Reversing the C2C HTTP Emmental communication

blog.angelalonso.es/2015/10/reversing-c2c-http-emmental.html

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In last <u>post</u> I explained how it was possible to decrypt the initial C&C communication from the data dumped from memory, with the support of a python script. In this post, I am going to follow the same approach, but using the information from the captured network traffic.

For that I will capture with Wireshark all the communication with the C&C while the malware is running. Then I can export all the 'objects' in the HTTP connection, which means the content of the HTTP request and response.

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∀ HTML Form URL Encoded: application/x-www-form-urlencoded

Form item: 'i' = 'McsZtRV7Bv72jMSzwk5a1yZEiijP8F38NJcxd5VNElaIVxctx
' /kgJ0PilsUZZyvc2swCzi0JC5ae17wUorRhyx48b3kIReFjFdcomTsuyE8PNXnthpE3
T+cp2CCNstrLbeKReraPgFcgZKAlluZKoVG6SxwgKzzt0MxQFlobMu21L+mlA2DJ2pj
Key: i

Value [truncated]: McsZtRV7Bv7ZjMSzwk5aIyZEiijP8F38NJcxd5VNElaIV> ▼ Form item: *s* = *"

Key: s

Value:

Now, I have e in a folder all the files with the objects from the HTTP request:

\$ Is main

main(1).php main(11).php main(13).php main(15).php main(3).php main(5).php main(7).php main(9).php main(10).php main(12).php main(14).php main(2).php main(4).php main(6).php main(8).php main.php

\$ more main.php

i=McsZtRV7Bv7ZjMSzwk5alyZEiijP8F38NJcxd5VNElalVxctxxX9UWCGbUaOIYRxhMxTtA8nBYmT%0A%2FkgJOPilsUZZyvc2swCziOJC5ae17wL As the HTTP request is URL encoded, I need first to decode it, so I will adapt the python script created in this <u>post</u> to do it automatically. This is the script:

#!/usr/bin/python

from Crypto.Cipher import Blowfish from Crypto import Random from struct import pack from binascii import hexlify, unhexlify import sys import urllib

file1 = sys.argv[1] file_out = sys.argv[2]

blfs_key = open('/path/to/the/blfs.key','r')

url_encode = open(file1,'r') url_encode_2 = url_encode.read()

url_decode = urllib.unquote(url_encode_2).decode('utf8')

file_ciphertext_base64 = url_decode file_blfs_key = blfs_key.read() ciphertext_raw = file_ciphertext_base64.decode("base64")

IV = "12345678" _KEY = file_blfs_key ciphertext = ciphertext_raw KEY = hexlify(_KEY)[:50] cipher = Blowfish.new(KEY, Blowfish.MODE_CBC, IV) message = cipher.decrypt(ciphertext) config_plain = open(file_out,'w') config_plain.write(message)

With this script it is easy to run a shell command with a loop 'for' to decrypt all the files in the directory. Bare in mind than the HTTP response are not URL encoded, so I will not need to perform that step on some of the files.

Now I should have decrypted all the information from each object. Looking at the first two HTTP POST requests I see this is the case, but for the third one, this is not the case and the data is still encrypted. What's going on here?

<pre>smpleHeader:-/Addroid/Forenzic/A/molysis-2015HW/Adject/Object/21c/HeaderStr/Lems/Public/ smpleHeaderStr/Lems/Public/HeaderStr/Lems/Public/HeaderStr/Lems/Public/ Str/Lems/Public/HeaderStr/Lems/Public/ smpleHeaderStr/Lems/P</pre>	
BTAJEBHAARUHATAFFJ-TJARILVHI onghXSJMAZXHBJ2ROFSBMmyDDF2/J9G17TUAFFRQ68 m9kmPFE/j6hqa1j1ivh-092hf6pMDwHvJuszCY22HMT2E2MM92Z2UME655Zq4/epKXfgII= dl1lm12AydqDn2Y1gLtAVy-15ZzaBa+rr0FpEQKQZZWAK5emKyyoo6Egaa0U20Iza6vMK	

I am going to take a look to the HTTP response from the server, what information is being sent?

mgaleEinapro - //hoford/Forensic//nc BECIN PUBLIC KEY	LTh10FD/79888P07u_0FB6X4550DD ej1F21CE380p4PK2/X0pF12M4 Ccd/228p44PK4UE30M9K9M73d5 118Nb103Ynkles811NBFqvquKE4yx gg/VbLd9ECkUe4K1LM4 Ccdr3xg108b110FqCf0L04K1LM4 Ccdr3xg108b110FqCf0L04K1LM4 SixMn-1g08FL04FM1Hur/MKR1rx LThrtsU206FM10B63GTL03F12/H		
DJdf9TsgOQcIIvQBsLKgeVqRSZhr3UDn/SH Sb3p79f4+iyhQq2s88Z0M0CAwEAAQ	E+GQV1WwtCY2V1AC5CyRgo935C+c		
END PUBLIC KEY			
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAH	lysis-20151004/objects/objects\$	_	

A Public Key!! really interesting stuff...

Actually, if I look further in the second HTTP request from the screenshot above I can see the following:

\$ more "main(3).php"

a:4....

cjogVGhIIEFuZHJvaWQgUHJvamVjdCB8IGphdmEudmVyc2lvbjogMA==

";s:3:"cmd";s:7:"get_key";s:3:"rid";s:2:"25";s:4:"data";s:0:"";}

This looks to me like the malware sends a request for a key and the server replies with the public key. So the only possibility is that the malware is using that key to encrypt the data so only the C&C can decrypt it with the private key.

To confirm this is the case, I am going to check the source code of the malware with 'androguard' as I explained in previous post.

Looking at the code, I see there is a method with the string 'get_key' and I can see which other method is calling it:

In [10]: d.CLASS_Lorg_thoughtcrime_securesms_h_c.METHOD_c.pretty_show() ########## Method Information Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c;->c()V [access_flags=public] ########## Params local registers: v0...v2 - return: void ***** c-BB@0x0: 0 (0000000) const-string v0, 'get_key' 1 (0000004) const-string v1, " 2 (0000008) invoke-virtual v2, v0, v1, Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c;->a(Ljava/lang/String; Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String; 3 (000000e) move-result-object v0 v0, v2, Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c;->c Ljava/lang/String; 4 (0000010) iput-object 5 (00000014) invoke-virtual v2, Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c;->b()Ljava/lang/Boolean; 6 (0000001a) move-result-object v0

7 (0000001c) invoke-virtual v0, Ljava/lang/Boolean;->booleanValue()Z 8 (00000022) move-result v0 9 (00000024) if-eqz v0, 5 [c-BB@0x28 c-BB@0x2e]

c-BB@0x28:

10 (00000028) invoke-direct v2, Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c;->d()V [c-BB@0x2e]

c-BB@0x2e:

11 (000002e) return-void

XREF

F: Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/i; b (Landroid/content/Context;)V be

- T: Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c; b ()Ljava/lang/Boolean; 14
- T: Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c; d ()V 28
- T: Lorg/thoughtcrime/securesms/h/c; a (Ljava/lang/String; Ljava/lang/String;)Ljava/lang/String; 8

When decompiling the code I end up with some interesting Java methods:



Looking tat the Java code I can see that the public key is used. But also, looking deeper into the code, I find another interesting method:

private String a(String p9)

```
{
  String v1 0 = 0;
  String v0 0 = "";
  try {
     javax.crypto.Cipher v2_1 = javax.crypto.Cipher.getInstance("RSA/ECB/PKCS1PADDING");
     v2_1.init(1, this.d);
     String[] v3_2 = this.a(p9, 100);
     java.util.ArrayList v4 2 = new java.util.ArrayList();
     int v5 = v3 2.length;
  } catch (String v1) {
     return this.a.c(v0_0);
  }
  while (v1_0 < v5) {
     v4 2.add(android.util.Base64.encodeToString(v2 1.doFinal(v3 2[v1 0].getBytes()), 0));
     v1 0++;
  }
  v0_0 = android.text.TextUtils.join(".", v4_2);
  return this.a.c(v0_0);
}
```

So basically, one method is for encryption and the other for decryption, and both of them are using the same public key. This is really interesting stuff.

So this is whats going on so far:

1. The compromised device sends the information encrypted with blowfish to the C&C

- 2. The C&C server replies with OK
- 3. The compromised device requests the public key
- 4. The C&C server replies with the public key
- 5. The compromised device encrypts the information with the public key and sends to the C&C
- 6. The C&C server can decrypt with it's private key
- 7. The C&C server sends data encrypted with the private key ->I need to verify this
- 8. The compromised device can decrypt with the public key > I need to verify this

To verify step 6 and 7, and as very quick PoC, I have created some Java code which takes the public key sent by the C&C and try to decrypt the successive messages sent by the C&C.

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<pre>import java.io.*; import java.security. import java.security. import java.util.Base public class dec { public static java.util.gase jav</pre>	spec.X509Er 64; : void main	ncodedKeySpe PG (String□ ar PublicKey th	g\$){										6
byte[] key_b6 DhadLqs484QcsxIniOfb/ HtbC+d/ZZbg+ePR+IUZvw RgOVbLa9ECkAJe4kiLwHT /LkTEfHMux21dLawYXnf1 Jdf9TsgOQcIIvQ8sLKgeV	A = Roco64	oetDecoder() decode("	(IICIjA 18A2zb r0+oLU 2ZcUGr BFLaPf	NBgkqhkiG MT09aNOof OfGsqZ7j1 1qksoLio7 m4THur/WK	9w0BAQEF nNacag86 NNxlQ3Yn qfGYK1GR RirxiKsa	AAOCAg8A /ejmF2iC kkm8I1NN MiW29sp6 Jk0TzdK4	MIICCgK tE3bSgv FqvquKE mAK4sAp 1Akdyrs	CAgEAq2pl FNZ/rXq0 4yx5fWpa XijJcHru oRSRDpyP	bT7NzL! FUZMv48 0dz32x /rjpU00 tslemEl	SyljEm931 SjqL1L12B /jfhAPgYs tvEANBszt DFqLYThvt	mLaEC4ojWi2 U8jRkBkgi30 80Si2ECRXUM I8RpufjVlr> IyOeGfwYDN3	UqKjsBzYxt03P D2iwCK8Rn3PfNx HtBYm3CoUcVd1w CZSGSiRSg3i9o/ MGTLajFYJ/HQD
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}		essage(); tStøckTrace();										

Bingo! When I run the code I clearly see it works and my 'guess' was right:



What is the information sent by the C&C? it looks like a new config.xml with new C&C URL.. Very interesting..

Looking to the code again, I see methods which performs the request for a new configuration file:

In [7]: d.CLASS_Lorg_thoughtcrime_securesms_xservices_b.source()

package org.thoughtcrime.securesms.xservices; class b extends android.os.AsyncTask {

class b exterios and old. Os. Asyric is

android.content.Context a;

final synthetic org.thoughtcrime.securesms.xservices.XRepeat b;

```
public b(org.thoughtcrime.securesms.xservices.XRepeat p1, android.content.Context p2)
  {
     this.b = p1;
     this.a = p2;
    return;
  }
  protected varargs String a(String[] p4)
  {
     org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.a(this.a);
     org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.c("CONF", "Check pull off urls", this.a);
    org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.b(this.a);
     org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.c(this.a);
     org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.c("CONF", "Get config data from server", this.a);
     org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.j(this.a);
     org.thoughtcrime.securesms.h.i.c("DATA", "Send data to server", this.a);
    return "OK";
  }
  protected void a(String p1)
  {
     super.onPostExecute(p1);
    return;
  }
  protected synthetic Object doInBackground(Object[] p2)
  {
     return this.a(((String[]) p2));
  }
  protected synthetic void onPostExecute(Object p1)
  {
    this.a(((String) p1));
    return;
  }
}
```

As the HTTP request to the C&C are encrypted with the Public key, I can't decrypt it. However, I could check in memory the information before is encrypted.

And this is what I found:

a:2:{s:7:"LogCode";s:4:"CONF";s:7:"LogText";s:27:"Get config data from server";}

Which matches the methods I checked previously :)