Mario Vuksan, Tomislav Peričin & Vojislav Milunovic,
ReversingLabs Corporation

FAST & FURIOUS REVERSE ENGINEERING WITH TITANENGINE

Agenda

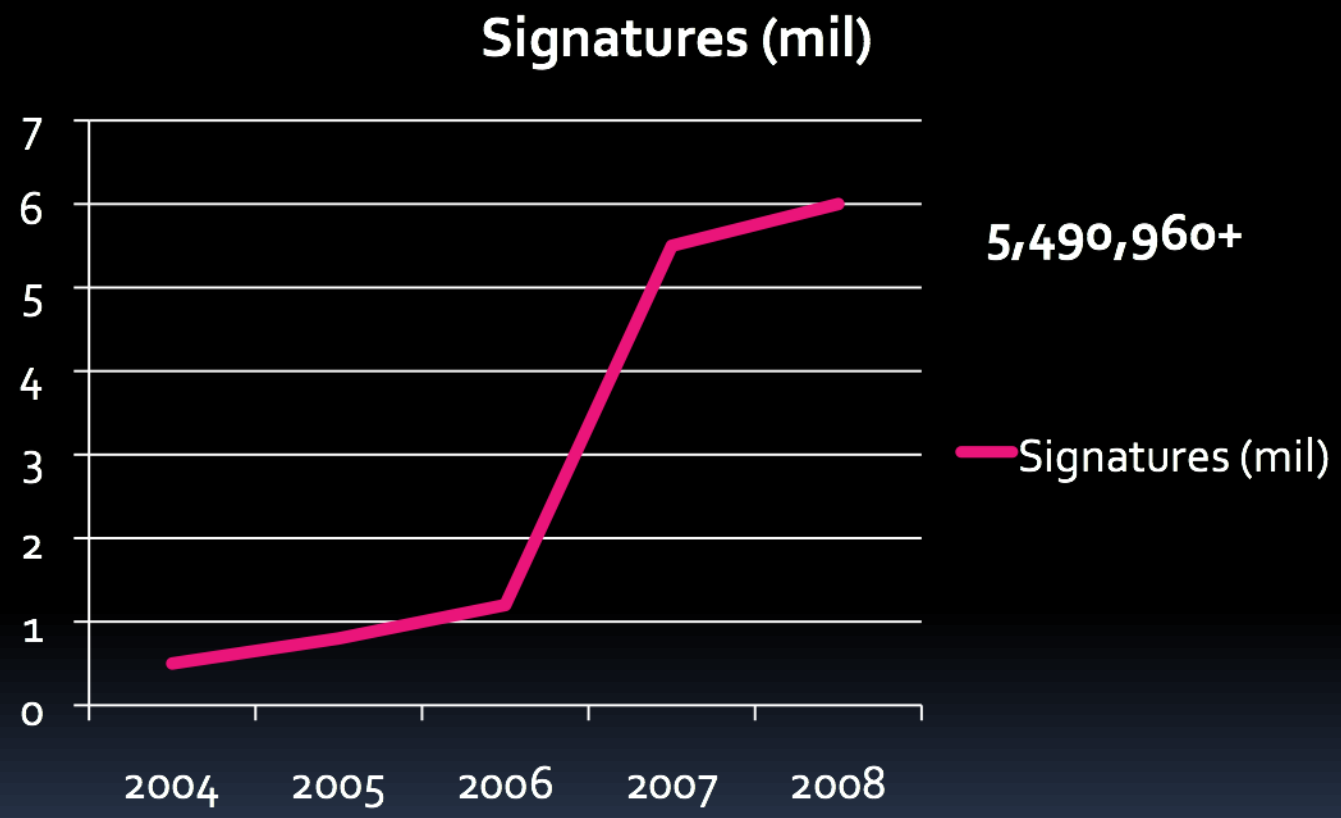
- Obligatory Scare Talk
- Why should you care?
- What is the problem?
- How can TitanEngine change the world?
- Show ME!
- Show ME!
- Show ME!
- How can I help?

Fighting Malware:
Old Problem
Inadequate Infrastructure:
New Problem

Exponential Growth in Malware

YIELDS

Exponential **Growth** in Signatures



DEMANDING

Malware Wars

Army of Threat Researchers

RESULTING IN

Denial of Service on Threat Response Teams

So What?

Security Industry is a For-Profit Entity

We'll Simply Hire More Bodies

But Could We Get Enough Bodies?

Can't Hire Enough? Combine those we have into one Worldwide Non-profit Entity

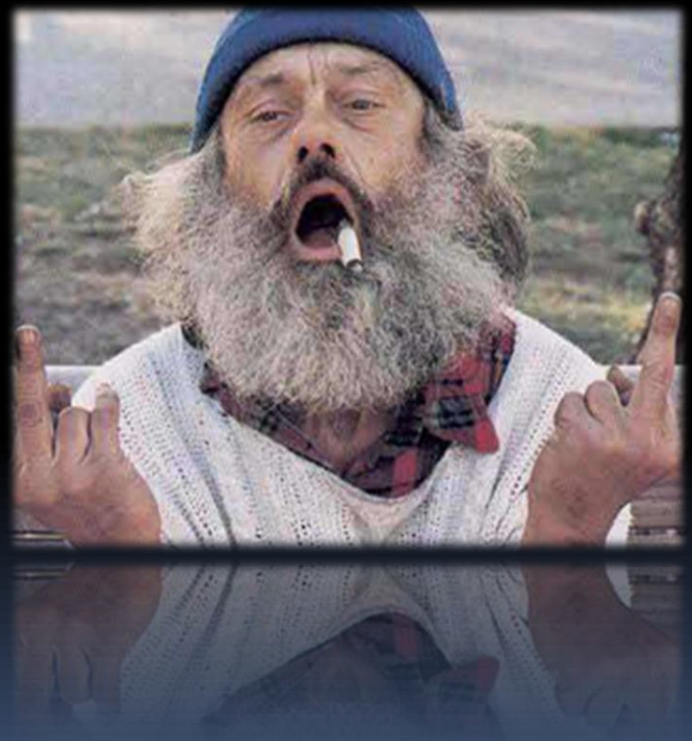
(Bwa-ha-ha!)

OR…

We could

simply *overload* them…

Is an overloaded anti-malware analyst an asset or a liability?



Henry Ford

- Anti-Malware labs are factories
- 100-200+ Analyst teams
- Advanced workflows
- Multiple levels of management
- Modern labor laws apply: No 20+ hour days
- Productivity can be improved
- Work process can be studied
- Improvements ***COULD*** be devised…

So how can Labs do more?

- Charge more, Hire more
- Invest in automation, Invest in heuristics
- Deploy proactive modules, Buy competitors
- All the usual stuff
- … and they could revise their processes

So how can Labs do more?

- 1,0oos of OllyDBG and IDAPro scripts can better be reused; could be generalized
- Sample analysis, OEP discovery could benefit all team members
- Reversing should be a team effort

We have to do it better…

Competition is tough

- Bad guys
  - Rise of $$ motivated custom attacks
  - Resourceful crime syndicates

Protection is lacking

- Signatures only "important" for threats
- Need for other types of protection
- Behavioral & HIPS tools ***that work***

Yet manual analysis is still the only certain bet!

Passion for binary protection

- Meatiest task today is dealing with protection techniques
- Task repetition, Error prone, Not reusable
- Large number of file formats can be infected and used for malware

Passion for binary protection

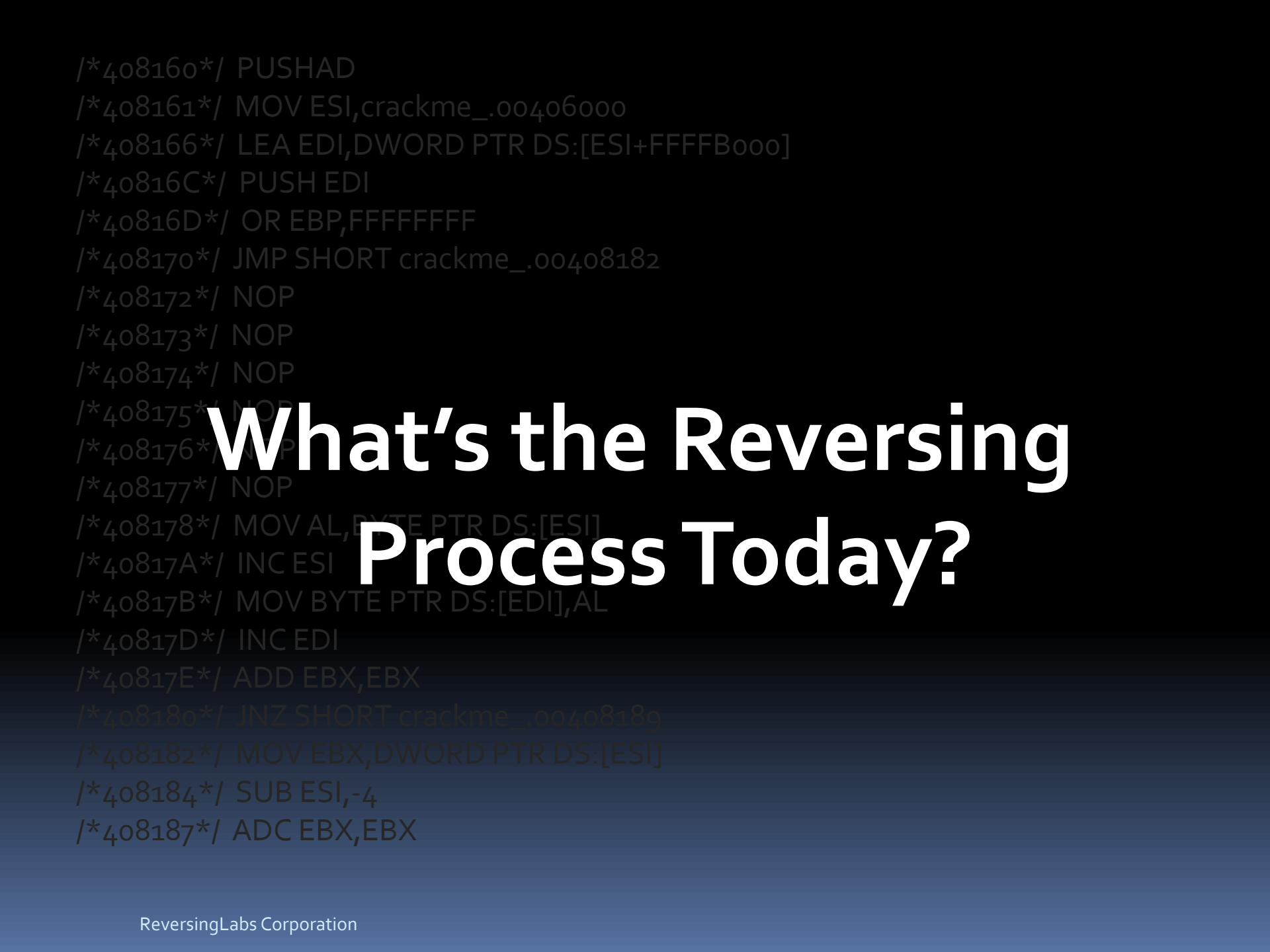
- Executable files == most significant threat
- Executables == the "usual suspect" for malware
  - 85% of malware samples are packed
  - Packing hides malware, hardens its detection
- Packed or protected doesn't mean bad!
  - 10% of legitimate software is packed

Passion for binary protection

- Legit use for packers & protectors:
  - Compressed binaries decrease bandwidth usage
  - Protect intellectual property
  - Protect from code theft
  - Anti-tampering in multi-player games
  - Safeguard licensing code
- Successfully used by malware authors
  - For all the same reasons

Analyzing Malware

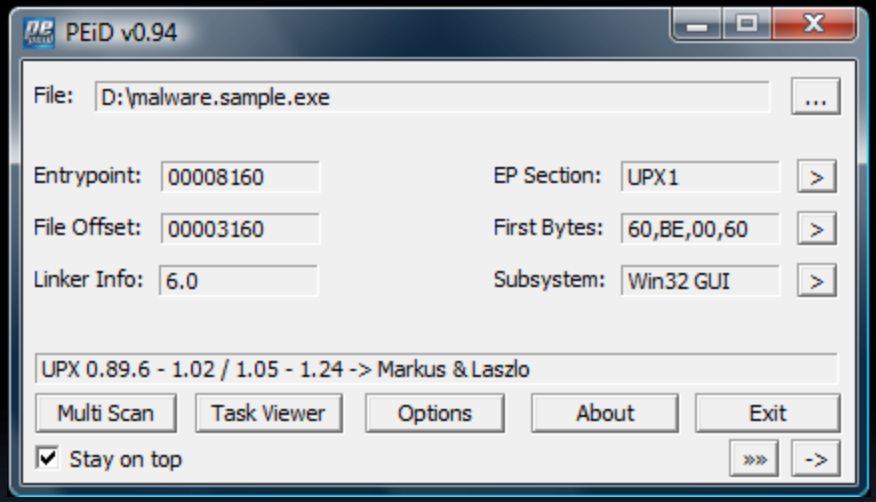
- Malware File Analysis Requires:
  - In-depth knowledge of how PE works
  - In-depth knowledge of how Windows works
  - Various tools to make you reach your goal
- Understanding of Basic Shell Divisions:
  - Packers, Protectors, Crypters, Bundlers & Hybrids
  - Custom malware-specific packers & protectors



What's the Reversing Process Today?

Reversing in action|Today

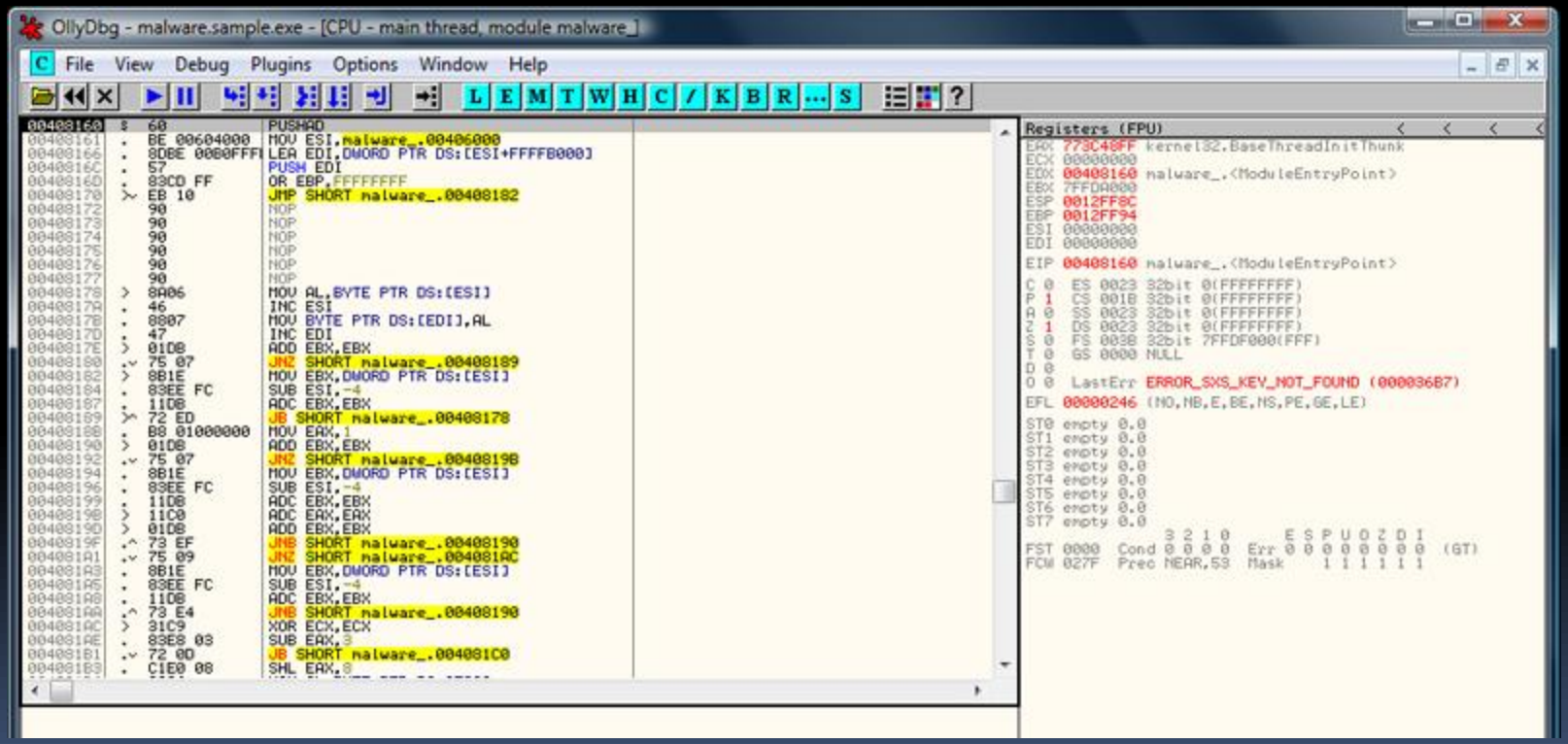
- Inspect the Sample
  - Identify the packing shell or compiler



PEiD

Reversing in action|Today

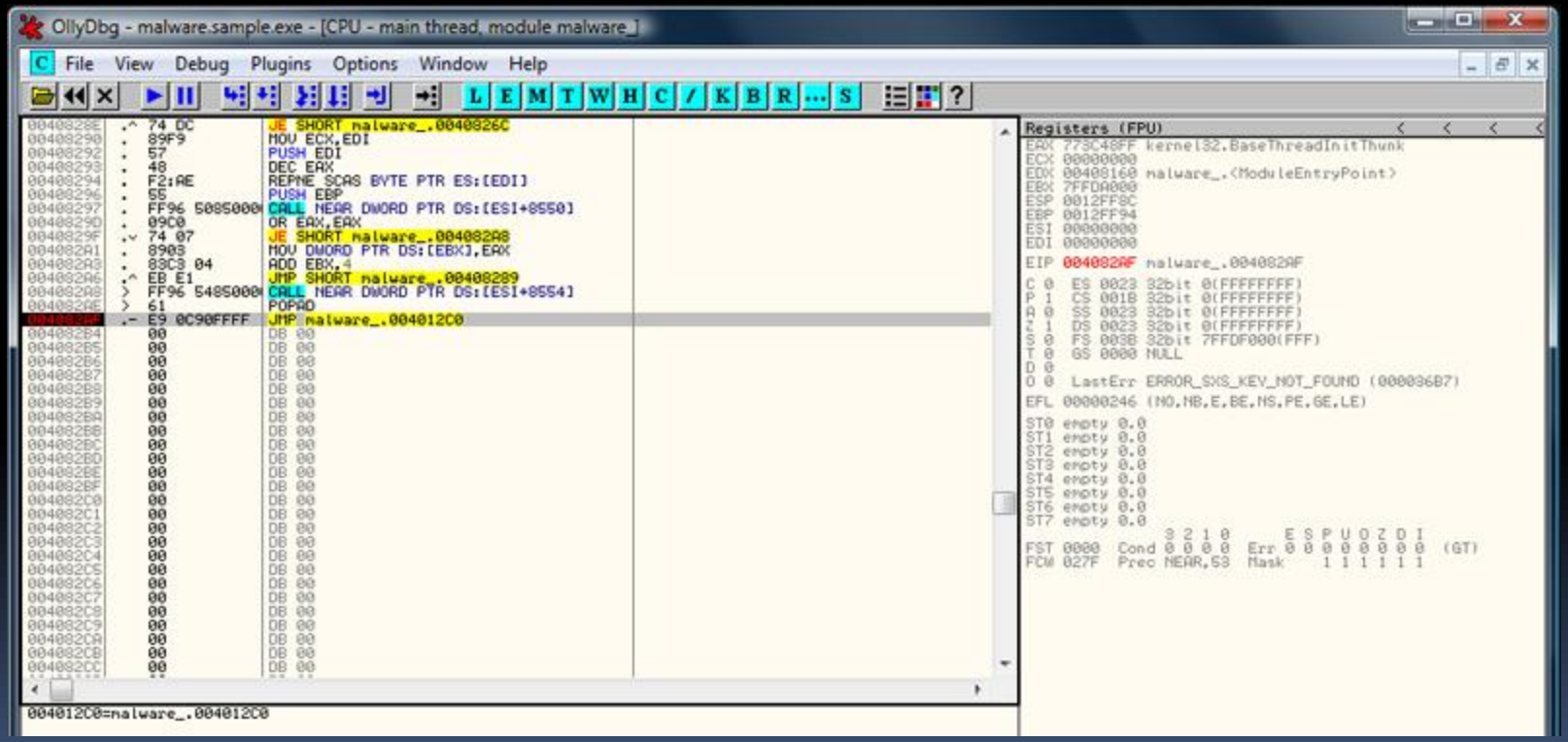
- Unpack the Sample
  - Execute it to the original entry point



OllyDbg

Reversing in action|Today

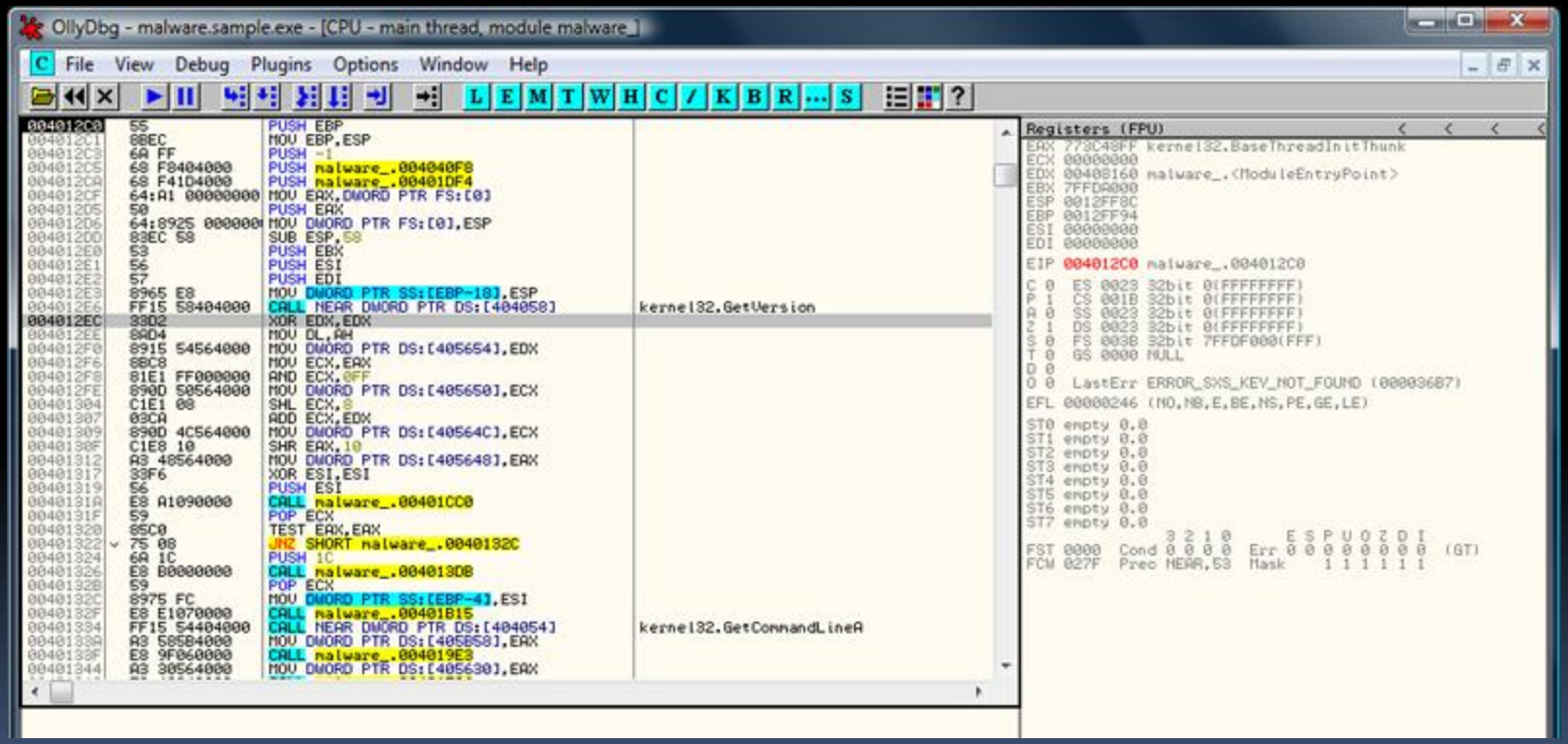
- Unpack the Sample
  - Execute it to the original entry point



OllyDbg

Reversing in action|Today

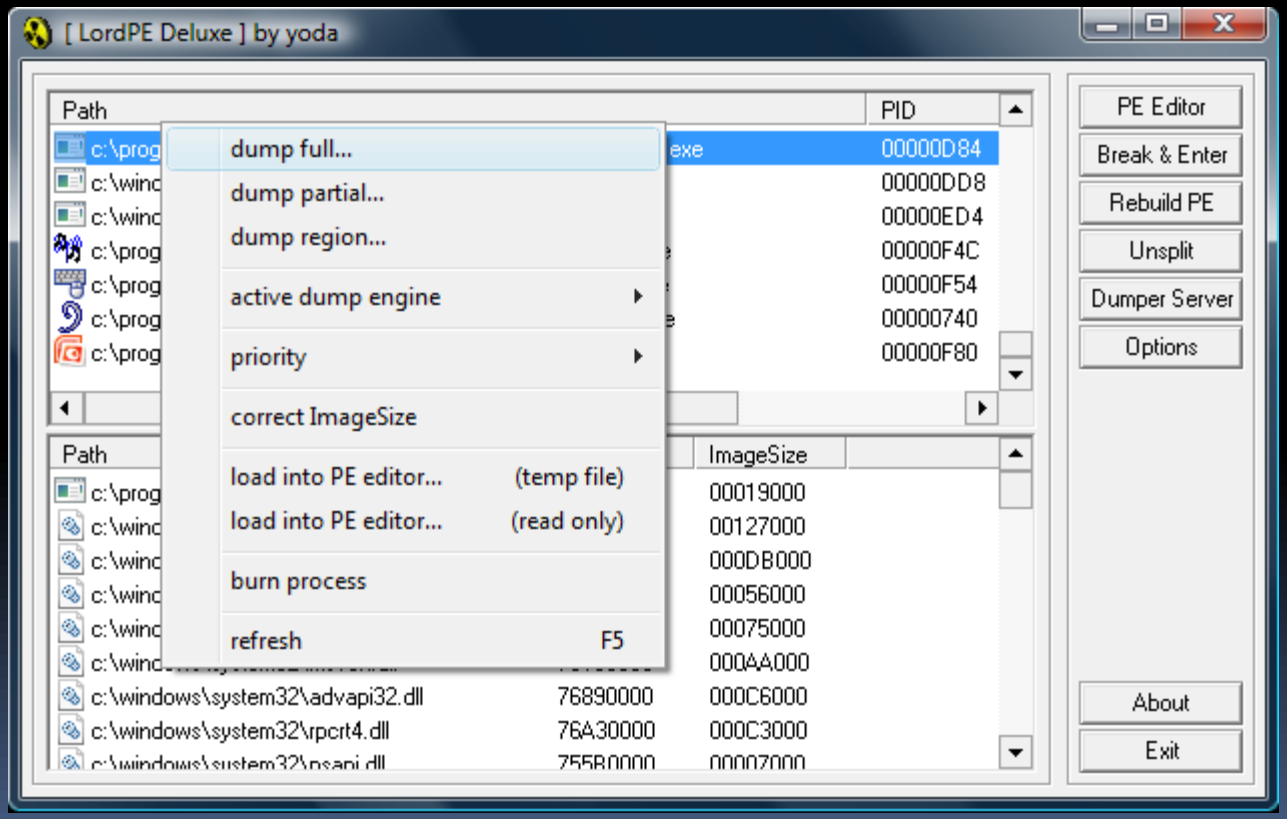
- Unpack the Sample
  - Execute it to the original entry point



OllyDbg

Reversing in action|Today

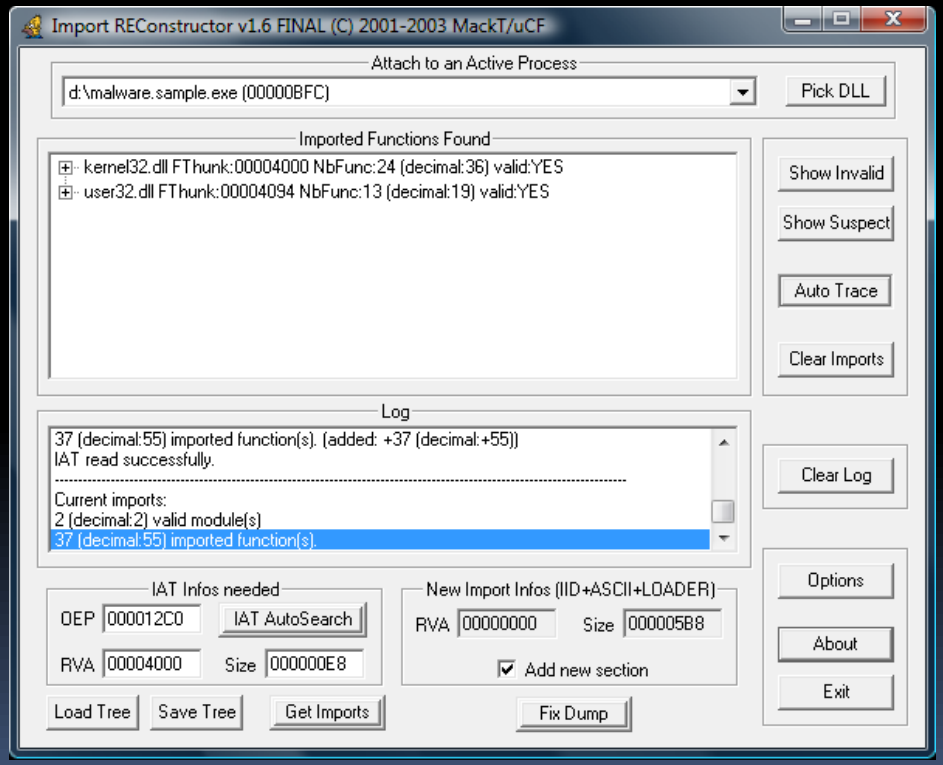
- Unpack the Sample
  - Dump the process memory



LordPE

Reversing in action|Today

- Unpack the Sample
  - Fix the import table



ImpRec

Problems with File analysis

- File analysis takes time
  - Identifying requires keeping up with shells
  - Shells evolve & have different forms
- Analysts get more samples then they can handle
- File unpacking takes even more time
  - Protection "tricks" continue to evolve
  - Yet, this process can be **automated!**

TitanEngine

ReversingLabs Corporation

Fast Reversing|Tomorrow

- TitanEngine key features:
  - Framework designed to work with PE files
  - SDK has 250 documented functions
  - Easy automation of all reversing tools
  - Supports both x86 and x64
  - Can create:
    - Static, Dynamic & Generic unpackers
    - New file analysis tools
  - Tested on over 150 unpackers
  - Its **free** and **open source** – **LGPL3**!

Furious Reversing|Tomorrow

- Engine simulates reverse engineer's presence
  - Unpacking process has the same steps:
    - Debugs until entry point
    - Dumps memory to disk
    - Collects data for import fixing
    - Collects data for relocation fixing
    - Custom fixes (Code splices, Entry point, …)

TitanEngine|Content

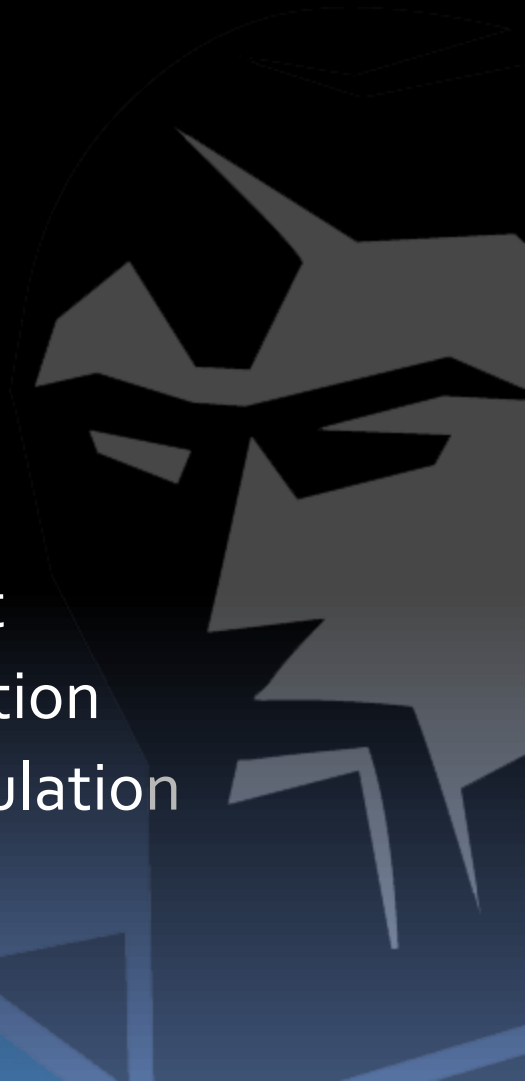
- SDK Contains:
  - Integrated x86/x64 debugger
  - Integrated x86/x64 disassembler
  - Integrated memory dumper
  - Integrated import tracer & fixer
  - Integrated relocation fixer
  - Integrated file realigner
  - TLS, Resources, Exports…

TitanEngine|Debugger

- Integrated x86/x64 Debugger
  - Attach / Detach
  - Trace, including single stepping
  - Set several types of breakpoints:
    - Software (INT3)
    - Hardware
    - Memory
    - Flexible
    - API
  - Access debugged file's context

TitanEngine|Debugger

- Integrated x86/x64 Debugger
  - Disassembly instructions
    - Disassemble a length
    - Full disassemble
  - Memory manipulation
    - Find, Replace, Patch, Fill…
  - Get call/jump destination
  - Check if the jump will execute or not
  - Thread module for thread manipulation
  - Librarian module for module manipulation



TitanEngine|Dumper

- Integrated Memory Dumper
  - Dump memory
    - Process, regions or modules
  - Paste PE header from disk to memory
  - Manipulate file sections
    - Extract, resort, add, delete & resize
  - Manipulate file overlay
    - Find, extract, add, copy & remove

TitanEngine|Dumper

- Integrated Memory Dumper
  - Convert addresses
    - From relative to physical, and vice-versa
    - Get section number from address
  - PE header data
    - Get and set PE header values

TitanEngine|Importer

- Integrated Import Fixer
  - Build new import tables on the fly
  - Get API information
    - API address in both your & debugged process
    - DLL to hold API from API address
    - Remote & local DLL loaded base
    - API name from address
    - API Forwarders

TitanEngine|Importer

- Integrated Import Fixer
  - Automatic import table functions:
    - Locate import table in the memory
    - Fix the import table automatically
    - Fix import eliminations, automatically
  - Enumerate and handle import table data
  - Move import table from one file to another
  - Load import table from any PE file

TitanEngine|Tracer

- Integrated Import Tracer
  - Identify import redirections and eliminations
    - Fix known import protections
  - Use integrated tracers to resolve imports
    - Static disassembly tracer
    - Static hasher disassembly tracer
  - Use ImpRec modules to fix redirections

TitanEngine|Relocater

- Integrated Relocation Fixer
  - Build new relocation table on the fly
  - Resolve relocation table
    - Grab relocation table directly from the process
    - Make & compare memory snapshots
  - Remove relocation table from the file
  - Relocate file to new image base

TitanEngine|Realigner

- Integrated File Realigner
  - Validate PE files
  - Fix broken PE files
  - Realign files: reduce size & validate
  - Fix header checksum
  - Wipe sections

TitanEngine|The Rest…

- TLS
  - Remove callbacks
  - Break at callbacks
- Exporter
  - Build export tables on the fly
- Handler
  - Close remote handles
  - Get file lock handles
  - Find open mutexes

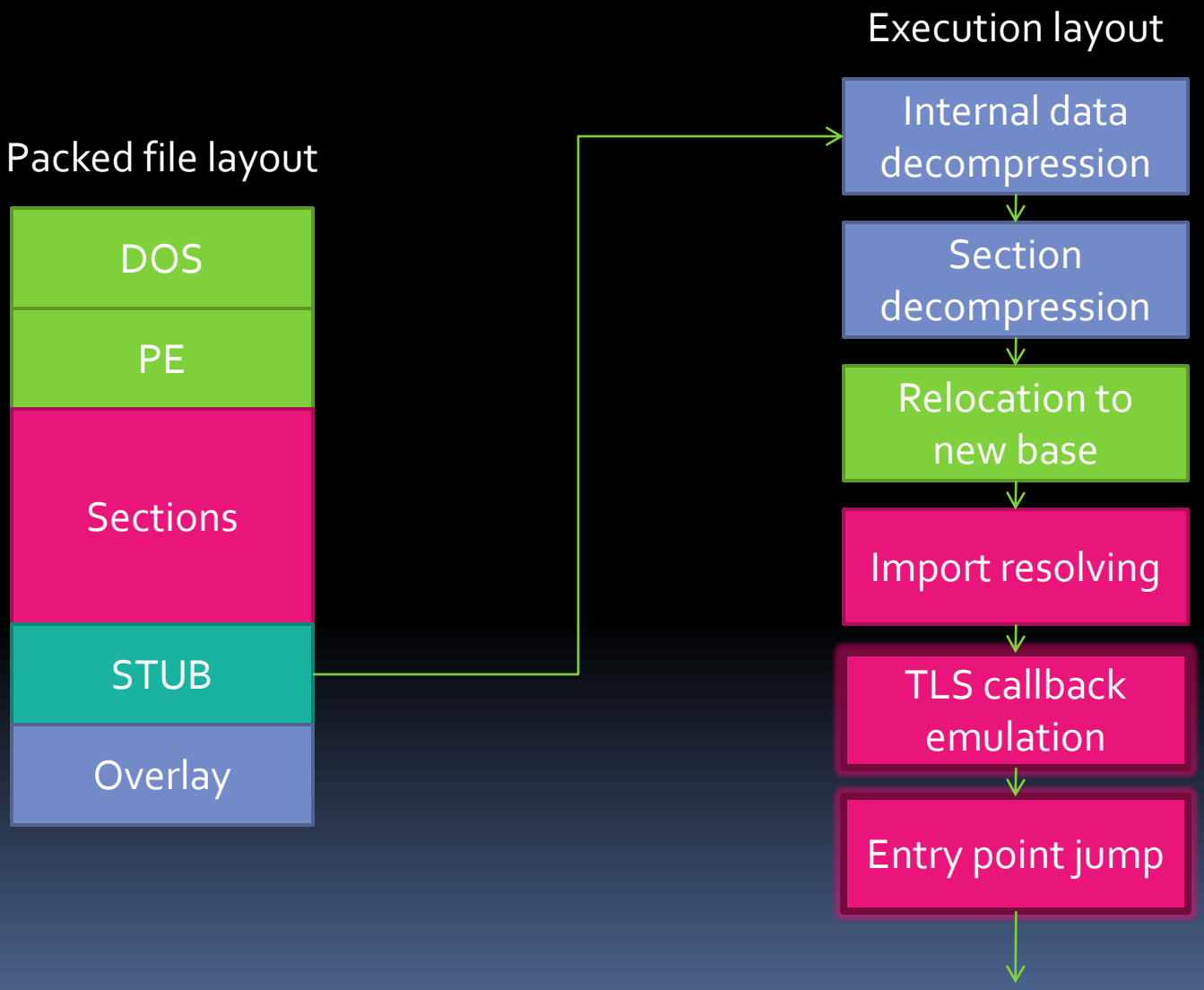
TitanEngine|The Rest…

- Resource
  - Extract resource
- Remote
  - Load & Free libraries into running process
- OEP Finder
  - Get OEP location generically
- Static
  - Unpack files statically

Back to Basics: Shell Modifier Types

- Shell Division
  - Crypters
  - Packers
  - Protectors
  - Bundlers
    - Data bundlers
    - Overlay/Resource bundlers
  - Hybrids

Packed File Layout



Unpacker Types…

- Basic Unpacker Division
  - Static unpackers:
    - **Pro:** simple, fast & supported by TitanEngine
    - **Con:** don't work if internal shell mechanisms change
  - Dynamic unpackers:
    - **Pro:** "simple", fast & supported by TitanEngine
    - **Con:** carry a certain risk of file execution!
  - Generic unpackers:
    - **Pro:** Can support large number of similar shells
    - **Con:** Can be highly inaccurate!

Writing an Unpacker…

- Analyze the Packing Shell
  - Step 1
    - Determine protection types
      - Design ways to avoid them
      - Determine method to resolve custom protections
      - Determine method to skip entry point layer protection
      - Determine if we can automate file identification

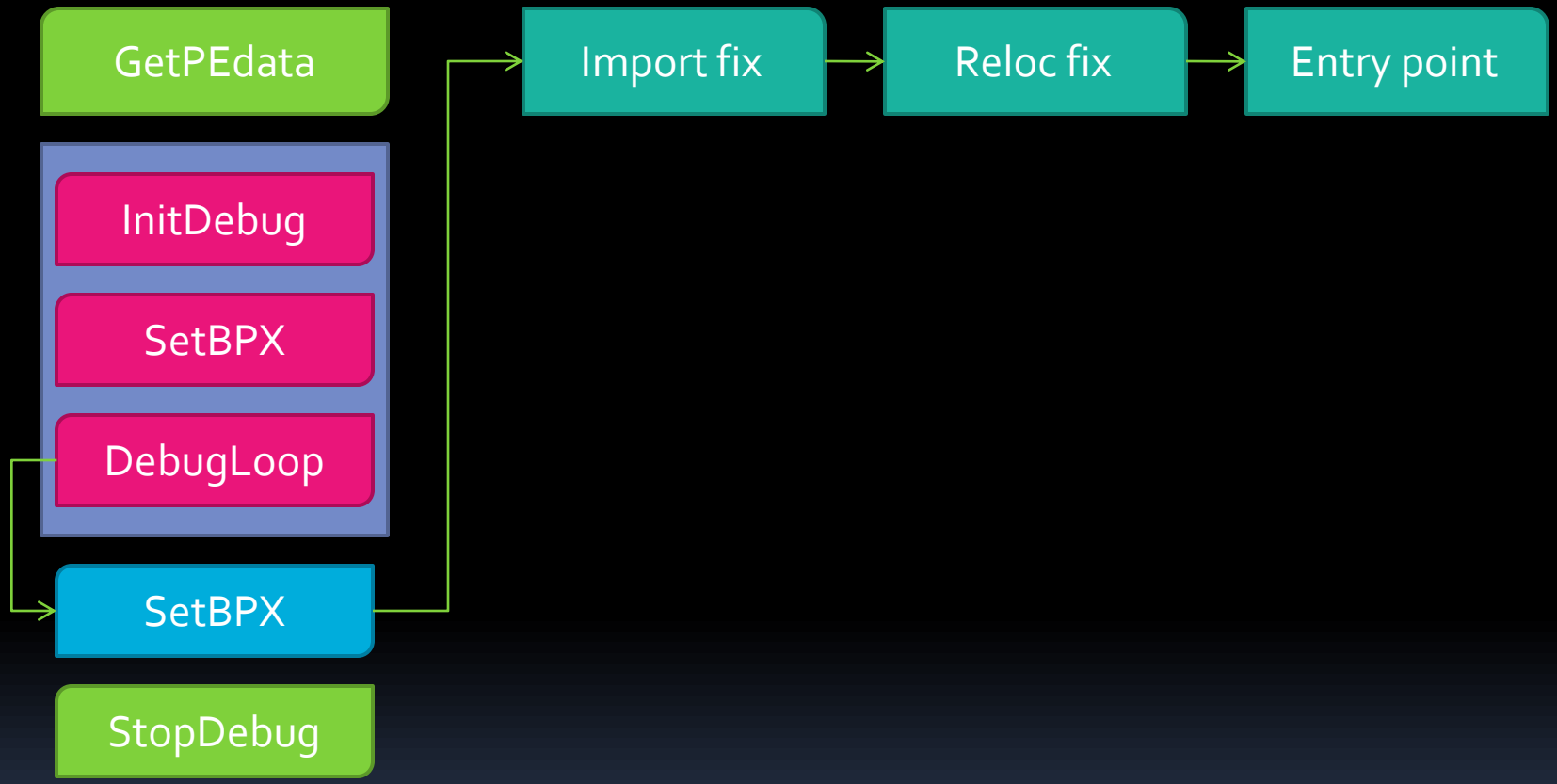
Writing an Unpacker…

- Analyze the Packing Shell
  - Step 2
    - Locate packing shell's important parts
      - Where does it fill import table?
      - Where does it relocate the file?
      - How does it jump to OEP?
    - Identify byte patterns, using ***lots*** of samples!
      - Proper patterns contain wild cards
      - Proper patterns work on all samples
      - Proper patterns are based on ***multiple*** compiler cases!

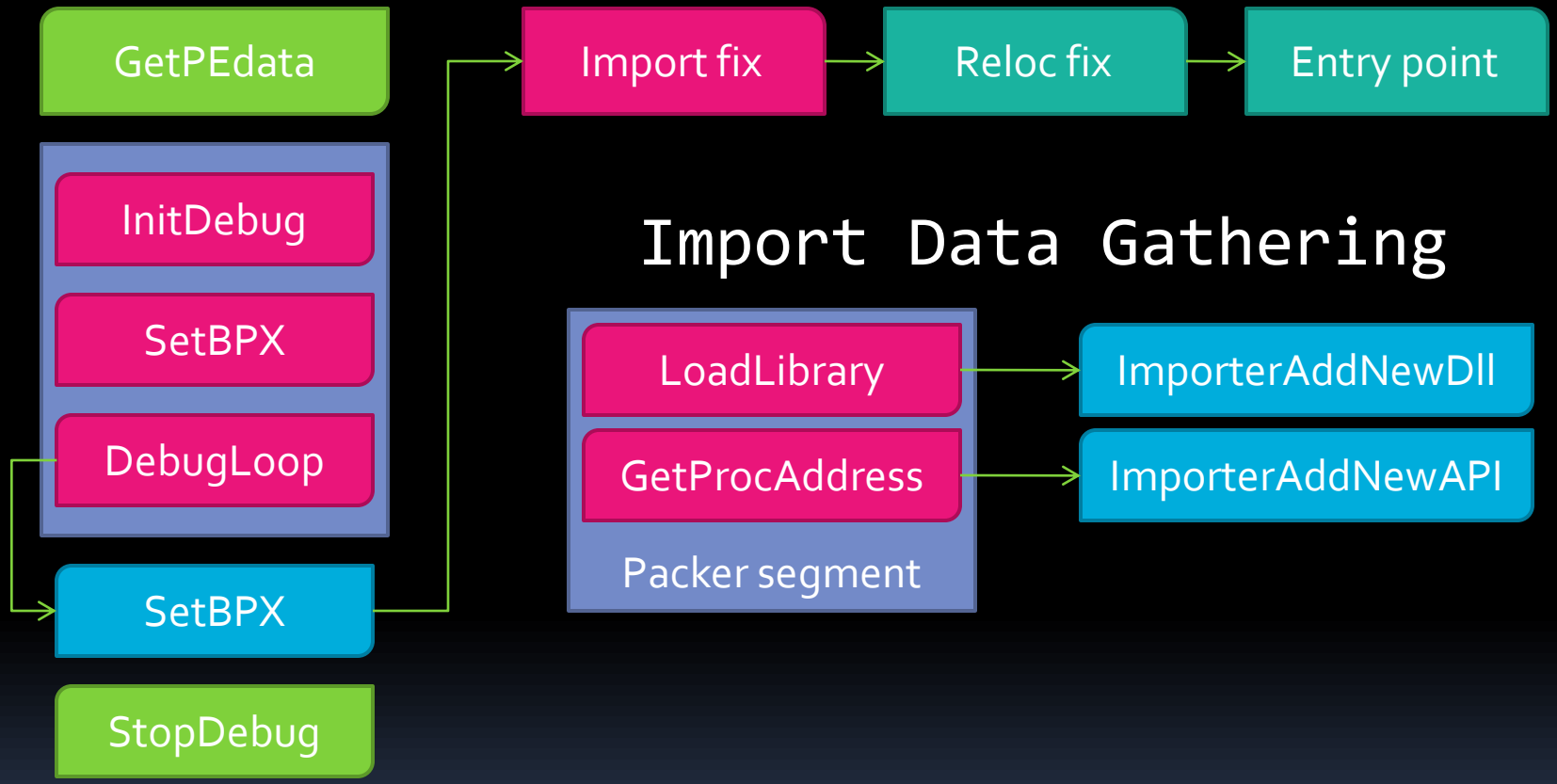
Writing an Unpacker…

- Writing the Unpacking Code
  - Step 3
    - Select the best platform for unpacker creation
      - Select framework
        - Write a custom one, or select existing
      - Select programming language
  - Step 4
    - Write and test it
      - Test on as many samples as you can get your hands on!

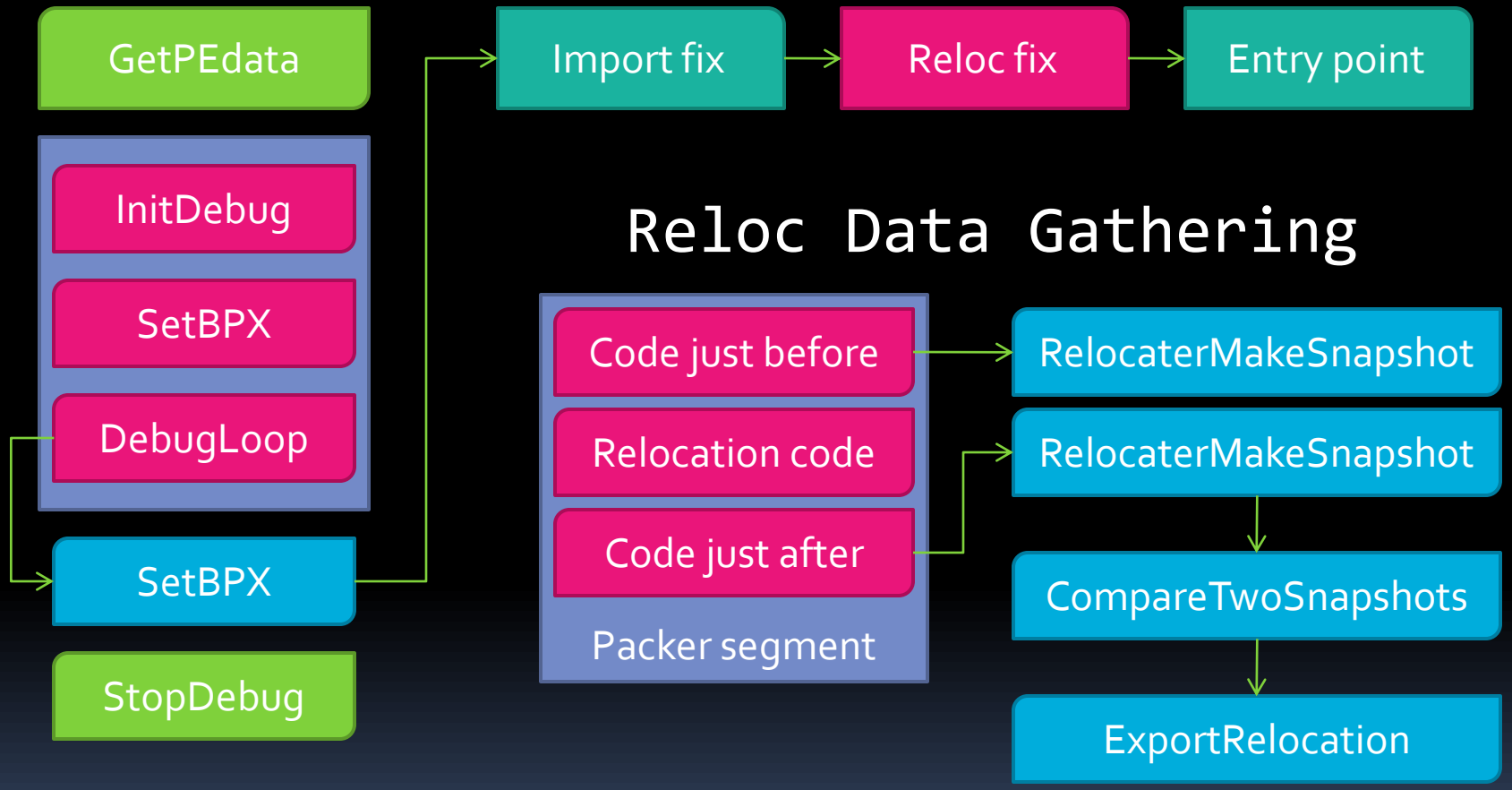
Dynamic Unpacker Layout



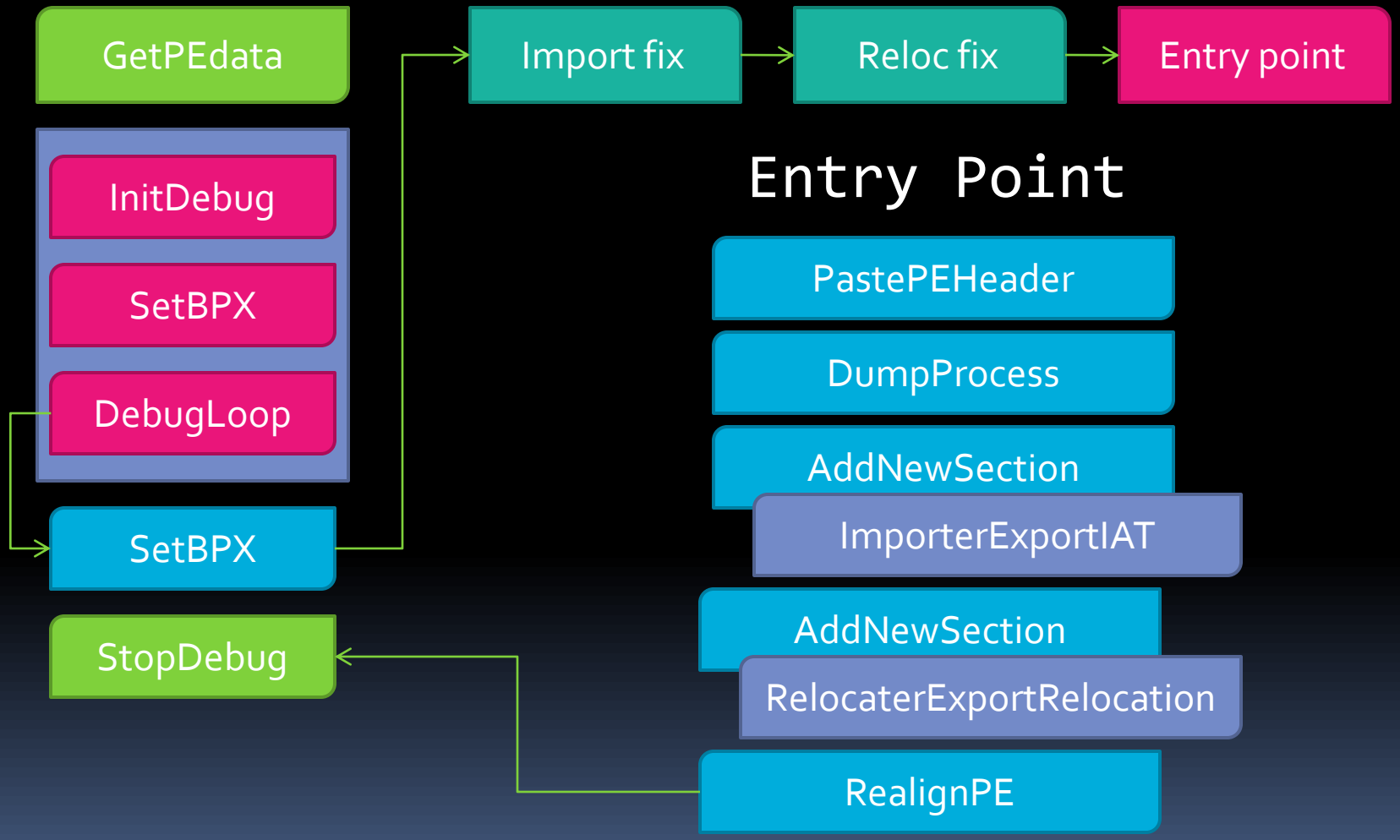
Dynamic Unpacker Layout



Dynamic Unpacker Layout



Dynamic Unpacker Layout



File -> New Unpacker…

- Creating a Dynamic Unpacker for UPX:
  - Gathering info on the packer
    - Free & open source
    - Can pack DLL & EXE files
    - Multiple platforms supported
    - DEP supported but no x64 support
  - Multiple unpackers exist
    - UPX can decompress itself!
  - Multiple signatures available

UPX | Analysis

- Packer Code Points of Interest
  - Point of interest #1:
    - Import table filling (string case)

```
/*40826C*/  MOV EAX,DWORD PTR DS:[EDI]
/*40826E*/  OR EAX,EAX
/*408270*/  JE SHORT crackme_.004082AE
/*408272*/  MOV EBX,DWORD PTR DS:[EDI+4]
/*408275*/  LEA EAX,DWORD PTR DS:[EAX+ESI+8510]
/*40827C*/  ADD EBX,ESI
/*40827E*/  PUSH EAX
/*40827F*/  ADD EDI,8
/*408282*/  CALL NEAR DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+854C]
/*408288*/  XCHG EAX,EBP
```

Bytes: 50 83 C7 08 FF 96 4C 85 00 00

BPX

UPX | Analysis

- Packer Code Points of Interest
  - Point of interest #1:
    - Import table filling (ordinal case)

```
/*40C304*/  MOVZX EAX,WORD PTR DS:[EDI]
/*40C307*/  INC EDI
/*40C308*/  PUSH EAX
/*40C309*/  INC EDI
/*40C30A*/  DB B9
/*40C30B*/  PUSH EDI
/*40C30C*/  DEC EAX
/*40C30D*/  REPNE SCAS BYTE PTR ES:[EDI]
/*40C30F*/  PUSH EBP
/*40C310*/  CALL NEAR DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+CBF8]
/*40C316*/  OR EAX,EAX
```

Bytes: 50 47 ?? 57 48 F2 AE **(BPX @ start)**

Bytes: 57 48 F2 AE ??FF96 F8 CB 00 00

↑

BPX

UPX | Analysis

- Packer Code Points of Interest
  - Point of interest #2:
    - Relocating file to loaded base

```
/*3D2C4A*/  ADD EDI,4
/*3D2C4D*/  LEA EBX,DWORD PTR DS:[ESI-4]
/*3D2C50*/  XOR EAX,EAX
/*3D2C52*/  MOV AL,BYTE PTR DS:[EDI]
/*3D2C54*/  INC EDI
/*3D2C55*/  OR EAX,EAX
/*3D2C57*/  JE SHORT iPackage.003D2C7B
/*3D2C59*/  CMP AL,0EF
/*3D2C5B*/  JA SHORT iPackage.003D2C6E
/*3D2C5D*/  ADD EBX,EAX
/*3D2C5F*/  MOV EAX,DWORD PTR DS:[EBX]
/*3D2C61*/  XCHG AH,AL
/*3D2C63*/  ROL EAX,10
/*3D2C66*/  XCHG AH,AL
/*3D2C68*/  ADD EAX,ESI
/*3D2C6A*/  MOV DWORD PTR DS:[EBX],EAX
/*3D2C6C*/  JMP SHORT iPackage.003D2C50
/*3D2C6E*/  AND AL,0F
/*3D2C70*/  SHL EAX,10
/*3D2C73*/  MOV AX,WORD PTR DS:[EDI]
/*3D2C76*/  ADD EDI,2
/*3D2C79*/  JMP SHORT iPackage.003D2C5D
```

Snapshot

UPX | Analysis

- Packer Code Points of Interest
  - Point of interest #3:
    - Entry point jump (old method)

```
/*4082A1*/  MOV DWORD PTR DS:[EBX],EAX
/*4082A3*/  ADD EBX,4
/*4082A6*/  JMP SHORT crackme_.00408289
/*4082A8*/  CALL NEAR DWORD PTR DS:[ESI+8554]
/*4082AE*/  POPAD
/*4082AF*/  JMP crackme_.004012C0
```

Bytes: 61 E9 0C 90 FF FF

BPX

UPX | Analysis

- Packer Code Points of Interest
  - Point of interest #3:
    - Entry point jump (new method)

```
/*45F5F5*/  POPAD
/*45F5F6*/  LEA EAX,DWORD PTR SS:[ESP-80]
/*45F5FA*/  PUSH 0
/*45F5FC*/  CMP ESP,EAX
/*45F5FE*/  JNZ SHORT dELPHI_u.0045F5FA
/*45F600*/  SUB ESP,-80
/*45F603*/  JMP dELPHI_u.0044CF38
```

Bytes: 83 EC ?? E9 30 D9 FE FF

BPX

UPX | Unpacker

- Starting the “Engine”
  - Read interesting file data
    - ImageBase, AddressOfEntryPoint, …
  - Initialize the debugger
    - InitDebugEx for executables
    - InitDLLDebug for libraries
  - Set initial breakpoint at packer EP
  - DebugLoop();

UPX | Unpacker EP Callback

- Finding Our Points of Interest
  - Find import filling code
    - Set breakpoints pointing to import handle code
      - There are one or two breakpoints here
  - Find “relocate to new base” code
    - Set breakpoints pointing to snapshot code
      - There is one breakpoint here (optional)
  - Find entry point jump
    - Set breakpoints pointing to unpack finalization
      - There is one breakpoint here (but two patterns!)

UPX | Unpacker Breakpoints

- Assign Callbacks to Our Breakpoints
  - Import fixing callback
    - Breakpoint #1; Loading *new* library
      - In this callback call ImporterAddNewDLL
      - Data: EAX holds the pointer to string in ***remote*** **process**

UPX | Unpacker Breakpoints

- Assign Callbacks to Our Breakpoints
  - Import fixing callback
    - Breakpoint #2: Getting API address (string case)
      - In this callback call ImporterAddNewAPI
      - Data: EAX holds the pointer to string in ***remote*** **process**
      - Data: EBX holds the data write address
    - Breakpoint #3: Getting API address (ordinal case)
      - In this callback call ImporterAddNewAPI
      - Data: EDI holds the ordinal number
      - Data: EBX holds the data write address

UPX | Unpacker Breakpoints

- Assign Callbacks to Our Breakpoints
  - Relocation fixing callback
    - Breakpoint #4; Snapshot #1
      - This is optional breakpoint, present only if file is DLL
      - In this callback we create a snapshot file
      - Function RelocaterMakeSnapshoot
        - Memory which will be snapshot is first PE section

UPX | Unpacker Breakpoints

- Assign Callbacks to Our Breakpoints
  - Original entry point callback
    - Breakpoint #5
      - Fix (possibly broken) PE header with PastePEHeader
      - Dump the process with DumpProcess function
      - Make second relocation snapshot & compare them
      - Add new section for IAT and export IAT to it
        - ImporterExportIAT
      - Add new section for relocations and export them
        - RelocaterExportRelocation / RelocaterChangeFileBase
      - Realign the file with RealignPE
      - Move overlay from original to unpacked file
      - StopDebug();

UPX | DEMO

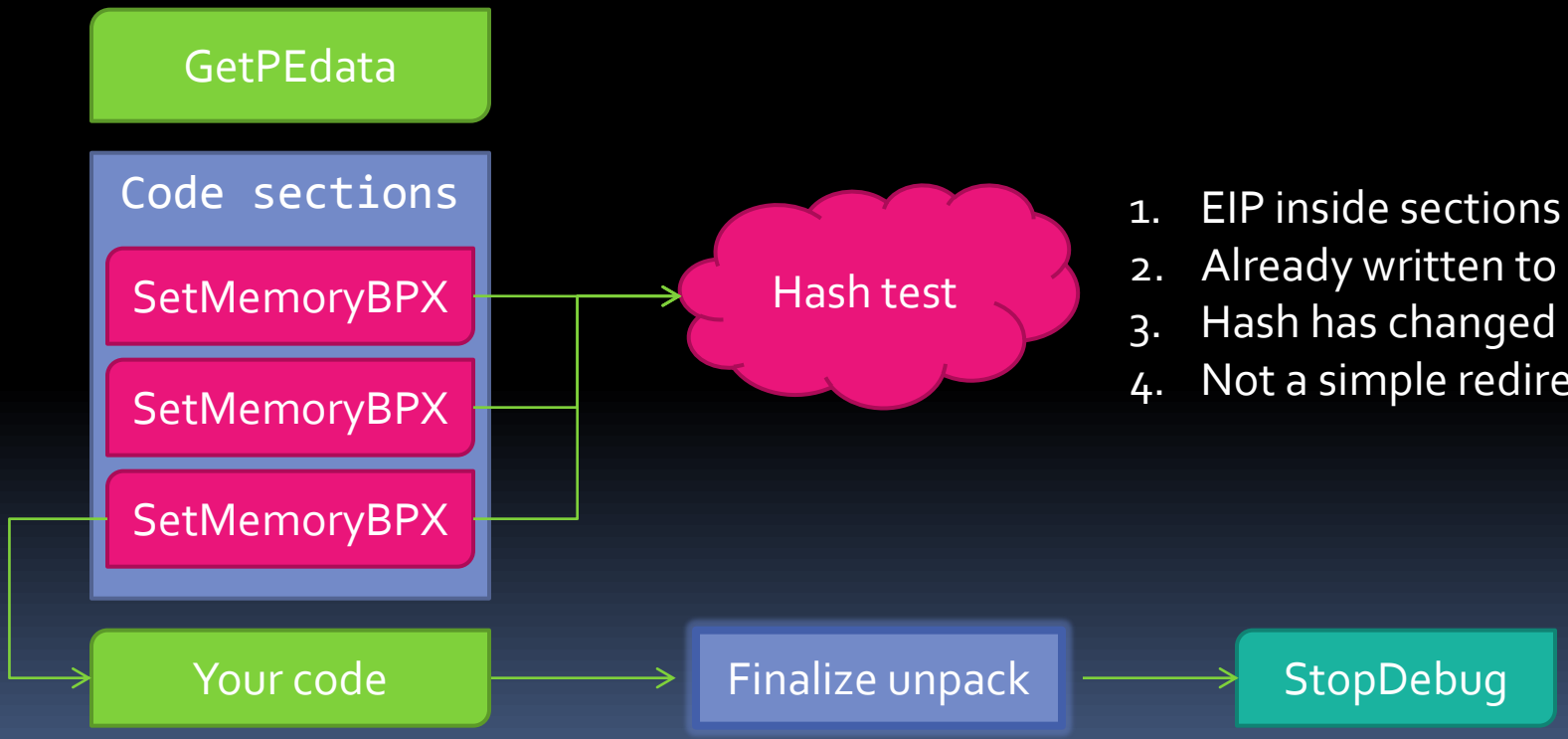
- DEMO - UPX Unpacker
  - But does it actually work?

File -> New Unpacker…

- Create a Generic *Executable* Unpacker
  - No signatures, no patterns, no problem…
    - Generically determine OEP location
    - EP can not be fixed without getting into specifics
    - Automatically fix imports
      - Fix redirections & import eliminations
    - No hassle with relocations
      - But generic DLL unpacker is possible!

Generic OEP finder blueprint

- Creating a generic entry point finder



Generic Unpacker | DEMO

- RL!dePacker 1.5
  - But does it actually work?

AlexProtector | DEMO

- ImportStudio 2.0
  - Tool similar to ImpRec used to fix imports
  - Demo: fixing import eliminations

tELock | DEMO

- ImportStudio 2.0
  - Tool similar to ImpRec used to fix imports
  - Demo: using ImpRec plugins

TitanEngine | What's Next?

- Extend Framework
  - File function analysis
  - Plugins, modules and scripts
  - Integrated file identification
  - Extend SDK to Delphi and MASM
  - Extend SDK to python and ruby
- More Samples of Usage
  - One unpacker per week project
- More Analysis Tools Built Around It
  - UnpackStudio, MFK…

TitanEngine – How to Help?

- http://titan.reversinglabs.com
- Open Source Project
- Contribute Solutions
- Help others with tutorials
- Contribute Code
- Forums

Questions?

Questions?

(What Would You Like to Know)

ReversingLabs Corporation