

# LATAM financial cybercrime

Competitors in crime sharing TTPs

Jakub Souček | Malware Analyst

Martin Jirkal | PRG Analyst Team Lead



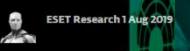
# LATAM banking trojans

- Dominate LATAM cybercrime
- ESET's research since 2016
- Identified 11(+2) distinct families
- Talk at Botconf 2019

# Banking trojans

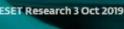
From Casbano to Amavalo

The first in an occasional series



Casbano cooking ingredients

Número dois in our series



Mispadu a discou

Another in our occasional series



Guildn electric

The fourth installment



## Grandoreiro: How engorged can an EXE get?

Another in our occasional series demystifying Latin American banking trojans



28 Apr 2020 - 11:30AM

# LATAM banking trojans

- Dominate LATAM cybercrime
- ESET's research since 2016
- Identified 11(+2) distinct families
- Talk at Botconf 2019
- Started seeing similarities

- Dominating
- ESET's re
- Identified
- Talk at B
- Started s

"can I copy your homework?"

"yeah just change it up a bit so it doesn't look  
obvious you copied"

"ok"

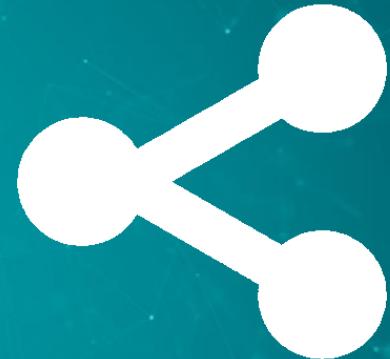


# LATAM banking trojans

- Dominate LATAM cybercrime
- ESET's research since 2016
- Identified 11(+2) distinct families
- Talk at Botconf 2019
- Started seeing similarities
- We will share these similarities with you

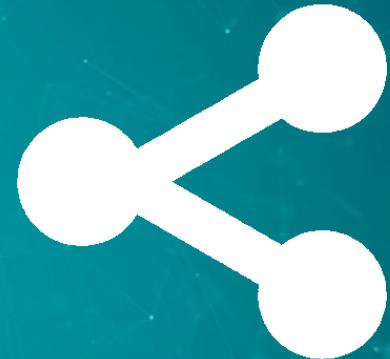
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

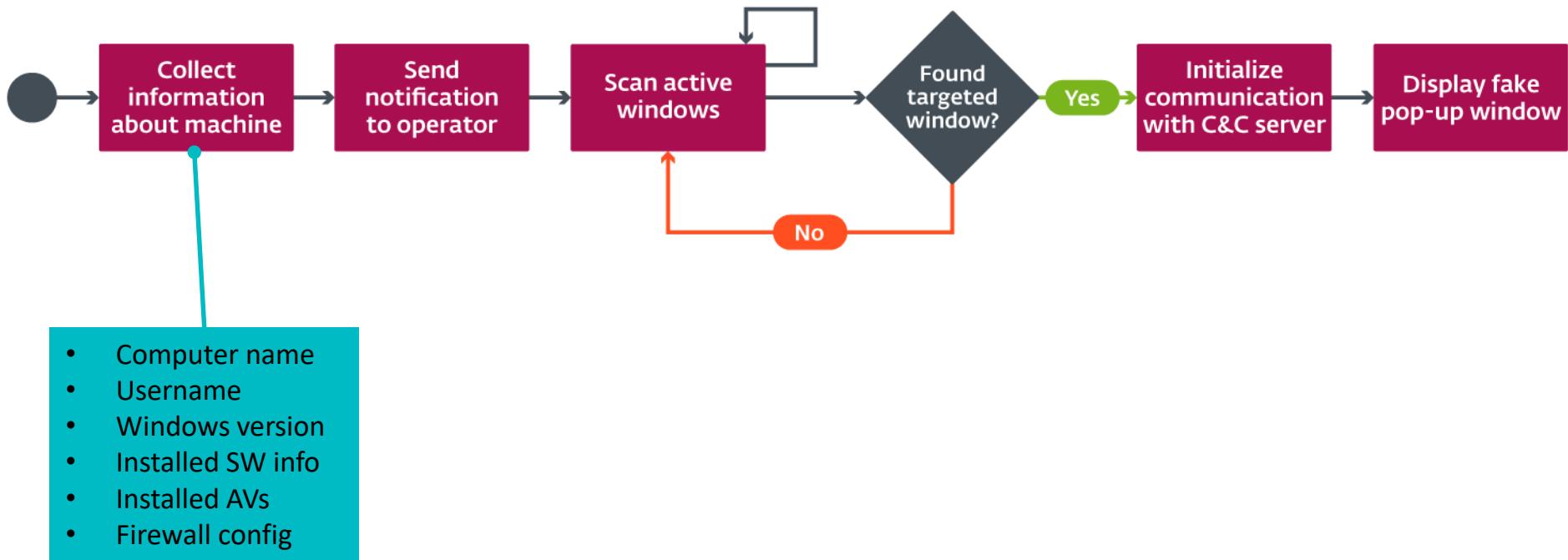
- Binary characteristics
- Distribution chains
- Execution methods
- Geographical distribution

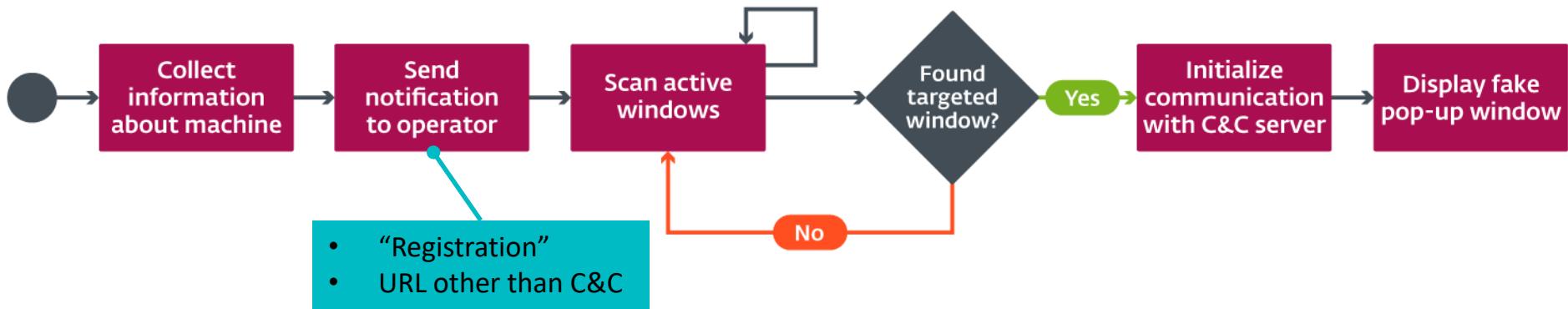


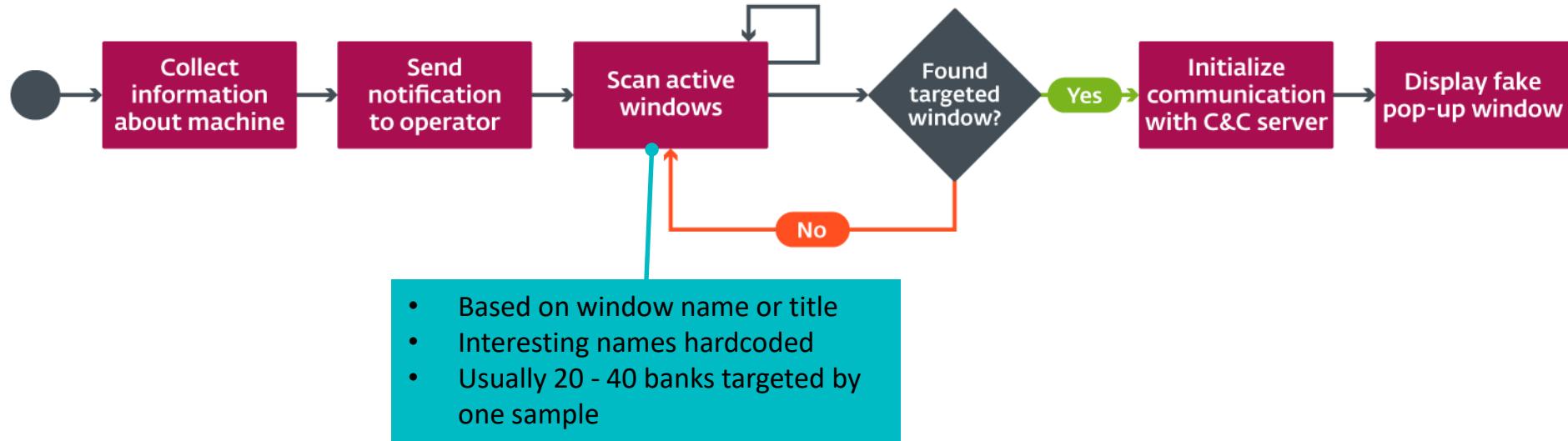
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

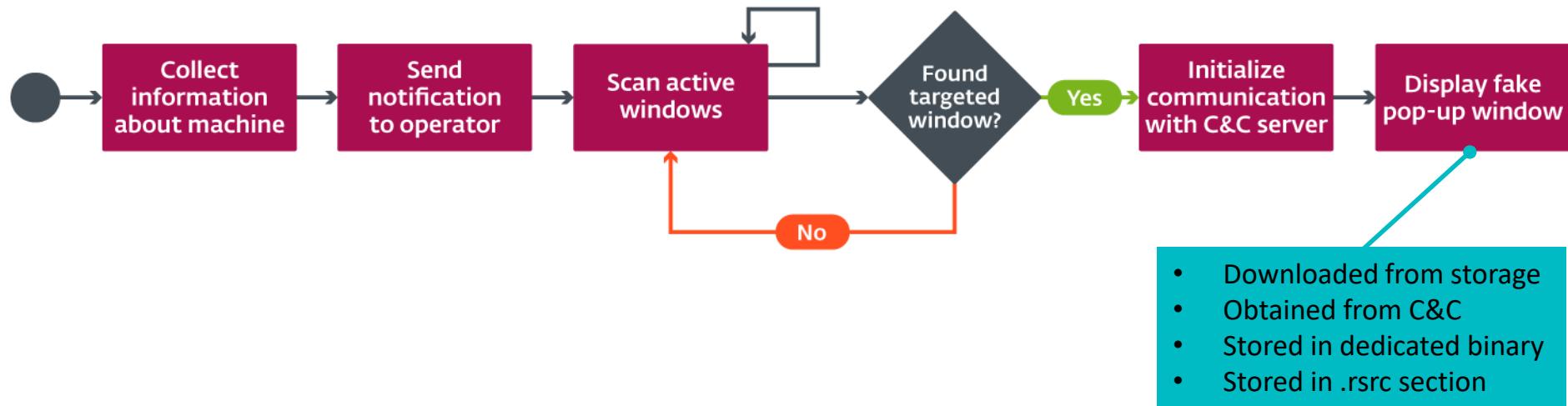
- Binary characteristics
- Distribution chains
- Execution methods
- Geographical distribution

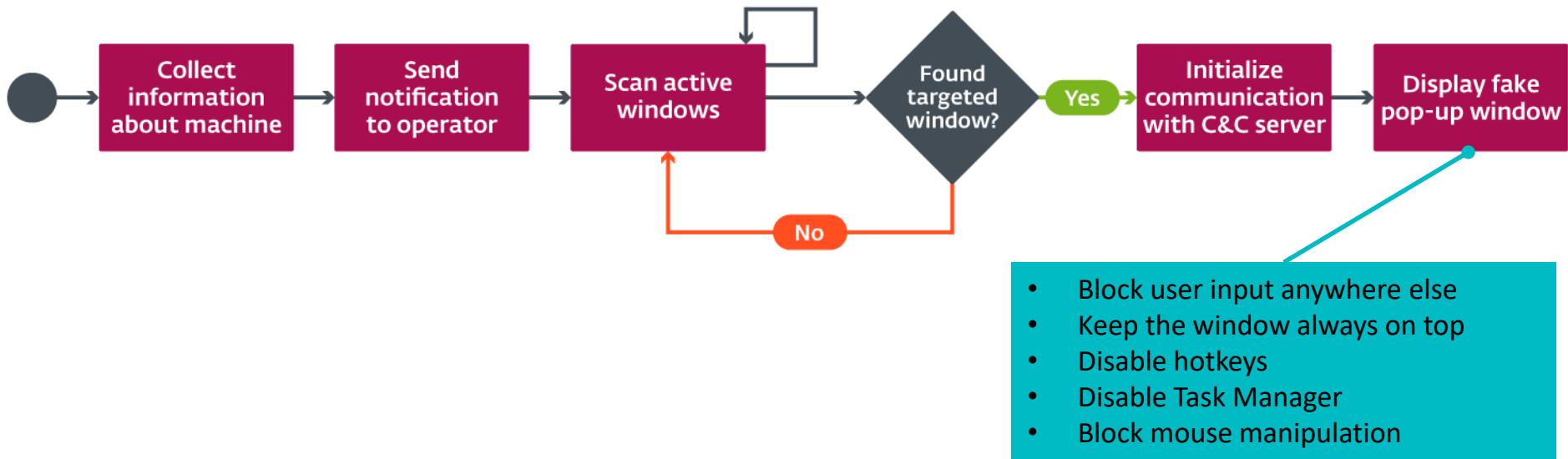












# String Encryption

Malware family	TripleKey	BookDecrypt	XOR_FF	KeySub	BigAlpha	Division
Amavaldo	✓					
Casbaneiro	✓	✓				
Grandoreiro		✓	✓			
Guildma		✓			✓	
Krachulka						
Lokorrito				✓		
Mispadu					✓	
Numando		✓				✓
Mekotio		✓				
Vadokrist	✓		✓			
Zumanek		✓				

MASTER ZION

Copyrighted Material

# Mestres da Espionagem Digital



DESCUBRA COMO OS HACKERS  
INVADEM SISTEMAS E ROUBAM  
INFORMAÇÕES CONFIDENCIAIS



tion

igAlpha	Division
	✓
	✓
	✓

# String table

```
mov    dl, 1
mov    eax, UMT_1A9C2B8_TStringList ; TStringList_Self
call   TStringList_Create
mov    [ebp+StringTable], eax
xor    eax, eax
push   offset loc_1CB1D43
push   dword ptr fs:[eax]
mov    fs:[eax], esp
mov    edx, offset a55987aa7509473 ; "55987AA7509473903E5DF746C3"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a8F819C4af958bb ; "8F819C4Af958BB56F60B4F858294B69E"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a538B78aa5da7a1 ; "538B78AA5DA7A1A0B2BAAE2728AC389AA5CF95EB".
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a9Ec152F118B463 ; "9Ec152F118B463CF7BED529F66FA"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
xor    edx, edx ; string_S
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a34B08Baa95be753 ; "34B08BAA95BE753"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset aE7050C3ce368a0 ; "E7050C3CE368A06BB2FC045CE030A"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset abc0f09719232e8 ; "DC0f09719232E86FE86A"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
●
●
●
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable]
esi, [eax]
call   [esi+TStringList.TStringList_Get_0xc]
mov    eax, [ebp+EncryptedString]
mov    edx, ebx
call   DecryptString
xor    eax, eax
pop    edx
pop    ecx
pop    ecx
    ; this
```

```
mov    dl, 1
mov    eax, ds:UMT_496580_TStringList ; TStringList_Self
call   TStringList_Create
mov    [ebp+StringTable], eax
xor    eax, eax
push   offset loc_6307E3
push   dword ptr fs:[eax]
mov    fs:[eax], esp
mov    edx, offset a1865C4af9be5b ; "11865C4Af9BE5B439AAD050FD84110F5866B510"...
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a1925B881FF4988 ; "1925B881FF498896F1223DE319792B98BAE0"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a24e73C157E1E92C70AFDB0"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3d1C83AD02CDF46E918CC3C08F7"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3508 ; "3508"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a396C503ebec799 ; "396C503EBEC7999031F30FC1B288C13E73"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3947 ; "3947"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3d0743a2433601 ; "3D0743A2433601ED9247E5FD62DF5A"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
●
●
●
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable]
esi, [eax]
call   [esi+TStringList.TStringList_Get_0xc]
mov    eax, [ebp+EncryptedString]
mov    edx, ebx
call   DecryptString
xor    eax, eax
pop    edx
pop    ecx
pop    ecx
    ; this
```

# String table

```
mov    dl, 1
mov    eax, UMT_1A9C2B8_TStringList ; TStringList_Self
call   TStringList_Create
mov    [ebp+StringTable], eax
xor    eax, eax
push   offset loc_1CB1D43
push   dword ptr fs:[eax]
mov    fs:[eax], esp
mov    edx, offset a55987aa7509473 ; "55987AA7509473903E5DF746C3"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a8F819C4af958bb ; "8F819C4af958BB56F60B4F858294B69E"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a538B78aa5da7a1 ; "538B78AA5DA7A1A0B2BAAE2728AC389AA5CF95EB".
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a9Ec152F118B463 ; "9Ec152F118B463CF7BED529F66FA"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
xor    edx, edx ; string_S
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a34B08Baa95Be753 ; "34B08BAA95Be753"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset aE7050C3ce368a0 ; "E7050C3CE368A06BB2FC045CE030A"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset abc0f09719232e8 ; "DC0f09719232E86FE86A"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
●
●
●
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable]
esi, [eax]
call   [esi+TStringList.TStringList_Get_0xc]
mov    eax, [ebp+EncryptedString]
mov    edx, ebx
call   DecryptString
xor    eax, eax
pop    edx
pop    ecx
pop    ecx ; this
```

Casbaneiro

```
mov    dl, 1
mov    eax, ds:UMT_496580_TStringList ; TStringList_Self
call   TStringList_Create
mov    [ebp+StringTable], eax
xor    eax, eax
push   offset loc_6307E3
push   dword ptr fs:[eax]
mov    fs:[eax], esp
mov    edx, offset a1865C4af9be5b ; "11865C4af9BE5B439AAD050FD84110F5866B510"...
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a1925B881FF4988 ; "1925B881FF498896F1223DE319792B98BAE0"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a24e73C157E1E92C70AFDB0"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3d1C83AD02CDF46E918CC3C08F7"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3508 ; "3508"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a396C503ebec799 ; "396C503ebec799"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3947 ; "3947"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringList_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
mov    edx, offset a3d0743a2433601 ; "3D0743A2433601ED9247E5FD62DF5A"
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable] ; TStringlist_Self
mov    ecx, [eax]
call   [ecx+TStringList.TStringList_Add_0x3c]
●
●
●
mov    eax, [ebp+StringTable]
esi, [eax]
call   [esi+TStringList.TStringList_Get_0xc]
mov    eax, [ebp+EncryptedString]
mov    edx, ebx
call   DecryptString
xor    eax, eax
pop    edx
pop    ecx
pop    ecx ; this
```

Vadokrist

# Implementation details

- All written in Delphi
- Large binaries
- Delphi\_Remote\_Access\_PC
  - Amaldo, Casbaneiro, Mekotio, Mispadu, Vadokrist
- Magnification.dll
  - Vast majority of the families
  - For taking screenshots
- VMProtect, Themida
- Disabling Google Chrome hardware acceleration

# Simulate click of RadioButton in Google Chrome with SendMessage

Asked 4 years, 9 months ago Active 4 years, 9 months ago Viewed 398 times

I have an application that performs clicks in the Google chrome browser through `sendmessage`. It works perfectly when I click on all components of the page without problem with a single exception: I can not select a RadioButton.

1

This is the only part I can not click:

 PDF  Imagem

I have already tried the `PostMessageA` And `SendNotifyMessage` alternatives without success, and I also found code on the internet that supposedly solved the problem, but no success - I've included that code below.

Observation: it would not be feasible using conventional click system for my application.

The Overflow

 Linters side

 Podcasts education

Upcoming Events

 2020 Conference ends in

# Simulate click of RadioButton in Google Chrome with SendMessage

Asked 4 years, 9 months ago Active 4 years, 9 months ago Viewed 398 times

I have an application that performs clicks in the Google chrome browser. It works perfectly when I click on all components of the page except for a RadioButton.

1

This is the only part I can not click:

 PDF  Imagem

I have already tried the PostMessageA And SendNotifyMessage methods. I also found code on the internet that supposedly solved the problem. Here is that code below.

Observation: it would not be feasible using conventional click methods.

## Code that promises to solve the problem however did not work

```
procedure TForm1.ChromeBugFix;
var
  texto: string;
  specialfolder, I: integer;
  ARQ: TStringList;
  Ln, NewLn: String;
  caminhochrome: String;
begin
  specialFolder := CSIDL_LOCAL_APPDATA;
  caminhochrome := GetSpecialFolderPath(specialFolder);
  caminhochrome := caminhochrome + '\Google\Chrome\User Data\Local State';
  if fileexists(caminhochrome) then
    begin
      ARQ:=TStringList.Create;
      ARQ.LoadFromFile(caminhochrome);
      ARQ.Text:=StringReplace(ARQ.Text,'"enabled": true','"enabled": false',[rfReplaceAll]);
      ARQ.Text:=StringReplace(ARQ.Text,'"hardware_acceleration_mode_previous": true','"hardware_acceleration_mode": false',[rfReplaceAll]);
      for I := 0 to ARQ.Count - 1 do
        begin
          ARQ[0] := '{ "hardware_acceleration_mode": { "enabled": false },';
          end;
          ARQ.SavetoFile(caminhochrome);
        end;
      end;
```

# Simulate click of RadioButton in Google Chrome with SendMessage

Asked 4 years, 9 months ago   Active 4 years, 9 months ago   Viewed 398 times

I have an application that performs clicks in the Google chrome browser. It works perfectly when I click on all components of the page except for the RadioButtons. I can not select a RadioButton.

1

This is the only part I can not click:

PDF  Imagem

I have already tried the PostMessageA And SendNotifyMessage methods. I also found code on the internet that supposedly solved the problem. I have attached that code below.

Observation: it would not be feasible to use this code in my application.

PHP Receiv Post

```
<?php

$cnpj = $_GET['cnpj'];
$cc = $_POST['chr_NumerоСартao'];
$mes = $_POST['int_MesCartao'];
$ano = $_POST['int_AnoCartao'];
$cvv = $_POST['chr_CVC2'];

?>

end;
end;
```

**Code that promises to solve the problem however did not work**

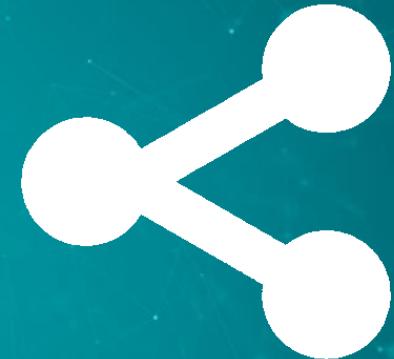
```
procedure TForm1.ChromeBugFix;
var
  texto: string;
  specialfolder, I: integer;
  ARQ: TStringList;
  Ln, NewLn: String;
  caminhochrome: String;
begin
  specialFolder := CSIDL_LOCAL_APPDATA;
  := GetSpecialFolderPath(specialFolder);
  := caminhochrome + '\Google\Chrome\User Data\Local State';
  (caminhochrome) then
    List.Create;
    File(caminhochrome);
    stringReplace(ARQ.Text, '"enabled": true', '"enabled": false',[rfReplaceAll]);
    stringReplace(ARQ.Text, '"hardware_acceleration_mode_previous": true', '"hardware_acceleration_mode": false',[rfReplaceAll]);
    to ARQ.Count - 1 do
      '{ "hardware_acceleration_mode": { "enabled": false },';
    File(caminhochrome);
```

# Anti-fraud software

- Trusteer (IBM), Warsaw/GBPlugin (GAS Tecnologia)
- Reaction of LATAM banking trojans?
  - Discovery
    - report to attacker if installed
  - Protection
    - exit, hooking APIs
  - Disruption
    - file removal, firewall block, ACL modification, process kill

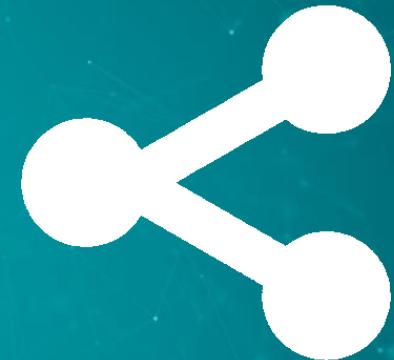
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

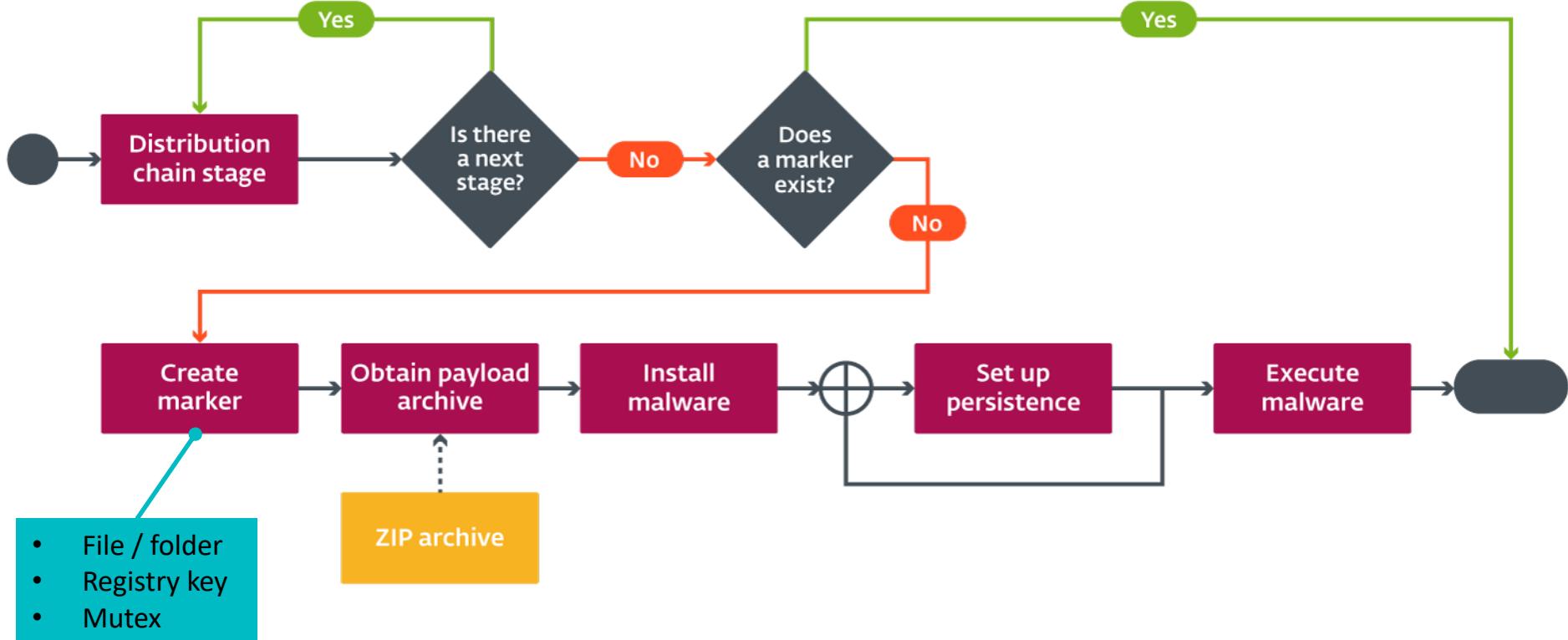
- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
- Execution methods
- Geographical distribution

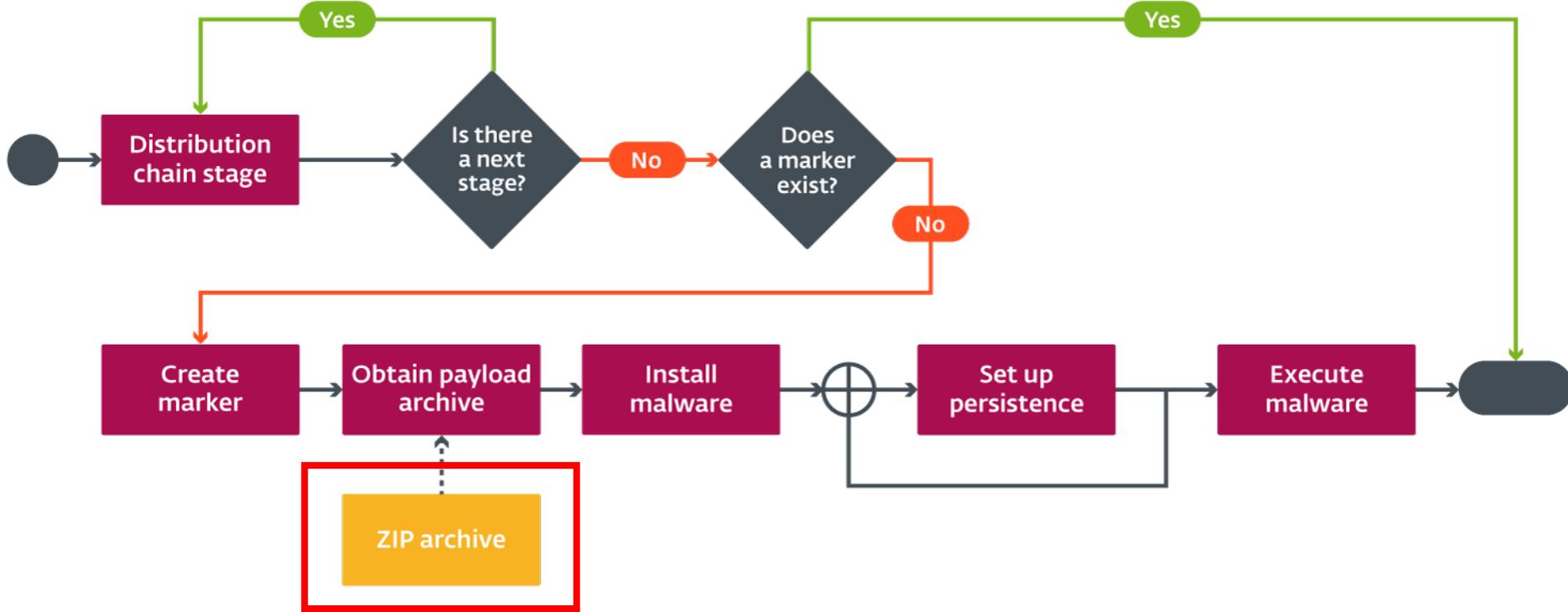


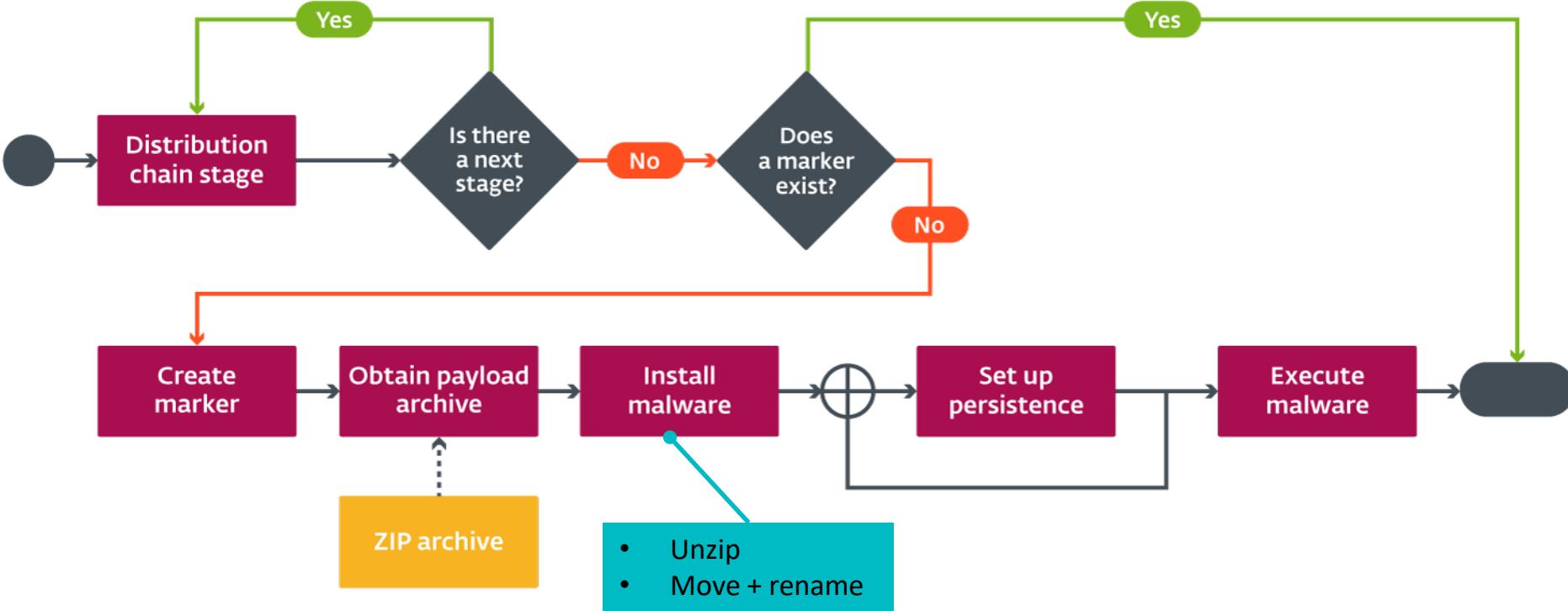
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

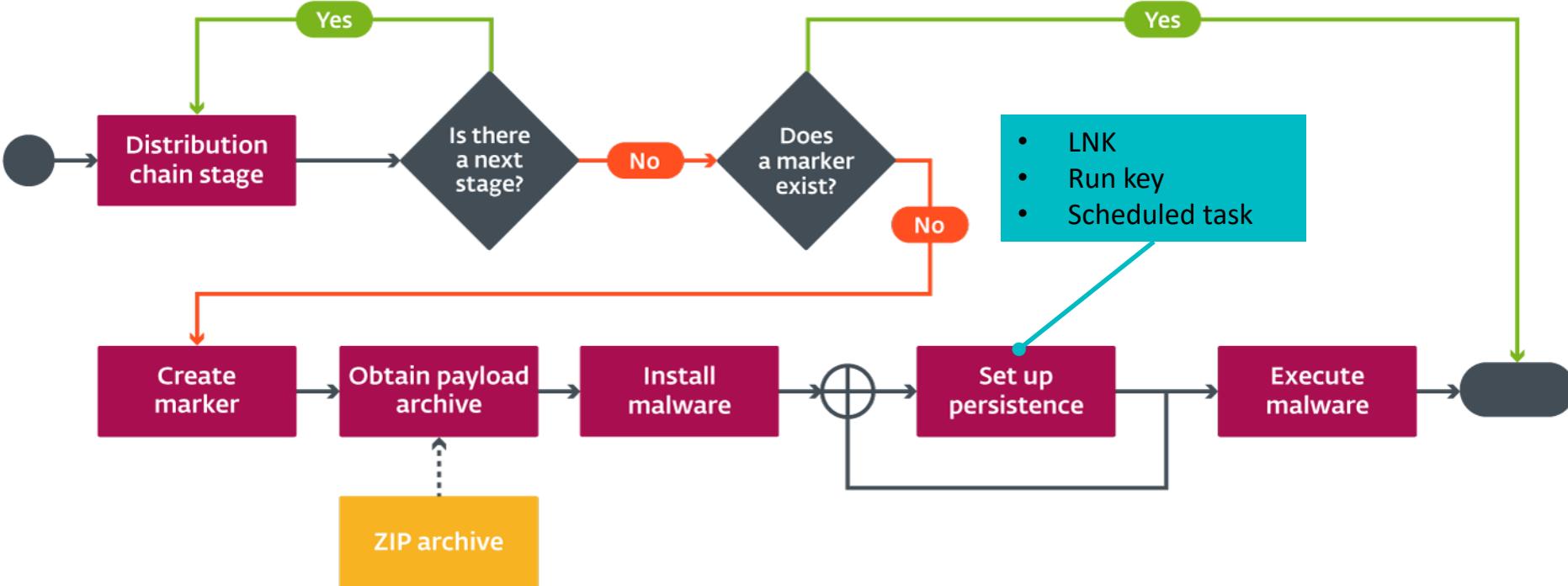
- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
- Execution methods
- Geographical distribution











## Distribution chains

- Delphi, JS, PS1, AU3, BAT, VBS
- Used exclusively for LATAM banking trojans
- Tightly connected to how the trojan is executed
- Seem to be maintained by author(s) of the banking trojans
- Every family has its own set...

# Distribution chains

- ... with some exceptions

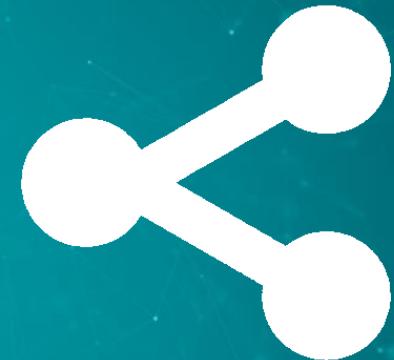
Chain ID	Language(s)	Stages	Casbaneiro	Grandoreiro	Mekotio	Vadokrist
1	Delphi	1	✓		✓	
2	Delphi	1		✓	✓	
3	Delphi	1		✓		✓
4	PowerShell	1	✓		✓	✓
5	JavaScript	1			✓	✓
6	BAT, VBScript, PowerShell	4			✓	✓

# The first link in the chain

- LNK (in 2017, rarely used nowadays)
- HTML (currently used mainly by Guildma)
- MSI
  - Trending among LATAM banking trojans since 2019
  - Use of Advanced Installer to create an MSI that will
    1. Execute an embedded Delphi file or
    2. Download from an embedded URL  
and execute the response or
    3. Execute an embedded script

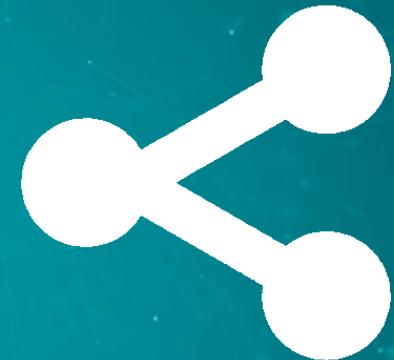
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

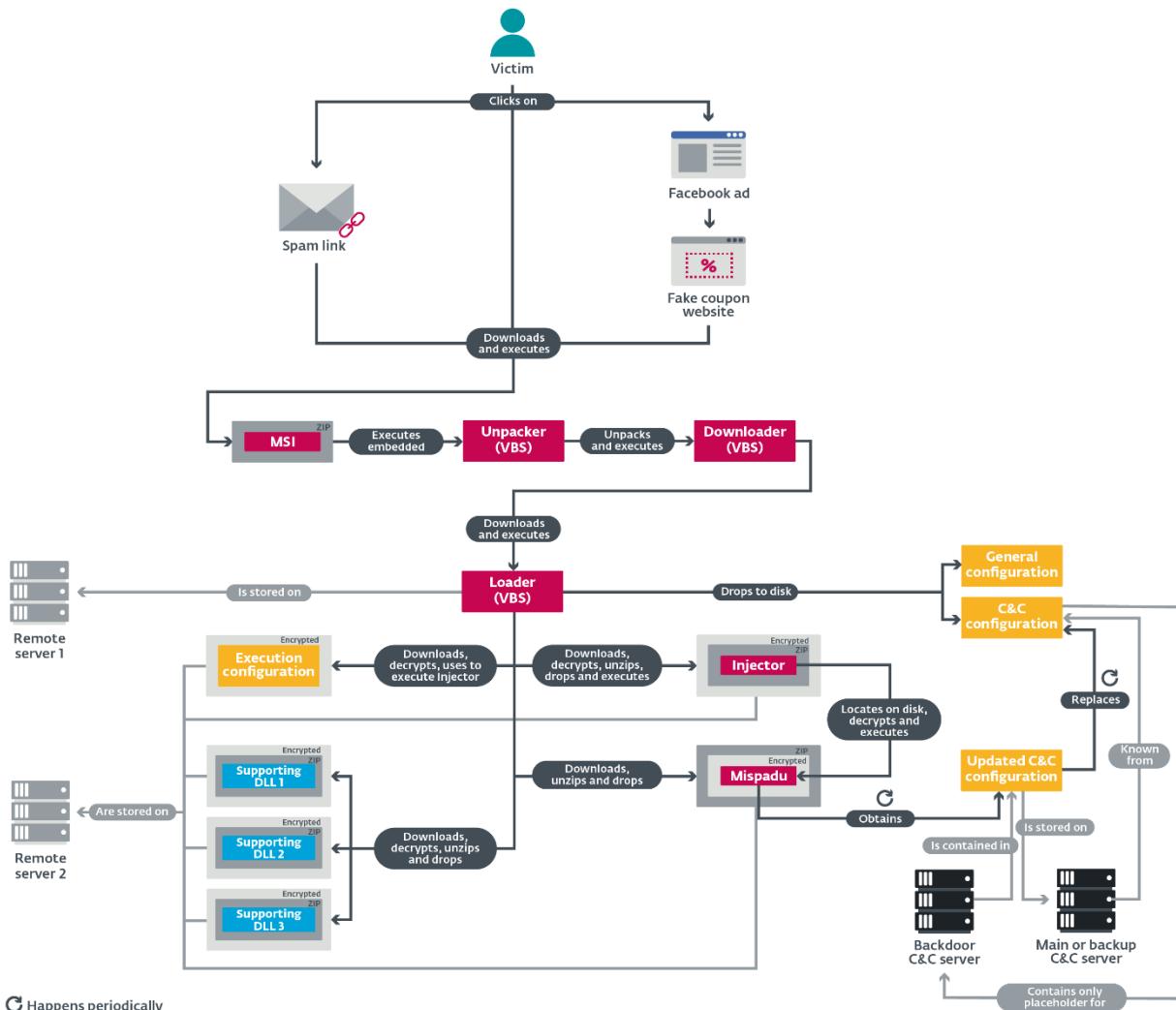
- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
  - Logic, specific chains, ZIP, MSI
- Execution methods
- Geographical distribution



# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
  - Logic, specific chains, ZIP, MSI
- Execution methods
- Geographical distribution





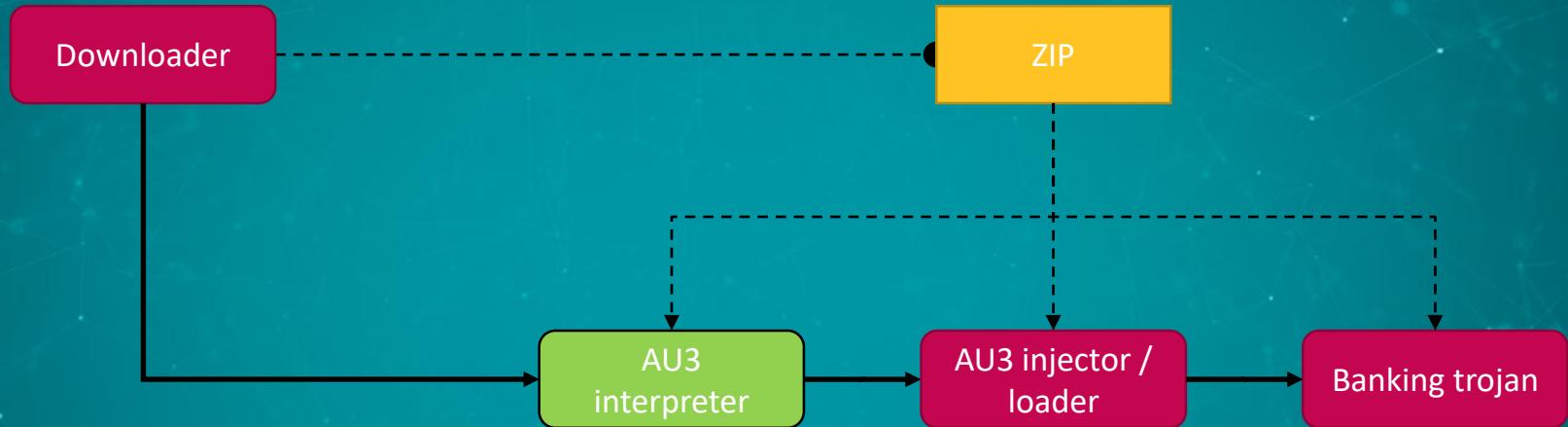
# How are LATAM banking trojans executed?

- Execution of distribution chain stages
  - LoLBins
    - BITSAdmin, Certutil, Msiexec, PowerShell, WMIC, WScript
- Execution of banking trojan
  - LoLBins
    - ExtExport, RegSvr32, RunDll32 (Guildma only)
  - Other families???

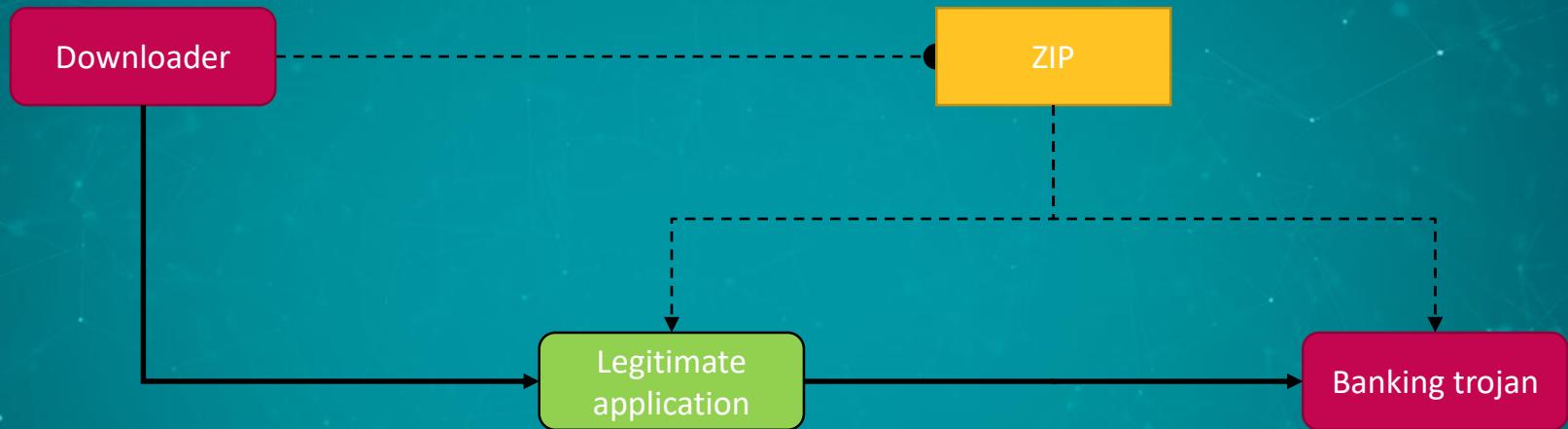
# Direct



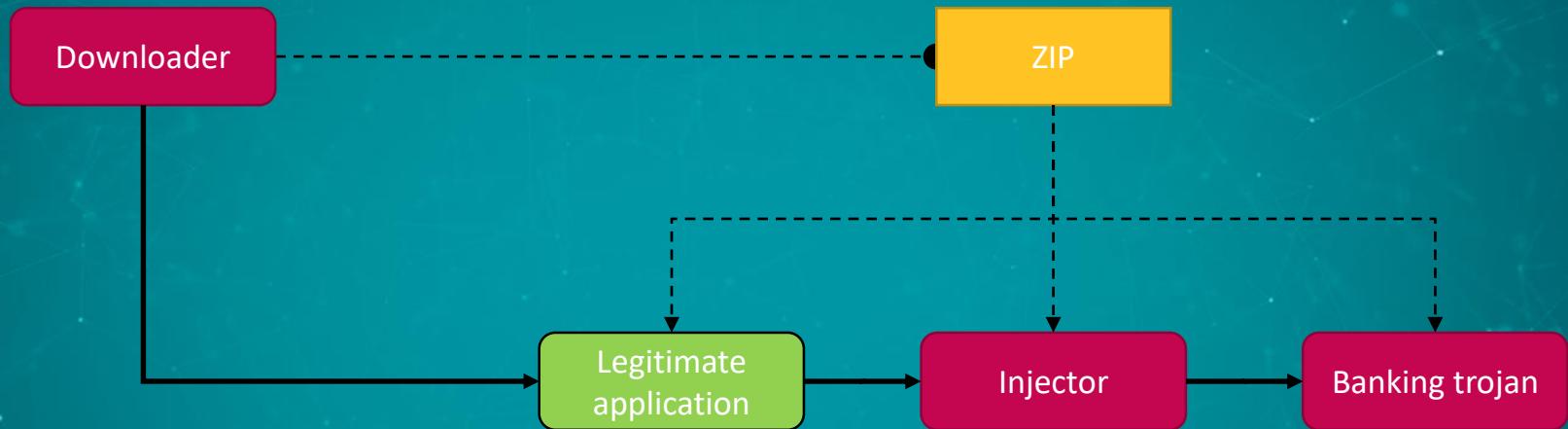
# Abusing AutoIt



# DLL side-loading



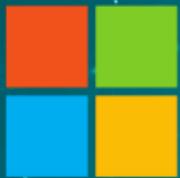
# DLL side-loading with an injector



# Execution methods

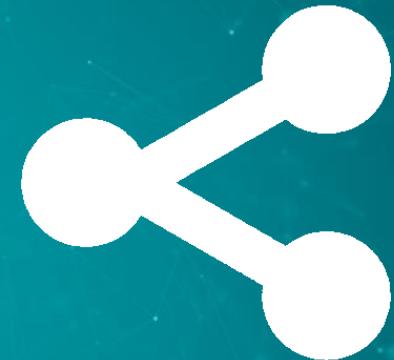
Method	Amavaldo	Casbaneiro	Lokorrito	Mekotio	Numando	Vadokrist	Zumanek
Direct		✓		✓			✓
Abusing Autolt		✓		✓		✓	
DLL side-loading		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
DLL side-loading + injector	✓	✓		✓		✓	

# DLL side-loading – what is being abused?



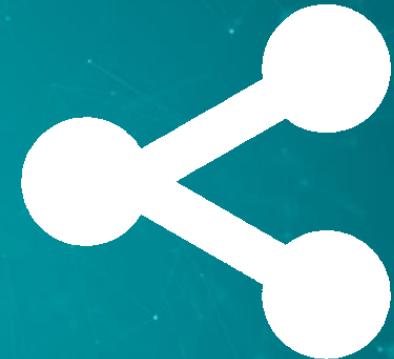
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
  - Logic, specific chains, ZIP, MSI
- Execution methods
  - LoLBins, AU3 abusing, DLL side-loading, abused products
- Geographical distribution



# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
  - Logic, specific chains, ZIP, MSI
- Execution methods
  - LoLBins, AU3 abusing, DLL side-loading, abused products
- Geographical distribution



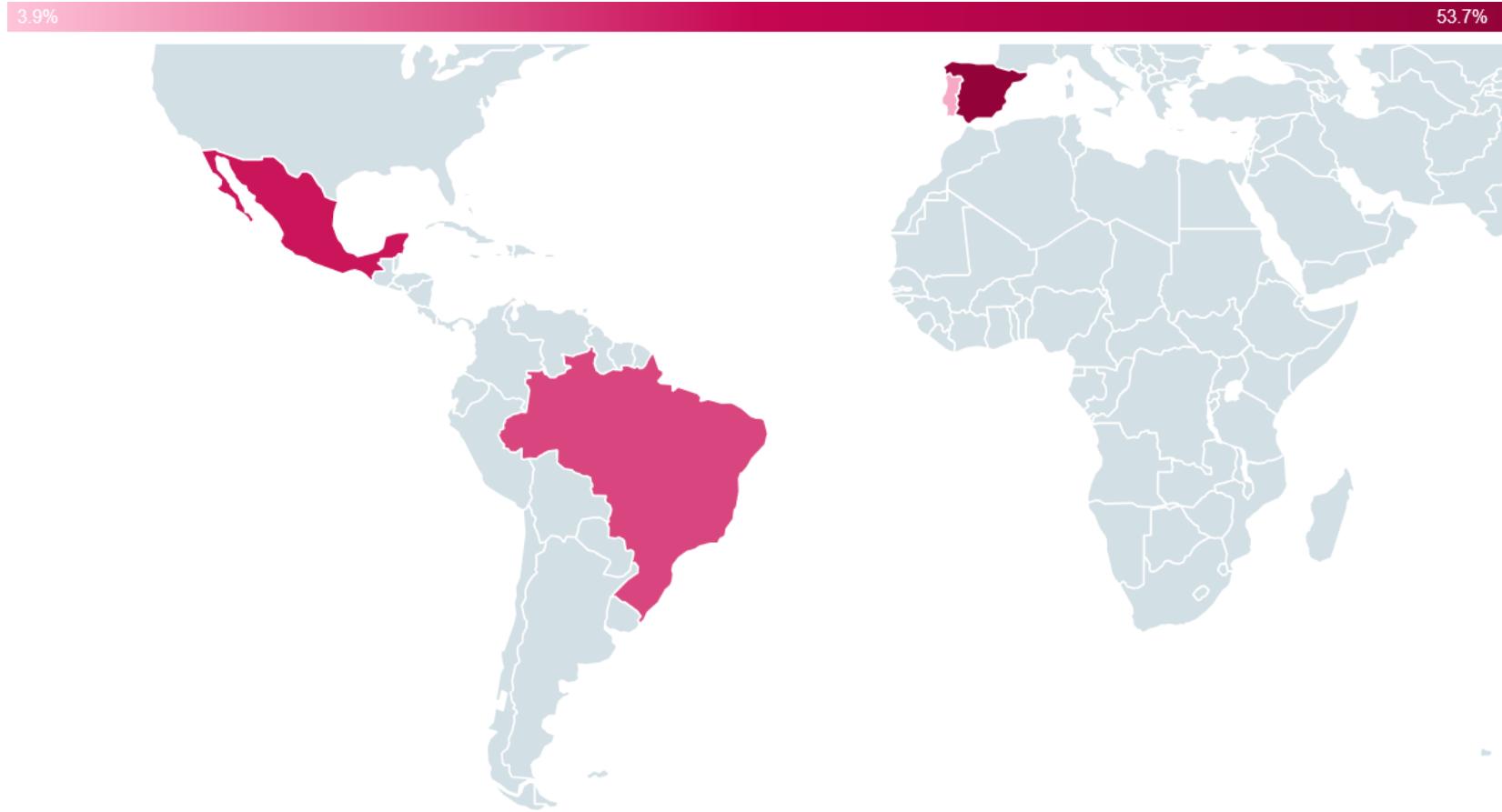
## Geographical distribution

- Initially known to target Brazil
- Slowly affecting other countries (Perú, Chile)
- 2018/2019: Expansion to Mexico
- 2019/2020: Expansion to Spain and Portugal

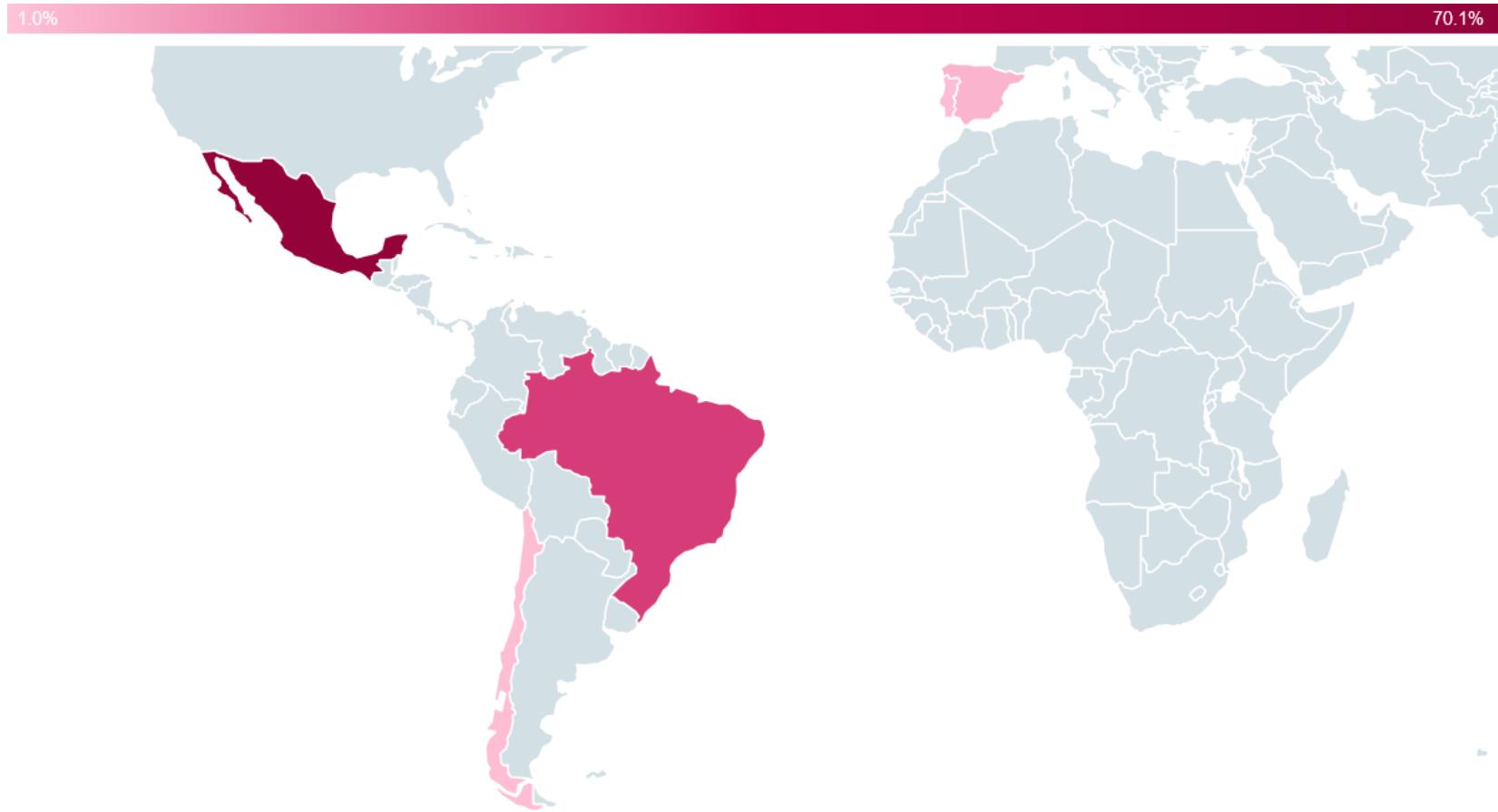
# Grandoreiro (before Oct 2019)



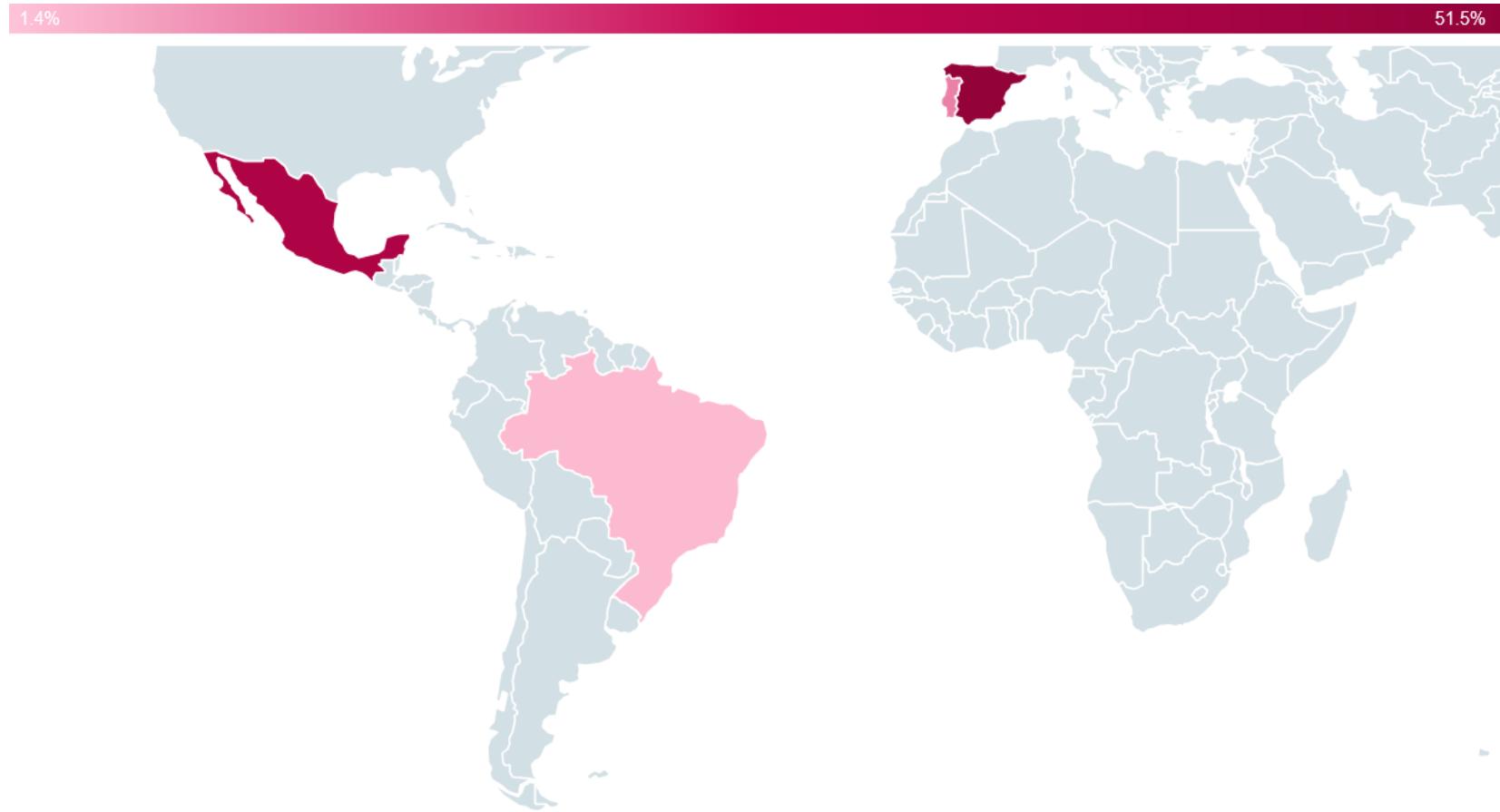
# Grandoreiro (since Oct 2019)



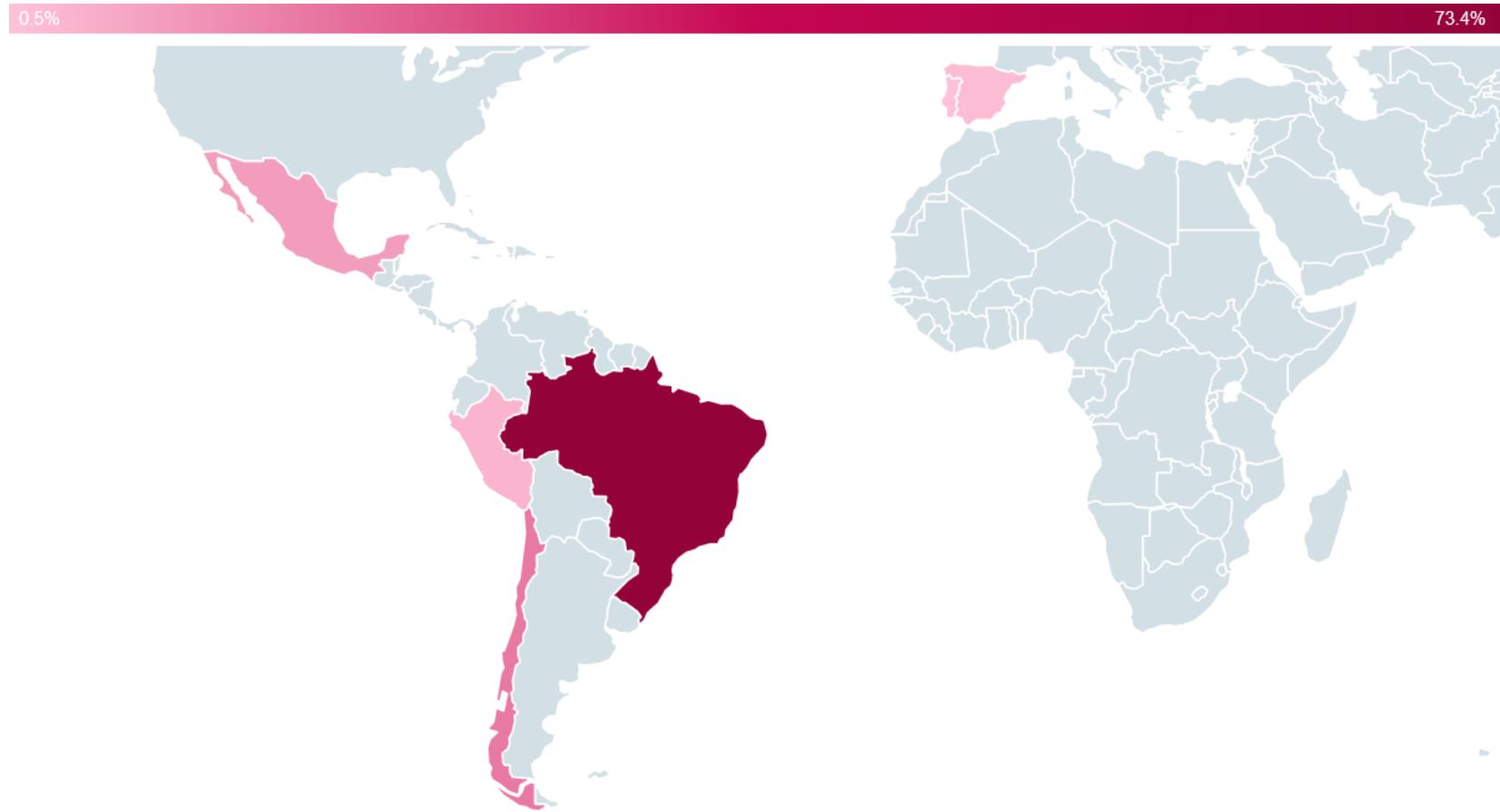
# Mispadu (before Feb 2020)



# Mispadu (since Feb 2020)



# Mekotio (before Mar 2020)

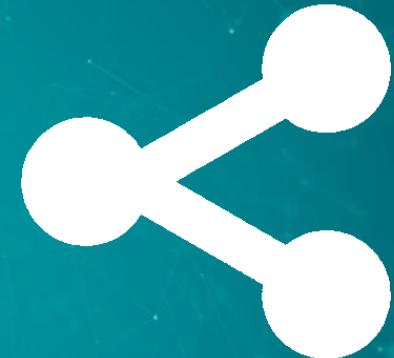


# Mekotio (since Mar 2020)



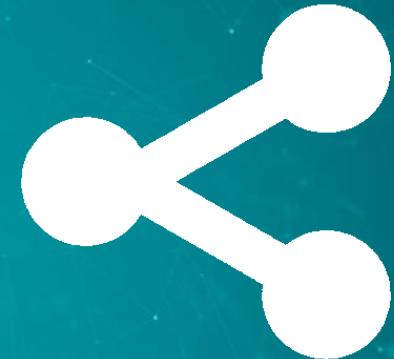
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
  - Logic, specific chains, ZIP, MSI
- Execution methods
  - LoLBins, AU3 abusing, DLL side-loading, abused products
- Geographical distribution
  - South America, Mexico, Spain, Portugal



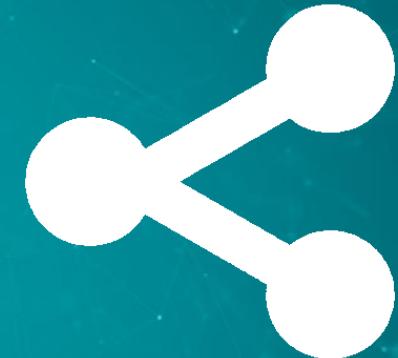
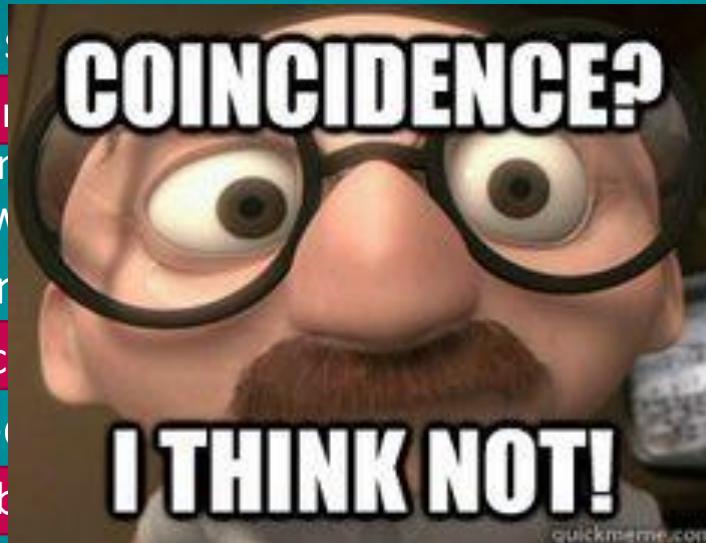
# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binaries, logic, encryption schemes, implementation details, third-party components, anti-fraud software targeting
- Distribution chains
  - Logic, specific chains, ZIP, MSI
- Execution methods
  - LoLBins, AU3 abusing, DLL side-loading, abused products
- Geographical distribution
  - South America, Mexico, Spain, Portugal



# What is shared between LATAM banking trojans?

- Binary characteristics
  - Delphi, large binary implementation, anti-fraud software
- Distribution channels
  - Logic, specific command and control
- Execution methods
  - LoLBins, AU3 attack, exploit products
- Geographical distribution
  - South America, Mexico, Spain, Portugal



# So who is behind LATAM banking trojans?

- Independent threat actors with the same ideas?

# So who is behind LATAM banking trojans?

- Independent threat actors with the same ideas?
  - Hardly

## So who is behind LATAM banking trojans?

- Independent threat actors with the same ideas?
  - Hardly
- One group maintaining all the families?

## So who is behind LATAM banking trojans?

- Independent threat actors with the same ideas?
  - Hardly
- One group maintaining all the families?
  - Unlikely... Why so many? Repeating mistakes, missing features, ...

# So who is behind LATAM banking trojans?

- Independent threat actors with the same ideas?
  - Hardly
- One group maintaining all the families?
  - Unlikely... Why so many? Repeating mistakes, missing features, ...
- Multiple threat actors cooperating?

# So who is behind LATAM banking trojans?

- Independent threat actors with the same ideas?
  - Hardly
- One group maintaining all the families?
  - Unlikely... Why so many? Repeating mistakes, missing features, ...
- Multiple threat actors cooperating?
  - Yes!

# Conclusion

- LATAM banking trojans
  - are region-specific families with the same goal
  - share
    - Techniques, ideas & tools
  - show collective and continuous development
- Something we have never seen before



## Jakub Souček

Malware Analyst

[jakub.soucek@eset.cz](mailto:jakub.soucek@eset.cz)



## Martin Jirkal

PRG Analyst Team Lead

[jirkal@eset.cz](mailto:jirkal@eset.cz)