

DIGITAL FORENSIC ANALYSIS OF RANSOMWARE INFECTED WINDOWS SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

Malware is one of the most serious threats to system security. It causes complex problems and issues on the system. Purpose of this research work is to forensically analyze and investigate a malware infected windows system. Windows operating system is infected with a ransomware. Forensic artifacts are obtained using various digital forensic tools and techniques such as recovery of lost and encrypted data, volatile memory analysis using memory forensics and registry analysis. Behaviour of the malicious code is analyzed in a controlled sandbox environment. Here, we are using various open source tools such as FTK Imager, Autopsy, Volatility Framework and open source cuckoo sandbox environment.

Keywords- Digital Forensics, Encrypted Data Recovery, Memory Forensics, Malware analysis, Cuckoo Sandbox, Ransomware, Windows Operating System.

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent times, malware is one of the serious threats to computer security. It is software or a program which causes harm to the computer. This malicious program can perform variety of different functions such as stealing, encrypting or deleting sensitive data, monitoring user's activity without their permission. Commonly used types of malware are virus, worms, Trojan, spyware, ransomware etc. Most of the malwares are spread through internet or through USB devices. Traces of malicious activity in any system can be identified through digital forensic techniques. Digital forensics is collection, analysis and preservation of the digital evidences. Digital forensics is law based method for investigation. Forensics tools are now used to examine and analyze any crime and malicious activity in the organization which is done by attacker, hacker or criminal.

In this paper we focus on the digital forensic Investigation of ransomware infected Windows operating system and find the artifacts using various open source forensic tools and techniques. We provide an efficient approach and methodology to investigate and analyze malware in forensic manner. Also, the behaviour of malicious program is analyzed in a controlled sandbox environment. We focused on encrypted data recovery, volatile memory analysis, registry artifacts, static and dynamic analysis in sandbox environment and analyzing the results for understanding the behaviour of malicious program. This Investigation and analysis of malware may help in preventing more infections and enhances the security of the system.

II. RELATED WORKS

Digital forensic is a science and process of collecting, preserving, analyzing and reporting legally admissible evidence to court. Different cybercrimes result in different Digital evidences. Digital forensic Investigation procedure includes following steps:

1. Acquiring the evidence: Acquire the evidence using standardized and accepted procedures and techniques. It includes duplication that is imaging or cloning of the hard drive of the system. Also, includes acquisition of volatile memory data.
2. Preserving the evidence: Evidence must be secured and preserved in its original state. It must be authentic and unaltered. For preserving and authenticating evidence cryptographic hash algorithms are used.
3. Analysis of the evidence: Find relevant artifacts and draw conclusion from the acquired evidence.
4. Reporting and presentation: Summarize and provide explanations of the conclusions, Tools and methodologies used, steps followed in lay person's terms.

Now, Malware analysis is the art of analyzing malicious program in order to understand how it works, how to identify it and how to eliminate it. There are two basic techniques for malware analysis:

1. Static analysis: Static analysis involves going through the code in order to discover what the program does. It is performed in non-runtime environment. It examines strings, imports, exports etc.
2. Dynamic analysis is process of running the malware and observing its behaviour. It monitors system memory, functions behaviour and overall performance of the system.

Volatile memory analysis: Memory forensic is a art of analyzing volatile memory data of computer. It is used to identify and analyze the malicious behaviour that do not leave any trace on hard drive data.

We have used the above methodologies and techniques for a effective and efficient investigation and analysis of windows system infected with ransomware. Digital forensic open source tools and procedure is used to analyze and obtain forensic artifacts, recover encrypted and deleted data from infected windows system. The malicious program is analyzed in a cuckoo sandbox environment. Thus, by performing both this techniques gives a effective approach to analyze ransomware infected system and provides better and reliable results.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed work of our research is explained in this section. We use an effective methodology to analyze the windows 7 operating system which is infected with the Wannacry ransomware. First, the forensic investigation of the system is carried out in which relevant forensic artifacts are extracted from the image of the system, along with this its volatile memory is also analyzed using volatility framework and then malicious executable is executed in a cuckoo sandbox environment. We executed the malware to understand its actual behaviour.

A. Digital Forensic Investigation:

In this approach the image of the infected system is taken along with its RAM Memory. The investigation is conducted in two stages:

Stage 1: Collection of digital Evidence.

Stage 2: Analysis of collected Evidence.

Collection of Evidence:

For collecting the evidence we are taking an image of the hard disk drive of the infected windows 7 system using open source FTK Imager tool. The image is taken in a standard E01 format.

Steps to create image using FTK Imager.

1. Open FTKImager.exe and Go to File menu
2. Select Create Disk Image option
3. Select the source of evidence. Physical Drive in our case.
4. Select the source Drive.
5. Select the format in which you want to create Image. E01 in our case.
6. Fill evidence information.
7. Select Image destination path, image name and Image fragment size and compression level.
8. Start creating the Image.

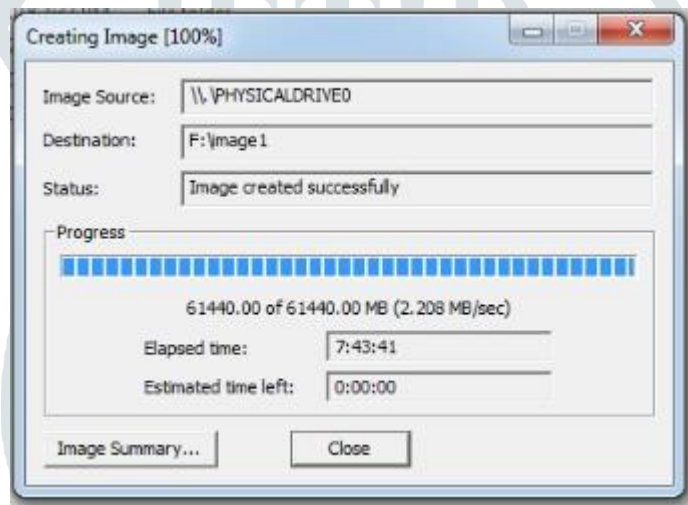


Figure 1: Creating Image of Hard drive

Also, we need to acquire Volatile memory data for more effective and efficient analysis of the compromised system. For this we are capturing the memory of the windows 7 system using FTK imager tool.

Steps to capture Memory in FTK Imager:

1. Open FTKImager.exe go to file menu.
2. Select Capture memory.
3. Browse to the destination path for dump file.
4. Enter filename for dump file.
5. Start capturing memory.

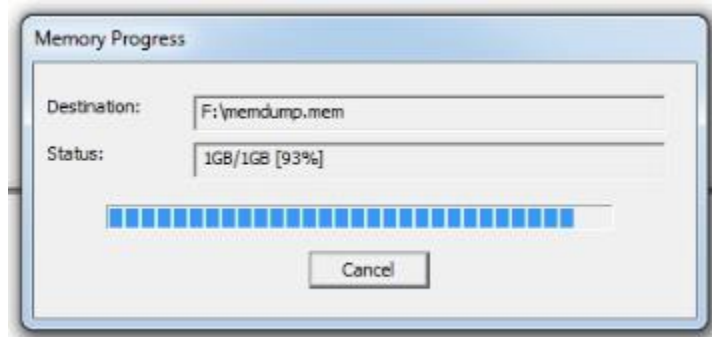


Figure 2. Memory Capture

Analysis of Collected Evidence:

The image of the ransomware infected machine is opened using Autopsy open source tool. We can go through the image and find out which files are present and/or deleted on the infected machine. Autopsy works on the basis of modules. It has many in-built modules which are useful and helpful in forensic investigation. It uses PhotoRec carver for recovering deleted data from the hdd. Some other modules are timeline analysis, keyword search, web artifacts, indicators of compromise etc. It is easy to use and cost effective tool.

Name	Modified Time	Change Time	Access Time	Created Time	Size	Flags/Dir
\$Extend	2018-12-19 01:49:56 IST	2018-12-19 01:49:56 IST	2018-12-19 01:49:56 IST	2018-12-19 01:49:56 IST	552	Allocated
\$OrphanFiles	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0	Allocated
\$Recycle.Bin	2018-12-18 12:50:51 IST	2018-12-18 12:50:51 IST	2018-12-18 12:50:51 IST	2009-07-14 08:48:56 IST	328	Allocated
\$Unalloc	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0000-00-00 00:00:00	0	Allocated
[current folder]	2019-04-29 19:55:48 IST	2019-04-29 19:55:48 IST	2019-04-29 19:55:48 IST	2009-07-14 08:08:56 IST	56	Allocated
Boot	2018-12-19 02:03:42 IST	2018-12-19 02:03:42 IST	2018-12-19 02:03:42 IST	2018-12-19 02:03:41 IST	56	Allocated
Documents and Settings	2009-07-14 10:38:56 IST	2018-12-19 02:03:33 IST	2009-07-14 10:38:56 IST	2009-07-14 10:38:56 IST	48	Allocated
MSOCache	2019-04-18 13:46:43 IST	2019-04-18 13:47:11 IST	2019-04-18 13:46:43 IST	2019-04-18 13:46:43 IST	256	Allocated
PerfLogs	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	2018-12-19 02:02:56 IST	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	144	Allocated
Program Files	2019-04-18 15:36:06 IST	2019-04-18 15:36:06 IST	2019-04-18 15:36:06 IST	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	192	Allocated
Program Files (x86)	2019-04-30 03:40:57 IST	2019-04-30 03:40:57 IST	2019-04-30 03:40:57 IST	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	192	Allocated
ProgramData	2019-04-29 21:43:29 IST	2019-04-29 21:43:29 IST	2019-04-29 21:43:29 IST	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	56	Allocated
Recovery	2018-12-18 12:47:48 IST	2018-12-18 12:47:48 IST	2018-12-18 12:47:48 IST	2018-12-18 12:47:48 IST	312	Allocated
System Volume Information	2019-04-29 20:11:04 IST	2019-04-29 20:11:04 IST	2019-04-29 20:11:04 IST	2018-12-19 02:05:40 IST	168	Allocated
Users	2018-12-18 12:47:58 IST	2018-12-18 12:47:58 IST	2018-12-18 12:47:58 IST	2009-07-14 08:50:08 IST	56	Allocated

Figure 3: Analysis of image file using Autopsy

Now, by analyzing the image in autopsy, we can observe that every file on the system is encrypted by the Wannacry ransomware. The ransomware encrypts the file and changes their extension to .WNCRY. This .WNCRY files are not accessible and user cannot open this files. We have lost access to data of the infected

system. User can get the key for decryption only after the ransom is paid to the attacker. Wannacry ransomware demands ransom in bitcoins.

Steps to analyze e01 image file in autopsy:

1. Open a new case from file menu.
2. Enter the information such as case name, path, examiner name, case number etc.
3. Add data source. Image file in our case.
4. Browse and select data source.
5. Configure ingest modules.
6. Autopsy will start analyzing the image file and run the modules.

Analyzing memory artifacts:

The ram memory dump collected is parsed using volatility a open source memory analysis tool for parsing and analyzing memory dump files. It supports 32-bit and 64-bit windows, Linux kernels and MacOS X and android phone memory dump. Volatility has many plugins useful for identifying the malware infection.

Some of them are:

1. Pslist: to print list of loaded processes.
2. Pstree: to show processes in parent child tree.
3. Psscan: to scan for hidden or terminated processes.
4. Dlllist: to list loaded dll's for each process.
5. Connscan: to test tcp connections.
6. Malfind: detect hidden and injected code.
7. Psxview: Identifies process trying to avoid detection.

Steps:

Open Command prompt and go to directory, where volatility framework is present.

Run the volatility.exe file in command prompt with respective options.

Command: **D:/Volatility.exe -h**

We have a memory dump of infected system with file name memdump1.mem; we get the image information using imageinfo command.

Command: **D:/volatility.exe -f memdump1.mem imageinfo**


```
D:\>volatility.exe -f memdump1.mem imageinfo
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.6
INFO : volatility.debug : Determining profile based on KDBG search...
      Suggested Profile(s) : Win7SP1x64, Win7SP0x64, Win2008R2SP0x64, Win2008R2SP1x64_23418, Win2008R2SP1x64, Win7SP1x64_23418
      AS Layer1 : WindowsAMD64PagedMemory (Kernel AS)
      AS Layer2 : FileAddressSpace (D:\memdump1.mem)
      PAE type : No PAE
      DTB : 0x187000L
      KDBG : 0xf80002a030a0L
      Number of Processors : 1
      Image Type (Service Pack) : 1
      KPCR for CPU 0 : 0xfffff80002a04d00L
      KUSER_SHARED_DATA : 0xfffff78000000000L
      Image date and time : 2019-04-30 17:35:46 UTC+0000
      Image local date and time : 2019-04-30 23:05:46 +0530
```

Figure 4: Image Information

To know the processes that were running during the RAM Capture pslist plug-in is used. It lists the running processes.

Command: **D:/volatility.exe -f memdump1.mem --profile=Win7SP1x64 pslist**

```
D:\>volatility.exe -f memdump1.mem --profile=Win7SP1x64 pslist
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.6
Offset(K) Name PID PPID Thds Hnds Sess Wow64 Start Exit
0xfffffa8000ca19e0 System 4 0 88 507 ----- 0 2019-04-30 17:15:40 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8001231590 smss.exe 220 4 2 29 ----- 0 2019-04-30 17:15:40 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8001d6ea00 csrss.exe 312 304 9 466 0 0 2019-04-30 17:16:13 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8001dff060 csrss.exe 364 356 9 272 1 0 2019-04-30 17:16:18 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8001ff2910 wininit.exe 372 304 3 75 0 0 2019-04-30 17:16:18 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80024100c0 winlogon.exe 408 356 3 112 1 0 2019-04-30 17:16:20 UTC+0000
0xfffffa800240cb30 services.exe 472 372 8 211 0 0 2019-04-30 17:16:30 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002419b30 lsass.exe 496 372 7 580 0 0 2019-04-30 17:16:32 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80024180f0 lsm.exe 504 372 10 140 0 0 2019-04-30 17:16:32 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80024c6910 svchost.exe 596 472 10 348 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:01 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80024dd2f0 umacthlp.exe 660 472 3 63 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:08 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002505b30 svchost.exe 704 472 8 290 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:17 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002525bb30 svchost.exe 764 472 20 450 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:20 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002447b30 svchost.exe 852 472 13 346 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:39 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80024bcb30 svchost.exe 876 472 34 1078 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:39 UTC+0000
0xfffffa800255a610 svchost.exe 1004 472 13 534 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:46 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80025e1910 spoolsv.exe 1040 472 12 266 0 0 2019-04-30 17:17:59 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80025946f0 taskhost.exe 1064 472 7 192 1 0 2019-04-30 17:18:02 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80026017a0 svchost.exe 1128 472 18 315 0 0 2019-04-30 17:18:02 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002652b30 svchost.exe 1200 472 9 312 0 0 2019-04-30 17:18:04 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002699b30 UGAuthService.exe 1344 472 3 86 0 0 2019-04-30 17:18:06 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80026ec640 vntoolsd.exe 1424 472 10 274 0 0 2019-04-30 17:18:08 UTC+0000
0xfffffa800272fb30 sppsvc.exe 1640 472 4 145 0 0 2019-04-30 17:18:13 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80027c03b30 svchost.exe 1840 472 5 99 0 0 2019-04-30 17:18:18 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80027f8b30 dllhost.exe 2028 472 14 202 0 0 2019-04-30 17:19:21 UTC+0000
0xfffffa800283c630 msdtc.exe 896 472 14 154 0 0 2019-04-30 17:19:25 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80028c5b30 GoogleCrashHan 2120 1528 5 103 0 1 2019-04-30 17:19:34 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80028af060 GoogleCrashHan 2128 1528 6 90 0 0 2019-04-30 17:19:34 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002728a70 svchost.exe 2200 472 11 136 0 0 2019-04-30 17:19:37 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80028eab30 WmiPrvSE.exe 2264 596 6 215 0 0 2019-04-30 17:19:38 UTC+0000
0xfffffa800285ab0 dwm.exe 2328 852 5 136 1 0 2019-04-30 17:19:39 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002854450 explorer.exe 2336 2320 28 769 1 0 2019-04-30 17:19:39 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002d75060 vntoolsd.exe 2476 2336 7 201 1 0 2019-04-30 17:19:49 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002d78b30 aillao.exe 2484 2336 16 353 1 1 2019-04-30 17:19:49 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002d47b30 SearchIndexer.exe 2736 472 11 611 0 0 2019-04-30 17:19:56 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002eef750 svchost.exe 2452 472 13 338 0 0 2019-04-30 17:21:17 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80028a8b30 wannacry.exe 1616 2336 8 86 1 1 2019-04-30 17:25:28 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8003071300 FTK Imager.exe 2324 2336 8 343 1 1 2019-04-30 17:29:26 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80030375f0 taskeng.exe 1232 876 5 86 0 0 2019-04-30 17:30:15 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8003024260 GoogleUpdate.e 1052 1232 5 131 0 1 2019-04-30 17:30:58 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002ff3060 GoogleCrashHan 912 1052 3 90 0 1 2019-04-30 17:36:23 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002ea0730 WmiPrvSE.exe 648 596 10 175 0 0 2019-04-30 17:36:32 UTC+0000
0xfffffa80027e0060 @WanaDecryptor 1764 1616 2 0 1 1 2019-04-30 17:37:23 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002e33060 SearchProtocol 1980 2736 7 236 0 0 2019-04-30 17:37:26 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002e99060 GoogleUpdate.e 2084 1052 1 28 0 1 2019-04-30 17:37:36 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002ff0b30 SearchFilterWl 2760 2736 4 82 0 0 2019-04-30 17:37:40 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8003048060 @WanaDecryptor 1988 1616 1 67 1 1 2019-04-30 17:37:42 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8003011610 USSVC.exe 2660 472 6 121 0 0 2019-04-30 17:38:06 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002fhe060 taskhsvc.exe 980 1764 7 111 1 1 2019-04-30 17:38:09 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002d61b30 conhost.exe 1716 364 1 34 1 0 2019-04-30 17:38:10 UTC+0000
0xfffffa8002ee8290 WmiPrvSE.exe 2004 596 7 8 0 1 2019-04-30 17:38:49 UTC+0000
```

Figure5: Running processes extracted from Image

From pslist command we get to know the process id for a particular process and also parent process which triggered it. From this info we can find if any suspicious process is triggered by a parent process.

Psscan plugin is used to find the processes that are hidden and terminated.

Command: **D:/volatility.exe -f memdump1.mem --profile=Win7SP1x64 psscan**

```
D:\>volatility.exe -f memdump1.mem --profile=Win7SP1x64 psscan
Volatility Foundation Volatility Framework 2.6
```

Offset(P)	Name	PID	PPID	PDB	Time created	Time exited
0x000000003da11610	USSUC.exe	2660	472	0x0000000032f5b000	2019-04-30 17:38:06	UTC+0000
0x000000003da24260	GoogleUpdate.e	1052	1232	0x0000000039bhf000	2019-04-30 17:30:58	UTC+0000
0x000000003da375f0	taskeng.exe	1232	876	0x00000000189e8000	2019-04-30 17:30:15	UTC+0000
0x000000003da48060	@WanaDecryptor	1988	1616	0x0000000039cd4000	2019-04-30 17:37:42	UTC+0000
0x000000003da71300	FTK Imager.exe	2324	2336	0x0000000006d75000	2019-04-30 17:29:26	UTC+0000
0x000000003da71b30	taskeng.exe	2108	876	0x00000000117c2000	2019-04-30 17:29:05	UTC+0000
0x000000003dc33060	SearchProtocol	1980	2736	0x0000000023fc1000	2019-04-30 17:37:26	UTC+0000
0x000000003dc99060	GoogleUpdate.e	2084	1052	0x0000000014ffb000	2019-04-30 17:37:36	UTC+0000
0x000000003dca0730	MniPrvSE.exe	648	596	0x000000002b1f000	2019-04-30 17:36:32	UTC+0000
0x000000003dce8290	MniPrvSE.exe	2004	596	0x000000000e8a5000	2019-04-30 17:38:49	UTC+0000
0x000000003dcef750	svchost.exe	2452	472	0x000000002acd6000	2019-04-30 17:21:17	UTC+0000
0x000000003dd23b30	OSPPSUC.EXE	3056	472	0x0000000013bd1000	2019-04-30 17:22:02	UTC+0000
0x000000003ddbe060	taskshvc.exe	980	1764	0x000000000fceb000	2019-04-30 17:38:09	UTC+0000
0x000000003ddfb030	SearchFilterHo	2768	2736	0x000000002ace1000	2019-04-30 17:37:40	UTC+0000
0x000000003ddf3060	GoogleCrashHan	912	1052	0x0000000036cd8000	2019-04-30 17:36:23	UTC+0000
0x000000003ddf47b30	SearchIndexer.	2736	472	0x00000000333ac3000	2019-04-30 17:19:56	UTC+0000
0x000000003df61b30	conhost.exe	1716	364	0x000000000c196000	2019-04-30 17:38:10	UTC+0000
0x000000003df75060	umtcoolstd.exe	2476	2336	0x00000000386af000	2019-04-30 17:19:49	UTC+0000
0x000000003df78b30	ailiano.exe	2484	2336	0x0000000038504000	2019-04-30 17:19:49	UTC+0000
0x000000003dfc68a0	taskse.exe	2244	1616	0x000000000d00f000	2019-04-30 17:38:53	UTC+0000
0x000000003e23c630	msdtc.exe	896	472	0x0000000007925000	2019-04-30 17:19:25	UTC+0000
0x000000003e254450	explorer.exe	2336	2320	0x000000003cc11000	2019-04-30 17:19:39	UTC+0000
0x000000003e256ab0	dum.exe	2328	852	0x0000000000c71000	2019-04-30 17:19:39	UTC+0000
0x000000003e2a8b30	wannacry.exe	1616	2336	0x000000001206000	2019-04-30 17:25:20	UTC+0000
0x000000003e2af060	GoogleCrashHan	2128	1528	0x000000000585c000	2019-04-30 17:19:34	UTC+0000
0x000000003e2c5b30	GoogleCrashHan	2120	1528	0x0000000005855000	2019-04-30 17:19:34	UTC+0000
0x000000003e2eab30	MniPrvSE.exe	2264	596	0x000000000f333000	2019-04-30 17:19:38	UTC+0000
0x000000003e4017a0	svchost.exe	1128	472	0x000000000e781000	2019-04-30 17:18:02	UTC+0000
0x000000003e452b30	svchost.exe	1200	472	0x000000000addbc000	2019-04-30 17:18:04	UTC+0000
0x000000003e499b30	UGAuthService.	1344	472	0x000000000ad28a000	2019-04-30 17:18:06	UTC+0000
0x000000003e4dec640	umtcoolstd.exe	1424	472	0x000000000cc10000	2019-04-30 17:18:08	UTC+0000
0x000000003e528a70	svchost.exe	2200	472	0x0000000004e33000	2019-04-30 17:19:37	UTC+0000
0x000000003e52fb30	sppsvc.exe	1640	472	0x000000000ab7d000	2019-04-30 17:18:13	UTC+0000
0x000000003e5c0300	svchost.exe	1840	472	0x000000002f500000	2019-04-30 17:18:18	UTC+0000
0x000000003e5ed060	@WanaDecryptor	1764	1616	0x0000000011ch5000	2019-04-30 17:37:23	UTC+0000
0x000000003e5f8b30	dllhost.exe	2028	472	0x00000000089dc000	2019-04-30 17:19:21	UTC+0000
0x000000003e60cb30	services.exe	472	372	0x0000000017816000	2019-04-30 17:16:30	UTC+0000
0x000000003e6100c0	winlogon.exe	408	356	0x0000000019906000	2019-04-30 17:16:20	UTC+0000
0x000000003e6180f0	lsn.exe	504	372	0x0000000017583000	2019-04-30 17:16:32	UTC+0000
0x000000003e619b30	lsass.exe	496	372	0x000000001747c000	2019-04-30 17:16:32	UTC+0000
0x000000003e647b30	svchost.exe	852	472	0x0000000012730000	2019-04-30 17:17:39	UTC+0000
0x000000003e6bcb30	svchost.exe	876	472	0x0000000012cb9000	2019-04-30 17:17:39	UTC+0000
0x000000003e6c6910	svchost.exe	596	472	0x0000000016a14000	2019-04-30 17:17:01	UTC+0000
0x000000003e6dd2f0	vmacthlp.exe	660	472	0x00000000160f4000	2019-04-30 17:17:08	UTC+0000
0x000000003e705b30	svchost.exe	704	472	0x0000000015e01000	2019-04-30 17:17:17	UTC+0000
0x000000003e72bb30	svchost.exe	764	472	0x00000000158a9000	2019-04-30 17:17:20	UTC+0000
0x000000003e75ab10	svchost.exe	1004	472	0x00000000121cb000	2019-04-30 17:17:46	UTC+0000
0x000000003e7946f0	taskhost.exe	1064	472	0x000000000e86f000	2019-04-30 17:18:02	UTC+0000
0x000000003e798920	conhost.exe	2544	364	0x00000000033a9000	2019-04-30 17:37:51	UTC+0000
0x000000003e7e1910	spoolsv.exe	1040	472	0x000000000ee2b000	2019-04-30 17:17:59	UTC+0000
0x000000003edf2910	wininit.exe	372	304	0x000000001a10f000	2019-04-30 17:16:18	UTC+0000
0x000000003ef6ea00	csrss.exe	312	304	0x000000001aa09000	2019-04-30 17:16:13	UTC+0000

Figure6: processes extracted by psscan command

To identify rogue process in Ram Dump we use malfind Plugin. It extracts process dumps that are malicious. The processes produced by volatility framework are uploaded to “virustotal.com” to check if the processes present in the dump are infected with any malware.

By doing memory dump analysis we can observe that a parent process explorer.exe(PID:2326) triggers the wannacry.exe(PID:1616) which in turn triggers taskse.exe (PID:2244) and @wanadecrypter(PID:1764) as shown in figure 5 & 6. This proves that the system is infected with Wannacry.exe ransomware.

IV. RESULTS

As we have seen that the Wannacry ransomware encrypts the data present on the system. By analyzing the e01 image we observed that the ransomware tries to delete the file after generating its .WNCRY copy. We can extract the encrypted data from autopsy as it uses data carving techniques. Thus, as shown in figure we recovered the encrypted data from autopsy.

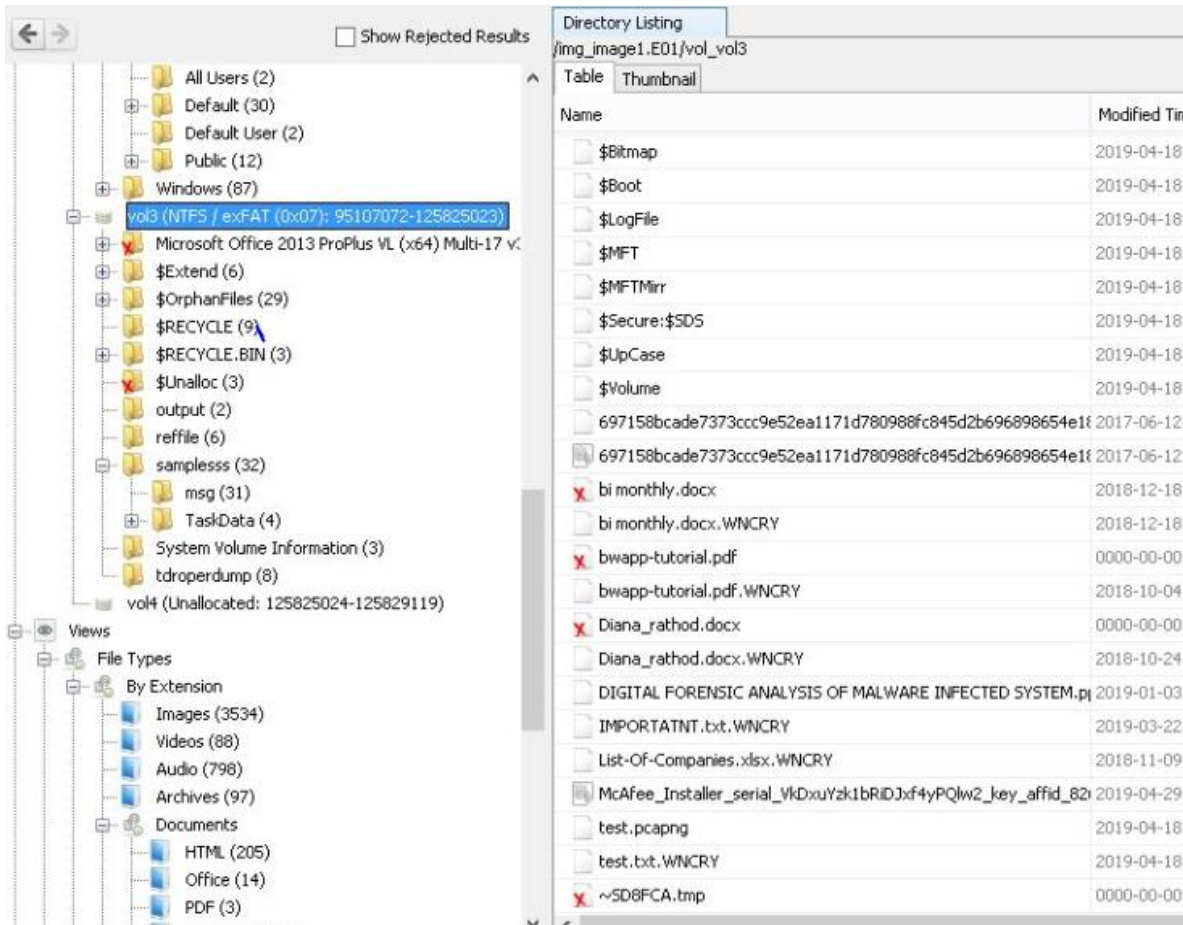


Figure7: encrypted files with extension .wncry

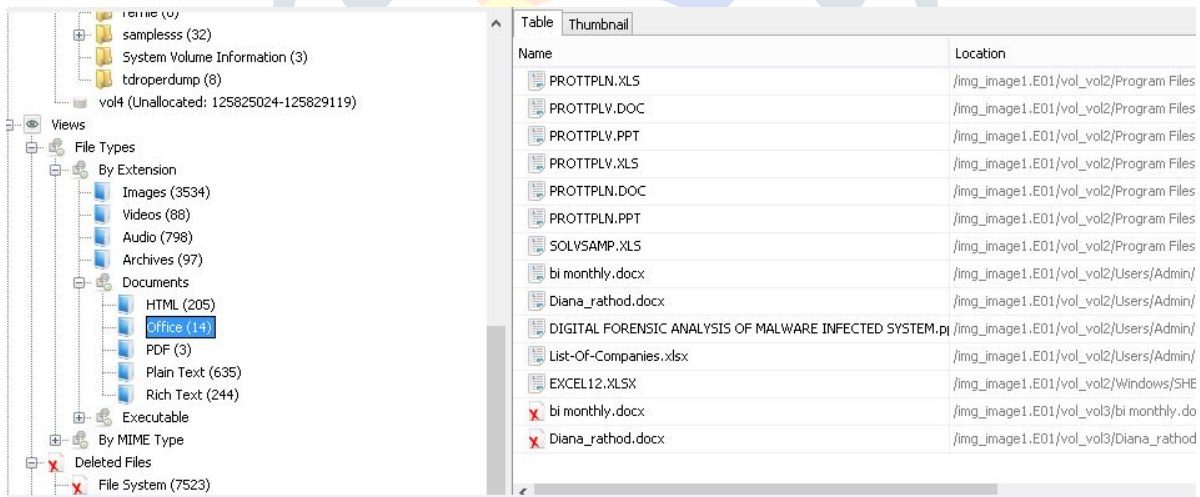


Figure8: Original files that can be recovered using autopsy

27619-340s.exe.zip	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	Compressed (zipp...	275 KB
27621-BlackDream.zip	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	Compressed (zipp...	167 KB
27623-smb-qua22o4u.7z	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	WinRAR archive	38 KB
27625-Trojan.Dropper.Gen.zip	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	Compressed (zipp...	1,588 KB
27627-Trojan.Kovter.zip	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	Compressed (zipp...	332 KB
27629-VBS.NoWarning.A.zip	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	Compressed (zipp...	2 KB
27631-WisdomEyes.7z	4/30/2019 2:38 PM	WinRAR archive	24 KB
bi monthly.docx	4/30/2019 2:34 PM	Microsoft Word D...	14 KB
bwapp-tutorial.pdf	4/30/2019 2:34 PM	Adobe Acrobat D...	8,947 KB
Diana_rathod.docx	4/30/2019 2:35 PM	Microsoft Word D...	59 KB
DIGITAL FORENSIC ANALYSIS OF MALW...	4/30/2019 2:35 PM	Microsoft PowerP...	66 KB
IMPORTATNT.txt	4/30/2019 2:37 PM	Text Document	1 KB
List-Of-Companies.xlsx	4/30/2019 2:36 PM	Microsoft Excel W...	26 KB

Figure9: list of original files extracted from autopsy

In memory analysis the ransomware Wannacry.exe infects the parent process “explorer.exe” and its child process are triggered “taskse.exe” & “@wanadecryptor.exe” as shown in above figure 5 & 6.

Now the Wannacry.exe executable is analyzed in a sandbox environment. The malware is executed in a controlled sandbox environment and its behaviour is observed, activities are logged and summarized report is generated. This report gives the findings of static and dynamic analysis of the ransomware. following snapshots shows the analysis done using cuckoo sandbox.

File wannacry.exe

Summary [Download](#) [Resubmit sample](#)

Size 3.4MB

Type PE32 executable (GUI) Intel 80386, for MS Windows

MD5 84c82835a5d21bbcf75a61706d8ab549

SHA1 5ff465afaabcbf0150d1a3ab2c2e74f3a4426467

SHA256 ed01ebfbc9eb5bbea545af4d01bf5f1071661840480439c6e5babe8e080e41aa

SHA512 [Show SHA512](#)

CRC32 4022FCAA

ssdeep 98304:CqPoBhz1aRxcSUDk36SAEdhvxWa9P599R8yAVp2g3x:QqPe1Ccxk3ZAEUadzR8yc4gB

Yara

- WannaDecryptor - Detection for common strings of WannaDecryptor
- Wanna_Sample_84c82835a5d21bbcf75a61706d8ab549 - Specific sample match for WannaCryptor
- ransom_telefonica - Ransmoware Telefonica
- WannaCry_Ransomware_Generic - Detects WannaCry Ransomware on Disk and in Virtual Page
- WannaCry_Ransomware - Detects WannaCry Ransomware
- WannaCry_Ransomware_Dropper - WannaCry Ransomware Dropper
- CRC32_poly_Constant - Look for CRC32 [poly]
- CRC32_table - Look for CRC32 table
- RijnDael_AES - RijnDael AES

Figure10: brief info about the malicious executable

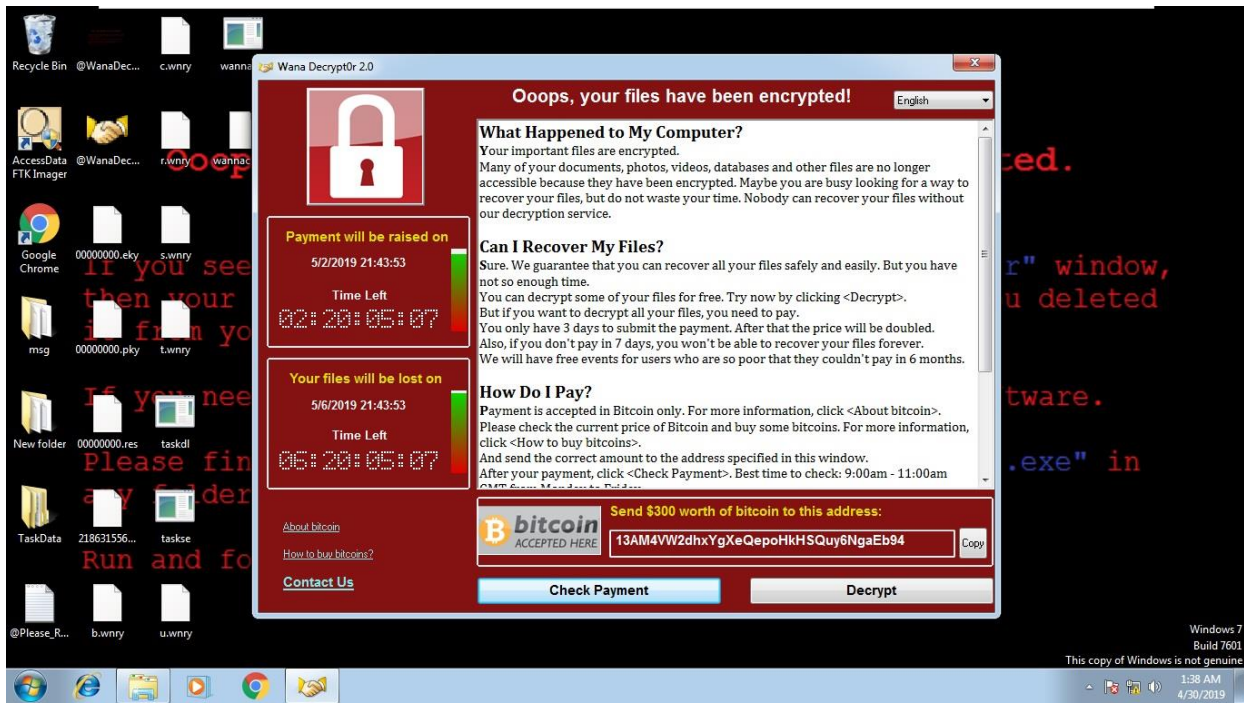


Figure11: Message on the screen when ransomware is executed

Behavioral Analysis:

Behavioral Analysis

Process Tree

- @WanaDecryptor@.exe (2656) @WanaDecryptor@.exe co
 - tasksvcs.exe (2060) TaskData\Tor\tasksvcs.exe
- cmd.exe (3768) cmd.exe /c start /b @WanaDecryptor@.exe vs
 - @WanaDecryptor@.exe (2832) @WanaDecryptor@.exe vs
 - cmd.exe (2748) cmd.exe /c vssadmin delete shadows /all /quiet & wmic shadowcopy delete & bcdedit /set {default} bootstatuspolicy ignoreallfailures & bcdedit /set {default} wbadm delete catalog -quiet
 - vssadmin.exe (3208) vssadmin delete shadows /all /quiet
 - WMIC.exe (3036) wmic shadowcopy delete
 - bcdedit.exe (3412) bcdedit /set {default} bootstatuspolicy ignoreallfailures
 - bcdedit.exe (1600) bcdedit /set {default} recoveryenabled no
 - wbadm.exe (2640) wbadm delete catalog -quiet
- taskse.exe (3060) taskse.exe C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\@WanaDecryptor@.exe
- @WanaDecryptor@.exe (836) @WanaDecryptor@.exe
- cmd.exe (2336) cmd.exe /c reg add HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run /v "swjwogwbnof758" /t REG_SZ /d "C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\taskse.exe" /f
 - reg.exe (3096) reg add HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run /v "swjwogwbnof758" /t REG_SZ /d "C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\taskse.exe" /f
- taskdl.exe (3020) taskdl.exe
- taskse.exe (3952) taskse.exe C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\@WanaDecryptor@.exe
- @WanaDecryptor@.exe (3600) @WanaDecryptor@.exe
- taskdl.exe (3212) taskdl.exe
- taskse.exe (2772) taskse.exe C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\@WanaDecryptor@.exe
- @WanaDecryptor@.exe (2932) @WanaDecryptor@.exe
- taskdl.exe (2952) taskdl.exe
- taskse.exe (2340) taskse.exe C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\@WanaDecryptor@.exe
- @WanaDecryptor@.exe (2684) @WanaDecryptor@.exe
- taskse.exe (2012) taskse.exe C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\@WanaDecryptor@.exe
- ed01ebfbc9eb5bba545af4d01bf5f1071661840480439c6e5babe8e080e41a.exe (3080) "C:\Users\ADMIN\AppData\Local\Temp\ed01ebfbc9eb5bba545af4d01bf5f1071661840480439c6e5babe8e080e41a.exe" /f
 - attrib.exe (3388) attrib +h .

Figure 12: Process tree

✖ Installs itself for autorun at Windows startup (1 event)	>
✖ Duplicates the process handle of an other process to obtain access rights to that process (5 events)	>
✖ Modifies boot configuration settings (1 event)	>
✖ Found TOR related URLs in process memory dump indicative of C2 or ransomware domains/messages (9 events)	>
✖ Appends a known WannaCry ransomware file extension to files that have been encrypted (50 out of 1534 events)	>
✖ Writes a potential ransom message to disk (31 events)	>
✖ Removes the Shadow Copy to avoid recovery of the system (2 events)	>
✖ Uses suspicious command line tools or Windows utilities (1 event)	>
✖ Installs Tor on the machine (4 events)	>
✖ Generates some ICMP traffic	>
✖ File has been identified by 64 AntiVirus engines on VirusTotal as malicious (50 out of 64 events)	>

Figure13: Tasks performed by Wannacry.exe on execution

Static Analysis:

Version Infos	
LegalCopyright	\xa9 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
InternalName	diskpart.exe
FileVersion	6.1.7601.17514 (win7sp1_rtm.101119-1850)
CompanyName	Microsoft Corporation
ProductName	Microsoft\xae Windows\xae Operating System
ProductVersion	6.1.7601.17514
FileDescription	DiskPart
OriginalFilename	diskpart.exe
Translation	0x0409 0x04b0

Figure14: Wannacry.exe info

Sections				
Name	Virtual Address	Virtual Size	Size of Raw Data	Entropy
.text	0x00001000	0x000069b0	0x00007000	6.4042351061
.rdata	0x00008000	0x00005f70	0x00006000	6.66357096841
.data	0x0000e000	0x00001958	0x00002000	4.45574950787
.rsrc	0x00010000	0x00349fa0	0x0034a000	7.9998679751

Figure15: Sections

Imports			
Library KERNEL32.dll: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0x40802c GetFileAttributesW • 0x408030 GetFileSizeEx • 0x408034 CreateFileA • 0x408038 InitializeCriticalSection • 0x40803c DeleteCriticalSection • 0x408040 ReadFile • 0x408044 GetFileSize • 0x408048 WriteFile • 0x40804c LeaveCriticalSection • 0x408050 EnterCriticalSection • 0x408054 SetFileAttributesW • 0x408058 SetCurrentDirectoryW • 0x40805c CreateDirectoryW • 0x408060 GetTempPathW 	Library USER32.dll: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0x4081d0 wprintfA 	Library ADVAPI32.dll: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0x408000 CreateServiceA • 0x408004 OpenServiceA • 0x408008 StartServiceA • 0x40800c CloseServiceHandle • 0x408010 CryptReleaseContext • 0x408014 RegCreateKeyW • 0x408018 RegSetValueExA • 0x40801c RegQueryValueExA • 0x408020 RegCloseKey • 0x408024 OpenSCManagerA 	Library MSVCRT.dll: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0x408108 realloc • 0x40810c fclose • 0x408110 fwrite • 0x408114 fread • 0x408118 fopen • 0x40811c sprintf • 0x408120 rand • 0x408124 srand • 0x408128 strcpy • 0x40812c memset • 0x408130 strlen • 0x408134 wscat • 0x408138 wcslen • 0x40813c __CxxFrameHandler • 0x408140 ???@YAXPAX@Z • 0x408144 memcmp • 0x408148 __except_handler3 • 0x40814c __local_unwind2 • 0x408150 wcsrchr • 0x408154 swprintf

Figure16: Import functions

V. CONCLUSION

In this paper we presented the forensic analysis of ransomware infected windows system along with the forensic analysis of memory dumps and analysis of ransomware in a sandbox environment- Static & Dynamic Analysis. As the system is infected with Wannacry ransomware, data loss occurs as the ransomware encrypts the user data. With the help of this approach we were able to recover the encrypted data using forensic tool such as autopsy from infected system. Also, we performed memory dump analysis of the infected system. The traces of the malware were found in the memory dump which more effective technique for detecting malicious activity. Compared to static analysis, this method provides more features and artifacts for analysis because the dump is obtained after the real execution of the malware. Also, the Static and dynamic analysis performed in cuckoo sandbox environment helps us in understanding the actual behaviour of the Wannacry ransomware. Cuckoo sandbox provides integration with other tools such as Volatility, Yara, Virustotal, and Wireshark and provides an opportunity for better testing. Hence, by following digital forensic procedure and malware analysis techniques we were able to provide effective and more reliable results.

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