



**Who moved my  
pixels?!**

# User info

id



## Mikhail Sosonkin

[HTTP://DEBUGTRAP.COM](http://debugtrap.com)

@HEXLOGIC



VICE on HBO  
I'm on TV!!



*“Synack Leverages the best combination of humans and technology to discover security vulnerabilities in our customers’ web apps, mobile apps, IoT devices and infrastructure endpoints”*



# Why malware?

Motives and intent

- Pranking
- Hacktivism
- Ransom
- Compute theft
- Espionage
- Financial theft
- *For educational purposes!*



# outline



# ZooPark

the inspiration

- Reported by [Kaspersky](#) in May 2018
- Android based malware
- Targeted middle eastern phones
- Focuses on information theft
  - Exfiltration via HTTP GET request parameters
- Distributed via Watering Holes
  - Alnaharegypt[.]com - with an iframe to malicious APK.



# ZooPark

## features

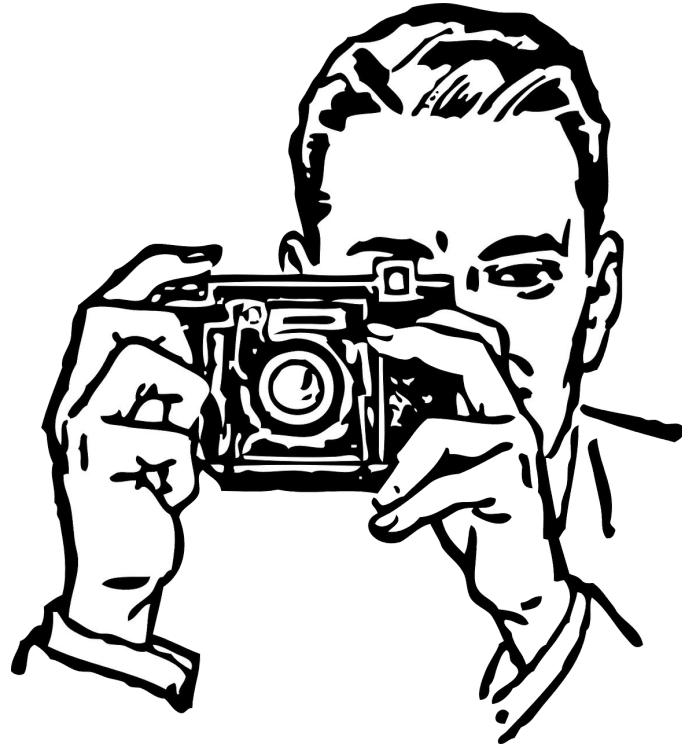
- *Version 1*
  - Contacts/Accounts
- *Version 2*
  - Call logs/GPS Location
  - SMS Messages/Device Information
- *Version 3*
  - Audio Call Records
  - Installed Application Details
  - Browser Data - bookmarks & History
  - Photos & Pictures from memory card
- *Version 4 (suspected to be outsourced)*
  - Keylogs/Clip data
  - Arbitrary file/folders
  - Capturing photos/videos/audio/ **screenshots**/screen records
  - External Application data (Telegram, WhatsApp, IMO, Chrome)
  - Remote Shell/Silently Sending SMS/Making phone calls

[F536BC5B79C16E9A84546C2049E810E1](#)

Android screencapture malware  
in not unique! (July 2017)

How do you capture screens?

on OS X





# Which screencapture

an overview

```
nl — -bash — 111x24
$ codesign -d --entitlements - `which screencapture`
Executable=/usr/sbin/screencapture
```

*No Special entitlements!*

The "bin" version contains general-use programs, while the "sbin" version contains programs that're generally only used for system administration.

<http://www.westwind.com/reference/OS-X/invisibles.html>

```
nl — -bash — 111x24
$ otool -L /usr/sbin/screencapture
/usr/sbin/screencapture:
/System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/SkyLight.framework/Versions/A/SkyLight
/System/Library/Frameworks/CoreGraphics.framework/Versions/A/CoreGraphics
```

*Shared with WindowServer!*

Libraries with the relevant functions:

**\_CGDisplayCreateImage** (CoreGraphics)

-> **\_SLSHWCaptureDesktop** (SkyLight)

Maps to **\_XHWCaptureDesktop** in server-side SkyLight

# Mach based IPC

mig

```
nl — -bash — 111x24

$ jtool -arch x86_64 -q -d __DATA.__const \
  /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/SkyLight.framework/SkyLight \
  | grep "MIG sub"
Dumping from address 0x29fda0 (Segment: __DATA.__const) to end of section
Address : 0x29fda0 = Offset 0x2a0da0
0x2a0608: 68 74 00 00 a9 74 00 00 MIG subsystem 29800 (65 messages)
0x2a10c0: 48 71 00 00 57 71 00 00 MIG subsystem 29000 (15 messages)
0x2a13a8: 10 72 00 00 0b 74 00 00 MIG subsystem 29200 (507 messages)

$ jtool -arch x86_64 -q -d __DATA.__const \
  /System/Library/PrivateFrameworks/SkyLight.framework/SkyLight \
  | grep 29482
Dumping from address 0x29fda0 (Segment: __DATA.__const) to end of section
Address : 0x29fda0 = Offset 0x2a0da0
0x2a3fd8: c4 36 04 00 00 00 00 00 __XHWCaptureDesktop (MIG_Msg_29482_handler)
```

Mach 3 Server Writer's Guide:

[http://shakthimaan.com/downloads/hurd/server\\_writer.pdf](http://shakthimaan.com/downloads/hurd/server_writer.pdf)

# Highlevel

the utility

```
2. bash
boomer:~ n1$
boomer:~ n1$
boomer:~ n1$ screencapture -c
boomer:~ n1$
```

Bootstrap lookup:

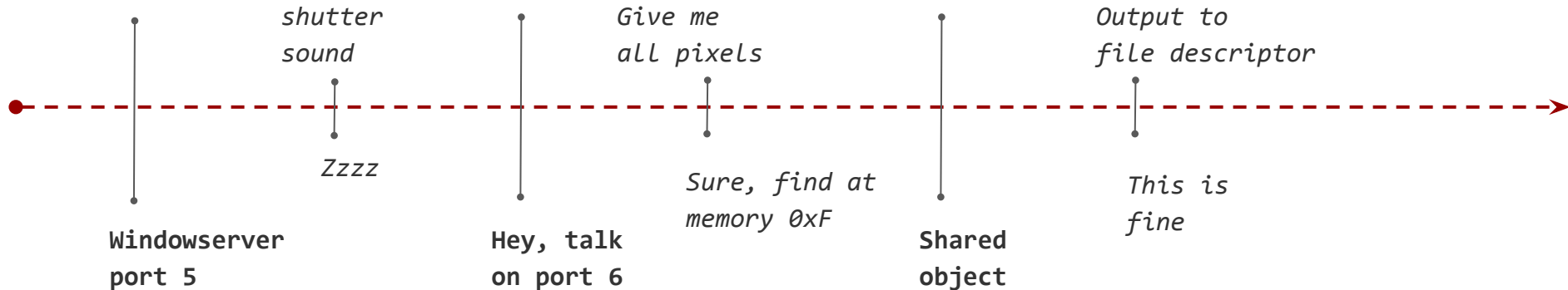
`com.apple.windowserver.active`

Hey there

on port 5

`mach_vm_map`

`0xF`



Launchd



WindowServer

# Into the bytes

## 1) Find ports

```
__text:34A6 _CGSLookupServerRootPort proc near
        ; CODE XREF: _get_session_port+1Fp
        ; _CGSLookupServerPort+A5p ...
__text:34A6 lookup_result = dword ptr -38h
__text:34A6 special_port  = dword ptr -34h
...
__text:34C8 lea     rdx, [rbp+special_port] ; special_port
__text:34CC mov     dword ptr [rdx], 0
__text:34D2 mov     r13, cs:mach_task_self_ptr
__text:34D9 mov     edi, [r13+0] ; task
__text:34DD mov     esi, 4 ; which_port
__text:34E2 call    _task_get_special_port
__text:34E7 mov     ebx, eax
__text:34E9 test    ebx, ebx
__text:34EB jnz     loc_35ED
__text:34F1 mov     edi, [rbp+special_port]
__text:34F4 test    edi, edi
__text:34F6 jz      loc_35ED
__text:34FC lea     rdx, [rbp+lookup_result]
__text:3500 mov     dword ptr [rdx], 0
__text:3506 lea     r14, aCom_apple_w_21
        ; "com.apple.windowserver.active"
__text:350D xor     ecx, ecx
__text:350F mov     r8d, 8
__text:3515 mov     rsi, r14
__text:3518 call    _bootstrap_look_up2
```

```
mach_port_t self = mach_task_self();
task_get_bootstrap_port(self, &bs_port);

// find the server port
if(bootstrap_look_up(bs_port,
                    "com.apple.windowserver.active",
                    &serv_port) == KERN_SUCCESS) {
    printf("Server port: 0x%08X\n",
          serv_port);
} else {
    printf("Error looking up server"
          " port\n");
    exit(2);
}
```

# Into the bytes

## 2) make session

```
__text:5394 __CGSNewConnectionPort proc near
        ; CODE XREF: _SLSNewConnection+1DDp
        ; _SLSNewConnection+240p
        ...
__text:5430 mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_bits], 80001513h
__text:543A mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_remote_port], r12d
__text:5441 call    _mig_get_reply_port
__text:5446 mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_local_port], eax
__text:544C mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_id], 7468h
__text:5456 mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_reserved], 0
__text:5460 cmp     cs:_voucher_mach_msg_set_ptr, 0
__text:5468 jz     short loc_547D
__text:546A lea    r14, [rbp+msg]
__text:5471 mov     rdi, r14
__text:5474 call    _voucher_mach_msg_set
__text:5479 mov     eax, [r14+0Ch]
__text:547D loc_547D:
__text:547D mov     [rsp+480h+notify], 0 ; notify
__text:5484 lea    rdi, [rbp+msg] ; msg
__text:548B mov     esi, 3 ; option
__text:5490 mov     ecx, 3Ch ; '<' ; rcv_size
__text:5495 xor     r9d, r9d ; timeout
__text:5498 mov     r8d, eax ; rcv_name
__text:549B mov     edx, ebx ; send_size
__text:549D call    _mach_msg
```

```
// __CGSNewConnectionPort
mach_msg_header_t* req_port =
    (mach_msg_header_t*)buffer;
req_port->msg_bits = 0x80001513;
req_port->msg_size = 1;
req_port->msg_remote_port = serv_port;
req_port->msg_local_port =
    mig_get_reply_port();
req_port->msg_voucher_port = 0;
req_port->msg_id = 0x7468;

uint32_t* values = (uint32_t*)
    (buffer + sizeof(mach_msg_header_t));
values[1] = port_right;

// set the voucher
voucher_mach_msg_set(req_port);
mach_msg_return_t ret = mach_msg(req_port,
    0x3, 0x48, 60,
    req_port->msg_local_port, 0, 0);
mach_port_t session_port =
    ((mach_port_t*)buffer)[7];
```

# Into the bytes

## 3) get pixels

```
__text:1F796C  _SLSHWCaptureDesktop proc near
                ; CODE XREF: _SLDisplayCreateImage+1Dp
                ; _SLDisplayCreateImageForRect+F7p
```

```
__text:1F8364  mov     dword ptr [rbp+msg_body10_var_80+4], eax
__text:1F8367  mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_bits], 1513h
__text:1F8371  mov     eax, [rbp+remote_port]
__text:1F8377  mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_remote_port], eax
__text:1F837D  call   _mig_get_reply_port
__text:1F8382  mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_local_port], eax
__text:1F8388  mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_id], 732Ah
__text:1F8392  mov     [rbp+msg.msgh_reserved], 0
__text:1F839C  cmp     cs: voucher_mach_msg_set_ptr, 0
```

```
__text:1F83A4  jz     short loc_1F83B8
__text:1F83A6  lea    rdi, [rbp+msg]
__text:1F83AD  call   _voucher_mach_msg_set
__text:1F83B2  mov     eax, [rbp+msg.msgh_local_port]
__text:1F83B8  loc_1F83B8:
__text:1F83B8  sub    rsp, 8
```

```
__text:1F83BC  mov     esi, 3                ; option
__text:1F83C1  mov     edx, 72               ; send_size
__text:1F83C6  mov     ecx, 136              ; rcv_size
__text:1F83CB  xor     r9d, r9d              ; timeout
__text:1F83CE  lea    rdi, [rbp+msg]        ; msg
__text:1F83D5  mov     r8d, eax              ; rcv_name
__text:1F83D8  push   0                      ; notify
__text:1F83DA  call   _mach_msg
```

```
struct req_msg* rq_msg = (struct req_msg*)buffer;
```

```
// ...
```

```
rq_msg->header.msgh_id = 0x732A;
```

```
// x, y, width, height
```

```
rq_msg->x = 0.0;
```

```
rq_msg->y = 0.0;
```

```
rq_msg->width = 1024.0;
```

```
rq_msg->height = 768.0;
```

```
// display id values (vm: 0x5b81c5c0, non-vm: 0x042499b0)
```

```
rq_msg->display_id = 0x042499b0;
```

```
rq_msg->param5 = 0x00000441;
```

```
// set the voucher
```

```
voucher_mach_msg_set(&rq_msg->header);
```

```
if(mach_msg(&rq_msg->header, 0x3, 0x48, 0x88,
```

```
    rq_msg->header.msgh_local_port, 0, 0) !=
```

```
    MACH_MSG_SUCCESS) {}
```

```
    mig_put_reply_port(rq_msg->header.msgh_local_port);
```

```
uint32_t object = *(uint32_t*)
```

```
    ((u_char*)buffer) + sizeof(mach_msg_header_t) + 4);
```

```
if(mach_vm_map(self, rq_msg, size, 0, 0x1, object,
```

```
    0x0, false, 3, 3, true) != KERN_SUCCESS) {}
```

# Putting it all together

Write better malware

*List all displays*

```
void doCGCapture() {  
    CGDirectDisplayID displays[256];  
    uint32_t dispCount = 0;
```

```
    CGGetActiveDisplayList(256, displays, &dispCount);
```

```
    for(int i = 0; i < dispCount; i++) {  
        CGDirectDisplayID dispId = displays[i];
```

```
        CGImageRef img = CGDisplayCreateImage(dispId);
```

```
        char path_str[1024];  
        snprintf(path_str, 1023, "./image%d.png", i);
```

```
        CFURLRef path =  
            CFURLCreateWithFilePath(NULL,  
                __CFStringMakeConstantString(path_str),  
                kCFURLPOSIXPathStyle, false);
```

```
        CGImageDestinationRef destination =  
            CGImageDestinationCreateWithURL(  
                path, CFSTR("public.png"), 1, NULL);
```

```
        CGImageDestinationAddImage(destination, img, nil);  
        CGImageDestinationFinalize(destination);
```

```
    }  
}
```

*Encode and write image to file*

**No Shutter sound (-x)!**

*Create image from display*

# Sniffing mach

via injection

Inject and intercept mach  
related function calls.

Preferably on a small set of  
API's due to volume of  
messages

```
nl — -bash — 111x24
$ DYLD_INSERT_LIBRARIES=xpcsnop.dylib ScreenShotTester

Packet Number (mach_msg): 44
0 mach_snoop.dylib 0x00000001098806b0 my_mach_msg + 112
1 SkyLight 0x00007fff4bde7e4b SLSHWCaptureDesktop + 2675
2 SkyLight 0x00007fff4bdeaf86 SLDisplayCreateImage + 34
3 ScreenShotTester 0x0000000109874b7a capture_id + 42
4 ScreenShotTester 0x0000000109874db2 doCGCapture + 210
5 ScreenShotTester 0x0000000109874e1f main + 47
6 libdyld.dylib 0x00007fff51dc3015 start + 1

thread id: 2372
msg_h_bits: 131513
msg_h_size: 0 (fcn param: 72)
ports: 607 -> 2713
msg_h_reserved: B03
msg_h_id: 732A
mach_msg:
 0000 13 15 13 00 00 00 00 00 | 13 27 00 00 07 06 00 00 .....'.
 0010 03 0b 00 00 2a 73 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 ....*s.....
 0020 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 | 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 .....
 0030 00 00 00 00 00 40 9a 40 | 00 00 00 00 00 68 90 40 .....@.@.....h.@
 0040 bd f9 d7 7b 41 04 00 00 | .....{A...
```

```
static const interpose_t
interposing_functions[] __attribute__
((used,section("__DATA,__interpose"))) = {
{ (void*) my_bootstrap_look_up2, (void*)bootstrap_look_up2 },
{ (void*) my_mach_msg, (void*)mach_msg },
{ (void*) my_mach_msg_overwrite, (void*)mach_msg_overwrite }};
```



## Mach msg sequence

MIG

1. `msg_h_id = 0x7152` // *start a session*
2. `msg_h_id = 0x7148` // *test connection, get MIG version*
3. `msg_h_id = 0x7475` // *display state, find the display ID*
4. `msg_h_id = 0x7468` // *create secondary session*
5. `msg_h_id = 0x732A` // *request screen pixels*
6. `mach_vm_map` // *map pixels to local process memory*

# There is more than one way

There usually is!

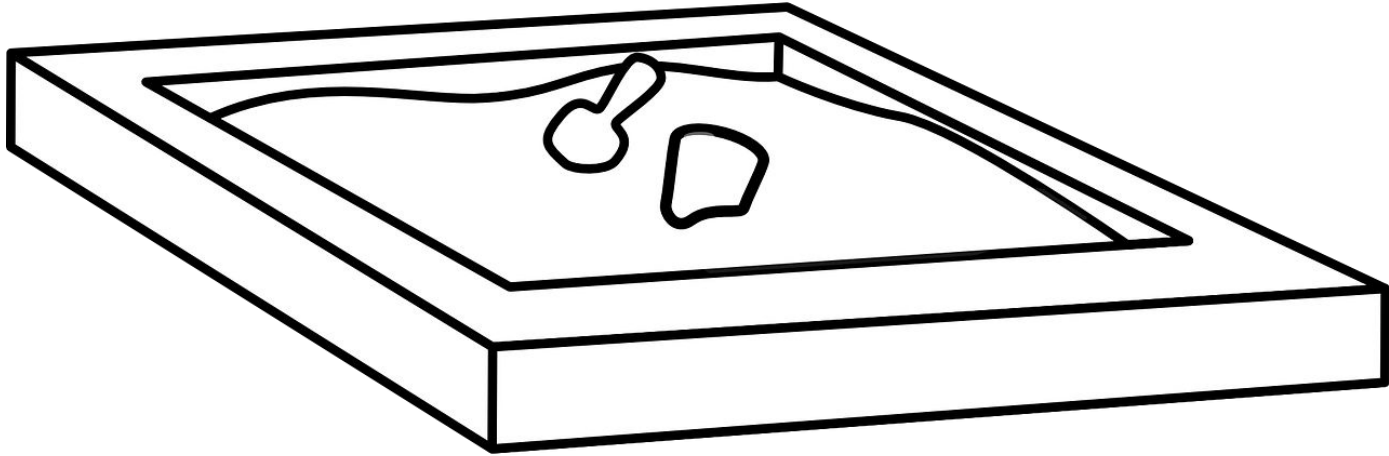
```
CGImageRef screenshot = CGWindowListCreateImage(  
    CGRectInfinite,  
    kCGWindowListOptionOnScreenOnly,  
    kCGNullWindowID,  
    kCGWindowImageDefault);  
  
NSBitmapImageRep *bitmapRep =  
    [[NSBitmapImageRep alloc] initWithCGImage:screenshot];
```



[rdar://37423927](https://rdar://37423927)

The sandbox will protect me

sometimes

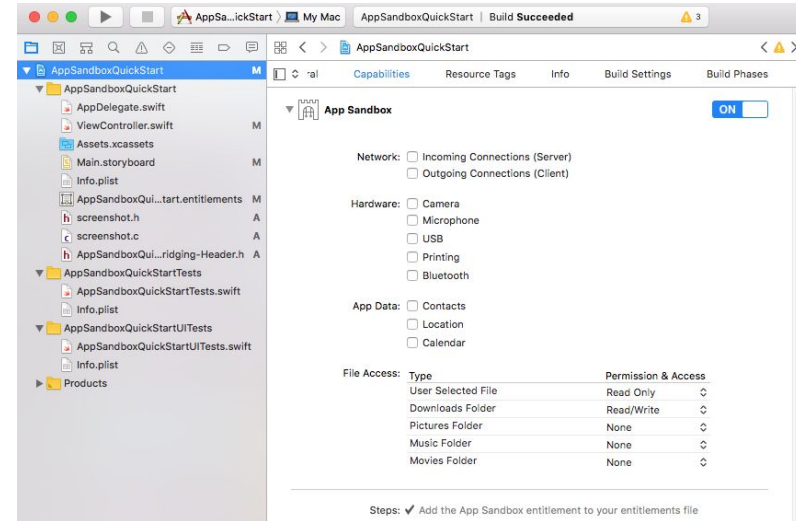


# Malware in action

video demo



1. Cocoa base application
2. Runs in a full sandbox
3. File write allowed for demo



# Sandbox

Chrome

```
(allow mach-lookup (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active"))
```

- **cdm.sb:**
  - Content Decryption Module (CDM). A CDM is required for a media renderer, audio decoder or video decoder to handle protected content ([chromium](#)).
- **gpu\_v2.sb**
  - Allow communication between the GPU process and the UI server.
- **ppapi\_v2.sb**
  - Pepper Plugin API (PPAPI) was initially only supported by Google Chrome and Chromium. Later, other Chromium-based browsers such as Opera and Vivaldi, also added PPAPI plugin support.

# Sandbox

firefox

```
static const char widevinePluginSandboxRulesAddend[] = R"SANDBOX_LITERAL(  
    (allow mach-lookup (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active"))  
) SANDBOX_LITERAL";
```

- Widevine DRM is also used with the [Chromium](#) web browser and on [Android](#).

```
// The "Safe Mode" Flash NPAPI plugin process profile
```

```
static const char flashPluginSandboxRules[] = R"SANDBOX_LITERAL(  
; Services  
    (allow mach-lookup  
        (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active"))
```

```
static const char contentSandboxRules[] = R"SANDBOX_LITERAL(  
    (version 1)  
    (if (string=? hasWindowServer "TRUE")  
        (allow mach-lookup (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active"))))
```

# Sandbox

Positron - a experimental, Electron-compatible runtime on top of Gecko

```
static const char widevinePluginSandboxRulesAddend[] =  
    "(allow mach-lookup (global-name  
    \"com.apple.windowserver.active\"))\n";
```

- **Widevine DRM is also used with the [Chromium](#) web browser and on [Android](#).**

```
static const char contentSandboxRules[] =  
    "(version 1)\n"  
    "\n"  
    "(define sandbox-level %d)\n"  
    "  (allow mach-lookup\n"  
    "    (global-name  
    \"com.apple.windowserver.active\")\n";
```

<https://github.com/mozilla/positron/blob/master/security/sandbox/mac/Sandbox.mm>

# Sandbox

Safari - Webkit

```
com.apple.WebProcess.sb.in:
```

```
(allow mach-lookup
#if __MAC_OS_X_VERSION_MIN_REQUIRED >= 101400
#else
    (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active")
#endif
)
#if __MAC_OS_X_VERSION_MIN_REQUIRED >= 101400
(deny mach-lookup (with no-log)
    (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active"))
#endif
```

```
com.apple.WebKit.plugin-common.sb.in:
```

```
;; Various services required by AppKit
;; and other frameworks
(allow mach-lookup
    (global-name "com.apple.windowserver.active"))
```

Window server gets abused a lot:

<https://blog.ret2.io/2018/07/25/pwn2own-2018-safari-sandbox/>

<https://github.com/WebKit/webkit>



# Why is that an issue?

Protected by sandbox

```
nl — -bash — 111x24
python extractshell.py -o screencap -s screencap.b
hexdump -C screencap.b
00000000  55 41 57 41 56 41 55 41  54 53 48 81 ec 48 08 00  |UAWAVAUATSH..H..|
00000010  00 31 ed 48 8d 5c 24 34  89 2b 4c 8d 74 24 2c 41  |.1.H.\$4.+L.t$,A|
00000020  89 2e 4c 8b 25 6c 06 00  00 41 8b 3c 24 be 04 00  |..L.%1...A.<$...|
...
000003f0  40 13 15 00 00 89 44 24  48 e8 45 01 00 00 89 44  |@.....D$H.E....D|
00000400  24 4c 48 b8 00 00 00 00  2a 73 00 00 48 89 44 24  |$LH.....*s..H.D$|
00000410  50 c6 44 24 5c 01 0f 57  c0 0f 29 44 24 60 0f 28  |P.D$\..W..)D$`.(|
...
00000510  00 00 00 63 6f 6d 2e 61  70 70 6c 65 2e 77 69 6e  |...com.apple.win|
00000520  64 6f 77 73 65 72 76 65  72 2e 61 63 74 69 76 65  |dowserver.active|
```

Shellcode can do it in about 9076 bytes

**mach\_msg** and **mach\_vm\_map** are mach system calls

Can networking and windowserver be accessed at the same time?

<https://github.com/nologic/shellcc> SHELLCC is a build environment for making shellcode in C using GCC and other binary tool. It is meant to enable people with limited knowledge of assembly to write quality shellcode as well as bring code maintainability by using a high level language.

# Efficient collection

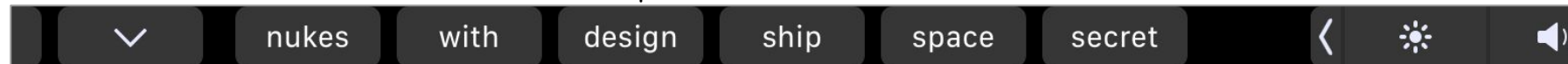
Thanks touchbar

- Screenshot of regular resolution is about:  
1.4M PNG Compressed.
- An image of touchbar can be used for a more efficient selection of timing.

Chrome is active:



Sublime has these documents open:



And now, the terminal:



What malware is out there?

... in the wild



# Querying for screencapture capability

on VirusTotal

```
rule combined_screen_cap {
  strings:
    $utility = "/usr/sbin/screencapture" nocase

    $lib = "CoreGraphics"
    $func = "CGDisplayCreateImage"

    $mov_msg_id = { C7 ?? 54 FF FF FF 2A 73 00 00 }
    $mach_msg = "_mach_msg"

  condition:
    $utility or
    ($lib and $func) or
    ($mov_msg_id and $mach_msg)
}
```

Basic triage\*

signatures

Static analysis

disassembly

Static analysis

partial emulation

Dynamic analysis

Sandboxing

Dynamic analysis

Emulation

Manual analysis

APT!

# Finding malware

thanks VT/Yara

**1124** matched samples

**15** Anti-virus (AV) flagged

**6** Sample with great than 1 AV

*Great for research, need better rules  
for anything production*

*Simple static signatures aren't great  
for endpoint protection*

# Filtering samples

Getting around throttling

```
while [ -z "$DONE" ]; do
    DONE="done"

    for hash in `cat hashes`; do
        if [ -z "`cat $hash.json`" ]; then
            curl -s --request POST \
                --url 'https://www.virustotal.com/vtapi/v2/file/report' \
                -d apikey=${APIKEY} \
                -d "resource=$hash" > $hash.json

            cat $hash.json
            sleep 2
            DONE=
        fi
    done
    sleep 2
done
```

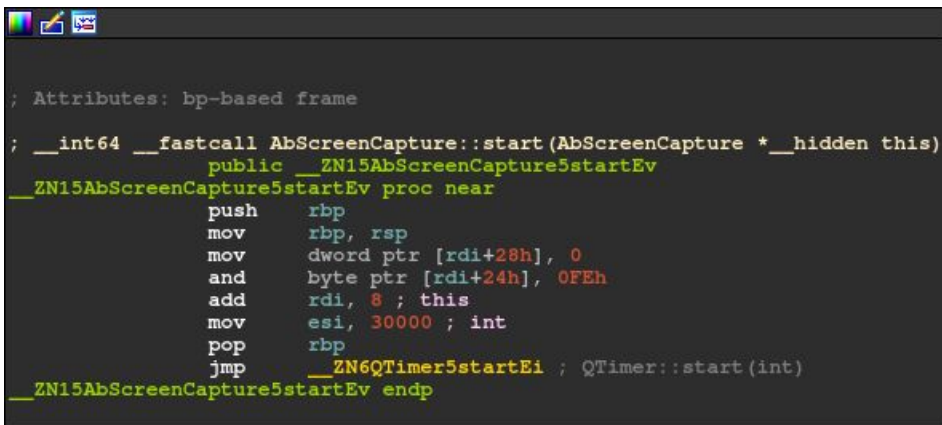


# Meeting the malware: Mokes

664e0a048f61a76145b55d1f1a5714606953d69edccec5228017eb546049dc8c

## Mokes

- **Uses CoreGraphics via Qt**
- Specifically:
  - [QCocoaScreen::grabWindow](#)
- Capturing Screen (every 30 sec.)



```
; Attributes: bp-based frame
; __int64 __fastcall AbScreenCapture::start (AbScreenCapture * __hidden this)
public __ZN15AbScreenCapture5startEv
__ZN15AbScreenCapture5startEv proc near
    push    rbp
    mov     rbp, rsp
    mov     dword ptr [rdi+28h], 0
    and     byte ptr [rdi+24h], 0FEh
    add     rdi, 8 ; this
    mov     esi, 30000 ; int
    pop     rbp
    jmp     __ZN6QTimer5startEi ; QTimer::start (int)
__ZN15AbScreenCapture5startEv endp
```

```
QPixmap QCocoaScreen::grabWindow(WId window,
    int x, int y, int width, int height) const
{
    // 128 displays should be enough
    // for everyone.
    const int maxDisplays = 128;
    CGDirectDisplayID displays[maxDisplays];
    CGDisplayCount displayCount;
    ...

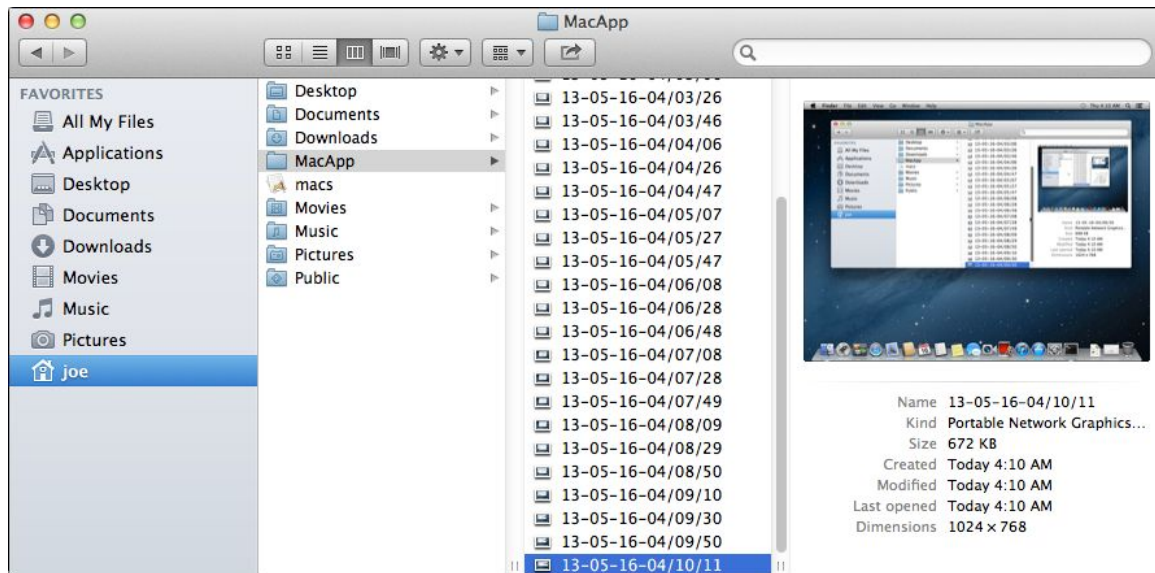
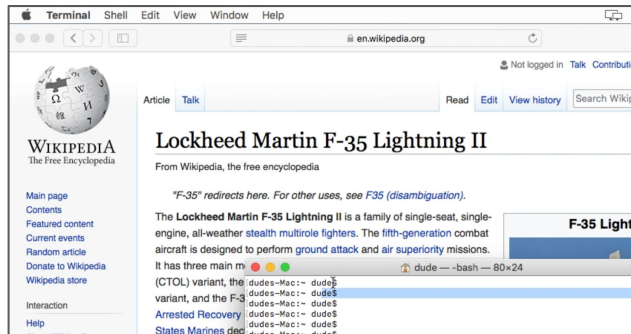
    for (uint i = 0; i < displayCount; ++i) {
        const CGRect bounds =
            CGDisplayBounds(displays[i]);
        ...
        QCFTType<CGImageRef> cgImage =
            CGDisplayCreateImage(displays[i]);
        const QImage image =
            qt_mac_toQImage(cgImage);
    }
}
```

# Meeting the malware: Macs

6acd92d0dfe3e298d73b78a3dcc6d52ff4f85a70a9f2d0dcfe7ae4af2dd685cc

## Macs

- Uses `\usr/sbin/screencapture -x [] -T 20'`
- It dumps screenshots into a folder called MacApp



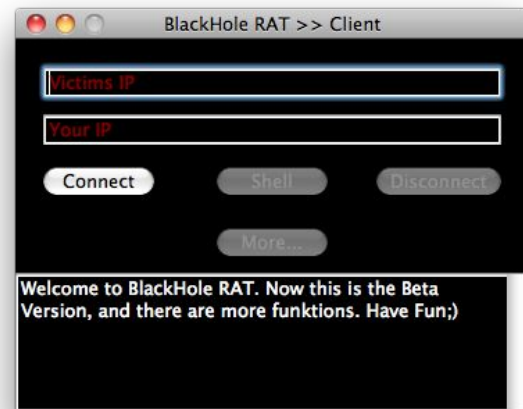


# Meeting the malware: blackhole

d1a0c589b3ac33626d47156aaa938be92ba3d6f889de5a6f62d4afe0ac2cf65a

## blackhole

- Comes with a PPC version
  - why?!
- `/usr/sbin/screencapture -x \`  
`/Applications/.JavaUpdater/.Data/Screen.png`
- No one reports on screen capture capability



# Meeting the malware: Eh?!

f1e98602683603bab5e08de8dc00e62ae27bf4ed6164f3e45ab26628f5453481

vmdk part with malware

- I'm not malware
- Why would someone upload this to VT?
- References screencapture but nothing directly executable

Definitely some kind  
of malware in there

```
nl — -bash — 111x24


$ strings f1e98602683603bab5e08de8dc00e62ae27bf4ed6164f3e45ab26628f5453481 | grep
screencapture
Pscreencapture
I,screencapture -T 0 -x 1.png/miner.sh %s %u %s %s/polipo -c polipo.cfgtcp
j0/usr/bin/screencapture/bin/sh/usr/bin/curlX-ASIHTTPRequest-Expiresm_FolderList
m_zipUploadm_ComputerName_UserNamem_uploadURL/lang.php

$ hexdump -C f1e98602683603bab5e08de8dc00e62ae27bf4ed6164f3e45ab26628f5453481 |
head
00000000 4b 44 4d 56 01 00 00 00 03 00 00 00 00 00 7f 00 |KDMV.....|
00000010 00 00 00 00 80 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
00000020 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 02 00 00 |.....|
```

# Meeting the malware: WINDSHIFT

Need a hash

Recent findings by  
[DarkMatter](#) at HiTB

APT? 

Current Tool-set by chronological order, mostly cyber espionage tools, still under on-going development:

| Dark Matter Code              | Target OS | First seen | Description                     |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>WINDTAIL.A</b>             | macOS     | Jan - 2017 | Backdoor exfiltrating files     |
| <b>WINDTAIL.B</b>             | macOS     | Jan - 2018 | Downloader of WINDTAPE          |
| <b>WINDTAIL.C</b>             | macOS     | Jan - 2018 | Variant of WINDTAIL.B           |
| <b>WINDTAPE</b>               | macOS     | Jan - 2018 | Backdoor taking screenshots     |
| <b>WINDDROP - unconfirmed</b> | Windows   | May - 2018 | Downloader of a unknown malware |

How do we find the behavior?

on OS X



# On the endpoint

file attributes

```
nl — -bash — 111x24

$ mdfind kMDItemIsScreenCapture = 1
/Users/nl/Desktop/Screen Shot 2018-05-15 at 10.52.35 PM.png
/Users/nl/Desktop/Screen Shot 2018-04-24 at 6.26.21 PM.png
/Users/nl/Desktop/Screen Shot 2018-04-24 at 6.25.52 PM.png

$ ls -l@ "Screen Shot 2018-05-15 at 10.52.35 PM.png"
-rw-r--r--@ 1 nl  staff  120087 May 15 22:52 /Users/nl/Desktop/Screen Shot
2018-05-15 at 10.52.35 PM.png
  com.apple.FinderInfo          32
  com.apple.lastuseddate#PS    16
  com.apple.metadata:kMDItemIsScreenCapture      42
  com.apple.metadata:kMDItemScreenCaptureGlobalRect  86
  com.apple.metadata:kMDItemScreenCaptureType    51

$ mdls "Screen Shot 2018-05-15 at 10.52.35 PM.png"
_kMDItemDisplayNameWithExtensions = "Screen Shot 2018-05-15 at 10.52.35 PM.png"
kMDItemIsScreenCapture           = 1

$ xattr -l "Screen Shot 2018-05-15 at 10.52.35 PM.png"
com.apple.metadata:kMDItemIsScreenCapture:
00000000 62 70 6C 69 73 74 30 30 09 08 00 00 00 00 00 |bplist00.....|
00000010 01 01 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 01 00 00 00 00 00 |.....|
00000020 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
```

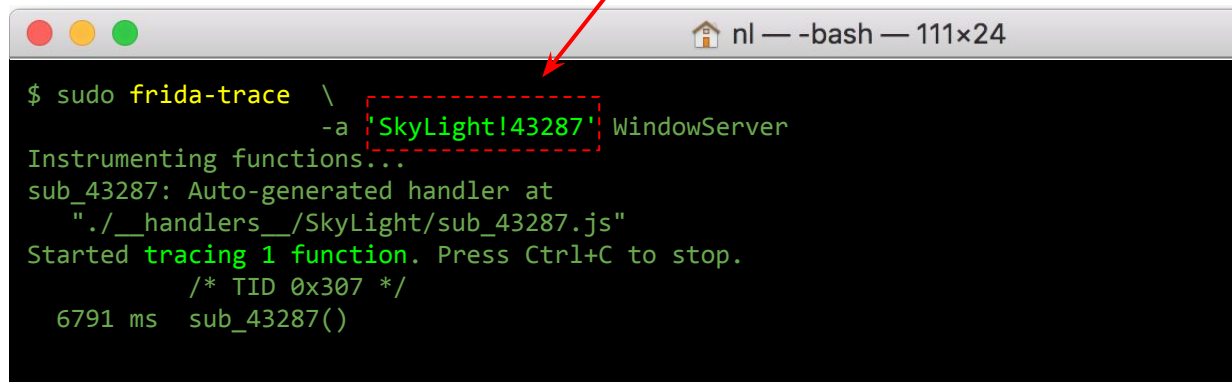
1. Who created the file?
2. Why would malware set this attribute?
3. Why would malware create a file?



# On the endpoint

tracing functions

**\_XHWCaptureDesktop**



```
$ sudo frida-trace \
-a 'SkyLight!43287' WindowServer
Instrumenting functions...
sub_43287: Auto-generated handler at
  "./_handlers_/SkyLight/sub_43287.js"
Started tracing 1 function. Press Ctrl+C to stop.
  /* TID 0x307 */
6791 ms sub_43287()
```

1. Frida/DTrace lite-weight tracing frameworks
2. Proper debugging is too heavy
3. Thwarted by SIP on OS X (Good! But blunt)

# On the endpoint

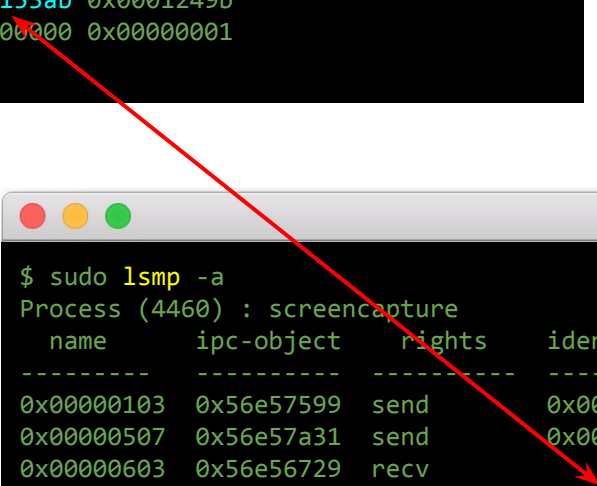
who did it?!

```
nl — -bash — 111x24
* thread #1, queue = 'com.apple.main-thread', stop reason = breakpoint 1.1
  frame #0: 0x00007fff544c3287 SkyLight`_XHWCaptureDesktop
SkyLight`_XHWCaptureDesktop:
-> 0x7fff544c3287 <+0>: pushq %rbp
   0x7fff544c3288 <+1>: movq %rsp, %rbp
   0x7fff544c328b <+4>: pushq %r15
   0x7fff544c328d <+6>: pushq %r14
Target 0: (WindowServer) stopped.
(lldb) x/10wx $rdi
0x7ffee4c12610: 0x00001112 0x00000048 0x000153ab 0x0001249b
0x7ffee4c12620: 0x00000000 0x0000732a 0x00000000 0x00000001
0x7ffee4c12630: 0x00000000 0x00000000
```

1. Breakpoint in WindowServer
2. First parameter is the mach message
3. We can see the source port

4. Using source port we can get the PID/Task of the source process

```
nl — -bash — 111x24
$ sudo lsmmp -a
Process (4460) : screencapture
  name      ipc-object  rights  identifier  type
  -----  -
0x00000103 0x56e57599 send      0x00000000  TASK SELF (4460) screencapture
0x00000507 0x56e57a31 send      0x00000000  THREAD (0x7faf5)
0x00000603 0x56e56729 recv
+          send-once  0x000153ab (157) WindowServer
```



# Can I defend myself?

on OS X





## OS Mitigations

1) proposal: logging

Build a mechanism for allowing logging or trapping functions in SIP protected processes

Notification popup for any app that triggered screen capture

## OS Mitigations

2) proposal: filter

Mach ports pass messages. It's high time that a firewall is developed to block certain messages on demand:

- Message ID `732Ah` is a request for a screenshot.
- Could be defined in the same way as sandbox permissions:

```
(deny mach-msg  
  (mach-msg-id 0x732a))
```

- Performance concerns balanced via ports/processes selection

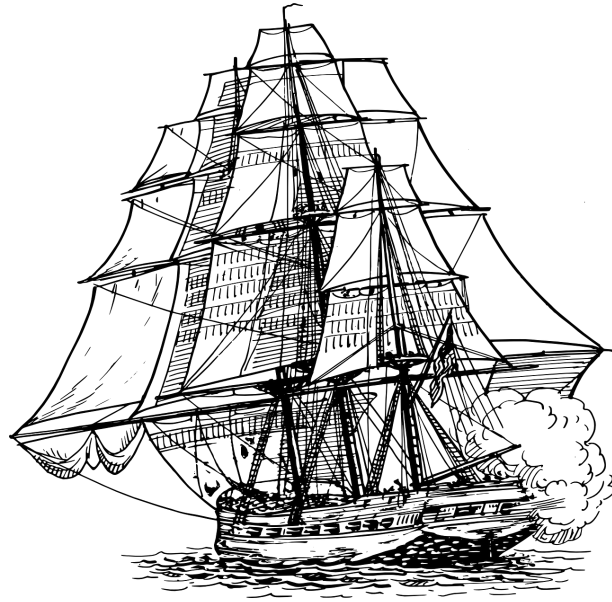
## OS Mitigations

3) proposal: permissions

Only sandboxed applications with proper entitlements should be given access to API's that access pixels of other applications.\*

\* [macOS Mojave](#): New data protections require apps to get user permission before using Mac camera and microphone (It's a start)

In closing

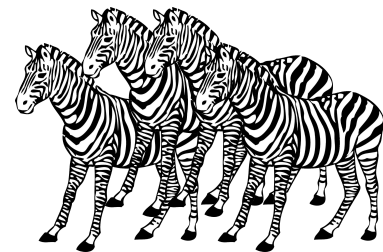


# Some malware is thorny!

... but

“In particular, our study concludes that **targeted malware does not use more** anti-debugging and anti-VM techniques than generic malware, although targeted malware tend to have a lower antivirus detection rate.”

-- [“Advanced or not?...” P. Chen, et. al.](#)



# Conclusion

## takeaways

- Lots of malware steals pixels
- Can do it direct through Mach Interfaces
- Sandboxes don't help... Maybe a little.
- Proposed mitigations. Thoughts?



**Mikhail Sosonkin**

[HTTP://DEBUGTRAP.COM](http://debugtrap.com)

@HEXLOGIC

Thanks all!

- <https://pixabay.com/>
- <http://highlight.hohli.com/>
- Objective-See
- Objective By The Sea