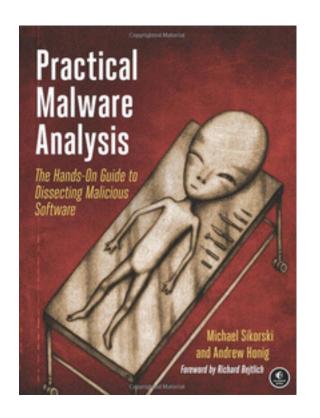
Practical Malware Analysis

Ch 10: Kernel Debugging with WinDbg



Updated 3-21-17

WinDbg v. OllyDbg

- OllyDbg is the most popular user-mode debugger for malware analysts
- WinDbg can be used in either user-mode or kernel-mode
- This chapter explores ways to use WinDbg for kernel debugging and rootkit analysis

Drivers and Kernel Code

Device Drivers

- Windows device drivers allow third-party developers to run code in the Windows kernel
- Drivers are difficult to analyze
 - They load into memory, stay resident, and respond to requests from applications
- Applications don't directly access kernel drivers
 - They access device objects which send requests to particular devices

Devices

- Devices are not physical hardware components
 - They are software representations of those components
- A driver creates and destroys devices, which can be accessed from user space

Example: USB Flash Drive

- User plugs in flash drive
- Windows creates the "F: drive" device object
- Applications can now make requests to the F: drive
 - They will be sent to the driver for that USB flash drive
- User plugs in a second flash drive
 - It may use the same driver, but applications access it through the G: device object

Loading Drivers

- Drivers must be loaded into the kernel
 - Just as DLLs are loaded into processes
- When a driver is first loaded, its
 DriverEntry procedure is called
 - Just like **DLLMain** for DLLs

DriverEntry

- DLLs expose functionality through the export table; drivers don't
- Drivers must register the address for callback functions
 - They will be called when a user-space software component requests a service
 - DriverEntry routine performs this registration
 - Windows creates a driver object structure, passes it to DriverEntry which fills it with callback functions
 - DriverEntry then creates a device that can be accessed from user-land

Example: Normal Read

- Normal read request
 - User-mode application obtains a file handle to device
 - Calls **ReadFile** on that handle
 - Kernel processes ReadFile request
 - Invokes the driver's callback function handling

Malicious Request

- Most common request from malware is DeviceloControl
 - A generic request from a user-space module to a device managed by a driver
 - User-space program passes in an arbitrarylength buffer of input data
 - Received an arbitrary-length buffer of data as output

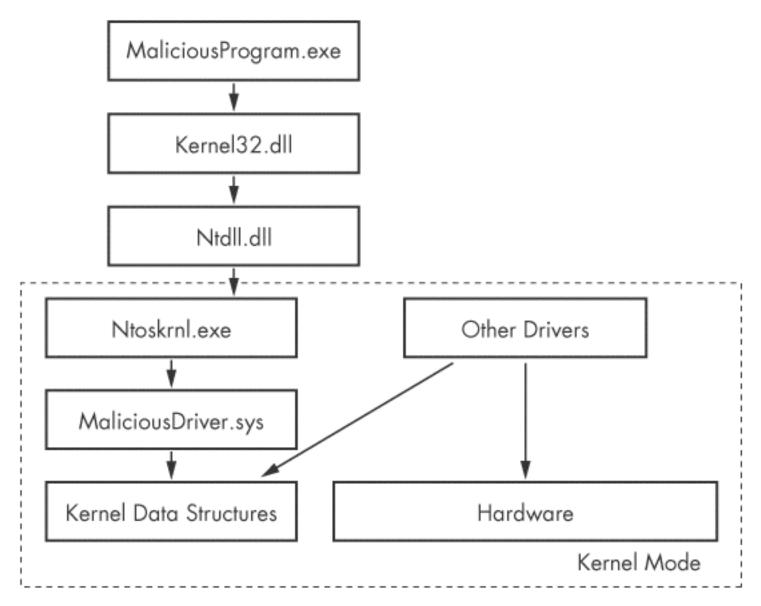


Figure 11-1. How user-mode calls are handled by the kernel

NOTE

Some kernel-mode malware has no significant user-mode component. It creates no device object, and the kernel-mode driver executes on its own.

Ntoskrnl.exe & Hal.dll

- Malicious drivers rarely control hardware
- They interact with Ntoskrnl.exe & Hal.dll
 - Ntoskrnl.exe has code for core OS functions
 - Hal.dll has code for interacting with main hardware components
- Malware will import functions from one or both of these files so it can manipulate the kernel

Setting Up Kernel Debugging

VMware

- In the virtual machine, enable kernel debugging
- Configure a virtual serial port between VM and host
- Configure WinDbg on the host machine

Boot.ini

- The book activates kernel debugging by editing Boot.ini
- But Microsoft abandoned that system after Windows XP
- The new system uses bcdedit

bcdedit

```
Administrator: Command Prompt

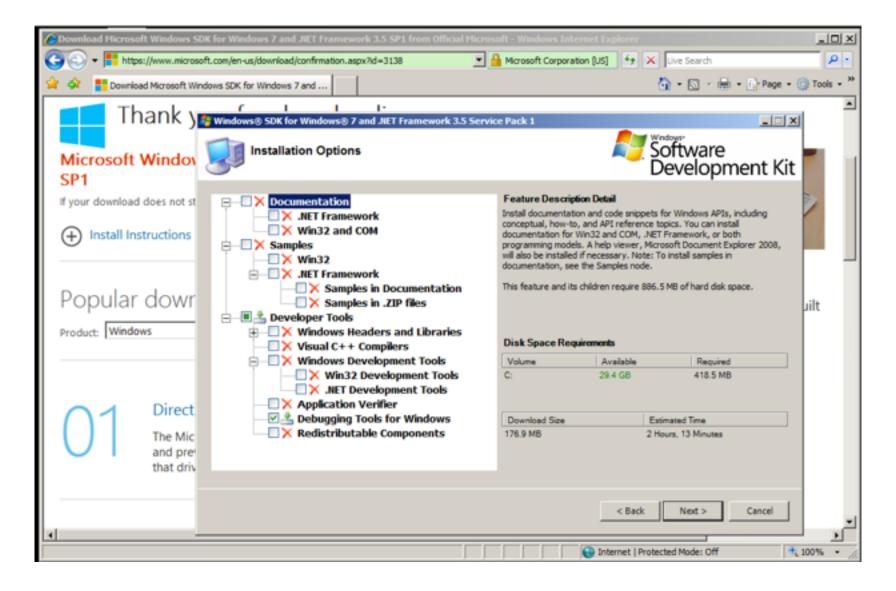
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.10586]

(c) 2015 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Windows\system32>bcdedit /debug on

The operation completed successfully.
```

Get WinDbg



Run LiveKD

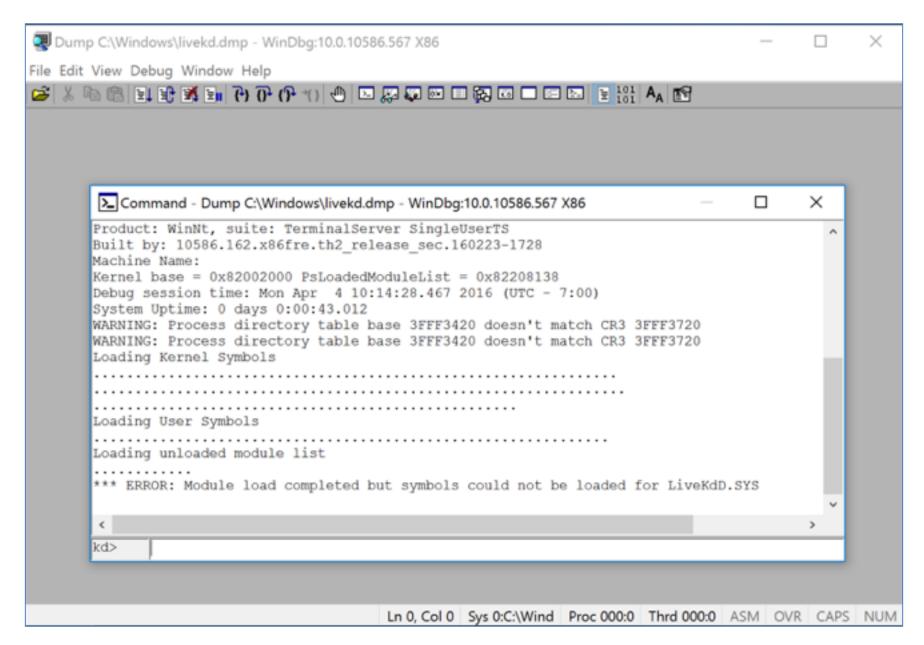
```
C:\Windows\system32>livekd -w

LiveKd v5.40 - Execute kd/windbg on a live system

Sysinternals - www.sysinternals.com

Copyright (C) 2000-2015 Mark Russinovich and Ken Johnson

Symbols are not configured. Would you like LiveKd to set the _NT_SYMBOL_PATH directory to reference the Microsoft symbol server so that symbols can be obtained automatically? (y/n) _
```



Using WinDbg

Command-Line Commands

Reading from Memory

- dx addressToRead
- *x* can be
 - da Displays as ASCII text
 - du Displays as Unicode text
 - dd Displays as 32-bit double words
- da 0x401020
 - Shows the ASCII text starting at 0x401020

Reading from Memory

Editing Memory

- ex addressToWrite dataToWrite
- *x* can be
 - ea Writes as ASCII text
 - eu Writes as Unicode text
 - ed Writes as 32-bit double words

Using Arithmetic Operators

- Usual arithmetic operators + / *
- dwo reveals the value at a 32-bit location pointer
- du dwo (esp+4)
 - Shows the first argument for a function, as a wide character string

Setting Breakpoints

- bp sets breakpoints
- You can specify an action to be performed when the breakpoint is hit
- **g** tells it to resume running after the action
- bp GetProcAddress "da dwo(esp+8); g"
 - Breaks when GetProcAddress is called, prints out the second argument, and then continues
 - The second argument is the function name

No Breakpoints with LiveKD

- LiveKD works from a memory dump
- It's read-only
- So you can't use breakpoints

Listing Modules

- lm
 - Lists all modules loaded into a process
 - Including EXEs and DLLs in user space
 - And the kernel drivers in kernel mode
 - As close as WinDbg gets to a memory map

Reading from Memory

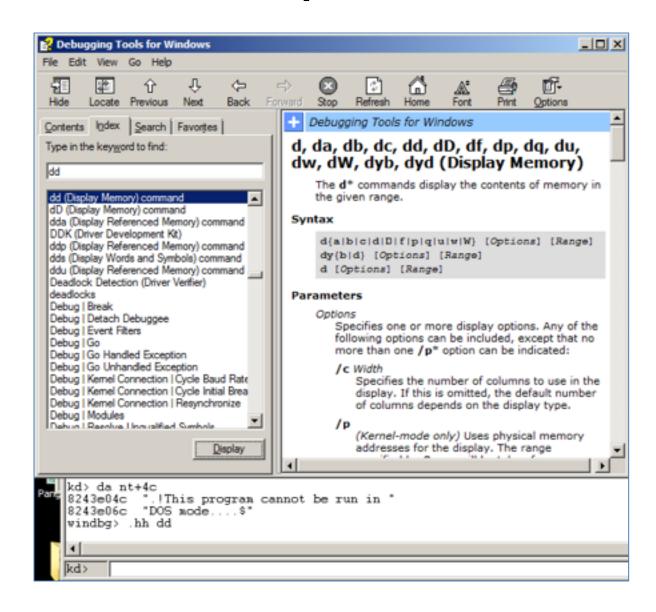
- dd nt
 - Shows the start of module "nt"
- dd nt L10
 - Shows the first 0x10 words of "nt"

```
kd> dd nt
                                        0000ffff
8243e000
                     00000003
                              000000004
           00905a4d
8243e010
           000000Ъ8
                     00000000
                              00000040
                                        00000000
8243e020
           00000000
                     00000000
                              00000000
                                        00000000
8243e030
           00000000
                     00000000
                              00000000
                                        00000268
8243e040
           Oeba1f0e cd09b400
                               4c01b821
                                        685421cd
8243e050
           70207369
                     72676f72
                              63206d61
                                        6f6e6e61
8243e060
           65622074
                     6e757220
                              206e6920
                                        20534f44
8243e070
           65646f6d
                              000000024
                                        00000000
                     0a0d0d2e
kd> dd nt
          L10
           00905a4d
8243e000
                     00000003
                              000000004
                                        0000ffff
8243e010
           000000Ъ8
                     00000000
                              00000040
                                        00000000
8243e020
           00000000
                     00000000
                              00000000
                                        00000000
8243e030
           00000000
                     00000000
                              00000000
                                        00000268
```

Online Help

.hh dd

- Shows help about "dd" command
- But there are no examples



Microsoft Symbols

Symbols are Labels

- Including symbols lets you use
 - MmCreateProcessAddressSpace
- instead of
 - -0x8050f1a2

Searching for Symbols

- moduleName!symbolName
 - Can be used anywhere an address is expected
- moduleName
 - The EXE, DLL, or SYS filename (without extension)
- symbolName
 - Name associated with the address
- ntoskrnl.exe is an exception, and is named nt
 - Ex: u nt!NtCreateProcess
 - Unassembles that function (disassembly)

Demo

- Try these
 - u nt!ntCreateProcess
 - u nt!ntCreateProcess L10
 - u nt!ntCreateProcess L20

```
kd> u nt!ntCreateProcess
nt!NtCreateProcess:
                                   edi,edi
                          mov
                          push
                                   ebp
                                   ebp,esp
                          MOV
                          xor
                                   eax,eax
826d1fa6 f6451c01
                          test
                                   byte ptr [ebp+1Ch],1
                                   nt!NtCreateProcess+0xe (826d1fad)
826d1faa 7401
                          je
826d1fac
                          inc
                                   eax
826d1fad f6452001
                                   byte ptr [ebp+20h],1
                          test
```

Deferred Breakpoints

bu newModule!exportedFunction

 Will set a breakpoint on exportedFunction as soon as a module named newModule is loaded

\$iment

Function that finds the entry point of a module

bu \$iment(driverName)

 Breaks on the entry point of the driver before any of the driver's code runs

Searching with x

- You can search for functions or symbols using wildcards
- x nt!*CreateProcess*
 - Displays exported functions & internal functions

```
0:003> x nt!*CreateProcess*

805c736a nt!NtCreateProcessEx = <no type information>
805c7420 nt!NtCreateProcess = <no type information>
805c6a8c nt!PspCreateProcess = <no type information>
804fe144 nt!ZwCreateProcess = <no type information>
804fe158 nt!ZwCreateProcessEx = <no type information>
8055a300 nt!PspCreateProcessNotifyRoutineCount = <no type information>
805c5e0a nt!PsSetCreateProcessNotifyRoutine = <no type information>
8050f1a2 nt!MmCreateProcessAddressSpace = <no type information>
8055a2e0 nt!PspCreateProcessNotifyRoutine = <no type information>
```

Listing Closest Symbol with In

- Helps in figuring out where a call goes
- In address
 - First lines show two closest matches
 - Last line shows exact match

```
0:002> ln 805717aa
kd> ln ntreadfile
1 (805717aa) nt!NtReadFile | (80571d38) nt!NtReadFileScatter
Exact matches:
2 nt!NtReadFile = <no type information>
```

Viewing Structure Information with dt

- Microsoft symbols include type information for many structures
 - Including undocumented internal types
 - They are often used by malware
- dt moduleName!symbolName
- dt moduleName!symbolName address
 - Shows structure with data from address

Example 11-2. Viewing type information for a structure

```
0:000> dt nt!_DRIVER_OBJECT
kd> dt nt!_DRIVER_OBJECT
  +0x000 Type
             : Int2B
  +0x002 Size : Int2B
  +0x004 DeviceObject : Ptr32 _DEVICE_OBJECT
              : Uint4B
  +0x008 Flags
1 +0x00c DriverStart : Ptr32 Void
  +0x010 DriverSize : Uint4B
  +0x014 DriverSection : Ptr32 Void
  +0x018 DriverExtension : Ptr32 _DRIVER_EXTENSION
  +0x01c DriverName
                   : _UNICODE_STRING
  +0x024 HardwareDatabase : Ptr32 _UNICODE_STRING
  +0x028 FastIoDispatch : Ptr32 _FAST_IO_DISPATCH
  +0x02c DriverInit : Ptr32 long
  +0x030 DriverStartIo : Ptr32 void
  +0x034 DriverUnload : Ptr32 void
  +0x038 MajorFunction : [28] Ptr32
                                      long
```

Show Specific Values for the "Beep" Driver

```
Example 11-3. Overlaying data onto a structure
kd> dt nt! DRIVER OBJECT 828b2648
  +0x000 Type
  +0x002 Size
                         : 168
  +0x004 DeviceObject : 0x828b0a30 _DEVICE_OBJECT
  +0x008 Flags
                         : 0x12
  +0x00c DriverStart : 0xf7adb000
  +0x010 DriverSize : 0x1080
  +0x014 DriverSection : 0x82ad8d78
  +0x018 DriverExtension :
                           0x828b26f0 DRIVER EXTENSION
  +0x01c DriverName
                         : _UNICODE_STRING "\Driver\Beep"
                           0x80670ae0 _UNICODE_STRING
  +0x024 HardwareDatabase :
"\REGISTRY\MACHINE\
HARDWARE\DESCRIPTION\SYSTEM"
  +0x028 FastIoDispatch
                           (null)
  +0x02c DriverInit : 10xf7adb66c
                                         long Beep!DriverEntry+0
  +0x030 DriverStartIo : 0xf7adb51a
                                         void Beep!BeepStartIo+0
  +0x034 DriverUnload : 0xf7adb620
                                         void Beep!BeepUnload+0
  +0x038 MajorFunction
                         : [28] 0xf7adb46a
                                              long Beep!BeepOpen+0
```

Initialization Function

- The DriverInit function is called first when a driver is loaded
 - See labelled line in previous slide
- Malware will sometimes place its entire malicious payload in this function

Configuring Windows Symbols

- If your debugging machine is connected to an always-on broadband link, you can configure WinDbg to automatically download symbols from Microsoft as needed
- They are cached locally
- File, Symbol File Path
 - SRC*c:\websymbols*http://
 msdl.microsoft.com/download/symbols

Manually Downloading Symbols



Link Ch 10a

Kernel Debugging in Practice

Kernel Mode and User Mode Functions

- We'll examine a program that writes to files from kernel space
 - An unusual thing to do
 - Fools some security products
 - Kernel mode programs cannot call user-mode functions like CreateFile and WriteFile
 - Must use NtCreateFile and NtWriteFile

User-Space Code

```
Example 11-4. Creating a service to load a kernel driver
04001B3D
                                 : lpPassword
         push
                 esi
                                 ; lpServiceStartName
04001B3E push
                 esi
04001B3F push
               esi
                                 ; lpDependencies
04001B40 push
               esi
                                 ; lpdwTagId
                                 : lpLoadOrderGroup
04001B41 push
               esi
               [ebp+lpBinaryPathName] ; lpBinaryPathName
04001B42 push
04001B45 push
                                 : dwErrorControl
         push
                                 : dwStartType
04001B47
04001B49 push
                11
                                 : dwServiceType
                                 : dwDesiredAccess
04001B4B push
                 0F01FFh
               [ebp+lpDisplayName] : lpDisplayName
04001B50 push
                 [ebp+lpDisplayName] ; lpServiceName
04001B53
         push
                 [ebp+hSCManager] ; hSCManager
04001B56 push
04001B59 call
                 ds:__imp__CreateServiceA@52
```

Creates a service with the CreateService function

dwServiceType is 0x01 (Kernel driver)

User-Space Code

```
Example 11-5. Obtaining a handle to a device object
04001893
                        XOL
                                eax, eax
                                                ; hTemplateFile
04001895
                        push
                                eax
                                80h
                                                ; dwFlagsAndAttributes
04001896
                        push
                                2
                                                ; dwCreationDisposition
0400189B
                        push
                                                : lpSecurityAttributes
0400189D
                        push
                                eax
                                                : dwShareMode
0400189E
                        push
                                eax
0400189F
                        push
                                ebx
                                                : dwDesiredAccess
040018A0
                       2push
                                edi
                                                ; lpFileName
                       1call
040018A1
                                esi ; CreateFileA
```

- Not shown: edi being set to
 - \\.\FileWriter\Device

User-Space Code

Once the malware has a handle to the device, it uses the DeviceIoControl function at 1 to send data to the driver as shown in Example 11-6.

Example 11-6. Using DeviceIoControl to communicate from user space to kernel space

```
; lpOverlapped
04001910 push
04001912 sub
                 eax. ecx
04001914 lea
                 ecx, [ebp+BytesReturned]
                                 ; lpBytesReturned
0400191A push
                 ecx
                                  nOutBufferSize
0400191B push
                 64h
0400191D push
                                 ; lpOutBuffer
                 edi
0400191E inc
                 eax
         push
                                 : nInBufferSize
0400191F
                 eax
04001920
         push
                                 ; lpInBuffer
                 esi
                                 : dwIoControlCode
04001921 push
                 9C402408h
04001926
         push
                 [ebp+hObject] ; hDevice
                 ds:DeviceIoControl
0400192C
         call
```

Kernel-Mode Code

- Set WinDbg to Verbose mode (View, Verbose Output)
 - Doesn't work with LiveKD
- You'll see every kernel module that loads
- Kernel modules are not loaded or unloaded often
 - Any loads are suspicious

In the following example, we see that the *FileWriter.sys* driver has been loaded in the kernel debugging window. Likely, this is the malicious driver.

ModLoad: f7b0d000 f7b0e780 FileWriter.sys

NOTE

When using VMware for kernel debugging, you will see KMixer.sys frequently loaded and unloaded. This is normal and not associated with any malicious activity.

Kernel-Mode Code

• !drvobj command shows driver object

```
Example 11-7. Viewing a driver object for a loaded driver

kd> !drvobj FileWriter

Driver object (1827e3698) is for:

Loading symbols for f7b0d000 FileWriter.sys -> FileWriter.sys

*** ERROR: Module load completed but symbols could not be loaded for

FileWriter.sys

\Driver\FileWriter

Driver Extension List: (id , addr)

Device Object list:

826eb030
```

Kernel-Mode Code

dt command shows structure

```
Example 11-8. Viewing a device object in the kernel
kd>dt nt! DRIVER OBJECT 0x827e3698
nt! DRIVER OBJECT
  +0x000 Type
                        : 4
  +0x002 Size : 168
  +0x004 DeviceObject : 0x826eb030 _DEVICE_OBJECT
              : 0x12
  +0x008 Flags
  +0x00c DriverStart : 0xf7b0d000
  +0x010 DriverSize : 0x1780
  +0x014 DriverSection : 0x828006a8
  +0x018 DriverExtension : 0x827e3740 _DRIVER_EXTENSION
                        : _UNICODE_STRING "\Driver\FileWriter"
  +0x01c DriverName
  +0x024 HardwareDatabase : 0x8066ecd8 _UNICODE_STRING
"\REGISTRY\MACHINE\
                          HARDWARE\DESCRIPTION\SYSTEM"
  +0x028 FastIoDispatch
                        : (null)
  +0x02c DriverInit : 0xf7b0dfcd long +0
  +0x030 DriverStartIo : (null)
  +0x034 DriverUnload : 0xf7b0da2a void +0
  +0x038 MajorFunction : [28] 0xf7b0da06
                                            long
```

Kernel-Mode Filenames

- Tracing this function, it eventually creates this file
 - \DosDevices\C:\secretfile.txt
- This is a fully qualified object name
 - Identifies the root device, usually \DosDevices

Finding Driver Objects

- Applications work with devices, not drivers
- Look at user-space application to identify the interesting device object
- Use device object in User Mode to find driver object in Kernel Mode
- Use !devobj to find out more about the device object
- Use !devhandles to find application that use the driver

Rootkits

Rootkit Basics

- Rootkits modify the internal functionality of the OS to conceal themselves
 - Hide processes, network connections, and other resources from running programs
 - Difficult for antivirus, administrators, and security analysts to discover their malicious activity
- Most rootkits modify the kernel
- Most popular method:
 - System Service Descriptor Table (SSDT) hooking

System Service Descriptor Table (SSDT)

- Used internally by Microsoft
 - To look up function calls into the kernel
 - Not normally used by third-party applications or drivers
- Only three ways for user space to access kernel code
 - SYSCALL
 - SYSENTER
 - INT 0x2E

SYSENTER

- Used by modern versions of Windows
 - Function code stored in EAX register
- More info about the three ways to call kernel code is in links Ch 10j and 10k

Example from ntdll.dll

```
Example 11-11. Code for NtCreateFile function

7C90D682 Mov eax, 25h ; NtCreateFile

7C90D687 mov edx, 7FFE0300h

7C90D68C call dword ptr [edx]

7C90D68E retn 2Ch

The call to dword ptr[edx] will go to the following instructions:

7C90eb8b 8bd4 mov edx,esp

7C90eb8d 0f34 sysenter
```

- EAX set to 0x25
- Stack pointer saved in EDX
- SYSENTER is called

SSDT Table Entries

```
Example 11-12. Several entries of the SSDT table showing NtCreateFile
SSDT[0x22] = 805b28bc (NtCreateaDirectoryObject)
SSDT[0x23] = 80603be0 (NtCreateEvent)
SSDT[0x24] = 8060be48 (NtCreateEventPair)

ISSDT[0x25] = 8056d3ca (NtCreateFile)
SSDT[0x26] = 8056bc5c (NtCreateIoCompletion)
SSDT[0x27] = 805ca3ca (NtCreateJobObject)
```

- Rootkit changes the values in the SSDT so rootkit code is called instead of the intended function
- 0x25 would be changed to a malicious driver's function

Hooking NtCreateFile

- Rootkit calls the original NtCreateFile, then removes files it wants to hide
 - This prevents applications from getting a handle to the file
- Hooking NtCreateFile alone won't hide a file from DIR, however

Rootkit Analysis in Practice

- Simplest way to detect SSDT hooking
 - Just look at the SSDT
 - Look for values that are unreasonable
 - In this case, ntoskrnl.exe starts at address 804d7000 and ends at 806cd580
 - ntoskrnl.exe is the Kernel!
- lm m nt
 - Lists modules matching "nt" (Kernel modules)
 - Shows the SSDT table

Win 2008

- Im m nt failed on my Win 2008 VM
- This command shows the SSDT
- dps nt!KiServiceTable L poi nt! KiServiceLimit
 - Link Ch 10l

```
kd> dps nt!KiServiceTable L poi nt!KiServiceLimit
824c8970 825ca949 nt!NtAcceptConnectPort
824c8974 8243701f nt!NtAccessCheck
824c8978 825fe9bd nt!NtAccessCheckAndAuditAlarm
824c897c 8243c181 nt!NtAccessCheckByType
824c8980 825fe8dd nt!NtAccessCheckByTypeAndAuditAlarm
824c8984 824f0ba0 nt!NtAccessCheckByTypeResultList
824c8988 826b1845 nt!NtAccessCheckByTypeResultListAndAuditAlarm
824c898c 826b188e nt!NtAccessCheckByTypeResultListAndAuditAlarmByHandle
824c8990 825ccba9 nt!NtAcdessCheckByTypeResultListAndAuditAlarmByHandle
824c8990 825ccba9 nt!NtAddAtom
824c8994 826c6836 nt!NtAddBootEntry
824c8998 826c7ada nt!NtAddBootEntry
824c8998 825f48ea nt!NtAddDriverEntry
824c8990 825f48ea nt!NtAdjustGroupsToken
824c89a4 826a5757 nt!NtAdjustPrivilegesToken
```

SSDT Table

```
Example 11-13. A sample SSDT table with one entry overwritten by a rootkit

kd> lm m nt
...

8050122c 805c9928 805c98d8 8060aea6 805aa334
8050123c 8060a4be 8059cbbc 805a4786 805cb406
8050124c 804feed0 8060b5c4 8056ae64 805343f2
8050125c 80603b90 805b09c0 805e9694 80618a56
8050126c 805edb86 80598e34 80618caa 805986e6
8050127c 805401f0 80636c9c 805b28bc 80603be0
8050128c 8060be48 1f7ad94a4 8056bc5c 805ca3ca
8050129c 805ca102 80618e86 8059d48 8060c240
805012ac 8056d404 8059fba6 80599202 805c5f8e
```

- Marked entry is hooked
- To identify it, examine a clean system's SSDT

Finding the Malicious Driver

Im

- Lists open modules
- In the kernel, they are all drivers

```
Example 11-14. Using the lm command to find which driver contains a particular address

kd>lm
...
f7ac7000 f7ac8580 intelide (deferred)
f7ac9000 f7aca700 dmload (deferred)
f7ad9000 f7ada680 Rootkit (deferred)
f7aed000 f7aee280 vmmouse (deferred)
...
```

Example 11-16. Listing of the rootkit hook function

```
000104A4
         mov
                edi. edi
000104A6 push
                ebp
000104A7 mov
                ebp, esp
000104A9 push [ebp+arg_8]
000104AC call
              1sub 10486
000104B1 test
                eax, eax
000104B3 jz
                short loc 104BB
000104B5 pop
                ebp
              NtCreateFile
000104B6 jmp
000104BB ----
000104BB
                      ; CODE XREF: sub_104A4+F j
000104BB
                eax. 0C0000034h
         MOV
000104C0 pop
                ebp
000104C1 retn
                2Ch
```

The hook function jumps to the original NtCreateFile function for some requests and returns to 0xC0000034 for others. The value 0xC0000034 corresponds to STATUS_OBJECT_NAME_NOT_FOUND. The call at 1 contains

Interrupts

- Interrupts allow hardware to trigger software events
- Driver calls IoConnectInterrupt to register a handler for an interrupt code
- Specifies an Interrupt Service Routine (ISR)
 - Will be called when the interrupt code is generated
- Interrupt Descriptor Table (IDT)
 - Stores the ISR information
 - -!idt command shows the IDT

Example 11-17. A sample IDT kd> !idt 806cf728 hal!PicSpuriousService37 37: 3d: 806d0b70 hal!HalpApcInterrupt 806d09cc hal!HalpDispatchInterrupt 41: 806cf800 hal!HalpApicRebootService 50: 8298b7e4 atapi!IdePortInterrupt (KINTERRUPT 8298b7a8) 62: 826ef044 NDIS!ndisMIsr (KINTERRUPT 826ef008) 63: 73: 826b9044 portcls!CKsShellRequestor::`vector deleting destructor'+0x26 (KINTERRUPT 826b9008) USBPORT!USBPORT_InterruptService (KINTERRUPT 826df008) 82: 82970dd4 atapi!IdePortInterrupt (KINTERRUPT 82970d98) 829e8044 SCSIPORT!ScsiPortInterrupt (KINTERRUPT 829e8008) 83: 93: 826c315c i8042prt!I8042KeyboardInterruptService (KINTERRUPT 826c3120) 826c2044 i8042prt!I8042MouseInterruptService (KINTERRUPT 826c2008) a3: 829e5434 ACPI!ACPIInterruptServiceRoutine (KINTERRUPT 829e53f8) b1: b2: 826f115c serial!SerialCIsrSw (KINTERRUPT 826f1120) 806cf984 hal!HalpBroadcastCallService c1: d1: 806ced34 hal!HalpClockInterrupt e1: 806cff0c hal!HalpIpiHandler 806cfc70 hal!HalpLocalApicErrorService e3: fd: 806d0464 hal!HalpProfileInterrupt fe: 806d0604 hal!HalpPerfInterrupt

Interrupts going to unnamed, unsigned, or suspicious drivers could indicate a rootkit or other malicious software.

Loading Drivers

 If you want to load a driver to test it, you can download the OSR Driver Loader tool



Kernel Issues for Windows Vista, Windows 7, and x64 Versions

- Uses BCDedit instead of boot.ini
- x64 versions starting with XP have PatchGuard
 - Prevents third-party code from modifying the kernel
 - Including kernel code itself, SSDT, IDT, etc.
 - Can interfere with debugging, because debugger patches code when inserting breakpoints
- There are 64-bit kernel debugging tools
 - Link Ch 10c

Driver Signing

- Enforced in all 64-bit versions of Windows starting with Vista
- Only digitally signed drivers will load
- Effective protection!
- Kernel malware for x64 systems is practically nonexistent
 - You can disable driver signing enforcement by specifying nointegritychecks in BCDEdit