Blast from the past: stowaway Virut delivered with Chinese DDoS bot

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Recently, we described an <u>unusual Chinese drive-by attack</u> that was delivering a variant of the <u>Avzhan DDoS bot</u>. The attack also contained multiple components that were not-so-new. Among the <u>exploits</u>, the newest was from 2016. Avzhan is also not a recent malware—the compilation timestamp of the <u>unpacked payload</u> was from August 2015. But there was one more unusual thing that triggered our attention. The outer layer of Avzhan matched the signatures of Virut, a malware that's been dead in the water since 2013.

At first, it was hard to believe this detection. Who would want to distribute such an old piece of malware that is no longer developed, and whose CnC servers were sinkholed long ago by Polish CERT? Maybe it was the author of the packer by which the DDoS bot was wrapped incorporating some Virut-like obfuscation?

After further research, it turned out the detection was not wrong. The Avzhan bot carried along with it a legitimate Virut. But it is unlikely that the distributors added it intentionally. Rather, the server from where the attack was deployed happened to be infected with Virut. The <u>virus</u> attached as a parasite to the distributed DDoS malware, and was dropped with the

drive-by attack into new places. Interestingly, in 2016 Virut's code was also <u>found in Chinese</u> <u>cameras</u>. Similarly, the computers of developers were infected with Virut, and by this way its code got passed further.

Since Virut has made this unexpected reappearance, we will have a look at how it works in this post.

Analyzed sample

05749f08ebd9762511c6da92481e87d8 – the main sample, dropped by the exploit

Host	URL	Body	Comments
wm.shiquanxian.cn	/	274	
wm.shiquanxian.cn wm.shiquanxian.cn	/ie.html /ms.html	760 34.080	Call for ActiveX CVE-2016-0189
	/DownloaderActiveX.cab	82,625	
wm.shiquanxian.cn	/yuyan.swf	45,037	CVE-2015-5119
wm.shiquanxian.cn	//2.exe	118,784	Payload
EKFiddl	e ×		
	ОК		

Behavioral analysis

Virut behaves like a typical, old-fashioned infectious virus. As we observed, samples infected by Virut always crashed on 64-bit systems.

😻 Wave Microsoft 基础类应用程	序	- • •									
Wave Microsoft 基	Wave Microsoft 基础类应用程序 has stopped working										
Windows can check online for a solution to the problem the next time you go online.											
Check online	for a solution later and clo	se the program									
Close the prop	Close the program										
Hide problem details											
Problem signature:		^									
Problem Event Name:	APPCRASH										
Application Name:	avzhan_infected.exe	=									
Application Version: Application Timestamp:	1.0.0.1 4b19103f										
Fault Module Name: avzhan_infected.exe											
Fault Module Version: 1.0.0.1											
Fault Module Timestamp: 4b19103f											
Exception Code:	c0000005										
Exception Offset:	00016429										

However, when deployed in a 32-bit environment, Virut spread like fire, trying to infect all executables it could reach by attaching its own code. The code of Virut is polymorphic and designed with great care, so the infection patterns are not easy to grasp. Often (if there is enough space), Virut adds a new, empty section with a random name, for example:

avzhan_infected.exe DOS Header DOS stub	× ₽			R 🔊	¢ 🕸	*				
 DOS stub NT Headers Signature 		Disas +	m: .texi 53	t Gene	eral DOS	Hdr File	Hdr Option	al Hdr Sec	tion Hdrs E	
🦐 File Header		Name	e		Raw Addr.	Raw size	Virtual Addr.	Virtual Size	Characteristics	
Optional Header		⊳.te	ext		1000	3000	1000	3000	6000020	
 Section Headers Sections 		▷ .re	data		4000	2000	4000	166F	40000040	
 Sections A 👬 .text 		⊳ .d	.data		6000	C000	6000	B668	C0000040	
→ EP = 3CE7		⊿ .rs	src		12000	B000	12000	B000	E0000060	
rdata			>		1D000	Λ	1D000	^	rwx	
data		⊿ gj	rlfbo		1D000	0	1D000	1000	C0000000	
.rsrc			>		1D000	Λ	1E000	^	rw-	
🙀 gjrlfbo										

If there is no space for a new header in the input file, this step is omitted. So, the absence of the added section does not guarantee that the file is clean. Another suspicious indicator may be that the last section is set to RWX (Read-Write-eXecute).

Virut changes sizes of the sections and the entry point of the application in order to redirect to its own code. After the malicious code is deployed, the original entry point is executed. So, from the user's point of view, the infected application works as before.

In addition to infecting files on the disk, Virut attacks running processes as well. So, even if the first infected process was killed, the malicious code keeps running in the memory.

The malware uses some hardcoded CnC addresses, as well as a DGA (Domain Generation Algorithm). Looking at the network traffic, we can see the queries to the domains follow the pattern of using six letters before the dot com: $6\{a-z\}$.com

Destination	Protocol	Length Info
100.78.239.97	NTP	90 NTP Version 4, server
185.89.185.1	DNS	70 Standard query 0x0ace Α bobyku.com
100.78.239.97	DNS	143 Standard query response 0x0ace No such name A bobyku.com SOA a.gtld-servers.net
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB BOBYKU.COM<00>
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB BOBYKU.COM<00>
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB BOBYKU.COM<00>
185.89.185.1	DNS	70 Standard query 0x37a1 A zocarg.com
100.78.239.97	DNS	143 Standard query response 0x37a1 No such name A zocarg.com SOA a.gtld-servers.net
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB ZOCARG.COM<00>
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB ZOCARG.COM<00>
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB ZOCARG.COM<00>
185.89.185.1	DNS	70 Standard query 0x5ff0 A dwrnpe.com
100.78.239.97	DNS	143 Standard query response 0x5ff0 No such name A dwrnpe.com SOA a.gtld-servers.net
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB DWRNPE.COM<00>
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB DWRNPE.COM<00>
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB DWRNPE.COM<00>
185.89.185.1	DNS	70 Standard query 0xaeb0 A kkipad.com
100.78.239.97	DNS	143 Standard query response 0xaeb0 No such name A kkipad.com SOA a.gtld-servers.net
255.255.255.255	NBNS	92 Name query NB KKIPAD.COM<00>

Due to the fact that the full infrastructure of Virut was sinkholed, none of its CnC servers are active.

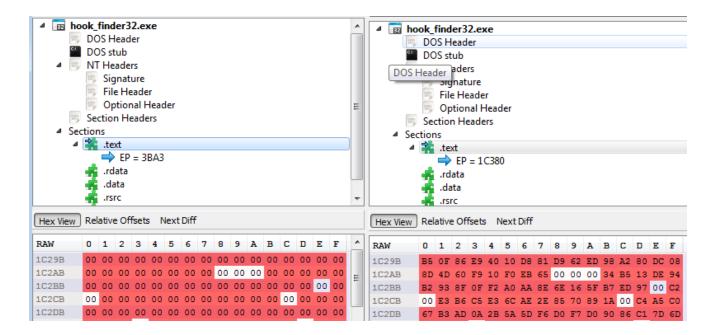
Inside

Infection patterns

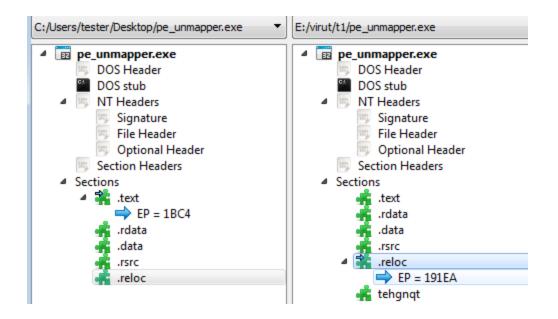
As mentioned before, Virut's code can mutate—each infection looks different. Some of the chosen patterns depend on the features of the input.

In PE files, each section must be aligned to the minimal unit that is indicated by a file alignment field in the PE header. This is why sometimes there is an empty space between one PE section and the other, filled only with padding. This empty space is called the cave. Old infectors often used this space to implant their own code. This is what Virut also tries to do.

In the example below, a cave after the .text section has been filled with malicious code:



Depending on the input, there may not be sufficient caves between sections. Then, Virut adds its code just at the end of the last section:



But this is not the only thing that impacts the features of the infection. The code generated by Virut is polymorphic, so the same file will not be infected twice in the same way. Below is a comparison of code from the same application, infected by Virut in two different runs:

	Hex	Disasm		Hex		Disasm
1CF08	FECO	INC AL	3CE7	683A6B0000		PUSH DWORD 0X6B3A
1CF0A	19C8	SBB EAX, ECX	SCEC	FB		CLC
1CF0C	8AC2	MOV AL, DL	3CED	59		POP ECX
1CF0E		XCHG ECX, EAX	SCEE	86E6		XCHG DH, AH
1CF0F	2001	AND CL, AL	3CF0	E9A5000000	V	JMP 0X00403D9A
1CF11	40	INC EAX	3CF5	41		INC ECX
1CF12	F5	CMC	3CF6	03A16E00C480		ADD ESP, [ECX+0X80C4006E]
1CF13	68526B0000	PUSH DWORD 0X6B52	3CFC	6D		INSD
1CF18	F8	CLC	3CFD	1A5372		SBB DL, [EBX+0X72]
1CF19	5A	POP EDX	3D00	EAEAD4D4000F9E		JMP DWORD 0X9E0F:0XD4D4EA
1CF1A	8629	XCHG CL, CH	3D07	OOFE		ADD DH, BH
1CF1C	86C8	XCHG AL, CL	3D09	81CCF1000005		OR ESP, 0X50000F1

Virut's shellcode

The code appended to the infected files makes an initial stub that unpacks in the memory of Virut's shellcode. That is a heart of the malware. This is how the unpacked shellcode looks:

	00001000				Priv 00021004	RW RW
	00003000				Priv 00021004	RW RW
00290000					Priv 00021004 Map 00041008	RW CopyOnWr RW
	00008000				Map 00041040	RWE RWE
		avzhan_i		PE header	Imag 01001002	
	00003000		.text	SFX.code	Imag 01001002	R RWE
00404000	00002000	avzhan_i	.rdata	data, imports, exports	Imag 01001002	R RWE
	00000000		.data		Imag 01001002	B BWE
	0000B000		.rsrc	resources	Imag 01001002	R RWE
	00001000	avzhan_i	gjrlfbo		Imag 01001002	R RWE
00420000	00002000					
004F0000		D D.		0000003A7FFF		
	00029000		mp - 005A	J000005A/FFF		
		003A00	00 83 3C	24 FE 77 FE 8D 64 24 CC 60 3 00 4B 66 4B 0F 85 F8 FF FF 1	83 EC DC E8 D8	f~\$twtTd\$Ê`f
	00002000		10 00 00	00 4B 66 4B 0F 85 F8 FF FF I	FF FF 73 3C 59	
	00001000			FD FF FF 7F 0F 83 E7 FF FF !		üðř_∆×áš ü⊣Š‼
6BE40000				0F 81 DB FF FF FF FF B4 19 1		
6BE41000			40 C4 04			–♦füD\$R©∥≭d− h ▼(yďRCët\$DR−0
						•iydrCet\$DR-0 ëD\$4āR♦%éEd
6BF42000						

The same code is also injected into other processes. It is implanted in a new page in the memory. Example:

771E1000 77280000	0009F000 00007000	".data"	Executat Initiali	IMG	-R ER -RW	ERWC- ERWC- ERWC-
	00001000		Resource		-R -R	ERWC-
77288000 772A0000		".reloc"	Base rel	IMG	-K	ERWC-
7F6F0000				MAP	-R	-R
7F6F5000	000FB000	Reserved (7F6F0000)		MAP		-R
7FFA0000	0000C000			MAP	ERW-G	ERW
7FFB0000	00023000			MAP	-R	-R
7FFDD000	00001000	Thread 8BC TEB		PRV	-RW	-RW

D Dump - 7FFA00007F	FABFFF	
7FFR0010 00 00 00 48 6 7FFR0020 81 E9 FD FF F 7FFR0020 01 E9 FD FF F 7FFR0040 C4 04 66 81 4 7FFR0050 39 86 11 53 E 7FFR0050 29 86 11 53 E 7FFR0070 A1 18 00 00 09 7FFR0080 E9 0F 00 00 00 7FFR0090 6D 00 00 00 03 7FFR0090 6D 00 00 00 33 7FFR0090 4D 00 00 00 33 7FFR0090 4D 00 00 00 27 FFR0090 58 C2 30 00 2 7FFR0000 30 4F FF 47 2 7FFR00F0 24 E0 FF 74 2 7FFR00F0 24 E0 FF 74 2 7FFR0110 E5 FF E6 8E 0 7FFR0110 IA 78 A8 7 7FFR0120 FD 38 51 0F 0	7 FE 8D 64 24 CC 60 83 EC DC E8 D8 # 6 48 0F 85 F8 FF FF FF F7 73 3C 59 3 6 48 0F 85 F8 FF FF FF F7 73 3C 59 3 8 F7 0F 83 E7 FF FF FF F7 13 00 30 83 3 4 24 FC B0 BA 0F 85 C4 FF FF FF 68 4 4 34 83 E8 08 00 90 98 2D 01 4 4 34 33 E8 08 00 00 08 80 00 00 88 08 0 0.0 00 88 08 0 4 14 14 14 14 14 14 14	.KFK×80° ≤ <y ř Δ×äš üjš‼ šúl +ih‼.Cå füDskäRk•×eEd 8×40004 </y

The shellcode contains the functionality of a userland rootkit. It hooks NTDLL within every infected process so that each time the specific function is called, the execution is redirected first to Virut's implant. There are seven functions that are hooked:

- 1. NtCreateFile
- 2. NtCreateProcess
- 3. NtCreateProcessEx
- 4. NtCreateUserProcess
- 5. NtDeviceIoControlFile
- 6. NtOpenFile
- 7. NtQueryInformationProcess

Below you can see an example of the hooked function **NtCreateFile**. As you can see, the first instruction is a call to the malicious memory page:

	Hex		Disasm	
455C8	E8C40FF008	0	CALL 0X7FFA6591	patch_0
455CD	BA0003FE7F		MOV EDX, 0X7FFE0300	
455D2	FF12		CALL DWORD NEAR [EDX]	
455D4	C22C00		RET 0X2C	
455D7	90		NOP	

And this is how the code looks that is being called:

7FFA6591 B8 42000000	MOV EAX,0x42
7FFA6596 60	PUSHAD
7FFA6597 91	XCHG EAX.ECX
7FFA6598 8B4424 30	MOV EAX, DWORD PTR SS: [ESP+0x30]
7FFA659C 8B50 08	MOV EDX, DWORD PTR DS: [EAX+0x8]
7FFA659F 66:813A 0602	CMP WORD PTR DS:[EDX],0x206
7FFA65A4 V 73 44	JNB SHORT 7FFA65EA
7FFA65A6 E8 96FFFFFF	CALL 7FFA6541
7FFA65AB V 75 3F	JNZ SHORT 7FFA65EC
7FFA65AD 64:FF35 24000000	PUSH DWORD PTR FS: [0x24]
7FFA65B4 8F85 027F270D	POP DWORD PTR SS: LEBP+0xD277F021
7FFA65BA 8DB5 A27C270D	LEA ESI, DWORD PTR SS: [EBP+0xD277CA2]
7FFA65C0 56	PUSH ESI
7FFA65C1 68 0000FF00	PUSH 0xFF0000
7FFA65C6 8BC4	MOV EAX.ESP
7FFA65C8 6A 00	PUSH 0x0
7FFA65CA 52	PUSH EDX
7FFA65CB 50	PUSH EAX
7FFA65CC FF95 0224270D	CALL DWORD PTR SS:[EBP+0xD272402]
7FFA65D2 83C4 08	ADD ESP.0x8
7FFA65D5 813E 5C3F3F5C	CMP DWORD PTR DS:[ESI],0x5C3F3F5C
7FFA65DB V 75 03	JNZ SHORT 7FFA65E0
7FFA65DD 83C6 04	ADD ESI,0x4
7FFA65E0 E8 27E6FFFF	CALL 7FFA4C0C
	CALL 7FFA655B
	POPAD
7FFA65EA 61	
7FFA65EB C3	RETN

We also find the lists of AV products, that Virut uses in order to check if it is running in the controlled environment:

7FFA666E	CMP D	AX,0xEA	SS:[ESP+0x 66A6			patch_6
7FFA6673 7FFA6678 7FFA667A 7FFA667A 7FFA6681 7FFA6686 7FFA6686 7FFA6686 7FFA6686 7FFA6694 7FFA6694 7FFA6694	ntdll.770A604D					
7FFA6699 7FFA669B 7FFA669F 7FFA66A2 7FFA66A2 7FFA66A6 7FFA66A7 7FFA66A7 7FFA66A9 7FFA66A9	ntdll.770A604D					
EAX=005C2F	-18					
Address H	lex dump					ASCII
?FFA667E ? ?FFA668E ? ?FFA668E ? ?FFA668E ? ?FFA668E ? ?FFA668E ? ?FFA668E ? ?FFA667E ? ?FFA667E ? ?FFA672E ? </th <td>EA 005 FF 260 075 250 16 007 75 250 16 007 75 250 16 007 75 250 17 70 07 75 260 17 70 07 75 260 17 70 07 75 260 17 76 005 667 17 76 005 77 75 17 75 17</td> <td>$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$</td> <td>$\begin{array}{l} 000 \\ 5A3 \\ 000 \\ 000 \\ 02E \\ 030 \\ 030 \\ 04E \\ 030 \\ 04E \\ 050 \\ 04E \\ 050 \\ 04E \\ 050 \\$</td> <td>22 75 2C 83 83 80 92 62 84 65 73 62 74 65 66 77 74 65 66 73 74 65 600 77 631 75 264 665 641 62 69 74 651 75 73 00 661 62 69 74 651 75 73 00 661 62 69 74 651 75 74 60 676 74 60 75 665 67 74 60 676 74 60 67 665 67 74 60 67 74 60 67 665 67 74 60 67 64 65 67 73 60</td> <td>FF 824 0243 0243 0243 0243 0243 0243 0243 02</td> <td>ndowsupdate.wild erssecurity.thre atexpert.castlec ops.spamhaus.cps ecure.arcabit.em sisoft.sunbelt.s ecurecomputing.r ising.prevx.pcto ols.norman.k7com puting.ikarus.ha uri.hacksoft.gda ta.fortinet.ewid o.clamav.comodo. quickheal.avira. avast.esafe.ahnl ab.centralcomman d.drweb.grisoft. nod32.f-prot.jot ti.kaspersky.f-s ecure.computeras sociates.network associates.etrus t.panda.sophos.t rendmicro.mcafee .norton.symantec .defender.rootki t.malware.spywar e.virus.222v'.ä U%r.W L27'.;Hv @UMNUM.sC.:.u GIUS_t.GC?.uIFK</td>	EA 005 FF 260 075 250 16 007 75 250 16 007 75 250 16 007 75 250 17 70 07 75 260 17 70 07 75 260 17 70 07 75 260 17 76 005 667 17 76 005 77 75 17	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{l} 000 \\ 5A3 \\ 000 \\ 000 \\ 02E \\ 030 \\ 030 \\ 04E \\ 030 \\ 04E \\ 050 \\ 04E \\ 050 \\ 04E \\ 050 \\$	22 75 2C 83 83 80 92 62 84 65 73 62 74 65 66 77 74 65 66 73 74 65 600 77 631 75 264 665 641 62 69 74 651 75 73 00 661 62 69 74 651 75 73 00 661 62 69 74 651 75 74 60 676 74 60 75 665 67 74 60 676 74 60 67 665 67 74 60 67 74 60 67 665 67 74 60 67 64 65 67 73 60	FF 824 0243 0243 0243 0243 0243 0243 0243 02	ndowsupdate.wild erssecurity.thre atexpert.castlec ops.spamhaus.cps ecure.arcabit.em sisoft.sunbelt.s ecurecomputing.r ising.prevx.pcto ols.norman.k7com puting.ikarus.ha uri.hacksoft.gda ta.fortinet.ewid o.clamav.comodo. quickheal.avira. avast.esafe.ahnl ab.centralcomman d.drweb.grisoft. nod32.f-prot.jot ti.kaspersky.f-s ecure.computeras sociates.network associates.etrus t.panda.sophos.t rendmicro.mcafee .norton.symantec .defender.rootki t.malware.spywar e.virus.222v'.ä U%r.W L27'.;Hv @UMNUM.sC.:.u GIUS_t.GC?.uIFK

Apart from the rootkit, it contains the code responsible for communication with the CnC. For example, among the embedded strings we found IRC commands that suggest that IRC was part of Virut's communication:

I	7FFA3210	27	ØD	C6	85	BC	87	27	ØD	01	E8	C7	09	00	00	FF	95	'.Āð≝ç'.0RāĽ
I	7FFA3220	1A	23	27	0D	05	В8	88	00	00	8B	8D	79	18	27	0D	89	+#'.\$SŁ.ö2y†'.ë
I	7FFA3230	85	CØ	87	27	0D	6A	00	6B	C9	ØD	51	E8	ØB	00	00	00	đ⁺c'.j.k⊫.QR∂
I	7FFA3240	4A	4F	49	4E	20	23	2E	25	64	ØA	00	57	FF	95	4C	-7A	JOIN #.%d. W ĽLz
I	7FFA3250	27	ØD	83	C4	0C	50	57	53	E8	FB	00	00	00	85	CØ	ØF	'.ā−.PWSRúð Կ*
I	7FFA3260	8F	Ē2	00	00	00	Ē9	ĒĊ	00	00	00	8D	85	94	85	27	ØD	COUy2888'.
I	7FFA3270	50	FF	95	ØĀ	23	27	ØD	ØF	B7	95	9Ā	85	27	ØD	ØF	B7	P L.#'.*ELüd'.*E
I	7FFA3280	8D	96	85	27	ØD	ØF	B7	85	94	85	27	ØD	52	51	50	E8	21'd'.*Edöd'.RQPR
																		DSTAMP %d%02
I	7FFA32A0	64	25	30	32	64	ØĀ	57	FF	95	4C	7A	27	ØD	83	C4	14	d%02d.W ĽLz'.a−¶

List of command patterns:

PING NICK nrmbhoz PRIV JOIN #.%d DSTAMP %s%02d%02d There are also hardcoded addresses of the CnCs. Two servers are static and always occur in Virut samples (both of them are sinkholed by Polish CERT):

ilo.brenz.pl
ant.trenz.pl

But, we can also see the domains generated by the Virut's DGA:

									I	*										1
									1		-									1
									1											10
									}Č'huxwu											?e`?cxvg
									he.com.i											cb.com.y
									ixeli.co											mnaey.co
									m.nkawki											m.ftkbod
									.com.xrb		7140:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	69	77	71	.com.iwq
									uus.com.		7148:	65	79	6F	2E	63	6F	6D	00	eyo.com.
7150:	6D	61	76	65	71	69	2E	63	maveqi.c		7150:	69	78	65	6E	70	75	2E	63	ixenpu.c
									om.outxp		7158:	6F	6D	00	68	78	65	74	6D	om.hxetm
7160:	68	2E	63	6F	6D	00	75	67	h.com.ug		7160:	69	2E	63	6F	6D	00	79	64	i.com.yd
7168:	6A	6F	7A	62	2E	63	6F	6D	jozb.com		7168:	69	6C	6B	63	2E	63	6F	6D	ilkc.com
7170:	00	65	6E	66	61	64	77	2E	.enfadw.		7170:	00	7A	69	75	66	71	74	2E	.ziufqt.
7178:	63	6F	6D	00	77	69	75	6D	com.wium		7178:	63	6F	6D	00	75	61	65	69	com.uaei
7180:	62	73	2E	63	6F	6D	00	6B	bs.com.k		7180:	67	78	2E	63	6F	6D	00	62	gx.com.b
7188:	75	61	61	6F	64	2E	63	6F	uaaod.co		7188:	79	69	66	72	74	2E	63	6F	yifrt.co
7190:	6D	00	75	67	6F	67	6D	6A	m.ugogmj		7190:	6D	00	61	67	79	6A	65	76	[m.agyjev
7198:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	6E	65	61	.com.nea		7198:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	69	6B	6D	.com.ikm
71A0:	75	71	67	2E	63	6F	6D	00	uqg.com.		71A0:	62	68	6A	2E	63	6F	6D	00	bhj.com.
71A8:	75	79	6F	64	6D	61	2E	63	uyodma.c		71A8:	61	76	6D	63	65	61	2E	63	avmcea.c
71B0:	6F	6D	00	64	74	6C	65	69	om.dtlei		71B0:	6F	6D	00	6A	7A	72	75	78	om.jzrux
71B8:	63	2E	63	6F	6D	00	76	6C	c.com.vl		71B8:	75	2E	63	6F	6D	00	69	63	u.com.ic
71C0:	75	65	6E	76	2E	63	6F	6D	uenv.com		71C0:	72	65	75	65	2E	63	6F	6D	reue.com
71C8:	00	71	6B	6B	65	6E	75	2E	.qkkenu.		71C8:	00	6A	6F	69	69	6D	61	2E	.joiima.
71D0:	63	6F	6D	00	65	69	6C	64	com.eild		71D0:	63	6F	6D	00	62	6F	73	73	com.boss
71D8:	61	61	2E	63	6F	6D	00	64	aa.com.d		71D8:	75	71	2E	63	6F	6D	00	72	uq.com.r
71E0:	66	6A	62	74	69	2E	63	6F	fjbti.co	_	71E0:	67	6E	63	72	6B	2E	63	6F	gncrk.co
71E8:	6D	00	6B	63	61	78	66	68	m.kcaxfh		71E8:	6D	00	75	6C	78	71	6F	79	m.ulxqoy
71F0:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	65	62	65	.com.ebe		71F0:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	6F	65	74	.com.oet
71F8:	71	75	67	2E	63	6F	6D	00	qug.com.		71F8:	61	6D	65	2E	63	6F	6D	00	ame.com.
7200:	6A	61	71	76	72	6D	2E	63	jaqvrm.c		7200:	79	78	70	79	65	76	2E	63	lyxpyev.c
7208:	6F	6D	00	65	63	6F	6A	72	om.ecojr		7208:	6F	6D	00	78	67	6C	6F	77	om.xglow
7210:	6B	2E	63	6F	6D	00	77	79	k.com.wy		7210:	62	2E	63	6F	6D	00	6B	63	b.com.kc
7218:	73	74	6F	64	2E	63	6F	6D	stod.com		7218:	61	6C	61	69	2E	63	6F	6D	alai.com
7220:	00	75	66	79	6F	77	73	2E	.ufyows.		7220:	00	6A	75	71	6D	79	76	2E	l.juqmyv.
7228:	63	6F	6D	00	71	61	72	69	com.qari		7228:	63	6F	6D	00	75	72	6F	61	com.uroa
7230:	70	65	2E	63	6F	6D	00	76	pe.com.v		7230:	79	69	2E	63	6F	6D	00	65	yi.com.e
7238:	74	74	67	69	72	2E	63	6F	ttgir.co		7238:	62	72	7A	62	6F	2E	63	6F	brzbo.co
7240:	6D	00	6F	65	66	73	62	72	m.oefsbr		7240:	6D	00	68	7A	65	6F	66	78	m.hzeofx
7248:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	6D	73	79	.com.msy		7248:	2E	63	6F	6D	00	63	6A	65	.com.cje
7250:	65	65	63	2E	63	6F	6D	00	eec.com.		7250:	6B	66	6A	2E	63	6F	6D	00	kfj.com.
7258:	6F	75	6A	74	6E	72	2E	63	oujtnr.c		7258:	64	6D	63	61	65	74	2E	63	dmcaet.c
7260:	6F	6D	00	76	7A	6F	62	6C	om.vzobl		7260:	6F	6D	00	71	65	61	78	73	om.geaxs
7268:	7A	2E	63	6F	6D	00	6B	69	z.com.ki		7268:	75	2E	63	6F	6D	00	68	70	u.com.hp
7270:	71	77	61	65	2E	63	6F	6D	qwae.com											dzav.com
									.xautau.		7278:	00	6D	64	67	72	6F	6D	2E	.mdgrom.
7280:	63	6F	6D	00	69	79	66	73	com.iyfs	-	7280:	63	6F	6D	00	71	68	69	78	com.qhix
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While the code infecting the file mutates, the injected shellcode has a pretty consistent structure. If we compare dumps from two different processes, we find that most of the code is the same.

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Conclusion

Nowadays, such old viruses are mostly forgotten, but it doesn't mean that we are fully safe from them. Fortunately, most AV products can detect viruses like Virut by their signatures – but the people who decided not to use AV may still become their victims.

Even their command-and-controll infrastructure is dead, the old infectors can roam around. There are old servers in the world that are left infected with old viruses, such as Virut or MyDoom. On our honeypots, we regularly get spam that is being sent from such abandoned bots. Yet, it is unusual to encounter an old virus in wild sent by a modern-style drive-by attack. We never know how an old threat can get blended with a new one. This time we were lucky and the attack was simple, with a small reach.

Malwarebytes detects this DDoS bot binary as Trojan.Bayrob.

