Malware Forensics

Sukwha Kyung

Common Types of Attacks

- Phishing
- Malware
- SQLi
- XSS
- MITM
- DoS
- Brute-force & Dictionary attacks
- …

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100,000 groups in at least 150 countries and more than 400,000 machines were infected by the Wannacry virus in 2017, at a total cost of around $4 billion. (Malware Tech Blog)

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Malware

- A set of instructions (CPU instructions, commands/scripts) that run on victim's computer and make the system do what an attacker wants it to do.

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- A set of instructions (CPU instructions, commands/scripts) that run on victim's computer and make the system do what an attacker wants it to do.
- Purpose of malware:
  - Machine level: steal, delete files/information
  - Large scale: spam, relay

Malware Forensics

- Conducting forensic analysis on malicious code
  - Static Analysis: investigating of execution file without running
  - Dynamic Analysis: observing malware's activities by running it

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  - Static Analysis: investigating of execution file without running
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- Not only WHAT, but also HOW:
  - Malware forensics often involves how the victim's system got infected by malware (Network Forensics).

History

- Melissa (1999)
- SQL Slammer (2003)
- Mydoom (2004)
- Zeus (2007)
- Operation Aurora (2009)
- Stuxnet (2010)
- CryptoLocker (2013)
- Sony Pictures hack (2014)
- Mirai (2016)
- WannaCry (2017)

Types of Malware

- Virus
- Worm
- Trojan
- Backdoor
- Rootkit
- Adware
- Browser Hijacker
- Ransomware

Mitigation

- Anti-malware software
  - Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS): Detect & Report
  - Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS): Detect, Block & Report

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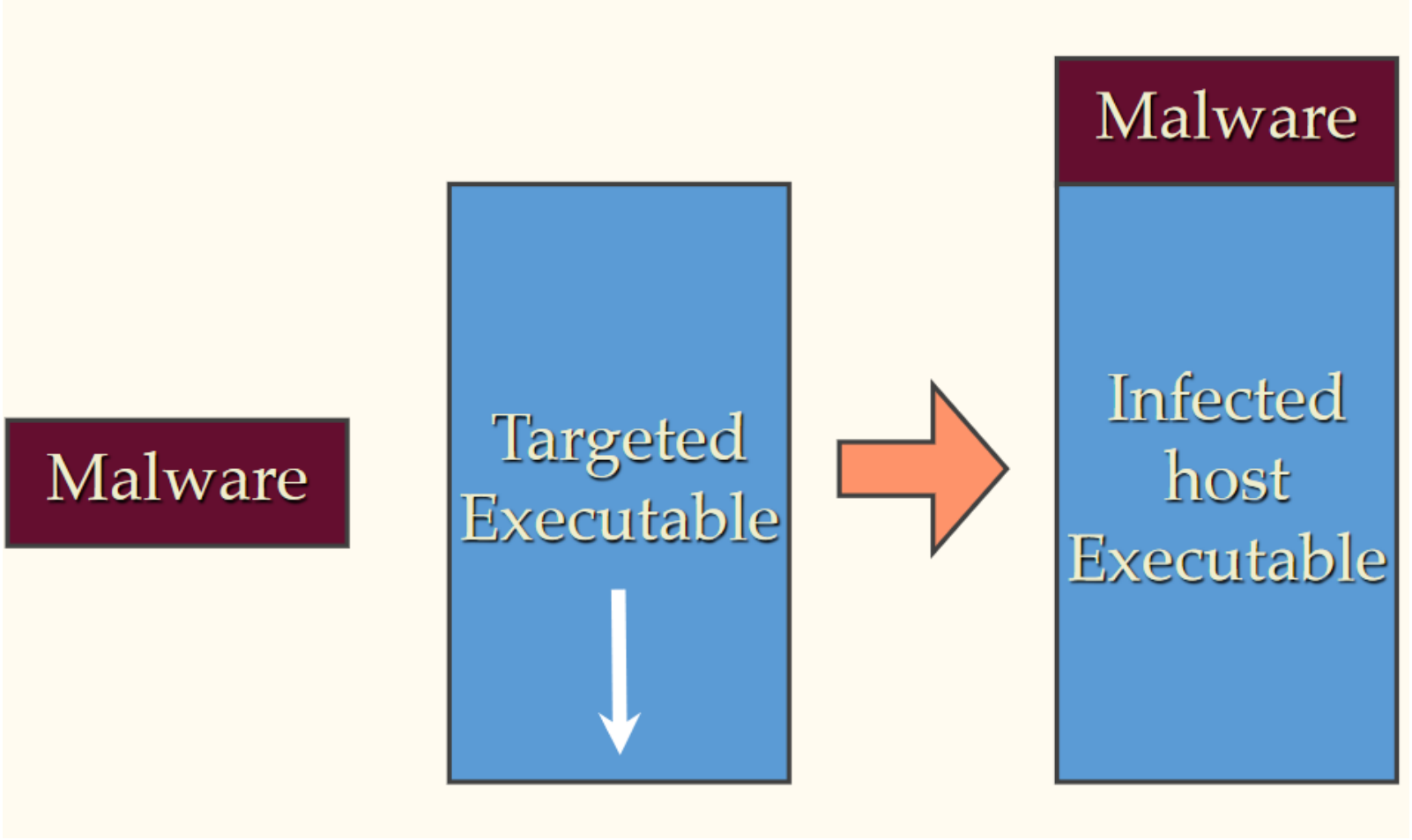
- What is the most naïve way to create malware signature?
  - MD5/SHA256sum?
  - Attacker can create infinite number of the same malware with different signature by just changing one bit.

My Advice

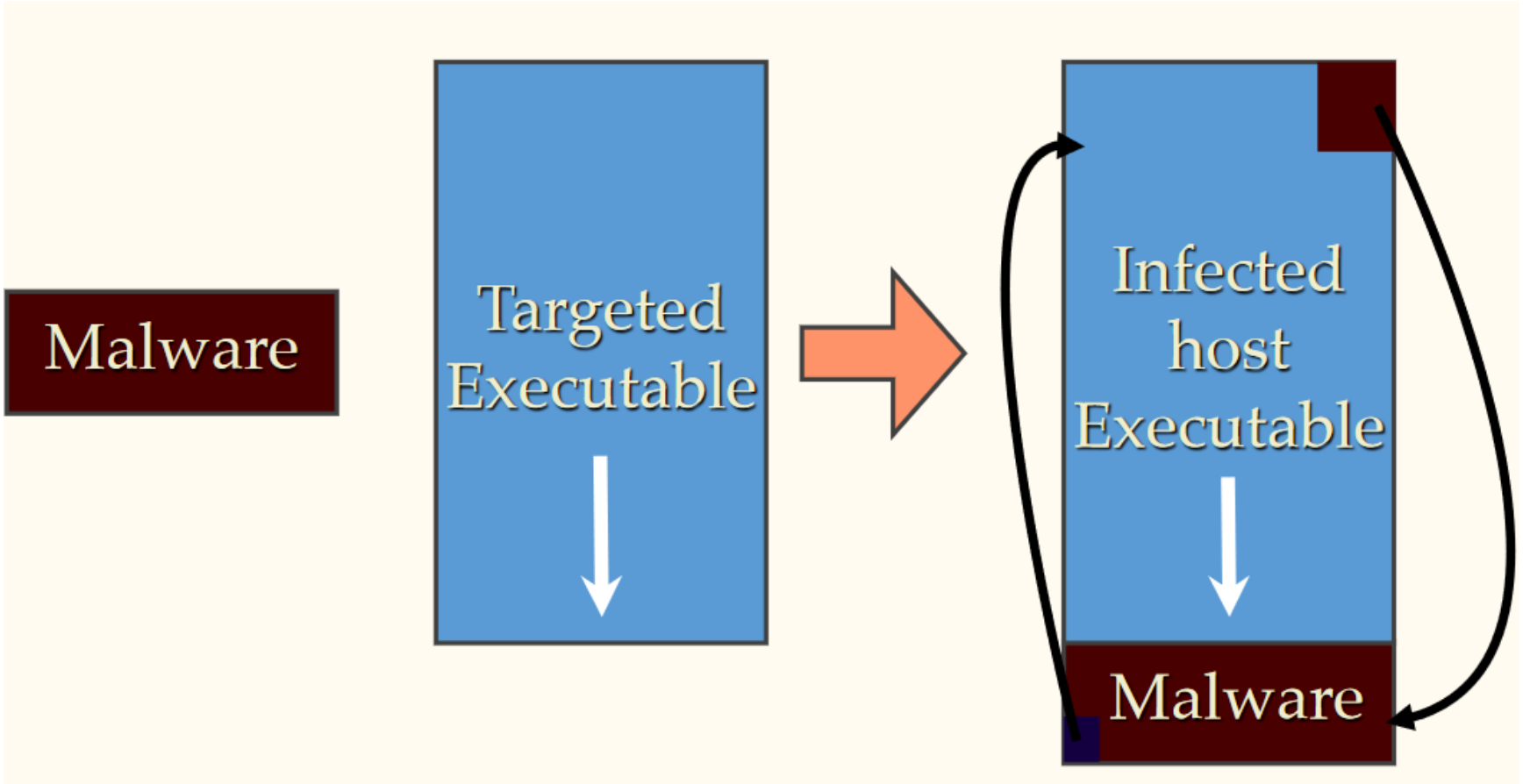
Virus

- A program that can infect other programs by modifying them to include a, possibly evolved, version of itself.
  - Fred Cohen (1983)

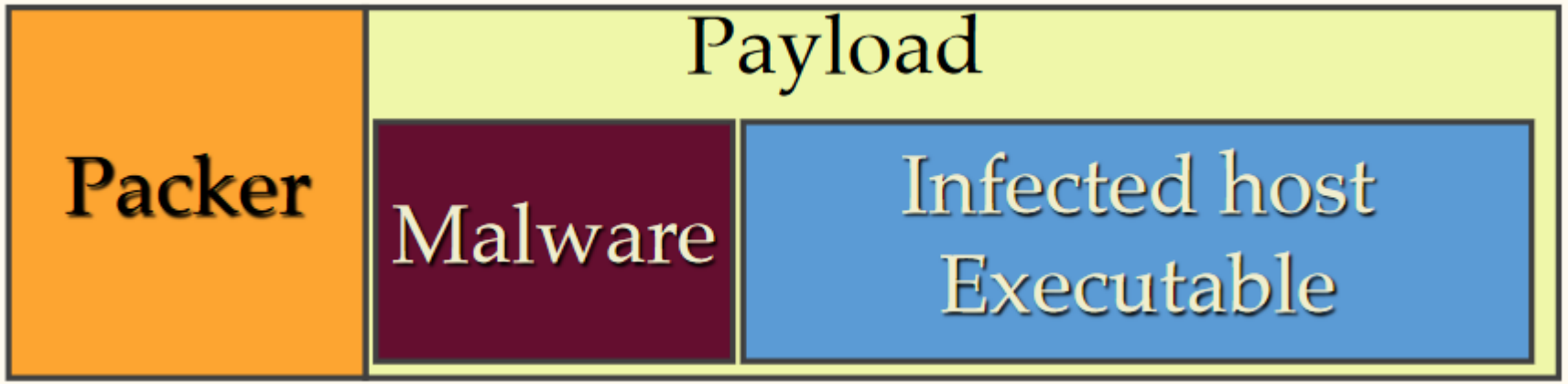
Virus Example



Virus Example



Packers



Packers

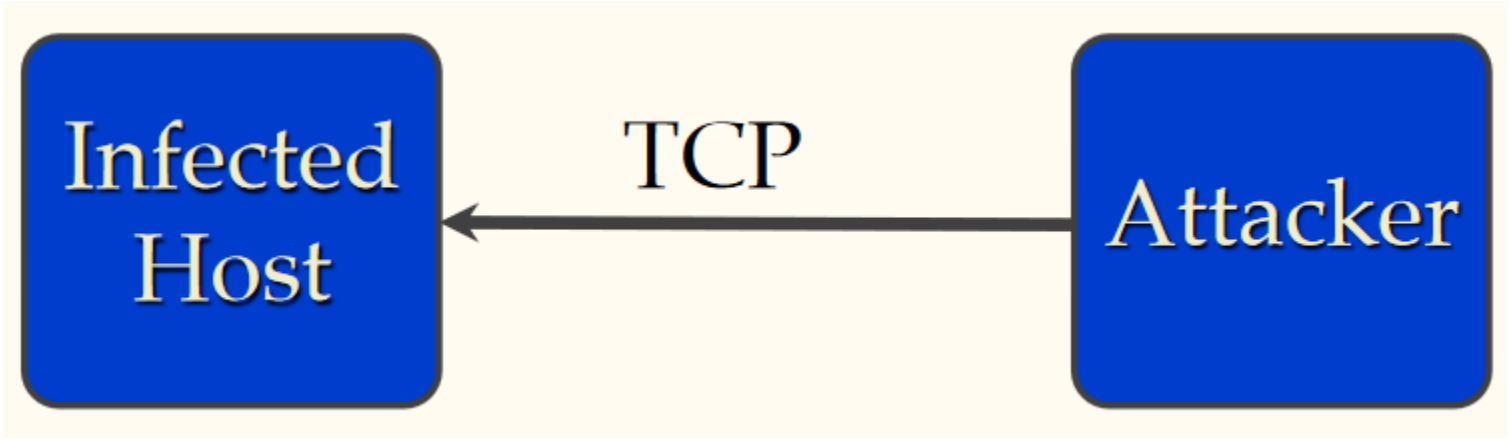
- Not necessarily malicious

- Compress
- Encrypt
- Randomize (Polymorphism)
- Anti-debug Technique (int / fake jmp)
- Add-junk
- Anti-VM
- Virtualization

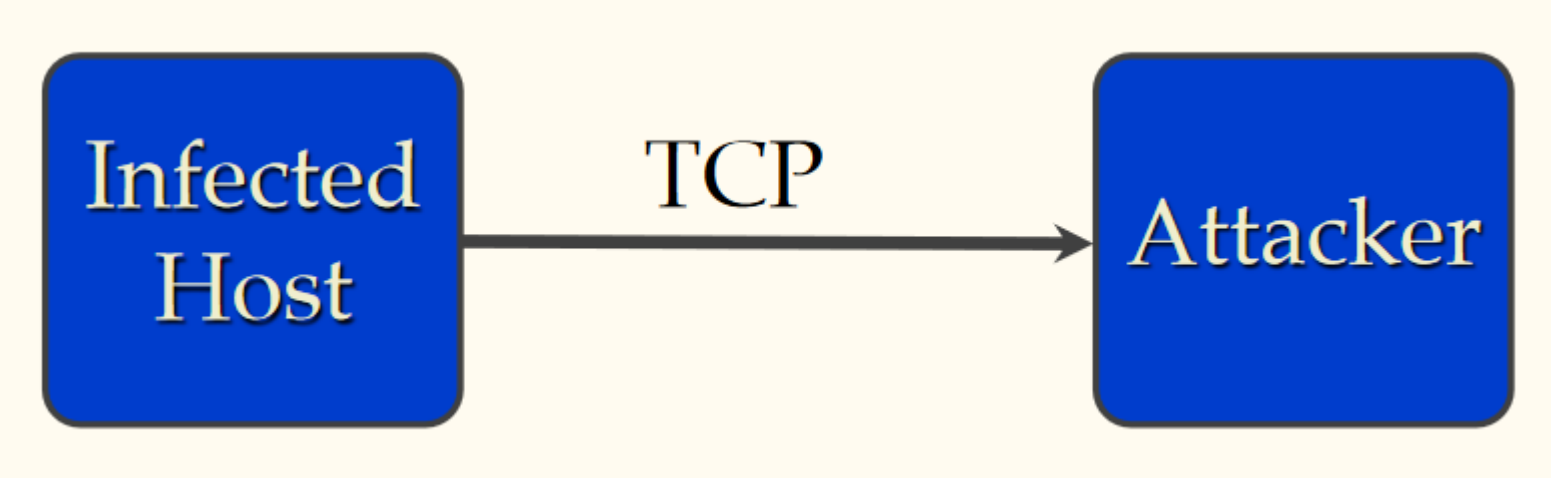
Backdoor

- A secret method to bypass normal authentication or encryption of a system.
  - Hidden part of a program
  - Separate program
  - Default passwords
- E.g.) Clipper chip (1993)

Backdoor



Reverse Backdoor



Trojan

- The class of malware that appears to perform a desirable function but in fact performs undisclosed malicious functions that allow unauthorized access to the victim computer.

Trojan

- E.g.) "waterfalls.scr" – a free waterfall screensaver.

- When run, it unloads hidden programs, commands, scripts, or any number of commands with or without the user's knowledge or consent.

Trojan

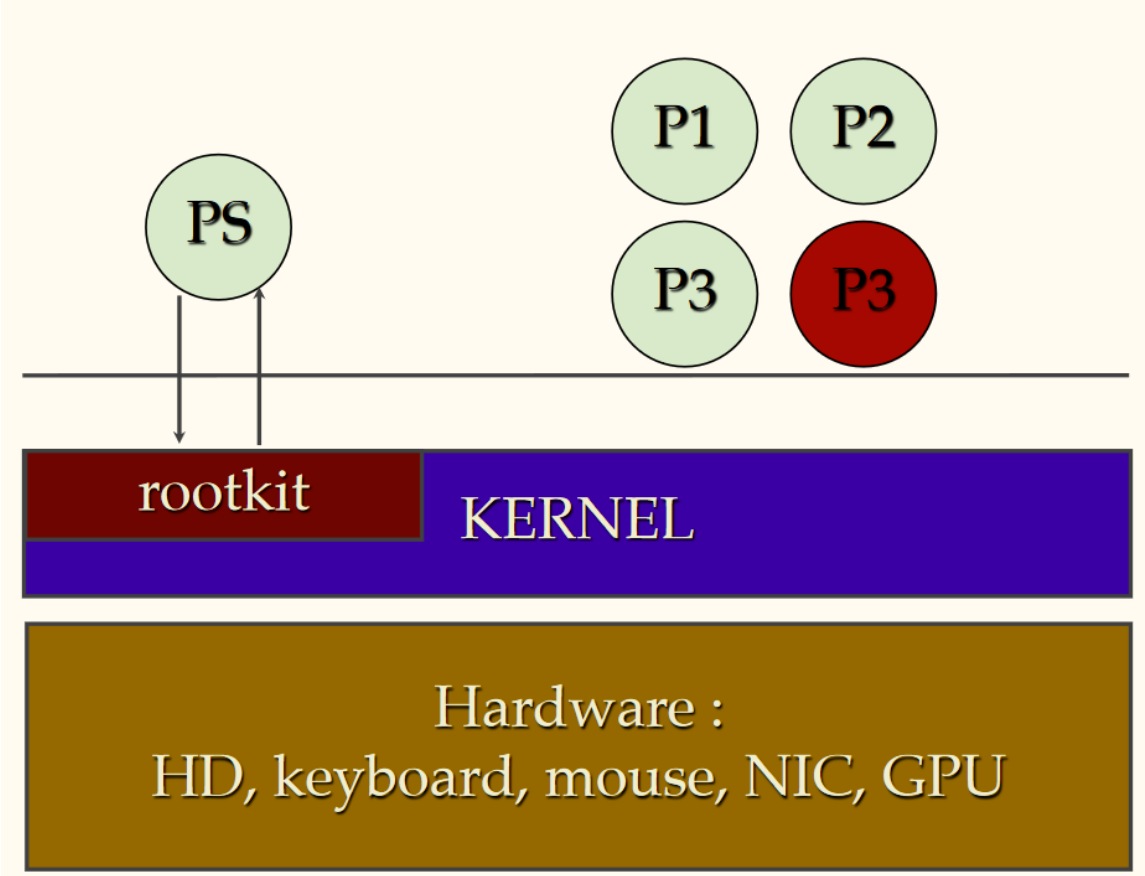
- *To what extent should one trust a statement that a program is free of Trojan horses? Perhaps it is more important to trust: the people who wrote the software.*
  - Ken Thomson (Turing Award acceptance lecture, 1983)

Rootkit

- Any software that acquires and maintains privileged access to the operating system while hiding its presence by subverting normal OS behavior.
  - Symantec Report

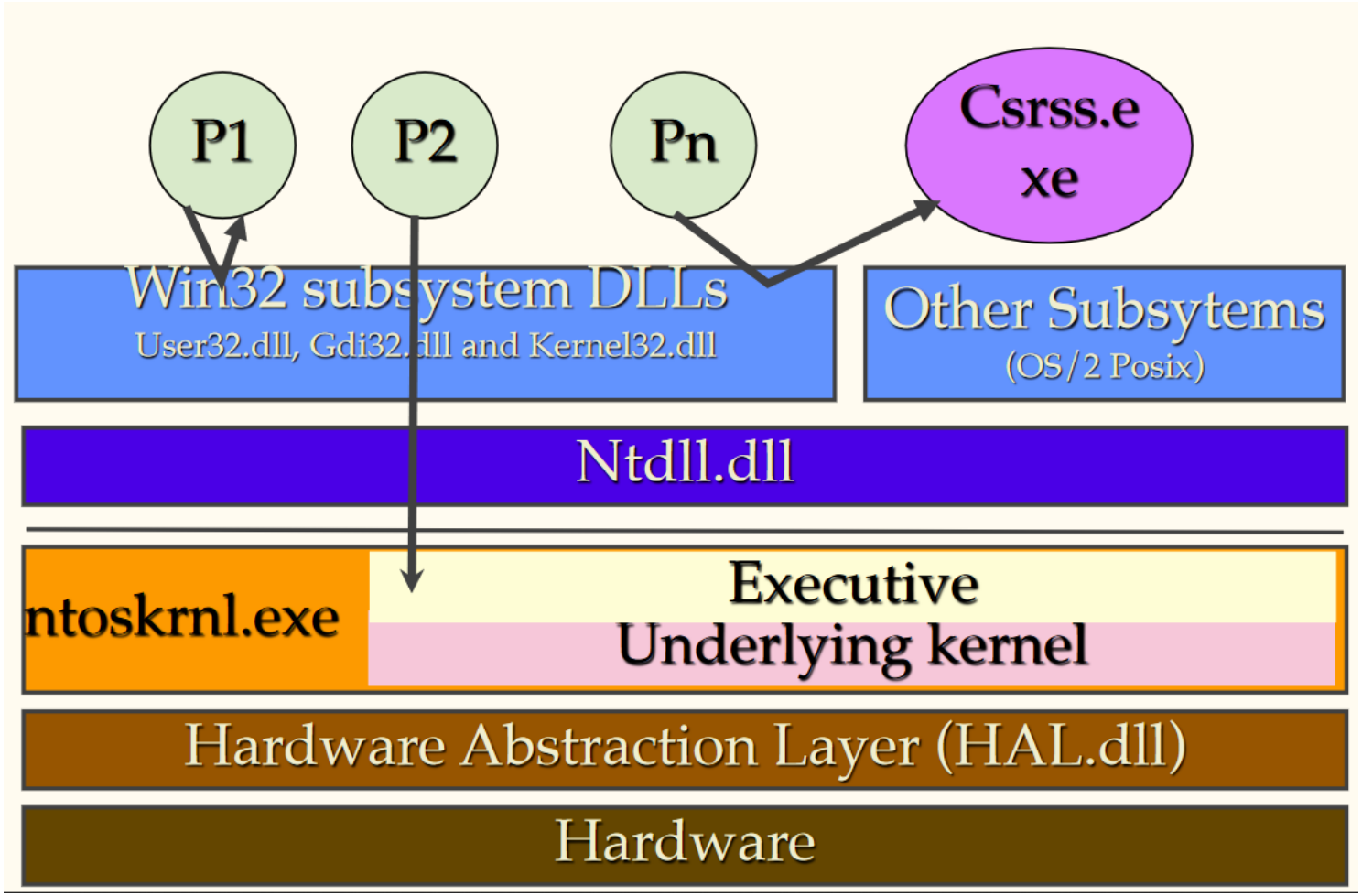
Rootkit

- Kernel Rootkit



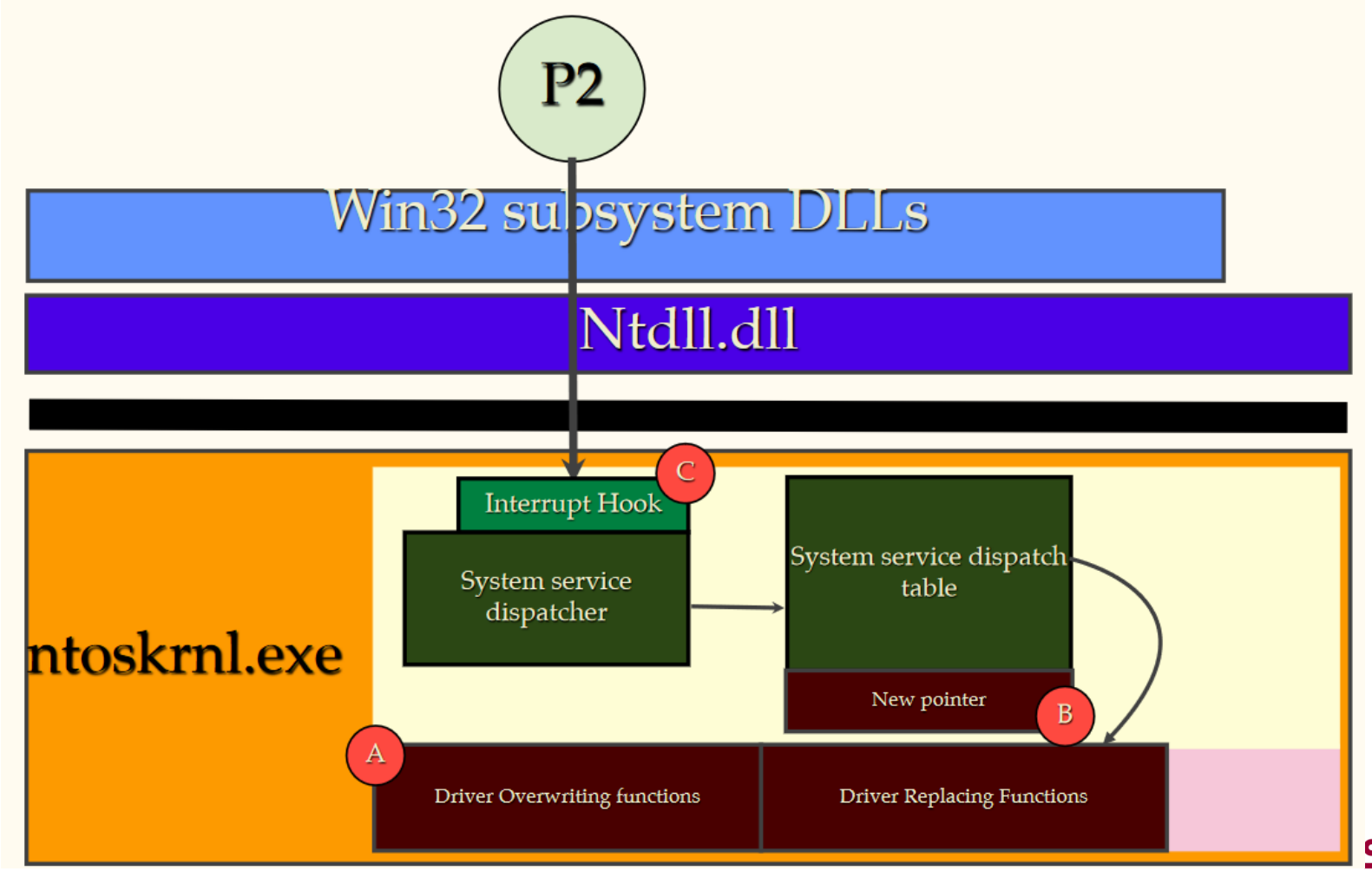
Rootkit

- Windows Kernel



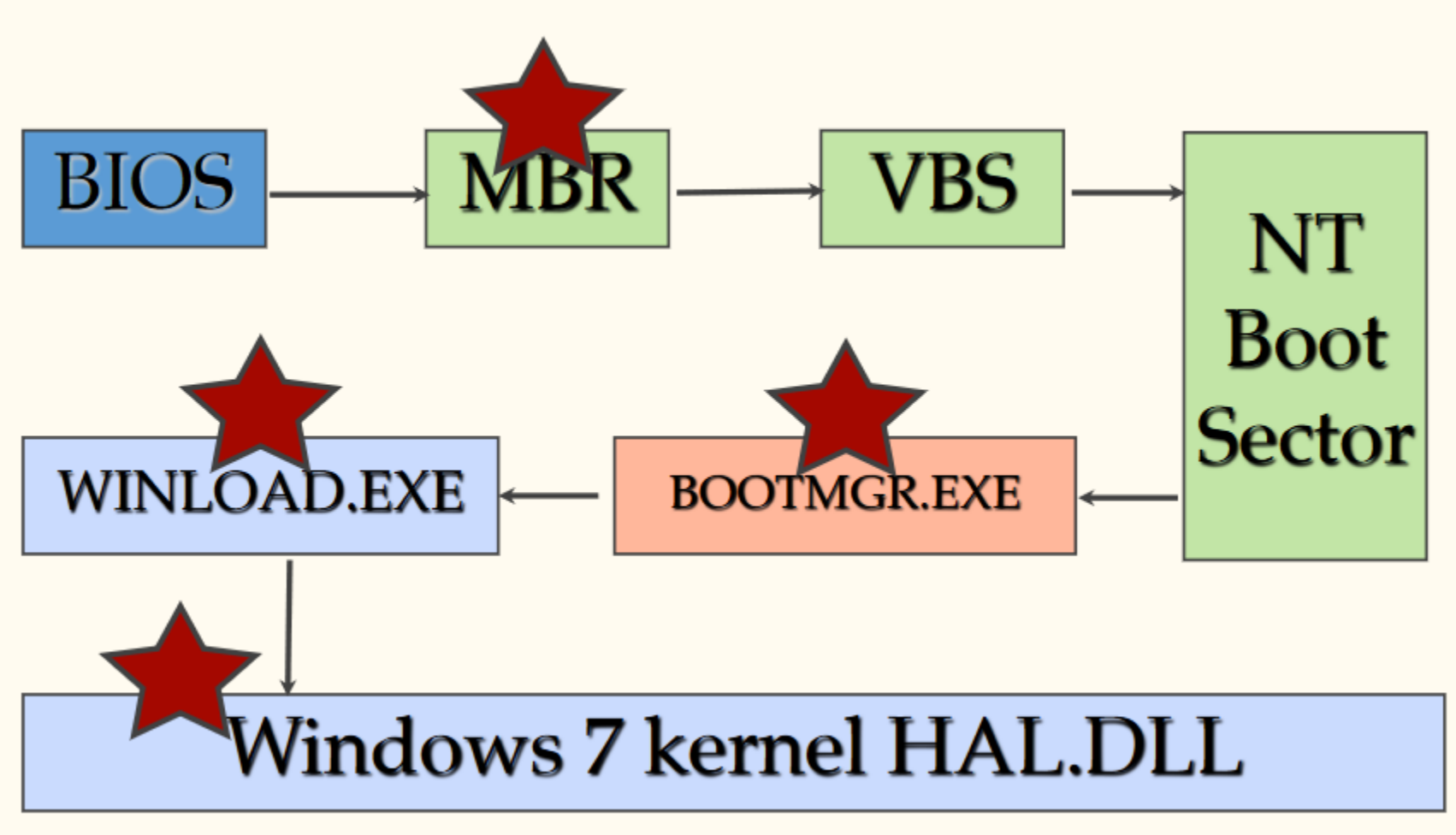
Rootkit

- Kernel Device Driver



Rootkit

- Bootkit
  - infects the master boot record, volume boot record or boot section during computer startup.
  - can be used to avoid all protections of an OS, because OS consider that the system was in trusted stated at the moment the OS boot loader took control.


BIOS
MBR
VBS
NT Boot Sector
WINLOAD.EXE
BOOTMGR.EXE
Windows 7 kernel HAL.DLL

Worm

- Self-replicating program that uses a *network* to send copies of itself to other nodes and do so without any user intervention.

- Typically exploit security flaws in widely used services, such as buffer overflow vulnerabilities in a network service.

Worm

- Morris worm (1988)
  - Infected approximately 6,000 machines
    - 10% of the entire internet
  - Cost ~$10 million

Solution

Worm

- Code Red worm (2001)
  - Direct descendant of Morris' worm
  - Infected more than 500,000 servers
    - Programmed to go into infinite sleep mode (July 28)
  - ~2.6 billion in damage

- Love Bug worm
  - Email message with the subject line "ILOVEYOU" and the attachment "LOVE-LETTER-FOR-YOU.txt.vbs"
  - ~8.75 billion

Virus vs Trojan vs Worm

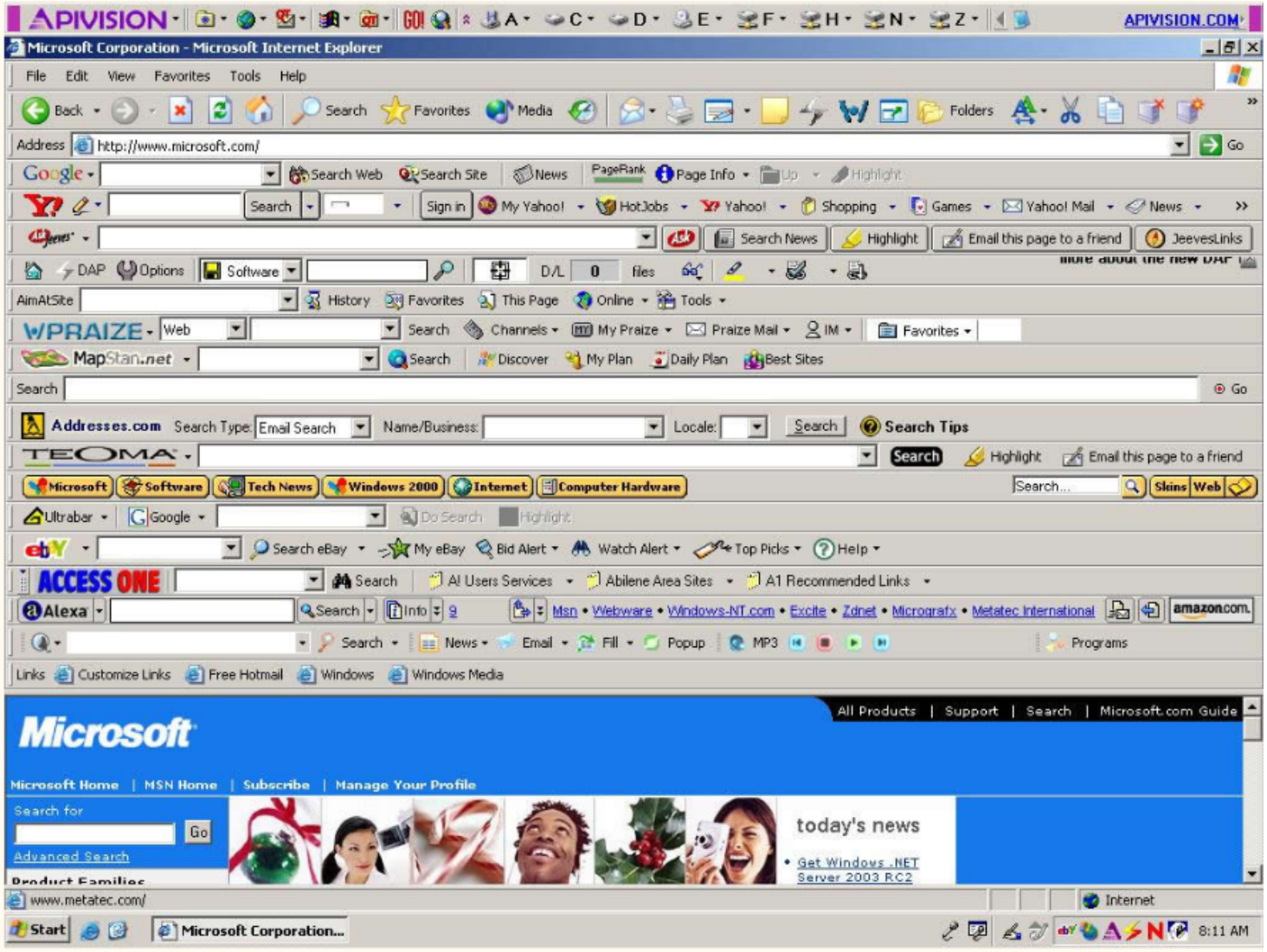
- Virus: code embedded in a file or program
- Virus and Trojan horses rely on human intervention
- Worms are self-contained and may spread autonomously

Browser hijacking

Adware


Free connection
Free modem
Click here to find out more
BT
INSWEB
Lower your insurance costs.
Enter to WIN!
XEROX
WIN an $11,000 USD
Business Upgrade Package
or a Xerox Phaser® 8400
Color Printer
World's fastest color printer
for under $1,000 USD.
Phaser 8400
Color Printer
$999
of coffee,
TRY 2 RISK-FREE ISSUES!
PC WORLD
Netscape What's New
Science Proves It: Drinking Causes...
Teen Girls Beware: Popular Boys Do THIS
Look What Was Found in Stone Age Cave
Strange Space Object Mystery Deepens
Did You See What Bush Dared to Wear?
If You Get This E-Mail Scam, Delete It
15 FREE POWER GUIDES
Home-Owners Click Here
AMERIQUEST MORTGAGE COMPANY®
Are You Paying Too
Rates are at Hist
Get cas
your h
HomeLoanCenter.com
Before you go, did you know....
You can add AOL® for Broadband to any high-speed cable or DSL connection!
Works with and enhances any basic high-speed connection
Built-in protection for you and your family
The best on-demand and exclusive programming online
GET A FREE TRIAL!
Upto 45 days FREE
Click here for details
save up to
on life
Quotes.
ReliaQuot
A better way to buy life insura
TRAVELZOO
This Week's
on the Interne
Released APRIL 14,
Song
CheapCaribbean.c
Take this free test!

Browser Toolbar



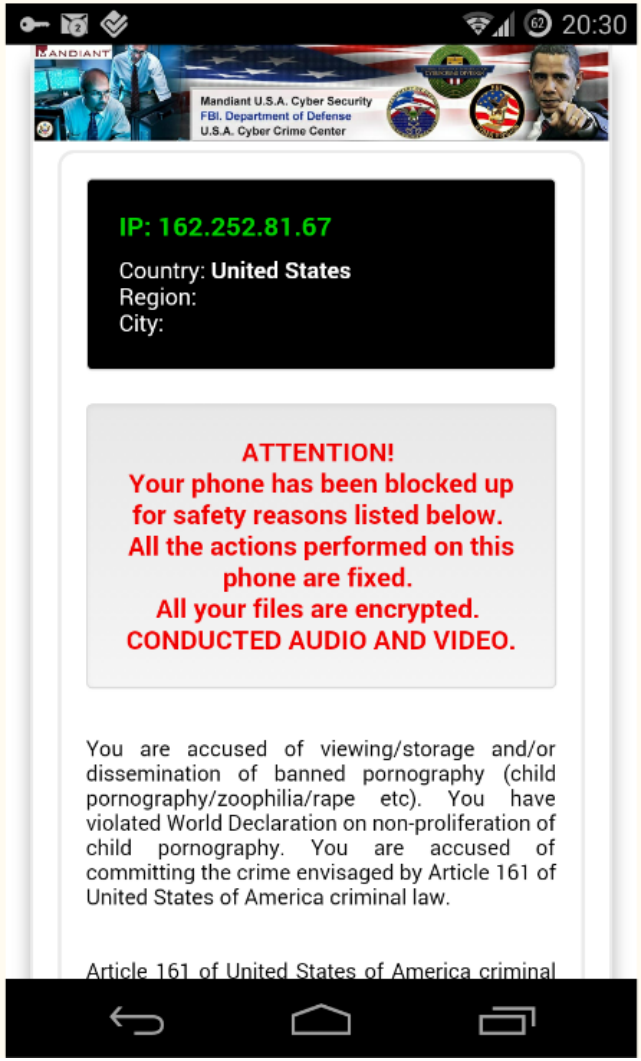
Ransomware


Cryptolocker 2.0
Your personal files are encrypted
Info
Your important files were encrypted on this computer: photos, videos, documents , etc. You can verify this by click on see files and try to open them.
Encryption was produced using unique public key RSA-4096 generated for this computer. To decrypt files, you need to obtain private key.
The single copy of the private key, which will allow you to decrypt the files, is located on a secret server on the Internet; the server will destroy the key within 72 hours after encryption completed. After that, nobody and never will be able to restore files.
To retrieve the private key, you need to pay 0.5 bitcoins.
Click proceed to payment to obtain private key.
Any attempt to remove or damage this software will lead to immediate private key destruction by server.
Your files will be lost without payment on:
11/24/2013 3:16:34 PM
See files
<< Back
Proceed to payment >>

Ransomware


CryptoLocker
Payment for private key
Choose a convenient payment method and click <Next>:
Bitcoin (most cheap option)
MoneyPak (USA only)
Bitcoin (most cheap option)
bitcoin
Bitcoin is a cryptocurrency where the creation and transfer of bitcoins is based on an open-source cryptographic protocol that is independent of any central authority. Bitcoins can be transferred through a computer or smartphone without an intermediate financial institution.
You have to send 2 BTC to Bitcoin address 1BrpkUXAoWf3SnFVWc2SKWQ37KrKjr2tus and specify the Transaction ID on the next page, which will be verified and confirmed.
Home Page
Getting started with Bitcoin
Private key will be destroyed on
10/27/2013
1:22 AM
Time left
43 : 39 : 17
<< Back
Next >>

Mobile Ransomware



FREE RIDE —

Ransomware locks up San Francisco public transportation ticket machines

Some systems now restored; attacker demanded $73,000.

SEAN GALLAGHER - 11/28/2016, 9:51 AM

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(Another) Hospital Falls Victim to Ransomware

BY STEPHANIE MLOT NOVEMBER 3, 2016 12:53PM EST 4 COMMENTS

The NHS's Northern Lincolnshire and Goole Foundation Trust is back up and running after a four-day ordeal.

104 SHARES

Botnet

- Collection of compromised hosts
  - Network of 'bots' (or 'zombies')
  - Spread like worm and virus
  - Respond to remote commands

Botnet

- One of the major threats:
  - Consist of a large pool (millions) of compromised computers (a.k.a., Zombie Armies)
  - Carry out sophisticated attacks to disrupt, gather sensitive data, or increase the armies
    - Spam forwarding (~70% of all spam)
    - Key logging
    - DDoS
  - Vint Cerf: 25% of hosts connected to the Internet

Malware Analysis

- A malware sample is executed in a controlled environment, which makes it possible to observe the traffic that is exchanged between the bot and its command and control (C&C) server(s).
- Involves reverse engineering
- Researchers join a botnet to perform analysis from the inside.

Windows PE format

- PE classification
  - Portable executable (PE) classification based on common object *file format (COFF) for Windows 3.1 and later*
  - *EXE*
  - *DLL*
  - *SYS/VXD*
  - *SCR*
  - *OCX*

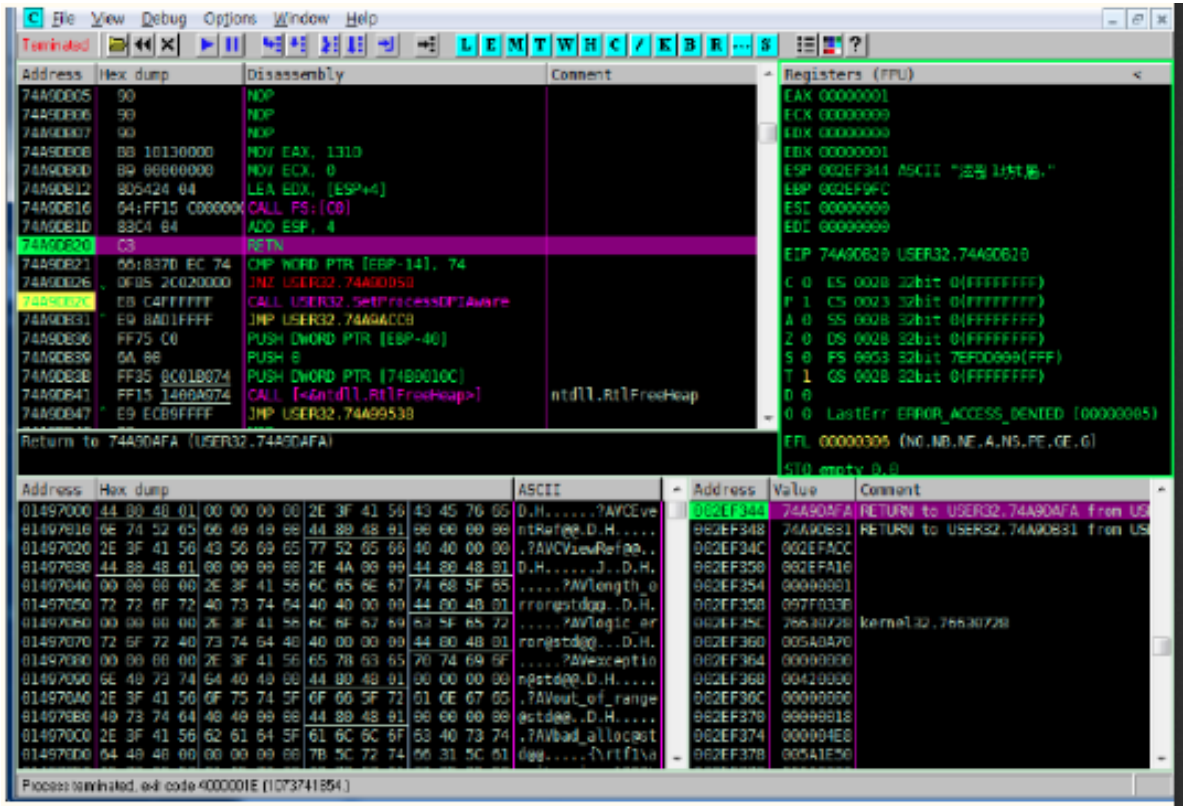
PE signature

notepad.exe

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F	0	1	2	3	0123456789ABCDEF0123
0000h:	4D	5A	90	00	03	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	FF	FF	00	00	B8	00	00	00	MZ.....ÿÿ..¸...
0014h:	00	00	00	00	40	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	....@..........
0028h:	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	.....
003Ch:	E8	00	00	00	0E	1F	BA	0E	00	B4	09	CD	21	B8	01	4C	CD	21	54	68	è.....°..´.Í!¸.LÍ!Th
0050h:	69	73	20	70	72	6F	67	72	61	6D	20	63	61	6E	6E	6F	74	20	62	65	is program cannot be
0064h:	20	72	75	6E	20	69	6E	20	44	4F	53	20	6D	6F	64	65	2E	0D	0D	0A	run in DOS mode....
0078h:	24	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	83	C2	32	29	C7	A3	5C	7A	C7	A3	5C	7A	$.......ƒÂ2)Ç£\zÇ£\z
008Ch:	C7	A3	5C	7A	CE	DB	D8	7A	C6	A3	5C	7A	CE	DB	C9	7A	C5	A3	5C	7A	Ç£\zÎÛØzÆ£\zÎÛÉzÅ£\z
00A0h:	CE	DB	CF	7A	DA	A3	5C	7A	C7	A3	5D	7A	33	A3	5C	7A	CE	DB	DF	7A	ÎÛÏzÚ£\zÇ£]z3£\zÎÛßz
00B4h:	D3	A3	5C	7A	CE	DB	D5	7A	CC	A3	5C	7A	CE	DB	C8	7A	C6	A3	5C	7A	Ó£\zÎÛÕzÌ£\zÎÛÈzÆ£\z
00C8h:	CE	DB	CD	7A	C6	A3	5C	7A	52	69	63	68	C7	A3	5C	7A	00	00	00	00	ÎÛÍzÆ£\zRichÇ£\z....
00DCh:	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	50	45	00	00	64	86	06	00	............PE..d†..
00F0h:	B3	C9	5B	4A	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	F0	00	22	00	0B	02	09	00	³É[J........ð.".....
0104h:	00	A8	00	00	00	58	02	00	00	00	00	00	70	35	00	00	00	10	00	00	.¨...X......p5.....

Static Analysis

- Manual investigation
  - Debugging: OllyDbg, IDA pro
  - VM-based memory analysis



Dynamic Analysis

- Monitors process, file access, DLL, registry, network connection, etc.
- Tools:
  - Anubis
  - CW Sandbox
  - Norman Sandbox
  - Joebox
  - VirusTotal

Demo