

A Study on Polymorphic Windows Kernel Mode Rootkit

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ABSTRACT

More and more malicious programs are combined with rootkits to shield their illegal activities and the result makes security products face a challenge. It can be observed that most sophisticated kernel mode rootkits are implemented to execute hiding tasks through drivers in Windows Kernel. Therefore, the role of a detector for detecting Windows driver-hidden rootkits is becoming extremely important. In this thesis, we first develop a new Windows driver-hidden rootkit with five tricks based on Direct Kernel Object Manipulation, and have verified that it can successfully avoid well-known rootkit detectors. And we then propose a countermeasure to detect it. We affirm our efforts will be extremely useful for improving the current techniques of detecting Windows driver-hidden rootkits.

Keywords : malware ; windows ; rootkit ; kernel mode ; system security

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