

STOP/DJVU - Unpacking

Summary

In this post, I will walk through the unpacking process of a **stop/djvu** sample with the sample hash below:

SHA256 `f02b45b579b65a1ea89f2d9443f2c1a1484dec0bc66591ff4d3ad6ce63d635aa`

I got this sample from Malware Bazaar:

<https://bazaar.abuse.ch/sample/f02b45b579b65a1ea89f2d9443f2c1a1484dec0bc66591ff4d3ad6ce63d635aa/>

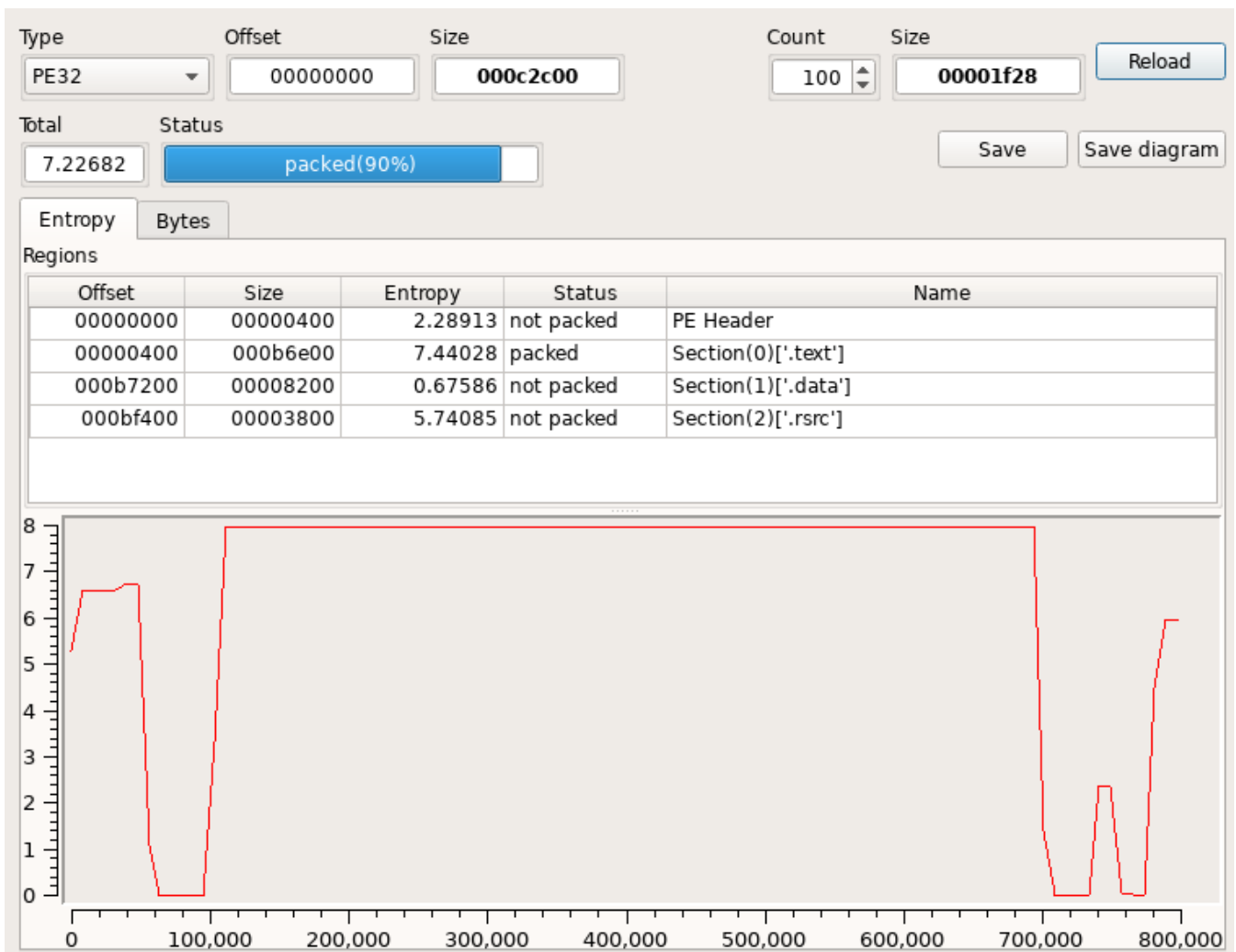
We will do:

- Static Analysis with Ghidra
- Dynamic Analysis with x32dbg, accompanied by static analysis in Cutter
- Dumping the payload with pe-sieve

This writeup was originally called "Teambot Unpacking", as Twitter user @gabbarr pointed out, this is, despite it's label, STOP/DJVU ransomware.

Static Analysis

After a quick look with DetectItEasy to check the entropy, it's easy to see this sample is packed:



So, I loaded the sample into Ghidra for a closer examination. Starting from the `entry` function, it isn't very difficult to find `main`. After calls to `__setargv` and `__setenvp`, a call to `__wincmdln` is made. Immediately after this, the `main` function is called. This function is was not labeled as `main`, so I renamed it as you can see in the image below:

```

DAT_00500de0 = GetCommandLineA();
DAT_004c0080 = ___crtGetEnvironmentStringsA();
iVar1 = __setargv();
if (iVar1 < 0) {
    __amsg_exit(8);
}
iVar1 = __setenvp();
if (iVar1 < 0) {
    __amsg_exit(9);
}
iVar1 = __cinit(1);
if (iVar1 != 0) {
    __amsg_exit(iVar1);
}
__wincmdln();
local_24 = main();

```

The `main` function contains various API calls. However, these seem to be noise. Except for the two

functions before the return at the end, I found nothing significant here.

```
int iVar1;
DWORD local_244;
_RTL_CRITICAL_SECTION local_240;
_cpinfoexW local_228;

if (size == 0xc) {
    ReplaceFileA("veveleyajovuhelegivonilaxinevibehaferedijihofoludabohoni", "sewijogudoyumevozepaj",
        "casihefugulajalifezabirapuzigijexosiyor", 0, (LPVOID)0x0, (LPVOID)0x0);
    _feof((FILE *)0x0);
    FUN_00404286(&local_240.DebugInfo);
    ~exception(&local_240.DebugInfo);
    _atof((char *)0x0);
}
size = DAT_004bfefc;
iVar1 = 0x9ae37;
do {
    if (size == 0x15) {
        FindFirstChangeNotificationA("Kepigeyar bopugiharugopo likohep paruyaxovor tedic", 0, 0);
        GetConsoleAliasesLengthW((LPWSTR)0x0);
        EnterCriticalSection(&local_240);
        SetCalendarInfoA(0, 0, 0, "usodbfstef");
        UnregisterWait((HANDLE)0x0);
        GetCPIInfoExW(0, 0, &local_228);
        FillConsoleOutputCharacterA((HANDLE)0x0, '\\0', 0, (COORD)0x0, &local_244);
        WriteConsoleOutputCharacterW((HANDLE)0x0, (LPCWSTR)0x0, 0, (COORD)0x0, (LPDWORD)0x0);
        GetStdHandle(0);
    }
    iVar1 = iVar1 + -1;
} while (iVar1 != 0);
mw_load_msimg32();
FUN_00403906();
return 0;
```

The first function, relabled by me to `mw_load_msimg32()` loads `msimg32.dll` via `LoadLibraryA`:

```
msimg32_dll._0_1_ = 'm';
msimg32_dll._1_1_ = 's';
msimg32_dll._2_1_ = 'i';
msimg32_dll._3_1_ = 'm';
DAT_004c0b2c = 'g';
DAT_004c0b2d = '3';
DAT_004c0b2e = '2';
DAT_004c0b2f = '.';
DAT_004c0b30 = 'd';
DAT_004c0b31 = 'l';
DAT_004c0b32 = 'l';
DAT_004c0b33 = 0;
LoadLibraryA((LPCSTR)&msimg32_dll);
return;
```

The second function, labled as `FUN_403906`, is where the unpacking takes place.

After some initialization, `LocalAlloc` is retrieved from `msimg32.dll` via `GetProcAddress`. The resulting function address of `LocalAlloc` is stored in `_addr_localalloc`. With this, some memory is allocated, pointed to by `addr`. I labled the next function `mw_virtualprotect`. This function changes the permissions of the allocated memory region to execute, read, write:

```

_h_msimg32 = GetModuleHandleA((LPCSTR)&msimg32_dll);
_addr_localalloc = GetProcAddress(_h_msimg32, "LocalAlloc");
addr = (LPVOID)(*_addr_localalloc)(0, size);
mw_virtualprotect();

```

```

void mw_virtualprotect(void)
{
    DWORD old_val;
    undefined4 PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE;

    PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE = 0x40;
    /* PAGE_EXECUTE_READWRITE */
    VirtualProtect(addr, size, 0x40, &old_val);
    return;
}

```

Continuing to analyze `FUN_403906` reveals the function which unpacks the malware, thus, I renamed this to `mw_unpack`:

```

mw_virtualprotect();
uVar3 = 0;
DAT_00500c90 = DAT_004bb09c;
if (size != 0) {
    do {
        local_8 = DAT_00500c90 + 0xb2d3b;
        *(undefined*)(uVar3 + (int)addr) = *(undefined*)(local_8 + uVar3);
        if (size == 0x44) {
            GetBinaryTypeW(L"Darehixipazu lezejnuza nalecabisup xuniyi wof", &local_c);
            GetProcessIoCounters((HANDLE)0x0, (PIO_COUNTERS)0x0);
            WriteConsoleA((HANDLE)0x0, (void*)0x0, 0, &local_10, (LPVOID)0x0);
        }
        uVar3 = uVar3 + 1;
    } while (uVar3 < size);
}
mw_unpack();

```

In this function, the unpacking routine is applied. It begins with a large number of hard-coded 32-bit constants and ends with a loop containing the unpacking logic. The unpacked code is stored in the previously allocated memory.

```

local_1c0 = 0x5e24fb8f;
local_11c = 0x13cc9676;
local_128 = 0x145ce368;
local_c4 = 0x53a4e4aa;
local_178 = 0x180454cc;
local_1b4 = 0x5abc23bd;
local_74 = 0x7a98d7b;
local_228 = 0x48a0c18f;
local_f0 = 0x6e4572f2;
local_170 = 0x924e26a9;
local_8 = (local_2d4 >> 5) + local_2ec ^ local_2d8 ^ local_2d0 + uVar2;
if (size == 0x1a3) {
    MoveFileW((LPCWSTR)0x0,(LPCWSTR)0x0);
}
uVar4 = uVar4 - local_8;
local_10 = 4;
uVar3 = uVar4 * 0x10 + local_2e4;
local_8 = (uVar4 >> ((byte)local_c & 0x1f)) + local_2e8;
uVar1 = local_2d0 + uVar4;
if (size == 0xb3f) {
    GetConsoleAliasesA(local_6ec,0,(LPSTR)0x0);
    InterlockedPushEntrySList((PSLIST_HEADER)0x0,(PSINGLE_LIST_ENTRY)0x0);
}
_DAT_004c0b98 = 0;
uVar2 = uVar2 - (uVar3 ^ uVar1 ^ local_8);
local_2d4 = uVar2;
FUN_00402fc3();
local_2dc = local_2dc + -1;
} while (local_2dc != 0);
param_1[1] = uVar4;
*param_1 = uVar2;
return;

```

I didn't dig through the unpacking algorithm itself very much.

Eventually, before the return of `FUN_403906`, the unpacked code is executed in `exec_unpacked`.

```

mw_unpack();
iVar2 = 0;
do {
    GetLastError();
    if (iVar2 == 0x770e) {
        FUN_004038b5();
    }
    iVar2 = iVar2 + 1;
} while (iVar2 < 0x286b97d);
iVar2 = 0x7b;
do {
    if (size == 0xd) {
        CreateDirectoryA((LPCSTR)0x0,(LPSECURITY_ATTRIBUTES)0x0);
        lstrlenA("Yukanevakuriya duhifufacisubop");
        CloseEventLog((HANDLE)0x0);
    }
    iVar2 = iVar2 + -1;
} while (iVar2 != 0);
exec_unpacked();
return;

```

The `exec_unpacked` was again labeled as such by me:

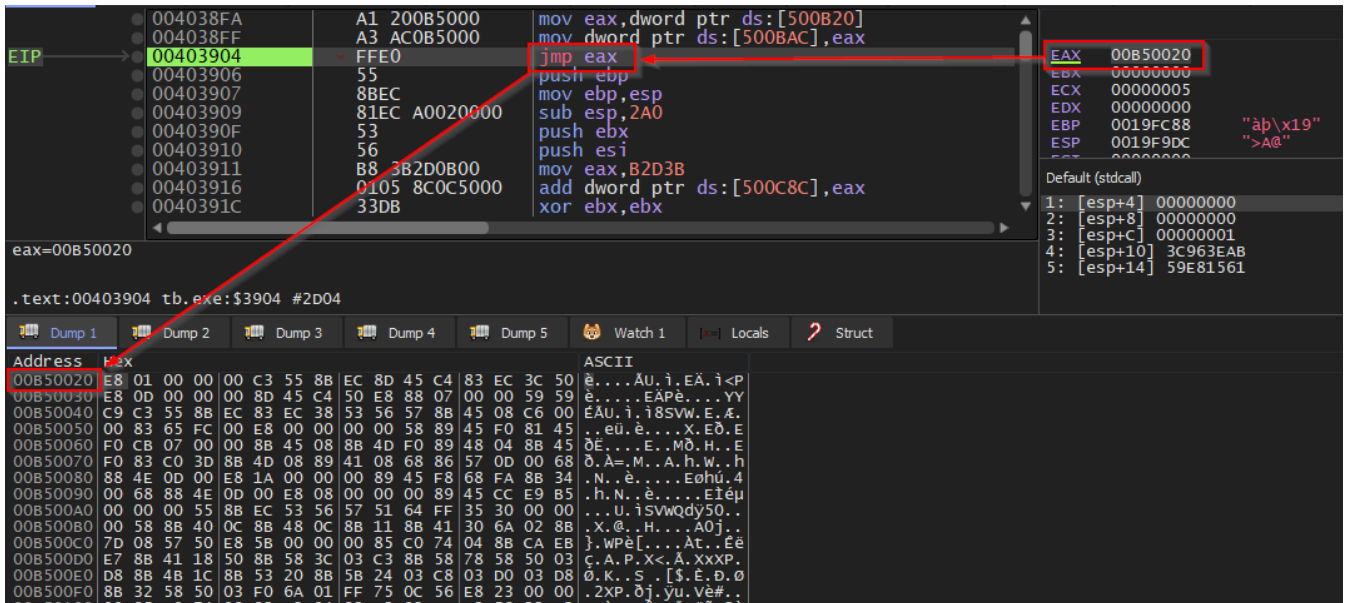
```

void exec_unpacked(void)
{
    _DAT_00500bac = addr;
    /* WARNI
    /* WARNI
    (*(code *)addr)();
    return;
}

```

What I pieced together above can be confirmed by debugging in x32dbg:

LocalAlloc - allocates memory at address 0xb50020

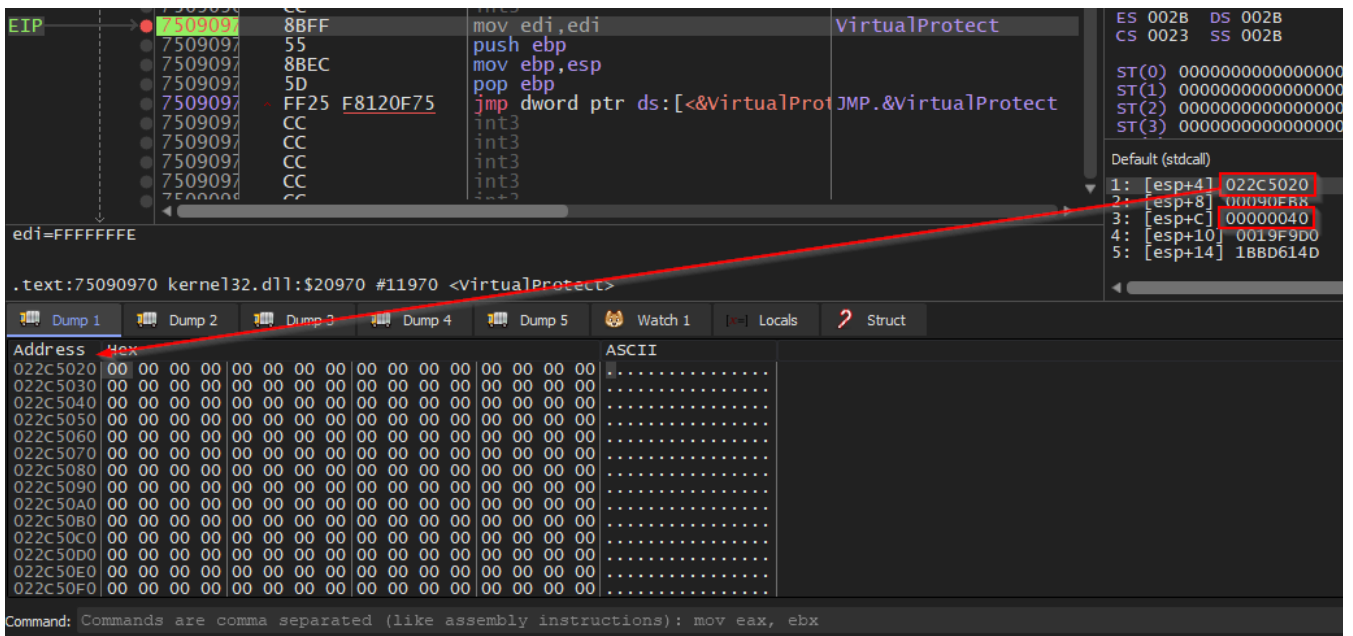


That's as far as I went with the static analysis, next, let's fire up x32dbg and get that payload out.

Dynamic Analysis

I will restart the debugging process here, the debugging in the "Static Analysis" section was only to link the static analysis findings with the actual execution flow of the program.

After I restarted the debugging process, I set a breakpoint at `VirtualProtect`. That way, I can get the address of the allocated memory and break before the unpacked code is executed.



As you can see from the stack, the permissions are set to execute, read, write (0x40) and the allocated memory's address is the topmost argument.

I set a hardware breakpoint at the memory address in the dump.

If you hit continue now, you will land in the routine before the part that executes the unpacked code:

```
004040B3 88040E mov byte ptr ds:[esi+ecx],al
004040B6 833D 8C0C5000 44 cmp dword ptr ds:[500C8C],44 44:'D'
004040BD 75 25 jne tb.4040E4
004040BF 8D45 F8 lea eax,dword ptr ss:[ebp-8]
```

We're looking for the call at `0x404139`, this calls the unpacked code, remember `FUN_403906` from the static analysis section, this is the routine we are in, so we can find `0x404139` by scrolling down. I set a breakpoint here and removed the hardware breakpoint. After that, I hit continue and ended up at the call at `0x404139`.

After stepping into this call, we want to follow the execution from `jmp eax`.

```
004038FA A1 200B5000 mov eax,dword ptr ds:[500B20]
004038FF A3 AC0B5000 mov dword ptr ds:[500BAC],eax
00403904 FFE0 jmp eax
```

After following this, I landed in the allocated memory, where the unpacked code resides.

```
EIP EAX 022C501E 0004E8 add byte ptr ds:[eax+ebp*8],al
022C5021 0100 add dword ptr ds:[eax],eax
022C5023 0000 add byte ptr ds:[eax],al
022C5025 C3 ret
022C5026 55 push ebp
```

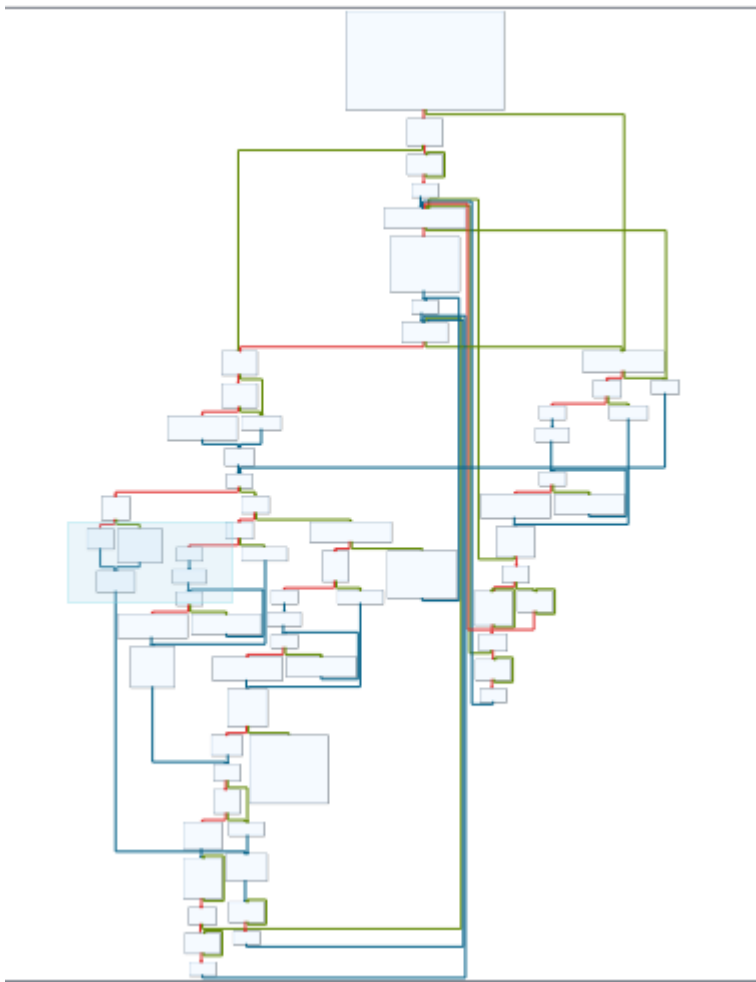
From here, there are two possible ways to continue.

1. Step through the code until we find something interesting
2. dump the memory of the shellcode and check it out in a disassembler.

I prefer Option 1.

Examine the Shellcode - 1

Dumping the memory region where the shellcode is stored and loading the dump into Cutter reveals several interesting routines. First this routine, which looks complicated judging by it's graph overview:



From my examination, it seems this performs further unpacking. This is confirmed later.

Also, there is a function containing stack strings:

```
mov dword [rbp + rax - 0x30], 0x6e72656b ; 'kern'  
mov eax, dword [var_38h]  
add eax, 4  
mov dword [var_38h], eax  
mov eax, dword [var_38h]  
mov dword [rbp + rax - 0x30], 0x32336c65 ; 'e132'  
mov eax, dword [var_38h]  
add eax, 4  
mov dword [var_38h], eax  
mov eax, dword [var_38h]  
mov dword [rbp + rax - 0x30], 0x6c6c642e ; '.dll'
```

```

mov dword [rbp + rax - 0x30], 0x74726956 ; 'Virt'
mov eax, dword [var_38h]
add eax, 4
mov dword [var_38h], eax
mov eax, dword [var_38h]
mov dword [rbp + rax - 0x30], 0x416c6175 ; 'ua1A'
mov eax, dword [var_38h]
add eax, 4
mov dword [var_38h], eax
mov eax, dword [var_38h]
mov dword [rbp + rax - 0x30], 0x636f6c6c ; 'lloc'

```

Continuing in the debugger, I put a breakpoint at VirtualAlloc and hit continue. Indeed, VirtualAlloc is called and some memory is allocated. I put a hardware breakpoint there and kept on stepping.

Once the hardware breakpoint was hit, I found myself in the unpacking routine shown in the graph overview above. I set a breakpoint at the return of this routine and watched the allocated memory being populated. Once the memory area was filled, I dumped that memory as well. As with the dump before, I loaded it into Cutter to examine it the code in detail.

Examine the Shellcode - 2

Looking at the strings of this dump shows that it contains the DOS header and DLL names among other interesting things.

```

0x001190d3 : :$(4:8;<:@:~D:H:L:P:T:X\:\:~d:h:l;p:t;x|;
0x000015ed !This program cannot be run in DOS mode.\r\r\n$
0x000cff08 R6017\r\r\n- unexpected multithread lock error\r\r\n

```

0x000d0b34 SetDefaultDllDirectories
0x000f6b60 ADVAPI32.DLL
0x000f6b70 KERNEL32.DLL
0x000f6b80 NETAPI32.DLL
0x00100214 \\shell32.dll
0x00100314 kernel32.dll
0x001090c4 KERNEL32.dll
0x00109338 ADVAPI32.dll
0x0010942c OLEAUT32.dll
0x0010944c IPHLPAPI.DLL
0x00100198 Shell32.dll
0x00108bd2 WININET.dll
0x00108c76 SHLWAPI.dll
0x001093c8 SHELL32.dll
0x001094a2 CRYPT32.dll
0x000d06ac USER32.DLL
0x000d42d8 VAPI32.DLL
0x000f6c94 USER32.DLL
0x00108b06 RPCRT4.dll
0x001091de USER32.dll
0x0010945a WS2_32.dll
0x0010947e DNSAPI.dll
0x000cfc78 coree.dll
0x00100368 Psapi.dll
0x00108bec WINMM.dll
0x00109422 ole32.dll
0x00109a9e GDI32.dll
0x00108b46 MPR.dll
0x000fecf8 %s.dll

Looking through the functions in Cutter, one of them stands out. It contains stack strings of various APIs, among them, in this order:

- CreateProcessA
- GetThreadContext
- VirtualAlloc
- VirtualAllocEx
- VirtualFree
- ReadProcessMemory
- WriteProcessMemory
- SetThreadContext
- ResumeThread

```

call qword [var_dch]
mov dword [var_b4h], eax
mov byte [var_280h], 0x43 ; 'C'
mov byte [var_27fh], 0x72 ; 'r'
mov byte [var_27eh], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_27dh], 0x61 ; 'a'
mov byte [var_27ch], 0x74 ; 't'
mov byte [var_27bh], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_27ah], 0x50 ; fcn.00000050
mov byte [var_279h], 0x72 ; 'r'
mov byte [var_278h], 0x6f ; 'o'
mov byte [var_277h], 0x63 ; 'c'
mov byte [var_276h], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_275h], 0x73 ; 's'
mov byte [var_274h], 0x73 ; 's'
mov byte [var_273h], 0x41 ; 'A'
mov byte [var_272h], 0
lea ecx, [var_280h]
push rcx
mov edx, dword [var_c4h]
push rdx
call qword [var_dch]
mov dword [var_b0h], eax
mov byte [var_f4h], 0x47 ; 'G'
mov byte [var_f3h], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_f2h], 0x74 ; 't'
mov byte [var_f1h], 0x54 ; 'T'
mov byte [var_f0h], 0x68 ; 'h'
mov byte [var_efh], 0x72 ; 'r'
mov byte [var_eeh], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_edh], 0x61 ; 'a'
mov byte [var_ech], 0x64 ; 'd'
mov byte [var_ebh], 0x43 ; 'C'
mov byte [var_eah], 0x6f ; 'o'
mov byte [var_e9h], 0x6e ; 'n'
mov byte [var_e8h], 0x74 ; 't'
mov byte [var_e7h], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_e6h], 0x78 ; 'x'
mov byte [var_e5h], 0x74 ; 't'
mov byte [var_e4h], 0
lea eax, [var_f4h]
push eax

call qword [var_dch]
mov dword [var_94h], eax
mov byte [var_25ch], 0x52 ; 'R'
mov byte [var_25bh], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_25ah], 0x73 ; 's'
mov byte [var_259h], 0x75 ; 'u'
mov byte [var_258h], 0x6d ; 'm'
mov byte [var_257h], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_256h], 0x54 ; 'T'
mov byte [var_255h], 0x68 ; 'h'
mov byte [var_254h], 0x72 ; 'r'
mov byte [var_253h], 0x65 ; 'e'
mov byte [var_252h], 0x61 ; 'a'
mov byte [var_251h], 0x64 ; 'd'
mov byte [var_250h], 0
lea edx, [var_25ch]

```

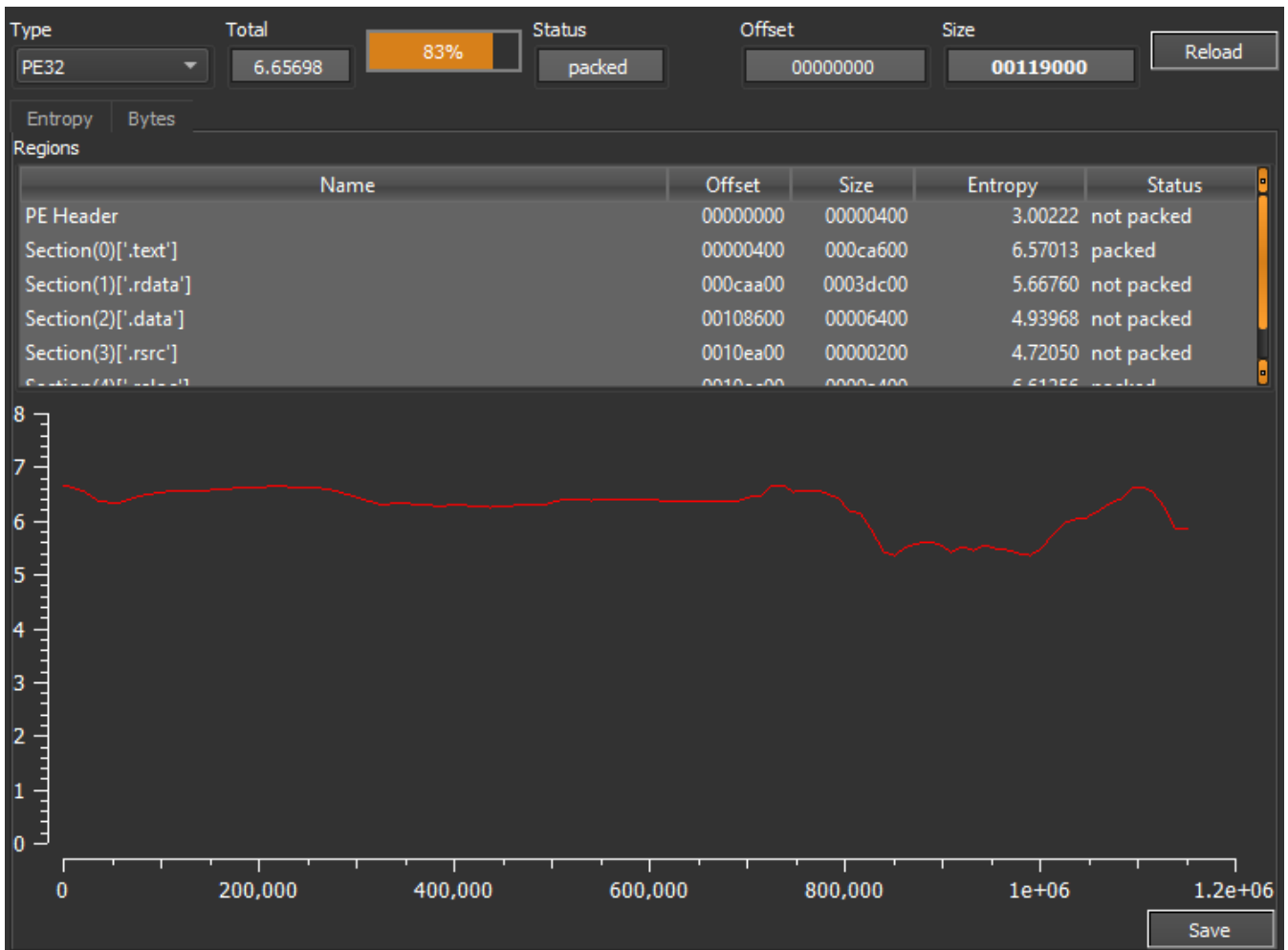
This looks very much like Process Hollowing, which prompted me to set a breakpoint at ResumeThread.

I continued execution, hitting the breakpoint at `ResumeThread`, after which I opened Process Hacker:

Process Name	PID	PPID	Private Bytes	Working Set	User
x32dbg.exe	1276	0.26	60 B/s	65.54 MB	MSEDGWIN10\IEUser
tb.exe	6692		3.28 MB		MSEDGWIN10\IEUser
tb.exe	5384		1.64 MB		MSEDGWIN10\IEUser

The PID 5384, child of the original executable, is what was created by `CreateProcessA`. After the processes memory was written it should contain the stop/djvu payload. As `ResumeThread` is the last call for the Process Hollowing dumping PID 5384 with pe-sieve yields the unpacked stop/djvu malware.

I loaded the dumped executable into DetectItEasy, the entropy looks better:



... and there are several interesting imports:

	ginalFirstTh	neDateStan	orwarderCha	Name	FirstThunk	Hash	
0	00108a20	00000000	00000000	00108b66	000cc2fc	5d557072	RPCRT4.dll
1	001089ec	00000000	00000000	00108ba6	000cc2c8	09f4fe4a	MPR.dll
2	00108ac8	00000000	00000000	00108c32	000cc3a4	6aef1988	WININET.dll
3	00108ae8	00000000	00000000	00108c4c	000cc3c4	d388dfcf	WINMM.dll
4	00108a54	00000000	00000000	00108cd6	000cc330	2ea60d1e	SHLWAPI.dll
5	001087c4	00000000	00000000	00109124	000cc0a0	e4451090	KERNEL32.dll
6	00108a74	00000000	00000000	0010923e	000cc350	90e087ff	USER32.dll
7	00108724	00000000	00000000	00109398	000cc000	388a5a94	ADVAPI32.dll
8	00108a38	00000000	00000000	00109428	000cc314	74873057	SHELL32.dll
9	00108b00	00000000	00000000	00109482	000cc3dc	19f0441b	ole32.dll
10	001089fc	00000000	00000000	0010948c	000cc2d8	e0c6eef	OLEAUT32.dll
11	001087bc	00000000	00000000	001094ac	000cc098	87ccfc97	IPHLPAPI.DLL
12	00108af0	00000000	00000000	001094ba	000cc3cc	9dd872ac	WS2_32.dll
13	00108784	00000000	00000000	001094de	000cc060	1ae38cb8	DNSAPI.dll
14	0010877c	00000000	00000000	00109502	000cc058	ed280941	CRYPT32.dll
15	00108790	00000000	00000000	00109afe	000cc06c	72556ad3	GDI32.dll

Now on to analyzing the unpacked sample ^o^ - updates to follow ;-)

0xca7