

Demystifying Malware and Ransomware

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About Me

- Senior Malware Researcher at Grisoft \rightarrow AVG \rightarrow Avast \rightarrow Norton \rightarrow Gen
 - Malware analysis
 - Writing detection rules in YARA
 - Co-author of Win64/Win32 emulator
 - Ransomware decryption tools
 - File infector cleaning tools (read: an obsolete stuff)
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Agenda

- 1. Malware types
- 2. Malware detection crash course
- 3. Ransomware dissection
- 4. Conclusion

What is Malware?

- Malware = Malicious Software
- Started about in 1970s demonstrate technical skills, ego... (Creeper 1971)
- File infectors in 1990s mass spreading (OneHalf, Tremor, Helloween, ...)
- Shifted to financial gain in 2000s (Zeus 2007)
- Evolved into espionage, government-sponsored hacking, cyberwar (up to today)
- Billion-dollar business for cyber-threat authors
- Trillion-dollar problem to solve

Malware Taxonomy

- Information stealer
 - Steals passwords, banking credentials, crypto wallet keys, etc.
 - Many subtypes: Banking trojan, Keylogger, Password stealer, Spyware, Stalkerware...
- Malicious remote access
 - Secures long-term access to the infected computer to utilize its resources
 - Many subtypes: Bot, Backdoor, Remote access trojan (RAT)...
- Scam
 - Trick you into giving an attacker your personal information or money
 - Many subtypes: Phishing, Spear-phishing, Dating scam, Financial scam, E-shop scam...
- Other
 - Adware, ATM, Bootkit, Rootkit, Coin miner, Cryptic, Dialer, Dropper, Exploit, File infector, Hack tool, Injector, Ransomware, Screenlocker, Trojan, Wiper, Worm, and many more

Threat Example: Wiper

- Destructive type of malware
- Goal: loss of control and data
- HermeticWiper (used by Russia in Ukraine 23-Feb-2022)
 - https://x.com/ESETresearch/status/1496581903205511181
- BlackEnergy (23-Dec-2015 in Ukraine)
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2015_Ukraine_power_grid_hack



Novinky.cz				
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<u>ČEZ České Energetické Závody</u> vyčlenily přes 129,3 milionu korun na podporu svého nového projektu, který dává každému občanovi možnost stát se spoluvlastníkem společnosti a získat z jejího provozu vysoké dividendy, stačí se zaregistrovat na <u>platformě ČEZ</u>. Na rozdíl od ruského plynu a ropy se česká vláda domnívá, že zdroje země jsou lidovým majetkem a každý obyvatel má právo na zisk.











Threat Example: Deepfake videos

- The Deepfake videos lure users by pretending to be tutorials on how to download cracked versions of software such as Photoshop, Premiere Pro, Autodesk 3ds Max, AutoCAD, and other products that are licensed products available only to paid users.
- Since November 2022 there has been a 200-300% month-on-month increase in Youtube videos containing links to info stealer malware such as Vidar, RedLine, and Raccoon in their descriptions

Gen



Adobe Photoshop Crack 2023 | New Photoshop Crack | Free Download For Pc

184K subscribers	Subscribe	凸 10 只	A Share			
Al-generated video from studio.d-id.com						
Trial	Lite	Pro	Advanced			
\$0 _{/month}	\$4.7/month \$56 billed annually (20% discount)	\$16/month \$191 billed annually (45% discount)	\$108/month \$1,293 billed annually (45% discount)			
5 minutes	40 credits 52 credits 64 credits	60 credits 100 credits 240 credits	400 credits 600 credits 700 credits			
SELECT PLAN N	SELECT PLAN N	SELECT PLAN N	SELECT PLAN N			
✓ 5 minutes of video	 10 min of video 	✓ 15 min of video	✓ 100 min of video			
✓ 1 credit = up to 15 sec of video	✓ 1 credit = up to 15 sec of video	✓ 1 credit = up to 15 sec of video	✓ 1 credit = up to 15 sec of video			
 Personal License 	 Personal License 	✓ Commercial License	✓ Commercial License			
✓ Full Screen Watermark ①	✓ D-ID Watermark ①	✓ Al Watermark ①	✓ Custom Watermark			
✓ Limited Support	✓ Silver Support	✓ Gold Support	✓ Premium Support			
 Premium and Standard Presenters 	✓ Standard Presenters only	 Premium and Standard Presenters 	 Premium and Standard Presenters 			
✓ 15 AI Presenter Prompt Generations	✓ 50 AI Presenter Prompt Generations	 100 Al Presenter Prompt Generations 	✓ 600 AI Presenter Prompt Generations			
✓ AI Script Generations	✓ AI Script Generations	✓ AI Script Generations	✓ AI Script Generations			
✓ Canva Plugin		✓ Canva Plugin	✓ Canva Plugin			
 PowerPoint Plugin 			 PowerPoint Plugin 			

Some Statistic

- In 2024, Americans lost \$12.5 billion to fraud
- Source: U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
 - https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/data-visualizations/explore-data
- A 25% increase over the previous year
 - Investment scam: \$5.7 billion
 - Imposter scams: \$2.95 billion
 - Czech republic year's budget: \$95 billion



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION PROTECTING AMERICA'S CONSUMERS

Malware Delivery

Malware Delivery: The Past

• CZ: "Kabelový přenos dat" ("Cable Data Transfer")



Malware Delivery: The Past and Present

- Infected disks
- Macros
- Vulnerabilities
- Emails (phishing, spear-phishing)



Malware Delivery: Present

- Emails and exploits
- Social networks
- Video content
- Mobile
- (Multi-stage) Downloader / Dropper





(obfuscated .jse)

Gen



(.exe downloader)

EXE

(Hacked) webpage



Malware Delivery: Shifts in Infection Vector

- Q2/2022 Microsoft finally decommissioned macros in Office documents
- Q3/2022 Sudden increase of LNK malware files used as an initial infection
- Q4/2022 Another shift to IMG files and then ISO archives
- Q1/2023 OneNote documents are modus operandi
- Which file-format will be abused next?









Malware Delivery: Youtube TTP

- Phishing Campaigns Targeting Creators
- Compromised Video Descriptions
- Channel Hijacking for Cryptocurrency Scams
- Use of Legitimate-Looking Domains and Software
- Social Engineering via Video Content

My YouTube channel has been hacked by someone called

I've seen my email and I've seen that I got strikes YouTube channel and suddenly I found man videos that I haven't uploaded. When I saw the videos it started with When I searched about it I've seen many people having same issue. I have protected my account wit the two step verification and much more and I have changed my pw and I checked my channel access it was nothing but still the videos





Malware Delivery: Account Takeover

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 Threat actors target popular accounts with 100K+ subscribers to reach a large audience in a short period of time. Usually, the subscribers of popular accounts will be notified about a new upload. Uploading to such accounts lends video legitimacy as well. However, such Youtubers will report their account taker to YouTube and gain access back to their accounts within a few hours. But in a few hours, hundreds of users could have fallen prey



สาวญี่ปุ่นผัดผักปุ่งใฟแดงแขนเป็นแผลโดนน้ำมัน

คนญี่ปุ่นต่องเชื้อรถให้เป็นให้ได้ เพราะอยู่เมือง สาวญี่ปุ่นดิโจมากที่เห็นคนไทยสร้างโครงการบ่าน Copyright 👻 2023 ฉตา Digitar การ. หมา กฎกเรา เธรตางชน.

21

Malware Delivery: Account Takeover

11 976

• 24-Jan-2025: https://x.com/FalconFeedsio

FalconFeeds.io 🥝

4

FalconFeeds.io 🤣 @FalconFeedsio • 10h 🗏 MEDUSA Ransomware Alert 🚨

Strategic Retail Partners 📖

Strategic Retail Partners, a North American provider of consume and retail solutions, has been targeted by MEDUSA Ransomware group claims to have obtained organisation data.

Note: After first breaching Show more



FalconFeeds.io 🤣 @FalconFeedsio **\$TRUMP** offers stability amid marke #Bitcoin #Ethereum \$XRP \$TRUMP

MicroStrategy

JOIN NOW!

CLICK HERE





Threat-Related Metrics

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2025: Our backends analyze ~3,000,000 samples / day

Malware Detection

Crash Course



Static Scanner

- Probably how you imagine AV
- Most of the detections
- Multiple methods
 - Signatures
 - Heuristics
 - File entropy
 - Known fingerprints
 - Digital signatures
 - File anomalies
 - Etc.

Static Scanner

- EICAR Test
- SHA256: 275a021bbfb64





OVERWITE

Behavioral Scanner

- Code Emulation
 - Analysis of application's behavior without a need to execute it
- Sandboxing
 - Real file execution in an isolated environment
- Runtime monitoring and checking
 - Runtime monitoring of executed applications and their interactions with each other and with OS
 - API hooking, termination of harmful processes, and other fun
 - Detection of patterns
 - Detection based on artificial intelligence
 - In-memory process scanning

Cloud-based Scanner

- File-reputation
 - Prevalence
 - Time of first detection
 - File origin
- URL detection
 - Detection based on blacklisted URLs
 - Protection against malicious sites and links, etc.
 - OCR, etc.
- Emulated/sandboxed/real execution in cloud
 - No need to slow down user machines

Ransomware Dissection

Enter

What is Ransomware?

- "Specific type of malware that performs an extortion attack on victim's data and/or devices and/or victim itself."
- Uses intensive pressure on victims (timers, threats, psychology)
- Usually contains "ransom note" instructions for payment and recovery
- Targets computers, smartphones, databases, wearable device, etc.

What is Ransomware?

- A single executable file (EXE, ELF, ...)
- When executed:
 - Disables antiviruses, such as Windows Defender
 - Removes all backup features of the OS, such as Volume Shadow Copy
 - Kills processes that may hold open files (databases, MS Office)
 - Enumerates local drives and remote shares
 - Enumerates files on the drives/shares and performs their encryption

DEMO

CrySiS Ransomware



The History of Ransomware

Dear Customer:

It is time to pay for your software lease from PC Cyborg Corporation. Complete the INVOICE and attach payment for the lease option of your choice. If you don't use the printed invoice, then be sure to refer to the important reference numbers below in all correspondence. In return you will receive:

- a renewal software p
- an automatic, self-ins

Important reference nu

FILE-CRYPTOR **AIDS (1989)**

nstructions; in minutes.

ase for the

The price of 365 user app. lifetime of your hard disk is US\$378. You must enclose a bankers draft, cashiers check or international money order payable to PC CYBORG **CORPORATION** for the full amount of \$189 or \$378 with your order. Include your name, company, address, city, state, country, zip or postal code. Mail your order to PC Cyborg Corporation, PO Box 87-17-44, Panama 7, Panama. Press ENTER to continue




VAROVÁNÍ! Váš osobní počítač je uzamčen z bezpečnostních důvodů z následujících důvodů:

Jste obviněn z prohlížení/skladování a/nebo distribuce pornografických materiálů zakázáno obsahu (dětská pornografie/Zvířeckost atd.). Že jste porušil Všeobecnou deklaraci o boji proti šíření dětské pornografie a obviněn z trestného činu podle článku 161 trestního zákoníku České republiky.

Článek 161 trestního zákoníku České republiky stanoví jako trest odnětí svobody v trvání **5-11** roků.

Také jste osoba podezřelá z porušení "zákon o autorském právu a právech souvisejících s právem" (stabeušní picítelké budhu ujdep, boz licence cofture) a použití a cocho žíčení obcabu

Kde mohu získat peněžní poukázku PaySafeCard?

PaySafeCard můžeš naprosto bezpečně zakoupit ve tvé blízkosti, v České republice např. v řadě novinových stánků a trafik v uvedených časech. PaySafeCard je k dostání v mnoha supermarketech, na čerpacích stanicích. **Přehled prodejců**: Tipsport, RoBIN OIL, Zabka, PAPOil, JPSenvis, Euro Oil, Shell, Agip, OMV, WestPay.

Internetový obchod: www.WertKartenVerkauf.com



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The harddisks of your computer have been encrypted with an military grade encryption algorithm. There is no way to restore your data without a special key. You can purchase this key on the darknet page shown in step 2.

To purchase your key and restore your data, please follow these three easy steps:

- Download the Tor Brownload the Tor Brownload the Brownload
- 2. Visit one of the fol

http://petya37h5tbhy http://petya5koahtsf7 DISK-CRYPTOR Petya (2016) org/". If you need r:

3. Enter your personal decryption code there:

If you already purchased your key, please enter it below.

Key:





Κ

I will directly come to the point. I'm aware s3cr3tpassword is your password. More importantly, I do know about your secret and I have proof of your secret. You don't know me and no one hired me to investigate you.

It is just your bad luck that I found your blunder. In fact, I actually placed a malware on the adult videos (pornographic material) and you visited this website to experience fun (you know what I mean). While you were watching video clips, your internet browser initiated operating as a Rdp (Remote control desktop) that has a keylogger which provided me accessibility to your display screen and also cam. Immediately after that, my software program obtained all your contacts from your messenger, facebook, and email.

After that I gave in much more time than I should've exploring into your life and generated a two screen video. First part shows the recording you had been viewing and second part shows the capture from your web camera (its you doing inappropriate things).

Frankly, I'm ready to forget about you and let you continue with explore above 2 options in more detail.

First Option is to ignore this e-mail. Let me tell you what is going doesn't help you avoid the humiliation your household will must

Second Option is to make the payment of \$3200. We will name i immediately. You move on with your routine life as though nothing the second se



to either ignore this letter, or perhaps pay me \$3200. Let us

acts including friends and family, co-workers, and so on. It

secret remains your secret. I will delete the recording

Now you must be thinking, "I'll just go to the cops". Without a doubt, have covered my steps to ensure this man cannot be tracked recorning to me and it will not stop the evidence from destroying your daily life. I am not trying to steal all your savings. I just want to be compensated for the time I placed into investigating you. Let's hope you have decided to make all this go away and pay me the confidentiality fee. You'll make the payment via Bitcoin (if you do not know how, type "how to buy bitcoins" in google)

Required Amount: \$3200 Receiving Bitcoin Address: 1JE6Pxdb865yhxc92KfjypcaXHgdAJpdsZ (It's CASE sensitive, so copy and paste it carefully)

Tell no person what you should be sending the bitcoin for or they might not sell it to you. The procedure to have bitcoins will take a short time so do not delay.

I have a unique pixel within this e-mail, and now I know that you have read through this email. You have 24 hours in order to make the payment. If I don't get the Bitcoin, I definitely will send out your video to all of your contacts including family members, co-workers, etc. You better come up with an excuse for friends and family before they find out. Nonetheless, if I do get paid, I'll erase the video immediately. It's a non-negotiable offer, thus kindly don't ruin my personal time & yours. The clock is ticking.



WannaCry: Ransomware Meets Worm



Jakub Kroustek

36,000 detections of #WannaCry (aka #WanaCypt0r aka #WCry) #ransomware so far. Russia, Ukraine, and Taiwan leading. This is huge.



16:56 - 12. 5. 2017

1] 2.000

0 933

- The biggest ransomware attack in history
- Avast has detected and blocked more than **176 million** WannaCry attacks in 217 countries since the initial attack last year
- It is still spreading!



Some Facts About Ransomware

- Targets all platforms Windows, Android, Linux, MacOS... even thermostats and cars
- Payment methods: Cryptocurrencies (Bitcoin, ETH, ...)
- Focus on customer satisfaction, even support with live chat
- Open-source ransomware, education ransomware, ChatGPT attempts
- Ransomware as a service (RaaS) model



Ransomware as a Service (RaaS)

Ransom32 - Stats 1EnWWsdyrMiXPTU87bWtvW6zPL6ZczD61v Address 75% Payout ratio Installs 👔 Lockscreens 1 Paids 主 Paid BTC 1 **Client download** BTC amount to ask: 0.1 Don't be too greedy or people will not pay Fully lock the computer i 📃 Low CPU usage 主 📄 Show the lockscreen before encrypting 主

Show the lockscreen before encrypting Show a message box : Latent Timeout :

Download client.scr

Don't worry if the download "hangs". While the download bar is shown, Tor is receiving the file. Just wait.

PROFIT FROM PETYA & MISCHA!

HIGH INFECTION RATES

PETYA comes bundeled with his little brother MISCHA. Since PETYA can't do his evil work without administrative privileges, MISCHA launches when those can't be obtained.

PETYA does a low level encryption of the disk, which is a completly new technique in ransomware. MISCHA acts as an traditional file-based ransomware. For more informations see our FAQ.

PROVABLY FAIR

As professional cybercriminals, we know that you can't trust anyone. So we developed a payment system based on multisig addresses, where no one (including us) can rip you off.

For more informations see our FAQ.

PAYMENT SHARE

Your share on the payments you have generated is calculated with the following table. The more volume you generate in one week, the more share on the profit you get.

Example: If you generate a volume of 125 BTC, you get a payout of 106.25 BTC. That are at the moment about 45,000 USD! To get a volume over 100 BTC is not a big deal with the right technique!

Volume/Week	Share
<5 BTC	25%
<25 BTC	50%
<125 BTC	75%
>=125 BTC	85%

Ransomware as a Service (RaaS)

CryptoLocker 3.1

\$400.00

Digital Download

by firew0rm

Encryption algorithm BlowFish 448 bit (stronger then AES).

 - 448 bit key is generated on computer and sent to C&C. Each computer generates unique key. Key is not stored on computer and is purged from RAM.

- All C&C decryption keys are encrypted with the RSAalg (1024 or 2048 Bit Keys). The Password used to decrypt the private key is not stored and only temporary used(conclusion: even if the server is raided or compromised the User-Passwords cannot be decrypted). Locker can communicate with C&C over Tor, without losing any connections (contact support for more information - we are using a different technique).

- Files in all locations (external media and network) are encrypted.

- Encrypted extensions: odt, ods, odp, odm, odc, odb, doc, docx, docm, wps, xls, xlsx, xlsm, xlsb, xlk, ppt, pptx, pptm, mdb, accdb, pst, dwg, xf, dxg, wpd, rtf, wb2, mdf, dbf, psd, pdd, pdf, eps, ai, indd, cdr, jpg,

- 1 + \$400.00 Purchase

Cryptocurrency payments by CoinPayments

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DEMO

LockBit Ransomware Dark Web Site

What's the Design of a (Perfect) Ransomware?



Building Ransomware 101

Tasks to solve by ransomware authors:

- 1. How to generate encryption key?
- 2. How/where to store key?
- 3. How to encrypt files?
- 4. How to secure backend infrastructure?
- 5. How to decrypt after payment?

Fail at any point:

- Free decryption $\ensuremath{\textcircled{\sc o}}$
- … or no chance to recover files ☺



#1 Key Generation



Key Generation

- There are rules that need to be obeyed
 - The key must be generated with a good random number generator (RNG)
 - The key must be generated new for each file

 Crypt888 ransomware The authors considered the password "888" goo Local \$spi_setdeskwallpaper = 20 FileDelete(@TempDir & "/wl.jpg") Local **\$bt** bt = 2\$y = _filelisttoarray(@DesktopDir, "*.*", \$bt) If \$y <> "" AND \$y <> @error AND \$y <> -1 Then For \$i = 1 To \$y[0] Step +1 If NOT StringInStr(\$y[\$i], "Lock.") Then \$dd1 = StringReplace(\$y[\$i], "Fixed.", "") _crypt_encryptfile(@DesktopDir & "/" & \$y[\$i], @DesktopDir & "/Lock." & \$dd1, "888" \$cald des) FileDelete(@DesktopDir & "/" & \$y[\$i]) DirRemove(@DesktopDir & "/" & \$y[\$i], 1) EndIf Next EndIf

- Generated key
 - Based on system configuration (key: USER_userpc_00:14:22:01:23:45) ☺
 - The rand() function provided by framework libraries PRNG
 - GetTickCount()
- Example: BadBlock ransomware

• BadBlock Ransomware's key generation algorithm

```
void GeneratePassword(char * buffer, size_t length)
{
    const char * alphabet = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ0123456789";
    size_t alphabet_length = strlen(alphabet);
    // Mix the pseudo-random number generator
    Randomize();
    // Generate text password
    for(size_t i = 0; i < length; i++)
    buffer[i] = alphabet[Random(alphabet_length)];
    buffer[length] = 0;
}</pre>
```



```
uint32 t g dwSeedValue = 0;
                                     This generates a constant sequence that
void Randomize()
                                         solely depends on the initial seed
   LARGE_INTEGER Result;
                                                        (32-bits)
   QueryPerformanceCounter(&Result
   g dwSeedValue = Result.LowPart;
int Random(uint32_t maxlength)
   g dwSeedValue = (g dwSeedValue * 0x8088405) + 1;
   return (g dwSeedValue % maxlength);
```

- Regardless the length of the password, its strength is 32 bits
- Brute-forceable at speed of ~7.5 M passwords per second
 - Intel Xeon E5-1620 v3 @ 3.5 GHz (Windows 10 64-bit, 8 threads)

Rhysida Ransomware (2023)

- Written in pure C with multiplatform crypto-library (LibTomCrypt)
- Utilizes multiple encryptor threads
- Each encryptor thread has its own PRNG for generating keys

```
int main(int argc, char * argv[])
{
    // ...
    // Init the CRT pseudo-random number generator (PRNG)
    srand(time(NULL));
    // For every encryptor thread, create its own Chacha20 PRNG
    for(int i = 0; i < g_encryptor_threads; i++)
    {
        init_prng(&g_thread_prngs[i], &g_perthread_prng_indexes[i]);
    }
    // ...
}</pre>
```

Rhysida Ransomware (2023)

 Written in pure C with multiplatform crypto-library (LibTomCrypt) int init prng(prng state * prng, int * prng index) • Utilizes { if(*prng index = register prng(&chacha20 prng desc) == -1) return 1: Each erl if(chacha20 prng start(prng)) // Fill the structure with zeros int main(return 2; { // .. if(chacha20 prng ready(prng)) // Initialize the Chacha20 cipher key return 3; // In

```
for(int i = 0; i < 40; i++) // Fill the random buffer
random_buffer[i] = rand() * (prng_index[0] + i + 1);</pre>
```

```
// Feed the random buffer as entropy to the PRNG
if(chacha20_prng_add_entropy(random_buffer, 40LL, prng))
    return 4;
```

```
// Read "random" number of bytes
random_buffer = malloc(rand());
chacha20_prng_read(random_buffer, sizeof(random_buffer), prng);
free(random_buffer);
```

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srand

// Fo
for(i

{

}

// ..

Rhysida Ransomware (2023)



```
filename = get_filename(file_queue);
```

TargetCompany Ransomware (2022)



TargetCompany Ransomware (2022)

TargetCompany Ransomware (2022)

AtomSilo (2021)

• Key strength degradation:

BitCrypt Ransomware (2014)

• Uses RSA key:

312988471966254006395069386371619301627890114642959526005441458293358 49533528834917800088971765784757175491347320005860302574523

- Quiz: good / bad?
- 128 digits != 128 bytes (RSA-426 != RSA-1024)
- Crackable within a few hours on a regular PC
- \$./factor.sh <key> -s 4 -t 6
- Total cpu/real time for cracking: 751058/51141
- https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/bitcrypt-ransomware-easily-broken/

Hello?

I made this Ransomware...

Can you help me?

i wont to make a decryption tool

if someone gets infected by ransomware

can you send me a vb.net code what decrypt files (aes)

Encryption Algorithm

• Symmetric cryptography vs asymmetric cryptography

	Symmetric	Asymmetric
Number of keys	One	Two (public and private)
Speed	Fast	Slow
Block size	Small	Large
Code complexity	Small to medium	Medium to high
Decryption without a key	Trivial to impossible	Damn-hard to impossible

• The most used algorithms: XOR (!), RC4, ChaCha20, AES, Blowfish, RSA, ECDH

Block Cipher Modes of Operation

Bandarchor (AES-ECB) TeslaCrypt (AES-CBC) Globe (AES-CBC)

Legion Ransomware

• Claims to be using "the latest encryption algorithm RSA 2048"

🥘 read_th	is_file.txt - Notepad		_		\times	
<u>File</u> dit Your fil the late	jz lea mov	<pre>short label_skip_encryption eax, [edi+2] dl, 27h ; '''</pre>				
do not a you have to decry e-mail f_tactio	loop_encrypt_data: xor xor xor xor xor xor xor	; CODE XREF: byte ptr [eax-2], 20h byte ptr [eax-1], 21h byte ptr [eax], 22h byte ptr [eax+1], 23h byte ptr [eax+2], 24h byte ptr [eax+3], 25h byte ptr [eax+4], 26h	EncryptFile	+103+j		
<	label_ski	Don't trust (cyber-)c	riminals!	!!		

Apocalypse Ransomware

```
int DecryptApocalypse(
```

```
switch(version)
      case ENCRYPTED HEADER MAGIC V1:
     for(i = 0; i < cbEncrypted; i++)</pre>
              pbDecrypted[i] = pbEncrypted[i] ^ (BYTE)(0xEC + i + (i ^ (0xEC * i)) + 61);
          break;
      case ENCRYPTED HEADER MAGIC V2:
      for(i = 0; i < cbEncrypted; i++)</pre>
              pbDecrypted[i] = pbEncrypted[i] ^ (BYTE)(i - (i ^ (0x6a + i) ^ 0xC3) - 0x6a);
          break:
      case ENCRYPTED_HEADER_MAGIC_V3:
     for(i = 0; i < cbEncrypted; i++)</pre>
              pbDecrypted[i] = pbEncrypted[i] ^ (BYTE)(0xDE + 2 * i + (i ^ (i - 0x4B)) + 0x2D);
          break;
      case ENCRYPTED HEADER MAGIC V4:
     for(i = 0; i < cbEncrypted; i++)</pre>
              pbDecrypted[i] = pbEncrypted[i] ^ (BYTE)(0xCB + (2 * (i + 0x38)) + (i ^ (i - 0x5C)));
          break:
      case ENCRYPTED HEADER MAGIC V5:
      for (i = 0; i < cbEncrypted; i++)</pre>
              pbDecrypted[i] = pbEncrypted[i] ^ (BYTE)(0x3A + 2 * i);
break:
```

```
;···}
```
Bart Ransomware

Gen

• Stored original files into ZIP archives, protected with password

	c ~ [System] 556 026 420 k of 1 000 083 508 k free					– 🗆 X	
	c:\Documents*.*					^	
	+Name	Ext	Size	Date	Attr	996	
•	雀[]		<dir></dir>	11.03.25 19:14		to AVG Technologies to use, copy, modify,	
	📕 foobar.bmp.bart.zip		750 510	07.02.17 10:18	-a	copies of the software and associated	
•	📕 foobar.doc.bart.zip		5 330	07.02.17 10:18	-a	iditions:	
	📕 foobar.docx.bart.zip		8 891	07.02.17 10:18	-a	d in all copies or substantial portions of the	
	📕 foobar.gif.bart.zip		193 083	07.02.17 10:18	-a	the Software shall be made available to	
	📕 foobar.jpg.bart.zip		42 092	07.02.17 10:18	-a		
	📕 foobar.mp3.bart.zip		86 278	07.02.17 10:18	-a	DT LIMITED TO THE WARRANTIES OF	
	📕 foobar.pdf.bart.zip		37 383	07.02.17 10:18	-a	THE AUTHORS OR COPYRIGHT	
	📕 foobar.png.bart.zip		40 655	07.02.17 10:18	-a	MAGES OR OTHER LIABILITY,	
	foobar.pptx.bart.zip		4 730 870	07.02.17 10:18	-a	ISING FROM, OUT OF OR IN	
	foobar.txt.bart.zip		181	07.02.17 10:18	-a	HE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN THE	
	foobar.xls.bart.zip		6 496	07.02.17 10:18	-a	~	
	📕 foobar.xlsx.bart.zip		5 775	07.02.17 10:18	-a		

Akira Ransomware (2023)

- Encrypts files using Chacha20 algorithm
- Key and n-once are generated by a secure RNG (CryptGenRandom)
- However, only one key&n-once is generated per machine ☺

Can this fact be used for decryption?

Akira Ransomware (2023)



#3 Key Storage



Key Storage

- To allow decryption, keys must be stored somewhere / somehow
- Not as easy as you would think
- Store the key somewhere in the system?
 - How?
- Send the key to the cloud?
 - What if the cloud server is down?
 - What if the cloud server is taken down by the law-enforcement?
- Generate the key in the cloud?
 - Again: What if the cloud server is taken down by the law-enforcement?
- Encrypt files with asymmetric cryptography?

- Example: NoobCrypt ransomware
- Keeps the key on the infected system. In plaintext



- Fonix Ransomware
- File Key (Salsa/Chacha20)
 - ... is encrypted by "Session Key" (RSA-2048)
 - ... which is encrypted by "Master Key" (RSA-4096)
- The session RSA key is stored in two files:
 - C:\ProgramData\Cpub.key (public key)
 - C:\ProgramData\Cpriv.key (private key)



		Encrypted
0ffs	Len	
0	1208 :	SEQUENCE
4	1 :	INTEGER Ø
7	13 :	SEQUENCE
9	9 :	OBJECT IDENTIFIER '1.2.840.113549.1.1.1' // rsaEncryption (PKCS #1)
20	0:	NULL
22	1186 :	OCTET STRING
26	1182 :	SEQUENCE
30	1 :	INTEGER Ø
22	257 .	TNITEGED AA SE 12 1E 7C AC ER RA 78 // Modulus ("public koy")
294	1 :	INTEGER 11 // Public exponent ("public key")
297	255 :	INTEGER 71 8B 96 2E 80 AE 26 6A 78 // Private exponent E ("private key")
555	129 :	INTEGER 00 B9 D9 F7 53 F9 EA AC 6F // Prime Number P
687	129 :	INTEGER 00 C5 55 EF 62 67 0C EC 74 // Prime Number Q



- Published / leaked encryption keys
- Example: Shutdown of the TeslaCrypt ransomware (May 2016)



• Example: Bitdefender's breach of the GandCrab servers (2019)



- Example: LockBit's leak site hacked by joint operation of LE from 11 countries
- Exploited a PHP vulnerability (CVE-2023-3824)

Gen

THE SITE IS NOW UNDER CONTROL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

This site is now under the control of The National Crime Agency of the UK, working in close cooperation with the FBI and the international law enforcement task force, 'Operation Cronos'.





THIS SITE IS NOW UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE UK. THE **MCA** LEAKED DATA LOCKETTS US AND THE CRONOS TASK FORCE Press Releases LB Backend Leaks Lockbitsupp Who is LockbitSupp? 2D 17H 2M 335 PUBLISHED PUBLISHED PUBLISHED The \$10m question You've Been **Banned From** LOCKBIT 3.0 National Crime Agency (C) Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC 3947 🕥 C Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC 1182 🕥 1182 📀 C Updated: 01 Feb, 2024, 04:12 UTC 3947 🕥 Lockbit Decryption Keys **Recovery Tool US Indictments** Sanctions PUBLISHED OD 1H 32M 33S PUBLISHED PUBLISHED United States Sanctions for Threat Law Enforcement Japanese recovery tool key to FBI Investigation Leads to a Total of may be able to assist access encrypted files and expand 6.5 5 LockBit Affiliates Charged By the Actors Engaged in Significant you to decrypt your Europol's #Nomoreransom family Malicious Cyber Related Activity LOCKBIT 3.0 Department of Justice, Two of Lockbit encrypted Those Indictments Released Today. (C) Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC (C) Updated: 01 Feb, 2024, 04:12 UTC 3947 💿 C Updated: 01 Feb, 2024, 04:12 UTC 3947 👁 C Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC 1182 1182 Arrest in Poland Activity in Ukraine **Report Cyber Attacks! Cyber Choices** PUBLISHED PUBLISHED PUBLISHED PUBLISHED On 20/02/2024 a suspected LockBit actor was On 20/02/2024 a suspected Lockbit actor was Please report your Cyber Incident. To enable Law arrested in Poland on the request of the French arrested in Ternopil (UA) by the local authorities. Enforcement to take protective and disruptive iudicial authorities. action, it is vital that victims report attacks and engage with Law Enforcement (C) Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC 1182 🔘 C Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC 1182 💿 3947 🕥 (C) Updated: 01 Feb, 2024, 04:12 UTC 3947 🕥 StealBit down! Affiliate infrastructure down Lockbit's Hackers exposed Prodaft 0D 17H 2M 335 0D 17H 2M 33S OD 17H 2M 33S 1D 17H 2M 335 Learn more about Law enforcement has compromised Lockbit As a result of fully compromising **PRODAFT** -LB's bespoke platform and, as a result of this activity, other Lockbit's platform, Law Enforcement exfiltration tool, and wide-ranging enabling, and affiliate (hacker), will be coordinating activity to identify Proactive Defense Against Future Threats LOCKBIT 3. how we have infrastructure, has been identified. This includes and deal with Lockbit's affiliates. (C) Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC C Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC (C) Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC C Updated: 31 Jan, 2024, 01:44 UTC 1182 🕥 1182 💿 1182 📀 1182 📀

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- LockBit's main administrator deanonymized
- <u>https://www.state.gov/transnational-organi</u> <u>ransomware-administrator-dmitry-yuryevick</u>
- "The U.S. Department of State is offering a r information leading to the arrest and/or cor Khoroshev for participating in, conspiring to in LockBit ransomware activities."

IDENTITY REVEAL LockBitSupp is: Dmitry Yuryevich Khoroshev



#5 Decrypt After Payment

Decrypt After Payment

- Threat actors provide decryptors for victims who paid the ransom
- Incorrect encryption schema may make a decryptor work for every victim
- Example: DMALocker ransomware



They Failed! What's next?

Avast Free Ransomware Decryptors

- The last resort of ransomware protection
- Free recovery of already encrypted files
- We're an associate partner of NO MORE RANSOM!
- <u>https://www.nomoreransom.org</u>



The (Not So Good) News



The (Not So Good) News

- It would be cool if it was always possible. But it isn't. Often.
- Moreover, by releasing a decryptor, we also deliver a message to the bad guys



The Happy Sad Funny Story of the Bart Ransomware

- Jun 21, 2016: Discovered
- Jul 19, 2016: "Bart's Shenanigans Are No Match for AVG"
 - <u>http://now.avg.com/barts-shenanigans-are-no-match-for-avg/</u>
- Aug 22, 2016: A new version of Bart emerged, based on Diffie-Hellman encryption
- Apr 4, 2017: Bitdefender creates decryption tool for Bart ransomware

Noob.Crypt 2.0

User Informations

IP: 192.168.171.167
HOST: VMWARE-LADIK
ADMIN: {v/n}



READ HERE!

We manually check payments.

noobcrypt@sigaint.org

In order to pay, send us an email with your UNIQUE ID and we will send you the instructions how to pay!

Security

System Restore Points Disable Safe Boot UAC Bypass Encrypted Files

Paid! Wait for decryption !

00B.CRYPT

Your PC is blocked due to at least one of the reasons specified below

Dear mr/miss/dr/president whatever, all your files are encrypted and you must pay a ransom if you want to get your files back. I truely feel very sorry for you (well actually not) but hey we all must make a living.

Your files are locked with AES256 military grade encryption and the only way to get your files back is by paying a ransom, you can pay with the following methods: Bitcoin, Ukash, Paysafecard, PerfectMoney, WebMoney. Now we are not the kind of evil people who will demand twice the ransom every 24 hours but you wont be able to access your files until the ransom is paid.

YOUR UNIQUE ID: 3cc34a1858097cc442640846041965233c1f7a25

YOUR PAYMENT STATUS: Not Paid

CHECK THE PAYMENT



2024 Ransomware Trends

- Different attacks based on the target
 - Warez/Discord for consumer
 - RDP/Samba/phishing for SMB
 - Targeted attacks for Enterprise
- Multi-extorsion schema (decryption, doxing, network access, etc.)
- File corruption instead of encryption or partial encryption
- Encryption of ESXI servers (Linux)
- Malware-less attacks

Conclusions

- Malware is a regular business now
- Don't trust the criminals
- Don't pay the ransom
- Malware analysis is fun but challenging
- Creating a solid encryption system is not that easy



Student Theses at GEN

- Long history of cooperation
- So far, so good \bigcirc

ROCK STAR DEVELOPER



@SKELETON_CLAW

Student Theses at GEN

- Developing systems for malware classification (internal and open-source tools)
- Detection of anomalies, threats and campaigns
- Reverse engineering (an existing experience is required)
- Malware analysis of novel threats (HTML/JS, browser-specific, etc.)
- ... and more
- Programming languages: C/C++, Python, Rust
- For more information, follow VUT IS or contact us
 - E-Mail: iregeciova@fit.vutbr.cz
 - Discord: iregeciova



Further reading:

- P. Szor: The Art of Computer Virus Research and Defense, 2005
- <u>M. Sikorski, A. Honig: Practical Malware Analysis: The Hands-On Guide to Dissecting</u> <u>Malicious Software, 2012</u>
- J. P. Aumasson: Serious Cryptography: A Practical Introduction to Modern Encryption, 2017

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