

The background is a textured, painterly illustration of a city street scene. It features tall buildings on either side, a traffic light in the foreground, and a car in the distance. The style is reminiscent of a charcoal or oil painting, with visible brushstrokes and a somewhat muted color palette. The text is overlaid on this scene.

Finding drive-by rookies using an automated active observation platform

Rintaro Koike (NTT Security Japan KK)

Yosuke Chubachi (Active Defense Institute, LTD)



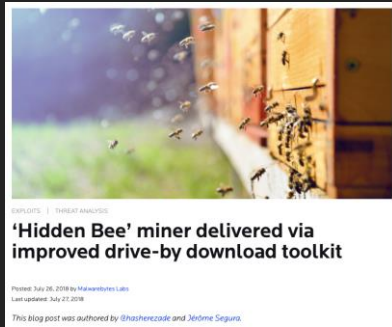
Who are we?

- **Rintaro Koike**
 - SOC Analyst & Threat Researcher @ NTT Security Japan
 - Founder & Researcher @ nao_sec
- **Yosuke Chubachi**
 - One-man Start-up CEO/Founder @ Active Defense Institute, Ltd.
 - Active Defense provides:
 - Tactical Cyber Threat Intelligence Service focused on DbD
 - Consulting, Pentest and Hands-on Training
 - Researcher and operator of this automation system @ nao_sec
- **nao_sec**
 - Security Research Team (NOT COMPANY)
 - Independent & Non-Profit



Introduction

DbD Threat Landscape

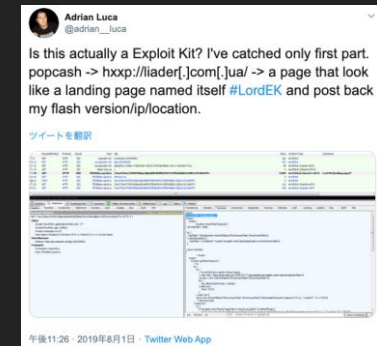
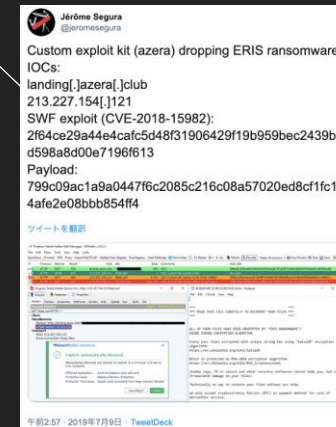


2018-07
Underminer



2019-03
Spelevo

2019-07
azera



2019-08
Lord

2018-08
Fallout

Hello "Fallout Exploit Kit"

2018-09-01

First

At the end of August 2018, we observed a new Exploit Kit. Its behavior (code generation using html) and URL pattern are similar to Nuclear Pack Exploit Kit. Therefore we named it "Fallout Exploit Kit". Fallout Exploit Kit is using CVE-2018-4878 and CVE-2018-8174. That code is distinctive and interesting.

2019-07
Radio

Weak Drive-by Download attack with "Radio Exploit Kit"

2019-07-15

First

Since July 11 2019, we have observed a new Drive-by Download attack. It is redirected from the ad-network. It does not use a conventional Exploit Kit such as RIG or Fallout, but uses its own exploit kit. We call this "Radio Exploit Kit".

[1] <https://blog.malwarebytes.com/threat-analysis/2018/07/hidden-bee-miner-delivered-via-improved-drive-by-download-toolkit/>

[2] <https://nao-sec.org/2018/09/hello-fallout-exploit-kit.html>

[3] <https://twitter.com/kafeine/status/1103649040800145409>

[4] <https://twitter.com/jeromesegura/status/1148289957716344832>

[5] <https://nao-sec.org/2019/07/weak-dbd-attack-with-radioek.html>

[6] https://twitter.com/adrian_luca/status/1156934215566536705



Our Research

nao_sec
@nao_sec

#RadioEK -> #NEMTY Ransomware
(CC: @malware_traffic, @jeromesegura, @VK_Intel)
app.any.run/tasks/04130377...

ツイートを翻訳

Progress Telerik Fiddler Web Debugger - EK Fiddle v.0.9.3.4

#	Result	Protocol	Host	URL	Body	Comments
1	301	HTTP	popcash.net	/world/go/216668/462055	162	
2	200	HTTP	ps.popcash.net	/go/216668/462055	426	
3	303	HTTP	ps.popcash.net	/ad/ad?p=216668&w=462055&t=38c08b4...	48	
4	200	HTTP	45.147.198.206	/	3,542	Radio EK (HTML/JS) (Landing Page)
5	200	HTTPS	iplogger.com	/11kvc	116	Network fingerprinting (URI)
6	200	HTTPS	iplogger.com	/11kvc	116	Network fingerprinting (URI)
7	200	HTTP	45.147.198.206	/supra.exe	231,936	
8	200	HTTP	api.lipify.org	/	14	
9	200	HTTP	api.db-ip.com	/v2/free/153.249.74.119/countryName	5	
10	200	HTTPS	dist.torproject.org	/torbrowser/8.5.5/tor-win32-0.4.1.5.zip	0	

nao_sec
@nao_sec

#FalloutEK -> #Raccoon Stealer (v1.2)
app.any.run/tasks/51f9adaf...

ツイートを翻訳

Progress Telerik Fiddler Web Debugger - EK Fiddle v.0.9.3.4

#	Result	Protocol	Host	URL	Body	Comments
1	200	HTTP	www.1q2w3e5yb.com	/	731	
2	200	HTTPS	adexchange4u.com	/51n5/bdx2/jpVjD	5,169	Fallout EK (Landing Page)
3	200	HTTPS	adexchange4u.com	/AMGK/27_07_19807Lb=Visoring_tedesch...	29,012	Fallout EK (JS Code)
4	200	HTTPS	adexchange4u.com	/Fq7/1994-06-11/liquidise	7,596	Fallout EK (Encoded Data 1)
5	200	HTTPS	adexchange4u.com	/1986-10-17/wlw?eJer=JyZm8lenora=690...	28,652	Fallout EK (Encoded Data 2)
6	200	HTTPS	adexchange4u.com	/8635_Crouch/MWMRLK	35,139	Fallout EK (CVE-2018-15982)
7	200	HTTPS	adexchange4u.com	/k4w/Ew/piddlers?EVgCK=byrewoman_cy...	5,805	Fallout EK (Encoded PowerShell)

nao_sec
@nao_sec

#PseudoGate -> #GrandSoftEK -> #Ramnit
app.any.run/tasks/d3226768...

Progress Telerik Fiddler Web Debugger - EK Fiddle v.0.9.3.2

#	Result	Protocol	Host	URL	Body	Comments
1	200	HTTP	kohikan.space	/	11,058 (01)	PseudoGate
2	200	HTTP	bfmib.terminating.promocdscounter-tokyo.host	/amways_respondingprog	530 (02)	GrandSoft EK (HTML/JS) (Landing Page)
3	200	HTTP	bfmib.terminating.promocdscounter-tokyo.host	/getversional/1/1/3/4	21,185 (03)	GrandSoft EK (URI) (Landing Page)
4	200	HTTP	bfmib.terminating.promocdscounter-tokyo.host	/N/1/1/4	116,144 (04)	GrandSoft EK (URI) (Payload)

nao_sec
@nao_sec

#RigEK -> #SmokeLoader -> #Danabot + #SystemBC +
#Vidar (v13.1) + #Quasar RAT + #CrySis Ransomware
+ #Predator + #SmokeLoader
app.any.run/tasks/086e4aa9...

Progress Telerik Fiddler Web Debugger - EK Fiddle v.0.9.3.4

#	Result	Protocol	Host	URL	Body	Comments
1	302	HTTPS	btcseller.club	/	0 (01)	
2	302	HTTP	at2tds17.world	/fn84fhweuf	0 (02)	Redirection to RIG EK (Headers)
3	200	HTTP	188.225.26.246	/?MTMjNjgw&PKRTOCVK8BArdq=known...	144,870 (03)	RIG EK (URI) (Landing Page)
4	200	HTTP	188.225.26.246	/?OTM2NTM=&dSRwgT&CGKzocLQxW=be...	6,570 (04)	RIG EK (URI) (Flash Exploit)
5	200	HTTP	188.225.26.246	/?MY3C11&QX7/1C11&AW&ArCrHp2	758,048 (05)	RIG EK (URI) (Payload)



Motivation

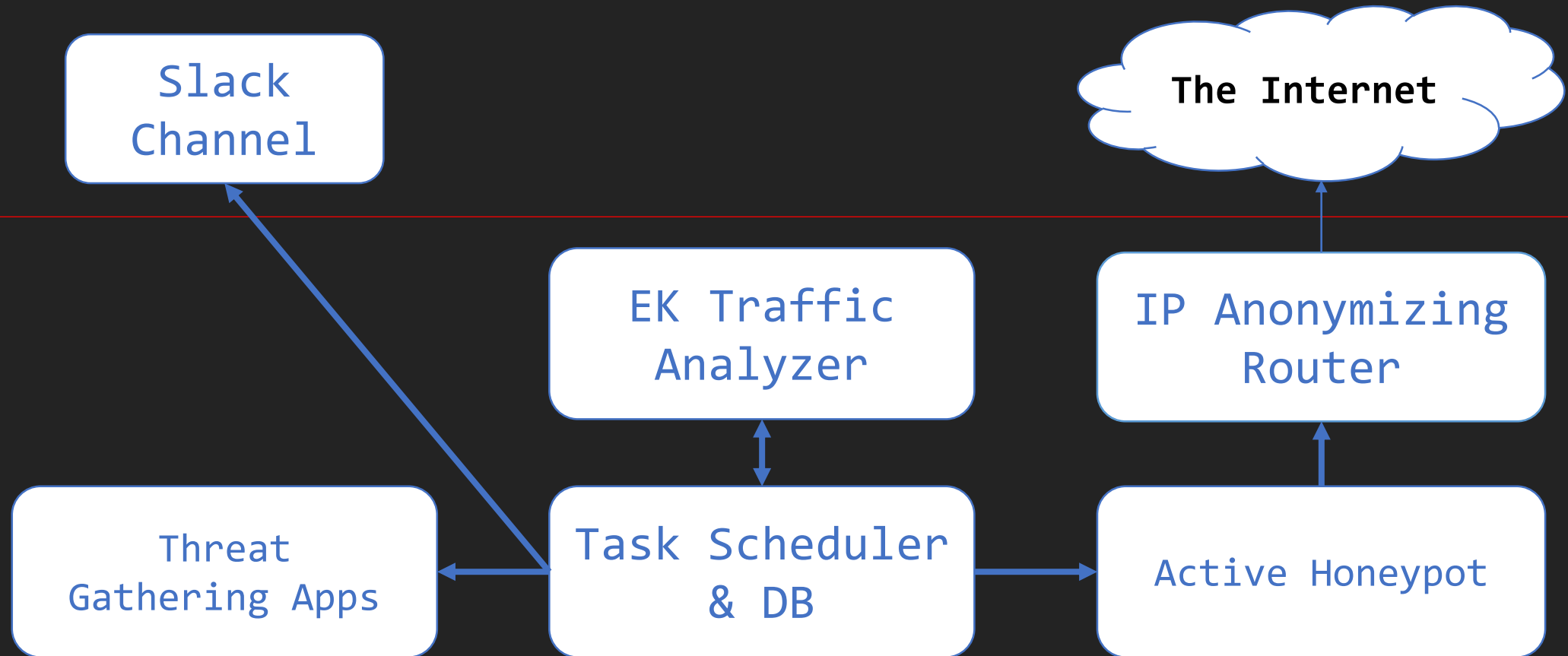
- **Drive-by Download attack is still “ACTIVE”**
 - Many attack campaigns and EKs have appeared
- **Very difficult to observe manually**
- **Too late since the incident occurred**
- **Want to research the latest threat trends automatically**
 - Active Observation + Analysis + Extraction

An automated active observation platform



Our Observation Platform Overview

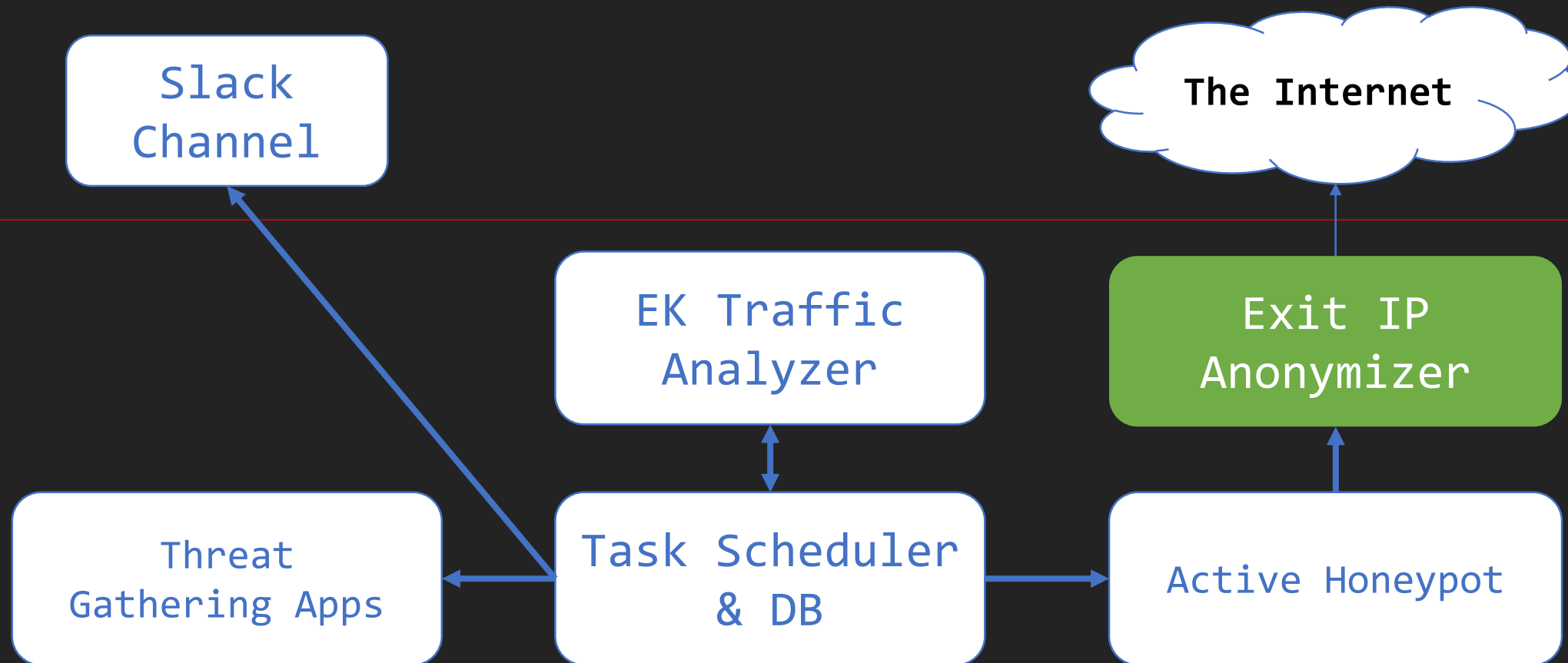
Intra





First, Exit IP Anonymizer

Intra





Problems of Exploit Kit Crawling

- **EK and malware distribution infrastructure BAN specific IP address and range**
 - Example, TrendMicro, Symantec, public cloud IP range is BANNED by RIG EK
- **Also ad-network BANNED web-crawler because...**
 - Crawling access is malicious activity to ad-network lol



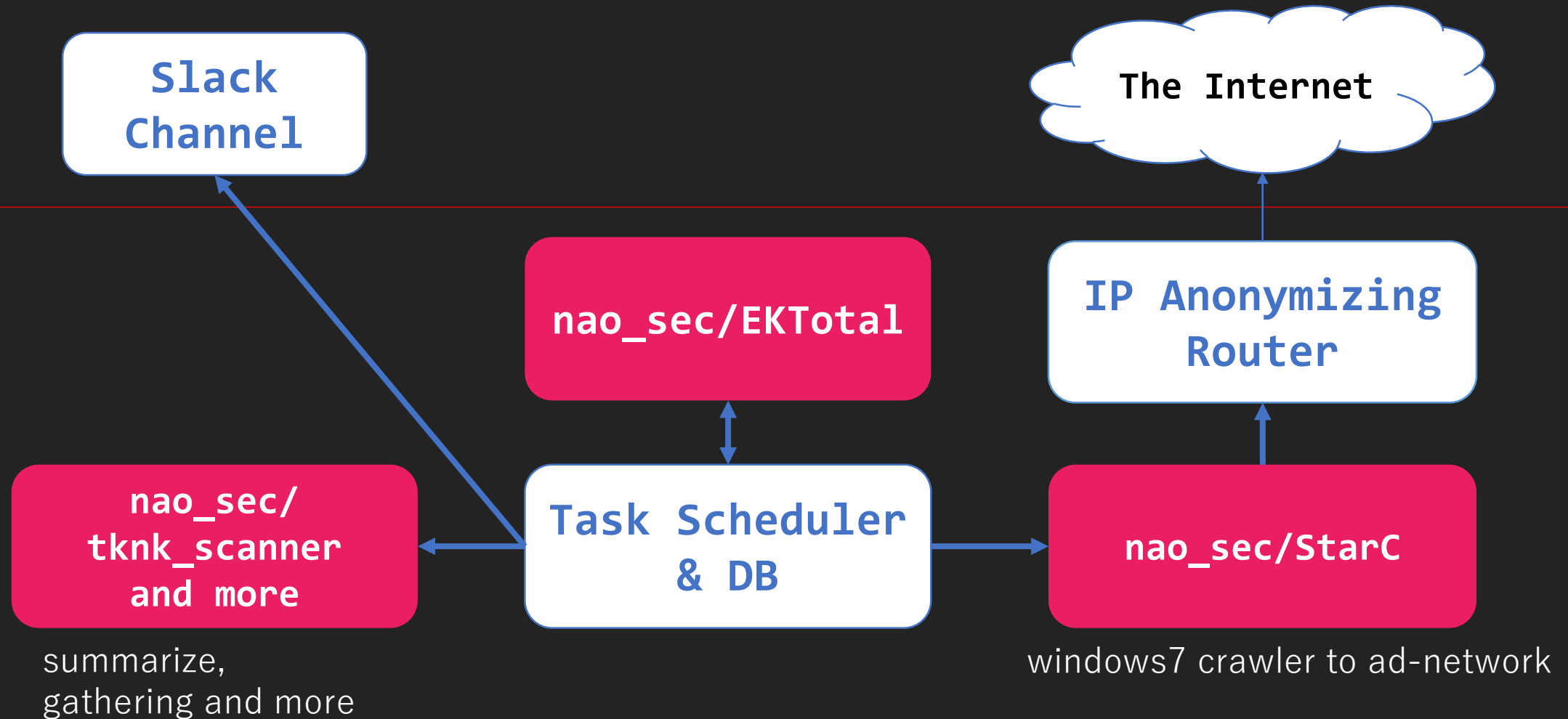
Need Exit IP Addresses more and more!

- Popular Solution: VPN Services
- Better Solution: VPNGate(more variety IPs)
- Our Solution:



Next: nao_sec OSS Tools overview

Intra





Active Honeygot (StarC)

- **Simple high-interactive client honeypot**
 - <https://github.com/nao-sec/starc>
 - Input a URL, StarC access and collect data
 - Traffic data (pcap & saz)
 - Screenshot
 - Temp directory files



EK Traffic Analyzer (EKTOTAL)

- Automatic DbD traffic analyzer
 - <https://github.com/nao-sec/ektotal>
- Input a pcap or saz, EKTOTAL analyze traffic data
 - Identify campaign & EK
 - Extract some information
 - Encode key
 - CVE Number
 - SWF file
 - Malware
 - Depends on EKfiddle's rules
 - <https://github.com/malwareinfosec/EKfiddle>
 - Lazy "Gate Estimation" added on July, 2019



Lazy “Gate Estimation”

- Gate

- Always leads to EK if you meet certain conditions
- EKTotal can estimate Gate
- This function helps identify and categorize campaigns

```
[Alert] Estimated Gate  
[URL] http[:]//searchenginenaavigation.com/
```

```
[Alert] RIG EK (Landing Page)  
[URL] http[:]//176.57.215.119/?  
MzYyMDA3&JHLcz&eMctiz=detonator&OUqauMkc=perpetual&TfJnRTq=referred&HTJ  
Mv3DSKNbNkjWHViPxomG9MildZmqZGX_k7TDFf-qoVvcCgWR&TwUJWklw=strategy&GOYY  
eeBRawTp3E3WKgwzz4YIUlMVo66tj0iBwRL005_Q_UePMAJNrKKlJLl_mhj2&JUA1Av=det
```

```
[Alert] RIG EK (SWF Payload)  
[URL] http[:]//176.57.215.119/?  
MTgyMzc2&NYQnAuGPvb&xBxIGSuDmVC=vest&evLWuAZa=everyone&gcFxiNLWVEz=crit  
xomG9MildZaqZGX_k7vDff-qoVXcCgWRxpf&khFQFndqkZV=known&HezjBi=already&qX  
eeBRawrp3E3WKgwzz4YIUlwVo66tj0mBwRL005DQ_UePMANNrKKTE7k83m22iLZCQA&aaqGH  
artfelt&GvIuzYskCuGIyWL=referred&pdJGLt=di fference&yYOIBKxsJDsHMzkyODM1
```



Malware Identifier (tknk_scanner)

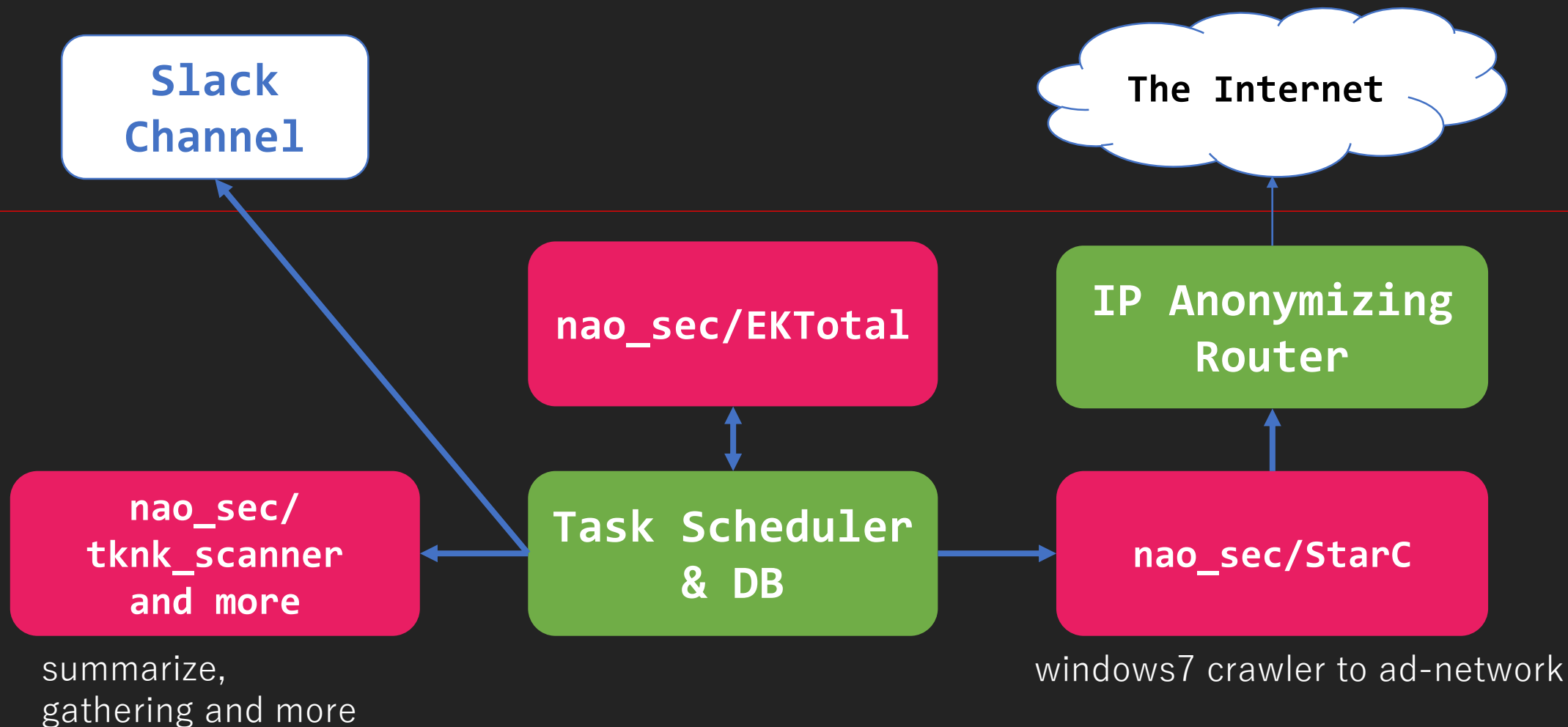
- `tknk_scanner` developed by Shota Nakajima and Keita Nomura @nao_sec
 - This tool introduced at Black Hat Europe 2018 Arsenal
- **Fast Malware Identifier**
 - Throw extracted unidentified binary by EKTtotal
- https://github.com/nao-sec/tknk_scanner





Workflow: Complex API calling :-<

Intra





Finally...

#dbd 9月20日 (金)

CTD_Bot アプリ 18:47

[Alert] Redirection to RIG EK (Estimated Gate)
[URL] http[:]//www.playbucket.com/

[Alert] RIG EK (Landing Page)
[URL] http[:]//2.59.41.10/?
MTA3NTAw&DPZJFu&HgyYJcGz=vest&KoZJBf=community&ffhd3s=w3bQMvXcJxjQFYbGMv3DSKNbNkjWHViPxoAG9MildZmqGX_k7rDFF-
qoVrcCgWR&qsFjJp=heartfelt&usATqk=di fference&GQScKWHgI=golfer&LEOVsm=constitution&t4gdfgf4=xFuRKLZUPQvjjkHWKQ0z1YpeB1Ib96C
njkmDmkSVg56AqReFNQ0R9qK1JLZ_mhj2&sJJsoZKu=referred&JhzgGZiZD=everyone&teEVLd=blackmail&wzzCTDq=heartfelt&eOLqqm=everyone&m
ggTf0tJO=wrapped&yFVr=known&np1W=criticized&tszc=strategy&jjQcVtpaw0TMzMDc=

18:47 [Alert] RIG EK (SWF Payload)
[URL] http[:]//2.59.41.10/?MzA4MjE0&OPHxcBQFwmQ&QhESVuBornCRvC=known&t4gdfgf4=mYhZVl0T9a6tikaDmxDOiZ-
G_h3YaQNF9pWcFLhti1WnxrkXcsJzXRCKvWkExeItUFwV4QwTm6f7Vam0-
0dA&QaWTxmRckj=detonator&UcPMMvRaSrP=everyone&jJseImUtDVWlI=heartfelt&vgnULwlsqknow&KcJjtLoziZSeo=blacmail&cwjFsdLx=
vest&HsqxAlUpvoR=known&enxAPgZFhWzE=detonator&HSnrxU0=perpetual&EfKaWKT0zSGVZUP=now&rvp&ZXJ=community&bcMjoFxC=constitu
tion&ozt0fSViiuynehh=perpetual&ffhd3s=xHbQMrbYbRnFFYrfKPLEUK1EMUnWA0GKwYmZhanVF&mxFD&fp&LFXr&VWd&ouEmvRv&oHTwuh&LAS&Nn&
HTA0qhgGE=known&SrtVuKqNTA2Mjkz

CTD_Bot アプリ 21:12

[Alert] Estimated Gate
[URL] http[:]//makemoneyzywith.me/?utm_id=10893&utm_campaign=Worldwidepop&utm_source=367435635&utm_cost=0.001

[Alert] Fallout EK (Landing Page)
[URL] https[:]//assdrill.biz/6325/recaution_foreguess_Birses.aspx

[Alert] Fallout EK
[URL] https[:]//assdrill.biz/cankeros/Verity/beclap?stallboat=Whipship

[Alert] FalloutEK (Landing Page)
[URL] https[:]//assdrill.biz/Trustor/Weedling_4743_Cloudlets/prelegal/Urorrhea.aspx

RIG EK

#dbd 9月19日 (木)

CTD_Bot アプリ 17:22

[Alert] Estimated Gate
[URL] https[:]//shorico.club/404.php

[Alert] Underminer EK
[URL] https[:]//shorico.xyz/index.php?
ad_id=V2RUXoUTaVRd8kUJH9AT9g&re=V2RUXoUTaVRd8kUJH9AT9g&rt=V2RUXoUTaVRd8kUJH9AT9g&id=9088&zone=V2RUXoUTaVRd8kUJH9AT9g&prod=V
2RUXoUTaVRd8kUJH9AT9g&lp=Type&st=V2RUXoUTaVRd8kUJH9AT9g&e=1568881335&y=203389073274

[Alert] Underminer EK
[URL] https[:]//shorico.xyz/js/3o259dkamu4s0m9rgm612luf5s.js

CTD_Bot アプリ 18:22

[Alert] Estimated Gate
[URL] https[:]//shorico.club/404.php

[Alert] Underminer EK
[URL] https[:]//shorico.xyz/index.php?
ad_id=sRdykDzrGIF129pWrRm32A&re=sRdykDzrGIF129pWrRm32A&rt=sRdykDzrGIF129pWrRm32A&id=9088&zone=sRdykDzrGIF129pWrRm32A&prod=s
RdykDzrGIF129pWrRm32A&lp=Type&st=sRdykDzrGIF129pWrRm32A&e=1568884938&y=203389076877

18:22 [Alert] Underminer EK
[URL] https[:]//shorico.xyz/js/e67ia8b07g9jhsqk2gfbpqddno.js

CTD_Bot アプリ 18:32

[Alert] Estimated Gate
[URL] http[:]//digalitol.fun/trawa.php

[Alert] Fallout EK (Landing Page)
[URL] https[:]//yourglassinass.com/pacing_Tarpot_timeabl/b25407832

[Alert] Fallout EK
[URL] https[:]//yourglassinass.com/Bhangi-Pivotable/11377.html

Underminer EK

FALLOUT EK



Try & Error

- Defeating Anti-Sandbox
- Selection Seed of Crawling
- Persistence of Crawling

Defeating Anti-Sandbox: Sandbox Detection by Display Resolution



```
window.screen.width <= 1024 &&  
window.screen.height <= 768
```



kkrnt 4:33 PM

原因、完全に理解しました

```
try {  
  window.screen.width <= 1024 && window.screen.height <= 768 && Array.fwseXvwxJjnx(hzwEUYkunV, xSGInKeyLN,  
  KWYUKeMDR);  
} catch (HofRA) {  
  window.location.replace(OAaXz(OYqEgOmSs, BNrcXt0trWXbK(AXSmeYq, IswJDqfhaaoEq)));  
};
```

これで死んでる

Defeating Anti-Sandbox: Sandbox Detection by Display Resolution

```
window.screen.width <= 1024 &&  
window.screen.height <= 768
```



kkrrt 4:33 PM

原因、完全に理解しました

```
try {  
  w  
  KWAYUK  
} cat  
  w  
};
```

これで



```
screen.height <= 768 && Array.fwseXvwxJjnx(hzwEUYkunV, xSGInKeyLN,  
BNrcXt0trWXbK(AXSmeYq, IswJDqfhaaoEq)));
```

Connected Display for
debugging is too small lol

Defeating Anti-Sandbox: Process Detection



pinksawtooth 11:15

```
>>> hex(duallaccModFFF1Hash("Wireshark.exe"))  
'0x242d0521'  
>>> hex(duallaccModFFF1Hash("Fiddler.exe"))  
'0x1893042b'
```

h-

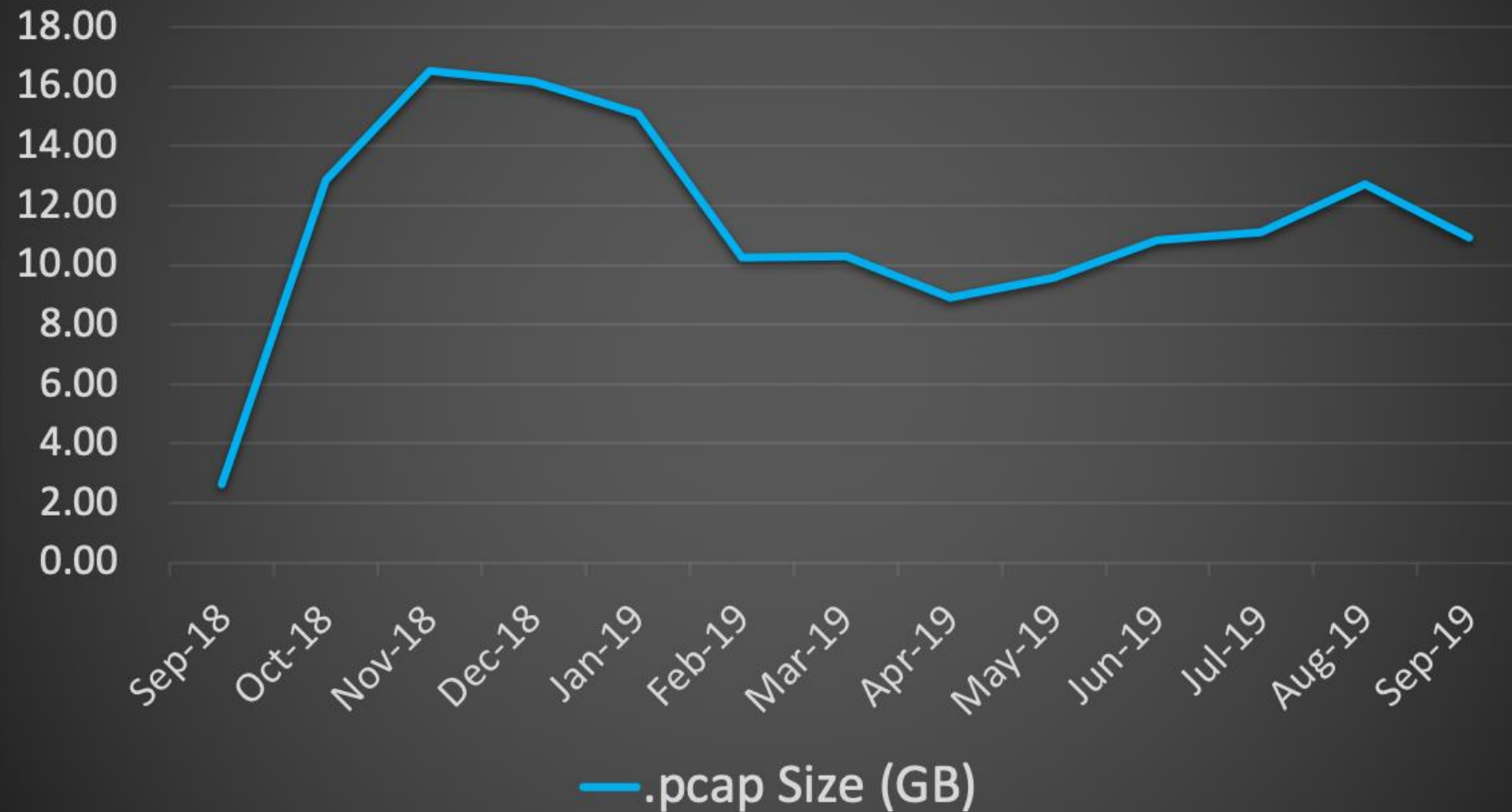
In Fallout shellcode, included hashed process name of major analysis tools

Result of EK Observation by Our Platform



Statistics - Crawling

Captured Traffic Size (pcap)



147.1

GB/Year

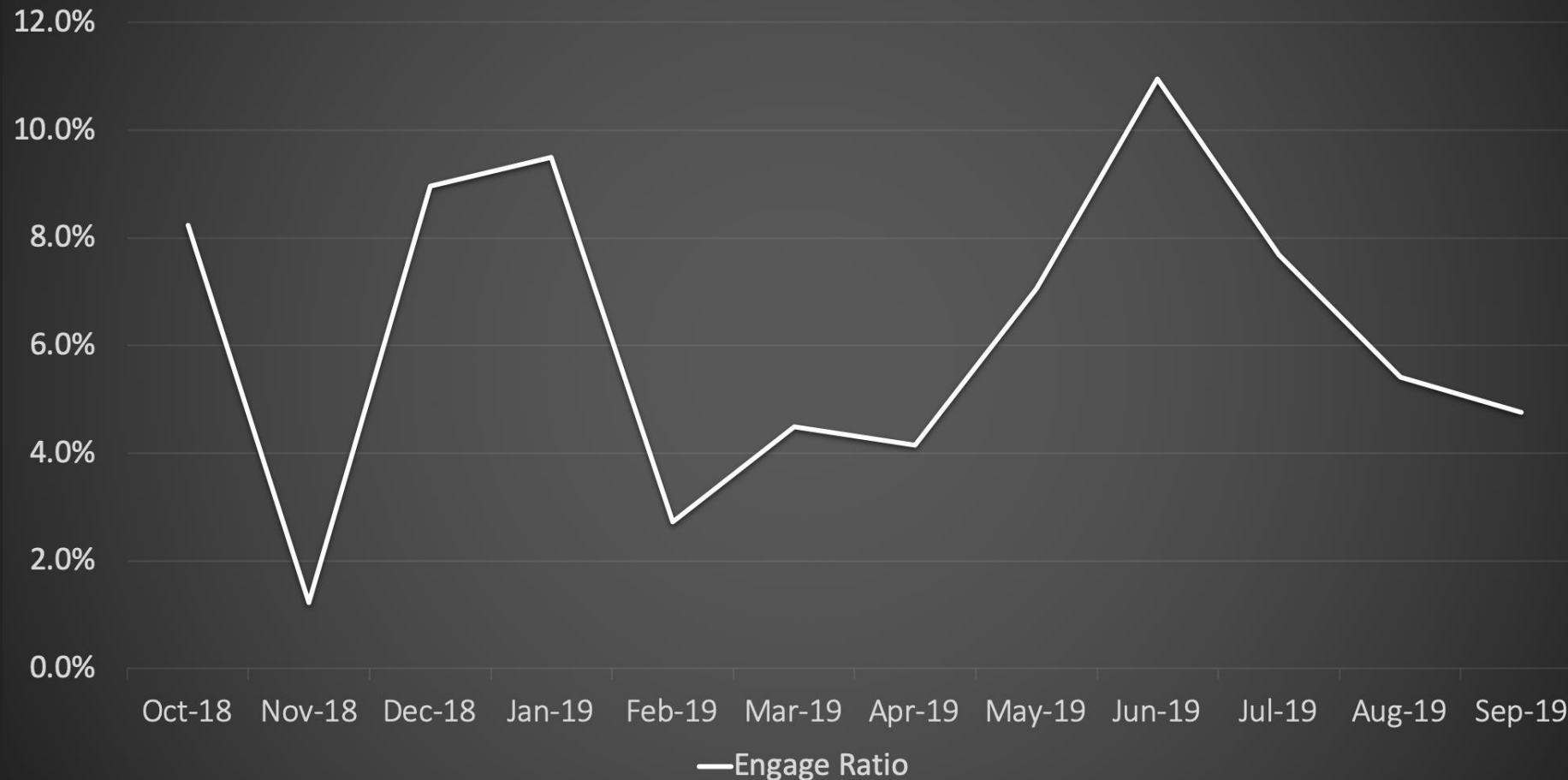
91,276

Crawl



Statistics – Engagement Efficiency

EK - Engage Ratio



6.2%

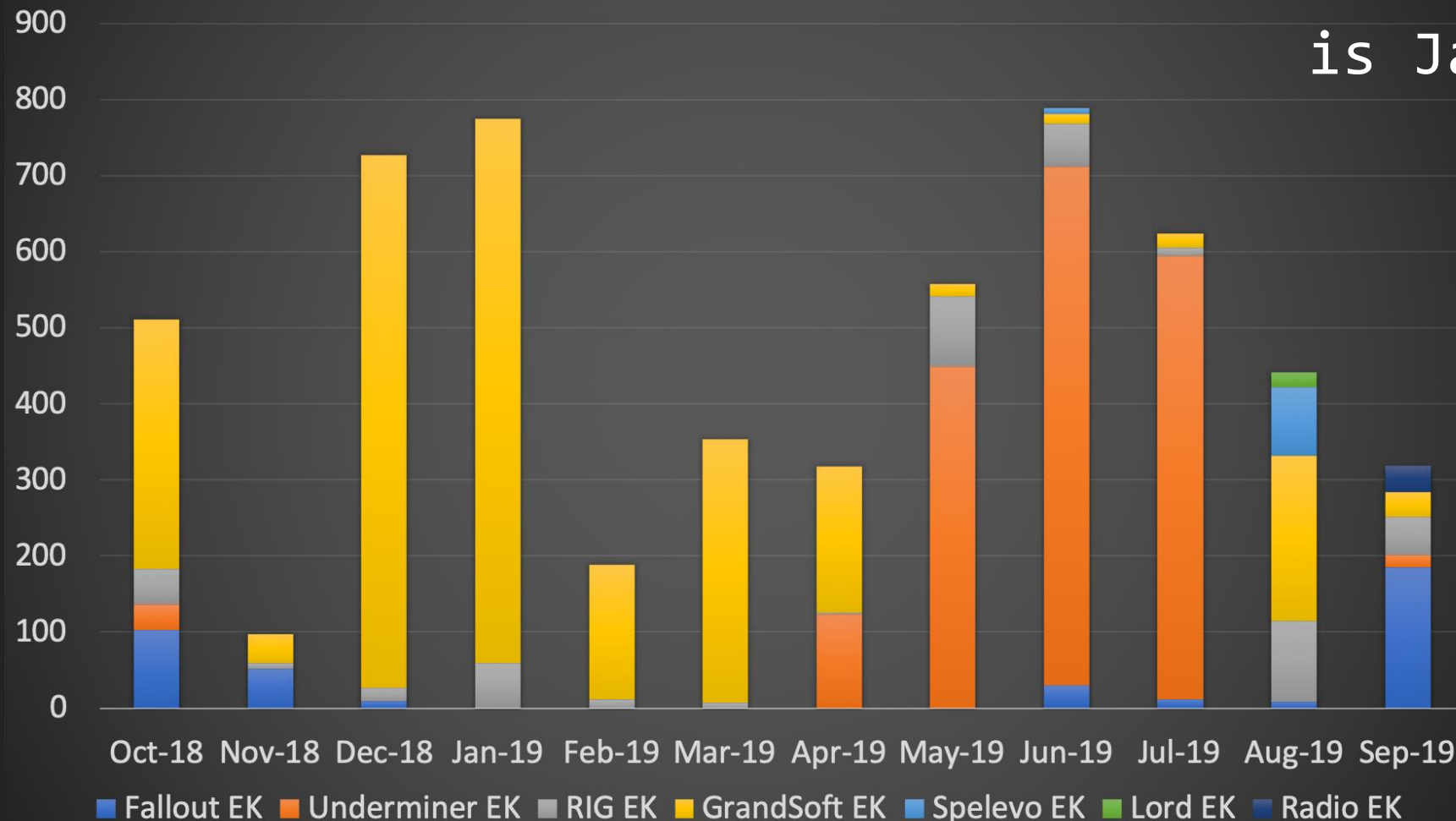
Engage Ratio
(Ave.)



Statistics – Engaged EKs

Engaged EKs Per Month

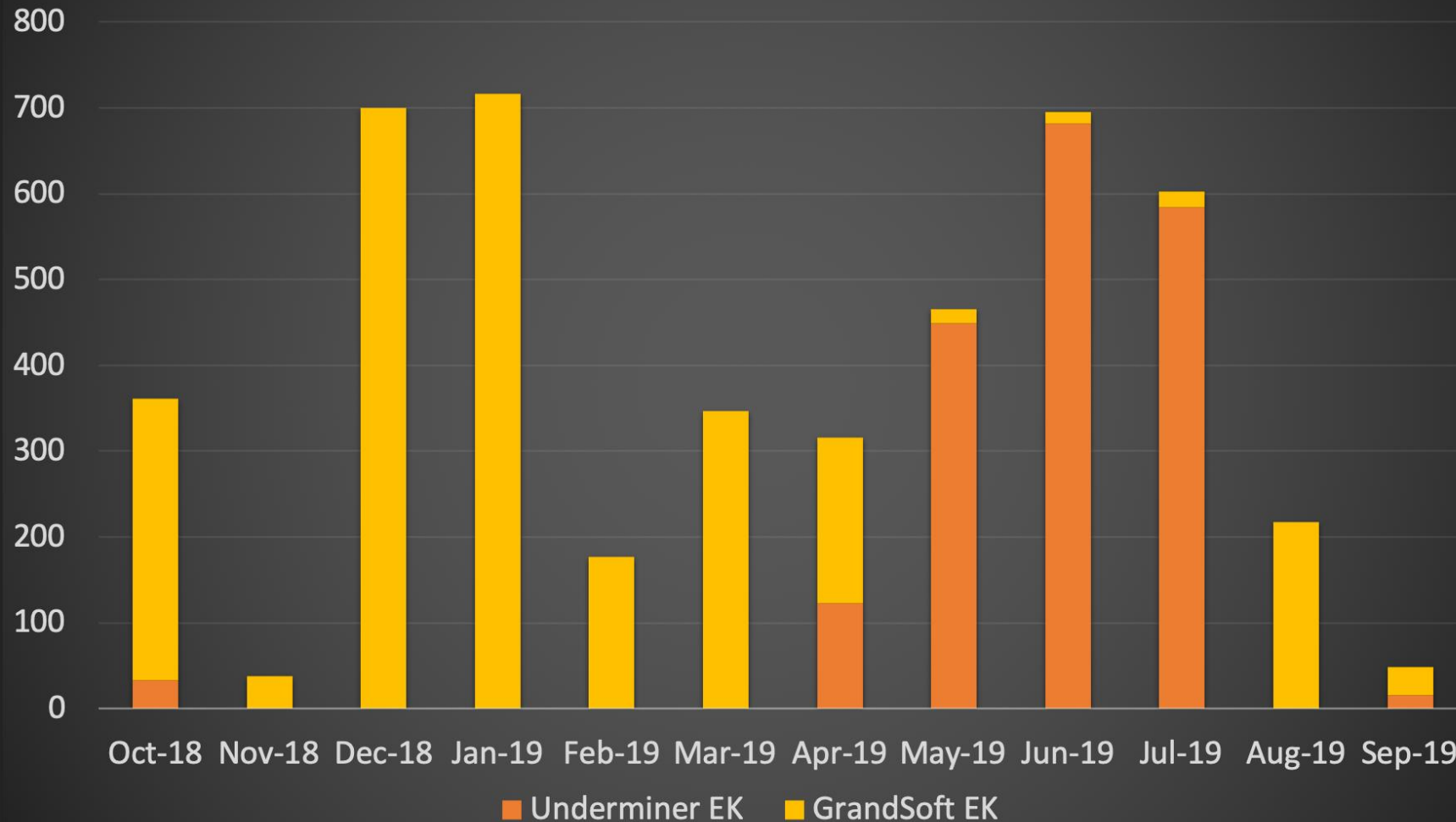
GrandSoft mainly target is Japan and Canada





Insight: Underminer EK & GrandSoft EK

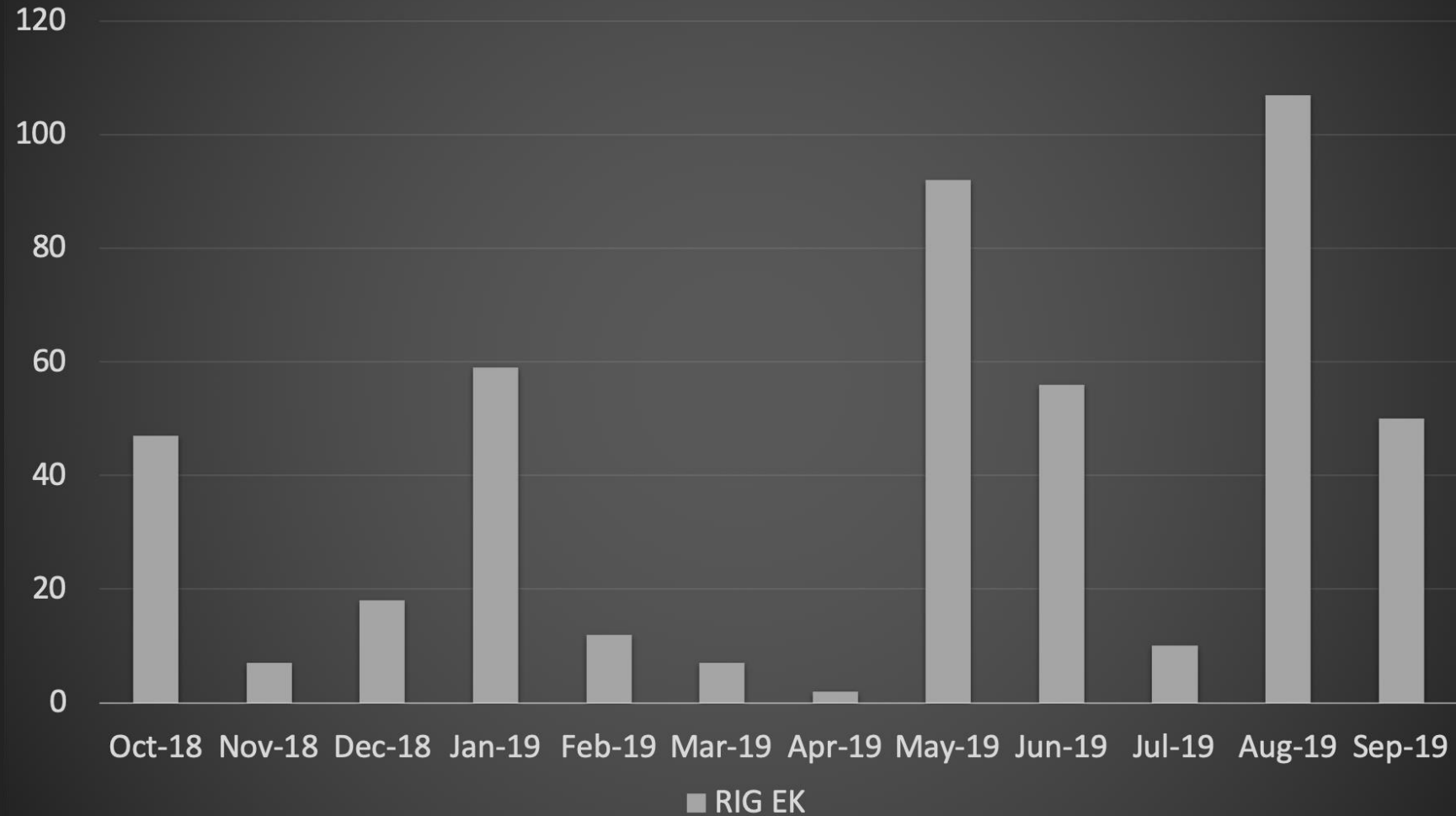
Engaged Japan Targeted? EK Per Month





Insight: RIG EK

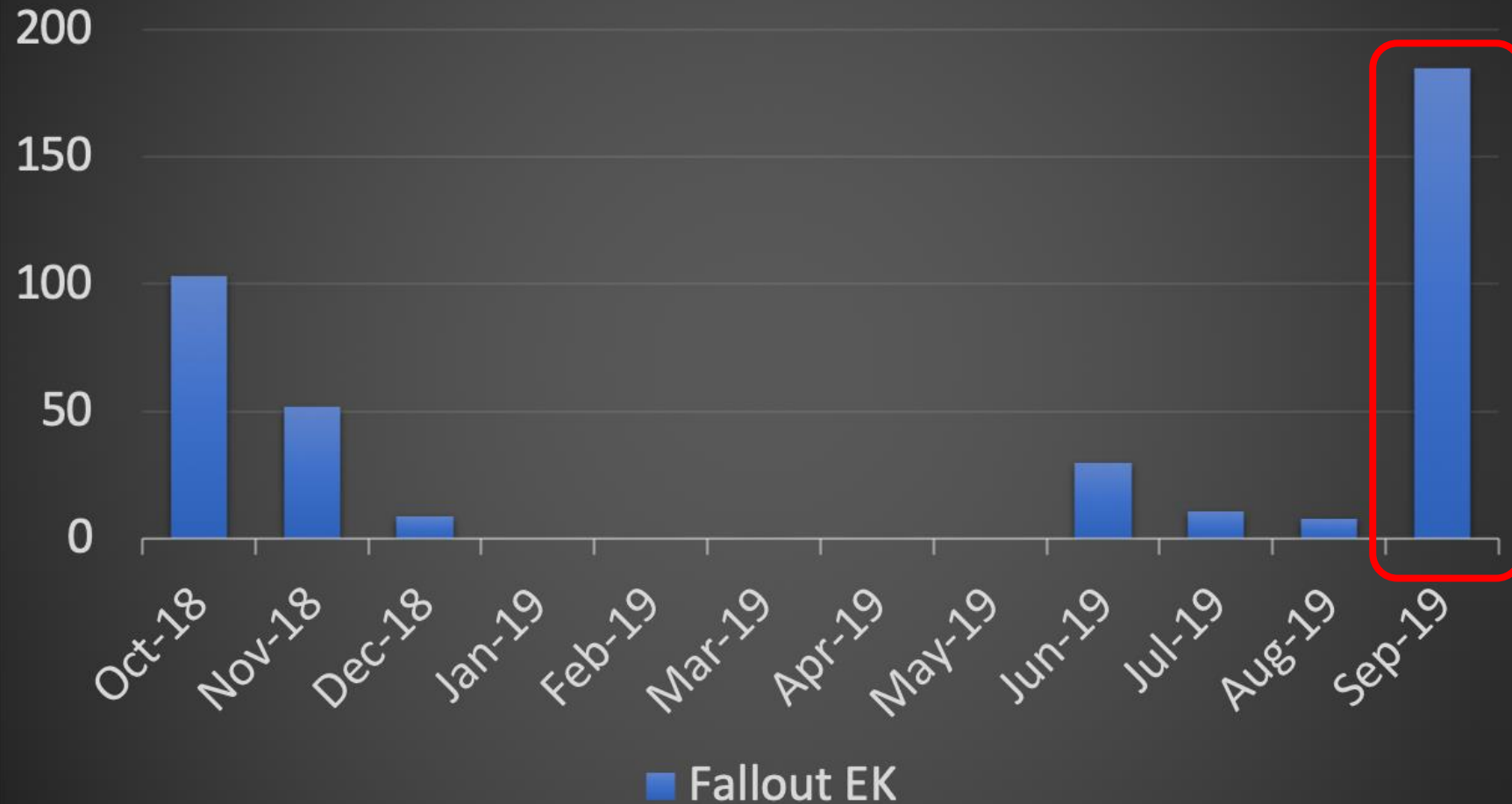
Engaged RIG EK Per Month





Insight: Fallout EK

Engaged Fallout EK Per Month





Discovery of New Campaigns

• PseudoGate

- Observed in Japan and Canada
- Using a Gate that looks like a legitimate website
- Pushing Ramnit with GrandSoft Exploit Kit
- Maybe related to Seamless campaign

```
[Alert] Estimated Gate  
[URL] http[:]//cleantokyoapk.space/
```

```
[Alert] GrandSoft EK (Checker)  
[URL] http[:]//freelance.bakery-365-tokyo.site/likely-mussolini_cutout
```

```
[Alert] GrandSoft EK (Landing Page)  
[URL] http[:]//freelance.bakery-365-tokyo.site/getversoinpd/1/2/3/4
```

```
[Alert] GrandSoft EK  
[URL] http[:]//freelance.bakery-365-tokyo.site/9/45734
```



Discovery of New Exploit Kits

• Fallout

- Discovered during the debugging of our system
- Detected with “naosec” string in the domain
- Automatic observation of all version upgrades

• Radio

- The system discovered and informed us
- Detected with CVE-2016-0189 signature

```
[Alert] nao_sec  
[URL] http[:]//naosecgomosec.gq/Xh8WBP
```

```
[Alert] CVE-2016-0189  
[URL] https[:]//radiobox-online.org/
```



Discovery of New Malwares

- Kraken Cryptor
- GetCrypt
- Buran
- SystemBC

BleepingComputer @BleepinComputer

HookAds -> FalloutEK -> Kraken Ransomware (EK Edition)

#	Result	Protocol	Host	URL	Body	Comments
1	200	HTTP	sp.popcash.net	/go/213563/448574	427	
2	303	HTTP	sp.popcash.net	/sgo/ad?p=213563&w=448574&t=d...	82	
3	302	HTTP	clk.verblife-2.co	/click?k*2sNCbc7*g_0	0	
4	200	HTTP	datingitlive.info	/?active-mix&source=120051.448574	8,330	HookAds
5	404	HTTP	datingitlive.info	/AAA	201	HookAds
6	200	HTTP	datingitlive.info	/settings.php	1,253	HookAds
7	200	HTTPS	countystats.pro	/next/gebrialer	5,420	HookAds
8	200	HTTP	gandja.acu	/9305/1853/8434.vhtm?mameluco=...	54,418	Fallout/Exploit Kit (Landing Page)
9	200	HTTP	gandja.acu	/17_05_1959/3242_8597/eyeballs/2...	89,600	Fallout Exploit Kit (Malware Payload)
10	200	HTTPS	lpinfo.io	/json	232	
11	200	HTTPS	download.sysinternals.com	/files/SDelete.zip	161,107	

nao_sec @nao_sec

#RigEK -> #GetCrypt Ransomware
(CC: @malware_traffic, @jeromesegura, @BleepinComputer)
app.any.run/tasks/eb357755...

ツイートを翻訳

```
[Alert] Redirection RIG Exploit Kit
[URL] http[:]//
makemoneywithus.club/?
utm_trc=Worldwidepop&utm_source=3
04382251&utm_cost=0.0007
```

nao_sec @nao_sec

#FalloutEK -> Unknown malware 🤔
app.any.run/tasks/7c01eeca...

ツイートを翻訳

nao_sec @nao_sec

#RigEK -> #Buran Ransomware 🤔
(CC: @malware_traffic, @jeromesegura, @VK_Intel, @James_inthe_box, @malwrhunterteam, @BleepinComputer)
app.any.run/tasks/4e32f20f...



Weak Point of Our System

- **Manual research can be more sensitive**
 - OPSEC fail
 - Leaking info
 - EK API
 - Directory listing
- **Finding a new one is not easy**
 - Need to combine other logic
- **Observation environmet**
 - Windows version, IP geolocation



Our Contributions

- **The number of times our research has been referred**
 - More than 40 public reports from various organizations
- **Dataset for academic research in Japan**

Conclusion



Conclusion

- Introducing the design, effectiveness and practical use cases of an automated active analysis platform
- We show the changes to the threat landscape by using the results from our platform
- We talked about how we continue to discover and track new attack campaigns and Exploit Kits, such as the Fallout and Radio Exploit Kit

Any Questions?



Twitter: @nao_sec

Email: info@nao-sec.org