.4, http://s3.amazonaws.com/snort-org/www/assets/166/snort_manual.pdf

[Image Sources]

- http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_2IvFH57W8Hc/TPfpzDtwQwI/AAAAAAAAAFk/YFngxr8jLgI/s1600/snort_large.gif

Snort (2)

- Preprocessors provides various pre-detection processing
  - Frag3: IP defragmentation
  - Stream5: TCP/UDP session tracking
  - RPC decode: RPC record defragmentation
  - HTTP Inspect: HTTP fields identification, normalization etc.
- A preprocessor may depends on the other
- Supports custom preprocessor

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Snort Signatures (1)

- Detection can be implemented in preprocessor, Snort (text) rules, or SO (shared object) rules.
- Snort rules

SRC IP PORT DEST IP PORT

alert tcp any any -> any 80 (msg:"No deadbeef"; content:"DEADBEEF";)

- Rule headers
  - Rule action tells Snort what to do (e.g. alert, log, drop)
  - IP addresses in Classless Inter-Domain Routing (CIDR) notation
  - Port numbers
  - Direction operator should be "->" or "<>" (bidirectional)

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[References]

- Pre-Compile SO Rules: Supported Platforms, https://www.snort.org/snort-rules/shared-object-rule

Snort Signatures (2)

- Rule options
  - Separated by semicolon (;)
  - msg: message to be displayed in log
  - content: ascii string or binary to match
  - content modifiers
    - nocase, depth, offset, distance, within, http_header, http_client_body, http_uri, file_data
  - pcre: match can be written in perl compatible regular expression
  - flags: checks TCP flag bit
  - sid: required field, Snort rule identifier

Detect Beaconing Traffic (1)

- We will write a NIDS signature for this lab on the host machine
  - $ wireshark ~/MalwareClass/misc/darkshell.pcap &
- Lab is already configured
  - Fixed the permission violation error
    $ sudo usermod -aG snort student
  - Set HOME_NET to 192.168.57.0/24 in /etc/snort/snort.conf
- Let's run Snort with the existing Snort rules
  - $ snort -c /etc/snort/snort.conf -r ~/MalwareClass/misc/darkshell.pcap -l /tmp

Detect Beaconing Traffic (2)

- Open a new file to write a Snort rule
- You can start with the following template and fill up detection rule options

alert tcp any any -> any any (<your rule options here>)

- To test your rule

$ snort -c <rule file path> -r <pcap file path> -l /tmp

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Phone Home Format

```
// Darkshell bot-to-CnC comms
struct {
  // Header:
  DWORD   dwMagic;    // always 0x00000010 for Darkshell
  // Obfuscated section:
  char    szComputerName[64]; // Name of infected host, NULL-terminated/extended
  char    szMemory[32];    // Amount of memory in infected host; format "%dMB"; NULL-terminated/
extended
  char    szWindowsVersion[32];   // Specifies version of Windows; one of: Windows98, Windows95,
                          // WindowsNT, Windows2000, WindowsXP, Windows2003, or Win Vista;
                          // NULL-terminated/extended
  char    szBotVersion[32];   // Specifies version of bot; NULL-terminated/extended;
  DWORD   szUnknown1[4];    // ??? - Always NULL-terminated 'n'
  // Binary section:
  char    szPadding1[32];  // Filled with 0x00 bytes
  WORD    wUnknown2;  // ??? - We have seen 0x00A0, 0x00B0, and 0x00C0
  WORD    wUnknown3;  // ??? - Always 0xFD7F
  char    szPadding2[20];  // Filled with 0x00 bytes
  WORD    wUnknown4;  // ??? - Always 0xB0FC
  BYTE    cUnknown5;  // ??? - We have seen 0xD6, 0xD7, 0xE6, 0xE7, and 0xF1
  BYTE    cZero;     // Always 0x00
  DWORD   dwSignature[8]; // Always 0x00000000, 0xFFFFFFFF, 0x18EE907C, 0x008E917C,
                  //       0xFFFFFFFF, 0xFA8D91&C, 0x25D6907C, 0xCFEA907C
};
```

http://ddos.arbornetworks.com/2011/01/darkshell-a-ddos-bot-targetting-vendors-of-industrial-food-processing-equipment/

See notes for citation

What we learned in Part 1

- How an isolated malware analysis lab is setup
  - Ubuntu, Virtualbox, inetsim
- Malware terminology
  - Bot, RAT, etc.
  - Heterogeneous vendor naming
- RAT exploration - Poison IVY
  - Implant and Controller
- Behavioral malware analysis approaches
  - Diffing, monitoring, API tracing, etc.

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What we learned in Part 2

- Background concepts
  - PE files, Windows Libraries, Processes, Registry, Windows Services
  - TrID, Process Explorer, Process Monitor, PsService, CFF Explorer
- Persistence techniques
  - Registry, File system, Windows services
  - Autoruns, Regshot

What we learned in Part 3

- Background concepts
  - API, Threads
- Maneuvering techniques
  (How malware strategically positions itself to access critical resources)
  - DLL and code injection, DLL search order hijacking, IAT, EAT, and inline hooking
  - Procmon, WinApiOverride, Winobj

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What we learned in Part 4

- Background concepts
  - How to analyze network traffic with Wireshark
- Malware functionality
  - Key logging
  - Phone home
  - Beaconing
  - Self-Avoidance
  - Security degrading
  - Simple stealth techniques (non-rootkit techniques)
    - Self-destruction
    - Hiding files

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What we learned in Part 5/6

- Using an all-in-one sandbox
  - Good for automation and the first cut
  - How to use Cuckoo Sandbox
  - How to analyze sandboxes' results
  - Malware Attribute Enumeration and Characterization (MAEC)
- Actionable output – detection signatures
  - Snort: network intrusion detection/prevention system
  - Yara: Malware identification and classification tool

See notes for citation

All samples are from openmalware.org

- 101d00e77b48685bc02c1ff9672e1e94 eldorado/malware.exe
- 9250281b5a781edb9b683534f8916392 agobot/malware.exe
- 3349eab5cc4660bafa502f7565ff761d conficker/malware.exe
- 9f880ac607cbd7cdfffa609c5883c708 Hydraq/malware.exe
- a10b9b75e8c7db665cfd7947e93b999b parite/malware.exe
- d7578e550c0a4d4aca0cfd01ae19a331 spyeye/malware.exe
- df150905e2537db936ef323f48e2c1bb magania/malware.exe
- 4a29d41dfda9cfcbcde4d42b4bbb00aa Darkshell/malware.exe
- 1a36fb10f0a6474a9fea23ee4139d13e nitol/malware.exe
- db19c23c5f77a697500075c790cd331c IMworm/malware.exe
- a9a2fb545068995f30df22f8a3f22a10 onlinegames/2/malware.exe
- f1bae35d296930d2076b9d84ba0c95ea onlinegames/1/malware.exe

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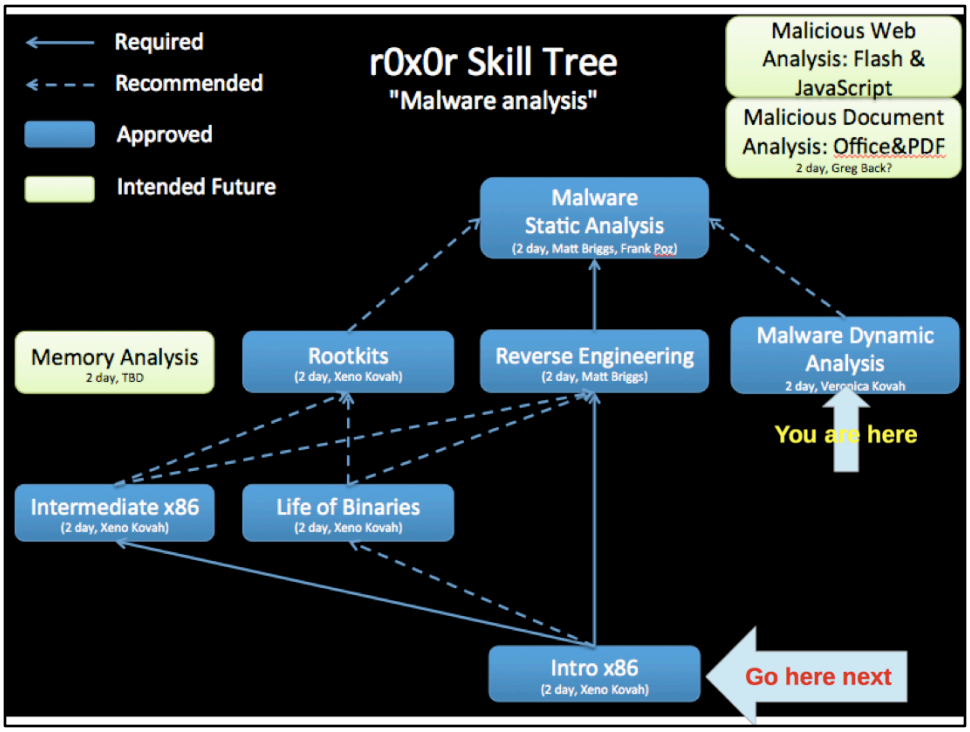
Required
Recommended
Approved
Intended Future
r0x0r Skill Tree
"Malware analysis"
Malicious Web Analysis: Flash & JavaScript
Malicious Document Analysis: Office&PDF
2 day, Greg Back?
Malware Static Analysis
(2 day, Matt Briggs, Frank Poz)
Memory Analysis
2 day, TBD
Rootkits
(2 day, Xeno Kovah)
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Malware Dynamic Analysis
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