





Shortcut to E-mail



MSN Installer



AWCSetup_...







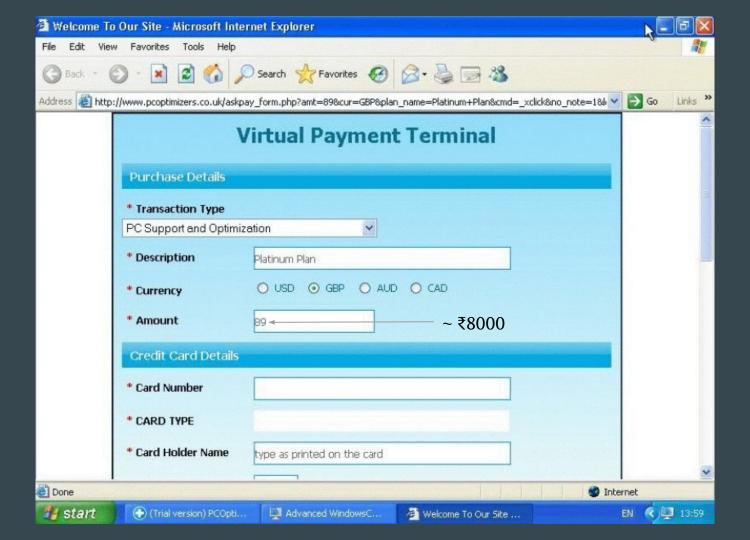


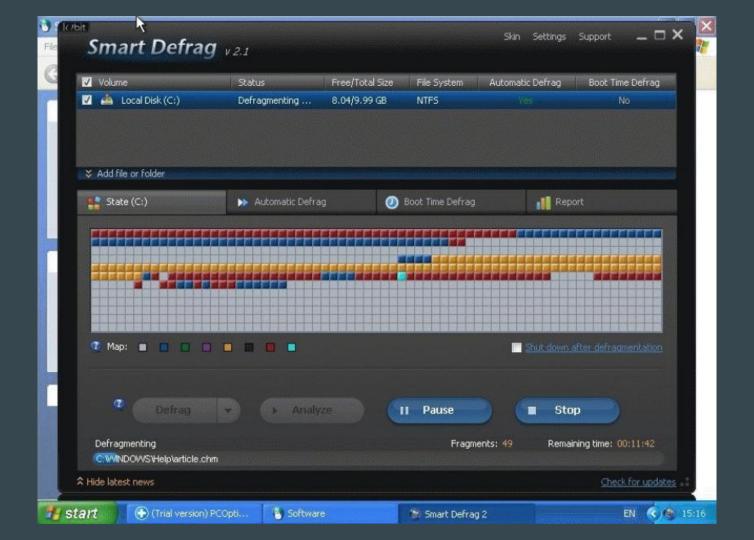


ee_st...



Recycle Bin























The state of Malware from the Eye of the Tiger

•••

Martijn Grooten, Virus Bulletin Nullcon, Goa, March 2019



About me

@martijn_grooten

Virus Bulletin

I am not a reverse engineer

I have never done security 'in the real world'

I have never been to Black Hat or Defcon

I am a mathematician, but never finished my PhD

I believe in facing the imposter syndrome head-on

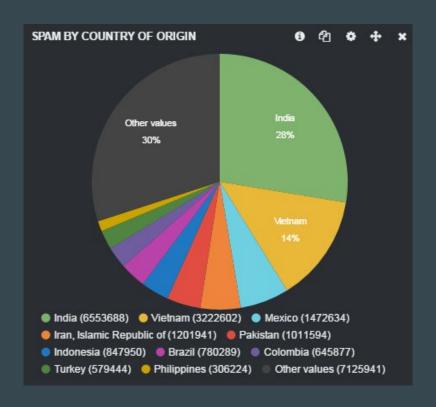
Phone support scams

Lessons learned

Social engineering is effective

Don't ignore economy when focusing on cybercrime

Necurs



Source: Trustwave

Necurs has not actively spread for years

13/01/18 19:33

Subject This crypto coin could go up fifty thousand percent this year

Dear

If you don't already own a few coins of something, then surely at the very least, you must have heard about cryptocurrencies.

Bitcoin, the most famous one, minted countless multimillionaires but did you know that altcoins (bitcoin alternatives) are responsible for even more riches?

Among the "big" ones, NEM went up almost 10,000 percent and Ethereum, more than 4,000 percent

Among the small and unknown ones several gained more than 50,000 percent.

To put this in perspective, a small 1,000-dollar coin purchase in one of these small ones could have turned into more than 50 million bucks.

It seems crazy, doesn't it? Well, it's the reality of the cryptocurrency market today.

Raiblocks, a relatively obscure coin at the time, went from 0.20 on December first to \$20 by New Year's Eve. It is now in the top 20 largest coins in the world.

All that to say, the next big winner could be found anywhere, and today I believe I've identified the next one.

After spending hundreds of hours looking at hundreds of different coins. I locked down on one specific target

'Dumb' things to do with a botnet

Spamming

DDoS

Cryptocurrency mining

Proxy network

Necurs getting smart

- 2. Bots that are under or able to reach bank-related domains.[2] The modules execute commands such as "net view" and "net user" to check for the following strings:
 - BANQ
 - BANK
 - BANC
 - SWIFT
- BITCOIN
- WESTERNUNION
- MONEYGRAM
- CARD

Source: Trend Micro

Necurs

Lessons learned

Dumb botnets focus on quantity rather than quantity

Typical infections are poorly secured devices (old/unlicenced Windows, IoT, etc)

Even dumb botnets have smart parts

Emotet

"We have detected 5,000 spam emails everyday carrying Trojans targeting businesses and individuals in the last one month. From Trojan to Complex Threat Distributor, more than 1.5 lakh incidents related to the Emotet Trojan have been reported in the last one month," Sanjay Katkar, Joint Managing Director and Chief Technology Officer, Quick Heal Technologies, said.

Source: The Hindu Business Line

2014: just another banking trojan

New Banking Malware Uses Network Sniffing for Data Theft

Posted on: June 27, 2014 at 8:47 am Posted in: Malware, Spam

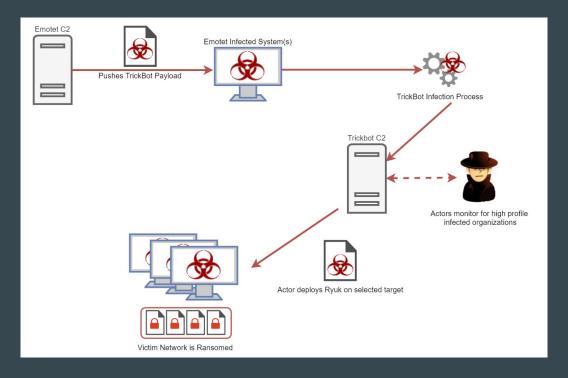
Author: Joie Salvio (Threat Response Engineer)

With online banking becoming routine for most users, it comes as no surprise that we are seeing more banking malware enter the threat landscape. In fact, 2013 saw almost a million new banking malware variants—double the volume of the previous year. The rise of banking malware continued into this year, with new malware and even new techniques.

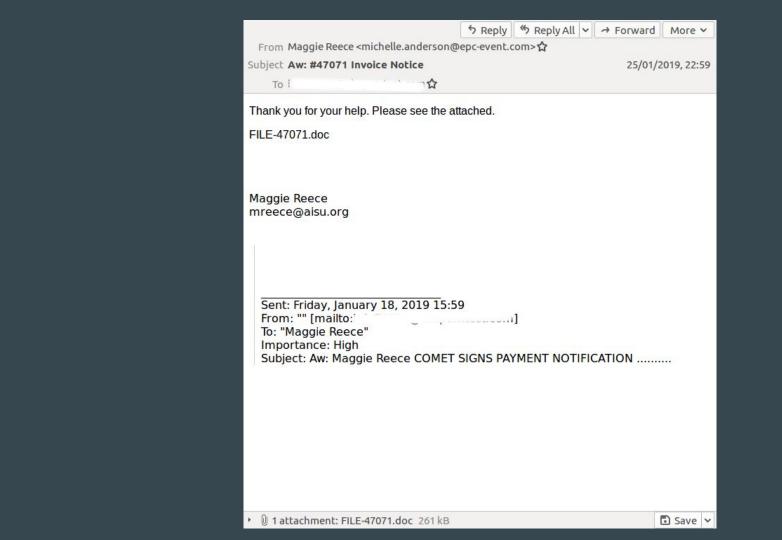
Just weeks after we came across banking malware that abuses a Window security feature, we have also spotted yet another banking malware. What makes this malware, detected as **EMOTET**, highly notable is that it "sniffs" network activity to steal information.

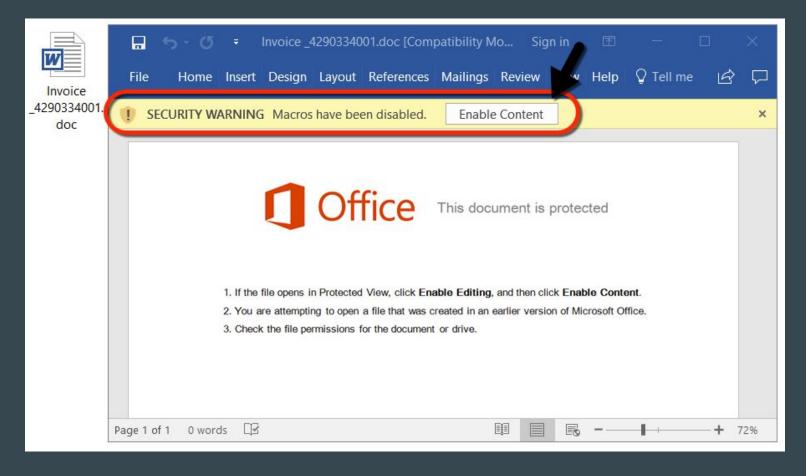
Source: Trend Micro

2018: a very clever downloader



Source: Kryptos Logic





Source: SANS Internet Storm Center

A brief history of macro malware

1990s: macro viruses very prevalent

2000s: Microsoft disables default execution of macros

2010s: malware authors "kindly ask" victims to enable macros

Emotet

Lessons learned

Downloaders are what malware attacks pivot around

'Mass-market malware' is increasingly prioritizing quantity over quality

Social engineering works

Techniques are barely distinguishable from those used by APT groups

Patchwork

PREVIOUSLY EXAMINED INFORMATION

Let's examine the attribution information we have discussed thus far in this report.

Many of the primary targets of this campaign are regional neighbors of India, and other targets seem to be targeted (by their interests, occupation, and by the content of the spear phishing) to issues affecting India. Circumstantially, this targeting correlates with intelligence requirements necessary for a pro-Indian entity.

However, we felt this was not enough to draw direct conclusions. What we believe makes this correlation much stronger and hints that this is a pro-Indian or Indian entity, is the addition of time of day activity analysis as detailed below.

Source: Cymmetria

APT

Advanced-enough Persistent Threats

Filename	The_Four_Traps_for_China.doc			
File Size	4428595 bytes			
MD5	7659c41a30976d523bb0fbb8cde49094			
SHA1	3f1f3e838a307aff52fbcb5bba5e4c8fe68c30e5			
Notes	Malicious RTF document that exploits CVE-2017-8570 and drops QuasarRAT file grat.exe.			

Source: Volexity

Security Update Guide > Details

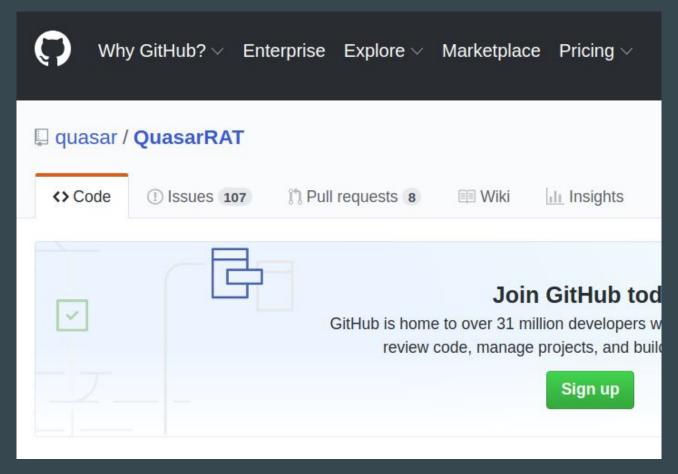
CVE-2017-8570 | Microsoft Office Remote Code Execution Vulnerability

Security Vulnerability

Published: 07/11/2017 MITRE CVE-2017-8570

A remote code execution vulnerability exists in Microsoft Office software when it fails to properly handle objects in memory. An attacoular vulnerability could use a specially crafted file to perform actions in the security context of the current user. For example, the file could logged-on user with the same permissions as the current user.

Source: Microsoft



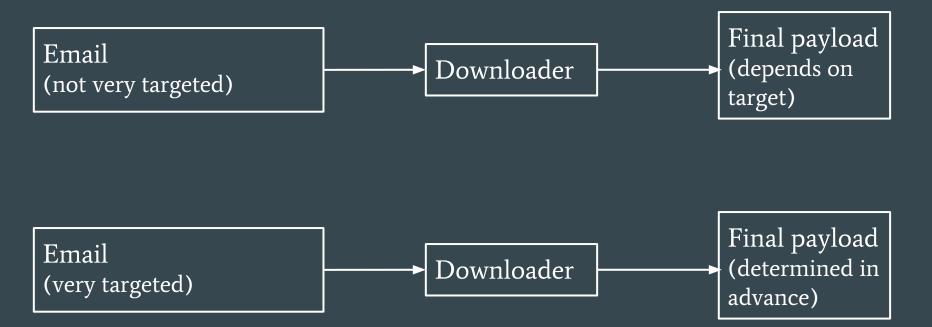
Source: open

BITTER APT group

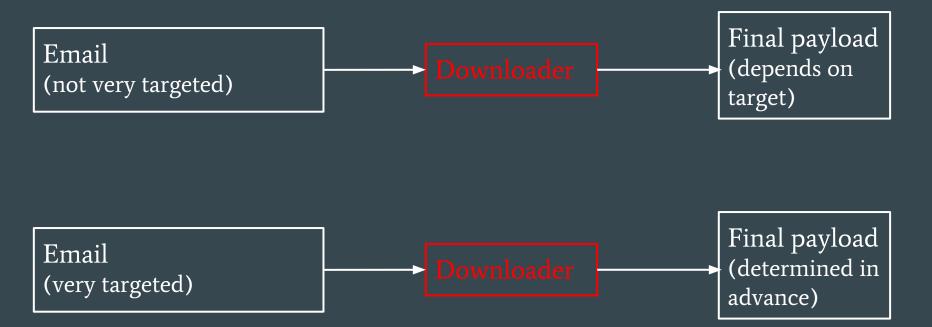
Between November 2018 and January 2019, an engineering and hydraulics company in Pakistan, almasoodgroup[.]com was observed hosting two AtraDownloader executables as well as a malicious document used to deliver a payload. One of the files, Port Details.doc is an RTF document crafted to exploit the EQNEDT vulnerability CVE-2017-11882. This file downloaded a payload that also communicated with the domain hewle.kielsoservice[.]net. The other two files hosted on the engineering company's domain communicated with command and control domain xiovo426[.]net.

Source: Palo Alto Networks

Emotet et al vs Patchwork et al



Emotet et al vs Patchwork et al



Downloaders

give code execution on the machine



Follow

Replying to @GossiTheDog

If you want a playbook for how to defend your network against infection and lateral movement by a sophisticated attacker, detect and defend against Emotet. The mitigation and investigation techniques line up across multiple adversary sets and have remarkable Return on Investment.

8:39 PM - 2 Jan 2019

Patchwork

Lessons learned

APTs aren't that different from the more advanced commodity malware

Exploit gullible humans and unpatched systems

It's all about the downloader

Pegasus

Operator name	Dates operator was active	Suspected country focus	Political themes?	Suspected infections
CHANG	Jan 2018 – present	Asia	15	Thailand
GANGES	Jun 2017 – present	-	Yes	Bangladesh, Brazil, Hong Kong, India, Pakistan
MERLION	Dec 2016 – present	-	-	Singapore
TULPAR	Feb 2017 – present	Kazakhstan	155	Kazakhstan
SYRDARYA	Sep 2016 – present	Uzbekistan	×-	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan

Source: The Citizen Lab

Zero-days

The Trident Exploit Chain:

- CVE-2016-4657: Visiting a maliciously crafted website may lead to arbitrary code execution
- CVE-2016-4655: An application may be able to disclose kernel memory
- CVE-2016-4656: An application may be able to execute arbitrary code with kernel privileges

Source: The Citizen Lab

Pegasus

Lessons learned

Zero-days are used in some targeted attacks

Zero-days are often poor ROI

Defending against zero-days is often* poor ROI

* but not always

Stalkerware

Spyware is getting cheaper, Indian digital beware says EFF

Galperin who was attending India's largest cyber security conference Nullcon 2018 said that mobile phones is the primary attack platform and mobile tracking is one of the fastest growing modes of spying worldwide.

Source: The Economic Times (and Nullcon 2018)



Source: Motherboard

Abusive relationships

They're abusive.

And they're relationships.

Stalkerware

Lessons learned

Just because something is outside our standard threat model, doesn't mean it can't cause serious damage.

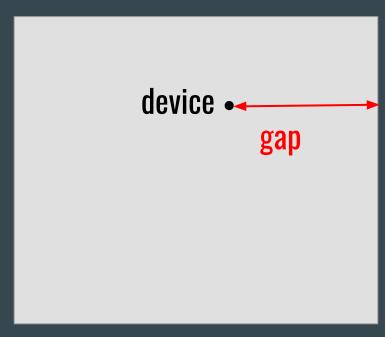
vuln. exploitation

vuln. exploitation

device •

gap vuln. exploitation device

vuln. exploitation



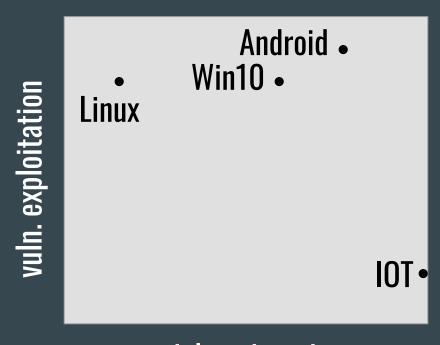
vuln. exploitation

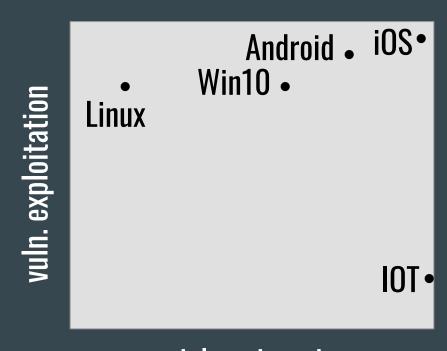
Win10 •

vuln. exploitation

• Win10 • Linux

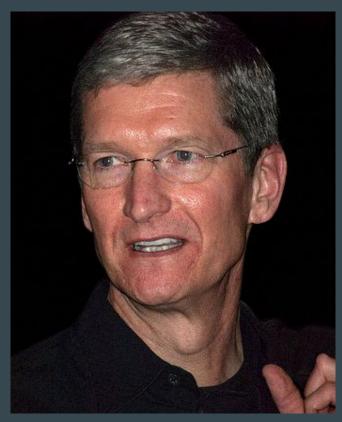
Win10 • vuln. exploitation Linux **IOT** •





The world's best antivirus

The world's best antivirus





iPhone is 10 years old today. After 10 years, not a single serious malware case. It's not just luck; we need to congratulate Apple on this.

7:53 PM - 28 Jun 2017

10,909 Retweets 15,409 Likes



























RISKY BUSINESS

Tim Cook is defending Apple's removal of VPN apps from its Chinese app store with a familiar refrain

By Josh Horwitz • August 2, 2017

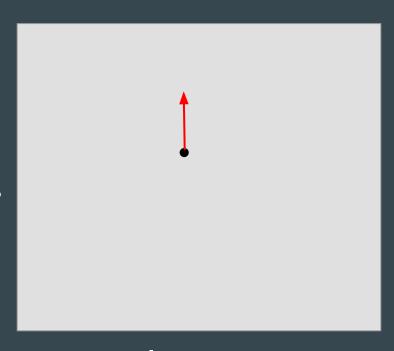
Source: Quartz

Security 'training'

vuln. exploitation

Patching

vuln. exploitation

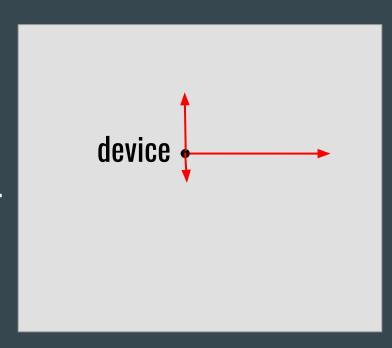


Rooting

vuln. exploitation

Antivirus

vuln. exploitation



YMM

your mileage may vary

A third dimension 'Scalability'

Conclusion

Lessons learned

Large botnets mostly used for 'dumb' things

For more 'interesting' attacks, it's all about the downloader

Zero-days do matter, but only for some

Vulnerabilities and social engineering both matter

The end

Questions?

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