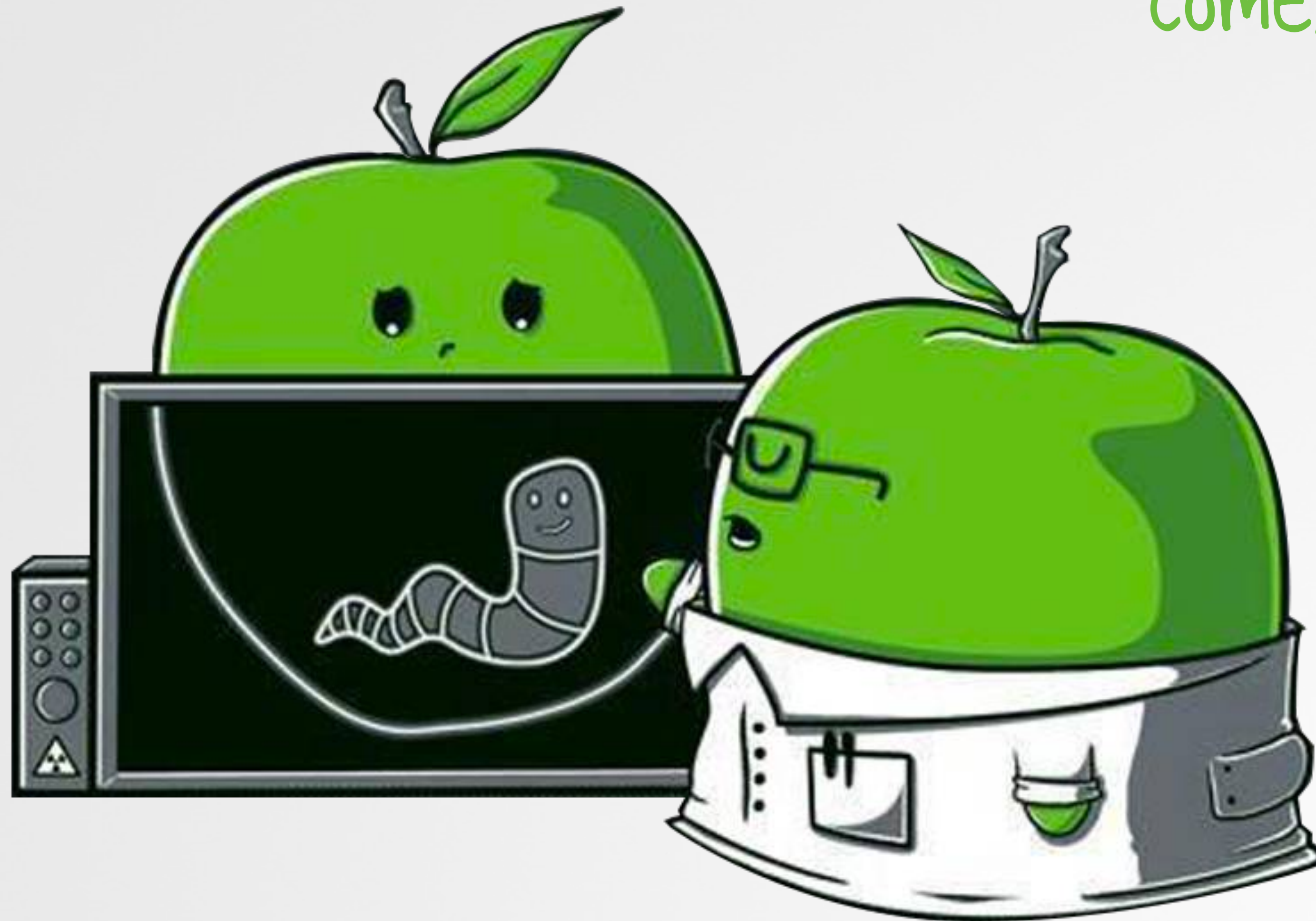


Gatekeeper Exposed

come, see, conquer!

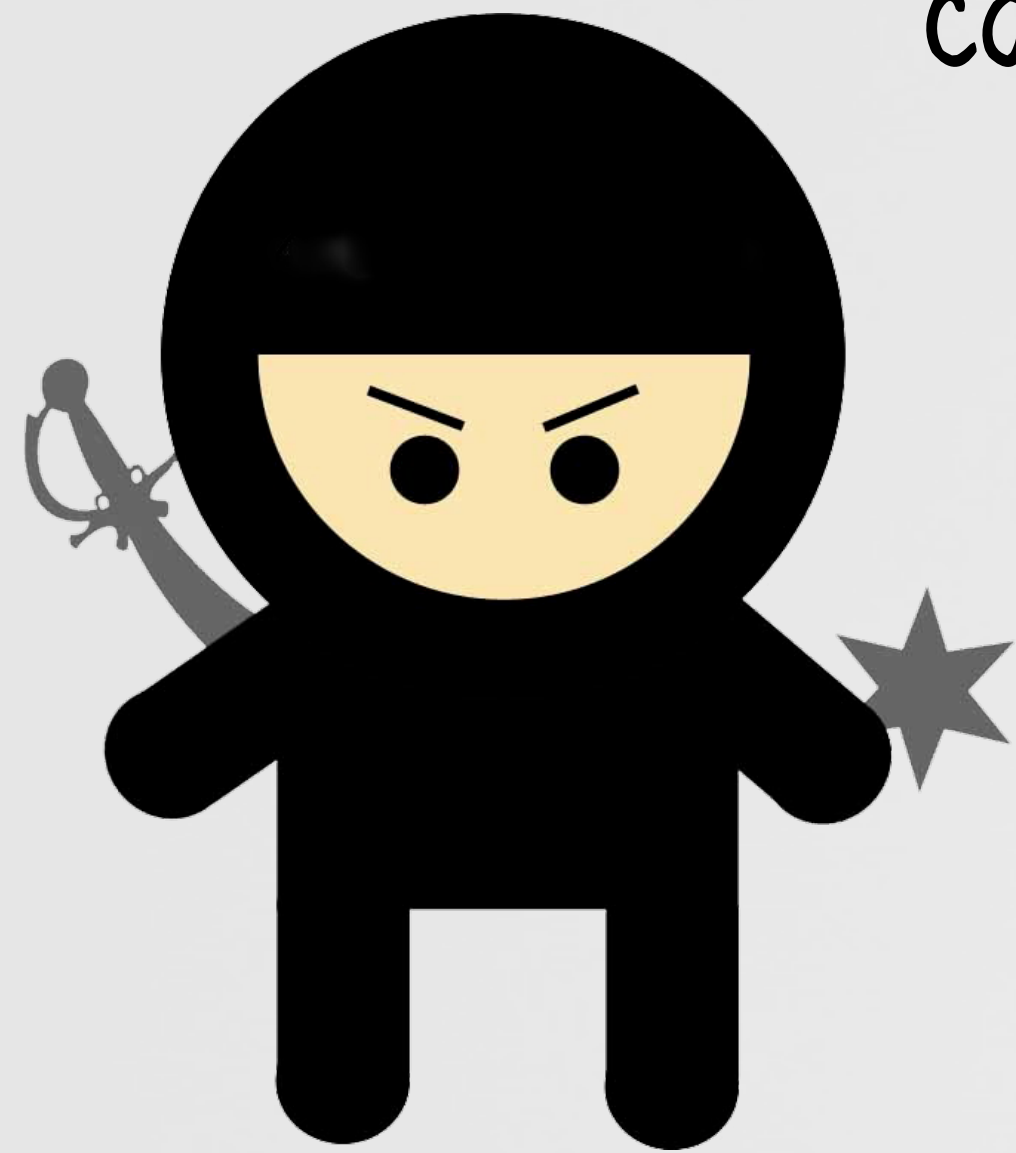


WHOIS

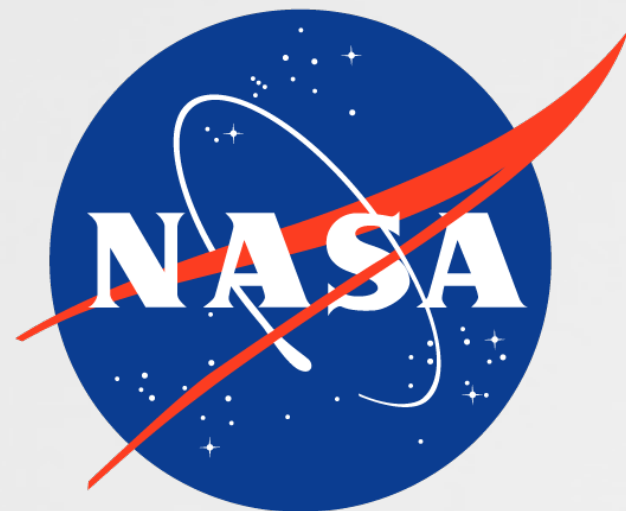
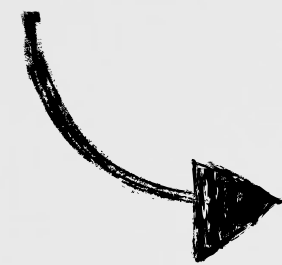


security for the 21st century

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



career



hobby



Objective-See

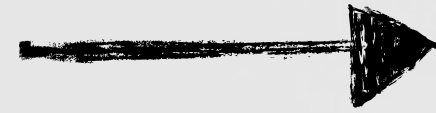
@patrickwardle

SYNACK & THE SYNACK RED TEAM (SRT)

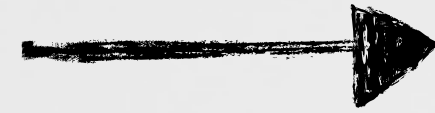
join, find bugs, profit!



signup



pass

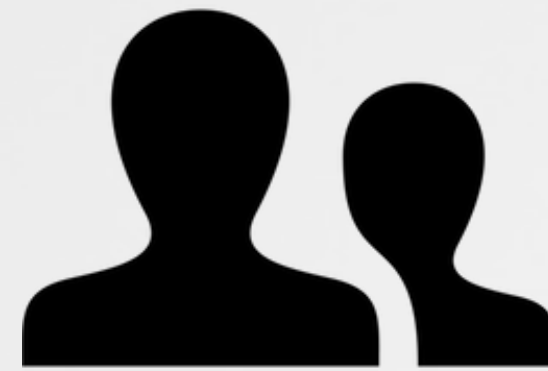


find bugs



get paid!

why
 Synack?



smaller 'crowd'

+



larger customers

=



more, higher,
faster, payouts

OUTLINE

all aspects of gatekeeper



Gatekeeper



understanding



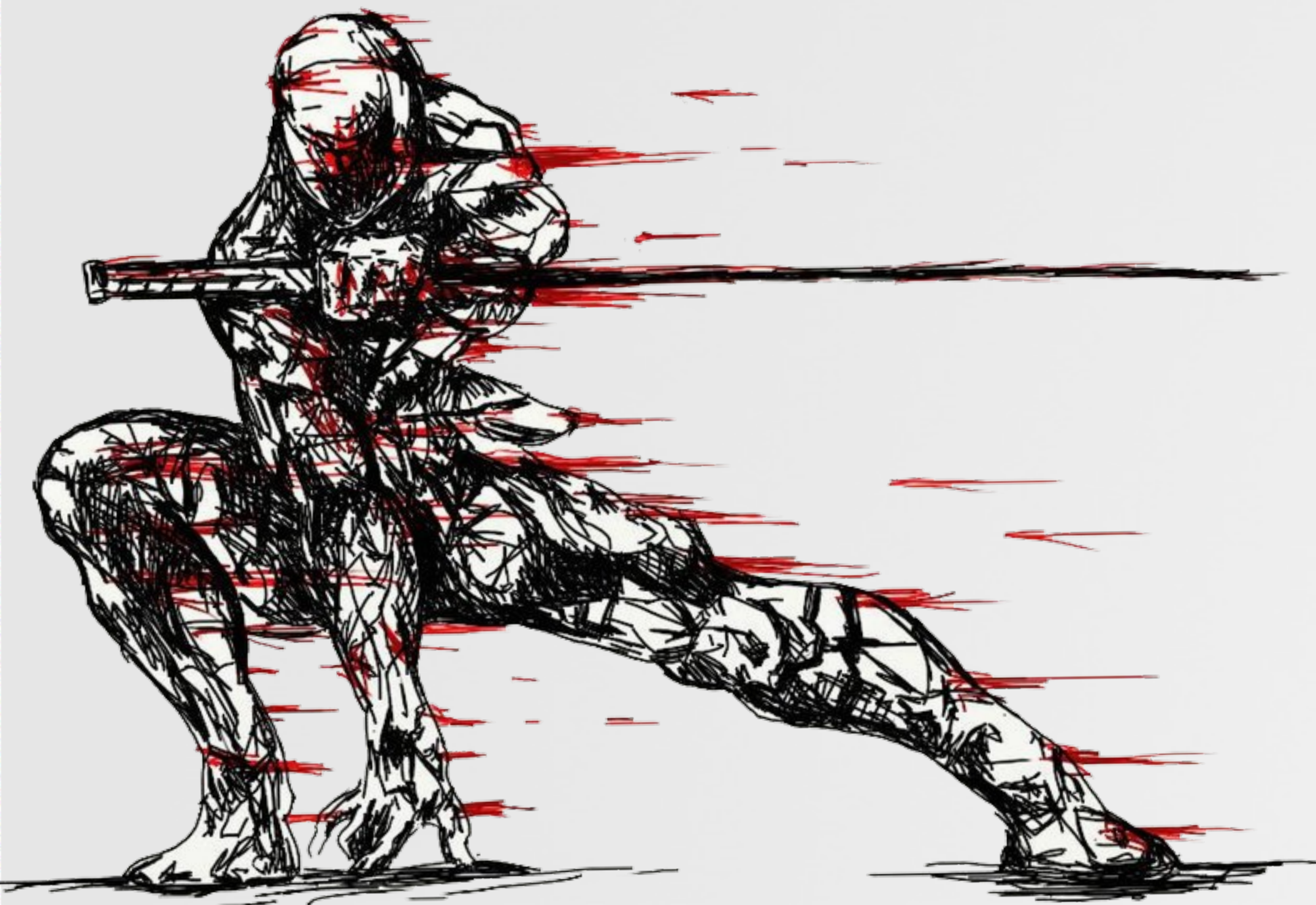
bypassing



fixing

UNDERSTANDING GATEKEEPER

...under the hood



LIFE BEFORE GATEKEEPER

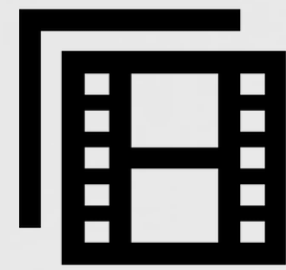
...os x trojans everywhere? everywhere!



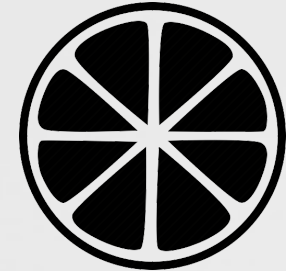
countless OS X users infected



jahlav-a



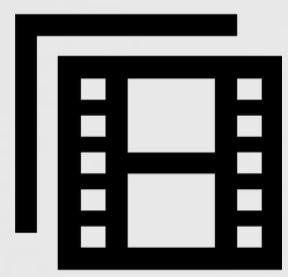
rkosx-a



hovdy-a



leap-a



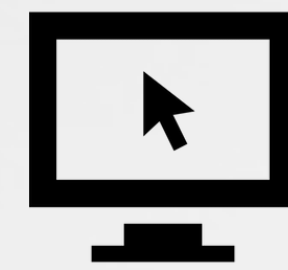
rsplug



macsweeper



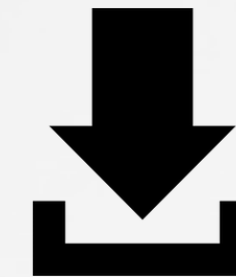
iworks-a



opinionspy



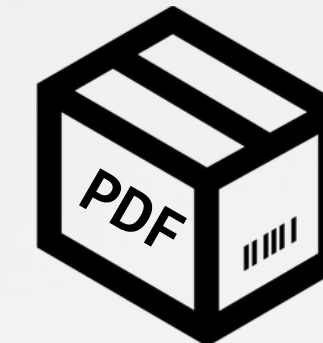
boonana



pinhead



devilrobber



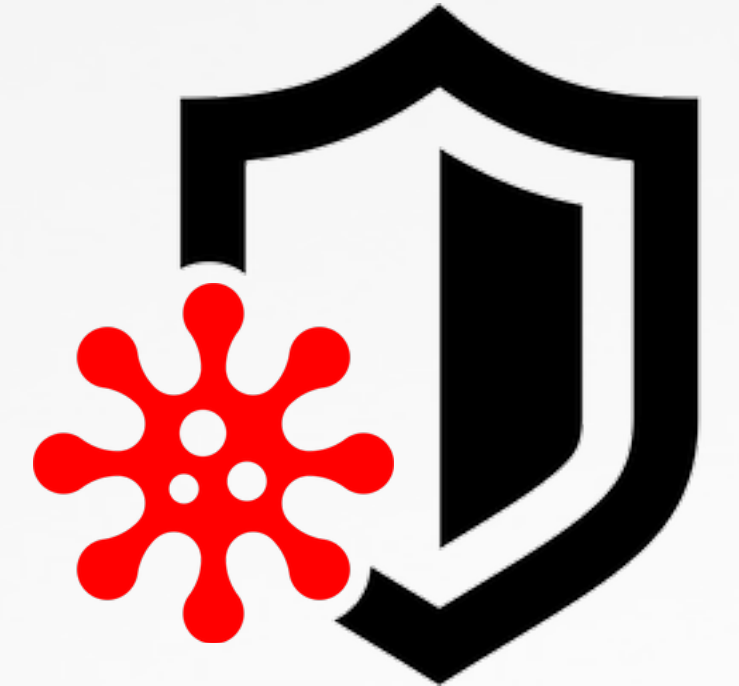
revir



qghost



macdefender



gatekeeper

2006

2007

2008

2009

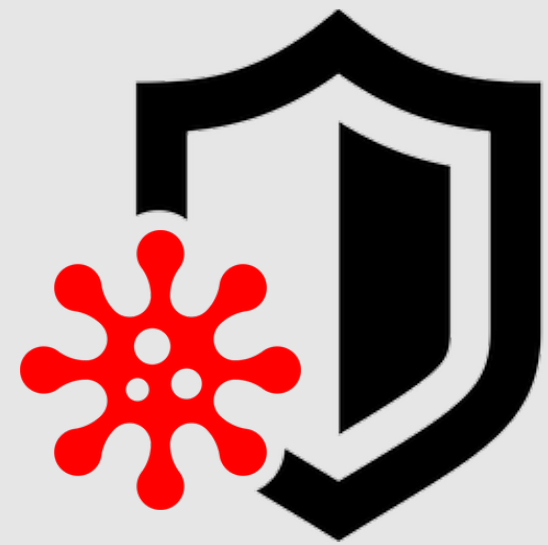
2010

2011

2012

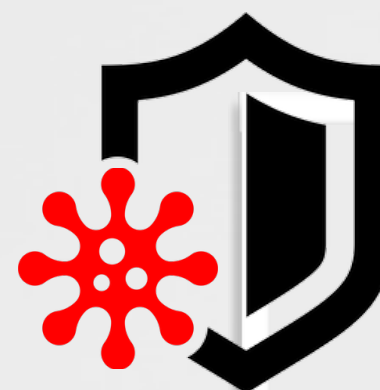
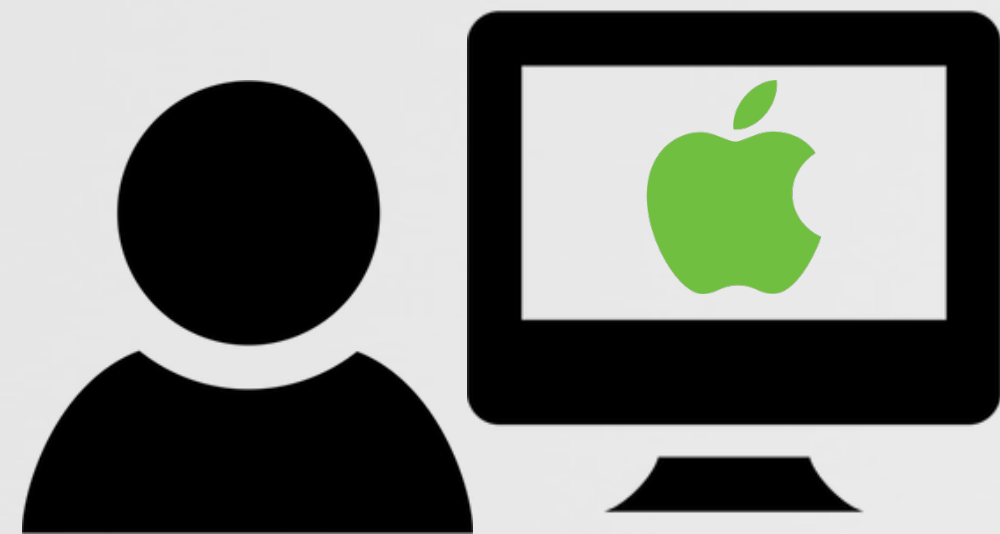
GATEKEEPER AIMS TO PROTECT

as there is no patch for human stupidity ;)



Gatekeeper is a built-in anti-malware feature of OS X (10.7+)

"If a [downloaded] app was developed by an unknown developer—one with no Developer ID—or tampered with, Gatekeeper can block the app from being installed" -apple.com



only option!

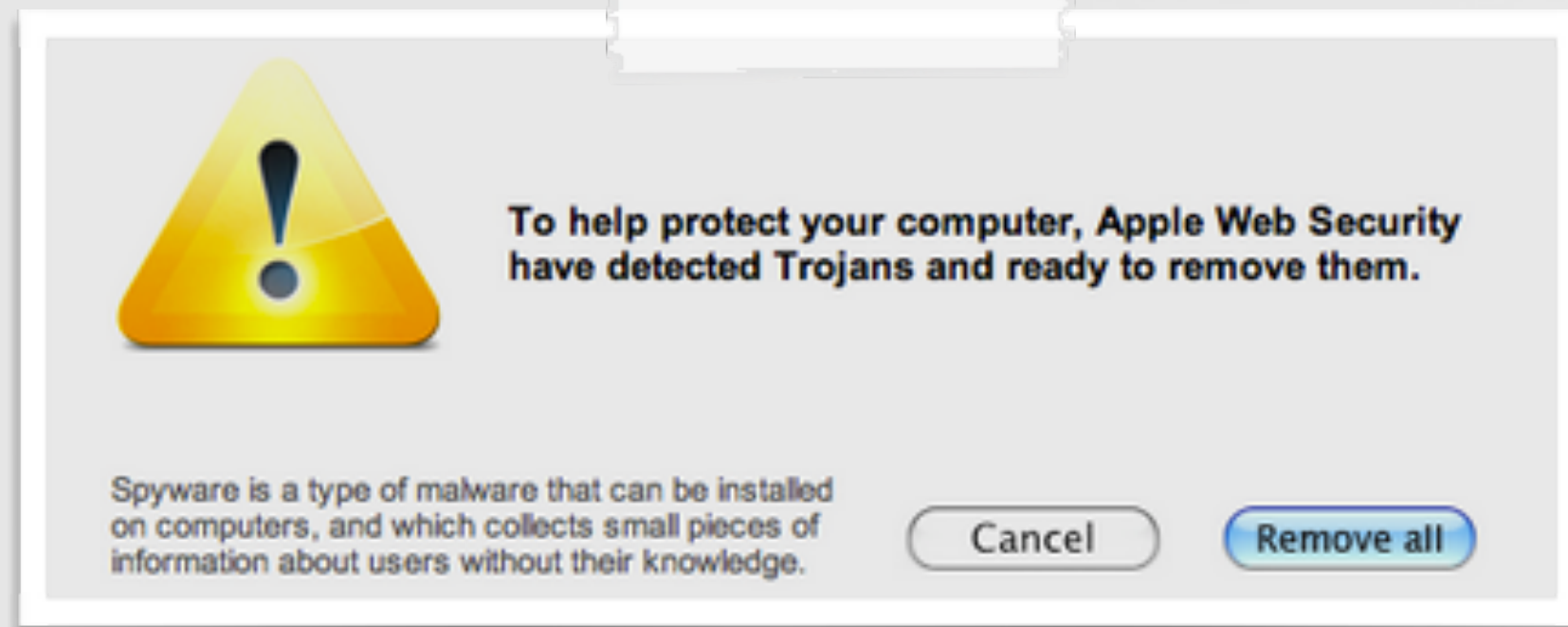
➔ TL;DR **block unauthorized code from the internet**

GATEKEEPER PROTECT USERS

...from low-tech adversaries



"Gatekeeper Slams the Door on Mac Malware Epidemics" -tidbits.com



rogue "AV" products



fake installers/updates



fake codecs



poor naive users!

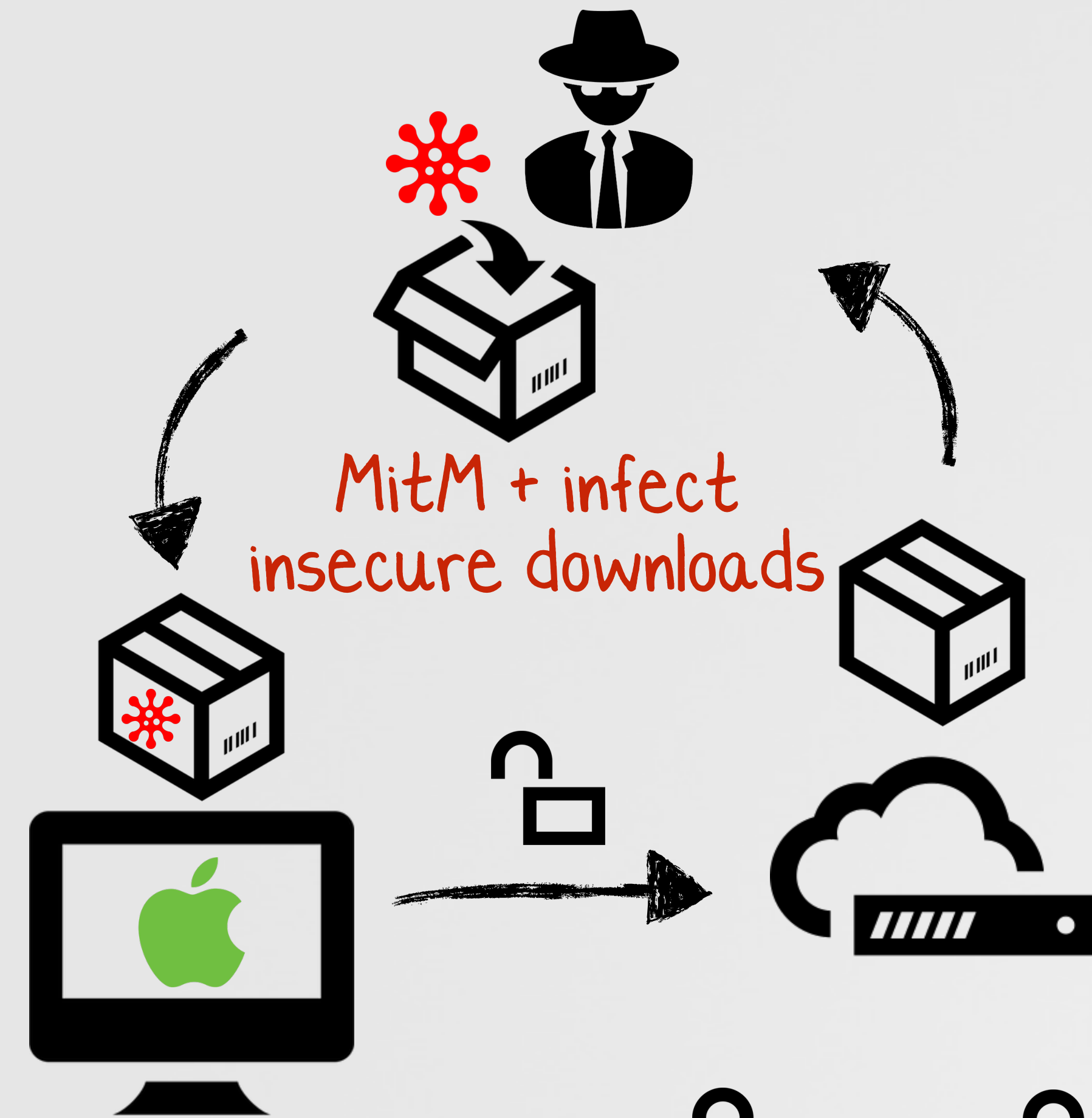


infected torrents

GATEKEEPER PROTECTS USERS

...from high-tech adversaries

Q1 2015: all security software,
I downloaded -> served over HTTP :(



```
avast_free_mac_security.dmg  
http://download.ff.avast.com/mac/a  
bitdefender_antivirus_for_mac.dmg  
http://download.bitdefender.com/m  
F-Secure-Anti-Virus-for-Mac_JDCQ-  
http://download.sp.f-secure.com/SE  
LittleSnitch-3.5.1.dmg  
http://www.obdev.at/ftp/pub/Produ  
savosx_he_r.zip  
http://downloads.sophos.com/inst\_t  
eset_cybersecurity_en_.dmg  
http://download.eset.com/download  
Internet_Security_X8.dmg  
http://www.integodownload.com/m  
TrendMicro_MAC_5.0.1149_US-en_T  
http://trial.trendmicro.com/US/TM/  
NortonSecurity.EnglishTrial.zip  
http://buy-download.norton.com/dc  
ksm15_0_0_226a_mlg_en_022.dmg  
http://downloads-am.kasperskyame
```

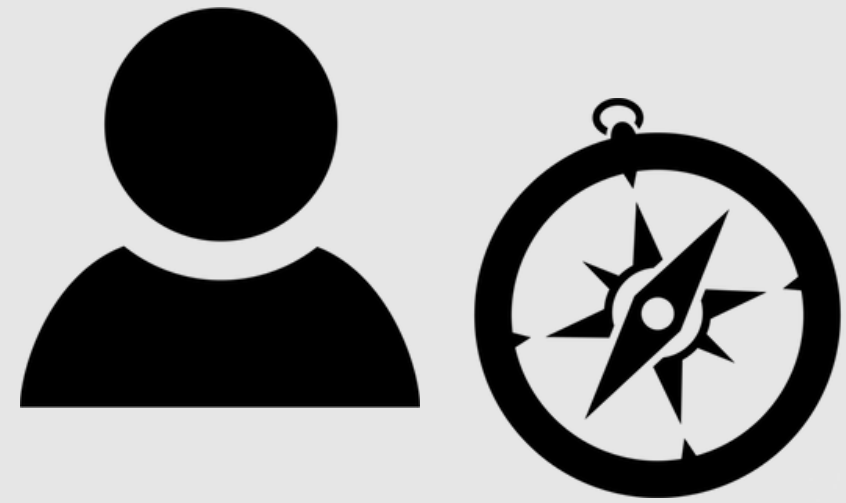


my dock

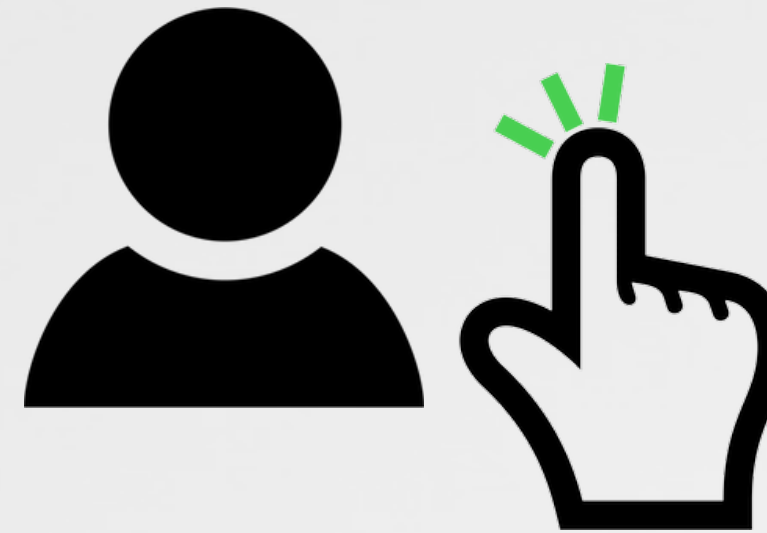
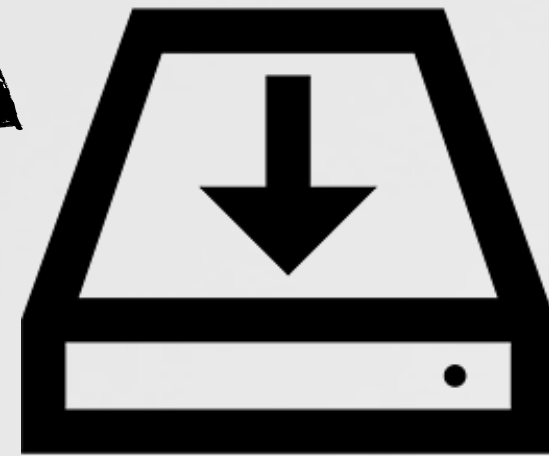


HOW GATEKEEPER WORKS

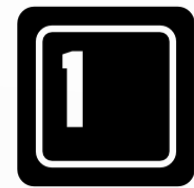
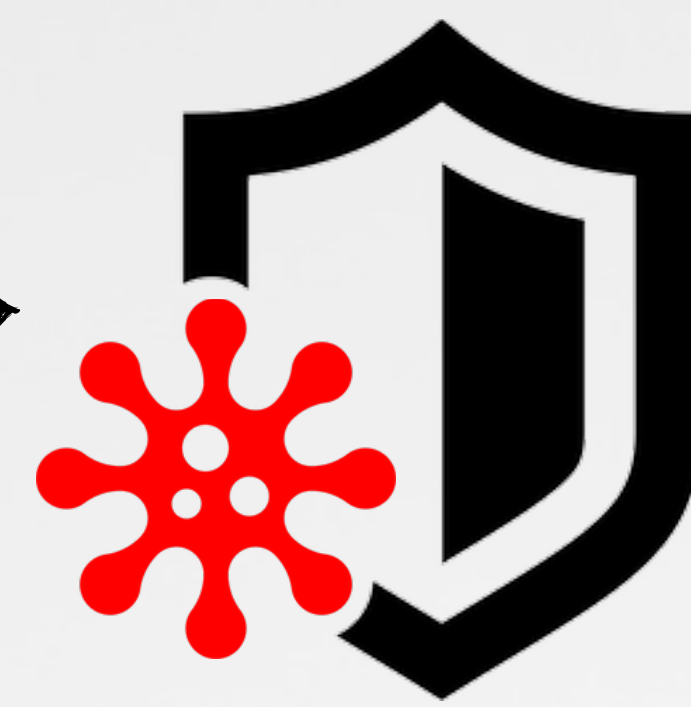
an overview



quarantine attribute added



iff quarantine attribute is set!



//attributes

```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/malware.app  
com.apple.quarantine:0001;534e3038;  
Safari; B8E3DA59-32F6-4580-8AB3...
```



Allow apps downloaded from:

- Mac App Store
- Mac App Store and identified developers
- Anywhere

quarantine attributes

gatekeeper settings



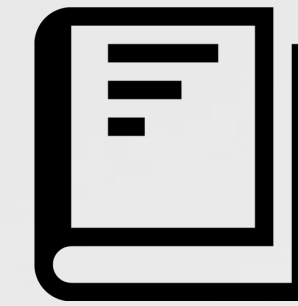
“malware.app” can’t be opened because it is from an unidentified developer.

Your security preferences allow installation of only apps from the Mac App Store.

gatekeeper in action

EXTENDED FILE ATTRIBUTES

simply put; file metadata



"Mac OS X & iOS Internals"
Jonathan Levin

extended attr. (com.apple.*)	brief details
FinderInfo	information for <code>Finder.app</code> (such as folder colors)
metadata	Spotlight data, such as download location & version info
quarantine	indicates that file is from an 'untrusted' source (internet)

dump w/ `xattr` command

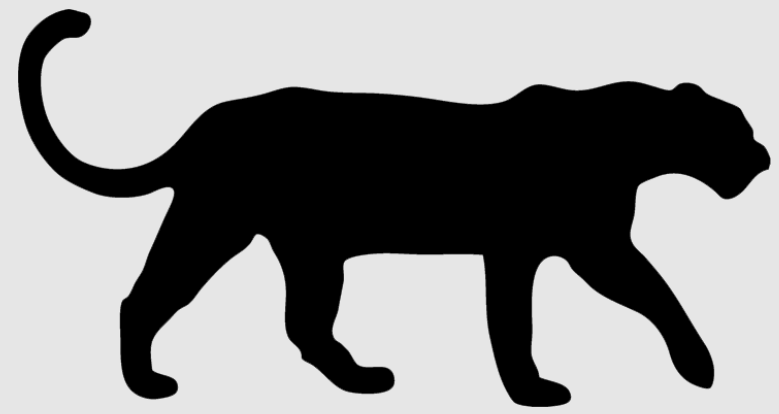
```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
com.apple.metadata:kMDItemWhereFroms:
00000000  62 70 6C 69 73 74 30 30 A2 01 02 5F 10 2B 68 74 |bplist00..._.+ht|
00000010  74 70 3A 2F 2F 77 77 77 2E 65 69 63 61 72 2E 6F |tp://www.eicar.o|
00000020  72 67 2F 64 6F 77 6E 6C 6F 61 64 2F 65 69 63 61 |rg/download/eica|
00000030  72 2E 63 6F 6D 2E 74 78 74 5F 10 27 68 74 74 70 |r.com.txt_.....|

com.apple.quarantine: 0001;55ef7b62;Google Chrome.app;3F2688DE-C34D-4953-8AF1-4F8741FC1326
```

dumping quarantine attributes

'FILE QUARANTINE'

realized by the `com.apple.quarantine` file attribute

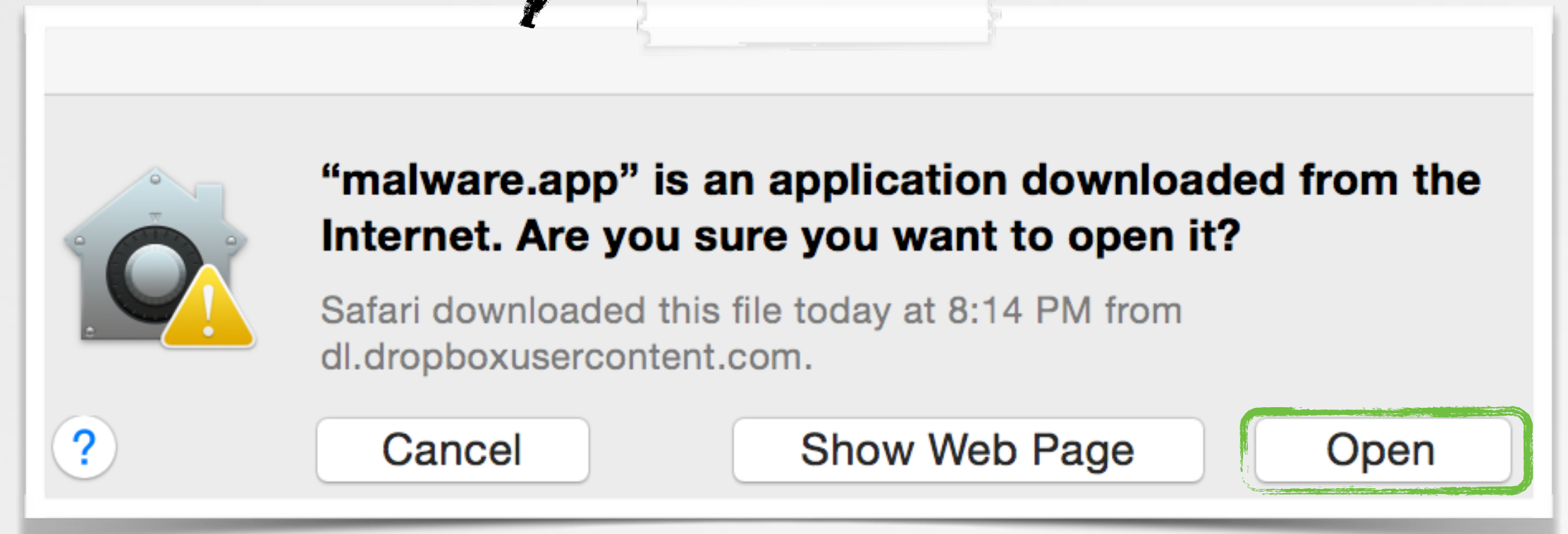


added in Leopard



"file from internet"

note; not gatekeeper



file quarantine in action

```
//dictionary for quarantine attributes  
NSDictionary* quarantineAttributes = nil;
```

```
//get attributes  
[fileURL getResourceValue:&quarantineAttributes  
forKey:NSURLQuarantinePropertiesKey error:NULL];
```

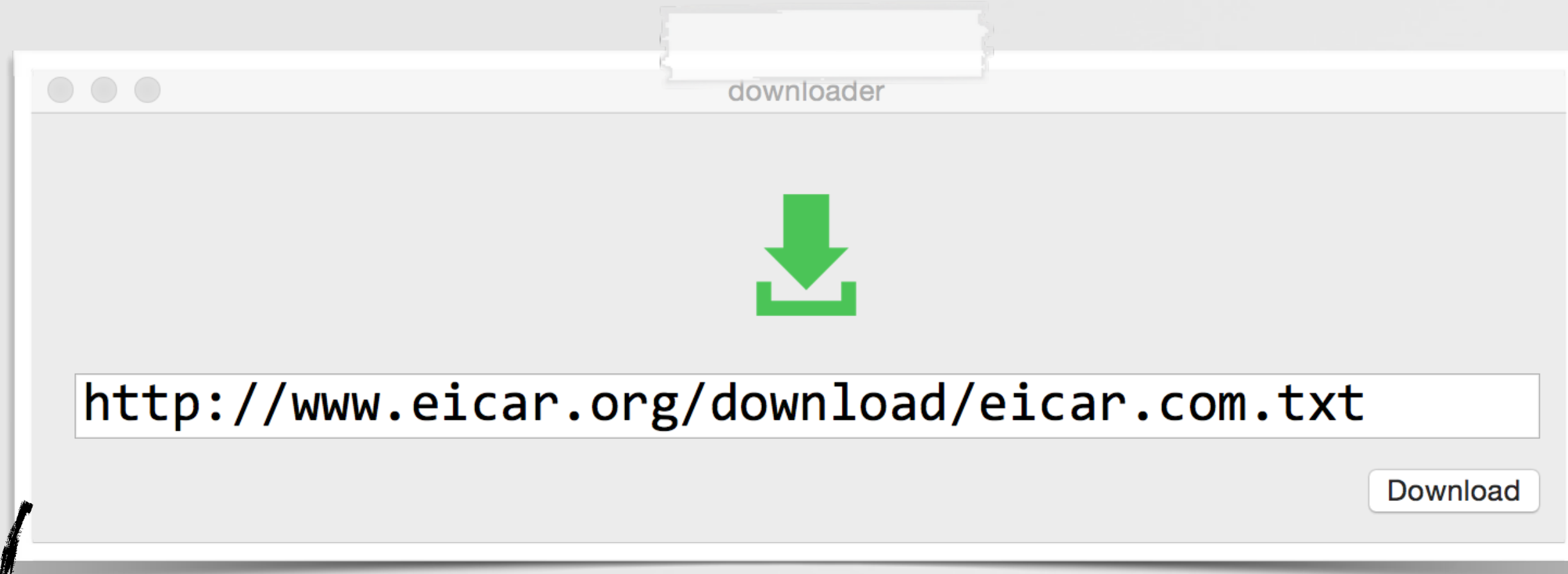
code to get attributes

dumping a file's
`com.apple.quarantine` attribute

```
$ dumpAttrs ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt  
LSQuarantineAgentBundleIdentifier = "com.google.Chrome";  
LSQuarantineAgentName = "Google Chrome.app";  
LSQuarantineDataURL = "http://www.eicar.org/download/eicar.com.txt";  
LSQuarantineEventIdentifier = "3F2688DE-C34D-4953-8AF1-4F8741FC1326";  
LSQuarantineOriginURL = "http://www.eicar.org/85-0-Download.html";  
LSQuarantineTimeStamp = "2015-09-09 00:20:50 +0000";  
LSQuarantineType = LSQuarantineTypeWebDownload;
```

SETTING THE QUARANTINE ATTRIBUTE

who done it!?



custom downloader

```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
$ dumpAttrs ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
$
```

none; huh?

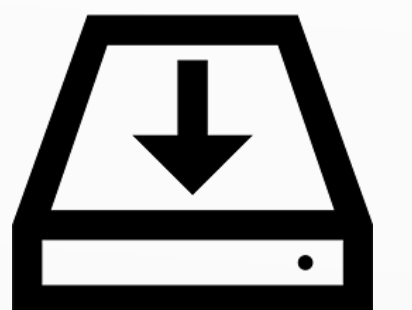
any extended attributes?

```
//button handler: download file
-(IBAction)download:(id)sender
{
    //url
    NSURL *remoteFile = [NSURL URLWithString:self.textField.stringValue];

    //local file
    NSString* localFile = [NSString stringWithFormat:@"%s", [remoteFile lastPathComponent]];

    //download & save to file
    [[NSData dataWithContentsOfURL:remoteFile] writeToFile:localFile atomically:NO];

    return;
}
```



custom downloader's source code

SETTING THE QUARANTINE ATTRIBUTE

apps can manually add it

consts in LSQuarantine.h

```
-(void)setQAttr:(NSString*)localFile
{
    //quarantine attributes dictionary
    NSMutableDictionary* quarantineAttributes = [NSMutableDictionary dictionary];

    //add agent bundle id
    quarantineAttributes[kLSQuarantineAgentBundleIdentifierKey] = [[NSBundle mainBundle] bundleIdentifier];

    //add agent name
    quarantineAttributes[kLSQuarantineAgentNameKey] = [[[NSBundle mainBundle] infoDictionary] objectForKey:kCFBundleNameKey];

    ...

    //manually add quarantine attributes to file
    [[NSURL fileURLWithPath:localFile] setResourceValues:@{NSURLQuarantinePropertiesKey: quarantineAttributes} error:NULL];

    return;
}
```

code to set a file's quarantine attribute

```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
com.apple.quarantine:
0000;55efddeb;downloader;ED9BFEA8-10B1-48BA-87AF-623EA7599481

$ dumpAttrs ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
LSQuarantineAgentBundleIdentifier = "com.synack.downloader";
LSQuarantineAgentName = downloader;
LSQuarantineDataURL = "http://www.eicar.org/download/eicar.com.txt";
LSQuarantineEventIdentifier = "ED9BFEA8-10B1-48BA-87AF-623EA7599481";
LSQuarantineTimeStamp = "2015-09-09 07:21:15 +0000";
LSQuarantineType = LSQuarantineTypeWebDownload;
```

manually set, quarantine attribute

SETTING THE QUARANTINE ATTRIBUTE

or, apps can generically tell the OS to add it



Info.plist keys: **LSFileQuarantineEnabled**

"When the value of this key is true, all files created by the application process will be quarantined by OS X" -apple.com

Key	Type	Value
Information Property List	Dictionary	(15 items)
File quarantine enabled	Boolean	YES

```
$ grep -A 1 LSFileQuarantineEnabled Info.plist
<key>LSFileQuarantineEnabled</key>
<true/>
```

app's **Info.plist** file updated (**LSFileQuarantineEnabled**)

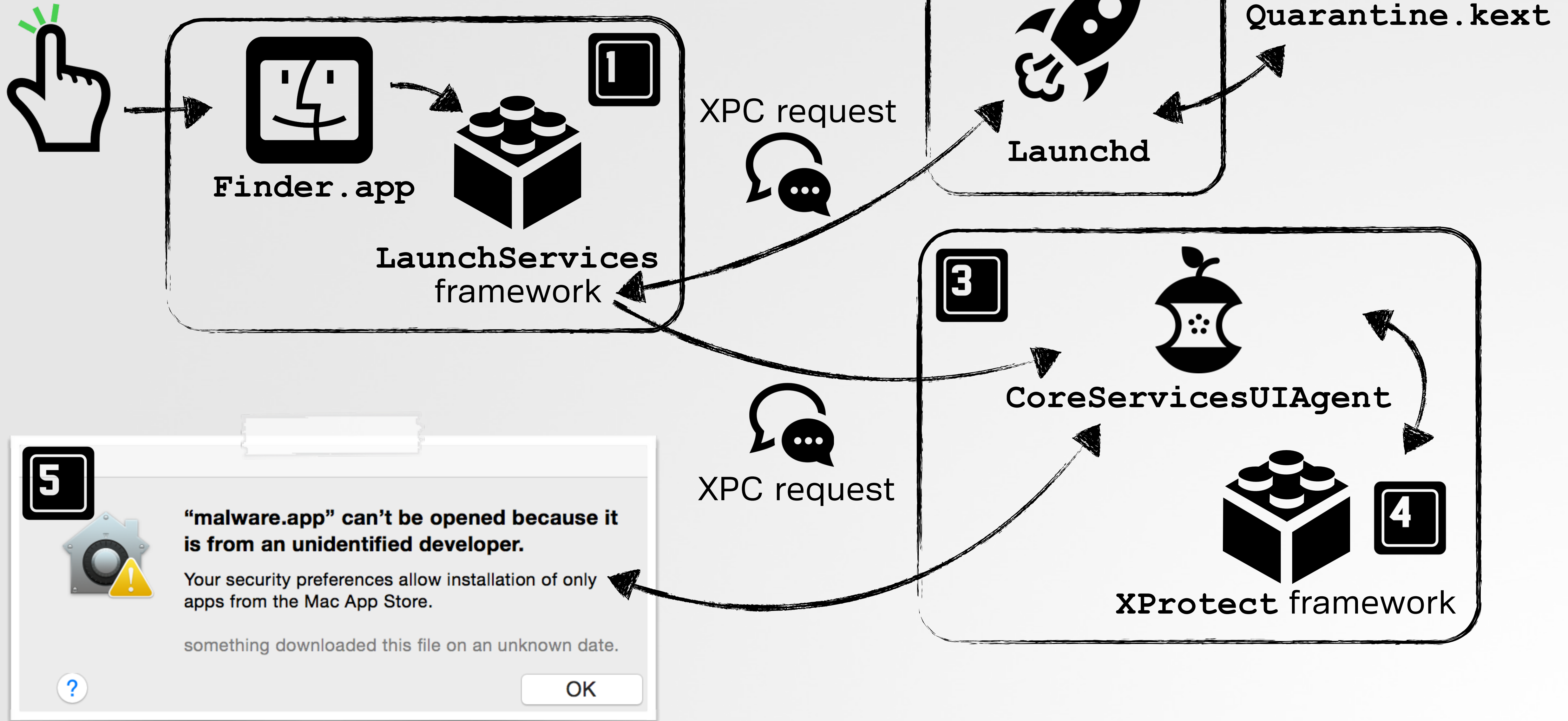
```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
com.apple.quarantine: 0000;55f139c4;downloader.app;

$ dumpAttrs ~/Downloads/eicar.com.txt
LSQuarantineAgentName = "downloader.app";
LSQuarantineTimeStamp = "2015-09-10 08:05:24 +0000";
```

automatically (OS) set, quarantine attribute

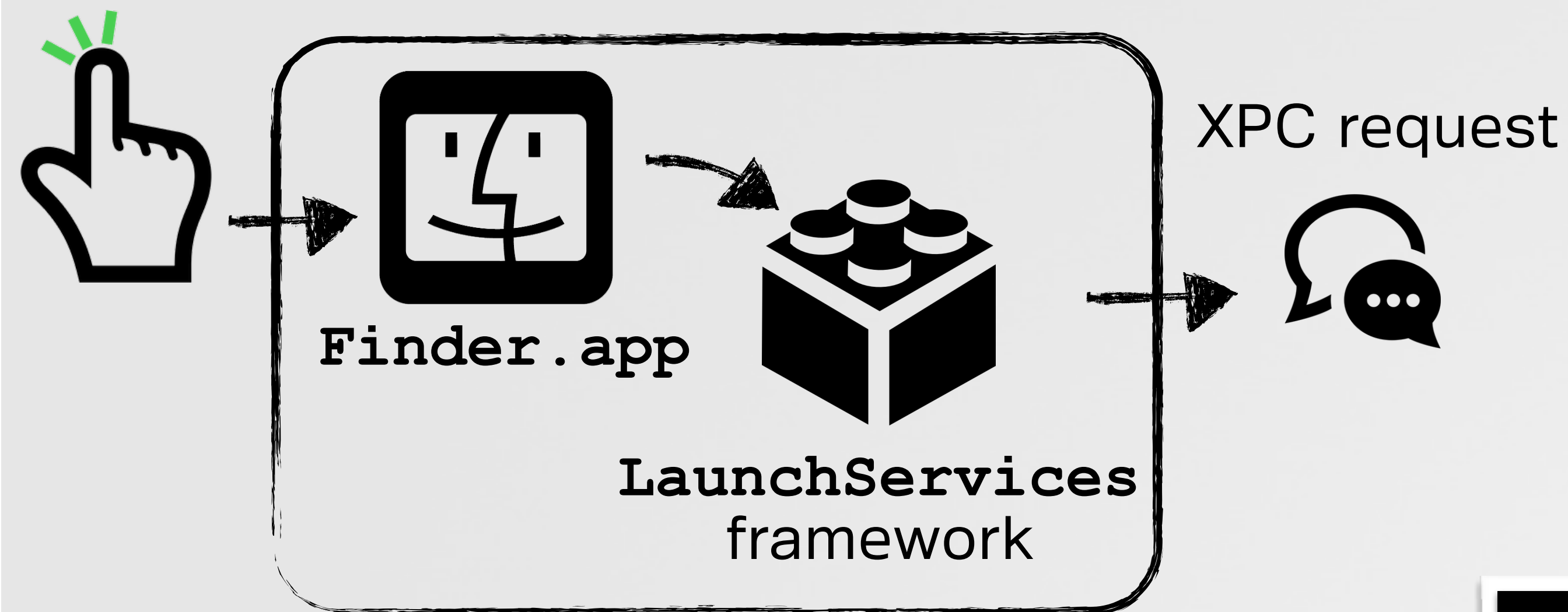
GATEKEEPER IN ACTION

an overview



1 LAUNCHING THE BINARY/APP

handled by the `launchservices` framework



```
launch_priv.h
pid_t _spawn_via_launchd(
    const char *label,
    const char *const *argv,
    const struct spawn_via_launchd_attr *spawn_attrs,
    int struct_version
);
```

`_spawn_via_launchd()`

```
libxpc.dylib`_spawn_via_launchd
LaunchServices`LaunchApplicationWithSpawnViaLaunchD
LaunchServices`_LSLaunchApplication
LaunchServices`_LSLaunch
LaunchServices`_LSOpenApp
LaunchServices`_LSOpenStuffCallLocal
LaunchServices`_LSOpenStuff
LaunchServices`_LSOpenURLsWithRole_Common
LaunchServices`_LSOpenURLsWithRole
```

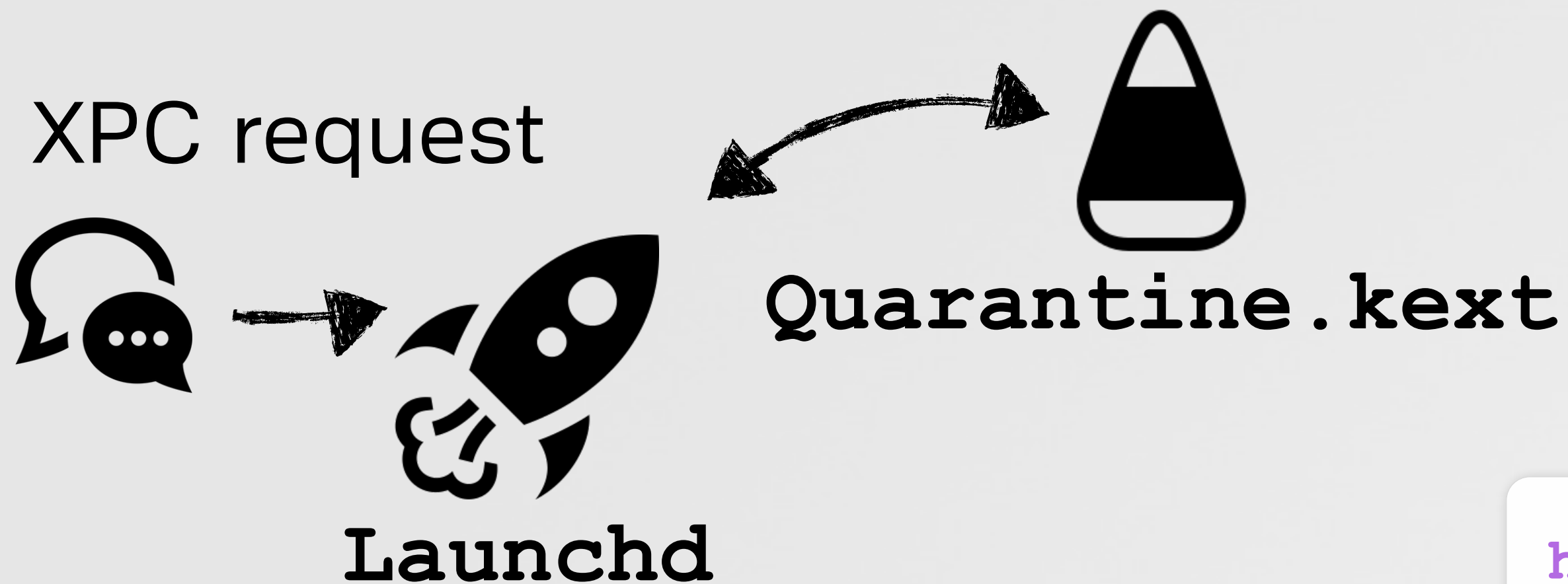
call stack

```
(lldb) x/s $rdi
"[0x0-0xb92b92].com.nsa.malware"
(lldb) print *(char**)$rsi
"~/Downloads/Malware.app/Contents/MacOS/Malware"
(lldb)print *(struct spawn_via_launchd_attr*)$rdx
{
    spawn_flags = SPAWN_VIA_LAUNCHD_STOPPED
    ...
}
```

'spawn' attributes, etc.

🔍 POLICY ENFORCEMENT WITH QUARANTINE .KEXT

kernel-mode mac component



```
(lldb) print *(struct mac_policy_conf*)0xFFFFFFFF7F8B447110
mpc_name = 0xffffffff7f8b446c3a "Quarantine"
mpc_fullname = 0xffffffff7f8b446cb0 "Quarantine policy"
...
```

quarantine policy

```
Quarantine`hook_vnode_check_exec
kernel`mac_vnode_check_exec
kernel`exec_activate_image
kernel`exec_activate_image
kernel`posix_spawn
kernel`unix_syscall64
kernel`hndl_unix_scall64
```

call stack

```
hook_vnode_check_exec

//bail if sandbox'ing not enforced
cmp     cs:_sandbox_enforce, 0
jz      leaveFunction

//bail if file previously approved
call    _quarantine_get_flags
and     eax, 40h
jnz     leaveFunction

//bail if file is on read-only file system
call    _vfs_flags ; mnt flags
test    al, MNT_RDONLY
jnz     leaveFunction
```

hook_vnode_check_exec



USER INTERACTION VIA CORESERVICESUIAGENT

first, the xpc request



LaunchServices
framework



XPC request



CoreServicesUIAgent

pseudo code

```

void ____LSAgentGetConnection_block_invoke(void * _block)
{
    rax = xpc_connection_create_mach_service("com.apple.coreservices.quarantine-resolver",
        dispatch_get_global_queue(0x0, 0x0), 0x0);

    xpc_connection_set_event_handler(rax, void ^(void * _block, void * arg1)
    {
        return;
    });

    xpc_connection_resume(rax);
    return;
}

```

getting XPC connection to CoreServicesUIAgent

```

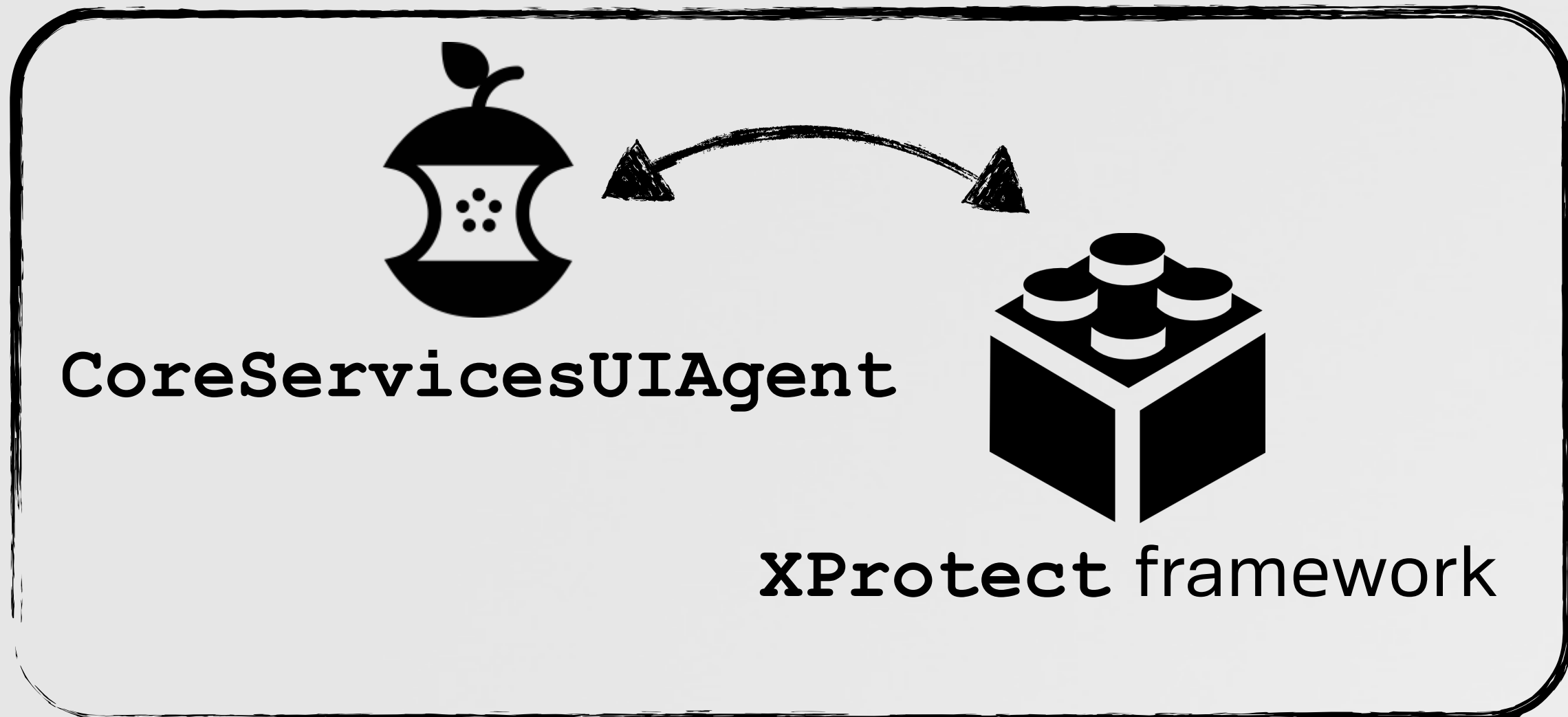
(lldb) po $rax
{
    LSQAllowUnsigned = 0;
    LSQAppPSN = 3621748;
    LSQAppPath = "/Users/patrick/Downloads/Malware.app";
    LSQAuthorization = <bed76627 c7cc0ae4 a6860100 00000000 ...
    LSQRiskCategory = LSRiskCategoryUnsafeExecutable;
}

```

XPC message contents

4 USER INTERACTION VIA CORESERVICESUIAGENT

then, analysis via xprotect



```
-[CSUIController handleIncomingXPCMessage:clientConnection:]
-[GKQuarantineResolver resolve]
-[GKQuarantineResolver malwareChecksBegin]
-[GKQuarantineResolver malwareCheckNextItem]
    mov rdi, cs:classRef_XProtectAnalysis
    mov rsi, cs:selRef_alloc
    call r15 ; _objc_msgSend
    mov rdi, rax
    mov rsi, cs:selRef_initWithURL_
    mov rdx, r14 ;path to app
    call r15 ; _objc_msgSend

-[XProtectAnalysis
beginAnalysisWithDelegate:didEndSelector:contextInfo:]
+[WorkerThreadClass threadEntry:]
    mov rdi, [rbp+staticCodeRef]
    lea rdx, [rbp+signingInfo]
    xor esi, esi ;flags
    call _SecCodeCopySigningInformation
```

program control flow

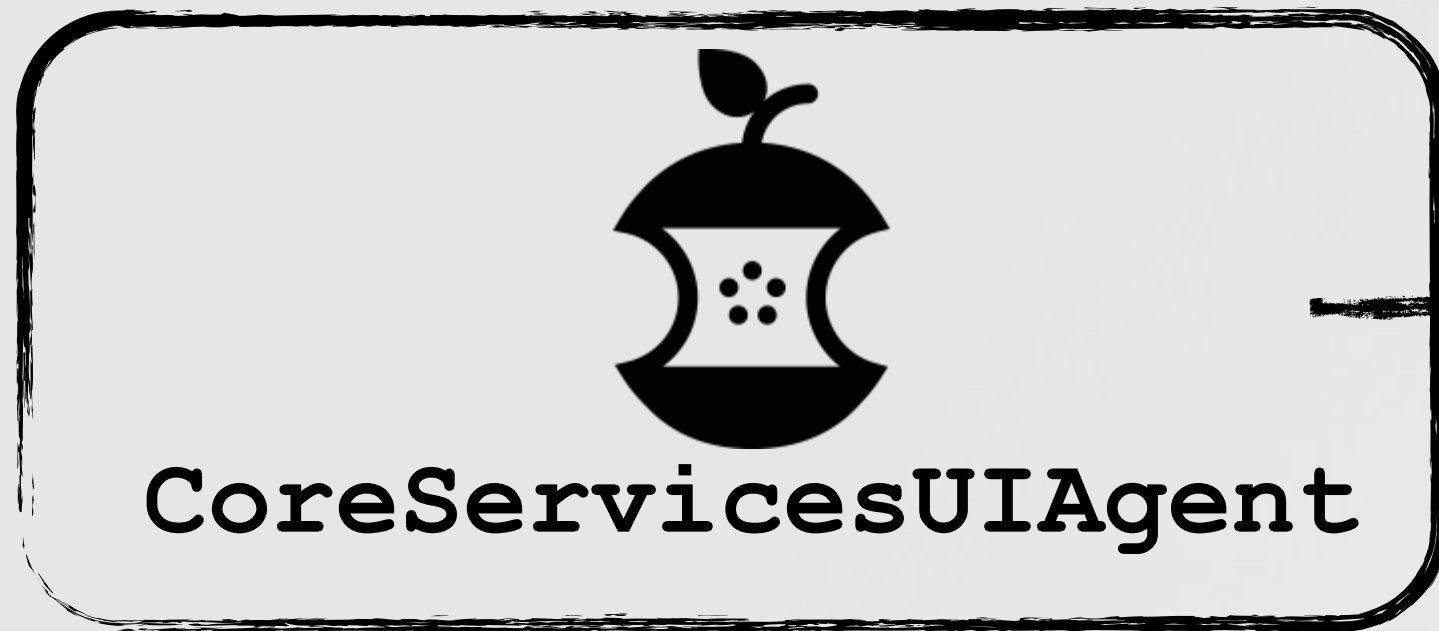
```
(lldb) po $rdi
{
  FileURL = "file:///Users/patrick/Downloads/Malware.app";
  ShouldShowMalwareSubmission = 0;
  XProtectCaspianContext = {
    "context:qtnflags" = 33;
    operation = "operation:execute";
  };
  XProtectDetectionType = 3;
  XProtectMalwareType = 2;
}
```

XProtectMalwareType	meaning
0x2	unsigned
0x3	modified bundle
0x5	signed app
0x7	modified app



USER INTERACTION VIA CORESERVICESUIAGENT

finally, display the alert



```

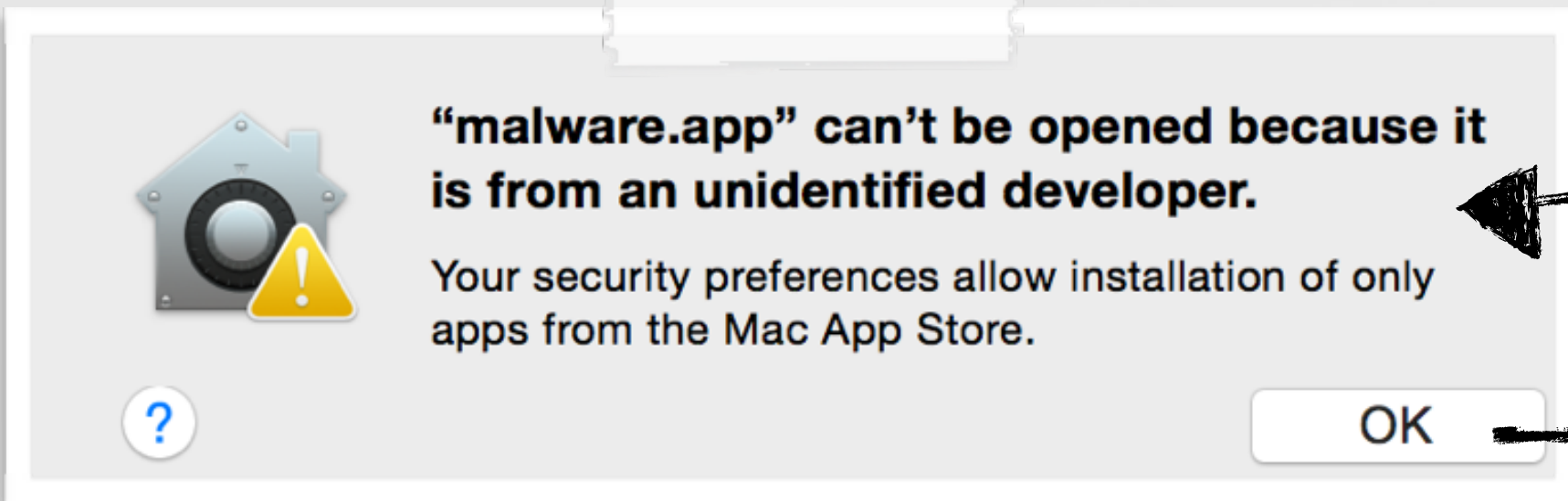
-[GKQuarantineResolver showGKAlertForPath:]
-[GKQuarantineResolver alertForPath:malwareInfo:]

mov     rax, _OBJC_IVAR_$_GKQuarantineResolver__allowUnsigned
mov     rcx, [rbp+GKQuarantineResolver]
cmp     byte ptr [rcx+rax], 0

lea     rdi, cfstr_Q_headline_cas ; "Q_HEADLINE_CASPIAN_BAD_DISTRIBUTOR"

mov     rdi, cs:classRef_NSAlert
mov     rsi, cs:selRef_alloc
call    r12 ; _objc_msgSend

```



gatekeeper alert

alert customization

```

mov     rsi, cs:selRef_deny
mov     rdi, r14
call    cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr

-[GKQuarantineResolver deny]
-[GKQuarantineResolver denyWithoutSettingState]

mov     rax, _OBJC_IVAR_$_GKQuarantineResolver__appASN
mov     rsi, [rdi+rax]
mov     edi, 0FFFFFFFEh
mov     edx, 2
call    __LKillApplication

```

application termination

```

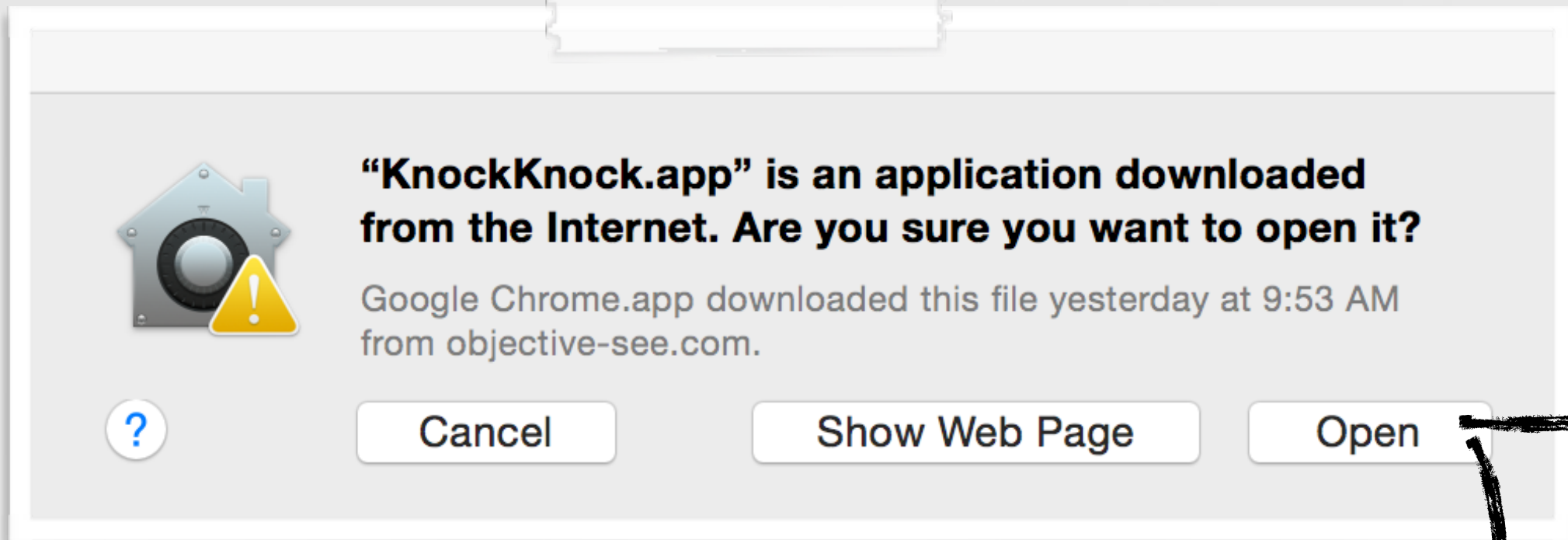
$ less QuarantineHeadlines.strings
<key>Q_HEADLINE_CASPIAN_BAD_DISTRIBUTOR</key>
<string>
  "%@" can't be opened because it is from an unidentified developer.
</string>
<key>Q_HEADLINE_CASPIAN_BLOCKED</key>
<string>
  "%@" can't be opened because it was not downloaded from the Mac App Store.
</string>

```

alert strings (QuarantineHeadlines.strings)

WHAT IF THE APP CONFORMS & IS ALLOWED BY THE USER?

quarantine attributes updated, then application resumed



quarantine alert

```
- [GKQuarantineResolver  
approveUpdatingQuarantineTarget:recursively:volume:]  
  
call    qtn_file_get_flags  
or      eax, 40h  
mov     rdi, [rbp+var_B8]  
mov     esi, eax  
call    __qtn_file_set_flags
```

updating quarantine attributes

```
mov     rsi, [r13+r14+0]  
mov     rax, __kLSApplicationInStoppedStateKey_ptr  
mov     rdx, [rax]  
mov     edi, 0FFFFFFFh  
xor     r8d, r8d  
mov     rcx, rbx  
call    __LSSetApplicationInformationItem  
  
;on error  
lea     rsi, "Unable to continue stopped application"  
mov     edi, 4  
xor     eax, eax  
mov     edx, ecx  
call    logError
```

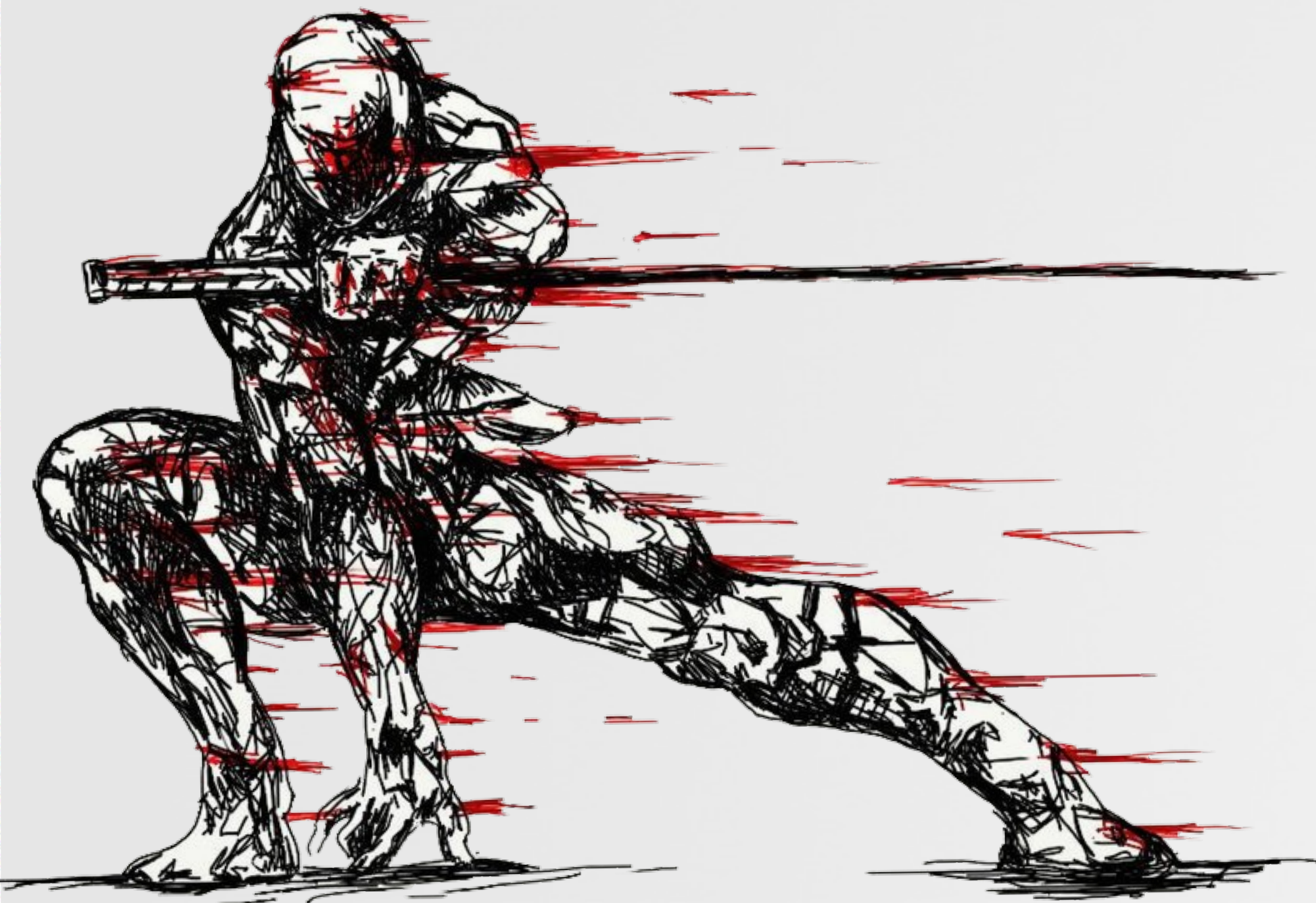
resuming application

```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/KnockKnock.app/Contents/MacOS/KnockKnock  
com.apple.quarantine: 0001 55f3313d;Google\x20Chrome.app;FBF45932...  
  
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/KnockKnock.app/Contents/MacOS/KnockKnock  
com.apple.quarantine: 0041 55f3313d;Google\x20Chrome.app;FBF45932...
```

before & after

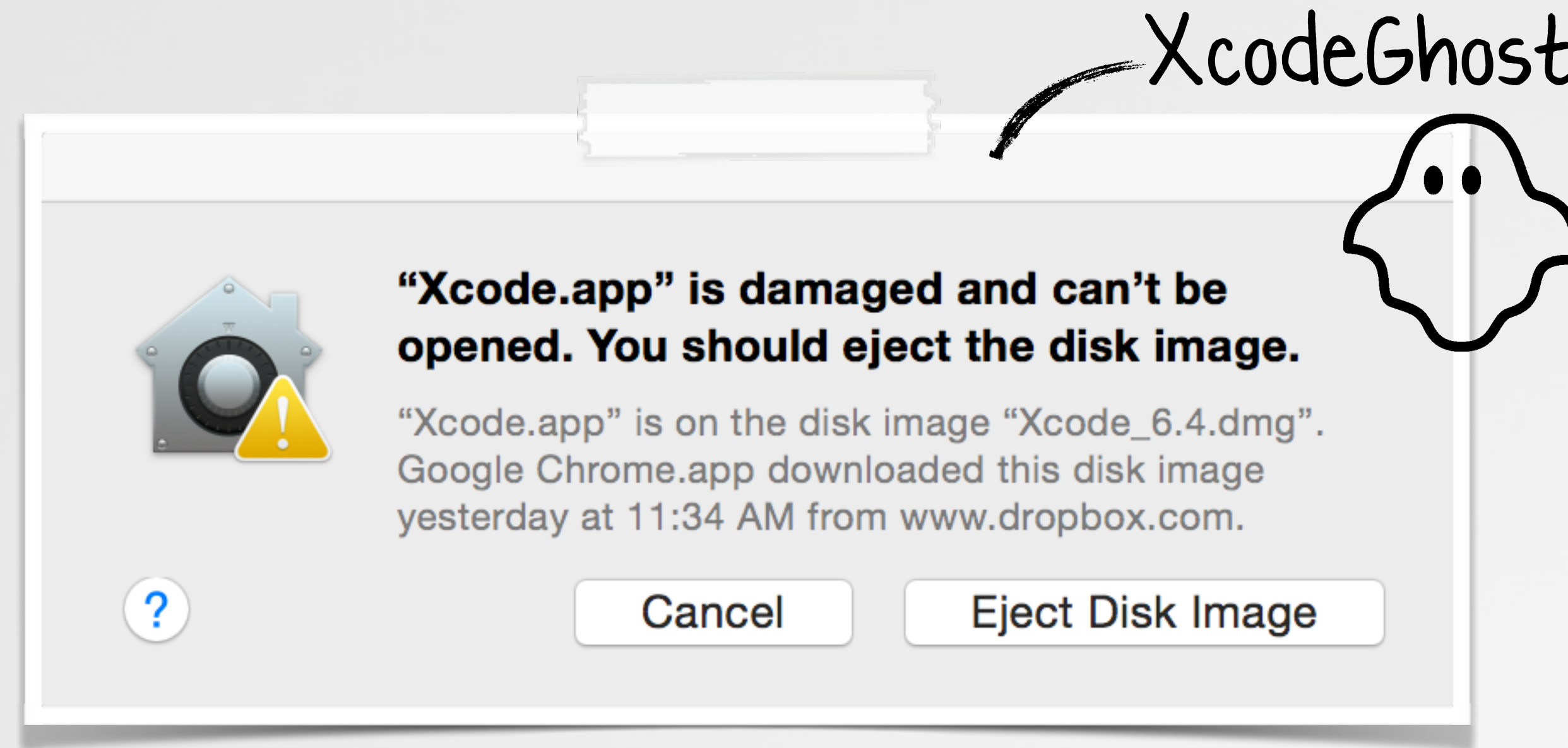
BYPASSING GATEKEEPER

unsigned code allowed!?

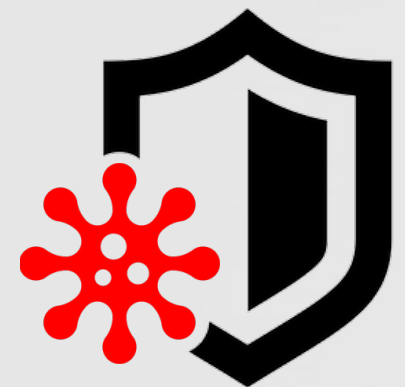


RECALL; GATEKEEPER AIMS TO PROTECT

...unauthorized code should be blocked!



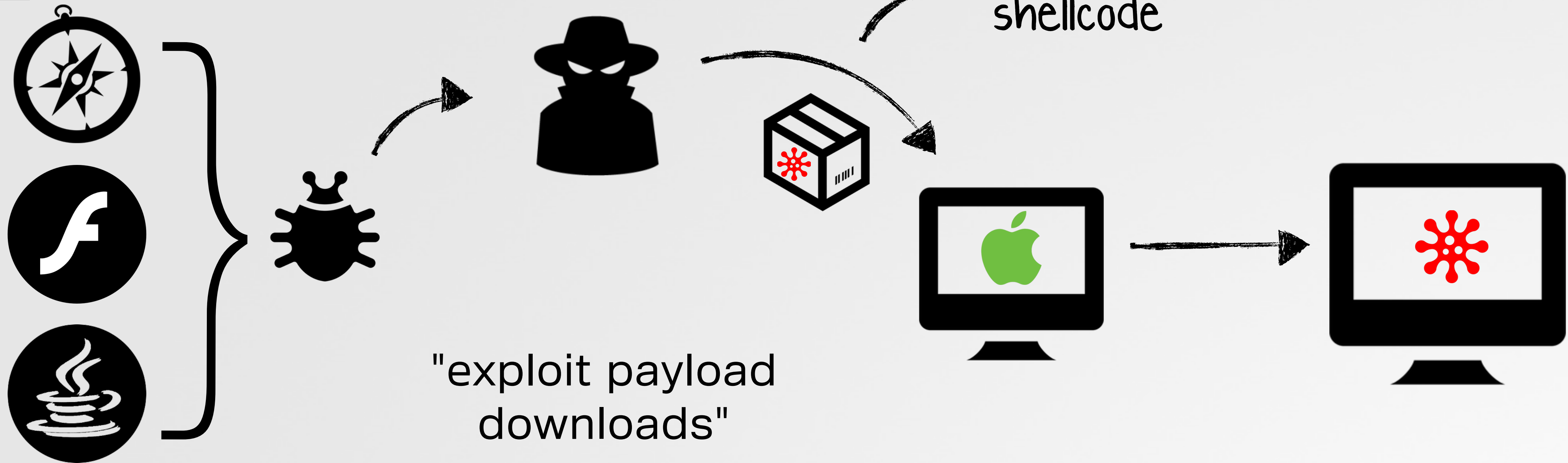
gatekeeper in action



block unauthorized code from the internet

GATEKEEPER SHORTCOMINGS

1 binaries downloaded via exploits



"malware that comes onto the system through vulnerabilities...bypass quarantine entirely. The infamous Flashback malware, for example, used Java vulnerabilities to copy executable files into the system. Since this was done behind the scenes, out of view of quarantine, those executables were able to run without any user interactions" -www.thesafemac.com

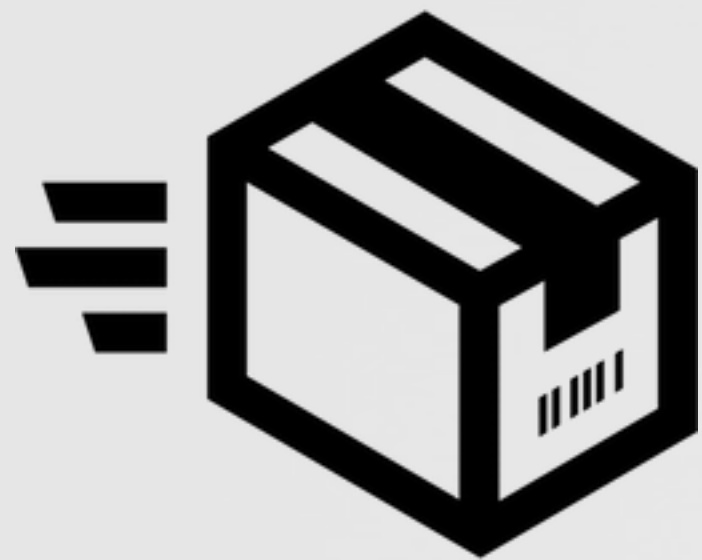
GATEKEEPER SHORTCOMINGS

📄 downloading app, must 'support' quarantine attribute

➔ **virus** BULLETIN vb201410-iWorm.pdf



attribute added?



uTorrent



Type	Name (Order by: Uploaded, Size, ULed by, SE, LE)
Applications (Mac)	Adobe Photoshop CS6 for Mac OSX Uploaded 07-26 23:11, Size 988.02 MiB, ULed by aceprog
Applications (Mac)	Parallels Desktop 9 Mac OSX Uploaded 07-31 00:19, Size 418.43 MiB, ULed by aceprog
Applications (Mac)	Microsoft Office 2011 Mac OSX Uploaded 07-20 19:04, Size 910.84 MiB, ULed by aceprog

iWorm infected applications

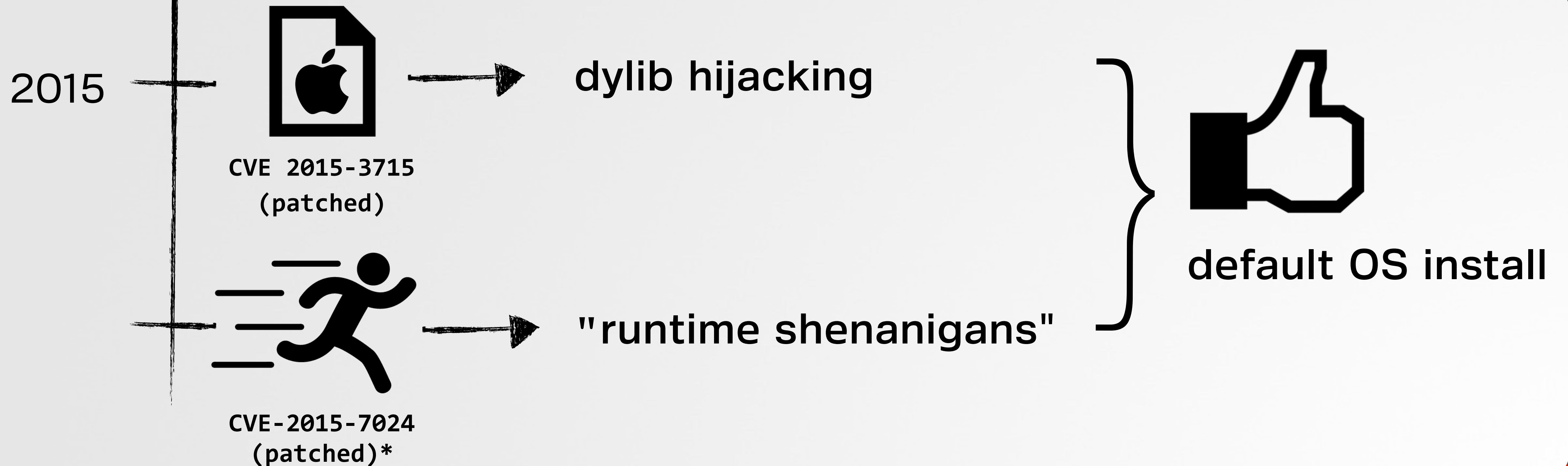
```
$ xattr -p com.apple.quarantine Adobe\ Photoshop\ CC\ 2014.dmg  
xattr: Adobe Photoshop CC 2014.dmg: No such xattr: com.apple.quarantine
```

no quarantine attribute :(

"the quarantine system relies on the app being used for downloading doing things properly. Not all do, and this can result in the quarantine flag not being set on downloaded files" -www.thesafemac.com

GATEKEEPER BYPASSES

allowing unsigned code to execute

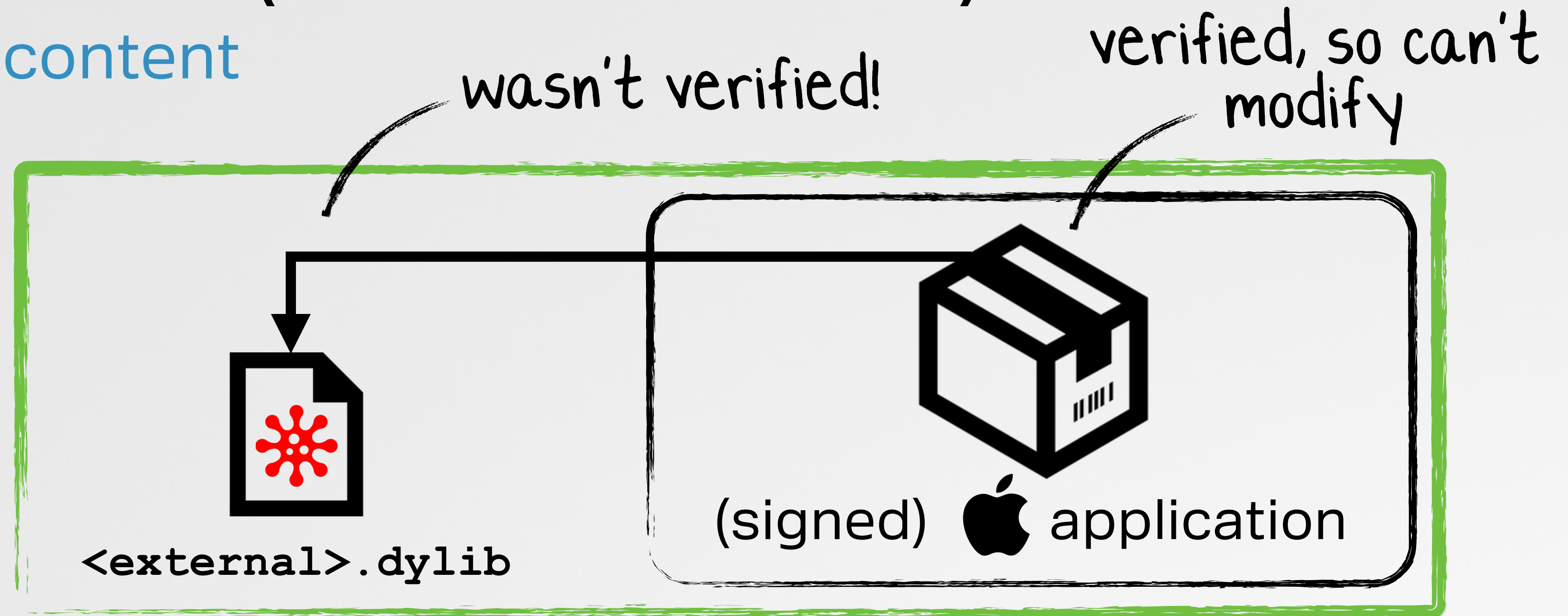


GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x1 (CVE 2015-3715)

(dylib) hijacking external content



gatekeeper **only** verified the app bundle!



.dmg/.zip layout

1

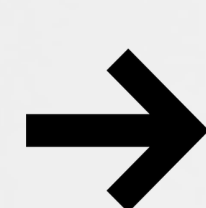
find an signed app that contains an **external, relative dependency** to a hijackable dylib

2

create a .dmg/.zip with the necessary folder structure (i.e. placing the malicious dylib in the **externally** referenced location)

3

host online or inject



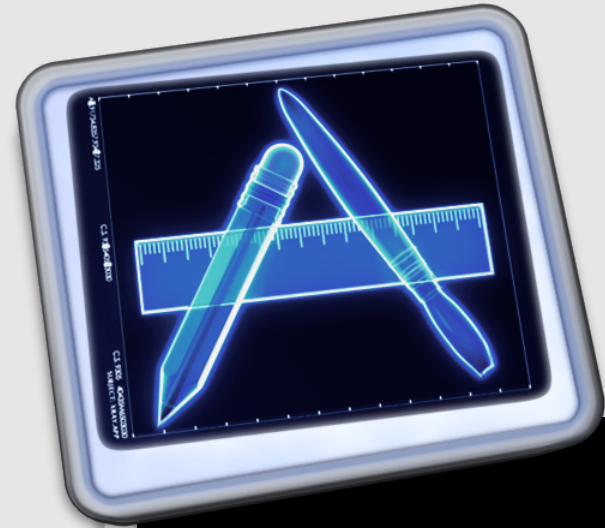
virus
BULLETIN

white paper

www.virusbtn.com/dylib

GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x1 (CVE 2015-3715)

1 a signed app that contains an external dependency to hijackable dylib



spctl tells you if gatekeeper will accept the app

```
$ spctl -vat execute /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Applications/Instruments.app
Instruments.app: accepted
source=Apple System
```

```
$ otool -l Instruments.app/Contents/MacOS/Instruments

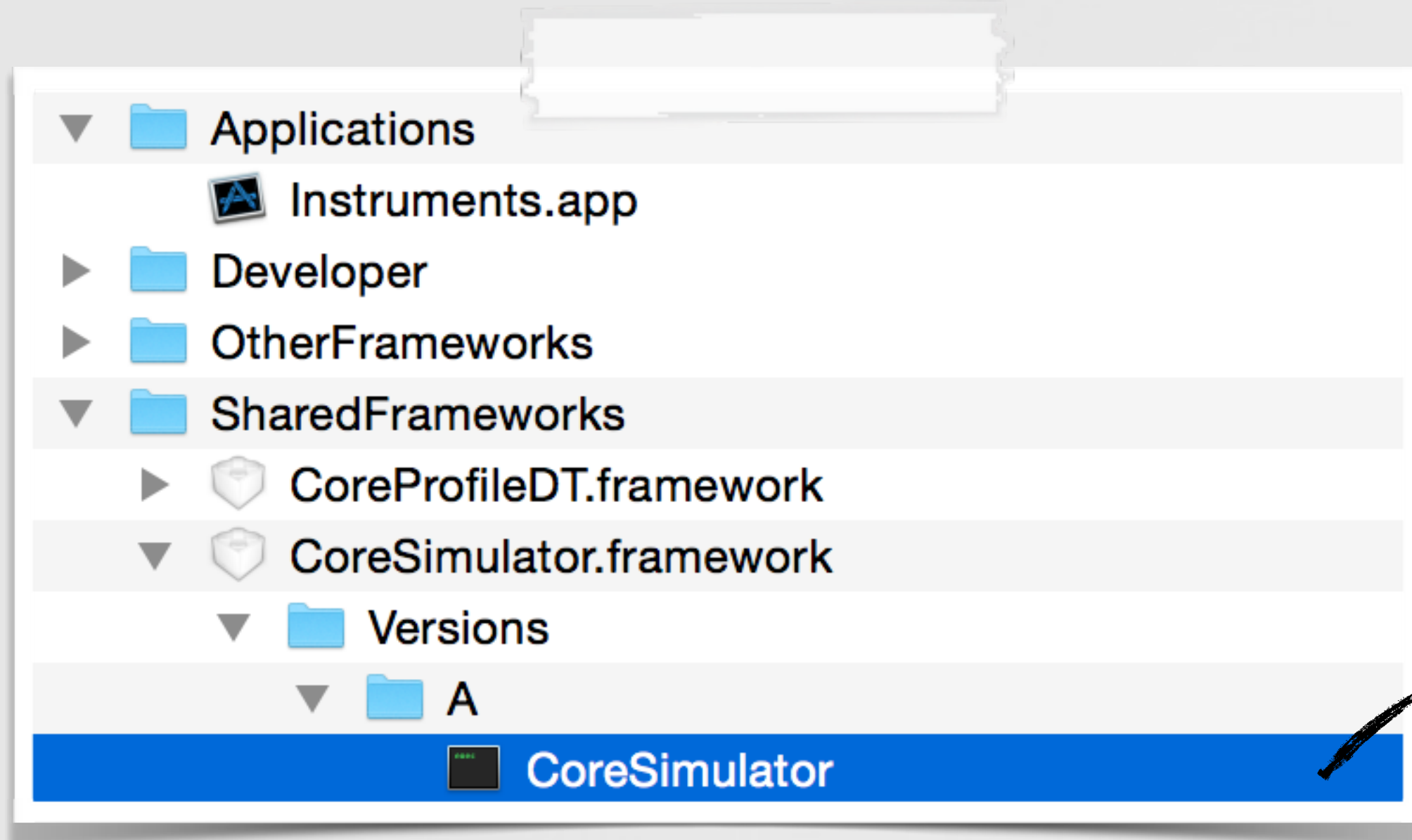
Load command 16
  cmd LC_LOAD_WEAK_DYLIB
  name @rpath/CoreSimulator.framework/Versions/A/CoreSimulator

Load command 30
  cmd LC_RPATH
  path @executable_path/../../../../SharedFrameworks
```

Instruments.app - fit's the bill

GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x1 (CVE 2015-3715)

2 create a .dmg with the necessary layout



required directory structure

'clean up' the .dmg

- ▶ hide files/folder
- ▶ set top-level alias to app
- ▶ change icon & background
- ▶ make read-only

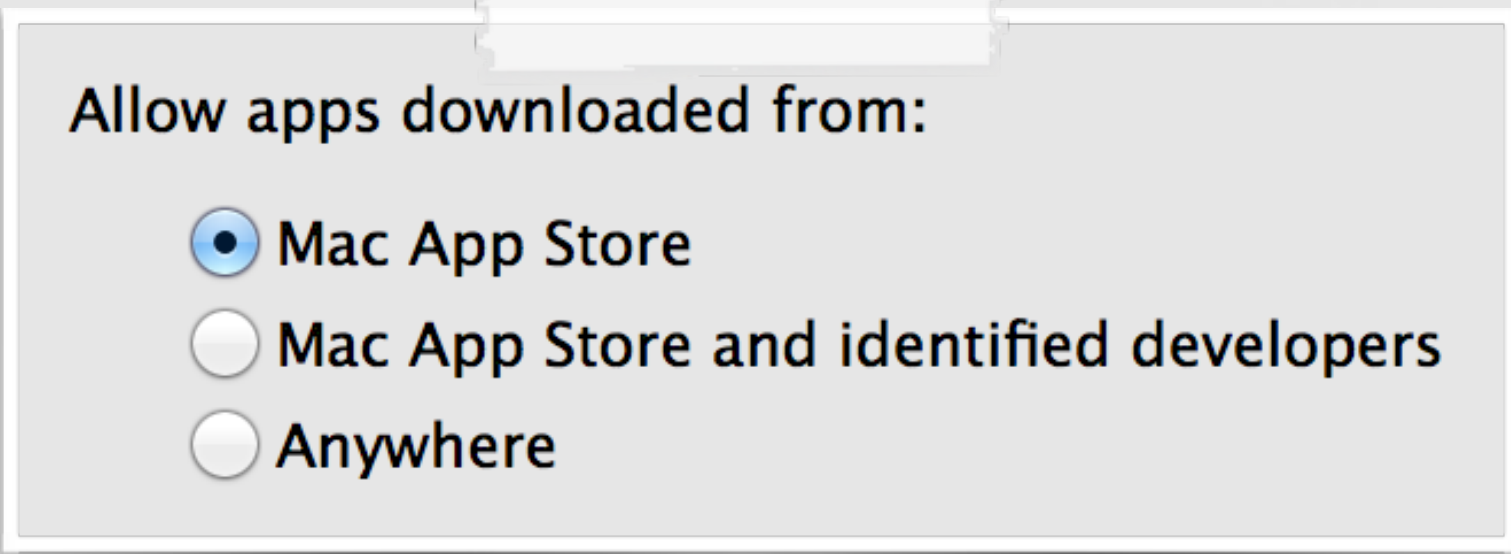
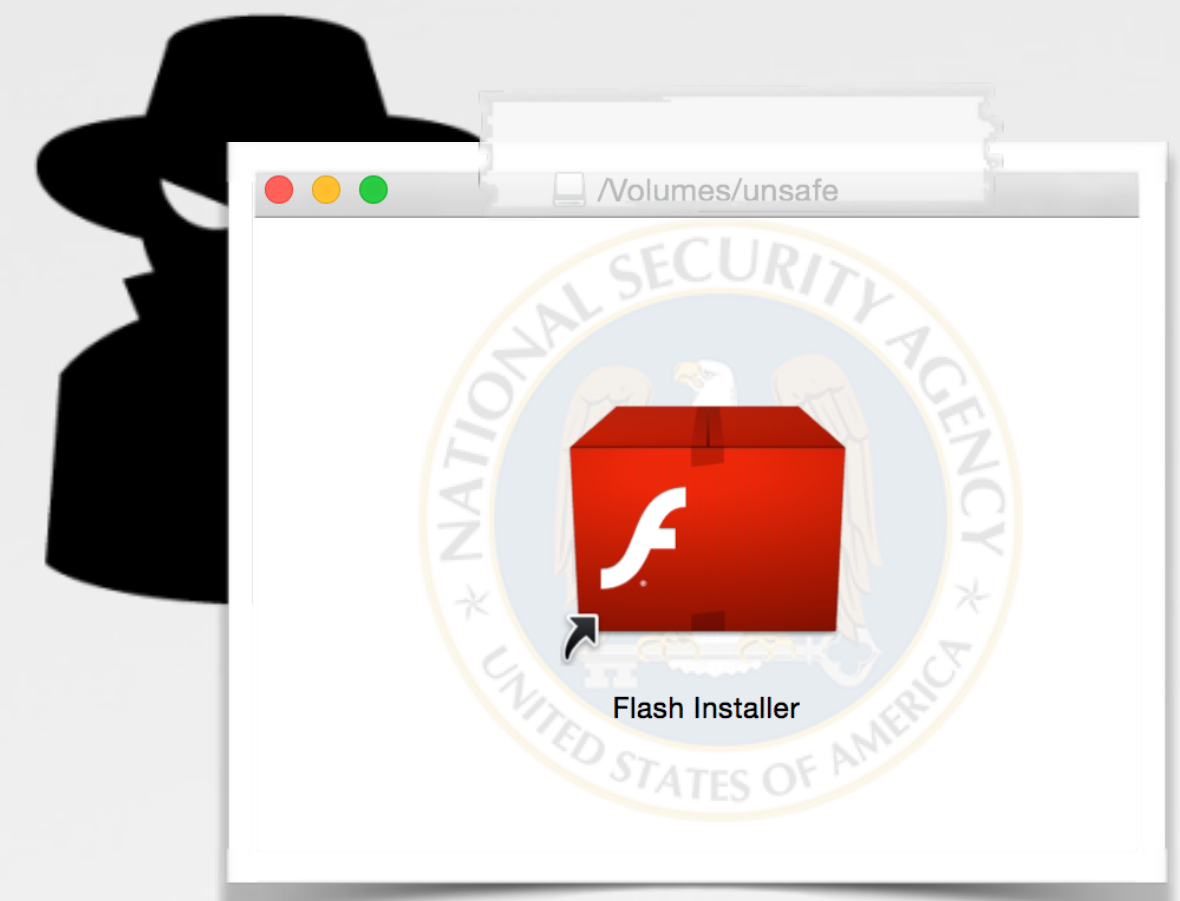


(deployable) malicious .dmg



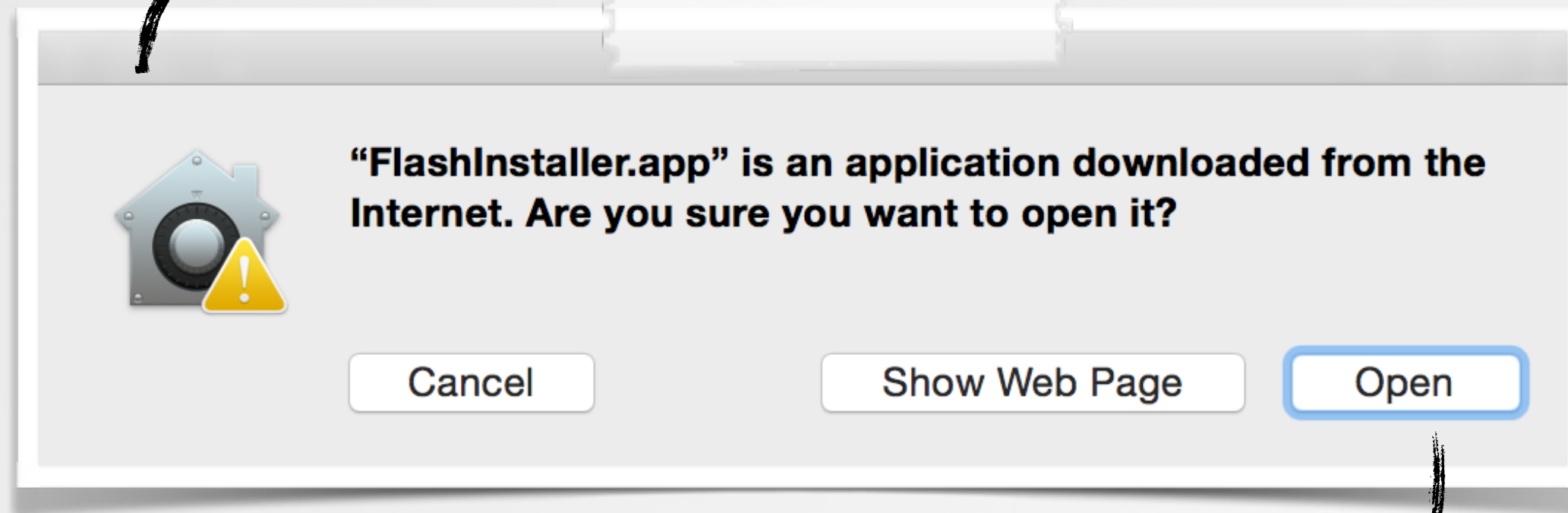
GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x1 (CVE 2015-3715)

3 host online or inject into downloads



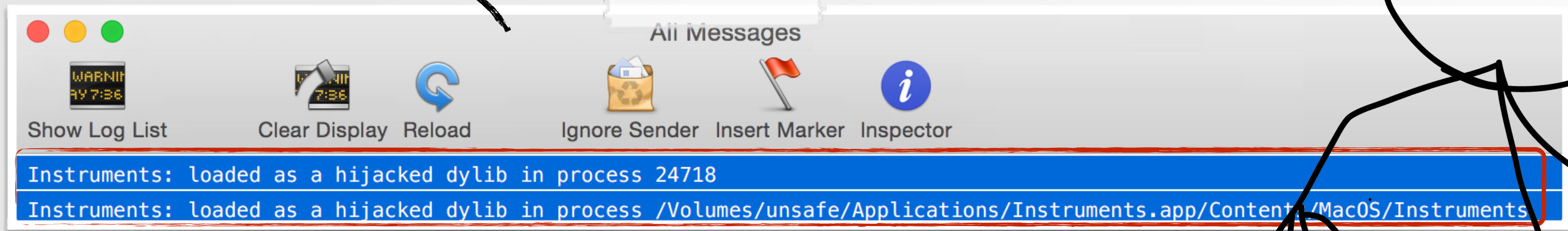
quarantine popup
(anything downloaded)

gatekeeper setting's
(maximum)

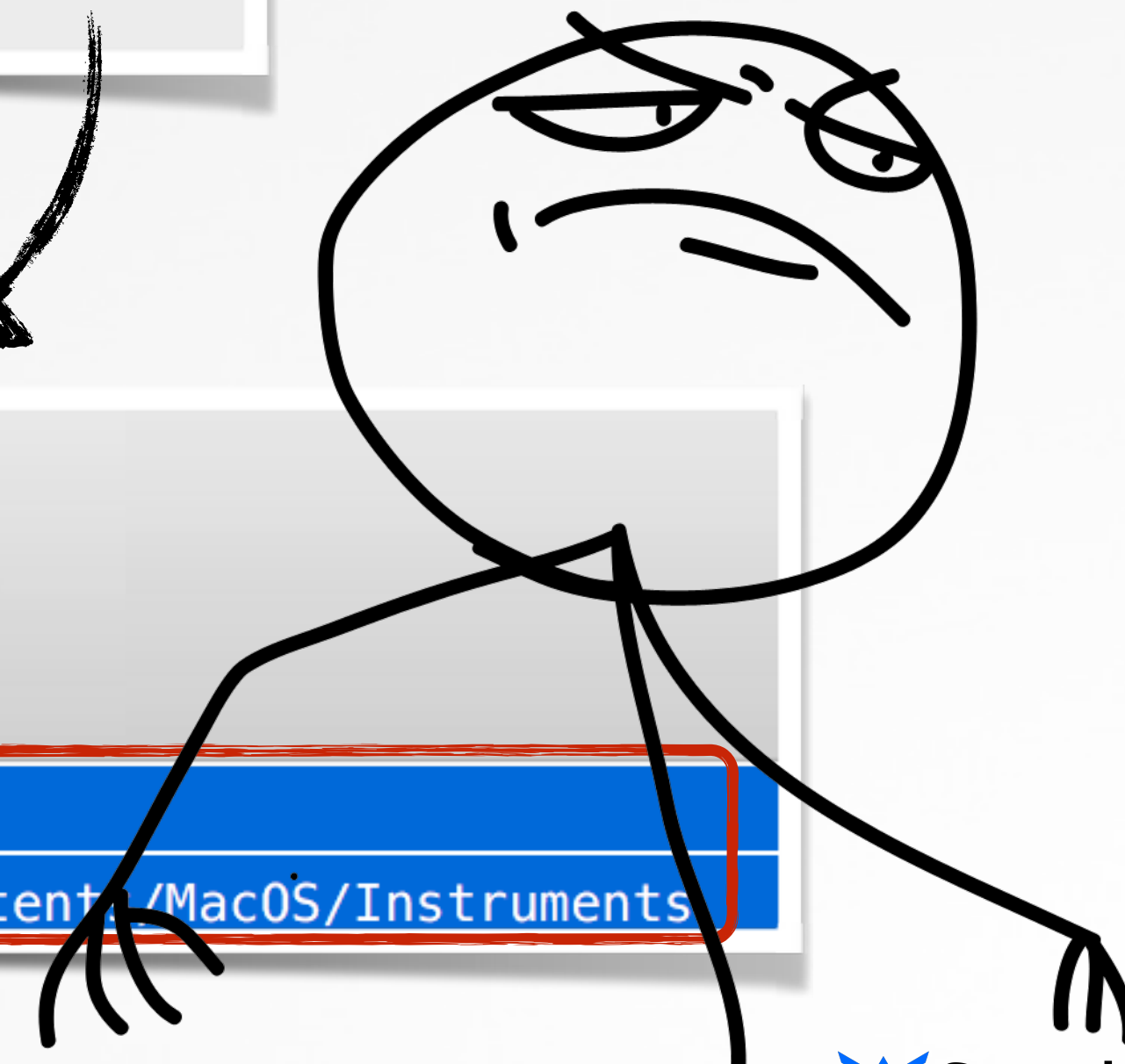


quarantine alert

unsigned (non-Mac App Store)
code execution!!



gatekeeper bypass :)

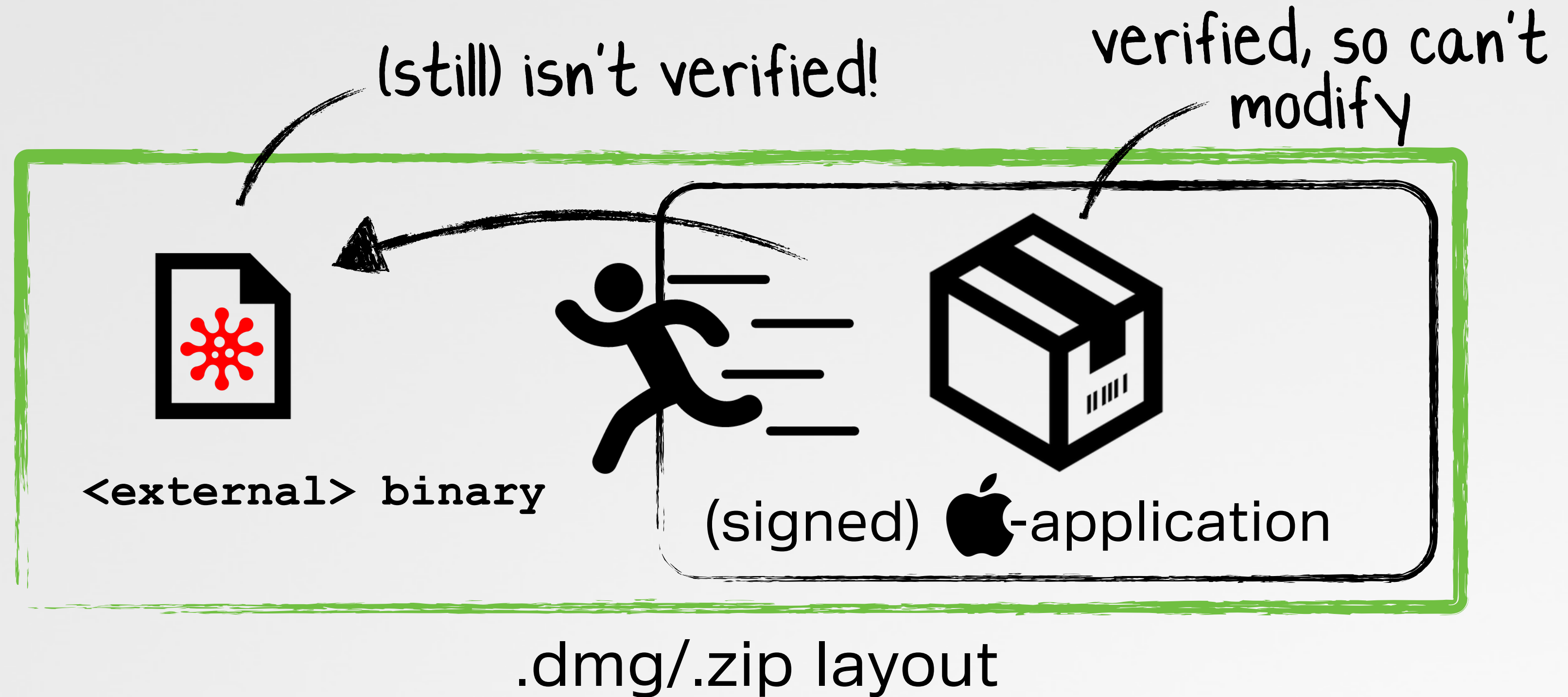


GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x2 (CVE 2015-7024)

runtime shenanigans



gatekeeper only **statically** verifies the app bundle!



1

find any signed app that **at runtime**, executes a '**relatively external**' binary

2

create a .dmg/.zip with the necessary folder structure (i.e. placing the malicious binary in the **externally** referenced location)

3

host online/inject into insecure downloads

GATEKEEPER BYPASS OX2 (CVE 2015-7024)

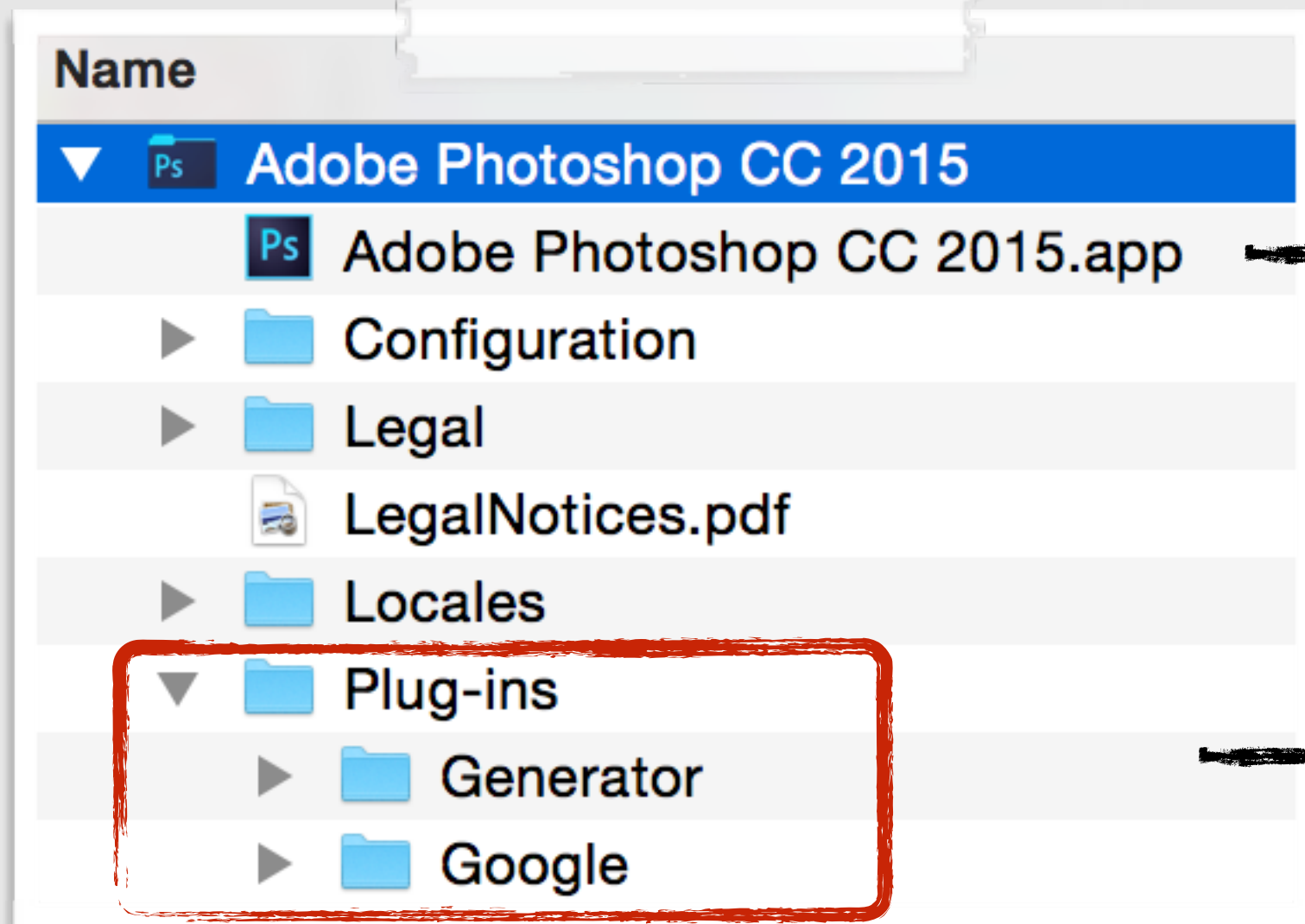
example 1: Adobe (Photoshop, etc)

3rd party plugins, etc.
-> go outside the bundle!



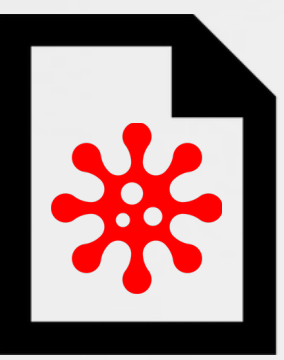
Q: Can I add/modify files in my signed (app) bundle?

A: "This is no longer allowed. If you must modify your bundle, do it before signing. If you modify a signed bundle, you must re-sign it afterwards. Write data into files outside the bundle" -apple.com



Adobe Photoshop


app bundle
validates!


not validated

```
NSString* pluginDir = APPS_DIR + @"../Plug-ins";  
for(NSString* plugins in pluginDir)  
{  
    //load plugin dylib  
    // ->not validated, can unsigned  
}
```

plugin loading pseudo code



GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x2 (CVE 2015-7024)

example 2: Apple (icool)

```
//execute ibtoold
void IExecDirectly()
{
    //build path to ibtool
    ibToolPath = IBCopyServerExecutablePath()

    //exec ibtoold
    execv(ibToolPath, ....)
}

//build path to ibtoold
char* IBCopyServerExecutablePath()
{
    //get full path to self (icool)
    icToolPath = IBCopyExecutablePath()

    //remove file component
    icToolDir = IBCreateDirectoryFromPath(exePath)

    //add 'ibtool'
    ibToolPath = IBCreatePathByAppendingPathComponent(
        icToolDir, "ibtoold")

    return ibToolPath
}
```

icool's pseudo code

```
$ spctl -vat execute Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/icool
Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/icool: accepted
source=Apple System
```

gatekeeper, happy with icool

```
$ xattr -l *
ibtoold: com.apple.quarantine: 0001;55ee3be6;Google\x20Chrome.app
icool: com.apple.quarantine: 0001;55ee3be6;Google\x20Chrome.app

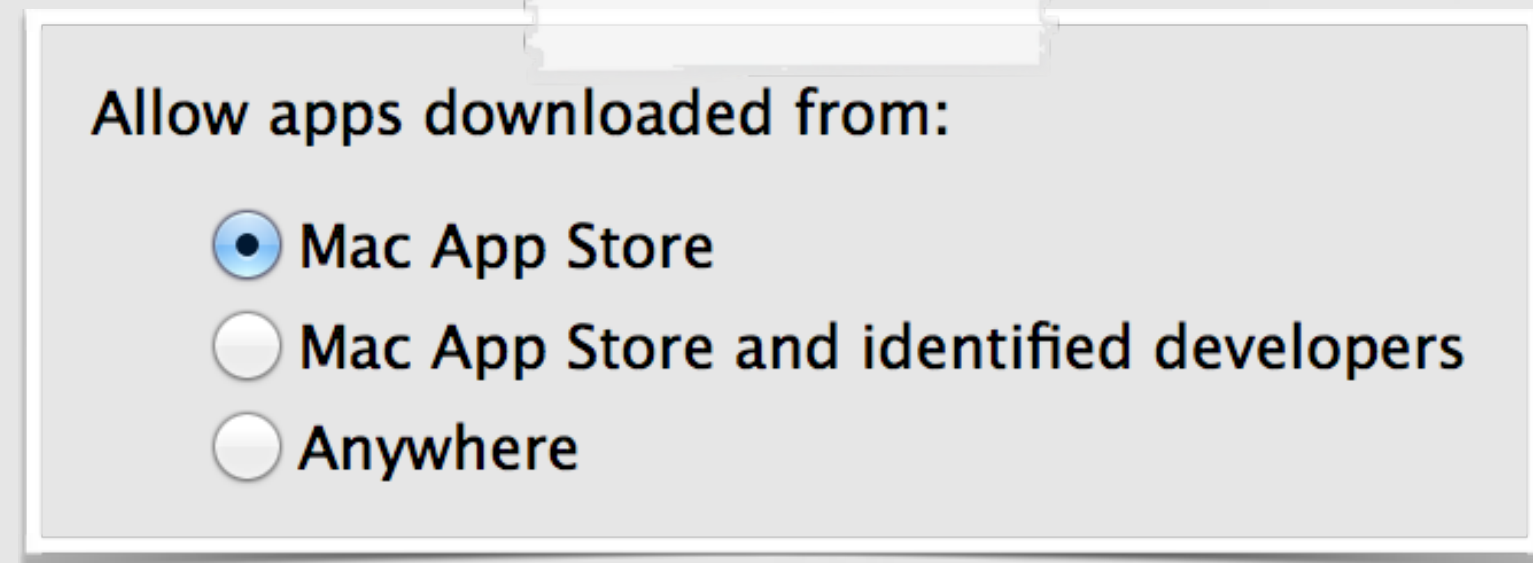
$ codesign -dvv ibtoold
ibtoold: code object is not signed at all
```

...but ibtoold is unsigned



GATEKEEPER BYPASS 0x2 (CVE 2015-7024)

example 2: Apple (`icool`)



gatekeeper setting's (max.)



.dmg setup

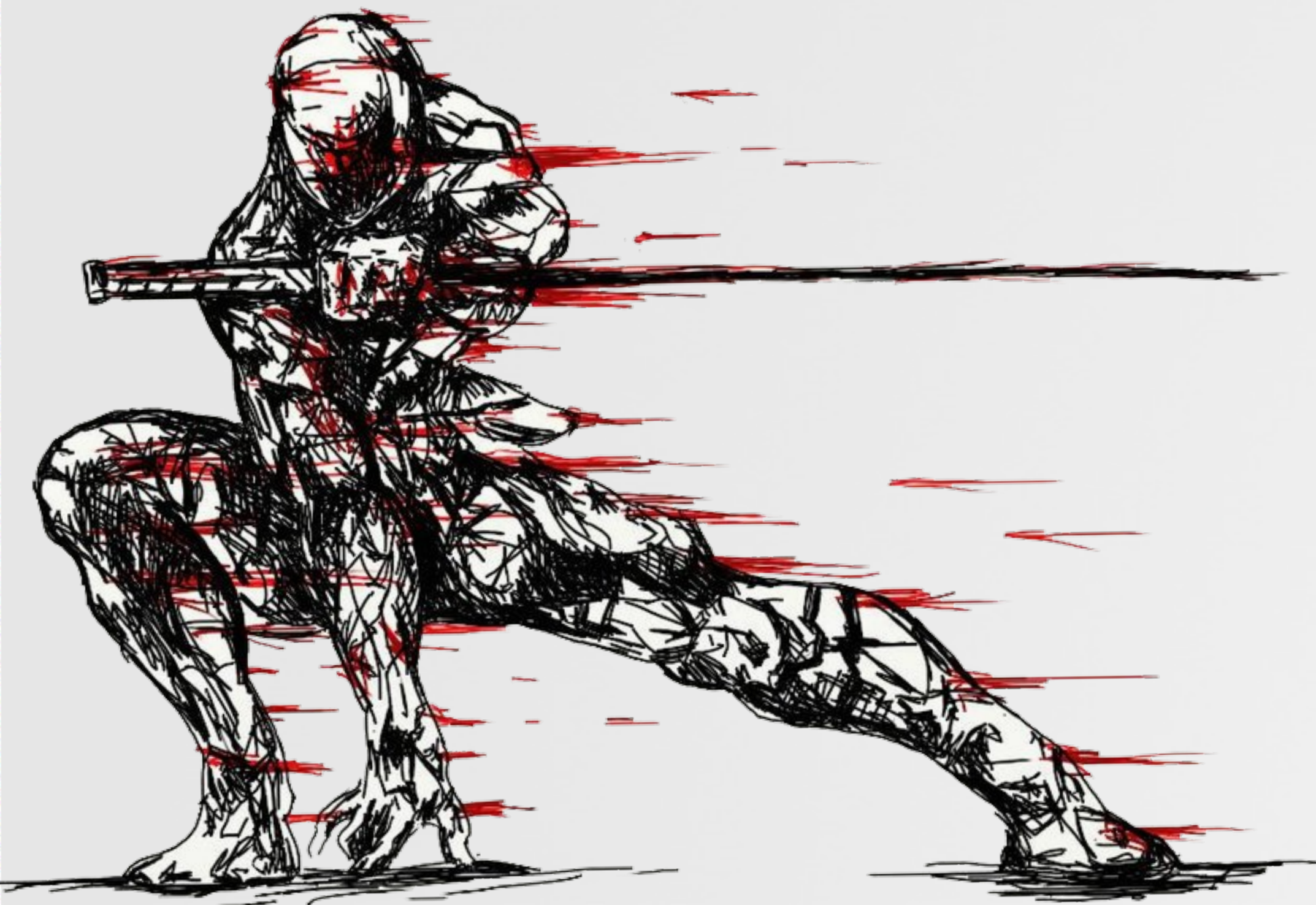
- hide {
- 1** alias to '`update.app`' (`icool`)
...name & icon attacker controlled
 - 2** apple-signed '`update.app`' (`icool`)
.app extension prevents `Terminal.app` popup
 - 3** unsigned `ibtool`
command-line executable
 - 4** unsigned application



unsigned code execution 

FIXING GATEKEEPER

'patches' & runtime validation



PATCHES CVE 2015-3715/2015-7024

both bypasses now "patched"

- Security

Available for: OS X Mountain Lion v10.8.5, OS X Mavericks v10.9.5, OS X Yosemite v10.10 to v10.10.3

Impact: A malicious application may be able to bypass code signing checks

Description: An issue existed where code signing did not verify libraries loaded outside the application bundle. This issue was addressed with improved bundle verification.

CVE-ID

CVE-2015-3715 : Patrick Wardle of Synack

CVE 2015-3715
patched in OS X 10.10.4

- Security

Available for: OS X Mavericks v10.9.5, OS X Yosemite v10.10.5, and OS X El Capitan 10.11

Impact: An Apple-signed binary could be used to load arbitrary files

Description: Certain Apple-signed executables loaded applications from relative locations. This was addressed through additional checks in Gatekeeper.

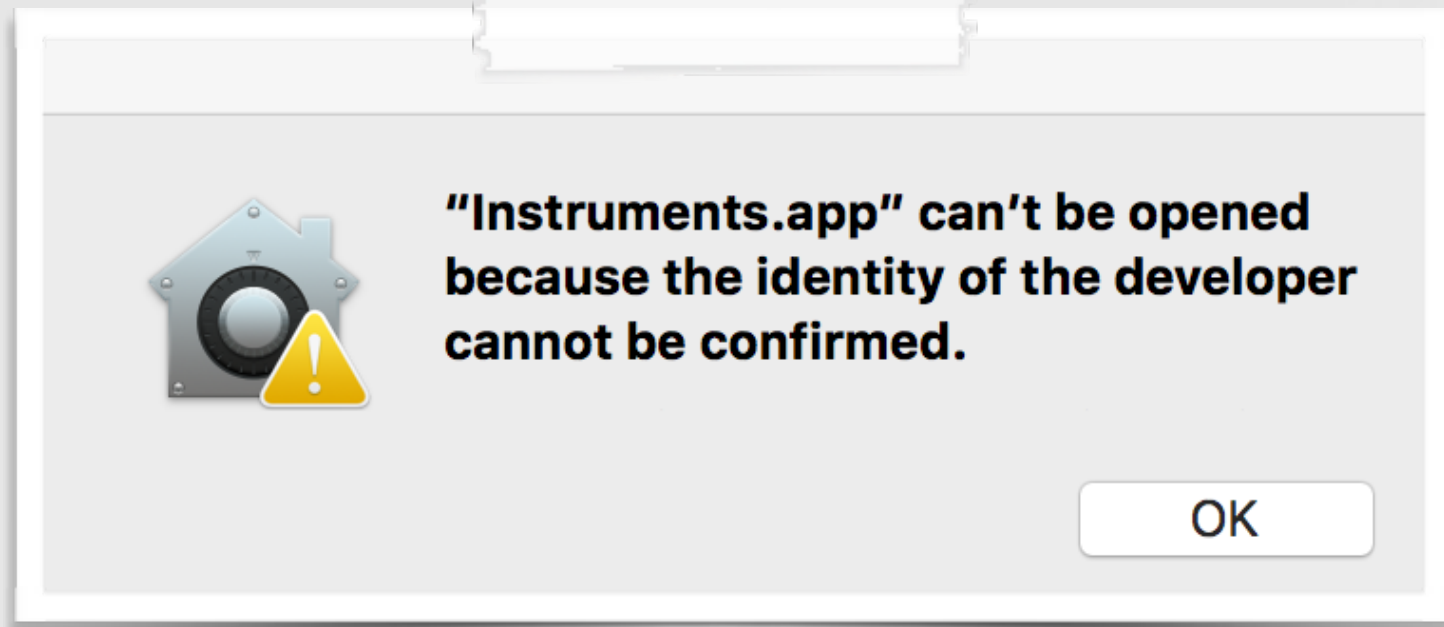
CVE-ID

CVE-2015-7024 : Patrick Wardle of Synack

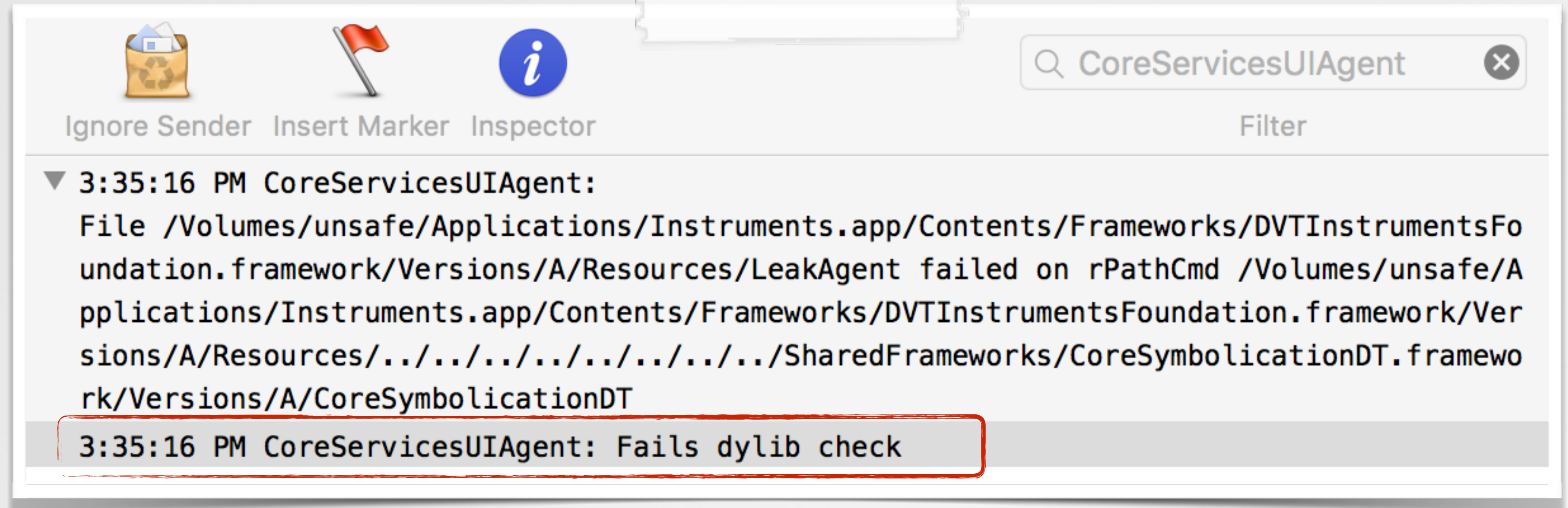
CVE 2015-7024
patched in OS X 10.11.1

PATCHING CVE 2015-3715

external dylibs; verified

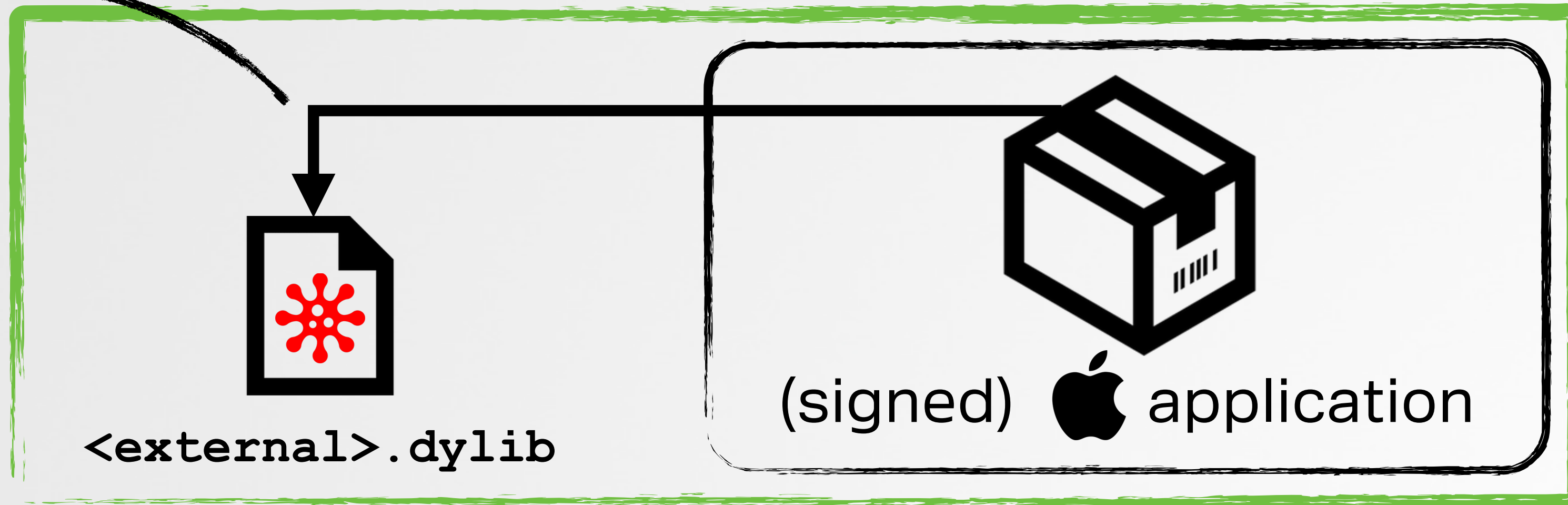
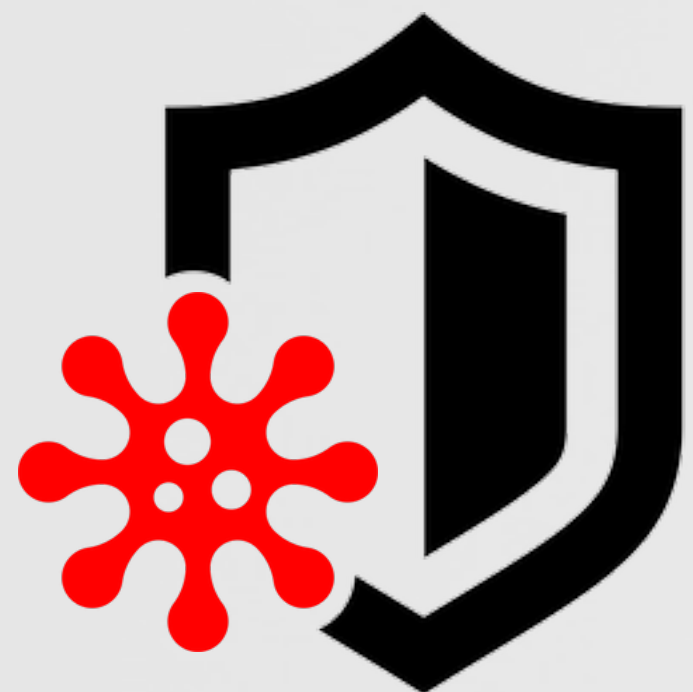


gatekeeper in action



debug messages in syslog

external dylibs,
now verified



malicious .dmg/.zip layout

PATCH FOR CVE 2015-3715

what is this 'dylib check'?

```
mov    rsi, cs:selRef_performDylibBundleCheck_  
mov    rbx, [rbp+WorkerThreadClass]  
mov    rdi, rbx  
mov    rdx, r14 ;path to app  
call   cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr  
test   al, al  
jz     checkFailed
```

```
checkFailed:  
lea    rdi, "Fails dylib check"  
xor    eax, eax  
call   _NSLog
```

error msg in
XProtectFramework

```
if (![WorkerThreadClass performDylibBundleCheck:app])  
{  
    NSLog(@"Fails dylib check");  
}
```

translated to C

- 1 boot into recovery mode via cmd+r
- 2 csrutil disable (from Terminal.app)
- 3 reboot



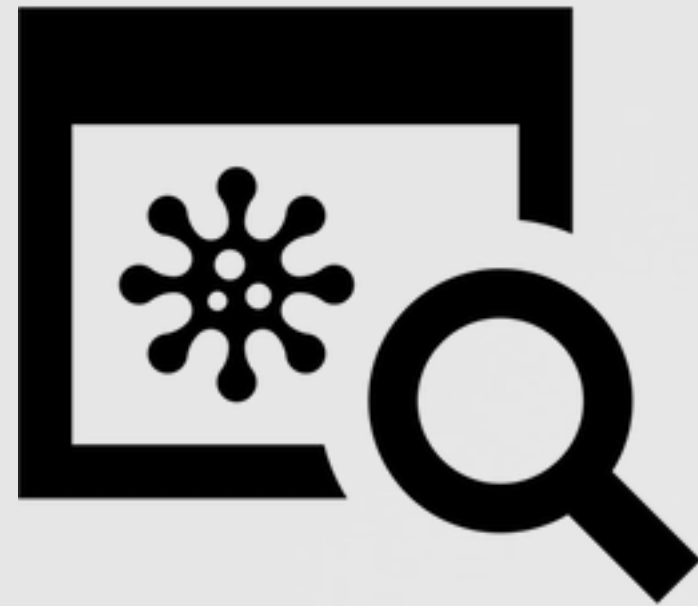
'enable' debugging OS X 10.11

```
(lldb) br s -a 0x0007FFF9A12AA22  
Breakpoint 1: where = XprotectFramework`+[WorkerThreadClass  
threadEntry:] + 4845, address = 0x0007fff9a12aa22  
  
Process 381 stopped  
XprotectFramework`+[WorkerThreadClass threadEntry:] + 4845:  
-> 0x7fff9a12aa22: callq  *%r13  
  
(lldb) po $rdi  
WorkerThreadClass  
  
(lldb) x/s $rsi  
0x7fff9a12cb84: "performDylibBundleCheck:"  
  
(lldb) po $rdx  
file:///Volumes/unsafe/Applications/Instruments.app/
```

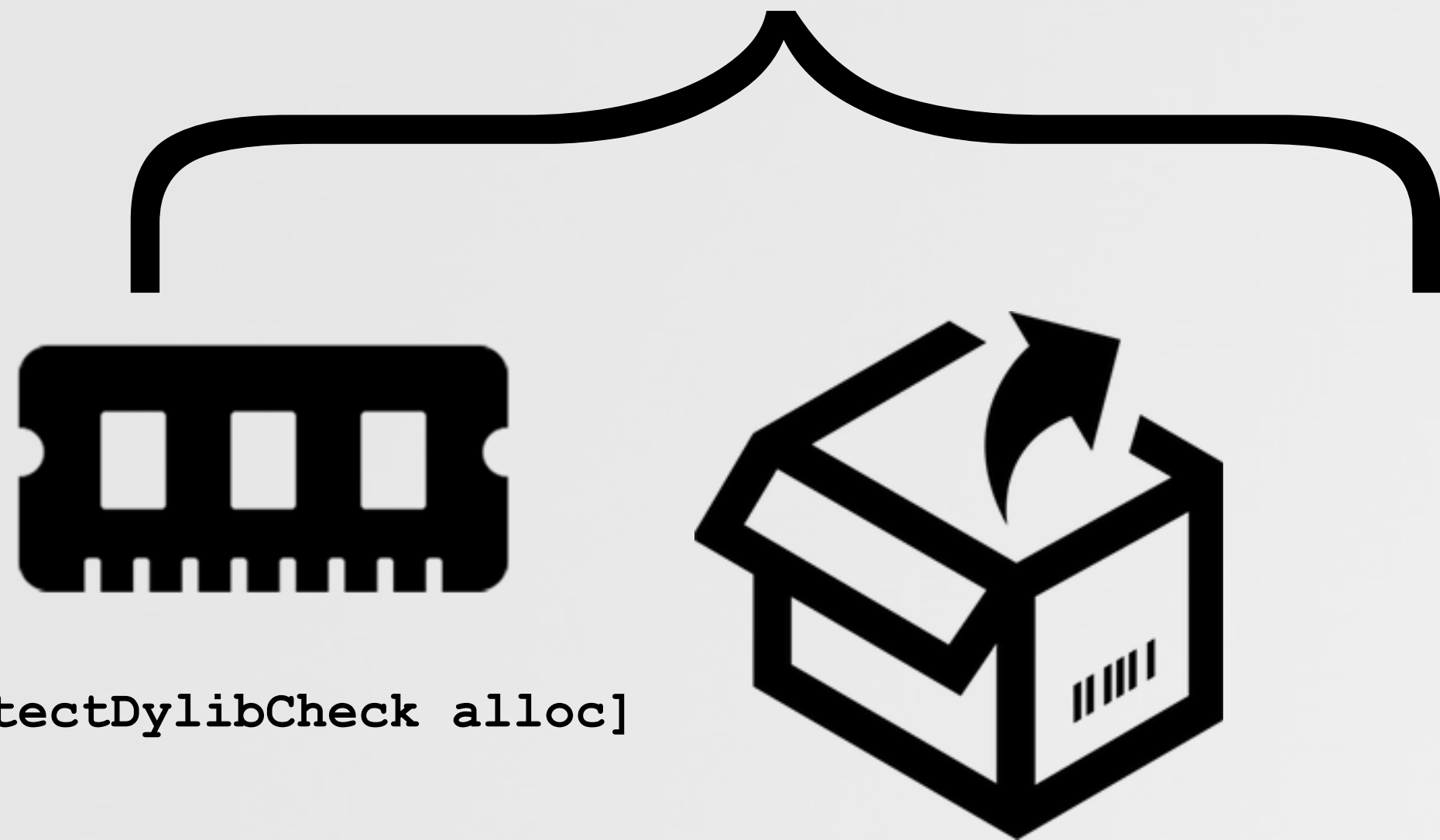
debugging with LLDB

PATCH FOR CVE 2015-3715

overview of `performDylibBundleCheck`:



```
+ [WorkerThreadClass performDylibBundleCheck:]
```



```
+ [XProtectDylibCheck alloc]
```

```
- [XProtectDylibCheck parseMacho]
```

```
- [XProtectDylibCheck checkCommandsWithURL:]
```

```
$ classdump XprotectFramework

@interface XProtectDylibCheck : NSObject
{
    NSString *_absolutePath;
    NSMutableArray *_rPaths;
    NSMutableArray *_loadCommands;
    unsigned long long _numCommands;
    NSURL *_executablePath;
    NSURL *_loaderPath;
    BOOL _isExecutable;
    NSMutableDictionary *_scannedLibraries;
    ....
}

+ (BOOL)path:(id)arg1 isInsideBundle:(id)arg2;
+ (BOOL)path:(id)arg1 isSafeWithBundle:(id)arg2;
+ (id)allowedLibraryPaths;
- (BOOL)parseMacho;
- (id)parseExecutableAndLoaderPaths:(id)arg1;
- (BOOL)parseLoadCommands;
- (id)substituteRpath:(id)arg1;
- (BOOL)checkCommandsWithURL:(id)arg1;
....
```

XProtectDylibCheck class

PATCH FOR CVE 2015-3715

dylib location verification(s)

scans all statically linked dylibs

```
-[XProtectDylibCheck checkCommandsWithBundleURL:]
```

```
mov    rdi, r12
mov    rsi, cs:selRef_path_isSafeWithBundle_
mov    rdx, r15
mov    rcx, rax
call   rbx
test   al, al
jz     unsafeDylib
```



allows if dylib falls in an **'allowLibraryPath'**

```
(lldb) po $rax
<__NSArrayI 0x7f89ca4ed960>(
  /usr/,
  /opt,
  /System/,
  /Library/,
  /Network/,
  /AppleInternal/,
  /Developer,
  /build
)
```

allowed library paths

invoking `path:isSafeWithBundle:`



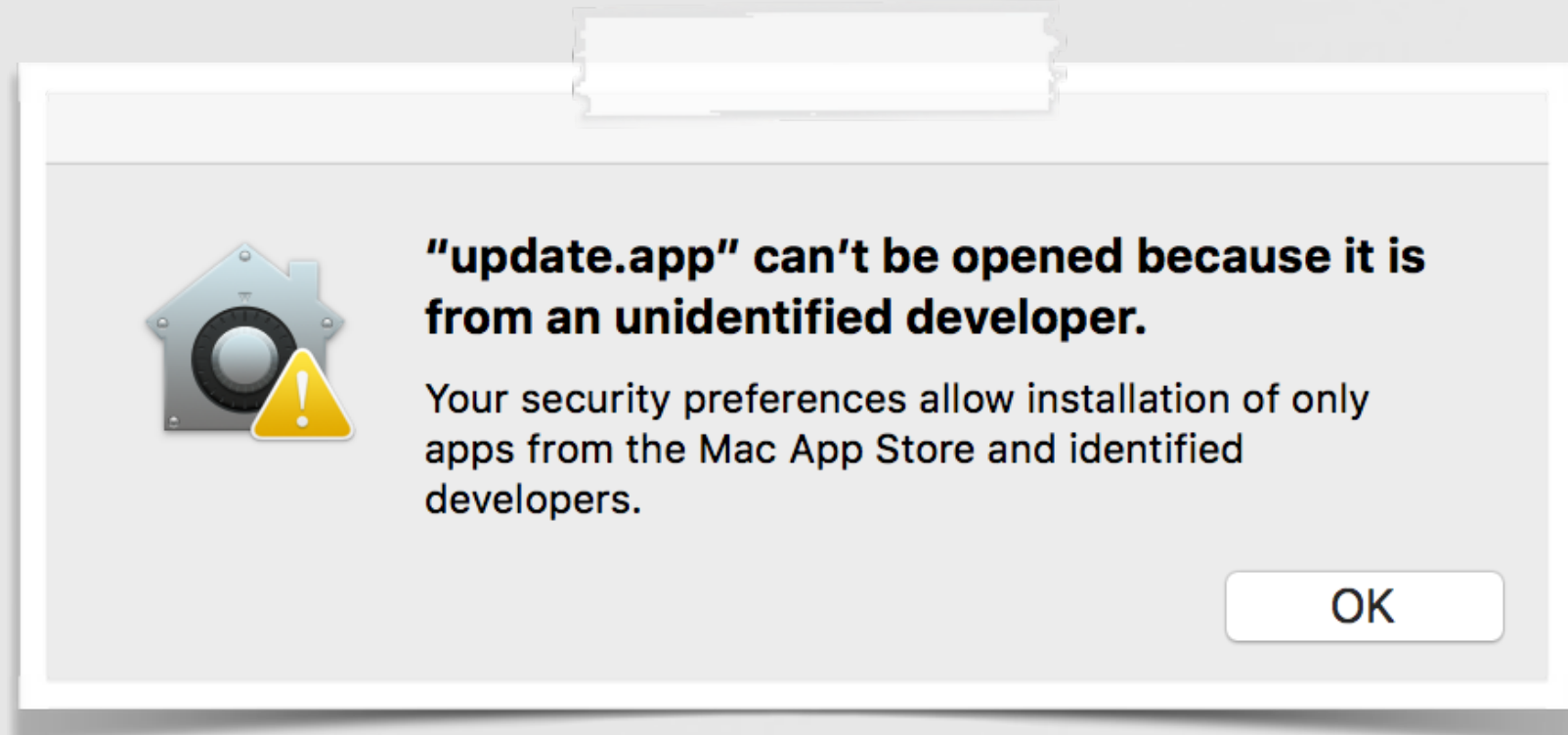
allows if dylib falls within the (verified) application bundle

```
if(YES != [dylib hasPrefix:appBundle])
{
    //NOT SAFE!
}
```

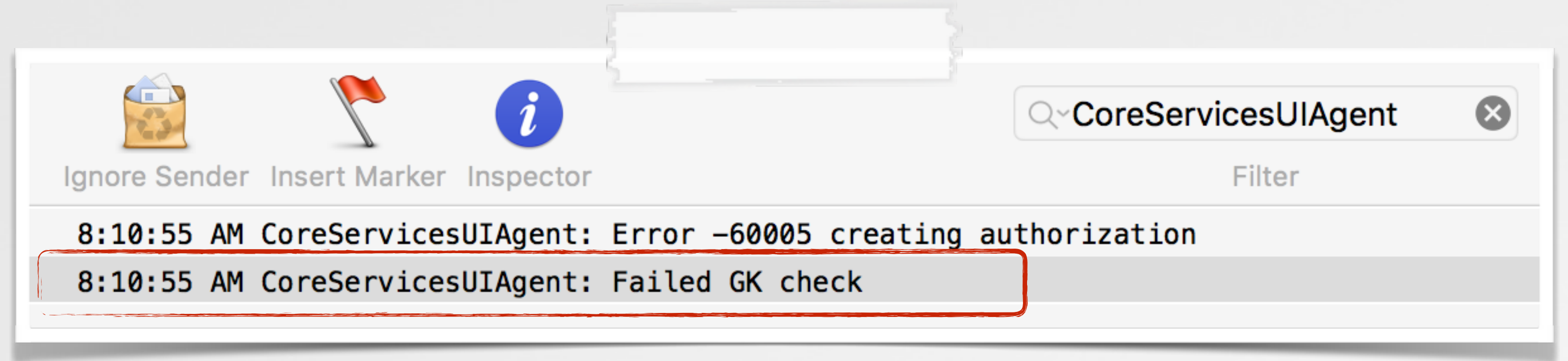
dylib inside app bundle?

PATCHING CVE 2015-7024

external binaries; verified?

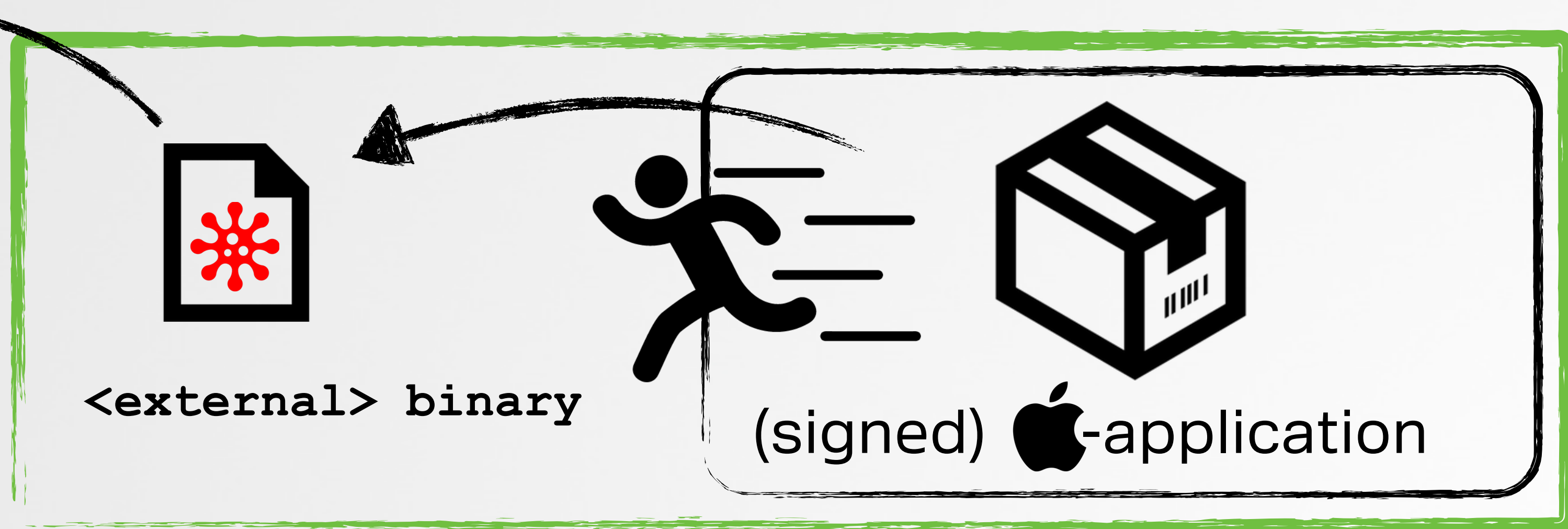
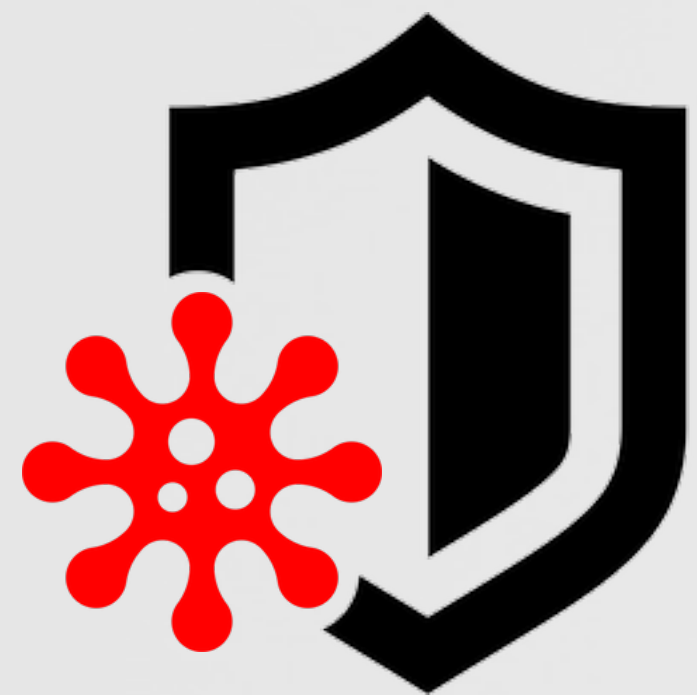


gatekeeper in action



debug messages in syslog

external binaries,
now verified



.dmg/.zip layout

PATCH FOR CVE 2015-7024

what is this 'Failed GK check'?

```
mov     rsi, cs:selRef_performBlockListCheck_blockDict_  
mov     rbx, [rbp+WorkerThreadClass]  
mov     rdi, rbx  
mov     rdx, r14  
mov     rcx, rax  
call    cs:_objc_msgSend_ptr  
test    al, al  
jz      short checkFailed
```

```
checkFailed:  
lea     rdi, "Failed GK check"  
xor     eax, eax  
call    _NSLog
```

error msg in
XProtectFramework

```
if (! [WorkerThreadClass  
performBlockListCheck:app blockDict:blockedSigs])  
{  
    NSLog(@"Failed GK check");  
}
```

translated to C

```
(lldb) br s -a 00007FFF9A12A9FE
```

```
Breakpoint 1: where = XprotectFramework`+[WorkerThreadClass  
threadEntry:] + 4809, address = 0x00007fff9a12a9fe
```

```
Process 381 stopped
```

```
XprotectFramework`+[WorkerThreadClass threadEntry:] + 4809:  
-> 0x00007fff9a12a9fe: callq  *%r13
```

```
(lldb) po $rdi
```

```
WorkerThreadClass
```

```
(lldb) x/s $rsi
```

```
0x7fff9a12cb63: "performBlockListCheck:blockDict:"
```

```
(lldb) po $rdx
```

```
file:///Volumes/unsafe/update.app
```

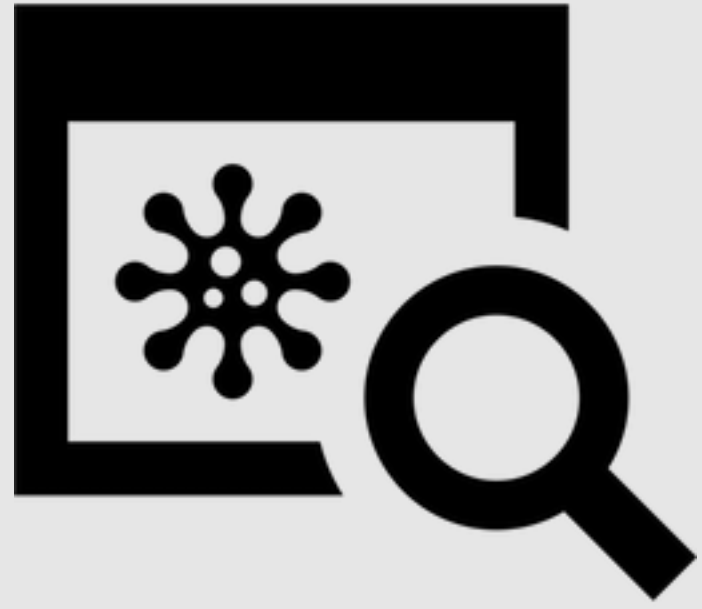
```
(lldb) po $rcx
```

```
{  
    CodeSignatureIDs = (  
        "com.apple.a2p",  
        "com.apple.ibtool",  
        "com.apple.pythonw",  
        "com.apple.python",  
        "com.apple.ictool"  
    );  
}
```

debugging with LLDB

PATCH FOR CVE 2015-7024

`performBlockListCheck: blockDict:`



takes app & black-listed IDs

```
+ [WorkerThreadClass performBlockListCheck: blockDict:]
```



```
- [blackListedID isEqualToString:appID]
```

```
SecStaticCodeCreateWithPath() &  
SecCodeCopySigningInformation()
```

```
(lldb) po <app's code signing info>  
{  
  "digest-algorithm" = 1;  
  identifier = "com.apple.ictool";  
  "main-executable" =  
    "file:///Volumes/unsafe/update.app";  
  ...  
}  
(lldb) po <block dictionary>  
CodeSignatureIDs = (  
  "com.apple.a2p",  
  "com.apple.ibtool",  
  "com.apple.pythonw",  
  "com.apple.python",  
  "com.apple.ictool"  
);
```

debugging

```
appID = //get app's id from code signing blob  
  
//check if app's ID matches any black listed ones  
for(blackListedID in blockDict)  
{  
  if(YES == [blackListedID isEqualToString:appID])  
    //black-listed! GTFO  
}  
}
```

in pseudo code

PATCH(S) SUMMARY

are OS X users' now protected? hint: **NO**



2015-3715
(external dylib hijack)

scan for external dylibs

- effective patch
- only blocks specific vector

2015-7024
(run-time exec's)

blacklist binaries

- ineffective patch



neither generically blocks the execution of unsigned internet code

BYPASSING CVE 2015-7024

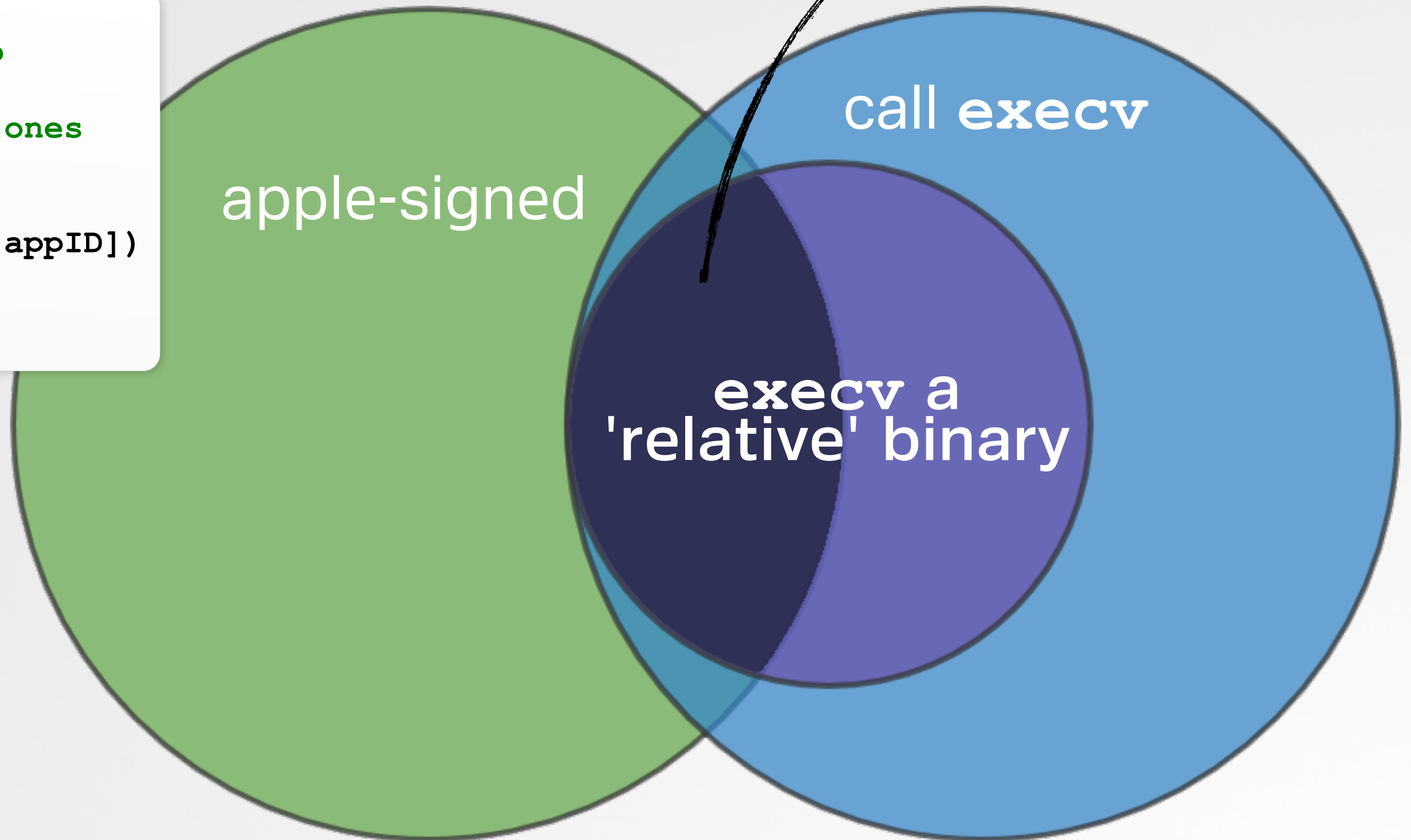
...with ease

```
appID = //get app's id from code signing blob

//check if app's ID matches any black listed ones
for(blackListedID in blockDict)
{
    if(YES == [blackListedID isEqualToString:appID])
        //black-listed! GTFO
}
```

"patch"

- 1 apple-signed binaries
- +
- 2 that calls `execv`
- +
- 3 on a 'relative' binary



gatekeeper bypass :)



"Wardle said he suspects there are other Apple-trusted binaries ...that will also allow attackers to bypass Gatekeeper." (summer 2015)

BYPASSING CVE 2015-7024

finding moar binaries to abuse

```
def scan(rootDir):  
  
    #dbg msg  
    print 'scanning %s' % rootDir  
  
    #enum bins  
    #->signed by apple proper  
    appleBins = enumBinaries(rootDir)  
  
    #check imports  
    #->looking for execv/etc  
    candidateBins = checkImports(appleBins)  
  
    #dbg  
    print candidateBins
```

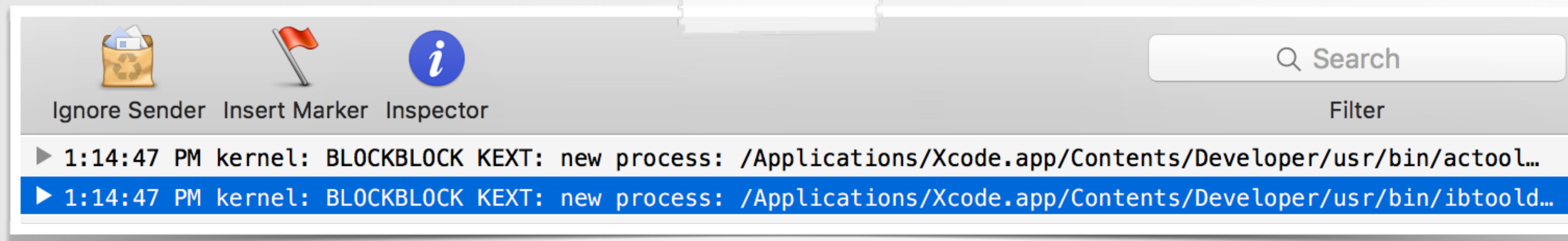
scan.py

```
$ python scan.py /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/  
scanning /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/  
['/Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/actool',  
 '/Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/atos', ... ]
```

scanner output

```
$ sudo fs_usage -w -f filesystem | grep -i actool  
  
getattrlist /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/actool  
stat64 /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/ibtool
```

file i/o for actool



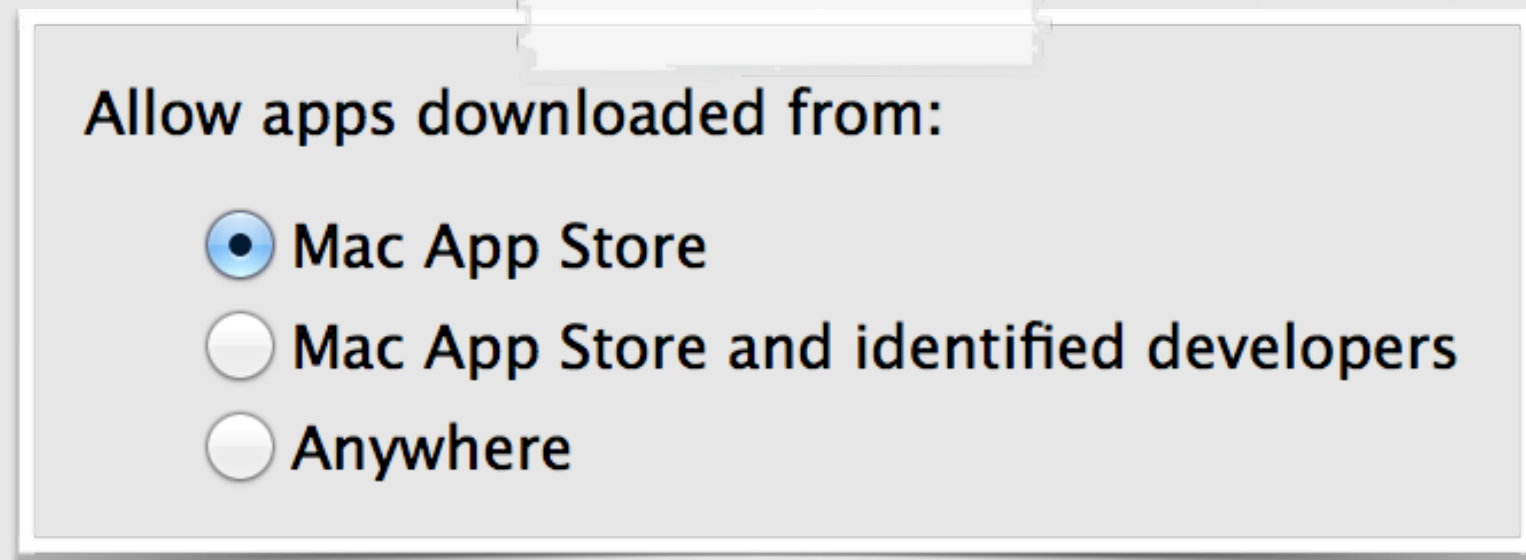
The screenshot shows a monitoring tool interface with a search bar and a list of events. The events are:

- Ignore Sender
- Insert Marker
- Inspector
- 1:14:47 PM kernel: BLOCKBLOCK KEXT: new process: /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/actool...
- 1:14:47 PM kernel: BLOCKBLOCK KEXT: new process: /Applications/Xcode.app/Contents/Developer/usr/bin/ibtool...

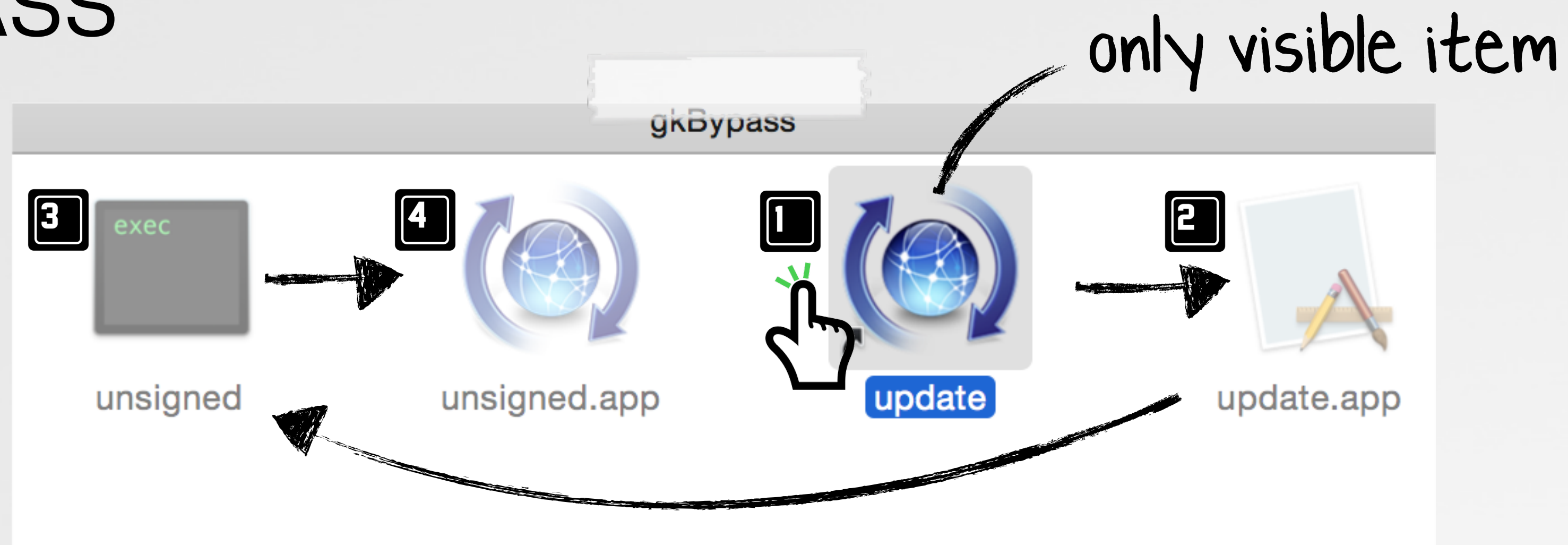
'process monitoring' actool

CVE 2015-7024 BYPASS

replace `icool` with `actool`



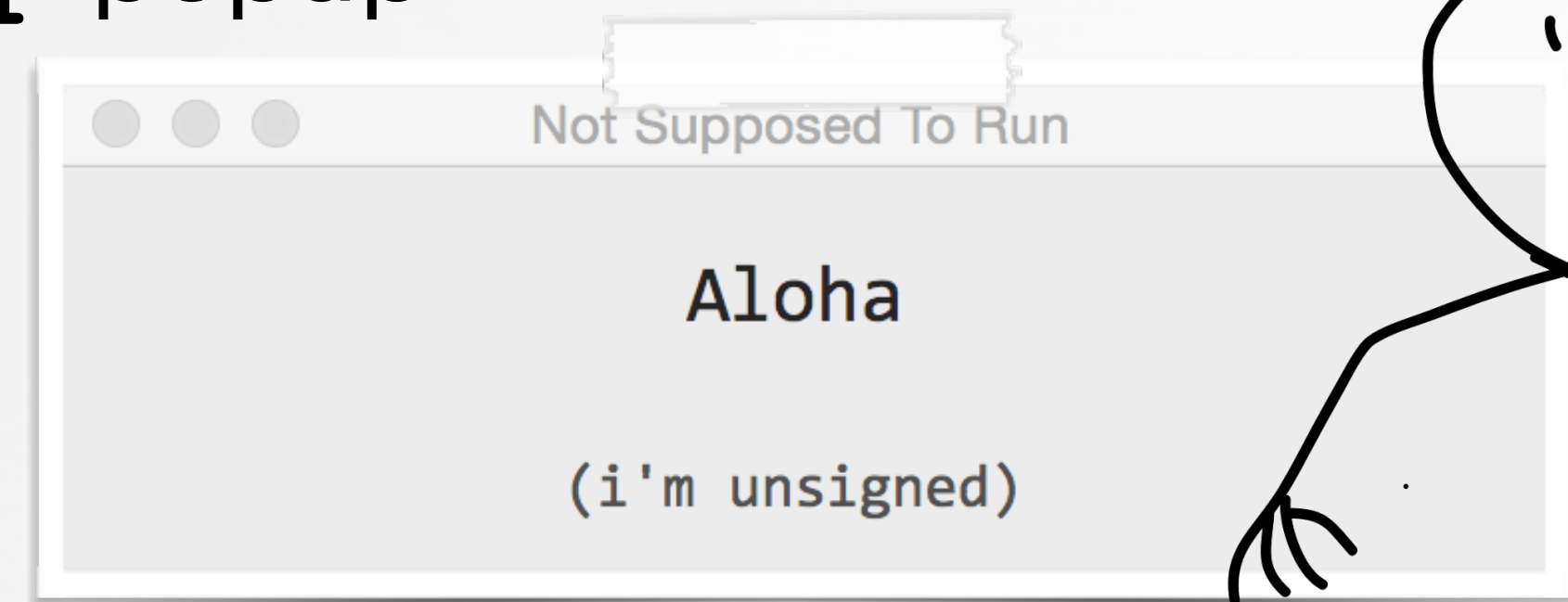
gatekeeper setting's (max.)



.dmg setup

- 1** alias to 'update.app' (~~icool~~)
...name & icon attacker controlled `actool`
- 2** apple-signed 'update.app' (~~icool~~)
.app extension prevents `Terminal.app` popup
- 3** unsigned `ibtool`
command-line executable
- 4** unsigned application

hide



unsigned code execution 

CVE 2015-7024 BYPASS

The image shows a Mac OS X El Capitan desktop environment. The top menu bar includes Safari, File, Edit, View, History, Bookmarks, Window, and Help. The system status bar on the right shows the time as Tue 9:57 AM. The desktop background is a scenic view of a mountain peak.

Several windows are open:

- OS X El Capitan** (Version 10.11.2)
- Security & Privacy** window, showing the 'General' tab. It displays a message: "A login password has been set for this user" with a "Change Password..." button. Below this, there are checkboxes for "Require password" (set to "immediately"), "Show a message when the screen is locked" (with a "Set Lock Message..." button), and "Disable automatic login". At the bottom, there are radio buttons for "Allow apps downloaded from:" with options: "Mac App Store", "Mac App Store and identified developers" (selected), and "Anywhere".
- KnockKnock (UI)** application window. It features a "Start Scan" button and a list of system components being scanned. The components and their counts are: Authorization Plugins (0), Browser Extensions (0), Cron Jobs (0), Kernel Extensions (2), Launch Items (4), Library Inserts (0), Login Items (0), Login/Logout Hooks (0), and Spotlight Importers (1). On the right side, there is a table of scan results for specific files:

File Path	Progress	Info	Show
/usr/libexec/postfix/check-aliases.sh	0/54	virustotal info	show
/System/Library/LaunchDaemons/org.postfix.newaliases.plist			
/Library/Application Support/VMware Tools/vmware-tools-daemon	0/57	virustotal info	show
/Library/LaunchDaemons/com.vmware.launchd.tools.plist			
/Library/Application Support/Adobe/00BE/PDApp/UWA/UpdaterStartupUtility	0/57	virustotal info	show
/Library/LaunchAgents/com.adobe.AAM.Updater-1.0.plist			
/Library/Application Support/VMware Tools/vmware-tools-daemon	0/57	virustotal info	show
/Library/LaunchAgents/com.vmware.launchd.vmware-tools-userd.plist			

- Terminal** window showing the command: `ps aux | grep -i [j]ava`. The output is empty, indicating that no Java processes are running.

The dock at the bottom contains icons for various applications: Safari, Spotlight, Launchpad, Mail, Calendar, Photos, Messages, Music, Books, App Store, System Preferences, a custom icon, a terminal window, a magnifying glass, a document, and the Trash.

LEVERAGING OS-LEVEL MITIGATIONS?

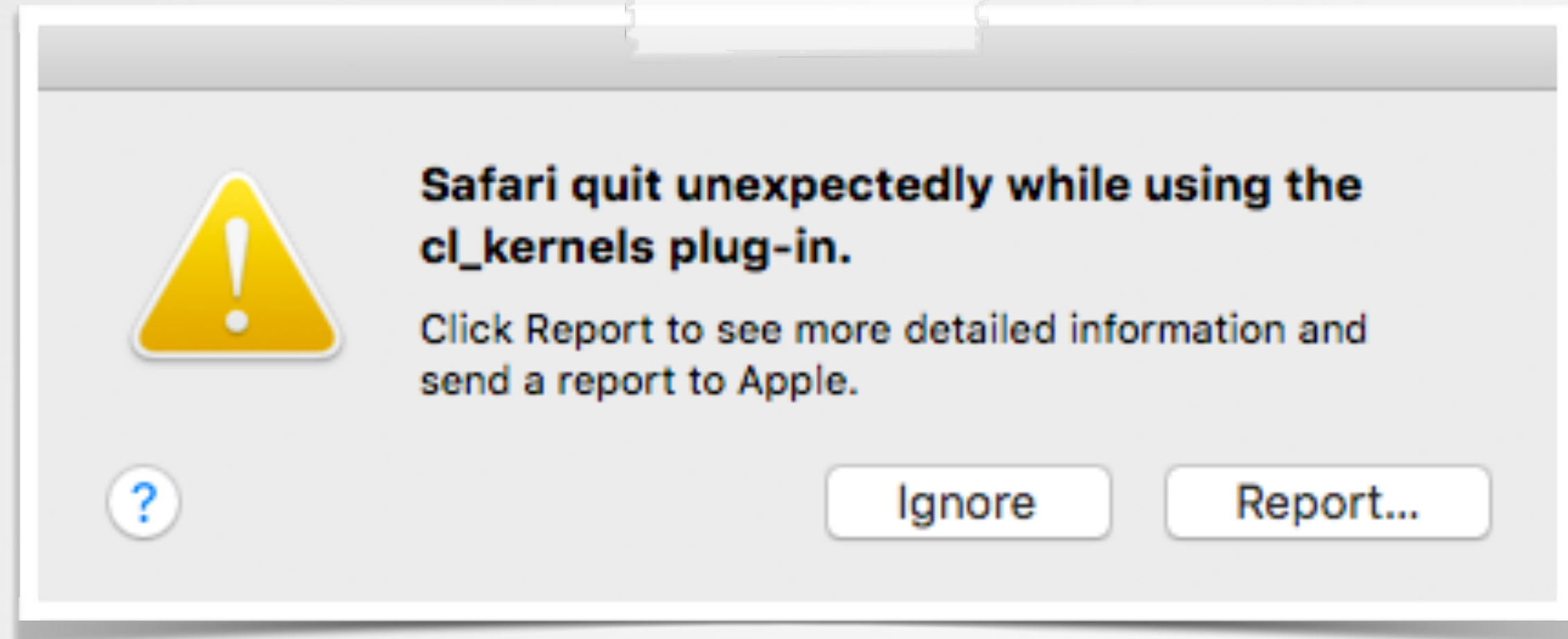
"A kernel extension to mitigate Gatekeeper bypasses"



"[*sysctl*] allows processes with appropriate privilege to set kernel state" -apple.com

```
$ sysctl vm | grep cs_
vm.cs_force_kill: 0
vm.cs_force_hard: 0
vm.cs_all_vnodes: 0
vm.cs_enforcement: 0
....
```

code-signing *sysctl* variables



lots of OS issues

"require enforcement"

```
$ sudo sysctl -w vm.cs_enforcement=1
vm.cs_enforcement:0 -> 1
```

enabling code-signing enforcement



"Code Signing-Hashed Out"
J. Levin

GATEKEEPER

"A kernel extension to mitigate Gatekeeper bypasses"

MAC hook (on mmap)

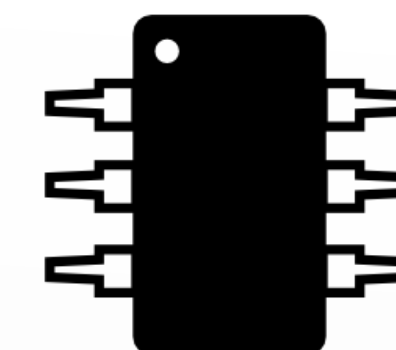


```
int mpo_file_check_mmap_t(...)
{
    ...

    //determine if main binary is signed
    is_main_signed = ((csproc_get_teamid_t*)(void*)(cloned_csproc_get_teamid))(p);

    //determine if mapped section is signed
    is_mapped_signed = ((csfg_get_platform_binary_t*)cloned_csfg_get_platform_binary)(fg);

    //block unsigned dylibs in signed app/binary
    if(is_mapped_signed == 0 && is_main_signed == 1)
    {
        //GTFO!
    }
}
```



Pedro Vilaça

 @osxreverser

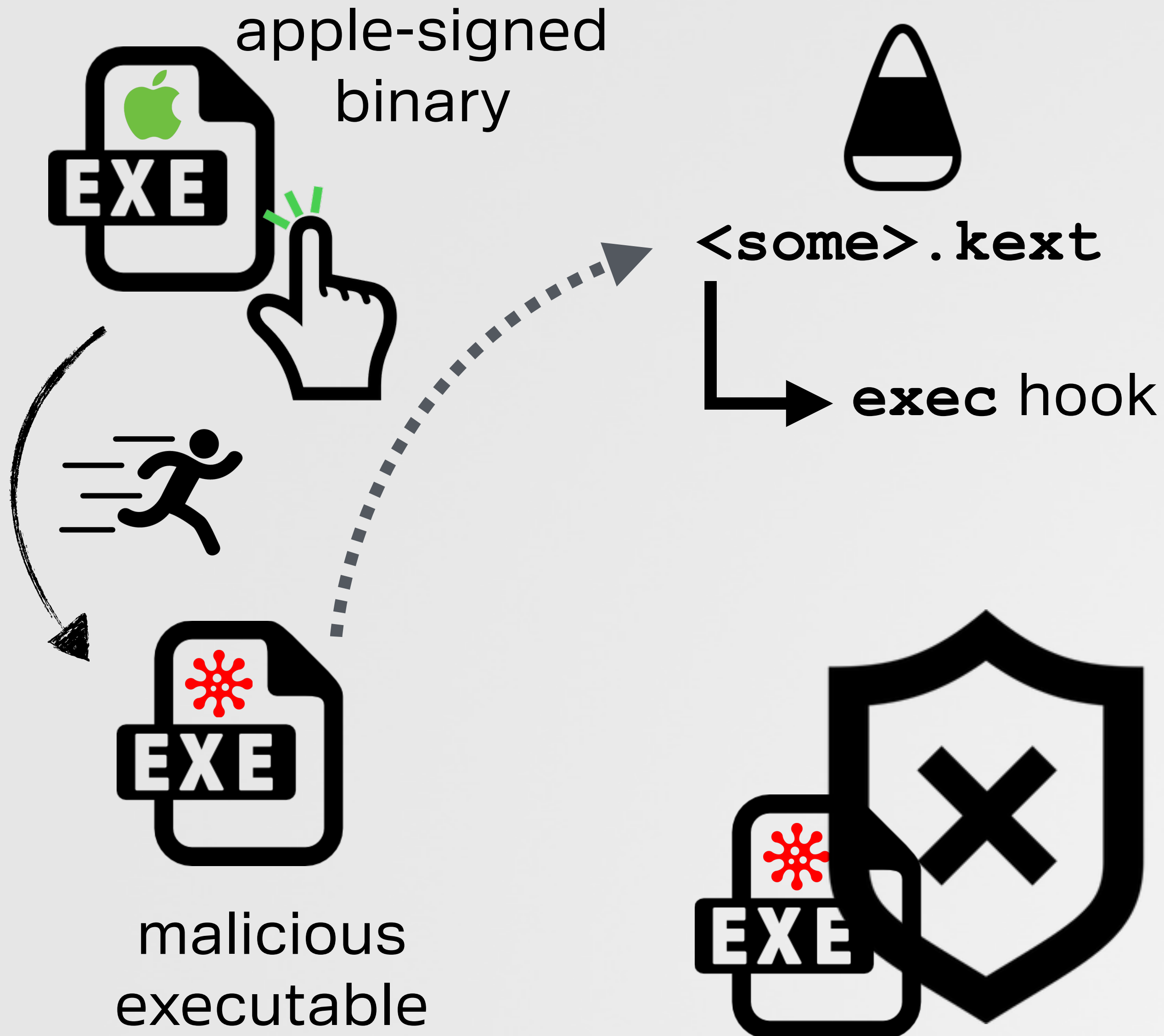
gatekeeper kext
(github.com/gdbinit/Gatekeeper)



blocks unsigned dylibs, but not unsigned (stand-alone) binaries from the internet

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

block unsigned binaries from the internet



"block unsigned, non-approved internet binaries"

- 1 does binary have quarantine attributes?
- +
- 2 is binary not previously user-approved?
- +
- 3 is binary is unsigned?

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 0: register exec hook



Apple's "Kernel Authorization (KAuth) Subsystem"



"Monitoring Process Creation via the Kernel (Part II)"

objective-see.com/blog/blog_0x0A.html



user-mode

kauth subsystem

kernel-mode

scope*

listener 1

listener 1

listener 1

auth decision



or



*KAUTH_SCOPE_FILEOP, KAUTH_SCOPE_VNODE, etc

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 0: register exec hook

```
//kauth listener  
kauth_listener_t kauthListener = NULL;
```

```
//register listener ('KAUTH_SCOPE_FILEOP')  
kauthListener = kauth_listen_scope(KAUTH_SCOPE_FILEOP, &processExec, NULL);
```

register **KAUTH_SCOPE_FILEOP** listener

```
//kauth callback  
static int processExec(kauth_cred_t credential, void* idata, kauth_action_t action, uintptr_t arg0, uintptr_t arg1, uintptr_t arg2, uintptr_t arg3)  
{  
    //return var, default to defer  
    int kauthResult = KAUTH_RESULT_DEFER;  
  
    //ignore all non exec events  
    if(KAUTH_FILEOP_EXEC != action)  
    {  
        //bail  
        goto bail;  
    }  
  
    //get path  
    vn_getpath((vnode_t)arg0, path, &pathLength);  
  
    //dbg msg  
    DEBUG_PRINT(("OSTIARIUS: new process: %s %d\n", path, proc_selfpid()));  
}
```

kauth listener

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 1: ignore 'non-internet' binaries (NULL quarantine attributes)

```
hook_vnode_check_exec  
call    _quarantine_get_flags
```

```
_quarantine_get_flags  
call    quarantine_getinfo
```

```
quarantine_getinfo
```

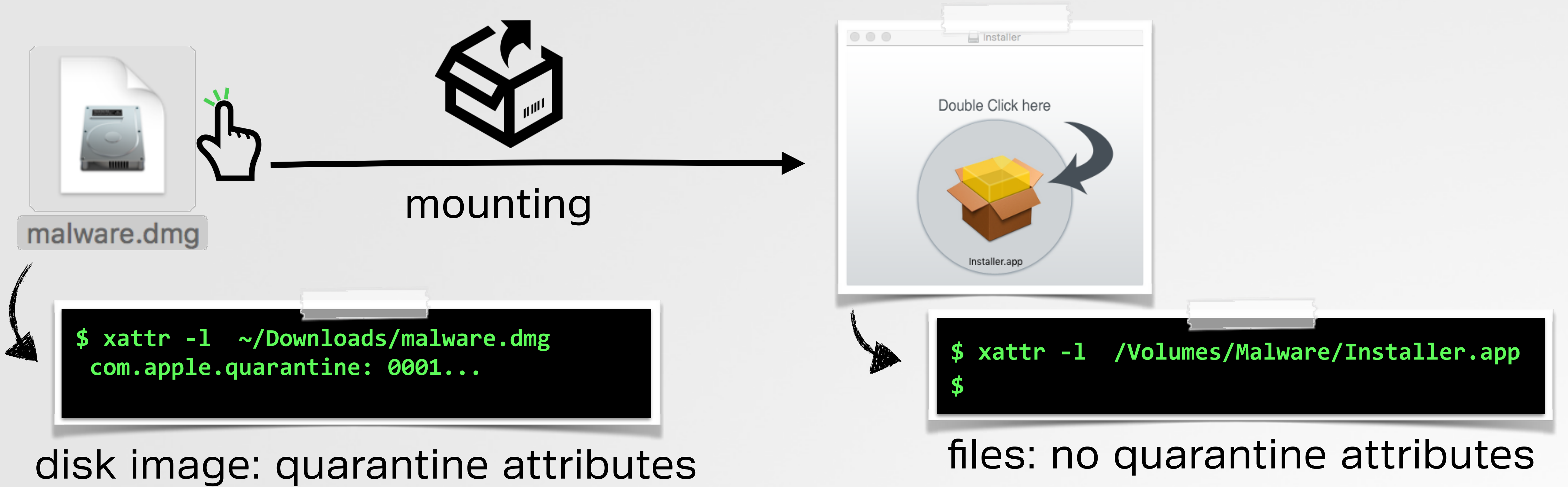
```
lea    rsi, "com.apple.quarantine"  
lea    r8, [rbp+qAttrsSize]  
mov    rdi, r14  
mov    rdx, [rbp+qAttrs]  
mov    rcx, r15  
call   _mac_vnop_getxattr
```

Quarantine.kext

```
//get quarantine attributes  
// ->if this 'fails', simply means binary doesn't have quarantine attributes (i.e. not from the internet)  
if(0 != mac_vnop_getxattr((vnode_t)arg0, QFLAGS_STRING_ID, qAttr, QATTR_SIZE-1, &qAttrLength))  
{  
    //dbg msg  
    DEBUG_PRINT(("binary has NO quarantine attributes (not from the internet), so allowing\n"));  
  
    //bail  
    // ->process is allowed  
    goto bail;  
}
```

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 1: ignore 'non-internet' binaries (NULL quarantine attributes)



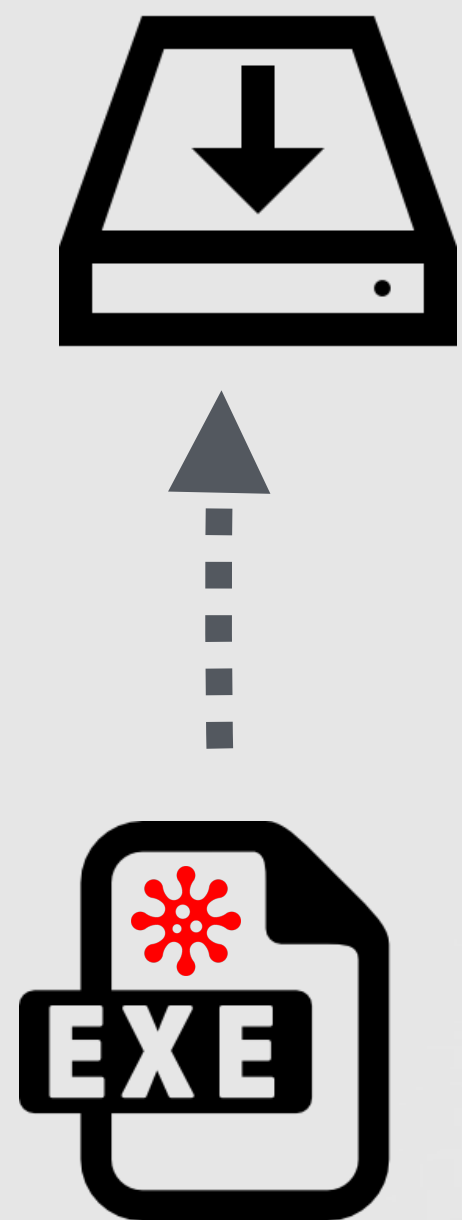
how to tell such files are from the internet?



while disk images have quarantine attributes, their mounted (executable) files don't...

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 1: ignore 'non-internet' binaries (NULL quarantine attributes)



find .dmg,
& check that!



is binary path is within `/Volumes`?



get `mount` struct for binary's `vnode`



get `vfsstatfs` struct for `mount` and extract `f_mntfromname` value (e.g. `'/dev/disk1s2'`)



iterate over the `IORegistry` to find a parent (`'IOHDIXHDDriveOutKernel'`) that has a child (`'IOMedia'`) with matching mount point (e.g. `'/dev/disk1s2'`)

what we need!

parent will have the original dmg path, in `'image_path'`



with a dmg path, can access quarantine attributes
if dmg is from the internet & binary is unsigned: **BLOCK**

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 2: ignore 'user-approved' binaries

```
-[GKQuarantineResolver  
approveUpdatingQuarantineTarget:recursively:volume:]  
  
call    __qtn_file_get_flags  
or      eax, 40h  
mov     rdi, [rbp+var_B8]  
mov     esi, eax  
call    __qtn_file_set_flags
```

updating quarantine attributes

```
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/KnockKnock.app  
com.apple.quarantine: 0001;55f3313d;...  
  
$ xattr -l ~/Downloads/KnockKnock.app  
com.apple.quarantine: 0041;55f3313d;...
```

before & after

```
call    __quarantine_get_flags  
test    eax, eax  
jnz     leaveFunction  
  
mov     edx, [rbp+qFlag]  
mov     eax, edx  
and     eax, 40h  
jnz     leaveFunction
```

Quarantine.kext

```
//CoreServicesUIAgent sets flags to 0x40 when user allows  
// ->so just allow such binaries  
if(0 != (qFlags & 0x40))  
{  
    //dbg msg  
    DEBUG_PRINT(("previously approved, so allowing\n"));  
  
    //bail  
    goto bail;  
}
```

allowing previous approved binaries

VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 3: ignore signed binaries

@osxreverser; how apple does it

```
int csfg_get_platform_binary(struct fileglob *fg)
{
    int platform_binary = 0;
    struct ubc_info *uip;
    vnode_t vp;

    if (FILEGLOB_DTYPE(fg) != DTYPE_VNODE)
        return 0;

    vp = (struct vnode *)fg->fg_data;
    if (vp == NULL)
        return 0;
```

```
    vnode_lock(vp);
    if (!UBCINFOEXISTS(vp))
        goto out;

    uip = vp->v_ubicinfo;
    if (uip == NULL)
        goto out;

    if (uip->cs_blobs == NULL)
        goto out;
```

1

lock `vnode`

2

grab `v_ubicinfo`
(`ubc_info` structure)

3

check if `cs_blobs` are NULL
(i.e. binary is unsigned)

`vnode_lock()` is non-exported function

`vnode`, `ubc_info`, etc all private/
undocumented structures



VALIDATE ALL BINARIES AT RUNTIME

step 3: ignore signed binaries

```
//lock vnode
lck_mtx_lock((lck_mtx_t *)arg0);

//init offset pointer
offsetPointer = (unsigned char*)(vnode_t)arg0;

//get pointer to struct ubc_info in vnode struct
// ->disasm from kernel: mov rax, [vnode+70h]
offsetPointer += 0x70;

//dref pointer to get addr of struct ubc_info
offsetPointer = (unsigned char*)((unsigned long*)(offsetPointer));

//get pointer to cs_blob struct from struct ubc_info
// ->disasm from kernel: mov rax, [ubc_info+50h]
offsetPointer += 0x50;

//null csBlogs means process is NOT SIGNED
// ->so block it
if(0 == *(unsigned long*)(offsetPointer))
{
    //kill the process
    proc_signal(pid, SIGKILL);
}

//unlock vnode
lck_mtx_unlock((lck_mtx_t *)arg0);
```

lck_mtx_lock, exported :)

```
_vnode_lock proc
    push    rbp
    mov     rbp, rsp
    pop    rbp
    jmp     lck_mtx_lock
_vnode_lock endp
```

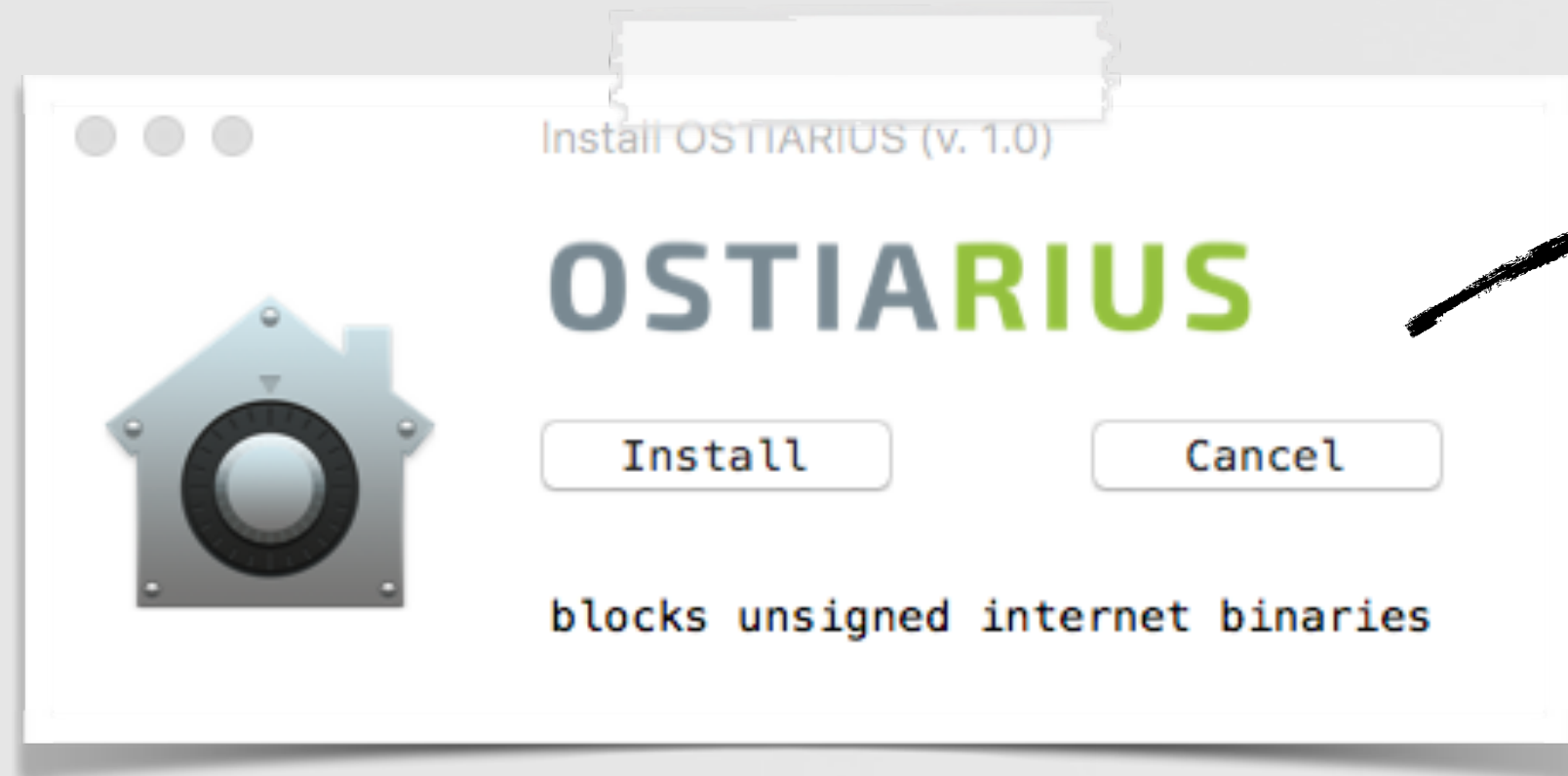
static offsets for OS X 10.11.*



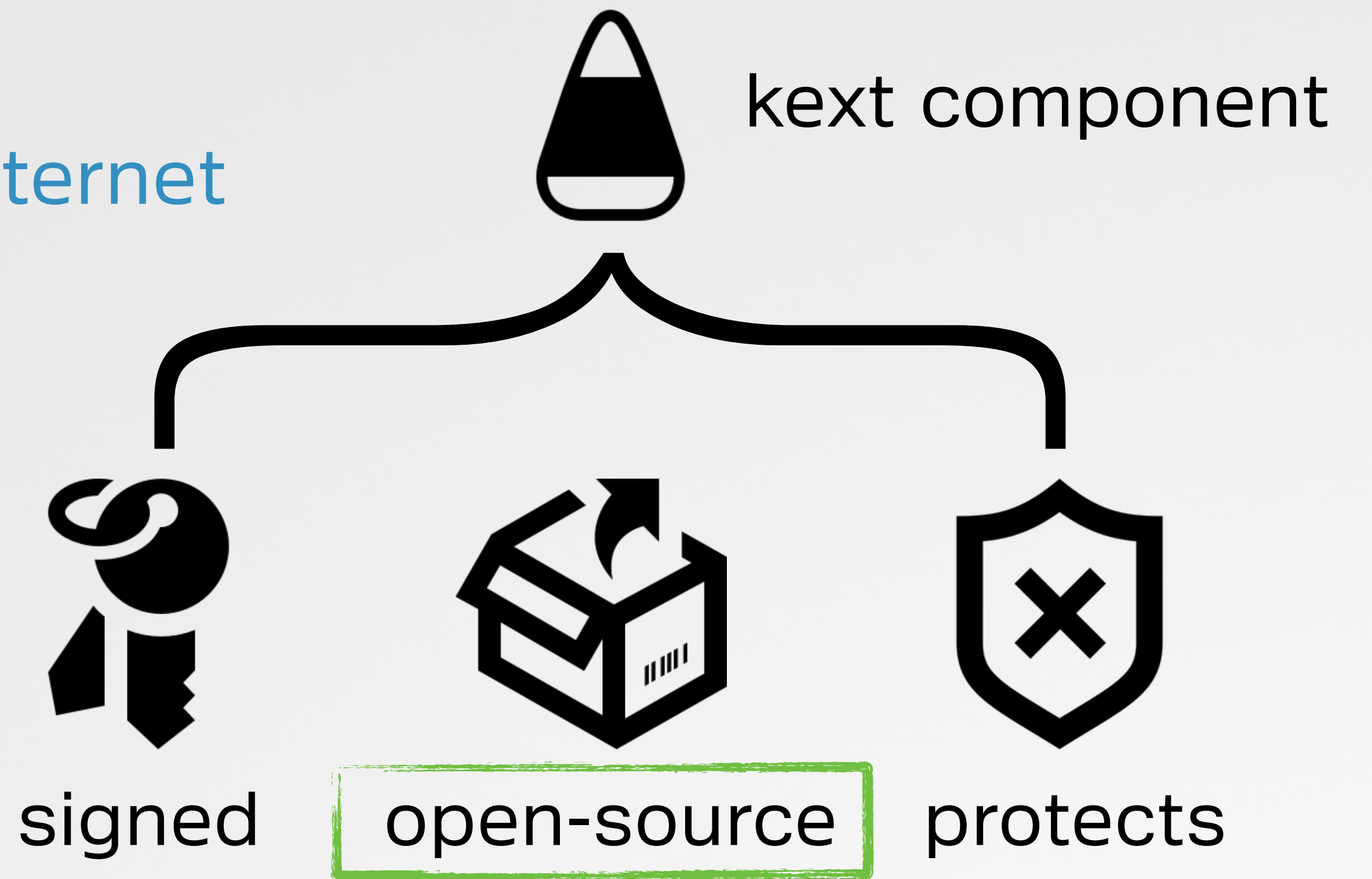
block unsigned internet binary

OSTIARIUS

blocking unsigned binaries from the internet

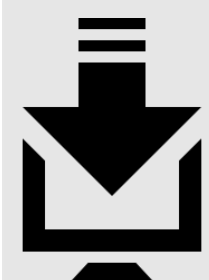


installer



```
Ignore Sender Insert Marker Inspector
10:02:39 PM kernel: OSTIARIUS: found disk image path: /Users/user/Downloads/kismac15_0_1_378mlg_int.dmg
10:02:39 PM kernel: OSTIARIUS: quarantine attributes: 0002;568f6a8b;Safari;689E7A75-15C2-4EAE-AB24-E85956AB8FE7
10:02:39 PM kernel: OSTIARIUS: value for com.apple.quarantine -> 2...
10:02:39 PM kernel: OSTIARIUS: binary is from the internet and has not been user-approved
10:02:39 PM kernel: OSTIARIUS: /Volumes/Kaspersky Internet Security/ibtoold is NOT SIGNED, so blocking
```

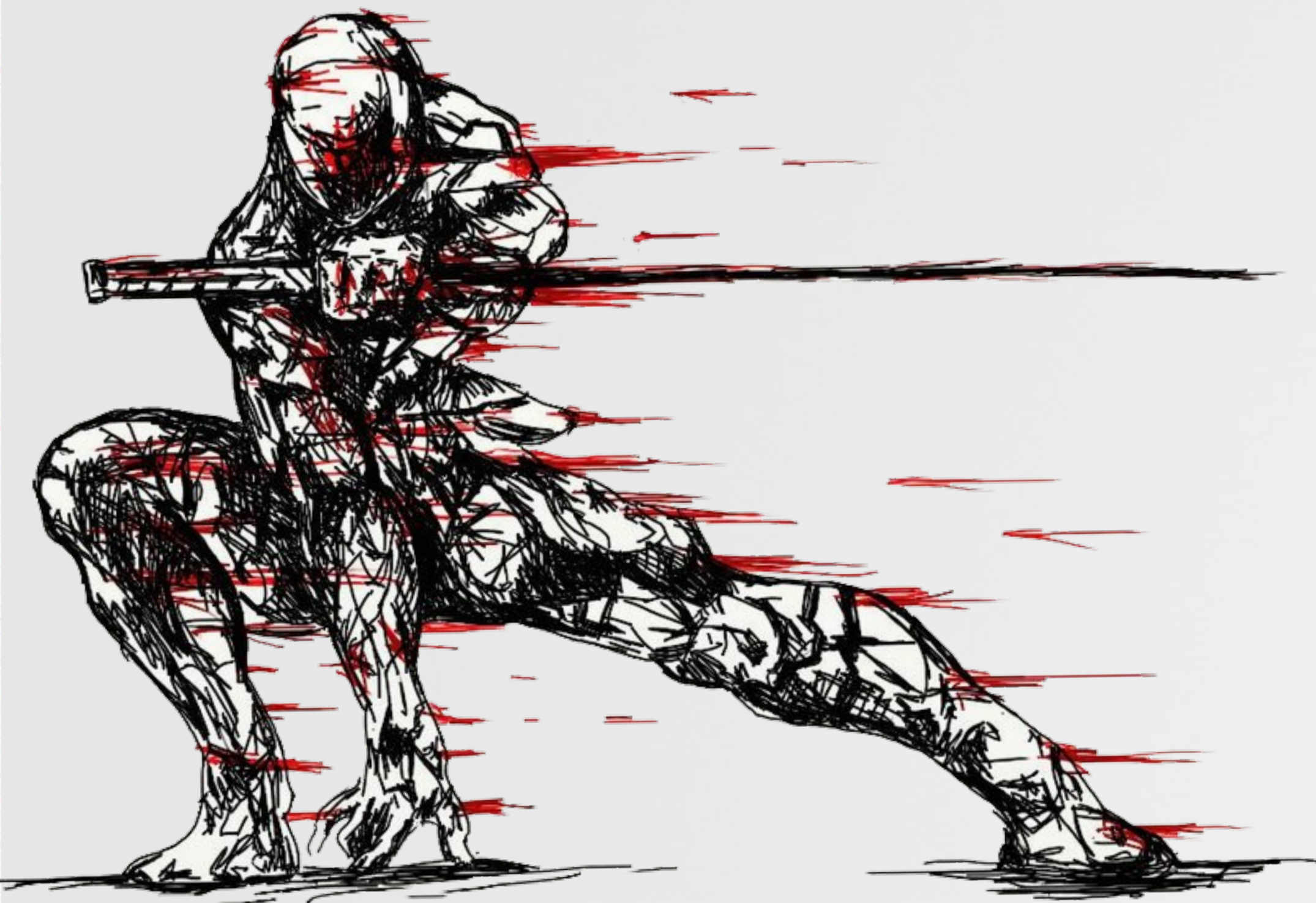
(debug) output



objective-see.com/products/ostiarius.html

CONCLUSIONS

wrapping it up



GATEKEEPER

theory (or, apple marketing)

protects naive OS X users
from attackers



*"omg, my mac is so secure,
no need for AV"* -mac users

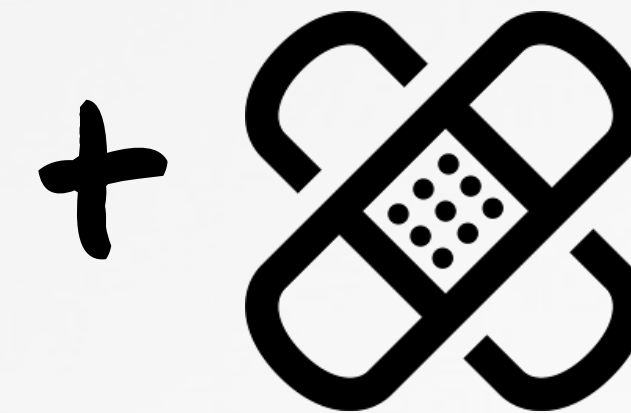
GATEKEEPER

the unfortunate reality

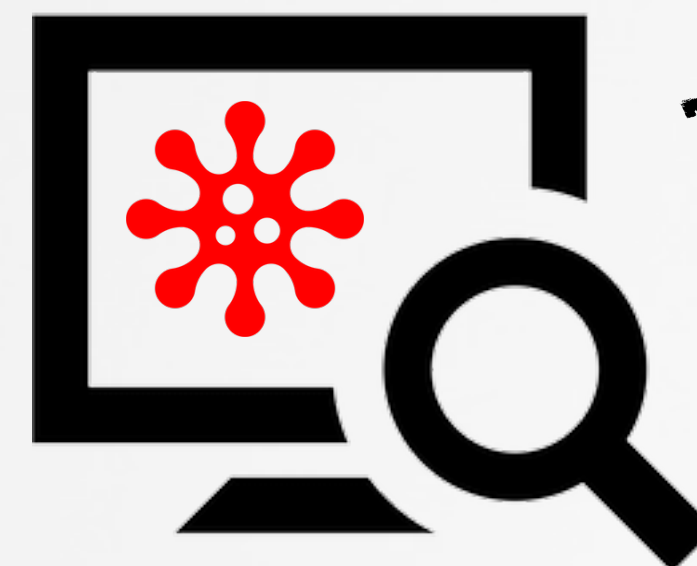
protects naive OS X users
from **lame** attackers



& false sense
of security?



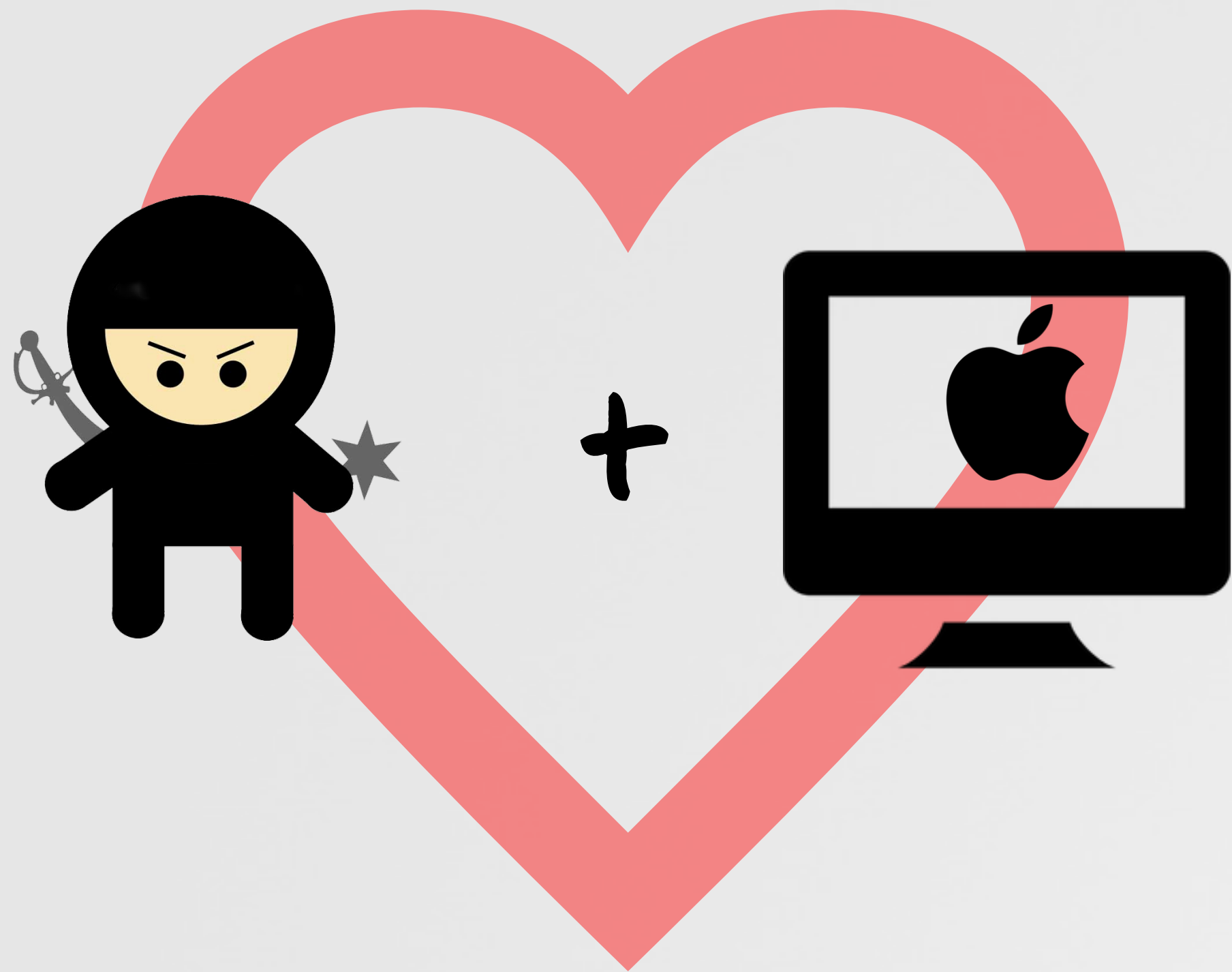
patch fails



highly recommend;
3rd-party security tools

MY CONUNDRUM

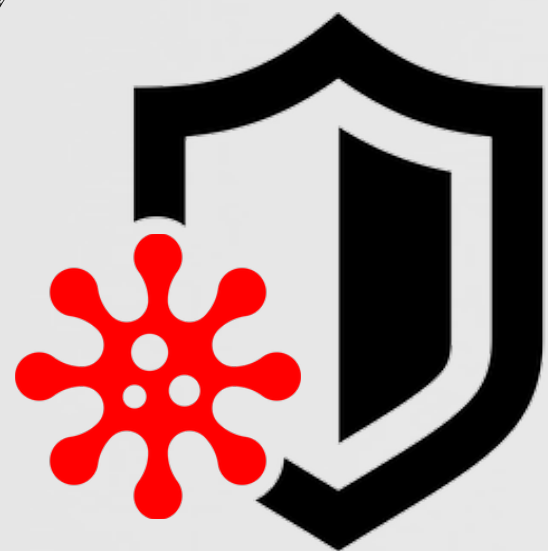
...I love my mac, but it's so easy to hack



I should write some OS X security tools
to protect my Mac

...and share 'em freely :)

i humbly disagree



"No one is going to provide you a quality service for nothing. If you're not paying, you're the product." -unnamed AV company

OBJECTIVE-SEE(.COM)

free security tools & malware samples

os x malware samples

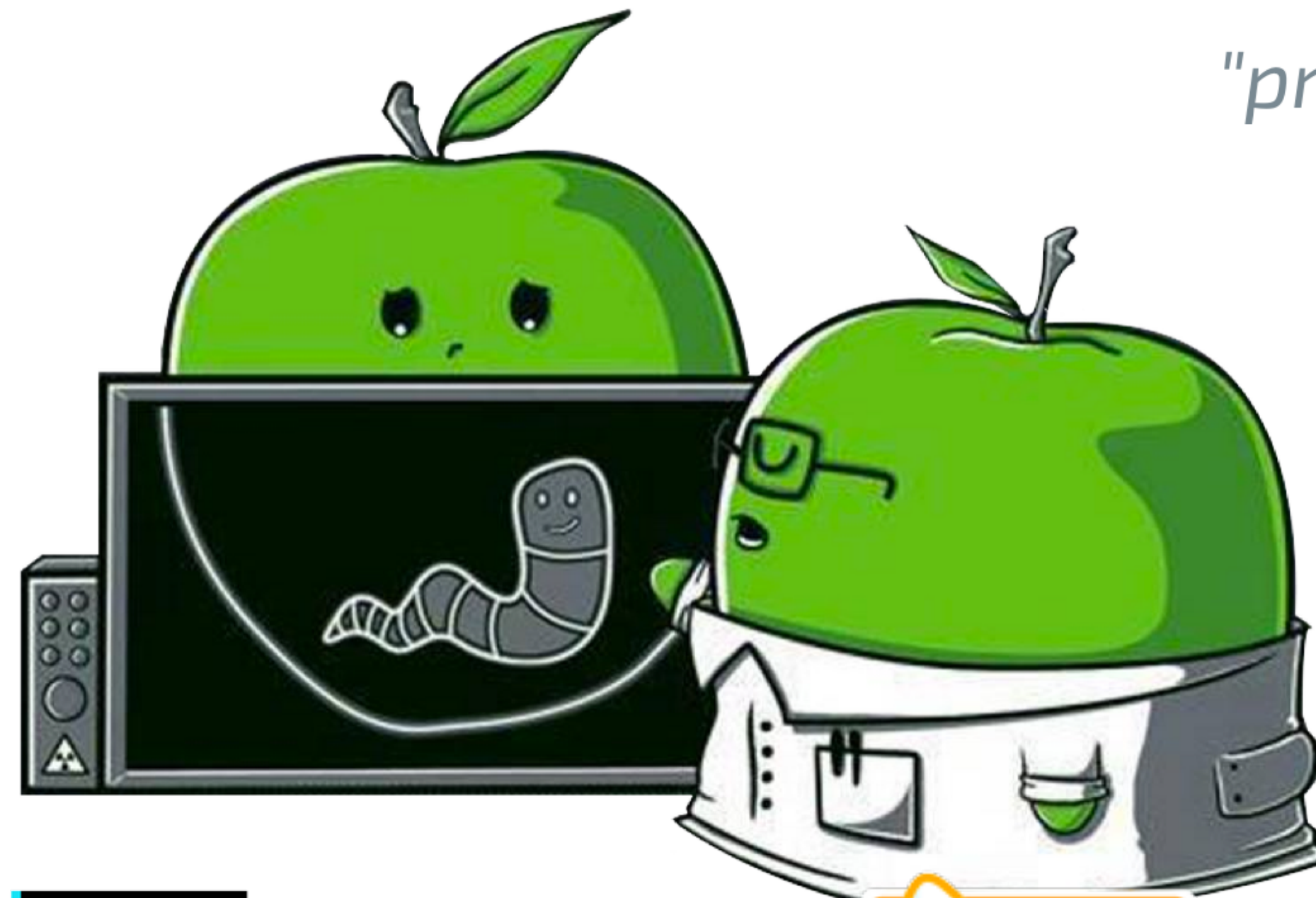


products malware blog about

"providing visibility to the core"



TaskExplorer



Hijack Scanner



KnockKnock



BlockBlock



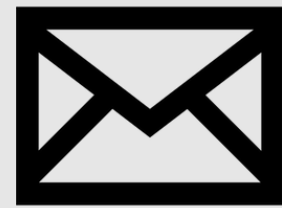
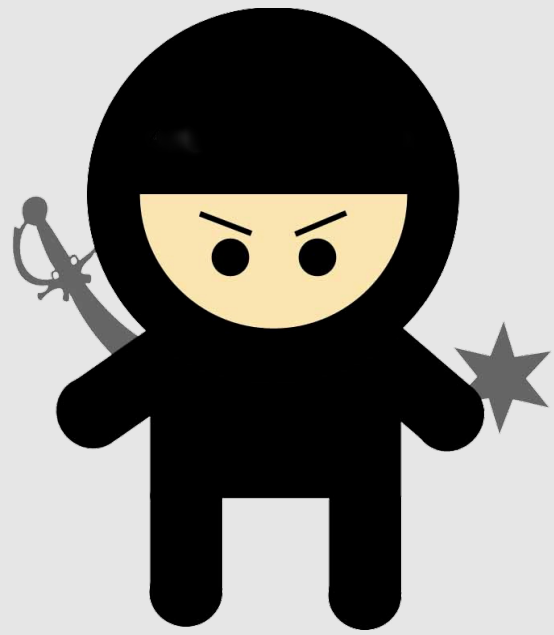
KextViewr



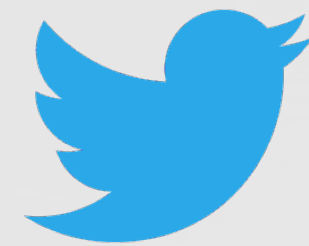
Ostiarius

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

feel free to contact me any time!



patrick@synack.com



@patrickwardle



Objective-See



Synack

final thought ;)

"Is it crazy how saying sentences backwards creates backwards sentences saying how crazy it is?" -Have_One, reddit.com

credits



images

- flaticon.com
- thezoom.com
- iconmonstr.com
- <http://wirdou.com/2012/02/04/is-that-bad-doctor/>
- <http://th07.deviantart.net/fs70/PRE/f/2010/206/4/4/441488bcc359b59be409ca02f863e843.jpg>



resources

- thesafemac.com
- "Mac OS X & iOS Internals", Jonathan Levin
- <http://newosxbook.com/articles/CodeSigning.pdf>
- <https://securosis.com/blog/os-x-10.8-gatekeeper-in-depth>
- <https://reverse.put.as/2015/11/09/gatekeeperper-a-kernel-extension-to-mitigate-gatekeeper-bypasses/>