

Prophet Zero

Cyber Threat Intelligence Platform

Outline

— — —

- Problem Statement
- Our Solution
- Analysis Approach
- Web Platform
- Analysis of Results
- Conclusion

Our Platform

Proper

Rusty

Open

Predictions of

Hackers with

Examination

Telemetry

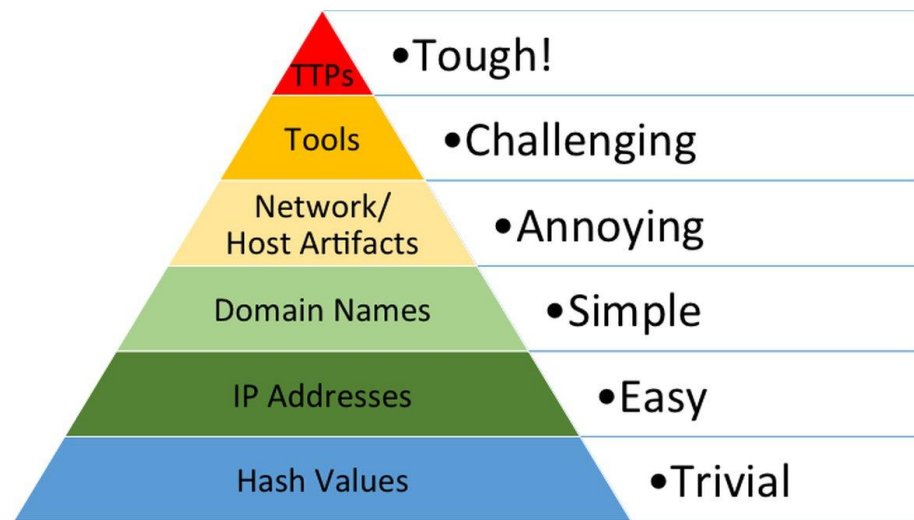
Who are we?

— — —

- Carleton Computer Science Students
- Undergrad, masters, and PhD

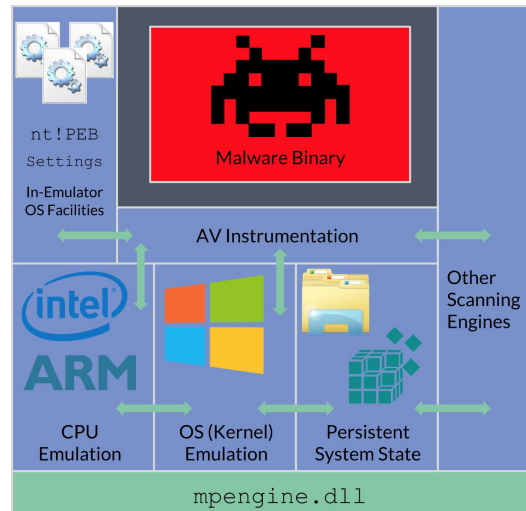
Our Problem

- Typical CTI focuses on IoCs and TTPs
- Would it help analysts identify threats if we created a platform that described malware behavior
- IoCs can be easily changed by attackers
- Techniques and behaviors can not



Our Problem

- Events and Sources of Data
- Data available is often limiting



Level	Date and Time	Source	Event ID	Task Category
Information	12/27/2020 4:52:43 PM	Sysmon	11	File created (rule: FileCreate)
Information	12/27/2020 4:52:43 PM	Sysmon	11	File created (rule: FileCreate)

Event 11, Sysmon

General Details

File created:
RuleName: -
UtcTime: 2020-12-27 23:52:43.392
ProcessGuid: {64e54def-1e39-5fe9-a003-000000000800}
ProcessId: 5148
Image: C:\Windows\system32\notepad.exe
TargetFilename: C:\Users\DefensiveOGs\Desktop\file.bat
CreationUtcTime: 2020-12-27 23:52:43.333

Our Solution

- Create a queryable CTI platform
- Include behaviors in addition to IoCs
- Use dynamic and static analysis techniques
- Augment our analysis with machine learning techniques



Our Solution

1 Malware analysis
pipeline

2 Web Application

Data Source:

- Used the Zoo malware repo
- Focused on Win32 samples, but our solution could handle samples for any machine/architecture



Static Analysis

— — —

- Used radare2, ioc_extract, pefile
- Extracted file info

```
"static": {  
  "arch": "x86",  
  "bintype": "pe",  
  "class": "PE32",  
  "compiled": "Fri Jun 19 18:22:17 1992",  
  "os": "windows",  
  "lang": "c",  
  "hash": "764efa883dda1e11db47671c4a3bbd9e",  
  "filesize": 1114859,  
}
```

Imports

```
"libraries": [  
  {  
    "name": "LoadLibraryA",  
    "lib_name": "KERNEL32.DLL"  
  },  
  {  
    "name": "GetProcAddress",  
    "lib_name": "KERNEL32.DLL"  
  },  
  {  
    "name": "ExitProcess",  
    "lib_name": "KERNEL32.DLL"  
  },  
  {  
    "name": "RegCloseKey",  
    "lib_name": "advapi32.dll"  
  },  
  {  
    "name": "SysFreeString",  
    "lib_name": "oleaut32.dll"  
  },  
  {  
    "name": "CharNextA",  
    "lib_name": "user32.dll"  
  }  
]
```

IoCs

```
"iocs": [  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "registry access",  
    "value": "Software\\\\\\\\Microsoft\\\\\\\\Windows\\\\\\\\CurrentVerstion"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "technique",  
    "value": "Code Signing"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://nsis.sf.net/NSIS_Error"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://ocsp.thawte.com0"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://crl.thawte.com/ThawteTimestampingCA.crl0"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "https://www.thawte.com/cps0"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://crl.thawte.com/ThawtePremiumServerCA.crl0\\\\r"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://cs-g2-crl.thawte.com/ThawteCSG2.crl0"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://ocsp.thawte.com0"  
  },  
  {  
    "indicator_type": "url",  
    "value": "http://crl.thawte.com/ThawtePCA.crl0"  
  }  
]
```

```
{  
  "indicator_type": "wmi query",  
  "value": "select * from Wln32_BIOS"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "wmi query",  
  "value": "Select * from Wln32_ComputerSystem"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "wmi query",  
  "value": "Select * from Wln32_Processor"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "wmi query",  
  "value": "Select * from MSACpl_ThermalZoneTemperature"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "wmi query",  
  "value": "SELECT * FROM Wln32_OperatingSystem"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "wmi query",  
  "value": "SELECT * FROM Wln32_UserAccount"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "registry access",  
  "value": "hKU\\\\t"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "file path",  
  "value": "C:\\\\sources\\\\\\\\cecl\\\\\\\\obj\\\\\\\\net_2_0_Release\\\\\\\\Mono.Cecil.pdb"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "file path",  
  "value": "C:\\\\Users\\\\\\\\The Invincible\\\\\\\\Desktop\\\\\\\\gx\\\\\\\\gx-current-program\\\\\\\\LSASS\\\\\\\\obj\\\\\\\\Release\\\\\\\\LSASS.pdb"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "technique",  
  "value": "detect vm"  
},  
{  
  "indicator_type": "technique",  
  "value": "UPX - packing"  
},  
}
```

Commands and File Names

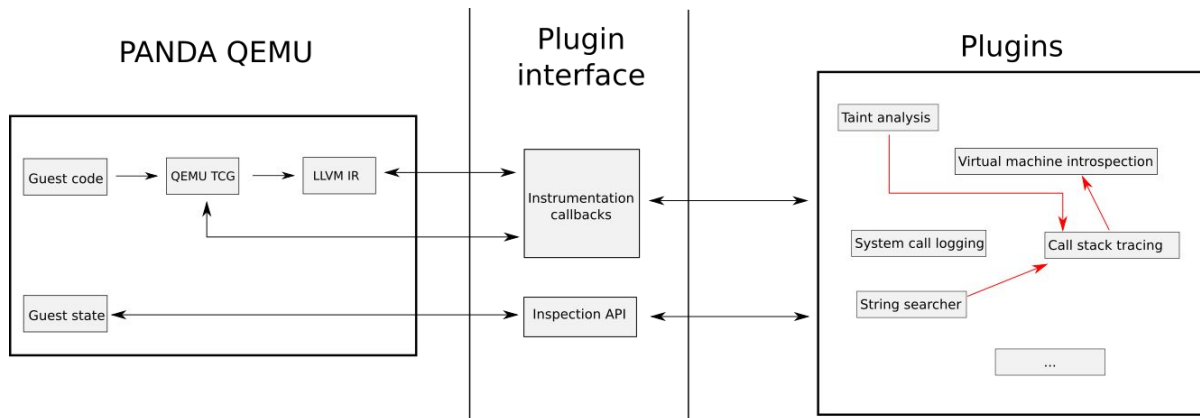
```
"cmds": [  
  "Find",  
  "tree",  
  "Move",  
  "Sort",  
  "Taskkill /f /IM \"{0}\" {1}",  
  "SchTasks /Delete /f /TN \"{0}\" {1}",  
  "del /f \"{0}\" {1}",  
  "DEL \"%~f0\"",  
  "netstat -a",  
  "tasklist start",  
  "net start",  
  "Fc w",  
  "Type",  
  "start",  
  "type",  
  "Start",  
  "Sort",  
  "Copy",  
  "Exit",  
  "Path",  
  "type",  
  "Type"  
]
```

```
'files': [  
  "LSASS.exe",  
  "gdi32.dll",  
  "kernel32.dll",  
  "user32.dll",  
  "LSASS.resources.Mono.Cecil.dll",  
  "Win32Optimizer.bat",  
  ".dll",  
  "/GX/GX-Server.php",  
  "/GetActiveDomains.php",  
  "UserData.dat",  
  "{0}.dat",  
  "test.bat",  
  "{0}.CMD.{1}.dat",  
  "cmd.exe",  
  "{0}.P.{1}.dat",  
  "{0}.PM.{1}.dat",  
  "{0}.SM.{1}.dat",  
  "Mono.Cecil.dll",  
  "Java",  
  "mscoree.dll",  
  ".exe",  
  ".dll",  
  "mscorlib.dll",  
  "mscoree.dll",  
  "Mono.Cecil.dll",  
  "Mono.Cecil.dll",  
  "mscoree.dll",  
  "LSASS.exe",  
  "LSASS.exe"  
]
```

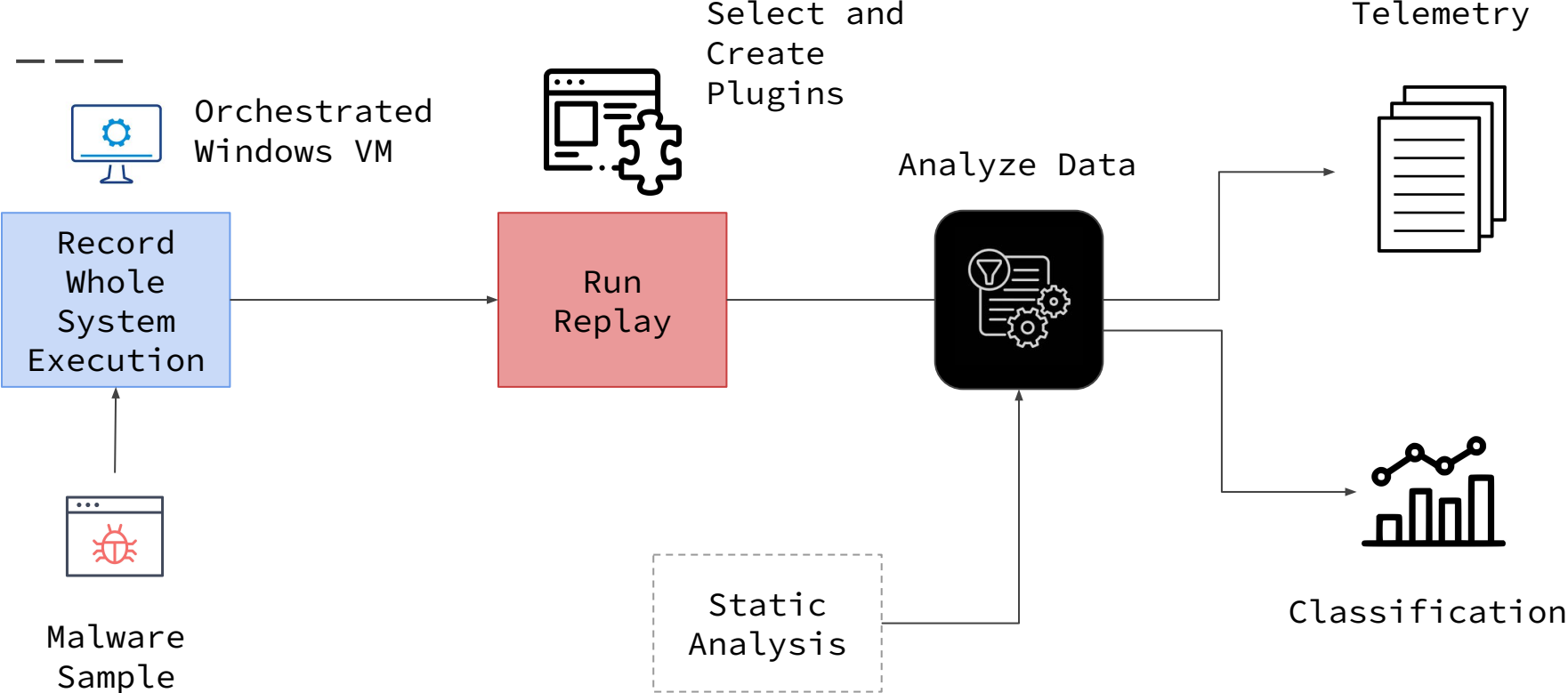
Malware Sandbox - PANDA



- Whole system reverse engineering
- Built on QEMU
- Repeatable
- Architecture Neutral
- Open-source
- Configurable



Malware Sandbox



Extending Panda

- Extended the functionality of the plugin originally created by malrec
- Collects all system calls
 - Attaches hooks on syscall instructions
 - reads syscall number and args from registers
- Stripped all arguments and only used the sequence of calls

ntdll.dll(ZwCreateFile)		
7C94D682	B8 25000000	MOV EAX,25
7C94D687	BA 0003FE7F	MOV EDX,7FFE0300
7C94D68C	FF12	CALL NEAR DWORD PTR DS:[EDX]
7C94D68E	C2 2C00	RETN 2C

Jump!

ntdll.dll(sysenter)		
7C94EB8B	8BD4	MOV EDX,ESP
7C94EB8D	0F34	SYSENTER



Malware Sandbox - Data Collected

- Collected unformatted data from the entire system
- Extracted data for target process and related processes from it

Process Information

Dynamic libraries list (18 libs):

```
0x49db0000 20480 csrss.exe C:\Windows\system32\csrss.exe
0x77580000 1314816 ntdll.dll C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\ntdll.dll
0x75760000 53248 CSRSRV.dll C:\Windows\system32\CSRSRV.dll
0x75750000 57344 basesrv.DLL C:\Windows\system32\basesrv.DLL
180224 winsrv.DLL C:\Windows\system32\winsrv.DLL
823296 USER32.dll C:\Windows\system32\USER32.dll
319488 GDI32.dll C:\Windows\system32\GDI32.dll
868352 kernel32.dll C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\kernel32.dll
307200 KERNELBASE.dll C:\Windows\system32\KERNELBASE.dll
40960 LPK.dll C:\Windows\system32\LPK.dll
643072 USP10.dll C:\Windows\system32\USP10.dll
704512 msvcrt.dll C:\Windows\system32\msvcrt.dll
36864 sxssrv.DLL C:\Windows\system32\sxssrv.DLL
389120 sxs.dll C:\Windows\system32\sxs.dll
663552 RPCRT4.dll C:\Windows\system32\RPCRT4.dll
49152 CRYPTBASE.dll C:\Windows\system32\CRYPTBASE.dll
659456 ADVAPI32.dll C:\Windows\system32\ADVAPI32.dll
102400 sechost.dll C:\Windows\SYSTEM32\sechost.dll
```

modules):

```
4235264 ntoskrnl.exe \SystemRoot\system32\ntoskrnl.exe
225280 hal.dll \SystemRoot\system32\hal.dll
32768 kdcom.dll \SystemRoot\system32\kdcom.dll
544768 mcupdate.dll \SystemRoot\system32\mcupdate_GenuineIntel.dll
69632 PSHEd.dll \SystemRoot\system32\PSHEd.dll
32768 BOOTVID.dll \SystemRoot\system32\BOOTVID.dll
270336 CLFS.SYS \SystemRoot\system32\CLFS.SYS
421888 CI.dll \SystemRoot\system32\CI.dll
528384 Wdf01000.sys \SystemRoot\system32\drivers\Wdf01000.sys
57344 WDFLDR.SYS \SystemRoot\system32\drivers\WDFLDR.SYS
294912 ACPI.sys \SystemRoot\system32\drivers\ACPI.sys
26864 WMTLDR.SYS \SystemRoot\system32\drivers\WMTLDR.SYS
```

```
{
  "pc": "18446744073709551615",
  "instr": "18446744073709551615",
},
{
  "pc": "2189875776",
  "instr": "36147",
  "asidInfo": {
    "pid": 0,
    "createTime": "0",
    "ppid": 0,
    "asid": "1593344",
    "names": [
      "Idle"
    ],
    "tids": [
      0
    ],
    "startInstr": "0",
    "endInstr": "36047"
  }
},
{
  "pc": "2189905767",
  "instr": "83402",
  "asidInfo": {
    "pid": 372,
    "createTime": "0",
    "ppid": 352,
    "asid": "1748406272",
    "names": [
      "csrss.exe"
    ],
    "tids": [
      440
    ],
    "startInstr": "36187",
    "endInstr": "83302"
  }
},
{
  "pc": "2189875963",
```

```
"dynamic": {
  "name": "zoo_samples/ed01ebfbc9eb5bbea545af4d01bf5f1071661840480439c6e5babe8e080e41aa.exe",
  "parent": "cmd.exe",
  "pid": 2660,
  "no_threads": 2,
  "children": [
    "2796-icaccls.exe",
    "2748-attrib.exe"
  ],
  "kernel_mods": {
    "2660": []
  },
  "libraries": {
    "2660": [
      "C:\\Users\\IEUser\\Desktop\\sample.exe",
      "C:\\Windows\\system32\\MSVCP60.dll"
    ]
  }
},
```


Network Data

The screenshot shows the Wireshark interface with a list of captured packets. The selected packet (No. 1) is a TCP ACK from 10.0.2.15 to 208.111.183.1. The packet details pane shows the following structure:

- Frame 1: 60 bytes on wire (480 bits), 60 bytes captured (480 bits) on interface unknown, id 0
- Ethernet II, Src: 52:55:0a:00:02:02 (52:55:0a:00:02:02), Dst: RealtekU_12:34:56 (52:54:00:12:34:56)
- Internet Protocol Version 4, Src: 208.111.183.1, Dst: 10.0.2.15
- Transmission Control Protocol, Src Port: 80, Dst Port: 49163, Seq: 1, Ack: 1, Len: 0

The packet bytes pane shows the raw data: 0000 52 54 00 12 34 56 52 55 0a 00 02 02 08 00 45 08 RT-4VRUE
0010 00 28 00 44 00 00 40 06 e7 04 d0 6f b7 01 0a 00 (D-@) ...o...
0020 02 0f 00 50 c0 0b 00 04 c0 76 55 70 63 67 50 11 ..P....vUpGp...
0030 23 28 b7 74 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 # { t.....

```
],  
"network": [  
  {  
    "to": "10.0.2.15",  
    "from": "64.4.54.254",  
    "data": "TLSv1 464 Application Data, Application Data"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "64.4.54.254",  
    "from": "10.0.2.15",  
    "data": "TCP 60 443 [\u02192 49167 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=411 Win=9000 Len=0"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "10.0.2.15",  
    "from": "64.4.54.254",  
    "data": "TLSv1 592 Application Data, Application Data"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "64.4.54.254",  
    "from": "10.0.2.15",  
    "data": "TCP 60 443 [\u02192 49167 [ACK] Seq=1 Ack=949 Win=9000 Len=0"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "64.4.54.254",  
    "from": "10.0.2.15",  
    "data": "TLSv1 384 Application Data, Application Data"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "10.0.2.15",  
    "from": "64.4.54.254",  
    "data": "TCP 54 49167 [\u02192 443 [ACK] Seq=949 Ack=331 Win=64240 Len=0"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "10.0.2.15",  
    "from": "64.4.54.254",  
    "data": "TLSv1 464 Application Data, Application Data"  
  },  
  {  
    "to": "64.4.54.254",  
    "from": "10.0.2.15",  
    "data": "TCP 60 443 [\u02192 49167 [ACK] Seq=331 Ack=1359 Win=9000 Len=0"  
  }  
]
```

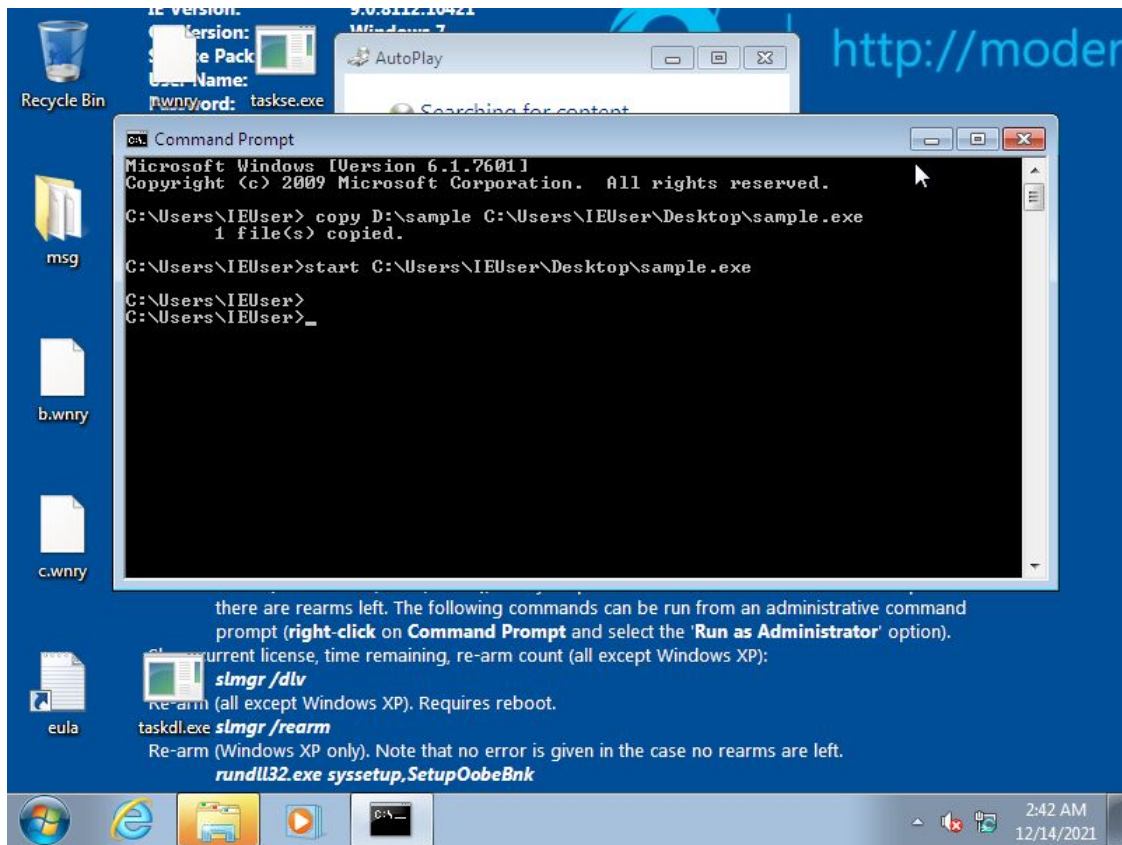
System Calls

```
{
  {
    "asid": "0x4e43a000",
    "call": "NtQueryInformationProcess",
    "sysid": "0x00ea",
    "no_args": 5,
    "args": [
      4294967295,
      36,
      1242812,
      4,
      0
    ]
  },
  {
    "asid": "0x4e43a000",
    "call": "NtQueryInformationProcess",
    "sysid": "0x00ea",
    "no_args": 5,
    "args": [
      4294967295,
      46,
      1242936,
      4,
      1242920
    ]
  },
  {
    "asid": "0x4e43a000",
    "call": "NtOpenKey",
    "sysid": "0x00b6",
    "no_args": 3,
    "args": [
      1242700,
      2147483648,
      1242668
    ]
  },
  {
    "asid": "0x4e43a000",
    "call": "NtQueryValueKey",
    "sysid": "0x010a",
    "no_args": 6
  }
}
```

```
syscalls_list": [
  "NtQueryInformationProcess",
  "NtQueryInformationProcess",
  "NtOpenKey",
  "NtQueryValueKey",
  "NtClose",
  "NtQueryInformationProcess",
  "NtQueryInformationProcess",
  "NtQueryInformationProcess",
  "NtQuerySystemInformation",
  "NtQuerySystemInformation",
  "NtAllocateVirtualMemory",
  "NtFreeVirtualMemory",
  "NtAllocateVirtualMemory",
  "NtQuerySystemInformation",
  "NtAllocateVirtualMemory",
  "NtFreeVirtualMemory",
  "NtOpenDirectoryObject",
  "NtOpenSymbolicLinkObject",
  "NtQuerySymbolicLinkObject",
  "NtClose",
  "NtOpenFile",
  "NtQueryVolumeInformationFile",
  "NtOpenSection",
  "NtMapViewOfSection",
  "NtQuerySection",
  "NtClose",
  "NtProtectVirtualMemory",
  "NtOpenSection",
  "NtMapViewOfSection",
  "NtQuerySection",
  "NtClose",
  "NtProtectVirtualMemory",
  "NtProtectVirtualMemory",
  "NtProtectVirtualMemory",
  "NtQueryPerformanceCounter",
  "NtQueryPerformanceCounter",
  "NtQuerySystemInformation",
  "NtOpenSection",

```

Screenshots



The screenshot shows a Windows 7 desktop with a blue background. In the center, a Command Prompt window is open, displaying the following text:

```
ca. Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 6.1.7601]
Copyright (c) 2009 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\IEUser> copy D:\sample C:\Users\IEUser\Desktop\sample.exe
1 file(s) copied.

C:\Users\IEUser>start C:\Users\IEUser\Desktop\sample.exe

C:\Users\IEUser>
C:\Users\IEUser>_
```

Below the Command Prompt window, there is text explaining the commands:

there are rearms left. The following commands can be run from an administrative command prompt (**right-click** on **Command Prompt** and select the **'Run as Administrator'** option).

current license, time remaining, re-arm count (all except Windows XP):

```
slmgr /dlv
```

re-arm (all except Windows XP). Requires reboot.

```
taskl.exe slmgr /rearm
```

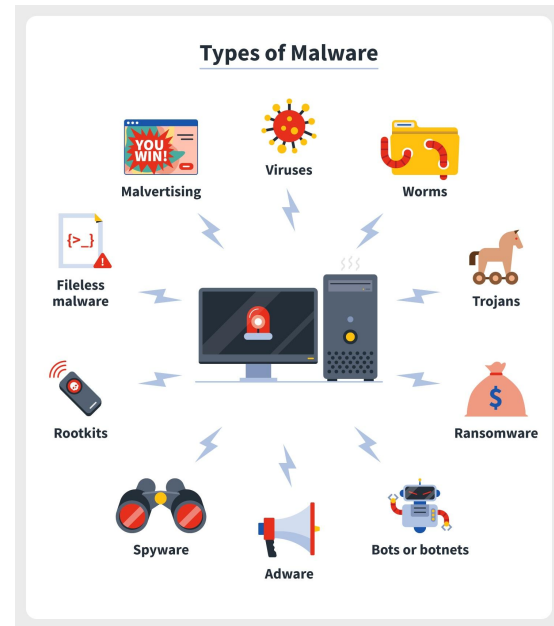
Re-arm (Windows XP only). Note that no error is given in the case no rearms are left.

```
rundll32.exe syssetup.SetupOobeBnk
```

The desktop also shows icons for Recycle Bin, msg, b.wnry, c.wnry, and eula. The taskbar at the bottom includes the Start button, Internet Explorer, a folder icon, a media player icon, and the Command Prompt icon. The system tray shows the time as 2:42 AM on 12/14/2021.

Classifying Malware

- Used the following dataset to train a classifier: [octatak - malware api class](#)
 - Consists of sequences of API calls
 - 9 Classes - Spyware, Downloader, Trojan, Worms, Adware, Dropper, Virus Backdoor
- Reduced sequences to contain only NT syscalls

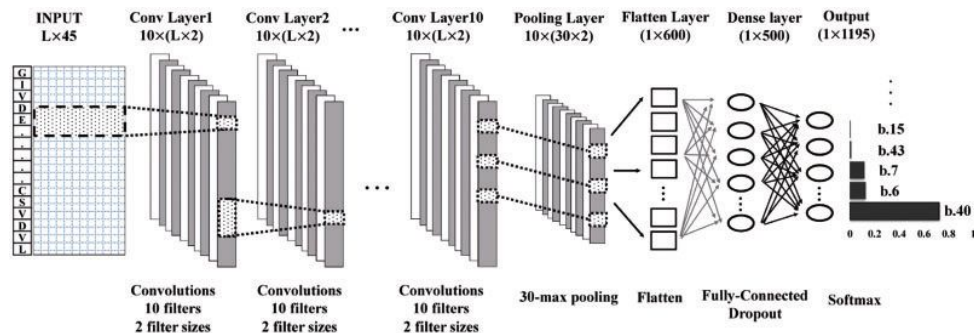


```
createthread ntllocatevirtualmemory ntfreevirtualmemory ntllocatevirtualmemory getfiletype  
getfiletype getfiletype ntllocatevirtualmemory ntllocatevirtualmemory ntllocatevirtualmemory  
ldrgetdllhandle ldrgetprocedureaddress ntllocatevirtualmemory setunhandledexceptionfilter  
loadstringa regopenkeyexa regopenkeyexa regclosekey setunhandledexceptionfilter ntterminateprocess  
ntterminateprocess ntclose ntclose ldrunloadaddll nlopenkey ntqueryvaluekey ntclose ntclose ntclose  
ntclose ntterminateprocess
```

An Example
Sequence

Classification Method

- 1D Convolutional Neural Network
 - > 95% accuracy on validation data
- Fed sequences from live samples into classifier



Example of the selected Network Architecture. Image Source: [1]

Clustering to identify similar samples

- Hybrid Features
 - Combination of static and dynamic features
- K-Means algorithm

```
-----DOS_HEADER-----  
[IMAGE_DOS_HEADER]  
0x0 0x0 e_magic: 0x5A4D  
0x2 0x2 e_cblp: 0x90  
0x4 0x4 e_cp: 0x3  
0x6 0x6 e_crlc: 0x0  
0x8 0x8 e_cparhdr: 0x4  
0xA 0xA e_mnaloc: 0x0  
0xC 0xC e_maxalloc: 0xFFFF  
0xE 0xE e_ss: 0x0  
0x10 0x10 e_sp: 0xB8  
0x12 0x12 e_csum: 0x0  
0x14 0x14 e_ip: 0x0  
0x16 0x16 e_cs: 0x0  
0x18 0x18 e_lfarlc: 0x40  
0x1A 0x1A e_ovno: 0x0  
0x1C 0x1C e_res: 0x0  
0x24 0x24 e_oemid: 0x0  
0x26 0x26 e_oeminfo: 0x0  
0x28 0x28 e_res2: 0x0  
0x3C 0x3C e_lfanew: 0x108  
-----NT_HEADERS-----
```

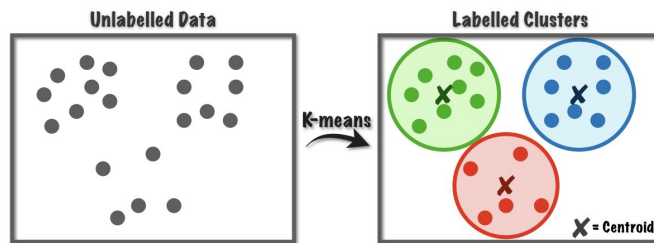
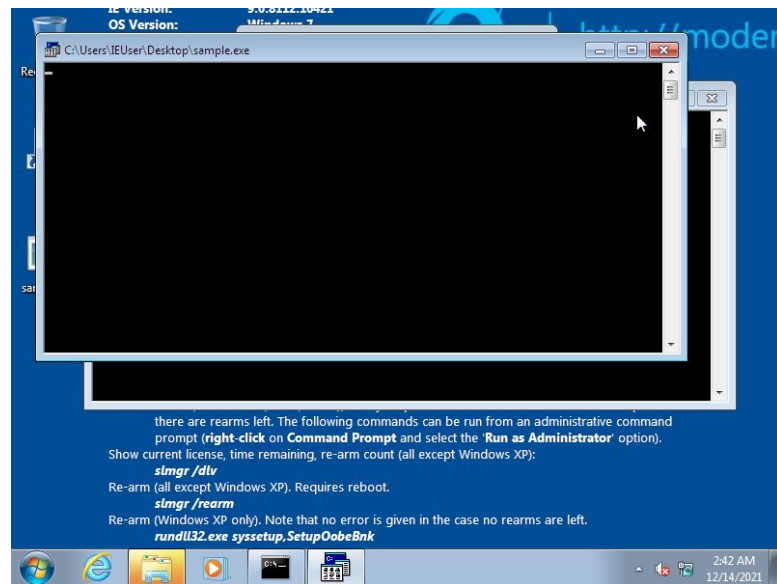


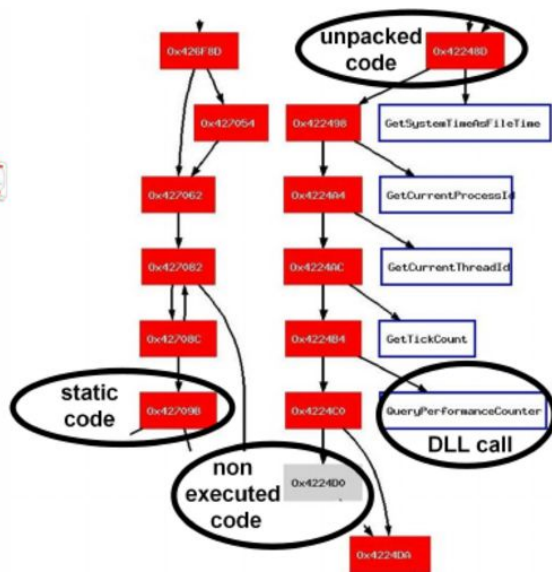
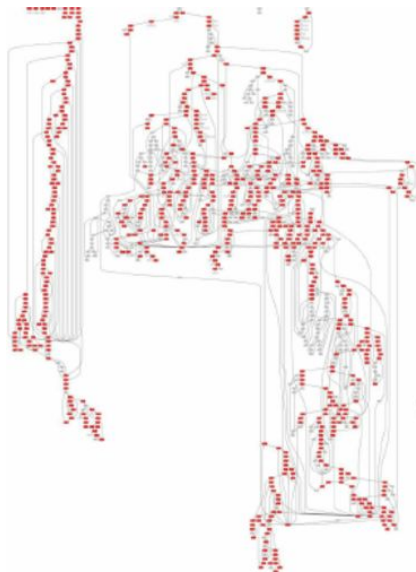
Image Source: [2]

Wrap up:

- We now have:
 - Dynamic Features:
 - System Calls, File Accesses, Network Traffic, Process Information, Libraries, Screenshots of the malware running
 - Static Features:
 - IoCs, Strings, File Info



A Retrospective



Web Platform



Our Stack:

— — —

- MongoDB NoSQL database stores behavioural IoC information
- Rust back end exposes a RESTful API into the database
 - Rust type system + memory model → memory-safe and efficient code
 - Asynchronous rocket.rs webserver with the tokio runtime
 - MongoDB Rust driver to perform queries on malware data
- Quasar front end to view malware data
 - Sleek and modern design
 - Supports filtering malware by various IoCs (touched files, libraries, etc.)



Malware Name

Files Touched (Comma Separated)

Libraries (Comma Separated)

Keywords (Comma Separated)

Per Page

10

SUBMIT

A Discussion of Results

Were we able to achieve our goals?

- We created a malware sandbox
 - Performed Hybrid Analysis
 - Integrated ML
- We created a web platform to display our data

Yes, but there is still future work to be done

Lessons Learned

- Time
- Datasets
- Limited Sources of Data

Conclusion

- Future work
 - Augmentation of data sources
 - Refinement of Presentation

- Idea is solid

References:

— — —

[1] DeepSF: Deep Convolutional Neural Network for Mapping Protein Sequences to Folds - Scientific Figure on ResearchGate. Available from:
https://www.researchgate.net/figure/The-architecture-of-1D-deep-convolutional-neural-network-for-fold-classification-The_fig1_327213391 [accessed 16 Dec, 2021]

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**Thanks
For Listening!**

