

TrustKit

Code Injection on iOS 8 for the Greater Good

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About Us

- Alban: Engineering/security lead at Data Theorem
- Eric: iOS R&D at Data Theorem
- Angela: Paranoids (security) at Yahoo

How It All Started

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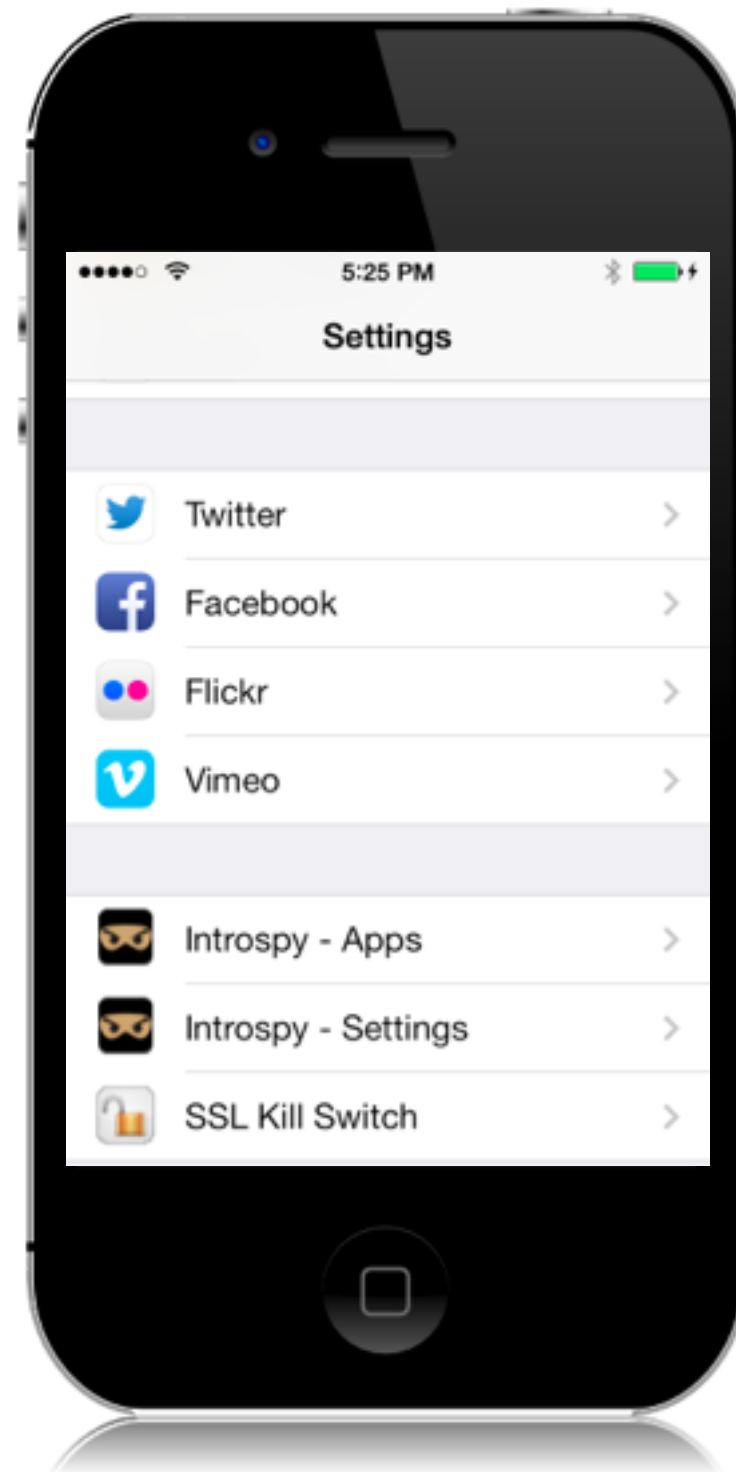
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- iOS App
- Location



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Agenda

- Dynamic Libraries and iOS 8
- Cydia Substrate on a Non-Jailbroken Device
- Putting It All Together: TrustKit

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Dylibs Before iOS 8

- Historically: no third-party dynamic libraries in Apps
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- Developer libraries: static linking only
 - Enforced via the App Store review process
 - Made library distribution complex (see: CocoaPods)
 - Security decision ?

Dylibs on iOS 8

- iOS 8: dynamic libraries now accepted
 - Apple calls them “Embedded Frameworks”
- Introduced to facilitate sharing code between Apps and their App Extensions
 - But... can be used regardless of whether the App actually has an Extension

Dylibs on iOS 8

- Mach-O is the file format for OS X and iOS programs and libraries.
- Executables interact with “dyld”, the OS X and iOS dynamic linker to load libraries at runtime.
- A dynamic library is described in Mach-O binary in a “load command” structure

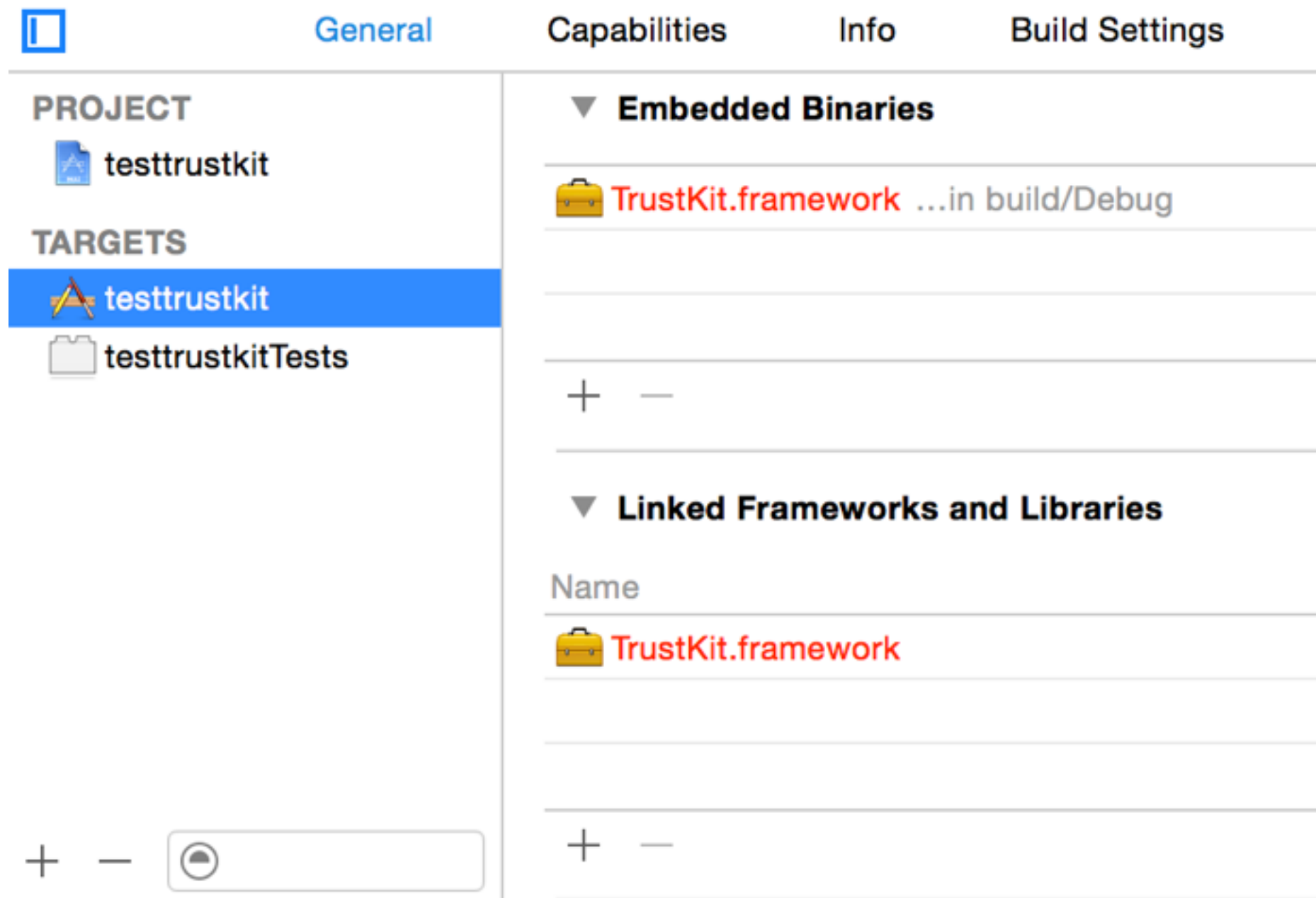
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Dylibs on iOS 8

- Sandboxing requires that libraries are packaged within the app's bundle
 - Unlike Substrate tweaks which are stored in */Library/*
- **dyld** locates them through relative paths
 - **@executable_path** prefix allows to locate libraries in paths relative to the main executable.
 - **@rpath** prefix allows for multiple library search locations.
 - In iOS, @rpath seems limited to one single location ("Frameworks" directory inside app's bundle)

Dylibs on iOS 8





RAW



RVA

Q Search

▼ Executable (ARM64_ALL)

Mach64 Header

▼ Load Commands

LC_SEGMENT_64 (__PAGEZERO)

► LC_SEGMENT_64 (__TEXT)

► LC_SEGMENT_64 (__DATA)

LC_SEGMENT_64 (__LINKEDIT)

LC_DYLD_INFO_ONLY

LC_SYMTAB

LC_DYSYMTAB

LC_LOAD_DYLINKER

LC_UUID

LC_VERSION_MIN_IPHONEOS

LC_SOURCE_VERSION

LC_MAIN

LC_ENCRYPTION_INFO_64

LC_LOAD_DYLIB (TrustKit)

LC_LOAD_DYLIB (Foundation)

LC_LOAD_DYLIB (libobjc.A.dylib)

LC_LOAD_DYLIB (libSystem.B.dylib)

LC_LOAD_DYLIB (CoreFoundation)

LC_LOAD_DYLIB (UIKit)

LC_RPATH

LC_FUNCTION_STARTS

LC_DATA_IN_CODE

LC_DYLIB_CODE_SIGN_DRS

LC_CODE_SIGNATURE

► Section64 (__TEXT,__text)

► Section64 (__TEXT,__stubs)

► Section64 (__TEXT,__stub_helper)

► Section64 (__TEXT,__objc_methname)

► Section64 (__TEXT,__cstring)

► Section64 (__TEXT,__objc_classname)

► Section64 (__TEXT,__objc_methtype)

Section64 (__TEXT,__unwind_info)

► Section64 (__DATA,__got)

► Section64 (__DATA,__la_symbol_ptr)

► Section64 (__DATA,__cfstring)

► Section64 (__DATA,__objc_classlist)

Offset	Data	Description	Value
000008F0	0000000C	Command	LC_LOAD_DYLIB
000008F4	00000040	Command Size	64
000008F8	00000018	Str Offset	24
000008FC	00000002	Time Stamp	Thu Jan 1 01:00:02 1970
00000900	00010000	Current Version	1.0.0
00000904	00010000	Compatibility Version	1.0.0
00000908	4072706174682F5...	Name	@rpath/TrustKit.framework/TrustKit



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Offset	Data	Description	Value
00000AA8	8000001C	Command	LC_RPATH
00000AAC	00000028	Command Size	40
00000AB0	0000000C	Str Offset	12
00000AB4	406578656375746...	Path	@executable_path/Frameworks

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 - *ios-ssl-kill-switch*
 - (In)security tool for disabling SSL validation and pinning

Substrate Tweaks

- So can we package a Substrate tweak in an App?
- For testing, tried packaging an existing tweak
 - *ios-ssl-kill-switch*
 - (In)security tool for disabling SSL validation and pinning
- If it works, we can build our SSL pinning tweak!

Substrate Tweaks

- What is a Substrate tweak again?

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 - Dylib with a constructor to initialize hooks

Substrate Tweaks

What is a Substrate tweak again?

```
__attribute__((constructor)) static void initialize()
{
    // Our library just got injected in the App - initialize things
    initTweak();
    // ...

    // Enable hooks
    NSLog(@"SSL Kill Switch - Hook Enabled.");
    MSHookFunction((void *) SSLHandshake,
                  (void *) replaced_SSLHandshake,
                  (void **) &original_SSLHandshake);

    MSHookFunction((void *) SSLSetSessionOption,
                  (void *) replaced_SSLSetSessionOption,
                  (void **) &original_SSLSetSessionOption);

    MSHookFunction((void *) SSLCreateContext,
                  (void *) replaced_SSLCreateContext,
                  (void **) &original_SSLCreateContext);

    // ...
    // End of the constructor
}
```

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- What is a Substrate tweak again?
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- CydiaSubstrate dylib as a dependency, for calling the hooking functions *MSHookFunction()*, *MSHookMessageEx()*

Substrate Tweaks

The screenshot shows the Substrate Tweaks application window titled "SSLSwitch2.dylib". The interface includes a sidebar on the left with a tree view of the binary's structure, a top bar with "RAW" and "RVA" tabs, and a search bar. The "Load Commands" section is expanded in the sidebar, listing various commands like LC_SEGMENT_64, LC_ID_DYLIB, and LC_LOAD_DYLIB. The main pane displays a table of these load commands with columns for pFile, Data LO, Data HI, and Value.

pFile	Data LO	Data HI	Value
00008020	19 00 00 00...	5F 5F 54 45 58 54 00 00	....(....__TEXT..
00008030	00 00 00 00...	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
00008040	00 40 00 00...	00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	..@.....
00008050	00 40 00 00...	05 00 00 00 05 00 00 00	..@.....
00008060	06 00 00 00...	5F 5F 74 65 78 74 00 00	.....__text..
00008070	00 00 00 00...	5F 5F 54 45 58 54 00 00	.....__TEXT..
00008080	00 00 00 00...	7C 3B 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....|;.....
00008090	54 02 00 00...	7C 3B 00 00 02 00 00 00	T.....|;.....
000080A0	00 00 00 00...	00 04 00 80 00 00 00 00	.....
000080B0	00 00 00 00...	5F 5F 73 74 75 62 73 00	.....__stubs.
000080C0	00 00 00 00...	5F 5F 54 45 58 54 00 00	.....__TEXT..
000080D0	00 00 00 00...	D0 3D 00 00 00 00 00 00=.....
000080E0	30 00 00 00...	D0 3D 00 00 01 00 00 00	0.....=.....
000080F0	00 00 00 00...	08 04 00 80 00 00 00 00	.....
00008100	0C 00 00 00...	5F 5F 73 74 75 62 5F 68	.....__stub_h
00008110	65 6C 70 65...	5F 5F 54 45 58 54 00 00	elper...__TEXT..
00008120	00 00 00 00...	00 3E 00 00 00 00 00 00>.....
00008130	48 00 00 00...	00 3E 00 00 02 00 00 00	H.....>.....
00008140	00 00 00 00...	00 04 00 80 00 00 00 00	.....
00008150	00 00 00 00...	5F 5F 63 73 74 72 69 6E	.....__cstrin
00008160	67 00 00 00...	5F 5F 54 45 58 54 00 00	g.....__TEXT..
00008170	00 00 00 00...	48 3E 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....H>.....
00008180	F8 00 00 00...	48 3E 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....H>.....
00008190	00 00 00 00...	02 00 00 00 00 00 00 00	.....
000081A0	00 00 00 00...	5F 5F 6F 62 6A 63 5F 6D	.....__objc_m
000081B0	65 74 60 65...	5F 5F 54 45 58 54 00 00	.....__TEXT..

Substrate Tweaks

The screenshot shows a hex editor window titled "SSLLKillSwitch2.dylib". At the top, there are tabs for "RAW" (selected) and "RVA". A search bar is located in the top right corner.

The left sidebar displays the "Fat Binary" structure. Under "Load Commands", the "LC_LOAD_DYLIB (CydiaSubstrate)" entry is selected and highlighted in blue.

The main area shows a table of load commands with the following columns: Offset, Data, Description, and Value.

Offset	Data	Description	Value
000087C0	0000000C	Command	LC_LOAD_DYLIB
000087C4	00000058	Command Size	88
000087C8	00000018	Str Offset	24
000087CC	00000002	Time Stamp	Wed Dec 31 16:00:02 1969
000087D0	00000000	Current Version	0.0.0
000087D4	00000000	Compatibility Version	0.0.0
000087D8	2F4C6962726...	Name	/Library/Frameworks/CydiaSubstrate.framework/CydiaSubstrate

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- What is a Substrate tweak again?
- Dylib with a constructor to initialize hooks
- CydiaSubstrate dylib as a dependency, for calling the hooking functions *MSHookFunction()*, *MSHookMessageEx()*

Substrate Tweaks

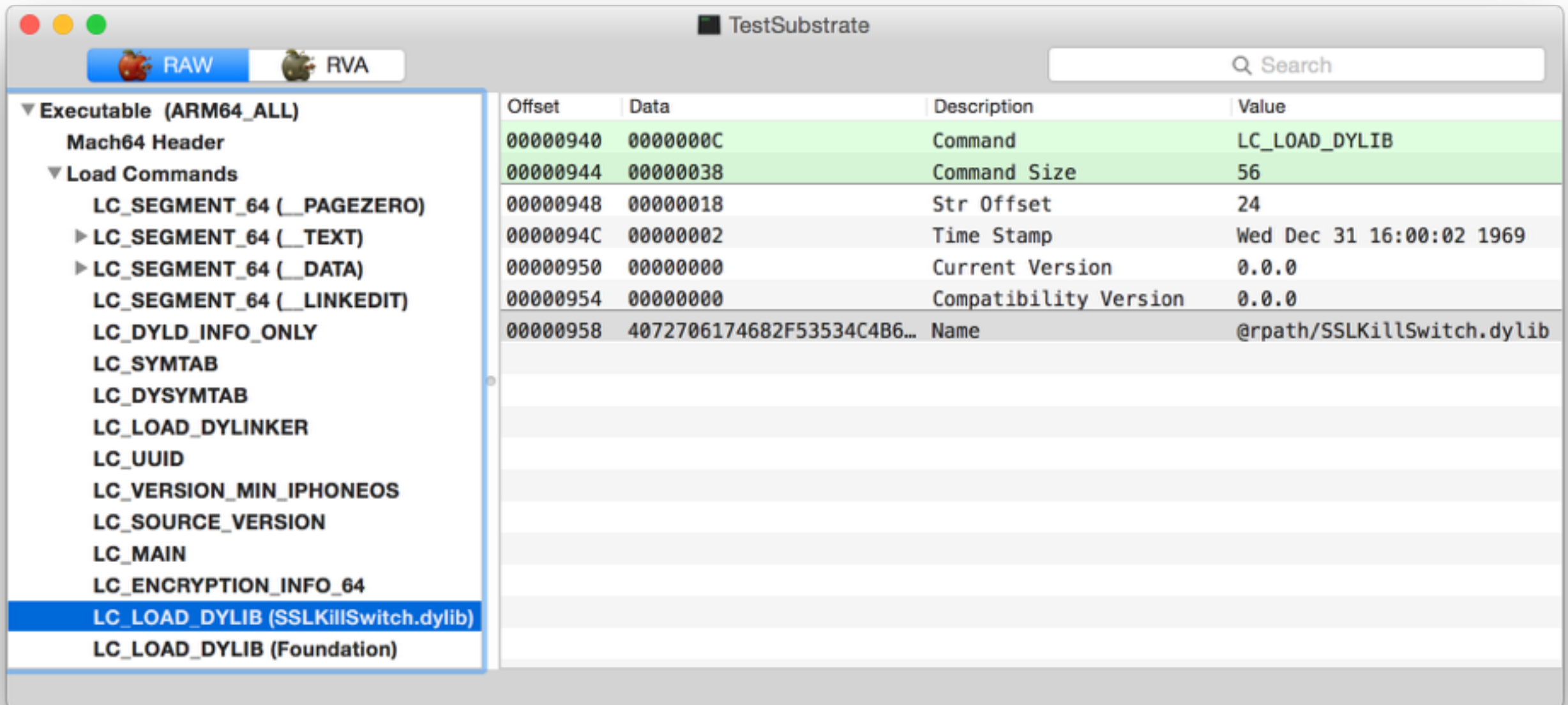
- What is a Substrate tweak again?
 - Dylib with a constructor to initialize hooks
 - CydiaSubstrate dylib as a dependency, for calling the hooking functions *MSHookFunction()*, *MSHookMessageEx()*
 - On a jailbroken device, gets auto-injected in running Apps

Substrate in an App

- Packaging ios-ssl-kill-switch in an App on a non-jailbroken device

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Substrate in an App

```
Hardware Model:      iPhone6,1
Process:             TestSubstrate [319]
Path:                /private/var/mobile/Containers/Bundle/Application/D0D46AF8-2A3F-469D-
A30B-832E2AD2B459/TestSubstrate.nocodesigning.app/TestSubstrate
Identifier:          TestSubstrate
Version:             ???
Code Type:           ARM-64 (Native)
Parent Process:      launchd [1]
Date/Time:           2015-07-19 10:38:52.407 -0700
Launch Time:         2015-07-19 10:38:52.302 -0700
OS Version:          iOS 8.4 (12H143)
Report Version:      105
Exception Type:      EXC_BREAKPOINT (SIGTRAP)
Exception Codes:     0x0000000000000001, 0x00000001200c5088
Triggered by Thread: 0
Dyld Error Message:
  Library not loaded: @rpath/SSLKillSwitch.dylib
  Referenced from: /private/var/mobile/Containers/Bundle/Application/D0D46AF8-2A3F-469D-
A30B-832E2AD2B459/TestSubstrate.app/TestSubstrate
  Reason: no suitable image found.  Did find:
    /private/var/mobile/Containers/Bundle/Application/D0D46AF8-2A3F-469D-A30B-832E2AD2B459/
TestSubstrate.app/Frameworks/SSLKillSwitch.dylib: code signature invalid for '/private/var/
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3EFA0205-4971-46B6-A1A3-77D3AA6793F5/TestSubstrate.nocydia.app/TestSubstrate
Identifier:          TestSubstrate
Version:             ???
Code Type:           ARM-64 (Native)
Parent Process:      launchd [1]
Date/Time:           2015-07-19 10:31:18.880 -0700
Launch Time:         2015-07-19 10:31:18.734 -0700
OS Version:          iOS 8.4 (12H143)
Report Version:      105
Exception Type:      EXC_BREAKPOINT (SIGTRAP)
Exception Codes:     0x0000000000000001, 0x00000000120001088
Triggered by Thread: 0
Dyld Error Message:
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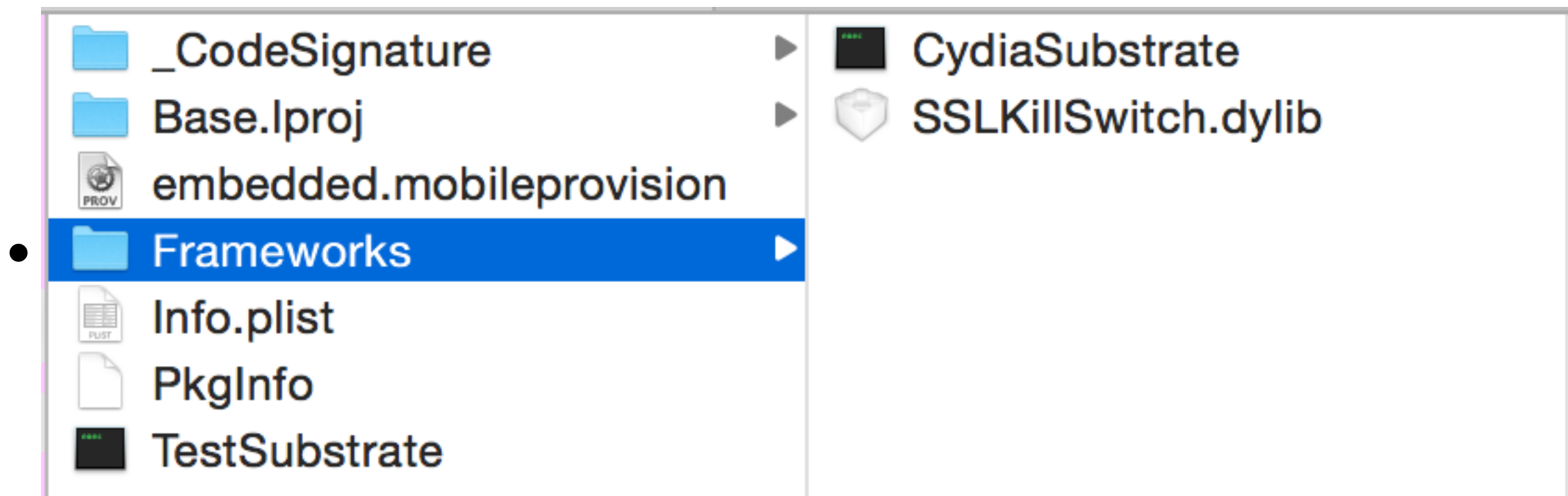
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 - Put *SSLKillSwitch.dylib* in the App's bundle and add it as a dependency
 - Dyld will then load the tweak when the App starts
 - And also code-sign the tweak...
- Also embed CydiaSubstrate in the App's bundle
 - Rewrite the path to CydiaSubstrate within the tweak's *LC_LOAD_DYLIB* load commands

Substrate in an App



Substrate in an App

SSLKillSwitch.dylib

RAW RVA

Search

▼ Load Commands

- ▶ LC_SEGMENT_64 (__TEXT)
- ▶ LC_SEGMENT_64 (__DATA)
- LC_SEGMENT_64 (__LINKEDIT)
- LC_ID_DYLIB (SSLKillSwitch.dylib)
- LC_DYLD_INFO_ONLY
- LC_SYMTAB
- LC_DYSYMTAB
- LC_UUID
- LC_VERSION_MIN_IPHONEOS
- LC_SOURCE_VERSION
- LC_LOAD_DYLIB (libobjc.A.dylib)
- LC_LOAD_DYLIB (Foundation)
- LC_LOAD_DYLIB (CoreFoundation)
- LC_LOAD_DYLIB (UIKit)
- LC_LOAD_WEAK_DYLIB (Security)
- LC_LOAD_DYLIB (CydiaSubstrate)**
- LC_LOAD_DYLIB (libstdc++.6.dylib)

Offset	Data	Description	Value
0000C810	0000000C	Command	LC_LOAD_DYLIB
0000C814	00000030	Command Size	48
0000C818	00000018	Str Offset	24
0000C81C	00000002	Time Stamp	Wed Dec 31 16:00:02 1969
0000C820	00000000	Current Version	0.0.0
0000C824	00000000	Compatibility Version	0.0.0
0000C828	4072706174682F437964696...	Name	@rpath/CydiaSubstrate

Substrate in an App

```
Hardware Model:      iPhone6,1
Process:             TestSubstrate [1438]
Path:                /private/var/mobile/Containers/Bundle/Application/AF0E2FD7-
BA47-4E57-95ED-B2C3D6116E62/TestSubstrate.app/TestSubstrate
Identifier:          TestSubstrate
Version:             ???
Code Type:           ARM-64 (Native)
Parent Process:      launchd [1]
Date/Time:           2015-07-16 22:57:43.529 -0700
Launch Time:         2015-07-16 22:57:43.356 -0700
OS Version:          iOS 8.4 (12H143)
Report Version:      105
Exception Type:      EXC_BAD_ACCESS (SIGKILL - CODESIGNING)
Exception Subtype:   unknown at 0x0000000186b346c4
Triggered by Thread: 0
Thread 0 name:       Dispatch queue: com.apple.main-thread
Thread 0 Crashed:
0   CydiaSubstrate      0x000000001000931bc 0x100090000 + 12732
1   SSLKillSwitch.dylib 0x00000000100087d30 0x100084000 + 15664
2   dyld                 0x0000000012006d234 0x12005c000 + 70196
3   dyld                 0x0000000012006d3ec 0x12005c000 + 70636
[...]
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Triggered by Thread: 0
Thread 0 name:       Dispatch queue: com.apple.main-thread
Thread 0 Crashed:
0   CydiaSubstrate      0x000000001000931bc 0x100090000 + 12732 MSFunctionHook()
1   SSLKillSwitch.dylib 0x00000000100087d30 0x100084000 + 15664 Dylib Contructor
2   dyld                0x0000000012006d234 0x12005c000 + 70196
3   dyld                0x0000000012006d3ec 0x12005c000 + 70636
[...]
```

Substrate in an App

- SIGKILL when calling *MSFunctionHook()*
- Substrate hooks C functions by patching the function's prologue
- This requires RWX memory pages
 - Not possible on a non-jailbroken device...

Substrate in an App

- SIGKILL when calling *MSFunctionHook()*
- Substrate hooks C functions by patching the function's prologue
- This requires RWX memory pages
 - Not possible on a non-jailbroken device...
 - ...Unless running in a debugger

Substrate in an App

- We failed :(
- No way to package a Substrate tweak in an App Store App due to RWX requirement

Substrate in an App

- We failed :(
- No way to package a Substrate tweak in an App Store App due to RWX requirement
- Initial goal was to hook functions and patch an App at runtime on a non-jailbroken device
- Any alternatives?

Hooking Jailbreak-Free

- Other other hooking techniques on iOS
 - DYLD_INSERT_LIBRARIES and __interpose
 - Symbol rebinding: can only “hook” exported functions

Hooking Jailbreak-Free

- Other other hooking techniques on iOS

```
// Structure for interposing functions
typedef struct interpose_s {
    void *new_func;
    void *orig_func; } interpose_t;

// Our replacement functions
void *my_malloc(int size);
void my_free (void *);

// Add the interpose section
static const interpose_t interposing_functions[] \
__attribute__((section("__DATA, __interpose"))) = {
    { (void *)my_free, (void *)free },
    { (void *)my_malloc, (void *)malloc }
};
```

Hooking Jailbreak-Free

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Hooking Jailbreak-Free

- Other other hooking techniques on iOS
 - DYLD_INSERT_LIBRARIES and __interpose
 - Symbol rebinding: can only “hook” exported functions
 - Requires setting an environment variable
 - Can’t be done in an App Store App outside of Xcode

Hooking Jailbreak-Free

- Other other hooking techniques on iOS
 - Newer libraries for dynamic symbol rebinding
 - facebook/fishhook
 - comex/substitute
 - Specifically *substitute_interpose_imports()*
 - Also supports hooking via function prologue patching (like Substrate) if RWX available

Agenda

- Dynamic Libraries and iOS 8
- Cydia Substrate on a Non-Jailbroken Device
- Putting It All Together: TrustKit

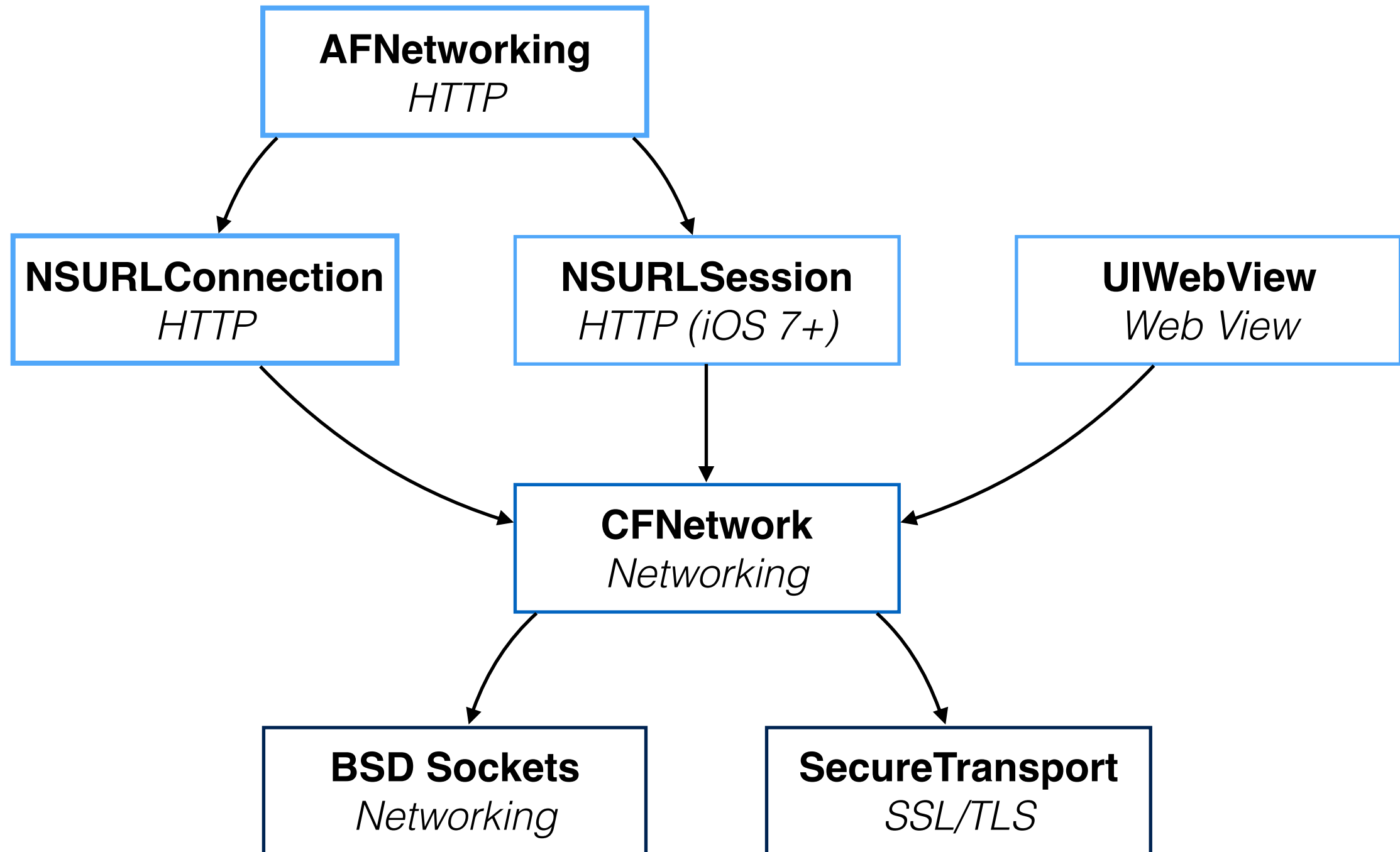
Agenda

- Dynamic Libraries and iOS 8
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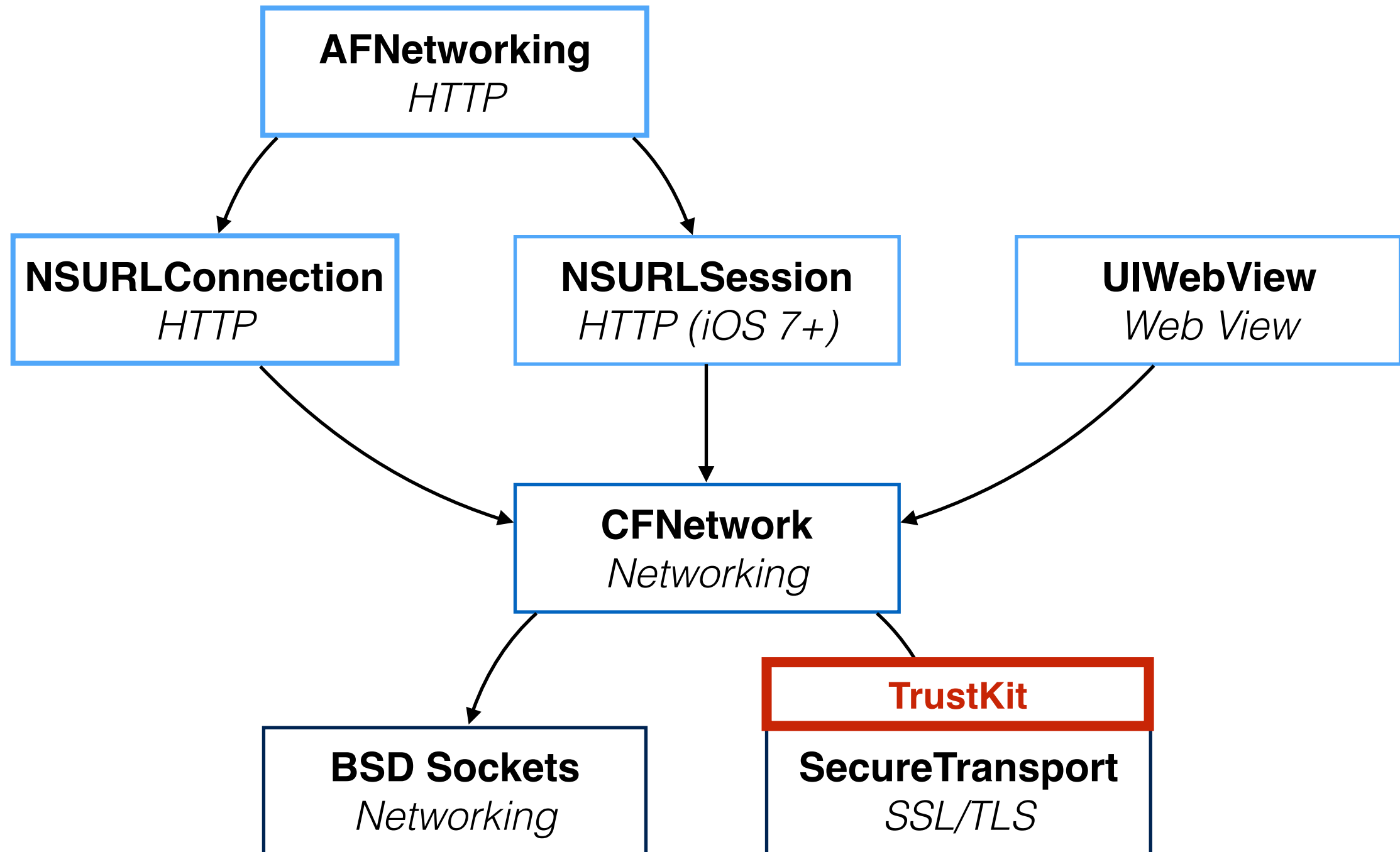
TrustKit

- Effortless SSL pinning for iOS and OS X
- “Tweak” / runtime patch targeting SecureTransport
 - Uses *facebook/fishhook* for C function hooking

iOS Network Stack



iOS Network Stack



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 - Can be deployed without changing the App’s source code

TrustKit

- Effortless SSL pinning for iOS and OS X
- “Tweak” / runtime patch targeting SecureTransport
 - Uses *facebook/fishhook* for C function hooking
- Drag & Drop in Xcode
 - Can be deployed without changing the App’s source code
- Needed a usable solution that **works in real-world Apps**
 - Collaborated with the Yahoo mobile & security teams

SSL Pinning at Yahoo

- Goal: SSL pinning for Yahoo's mobile Apps
 - Easy project, right?

SSL Pinning at Yahoo

- Goal: SSL pinning for Yahoo's mobile Apps
 - Easy project, right?
- But...
 - Technical challenges: What and how to pin?
 - Operational challenges: How to get buy-in from management?

Technical Challenges

- What to pin?
 - Certificate or public key?
 - Best practice is Subject Public Key Info
 - No API on iOS to extract SPKI from a certificate...
- Most libraries and examples are doing it wrong
 - Comparing the whole certificate or public key

Technical Challenges

- How to pin?
 - Find and modify every single instance of *NSURLConnection*, *NSURLSession* ?
 - Or better: use method swizzling
 - Problem: no public API for customizing certificate validation in *UIWebView*
 - Not even swizzling would work

Operational Challenges

- How to get buy-in from management?
 - Blocking attackers is a good cause but...

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 - What if we block the wrong connections?

Operational Challenges

- How to get buy-in from management?
 - Blocking attackers is a good cause but...
 - What if we block the wrong connections?
- Answer: a **report-only** mode
 - Shows what connections would be blocked and why
 - Easier to decide on whether pinning should be enforced or not

SSL Pinning at Yahoo

- No existing iOS library supported **any** of these requirements
 - SPKI pinning
 - Report-only mode
 - Easy to deploy but works on all networking APIs
- Met with Data Theorem and started a collaboration :)

TrustKit

- We solved these challenges
 - SPKI pinning: ask the developer what the key's algorithm is
 - Easy configuration
 - Heavily based on HTTP Public Key Pinning
 - Works on all Apple APIs
 - Report-only mode
 - Format similar to HPKP for pin failure reports

Demo



TrustKit

- We're open-sourcing TrustKit today
 - Supports iOS 7+ and OS X 10.9+
 - MIT license
 - Will also be available via CocoaPods very soon
- <https://datatheorem.github.io/TrustKit/>
 - Feedback, comments and pull requests very welcome!

Conclusion

- TrustKit is already live in a Yahoo App on the App Store
 - Partnered with other companies who will deploy it in their OS X and iOS Apps
- Used our experience in offense to build a defensive library
 - Code injection, function hooking
 - Could be applied to other things than SSL pinning?

One Last Thing

- SSL pinning can be a challenge for security researchers
- And is not designed to block an attacker running code as root on the device...
- So I also just released SSL Kill Switch 2
 - <https://github.com/nabla-c0d3/ssl-kill-switch2>
 - Added support for TrustKit Apps (and OS X)

Thanks!

