CUJOAI

Botconf
April 2022

Evolution of the Sysrv mining-botnet

Reversing Golang Binaries with Ghidra

Dorka Palotay
Senior Threat Researcher, CUJO AI

Gyorgy Luptak
Junior Threat Researcher, CUJO AI

Who are we

Background

Gyorgy Luptak (@gyluptak):
- Junior Threat Researcher at CUJO AI
- BSc in Computer Science
- Currently pursuing an MSc in Computer Science, IT Security

Dorka Palotay (@pad0rka):
- Senior Threat Researcher at CUJO AI
- BSc in Applied Mathematics
- MSc in Security and Privacy – Advanced Cryptography
- Worked at financial and security companies as well
- Malware researcher and reverse engineer

Special thanks to Albert Zsigovits (@albertzsigovits) for his contribution to this research.

Why we did all this

The quest

Background:

- IoT/Linux malware research -> more and more malware families are written in Go
- Sysrv is a good example of this

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Issue:

- Reverse engineering Go binaries is challenging
  - Huge file size
  - Unusual string handling
  - No symbol names due to stripping
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Goal:

- Understanding Sysrv botnet evolution
- Making reverse engineering Go binaries with Ghidra easier

Result:

- Create our own scripts: https://github.com/getCUJO/ThreatIntel

Agenda

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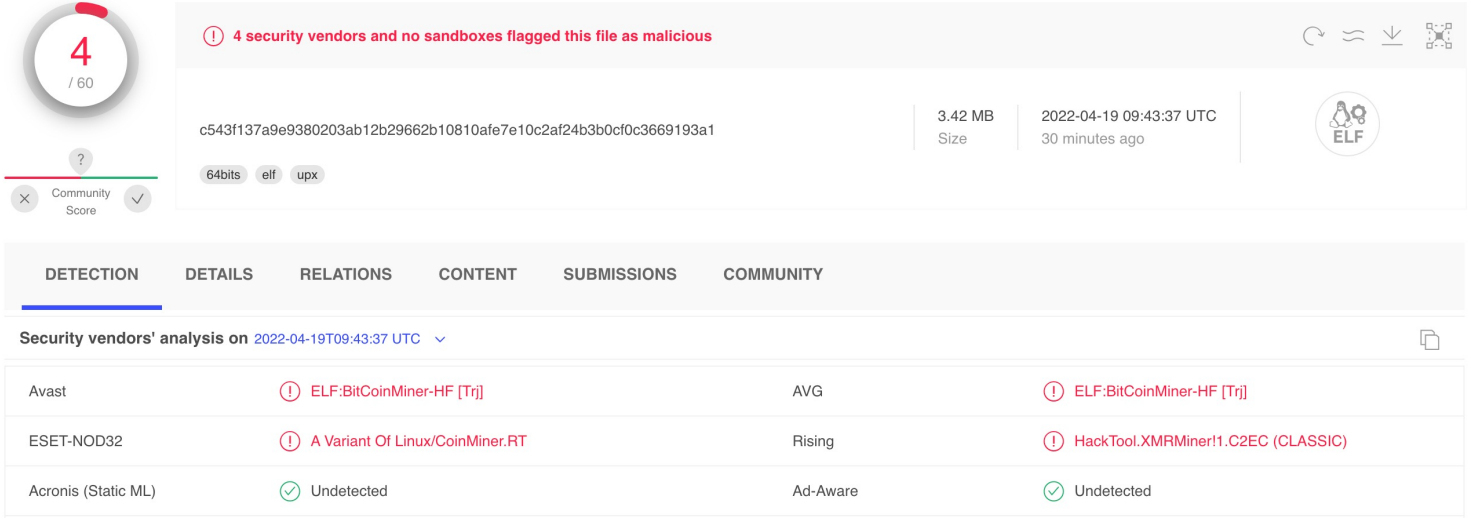
- The Sysrv botnet - https://cujo.com/the-sysrv-botnet-and-how-it-evolved/
  - General introduction
  - Downloader script
  - Malicious binary and used exploits
  - Mining and monetization
- Go binary analysis with Ghidra - https://cujo.com/reverse-engineering-go-binaries-with-ghidra/
  - Lost function names
  - String recovery
  - Data type recovery

The Sysrv botnet

Introduction

- First mentioned in December 2020 by multiple sources
- It is a worm and a cryptocurrency miner
- It stood out due to its use of Golang
- The botnet is distributed for both Linux and Windows environments
- Still active today
- In our analysis we were focusing on variants attacking Linux
- Name coming from the used filenames: sysrv, sysrvv, sys



The Sysrv botnet

The downloader script (Linux version)

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- Linux: ldr.sh, Windows: ldr.ps1
- First part of development from December 2020 to the end of February 2021
  - First version: hardcoded C2 and sysrv version, curl and wget to download the binary (different one for 32-, and 64-bit systems)
  - Quick expanding: kill other miners and processes with high CPU usage, removing/disabling system security, cron-based persistence

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- Second part from the end of February 2021 to December 2021
  - At the start: removed almost every functionality besides downloading the binary
  - Slow expansion from here: reintroduce some of the lost parts of the script
  - At first, it kills 'kthreaddi' process, then uses it as cryptominer, later replaced by 'kthreaddk'
  - New methods introduced: randomized sysrv version, install cron if not existing, spread via SSH, kill process listening on specific ports

The Sysrv botnet

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- Third part from 2022
  - Builds onto the previous version, but with lot of modifications
  - Low-level custom curl, wget-like code, replaces 'kthreaddk' by 'hezb', also downloads kthmimu.sh

The Sysrv botnet

The binaries

- 32- and 64-bit binaries
- We analyzed more than 100 ELF binaries
- Grouped them based on their package structures – 9 different groups
- *Go programs are organized into packages. A package is a collection of source files in the same directory that are compiled together. Functions, types, variables, and constants defined in one source file are visible to all other source files within the same package.*

```
> redress -pkg sys.x86_64_unp
Packages:
main
shell/exploit
shell/miner
shell/nu
shell/payload
shell/scanner
shell/scanner.(*Scanner).(shell/scanner
```

```
hello/controller
hello/exp
hello/nu
hello/scan
hello/scan.(*Scanner).(hello/scan
main
```

The Sysrv botnet

The binaries

- Packed with UPX
- The first obfuscated sample appeared at the end of March 2021
  - Used gobfuscate - https://github.com/unixpickle/gobfuscate
  - Package names were obfuscated

```
adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/aegcfimbndeabglkjjho
adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/bpmmbdkebhnagnakmbje
adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/efpdcgbhkocemnpjnnfo
adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/gbdgajdocapllhiljmoe
adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/gbdgajdocapllhiljmoe.(*Scanner).(adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/gbdgajdocapllhiljmoe
adojibpbhgpfdfnnlnjk/jemkgjopohlcdbjoccoe
main
```

- For later samples some of the function names were slightly obfuscated

```
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_11610).check
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_11610).exploit
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_11610).initialize
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_11610).port
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_12149).check
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_12149).exploit
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_12149).initialize
shell/exploit.(*cve_2017_12149).port
```

```
shell/exploit.(*da8317)._ca494
shell/exploit.(*da8317).check
shell/exploit.(*da8317).init
shell/exploit.(*da8317).run
shell/exploit.(*e39dc2).check
shell/exploit.(*e39dc2).init
shell/exploit.(*e39dc2).run
```

The Sysrv botnet

The exploits

- Primarily targeting Linux and Windows servers, not IoT devices
- Initial campaigns – small set of exploits
  - Apache Tomcat RCE – used by every sample
  - CVE-2020-14882 – Oracle WebLogic RCE – used by almost every sample
  - MySQL RCE – only used by the early samples
  - CVE-2018-1000861 – Jenkins RCE – used by almost every sample
- Latest exploits
  - CVE-2021-22204 – ExifTool RCE – published in January 2021, used by samples from November 2021
  - CVE-2021-3129 – Ignition RCE – published in January 2021, used by samples in March 2021
  - CVE-2022-22947 – Spring Cloud Gateway RCE – published in January 2022, used by samples from March 2022

The Sysrv botnet

The vulnerabilities exploited

Exploits with the corresponding CVE number:	Exploits without a CVE number:
CVE-2015-8562 – Joomla! RCE	Apache Flink RCE
CVE-2017-11610 – Supervisor XML-RPC server RCE	Apache Hadoop YARN ResourceManager Unauthenticated RCE
CVE-2017-12149 – Jboss RCE	Apache NiFi Api RCE
CVE-2017-3066 – Adobe ColdFusion RCE	Apache Tomcat RCE
CVE-2017-5638 – Apache Struts RCE	Jupyter Notebook RCE
CVE-2017-9841 – PHPUnit RCE	MySQL RCE
CVE-2018-1000861 – Jenkins RCE	Redis RCE
CVE-2018-7600 – Drupal RCE	SSH brute-force
CVE-2019-0193 – Apache Solr RCE	ThinkPHP RCE
CVE-2019-10758 – Mongo Express RCE	WordPress brute-force
CVE-2019-11581 – Atlassian Jira RCE	XXL-JOB Unauth RCE
CVE-2019-15107 – Webmin RCE	
CVE-2019-3396 – Atlassian Confluence RCE	
CVE-2019-7238 – Nexus Repository Manager RCE	
CVE-2019-9193 – PostgreSQL RCE	
CVE-2020-13942 – Apache Unomi RCE	
CVE-2020-14882 – Oracle WebLogic RCE	
CVE-2020-16846 – Saltstack RCE	
CVE-2020-9496 – Apache OFBiz RCE	
CVE-2021-22204 – ExifTool RCE	
CVE-2021-3129 – Ignition RCE	
CVE-2022-22947 – Spring Cloud Gateway RCE	

The Sysrv botnet

The miner

- Monero cryptocurrency mining
- Uses the open-source XMRig project to mine Monero
- Details extracted from config files
- Mining address:
  `49dnvYkWkZNPrDj3KF8fR1BHLBfiVArU6Hu61N9gtrZWgbRptntwht5JUrXX1ZeofwPwC6fXNxPZfGjNEChXttwWE3WGURa`
- Mining pools:
  - pool.minexmr.com:5555
  - xmr.f2pool.com:13531
  - xmr-eu1.nanopool.org:14444
  - xmr-eu2.nanopool.org:14444
  - xmr-asia1.nanopool.org:14444
  - 194.145.227.21:5443

```
Usage: xmrig [OPTIONS]

Network:
  -o, --url=URL                 URL of mining server
  -a, --algo=ALGO               mining algorithm https://xmrig.com/docs/algorithms
      --coin=COIN               specify coin instead of algorithm
  -u, --user=USERNAME           username for mining server
  -p, --pass=PASSWORD           password for mining server
  -O, --userpass=U:P            username:password pair for mining server
  -x, --proxy=HOST:PORT         connect through a SOCKS5 proxy
  -k, --keepalive               send keepalived packet for prevent timeout (needs pool support)
      --nicehash                enable nicehash.com support
      --rig-id=ID               rig identifier for pool-side statistics (needs pool support)
      --tls                     enable SSL/TLS support (needs pool support)
      --tls-fingerprint=HEX     pool TLS certificate fingerprint for strict certificate pinning
      --daemon                  use daemon RPC instead of pool for solo mining
      --daemon-poll-interval=N  daemon poll interval in milliseconds (default: 1000)
      --self-select=URL         self-select block templates from URL
  -r, --retries=N               number of times to retry before switch to backup server (default: 5)
  -R, --retry-pause=N           time to pause between retries (default: 5)
      --user-agent              set custom user-agent string for pool
      --donate-level=N          donate level, default 1%% (1 minute in 100 minutes)
      --donate-over-proxy=N     control donate over xmrig-proxy feature
```

The Sysrv botnet

The miner

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December 2020

Miner is embedded as gzip

Mining pool: MineXMR

Miner is in a separate file

F2Pool is added

February 2021

Miner is embedded as gzip

Nanopool is added

March 2021

Miner is embedded as ELF

New Monero address – potential ties to WatchDog

July 2021

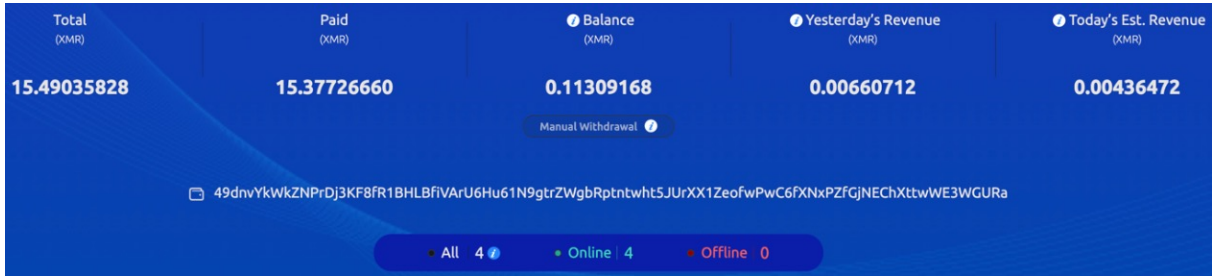
Access to mining pool through proxy

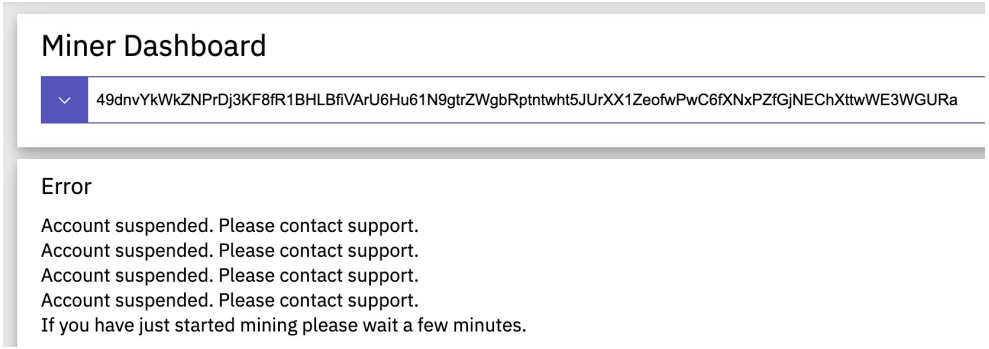
194.145.227.21:5443

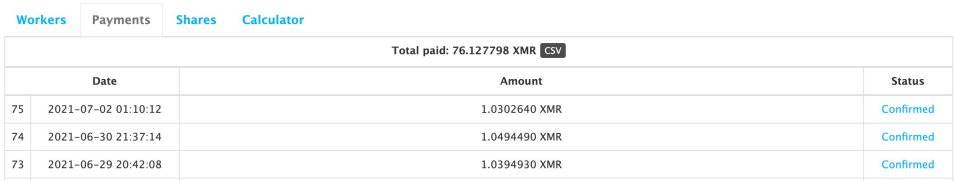
The Sysrv botnet

Monetization

- f2pool
  - Started in November 2020
  - 15 XMR (3900 USD)
  - Closed XMR mining pool November 2021
  - Details from September 2021
- MINEXMR
  - Suspended account
- Nanopool
  - 76 XMR (20000 USD)
  - First payment: 28 February 2021
  - Last payment: 2 July 2021







Golang

Introduction

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- Go (also called Golang) is an open source programming language
- Designed by Google in 2007
- Made available to the public in 2012
- Current version is Go 1.18
- https://golang.org/

- Go comes out top of the languages most developers want to learn[1]
- Advantages:
  - Simple and clear documentation
  - Easy to learn, ease of coding
  - Compiled language (faster than Python)
  - Cross compiling (Windows, Linux, macOS)
  - Scalability and concurrency
  - Garbage collection – automatic memory management

1: https://www.zdnet.com/article/developers-say-googles-go-is-most-sought-after-programming-language-of-2020/

Static linking

Big Bad Binaries

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- Go binaries are statically linked by default
- All the necessary libraries are included in the executable image
- No dependency issues
- Large size
    - Difficult malware distribution
    - Anti – virus products have difficulty to detect
    - Reverse engineering can be more time consuming

Hello World - Unstripped

C vs Go

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- C

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    printf("Hello, World!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

gcc -o world_c world.c

ELF 64-bit LSB shared object,
x86-64, version 1 (SYSV),
dynamically linked,
not stripped

size: 16,3 kB

- Go

```go
package main

import "fmt"

func main(){
    fmt.Printf("Hello, World!\n")
}
```

go build -o world_go world.go

ELF 64-bit LSB executable,
x86-64, version 1 (SYSV),
statically linked,
not stripped

size: 2,0 MB

Stripped Binaries

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- Discard debugging symbols
- Reduced size
- No names for routines and variables
- More difficult debugging and reverse engineering
- Malware files are usually stripped

Hello World - Stripped

C vs Go

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- C

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    printf("Hello, World!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

gcc -o world_c_strip **-s** world.c

ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, **stripped**

size: 14,1 kB

- Go

```go
package main

import "fmt"

func main(){
    fmt.Printf("Hello, World!\n")
}
```

go build -o world_go_strip – **ldflags "-s"** world.go

ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), statically linked, **stripped**

size: 1,3 MB

Sysrv

Example files

- sys.x86_64
  - UPX packed
  - SHA256 = f719736bb794d9a2a4fc3574391f34920130709b659231003a6fdcf34ecf68ec

```
>file sys.x86_64
sys.x86_64: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV),
statically linked, no section header
>du -sh sys.x86_64
3.4M    sys.x86_64
```

- sys.x86_64_unp
  - Unpacked
  - SHA256 = 5190dda119756910f41646609def181b7549fbf14cd761f3053721500af0ead3

```
>file sys.x86_64_unp
sys.x86_64_unp: ELF 64-bit LSB executable, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV),
statically linked, Go BuildID=sF5Bz1D5uVPCLjVKpdBf/1QDqnhkp7syX17keVc
4J/BV4bObV0TkJmPTvRB_Qg/PlxO62auYob7RBxzjfpa, stripped
>du -sh sys.x86_64_unp
12M     sys.x86_64_unp
```

Recover function names

Function list

- 3829 function recognized by Ghidra
- No proper function names
- Not helpful in reverse engineering

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Functions - 3829 items

Name	Location	Fu...	Fun...
entry	004554a0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_00401150	00401140	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_004011b0	004011c0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_00451d00	00451cf0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048ec80	0048f950	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048ed60	0048f960	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048eeb0	0048f970	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048ef60	0048fb10	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048f100	0048fb20	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0051b730	0051b7f0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0055d7b0	0055d7a0	thu...	5
FUN_00401000	00401000	und...	311
FUN_00401150	00401150	und...	27
FUN_004011b0	004011b0	und...	15
FUN_00401350	00401350	und...	92
FUN_004013b0	004013b0	und...	281
FUN_004014d0	004014d0	und...	283
FUN_004016d0	004016d0	und...	384
FUN_00401850	00401850	und...	380
FUN_00401a20	00401a20	und...	25
FUN_00401a60	00401a60	und...	44
FUN_00401cc0	00401cc0	und...	310
FUN_00401e00	00401e00	und...	314
FUN_00401f40	00401f40	und...	366
FUN_004020b0	004020b0	und...	61
FUN_004020f0	004020f0	und...	75
FUN_00402140	00402140	und...	82
FUN_004021a0	004021a0	und...	111
FUN_00402210	00402210	und...	369
FUN_00402390	00402390	und...	141
FUN_00402420	00402420	und...	412
FUN_004025c0	004025c0	und...	247
FUN_004026c0	004026c0	und...	286

Recover function names

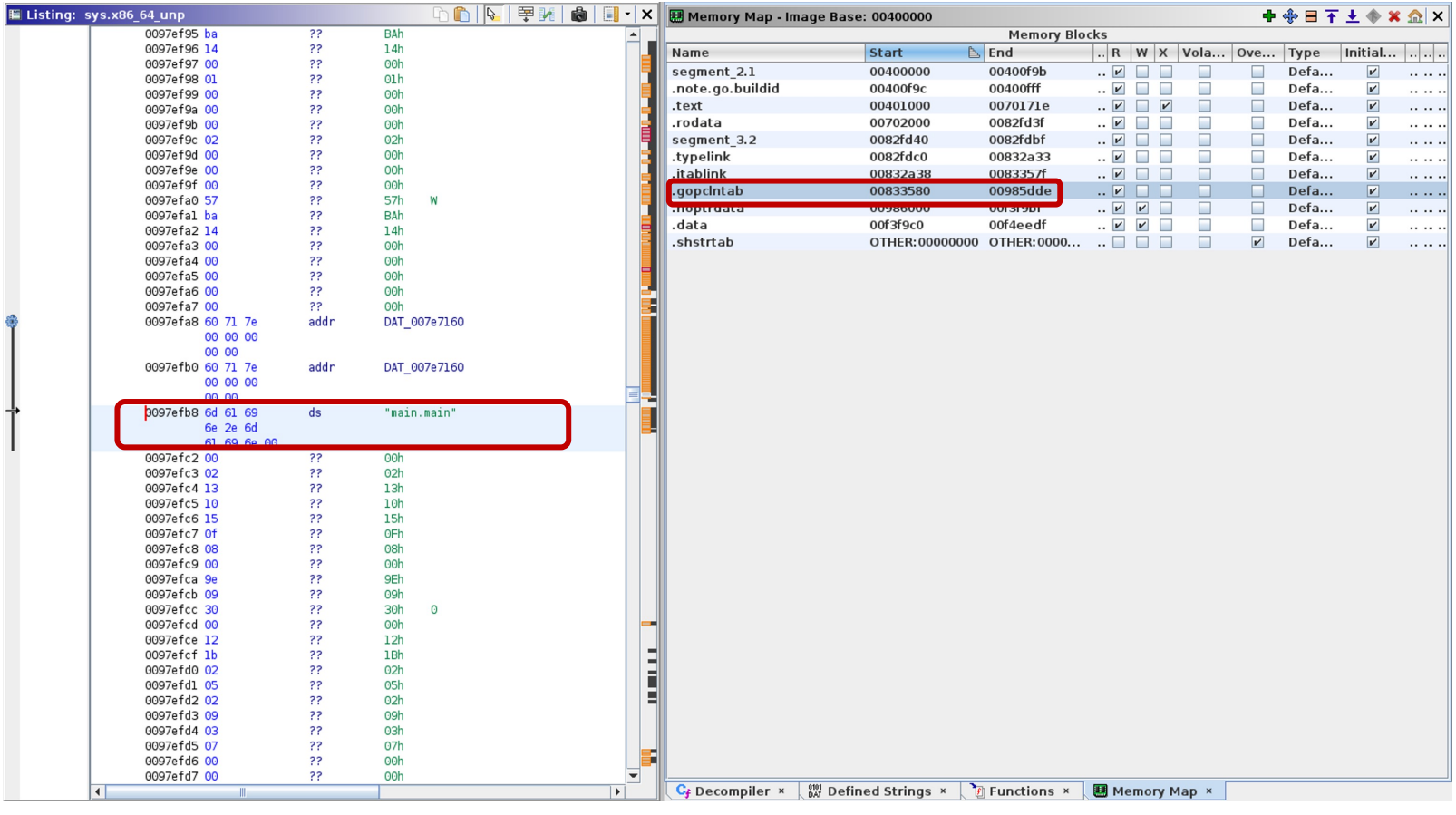
Find the strings

- Function name strings are present in the binary
- Redress – tool for analyzing stripped Go binaries
  https://github.com/goretk/redress

```
>./redress -src sys.x86_64_unp
Package main: /Users/k/go/src/shell
File: <autogenerated>
        init Lines: 1 to 1 (0)
File: init.go
        init0 Lines: 11 to 18 (7)
File: main.go
        main Lines: 8 to 10 (2)
Package shell/scanner: /Users/k/go/src/shell/scanner
File: <autogenerated>
        init Lines: 1 to 32 (31)
File: scanner.go
        init0 Lines: 14 to 20 (6)
        (*Scanner)Get Lines: 20 to 30 (10)
        NewScanner Lines: 30 to 39 (9)
        (*Scanner)tcpScan Lines: 39 to 66 (27)
        (*Scanner).tcpScanfunc1 Lines: 47 to 69 (22)
        (*Scanner)Scan Lines: 66 to 112 (46)
        (*Scanner).Scanfunc1 Lines: 69 to 69 (0)
        RandIp Lines: 112 to 140 (28)
File: scanner_unix.go
        (*Scanner)initSyn Lines: 38 to 56 (18)
        (*Scanner)synSan Lines: 56 to 81 (25)
        (*Scanner).synSanfunc1 Lines: 58 to 66 (8)
        getLAddr Lines: 81 to 96 (15)
        (*Scanner)sendSynPkt Lines: 96 to 125 (29)
        to4byte Lines: 125 to 168 (43)
        NewTCPHeader Lines: 168 to 193 (25)
        (*TCPHeader)Marshal Lines: 193 to 230 (37)
        csum Lines: 230 to 241 (11)
```

Recover function names

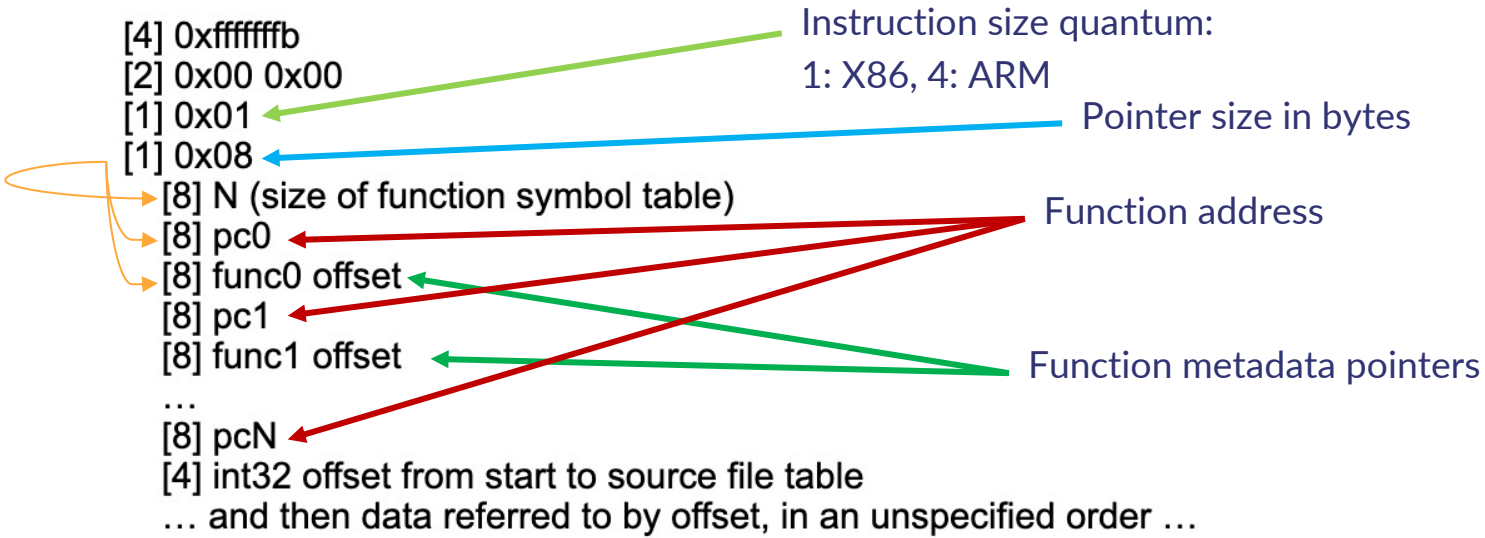
pclntab



Recover function names

pclntab

- Detailed documentation of pclntab[1] is available

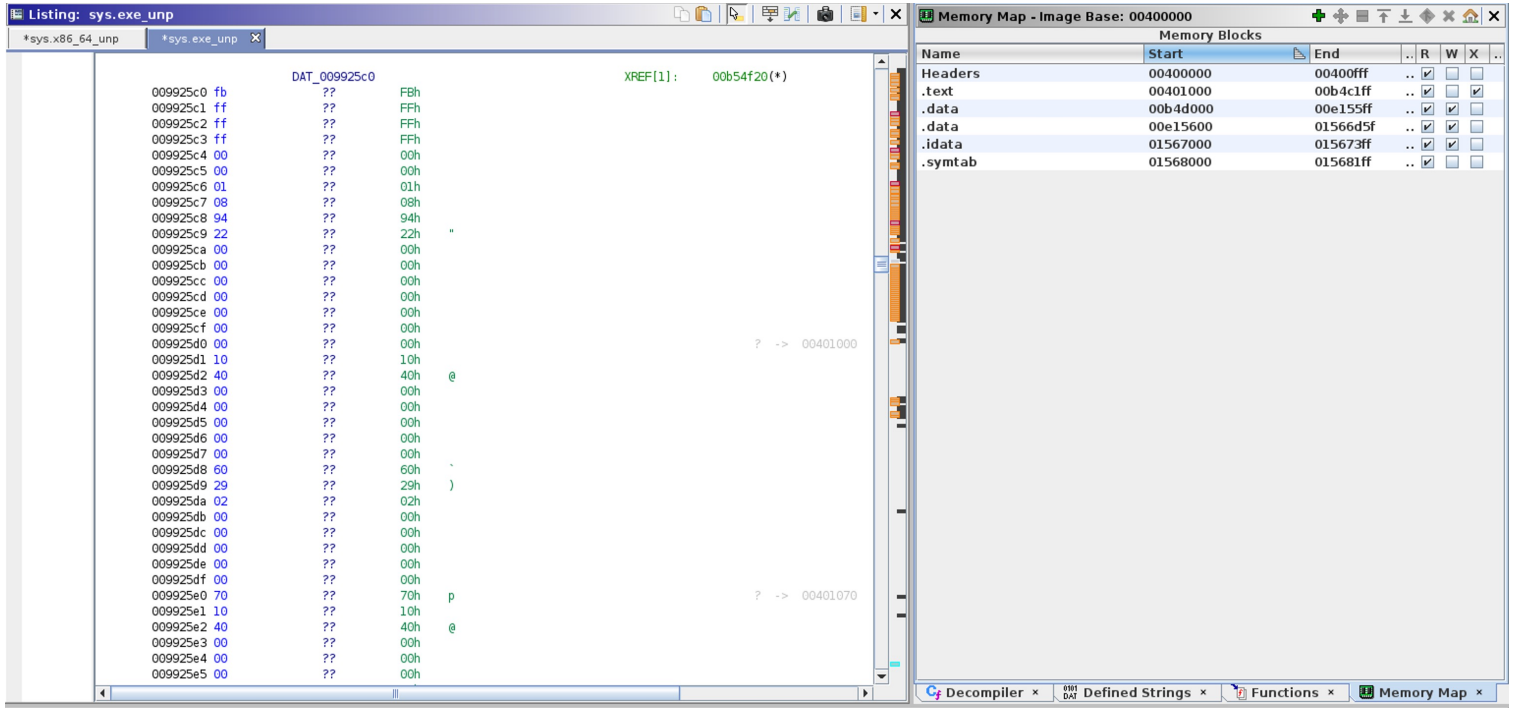


1: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lyPIbmsYbXnpNj57a261hgOYVpNRcgydurVQIyZOz_o/pub

Recover function names

pclntab in Windows

- Not a separate section -> Look for the structure



Binary: unpacked sys.exe (03f5f4470bc9cdeb62c3afecba326f3edf2c1ca46063490dffd5a3cede569bad)

Recover function names

pclntab

- Function metadata

```
struct        Func
{
        uintptr        entry;   // start pc
        int32 name;             // name (offset to C string)
        int32 args;             // size of arguments passed to function
        int32 frame;            // size of function frame, including saved caller PC
        int32        pcsp;                  // pcsp table (offset to pcvalue table)
        int32        pcfile;            // pcfile table (offset to pcvalue table)
        int32        pcln;                  // pcln table (offset to pcvalue table)
        int32        nfuncdata;           // number of entries in funcdata list
        int32        npcdata;            // number of entries in pcdata list
};
```

Recover function names

pclntab (from go 1.16 and go 1.18)

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```
// pcHeader holds data used by the pclntab lookups.
type pcHeader struct {
        magic          uint32  // 0xFFFFFFFA
        pad1, pad2     uint8   // 0,0
        minLC          uint8   // min instruction size
        ptrSize        uint8   // size of a ptr in bytes
        nfunc          int     // number of functions in the module
        nfiles         uint    // number of entries in the file tab
        funcnameOffset uintptr // offset to the funcnametab variable from pcHeader
        cuOffset       uintptr // offset to the cutab variable from pcHeader
        filetabOffset  uintptr // offset to the filetab variable from pcHeader
        pctabOffset    uintptr // offset to the pctab variable from pcHeader
        pclnOffset     uintptr // offset to the pclntab variable from pcHeader
}
```

```
// pcHeader holds data used by the pclntab lookups.
type pcHeader struct {
        magic          uint32  // 0xFFFFFFF0
        pad1, pad2     uint8   // 0,0
        minLC          uint8   // min instruction size
        ptrSize        uint8   // size of a ptr in bytes
        nfunc          int     // number of functions in the module
        nfiles         uint    // number of entries in the file tab
        textStart      uintptr // base for function entry PC offsets in this module, equal to
        funcnameOffset uintptr // offset to the funcnametab variable from pcHeader
        cuOffset       uintptr // offset to the cutab variable from pcHeader
        filetabOffset  uintptr // offset to the filetab variable from pcHeader
        pctabOffset    uintptr // offset to the pctab variable from pcHeader
        pclnOffset     uintptr // offset to the pclntab variable from pcHeader
}
```

Recover function names

pclntab (from go 1.16 and go 1.18)

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```
const (
        go12magic  = 0xfffffffb
        go116magic = 0xfffffffa
        go118magic = 0xfffffff0
)
```

```
// parsePclnTab parses the pclntab, setting the version.
func (t *LineTable) parsePclnTab() {
```

```
// Check header: 4-byte magic, two zeros, pc quantum, pointer size.
if len(t.Data) < 16 || t.Data[4] != 0 || t.Data[5] != 0 ||
        (t.Data[6] != 1 && t.Data[6] != 2 && t.Data[6] != 4) || // pc quantum
        (t.Data[7] != 4 && t.Data[7] != 8) { // pointer size
        return
}

var possibleVersion version
leMagic := binary.LittleEndian.Uint32(t.Data)
beMagic := binary.BigEndian.Uint32(t.Data)
switch {
case leMagic == go12magic:
        t.binary, possibleVersion = binary.LittleEndian, ver12
case beMagic == go12magic:
        t.binary, possibleVersion = binary.BigEndian, ver12
case leMagic == go116magic:
        t.binary, possibleVersion = binary.LittleEndian, ver116
case beMagic == go116magic:
        t.binary, possibleVersion = binary.BigEndian, ver116
case leMagic == go118magic:
        t.binary, possibleVersion = binary.LittleEndian, ver118
case beMagic == go118magic:
        t.binary, possibleVersion = binary.BigEndian, ver118
default:
        return
}
t.version = possibleVersion
```

Recover function names

Idea

Function name recovery steps:

- Locate pclntab structure
- Extract function addresses
- Find function name offsets

```
//
// .gopclntab
// SHT_PROGBITS  [0x833580 - 0x985dde]
// ram:00833580-ram:00985dde
//

DAT_00833580

00833580 fb ??  FBh
00833581 ff ??  FFh
00833582 ff ??  FFh
00833583 ff ??  FFh
00833584 00 ??  00h
00833585 00 ??  00h
00833586 01 ??  01h
00833587 08 ??  08h
00833588 11 ??  11h
00833589 1b ??  1Bh
0083358a 00 ??  00h
0083358b 00 ??  00h
0083358c 00 ??  00h
0083358d 00 ??  00h
0083358e 00 ??  00h
0083358f 00 ??  00h
00833590 00 ??  00h
00833591 10 ??  10h
00833592 40 ??  40h  @
00833593 00 ??  00h
```

```
undefined FUN_00701680()
undefined       AL:1          <RETURN>
undefined8      Stack[-0x8]:8 local_8

FUN_00701680
00701680 64 48 8b 0c 25 f8 ff ff ff   MOV  RCX,qword ptr FS:[0xfffffff8]
00701689 48 3b 61 10                  CMP  RSP,qword ptr [RCX + 0x10]
0070168d 76 1a                        JBE  LAB_007016a9
0070168f 48 83 ec 08                  SUB  RSP,0x8
00701693 48 89 2c 24                  MOV  qword ptr [RSP]=>local_8,RBP
00701697 48 8d 2c 24                  LEA  RBP=>local_8,[RSP]
0070169b e8 a0 d4 fe ff               CALL FUN_006eeb40
007016a0 48 8b 2c 24                  MOV  RBP=>local_8,qword ptr [RSP]
007016a4 48 83 c4 08                  ADD  RSP,0x8
007016a8 c3                           RET
```

```
0084e680 80 ?? 80h
0084e681 16 ?? 16h
0084e682 70 ?? 70h  p
0084e683 00 ?? 00h
0084e684 00 ?? 00h
0084e685 00 ?? 00h
0084e686 00 ?? 00h
0084e687 00 ?? 00h
0084e688 f8 ?? F8h
0084e689 b9 ?? B9h
0084e68a 14 ?? 14h
0084e68b 00 ?? 00h
0084e68c 00 ?? 00h
0084e68d 00 ?? 00h
0084e68e 00 ?? 00h
0084e68f 00 ?? 00h
```

0x833580 + 0x14B9F8 = 0x97EF78

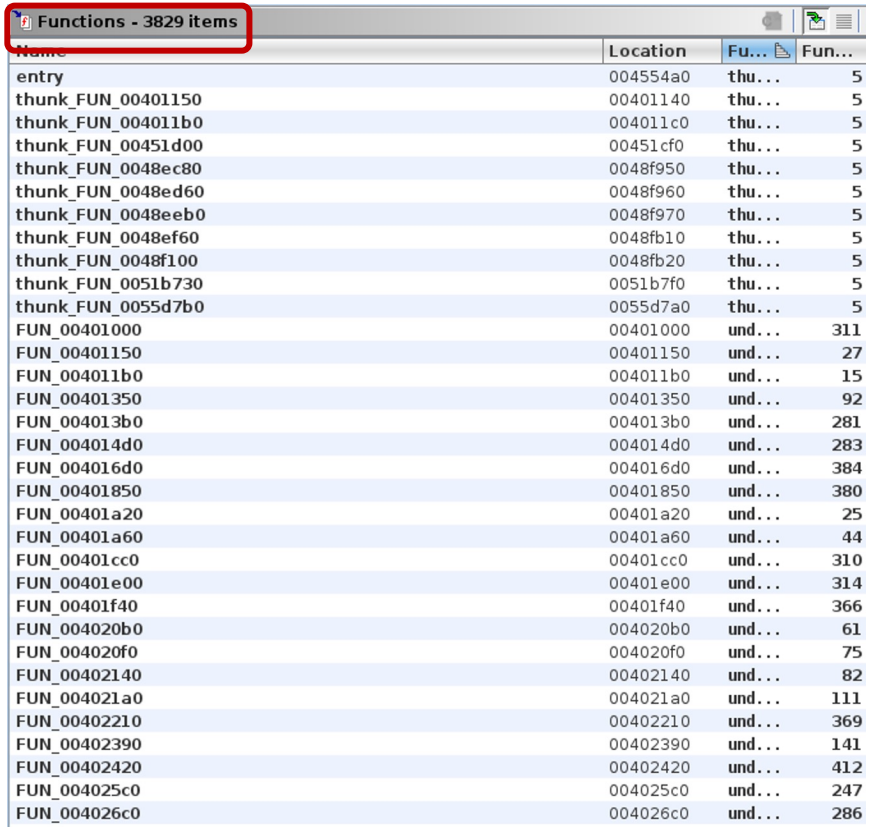
```
0097ef78 80 ?? 80h
0097ef79 16 ?? 16h
0097ef7a 70 ?? 70h  p
0097ef7b 00 ?? 00h
0097ef7c 00 ?? 00h
0097ef7d 00 ?? 00h
0097ef7e 00 ?? 00h
0097ef7f 00 ?? 00h
0097ef80 38 ?? 38h  8
0097ef81 ba ?? BAh
0097ef82 14 ?? 14h
0097ef83 00 ?? 00h
0097ef84 00 ?? 00h
0097ef85 00 ?? 00h
0097ef86 00 ?? 00h
0097ef87 00 ?? 00h
```

0x833580 + 0x14BA38 = 0x97EFB8

```
0097efb8 6d 61 69 6e 2e 6d 61 69 6e 00   ds   "main.main"
```

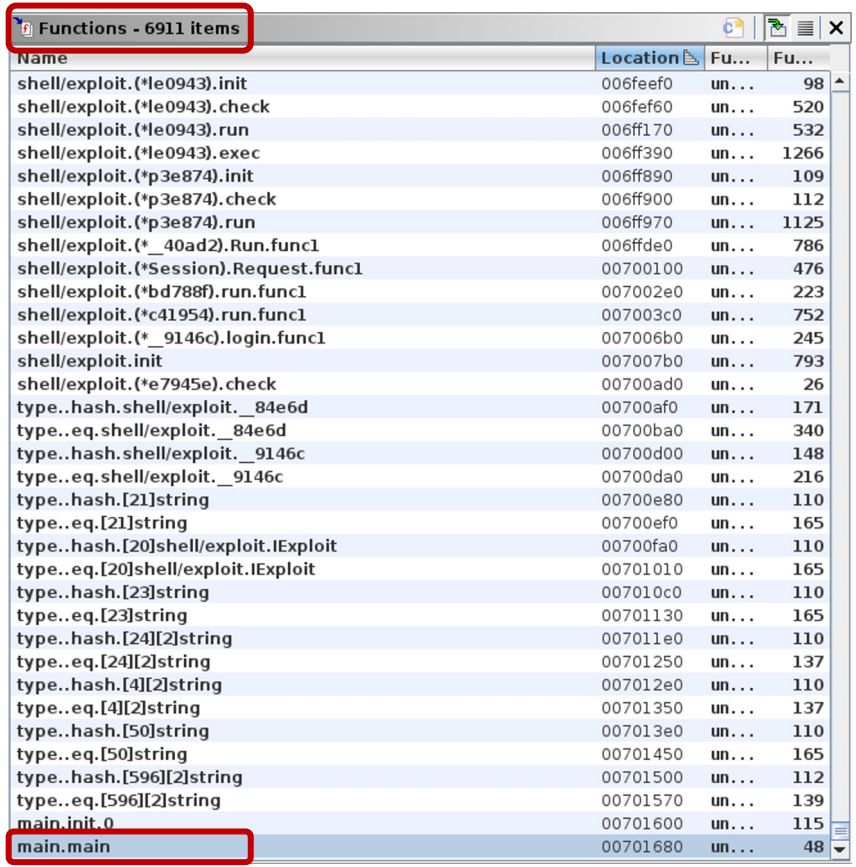
Recover function names

Executing our script



Functions - 3829 items

Name	Location	Fu...	Fun...
entry	004554a0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_00401150	00401140	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_004011b0	004011c0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_00451d00	00451cf0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048ec80	0048f950	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048ed60	0048f960	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048eeb0	0048f970	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048ef60	0048fb10	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0048f100	0048fb20	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0051b730	0051b7f0	thu...	5
thunk_FUN_0055d7b0	0055d7a0	thu...	5
FUN_00401000	00401000	und...	311
FUN_00401150	00401150	und...	27
FUN_004011b0	004011b0	und...	15
FUN_00401350	00401350	und...	92
FUN_004013b0	004013b0	und...	281
FUN_004014d0	004014d0	und...	283
FUN_004016d0	004016d0	und...	384
FUN_00401850	00401850	und...	380
FUN_00401a20	00401a20	und...	25
FUN_00401a60	00401a60	und...	44
FUN_00401cc0	00401cc0	und...	310
FUN_00401e00	00401e00	und...	314
FUN_00401f40	00401f40	und...	366
FUN_004020b0	004020b0	und...	61
FUN_004020f0	004020f0	und...	75
FUN_00402140	00402140	und...	82
FUN_004021a0	004021a0	und...	111
FUN_00402210	00402210	und...	369
FUN_00402390	00402390	und...	141
FUN_00402420	00402420	und...	412
FUN_004025c0	004025c0	und...	247
FUN_004026c0	004026c0	und...	286



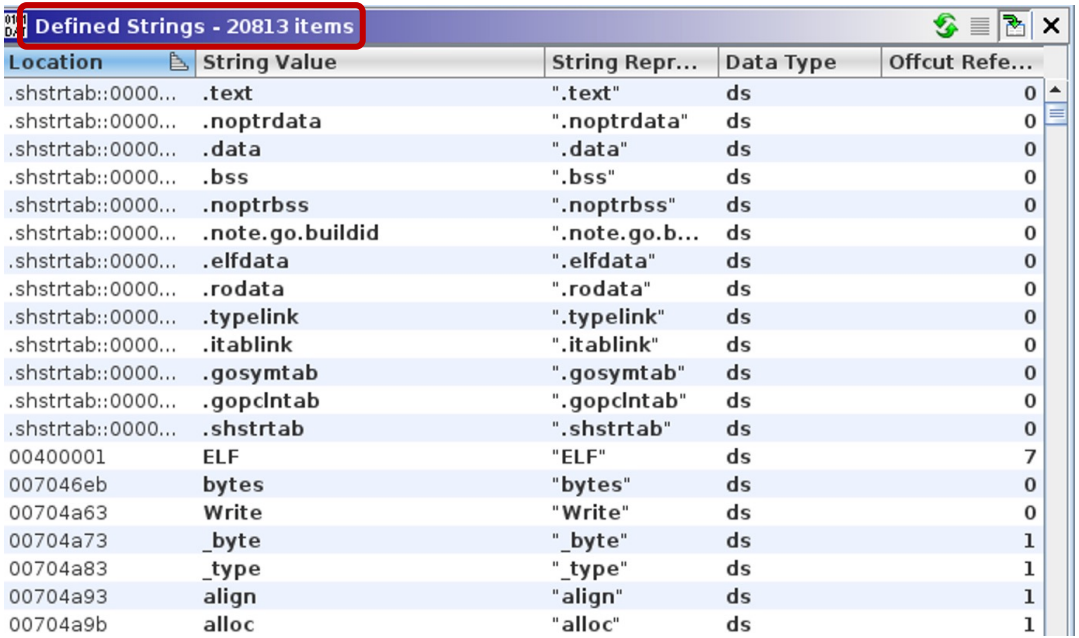
Functions - 6911 items

Name	Location	Fu...	Fu...
shell/exploit.(*le0943).init	006feef0	un...	98
shell/exploit.(*le0943).check	006fef60	un...	520
shell/exploit.(*le0943).run	006ff170	un...	532
shell/exploit.(*le0943).exec	006ff390	un...	1266
shell/exploit.(*p3e874).init	006ff890	un...	109
shell/exploit.(*p3e874).check	006ff900	un...	112
shell/exploit.(*p3e874).run	006ff970	un...	1125
shell/exploit.(*__40ad2).Run.func1	006ffde0	un...	786
shell/exploit.(*Session).Request.func1	00700100	un...	476
shell/exploit.(*bd788f).run.func1	007002e0	un...	223
shell/exploit.(*c41954).run.func1	007003c0	un...	752
shell/exploit.(*__9146c).login.func1	007006b0	un...	245
shell/exploit.init	007007b0	un...	793
shell/exploit.(*e7945e).check	00700ad0	un...	26
type..hash.shell/exploit.__84e6d	00700af0	un...	171
type..eq.shell/exploit.__84e6d	00700ba0	un...	340
type..hash.shell/exploit.__9146c	00700d00	un...	148
type..eq.shell/exploit.__9146c	00700da0	un...	216
type..hash.[21]string	00700e80	un...	110
type..eq.[21]string	00700ef0	un...	165
type..hash.[20]shell/exploit.IExploit	00700fa0	un...	110
type..eq.[20]shell/exploit.IExploit	00701010	un...	165
type..hash.[23]string	007010c0	un...	110
type..eq.[23]string	00701130	un...	165
type..hash.[24][2]string	007011e0	un...	110
type..eq.[24][2]string	00701250	un...	137
type..hash.[4][2]string	007012e0	un...	110
type..eq.[4][2]string	00701350	un...	137
type..hash.[50]string	007013e0	un...	110
type..eq.[50]string	00701450	un...	165
type..hash.[596][2]string	00701500	un...	112
type..eq.[596][2]string	00701570	un...	139
main.init.0	00701600	un...	115
main.main	00701680	un...	48

Strings in Ghidra

Go

- 20813 defined strings in Ghidra
- Hard to spot interesting ones
- Do we see everything?



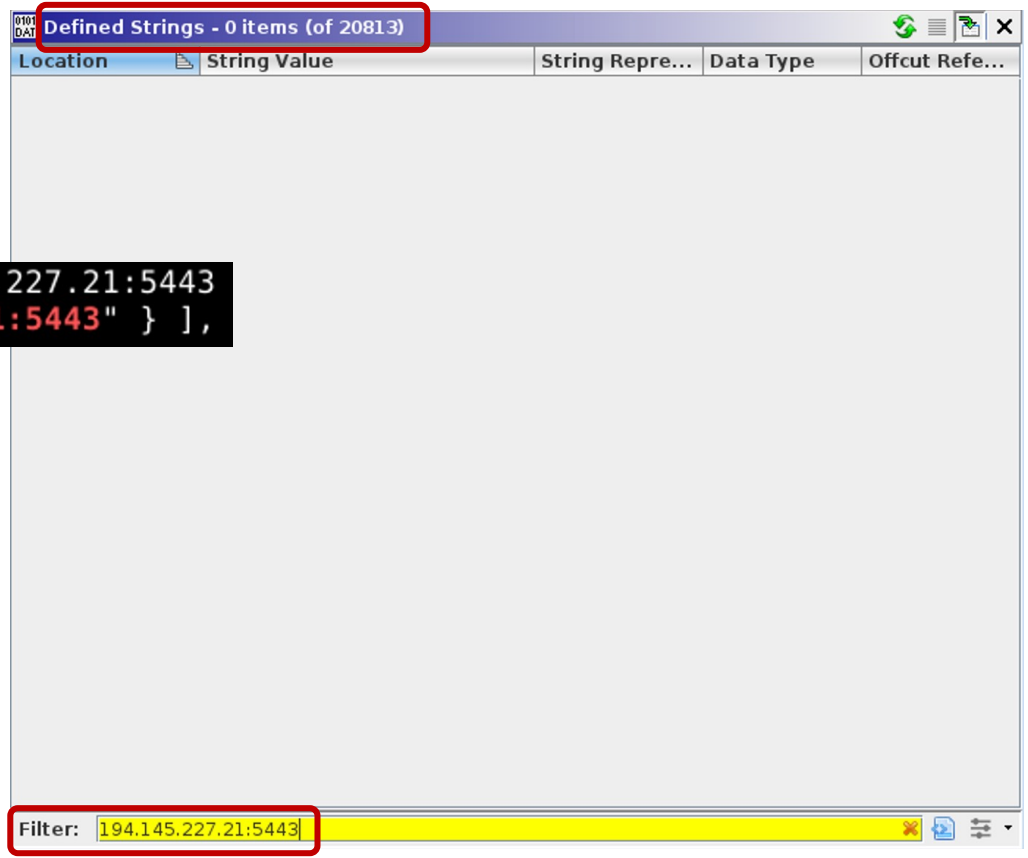
Location	String Value	String Repr...	Data Type	Offcut Refe...
.shstrtab::0000...	.text	".text"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.noptrdata	".noptrdata"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.data	".data"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.bss	".bss"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.noptrbss	".noptrbss"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.note.go.buildid	".note.go.b..."	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.elfdata	".elfdata"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.rodata	".rodata"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.typelink	".typelink"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.itablink	".itablink"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.gosymtab	".gosymtab"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.gopclntab	".gopclntab"	ds	0
.shstrtab::0000...	.shstrtab	".shstrtab"	ds	0
00400001	ELF	"ELF"	ds	7
007046eb	bytes	"bytes"	ds	0
00704a63	Write	"Write"	ds	0
00704a73	_byte	"_byte"	ds	1
00704a83	_type	"_type"	ds	1
00704a93	align	"align"	ds	1
00704a9b	alloc	"alloc"	ds	1

Strings in Ghidra

Go

- Search for mining pool URL: 194.145.227.21:5443
- strings can find it
- Ghidra cannot define

```
>strings sys.x86_64_unp | grep 194.145.227.21:5443
    "pools": [ { "url": "194.145.227.21:5443" } ],
```



String Representation

C vs Go

CUJOAI

C

- sequence of characters terminated with a null character

Go

- sequence of bytes with a fixed length
- not null terminated
- str – sequence of bytes
- len – number of bytes
- https://golang.org/src/runtime/string.go
- Large string blobs from concatenated strings until null character
- Ghidra has a hard time defining strings in Go binaries

```
type stringStruct struct {
        str unsafe.Pointer
        len int
}
```

Idea: help Ghidra to find string structures

- Static vs dynamic allocation
- Per architecture (different instruction set)
- Multiple solution within one architecture
- Possible changes per Go version

Dynamically allocated string structure

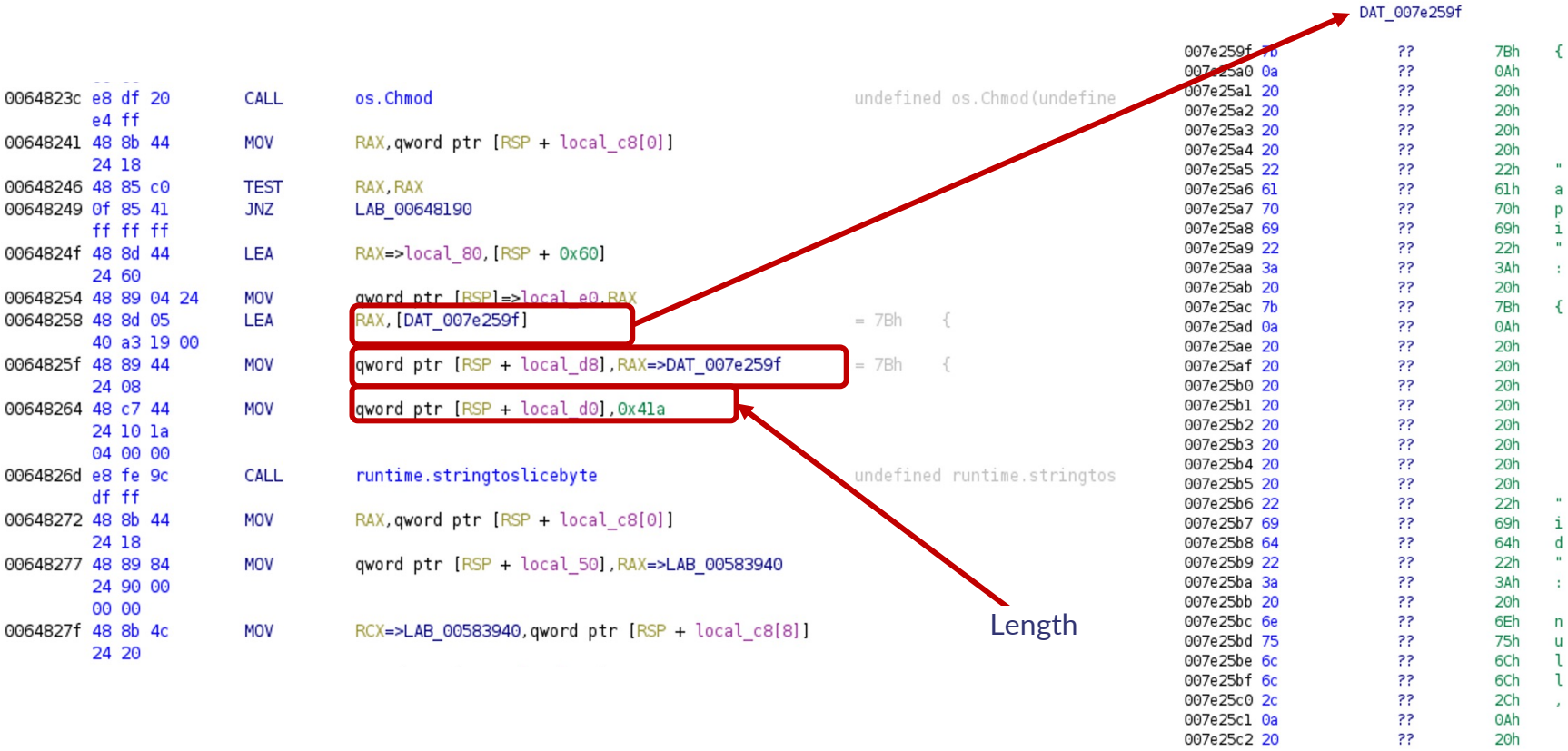
x86

- String structures can be allocated runtime
- Several different scenarios
- Let's take a look at the shell/miner.xmrRun function

```
0064823c e8 df 20 e4 ff    CALL    os.Chmod                                undefined os.Chmod(undefine
00648241 48 8b 44 24 18    MOV     RAX,qword ptr [RSP + local_c8[0]]
00648246 48 85 c0          TEST    RAX,RAX
00648249 0f 85 41 ff ff ff JNZ     LAB_00648190
0064824f 48 8d 44 24 60    LEA     RAX=>local_80,[RSP + 0x60]
00648254 48 89 04 24       MOV     qword ptr [RSP]=>local_e0,RAX
00648258 48 8d 05 40 a3 19 00 LEA  RAX,[DAT_007e259f]                      = 7Bh    {
0064825f 48 89 44 24 08    MOV     qword ptr [RSP + local_d8],RAX=>DAT_007e259f  = 7Bh    {
00648264 48 c7 44 24 10 1a 04 00 00 MOV  qword ptr [RSP + local_d0],0x41a
0064826d e8 fe 9c df ff    CALL    runtime.stringtoslicebyte               undefined runtime.stringtos
00648272 48 8b 44 24 18    MOV     RAX,qword ptr [RSP + local_c8[0]]
00648277 48 89 84 24 90 00 00 00 MOV  qword ptr [RSP + local_50],RAX=>LAB_00583940
0064827f 48 8b 4c 24 20    MOV     RCX=>LAB_00583940,qword ptr [RSP + local_c8[8]]
```

Dynamically allocated string structure

x86



Dynamically allocated string structure

x86

- Search for these instructions and define strings

```
#x86
#LEA REG, [STRING_ADDRESS]
#MOV [ESP + ..], REG
#MOV [ESP + ..], STRING_SIZE
```

```
08233bf0 8d 05 00 8a 39 08    LEA     EAX,[DAT_08398a00]
08233bf6 89 44 24 04          MOV     dword ptr [ESP + local_78],EAX=>DAT_08398a00
08233bfa c7 44 24 08 1a 04    MOV     dword ptr [ESP + local_74],0x41a
         00 00
```

```
#x86_64
#LEA REG, [STRING_ADDRESS]
#MOV [RSP + ..], REG
#MOV [RSP + ..], STRING_SIZE
```

```
00648258 48 8d 05 40 a3 19 00    LEA     RAX,[DAT_007e259f]
0064825f 48 89 44 24 08          MOV     qword ptr [RSP + local_d8],RAX=>DAT_007e259f
00648264 48 c7 44 24 10 1a       MOV     qword ptr [RSP + local_d0],0x41a
         04 00 00
```

Dynamically allocated string structure

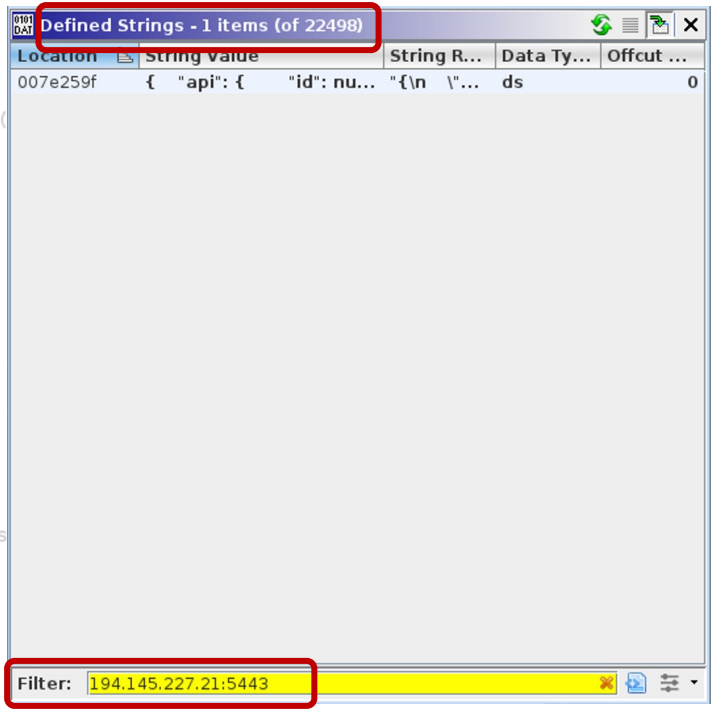
x86

- Results after executing the script

```
0064823c e8 df 20 e4 ff     CALL    os.Chmod                                undefined os.Chmod(
00648241 48 8b 44 24 18     MOV     RAX,qword ptr [RSP + local_c8[0]]
00648246 48 85 c0           TEST    RAX,RAX
00648249 0f 85 41 ff ff ff  JNZ     LAB_00648190
0064824f 48 8d 44 24 60     LEA     RAX=>local_80,[RSP + 0x60]
00648254 48 89 04 24        MOV     qword ptr [RSP]=>local_e0,RAX
00648258 48 8d 05 40 a3 19 00 LEA   RAX,[s_{_"api":_{_"id":_null,_"worker-i_007e259f]  = "{\n    \"api\":
0064825f 48 89 44 24 08     MOV     qword ptr [RSP + local_d8],RAX=>s_{_"api":_{_"id"... = "{\n    \"api\":
00648264 48 c7 44 24 10 1a 04 00 00 MOV  qword ptr [RSP + local_d0],0x41a
0064826d e8 fe 9c df ff     CALL    runtime.stringtoslicebyte               undefined runtime.s
00648272 48 8b 44           MOV     RAX,qword ptr [RSP + local_c8[0]]
```

```
                        s_{_"api":_{_"id":_null,_"worker-i_007e259f     XREF[2]:   shell/miner.xmrRun:00648258(*),
                                                                                   shell/miner.xmrRun:0064825f(*)
00648277
                007e259f 7b 0a 20 20 20 22 61 70 ...   ds      "{\n    \"api\": {\n        \"id\": null,\n      ...

0064827f
                        s_-----BEGIN_OPENSSH_PRIVAT

                007e29b9 2d 2d 2d 2d 2d 42 45 47 49 ...   ds      "-----BEGIN

                        s__export_PATH=$PATH:/bin:/

                007e30cc 0a 65 78                 ds      "\nexport P
```

"{\n \"api\": {\n \"id\": null,\n \"worker-id\": null\n },\n \"autosave\": false,\n \"use_nicehash\": true,\n \"background\": true,\n \"randomx\": {\n \"init\": -1,\n \"mode\": \"auto\",\n \"1gb-pages\": false,\n \"rdmsr\": true,\n \"wrmsr\": true,\n \"cache_qos\": false,\n \"numa\": true,\n \"scratchpad_prefetch_mode\": 1\n },\n \"cpu\": {\n \"enabled\": true,\n \"huge-pages\": true,\n \"huge-pages-jit\": false,\n \"hw-aes\": null,\n \"priority\": null,\n \"memory-pool\": false,\n \"yield\": true,\n \"max-threads-hint\": 100,\n \"asm\": true,\n \"argon2-impl\": null,\n \"astrobwt-max-size\": 550,\n \"cn/0\": false,\n \"cn-lite/0\": false,\n \"kawpow\": false\n },\n \"donate-level\": 0,\n \"donate-over-proxy\": 0,\n \"log-file\": null,\n \"pools\": [{ \"url\": \"194.145.227.21:5443\" }],\n \"retries\": 5,\n \"retry-pause\": 5,\n \"syslog\": false,\n \"user-agent\": null,\n \"verbose\": 0,\n \"watch\": false,\n \"pause-on-battery\": false\n}"



Dynamically allocated string structure

Challenges

- Different instruction sets
- Can be implemented in different ways within the same architecture
- Easy to break intentionally

```
DAT_0028bbff                                    XREF[6]:   ddos.sshgo:001fd740(*),
                                                           ddos.sshgo:001fd744(*),
                                                           ddos.sshgo:001fd788(*),
                                                           ddos.sshgo:001fd7a4(*),
                                                           ddos.sshgo:001fd7c0(*),
                                                           ddos.sshgo:001fd7dc(*)
0028bbff 6c      ??      6Ch    l
0028bc00 69      ??      69h    i
0028bc01 6e      ??      6Eh    n
0028bc02 75      ??      75h    u
0028bc03 78      ??      78h    x
0028bc04 5f      ??      5Fh    _
0028bc05 61      ??      61h    a
0028bc06 72      ??      72h    r
0028bc07 6d      ??      6Dh    m
```

```
001fd734 21 01 80 d2     mov        param_2,#0x9
001fd738 e1 4b 00 f9     str        param_2,[sp, #local_c0]
001fd73c 62 04 00 d0     adrp       param_3,0x28b000
001fd740 42 fc 2f 91     add        param_3=>DAT_0028bbff,param_3,#0xbff
001fd744 e2 4f 00 f9     str        param_3=>DAT_0028bbff,[sp, #local_b8]
001fd748 e1 53 00 f9     str        param_2,[sp, #local_b0]
```

Binary: Kaiji – ARM

Statically allocated string structure

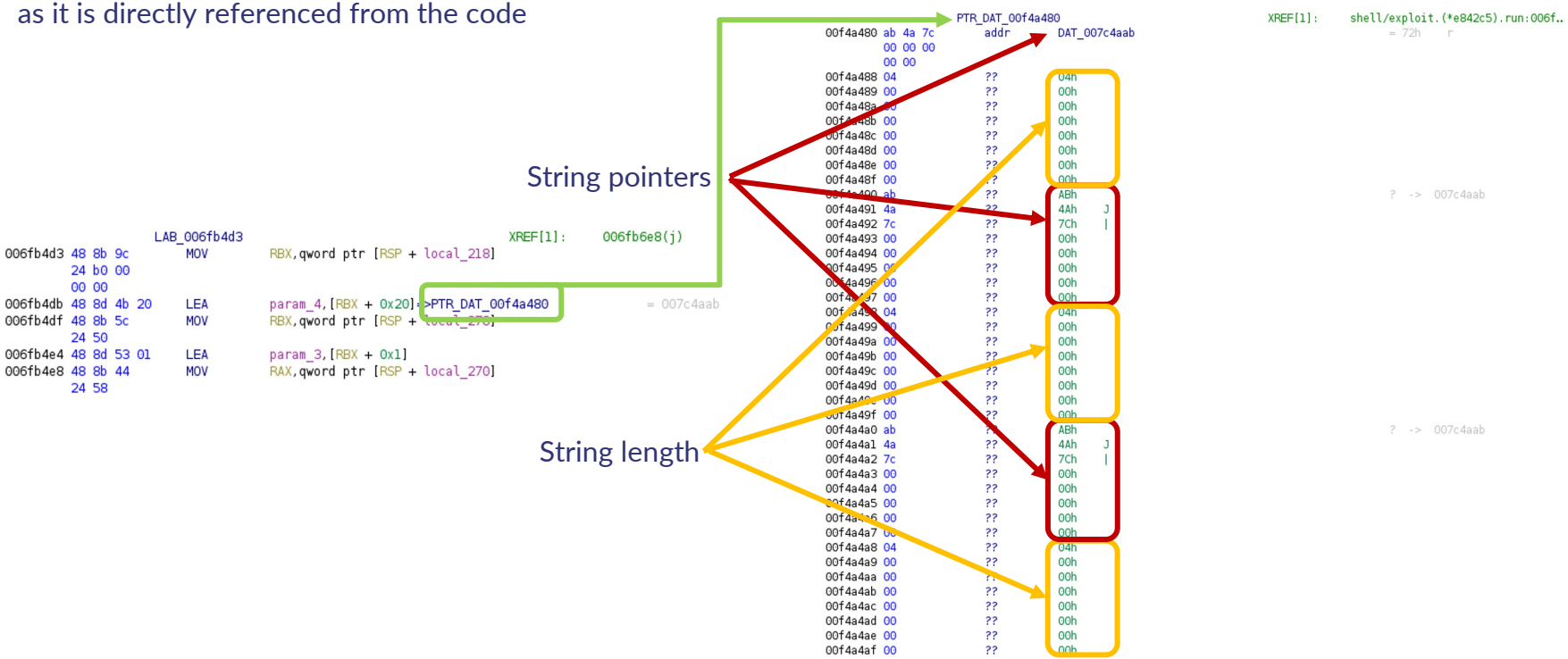
Idea

- Look for pointer to string followed by possible length value
- To eliminate FPs limit string length and search for printable characters only
- Check only in data sections
- Not architecture specific

Statically allocated string structure

Idea

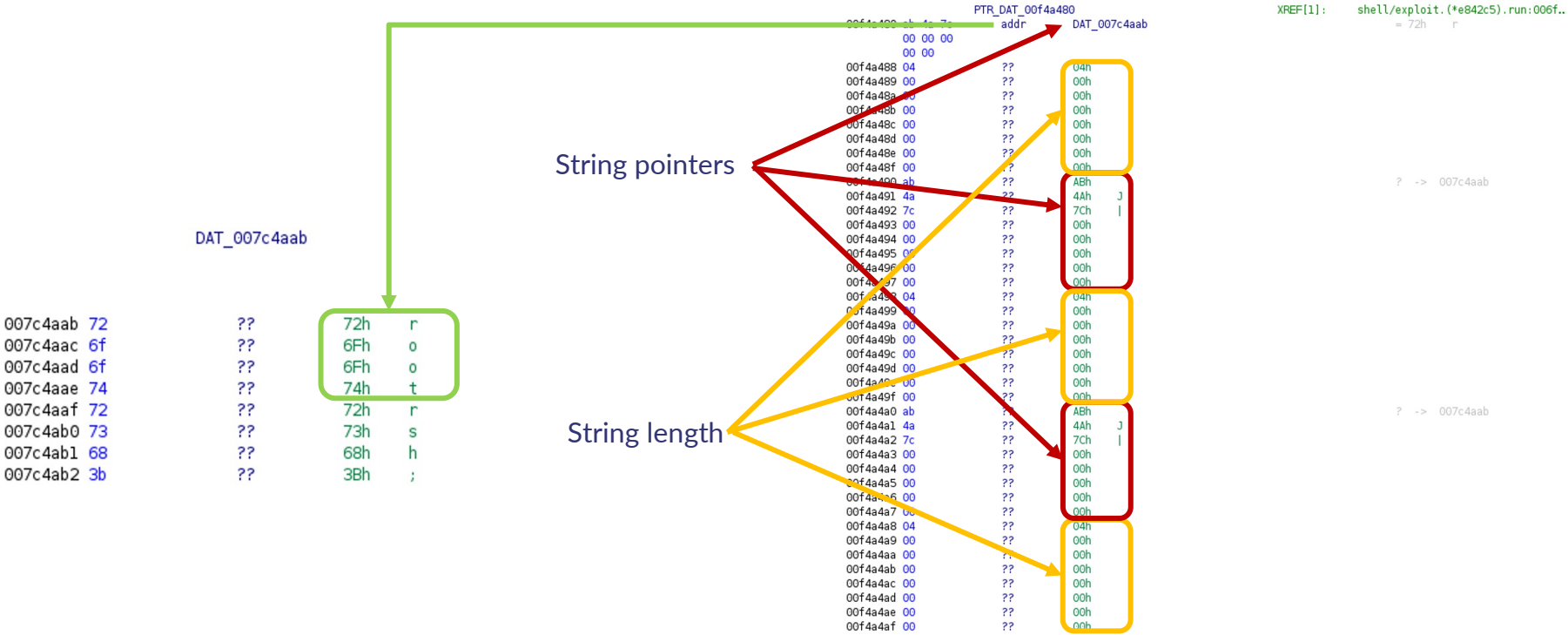
- One pointer was successfully identified as it is directly referenced from the code



Statically allocated string structure

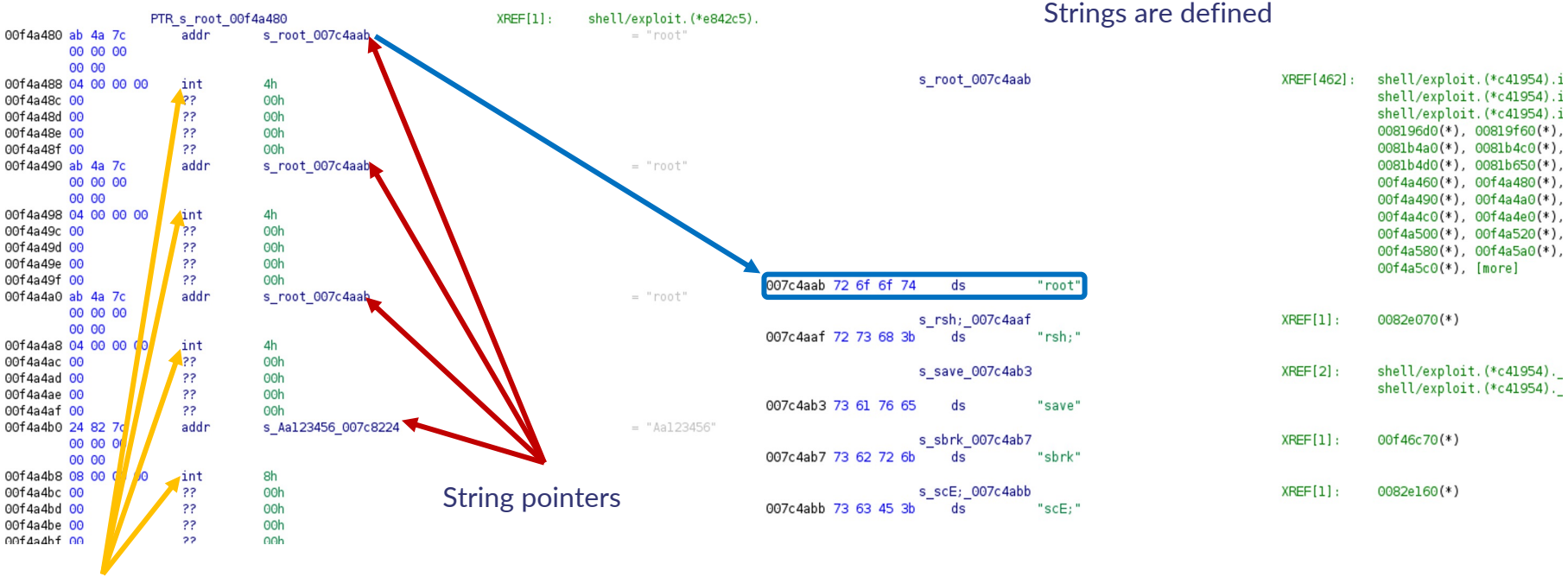
Example – before executing the script

- Strings are not defined



Statically allocated string structure

Example – after executing the script

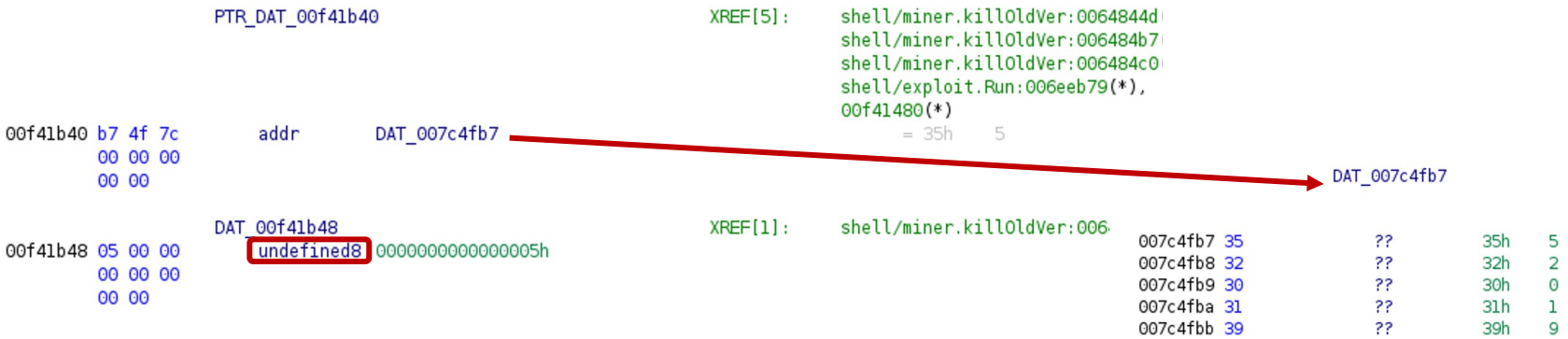


String recovery challenges

Falsely defined data types by Ghidra

- undefined4 or undefined8 (depends on pointer size)
- Already defined data types cannot be redefined
  (undifined4 and undifined8 are defined data types)
- First the data type has to be removed
- Then the new data type can be defined

```
if getDataAt(length_address) is not None:
    data_type = getDataAt(length_address).getDataType()
    #Remove undefined data to be able to create int.
    #Keep an eye on other predefined data types.
    if data_type.getName() in ["undefined4", "undefined8"]:
        removeData(getDataAt(length_address))
```



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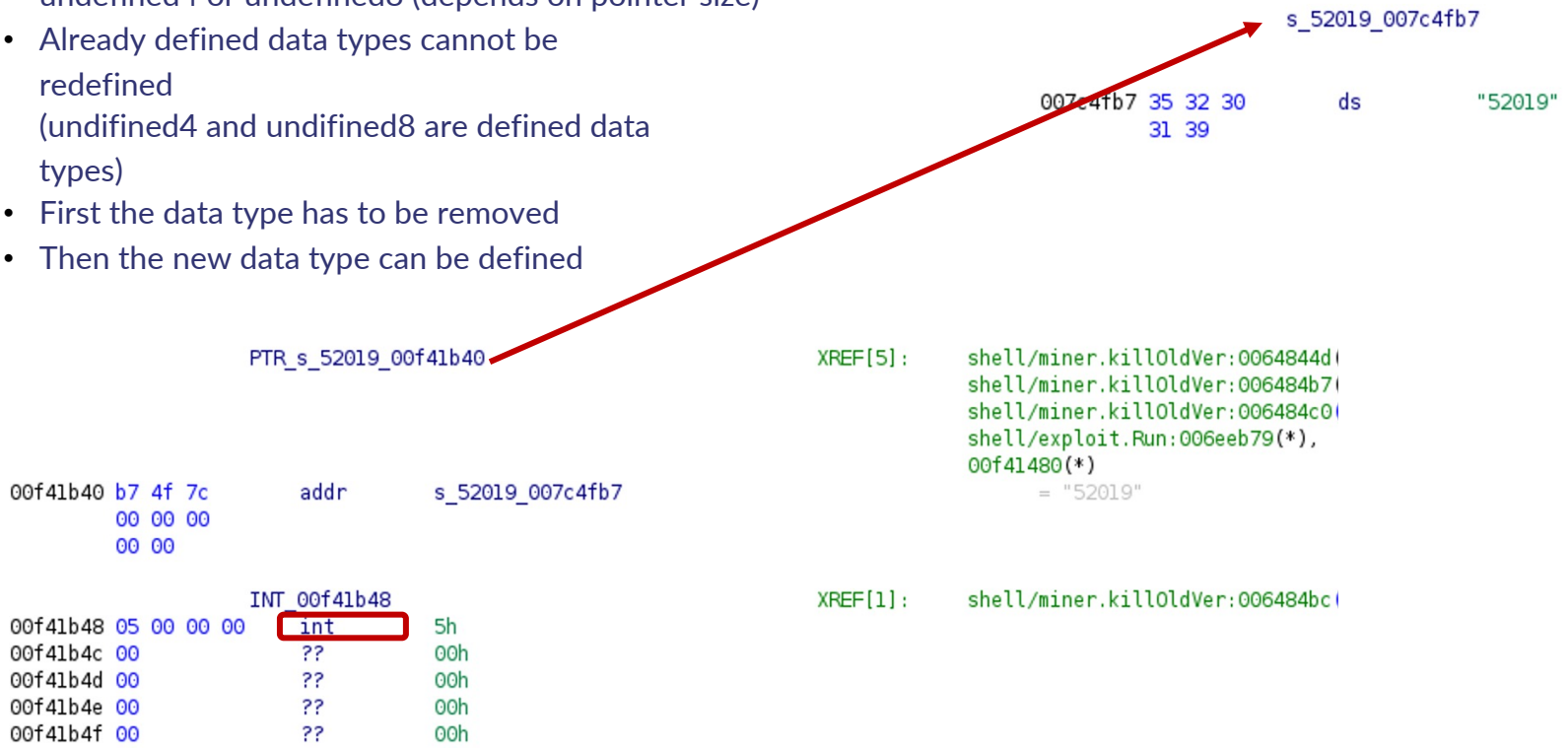
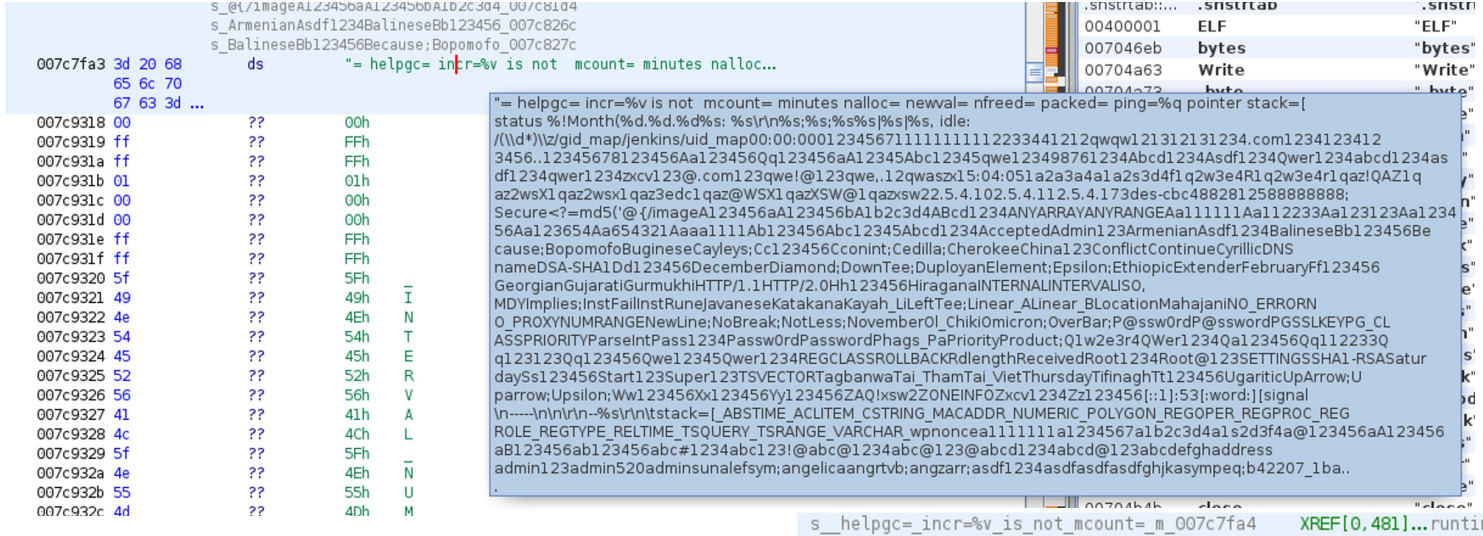


String recovery challenges

Falsely defined data types by Ghidra

- A large string blob (containing multiple strings) defined as one string



Offcut references

String recovery challenges

Falsely defined data types by Ghidra

- A large string blob (containing multiple strings) defined as one string

```
s_,_idle:_/(\d*)\z/gid_map/jenkins_007c8034
s_/(\d*)\z/gid_map/jenkins/uid_map_007c803c
s_/gid_map/jenkins/uid_map00:00:00_007c8044
s_/jenkins/uid_map00:00:0001234567_007c804c
s_/uid_map00:00:000123456711111111_007c8054
s_00:00:000123456711111111111223344_007c805c
s_012345671111111111223344121 2qwqw_007c8064
s_15:04:051a2a3a4a1a2s3d4f1q2w3e4R_007c8134
s_2.5.4.102.5.4.112.5.4.173des-cbc_007c8194
s_2.5.4.112.5.4.173des-cbc48828125_007c819c
s_2.5.4.173des-cbc4882812588888888_007c81a4
s_3des-cbc4882812588888888;_Secure_007c81ac
s_<?=md5('@{/imageA123456aA123456b_007c81cc
s_@{/imageA123456aA123456bA1b2c3d4_007c81d4
s_ArmenianAsdf1234BalineseBb123456_007c826c
s_BalineseBb123456Because;Bopomofo_007c827c
007c7fa3 3d 20 68        ds         "= helpgc= incr=%v is not  mcount= m
         65 6c 70
         67 63 3d ...
```

```
runtime.gcDumpObject:0041d33c(*),
runtime.gcDumpObject:0041d383(*),
```

Defined Strings - 20858 items

Location	String Value	String Represe...	Data Type	Offcut Refer...
0071aa17	nTrailingNonStarters	"nTrailingNonSt...	ds	1
0071aa5c	nextRequestKeyLocked	"nextRequestK...	ds	1
0071bad3	assignEncodingAndSize	"assignEncodin...	ds	1
0071baeb	cachedClientHelloInfo	"cachedClientH...	ds	1
0071bb33	expectContinueTimeout	"expectContinu...	ds	1
0071bb4b	gcMarkWorkerStartTime	"gcMarkWorker...	ds	1
0071bb7b	maxHeaderResponseSize	"maxHeaderRes...	ds	1
0071bc3b	skipContinuationBytes	"skipContinuati...	ds	1
0071c5fd	SetMaxDynamicTableSize	"SetMaxDynami...	ds	1
0071c62f	addCountsAndClearFlags	"addCountsAnd...	ds	1
0071c648	certificateAuthorities	"certificateAuth...	ds	1
0071c67a	discardHandshakeBuffer	"discardHandsh...	ds	1
0071c6ac	maxPayloadSizeForWrite	"maxPayloadSiz...	ds	1
0071c749	reflect:"slice"	"reflect:\"slice\""	ds	1
0071d1fb	shouldSendContentLength	"shouldSendCo...	ds	1
0071db0f	hashForClientCertificate	"hashForClient...	ds	1
0071ea80	NegotiatedProtocolIsMutual	"NegotiatedPro...	ds	1
0071f169	UnhandledCriticalExtensions	"UnhandledCriti...	ds	1
0071f1a5	parseDynamicTableSizeUpdate	"parseDynamic...	ds	1
0071f758	shouldSendChunkedRequestBody	"shouldSendCh...	ds	1
007212e2	"*struct { F uintptr; ss []string }	"\"*struct { F ui...	ds	1
00986210	-----END	"\n-----END "	ds	1
00986240	-----BEGIN	"\n-----BEGIN "	ds	1
00986600	server finished	"server finished"	ds	1
00400001	ELF	"ELF"	ds	7
007c7fa3	= helpgc= incr=%v is not mcou...	"= helpgc= incr...	ds	187
007d41fa	... cannot be converted to type ...	"...\n cannot be...	ds	1027

Other researcher's work

Links

IDA Pro

- https://github.com/sibears/IDAGolangHelper
- https://github.com/strazzere/golang_loader_assist

radare2 / Cutter

- https://github.com/f0rki/r2-go-helpers
- https://github.com/JacobPimental/r2-gohelper/blob/master/golang_helper.py
- https://github.com/CarveSystems/gostringsr2

Binary Ninja

- https://github.com/f0rki/bn-goloader

Ghidra

- https://github.com/felberj/gotools
  Only handles linux/x86_64 binaries.
- https://github.com/ghidraninja/ghidra_scripts/blob/master/golang_renamer.py

References, additional reading

Sysrv blog posts and other Go malware research

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- https://www.intezer.com/blog/research/new-golang-worm-drops-xmrig-miner-on-servers/
- https://help.aliyun.com/document_detail/196163.html
- https://s.tencent.com/research/report/1259.html
- https://blogs.juniper.net/en-us/threat-research/sysrv-botnet-expands-and-gains-persistence
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- https://carvesystems.com/news/reverse-engineering-go-binaries-using-radare-2-and-python/
- https://www.pnfsoftware.com/blog/analyzing-golang-executables/
- https://github.com/strazzere/golang_loader_assist/blob/master/Bsides-GO-Forth-And-Reverse.pdf
- https://github.com/radareorg/r2con2020/blob/master/day2/r2_Gophers-AnalysisOfGoBinariesWithRadare2.pdf

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Dorka Palotay
Senior Threat Researcher, CUJO AI
@pad0rka

Gyorgy Luptak
Junior Threat Researcher, CUJO AI
@gyluptak

CUJO AI Labs
https://github.com/getCUJO/ThreatIntel
@CujoaiLabs