

# Threat Hunting

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**HW06**

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There's different kind of Domain name generation method use by DGA tools. In the real world scenario. Attacker can change their domain name if it was record by the IoC. So attacker can evasion the defense. According to the above, we can generating the "mutation" domain name to hunting the threat.

## Generation

### Zodiac-based DGA Generation



#### Zodiac-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains based on zodiac signs and random strings.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create a unique set of domains for command and control (C&C) communication or data exfiltration.

Strengths: The use of zodiac signs and random strings makes the generated domains unpredictable and difficult to block.

Weaknesses: The zodiac sign pattern may be detectable, and the random string generation algorithm may be reverse-engineered.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and identifying the relationship between the zodiac signs and dates.

Random seed: `$(-i]b")B,R*KG!?,`

[www.2de154bbd.net](http://www.2de154bbd.net)

[www.b66c09d9.biz](http://www.b66c09d9.biz)

[www.18d851v.com](http://www.18d851v.com)

[www.b109635x8.net](http://www.b109635x8.net)

[www.f4w8t15.biz](http://www.f4w8t15.biz)

[www.f644d25ac8.org](http://www.f644d25ac8.org)

[www.04996c0d9b.biz](http://www.04996c0d9b.biz)

[www.935052844.net](http://www.935052844.net)

[www.8049b2gd.org](http://www.8049b2gd.org)

[www.f6c122b.org](http://www.f6c122b.org)

Regex for Zodiac Sign Generated DGAs: `[r|w|e|o|b|c|d|i|g|n|f|t|z]+|[9|4|0|8|2|3|5|6|1]+|[^\mxav.]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[r|w|e|o|b|c|d|i|g|n|f|t|z]+|[9|4|0|8|2|3|5|6|1]+|[^\mxav.]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

### Time-based DGA Generation

#### Time-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains based on the current time.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be used by malware authors to create a set of constantly changing domains for C&C communication or data exfiltration.

Strengths: The generated domains change frequently, making it difficult to block them all.

Weaknesses: The time-based pattern may be detectable, and the generated domains may be predictable if the algorithm is known.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and identifying the relationship between the domains and the current time.

[www.2024031819.info](http://www.2024031819.info)

[www.2024031819.org](http://www.2024031819.org)

[www.2024031.org](http://www.2024031.org)

[www.2024031819.info](http://www.2024031819.info)

[www.2024031.net](http://www.2024031.net)

[www.2024031819.biz](http://www.2024031819.biz)

[www.2024031.biz](http://www.2024031.biz)

[www.2024031819.biz](http://www.2024031819.biz)

[www.202403181.com](http://www.202403181.com)

[www.20240318.biz](http://www.20240318.biz)

Regex for Time-based Generated DGAs: `[r|w|o|b|i|g|n|f|z|+|[9|4|0|8|2|3|1|]+|[^\mect.]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[r|w|o|b|i|g|n|f|z|+|[9|4|0|8|2|3|1|]+|[^\mect.]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Seed-based DGA Generation

#### Seed-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains based on a seed value and a hash function.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create a unique set of domains for C&C communication or data exfiltration, based on a shared seed value.

Strengths: The generated domains are unpredictable without knowledge of the seed value and the hash function used.

Weaknesses: If the seed value or the hash function is compromised, the generated domains can be predicted.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and attempting to reverse-engineer the seed value and the hash function.

Random seed: `G+/Mn@IrfnvN%(C)`

[www.ffala30f.net](http://www.ffala30f.net)

[www.dd9a96b.info](http://www.dd9a96b.info)

[www.8fdee18b65.biz](http://www.8fdee18b65.biz)

[www.96d6e8b2c.biz](http://www.96d6e8b2c.biz)

[www.lca4b60.net](http://www.lca4b60.net)

[www.4d5f90ef2.biz](http://www.4d5f90ef2.biz)

[www.3774bea66.org](http://www.3774bea66.org)

[www.6e5a4085.net](http://www.6e5a4085.net)

[www.fb6e92d.biz](http://www.fb6e92d.biz)

[www.596200c.org](http://www.596200c.org)

Regex for Seed-based Generated DGAs: `[r|w|e|o|a|b|c|d|i|g|n|f|t|z|+|[9|4|0|8|2|3|5|7|6|1|]+|[^\.]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[r|w|e|o|a|b|c|d|i|g|n|f|t|z|+|[9|4|0|8|2|3|5|7|6|1|]+|[^\.]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Dictionary-based DGA Generation

#### Dictionary-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains by combining random words from a predefined dictionary.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create domains that appear more human-readable and less suspicious.

Strengths: The generated domains are more likely to bypass filters and appear legitimate.

Weaknesses: The dictionary used may be known or detectable, and the pattern of combining words may be recognizable.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and identifying the dictionary used and the word combination algorithm.

[www.birdfish.com](http://www.birdfish.com)

[www.blue.org](http://www.blue.org)

[www.birdred.org](http://www.birdred.org)

[www.reddog.biz](http://www.reddog.biz)

[www.bird.info](http://www.bird.info)

[www.fishfish.net](http://www.fishfish.net)

[www.bluered.net](http://www.bluered.net)

[www.fishred.org](http://www.fishred.org)

[www.redfish.org](http://www.redfish.org)

[www.bluedog.org](http://www.bluedog.org)

Regex for Dictionary-based Generated DGAs: `[r|w|o|u|e|b|d|i|l|g|n|f|h|t|s|]+[^c.zm]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[r|w|o|u|e|b|d|i|l|g|n|f|h|t|s|]+[^c.zm]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Pseudorandom Number Generator (PRNG) based DGA Generation

#### Pseudorandom Number Generator (PRNG) based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains using a pseudorandom number generator (PRNG) seeded with a specific value.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create a unique set of domains for C&C communication or data exfiltration, based on a shared seed value.

Strengths: The generated domains are unpredictable without knowledge of the seed value and the PRNG algorithm used.

Weaknesses: If the seed value or the PRNG algorithm is compromised, the generated domains can be predicted.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and attempting to reverse-engineer the seed value and the PRNG algorithm.

[www.atxmr1kxhl.org](http://www.atxmr1kxhl.org)

[www.9lv7706k.net](http://www.9lv7706k.net)

[www.emvub3vb.biz](http://www.emvub3vb.biz)

[www.aaklsc0elv.net](http://www.aaklsc0elv.net)

[www.coh5n9lql.biz](http://www.coh5n9lql.biz)

[www.cktaow8.org](http://www.cktaow8.org)

[www.vuadd2fv.net](http://www.vuadd2fv.net)

[www.xn6h4da.info](http://www.xn6h4da.info)

[www.09mxh9jf5.net](http://www.09mxh9jf5.net)

[www.onkks18f7.com](http://www.onkks18f7.com)

Regex for Pseudorandom Number Generator (PRNG) based Generated DGAs: `[v|d|y|l|w|o|x|a|e|i|g|h|m|k|b|c|j|f|t|s|r|u|h|z|+|[9|0|8|5|7|6|1|]+[^423q.] {0,2} {1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[v|d|y|l|w|o|x|a|e|i|g|h|m|k|b|c|j|f|t|s|r|u|h|z|+|[9|0|8|5|7|6|1|]+[^423q.] {0,2} {1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Arithmetic-based DGA Generation

#### Arithmetic-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains by performing arithmetic operations on a base value and a random number.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create a unique set of domains for C&C communication or data exfiltration, based on a shared base value.

Strengths: The generated domains are unpredictable without knowledge of the base value and the arithmetic operation used.

Weaknesses: If the base value or the arithmetic operation is compromised, the generated domains can be predicted.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and attempting to reverse-engineer the base value and the arithmetic operation.

[www.0012595.info](http://www.0012595.info)  
[www.0012634.org](http://www.0012634.org)  
[www.0000012962.com](http://www.0000012962.com)  
[www.0000013254.info](http://www.0000013254.info)  
[www.00012631.net](http://www.00012631.net)  
[www.000012472.org](http://www.000012472.org)  
[www.0000012625.net](http://www.0000012625.net)  
[www.00012627.info](http://www.00012627.info)  
[www.0000012970.org](http://www.0000012970.org)  
[www.0012568.info](http://www.0012568.info)

Regex for Arithmetic-based Generated DGAs: `[r|w|o|e|i|g|n|f|t|+|[9|4|0|2|3|5|7|6|1|]+|[^\c.m]{0,2}{1,3}`

```
Yara rule:
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[r|w|o|e|i|g|n|f|t|+|[9|4|0|2|3|5|7|6|1|]+|[^\c.m]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Permutation-based DGA Generation

#### Permutation-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains by permuting the characters of a base domain.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create a unique set of domains for C&C communication or data exfiltration, based on a shared base domain.

Strengths: The generated domains are unpredictable without knowledge of the base domain and the permutation algorithm used.

Weaknesses: If the base domain or the permutation algorithm is compromised, the generated domains can be predicted.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and attempting to reverse-engineer the base domain and the permutation algorithm.

[www.elxempa.com](http://www.elxempa.com)  
[www.eelxampm.org](http://www.eelxampm.org)  
[www.eaxmelpm.net](http://www.eaxmelpm.net)  
[www.explaemee.biz](http://www.explaemee.biz)  
[www.epaelmxee.org](http://www.epaelmxee.org)  
[www.ampelexaaa.info](http://www.ampelexaaa.info)  
[www.lmaxepe.com](http://www.lmaxepe.com)  
[www.leanxp111.com](http://www.leanxp111.com)  
[www.planxee.biz](http://www.planxee.biz)  
[www.mpaxelem.org](http://www.mpaxelem.org)

Regex for Permutation-based Generated DGAs: `[r|w|m|e|x|a|o|b|c|p|i|l|g|n|z|+|[^\t.f]{0,2}{1,3}`

```
Yara rule:
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[r|w|m|e|x|a|o|b|c|p|i|l|g|n|z|+|[^\t.f]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Base32/Base64 DGA Generation

## ↳ Fibonacci-based Generator DGA Generation

### Base32/Base64 DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains by encoding a seed value using Base32 or Base64 encoding.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create a unique set of domains for C&C communication or data exfiltration, based on a shared seed value.

Strengths: The generated domains are unpredictable without knowledge of the seed value and the encoding scheme used.

Weaknesses: If the seed value or the encoding scheme is compromised, the generated domains can be predicted.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and attempting to reverse-engineer the seed value and the encoding scheme.

[www.bXlzZWVk56.info](http://www.bXlzZWVk56.info)  
[www.ZGVlc3I.org](http://www.ZGVlc3I.org)  
[www.bXlzZWVk.gov](http://www.bXlzZWVk.gov)  
[www.ZGVlc3lt.com](http://www.ZGVlc3lt.com)  
[www.bXlzZWVk.info](http://www.bXlzZWVk.info)  
[www.ZGVlc3lt9.org](http://www.ZGVlc3lt9.org)  
[www.bXlzZWVk.edu](http://www.bXlzZWVk.edu)  
[www.ZGVlc3lt.org](http://www.ZGVlc3lt.org)  
[www.bXlzZWVk17.info](http://www.bXlzZWVk17.info)  
[www.ZGVlc3lt2.edu](http://www.ZGVlc3lt2.edu)

Regex for Base32/Base64 Generated DGAs: `[X|d|l|w|o|G|e|W|Z|i|g|n|k|b|c|f|V|t|r|u|z|+|[3]+|[9mv257.61]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[X|d|l|w|o|G|e|W|Z|i|g|n|k|b|c|f|V|t|r|u|z|+|[3]+|[9mv257.61]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/vara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Wordlist-based DGA Generation

### Wordlist-based DGA Generation

Explanation: This DGA generates domains by combining random words from a predefined wordlist.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create domains that appear more human-readable and less suspicious.

Strengths: The generated domains are more likely to bypass filters and appear legitimate.

Weaknesses: The wordlist used may be known or detectable, and the pattern of combining words may be recognizable.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and identifying the wordlist used and the word combination algorithm.

[www.figdate.net](http://www.figdate.net)  
[www.cherrykiwi.org](http://www.cherrykiwi.org)  
[www.grapemango.org](http://www.grapemango.org)  
[www.appleapple.gov](http://www.appleapple.gov)  
[www.grapeapple.net](http://www.grapeapple.net)  
[www.cherryfig.org](http://www.cherryfig.org)  
[www.mangoemon.com](http://www.mangoemon.com)  
[www.figkiwi.gov](http://www.figkiwi.gov)  
[www.figmango.net](http://www.figmango.net)  
[www.elderberry.info](http://www.elderberry.info)

Regex for Wordlist-based Generated DGAs: `[v|d|y|l|w|e|o|a|i|g|n|m|k|c|p|f|t|r|h|+|[b.]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[v|d|y|l|w|e|o|a|i|g|n|m|k|c|p|f|t|r|h|+|[b.]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/vara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Vowel-Consonant DGA Generation





#### Musical Notes DGA

Explanation: This DGA generates domains using musical notes and octaves.

Usefulness: This type of DGA can be useful for malware authors to create domains that appear obfuscated and less suspicious.

Strengths: The generated domains are less likely to be recognized as DGA domains and may bypass filters.

Weaknesses: The musical note pattern may be detectable, and the note and octave sets used may be known or reverse-engineered.

Deception: This DGA can be deciphered by analyzing the pattern of generated domains and identifying the note and octave sets used.

[www.B3G3C4F2G5E3C1G2C5E1.net](http://www.B3G3C4F2G5E3C1G2C5E1.net)

[www.C4G3G2F1G1F5A3A3.info](http://www.C4G3G2F1G1F5A3A3.info)

[www.E5D5D2F4E1E4A3B5C5F2.info](http://www.E5D5D2F4E1E4A3B5C5F2.info)

[www.C4E2B4D3E2A1B3E1.com](http://www.C4E2B4D3E2A1B3E1.com)

[www.F1A5G1F5E2B1E3D3C3.com](http://www.F1A5G1F5E2B1E3D3C3.com)

[www.F3A3A1C4F2E2D4.org](http://www.F3A3A1C4F2E2D4.org)

[www.A2C5D5G5B5C5G1.net](http://www.A2C5D5G5B5C5G1.net)

[www.F3B2D3C1B4G5E2.com](http://www.F3B2D3C1B4G5E2.com)

[www.A1D3A1B3D3E4C4.net](http://www.A1D3A1B3D3E4C4.net)

[www.A3F1F1E5D4D2E5.gov](http://www.A3F1F1E5D4D2E5.gov)

Regex for Musical Notes Generated DGAs: `[w|m|e|G|o|D|c|A|C|i|E|g|B|n|f|t|F|+|[4|2|3|5|1|+|[^r.v]{0,2}{1,3}`

Yara rule:

```
rule dga_domain_detection {
  meta:
    description = "Detects DGA-generated domain names"
  strings:
    $dga_regex = /[w|m|e|G|o|D|c|A|C|i|E|g|B|n|f|t|F|+|[4|2|3|5|1|+|[^r.v]{0,2}{1,3}/ nocase
  condition:
    $dga_regex
}
```

Note: Can use <https://riskmitigation.ch/yara-scan/> or MalwareBazaar <https://bazaar.abuse.ch/> but will need API Key

## Kestrel threat hunting

### Installation process

```
—$ python3 -m venv huntingspace
—(jonafk555@jonafk)-[~]
—$ . huntingspace/bin/activate

—(huntingspace)(jonafk555@jonafk)-[~]
—$ pip install --upgrade pip setuptools wheel
Requirement already satisfied: pip in ./huntingspace/lib/python3.13/site-packages (25.2)
Collecting pip
  Using cached pip-25.3-py3-none-any.whl.metadata (4.7 kB)
Collecting setuptools
  Using cached setuptools-80.9.0-py3-none-any.whl.metadata (6.6 kB)
Collecting wheel
  Downloading wheel-0.45.1-py3-none-any.whl.metadata (2.3 kB)
Using cached pip-25.3-py3-none-any.whl (1.8 MB)
Using cached setuptools-80.9.0-py3-none-any.whl (1.2 MB)
Downloading wheel-0.45.1-py3-none-any.whl (72 kB)
Installing collected packages: wheel, setuptools, pip
  Attempting uninstall: pip
    Found existing installation: pip 25.2
    Uninstalling pip-25.2:
      Successfully uninstalled pip-25.2
Successfully installed pip-25.3 setuptools-80.9.0 wheel-0.45.1
```

run the Hello World hunt flow.



```
  {"name": "chrome.exe", "pid": "205"}
]
```

Logical function:

- `NEW process [...]` creates a simulated entity set of processes inside Kestrel.
- In a real scenario, this step is equivalent to reading `process` -type events from an EDR / SIEM, for example:

```
GET process FROM stixshifter://ELASTIC WHERE [process:name = 'chrome.exe']
```

- The four JSON objects above represent four system processes, each containing two attributes:
  - `name` (executable name)
  - `pid` (process ID)

Significance:

This step builds the hunt's observation domain — the set from which you will search for suspicious or target processes.

Step 2 — Filter matching entities

```
browsers = proclist WHERE name IN ('firefox.exe', 'chrome.exe')
```

Logical function:

- Execute a filter on the existing variable `proclist`.
- Condition syntax: `WHERE name IN ('firefox.exe', 'chrome.exe')`
  - i.e., keep only entities whose `name` attribute matches one of those two values.
- The result is stored in a new variable `browsers`.

Real threat-hunting correspondence:

- If the data comes from a real SIEM, this step is a filter such as:

```
[process:name IN ('firefox.exe', 'chrome.exe')]
```

- Purpose: focus on a class of potentially relevant application behavior, for example:
  - adversaries disguising activity as browser processes (browser-based persistence)
  - investigating suspicious child processes or anomalous behavior spawned by browsers (browser injection / proxy abuse)

### Step 3 — Display results

```
DISP browsers ATTR name, pid
```

#### Logical function:

- `DISP` (Display) prints specified attributes to the command line.
- It shows the `name` and `pid` for each entity in the `browsers` set.

#### Real threat-hunting correspondence:

- Practically, this step typically involves:
  - sending hunt results to a visualization (tables/graphs)
  - exporting results for further analysis in Python/pandas
  - or feeding results into `APPLY` analytics modules (e.g., `top_count`, `cluster`, `timeline`)